

# A Wind Driven Power-Generating System: Preliminary Modeling and Analysis of Power Curves

---

Sonya Marthai  
Donald Merriam, Jr.  
Ronald Rohe

Houghton College  
Physics Department

# Outline

---

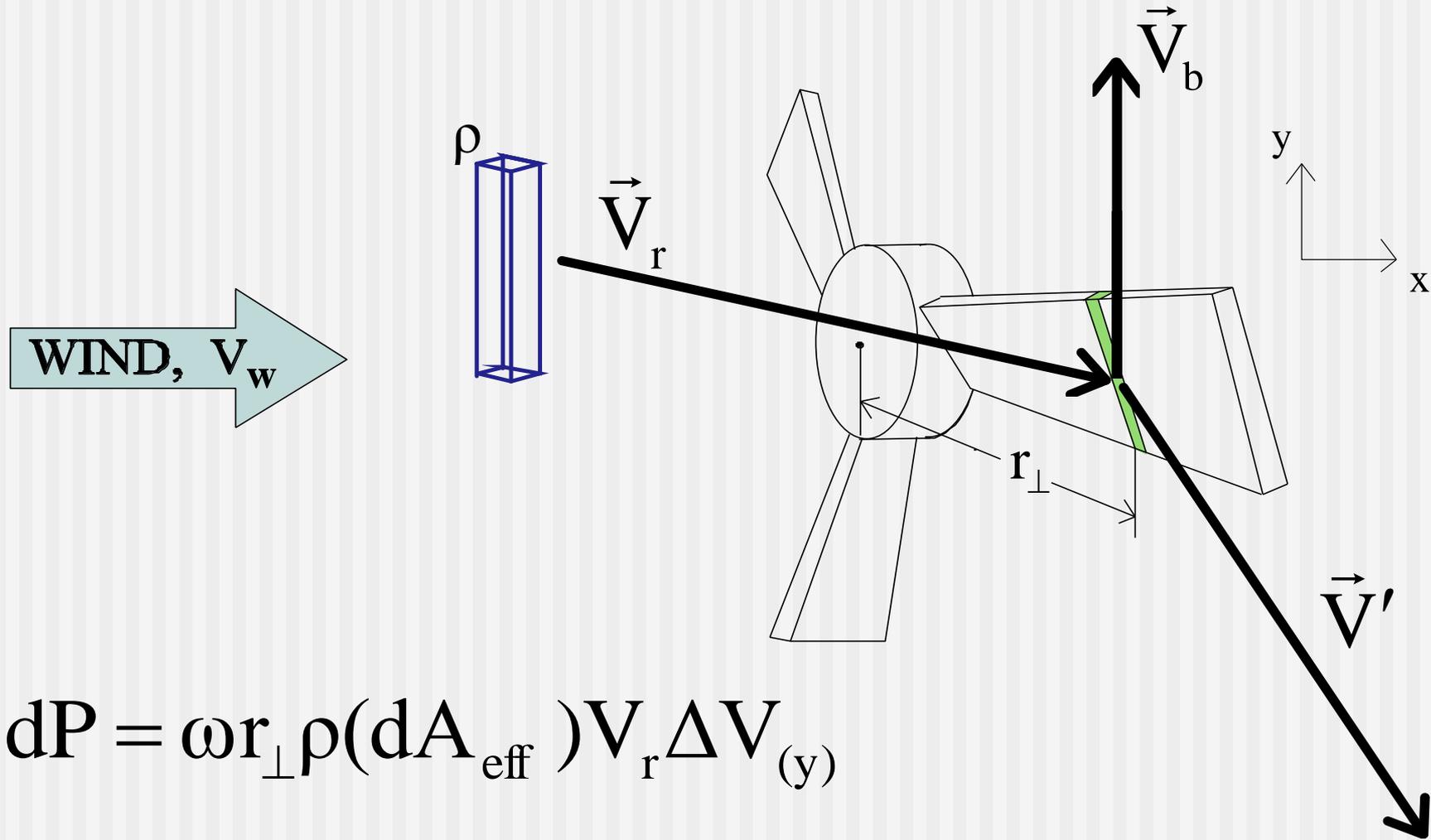
- Background and purpose
- Power Equation
- Preliminary evaluation

