



Modeling and Assessment of Wind Energy Potential in the Cartagena City

Álvaro Realpe*, Brenda Chamorro, Gezira De Avila

Department of Chemical Engineering, Research Group of Modeling of Particles and Processes, Engineering Faculty, Universidad de Cartagena, Colombia

Abstract : Through the years, new sources of renewable energy are investigated to replace the energy obtained from fossil fuels; it is important to analyze the wind profile to develop alternative energy projects. Colombia is part of the countries implementing such practices; in particular the city of Cartagena by its geographical location, to determine the wind potential to generate electricity. Modeling and simulation of production of electrical energy generated from wind was carried out, as well as its economic assessment to establish viability in the implementation of wind as a renewable energy source. Data of speed and direction of wind, and temperature and humidity of the air were collected daily during 8 months using a weather station (PCE-FWS 20) located in the tower of the University of Cartagena. The average wind speed was of 4.00 m/s with values between 2.38 and 6.14 m/s, which were adjusted to the probabilistic model of Weibull. The results show that in the city of Cartagena can be generated from 180.28 to 838.23 MWh / year, depending on the power of the wind turbine (500-3000 kW) at a height of 40 meters. The economic analysis indicates that the wind turbine Vestas 3000 KW had the lowest cost of generation with \$ 385.97 / KWh, which was considered attractive for the financial indicators of the project.

Keywords: Wind energy, modeling and simulation, wind turbines, alternative energy.

1. Introduction

Excessive use of fossil fuels has contributed to the climate change that threatens human security. Today, the energy crisis and environmental pollution forces the human being to seek alternative energy [1-10]. Wind energy stands out as a generating source of energy, clean and sustainable, replacing gradually the traditional energy model. According to the report of the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), in 2013 a global installed capacity of 318,137 MW was reported, an increase of almost 200,000 MW in the last five years. However, the annual market was reduced from 10 GW to 35,467 MW, which is attributed to the precipitous drop in US wind farms. The prospects for 2014 and beyond seem to be encouraging [11]. The use of wind as an energy source is performed through wind turbines, in which the wind moves the blades and transforms the rotational mechanical energy into electrical energy, which can be used in diverse applications [12-15]. These turbines are continuously optimized, increasing its economic viability and allowing to be installed in many countries of the world, with very favorable results [16].

Colombia has strong air currents due to its location; investigations made by the Ministry of Mines and Energy highlighted various regions of the country with wind potential outstanding as is the case of Guajira department with the wind park of Jépíachi, that implements wind turbines to produce energy with an annual capacity of 92.872 MW [17]. However, in the rest of the country had not yet been implemented this technology,

which makes necessary to perform studies on modeling and simulation of the wind potential available, energy annual production and of environmental impact, in order to estimate areas conducive to the installation, and its economic assessment.

Currently the high demand of energy of the Bolivar capital on the national electric system causes rationing affecting residential areas in the region. In this project was studied the tourist area of Cartagena that has strong winds coming from the Caribbean Sea, where the wind direction is not obstructed by mountains (Cerro de la Popa), and determined the economic and technical feasibility of the implementation of Wind Energy.

2. Materials and Methods

The wind speed was measured daily in the period September 2013 to January 2014 using the weather station PCE-FWS 20 manufactured by PCE instruments (Iberica). Microsoft Excel® was used to obtain the parameters of Weibull distribution [18], simulate the electrical energy produced by different wind turbines [19, 20] and economic viability. Turbines used in simulation have potency of 500 kW, 1000 kW, 2000 kW, 3000 kW, 4000 kW and 5000 kW

2.1. Information and analysis of wind data

The tourism sector of Cartagena is an area with a high demand for energy and with intermediate wind speed [7]. Initially, it was determined the air density using the equation (1).

$$\rho = \frac{1}{T} * \left[\frac{P}{R_0} - \phi P_w \left(\frac{1}{R_0} - \frac{1}{R_w} \right) \right] \tag{1}$$

where "P" is the barometric pressure (101,325 Pa); "φ" is the relative humidity (range 0-1); "T" is the temperature (K); "R₀" is the specific constant of dry air (287.85 J/KgK), "R_w" is the specific constant of water vapor (461.5 J/kgK) and "P_w" is the vapor pressure (Pa) that is determined by the Antoine equation (2).

$$\ln P_w = A - \frac{B}{T + C} \tag{2}$$

where A=16.2620, B=3799.89 and C=226.35.

