Wind energy & power

Energy: resource (wind origin and potential)

Power : electricity generation through turbines

Wind Energy – 1. Resources

Learning objectives

- explain the different active forces that cause 'wind'
 (pressure gradient; Coriolis; centrifugal; surface roughness)
- describe the wind speed (probability) distribution at an exploitation site

Origin & gross potential of wind energy

Large-scale movement of air mass in the atmosphere, created primarily by differential solar heating of the Earth's atmosphere;

= **secondary solar** energy

Ca. 2% of the incident solar energy on Earth's surface (3.85 10²⁴ J/yr) is converted in kinetic wind energy.

Ca. 35% of this is available in a 1 km layer above ground level.

Assume we could harness 1% of this energy on land areas (30% of the planet's surface).

We'll see that efficiency is ca. 40%, and the load factor ca. 20%.

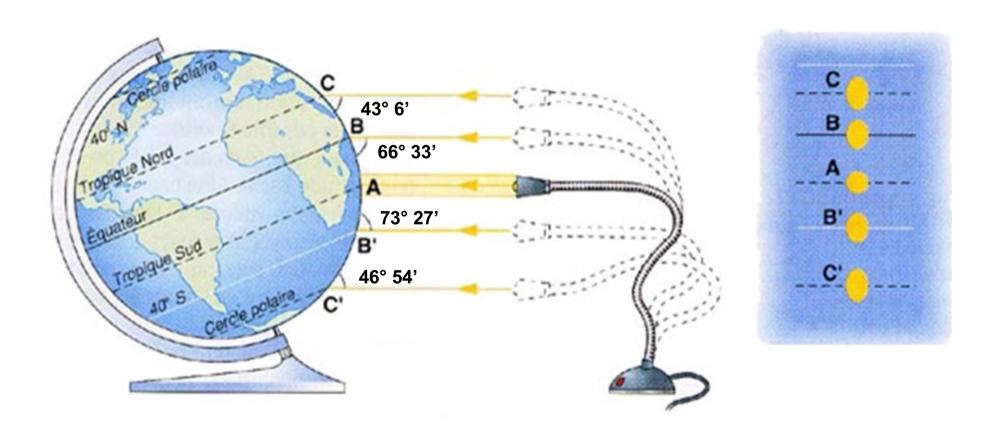
 $0.02*0.35*0.3*0.01*0.40*0.20*3.85 10^{24}$ J/yr = 6.4 10¹⁸J/yr = 1800 TWh_{el}/yr ~ 7% of the current world electricity consumption (25'000 TWh)

Rem: production in 2020 was ~1600 TWh already!

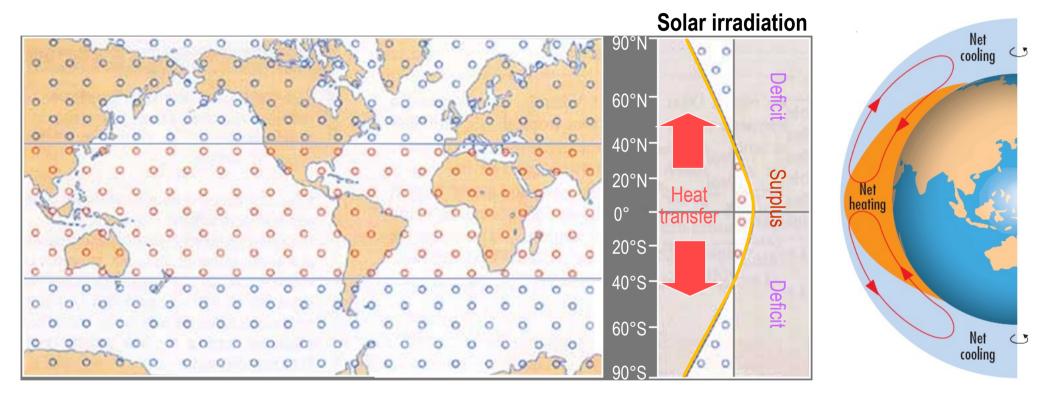
Origin : $\Delta T => \Delta P$

The sunrays cover a greater area at the **poles** than at the **equator** \rightarrow lower energy density is received at ground level at the poles \Rightarrow lower heating \Rightarrow lower T

This generates pressure gradients that set air in motion.



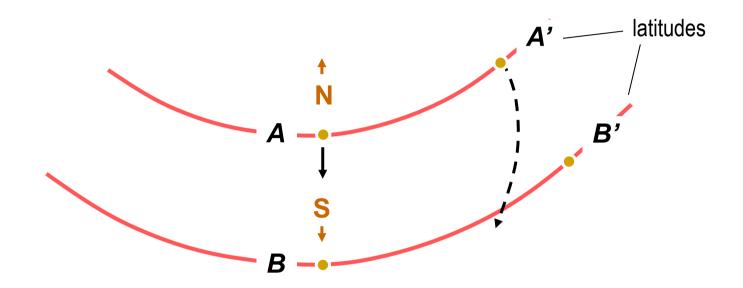
1st approximation model of the air circulation



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHrapzHPCSA&feature=related

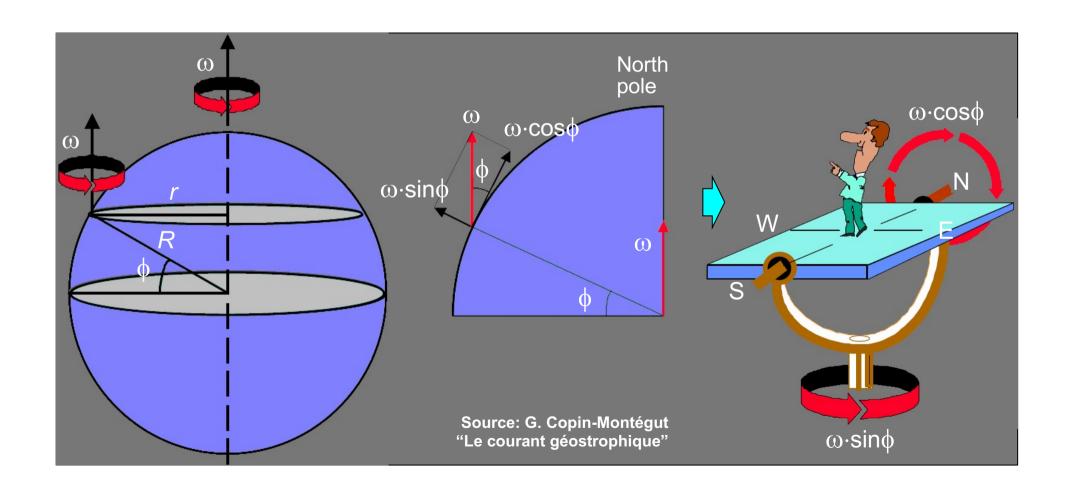
... oversimplistic, because it doesn't take into account the effect of the terrestrial rotation in particular

Terrestrial rotation effect



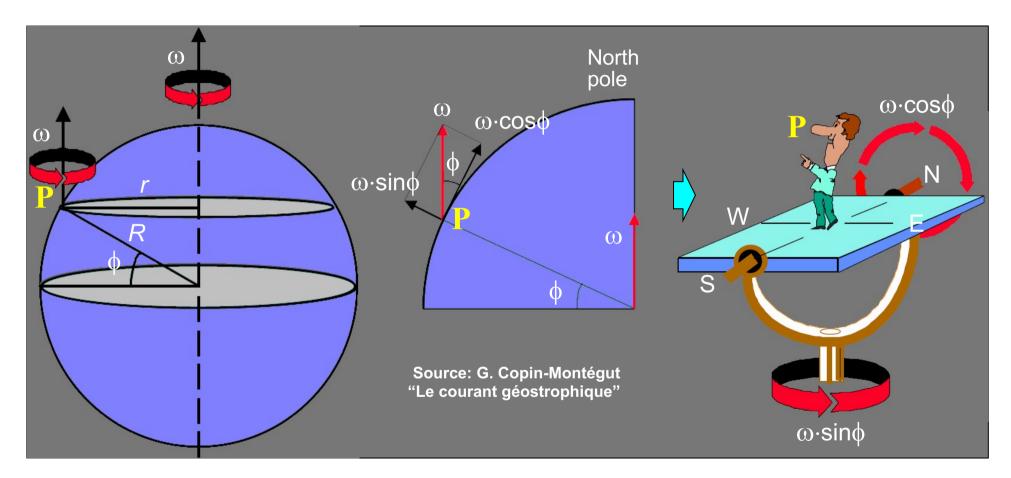
With air moving south from *A* to *B*, the speed of the air will remain constant with respect to the ground (ignoring air friction), but the direction will change, because of the earth's rotation under this air.

Reminder of axes definition



Terrestrial rotation

Point P rotates on itself with the terrestrial angular speed ω ; viewed from P, it behaves like a center of rotation itself, around which its environment turns with the same angular speed.



linear speed of object or observer at point P at latitude ϕ :

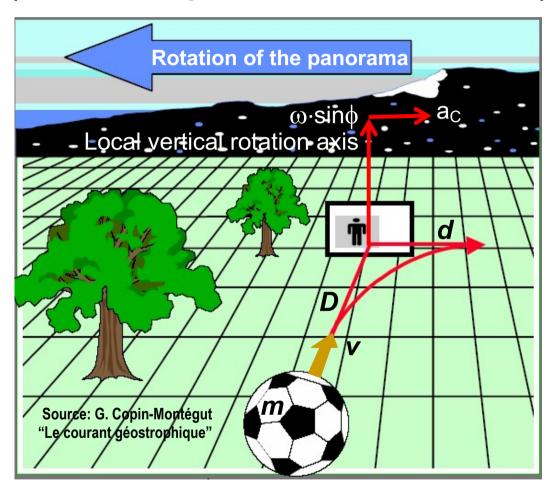
$$v = \omega . r = \omega . R. \cos \phi$$

For an observer in point P (at latitude ϕ), the observed rotation will be seen as a combination of

- the rotation around a **local** vertical axis (ω .sin ϕ), and
- the rotation around a **local** horizontal north-south axis $(\omega.\cos\phi)$

Coriolis force: example

(horizontal displacement v in N-S direction)



Coriolis force:
$$F_C = m \cdot 2v \cdot \omega \cdot \sin \phi$$

- 1. Travel time of the ball from shooter to target (north -> south): $\Delta t = D/v$
- 2. Deviation d of the ball from target:
- $= \Delta t$ times Earth's rotational speed (the panorama rotates around the local vertical axis $\omega \sin \phi$ in this case)

$$d = D \cdot \omega \cdot \sin \phi \cdot \Delta t$$
$$= v \cdot \omega \cdot \sin \phi \cdot \Delta t^2$$

3. Introducing acceleration a:

$$d = \int_{0}^{\Delta t} v \, dt = \int_{0}^{\Delta t} a \cdot t \, dt = a \cdot \Delta t^{2}/2$$

4. Combining 2. and 3. we have:

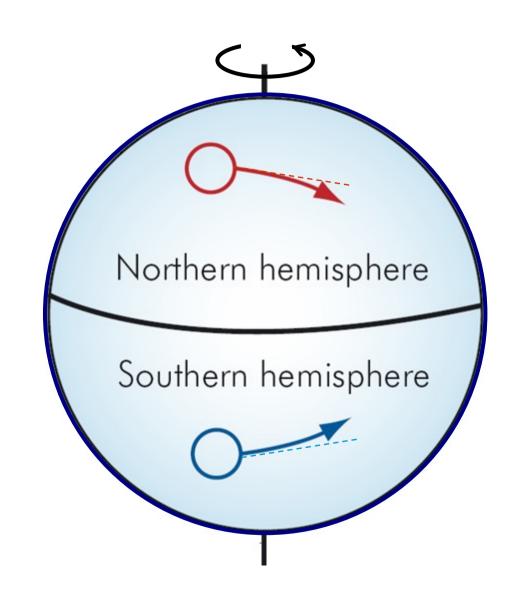
5. Coriolis acceleration:

$$a_{\rm C} = 2v \cdot \omega \cdot \sin \phi$$

General outcome of the Coriolis effect:

deviation to the right of the trajectory in the Northern hemisphere

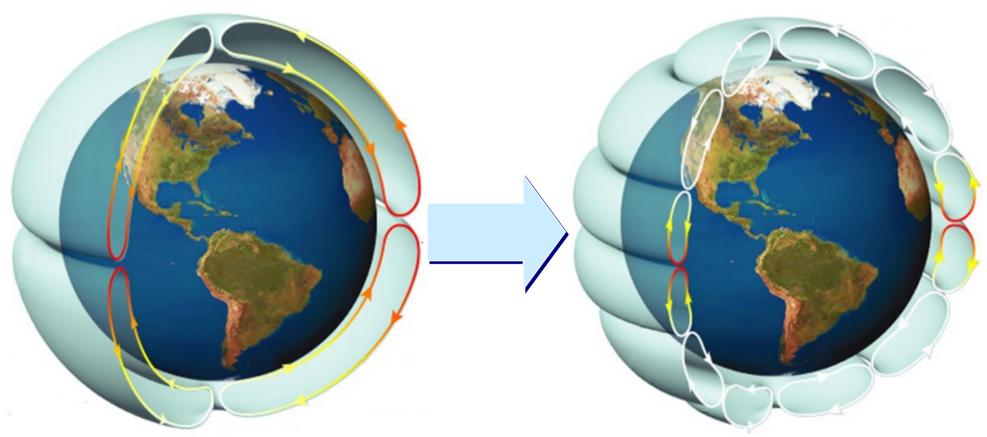
deviation to the left of the trajectory in the Southern hemisphere



The Coriolis effect breaks up global air circulation

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHrapzHPCSA&feature=related

Source: Wichita.edu "Planetary atmospheres"



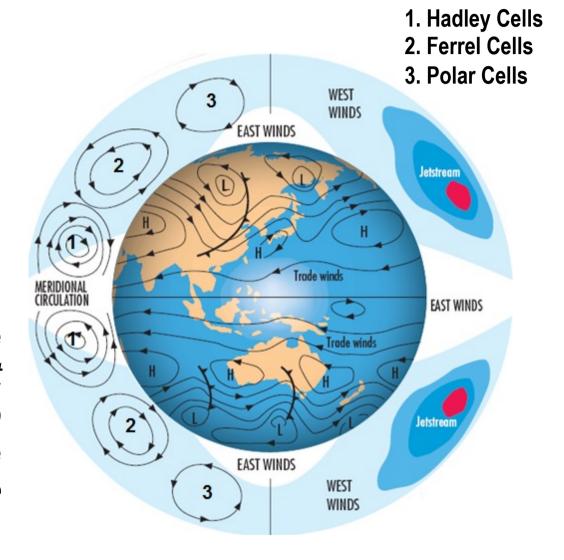
Very simplistic global circulation model

More realistic global circulation model => 'convection cells'

Global circulation model

The terrestrial rotation (surface speed 1670 km/h at the equator, decreasing to zero at the poles) influences air circulation such as to create convection cells (3 per hemisphere).

The airflow from the equator to the poles is deflected towards the *east* and the return flow from the poles to the equator is deflected towards the *west*, producing the so-called *Trade Winds* ("alizés").



Wind 'cells' and dominant winds

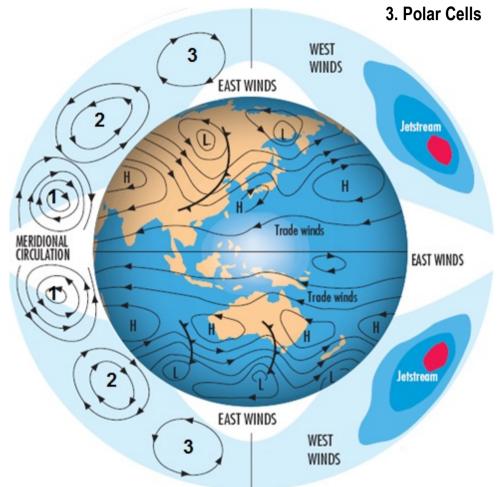
- 1. Hadley Cells
- 2. Ferrel Cells

Coriolis effect:

- Strong at the poles $(\sin \phi \approx 1)$
- Weak at the equator $(\sin \phi \approx 0)$

Dominant winds

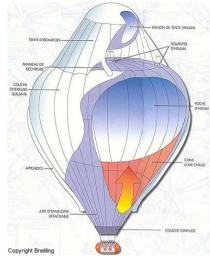
Latitude	90-60°N	60-30°N	30-0°N
Direction	NE	SW	NE
Latitude	0-30°S	30-60°S	60-90°S
Direction	SE	NW	SE

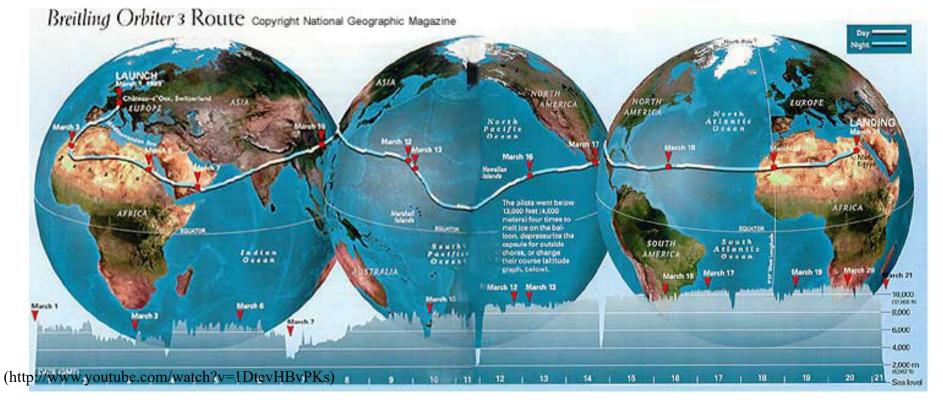


'Jet streams'

The most regular and persistent winds are found at an altitude of ≈10 km ("jet streams") (cf. the circumterrestrial flight of the hot air balloon "Breitling Orbiter 3" exploited these winds).



