

Borealis Wind


Determining Heating Power for Blade Heating System

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Winterwind 2023

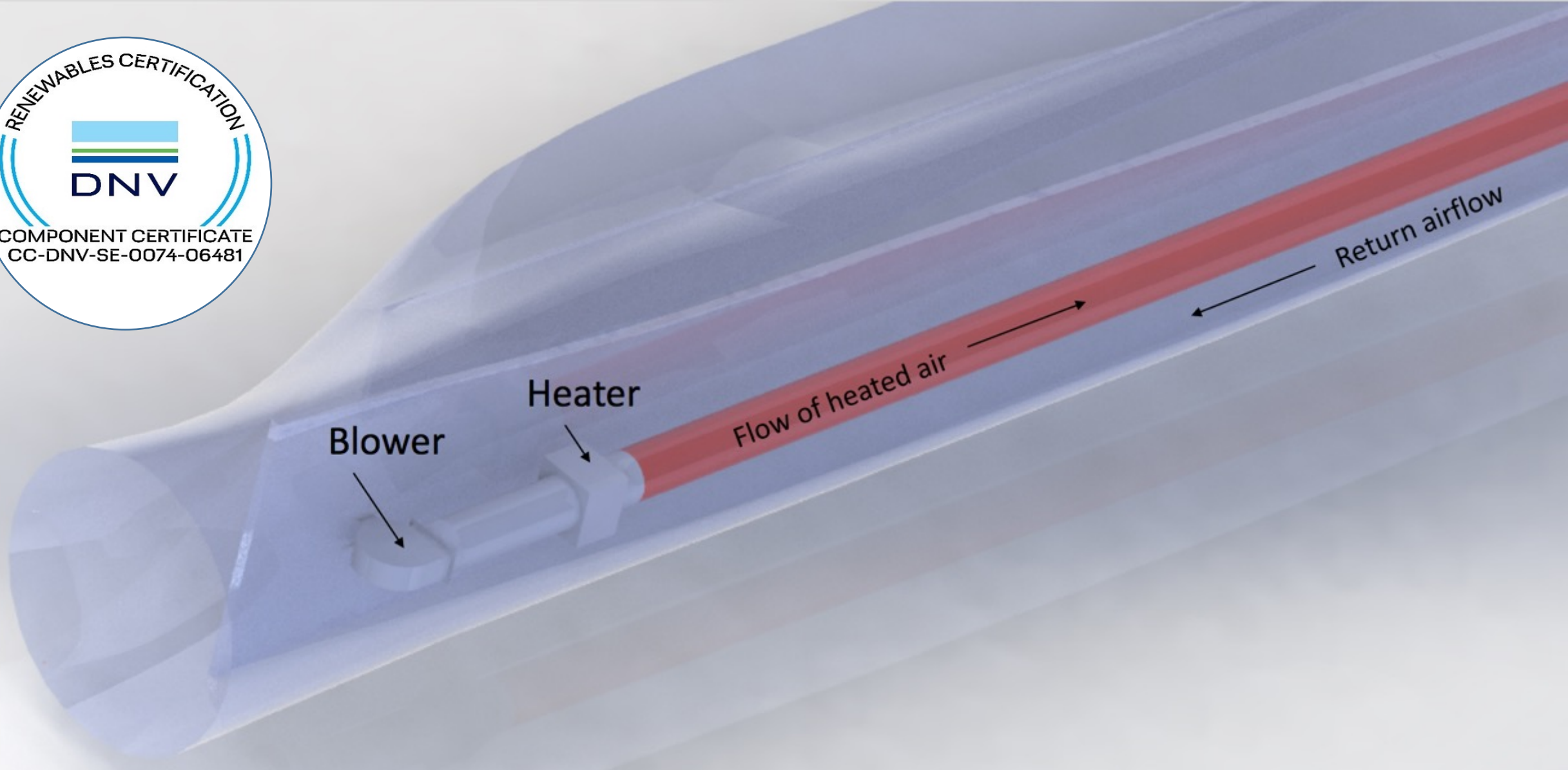
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A winter landscape featuring a wind turbine on the left, snow-covered evergreen trees in the foreground and middle ground, and a clear blue sky with light clouds. A large, semi-transparent white circle is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing text.

