

# Helicity of Passively Generated Vortices from Vortex Generators

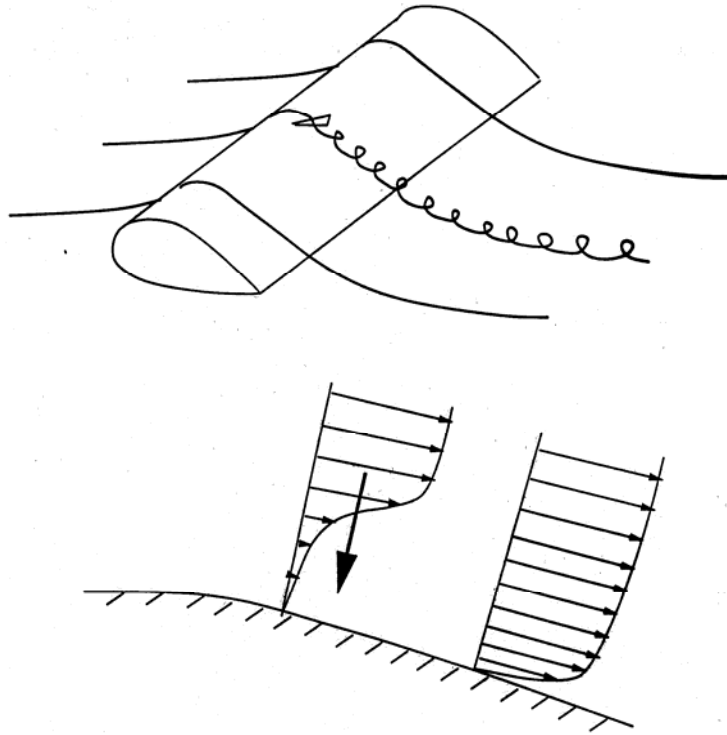
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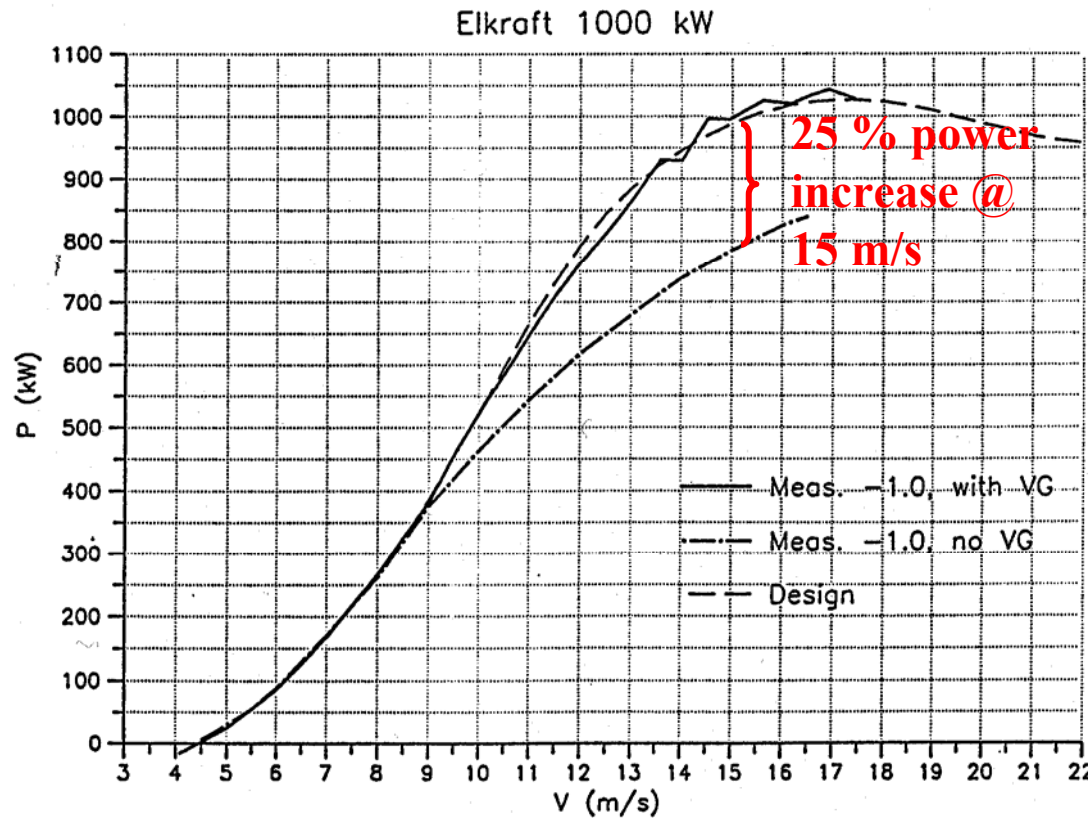
# What is a vortex generator?



## Schematic explanation of how a VG works:

- Generation of longitudinal vortices
- Overturn of the b.l. flow via large scale motions
- Redistribution of streamwise mom'm in b.l.
- Resistance to positive pressure gradient
- Decreased risk for stall