2.2. Weibull parameters

The modeling of the wind speed profile was obtained by the Weibull probability function with their corresponding parameters (α and β) according to the equation (3), which represents the variability of wind in the study area.

$$F(v) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \left(\frac{v}{\beta} \right)^{\alpha-1} \cdot e^{-\left(\frac{v}{\beta}\right)^\alpha} \tag{3}$$

where F(v) represents the statistical probability of the occurrence of a certain wind speed; β is the scale parameter (m/s) whose value is close to the average speed; and α is the dimensionless parameter of the form. Parameters (α and β) were determined by fitting wind speed data using equation (4), where W(v) is the accumulation distribution of Weibull function.

$$w(v) = 1 - e^{-\left(\frac{v}{\beta}\right)^\alpha} \tag{4}$$

The density of wind energy (\bar{P}) was determined using the equation (5) considering the statistical probability distribution F(v), and where ρ represents the density of air.

$$\bar{P} = \frac{1}{2} \rho \int_0^\infty v^3 \cdot \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \left(\frac{v}{\beta} \right)^{\alpha-1} \cdot e^{-\left(\frac{v}{\beta}\right)^\alpha} \cdot dv \tag{5}$$

2.3. Simulation of the production of electrical energy (E) using different types of turbines

power generation was simulated with different wind turbines of power ratings of 500 kW, 1000 kW, 2000 kW, 3000 kW, 4000 kW to 5000 kW [20], using equation (6):

$$E = N_h \int_{v_m}^{v_M} g(v) \cdot F(v) dv \tag{6}$$

where "E" is the annual energy produced (MWh/year), $g(v)$ is the power curve of the wind turbine, v_M and v_m are the values of the connection speed and cutting of the turbine (m/s), N_h is the number of hours per year (8760 h/year).

2.4. Analysis of economic viability in the implementation of wind turbines in Cartagena

The economic factor is important for determining the viability of the implementation of wind turbines. The cost of electricity by kWh produced for each turbine in Cartagena was calculated from the present value of costs (PVC). The assumptions for calculating the PVC of electricity are similar to those used by Alnaser [21], Habali et al. [22], and Ahmed and Hanitsch [23-25].

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Meteorological conditions in Cartagena: Temperature, relative humidity, air density and wind speed

Figure 1 indicates the daily behavior of the temperature in Cartagena during the months of study. It can be seen that the maximum value recorded in the period of study was 36.1 °C and the minimum value of 27.2°C; meanwhile, the Table 1 shows the monthly averages of temperature in the city of Cartagena ranging between 28°C and 29°C. Figure 2 shows the relative humidity with average value of 78% ranging between 44% and 84%.

