



Comparison of different Modelling Approaches for the Simulation of a Wind Turbine in Surge Motion

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Main question: Is there an impact of **transient aerodynamic phenomena** on the loads of **floating OWT**?



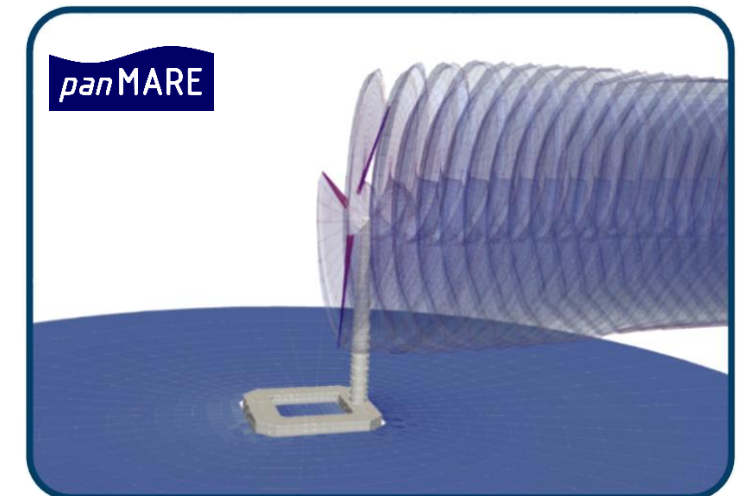
If yes: **Can we trust BEMT** methods to model these?

Why another investigation is needed?

- Various **conditions** (e.g. *floater type, wind speed, motion frequency and amplitude, ...*)
- Absolute comparisons

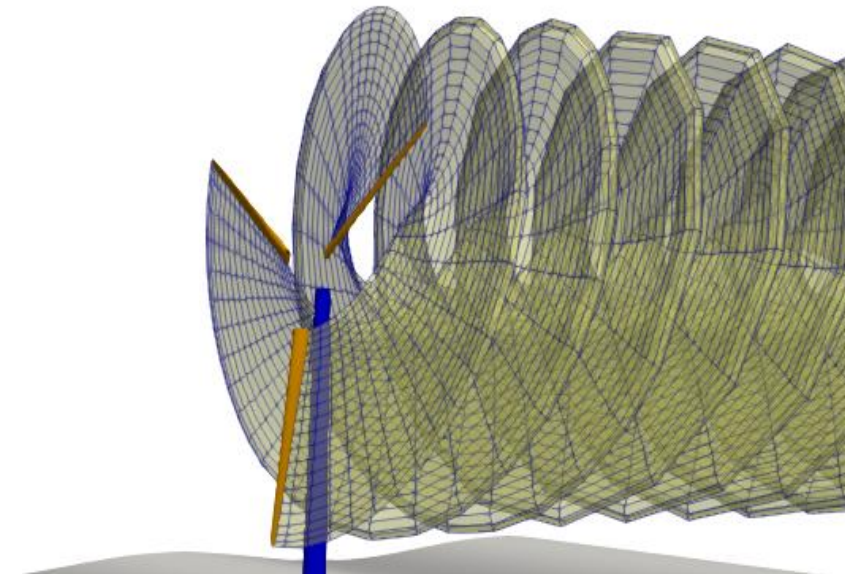
 Here focus on:

- **Broad motion frequency** range at moderate amplitudes
- **Transient aerodynamic phenomena**



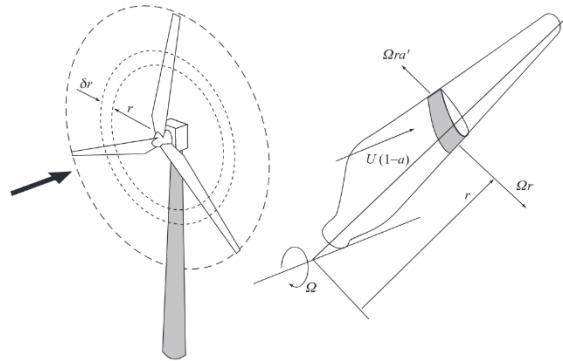
Comparison of modelling approaches for the Floatgen wind turbine in surge motion

- 1** Simulation models
 - Blade Element Momentum Theory (BEMT) method
 - BEMT with unsteady corrections
 - Panel method
- 2** Simulation setups
- 3** Results: Transient load response to
 - variation of rotational speed
 - surge motion
- 4** Conclusion and outlook



