



Wind Amplifier

Santhosh P¹, Sevvel P²

¹4th Year Mechanical Engineering Department, Magna College of Engineering

²Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department, Magna College of Engineering

san4593@gmail.com, sevvel_ready@yahoo.co.in

ABSTRACT—

This paper provides the complete information and the reasons for the low power extraction from the wind by the wind turbines. The opposing wind forces are completely neglected with the help of a deflector such that the speed of the turbine shaft is increased faster than normal, even at very low wind speed (1m/s). Almost all the wind turbines extract only 50 to 60% of total wind power due to low speed. This is due to the wind resistance in the blades. Wind turbines are generally located at a higher altitude nearly 100 feet above the ground level in order acquire a large wind power. The main objective of our project is to increase the speed of the rotor shaft even at low speed of wind(1 m/s), using a modified design in order to increase the power production.

Keywords— Cut-in speed, Cut-out speed, Wind Power, Power curve, Generator capacity.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Windmill extracts energy from moving air by slowing down the wind, and transferring this harvested energy into a spinning shaft, which usually turns an alternator or generator to produce electricity. Wind energy is a renewable power source which generated from wind current flowing across the earth's atmosphere. This energy can be used for quenching the energy thirst of the world. Wind energy is one among the fastest growing sources of alternate power generation in the world today.

- **Green Power:** The energy produced from wind is clean because generation procedures have no effect on atmosphere hence no pollution or greenhouse gases.
- **Sustainable:** Wind energy is a self sustained resource and present abundant in nature. This infinite energy makes the investors to make a stable investment for our energy demand as well as for our future generation.

Affordable: Wind power is a cheap and can be extracted largely with the help of technological advancements. Hence these machines are manufactured in large scale.

- **Economic Development:** Being affordable, wind power is the easy source of electricity that creates jobs in various sectors like manufacturing, service, construction, and operation.

II. TYPES OF WIND TURBINE

Wind mill is of many types, among them two is most widely used and common one.

They are

- Vertical axis wind turbine
- Horizontal axis wind turbine

Power Spots

The power available in the wind that can be harvested depends on two factors i.e. wind speed and the area swept by the propeller blades.

Objective

The main objective of our project is to increase the speed of the rotor even at low speed of wind in vertical axis wind turbine.

III. NEED

Every year, wind produces only a small amount of the electricity to country, but the usage of electricity is growing every year. One reason wind farms don't produce more electricity is that they can only run when the wind is blowing at certain speeds. In Tamil Nadu power cut is most common nowadays, many villages experience about 16 hours power cut. In Coimbatore about 40000 small scale industries losing 15000 cores a month due to frequent power cut.

IV. RESEARCHERS SUGGESTION

China Aerodynamics Research and Development Centre (CARDC) on the small-sized Horizontal axis wind turbine, the starting wind speed is usually in the range of 4~5 m/s, and the maximum has been up to 5.9 m/s. this starting performance obviously can't be satisfactory. Whereas Vertical Axis wind turbine can start at a wind speed of 2m/s, which is undoubtedly preferable than the Horizontal axis wind turbine.

A. Existing statistics

Almost all the wind turbines extract only 50 to 60% of total wind power. This is due to the wind resistance in the blades. In order to find where the 40% power loss occurs, we researched and found the reason after a few prototypes. The reason is explained below,

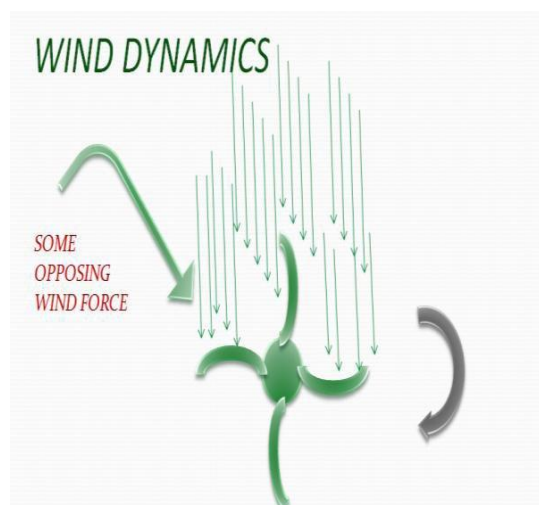


Fig. 1 Example for the wind flow in VAWT

Consider a wind flowing in a particular direction such that the vertical axis wind turbine starts rotates the shaft in clockwise. There is an opposing wind forces acted on the other side of the blades which slows down the speed of the rotation of the shaft.

Hence we placed a deflector such that there is no opposing wind forces to hinder the rotation of the shaft.

With some additional design feature the wind flow is directly concentrated on the turbine blades to increase the speed of rotation.