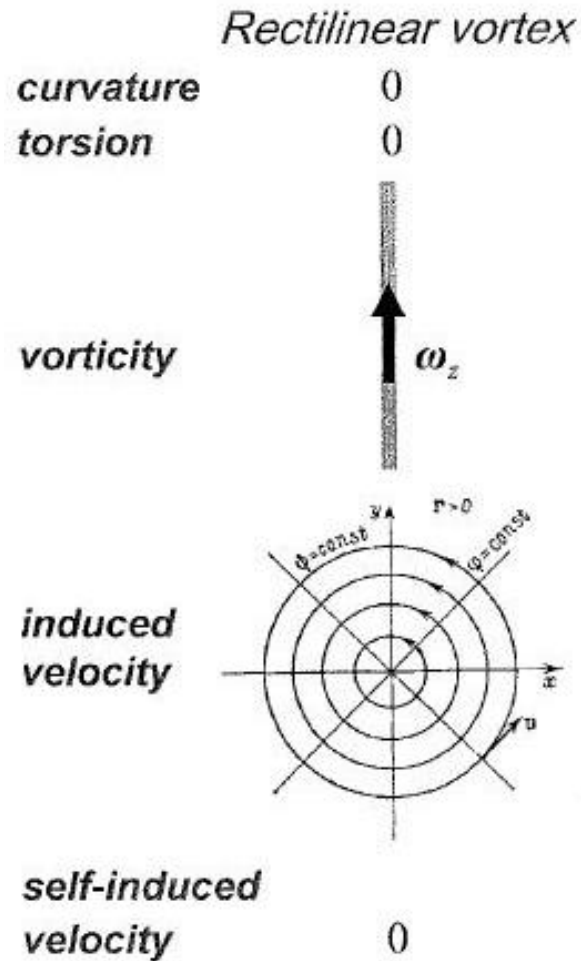
# Example of application of VGs on wind turbine wings: ELKRAFT 1000 kW wind turbine at Avedøre



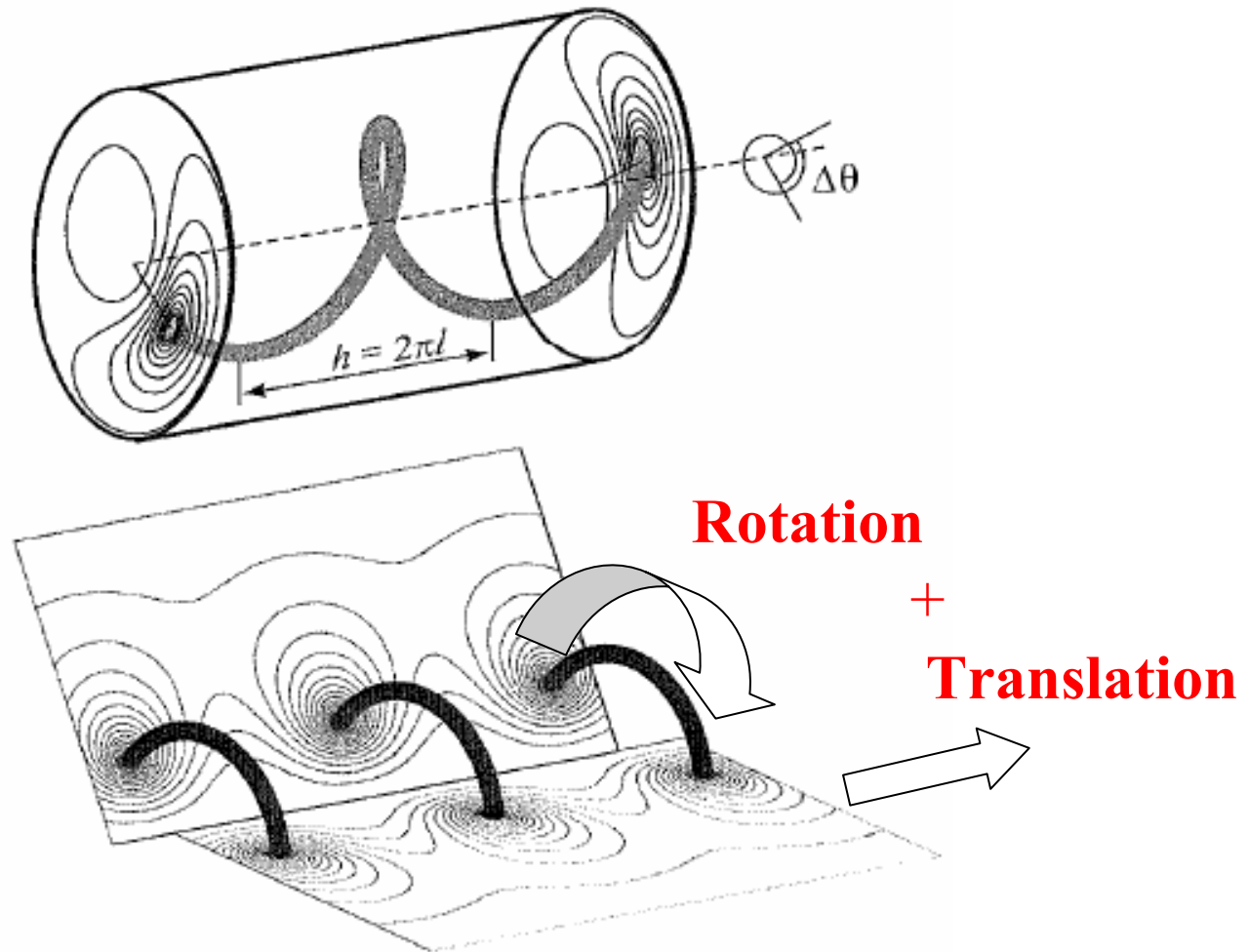
From: [3] S. Øye, The effect of Vortex Generators on the performance of the ELKRAFT 1000 kW Turbine, 9<sup>th</sup> IEA Symp. On Aerodynamics of Wind Turbines, 1995.