# Background and Purpose

---

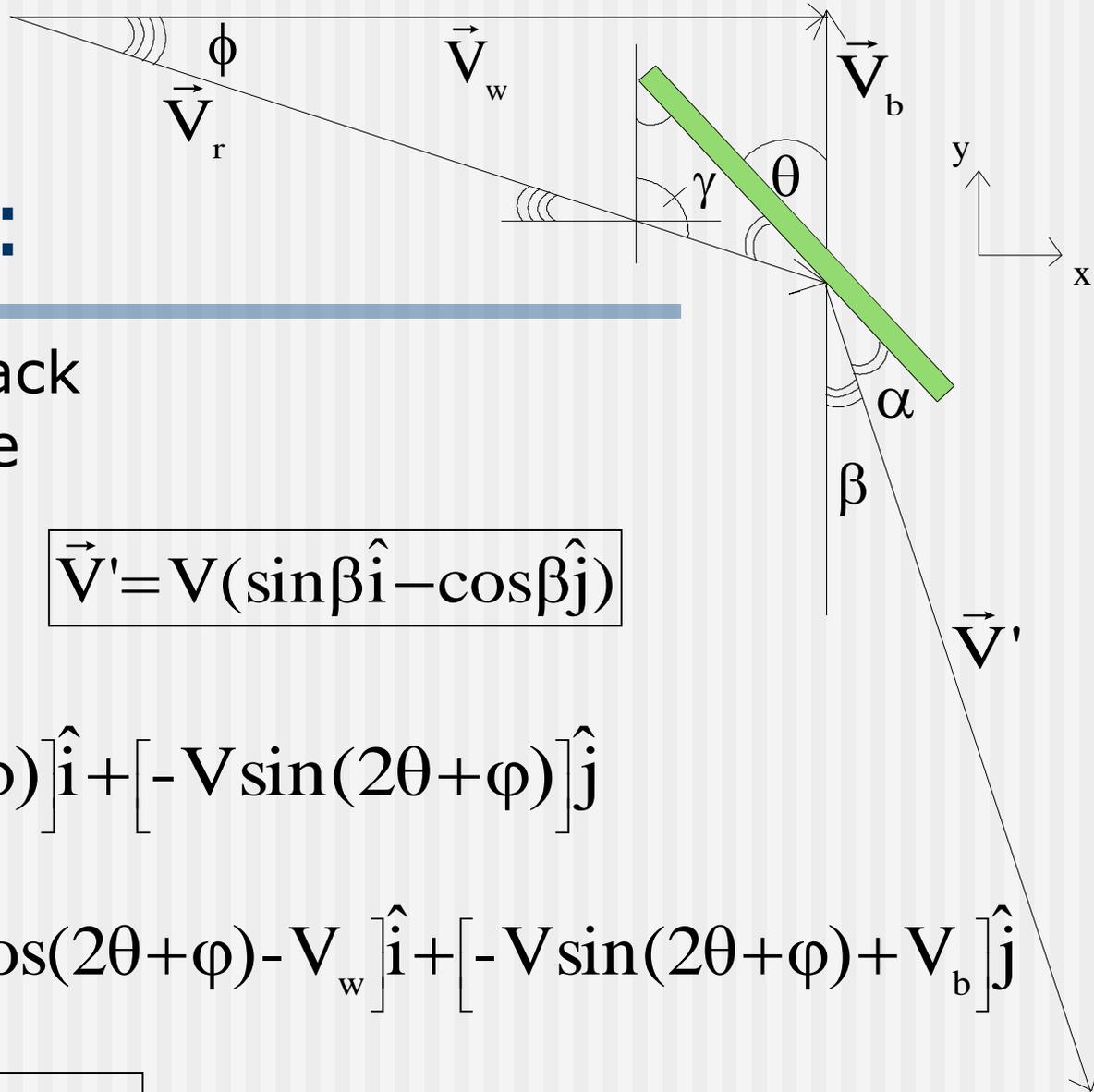
- Why wind power?
- Why our own design?

