

# The Future of Wind Energy: Work From The UMass IGERT

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Presented by Erin Baker

Professor, *Industrial Engineering and Operations Research*  
Director, *NSF IGERT: Offshore Wind Energy, Environmental  
Impacts, and Policy*

University of Massachusetts Amherst

# EXPERT ELICITATION SURVEY ON FUTURE WIND ENERGY COSTS

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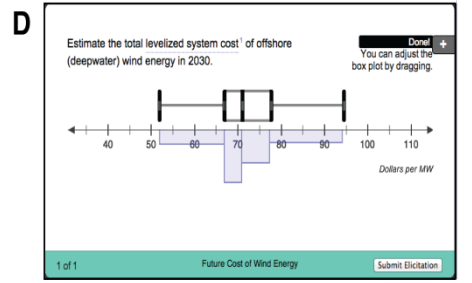
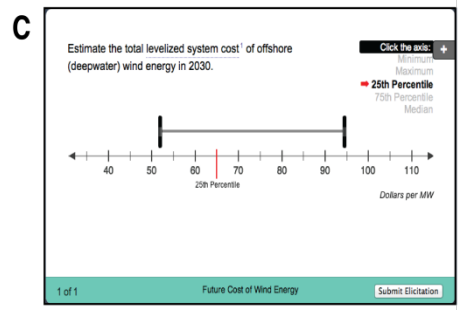
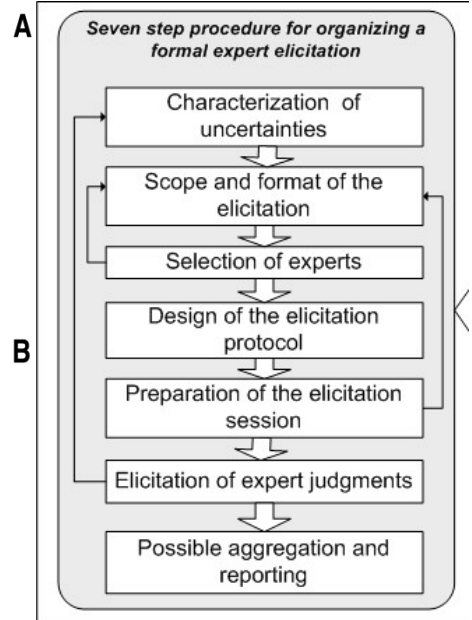
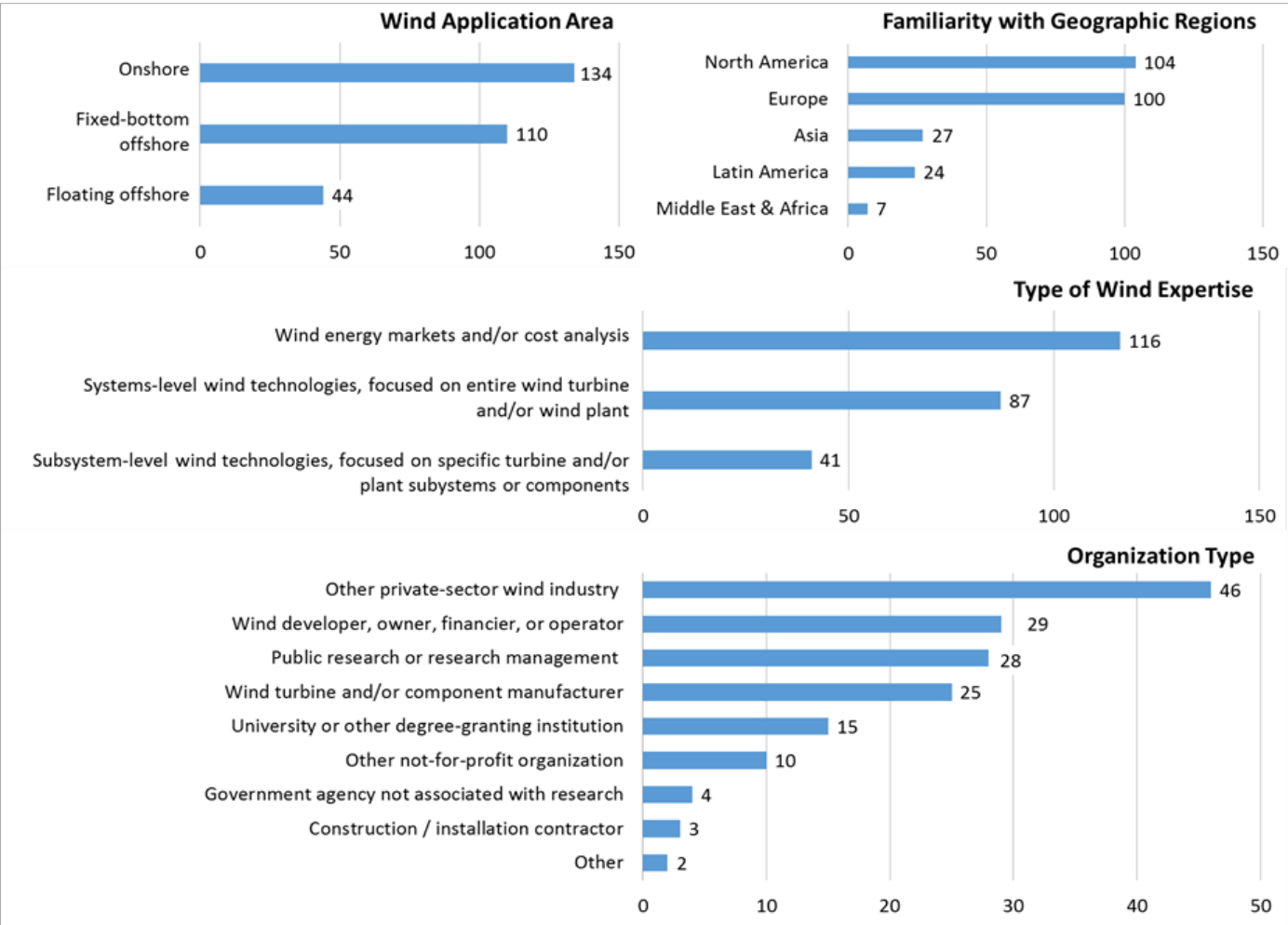
Director, *NSF IGERT: Offshore Wind Energy, Environmental Impacts,  
and Policy*

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Based on: *Wiser, Jenni, Seel, Baker, Hand, Lantz, & Smith (2016) Nature  
Energy Vol 1 : 16135*

# Expert Elicitation

A structured method for eliciting subjective probabilities from experts.



# Summary of key results

	ONSHORE (LAND-BASED)	FIXED-BOTTOM OFFSHORE	FLOATING OFFSHORE
<b>a) LEVELIZED COST OF ENERGY</b>	<p>20% 0% -20% -40% -60%</p> <p>2010 2020 2030 2040 2050</p> <p>-10% -24% -35%</p>	<p>20% 0% -20% -40% -60%</p> <p>2010 2020 2030 2040 2050</p> <p>-10% -30% -41%</p>	<p>20% 0% -20% -40% -60%</p> <p>2010 2020 2030 2040 2050</p> <p>+6% -25% -38%</p> <p>Note: LCOE compared against 2014 fixed-bottom baseline</p>
<b>b) DRIVERS FOR COST REDUCTION IN 2030</b>	<p>Capacity factor: +10% Project life: +10%</p> <p>CapEx: -12% OpEx: -9% WACC: no <math>\Delta</math></p>	<p>Capacity factor: +4% Project life: +15%</p> <p>CapEx: -14% OpEx: -9% WACC: -10%</p>	<p>Capacity factor: +9% Project life: +25%</p> <p>CapEx: -5% OpEx: -8% WACC: -5%</p>
<b>c) TURBINE SIZE IN 2030</b>	<p><b>3.25 MW</b> 115 m hub height 135 m rotor diameter</p>	<p><b>11 MW</b> 125 m hub height 190 m rotor diameter</p>	<p><b>9 MW</b> 125 m hub height 190 m rotor diameter</p>
<b>d) TOP-FIVE IMPACT CATEGORIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger rotors, reduced specific power</li> <li>• Rotor design advancements</li> <li>• Taller towers</li> <li>• Reduced financing costs</li> <li>• Component durability / reliability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger turbine capacity</li> <li>• Foundation / support structure design</li> <li>• Reduced financing costs</li> <li>• Economies of scale via project size</li> <li>• Component durability / reliability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation / support structure design</li> <li>• Installation process efficiencies</li> <li>• Foundation / support manufacturing</li> <li>• Economies of scale via project size</li> <li>• Installation / transport equipment</li> </ul>

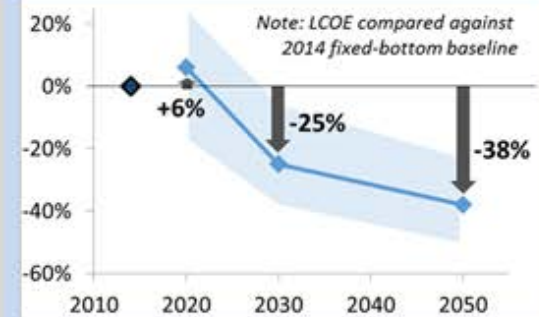
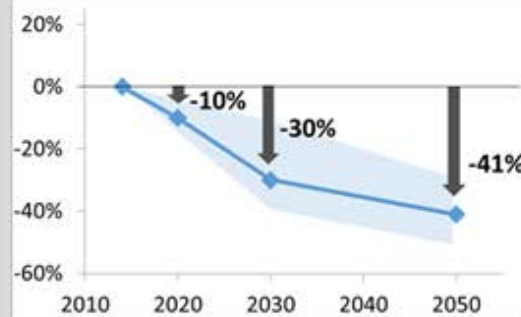
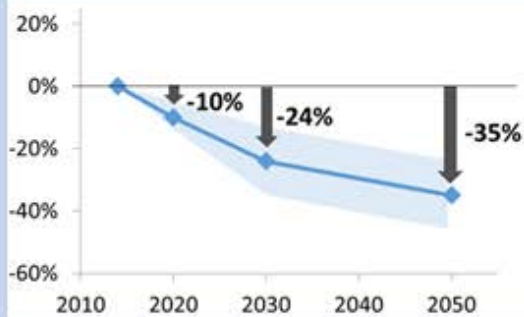
# Summary of key results

## ONSHORE (LAND-BASED)

## FIXED-BOTTOM OFFSHORE

## FLOATING OFFSHORE

### a) LEVELIZED COST OF ENERGY



### b) DRIVERS FOR COST REDUCTION IN 2030

Capacity factor: +10%  
Project life: +10%

CapEx: -10%  
OpEx: -9%  
WACC: -5%

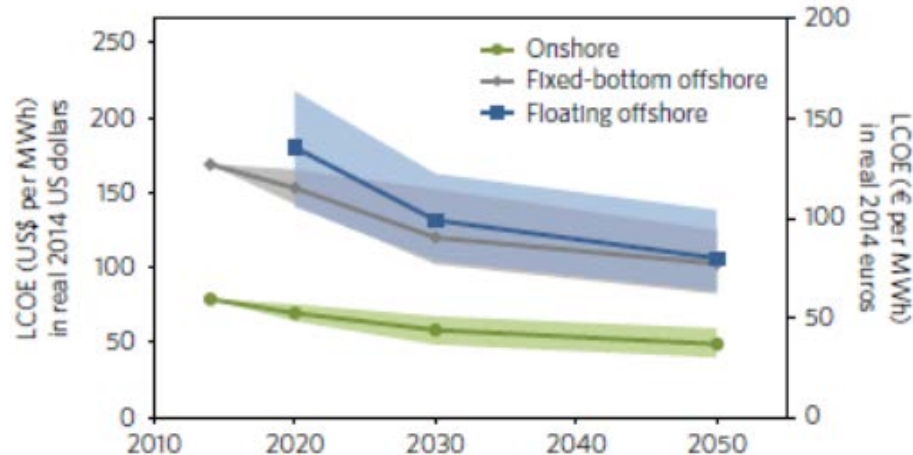
### c) TURBINE SIZE IN 2030



3.25 MW  
115 m hub height  
135 m rotor diameter

### d) TOP-FIVE IMPACT CATEGORIES

- Larger rotors, reduced support structure design
- Rotor design advancements
- Taller towers
- Reduced financing costs
- Component durability / reliability



**Figure 2 | Expert estimates of median-scenario LCOE.** Lines/markers indicate the median-expert response for the median LCOE scenario. Shaded areas show the first to third quartiles of expert responses. A review of expert responses for the low and high LCOE scenarios is included in the Supplementary Discussion.