# What is a helix?

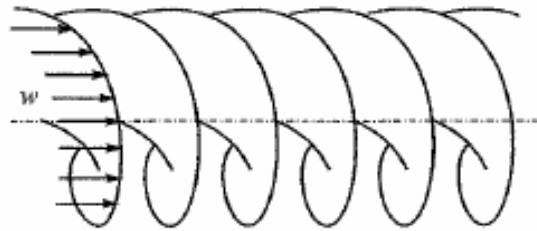
Pitch  $\rightarrow \infty$



*In reality the flow has  
2-D structure !!!*



## Kinematic interpretation of the helical symmetry

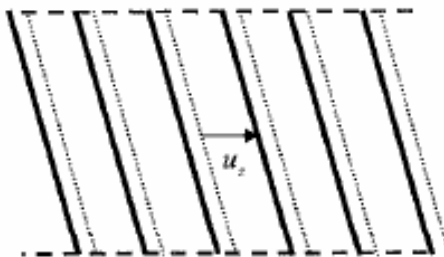
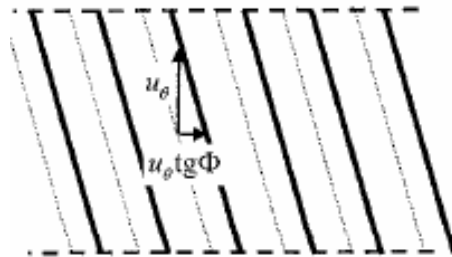


sheet rotation

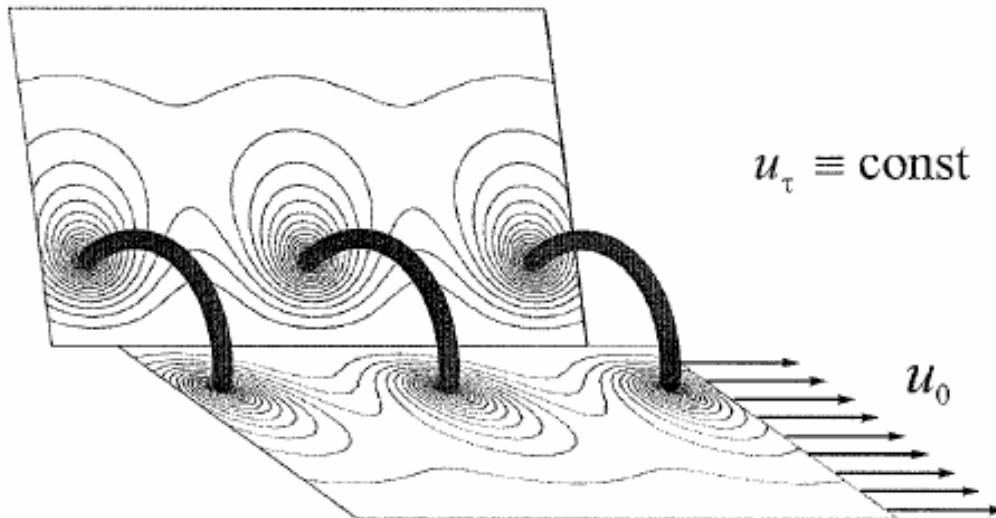
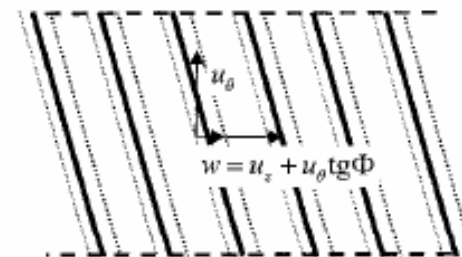
By analogy with the vortex theory of screw propeller by Sydney Goldstein

$$w \equiv u_0 = u_z + ru_\theta/l \quad \text{tg}\Phi = r/l$$

sheet translation



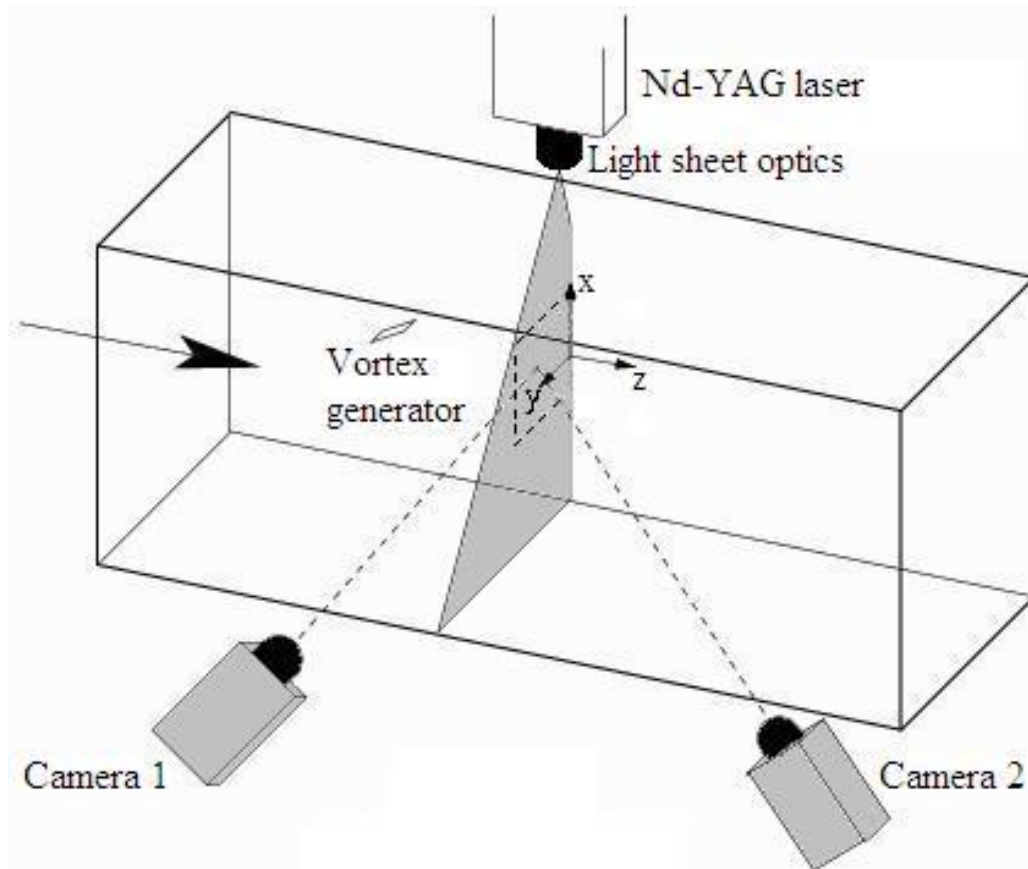
total motion



$$u_\tau \equiv \text{const} \quad \text{or} \quad u_z + ru_\theta/l = u_0 \equiv \text{const}$$

