

Wind speed reductions within and wake lengths behind wind parks, an analytical model

Stefan Emeis
stefan.emeis@kit.edu

INSTITUTE OF METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE RESEARCH, Atmospheric Environmental Research



Wind parks

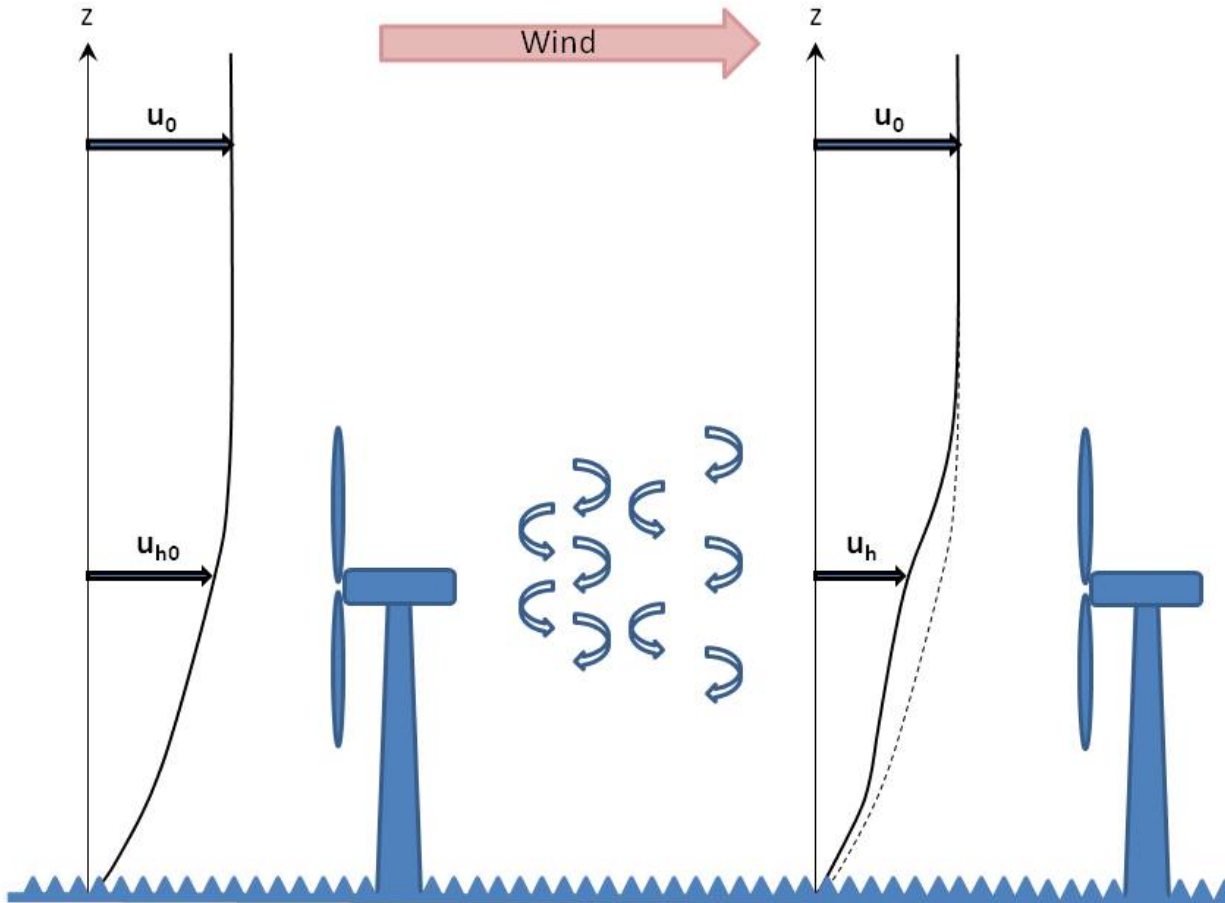
what happens when turbines are close together? ...

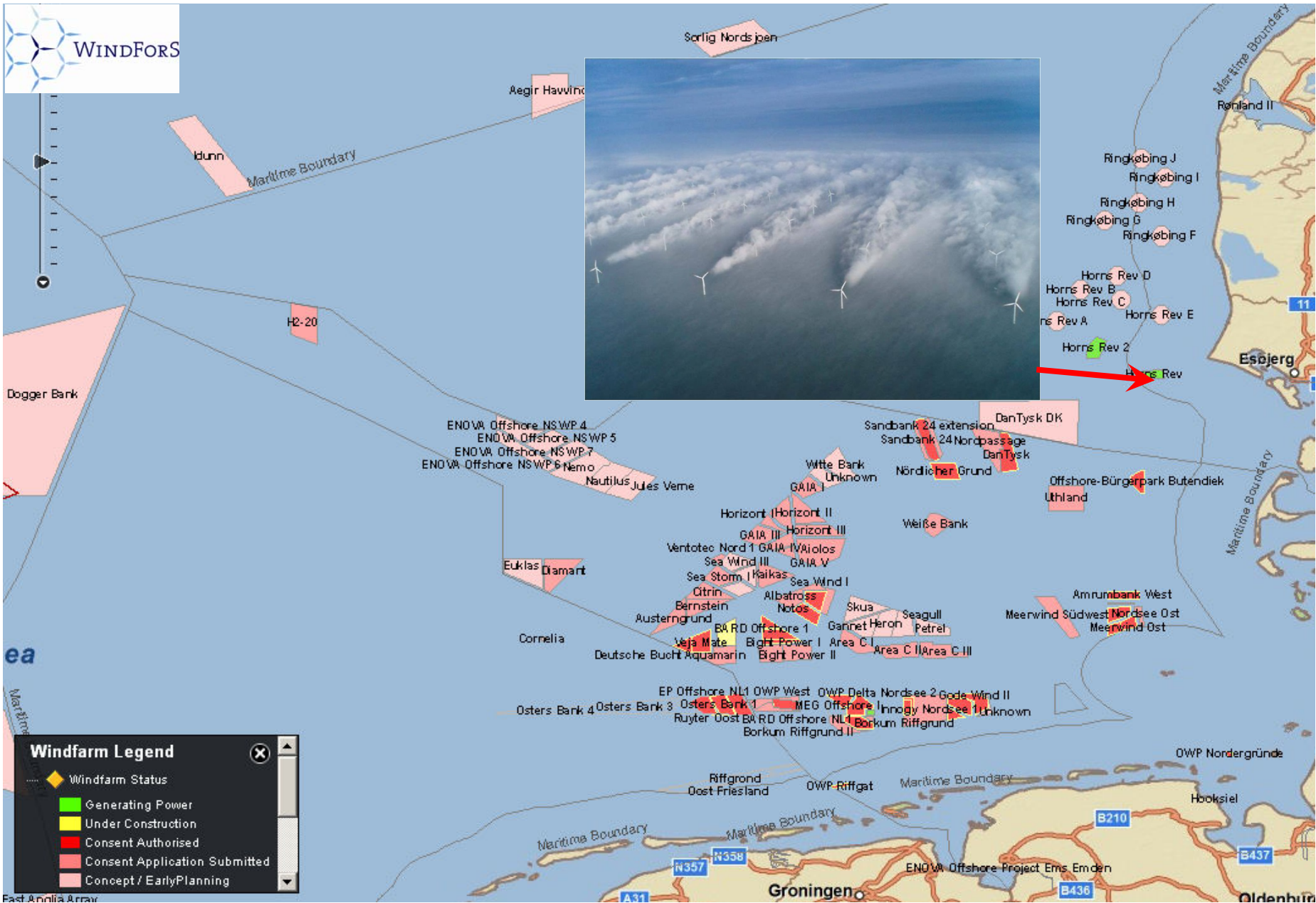
wake formation behind a wind turbine

- less wind speed

ahead of the next turbine in a wind park

- more turbulence





Windfarm Legend

- ◆ Windfarm Status
- Generating Power
- Under Construction
- Consent Authorised
- Consent Application Submitted
- Concept / Early Planning

