

# A METAHEURISTIC SOLUTION METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING VESSEL FLEET SIZE AND MIX FOR MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS AT OFFSHORE WIND FARMS UNDER UNCERTAINTY

**EERA DEEPWIND'2017, TRONDHEIM, 18 JANUARY 2017**

Elin E. Halvorsen-Weare<sup>1</sup>, Inge Norstad<sup>1</sup>,  
Magnus Stålhane<sup>2</sup>, Lars Magne Nonås<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Maritime, SINTEF Ocean

<sup>2</sup>Department of Industrial Economics and Technology Management, NTNU

# Outline

---

- 1 Setting the scene
- 2 Vessel fleet optimization model
- 3 Solution method
- 4 Application on a reference case
- 5 Summary

# Outline

---

- 1 Setting the scene
- 2 Vessel fleet optimization model
- 3 Solution method
- 4 Application on a reference case
- 5 Summary

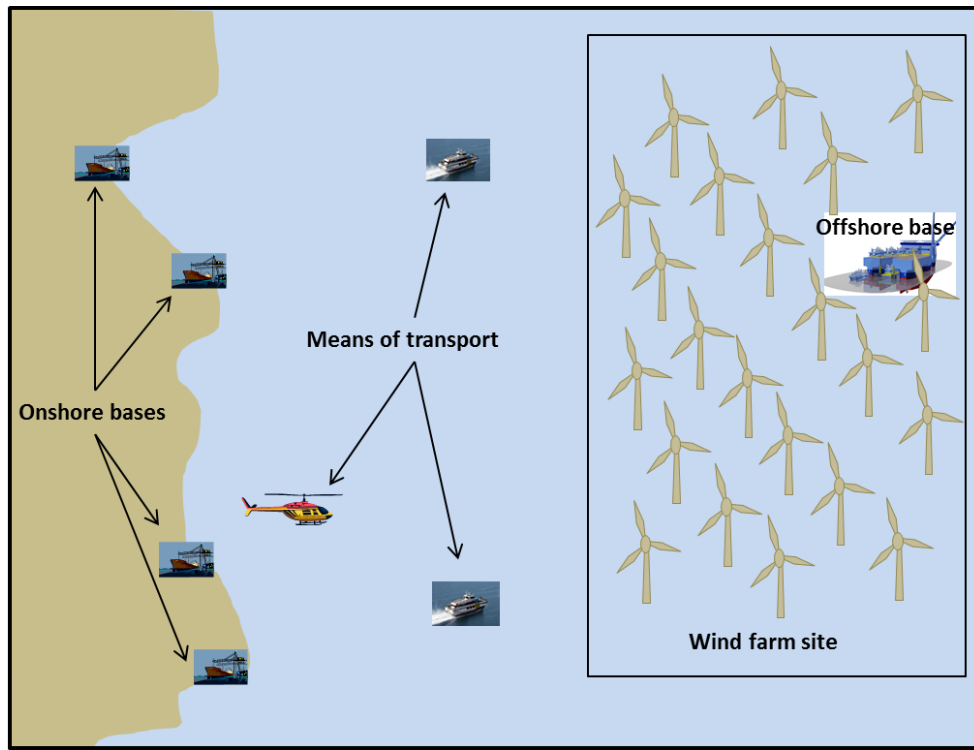
# Deep sea offshore wind O&M logistics

## - Challenges

---

- Large number of turbines
  - Many maintenance tasks
- Large distances
- Marine operations
- Accessibility to wind farm and turbines
  - Weather restrictions

# O&M at offshore wind farms



Focus on the maritime transportation and logistic challenges:

- Need to execute maintenance tasks at wind turbines
  - Preventive maintenance tasks
    - Scheduled tasks
  - Corrective maintenance tasks
    - Component failure requiring repair or replacement
- Need to transport technicians, spare parts etc. from a maintenance base to the turbines
  - From which maintenance ports/bases?
  - By which vessel resources?



