

Exercise : Wind Energy

Let us consider a wind turbine with a rotor diameter of **8 m** and **3 blades**.

The performance measurements according to the wind speed are given in the table below:

Wind speed m/s	Mean Power (W)	% of time in one year
1	0	0.9%
2	0	2.6%
3	231	7.7%
4	709	10.9%
5	1535	14.4%
6	2873	16.2%
7	4384	14.0%
8	5952	10.9%
9	8015	7.9%
10	9823	5.5%
11	10112	3.7%
12	10304	2.6%
13	10512	1.1%
14	10305	0.9%
15	10096	0.7%

1) The manufacturer displays a rated power of **10 KW for 10m/s**. is it exact?

2) Deduce the efficiency coefficient C_p of the wind turbine **at 10m/s**.

The density of air $\rho = 1.225\text{kg /m}^3$.

3) **Calculate the annual operating time D :**

The annual operating time is defined as the quotient of the energy bought back **during a year (365 days)** of operation of the installation by the maximum active power of the same installation (**10 kW**).

4) The investment cost of this wind turbine is **26.500 euros**. operation and maintenance costs are estimated at **500 euros / year**. In order to evaluate the return on investment and given EDF's electricity purchase price as defined below. calculate the **payback period PBT** of the installation (time for which the wind turbine is reporting as much as it has cost).

Annual reference operating time D	Price for the first 10 years (€/kWh)	Price for the following 5 years (€/kWh)
3600 h and more	0.082	0.028

Correction

1) According to table. the mean power is 9823 W. It is a **mean value** near 10000 W. Therefore. we can admit the **rated power** displayed by the manufacturer. It is exact.

$$2) C_p = \frac{P_{eol}}{0.5 \times \rho \times \pi \times R^2 \times V^3} = \frac{9823}{0.5 \times 1.225 \times \pi \times 4^2 \times 10^3} = 0.31$$

3) Annual operating time $D = \frac{\text{Total Energy per year produced}}{\text{maximum active power 10 KW}}$

Wind speed m/s	Mean Power (W)	% of time in one year	Duration (h) in one year	Produced energy (Kwh)
1	0	0.9%	76.6	0
2	0	2.6%	229.8	0
3	231	7.7%	670.3	155
4	709	10.9%	957.6	679
5	1535	14.4%	1264.0	1940
6	2873	16.2%	1417.2	4072
7	4384	14.0%	1229.5	5390
8	5952	10.9%	957.6	5700
9	8015	7.9%	689.5	5526
10	9823	5.5%	478.8	4703
11	10112	3.7%	325.6	3292
12	10304	2.6%	229.8	2368
13	10512	1.1%	99.6	1047
14	10305	0.9%	76.6	789
15	10096	0.7%	57.5	580
Total Energy per year produced				36242

$$D = \frac{\text{Total Energy per year produced}}{\text{maximum active power 10 KW}} = \frac{36242 \text{ kWh}}{10 \text{ kW}} = 3624 \text{ h.}$$

4) Expected revenues for the first 10 years:

$$R = 36242 \times 0.082 - 500 = 2472 \text{ euros/year}$$

Expected revenues for the following 5 years:

$$R = 36242 \times 0.028 - 500 = 515 \text{ euros/year}$$

Depreciation period:

$$PBT = 13.5 \text{ years as : } 26500 \cong 10 \text{ years} \times 2472\text{€} + 3.5 \text{ years} \times 515 \text{ €} = 13.5 \text{ years}$$