

Innovation for Our Energy Future

# FY2005 DOE Wind Program Implementation Meeting

# Small Wind Research Turbine (SWRT)





NREL is operated by Midwest Research Institute - Battelle

# Rationale for SWRT testing and furling model development

- •Poor understanding of small turbine loads and dynamic behavior especially furling
- •Lack of high quality data sets for small turbine model development and validation
- •Wind turbine aero-elastic models did not include furling
- •Test procedures unique to small turbines need to be addressed



SWRT testing and model development approach

• SWRT Test

• Most comprehensive small turbine test

• Three different turbine configurations tested

• Upgrade FAST model to include furling

> Perform model comparisons between FAST and ADAMS
> Perform model validation

> between FAST-SWRT model and SWRT data





## SWRT test description



### SWRT shaft sensor - first accurate small turbine thrust measurements





# **Pre-testing turbine characterization**



#### Data for modeling included:

- Tail assembly and main frame:
  - Weight, Cg, bi-filar, moment of inertia about yaw axis
- Magnet can Cg and moment of inertia estimated in Solidworks
- > Tail damper properties
- > Exact turbine geometries
- Blade modal test



# Max and Mean Furl vs. Mean Wind Speed **10-minute data files**



#### SWRT furling event – time series plot



### Furling and inflow





![](_page_8_Picture_3.jpeg)

## FAST model furling upgrades

- What?• New to FAST is the availability of a lateral offset and skew angle of the rotor-shaft, rotorfurling, tail-furling, and tail inertia and aerodynamics
- Why? Requested by SWT manufacturers.
  - Recommended action from the NWTC Furling Workshop, July, 2000.
- *How?* Polled users of FAST and SWT community for potential needs.
  - Redeveloped FAST's equations of motion to incorporate furling; then codified changes.
  - Dynamics verified via comparisons to ADAMS

![](_page_9_Picture_7.jpeg)

## FAST vs. SWRT 10-minute mean/max rotor thrust force

![](_page_10_Figure_1.jpeg)

### FAST vs. SWRT 10-minute mean/max rotor RPM

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### FAST vs. SWRT 10-minute mean yaw error

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

## FAST vs. SWRT 10-minute mean/max furl angle

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Rotor thrust for one 10-minute file of Configuration B with resistor load – 17.6 m/s average wind speed

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Rotor speed for same 10-minute time period

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Rotor yaw angle for the same time period

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Tail furl angle for the same time period

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_2.jpeg)

Outreach and industry participation examples

- SWRT test results and FAST model available on NWTC website
- Windward Engineering
  - Use SWRT data analysis results and FAST model to provide modeling capabilities to industry
- Bergey Windpower

Testing results used for turbine development

![](_page_18_Picture_6.jpeg)

# **Accomplishments**

- FAST furling model available
- 2 ASME papers completed documenting SWRT test and FAST modeling results
- Better understanding of small wind turbine dynamic behavior, including thrust and furling
- Better test procedures for small turbine testing
- Questions still remain on FAST furling model validation and small wind turbine modeling in general

![](_page_19_Picture_6.jpeg)

## **Future Work**

#### - SWRT testing completed

Further SWRT analysis

- model comparison for final configuration C

- Run FAST model with TurbSim to better quantify inflow effects

Final SWRT technical report

Windpower paper for 2005
 – will include some IEC 1400-2 comparisons

- Other NWTC code developments will help both small and large wind turbine modeling efforts
  - Non-linear generalized dynamic wake model, TurbSim for turbulent inflow, future FAST modifications
- Planning for future wind tunnel test to get more detailed data such as wake data?

![](_page_20_Picture_10.jpeg)