

WEPROG

Weather & Energy PROGnoses

RAVE 
RESEARCH AT ALPHA VENTUS
Eine Forschungsinitiative des Bundesumweltministeriums

Advances on shortest-term predictability with Ensemble Kalman filtering

Funded on the base of an act
of the German Parliament

Supervisor

Coordination



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für Umwelt, Naturschutz
und Reaktorsicherheit

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IWES

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Introduction to the Offshore forecasting problem

What characterizes offshore wind power:

- >> high load factor (often between 40-50% of inst. capacity)
- >> high variability of the wind power

What characterizes offshore wind power forecasting:

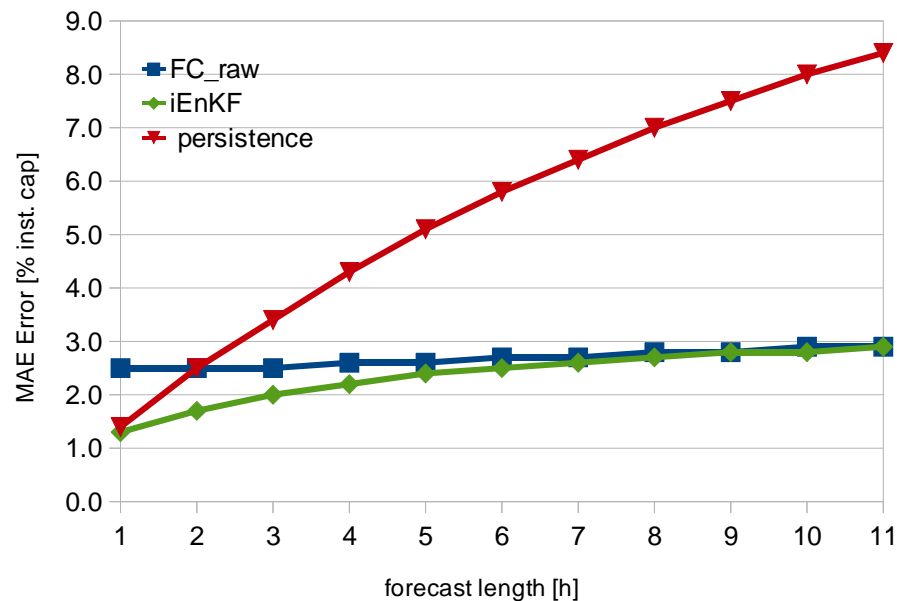
- >> the forecast error is low relative to the generated power (~25% day-ahead)
- >> the forecast error is high relative to the installed capacity (~20% day-ahead)
- >> the forecast error growth is higher than on land due to uncertainty in the weather forecast process !