# Which vessel resources are most promising for a given offshore wind farm?

---



Evaluating all possible vessel fleets is impractical and time consuming, and often impossible

10 vessel types, 0-3 vessels each →  $2^{20} \approx 1$  million combinations

# Outline

---

- 1 Setting the scene
- 2 Vessel fleet optimization model
- 3 Solution method
- 4 Application on a reference case
- 5 Summary

# Vessel fleet optimization model for O&M

---

## Main idea:

- Create a decision support tool for selecting the best logistical resources, i.e. vessels, infrastructure and related resources, and the best deployment of these resources to execute maintenance tasks at offshore wind farms

## Why?

- Many options for vessels and infrastructure configurations, maintenance strategies, and site specific considerations makes it difficult to get a good overview without strategic analytical tools to evaluate the solution space
- Offshore wind farms at deep sea locations creates the need to develop new technology and logistics strategies, that need to be evaluated from an economical perspective



# Development of vessel fleet optimization model

---

Vessel fleet optimization model – developed through various research projects:

## **NOWITECH (2010 – 2017)**

Initialization of development

Development of stochastic mathematical model for vessel fleet optimization



## **FAROFF (2012 – 2013)**

Developed first prototype of vessel fleet optimization model

- Deterministic mathematical model for vessel fleet optimization



## **LEANWIND (2013 – 2017)**

Development of heuristic solver for the stochastic vessel fleet optimization model



# Stochastic mathematical optimization model

---

- Pattern-based mathematical formulation
  - Candidate patterns generated for vessel and base combinations
  - Based on vessel characteristics and compatibility with maintenance tasks
- Patterns are input to the mathematical model
  - Two-stage stochastic model formulation
- Stochastic parameters
  - Weather conditions (wind and wave)
  - Corrective maintenance tasks (generated based on failure rates)

# Stochastic mathematical optimization model

---

- Variables:
  - Which vessels to use
    - Short-term or long-term charter?
  - Which maintenance patterns vessels should execute
  - Which maintenance ports/bases to use
- Objective: Minimize total cost
  - Time charter costs
  - Port/base costs
  - Fuel costs – and other voyage related costs
  - Downtime cost
- All maintenance tasks should be executed within the planning horizon, or they are given a penalty cost

# Stochastic mathematical optimization model

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \sum_{k \in K} C_k^F \delta_k + \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{v \in V_k} C_v^F x_{kv}^L + \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{v \in V_k} \sum_{t \in PT} C_{vt}^F x_{kvt}^S + \\ & \sum_{s \in S} P_s \left[ \sum_{v \in V} \sum_{i \in N^C \cap N_v} \sum_{j \in N_{is}^C} \sum_{p \in P_{v i j s}} C_{ijps}^D y_{vijps} + \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{v \in V_k} \sum_{w \in W_{kv}} \sum_{i \in N^P \cap N_v} \sum_{p \in P_{kvws}} C_{ips}^D A_{iw} \lambda_{kvwps} + \right. \\ & \left. \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{v \in V_k} \sum_{w \in W_{kv}} \sum_{p \in P_{kvws}} C_{kvwps} \lambda_{kvwps} + \sum_{i \in N^P} C_i^P z_{is} + \sum_{i \in N^C} \sum_{j \in N_{is}^C} C_i^P z_{ijs} \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Objective function

# Stochastic mathematical optimization model

$$x_{kv}^L + x_{kvt}^S \leq Q_{kv} \delta_k, \quad k \in K, v \in V_k, t \in P^T, \quad (2)$$

$$\delta_{k1} + \delta_{k2} \leq 1, \quad (k1, k2) \in K^C, \quad (3)$$

$$\delta_k \geq E_k, \quad k \in K, \quad (4)$$

$$x_{kv}^L \geq E_{kv}, \quad k \in K, v \in V_k, \quad (5)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} x_{kvt}^S \leq Q_{vt}^{MX}, \quad v \in V, t \in P^T, \quad (6)$$

$$\delta_k \in \{0, 1\}, \quad k \in K, \quad (7)$$

$$x_{kv}^L \in Z^+, \quad k \in K, v \in V_k, \quad (8)$$

$$x_{kvt}^S \in Z^+, \quad k \in K, v \in V_k, t \in P^T. \quad (9)$$

First stage constraints

# Stochastic mathematical optimization model

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{v \in V_k \cap V_i} \sum_{w \in W_{kv}} \sum_{p \in P_{kvws}} A_{iw} \lambda_{kvwps} + z_{is} = A_i, \quad i \in N^P, s \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (10)$$

$$\sum_{v \in V_i} \sum_{p \in P_{vjs}} y_{vijps} + z_{ijs} = 1, \quad i \in N^C, s \in \mathcal{S}, j \in N_{is}^C, \quad (11)$$

