

Wind Energy and the Need to Understand Turbulence

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Research Alliance Wind Energy



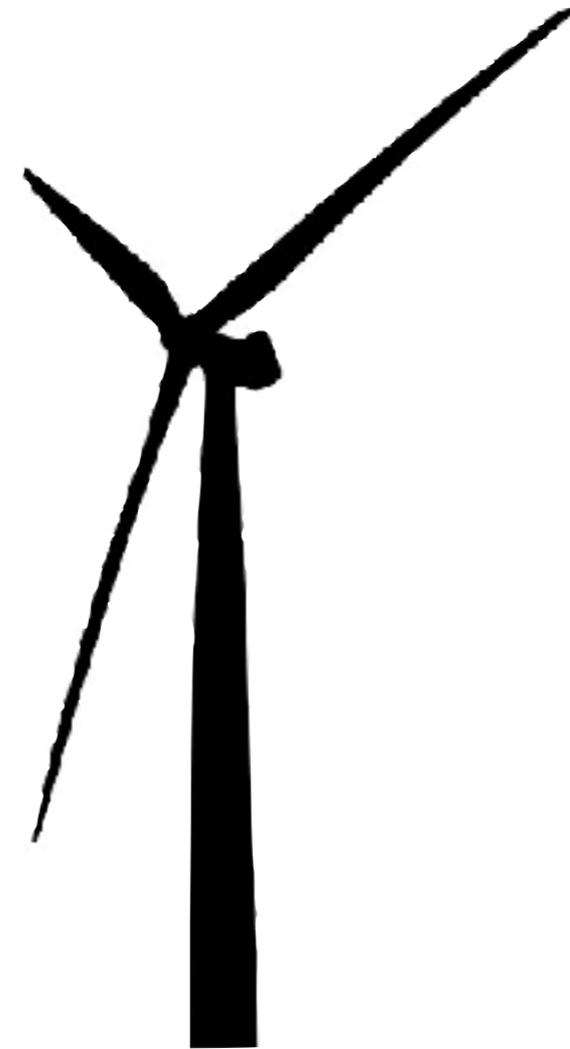
 **Deutsches Zentrum
für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.**
in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

ForWind 
Zentrum für Windenergieforschung

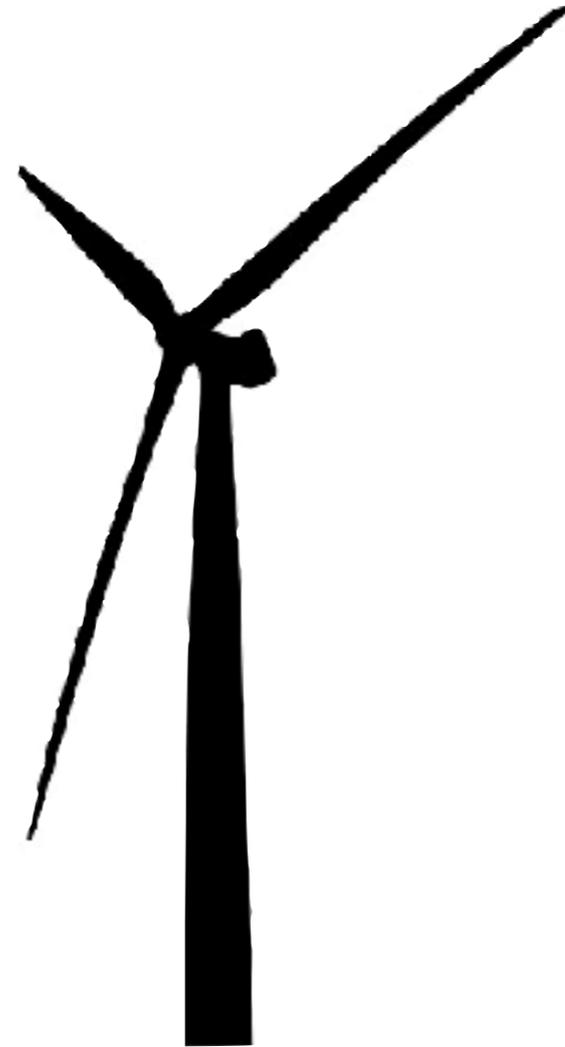
 **Fraunhofer**
IWES



content



- ▼ general comments on wind energy
- ▼ working conditions for wind turbines
- ▼ claim - need to understand turbulence



▼ why wind energy ?

- environment issue CO₂
- finite resources
- costs - wind cheapest way

Do you know how much fossil energy we consume worldwide?

IEA : worldwide daily 85 million barrel oil

energy resources - oil

IEA : worldwide daily 85 million barrel oil
truck with 35.000 litre volume



Aral - BP „Alles super“
no problem?

oil consumption

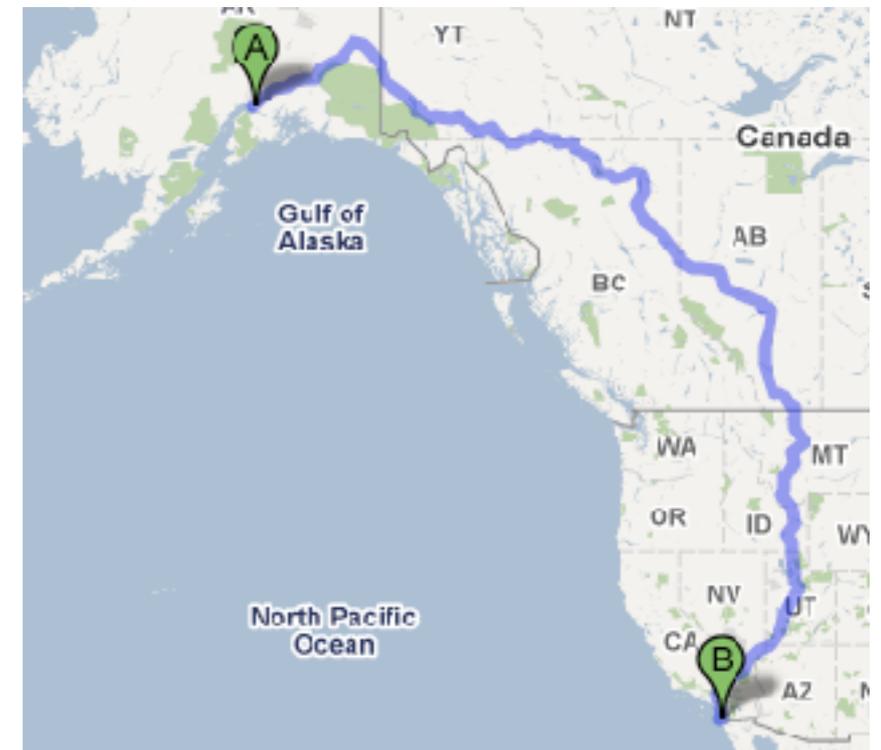


energy consumption

every day

85 million barrel oil per day

- 400 000 trucks > 7000km (> 4000 Miles)



motivation



energy consumption

every day

85 million barrel oil per day

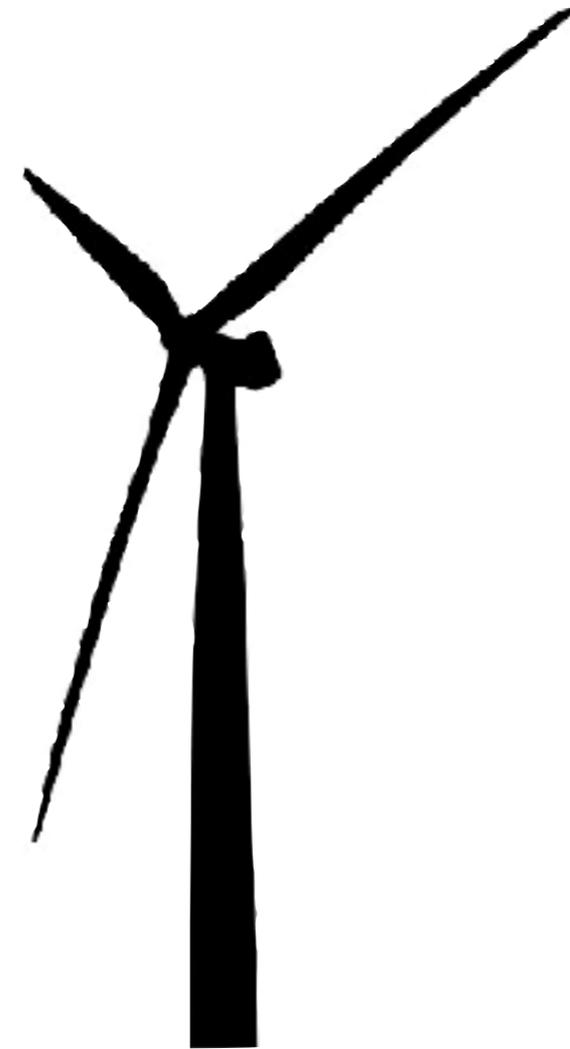
- 400 000 trucks > 7000km (> 4000 Miles)

natural production rate

3- WEC



1st part



▼ general comments on wind energy

modern wind turbines

power from wind

$$E_{wind} = \frac{1}{2} m u^2$$

$$P_{wind} = \dot{E}_{wind} \quad \dot{m} = \rho \dot{V}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \dot{m} u^2 \quad = \rho A \cdot u$$

$$P_{wind} = \frac{1}{2} \rho A u^3 \quad \text{for } u = 12 \text{ m/s}$$

$$P_{wind} = 1 \text{ kW/m}^2$$

WEC

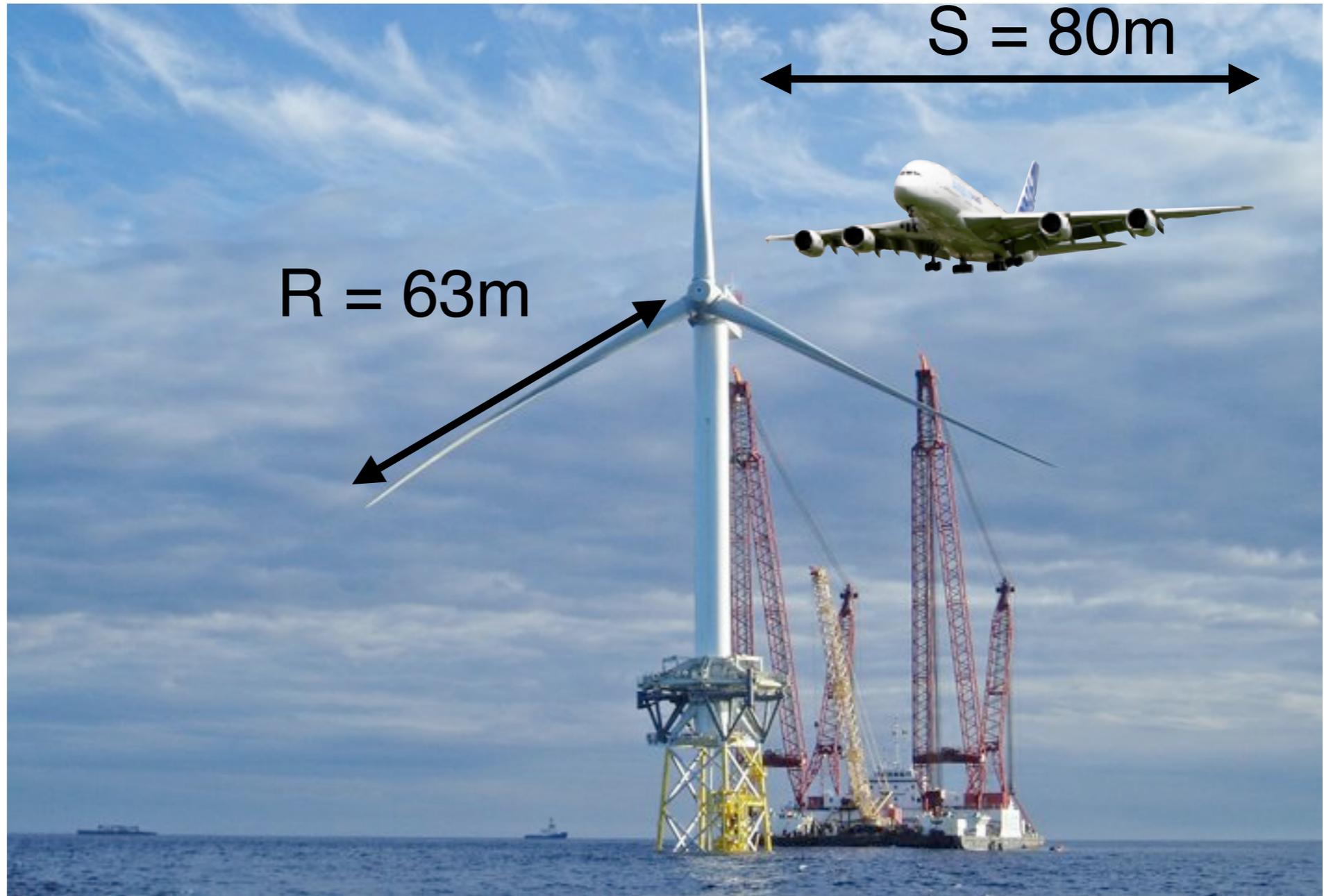
$$P_{WEC} = c_P \frac{1}{2} \rho A u^3$$

