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## AN AIRBORNE WIND FARM

OPTIMISING THE DESIGN OF AN OFFSHORE WIND FARM  
USING AIRBORNE WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS

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## Nomenclature

$\alpha$	Entrainment constant Park model
$\rho$	Density
$A$	Rotor area
$A_{wing}$	Wing area
$C_D$	Drag coefficient
$C_L$	Lift coefficient
$C_p$	Power coefficient
$D$	Outer diameter of flightpath
$d$	Inner diameter of flightpath
$D_w$	Outer wake diameter
$d_w$	Inner wake diameter
$E$	Entrainment constant Kaufman-Martin model
$P$	Wind power
$R$	Rotor radius
$u$	Wind velocity
$u_\infty$	Initial wind velocity
$u_r$	Wind velocity directly behind rotor
$u_w$	Wind velocity in wake
$x$	Distance in downstream direction
$z$	Hub height
$z_0$	Surface roughness

## Abstract

In this research, the feasibility of airborne wind energy systems (AWES) in wind farms was investigated. Thereafter an optimal layout for a wind farm using AWES was constructed. The EU seeks to have carbon-neutral power generation by 2050, for which wind energy could be a viable solution. Conventional wind turbines, however, use up a lot of resources. An alternative in AWES is considered because of their larger power-to-mass ratio.

First two models are introduced. A modified version of the Park model by Jensen (1983) and the Kaufman-Martin model by Kaufman-Martin et al. (2022). These were then used to predict the wake effects of AWES. To compare them to reality, the Offshore Windpark Egmond aan Zee (OWEZ) was replicated. Here, instead of the conventional wind turbines of model Vestas 90-3MW, AWES of model Makani M600 were placed. It was found that the wake effects generated by the Makani M600 were significant and not negligible, as previously thought. The wind was fixed to come from one direction where the systems were completely submerged in the wake of its downstream component. Here the power-to-mass ratio of the replicated OWEZ was 3.9 times higher than that of the OWEZ.

Using the same dimension of the OWEZ, a genetic algorithm was used to find an optimal layout for an AWES wind farm. The Park model was used for this algorithm. In the first simulation the algorithm was allowed to place the Makani M600 systems freely across the area. For the second simulation the placement was grid-constrained, to correspond to real-life situations more. It was found that the power-to-mass ratio was 5.7 and 5 times higher than that of the OWEZ respectively. Therefore, in conclusion, the wake effects of AWES are considerable and because of its higher power-to-mass ratio it is preferable to use AWES instead of conventional wind turbines for future development.

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# 1 Introduction

The future of energy generation lies in renewable energy, with wind power being its most efficient energy source[1]. Offshore wind energy in particular is a popular energy generation method as it uses otherwise unused space. More importantly, the wind flow is more homogeneous offshore, due to the absence of tall buildings, hills or trees. These wind turbines are then clustered together in wind farms for cost efficiency.

Since wind turbines extract energy from the wind, the wind behind the rotor has a lower energy content. This results in a turbulent wind with a lower velocity[2]. This downstream wind is called the wake of a turbine[2]. The wind turbine power equation is dependent on the wind velocity. Hence, a lower wind velocity results in a lower energy extraction. The wake of upstream wind turbines therefore, has a negative influence on the energy extraction of downstream wind turbines. These negative effects are called wake effects. Barthelmie et al. (2010) state that in conventional wind farms, downstream rows of wind turbines generate up to 40% less energy than the first row of wind turbines [4]. Therefore, it is important to place the wind turbines strategically to minimise the wake effects in the wind farm and optimise energy production. Conventional wind farms make use of horizontal-axis wind turbines (HAWTs).

In 2023 all of the offshore wind farms had a capacity of 67GW[5], which, if used to its full potential, made up only 2% of the global energy demand[6]. However, the EU seeks to be carbon neutral by 2050. With the amount of material it uses, scalability towards net-zero carbon emissions becomes a problem when only using the current technology. To solve this, new technologies with higher power-to-mass ratios such as airborne wind energy (AWE) emerge[36]. AWE is the overarching name of concepts that convert wind energy into electricity, most commonly using autonomous kites or aircraft attached to the ground by a tether[7]. These systems used to convert wind energy to electricity are called airborne wind energy systems (AWES).

Wake effects weren't considered significant for AWES. Due to the large swept area of the airborne wind energy systems and the small size of the airborne devices, the wake effects were often ignored[8][9]. Therefore recent studies, such as Malz et al. (2018) and Roque et al. (2020), studying airborne wind energy (AWE) farms did not consider wakes[10][11]. Recent studies such as [23][12][14][13][49][15] have shown that the wake effects of AWES are considerable and therefore are not to be neglected.

This research focuses on the research question: *What is the feasibility of airborne wind energy systems in a wind farm and what would be an optimal layout for such a wind farm?* To answer this question, first models used to describe the effects of wakes are discussed in section 2. Thereafter, the concept of AWES itself is discussed in 3. In section 4, two models are derived to predict the wake effects of AWES, which are later implemented in section 5. In 5.1, the Offshore Windpark Egmond aan Zee (OWEZ), which uses conventional wind turbines, is replicated using AWES. Thereafter, in 5.2, an optimal layout for the AWES wind farm is found. Lastly the results of section 5 are discussed in section 6.

## 2 Wake models

Wakes can be divided into two regions: near wakes and far wakes. Near wakes are the area approximately up to two rotor diameters (2D) behind the rotor [16]. Here the properties of the rotor are distinctly recognisable and of influence in the flow field: the shape of the blade directly affects the wake. About two to five rotor diameters (2D-5D) downstream is called the transition region. The region beyond this is called the far wake. In the far wake the focus lies on the influence of wind turbines in wind farms, rather than individual properties of the actual rotor. The properties of the rotor here are only of influence in two ways: a wind velocity deficit and an increase in turbulence intensity[17]. During this research, the effects of the near-wake are not considered as they are not of interest to the modelling of wind farms.

Using the Navier-Stokes<sup>1</sup> (NS) equations, it is possible to compute and describe the flow field in the wakes. The science of using these NS equations to predict liquid and gas flows is called Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)[19]. However, due to their mathematical complexity, it is computationally expensive to use this to model the wake[24]. Simpler models to predict wake effects were developed. The first wake model was developed by Jensen (1983)[20], which was further developed by Jensen, Katic and Højstrup (1987)[21]. Jensen (1983) uses the assumption that the wake develops linearly with the downstream distance. Here the near wake region is neglected. This model is often called the Park model. Karakouzian et al. (2022) then applied this model to airborne wind energy systems (AWES)[23]. The Park model, together with the adaptation of Karakouzian et al. (2022), will be further discussed in section 4.1.

An entrainment-based<sup>2</sup> model published by Kaufman-Martin et al. (2022) tackles the wind farm design problem from another angle[49]. It uses the entrainment hypothesis to develop a lower-order model for the flow velocity of an annular wake generated by the flight path of an AWES. The entrainment hypothesis was introduced by G.I. Taylor et al. (1956) to model the impact of turbulent entrainment[51]. This hypothesis states that the mean inflow velocity across the boundary of a turbulent flow is proportional to a characteristic velocity of the flow [52]. This model is further discussed in 4.2.

Ainslie (1988) introduced another model in which the NS equation is replaced by an approximation of the thin shear layer and the viscous terms dropped[25]. In the paper, a wake model based on the numerical solution of the NS equations is given. For this an eddy viscosity (EV) turbulence model is used. Eddies are vortices whose flow direction differs from the general flow[26]. The formation of eddies is caused by a difference in pressure when the flow passes the wind turbine, causing it to swirl back on itself, becoming turbulent. The model relies on the difference between the free stream flow and the shear layer of the wake. This is a thin layer just behind the rotor with a concentrated vorticity and large variations in the tangential velocity[27]. Although this model is considered to

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<sup>1</sup>The Navier-Stokes equations are partial differential equations, describing the relation between pressure, velocity, temperature and density in the flow field[18].

<sup>2</sup>Entrainment is a phenomenon in the atmosphere where non-turbulent flow is captured by turbulent flow

be reliable for conventional wind turbines, application to AWES goes hand in hand with assumptions for characteristic variables used in the model, which makes the EV use its credibility. Therefore the EV model is not further discussed in this research.



### 3 AWES

There are many different configurations of AWES, developed by various companies. However, all the designs of AWES have the same fundamental idea. It consists of an airborne device connected to a ground station by a tether[30]. This device then circles in the air in a figure-eight or circular pattern to gain velocity using crosswinds. Since a circular pattern gives us a higher cycle-averaged power output, this pattern will be used throughout the rest of this research[31].

The way of power generation for AWES can be split into two main concepts: onboard generation (drag-mode) and ground-based generation (lift-mode). Crosswind airborne power systems were first captured by Loyd (1980) in which lift- and drag-mode airborne power systems were first introduced[33]. As these systems rely on airborne devices heavier than air, both lift- and drag-mode rely on aerodynamic drag to be operational. Because the effect of wakes is investigated, it is assumed there is always enough aerodynamic drag for the airborne device to fly. In figure 1 these systems are visualized side by side.

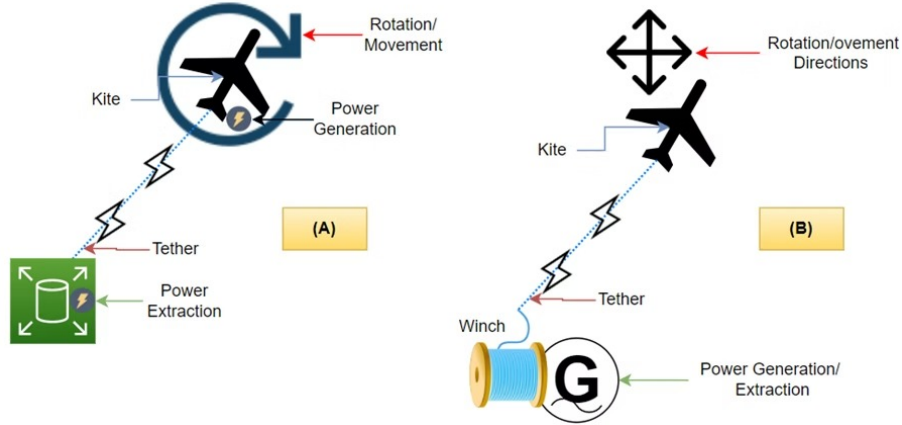


Figure 1: Visualization of (A) drag-mode and (B) lift-mode [32]

#### 3.1 Lift- and drag-mode

The lift-mode airborne power systems make use of ground-based energy generation. An airborne device is directly attached to a winch, connected to an electric generator, by a tether. In lift-mode, usually, the airborne device is a kite. The kite uses crosswinds to fly in a helical pattern in the wind direction. This makes the tether reel out such that the winch rotates, driving the electric generator. This is known as the 'reel-out' phase. When the tether reaches maximum length, the kite changes pattern to a pattern producing much less lifting force. Then the tether is retracted by the winch, where the power consumption of the retraction phase is about 1% [36][38]. This cycle then repeats itself for continuous energy generation.

The drag-mode airborne power system uses on-board generation. Usually the airborne device used in drag-mode is a plane. Similar to the lift-mode system, the plane is connected by a tether to the ground station. However, here the electrical generators are on board the plane in the form of small turbines. These turbines generate power which is then transmitted through the tether to the ground station. Here the tether has a fixed length when in full operation, as opposed to the lift-mode system. An advantage of drag-mode systems is that the turbines can operate at a very high rotation speed in contrast to the slower-turning generators of HAWTs or lift-mode AWES[36].

Although both modes have the same fundamentals, they do have different characteristics. For example: Betz's law describes the maximum power that a wind turbine can extract from the wind, regardless of its aerodynamic composition. It is derived by taking the maximum of power coefficient  $C_p$  given by:

$$C_p = 4a(1 - a)^2 \quad (1)$$

where induction factor  $a$  is the relation between the wind velocity at the rotor and the free-stream wind velocity[44].

$$a = \frac{u_\infty - u_r}{u_\infty} \quad (2)$$

Note that this is true for HAWTs and not necessarily for all AWES. For a HAWT this limit is set at 16/27 of the total wind power. For drag-mode AWES this limit is the same. In lift-mode AWES, however, this changes. The power coefficient of lift-mode AWES is dependent on a so-called reel-out factor, changing its equation. The maximum for the Betz limit in lift-mode is given by 4/27 of the wind power during the reel-out phase [39]. For the full derivation of these limits, visit [39].

Furthermore, because the plane in drag-mode systems takes on the same flight pattern, its wake is more consistent than the lift-mode system. Therefore it is easier to compute the effect its wake has on wind farms. With that being said, due to its mounted turbines, the drag coefficient  $C_D$  of the drag-mode AWES is 1.5 times as high as that of the lift-mode AWES. A higher drag coefficient results in a lower power generation, discussed in section 5. Drag-mode AWES will be shortened to 'AWES' for the remainder of this paper as this research focuses solely on the drag-mode systems.

## 3.2 Feasibility

A question that arises could be: Why would one prefer AWES over HAWTs? People are mainly interested in AWES for power generation because of the following reasons:

- In contrast to the wind turbines that are now operational in wind farms, AWES could capture the wind energy on higher altitudes[34]. Here the wind speed is typically higher and more consistent than closer to the sea level[35].
- Secondly, and most importantly, AWES can potentially have a much higher power-to-mass ratio than conventional renewable sources[36]. Because of this, large-scale

deployment of AWES is possible at a comparably low cost. Diehl et al. (2013) even state that theoretically, a system made out of HAWTs would weigh 300 times more than an airborne wind energy system for the same energy output.

- Lastly, because of the slim design and high altitude, it doesn't contribute to horizon pollution and has minimal to no ecological impact[37]. This could raise public acceptance of airborne wind farms.

However, as stated in Diehl et al. (2013), AWES do come with a price. To be operational, AWES need to fly. When a HAWT malfunctions, the operation can be shut down and repaired without any danger of damage. However, in the airborne case, a malfunction in the airborne wind system could cause the aerial device to crash, potentially destroying the system. The AWES need to be provided with sophisticated automatic control to prevent this. In this research the assumption is made that it is perfect.

## 4 The model

To find the energy production of AWES in a wind farm, first, a concept of an airborne device must be found. In this research, the airborne device used to compute our wake models is the Makani M600[60]. It is a drag-mode aeroplane with 8 turbines, designed by Makani Technologies LLC. It was designed for offshore conditions, making it viable for this research. The relevant parameters of the M600 are displayed in the table below.

Parameter	Units	Description	Intended	As-built
$l$	m	tether length	400	440
$d_t$	m	tether diameter	0.025	0.0295
$A_{wing}$	m <sup>2</sup>	wing area	32.9	32.9
$b$	m	wing span	25.7	25.7
$D$	m	outer diameter of flightpath	75	145
$d$	m	inner diameter of flightpath	49.3	119.3
$h_{min}$	m	minimal altitude	85	110
$m_{plane}$	kg	plane mass	1310	1690
$m_{tether}$	kg	tether mass	315	390

Table 1: Parameters Makani M600



Figure 2: The Makani M600

## 4.1 Park model

To develop a wind farm for AWES the models mentioned in section 2 are reviewed. However not every model is viable for AWES. The wind farm wake model developed by Jensen (1983) can nevertheless be adapted to fit AWES. The model assumes a linear wake. Here the wake diameter ( $D_w$ ) is dependent on the downstream distance  $x$  and rotor diameter ( $D$ ) given by[21]:

$$D_w = D + \alpha x \quad (3)$$

$\alpha$  here is, following Jensen, called an entrainment constant. Here, entrainment refers to drawing the surrounding air into the wake[22]. This process helps the wake grow and dissipate over distance. The constant  $\alpha$  here is given by [40]:

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2 \ln \left( \frac{z}{z_0} \right)} \quad (4)$$

Where  $z$  is the hub height and  $z_0$  is the surface roughness of the sea. Usually, the surface roughness is dependent on the site. However, for this research, the surface roughness is assumed to be constant. For offshore wind turbine sites, typically  $z_0 = 0.0002$ [41].

