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Simulating wind energy resources with mesoscale models: Intercomparison of state-of-the-art models

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Acknowledgement Lorenzo Morselli



Overview

DTU

Introduction

- EWEA mesoscale models benchmarking exercise
- Intercomparison study of mesoscale models
- Wind energy community submits their model output

Objective

- To highlight common issues with mesoscale models
- To identify weaknesses and strengths for further evaluation of uncertainties

Question to be answered

- How good are simulated time series from mesoscale models?
- How is the model setup related to performance?

Overview

- Data submission facilitated by EWEA ensuring anonymity of participants
- 'Raw' mesoscale output for 6 sites in Northern Europe
- Hourly data for all of 2011
- Wind speed, direction, temperature, and humidity, surface fluxes.
- Many vertical levels 10-200 m.
- A lot of metadata:
 - Model name
 - Model version
 - Grid spacing (horizontal and vertical)
 - Forcing (Boundary data)
 - Surface roughness
 - o and more...



Participants:

• 3E

- Anemos GmbH
- ATM PRO
- CENER
- CIEMAT
- DEWI
- DTU Wind Energy
- DX Wind Technologies
- EMD International
- ISAC-CNR
- KNMI
- Met Office
- Noveltis
- RES Ltd.
- Statoil ASA
- University Oldenburg
- Vestas
- Vortex

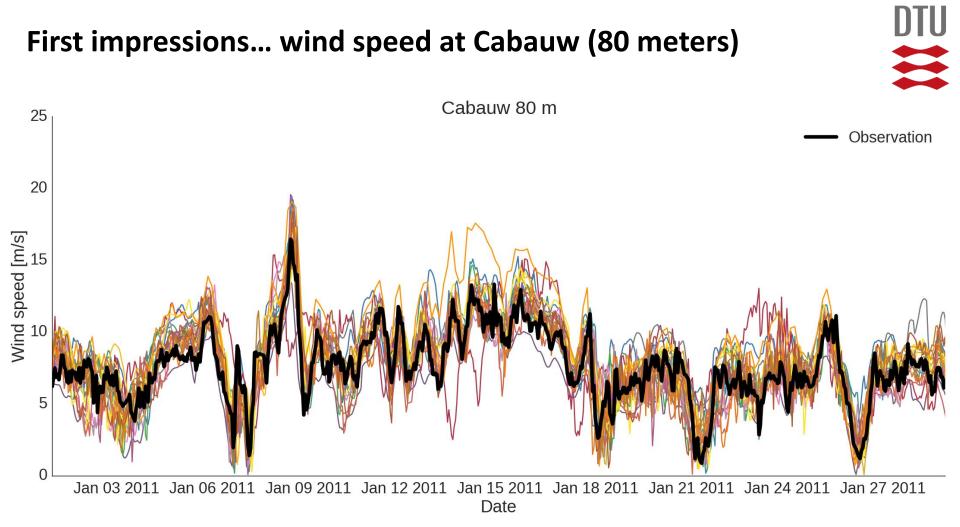
(Belgium) (Germany) (Belgium) (Spain) (Spain) (Germany) (Denmark) (China) (Denmark) (Italy) (The Netherlands) (United Kingdom) (France) (United Kingdom) (Norway) (Germany) (Denmark) (Spain)

Models:

- Harmonie37h1.1
- HIRLAM, v6.4.2
- Met Office v8.4
- MM5
- RAMS 6.0
- SKIRON 6.9
- WRF v3.0.1
- WRF v3.1
- WRF v3.2.1
- WRF v3.3.1
- WRF v3.4
- WRF v3.5.1
- WRF v3.6
- WRF v3.6.1

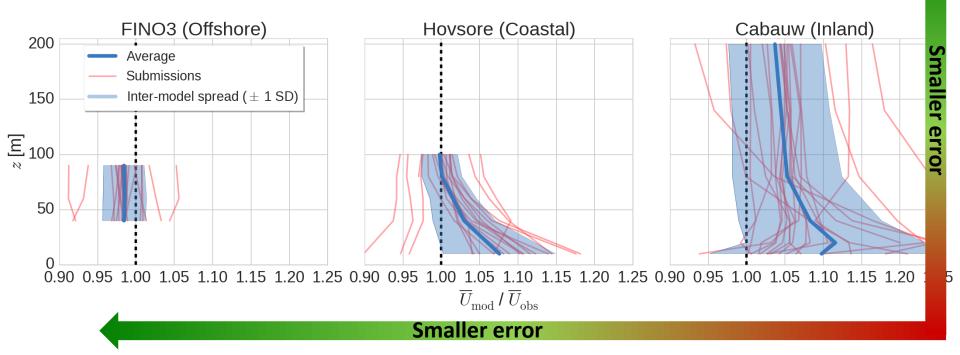


First impressions... wind speed at Cabauw (80 meters)



