

## ***Interactive comment on “Exploitation of the far-offshore wind energy resource by fleets of energy ships. Part A. Energy ship design and performance” by Aurélien Babarit et al.***

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Dear anonymous referee #1,

Thank you for your comments. Please find below our answers:

- Figure 11: we believe that it is the choice of polar plots for displaying the results that you are questioning. The reason is that it is the usual way for presenting the performance (velocity) of sailing ships. Nevertheless, to make it easier to understand, we will add the information of the ship direction and wind direction to this figure in the revised version of the manuscript (see Figure below).

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- Suitability of this work for publication in the Journal of WES: our paper describes a new "offshore technology" for wind energy conversion. As "offshore technology" is one of the field covered by WES according to the website, we believe that it makes sense for it to be published in WES.

- Research question: as mentioned in the introduction of the paper, the overall aim of the present study is to investigate the energy performance of the proposed technology. Thus, the specific research questions are: what is the energy performance of this technology? Can it produce significant amounts of energy? What is the overall energy efficiency? Moreover, a related question is highlighted in section 2.2, which is the effect of the water turbine's drag on power performance and that there exists an optimum.

We hope that you will find our answers satisfactory.

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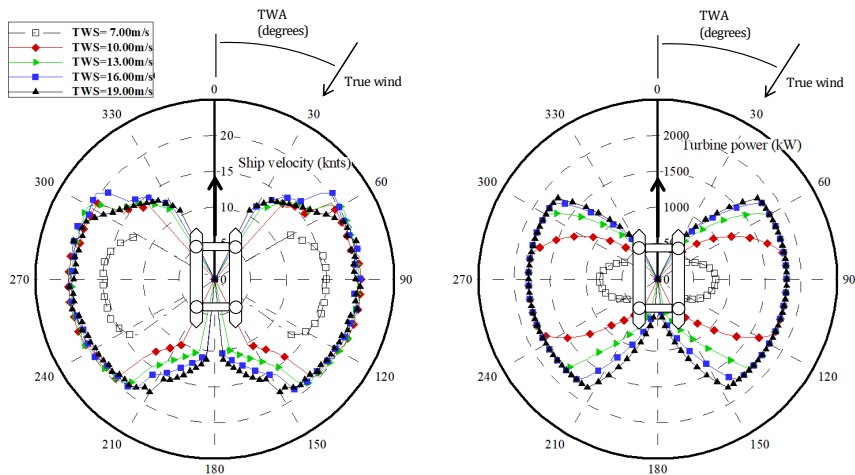


Fig. 1. Revised Figure 11