



DO WIND  
TURBINES  
DREAM OF  
MODELED  
WINDS ?

**Alex Monternes**

Development &  
Analytics

**Pau Casso**

Computing Develop

**Gil Lizcano**



MANNED CLOUD  
JM Massaud (designer)

Wind Europe Resource  
Assessment 2017  
Edinburgh, Scotland

→ In the next 12' minutes

## Articulating WRF models to reach the microscale

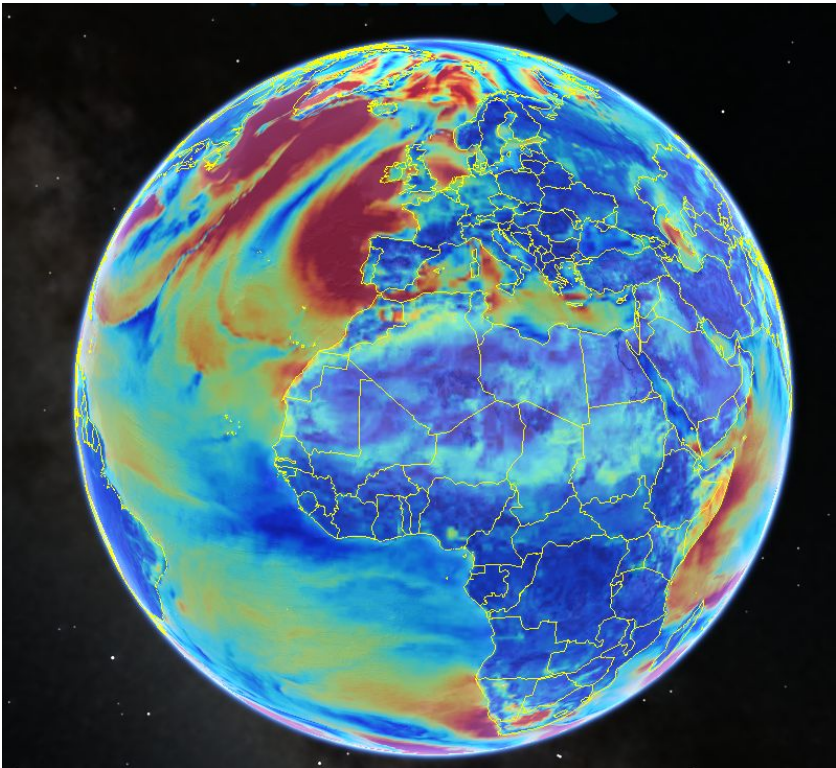
Block 1: Mean Bias & Correlation

Block 2: Shear

Block 3: Site Classification

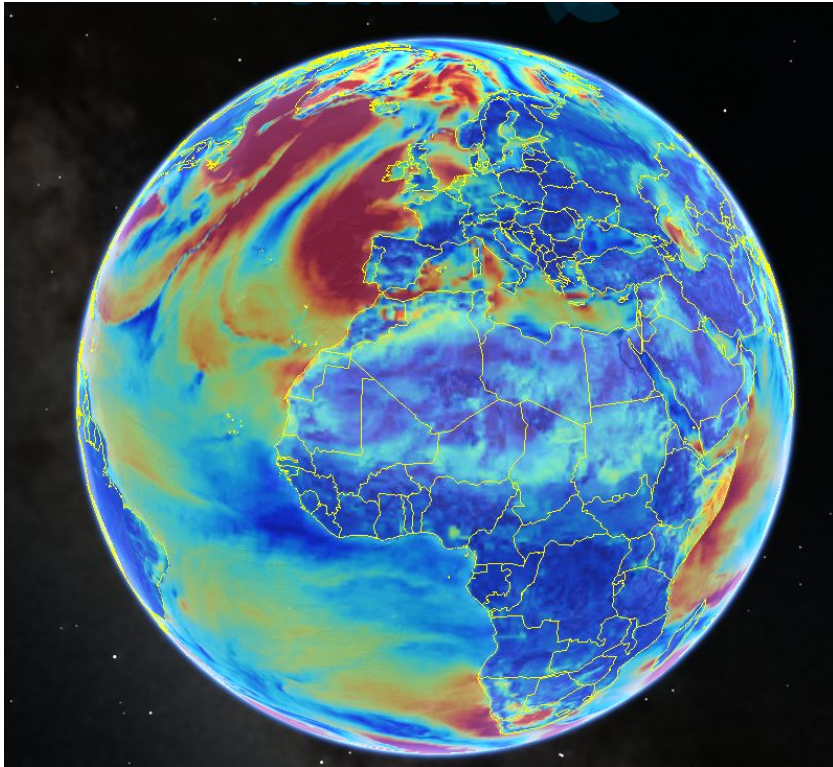