$u_0$  -  
may be interpreted as  
total uniform motion of  
fixed plan of 2-D motion

# Experimental Setup



$$U_{\infty} = 1 \text{ ms}^{-1}$$

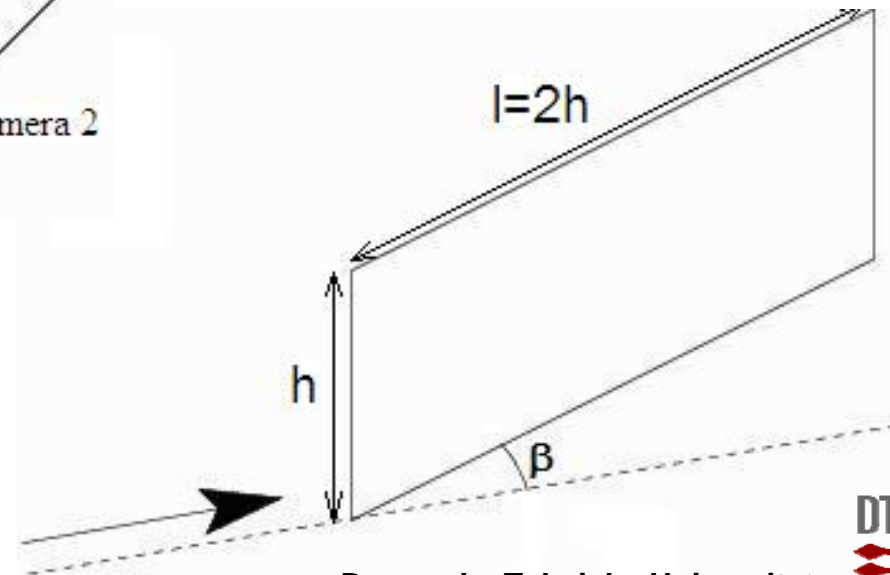
**Stereoscopic Particle Image Velocimetry (SPIV)**

**3C of velocity in plane**

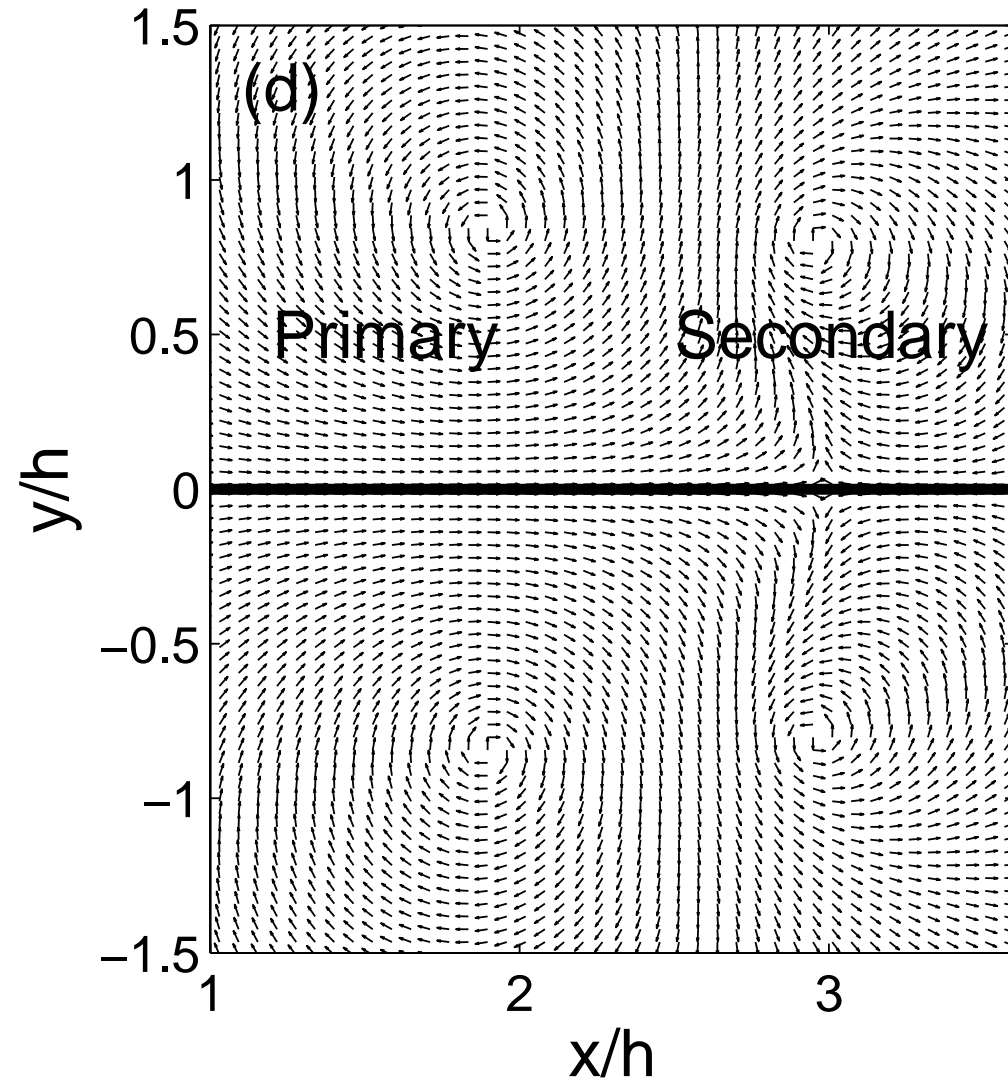
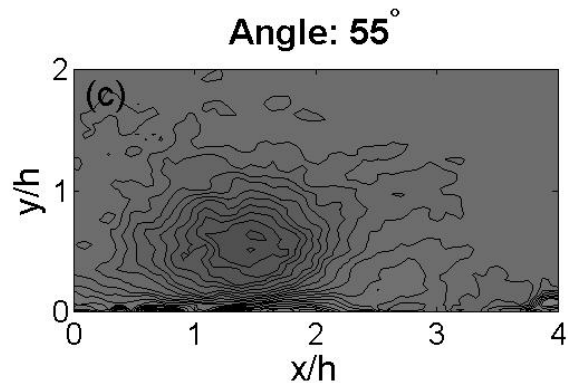
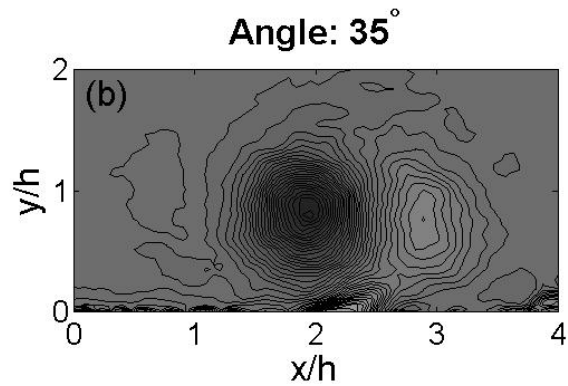
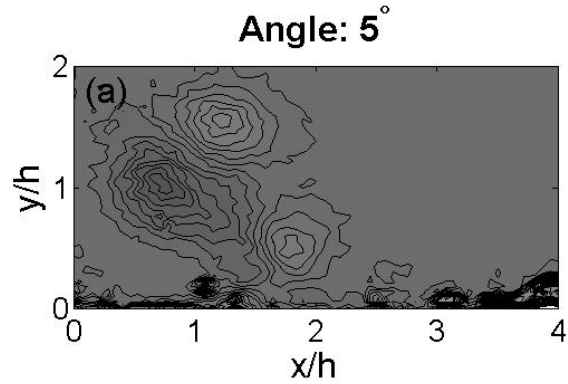
**Vortex generator: Rectangular vane**

