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Developing a Methodology for the Evaluation of Hybrid Vehicle Thermal Management Systems

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Report Documentation Page

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- How can we define a vehicle thermal management system (TMS) evaluation metric?
 - Performance
 - Does it meet the demand of maximum load at worst case boundary conditions?
 - Is the TMS operational power demand (hotel load) disproportionately large?
 - Size – is TMS disproportionately oversized in terms of:
 - Volume
 - Weight
- An evaluation metric structure could be developed that would -
 - Provide a means for comparison for and/or across classes of vehicles
 - Evaluate design maturity and point toward potential issues
 - Identify significant technological advancements



Vehicle TMS Definition?

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- Vehicle Thermal Management System design requires intimate knowledge of vehicle:
 - Architecture – components and layout
 - Demand – component loading and boundary conditions
- Component-level cooling equipment needs to be included in estimates of component power density
 - Engine components: oil coolers and pumps, charge air coolers, water and fuel pumps, fuel coolers
 - Auxiliary components: closed loop specialized cooling equipment
 - Total volume must include ancillary non-system components like electrical wiring and connectors, plumbing fittings, etc. (i.e. not just shrink-wrapped volume)
- Vehicle packaging considerations may sometime make evaluation difficult
 - Component-level versus System-level thermal equipment
 - Plumbing considerations – valves, fittings, lines, etc.
- Specialized payloads and architectural outliers would need to be handled separately



Procedural Example...

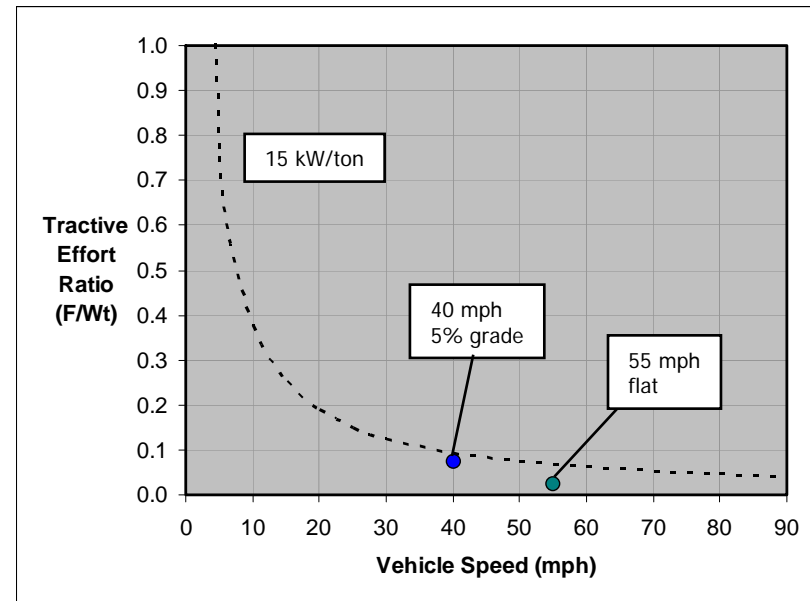
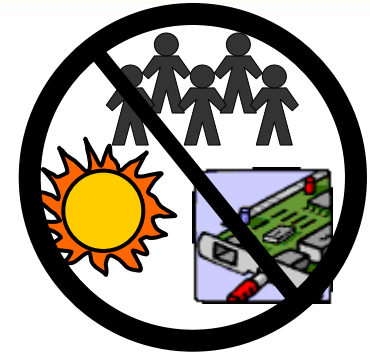
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- Assumed baseline case demonstrates calculation of proposed metrics
 - Chosen climatic conditions: Category A1 – Hot Dry: 49°C ambient
 - Other climatic/operational conditions will yield metric values that can be tabulated
- Proposed metrics allow comparison/evaluation of competing vehicle TMS
- Other evaluation factors need to be considered for final judgment
 - Total cost: includes component and installation costs
 - Robustness: ease of/improvement in installation/operation
 - Readiness: maturity of component as well as availability