Block 4: New Drivers, ERA5

Articulating WRF to reach the microscale



Which Marks I would give to WRF

- A+
- A
- B
- C
- D

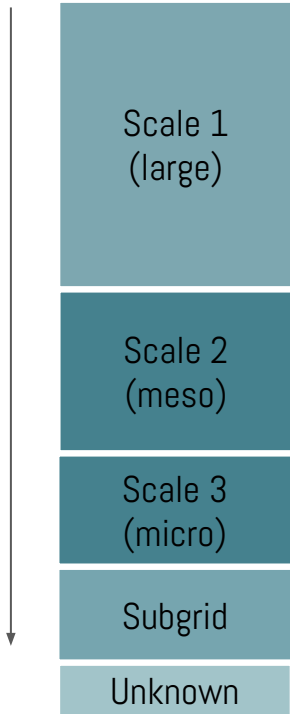
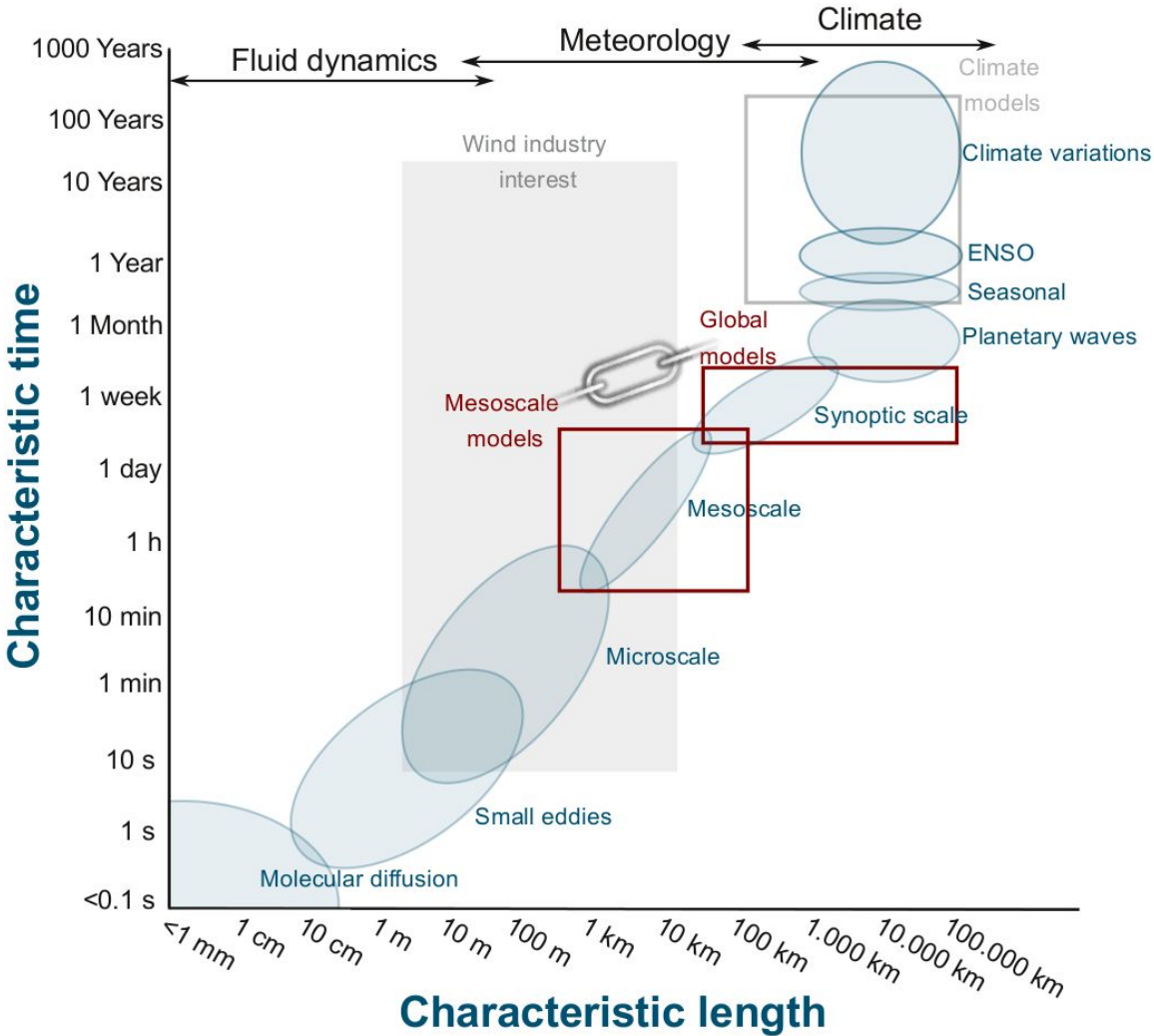


Which Marks I would give to WRF

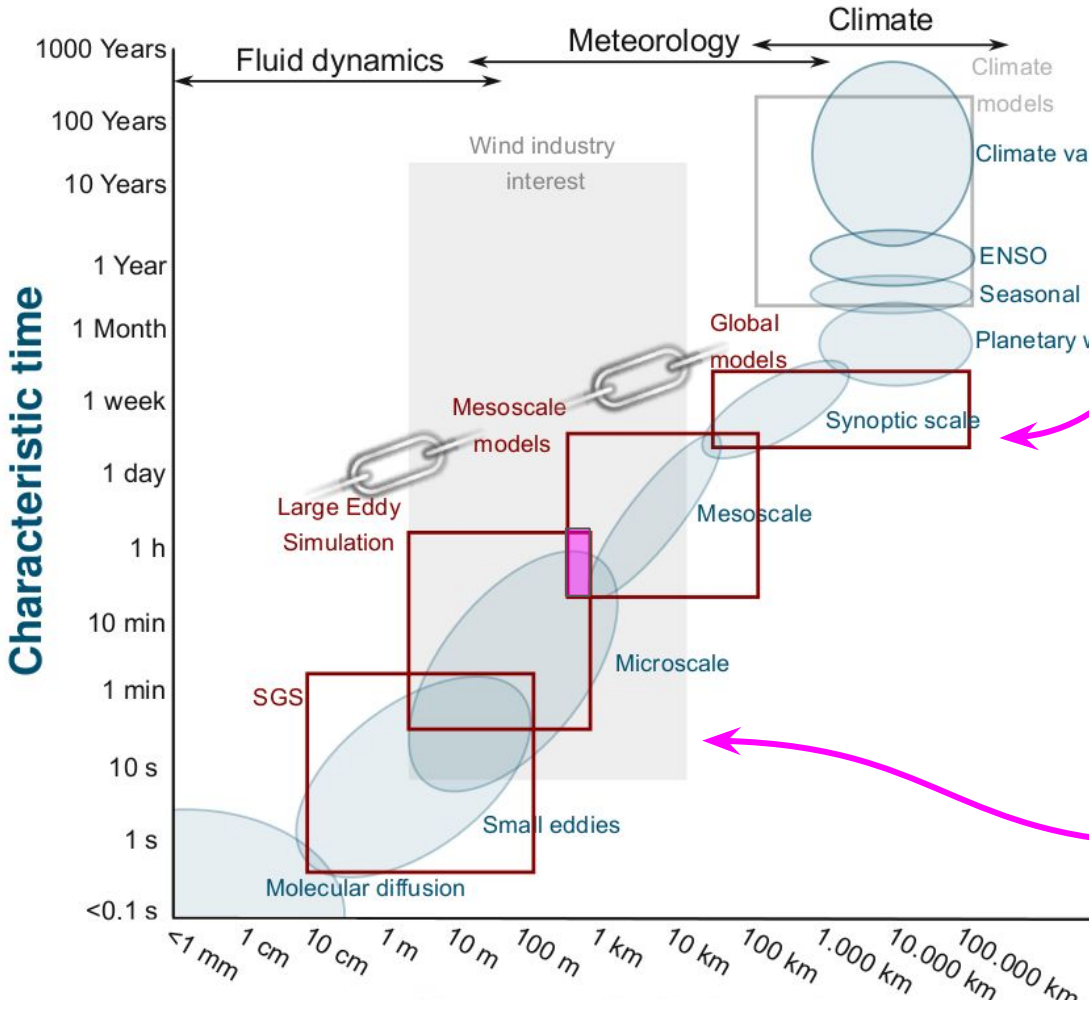
- Good enough when there is a lack of information
- Very good as LT reference
- Moderate to high Bias
- Missing micro turbulence
- Multiscale capabilities
- Model & observations