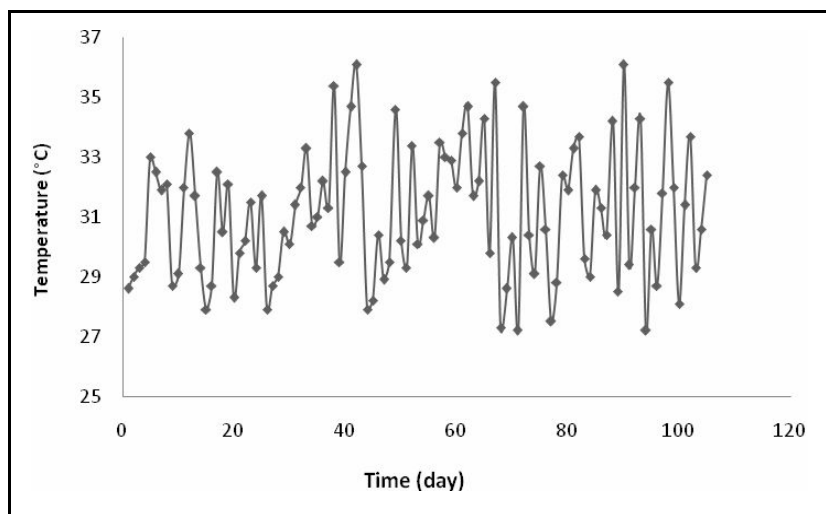


Figure 1. Daily measurement of temperature in Cartagena

Table 1. Monthly average temperature in Cartagena

Month	Temperature (°C)
May	28.6
June	29.0
July	28.7
August	28.9
September	28.7
October	29.0
November	28.7
December	28.8

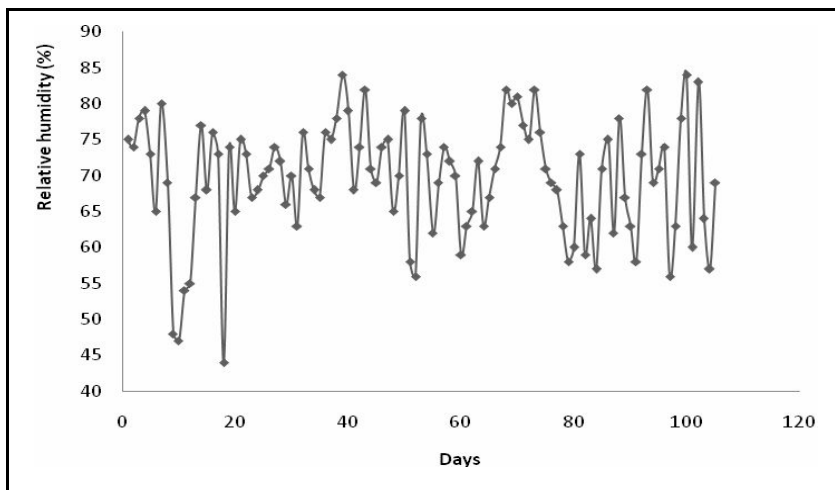


Figure 2. Relative humidity in Cartagena

Air density(kg/m^3) was calculated taking into account the relative humidity, temperature and pressure with equation (1). Table 3 shows the monthly average of air density, which is close to 1.13 Kg/m^3 .

Table 3. Monthly average air density in Cartagena.

Month	Air density (Kg/m^3)
May	1.137
June	1.116
July	1.132
August	1.121
September	1.132
October	1.116
November	1.132
December	1.127

Figure 3 presents the variation of the wind speed during the months of May to December 2013 at a height of 40 m. The maximum value of the wind speed was 9.2 m/s and the minimum value of 2.4 m/s . Table 4 shows the average wind speed of each month, which range from 2.2 m/s and 3.6 m/s . These values of wind speed are similar to those of other coastal areas, for example, the East Coast of India reports speeds from 1.3 m/s to 2.7 m/s [26].