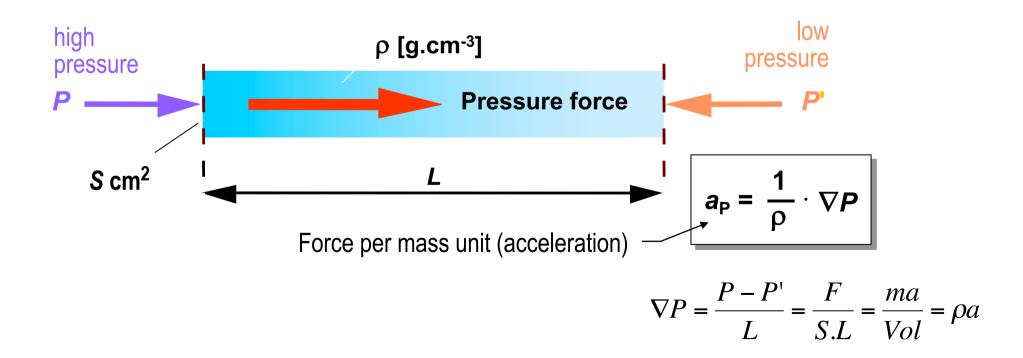




Convection cells → high & low pressure zones

The areas of the globe where air is descending are zones of <u>high pressure</u>. Where air is ascending, <u>low-pressure</u> zones are formed.

This horizontal <u>pressure gradient</u> drives the flow of air from high to low pressure → this determines the acceleration and initial direction of the wind motion.



Pressure force / Coriolis force balance

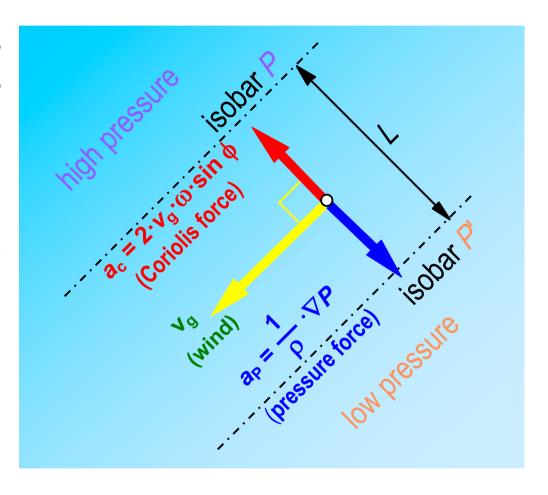
As soon as wind motion is established, the deflective Coriolis force is activated.

In equilibrium, for straight isobars, the Coriolis force balances the pressure gradient force and the flow becomes parallel to the isobars

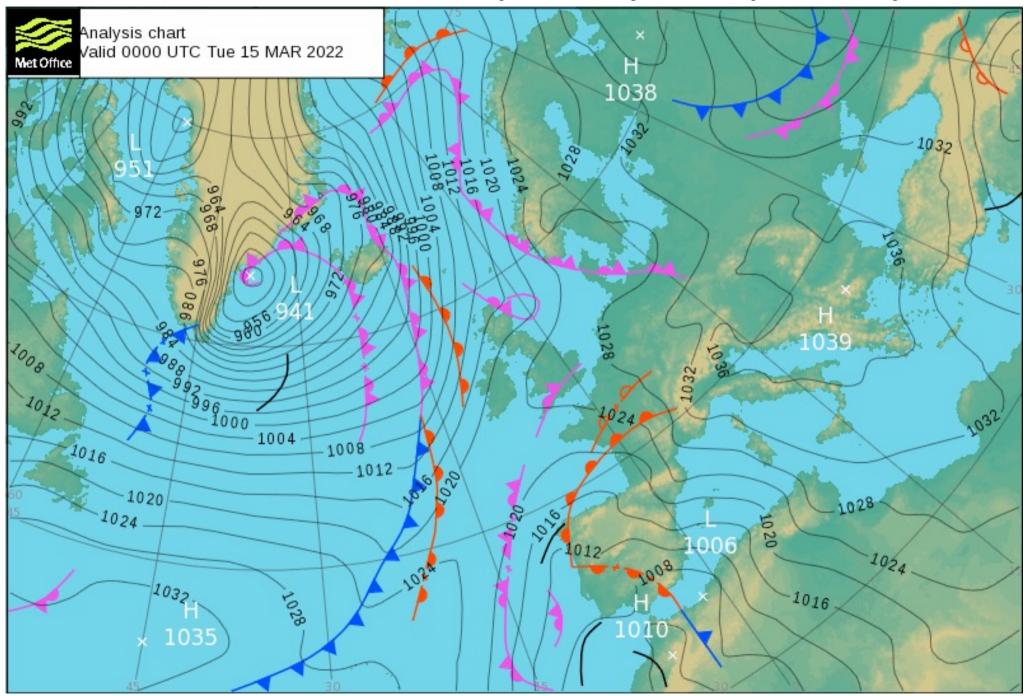
$$a_{\rm C} = 2v \cdot \omega \cdot \sin \phi$$
 $a_{\rm P} = \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla P$

Stationary case (force equilibrium):

$$v_{g} = \frac{\nabla P}{2 \cdot \rho \cdot \omega \cdot \sin \phi}$$



Remember that the Coriolis force (or acceleration) acts at an angle 90° to the right of the trajectory



Numerical example:

Earth's angular speed ω = 1 rotation per day = 2* Π / 24h = 6.28 rad / (24x3600 seconds) = 0.00007272 rad/s

Say we have a pressure difference of 10 mbar over 1000 km distance (cf. the previous map): 10 mbar = 1000 Pa

 \Rightarrow The pressure gradient is 1000 Pa / 1000 km = 1000 / 1'000'000 m = 0.001

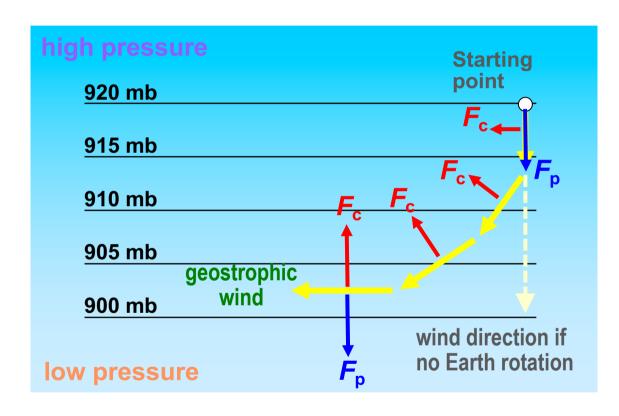
So the geostropic wind speed, with the formula $v_g = \frac{\nabla P}{2 \cdot \rho \cdot \omega \cdot \sin \phi}$

equals,

at 45° latitude (ϕ) and with air density ρ 1.22 kg/m³ :

 $v_q = 0.001 / (2 * 1.22 * 0.00007272 * \sin (45^\circ)) = 8 \text{ m/s}$

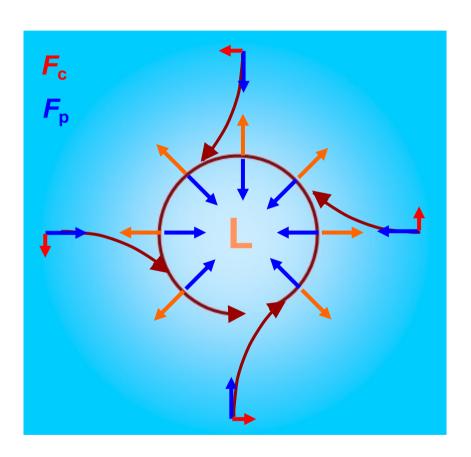
→ Geostrophic wind



In this model of wind flow in the Northern Hemisphere, wind begins as a flow of air perpendicular to the isobars under the primary influence of the pressure gradient force (F_p) ; as the movement begins, the Coriolis force (F_c) influences the moving air causing it to deflect to the right.

The deflection continues until the <u>pressure gradient and Coriolis forces are opposite</u> and in balance with each other \rightarrow <u>geostrophic wind</u>

A 3^{rd} force, centrifugal force F_R , adds to the pressure F_P (1st) & Coriolis F_C (2nd) forces



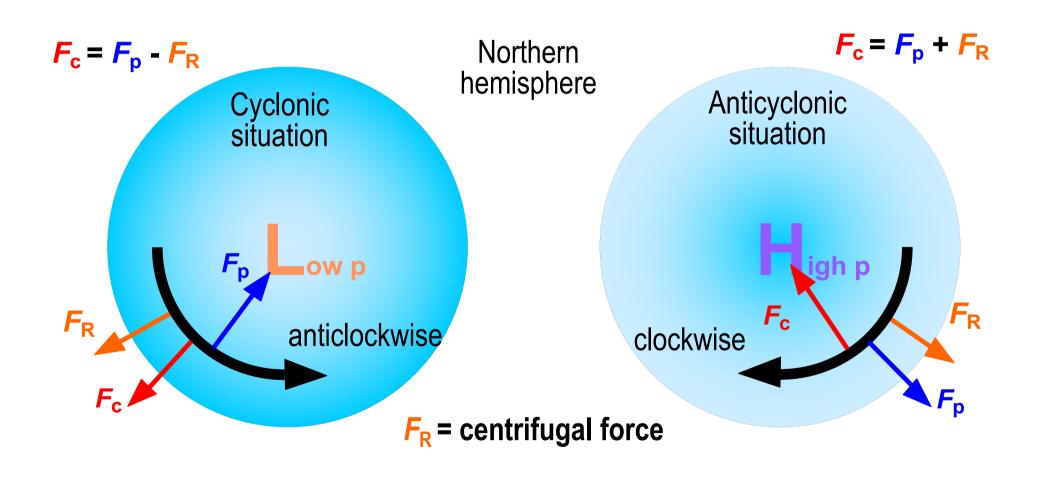
The rotary direction of mid-latitude cyclones (northern hemisphere) is thus anti-clockwise

Schematic representation of the air flow around a low-pressure area (cyclonic flow) in the Northern hemisphere

Mostly, isobars are not straight but curved - > this causes **centrifugal forces** to be taken into account.

Winds in this case become *gradient winds*

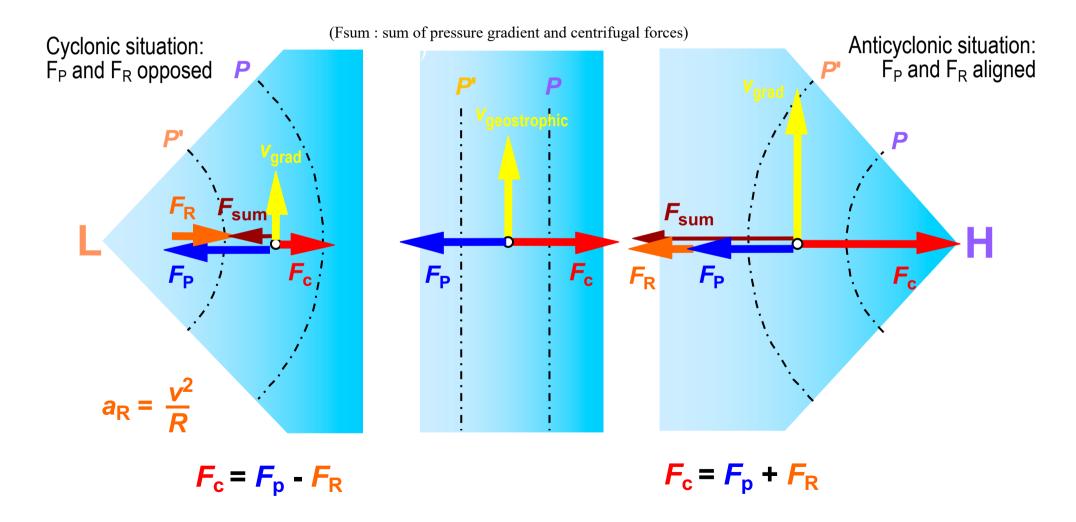
Gradient wind: 3 force components



Gradient wind result

$$v_{gradient} = v_{geostrophic} \bigcirc \frac{v_{gradient}}{2R\omega\sin\phi}$$

$$v_{gradient} = v_{geostrophic} + \frac{v_{gradient}}{2R\omega\sin\phi}$$

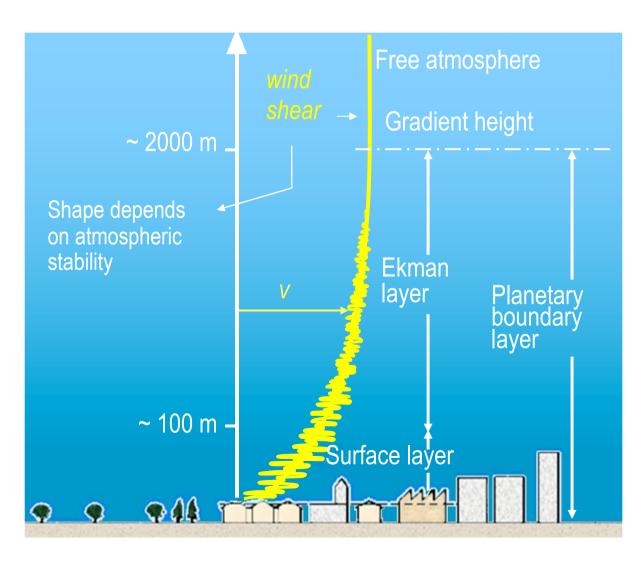


Earth surface roughness effect

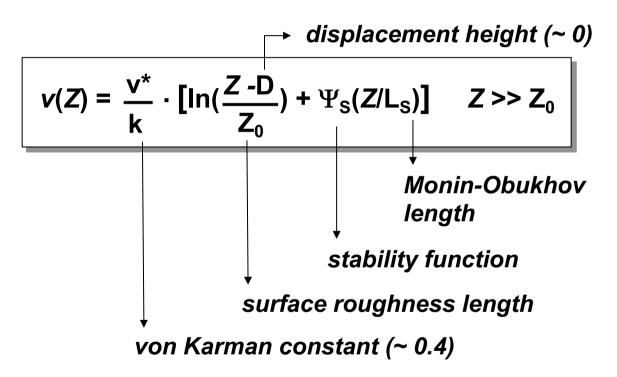
In low altitudes, the wind speed and direction become more and more influenced by frictional forces on the Earth's surface.

This region is known as the *planetary boundary layer*; its height varies from a few 100 m at night to a max of 2 km on the most convective days.

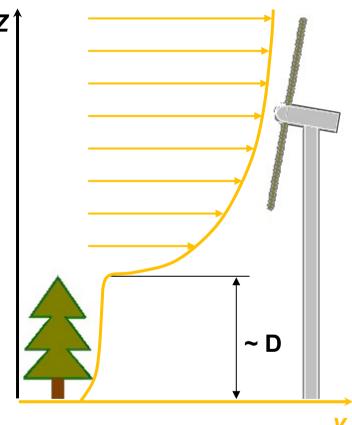
The lower layers of air retard those above them until the shear forces (forces parallel to the ground) are gradually reduced to zero.



Mathematical expression of the *logarithmic law* for the variation of wind speed with height *Z*:



v*: friction velocity

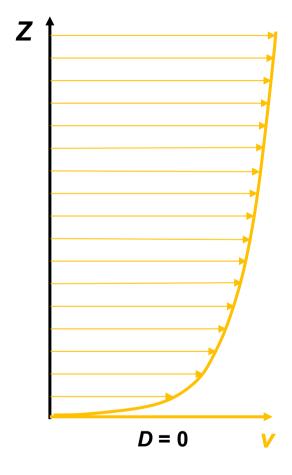


Mathematical expression of the logarithmic law for the variation of wind speed with height *Z*:

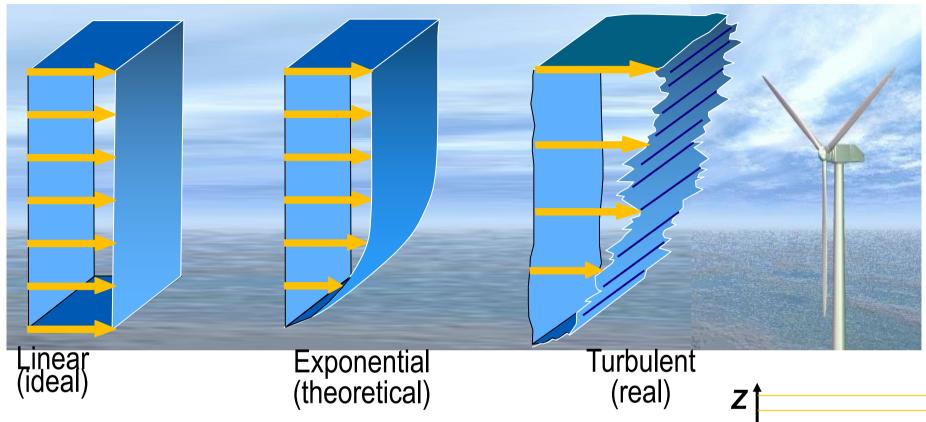
$$v(Z) = \frac{v^*}{k} \cdot \left[\ln(\frac{Z - D}{Z_0}) + \Psi_S(Z/L_S) \right] \quad Z >> Z_0$$

For a neutrally stable atmosphere (usual conditions for the higher wind speeds associated with wind turbine operation):

$$v(Z) = \frac{v^*}{k} \cdot \ln(\frac{Z}{Z_0}) \qquad Z >> Z_0$$

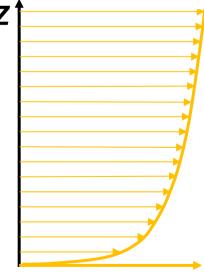


Representations of the horizontal components of the wind velocity



For a neutrally stable atmosphere (= the usual conditions for the higher wind speeds associated with wind turbine operation):

$$v(Z) = \frac{v^*}{k} \cdot \ln(\frac{Z}{Z_0}) \qquad Z >> Z_0$$
constant (~0.4) surface roughness length



Evaluating wind speed close to ground

$$v(Z) = \frac{v^*}{k} \cdot \ln(\frac{Z}{Z_0}) \qquad Z >> Z_0$$

v* is the *friction velocity* (proportional to the square root of the turbulent shear stress), assumed constant in the lower boundary layer; since v* is difficult to evaluate, the logarithmic law is usually rewritten in terms of a reference wind speed $v(Z_r)$, at reference height Z_r :

$$v(Z) = v(Z_r) \cdot \left(\frac{\ln (Z/Z_0)}{\ln (Z_r/Z_0)}\right) \quad Z >> Z_0$$

This equation is valid up to heights of about 100 m, which is sufficient for application to most current wind turbines.