# Articulating WRF to reach the microscale

Bias reduced as scales are represented



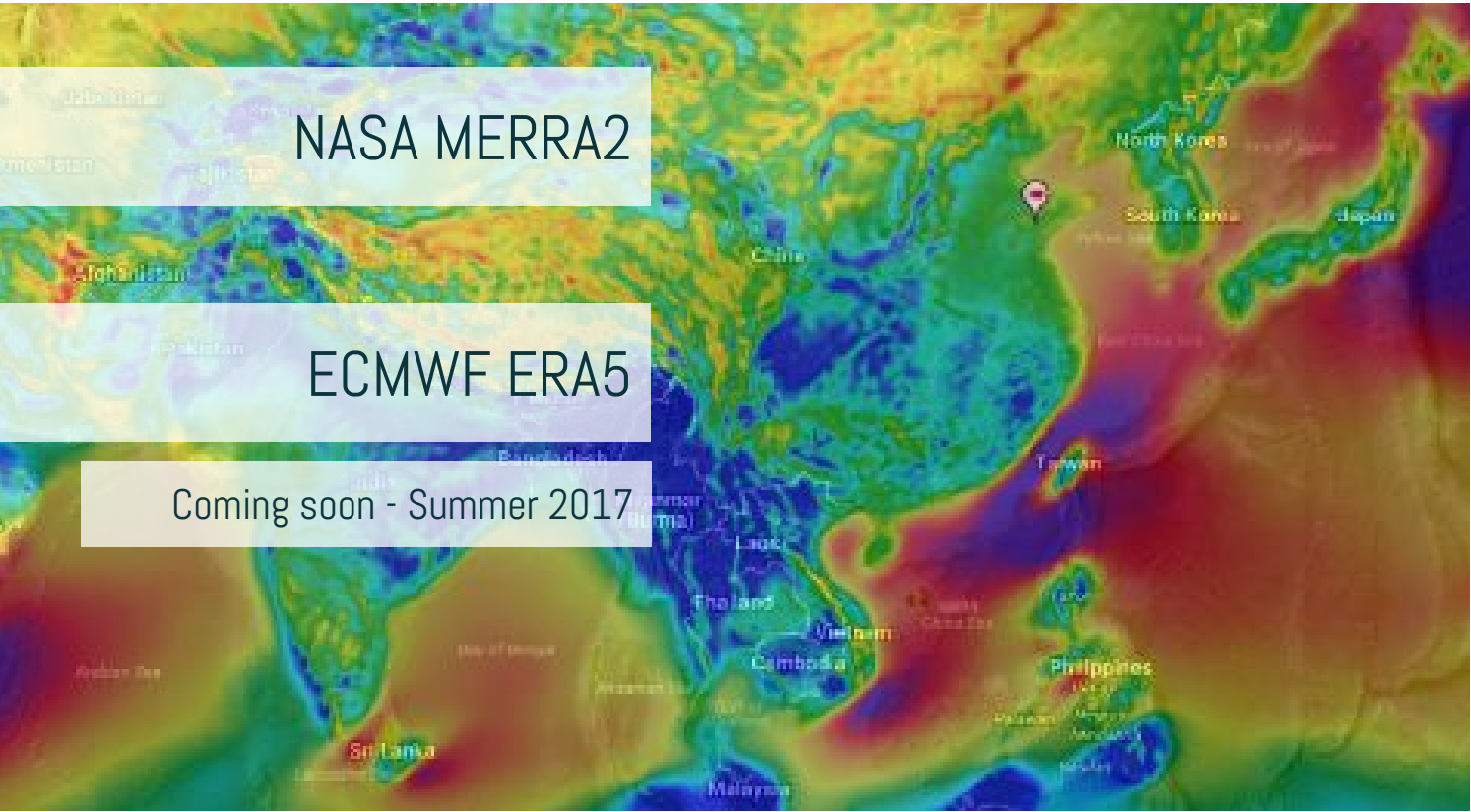
# Articulating WRF to reach the microscale