$$\sum_{k \in K} \sum_{w \in W_{kv}} A_{iw} \lambda_{kvwps} - \sum_{j \in N_{is}^C} y_{vijps} = 0, \quad v \in V, i \in N^C \cap N_v, p \in P_v, s \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (12)$$

$$\sum_{w \in W_{kv}} \lambda_{kvwps} \leq x_{kv}^L + x_{kvt}^S, \quad k \in K, v \in V_k, p \in P_v, t \in P^T | p \in t, s \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (13)$$

$$\sum_{v \in V} \sum_{w \in W_{kv}} M_v \lambda_{kvwps} \leq M_k \delta_k, \quad k \in K, p \in P, s \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (14)$$

$$\lambda_{kvwps} \in Z^+, \quad k \in K, v \in V_k, w \in W_{kv}, s \in \mathcal{S}, p \in P_{kvws}, \quad (15)$$

$$y_{vijps} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad v \in V, i \in N^C \cap N_v, s \in \mathcal{S}, j \in N_{is}^C, p \in P_{vjs}, \quad (16)$$

$$z_{is} \in Z^+, \quad i \in N^P, s \in \mathcal{S}, \quad (17)$$

$$z_{ijs} \in \{0, 1\}, \quad i \in N^C, s \in \mathcal{S}, j \in N_{is}^C. \quad (18)$$

Second stage constraints

# Outline

---

- 1 Setting the scene
- 2 Vessel fleet optimization model
- 3 Solution method
- 4 Application on a reference case
- 5 Summary



# Metaheuristic solution framework

---

Greedy randomized adaptive search procedure – GRASP

1. Construct an initial feasible solution to the problem by a greedy randomized algorithm
2. Improve the initial feasible solution by a local search procedure
3. Continue until stopping criterion is met

All candidate solutions are evaluated by a simulation procedure taking into account uncertainty in weather conditions and corrective maintenance tasks

# Local search algorithm

---

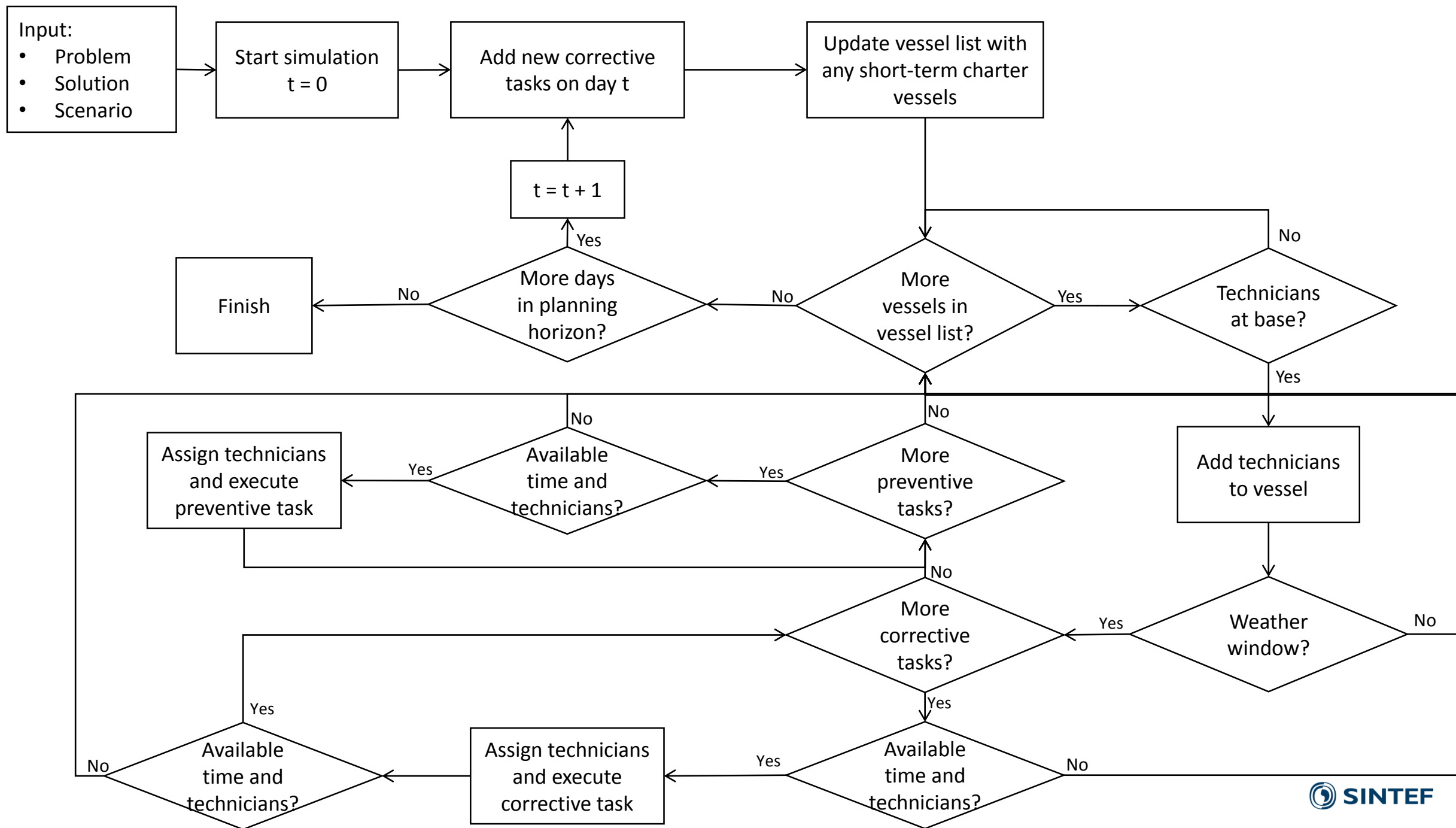
Explore neighborhood solutions to an initial solution:

- Add vessel long-term
- Remove vessel long-term
- Add vessel short-term
- Remove vessel short-term
- Remove base
- Swap bases
- Swap vessels long-term
- Swap vessels short-term

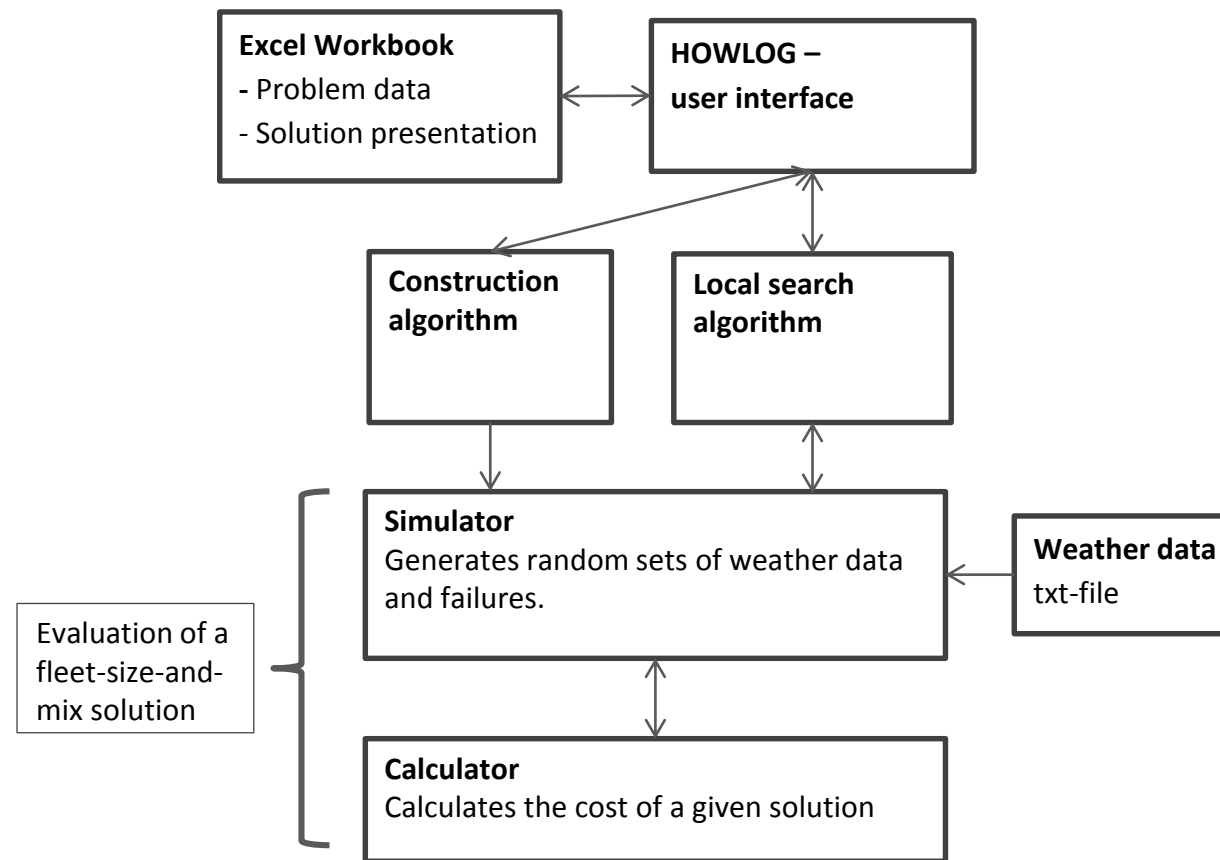
# Evaluation of candidate solutions

---

