

## **Design principles of VTT ice prevention system**

Winterwind 2012, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> of February, Skellefteå  
Tomas Wallenius, Petteri Antikainen, Esa Peltola,  
Jeroen Dillingh  
VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland

## Contents

- Motivation: Icing effects on wind turbines
- Choosing strategy: Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?
- Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions
- Defining heating power
- Power and energy consumption

## Contents

- ➔ ■ Motivation: Icing effects on wind turbines
  - Choosing strategy: Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?
  - Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions
  - Defining heating power
  - Power and energy consumption

## Motivation: icing effects on wind turbines

- Reduced energy yield



## Motivation: icing effects on wind turbines

- Reduced energy yield
- Reduced availability due to complete stop of turbine and control errors



## Motivation: icing effects on wind turbines

- Reduced energy yield
- Reduced availability due to complete stop of turbine and control errors
- Reduced lifetime due to increased fatigue loads



## Motivation: icing effects on wind turbines

- Reduced energy yield
- Reduced availability due to complete stop of turbine and control errors
- Reduced lifetime due to increased fatigue loads
- Ice throw risk

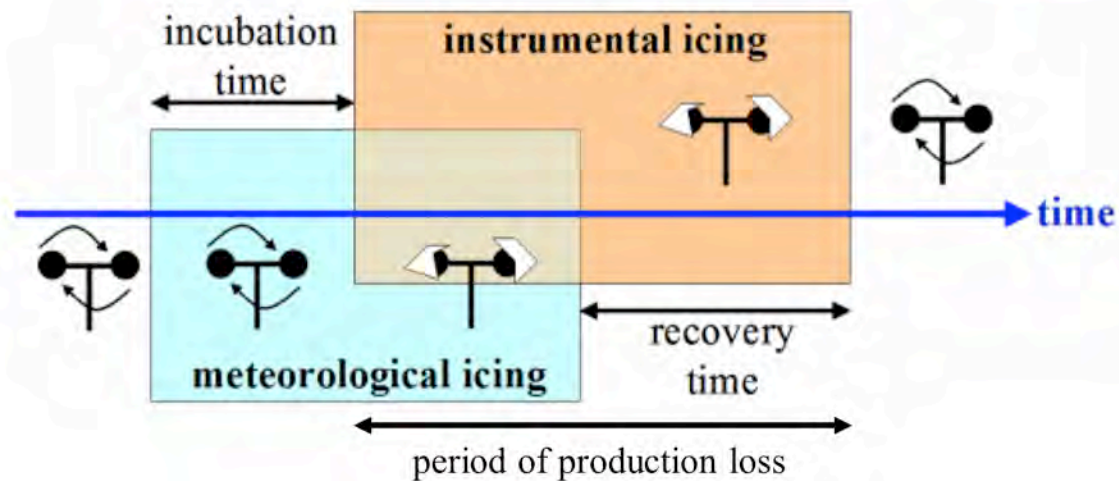


## Contents

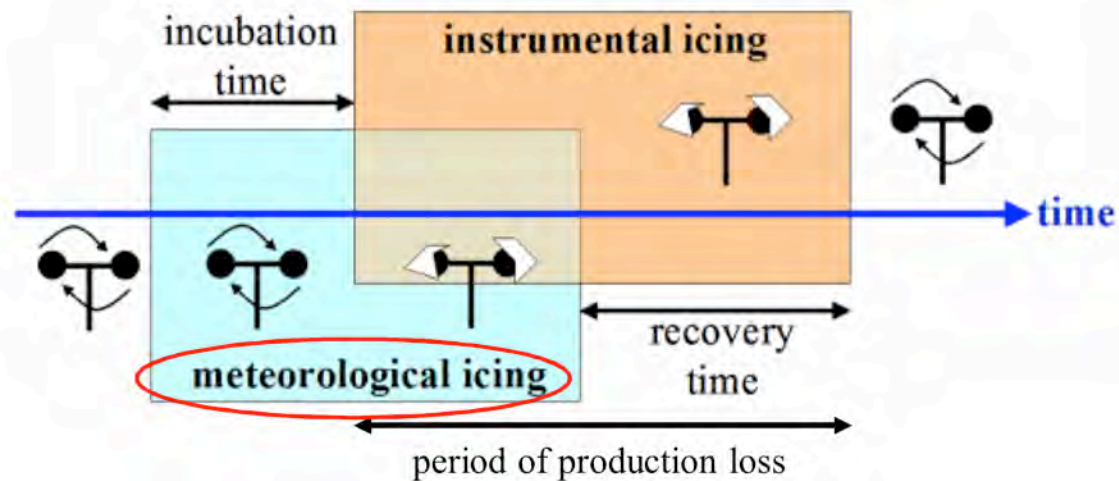
- Motivation: Icing effects on wind turbines
- ▪ Choosing strategy: Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?
  - Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions
  - Defining heating power
  - Power and energy consumption



## Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing? definition of icing events



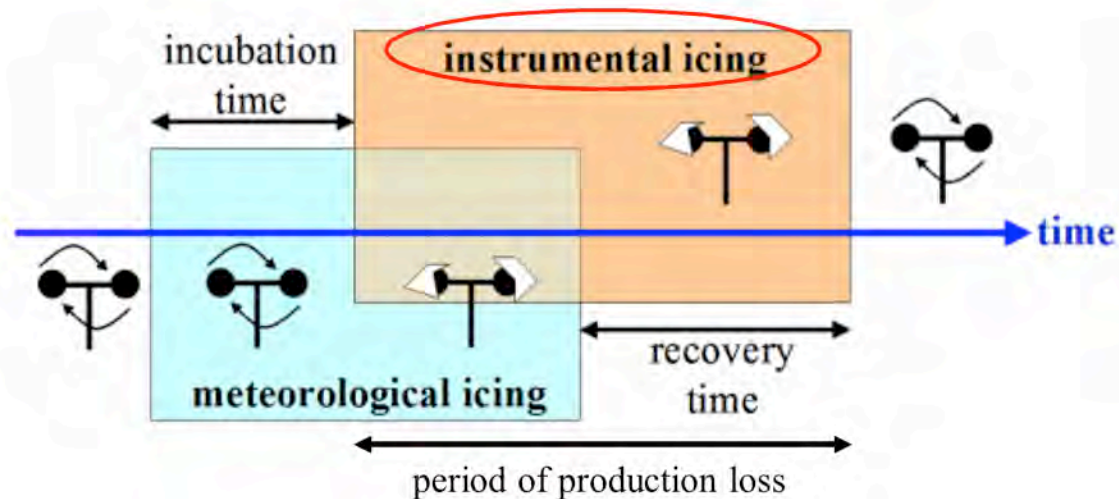
## Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing? definition of icing events



### Meteorological icing

- Period with icing weather conditions

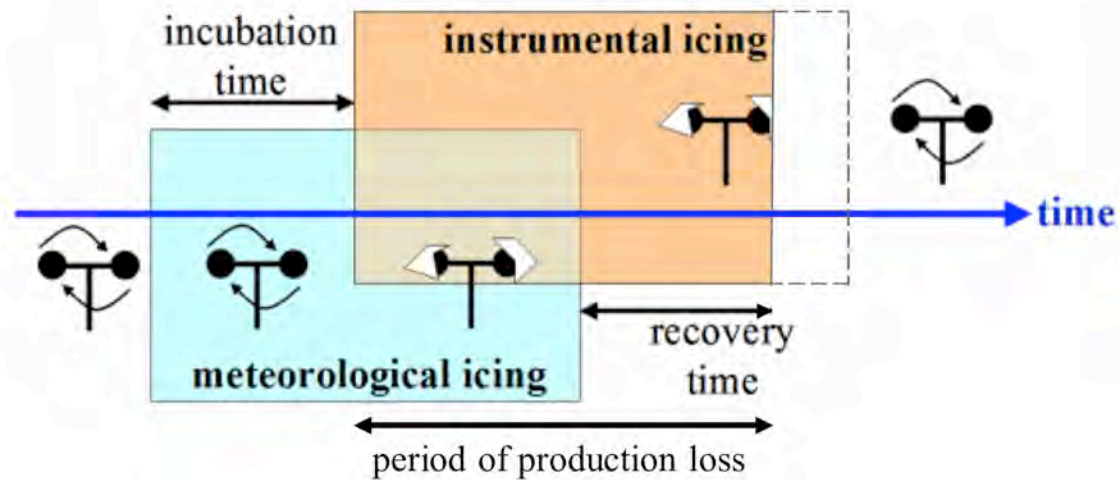
## Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing? definition of icing events



### Instrumental icing

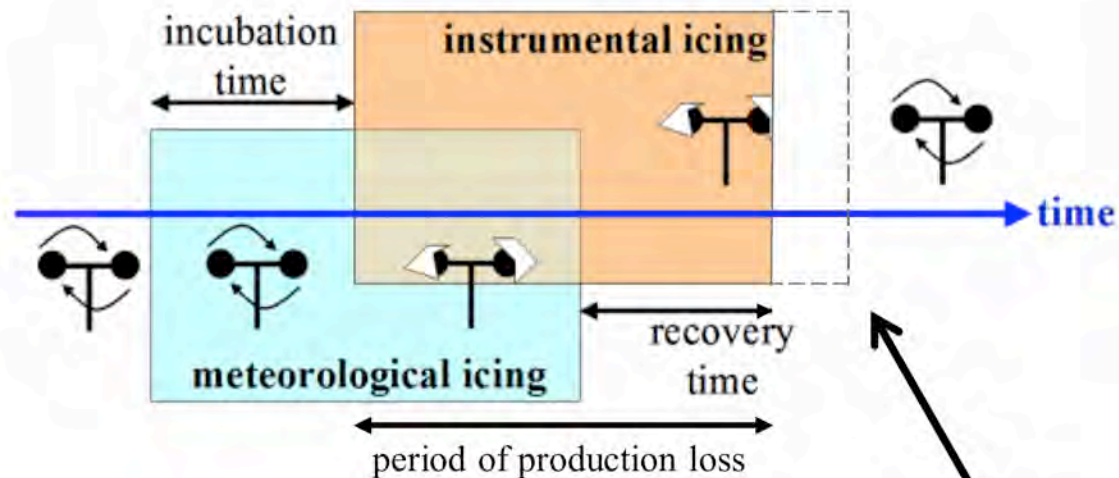
- Period when a wind turbine is disturbed by ice (ice on blades or sensors)
- Typically 2 – 3 times longer than meteorological icing event

## Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?



De-icing = to remove ice from blades after ice has formed

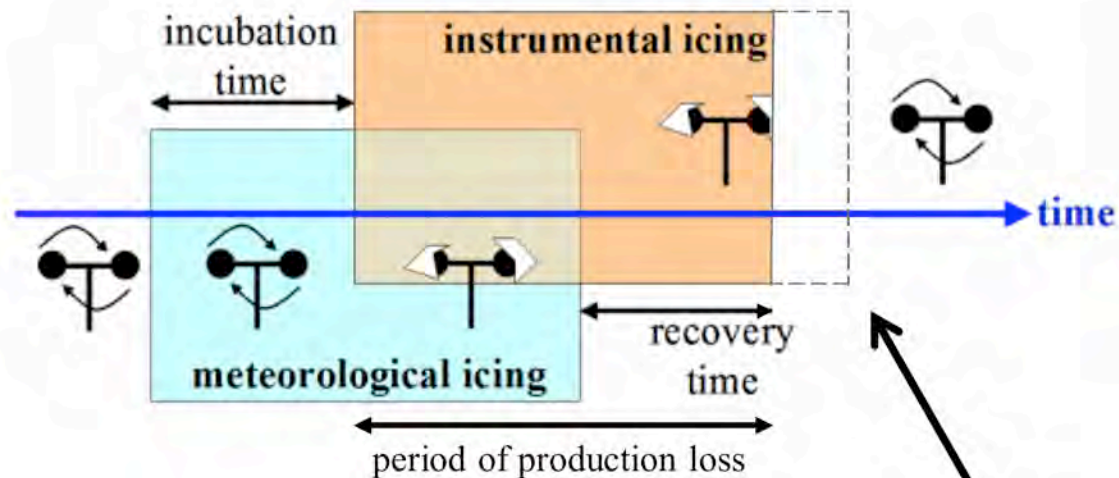
## Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?



Recovery time shortened with de-icing

De-icing = to remove ice from blades after ice has formed

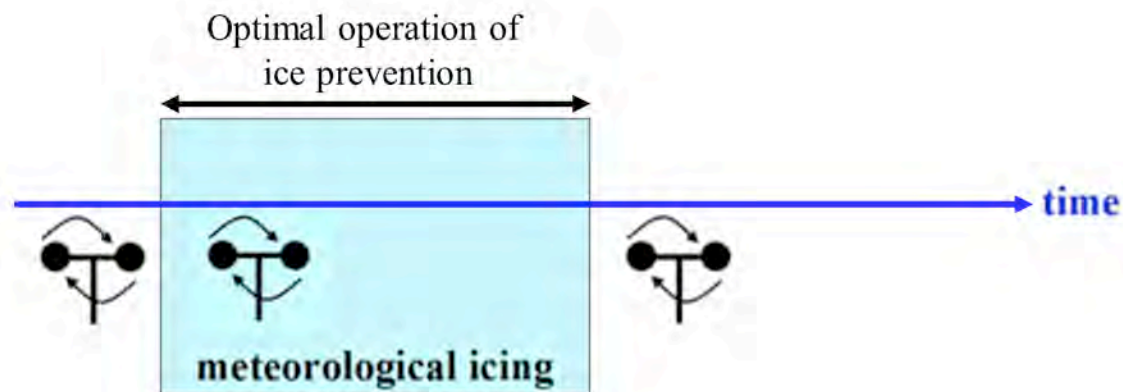
## Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?