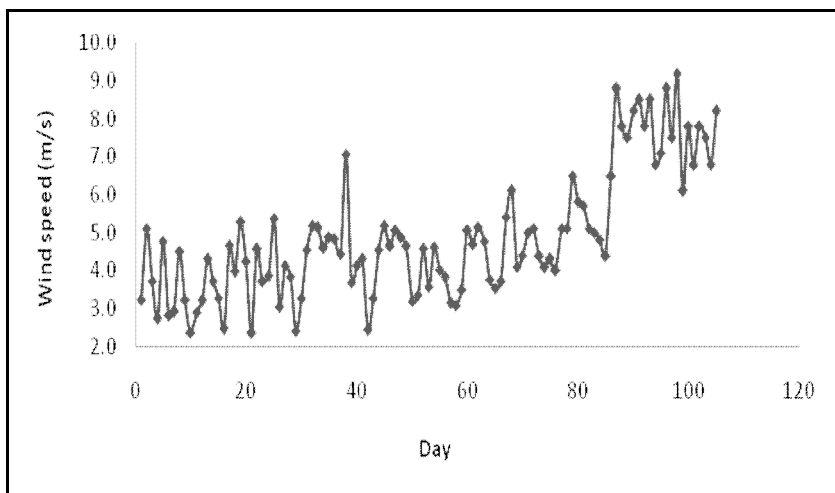


Figure 3. Wind speed in Cartagena

Table 4. Average wind speed of each month in Cartagena

Month	Wind speed (m/s)
May	2.6
June	2.2
July	2.8
August	3.5
September	3.3
October	3.6
November	2.5
December	3.7

3.2. Modeling the wind potential for energy production

Weibull parameters are determined by linear fit of equation (4), which are necessary for determining the wind energy density using equation (5). Figure 4 shows high correlation with a R^2 near to 1. The parameters found represent the frequency distribution given in Figure 5.

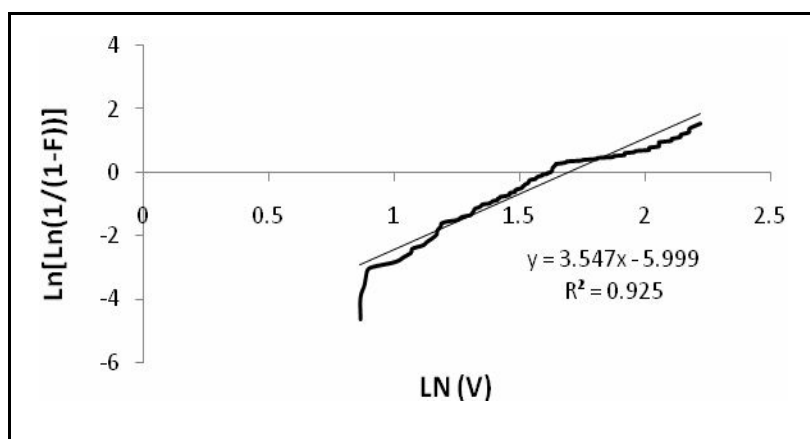


Figure 4. Linear fit of equation (4) for calculating the Weibull parameters

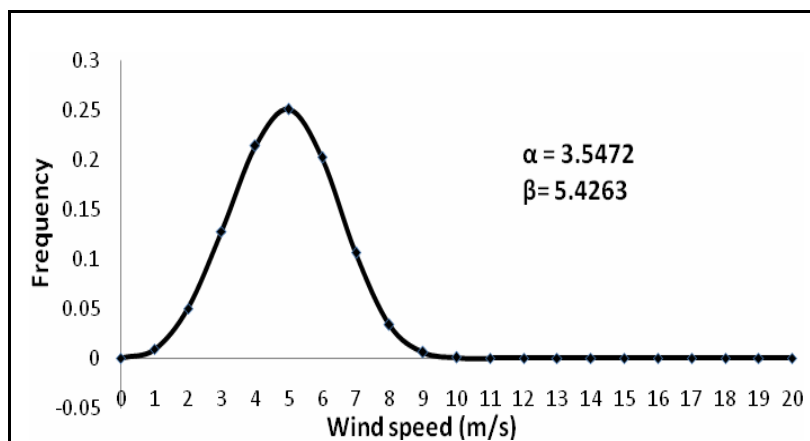


Figure 5. Frequency distribution of Weibull for wind speed data of Cartagena city

Figure 5 shows peaks of high frequency of wind speeds between 4 and 6 m/s. The odds are low for wind speeds less than 1 m/s or greater than 9 m/s at a height of 40.

