

# Vertical-axis wind turbine design load cases investigation and load comparison with horizontal axis wind turbine

 $P = \frac{1}{2} \rho A v^3 C_p$ 

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Wind turbine minimum design requirements
  - Design load cases
  - Definition considerations
- Wind Turbine models
- Simulation tool
- Results
- Conclusions

## Introduction



#### Large scale VAWT development

Past: Sandia 34m test bed, Eole 4MW, FloWind 19m Present-Future: 5MW DeepWind concept, Nenuphar Vertiwind



Need to set the minimum design requirements for the structural integrity of VAWTs according to IEC/standardisation.



- IEC 61400-1 ed.3 standard sets minimum structural requirements for onshore wind turbines
  - The Design Load Cases (DLCs) are a combination of external conditions and wind turbine states
- DNV·GL similar criteria

#### Main research question

Are the IEC 61400-1, ed.3 DLCs applicable for vertical-axis wind turbines?



### **Design load cases**

- Design situations
  - Normal power production
  - Emergency shut down
  - Parked rotor
- Not considered
  - Power production plus occurrence of fault
  - Start up and normal shut down
  - Transportation, assembly, maintenance and repair

| Design situation  | DL<br>C |     | Wind condition  | Other conditions   |
|---|---------|-----|---|--|
| 1) Power production                                     | 1.1     | NTM | $V_{\rm in} < V_{\rm hub} < V_{\rm out}$                            | For extrapolation of<br>extreme events   |
|   | 1.2     | NTM | $V_{\rm in} < V_{\rm hub} < V_{\rm out}$                            |  |
|   | 1.3     | ETM | $V_{\rm in} < V_{\rm hub} < V_{\rm out}$                            |  |
|   | 1.4     | ECD | $V_{hub} = V_r - 2 \text{ m/s}, V_r,$<br>$V_r + 2 \text{ m/s}$      |  |
|   | 1.5     | EWS | $V_{\rm in} < V_{\rm hub} < V_{\rm out}$                            |  |
| 2) Power production<br>plus occurrence of<br>fault      | 2.1     | NTM | $V_{\rm in} < V_{\rm hub} < V_{\rm out}$                            | Control system fault or<br>loss of electrical network  |
|   | 2.2     | NTM | $V_{\rm in} < V_{\rm hub} < V_{\rm out}$                            | Protection system or<br>preceding internal<br>electrical fault                                 |
|   | 2.3     | EOG | $V_{hub} = V_r \pm 2 \text{ m/s and}$<br>$V_{out}$                  | External or internal<br>electrical fault including<br>loss of electrical network               |
|   | 2.4     | NTM | $V_{\rm in} < V_{\rm hub} < V_{\rm out}$                            | Control, protection, or<br>electrical system faults<br>including loss of<br>electrical network |
| 3) Start up   | 3.1     | NWP | $V_{\rm in} < V_{\rm hub} < V_{\rm out}$                            |  |
|   | 3.2     | EOG | $V_{hub} = V_{in}, V_r \pm 2 \text{ m/s}$<br>and $V_{out}$          |  |
|   | 3.3     | EDC | $V_{\rm hub}$ = $V_{\rm in}, V_{\rm r} \pm 2$ m/s and $V_{\rm out}$ |  |
| 4) Normal shut down                                     | 4.1     | NWP | $V_{\rm in} < V_{\rm hub} < V_{\rm out}$                            |  |
|   | 4.2     | EOG | $V_{\rm hub}$ = $V_{\rm r} \pm 2$ m/s and $V_{\rm out}$             |  |
| 5) Emergency shut<br>down                               | 5.1     | NTM | $V_{hub} = V_r \pm 2$ m/s and $V_{out}$                             |  |
| 6) Parked (standing<br>still or idling)                 | 6.1     | EWM | 50-year recurrence<br>period  |  |
|   | 6.2     | EWM | 50-year recurrence<br>period  | Loss of electrical<br>network connection   |
|   | 6.3     | EWM | 1-year recurrence<br>period   | Extreme yaw<br>misalignment  |
|   | 6.4     | NTM | $V_{hub} < 0,7 V_{ref}$   |  |
| 7) Parked and fault<br>conditions                       | 7.1     | EWM | 1-year recurrence<br>period   |  |
| 8) Transport,<br>assembly,<br>maintenance and<br>repair | 8.1     | NTM | V <sub>maint</sub> to be stated by the manufacturer                 |  |
|   | 8.2     | EWM | 1-year recurrence<br>period   |  |

IEC 61400-1,ed.3 DLCs p35

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## Considerations of the IEC 61400-1 ed.3 for VAWTs

- 1. The **hub-height** where the wind reference values are applied
  - In this study the rotor swept area (projected area) centre location at nominal rotor speed



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- 1. The **hub-height** where the wind reference values are applied
  - The rotor swept area (projected area) centre location at nominal rotor speed



2. The **rotor diameter** is used in equations for the definition of the wind characteristics

> The largest rotor diameter of the wind turbine at nominal rotor speed

## Wind turbine models and aeroelastic code



- Simulation Tool: HAWC2 aeroelastic code
- Outputs: Turbine base bottom BM, blade root BM, blade deflection

## **Power production under NTM**

• Extrapolated 50 year return period extremes VAWT-HAWT



- 1. Larger turbine base BM for VAWT
- 2. VAWT blade upper root BM similar with HAWT blade root





• Blade equivalent 1Hz fatigue VAWT-HAWT



- 1. Flapwise BM similar magnitude
- 2. VAWT edgewise BM much larger at high winds





#### **Extreme Operating Gust VAWT**



• Loads depend on the rotor orientation during the gust passage (rotor extends in 3dimensions)

## **Emergency Shut Down VAWT**

- Mechanical brake
- Emergency shut down at 220s
- 0.5s before grid loss (zero generator torque)



Set-up





## VAWT Parked Rotor under 50-year EWM

- 1. Idling rotor  $\rightarrow$  non reaching equilibrium rotor speed
- 2. Forced rotor rotation at low rotor speed  $\rightarrow$  Possible
- 3. Standing still (locked rotor at different orientations)  $\rightarrow$  Blade instabilities





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• Sensitivity analysis on blade stiffness and damping for the standing still case  $\rightarrow$  Instabilities present



## **Comparison of DLCs VAWT-HAWT**



- 1. VAWT extreme loads emerged from DLC 1.1 higher than the transient wind events
- 2. HAWT load results from transients more severe (DLC 2.3)

# Conclusions



## VAWT DLCs

- 1. The examined DLCs of IEC 61400-1, ed.3 are applicable for VAWTs
- 2. Definitions of equivalent hub height and rotor diameter were specified
- 3. The loads emerged from EOG depend on the rotor orientation gust passage combination (3D rotor in space)
- Parked standing still rotor under extreme winds (DLC 6.2) led to blade instabilities for specific rotor orientations and seems be design driver for VAWTs

## Conclusions



#### **VAWT-HAWT** load comparison

- 1. Under power production with NTM both VAWT ultimate and 1 Hz fatigue base bottom bending moments were higher compared to the HAWT
- 2. The blade root loads are of similar magnitude at low and moderate winds between the two wind turbines under normal power production
- 3. DLC 1.1 simulations returned the highest base bottom and blade root loads for the VAWT where the DLC 2.3 and 5.1 for the HAWT



# Thank You Questions ?



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