Blade Element Momentum Theory Method: AeroDyn by NREL

AeroDyn
OpenFAST



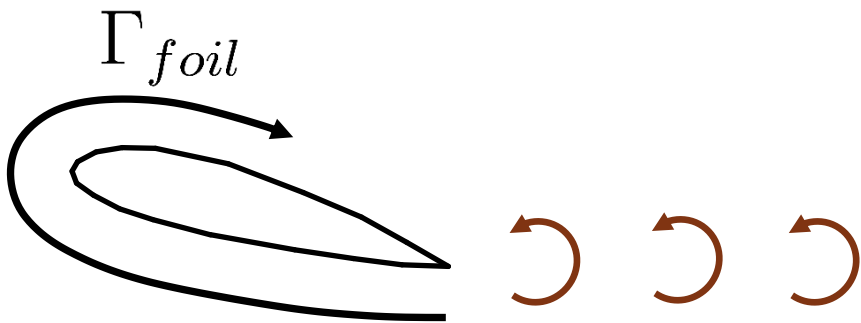
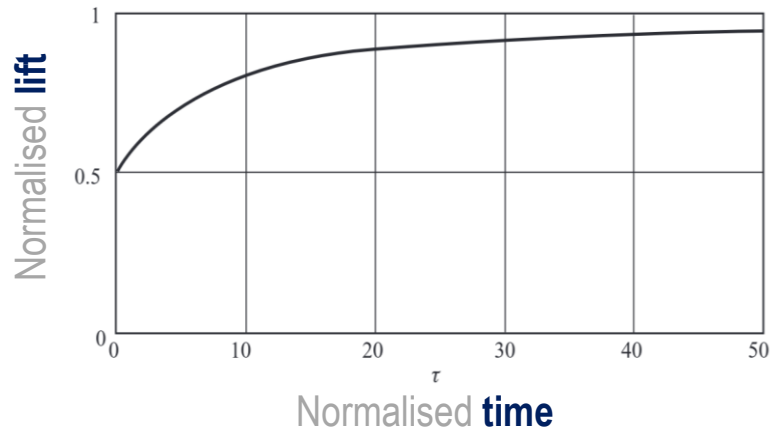
- **Blade Element Momentum Theory (BEMT)**
- Based on **momentum equilibrium** on annular rings
- No flow field
- Prandtl tip and hub loss model
- **Quasi-steady**

BEMT + Unsteady corrections

- ***Dynamic inflow*** correction (Øye)
 - Corrects dynamic wake phenomenon
- ***Unsteady airfoil*** correction (Theodorsen)
 - **Leishman-Beddoes** model
 - (Nearly) no dynamic stall
 - **Attached flow**

Figure: Burton et al., 2011

Blade Element Momentum Theory Method: AeroDyn by NREL



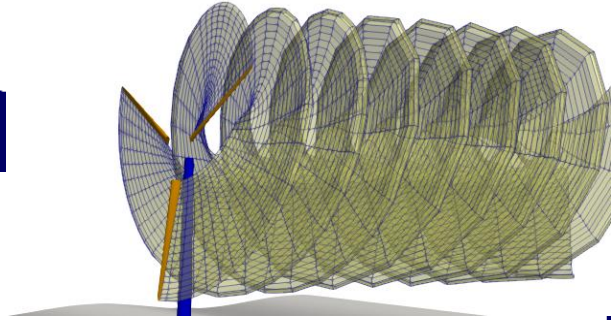
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 - **2D** thin airfoil theory
 - Response to **change of circulation** / vortex shedding
 - **Delayed response of lift**