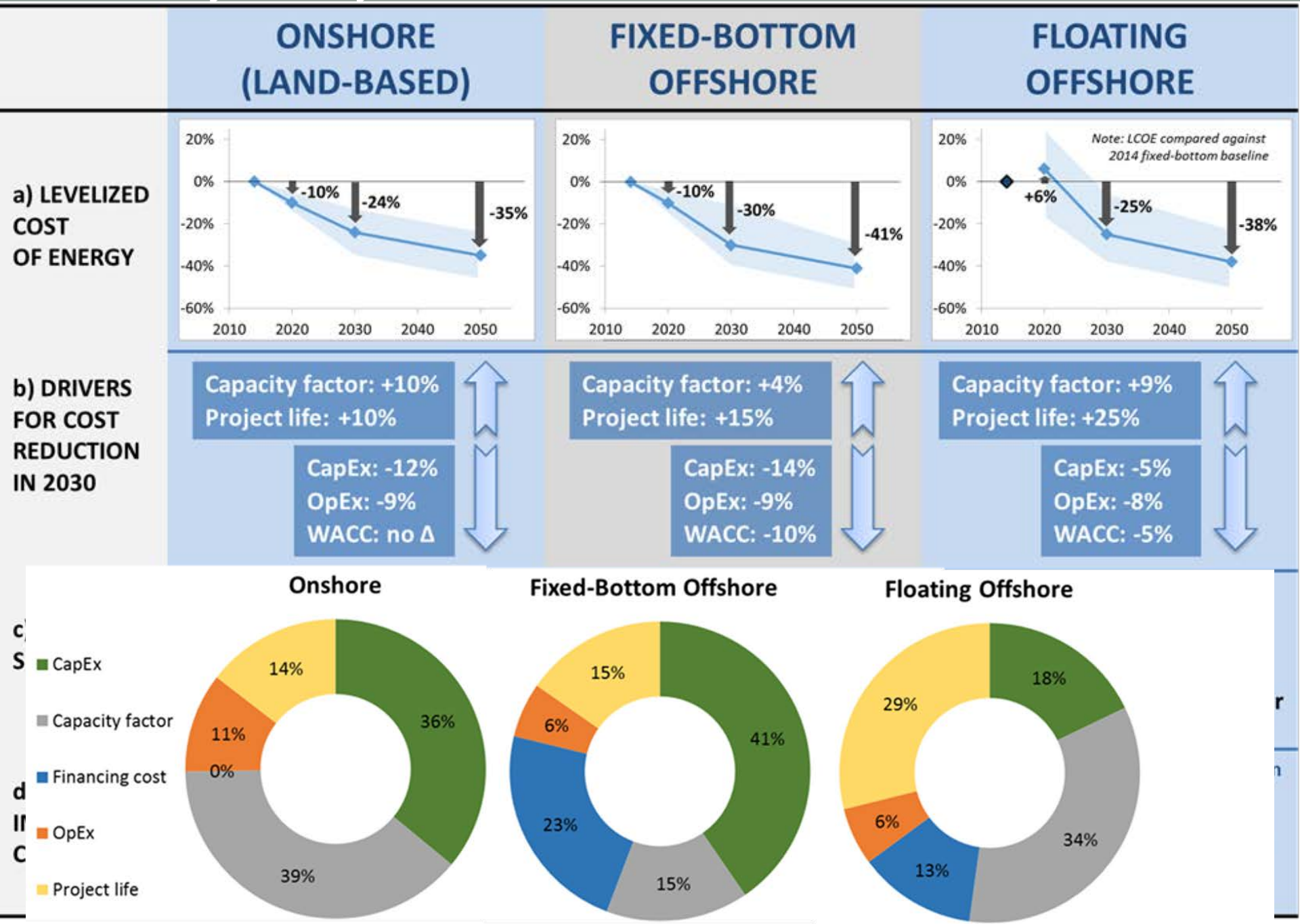
Capacity factor: +9%  
Project life: +25%

CapEx: -5%  
OpEx: -8%  
WACC: -5%

9 MW  
125 m hub height  
190 m rotor diameter

- Foundation / support structure design
- Economies of scale via project size
- Installation / transport equipment

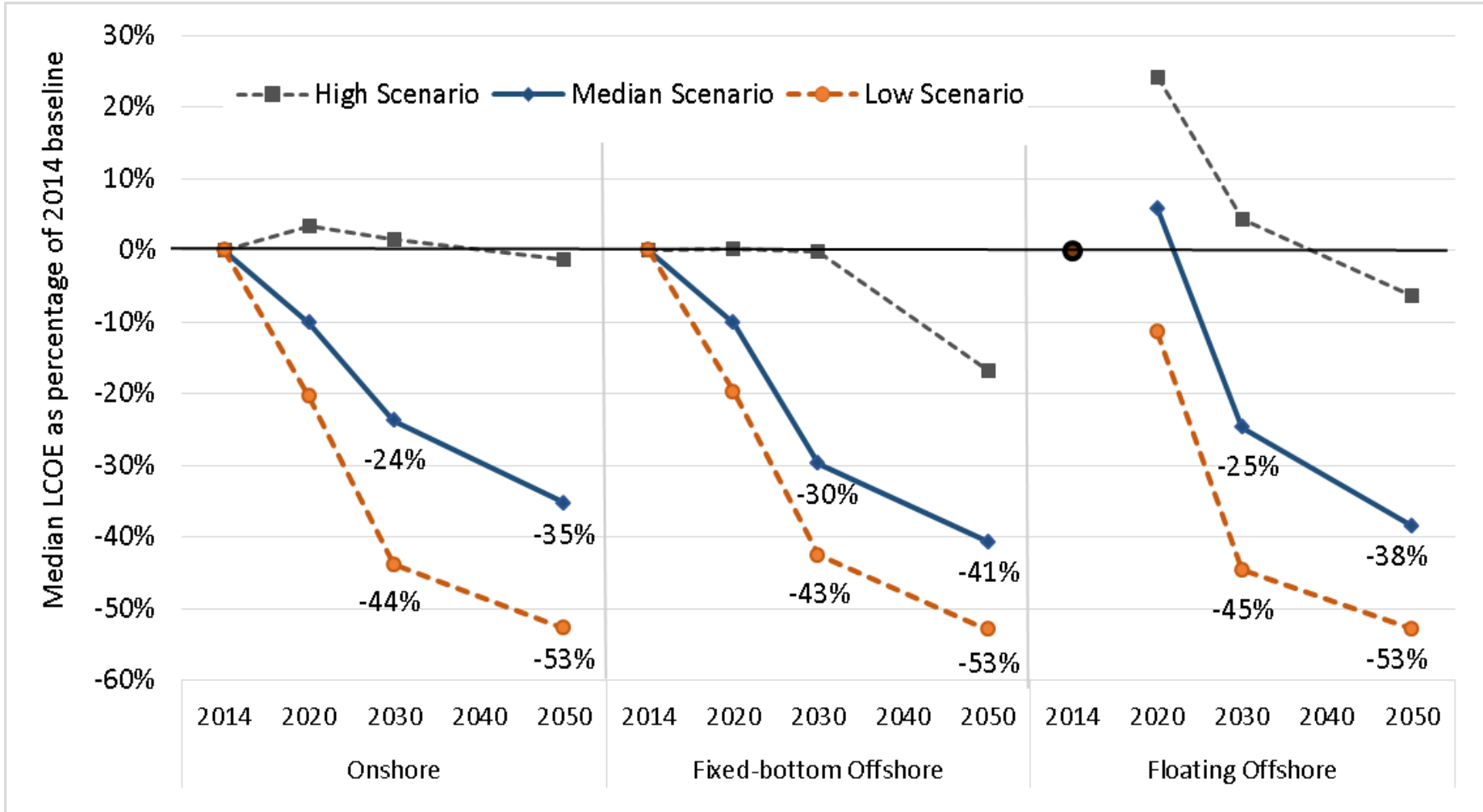
# Summary of key results



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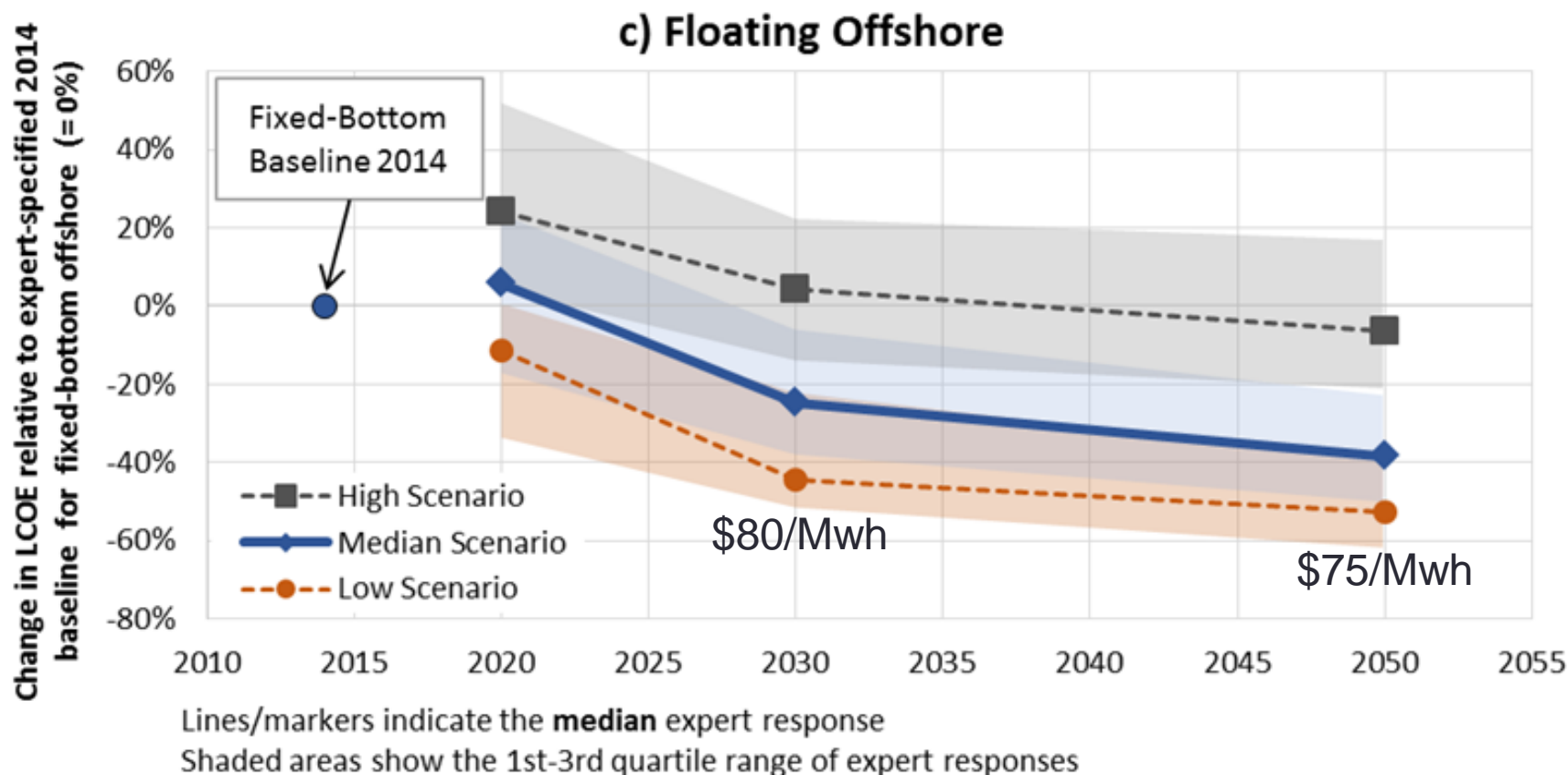
# Estimated Change in LCOE over time



Estimated change in LCOE over time across all three scenarios. Depicts the median of expert responses for expected LCOE reductions in the median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) scenario as well as the low scenario (10<sup>th</sup> percentile) and high scenario (90<sup>th</sup> percentile) in percentage terms relative to 2014 baseline values. Floating offshore wind is compared against the 2014 baseline for fixed-bottom offshore. See Supplementary Discussion for full results.

