

University of Nottingham

### A novel refrigerantfree ventilation and heating system

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- Heat pumps
- Historical origins
- Systems thinking
- Calculations
- Challenges



Proposed Solution

Bellofram Elastomers, Class 3 diaphragm Class 3 | Bellofram Elastomers



# Heat pump – and what really matters

- What is a heat pump?
- What matters most ...
  <u>COP in cold weather</u>





# **Historical Origins**

- Lord Kelvin
- Heat powered heat pump
- Heats space directly by injecting warm air



Kelvin's proposed concept- 'Heat Multiplier' patent 1852.



# Systems thinking

#### Combining the compressor and expander systems



- 1. Expander
- 2. Machine providing work
- 3. Compressor
- Heat exchanger with atmospheric air
- 5. Heat exchanger with air leaving building
- A. Expanded air
- B. Expanded air raised to atmospheric temp
- C. Expanded air heated by outgoing air
- D. Compressed hot air
- E. Outgoing hot air





# Systems thinking

- Heat recovery units
  - MVHR







# • Temperature and pressure ratios • $\frac{T_2}{T_1} = \frac{p_2 \frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma}}{p_1}$

Coefficient of Performance

•  $CoP = \frac{heat in}{electrical power}$ 

$$\begin{split} \gamma &= 1.4 \ for \ air \\ \frac{p_2}{p_1} &= 0.85 \\ Temperature_{ratio} &= 0.955 \\ (1 - T_{ratio}) \times 273 &= 12.4 \ ^\circ \mathrm{C} \end{split}$$



- Need to have high efficiencies in both compressor and expander
  - Equivalent to >95% individually to make it feasible
- Pressure ratios close to 1
- Coefficient of Performance
  - Matters most when external temperatures are low





# **Proposed Solution**

- Compander with rolling membranes
- All pistons to move in unison
  - Work out of expander goes straight to work into compressor
- Downstroke:
  - Compressor- increases pressure of air and then discharges this into desired space
  - Expander- at ambient pressure and allows air out through valve
- Upstroke:
  - Compressor- takes air into chamber
  - Expander- valve closes before it reaches the top to expand air





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