

1 Dear Anonymous Referee #2,

2

3 Thank you very much for your comments.

4

5 We believe that your major comment is about the power and loads analysis of the  
6 retrofitted wind turbine. The current manuscript presents the quantitative power  
7 and loads analysis results through simulations. We will expand this section by  
8 incorporating the power and loads analysis through field tests as well. However, it is  
9 important to note that this addition does not impact the results of the wake analysis  
10 presented in the manuscript, which is considered as the main result. The post-  
11 processing chain ensured a robust comparison between the wake of the baseline  
12 and retrofitted wind turbines, as detailed in lines 169 through 173.

13

14 Next, we believe that the comments about uncertainty quantification and CNR  
15 thresholds are justified with existing literature and are also further explained in this  
16 document below.

17

18 We will revise the manuscript to address your above-mentioned comments and the  
19 other minor specific comments. Below are the **author responses in red** and  
20 **anonymous referee #2 comments in blue**.

21

22 **Replies to specific comments:**

23 The manuscript entitled, "Segmented Gurney Flaps for Enhanced Wind Turbine  
24 Wake Recovery" by Nirav Dangi, Koen Boorsma, Edwin Bot, Wim Bierbooms, and  
25 Wei Yu endeavors to describe differences in wind, turbine wake aerodynamics  
26 introduced by the presence of a gurney flaps. On the trailing edges of wind turbine  
27 Blade tips. There is a long history of flaps as passive or active control, mechanisms  
28 for wind, turbines, and a great deal of debate in the literature as to their merit. The  
29 authors are strongly encouraged to review this literature and contextualize their  
30 work within the spotty before presenting this for publication again.

31 **We acknowledge that, however, please note that we are not focussing on studies**  
32 **which use plain flaps for active or passive control. Instead, we focus on the use of**  
33 **Gurney flaps mainly with the purpose to influence wake breakdown, and references**  
34 **studying this aspect are included in the manuscript.**

35 Overall the manuscript reads like a section of a thesis. By itself, the study is not  
36 sufficiently detailed or explained and the claims about results are not adequately  
37 quantified or justified. There are several sections (regarding the free vortex  
38 simulations and the power and loads of the turbine) of the paper that provide no  
39 meaningful input and should be removed entirely.

40 Perhaps it would help if the statement 'reads like a section of a thesis' is clarified, i.e.  
41 what is meant exactly (e.g. wording, structure). We will improve the readability and  
42 add the details which we did not provide in the manuscript. The power and loads  
43 analysis will be expanded. The free vortex wake simulations will be omitted , and  
44 referral will be made to the corresponding project report, for the interested reader.

45 Please order references by year published (older to newer) and by last name of the  
46 first author.

47 Noted, we will make the corresponding change.

48 Why qualitative? The abstract has an adequately defined and quantifiable metric for  
49 wake recovery.

50 Noted, we will reword the statement.

51 it is difficult to see the actual Gurney flaps in this picture due to low contrast with the  
52 rest of the trailing edge. It may be more useful to show an airfoil cross-section with  
53 the geometry of the flaps.

54 Right, we will incorporate that.

55 This seems like an important aspect of the study.

56 Noted; for the field tests' power and load analysis we previously referred to the  
57 corresponding project report, but now we will include it in the revised manuscript.

58 black?

59 Apologies for the confusion, we will reword it as 'black arc' within the brown lines.

60 This section is difficult to follow. Along with the information provided in Table 1, I take  
61 it that the scanning lidar was collecting line of site wind speed in a large volume that  
62 included the turbine and the wake. The scan is relatively highly resolved in space, but  
63 the revisit time is 2.8 minutes, which much contribute to the uncertainty in the  
64 description of wake turbulence as information is smeared in time. Is this correct? It  
65 would be extremely helpful to have a plan view of the experiment and a perspective  
66 drawing of the lidar, scan geometry, and turbine.