**$h = 25 \text{ mm}$**

**Parametric study,  $\beta$  variable**



# Primary and secondary vortices





# Condition of helical symmetry

## VORTICITY FORMULATION:

The vorticity vector

$$\omega_r = 0; \quad \omega_\theta = r\omega_z/l$$

is always directed tangentially to the helical lines

$$x = r \cos \theta; \quad y = r \sin \theta; \quad z = l\theta$$

## VELOCITY FORMULATION:

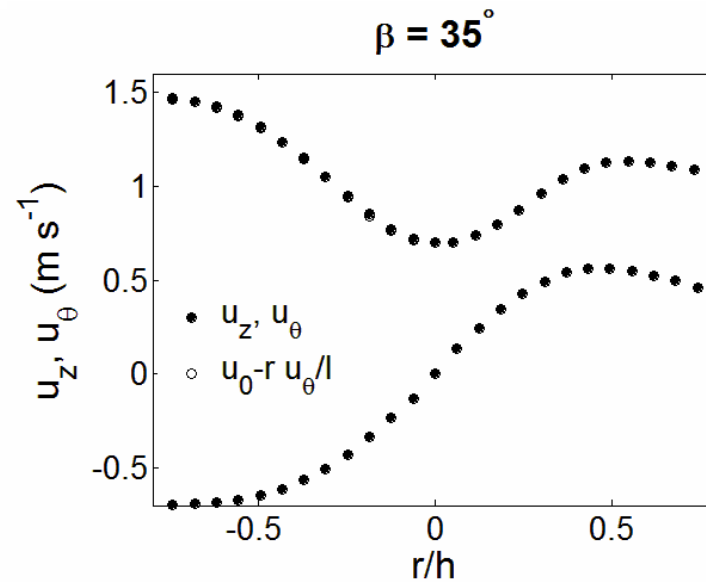
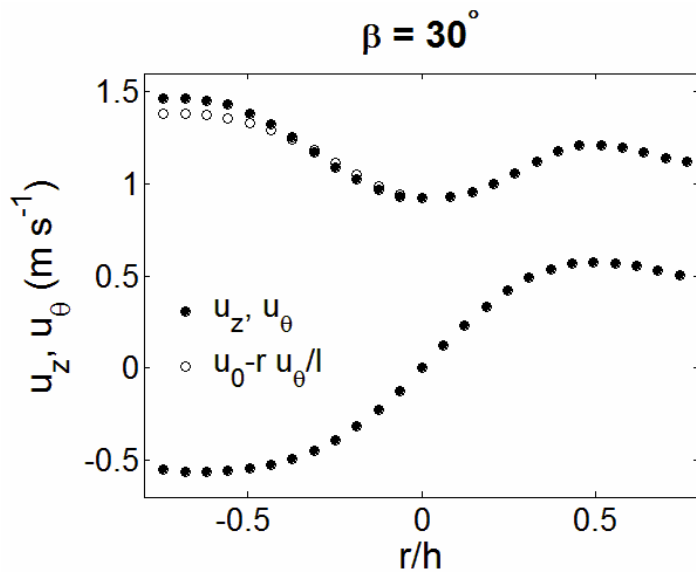
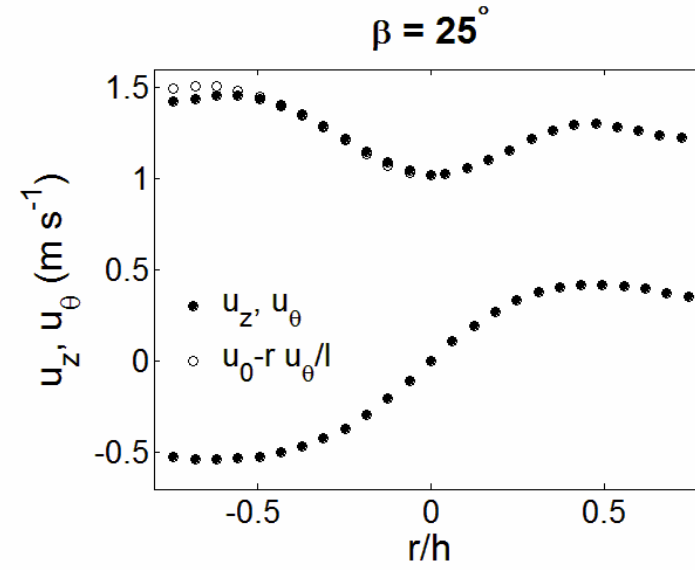
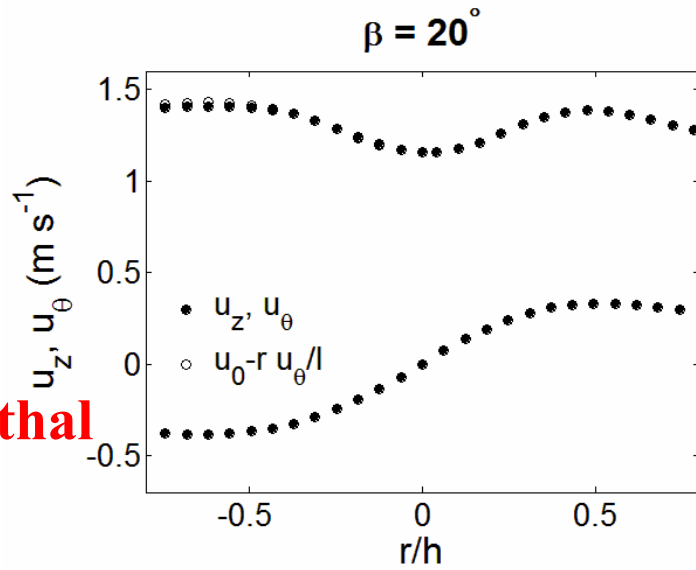
An equivalent condition for the velocity is