source: <http://www.4coffshore.com/offshorewind/>

Wind energy generation is based on momentum (energy) extraction from the air

momentum extraction decelerates the wind

→ (1) wind park efficiency depends on the equilibrium wind speed in the interior of the park

- equilibrium between extraction and re-supply of momentum

→ (2) wind park wakes influence other wind parks downstream

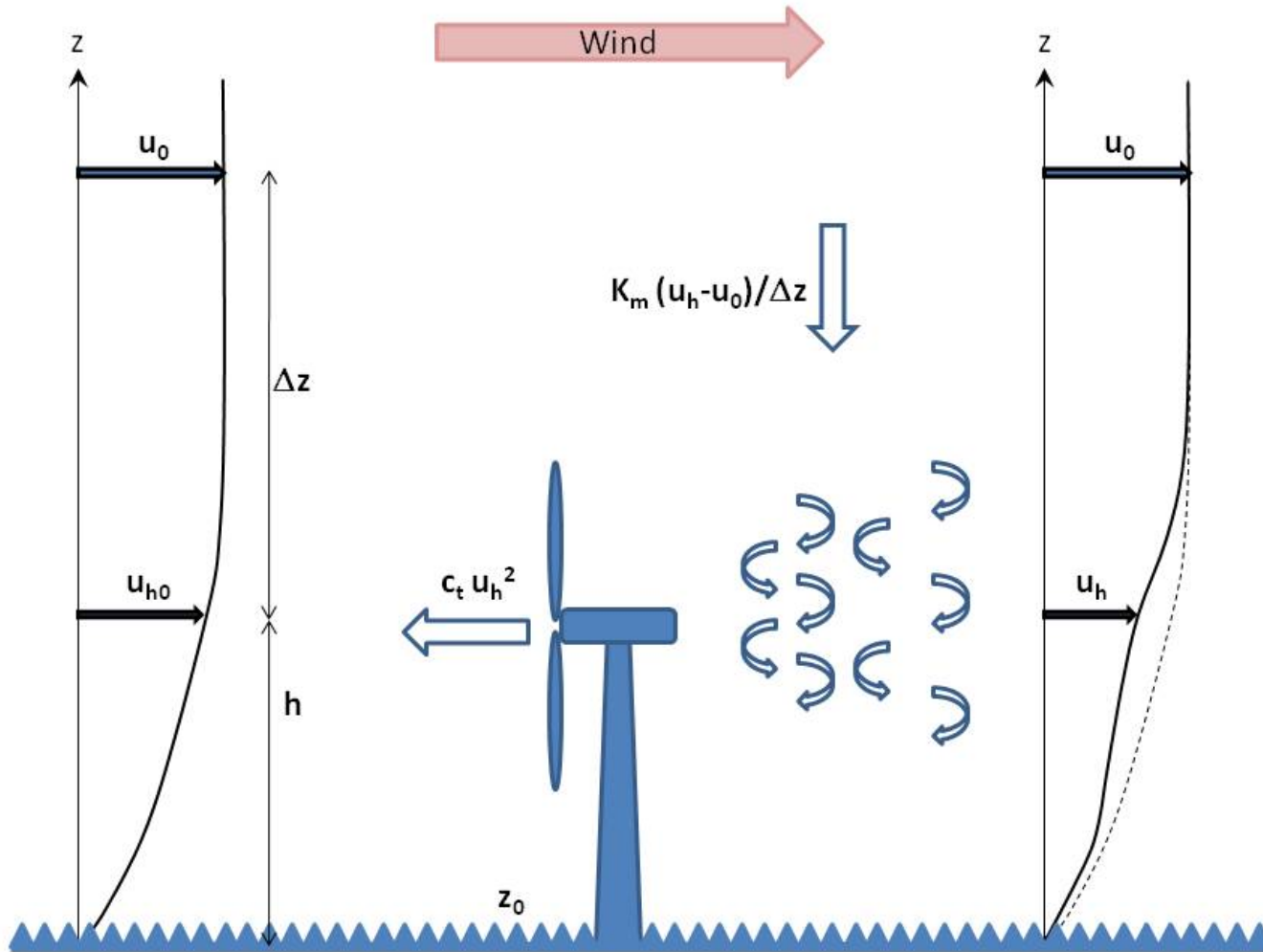
- wake length is inversely proportional to the momentum re-supply

→ for wind park design it is important to know:

1) the magnitude of wind speed reduction in the park interior

2) the length of wakes

1) the magnitude of wind speed reduction in the park interior



basic idea of the analytical model

reduction of wind speed in the park interior (calculation of the equilibrium condition for the momentum fluxes)

$$C_{teff} u_h^2 = \frac{\kappa u_* z (u_0 - u_h)}{\Delta z \phi_m}$$

extraction = re-supply from above

turbine and surface drag

flux-gradient-relationship

Emeis, S., 2010: A simple analytical wind park model considering atmospheric stability. *Wind Energy*, 13, 459-469.