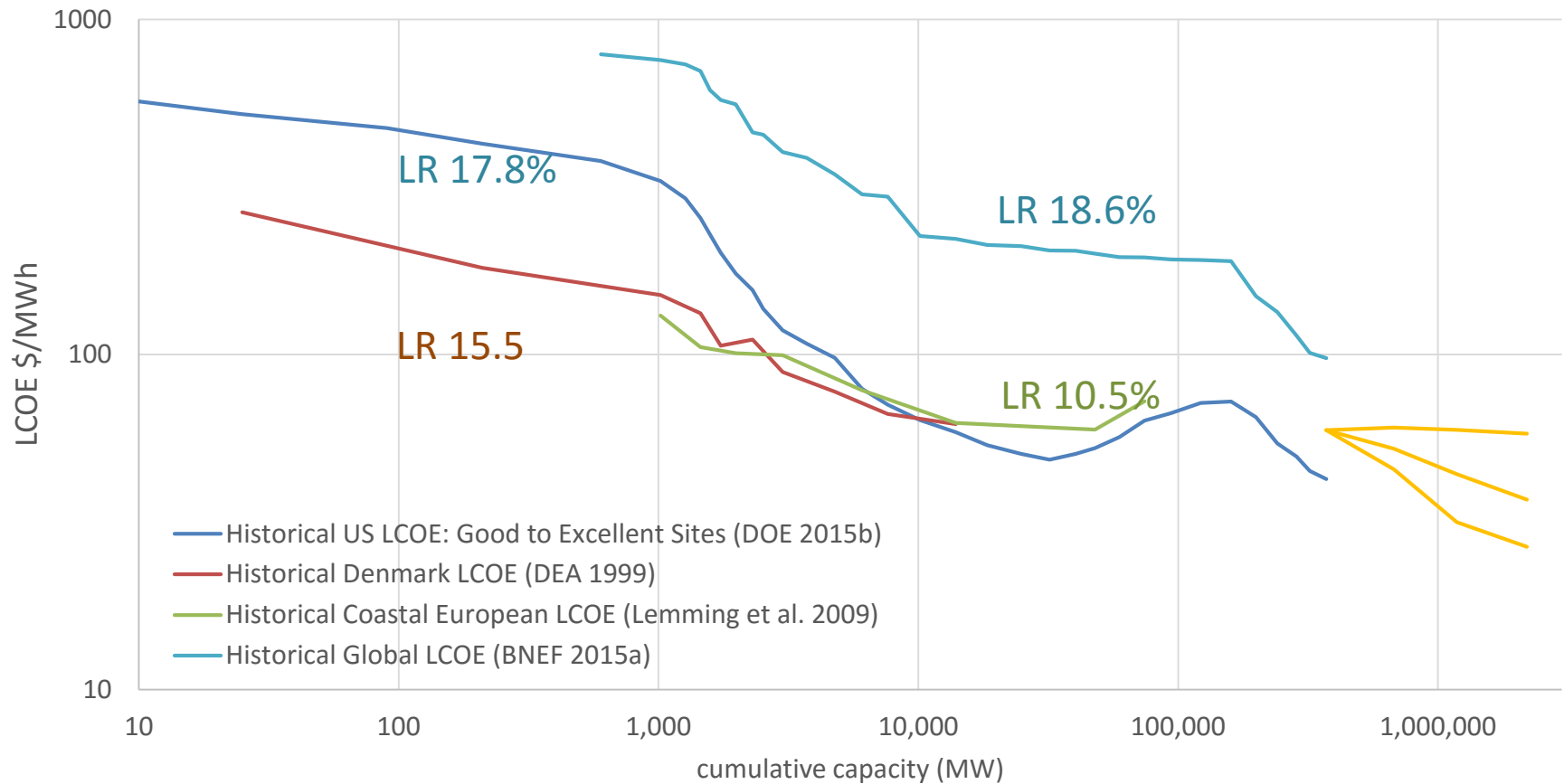


# Significant uncertainty around cost reductions for floating offshore



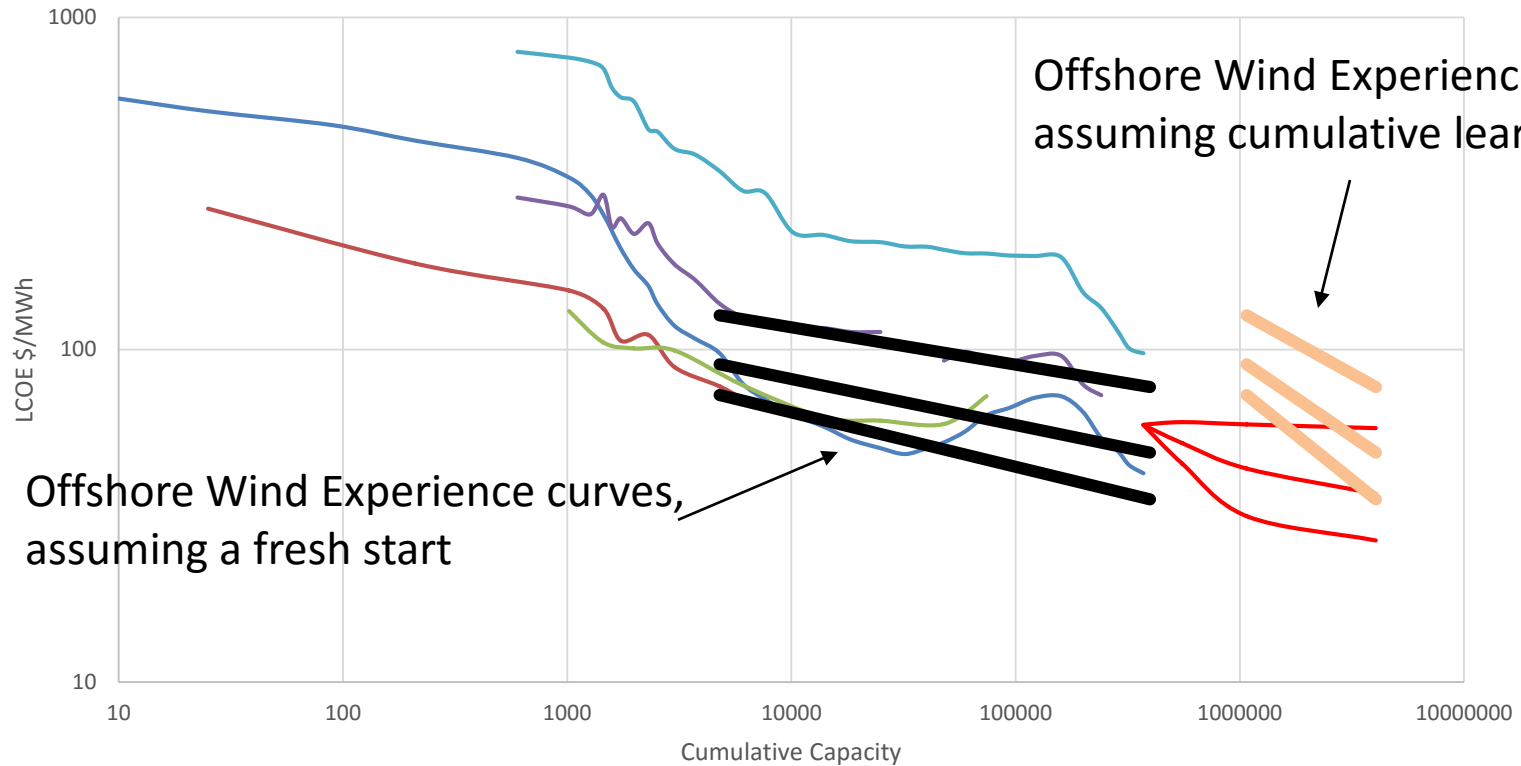
Note: Change is shown relative to baseline for fixed-bottom offshore as no 2014 baseline was established for floating offshore

# Historical and forecast experience curves for onshore wind



Historical LCOE estimates come from four sources (Global: BNEF 2015a; US: DOE 2015b; Denmark: DEA 1999; European Coastal: Lemming et al. 2009). Historical single-factor learning rates (LRs) are calculated based on cumulative global wind capacity. To estimate the implicit learning rate from the expert elicitation, we use median-scenario LCOE estimates and a range of projections for cumulative global wind capacity from IEA “New Policies” (IEA 2015), Bloomberg “Base Scenario” (BNEFb 2015), and GWEC “Moderate Scenario” (GWEC 2014).

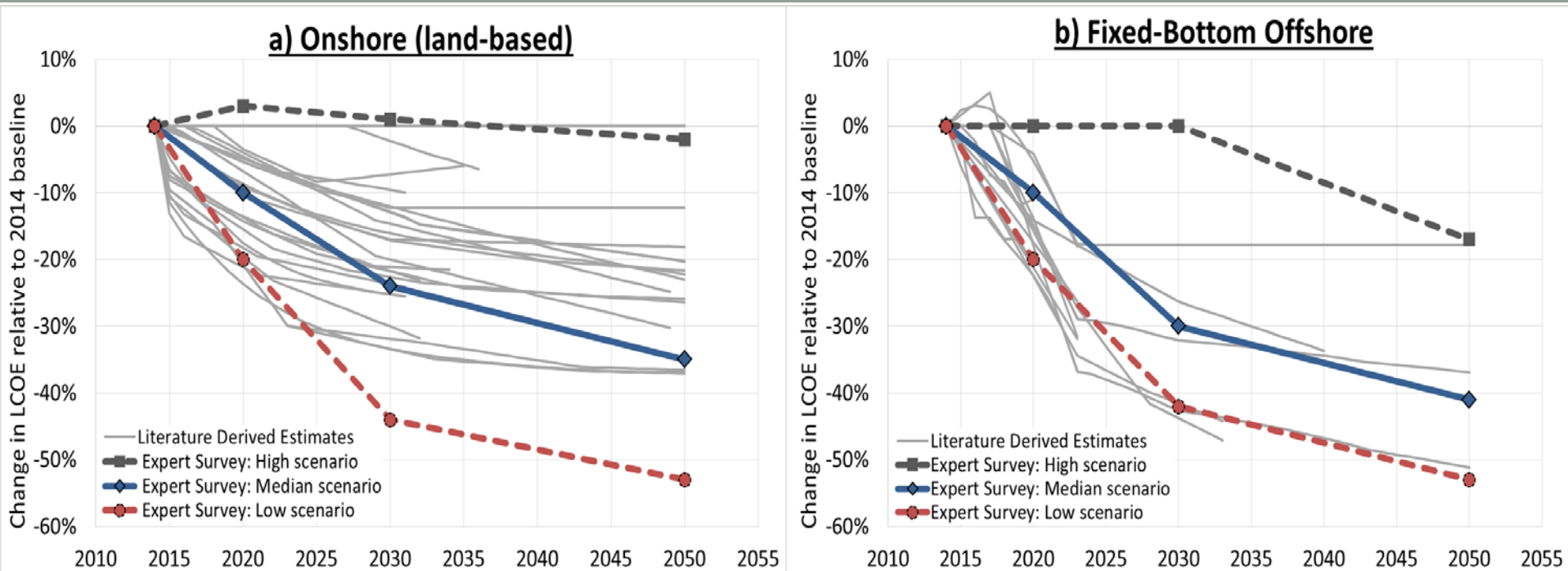
# Forecast experience curves for offshore wind