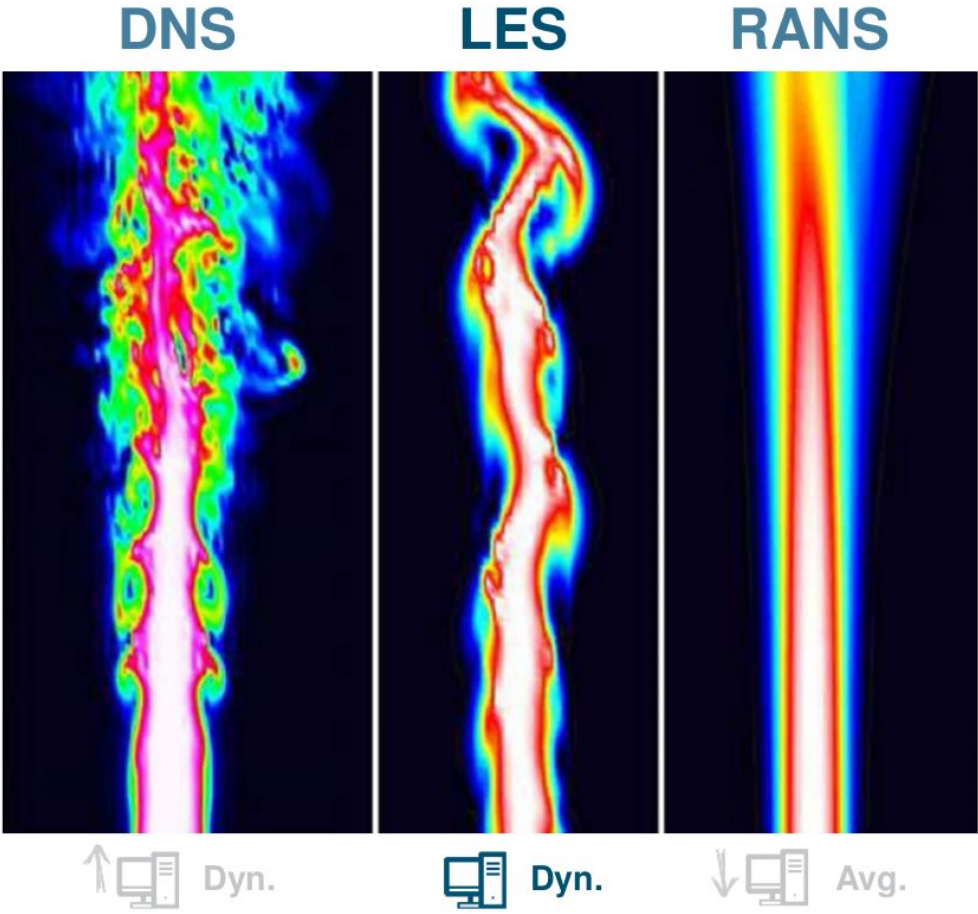


Complex passage : Terra Incognita

| Modeling Chain        |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Benchmark             | New                  |
| ERA-I<br>MERRA<br>CFS | ERA5<br>MERRA2       |
| WRF Model (standard)  | WRF Model (standard) |
| WRF Model (standard)  | WRF with LES         |
| Subgrid               | Subgrid              |

