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Photo: VTT

Simulation and Validation of the Aerodynamic Performance of Iced Wind Turbine Airfoils

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Introduction

Ice accumulates on the leading-edge of the airfoil and may cause severe flow separation.









Simulation

Numerical methods are used to:

- Predict ice shapes
- Estimate performance losses
- Assess additional loads
- Design anti- & de-icing systems







Numeric Methods

Panel method

- Fast & efficient
- Simple geometries
- e.g. Xfoil

CFD

- VS Slow & expensive
 - Complex geometries
 - e.g. TAU-Code (DLR)











Simulation Clean Airfoil







Simulation Iced Airfoil







Summary

> Panel methods are widely used for icing simulation In the iced state panel methods fail to capture the airflow correctly > Higher order RANS-solvers are needed for more realistic results \succ However this comes at higher computational costs and higher complexity



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References

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