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Optimal Control Based Algorithms for Energy Management of Automotive Power Systems with Battery/Supercapacitor Storage Devices

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Abstract—The objective of this work is to show how to control the electric power systems of a vehicle in such a manner that their power flows should be optimized in the sense of energy efficiency. As will be seen, the control problem considered in this work can be formulated as an optimization problem in the presence of several constraints. A systematic approach based on optimal control will be adopted to design the energy management strategies. Then, by means of these strategies, the electric energy will be generated and stored in the most appropriate manner so that the overall energy consumption and eventually the pollutant emissions can be minimized for a given driving cycle. To this end, both non-causal optimization method using the knowledge of the entire driving cycle and causal one are developed for two case studies with different structures of energy storage system. These strategies are then evaluated in an advanced simulation environment to point out their effectiveness.

Index Terms—Energy management system, vehicular electric power system, battery and supercapacitor, Pontryagin's minimum principle, state constraints.

1. Introduction

Over the years, the demand of electric power consumption in conventional vehicle has become more and more important. This is due to the fact that automotive customers are more and more demanding in terms of performance, comfort and safety for their new vehicles. Hence, the number of auxiliary electric-powered devices has been constantly increased in modern vehicles, e.g. active
suspension, electric brakes, catalyst heaters, etc. This increasing demand tends to double or triple the
current vehicle electric load [1]. Besides improving the efficiency of the electric components, an
effective energy management strategy (EMS) is also crucial to minimize the overall energy
consumption of the vehicle.

In this work, the key feature of the studied vehicle consists in the presence of an electrical
supercharger (eSC) in the turbocharged air system of the spark-ignition (SI) engine. This device aims
at assisting the main turbocharger to reduce the effects of "turbo lag", i.e. slow engine torque
dynamics and lack of torque at low speeds. As a consequent, the drivability is significantly improved.
The energy consumption of the eSC is provided by the vehicular electric power system. To this end,
the vehicle is equipped with an advanced alternator which is controlled in power. Note that this
alternator is directly coupled to the vehicle primary shaft; therefore, the engine operating point can be
shifted by controlling the alternator output power. This fact offers one degree of freedom for energy
optimization as in the case of classical parallel hybrid electric vehicles. However, this small capacity
alternator is exclusively used to generate the energy for the electric power system and cannot assist
the internal combustion engine (ICE) to propel the vehicle. Note also that the considered alternator
can also recover the kinetic and potential energy during the regenerative braking phases. This "free
energy" is then stored in the energy storage system (ESS) and will be used later in appropriate ways.

From the above remarks, it is clear that the energy management becomes very attractive to
improve the overall energy efficiency of the studied vehicle. Because of industrial specifications, the
developed strategies have to satisfy several objectives. First, they can offer a global optimal solution
when the driving conditions are perfectly known in advance, i.e. offline situations. Second, their
adaptations for real-world driving situations (i.e. online situations) are straightforward and the
resulting causal strategies behave closely as the global optimal ones. Third, the developed strategies
must be simple to be implementable with limited computation and memory resources. Fourth, the
strategies are based on a systematic approach so that they can be applicable to a large spectrum of
component dimension without the need for extensive calibration. For all these reasons, the developed
EMSs will be based on an optimal control approach using physical component models of the vehicle.

Because of the relevance to this work, a brief overview concerning the optimal based energy
management issue for hybrid electric vehicle [2,3] will be provided. In automotive framework, there
are mainly two methods based on optimal control theory which may offer a globally optimal result in
offline situations: Dynamic Programming (DP) [4] and Pontryagin’s Minimum Principle (PMP) [5].

DP-based strategies are known to be very costly in terms of computation. Numerous efforts have
been devoted to reduce the computation time [6]. These strategies are often used for offline purposes
(performance evaluation, component sizing) [7]. Some adapted online versions can be found in
[8,9,10]. Concerning the strategies based on PMP, their optimum could not be global as in the case of
DP since the PMP only provides necessary optimality conditions. However, they are much more
computationally efficient and the online adaptation is more straightforward. This is the main reason
why we only deal with PMP approach in this work. In the literature, many results exist on PMP-
based strategies [11,12] or the related Equivalent Consumption Minimization Strategies (ECMS)
[13,14]. Besides optimal control based approaches, some rule-based methods for energy management
can also be found in literature, see [15,16,17] and references therein.

The main focus of this paper is to propose a systematic approach to design the energy
management strategies that optimize the power flow of the vehicular electric power system. To this
end, both online and offline strategies are considered. Thank to these optimal based EMSs, the
overall energy consumption of the vehicle is minimized under all driving situations. A preliminary
study on the choice of the structure of energy storage system was carried out by our industrial
partners. From that, two case studies of electric power system with the same vehicle architecture will
be considered. These choices are mainly due to the acceptable cost especially for the energy storage
devices compared to conventional hybrid vehicles. The first case study is as in a conventional vehicle
where only the battery is used to provide all onboard electric consumption and to make the electric
power system more robust against peak-power demands. In this case, the EMS will exploit the freedom that the battery offers to the alternator in deciding the moment to generate electric power. This degree of freedom is generally not used [10]. For the second case study, a hybrid storage system combining a supercapacitor [18] together with a battery will be used. Such a hybrid storage system has been widely used in automotive industry since it has both the high energy density of the battery and the high power density of the supercapacitor [19]. The supercapacitor aims at providing high currents during hard transition phases to protect the battery from fatal damages caused by over-discharge [2]. The supercapacitor is also used to store energy from regenerative braking and to reduce the battery size [19]. As will be seen, battery/supercapacitor hybrid energy storage system is more flexible in terms of optimization than the first one since it offers two degrees of freedom for EMS. However the electric structure and the control design are more complex than the first case.

