# **The Wind-Turbine Array Boundary Layer**

Charles Meneveau, Mechanical Engineering & CEAFM, Johns Hopkins University



**Mechanical Engineering** 



#### **Collaboration with**

- Marc Calaf (JHU & EPFL) LES
- Prof. Johan Meyers (Univ. Leuven) LES
- Claire Verhulst (JHU) LES
- Marc B. Parlange (EPFL) LES
- Prof. Raúl B. Cal (now at Portland State Univ.) exp
- Prof. Luciano Castillo (RPI) exp
- José Lebrón-Torres (RPI) exp
- Dr. Hyung-Suk Kang (JHU, now USNA) exp

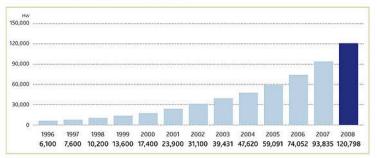
NSF

Funding: NSF CBET-0730922 (Energy for Sustainability)

Simulations: NCAR allocation (NSF)

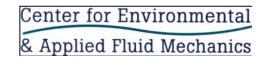
Wind energy growth: 30% yearly growth, sustained

#### GLOBAL CUMULATIVE INSTALLED CAPACITY 1996-2008





**Mechanical Engineering** 



**Renewables: low energy density** 

- solar, wind, wave energy
- need to cover "very, very big" areas
- wind: large wind-farms on-land & off shore

Land-based HAWT

Horns Rev HAWT Copyright ELSAM/AS

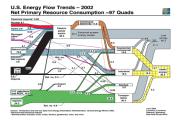


Shell's Rock River windfarm in Carbon County, Wyoming, USA Source: http://www.the-eic.com/News/Archive/2005/May/Article503.htm



(i.e. "a few solar collectors or little wind-mills simply won't do")

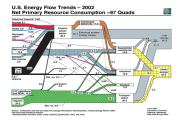
• Consider 3 TW US power consumption



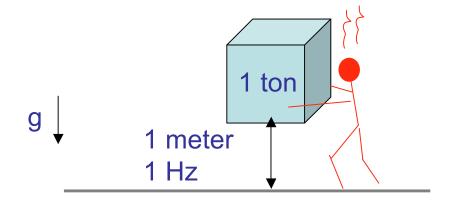
• 3x10<sup>12</sup> / 300 x 10<sup>6</sup> = 10 kW per person in US

(i.e. "a few solar collectors or little wind-mills simply won't do")

• Consider 3 TW US power consumption

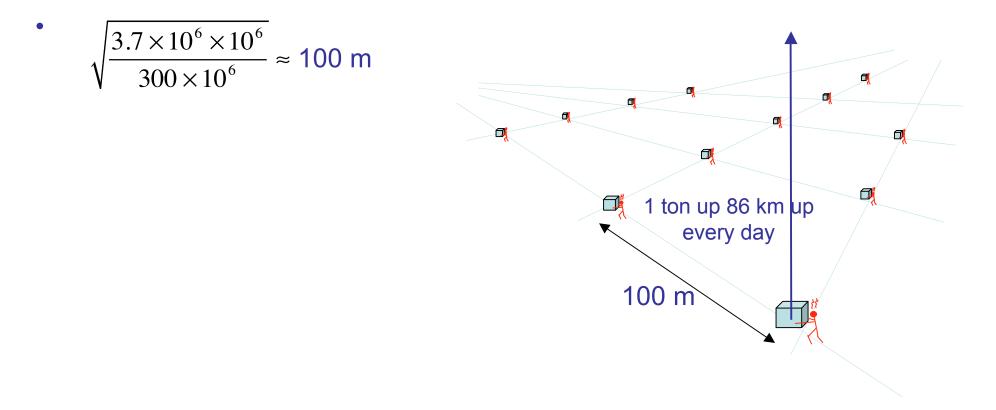


- $3x10^{12} / 300 \times 10^{6} = 10 \text{ kW}$  per person in US
- That is the same as lifting 1 ton by 1 meter every second!!



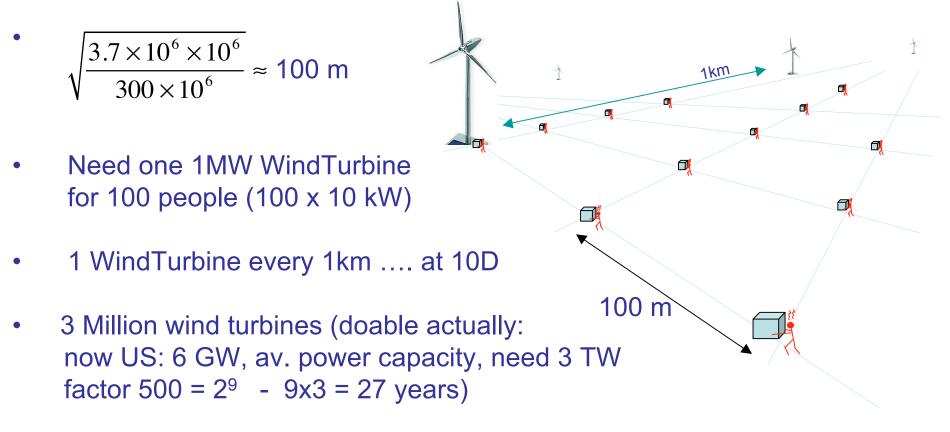
(i.e. "a few solar collectors or little wind-mills simply won't do")

• Back to entire US (lower 48): 3.7 Million km<sup>2</sup>



(i.e. "a few solar collectors or little wind-mills simply won't do")

• Back to entire US (lower 48): 3.7 Million km<sup>2</sup>



• What can we say about land-atmosphere couplings in the presence of large wind farms?

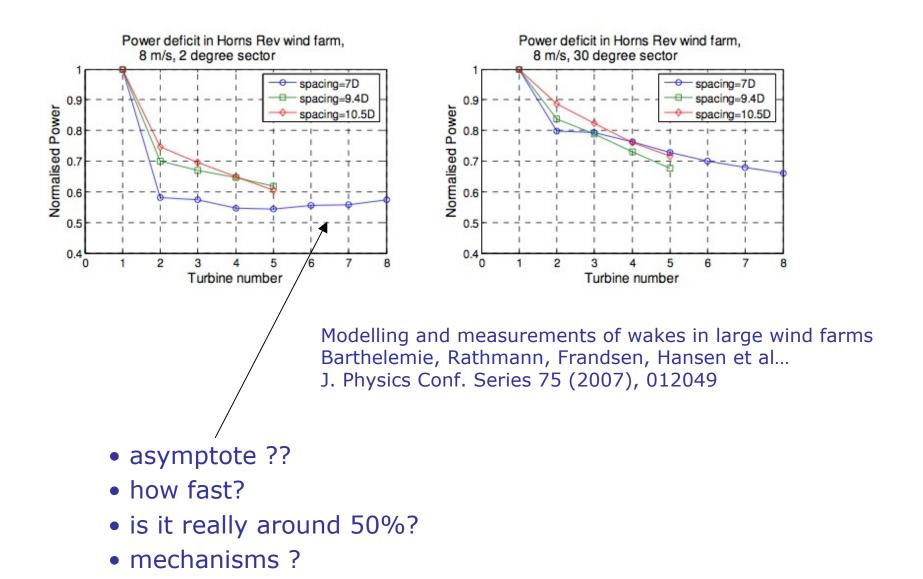
# The windturbine-array boundary layer (WTABL)



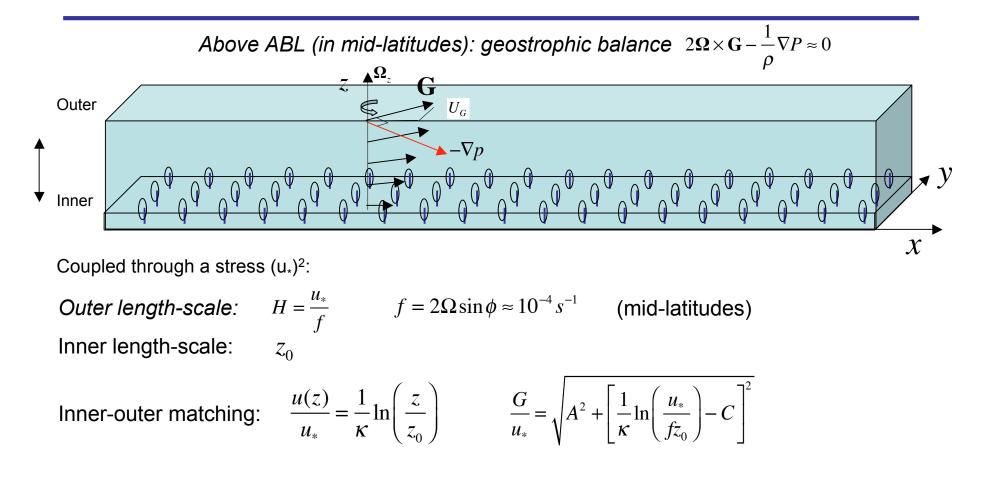
From J.N. Sørensen, Annual Rev. Fluid Mech. 2011:

Arrays are getting bigger: when L > 10 H (H: height of ABL), approach "fully developed" **FD-WTABL** 

# **Related problem: Wind farm power degradation**



# The "fully developed" WTABL: Forcing by geostrophic wind



# Given G and $z_0 \rightarrow H$ find $u_*$ and H

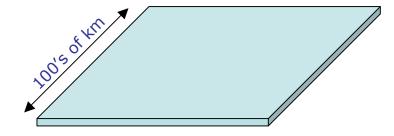
# Example application of fully developed WTABL concepts and z<sub>0</sub>: GCMs, mesoscale models, etc...

