



## Validation of vortex code viscous models using lidar wake measurements and CFD

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## Abstract

The newly implemented vortex code *Omnivor* [8], coupled to the aero-servo-elastic tool *hawc2* [7], is presented. Vortex wake improvements by the implementation of viscous effects are considered.

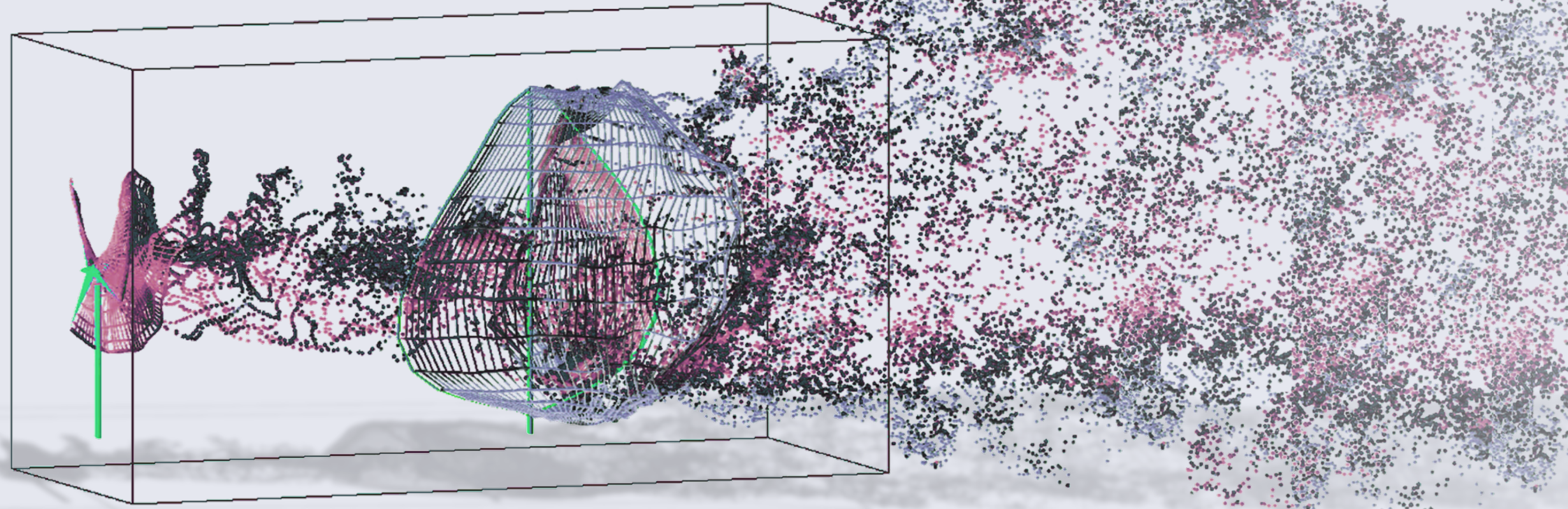
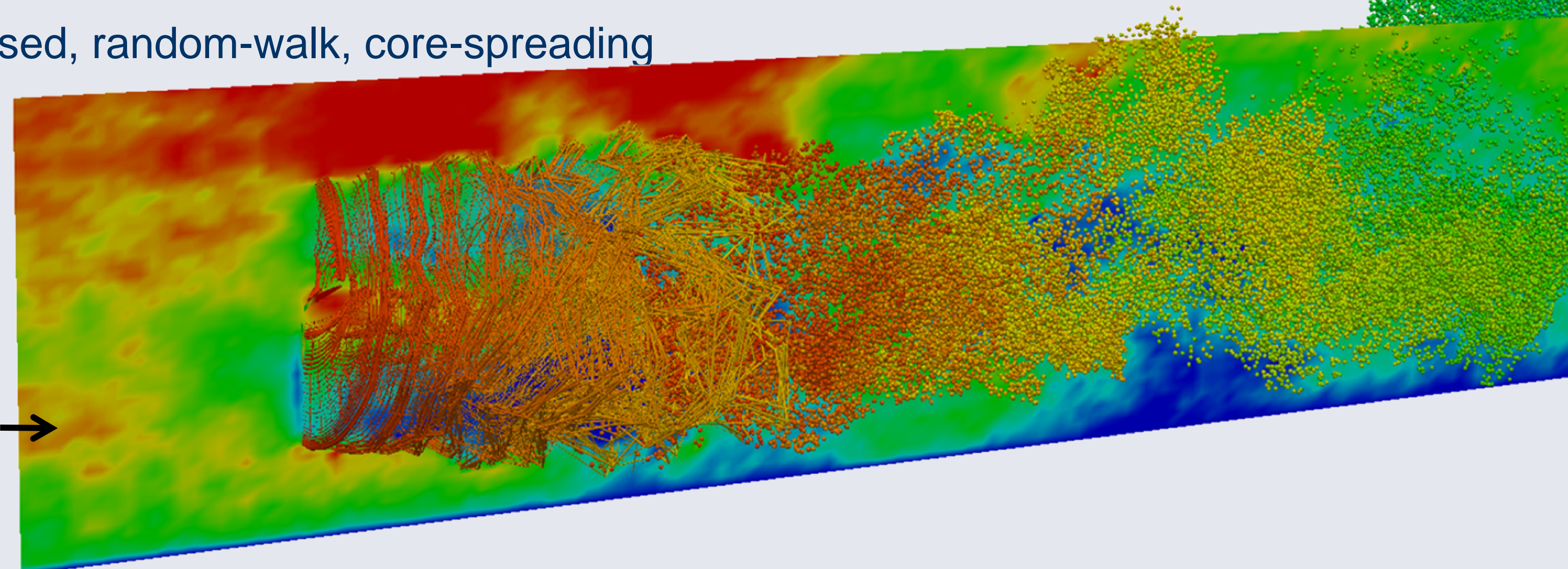