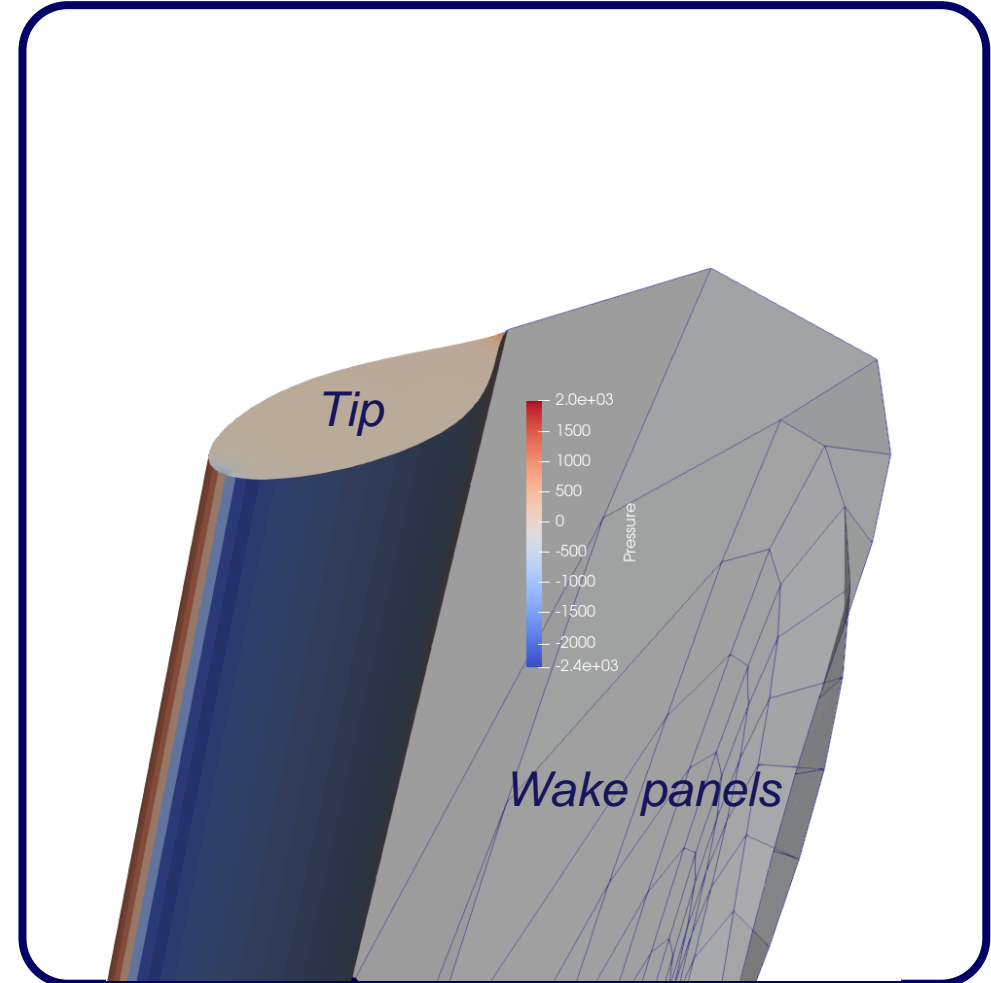
Figure: Burton et al., 2011

Reference: panel method panMARE

panMARE

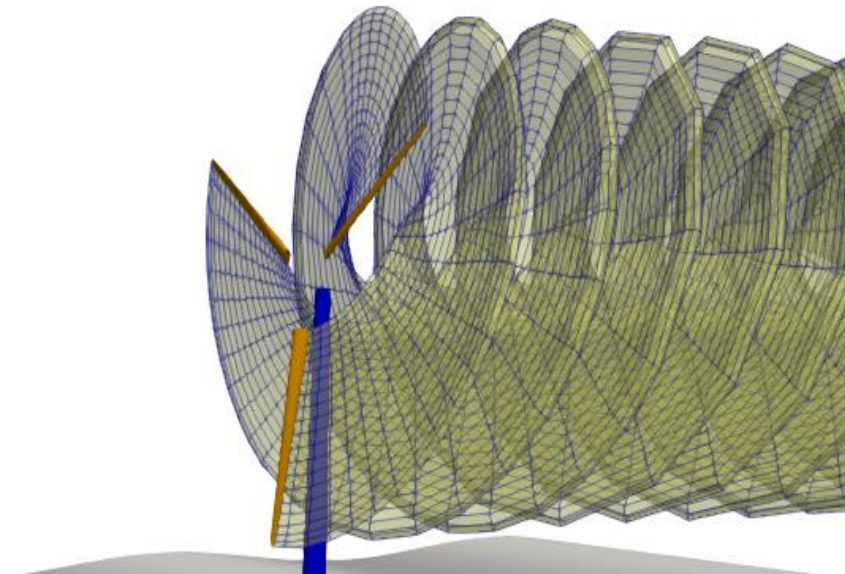


- First order panel method
- 3D wake
- Blade pressure
- Potential theory – inviscid
- 2D viscous correction
 - Drag
 - Lift for thick airfoils