☞ Backends: Large scale drivers

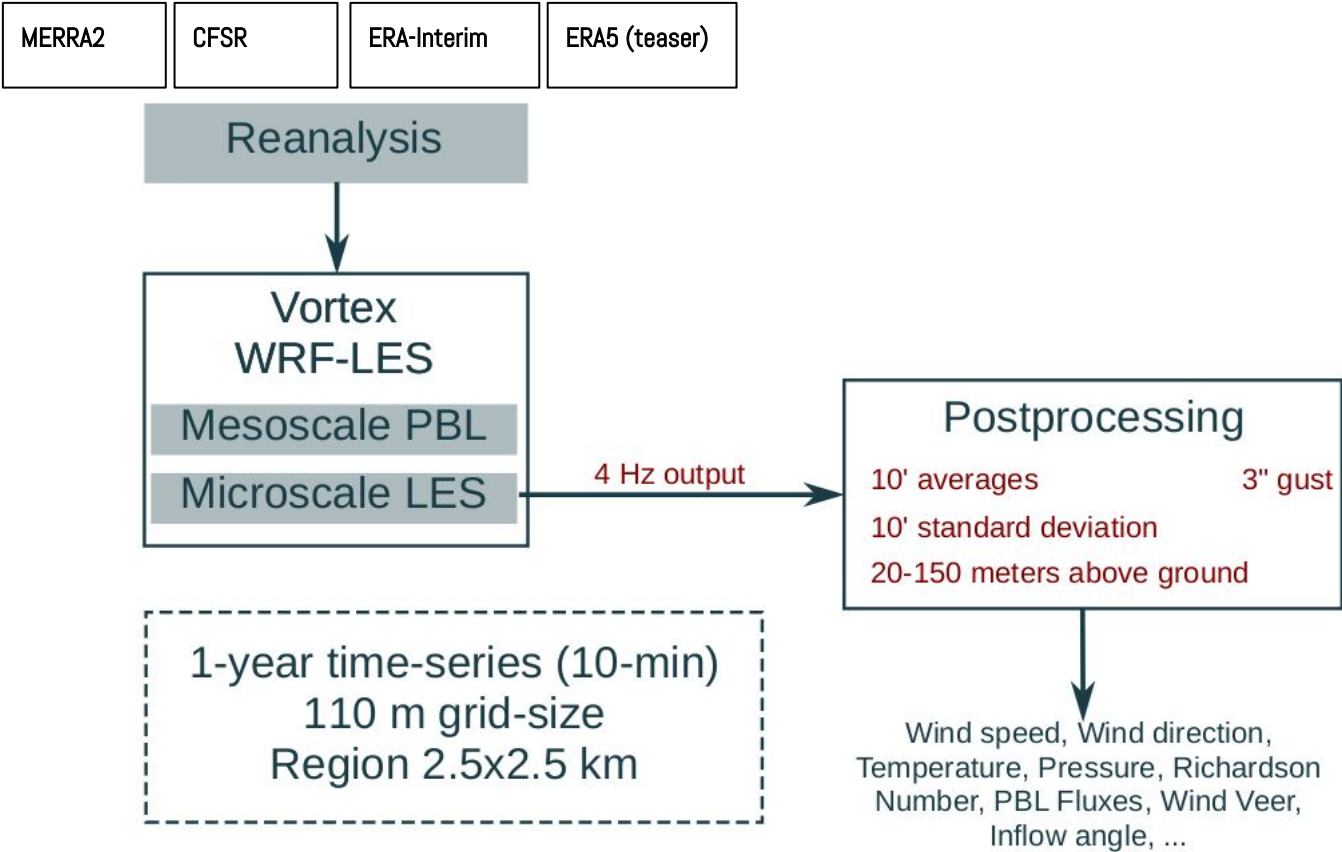


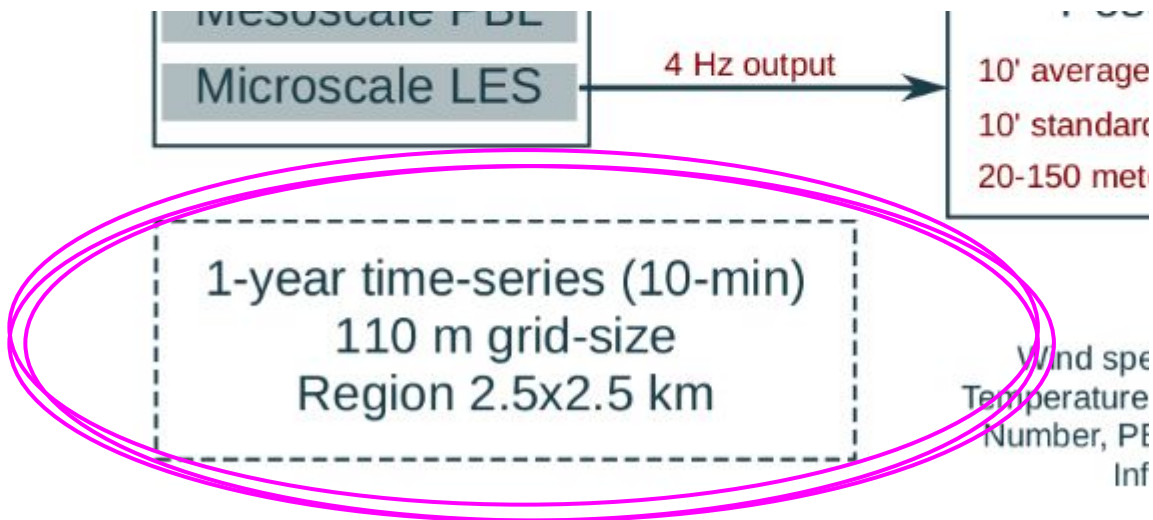


Adapted from Maries, A., Haque, M. A., Yilmaz, S. L., Nik, M. B., Marai, G. E.: New Developments in the Visualization and Processing of Tensor Fields, Springer, pp. 137-156, D. Laidlaw, A. Villanova. 2012



# REAL WORLD applications





**Rationale:**

- **Enduser backend:** Resolution/domain vs commercial timings
- **Developers backend:** Increase resolution doesn't solve all the gaps
  - Land surface model
  - Lateral Boundary Conditions
  - Terra incognita passage

5% Off-shore

40% Flat Terrain

25% Complex Terrain

30% Forest



Anemometers Height: 15% 20-50m 70% 50-100m 15% 100-110m

- Simulations spanned over **one complete year**
- 96 masts employed for bias & correlation assessment
- 56 masts for turbulence validation
- Very few mast with more than one height

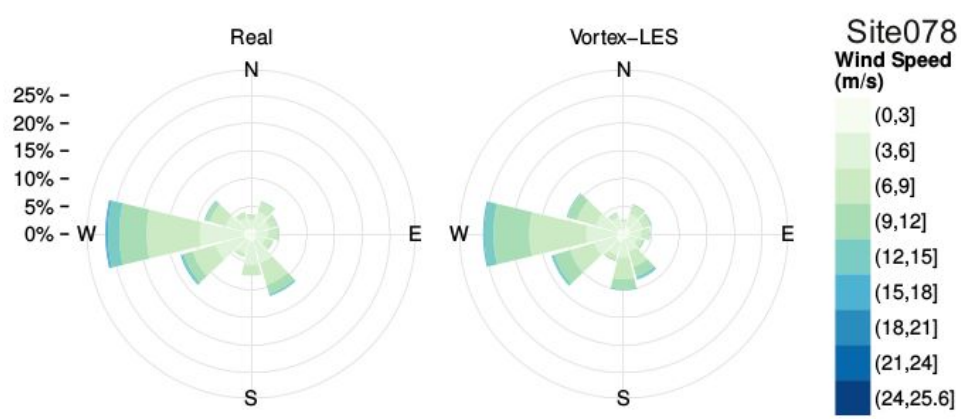
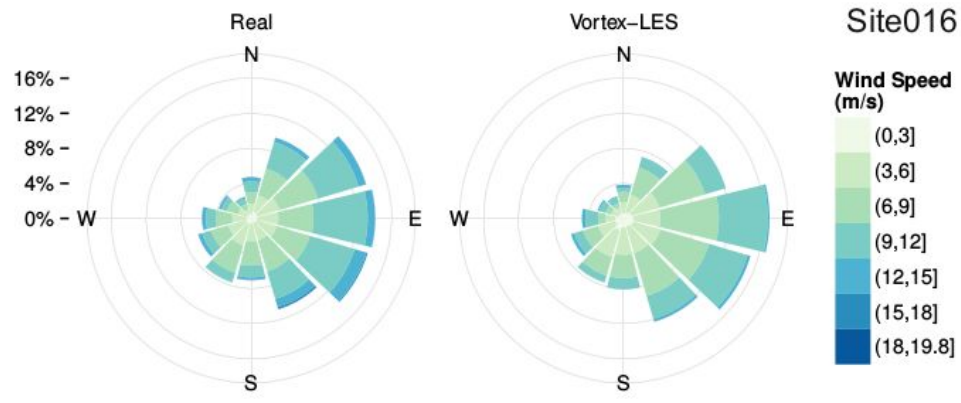
➔ REAL WORLD applications: Bias & Correlation