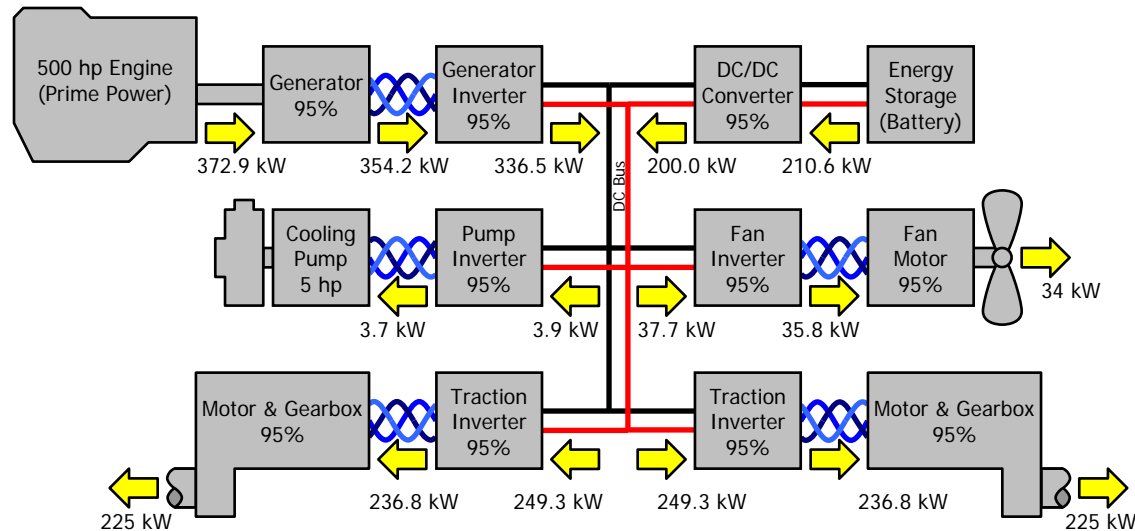
Baseline Case - Assumptions

- Assume a generic layout of a 30-ton full hybrid electric vehicle
- Assume engine components are packaged to the engine block (oil pump, oil cooler, water pump, fuel cooler, etc)
- Assume engine operates on air-to-air charge air cooler and is considered “component-level” equipment
- Assume a sub-ambient cooling system is not required
- Consider mobility loads only – mission electronics, ambient solar, and human occupancy are considered negligible
- Packaging optimization is currently neglected
- Loading Condition (31 ton, 7 m² frontal area, C_D = 0.8, 35 lb/ton rolling resistance)
 - 40 mph continuous up a 5% grade (0.074 TE)
 - 55 mph continuous flat (0.026 TE)
 - Select vehicle tractive power ratio as 15 kW/ton
- Vehicle weight of 30 ton leads to tractive power of 450 kW (225 kW per side)