# Derivation of power equation:



$$dP = \omega r_{\perp} \rho (dA_{\text{eff}}) V_r \Delta V_{(y)}$$

# Finding $\Delta V$ :



$\alpha$  = angle of attack  
 $\theta$  = setting angle

$$\vec{V}_r = V_w \hat{i} - V_b \hat{j}$$

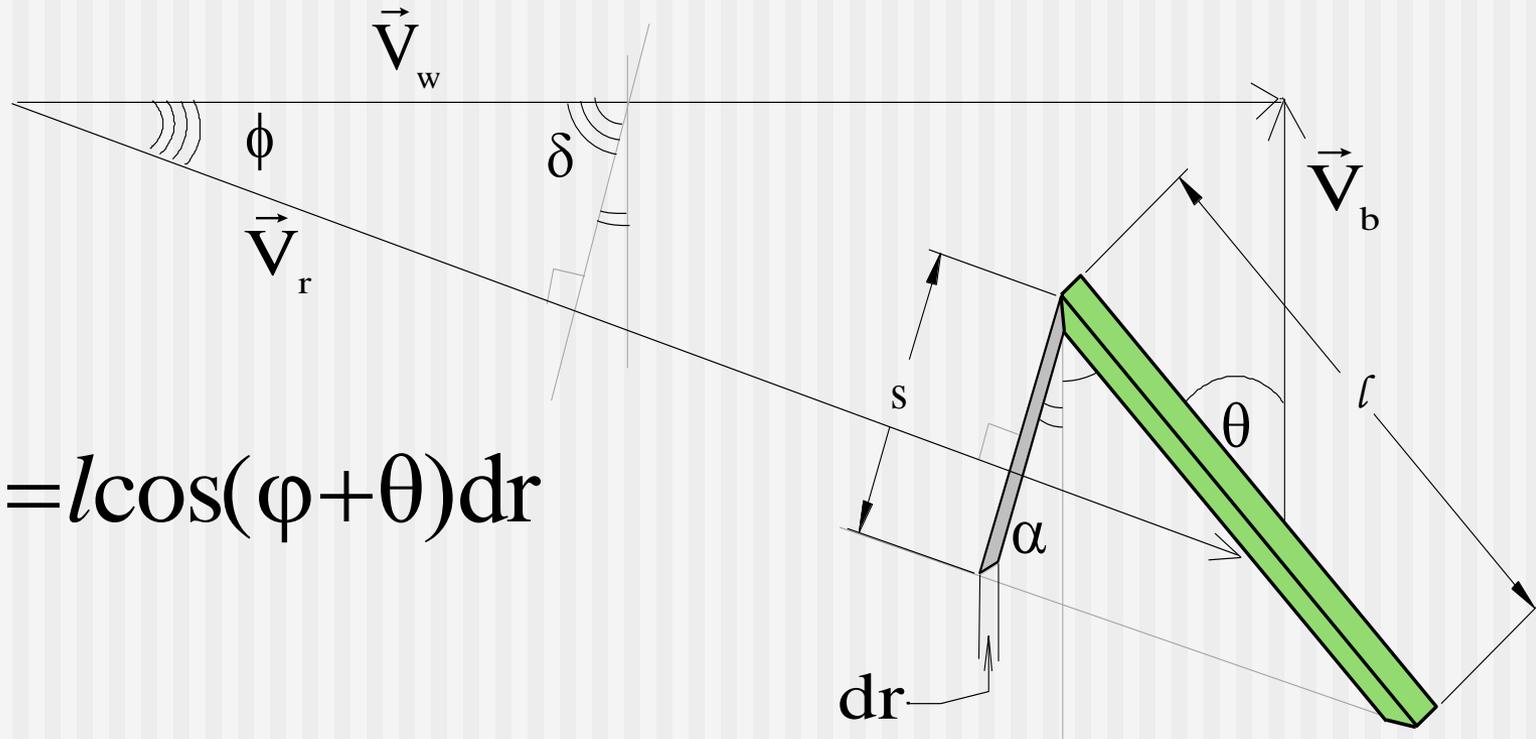
$$\vec{V}' = V(\sin\beta \hat{i} - \cos\beta \hat{j})$$