Energy Density

The Weibull parameters were replaced in the equation (5), and wind power density of 75.48 W/m^2 was determined, this being relatively low compared with values from other sectors of the Caribbean region as Puerto Bolívar, Las Flórez and Galerazamba with 219.5 W/m^2 , 194.4 W/m^2 and 132.6 W/m^2 at 10 meters of height, respectively [27].

Simulation of electricity Production Using Different Types of Turbines

Manufactures of wind turbines used in the simulation were Bonus (Denmark), Vestas (Denmark), XEMC DARWIND (Holland), Turbowinds (Belgium). Figure 6 represents the curves of powers of each wind turbine and Table 5 shows different specifications for each turbine.

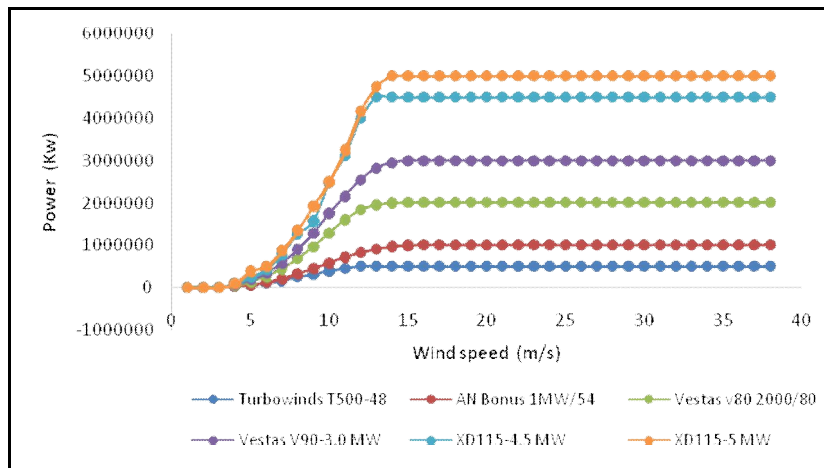


Figure 6. Power curves of the wind turbines

Table 5. Specifications for each wind turbines

TURBINE MODEL	TURBOWINDS T500-48	AN BONUS 1 MW/54	VESTAS V80 2000/80	VESTAS V90-3.0 MW	XEMC DARWIND XD115-4.5MW	XEMC DARWIND XD115-5MW
Rated power (Pr) (kW)	500	1000	2000	3000	4000	5000
Hub height (m)	70	50	80	80	80	90
Rotar diameter (m)	48	54.2	80	90	115	115
Swept area (m ²)	1810	2300	5027	6362	10207	10387
Number of blades	3	3	3	3	3	3
Cut in wind speed (m/s)	3	3	4	4	4	4
Nominal wind speed (m/s)	14	15	15	15	13	14
Cut off wind speed (m/s)	25	25	25	25	25	25
Price/ (US \$)	962309	1050202	1600309	2519538	3137048	4020781

Table 6 shows relation between factor $[g(v) \cdot F(v)]$ of equation 6 and the Weibull distribution $(F(v))$ at different wind speed and considering the turbine potency.

Table 6. Factor $[g(v) \cdot F(v)]$ of equation 6 and the Weibull distribution $(F(v))$ for turbine Vestas V90-3.0 MW

Wind speed	Turbine potency $g(v)$	Weibull distribution $F(v)$	Energy $[g(v) \cdot F(v)]$
0	0	0	0
1	0	0.008777404	0
2	0	0.049961387	0
3	0	0.12785159	0
4	85000	0.214186278	18205.83363
5	200000	0.251175249	50235.04979
6	350000	0.202419302	70846.75585
7	590000	0.106016083	62549.48885
8	900000	0.033402362	30062.12536
9	1283000	0.005774592	7408.801463
10	1750000	0.000494001	864.5026028
11	2160000	1.86817E-05	40.35241308
12	2550000	2.76698E-07	0.705580558
13	2820000	1.41147E-09	0.003980345
14	2950000	2.1656E-12	6.38851E-06
15	3000000	8.67107E-16	2.60132E-09
16	3000000	7.81326E-20	2.34398E-13
17	3000000	1.35825E-24	4.07476E-18
18	3000000	3.8832E-30	1.16496E-23
19	3000000	1.54797E-36	4.64392E-30
20	3000000	7.25635E-44	2.17691E-37
21	3000000	3.35617E-52	1.00685E-45
22	3000000	1.27869E-61	3.83606E-55
23	3000000	3.33421E-72	1.00026E-65