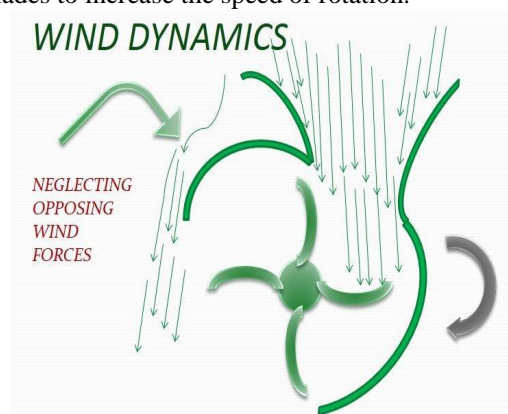


Fig. 1 Example for the wind flow in our VAWT



The opposing wind force that hinders the rotation of the the shaft is neglected with the help of the deflector which alters the path of the wind flow.

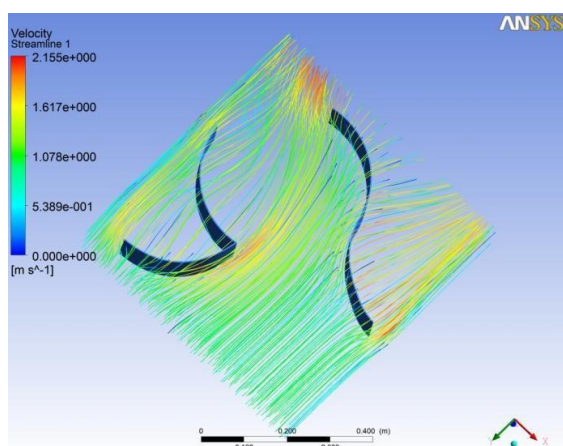


Fig. 3 Simulated wind flow in proposed system
(Wind velocity 1m/s)

The above image shows the simulated image of the cross-section where the wind flows at a velocity of 1m/s laminar flow in Ansys workbench software.

V.MODIFICATIONS

Some of the modification which is done to increase the velocity of the wind are as follows

- Nozzle
- Deflector
- Guide
- Ventilation
- Steering tail

A. Nozzle:

Nozzle is a device which converts low velocity fluid at inlet into high velocity fluid at exit.

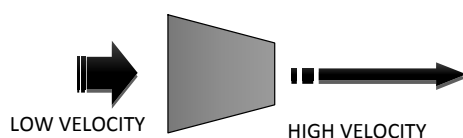


Fig. 4 Nozzle.

B. Deflector

It neglects the opposing wind forces and deflects the wind.

C. Guide

It guides the wind to flow in a circular path and to rotate the blade.

D. Ventilation

Ventilation is necessary for every air flowing object hence we place ventilation in order to ensure the air flow is continuous.

E. Steering tail

It is used to turn the total modification to the direction in which the wind flows

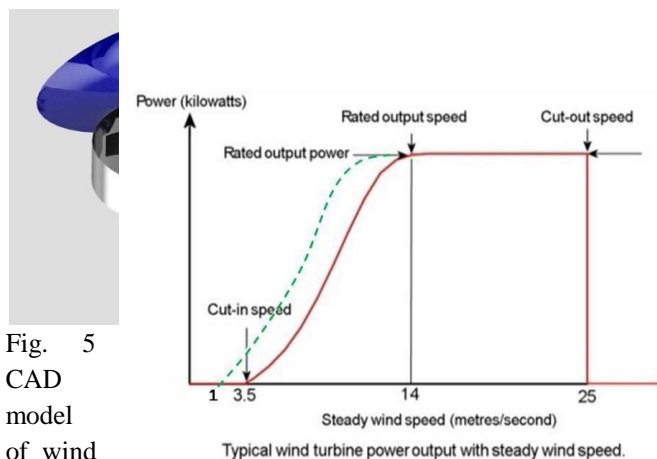


Fig. 5
CAD
model
of wind
amplifier.

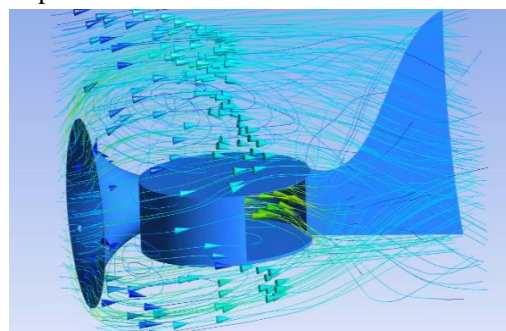


Fig. 6 Simulated wind flow in proposed system



Fig. 7 Fabricated model.

VI. CHARACTERISTICS

Power curve:

The above graph shows the power variation of a wind turbine at various wind speed.

Cut-in speed:

A wind turbine generally requires a minimum torque to rotate its shaft but at a low wind speed it fails to rotate. Simultaneously when the wind speed is increased the rotor starts to rotate and produce electricity. The minimum wind speed which is required to start generating electricity is said to be *cut-in speed* normally the cut in speed ranges from (3-5 m/s).but the proposed system requires only low (1m/s) wind velocity.

Up to Generator capacity:

When the wind speed is increased the power produced is increased simultaneously. The power produced will remain constant at a particular point when reaching the generator capacity. The maximum power delivered by the generator is said to be the rated power .generator is one of the main factor in the power generation which is designed in such a way that it can produce electricity at a particular speed.

