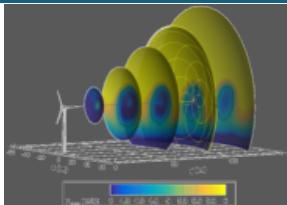




# An Overview of Wind Energy Systems and Future Research Opportunities



*PRESENTED BY*

Josh Paquette



Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

# History of Wind Energy pre - 1970

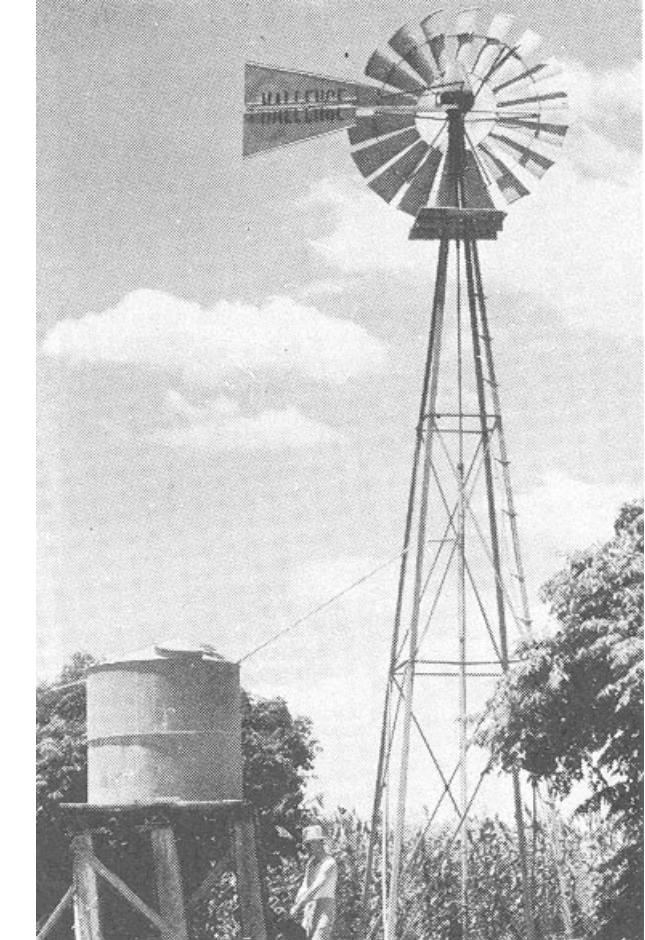


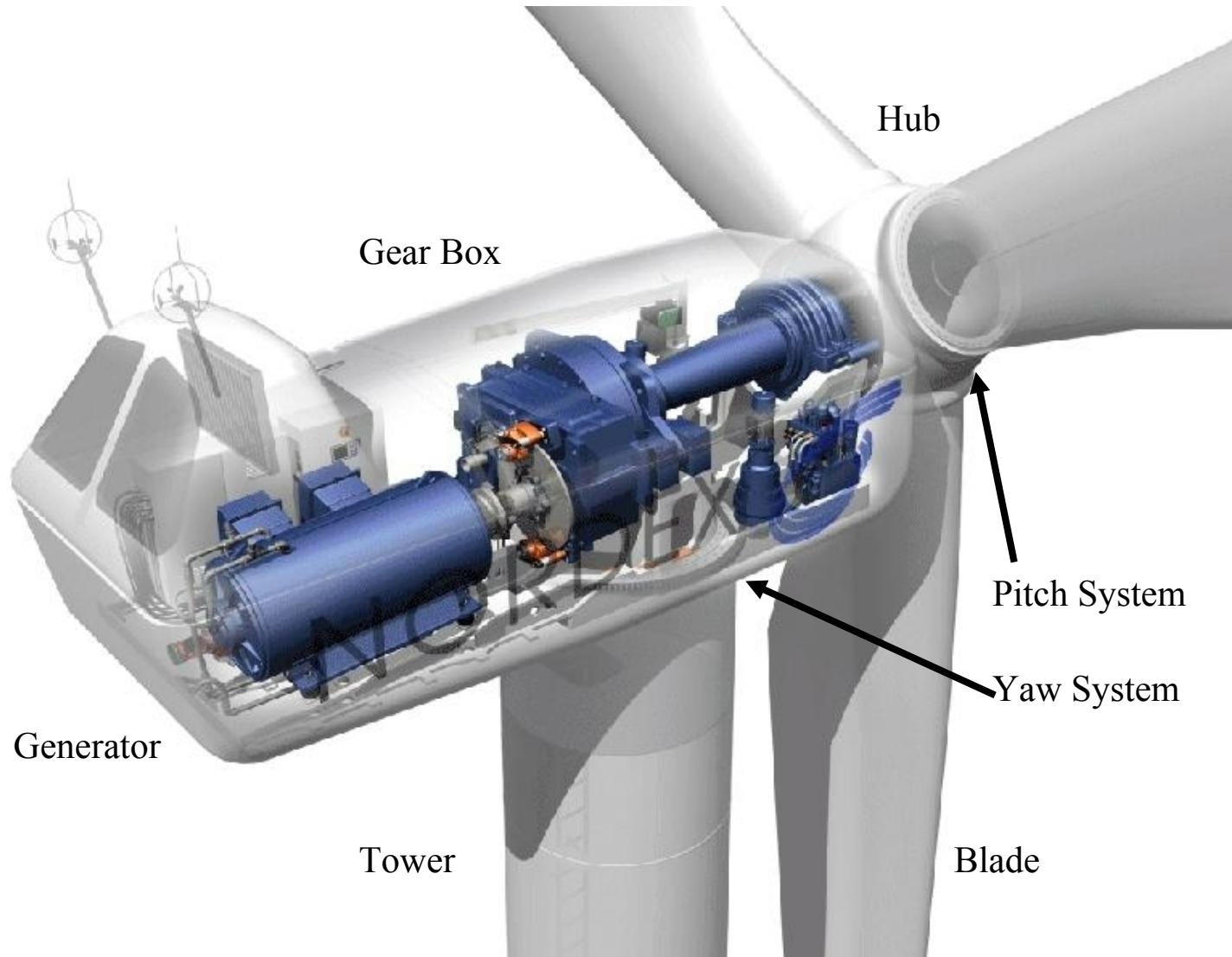
Prehistoric – Maritime (Greek, Viking)

Medieval – Persian, Greek, England

20<sup>th</sup> Century – Great Plains

First Energy Shortage -- 1974







Wind Power output is proportional to the area swept by the blades ( $A = \pi r^2$ )

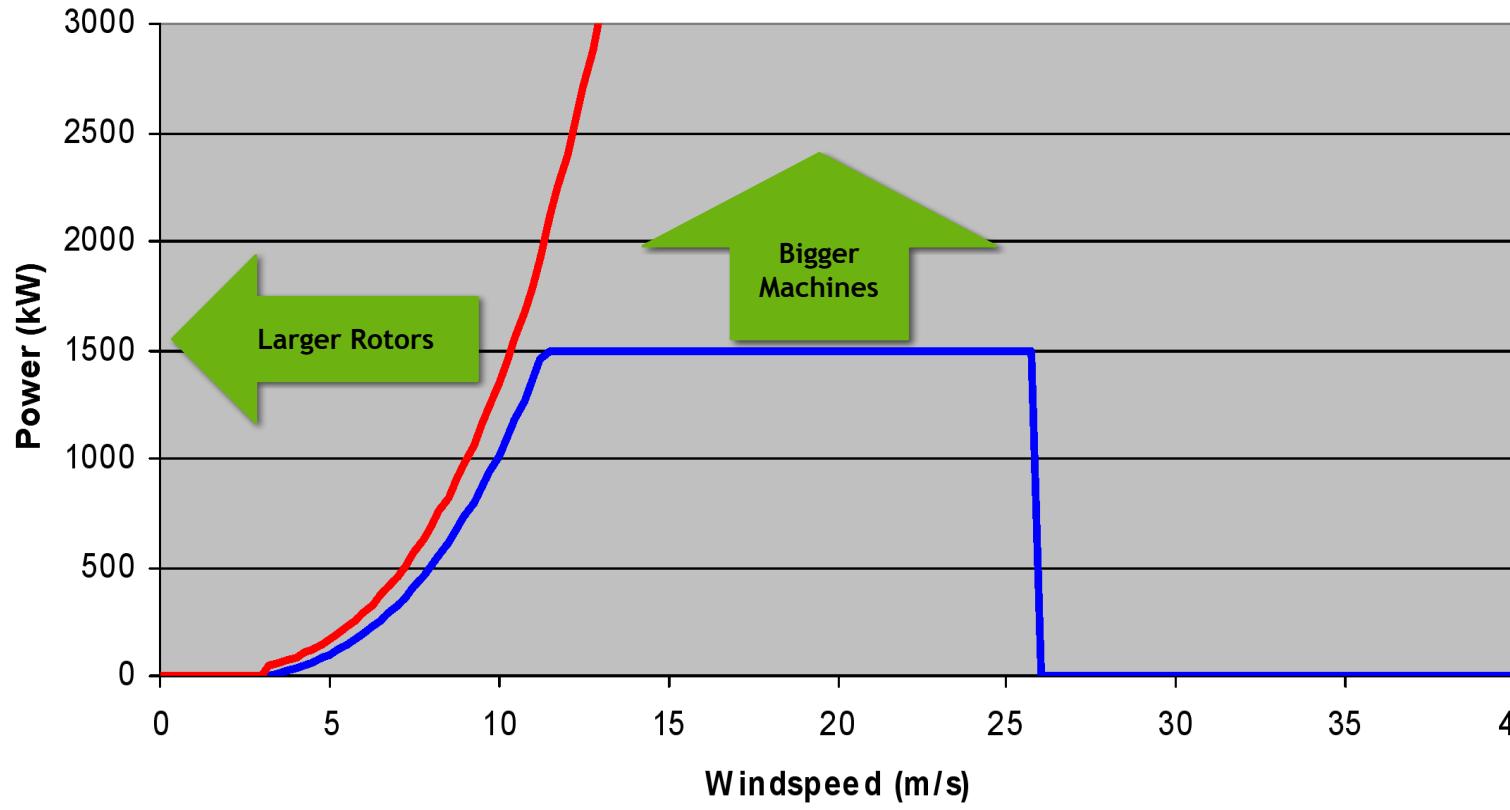
$$WindPower = \frac{1}{2} \rho A V^3$$

Wind Power output is proportional to wind speed cubed.