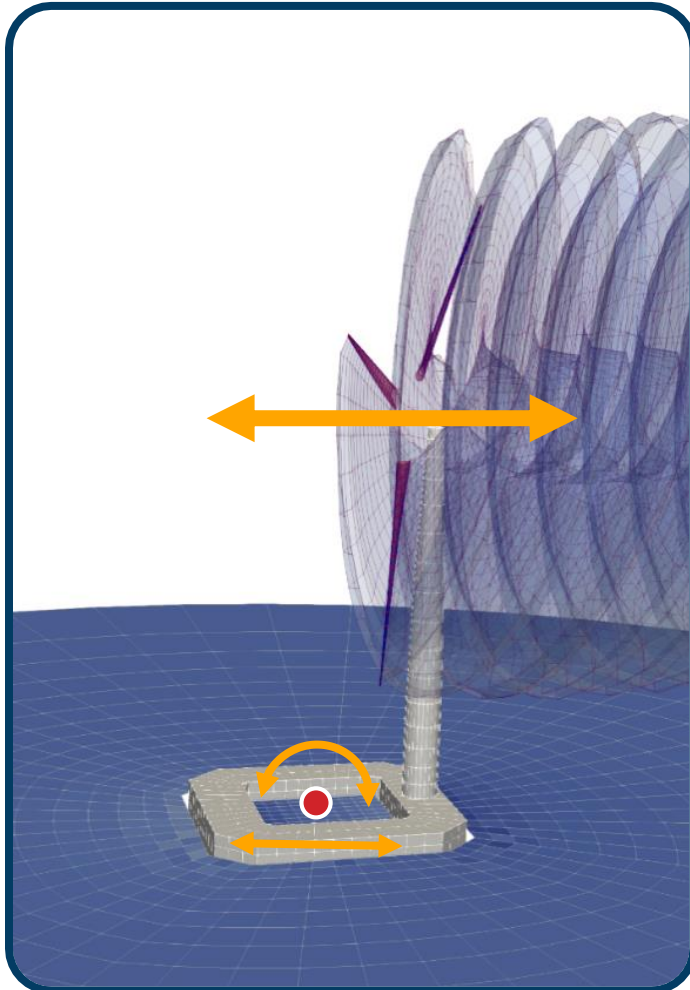


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Choice of simulation scenarios: Oscillation of surge and rotor speed



Surge motion at **hub height**



Variation of **inflow speed**



Variation of **rotor torque**



Variation of **rotor speed**

Goals:

- Identification of **transient aerodynamic phenomena**
- Check **applicability of unsteady corrections** for BEMT

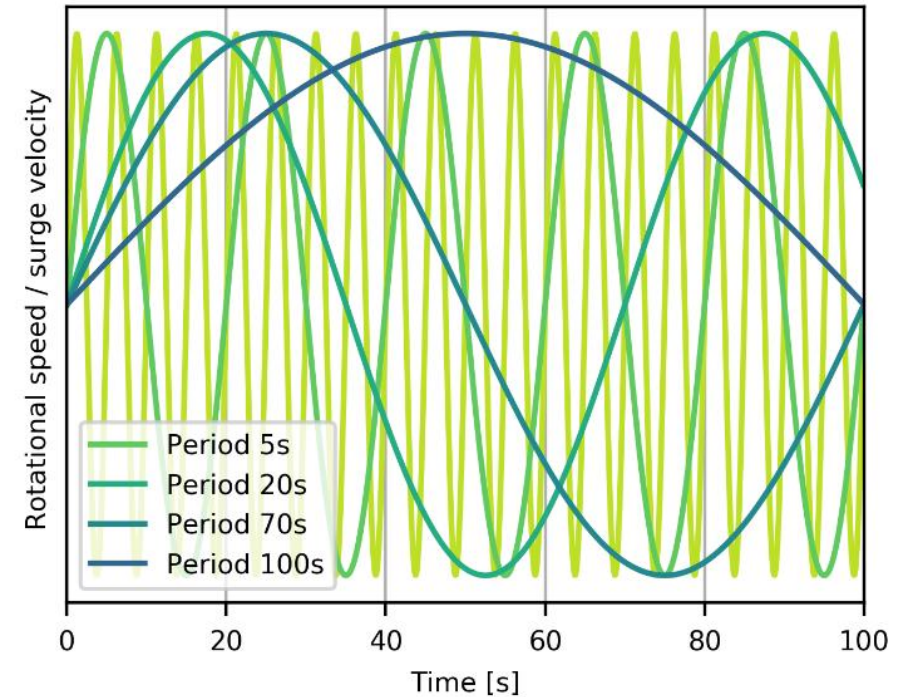


Isolated investigation of both scenarios needed

Simulation scenarios for the identification of transients in the load response

Definition of scenarios

- Basic idea:
 - Keep **quasi-steady part** of the load response **constant**
 - **Increase motion frequency**
- Rotor speed variation:
 - **Same rotor speed amplitude**, varying period
- Surge motion:
 - **Same surge velocity amplitude**, varying period



