



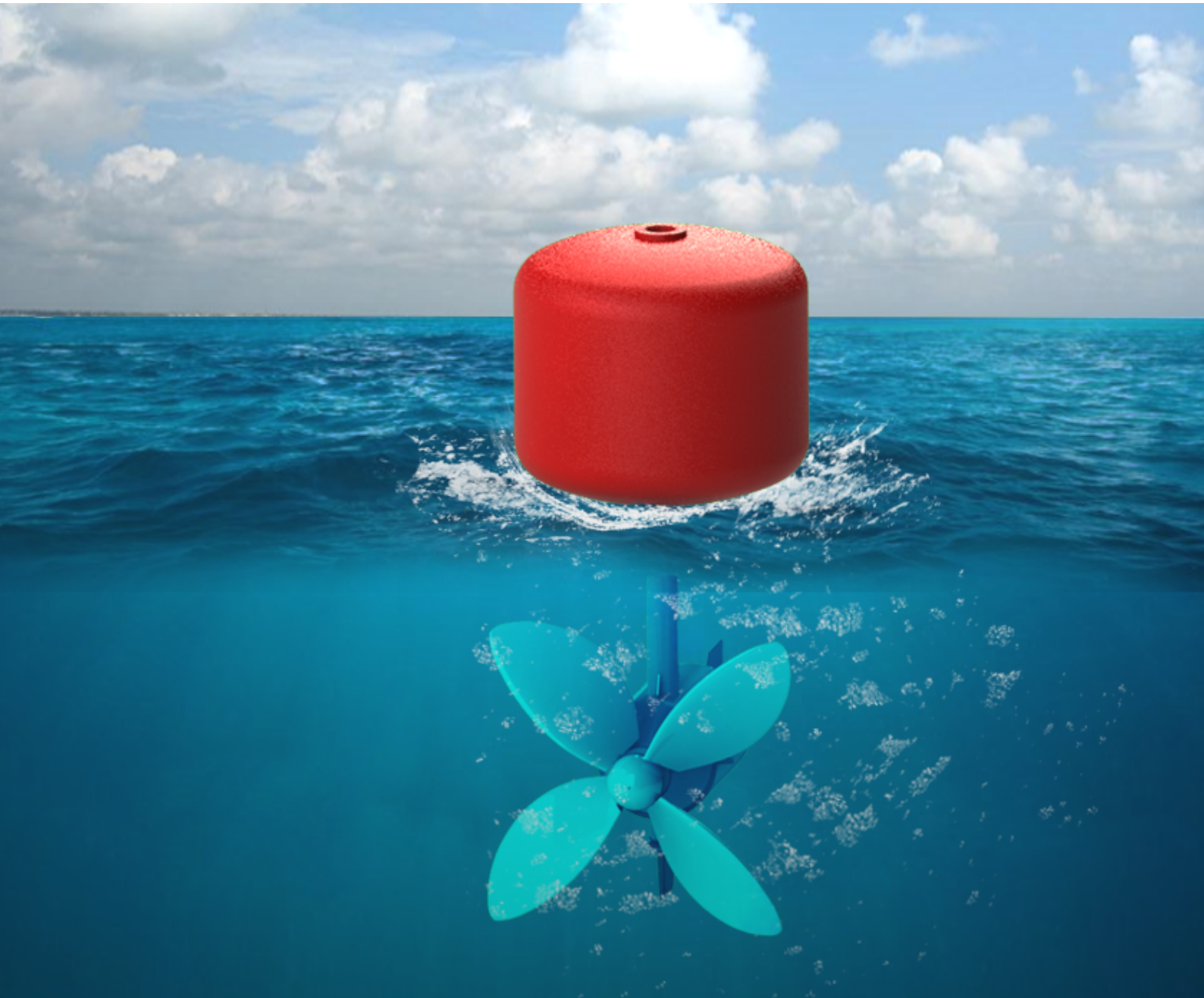
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# Performance analysis of diffuser-augmented horizontal-axis turbines

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*Let's be happy.*



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# Abstract

A performance analysis of the literature of diffuser-augmented horizontal-axis turbines is presented. A collection of 155 articles in the area is analyzed and classified. The work sample is divided into 16 main research branches for discussion. Power assessment metrics are proposed based on power coefficient and tip-speed-ratio, to quantify and compare all diffuser-augmented turbines in a unified, meaningful manner. Design suggestions for the development of diffuser-augmented turbines are pointed out based on the analysis of 73 cases. A power coefficient assessment on the work sample presented that, in 58% of the cases, the diffuser-augmented turbines surpassed the power coefficient of scaled bare turbines of the same diameter. A tip-speed-ratio assessment presented that almost 90% of the diffuser-augmented turbines developed a narrower operational interval. Five high-performing diffuser-augmented turbines are discussed, highlighting their methodologies and contributions. Caution is advised when coupling a diffuser to a bare turbine with an already high power coefficient; the diffuser-augmented turbine, especially in those cases, should be designed employing a simultaneous diffuser-rotor optimization.

**Keywords:** Performance Analysis. Systematic analysis. Diffuser-augmented turbines. Wind turbines. Hydrokinetic turbines. Tidal turbines. Renewable energy. Horizontal-axis turbines. Power coefficient.

# Resumo

O trabalho apresenta uma análise do desempenho de turbinas de eixo horizontal equipadas com difusores. Um conjunto de 155 artigos na área é analisado e classificado. A amostra de trabalho é dividida entre as 16 principais linhas de pesquisa para discussão. Métricas de análise de desempenho são propostas baseadas em coeficiente de potência e velocidade de ponta de pá, para quantificar e comparar todas as turbinas de eixo horizontal com difusor em uma métrica unificada. Sugestões de projeto para o desenvolvimento de um difusor para turbinas de eixo horizontal são apresentadas com base na análise de 73 casos. A análise de coeficiente de potência sobre a amostra apresenta que, em 58% dos casos, as turbinas com difusor apresentaram um coeficiente de potência maior que a turbina sem difusor ampliada para o mesmo diâmetro. A análise sobre a velocidade de ponta de pá mostra que em quase 90% dos casos as turbinas apresentaram uma diminuição no seu intervalo operacional após a adição do difusor. Cinco turbinas de alto desempenho são discutidas, realçando suas metodologias e contribuições. Cuidado é necessário ao utilizar difusores com turbinas de alto desempenho; especialmente nesses casos, o conjunto turbina-difusor deve ser projetado simultaneamente levando em consideração que vão operar juntos.

**Palavras-chave:** Análise de desempenho. Análise sistemática. Turbinas com difusor. Turbinas eólicas. Turbinas hidrocínéticas. Turbinas de maré. Energia renovável. Turbinas de eixo horizontal. Coeficiente de potência.

# List of Figures

Figure 3.1 – Publication trends. (a) Distribution of work sample by type. (b) Journals with most articles published in the field, along with their CiteScore in 2018. . . . .	20
Figure 3.2 – Number of published works on diffuser-enhanced horizontal-axis turbines per year from 1970 to 2020. . . . .	21
Figure 3.3 – Change of research groups after 2010 based on co-authorship analysis, highlighting groups whom remained and those who changed. (a) Research groups between 2000 and 2010. (b) Research groups between 2011 and 2014. Made with VOSviewer [148]. . . . .	22
Figure 3.4 – Authors with most works published on diffuser-enhanced turbines, with added time period in which those publications occurred. . . . .	23
Figure 3.5 – Number of occurrences of main author keywords on three time periods.	26
Figure 4.1 – Illustration of parameters on a diffuser-augmented turbine; cross-section view. . . . .	27
Figure 5.1 – Characteristics of conical and airfoil-shaped diffusers in cross-section views. Conical diffuser in (a) and airfoil-shaped diffuser in (b). Illustration of conical and airfoil-shaped diffuser velocity distributions in (c) and (d). . . . .	35
Figure 5.2 – Illustration of building-augmented horizontal-axis turbines. Bahrain Towers on (a) and The Strata on (b). . . . .	38
Figure 5.3 – Characteristics of curved diffuser in cross-section views. Airfoil-shaped diffuser in (a) and curved diffuser in (b). Illustration of airfoil-shaped and curved diffuser velocity profiles in (c) and (d), with detail to the recirculation zone that makes the curve shape hydrodynamic-similar to an airfoil profile; reused and edited with permission [41]. . . . .	40

Figure 5.4 – Illustration of flange aspects in cross-section views. Detail to flange on curved diffuser in (a). Illustration of velocity field and recirculation zones from axisymmetric numerical analysis in (b), reused and edited with permission [78]. Particle-image velocimetry of recirculation zones in (c), reused with permission [25]. . . . .	42
Figure 5.5 – Illustration of control plates on diffuser, reused with permission [108].	44
Figure 5.6 – Lobed diffusers viewed from the back. Scheme in (a), reused and edited with permission [57]. Lobed diffuser by FloDesign, in (b), courtesy of Ewan O’Sullivan [123]. . . . .	45
Figure 5.7 – Illustration of vortex generators on diffuser-augmented turbine [144].	46
Figure 5.8 – Detail to frontal nozzles in cross-section view of diffuser-augmented turbines. Frontal nozzles in: airfoil-shaped diffuser in (a), curved diffuser in (b), conical diffuser in (c). . . . .	47
Figure 5.9 – Multi-slots diffusers. Cross-section view in (a). Commercial design by FloDesign, in (b) [71, 56]. . . . .	48
Figure 5.10–Illustration of five diffuser-augmented turbine’s arrangement, with detail to Multi-turbine system’s gap parameter. Distinction of two and three turbine’s arrangement. . . . .	49
Figure 5.11–Alternative turbine arrangement proposed for research. . . . .	50
Figure 5.12–Illustration of diffuser-augmented twin-rotor turbine, and its counter-rotating aspect. . . . .	52
Figure 6.1 – Power coefficient comparison between diffuser-augmented turbine and bare turbine. Comparison on usual $C_p$ metric in (a). Comparison on proposed $E_d$ metric in (b). . . . .	56
Figure 6.2 – $TSR_{width}$ and $TSR_{center}$ illustration on a power coefficient curve. Data obtained from previous work [104]. . . . .	57
Figure 7.1 – Distribution of diffuser-augmented turbines found on the literature based on power coefficient. (a) Based on $C_p$ metric. (b) Based on $C_p^d$ metric. . . . .	60
Figure 7.2 – Distribution of diffuser-augmented turbines found on the literature based on $E_d$ . . . . .	61

Figure 7.3 – Influence of diffuser on $TSR$ . Comparison of changes between bare turbine and diffuser-augmented turbine. Two design points of interest are highlighted. . . . .	62
Figure 7.4 – Dispersion of the diffuser-augmented turbines respective to $C_p^d$ and $A_d/A_r$ . Five design points of interest are highlighted. . . . .	64
Figure 7.5 – Diffuser-augmented turbine optimization. Analyzed cases in (a), with objectively best ones in black. Selected profile H illustration in (b), referred as design point 2. Reused and edited with permission [78] .	67
Figure 7.6 – Diffuser-augmented turbine with flange inclination. Flange with positive $10^\circ$ angle in (a), referred design point 3, and $0^\circ$ angle in (b). Reused and edited with permission [59]. . . . .	67
Figure 7.7 – Several diffuser-augmented turbines with varying lengths, experiments made with the same rotor [105]. Diffuser $C_0$ - $0.100L/D_r$ in (a), $C_i$ - $0.137L/D_r$ in (b), $C_{ii}$ - $0.221L/D_r$ in (c), $C_{iii}$ - $0.371L/D_r$ in (d). . . . .	68
Figure 7.8 – Relation between the diffuser-enhancement achieved, $E_d$ , and the power coefficient, $C_p^b$ , of their respective bare turbines. Three areas of interest are highlighted. . . . .	69
Figure 7.9 – Conical diffuser-augmented turbine by Kosasih and Saleh [83]. . . .	70
Figure A.1 – Keywords for advanced search in Scopus database. . . . .	96

# List of Tables

Table 2.1 – Summary of database search keywords. . . . .	19
Table 3.1 – Most cited works on diffuser enhanced turbines . . . . .	24
Table 3.2 – Most cited recent works on diffuser enhanced turbines, from 2010 to 2020. . . . .	25
Table 5.1 – Research branches of interest with their respective reference page. . .	30
Table 7.1 – Common traits of a low and high standard diffusers. . . . .	65
Table B.1 – Power coefficient and tip-speed ratio data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part I . . . . .	98
Table B.2 – Power coefficient and tip-speed ratio data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part II . . . . .	99
Table B.3 – Power coefficient and tip-speed ratio data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part III . . . . .	100
Table B.4 – Power coefficient and tip-speed ratio data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part IV . . . . .	101
Table C.1 – Geometry data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part I . . . . .	102
Table C.2 – Geometry data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part II . . . . .	103
Table C.3 – Geometry data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part III . . . . .	104
Table C.4 – Geometry data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part IV . . . . .	105





# Nomenclature

## Geometry

$A_d$	Diffuser's maximum cross-sectional area	$m^2$
$A_i$	Diffuser's inlet area	$m^2$
$A_r$	Rotor's spanning area	$m^2$
$D_d$	Diffuser's maximum diameter	$m$
$D_i$	Diffuser's inlet diameter	$m$
$D_r$	Rotor's diameter	$m$
$L_n$	Nozzle's length	$m$
$L_e$	Diffuser's expansion length	$m$
$L$	Total diffuser length	$m$
$s$	Multi-turbine system's gap	$m$
$\theta$	Diffuser's expansion angle	$^\circ$

## Performance and flow

$C_p^b$	Bare turbine's power coefficient	-
$C_p$	Diffuser-augmented turbine's power coefficient	-
$C_p^d$	Diffuser-augmented turbine's actual power coefficient	-
$E_d$	Diffuser enhancement	-
$P_{bare}$	Power generated by bare turbine	$W$
$P_{diffuser}$	Power generated by diffuser-augmented turbine	$W$

$TSR$	Tip-speed-ratio	-
$U$	Unperturbed flow's mean speed	$m/s$
$u$	Flow's axial velocity	-
$\omega$	Rotor's angular speed	$rad/s$
$\rho$	Fluid density	$kg/m^3$

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b> . . . . .	<b>17</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>SOURCE MINING</b> . . . . .	<b>18</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>BIBLIOMETRIC DATA</b> . . . . .	<b>20</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>PARAMETERS INTRODUCTION</b> . . . . .	<b>27</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>RESEARCH BRANCHES</b> . . . . .	<b>30</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Theoretical framework</b> . . . . .	<b>30</b>
5.1.1	Analytical models . . . . .	31
5.1.2	Semi-analytical models . . . . .	32
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Acoustics</b> . . . . .	<b>33</b>
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Airfoil-shaped diffuser</b> . . . . .	<b>34</b>
5.3.1	Influence of the airfoil shape on the power coefficient . . . . .	35
5.3.2	Influence of the airfoil shape on the pressure distribution . . . . .	36
5.3.3	Influence of the airfoil shape on the axial velocity distribution . . . . .	36
5.3.4	Optimization of the airfoil profile . . . . .	36
<b>5.4</b>	<b>Blade-tip effects</b> . . . . .	<b>36</b>
<b>5.5</b>	<b>Building-augmented wind turbines</b> . . . . .	<b>37</b>
<b>5.6</b>	<b>Curved diffuser</b> . . . . .	<b>39</b>
<b>5.7</b>	<b>Diffuser length</b> . . . . .	<b>41</b>
<b>5.8</b>	<b>Flanges</b> . . . . .	<b>42</b>
<b>5.9</b>	<b>Flow mixers</b> . . . . .	<b>43</b>
5.9.1	Control plates . . . . .	44
5.9.2	Lobed diffusers . . . . .	45
5.9.3	Vortex generators . . . . .	46
<b>5.10</b>	<b>Frontal nozzles</b> . . . . .	<b>46</b>
<b>5.11</b>	<b>Multi-slots</b> . . . . .	<b>47</b>
<b>5.12</b>	<b>Multi-turbine system</b> . . . . .	<b>49</b>

5.13	Simultaneous diffuser-rotor design . . . . .	50
5.14	Twin-rotors on diffusers . . . . .	51
5.15	Yaw and shear flow effects . . . . .	52
5.16	Other diffuser concepts . . . . .	53
6	METRICS OF ASSESSMENT . . . . .	54
6.1	Power coefficient metrics . . . . .	54
6.2	Tip-speed-ratio metrics . . . . .	56
7	PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT . . . . .	59
7.1	Power coefficient distribution . . . . .	59
7.2	Diffuser influence on tip-speed-ratio . . . . .	62
7.3	Well designed diffuser-augmented turbines . . . . .	64
7.4	Diffuser enhancement . . . . .	68
8	CONCLUSIONS . . . . .	71
	BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .	73
	APPENDIX . . . . .	95
	APPENDIX A – DATABASE SEARCH KEYWORDS . . . . .	96
	APPENDIX B – DIFFUSER-AUGMENTED TURBINE’S DATA	98
	APPENDIX C – DIFFUSER-AUGMENTED TURBINE’S GE- OMETRY . . . . .	102

# 1 Introduction

The increased demand for a more renewable energy grid has motivated the development of the research on wind, tidal, and hydrokinetic turbines technology. For long, prevailed the thought that increasing the rotor diameter was the only feasible way to increase the turbine's power output. Disproving that, research on diffuser-augmented turbines has been gaining popularity in recent years as an alternative and promising method. Due to this sudden surge in the area, the literature developed in a non-uniform and spread way.

In recent years, many authors, explored the subject. They classified and provided examples on different types of diffuser-augmented turbines, presenting an idea of the state-of-the-art [5]. Nevertheless, they were mostly concerned about explaining the subject broadly, with several examples of different technologies, lacking a summarized collection approaching all results achieved in the field. More cohesive guidance is needed for ease of finding what was already tested and what research path one should take. The present work uses data from already published works. This data is analyzed to gather results over several different areas that wouldn't be possible otherwise, when performing an analysis of a single article. This macro approach permits the deduction of several unanswered or unverified questions, for example: What are the effects of the diffuser on the turbine's tip-speed-ratio? Which is the better option: increasing the rotor diameter or using a diffuser? What areas are open and interesting for research?

