

# WIND DATA REPORT

**University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth**

June 2009 to August 2009

Prepared for

Massachusetts Technology Collaborative  
75 North Drive  
Westborough, MA 01581

by

Dylan Chase  
James F. Manwell  
Utama Abdulwahid  
Anthony F. Ellis

November 16, 2009

Report template version 3.1.2

---

**Renewable Energy Research Laboratory**  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
160 Governors Drive, Amherst, MA 01003  
[www.ceere.org/rerl](http://www.ceere.org/rerl) • (413) 545-4359 • [rerl@ecs.umass.edu](mailto:rerl@ecs.umass.edu)



## **NOTICE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This report was prepared by the Renewable Energy Research Laboratory (RERL) at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in the course of performing work sponsored by the Renewable Energy Trust (RET), as administered by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC). The opinions expressed in this report do not necessarily reflect those of MTC or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and reference to any specific product, service, process, or method does not constitute an implied or expressed recommendation or endorsement of it.

Further, MTC, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and RERL make no warranties or representations, expressed or implied, as to the fitness for particular purpose or merchantability of any product, apparatus, or service, or the usefulness, completeness, or accuracy of any processes, methods or other information contained, described, disclosed, or referred to in this report. MTC, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the contractor make no representation that the use of any product, apparatus, process, method, or other information will not infringe privately owned rights and will assume no liability for any loss, injury, or damage directly or indirectly resulting from, or occurring in connection with, the use of information contained, described, disclosed, or referred to in this report.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Notice and Acknowledgements .....	1
Table of Contents .....	2
Table of Figures .....	3
Executive Summary .....	4
SECTION 1 - Station Location .....	5
SECTION 2 - Instrumentation and Equipment .....	5
SECTION 3 - Data Summary .....	6
SECTION 4 - Graphs .....	8
Wind Speed Time Series .....	10
Wind Speed Distributions .....	10
Monthly Average Wind Speeds .....	11
Diurnal Average Wind Speeds .....	11
Turbulence Intensities .....	12
Wind Roses .....	13
SECTION 5 - Data Collection and Maintenance .....	14
SECTION 6 - Data Recovery and Validation .....	14
Test Definitions .....	14
Sensor Statistics .....	15
APPENDIX A - Sensor Performance Report .....	17
Test Definitions .....	17
Sensor Statistics .....	18
APPENDIX B - Plot Data .....	19
Wind Speed Distribution Data .....	19
Monthly Average Wind Speed Data .....	19
Diurnal Average Wind Speed Data .....	20
Wind Rose Data .....	21

## TABLE OF FIGURES

Figure 1 – Site Location.....	5
Figure 3 – Wind Speed Distribution, June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009 .....	10
Figure 4 – Monthly Average Wind Speed, March 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009 .....	11
Figure 5 – Diurnal Average Wind Speeds, June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009 .....	11
Figure 6 – Turbulence Intensity vs. Wind Speed, June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009 .....	12
Figure 7 – Wind Rose, June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009 .....	13

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

All the work presented in this Wind Data Report including installation and decommissioning of the meteorological tower and instrumentation, and the data analysis and reporting was performed by the Renewable Energy Research Laboratory (RERL) at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Wind monitoring equipment was installed at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth campus on February 16<sup>th</sup> 2009. The base of the 50 meter meteorological tower was installed 38 meters above sea level. Anemometers were installed at heights of 38 and 49 meters (124.7 and 160.8 feet) above the tower base. Redundant anemometers were installed at both heights. A temperature sensor was installed near the base of the tower.

This report summarizes the wind data collected during the summer of 2009, between June and August. The mean recorded wind speed was 3.99 m/s (8.93 mph\*) at 49 meters, and the prevailing wind direction was from the southwest. The average wind shear component was 0.49 and the average turbulence intensity at 49 meters was 0.23.

The gross data recovery percentage (the actual percentage of expected data received) was 99.99% and the net data recovery percentage (the percentage of expected data which passed all of the quality assurance tests) was 99.96%

Additional information about interpreting the data presented in this report can be found in the Fact Sheet, "Interpreting Your Wind Resource Data," produced by RERL and the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC). This document is found through the RERL website:

[http://www.ceere.org/rerl/about\\_wind/RERL\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_6\\_Wind\\_resource\\_interpretation.pdf](http://www.ceere.org/rerl/about_wind/RERL_Fact_Sheet_6_Wind_resource_interpretation.pdf)

\* 1 m/s = 2.237 mph.

