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# Aerodynamic performance enhancement of a Savonius wind turbine using an axisymmetric deflector

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## Abstract

The installation of wind turbines in urban sites requires consideration of the wind characteristics affecting the energy production (turbulence, environment roughness due to the surrounding buildings...), the self-starting capability and the type, hence the performance, of the wind turbine. In this paper, a three-dimensional CFD analysis of an aerodynamic Savonius wind turbine is performed under steady wind conditions. The inclusion of a deflector was also investigated, and the performance compared to the initial design.

Results of the 3D analysis showed that an optimized axisymmetric deflector improves the power coefficient in all wind directions and over the entire operating range of the turbine. The deflector also increased the average starting torque by 30%, thus extending the operating range of the turbine with respect to the wind speed.

**Keywords:** Vertical axis wind turbine, transient three-dimensional simulation, power coefficient, Savonius rotor, aerodynamics

## 1. Introduction

Wind energy is a powerful, efficient, and sustainable source of electricity. Yet urban wind turbines represent a negligible part of the total number of wind turbines (less than 10,000 in France). They are part of the small wind category (between 1 and 36 kW) according to the French (ADEME, 2015) and British (IRENA, 2015) segmentations, and are grouped under the name "small wind" in the USA (Clausen et Wood, 2000).

Until the late 2010s, interest in Urban Wind Turbines (UWT) was modest compared to other categories. In spite of the recently implemented optimized systems, UWTs display average efficiency, are not necessarily cheap and pose reliability problems. For all these reasons, the interest towards these systems, and the associated research, remains limited, although they constitute an additional energy source and can thus contribute to the energy autonomy of individuals and small companies. The main scientific hurdle is to improve their efficiency by considering both the urban environment and the specifics of urban winds, i.e. turbulence and irregularities. The present study focuses on aerodynamic optimization of a Savonius wind turbine, in view of their particular characteristics such as self-starting capability and structural stability (Kedare and Date, 1999; Wenehenubun et al., 2015).



Fig. 1. Examples of Savonius wind turbines.

The Savonius rotor consists of two vertical half-cylinders rotating around a vertical axis, but whose planar ends are offset from each other. Different shapes exist, as seen in Fig. 1.

The extensive bibliographic references on this topic help understand the dynamic behavior of this type of wind turbine; the difference in drag forces between the convex and concave blades produces a mechanical torque which ensures the rotation of turbine around its axis, as depicted in Fig. 2. However, the wide range of turbine geometries, wind speeds and experimental conditions makes it difficult to compare wind turbines and select the optimal one.

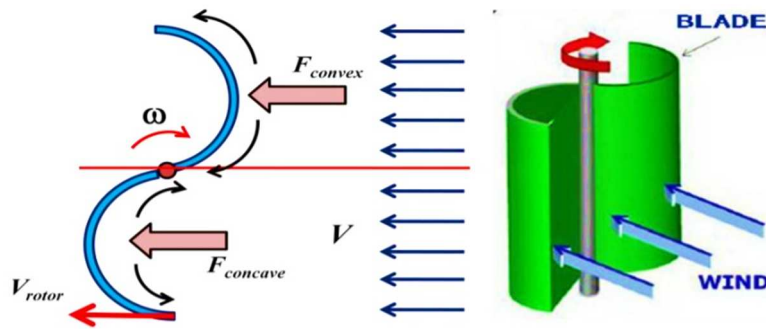


Fig. 2. Operating principle of a Savonius wind turbine (Mohamed, 2013).

The results of numerical simulations performed on new Savonius wind turbine designs (static or dynamic) are usually presented by comparing the developed torque, the torque coefficient  $C_T$  (Eq.1) and the power coefficient  $C_P$  (Eq.2), relative to the rotational speed (for the dynamic models) (Mauro et al., 2019; Meziane et al., 2020; Zakaria et al., 2020; Marinic et al., 2019).

$$C_T = \frac{T}{0.5 \rho V_\infty^2 A R} \quad (1)$$

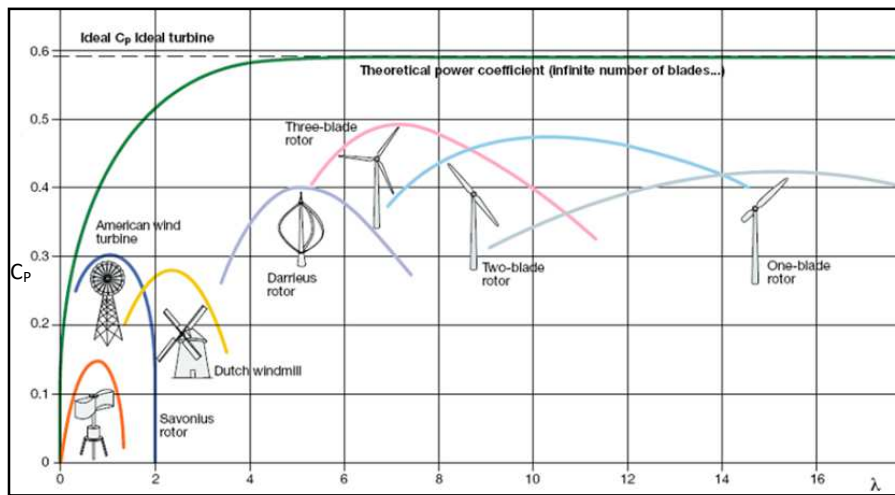
$$C_P = \frac{T \omega}{0.5 \rho V_\infty^3 A} \quad (2)$$

T is the torque developed around the axis of the wind turbine,  $\omega$  is the rotational speed of the wind turbine,  $\rho$  is the air density,  $V_\infty$  is the free airstream velocity and A is the swept area.

Fig. 3 summarizes the orders of magnitude for  $C_P$  coefficients to be used depending on tip-speed ratio  $\lambda$  (Eq. 3), which is defined as follows:

$$\lambda = \frac{R \cdot \omega}{V_\infty} \quad (3)$$

with R the radius of the turbine.



84

85 **Fig.3.** Power coefficient  $C_p$  for different wind turbine designs vs. tip-speed ratio  $\lambda$  (Alabdali et al.,  
86 2020).