Surface roughness length Z_0

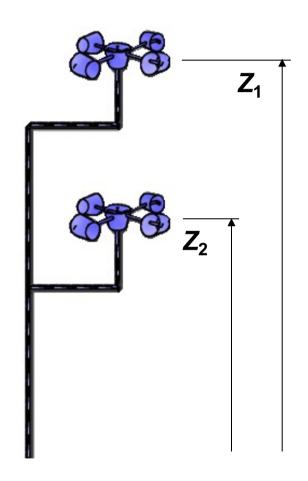
Type of terrain	Typical value of Z ₀ [m]
Mud Flats, Ice	10 ⁻⁵ to 3x10 ⁻⁵
Calm Sea	2x10 ⁻⁴ to 3x10 ⁻⁴
Sand	2x10 ⁻⁴ to 10 ⁻³
Mown Grass	0.001 to 0.01
Low Grass	0.01 to 0.04
Fallow Field	0.02 to 0.03
High Grass	0.04 to 0.1
Forest and Woodland	0.1 to 1
Built up area, Suburb	1 to 2
City	1 to 4

Approximation:

 $Z_0 \approx h/30$

with h = average height of roughness elements

Measuring roughness Z_0



$$v(Z) = v(Z_r) \cdot \left(\frac{\ln (Z/Z_0)}{\ln (Z_r/Z_0)}\right) Z >> Z_0$$

The roughness length Z_0 can be calculated directly if measurements are made simultaneously at two different heights, Z_1 and Z_2

Given that (with $Z=Z_1$ and $Z_r=Z_2$):

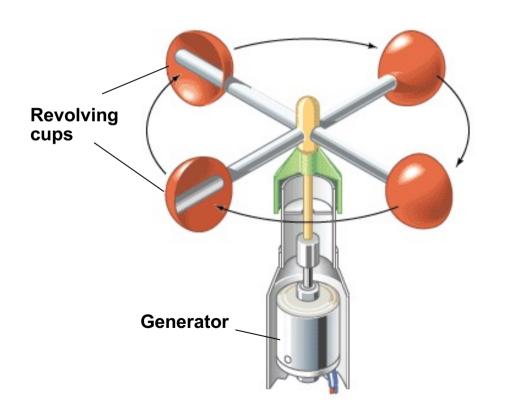
$$v(Z_1) \cdot \ln(Z_2/Z_0) = v(Z_2) \cdot \ln(Z_1/Z_0)$$

we get (expanding the logarithms):

In
$$(Z_0) = \frac{v(Z_1) \cdot \ln (Z_2) - v(Z_2) \cdot \ln (Z_1)}{v(Z_1) - v(Z_2)}$$

Anemometers

The measurement of wind **speeds** is done using a *cup anemometer*: a vertical axis and 3-4 cups that capture the wind; the rpm is registered electronically.



The anemometer is fitted with a wind vane to detect the wind direction; instead of cups, anemometers may be fitted with propellers.

Other types exist:

ultrasonic or laser anemometer,

hot wire anemometer

Measuring wind

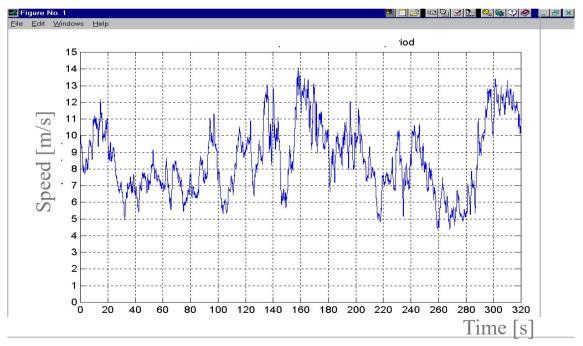
To be able to predict the performance of a wind turbine at a particular site, the developer must know the **characteristics** of this resource at the location in question **Speed** Wind statistics

Speed variation time scales:

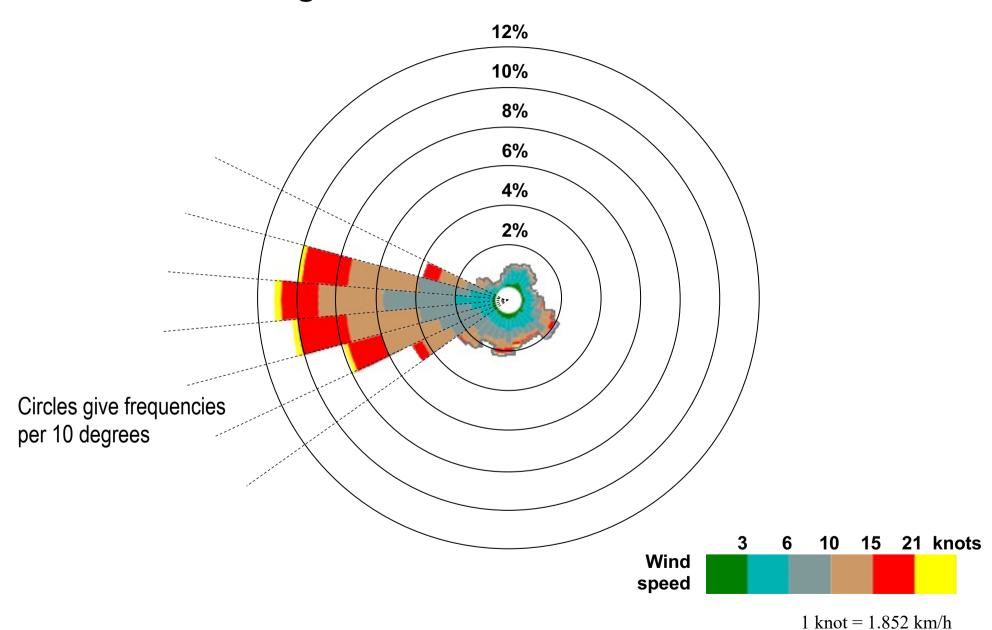
- 1. year
- 2. season
- 3. synoptic (= a passing weather system)
- 4. day
- 5. seconds (turbulence)

Influences on:

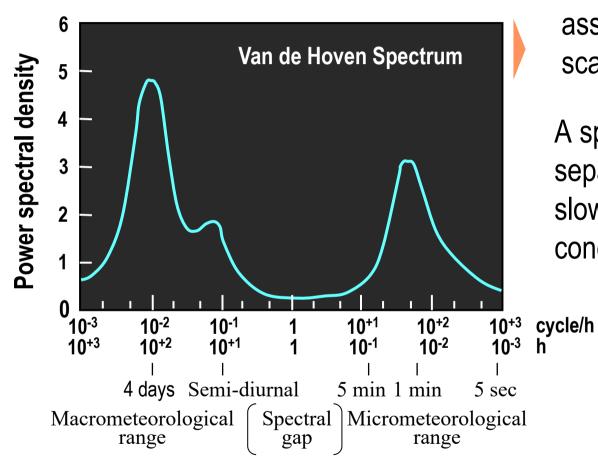
- Generation of energy forecasts (scales 1 and 2)
- Wind turbine design (all scales)



'Wind rose' diagram



Wind spectrum



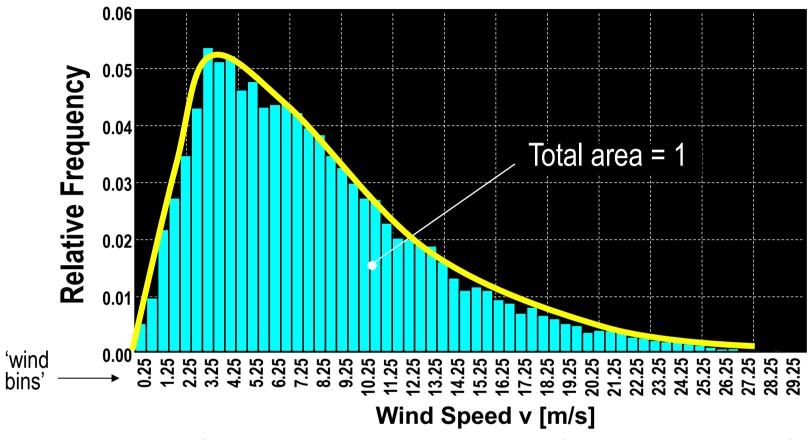
Variation in wind speed is associated with a particular timescale or frequency.

A spectral gap, 10 minutes to 1 h, separates turbulent variation from slower variations ('steady conditions').

Time averaged wind speed values over an interval *T*:

$$\overline{v} = \frac{1}{T} \int_{t_0 - \frac{T}{2}}^{t_0 + \frac{T}{2}} v(t) dt$$

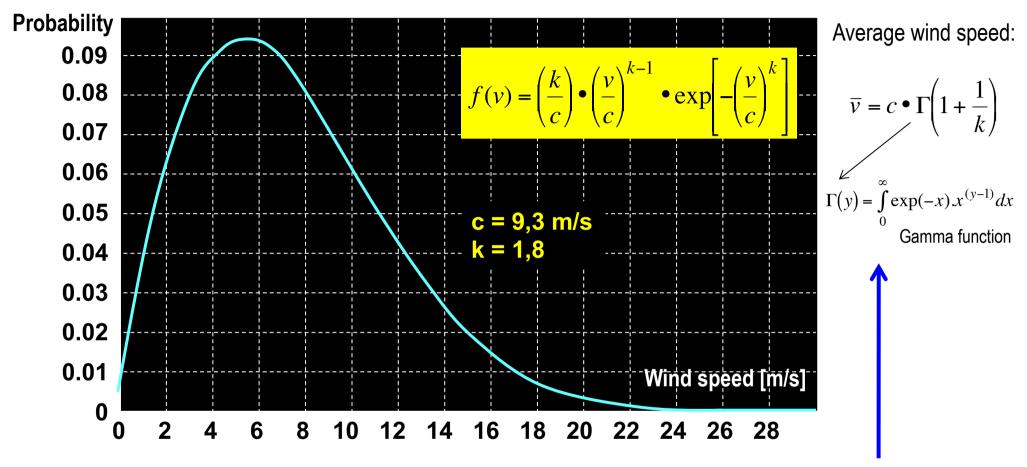
→ Wind speed distribution



A suitable **probability** distribution for the wind speed v is required. The frequency distribution of wind speeds at most sites can be well represented by the two-parameter Weibull probability density function:

$$f(v) = \left(\frac{k}{c}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^{k-1} \cdot \exp\left[-\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^k\right]$$
 c: scale parameter k: shape parameter

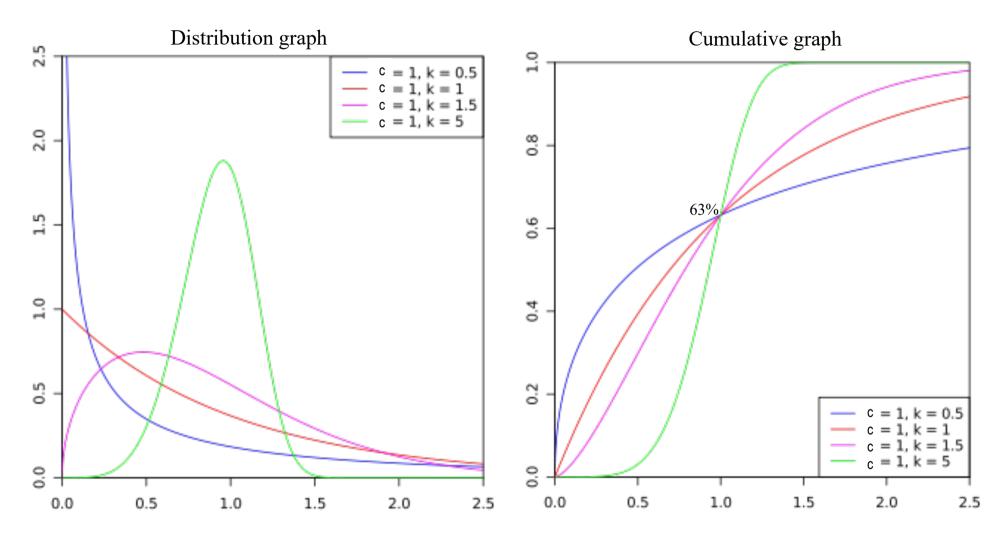
Weibull distribution



The *scale parameter* **c** is directly related to the **mean value of the wind speed v**_{avg} on the considered site (in the example graph: 63% of speeds are below 9.3 m/s, 37% are above).

The **shape parameter** k is related to the **variance** of the wind speed: $\sigma^2 = c^2 \left| \left(1 + \frac{2}{k} \right) - \left(\Gamma \left(1 + \frac{1}{k} \right) \right)^2 \right|$

Effect of the shape parameter k



Typical values for k at wind sites = 2

Estimation of Weibull parameters k and c

$$f(v) = \left(\frac{k}{c}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^{k-1} \cdot \exp\left[-\left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^{k}\right]$$

$$\downarrow \log$$

$$\downarrow \log$$

$$\ln[-\ln(P)] = k(\ln(v^*) - \ln(c))$$

$$\ln(v^*)$$
Intercept = - k ln(c)

Slope = k

$$P = \text{probability for } (v > v^*)$$

= $\exp[-(v^*/c)^k]$

Alternatively, approximate formulas can be used:

for $1.6 \le k \le 3.0$:

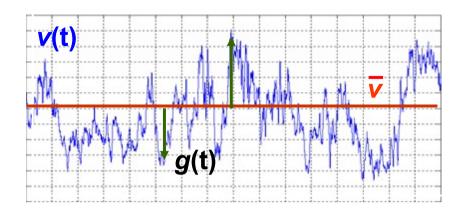
$$c \approx \frac{2\overline{v}}{\sqrt{\pi}}$$

for $1.8 \le k \le 2.3$:

$$k \approx \frac{3}{2} \frac{c^3}{\left\langle v^3 \right\rangle} \sqrt{\pi}$$

Turbulences

Short term turbulent variations in wind speed (wind 'gusts') are also important in the design and evaluation of wind turbines and systems.



For simplicity, the instantaneous wind speed v(t) can be seen as comprising a quasi-steady component \overline{v} and turbulent fluctuations, g(t), about this mean value: $v(t) = \overline{v} + g(t)$

An indication of the 'gustiness' is given by the *turbulence intensity* I_{α} :

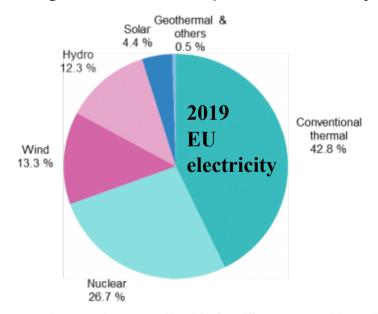
$$I_g = \frac{\sigma_g}{\overline{v}} \longrightarrow \sigma_g^2 = \langle g^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{T_{avg}} \int_0^{T_{avg}} [v(t) - \overline{v}]^2 dt$$

Note: ten minutes is a reasonable averaging time T_{avg} since it lies within the spectral gap (i.e. separates the turbulent regime from the more steady longer-term behaviour)

Wind power potential (Europe)

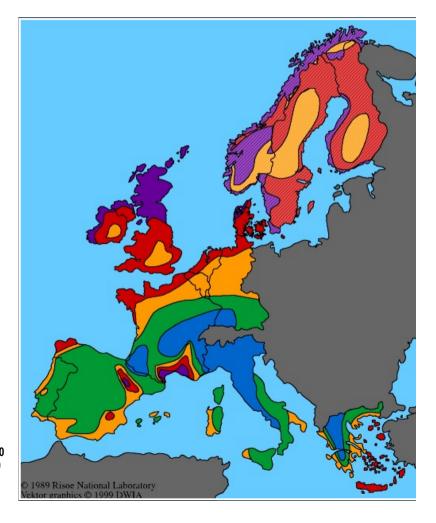
Exploitation is already important in Germany, Italy, Spain, Denmark,... A remaining potential for further development exists in many European countries. Installed capacity increases by >15%/yr every year.

Presently installed (2021): **236 GW**Delivering **14%** of Europe's electricity.

