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## New European Wind Atlas

# Measurement and modeling of forested areas – best practice from a NEWA benchmark

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Uppsala University Campus Gotland  
Visby, Sweden

NEWA final workshop  
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**Benchmark  
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Learning experiences and improvements. Flow model validation case

## Benchmark goal

**Ryningsnäs:** Compare state of the art modelling approaches. PAD inhomogeneous forest





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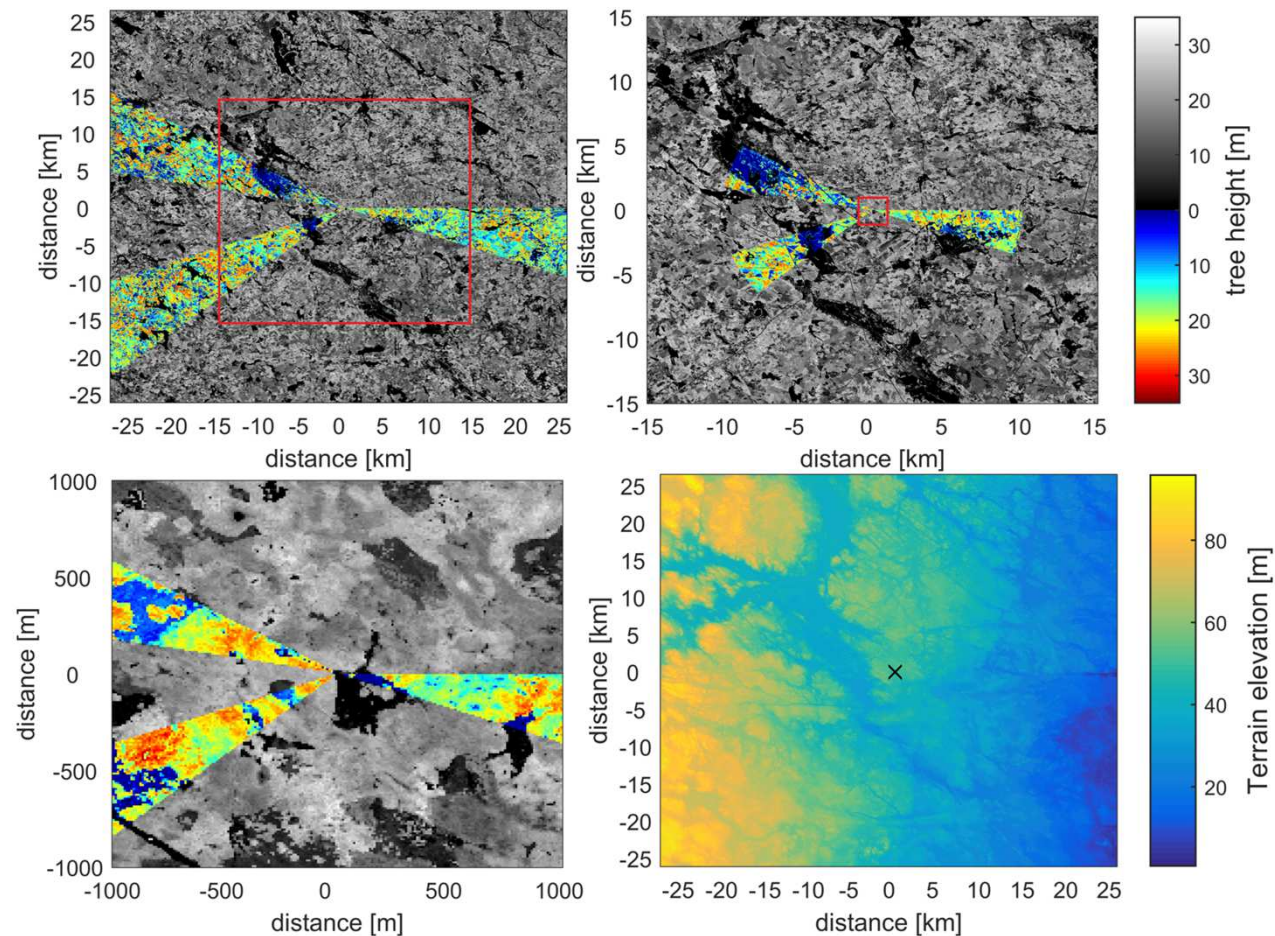
Participants

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on



# Ryningsnäs – What did we learn?

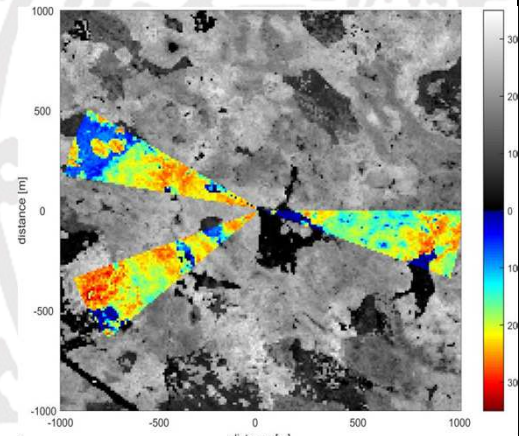
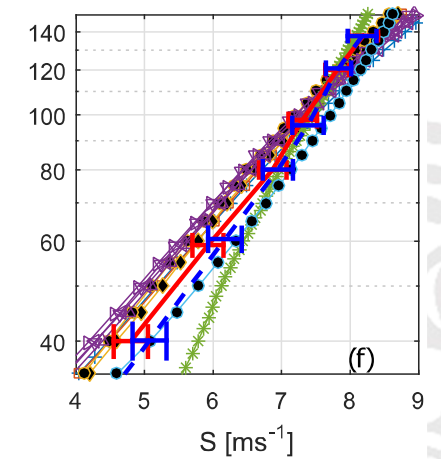
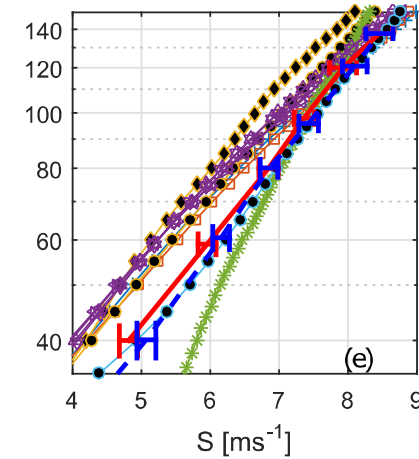
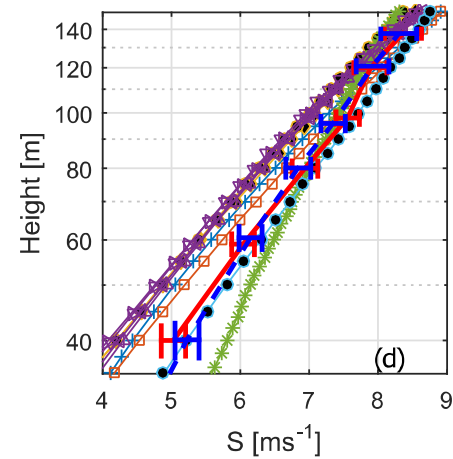
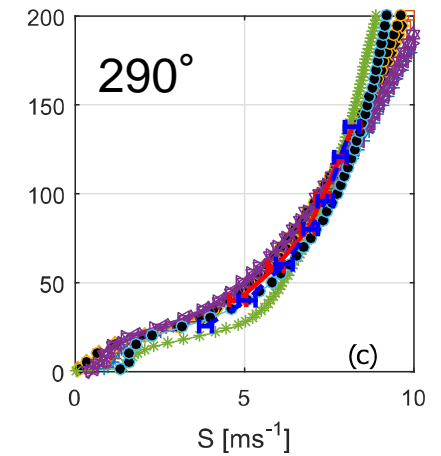
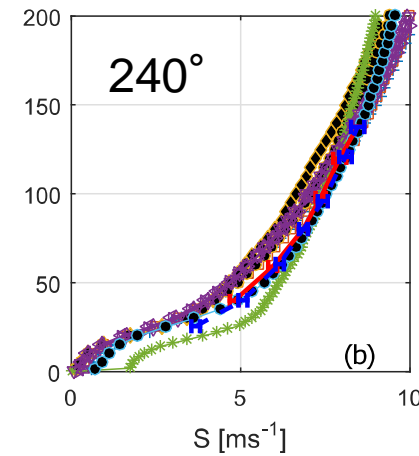
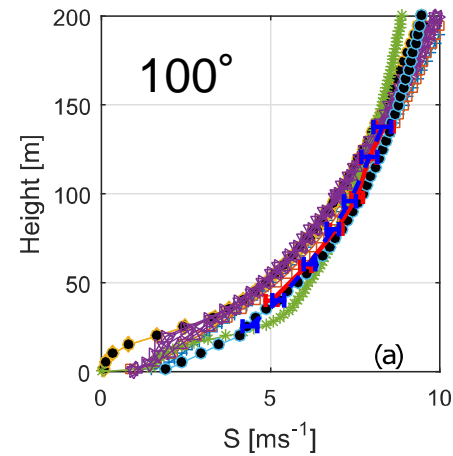
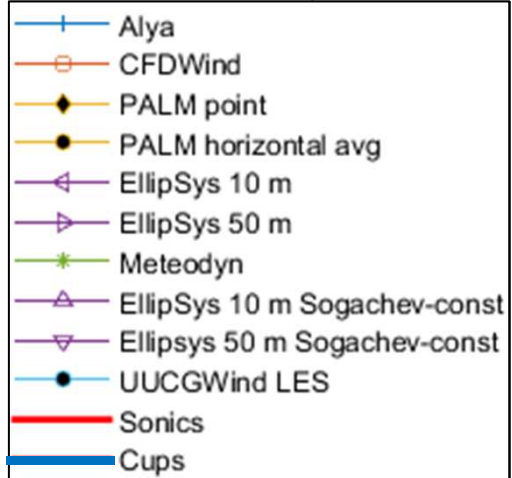
- Input: terrain height, PAD, fixed  $u_{100}$
- To model 3 wind directions: 100, 240 & 290 deg