Figure 1: Vortex-based aeroelastic simulation of the *Deepwind* vertical axis wind turbine in the wake of a horizontal axis turbine. Nacelle and tower modeled with source panels. Conversion from vortex segments to particles. The frame represents the *hybrid-wake* grid [6] that will be used to record the influence of the far-wake.

## Description of the vortex code and viscous models

- Convection/Strain/Diffusion as separate steps [5]
- Elements: segments, particles, panels and misc.: theoretical elements (rings, cylinders, helices), Lagrangian markers. See Figs. 1 and 2.
- Lifting (line, surface, panels) and non-lifting (source) bodies. Viscous boundary condition for non lifting bodies (beta version)
- Wake viscous models tested: grid-based, random-walk, core-spreading (to do: particle-strength-exchange)
- Strong/Soft coupling with *hawc2*
- Acceleration: clusters or GPU

Figure 2: Vortex-based aeroelastic simulation of the *Nordtank* turbine with *hawc2* and *Omnivor*. Strained vortex segments are converted to particles. Shear and turbulent inflow are used but they are external to the "potential flow world".



## Turbulent inflow : Lidar measurements, Vortex Code and CFD

Figure 3: Velocity field and potential flow elements for typical 10-min vortex-code simulations. Turbulent simulations (left) are used for comparison with lidar measurement [4] and actuator disk CFD [1-3]. The wake of the nacelle is modeled with particles.