In this work, we assume that the state constraints concerning the battery are not critical for optimization problem since it can be oversized. However, the supercapacitor may quickly charge and discharge due to its low specific energy compared to the battery [15]. Hence, the state constraints of the supercapacitor should be taken into account. To this end, a new form of penalty function will be proposed by introducing a dummy variable in the expression of the Hamiltonian. The strategies developed in this work are simple to implement, efficient in terms of fuel reduction and of computation times. They can be directly applied to parallel hybrid electric vehicles, and the formulation can be easily generalized to a large family of hybrid vehicles.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 first presents the studied vehicle structure with its two different electric power systems. Then, the models of some vehicle components used for control purpose are provided. In Section 3, the optimal control problems are formulated for both case studies and the Pontryagin's Minimum Principle is then applied to design the EMSs. Section 4 is devoted to the implementation issue of the developed EMSs on an advanced dynamic vehicle simulator and the analysis of the obtained results. To this end, the brief description of simulator is first given. Then, a
discussion on how to use the optimal control outputs and also a simple adaptation idea to obtain
causal strategies from optimal ones are presented. Next, the simulation results are performed to show
the effectiveness of the developed strategies. Finally, a conclusion is given in Section 5.

2. Vehicle Description and Control-Based Models

The considered vehicle architecture is depicted in Figure 1. The notations are given in Appendix.

The vehicle is equipped with a conventional powertrain with 5-speed manual transmission. The
alternator is connected to the engine with a fixed gear ratio. The only difference between the two
considered case studies consists in their electric power system, i.e. the "Electric System" block in
Figure 1. The power flow of both case studies is described below.

2.1. Case study 1: Single storage electric power system

The power flow in this case is sketched in Figure 2. The direction of the arrows corresponds to the
direction of the energy exchange between different components.
The ICE produces the mechanical power $P_{\text{ice}}$ from chemical energy (fuel). This mechanical power $P_{\text{ice}}$ is divided into two parts. The first part $P_{dr}$ is used for vehicle propulsion. The second one $P_{alt,m}$ is delivered to the alternator and then converted to electrical power $P_{alt,e}$. The alternator generates the power to satisfy the demand $P_{\text{loads}}$ of all onboard auxiliaries including the eSC. It is also used to charge the battery when necessary. The battery power $P_{\text{bat}}$ can be negative (when it is charged by the alternator) as well as positive (when it provides electric power for all electrical loads). It should be noticed that the eSC is controlled by engine control unit (ECU) which is out of the present work scope. However, its energy consumption profile is known and will be considered as an input of the developed EMSs.

2.2. Case study 2: Dual storage electric power system

A sketch of the power flow in this case is depicted in Figure 3. It is worth noting that Case study 1 is nothing else than a special case of Case study 2 where the supercapacitor and the DC/DC converter are removed from the electric power system.

It can be observed that the consumption of onboard auxiliaries $P_{\text{aux}}$ can be powered either by the alternator or by the battery. The battery is also used to charge the supercapacitor through the DC/DC converter. However, the supercapacitor cannot charge the battery in this electric structure; it is exclusively used to power the eSC.
2.3. Vehicle Control-Based Model

The control models are used to develop the energy optimization algorithm. At each sampling time, the energy optimization algorithm computes the optimal control sequences that minimize the energy consumption of the vehicle. For real-time applications, the control model should have a very limited complexity. Hereafter, some control models of the components of interest for both case studies will be described. It is worth noting that for confidentiality reasons with our industrial partners, all figures showing the data of system components are slightly scaled so that the characteristics of these components will not be revealed.

2.3.1. Internal combustion engine

ICE is a complex system where many physical phenomena are not easy to model, e.g. combustion process [20]. However, from an energetic point of view some assumptions can be considered. Here, the temperature dependency and the dynamic behavior of the ICE will be neglected. Then, ICE is characterized by a static look-up-table (LUT) giving the instantaneous fuel consumption in function of the engine torque and the engine speed, see Figure 4.

![Figure 4. Representation of the instantaneous fuel consumption of the studied engine](image)

Moreover, at a given engine speed, the engine torque is physically limited by its maximum available torque. This characteristic is also represented by a static LUT.
2.3.2. Alternator

The alternator is characterized by some static LUTs as in the case of ICE. The first one, shown in Figure 5, provides the alternator efficiency as a function of the rotary speed and the current. The second LUT needed for the alternator average model provides the maximum current that the alternator can produce as a function of the rotary speed and the current, see Figure 6.

![Figure 5. Representation of the alternator efficiency](image1)

![Figure 6. Representation of the alternator maximal current](image2)

For energy management strategy design, another LUT providing the maximum available torque at a given alternator speed is also needed. This one guarantees that the alternator torque is always within
its physical limitation. Note that the alternator only works in generator mode, so its current is conventionally positive and is assumed to be measured for the optimization design problem.

2.3.3. Battery

For control purpose, the thermal-temperature effects of the battery are usually neglected. Then, the only state variable left in the battery is its state of charge (SOC) whose dynamics equation is given as follows:

\[
\dot{SOC}_{\text{bat}}(t) = -\frac{I_{\text{bat}}(SOC_{\text{bat}}(t))}{Q_{\text{bat},0}}; \quad SOC_{\text{bat}}(0) = SOC_{\text{bat},0}
\]  

(1)

where the initial state of charge \(SOC_{\text{bat},0}\) and the nominal capacity \(Q_{\text{bat},0}\) of the battery are given. The expression of the battery current can be given as [8]:

\[
I_{\text{bat}}(SOC_{\text{bat}}(t)) = \frac{U_{\text{oc}}(SOC_{\text{bat}}(t)) - \sqrt{U_{\text{oc}}^2(SOC_{\text{bat}}(t)) - 4R_{\text{bat}}(SOC_{\text{bat}}(t))P_{\text{bat}}(t)}}{2R_{\text{bat}}(SOC_{\text{bat}}(t))}  
\]

(2)

where \(P_{\text{bat}}(t)\) is the battery power at the terminal voltage.