solution of the analytical model

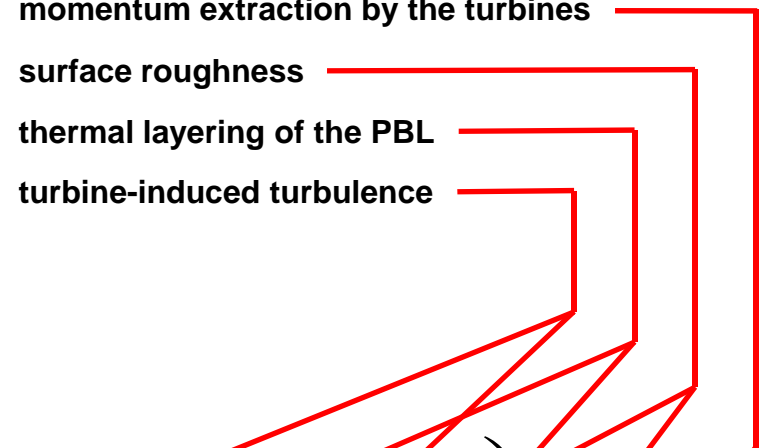
reduction of wind speed in the park interior (calculation of the equilibrium condition for the momentum fluxes):

momentum extraction by the turbines

surface roughness

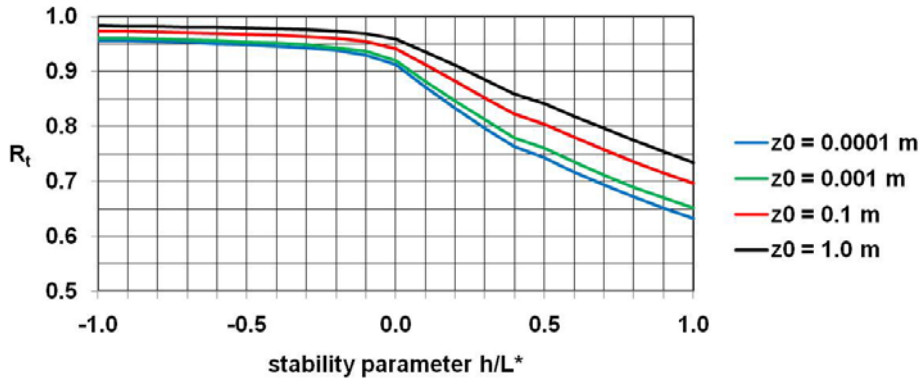
thermal layering of the PBL

turbine-induced turbulence

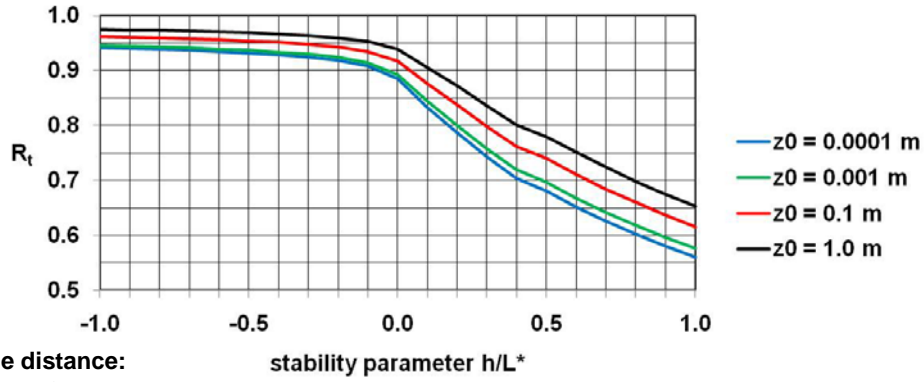
$$R_t = \frac{\left(f_{h,\Delta z} T_i + \frac{\phi_m}{\kappa^2} c_{s,h} \right)}{\left(f_{h,\Delta z} T_i + \frac{\phi_m}{\kappa^2} c_{teff} \right)}$$


Emeis, S., 2010: A simple analytical wind park model considering atmospheric stability. *Wind Energy*, 13, 459-469.

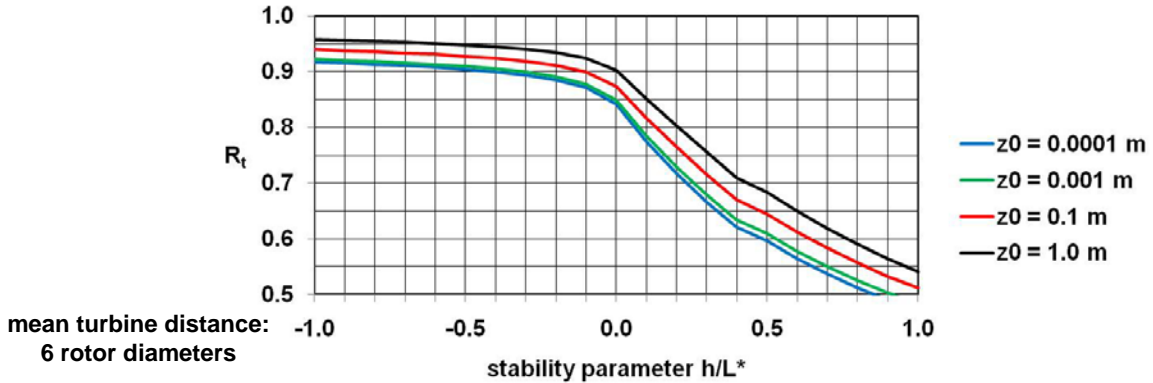
reduction of wind speed in the park interior