$$u_z + \frac{r}{l}u_\theta = u_0 \equiv \text{const.} \quad \text{or} \quad u_z = u_0 - \frac{r}{l}u_\theta$$

# Testing of condition: $u_z = u_0 - \frac{r}{l}u_\theta$

**Axial**

**Azimuthal**



# 1D columnar/axisymmetric vortex model

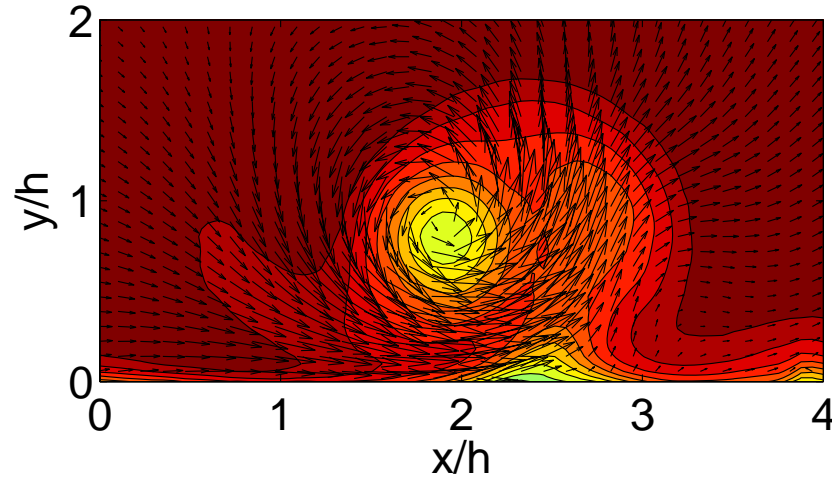
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega_z = \frac{\Gamma}{\pi \varepsilon^2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{\varepsilon^2}\right) \\ u_\theta = \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi r} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{\varepsilon^2}\right)\right] \\ u_z = u_0 - \frac{\Gamma}{2\pi l} \left[1 - \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{\varepsilon^2}\right)\right] \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{constant for} \\ \text{Lamb-Oseen vortex} \end{array}$$

Alekseenko, Kuibin & Okulov (2007) Theory of concentrated vortices. Springer

# Fitting of vorticity:

$$\omega_z = \frac{\Gamma}{\pi \varepsilon^2} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{\varepsilon^2}\right)$$