| Average aggregated values across sites |      | Average Bias (%) |         | RMSE     |         | Correlation R <sup>2</sup><br>Hourly - Daily |             |
|--|------|------------------|---------|----------|---------|--|-------------|
|  |      | Standard         | WRF-LES | Standard | WRF-LES | Standard                                     | WRF-LES     |
| <b>All</b>                             | 100% | 2.7              | 2.4     | 3.9      | 2.5     | 0.62 - 0.75                                  | 0.63 - 0.80 |
| <b>Offshore</b>                        | 5%   | 0.9              | 0.4     | 2.9      | 1.8     | 0.75 - 0.85                                  | 0.85 - 0.93 |
| <b>Flat</b>                            | 40%  | -4.1             | -3.4    | 3.2      | 2.4     | 0.61 - 0.76                                  | 0.62 - 0.81 |
| <b>Complex</b>                         | 25%  | 1.5              | 0.5     | 12.4     | 7.2     | 0.60 - 0.73                                  | 0.62 - 0.79 |
| <b>Forest</b>                          | 30%  | 1.2              | 0.4     | 9.5      | 6.8     | 0.63 - 0.74                                  | 0.69 - 0.80 |

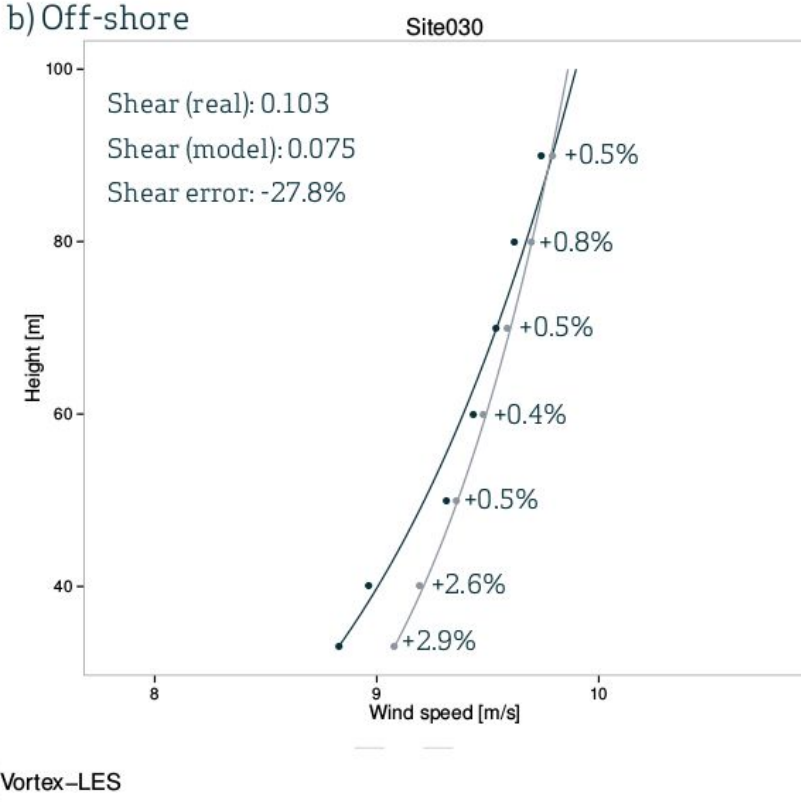
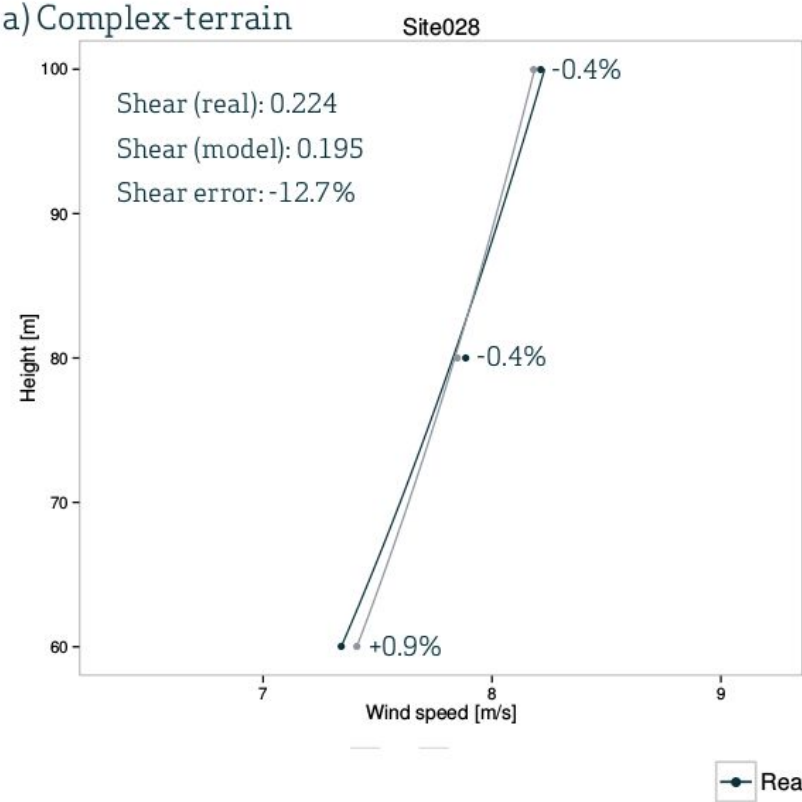
- ❑ Bias signal is more systematic in flat terrain while more noisy in complex
- ❑ Notion of “flat & complex” should be revisited (complex flow) & localized
- ❑ Same bias tendencies in both standard and less configurations
- ❑ Less variability across sites
- ❑ Improvement in correlation (daily cycle low & high tails)