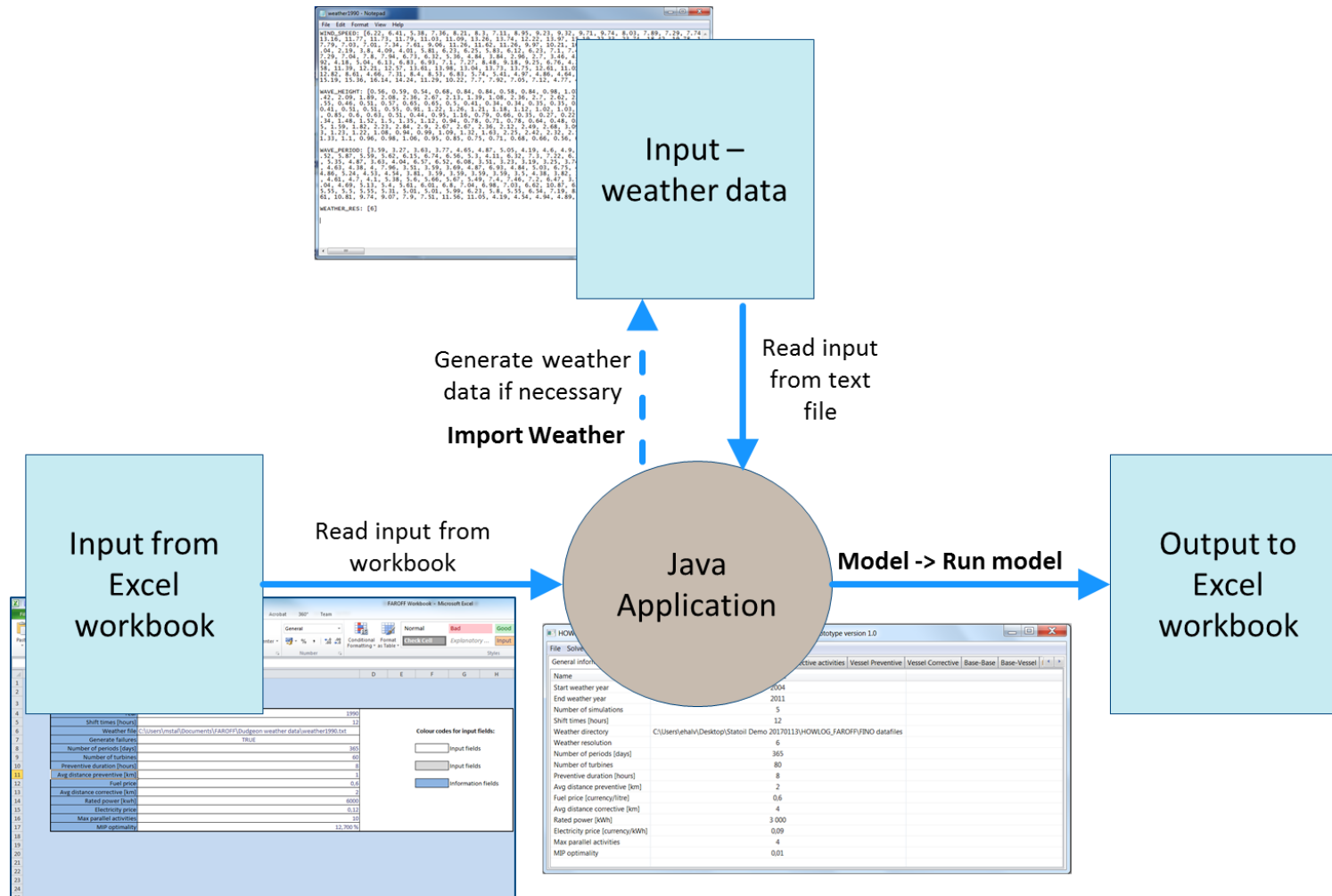
- Scenario generator
  - Generates a number of weather data sets and corrective maintenance tasks sets
- Calculator
  - Calculates the objective function value of a solution for a given weather data and corrective maintenance task set