$c_P \leq 0.59$ Betz- Joukowsky limit



modern wind turbines

size



modern wind turbines

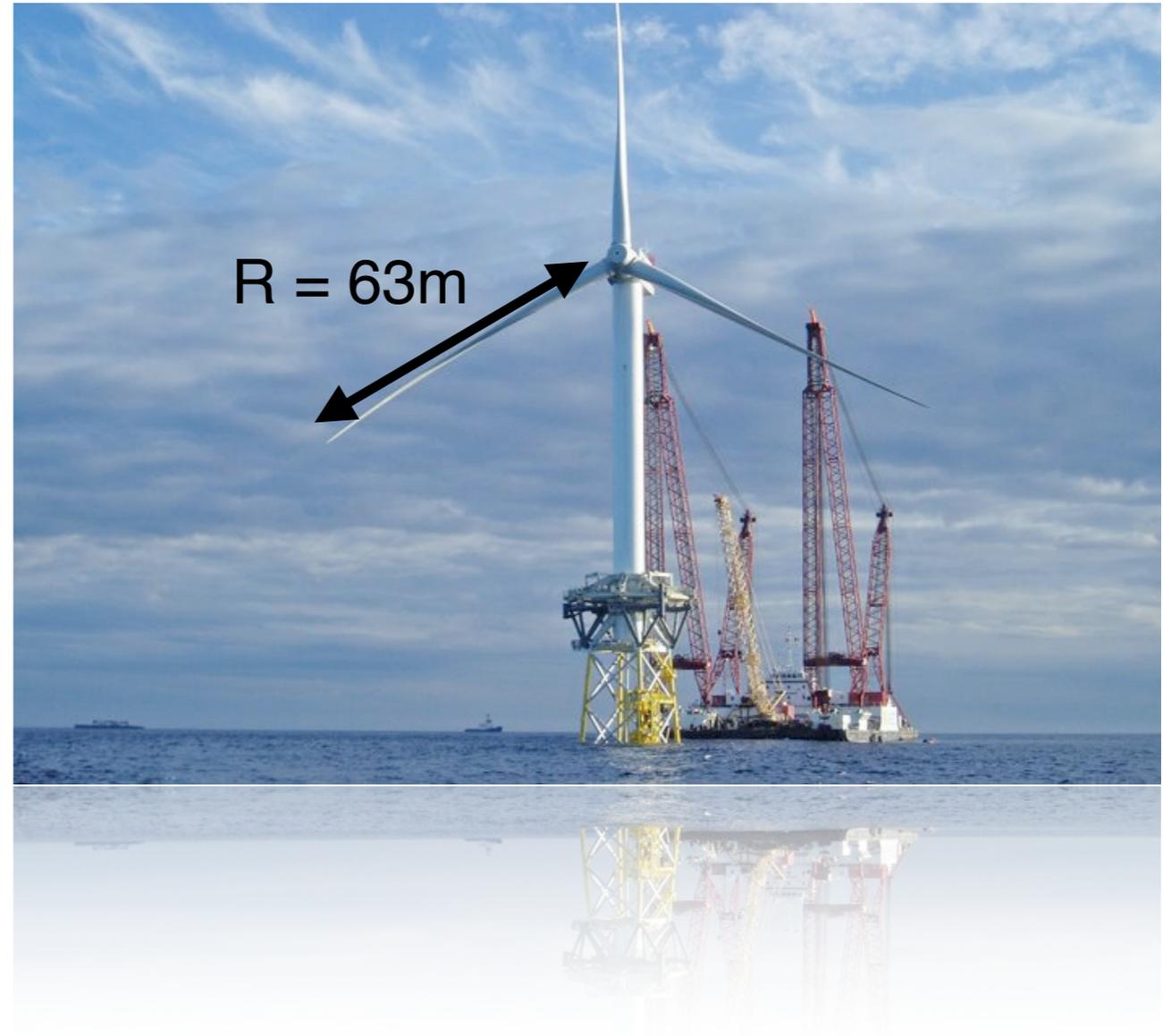
$$\text{area} = 12469 \text{ m}^2$$

$$P_{wind} \leq 12 \text{ MW}$$

$$P_{WEC} = c_p \cdot P_{wind}$$

$$c_p \leq 0.59$$

$$P_{WEC} \approx 5 - 6 \text{ MW}$$



modern wind turbines

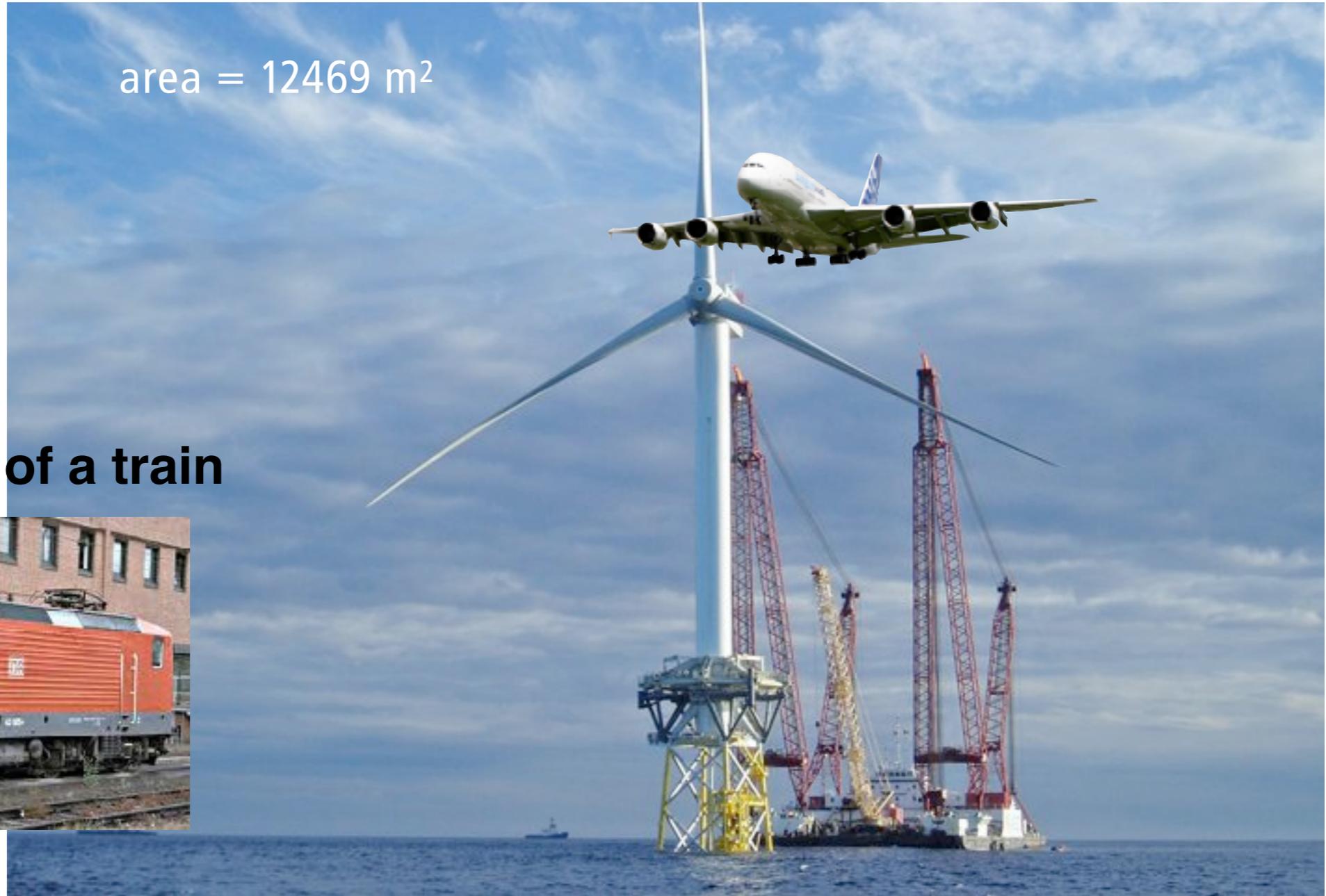
WEC >5MW

area = 12469 m²

typical engine of a train

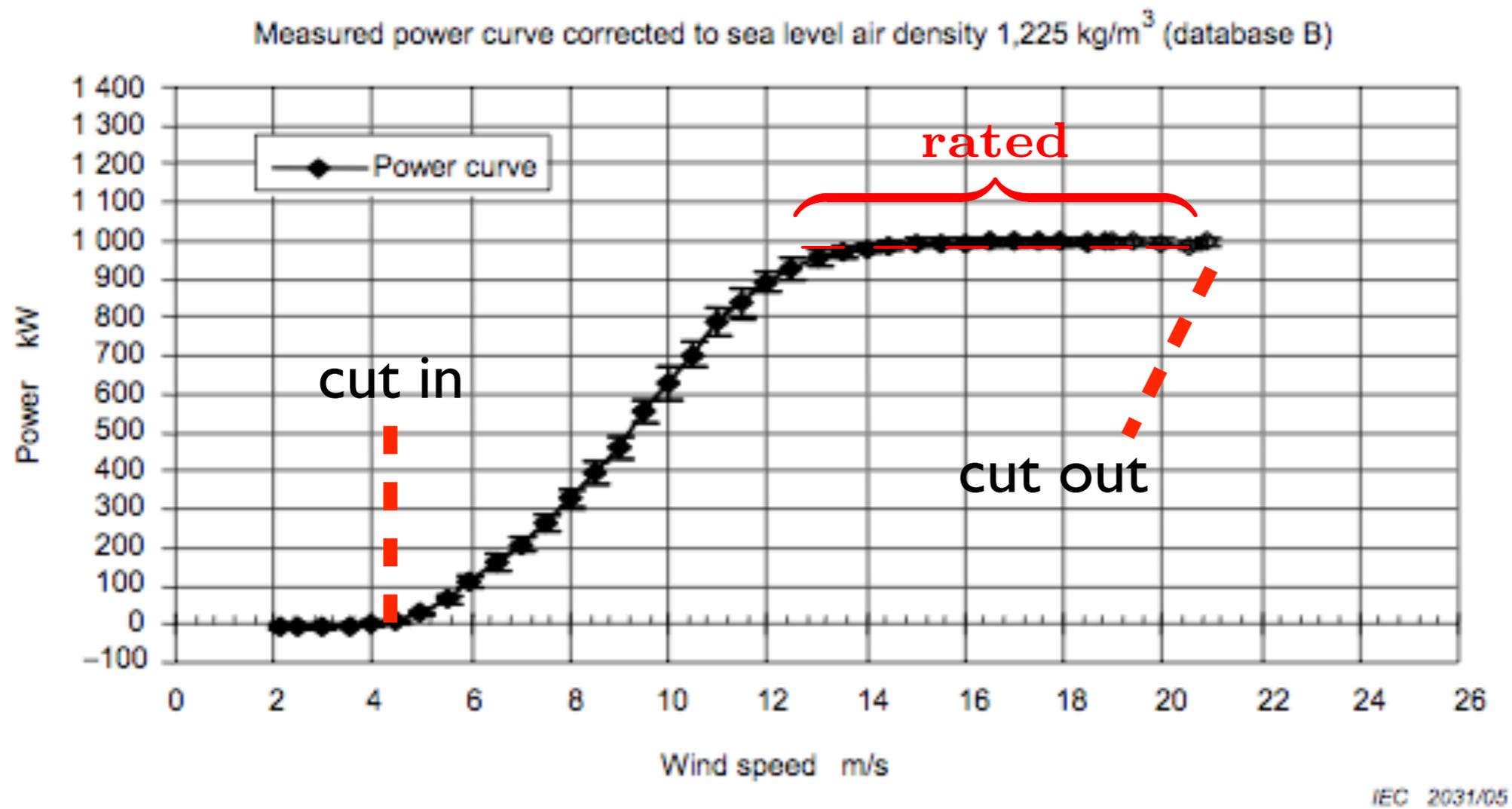
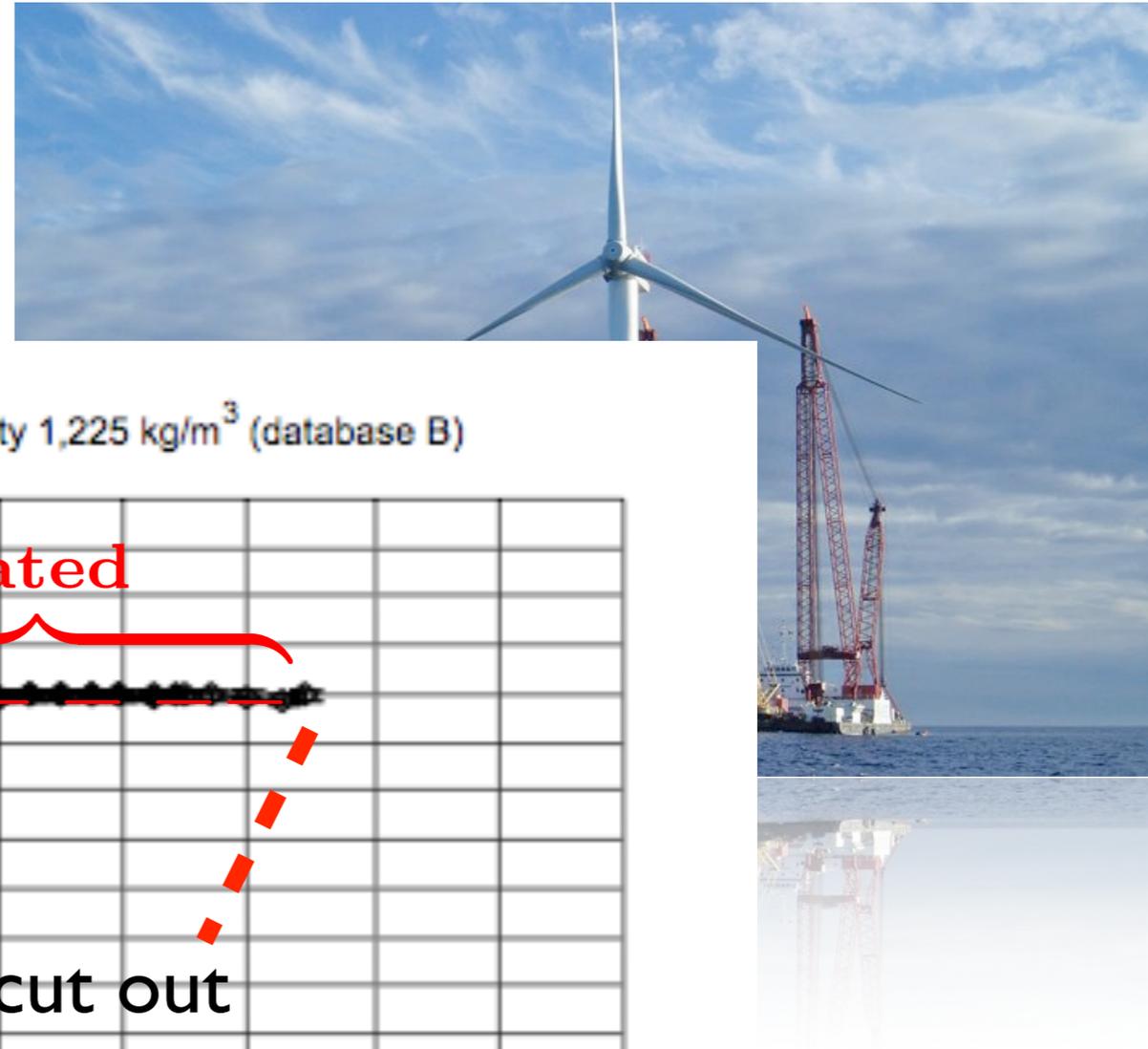


3,7 MW



power output of wind turbines

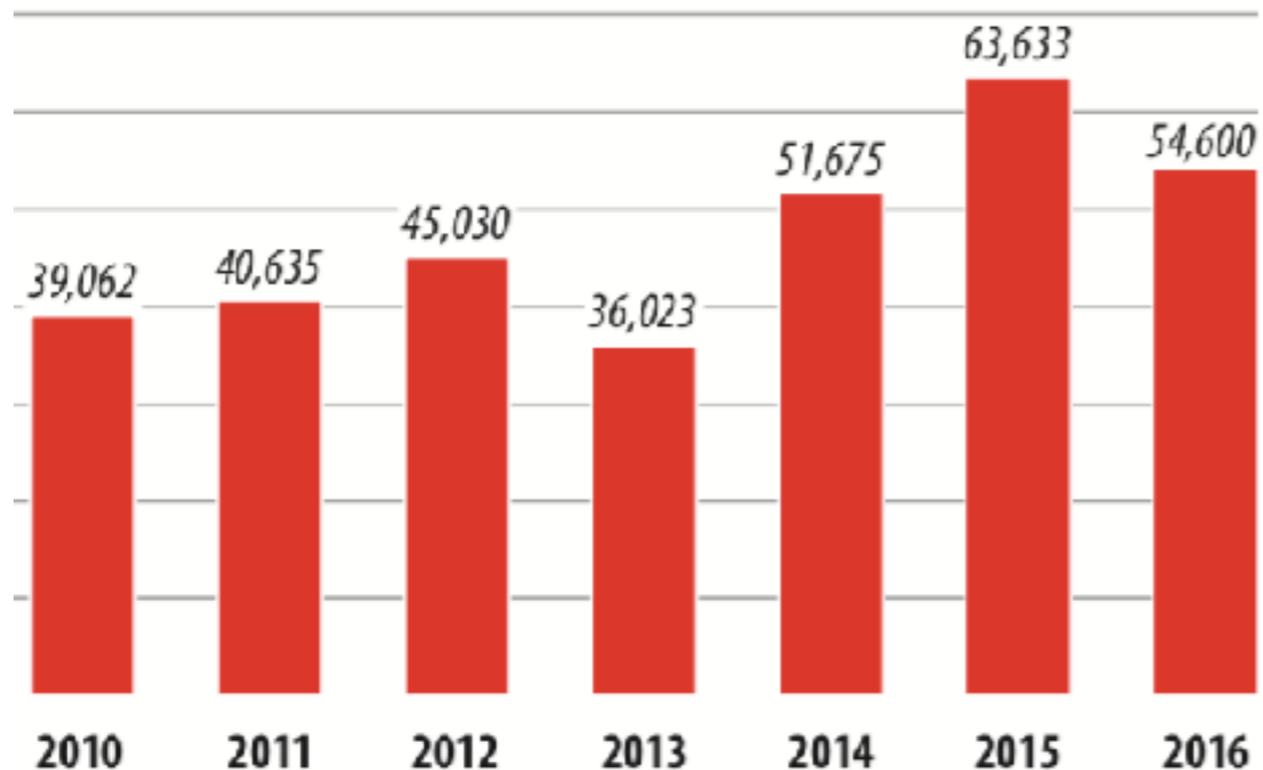
measured power curve
rated power defines the turbine size



story of success

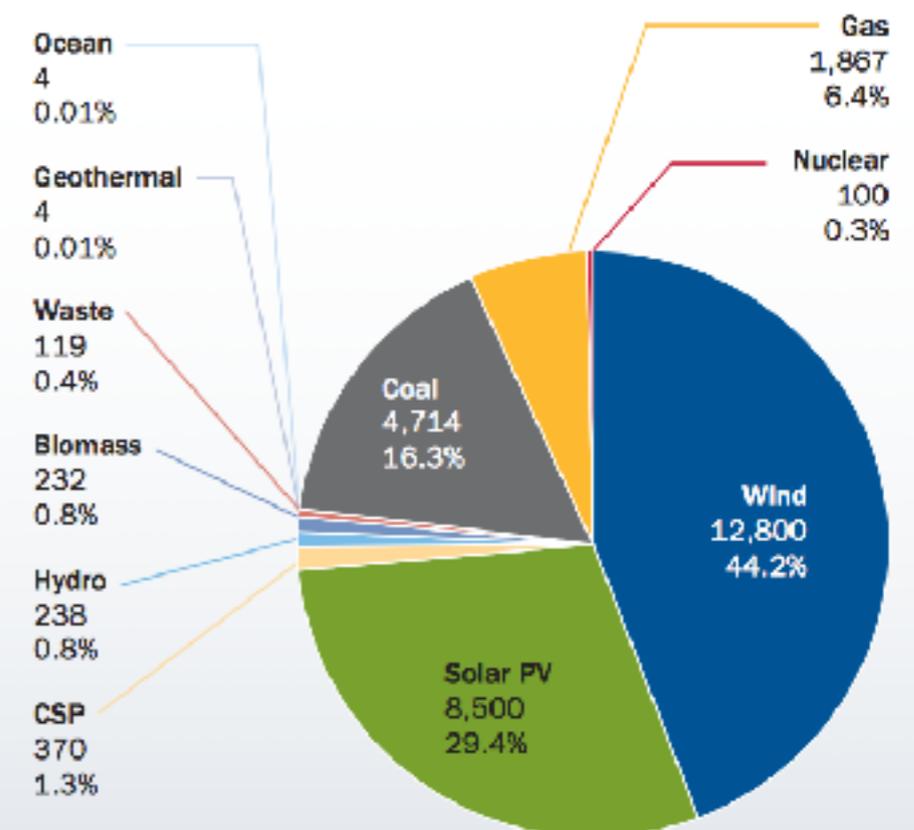
- ▼ wind energy cheapest one
- ▼ best CO₂ balance (return time < 1 a)
 - one of the best energy return on energy invested EROEI - relation
- ▼ installation Germany: 3 GW/a world: 50 GW / a

GLOBAL ANNUAL INSTALLED WIND CAPACITY



Source: GWEC

FIGURE 2: SHARE OF NEW POWER CAPACITY INSTALLATIONS IN EU (MW). TOTAL 28,948.7 MW



offshore activities



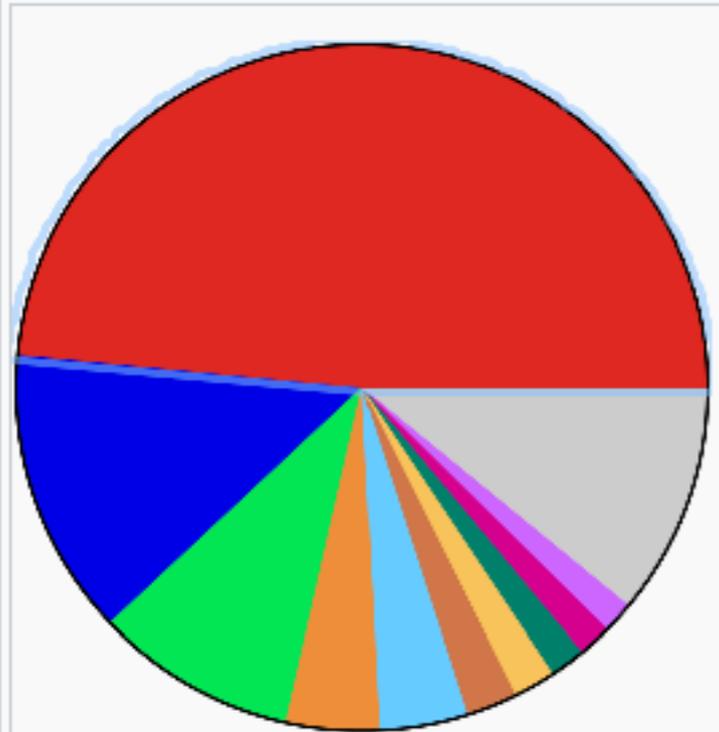
Source: Huisman Equipment

2015 new 2.3 GW offshore / 3,5 GW onshore

leader in wind energy?