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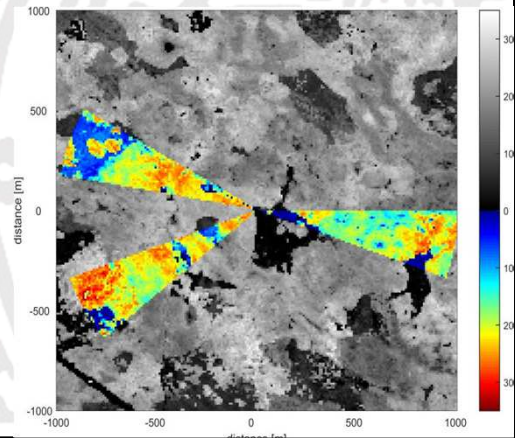
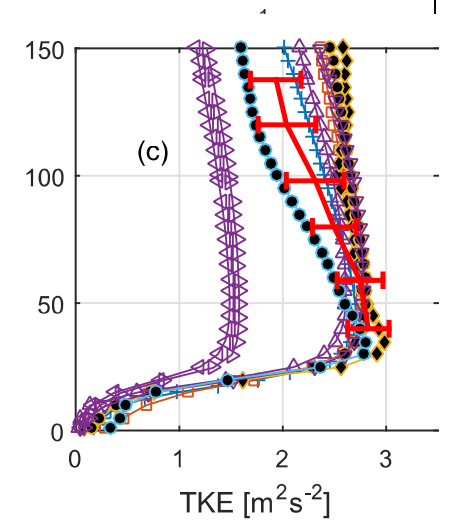
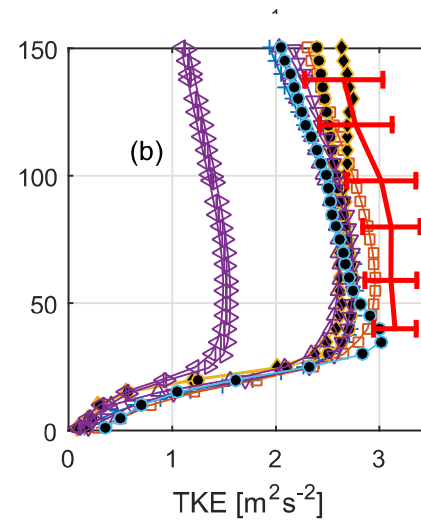
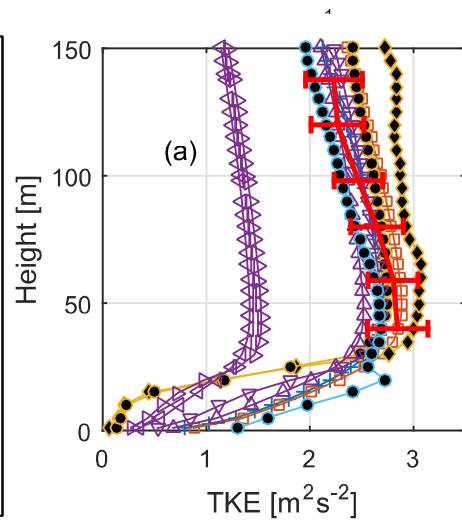
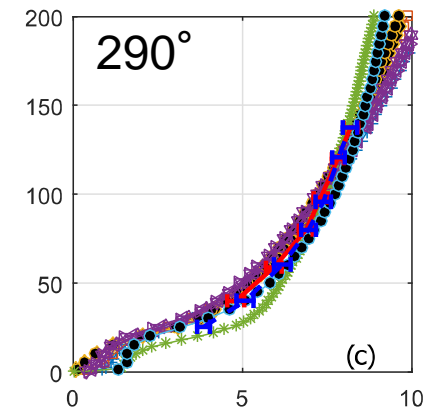
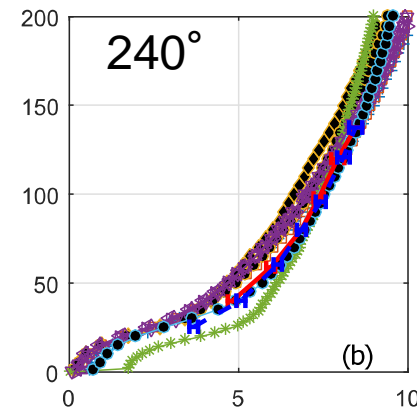
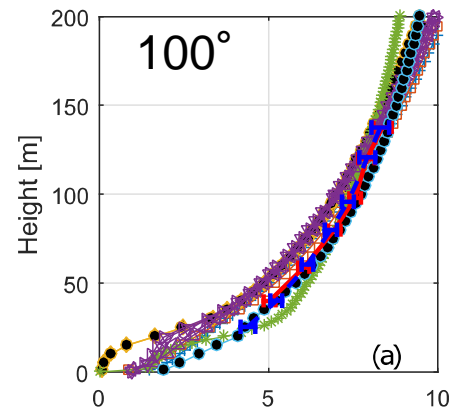
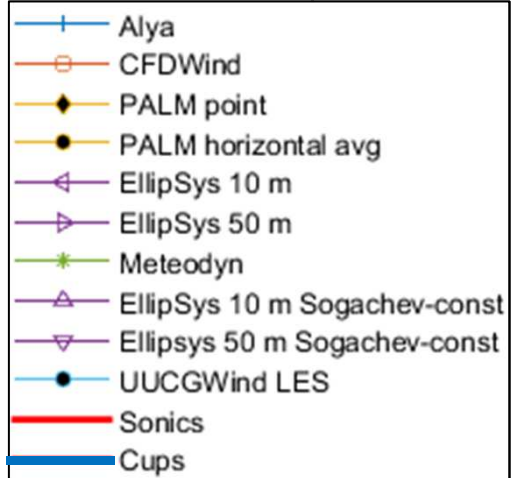
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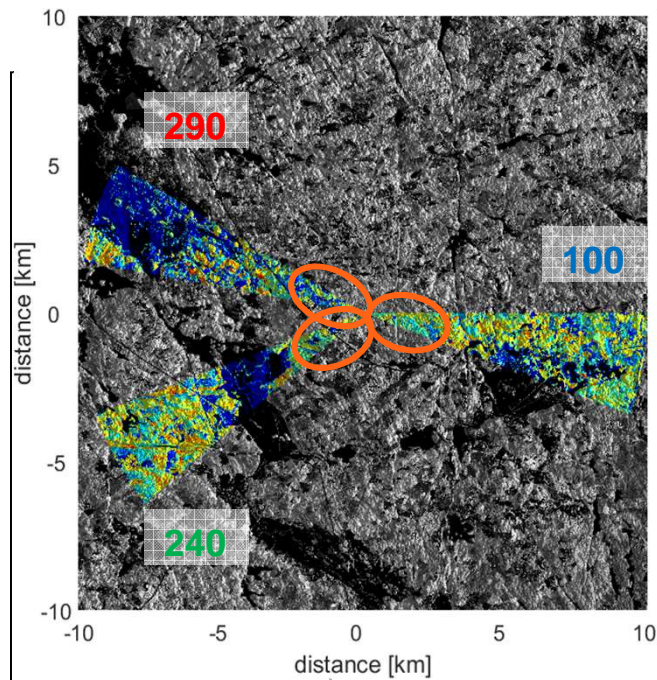
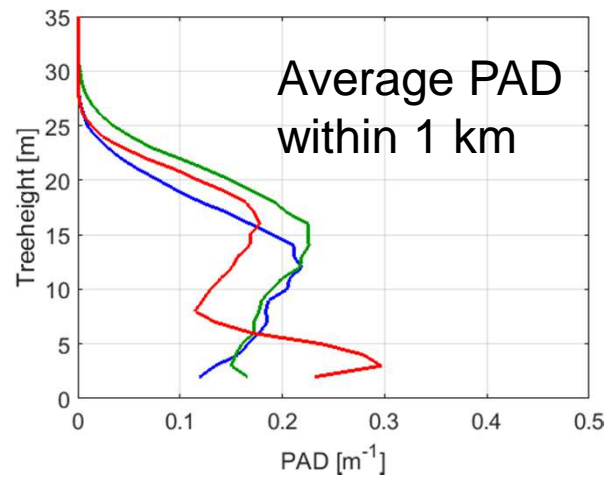


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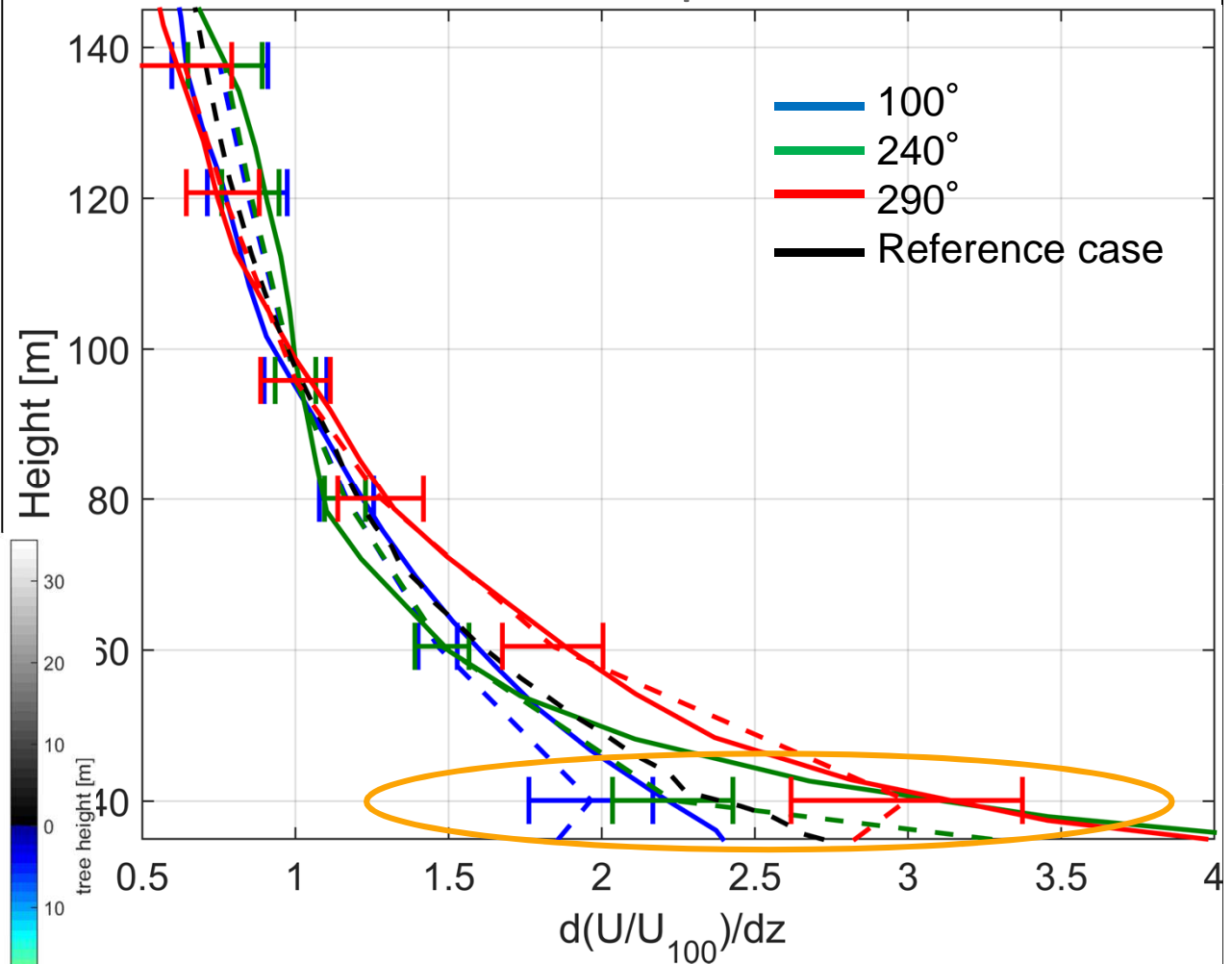
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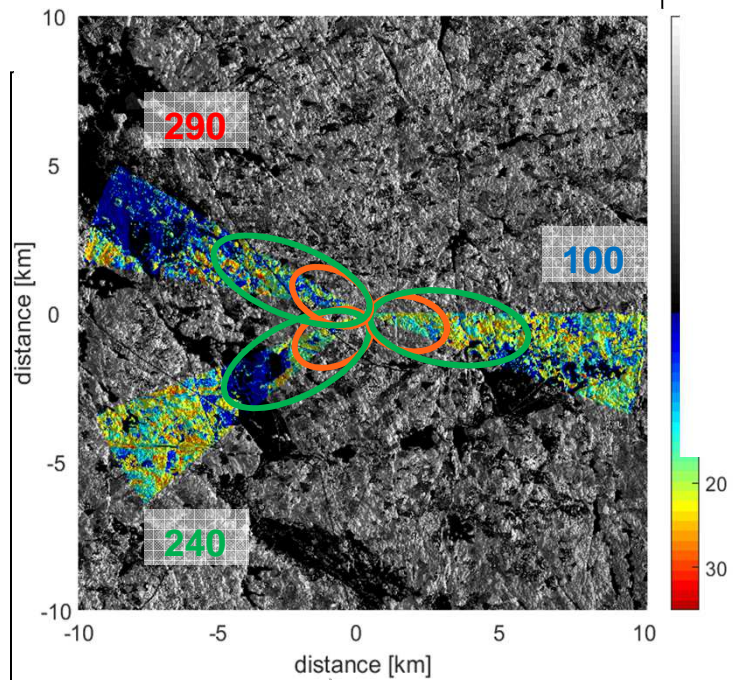
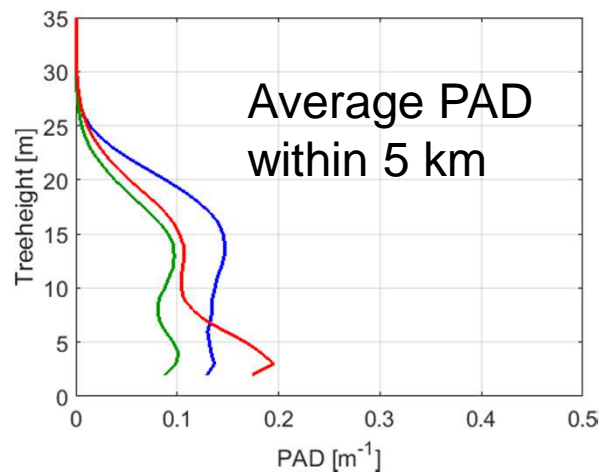
100 240 290