2.3.4. Supercapacitor

After neglecting all complex thermal-electrochemical dynamics, the only state variable left in the supercapacitor is its voltage \(U_c\) which is the image of its available energy amount:

\[
\dot{U}_c(t) = -\frac{I_{\text{sc}}(U_c(t))}{C_{\text{sc}}}; \quad U_c(0) = U_{c,0}
\]

(3)

where the capacitance \(C_{\text{sc}}\) and the initial voltage \(U_{c,0}\) of the supercapacitor are constant and given. Similar to the battery, the supercapacitor current expression can be also given as:

\[
I_{\text{sc}}(U_c(t)) = \frac{U_c(t) - \sqrt{U_c^2(t) - 4R_{\text{sc}}P_{\text{sc}}(t)}}{2R_{\text{sc}}}
\]

(4)

where \(P_{\text{sc}}(t)\) is the supercapacitor power at the terminal voltage.
2.3.5. DC/DC converter

The DC/DC converter is simply modeled by the following efficiency rate:

\[ \eta_{DC} = \frac{P_{DC,o}(t)}{P_{DC,i}(t)} \]  

(5)

where \( P_{DC,o}(t) \) and \( P_{DC,i}(t) \) are respectively converter output and input powers. The efficiency of the DC/DC converter is given.

3. Optimal Control Based Energy Management

Hereafter, the optimization problem is formulated for two case studies:

- Case study 1: single storage electric power system
- Case study 2: dual storage electric power system

Next, the PMP will be applied to derive the energy management strategies for these both cases.

3.1. Problem Formulation

3.1.1. Control objective

In this work, the goal of optimal control is to minimize the fuel consumption over the driving cycle in the time optimization horizon \([0, T]\), then the cost function is expressed by:

\[ J = \int_{0}^{T} Q_{ihc} \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}}(T_{\text{ace}}(t), \omega_{\text{ace}}(t)) \, dt = \int_{0}^{T} P_{\text{fuel}}(T_{\text{ace}}(t), \omega_{\text{ace}}(t)) \, dt \]

(6)

where \( P_{\text{fuel}}(T_{\text{ace}}(t), \omega_{\text{ace}}(t)) \) is the fuel power and the instantaneous fuel consumption of ICE \( \dot{m}_{\text{fuel}}(T_{\text{ace}}(t), \omega_{\text{ace}}(t)) \) is known at a given engine speed \( \omega_{\text{ace}} \) and torque \( T_{\text{ace}} \).

Remark 1: The pollutant emissions can be also incorporated by modifying the cost function (6) as:

\[ \tilde{J} = \int_{0}^{T} \left[ P_{\text{fuel}}(T_{\text{ace}}(t), \omega_{\text{ace}}(t)) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_{i} \dot{m}_{i}(T_{\text{ace}}(t), \omega_{\text{ace}}(t)) \right] \, dt \]

(7)

where \( \alpha_{i} \) are weighting factors provided by designers and the instantaneous pollutant emission rates \( \dot{m}_{i}(T_{\text{ace}}(t), \omega_{\text{ace}}(t)) \) (in general \( NO_x, CO, HC \)) are given by static LUTs. However, the objective to
minimize the pollutant emissions is beyond the scope of this paper; therefore only the cost function of the form (6) will be considered in the sequel.

### 3.1.2. Constraints

#### a. Vehicle architecture constraints

The mechanical relations between torques and speeds of the considered vehicle architecture represented in Figure 1 are given by the equations:

\[
\begin{align*}
T_w(t) &= R(k(t))\eta_{gb}(T_{ice}(t) + \rho T_{alt}(t)) = R(k(t))\eta_{gb}T_{ps}(t) \\
\omega_{w}(t) &= \frac{\omega_{\text{ice}}(t)}{R(k(t))} = \frac{\omega_{\text{alt}}(t)}{\rho R(k(t))}
\end{align*}
\]

(8)

The driving cycle is usually defined by the couple \((\omega_{w}(t), k(t))\). Indeed, when \(\omega_{w}(t)\) and \(k(t)\) are known, the torque requested at the wheels \(T_w(t)\) can be easily derived for the vehicle longitudinal dynamics equation [6]. In this work, engaged gear \(k(t)\) at each moment is chosen by the driver. Then, it can be noticed from (8) that, with a given driving cycle, neither the engine speed nor the alternator speed can be chosen by the energy management strategy, the only degree of freedom of the studied architecture is the alternator torque (or ICE torque).

#### b. Mechanical constraints

Due to the physical limitations of the ICE and the alternator, their speeds and torques are subject to the following constraints:

\[
\begin{align*}
\omega_{\text{ice,min}} \leq \omega_{\text{ice}}(t) &\leq \omega_{\text{ice,max}} \\
\omega_{\text{alt,min}} \leq \omega_{\text{alt}}(t) &\leq \omega_{\text{alt,max}}
\end{align*}
\]

(9)

and

\[
\begin{align*}
T_{\text{ice,min}} \left(\omega_{\text{ice}}(t)\right) \leq T_{\text{ice}}(t) &\leq T_{\text{ice,max}} \left(\omega_{\text{ice}}(t)\right) \\
T_{\text{alt,min}} \left(\omega_{\text{alt}}(t)\right) \leq T_{\text{alt}}(t) &\leq T_{\text{alt,max}} \left(\omega_{\text{alt}}(t)\right)
\end{align*}
\]

(10)