$\rho$  = Air Density  
A = Area swept by blades  
V = Wind speed

# Wind Power Basics

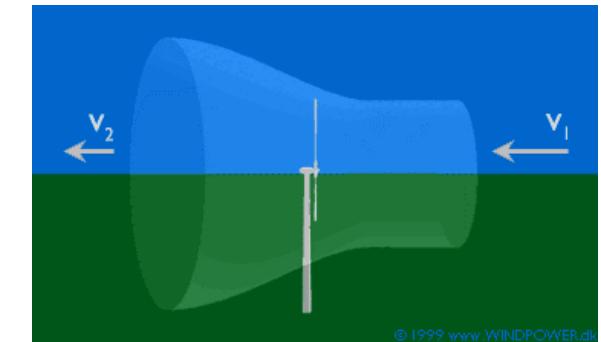
## Power vs. Wind Speed



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

Conversion Coefficient

Turbine power      Betz Power



$$m = \rho A \left( \frac{V_1 + V_2}{2} \right)$$

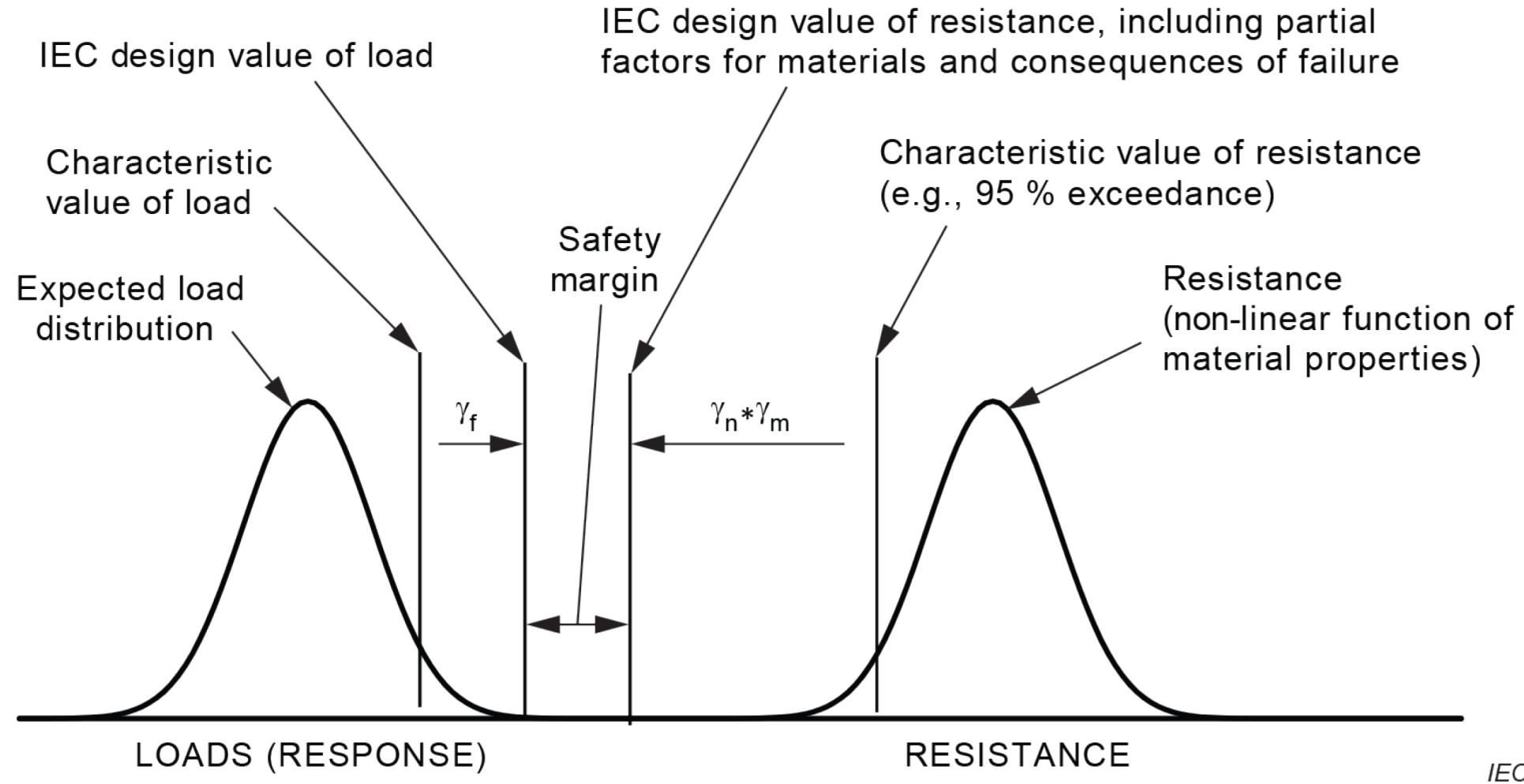
$$P = \frac{1}{2} m (V_1^2 - V_2^2)$$

$$P_0 = \frac{1}{2} \rho A V_1^3$$

$$\frac{P}{P_0} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \left( \frac{V_2}{V_1} \right)^2 \right) \left( 1 + \frac{V_2}{V_1} \right)$$

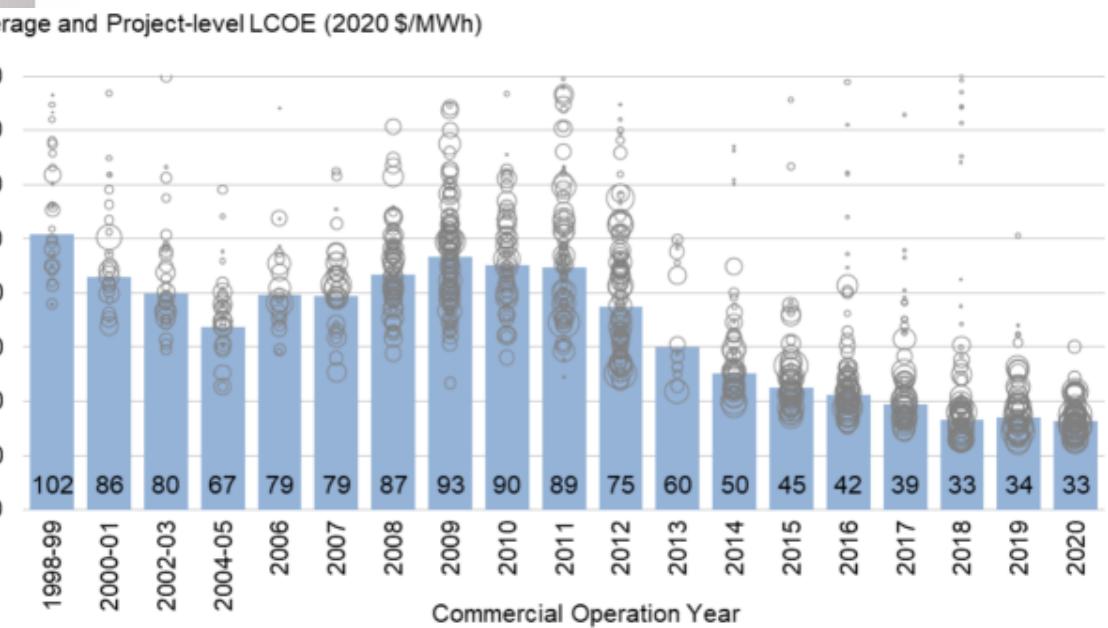
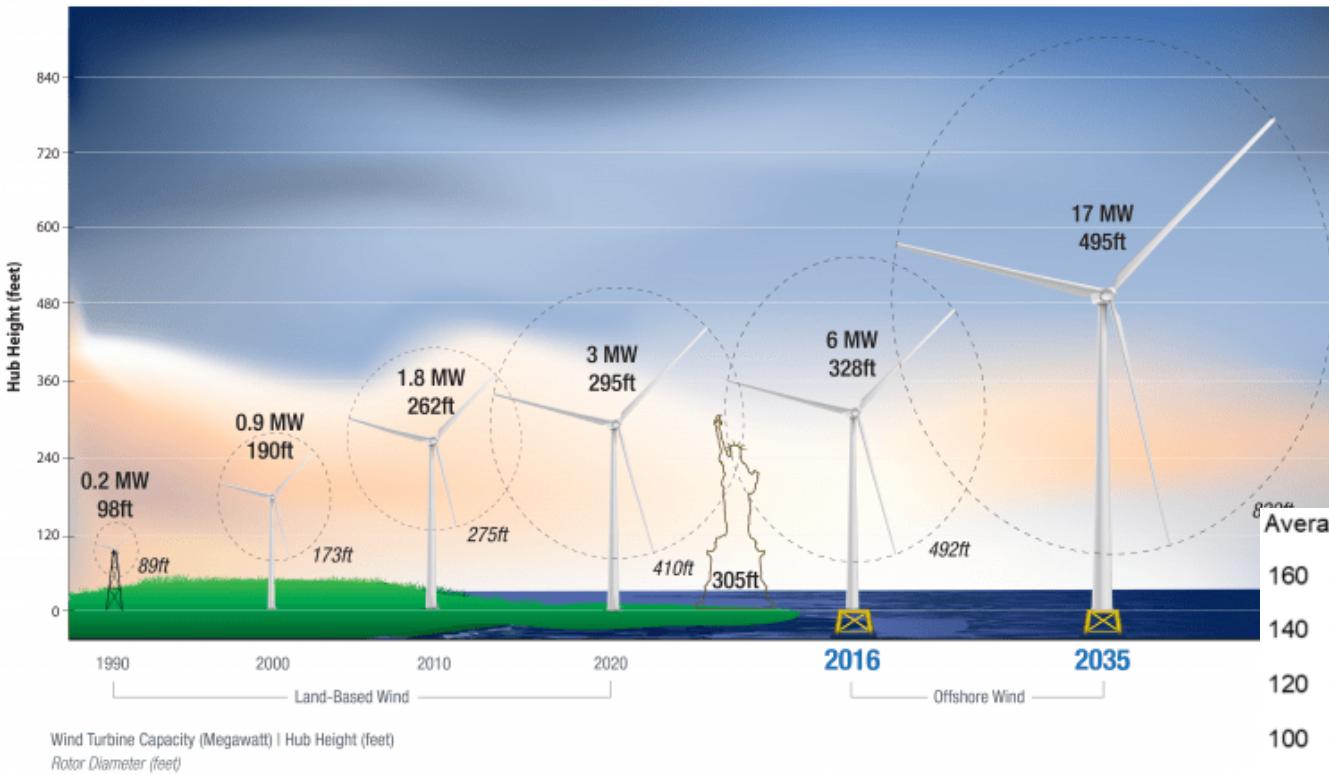
$$\max \left( \frac{P}{P_0} \right) = \frac{16}{27} = 0.593$$