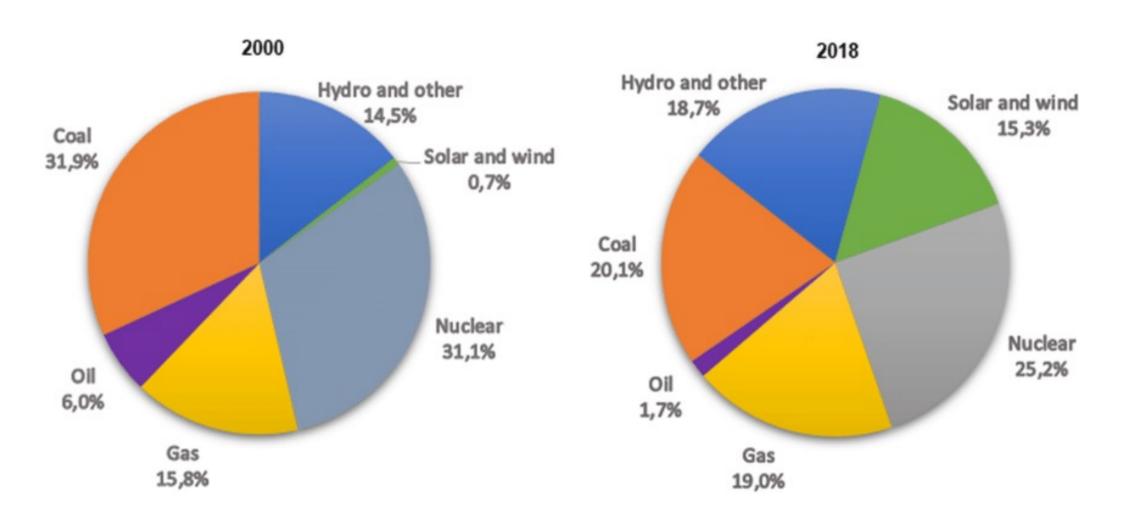


Wind Resources at 50 metres above ground level for five different topographic conditions

	Sheltered terrain		Open plain		At sea cost		Open sea		Hills and ridges	
	[m·s ⁻¹]	[W·m ⁻²]								
	> 6.0	> 250	> 7.5	> 500	> 8.5	> 700	> 9.0	> 800	> 11.5	> 1800
	5.0-6.0	150-250	6.5-7.5	300-500	7.0-8.5	400-700	8.0-9.0	600-800	10.0-11.5	1200-1800
	4.5-5.0	100-150	5.5-6.5	200-300	6.0-7.0	250-400	7.0-8.0	400-600	8.5-10.0	700-1200
	3.5-4.5	50-100	4.5-5.5	100-200	5.0-6.0	150-250	5.5-7.0	200-400	7.0-8.5	400-700
	< 3.5	< 50	< 4.5	< 100	< 5.0	< 150	< 5.5	< 200	< 7.0	< 400



Evolution 2000-2018 (EU power generation)



2nd installed power capacity after gas, before coal, hydro and nuclear!

Cumulative power capacity in the European Union 2005-2016

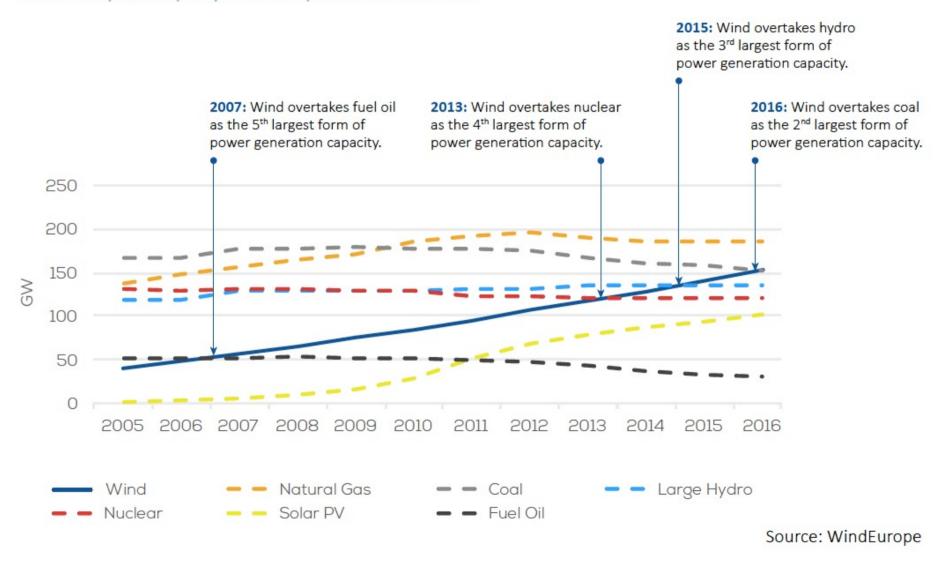
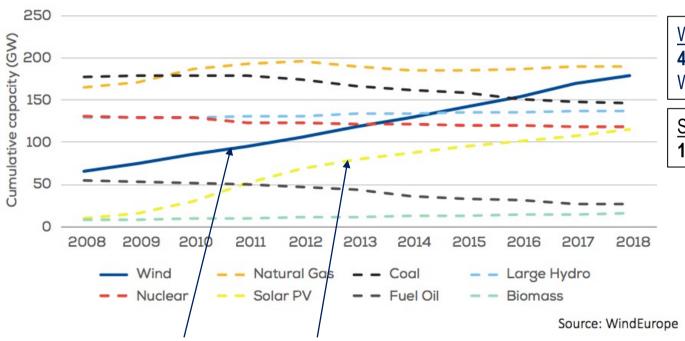


FIGURE 1
Total power generation capacity in the European Union 2008-2018



growth in Wind + Solar PV

2020: +14.7 GW in 2020

+105 GW in 2021-2025

Wind: EU 220 GWe

458 TWhe (15% of Europe's electricity)

World: 732 GWe

Solar Europe: 137 GWe

150 TWhe (5% of Europe's electricity)

+16.5 GWe in 2020

Solar worldtotal:

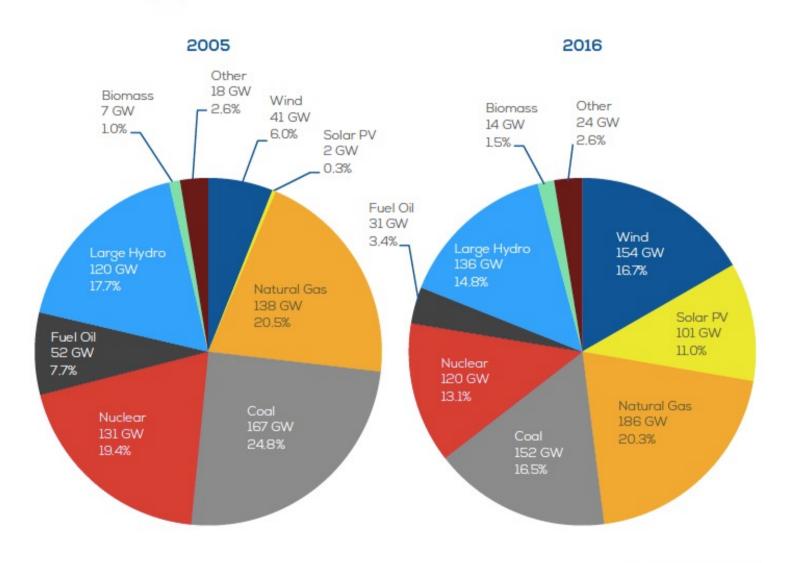
710 GWe

+140 GWe in 2020

Hydro (world): 1212 GWe

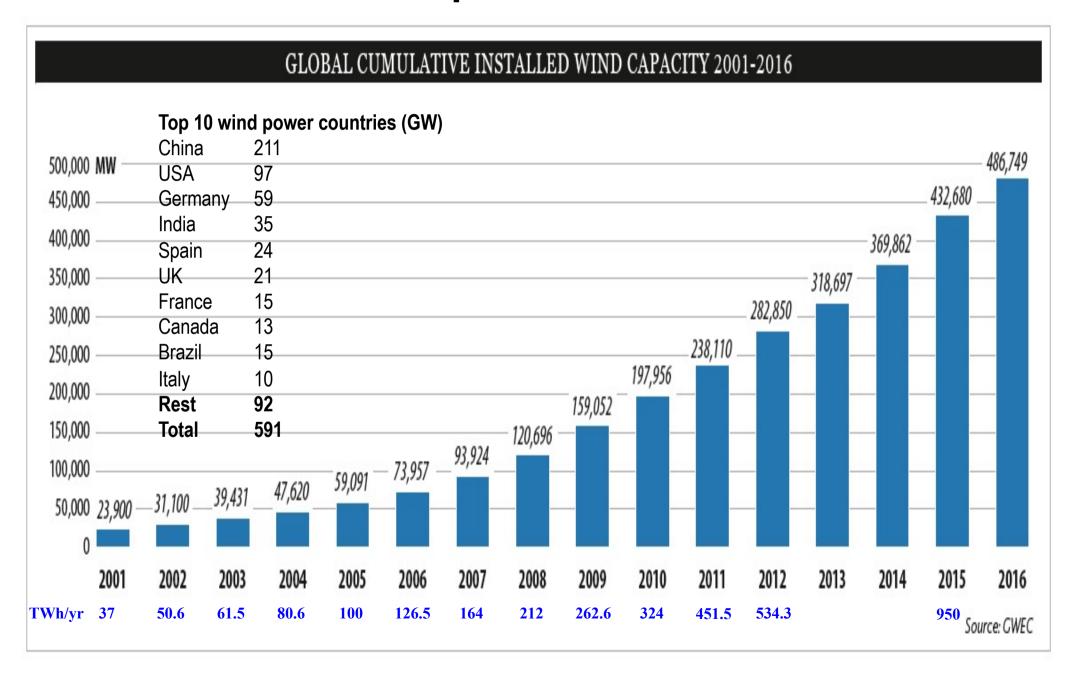
The trend towards renewable power (Europe)

Share in installed capacity in 2005 and 2016

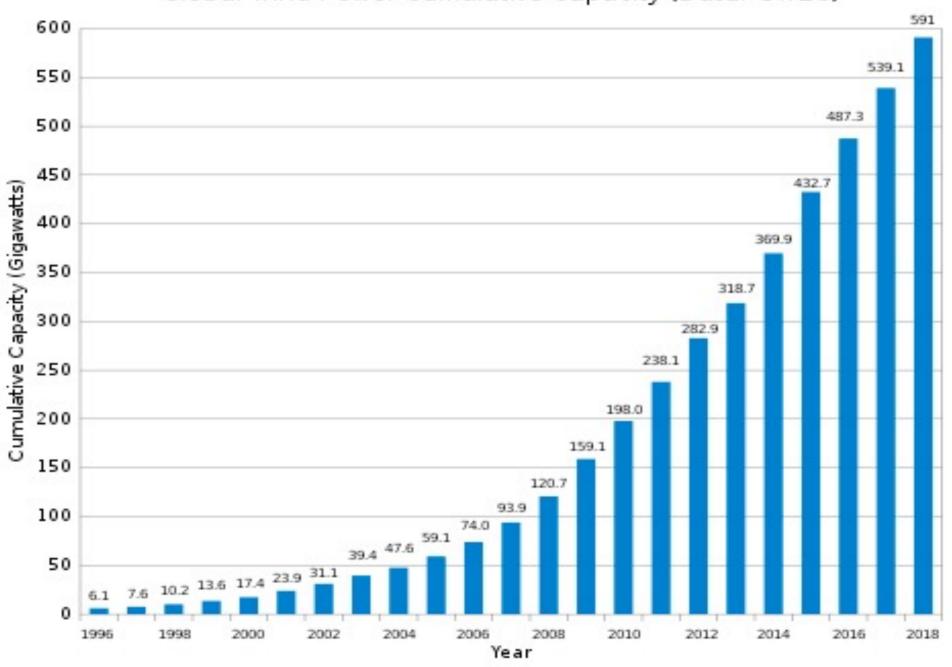


Source: WindEurope

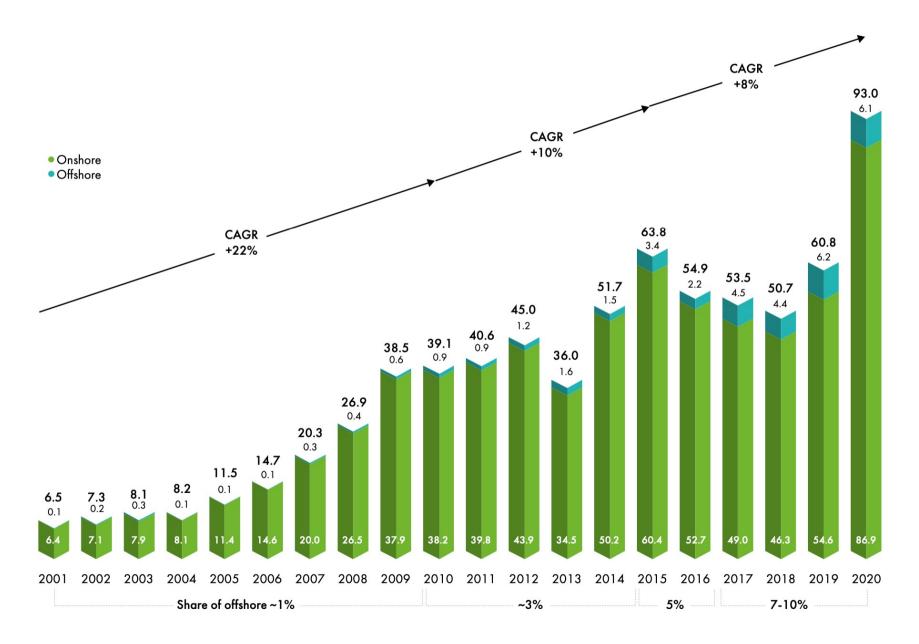
A continuous rise in power



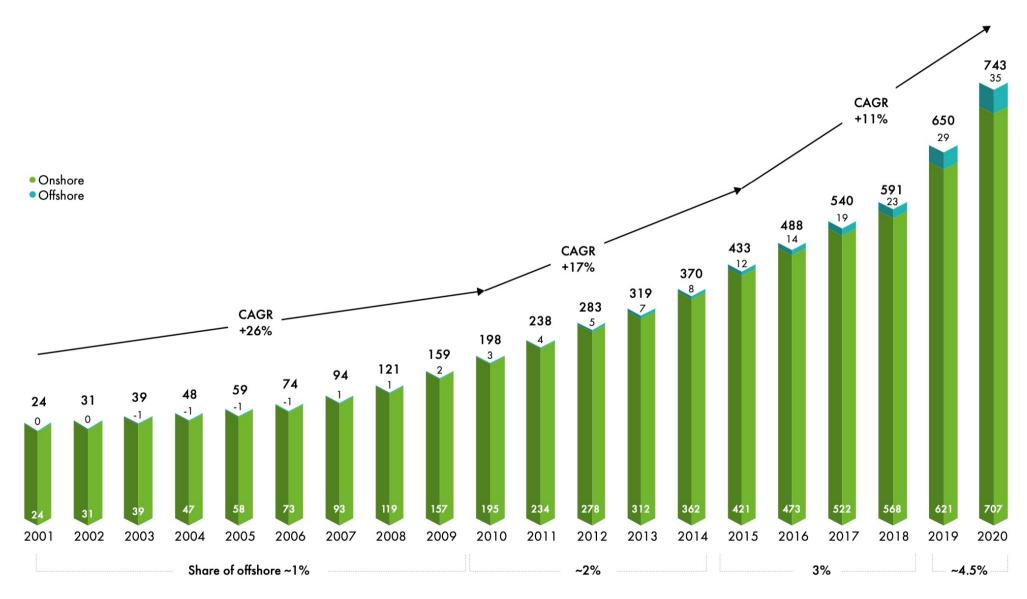
Global Wind Power Cumulative Capacity (Data: GWEC)



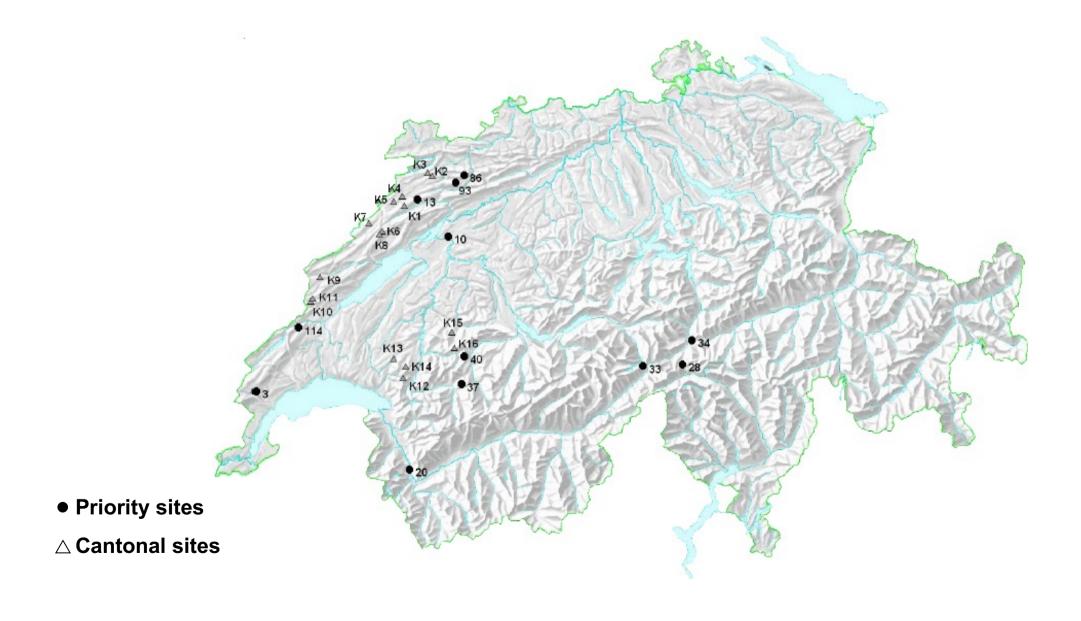
Historic development of new installations (GW)



Historic development of total installations (GW)



At the Swiss scale:



Wind Energy - 2. Turbines & Technology

Learning objectives

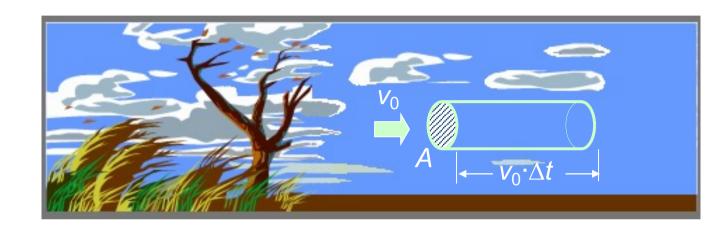
- Derive the formula for wind power
- Explain the maximum power coefficient C_p (Betz, 59%)
- Discuss other turbine losses (wake, tip, drag)
- Explain wind turbine physics (lift/drag, torque-solidity, C_p - λ curve)
- Explain turbine blade design (twist, chord, taper)
- Discuss the power operating range of a wind turbine and ways to regulate the power

Kinetic power contained in the wind

Aim: compute the power W_W in a wind of speed v_0 flowing at right angles through an area A

Air volume element swept in Δt :

$$V = A \cdot v_0 \cdot \Delta t$$



Kinetic energy of air:

$$W_{kin,air} = \frac{1}{2} m_{air} v_0^2 = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} V v_0^2 = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} A v_0 \Delta t v_0^2$$

In terms of Power:

$$\dot{W}_{\rm w} = \frac{dW_{\rm w}}{dt}$$

$$\dot{W}_{wind} = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} A v_0^3$$

EQUATION (1)

'Actuator disc theory': placing a turbine in an air stream 'tube'

The kinetic energy contained in the wind can (only partly) be extracted using wind turbines (quite different from water turbines!)