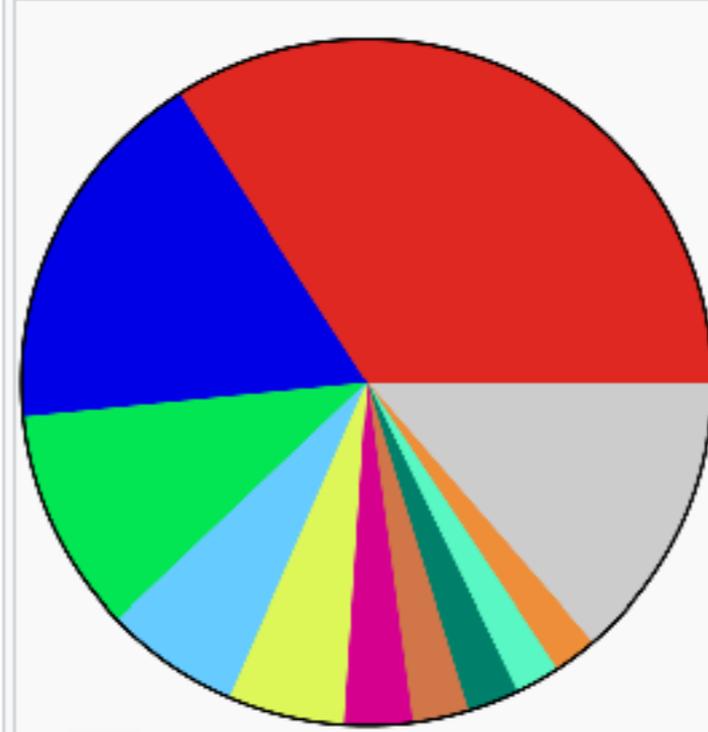
new

New Installed capacity by country in 2015 (MW)^[2]



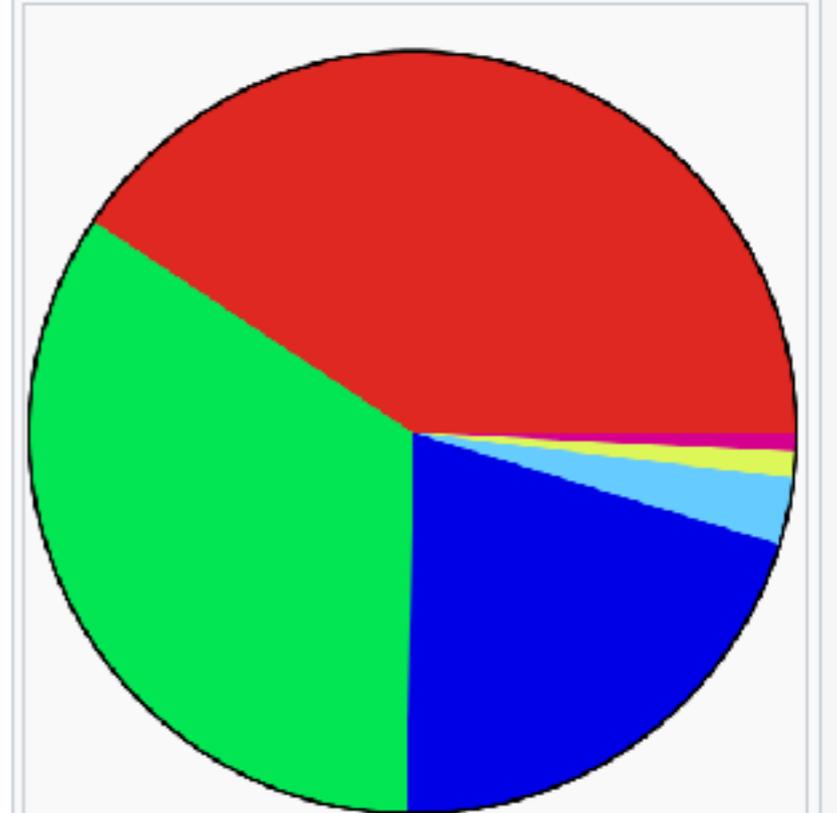
total

Installed capacity by country in 2015 (MW)^[2]



total

Installed capacity by regions in 2015 (MW)^[2]



who like wind energy

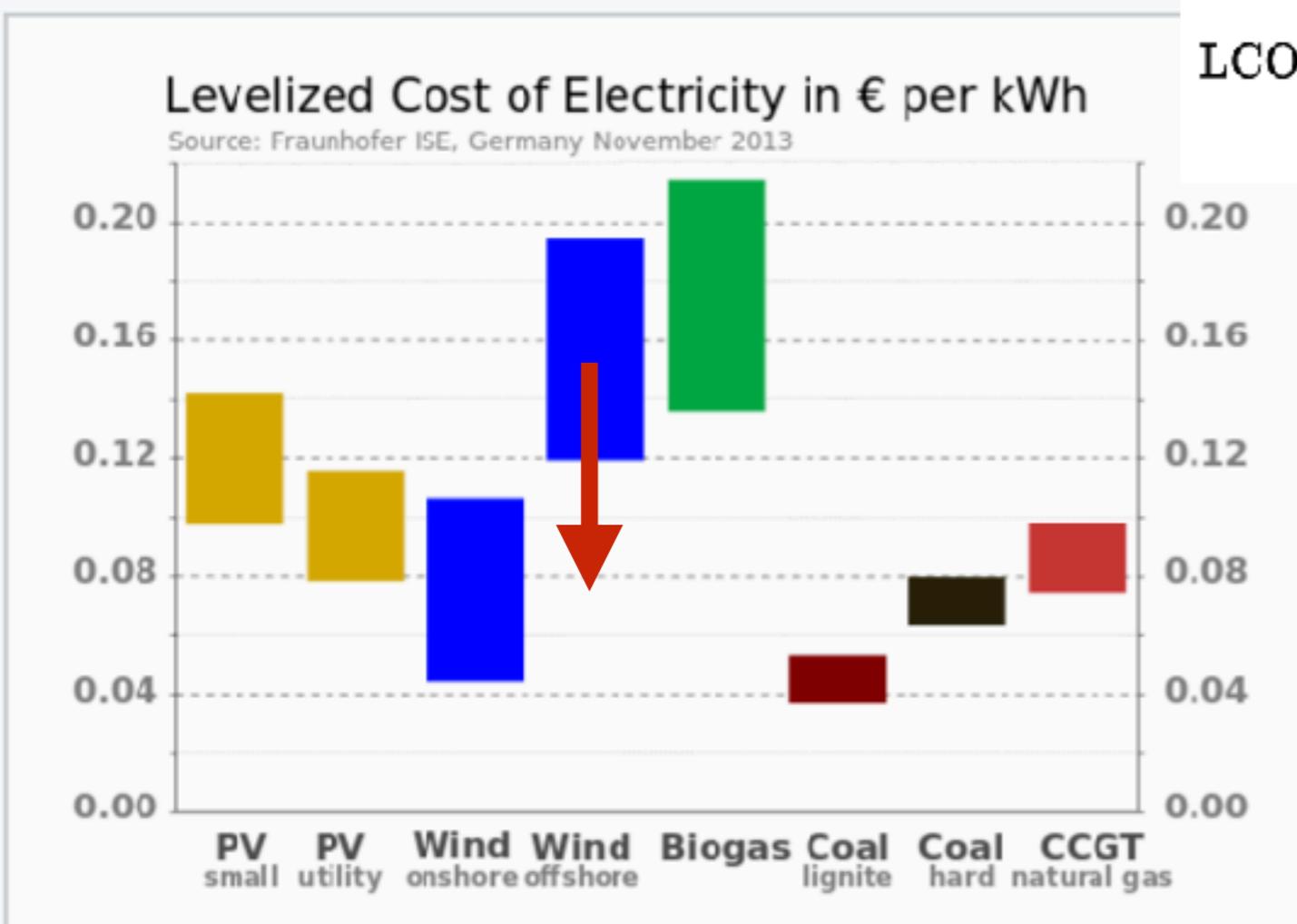
Opinion on increase in number of wind farms (2010)

	US %	UK %	France %	Italy %	Spain %	Germany %
Strongly oppose	3	6	6	2	2	4
Oppose more than favour	9	12	16	11	9	14
Favour more than oppose	37	44	44	38	37	42
Strongly favour	50	38	33	49	53	40

Source: [Harris Poll](#), 2010. Base: All EU and U.S. adults.^[55] Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

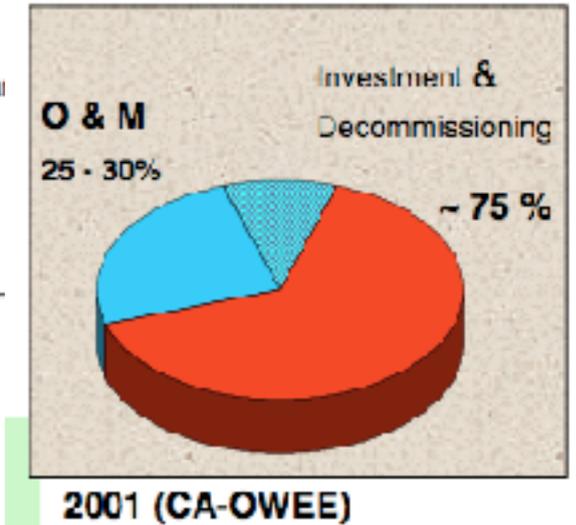
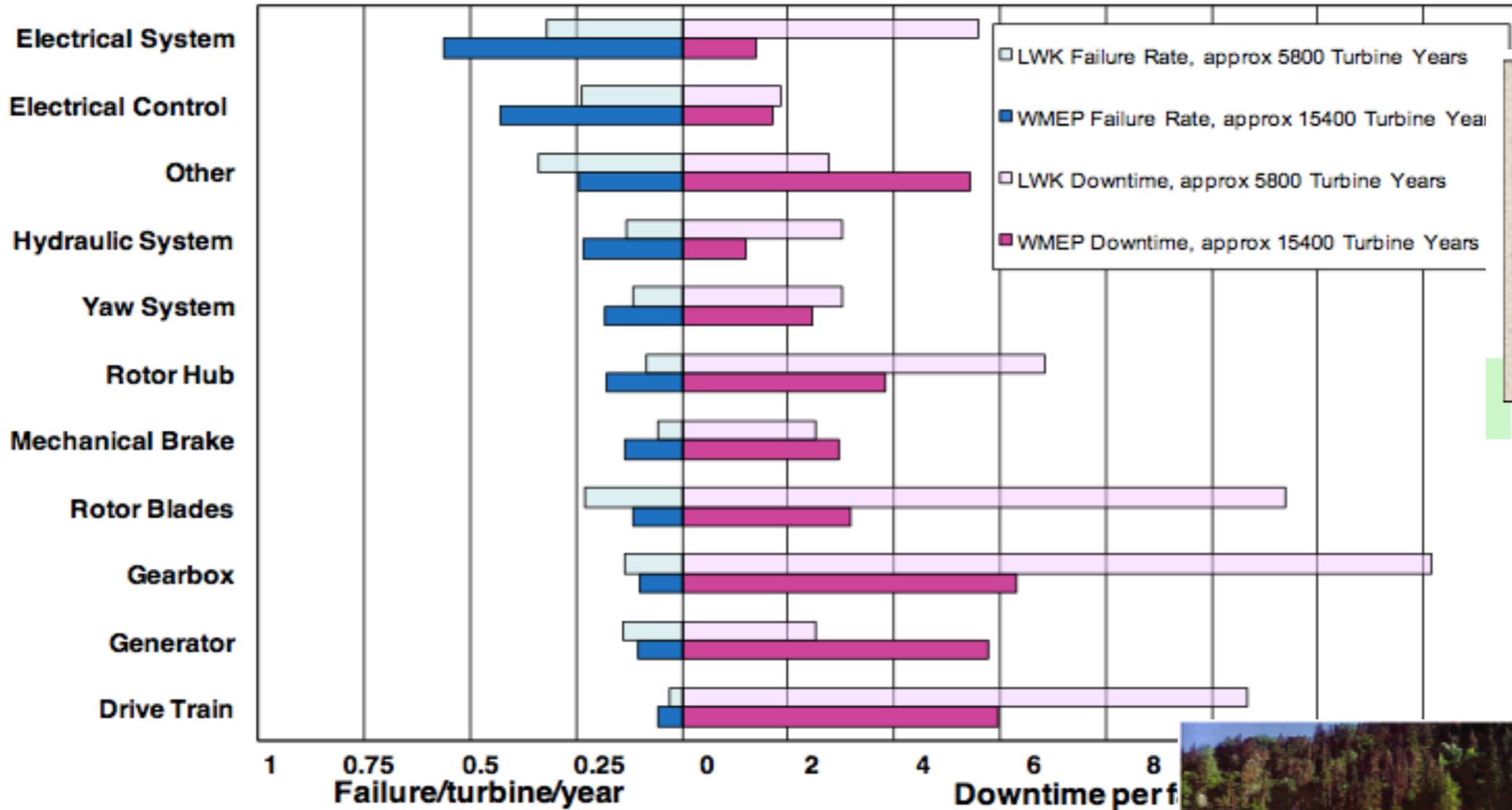
cost of energy

$$\text{LCOE} = \frac{\text{sum of costs over lifetime}}{\text{sum of electrical energy produced over lifetime}}$$



Comparison of the levelized cost of electricity for some newly built **renewable** and **fossil-fuel** based **power stations** in euro per kWh (Germany, 2013)
Note: employed technologies and LCOE differ by country and change over time.

are there any problems? - Failure statistics

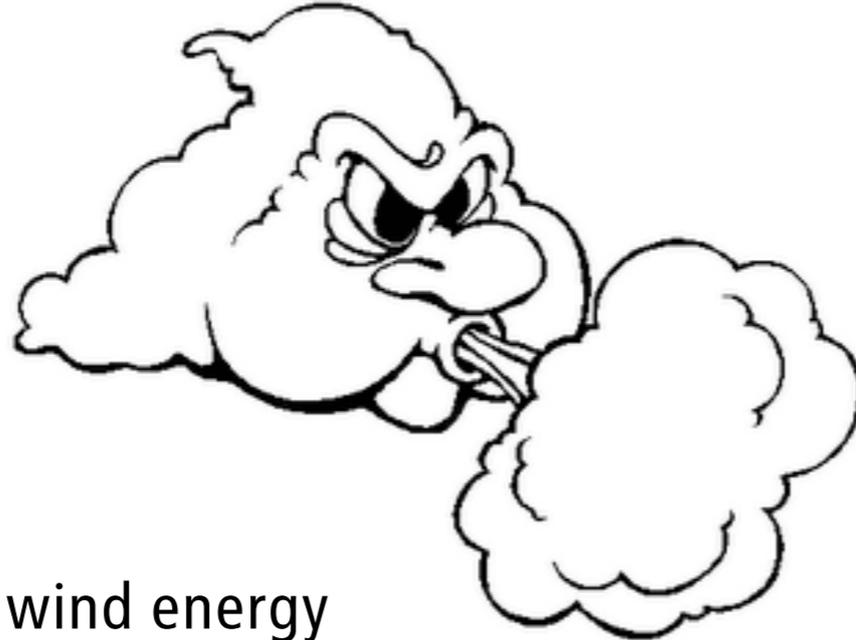


P.Tavner et.al EWAE 2011



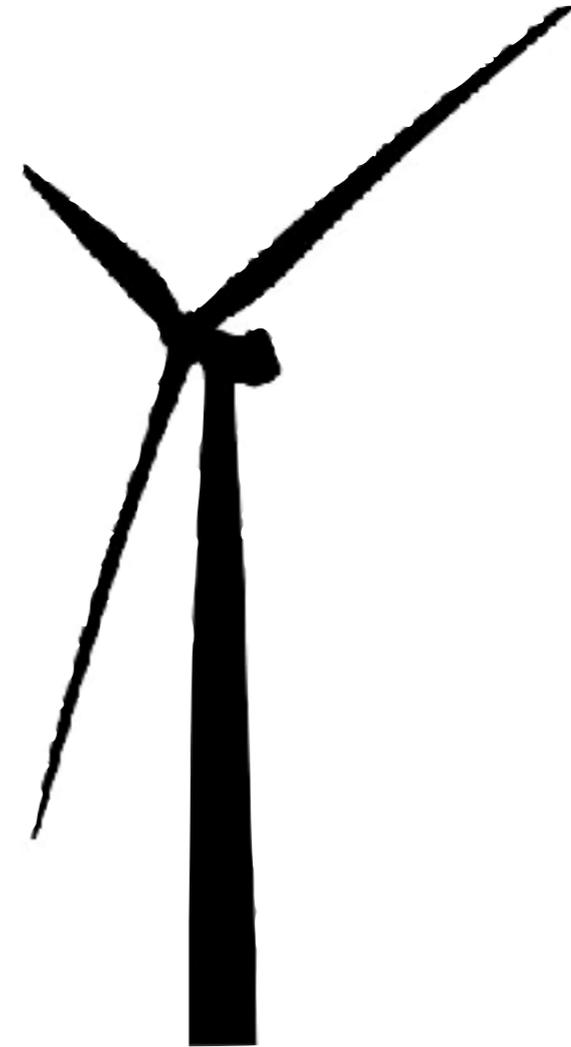
water power plant: Saalach (DB)

content



- ▼ general comments on wind energy
- ▼ working conditions for wind turbines
 - wind conditions

who knows fluid dynamics ?
who knows Navier Stokes equation ?