Source:  
[windpower.org](http://windpower.org)



# Wind Power Trends

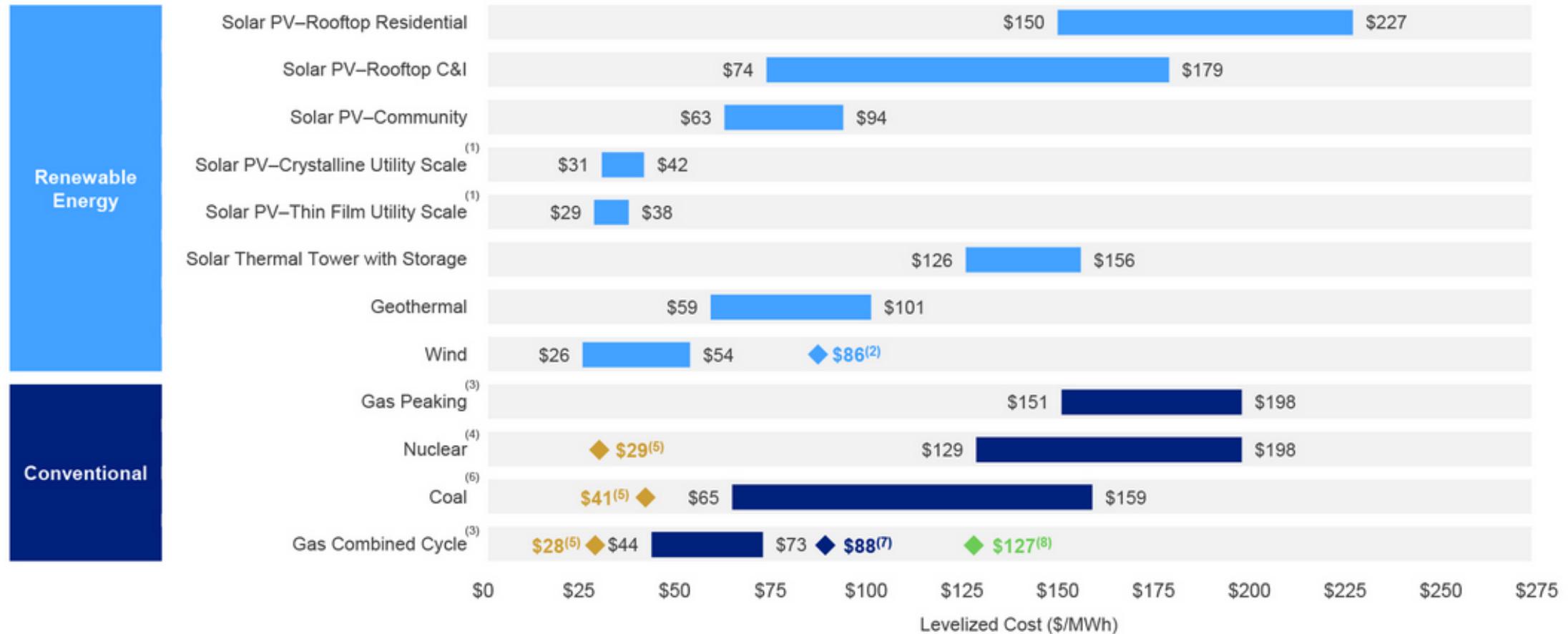
## Larger Turbines Have Led to Cheaper Energy



Source: DOE/LBNL 2021

# Wind Power Trends

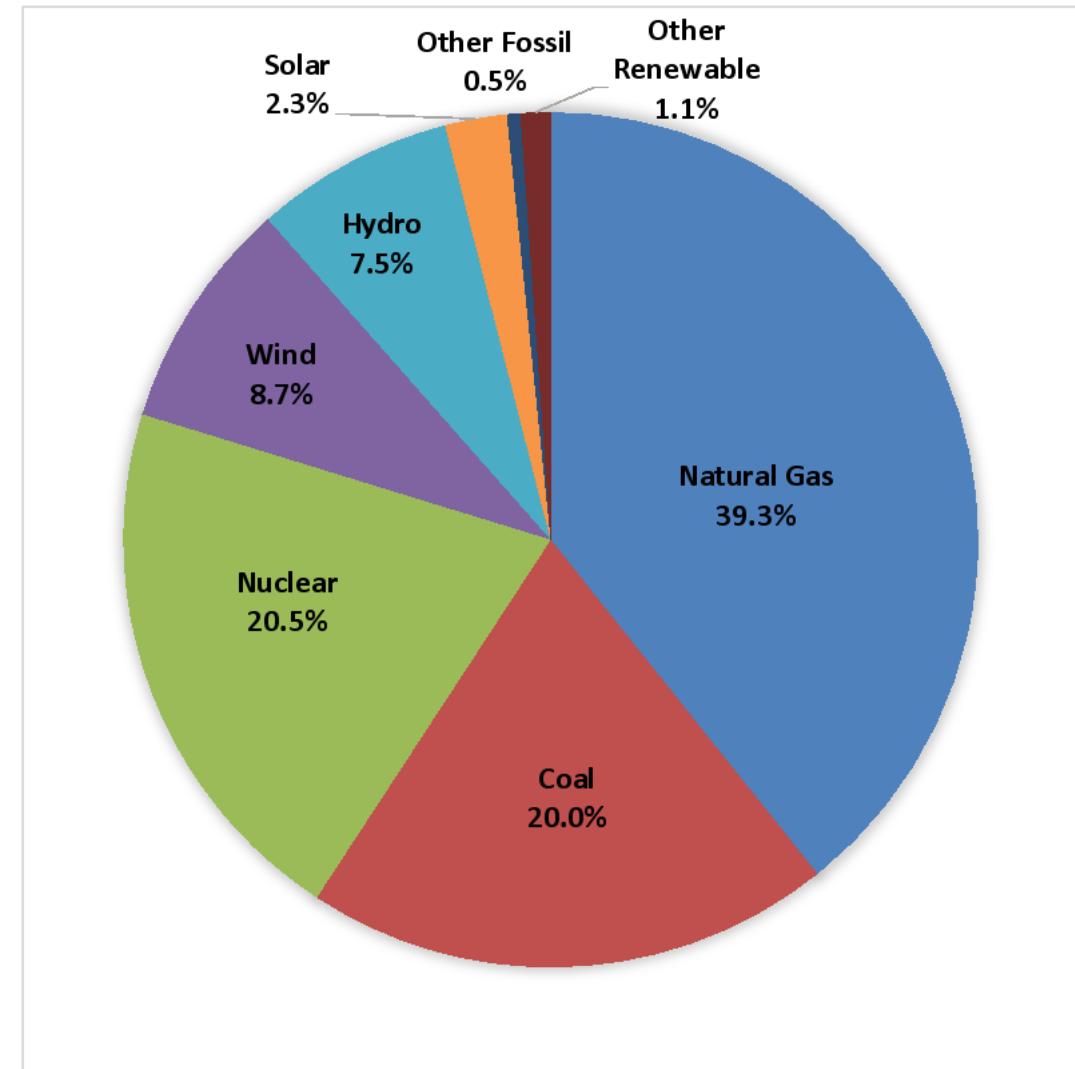
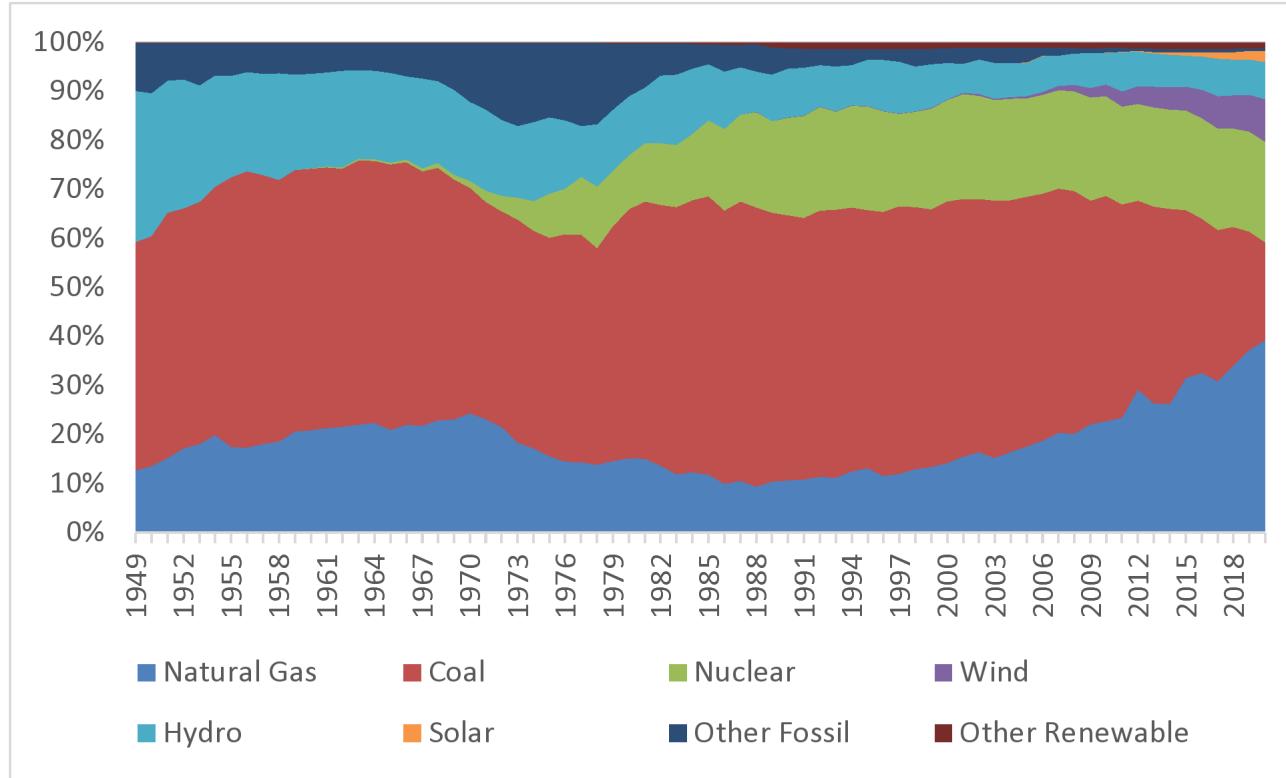
## Cost of Energy Comparison