Figure 7 shows the curve between wind speed and factor $[g(v) \cdot F(v)]$ for calculating the area under curve using Simpson 3/8 method, which is the produced energy.

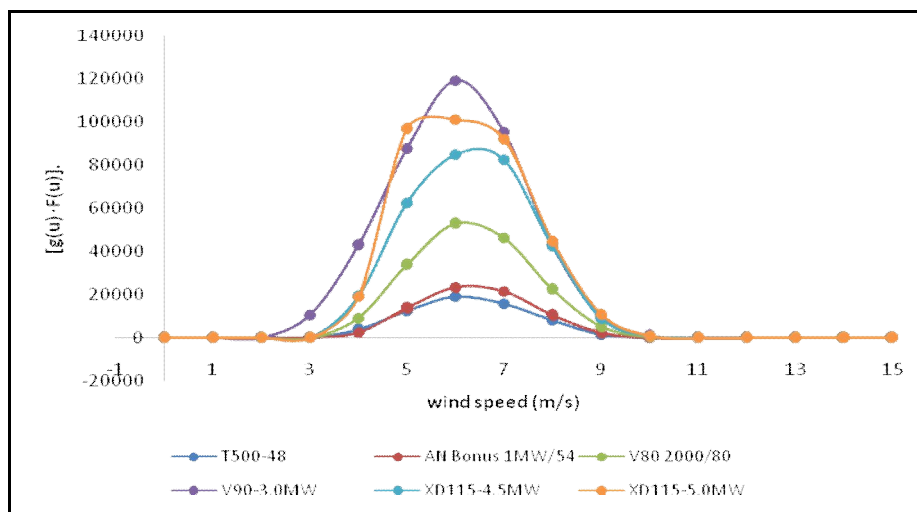


Figure 7. Energy generated at different wind speeds

Figure 7 indicates that highest energy (kWh 70846.12) was obtained with a speed of 6 m/s, which is the wind speed with a second frequency of 0.202. Meanwhile, with the wind speed (5 m/s) with higher frequency 0.251 generated a low energy of 50235 kWh. Similar behavior was reported in [28]. Moreover, Figure 8 shows the annual energy produced by each generator, which is equivalent to the area under the curve shown in Figure 7. The highest value of energy produced was obtained for the wind turbine Vestas V90-3.0 MW.