Recovery time shortened with de-icing

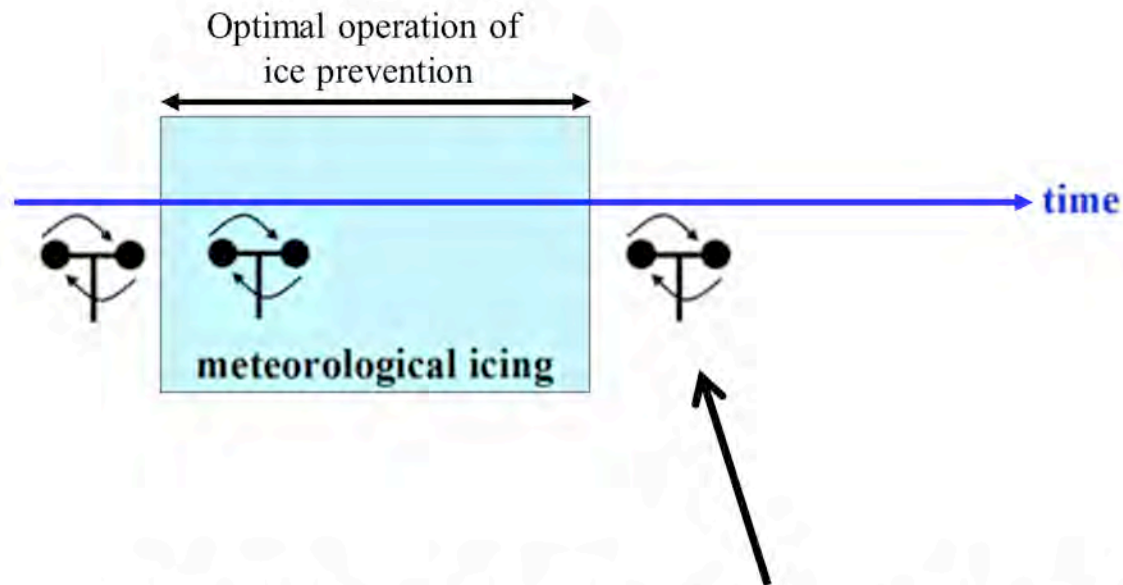
De-icing = to remove ice from blades after ice has formed  
Turbine operates with iced rotor blades before de-icing

## Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?



Ice prevention (anti-icing) = to prevent ice formation on blades

## Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?

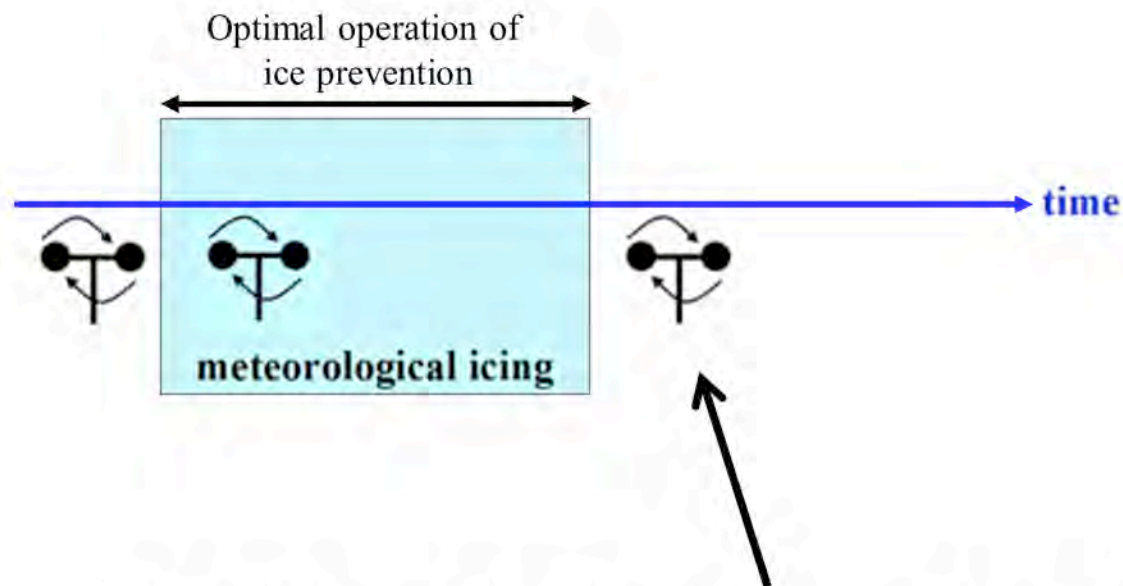


Instrumental icing can be avoided by efficient ice prevention!

Ice prevention (anti-icing) = to prevent ice formation on blades



## Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?



Instrumental icing can be avoided by efficient ice prevention!