Source: Lazard, 2020

# Wind Power Trends

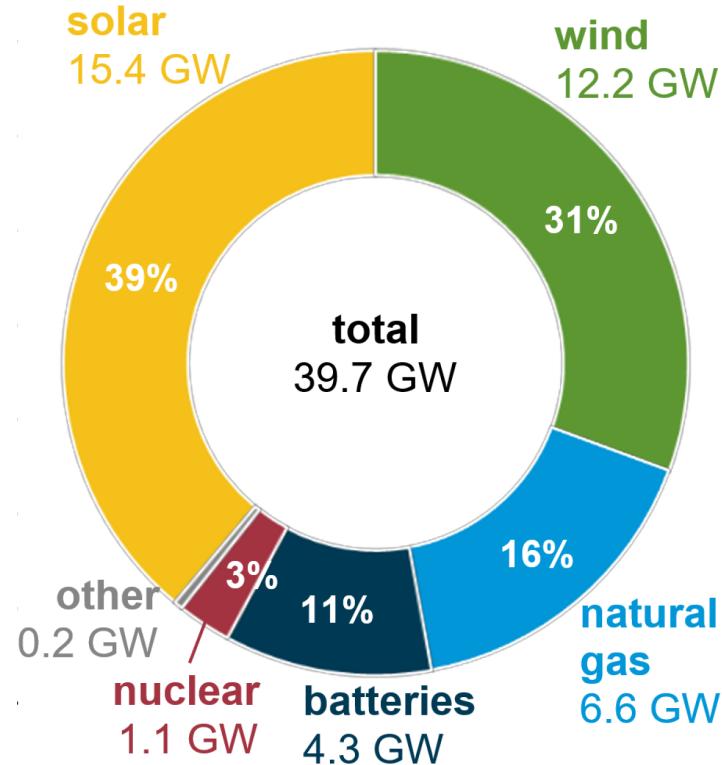
## Energy Mix



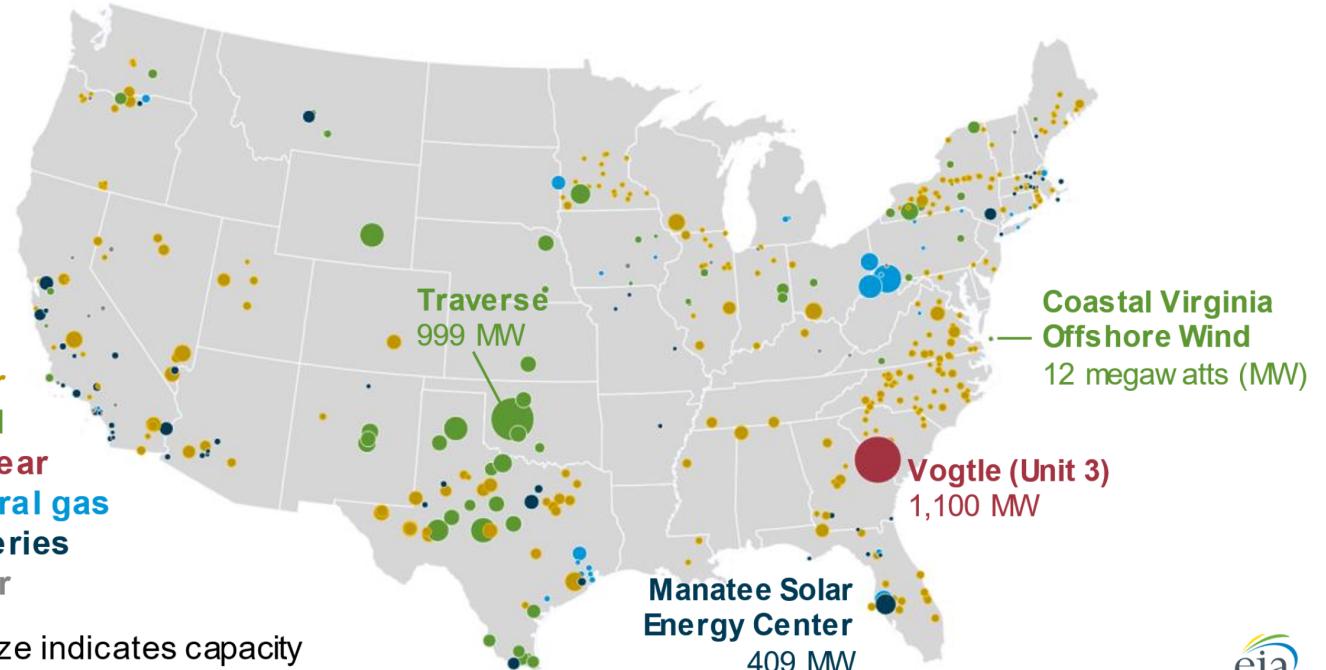
Source: DOE-EIA

# Wind Power Trends

## Deployment

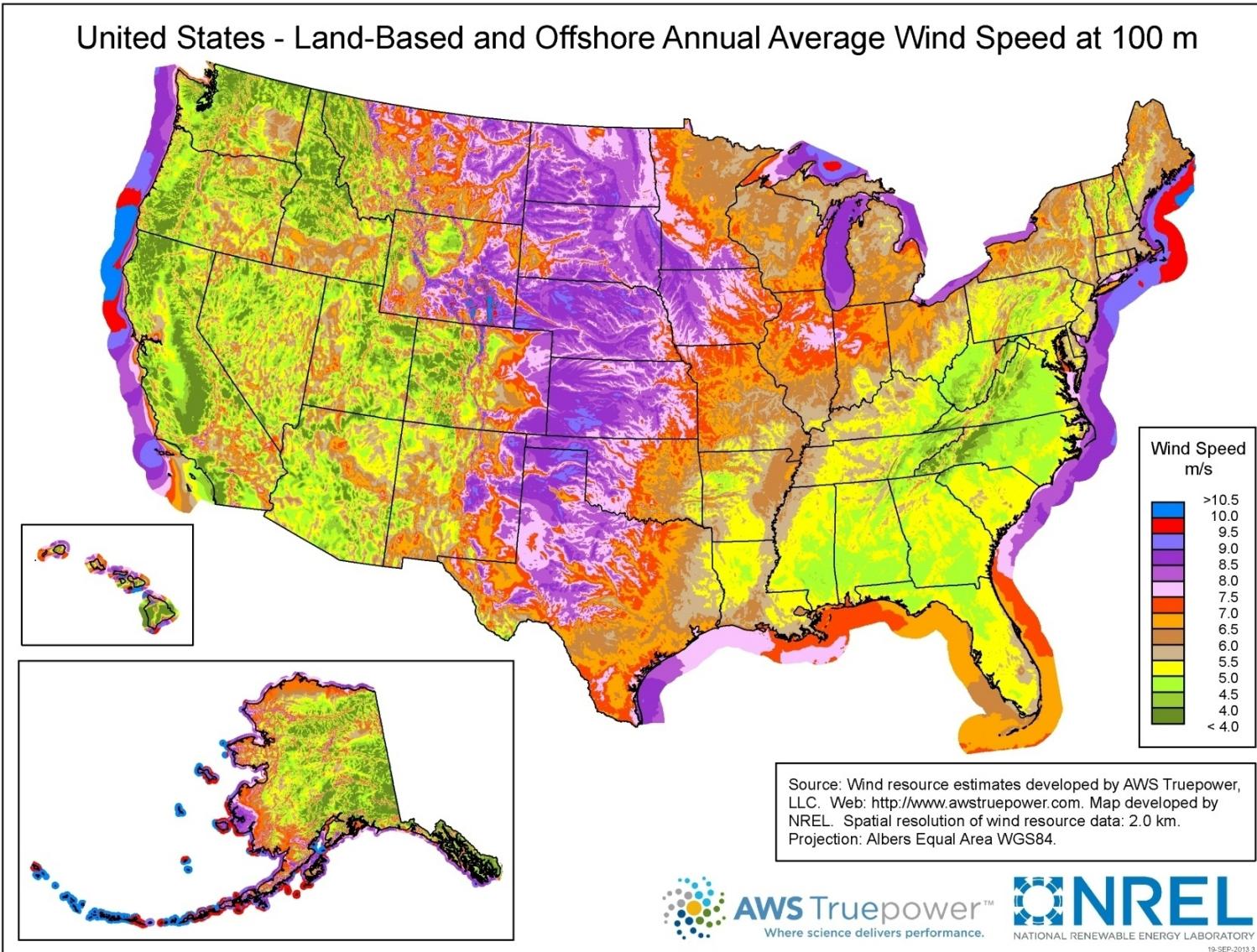


U.S. electric generating capacity additions (2021)