Offshore Wind Experience curves, assuming a fresh start

Offshore Wind Experience curves, assuming cumulative learning

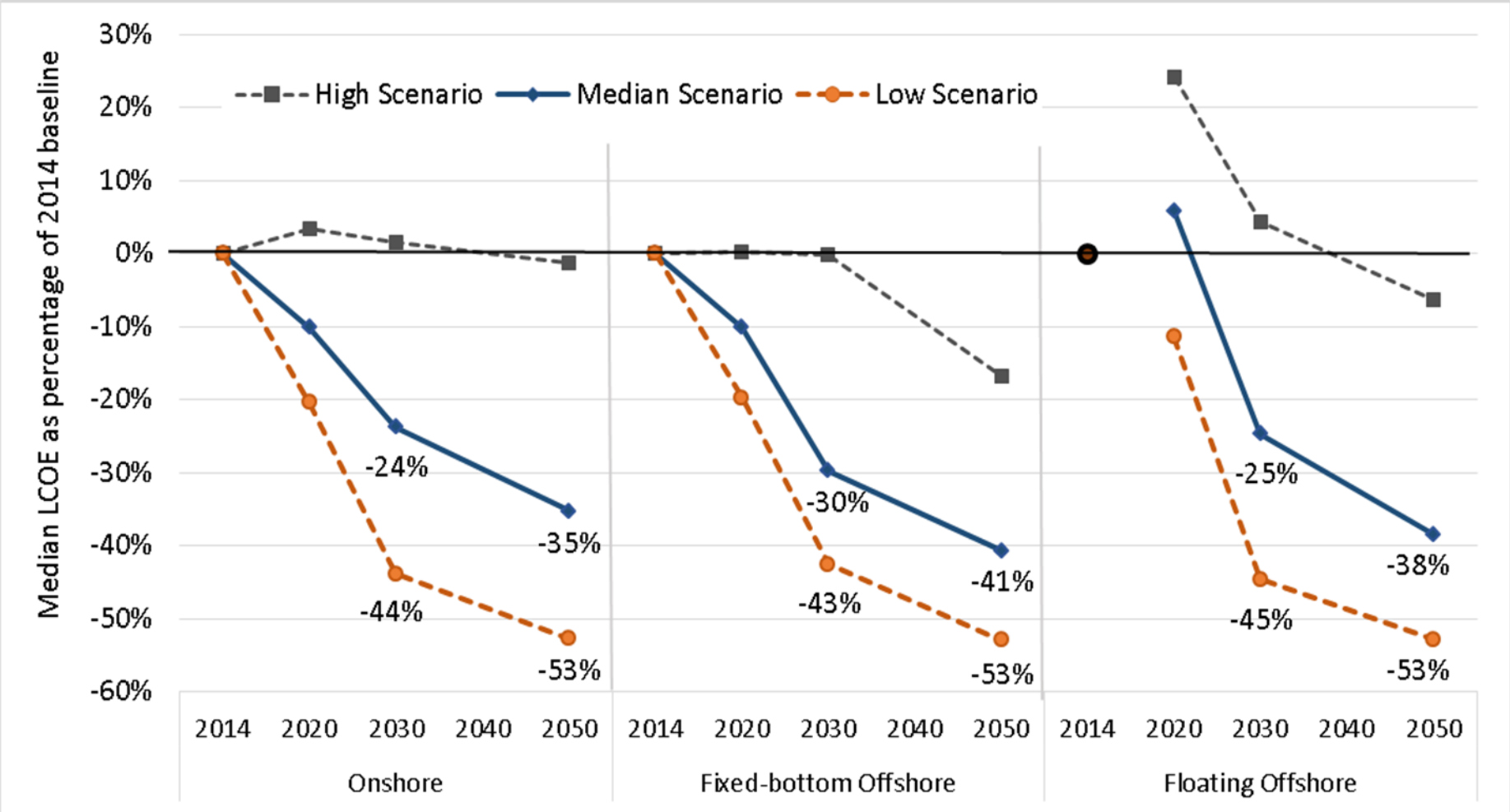
- Historical US LCOE: Good to Excellent Sites (DOE 2015b)
- Historical Denmark LCOE (DEA 1999)
- Historical Coastal European LCOE (Lemming et al. 2009)
- Historical LCOE (Denmark, Germany, Global) (BNEF 2011)
- Historical Global LCOE (BNEF 2015a)
- Expert Survey: Low Scenario Forecast
- Expert Survey: Median Scenario Forecast
- Expert Survey: High Scenario Forecast
- Expert survey offshore low
- Expert survey offshore mid
- Expert survey offshore high
- Expert survey offshore low
- Expert survey offshore mid
- Expert survey offshore high



**Estimated change in LCOE for (a) onshore and (b) fixed-bottom offshore: expert survey results vs. other forecasts.** Depicts the median of expert responses for expected LCOE reductions in the median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) scenario as well as the low scenario (10<sup>th</sup> percentile) and high scenario (90<sup>th</sup> percentile) in percentage terms relative to 2014 baseline values. Other forecasts are included for comparison, originally compiled and presented in a U.S. Department of Energy report (DOE 2015).

# Conclusions

- Significant opportunity for cost reductions
- Option value in policies that increase future flexibility



# **IGERT: Offshore Wind Energy Engineering, Environmental Impacts, and Policy**

A row of offshore wind turbines on a sea surface, with a light blue sky and a dark blue sea. The turbines are white and have three blades each. They are arranged in a line, receding into the distance.

**University of Massachusetts, Amherst**

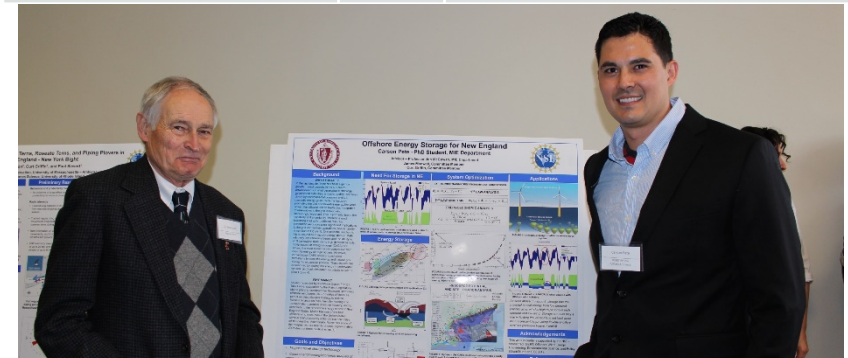
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Erin Baker, Professor of Industrial  
Engineering and Operations Research,  
Director of IGERT

# A diverse group of PhD students interested in Wind Energy



Area	#	Majors
Engineering	17	Mech, Indus, Civil
Environment	9	Wildlife ecology
Policy	4	Env. Conservation; Planning; Poli Sci



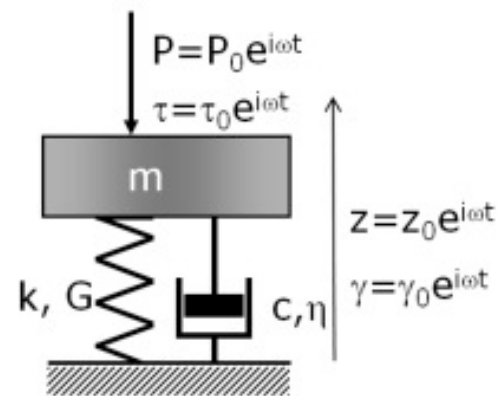
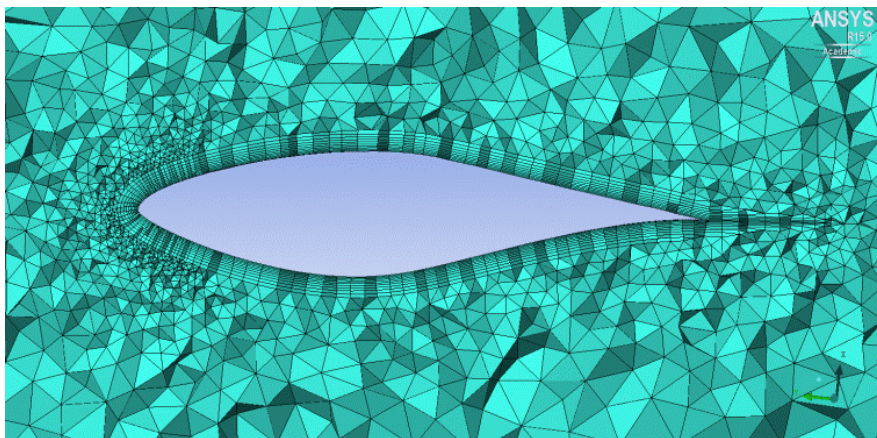
# IGERT Fellows, Associates, and Alumni 2015-2016



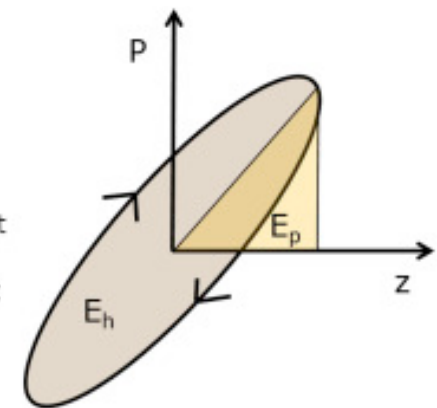


## Engineering Offshore Wind Energy Systems

- *17 fellows*
- *Departments of*  
*Mechanical & Industrial Engineering*  
*Civil & Environmental Engineering*  
*Electrical & Computer Engineering*



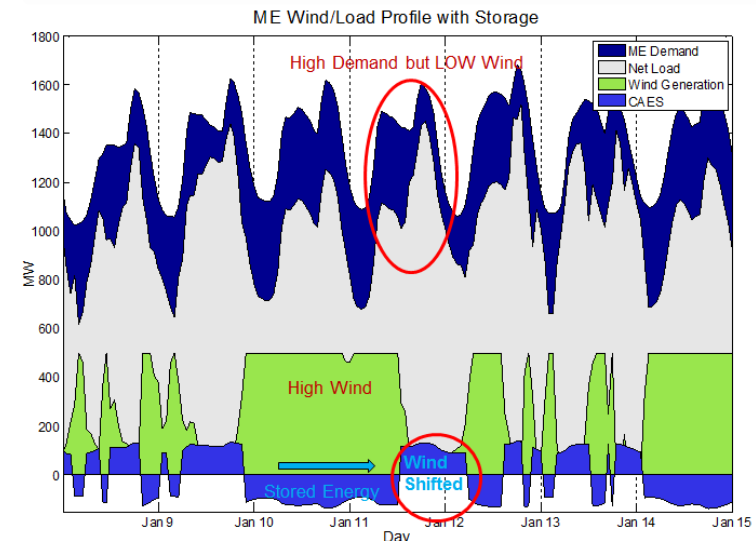
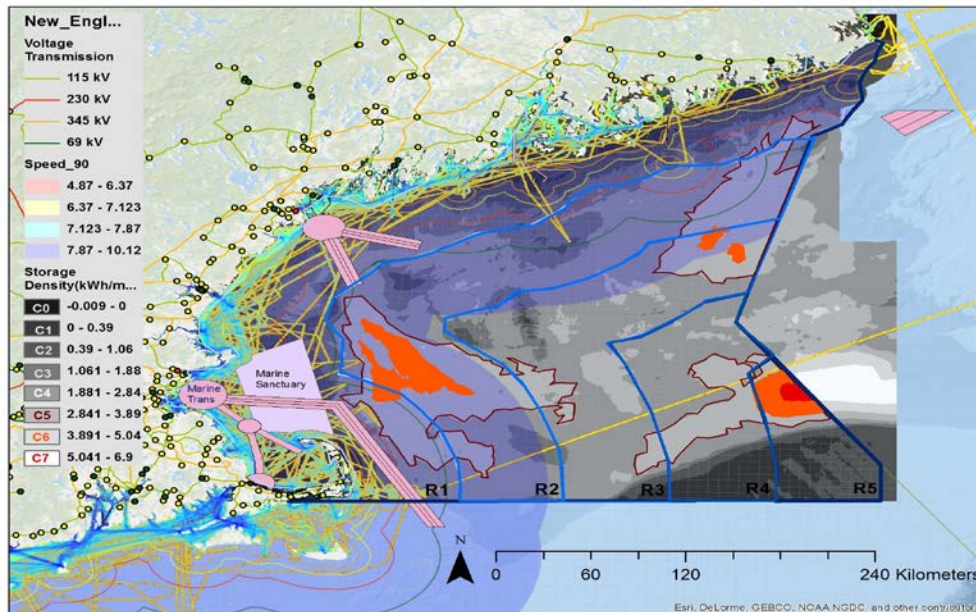
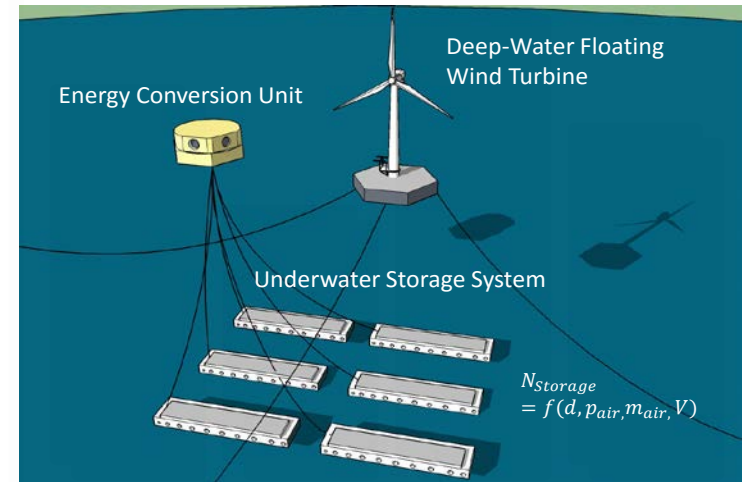
(A)