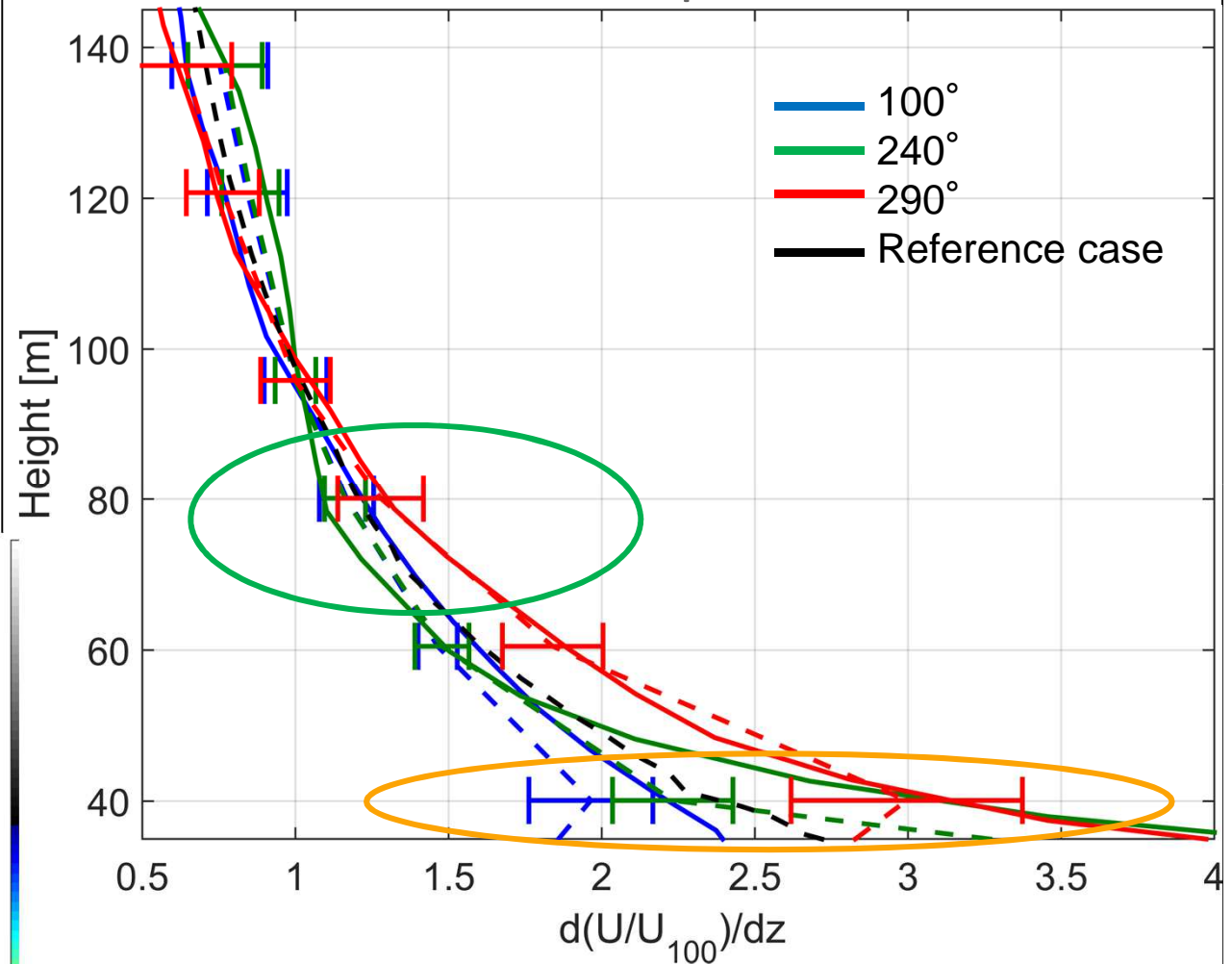
## Benchmark Ryningsnäs – Wind shear profiles



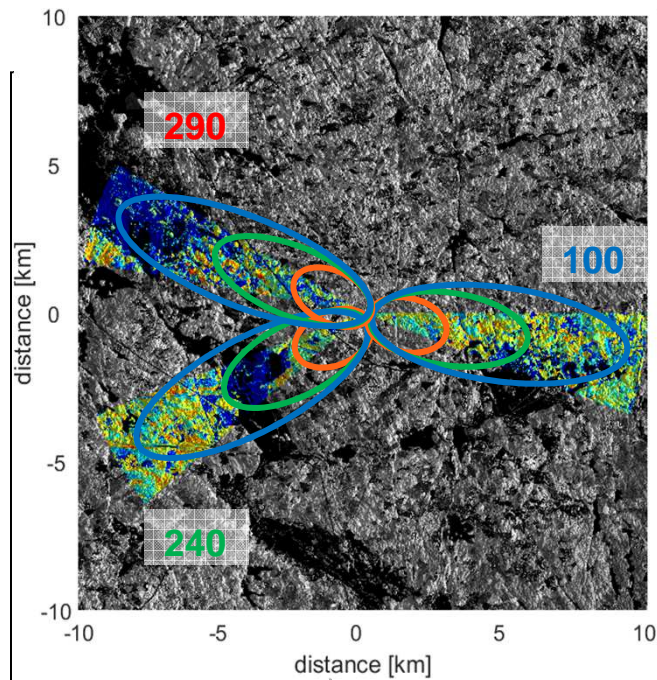
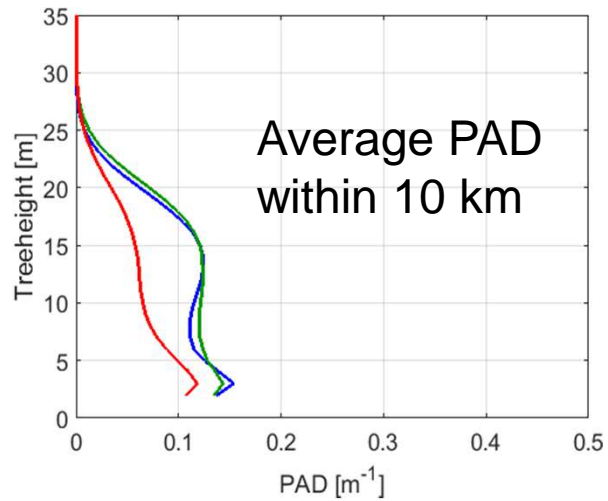
100 240 290



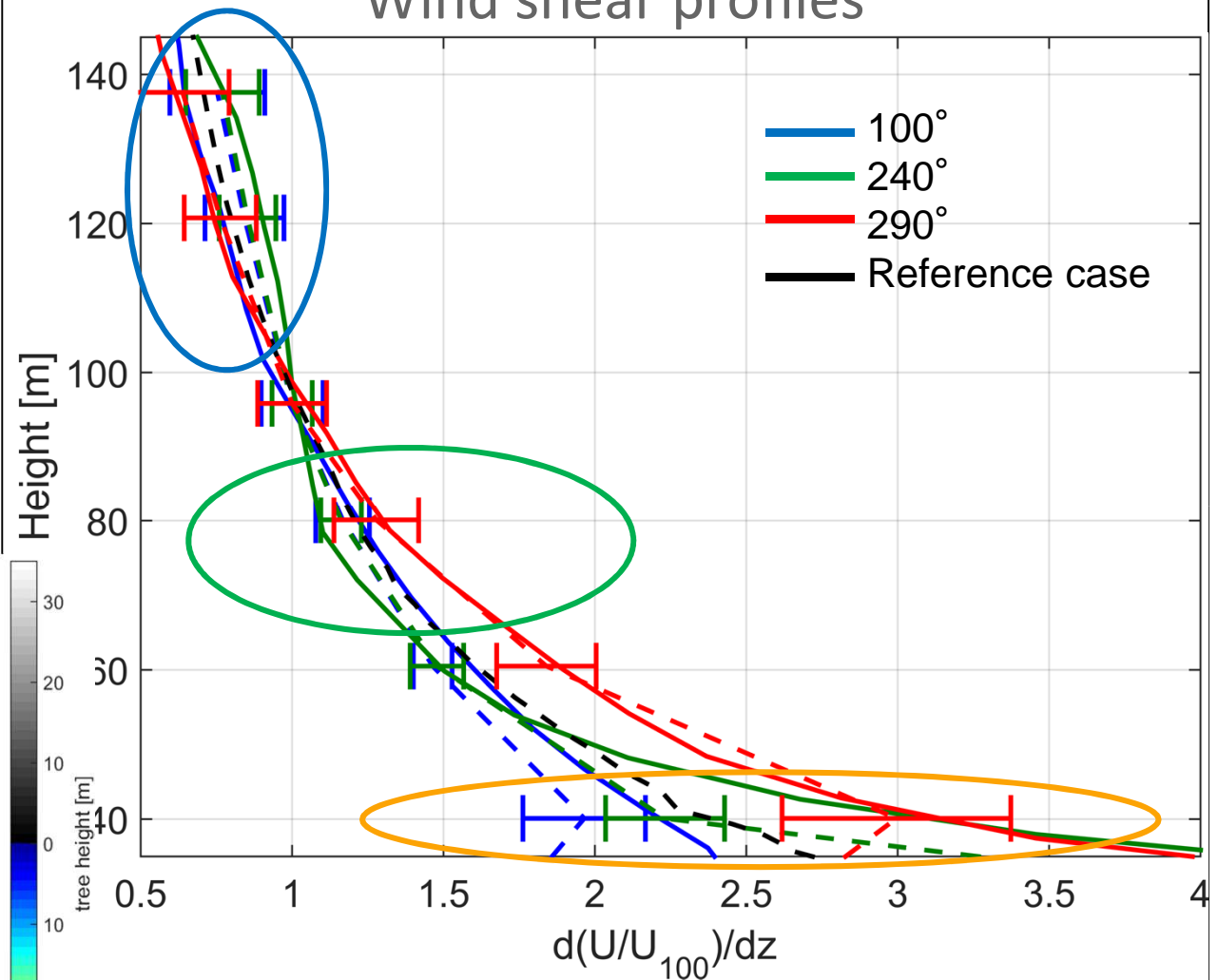
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100 240 290



## Benchmark Ryningsnäs – Wind shear profiles





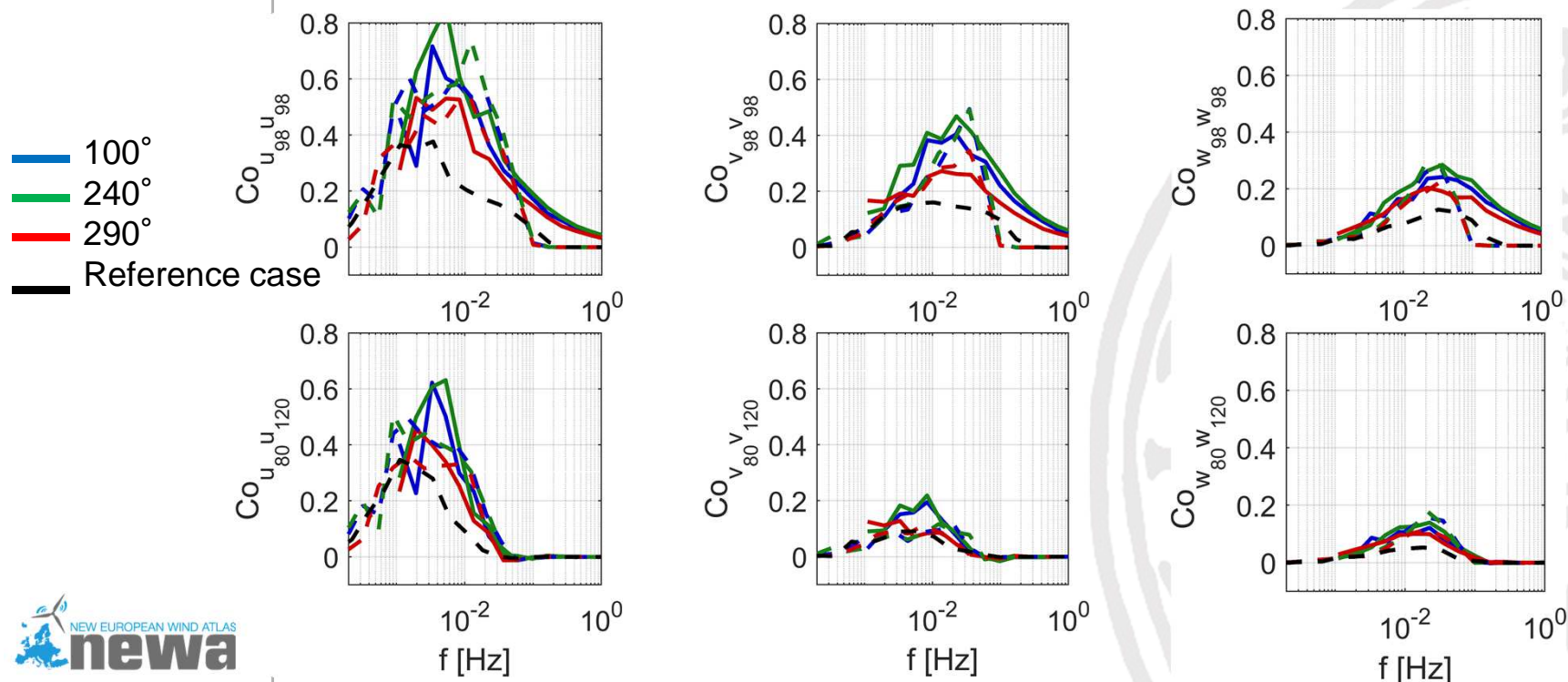
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# Ryningsnäs – What did we learn?