## SECTION 1 - Station Location

The University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth monitoring tower is located in a field on the campus. The 50 meter tower is located at  $41^{\circ}37'63.14$  N,  $71^{\circ}00'54.72$  W and the tower base is 38 meters above sea level. The approximate tower location is marked by the blue box shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1 – Site Location

## SECTION 2 - Instrumentation and Equipment

The wind monitoring equipment is mounted on a 50 m (164 ft) meteorological tower. The wind monitoring equipment comes from NRG systems and consists of the following items:

- NRG Symphonie data logger
- 4 – NRG #40 Anemometers, standard calibration (Slope – 0.765 m/s, Offset – 0.350 m/s). Two anemometers are located at 49 m (160.8 ft), and two anemometers are located at 38 m (124.7 ft).
- 2 – NRG #200P Wind direction vanes. The vanes are located at 49 m (160.8 ft) and 38 m (124.7 ft).
- NRG 110S temperature Sensor located near the base of the tower.

The data from the Symphonie logger is sent to RERL via a cellular modem. The logger samples wind speed and direction once every two second. These samples are combined into 10-minute averages and are put into a binary file along with the maximum, minimum and standard deviation for each 10-minute interval. The binary files are converted to ASCII text files using NRG software. These text files are then imported into a database software program where they are subjected to quality assurance tests prior to data usage.

### SECTION 3- Data Summary

A summary of the wind speeds and wind directions measured during the reporting period is included in Table 1. Table 1 includes the mean wind speeds measured at each measurement height, the maximum instantaneous wind speed measured at each measurement height and the prevailing wind direction measured at each measurement height. These values are provided for each month of the reporting period and for the whole reporting period.

**Table 1. Wind Speed and Direction Data Summary**

Date	Mean Wind Speed	Max Wind Speed	Prevailing Wind Direction	Mean Wind Speed	Max Wind Speed	Prevailing Wind Direction
Height Units	49 m [m/s]	49 m [m/s]	49 m [m/s]	38 m [m/s]	38 m [m/s]	38 m [m/s]
June 2009	3.9	11.77	NNE	3.43	10.37	NNE
July 2009	4.26	11.36	SSW	3.78	10.52	SW
Aug 2009	3.81	9.15	SW	3.37	8.3	SW
<b>June 2009 -Aug 2009</b>	<b>3.99</b>	<b>11.77</b>	<b>SW</b>	<b>3.53</b>	<b>10.52</b>	<b>SW</b>

Wind data statistics in the table are reported when more than 90% of the data during the reporting period are valid. In cases when a larger amount of data are missing, the percent of the available data that are used to determine the data statistics is noted.

No measurement of wind speed or direction can be perfectly accurate. Wind speed measurement errors occur due to anemometer manufacturing variability, anemometer calibration errors, the response of anemometers to turbulence and vertical air flow and due to air flows caused by the anemometer mounting system. Every effort is made to reduce the sources of these errors. Nevertheless, the values reported in this report have an expected uncertainty of about  $\pm 2\%$  or  $\pm 0.2$  m/s, whichever is greater. Wind direction measurement errors occur due to sensor measurement uncertainty, tower effects, boom alignment measurement errors and twisting of pipe sections during the raising of a pipe tower. Efforts are also made to reduce these errors, but the reported wind directions are estimated to have an uncertainty of  $\pm 5$  degrees.

A summary of the turbulence intensity and mean wind shear measured at each measurement height during the reporting period is included in Table 2. These values are provided for each month of the reporting period and for the whole reporting period. Turbulence Intensity is calculated by dividing the standard deviation of the wind speed by the mean wind speed and is a measure of the gustiness of a wind resource. Lower turbulence results in lower mechanical loads on a wind turbine. Turbulence intensity varies with wind speed. The average turbulence intensity presented in Table 2 is the mean turbulence intensity when the wind speed at each measurement height is between 10 and 11 m/s.

Shear coefficients provide a measure of the change in wind speed with height. When data at multiple heights are available, shear coefficients,  $\alpha$ , have been determined. They can be used in the following formula to estimate the average wind speed,  $U(z)$ , at height  $z$ , when the average wind speed,  $U(z_r)$ , at height  $z_r$  is known:

$$U(z) = U(z_r) \left( \frac{z}{z_r} \right)^\alpha$$

The change in wind speed with height is a very complicated relationship related to atmospheric conditions, wind speed, wind direction, time of day and time of year. This formula will not always provide the correct answer at any given site. Nevertheless the calculated shear coefficient, based on measurements at two heights, can be used to characterize the degree of increase in wind speed with height at a site.

