New high-res resource map for the WASA domain and improved data for wind farm planning and development

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Publication date:
2014

Citation (APA):
Microscale Modelling and Applications

New high-res resource map for the WASA domain and improved data for wind farm planning and development

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WASA Final Wind Seminar
Cape Town, South Africa
Microscale Modelling and Applications

- Microscale modelling (here WAsP)
  - Verification of measurements
  - Verification of microscale modelling
  - Verification of mesoscale modelling

- High-resolution resource maps for the WASA domain
  - WAsP Resource Mapping System
  - 2013-edition based on KAMM/WAsP
  - 2014-edition based on WRF/WAsP
  - Changes from 2013 to 2014

- Summary and conclusions

- Improved data for wind farm planning and development
  - 3-km generalised wind climates (WRF, 2014)
  - Case study examples
Microscale modelling using WAsP

Wind-climatological inputs
- Three-years-worth of wind data
- Ten 62-m masts in domain
- Five levels of anemometry

Topographical inputs
- Elevation maps (SRTM 3)
- Different roughness maps

Results and data
- Wind measurements verification
- Microscale modelling verification
- WAsP workspaces and projects

Documentation reports
- Site and Station Inspection
- Observational Wind Atlas
Microscale modelling based on one met. mast
Numerical Wind Atlas 2014 – many virtual masts
WAsP Resource Mapping System

- New implementation of WAsP
  - Database of wind climates
  - Database of elevation maps
  - Database of roughness maps
- Principle of operation
  - Batch mode operation
  - Distributed computing
  - Wind atlas interpolation to every prediction site.
  - Export to GIS formats
- WAsP standard modelling
  - Industry-standard model
  - Linearized flow model
  - Default parameters
  - Standard atmosphere ($\rho$)
Available input data for detailed resource mapping

- **Verified Numerical Wind Atlas**
  - WRF mesoscale model, 3 km

- **Elevation**
  - 100-m elevation grids from Space Shuttle Topography Mission, SRTM version 3.

- **Land cover and roughness**
  - USGS Global Land Cover Characteristics database.
  - Transformation table for $z_0$
Elevation input – SRTM 3.0 versus SUDEM
WASA wind resource @ 100 m – wind speed
WASA wind resource @ 100 m – power density

Mean power density [Wm$^{-2}$] @ 100 m
WasP modelled, 250 m resolution
WASA domain terrain elevation
WASA domain terrain ruggedness index
Verification using measurements @ 10 masts

- WRF Verified Numerical Wind Atlas compared to observed winds (3y).
- Testing wind-climatological inputs
- WAsP Resource Mapping System compared to observed winds (3y).
- Testing wind & topographical inputs
Difference between 1st and 2nd edition maps
Difference between first and second edition map

- Differences from 1st to 2nd edition
  - WASA domain +1.0 ms\(^{-1}\)
  - Northern Cape +1.1 ms\(^{-1}\)
  - Western Cape +0.8 ms\(^{-1}\)
  - Eastern Cape +1.2 ms\(^{-1}\)

- Differences are largest in some
  - Coastal regions
  - Escarpments
  - Ridges and hills
  - Mountain areas

- Differences are large too in
  - Low-wind regions
  - NE Eastern Cape
High-resolution wind resource map availability

- Metadata for data sets
  - Data set specifications
  - Data set provider
  - Contact information
- Data set parameters
- Coordinate system
- Technology
  - models & input data
- Detailed notes
  - Purpose
  - Methodology
  - Limitations
  - Available documentation
  - Acknowledgements
  - Disclaimer
  - Maps of $U$, $P$, $z$ and RIX
Summary and conclusions – detailed resource map

• Wind resources in WASA domain have been mapped (again)
  – Large-scale: ~346,500 km² (5,605,565 sites)
  – High-resolution: 250-m between model sites
  – Results in public domain: wasadata.csir.co.za/wasa1

• Data sets specifically developed for
  – Planning and Strategic Environmental Assessment
  – Wind farm planning and development

• Comprehensive verification and quality assurance
  – Software development phase
  – Manual checks in several areas

• Wind resources estimated quite well now
  – VNWA on average 2% too high
  – Detailed wind resource map on average 1% too low
Wind farm planning and development

- Identification and ranking of potential wind farm sites.
- Initial analyses and design
- Project planning
- Pre-feasibility studies
  - Resource assessment
  - Some site assessment
- Design of measurement campaign
  - Number of masts
  - Siting of masts
  - Orientation of sensor booms
  - Mounting of lightning rod and navigation lights.