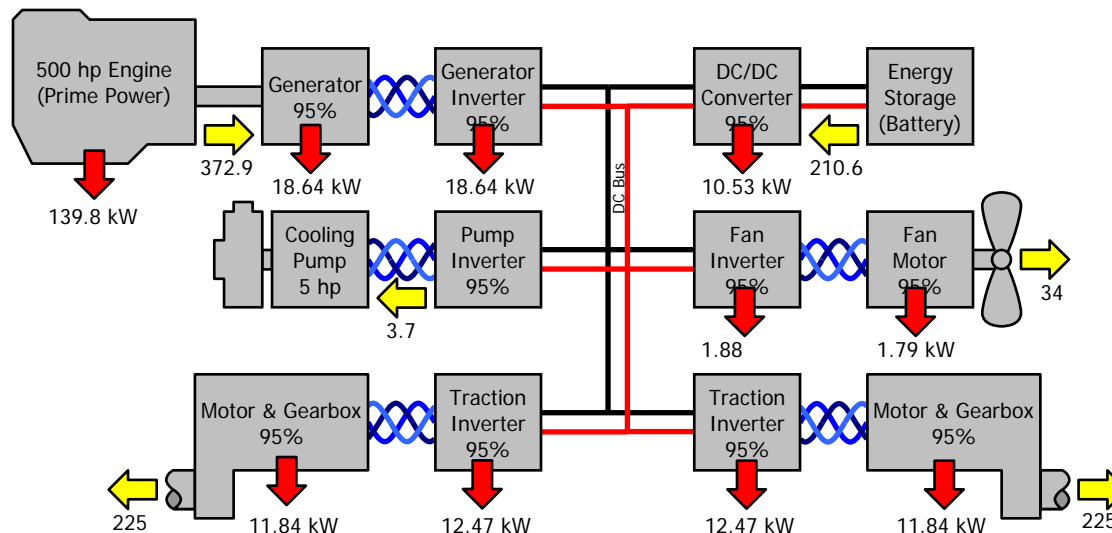
Baseline Case – Energy Balance

- Assume a generic hybrid system
 - DC Bus distribution
 - Prime power generation: 500 hp
 - Energy storage system linked through DC/DC Converter
 - Tractive power (mechanical demand) of 225 kW per side
 - Auxiliary Cooling Pump (5 hp assumed)
 - Cooling Fan
 - 95% efficiency assumed for every component
- Solution Methodology
 - Fan power calculated 34 kW [*determination will be discussed in upcoming slide*]
 - Energy balance performed on DC Bus
 - Electronic component and motor thermal loads calculated



