

WIND ENERGY ASSESSMENT DURING HIGH IMPACT WINTER STORMS IN THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

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MOTIVATION

- **Wind energy** is one of the fastest growing technologies to produce **renewable energy**, the wind resource has proven to be a **renewable, efficient** and **clean energy source**, with a high potential for reducing greenhouse gas emissions [1].
- **Iberian Peninsula**, the two countries, **Portugal and Spain**, is one of the regions of the world with **more installed wind power** per capita and where wind energy plays a key role in the **renewable energy mix** [2].
- In **Spain**, wind production remains the main renewable source during the year 2019, with an installed capacity of 25 799 MW and represented 20.8% of total production of energy [3].
- In **Portugal**, wind energy has a 5 457 MW of installed capacity [4] which contributes with 27.5% of total electricity generation, corresponding to 12.3 TWh [5].

MOTIVATION

- During the December months of 2017, 2018, and 2019, IP was affected by several named high impact storms [7-10]:
 - in **December 2017**, three named high impact storms (**Ana, Bruno, and Carmen storms**);
 - in **December 2018**, other three storms affected IP (**Etienne, Flora**) and **Oswald** or **Deirdre**;
 - in **December 2019**, three additional storms (**Daniel, Elsa, and Fabien storms**) affected IP with strong windstorms associated.
- This work aims provide a first assessment of **the available wind resource** and **wind energy potential (WEP)** during the considered December months (2017, 2018 and 2019).

DATA AND METHODS

- ERA5 Reanalysis [11] for the Iberian Peninsula region (35°N–45°N; 10°W–4°E):
 - the **10m wind components (10-meter U and V wind components)** for the three months of December (2017, 2018, 2019)
 - the fields were extracted at 00, 06, 12 and 18 UTC (6-hourly data)
- **Wind resource** available and the **wind energy potential (WEP)** is assessed for the three months separately.
 - the results are compared to the climatological average of 6-hourly values for the December months of the 30-year (1981-2010) period
- ERA5 10 m wind velocities (V_{10}) are extrapolated for the turbine height by:
 - the **logarithmic law**, where V is the windspeed at height H (135 m), V_{10} is the windspeed at height H_0 (often a reference height of 10 m), and z (0.03) is the roughness length coefficient [12, 13].

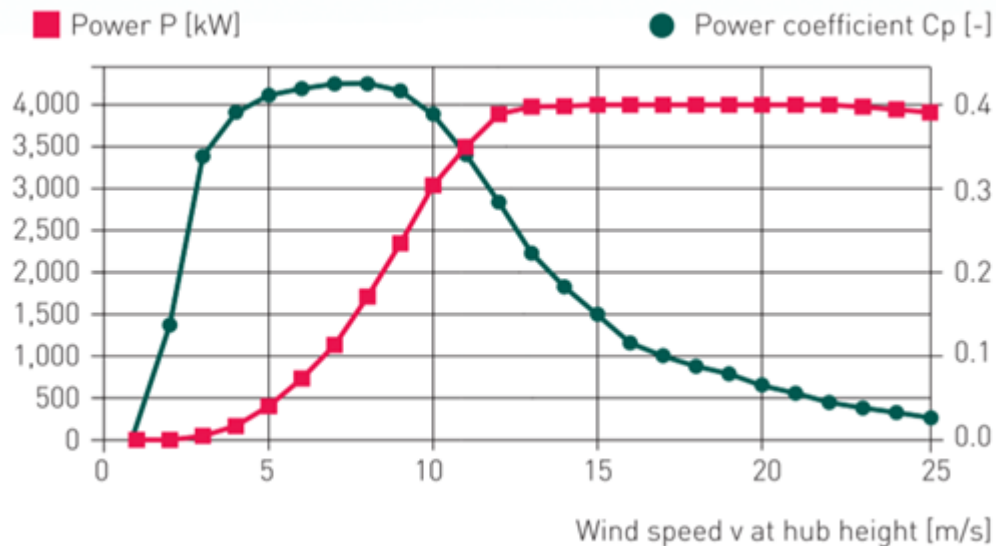
$$\frac{V}{V_{10}} = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{H}{z}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{H_0}{z}\right)}$$

DATA AND METHODS

- The power output of a wind turbine (P_{out}), or **wind potential** (WP):
- The **wind energy potential** (WEP), or gross energy output (E), for a considered period (t):

$$P_{out} = \frac{1}{2} C_p \rho \pi R^2 V^3$$

$$WEP = P_{out} \times t$$



Rated power	4000 kW
Wind rated speed	13 m.s⁻¹
Rotor diameter	127 m
Cut-in velocity	3 m.s⁻¹
Cut-out velocity	25 m.s⁻¹