87

88 It is worth noting that Savonius wind turbines are meant to be used in the lowest wind velocity  
89 conditions. Together with its high starting torque, which translates into the possibility of starting  
90 without back-up power, makes them perfectly suitable for urban areas where wind speed is  
91 naturally lower than in rural areas.

92 However, the Savonius rotor ranks low in terms of power coefficient value, but this may be of  
93 interest because the low induced tip-speed ratio translates into low acoustic nuisance (Mojica et al.,  
94 2019). This wind turbine, similarly to the Darrieus for that matter, also has the ability to take  
95 advantage of wind in all directions, without the need for a detection and control system which are  
96 mandatory for horizontal axis models. The Savonius wind turbine is also structurally superior to  
97 others and is therefore able to better resist the turbulent winds encountered in urban areas.

98 Several researchers and engineers have proposed innovative systems to increase the airflow to  
99 the turbine. Although the Betz limit caps the maximum fraction of power that a wind turbine can  
100 extract from the available wind at 59.3%, this limit may be extended by using an air converging  
101 system. Botempo et al. (2020) studied the development of an ideal air deflector upstream of a wind  
102 turbine and proved that the Betz limit can be exceeded.

103 Indeed, the power extracted from the wind is directly related to the velocity difference upstream  
104 and downstream of the wind turbine. Any increase in upstream wind velocity will increase the  
105 efficiency of the system: to this end, deflectors concentrate the mass flow of the wind toward the  
106 working area of the turbine, which increases the incoming wind speed. As seen in Fig. 4, several  
107 deflector designs have been developed over the last 40 years. Alexander et al. (1978) studied the  
108 combination of a flat and circular shield (Fig. 4a), and calculated  $C_{pmax}=0.243$ . Morcos et al. (1981)  
109 used a flat-shaped baffle plate facing the wind turbine (Fig. 4b) and reported  $C_{pmax}=0.34$ . Ogawa et  
110 al. (1986) used a V-shaped baffle plate (Fig. 4c) which resulted in a  $C_{pmax}$  value of 0.212. Shaughnessy  
111 et al. (1992) investigated another type of V-shaped wind concentrator (Fig. 4d) which increases  
112 power by nearly 19.7% compared to a standard rotor with no deflector.

113 Circular deflectors (Fig. 4e) have also been investigated to decrease the wind pressure exerted on  
114 the convex blade (Yonghai et al., 2009). The use of concentration deflectors (Fig. 4f) upstream of the  
115 rotor minimizes the flow on the returning blade to reduce the negative torque (Burçin et al., 2010).  
116 One more paper discusses the integration of an obstacle shield (Fig. 4g) to lower the negative  
117 torque, which improves the rotor performance by up to 30% (Mohammed et al., 2010). Golecha et  
118 al. (2011) used a deflector plate (Fig. 4h) upstream of the advancing blade and achieved a 50%  
119 increase in performance over the semi-circular bladed rotor. Roy et al. (2014) used wind deflectors  
120 at the inlet (Fig. 4i) and obtained  $C_{pmax}=0.32$ . Guide vanes (Fig. 4j) also improve the rotor  
121 performance (El-Askary et al., 2015). Finally, a conveyor-deflector curtain (Fig. 4k) placed in a  
122 conventional Savonius rotor increased  $C_p$  up to 0.30 (Tartuferi et al., 2015).

123

124

Authors	Deflector designs	Authors	Deflector designs
(a) Alexander et al. (1978)		(g) Mohammed et al. (2010)	
(b) Morcos et al. (1981)		(h) Golecha et al. (2011)	
(c) Shaughnessy et al. (1992)		(i) Roy et al. (2014)	
(d) Ogawa et al. (1986)		(j) El-Askary et al. (2015)	
(e) Yonghai et al. (2009)		(k) Tartuferi et al. (2015)	
(f) Burçin et al. (2010)			

Fig. 4. Different convergent designs for Savonius wind turbines.

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The main drawback of these systems is operating mode, which increases the turbine efficiency for one wind direction only.

Moreover, numerical studies focusing on the performance of deflectors are usually performed in 2D, without considering the wake effect, the height/diameter ratio of the wind turbine or the presence of end plates. It can be assumed that their results may be optimistic compared to experimental data.

Some of these deflectors require a steering mechanism for proper alignment with the wind direction, but these additional devices consume energy, add complexity and weak points in the maintenance.

The objective of this study is therefore to propose a system able to concentrate the incoming airflow from all directions while remaining simple in design, with no energy-consuming steering mechanism to reduce future maintenance interventions.

The aerodynamic optimization of the wind turbine requires the addition of a single part, with simple design and manufacturing, namely an axisymmetric deflector that requires no alignment in the wind direction. To the best of the authors' knowledge, such device has never been studied before in the

143 literature. For this purpose, a Savonius wind turbine has been parameterized, and a 3D numerical  
144 optimization has been performed to define the optimal dimensional characteristics of the deflector.  
145 In a second step, the numerical results have been compared with experimental data from the  
146 literature for validation purposes.

147 Results obtained from the 3D numerical model will help define potential improvements in the  
148 turbine performance, by adding an optimal deflector in an urban operating environment.

149

## 150 2. Methodology

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### 152 2.1. Geometry of the Savonius wind turbine model

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154 The main geometric parameters impacting the performance of the Savonius rotor are summarized in  
155 Fig. 5 and are defined as follows:

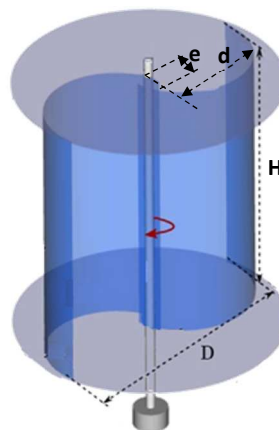
156 • The blades of a Savonius wind turbine are typically between 1 and 3 in number. As  
157 mentioned by previous studies (Ross et al., 2011; Akwa et al., 2012), we selected a 2-blade  
158 system which features the best performance and power coefficient.