As a 1st approximation, only the **mass** of air which passes through the rotor

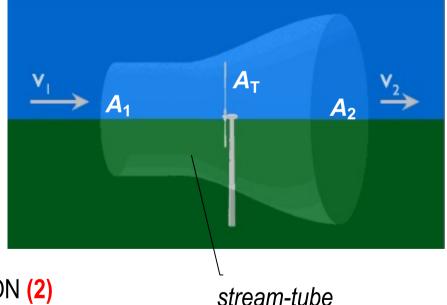
disc is affected.

Air mass conservation in the stream-tube (continuity, in kg/s):

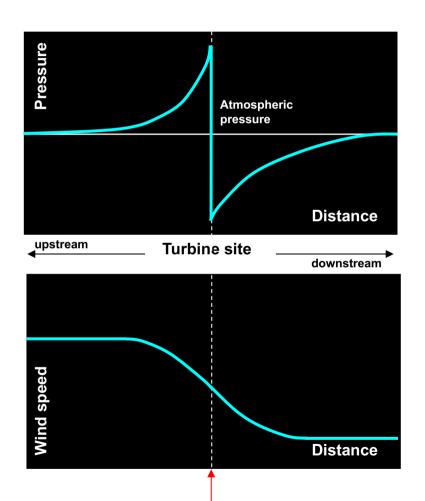
$$\rho \cdot A_T \cdot V_T = \rho \cdot A_1 \cdot V_1 = \rho \cdot A_2 \cdot V_2$$

$$\rightarrow$$
 $A_{\mathsf{T}} \cdot v_{\mathsf{T}} = A_1 \cdot v_1 = A_2 \cdot v_2$

EQUATION (2)



Extracting energy from the wind: pressure and speed



The turbine (or *aerogenerator*) first causes the approaching air to slow down gradually, which results in a rise in the static pressure.

Across the turbine-swept surface there is a drop in static pressure such that, on leaving, the air is below the atmospheric pressure level.

As the air proceeds downstream, the pressure climbs back to the atmospheric value causing a further slowing down of the wind.

the kinetic energy is extracted only partially!

Defining the 'control volume'. Bernouilli equation

If the surface A_T is swept by the blades of an horizontal-axis wind turbine of diameter D, the disturbed air flux affects a volume (*control volume*) having a cross-section **significantly larger** than A_T

1. Change of momentum d(mv) in dt: F = force = d(mv)/dt, and v_0 = "free" wind speed:

$$F \cdot dt = \rho \cdot A_T \cdot v_T \cdot dt \cdot (v_1 - v_2) = \rho \cdot A_T \cdot v_T \cdot dt \cdot (v_0 - v_2)$$
m (const)

$$v_{\rm in} = v_{\rm out} = v_{\rm T}$$

2. Resultant of the pressure forces acting on the device \rightarrow $\mathbf{F} = A_T \cdot (P_{in} - P_{out})$

$$A_{\mathsf{T}} \cdot (P_{\mathsf{in}} - P_{\mathsf{out}}) = \rho \cdot A_{\mathsf{T}} \cdot v_{\mathsf{T}} \cdot (v_0 - v_2)$$

EQUATION (3)

3. Bernouilli equation:

$$\begin{cases} v_{2} \cdot \rho \cdot v_{a}^{2} + P_{a} = v_{2} \cdot \rho \cdot v_{b}^{2} + P_{b} \\ \text{upstream:} \quad P_{in} - P_{atm} = \rho \frac{v_{0}^{2} - v_{T}^{2}}{2} \\ \text{downstream:} \quad P_{atm} - P_{out} = \rho \frac{v_{T}^{2} - v_{2}^{2}}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$V_0$$

$$A_1$$

$$V_1 = V_0$$

$$V_{in}$$

$$V_{out}$$

$$V_0$$

$$V_0$$

$$V_0$$

$$V_0$$

$$V_0$$

$$V_0$$

$$P_{in} - P_{out} = \frac{1}{2} \rho \left(v_0^2 - v_2^2\right) \quad \text{EQUATION (4)}$$
ME460 Renewable Energy - Wind

Theoretical power extractable by the wind turbine

$$\begin{split} E_T &= E_{kin,air}^{in} - E_{kin,air}^{out} = \frac{1}{2} m_{air} \left(v_0^2 - v_2^2 \right) \\ \dot{W}_T &= \frac{1}{2} \dot{m}_{air} \left(v_0^2 - v_2^2 \right) = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} A_T v_T \left(v_0^2 - v_2^2 \right) \\ \dot{A}_2 \cdot v_2 & \text{cf. EQUATION (2)} \quad A_T \cdot v_T = A_1 \cdot v_1 = A_2 \cdot v_2 \implies v_T = A_2 v_2 / A_T \end{split}$$

$$\dot{W}_T &= \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} A_T \frac{A_2}{A_T} v_2 \left(v_0^2 - v_2^2 \right) \qquad \Rightarrow \text{multiply with } (v_0 / v_0) \text{ and isolate } (v_0)^2 \text{ to obtain :} \\ \dot{W}_T &= \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} A_T v_0^3 \frac{A_2}{A_T} \frac{v_2}{v_0} \left[1 - \left(\frac{v_2}{v_0} \right)^2 \right] \\ &\stackrel{\text{Wind kinetic energy}}{= \text{EQUATION (1)}} \quad \text{Power Coefficient } \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{P}} \end{split}$$

How now to determine the value of the power coefficient C_P , i.e. the ratio v_2 / v_0 ? The exit air speed v_2 cannot go to zero, since a constant mass flow must be maintained within the stream tube; therefore we must have: $v_2 = x \cdot v_0$, with 0 < x < 1

Determination of maximum C_P (Betz Formula)

We find an expression for the ratio v_2 / v_0 (=x) with the help of EQUATIONS (3) and (4) (slide 47):

$$A_{T} \cdot (P_{\text{in}} - P_{\text{out}}) = \rho \cdot A_{T} \cdot v_{T} \cdot (v_{0} - v_{2})$$

$$A_{T} \cdot \frac{1}{2} (v_{0}^{2} - v_{2}^{2}) = A_{2} v_{2} (v_{0} - v_{2})$$

$$A_{T} \cdot \frac{1}{2} (v_{0}^{2} - v_{2}^{2}) = A_{2} v_{2} (v_{0} - v_{2})$$

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$$A_{T} \cdot \frac{1}{2} (v_{0}^{2} - v_{2}^{2}) = A_{2} v_{2} (v_{0} - v_{2})$$

$$\dot{W}_{T} = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} A_{T} v_{0}^{3} \left(\frac{A_{2}}{A_{T}} \right) v_{0} \left[1 - \left(\frac{v_{2}}{v_{0}} \right)^{2} \right] = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} A_{T} v_{0}^{3} \frac{1+x}{2x} x \left(1-x^{2} \right)$$

 W_T reaches a maximum for $(dW_T/dx = 0)$ when x = 1/3!

$$\rightarrow$$
 Betz formula: $\dot{W}_T = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} A_T v_0^3 . \left[\frac{16}{27} \right] = 0.592 \ \dot{W}_W$ In theory, maximally 59% of the wind kinetic energy can be extracted by the turbine

In theory, maximally 59% of be extracted by the turbine

Effective power coefficient C_p

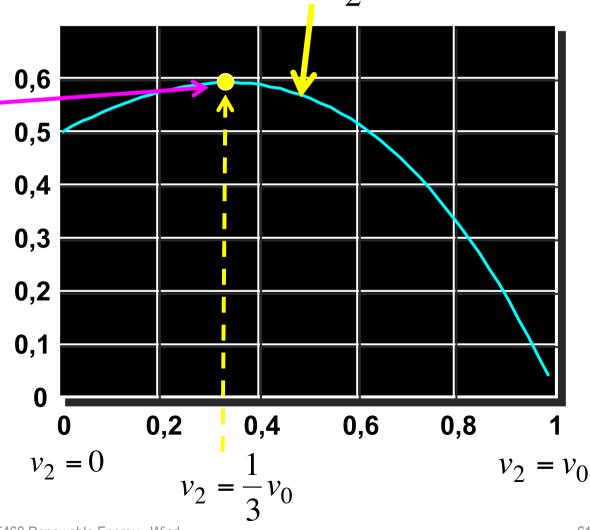
$$C_{P} = \frac{\dot{W}_{T}}{\dot{W}_{W}} = \frac{\dot{W}_{T}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho_{air}A_{T}v_{0}^{3}}$$

Betz limit : $C_{\rm p} = 16/27 \approx 0.593$

$$v_2(out) = v_1(in)/3$$

 $v_T = 2v_1/3$
 $A_2 = 3 A_1$
 $A_T = 3 A_1 / 2$

Practical values $0.35 \le C_p < 0.5$



Losses $C_p(Betz)$: 59% $\rightarrow C_p(real)$: $\approx 40\%$

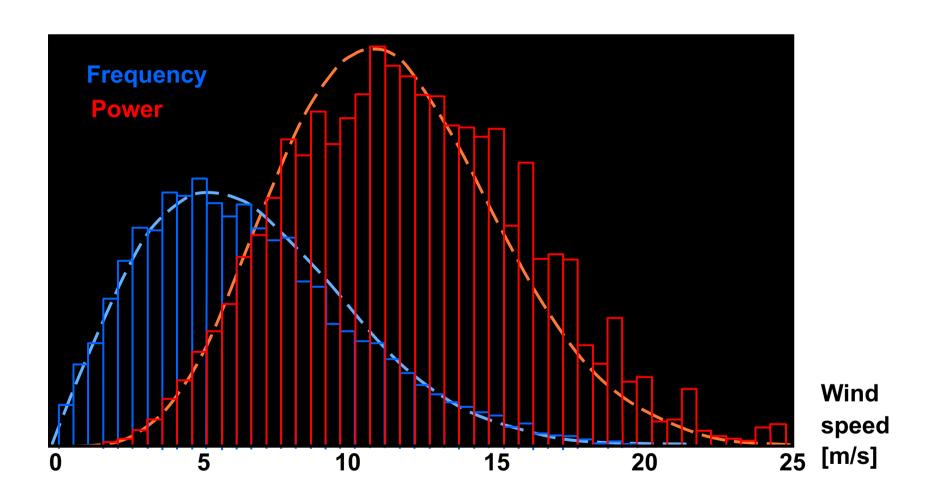
The 'actuator disc theory' does not account for the following losses, which represent $\approx 1/3$:

- 1 WAKE LOSS: the rotating turbine gives kinetic energy in form of a swirl (= a helical vortex) to incoming straight-moving air without tangential velocity.
- TIP LOSS: the blade tips themselves also create ('horseshoe') vortices. (can be seen as air 'overspill' between the high and low pressures below and above the blade.)
- 3 DRAG LOSS: the blades rotating through air experience a resistance (drag force).

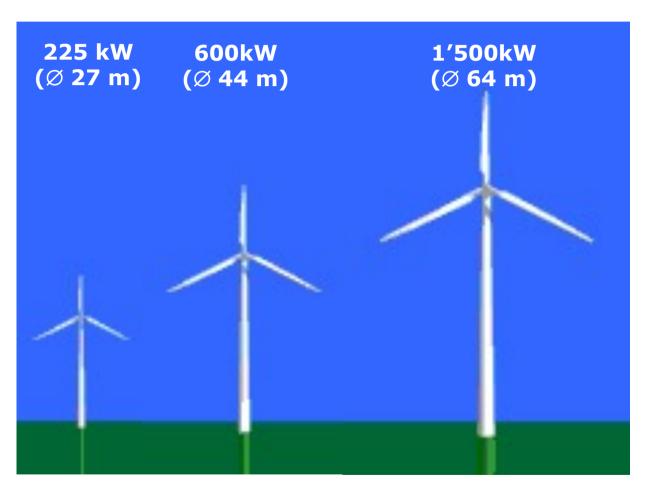
Wake loss

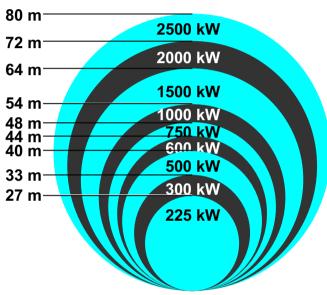


Power goes as v³



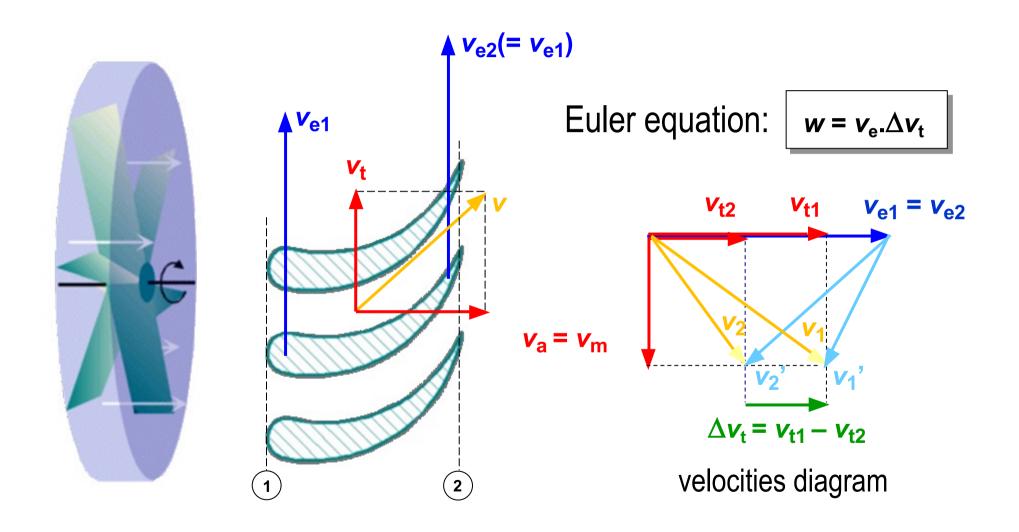
Turbine size and power





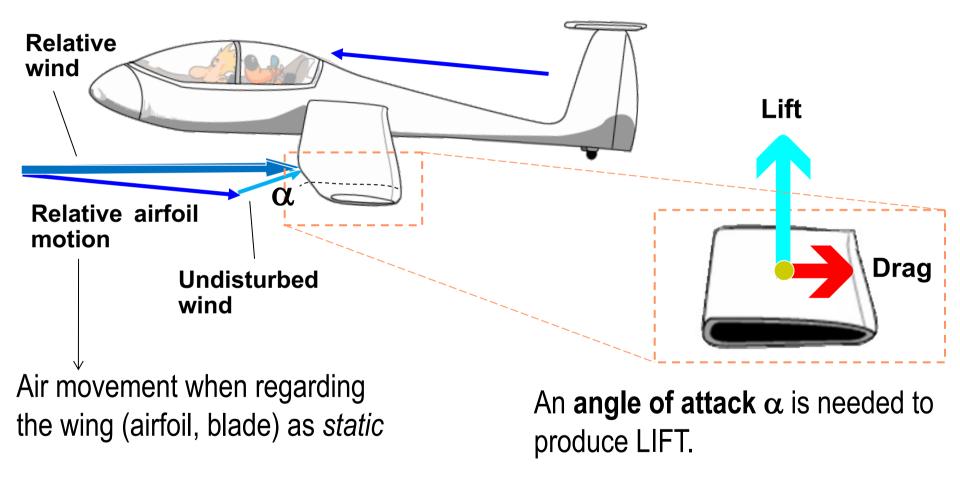
The diameter of a wind turbine increases with its rated power output

Wind turbine velocity triangle (cf. hydro-turbines)



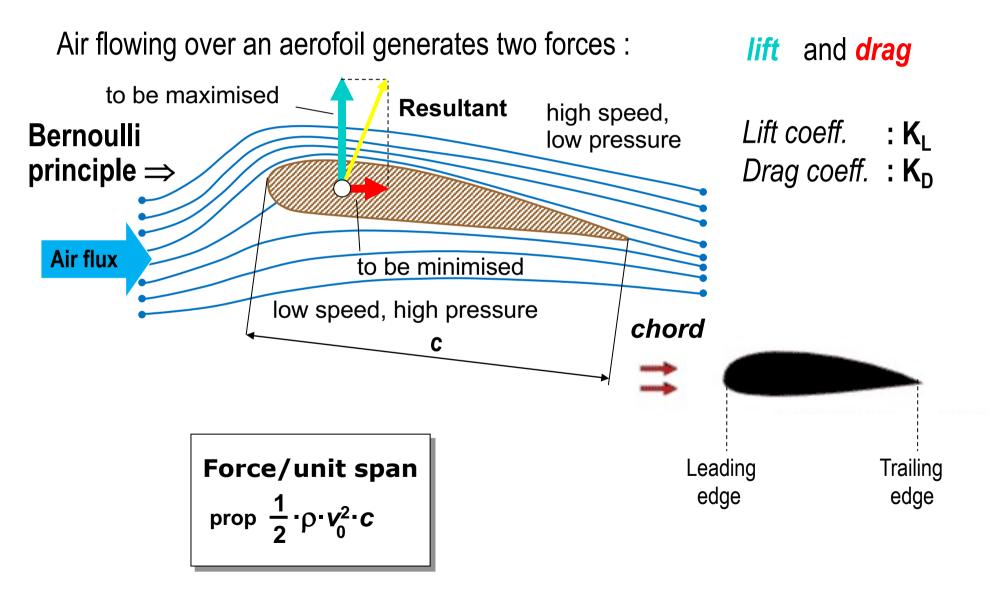
Relative airfoil movement in the air

Blades shaped as airfoils are the most efficient to develop the necessary ΔP across the disc formed by the rotating blades, to convert this into useful **torque** T.