wind measurements and data analysis

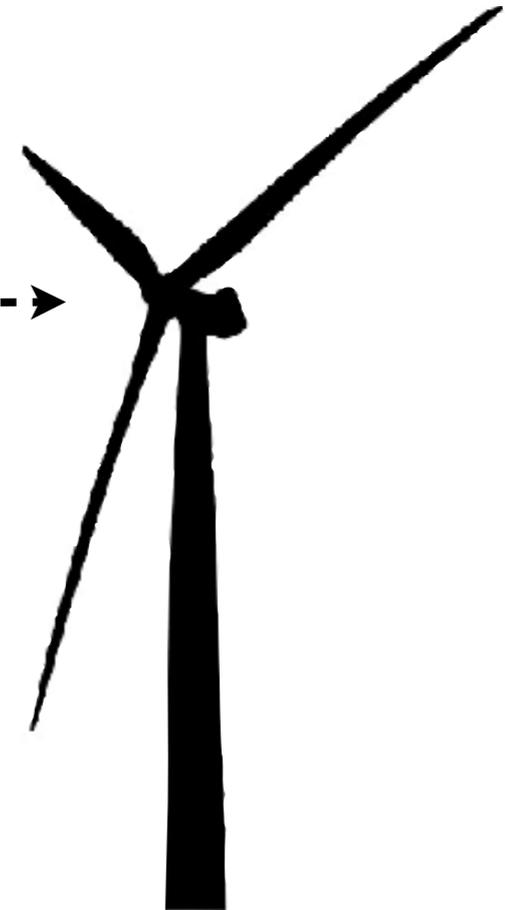
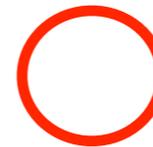
INTERNATIONAL
STANDARD

IEC
61400-1

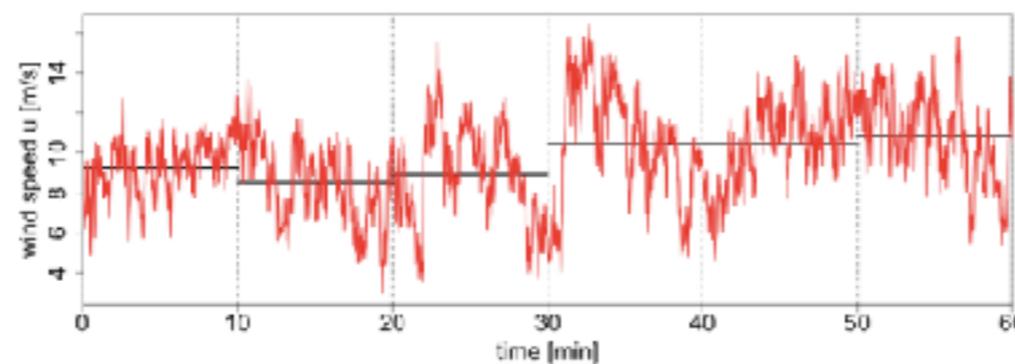
Third edition
2005-08

▼ wind conditions after IEC

- measurement at hub height in front of a turbine

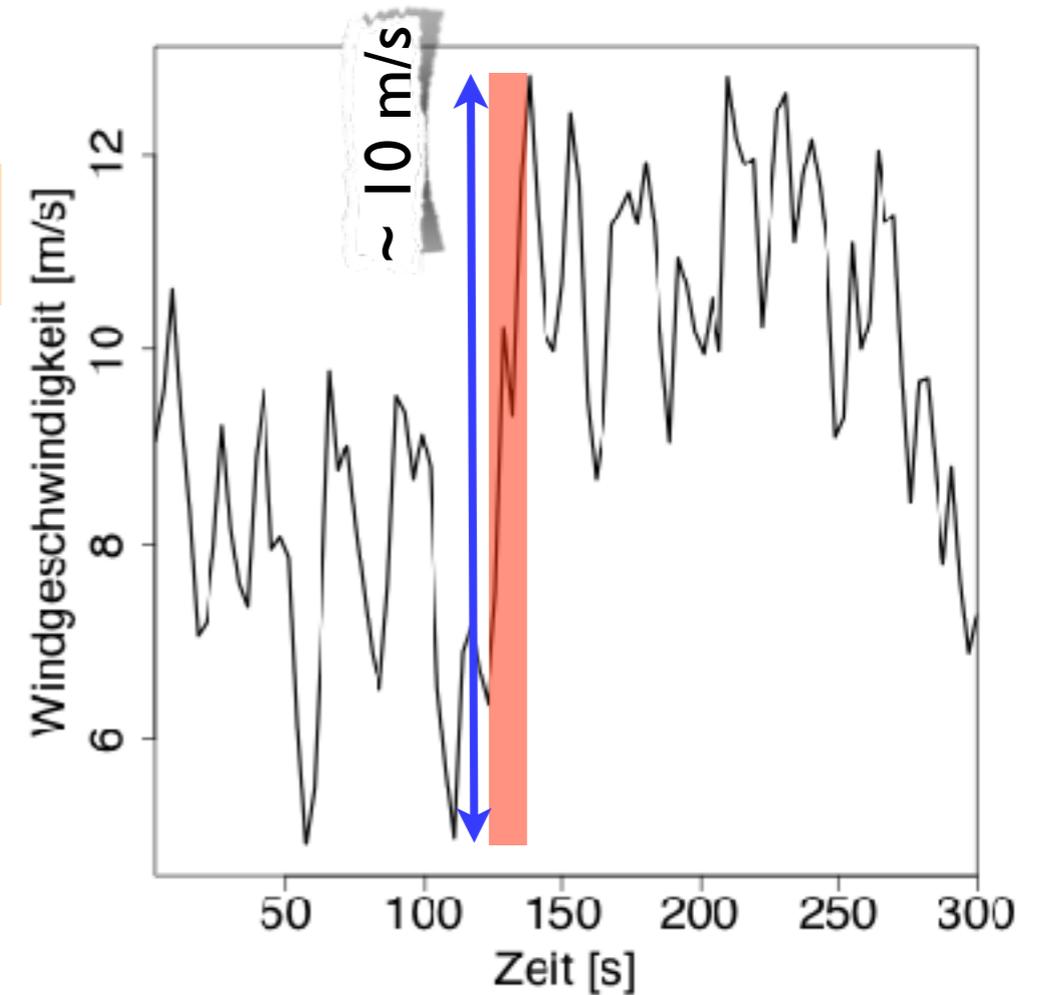
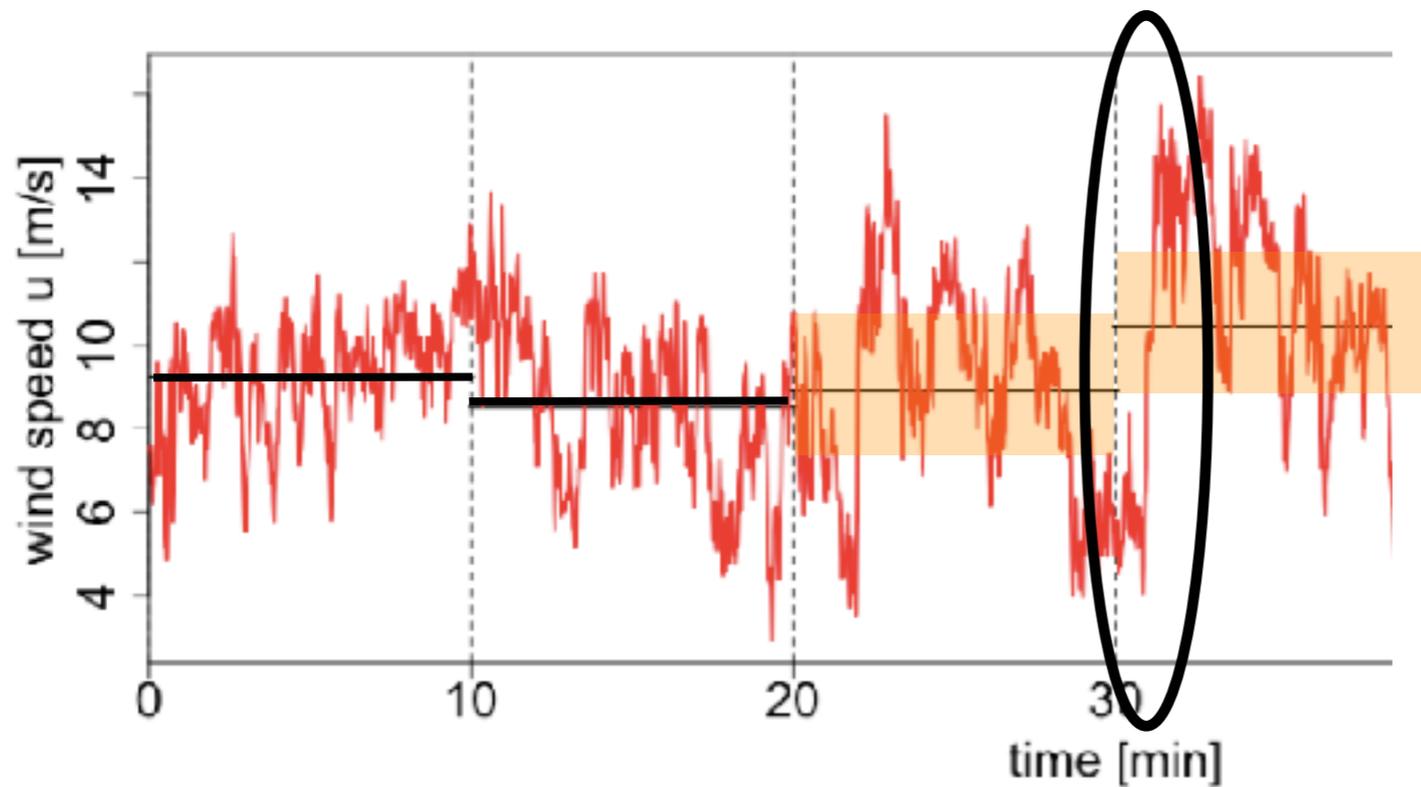