159 • The ratio of turbine height to turbine diameter called Aspect Ratio  $A_R = H/D$ . Sobczak et al.  
160 (2018) note that an  $A_R$  ratio between 1.0 and 2.0 is a good compromise between performance  
161 and compactness. We selected  $A_R = 1.66$ , defined by height  $H=1.5\text{m}$  and diameter  $D= 0.9 \text{ m}$ .

162 • The presence or absence of end plates on which the blades rest to channel the incident flow.  
163 Saha et al. (2008) recommend an optimal ratio of 1.1 between the plates and rotor  
164 diameters.

165 • The dimensionless gap width defined by ratio  $e/d$ . According to Fujisawa et al. (1991), turbine  
166 efficiency is optimal for a value of 0.15. Blackwell et al. (1977) propose a range from 0.1 to  
167 0.15, while Menet (2004) advises a value 0.242 and Akwa et al. (2012) 0.15. In view of these  
168 recommendations, we opt for an overlap value of 0.15.

169



170

171 **Fig. 5.** Geometric parameters of the Savonius wind turbine (Roy et al., 2018).

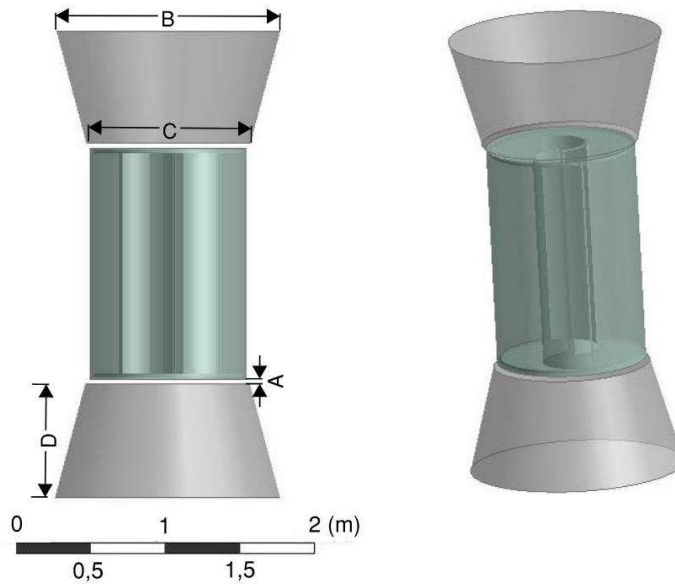
172

### 173 2.2. Key features of the deflector

174

175 As shown in Fig. 6, the convergent has a simple, axisymmetric shape. The profile consists of a  
176 truncated cone whose dimensions will be defined by a geometric optimization on the following  
177 parameters: A is the gap between the convergent and the turbine; B, the large diameter of the  
178 truncated cone; C, the small diameter of the truncated cone and D the height of the truncated cone.  
179 The deflector truncated cones are non-rotating fixed. Although the mounting system of the  
180 deflectors is not represented in Fig. 6, it is thought to be completely dissociated and independent  
181 from the turbine structure.

182



183  
184 **Fig. 6.** Geometry of the deflector used.  
185

186 The optimization of these dimensional parameters aims at maximizing the static torque  
187 developed around the turbine axis. 3D optimization is achieved using the ANSYS® response surface  
188 tool. After setting the geometric constraints of our input parameters A, B, C and D and the target  
189 output parameter, a sensitivity study is proposed in the form of a response surface with respect to  
190 the most influential parameters. After several iterations, the optimal dimensions obtained for the  
191 deflector are: A = 5 cm; B = 150 cm; C = 105 cm and D = 75 cm.

192  
193 *2.3. Geometric parameters of the numerical model*  
194

195 The present study is based on a dynamic three-dimensional CFD simulation. The geometry of the  
196 urban wind turbine was created using ANSYS DesignModeler® software. The use of a sliding mesh to  
197 simulate the rotation of the wind turbine around its axis required the creation of 2 domains: one  
198 stationary and one rotating. The dimensions of the computational domain shown in Fig. 7 were  
199 chosen according to the recommendations of El-Askary et al. (2015). Computations and post-  
200 processing were performed using FLUENT® 2020 R2. Several rotational speeds are imposed to the  
201 rotating subdomain to model the aerodynamic performance of the wind turbine over the entire  
202 operating range.

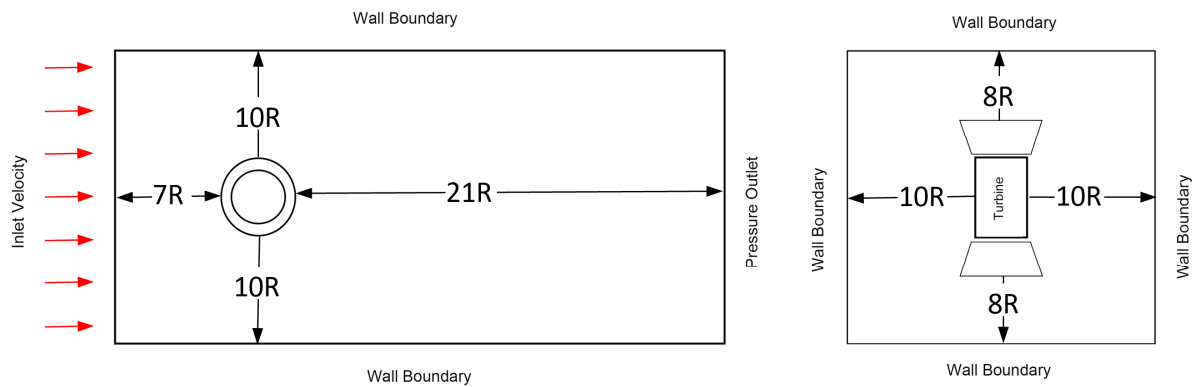
203 Boundary conditions involve a no-slip condition on the fixed walls of the stationary domain, as  
204 well as on the deflector and wind turbine. A constant velocity of 7 m/s with a turbulence intensity of  
205 5% is imposed at the inlet of the computational domain and a pressure-outlet condition (constant  
206 atmospheric pressure) is imposed at the outlet.