# Overview metaheuristic framework



# Configuration of vessel fleet optimization tool



# Outline

---

- 1 Setting the scene
- 2 Vessel fleet optimization model
- 3 Solution method
- 4 Application on a reference case
- 5 Summary



# Application on a reference case

(Sperstad et al. 2016)

---

- Wind farm with 80 3MW turbines
- 50 km distance to onshore maintenance base
- One type of preventive maintenance: 60 hours work x 80 turbines
- Three types of corrective maintenance: Failure rates 7.5, 3 and 0.825
- Weather data from FINO1 metocean platform
- Electricity price 90 GBP/MWh

# Available vessel resources

---

Vessel type name	Hs limit [m]	Transfer speed [knots]	Day rate [GBP]	Technician transfer space	Access time [min]	# available vessels
Crew transfer vessel (CTV)	1.5	20	1 750	12	15	5
Surface effect ship (SES)	2.0	35	5 000	12	15	5
Small accommodation vessel (SAV)	2.0	20	12 500	12	15	1
Mini mother vessel (MM)	2.5	14	25 000	16	30	1
Daughter vessel (DM)	1.2	16	N/A	6	15	2

# Results

	GRASP	EXACT
<b>Vessel fleet</b>	<b>2 SES</b>	<b>2 SES</b>
Expected total cost	13 438 089	13 318 186
Vessel cost	3 650 000	3 650 000
Voyage cost	2 098 533	2 016 700
Downtime cost	7 689 544	7 651 486
Electricity based availability	92.96 %	93.02 %
Computational time [s]	144	7 961

GRASP method has been implemented in Java, number of simulations on each candidate solution was 30. EXACT method has been implemented in the Mosel language and solved by FICO™ Xpress, number of scenarios was 5, and optimality gap was set to 1.0%.

# Application areas

---

- Offshore wind farm developers
  - Which are the optimal maintenance vessel resources?
  - Which are the optimal maintenance ports/bases and what type of characteristics should they have?
  - When should the maintenance activities be scheduled?
- Maintenance vessel developers and innovators
  - Cost/benefit analysis for evaluating/choosing among existing vessels
  - Early phase feedback for design of new vessels
- Maintenance concept developers and innovators
  - Cost/benefit analysis of new concepts and the potential effects on the logistic systems

# Outline

---

- 1 Setting the scene
- 2 Vessel fleet optimization model
- 3 Solution method
- 4 Application on a reference case
- 5 Summary

# Summary

---

- Determining optimal vessel fleets for maintenance operations at offshore wind farms is challenging
- We have developed a vessel fleet optimization model for decision support
- An efficient metaheuristic solution procedure has been implemented
  - Greedy randomized adaptive search procedure
  - Uncertainty in weather conditions and corrective maintenance tasks considered by a simulation procedure
  - Reports optimal vessel fleet compared with exact solution method
- Decision support tool can aid many actors in the offshore wind industry

# References

---

- Cradden, L.; Gebruers, C.; Halvorsen-Weare, E.E.; Irawan, C.; Nonås, L.M.; Norstad, I.; Pappas, T.; Schäffer, L.E. (2016), "Mathematical optimisation models and methods for transport systems". LEANWIND Deliverable 5.6.
- Sperstad, I.B.; Stålhane, M.; Dinwoodie, I.; Endrerud, O.-E.V.; Martin, R.; Warner E. (2016), "Testing the Robustness of Optimal Vessel Fleet Selection for Operation and Maintenance of Offshore Wind Farms". (Unpublished.)
- Stålhane, M.; Halvorsen-Weare, E.E., Nonås, L.M. (2014), "FAROFF Optimization model technical report", MARINTEK Report MT2014 F-097.
- Stålhane, M.; Halvorsen-Weare, E.E.; Nonås, L.M. (2016), "A decision support system for vessel fleet analysis for maintenance operations at offshore wind farms", Working paper. (Unpublished.)





Technology for a better society