Ice prevention (anti-icing) = to prevent ice formation on blades  
Turbine operates without ice on rotor blades

## Contents

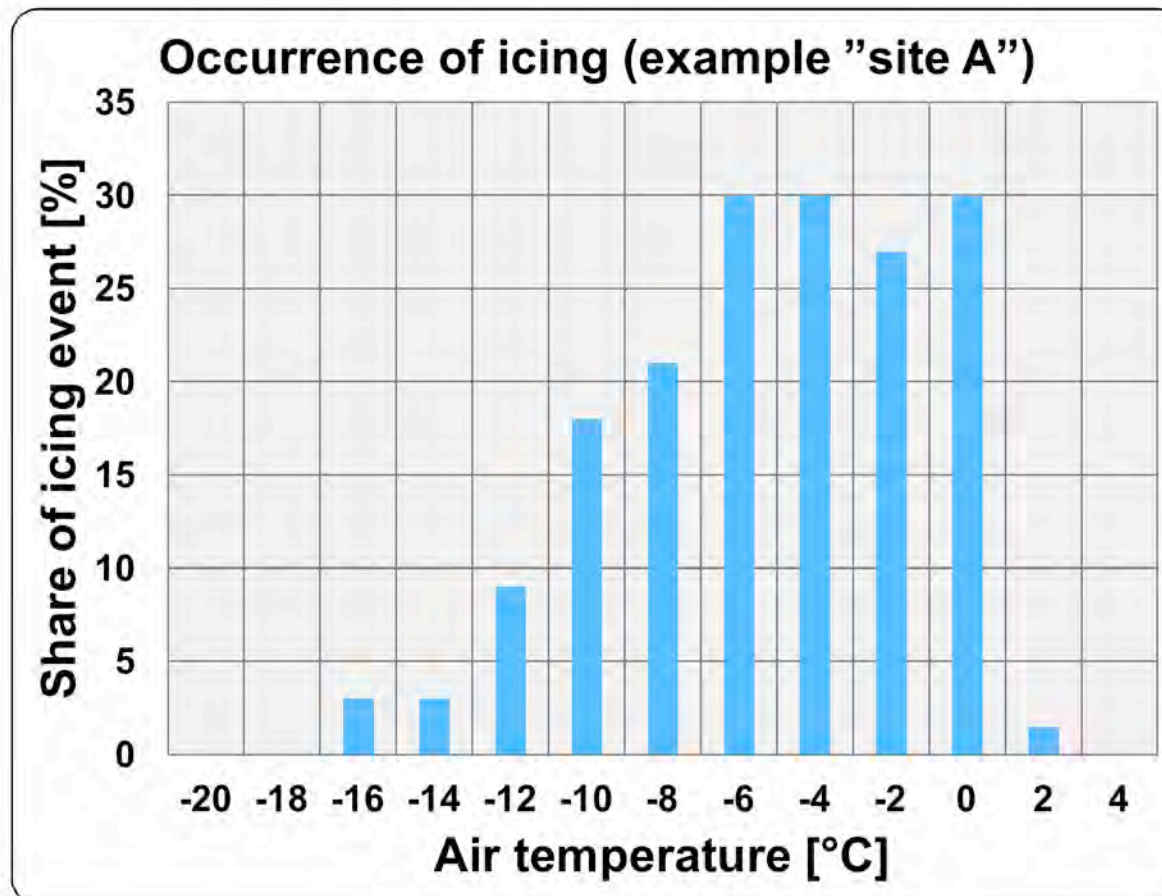
- Motivation: Icing effects on wind turbines
- Choosing strategy: Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?
- ➔ ▪ Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions
  - Defining heating power
  - Power and energy consumption

## Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions

- Site measurements used for optimization of blade heating

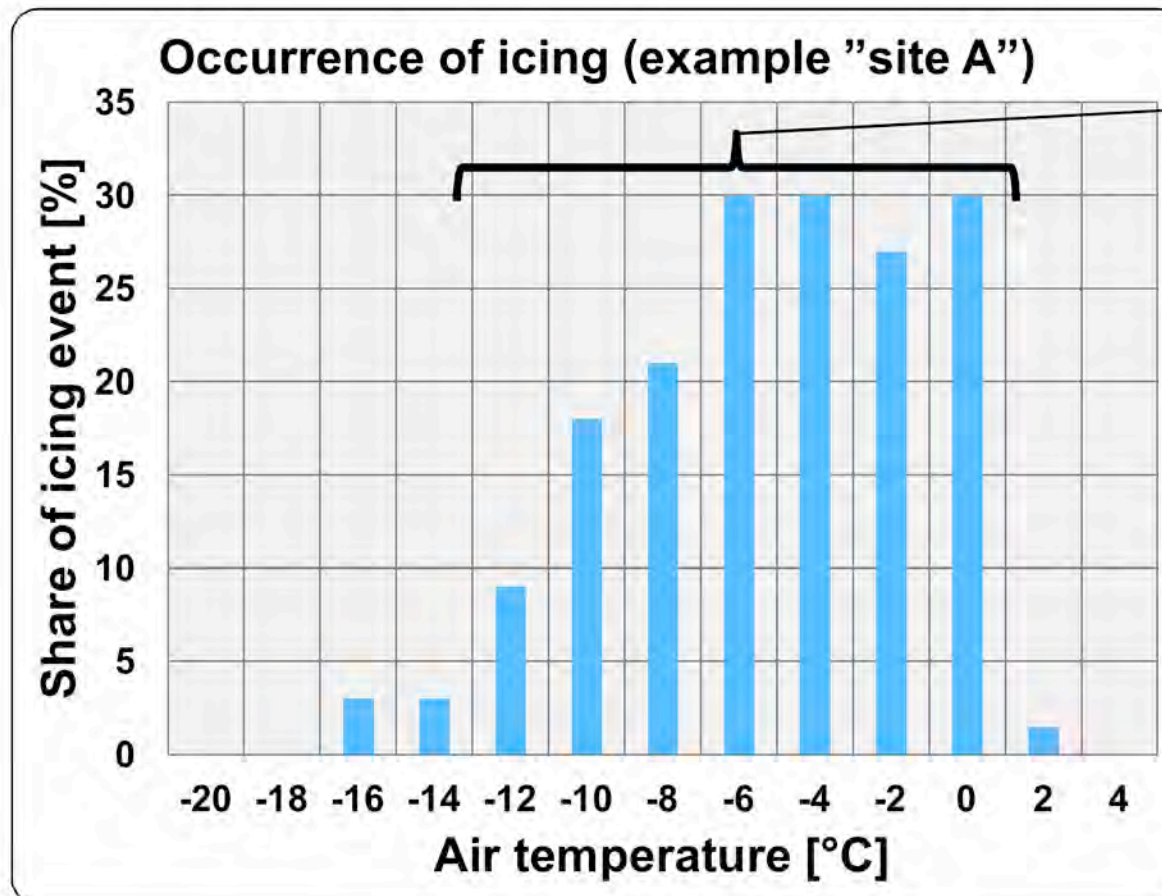
## Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions

- Site measurements used for optimization of blade heating



## Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions

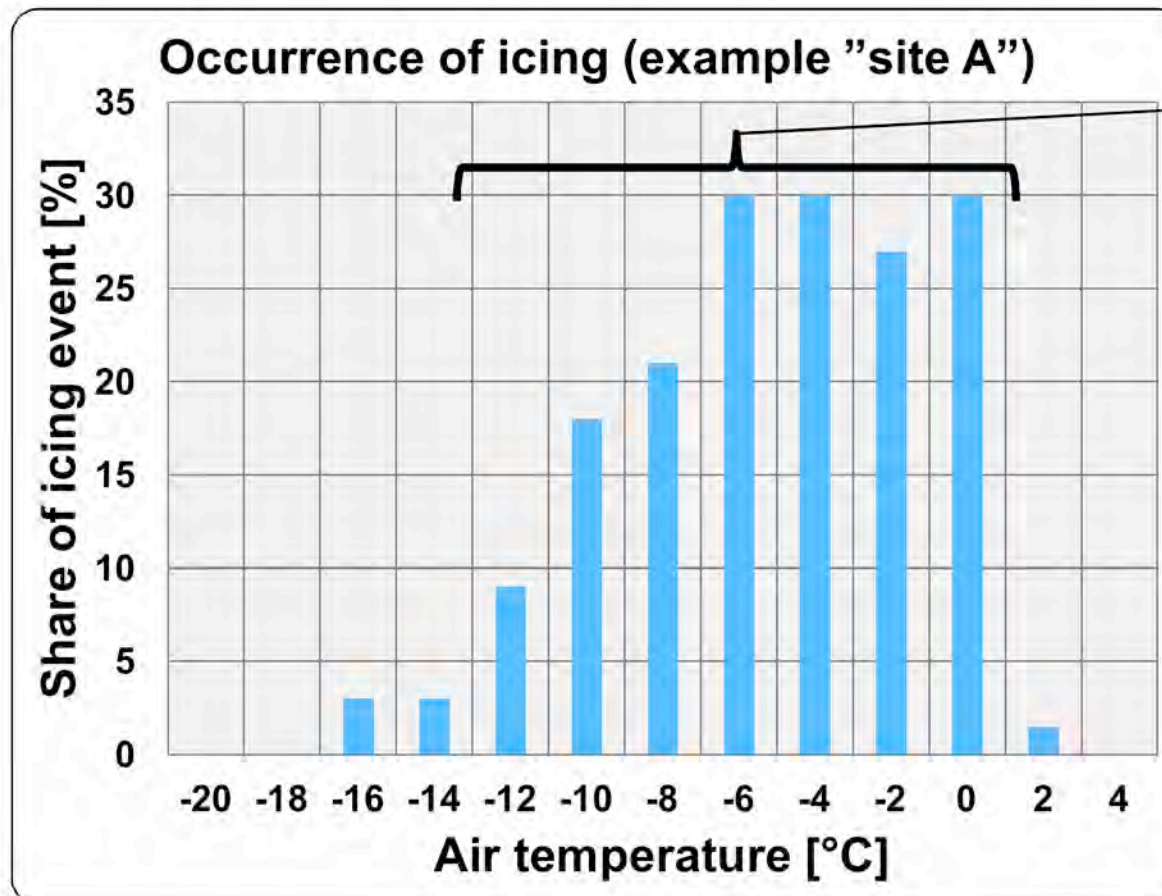
- Site measurements used for optimization of blade heating