The mean wind shear coefficient that is provided here is calculated based on the mean wind speeds in Table 1, where  $z_{high}$  and  $z_{low}$  are the heights of the higher and lower mean wind speeds used in the calculation and  $U(z_{low})$  and  $U(z_{high})$  are the mean wind speeds at the two heights.

$$\alpha = \log\left(\frac{U(z_{high})}{U(z_{low})}\right) / \log\left(\frac{z_{high}}{z_{low}}\right)$$

**Table 2. Shear and Turbulence Intensity Data Summary**

Date	Turbulence Intensity at 10 m/s	Turbulence Intensity at 10 m/s	Mean Wind Shear Coefficient, $\alpha$
Height Units	49 m [-]	38 m [-]	Between 49 m and 38 m [-]
June 2009	0.24	0.29	0.51
July 2009	0.20	0.20	0.47
Aug 2009	0.22*	0.23*	0.49
<b>June 2009 -Aug 2009</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>0.49</b>

\* In August the maximum wind speed at both heights was lower than 10 m/s. Therefore turbulence intensity data is not available for 10 m/s. For the 49 meter height the turbulence intensity shown above is reported for wind speeds between 9 and 10 m/s. For the 38 meter height the turbulence intensity given above occurs when the wind speed is between 8 and 9 m/s.

## SECTION 4- Graphs

This report contains several types of wind data graphs. Unless otherwise noted, each graph represents data from 1 quarter (3 months). The following graphs are included:

- Time Series – 10-minute average wind speeds are plotted against time.
- Wind Speed Distribution – A histogram plot giving the percentage of time that the wind is at a given wind speed.
- Monthly Average – A plot of the monthly average wind speed over a 12-month period. This graph shows the trends in the wind speed over the year.
- Diurnal – A plot of the average wind speed for each hour of the day.
- Turbulence Intensity – A plot of turbulence intensity as a function of wind speed. Turbulence Intensity is calculated as the standard deviation of the wind speed divided by the wind speed and is a measure of the gustiness of a wind resource. Lower turbulence results in lower mechanical loads on a wind turbine.

- Wind Rose – A plot, by compass direction showing the percentage of time that the wind comes from a given direction and the average wind speed in that direction.

With regards to the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth site, the following observations are noted.

- Time Series, Figure 2: shows that the wind speed seldom exceeded 10 m/s at the site during the summer months.
- Wind Speed Distribution, Figure 3: wind speeds are primarily between 2 and 7 m/s during the spring months and the most common wind speed is between 3 and 4 m/s.
- Monthly Average, Figure 4: shows that the average monthly wind speeds at the site were lower in the summer months than they were in the spring.
- Diurnal, Figure 5: shows that on average the wind speed was fairly constant during the night time hours. The wind speed was slightly lower during the early morning hours and then increased through the day reaching a peak between 2 and 3 pm.
- Turbulence Intensity, Figure 6: we can see the turbulence numbers roughly cluster between 0.1 and 0.3 for most wind speeds.
- Wind Rose, Figure 7: shows that the prevailing winds at this site are from the southwest direction. There are also winds from the south-southwest a significant portion of the time during the summer months.

Data for the wind speed histograms, monthly and diurnal average plots, and wind roses are included in APPENDIX B.

## Wind Speed Time Series

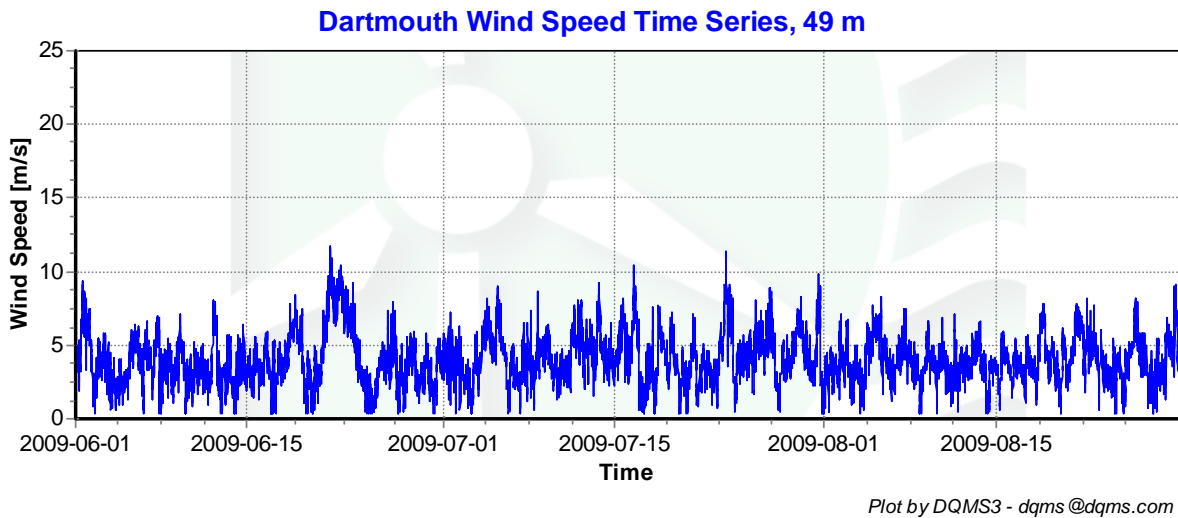


Figure 2 – Wind Speed Time Series, June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009