In that manner, the present work provides the following content:

- discussion of the systematic methodology employed in the literature;
- bibliometric data on topic;
- presentation of relevant parameters;
- main research branches and their most important findings;
- performance assessment of diffuser-augmented turbines found in the literature.

## 2 Source mining

The present work aims to swift through all relevant works published on diffuser-augmented horizontal turbines, or as close as possible to that. From there, it presents all of these works' information in a retraceable form. Further, a study is performed, not only over isolated samples but also over the whole collection of articles gathered.

A systematic approach to the bibliography is adopted. The present chapter summarizes the method, but the interested reader may obtain more information from Cronin et al. [34] and Pagani et al. [117].

The step-by-step method performed is presented below:

- Determination of the research topics and database.
- Selection of proper search keywords and filtering of all relevant data.
- Classification, reading, and analysis of articles.
- Sorting of the gathered data and presentation of findings.

The research topic is defined as "Diffuser-augmented horizontal-axis turbines." Availability and content are two important factors to be considered about the database; different areas will be better evaluated in different databases, with different aims. One can also opt for using more than one database and joining all information together. The primary database of choice here was the Scopus [46]: vast and with an outstanding advanced search engine. It does not limit itself to Elsevier but also contemplates more than 5000 other publishers, a large part of its content coming from Elsevier, Springer, Wiley-Blackwell, Taylor & Francis, and IEEE [45].

Due to the developing nature of the topic, the initial search has to be as broad as possible. The literature of diffuser-augmented turbines often mixes with the one of hydrokinetic turbines, wind turbines, tidal turbines, along with others. Table 2.1 summarizes the keywords employed to perform the search. The full set of keywords are presented in Appendix A, that includes the used wildcards, boolean operators, and

proximity operators. The search resulted in 426 documents on the English language, of which 155 were used in the elaboration of the present work.

Table 2.1 – Summary of database search keywords.

Any of those terms	Along with any of those sets
Diffuser	Hydro, wind, tidal, current or marine turbine
Shroud	Horizontal-axis turbine
Concentrator	Augmented turbine
Ducts	

### 3 Bibliometric data

Bibliometric data can be compiled from the work sample to show the state of the research in the area. The analysis covers data about co-authorship networks, publishing trends, most relevant journals and word occurrence analysis.

Figure 3.1(a) presents the main publication types in the subject, where 60% are journal articles. Due to the amount of articles published, Figure 3.1(b) highlights the journals with most articles published in the field, along with their CiteScore in 2019.

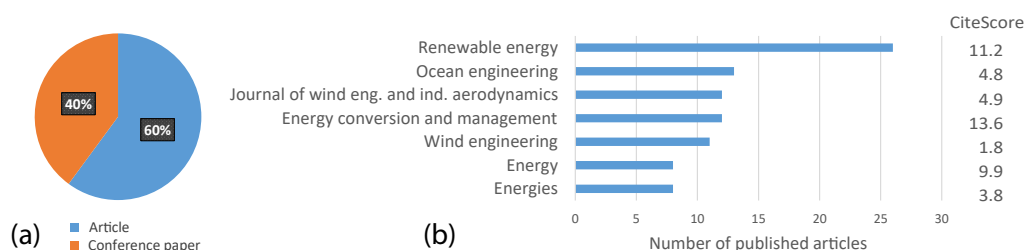


Figure 3.1 – Publication trends. (a) Distribution of work sample by type. (b) Journals with most articles published in the field, along with their CiteScore in 2018.

There is a trend of publications being spread out between different journals. The main published journals consist of only 36% of all journal published articles. No correlation was found between the CiteScore and the number articles published in that specific journal. That information points to the fact that authors tend to seek more fitting journals for their topic. This is evident on Ocean Engineering, with only articles on hydrokinetic and Tidal turbines; Journal of Wind Engineering and Industrial Aerodynamics and Wind Engineering, with most of the recent wind-focused technologies on diffuser-enhanced turbines.

Figure 3.2 introduces how the number of publications on diffuser-enhanced turbines changed through the years. It is noticeable that the area received relatively few attention from researchers until 2010, when its growth began. Works from 1972 to 1991 were mostly from Igra, Foreman, Gilbert and Fletcher, whom have done exhaustive numerical and experimental works on different diffuser designs.



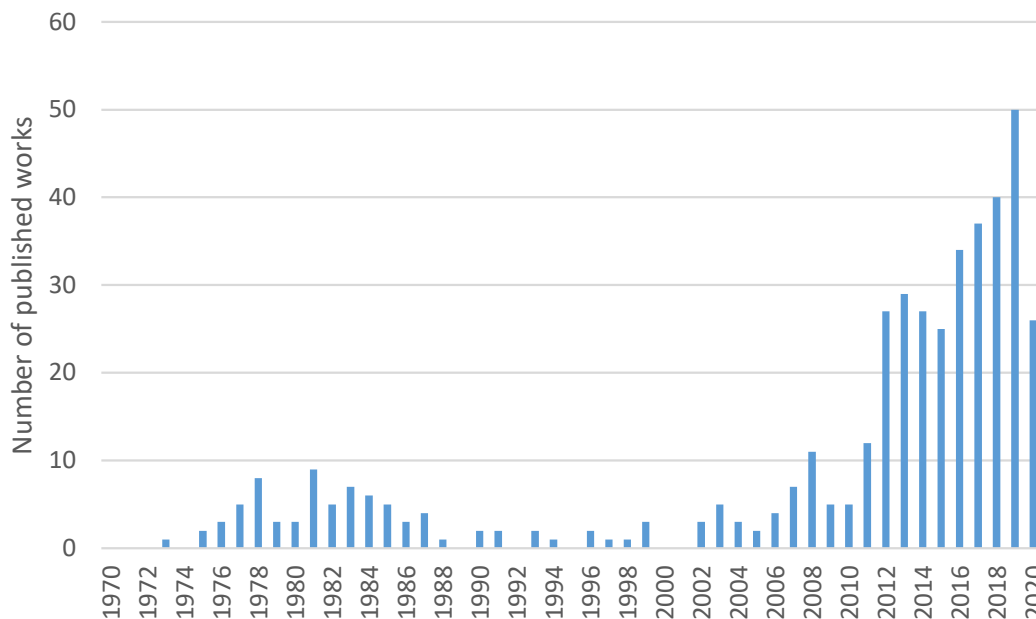


Figure 3.2 – Number of published works on diffuser-enhanced horizontal-axis turbines per year from 1970 to 2020.

The effects of the significant rise in the field after 2010 can be better observed during a co-authorship analysis, done on VOSviewer, software version 1.6.10 [148]. For that, two time intervals will be analyzed: before the rise, between 2000 and 2010, and right after the rise, between 2011 and 2014. In that manner we can observe the immediate implications of this sharp rise in the field.

Figure 3.3 presents an author network on those two time periods: between 2000 and 2010, on Figure 3.3(a), and between 2011 and 2014, on Figure 3.3(b). Each circle size indicates the number of published articles by an author. The connecting lines indicate an article published by the two authors. In Figure 3.3, we can observe different research groups, each of those groups isolated in their respective clusters. The focus point is on how the people working in the area changed between the two time periods.

In the first time period, most of the research papers published on the topic of diffuser-enhanced turbines, are due to the Japanese group working from the Research Institute for Applied Mechanics, in Kyushu University (red network of Ohya et al.).



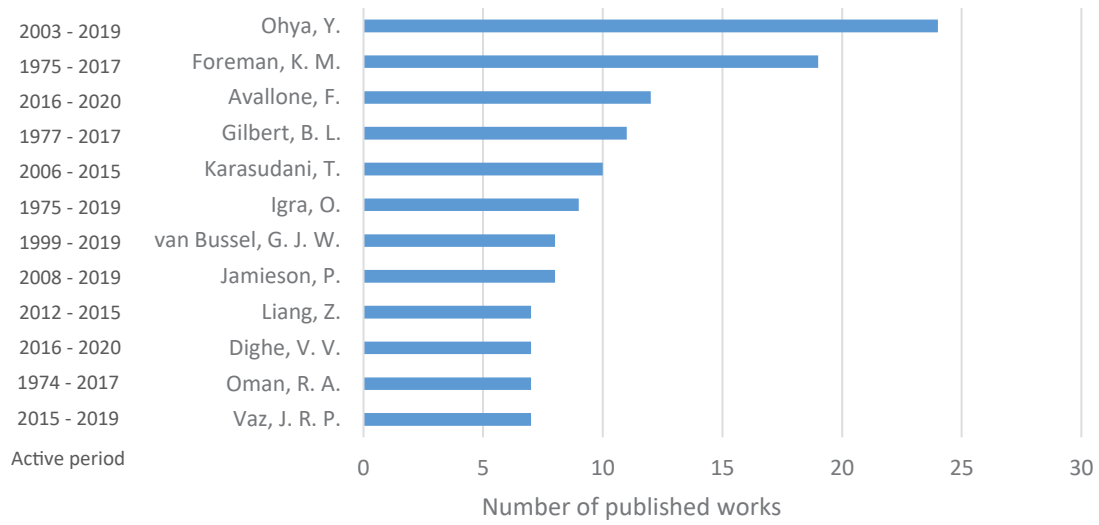


Figure 3.4 – Authors with most works published on diffuser-enhanced turbines, with added time period in which those publications occurred.

Table 3.1 – Most cited works on diffuser enhanced turbines

Authors	Year	Title	Source	#Citations	#Reference
Ohya et al.	2008	Development of a shrouded wind turbine with a flanged diffuser	Journal of Wind Eng. and Ind. Aerodynamics	180	[106]
Ohya and Karasudani	2010	A shrouded wind turbine generating high output power with wind-lens technology	Energies	178	[105]
Abe et al.	2005	Experimental and numerical investigations of flow fields behind a small wind turbine with a flanged diffuser	Journal of Wind Eng. and Ind. Aerodynamics	137	[3]
Igra, O.	1981	Research and development for shrouded wind turbines	Energy Conversion and Management	133	[65]
Van Bussel	2007	The science of making more torque from wind: Diffuser experiments and theory revisited	Journal of Physics: Conference Series	130	[146]
Abe and Ohya	2004	An investigation of flow fields around flanged diffusers using CFD	Journal of Wind Eng. and Ind. Aerodynamics	118	[4]
Gilbert and Foreman	1983	Experiments with a diffuser augmented model wind turbine	Journal of Energy Resources Technology, Transactions of the ASME	100	[51]
Matsushima et al.	2006	Characteristics of a highly efficient propeller type small wind turbine with a diffuser	Renewable energy	82	[97]
Grant et al.	2008	Urban wind energy conversion: The potential of ducted turbines	Renewable energy	77	[1]
Howey et al.	2011	Design and performance of a centimetre-scale shrouded wind turbine for energy harvesting	Smart Materials and Structures	68	[62]
Lawn, C. J.	2003	Optimization of the power output from ducted turbines	Journal of Power and Energy	67	[87]
Foreman et al.	1978	Diffuser augmentation of wind turbines	Solar energy	62	[49]

Table 3.2 – Most cited recent works on diffuser enhanced turbines, from 2010 to 2020.

Authors	Year	Title	Source	#Citations	#Reference
Ohya and Karasudani	2010	A shrouded wind turbine generating high output power with wind-lens technology	Energies	178	[105]
Howey et al.	2011	Design and performance of a centimetre-scale shrouded wind turbine for energy harvesting	Smart Materials and Structures	68	[62]
Gaden et al.	2010	A numerical investigation into the effect of diffusers on the performance of hydro kinetic turbines using a validated momentum source turbine model	Renewable energy	56	[50]
Jafari and Kosasih	2014	Flow analysis of shrouded small wind turbine with a simple frustum diffuser with computational fluid dynamics simulations	Journal of Wind Engineering and Industrial Aerodynamics	54	[67]
Bontempo and Manna	2014	Performance analysis of open and ducted wind turbines	Applied Energy	53	[19]
Kosasih and Tondelli	2012	Experimental study of shrouded micro-wind turbine	Procedia Engineering	48	[81]
Bontempo and Manna	2016	Effects of the duct thrust on the performance of ducted wind turbines	Energy	47	[20]
Vermillion et al.	2014	Model-based plant design and hierarchical control of a prototype lighter-than-air wind energy system, with experimental flight test results	IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology	46	[152]
Kishore et al.	2013	Small-scale wind energy portable turbine (SWEPT)	Journal of Wind Engineering and Industrial Aerodynamics	46	[79]
Aranake et al.	2015	Computational analysis of shrouded wind turbine configurations using a 3-dimensional RANS solver	Renewable energy	42	[11]
Vaz et al.	2015	An extension of the Blade Element Momentum method applied to Diffuser Augmented Wind Turbines	Energy Conversion and Management	38	[10]

The results of a word occurrence analysis are shown in Figure 3.5, which brings the most recurrent author-keywords. It is worth to point out an inclination to wind turbines in the area, but also the growing trend in the last years of applying the diffuser technology to hydrokinetic turbines. Some of the most studied designs also appear, such as flanges, airfoils and optical diffusers (An explanation on those will follow on Chapter 5). It can also be noted how the topic of multi-rotor system and design optimization started to grow, while the topic of airfoil design declined.

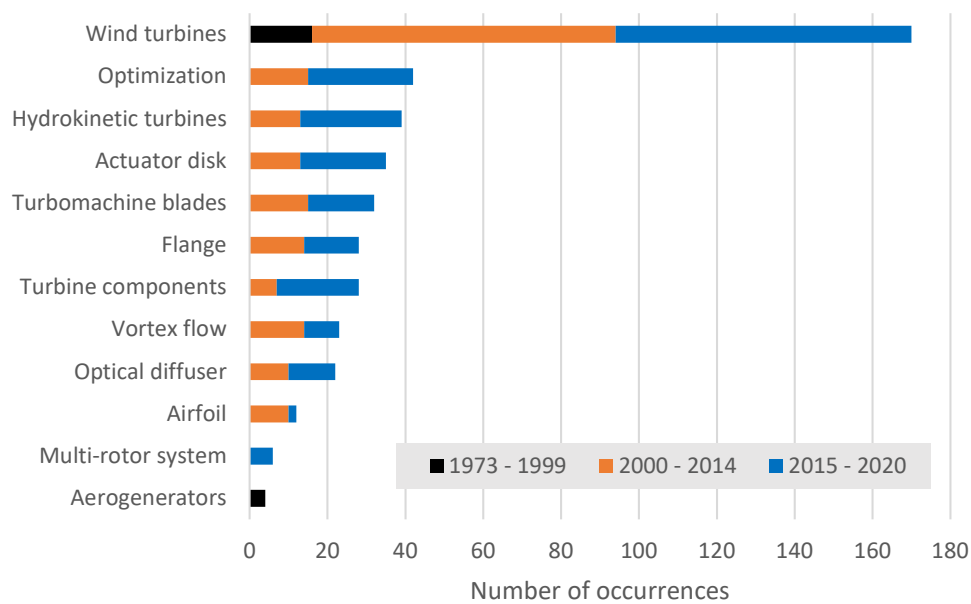


Figure 3.5 – Number of occurrences of main author keywords on three time periods.

## 4 Parameters introduction

The parameters description is separated into two parts:

- The current chapter—Parameters introduction. The parameters presented are often employed in the literature of diffuser-augmented turbines and referred to in the discussion of the main research branches.
- Chapter 6—Metrics of assessment. Parameters are proposed to analyze the performance of several diffuser-augmented turbines under a unified metric.

To better discuss the results found across several studies, Figure 4.1 illustrates commonly employed parameters on a diffuser-augmented turbine schematic.

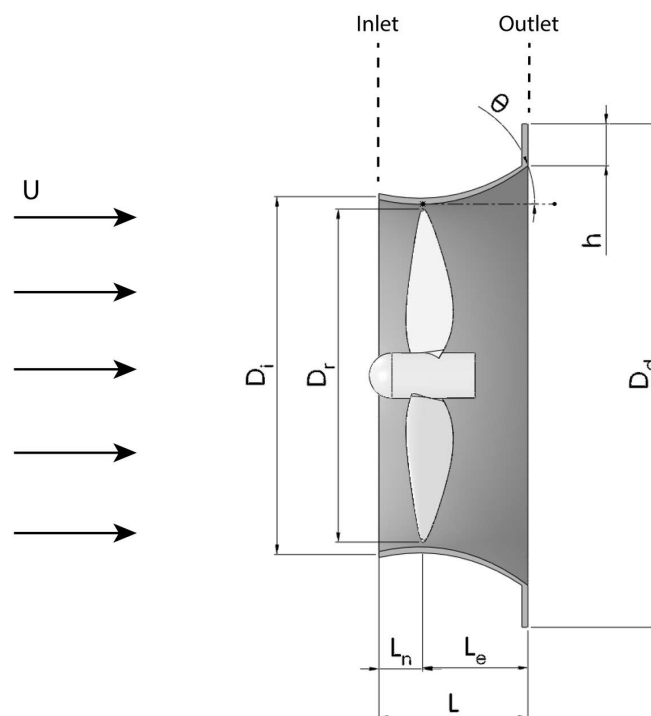


Figure 4.1 – Illustration of parameters on a diffuser-augmented turbine; cross-section view.

Concerning geometry:  $D$  stands for diameter,  $L$  for total length,  $L_n$  for nozzle length,  $L_e$  for expansion length,  $h$  for flange height, and  $\theta$  for expansion angle. The equation that describes the relevant areas is defined as

$$A_k = \pi(D_k/2)^2, \quad (4.1)$$

where  $k = i, r, d$ , standing for inlet, rotor and diffuser's maximum cross-section, respectively.