mean turbine distance:
10 rotor diameters

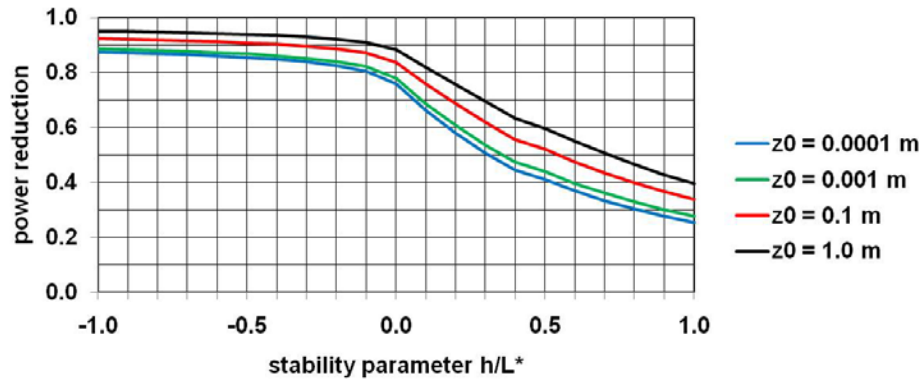


mean turbine distance:
8 rotor diameters

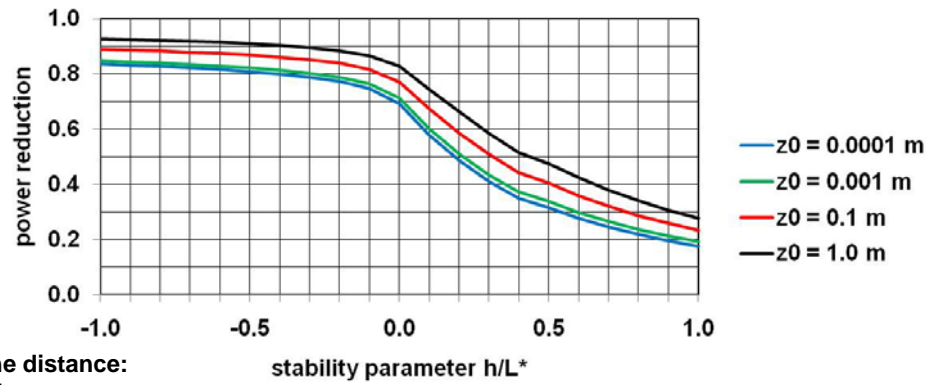


mean turbine distance:
6 rotor diameters

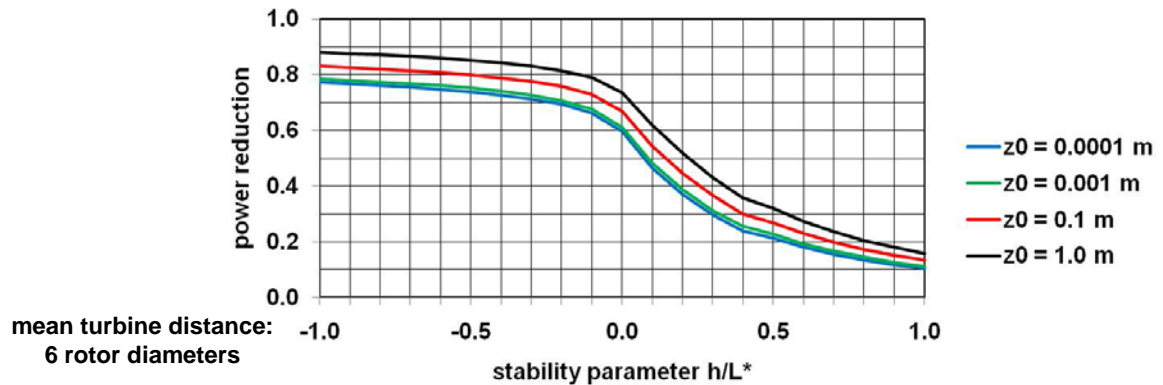
reduction of wind **power** in the park interior



mean turbine distance:
10 rotor diameters

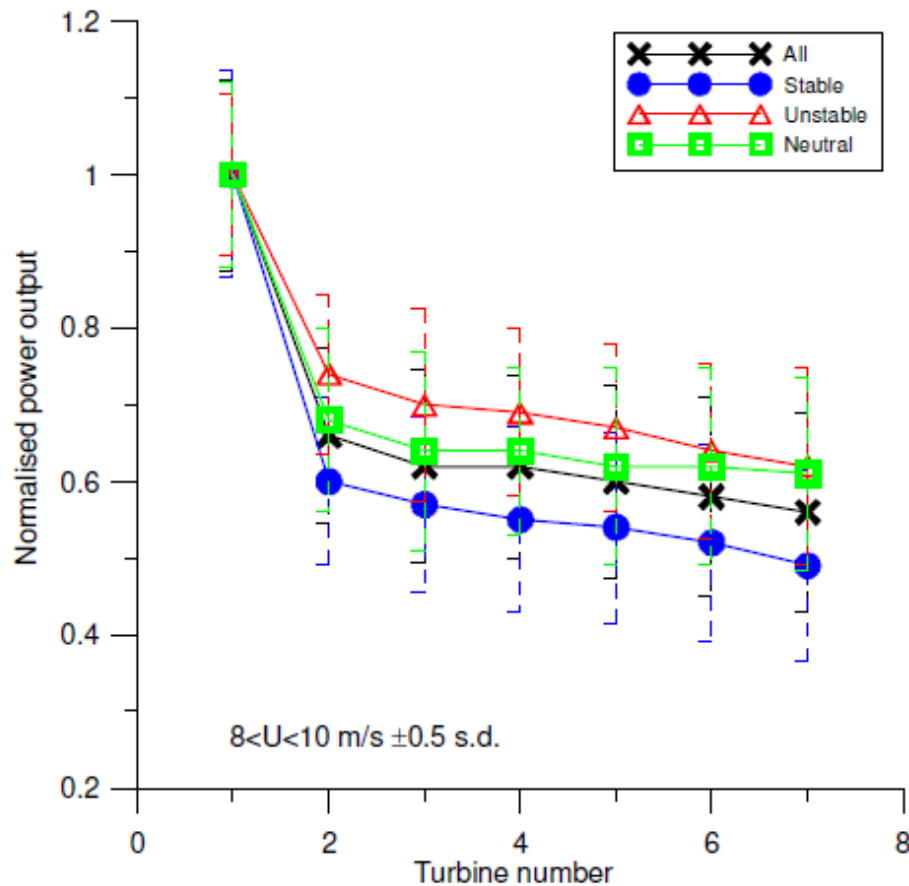


mean turbine distance:
8 rotor diameters



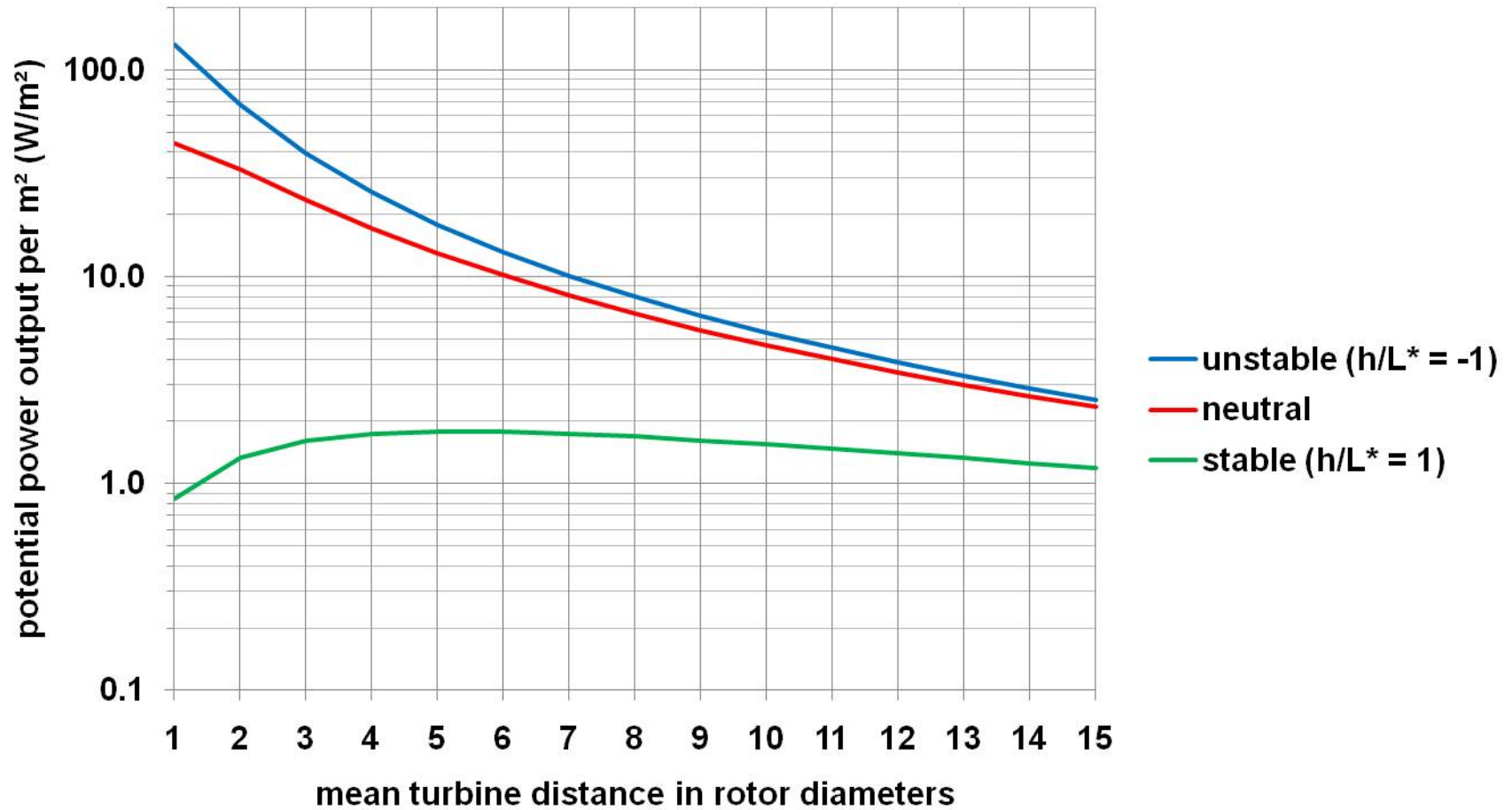
mean turbine distance:
6 rotor diameters