Scenario 2: Surge Velocity
Amplitude: **9%** of wind speed*

* Extracted from variable speed simulation under harmonic surge motion with 1 m amplitude and 10 s period (moderate conditions)

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1 Simulation models

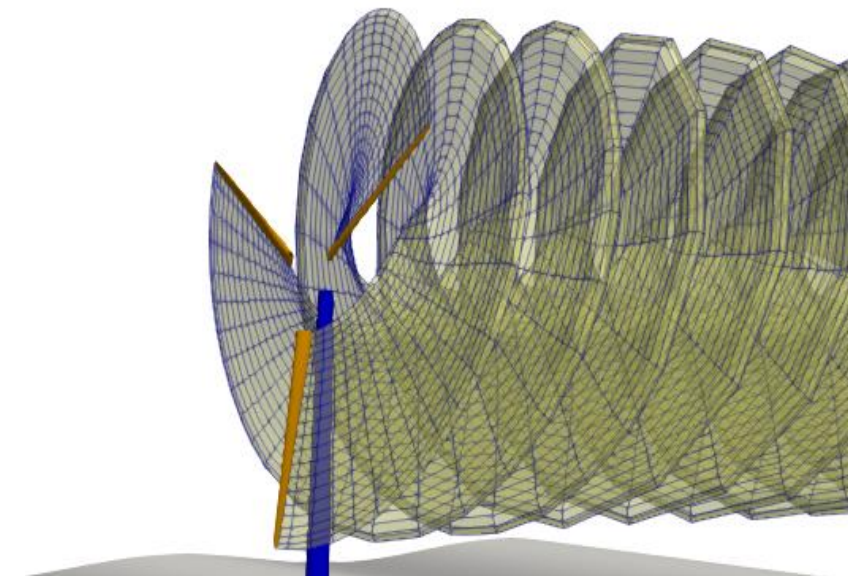
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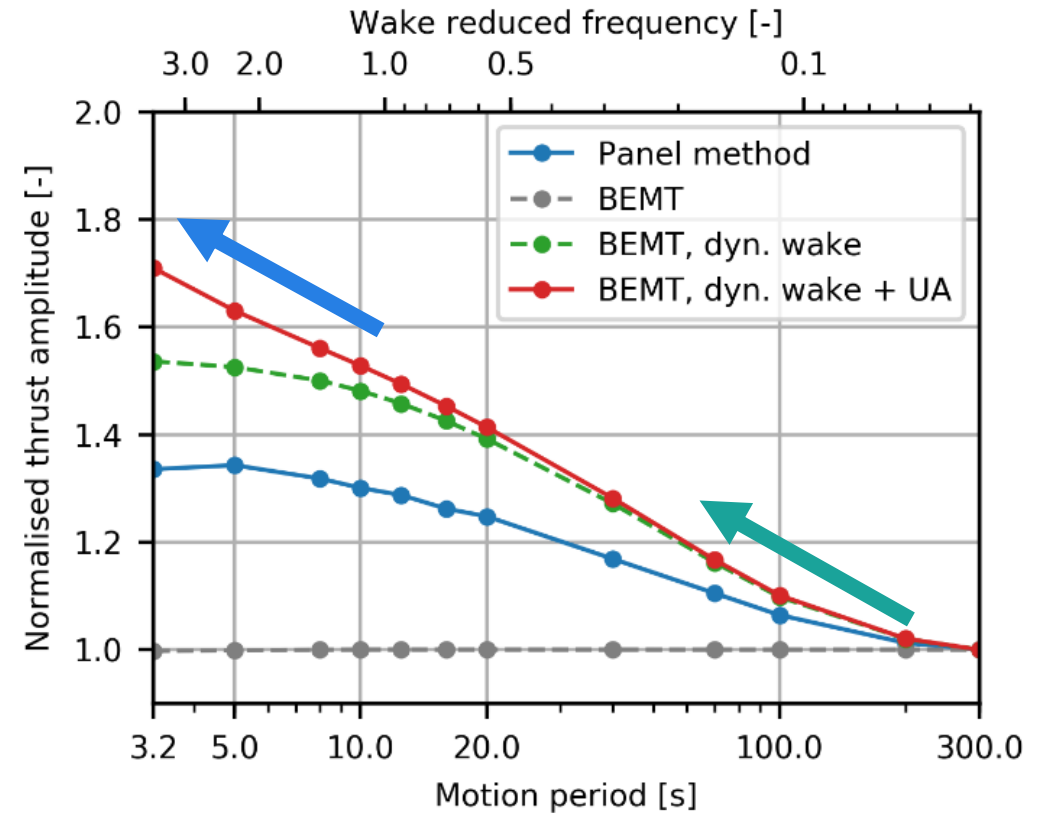