The flow's axial velocity,  $u$ , is the flow's velocity profile at the turbine's center-line; it is parameterized by  $U$ , the flow's mean speed. The Multi-turbine system's gap,  $s$ , is used when discussing the arrangement of several diffuser-augmented turbines; it represents the distance between two diffusers in the arrangement and will be illustrated further on Section 5.12.

The bare turbine's power coefficient,  $C_p^b$ , is the ratio between the power generated by the bare turbine and the power available to it,

$$C_p^b = \frac{P_{bare}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U^3 A_r}. \quad (4.2)$$

where  $\rho$  represents the working fluid's density and  $U$  represents the flow's mean speed.

The diffuser-augmented turbine's power coefficient,  $C_p$ , is the metric which most authors adopt. It represents the ratio between the power generated by the diffuser-augmented turbine and the power available to the bare turbine,

$$C_p = \frac{P_{diffuser}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U^3 A_r}. \quad (4.3)$$

The present work proposes an analysis of diffuser-augmented turbines that takes into consideration the diffuser size. To achieve that, the diffuser-augmented turbine's actual power coefficient,  $C_p^d$ , is defined. That parameter is the ratio between the power generated by the diffuser-augmented turbine and the power available to the diffuser's area,

$$C_p^d = \frac{P_{diffuser}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U^3 A_d}. \quad (4.4)$$

The tip-speed-ratio,  $TSR$ , is defined as

$$TSR = \frac{\omega R}{U}, \quad (4.5)$$



where  $\omega$  is the rotor's angular speed and  $R$  is the rotor's radius.

The power coefficient and tip-speed-ratio are the two main dimensionless parameters to the study of horizontal-axis turbines. Nonetheless, the full-scale Reynolds number is essential to a complete description of the framework in terms of dimensionless parameters.

The maximum amount of energy that an extraction device in an open flow can gather is quantified as approximately 59.3% of the available energy. This is commonly known as the Betz Limit [17], meaning that a bare turbine would never achieve a  $C_p^b$  value higher than 0.593.

Instead of "Betz limit", the term "Betz limit for bare turbines" will be used throughout the present work. The specification is made because, when applied to systems with elements that alter the flow field but do not extract energy themselves, the energy extraction limit is higher than 0.593 [69]. Such systems, for example, are diffuser-augmented turbines. Due to that, each turbine will present a different limit than the established for bare turbines. This information is presented earlier so that the reader does not feel uncomfortable with reported  $C_p^d$  values that may seem illogical.

## 5 Research branches

The presented articles focused on different subjects, all aiming to increase the diffuser-augmented turbine's power coefficient or change its characteristics. Table 5.1 lists some of the most relevant, recent or frequent topics researched. The following sections discuss each one of those entries and the findings in that field.

Table 5.1 – Research branches of interest with their respective reference page.

Topic	Reference page
Theoretical framework	30
Acoustics	33
Airfoil-shaped diffuser	34
Blade-tip effects	36
Building-augmented wind turbines	37
Curved diffuser	39
Diffuser length	41
Flanges	42
Flow mixers	43
Frontal nozzles	46
Multi-slots	47
Multi-turbine system	49
Simultaneous diffuser-rotor design	50
Twin-rotors on diffusers	51
Yaw and shear flow effects	52
Other diffuser concepts	53

### 5.1 Theoretical framework

The pioneering work on the theoretical aspects of diffuser-augmented turbines is due to Lilley and Rainbird [89]. In 1956, they used the one-dimensional flow theory to evaluate the performance and design of diffuser-augmented turbines, or ducted windmills, as called on the article. They concluded that there is no increase in the power coefficient if the diffuser's exit area is used instead of the rotor's swept area in the  $C_p$  definition.

Foreman et al. [49], in 1978, and their other previous works [52, 116], presented a simpler model to be used, in comparison with the one from Lilley and Rainbird. All the authors mentioned above corroborated their models with experimental results.

De Vries [37], in 1979, discussed several concepts for diffusers and the theory behind horizontal-axis wind turbines. He coupled numerical analysis to one-dimensional theory to evaluate the effects of a diffuser around a turbine, not considering wake rotation.

A common feature in models of [89, 49, 52, 116, 37] was the necessity of empirical parameters. Experimental data are necessary to provide information on the parameters for each geometry and situation. Only then it is feasible to predict the diffuser's power coefficient and efficiency parameters.

### 5.1.1 Analytical models

Jamieson [68, 69], in 2008 and 2009, and Van Bussel et al. [146], in 2007, based themselves on a modified version of the standard actuator disk model [23] to account for the presence of a diffuser influencing the flow field. Those models led to a new limit theory, not constraining themselves to the open-flow case of the Betz limit, showing that diffuser-augmented turbines can reach power coefficients higher than 0.593. Van Bussel et al. [146] developed a model to work only on ideal scenarios to evaluate the performance of diffuser-augmented turbines. Their model assumes continuity between the velocities upstream and downstream of the diffuser, as in conventional wind turbines. That assumption makes the model restricted to compact diffusers. Jamieson [68, 69] included the expansion angle and a factor to account for base pressure at the rotor's zero thrust condition. The diffuser efficiency term was provided for non-ideal systems, considering flow separation, viscous loss, and base pressure variations through the diffuser.

Both articles [146, 68, 69] reported that, in an ideal system,  $8/9$  would be the optimal loading factor. However, for non-ideal systems, Lawn [87] and Foreman et al. [49] concluded that the optimal loading factor changes based on the loading coefficient, back pressure coefficient, and diffuser performance. The zero-thrust and compact diffuser assumptions are often not desired, and thus semi-analytical models are used to rectify those shortcomings.

## 5.1.2 Semi-analytical models

Gaden and Bibeau [50], in 2010, proposed a momentum source model and validated it against the Betz theory. They investigated the diffuser size and expansion angle, defining the point that marks the decrease in power production due to the flow separation.

Shives and Crawford [136, 137], in 2011, used the model proposed by Lawn [87] and developed an empirical method to evaluate the performance of diffuser-augmented turbines using RANS-CFD. Khamlaj and Rumpfkeil [77], in 2017, extended on the same model to provide a semi-empirical method that can be used to decide a preliminary design for a diffuser-augmented turbine.

Bontempo and Manna [18, 19, 20], from 2013 to 2016, extended on the non-linear actuator disk theory of Conway [33]. They worked with diffuser-augmented turbines and provided an exact solution for the inviscid axisymmetric flow generated, using a superposition of ring vortices arranged over the diffuser surface and on the wake. They presented a semi-analytical solution to the problem that takes into account the diffuser-rotor non-linear interaction and can handle wake rotation, radial load distributions, and single-body diffuser shapes.

Vaz et al. [43], in 2014, extended on the Blade Element Momentum Method to propose a one-dimensional model that takes into account the blade geometry at low computational costs. Vaz and Wood [149], in 2016, developed a model for rotor optimization considering the diffuser's presence.

Liu and Yoshida [93], in 2015, extended on the generalized actuator disk model proposed by Jamieson [68]. They included the effective diffuser efficiency, Glauert corrections, and established an empirical model to predict the axial velocity profile to include an approximation of the axial velocity at the rotor plane.

Michał et al. [101, 102], in 2016, compared the fully resolved rotor model with the actuator disk model in the rotor design point. They verified the results using experimental tests. The actuator disk model worked as an approximation for rotor-diffuser geometry optimization.

Baratchi et al. [15], in 2019, modified the actuator line method to account for

diffuser-augmented turbines, corroborating the results with experimental tests. The method is based on the so-called projection factor, an ad hoc parameter which has to be calibrated. The same authors [16], in 2020, coupled the blade element method with the actuator disk theory. The method did not capture vortex related phenomena, as expected by the authors, but provided accurate measurements of the diffuser-augmented turbine's power and thrust coefficients.

Bontempo and Manna [21], in 2020, used axial momentum theory to model an ideal diffuser-augmented turbine, taking into account the 2D nature of the flow and the blade-tip gap. Using the model corrections, they also verified the optimum loading factor of  $8/9$  for a diffuser-augmented turbine. The power coefficient of an actuator disk in a simple convergent-divergent duct was proven to have the same limit as the Betz disk:  $16/27$ , or  $0.593$ . However, for diffuser-augmented turbines, the power coefficient obtained can exceed not only a bare turbine of the same size but also the Betz limit for bare turbines. They found that taking into consideration the effects of blade-tip gaps with 1% of the rotor diameter did not significantly alter the results.

Several other works used the actuator disk model, coupled with a diffuser to evaluate various parameters through numerical analysis and could be used as a reference for the interested reader on further applications of the technique [8, 39, 40, 85, 107, 139, 153].

## 5.2 Acoustics

Wind turbines are an environmental noise source, and the addition of a diffuser is still an open topic for discussion. The effects of the blade tip vortices and the wide-array of geometries are still to be evaluated.

Hashem et al. [58], in 2017, performed an aero-acoustic computational study to investigate the noise produced by 'Wind-Lens' turbines, referring to the set of experiments performed by Ohya et al. [105] in 2010. They analyzed results in terms of the Overall Sound Pressure Level, OASPL. They reported lower sound pressure for the bare wind turbine, an averaged OASPL of 53 dB, when compared to their diffuser-augmented counterparts, ranging from an averaged OASPL of 62 to 78 dB. The *Ci* shape being the one reported for 62 dB. Those results were measured at a distance of 0.9m.

Avallone et al. [12, 13], in 2019 and 2020, studied the effects of tip-clearance ratio on the aeroacoustics of diffuser-augmented turbines. They reported a strong correlation between tip clearance ratio and the sound pressure on the far-field, reaching up to a 10 dB increase.

Dighe et al. [42], in 2020, made experiments on diffuser-augmented turbines in yawed conditions and measured their sound pressure with a circular array of microphones normal to the plane of rotation. They reported varying sound pressure at different radial points, but no significant difference due to the yawed condition.

Some articles reported noise reduction from the addition of diffuser around a turbine due to the weakening of blade-tip vortices but did not provide measurements [2, 108].

### 5.3 Airfoil-shaped diffuser

As often thought, the primary way to increase a diffuser's potential is to increase its outlet area. To reduce the diffuser's length and keep the same outlet area, higher expansion angles are employed. A usual problem in this situation is the boundary layer separation from the inner diffuser's surface, due to the high adverse pressure gradients. This phenomenon decreases the diffuser-augmented turbine's power coefficient. A common technique employed, to avoid this separation, is changing the diffuser shape from conical to an airfoil one, as illustrated in the transition of Figures 5.1(a) and 5.1(c) to 5.1(b) and 5.1(d). The following items discuss the main findings on airfoils applied to diffuser-augmented turbines by different authors.

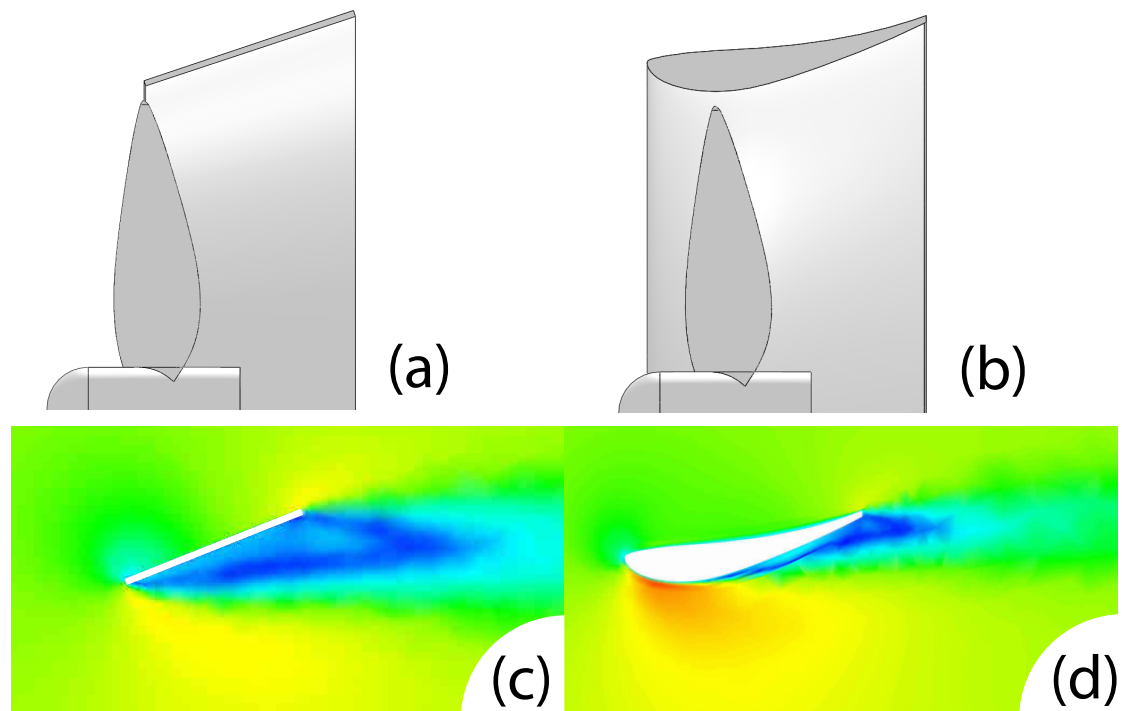


Figure 5.1 – Characteristics of conical and airfoil-shaped diffusers in cross-section views. Conical diffuser in (a) and airfoil-shaped diffuser in (b). Illustration of conical and airfoil-shaped diffuser velocity distributions in (c) and (d).

### 5.3.1 Influence of the airfoil shape on the power coefficient

Fletcher [47], in 1981, performed wind tunnel experiments to compare the effects of three different high-lift airfoil profiles: NACA 4418 and two LIEBECK variations, L1003 and LA2566. No increase in the maximum  $C_p$  was found, although the NACA 4418 airfoil presented a smoother  $C_p$  curve with a wider operation interval. Aranake et al. [9, 11], from 2013 to 2015, compared the following airfoils: E423, S1223, NACA 0006 and FX 74-CL5-140MOD. The S1223 high lift airfoil attained a significant amplification of mass flow, proportional to the increase in radial-lift force, evidencing the usefulness of diffusers at low flow speeds.

### 5.3.2 Influence of the airfoil shape on the pressure distribution

Civalier et al. [30], in 2011, tested the effects of different airfoils on a floating, lighter than air, diffuser-augmented turbine. They tested four different variations of the NACA profile. The study concluded with two main shapes for different purposes: one for generating a higher lift and the other for a higher power coefficient. Venters et al. [150], in 2013, compared the following airfoils: CH 10-48-13 CLmax, E423 and FX 74-CL5-140MOD. They opted for the E423, which resulted in the highest lift coefficient.

### 5.3.3 Influence of the airfoil shape on the axial velocity distribution

Mehmood et al. [99, 98], in 2012, studied the NACA 0016 and NACA 0018 at different lengths and expansion angles. They reported the velocity distribution obtained for each setup, together with optimal lengths and angles.

### 5.3.4 Optimization of the airfoil profile

Coiro et al. [32, 35, 36], from 2013 to 2016, conducted a numerical airfoil shape optimization. They obtained a 6.1% increase in the  $C_p$  over the turbine using the original diffuser shape. Another optimization was proposed by Song et al. [138], in 2019, working on the DT0814 hydrofoil. They evaluated how the profile's thickness affected the  $C_p$  and found varied increases or decreases depending on the associated expansion angle.

Leloudas et al. [88], in 2020, developed a modular optimization for a diffuser with an aerodynamic shape. The numerical analysis had as fixed parameters the throat diameter and volume of the baseline diffuser design. The optimization resulted in a diffuser named SD1, which produced a mean-velocity speed-up ratio of 1.9, a 23% increase over the baseline diffuser.

## 5.4 Blade-tip effects

Blade-tip vortices have been of great concern when designing wind turbines. For proper rotor design, it is useful to know the behavior of those vortices in the presence of a diffuser encasing the turbine; also how the blade-tip gap affects the  $C_p^d$ .



Takashi et al. [142], in 2012, used three-dimensional large-eddy simulations with moving boundary techniques. They observed that the blade-tip vortices induce counter-rotating vortices on the diffuser's inner surface, which helps to weaken them. For compact diffusers, with a length of approximately  $0.2 D_r$ , the blade-tip vortices produced were stronger than those of the bare wind turbine. That occurred due to accelerated inflow, especially near the inner surface of the diffuser. The same was qualitatively evidenced on experimental tests [2].

Saleem and Kim [129], in 2019, performed three-dimensional numerical analysis at multiple flow speeds for tip gaps ranging from 1 to 5% of the diffuser's throat radius. They observed a decrease in the  $C_p^d$  at higher tip gaps for flow speeds ranging from 10 to 20 m/s. For 25 m/s flow speeds, an 2.5% increment in  $C_p^d$  was observed as the tip gap increased from 1 to 3%.

Lipian et al. [91], in 2020, analyzed velocity fields on the rotor plane, and how the diffuser modifies blade-tip losses. They developed a tip loss correction, using empirical parameters, for models based on the blade element theory. This correction modifies the circulation distribution in the wake by adjusting the rotor solidity.

## 5.5 Building-augmented wind turbines

Horizontal-axis wind turbines are often employed in urban environments surrounded by buildings that generate similar effects to a diffuser encasing, increasing the turbine's power coefficient. Figure 5.2 illustrates two cases of building-augmented wind turbines.