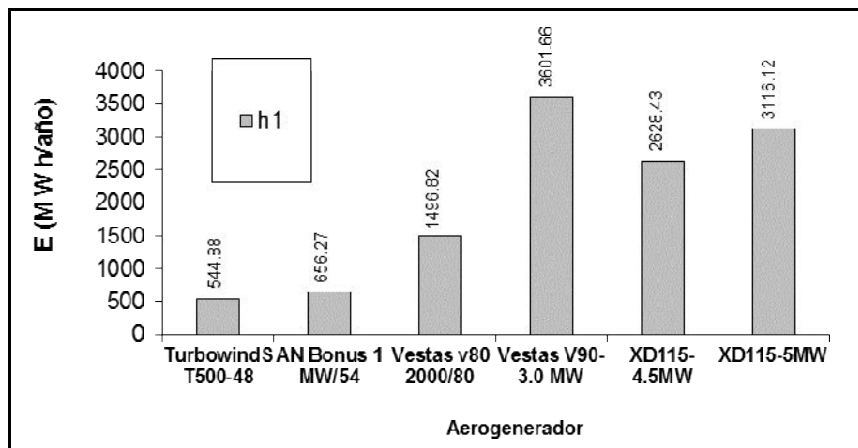


Figura 8. Energía anual generada por cada aerogenerador

3.3. Analysis of the economic feasibility for the implementation of wind turbines in Cartagena

The economic feasibility study considers some parameters commonly used in the implementation of wind farms, as the interest rate of 18%; inflation of 7%; useful life of 20 years; operation and maintenance costs of 25% of the annual cost of the turbine and the scrap value of 10% of the plant cost. Table 7 details the steps to estimate the cost of producing a kWh for the wind turbine T500-48 MW.

Table 7. Cost of energy produced with wind turbine T500-48

Energy generated KWh/year “5”	544876
Useful life (years) “6”	20
Price of wind turbine (US\$) “1”	962309
Economic parameters	
Cost of installation (Price of turbine * 20%) “2”	192461
Total investment (US\$) “3=1+2”	1154771
Annual cost of wind turbine “4”	48115
Energy generated during 20 years “8=5*6”	10897525
Operation and maintenance cost “9= 1.5%*2”	12028
Interest rate	0.12
Inflation rate	0.07
Scrap value	115477
Present value of cost	954294
Price of 1 kwh (US\$)	0.0876

Figure 9 indicates that the cost of each kWh decreases with increasing the power of the wind turbine; obtaining the best results with the turbine Vestas V90-3.0 MW.

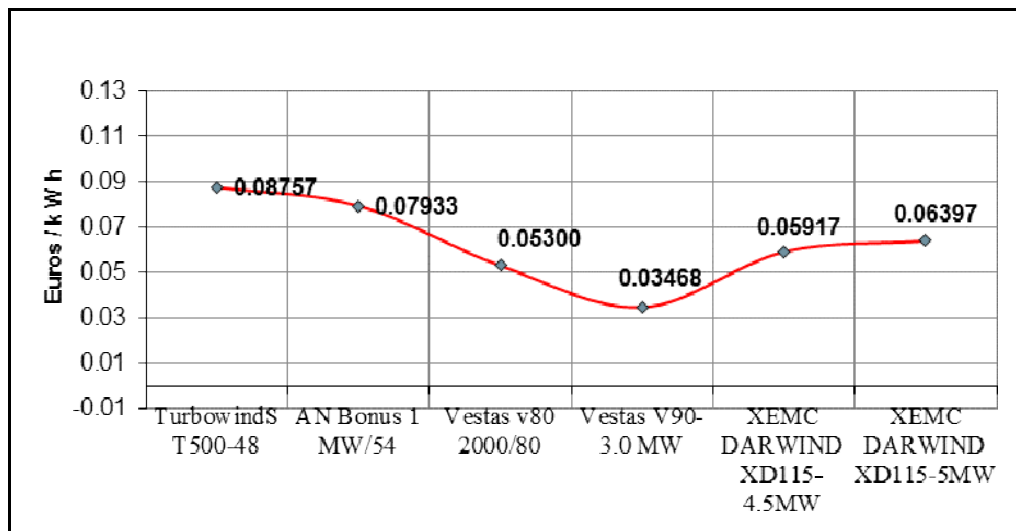


Figure 9. Cost of energy produced for each type of wind turbine

4. Conclusions

The wind power density was determined; However, calculated value is lower than reported in other regions of country such as Puerto Bolívar, Las Flórez and Galerazamba, due to low wind speed in Cartagena city. The average wind speed highest (3.7 m/s) was in December. The Weibull function models the profile of wind speed data of Cartagena city, and according with the Weibull function there are low probability of repetition of wind speeds lower than 1 m/s and higher than 9 m/s. The economic analysis determined that lowest cost of electricity generation was obtained with wind turbine Vestas V90-3.0 MW

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