Scenario 1: Rotor Speed

Harmonic rotor speed variation

- Normalisation of results
 - based on **quasi-steady** response
 - 1 means **quasi-steady amplitude**
- Quasi-steady BEMT = 1
- Increase of amplitude due to **Dynamic wake effect**
 - At very low frequencies!
- Similar trends
- Considerable **absolute differences**
- Increase due to **unsteady airfoil correction**
- **Not** the case in *panMARE*

Rotor thrust amplitude



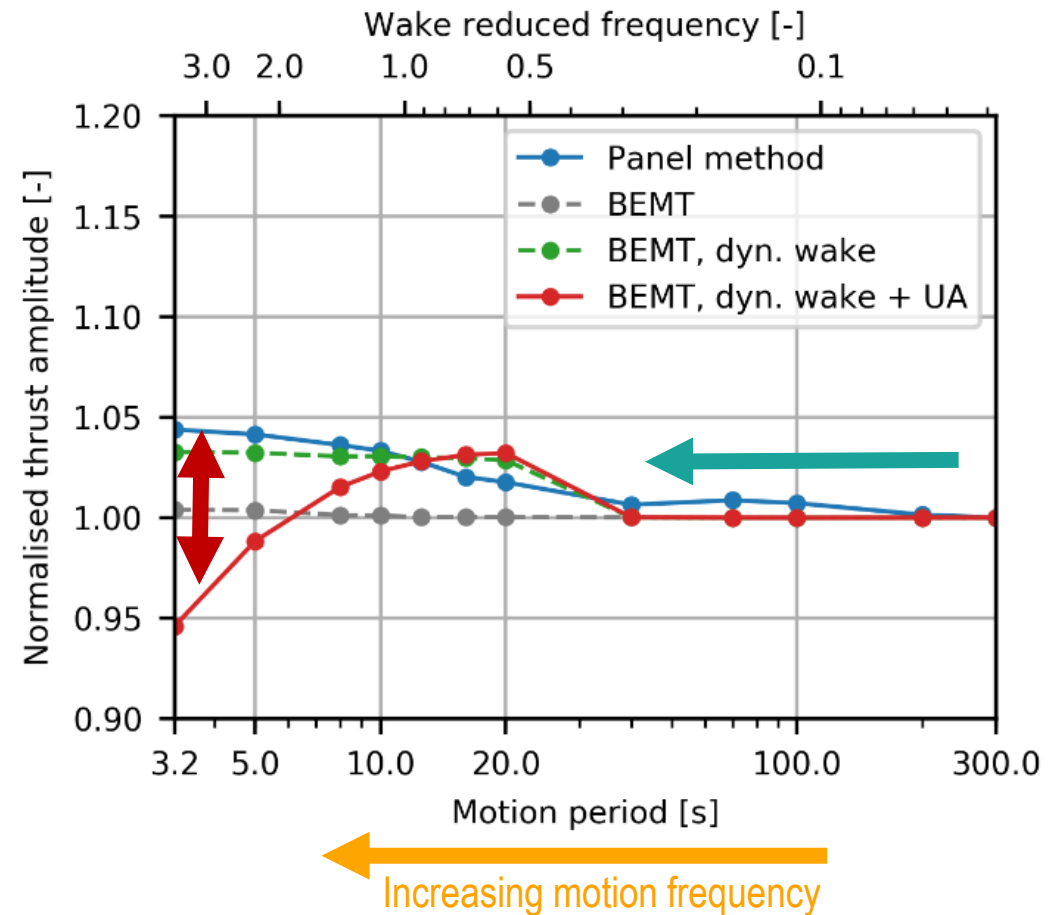
← Increasing motion frequency

Scenario 2: Surge Velocity

Harmonic surge velocity variation

- No transient phenomena between 40 and 300s
- At high motion frequencies
 - Unsteady airfoil correction causes decrease of amplitude
 - Panel method shows an increase
 - **Contradiction!**
 - In 2D: Decrease of amplitude expected!
 - Incorporated in panel method
 - **3D wake effect superposing unsteady airfoil phenomenon?**