The ratio LIFT L to DRAG D, at given α , is to be maximized; this depends on the Reynolds number Re (Re is high for aircraft; Re is low for wind-turbines).

Aerodynamic lift and drag



Normalised LIFT and DRAG

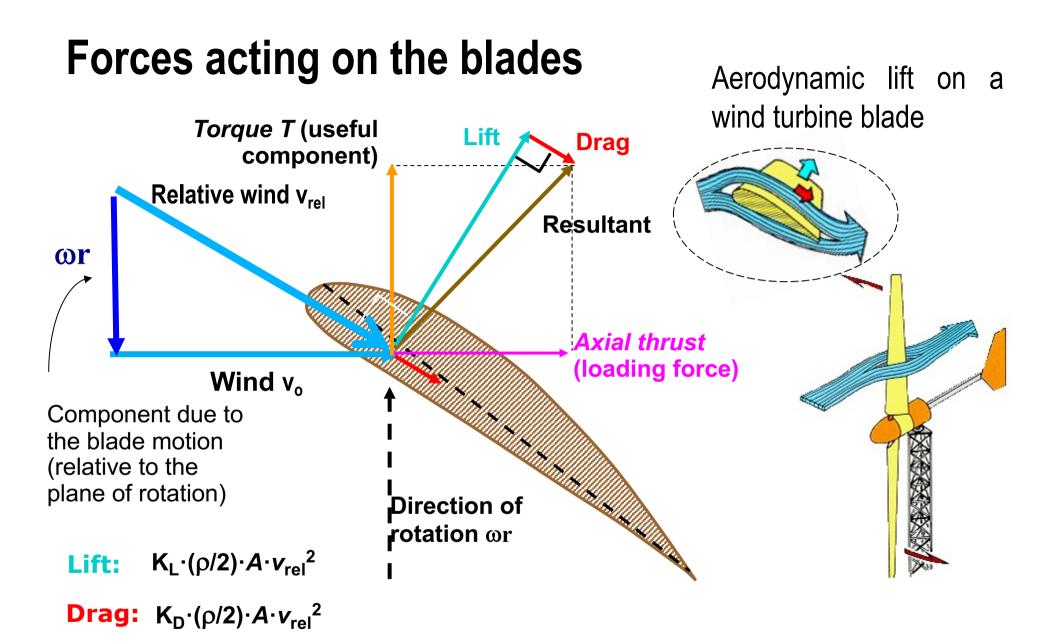
Aim: describe blade performance independent from size (c, R) and wind speed v₀

$$F = \frac{power}{speed} = \frac{W_W}{v_0} = \frac{1}{2}\rho A v_0^2$$

Using this as DRAG force felt by the blade at attack angle α = 90°, with blade area A = blade length R * chord c(r), we define the *normalised* LIFT and DRAG coefficients:

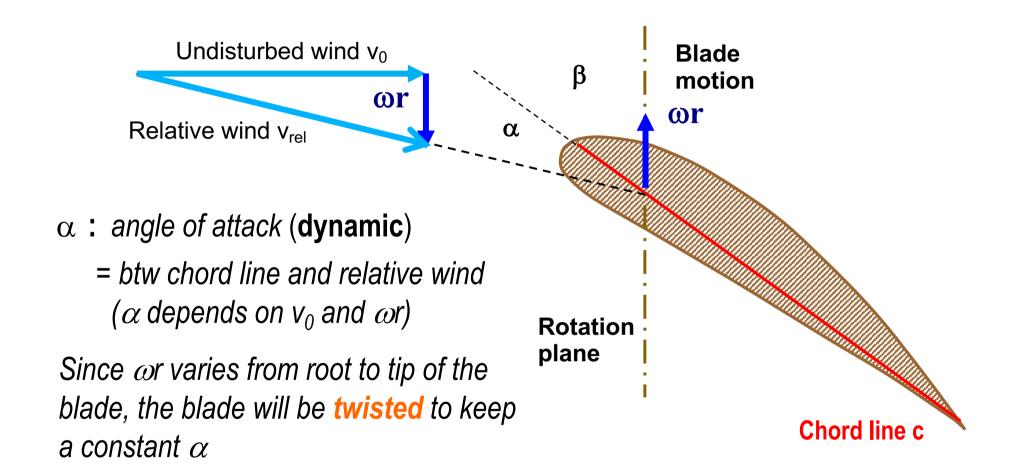
$$K_{L} = \frac{F_{L}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho A v_{0}^{2}} = \frac{F_{L}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho cR v_{0}^{2}} \qquad K_{D} = \frac{F_{D}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho A v_{0}^{2}} = \frac{F_{D}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho cR v_{0}^{2}}$$

The amount of Lift and Drag depends on the blade characteristics and α . Maximum power is achieved for **maximal** K_L/K_D ratio (\approx 100).



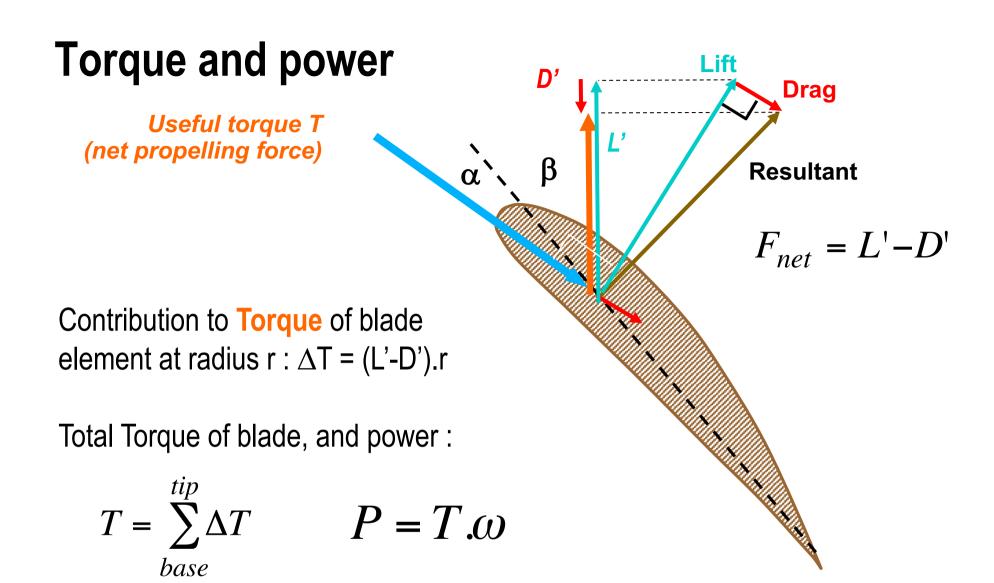
Note that as ω changes (turbine rotation speed), for constant wind speed v_o , so will v_{rel} and α , changing the LIFT and the resulting net force on the blades.

Attack angle α , pitch angle β



β: pitch angle (static)

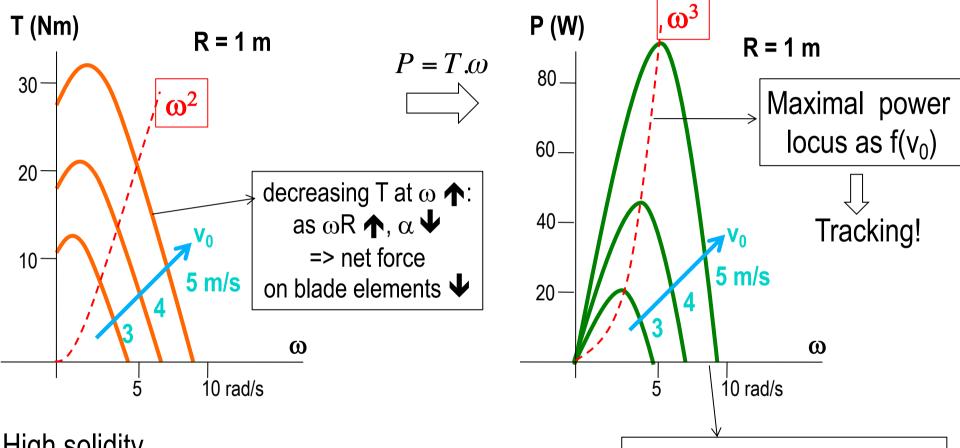
= orientation of blade w.r.t. rotation plane



Let's now consider T- ω and P- ω characteristics of different turbines: LOW and HIGH *solidity*

High solidity turbine

$$\frac{\sum blades\ area}{A} = large$$
 (multi-blade)



High solidity

→ many blade elements contribute to T and P

- → high starting torque (large mass, inertia)
- \rightarrow low speed of rotation ω

'run-away speed' of the turbine (i.e. no more Torque available) is quite low!

 $\frac{\sum blades \ area}{} = small \ (few blades)$ Low solidity turbine T (Nm) R = 1 m V_0 5 m/s ω 20 30 10 40 rad/s ω^3 **P**(W) Low solidity R = 1 mMaximal power 80-→ low starting torque locus as $f(v_0)$ \rightarrow fast speed of rotation ω \mathbf{v}_0 60 -5 m/s Tracking! 40high 'run-away speed' of the 20 turbine 🗸 ω 20 10 30

40 rad/s

Comments to T- ω , P- ω , for high/low solidity

- same power P for both turbines, but delivered at very different angular speed ω
- ullet maximum power P is obtained at higher ω than maximum torque T
- power maximum follows o³
- corresponding Torque follows ω²
- for best load matching, P_{max} should be tracked with variable wind speed (with a gearbox, to set ω at the P_{max} value for each v_0)
- In order to compare any turbines under different v_0 and ω , we 'normalise' according to

 Tip speed

 Tip speed

Non-dimensional presentation of P- ω : \rightarrow C_p – λ

$$C_{P} = \frac{\dot{W}_{T}}{\dot{W}_{W}} = \frac{P}{\frac{1}{2}\rho_{air}A_{T}v_{0}^{3}}$$

$$T = \frac{P}{\omega}$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} \pi R^2 v_0^2 \frac{C_p}{\lambda} R$$

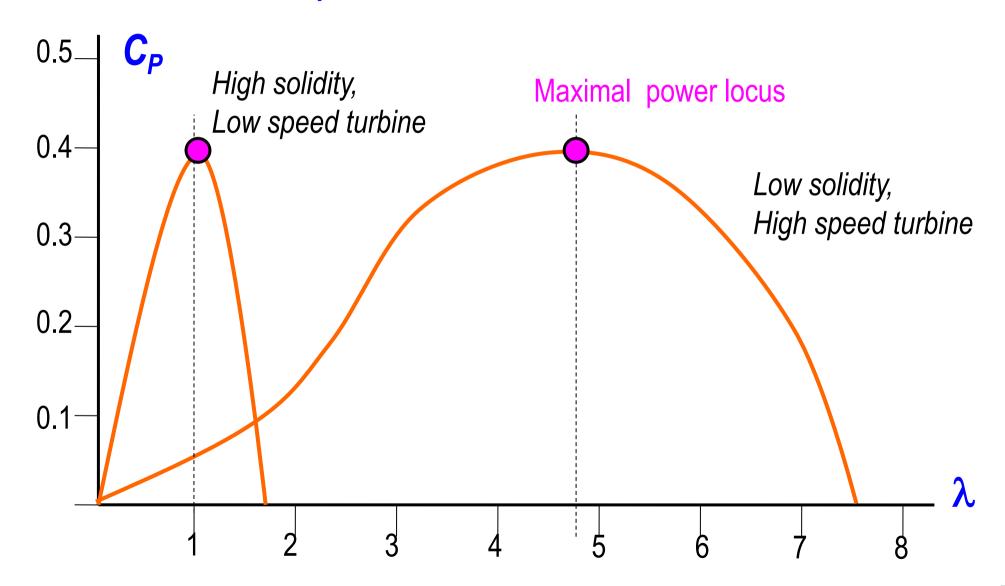
Force felt by the rotor disc area

Torque T = Force F * radius R

$$\frac{C_p}{\lambda} = \frac{T}{\frac{1}{2}\rho_{air} \pi R^2 v_0^2 R}$$

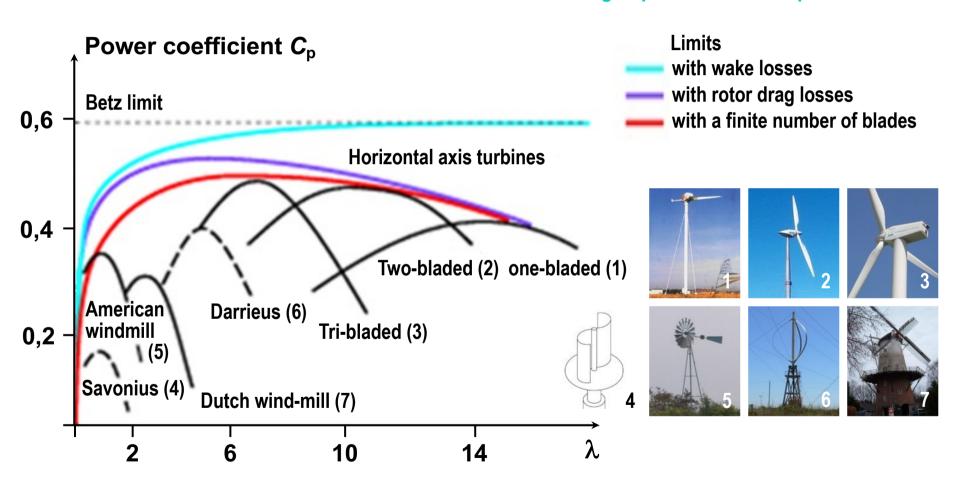
Torque-coefficient

Summarising all P- ω for all v_0 into a single $C_p - \lambda$ curve



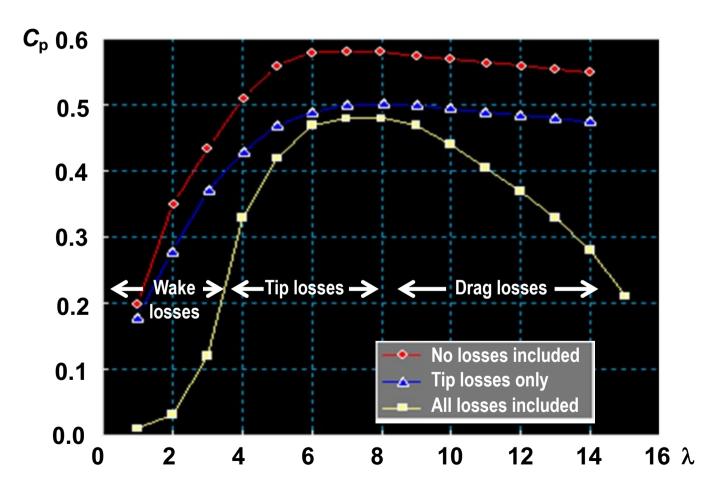
Examples of $C_p - \lambda$ curve for different turbines

Rem. : high speed => less torque => less wake



$C_p - \lambda$ curve with losses indicated

Performance of a typical modern 3-bladed turbine:



Note: even if no losses are included, the Betz-limit is not reached because the rotor design does not act as a perfect actuator disc.