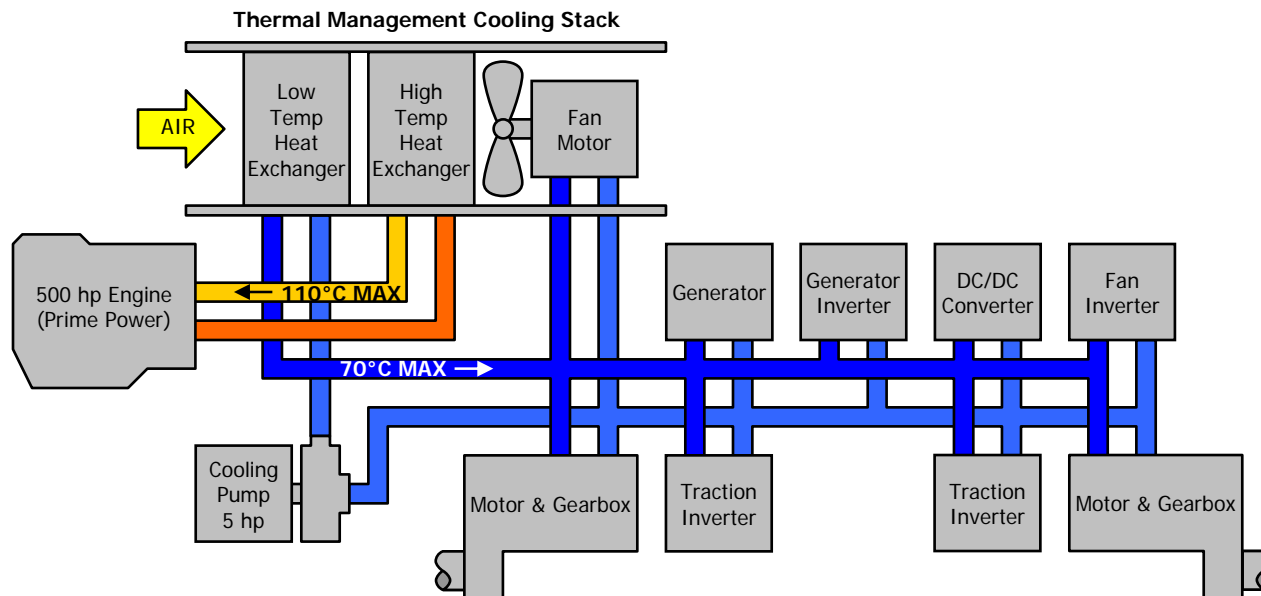
Baseline Case – Thermal Audit

- Energy Balance gives loads for electronic components & motors
 - Cooling pump/inverter assumed air-cooled
 - Batteries assumed air-cooled
 - Electronics and motors assumed water-cooled (EGW/PGW)
- Representative engine loading to TMS
 - Engine block (86.2 kW)
 - Oil cooler (53.6 kW)
 - CAC assumed packaged with engine (air-to-air)
- Two cooling circuits
 - Low temperature circuit addresses electronics and motors (102.9 kW total)
 - High temperature circuit addresses engine needs (139.8 kW total)



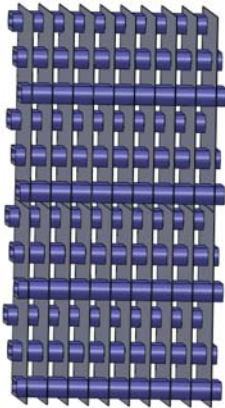
Baseline Case – TMS Layout

- Two cooling circuits
 - Low temperature circuit addresses electronics and motors (102.9 kW total)
 - High temperature circuit addresses engine needs (139.8 kW total)
- All components on low temperature circuit plumbed in parallel with 70°C maximum allowable supply coolant temperature
- Low temperature coolant flow rate assumed to be 40 gpm
- High temperature coolant supplied by engine cooling pump (component-level thermal equipment)
- High temperature coolant flow rate assumed 80 gpm with 110°C maximum allowable supply temperature
- Heat exchangers assumed in series with respect to cooling air
- Climatic Conditions: Category A1 – Hot Dry: 49°C ambient

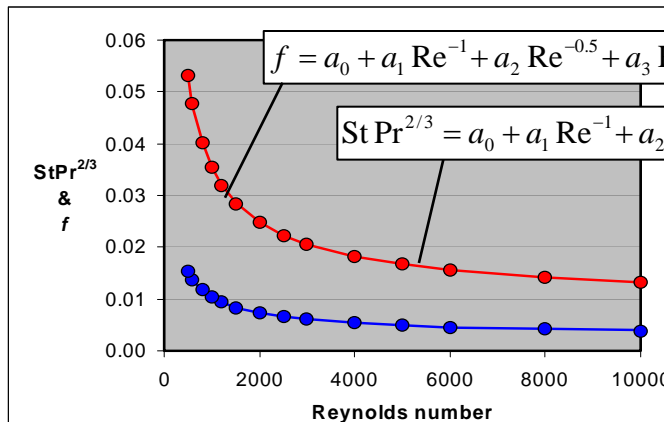


Baseline Case – TMS Sizing

- Determine heat exchanger stack size through knowledge of load and HX core performance
 - Stanton number correlation establishes heat transfer for a specific core geometry
 - Establishes core size (frontal area, depth and flow requirements)
- Establish expected air pathway pressure head loss
 - Friction factor correlation for HX core
 - Ducting pathway
 - Inlet/exhaust ballistic grill contributions
- Check pressure demand against fan performance curves
- Re-estimate fan power demand and check against energy balance calculations
- Iterate Steps 1-4 as necessary to generate convergence