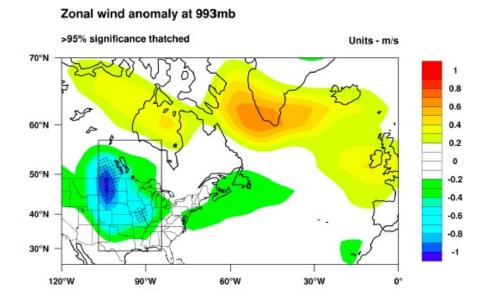
Keith et al. "The influence of large-scale wind power on climate" PNAS (2004)

Barrie & Kirk-Davidoff: "Weather response to management of large Wind turbine array", Atmos. Chem., 2010

Use  $z_0 \sim 0.8$  m - using "Lettau's formula" (ad-hoc geometric arguments...)

Grid-spacings 100's of km, first vertical point ~ 80m "horizontally averaged structure"

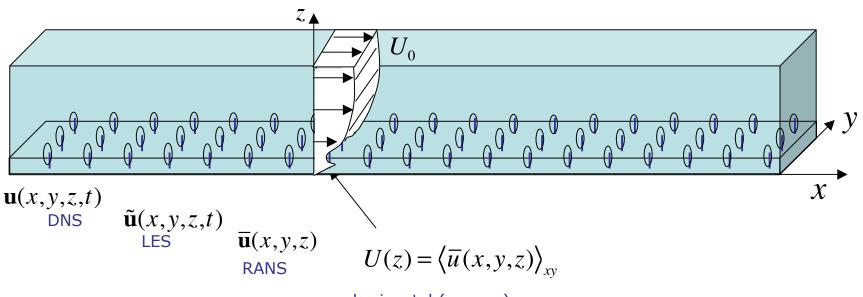




**Fig. 1.** 993 mbar zonal wind anomaly. The mean difference in the eastward wind in the lowest model level between the control and perturbed model runs highlights regions of atmospheric modification. Regions where significance exceeds 95%, as determined by a Student's t-test, are thatched. The wind farm is located within the rectangular box over the central United States and central Canada. Areas of the wind farm located over water are masked out during the model runs.

# The "fully developed" WTABL:

What is the structure of this specific type of boundary layer?



horizontal (canopy) average

What is the "averaged" velocity distribution?

$$U(z) = \left\langle \overline{u}(x, y, z) \right\rangle_{xy}$$

Is there a "universal" WTABL profile?

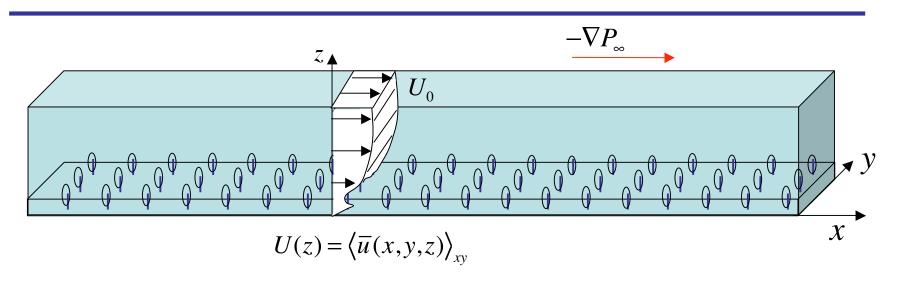
What are profiles of shear stresses?

Fluxes? TKE flux profiles?

$$\tau_{xz}(z) = -\left\langle \overline{u'w'} \right\rangle_{xy}$$

# The "fully developed" WTABL:

# assume pressure-gradient forcing ("wind farm in a channel")



• Momentum theory: Reynolds Eq. + horizontal average + fully dev.

$$0 = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{dp_{\infty}}{dx} + \frac{d}{dz} \left( -\left\langle \overline{u'w'} \right\rangle_{xy} - \left\langle \overline{u}''\overline{w''} \right\rangle_{xy} \right) + \left\langle f_x \right\rangle_{xy}$$
We must

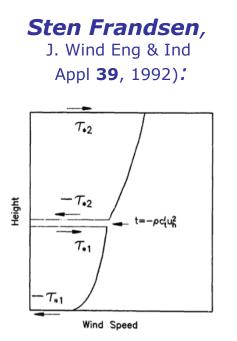
Horizontal average of turbulent Reynolds shear stress - thrust force due to WT

$$\overline{u} \, " = \overline{u} - \left\langle \overline{u} \right\rangle_{xy}$$

We must include "correlations" between mean velocity deviations from their spatial mean (Raupach et al. Appl Mech Rev **44**, 1991, Finnigan, Annu Rev Fluid Mech **32**, 2000)

# The fully developed WTABL: momentum theory

Horizontally averaged variables

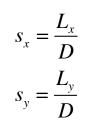


$$0 = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{dp_{\infty}}{dx} + \frac{d}{dz} \left( -\left\langle \overline{u'w'} \right\rangle_{xy} - \left\langle \overline{u}''\overline{w}'' \right\rangle_{xy} \right) + \left\langle f_x \right\rangle_{xy}$$

Integrate in z-direction:

If top of WT canopy still falls in the "surface layer", where  $\frac{dp}{dx}z \approx 0$ and if wakes have "diffused" so that  $\langle \overline{u} | \overline{w} \rangle_{xy} \approx 0$ 

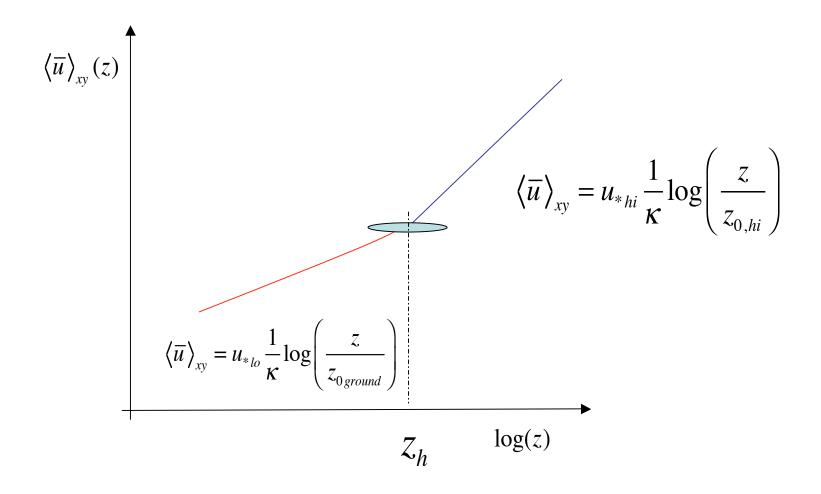
$$-\left\langle \overline{u'w'} \right\rangle_{xy} (z_{top}) \approx -\left\langle \overline{u'w'} \right\rangle_{xy} (z_{bottom}) + \frac{1}{2} C_T \frac{A_{disk}}{A_{xy}} U_R^2$$
$$u_{*hi}^2 \approx u_{*lo}^2 + \frac{1}{2} C_T \frac{\pi}{4s_x s_y} U_R^2$$



## The fully developed WTABL: momentum theory

$$u_{*hi}^{2} \approx u_{*lo}^{2} + \frac{1}{2}C_{T}\frac{\pi}{4s_{x}s_{y}}U_{R}^{2}$$

Frandsen 1992: postulated the existence of 2 log laws

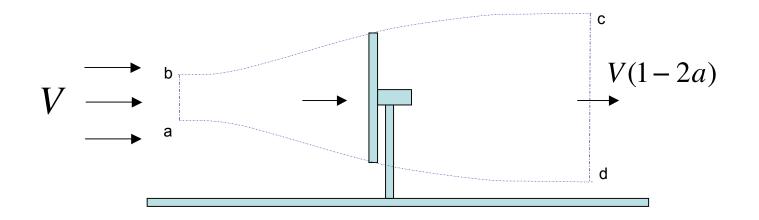


# **The fully developed WTABL: momentum theory**

S. Frandsen 1992, Frandsen et al. 2006:

Knowns: 
$$u_{*hi}$$
,  $z_{0,ground}$ ,  $C_T$ ,  $s_x$ ,  $s_y$   
3 unknowns:  $z_{0,hi}$ ,  $U_R$ ,  $u_{*lo}$   
 $(i)_{a}(z) = u_{*hi} \frac{1}{\kappa} \log\left(\frac{z_h}{z_{0,hi}}\right)$   
 $(i)_{a}(z) = u_{*hi} \frac{1}{\kappa} \log\left(\frac{z_h}{z_{0,hi}}\right) = u_{*lo} \frac{1}{\kappa} \log\left(\frac{z_h}{z_{0,ground}}\right)$   
Solve for effective  $z_{0,hi} = z_h \exp\left(-\kappa \left[\frac{\pi C_T}{8s_x s_y} + \left(\frac{\kappa}{\ln(z_h / z_{0,ground})}\right)\right]^{-1/2}\right)$ 

# **Another important question: Fluxes of kinetic energy**



For **single** wind turbine, extracted power = difference in front and back fluxes of kinetic energy

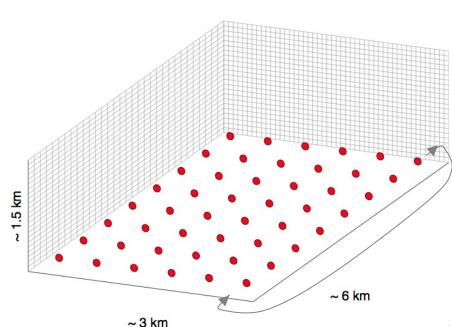
Betz limit, etc...

