

**system design &  
management**

# Harnessing Wind Energy

04/24/2017

**MITsdm**

**Burak Gozluklu**

MIT-SDM Fellow and Research  
Assistant at System Dynamics  
Group

AIRBUS A350



First Flight

TESLA



TAI

2006

2008

2013

2016

2017

BS, MechE  
minor in  
Materials

2009

2010

2014

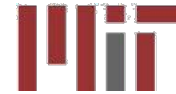
2015



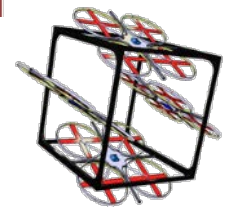
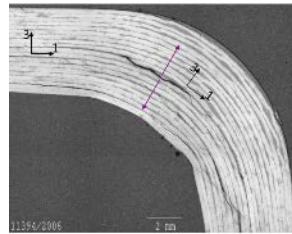
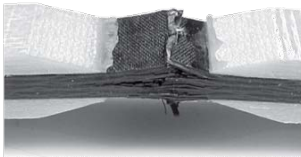
MS, MechE

PhD

PhD, Aerospace



MIT  
MANAGEMENT  
SLOAN SCHOOL

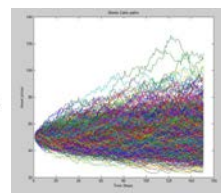
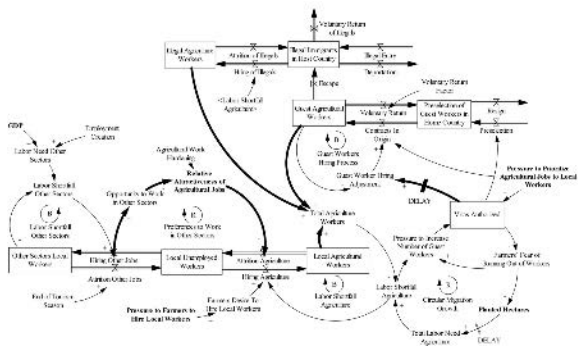
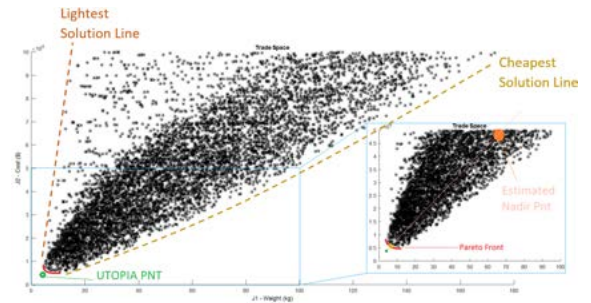
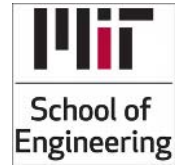
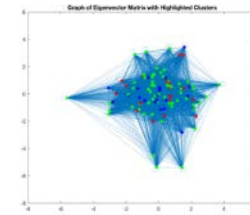
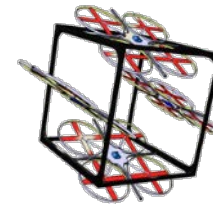


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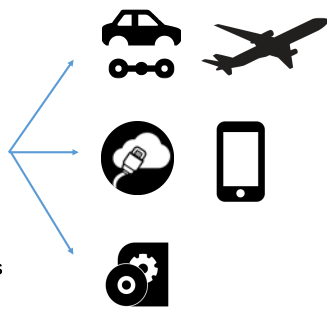
Leadership, Innovation, Systems Thinking



MIT Sloan School of Management  
Systems Thinking Club



Monte Carlo Simulations



Aerospace/Automotive

Electronics/IoT

Software



## NASA Names SDM Team a Winner in Startup Challenge



A team of students from the MIT System Design & Management (SDM) program recently won the NASA Startup Challenge in the category of wind energy production.

The team's winning product, the ElectroKite, is designed to harness wind energy resources at high altitudes, where wind speeds are higher and more sustained. The ElectroKite uses a flexible, tethered kite that makes an 8-shaped motion, obtaining wind energy using ropes controlled by a ground station that employs a machine learning algorithm. The product has a very small land signature and is a cheap and efficient power generator.

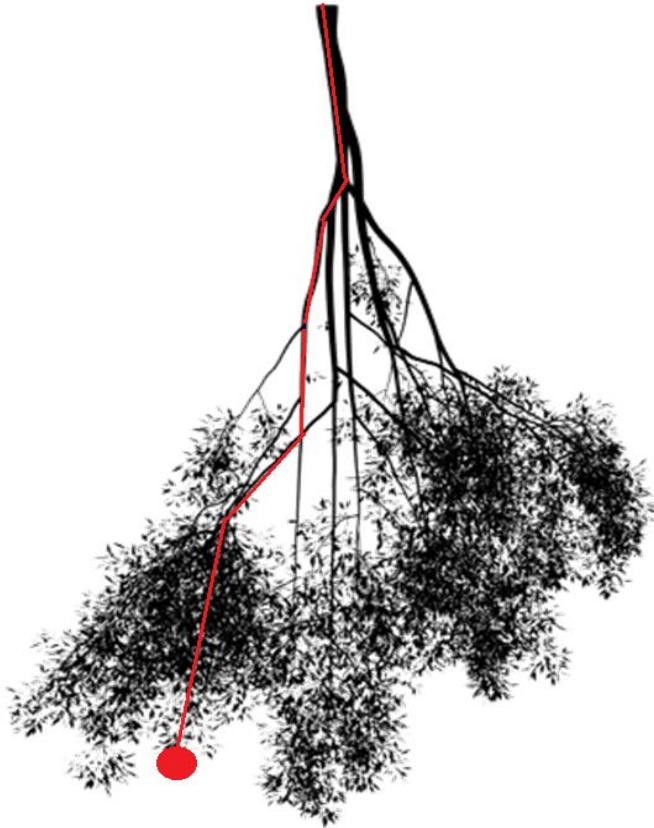
**system design &  
management**

# Harnessing Wind Energy

**MITsdm**



## Take-Aways



Level-0	Problem Definition	- ...
Level-1	Supplying Energy	- ...
Level-2	Solar and Wind Energy	- ...
Level-3	Wind Energy	- ...
Level-4	Airborne Wind Energy	- ...

# Problem Definition



# 1.1 Billion People



Courtesy of Economist,  
Retrieved from: <http://www.economist.com/news/international/21693581-new-electricity-system-emerging-bring-light-worlds-poorest-key>

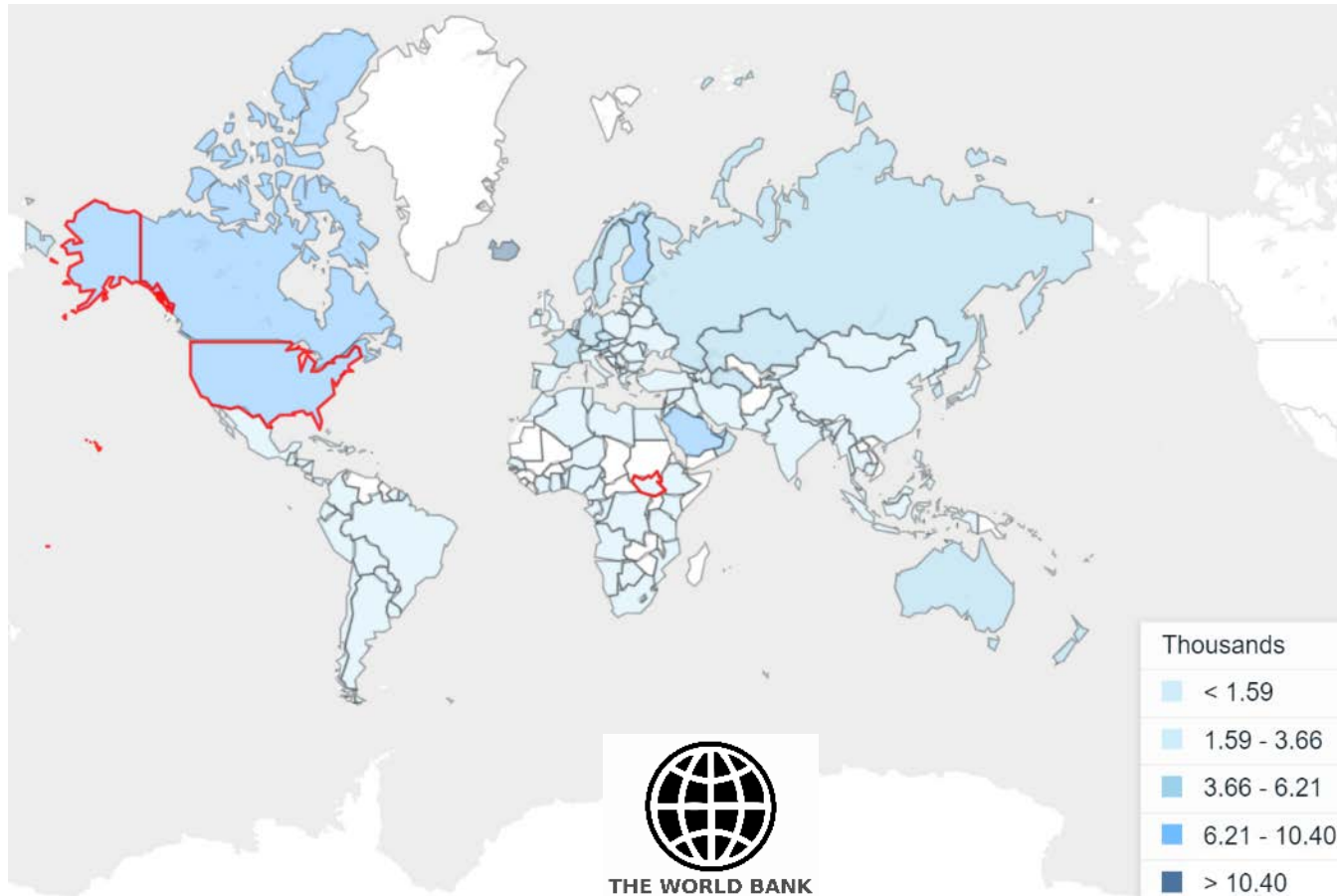


Courtesy of NDTF Profit,  
Retrieved from: <http://profit.ndtv.com/news/nation/article-grid-failures-fuel-scarcity-spell-gloom-for-power-sector-in-2012-315342>

- The deficit is concentrated in rural areas of sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, as well as East Asia. (IIED/Hivos, 2016)



## Annual energy usage (kg of oil equivalent per capita)



Retrieved from As of 21<sup>st</sup> of April, 2017

[http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EG.USE.PCAP.KG.OE?end=2014&locations=SS-WS-US&name\\_desc=true&page=1&start=2012&view=map](http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EG.USE.PCAP.KG.OE?end=2014&locations=SS-WS-US&name_desc=true&page=1&start=2012&view=map)



United States = 6949 kg

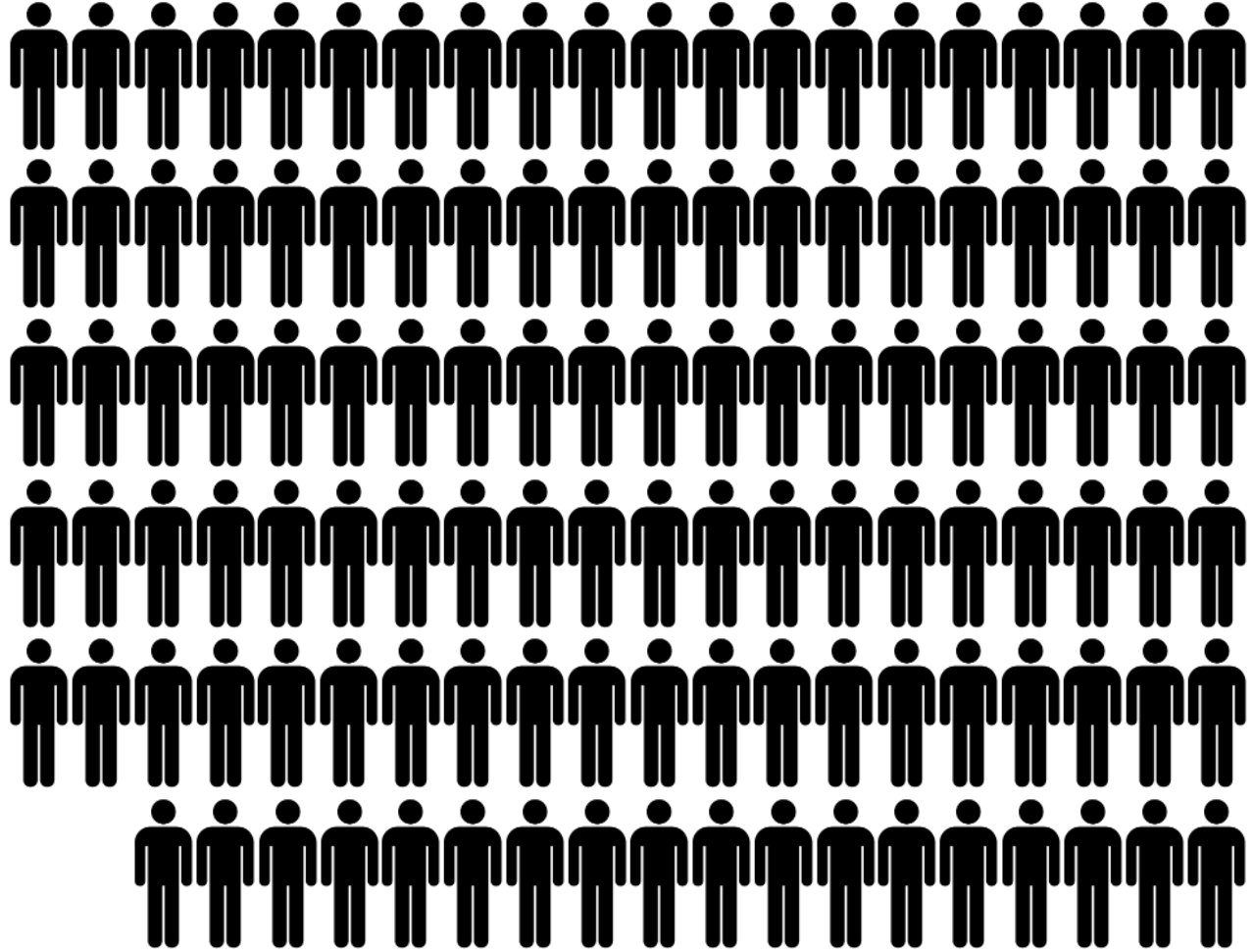


France = 3661 kg



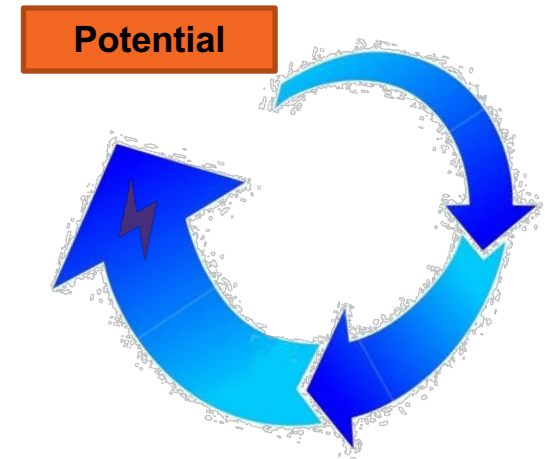
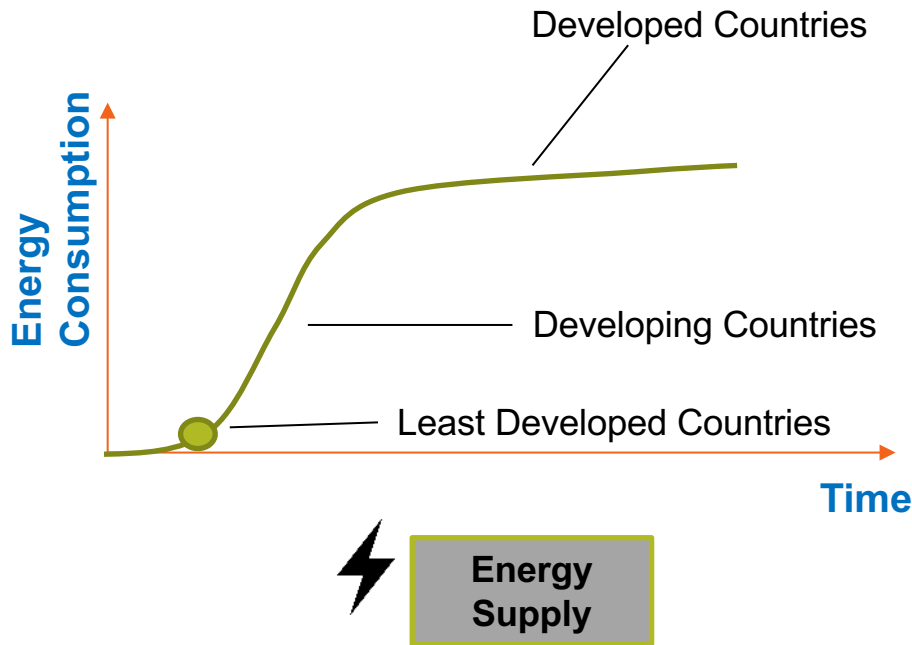
Turkey = 1568 kg