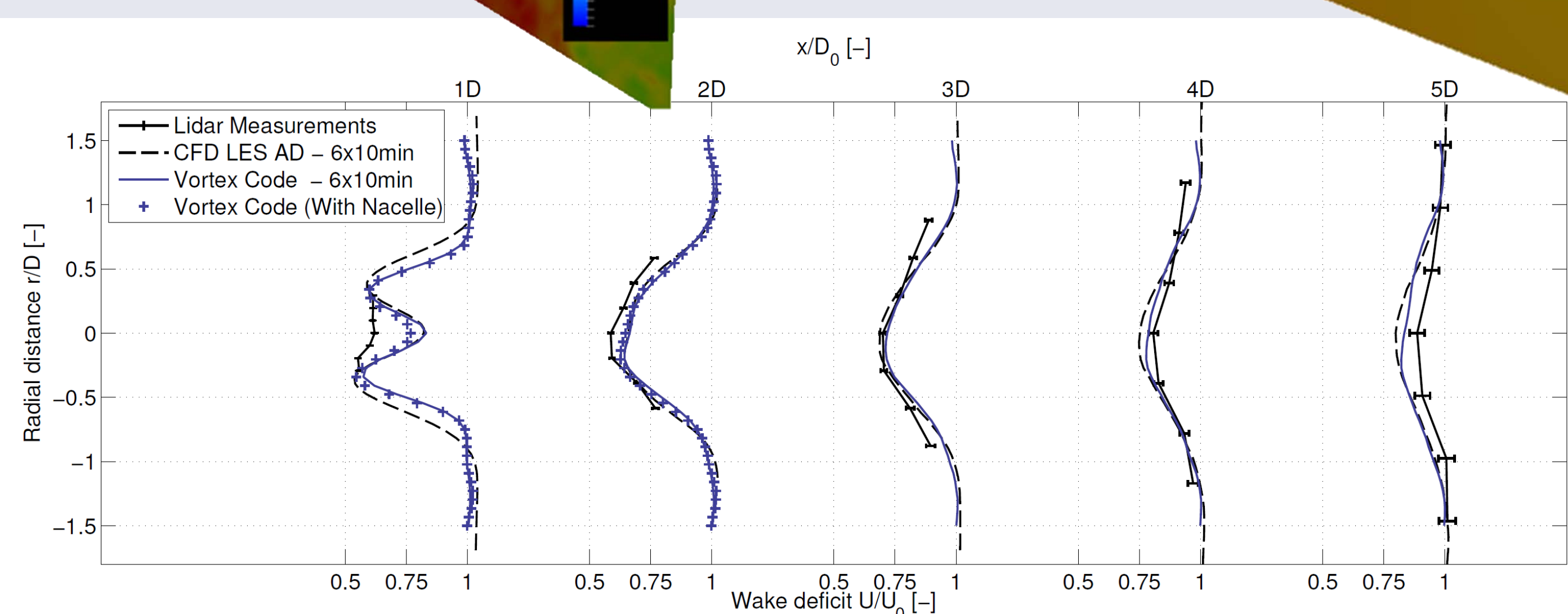
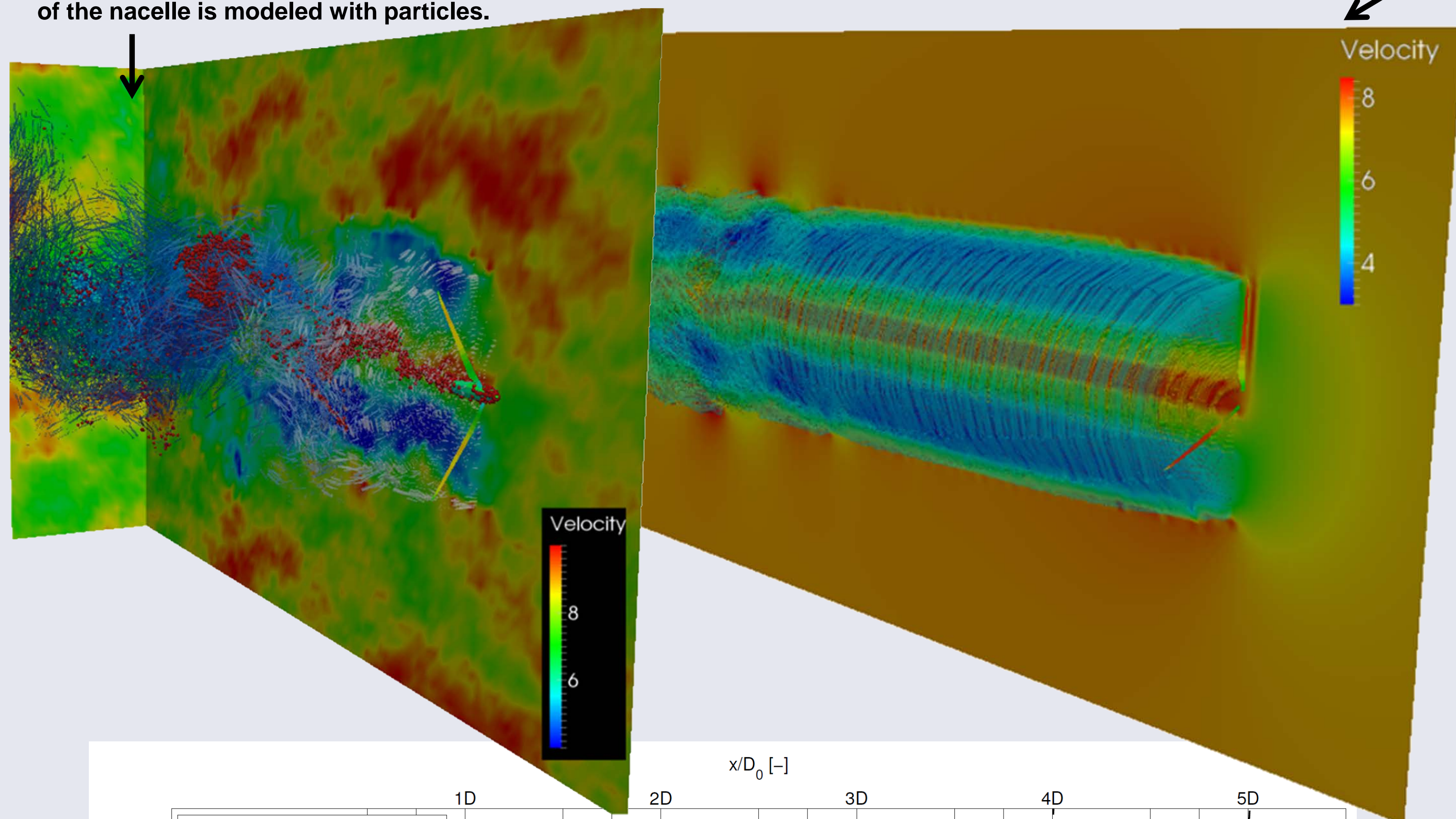