Common Staggered Flattened Tube Extended Fin Core Arrangement



Finned Tube Surface 9.1-0.737S
<Compact Heat Exchangers - Kays & London, 1984>

$$f = a_0 + a_1 Re^{-1} + a_2 Re^{-0.5} + a_3 Re^{-0.2}$$

$$St Pr^{2/3} = a_0 + a_1 Re^{-1} + a_2 Re^{-0.5} + a_3 Re^{-0.2}$$

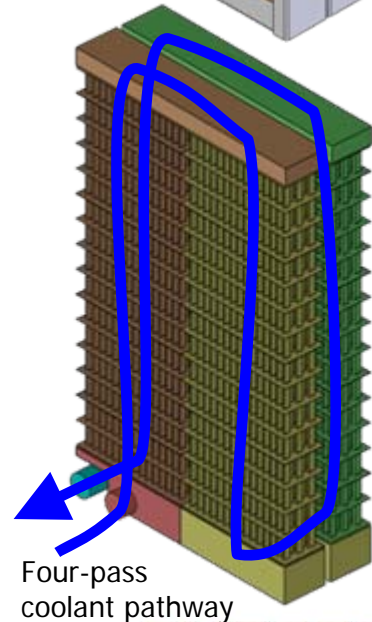
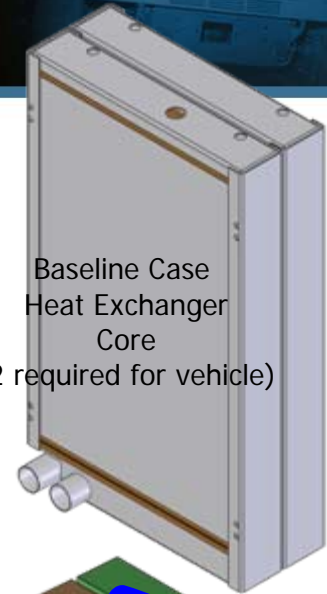
Constants	f	StPr ^{2/3}
a ₀	0.0096	0.0048
a ₁	8.2596	1.0171
a ₂	0.8230	0.3837
a ₃	-0.0338	-0.0301

Friction Factor & Stanton Number Correlation Coefficients

Surface Designation	Tube Arrangement	Fin Type	Tube Length (parallel to flow)		Tube Width (normal to flow)		Fins/in	Hydraulic Diameter		Fin Thickness		Free Flow/Frontal Area	Heat Transfer Area/Total Volume		Fin Area/Total Area
			in	10 ⁻³ m	in	10 ⁻³ m		ft	10 ⁻³ m	ft	10 ⁻³ m		ft ² /ft ³	m ² /m ³	
9.1-0.737S	Staggered	Plain	0.737	18.7	0.100	2.5	9.1	0.01380	4.21	0.004	0.102	0.788	224	735	0.813

Baseline Heat Exchanger Geometrical Properties <Compact Heat Exchangers – Kays & London, 1984>