Source: DOE-EIA

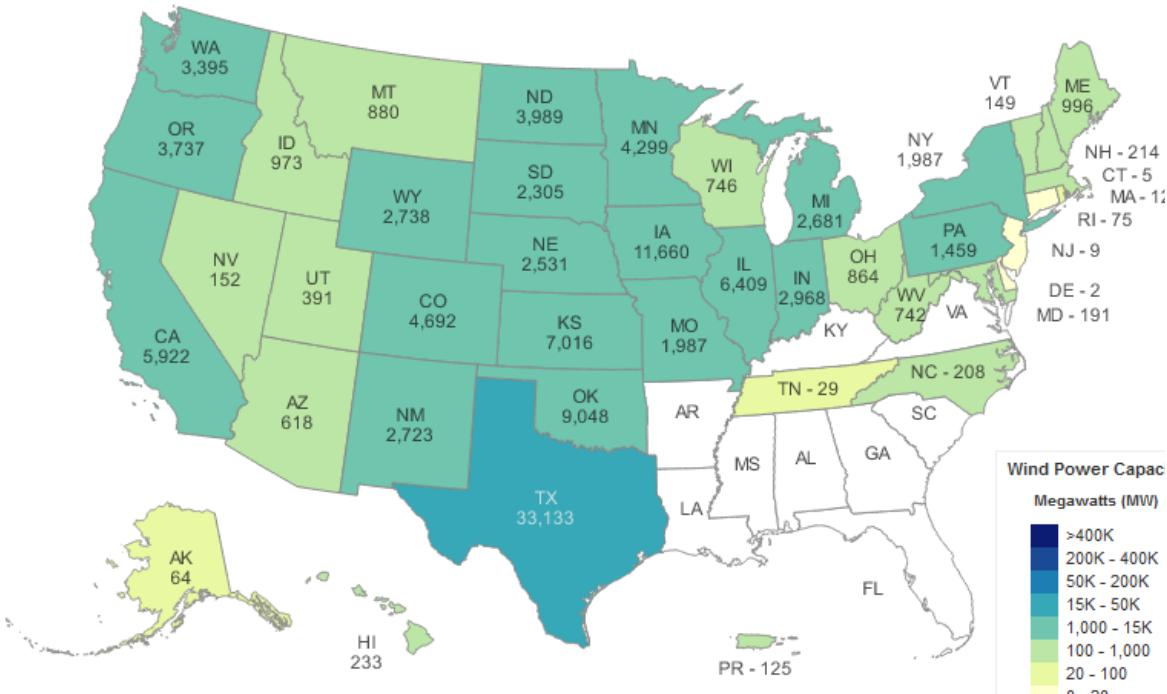
# U.S. Wind Resource



# Wind Power Generation



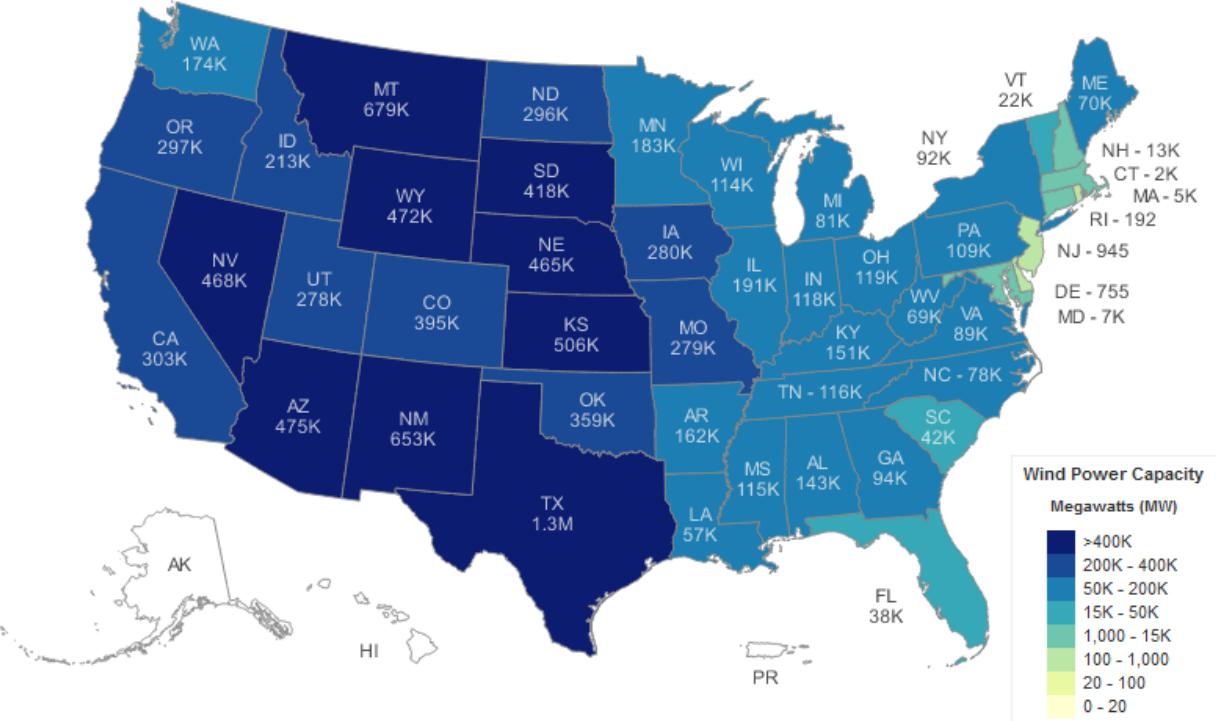
Q4 2020 Installed Wind Power Capacity (MW)



Total Installed Wind Capacity: 122,465 MW

~39M Homes

U.S Potential Wind Capacity in Megawatts (MW) at 80 Meters

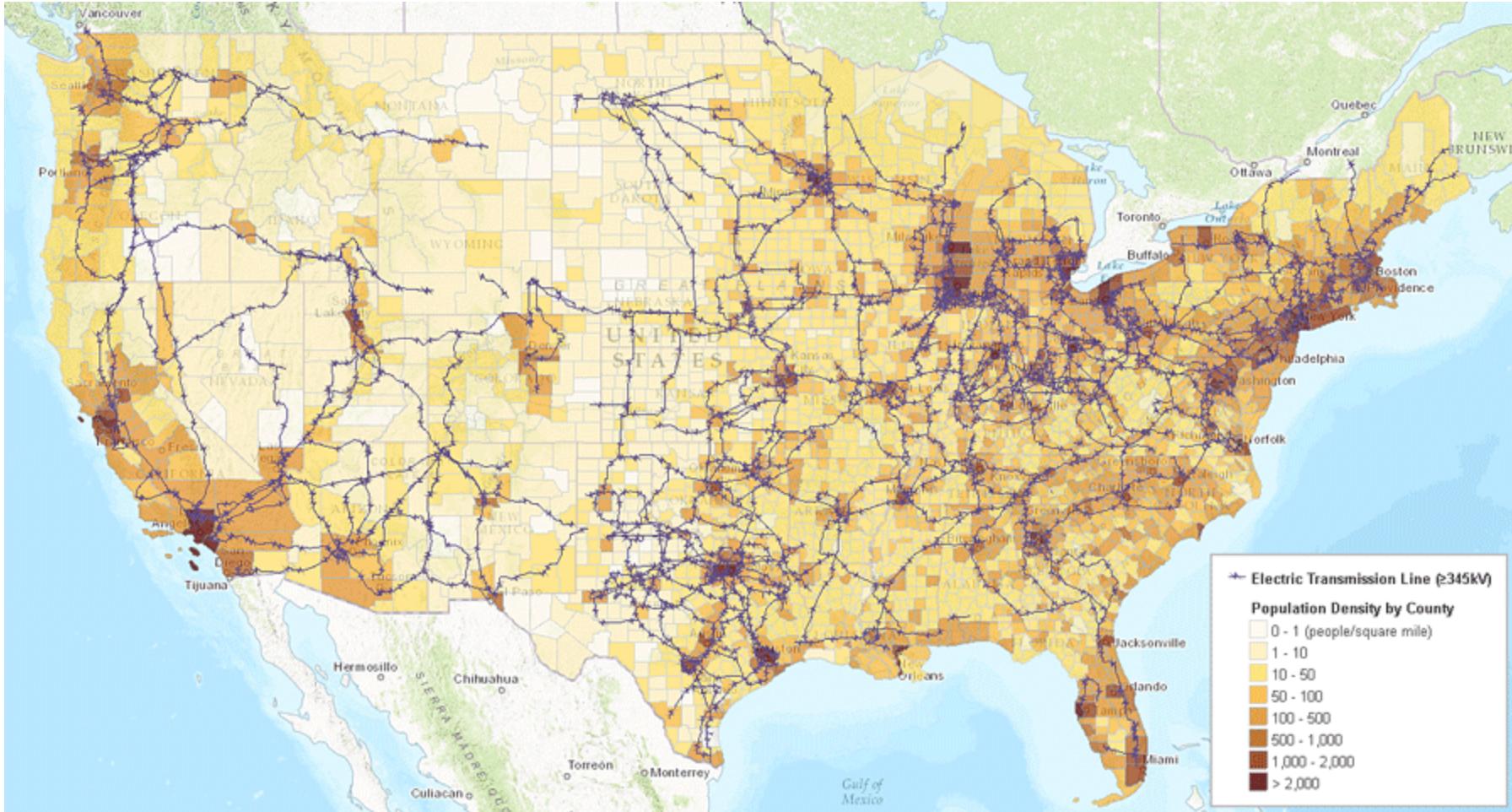


Total Potential Wind Capacity: 10,640,080 MW

Source: [Cleanpower.org](http://Cleanpower.org)