Our Goal:
Provide a simple retrofit
system that can reduce
icing loss by at least 70%, is
robust, reliable and
maintainable





Borealis Ice Protection System





Retrofit Installation

- 3 days to retrofit the Borealis System prior to turbine construction
- 7 days to retrofit the Borealis System into a constructed turbine
- Schedule is designed to have the turbine operational overnight
- All materials are sized so they can be easily passed into the blade
 - Less than 50 cm x 50cm in cross section
 - Less than 70 lbs.



Borealis Ice Protection System:

5 wind farms retrofitted in Canada
5 winters of operational validation
500 MWh energy gain per turbine
8% AEP increase



Borealis Wind



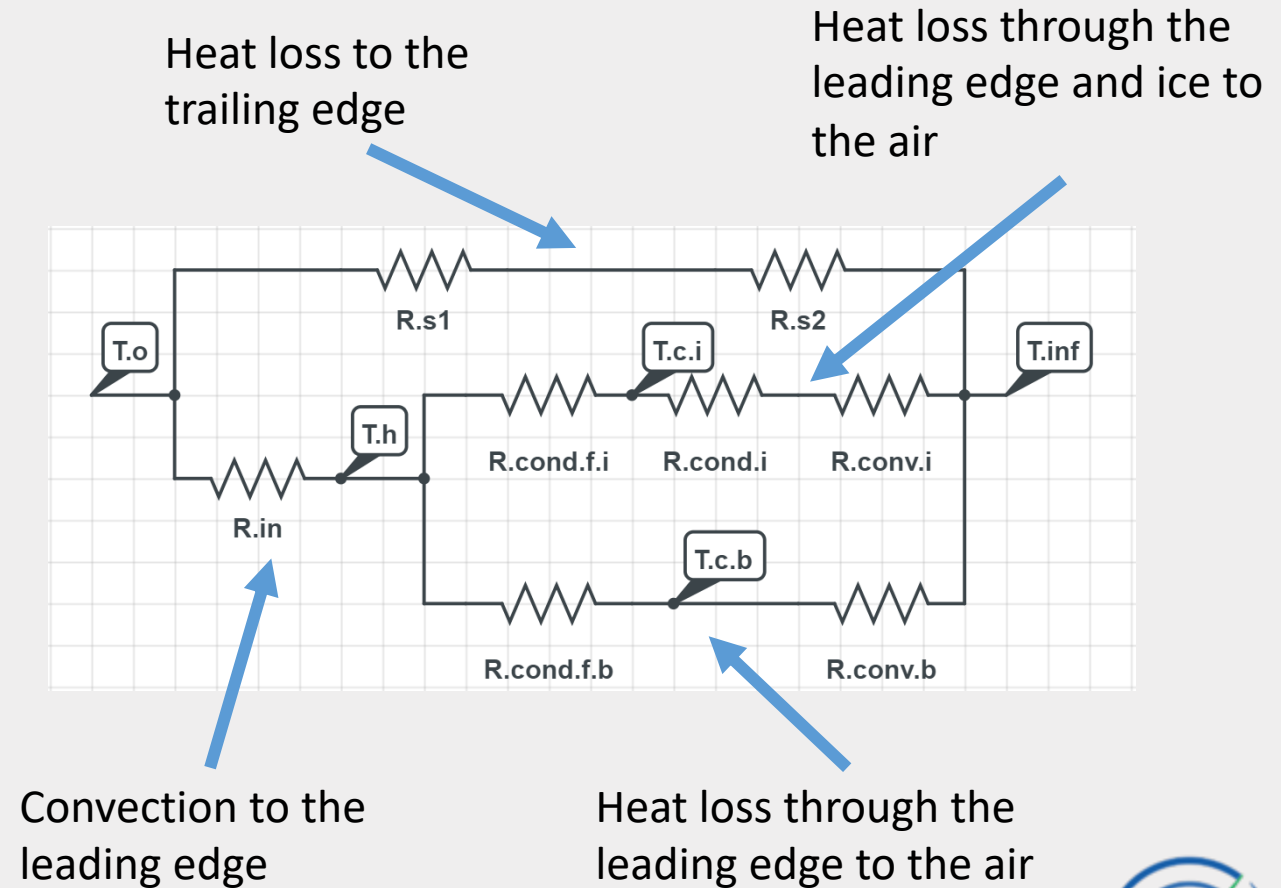
Thermodynamic Model - High Level

- Heat exchanger inside the blade, to heat the leading edge cavity
- Heat loss to the trailing edge
- Conduction through the leading edge
- Conduction through ice
- Convection to outside air
- Assuming rime ice is present, $LWC = 0$, $T_{\text{ambient}} = -7\text{C}$, $\text{Wind} = 7 \text{ m/s}$