## Wind Speed Distributions

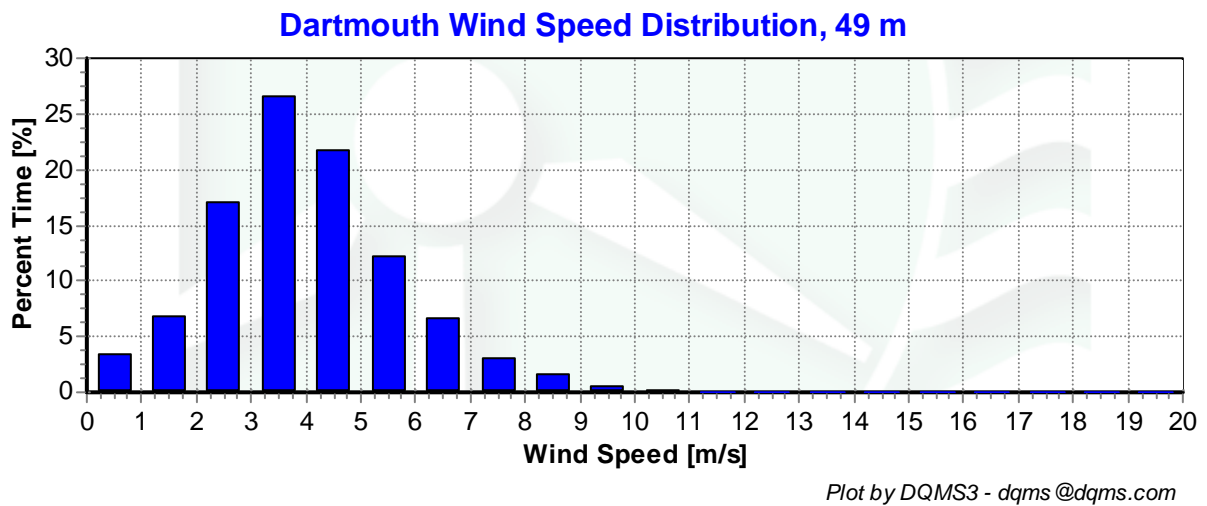


Figure 2 – Wind Speed Distribution, June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009

### Monthly Average Wind Speeds

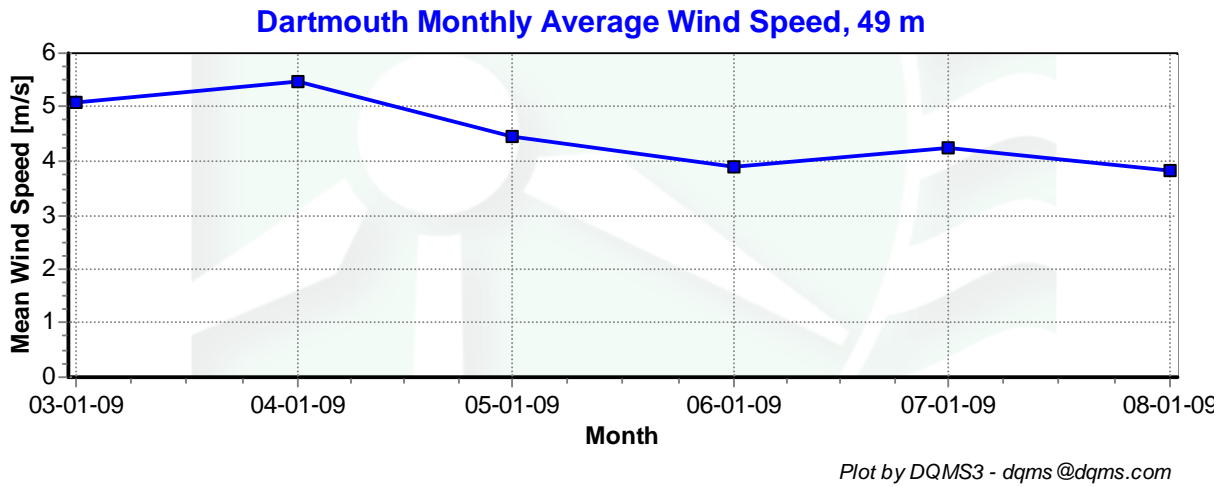


Figure 3 – Monthly Average Wind Speed, March 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009