207 The velocity used for the calculation of power coefficient  $C_p$  is rectified according to (Eq.4; Eq.5) to  
208 account for the flow concentration induced by the external domain walls:

209 
$$V = V_{\infty}(1 + \varepsilon_t) \quad (4)$$

210 
$$\varepsilon_t = \frac{1}{4} \frac{A_t}{A_{wt}} \quad (5)$$

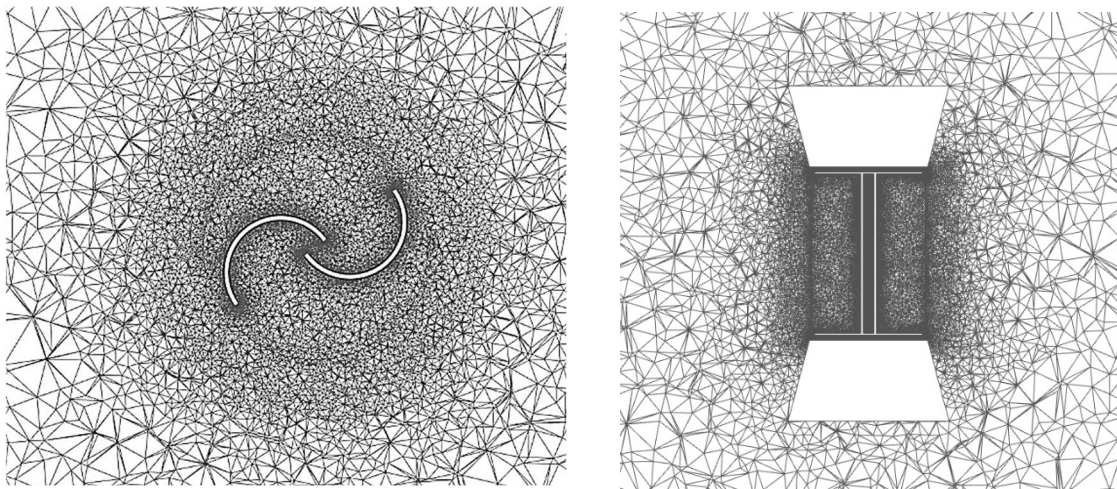
211 with  $A_t$  the frontal section of the wind turbine and  $A_{wt}$  the fixed section of the domain (Ross et al.,  
212 2011; Jeong et al., 2018).



**Fig. 7.** Domain dimensions and boundary conditions.

### 2.3.1. Stationary and sliding meshes

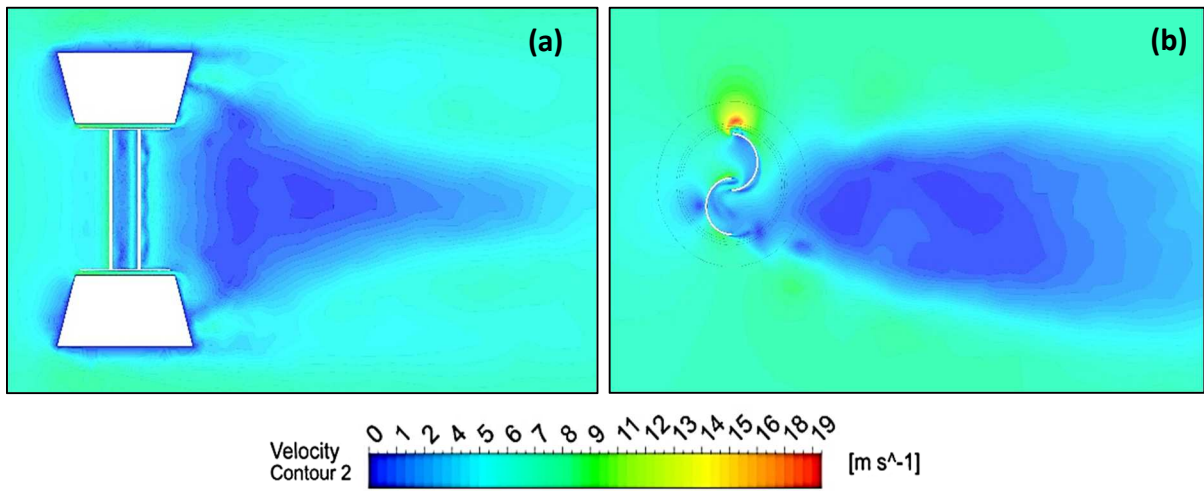
Simulation of a system involving a rotating part is a challenge that requires the use of the sliding meshing method (Marmutova 2016), as the rotating motion of the rotor requires a separate region with different meshing requirements (deflectors are fixed). The stationary subdomain is obtained by extracting the rotating part and the designed deflector from the initial computational domain. Then the rotating subdomain is modeled and added as a separate cylinder, as seen in Fig. 8. An optimal interface between the two subdomains is achieved using the shared topology method at the geometry level, which the meshing is developed upon.



**Fig. 8.** Details of the stationary and sliding meshes.

An unstructured mesh was generated using Ansys meshing software and consists of 4.5 million tetrahedral elements Fig. 8. A mesh sensitivity analysis was performed on a 4.5, 6 and 7 million tetrahedral element meshes and showed no significant improvement in the accuracy of the output torque. Downstream of the rotor, the mesh was refined to capture wake vortices. In addition, an inflation mesh consisting of 18 layers of prismatic elements around the blades was created around the airfoil to reach appropriate  $y^+$  values. The dimensionless height of the first mesh node adjacent to wall  $y^+$  has a major impact on the simulation results. Indeed, the torque produced around the axis of the wind turbine imposes a fine resolution of the viscous sublayer, hence the need for a  $y^+$  value below 5 on the blades. This optimized mesh made it possible to achieve an average value of  $y^+$  of 1.8 on the turbine surface.