# Simulations setup:

• LES code: horizontal pseudo-spectral (periodic B.C.), vertical: centered 2nd order FD (Moeng 1984, Albertson & Parlange 1999, Porté-Agel et al. 2000, Bou-Zeid et al. 2005)

$$H = 1000 - 1500m, \quad L_x = \pi H - 2\pi H, \quad L_y = \pi H$$
  
 $(N_x \times N_y \times N_z) = 128 \times 128 \times 128$ 

- Horizontal periodic boundary conditions (only good for FD-WTABL)
- Top surface: zero stress, zero w
- Bottom surface B.C.: Zero w + Wall stress: Standard wall function relating wall stress to first grid-point velocity
- Scale-dependent dynamic Lagrangian mode (*no* adjustable parameters)
- More details: Calaf, Meneveau & Meyers, "Large eddy simulation study of fully developed wind-turbine array boundary layers" Phys. Fluids. 22 (2010) 015110



# Actuator disk modeling of turbines in LES

Jimenez et al., J. Phys. Conf. Ser. **75** (2007) simulated single turbine in LES using dynamic Smag. model

They used fixed reference (undisturbed) velocity:

$$f_{Tx} = -\frac{1}{2}C_T U_{ref}^2 \frac{\delta A_{yz}}{\delta V}, \quad C_T = 0.75$$

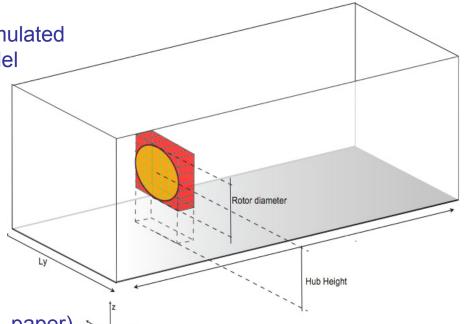
Here we use disk-averaged and time-averaged velocity, but local at the disk (see Meyers & Meneveau 2010, 48<sup>th</sup> AIAA conf., paper)

$$f_{Tx} = -\frac{1}{2}C_T \left(\frac{1}{1-a}\overline{U}\right)^2 \frac{\delta A_{yz}}{\delta V} = -\frac{1}{2}C_T'\overline{U}^2 \frac{\delta A_{yz}}{\delta V}$$

$$C_T = 0.75 \Longrightarrow a \approx 0.25 \longrightarrow C'_T = 1.33$$

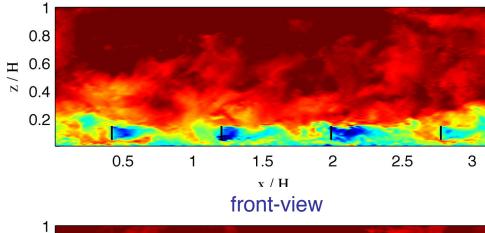
Also, use first-order relax process to time-average:

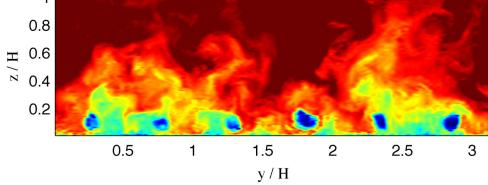
$$\overline{U}(t) = (1 - \varepsilon)\overline{U}(t - dt) + \varepsilon U_{disk}(t)$$



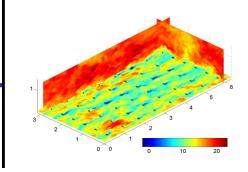
# **Simulations results:**

# Instantaneous stream-wise velocity contours:



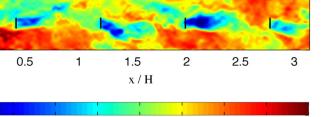


#### side-view



3 2.5 2 · 1.5 1 0.5 1.5 2.5 0.5 1 2 3 x / H

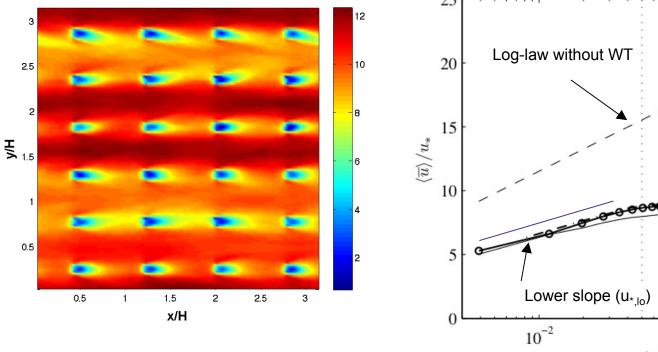
#### top-view



2 4 6 8 10 12 14	16
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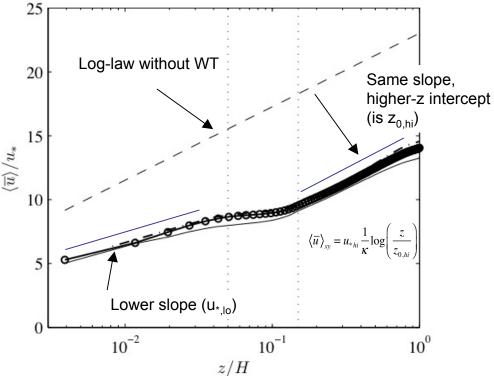
0

# Simulations results: horizontally averaged velocity profile U(z)



 $\langle U \rangle / u_{\star}$ , Horizontal cut at hub height.

Mean velocity profile:  $U(z) = \langle \overline{u} \rangle_{xv}$ 

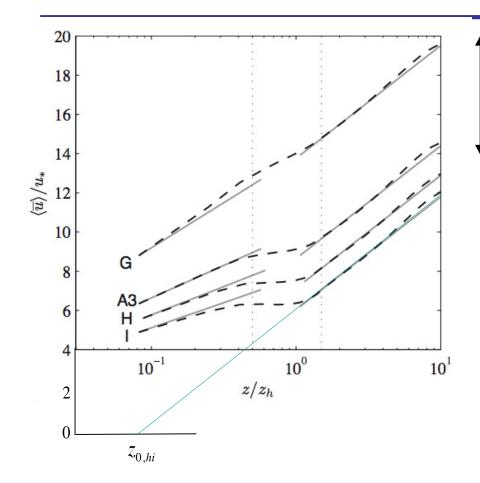


Observation: Two log-laws (as assumed in Frandsen, 1992)

	$s_x/s_y$	s <sub>x</sub>	$4s_xs_y/\pi$	$N_t$	$L_x \times L_y \times H$	$N_x \times N_y \times N_z$	<i>z</i> <sub>0,lo</sub>	$C_T'$	$c_{ m ft}'$
A1 (L)	1.5	7.85	52.36	4×6	$\pi \times \pi \times 1$	128 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.33	0.025
A2 (J)	1.5	7.85	52.36	$4 \times 6$	$\pi \times \pi \times 1$	128 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.33	0.025
A3 (L)	1.5	7.85	52.36	8×6	$2\pi \times \pi \times 1$	$128\!\times\!192\!\times\!61$	10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.33	0.025
A4 (L)	1.5	7.85	52.36	8×6	$2\pi \times \pi \times 1.5$	$128\!\times\!192\!\times\!92$	10-4	1.33	0.025
B (J)	1.5	7.85	52.36	$4 \times 6$	$\pi \times \pi \times 1$	128 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>-4</sup>	2.00	0.038
C (J)	1.5	7.85	52.36	$4 \times 6$	$\pi \times \pi \times 1$	128 <sup>3</sup>	$10^{-4}$	0.60	0.012
D (J)	1.5	7.85	52.36	$4 \times 6$	$\pi \times \pi \times 1$	128 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.33	0.025
E (J)	1.5	7.85	52.36	$4 \times 6$	$\pi \times \pi \times 1$	128 <sup>3</sup>	$10^{-5}$	1.33	0.025
F (J)	1.5	7.85	52.36	$4 \times 6$	$\pi \times \pi \times 1$	128 <sup>3</sup>	10-6	1.33	0.025
G (L)	1.5	15.7	209.4	$4 \times 3$	$2\pi \times \pi \times 1$	$128 \times 192 \times 61$	10-4	1.33	0.0064
H (L)	1.5	6.28	33.51	$10 \times 8$	$2\pi \times 1.07\pi \times 1$	$128\!\times\!192\!\times\!57$	10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.33	0.040
I (L)	1.5	5.24	23.27	12×9	$2\pi \times \pi \times 1$	$128 \times 192 \times 61$	10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.33	0.057
J (L)	2	9.07	52.36	$7 \times 7$	$2.02\pi \times 1.01\pi \times 1$	$128 \times 192 \times 61$	10-4	1.33	0.025
K (L)	1	6.41	52.36	$10 \times 5$	$2.04\pi \times 1.02\pi \times 1$	$128 \times 192 \times 60$	10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.33	0.025

TABLE I. Summarizing parameters of the various LES cases. Between brackets is indicated which code is used: "L" refers to the KULeuven code and "J" refers to the JHU-LES code.