By considering the physical alternator torque limits, the engine torque limits at each instant \(t\) are given as, where the primary shaft torque \(T_{ps}(t) = T_{ice}(t) + \rho T_{alt}(t)\) is derived from the driving cycle:

\[
T_{\text{ice}}(t) \in T_{ice} = \left\{T_{\text{ice}}(t) : T_{\text{ice,min}} \left(\omega_{\text{ice}}(t)\right) \leq T_{\text{ice}}(t) \leq T_{\text{ice,max}} \left(\omega_{\text{ice}}(t)\right)\right\}
\]

(11)
where

\[
\begin{align*}
T_{\text{ice}, \text{min}}(\omega_{\text{ice}}(t)) &= \max\left\{T_{\text{ice}, \text{min}}(\omega_{\text{ice}}(t)), T_p(t) - \rho T_{\text{alt}, \text{max}}(\omega_{\text{alt}}(t))\right\} \\
T_{\text{ice}, \text{max}}(\omega_{\text{ice}}(t)) &= \min\left\{T_{\text{ice}, \text{max}}(\omega_{\text{ice}}(t)), T_p(t) - \rho T_{\text{alt}, \text{min}}(\omega_{\text{alt}}(t))\right\}
\end{align*}
\]

(12)

c. Electric power system constraints: As mentioned above, the only difference between the two considered case studies consists in their energy storage systems. Case study 1 deals only with one battery, see Figure 7. The optimization problem formulation in this case is similar to the one of conventional parallel hybrid electric vehicles with only one system state of the battery (1).

Figure 7. Sketch of the electric structure of Case study 1

From the electric structure in Figure 7, the battery current can be computed as:

\[
I_{\text{bat}}(t) = I_{\text{alt}}(t) - I_{\text{loads}}(t)
\]

(13)

where the electric load current \(I_{\text{loads}}(t)\) is known and represents all onboard auxiliary demand including the consumption of eSC. The current delivered by the alternator \(I_{\text{alt}}(t)\) can be easily derived from the optimal alternator torque at each time step. It is noticed from (13) that if the alternator is optimally controlled, then, the battery use is also indirectly optimized in the sense of energy efficiency.

For Case study 2, both battery and supercapacitor are considered. They are linked by a DC/DC converter. The electric structure of this case is depicted in Figure 8. In this case, the dynamics of the supercapacitor (3) should be considered together with (1) for optimization problem to fully take advantage of all electric structure potential.
In this work, the DC/DC converter controls its output current, i.e. $\lambda_{DC}(t) = I_{DC,o}(t)$. It is noticed that the electric structure of Case study 2 offers a second degree of freedom for optimization problem: the DC/DC output (or input) current. Indeed, if one of these two currents is optimized, the other can be easily deduced from the power relation (5) of DC/DC converter. The battery and supercapacitor currents are respectively computed by the following relations:

\begin{align}
I_{bat}(t) &= I_{alt}(t) - I_{aux}(t) - I_{DC,i}(t) \\
I_{sc}(t) &= I_{DC,o}(t) - I_{esc}(t)
\end{align}

The DC/DC output current is constrained by:

$$I_{DC,o}(t) \in \mathcal{I}_{DC,o} = \left\{ I_{DC,o}(t) : I_{DC,o}(t) \leq I_{DC,o}(t) \leq I_{DC,o}\right\}$$

where $I_{DC,o}$ and $I_{DC,o}$ are respectively the minimum and maximum output current of the converter.

For safe operation and cycle life extension, the battery SOC and battery current are both limited:

\begin{align}
SOC_{bat,min} \leq SOC_{bat}(t) \leq SOC_{bat,max} \\
I_{bat,min} \leq I_{bat}(t) \leq I_{bat,max}
\end{align}

For the supercapacitor, the voltage $U_c$ and the current $I_{sc}$ are subject to the following constraints:

\begin{align}
U_{c,min} \leq U_c(t) \leq U_{c,max} \\
I_{sc,min} \leq I_{sc}(t) \leq I_{sc,max}
\end{align}
Both battery and supercapacitor are considered as energy buffer systems. Therefore, the \textit{charge sustaining condition} should be fulfilled by EMS for both of them. Concretely, one should have
\[
\Delta SOC_{\text{bat}} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta U_e = 0 \quad \text{where:}
\]
\[
\Delta SOC_{\text{bat}} \triangleq SOC_{\text{bat}} (T) - SOC_{\text{bat}} (0) \quad \text{(21)}
\]
\[
\Delta U_e \triangleq U_e (T) - U_e (0) \quad \text{(22)}
\]

3.2. Application of Pontryagin’s Minimum Principle

Next, the PMP will be applied to the two cases. Only offline optimal solutions will be considered in this subsection. Thereafter, for simplicity, the explicit time-dependence of the variables is omitted except for confusing situations.

3.2.1. Case study 1: Single storage electric power system

Taking into account (1) and (6), the Hamiltonian in this case is defined as:
\[
\mathcal{H}(SOC_{\text{bat}}, T_{\text{ice}}, \lambda) = P_{\text{fuel}} (T_{\text{ice}}, \omega_{\text{ice}}) - \lambda \frac{I_{\text{bat}}(SOC_{\text{bat}})}{Q_{\text{bat},0}} \quad \text{(23)}
\]