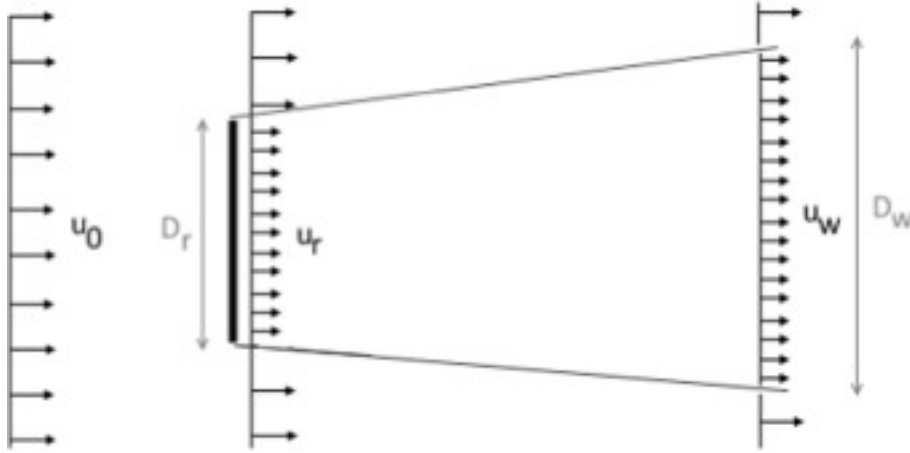


Figure 3: Visualization of Park wake model [42]

Wind velocity in the wake,  $u_w$ , is computed through the following equation:

$$u_w = (1 - \delta u) u_\infty \quad (5)$$

Where  $u_\infty$  is the velocity of the free-stream wind and  $\delta u$  is the velocity deficit at the turbine rotor given by:

$$\delta u = \frac{u_\infty - u_w}{u_\infty} = 1 - \frac{u_w}{u_\infty} \quad (6)$$

Since it is assumed in the Park model that the wake develops only in the stream direction, the velocity deficit as defined in equation 6 is only dependent on downstream distance  $x$  and no other dimensions.

To find  $\delta u$ , an expression which describes a relation between the different wind velocities must be found. Through the assumption of conservation of momentum and incompressibility<sup>3</sup> of the flow inside the wake, an equation satisfying this can be derived.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \text{density} \cdot \text{area} \cdot \text{velocity} &= 0 \\ -\rho\pi\left(\frac{D}{2}\right)^2 u_r - \rho\pi\left(\left(\frac{D_w}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{D}{2}\right)^2\right) u_\infty + \rho\pi\left(\frac{D_w}{2}\right)^2 u_w &= 0 \quad (7) \\ D^2 u_r + (D_w^2 - D^2) u_\infty &= D_w^2 u_w \end{aligned}$$

This however only gives an image of a wake in HAWT energy systems. To compute the wake effects of AWES using this same model, a couple of changes must be considered. In the figures 4 and 5 below, an image of the wake of AWES is given.

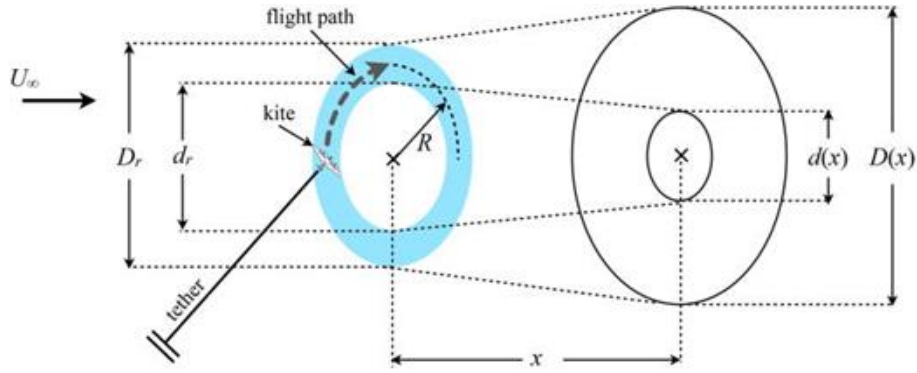


Figure 4: General overview of wake effect AWES [46]

Here the flight path of the aerial device (here a kite) is depicted, leaving a wake in the downstream direction. The outer diameter of the wake develops outwards, while the inner diameter develops inwards. This is then elaborated further schematically in figure<sup>4</sup> 5 below.

<sup>3</sup>A flow is considered incompressible whenever the density of the fluid in the flow remains constant[43]

<sup>4</sup>In figure 5  $u_\infty$ ,  $u_r$  and  $u_w$  are denoted as  $U_\infty$ ,  $U_0$  and  $U(x)$  respectively.

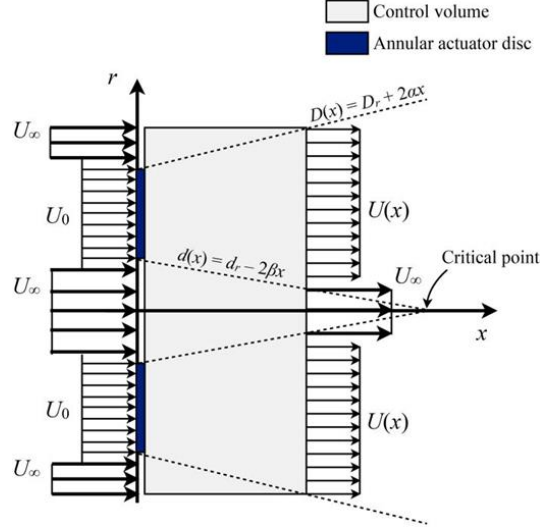


Figure 5: Visualization of Park wake model using AWES[46],  
Here  $d(x) = d_r - 2\beta x$  should be  $d(x) = d_r - 2\alpha x$

To rewrite equation 7 such that it satisfies AWES wake effects, the equation must be adapted. With  $D$  being the outside diameter of the flight path, the inside diameter of the flight path is introduced as  $d$ . Using the entrainment constant  $\alpha$  and integration factor  $i(x)$  the inside diameter of the wake is given by[46]:

$$d_w = i(x)(d - 2\alpha x) \quad (8)$$

Where the integration factor  $i(x)$  is given by

$$i(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{d - 2\alpha x}{|d - 2\alpha x|} \right), & d - 2\alpha x \neq 0 \\ 0, & d - 2\alpha x = 0 \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

Since for  $d - 2\alpha x > 0$ ,  $i(x) = 1$  and for  $d - 2\alpha x \leq 0$ ,  $i(x) = 0$  the integration factor  $i(x)$  ensures that  $d_w$  eventually goes to zero. Then the wake is no longer an annulus, but a circle.

In figure 5 the inside diameter of the wake is given by  $d_w = i(x)(d - 2\beta x)$ . Because the flight path is assumed to be axisymmetric and the airborne device to be rigid,  $d_w = i(x)(d - 2\alpha x)$ . Again, through the assumption of conservation of momentum and incompressibility:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum \text{density} \cdot \text{area} \cdot \text{velocity} &= 0 \\
-\rho\pi \left(\frac{d}{2}\right)^2 u_\infty - \rho\pi \left(\left(\frac{D_w}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{D}{2}\right)^2\right) u_\infty - \rho\pi \left(\left(\frac{D}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{d}{2}\right)^2\right) u_r \\
+ \rho\pi \left(\frac{d_w}{2}\right)^2 u_\infty + \rho\pi \left(\left(\frac{D_w}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{d_w}{2}\right)^2\right) u_w &= 0 \\
(D^2 - d^2) u_r + (D_w^2 - D^2 + d^2 - d_w^2) u_\infty &= (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

Setting the initial velocity deficit right behind the flightpath in the axial direction as  $\delta u = 1 - u_r/u_\infty$  and solving for  $u_w/u_\infty$  provides the following equation:

$$\frac{u_w}{u_\infty} = 1 - \delta u_r \frac{D^2 - d^2}{D_w^2 - d_w^2} \tag{11}$$

According to 1D momentum theory, at the end of the near-wake region[44]:

$$u_w = (1 - 2a)u_\infty, \quad 0 \leq a \leq \frac{1}{2} \tag{12}$$

where  $a$  is the induction factor[46]. The induction factor  $a$  is given in terms of the thrust coefficient  $C_T$  by[47]:

$$a = 1 - \sqrt{1 - C_T} \tag{13}$$

With the thrust coefficient given in terms of the thrust force  $T$  by:

$$C_T = \frac{2T}{\rho A u^2} \tag{14}$$

Although  $C_T$  depends on wind velocity  $u$ , the thrust coefficient does not increase with lower velocities. Since the thrust force  $T$  is equally and positively dependent on  $u$ , they cancel each other out.  $C_T$  is therefore considered to be constant.

Substituting equation 12 in 10 gives an expression for  $\frac{u_w}{u_\infty}$ :

$$\frac{u_w}{u_\infty} = 1 - 2a \frac{D^2 - d^2}{D_w^2 - d_w^2} \tag{15}$$

Combining equations 15 and 11 and substituting this and equation 13 in equation 6 provides the sought expression for the velocity deficit in the wake of an individual AWE system. This is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta u(x) &= \frac{2(1 - \sqrt{1 - C_T})(D^2 - d^2)}{D_w^2 - d_w^2} \\
&= \frac{2(1 - \sqrt{1 - C_T})(D^2 - d^2)}{(D + 2\alpha x)^2 - i(x)^2(d - 2\alpha x)^2}
\end{aligned} \tag{16}$$



In the above equation, only systems in the free stream are considered. In a wind farm, other AWE systems can be influenced by a system's wake, while not fully submerged by the wake. This is illustrated in Figure 6 by a wind farm using HAWTs.

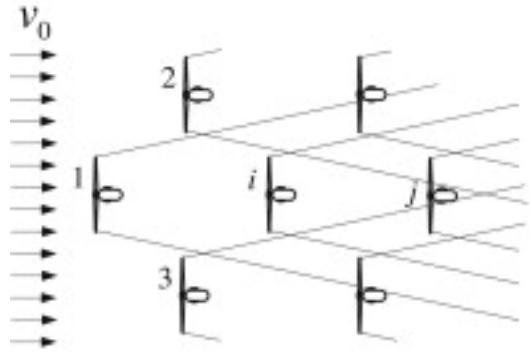


Figure 6: Wake effects in a HAWT wind farm[2]

To account for different systems, the initial variables need to be adjusted. Otherwise, the equations would become less orderly and more difficult to follow. Therefore, the wake-generating system is denoted as  $i$  and the system affected by the wake is denoted as  $j$ . Furthermore, a new variable is introduced: the incident wind speed  $u_{inc}$  given by

$$u_{inc} = (1 - \delta u)u_{\infty} \quad (17)$$

whenever the wind velocity is incident to a wind system in the free-stream. The incident wind velocity of wind system  $i$  is then denoted as  $u_{inc,i}$ . This is the wind speed at AWE system  $i$  before the wake is formed.

As previously mentioned, and seen in figure 6, wind systems can be influenced partially by another wind system upstream. To take this into consideration for the velocity deficit, a shadowing factor  $\gamma_{\alpha}$  is introduced[48].

$$\gamma_{\alpha} = \frac{A_{intersection}}{A_{flightpath}}, \quad \gamma_{\alpha} \in [0, 1] \quad (18)$$

Here  $A_{intersection}$  is the area of the intersection between the wake and the flight path.  $A_{flightpath}$  is the area of the flight path. The equation for the velocity deficit is then changed as follows:

$$1 - \frac{u_w}{u_{inc,i}} = \frac{2\gamma_{\alpha} (1 - \sqrt{1 - C_T}) (D^2 - d^2)}{(D + 2\alpha x)^2 - i(x)^2 (d - 2\alpha x)^2} \quad (19)$$

This formulation now only formulates the wake effect on turbine  $i$ . To make the formulation more general the relation between the two turbines must be expressed. For  $i$  being a turbine upstream, and  $j$  being the turbine affected by  $i$ , equation 19 is generalized as follows:

$$\delta u_{ij} = 1 - \frac{u_{inc,j}}{u_{inc,i}} = \frac{2\gamma_{\alpha} (1 - \sqrt{1 - C_T}) (D^2 - d^2)}{(D + 2\alpha x)^2 - i(x)^2 (d - 2\alpha x)^2} \quad (20)$$

Whenever more wakes interact with each other, the velocity deficit is computed as follows:

$$\delta u_j = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N \delta u_{ij}^2} \quad (21)$$

Here  $N$  is the number of interacting wakes and  $\delta u_{ij}$  is the velocity deficit of the wakes generated by system  $i$  affecting system  $j$ .

## 4.2 Kaufman-martin model

An entrainment-based model was developed by Kaufman-Martin et al.(2022)[49]. Here the assumption is made that the wake effects can be fully described by  $x$ -dependent  $u_w, d_w$  and  $D_w$ . The model uses the entrainment hypothesis to model the effects of turbulent entrainment. In the case of wake effects for the AWES, the flow downstream of the airborne device is assumed to be pulled into the wake, where the radial velocity is proportional to the downstream wind velocity. The entrainment from the external flow is given with radial velocity  $w_e = E(u_\infty - u_w)$  and the entrainment from the core region by radial velocity  $w_i = E(u_i - u_w)$ , where  $u_i$  is the wind velocity in the core region, and  $E$  is an entrainment constant. Here  $E$  is an empirical, non-dimensional parameter, different to  $\alpha$  from section 4.1[50].

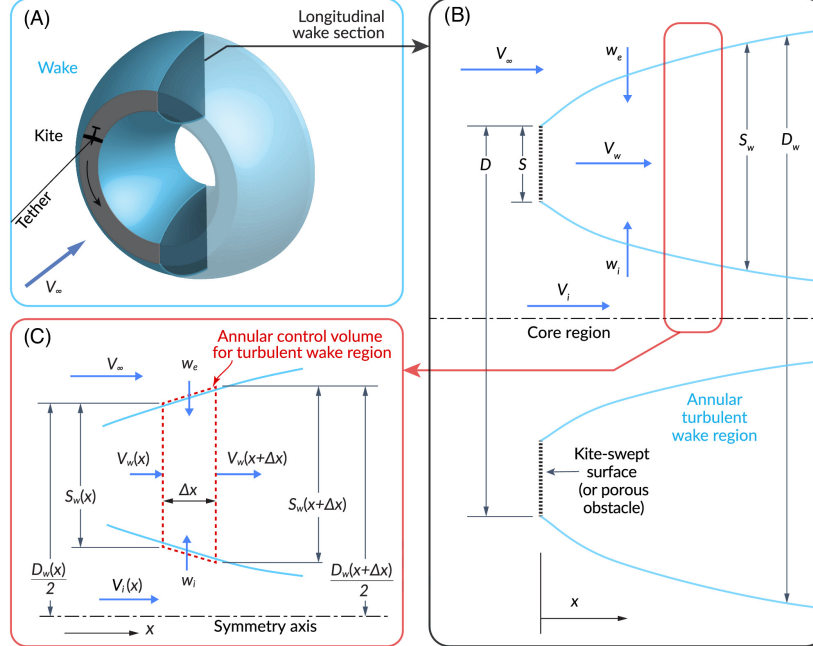


Figure 7: (A): Schematic view of the annular wake behind the airborne device. (B): Schematic cross-section of the annular wake. (C): Top part of the cross-section.

The model makes use of the conservation of momentum for the annular wake. It follows the approach comparable to that of previous studies on circular wakes [53]. Assuming the flow is incompressible, the conservation of mass in the annular control volume implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\rho\pi}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w + \rho\pi D_w w_e \Delta x + \rho\pi (D_w - d_w) w_i \Delta x \\ = \\ \frac{\rho\pi}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w + \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{\rho\pi}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w \right] \Delta x \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

Where the inflow mass flux<sup>5</sup> is given by the annular inflow  $\frac{\rho\pi}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w$  and the entrainment inflow  $\rho\pi D_w w_e \Delta x + \rho\pi (D_w - d_w) w_i \Delta x$ . The outflow leaving the annular region is given by  $\frac{\rho\pi}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w$  as well.  $\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{\rho\pi}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w \right] \Delta x$  accounts for the change in mass flux along the axial direction due to variations in wake properties.