67 Noted, we will reword it. That is indeed correct.

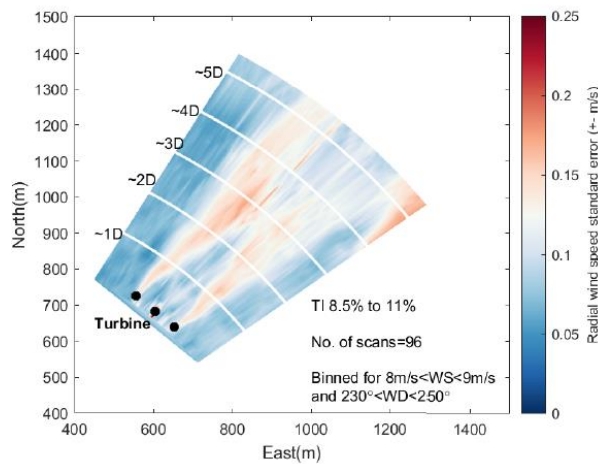
68 Please also note that the Figures in Appendix A provide a detailed view of the scan  
69 pattern in cartesian co-ordinates and also a side view which presents the pattern in  
70 relation to the wind turbine.

71 This sort of hard filtering based on CNR may be overly conservative and reject viable  
72 data or overly generous and keep outliers or spurious data. The dynamic procedure  
73 proposed by Beck and Kuhn (2017) offers a more localized approach to filtering and  
74 is more likely to provide better flow estimates.

75 Thank you for the suggestion- this is out of scope of the study at this stage, and will  
76 be added as a recommendation for future work. Previous studies which incorporate  
77 the hard CNR filter were included in the manuscript. Below is another reference for  
78 the same:

- 79 1. Bodini, N., Zardi, D., & Lundquist, J. K. (2017). Three-dimensional structure of  
80 wind turbine wakes as measured by scanning lidar. Atmospheric  
81 Measurement Techniques, 10(8), 2881-2896. -Section 3.1

82 Nevertheless, we believe in the robustness of the results with the post processing  
83 chain used. The standard error is indicated below for the hub height for one of the  
84 results (Figure 11a). Overall the standard error is quite low and as expected, typically  
85 around the wake edges it is higher because of probe volume averaging in the region  
86 of wake interaction with the freestream.



87

88 Very little information is provided as to how this scan pattern was designed or what  
89 it was designed to prioritize. It is especially important with scanning lidars to carefully  
90 assess the goals of the observations against the limitations of the lidars themselves  
91 (i.e., what makes these the ideal scans for this study?). Please see more in Letizia,  
92 Zhan, and Iungo (2021) and related works.

93 Thank you for the reference. Please note the Figures that were provided in Appendix  
94 A. We will now also expand the section to indicate the priority of the scan pattern.

95 This reads like a thesis, rather than the methods section of a peer-reviewed journal  
96 article. I recommend reducing the parts of the methods that are considered common  
97 practice and rely on citations instead.

98 **Noted, we will reword it accordingly.**

99 The subscript 'samples' can be removed for the sake of clarity. It is defined in the text  
100 in the same sentence.

101 **Noted, it will be removed.**

102 Please increase the font size for figures so that they are easily readable. It is difficult  
103 to interpret these graphics due to their size.

104 **Apologies for the same, the sizes will be increased.**

105 How many observations go into each of the curves shown in the figure? Are the  
106 shaded regions error or measurement uncertainty? Are the dashed lines the hub  
107 height of the turbine? What should we as readers of your work take from these  
108 figures? Perhaps it would be helpful to pull out distributions of the hub-height wind  
109 speed and turbulence intensity from the measurements to help readers understand  
110 the variability in the sample.

111 **The number of observations in each is linked to the number of scans indicated in the  
112 Figures 11 and 15. We will now provide the values for the inflow profiles as well.**

113 **Noted, we will now provide the absolute values of the hub height inflow metrics.**

114 **Throughout the manuscript, the shaded regions are represent by standard errors,  
115 specifically, 1 times the standard error on each side. This will now be made more  
116 clear by giving the figures extended captions.**

117 The Betz limit is approximately 59.3%. Does the figure quoted in the text refer to the  
118 limit on velocity deficit? Please review and update.

119 **Yes, we refer to the limit on the velocity deficit. We will indicate the same to avoid  
120 confusion.**

121 This figure appears to show velocity deficit. Please update the caption and use  
122 throughout the text for consistency.

123 **Noted, relevant changes will be made.**

124 This is not undertaken in the current study. This manuscript effectively omits any  
125 information about power and loads.