Figure 1. Power curve (in kW) of the selected wind turbine (4 MW E-126 EP3, ENERCON) for wind speed ranging from 0 to over the cut-out velocity (25 ms⁻¹). Note the rated (maximum) power of 4000 kW, wind rated speed of 13 ms⁻¹ (outlined by the vertical dotted line), rotor diameter of 127 m and cut-in velocity of 3 ms⁻¹. Adapted from: [14, 15].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

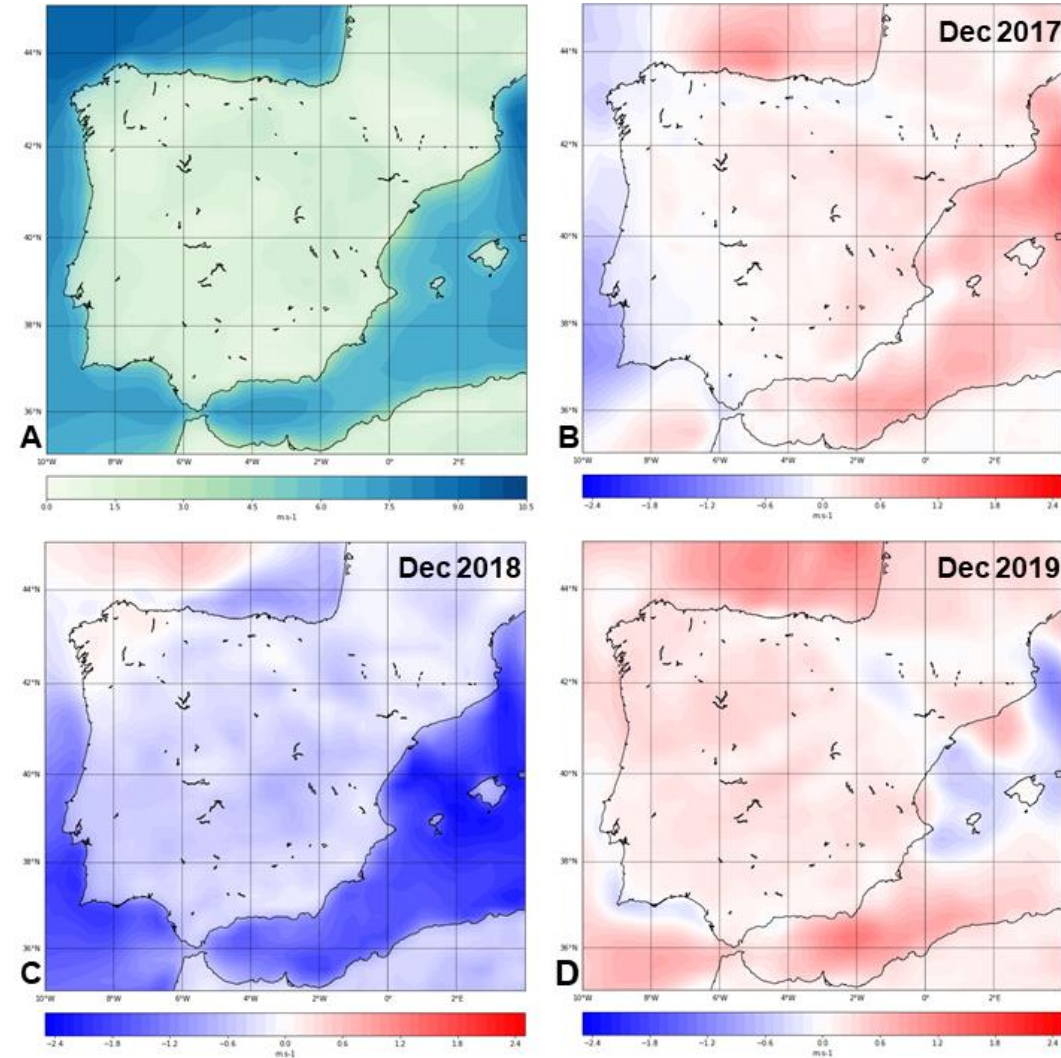


Figure 2. (A) Climatological average of ERA5 wind speed at 10m ($\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$), for the December months of 1981 to 2010; Anomalies of wind speed at 10m ($\text{m}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$) for December months of **(B)** 2017; **(C)** 2018; **(D)** 2019.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