South Sudan = 59 kg





**USD 50 billion a year is needed to achieve universal access to electricity and clean cooking facilities by 2030 (IEA, 2011, 2012, SE4All 2015a)". (IIED/Hivos, 2016)**



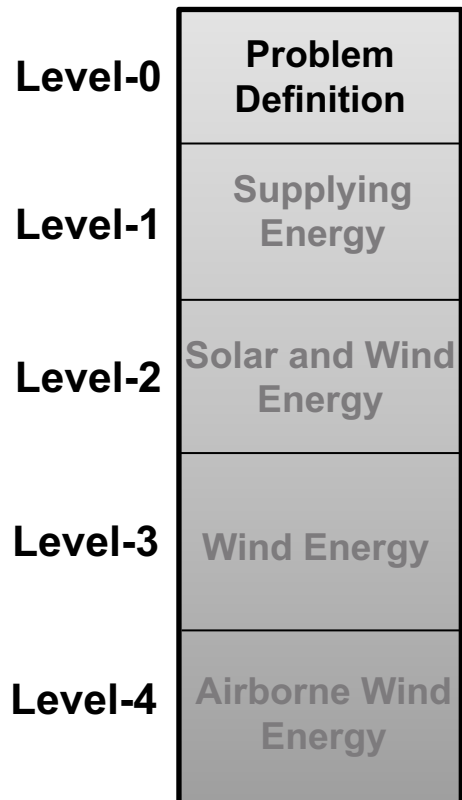




- **Mid-Presentation Level-0 Conclusions**

- Huge inequality in energy consumption. Why?
- A snapshot of energy consumption of developing and least developed countries do not reflect the real market.
- Invest to their potentials, provide the energy in an increasing way...

## Take-Aways



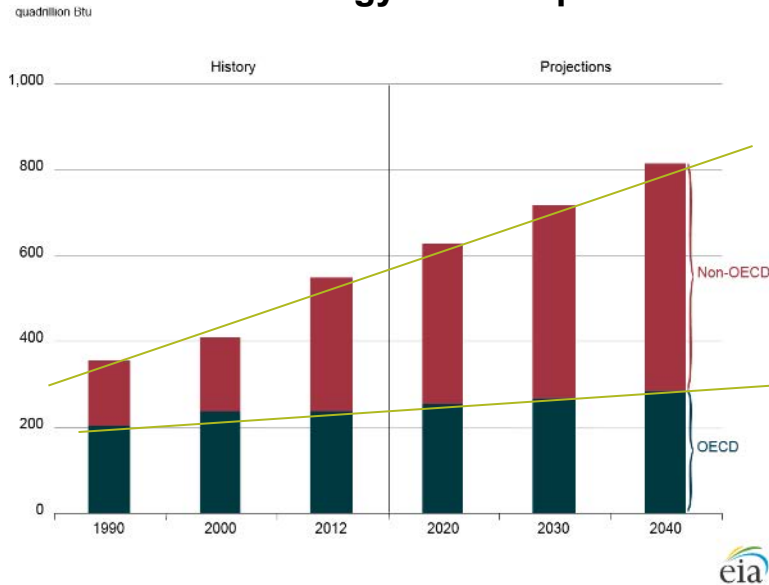
- Outstanding energy and investment potential
- A snapshot of current market needs is inadequate.





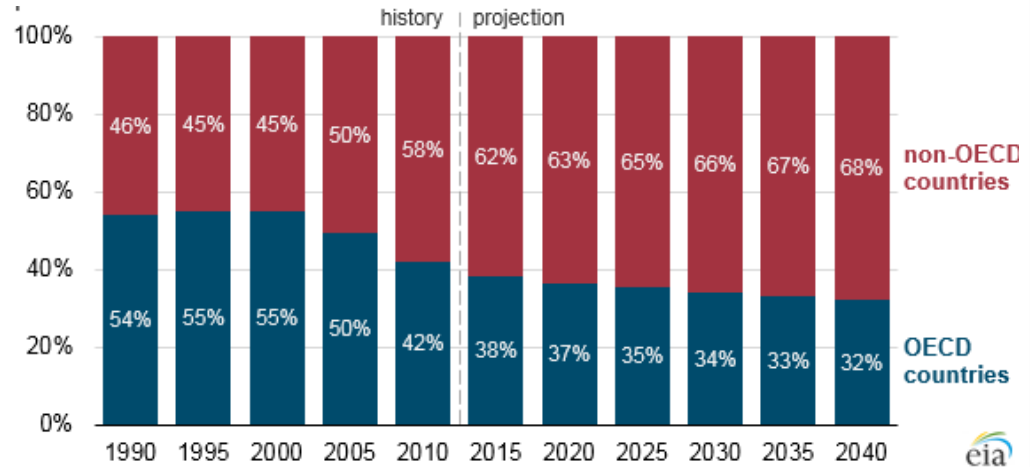
# SUPPLYING THE ENERGY

## Global Energy Consumption



Non-OECD countries will dominate the energy need.

## % Share of Global CO2 Emissions

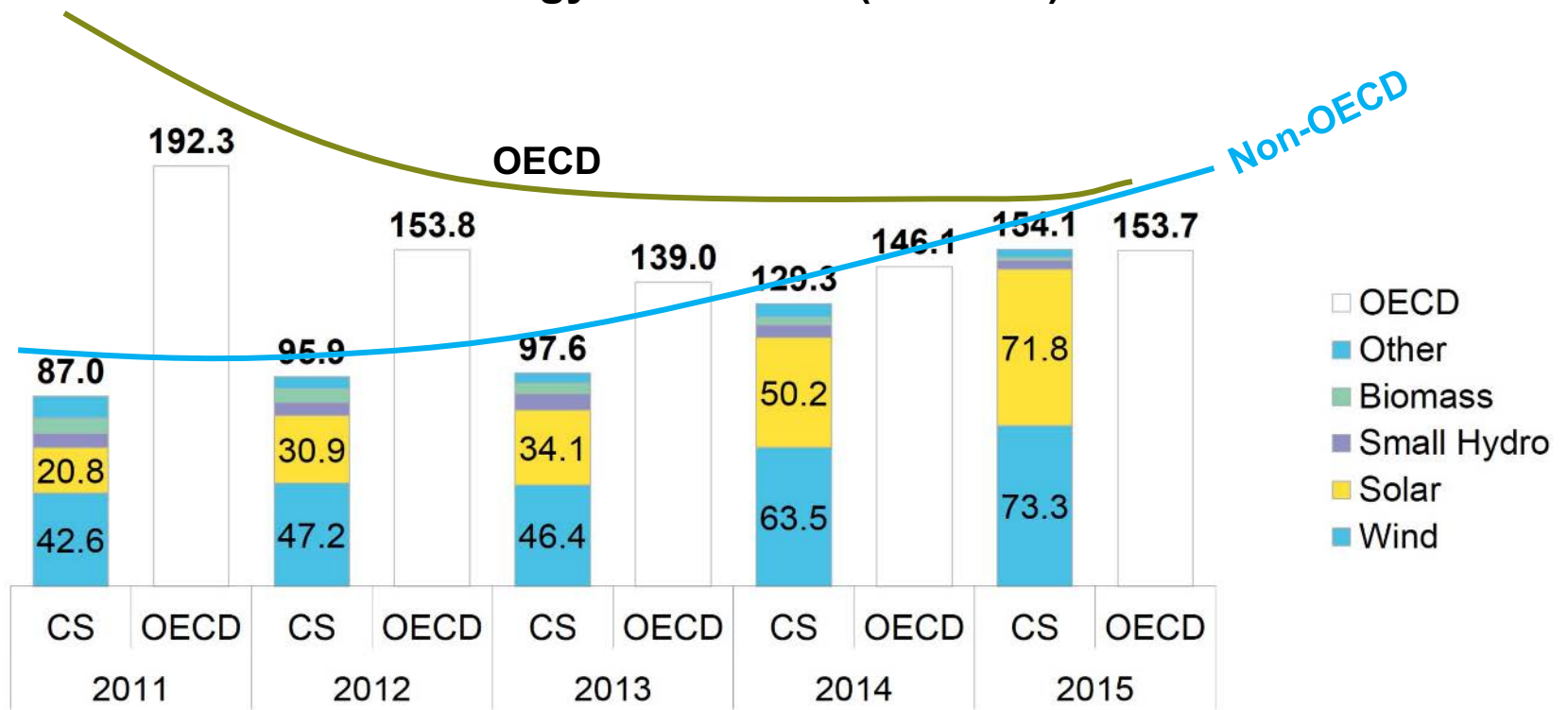


The huge energy demand of non-OECD will be likely to be supplied by Fossil Fuels.

Courtesy of  Independent Statistics & Analysis  
U.S. Energy Information Administration

Taken from <https://www.eia.gov/analysis/>

# Annual clean energy investment (Billion \$)



CS: Climate Scope Countries: 58 emerging nations in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America and the Middle East.

Clean energy investment to non-OECD will dominate OECD.

Courtesy of **CLIMATESCOPE 2016**

Taken from <http://global-climatescope.org/en/summary/>



## Along with Humanitarian Issue

- Global Warming
- Economy



# On-Grid and Centralized Electricity won't be an answer



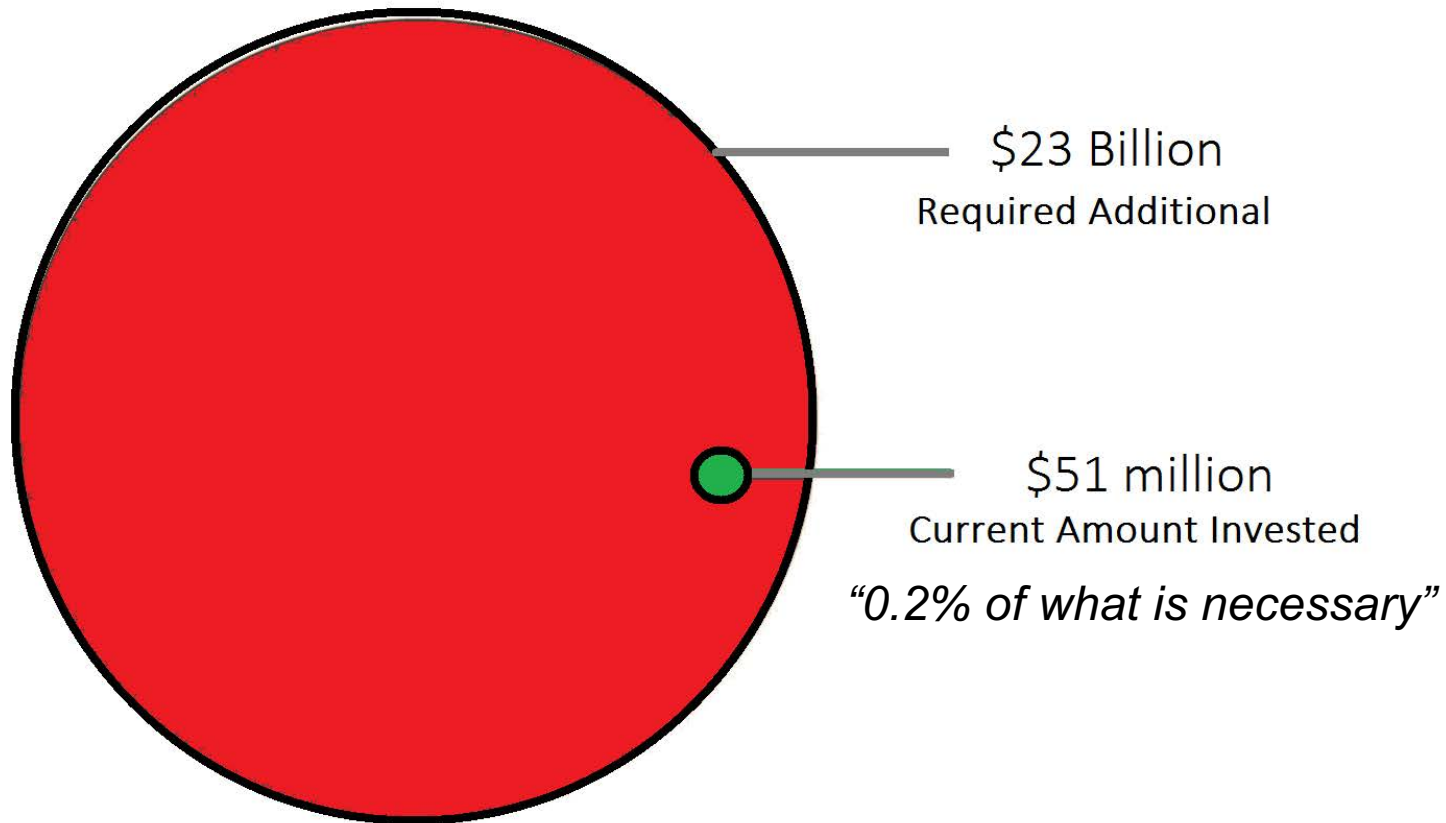




Courtesy of the Guardian newspaper. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2012/jan/05/solar-power-billion-without-electricity>

Sharan Pinto installs a solar panel on the rooftop of a house in Nada, a village near the southwest Indian port of Mangalore, India. (Photograph: Rafiq Maqbool/AP)

# Investment in Off-Grid Energy



- **Mid-Presentation Level-1 Conclusions**

- Energy investment in non-OECD will dominate OECD countries.
- CO2 will be a huge problem if the cheap fossil fuels are employed.
- Off-grid solutions, mobile and “easy-to-use” green energy solutions are necessary.