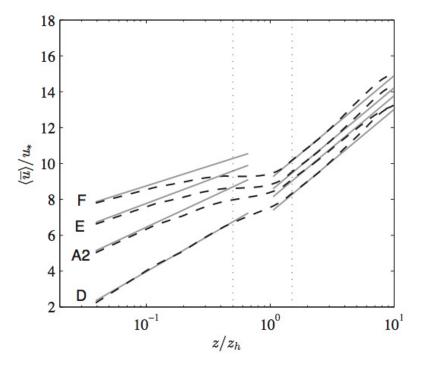
# Suite of LES cases:



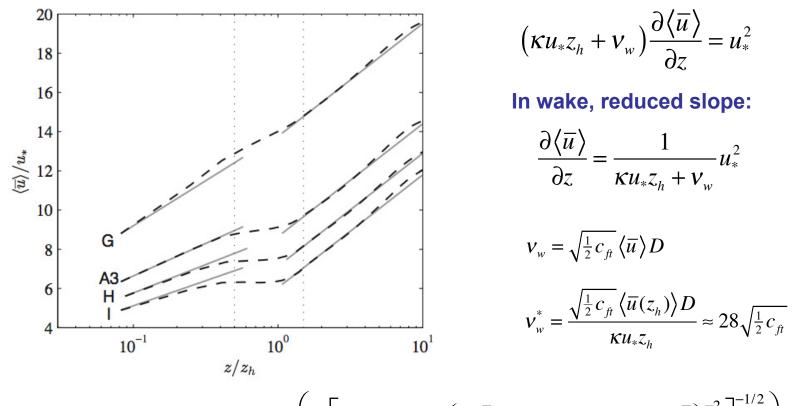
measure  $z_{0,hi}$  from intercept

$$\langle \overline{u} \rangle_{xy} = u_{*hi} \frac{1}{\kappa} \log \left( \frac{z}{z_{0,hi}} \right)$$

#### (essentially the "Clauser plot" method)

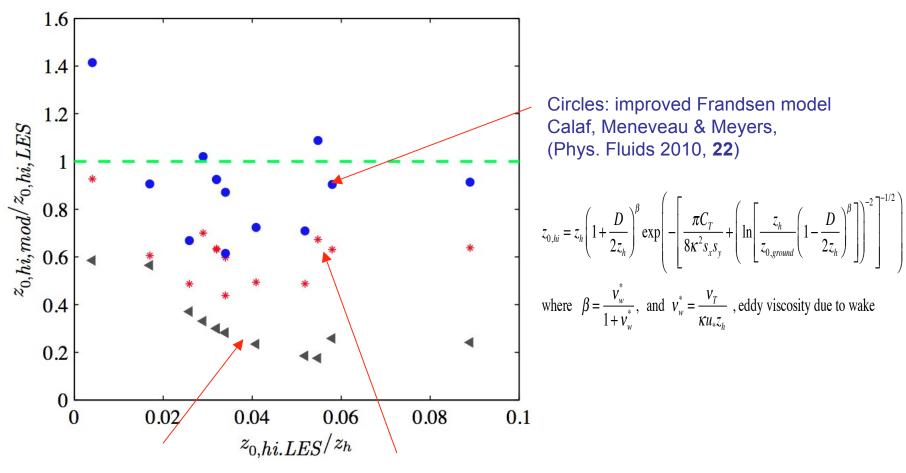


#### "Wake upgrade" to Frandsen's model:



$$z_{0,hi} = z_h \left( 1 + \frac{D}{2z_h} \right)^\beta \exp\left( -\left\lfloor \frac{\pi C_T}{8\kappa^2 s_x s_y} + \left( \ln\left[ \frac{z_h}{z_{0,ground}} \left( 1 - \frac{D}{2z_h} \right)^\beta \right] \right)^{-2} \right\rfloor^{1/2} \right)$$

where  $\beta = \frac{28\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}c_{ft}}{1+28\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}c_{ft}}$ ,



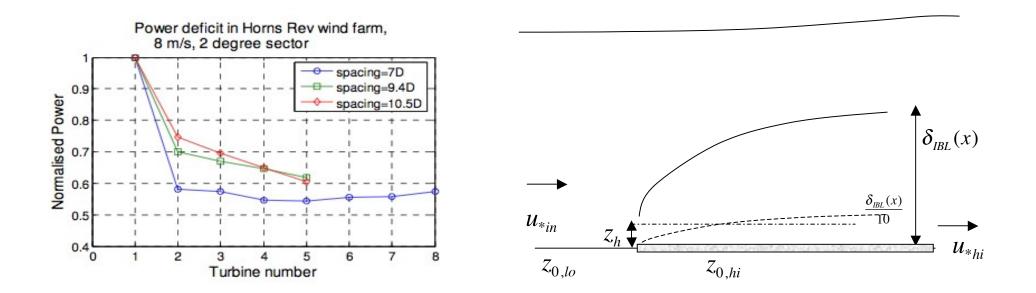
# **Comparison of LES results with models:**

Triangles: Lettau formula

Asterisks: Frandsen et al. (2006) formula

$$z_{0,hi} = z_h \exp\left(-\kappa \left[\frac{\pi C_T}{8s_x s_y} + \left(\frac{\kappa}{\ln(z_h / z_{0,ground})}\right)\right]^{-1/2}\right)$$

# Impact on evaluation of power degradation: internal boundary layers



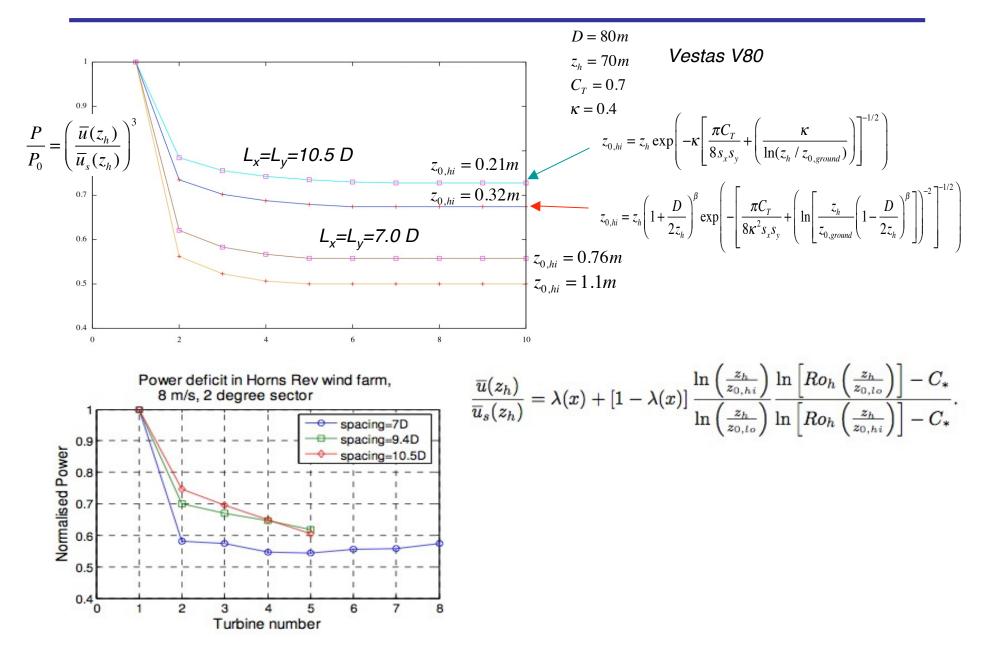
Composite profile (Chamorro & Porté-Agel, BLM 2009)

$$\overline{u}(z_h) = \left[1 - \lambda(x)
ight] rac{u_{*,hi}}{\kappa} \ln\left(rac{z_h}{z_{0,hi}}
ight) + \lambda(x) rac{u_{*,in}}{\kappa} \ln\left(rac{z_h}{z_{0,lo}}
ight)$$

Set  $\lambda$ =0 when  $z_h$ =0.1  $\delta_{IBL}$ 

$$\lambda(x) = rac{z_h - lpha \, \delta_{IBL}}{(1 - lpha) \delta_{IBL}}$$
 $\delta_{IBL} = z_h + z_{0,hi} \left(rac{x}{z_{0,hi}}
ight)^{0.8}$ 

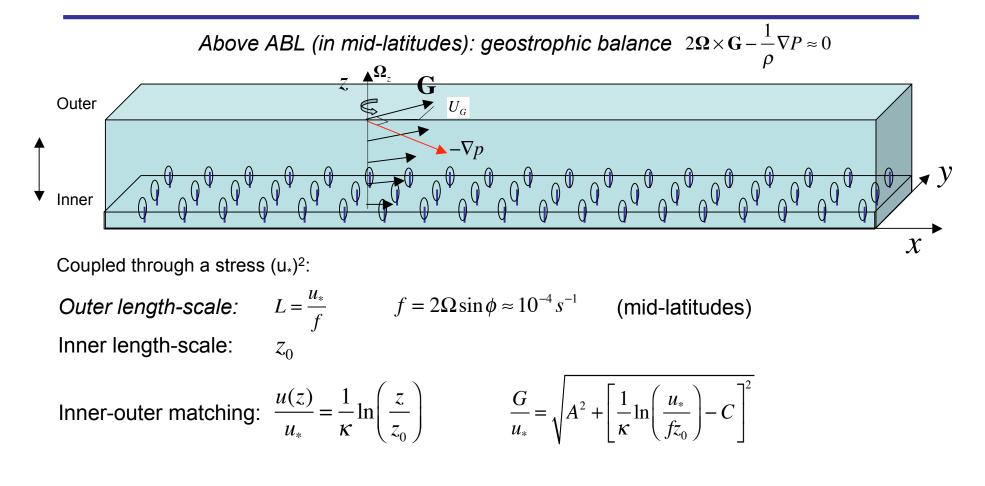
#### Impact on evaluation of power degradation:



# What is the most optimal spacing $s_{opt}$ of wind turbines in the fully developed WTABL?



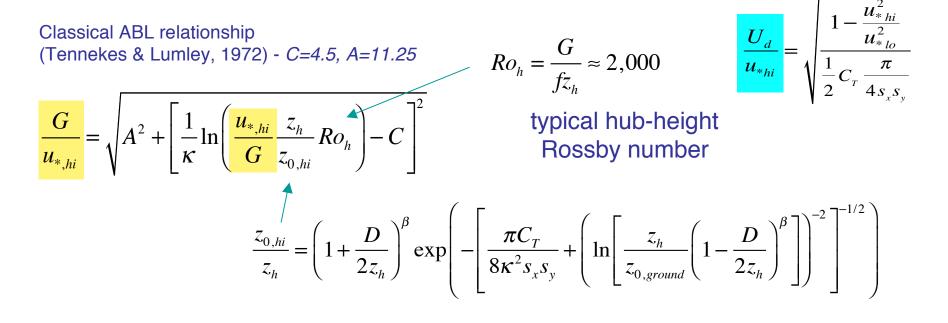
# The "fully developed" WTABL: Forcing by geostrophic wind