After dividing by  $\rho, \pi$  and  $\Delta x$ , equation 22 can be simplified to:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w \right] &= D_w w_e + (D_w - d_w) w_i \\ &= E(u_\infty - u_w) D_w + E(u_i - u_w)(D_w - d_w) \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

This approach can then be used for the derivation of an equation for the conservation of momentum<sup>6</sup> in the annulus. This is based on the momentum coming into the control volume being the same as the momentum going out of the control volume. The terms in the conservation of mass equation 22 are then multiplied by the corresponding axial velocities. After simplifying, the following equation is obtained.

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w^2 \right] = E u_\infty (u_\infty - u_w) D_w + E u_i (u_i - u_w)(D_w - d_w) \quad (24)$$

Using the same approach it is possible to find the equations for the conservation of mass and momentum in the core region of the flow. The simplified version of these equations is given in equations 25.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{4} d_w^2 u_i \right] &= -E(u_i - u_w) d_w \\ \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{4} d_w^2 u_i^2 \right] &= -E u_i (u_i - u_w) d_w \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Performing the product rule on the equation below from equations 25 gives:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{4} d_w^2 u_i \right] u_i + \frac{1}{4} d_w^2 u_i \frac{du_i}{dx} = -E u_i (u_i - u_w) d_w \quad (26)$$

Multiplying equation 25 by  $u_i$  and subtracting it from equation 26 then gives

$$\frac{1}{4} d_w^2 u_i \frac{du_i}{dx} = 0 \quad (27)$$

---

<sup>5</sup>Mass flux is defined as the amount of mass transported across a unit area perpendicular to the direction of mass transport, per unit time[54]

<sup>6</sup>Momentum is defined to be the product of the mass of a particle and its velocity[55]

which implies

$$u_i = \text{constant} \quad (28)$$

Using one-dimensional momentum theory, the assumption is made that  $u_i = u_\infty$  as there is no interference in the core region. Then the equations 23, 24 and 25 can be rewritten as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w \right] &= E (u_\infty - u_w) (2D_w - d_w) \\ \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w^2 \right] &= E u_\infty (u_\infty - u_w) (2D_w - d_w) \\ \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{4} d_w^2 u_\infty \right] &= -E (u_\infty - u_w) d_w \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Solving this set of ODEs seems above the level of the Bachelor of Applied Mathematics; however, after rewriting this and introducing new variables it is possible to solve this set of ODEs numerically. In the following expressions,  $M$  is the momentum flux and  $m$  denotes the mass flux.  $m_i$  is the mass flux in the core region. Here  $\rho$  and  $\pi$  are factored out as well

$$\begin{aligned} m_w &= \frac{1}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w \\ M_w &= \frac{1}{4} (D_w^2 - d_w^2) u_w^2 \\ m_i &= \frac{1}{4} d_w^2 u_\infty \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

These equations are then used to rewrite the system of ODEs in 29 to the following system:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dm_w}{dx} &= 2E \left( u_\infty - \frac{M_w}{m_w} \right) \left( \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty} + \frac{m_w^2}{M_w}} + \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty}} \right) \\ \frac{dM_w}{dx} &= u_\infty \frac{dm_w}{dx} \\ \frac{dm_i}{dx} &= -2E \left( u_\infty - \frac{M_w}{m_w} \right) \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty}} \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

After computing the results of the above system, the results are converted back into its desired form by the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} u_w &= \frac{M_w}{m_w} \\ d_w &= 2 \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty}} \\ D_w &= 2 \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty} + \frac{m_w^2}{M_w}} \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

The same input parameters for this model were used as in Haas & Meyers (2017)[57]. For the laminar inflow case entrainment constant  $E = 0.15$  is chosen. For the turbulent inflow case  $E = 0.5$ . Also, the induction factor  $a$  was taken from this model and denoted as  $a = 1/3$ , which is the Betz limit for drag-mode AWES. The initial conditions derived by Kaufman-Martin et al. (2021) are given by the following equations, after which  $a = 1/3$  is substituted [49]:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{w,0} &= u_{\infty}(1 - 2a) &= \frac{1}{3}u_{\infty} \\ D_{w,0} &= \sqrt{D^2 + \frac{1}{4}(D^2 - d^2)\frac{4a}{1 - 2a}} &= \sqrt{2D^2 - d^2} \\ d_{w,0} &= d \end{aligned} \tag{33}$$

#### 4.2.1 Numerical approximation

Various methods were considered to solve the system portrayed by equations 31 numerically. All methods are based on time integration based on  $t$ . In this system an approximation of the ODE is obtained using  $x$  as our 'time' variable. This means that instead of time, space is used as a variable. Only since wake effects are  $x$ -dependent, instead of time dependent, this is possible.

Firstly, the Forward Euler method was considered. This is the simplest and best-known time-integration method. In the general case the numerical approximation of  $t_{n+1}$  denoted by [45]

$$w_{n+1} = w_n + \Delta t f(t_n, w_n) \tag{34}$$

Where  $f(t_n, w_n)$  is the derivative of  $w_n$  with respect to  $t_n$ . Since  $w_{n+1}$  can be computed directly from 34 it is called an explicit method. Despite that this method has a low computational intensity, it can't be used to solve the system 31 numerically. The Forward Euler method does not always provide a stable solution to a complex problem [56]. Therefore this method was not chosen as a method to solve the system 31.

An unconditionally stable method is given by the Backward Euler method. The numerical approximation at time  $t_{n+1}$  using the Backward Euler method is expressed by

$$w_{n+1} = w_n + \Delta t f(t_{n+1}, w_{n+1}) \tag{35}$$

Note that the term  $w_{n+1}$  is included in both sides of the equations. For that reason the Backward Euler method is called an implicit method. If  $f$  were to be linearly dependent on  $w$  then the solution to 35 is easily computed. For nonlinear initial-value problems however, the solution to 35 is nontrivial [45]. Numerical nonlinear solvers such as the Newton-Raphson method need to be implemented. This implies that the computational intensity at every time step of the Backward Euler method is high. To obtain accurate results the computational cost of the Backward Euler method would be high when this method would be used to solve system 31.

Finally, the fourth-order method of Runge-Kutta is considered. Despite its explicit nature, the Runge-Kutta method (RK4 method) has attractive stability properties. The RK4 method uses predictors  $k_1, k_2, k_3$  and  $k_4$  to approximate the solution at  $t_{n+1}$  by

$$w_{n+1} = w_n + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4) \quad (36)$$

The predictors are denoted by:

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= \Delta t f(t_n, w_n) \\ k_2 &= \Delta t f\left(t_n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t, w_n + \frac{1}{2}k_1\right) \\ k_3 &= \Delta t f\left(t_n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t, w_n + \frac{1}{2}k_2\right) \\ k_4 &= \Delta t f(t_n + \Delta t, w_n + k_3) \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

To apply the RK4 method to the system of equations in 31 the numerical approximation denoted in equation 36 must be transformed. For  $m_w$  the solution at  $x_{n+1}$  is approximated by

$$m_{w,n+1} = m_{w,n} + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4) \quad (38)$$

With  $k_1, k_2, k_3$  and  $k_4$  again the predictors. Using that

$$f(x_n, m_{w,n}) = 2E\left(u_\infty - \frac{M_w}{m_w}\right) \left(\sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty} + \frac{m_w^2}{M_w}} + \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty}}\right) \quad (39)$$

extracted from equations 31. The now  $\Delta x$ -dependent predictors are denoted by

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= \Delta x f(x_n, m_{w,n}) \\ k_2 &= \Delta x f\left(x_n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta x, m_{w,n} + \frac{1}{2}k_1\right) \\ k_3 &= \Delta x f\left(x_n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta x, m_{w,n} + \frac{1}{2}k_2\right) \\ k_4 &= \Delta x f(x_n + \Delta x, m_{w,n} + k_3) \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

Similarly the numerical approximations are found for  $M_w$  and  $m_i$  at  $x_{n+1}$ . For  $M_w$  the solution at  $x_{n+1}$  is approximated by

$$M_{w,n+1} = M_{w,n} + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4) \quad (41)$$

With the predictors now given by

$$\begin{aligned}
k_1 &= \Delta x g(x_n, M_{w,n}) \\
k_2 &= \Delta x g\left(x_n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta x, M_{w,n} + \frac{1}{2}k_1\right) \\
k_3 &= \Delta x g\left(x_n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta x, M_{w,n} + \frac{1}{2}k_2\right) \\
k_4 &= \Delta x g(x_n + \Delta x, M_{w,n} + k_3)
\end{aligned} \tag{42}$$

With  $g(x_n, M_{w,n})$  given by:

$$g(x_n, M_{w,n}) = 2E\left(u_\infty - \frac{M_w}{m_w}\right) \left(\sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty} + \frac{m_w^2}{M_w}} + \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty}}\right) u_\infty \tag{43}$$

Derived from equations 31. Lastly the numerical approximation for  $m_i$  at  $x_{n+1}$  is found by

$$m_{i,n+1} = m_{i,n} + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4) \tag{44}$$

using predictors:

$$\begin{aligned}
k_1 &= \Delta x h(x_n, m_{i,n}) \\
k_2 &= \Delta x h\left(x_n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta x, m_{i,n} + \frac{1}{2}k_1\right) \\
k_3 &= \Delta x h\left(x_n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta x, m_{i,n} + \frac{1}{2}k_2\right) \\
k_4 &= \Delta x h(x_n + \Delta x, m_{i,n} + k_3)
\end{aligned} \tag{45}$$

With the function  $h(x_n, m_{i,n})$  given by the equation below

$$h(x_n, m_{i,n}) = -2E\left(u_\infty - \frac{M_w}{m_w}\right) \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty}} \tag{46}$$

again from equations 31.

#### 4.2.2 Stability

For the general form applying  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \lambda y$  to the system, where  $y$  is the analytical solution of the problem, results in

$$w_{n+1} = \left(1 + \lambda\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda\Delta t)^2 + \frac{1}{6}(\lambda\Delta t)^3 + \frac{1}{24}(\lambda\Delta t)^4\right) w_n \tag{47}$$

Therefore the amplification factor is expressed as

$$Q(\lambda\Delta t) = 1 + \lambda\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda\Delta t)^2 + \frac{1}{6}(\lambda\Delta t)^3 + \frac{1}{24}(\lambda\Delta t)^4 \quad (48)$$

Note that the numerical scheme is stable if and only if

$$|Q(\lambda\Delta t)| \leq 1 \quad (49)$$

Whenever  $\lambda \geq 0$  the amplification factor  $Q(\lambda\Delta t)$  is bigger than one, hence not stable. Now for  $\lambda < 0$  the RK4 method is stable whenever

$$-1 \leq 1 + \lambda\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda\Delta t)^2 + \frac{1}{6}(\lambda\Delta t)^3 + \frac{1}{24}(\lambda\Delta t)^4 \leq 1 \quad (50)$$

To simplify the equation  $\lambda\Delta t$  is denoted as  $a$ . For the LHS this results in the following inequality:

$$0 \leq 2 + a + \frac{1}{2}a^2 + \frac{1}{6}a^3 + \frac{1}{24}a^4 \quad (51)$$

This gives a polynomial given by

$$P(a) = 2 + a + \frac{1}{2}a^2 + \frac{1}{6}a^3 + \frac{1}{24}a^4 \quad (52)$$

The extrema of this polynomial lie at the zeroes of  $P'$ , which is denoted by

$$P'(a) = 1 + a + \frac{1}{2}a^2 + \frac{1}{6}a^3 = 0 \quad (53)$$

Assume there is an arbitrary extreme value of the polynomial denoted by  $\tilde{a}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} P(\tilde{a}) &= 2 + \tilde{a} + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{a}^2 + \frac{1}{6}\tilde{a}^3 + \frac{1}{24}\tilde{a}^4 \\ &= 1 + P'(\tilde{a}) + \frac{1}{24}\tilde{a}^4 \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{24}\tilde{a}^4 \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

Since  $1 + \frac{1}{24}\tilde{a}^4 > 0$  for all  $\tilde{a}$ . Therefore all extreme values are positive, which means that the minimum of the polynomial is positive as well. Subsequently,  $P(a)$  is positive for all  $a$ . This leaves the inequality 50 with

$$1 + a + \frac{1}{2}a^2 + \frac{1}{6}a^3 + \frac{1}{24}a^4 \leq 1 \quad (55)$$

Which is then written as

$$a \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{6}a^2 + \frac{1}{24}a^3 \right) \leq 0 \quad (56)$$

Since  $a = \lambda\Delta t < 0$ , equation 56 is equivalent to

$$1 + \frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{6}a^2 + \frac{1}{24}a^3 \geq 0 \quad (57)$$



Setting the polynomial to 0 and then solving it for  $a$  gives only one zero which lies at  $a \approx -2.8$ . The polynomial is negative for  $a < -2.8$  and positive for  $a > -2.8$ . Therefore  $a = \lambda \Delta t > -2.8$  or

$$\Delta t < -\frac{2.8}{\lambda} \quad (58)$$

Then  $|Q(\lambda \Delta t)| \leq 1$  is satisfied.

### Setting up the matrix

Now it is possible to set up the matrix. Define state vector  $\mathbf{y}(x)$  as follows:

$$\mathbf{y}(x) = \begin{bmatrix} m_w(x) \\ M_w(x) \\ m_i(x) \end{bmatrix} \quad (59)$$

With the system of equations as in 31 denoted by:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dm_w}{dx} = 2E \left( u_\infty - \frac{M_w}{m_w} \right) \left( \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty} + \frac{m_w^2}{M_w}} + \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty}} \right) \\ \frac{dM_w}{dx} = 2E \left( u_\infty - \frac{M_w}{m_w} \right) \left( \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty} + \frac{m_w^2}{M_w}} + \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty}} \right) u_\infty \\ \frac{dm_i}{dx} = -2E \left( u_\infty - \frac{M_w}{m_w} \right) \sqrt{\frac{m_i}{u_\infty}} \end{cases} \quad (60)$$

The stability is checked using the initial conditions of system 30. The initial conditions of 30 are based on the initial conditions  $D_{w,0}, d_{w,0}$  and  $u_{w,0}$  which are denoted in the system of equations 33 given below, using Betz limit  $a = 1/3$ :

$$\begin{aligned} u_{w,0} &= u_\infty(1 - 2a) &= \frac{1}{3}u_\infty &= 2.667 \text{ m/s} \\ D_{w,0} &= \sqrt{D^2 + \frac{1}{4}(D^2 - d^2) \frac{4a}{1 - 2a}} &= \sqrt{2D^2 - d^2} &= 166.8 \text{ m} \\ d_{w,0} &= d &= 119.3 \text{ m} \end{aligned} \quad (61)$$

Plugging this into 30 gives:

$$\begin{aligned} m_{w,0} &= \frac{1}{4} (D_{w,0}^2 - d_{w,0}^2) u_{w,0} &= 9059.8 \\ M_{w,0} &= \frac{1}{4} (D_{w,0}^2 - d_{w,0}^2) u_{w,0}^2 &= 24160 \\ m_{i,0} &= \frac{1}{4} d_{w,0}^2 u_\infty &= 28465 \end{aligned} \quad (62)$$

Now the Jacobian matrix of the system 60 can be computed:  $J = \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{y}}$  where  $\mathbf{f} = [f, g, h]^T$  are the right hand sides of the system 60. The Jacobian is then computed:

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial m_w} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial M_w} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial m_i} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial m_w} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial M_w} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial m_i} \\ \frac{\partial h}{\partial m_w} & \frac{\partial h}{\partial M_w} & \frac{\partial h}{\partial m_i} \end{bmatrix} \quad (63)$$

Substituting initial values 62 together with entrainment constant  $E = 0.31$  and free stream wind velocity  $u_\infty = 8.0$  the Jacobian takes on the following values:

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 0.041 & -0.013 & 0.006 \\ 0.328 & -0.101 & 0.048 \\ -0.011 & 0.004 & -0.003 \end{bmatrix} \quad (64)$$

The eigenvalues derived from this Jacobian are  $\lambda_1 = -0.060$ ,  $\lambda_2 = -1.4 \times 10^{-3} + 8.6i \times 10^{-4}$  and  $\lambda_3 = -1.4 \times 10^{-3} - 8.6i \times 10^{-4}$ . The real parts of the eigenvalues are below zero, meaning that the system is stable. The stability is checked for stepsize using equation 58 as follows:

$$\Delta x < -\frac{2.8}{\lambda_{min}} = \frac{2.8}{0.060} = 46.667 \quad (65)$$

Hence the system is stable for a stepsize of  $\Delta x < 46$  as for this  $\lambda$  and  $\Delta x$  the amplification factor  $|Q(\lambda \Delta x)| \leq 1$ . In the implementation of the Kaufman-Martin model, a stepsize of  $\Delta x = 0.1$  meters is used.