$\beta = 35^\circ$



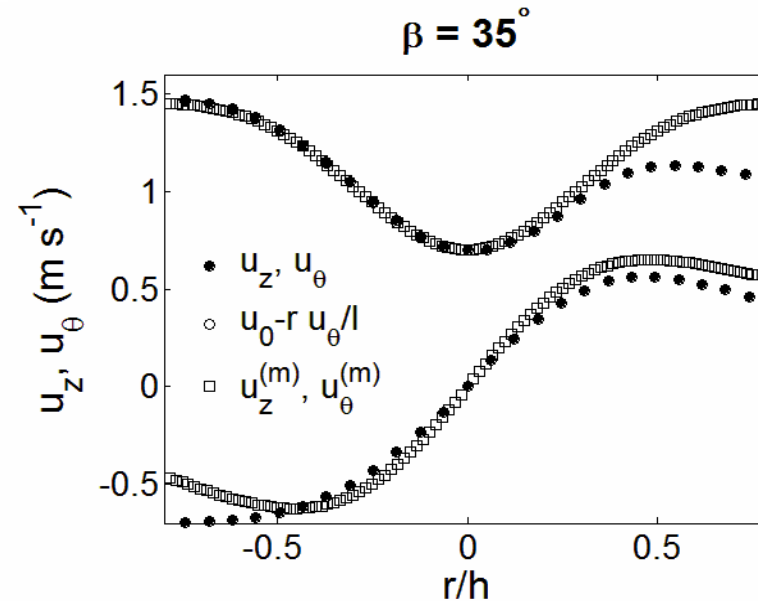
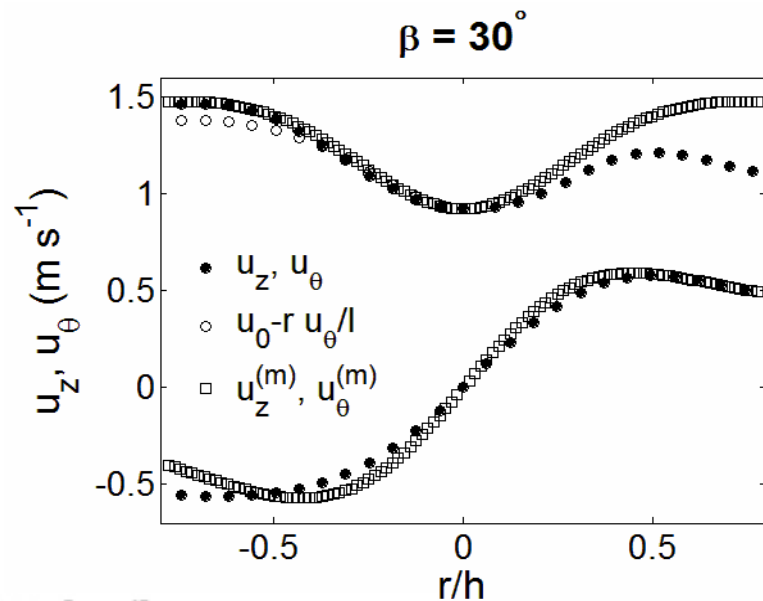
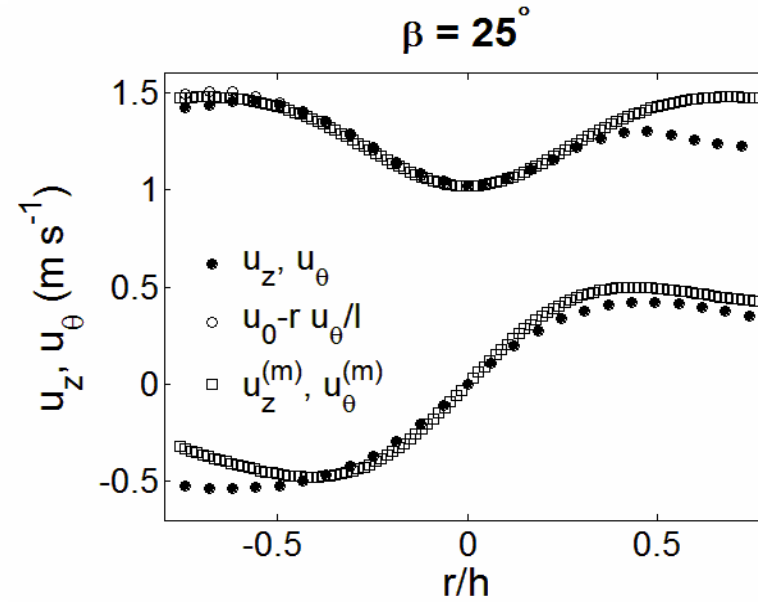
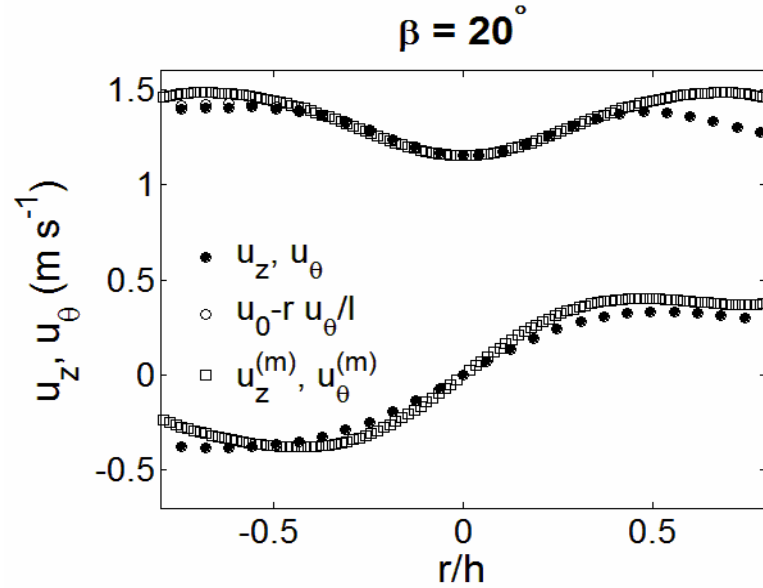
# 1D columnar/axisymmetric vortex model