### Diurnal Average Wind Speeds

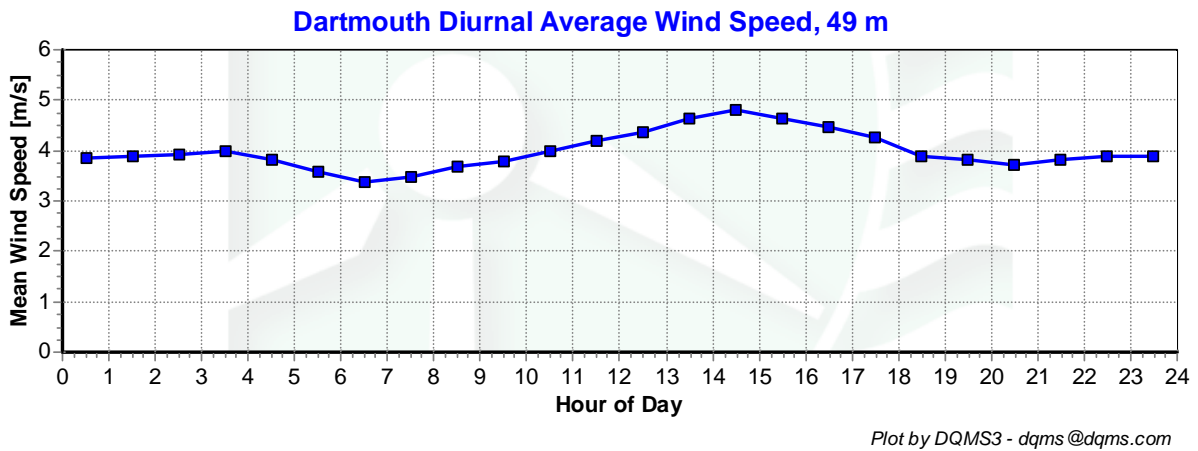


Figure 4 – Diurnal Average Wind Speeds, June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009