Cut-out speed:

When the speed of the wind turbine increase tremendously it results in damage to the rotor at a particular point. Hence a braking system has to be adopted in the system to stop the rotor at this situation. This is said to be *cut-out speed* normally the cut in speed ranges from (25 m/s).

VII. WIND TURBINE EFFICIENCY

Kinetic Energy of wind is,

$$K.E = \frac{1}{2} * \text{mass} * \text{velocity}^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} m v^2$$

$$\text{Wind Power} = \frac{1}{2} \rho U^3 \frac{\pi d^2}{4}$$

Mass $m = \text{density} \times \text{volume}$

Volume = area \times length

$$= \frac{\pi d^2}{4} L, \quad L=1 \text{ (unit length)}$$

$U = \text{velocity (m/s)}$

$\rho = \text{density} = 1.423 \text{ (kg/m}^3\text{)}$

We have an increased output of 1m/s wind velocity in anemometer with an input of 2.5 m/s we had an output of 3.5 m/s.

A. Normal harvesting method:

$$\text{Kinetic Energy} = \frac{1}{2} * 1.423 * 1 * 2.5^2$$

$$= 4.45 \text{ (kg m}^2\text{)/(s}^2\text{)}$$

$$\text{Power of wind} = K.E * \text{velocity}$$

$$= 4.45 * 2.5$$

$$= 11.13 \text{ (kg m}^3\text{)/(s}^3\text{)}$$

B. Proposed harvesting method:

$$\text{Kinetic Energy} = \frac{1}{2} * 1.423 * 1 * (2.5+1)^2$$

$$= 8.716 \text{ (kg m}^2\text{)/(s}^2\text{)}$$

$$\text{Power of wind} = 8.716 * 3.5$$

$$= 30.50 \text{ (kg m}^3\text{)/(s}^3\text{)}$$

The above calculation proves that there is a drastic increase in the harvesting method of the total wind power. This method neglects the opposing wind forces and harvests nearly 88-90% of the total wind power

TABLE I
COMPARISON BETWEEN HAWT, VAWT, PROPOSED SYSTEM

S. no	Comparison			
	Performan ce	HAW T	VAWT	PROPOS ED SYS
1	Power extraction efficiency	50%	60%	87%



2	Electro magnetic interference	Yes	No	No
3	Steering mechanism of the wind	Yes	No	Yes
4	Starting wind speed	High(3.5-5m/s)	Low (3m/s)	Very low (1 m/s)
5	Rotating speed	High	Low	High

VIII. ADVANTAGES

- High power delivery
- Easy installation
- Cheap
- Suitable even at low wind areas
- Compact structure
- Simple
- Self-sustaining energy

IX.DISADVANTAGES

Auto aligning (steering mechanism) is not rapid which can be replaced by auto rotor systems.

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Biography

Author 1: Santhosh P
 Degree: Bachelor of engineering
 Branch: Mechanical engineering
 Position: Final year Student
 Achievements:

[1] Participated in National conference on —RECENT TRENDS IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING held on 6TH September 2013 Magna college of engineering and won best project.

[2] Participated in National conference on —SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



- AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY held on 29-30 August 2013 and WON 2ND PRIZE for best project
- [3] Participated in the Association of Scientists, Developers and Faculties (ASDF) student Project Awards 2013 and won —MEGA TITLE AWARDI.
- [4] Participated in National Level Project competition 2013 held at Saveetha Engineering College and Won 1st prize.
- [5] Participated in National Level Technical Symposium TECHNOMEET-13 in Jeppiaar Institute of Technology and Won 1st prize.
- [6] Participated in interdepartmental project competition EUREKA-13 in Magna College of Engineering and won —Best project awardll.
- [7] Participated in National Level Technical Symposium ZWINGEN-13in SriSai Ram Engineering College and Won 1st prize.
- [8] Participated in National Level Technical Symposium DEUS EX MACHINA 10 in Velammal Engineering College and Won 1st prize.
- [9] Participated in National Level Technical Symposium MAQUINAS' 13 in RMK College of Engineering &Technology and Won 1nd prize.
- [10] Participated in National Level Technical Symposium Mecha-i-prix13 in Roever College of Engineering &Technology and Won 2nd prize
- [11] Participated in National Level Design competition INGENIOUS-13 in Rajalakshmi Engineering college and Won 2nd prize.
- [2] Designed, fabricated & guided 35 Innovative projects in the stream of Mech, EEE, ECE & CSE
- [3] Having a consistency of working as Associate Professor in the same college for more than 8 years
- [4] Won the Best Teacher Award in Mission 10X Level 2 Workshop conducted by WIPRO
- [5] Convenor for more than 2 National Level Conferences on Recent Trends in Mechanical Engineering & 1 International Conference on Emerging Innovative Trends.

Biography

Author2: Sevvel P

Degree: M.Tech (Ph.D.)

Branch: Mechanical engineering

Position: Associate Professor

Achievements:

- [1] Successfully established Innovative Project Cell in Magna College of Engineering.