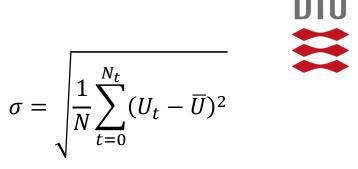
1st order statistics - mean wind speed

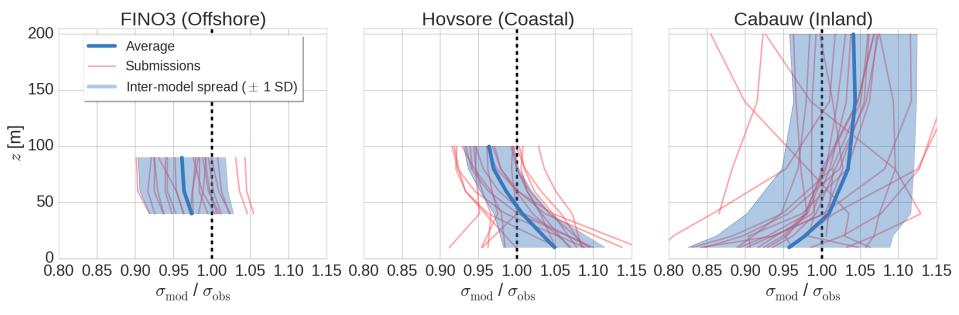
- Smaller errors offshore and aloft, larger inland and near the surface
- Same pattern for inter-model spread



1st order statistics – standard deviation

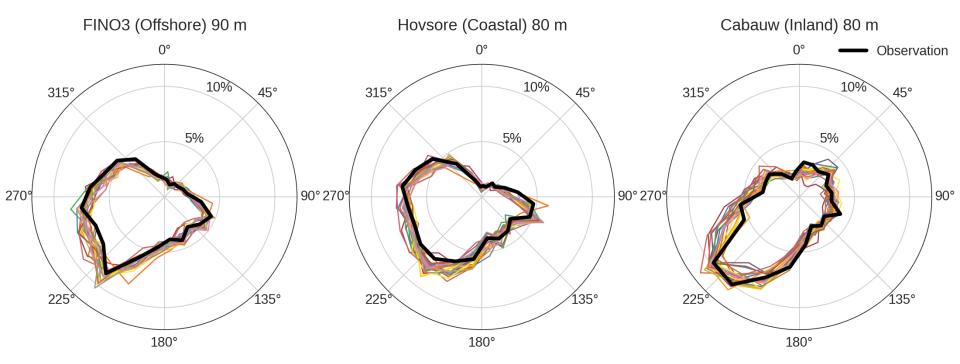
- Underprediction offshore
- Near surface: overprediction at Høvsøre, underprediction at Cabauw
- Greater inter-model variance inland





Direction wind rose

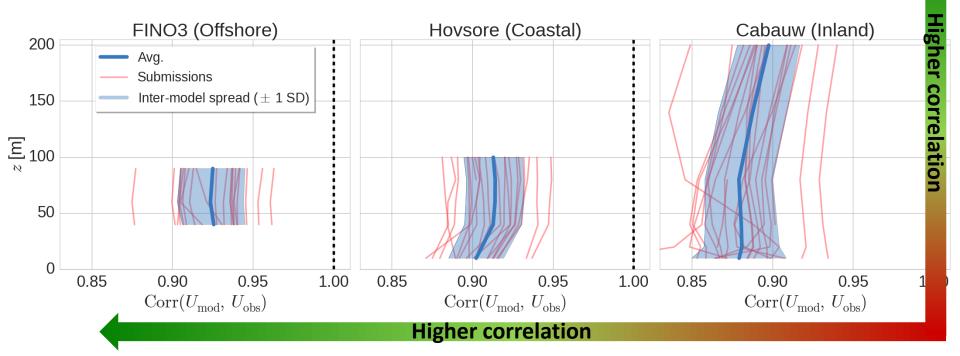
- 24 direction sectors
- Wind directions are well captured