## Take-Aways

Level-0	Problem Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Outstanding energy and investment potential</li><li>- A snapshot of current market needs is inadequate.</li></ul>
Level-1	Supplying Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A green energy solution is required for non-OECD's.</li><li>- Off-grid and easy to deploy solutions are needed.</li></ul>
Level-2	Solar and Wind Energy	
Level-3	Wind Energy	
Level-4	Airborne Wind Energy	



# SOLAR and WIND ENERGY

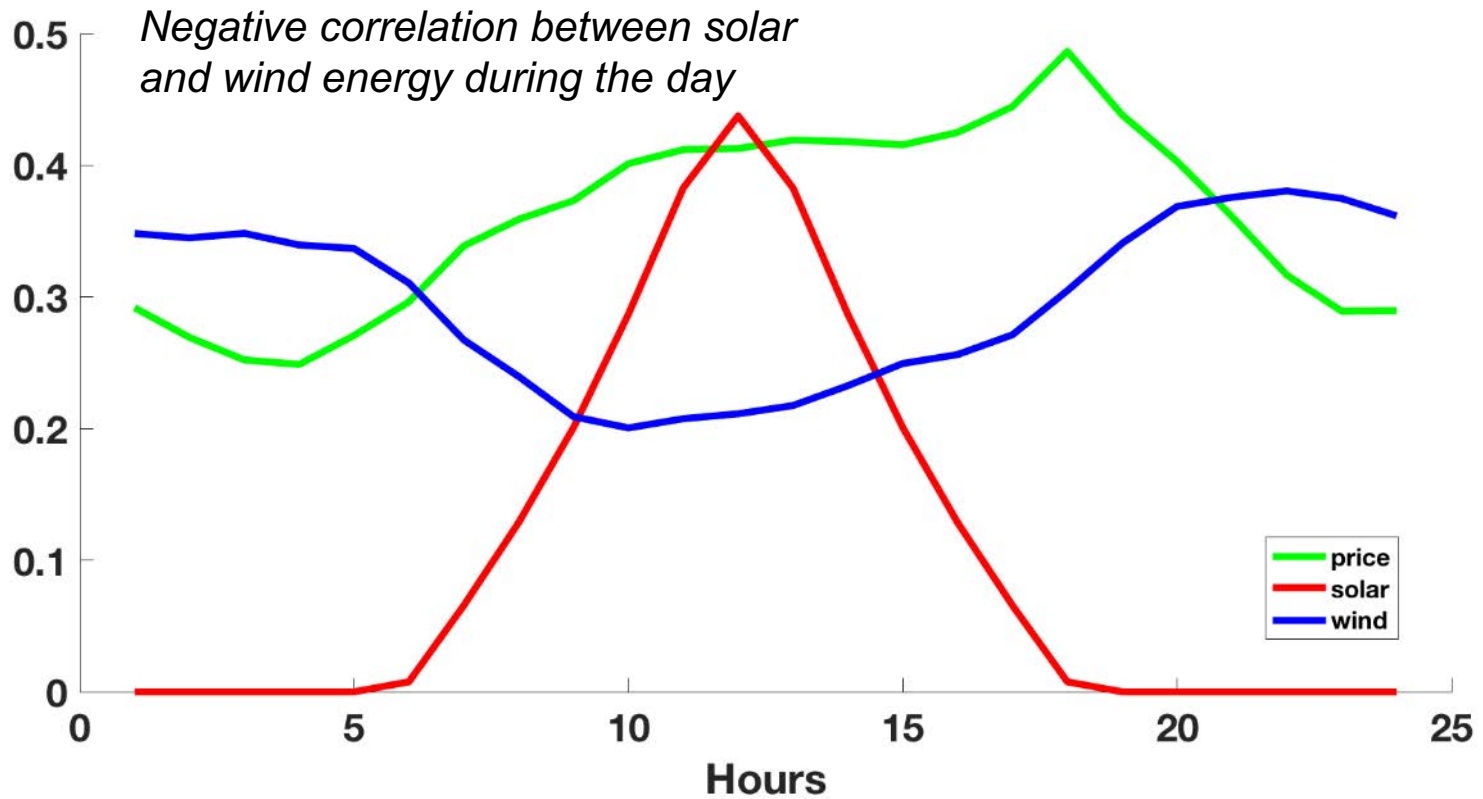


?



# Plymouth, Massachusetts

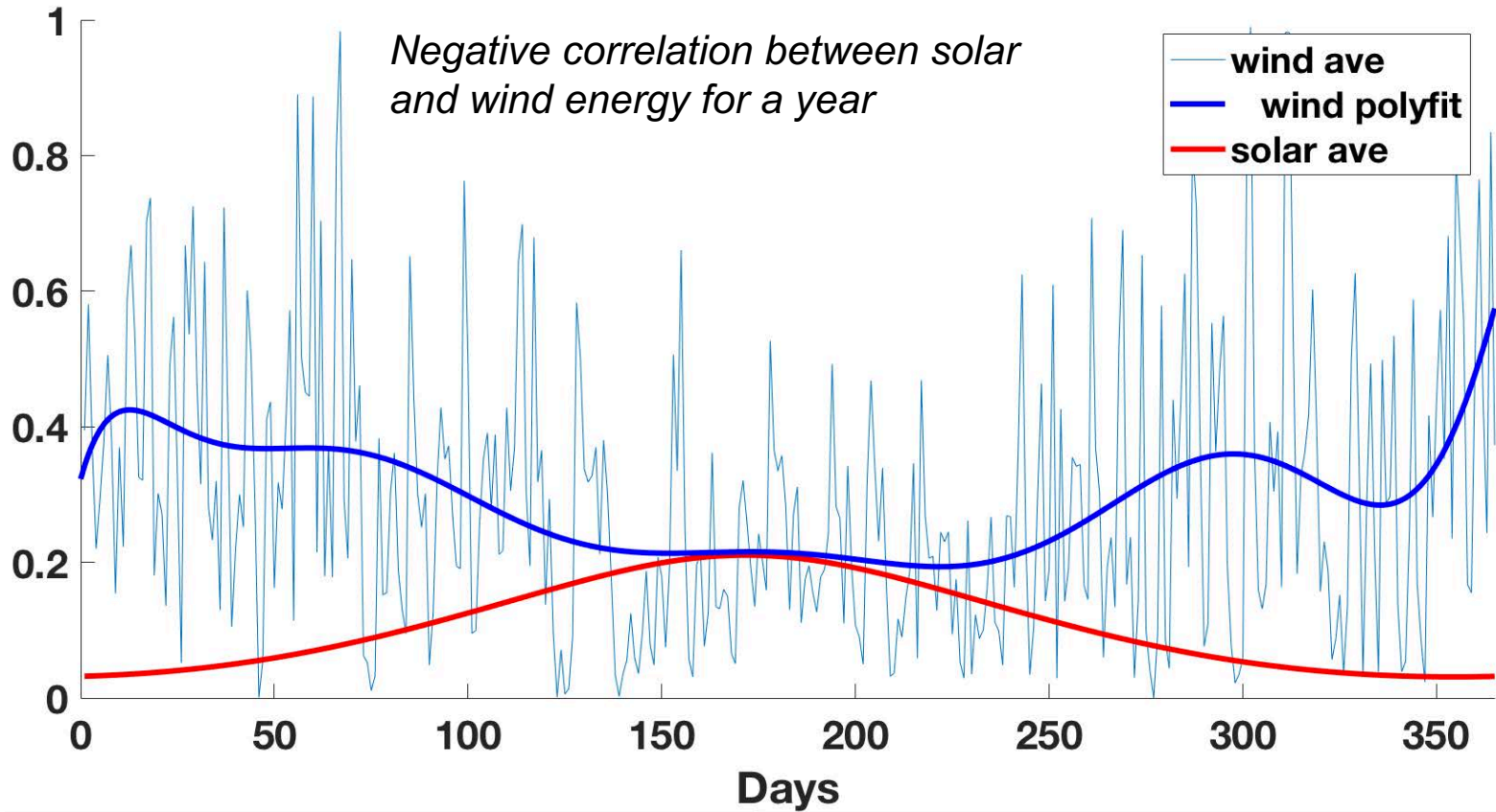
Throughout the Day



Courtesy of Carlos Damas, calculated using data in <http://www.nrel.gov/>

# Plymouth, Massachusetts

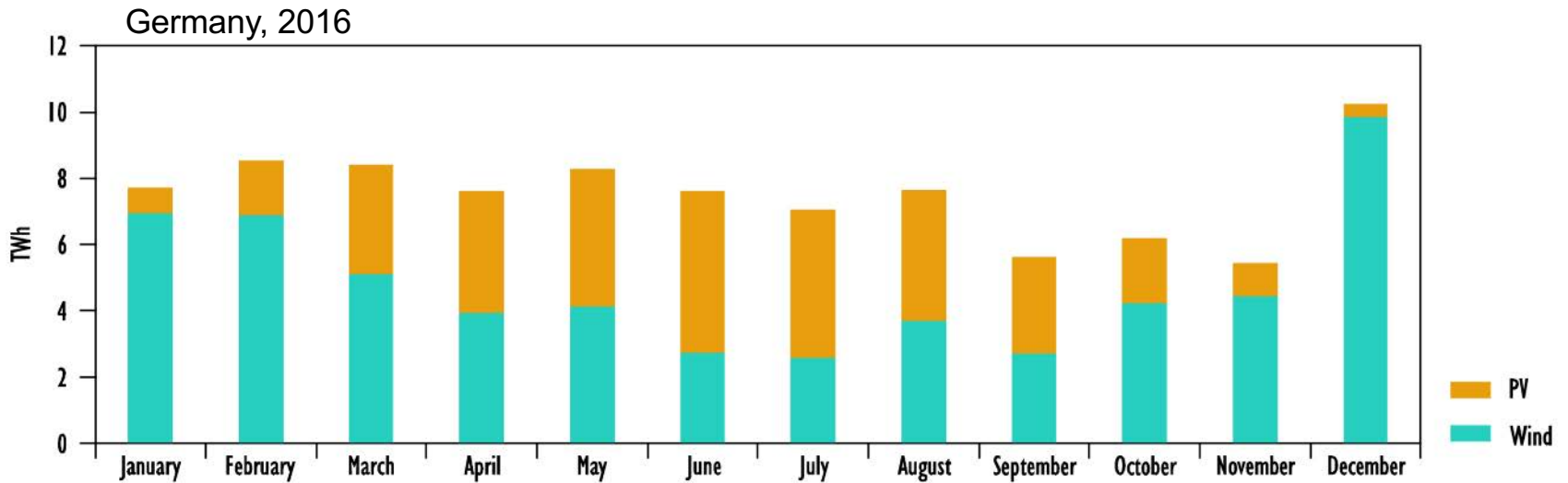
Throughout the Year



Courtesy of Carlos Damas, calculated using data in <http://www.nrel.gov/>



## Share of Renewable Energy Obtained in Germany

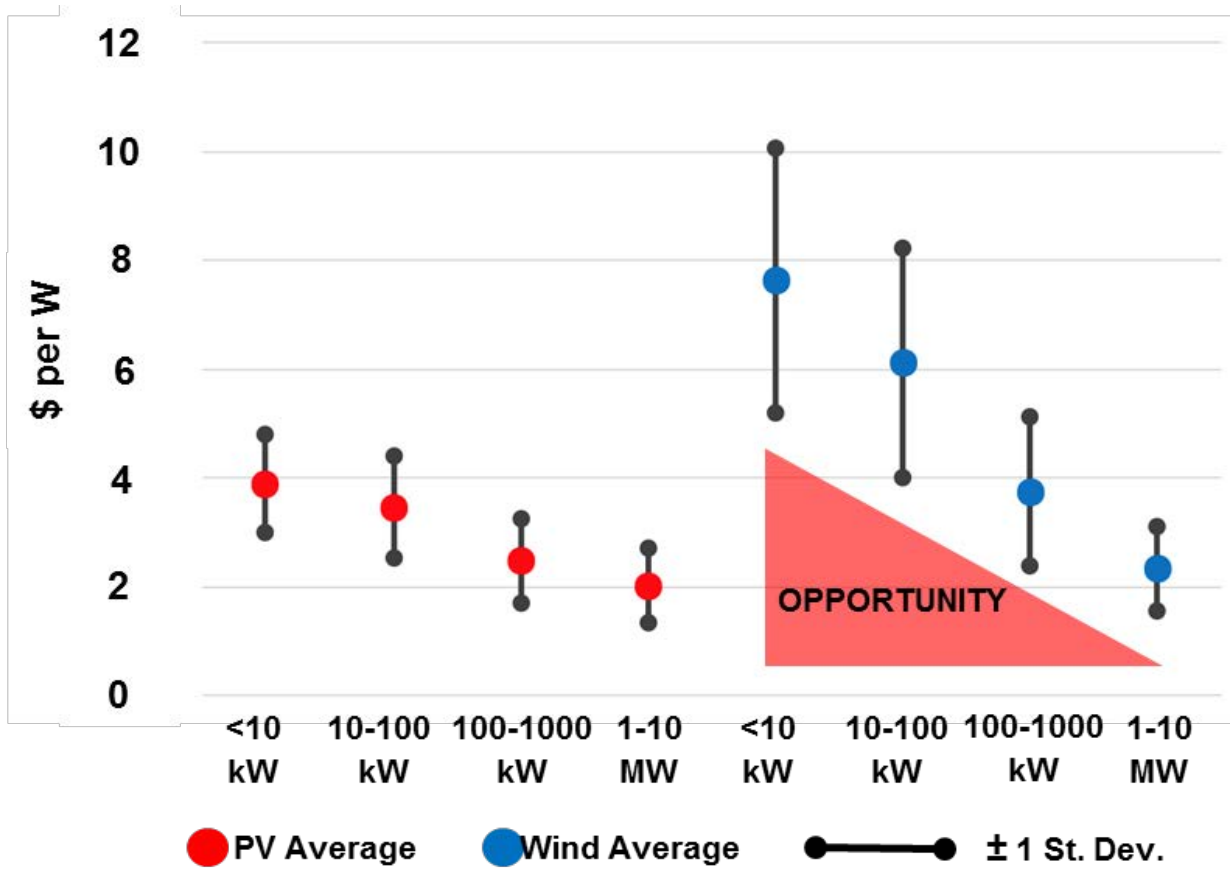


\*taken from International Energy Agency, Next-generation wind and solar power, 2016.