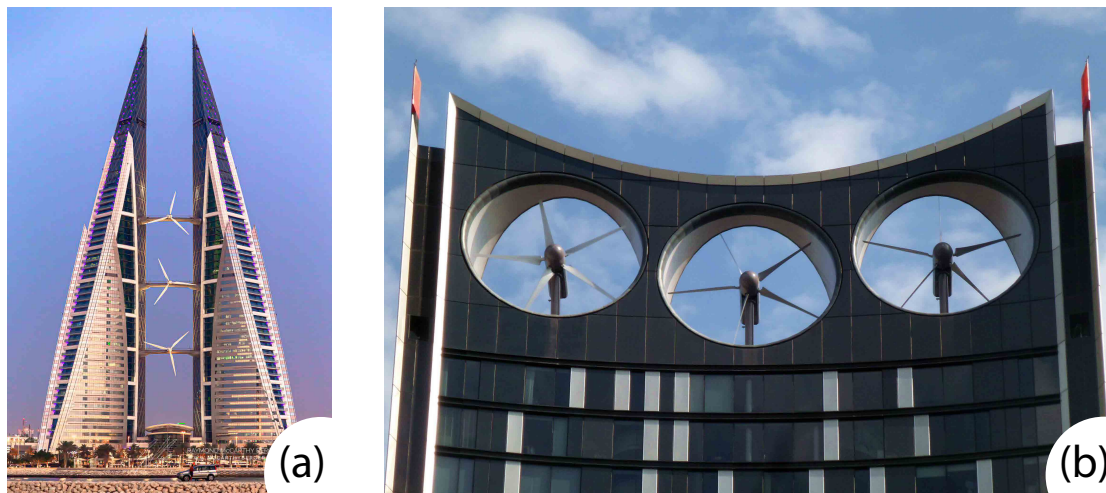


Figure 5.2 – Illustration of building-augmented horizontal-axis turbines. Bahrain Towers on (a) and The Strata on (b).

Mertens [100], in 2002, went through several wind turbine designs and their feasibility to be installed around buildings. He reminded of the concern about noise emissions those turbines created and addressed the turbine's positioning, which should be ideally on top or sides of the building.

Watson et al. [158], in 2007, performed a numerical analysis of a turbine inside a long diffuser and compared with one-dimensional theory predictions, showing agreement of both. They furthered their work with a numerical analysis of the same setup mounted on a rooftop, which could not be replicated by the same analytical theory. Heo et al. [60], in 2016, performed a numerical analysis on a 110 kW turbine between two buildings. The tests considered varying wind speeds and inflow angles. The buildings presented the same increase in inflow that is observed on a conventional diffuser-augmented turbine. Higher aerodynamic power was reported for inflow angles between  $-30^\circ$  and  $20^\circ$  for the building-augmented turbine, when compared to its bare counterpart. For more extreme inflow angles, the performance of the building-augmented turbine sharply decreased. The methodology employed on both of those works might be useful for those with similar goals.

Grant et al. [55, 1], in 2004 and 2008, developed a mathematical model to study the performance of turbines inside a duct to be installed on rooftops. The concept

presented directional sensitivity. They evaluated the energy output of two ducted turbines and compared them with the one from a bare turbine. The data was gathered over a year, accounting for seasonal variation. The bare turbine's annual total was 156 kWh while the two ducted modules generated 147 and 219 kWh.

Petkovic et al. [118], in 2014, performed a numerical analysis using an adaptive neuro-fuzzy method. They designed two buildings with a wind turbine between them and reported the effects of the building's shape on the turbine's power coefficient.

## 5.6 Curved diffuser

On most diffuser designs, there is no need to prioritize lift generation. Due to that, an airfoil-shaped diffuser can be simplified into a curved thin shape, as from Figure 5.3(a) to 5.3(b). Those curved diffusers (or sometimes called lens/optical diffusers) are often easier to manufacture and attain similar results.

The recirculation zone, detailed in Figure 5.3(d), makes the curved diffuser hydrodynamic-similar to an airfoil. However, that is not always the case, as depending on the curve shape, the recirculation zone may be inexistent. Nonetheless, the upper surface of the curve does not disrupt the flow in an unwanted manner.

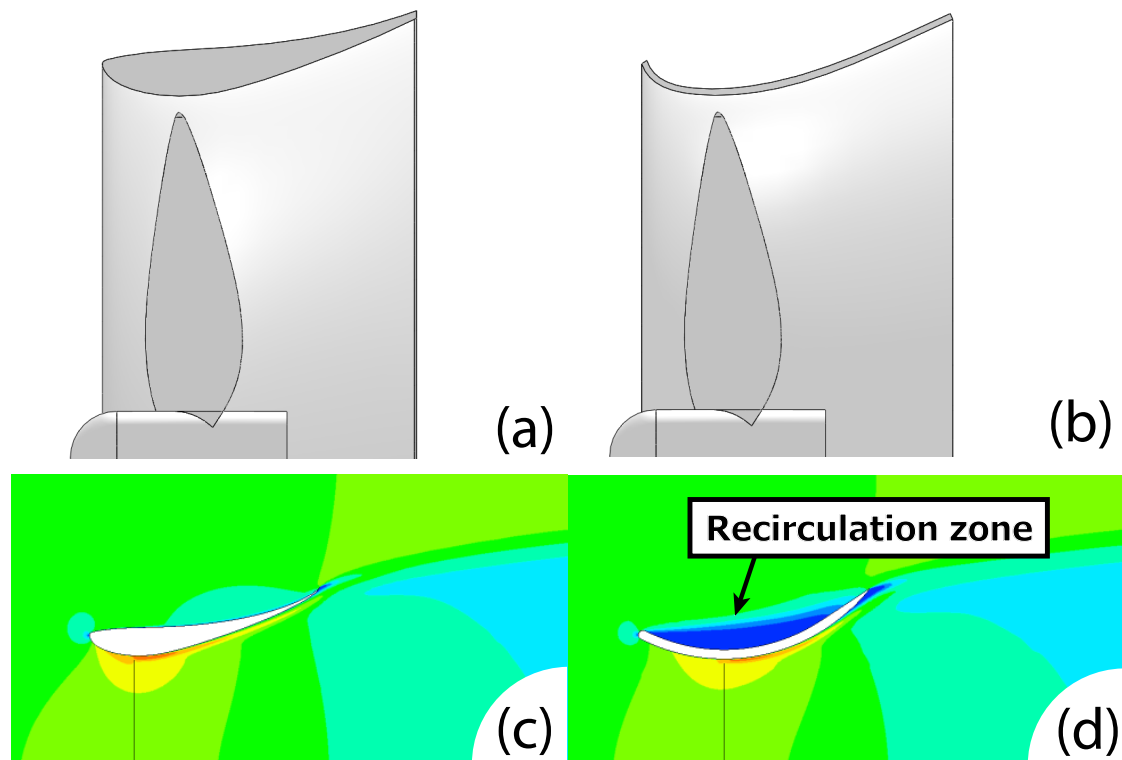


Figure 5.3 – Characteristics of curved diffuser in cross-section views. Airfoil-shaped diffuser in (a) and curved diffuser in (b). Illustration of airfoil-shaped and curved diffuser velocity profiles in (c) and (d), with detail to the recirculation zone that makes the curve shape hydrodynamic-similar to an airfoil profile; reused and edited with permission [41].

Ohya and Karasudani [105], in 2010, analyzed four different curved diffuser configurations. The configuration *C* achieved better results over the others, presenting a  $C_p^d$  of 0.54. All tests were experimental, and the proposed *Cii* configuration was chosen to be manufactured and tested on a wind farm.

Nasution and Purwanto [103], in 2011, used numerical tools to compare diffusers with a conical, curved, and an optimized shape. The cross-sections were shaped following the upper surface of the NACA 5807 airfoil. They analyzed the local velocity curves along the diffuser's axis, showing an increase of 65% in the axial velocity of the optimized shape over the conical one. It is essential to remember, when reading the article, that those values are overrated since the curve induces a reduction in the diffuser throat area.

Foote and Agarwal [48], in 2012, proposed a method of curve optimization based on the position displacement of several control points. They analyzed 13 different shapes of different sizes and lengths. On the same line, Amer et al. [6], in 2013, proposed a set of parameters to be changed to create a range of diffuser shapes to be tested. Results revealed that values of  $D_d/D_r$  between 1.5 and 2 produced the highest increases in axial velocity. They also evaluated that convex diffuser shapes are more efficient than conical or concave ones. In both analyses [48, 6], only numerical tools were used.

## 5.7 Diffuser length

To increase the diffuser-augmented turbine's performance, it is common to search for ways to increase the  $A_d/A_r$  ratio.

The most direct method to do that is by increasing the diffuser's expansion length,  $L_e$ . This method does not generate an impact on the expansion angle, thus lessening the possibility of flow separation.

Multiple authors performed numerical analyses to evaluate the effects of the diffuser's length. While maintaining the same expansion angle and inlet diameter, they observed how the diffuser's length influenced the flow's maximum axial velocity,  $u_{max}$ , in a standalone diffuser. Matsushima et al. [97] and Ohya et al. [109], both in 2006, observed a 30% increase on  $u_{max}$  when increasing the  $L_e/D_i$  ratio from 0.5 to 2; increasing the length further produced only marginal results.

In the same manner, Buehrle et al. [22], in 2013, and Shi et al. [135], in 2015, performed tests on diffuser-augmented turbines. Buehrle et al. [22] verified a 10% increase on  $u_{max}$  when increasing the  $L_e/D_i$  ratio from 0.25 to 0.75. Shi et al. [135] verified increases lower than 10% on  $u_{max}$ , but not properly specified by the authors; those changes were evaluated for the 0.5 – 2.0  $L_e/D_i$  ratio interval.

On a diffuser-augmented turbine with a curved diffuser, Ohya and Karasudani [105], in 2010, observed a 20 – 25% increase in the  $C_p$  for an increase in  $L/D_r$  from 0.1 to 0.2; those gains stabilized for lengths above  $0.2D_r$ .

## 5.8 Flanges

Flanges (or sometimes called brims), as illustrated by Figure 5.4(a), disrupt the flow above the diffuser, increasing the turbulence in its wake. It creates recirculation zones, illustrated by Figures 5.4(b) and 5.4(c), that promote a decrease of pressure behind the diffuser, thus increasing the mass flow through the inlet.

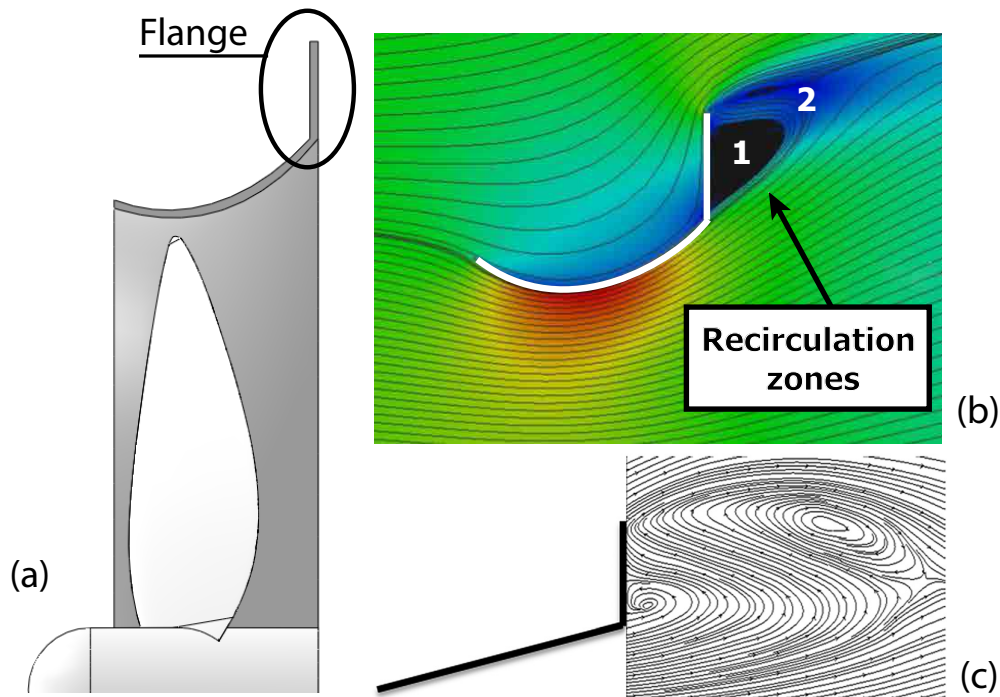


Figure 5.4 – Illustration of flange aspects in cross-section views. Detail to flange on curved diffuser in (a). Illustration of velocity field and recirculation zones from axisymmetric numerical analysis in (b), reused and edited with permission [78]. Particle-image velocimetry of recirculation zones in (c), reused with permission [25].

The flange's usefulness, and the influence of its length on the  $C_p^d$ , has been a topic studied in experimental works by several authors [105, 82, 61]. They all reported increases in the power coefficient at varying degrees. Numerical analyses have been performed to observe the effect of the flange's height in more detail [4, 38, 67, 97]. The power coefficient increased for flange height intervals between  $0 - 0.15D_r$ , whereafter, it only decreased or increased marginally.

Setoguchi et al. [131], in 2004, studied the static pressure distributions inside the diffuser in different configurations for varying flange's heights. Lipian et al. [92], in 2015, performed a study in the same vein but observing axial velocity profiles.

Olasek et al. [115], and Kulak et al. [84], in 2016, used PIV techniques to observe the flow inside three diffusers with flanges that had the same geometry but differed in size. The obtained velocity distribution in the radial direction was compared with numerical analysis results and pneumatic measurements.

Kardous et al. [73, 72] and Chaker et al. [25], in 2013 and 2016, observed two counter-rotating vortices at the diffuser's wake, created due to the presence of a flange. This phenomenon is illustrated on Figure 5.4(c). They observed how those vortices changed according to the flange height. Toshimitsu et al. [145], in 2008, observed two vortices at their flanged diffuser-augmented turbine's wake. They reported that one vortex near the flange acts to increase the inlet flow while another vortex further downstream acts as a blockage.

Another topic that has been receiving recent attention is the flange's inclination. Heikal et al. [59], in 2018, achieved a  $C_p^d$  of 0.57 at a flange inclination angle of 10 degrees, about 28% higher when compared to the  $C_p^d$  of the diffuser-augmented turbine with a vertical flange. Kale et al. [70], in 2013, reported the changes in the diffuser's exit pressure due to a flange inclination of 10 degrees. El-Zahaby et al. [44], in 2017, evaluated the maximum axial velocity for flange inclination angles ranging from -25 to 25 degrees.

One other innovation, in 2015, was Hu and Wang's [63] self-adaptive flanges, which promoted a controlled re-energization of the flow inside the diffuser. No improvements in the  $C_p^d$  were observed when compared to a rigid flange. However, self-adaptive flanges reduced the wind load acting on the diffuser by 34.5%.

## 5.9 Flow mixers

Flow mixers are classified as features applied to the diffuser to modify the flow in the diffuser-augmented turbine's wake. Arguably flanges would also be considered flow mixers. However, due to the research interest on flanges, a separate section was

dedicated to them.

### 5.9.1 Control plates



Figure 5.5 – Illustration of control plates on diffuser, reused with permission [108].

Ohya [108], in 2014, proposed the use of control plates, Figure 5.5, coupled to the body of the diffuser to create a more structured vortex flow. Based on a study on rectangular bodies, it was evidenced that the flow between those controlled plates created a stronger vortex shedding. In opposition to the usual practices on aerodynamic machinery, this effect is desirable to diffuser-augmented turbines. The low-pressure region it creates behind the turbine increases the mass flow that passes through the rotor. The effects of a different number of control plates and their influence in the power coefficient were analyzed. The configuration with six control plates achieved the highest increase in the  $C_p^d$ .

Watanabe et al. [157], in 2019, tested using numerical analysis and experiments several configurations of more practical control plates. They verified the same results as Ohya. The configuration with six control plates achieved a maximum increase in the  $C_p^d$  of 3.8% over the configuration without control plates.



## 5.9.2 Lobed diffusers

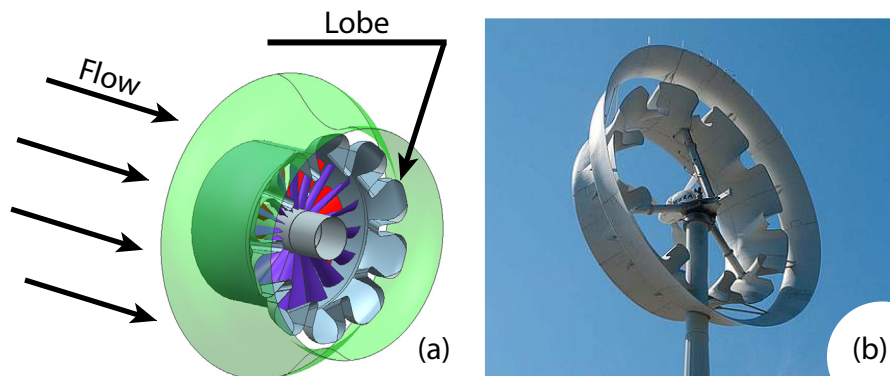


Figure 5.6 – Lobed diffusers viewed from the back. Scheme in (a), reused and edited with permission [57]. Lobed diffuser by FloDesign, in (b), courtesy of Ewan O’Sullivan [123].

Lobed diffusers, or lobed ejectors, as illustrated in Figure 5.6, apply the technology of lobe forced mixers, commonly seen on nozzle turbofans engines, to diffuser-augmented turbines. The lobes create counter-rotating vortices, which are then expanded inside the diffuser. This effect promotes a lower pressure gradient behind the diffuser and delays the boundary layer separation. Han et al. [57], in 2015, studied the effect of this type of diffuser, focusing on the vortices’ structures that were created due to it. The maximum vorticity lowered about 75% in the axial region of  $0 - 0.5D_r$ , decreasing slowly after.