## Our modelling approach:

- Large upstream coverage limits cell refinement
- Footprint from mean values is captured, *but* ...
- One-point spectra reveal constrained high-freq resolution
- Two-point spectra shows relevant size structures well resolved





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# Ryningsnäs – What did we learn?

- PAD data obtained from laser scans data permits to model the forest drag with a good accuracy and to represent the *inhomogeneities* of the canopy
- Forest inhomogeneities yield a footprint in the flow that is visible in the wind profiles
  - The use of average-PAD erases marks of footprint
  - Upstream coverage should be *large* in simulations
- RANS shows less variability with direction than LES and measurements



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# Learning experiences and improvements. Flow model validation case

## Benchmark goal

**Ryningsnäs:** Compare state of the art modelling approaches. PAD inhomogeneous forest

**Hornamossen:** Forested, complex terrain over varying stratification.





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## Measurement campaign

**Ryningsnäs:** Single tower. Airborne laser scans.



Foto: Hans Blomberg



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# Ryningsnäs – What did we learn?

- The use of laser scans provide good surface data
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# Learning experiences and improvements. Flow model validation case

## Benchmark goal

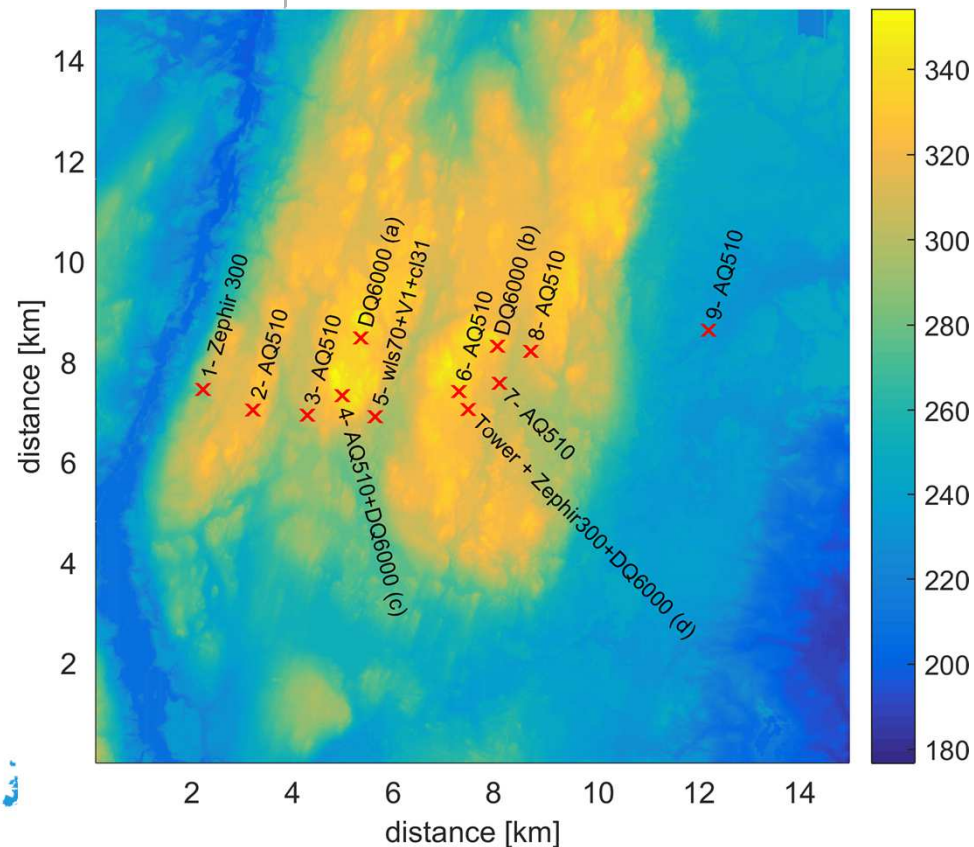
**Ryningsnäs:** Compare state of the art modelling approaches. PAD inhomogeneous forest

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**Ryningsnäs:** Single tower. Airborne laser scans.

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## Benchmark case

**Ryningsnäs:** Neutral stationary. Stable stratification stationary. Three different directions





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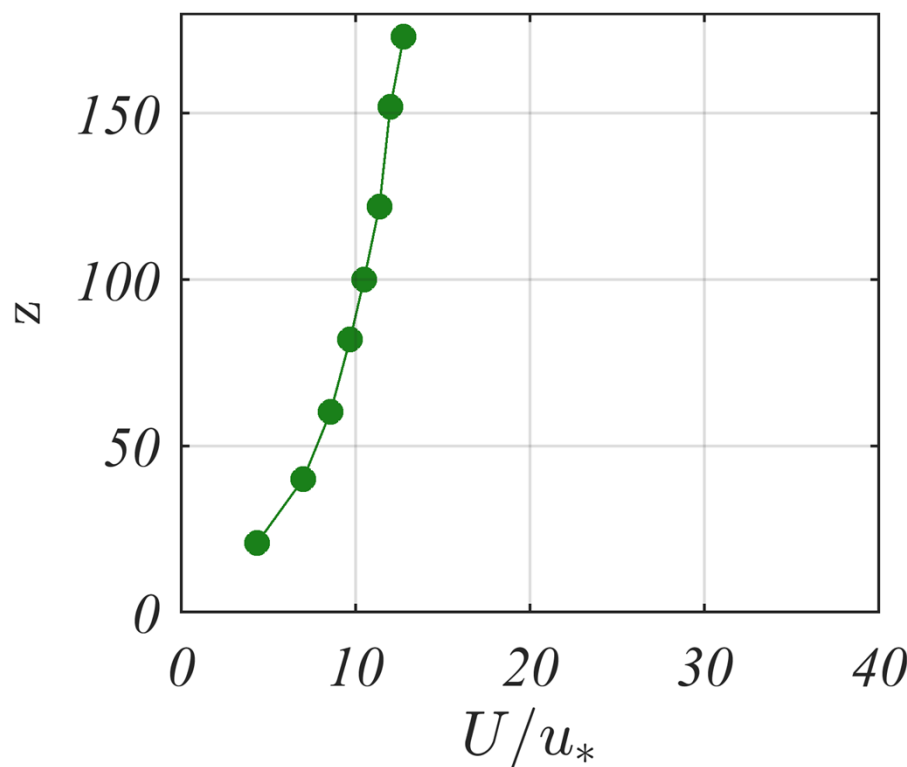
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# Representativity, stationarity and scaling

— Strictly neutral





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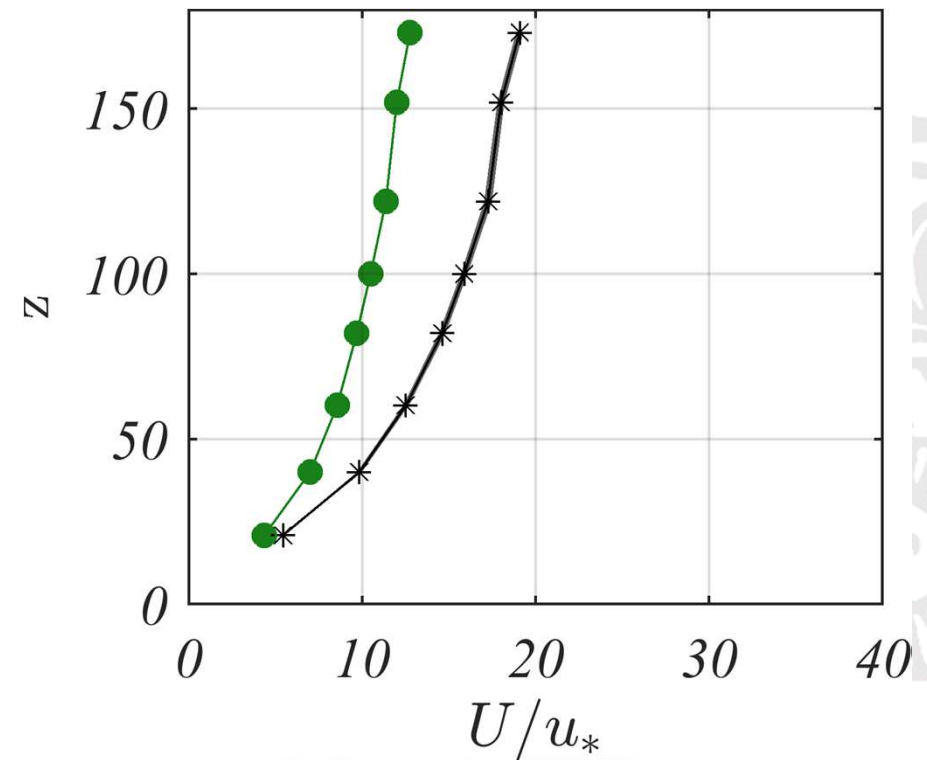
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— Strictly neutral  
— All data





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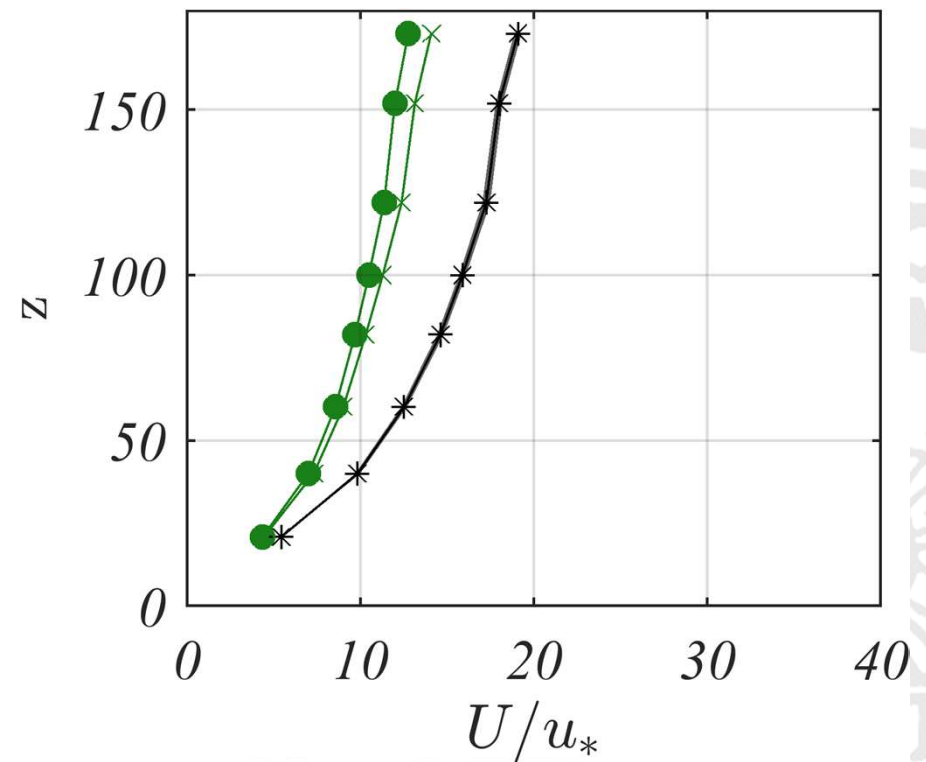
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—●— Strictly neutral  
—×— Neutral  
— All data