Rotor thrust amplitude



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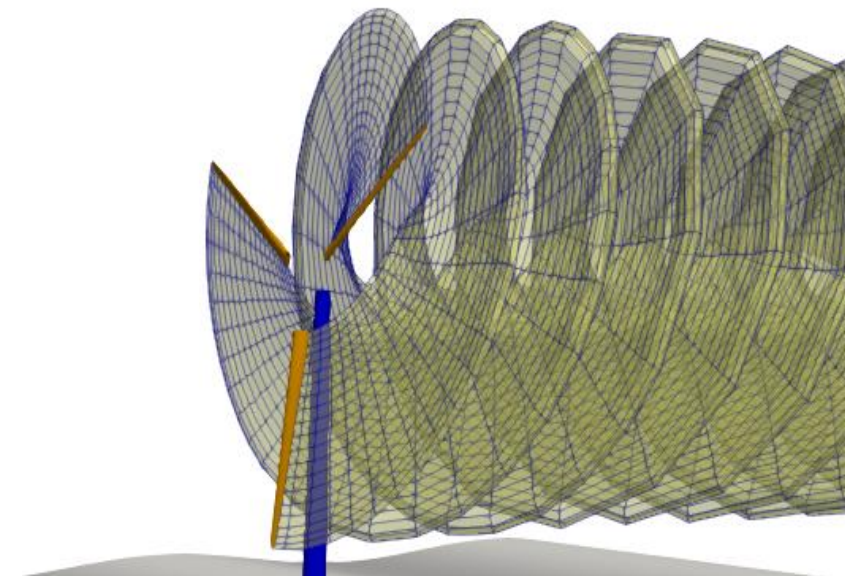
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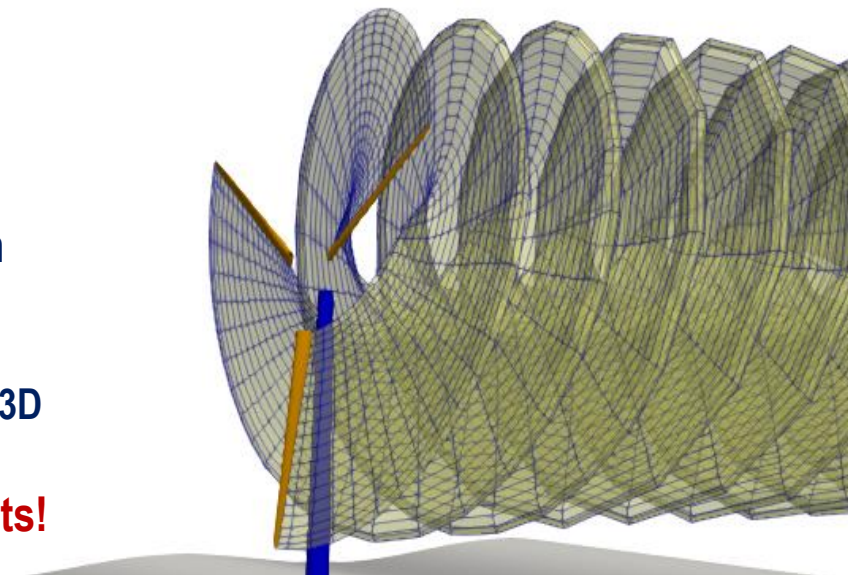
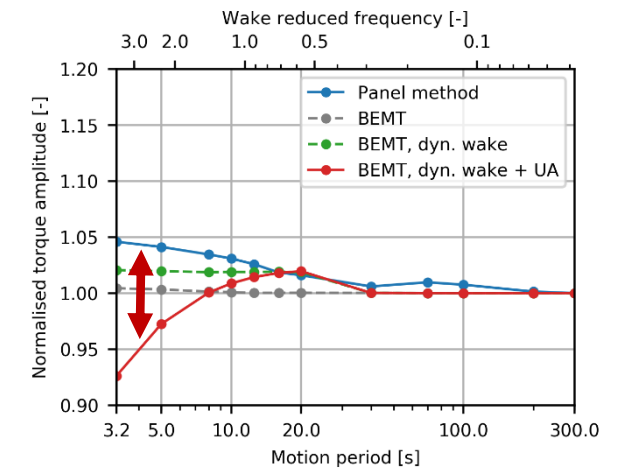