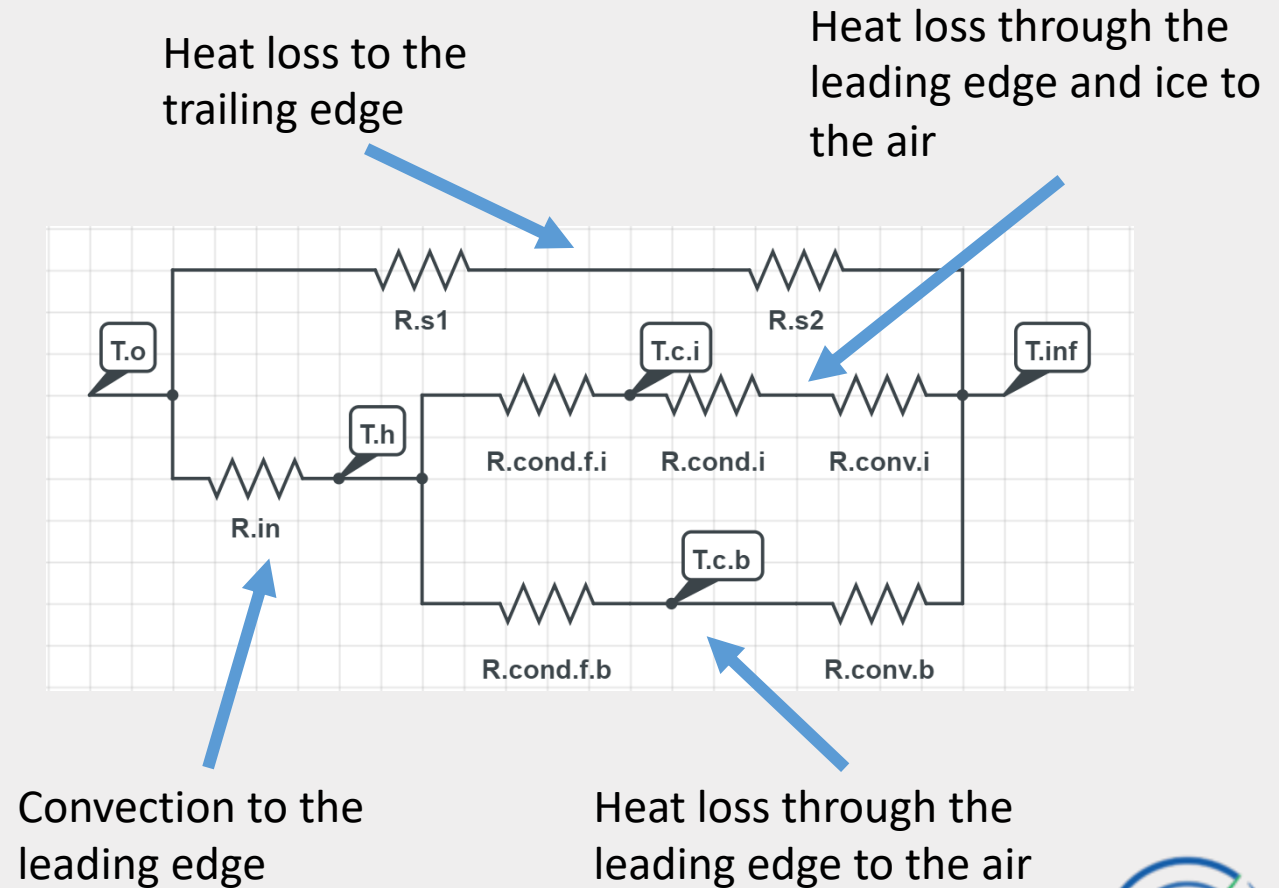
Thermodynamic Model – Part 1

Symbol	Description
T_o	Temperature of the air inside the leading-edge cavity of the blade
T_h	Temperature of the internal blade surface on the leading-edge
$T_{c,i}$	Temperature of the external blade surface in contact with ice
$T_{c,b}$	Temperature of the external blade surface in contact with the ambient air
T_{inf}	Ambient air temperature