$$\vec{V}' = [-V \cos(2\theta + \phi)] \hat{i} + [-V \sin(2\theta + \phi)] \hat{j}$$

$$\Delta \vec{V} = \vec{V}' - \vec{V}_r = [-V \cos(2\theta + \phi) - V_w] \hat{i} + [-V \sin(2\theta + \phi) + V_b] \hat{j}$$

$$\Delta \vec{V}_y = -V \sin(2\theta + \phi) + V_b$$

# Finding $A_{\text{eff}}$ :



$$dA_{\text{eff}} = l \cos(\phi + \theta) dr$$

$$dP = (r\omega [\rho (1 \cos(\phi + \theta)) V] (V \sin(2\theta + \phi) - (V_b)) dr$$

# Finding Power:

$$P = \int_a^b (r\omega \left[ \rho \left( 1 \cos(\varphi + \theta) \right) \right] V) \left( V \sin(2\theta + \varphi) - (r\omega) \right) dr$$

with  $\varphi = \tan^{-1} \frac{r\omega}{V_w}$  and  $V = \sqrt{(r\omega)^2 + V_w^2}$

$$P = \int_a^b (r\omega \left[ \rho \left( 1 \cos \left( \tan^{-1} \frac{r\omega}{V_w} + \theta \right) \right) \left( \sqrt{(r\omega)^2 + V_w^2} \right) \right] \dots$$
$$\dots \left( \left( \sqrt{(r\omega)^2 + V_w^2} \right) \sin \left( 2\theta + \left( \tan^{-1} \frac{r\omega}{V_w} \right) \right) - (r\omega) \right) dr$$

# Finding Maximum Power

---

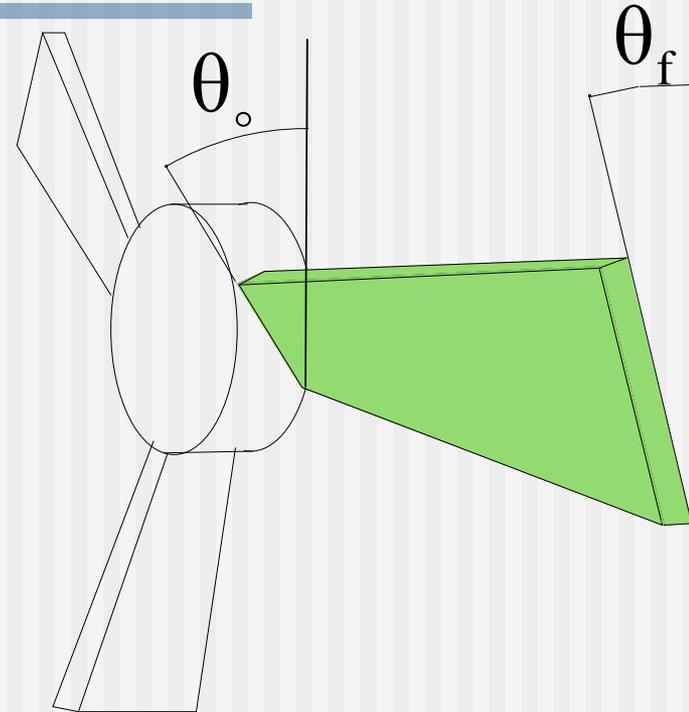
- MATLAB programming
- Several types of search methods:
  - visual, comparative, simplex
- Equation refinement ( $\theta$  and  $\omega$ )