### 5.9.3 Vortex generators

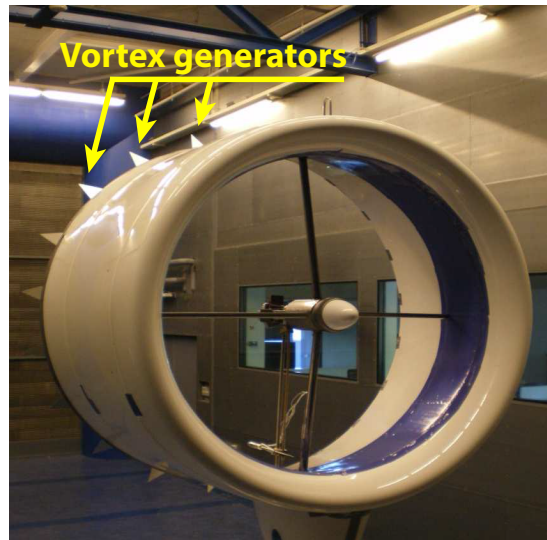


Figure 5.7 – Illustration of vortex generators on diffuser-augmented turbine [144].

Vortex generators, as illustrated in Figure 5.7, are triangular additions to the diffuser that possess the same purpose as gurney flaps when used on diffuser-augmented turbines. However, the area occupied and size are smaller, facilitating the manufacture, installation, and reducing the diffuser projected area.

Ten Hoopen [144], in 2009, performed an experimental and numerical study on vortex generators for diffuser-augmented turbines. They observed a maximum increase of 9% on the  $C_p^d$  due to the addition of 37 vortex generators to the diffuser. The author also compared the vortex generators with flanges. In comparison with their projected areas, the vortex generators outperformed flanges by 10% in the  $C_p^d$  increase.

### 5.10 Frontal nozzles

Frontal nozzles, as illustrated in Figure 5.8, are an expansion on the inlet opening of the diffuser, that act as a concentrator of the mass flow. Even though most of the diffuser designs include nozzles to a certain extent, few works studied the effects of the nozzle with a clear comparison of the same design with and without this feature.

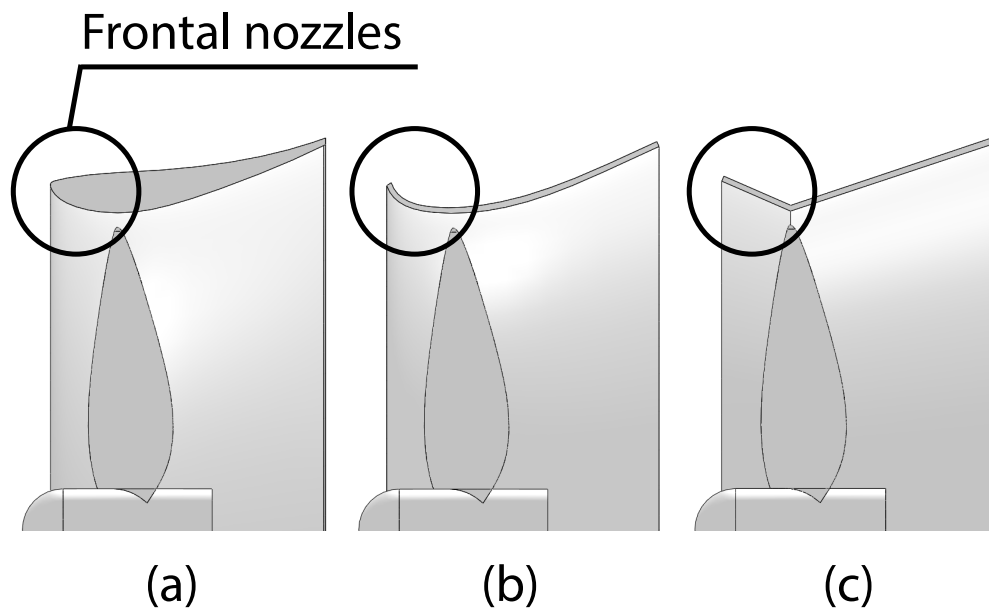


Figure 5.8 – Detail to frontal nozzles in cross-section view of diffuser-augmented turbines. Frontal nozzles in: airfoil-shaped diffuser in (a), curved diffuser in (b), conical diffuser in (c).

Kosasih and Tondelli [82], in 2012, tested diffuser-augmented turbines with and without nozzles. Results showed negligible improvements due to the nozzle addition. However, the nozzles' employment allowed the diffuser-augmented turbine to operate at higher yaw angles without considerable decreases in the  $C_p$ .

Anzai et al. [7], in 2004, and Amer et al. [6], in 2013, focused their study on the effects of the geometry of the nozzle. Anzai et al. [7] performed experimental tests to study how different ratios of nozzle diameter affected the power coefficient. Amer et al. [6] conducted a numerical analysis and studied how different shapes of nozzles influenced the axial velocity profile inside of it.

## 5.11 Multi-slots

Multi-slots diffusers, as seen in Figure 5.9, are designed with the purpose of re-energizing the expanded flow inside the diffuser, enabling higher expansions while preventing the flow separation from the diffuser's inner surface.

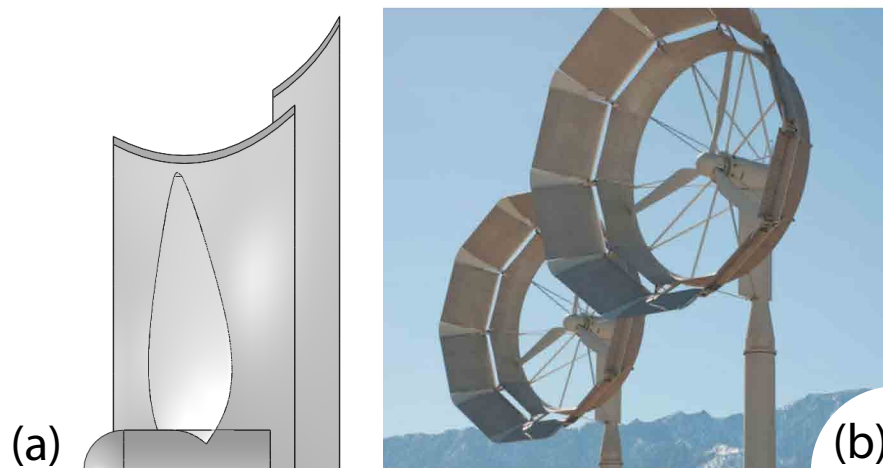


Figure 5.9 – Multi-slots diffusers. Cross-section view in (a). Commercial design by FloDesign, in (b) [71, 56].

Several authors tested multi-slots diffusers and reported their results in terms of axial velocity, pressure distribution, and power coefficient [65, 94, 119, 121, 128, 140]. Oman et al. [116], in 1977, carried out detailed experiments studying the influence of different parameters of a multi-slots diffuser-augmented turbine, such as the expansion angle and each slot's radial distance from the axis.

Dighe et al. [39], in 2019, performed a numerical analysis to evaluate the effects of the radial gap length, the space between the secondary slot and the diffuser, and the slot's angle. They reported increased thrust on the diffuser-augmented turbine at higher radial gap lengths and decreased thrust at higher slot angles. Koç and Yavuz [80], in 2019, performed a numerical analysis to optimize the secondary slot based on measurements of the flow's maximum axial velocity. The parameters included in the study were the secondary slot's length, angle, and distance to the diffuser exit. They observed an increase in  $u_{max}$  of 9% over the diffuser without a secondary slot. Those results were obtained for a secondary slot with a length of 40% of the diffuser's chord length.

Keramat Siavash et al. [75], in 2020, developed a multi-slots modular diffuser that could be compartmentalized in different configurations. They verified not only changes in the power coefficient but also some configurations that allowed the diffuser-augmented turbine to operate at a wider TSR range.

A gap in knowledge remains when discussing multi-slots diffuser-augmented turbines. A comparison between a multi-slots diffuser and a conventional one, of similar shape, at the same  $A_d/A_r$  ratio, is worthy, along with a study comparing their respective  $C_p^d$  for varying  $A_d/A_r$  ratios, to investigate the re-energizing effect.

## 5.12 Multi-turbine system

Instead of changing further their diffuser designs, some authors opt for studying the effects of the arrangement of multiple turbines, and how each diffuser-augmented turbine influenced the other. Figure 5.10 illustrates an arrangement of five diffuser-augmented turbines, with detail to the system gap parameter,  $s$ . The objective is to attain a mean power coefficient higher than the one of standalone turbines.

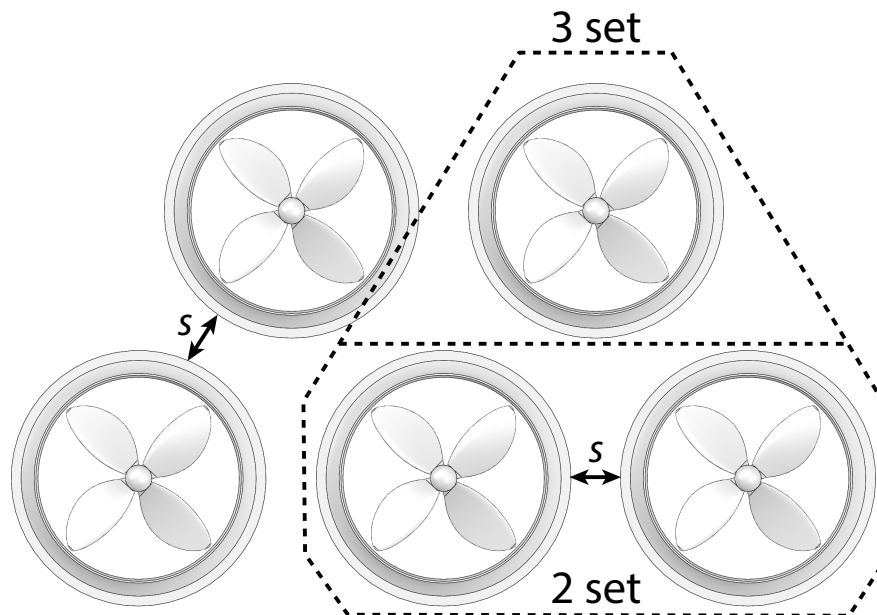


Figure 5.10 – Illustration of five diffuser-augmented turbine’s arrangement, with detail to Multi-turbine system’s gap parameter. Distinction of two and three turbine’s arrangement.

Most studies seek the optimum distance between two diffuser-augmented turbines, which generates the maximum mean  $C_p$ . The following results compare the mean  $C_p$  of

the diffuser-augmented turbine arrangement with the  $C_p$  of a single diffuser-augmented turbine of the same type. Results for a system of two diffuser-augmented turbines showed an improvement of 8% in the  $C_p$  [110], for a gap ratio,  $s/D_d$ , of 0.20; different gap ratios attained lower improvements. In systems of three diffuser-augmented turbines, improvements ranging from 9% to 12% in the  $C_p$  were reported for gap ratios of 0.20 [54, 110, 156]. Five diffuser-augmented turbines' systems showed an improvement of 21% in the  $C_p$  at gap ratios of 0.20 [155, 161].

Research opportunity exists for turbine arrangements in the same horizontal plane, following configurations similar to Figure 5.11. Such configurations are already studied on bare wind turbines [29, 86]: on the influence of the wake flow on the turbines downstream, especially concerning wind farms setups.

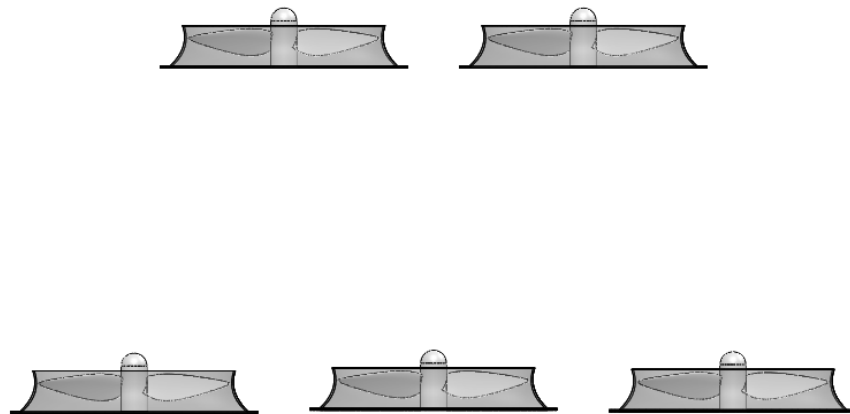


Figure 5.11 – Alternative turbine arrangement proposed for research.

### 5.13 Simultaneous diffuser-rotor design

It is common to change the rotor's shape to increase the bare turbine's power coefficient. When designing a diffuser, most works do not change their already existing rotor project and try to adapt the diffuser to it. This process is not optimal, as the rotor was not planned to operate with a diffuser enhancing it.

Van Dorst [147], in 2011, performed an optimization for the rotor blades considering an already defined diffuser design. They defined the optimal rotor loading through

a one-dimensional analysis and used that as a basis for the strength of a vortex cylinder in the actuator disk model. The model resulted in the velocity distribution for the optimal loading factor, which was used to design a new rotor through the blade element momentum method. Experimental tests on the new rotor showed an improvement of 15% in the  $C_p^d$  over the previous rotor employed on the same diffuser.

Oka et al. [111, 112, 113], from 2013 to 2015, and Khamlaj et al. [77, 76, 78], in 2017 and 2018, applied numerical algorithms to design both the diffuser and rotor simultaneously, considering that they would be operating as a diffuser-augmented turbine. The algorithms employed were based on multi-objective genetic methods. The method processes the variation of several parameters regarding the diffuser's or the blades' shape, testing thousands of design points for diffuser-augmented turbines. Pareto optimal solutions [162] were applied to define the best geometries for further study. The chosen geometries were the ones that maximized  $C_p^d$  and minimized size. Oka et al. [113] also validated their numerical analysis through experiments and obtained a  $C_p^d$  of 0.62.

## 5.14 Twin-rotors on diffusers

The addition of a diffuser to a turbine increases the rotor's axial load as a side effect of increasing the power coefficient. Wang et al. [154], in 2015, observed increases ranging from 2.0 to 3.5 on the maximum tensile strain of the blade roots, when comparing the situation with and without a diffuser.

Twin rotors, as illustrated by Figure 5.12, are proposed to distribute the increased turbine load and increase the turbine's power coefficient by making use of the remaining kinetic energy in the wake. They are a set of two counter-rotating rotors on the same turbine axis.

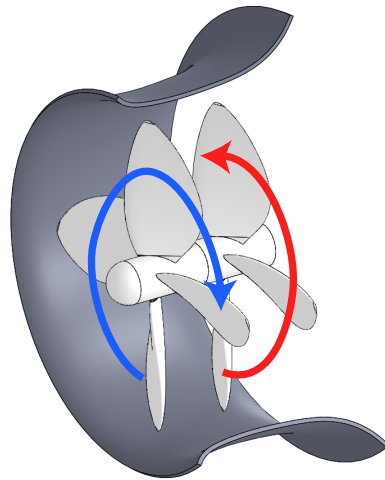


Figure 5.12 – Illustration of diffuser-augmented twin-rotor turbine, and its counter-rotating aspect.

Lipian et al. [90, 91], in 2019 and 2020, tested a set of twin-rotors with a conical diffuser. They compared the results of a bare turbine, diffuser-augmented turbine, twin-rotor bare turbine, and diffuser-augmented twin-rotor turbine. The diffuser-augmented turbine presented a 28% increase in the maximum  $C_p^d$  over its bare turbine counterpart. The addition of twin-rotors provided no changes on  $C_p^d$ , but it reduced the thrust coefficient from the upstream rotor, distributing the load more evenly.

Kumar et al. [85], in 2019, established a theoretical model to evaluate the power output of diffuser-augmented twin-rotor turbines. The results depend on a parameter governed by the area-weighted sum of the loading coefficients of both rotors. The model considers diffuser geometry, back pressure, and flow-efficiency parameters.

## 5.15 Yaw and shear flow effects

Horizontal-axis turbines, and, as a consequence, diffuser-augmented turbines, present a reduction in their  $C_p$  when under effects of yaw or shear. Those motions quicken the boundary layer separation at the rotor and at one of the diffuser's surfaces, raising new concerns in diffuser-augmented turbines. However, Kosasih and Tondelli [82], in 2012, verified that at low yaw angles, 5 degrees, this misalignment in the flow might be



mitigated by the employment of nozzles.

Igra [66, 64, 65], from 1977 to 1981, reported the effects of a range of yaw angles, from 0 to 30 degrees, on a diffuser-augmented turbine. He evaluated how the yaw angle affected the drag, lift, diffuser's outlet pressure, and diffuser's performance. The results were compiled for eight different diffuser models. The  $C_{ii}$ , and  $C_i$  models attained a higher  $C_p$  at higher yaw angles, 30 degrees, than at lower ones.

On the topic of hydrokinetic turbines, Scherillo et al. [130], in 2011; Shahsavari-fard and Bibeau [133, 132, 134], in 2015 and 2020; and Coiro et al. [31], in 2017, tested several diffuser-augmented turbine's designs at yawing conditions in towing tanks and circulating water channels. They reported variations in the  $C_p$  smaller than 5% up to yaw angles of 10 degrees.

Ke et al. [74], in 2020, performed a numerical analysis to study a diffuser-augmented turbine under different yaw and shear flow effects. Under higher shear flow conditions, they reported more severe fluctuations on the turbine's load, which were only amplified by the diffuser; a more significant concern for fatigue design on diffuser-augmented turbines under those conditions is necessary. Yawed conditions reduced the diffuser-augmented turbines optimum operation point to lower tip-speed-ratios, also reducing its  $C_p$ .