Figure 4: One-hour wake deficits behind the *Nordtank* turbine. Comparisons between lidar measurements, CFD and vortex code. Preliminary nacelle modeling shows slight improvement but a better modeling of the nacelle and its wake is required for both the CFD-AD/AL and the vortex code to capture the near-wake.

## Laminar inflow – Viscous models

Figure 5: Comparison between CFD (top) and vortex code (bottom) axial velocity contours normalized with free-stream velocity. The vortex wake does not sustain the deficit as far downstream as the CFD simulation.

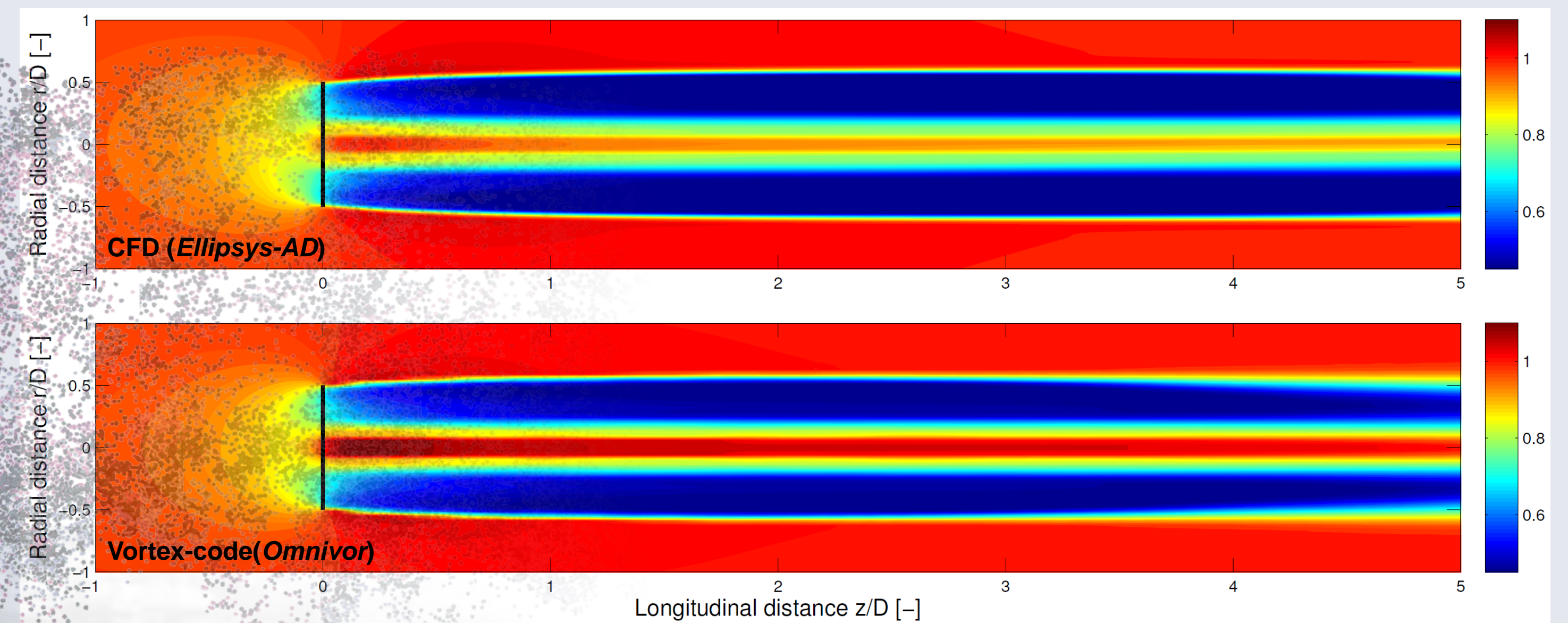


Figure 6: 10min-average wake deficits for two viscosity values. Comparison of CFD and vortex code, and two vortex code viscous models. Strong correlation in the near