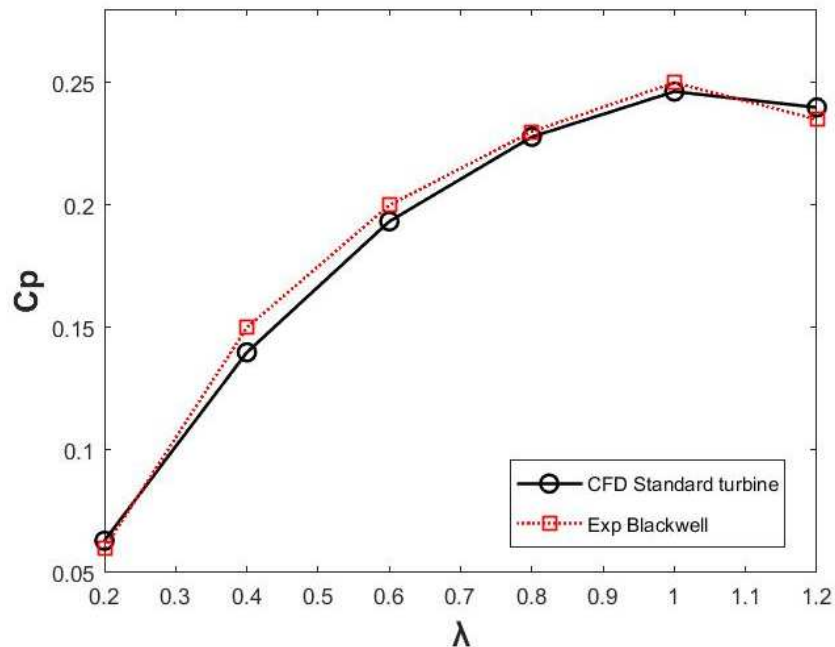




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244  
245 **Fig. 9.** Visualization of the velocity continuity between the 2 meshed subdomains. **(a)** horizontal  
246 velocity contour at  $z = 0$ , **(b)** vertical velocity contour at  $y = 0$ .

247  
248  
249 **2.3.2. Turbulence model**

250  
251 The most widely used turbulence model to account for the aerodynamic behavior of 3D wind  
252 turbines is  $K\omega$ -SST (Rezaieha et al., 2019; Ghazalla et al., 2019; Alom et al., 2021). Several other  
253 models are also implemented like TSST (Saheen et al., 2015) or Realizable  $K-\epsilon$  (Mohammed et  
254 Thevenin, 2010; Kumar et al., 2017). Numerical comparisons with experimental data from Blackwell  
255 et al. (1977) showed that all these numerical models underestimate the experimental results, which  
256 is consistent with studies by Ferrari et al. (2017) and Mohammed et al. (2010). It was also found that  
257 the  $K\omega$ -SST model is the most appropriate for our simulations, as seen in Fig. 10. This model was  
258 therefore selected.



260  
261 **Fig. 10.** Comparison of power coefficient  $C_p$  between experimental data from Blackwell et al. (1977)  
262 and the dynamic,  $K\omega$ -SST-based simulation model with rotating mesh vs. velocity coefficient  $\lambda$ .

263  
264 Scientific works about wind turbines generally rely on power coefficient  $C_p$  for both evaluation  
265 and comparison purposes, since it quantifies the performance of the turbine over the entire

266 operating spectrum. As such, this parameter constitutes a reliable measure of the capacity of the  
267 turbine to collect energy from the wind.

268  
269 **2.3.3. Simulation settings**  
270

271 To evaluate the wind turbine performance over the whole operating range, six values of tip-  
272 speed ratio  $\lambda$  were simulated (0.2 to 1.2, step 0.2). The values of  $\lambda$ , corresponding angular velocities  
273 and time steps used for each calculation are summarized in [Tab.1](#).

274 The time step is set to a value corresponding to the time needed for the turbine to perform a  $0.5^\circ$   
275 and  $-1^\circ$  rotation for each value of  $\lambda$ . Such precaution avoids divergences in CFD computations  
276 ([Marmutova 2016](#)).

277

$\lambda$	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1	1.2
Angular velocity (rd.s <sup>-1</sup> )	2.8	5.6	8.4	11.2	14	16.8
Time Step (s)	0.005	0.002	0.0015	0.0012	0.001	0.0008

278 **Table 1** Simulation settings.

279 Monitoring the torque developed around the wind turbine axis makes it possible to assess its  
280 aerodynamic performance. Indeed, in the case of an “ideal” rotating turbine (i.e. without friction),  
281 the value of torque would be zero for a constant, imposed wind velocity in a stationary regime.  
282 Therefore, it is sufficient to evaluate and compare, under identical conditions, the values of torque  
283 with and without a deflector to conclude on the induced impact on the intrinsic performance of the  
284 wind turbine. Practically, an increase in performance will translate in the resulted torque as well as  
285 the power coefficient  $C_p$ .