# REAL WORLD applications: Bias & Correlation

|                |        | Bias<br>(deg) | MAE<br>(deg) |
|----------------|--------|---------------|--------------|
| All<br>(100%)  | 10-min | 3             | 35           |
| Offshore<br>5% | 10-min | -2            | 18           |
| Flat<br>30%    | 10-min | 0             | 34           |
| Complex<br>25% | 10-min | 2             | 34           |
| Forest<br>30%  | 10-min | 10            | 31           |

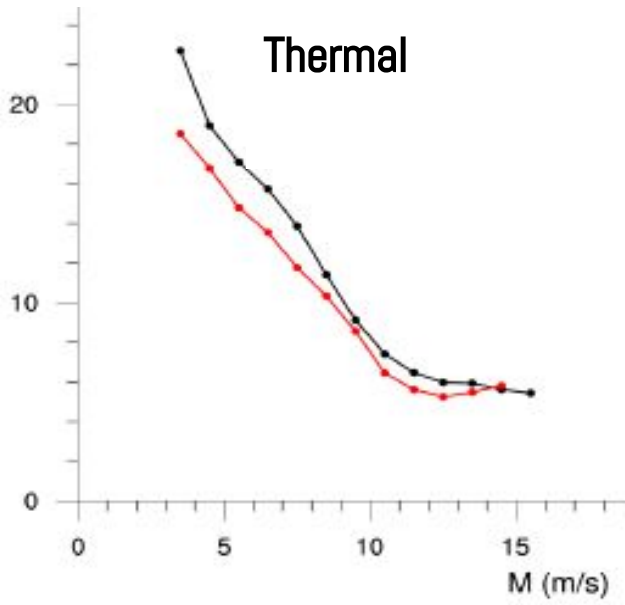
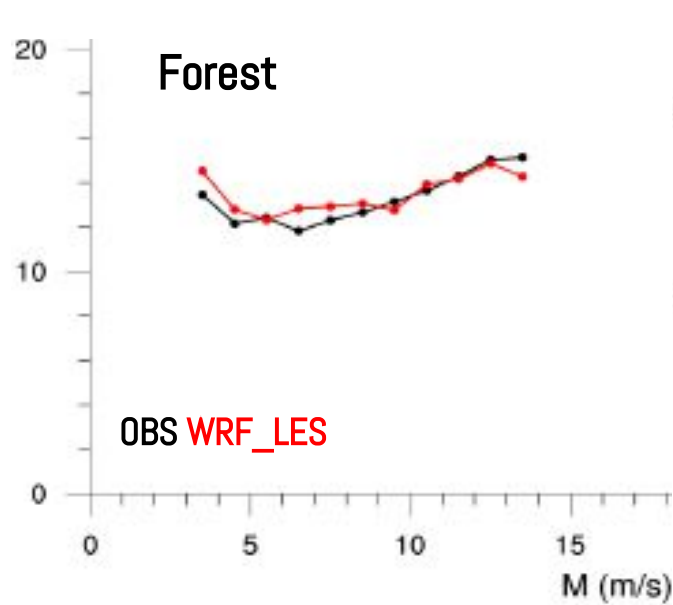


# REAL WORLD applications: Shear



Note: Mest Mast data as proxy for REAL  
*("who knows what is real" T. Blodau)*

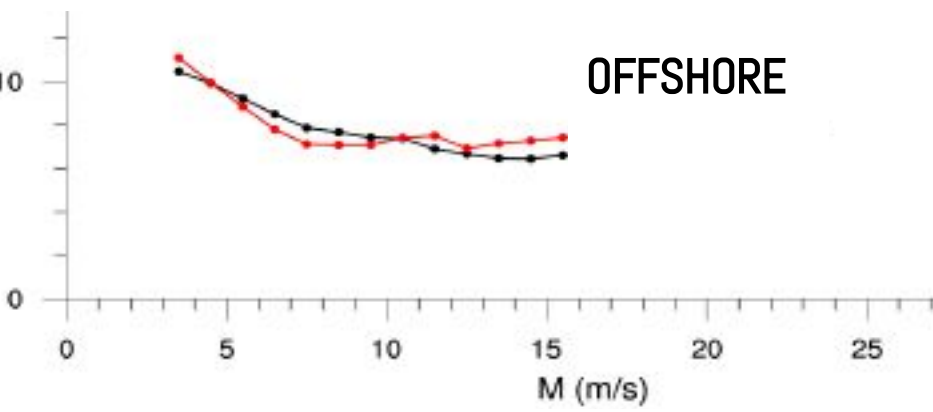
REAL WORLD applications: Turbulence



TI(%) validated at **58 sites**

Which metric to use?