126 **As mentioned above, the field tests' power and loads analysis of the retrofitted  
127 turbine will be included in the revised manuscript. The simulation results for power**

128 and loads analysis of the retrofitted which were provided in the manuscript, will be  
129 expanded as well.

130 There are new substantial correlations made between the alleged changes in wind,  
131 turbine wake, aerodynamics and variations in power and loads. Without the state, it  
132 is impossible to say, whether the addition of Gurney flaps has any real purpose or  
133 meaningful affect on a winter vine. It is not sufficient to say that a change in  
134 momentum deficit is enough to justify their presence.

135 We are not entirely clear about this comment. So, we would like to clarify that the  
136 main focus of the study was to prove the use of segmented Gurney flaps for faster  
137 wake recovery, thus, have a meaningful impact on the downstream wind turbine,  
138 which is highlighted by the results. In regard to the upstream turbine, we assess the  
139 power and loads, the results of which, as indicated in the manuscript, highlight that  
140 the upstream turbine is not affected considerably.

141 Example of six observations is sufficient to quantify average statistics, or measuring  
142 uncertainty. Without the presence of some indication of variability. Due to the nature  
143 of the skin design, the standard error is not an appropriate metric for uncertainty as  
144 it does not factor in the temporal and spatial averaging included in the lidar returns.

145 Noted, we will not mention it as a limitation now. As mentioned to referee #1 as well,  
146 we have seen that the standard deviation or error is used frequently to present the  
147 scanning LiDAR results. See below list of references:

- 148 1. Aitken, M. L., R. M. Banta, Y. L. Pichugina, and J. K. Lundquist, 2014:  
149 Quantifying Wind Turbine Wake Characteristics from Scanning Remote  
150 Sensor Data. *J. Atmos. Oceanic Technol.*, 31, 765–787,  
151 <https://doi.org/10.1175/JTECH-D-13-00104.1> - Figure 18, for example
- 152 2. Krishnamurthy, R., Reuder, J., Svoldal, B., Fernando, H. J. S., & Jakobsen, J. B. (2017).  
153 Offshore wind turbine wake characteristics using scanning Doppler lidar. *Energy*  
154 *Procedia*, 137, 428-442. – Figure 9, 12, for example
- 155 3. Baker, R. W., & Walker, S. N. (1984). Wake measurements behind a large horizontal  
156 axis wind turbine generator. *Solar Energy*, 33(1), 5-12. Figure 9, 10, 11, for example

157 Nevertheless, we will add a recommendation which states about further investigation  
158 into sources of uncertainty.

159 Does this refer to aeroacoustic noise? If not quantitatively assessed in this work, I  
160 recommend moving this to a discussion section about other possible impacts that  
161 arise from the Gurney flaps.

162 Yes, it does. Noted, we will move it.

163 This section appears to be purely conjecture, based on theoretical relationships  
164 between wind speed and power production. Without the measurements to support

165 these claims, including wake loss mitigation on a downstream turbine, this sort of  
166 discussion should be omitted.

167 Noted, we will reword it: "The results of this study indicate a reduction of the spanwise  
168 averaged velocity deficit by 10%, at 5D downstream. This enhanced wake recovery  
169 was seen when the upstream wind turbine, in free stream conditions, was retrofitted  
170 with segmented Gurney flaps. Such application of segmented Gurney flaps on wind  
171 turbines in the outer rows of a wind farm could potentially enable closer wind turbine  
172 spacing, yielding a higher energy density. Dedicated farm simulations are  
173 recommended to investigate this and further confirm the promising potential of  
174 segmented Gurney flaps".

175 This is a purely qualitative description of the model outputs and are difficult to  
176 reconcile with the limited measurements from the lidar provided above. No effort is  
177 made to describe the details of the simulation setup, the inflow conditions, or the  
178 state of the turbine, so it is impossible to infer whether the simulation results pictured  
179 in Figure 18 even represent the same case.

180 Indeed, it was the same set up as the 3.8MW research wind turbine tested on field.  
181 Apologies for not providing adequate information about the free vortex wake  
182 simulations. We have now removed this section as per your suggestion in the  
183 beginning, and only referred to the detailed setup in the corresponding project  
184 report, for the interested reader.