## Turbulence Intensities

### Dartmouth Turbulence Intensity, 49 m

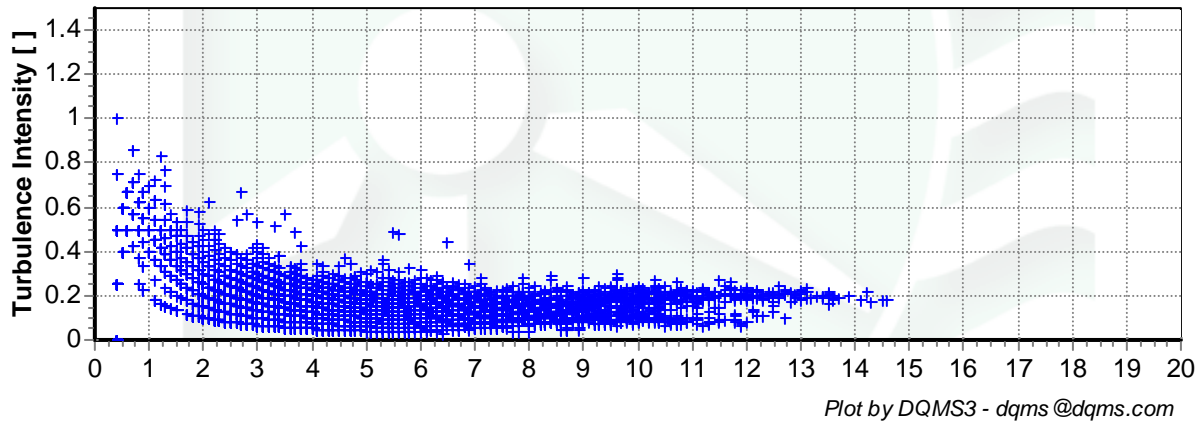
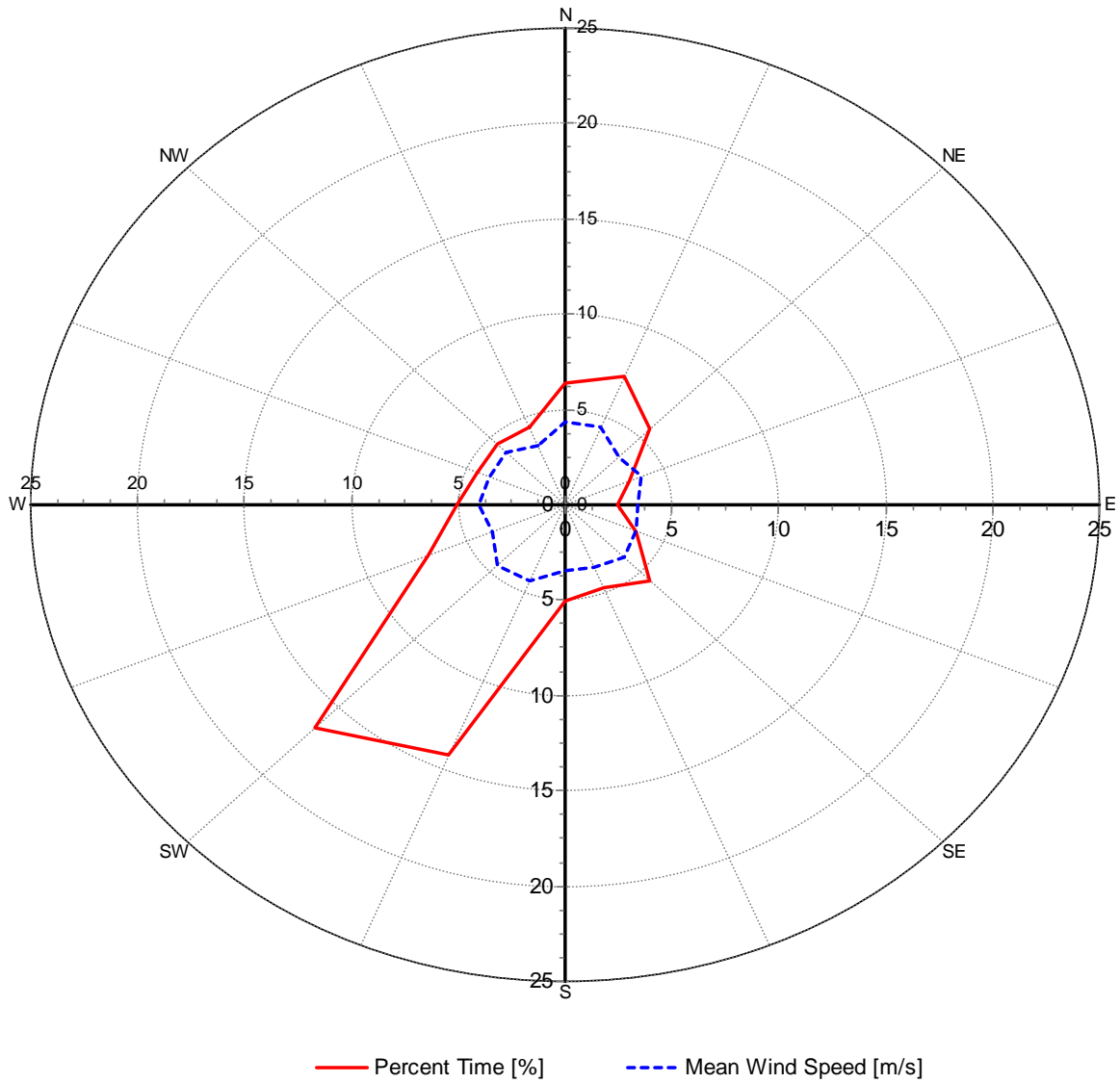


Figure 5 – Turbulence Intensity vs. Wind Speed, June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009

# Wind Roses

## Dartmouth Wind Rose, 49 m



Plot by DQMS3 - dqms@dqms.com

Figure 6 – Wind Rose, June 1, 2009 – August 31, 2009

### - Significant Meteorological Events

There were no extreme meteorological events during this data collection period. The highest recorded wind speed was 11.77 m/s (26.33 mph) at 49 meters.

## SECTION 5 - Data Collection and Maintenance

All sensors and equipment functioned properly throughout the monitoring period. No maintenance was performed during this quarter.

## SECTION 6 - Data Recovery and Validation

All raw wind data are subjected to a series of tests and filters to weed out data that are faulty or corrupted. Definitions of these quality assurance (QA) controls are given below under Test Definitions and Sensor Statistics. These control filters were designed to automate the quality control process and used many of the previous hand-worked data sets made at UMass to affect a suitable emulation. The gross percentage of data recovered (ratio of the number of raw data points received to data points expected) and net percentage (ratio of raw data points which passed all QA control tests to data points expected) are shown below.

Gross Data Recovered [%]	99.992
Net Data Recovered [%]	99.961

### Test Definitions

All raw data were subjected to a series of validation tests, as described below. The sensors tested and the parameters specific to each sensor are given in the Sensor Performance Report which is included in APPENDIX A. Data which were flagged as invalid were not included in the statistics presented in this report.