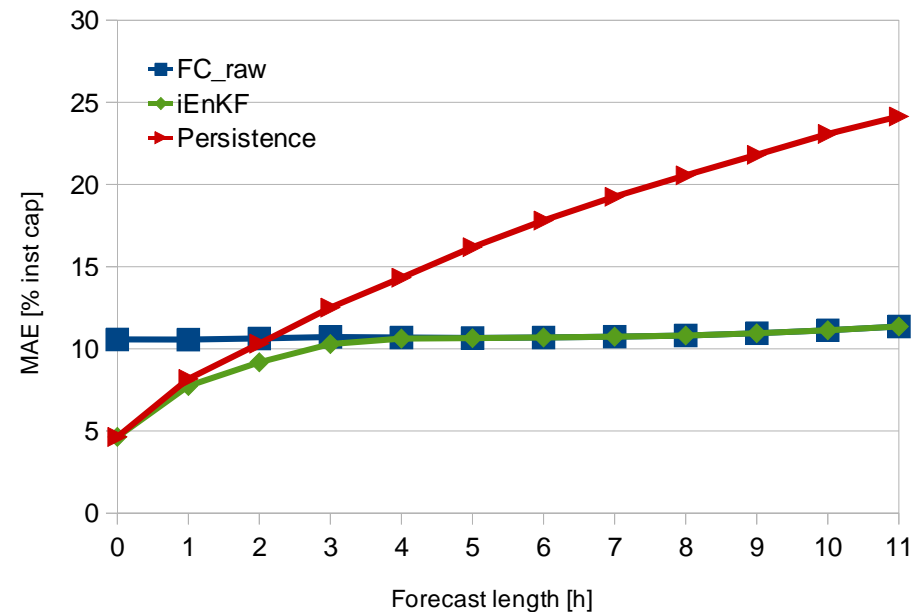
Statistics of short-term forecasting

Verification period: Jan 2011 – Dec 2011

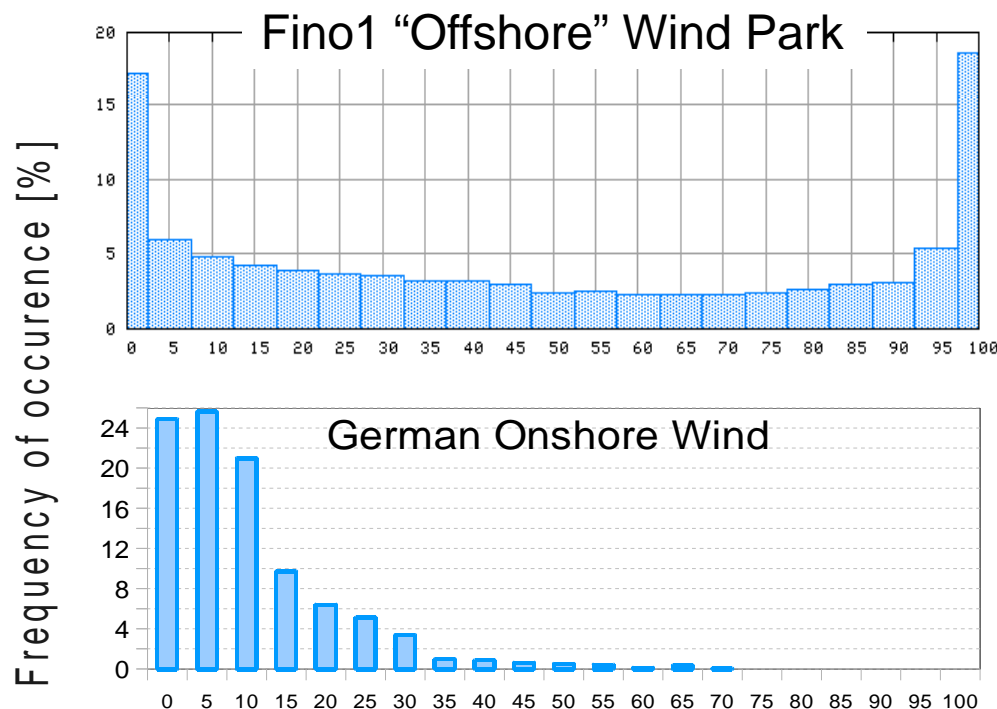
German Onshore Wind Power



Alpha Ventus Offshore Wind Park



Frequency distribution of power production



Main difference between Onshore and Offshore power production:
very different production pattern

Characteristics of offshore wind power:

- **many hours with full load**
- **high variability:**
 many hours at the steep part of the power curve

Advantage:

Offshore power will change total power production to a more even distribution

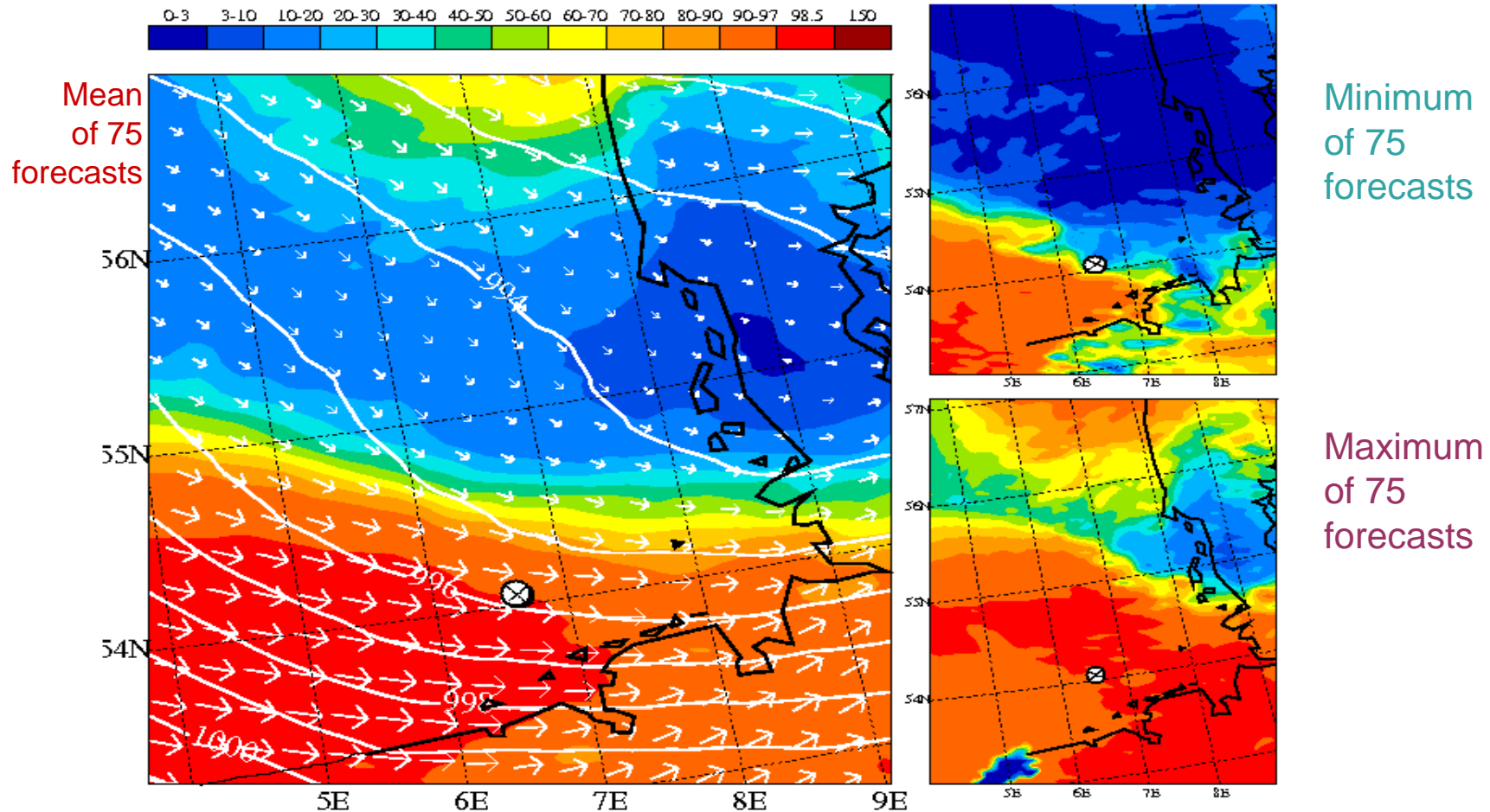
=> requires that the grid can transport power away!

Power Generation [% installed capacity]