where the battery current \( I_{\text{bat}}(SOC_{\text{bat}}) \) is computed by (13). The necessary optimality conditions provided by PMP in this case are given as:
\[
\dot{SOC}^*_{\text{bat}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}(\cdot)}{\partial \lambda} = - \frac{I_{\text{bat}}(SOC^*_{\text{bat}})}{Q_{\text{bat},0}}; \quad SOC^*_{\text{bat}} (0) = SOC_{\text{bat},0} \quad \text{(24)}
\]
\[
\dot{\lambda}^* = - \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}(\cdot)}{\partial SOC_{\text{bat}}} = \frac{\dot{\lambda}^*}{Q_{\text{bat},0}} \frac{\partial I_{\text{bat}}(SOC^*_{\text{bat}})}{\partial SOC_{\text{bat}}} \quad \text{(25)}
\]
\[
SOC^*_{\text{bat}} (T) = SOC_{\text{bat},0} \quad \text{(26)}
\]
\[
SOC_{\text{bat,min}} \leq SOC^*_{\text{bat}} \leq SOC_{\text{bat,max}} \quad \text{(27)}
\]
\[
\mathcal{H}(SOC^*_{\text{bat}}, T^*_{\text{ice}}, \lambda^*_{\text{ice}}) \leq \mathcal{H}(SOC^*_{\text{bat}}, T_{\text{ice}}, \lambda^*_{\text{ice}}); \quad \forall t \in [0,T]; \quad \forall T_{\text{ice}} \in T_{\text{ice}} \quad \text{(28)}
\]

Several comments can be made regarding these optimality conditions. First, the conditions (24) and (25) provide respectively the dynamics of the system state and its associated co-state. However,
neither an initial condition nor a final condition on the co-state is available. Second, it is important to emphasize that when the charge sustaining condition guaranteed by (26) is required for the EMS, the battery usually operates only in a small range of SOC [21]. As a consequence, the open circuit voltage and the internal resistance of the battery may not vary so much in this range. Therefore, from (2), it can be concluded that the battery current $I_{bat}(SOC_{bat})$ is not significantly affected by the variation of battery SOC. Combining this fact with condition (25), it follows that:

$$\dot{\lambda}_i = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_i = \lambda_{i0}$$

(29)

where the constant $\lambda_{i0}$ has to be determined. This assumption has been exploited in many other previous works [11,6,21]. Third, our studied battery has an important nominal capacity $Q_{bat,0}$, then, the state constraints (27) will never be violated. Fourth, at each instant $t$, the optimal control $T_{ice}^*$ minimizing the Hamiltonian can be exhaustively searched in the torque admissible set $T_{ice}$ defined in (11). This can be numerically done by testing all torque possibilities of the set $T_{ice}$ at each time step. Hence, the constraints on the control variable $T_{ice}$ are "naturally" considered. Fifth, it is clear that the optimal solution at each instant $t$ depends on the initial conditions of the system state $SOC_{bat,0}$ and the co-state $\lambda_{i0}$. The former initial condition is given, however, the latter on is not known a priori.

The value of $\lambda_{i0}$ depends on boundary condition of the terminal cost at final time $T$, i.e. the future information of the driving conditions. Indeed, the determination/estimation of this value is crucial to reach the optimal solution as close as possible. For offline situations where driving cycles are given in advance, the value of $\lambda_{i0}$ can be iteratively computed by a "root finding algorithm" [11].

3.2.2. Case study 2: Dual storage electric power system

In this case, two dynamical systems (1) and (3) are available for the energy storage system. As previously highlighted, the state constraints (19) of the supercapacitor should be taken into account. To this end, a new dummy variable has been introduced whose dynamics is defined as [22]:
\[ \dot{X}_d \triangleq T(U_c) \]  

(30)

Where the function \( T(U_c) \) in (30) is defined as:

\[ T(U_c) = [U_c - U_{c,\min}]^2 \text{sg}(U_{c,\min} - U_c) + [U_{c,\max} - U_c]^2 \text{sg}(U_c - U_{c,\max}) \]  

(31)

And the function \( \text{sg}(\cdot) \) in (31) is given as:

\[ \text{sg}(x) \triangleq \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ 1, & x \geq 0 \end{cases} \]  

(32)

Note that \( \dot{X}_d(t) \geq 0, \forall t \in [0,T] \) and \( \dot{X}_d(t) = 0 \) only for times when the state constraints (19) are satisfied. The new dummy variable \( X_d(t) \):

\[ X_d(t) = \int_0^t \dot{X}_d(t) \, dt + X_d(0) \]  

(33)

Is required to satisfy the two boundary conditions: \( X_d(0) = 0 \) and \( X_d(T) = 0 \). This fact implies once again that \( X_d(t) = 0, \forall t \in [0,T] \). However, it is possible only if the state constraints (19) are satisfied for all \( t \in [0,T] \).

Taking into account the dynamics (1), (3) and (30), the augmented Hamiltonian for the Case study 2 is defined as follows:

\[ H_a(SOC_{bat}, U_c, T_{\text{ave}}, I_{DC,0}, \dot{\lambda}_1, \dot{\lambda}_2) = P_{\text{fuel}}(T_{\text{ave}}, \omega_{\text{ave}}) - \dot{\lambda}_1 \frac{I_{\text{bat}}(SOC_{\text{bat}})}{Q_{\text{bat,0}}} + \dot{\lambda}_2 \frac{I_{\text{sc}}(U_c, I_{DC,0})}{C_{\text{sc}}} + \lambda_d T(U_c) \]  

(34)

Then, the necessary optimality conditions are given by (24)-(27) together with the following ones:

\[ \dot{U}_c^* = \frac{\partial H_a(\cdot)}{\partial \dot{\lambda}_2} = - \frac{I_{\text{sc}}(U_c^*, I_{DC,0})}{C_{\text{sc}}}; \quad U_c^*(0) = U_{c,0} \]  

(35)

\[ U_c^*(T) \approx U_{c,0} \]  

(36)

\[ U_{c,\min} \leq U_c^* \leq U_{c,\max} \]  