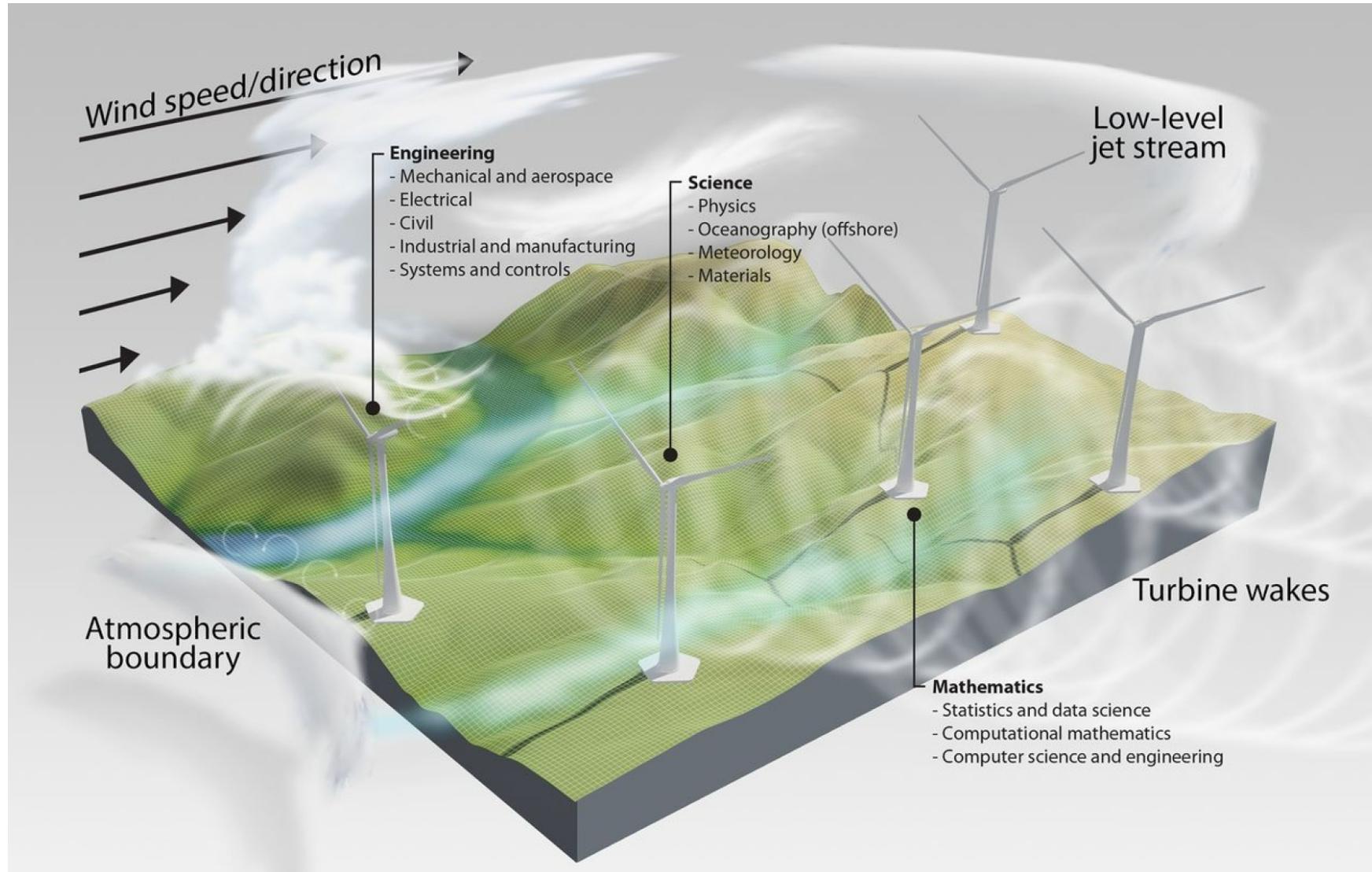
# U.S. Population Density and Electric Transmission

13



Source: DOE-EIA

# Challenges/Opportunities



Source: Science 2019, *Grand Challenges in the Science of Wind Energy*



1. Improved understanding of atmospheric and wind power plant flow physics
2. **Aerodynamics, structural dynamics, and offshore wind hydrodynamics of enlarged wind turbines**
3. Systems science for integration of wind power plants into the future electricity grid



Substantial reductions in the cost of wind energy have come from large increases in rotor size

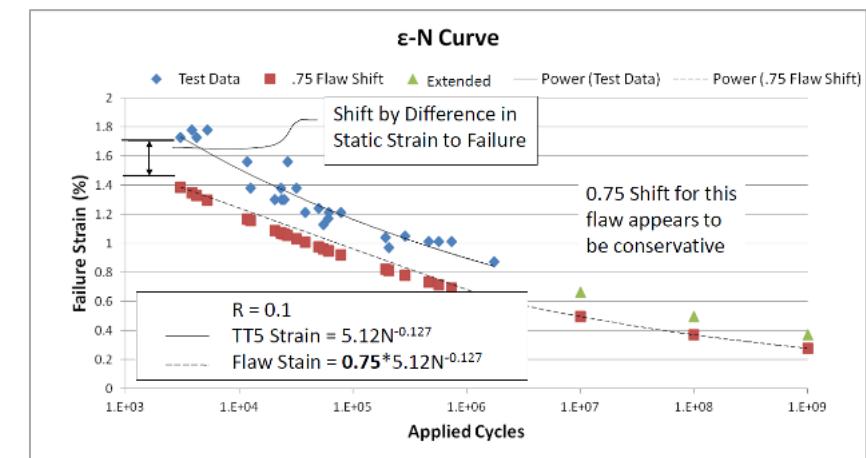
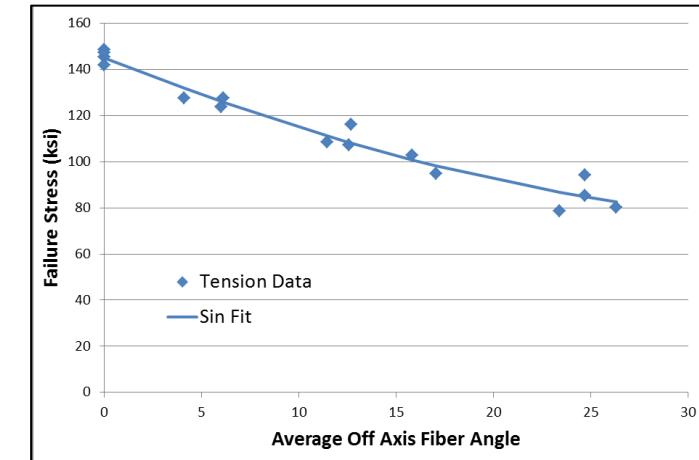
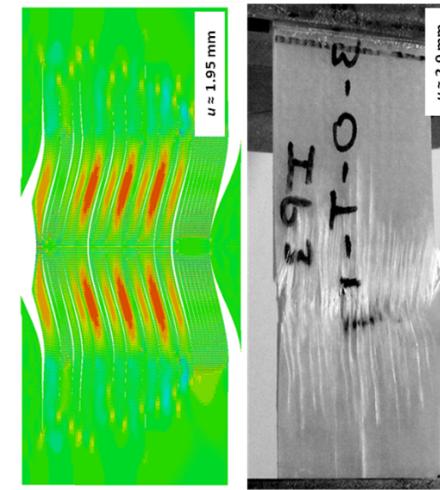
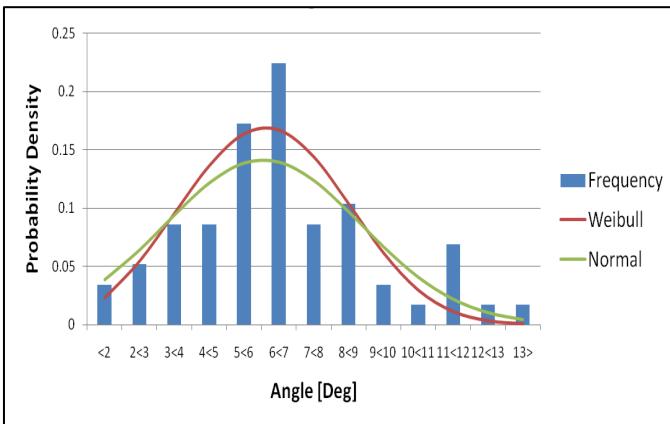
**Performance:** Larger rotors capture substantially more energy both through a greater swept area and accessing increased wind speeds at higher altitude

**Grid Integration:** Larger rotors also enable higher capacity factor wind plants, yielding less variability in power production

**Deployment:** Limited high wind resource sites remain, further deployment depends on developing lower wind resource sites