*A hug for you, my friend*

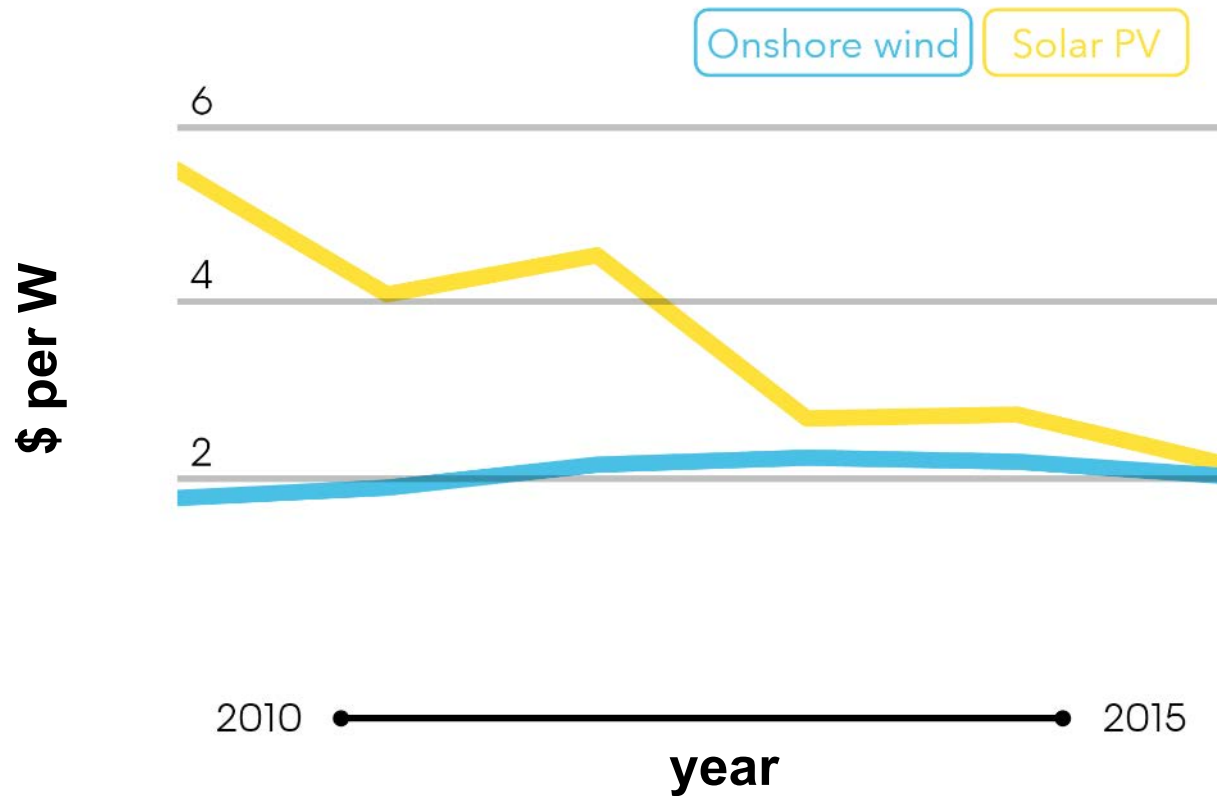


# Installation Cost for Renewables



Source: NREL Feb. 2016

# Cost Reduction by Years



Courtesy of 

Retrieved from <https://www.bnef.com/dataview/climatescope-2016/index.html>

- **Mid-Presentation Level-2 Conclusions**

- Solar and wind energies are compatible, not substitutional.
- Solar power is getting cheaper every year.
- Conventional on shore wind turbines are expensive and looks like now getting cheaper.

## Take-Aways

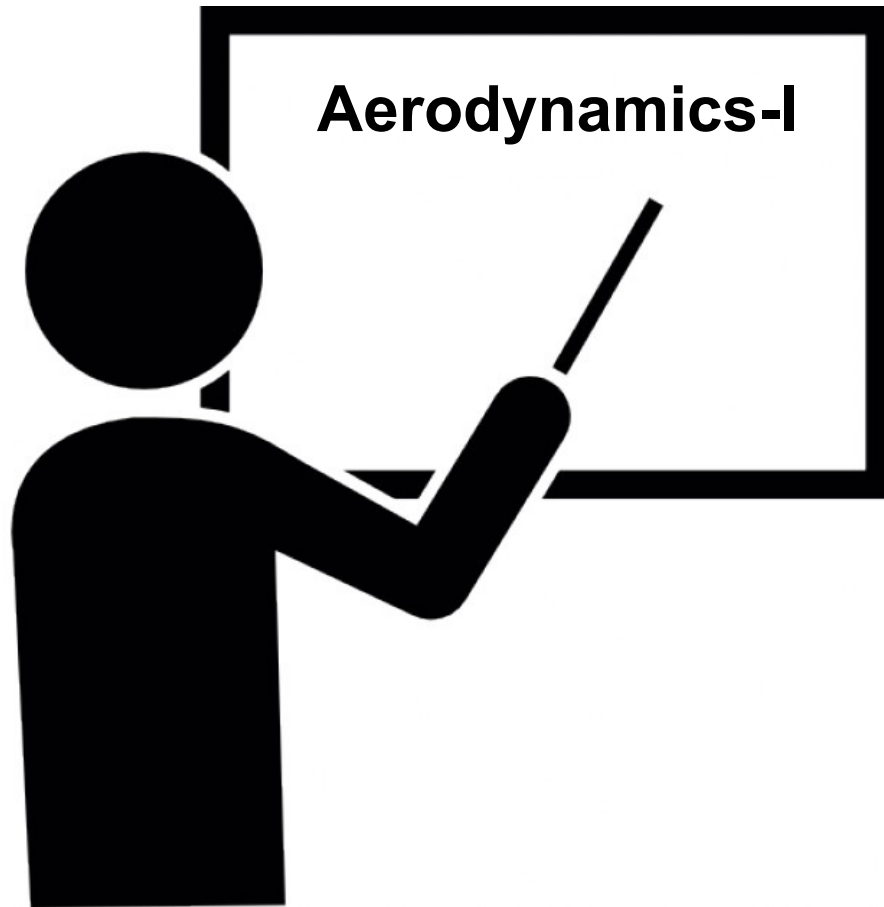
Level-0	Problem Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Outstanding energy and investment potential</li><li>- A snapshot of current market needs is inadequate.</li></ul>
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Level-3	Wind Energy	
Level-4	Airborne Wind Energy	





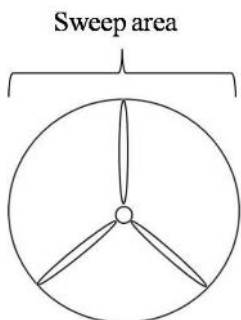
# WIND ENERGY







V: Wind Speed  
ρ: Air Density  
A: Swept Area



Wind Energy is Stored as **Kinetic Energy (KE)**:

$$KE = \frac{1}{2}MV^2$$

$$KE = \frac{1}{2}(\rho \cdot Vol)V^2$$

$$KE = \frac{1}{2}(\rho \cdot A \cdot V \cdot t)V^2$$

$$\frac{KE}{t} = \text{Power} = \frac{1}{2}A\rho V^3$$

*Power* ∝ Swept Area

*Power* ∝ Air density

*Power* ∝ Capacity Factor

*Power* ∝ **Wind Speed<sup>3</sup>**

*“Betting on Wind Speed would have a bigger effect than the combined influence of swept area and capacity factor”*

$$\text{Maximum Harnessable Power} = C \frac{1}{2} A \rho V^3$$

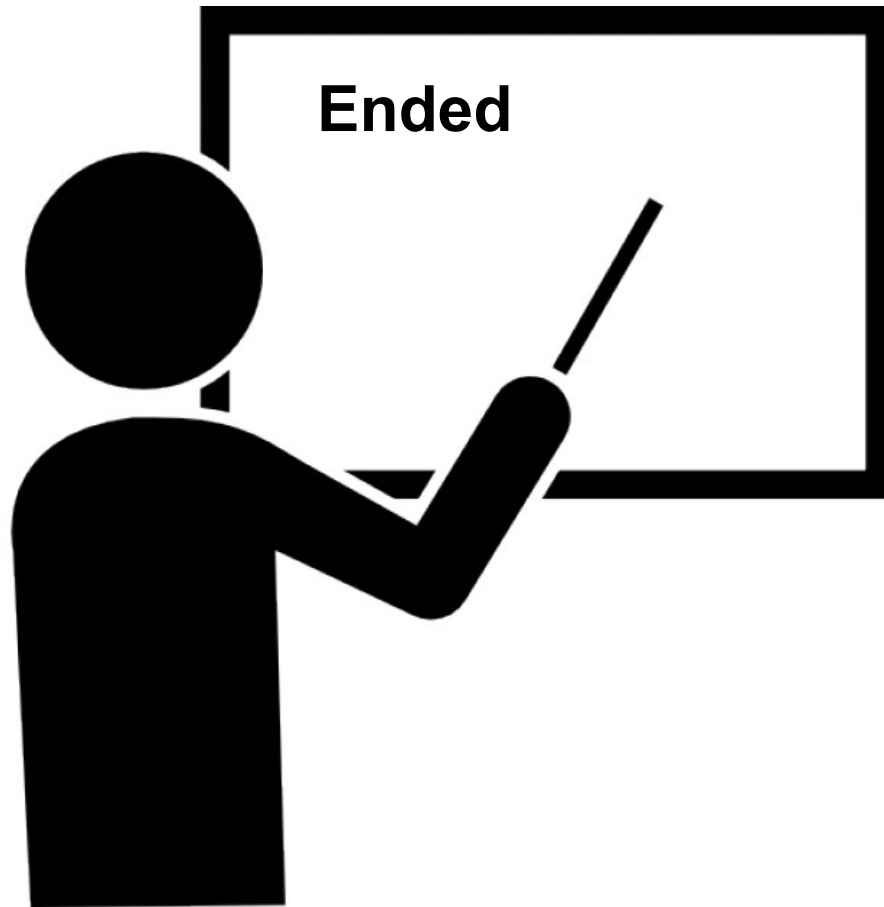
Betz Capacity Factor, C = 59.3%

$$\text{Harnesses Power} = \eta C \frac{1}{2} A \rho V^3$$

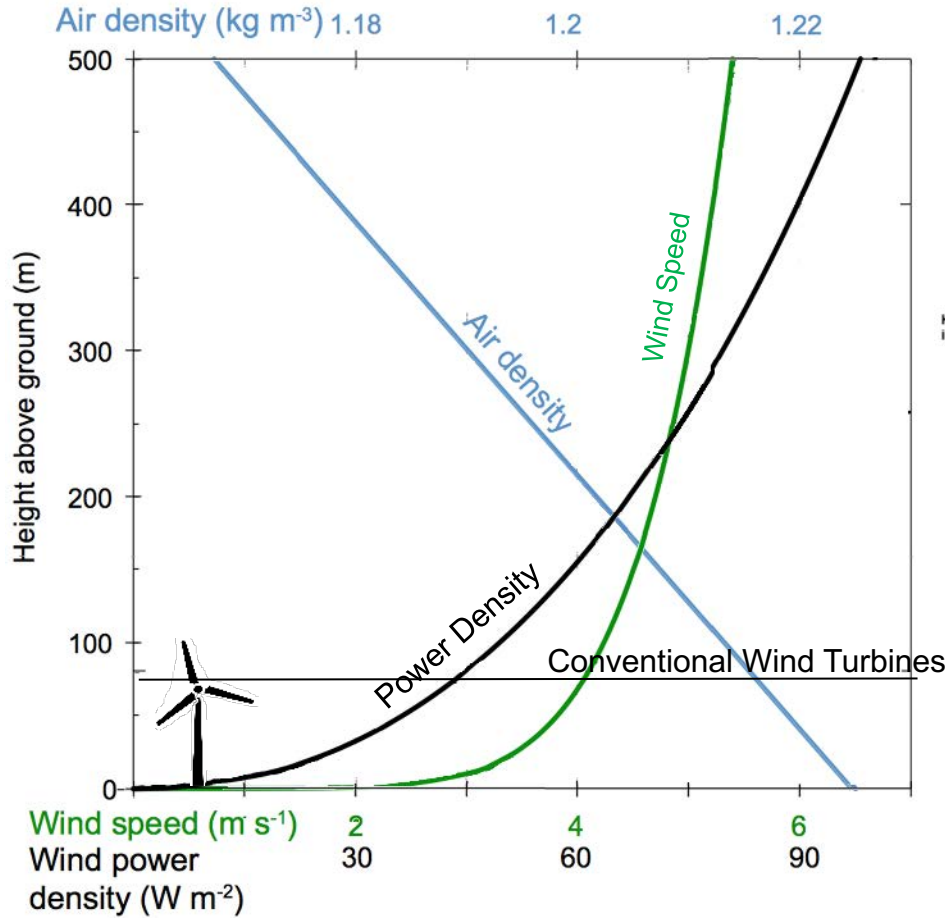
Capacity, factor,  $\eta C = 40\%-50\%$  (wind turbines)

Efficiency Factor,  $\eta = 70\%-80\%$  (wind turbines)

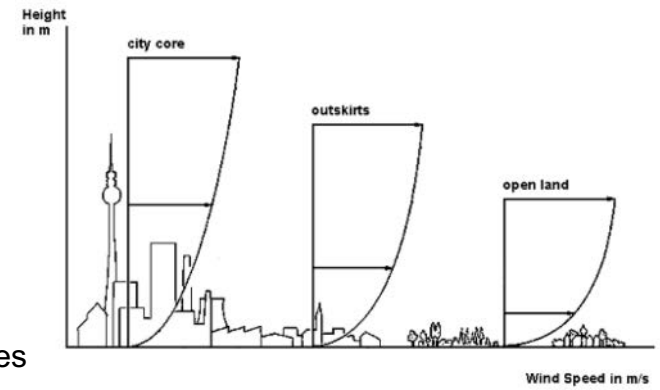
# Crash Course - 1



# Wind Properties with Altitude

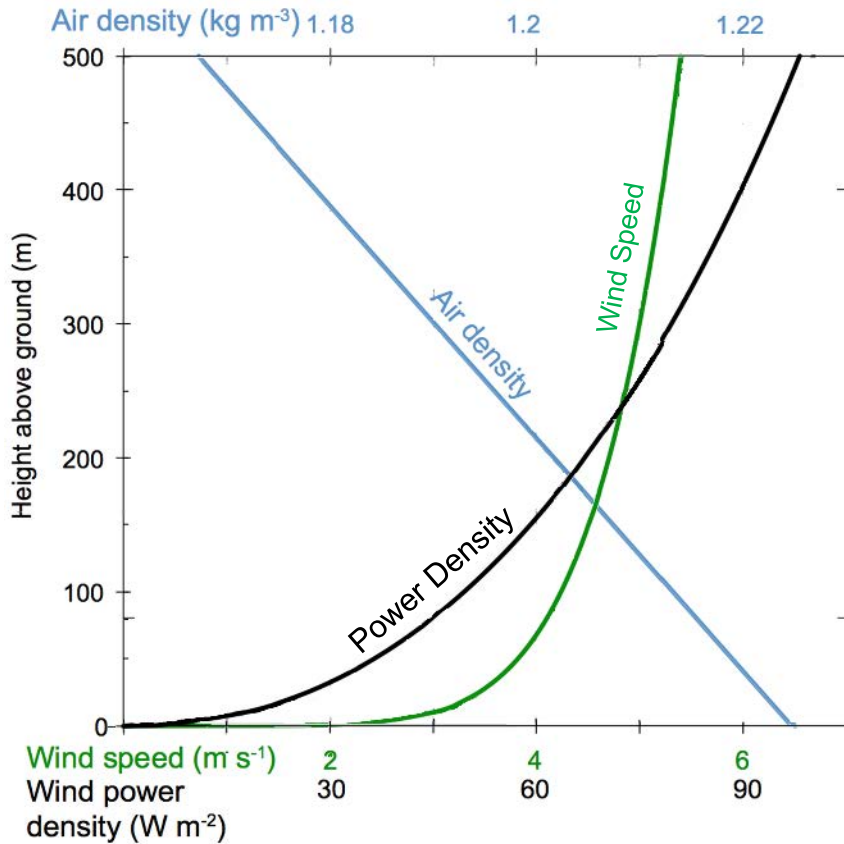


$$Power = \frac{1}{2} A \rho V^3$$

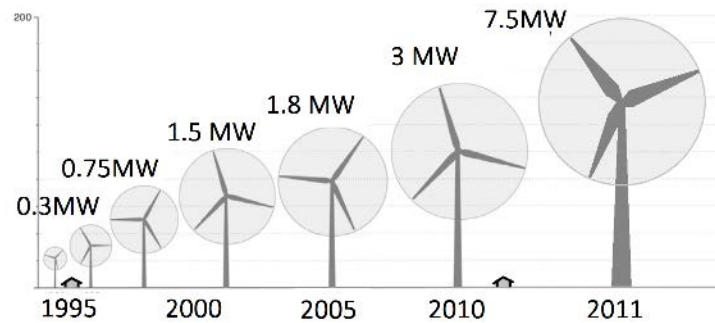


Ahrens, Uwe, Moritz Diehl, and Roland Schmehl, eds. *Airborne wind energy*. Springer Science & Business Media, 2013.