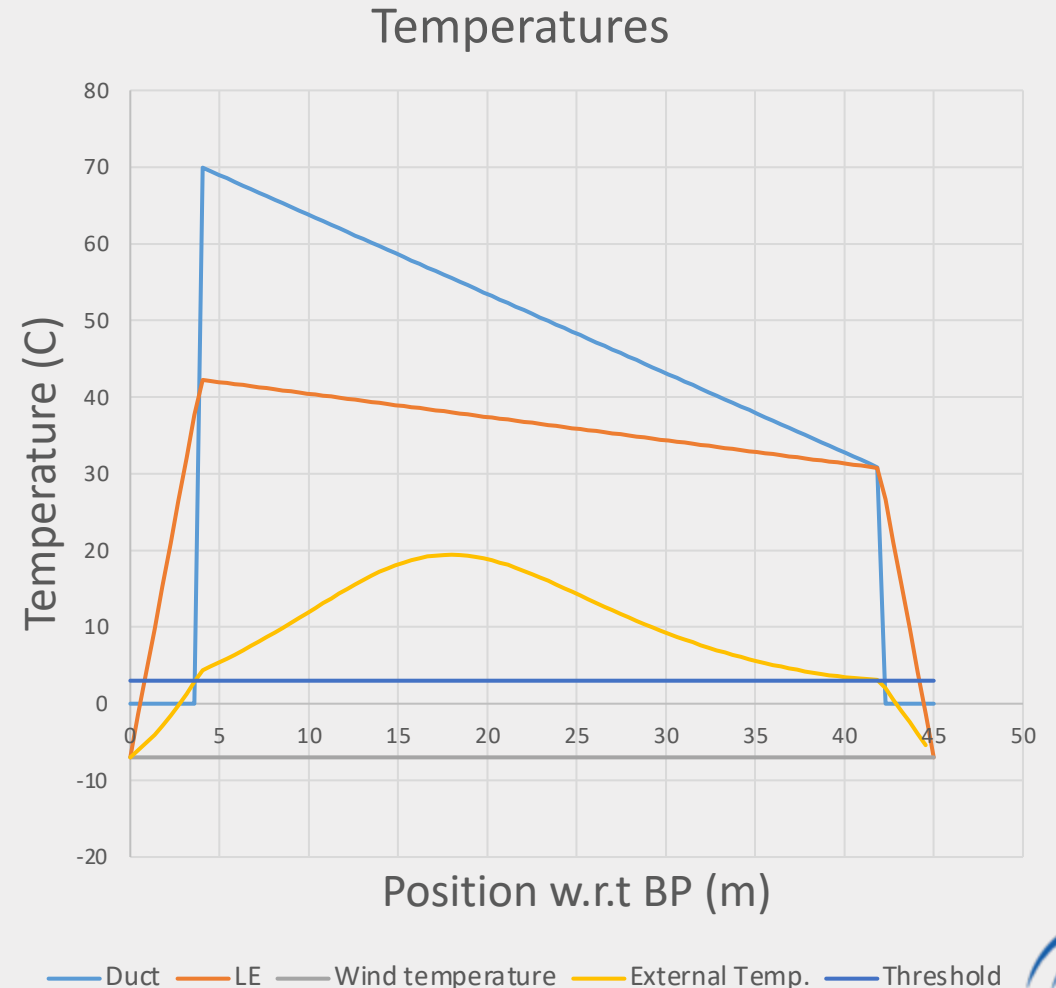
Thermodynamic Model – Part 2

Symbol	Equation	Description
R_s	$R_{s1} = \frac{1}{h_{in} * A_{shear\ web}}$	Resistance for heat to transfer from the air inside the leading edge to the shear web
	$R_{s2} = \frac{t_{spar}}{k_{fiberglass} * A_{shear\ web}}$	Resistance for heat to travel through the shear web
R_i	$R_{in} = \frac{1}{h_{in} * A_{leading\ edge}}$	Resistance for heat to transfer from the air inside the leading edge cavity to the leading edge airfoil
	$R_{cond.f.i} = \frac{t_{leading\ edge}}{k_{fiberglass} * A_{iced}}$	Resistance for heat to travel through the leading edge airfoil in areas covered in ice
	$R_{cond.i} = \frac{t_{ice}}{k_{ice} * A_{iced}}$	Resistance for heat to travel through the layer of ice
	$R_{conv.i} = \frac{1}{h_{ext} * A_{iced}}$	Resistance for heat to transfer from the external surface of the ice to the ambient air
	$R_{cond.f.b} = \frac{t_{leading\ edge}}{k_{fiberglass} * A_{bare}}$	Resistance for heat to travel through the leading edge airfoil in areas not covered in ice
	$R_{conv.b} = \frac{1}{h_{ext} * A_{bare}}$	Resistance for heat to transfer from the external surface of the leading edge to the ambient air