## 5.16 Other diffuser concepts

Beyond those mentioned here, other less studied diffuser's geometries exist, such as the vorticity based diffuser, aiming to reduce the wake pressure and prevent flow separation [95, 114]; the mixer-ejector diffuser, which uses a pump and a ring of rotating blades to mix the low energy flow that exits the turbine with the high energy flow the enters through a secondary slot [122]; the dynamic diffusers, which rotates along with the rotor on its axis [160]; lighter-than-air diffusers made for floating with lightweight materials [151, 152, 159]; and the vortex enhancer diffuser, which creates a rotating flow on the diffusers' wake [14]. The reader may gather more information on different diffuser designs through the work of Agha et al. [5], where they introduce and discuss several different patented diffuser technologies.

## 6 Metrics of assessment

The current chapter complements Chapter 4 in the presentation of parameters related to diffuser-augmented turbines. The objective is to propose metrics that will enable a unified evaluation of several diffuser-augmented turbines.

As many authors try to progress in favor of the diffuser technology applied to horizontal-axis turbines, an overflow of outstanding performance enhancement reports has appeared in the literature on the last years. Despite the results shown, it is still unclear whether the addition of a diffuser is preferred instead of increasing the rotor's diameter. Several factors would have to be evaluated to assess this problem, such as size, material, and manufacturing limitations. Also, all those factors need to be evaluated for each specific case.

To try to shed some light on this discussion, a performance assessment of several diffusers reported in the literature will be presented. The performance assessment will follow the metrics proposed in the present chapter, divided into power coefficient and tip-speed-ratio metrics. Those metrics are rather conservative ones, downgrading the diffusers' enhancement but showcasing its actual potential nonetheless.

### 6.1 Power coefficient metrics

The most common metric used by authors to report their diffusers' performance is the maximum  $C_p$  for a given interval of tip-speed-ratios; parameters defined on Equations (4.3) and (4.5) respectively. Those are the two main parameters to define the turbine's working conditions. However, this metric compares the power generated by the diffuser-augmented turbine to the power available to the rotor, even though the power available to the diffuser-augmented turbine is higher than the one available to the rotor.

To consider the diffuser's size and make a fairer assumption of the diffuser's worth, the comparison should be made between the generated power and the power available to the turbine. This comparison was defined as the diffuser-augmented turbine's actual power coefficient,  $C_p^d$ , on Equation (4.4), which takes into consideration the

diffuser's maximum cross-sectional area;

$$C_p^d = \frac{P_{diffuser}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U^3 A_d}. \quad (4.4)$$

To go one step further, a comparison is made between the  $C_p^d$  and a baseline: the power coefficient of its bare turbine,  $C_p^b$ ,

$$C_p^b = \frac{P_{bare}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U^3 A_r}. \quad (4.2)$$

The diffuser-enhancement parameter,  $E_d$ , is defined as

$$E_d = \frac{C_p^d}{C_p^b} - 1. \quad (6.1)$$

The diffuser-enhancement parameter intends to provide a measure of the actual hydrodynamic improvement for power conversion associated with the diffuser. To do that, it is assumed that the bare turbine scaled up to the diffuser's diameter of its shrouded version does not alter its maximum power coefficient. Therefore,  $E_d$ , as defined by Eq.(6), is the relative difference between the maximum power converted by a diffuser-augmented turbine and the maximum power converted by a bare turbine with the same diameter of the diffuser. In this sense,  $E_d = 0$  means that installing the diffuser or simply scaling the rotor up to the diffuser's diameter has the same effect in terms of power production. Conversely,  $E_d > 0$  means that simply increasing the area swept by the rotor to match the diffuser area does not elevate the power conversion as the diffuser-enhancing does. In other words,  $E_d$  is related to a more effective diffuser enhancing.

As stated, the diffuser-enhancement parameter makes a comparison similar to the one illustrated in Figure 6.1(b), whereas previous power coefficient metrics were more akin to Figure 6.1(a). It evaluates how much the diffuser increased the original bare turbine's potential, no matter whether it was high or low before. It is crucial to notice that  $E_d$  is a metric that judges how well designed the diffuser is for its size. If the reader has no concern about the diffuser's size in their design, the metrics  $E$  and  $C_p^d$  will be of less use to them.

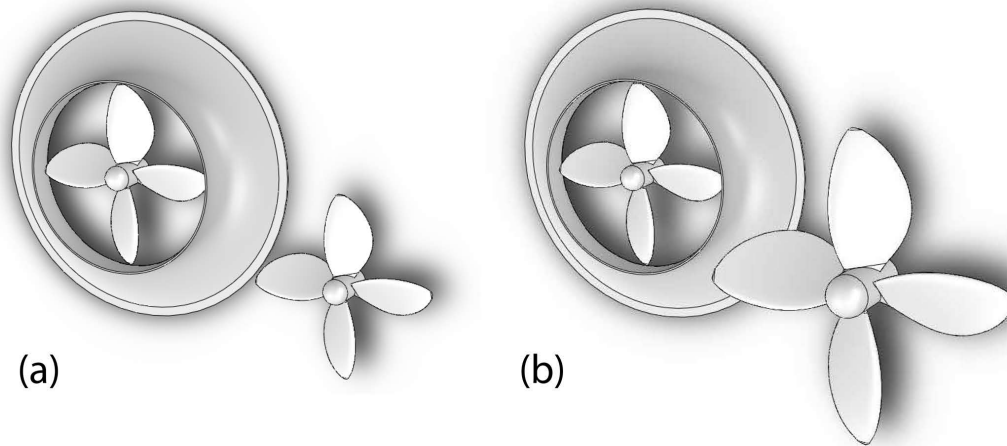


Figure 6.1 – Power coefficient comparison between diffuser-augmented turbine and bare turbine. Comparison on usual  $C_p$  metric in (a). Comparison on proposed  $E_d$  metric in (b).

## 6.2 Tip-speed-ratio metrics

In practice, it is usual to seek the optimum  $TSR$  interval, i.e., the interval in which the power coefficient is maximum, or close enough to it. The interval width and position may vary for each turbine. As a start, two parameters are defined to characterize the  $TSR$  and its variations during situations with or without a diffuser:  $TSR_{width}$  and  $TSR_{center}$ , as illustrated in figure 6.2.

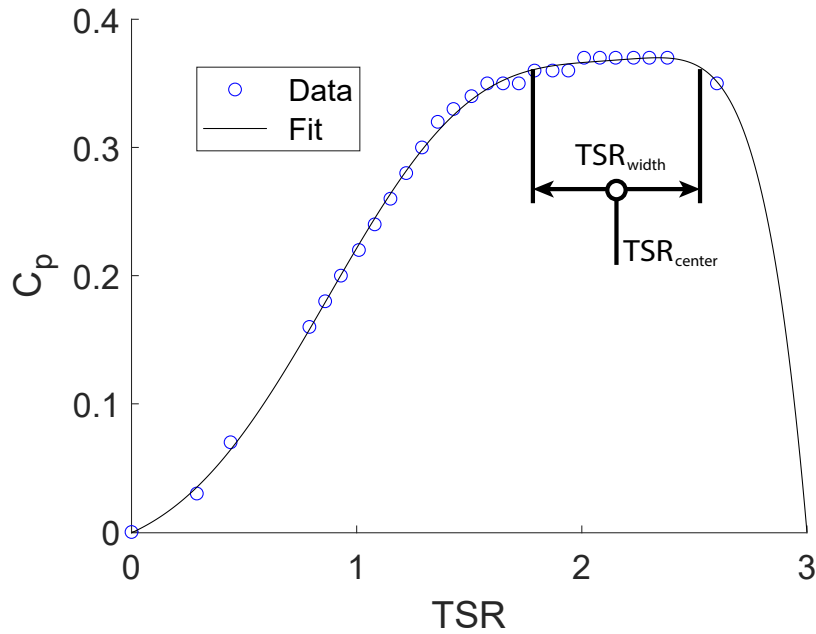


Figure 6.2 –  $TSR_{width}$  and  $TSR_{center}$  illustration on a power coefficient curve. Data obtained from previous work [104].

The  $TSR_{width}$  represents the size of the turbine's optimum operation interval, the  $TSR$  interval where the  $C_p$  is at its maximum. Turbines with a higher  $TSR_{width}$  are desirable by their wider operation interval and smaller fluctuations due to environmental changes.

The  $TSR_{center}$  is the optimum operational interval center. It represents the center point of this operational interval. This parameter will help track changes in the operational interval positioning. A turbine with a high  $TSR_{center}$  operates at lower open flow speeds if compared to ones with smaller  $TSR_{center}$ . If the purpose is, for example, to utilize low-grade wind energy, a turbine with a high  $TSR_{center}$  is desirable.

The parameter  $TSR_{width}$  is defined by two  $TSR$  points,  $TSR_1$  and  $TSR_2$ , such that

$$TSR_{width} = TSR_2 - TSR_1 \quad (6.2)$$

and

$$C_p(TSR_1) = \max(C_p) - 0.01, \quad (6.3)$$

$$C_p(TSR_2) = \max(C_p) - 0.01, \quad (6.4)$$

$$TSR_2 > TSR_1. \quad (6.5)$$

The value 0.01 was chosen as a defining constant to create a standard for  $TSR_{width}$  where the associated  $C_p$  is always kept close to the maximum. It adequately well to most of the data investigated.

The parameter  $TSR_{center}$  is defined as

$$TSR_{center} = \frac{TSR_2 + TSR_1}{2}. \quad (6.6)$$

To evaluate the performance of a diffuser, comparisons are necessary between the tip-speed-ratios of turbines with and without the addition of diffusers.

The  $TSR_{width}^*$  is a comparison between the operational interval of the diffuser-augmented turbine and the bare turbine, defined as

$$TSR_{width}^* = TSR_{width}^d - TSR_{width}^b, \quad (6.7)$$

where  $TSR_{width}^d$  and  $TSR_{width}^b$  represent the diffuser-augmented turbine's and the bare turbine's  $TSR_{width}$ , respectively.

The  $TSR_{center}^*$  is how much the center of the operational interval changed in position, comparing the diffuser-augmented turbine with its bare counterpart. The  $TSR_{center}^*$  is defined as

$$TSR_{center}^* = TSR_{center}^d - TSR_{center}^b, \quad (6.8)$$

where  $TSR_{center}^d$  and  $TSR_{center}^b$  represent the diffuser-augmented turbine's and the bare turbine's  $TSR_{center}$ , respectively.

## 7 Performance assessment

Data was gathered from the work sample of 155 articles, and the characteristics of 73 diffuser-augmented turbines were registered. Geometric and performance data on each diffuser-augmented turbine was collected. The data is summarized in Appendix B, for performance parameters, and Appendix C, for geometry.

The present chapter analyzes the recorded diffuser-augmented turbines based on the metrics proposed in Chapter 6. The results presented showcase not only details about specific designs but also essential characteristics of diffuser-augmented turbines.

Comparisons are presented between the  $C_p$  metric, the  $C_p^d$  metric, and how those results translate based on  $E_d$ . A more in-depth analysis is performed over tip-speed-ratio, diffuser diameter, diffuser-augmented turbine's power coefficient, and diffuser-enhancement.

### 7.1 Power coefficient distribution

An analysis based on the power coefficient informs us about the initial idea of a diffuser's value. The power coefficient was evaluated based on the metrics proposed in Equations (4.3), (4.4) and (6.1). The aim is to present to the reader what is to be expected of diffuser-augmented turbines in terms of the power coefficient. This section analyzes a collective of 60 diffuser-augmented turbine designs. Figure 7.1(a) presents the distribution of the maximum  $C_p$  achieved, reported by their authors. Figure 7.1(b), on the other hand, presents how those values translate when evaluating in terms of  $C_p^d$ , i.e., considering the diffuser maximum cross-sectional area.

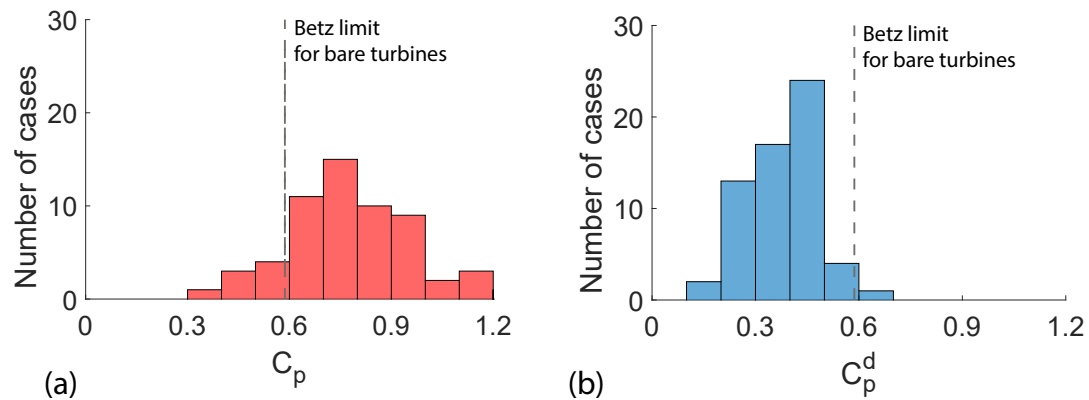


Figure 7.1 – Distribution of diffuser-augmented turbines found on the literature based on power coefficient. (a) Based on  $C_p$  metric. (b) Based on  $C_p^d$  metric.

A total of 52 diffuser-augmented turbines achieved a  $C_p$  higher than the Betz limit for bare turbines; only 8 reported a lower  $C_p$ . The reported maximum  $C_p$  presented a mean value of 0.75. On the other hand, only one diffuser-augmented turbine achieved a  $C_p^d$  higher than the Betz limit for bare turbines; 59 of them reported a lower  $C_p^d$ . The achieved maximum  $C_p^d$  presented a mean value of 0.37.

That one design beyond the Betz limit for bare turbines is the one by Oka et al. [113], in 2015. It achieved a  $C_p^d$  of 0.62. This design will be commented further on Section 7.3. It is important to remember that, as mentioned in Chapter 4, the energy extraction limit for diffuser-augmented turbines is different from the Betz limit established for bare turbines.

A total of 51 diffuser-augmented turbines had enough data to be analyzed in terms of diffuser-enhancement, i.e., the gain that a diffuser-augmented turbine has over a bare turbine of the same size. Figure 7.2 presents the  $E_d$  distribution of those designs.



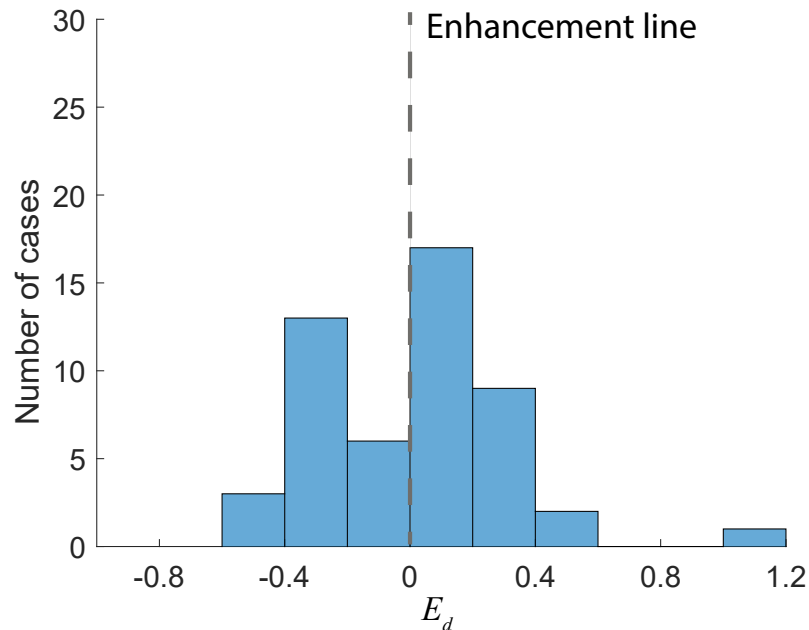


Figure 7.2 – Distribution of diffuser-augmented turbines found on the literature based on  $E_d$ .

Results showed that, in 58% of the evaluated cases, the power coefficient of a diffuser-augmented turbine was higher than that of a bare turbine of the same size.

From those 51 designs, 22 presented  $E_d$  values lower than 0. In those cases, the alternative of increasing the turbine's diameter might have been a better choice than employing the diffuser. However, 29 designs presented  $E_d$  values higher than 0. For those, the diffuser not only increased the turbine's power coefficient, but it was also the better option to increase its power for the given area.

The sole design that presented a  $E_d$  of 1.04 was the one by Kosasih and Saleh [83], in 2016; this design will be commented further on Section 7.4. In comparison, the design by Oka et al. [113], commented previously in Figure 7.1(b), does not achieve such distinction when analyzed based on  $E_d$ . That is because  $E_d$  evaluates the increase in  $C_p^d$  in comparison to the original bare turbine's  $C_p^b$ . In the case of the design proposed by Oka et al. [113], the original bare turbine already had a high power coefficient; even though it achieved the highest  $C_p^d$ , the diffuser-enhancement was not as pronounced.

## 7.2 Diffuser influence on tip-speed-ratio

Along with the power coefficient, the tip-speed-ratio defines the turbine's operation. How the diffuser influences this parameter is an important analysis that the present section discusses. To achieve that, the metrics proposed on Section 6.2 are employed to evaluate changes to the optimum  $TSR$  interval.

The dispersion of the  $TSR_{width}^*$  and  $TSR_{center}^*$  for 34 diffuser-augmented turbines is presented on Figure 7.3. Each of those points refers to a turbine, comparing the situation with and without the diffuser.