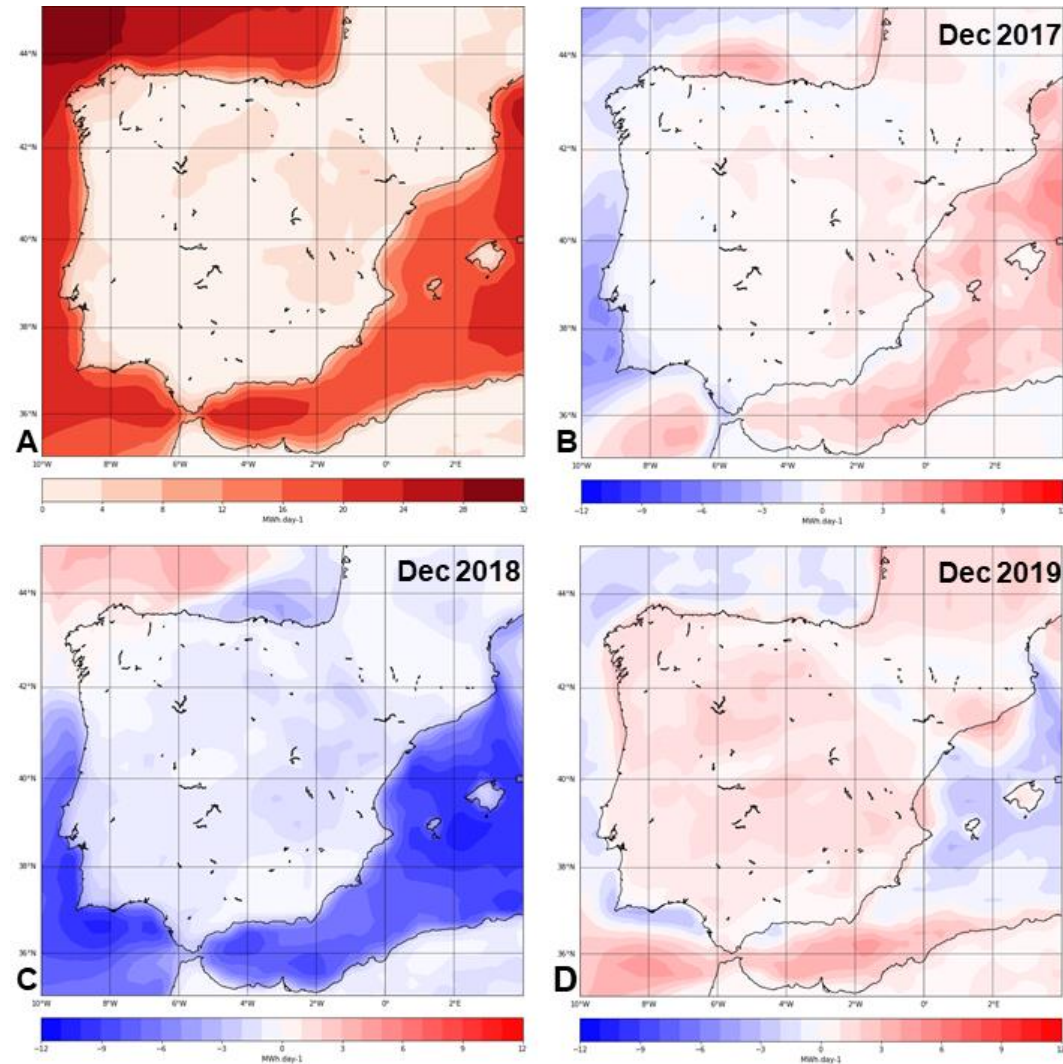


Figure 3. (A) Climatological average of Wind Energy Potential (WEP) (MWh.day⁻¹), for the December months of 1981 to 2010; Anomalies of WEP (MWh.day⁻¹) for December months of (B) 2017; (C) 2018; (D) 2019.

CONCLUSIONS

- The obtained theoretical values for the **wind energy potential (WEP)** are in line with the real values of electricity production from wind power in both countries, that is, **an increase in production in the months of December of the year 2017 and 2019**, and a **decrease in December 2018**.
- It was also confirmed that the **occurrence of high impact storms** with associated strong winds has **influence on the resource availability for energy production**, with the high values of the production of electricity registered in the days of the storms.
- However, the data used for this work **did not allow us to verify whether the passage of the storms caused the cut-off of the wind turbines**, due to the high values of the wind speed and strong gusts with different directions.

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