Given G and  $z_0 \rightarrow find u_{*,hi}$  and H

Driving forces is geostrophic wind G (assuming large but not regional-scale WT, i.e. assume wind farm does not affect *G*)

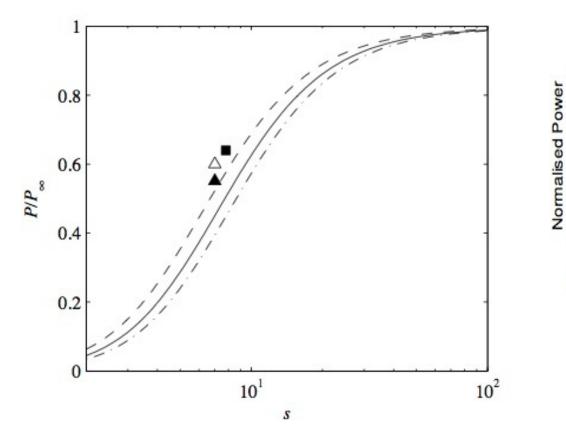
$$P^{+} = \frac{P}{\frac{\rho}{2}(s_{x}s_{y}D^{2})G^{3}} = \frac{\pi C_{T}'}{4s_{x}s_{y}} \left(\frac{U_{d}}{G}\right)^{3} = \frac{\pi C_{T}'}{4s_{x}s_{y}} \left(\frac{u_{*,hi}}{G}\right)^{3} \left(\frac{U_{d}}{u_{*,hi}}\right)^{3}$$

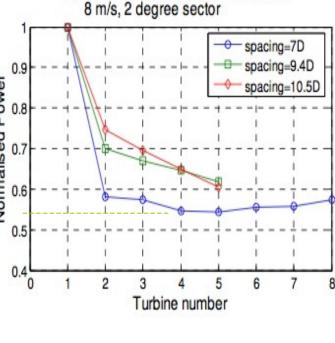


For given *s*,  $z_{0,lo}$ , *D*,  $z_h$ ,  $C_T$  evaluate *P* divide by  $P_{\infty}$  of single WT ( $z_{0,hi} = z_{0,lo}$  case)



Power deficit in Horns Rev wind farm,





From: Barthelmie et al. J. of Phys. Conf. (2007)

"Cost optimization":

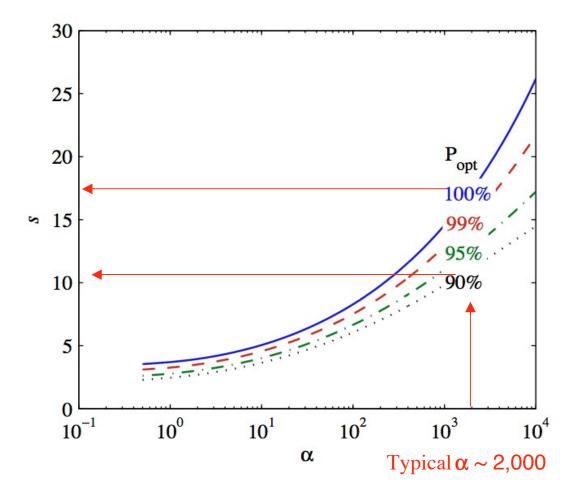
consider total  $Cost = Cost_{land}$  [\$/m<sup>2</sup>] x  $S + Cost_{turb}$  [\$] Define dimensionless ratio:

$$\alpha = \frac{Cost_{turb} / \left(\frac{\pi}{4} D^2\right)}{Cost_{land}}$$

Power per unit cost:

$$P^* = \frac{P}{Cost_{turb} / (s_x s_y D^2) + Cost_{land}} \propto \frac{C_T'}{4s_x s_y / \pi + \alpha} \left(\frac{u_{*,hi}}{G}\right)^3 \left(\frac{U_d}{u_{*,hi}}\right)^3$$

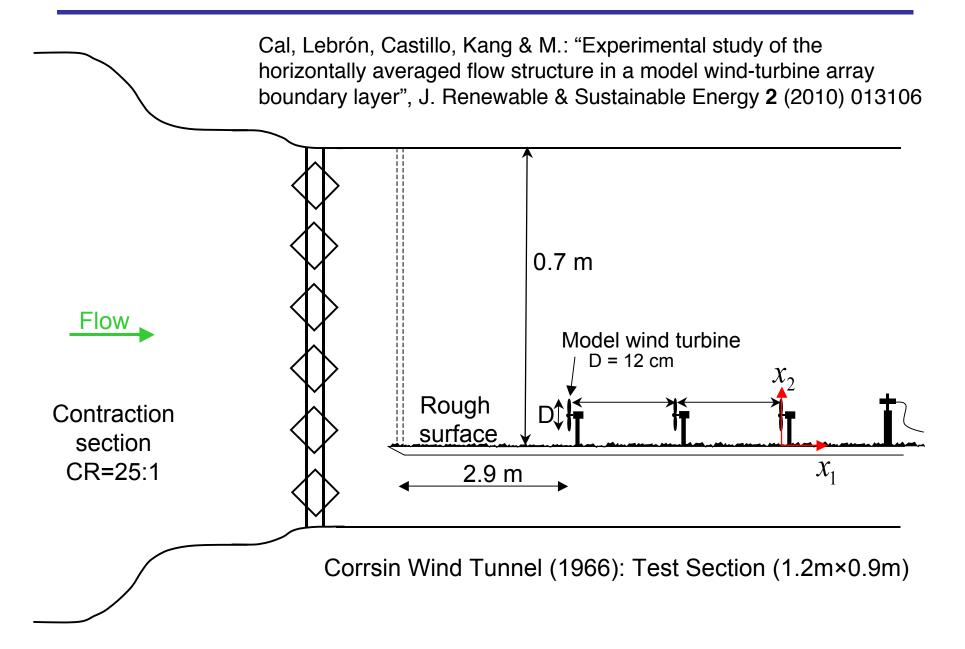
(region II)



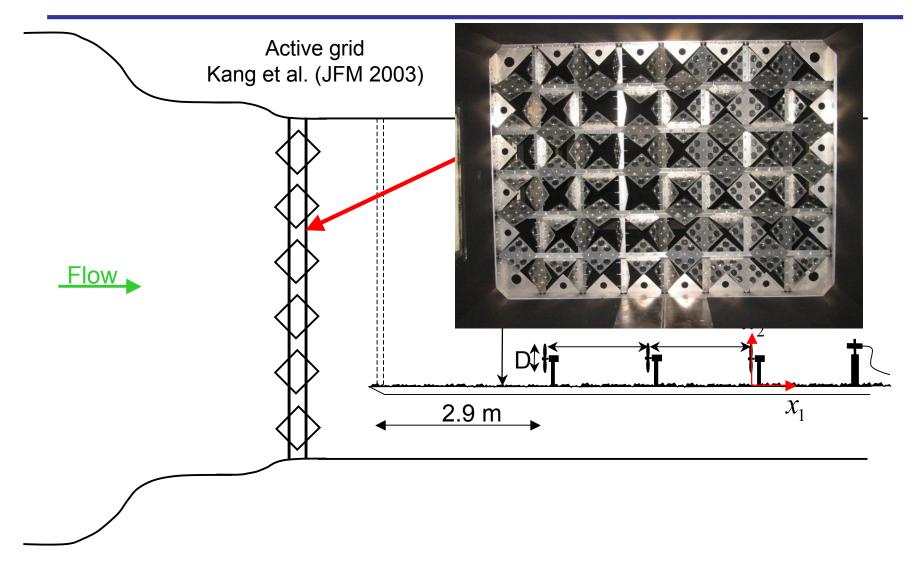
# At common s ~ 7D, 10-20% suboptimal - use 15 D instead

Meyers & Meneveau, 2011 (in press, Wind Energy)

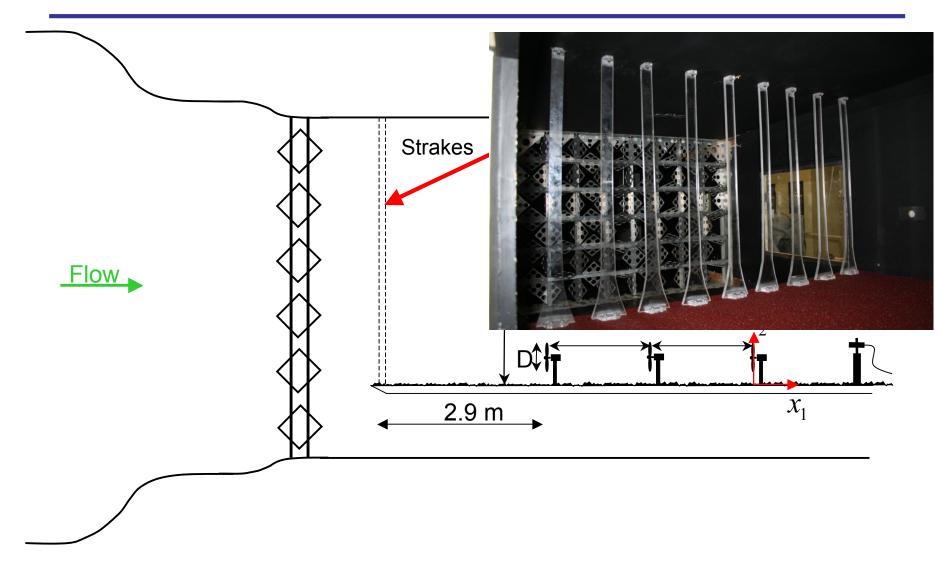
#### Wind-tunnel measurements: mechanics of vertical KE entrainment??