# Large Rotor Challenges

## Design and Manufacturing

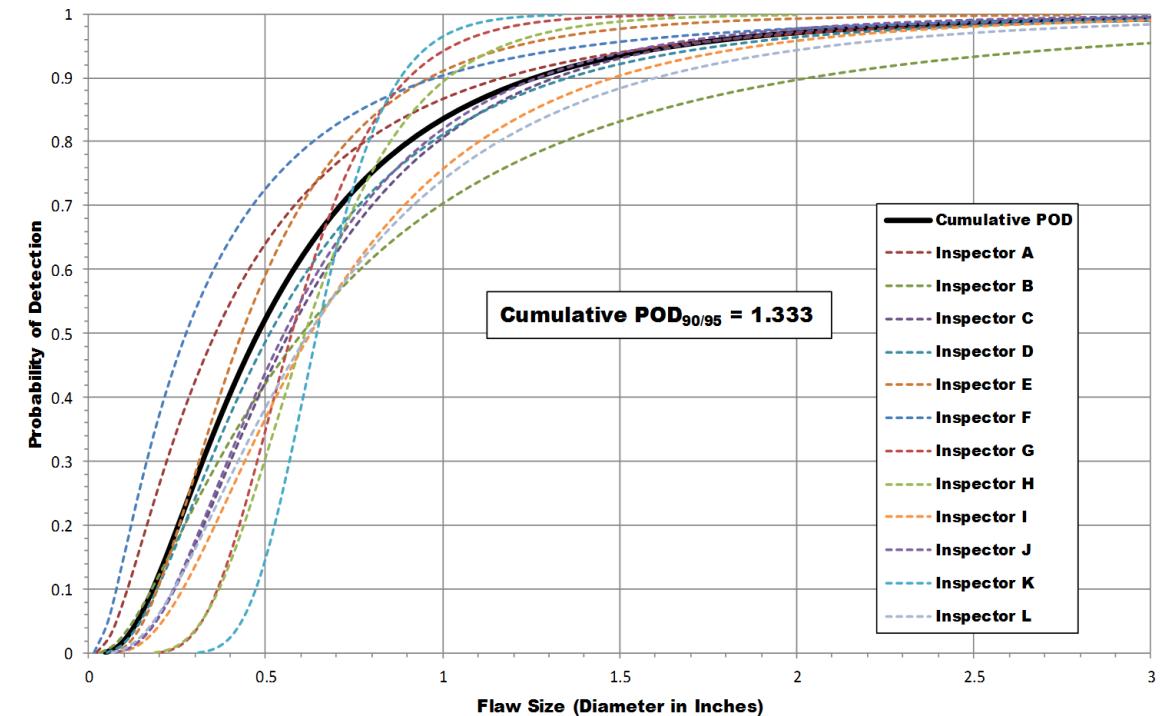


Fatigue

Source: Montana State

# Large Rotor Challenges

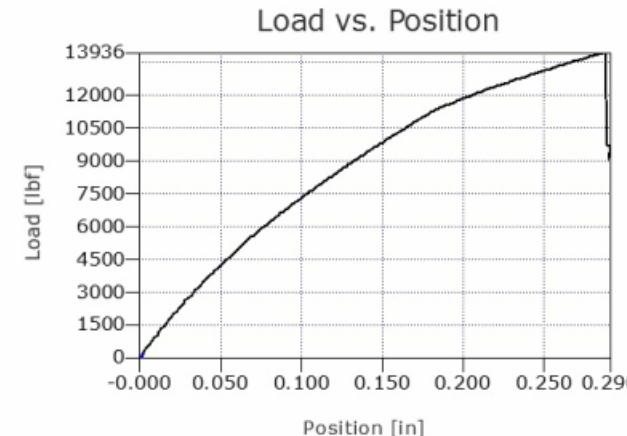
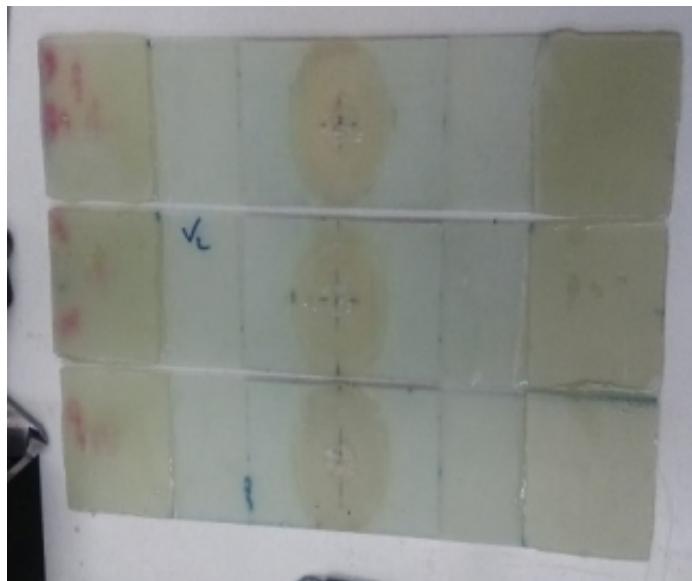
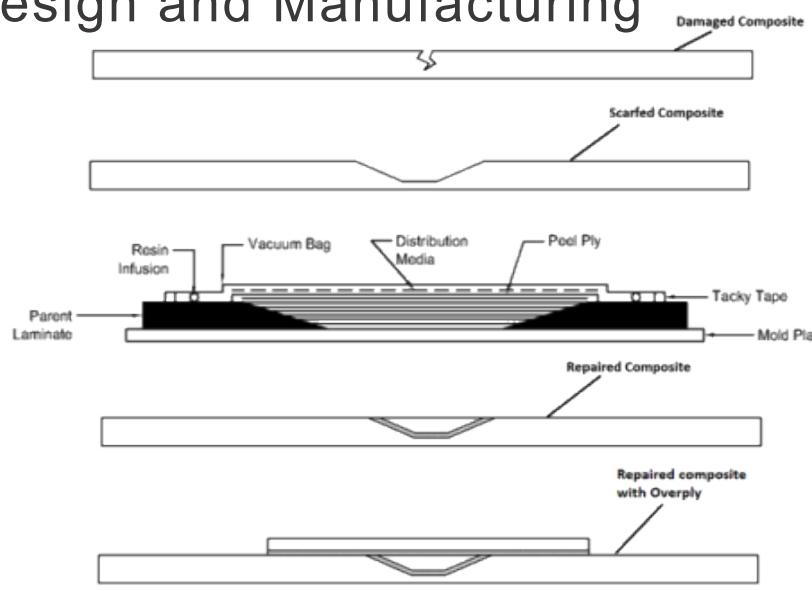
## Design and Manufacturing



Sources: SkySpecs, ICM

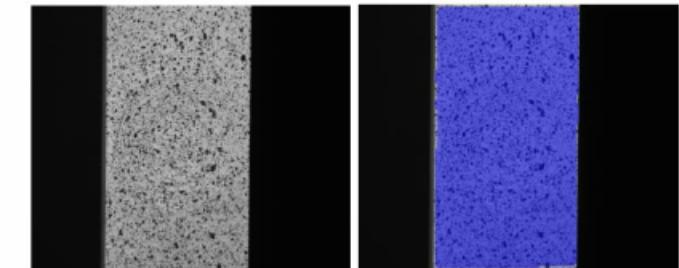
# Large Rotor Challenges

## Design and Manufacturing



4050_5(Damaged_Unrepaired).dap	
Uniaxial Tension	
Test Rate	0.06 in/min
Stage from to	0 -> 0
Disp	-9.604 in
Load Y	0.000 lbf
Min Strain	0.000 %
Max Strain	0.000 %
Average Strain	0.000 %