measured time series



wind measurements and data analysis

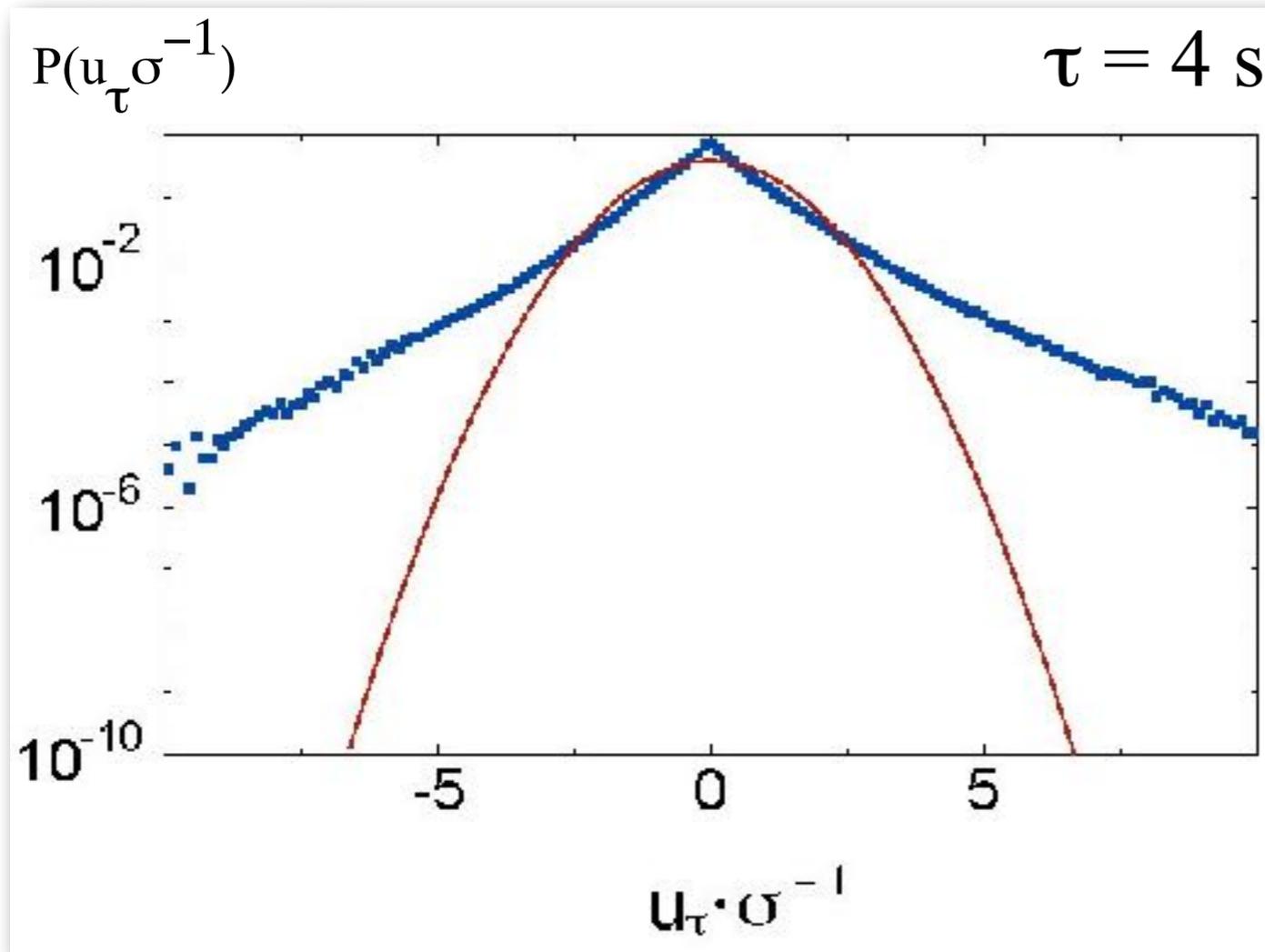
▼ characterization after IEC norm



statistics of gusts

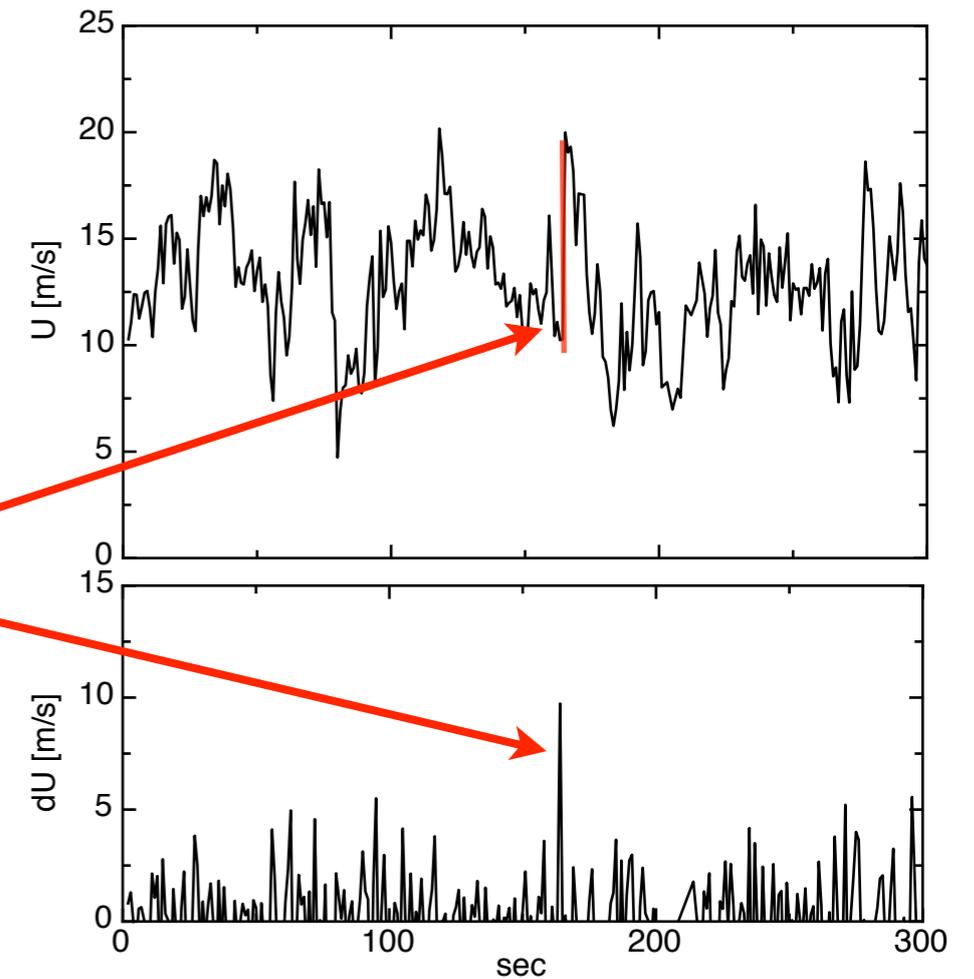
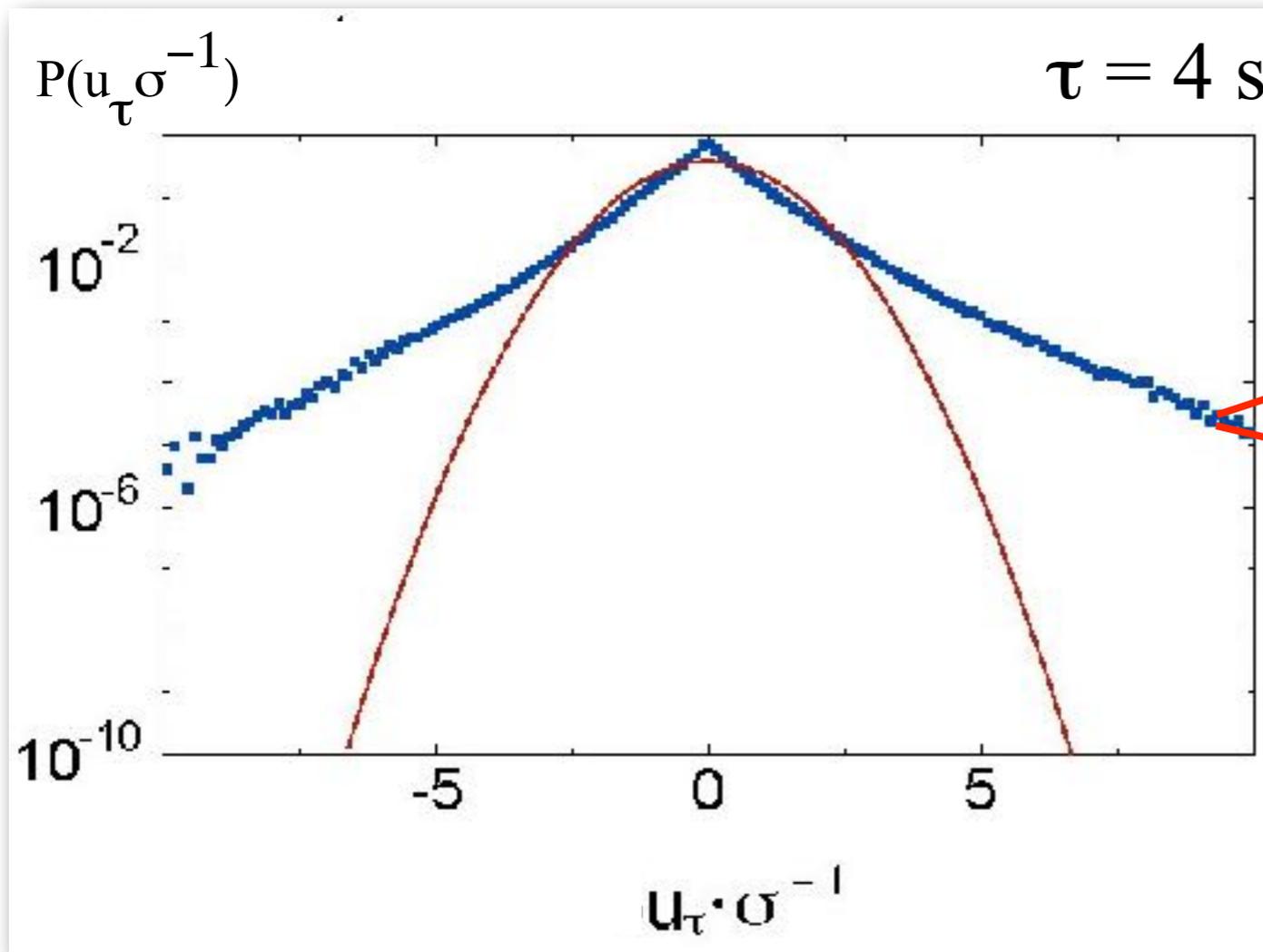
- ▼ wind fluctuations can be measured by velocity increments

$$u_\tau = u(t + \tau) - u(t)$$



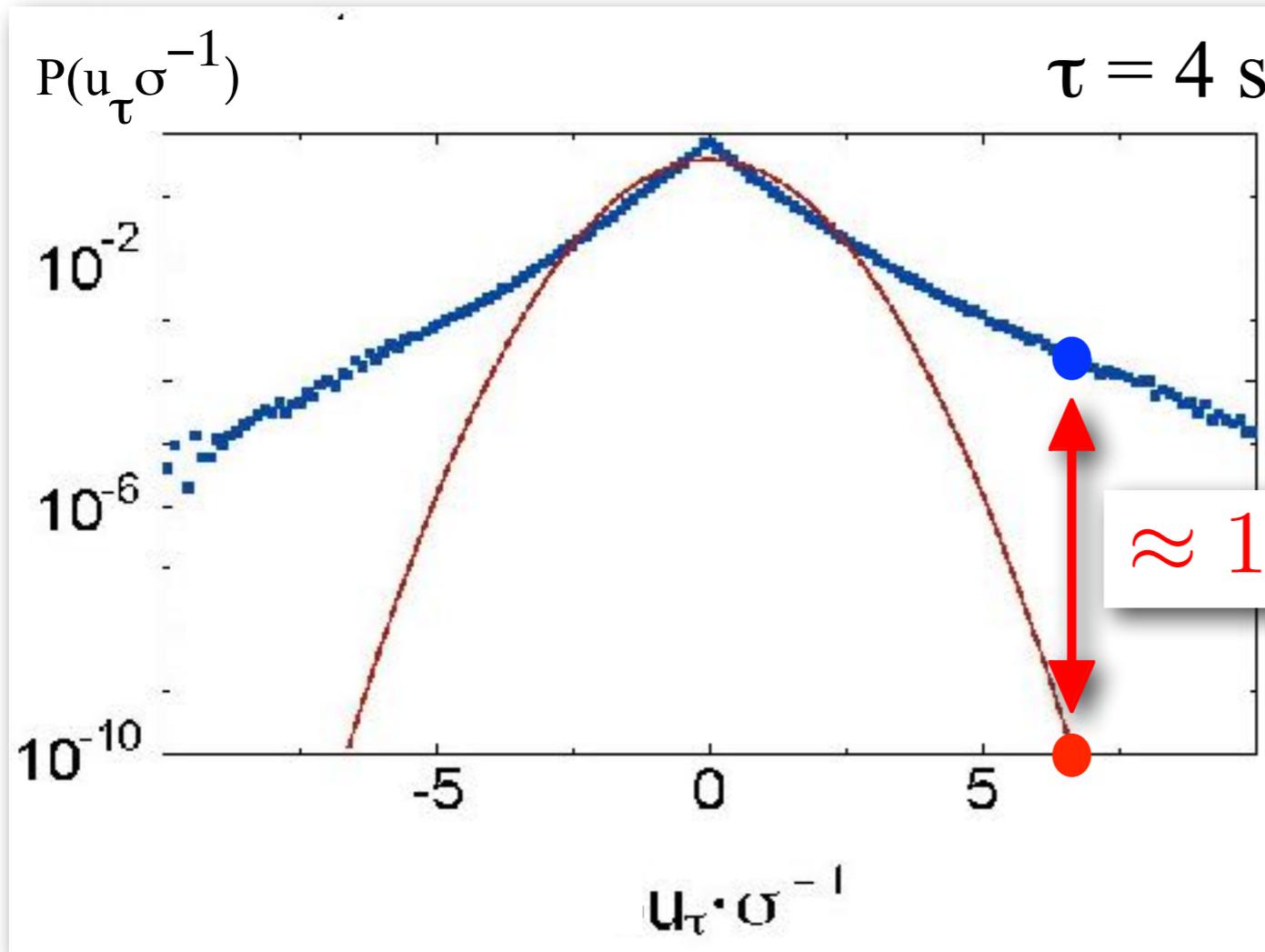
Boundary-Layer Meteorology 108 (2003)

statistics of gusts



Boundary-Layer Meteorology 108 (2003)

statistics of gusts



$$Prob(u_\tau > 6\sigma) \approx 10^{-4}$$

1/day

$\approx 10^6$

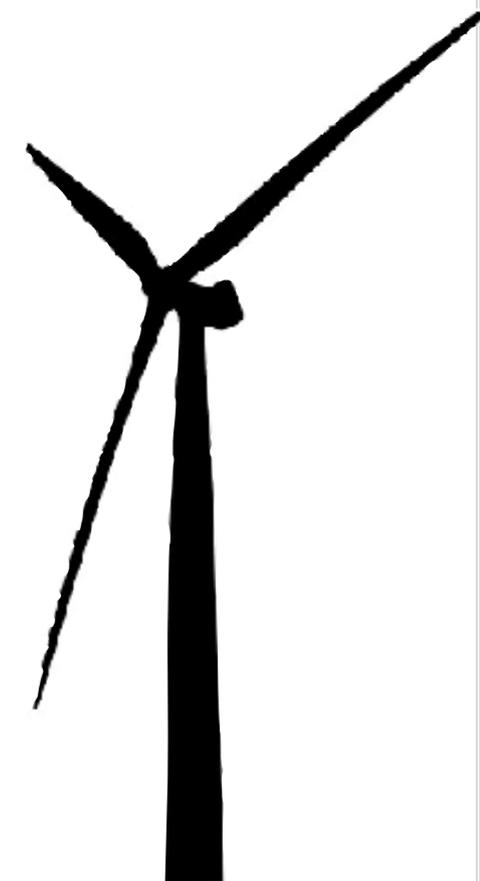
Boundary-Layer Meteorology 108 (2003)

$$Prob(u_\tau > 6\sigma) \approx 10^{-10}$$

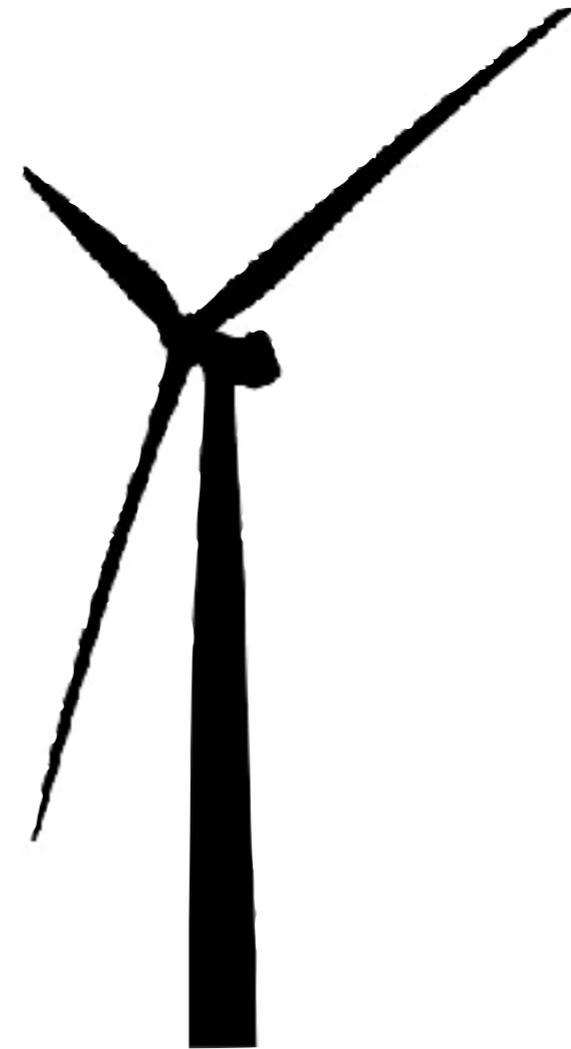
1/3000 years

content - 3rd part

- ▼ general comments on wind energy
- ▼ working conditions for wind turbines
- ▼ **claim - need to understand turbulence**



content - 3rd part



who knows fluid dynamics ?

who knows Navier Stokes equation ?

who knows the solution of the Navier Stokes equation ?

Turbulence one of 7 millennium problems



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EXISTENCE AND SMOOTHNESS OF THE NAVIER-STOKES EQUATION

CHARLES L. FEFFERMAN

The *Navier-Stokes* equations are then given by

$$(1) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_i + \sum_{j=1}^n u_j \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} = \nu \Delta u_i - \frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + f_i(x, t) \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t \geq 0),$$

$$(2) \quad \operatorname{div} u = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_i} = 0 \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t \geq 0)$$

$$(11) \quad p, u \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times [0, \infty)).$$

A fundamental problem in analysis is to decide whether such smooth, physically reasonable solutions exist for the Navier-Stokes equations. To give reasonable leeway to solvers while retaining the heart of the problem, we ask for a proof of one of the following four statements.

Turbulence one of 7 millennium problems



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A fundamental problem in analysis is to decide whether such smooth, physically reasonable solutions exist for the Navier–Stokes equations. To give reasonable leeway to solvers while retaining the heart of the problem, we ask for a proof of one of the following four statements.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\overbrace{u(x+r) - u(x)}^{u_r}}{r}$$

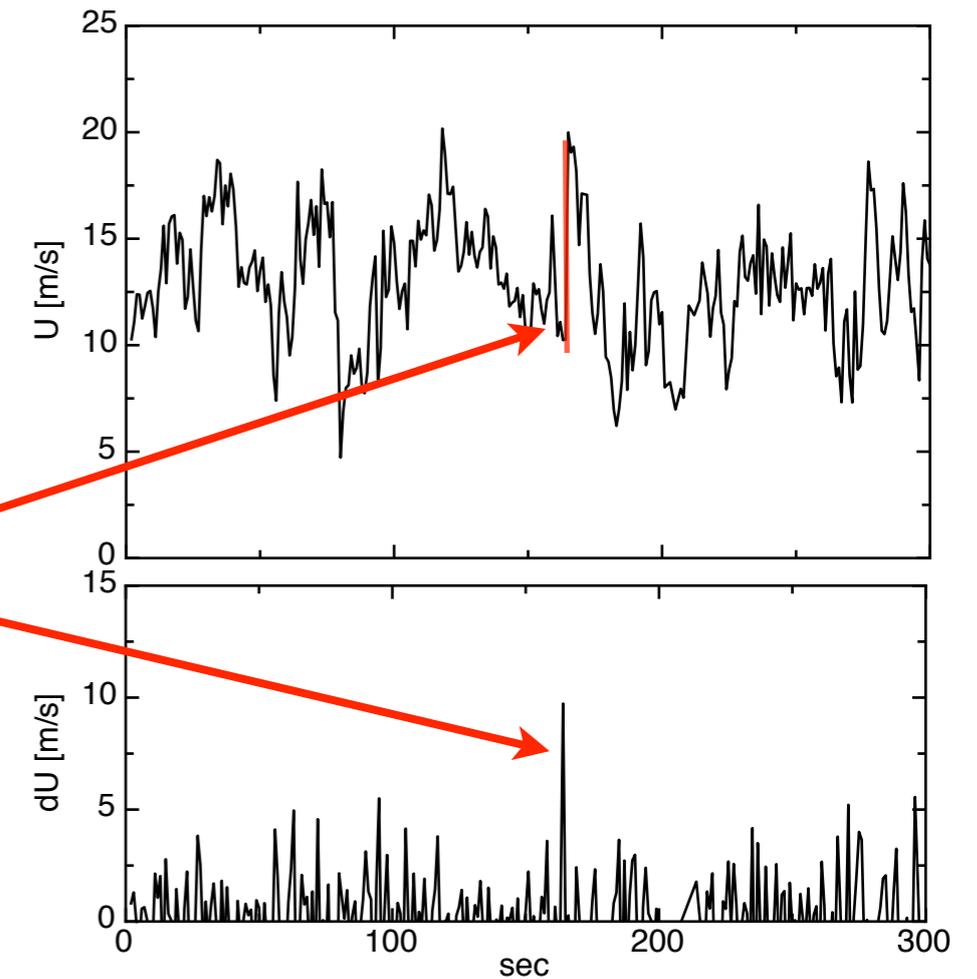
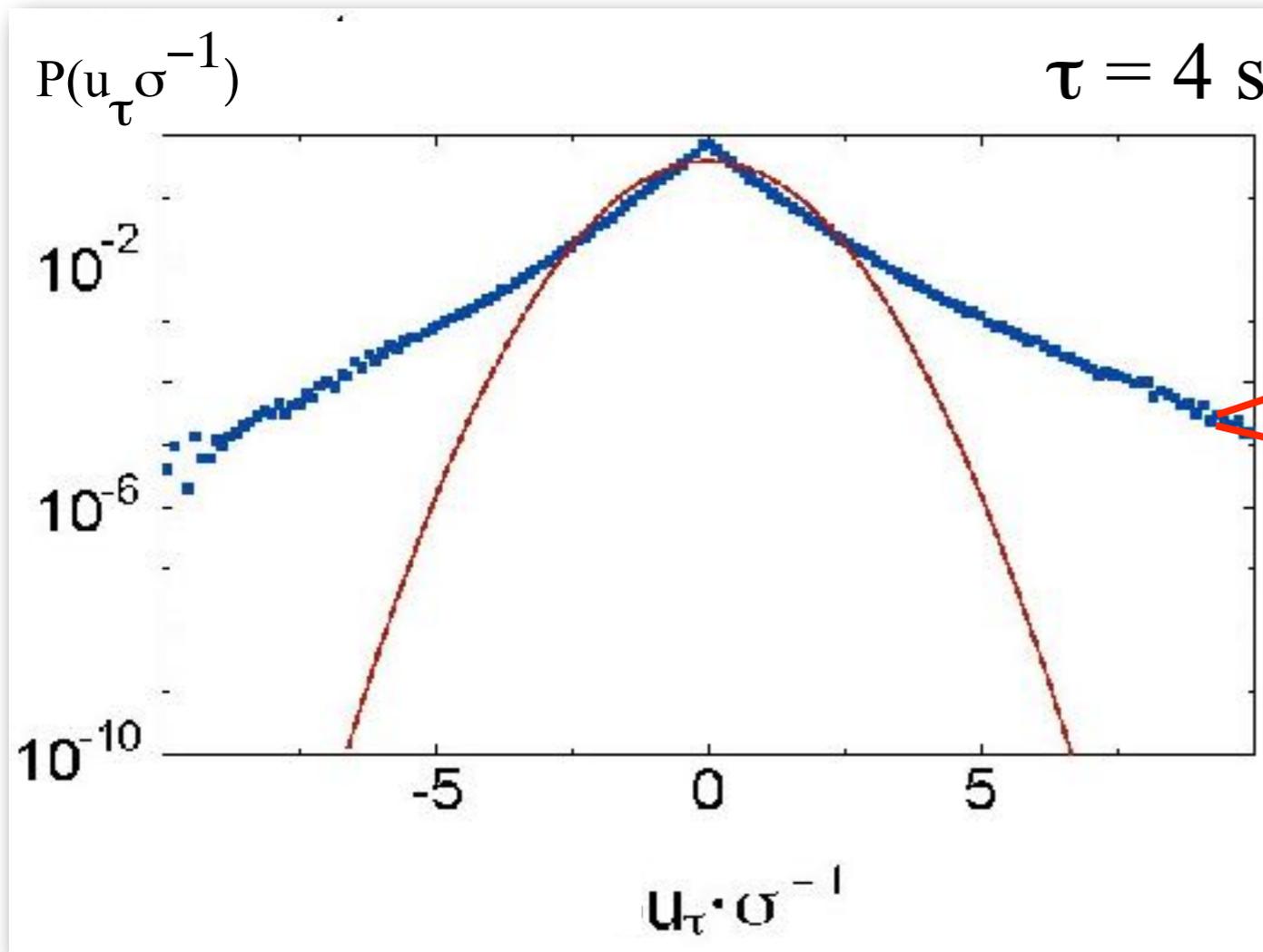
velocity increment