R: turbine blade radius

 v_0 : wind speed

 ω : turbine rotation speed

Tip speed ratio:

$$\lambda = \omega \cdot \frac{R}{v_0}$$

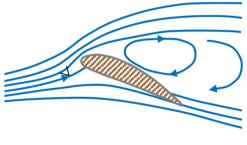
Lift and drag as $f(\alpha)$

$$K_L = a_0 \cdot \alpha$$

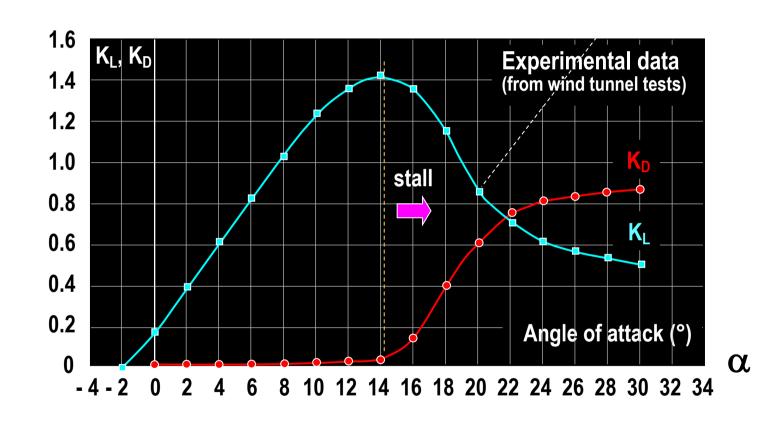
$$\frac{dK_L}{d\alpha} \approx 0.1 / ^{\circ}$$

Lift-curve slope

Reduces the lift, increases the drag







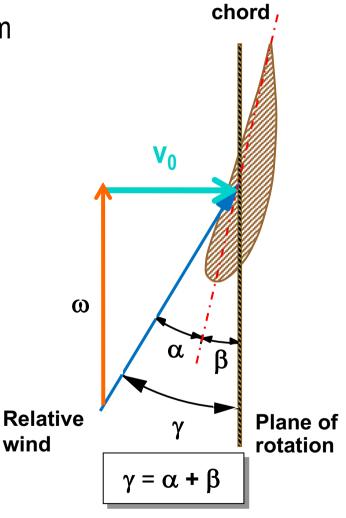
Wind turbine blade design

Selection of the optimal angle of attack → maximum lift, minimum drag, respecting the Betz criteria

Selection of the ideal α angle is not easy, because K_L and K_D depend not only on the section but also on the Reynolds number:

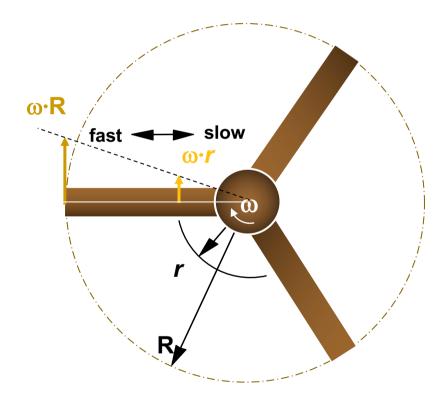
RE = 68500 * chord c [m] * relat. wind veloc. v_{rel} [m/s]

The optimal angle of attack generally occurs for values around 6-12°



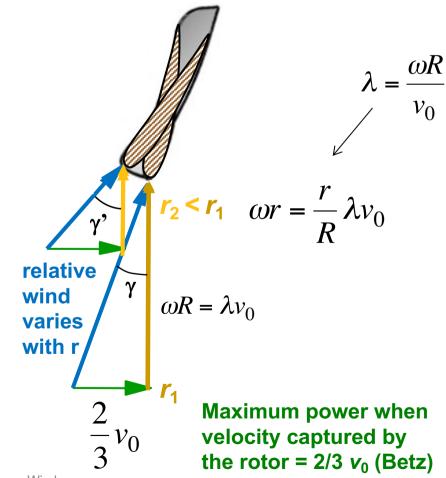
Wind turbine blade design

 α : angle of attack (**dynamic**) = btw chord line and relative wind (α depends on v_0 and ω r)



It follows that the optimal γ angle varies with r as: $\gamma = \arctan(2R / 3r\lambda)$

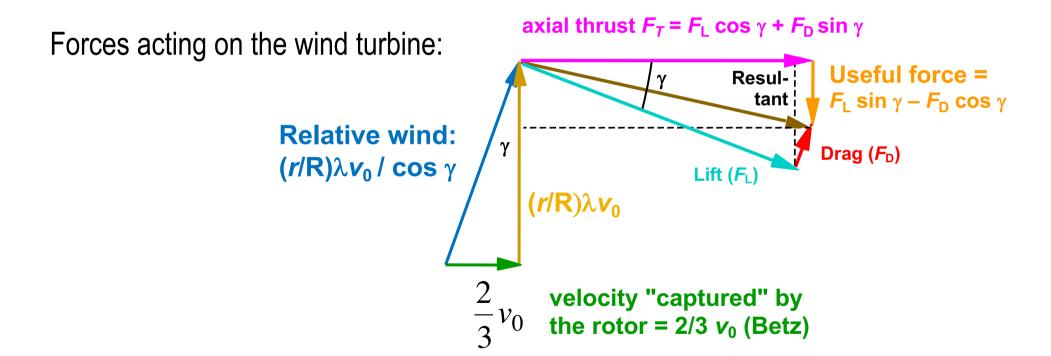
Since ω r varies from base to tip of the blade, the blades are twisted so as to maintain a nearly constant angle of attack.



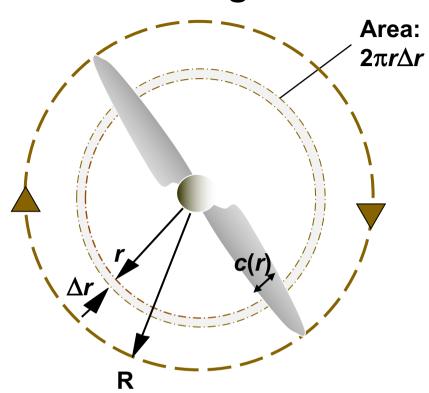
Pitch angle

The right pitch angle is thus given by:

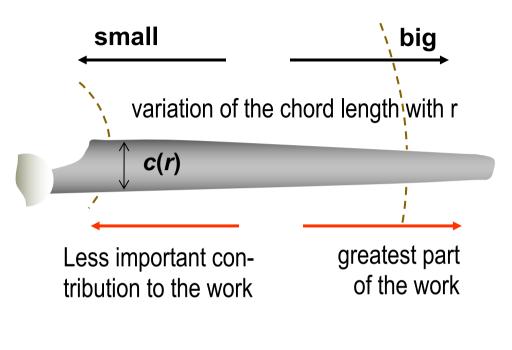
$$\beta = \gamma - \alpha = \arctan(2R/3r\lambda) - \alpha$$



Blade design



A blade element of width Δr sweeps a "wind band" of area $2\pi r \Delta r$ (= A_r)



For the Betz condition, the axial thrust exerted by the wind on the propeller is given by (rate of change of momentum):

$$F_{T}(r) = \rho A_{r} v_{T}(v_{0} - v_{2}) = \frac{4}{9} \rho (2\pi r \Delta r) v_{0}^{2}$$
 cf. slide 47; EQUATION (i)

What is the optimal chord length c(r)?

On the other hand :
$$F_T = F_L \cos \gamma + F_D \sin \gamma$$
 small solidity

With $F_L(r) = K_L \frac{1}{2} \rho S_r v_{rel}^2 = K_L \frac{1}{2} \rho N_c(r) \Delta r v_{rel}^2$ cf. slide 56-57; EQUATION (ii)

Taking the EQUATIONS (i) and (ii) for F_T :

$$F_{T}(r) = \frac{4}{9}\rho(2\pi r\Delta r)v_{0}^{2} = K_{L}\frac{1}{2}\rho Nc(r)\Delta r v_{rel}^{2}\cos\gamma$$

$$C(r) = \frac{16}{9}\frac{\pi}{Nr}\frac{R^{2}}{K_{L}\lambda^{2}}\cos\gamma$$

Ideal chord length c(r):

- invers. prop. to $r \Rightarrow tapered blade$
- invers. prop. to the blades number N
 ⇒ more blades, more narrow
- invers. prop. to the square of the tip speed ratio



→ Theoretical design of ideal wind turbine:

Infinite number of infinitely narrow blades!

- = impossible in practice, for strength and mechanical stiffness reasons, as well as for the resulting too low rotation speed (high solidity). On the other hand, a high tip speed ratio implies a *larger rotation speed*, which is more favourable in the context of electricity generation (gearbox → 3000 rpm = 50 Hz grid) and overrides the disadvantages, which are:
 - relatively high noise level generated by the blades (high speed)
 - erosion of the leading edge (="front") of the blades
 - lower efficiency
 - less favourable starting torque (with higher λ)

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \pi \rho_{air} C_p \frac{v_0^2 R^3}{\lambda}$$

The shape adopted for the wind turbine blades is finally the following:

Operating range

Aerodynamic power limiting regulation by:

- Variable pitch β
- Yaw
- Stall

WT is run at:

- one fixed ω
- two fixed ω
- variable ω

Prated

energy capture

not

worthwhile;

WT stopped to reduce wear

v_{cut-in}<v<v_{rated}

power increase

according to V³

kept at rated power

 $v_{rated} < v < v_{cut-out}$

(dimension of the electric generator)

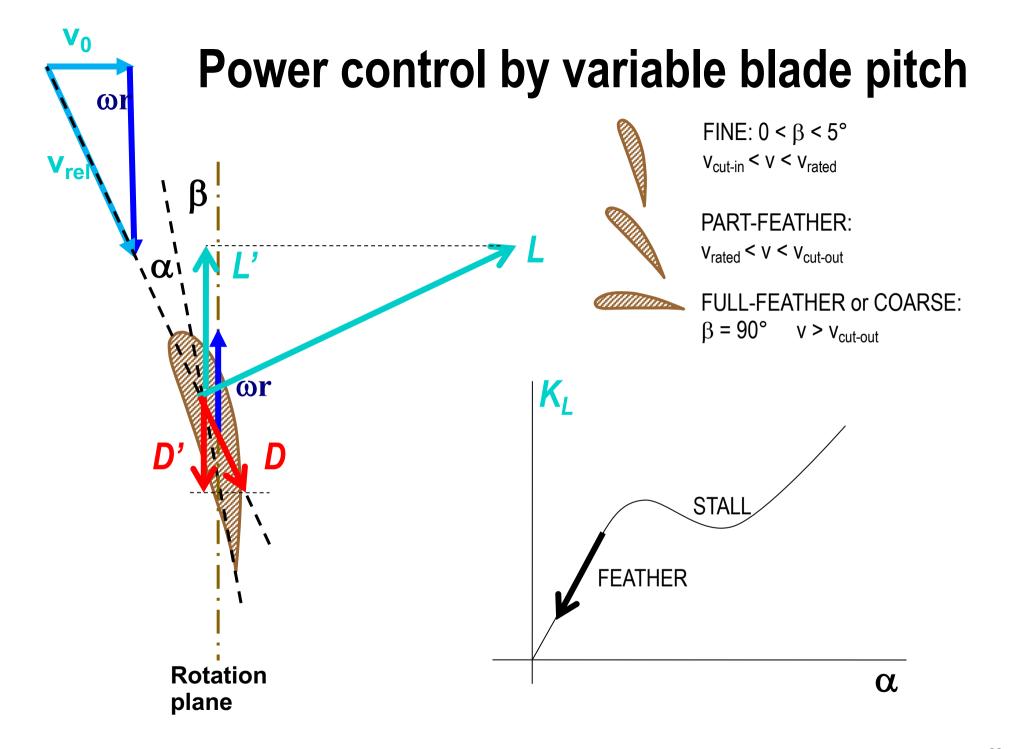
to avoid Torque overload

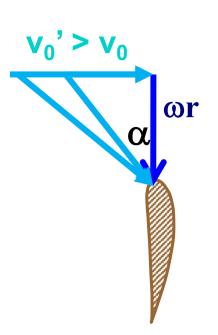
 $V > V_{\text{cut-out}}$ to construct the WT to withstand very high speed is too costly;

such high v is rare, so only little power is lost

V_{cut-in} **V**_{rated} V_{cut-out}

 V_0





Power control by stall regulation

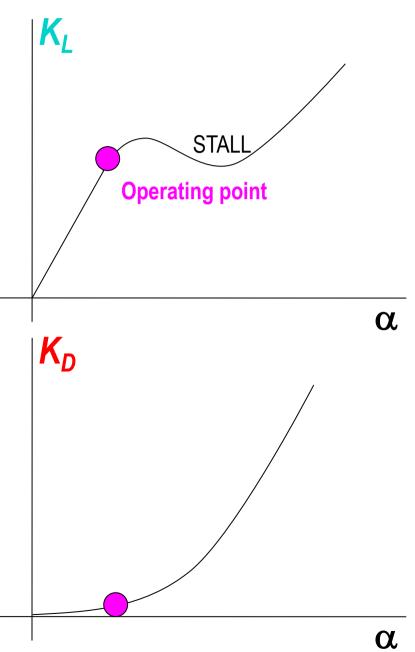
Pitch β is fixed in FINE ω is fixed

When $v_0 \uparrow \alpha \uparrow \Rightarrow LIFT L \downarrow \Rightarrow DRAG D \uparrow \Rightarrow CRAG D \uparrow \alpha$

Stall regulation is achieved through proper design of blades **twist** and **thickness**, **low** ω , and low chord c. Simple and cheap (no moving blades).

<u>Disadvantages</u>:

- some energy loss
- no assisted start (no pitch control) (starts only at high v_o)
- high stationary load (fixed in FINE)
- separate brake needed to prevent overspeed
- stall depends on blade surface condition!



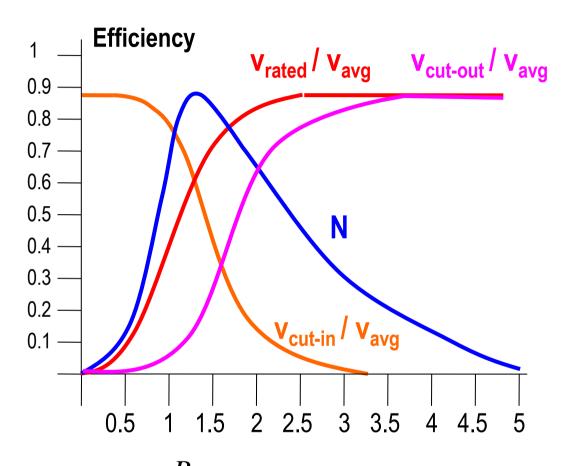
Fixed speed operation

- = the majority of wind turbines
- minimal hardware and complexity
- high reliability ✓
- <u>but</u>: does not capture the maximal energy
- How to determine optimum v_{cut-in}, v_{rated}, and v_{cut-out}?
- How to determine ω ?

→ need to find
$$\lambda_{optimal} = \frac{\omega R}{N v_{avg}}$$
 where C_p is highest

- The answer will depend on: C_p - λ curve, Weibull shaping factor k
- Efficiency = E/E_{max} , where E_{max} is achieved when $C_p = C_{p,max}$, $v_{cut-in} = 0$, and $v_{cut-out} = \infty$

Efficiency with fixed speed operation



Best parameter choice:

$$v_{cut-in} = 0.6 v_{avg}$$
 $v_{rated} = 2 v_{avg}$
 $v_{cut-out} = 3 v_{avg}$
 $N = 1.5$

Example:

$$\overline{v_{avg}} = 8 \text{ m/s}, R = 15 \text{m}, \lambda_{optimal} = 6$$
 $\overline{v_{cut-in}} = 4.8 \text{ m/s}$
 $\overline{v_{rated}} = 16 \text{ m/s}$
 $\overline{v_{cut-out}} = 24 \text{ m/s}$
 $\overline{N} = 1.5$

$$\lambda_{optimal} = \frac{\omega R}{Nv_{avg}}$$
 => ω = 4.8 rad/s = 46 rpm (will be the fixed rotation speed)

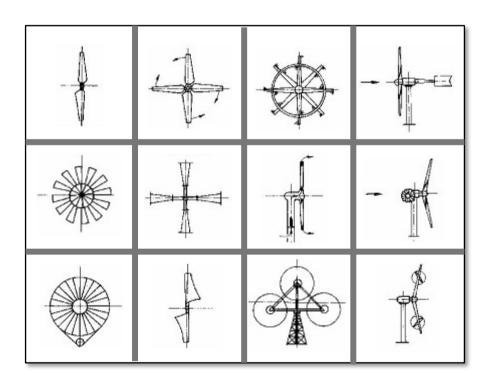
For 4-pole 50 Hz connection (=3000 rpm with 2-pole, 1500 rpm with 4-pole): => gearbox ratio = 1500 / 46 = 33

Variable speed operation

- higher cost
- less reliability
- captures 7% more energy than with fixed speed operation
- lower $v_{\text{cut-in}}$; less noise at low v_0 ; operating at lower ω at night-time
- C_{p,max} maintained over a range of v₀
- less power fluctuations (better electricity supply quality):
 - with *fixed speed* operation (ω =const), wind ghust energy (P= ω .T) is recorded as Torque \rightarrow Power (prop. v³) \rightarrow grid injection (leading to 'flicker')
 - with *variable speed* operation, wind ghust energy goes into higher rotation speed ω and reduced Torque, keeping power constant \rightarrow constant elec. output injected in grid
 - nonetheless, injected current is richer in harmonics (100, Hz, 150 Hz, 200 Hz) which need to be filtered, increasing filter cost

Wind turbine designs

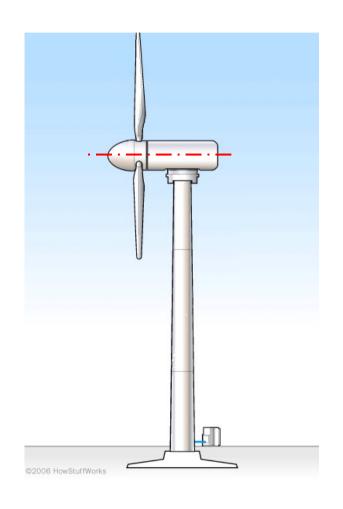
Two big families:



Horizontal Axis (HAWT)

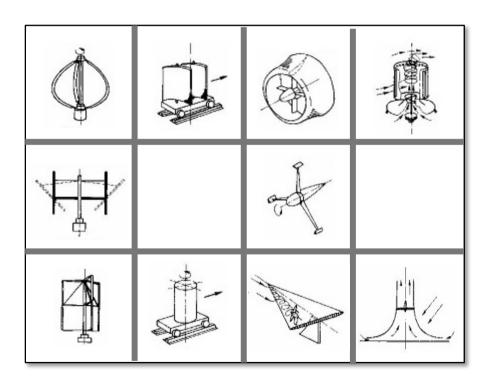
subfamilies





Wind turbine designs

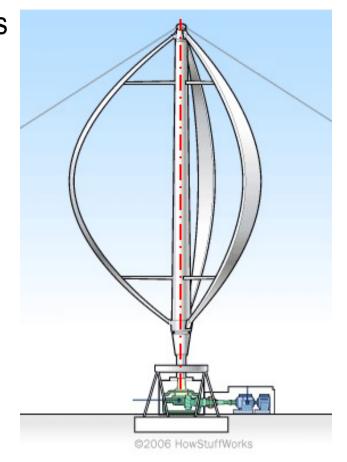
Two big families:



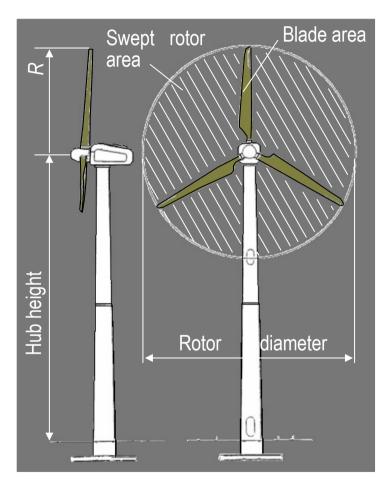
Vertical Axis (VAWT) and others

subfamilies





HAWT designs



Parameters:

<u>Rated Power</u> → Maximum continuous power output that the turbine is designed to deliver at the electrical connection point

<u>Hub Height</u> → Height of the hub above ground

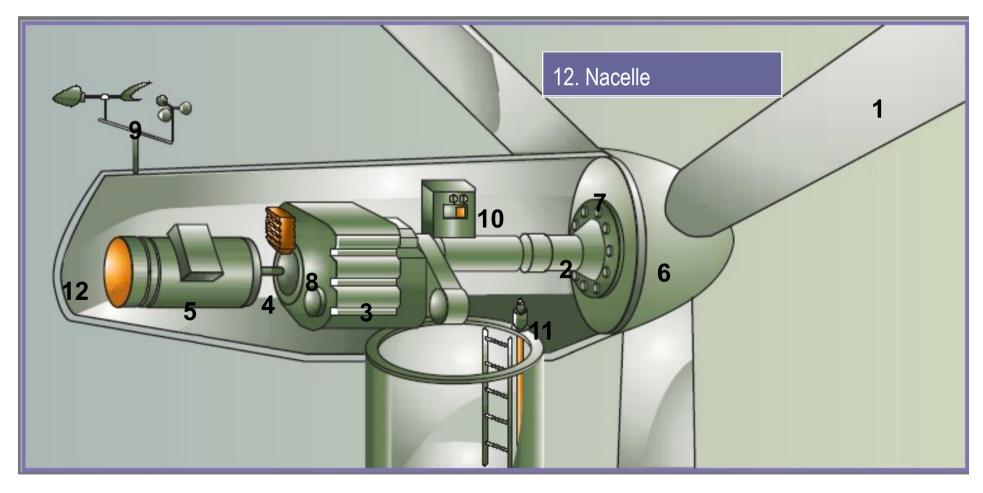
<u>Swept area</u> → Area swept by the rotor blades

<u>Solidity</u> → The ratio of the area of the blades to the swept area

Solidity =
$$\frac{\text{Blades area}}{\pi \cdot R^2}$$

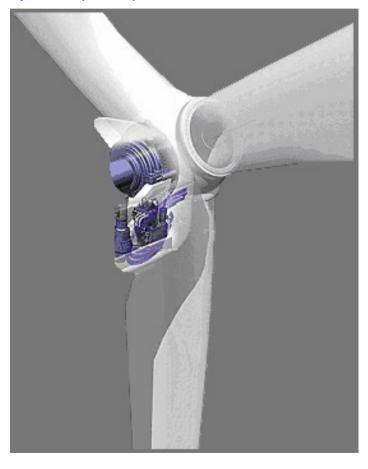
HAWT design – main components

(http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LNXTm7aHvWc&feature=related)



HAWT: the rotor

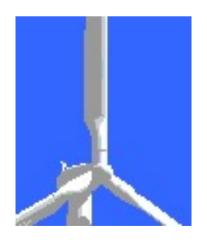
glass rein-forced plastic (GRP) / wood and wood laminate / carbon fibre reinf. plastic (CFRP) / aluminium / steel



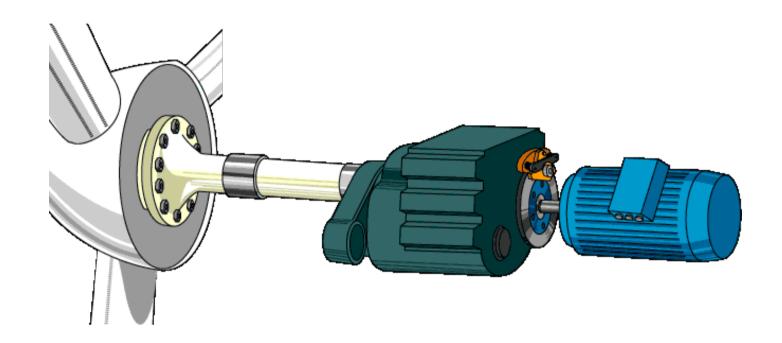
The rotor assembly may be placed either:

- ullet *Upwind* of the tower (\longrightarrow wind relatively undisturbed by the tower itself) or
- Downwind of the tower, which enables selfalignment of the rotor with the wind direction (→ wind made turbulent by the tower before arriving at the rotor: tower shadow)

In pitch-regulated turbines the angle of the blades can be varied; this results in reduction of blade effectiveness and maintenance of rated power even if the wind speed is above rated

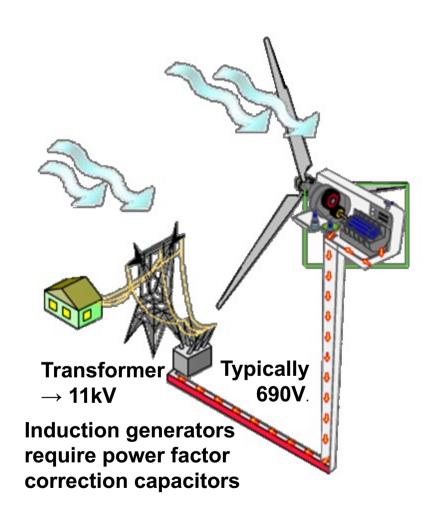


HAWT: the transmission system



The *drivetrain* consists of a *gearbox* connected to the rotor by a *low-speed shaft*; the gearbox is needed to increase the speed of the rotor from typically 20-50 revolutions per minute to the 1000 rpm (6-pole) or 1500 rpm (4-pole) required for driving most types of electric generator.

HAWT: the generator



Grid-connected turbines drive a 3-phase alternating current generator to convert mechanical power to electrical power.

Generators are of two types: synchronous and asynchronous

Practically all generators used throughout the world to generate electricity from mechanical power are of the synchronous type (slightly more efficient) with the exception of wind turbines, which normally use induction generators (due to reactive power).

HAWT: the mechanical brake

If the pitch set angle is substantially increased, the torque generated is accordingly reduced; this mechanism is used to initiate the shut down of a wind turbine in cases of emergency.



To bring the rotor to a complete stop, mechanical brakes are fitted to one drive train shaft; a brake on the high speed shaft is cheaper as the braking torque required is substantially less than if the action were taken on the low speed shaft. However high speed shaft brakes depend for their effectiveness on the integrity of the gearbox.

It is essential that the braking system is <u>fail-safe</u> in the event of loss of electrical power or other failure; therefore the braking system is designed so that the turbine is in the braked condition unless there is hydraulic pressure to deactivate the brake.

HAWT: the yaw system



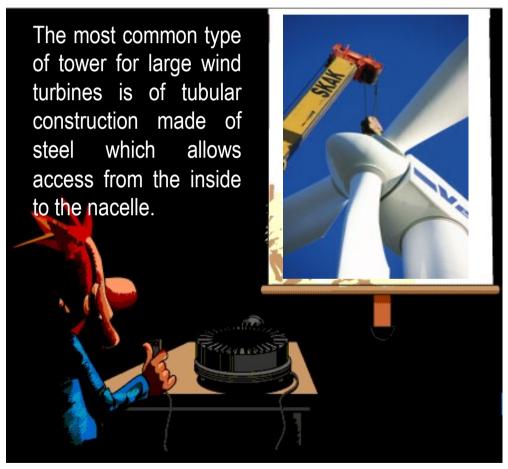
A horizontal axis wind turbine has a yaw system that turns the nacelle so that the wind direction is perpendicular to the swept rotor area; this is achieved by two motors engaging on a gear ring at the top of the tower.

To prevent nacelle backlash on the yaw gearing it is usual to fit brakes that are activated when the yaw system is inactive.

A wind vane mounted on top of the nacelle senses the average wind direction and the wind turbine controller then operates the yaw motors.

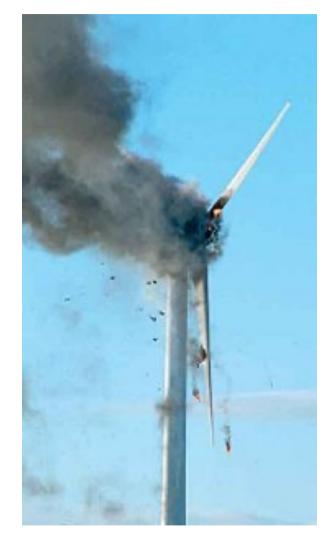


The tower of a wind turbine supports the nacelle assembly (weighing many tonnes), and elevates the rotor to a height at which the wind velocity is significantly greater and less turbulent than at ground level.



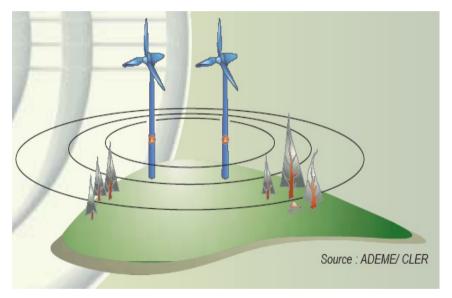
Wind turbines risks

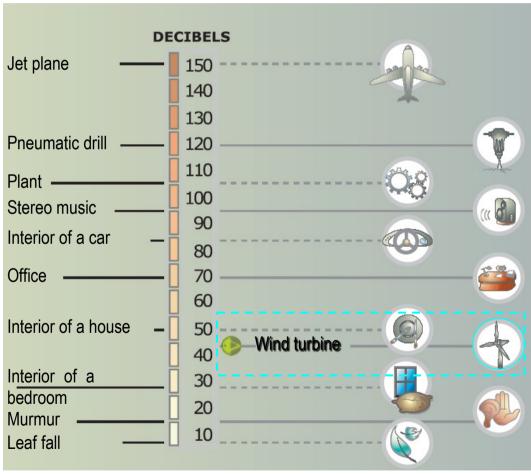
- Machinery maintenance accidents
- Blade failures
- Falling ice
- Paragliders and small aircraft crashing into support structures
- Turbine's brake fails → the turbine can spin freely until it disintegrates
- Turbine blades may fall off due to manufacturing flaws
- Lightning strikes → rotor blade damage and fires



A turbine on fire after an oil leak

Noise level and visual impact





Noise sources

Electro-mechanical

- e.g. gears, vibration
- = distinct tones
- reduce by
 - special gears
 - acoustic insulation

Aerodynamical

- airflow over blades
- = broadband ('humming')
- reduce by
 - blade cleaning
 - detailed blade design
 - lower ω at low wind; night-time
- 45 dBA seems acceptable for most situations
- minimum residence distance ≈350 m, for a 300 kW turbine

Wind farm features

- usually 10-30 turbines
- spacing: min. 5 D(iameters), up to 10 D; usually 7 to 8 D!
- transformer at each tower base; 1 grid transformer for the whole site
- underground cables between the units
- Timing (ideally):

♦	Siting and	permissions	1 y	'n
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- Construction & commissioning1 yr
- ◆ Operation 20 yr
- ◆ Decommissioning (or refurbishing)<0.5 yr





Land use

- A rough estimate gives, for wind power implementation:
- power density ≈ 3 MW_{el} / km²

(remember that solar input $\approx 1 \text{ kW/m}^2$; we estimated 2% of this to be converted to wind energy (20 W/m²), and 35% of this to be available close to the Earth surface (7 W/m²); with typical conversion efficiency of 40%, we arrive at $\approx 3 \text{ W/m}^2 = 3 \text{ MW/km}^2$)

- energy density ≈ 7.5-10 GWh /km² (7.5-10 kWh_{el} /m²)
 (i.e. for 2500-3300 operating hours per yr, i.e. 30% to 40% load)
 (compare that with a PV array of 15% efficiency, you obtain > 100 kWh_{el} / m², yet the material use is much lower for WT compare the blade area to the whole PV array!)
- The effective land-use occupied by the machinery, however, is only ca. 1%.
- The remaining 99% can be typically of agricultural use.

HAWT wind farm in California

Altamont wind farm: 6,800 small turbines with a capacity of 700 MW.

Annual generation of >1 TWh of electricity





Area occupied: ca 150 km² (i.e. 7 GWh_{el}/km²)

Electrical losses in a wind farm are 3-5% of the annual electrical output.

HAWT Horns Rev wind farm (DK)

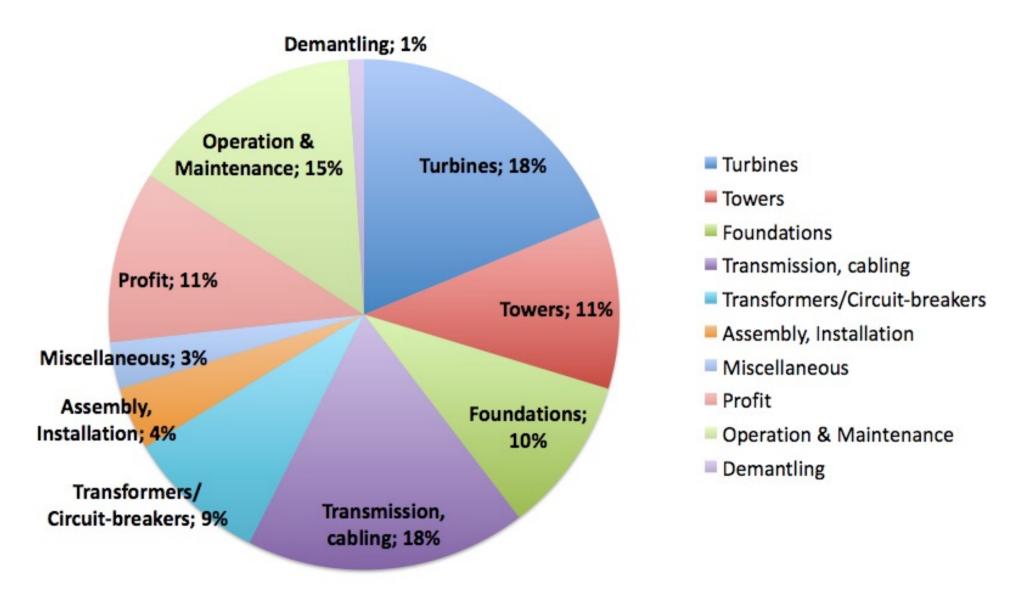
One of the largest offshore wind farms (160 MW total; 80 turbines) at the Danish west coast, sited 14-20 km into the North Sea.

Maximum tip speed can be higher (120 m/s) than with on-shore WT (70 m/s), since there is no noise limitation; hence rotors can be of lower solidity.

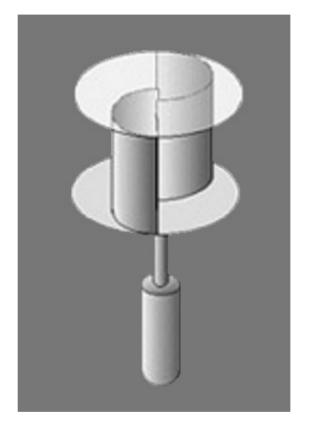


The Danish Government's plans to install wind turbines with a total capacity of 4 GW in Danish waters before 2030. Danmark already generates 48% of its electricity from wind.

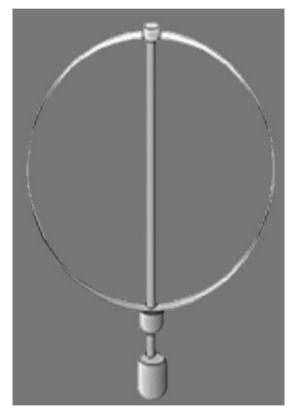
Wind farm costing



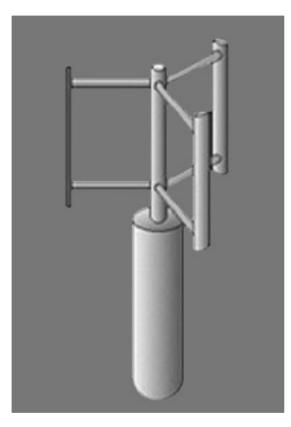
VAWT general designs



Savonius Rotor

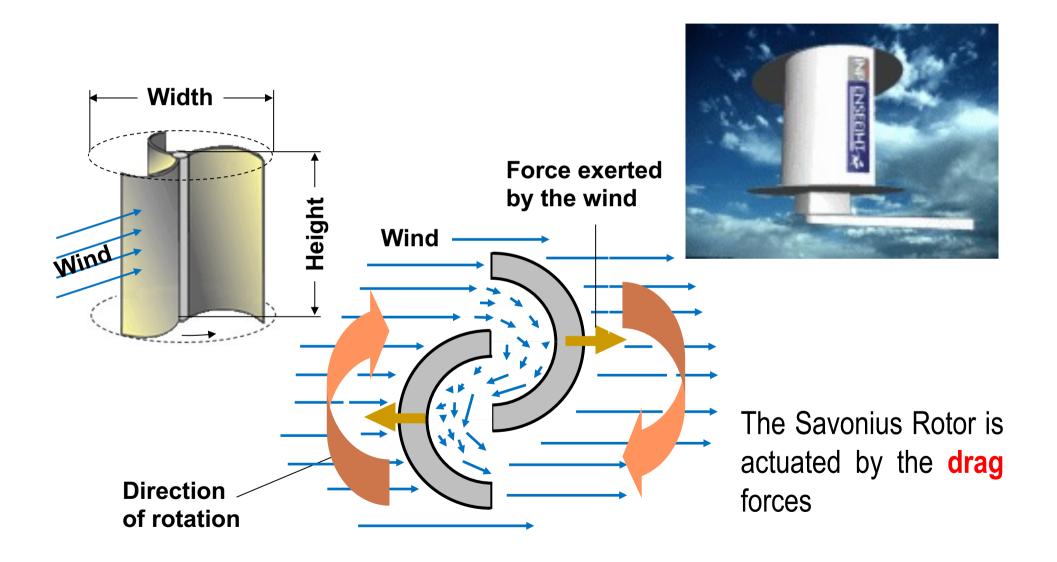


Darrieus Rotor



"H" Rotor

VAWT: Savonius rotor



VAWT: Darrieus Rotor