(37)
\[
\dot{X}_d^* = \frac{\partial H_d(\cdot)}{\partial \lambda_d} = \left[ U_c^* - U_{c,\text{min}} \right]^2 \text{sgn}(U_{c,\text{min}} - U_c^*) + \left[ U_{c,\text{max}} - U_c^* \right]^2 \text{sgn}(U_c^* - U_{c,\text{max}})
\]

(38)

\[X_d^*(0) = 0\]

\[
\dot{\lambda}_d^* = -\frac{\partial H_d(\cdot)}{\partial U_c} = \frac{\lambda_c^*}{Q_{\text{bat,0}}} \frac{\partial I_{\text{bat}}(\text{SOC}_{\text{bat}}^*)}{\partial U_c} + \frac{\lambda_c^*}{C_{\text{sc}}} \frac{\partial I_{\text{sc}}(U_c^*, I_{DC,o})}{\partial U_c} \ldots
\]

\[-2\lambda_d^* \left[ U_c^* - U_{c,\text{min}} \right] \text{sgn}(U_{c,\text{min}} - U_c^*) - 2\lambda_d^* \left[ U_{c,\text{max}} - U_c^* \right] \text{sgn}(U_c^* - U_{c,\text{max}})\]

(39)

\[
\dot{\lambda}_d^* = -\frac{\partial H_d(\cdot)}{\partial X_d} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda_d^* = \lambda_{d0}
\]

(40)

As in Case study 1, \( \lambda_i = \lambda_{i0} \), \( \forall t \in [0,T] \) and at each instant \( t \), the optimal control inputs \( T_{\text{ker}}^*(t) \) and \( I_{DC,o}^*(t) \) minimizing the Hamiltonian can be exhaustively searched in the torque and current admissible sets \( T_{\text{ker}} \) and \( I_{DC,o} \) defined respectively in (11) and (16).

Since \( X_d \) does not appear explicitly in \( H_d(\cdot) \), then, it can be deduced from (40) that:

\[
\dot{\lambda}_d^* = -\frac{\partial H_d(\cdot)}{\partial X_d} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda_d^* = \lambda_{d0}
\]

(42)

where \( \lambda_{d0} \) is the constant to be determined. Note that if the supercapacitor has an important capacitance \( C_{\text{sc}} \), its state constraints (19) will be then trivial. In this case, \( \lambda_{d0} \) can be set equal to 0, which means that the supercapacitor state constraints are not taken into account.

From the supercapacitor current \( I_{\text{sc}}(U_c) \) expression in (4), it follows that:

\[
\frac{\partial I_{\text{sc}}(U_c)}{\partial U_c} = -\frac{I_{\text{sc}}(U_c)}{\sqrt{U_c^2 - 4R_{\text{sc}}P_{\text{sc}}}}
\]

(43)

Then, the condition (39) can be rewritten as:
\[
\dot{\lambda}_2 = -\frac{\lambda_2^2 I_{ec} (U_c^*)}{C_{sc} \sqrt{(U_c^*)^2 - 4 R_{sc} P_{sc}}} \ldots
\]

\[
-2\lambda_{d0} [U_c^* - U_{c,\min}] \text{sgn} (U_{c,\min} - U_c^*) - 2\lambda_{d0} [U_{c,\max} - U_c^*] \text{sgn} (U_{c}^* - U_{c,\max})
\]

The trajectory $\lambda_2^*$ is obtained by integrating both sides of (44) which $\lambda_2^*(0) = \lambda_{d0}$ has to be determined.

The optimization problem of Case study 2 is now reduced to the choice of the three values $\lambda_{q0}$, $\lambda_{d0}$ and $\lambda_{\delta0}$ in such a manner that both boundary conditions (charge sustaining conditions) (26) and (36) are satisfied. However, using a "root finding algorithm" as in Case study 1 to iteratively compute these three values would not be appropriate due to excessive computation times. A simple method, which is more effective in terms of computation times, will be proposed latter. Although this method only offers sub-optimal control sequences of $T_{ic e}^*$ and $I_{DC,ic e}^*$, it can be directly used for online implementation.

3.2.3. Physical interpretation of Hamiltonian

This subsection aims at pointing out the physical meaning of the Hamiltonians and the co-states in the previous definitions (23) and (34). To this end, only Hamiltonian of Case study 2 is considered since it is of a more general form than the one in (23).

Let us define the following variables:

\[
s_1 \triangleq -\frac{\lambda_1}{U_{ic} (SOC_{bat}) Q_{bat,0}}; \quad s_2 \triangleq \frac{\lambda_2}{U_c C_{sc}}
\]

Then, the expression of the Hamiltonian in (34) can be rewritten as:

\[
\mathcal{H}_c (SOC_{bat}, U_c, T_{ic e}, I_{DC,ic e}, s_1, s_2) = P_{fuel} (T_{ic e}, \omega_{ic e}) + s_1 P_{bat,i} (SOC_{bat}) \ldots
\]

\[
+ s_2 P_{sc,i} (U_c, I_{DC,ic e}) + \dot{\lambda}_{d} T (U_c)
\]

where $P_{fuel} (T_{ic e}, \omega_{ic e})$, $P_{bat,i} (SOC_{bat})$ and $P_{sc,i} (U_c, I_{DC,ic e})$ are respectively the fuel power, the inner battery power and the inner supercapacitor power. The physical meaning of the Hamiltonian becomes
clearer with (46). Indeed, this is the sum of the weighted powers of all energy sources available in the vehicle. In other words, the Hamiltonian represents an equivalent fuel power; and the variables $s_1$ and $s_2$ are used to converts the inner battery power and the inner supercapacitor power into the equivalent quantities of fuel power. That is why these variables are usually referred to equivalence factors [13,14]. The more important these variables are, the more expensive the electric energy is. So, it is more beneficial to recover the energy by regenerative braking. On the contrary, the lower these variables are, the cheaper the electric energy is also. As a consequent, it is more beneficial to use the electric machine to generate the energy (for the case of hybrid vehicles).