Most icing events  
between 0 -12 °C

## Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions

- Site measurements used for optimization of blade heating



Most icing events  
between 0 -12 °C



Optimized operating  
range of ice prevention  
system for the example  
site down to -12 °C

## Contents

- Motivation: Icing effects on wind turbines
- Choosing strategy: Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?
- Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions
- ➔ ▪ Defining heating power
- Power and energy consumption

## Defining heating power

- Needed blade heating power calculated with Turbice™ software
  - Site conditions and turbine data as input

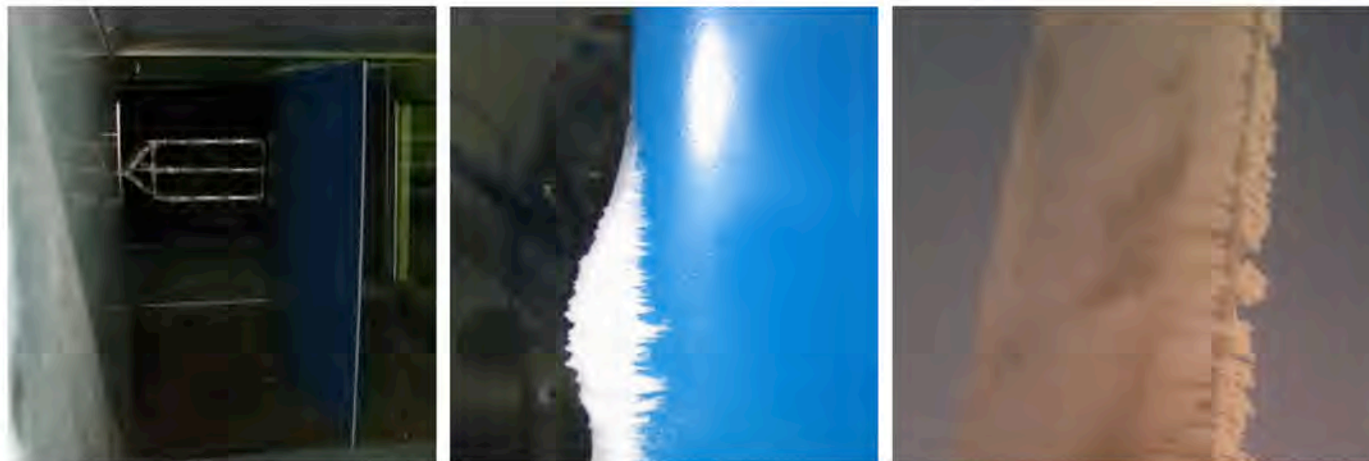


## Defining heating power

- Needed blade heating power calculated with Turbice™ software
  - Site conditions and turbine data as input
- Maximum power depends on the size of heated area:  
increase in rotor diameter => increase in heating power

## Defining heating power

- Needed blade heating power calculated with Turbice™ software
  - Site conditions and turbine data as input
- Maximum power depends on the size of heated area:  
increase in rotor diameter => increase in heating power
- Heating power calculations compared to wind tunnel experiments