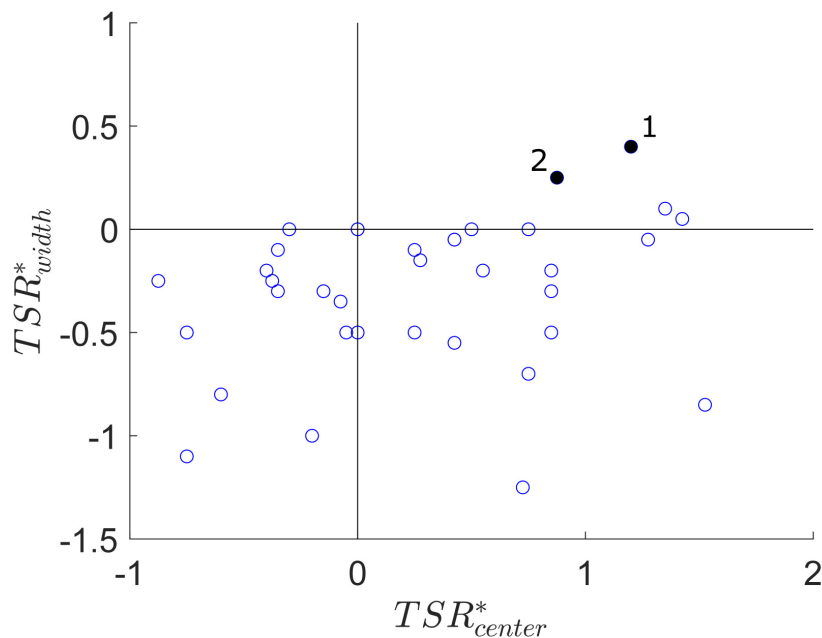


Figure 7.3 – Influence of diffuser on  $TSR$ . Comparison of changes between bare turbine and diffuser-augmented turbine. Two design points of interest are highlighted.

Figure 7.3 is divided in quadrants. The top ones, populated by 4 turbines, represent those turbines that developed a plateau in their power coefficient curve after being coupled with a diffuser; they gained a wider operational range. The bottom quadrants, with 26 turbines, represent those that developed sharper power coefficient curves; their operational range became smaller. To the right, 19 turbines now operate at higher rotation.

To the left, after being enhanced with diffusers, 13 turbines now operate at lower rotation.

It is noticeable that the use of diffuser-enhancing technology modified the turbines towards a smaller operational range. However, it also provided flexibility on the range of the operational speed. Based on the diffuser design employed, it is possible to push diffuser-augmented turbines to operate at lower or higher flow speeds. The turbines at the top-right quadrant possess two desirable characteristics: a wider operational range and the possibility to work at lower flow speeds.

The first design point highlighted in Figure 7.3, represents a diffuser-augmented turbine designed by Riglin et al. [126], in 2014. They worked with hydrokinetic turbines and proposed an optimization on conical diffusers with flange, reporting the results of their numerical analysis. The maximum  $C_p^b$  achieved for the bare turbine was at the TSR interval of 1.20 – 2.00. The diffuser-augmented turbine achieved its maximum  $C_p^d$  at the TSR interval of 2.20 – 3.40. The  $TSR_{width}^*$  obtained was of 0.4 and the  $TSR_{center}$  shifted from 1.60 to 2.80. The  $C_p^d$  achieved was 0.22, lower than the average observed in Section 7.1. Concerning the experiments, data points reported were few, and no similar results, with regards to  $TSR$ , were found in other works by the same authors [125, 127], even though new proposed designs by the authors achieved higher  $C_p^d$  values.

The second highlighted design point was proposed by Tampier et al. [143], in 2017. They performed a numerical analysis over an airfoil-shaped diffuser coupled to the hydrokinetic turbine. Results for the bare turbine presented an  $TSR$  optimum interval of 3.50 – 4.25. The diffuser-augmented turbine optimum  $TSR$  interval was 4.25 – 5.25. The  $TSR_{width}^*$  achieved was of 0.25 and the  $TSR_{center}$  shifted from 3.92 to 4.75. The  $C_p^d$  achieved was of 0.19, lower than the average observed in Section 7.1.

Both design points reported high  $C_p$  values. However, since the size of their designs was much larger than the rotor, the attained  $C_p^d$  was lower than the average  $C_p^d$  of 0.37, reported on Section 7.1. No correlation was found between  $C_p^d$  and the corresponding  $TSR_{center}^*$ .

### 7.3 Well designed diffuser-augmented turbines

A diffuser expands the flow inside it, increasing the mass flow in the inlet. That expansion correlates to the difference in area between the inlet and the outlet. Studying the effects of the expansion can help identify good diffusers' designs, even though  $E_d$  has no regard for this area ratio.

In the following analysis, the area ratio is described as  $A_d/A_r$ , where, as mentioned in Chapter 4,  $A_d$  is the diffuser's maximum cross-sectional area, and  $A_r$  is the rotor spanning area.

To point the traits of the highest achieving designs, Figure 7.4 shows a dispersion of 52 diffuser-augmented turbines by their  $C_p^d$  and  $A_d/A_r$ .

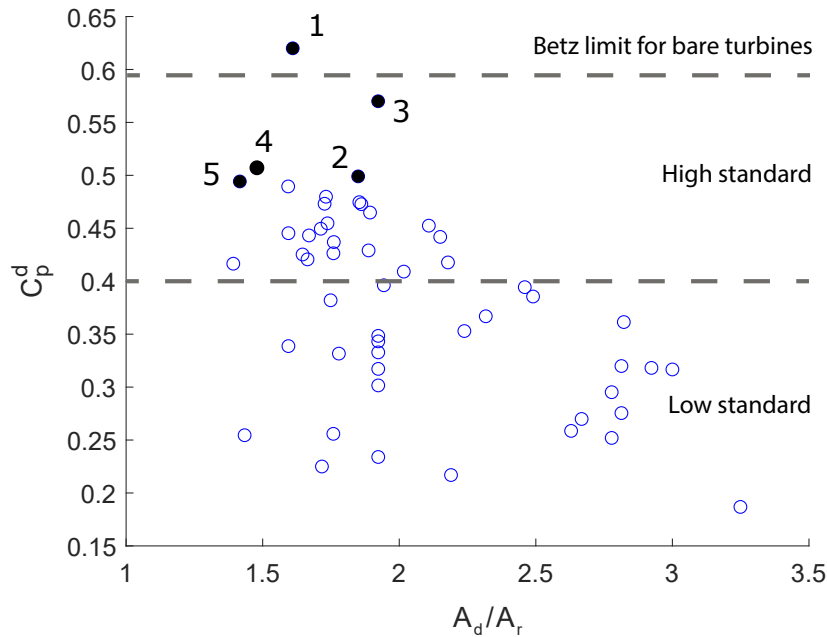


Figure 7.4 – Dispersion of the diffuser-augmented turbines respective to  $C_p^d$  and  $A_d/A_r$ . Five design points of interest are highlighted.

Of those diffuser-augmented turbines presented, 27 may be classified as 'low standard' and 25 as 'high standard.' Table 7.1 lists the usual traits of each of those types, where high standard traits can be taken as design suggestions for the interested reader.

Table 7.1 – Common traits of a low and high standard diffusers.

## Common low standard traits

## Conical diffusers

High  $A_d$ , resulting in lower evaluation in the current metric  
 Expansion angles smaller than 10 degrees  
 Sharp flow expansion, resulting in boundary layer separation  
 Addition of unnecessary, size increasing, parts  
 Rotor out of optimum position inside the diffuser  
 Low  $C_p^b$  for associated bare turbine  
 Large gaps between diffuser throat and rotor blade's tip

## Common high standard traits

## Curved diffusers

Well designed flange height  
 Geometry optimization  
 Rotor designed considering the diffuser  
 Expansion angle optimization  
 Compact design  
 Rotor positioned at the section which induces highest mass flow  
 High  $C_p^b$  of associated bare turbine

It is important to notice the lack of diffuser-augmented turbines on the top-right corner of Figure 7.4. Diffusers with  $A_d/A_r$  higher than 2.5 are more susceptible to flow separation and the creation of recirculation zones inside them. This phenomenon is independent of the expansion angle adopted and detrimental for the diffuser enhancement. A balance is needed on the diffuser's design to achieve optimal results.

Five diffuser designs are worth pointing out. Each one presented results beyond average and are compact in their designs, i.e., have high values of  $C_p^d$  and low  $A_d/A_r$ . They also show value in their adopted methodology, experimental procedures, or novelty of their designs.

- Design 1

Oka et al. [113], in 2015, reported a diffuser design that goes beyond the power generation limit of bare wind turbines. This design is based on the simultaneous optimization of the aerodynamic of the rotor and a curved diffuser with flange.

They also published two other works that build-up to this method [112, 111]. In all three articles, they discuss their methods and the multi-objective genetic algorithm employed. The Pareto optimal solutions found are compared to wind-tunnel experimental data. Results show power coefficients values above those of the Betz limit for bare turbines, reaching a  $C_p^d$  of 0.62. However, it is important to note that the energy extraction limit, when applied for diffuser-augmented turbines, is different for each case, as explained in Chapter 4 [69].

The design presented by Oka et al. [113] lacks details on the methodology employed in the numerical analysis and experimental tests for the claims the article hold. However, the concept presented still holds ground. Therefore, the readers are pointed to design point 2: a more thorough and detailed numerical analysis of a similar methodology.

- Design 2

Khamlaj and Rhumpfkeil [78], in 2018, also employed a multi-objective genetic algorithm to improve their rotor and diffuser design simultaneously. Their work was purely numerical, but with a broad explanation of the methodology. They also discuss the effects of drag on the structure based on different geometries, pointing in the direction of more compact diffuser designs as a priority.

Figure 7.5(a) illustrates the design analysis, that had three parameters as a basis: power coefficient, thrust coefficient, and drag coefficient. The designs are classified by an objective function, where the objectively best are colored in black. Figure 7.5(b) illustrates one of the selected cases by the authors, Profile H (design point 2), that presented a  $C_p^d$  of 0.50.

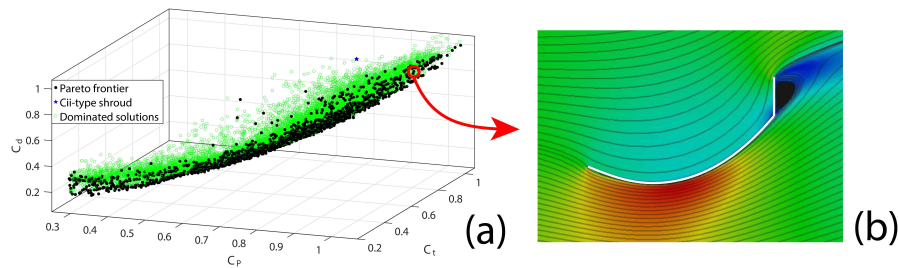


Figure 7.5 – Diffuser-augmented turbine optimization. Analyzed cases in (a), with objectively best ones in black. Selected profile H illustration in (b), referred as design point 2. Reused and edited with permission [78]

It is important to notice that all cases analyzed by the authors were of curved diffusers with flange. Several more opportunities exist to study several other shapes with the same technique.

- Design 3

Heikal et al. [59], in 2018, developed a diffuser model based on the wind lens design [105]. They employed two concepts on their flanged design: flange inclination angle and inner flange depth. Results presented a  $C_p^d$  of 0.57, at a positive angle of 10 degrees, an improvement of 28% over the original lens *Cii* version. The *TSR* operation point also shifted to higher intervals of rotor rotation. Figure 7.6 shows the differences between the flow streamlines due to the flange inclination. It can be observed how the reversed flange angle shifted the diffuser flow expansion to a higher degree.

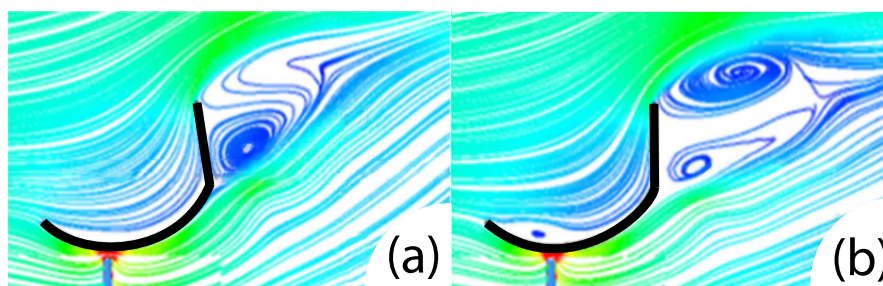


Figure 7.6 – Diffuser-augmented turbine with flange inclination. Flange with positive  $10^\circ$  angle in (a), referred design point 3, and  $0^\circ$  angle in (b). Reused and edited with permission [59].

- Design 4 and 5

Ohya and Karasudani [105] proposed, in 2010, a series of diffuser designs, while studying flange height and their curve shape. Some of those designs are illustrated in Figure 7.7.

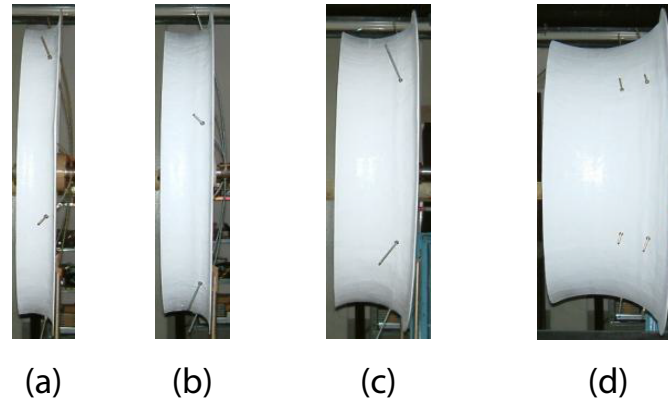


Figure 7.7 – Several diffuser-augmented turbines with varying lengths, experiments made with the same rotor [105]. Diffuser C0 -  $0.100L/D_r$  in (a), Ci -  $0.137L/D_r$  in (b), Cii -  $0.221L/D_r$  in (c), Ciii -  $0.371L/D_r$  in (d).

The diffuser shape Cii, with a flange height of  $0.1D_r$ , is pointed as the one with the highest performance. Through the analysis in terms of the  $C_p^d$ , more efficient and compact designs are preferred. The proposed Ci diffuser, design point 4, with flange height of  $0.05D_r$ , attained a  $C_p^d$  of 0.51. The proposed C0 diffuser, design point 5, with flange height of  $0.05D_r$ , attained a  $C_p^d$  of 0.49. In comparison, the reported Cii attained a  $C_p^d$  of 0.47. It is crucial to notice that an increase in flange height from 5% to 20% of the rotor diameter is impactful, especially when the diffuser design without flange has a diameter only 14% bigger than the rotor.

## 7.4 Diffuser enhancement

Diffusers are often designed as standalone projects from their rotors. Although not optimal, this method shows satisfactory results. Figure 7.8 relates the diffuser enhancement achieved,  $E_d$ , and the power coefficient,  $C_p^b$ , of their respective bare turbines.



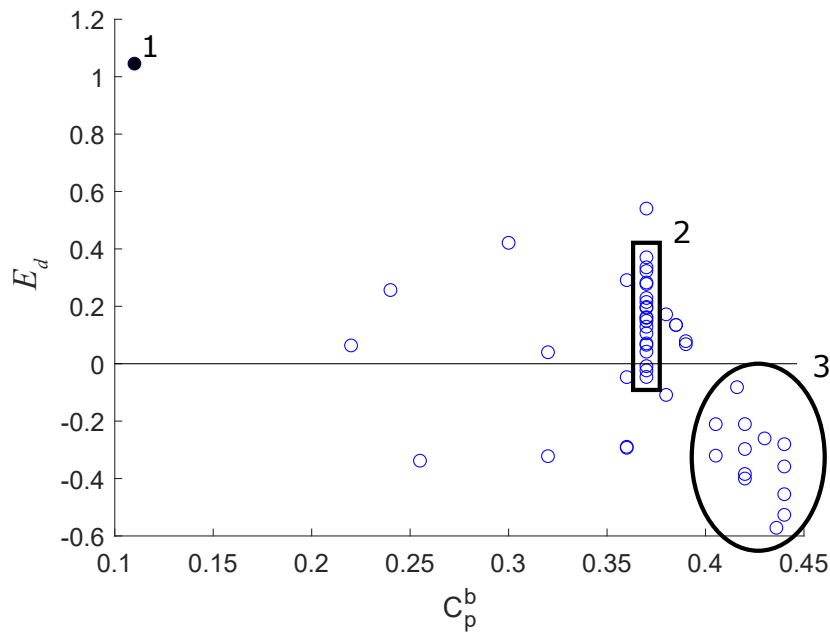


Figure 7.8 – Relation between the diffuser-enhancement achieved,  $E_d$ , and the power coefficient,  $C_p^b$ , of their respective bare turbines. Three areas of interest are highlighted.

Figure 7.8 shows three interesting areas to discuss. The first is the design point 1, illustrated by Figure 7.9, a diffuser design already mentioned in Section 7.1. Kosasih and Saleh [83], in 2016, designed a diffuser for a rotor with a power coefficient much lower than the standard, with a  $C_p^b$  of 0.11. The diffuser enhancement is noticeable, of 1.05, doubling the initial rotor power coefficient. Notwithstanding, the diffuser-augmented turbine's power coefficient,  $C_p^d$ , falls much lower than the average bare turbine's power coefficient, at 0.22.



Figure 7.9 – Conical diffuser-augmented turbine by Kosasih and Saleh [83].

Area number 2 is a series of experiments made by Ohya and Karasudani [105]. The series of experiments pointed in Area 2 were all made using the same rotor, testing it with different curved diffusers with flange, some of them illustrated in Figure 7.7. Since the starting point was the same  $C_p^b$ , it became evident how the diffuser design directly affects the diffuser enhancement. Since the criterion of analysis is  $E_d$ , the enhancement cannot be achieved by simply making a steeper contraction. This enhancement has to be implemented in a well planned and executed manner.