(B)

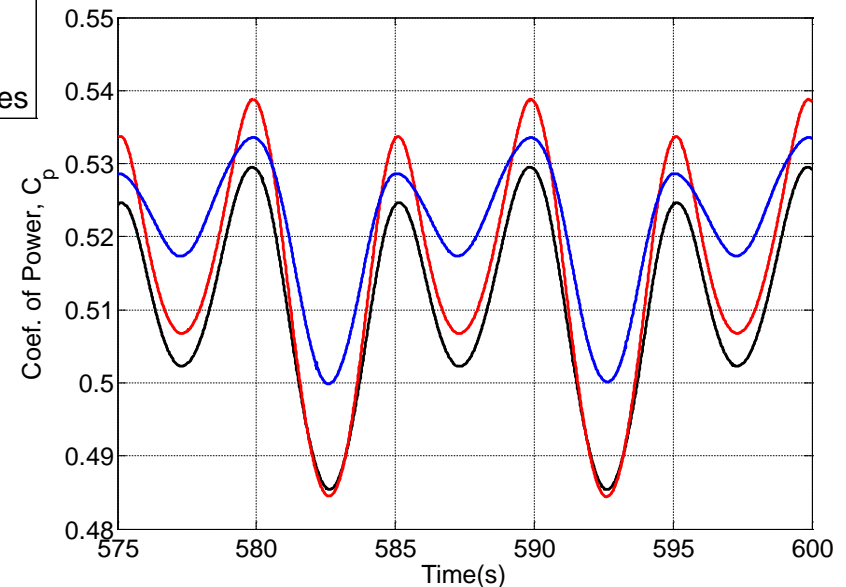
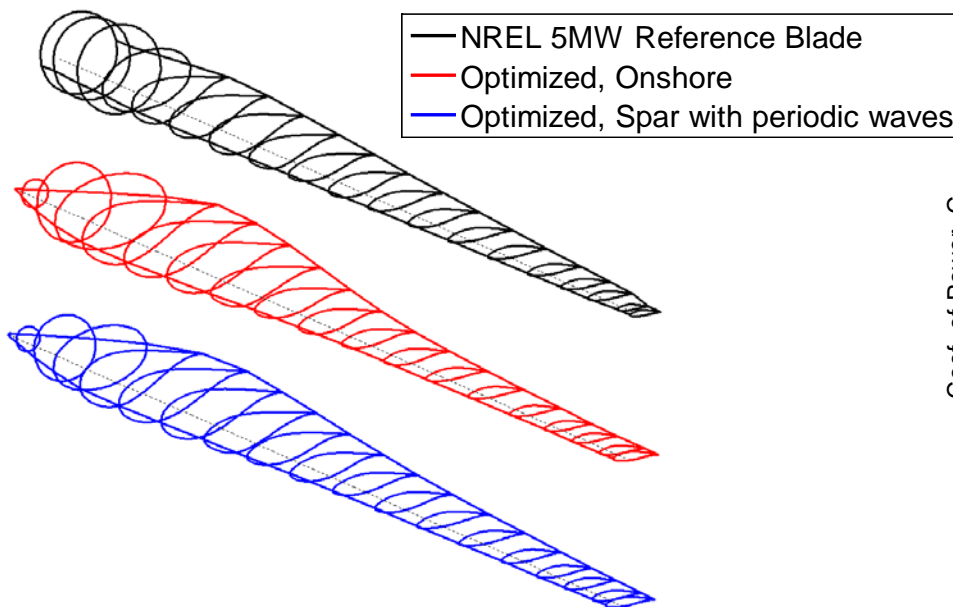
Understanding the impacts and benefits of offshore wind coupled with storage

- *Underwater CAES*
- *Environmental Implications*
- *Multi-objective Optimization*
- *Resource Assessment*



## Design optimization of floating offshore wind turbine rotors

- *Explicitly account for aerodynamic and platform motion coupling in design load cases*
- *Reduce sensitivity to meta-ocean conditions*
- *Improve aerodynamic efficiency and reduce cyclical loading*

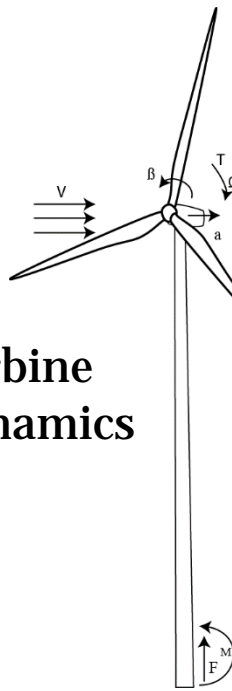


### William La Cava

Advisor: Kouros Danai

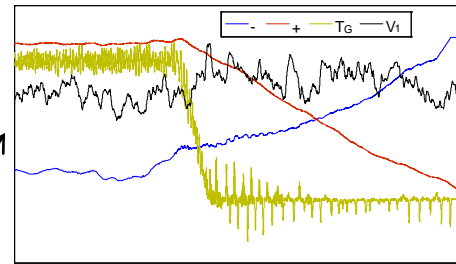
Automatic identification of closed-loop wind turbine dynamics

- *Control Design*
- *Evolutionary Optimization*



Turbine Dynamics

Control Design

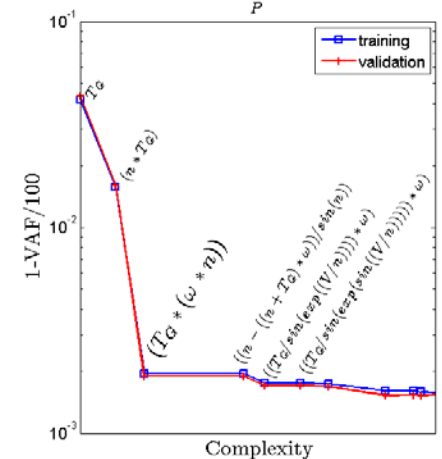
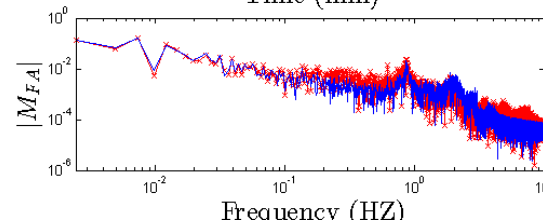
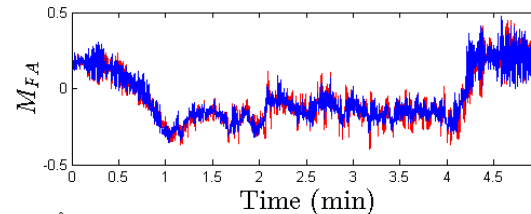


Data

Epiline	Genotype	Stack	Tree
1	x	x	
0	y	x	
1	3	x 3	
1	-	(x-3)	
0	4	(x-3)	
1	z	(x-3) z	
1	4	(x-3) z 4	
0	+	(x-3) z 4	
1	*	(x-3) (z*4)	
1	/	((x-3)/(z*4))	
1	+	(((x-3)/(z*4)))	

Phenotype

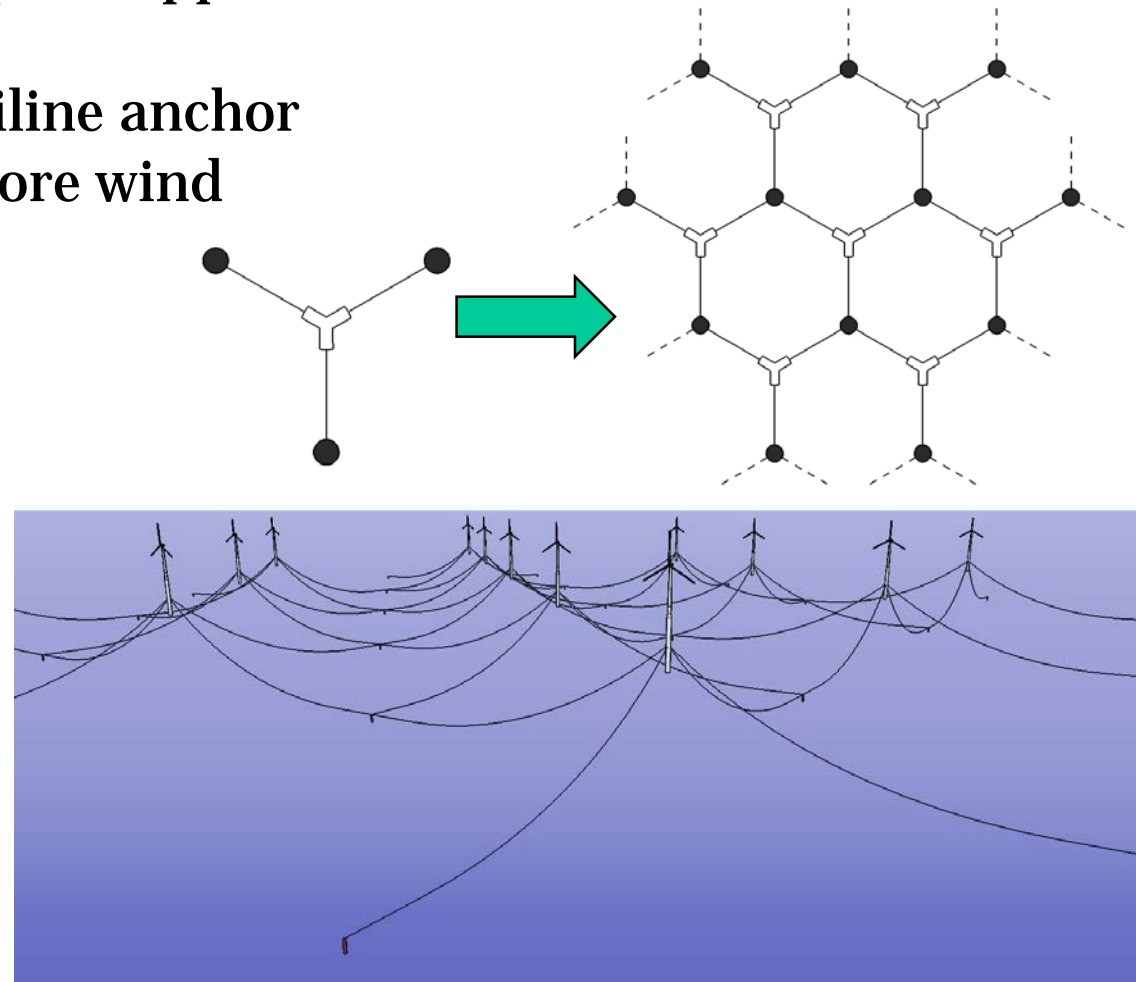
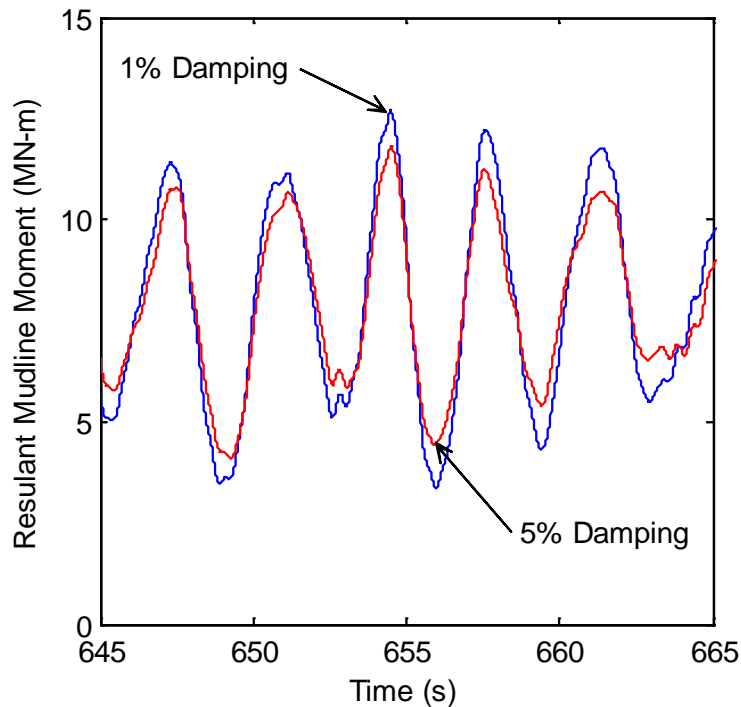
Evolutionary Multi-objective Optimization