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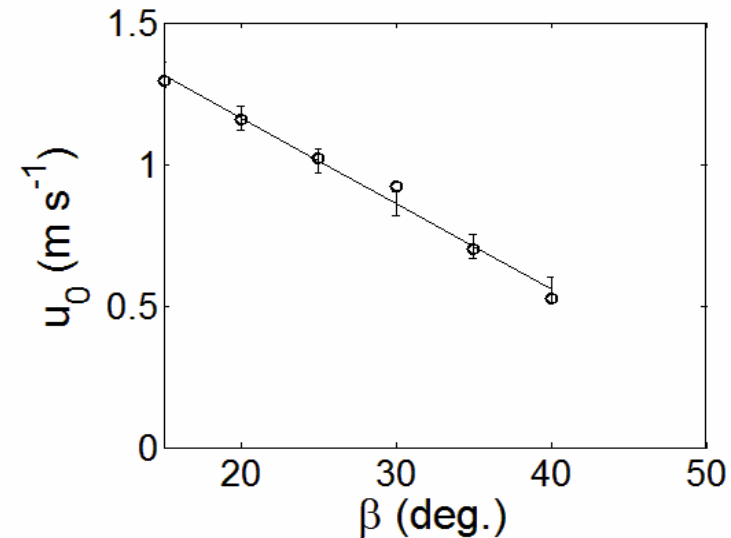
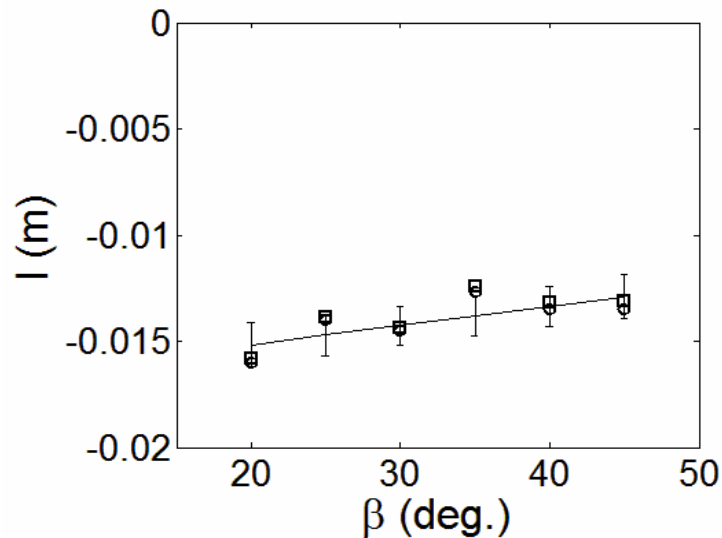
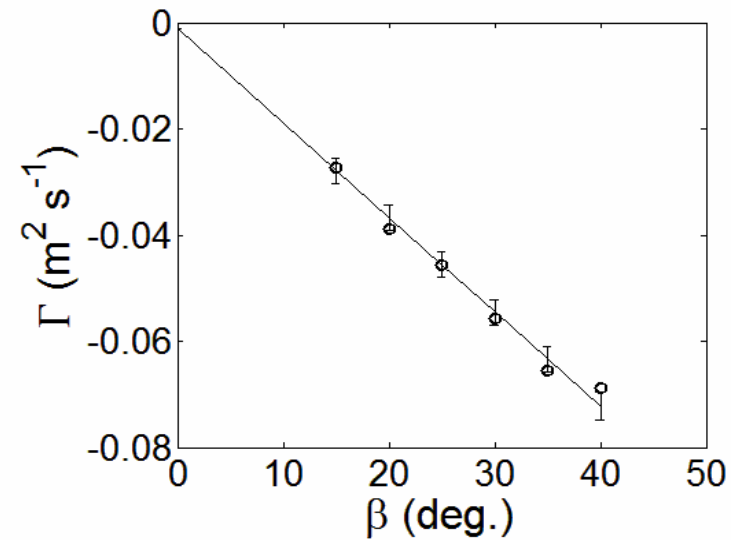
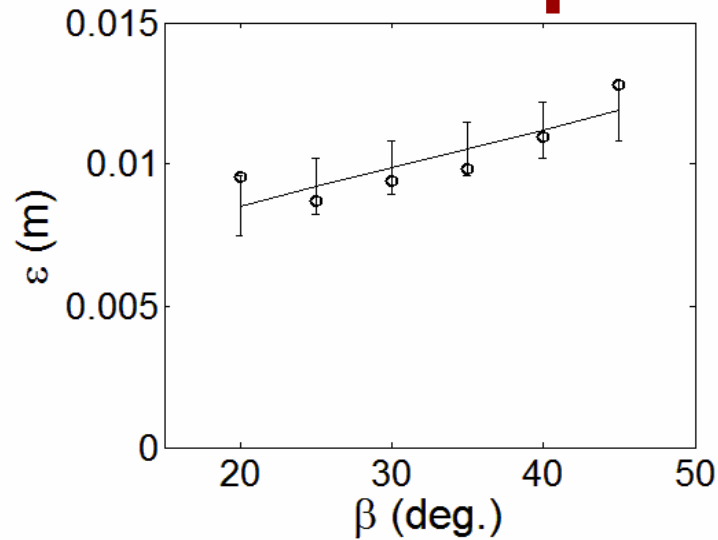
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} S = F_{mm}/F_m L, \quad l = -F_{mm}/F_m = -LS & \text{if } u_0 = 0 \\ l = -F_{mm}/(F_m - u_0 G) = -LS/(1 - u_0 G/F_m) & \text{if } u_0 \neq 0 \end{array} \right.$$

Alekseenko, Kuibin & Okulov (2007) Theory of concentrated vortices. Springer

# Testing of vortex model



# Device angle dependency of parameters



# Conclusions

- The longitudinal vortex generated by the passive vortex generator possesses helical symmetry.
- The primary vortex is accompanied by a secondary counter-rotating vortex, giving rise to perturbations
- A 1D columnar vortex model has been applied, decoupled from the b.l. flow and surrounding vortices, describing the flow successfully and providing the circulation  $\Gamma$  and vortex size  $\varepsilon$
- The helical pitch  $l$  was found through the swirl flow parameter, concurring well with results from least squares fitting of the data
- The parameters  $\Gamma$ ,  $\varepsilon$ ,  $l$  and  $u_0$  were all found to vary linearly with the device angle  $\beta$



# Additional work

- Further development of model for helical vortex, stability studies and investigation of non-linearities
- Parametric study to investigate flow processes for different  $h/\delta$  and  $h/l$ .
- Study of the dynamics of vortices generated by passive devices
  - Apply snapshot POD to SPIV data to distinguish dominant energy modes in the flow
  - LDA measurements to capture dominant frequencies in the flow
- Spin-off: Noise free power spectra (HW and burst mode LDA)
- SPIV measurements of effect of vortex generators in a more realistic setting (LM Wind tunnel, Lunderskov)
- CFD modeling of effect of vortex generators

# Thank you!

# Questions?

The Danish Research Council, DSF, is acknowledged for their financial support of the project under Grant 2104-04-0020.