**MinMax Test:** All sensors are expected to report data values within a range specified by the sensor and logger manufacturers. If a value falls outside this range, it is flagged as invalid. A data value from the sensor listed in Test Field 1 (TF1) is flagged if it is less than Factor 1 (F1) or greater than Factor 2. This test has been applied to the following sensors (as applicable): wind speed, wind speed standard deviation, wind direction, temperature, and solar insolation.

$$F1 > TF1 > F2$$

**MinMaxT Test:** This is a MinMax test for wind direction standard deviation with different ranges applied for high and low wind speeds. A wind direction standard deviation data value (TF1) is flagged either if it is less than Factor 1, if the wind speed

(TF2) is less than Factor 4 and the wind direction standard deviation is greater than Factor 2, or if the wind speed is greater than or equal to Factor 4 and the wind direction standard deviation is greater than Factor 3.

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{TF1} < \text{F1}) \\ & \text{or } (\text{TF2} < \text{F4} \text{ and } \text{TF1} > \text{F2}) \\ & \text{or } (\text{TF2} \geq \text{F4} \text{ and } \text{TF1} > \text{F3}) \end{aligned}$$

**Icing Test:** An icing event occurs when ice collects on a sensor and degrades its performance. Icing events are characterized by the simultaneous measurements of near-zero standard deviation of wind direction, non-zero wind speed, and near- or below-freezing temperatures. Wind speed, wind speed standard deviation, wind direction, and wind direction standard deviation data values are flagged if the wind direction standard deviation (CF1) is less than or equal to Factor 1 (F1), the wind speed (TF1) is greater than Factor 2 (F2), and the temperature (CF2) is less than Factor 3 (F3). To exit an icing event, the wind direction standard deviation must be greater than Factor 4.

$$\text{CF1} \leq \text{F1} \text{ and } \text{TF1} > \text{F2} \text{ and } \text{CF2} < \text{F3}$$

**CompareSensors Test:** Where primary and redundant sensors are used, it is possible to determine when one of the sensors is not performing properly. For anemometers, poor performance is characterized by low data values. Therefore, if one sensor of the pair reports values significantly below the other, the low values are flagged. At low wind speeds (Test Fields 1 and 2 less than or equal to Factor 3) wind speed data are flagged if the absolute difference between the two wind speeds is greater than Factor 1. At high wind speeds (Test Fields 1 or 2 greater than Factor 3) wind speed data are flagged if the absolute value of the ratio of the two wind speeds is greater is greater than Factor 2.

$$\begin{aligned} & [ \text{TF1} \leq \text{F3} \text{ and } \text{TF2} \leq \text{F3} \text{ and } \text{abs}(\text{TF1} - \text{TF2}) > \text{F1} ] \\ & \text{or } [ (\text{TF1} > \text{F3} \text{ or } \text{TF2} > \text{F3}) \text{ and } (\text{abs}(1 - \text{TF1} / \text{TF2}) > \text{F2} \text{ or } \text{abs}(1 - \text{TF2} / \text{TF1}) > \text{F2}) ] \end{aligned}$$

### Sensor Statistics

A summary of the results of the data collection and filtering are given in the Sensor Performance Report which is included in APPENDIX A. The following categories of information, tabulated for each sensor, are included in that report.

**Expected Data Points:** the total number of sample intervals between the start and end dates (inclusive).

**Actual Data Points:** the total number of data points recorded between the start and end dates.

**% Data Recovered:** the ratio of actual and expected data points (this is the *gross data recovered percentage*).

**Hours Out of Range:** total number of hours for which data were flagged according to MinMax and MinMaxT tests. These tests flag data which fall outside of an expected range.

**Hours of Icing:** total number of hours for which data were flagged according to Icing tests. This test uses the standard deviation of wind direction, air temperature, and wind speed to determine when sensor icing has occurred.

**Hours of Fault:** total number of hours for which data were flagged according to CompareSensors tests. These tests compare two sensors (e.g. primary and redundant anemometers installed at the same height) and flag data points where one sensor differs significantly from the other.

**% Data Good:** the filter results are subtracted from the gross data recovery percentage to yield the *net data recovered percentage*.