### Casey Fontana

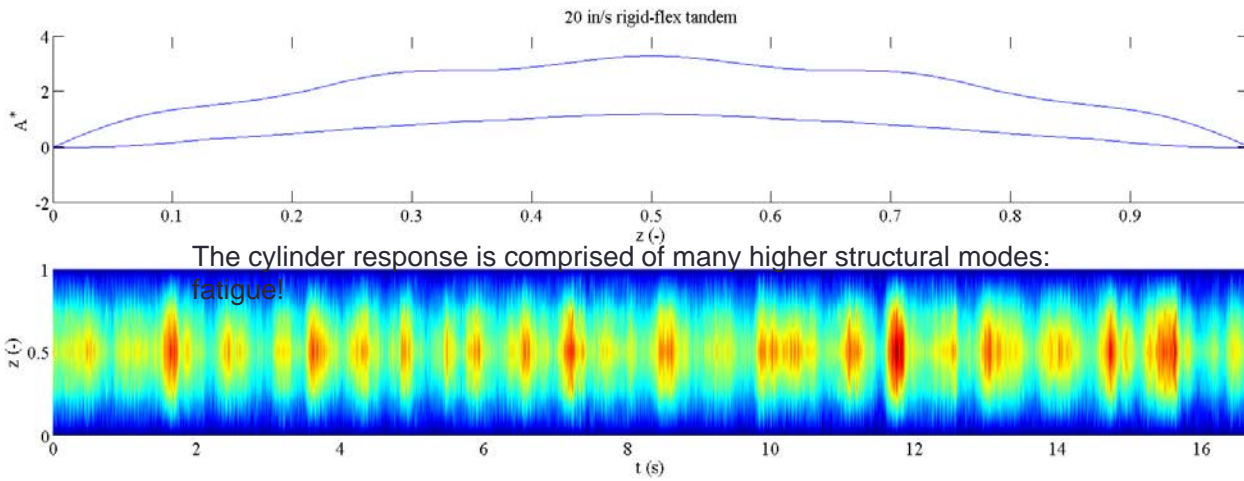
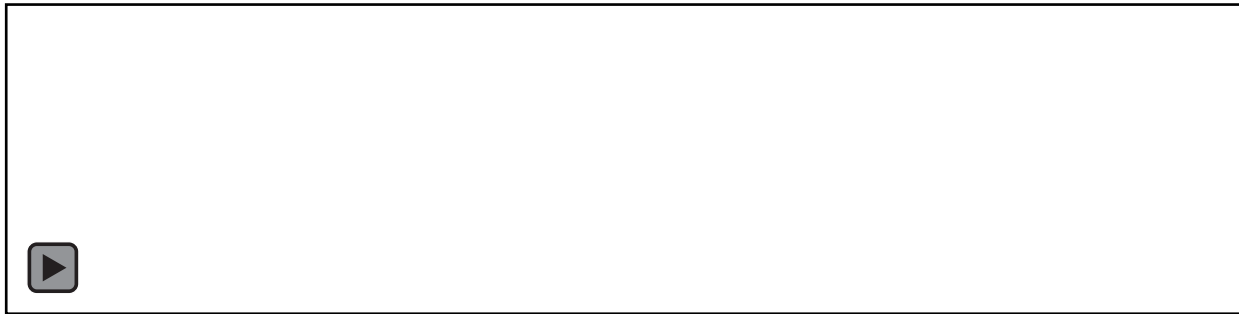
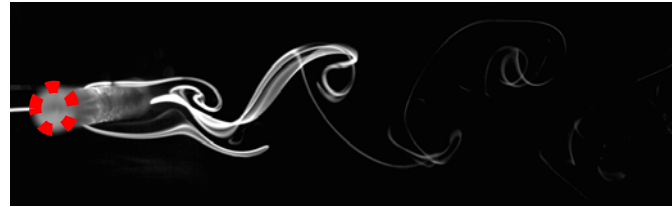
- Quantifying role of foundation damping in the dynamics of monopile-supported offshore wind turbine
- Examining efficient multiline anchor systems for floating offshore wind turbines

Advisors: Sanjay Arwade  
Don DeGroot



# Wake-induced vibration of clustered cylinders for new mooring systems

Dan Carlson



Rachel Koh

Advisors: Matt Lackner  
Bob Hyers  
Peggi Clouston

- Evaluating if renewable bio-based materials can be used for megawatt-scale wind turbine blades
- Investigating the mechanical properties of wood and flax laminates to see if they have potential for the wind turbine blade application



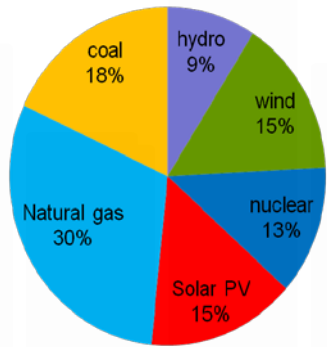
# Evaluation of Generation Portfolios for the New England Power System

Destenie Nock and Erin Baker

Table 1: The Level of Capacity (MW) in each Generation Portfolio

	Portfolio 1	Portfolio 2	Portfolio 3
hydro	3000	3000	10000
onshore wind	5000	3000	10000
nuclear	4091	2000	2700
solar	5000	3000	10000
natural gas	10000	15000	5000
coal	6000	500	5000

Portfolio 1 - Capacity by Source



Portfolio 1 - Energy by Source

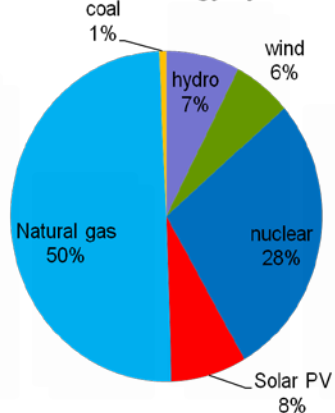
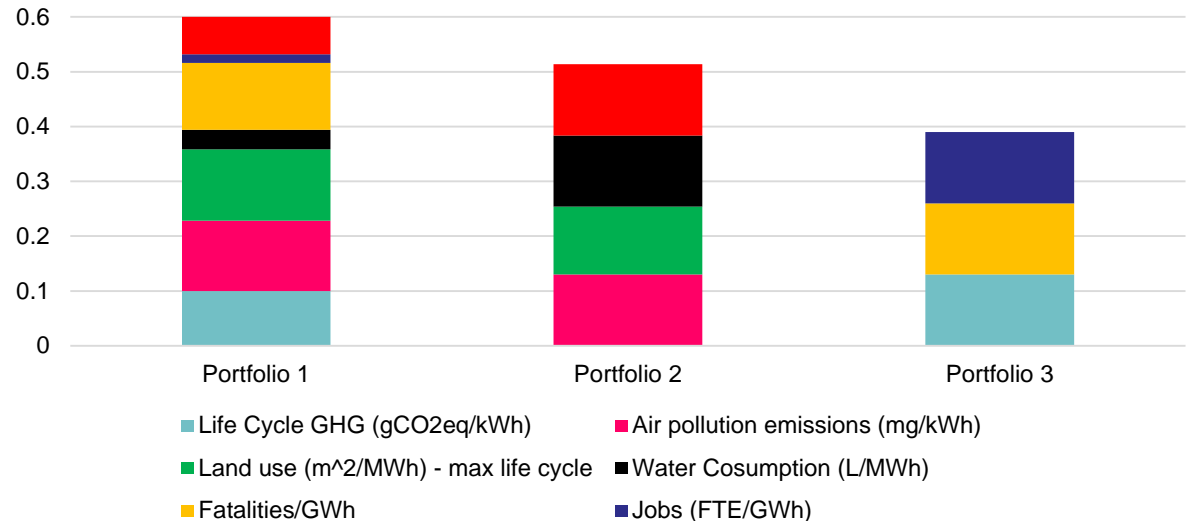