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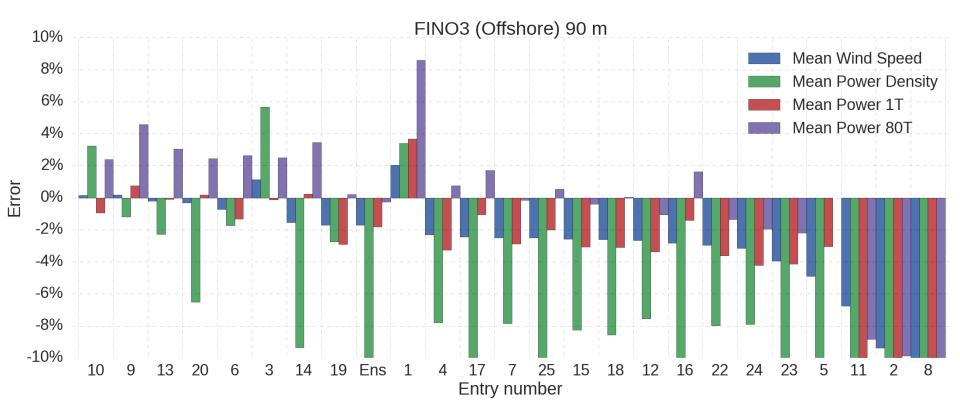
2nd order statistics - Correlation

- Generally high correlation $> \approx 0.85$
- Higher correlation offshore and aloft, lower onshore and near the ground

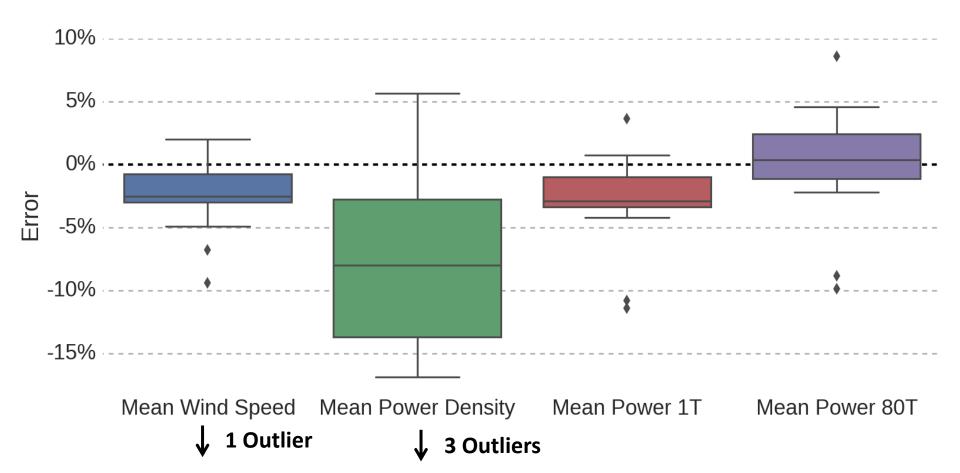


Applying mesoscale data for wind energy – FINO3 90 m

Power curve: Vestas V80 (2 MW)

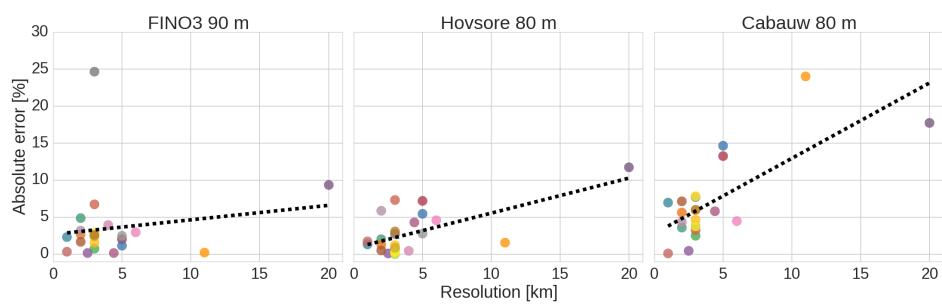
Wind farm: Horns Rev 1 Wake calculation using WAsP 

Applying mesoscale data for wind energy – FINO3 90 m



Can we link the model setup to performance?

- Number of vertical level
- Forcing data
- Surface roughness
- PBL scheme
- Resolution: Yes some evidence
- Inconclusive too little data





So?

- How good are simulated time series from mesoscale models?
- How is the model setup related to performance?

Summary

- Distribution of wind directions (Wind rose) well captured
- Smaller mean wind speed errors and higher correlation offshore and aloft
- Overprediction of mean wind speed near the surface inland
 - Misrepresentation of surface characteristics?
- Variance of wind speed underpredicted offshore
- Some evidence that higher resolution is linked to a lower mean wind speed errors
- Inconclusive evidence for others factors too little data

Thank you for your attention!

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Some early results from this exercise was presented in Juli, see:

http://www.ewea.org/events/workshops/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Hahmann_MesoBenchmark_V2.pdf