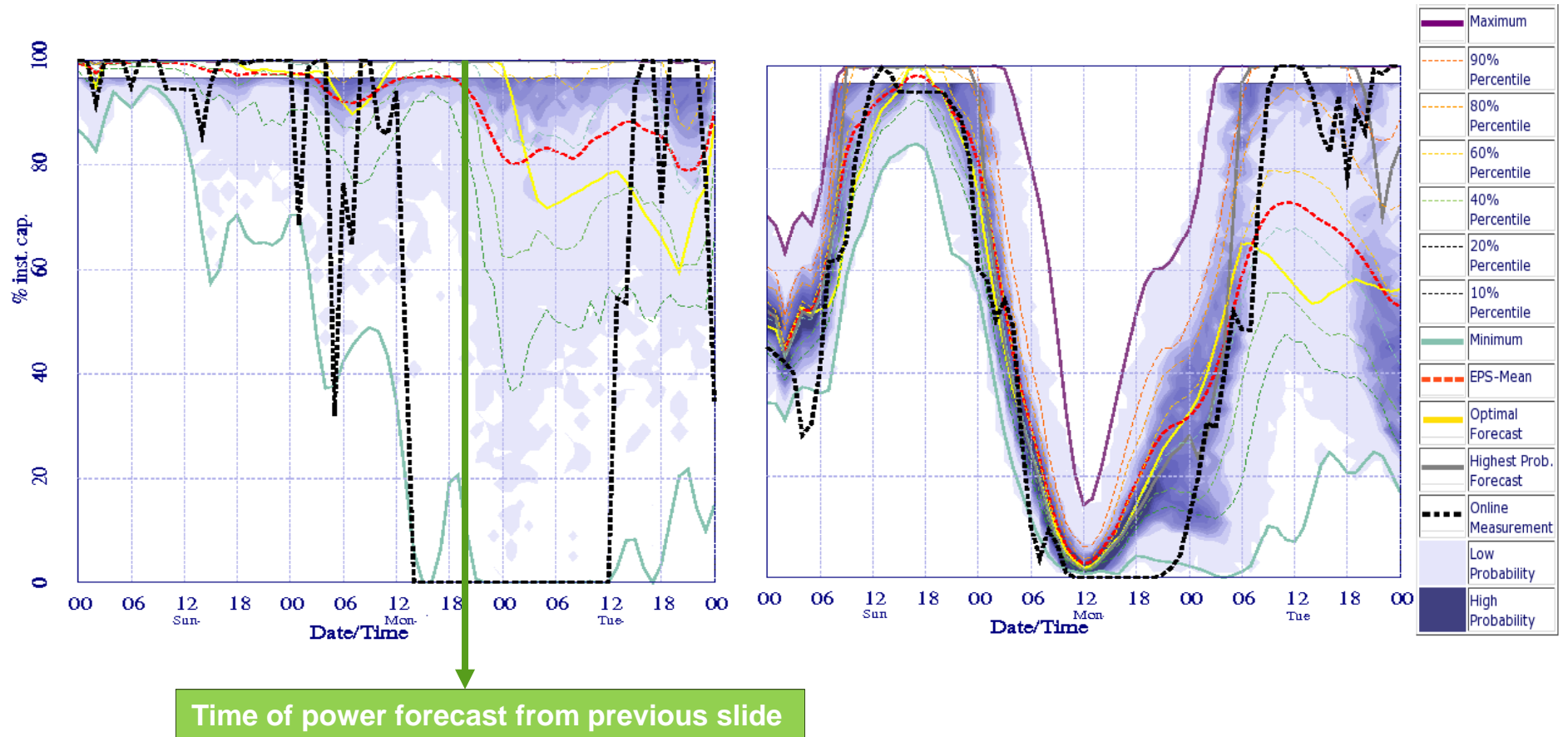


Example of weather Uncertainty at Alpha Ventus

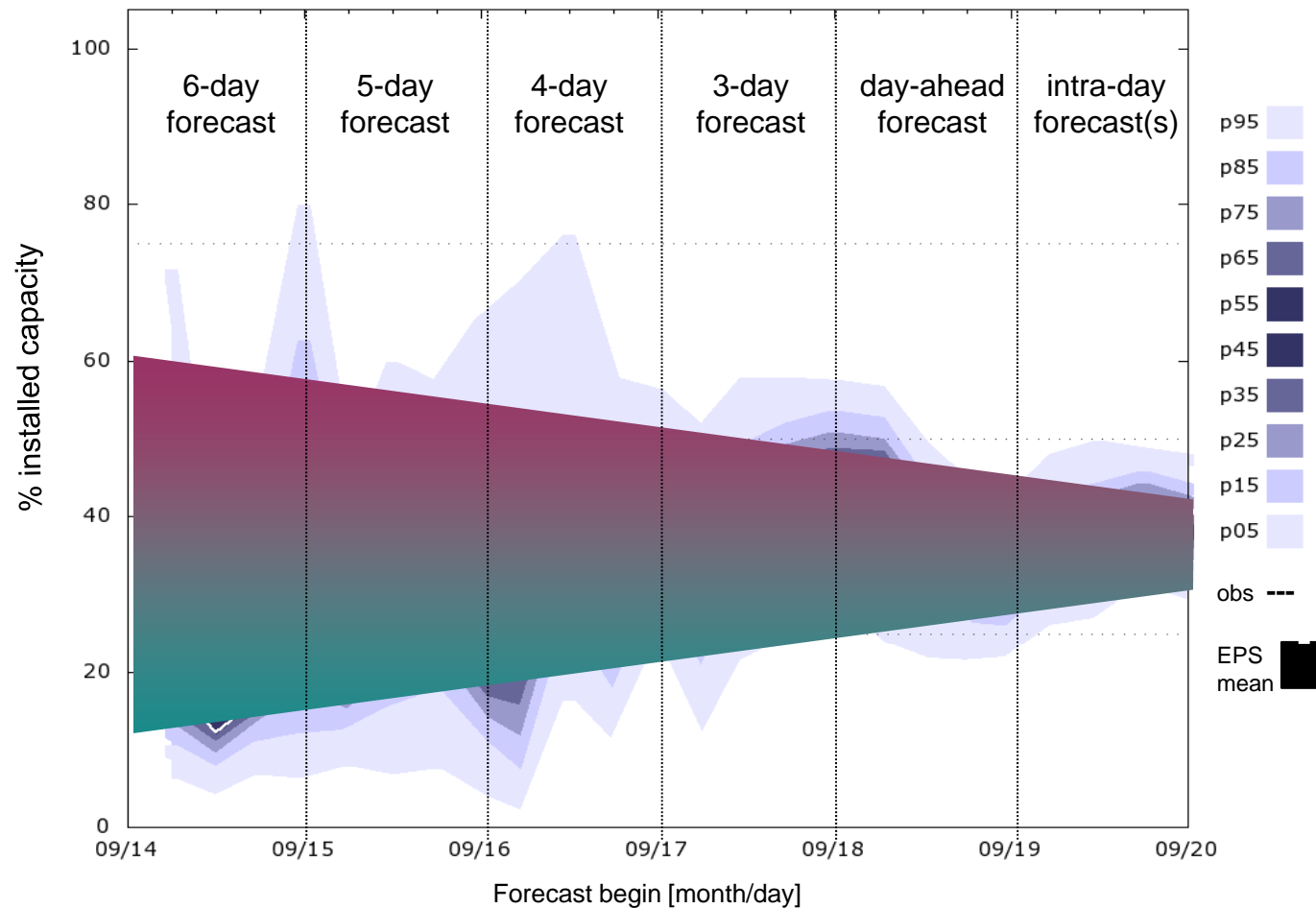
Mean, Maximum and Minimum of 75 forecasts as wind power potential