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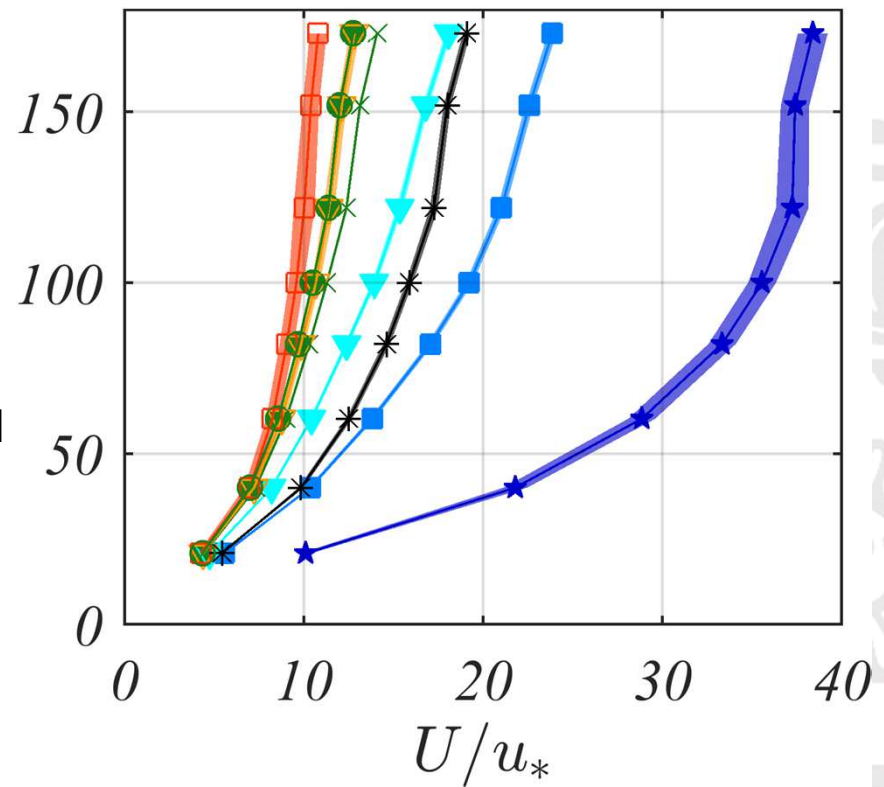
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- Strictly neutral
- ×— Neutral
- All data
- Very stable
- Stable
- Stable near neutral
- Unstable near neutral
- Unstable





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# Ryningsnäs – What did we learn?

- The use of laser scans provide good surface data
- Footprint characteristics are visible in profiles
  - Upstream coverage should be *large* in simulations
- RANS shows less variability with direction than LES and measurements
- Uncertainty of boundary conditions and few validation points hampers the analysis
- **Effort needs to be made to develop models to represent relevant atmospheric conditions**



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# A fair comparison in non neutral conditions

**Problem:** How to model stable and unstable stratification in stationary conditions

**Solution:** Model a full diurnal cycle

**Problem:** In case of non-stationary flow, how to avoid phase difference issues?



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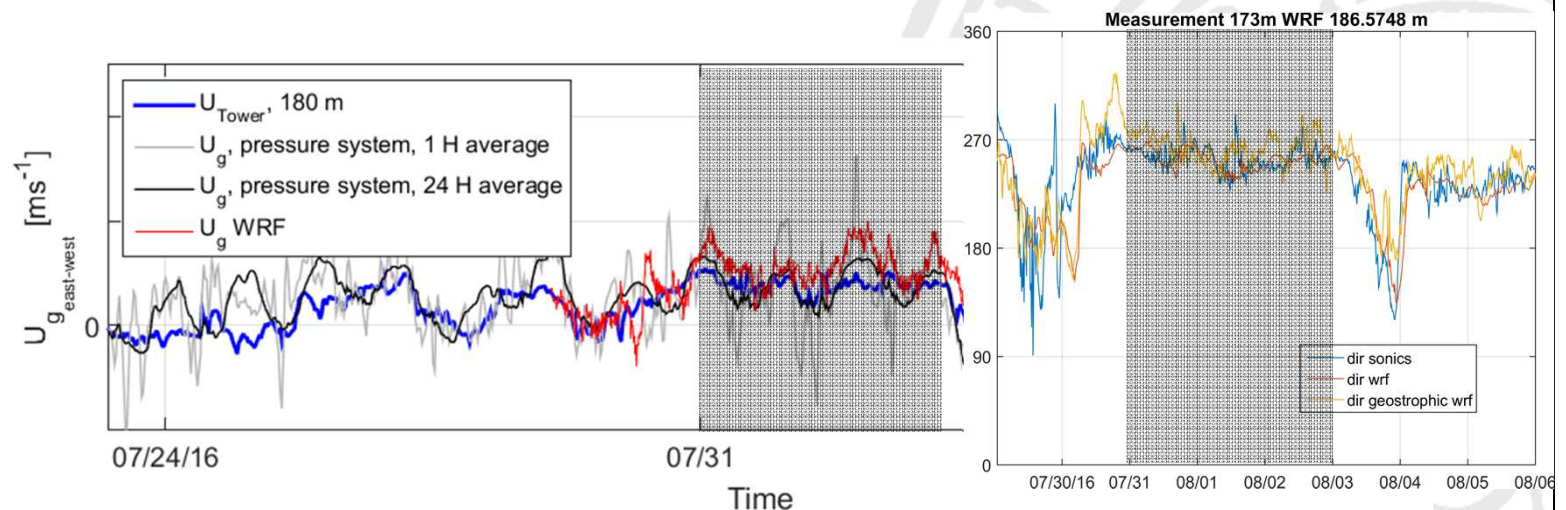


# A fair comparison in non neutral conditions

**Problem:** How to model stable and unstable stratification in stationary conditions

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# A fair comparison in non neutral conditions

**Problem:** How to model stable and unstable stratification in stationary conditions

**Solution:** Model a full diurnal cycle

**Problem:** In case of non-stationary flow, how to avoid phase difference issues?

**Solution:** Find barotropic situations with stationary geostrophic wind speed and direction.

-If the wind speed is roughly the same, and the direction is the same, the results should be comparable



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# Learning experiences and improvements. Flow model validation case

## Benchmark goal

**Ryningsnäs:** Compare state of the art modelling approaches. PAD inhomogeneous forest

**Hornamossen:** Forested, complex terrain over varying stratification.

## Measurement campaign

**Ryningsnäs:** Single tower. Airborne laser scans.

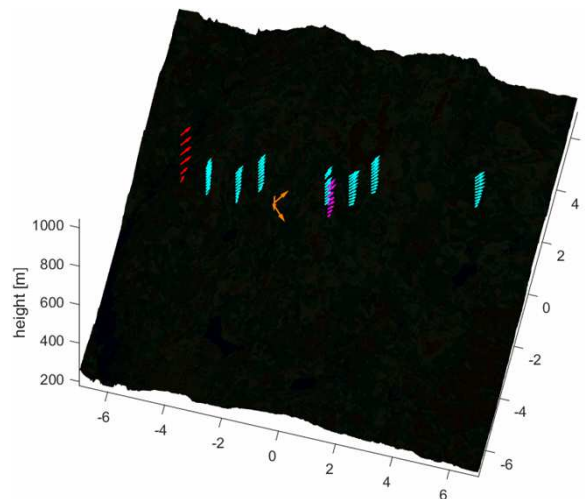
**Hornamossen:** Tower, profilers. Focus on both boundary conditions and validation.

## Benchmark case

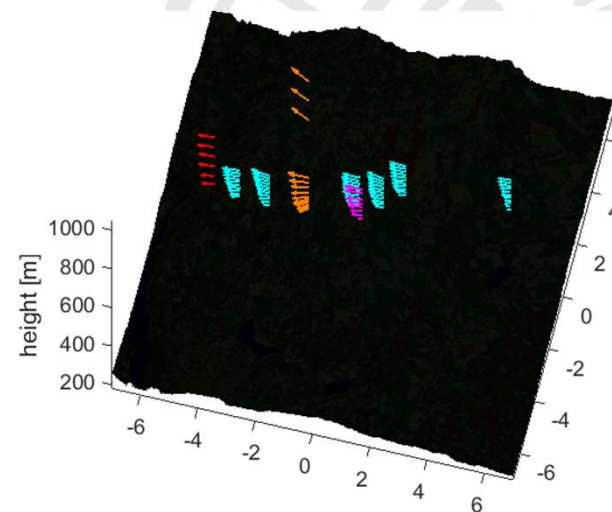
**Ryningsnäs:** Neutral stationary. Stable stratification stationary. Three different directions

**Hornamossen:** Diurnal cycle. Two different, stationary, directions.

- **Case west**



- **Case east**





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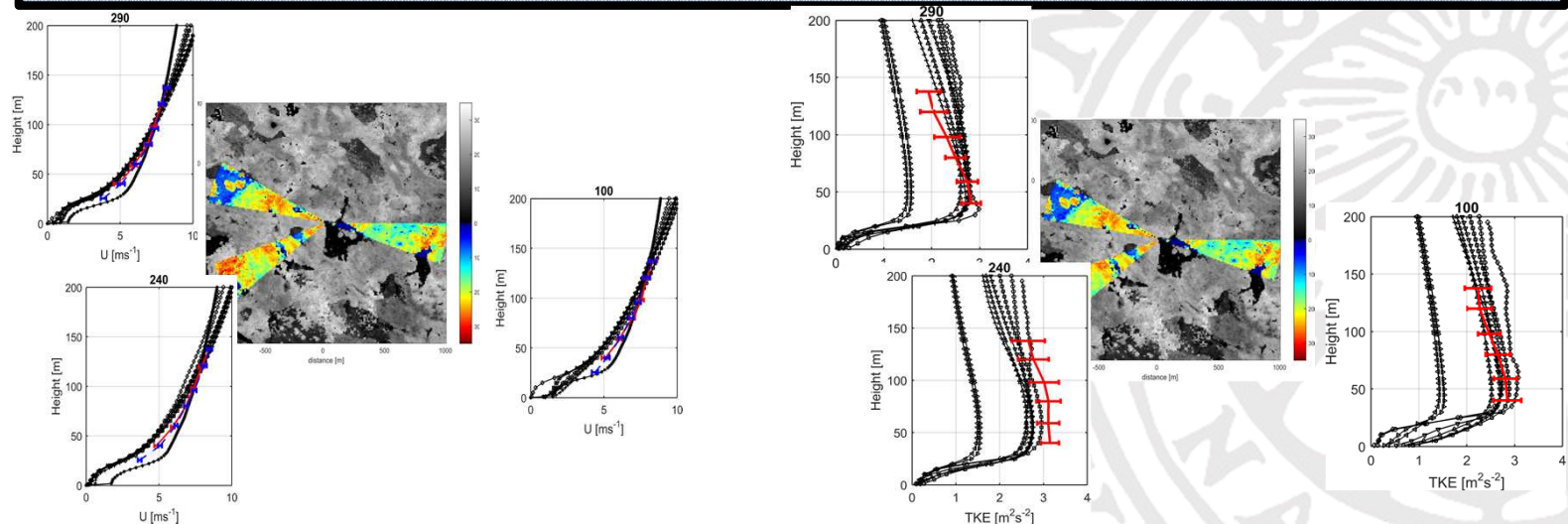
## Benchmark case

**Ryningsnäs:** Neutral stationary. Stable stratification stationary. Three different directions

**Hornamossen:** Diurnal cycle. 2 directions.

## Comparison strategy

**Ryningsnäs:** Dimensional data. 100 m target wind. Mostly quantitative comparison.





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# Ryningsnäs – What did we learn?

- The use of laser scans provide good surface data
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  - Upstream coverage should be *large* in simulations
- RANS shows less variability with direction than LES and measurements
- Uncertainty of boundary conditions and few validation points hampers the analysis
- Effort needs to be made to develop models to represent relevant atmospheric conditions
- If a target  $u_{100}$  is asked for, adjusting  $u_g$  is very time-consuming.