## $\theta$ dependence on $r$ :

$$\theta = \theta_0 e^{-3r/2L}$$

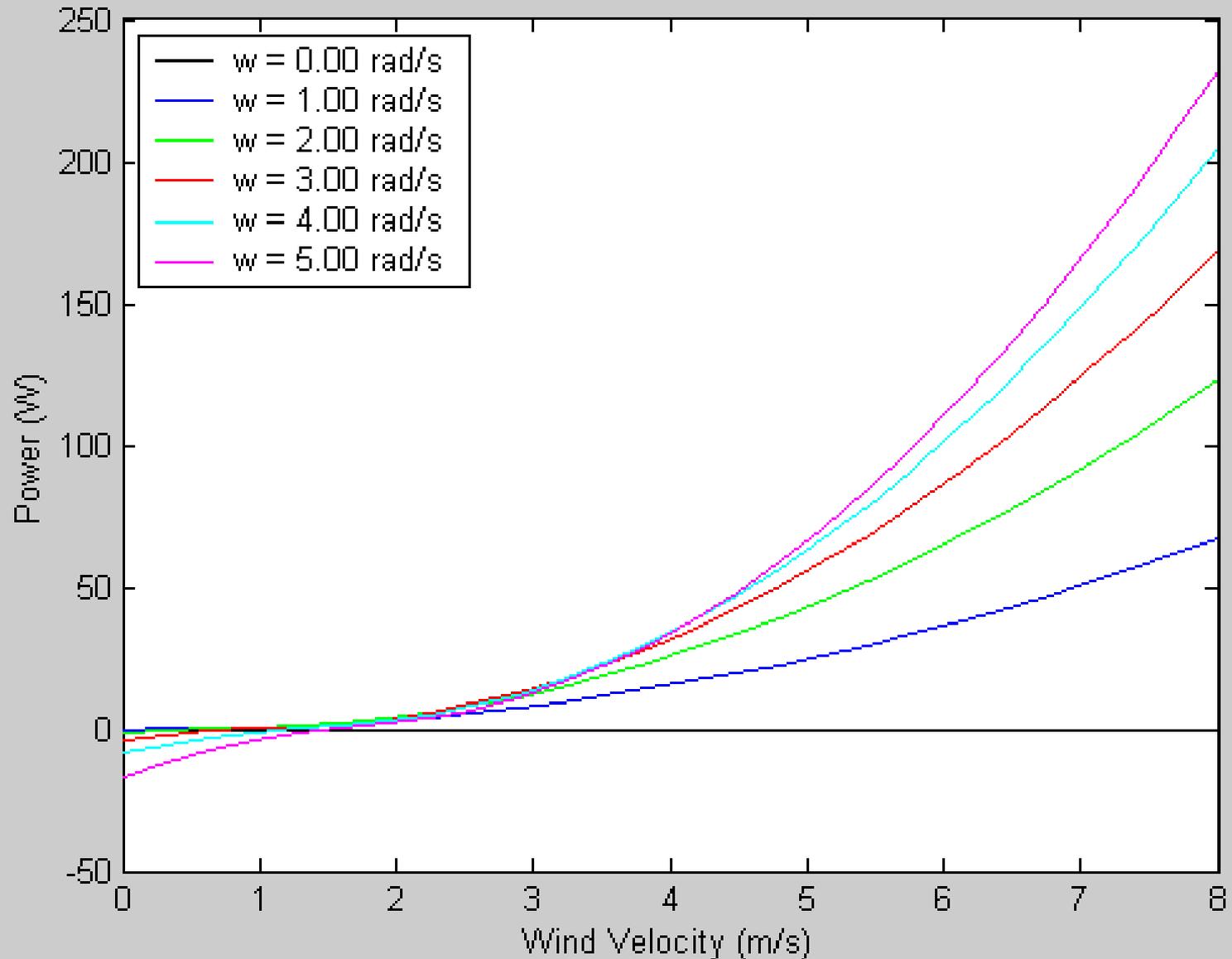
## $\omega$ dependence on $V$ :