Figure 5: The level of Capacity and Energy for each technology

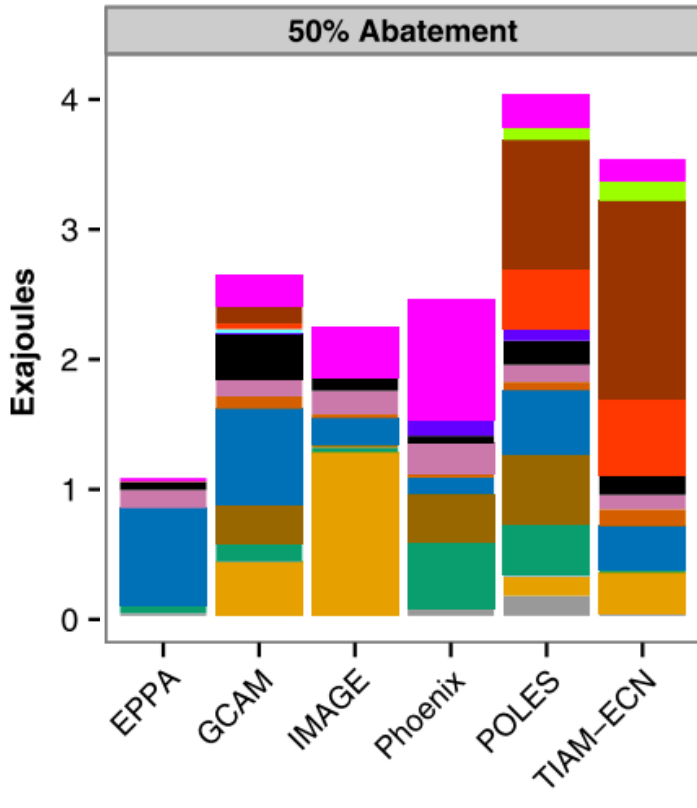
Equal Weight Preference Scenario



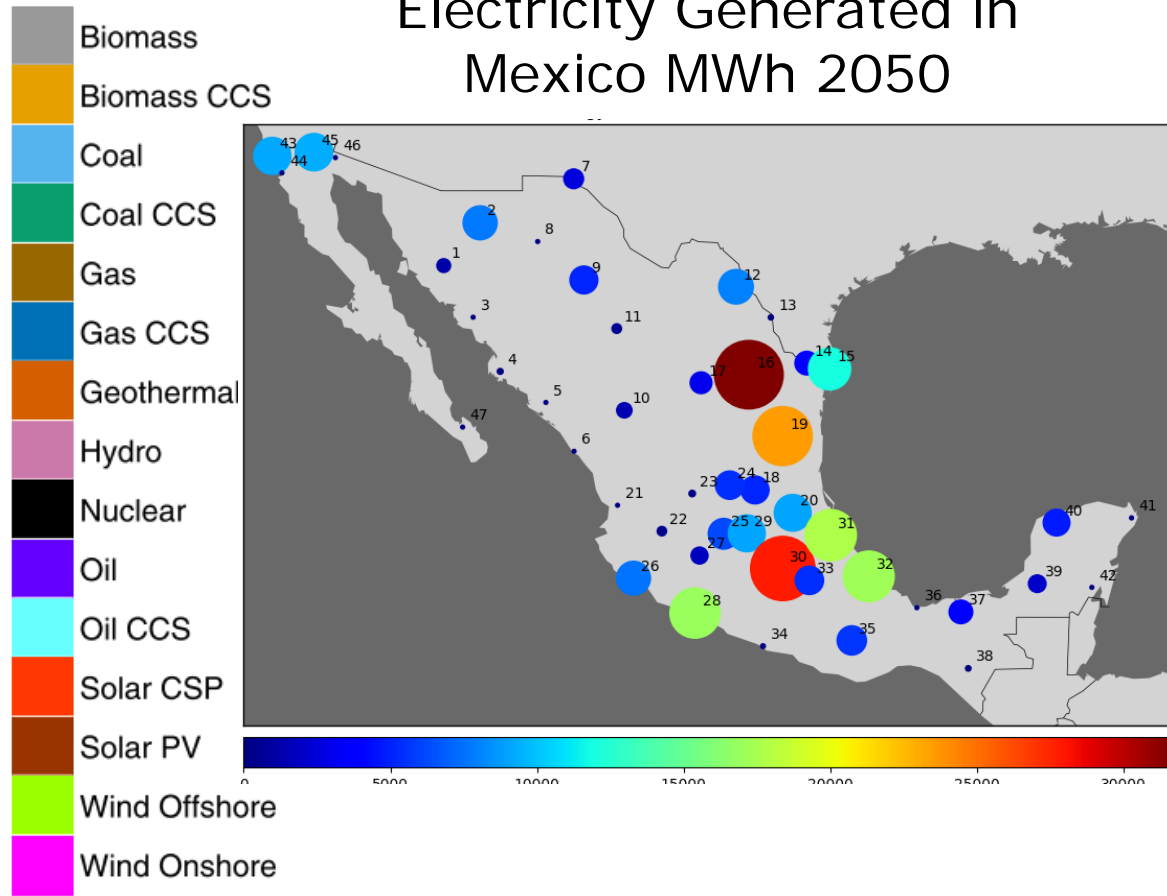


# Development Pathways for Mexico's Electrical Grid

Electricity Generated in Mexico 2050



Electricity Generated in Mexico MWh 2050



Source: J. Veysey, C. Octaviano, "Pathways to Mexico's climate change mitigation targets: A multi-model analysis," *Energy Econ.*

### Zana Cranmer

Advisor: Erin Baker

- Developing cohesive set of models to understand the interactions of economic and environmental value of offshore wind development
- Facilitating decision making across multiple objectives, scales, and stakeholders

Figure 1: Binary network model structure.

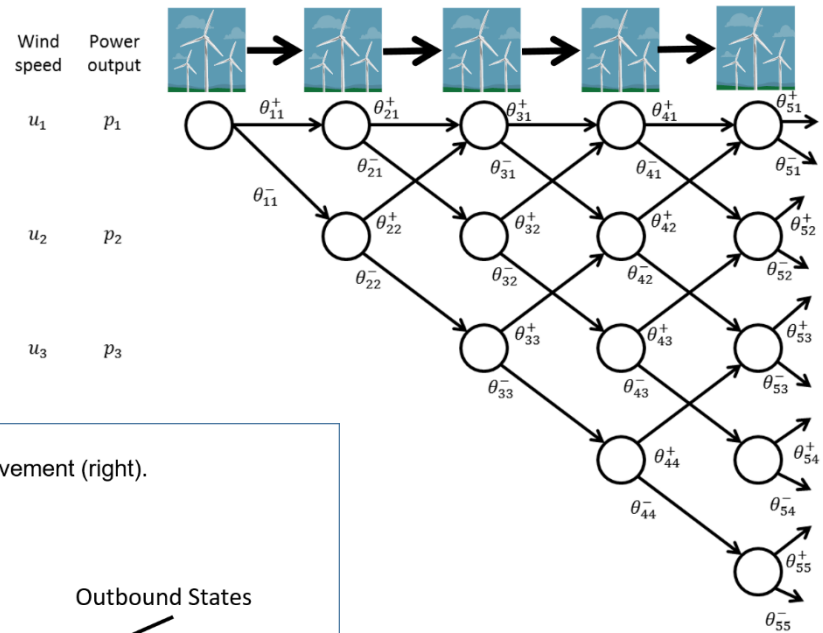
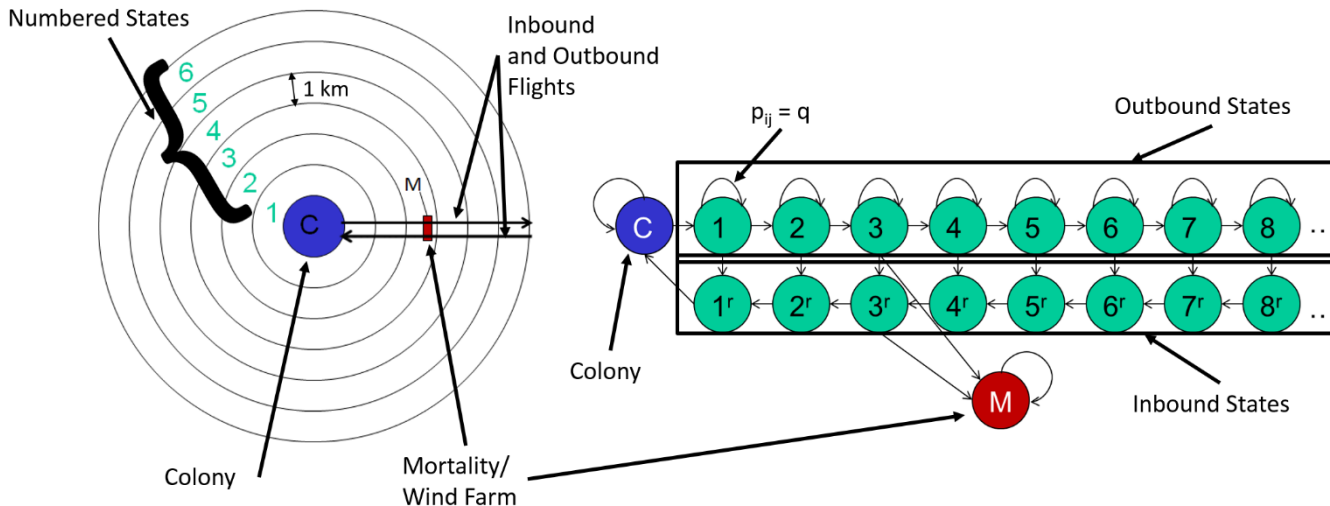


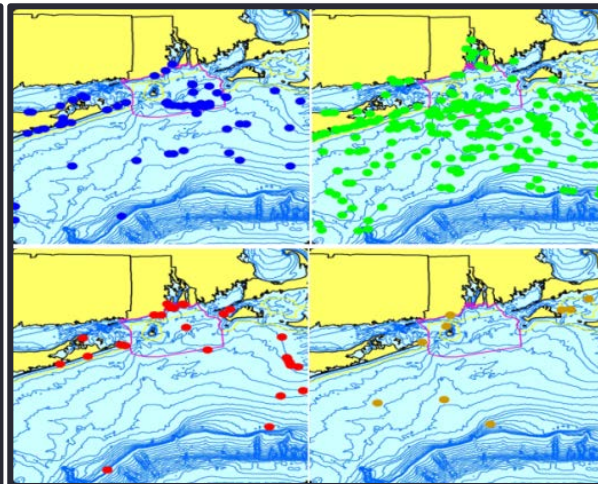
Figure 2: Conceptual model of bird movement (left) and Markov model of movement (right).



Repurposing models traditionally used in business applications for public benefit

## Environmental Issues of Offshore Wind Energy

- *9 fellows*
- *Department of Environmental Conservation*

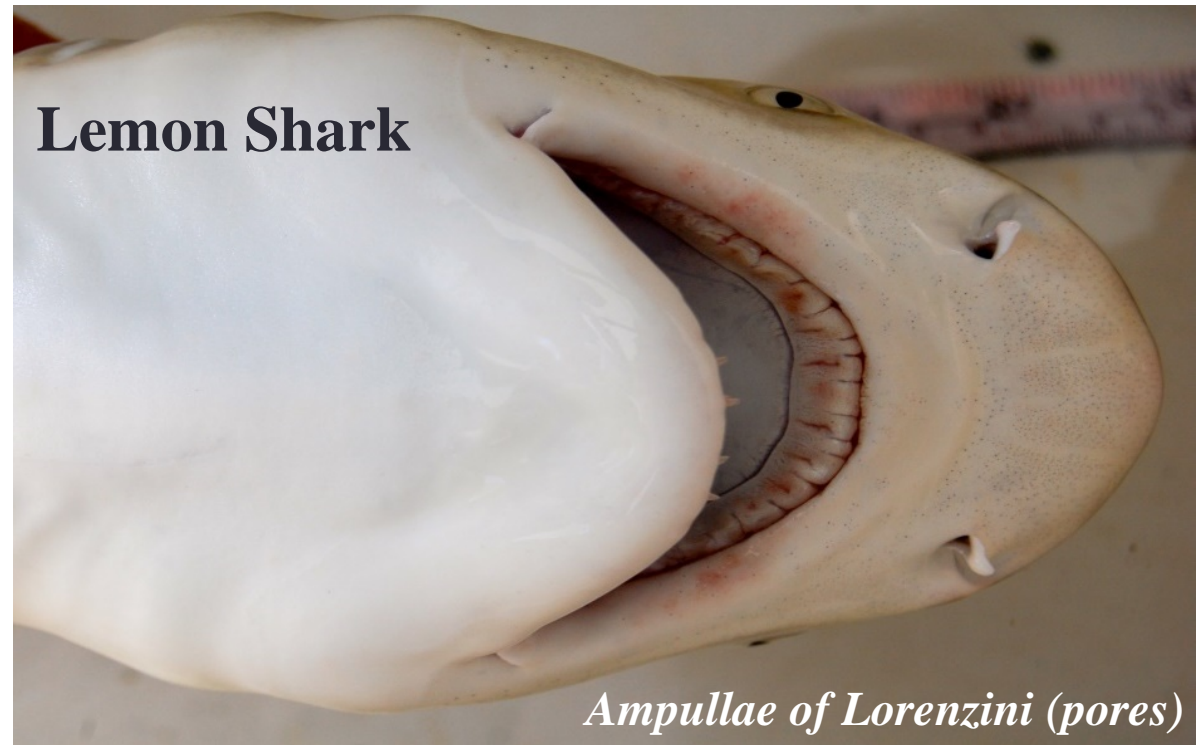


## Kate McClellan Press

Advisor: Andy Danylchuk

Understanding how power transmission cables may effect electro-sensitive fishes (sharks, rays)

*Analyzing behavioral responses of sharks and rays to electric fields in the lab and in their natural environment.*



## Jen Smetzer

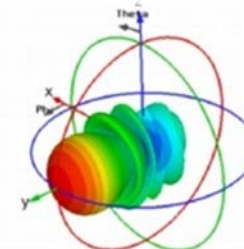
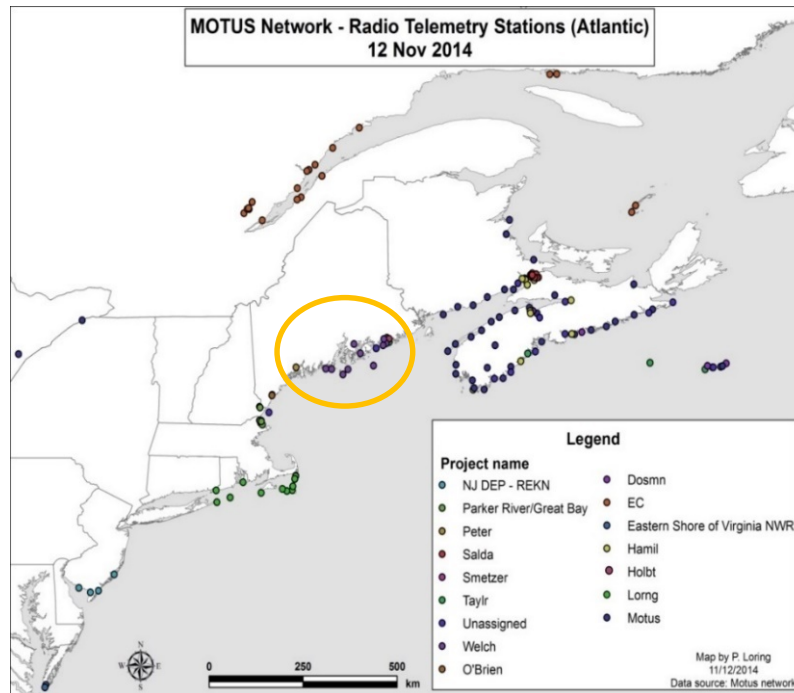
Understanding and minimizing effects of wind development on migratory songbirds and breeding marine birds