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# Case selection

## Dimensional comparison

### Advantage

- Ideally the same boundary layer height, same footprint
- Statistical uncertainty of measurements is easy to estimate

### Drawback

- Inconvenient for modelers
- Complicates comparison

## Non-dimensional comparison

### Advantage

- Easy for modelers
- Simplifies comparisons

### Drawback

- Uncertainty in upper part of wind profiles since boundary layer height may not be the same.



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# Statistical uncertainty

- **Problem:** With short measurement periods statistical uncertainty leads to low confidence of  $U_i/U_{100}$ 
  - Especially for points with large spatial separation
- **Solution:** Use as many validation points as possible. Place the sensors where you expect some difference. In addition, also compare qualitatively if flow pattern makes sense



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## Comparison strategy

**Ryningsnäs:** Dimensional data. 100 m target wind. Mostly quantitative

**Hornamossen:** Non dimensional data. Scaled with 100 m tower wind speed. Quantitative and qualitative



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## Participants

**Ryningsnäs:** Mostly academia. Results are not anonymous



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- Uncertainty of boundary conditions and few validation points hampers the analysis
- Effort needs to be made to develop models to represent relevant atmospheric conditions
- If a target  $u_{100}$  is asked for, adjusting  $u_g$  is very time-consuming.
- Although only a few groups participated, the open results aid the process and conclusions



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## Participants

**Ryningsnäs:** Mostly academia. Open results  
**Hornamossen:** Everyone is invited. Results are open.



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## Results communication

**Ryningsnäs:** Scientific paper published



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- Uncertainty of boundary conditions and few validation points hampers the analysis
- Effort needs to be made to develop models to represent relevant atmospheric conditions
- If a target  $u_{100}$  is asked for, adjusting  $u_g$  is very time-consuming.
- Although only a few groups participated, the open results aid the process and conclusions
- To facilitate further participation and use, find a public space for benchmark description and details



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Benchmark  
goal

Measurement  
campaign

Benchmark  
case

Comparison  
strategy

Participants

Results  
communicati  
on



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### Micro-scale model comparison (benchmark) at the moderately complex forested site Ryningsnäs

Stefan Ivanell<sup>1</sup>, Johan Arnqvist<sup>1</sup>, Matias Avila<sup>2</sup>, Dalibor Cavar<sup>3</sup>, Roberto Aurelio Chavez-Arroyo<sup>4</sup>,  
Hugo Olivares-Espinosa<sup>1</sup>, Carlos Peralta<sup>5</sup>, Jamal Adib<sup>6</sup>, and Björn Witha<sup>6</sup>

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Received: 28 February 2018 / Discussion started: 4 April 2018  
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**Abstract.** This article describes a study in which modelers were challenged to compute the wind field at a forested site with moderately complex topography. The task was to model the wind field in stationary conditions with neutral stratification by using the wind velocity measured at 100 m as the reference. Detailed maps of terrain elevation and forest densities were provided as the only inputs, derived from airborne laser scans (ALS) with a resolution of 10 m × 10 m covering an area of 50 km × 50 km, that closely match the actual forest and elevation of the site. The participants were free to apply their best practices for the simulation to decide the size of the domain, the value of the geostrophic wind, and every other modelling parameter. The comparison of the results with the measurements is shown for the vertical profiles of wind speed, shear, wind direction, and turbulent kinetic energy. The ALS-based data resulted in reasonable agreement of the wind profile and turbulence magnitude. The best performance was found to be that of large-eddy simulations using a very large domain. For the Reynolds-averaged Navier–Stokes type of models, the constants in the turbulence closure were shown to have a great influence on the yielded turbulence level, but were of much less importance for the wind speed profile. Of the variety of closure constants used by the participating modelers, the closure constants from Sagache and Paffendorf (2006) proved to agree best with the measurements. Particularly the use of  $C_{\mu} = 0.03$  in the  $k-\epsilon$  model obtained better agreement with turbulence level measurements. All except two participating models used the full detailed ground and forest information to model the forest, which is considered significant progress compared to previous conventional approaches. Overall, the article gives an overview of how well different types of models are able to capture the flow physics at a moderately complex forested site.

#### 1 Introduction

To respond to the increasing demand for wind power, new areas for wind turbine sites are being explored. Large offshore farms further away from shore are being developed, as are wind farms in more complex onshore areas, such as terrain with a more varied topography and roughness. This is the case in northern countries, such as the Scandinavian region, where large remote forested areas are being explored

for wind development. However, when exploring these complex sites it is evident that new challenges arise due to comparatively higher turbulence levels and wind shear. While the magnitude of wind shear and turbulence increase the fatigue load, uncertainties in the estimation of wind shear and turbulence have shown to be problematic in forested areas (Freese, 2016). Hence, it is important to assess the un-

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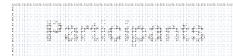
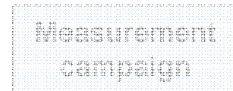
<https://doi.org/10.5194/wes-3-929-2018>, 2018.

Although open access and discussion papers increase the communication, it is still mainly used by academia



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**Results  
communicati  
on**



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ENERGY  
SCIENCE

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# Thanks to the wind vane blog, the Hornamossen benchmark has a public interactive face to anyone interested



The Wind Vane

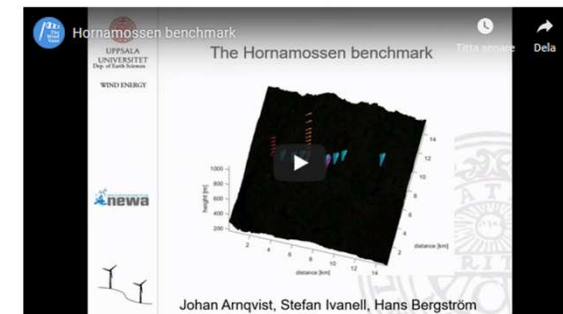
WIND WAKES CONTRIBUTE | WEMEP

## The Hornamossen diurnal-cycle benchmark for flow modeling in forested and moderately complex terrain



Johan Arnqvist  
Sep 7, 2018 · 5 min read

*The test challenges the models to predict the wind field during a full diurnal cycle using mesoscale input data versus traditional methods based on onsite measurements and idealized boundary conditions.*



Presentation of the Hornamossen experiment and diurnal-cycle benchmark.

<https://thewindvaneblog.com/the-hornamossen-diurnal-cycle-benchmark-for-abl-models-in-forested-and-moderately-complex-terrain-747b60401254>



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# Learning experiences and improvements. Flow model validation case

## Benchmark goal

**Ryningsnäs:** Compare state of the art modelling approaches. PAD inhomogeneous forest  
**Hornamossen:** Forested, complex terrain over varying stratification.

## Measurement campaign

**Ryningsnäs:** Single tower. Airborne laser scans.  
**Hornamossen:** Tower, profilers. Focus on both boundary conditions and validation.

## Benchmark case

**Ryningsnäs:** Neutral stationary. Stable stratification stationary. Three different directions  
**Hornamossen:** Diurnal cycle. 2 directions.

## Comparison strategy

**Ryningsnäs:** Dimensional data. 100 m target wind. Mostly quantitative  
**Hornamossen:** Non dimensional data. Scaled with 100 m tower wind speed. Quantitative and qualitative

## Participants

**Ryningsnäs:** Mostly academia. Open results  
**Hornamossen:** Everyone is invited. Results are open.

## Results communication

**Ryningsnäs:** Scientific paper published  
**Hornamossen:** Scientific publication planned. Benchmark will stay open on wind vane blog.



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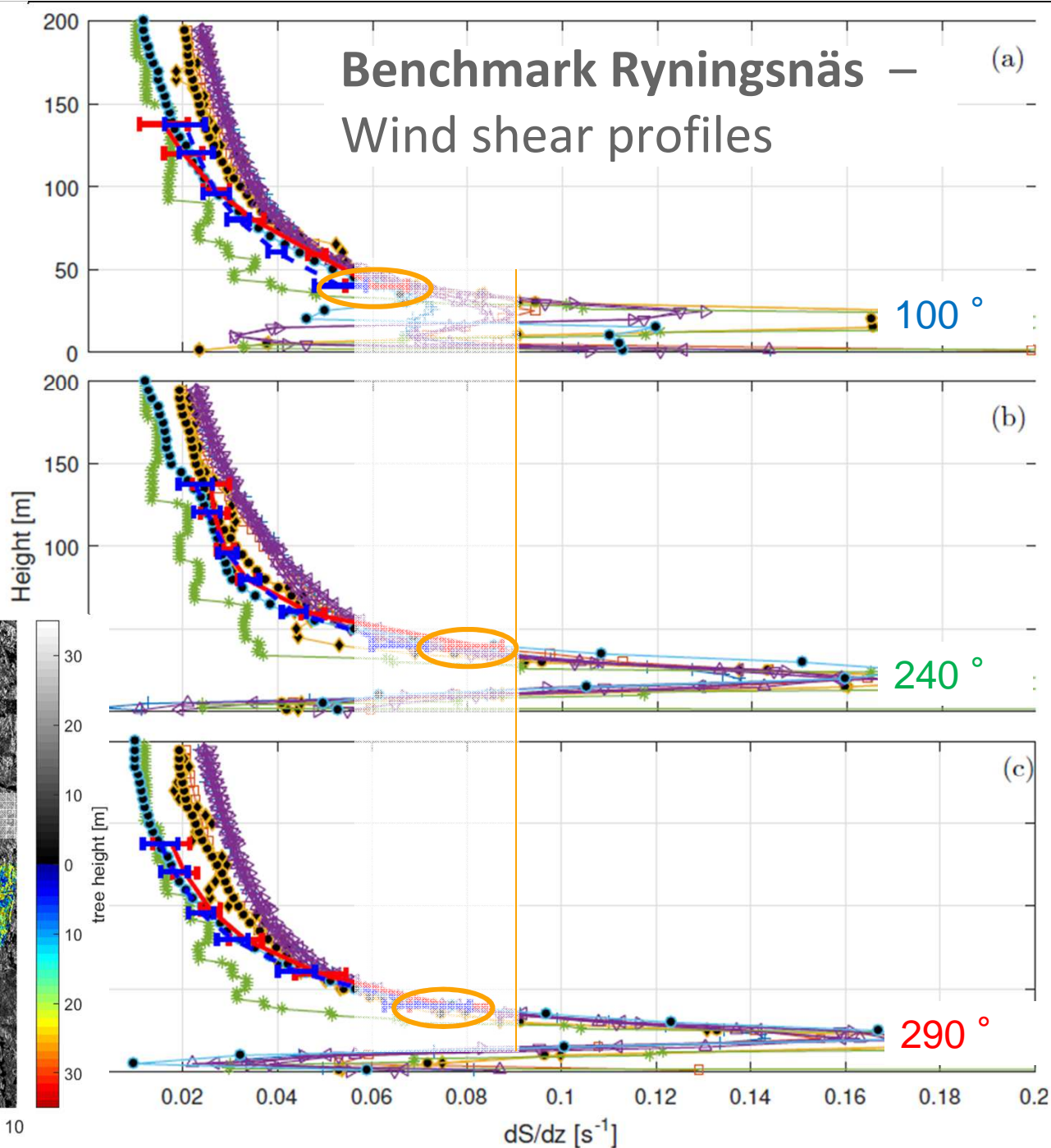
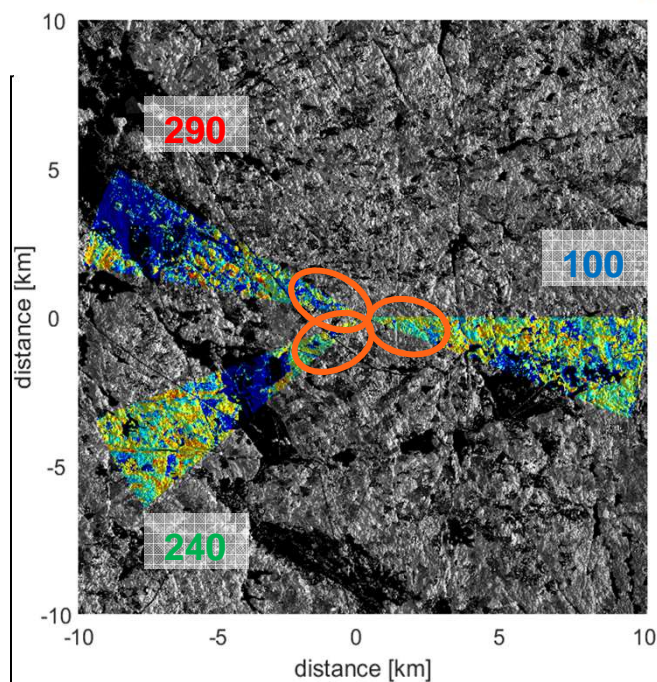
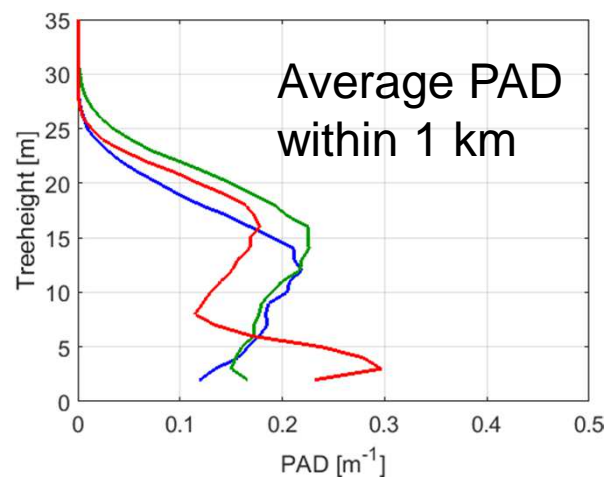
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# Measurement and modeling of forested areas – best practice from a NEWA benchmark