In the cases where the state constraints are present, the dynamics $\dot{X}_d$ indicates these constraints are whether or not violated. Then, the term $\lambda_d\dot{X}_d = \lambda_d\dot{X}_d$ is incorporated into the Hamiltonian as a penalty function. The constant $\lambda_d$ should be selected to be very high such that the supercapacitor state lies in its bound limits in very short time. Since there is no penalty if the state remains between its upper and lower limits, the energy management strategies can make full use of the supercapacitor over the allowable range.

4. Implementation and Results Analysis

4.1. Dynamic Vehicle Simulator

Before analyzing the results, it should be noticed that all developed strategies in this work are validated with a dynamic vehicle simulator calibrated with real vehicle data. This simulator consists of all appropriate models of different elements constituting the studied vehicle, including the driver and the energy management strategy. An overview of the simulation environment in this work is illustrated in Figure 9. As can be seen, the considered simulation environment has two separated parts: the vehicle model part and the energy management system part.
Figure 9. Simulation environment in the thesis framework

The energy management system part is our optimization algorithm coded in C-language for time computation efficiency and implemented in Matlab/Simulink as an S-function. The vehicle model part accurately represents all relevant characteristics of the real vehicle. This one is implemented in LMS Imagine.Lab AMESim platform which is inspired by Bond Graph approach [23]. The model and control strategies involved of this dynamic vehicle simulator have been developed by our industrial partners and will not be exposed here for confidentiality. The two parts of the simulation environment are interconnected by a co-simulation interface. The most advantage of this simulation approach is that it offers at the same time the realistic vehicle model and the great convenience of Matlab/Simulink in terms of control design.

In what follows, some issues directly related to the implementation of the developed energy management strategies into the simulator are first discussed. Next, a simple idea to derive a causal EMS for real-time applications is presented. Then, to show the performance of the developed strategies in terms of energy consumption efficiency, they will be also compared to a baseline
strategy where the energy storage system (ESS: battery and/or supercapacitor) will be practically never charged or discharged. As a consequent, the alternator will be always activated to generate all energy needed for onboard electric demand. Note also that these baseline strategies, provided by our industrial partners, will not be detailed for confidentiality reason.

4.2. Implementation

4.2.1. How to use the optimal control sequences?

The developed EMSs provide the engine torque and also the alternator torque in both case studies. They are often used as reference signals to control the ICE and the alternator, respectively. However, in this project, the ECU is designed by another industrial partner and only optimal alternator torque $T_{\text{alt}}^*$ will be used to control the reference voltage of the alternator. The control scheme of the alternator is illustrated in Figure 10.

For Case study 2, the EMS provides also the optimal control sequence $I_{\text{dc,a}}^*$ which will be used to control the DC/DC converter as shown in Figure 8.

It is important to remark that the approach used in our work does not require any modifications of the vehicle structure (drive train and electric power system). The only simple task for implementation is to replace the existing controller(s) of the baseline strategy with those developed in this paper.

4.2.2. Online adaptation

As previously emphasized, it is possible to obtain the optimal solutions only when all information of the entire driving cycle is available \textit{a priori}. In subsection 3.2, we also showed that the
optimization problems consist finally in determining the constant $\lambda_{i0}$ for Case study 1 and constants $\lambda_{i0}$ and $\lambda_{i0}$ for Case study 2 with a "root finding algorithm". However, these strategies are not causal and cannot be applicable for real-world applications. Therefore, an adaptation of these strategies for online implementation is necessary. Over the years, a great deal of efforts has been investigated to cope with online strategies based on non-causal optimal ones [6]. The crucial point of this problem is to find out an appropriate way to adapt the co-state(s) in such a manner that the behavior of causal strategies is as close as possible to the corresponding optimal solution. For simplicity and for computation efficiency, the so-called "$\lambda$-control" method is adopted in this work [24,25,10]. This method is based on a feedback control which is easy to implement, see Figure 11. The expression of the estimated $\tilde{\lambda}$ is given as:

$$\tilde{\lambda} = \lambda_{0} + K_p (SOC_{sp} - SOC) + K_i \int_{0}^{t} (SOC_{sp} - SOC)$$  \hspace{1cm} (47)$$

where $SOC_{sp}$ is the SOC set point of the considered energy system storage. This value is given as $SOC_{sp} = SOC(0)$ if the charge sustaining condition is considered. $K_p$, $K_i$ are the gains of the PI controller and $\lambda_{0}$ is the initial guess.

![Figure 11. Online estimation of the co-state $\tilde{\lambda}$](image)

It can be noticed that the idea of the "$\lambda$-control" method is simply to keep the $SOC$ of each energy storage system in a reference range of variation defined by $SOC_{sp}$. In other words, the feedback "$\lambda$-control" aims at preventing the overcharge or depletion of the considered ESS in long
term, however, its SOC may "freely" vary in short term. For this reason, the PI controller gains should be selected rather low. A detail on this discussion can be found in [25].

4.3. Simulation Results

In this work, the Artemis Road cycle [26] will be exclusively considered to validate the different energy management strategies. This driving cycle represents real driving conditions and allows achieving a realistic evaluation of the obtained results. The vehicle speed and gear position of this real-world driving cycle are shown in Figure 12. For all simulations presented hereafter, the tracking performance of the vehicle with respect to the speed reference of the considered driving cycle is always perfectly guaranteed.