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{u_r}{r}$$

have to understand

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} u_r$$

statistics of gusts



Boundary-Layer Meteorology 108 (2003)

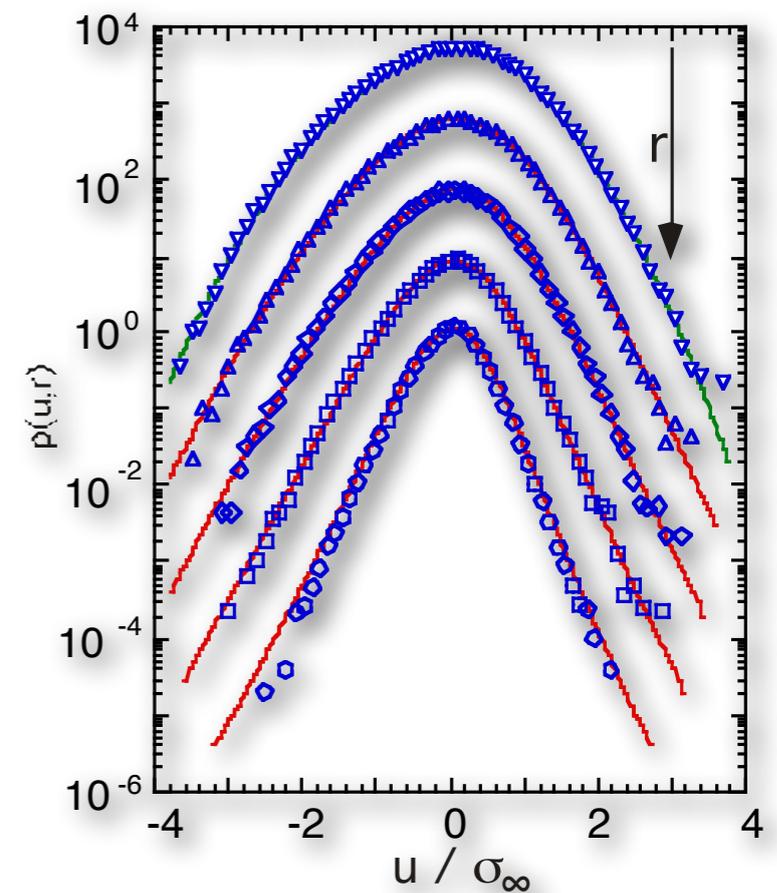
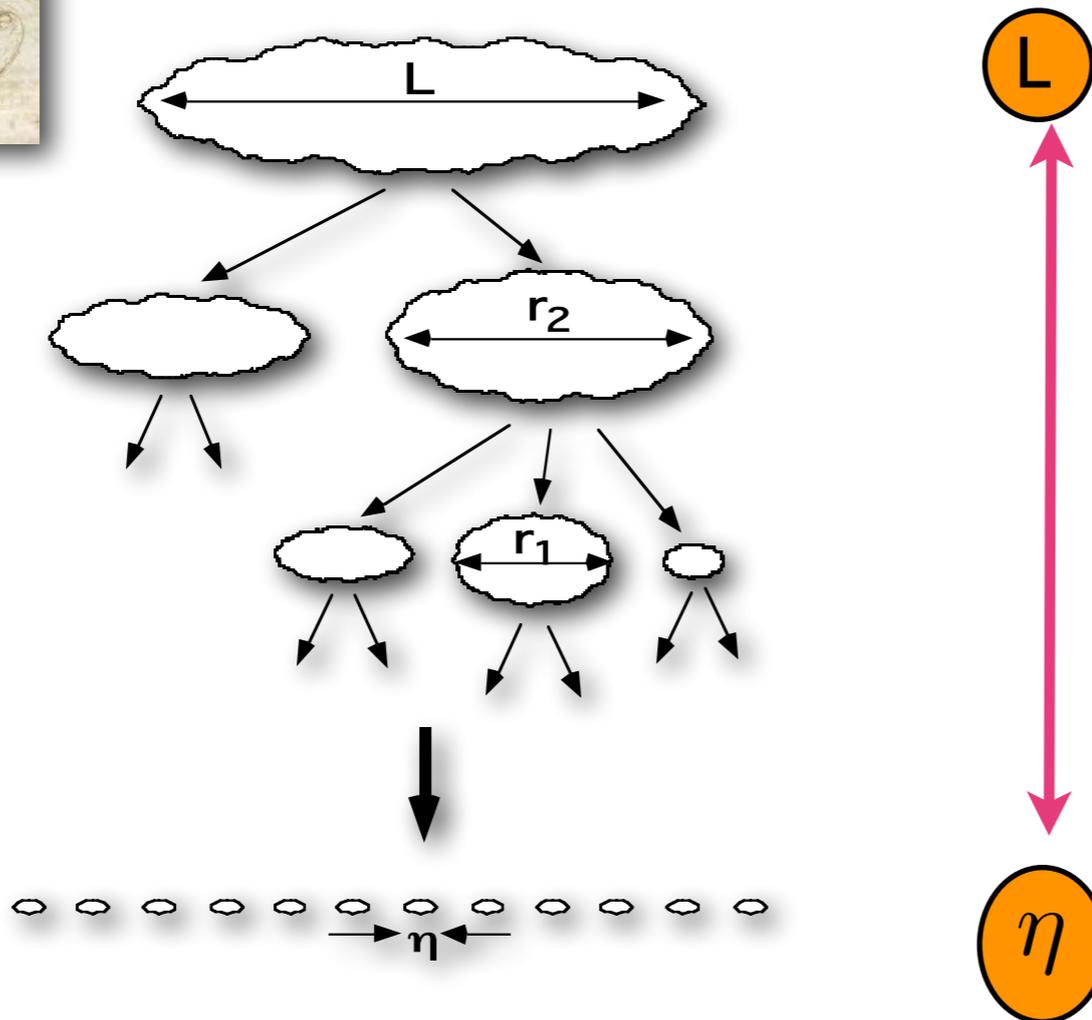
homogeneous isotropic turbulence -- hiT

▼ r - depend of velocity increments: $u_r = u(x + r) - u(x)$

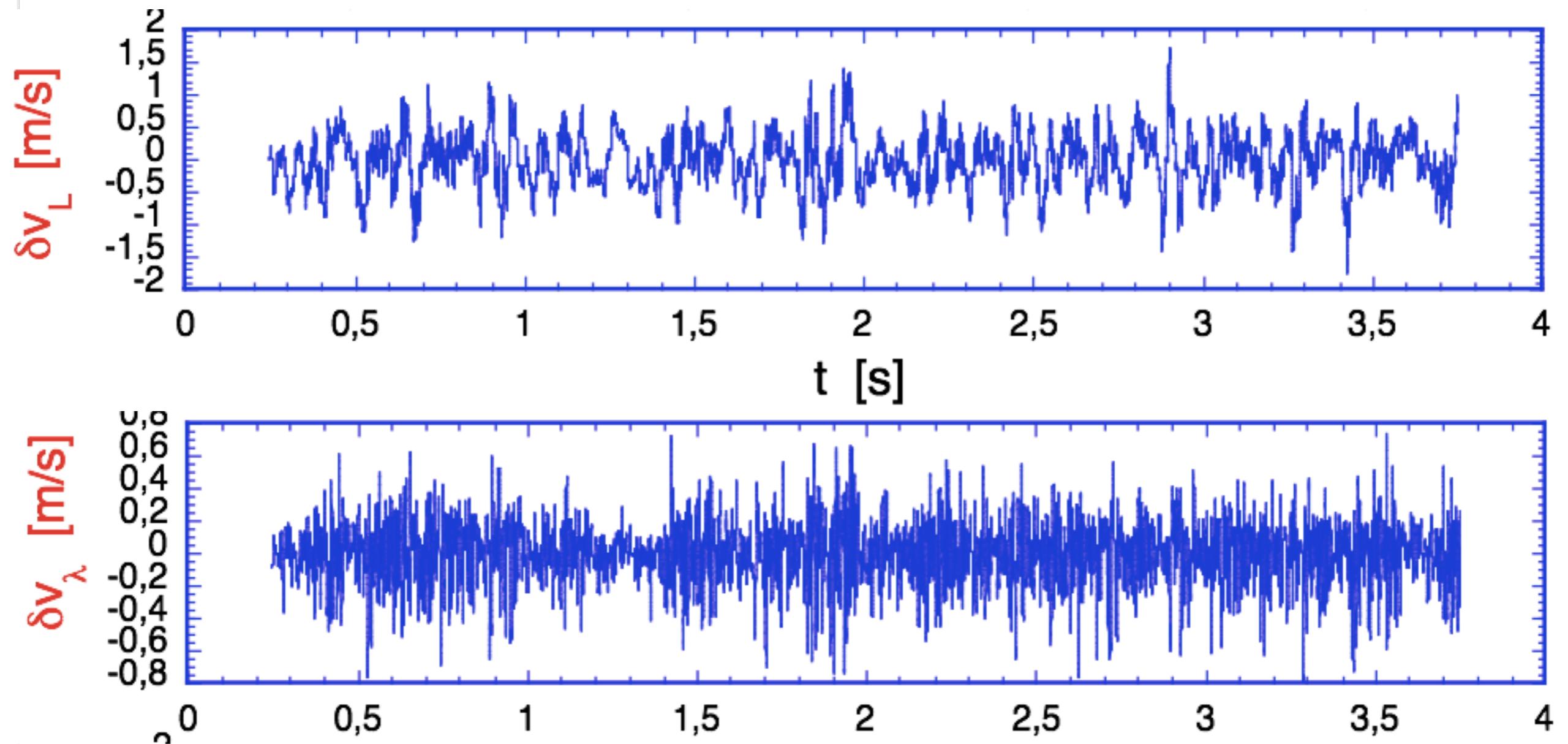
- cascade and **statistics of increments**



A.N. Kolomogorov



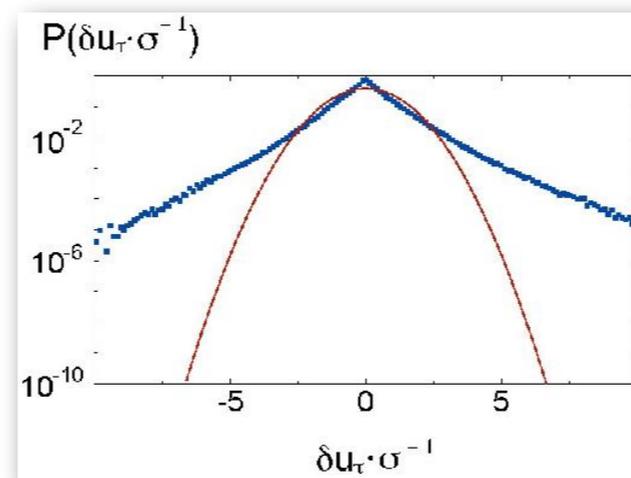
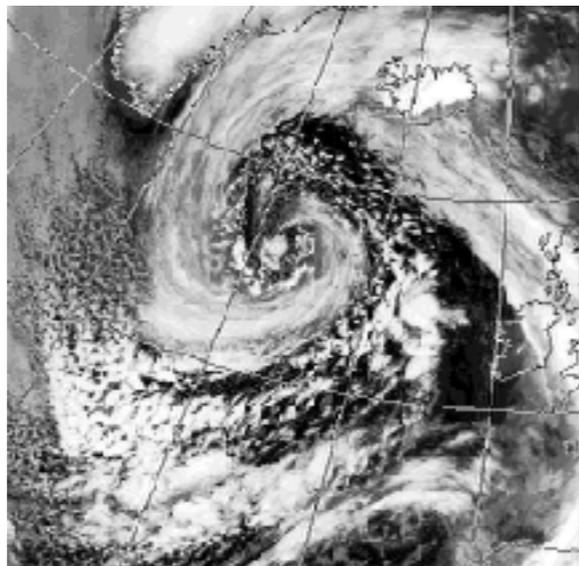
▼ fluctuations on small scales are more violent than on large scales



claim - need to understand turbulence

Wind characterization —

- wind has intermittent statistics - not taken into account by IEC norm
- **wind turbine is a small scale structure** - strong intermittency



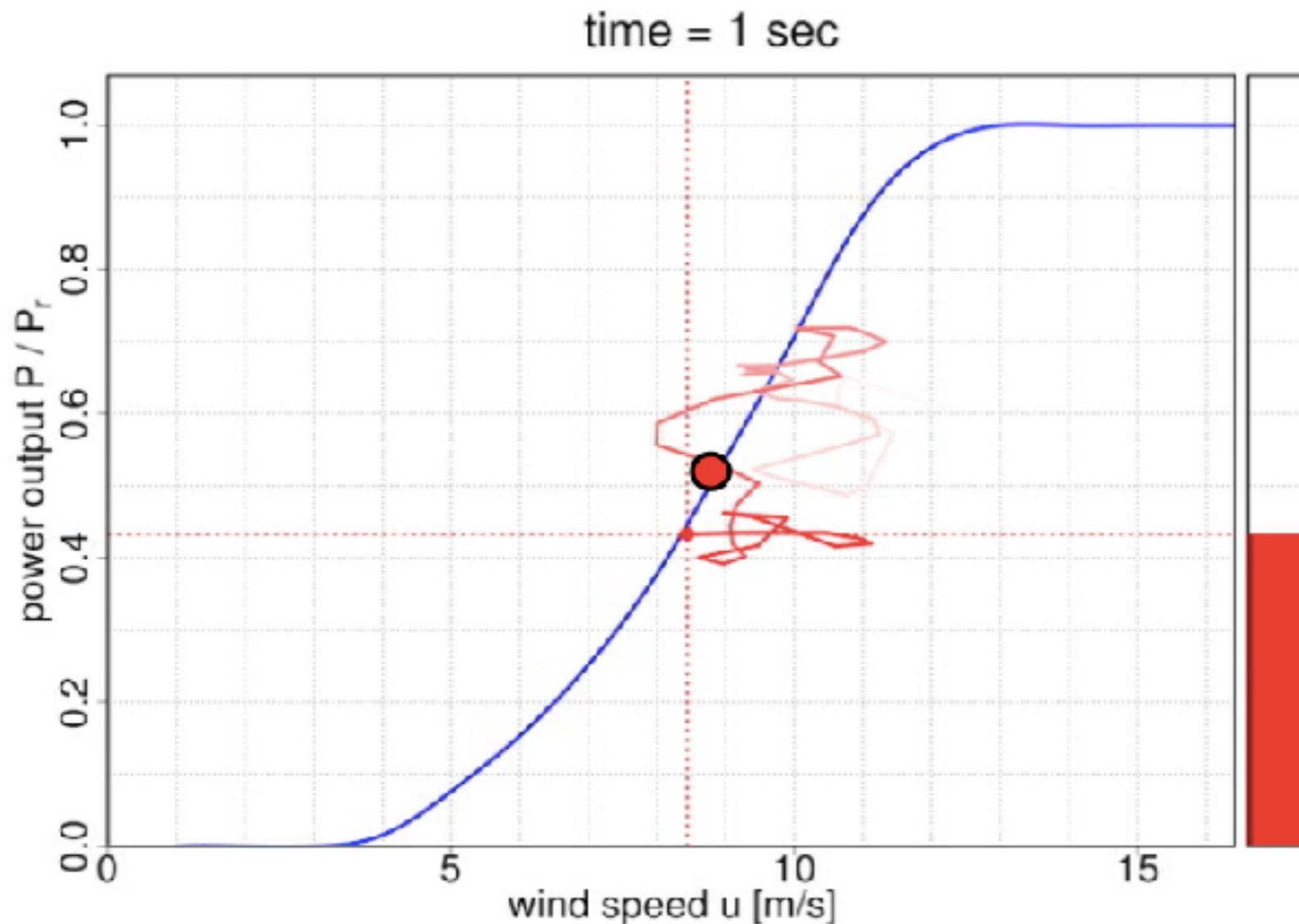
claim - need to understand turbulence

- ▼ Wind characterization —
- ▼ **impact on turbine**
 - blade aerodynamics
 - **power output**
- ▼ **but turbine is large**



