CFD Computations of the NM80 Rotor in Yaw

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Background Purpose

We want to improve the engineering models that are the backbone of the aeroelastic codes.

- By validating CFD codes with experiments
- Using CFD codes to study various effects separately
- Based on CFD results improve understanding and empirical models

The present work is mainly on mutual validation of CFD and experiments.

Experimental



DanAero Setup

DanAero experimental setup:

- The DanAero experiment features a 3 blade modern wind turbine in the ABL
- Pressure measurements at four stations are available [13, 19, 30, 37]
- Pitot tubes, strain gauges, microphones, met mast inflow measurements, Lidar measurements





Experimental

DanAero

Location and park configuration:

- The experimental turbine (WT3) is part of a small park
- The park is close by the cost





Experimental

DanAero

Selected yaw case

- Wind from South South-East (\sim 155°)
- Weak shear $\sim U_{\infty} \left(\frac{z}{H}\right)^{0.2}$, with $U_{\infty} = 10.3 \text{[m/s]}$ and H = 57 [m]
- Negative yaw error of 17.1 degrees defined according to the drawing below
- The RPM is 16.2



Experimental

DanAero

Some of the issues of ABL experiments

- The theoretical velocity profile do not fit the measured profile well at all heights
- We suspect that the actual profile has an growing internal boundary layer due to the close-by shore
- Due to the unsteady nature of the ABL, the yaw error is not constant.



Experimental DanAero



Better approximation of the vertical shear:



In-house flow solver, EllipSys3D.

- Incompressible Navier-Stokes equations
- Rotation enforced through a moving grid option
- Turbulence is modelled by $k \omega$ SST model
- Fully turbulent simulations
- Second order accurate in times
- Convective terms is modelled by QUICK
- Time-step 1600 per revolution, with 4 sub-iterations
- The computations are accelerated by using a three level grid sequence [1, 4, 8 ~ 10] revolutions

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Problem Setup





Computational Grid

• The domain is \sim 20 rotor diameters in diameter

• O-O-Topology of 432 blocks of $64^3 \sim 113$ Million points







Computational Grid

Chord-wise 512, Span-wise 256, Normal 256

• The wall normal y^+ is less than two on the blade surface







The three most relevant cases:



Results

Normal Forces

The Azimuth variation of the normal forces





Results

Tangential Forces

The Azimuth variation of the Tangential forces



Results

Normal Forces

The Azimuth variation of the normal forces



Results

Tangential Forces

The Azimuth variation of the Tangential forces





Results

Effect of double shear

The Azimuth variation of the normal forces





Results

Effect of double shear

The Azimuth variation of the tangential forces



Concluion



Conclusion and outlook

- Generally the azimuthal variation in the measurements are captured
- For the low yaw angle in the present case, shear is the dominant effect
- The improvement by including the double shear is minor
- The effect of the neglected tilt angle needs to be evaluated
- In the future we plan to look at higher yaw angles