*Flight behavior – hazard exposure*

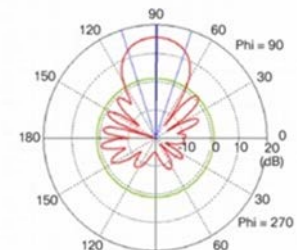
*Migratory routes*

*Colony attendance – Spatial Planning Tool*

Advisor: David King



(b) Yagi Antenna 3D Radiation Pattern



(j) Yagi Antenna Elevation Plane Pattern

## Pam Loring

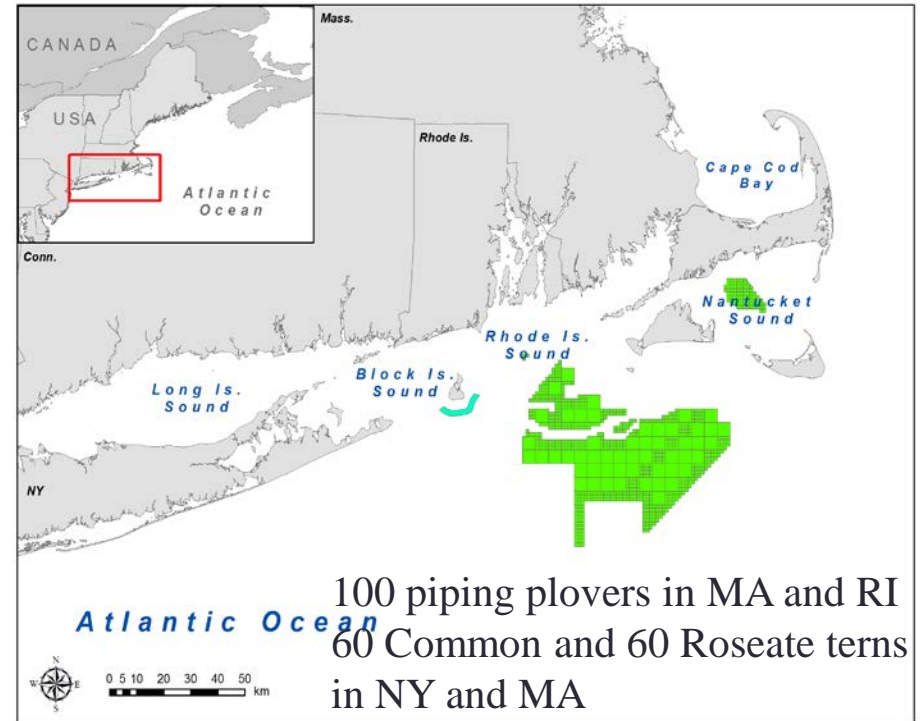
Modeling bird movements across southern  
New England

Quantifying exposure to Wind Energy Areas  
Examining environmental drivers

Advisors: Paul Sievert  
Curtice Griffin



## Roseate Tern & Piping Plover Tracking

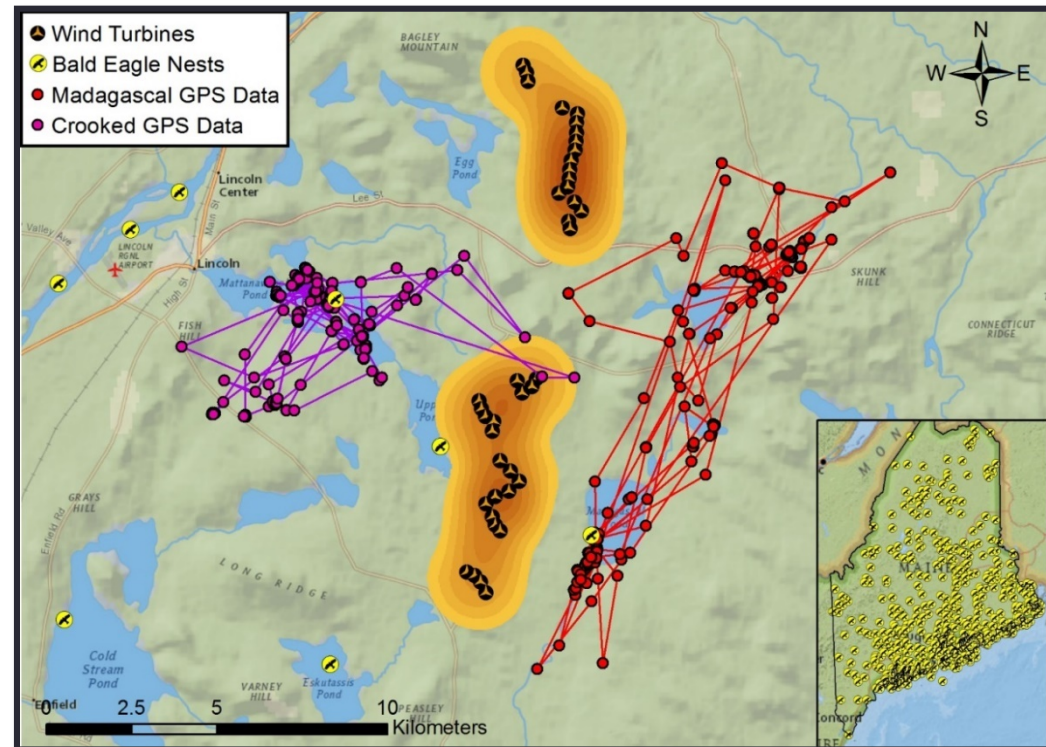


## Blake Massey

Advisors: Curt Griffin  
Kevin McGarigal

Using GPS telemetry data and GIS data layers to analyze eagle habitat use and behavioral patterns

Developing a spatially-explicit, individual-based movement model to simulate flight patterns and habitat utilization



## Zara Dowling

Advisors: Paul Sievert  
Betsy Dumont

Minimizing effects of wind development on migratory bats and rare WNS-affected bat species in the Northeast

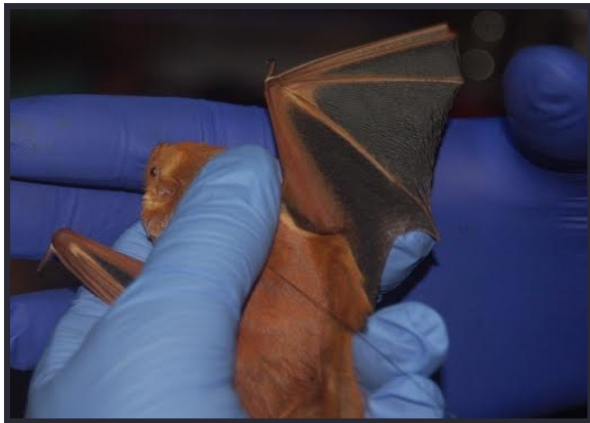
Fall migration of hoary and eastern red bats

*Greatest risk in Northeast*

*Know very little about their migratory routes or habits*

Summer foraging and fall migration of northern long-eared bat

*Federally threatened*





## Kendra Ryan

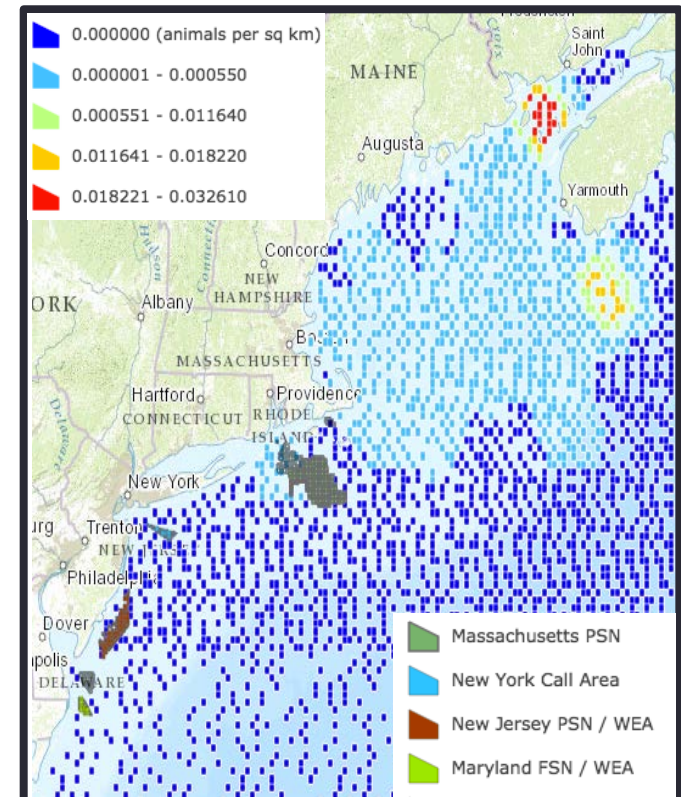
Advisor: Adrian Jordaan

### Overcoming data deficiencies in environmental permitting of offshore wind energy in the United States

- *Marine Spatial Planning*
- *Habitat Modeling*
- *Regulatory Acceptance*



First US offshore wind energy project, located in state waters managed by one of the first marine spatial plans in the US.



Habitat model of North Atlantic right whale presence in proximity to wind energy areas.

## Politics & Human Dimensions of Offshore Wind Energy

- *4 fellows*
- *4 departments*



Rebecca Sokoloski

Advisor: Ezra Markowitz

Understanding how people conceptualize offshore wind projects

Studying how we can best communicate project information to communities





# UMass IGERT *Policy*



## Wing Goodale

Advisor: Anita Milman

### Developing public-private partnerships to address cumulative adverse effects

- *Environmental uncertainty*
- *Proprietary data*
- *Regulatory uncertainty*



Journal of Environmental Planning and Management  
Volume 59, Issue 1, 2016

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Review Article  
**Cumulative adverse effects of offshore wind energy development on wildlife**

DOI: 10.1080/09640568.2014.973483  
M. Wing Goodale<sup>ab\*</sup> & Anita Milman<sup>a</sup>  
pages 1-21

**Publishing models and article dates explained**  
Received: 15 Apr 2014  
Accepted: 2 Oct 2014  
Published online: 14 Nov 2014

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**Abstract**  
Offshore wind energy development (OWED) is being pursued as a critical component in achieving a low-carbon energy economy. While the potential generating capacity is high,

## Robert Darrow

Advisor: Jane Fountain

- Politics of energy transitions: does the adoption of renewable energy result in a more democratic energy regime?
- *Investigating how Denmark has transitioned from an electric system almost entirely reliant on fossil fuels to the world's leading renewable energy producer per capita in less than 40 years*





## Interdisciplinary Collaborations

**Engineering**

**Policy**

**Environmental Conservation**

**Jen Smetzer & Zana Cranmer**

**Jen Smetzer & Acadia Engineer in Nova Scotia**

**Pam Loring & UMass Antenna Engineer**

**Zara Dowling & Dan Carlson**

**Blake Massey & Willian La Cava**

**Walt Jaslenek & Carson Pete**

**Zana Cranmer & School of Public Policy**

# IGERT: Offshore Wind Energy Engineering, Environmental Science, and Policy



*Our goal is to create a community of researchers who understand the technological challenges, environmental implications, socioeconomic, and regulatory hurdles of offshore wind farms.*

*Thank you!*