# “Bigger is better for Wind Turbines”



$$Power = \frac{1}{2} \rho A V^3$$



Ahrens, Uwe, Moritz Diehl, and Roland Schmehl, eds. *Airborne wind energy*. Springer Science & Business Media, 2013.

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Wind\\_turbine\\_size\\_increase\\_1980-2010.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Wind_turbine_size_increase_1980-2010.png)



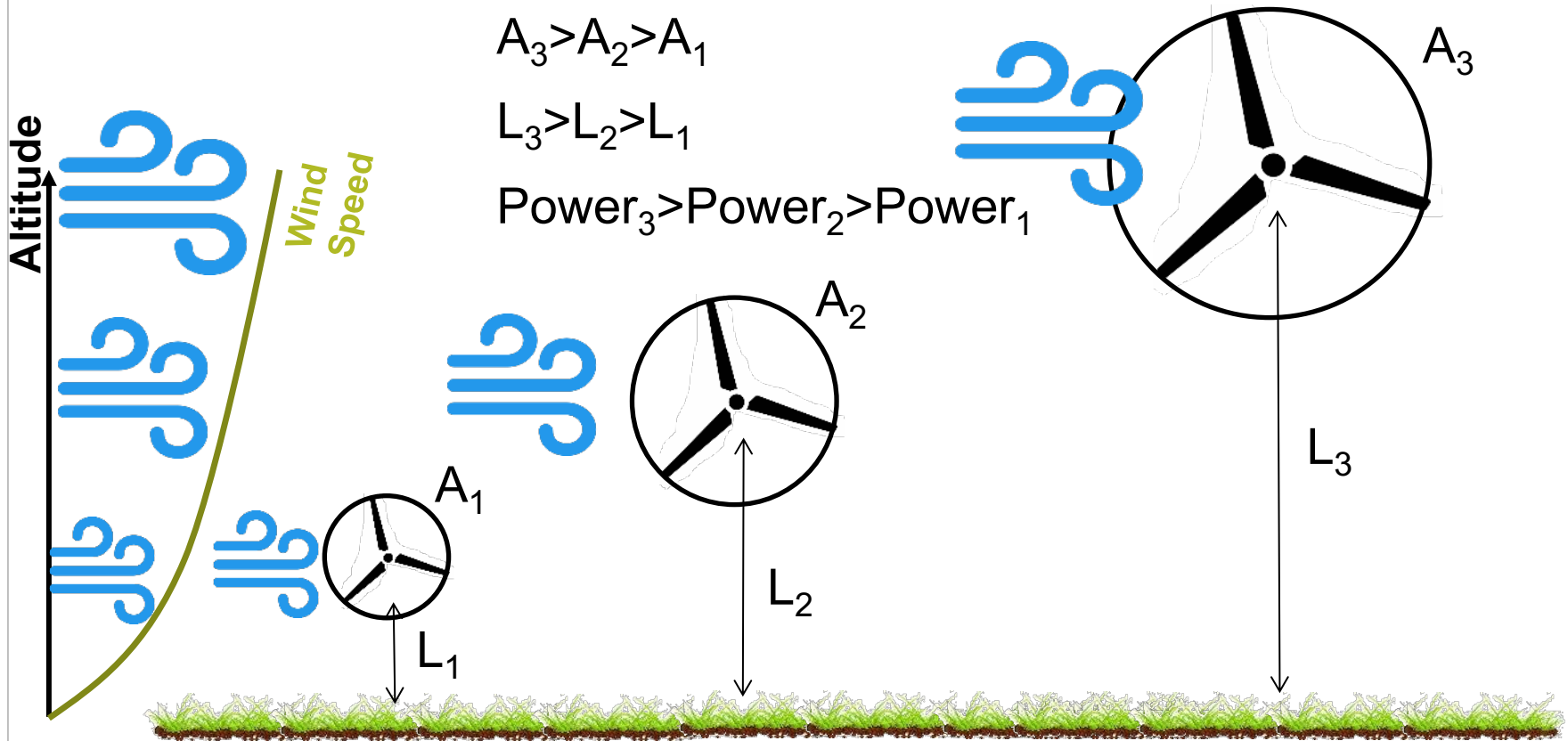
# Optimization Problem: Maximize Power = $\frac{1}{2}\rho AV^3$

- Objective 1: Max. Sweep Area (A)
- Objective 2: Max. Altitude, L (to maximize wind speed)

$$A_3 > A_2 > A_1$$

$$L_3 > L_2 > L_1$$

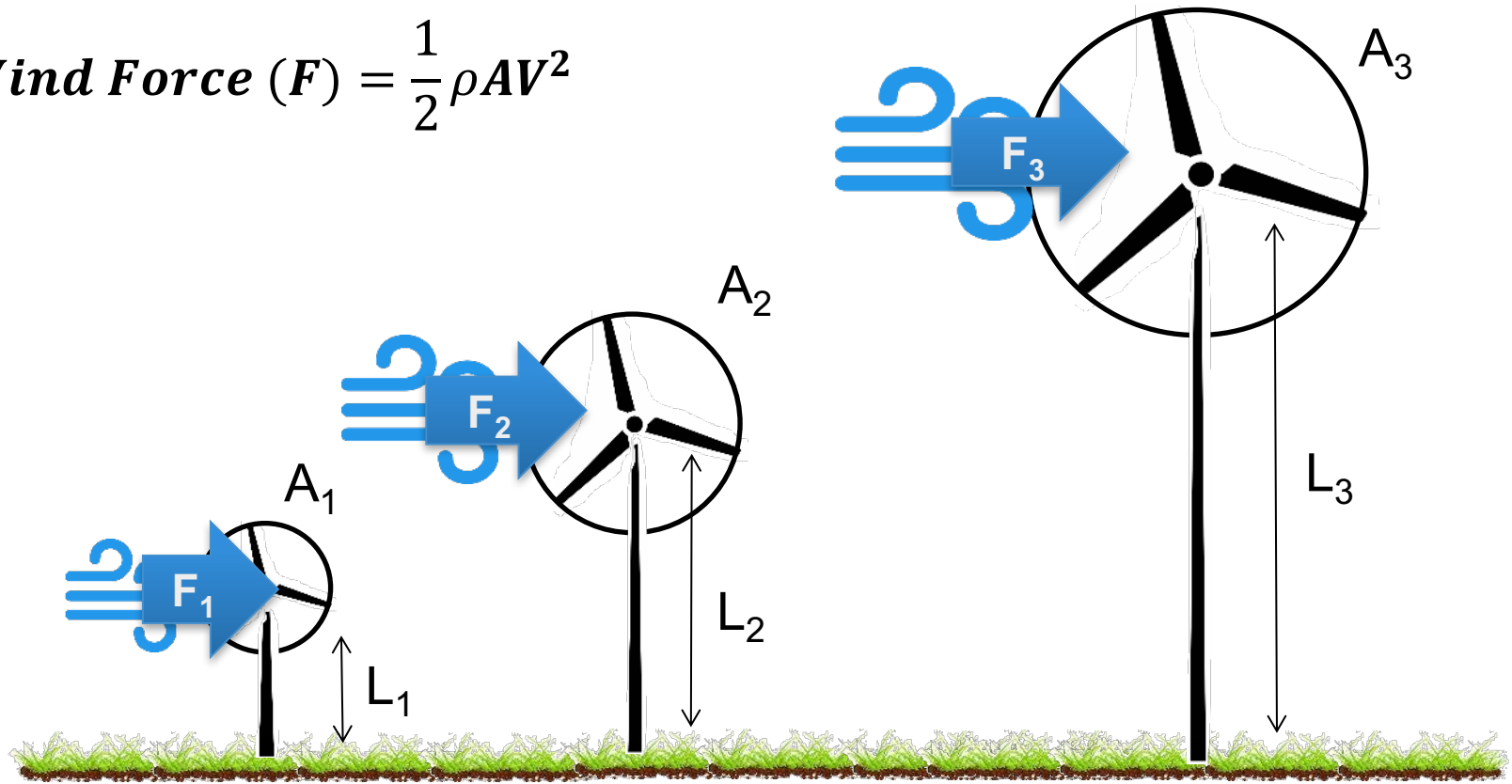
$$\text{Power}_3 > \text{Power}_2 > \text{Power}_1$$

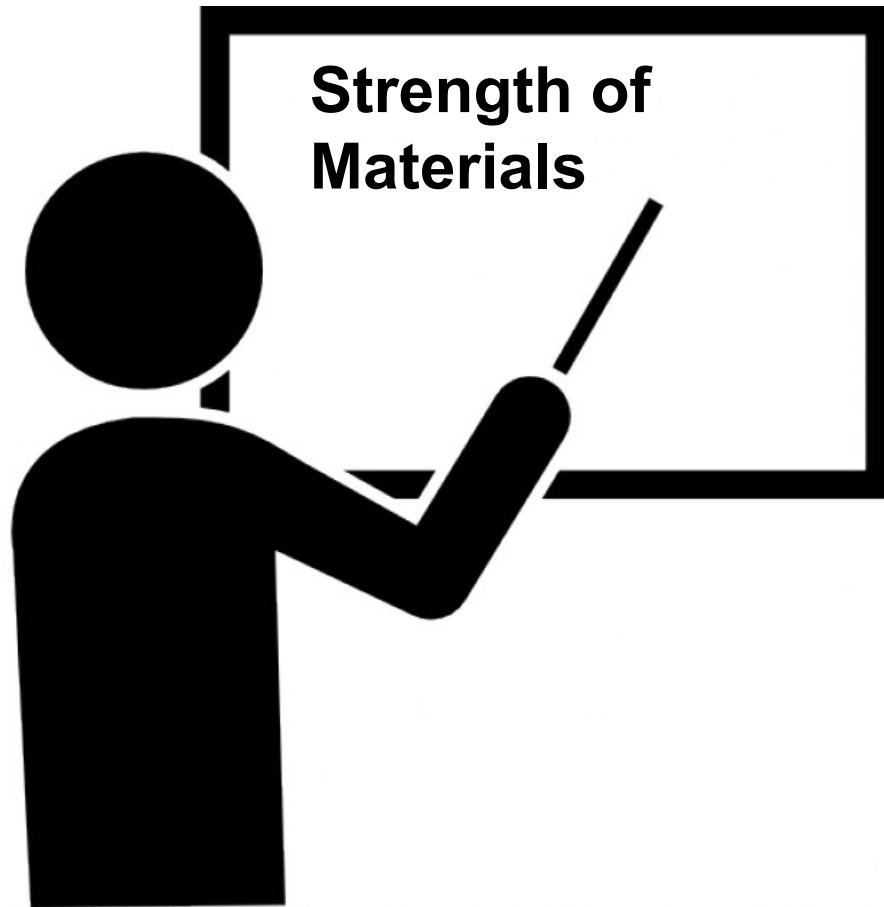


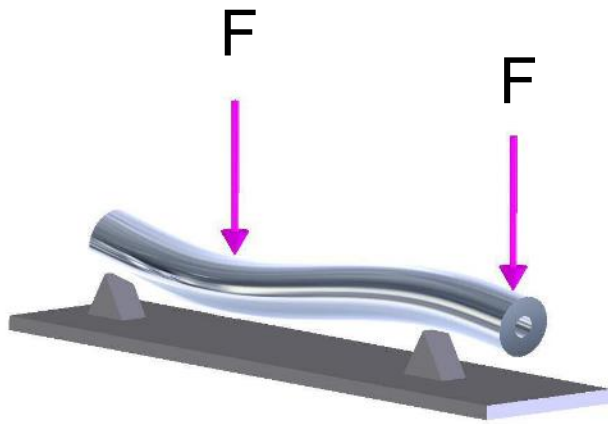
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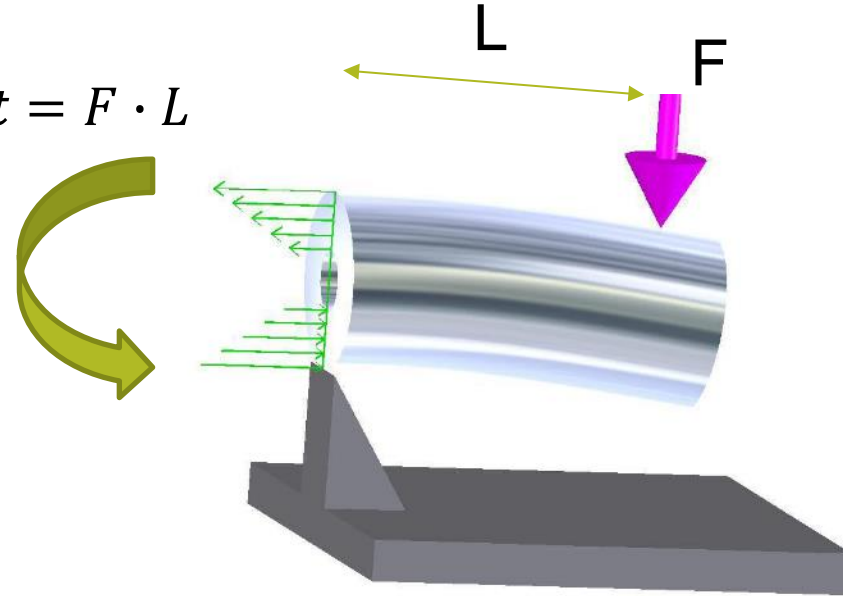
$$\text{Wind Force } (F) = \frac{1}{2}\rho AV^2$$