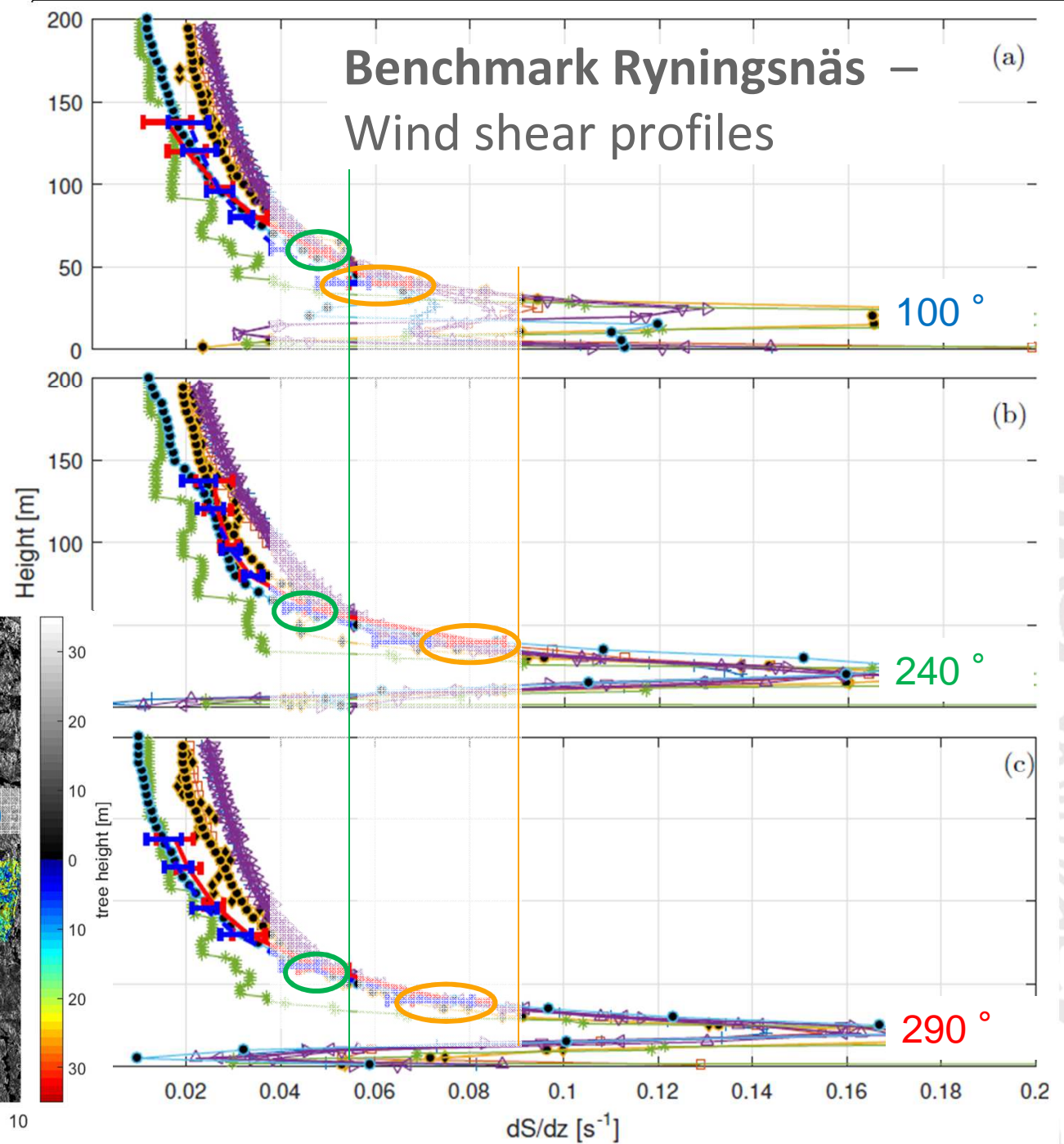
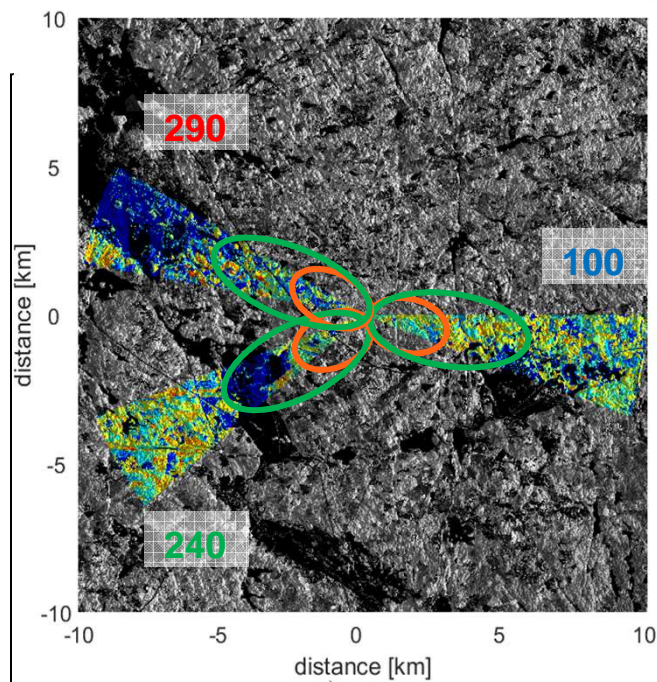
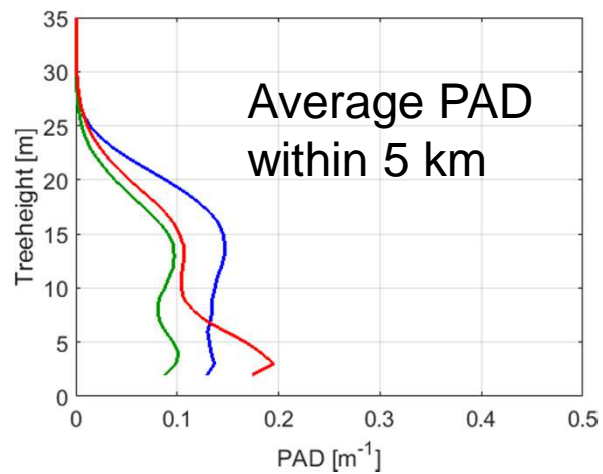
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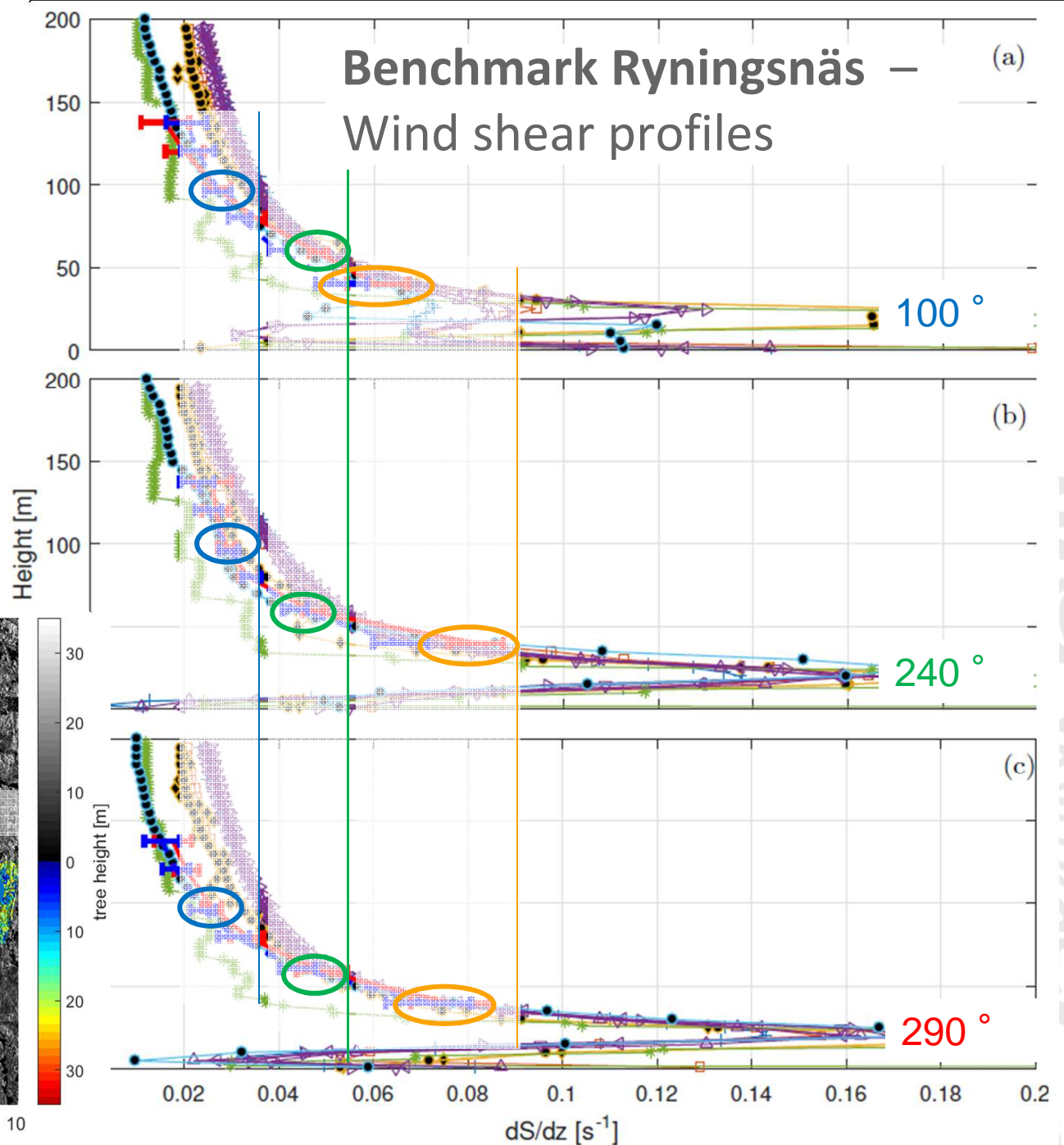
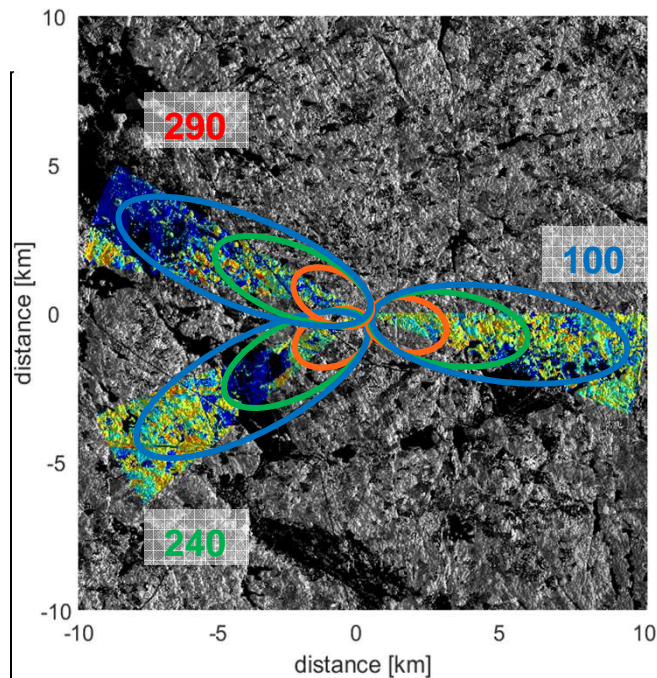
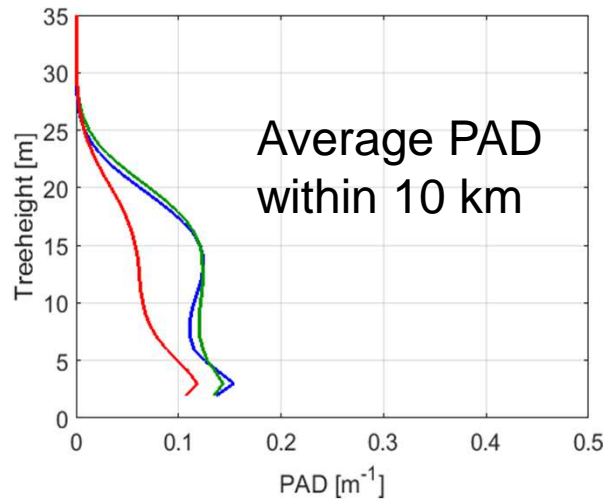
100 240 290