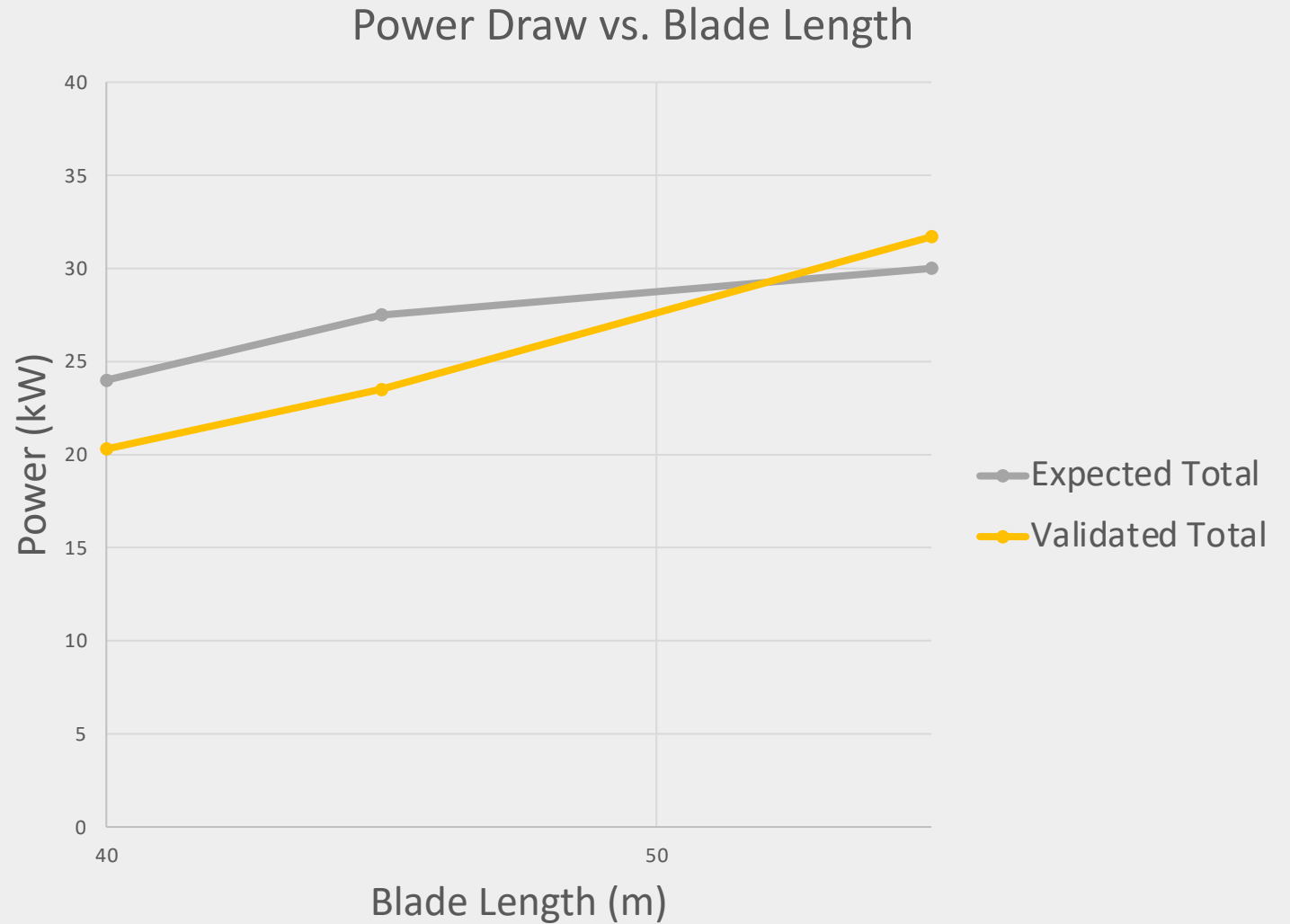
Thermodynamic Model – Part 3

- This allows us to determine a rate of heat transfer (Q) that can be passed through the blade
 - $R_{total} = 1/(1/R_s + 1/R_l)$
 - $Q = (T_o - T_{inf})/R_{total}$
 - Calculated at each 0.5m section
- We are limited in temperature, by the material of the blade
- The critical factor is the airflow, to be able to deliver that heat to the critical area, without exceeding the maximum allowable temperature



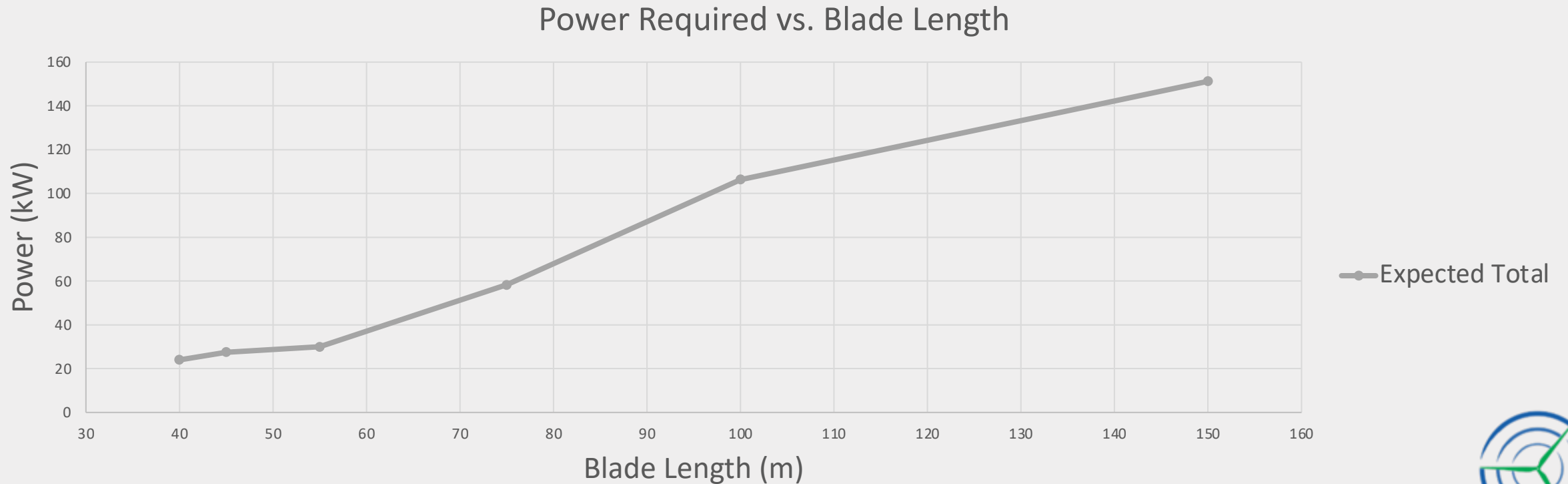
Results

- The graph shows the calculated and measured power consumption for the heating systems we have installed



Heating Requirements for Larger Blades

- The graph shows the validated heating requirements, and the calculated requirements for larger blades



Summary

Borealis Ice Protection System:

Internal hot air heating system

3-7 day retrofit

8% AEP increase achieved

Heat Requirement by Blade Length:

Heating power is determined with a thermo-model

Determine heat transfer, Q , through the blade

Validated to 55m blades, calculated up to 150m blades