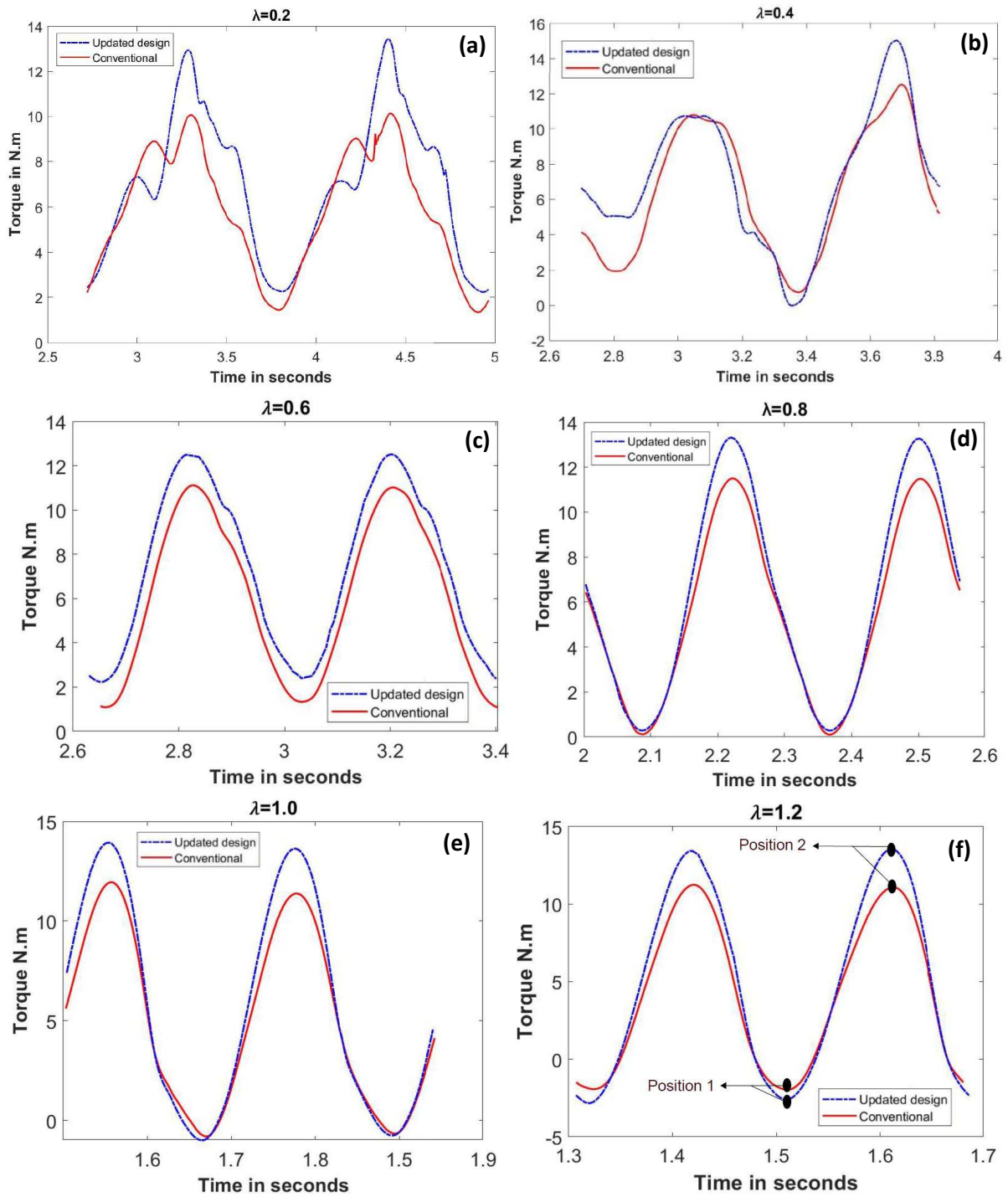
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287 **3. Results**  
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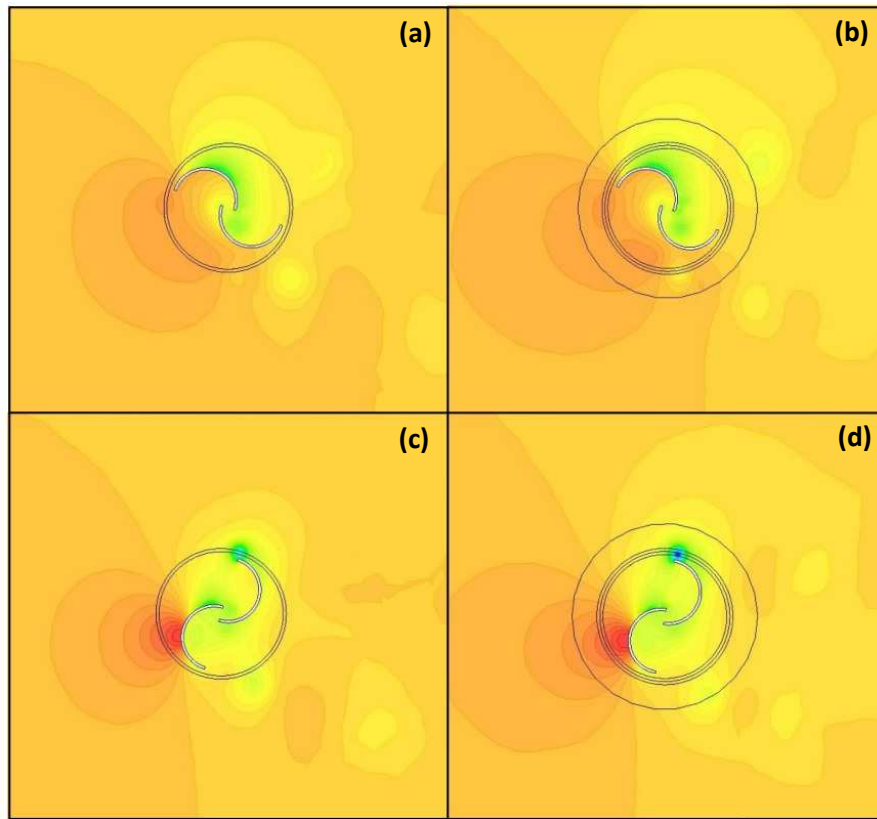
289  $C_T$  and  $C_p$  coefficients are key indicators of the wind turbine performance and are widely used in  
290 the literature as a basis for comparison between numerical and experimental results. As shown in  
291 [Eq.1](#) and [Eq.2](#), for a constant wind velocity and an imposed angular velocity, calculating the torque  
292 delivered around the axis of the wind turbine is the only way of obtaining power coefficient  $C_p$  of the  
293 different wind turbines. As far as numerical simulations are concerned, only this physical parameter  
294 is able to predict the performance of the wind turbine proposed in this study. The  
295 Torques delivered by conventional (without deflector) and updated (with deflector) wind turbine are  
296 plotted in [Fig. 11](#), for all values of  $\lambda$  summarized in [Tab. 1](#). It is noted that the torque representations  
297 shown in [Fig. 11](#) were plotted after 5 complete revolutions to ensure stabilization of the results.

298 Furthermore, the pressure contours of these 2 wind turbines are displayed in [Fig. 12](#) for two  
299 different angular positions in which torque is negative. [Fig. 13](#) displays the pressure contours along  
300 with the velocity streamlines flowing through the wind turbine. Finally, [Fig. 14](#) summarizes the  
301 performance of the wind turbines by evaluating the delivered torque versus angular velocity in RPM  
302 ([Fig. 14a](#)), and power coefficient  $C_p$  versus velocity coefficient  $\lambda$  ([Fig. 14b](#)).