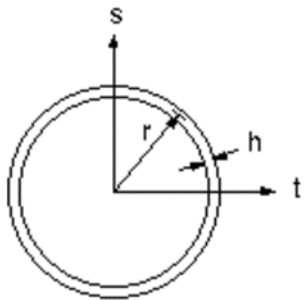
$$\text{Moment} = F \cdot L$$



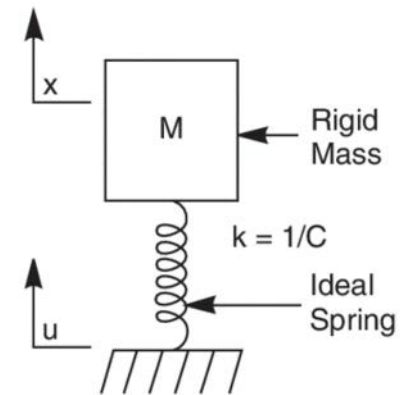
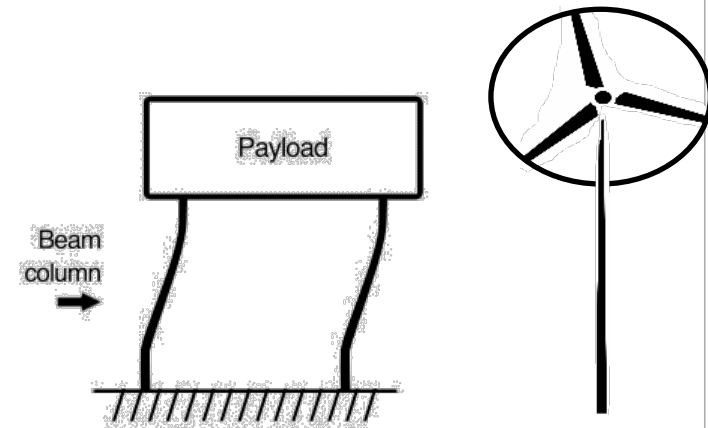
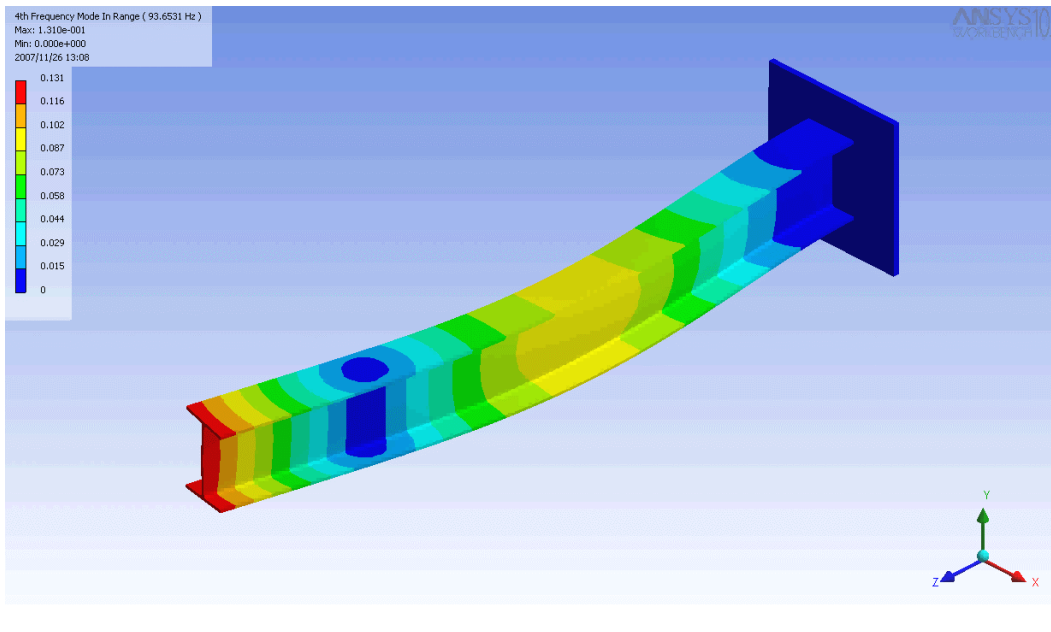
$$\text{Stress} = \text{Moment} \frac{y}{\text{Inertia}}$$

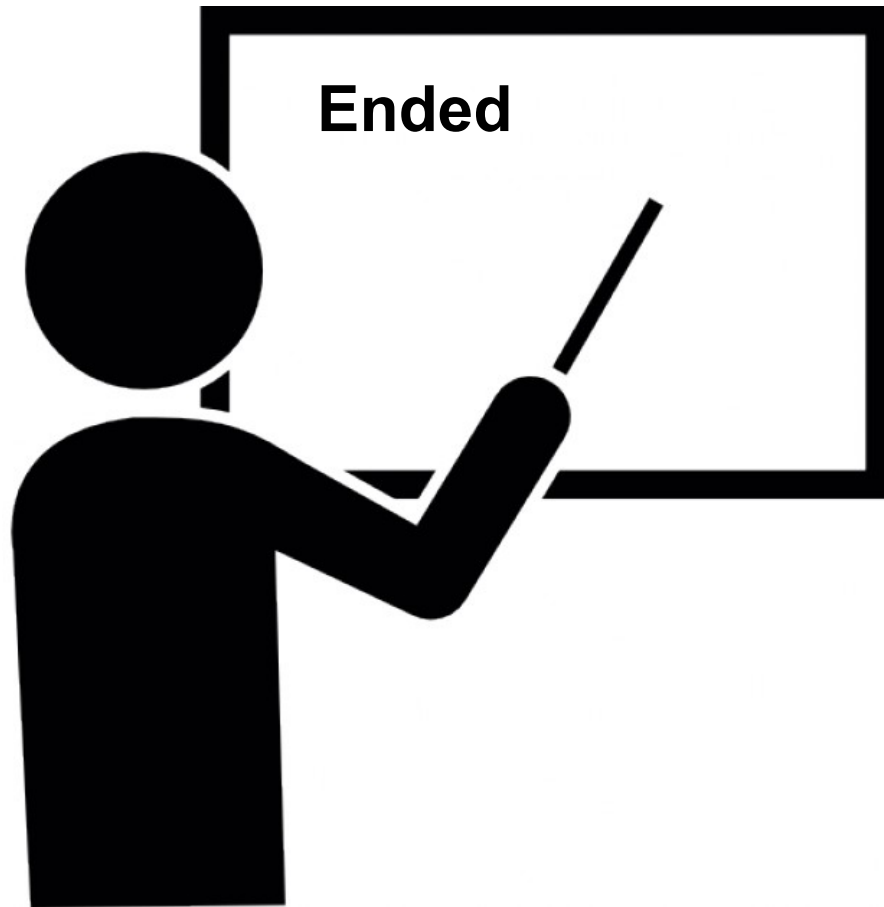
$$\text{Stress} \approx \frac{F \cdot L}{2\pi r^2 h}$$

***Stress to Withstand  $\propto F$***   
***Stress to Withstand  $\propto L$***



h: Wall thickness  
 L: Length of the beam  
 r: Radius of the cross-section



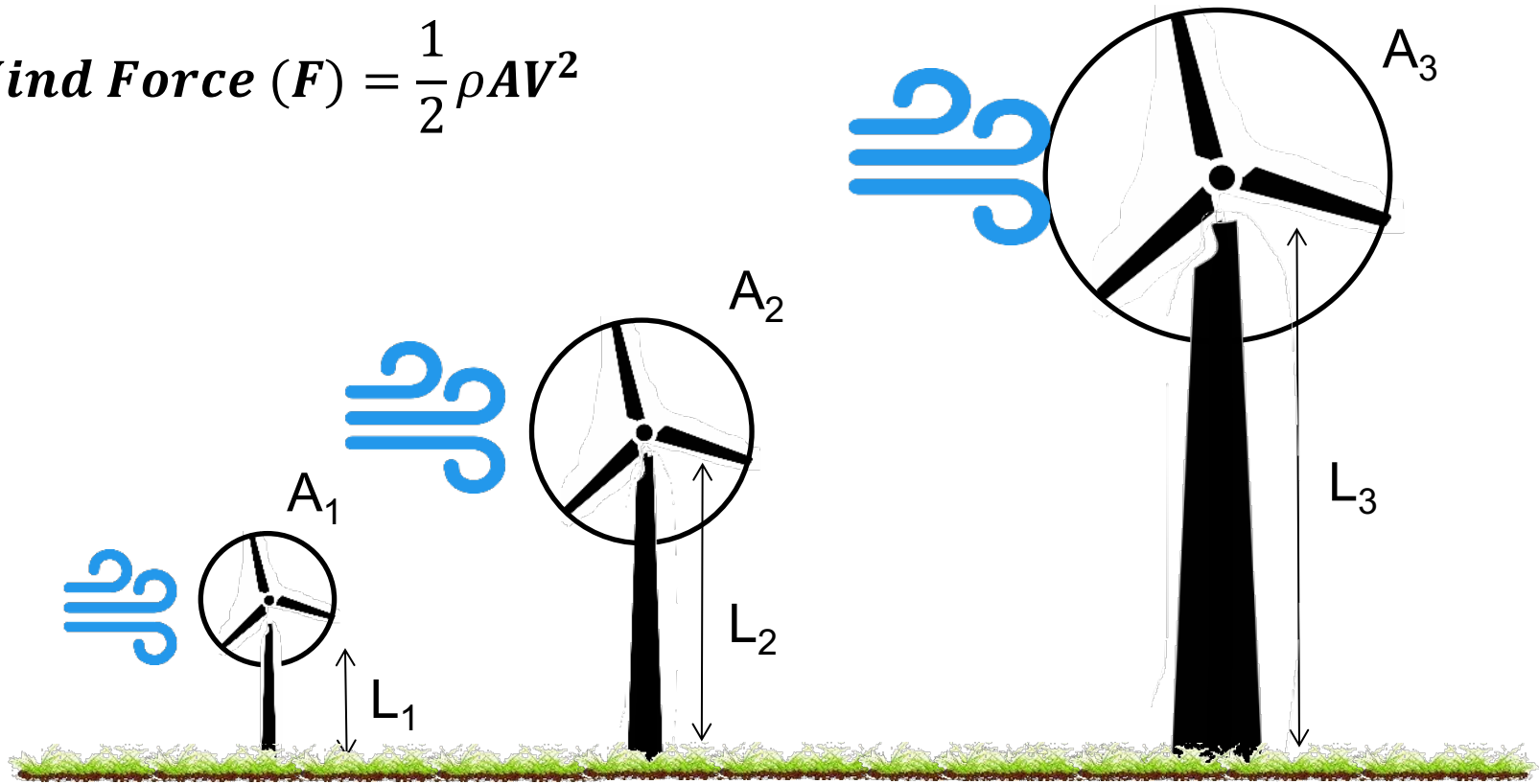




# Optimization Problem: Maximize Power = $\frac{1}{2}\rho AV^3$

- **Objective 1:** Max. Sweep Area (A)
- **Objective 2:** Max. Altitude, L (to maximize wind speed)

$$\text{Wind Force } (F) = \frac{1}{2}\rho AV^2$$





Retrieved from  
[https://www.reddit.com/r/pics/comments/3sbaew/a\\_casting\\_mold\\_for\\_a\\_wind\\_turbine\\_blade/](https://www.reddit.com/r/pics/comments/3sbaew/a_casting_mold_for_a_wind_turbine_blade/)



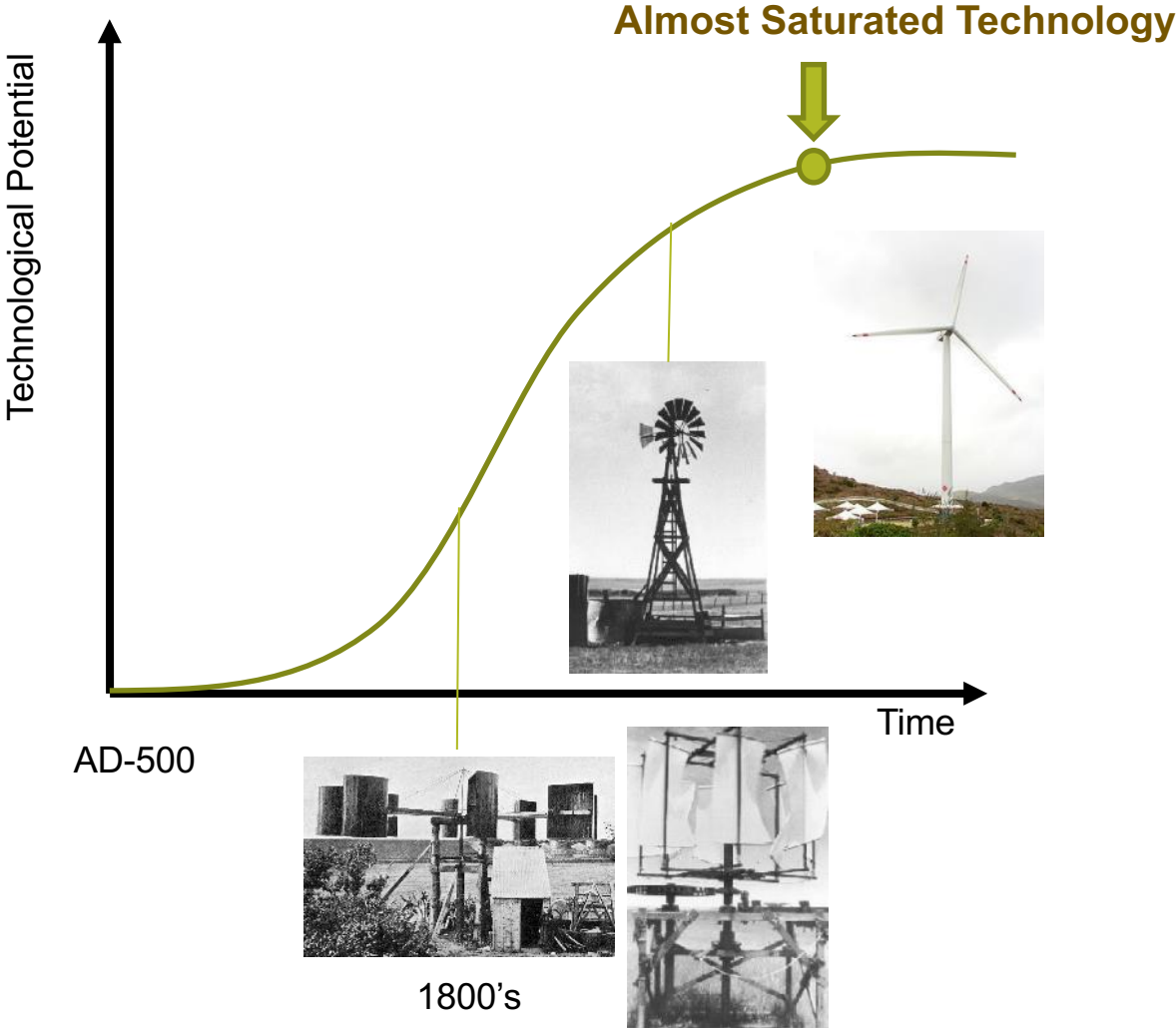
Retrieved from <https://www.lmwindpower.com/en/stories-and-press/stories/news-from-lm-places/transport-of-longest-blade-in-the-world>





Retrieved from <https://www.wind-energy-the-facts.org/transport-and-installation.html>

It became a strength of materials problem...



*It has systems architectural limits of  
“Reaching the clouds with a ladder” – we  
should drop the ladder!*


- **Mid-Presentation Level-3 Conclusions**
- Conventional Wind Turbines are only cost competitive at high scale power production – “economics of scale”.
- Not mobile, not effective for off-grid applications such as for developing world.
- Not modular, transportation problem.
- Their architecture is not suitable for reaching high altitude high speed winds.