reduction of wind **power** in the park interior measurements at Nysted wind park (Baltic sea)

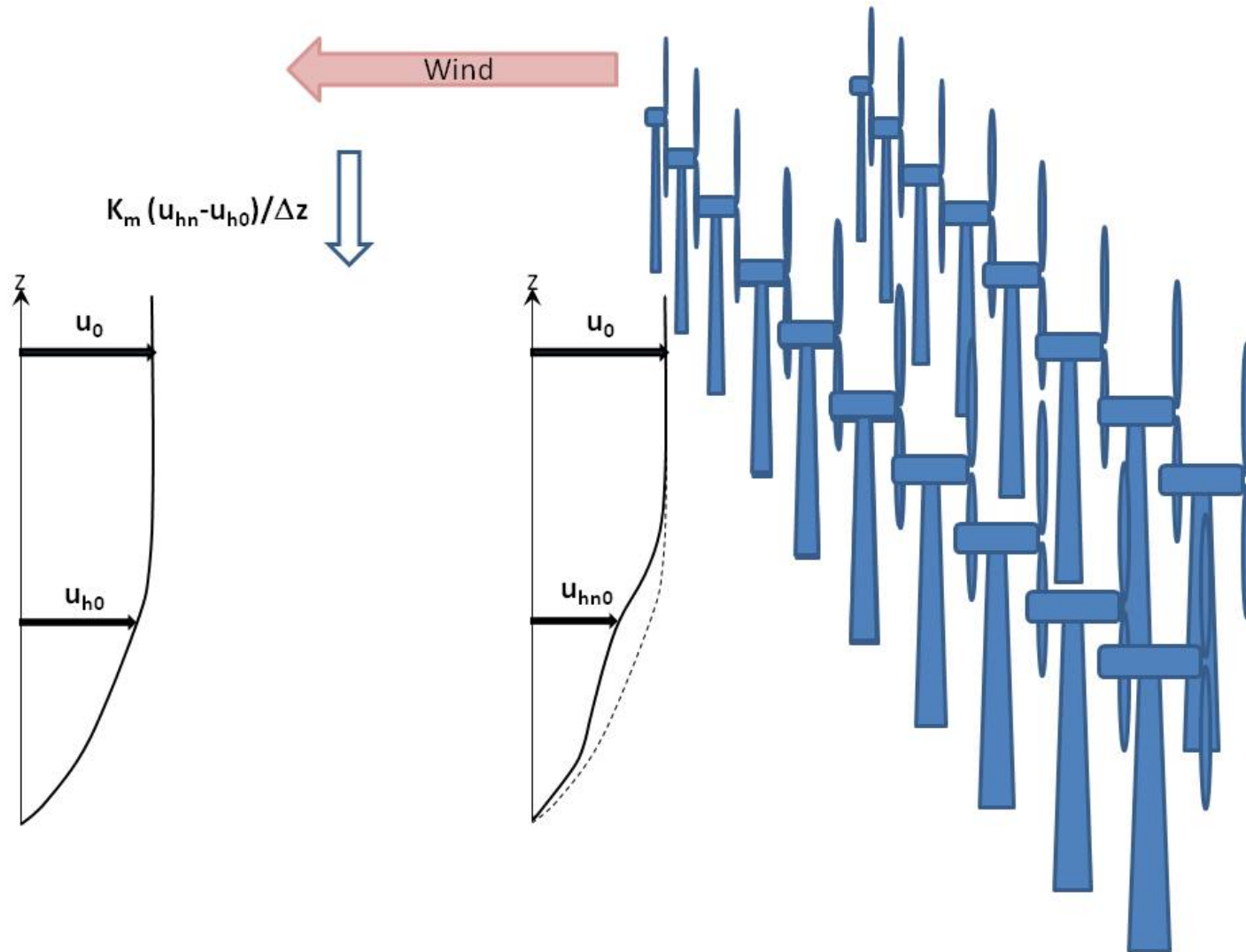


Barthelmie R, Frandsen ST, Rethore PE, Jensen L., 2007: Analysis of atmospheric impacts on the development of wind turbine wakes at the Nysted wind farm. Proceedings of the European Offshore Wind Conference, Berlin 4.-6.12.2007.

Optimization of turbine density in a wind park



2) the length of wakes



basic idea of the analytical model

speed-up of wind speed downstream of a wind park:

$$\frac{\Delta u_{hn}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\kappa u_* z}{\Delta z^2} (u_{h0} - u_{hn})$$

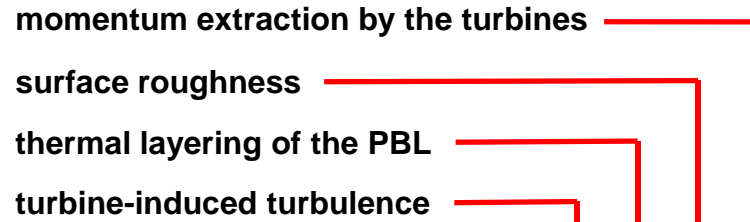
speed-up = re-supply from above

Emeis, S., 2010: A simple analytical wind park model considering atmospheric stability. *Wind Energy*, 13, 459-469.

solution of the analytical model

speed-up of wind speed downstream of a wind park:

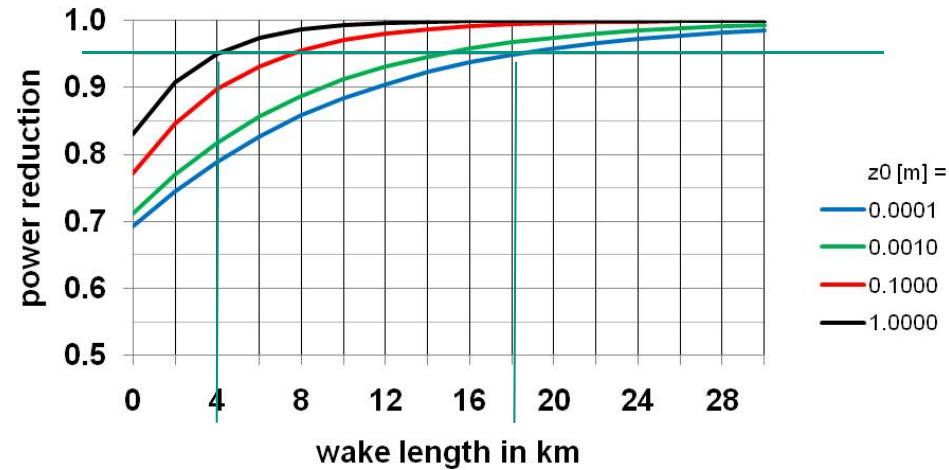
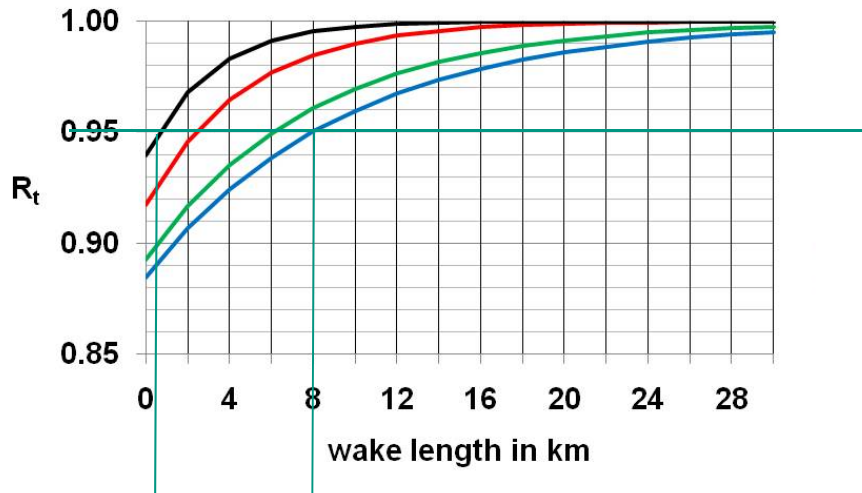
- momentum extraction by the turbines
- surface roughness
- thermal layering of the PBL
- turbine-induced turbulence

$$R_n = \frac{u_{hn}(t)}{u_{h0}} = 1 + \left(\frac{u_{hn0}}{u_{h0}} - 1 \right) \exp(-at)$$


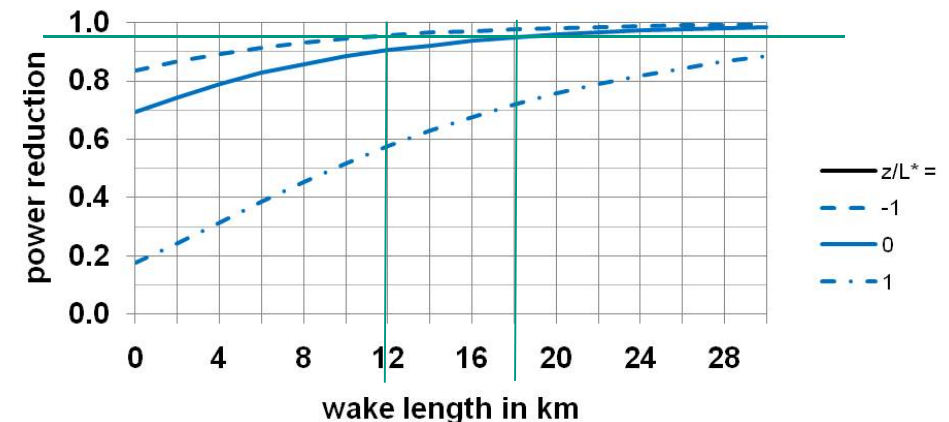
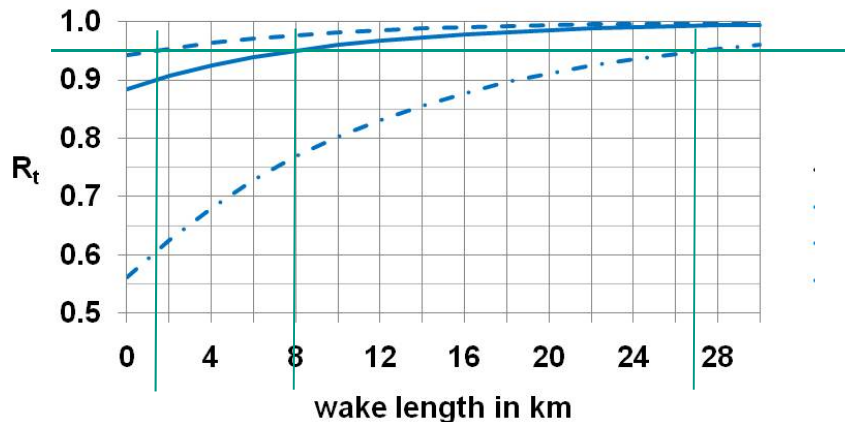
Emeis, S., 2010: A simple analytical wind park model considering atmospheric stability. *Wind Energy*, 13, 459-469.

recovery of wind **speed (left)** and **power (right)** behind a wind park,
 mean turbine density: 8 rotor diameters