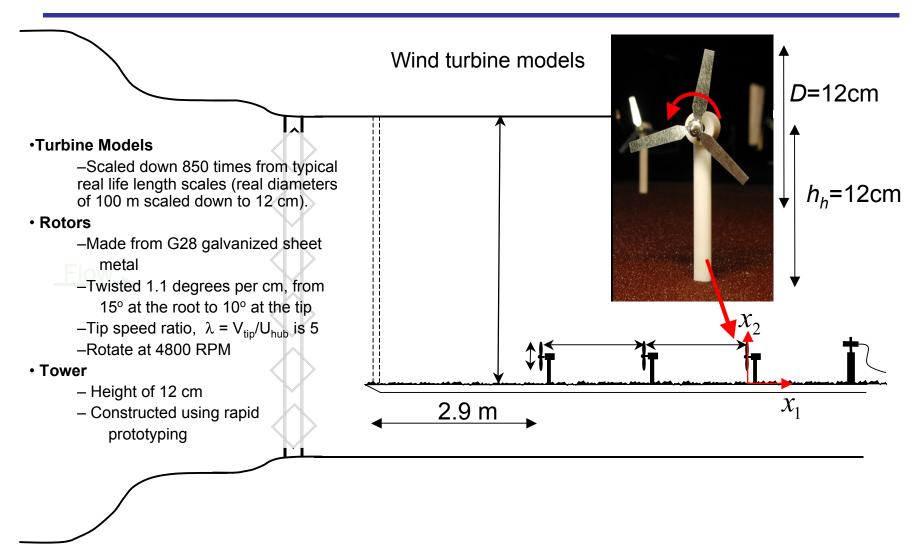
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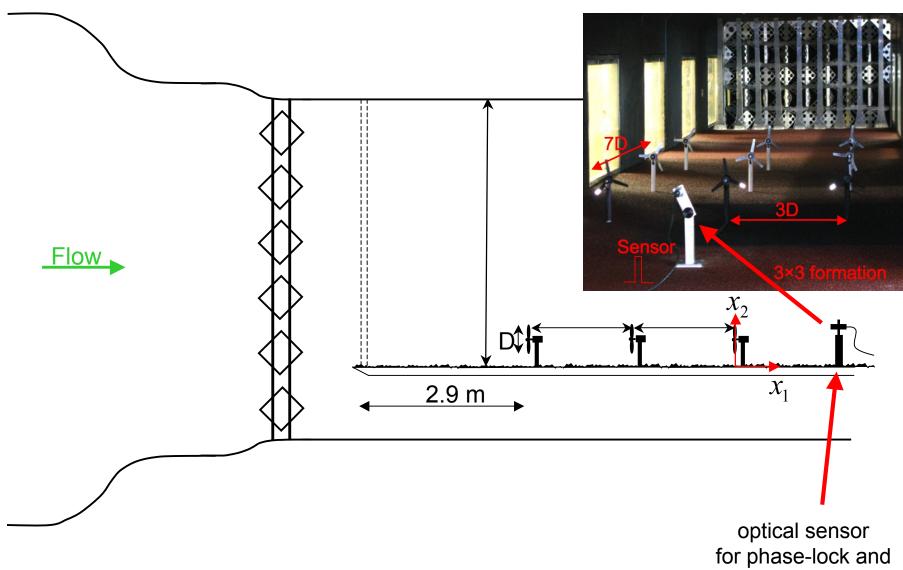
# **Wind-tunnel measurements**



#### **Wind-tunnel measurements**



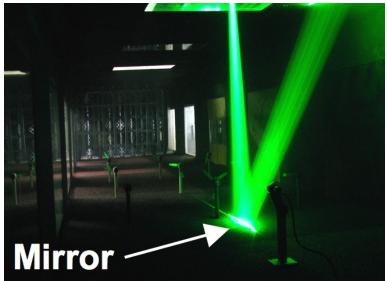
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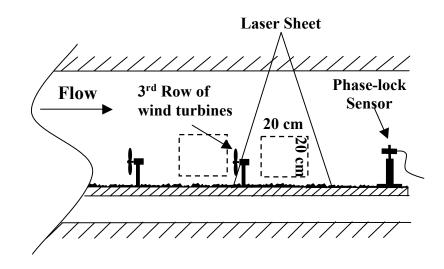


 $\Omega$  rpm measurements

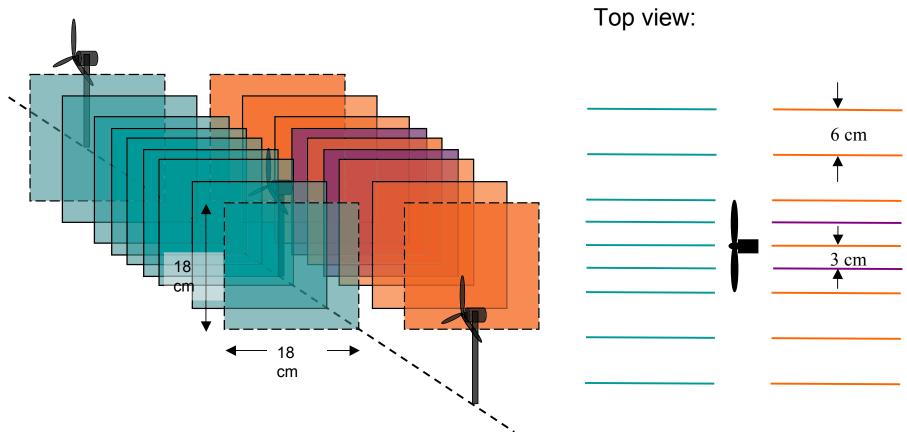
TSI System with:

- Double pulse Nd:YAG laser(120 mJ/pulse)
  - Laser sheet thickness of 1.2 mm
  - Time between pulses of 50 ms
  - Optical sensor external trigger for phase lock measurements
- Two high resolution cross/auto correlation digital CCD cameras with
  - a frame rate of 16 frames/sec.
  - Interrogation area of 20 cm by 20 cm





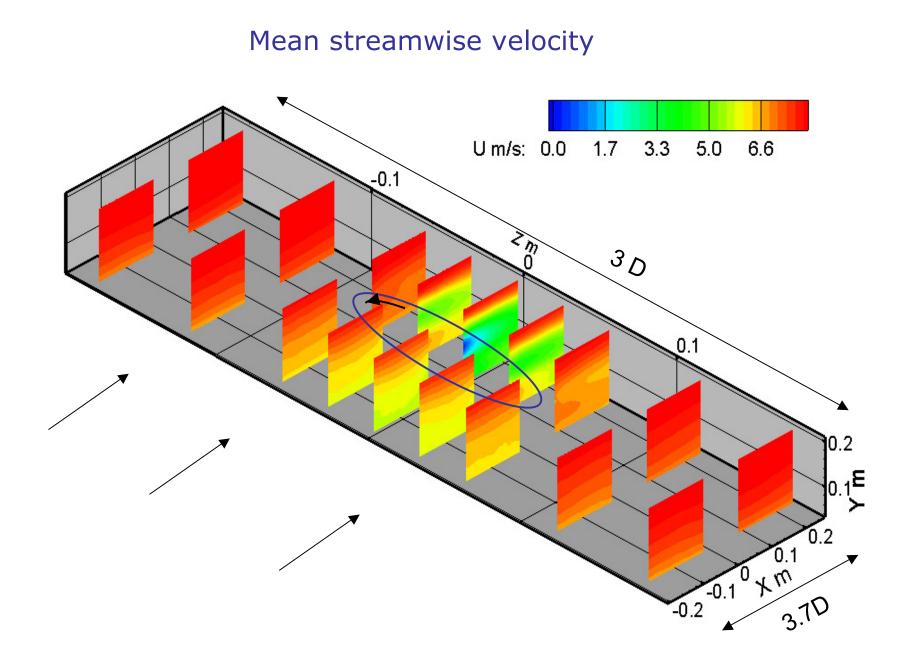
#### **PIV data planes:**



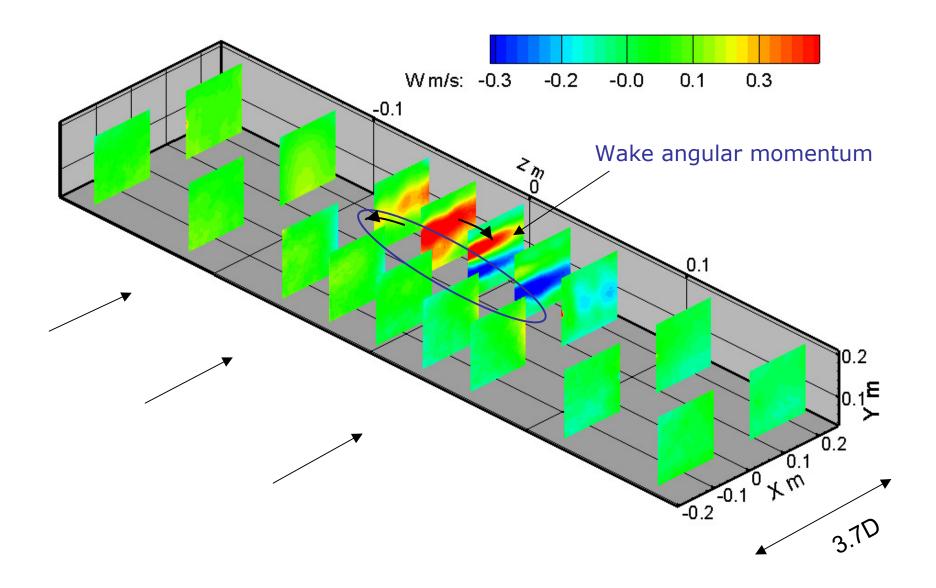
Statistics:

2000 vector maps for each front plane 12000 samples each back plane (6 phase-locked cases)

## **Velocity maps:**

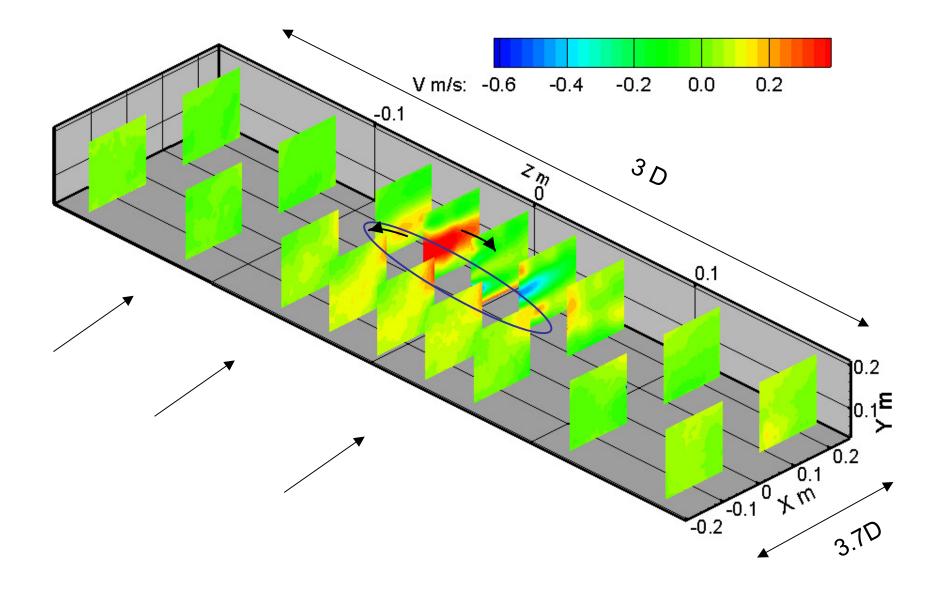


## Mean transverse velocity

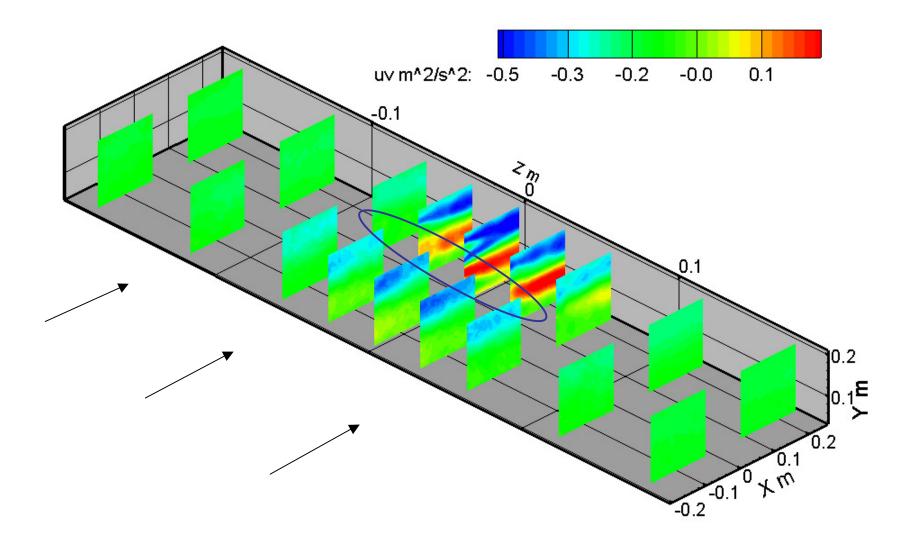


## **Velocity maps:**

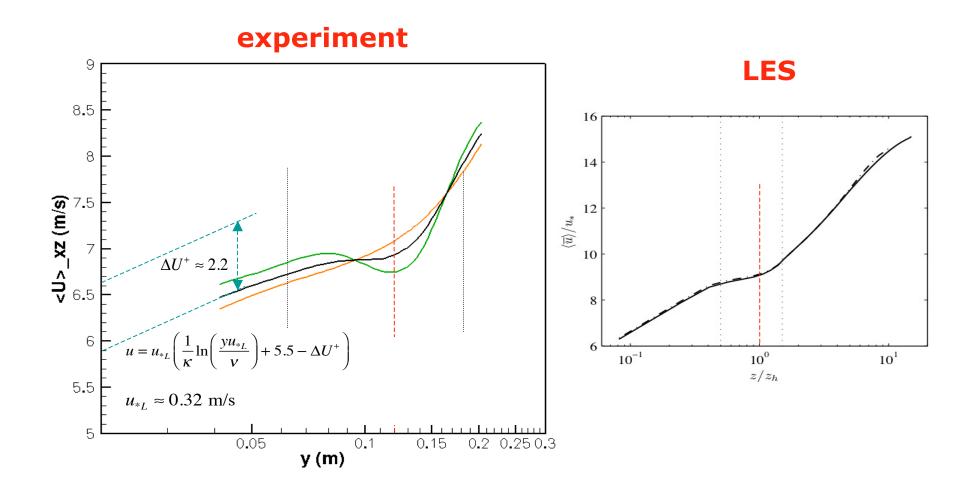
## Mean vertical velocity



# (negative) Reynolds shear stress



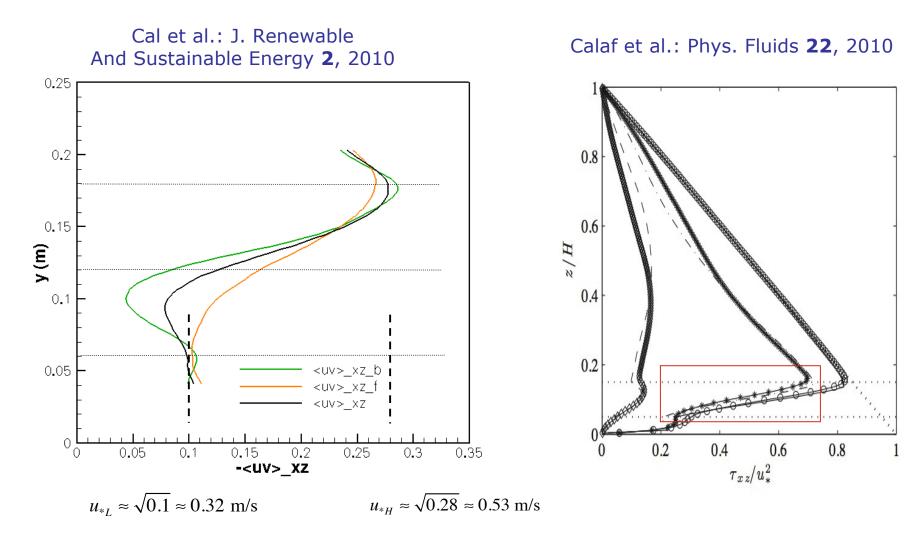
## Horizontally (canopy) averaged profiles:



#### Horizontally averaged Reynolds shear stress profiles:

LES

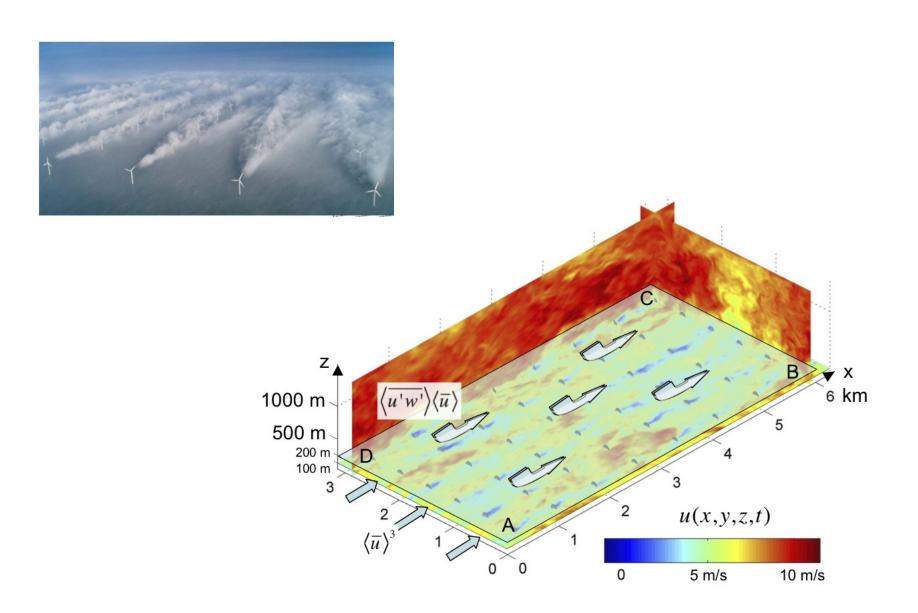
#### Wind tunnel measurements



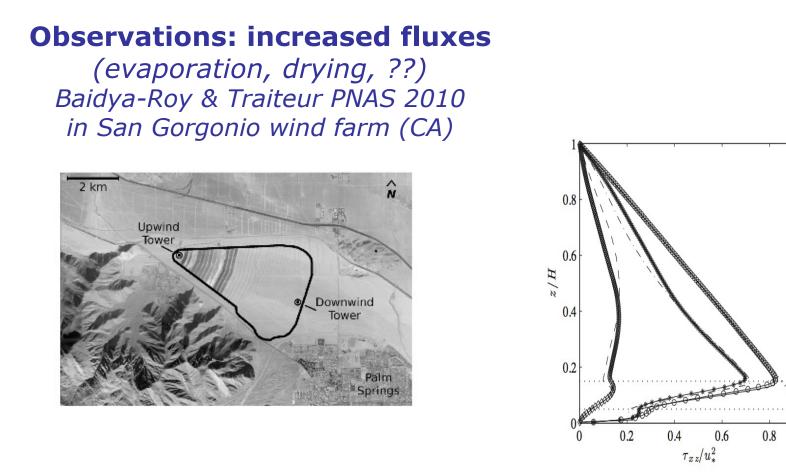
# **Horizontally averaged profiles - kinetic energy terms:**