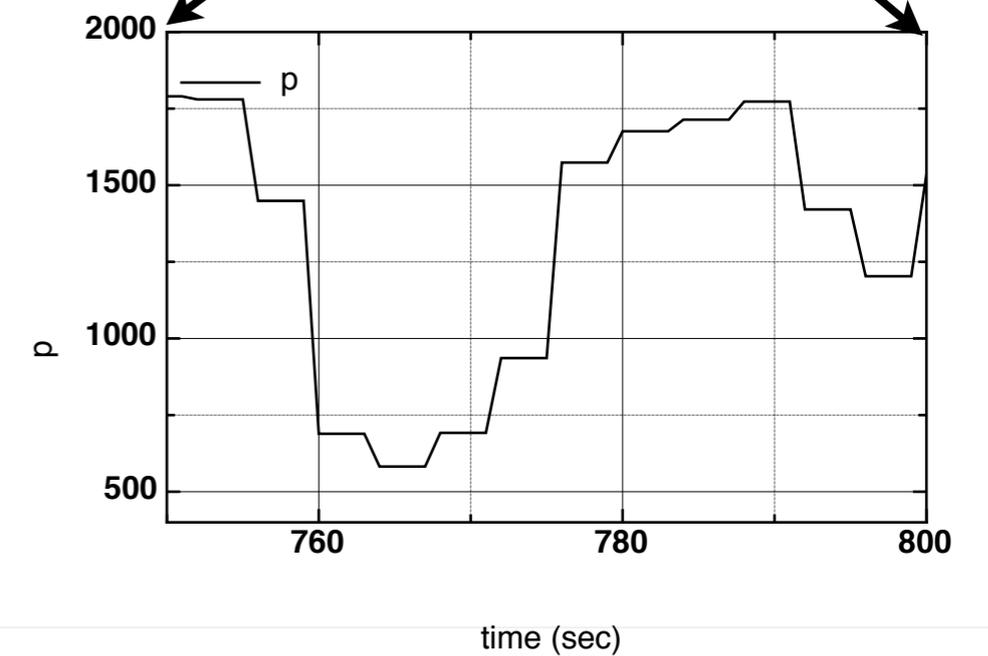
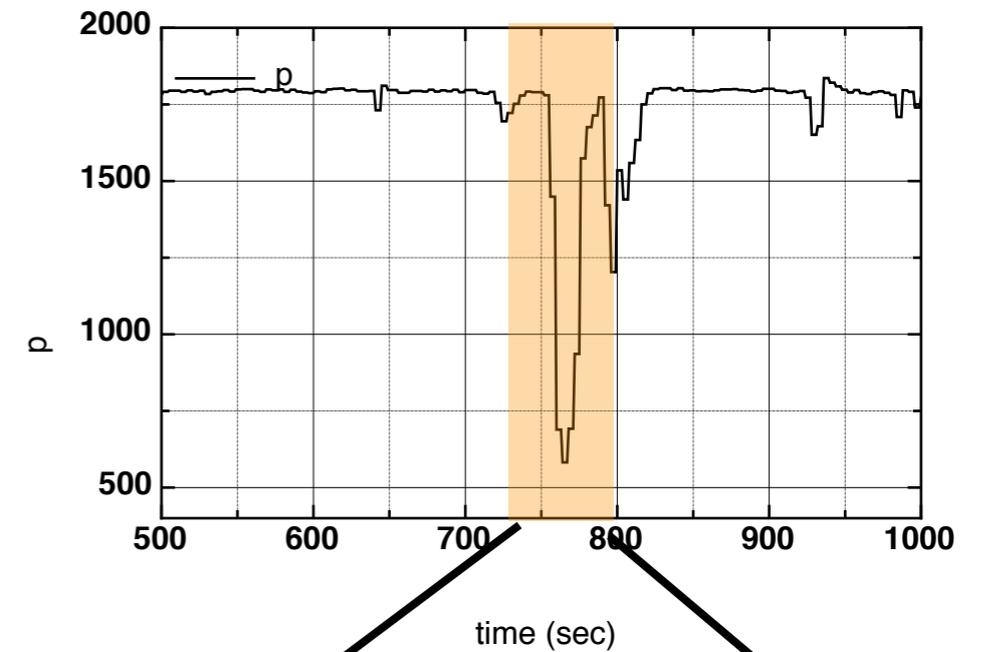
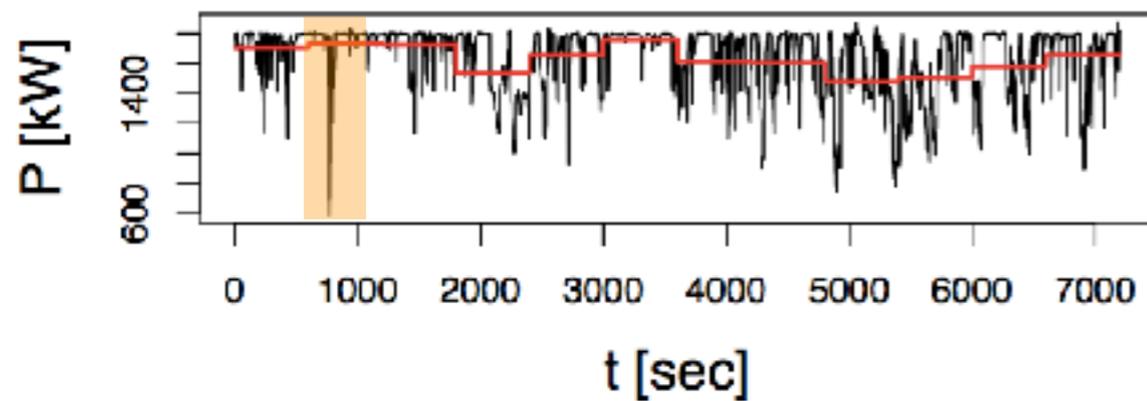
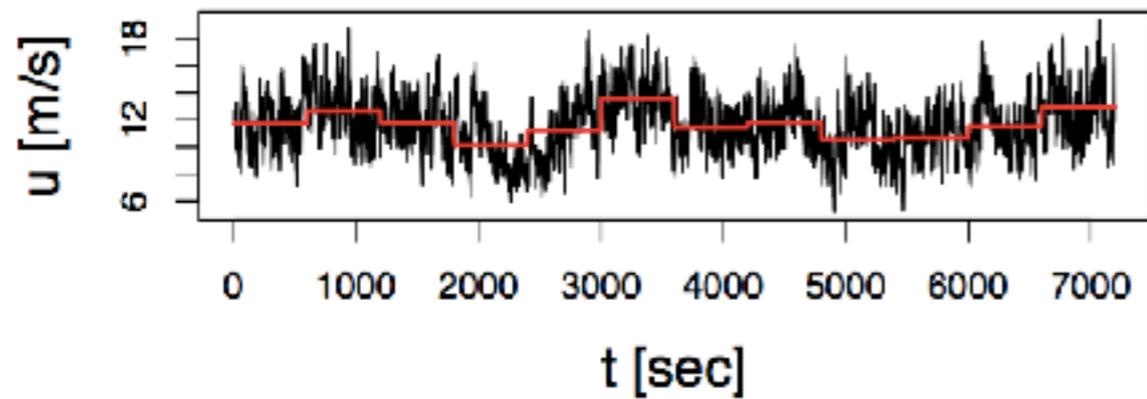
dynamics of power conversion

$$P_{WT} = \frac{1}{2} c_p(\lambda) \rho u_{wind}^3 \cdot A$$



time series of power production

rot 10 min Mittelwerte



modern wind turbines

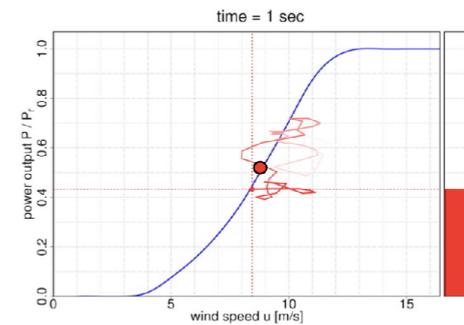
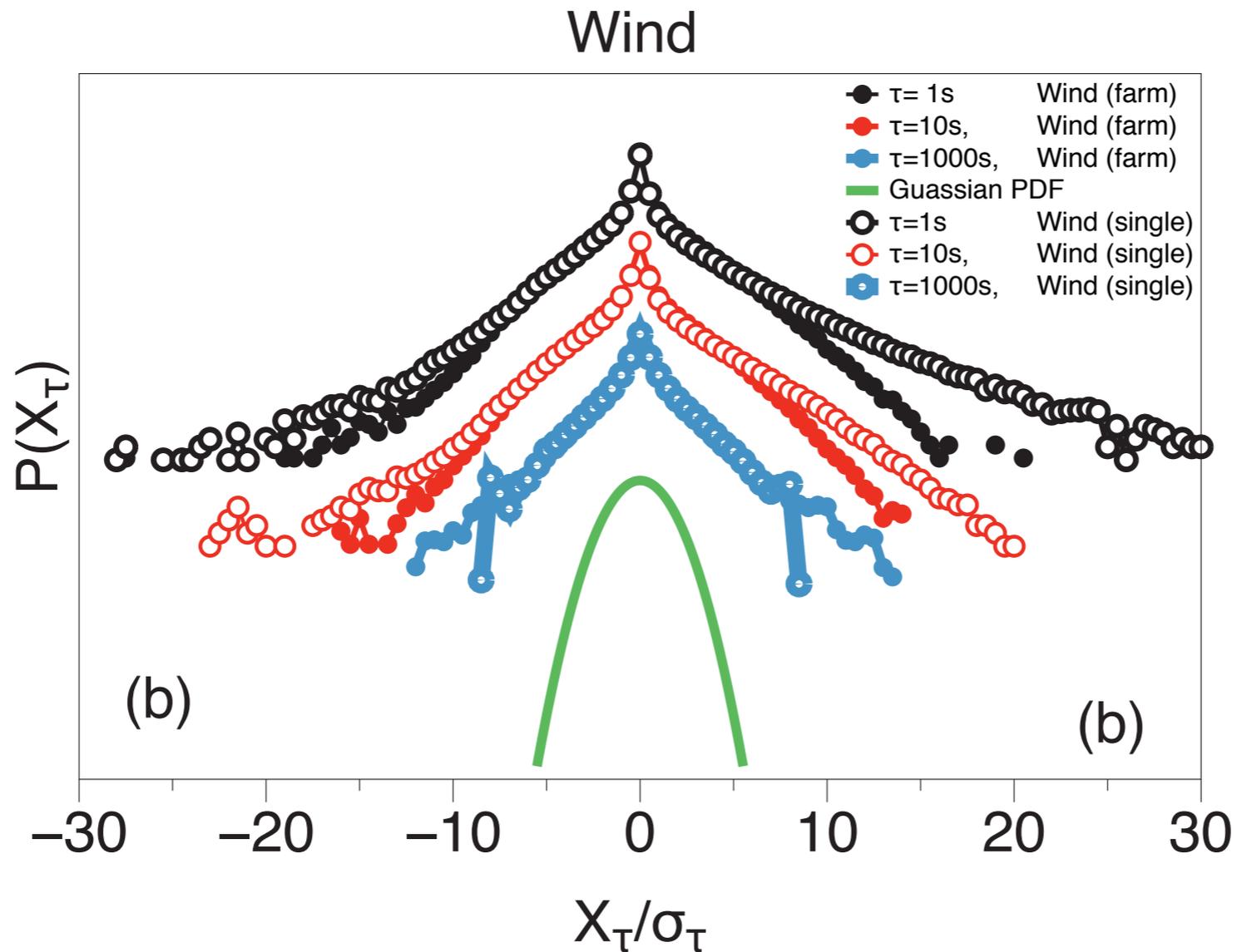
working condition