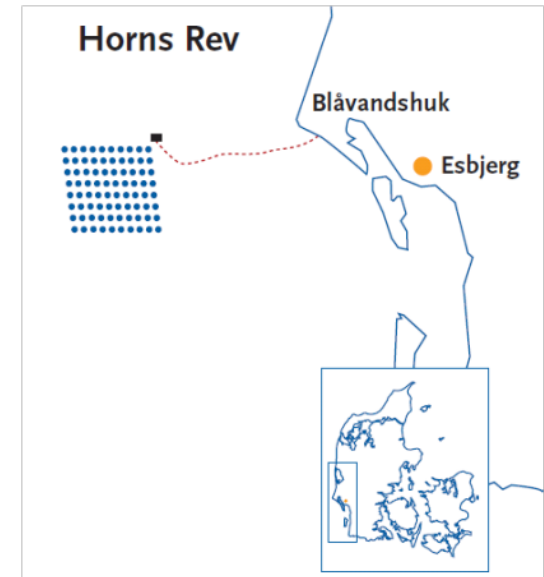
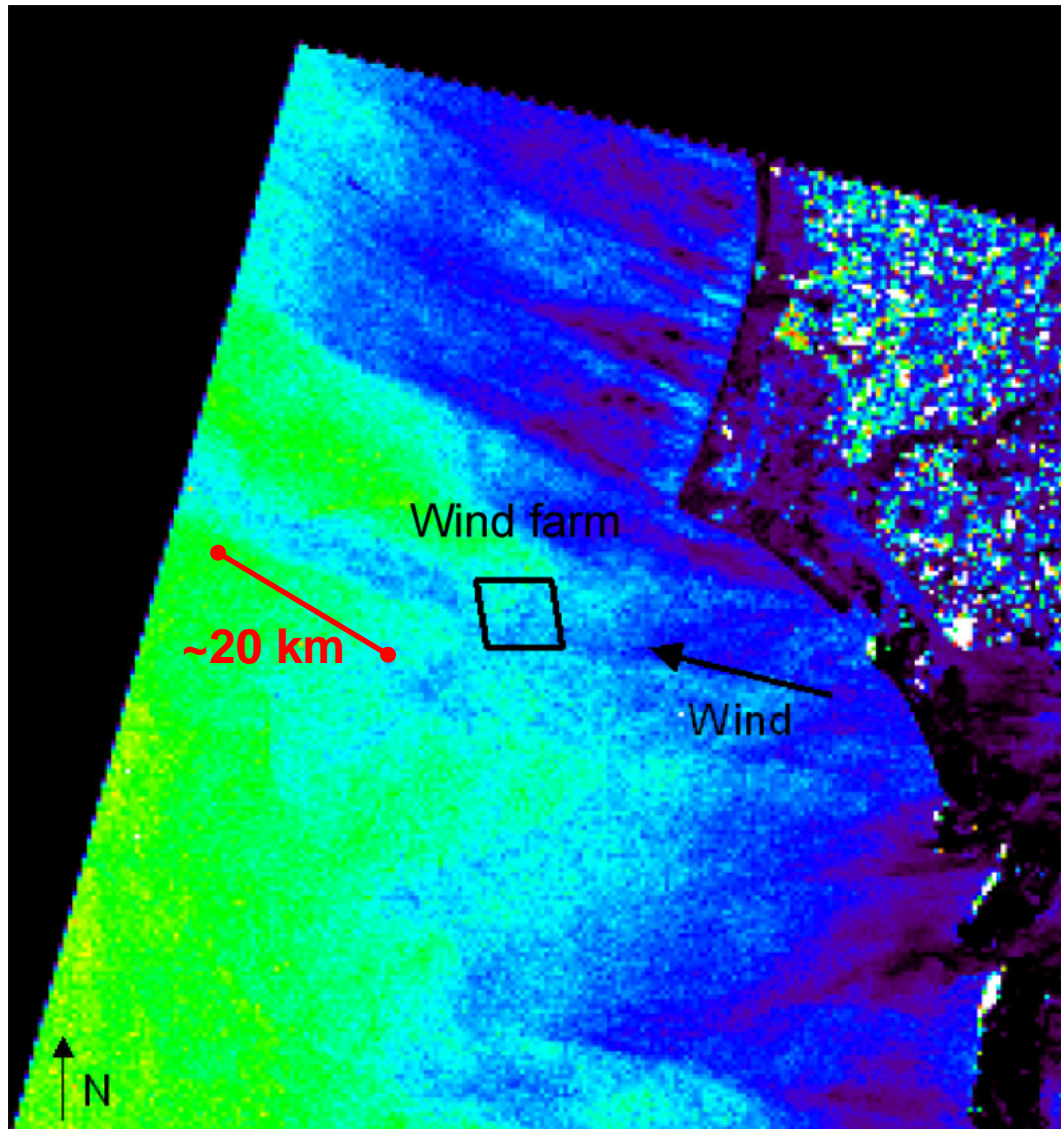
onshore ($z_0 = 1.0$ m) – offshore ($z_0 = 0.0001$ m)



unstable ($h/L_* = -1$) – neutral – stable ($h/L_* = 1$)



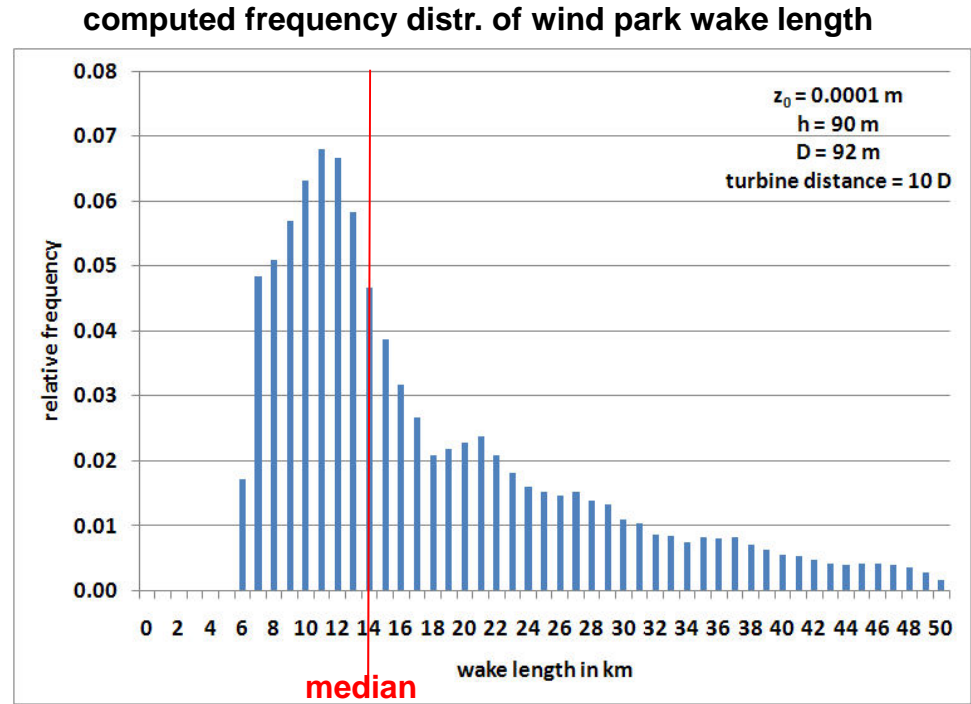
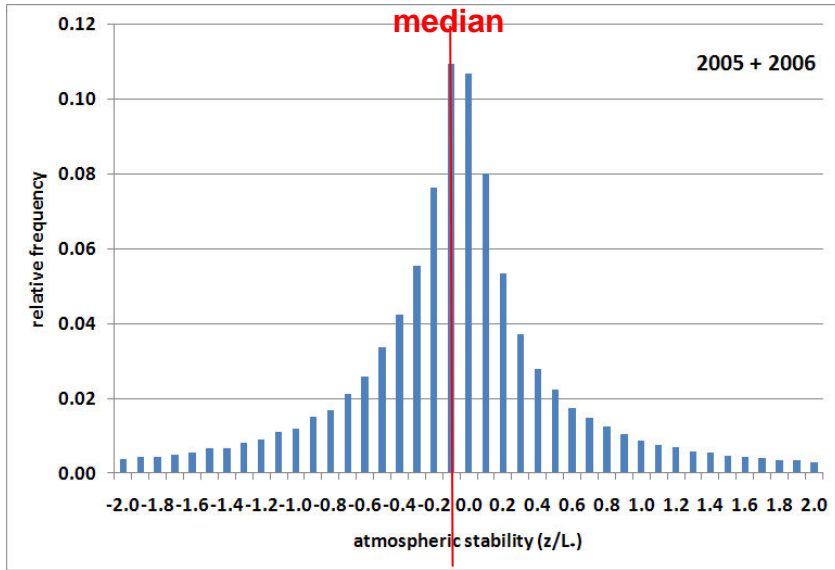
speed-up of wind speed behind the wind park measurements (Envisat, SAR) at Horns Rev (4 km x 5 km)