Test Data



Left Camera

with Overlay



Montana State University  
Mechanical Engineering

10/13/2016  
4050\_7

gom  
ARAMIS

Source: Montana State

# Large Rotor Challenges

## Transportation



Width limited to ~4.75m

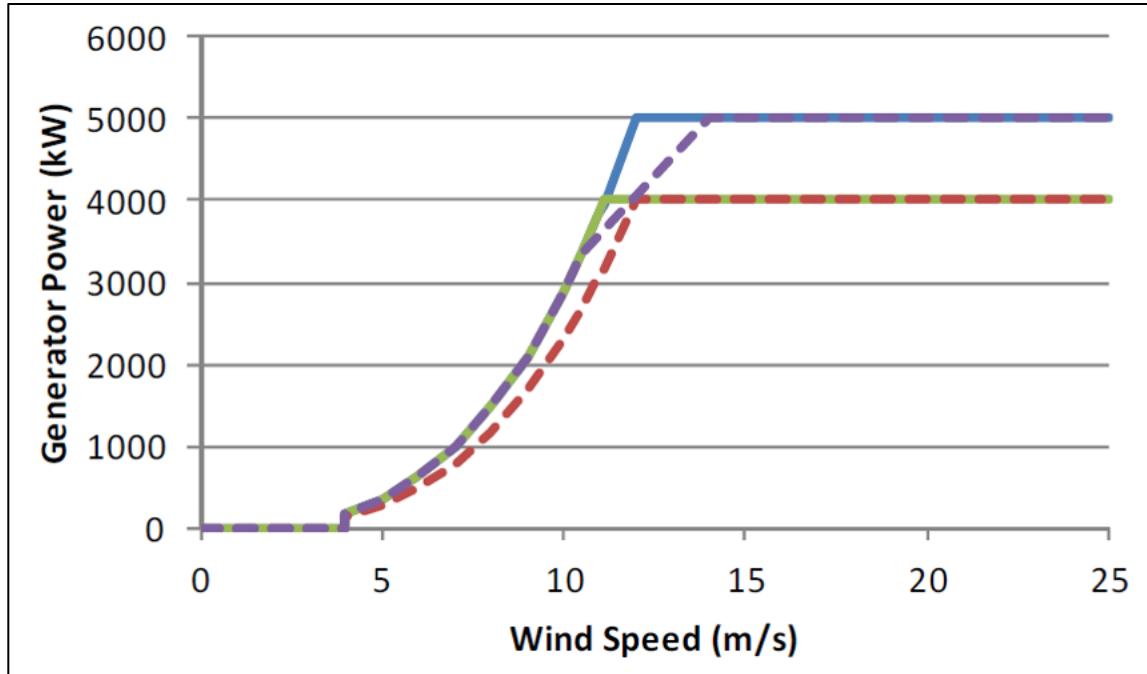
Length limited to ~80m



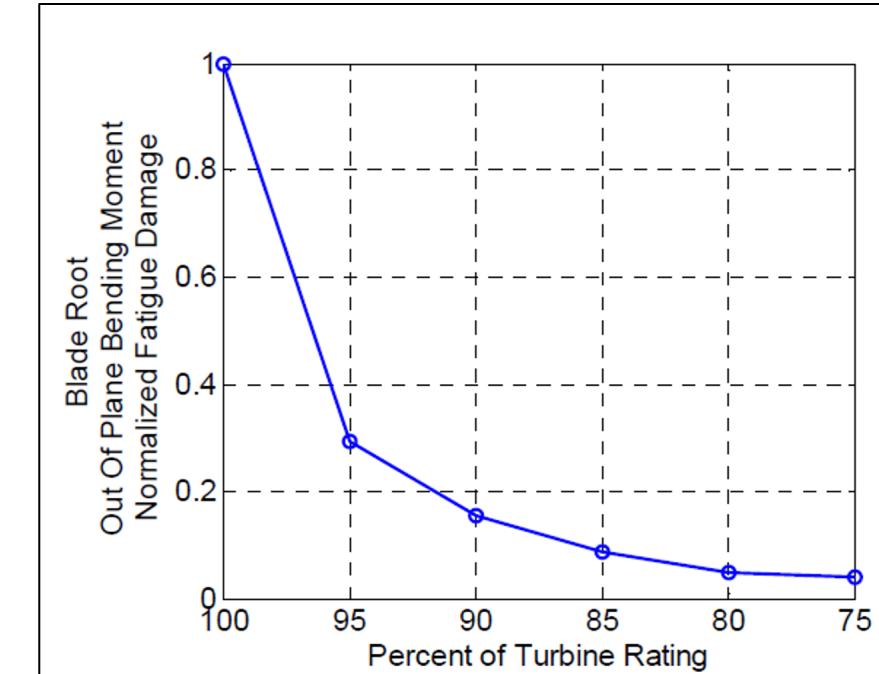
Source: LM Windpower

# Large Rotor Challenges

## Operations



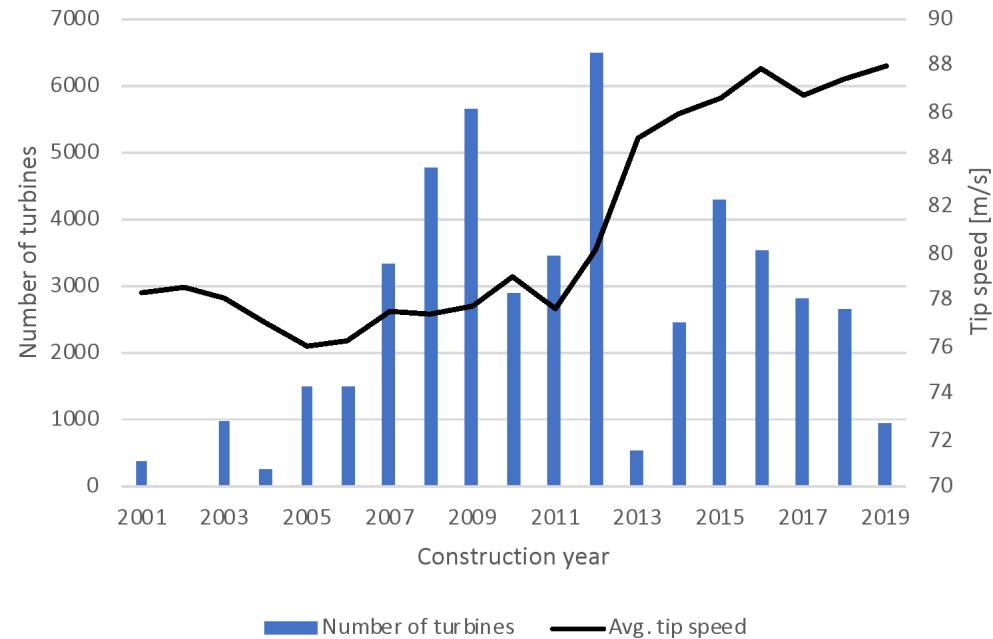
Operational Strategies



Fatigue Accumulation (Damage Growth)

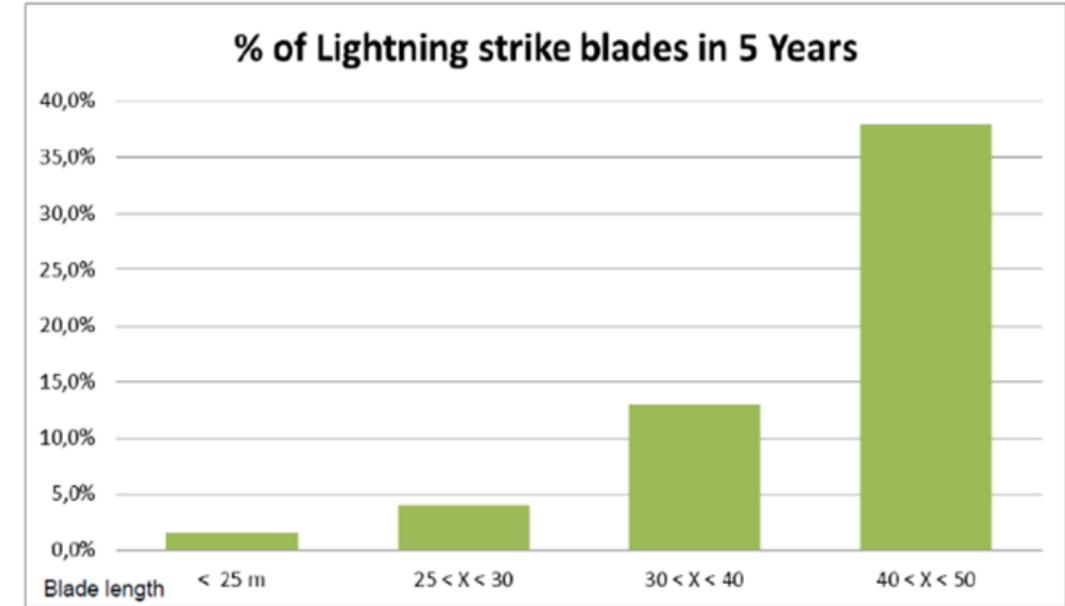
# Large Rotor Challenges

## Environmental



Historical Rotor Tip Speeds

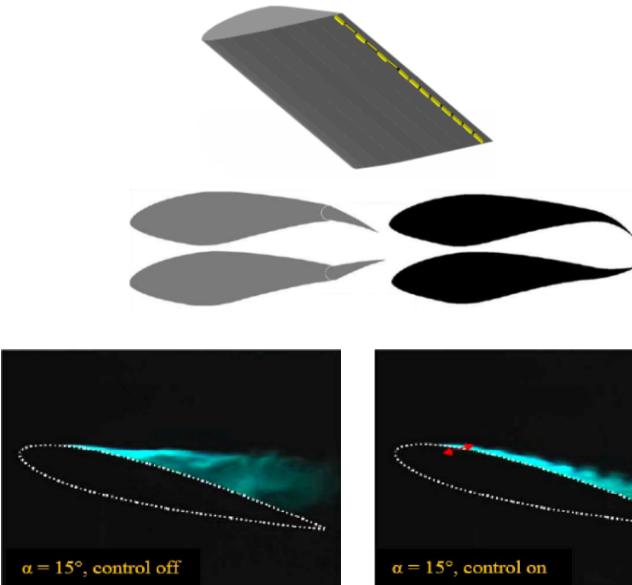
Erosion  $\propto V^{6.7}$



Lightning Strikes by Blade Length, Vestas (2014)

Strike Frequency  $\propto H^4$

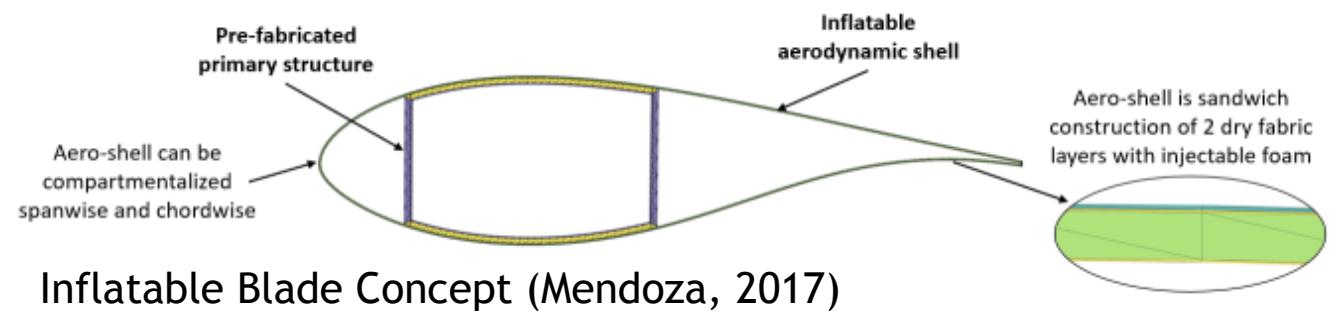
# Advanced Concepts



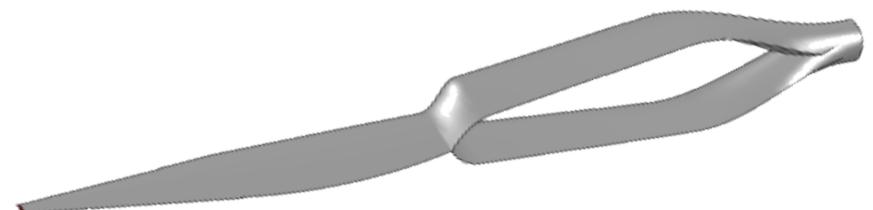
Trailing edge tabs and flaps, top, and synthetic jets, bottom (UC-Davis, 2008)



On-Site Manufacturing (TPI Composites, 2003)



Inflatable Blade Concept (Mendoza, 2017)



Bi-Wing Concept (Chu, 2017)



Thank you