area = 12469 m²

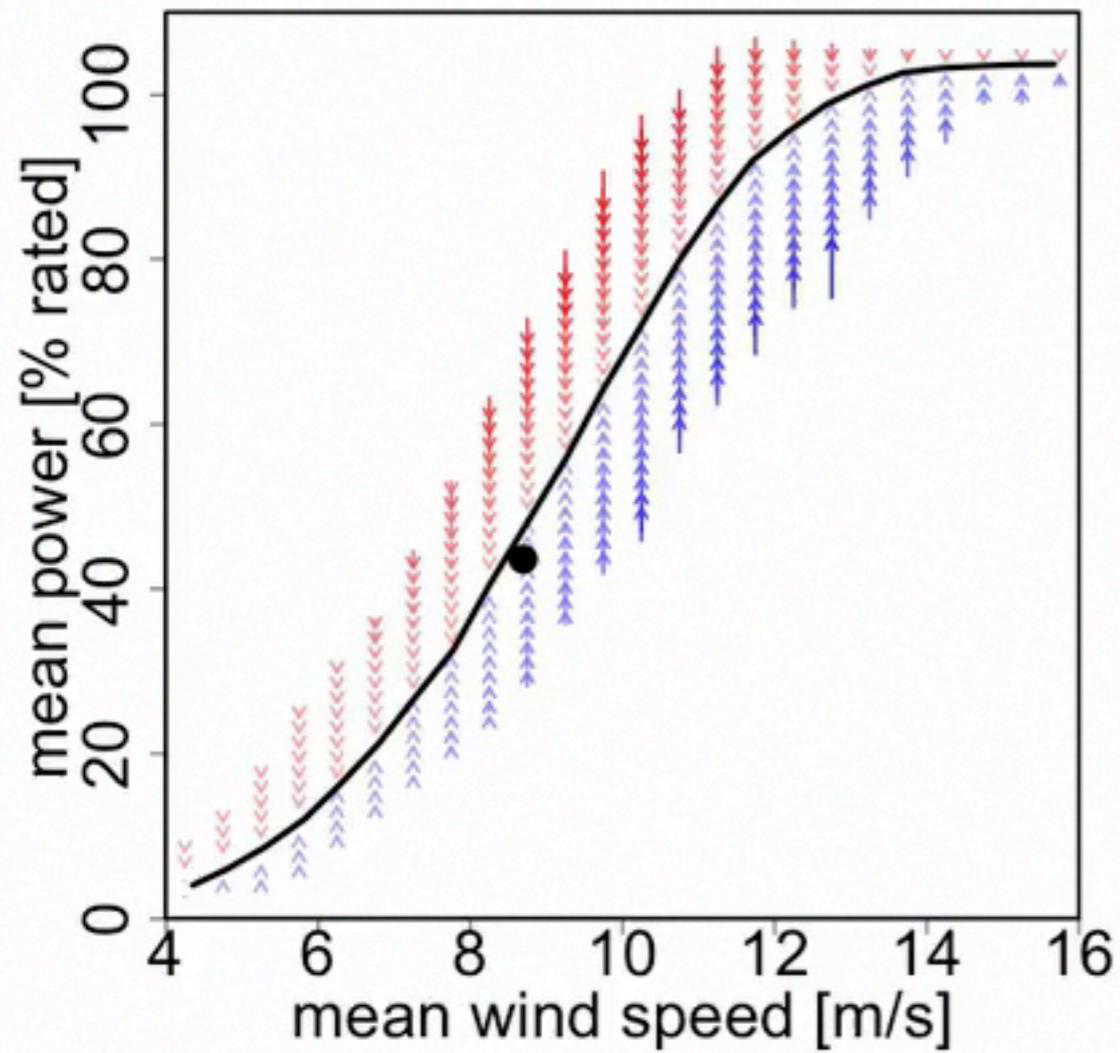


increment statistics of power fluctuations

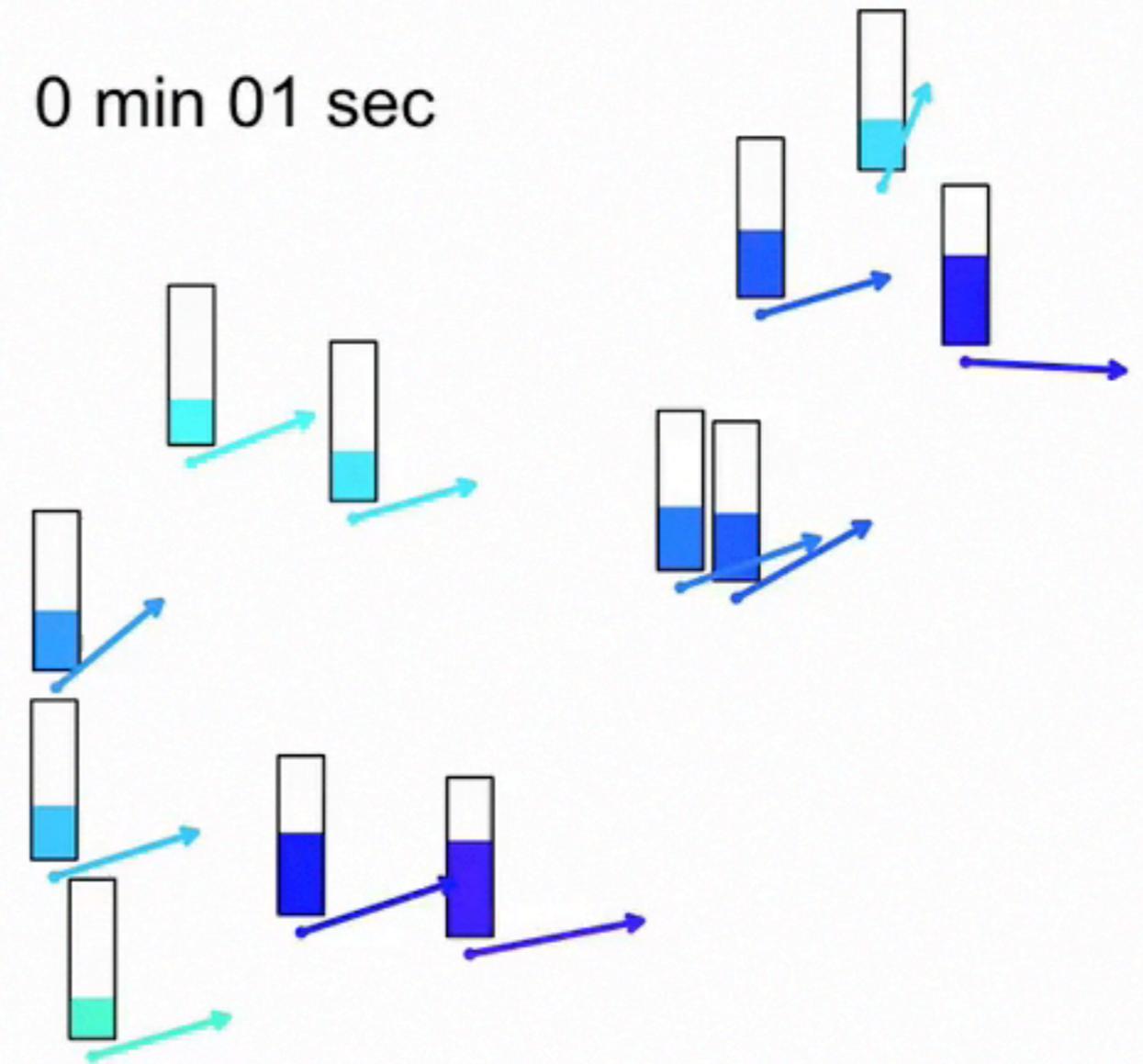
highly intermittent and turbulent power dynamics from wind turbines and wind farms



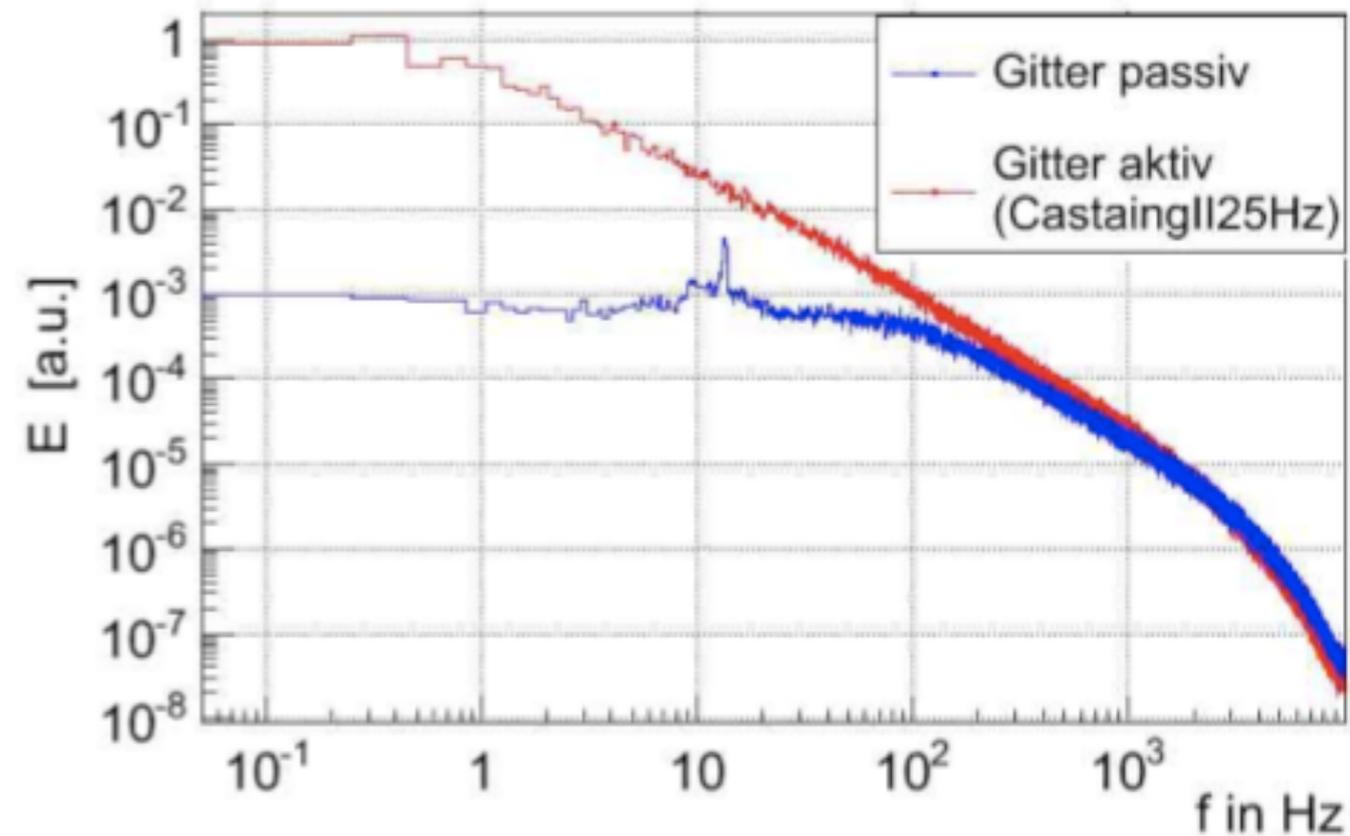
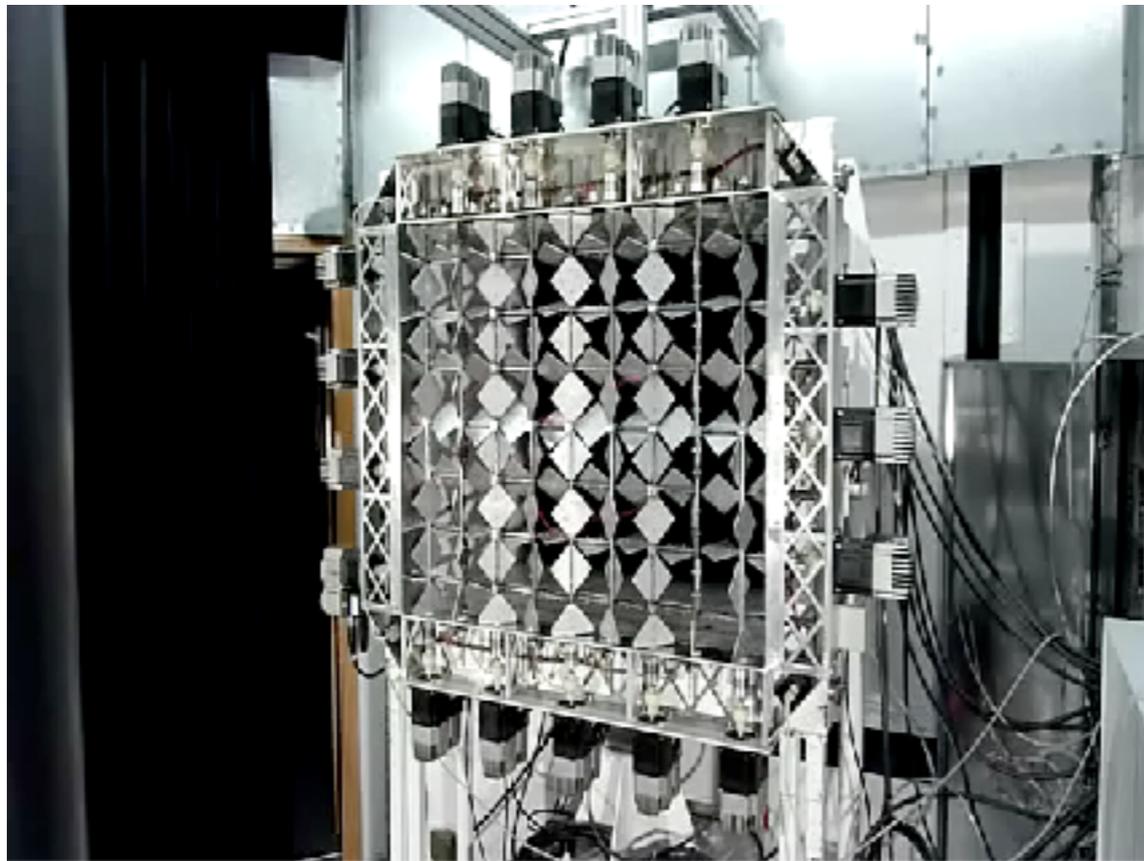
Windpark power dynamics



0 min 01 sec



reproduction of wind fields with active grid



Facility WindLab

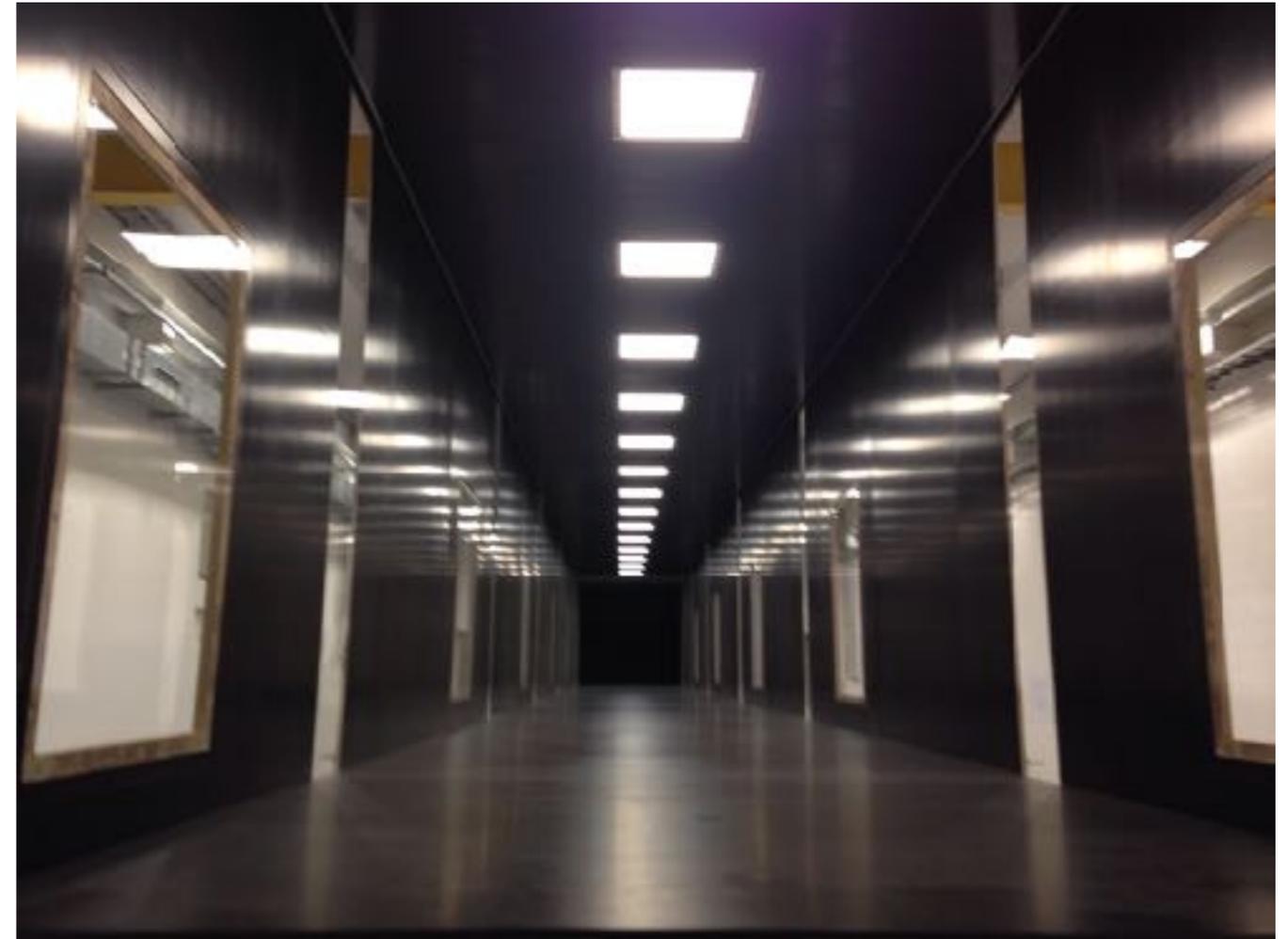
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Wind tunnel with active grid

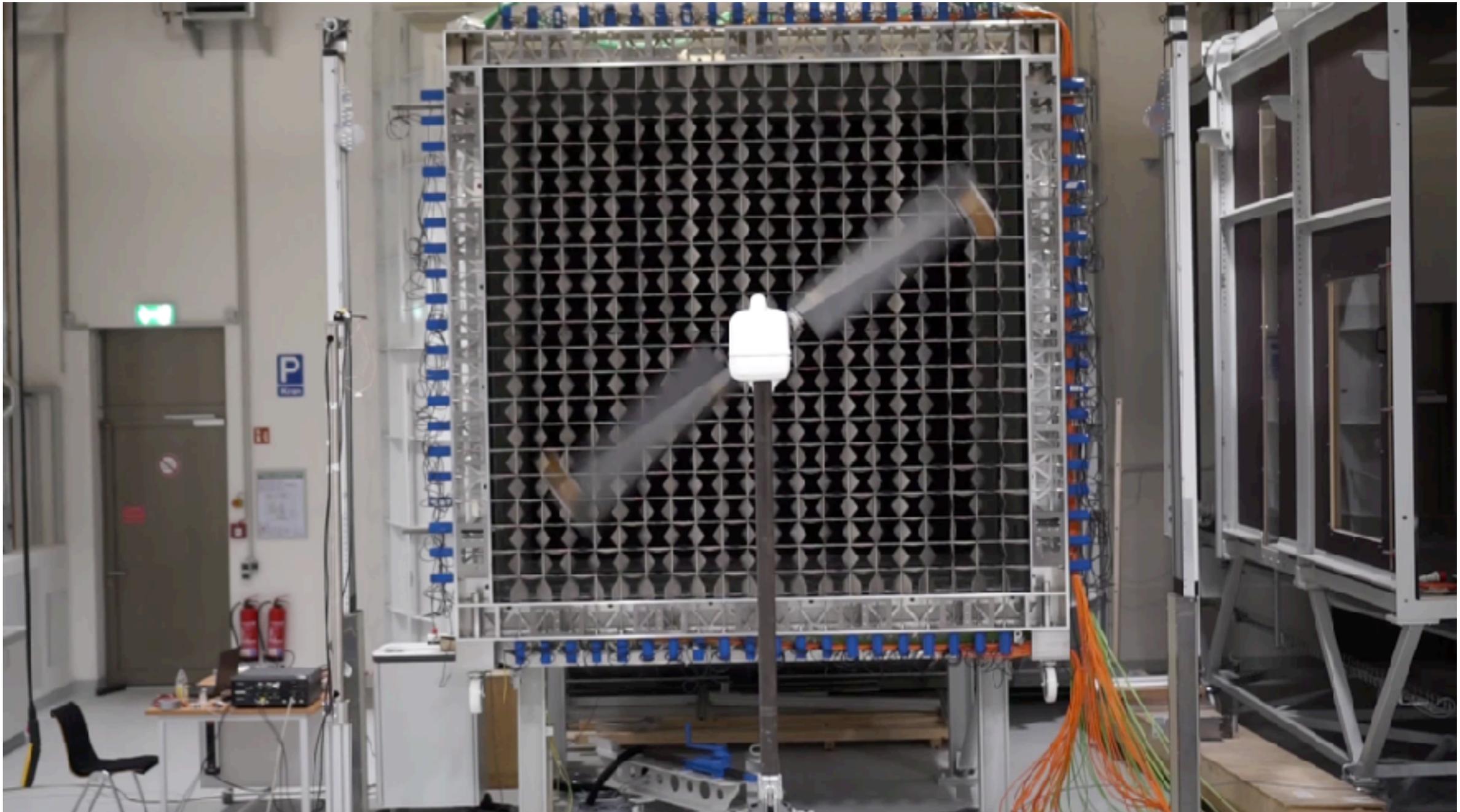


Exp - Big wind tunnel

- 3m x 3m outlet
- open and closed test section
- 30m measurement section
- about 32m/s max. vel. in open
- about 41m/s max. vel. in closed configuration



Exp - Active grid in big wind tunnel



**wind physics is challenging and
makes fun**