## 5 Implementation

The performance of wind farms is measured using their annual energy production (AEP) or just their power generation. This will also be done for the AWES wind farms, which consist of the Makani M600 systems. The power equation used for HAWTs in conventional wind energy is given by:

$$P = \frac{1}{2} \rho C_p \pi R^2 u^3 \quad (66)$$

Where  $C_p$  is the thrust coefficient and  $R$  is the span of a wind turbine blade. As estimated by Loyd (1980), the power  $P$  that a drag AWES can generate under idealized assumptions can be approximated by [33][36]:

$$P = \frac{2}{27} \rho A_{wing} u^3 C_L \left( \frac{C_L}{C_D} \right)^2 \quad (67)$$

where  $C_L$  is the lift coefficient,  $C_D$  is the drag coefficient and  $A_{wing}$  is the area of the wing. The lift and drag coefficients are given by

$$C_D = \frac{2D}{\rho u^2 A_{wing}} \quad (68)$$

$$C_L = \frac{2L}{\rho u^2 A_{wing}} \quad (69)$$

Where  $D$  and  $L$  are the drag and lift forces, respectively. Again, since  $D$  and  $C_D$  are equally dependent on  $u$  in opposite directions, the drag coefficient  $C_D$  doesn't shrink. This holds for the lift coefficient  $C_L$  as well. Now, the power equation is only given in the most general form. The power generated by Makani M600  $j$  is expressed as follows:

$$P_j = \frac{2}{27} \rho A_{wing} C_L \left( \frac{C_L}{C_D} \right)^2 u_{inc,j}^3 \quad (70)$$

$C_D$  and  $C_L$  are entirely dependent on the specs of the Makani M600 which are displayed in table 1. First, the intended parameters of the Makani M600 were considered to be used. Here the drag and lift coefficients equalled 0.26 and 2.8 respectively. This would however mean that the power capacity of one Makani M600 calculated by 67 would only be 1.8 times less than that of the Vestas 90-3MW in contrary to reality. Since the M600 is designed for a power capacity of 600kW and the Vestas for 3MW, the power ratio between the M600 and the Vestas must be closer to 5. Therefore the parameters of the M600 as-built were taken for the implementation with  $C_D = 0.312$  and  $C_L = 2.56$ . This version has a rated<sup>7</sup> power capacity of 685 kW at a rated wind speed of 11 m/s, which is closer to the real value. This version will therefore be used in the implementation as well.

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<sup>7</sup>Rated power signifies the possible power output the appliance, here M600, can generate under ideal conditions[64]

## 5.1 OWEZ

For the first simulation, the Offshore Windpark Egmond aan Zee is recreated. However, instead of HAWTs, now the Makani M600 airborne energy systems are used. These Makani energy systems are located at the same locations as the 36 turbines of the OWEZ such that they can be compared. The wind turbines used in the OWEZ are of the Vestas 90-3MW model. The layout of the OWEZ is given in the figure below.

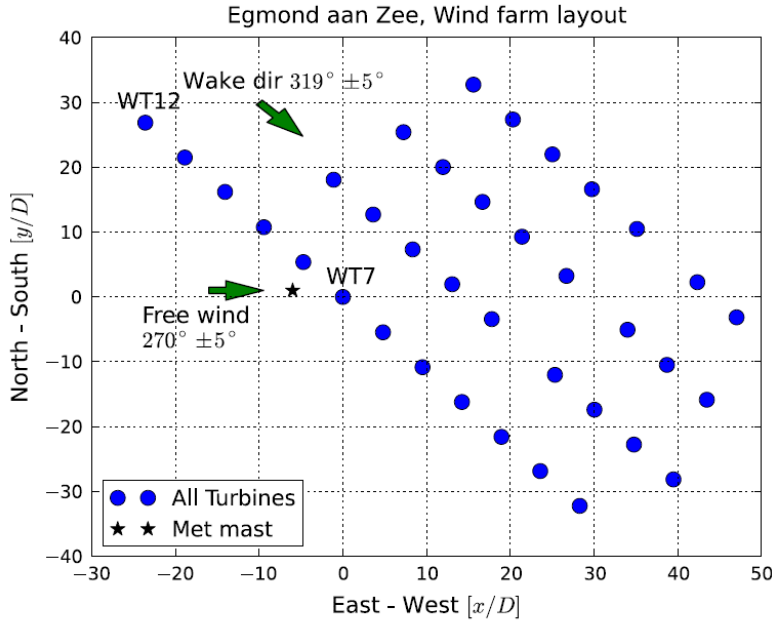


Figure 8: Layout of the OWEZ

Larsen et al. (2013) have analysed the OWEZ. Using a meteorological mast (met mast) they were able to do high-quality measurements on turbine loads. Despite the high fidelity of the met mast, wind speed and direction were difficult to measure because of the wake effects generated by the wind turbines. For this, they used the anemometer of wind turbine 12 (WT12) at a wind direction of  $319^\circ$ . At this angle the wake effects of the turbines are the highest, as here the turbines are aligned and the distance between them is the smallest. This could be a great example of measuring the wake effects of the Makani M600, which were first thought to be negligible. The figure below shows the farm's power production for every wind direction. Our point of interest will be the  $319^\circ$  wind direction.

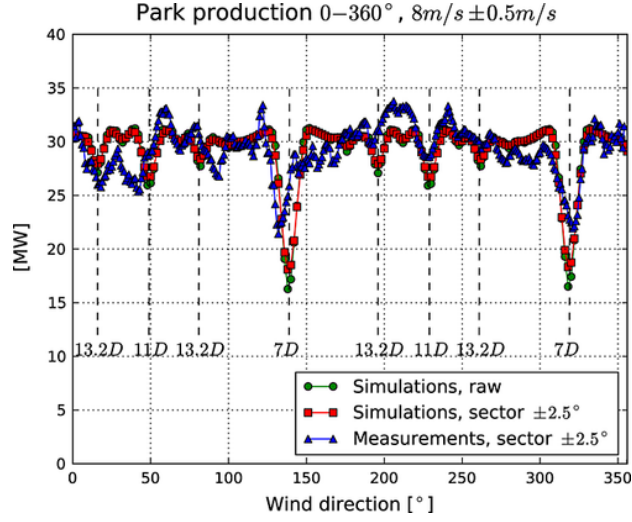


Figure 9: Energy production OWEZ, per wind direction[57]

In this first simulation the turbines were ordered. Each energy system was given a number, where system 0 was chosen as the origin of the farm system. Since the 4 rows of wind turbines are a distance of  $\approx 700$  meters apart, the wake effects between the rows are negligible. The M600's were numbered as follows:

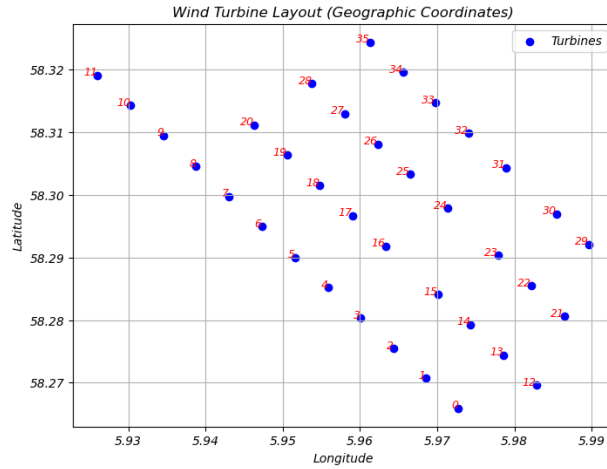


Figure 10: Schematic layout of OWEZ at its geographic coordinates[62]

### 5.1.1 Park model

Now to implement the Park model described in 4.1. To achieve this, the thrust coefficient  $C_T$  is needed. As the assumption is made that the plane in our AWES flies at a constant speed, by Newton's first law the two opposite forces, thrust and drag, must be the same. Subsequently,  $T = D \rightarrow C_T = C_D = 0.312$ .

To compare the values found by the offshore wind farm made out of M600's the total power generation needs to be found for wind speeds between 7.5 m/s and 8.5 m/s such that the results can be compared to figure 9. The incident wind speed at each system was found using the method described in 4.1. They are displayed in the Figures below.

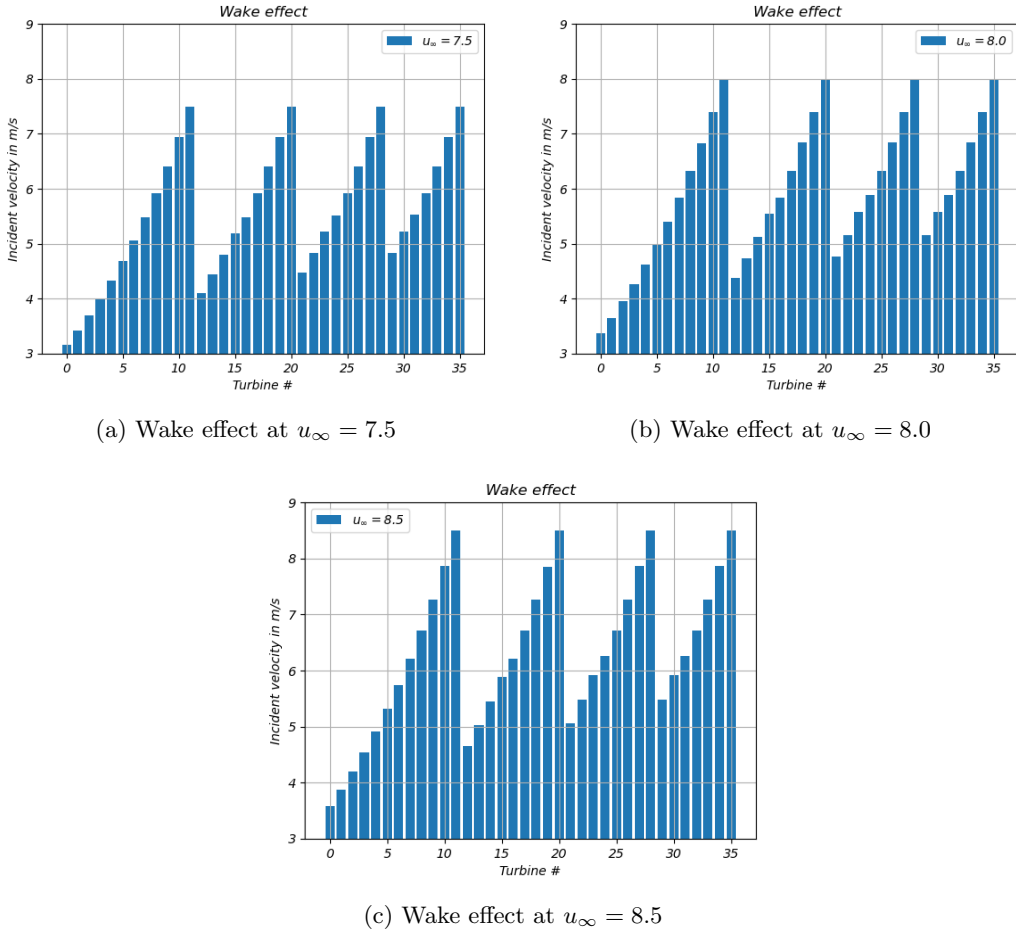


Figure 11: The incident velocities for  $7.5 \leq u_\infty \leq 8.5$  using the Park model

These give a visual overview of the wake effects at different wind speeds. To give a more complete view of the wake effects the incident velocities for a free stream wind velocity

of 8.0 m/s are given in the tables below.

#M600	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
$u_\infty = 8.0, \text{ (m/s)}$	3.37	3.64	3.95	4.27	4.62	5.00	5.40	5.84	6.32	6.83	7.40	8.00

Table 2: First row

#M600	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
$u_\infty = 8.0, \text{ (m/s)}$	4.38	4.73	5.12	5.54	5.84	6.32	6.84	7.40	8.00

Table 3: Second row

#M600	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
$u_\infty = 8.0, \text{ (m/s)}$	4.76	5.15	5.57	5.88	6.32	6.84	7.40	8.00

Table 4: Third row

#M600	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
$u_\infty = 8.0, \text{ (m/s)}$	5.15	5.57	5.89	6.32	6.84	7.40	8.00

Table 5: Fourth row

The total power generation for wind speeds between 7.5 m/s and 8.5 m/s is then calculated by taking the incident wind speed for each system and filling it in in equation 70. These were subsequently summed which gave a total power generation between approximately 3.64 MW and 5.30 MW. It must be noted that these values are reached for ideal circumstances. Comparing these results to figure 9 indicates that the power generation of conventional wind turbines is still higher than that of the M600's, which is in line with expectations. Using figure 9, the power generation at a wind velocity of  $u_\infty = 8.0$  m/s is approximated to be 22MW for a conventional turbine for an angle of attack of  $319^\circ$ . Thereafter, it is quickly observed that the power generation of the M600 wind farm, as calculated, is 4-6 times smaller. The power capacity of the Makani M600 is 5 times smaller than that of the Vestas 90-3MW, hence the calculations are in line with literature [58][59].

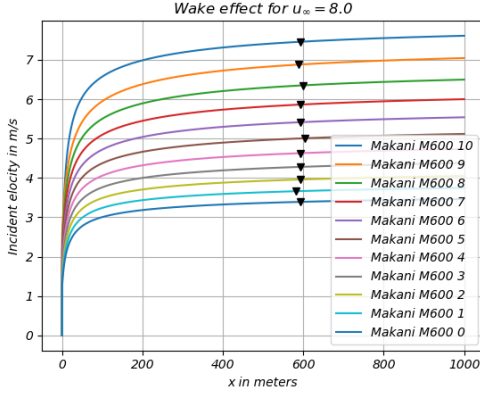
Further comparison of the M600 wind farm and the OWEZ leads us to their difference in mass. Firstly, the individual AWE system of the Makani M600 is considered. In table 1 the mass and the tether are displayed. This gives a total of 2080kg for the airborne device itself. The major components of the ground station are the winch frame, perch, drum and tower, which weigh 6200 kg, 900 kg, 2500 kg and 9000 kg respectively[61]. Combine this with the Makani M600 result of 20 680 kg. The weight of the Vestas 90-3MW is made up of its rotor, nacelle and tower, which weigh 41,000 kg, 70,000 kg and 285,000 kg respectively. Summed up, this results in a total weight of 396,000 kg.

Combining and then comparing the power and mass of both systems make for an interesting new characteristic. The power-to-mass ratio is an effective term to compare both the Makani M600 and the Vestas 90-3MW. When the M600 and Vestas reach their rated capacity of 600kW and 3MW respectively, their power-to-mass ratio equals 29.0W/kg and 7.58W/kg. This is a difference in power-to-mass ratio of a factor of 3.8. What would these values become when these systems are situated in the OWEZ? Before answering this question, first, the Kaufman-Martin model elaborated in 4.2 will be discussed.