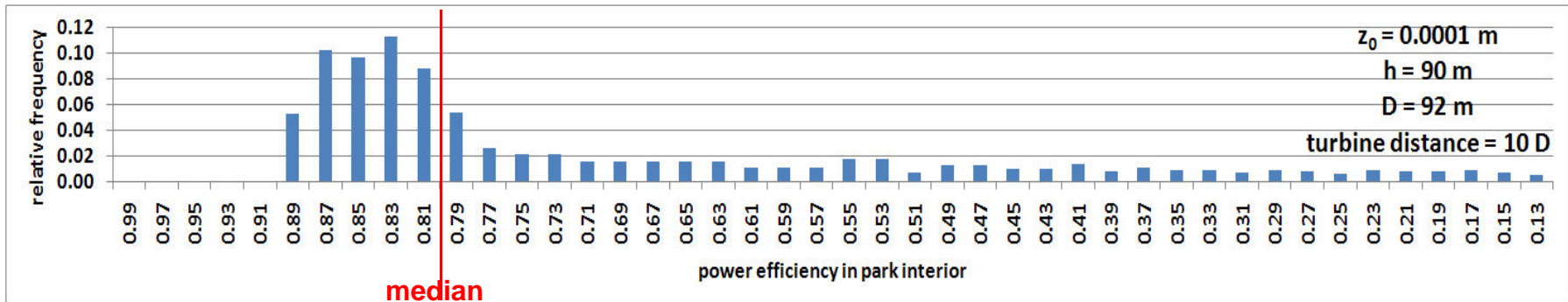
http://www.hornsrev.dk/nyheder/brochurer/Horns_Rev_TY.pdf

25. 02. 2003

© ERS SAR/Risø
http://galathea3.emu.dk/satelliteeye/projekter/wind/back_uk.html



computed frequency distr. of power efficiency in the park interior



Conclusions:

wind speed reduction: offshore stronger than onshore

- (partial) compensation of higher offshore wind speed
- offshore requires a larger distance between turbines

larger harvest from wind parks during unstable stratification

- offshore: annual cycle of energy production
- onshore: diurnal cycle of energy production

offshore wake length is several times larger than onshore

- offshore requires larger distances between wind parks

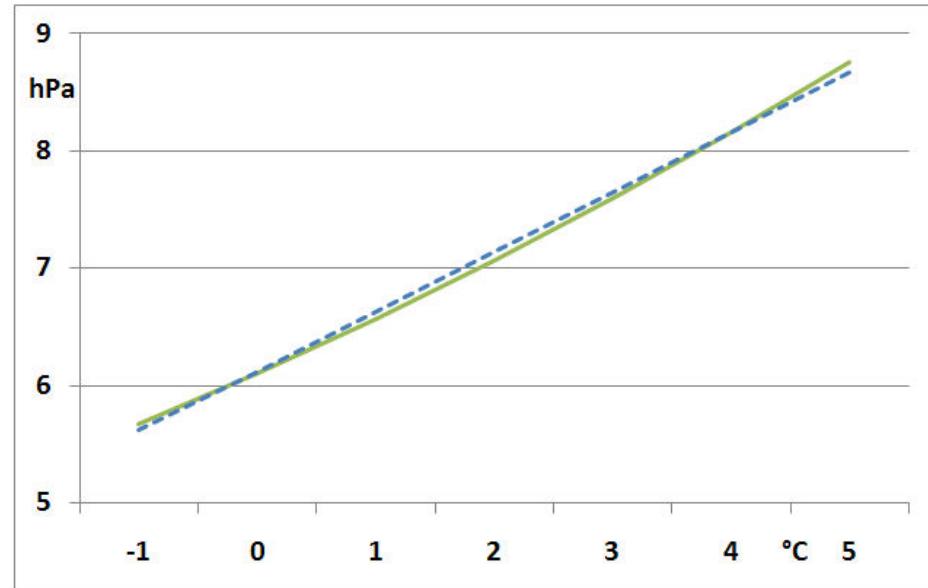
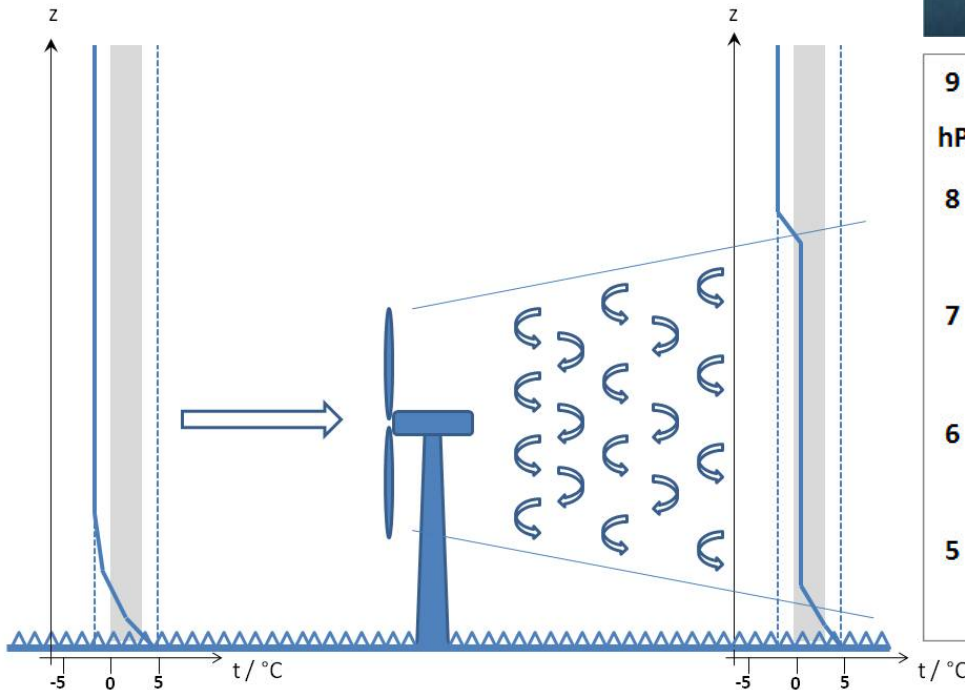
but, analytical model is strongly simplified

- only for rough estimation, exact simulations with numerical models necessary

explanation of wake clouds: mixing fog



12. 02. 2008



air directly over the water:
air at hub height:
after mixing:

5°C, more than 99% relative humidity
-1°C, more than 99% relative humidity
2°C, above 101% humidity → clouds

Thank you for your attention