## Take-Aways

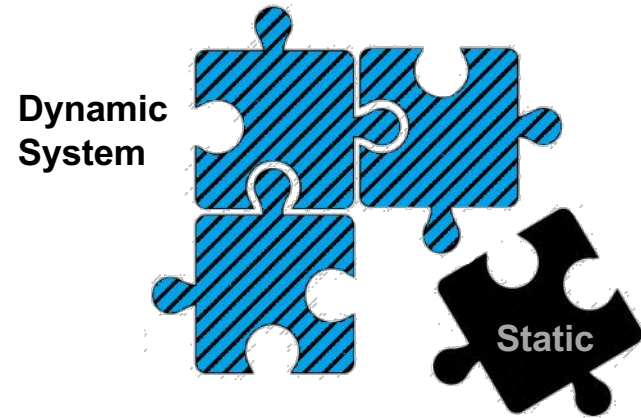
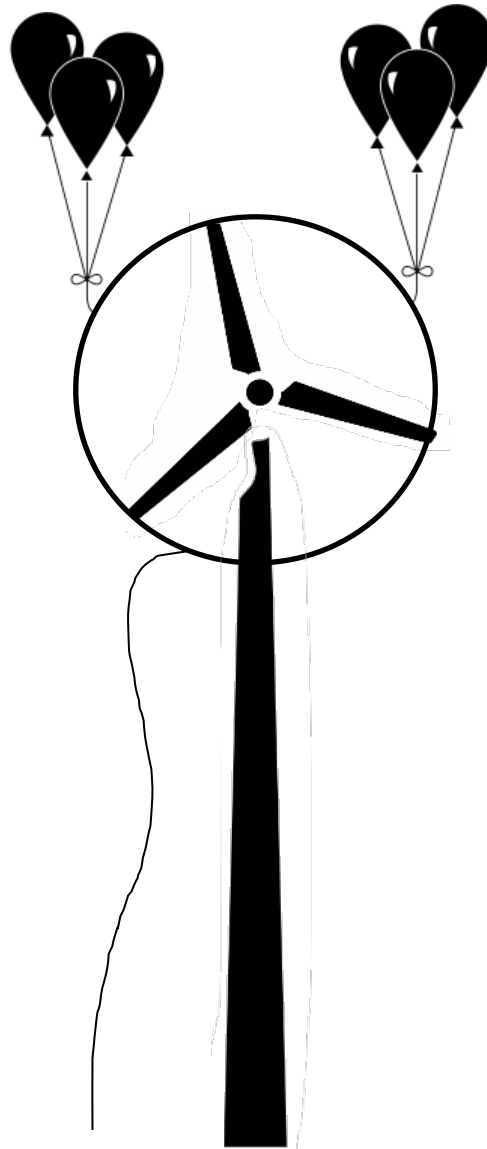
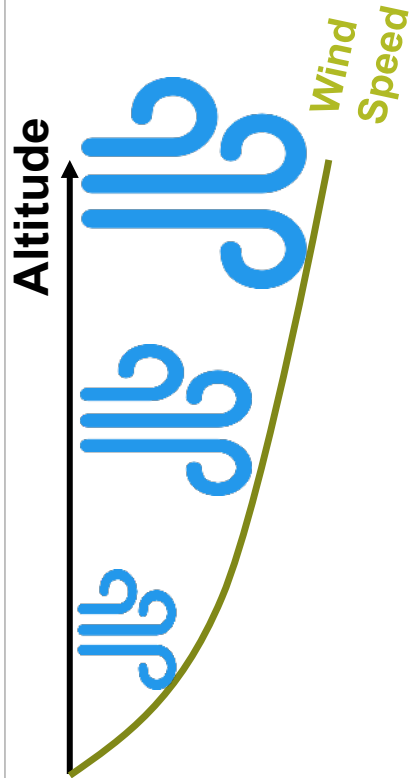
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Level-2	<b>Solar and Wind Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Solar and wind energies are substitutionary.</li><li>- Low capacity on-shore wind turbines are not cost competitive.</li></ul>
Level-3	<b>Wind Energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Architecture of conventional wind energy does not allow to reach high potential high altitude winds.</li><li>- Conv. Wind energy is not mobile and only good at economics of scale.</li></ul>
Level-4	<b>Airborne Wind Energy</b>	



# Airborne Wind Energy (AWE)

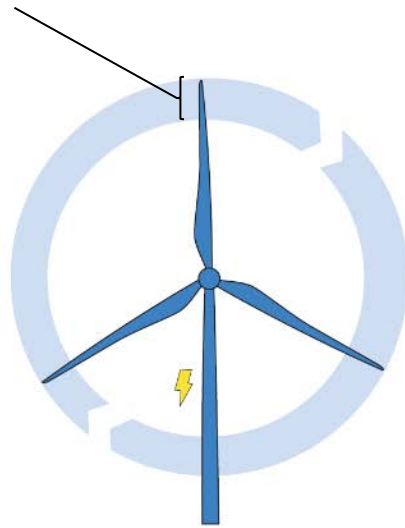


# Adopting to a Dynamic System: Wind

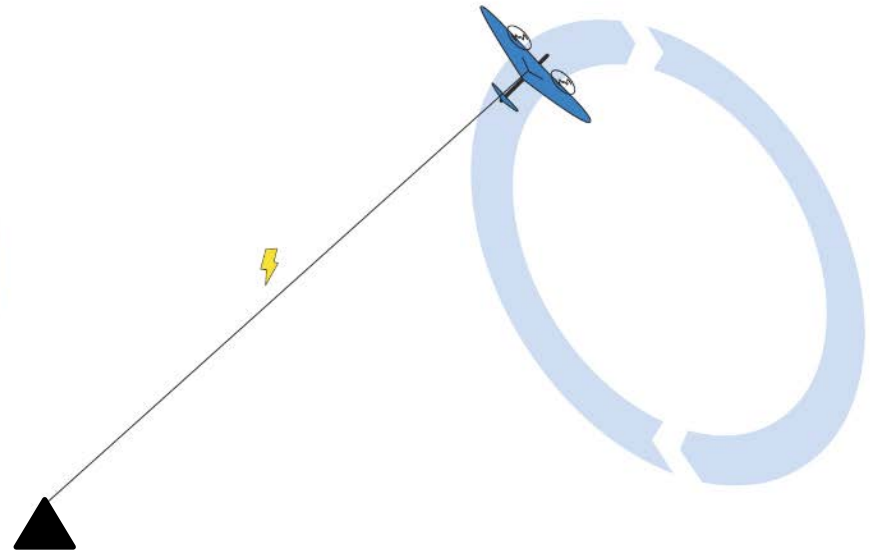


# Airborne Wind Energy (AWE)

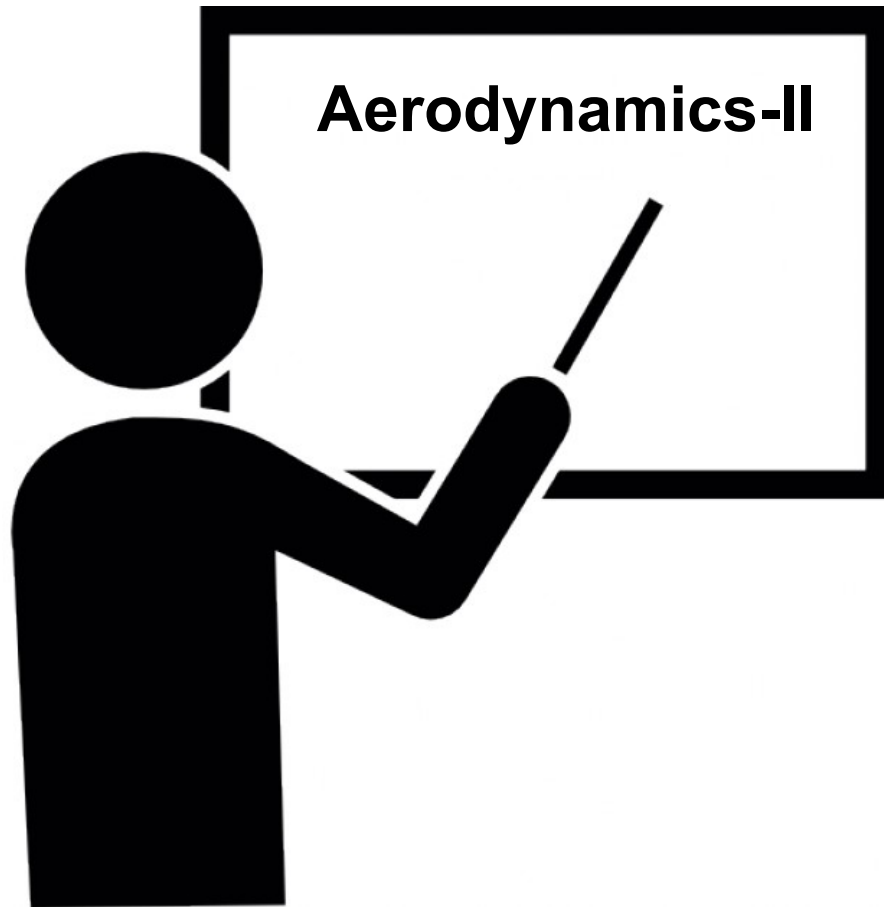
Fastest moving part of blades  
(30% from the tip provides 50%  
of energy)

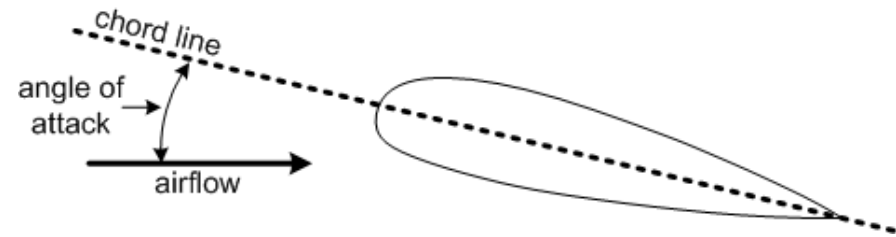
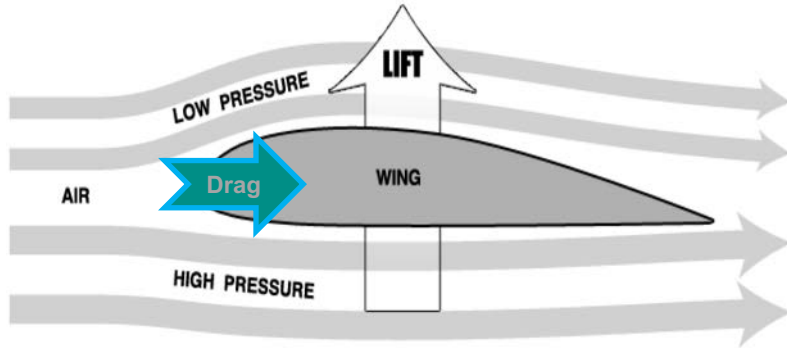


Loyd (1980), crosswind  
kite power



Loyd, M. L.: Crosswind kite power. *Journal of Energy* 4(3), 106–111 (1980).





$$Lift = \frac{1}{2} \rho A C_L v_a^2$$

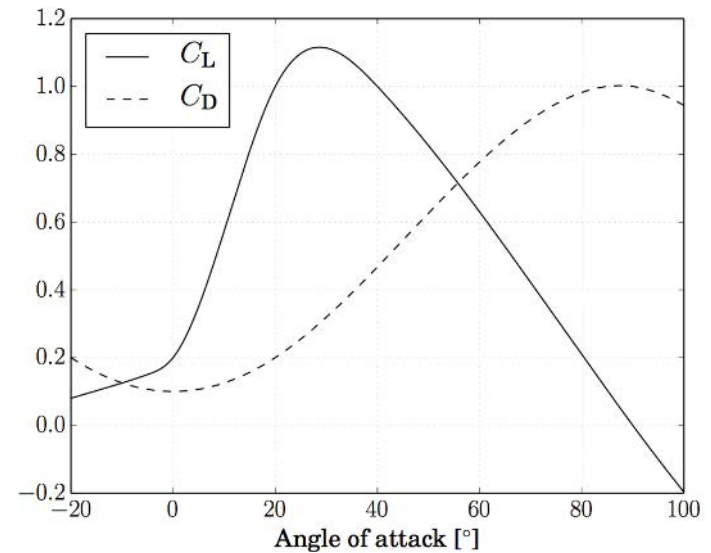
Lift Coefficient ( $C_L$ )

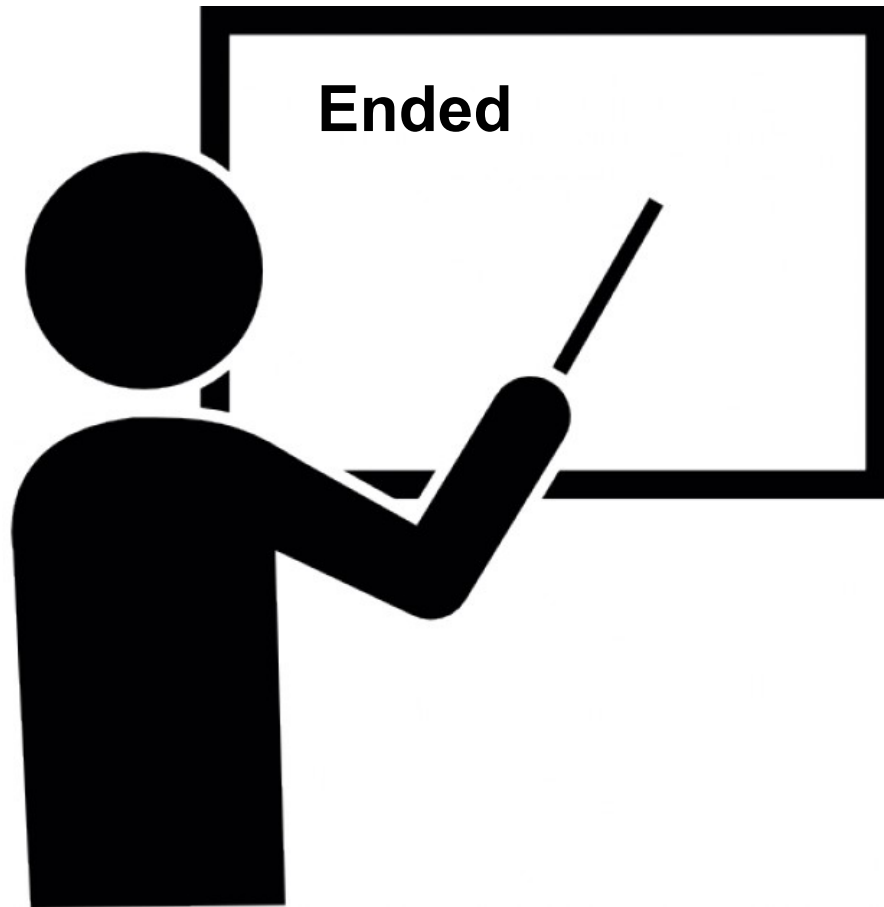
$$Drag = \frac{1}{2} \rho A C_D v_a^2$$

Drag Coefficient ( $C_D$ )

$v_a$ : Apparent (relative) wind speed

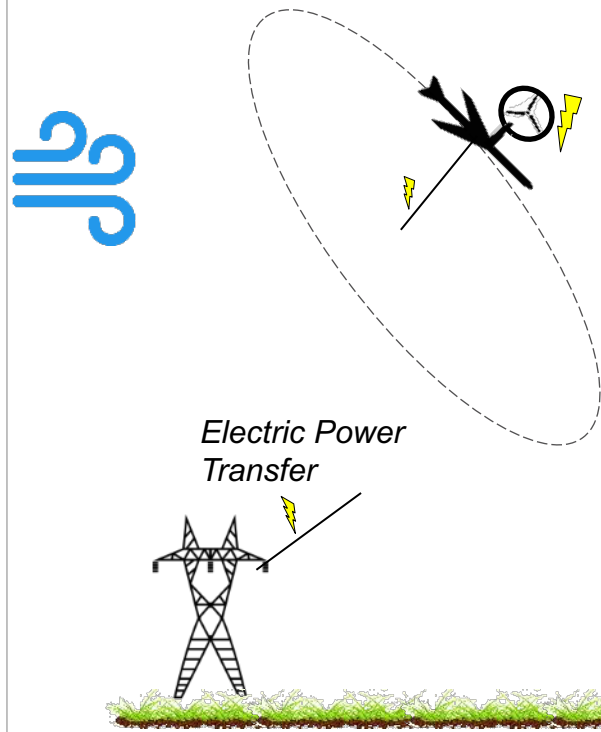
$$\mathbf{v}_a = \mathbf{v}_w - \mathbf{v}_k$$



