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The Effects of Blade Pitch Angle on the Performance of Small-scale Wind Turbine in Urban Environments

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1 The Effects of Blade Pitch Angle on the Performance of Small-

## 2 scale Wind Turbine in Urban Environments

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## 9 Abstract

10 Due to the growing importance of wind power as a clean and renewable energy 11 source, the use of small-scale wind turbines in urban environments has increased 12 lately. The blade pitch control is an effective method to improve theaerodynamic 13 response of a wind turbine, usually applied to large-scale wind turbines. This study 14 presents the effects of varied blade pitch on the aerodynamic performance of a 15 small-size wind turbine. The blades were sketched out according to the Blade Element Moment (BEM) theory, applying the aerodynamic profile NREL-S809 and 16 designed for a tip speed ratio of eight. To analyze the influence of the blade pitch 17 angle on the energy conversion, a comparative study was carried out varying the 18 19 pitch angle to five different values. Using the analysis of variance (ANOVA), it was 20 possible to demonstrate that blade pitch control could be an effective method also 21 for small-sized wind turbines. A performance chart from the results of blade pitch 22 experiments shows that the power coefficient varies significantly when the angle 23 changes. As conclusion, it is highlighted that an enhanced behavior could be attained by the use of a pitch angle controller resulting in a better recovery of the 24 25 energy available in the wind.

Keywords: Small-scale wind turbine, Pitch angle control, Urban environment,
Blade Element Momentum Theory, ANOVA.

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