Baseline Case – Heat Exchanger Performance Evaluation



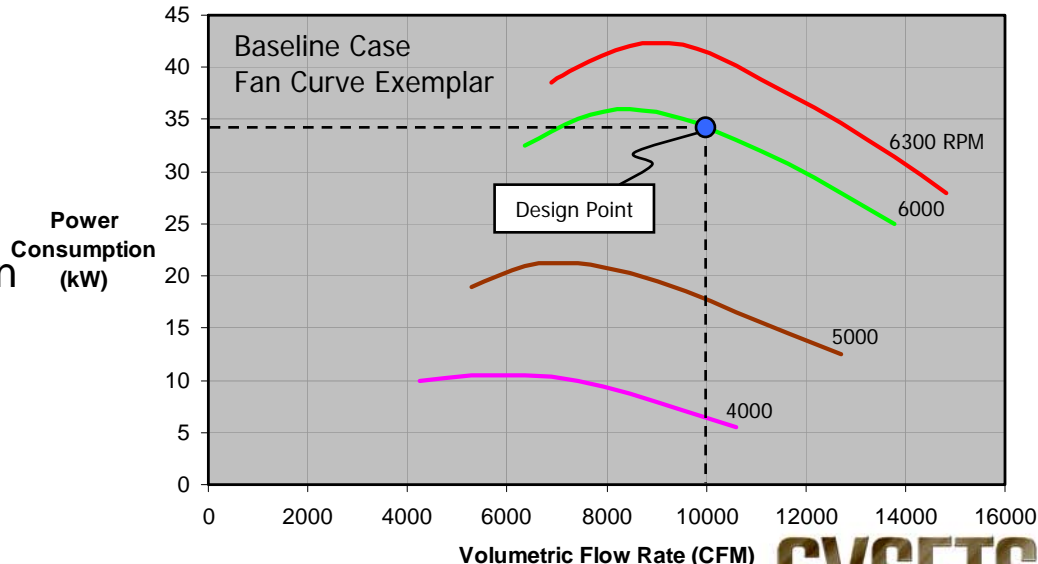
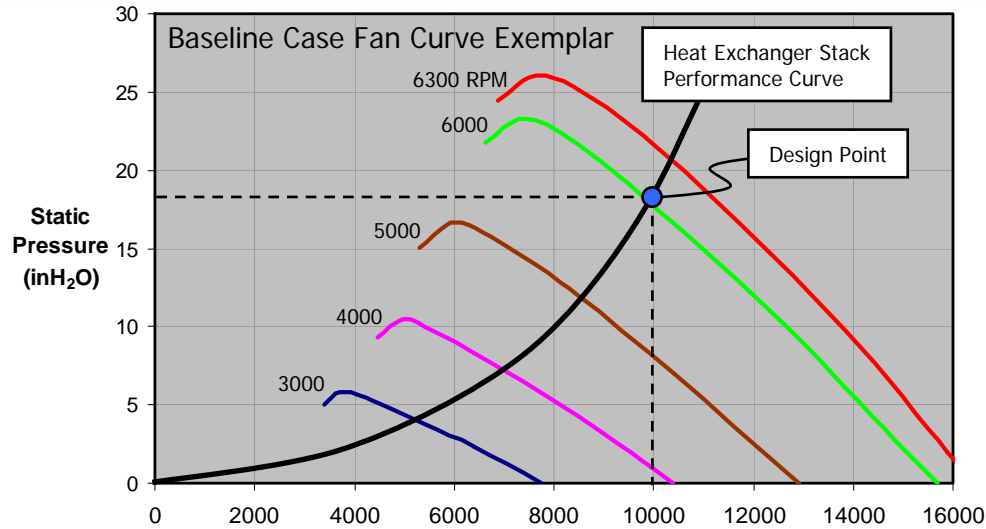
Four-pass coolant pathway

- Heat exchanger performance evaluation based upon assumed packaging restrictions
 - Two heat exchangers in series with respect to air flow (i.e. – heat exchangers share common air flow)
 - Plumbing considerations impose a four-pass heat exchanger layout
- Assumed vehicle packaging considerations impose width restriction (mounted on vehicle sponson or similar)
- Analysis based upon core performance correlations (Stanton #) for baseline heat exchanger aspect ratio dictates:
 - Approximately 10,000 CFM airflow requirement to meet heat rejection needs
 - 49°C ambient dry air (no humidity corrections included)
 - Low temperature core heat rejection of 102.9 kW
 - High temperature core heat rejection of 139.8 kW
 - Air flow assumed uniform and well-mixed between heat exchanger core sections
 - Heat exchanger cores assumed clean (no internal/external fouling) and tube wall conduction resistance is negligible

Baseline Case – TMS Design Point Operations

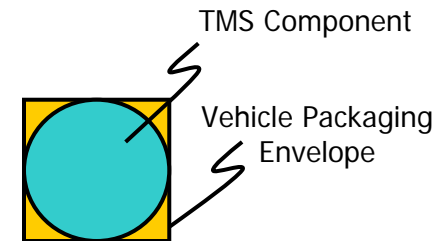


- Heat exchanger core performance correlation (friction factor) establishes estimated pressure drop as a function of air flow
 - For 10,000 CFM each core loses approximately 6.5 inH₂O
- Airflow pathway may include ballistic grills, heat exchanger cores and flow routing ductwork
 - Actual performance would require detailed CFM analysis – for this case we've assumed a heat exchanger stack performance curve (shown on figure at right)
- Stack performance curve (pressure as a function of flow rate) is mapped against fan curve(s) to establish operational design point
 - 10,000 CFM flow rate
 - 6000 RPM fan speed
 - 34 kW fan power consumption**