# APPENDIX A - Sensor Performance Report

## Test Definitions

Test Order	Test Field 1	Test Field 2	Test Field 3	Calc Field 1	Calc Field 2	Test Type	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3	Factor 4
1						TimeTest Insert	0	0	0	0
3	Batt2aVDC					MinMax	10.5	15	0	0
4	Etmp2aDEGC					MinMax	-30	60	0	0
5	EtmpSD2aDEGC					MinMax	-30	60	0	0
10	Anem49aMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
11	Anem49bMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
12	Anem38aMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
13	Anem38bMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
14	Anem49yMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
20	AnemSD49aMS					MinMax	0	4	0	0
21	AnemSD49bMS					MinMax	0	4	0	0
22	AnemSD38aMS					MinMax	0	4	0	0
23	AnemSD38bMS					MinMax	0	4	0	0
24	AnemSD49yMS					MinMax	0	4	0	0
30	Vane49aDEG					MinMax	0	359.9	0	0
31	Vane38aDEG					MinMax	0	359.9	0	0
50	Turb49zNONE					MinMax	0	2	0	0
51	Turb38zNONE					MinMax	0	2	0	0
200	VaneSD49aDEG	Anem49yMS				MinMaxT	0	100	100	10
201	VaneSD38aDEG	Anem38yMS				MinMaxT	0	100	100	10
300	Anem49aMS	AnemSD49aMS	Vane49aDEG	VaneSD49aDEG	Etmp2aDEGC	Icing	0.5	1	2	4
301	Anem49bMS	AnemSD49bMS	Vane49aDEG	VaneSD49aDEG	Etmp2aDEGC	Icing	0.5	1	2	4
302	Anem38aMS	AnemSD38aMS	Vane38aDEG	VaneSD38aDEG	Etmp2aDEGC	Icing	0.5	1	2	4
303	Anem38bMS	AnemSD38aMS	Vane38aDEG	VaneSD38aDEG	Etmp2aDEGC	Icing	0.5	1	2	4
400	Anem49aMS	Anem49bMS				Compare Sensors	1	0.25	3	0
401	Anem38aMS	Anem38bMS				Compare Sensors	1	0.25	3	0
500	Amax49aMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
501	Amax49bMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
502	Amax38aMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
503	Amax38bMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
504	Amin49aMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
505	Amin49bMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
506	Amin38aMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
507	Amin38bMS					MinMax	0	90	0	0
510	Vmax49aDEG					MinMax	0	359.9	0	0
511	Vmax38aDEG					MinMax	0	359.9	0	0
512	Vmin49aDEG					MinMax	0	359.9	0	0
513	Vmin38aDEG					MinMax	0	359.9	0	0
520	Etmpmax2aDEGC					MinMax	-30	60	0	0
521	Etmpmin2aDEGC					MinMax	-30	60	0	0

### Sensor Statistics

Sensor	Expected Data Points	Actual Data Points	% Data Recovered	Hours Out of Range	Hours of Icing	Hours of Fault	% Data Good
Etmp2aDEGC	13248	13247	99.992	0	0	0	99.992
Anem49aMS	13248	13247	99.992	0	0	0.833	99.955
Anem49bMS	13248	13247	99.992	0	0	0	99.992
Anem35aMS	13248	13247	99.992	0	0	2.333	99.887
Anem25aMS	13248	13247	99.992	0	0	0	99.992
Vane49aDEG	13248	13247	99.992	1.167	0	0	99.94
Vane35aDEG	13248	13247	99.992	0.5	0	0	99.97
Total	92736	92729	99.992	1.667	0	3.167	99.961

## APPENDIX B - Plot Data

### Wind Speed Distribution Data

Bin Center Wind Speed [m/s]	June – Aug. 2009 [%]
0.5	3.5
1.5	6.91
2.5	17.05
3.5	26.58
4.5	21.72
5.5	12.14
6.5	6.69
7.5	3.06
8.5	1.57
9.5	0.58
10.5	0.17
11.5	0.04
12.5	0
13.5	0
14.5	0
15.5	0
16.5	0
17.5	0
18.5	0
19.5	0
20.5	0
21.5	0
22.5	0
23.5	0
24.5	0

### Monthly Average Wind Speed Data

Date	Wind Speed at 49 m 10 min Average [m/s]
March	5.09
April	5.48
May	4.45
June	3.9
July	4.26
August	3.81

### **Diurnal Average Wind Speed Data**

Hour of Day	June – Aug. 2009 Mean Wind Speed [m/s]
0.5	3.86
1.5	3.88
2.5	3.92
3.5	3.98
4.5	3.83
5.5	3.59
6.5	3.37
7.5	3.48
8.5	3.67
9.5	3.78
10.5	3.97
11.5	4.2
12.5	4.38
13.5	4.63
14.5	4.81
15.5	4.64
16.5	4.47
17.5	4.26
18.5	3.88
19.5	3.81
20.5	3.72
21.5	3.82
22.5	3.89
23.5	3.88

### Wind Rose Data

Direction	June – Aug. 2009	
	Percent Time [%]	Mean Wind Speed [m/s]
N	6.38	4.33
NNE	7.27	4.38
NE	5.61	3.54
ENE	3.23	3.86
E	2.48	3.41
ESE	3.6	3.57
SE	5.59	3.93
SSE	4.72	3.57
S	5.02	3.43
SSW	14.18	4.28
SW	16.53	4.47
WSW	6.98	3.67
W	5.05	4.02
WNW	4.46	3.82
NW	4.51	3.89
NNW	4.4	3.39