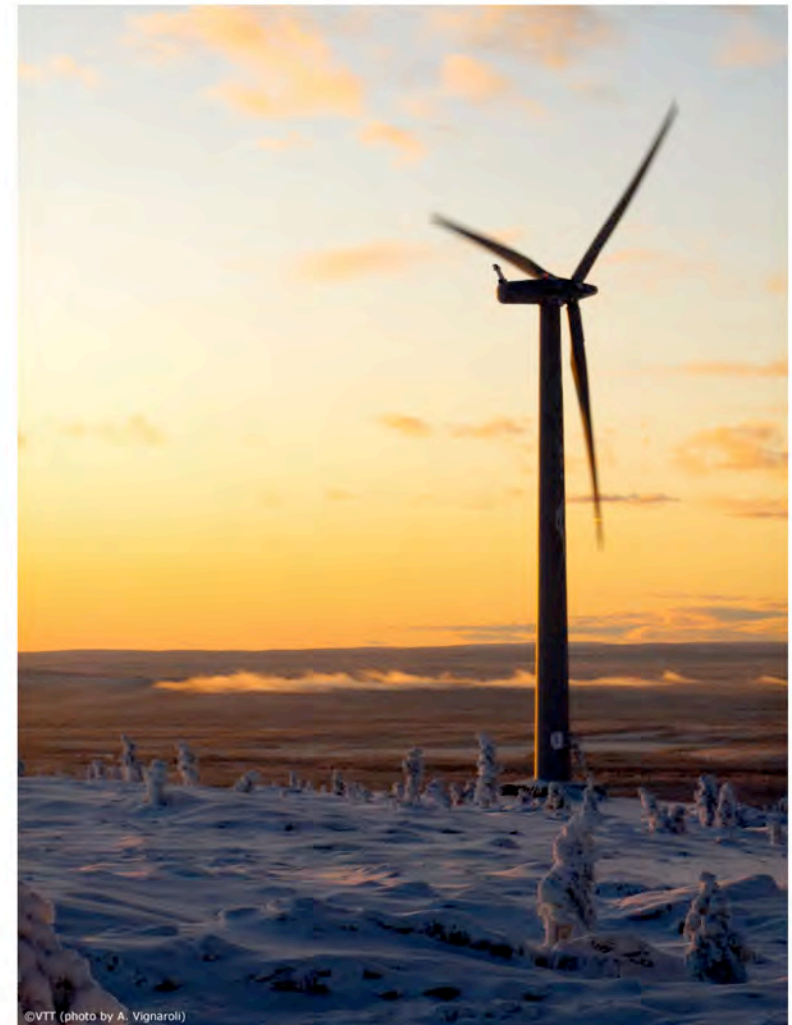


## Contents

- Motivation: Icing effects on wind turbines
- Choosing strategy: Why Ice prevention instead of de-icing?
- Optimizing ice prevention system for operating conditions
- Defining heating power
- ➔ ▪ Power and energy consumption

## Power and energy consumption

- Average heating power minimal compared to produced power of turbine



## Power and energy consumption

- Average heating power minimal compared to produced power of turbine
  - Ice prevention is activated by ice detection only when icing conditions exist



## Power and energy consumption

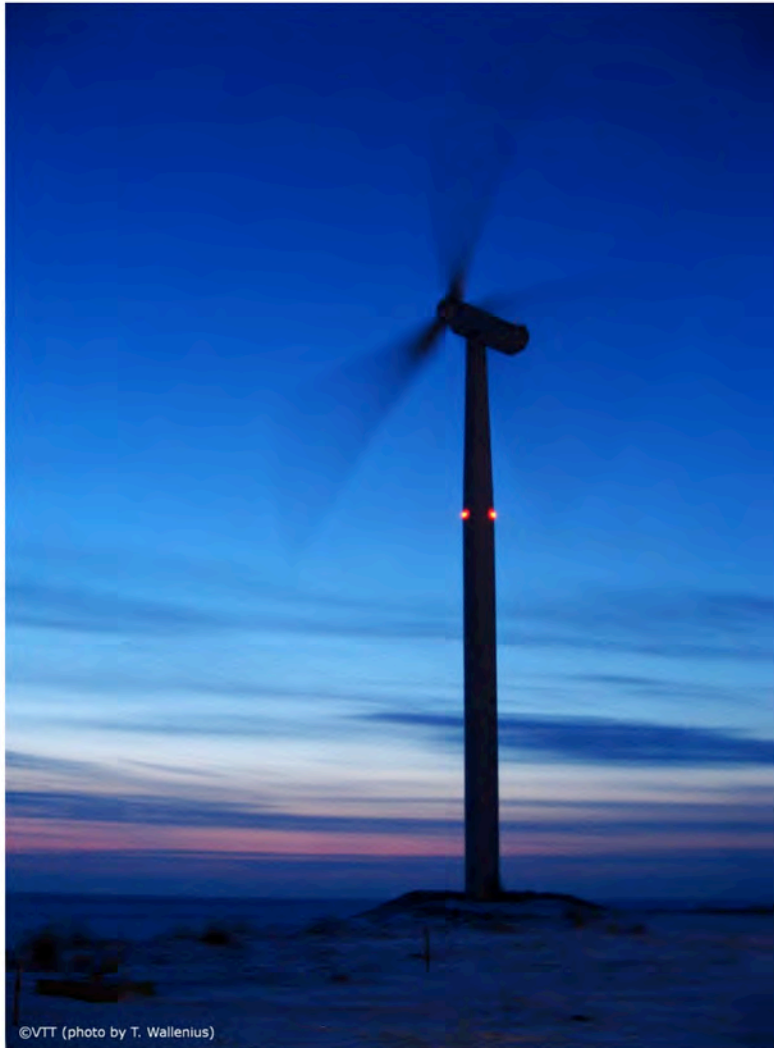
- Average heating power minimal compared to produced power of turbine
  - Ice prevention is activated by ice detection only when icing conditions exist
- Power reserve needed for harsh conditions to maintain ice prevention capabilities



## Power and energy consumption

- Average heating power minimal compared to produced power of turbine
  - Ice prevention is activated by ice detection only when icing conditions exist
- Power reserve needed for harsh conditions to maintain ice prevention capabilities
- Typical ENERGY consumption 0,5 – 2% of turbines AEP (depending on site wind conditions)





***Want to increase  
availability?***

*Visit VTT stand (#21)*





VTT - 70 years of  
**technology for business  
and society**