$$\omega = \omega_0 V$$

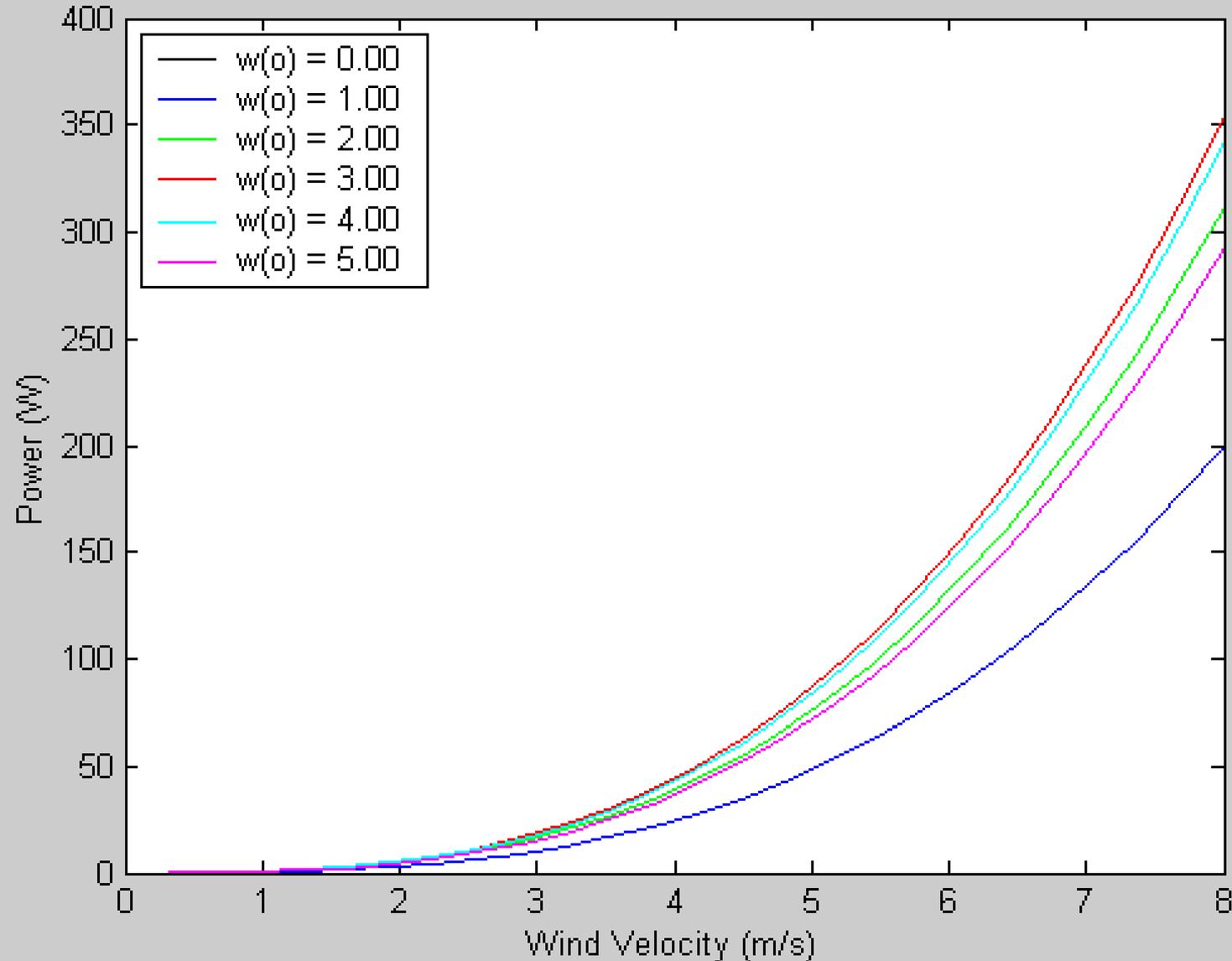


Constant values:  $\rho = 1.21\text{kg/m}^3$ ,  
 $L = 1.5\text{m}$ ,  
 $a = 0.1\text{m}$ ,  $b = 1.5\text{m}$

Angular velocity and theta are constant ( $\theta = 18^\circ$ ).



Angular velocity varies with wind velocity ( $\omega = \omega_0 V$ ), and theta varies exponentially with r ( $\theta = q \exp(-2r/3L)$ ,  $q = 18$ ).



# Improvements yet to be done:

---

- include frictional forces and airfoil shape
- vary blade width
- compare power curves to known turbine performances

Questions?