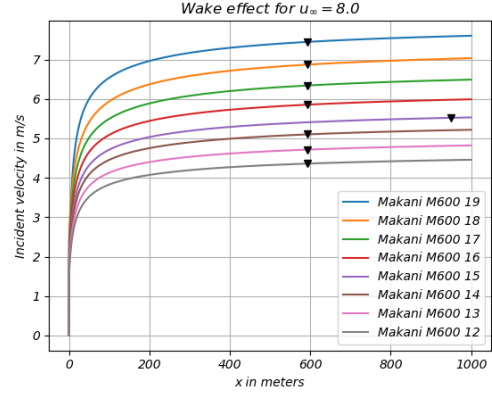
### 5.1.2 Kaufman-Martin model

Now, the Kaufman-Martin is considered for the OWEZ. Again the Makani M600 systems are in the exact location as the wind turbines of the OWEZ. Following the numerical approximation described in 4.2.1 results were found for the wake effects incident to the M600s. The entrainment constant  $E$  was set at 0.31. Using a time step of  $\Delta x = 0.1$ , a total number of steps of 10000 and a free stream velocity of  $u_\infty = 8.0$ , the figures below were obtained:

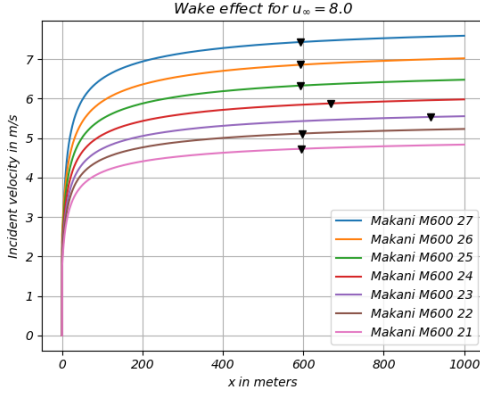




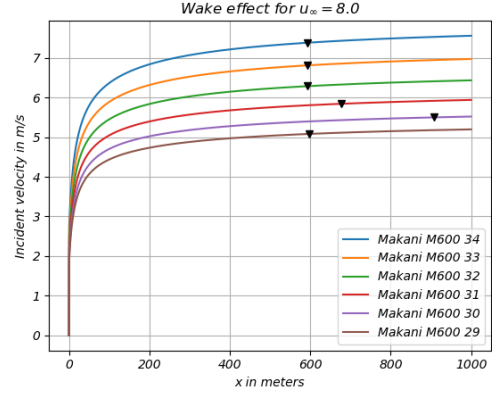
(a) Wake effect at row 1



(b) Wake effect at row 2



(c) Wake effect at row 3



(d) Wake effect at row 4

Figure 12: Incident velocities for  $u_\infty = 8.0$

In the figures the incident velocity of the Makani M600 at place 11, 20, 28 and 35 are not shown as for these systems the incident velocity equals the free stream velocity  $u_\infty$ . The plots indicate what the incident velocity would be for a distance of  $x$  between the system downstream. The black triangles indicate at what distance the M600 is to the M600 system downstream whereafter this velocity is taken as the incident velocity for that particular system. For example, in graph 14b all M600s are at a distance of  $\approx 600\text{m}$  within each other except M600 #15. This M600 is at a distance of  $\approx 950\text{m}$  downstream of M600 #16.

In the tables below again the incident velocities at the M600's are displayed:

#M600	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
$u_\infty = 8.0, \text{ (m/s)}$	3.39	3.66	3.96	4.28	4.63	5.01	5.42	5.86	6.35	6.88	7.46	8.00

Table 6: First row

#M600	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
$u_\infty = 8.0, \text{ (m/s)}$	4.36	4.71	5.10	5.52	5.85	6.34	6.87	7.45	8.00

Table 7: Second row

#M600	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
$u_\infty = 8.0, \text{ (m/s)}$	4.73	5.12	5.54	5.88	6.33	6.86	7.44	8.00

Table 8: Third row

#M600	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
$u_\infty = 8.0, \text{ (m/s)}$	5.08	5.50	5.84	6.28	6.81	7.38	8.00

Table 9: Fourth row

The total power output is again computed for the free stream velocities  $u_\infty = 7.5 \text{ m/s}$  and  $u_\infty = 8.5 \text{ m/s}$ . Between these velocities, the total power generation of the M600 wind farm is calculated to be between approximately 3.65MW and 5.31MW. Here again, the power-to-mass ratio of the Makani M600 wind farm is 4 - 6 times larger than that of the OWEZ, using the values in figure 9. In the next section the Park model and the Kaufman-Martin model are compared.

### 5.1.3 Comparison

For both the Park and Kaufman-Martin models were evaluated using the OWEZ wind turbine locations. The incident wind speeds here were computed at a free stream wind velocity of  $u_\infty = 8.0 \text{ m/s}$ . These values are put together in the tables below for comparison.

#M600	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Park, (m/s)	3.37	3.64	3.95	4.27	4.62	5.00	5.40	5.84	6.32	6.83	7.40	8.00
KM, (m/s)	3.39	3.66	3.96	4.28	4.63	5.01	5.42	5.86	6.35	6.88	7.46	8.00

Table 10: First row,  $u_\infty = 8.0 \text{ m/s}$

#M600	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Park, (m/s)	4.38	4.73	5.12	5.54	5.84	6.32	6.84	7.40	8.00
KM, (m/s)	4.36	4.71	5.10	5.52	5.85	6.34	6.87	7.45	8.00

Table 11: Second row,  $u_\infty = 8.0$  m/s

#M600	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Park, (m/s)	4.76	5.15	5.57	5.88	6.32	6.84	7.40	8.00
KM, (m/s)	4.73	5.12	5.54	5.88	6.33	6.86	7.44	8.00

Table 12: Third row,  $u_\infty = 8.0$  m/s

#M600	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
Park, (m/s)	5.15	5.57	5.89	6.32	6.84	7.40	8.00
KM, (m/s)	5.08	5.50	5.84	6.28	6.81	7.38	8.00

Table 13: Fourth row,  $u_\infty = 8.0$  m/s

In the tables, it can be seen that the incident velocity for each M600 lie close to each other using both models, showing the validity of both approaches.

The total power generation related to the HAWT<sup>8</sup> and AWES systems using both models located in the OWEZ at free stream wind velocity  $u_\infty = 8.0$  is denoted in the table below together with the corresponding power-to-mass ratio.

Model	Total power (MW)	power-to-mass (W/kg)
Vestas 90-3MW	22	1.54
Makani M600 (Park)	4.42	5.94
Makani M600 (KM)	4.43	5.94

Table 14: Power production OWEZ using Vestas 90-3MW or Makani M600,  $u_\infty = 8.0$

The power-to-mass ratio here is especially important. With almost four times less resources used, the power output would be the same. With an eye on the future with limited resources, this could be a huge step towards a sustainable future, with renewable energy. These values were obtained for  $u_\infty = 8.0$  as in this manner the values could be compared to valid values pictured in figure 9.

#### 5.1.4 Scaling for a higher altitude

One of the reasons AWES could become feasible is because AWES could capture the wind speed at higher altitudes. Here the wind speeds are higher and therefore the power

<sup>8</sup>Estimation based on figure 9

generation could be higher as well[35][37]. A study by TNO recorded average wind speeds of 10.18 m/s at an altitude of 291 meters at the EPL platform in the North Sea[65]. Therefore the models are tested at a free stream wind velocity of  $u_\infty = 10.18$ . The incident velocities are displayed in the tables below.

#M600	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Park, (m/s)	4.29	4.64	5.02	5.43	5.88	6.36	6.87	7.43	8.04	8.69	9.41	10.18
KM, (m/s)	4.32	4.66	5.04	5.45	5.89	6.37	6.89	7.46	8.08	8.75	9.49	10.18

Table 15: First row,  $u_\infty = 10.18$  m/s

#M600	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Park, (m/s)	5.57	6.02	6.52	7.05	7.43	8.04	8.70	9.41	10.18
KM, (m/s)	5.55	6.00	6.49	7.03	7.45	8.07	8.74	9.48	10.18

Table 16: Second row,  $u_\infty = 10.18$  m/s

#M600	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Park, (m/s)	6.06	6.56	7.09	7.49	8.04	8.70	9.41	10.18
KM, (m/s)	6.02	6.51	7.05	7.48	8.06	8.73	9.46	10.18

Table 17: Third row,  $u_\infty = 10.18$  m/s

#M600	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
Park, (m/s)	6.56	7.09	7.49	8.04	8.70	9.41	10.18
KM, (m/s)	6.46	7.00	7.43	8.00	8.66	9.39	10.18

Table 18: Fourth row,  $u_\infty = 10.18$  m/s

The total power generated by the wind farm, using both models, is then displayed in the table below, together with the power-to-mass ratio. The Vestas 90-3MW was not taken into account at this wind speed, as no other reliable data was found for the power generation.

Model	Total power (MW)	power-to-mass (W/kg)
Makani M600 (Park)	9.11	12.2
Makani M600 (KM)	9.12	12.3

Table 19: Power production OWEZ using Makani M600,  $u_\infty = 10.18$  m/s

For an increase in free stream wind velocity of only 2.18 m/s, the power-to-mass ratio increases by a factor of more than 2. This shows the amount of uncaptured power generation that could be converted to electricity using AWES.

This simulation was done to simulate the wake effects generated by the Makani M600 at a wind direction angle which was least favourable for the power generation. In the next simulation, an optimised layout will be made for an offshore AWE farm.

## 5.2 Optimized layout

Whereas the Makani M600s were fully submerged in the wake of its downstream system, in the second simulation a more realistic wind farm will be reproduced. In this simulation, the M600s are placed such that the wake effects of the wind farm are minimized. Using a genetic algorithm (GA) the optimal locations of the AWES are found.

The genetic algorithm is a method to solve both constrained and unconstrained optimisation problems. It is a heuristic search algorithm designed for optimisation problems of two dimensions. Inherently genetic algorithms were designed for the process of natural selection and genetics of biological evolution [66]. The steps of the GA are listed below[67]:

1. **Initialisation :** First, a 'population' is created. The initial population consists of random layouts for wind farms generated randomly. This initial population is the first 'generation' of the GA.
2. **Evaluation:** Then the fitness of each wind farm is determined. They are evaluated through the total power output of the farm. The higher the total power, the higher the fitness score the farm is given.
3. **Selection:** The wind farms are selected based on their fitness score. This step determines which farms are eligible for reproduction.
4. **Crossover:** The individual wind farms are then combined using crossover techniques to generate new solutions or 'offspring'.
5. **Mutation:** To keep diversity, random mutations are introduced in the offspring. Change of the location of an individual system in the wind farm for example.
6. **Replacement:** The offspring then replaces some or all of the previous population, depending on the fitness score. These individual wind farms will move on to the next generation.
7. **Repeat:** Steps 2-6 are then repeated until the stopping criterion is met. In this case, after a hundred generations.

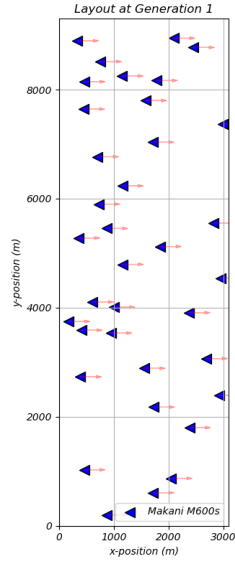
This algorithm is then applied to the Park model using the same dimensions as the OWEZ. The Kaufman-Martin is not used for this algorithm as this would require a larger computational capacity. The OWEZ has an area of  $27 \text{ km}^2$ [68], therefore the layout for a Makani M600 wind farm has comparable dimensions of  $3000 \times 9000$  in meters. The wind direction is assumed to be from west to east. The population sizing doesn't have a general

rule. To determine this, a simple method is used to dimension the initial population. This method provided by Gatscha (2016) is given by [69]:

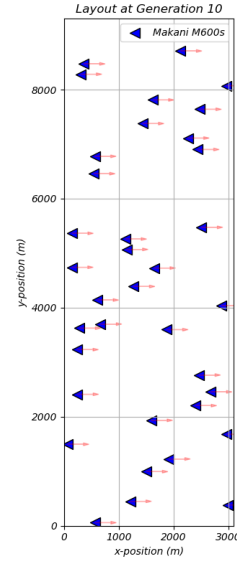
$$n = \frac{\#Grids * \#Turbines}{Iteration} \quad (71)$$

### 5.2.1 Free choice

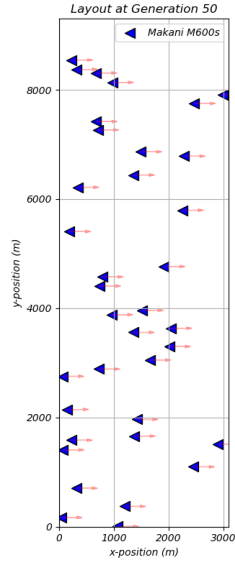
Whenever the M600s may be freely placed in the venture with dimensions  $3000 \times 9000$  in meters, the grid is found by dividing the width by  $2D$  and the height by  $D$  as the Park model is valid for downstream distances of  $2D$  [25] and the M600s must have a distance of at least  $D$  between them to prevent interference. The M600s can therefore be placed on  $10 \times 60 = 600$  locations. The GA is computed using a hundred generations and 36 M600s. Therefore the population  $n$  equals 216. The layouts ensued by the GA are given at generation 1, 10, 50 and 100 below. Of every generation, the best layout is chosen and displayed.



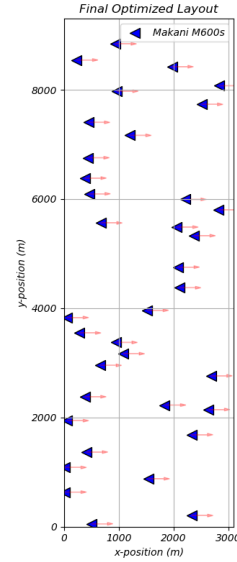
(a) Best layout after 1 generation; Total power = 19.14MW



(b) Best layout after 10 generations; Total power = 19.17MW



(c) Best layout after 50 generations; Total power = 19.25MW



(d) Best layout after 100 generations; Total power = 19.31MW

Figure 13: Optimal layouts using the GA after different generations; M600s freely placed

For free stream wind velocity of  $u_{\infty} = 10.18$ , the total power generation of the final optimized layout equals **19.31 MW**. Note that using the power equation 70, at a wind

speed of  $u_\infty = 10.18$ ,  $P = 543$  KW for the individual M600. Multiply this by 36 results in a total power output of **19.54 MW**. This means that the total power output from the optimal layout is almost the same as its power capacity. This contradicts the claim that wake effects are not negligible in AWE. Then why is the output of the wind farm almost equal to the total power capacity? The answer to this can be reasoned in at least two ways.

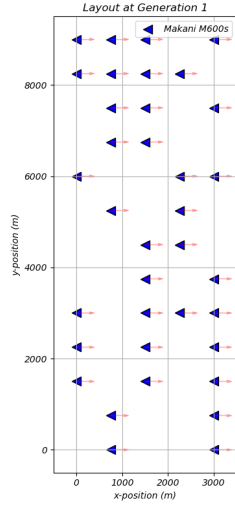
Firstly, the wind is considered to only flow from west to east, as a result of which the GA places the M600s such that they are not in each other's wake by placing them on different  $y$  positions. When a wind distribution is introduced, the GA would find other optimal layouts, resulting in another total power output.

Secondly, the GA can now place the M600s at every coordinate in the area given. This allows placing the M600 at the positions where the wake effects are the least. Realistically, wind turbines in a conventional wind farm are placed on a grid as shown in figure 8.

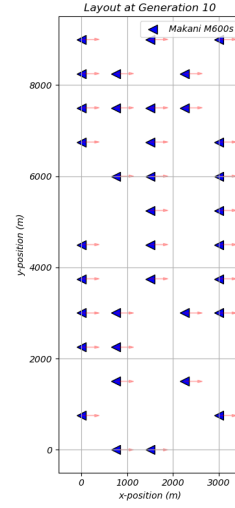
### 5.2.2 Grid-constrained placement

To depict a realistic wind farm, the optimal layout of the Makani M600 wind farm will be approached from a different point of view. In this layout, the M600s are constrained to a grid. To not interfere with the incident M600s the systems need to be at least  $5D$  apart such that they don't affect each other with turbulence[70].  $5D$  equals about 750 meters for the Makani M600 as built. Therefore the grid cells are  $750 \times 750$  meters in the x- and y-direction respectively. The system's location is constrained to the vertices of this grid. Again using the GA an altered optimal layout is found for the Makani M600 wind farm. Since the grid size is changed, so does the population by equation 71.  $\#Grids$  now equals 65, therefore the population size now equals 24. The following layouts were found after 1, 10, 50 and 100 generations. Again, from every generation, the best layout is chosen and displayed:

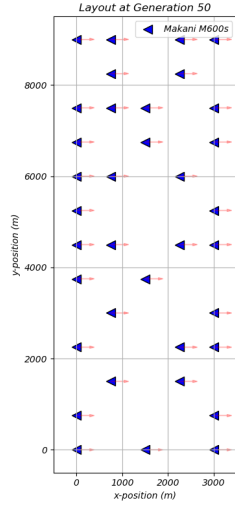




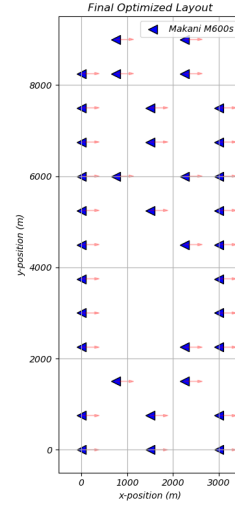
(a) Best layout after 1 generation; Total power = 16.50MW



(b) Best layout after 10 generations; Total power = 16.61MW



(c) Best layout after 50 generations; Total power = 16.81MW



(d) Best layout after 100 generations; Total power = 17.03MW

Figure 14: Optimal layouts using the GA after different generations; M600s placed on grid

Again for the free stream wind velocity of  $u_\infty = 10.18$  the power generation for every layout was calculated. The total power output of the best layout after 100 generations equals **17.03 MW**. Compared to the method where the M600s were freely placed, this is a significant drop in power output.

