Liberating lidar – eliminating monitoring masts can reduce turbine performance assessment uncertainty

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"Purpose" of lidar monitoring masts:

Lidar drift monitoring (L.5.4):

- 0% of LMM-monitored lidars have violated consistency thresholds, during modern DNV tests.
- Lidar technology not susceptible to anemometer-like mechanical drift.

Lidar uncertainty monitoring (L.5.3):

 0% of LMM-monitored lidars have violated uncertainty thresholds during DNV performance testing campaigns, when verifications performed at the project site.

Above-ground density measurements:

- More accurate to use hub-height mast signals on/near site than to use 60-m signals at test turbine.
- Pressure: IEC supports measuring anywhere within 5 km.
- Relative humidity: Low sensitivity; ignored in 12-1 Edition 1. Stronger vertical than lateral gradients.
- Temperature: Stronger vertical than lateral gradients.

Assess more turbines for less money at lower uncertainty

Lidar monitoring masts add negligible value to measurement accuracy and integrity.

- Zero cases of measurement consistency failure (L.5.4).
- Zero cases of LMM-derived monitoring uncertainty expansion (L.5.3) when lidars verified on site.
- LMM-based density characterization less accurate than hubheight-mast density characterization elsewhere on site.

Eliminating monitoring masts enables assessing 5x turbines for the cost of 1x.

 Sequentially test five turbines with one lidar for the cost of testing one turbine with a lidar w/ monitoring mast.

Assessing more turbines reduces aggregate performance uncertainty.

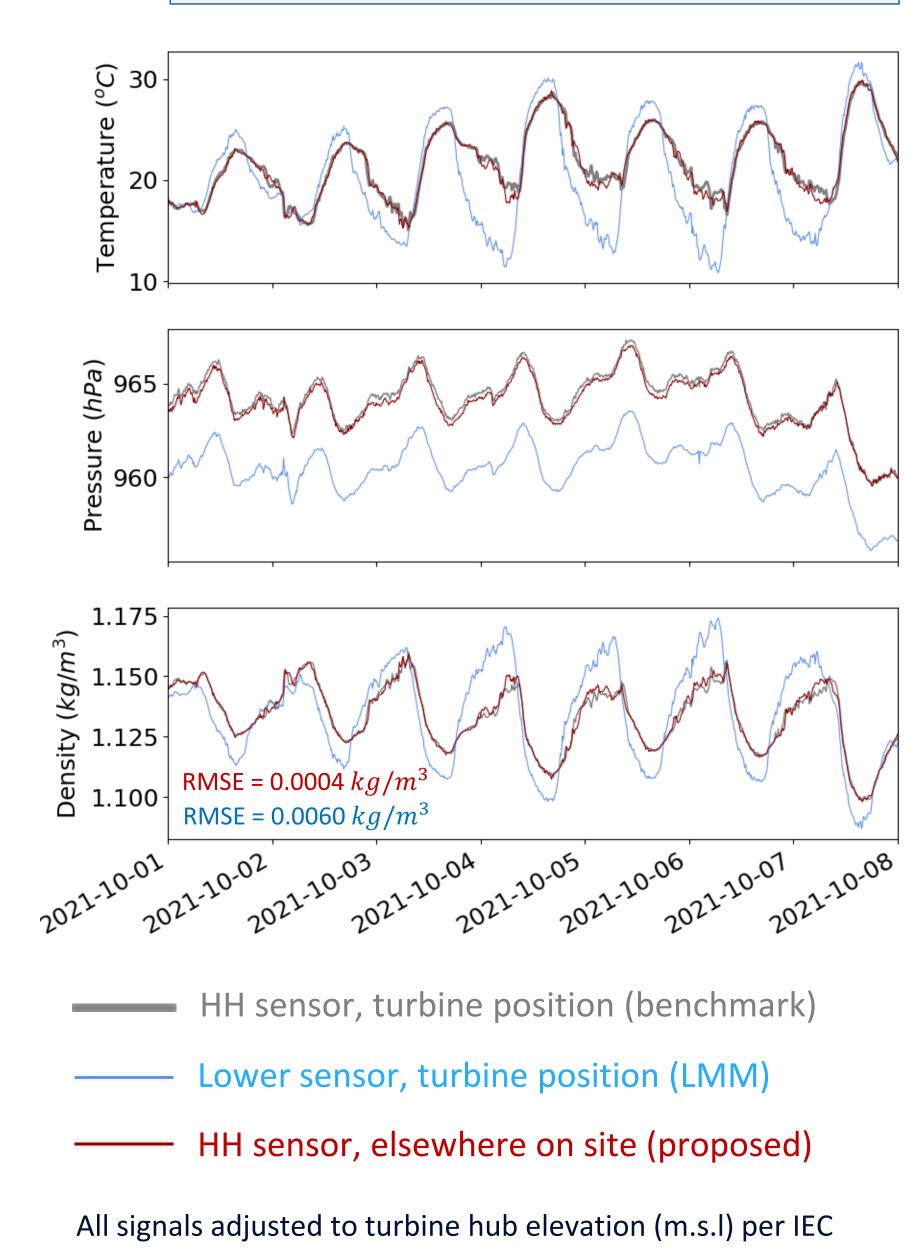
- Basic statistics say so.
- IEC 12-1 Annex R provides standardized methodology.
- Risk reduction for both buyers and sellers.





Air density characterization:

Hub-height mast 10 km away better than short mast at turbine position.



Testing more turbines:

- Decreases AEP uncertainty.
- Expands probability of identifying faulty turbines.
- Expands wind farm knowledge.