2 Examples of typical Uncertainty at Alpha Ventus



Changes of Forecast Quality over 6 days



Schematic depiction of the change in uncertainty spread for different forecast horizons.

Forecast starting with 144 hours in 6 hour intervals, up to the point in time when the forecast is valid. (2011/09/20 at 3:00UTC).

The black dashed line depicts the measurements at 2011/09/20 at 3:00UTC, the white line is the so called optimum forecast, the blue shaded areas are percentiles



Forecast challenges and requirements

- * Offshore wind farms show higher variability and lower predictability
 - > Many wind farms of similar size reduce the high variability
 - > But, there will always be need for some automatic frequency control
 - errors will always exist !

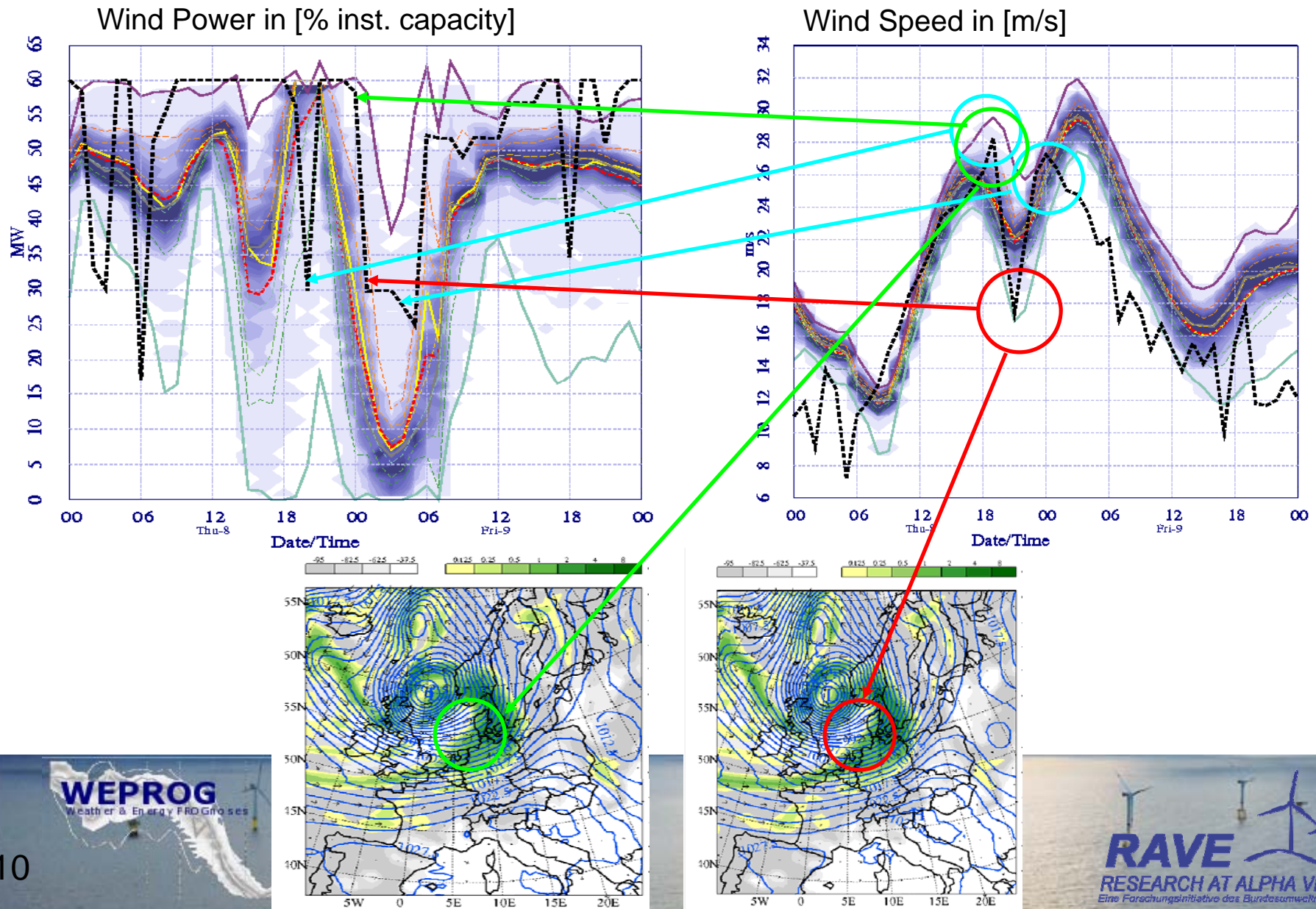
In order to guarantee a safe and economically feasible operation we need:

Weather dependent short-term forecasts

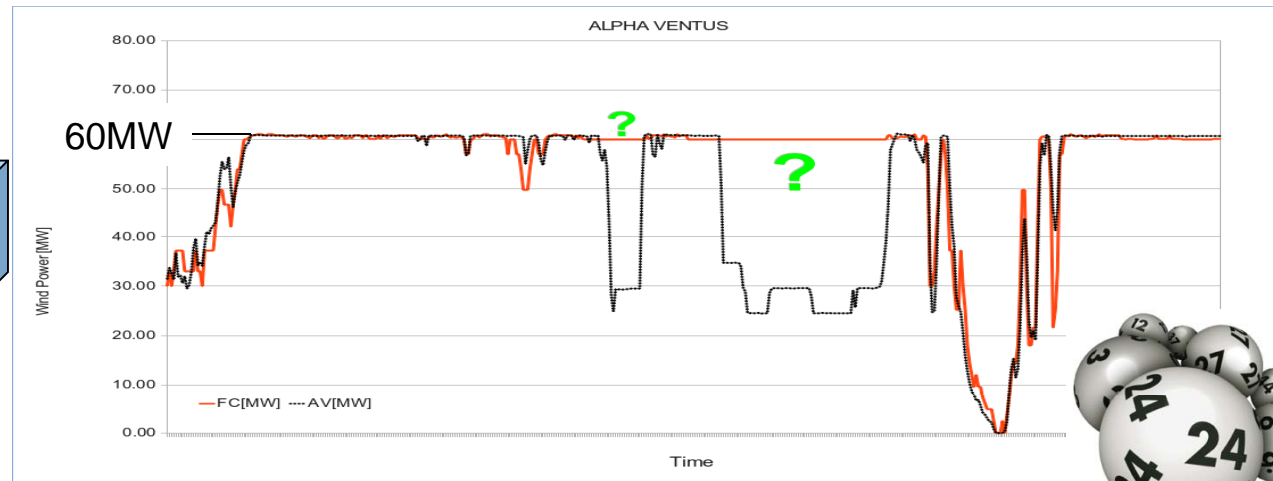
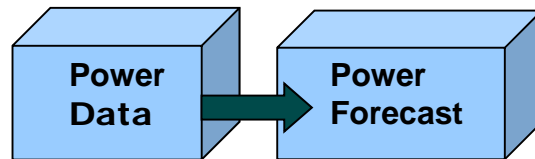
Uncertainty forecasts



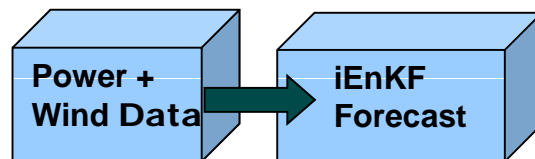
Example computation of the iEnKF algorithm at a site with wind and power measurements