### 5.2.3 Comparison & Outlook

For both methods, the power-to-mass ratio and total power generated is displayed in the below table, together with the power capacity of a Makani M600 wind farm.

	Total power (MW)	power-to-mass (W/kg)
Power capacity	19.54	26.2
GA (free)	19.32	26.0
GA (grid)	17.03	22.9

Table 20: Power production best Makani M600 farm layouts,  $u_\infty = 10.18$  m/s

Comparing the GA for placement of the M600s in a wind farm to table 19 the power generated has more than or almost doubled together with the power-to-mass ratio. In table 19 the M600s were fully submerged in the wake generated by the system(s) downstream to themselves. The GA freely placed the M600s on a venture with the same area. The difference in power output portrays the influence between full-wake and partial-wake submergence for the AWES. It illustrates the significance of wake effects for airborne wind farms.

Furthermore the power-to-mass ratio in table 20 is interesting for future research of AWES application in wind farms. To put the results obtained from the GA in perspective, the comparison is made to a wind farm of 36 Vestas 90-3MW turbines. Since the mass of the Makani M600 is slightly more than 19 times lower than that of the Vestas 90-3MW. Suppose 19 more of these Makani M600 wind farms were built, they would have a total power output of between **324 MW** and **367 MW**, depending on whether the turbines are freely placed or placed on a grid respectively. This is more than 3 times the power capacity of the OWEZ, let alone the actual power output. A significant increase.

Figure 9 shows that the median power output of the OWEZ is roughly 32MW, which is interesting to compare with the layout created by the GA. For a free stream wind velocity of  $u_\infty = 8.0$  the results are as follows:

	Total power (MW)	power-to-mass (W/kg)
Power capacity, M600	9.48	12.7
GA (free), M600	9.38	12.6
GA (grid), M600	8.22	11.0
OWEZ, Vestas	32	2.2

Table 21: Power production best Makani M600 farm layouts and median OWEZ,  $u_\infty = 8.0$  m/s

For the same power output as the OWEZ, it would suffice to use four optimal Makani M600 wind farms using the grid-constrained GA. Using these four wind farms would take

up only 20% of the mass used in the OWEZ, therefore far less resource consumption for the same power output.

At first glance of table 20, the method where the GA is used to freely place the M600s looks preferable. This provides the highest power output and therefore should be the most viable solution. Despite the optimality of this solution, it is preferable to place the AWES on a grid. To lower costs, the amount of cable used for the power grid is to be minimized. Furthermore, for maintenance purposes, it is more efficient to build a patterned wind farm[71]. Consequently, both methods are suboptimal. Either the design is not efficient or the power generation is suboptimal. A middle ground must be found by combining both these methods.

## 6 Results

The goal of this research was to investigate the performance of AWES in wind farms against conventional HAWTs. First, the OWEZ was imitated using AWES, and the power output was then compared to the OWEZ using HAWTs. The results indicate a clear difference in performance between the AWES and the HAWTs. As expected the total power output of the Makani M600 wind farm was significantly lower compared to the Vestas 90-3MW wind farm under identical wind conditions. Using both the Park model (4.1) and the Kaufman-Martin model (4.2) for a free stream wind velocity of  $u_\infty = 8.0$  with the turbines aligned with the wind direction ( $319^\circ$ ), the M600 array produced a total power output of order 4-6 times smaller than the HAWTs. This difference in power generation is explained by the fact that the power capacity of the Makani M600 (600 kW) and the Vestas 90-3MW (3 MW) differ by a factor of 5. Despite this, since the Vestas 90-3MW weighs roughly 19 times more than the M600, the M600 shows a remarkable advantage in terms of the power-to-mass ratio. When experiencing full wake effects the power-to-mass ratio of the M600 is a factor 3.9 times bigger than that of the Vestas turbine.

After the replication of the OWEZ using the M600 system, then an optimal layout was found using the GA with a fixed wind direction. Here the systems were not fully submerged in the wake of its downstream neighbour. The results of the GA were even more promising. The optimal, grid-constrained layout now had a power-to-mass ratio 5 times higher than that of OWEZ, using the median power production (32 MW) of the OWEZ. The change from 3.9 to 5 times better power-to-mass ratio is clarified by the lower shadowing factor  $\gamma_\alpha$  of AWES compared to HAWTs. This highlights a key advantage for AWES. Far fewer resources are used for the same power output. This could translate into lower material costs and larger scalability opportunities for AWES.

The lower shadowing factor is a result of less wake interference by the AWES in a wind farm. The incident velocities of the freely placed M600 systems by the GA didn't differ much from the free stream wind velocity, as a result of which the power generation was nearly equal to the power capacity. This backs the earlier assumptions where the wake effects of AWES were treated as negligible. The results of the grid-constrained GA and OWEZ replication, however, indicate that the M600 systems underwent substantial wake effects. Especially in the OWEZ replication, both the Park and Kaufman-Martin models depicted strong velocity deficits caused by wake effects. In optimised layouts where the turbines could be placed on a grid or freely, the wake effects were reduced considerably. Here, for a free stream wind velocity of  $u_\infty = 8.0$  the total power output was at least twice as high compared to the OWEZ replication. Overall, the comparison indicates that while the wake effects of AWES are not negligible, optimised layouts can mitigate the wake effects severely.

## 7 Conclusion

This research has found a way of optimizing the design layout of an offshore wind farm using AWES. After finding an analytical solution for the wake effects using the Park model and a numerical solution using the Kaufman-Martin model, the OWEZ, consisting of 36 Vestas 90-3MW turbines, was replicated using 36 Makani M600 systems. By implementation of these models, it was found that the wake effects generated by AWES are not negligible as they were previously thought to be. In comparison to the OWEZ, the performance of the Makani M600s in terms of the power-to-mass ratio was 3.9 times higher for a free stream wind velocity of  $u_\infty = 8.0$ .

The optimal layout was found using the Park model in a genetic algorithm. To be able to compare it to the OWEZ, the same dimensions of  $3000 \times 9000$  meters were used. First, the algorithm was allowed to place the 36 M600s freely in the domain. Thereafter the M600s were only allowed to be placed on a grid since this is more common for real-life implementation of a wind farm. The power generated by the free algorithm and the grid-constrained algorithm are 19.32 MW and 17.03 MW respectively with a corresponding power-to-mass ratio of 26.0 W/kg and 22.9 W/kg. This was found for  $u_\infty = 10.18$ , which is the mean wind velocity at an altitude of 291 meters at the OWEZ site. For  $u_\infty = 8.0$  the power generation is given by 9.38 MW and 8.22 MW respectively with corresponding power-to-mass ratios of 12.6 W/kg and 11.0 W/kg. These power-to-mass ratios were 5.7 and 5 times higher than that corresponding to the OWEZ for this wind speed. This means that for the same power output, only %20 of the resources are needed.

In conclusion, the wake effects of AWES are significant for a wind farm and therefore are not to be neglected. Also, since the power-to-mass ratio of the optimal M600 wind farm is five times higher than that of the OWEZ using Vestas 90-3MW turbines, this research has found that for future development it would be preferable to use AWES in a wind farm instead of the conventional HAWTs.

## 8 Discussion

### 8.1 Limitations

Although the AWES wind farm showed promising insights, there are several limitations that need to be discussed for validity of the research. Firstly, the parameters in table 1 for the Makani M600 as-built were developed for a minimal altitude of 110 meters. For results in 5.1 and 5.2 the average wind velocity of  $u_\infty = 10.18$  at an altitude of about 300 meters. Therefore it could be possible that the parameters such as the drag and lift coefficients vary for different altitudes. However, since these are dependent on velocity instead of height, and the Makani M600 as-built has a rated wind speed of 11 m/s, the parameters shouldn't vary much.

Secondly, to simplify the configuration of the wakes generated by the AWES, it was assumed that the area of the flightpath and wake of a system was a perfect annulus. In reality the area of the flightpath of the airborne device is not a perfect annulus, however, this assumption came forth out of literature such as the Kaufman-Martin model [49][73]. Here the flightpath area and therefore the wake area is assumed to be a perfect annulus, validating the assumption made in this research.

In the entrainment-based Kaufman-Martin model the mass flow, mass flux in the wake region and mass flux in the core region are dependent on entrainment constant  $E$ . These variables are used to find results for the velocity deficit, inner wake diameter and outer diameter. To correctly find these values, a value must be assigned to  $E$ . However, this constant is based on empirical data, and does not have a general equation. Kaufman-Martin et al. (2022) states that typically  $E = 0.15$  for HAWT models in low-turbulence inflow. This value however can reach up to 0.6 for high-turbulence flows. This then leaves  $E$  to be in a range of  $0.15 \leq E \leq 0.6$ . Since the Kaufman-Martin model exhibited roughly the same results as the Park model for  $E = 0.31$ , this value was chosen as the entrainment constant. While being grounded by the allowed range, the chosen value has not been empirically verified. Therefore the results of the Kaufman-Martin model must be viewed as indicative rather than explicit.

Lastly, the power equation 70, derived by Loyd (1980), is the upper bound of power generation for AWES. Therefore the results are likely to be overestimated for the actual power generation using the M600. Whereas in the modeling of this research optimal conditions were assumed, in reality these conditions vary a lot. These variations would reduce power generations. Additionally, perfect control and no failures were assumed for the airborne devices, ignoring potential losses. Since this research focused mainly on the wake effects of AWES and its performance in a wind farm, the situations where the conditions are not optimal only bring forth haziness. Using optimal conditions, the wake effects were captured the most clearly. Situations where these conditions vary were therefore out of the scope of this research.

## 8.2 Future research possibilities

Building on this study several possibilities for future work arise. To improve the optimized layout used in this research, and relate it to reality more, the wind distribution at the OWEZ site could be integrated. The GA now only considers a fixed wind direction from west to east, whereas in real situations the wind direction turns corresponding to its wind distribution. This could give a realistic indication of the annual energy production of a wind farm using AWES. Because of a lack of data, it was not implemented in this research.

In this research the Makani M600 model was used to model the wake effects of AWES. Exploring other models as airborne devices for an AWES wind farm would increase the understanding of wake effects for AWES. After implementation of different models, it could be determined which airborne device is the most suitable for airborne wind farms. Together with this only drag-mode AWES were considered. Exploration of lift-mode AWES in a wind farm could possibly present more feasible results than the drag-mode AWES. Exploring this could therefore be an interesting future research.

Lastly, this research did not incorporate the total cost or levelized cost of electricity, while this may be the most important variable for potential investors. While this study mostly discusses technical performance differences and possibilities for AWES compared to HAWTs, the actual development of AWES wind farms rely mostly on economic viability. This should include costs for wind development, maintenance, venture, monitoring and decommissioning, however these values are not yet available for AWES as it still is in an early phase of development. For HAWTs a general equation for the levelized cost of electricity, only for AWES, this is yet to come. Therefore future research considering the cost of an AWES wind farm would be very viable for the future of AWES and sustainable energy.

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## A Python code

### A.1 OWEZ using Park model, analytically

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 import numpy as np
3 import math
4 import pandas as pd
5 from geopy.distance import geodesic
6 from scipy.spatial.distance import cdist
7 #Parameters
8 rho = 1.225
9 u_inf = 10.18      #mean wind speed OWEZ
10 alpha = 0.038     #entrainment constant
11 D = 145           #outer diameter
12 d = 119.3         #inner diameter
13 Dr = 90           #Rotor diameter
14 z = 110           #altitude axisymmetric
15 z0 = 0.0002       #surface roughness
16 C_T = 0.312       #coefficients
17 C_D = 0.312
18 C_L = 2.56
19 C_P = 0.45
20 A_wing = 32.9
21
22 OWEZ = pd.read_csv("/Users/user/Documents/BEP/OWEZ.csv")
23 #coordinates of the wind turbines scaled to be in [-90,90]
24 coordinates = list(zip(OWEZ['xpos']/100000,OWEZ['ypos']/100000))
25 met_mast = coordinates.pop()
26 # Create an empty distance matrix
27 num_turbines = len(coordinates)
28 distance_matrix = np.zeros((num_turbines, num_turbines))
29
30 # Compute pairwise distances
31 for i in range(num_turbines):
32     for j in range(num_turbines):
33         if i != j: # Avoid zero distance for same point
34             distance_matrix[i, j] = geodesic(coordinates[i], coordinates[j]).meters # Convert to meters
35
36 np.fill_diagonal(distance_matrix, np.inf) # Ignore self-distances
37
38 # Convert lat/lon to a simple Cartesian (meters)
39 # Use one turbine as the origin
40 origin = coordinates[0]
41 def geo_to_cartesian(coord):
42     # Approximation for small areas using geodesic distances
43     x = geodesic((origin[1], origin[0]), (origin[1], coord[0])).meters #
44     East-West
45     y = geodesic((origin[1], origin[0]), (coord[1], origin[0])).meters #
46     North-South
47     if coord[0] < origin[0]:
48         x = -x
49     if coord[1] < origin[1]:
50         y = -y
51     return (x, y)
```

```

51 positions = np.array([geo_to_cartesian(c) for c in coordinates])
52
53 def rotate(positions):
54     theta = np.arctan(positions[10][1]/positions[10][0])
55     rotation_matrix = np.array([[np.cos(theta), np.sin(theta)],
56                                 [-np.sin(theta), np.cos(theta)]])
57     return positions @ rotation_matrix.T
58
59 rotated_positions = rotate(positions) #now flow runs along x-axis
60
61
62 def integration_factor(x):
63     term = d - 2* alpha *x
64     if term!=0:
65         return 0.5 * (1+term/abs(term))
66     else:
67         return 1
68
69
70 def shadow_factor(overlap, flightpath):
71     return overlap/flightpath
72
73 def velocity_deficit(D, d, x, u_inc, overlap=1.0, flightpath=1.0):
74     Dw = D + 2*alpha * x
75     dw = integration_factor(x) * (d-2*alpha*x)
76     term = 1- C_T
77     numerator = 2*shadow_factor(overlap,flightpath)*(1-np.sqrt(term))*(D**2
78 - d**2)
79     denominator = Dw**2 - dw**2
80     return numerator/denominator
81
82 reversed_positions = np.array(rotated_positions[::-1]) #reversed so that
83 upstream comes first
84
85 def velocity_at_turbines(reversed_positions):
86     N = len(reversed_positions)
87     u_inc = np.full(N,u_inf) #initialize with freestream velocity
88     #calculate per row, no wake effects between rows
89     for i in range(1,7):
90         dx = abs(reversed_positions[i][0]-reversed_positions[i-1][0])
91         du = velocity_deficit(D, d, dx, u_inc[i])
92         u_inc[i]=(1-du)*u_inc[i-1]
93
94     for j in range(8,15):
95         dx = abs(reversed_positions[j][0]-reversed_positions[j-1][0])
96         du = velocity_deficit(D, d, dx, u_inc[j])
97         u_inc[j]=(1-du)*u_inc[j-1]
98
99     for k in range(16,24):
100         dx = abs(reversed_positions[k][0]-reversed_positions[k-1][0])
101         du = velocity_deficit(D, d, dx, u_inc[k])
102         u_inc[k]=(1-du)*u_inc[k-1]
103
104     for l in range(25,36):
105         dx = abs(reversed_positions[l][0]-reversed_positions[l-1][0])
106         du = velocity_deficit(D, d, dx, u_inc[l])
107         u_inc[l]=(1-du)*u_inc[l-1]
108
109     reverse_u_inc = np.array(u_inc[::-1])#reversed again such that turbines

```