Area number 3 alerts us to be cautious when coupling a rotor of a high power coefficient with a diffuser. A common trend is observed: the lower the original turbine power coefficient, the easier it is to obtain a substantial diffuser enhancement; an extreme case being design point 1. On the other hand, rotors with a high power coefficient need a diffuser designed to be used with it to show any enhancement. To achieve the highest enhancement, planning the diffuser and rotor together is advised, as mentioned in Section 5.13.

## 8 Conclusions

A collection of 155 articles on diffuser-augmented horizontal-axis turbines was analyzed using a systematic approach to the literature. The work sample was classified into the 16 most prominent research branches. The most important findings in each of those branches were presented and discussed. As an addendum, research comparing the  $C_p^d$  of multi-slots diffusers with conventional ones at different  $A_d/A_r$  ratios, and of different multi-turbine arrangements on the same plane was identified as a promising avenue.

An evaluation of several diffuser-augmented turbines was carried out based on the actual power coefficient,  $C_p^d$ , taking into consideration the maximum cross-sectional area of the diffuser. To consider diffuser size and make a fair assumption on the diffuser-augmented turbine's worth, a power coefficient metric was proposed for inter-comparison: the diffuser-enhancement parameter,  $E_d$ . Population distribution of 60 diffuser-augmented turbines showed an average value of 0.75 on the maximum  $C_p$ , while an analysis based on the maximum  $C_p^d$  returned an average of 0.37. That points to a previous overestimation of the diffuser's worth. The diffuser-enhancement parameter was used to compare diffuser-augmented turbines to their bare turbines scaled to the same size. Data revealed that an enhancement happened on 58% of the diffuser-augmented turbines evaluated, where using a diffuser was the better option over making a bigger rotor. In terms of power conversion, a diffuser may enhance a turbine or be detrimental to it; on the proposed metrics, a diffuser's value depends entirely on design.

An analysis based on the tip-speed-ratio followed. To compare the diffuser-augmented turbine with its bare counterpart, two parameters were proposed: the shift in the optimum operation point,  $TSR_{center}^*$ , and the change in operation interval,  $TSR_{width}^*$ . Through the analysis, on 34 turbines, it was observable that diffusers tend to narrow the power coefficient curves, reducing their optimum operational interval.

Diffuser-augmented turbines were classified into two groups based on their  $C_p^d$ . The common traits of the high standard and low standard groups were presented. Five high achieving diffuser designs were pointed out with their most relevant achievements.

It was found that diffusers with  $A_d/A_r > 2.5$  did not achieve high  $C_p^d$ . An analysis based on  $E_d$  revealed a trend that diffusers more easily improve bare turbines with lower power coefficient. Care is advised when using a diffuser on high-performance bare turbines; it is ideal to design the rotor and diffuser together, with previous forethought on the diffuser-augmented turbine.

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# Appendix

# APPENDIX A – Database search keywords

The full set of keywords employed in the current work is presented below. The formatting is maintained in raw text without tables so the interested reader may directly copy and paste the search terms on the Scopus database using the advanced search feature. Figure A.1

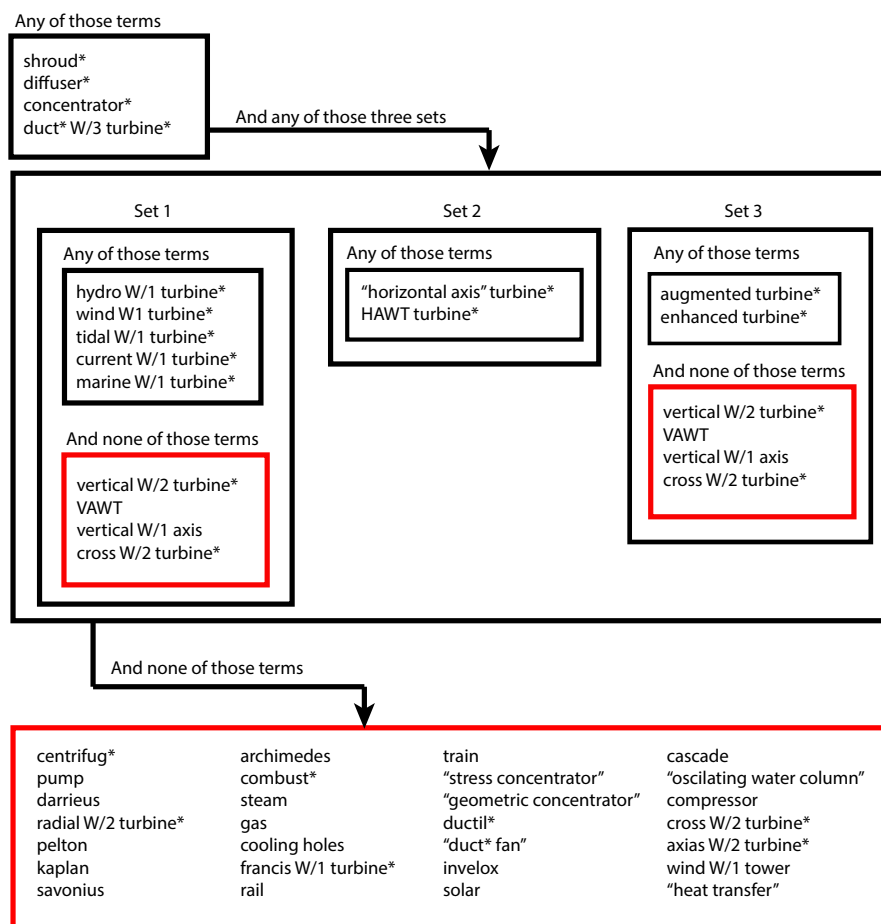


Figure A.1 – Keywords for advanced search in Scopus database.

(TITLE-ABS-KEY ( shroud\* ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( diffuser\* ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( concentrator\* ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( duct\* W/3 turbine\* )) AND ( (TITLE-ABS-KEY ( hydro\* W/1 turbine\* ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( wind W/1 turbine\* ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( tidal W/1 turbine\* ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( current W/1 turbine\* ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( marine W/1 turbine\* )) AND NOT (TITLE-ABS-KEY ( vertical W/2 turbine ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (VAWT) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( vertical W/1 axis ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (cross W/2 turbine)) ) OR ( (TITLE-ABS-KEY ( "horizontal axis" ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( HAWT )) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ( turbine\* ) ) OR ( (TITLE-ABS-KEY ( augmented ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( enhanced )) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ( turbine\* ) AND NOT (TITLE-ABS-KEY ( vertical W/2 turbine ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (VAWT) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ( vertical W/1 axis ) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (cross W/2 turbine)) ) ) AND NOT ( TITLE-ABS-KEY (centrifug\*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (pump) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (darrieus) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (radial W/2 turbine) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (pelton) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (kaplan) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (savonius) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (archimedes) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (combust\*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (steam) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (gas) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ("cooling holes") OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (francis W/1 turbine) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (rail) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (train) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ("stress concentrator\*") OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ("geometric concentrator\*") OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (ductil\*) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ("duct\* fan") OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (invelox) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (solar) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (cascade) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY ("oscillating water column") OR TITLE (compressor) OR TITLE (cross W/2 turbine) OR TITLE (axial W/2 turbine) OR TITLE (wind W/1 tower) OR KEY ("heat transfer") ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( LANGUAGE,"English" ) ) )

## APPENDIX B – Diffuser-augmented turbine's data

Table B.1 – Power coefficient and tip-speed ratio data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part I

Id.	Type	Power coefficient				Tip-speed-ratio	
		$C_p^b$	$C_p$	$C_p^d$	$\mathcal{E}_d$	$TSR_{center}^*$	$TSR_{width}^*$
[104]	Experimental	0.39	0.58	0.42	0.07	0.75	0.00
[104]	Experimental	0.39	0.70	0.42	0.08	0.85	-0.20
[138]	Experimental	0.42	0.67	0.38	-0.08	0.00	-0.50
[24]	Numerical	0.29	0.49	0.07	-0.76	-0.50	0.00
[96]	Experimental	0.30	0.75	0.43	0.42	0.00	0.00
[28]	Numerical	0.41	0.78	0.28	-0.32		
[28]	Numerical	0.41	0.90	0.32	-0.21		
[124]	Numerical	0.59	1.44	0.30	-0.50		
[59]	Numerical	0.37		0.57	0.54	0.38	0.25
[143]	Numerical	0.44	0.61	0.19	-0.57	0.88	0.25
[53]	Experimental	0.36	0.37	0.25	-0.29	-0.20	0.60
[53]	Experimental	0.36	0.45	0.26	-0.29	-0.38	-0.25
[115]	Experimental	0.22	0.37	0.20	-0.08	0.68	0.05
[32]	Experimental	0.39	0.76	0.44	0.14	0.25	-0.50
[31]	Experimental	0.39	0.78	0.44	0.14	-0.20	-1.00
[130]	Experimental	0.37	0.71	0.43	0.16	-0.88	-0.25

Table B.2 – Power coefficient and tip-speed ratio data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part II

Id.	Type	Power coefficient				Tip-speed-ratio	
		$C_p^b$	$C_p$	$C_p^d$	$\mathcal{E}_d$	$TSR_{center}^*$	$TSR_{width}^*$
[83]	Experimental	0.11		0.23	1.05	0.43	-0.05
[135]	Experimental	0.42	0.70	0.25	-0.40	0.73	-1.25
[135]	Experimental	0.42	0.82	0.30	-0.30	1.53	-0.85
[132]	Experimental	0.38	0.54	0.34	-0.11	-0.05	-0.50
[132]	Experimental	0.38	0.71	0.45	0.17	0.43	-0.55
[126]	Numerical	0.32	0.48	0.22	-0.32	1.20	0.40
[127]	Experimental	0.42	0.59	0.33	-0.21	0.85	-0.50
[127]	Experimental	0.42	0.68	0.26	-0.38	0.75	-0.70
[113]	Experimental			0.62			
[113]	Numerical		0.99	0.57			
[113]	Numerical		1.05	0.59			
[26]	Experimental	0.43	0.93	0.32	-0.26	1.43	0.05
[108]	Experimental		0.74			0.68	0.15
[82]	Experimental	0.26		0.41	0.58	0.68	0.15
[82]	Experimental	0.26		0.43	0.63	0.73	0.05
[82]	Experimental	0.26		0.46	0.77	1.13	0.05
[82]	Experimental	0.26		0.43	0.65	1.45	0.10
[82]	Experimental	0.26		0.44	0.69	0.75	0.70
[82]	Experimental	0.26		0.44	0.69	1.55	0.30
[82]	Experimental	0.26		0.52	1.00	0.55	-0.20
[27]	Experimental	0.22	0.45	0.23	0.06	0.50	0.00

Table B.3 – Power coefficient and tip-speed ratio data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part III

Id.	Type	Power coefficient				Tip-speed-ratio	
		$C_p^b$	$C_p$	$C_p^d$	$\mathcal{E}_d$	$TSR_{center}^*$	$TSR_{width}^*$
[27]	Experimental	0.24	0.58	0.30	0.26	0.28	-0.15
[27]	Experimental	0.32	0.64	0.33	0.04	0.43	-0.05
[27]	Experimental	0.36	0.66	0.34	-0.05		
[27]	Experimental		0.61	0.32			
[27]	Experimental		0.67	0.35		-0.40	-0.20
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.77	0.45	0.22	-0.15	-0.30
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.88	0.47	0.28	-0.30	0.00
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.88	0.47	0.28	-0.35	-0.10
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.70	0.43	0.15	0.00	0.00
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.74	0.44	0.20	-0.08	-0.35
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.79	0.45	0.23	0.25	-0.10
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.91	0.42	0.13		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.70	0.49	0.34		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.77	0.40	0.07		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.79	0.35	-0.05		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.75	0.51	0.37		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.83	0.41	0.11		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.85	0.37	-0.01		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.78	0.49	0.32		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.95	0.44	0.19		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.97	0.39	0.07		



Table B.4 – Power coefficient and tip-speed ratio data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part IV

Id.	Type	Power coefficient				Tip-speed-ratio	
		$C_p^b$	$C_p$	$C_p^d$	$\mathcal{E}_d$	$TSR_{center}^*$	$TSR_{width}^*$
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.81	0.43	0.16		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	0.96	0.39	0.04		
[105]	Experimental	0.37	1.02	0.36	-0.02	1.28	-0.05
[3]	Experimental	0.26	1.15	0.17	-0.34	0.85	-0.30
[141]	Experimental	0.36	0.88	0.46	0.29		
[78]	Numerical		0.82	0.47			
[78]	Numerical		0.95	0.45			
[78]	Numerical		0.83	0.48			
[78]	Numerical		0.92	0.50		1.35	0.10
[120]	Numerical	0.32	1.45				
[57]	Numerical		0.72	0.27		-0.35	-0.30
[47]	Numerical	0.44	0.95	0.32	-0.28	-0.75	-0.50
[47]	Numerical	0.44	1.13	0.28	-0.36	-0.60	-0.80
[47]	Numerical	0.44	1.20	0.24	-0.45	-0.75	-1.10
[47]	Numerical	0.44	1.25	0.21	-0.53		

# APPENDIX C – Diffuser-augmented turbine's geometry

Table C.1 – Geometry data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part I

Id.	Type	Geometry					
		$D_r$ [mm]	$D_i$ [mm]	$D_d$ [mm]	$A_d/A_r$	$\theta$ [°]	$L$ [mm]
[104]	Experimental	224	246	264	1.39	10	49
[104]	Experimental	224	240	289	1.66		49
[138]	Experimental	500		661	1.75		250
[24]	Numerical	800	1772	4243	28.13		2053
[96]	Experimental	1190	1181	1578	1.76	15	739
[28]	Numerical	1360	1496	2281	2.81		680
[28]	Numerical	1360	1496	2281	2.81		680
[124]	Numerical	200		440	4.84		300
[59]	Numerical	1160	1262	1609	1.92		261
[143]	Numerical	2000	2382	3605	3.25		2282
[53]	Experimental	265	288	318	1.43		
[53]	Experimental	265	282	352	1.76		
[115]	Experimental	320	335	437	1.86		335
[32]	Experimental						
[31]	Experimental	612	620	812	1.76	26	180
[130]	Experimental		620				

Table C.2 – Geometry data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part II

Id.	Type	Geometry					
		$D_r$ [mm]	$D_i$ [mm]	$D_d$ [mm]	$A_d/A_r$	$\theta$ [°]	$L$ [mm]
[83]	Experimental	190	195	249	1.72	12	120
[135]	Experimental	300	302	500	2.78		220
[135]	Experimental	300	302	500	2.78		220
[132]	Experimental	198	226	250	1.59	25	77
[132]	Experimental	198	201	250	1.59	25	52
[126]	Numerical	457	457	677	2.19	4	914
[127]	Experimental	533	610	711	1.78		152
[127]	Experimental	533	610	864	2.63		152
[113]	Experimental	1000		1269	1.61		211
[113]	Numerical	1000					263
[113]	Numerical	1000					263
[26]	Experimental	400	440	684	2.92	4	706
[108]	Experimental						
[82]	Experimental	190	195	241	1.61	12	120
[82]	Experimental	190		241	1.61	12	
[82]	Experimental	190	195	269	2.00	11	186
[82]	Experimental	190	195	289	2.31	11	232
[82]	Experimental	190	195	309	2.64	12	279
[82]	Experimental	190	195	283	2.22	12	120
[82]	Experimental	190	195	327	2.96	12	120
[27]	Experimental	300	300	416	1.92	30	100

Table C.3 – Geometry data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part III

Id.	Type	Geometry					
		$D_r$ [mm]	$D_i$ [mm]	$D_d$ [mm]	$A_d/A_r$	$\theta$ [°]	$L$ [mm]
[27]	Experimental	300	300	416	1.92	30	100
[27]	Experimental	300	300	416	1.92	30	100
[27]	Experimental	300	300	416	1.92	30	100
[27]	Experimental	300	300	416	1.92	30	100
[27]	Experimental	300	300	416	1.92	30	100
[105]	Experimental	1000	1120	1309	1.71		230
[105]	Experimental	1000	1080	1362	1.85		225
[105]	Experimental	1000	1120	1364	1.86		225
[105]	Experimental	1000	1080	1283	1.65	12	230
[105]	Experimental	1000		1292	1.67		102
[105]	Experimental	1000		1318	1.74		140
[105]	Experimental	1000		1476	2.18		378
[105]	Experimental	1000		1190	1.42		102
[105]	Experimental	1000		1394	1.94		102
[105]	Experimental	1000		1496	2.24		102
[105]	Experimental	1000		1216	1.48		140
[105]	Experimental	1000		1420	2.02		140
[105]	Experimental	1000		1522	2.32		140
[105]	Experimental	1000	1120	1262	1.59		225
[105]	Experimental	1000	1120	1466	2.15		225
[105]	Experimental	1000	1120	1568	2.46		225

Table C.4 – Geometry data of diffuser-augmented turbines - Part IV

Id.	Type	Geometry					
		$D_r$ [mm]	$D_i$ [mm]	$D_d$ [mm]	$A_d/A_r$	$\theta$ [°]	$L$ [mm]
[105]	Experimental	1000		1374	1.89		378
[105]	Experimental	1000		1578	2.49		378
[105]	Experimental	1000		1680	2.82		378
[3]	Experimental	388	456	1013	6.81	12	617
[141]	Experimental	300		413	1.89		68
[78]	Numerical	1000	1088	1314	1.73		185
[78]	Numerical	1000	1116	1452	2.11		295
[78]	Numerical	1000	1096	1316	1.73		253
[78]	Numerical	1000	1072	1360	1.85		300
[120]	Numerical	457					
[57]	Numerical	3000	4900	4370	2.67		
[47]	Numerical				3.00		
[47]	Numerical				4.00		
[47]	Numerical				5.00		
[47]	Numerical				6.00		