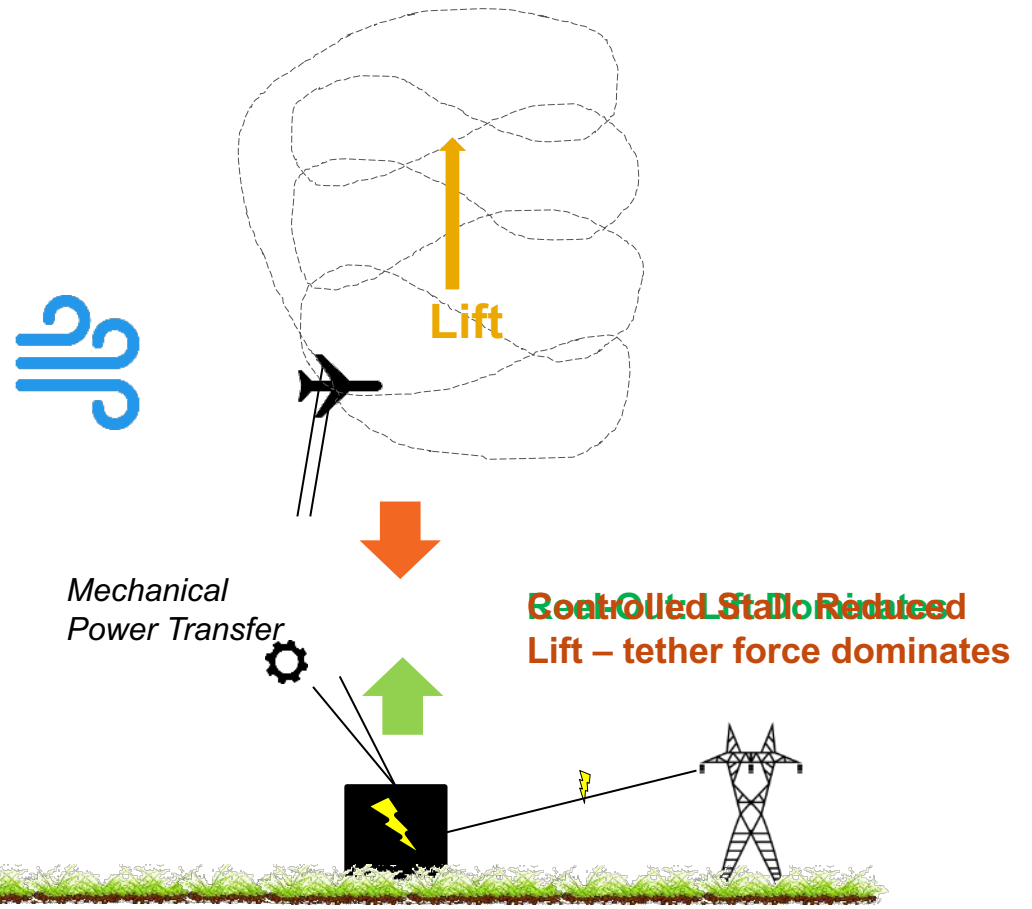




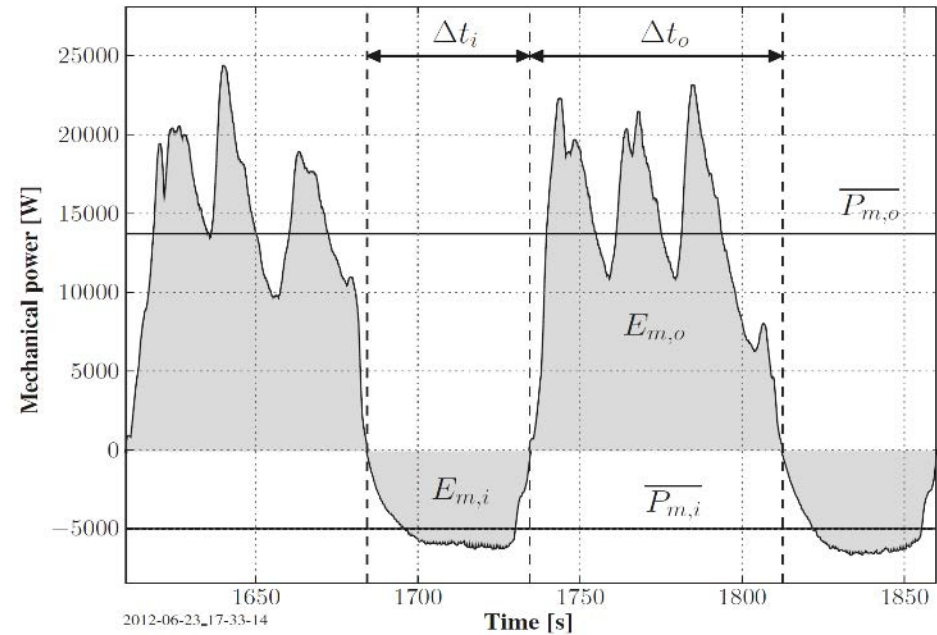
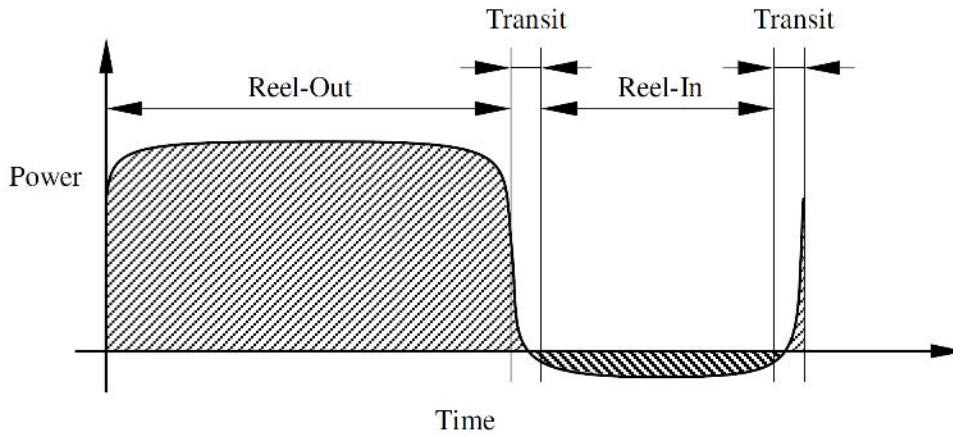
# Air Gen - "Drag Mode"



# Ground Gen - "Lift Mode"



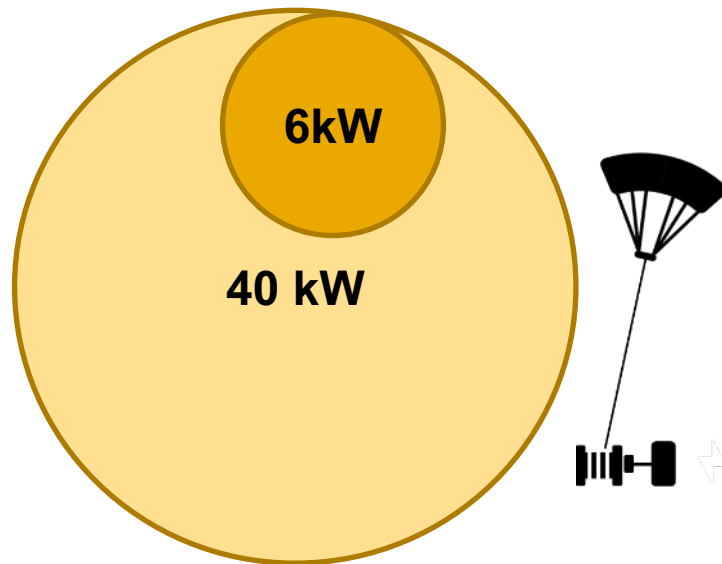
# Energy Generation Profile



Figures are taken from U. Ahrens et al. (eds.), Airborne Wind Energy, Green Energy and Technology,

# Power Capacity

per 1  
m<sup>2</sup>



**Airborne Wind Energy**  
(Capacity Factor = 60%)

<1  
kW



Conventional Wind  
Turbines  
(Capacity Factor = 40%)

1.3  
kW



**Solar Power**  
(Capacity Factor = 20%)

U. Ahrens et al. (eds.), Airborne Wind  
Energy, Green Energy and Technology,



# Installation Cost

per  
1W

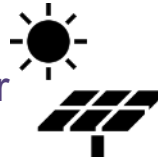
2\$

Airborne Wind Energy



3.8  
kW

Solar Power



6\$

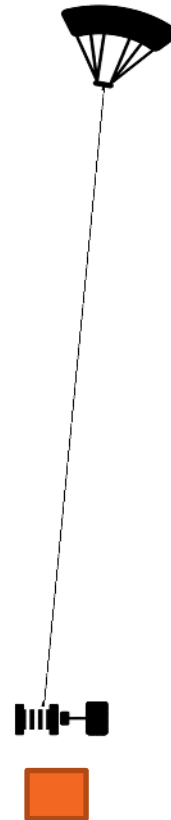
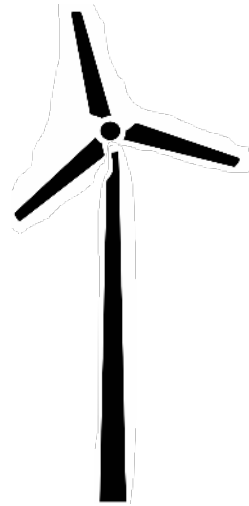
Conventional Wind  
Turbines



# Manufacturing and Transportation



Conventional  
Wind Turbine



**10% of material used**



AWE

# Challenges for AWE

## Control System & Reliability

University  
of California, Santa Barbara



## Launching/Landing

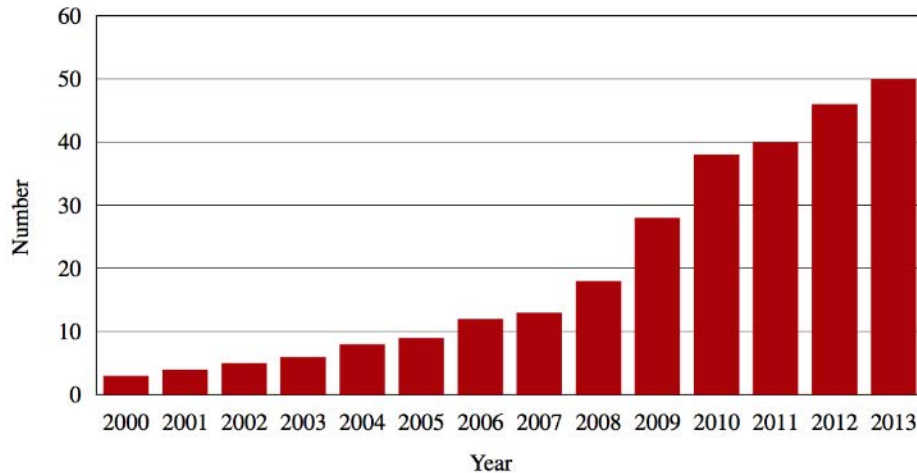


*Launching of a Lindenberg N-kite on the Rovuma river in 1908 during the German expedition for the exploration of the upper air in tropical East Africa*

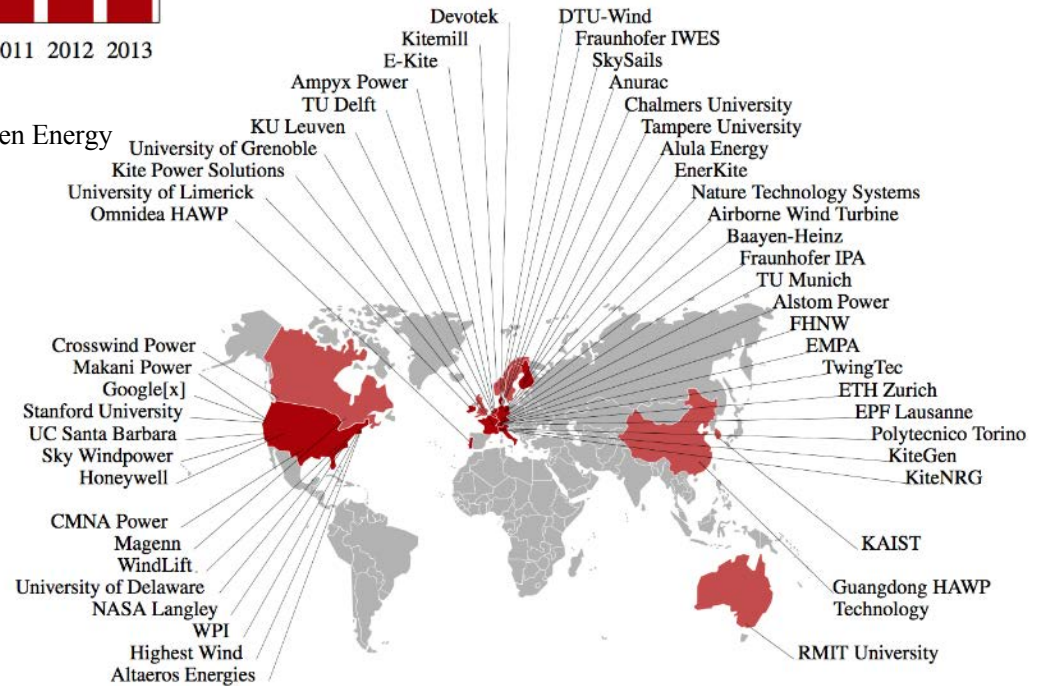
## Application in Farms



# Number of Institutions taking place in AWE



Taken from U. Ahrens et al. (eds.), Airborne Wind Energy, Green Energy and Technology,



Taken from U. Ahrens et al. (eds.), Airborne Wind Energy, Green Energy and Technology,



**Carlos**



**MechE**

**Burak**



**Aerospace**

**Jack**



**MechE**

**Nan**



**EECS**

**Charles**



**Mechatronics**



MIT Clean Energy Prize 2017



**Sandbox Innovation Fund Program**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

## Take-Aways

Level-0	Problem Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Outstanding energy and investment potential</li><li>- A snapshot of current market needs is inadequate.</li></ul>
Level-1	Supplying Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A green energy solution is required for non-OECD's.</li><li>- Off-grid and easy to deploy solutions are needed.</li></ul>
Level-2	Solar and Wind Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Solar and wind energies are substitutionary.</li><li>- Low capacity on-shore wind turbines are not cost competitive.</li></ul>
Level-3	Wind Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Architecture of conventional wind energy does not allow to reach high potential high altitude winds.</li><li>- Conv. Wind energy is not mobile and only good at economics of scale.</li></ul>
Level-4	Airborne Wind Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- AWE promises outstanding mobility, cost and scalability to OECD, but especially non-OECD countries.</li><li>- AWE technology has challenges that are being solved.</li></ul>



**system design &  
management**

**Thank you**

**MITsdm**

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