```

108         are in order
109         return reverse_u_inc
110 incident_velocities = velocity_at_turbines(reversed_positions)
111 print(incident_velocities)
112
113 def power_equation(u_inc):
114     powers = []
115
116     for u in u_inc:
117         P=(2/27)*rho*A_wing*C_L *(C_L/C_D)**2*u**3
118         powers.append(P)
119
120     return np.array(powers)
121
122 def total_power(u_inc):
123     total = 0
124     power_per_system=power_equation(u_inc)
125     for p in power_per_system:
126         total +=p
127     return total
128 x=[u_inf]
129 print('Power AWES:',total_power(incident_velocities))
130
131 lst= list(range(len(reversed_positions)))
132 plt.bar(lst, velocity_at_turbines(reversed_positions), label = fr"$u_{\infty}$"
133        =f"$u_{\infty}$")
134 plt.xlabel("#Turbines")
135 plt.ylabel('Incident velocity in m/s')
136 plt.ylim(3.0, 9)
137 plt.title('Wake effect')
138 plt.legend()
139 plt.grid(True)
140 plt.show()
141
142 #%%
143 closest_turbines = np.argmin(distance_matrix, axis=1)
144 # Print closest turbine for each turbine
145 latitudes = OWEZ['ypos'].to_numpy()/100000
146 longitudes = OWEZ['xpos'].to_numpy()/100000
147 latitudes = np.delete(latitudes,36)
148 longitudes = np.delete(longitudes,36)
149 # Create a scatter plot
150 plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
151 plt.scatter(longitudes, latitudes, c='b', marker='o', label='Turbines')
152 # Label each turbine
153 for i, (lon, lat) in enumerate(zip(longitudes, latitudes)):
154     plt.text(lon, lat, str(i), fontsize=9, ha='right', color='red')
155 plt.xlabel("Longitude")
156 plt.ylabel("Latitude")
157 plt.title("Wind Turbine Layout (Geographic Coordinates)")
158 plt.legend()
159 plt.grid(True)
160 plt.show()

```

## A.2 OWEZ using Kaufman-Martin, numerically

```

1
2 import numpy as np
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 import pandas as pd
5 from geopy.distance import geodesic
6 from scipy.spatial.distance import cdist
7
8 rho = 1.225
9 t0 = 0
10 D = 145          #outer diameter
11 d = 119.3
12 E = 0.31
13 Vinf = 10.18
14 z= 110          #altitude axisymmetric
15 z0 =0.0002      #surface roughness
16 C_T = 0.312     #coefficients
17 C_D = 0.312
18 C_L = 2.56
19 A_wing = 32.9
20 Dw0 = np.sqrt(2*D**2-d**2)
21 dw0 = d
22 Vw0 = Vinf /3
23 mw0 = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0**2)*Vw0
24 Mw0 = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0**2)*Vw0**2
25 mi0 = dw0**2 * Vinf/4
26 num_steps = 10000
27 h = 0.1         #h*num_steps = 1000!
28
29
30 # Function representing the differential equation: dP/dt = k * P
31 def entrainment1(t,mw,Mw,mi,E,Vinf):
32     return 2*E*(Vinf-Mw/mw)*(np.sqrt(mi/Vinf+mw**2/Mw) +np.sqrt(mi/Vinf))
33 def entrainment2(t,mw,Mw,mi,E,Vinf):
34     return Vinf*(2*E*(Vinf-Mw/mw)*(np.sqrt(mi/Vinf+mw**2/Mw) +np.sqrt(mi/
35     Vinf)))
36 def entrainment3(t,mw,Mw,mi,E,Vinf):
37     return -2*E*(Vinf-Mw/mw)*np.sqrt(mi/Vinf)
38
39
40
41
42 # Fourth-order Runge-Kutta method
43 def runge_kutta_4(f1,f2,f3, t0, mw0, h, num_steps, Mw0,mi0,E,Vinf):
44     solution = [(t0, mw0,Mw0,mi0)]
45     solution_scaled = [(t0,0,0,0)]
46     t = t0
47     mw = mw0
48     Mw = Mw0
49     mi = mi0
50
51     for _ in range(num_steps):
52         k1 = h * f1(t, mw,Mw,mi,E,Vinf)
53         k2 = h * f1(t + 0.5 * h, mw + 0.5 * k1,Mw,mi,E,Vinf)
54         k3 = h * f1(t + 0.5 * h, mw + 0.5 * k2,Mw,mi,E,Vinf)
55         k4 = h * f1(t + h, mw + k3,Mw,mi,E,Vinf)
56         g1 = h * f2(t, mw,Mw,mi,E,Vinf)
57         g2 = h * f2(t + 0.5 * h, mw,Mw + 0.5 * g1,mi,E,Vinf)
58         g3 = h * f2(t + 0.5 * h, mw,Mw + 0.5 * g2,mi,E,Vinf)

```



```

59     g4 = h * f2(t + h, mw, Mw+ g3, mi, E, Vinf)
60     l1 = h * f3(t, mw, Mw, mi, E, Vinf)
61     l2 = h * f3(t + 0.5 * h, mi, Mw, mi+ 0.5 * l1, E, Vinf)
62     l3 = h * f3(t + 0.5 * h, mi, Mw, mi+ 0.5 * l2, E, Vinf)
63     l4 = h * f3(t + h, mi, Mw, mi+ l3, E, Vinf)
64
65
66     mw = mw + (k1 + 2 * k2 + 2 * k3 + k4) / 6
67     Mw = Mw + (g1 + 2 * g2 + 2 * g3 + g4) / 6
68     mi = mi + (l1 + 2 * l2 + 2 * l3 + l4) / 6
69     t = t + h
70
71     #print(mw)
72     #print(Mw)
73     #print(mi)
74
75     #Terug schalen
76     Vw = Mw/mw
77     dw = 2* np.sqrt(mi/Vinf)
78     Dw = 2* np.sqrt((mi/Vinf)+(mw**2/Mw))
79     solution.append((t, mw, Mw, mi)) #om het in een uiteindelijke vector
/ matrix op te slaan.
80     solution_scaled.append((t, Vw, dw, Dw)) #om het in een uiteindelijke
vector / matrix op te slaan.
81
82     return solution_scaled
83
84
85
86
87 # Solve the differential equation using Runge-Kutta method
88 solution_scaled = runge_kutta_4(entrainment1, entrainment2, entrainment3, t0,
    mw0, h, num_steps, Mw0, mi0, E, Vinf)
89
90 # Extracting time and population values for plotting
91 t_values = [t for t, _, _, _ in solution_scaled]
92 Vw_values = [Vw for _, Vw, _, _ in solution_scaled]
93 dw_values = [dw for _, _, dw, _ in solution_scaled]
94 Dw_values = [Dw for _, _, _, Dw in solution_scaled]
95
96 OWEZ = pd.read_csv("/Users/user/Documents/BEP/OWEZ.csv")
97 #coordinates of the wind turbines scaled to be in [-90,90]
98 coordinates = list(zip(OWEZ['xpos']/100000, OWEZ['ypos']/100000))
99 met_mast = coordinates.pop()
100 # Create an empty distance matrix
101 num_turbines = len(coordinates)
102 distance_matrix = np.zeros((num_turbines, num_turbines))
103
104 # Compute pairwise distances
105 for i in range(num_turbines):
106     for j in range(num_turbines):
107         if i != j: # Avoid zero distance for same point
108             distance_matrix[i, j] = geodesic(coordinates[i], coordinates[j]
109             ]).meters # Convert to meters
110
111 np.fill_diagonal(distance_matrix, np.inf) # Ignore self-distances
112
113 # Convert lat/lon to a simple Cartesian (meters)
114 # Use one turbine as the origin

```

```

114 origin = coordinates[0]
115 def geo_to_cartesian(coord):
116     # Approximation for small areas using geodesic distances
117     x = geodesic((origin[1], origin[0]), (origin[1], coord[0])).meters #
118     # East-West
119     y = geodesic((origin[1], origin[0]), (coord[1], origin[0])).meters #
120     # North-South
121     if coord[0] < origin[0]:
122         x = -x
123     if coord[1] < origin[1]:
124         y = -y
125     return (x, y)
126
127 positions = np.array([geo_to_cartesian(c) for c in coordinates])
128
129 def rotate(positions):
130     theta = np.arctan(positions[10][1]/positions[10][0])
131     rotation_matrix = np.array([[np.cos(theta), np.sin(theta)],
132                                 [-np.sin(theta), np.cos(theta)]])
133     return positions @ rotation_matrix.T
134
135 rotated_positions = rotate(positions) #now flow runs along x-axis
136 reversed_positions = np.array(rotated_positions[::-1])
137
138 def numerical_velocity_deficit(reversed_positions, t0, mw0, h, num_steps,
139                               Mw0, mi0, E, Vinf, dw0, Dw0):
140     N = len(reversed_positions)
141     u_list = np.full(N, Vinf)
142     mw = mw0
143     Mw = Mw0
144     mi = mi0 #initialize with freestream velocity
145     #calculate per row, no wake effects between rows
146     Vw = Vinf
147     for i in range(1,7):
148         dx = abs(reversed_positions[i][0]-reversed_positions[i-1][0])
149         steps = int(dx/h -1)
150         solution_scaled = runge_kutta_4(entrainment1, entrainment2,
151         entrainment3, t0, mw, h, num_steps, Mw, mi, E, Vw)
152         Vw = solution_scaled[steps][1]
153         u_list[i] = Vw
154         step_indices = list(range(num_steps+1))
155         Vw_step = [solution_scaled[a][1] for a in step_indices]
156
157         plt.plot([s/10 for s in step_indices], Vw_step, label = f"Makani
158         M600 {35-i}")
159         plt.plot(step_indices[steps]/10, Vw_step[steps], 'kv')
160
161         mw = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0 **2)*(Vw/3)
162         Mw = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0 **2)*(Vw/3)**2
163
164     plt.xlabel('x in meters')
165     plt.ylabel('Incident velocity in m/s')
166     plt.title(r'Wake effect for $u_{\infty} = 8.0$')
167     plt.legend()
168     plt.grid(True)
169     plt.show()
170     Vw = Vinf
171     for j in range(8,15):

```

```

168     dx = abs(reversed_positions[j][0]-reversed_positions[j-1][0])
169     steps = int(dx/h -1)
170     solution_scaled = runge_kutta_4(entrainment1, entrainment2,
entrainment3, t0, mw, h, num_steps, Mw, mi, E, Vw)
171     Vw = solution_scaled[steps][1]
172     u_list[j] =Vw
173
174     step_indices=list(range(num_steps+1))
175     Vw_step = [solution_scaled[a][1]for a in step_indices]
176
177     plt.plot([s/10 for s in step_indices], Vw_step, label = f"Makani
M600 {35-j}")
178     plt.plot(step_indices[steps]/10, Vw_step[steps], 'kv')
179
180     mw = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0 **2)*(Vw/3)
181     Mw = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0 **2)*(Vw/3)**2
182
183     plt.xlabel('x in meters')
184     plt.ylabel('Incident velocity in m/s')
185     plt.title(r'Wake effect for $u_{\infty} = 8.0$')
186     plt.legend()
187     plt.grid(True)
188     plt.show()
189     Vw = Vinf
190     for k in range(16,24):
191         dx = abs(reversed_positions[k][0]-reversed_positions[k-1][0])
192         steps = int(dx/h -1)
193         solution_scaled = runge_kutta_4(entrainment1, entrainment2,
entrainment3, t0, mw, h, num_steps, Mw, mi, E, Vw)
194         Vw = solution_scaled[steps][1]
195         u_list[k] =Vw
196
197         step_indices=list(range(num_steps+1))
198         Vw_step = [solution_scaled[a][1]for a in step_indices]
199
200         plt.plot([s/10 for s in step_indices], Vw_step, label = f"Makani
M600 {35-k}")
201         plt.plot(step_indices[steps]/10, Vw_step[steps], 'kv')
202
203         mw = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0 **2)*(Vw/3)
204         Mw = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0 **2)*(Vw/3)**2
205
206         plt.xlabel('x in meters')
207         plt.ylabel('Incident velocity in m/s')
208         plt.title(r'Wake effect for $u_{\infty} = 8.0$')
209         plt.legend()
210         plt.grid(True)
211         plt.show()
212         Vw = Vinf
213         for l in range(25,36):
214             dx = abs(reversed_positions[l][0]-reversed_positions[l-1][0])
215             steps = int(dx/h -1)
216             solution_scaled = runge_kutta_4(entrainment1, entrainment2,
entrainment3, t0, mw, h, num_steps, Mw, mi, E, Vw)
217             Vw = solution_scaled[steps][1]
218             u_list[l] =Vw
219
220             step_indices=list(range(num_steps+1))
221             Vw_step = [solution_scaled[a][1]for a in step_indices]

```

```

222     plt.plot([s/10 for s in step_indices], Vw_step, label = f"Makani
223     M600 {35-l}")
224     plt.plot(step_indices[steps]/10, Vw_step[steps], 'kv')
225
226     mw = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0 **2)*(Vw/3)
227     Mw = (1/4)*(Dw0 **2 - dw0 **2)*(Vw/3)**2
228
229     plt.xlabel('x in meters')
230     plt.ylabel('Incident elocity in m/s')
231     plt.title(r'Wake effect for $u_{\infty} = 8.0$')
232     plt.legend()
233     plt.grid(True)
234     plt.show()
235     return np.array(u_list[::-1])
236 incident_velocities = numerical_velocity_deficit(reversed_positions, t0,
237 mw0, h, num_steps, Mw0, mi0, E, Vinf, dw0, Dw0)
238 def power_equation(u_inc):
239     powers = []
240
241     for u in u_inc:
242         P=(2/27)*rho*A_wing*C_L *(C_L/C_D)**2*(u**3)
243         powers.append(P)
244
245     return np.array(powers)
246 def total_power(u_inc):
247     total = 0
248     power_per_system=power_equation(u_inc)
249     for p in power_per_system:
250         total +=p
251     return total
252 print(incident_velocities)
253 print('Power AWES RK4:', total_power(incident_velocities))

```

### A.3 Optimized layout, Park model, no constraints

```

1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 import numpy as np
3 import math
4 import pandas as pd
5 from geopy.distance import geodesic
6 from scipy.spatial.distance import cdist
7 import random
8 #Parameters
9 rho = 1.225
10 u_inf = 10.18 #mean wind speed OWEZ
11 alpha = 0.038 #entrainment constant
12 D = 145 #outer diameter
13 d = 119.3 #inner diameter
14 z = 100 #altitude axisymmetric
15 z0 =0.0002 #surface roughness
16 C_T = 0.312 #coefficients
17 C_D = 0.312
18 C_L = 2.56
19 A_wing = 32.9
20

```

```

21
22 def integration_factor(x):
23     term = d - 2* alpha *x
24     if term!=0:
25         return 0.5 * (1+term/abs(term))
26     else:
27         return 1
28
29
30
31 def gamma(i_pos, j_pos, x):
32     # Circle radii
33     R = D / 2 # outer radius flight path
34     r = d /2 # inner radius flight path
35     Rw = (D + 2 * alpha * x) / 2 # wake diameter at x
36     rw = max(0,integration_factor(x)*(d-2*alpha*x)/2) #inner wake diameter
37     # at x
38     # Center distance (in 2D)
39     dist = np.linalg.norm(np.array(j_pos) - np.array([j_pos[0], i_pos[1]]))
40     # Only y-distance matters
41     def intersection(Ra, Rb):
42         if dist >= Ra +Rb:
43             return 0.0
44         if dist <= abs(Ra - Rb):
45             return 1.0
46         term1 = Ra**2 * np.arccos((dist**2 + Ra**2 - Rb**2) / (2 * dist *
47         Ra))
48         term2 = Rb**2 * np.arccos((dist**2 + Rb**2 - Ra**2) / (2 * dist *
49         Rb))
50         term3 = 0.5 * np.sqrt((-dist + Ra + Rb) * (dist + Ra - Rb) * (dist
51         - Ra + Rb) * (dist + Ra + Rb))
52         return term1 + term2 - term3
53     if intersection(R,Rw) == 1.0:
54         return 1.0
55     elif intersection(R,Rw) == 0.0:
56         return 0.0
57     else:
58         A_overlap = (intersection(R,Rw) - intersection(R,rw) - intersection
59         (r, Rw)+intersection(r,rw))
60         A_flightpath = np.pi*(R**2-r**2)
61         return A_overlap / A_flightpath
62
63 def velocity_deficit(D, d, x, u_inc, gamma, i_pos, j_pos):
64     Dw = D + 2*alpha * x
65     dw = integration_factor(x) * (d-2*alpha*x)
66     term = 1- C_T
67
68     numerator = 2*gamma(i_pos,j_pos, x)*(1-np.sqrt(term))*(D**2 - d**2)
69     denominator = Dw**2 - dw**2
70     return numerator/denominator
71
72 def in_wake(i_pos, j_pos):
73     return j_pos[0]>i_pos[0]
74
75 def delta_x(i_pos,j_pos):
76     return abs(j_pos[0]-i_pos[0])
77
78 def incident_velocities(layout):
79     N = len(layout)

```