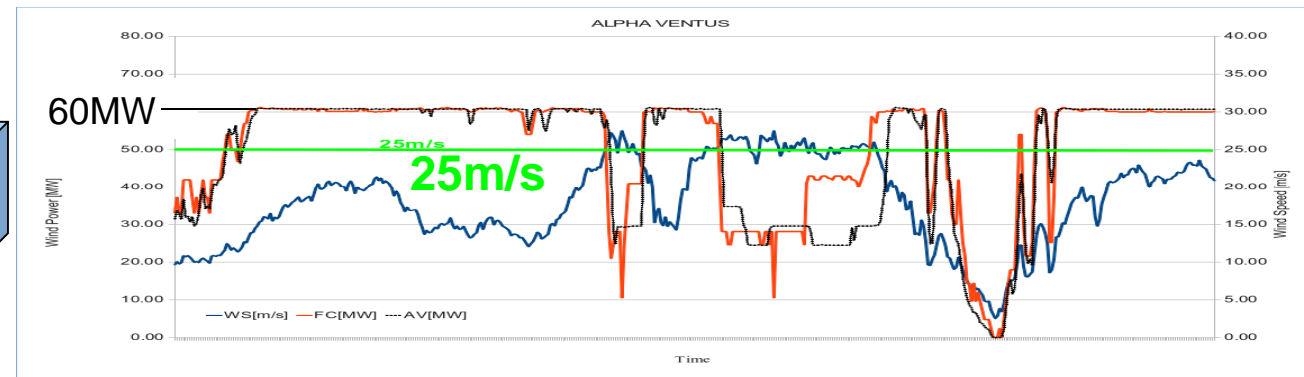
Forecast comparison for Offshore wind parks



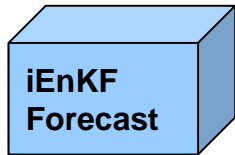
Cut-off Forecast **NOT** possible ==> **it's like playing lotto**



Forecasts with
windspeed influence
(machine adaptation)



Cut-offs prediction **possible** ==> **no gambling required:**
wind speed measurement clearly indicates risk of cutoff



Short-term Forecasting with an ***inverted Ensemble Kalman Filter (iEnKF)***

- Generation of independent ensemble data with a multi-scheme ensemble approach
- Matrix is based on forecasts, not errors („inverted“ problem solver)
- Covariance Matrix incorporates the current weather condition into the power forecast

Remember: Offshore wind farms have many full load hours, where power measurement alone is insufficient to estimate risk of cut-offs

iEnKF is: - a **weather dependent** data assimilation

- is the first **physically consistent method**, where ensemble forecasts provide the framework for the distribution of observational influence
- **can use wind speed & wind power measurements** and has an inherent uncertainty estimate

**But: Powerful forecasts need full data delivery to TSO + Trading party
=> we need an obligation for data transfer
— of MET & Power measurements from large on & offshore wind farms**



Predictability of high-variable and uncertain Offshore power for Trading purposes

PREDICTABILITY OF ERRORS can be computed with an Ensemble:

predictability of errors = correlation (MAE, Ensemble Spread)

Predictability measured over 1 year:

Short-term FC error predictability day-ahead is 0.43

Short-term FC error predictability 2h in advance is 0.53

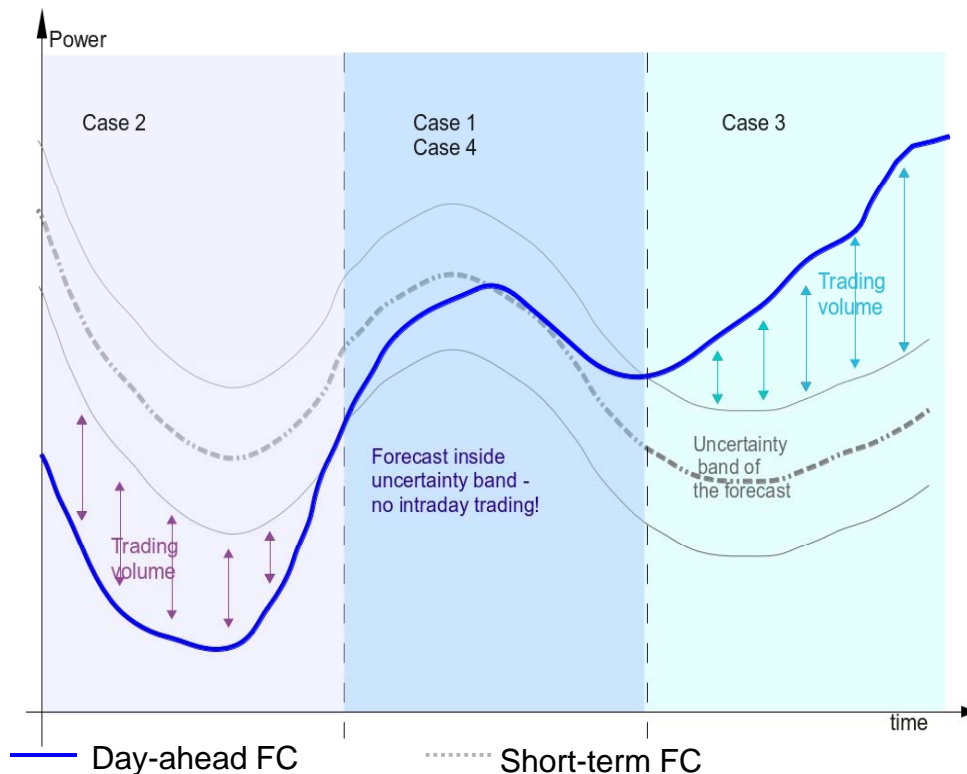
Conclusions:

=> 47% of the error is random uncertainty, only partially weather related !

=> trading of the error in the intra-day requires uncertainty estimate to prevent DOUBLE TRADING !



Use of Uncertainty for intra-day forecasting



The “magic formula”:
Computation of the balancing volume for the correction of the day-ahead forecast in the intra-day:

$$CF_c = a * SFC + b * PFU - c * DFC$$

where

SFC is short-term forecast,

DFC is the Day-ahead Forecast

PFU is the “power forecast uncertainty”

Expected Balance: $EB = SFC - DFC$

Absolute Balance: $AB = |SFC - DFC| - PFU$

CASE	EB	AB	FUP	a,b,c
1	<0	<0	DFC	0,0,0
2	>=0	>0	SFC-PFU	1,-1,1
3	<0	>0	SFC+PFU	1,1,1
4	>=0	<0	DFC	0,0,0



Consequences of new optimisation requirements...

PARADIGM SHIFT:

Not the forecast with the lowest RMSE is desirable, but the forecast that:

- creates the least costs and generates the highest revenue
- provides highest grid security
- follows market principles
- is a reliable energy source in a dynamic market

CONSEQUENCE

Forecast optimisation and evaluation has to happen in accordance with the market rules in the future, that is in “cost space”



Conclusions

Offshore power delivers **more efficient power** with many more full load hours

Offshore power has a **higher variability** and hence **lower predictability**

wind measurements + uncertainty estimates are required to estimate cut-offs

trading of offshore power requires **uncertainty estimates** to prevent double trading

Powerful forecasting requires that **MET & PWR Data** is available **ONLINE**

=> we need an <obligation for delivery> in the law not only a <making it available> !

**Ensemble Forecasts & the iEnKF short-term
algorithm have proven to be crucial tools
to solve many forecasting challenges
of offshore wind power**



Thanks for your attention!

More information about the studies can be found at our web-page:

www.weprog.com -> Information -> Publications

or directly by following these links:

inverted Ensemble Kalman Filter:

http://download.weprog.com/public_paper_WIW11_032_joergensen_et_al.pdf

http://download.weprog.com/presentation_WIW11_032_joergensen_et_al.pdf

http://download.weprog.com/moehrlen_dewek2010_s10_p4.pdf

http://download.weprog.com/moehrlen_presentation_dewek2010_s10_p4.pdf

Uncertainty estimates and trading strategies:

english:

http://download.weprog.com/WEPROG_Trading_strategies_EEG2012_ZEFE_71-2012-01_en.pdf

german:

http://download.weprog.com/WEPROG_Handelsstrategien_EEG2012_ZEFE_71-2012-01.pdf

Other Offshore related Research Project Publications:

Final Report: High-Resolution Ensemble for Horns Rev

http://www.hrensemble.net/public/pdf/HREnsembleHR_finalreport_2010.pdf

http://www.hrensemble.net/public/pdf/HREnsembleHR_finalreport_2010_summary.pdf

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