100 240 290



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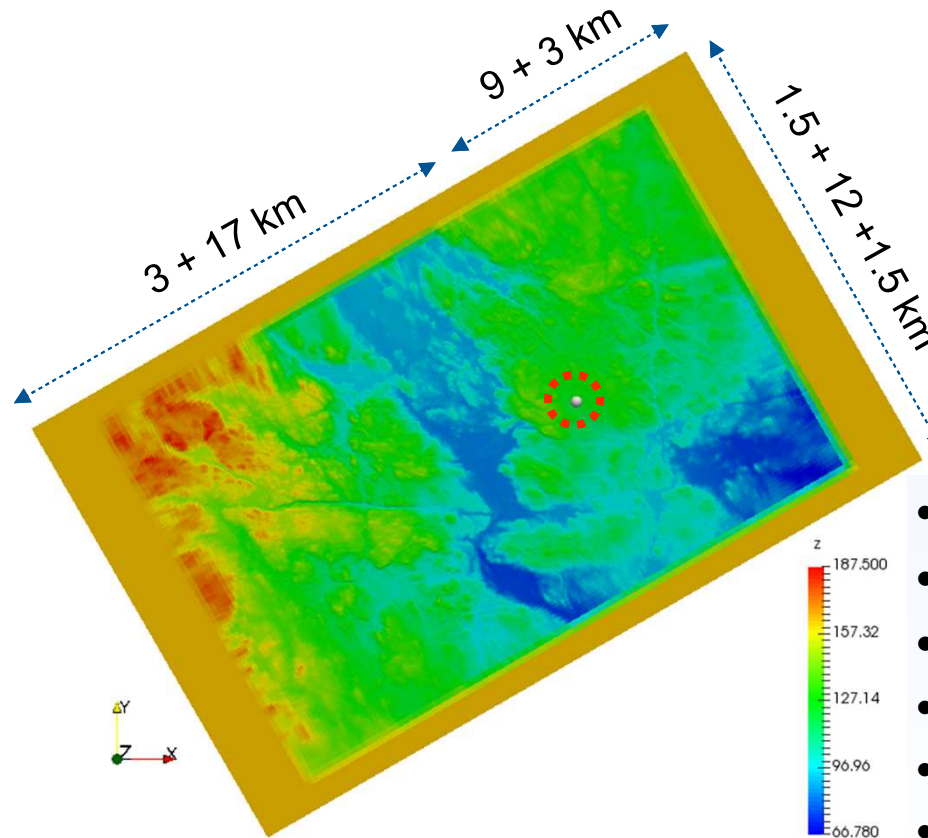




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# LES computations: Domain size



Edges: fixed PAD  
Interior: PAD from LIDAR  
 $Z_0=0,03$

- CENER's WindMesh
- $\Delta_{x,y} = 25 \text{ m}$  / edges 250 m
- $\Delta_{z,\min} \simeq 5 \text{ m}$ ,  $\sim 1.05$  growth
- $N_{\text{tot}} = 41.2 \times 10^6$  cells
- Stabilization CPUh  $\simeq 150\,000$
- Sampling (physical 20 000s)  $\simeq 19\,000$

$$L_x \times L_y \times L_z = 32 \text{ km} \times 20 \text{ km} \times \sim 1.2 \text{ km}$$

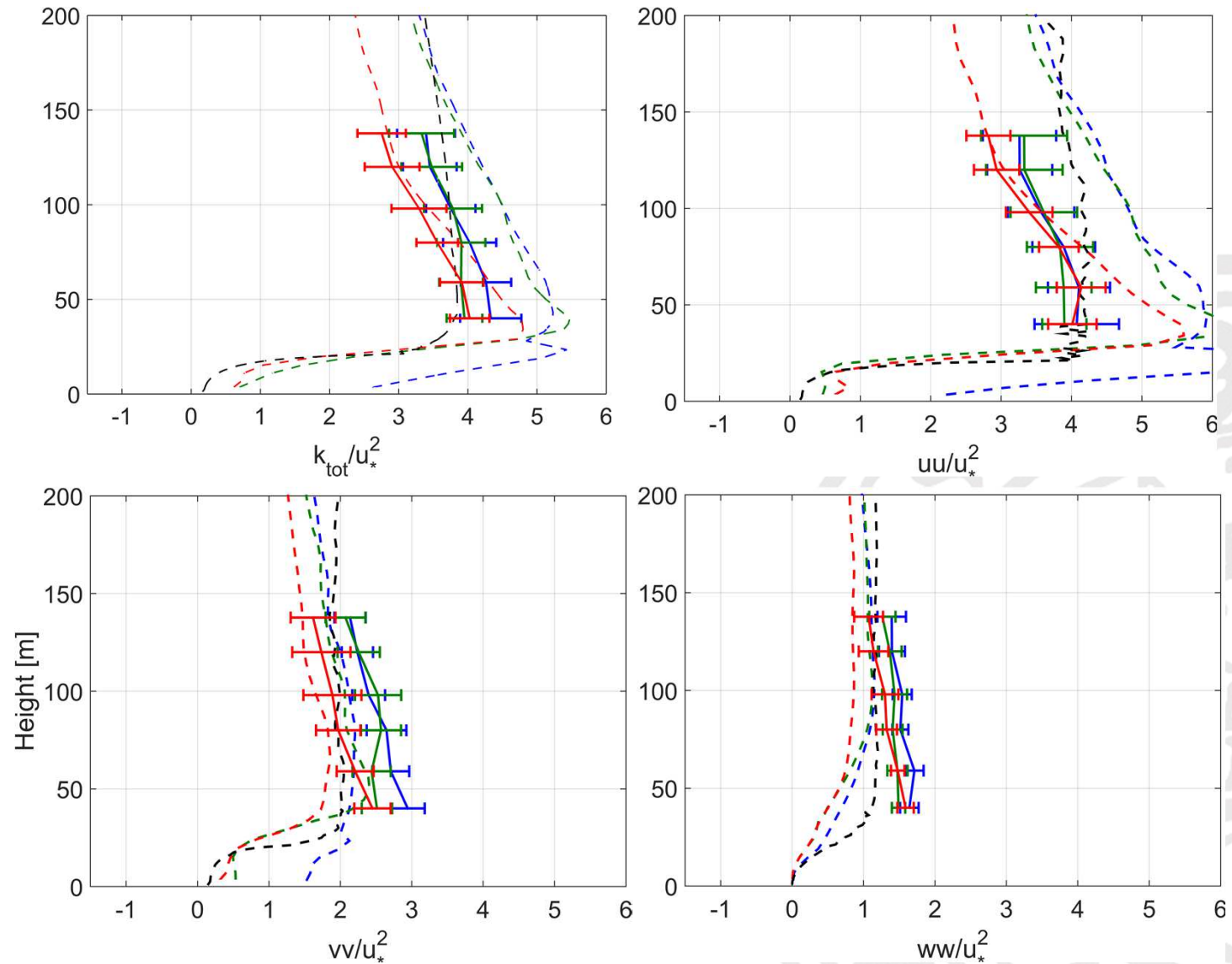


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# Second order moments

— 100°  
— 240°  
— 290°  
— Reference case

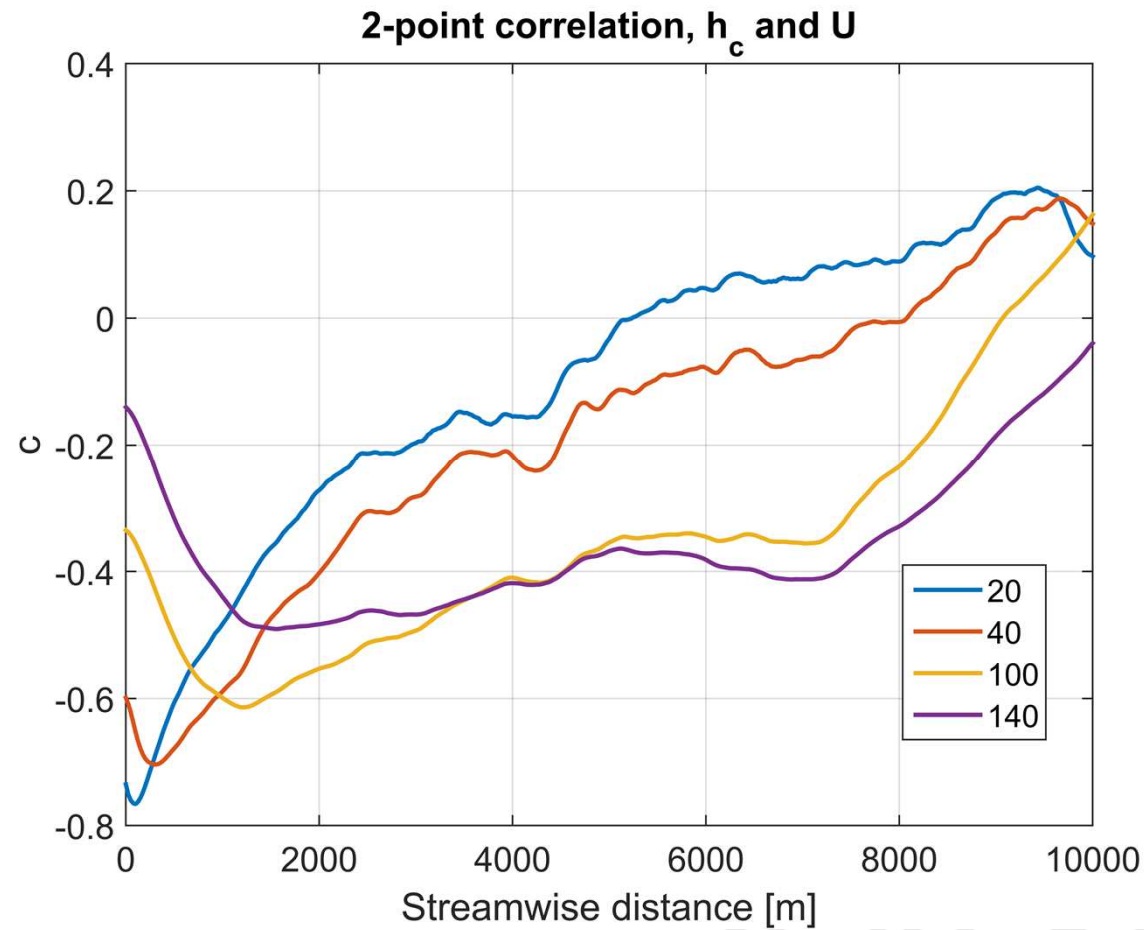




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# Footprint





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Wind speed matches  
the measured to a high  
degree