```

74     u_inc=np.full(N, u_inf)
75
76     for j in range(N):
77         deficit = []
78
79         for i in range(N):
80             dx = delta_x(layout[i],layout[j])
81             if i == j:
82                 continue
83             if in_wake(layout[i], layout[j]):
84                 overlap = gamma(layout[i], layout[j], dx)
85                 du = velocity_deficit(D, d, dx, u_inc[i], gamma, layout[i],
layout[j])
86                 deficit.append(du)
87
88             if deficit:
89                 total_deficit = np.sqrt(np.sum(np.square(deficit)))
90                 u_inc[j] = u_inf * (1-total_deficit)
91     return u_inc
92
93 def power_equation(u_inc):
94     powers = []
95
96     for u in u_inc:
97         P=(2/27)*rho*A_wing*C_L *(C_L/C_D)**2*u**3
98         powers.append(P)
99
100     return np.array(powers)
101 def total_power(u_inc):
102     total = 0
103     power_per_system=power_equation(u_inc)
104     for p in power_per_system:
105         total +=p
106     return total
107
108 def random_layout(n, width, height, D):
109     layout = []
110     attempts = 0
111     max_attempt = 10000
112     while len(layout) < n and attempts<max_attempt:
113         x=np.random.uniform(0,width)
114         y=np.random.uniform(0,height)
115         position = np.array([x,y])
116
117         if all(abs(y-s[1])>= D or abs(x-s[0])>=2*D for s in layout) :
118             layout.append(position)
119             attempts+=1
120     if len(layout)<n:
121         print('Not al turbines could be located')
122
123     return np.array(layout)
124
125 ###
126 def fitness(layout):
127     u_inc = incident_velocities(layout)
128     return total_power(u_inc)
129
130 def initial_pop(popsiz, n ,width , height, D):
131     return [random_layout(n, width, height, D) for _ in range(popsiz)]

```

```

132
133 def constraint(layout, width, height, D):
134     sorted_layout = sorted(layout, key = lambda x: x[1])
135     filtered = [sorted_layout[0]]
136     for point in sorted_layout[1:]:
137         if all(abs(point[1] - p[1]) >= D or abs(point[0]-p[0])>=2*D for p
138             in filtered):
139             filtered.append(point)
140
141     if len(filtered)<len(layout):
142         return random_layout(n,width, height, D)
143
144     return np.array(filtered)
145
146 def crossover(farm1, farm2):
147     n = len(farm1)
148     offspring=[]
149     for i in range(n):
150         if np.random.rand()<0.5: #uniform probability
151             offspring.append(farm1[i])
152         else:
153             offspring.append(farm2[i])
154     return constraint(np.array(offspring), width, height, D)
155
156 def mutate(layout, rate, width, height):
157     copy = layout.copy()
158     for i in range(len(copy)):
159         if np.random.rand()<rate:
160             xnew = np.random.uniform(0, width)
161             ynew = np.random.uniform(0, height)
162             copy[i]=[xnew,ynew]
163     return constraint(copy, width, height, D)
164
165 def genetic_algorithm(gen, popsize, rate, n, width, height, D):
166     pop= initial_pop(popsize, n, width, height, D)
167     best_fit = 0
168     best_layout = None
169     saved_layout ={}
170     for g in range(gen): #fitness
171         scores = [fitness(layout) for layout in pop]
172         best_index= np.argmax(scores)
173         if scores[best_index] > best_fit:
174             best_fit = scores[best_index]
175             best_layout = pop[best_index]
176             print(f"Gen {g+1}: Best Power = {scores[best_index]/1e6:.2f} MW
177 ")
178         if g in [0,9,49]:
179             saved_layout[g] = pop[best_index]
180             #selection = top 25%
181             sorted_pop = [x for _, x in sorted(zip(scores,pop), key = lambda
182 pair: pair[0], reverse = True)]
183             top = sorted_pop[:popsize // 4]
184
185             #make new population
186             new_pop = top.copy()
187             while len(new_pop) < popsize:
188                 index = np.random.choice(len(top),2) #choose random parents
189                 from top

```

```

187         f1 = top[index[0]]
188         f2 = top[index[1]]
189         offspring = crossover(f1,f2)
190         offspring = mutate(offspring, rate, width, height)
191         new_pop.append(offspring)
192
193     pop = new_pop
194
195     return best_layout, best_fit, saved_layout
196
197 gen=100
198 popsize =216
199 rate =0.1
200 n = 36
201 width = 3000
202 height = 9000
203
204 bestlayout, bestfitness, saved_layout = genetic_algorithm(gen, popsize,
205     rate, n, width, height, D)
206 print(f"Final Best Power Output: {bestfitness/1e6:.2f} MW")
207
208 inc = incident_velocities(bestlayout)
209 print(inc)
210
211 x, y = bestlayout[:, 0], bestlayout[:, 1]
212
213 def plot_layout(layout, title, width, height):
214     x, y = layout[:, 0], layout[:, 1]
215     plt.figure(figsize=(8, 8))
216     plt.scatter(x, y, c='blue', s=100, edgecolors='black', marker='<',
217         label='Makani M600s')
218
219     for i in range(len(layout)):
220         plt.arrow(x[i], y[i], 2*D, 0, head_width=50, head_length=100, fc='
221 red', ec='red', alpha=0.3)
222
223     plt.xlim(0, width + 100)
224     plt.ylim(0, height + 300)
225     plt.gca().set_aspect('equal')
226     plt.grid(True)
227     plt.xlabel("x-position (m)")
228     plt.ylabel("y-position (m)")
229     plt.title(title)
230     plt.legend()
231     plt.tight_layout()
232     plt.show()
233
234 plot_layout(saved_layout[0], "Layout at Generation 1", width, height)
235 plot_layout(saved_layout[9], "Layout at Generation 10", width, height)
236 plot_layout(saved_layout[49], "Layout at Generation 50", width, height)
237 plot_layout(bestlayout, "Final Optimized Layout", width, height)

```

## A.4 Optimized layout, Park model, grid-constrained

```

1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 import numpy as np

```



```

3 import math
4 import pandas as pd
5 from geopy.distance import geodesic
6 from scipy.spatial.distance import cdist
7 import random
8 #Parameters
9 rho = 1.225
10 u_inf = 8.0 #mean wind speed OWEZ
11 alpha = 0.038 #entrainment constant
12 D = 145 #outer diameter
13 d = 119.3 #inner diameter
14 z = 100 #altitude axisymmetric
15 z0 = 0.0002 #surface roughness
16 C_T = 0.312 #coefficients
17 C_D = 0.312
18 C_L = 2.56
19 A_wing = 32.9
20
21 gen=100
22 popsize = 24
23 rate = 0.1
24 n = 36
25 width = 3000
26 height = 9000
27
28
29
30 def integration_factor(x):
31     term = d - 2* alpha * x
32     if term!=0:
33         return 0.5 * (1+term/abs(term))
34     else:
35         return 1
36
37
38
39 def gamma(i_pos, j_pos, x):
40     # Circle radii
41     R = D / 2 # outer radius flight path
42     r = d / 2 # inner radius flight path
43     Rw = (D + 2 * alpha * x) / 2 # wake diameter at x
44     rw = max(0,integration_factor(x)*(d-2*alpha*x)/2) #inner wake diameter
45     # Center distance (in 2D)
46     dist = np.linalg.norm(np.array(j_pos) - np.array([j_pos[0], i_pos[1]]))
47     # Only y-distance matters
48
49     def intersection(Ra, Rb):
50         if dist >= Ra + Rb:
51             return 0.0
52         if dist <= abs(Ra - Rb):
53             return 1.0
54         term1 = Ra**2 * np.arccos((dist**2 + Ra**2 - Rb**2) / (2 * dist *
55 Ra))
56         term2 = Rb**2 * np.arccos((dist**2 + Rb**2 - Ra**2) / (2 * dist *
57 Rb))
58         term3 = 0.5 * np.sqrt((-dist + Ra + Rb) * (dist + Ra - Rb) * (dist
59 - Ra + Rb) * (dist + Ra + Rb))
60         return term1 + term2 - term3

```

```

57     if intersection(R,Rw) == 1.0:
58         return 1.0
59     elif intersection(R,Rw) == 0.0:
60         return 0.0
61     else:
62         A_overlap = (intersection(R,Rw) - intersection(R,rw) - intersection
63         (r, Rw)+intersection(r,rw))
64         A_flightpath = np.pi*(R**2-r**2)
65         return A_overlap / A_flightpath if A_flightpath >0 else 0.0
66 def velocity_deficit(D, d, x, u_inc, gamma, i_pos, j_pos):
67     Dw = D + 2*alpha * x
68     dw = integration_factor(x) * (d-2*alpha*x)
69     term = 1- C_T
70
71     numerator = 2*gamma(i_pos,j_pos, x)*(1-np.sqrt(term))*(D**2 - d**2)
72     denominator = Dw**2 - dw**2
73     return numerator/denominator
74
75 def delta_x(i_pos,j_pos):
76     return abs(j_pos[0]-i_pos[0])
77
78 def incident_velocities(layout):
79     N = len(layout)
80     u_inc=np.full(N, u_inf)
81     for j in range(N):
82         deficit = []
83
84         for i in range(N):
85             x = delta_x(layout[i],layout[j])
86             if i == j:
87                 continue
88             else:
89                 du = velocity_deficit(D, d, x, u_inc[i], gamma, layout[i],
90                 layout[j])
91                 deficit.append(du)
92
93             if deficit:
94                 total_deficit = np.sqrt(np.sum(np.square(deficit)))
95                 u_inc[j] = u_inf * (1-total_deficit)
96
97     return u_inc
98
99 def power_equation(u_inc):
100     powers = []
101
102     for u in u_inc:
103         P=(2/27)*rho*A_wing*C_L *(C_L/C_D)**2*u**3
104         powers.append(P)
105
106     return np.array(powers)
107
108 def total_power(u_inc):
109     total = 0
110     power_per_system=power_equation(u_inc)
111     for p in power_per_system:
112         total +=p
113     return total

```

```

114 def grid_point_generator(width, height, xcell, ycell):
115     x_points = np.arange(0,width+1, xcell)
116     y_points = np.arange(0,height+1,ycell)
117     grid_points = np.array([[x,y] for x in x_points for y in y_points])
118     return grid_points
119
120 def random_grid_layout(n, grid_points, D):
121     layout = []
122     attempts = 0
123     max_attempt = 10000
124     while len(layout) < n and attempts<max_attempt:
125         point = grid_points[np.random.randint(len(grid_points))]
126
127         if all(abs(point[0] - p[0]) >=2*D or abs(point[1]-p[1])>=D for p in
            layout):
128             layout.append(point)
129             attempts+=1
130     if len(layout)<n:
131         print('Not all turbines could be located')
132
133     return np.array(layout)
134
135
136 """
137 def fitness(layout):
138     u_inc = incident_velocities(layout)
139     return total_power(u_inc)
140
141 def initial_pop(popsiz, n , grid_points, D):
142     return [random_grid_layout(n, grid_points, D) for _ in range(popsiz)]
143
144 def back_to_grid(point, grid_points): #back to nearest grid point
145     dist = np.linalg.norm(grid_points - point, axis=1)
146     return grid_points[np.argmin(dist)]
147
148 def constraint(layout, grid_points, D):
149     filtered = []
150     for point in layout:
151         nearest_point = back_to_grid(point, grid_points)
152         if all(abs(nearest_point[0]-p[0])>= 2*D or abs(nearest_point[1]-p
            [1])>=D for p in filtered):
153             filtered.append(nearest_point)
154     if len(filtered)<len(layout):
155         return random_grid_layout(len(layout), grid_points, D)
156     return np.array(filtered)
157
158 def crossover(farm1, farm2, grid_points):
159     n = len(farm1)
160     offspring=[]
161     for i in range(n):
162         if np.random.rand()<0.5: #uniform probability
163             offspring.append(farm1[i])
164         else:
165             offspring.append(farm2[i])
166     return constraint(np.array(offspring), grid_points, D)
167
168 def mutate(layout, rate, grid_points):
169     copy = layout.copy()
170

```

```

171     for i in range(len(copy)):
172         if np.random.rand() < rate:
173             copy[i] = grid_points[np.random.randint(len(grid_points))]
174     return constraint(copy, grid_points, D)
175
176 grid_points = grid_point_generator(width, height, 750, 750)
177 def genetic_algorithm(gen, popsize, rate, n, grid_points, D):
178     pop = initial_pop(popsize, n, grid_points, D)
179     best_fit = 0
180     best_layout = None
181     saved_layout = {}
182     for g in range(gen): #fitness
183         scores = [fitness(layout) for layout in pop]
184         best_index = np.argmax(scores)
185         if scores[best_index] > best_fit:
186             best_fit = scores[best_index]
187             best_layout = pop[best_index]
188             print(f"Gen {g+1}: Best Power = {scores[best_index]/1e6:.2f} MW
189 ")
190         if g in [0, 9, 49]:
191             saved_layout[g] = pop[best_index]
192             #selection = top 25%
193             sorted_pop = [x for _, x in sorted(zip(scores, pop), key = lambda
194 pair: pair[0], reverse = True)]
195             top = sorted_pop[:popsize // 4]
196
197             #make new population
198             new_pop = top.copy()
199             while len(new_pop) < popsize:
200                 index = np.random.choice(len(top), 2) #choose random parents
201                 from top
202                 f1 = top[index[0]]
203                 f2 = top[index[1]]
204                 offspring = crossover(f1, f2, grid_points)
205                 offspring = mutate(offspring, rate, grid_points)
206                 new_pop.append(offspring)
207
208             pop = new_pop
209
210     return best_layout, best_fit, saved_layout
211
212 bestlayout, bestfitness, saved_layout = genetic_algorithm(gen, popsize,
213 rate, n, grid_points, D)
214 print(f" Final Best Power Output: {bestfitness/1e6:.2f} MW")
215 inc = incident_velocities(bestlayout)
216 print(inc)
217
218 #%%
219 x, y = bestlayout[:, 0], bestlayout[:, 1]
220
221 def plot_layout(layout, title, width, height):
222     x, y = layout[:, 0], layout[:, 1]
223     plt.figure(figsize=(8, 8))
224     plt.scatter(x, y, c='blue', s=100, edgecolors='black', marker='<',
225 label='Makani M600s')

```

```

225
226     for i in range(len(layout)):
227         plt.arrow(x[i], y[i], 2*D, 0, head_width=50, head_length=100, fc='
red', ec='red', alpha=0.3)
228
229     plt.xlim(-500, width + 500)
230     plt.ylim(-500, height + 500)
231     plt.gca().set_aspect('equal')
232     plt.grid(True)
233     plt.xlabel("x-position (m)")
234     plt.ylabel("y-position (m)")
235     plt.title(title)
236     plt.legend()
237     plt.tight_layout()
238     plt.show()
239
240 plot_layout(saved_layout[0], "Layout at Generation 1", width, height)
241 plot_layout(saved_layout[9], "Layout at Generation 10", width, height)
242 plot_layout(saved_layout[49], "Layout at Generation 50", width, height)
243 plot_layout(bestlayout, "Final Optimized Layout", width, height)

```