wake. Trend captured: wake deficit reduced for increased vorticity. Differences in the far-wake may be due to wake distortion (no resampling).

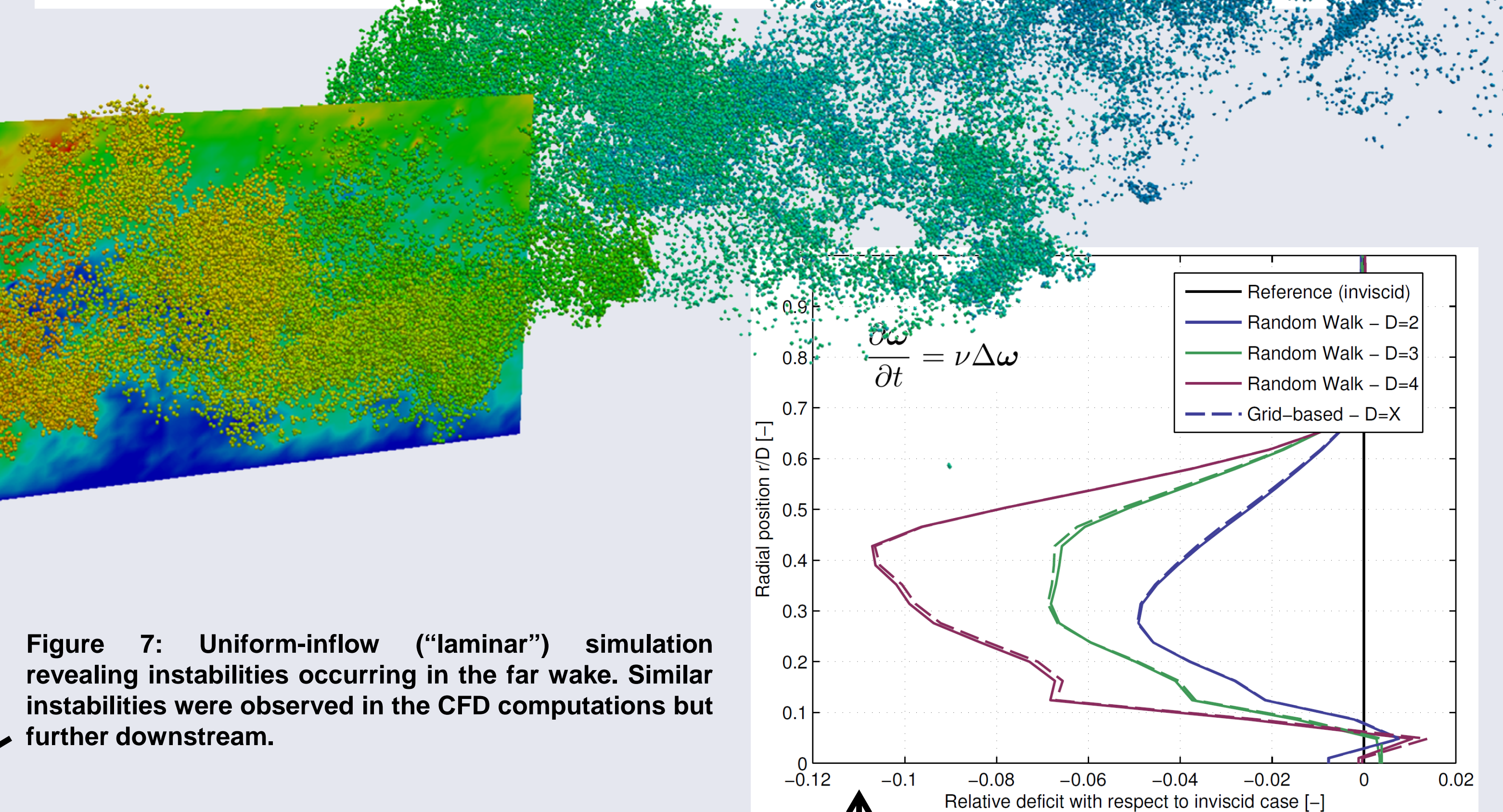
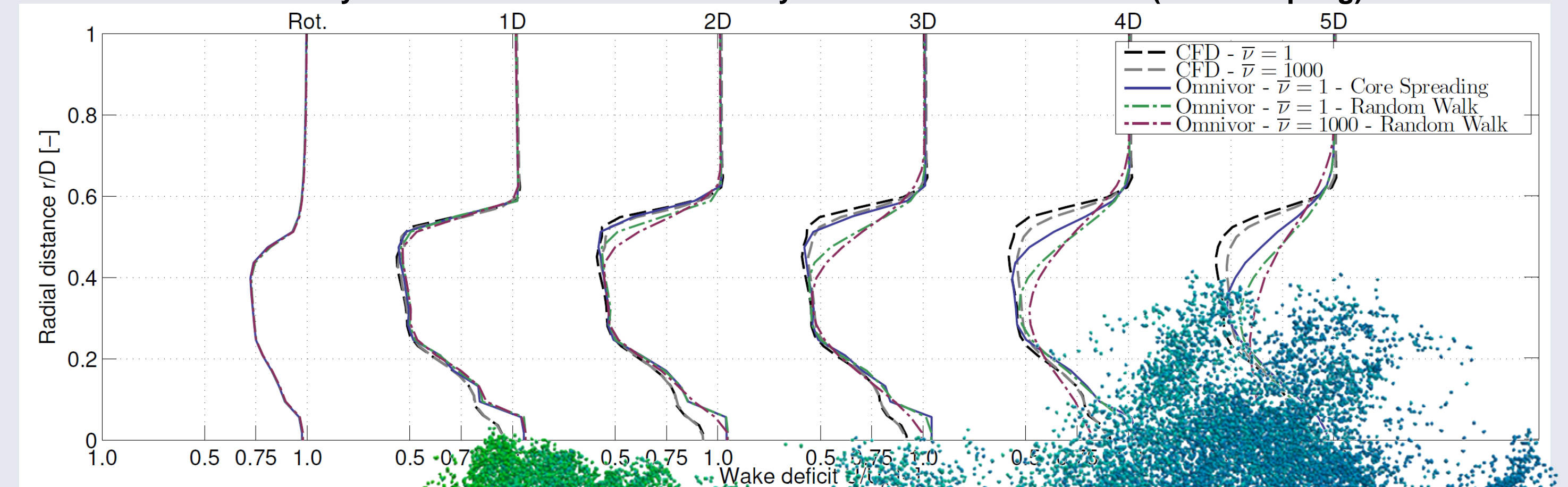


Figure 7: Uniform-inflow ("laminar") simulation revealing instabilities occurring in the far wake. Similar instabilities were observed in the CFD computations but further downstream.

Figure 8: Comparison of two ways to solve the viscous diffusion equation with vortex particles: the random walk method and the grid-based (finite difference) method. The average wake deficits obtained with the two methods are in strong agreement. This validates the random walk approach.

## Conclusions

- A new vortex-based aerodynamic library implemented.
- The library was successfully coupled to the aero-servo-elastic tool *hawc2*.
- For turbulent and laminar inflow, CFD and vortex code showed consistent results up to 3 diameters downstream
- External turbulence and shear appeared sufficient to obtain agreement with lidar measurement and CFD. Potential-flow implementations would be preferred.
- Viscous effects down to  $Re_D = 2 \times 10^4$  are negligible in the near wake. The modeling of the nacelle is important.
- Consistent results between grid-based viscous diffusion and random-walk
- Core-spreading to be used with care (tuning required)
- Further work: further viscous validations (at low  $Re$ ), more advanced body-viscosity model, improved far-wake modeling

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