- Identify component-level TMS equipment versus system-level equipment
- Evaluate packaging envelope as it impacts the vehicle
 - Includes overall vehicle size impact rather than just the volume of the component (not a shrink-wrapped solution)
 - ‘Round component in a vehicle’s square hole’ effect
 - May become extremely significant when considering plumbing runs, fittings, valves etc.
- Components to be included in weight & volume estimates
 - TMS components to include heat exchangers, pumps, fans, controllers, reservoirs, plumbing, ductwork, grills, and coolant inventory
- Baseline system estimates:
 - TMS Volume 30 ft³
 - TMS Weight 1100 lbs



Baseline Case with Proposed TMS Metrics



- **Packaging Metric** – Audit of TMS component size and weight
 - Compare cumulative TMS component size/weight to:
 - Vehicle mobility component size/weight audit
 - Overall vehicle size/weight
$$\text{TMS Weight Metric} = \frac{\text{TMS Weight}}{\text{Vehicle Weight}} = \frac{(1100/2000)}{30 \text{ ton}} \times 100 = 1.8\%$$
- **Hotel Load Metric** – Audit of vehicle TMS comparing hotel load to deliverable vehicle tractive power
 - Baseline case – 3.7 kW pumping power, 34 kW fan power, 450 kW deliverable tractive
$$\text{Hotel Load Metric} = \frac{\text{Thermal Hotel Load}}{\text{Tractive Power}} = \frac{(3.7 + 34)}{450} \times 100 = 8.4\%$$
- **Thermal Load Metric** – Audit of vehicle thermal load to deliverable tractive power
 - Baseline case: LT=102.9 kW, HT = 139.8 kW, 450 kW deliverable tractive
$$\text{Thermal Load Metric} = \frac{\text{Vehicle Thermal Load}}{\text{Tractive Power}} = \frac{(102.9 + 139.8)}{450} \times 100 = 53.9\%$$
- **Operational Thermal Margin** – Comparison of maximum heat rejection capability to design point
 - Baseline Case – design point heat rejection 242.7 kW
 - Maximum Capability – estimated at 253 kW
$$\text{Operational Thermal Margin} = \frac{\text{Maximum - Design Point Load}}{\text{TMS Maximum Capability}} = \frac{(253 - 242.7)}{253} \times 100 = 4.1\%$$



Proposed Vehicle TMS Metrics in Action...

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- Proposed metrics result in quantitative descriptors for vehicle TMS
 - Other climatic conditions/operational points will yield different metric values
 - Comparison of metrics from other TMS designs generates quantitative comparison of systems
 - Component-level changes can be evaluated by comparing resulting system metrics (i.e. trade-offs)
- Operational margin allows fine-tuning
 - Large margin can be used to justify component-level changes to save cost/weight/volume at expense of TMS performance
 - Small margin signals requirement for improved component and system-level performance

- **Conceptual Vehicles**

- Packaging Metric
- Hotel Load Metric
- Thermal Load Metric
- Operational Thermal Margin

- **Existing Vehicles**

- Evaluate Packaging Metric
- Hotel Load Metric
- Thermal Load Metric
- Establish performance limitations through operational data to evaluate operational thermal margin (if any) and/or performance deficits

- **Evaluating Component Alterations**

- Easily identify packaging implications
- Operational setpoint evaluations (e.g. – impact of higher operating temperature)
 - Needs model (as was developed for baseline case) to evaluate
 - May impose system layout changes (e.g. – series vs parallel)