Comparison of modelling approaches for the Floatgen wind turbine in surge motion

- **Significant influence of transient phenomena**
 - Rotor speed variation
 - Surge motion

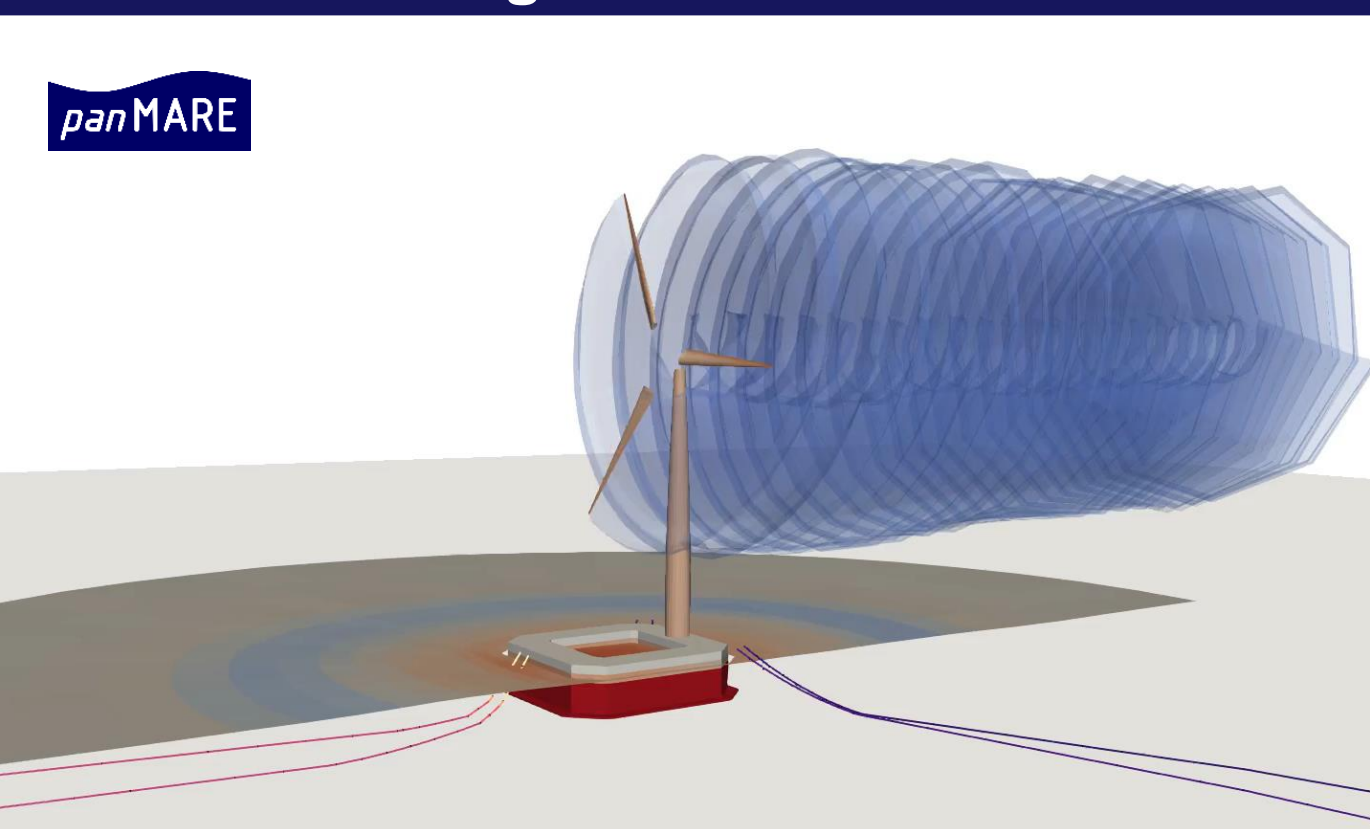
➔ Investigate influence under realistic operation conditions
- BEMT with **unsteady corrections**
 - **General trend** for moderate frequencies **matched**
 - **Deviations in absolute numbers**
- **Contradiction** between **panel method** and **unsteady airfoil** correction
 - Most probable reason: **Further aerodynamic phenomenon**
 - Phenomenon cannot be captured by BEMT corrections because of its **3D nature**

To be evaluated with other numerical methods and experiments!



Acknowledgements

panMARE



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