$$\frac{d \frac{1}{2} \langle u \rangle_{xz}^{2}}{dt} = -\varepsilon_{turb} - \varepsilon_{canop} - \frac{d}{dy} \left( \langle \overline{u'v'} \rangle_{xz} \langle u \rangle_{xz} + \langle \overline{u''v'} \rangle_{xz} \langle u \rangle_{xz} \right) - \langle u \rangle_{xz} \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{dp_{\infty}}{dx} - P_{T}(y)$$
found to be negligible here
$$\frac{d \frac{1}{2} \langle u \rangle_{xz}}{dt} = -\varepsilon_{turb} - \varepsilon_{canop} - \frac{d}{dy} \left( \langle \overline{u'v'} \rangle_{xz} \langle u \rangle_{xz} + \langle \overline{u''v'} \rangle_{xz} \langle u \rangle_{xz} \right) - \langle u \rangle_{xz} \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{dp_{\infty}}{dx} - P_{T}(y)$$
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found to be negligible here
$$\frac{d \frac{1}{2} \langle u \rangle_{xz}}{dt} = -\varepsilon_{turb} - \varepsilon_{canop} - \frac{d}{dy} \left( \langle \overline{u'v'} \rangle_{xz} \langle u \rangle_{xz} \langle$$

## to scale:



## Effects of large wind farms on scalar fluxes: Heat and moisture

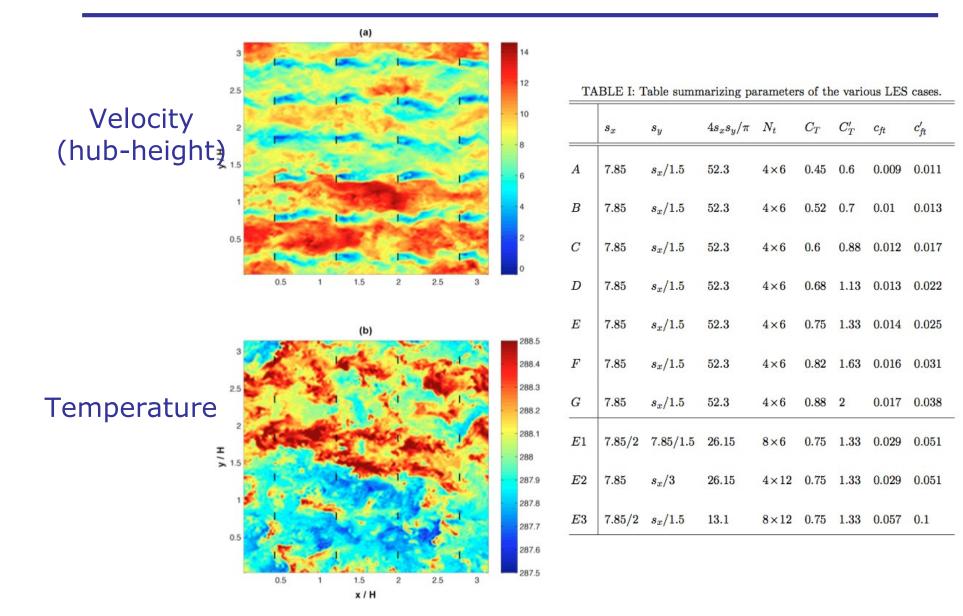


But: Farm increases turbulence in wakes and  $u_{*,hi}$  is increased, but  $u_{*,lo}$  is DECREASED. Net effect?

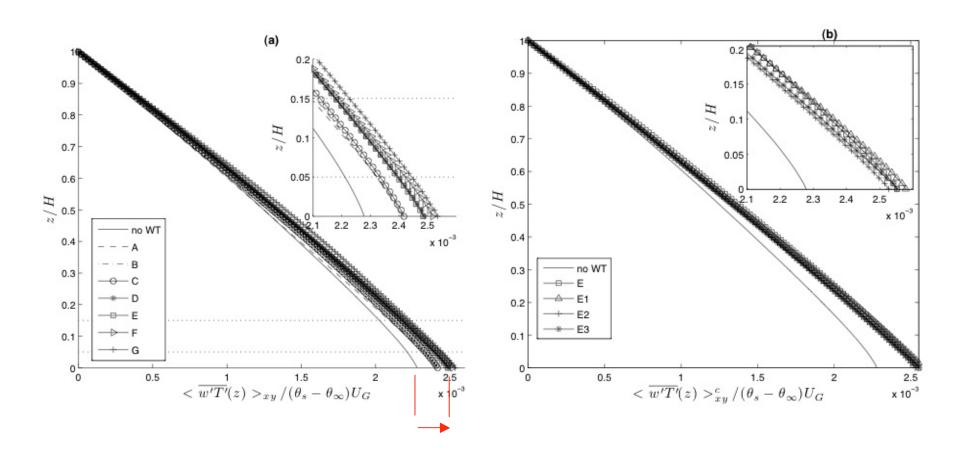
#### **First step: Passive scalar LES**

# (no Boussinesq term in momentum equations)

(M. Calaf, Parlange & M, in preparation)



#### Horizontally averaged scalar flux from LES



10-15% increase, not strongly dependent on loading

# Horizontally averaged scalar balance: constant flux

$$q_{H}^{WT} = \begin{cases} \frac{u_{*,lo}\kappa z}{Pr_{T}^{WT}} \frac{d[\theta_{s} - \tilde{\theta(z)}]}{dz} & (z_{0,s} < z < z_{h} - D/2) \\ \frac{(u_{*,lo}\kappa z + \sqrt{c_{ft}/2} \langle \tilde{u}(z_{h}) \rangle D)}{Pr_{T}^{WT}} \frac{d[\theta_{s} - \tilde{\theta(z)}]}{dz} & (z_{h} - D/2 < z < z_{h}) \\ \frac{(u_{*,hi}\kappa z + \sqrt{c_{ft}/2} \langle \tilde{u}(z_{h}) \rangle D)}{Pr_{T}^{WT}} \frac{d[\theta_{s} - \tilde{\theta(z)}]}{dz} & (z_{h} < z < z_{h} + D/2) \\ \frac{u_{*,hi}\kappa z}{Pr_{T}^{WT}} \frac{d[\theta_{s} - \tilde{\theta(z)}]}{dz} & (z_{h} + D/2 < z < H) \end{cases}$$

#### Horizontally averaged scalar balance: constant flux

For imposed geostrophic wind, ratio of scalar flux with and without wind farm

$$\frac{q_{H}^{WT}}{q_{H}^{0}} = \frac{u_{*,hi}}{u_{*}} \frac{Pr_{T}^{0}}{Pr_{T}^{WT}} \left\{ \frac{\ln\left(\frac{u_{*,hi}}{fz_{0,s}}\right) - kC + \frac{u_{*,hi}}{u_{*,lo}} ln\left[\frac{z_{h}}{z_{0,s}}\left(1 - \frac{D}{2z_{h}}\right)^{\beta}\right] - ln\left[\frac{z_{h}}{z_{0,s}}\left(1 + \frac{D}{2z_{h}}\right)^{\beta}\right]}{ln\left(\frac{u_{*}}{fz_{0,s}}\right) - kC} \right\}$$

Term 1: increase due to increased turbulence in wake

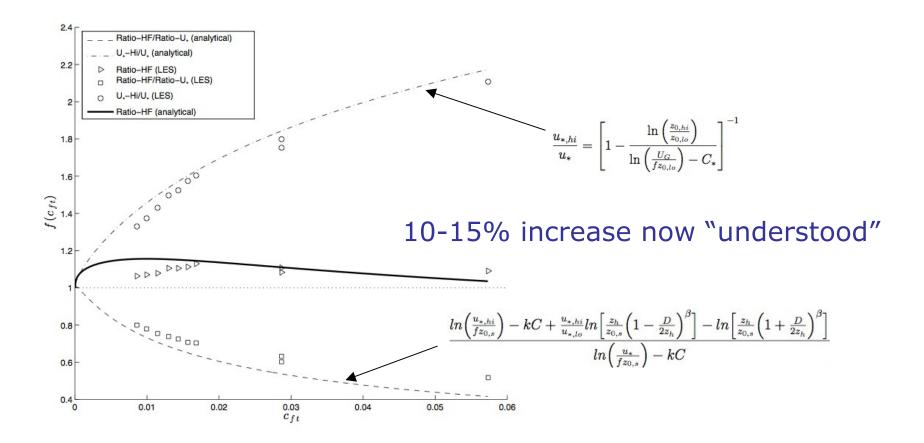
Term 2: decrease due to "dead water region" below WT

$$\frac{u_{*,hi}}{u_*} = \left[1 - \frac{\ln\left(\frac{z_{0,hi}}{z_{0,lo}}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{U_G}{fz_{0,lo}}\right) - C_*}\right]^{-1}$$

# LES measured and model terms as function of loading (neutral stratification)

For imposed geostrophic wind,

ratio of scalar flux with and without wind farm (symbols=LES)



# **Questions ?**