303

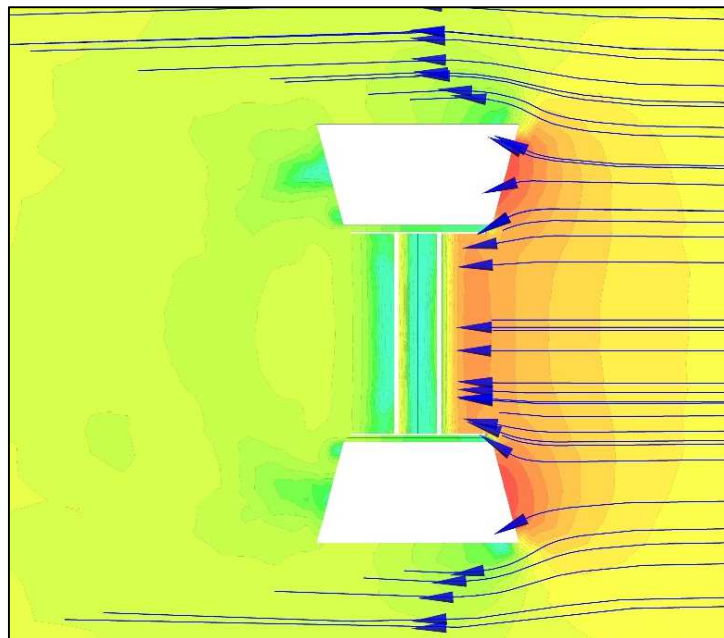


**Fig. 11.** Instantaneous torque around the axis of the wind turbine, with (dotted) and without (solid) deflector for different values of  $\lambda$ .



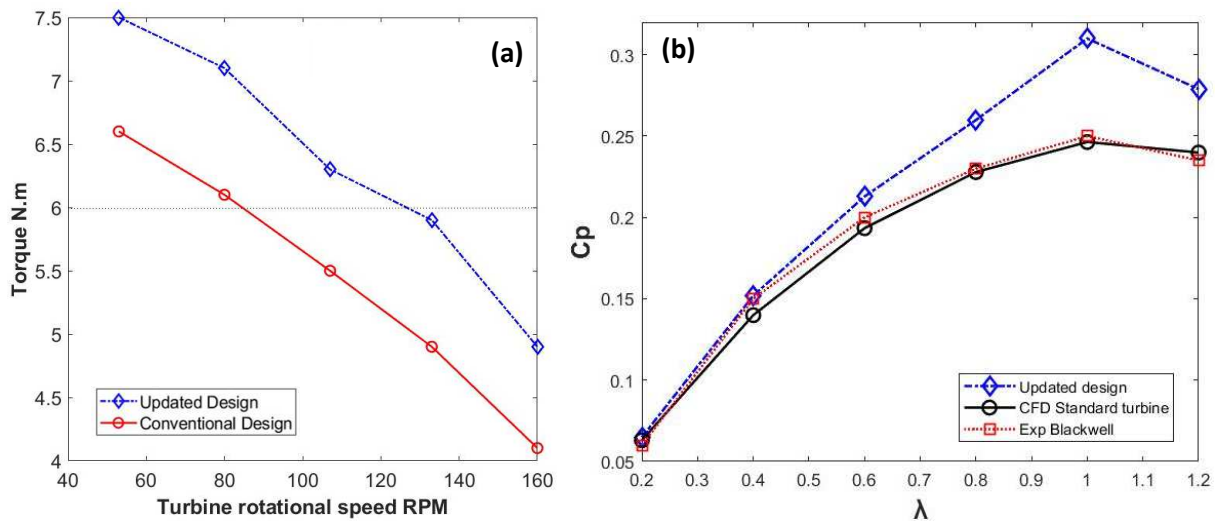
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**Fig. 12.** Pressure contours in the median plane with and without convergent for an angular velocity of 160 RPM at different angular positions noted in Fig. 11f. **(a)** conventional wind turbine - angular position 1, **(b)** wind turbine with deflector - angular position 1, **(c)** conventional wind turbine - angular position 2, **(d)** wind turbine with deflector - angular position 2.



317  
318  
319

**Fig. 13.** Pressure contours in the median plane with velocity streamlines.



320

321 **Fig. 14. (a)** Delivered torque vs. angular velocity; **(b)** Comparison of  $C_p$  between experimental data  
 322 from Blackwell et al. (1977), numerical results of the conventional wind turbine and of the wind  
 323 turbine with convergent.

324

#### 325 4. Discussion

326

327 Fig. 11 shows that the evolution of torque value is periodic, with fluctuations around a mean  
 328 value. The performance of the wind turbine depends on the angular position of the rotor, and reach  
 329 higher values for given angular positions. By calculating the average torque for different tip speed  
 330 ratios  $\lambda$ , the power coefficients  $C_p$  of different wind turbines can be obtained. Besides, knowledge of  
 331 these fluctuations is valuable in the structural design of wind turbines.

332 Under a wind speed of  $7 \text{ m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ , the average torque of both wind turbines decreases as  $\lambda$  increases,  
 333 which is expected since relative wind velocity with respect to the rotating blades decreases with the  
 334 increase of the angular velocity. Fig. 11 shows similar curves for the two types of turbines, except  
 335 that a noticeable offset from the ordinate axis is observed. The average torques vs. angular velocity  
 336 are shown in Fig. 14a. Clearly, the wind turbine with axisymmetric deflector delivers higher torques  
 337 compared to the conventional wind turbine under the same conditions and can be considered as  
 338 significantly more efficient. A similar conclusion may be drawn by analyzing Fig. 14b, with higher  
 339 values of coefficient  $C_p$  for the new design. It is worth noting that the  $C_p$  computation based on the  
 340 Eq. 2 used the same swept area  $A$  for the two proposed turbines, which is the only rotating in both  
 341 configurations.

342 The velocity streamlines plotted in Fig. 13 reflect the working mechanism of the proposed deflector.  
 343 Naturally, the truncated cones redirect the airflow to the rotor which increases the mass flow rate of  
 344 air moving through the turbine. Pressure upstream the rotor is increased, as reflected in Fig. 13.

345

346 Torque fluctuations are much more pronounced at low speeds, and the curves become smoother  
 347 and more sinusoidal at high angular velocities. Such result does not stem from numerical errors,  
 348 since all computations are carried out using a time step that corresponds to a rotation of  $0.5^\circ$  to  $-1^\circ$ .

