Equivalent wind speed for AEP

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Working group power curve measurement in non-standard flow
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Experimental setup & Data processing

Filters:
- wind direction;
- no rain;
- lidar signal availability 100% at all heights;
- turbine status=1.
Profiles classification

\[ u_{fit}(z) = u_{hub}^m \left( \frac{z}{z_{hub}} \right)^{\alpha_{fit}} \]

\[ RSS = \sum_i \left( u_{fit}(z_i) - u_i^m \right)^2 \]

RSS < 0.1

RSS > 0.1
Standard power curve

→ 2 groups of profiles result in 2 different power curves
Equivalent wind speed

**Concept:**
One wind speed representative of the whole wind speed profile in front of the wind turbine rotor in term of power production

**Definition:**

\[
U_{KE} = \left( \frac{1}{A} \int_{-R}^{R} u(z)^3 c(z)dz \right)^{1/3} \approx \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N} u_i^3 \frac{A_i}{A} \right)^{1/3}
\]
Power curve with equivalent wind speed

→ Similar power curves are obtained for both groups of profiles
Comparison of the power curves

Difference due to the shear distribution during the power curve measurement.

How can the equivalent wind speed power curve be used for AEP estimation?
Annual Energy Production

\[ \text{AEP} = \text{Power curve at wind farm site} \times \text{Wind speed distribution at wind farm site} \]
AEP estimation

Predicted AEP = \text{Reference power curve: measured at a reference site} \times \text{Wind speed distribution at wind farm site}
Illustration of the 2 cases with Høvsøre data

Data Group 1
Reference site

Reference power curve

Data Group 2
Estimated site

Measured wind speed

Energy yield estimation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$U_{hub}$ power curve</th>
<th>$U_{hub}$ distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$U_{eq}$ power curve</td>
<td>$U_{eq}$ distribution</td>
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</table>
Illustration of the 2 cases with Høvsøre data

Case 1

prediction: + 1.76%
Illustration of the 2 cases with Høvsøre data

Case 1

- Prediction: + 1.76%

Case 2

- Prediction: 0.005%

→ Improved AEP estimation by using the equivalent wind speed both in the power curve and the wind speed distribution.
BUT...

... what if the distribution of the rotor equivalent wind speed at the assessed site is not available?
More realistic application
Power curve and wind distribution from 2 separate sites

DTU’s Test Site for Large Turbines
Høvsøre
More realistic application
Power curve and wind distribution from 2 separate sites

Power curve measured at Høvsøre in Feb-March 2009

Wind speed distribution measured at Østerild May 2010- May 2011

4 possible combinations, but no turbine yet.
Combination 1:

- Equivalent power curve
  - Account for the shear during the power curve measurement; expected to be the same power curve at any site

- Equivalent wind speed distribution
  - Account for the shear at Østerild

Reference AEP
Combination 2:

- Hub height power curve

→ Underestimates the power produced because of the shear during the power curve measurement.

→ Slightly underestimates the energy available because does not account for the shear at Østerild (assumes constant wind speed profiles)

- Hub height wind speed distribution

-2.3%
Combination 3:

- Equivalent power curve

- Hub height wind speed distribution

→ Account for the shear during the power curve measurement; expected to be the same power curve at any site

→ Slightly underestimates the energy available because does not account for the shear at Østerild (assumes flat wind speed profiles)
## Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>U_hub power curve</th>
<th>Ueq power curve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>U_hub distribution</strong></td>
<td>-2.3%</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>U_eq distribution</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>(ref)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The error depends both on:
- the $U_{eq}/U_{hub}$ distribution during the power curve measurement
- and the $U_{eq}/U_{hub}$ distribution at the assessed site
More examples

$U_{eq}/U_{hub} < 1$

$U_{eq}/U_{hub} > 1$
Case 1: $U_{eq}/U_{hub} > 1$

Profiles with larger kinetic energy than flat profiles

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<tr>
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<th>$U_{eq}$ power curve</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$U_{hub}$ distribution</td>
<td>(-3.8%)</td>
<td>(-2.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$U_{eq}$ distribution</td>
<td>(ref)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part of the error due to $U_{eq}/U_{hub}$ distribution at the assessed site larger than before (-2.1%); → Overall error larger than previous case.
Case2: $\frac{U_{eq}}{U_{hub}} < 1$

Profiles with smaller kinetic energy than flat profiles

<table>
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<th>Ueq power curve</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U_hub distribution</td>
<td>(0.00%)</td>
<td>(+1.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U_eq distribution</td>
<td>(ref)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Specific case:
The $\frac{U_{eq}}{U_{hub}}$ distribution are very similar for both datasets.
Conclusions 1

The shear influences the AEP estimation in 2 ways:

1) Error in power curve due to the shear during the power curve measurement
2) Error in available energy at the assessed site.

→ Missing uncertainty terms in the standard AEP estimation
→ Equivalent wind speed results in a repeatable power curve.
→ Improved AEP estimation with equivalent wind speed
→ It requires to measure the wind speed profiles for site assessment
Conclusions 2

What to do if the equivalent wind speed distribution at the assessed site is not available?

→ If the $U_{eq}/U_{hub}$ distributions at the two sites are similar: use the standard AEP calculation (wind speed at hub height).

→ If the $U_{eq}/U_{hub}$ distributions are different: combine the hub height speed distribution with the equivalent power curve.

But to know the $U_{eq}/U_{hub}$ distribution...

... you need to measure the shear!

Acknowledgement: EU SafeWind