1. MAE between TI-model against TI-obs weighted by bin-occurrence
2. MAE at 15 m/s bin

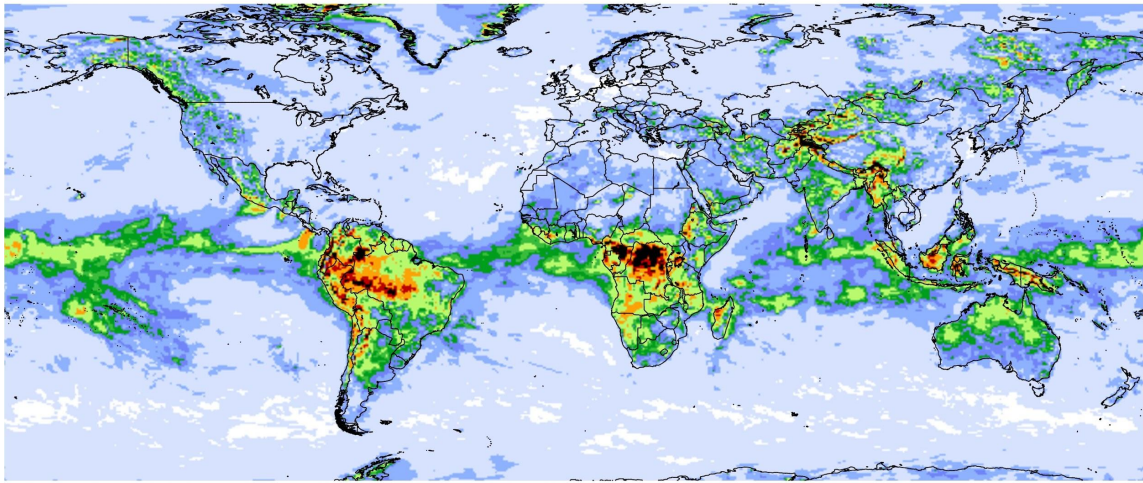


|          | OBS (m/s) | WRF_LES (m/s) | TI bias 1 (%) | TI bias 2 (%) |
|----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Forest   | 6.4       | 6.9           | 0.6           | 0.5           |
| Thermal  | 7.9       | 7.7           | 1.5           | 1.5           |
| Offshore | 10.2      | 10.1          | 0.6           | 0.8           |
| All      | -         | -             | 1.9           | 1.8           |

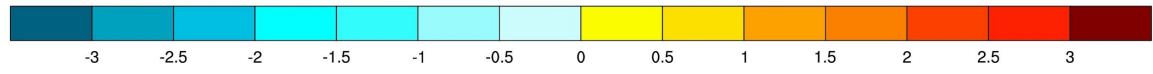
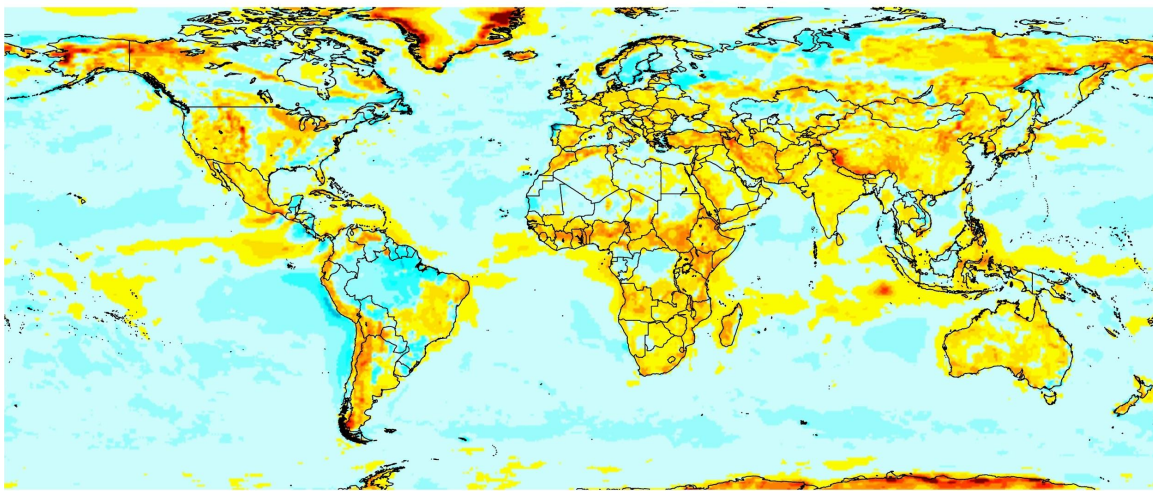
# REAL WORLD applications: ERA5

10m daily R2

MERRA2-ERA5



MERRA2-ERA5 Diff



| 26 SITES   | Jan-Feb 2016   |                |
|------------|----------------|----------------|
|            | WRF-CFSR (3KM) | WRF-ERA5 (3km) |
| R2 Hourly  | 0.59           | 0.68 (+)       |
| R2 daily   | 0.79           | 0.86           |
| RMSE (m/s) | 2.66           | 2.37           |
| MAE (%)    | 13.9           | 13.1           |



Same bias trends, lower aggregated values

More compact & robust results (lower RMSE)

Increase accuracy on the tails (higher correlation)

Fair enough turbulence representation (site classes)

ERA5 teaser promising

WRF-LES

Drivers

Superman model is not here yet

Models are getting more complex, efficient and accurate

Are sites getting more complex as well ?

Large windfarm

Tall Towers

Offshore

Low winds

Extreme climates

Typhoons

Tropics & Subtropics

Complex Sites 2.0





DO WIND  
TURBINES  
DREAM OF  
MODELED  
WINDS ?

**Alex Monternes**  
Development &  
Analytics

**Pau Casso**  
Computing Support  
**Gil Lizcano**

 **VORTEX**

MANNED CLOUD  
JM Massaud (designer)

**Wind Europe Resource  
Assessment 2017  
Edinburgh, Scotland**