349

350 To study the aerodynamics at angular position 1 (negative torque, constant wind speed, angular  
 351 velocity 160 RPM, see Fig. 11f), the pressure contours have been plotted in Fig. 12c and Fig. 12d. The  
 352 difference between the upstream and downstream pressure around each blade defines the drag  
 353 force. Quite expectedly, the drag force on the driven blade is much larger than that on the driving  
 354 blade. Fig. 12c.d shows a more pronounced pressure contrast (red upstream / blue downstream) on  
 355 the driven blade compared to the driving paddle (green upstream / green downstream). The driven  
 356 blade therefore prevails, and the resulting torque is negative which induces braking of the wind  
 357 turbine at 1.5 s when the angular velocity of the turbine is at 160 RPM. It is also worth mentioning  
 358 that the average non-instantaneous torque has a positive value of 4.9 Nm (with convergent) and  
 359 4.1 Nm for a conventional Savonius wind turbine.

360 Regarding angular position 2 (positive torque, constant wind speed, angular velocity 160  
 361 RPM, see Fig. 12f), the pressure contours have been plotted in Fig. 12a and Fig. 12b. The pressure  
 362 contrast is more pronounced on the driving blade, leading to positive torque and acceleration of  
 363 the turbine at 1.62 s when the turbine is rotating at 160 RPM.

364 Considering a constant torque value of 6 Nm, the two turbines display different angular  
 365 velocities. Indeed, as shown in Fig. 14a, the conventional wind turbine rotates at 84 RPM, while the  
 366 convergent one can rotate at 126 RPM, i.e. an increase of 50% in angular velocity resulting in  
 367 significant gain in the power coefficient (see Eq.2).

368 Finally, the dynamic 3D simulation highlights that the wind turbine with optimized deflector  
 369 increases the Savonius performance coefficient by 25% over the entire speed range (including start-  
 370 up), with  $C_{Pmax}=0.31$ , recorded for a velocity coefficient  $\lambda=1.0$  (see Fig. 14b).

371 Table 2 presents literature results of studies conducted on deflectors, all with static unidirectional  
 372 orientation, i.e. concentration of wind coming from a predominant direction. These deflectors have  
 373 a negative impact on all other directions, unless a yaw mechanism is added. However, as mentioned  
 374 earlier, higher energy consumption and more complex design and maintenance should be  
 375 considered. Considering that urban winds are turbulent in both amplitude and direction,  
 376 axisymmetric deflectors will perform better and collect more energy. Yet systems featuring values of  
 377  $C_{Pmax}$  greater than 0.31 are derived from experiments carried out in wind tunnels or 2D CFD  
 378 simulations, which are known to be more "optimistic" than 3D CFD simulations, as indicated by  
 379 Marinic et al. (2020) and Ferrari et al. (2017).

380

Authors	Design	Reported $C_{Pmax}$	Study	Wind concentrator
El-Askary et al., 2015	Curtain design	>0.5	2D CFD	Unidirectional
Burçin et al., 2010	Curtain design	0.38	Wind tunnel	Unidirectional
Morcos et al., 1981	Flat plate shield	0.34	Wind tunnel	Unidirectional
Roy et al., 2013	V-shaped deflector	0.32	Wind tunnel	Unidirectional
<b>Present work</b>	<b>Axisymmetric deflector</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>3D CFD</b>	<b>Axisymmetric multidirectional</b>
Tartuferi et al., 2015	Curtain design	0.3	2D CFD	Self-rotating
Yonghai et al., 2009	Deflector plate	0.28*	2D CFD	Unidirectional
Golecha et al., 2011	Deflector plate	0.26	Wind tunnel	Unidirectional
Mohamed et al., 2010	Obstacle shielding	0.25	2D CFD	Unidirectional
Mohamed et Thevenin, 2010	Obstacle shielding with guide vane	0.25	2D CFD	Unidirectional
Alexander et Holownia, 1978	Flat plate shield	0.24	Wind tunnel	Unidirectional
Ogawa et Yoshida, 1986	Deflector plate	0.22*	Wind tunnel	Unidirectional
Ogawa et Yoshida, 1986	Deflector plate	0.21	Wind tunnel	Unidirectional
Shaughnessy et Probert, 1992	V-shaped deflector	<0.12*	Wind tunnel	Unidirectional

381

382 **Table 2**  $C_{Pmax}$  reported in the literature for Savonius deflectors. The values of  $C_{Pmax}$  in studies marked  
 383 with an asterisk\* were extrapolated.

384

385 The deflector design is easy to manufacture and can be independent of the wind turbine design.  
 386 It can be added to existing Savonius turbines at reasonable cost, or even be adapted to other types  
 387 of axial wind turbines, such as Darrieus turbines which offer higher levels of performance.

388

389

## 390 5. Conclusion

391

392 In this work, a new type of deflector for the Savonius wind turbine is presented to improve its  
 393 performance. This deflector is an axisymmetric truncated cone, designed and optimized by a  
 394 numerical method. The main advantage of this shape is that it redirects the wind from all directions  
 395 into the Savonius blades. Current devices which are unidirectional fully functional for only one wind  
 396 direction unless they are equipped with a specific system of reorientation in the wind direction. The  
 397 proposed solution has the advantage of being free of any risk of maladjustment or maintenance. It  
 398 does not require any specific mechanism because the deflectors are immobile. Comparisons  
 399 between experimental measurements from the literature and a numerical model with and without a  
 400 deflector were performed. Three-dimensional simulations with the KSST turbulence model have  
 401 demonstrated the potential of a wind turbine equipped with this deflector, as well as its advantages

402 over the solutions studied in the literature. This new deflector allows to reach a value of  $CP_{max}=0.31$   
403 and thus to increase the performance of the wind turbine by 25% in all wind configurations  
404 (intensity and direction) as well as at start-up, a key issue in the field of urban wind turbines.

405 Other works, both numerical and experimental, are in progress, and investigate the possible  
406 improvements of this deflector, or on its behavior in an urban environment (presence of obstacles or  
407 combination of several wind turbines and influence of the wakes, for example) as well as on its  
408 adaptation to a Darrieus-type wind turbine.

409  
410

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415  
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