![Vehicle Speed and Gearbox Ratio Graph](image)

Figure 12. Artemis Road cycle: vehicle speed (up) and imposed gearbox ratio (bottom)

4.3.1. Case study 1

The following strategies are implemented and their results will be compared:

- BL1: Baseline strategy for Case study 1 where the battery is not practically used, so the alternator power is almost equal to the required electric load.
- PMP1: PMP-based optimal strategy for Case study 1 with a given driving cycle.
- RT1: Real-time strategy for Case study 1 with \( \tilde{A}_i \) estimated by (47).
The desired and the realized alternator torques obtained from PMP1 strategy are presented in Figure 13. It can be noticed that the alternator torque, which is indirectly imposed by the voltage reference of the electric power system, globally tracks the optimal alternator torque provided by the PMP1 strategy. However, the alternator has its own dynamics. Hence, the realized torque tends to 0 after a certain time for each alternator activation. This problem, which is unavoidable, will degrade the fuel saving performance of the PMP1 strategy. Indeed, the alternator can take some electric energy which is unscheduled by PMP1 strategy.

Figure 13. Optimal alternator torque provided by PMP1 strategy and real alternator provided by simulator for all the driving cycle (up) and their zooms (bottom)

Figure 14 shows the comparison of realized alternator torques between PMP1 and BL1 strategies. As previously stated, BL1 tries to maintain a constant alternator voltage; such that the battery is practically not used and all onboard electric load energy is directly supplied by the alternator. Hence, the alternator will be always activated for this strategy and this can increase the fuel consumption. Concerning PMP1 strategy, it schedules the alternator activation at appropriate moments (deceleration phases, battery charging) and with appropriate quantities of torque. In such a manner, PMP1 strategy can help to recover a certain amount of "free energy" coming from regenerative braking. In addition, with this optimal strategy, the alternator can be also used to shift the operating
point of the ICE to other regions that require relative less fuel. Moreover, the battery will be better exploited as shown in Figure 15.

![Figure 14. Comparison of realized alternator torques between BL1 and PMP1 strategies](image)

![Figure 15. Battery state of charge for different strategies (up); trajectory of estimated $\tilde{\lambda}_i$ corresponding to RT1 strategy (bottom)](image)

From Figure 15, it can be observed that if the co-state $\tilde{\lambda}_i$ is fine tuned then RT1 strategy has the same behaviors as PMP1 strategy although it does not need any information on the future of driving cycle. Table 1 summarizes the energy consumption of the considered strategies and the fuel saving of PMP1
and RT1 strategies with respect to BL1 strategy for Artemis Road cycle. This table shows that the proposed strategies (OPTI1 and RT1) are not only effective to reduce the fuel consumption but also can guarantee the sustaining charge condition of the battery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Fuel Use [g]</th>
<th>Fuel Saving [%]</th>
<th>ΔSOC_{bat} [%]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BL1</td>
<td>700.072</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPTI1</td>
<td>685.597</td>
<td>2.068</td>
<td>0.056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RT1</td>
<td>685.776</td>
<td>2.042</td>
<td>0.111</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Summary of energy consumption for different strategies of Case study 1

4.3.2. Case study 2

As previously stated, searching offline optimal solution with "root finding algorithm" can be too expensive in terms of simulation time. Hence, this will be not presented here and only two strategies are implemented and compared in this case:

- **BL2**: Baseline strategy for Case study 2 uses only the supercapacitor. The DC/DC converter is controlled by a heuristic strategy of industrial partner. This strategy aims at guaranteeing that the voltage in the supercapacitor side is always superior to the one in the battery side and the supercapacitor energy is always kept between certain levels.

- **RT2**: Real-time strategy for Case study 2 with \( \lambda_1 \) and \( \lambda_2 \) estimated by (47).

The results of BL2 and RT2 strategies are compared in Figure 16. The same comments on the alternator activation can be done as in Case study 1, i.e. the alternator is mostly activated by RT2 strategy to recover regenerative braking energy. Moreover, RT2 strategy also activates the DC/DC converter more often than BL2 strategy to charge the supercapacitor at appropriate moments. As a consequent, both energy storage systems (ESS) are better exploited in RT2 strategy than in BL2 strategy as shown in Figure 17.
Figure 16. Comparison of alternator torque and converter current between BL2 and RT2 strategies

It can be also observed from Figure 17 that the charge sustaining conditions for both ESSs are guaranteed by RT2 strategy whereas BL2 strategy cannot fulfill this condition for the supercapacitor. Indeed, BL2 strategy only has tendency to charge the supercapacitor. Moreover, as previously stated, the use of the battery is very limited in this case; in particularly the battery SOC with BL2 strategy is almost constant for the entire driving cycle.

Figure 17. Comparison of ESS state of charges between BL2 and RT2 strategies
Figure 18 shows that supercapacitor voltage always remains in its operating range, i.e. it is always higher than the battery voltage as imposed by the electric power system and lower than the supercapacitor voltage maximal value (16.2V). Thanks to the penalty function $\lambda_d \dot{X}_d = \lambda_{d0} \dot{X}_d$ incorporated into the Hamiltonian, the supercapacitor voltage only touches its upper limit for a very short time (around 100s) of the driving cycle.

Figure 18. Voltages of energy storage systems for RT2 strategy

Table 2 summarizes the energy consumption of both strategies, and the fuel saving of RT2 strategy with respect to BL2 strategy for Artemis Road cycle. From the results, it can be concluded that the RT2 strategy is effective for fuel consumption reduction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Fuel Use [g]</th>
<th>Fuel Saving [%]</th>
<th>$\Delta SOC_{bat}$ [%]</th>
<th>$\Delta SOC_{sc}$ [%]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BL2</td>
<td>701.819</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.019</td>
<td>9.394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RT2</td>
<td>690.322</td>
<td>1.634</td>
<td>0.076</td>
<td>0.054</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Summary of energy consumption for different strategies of Case study 2

As can be seen, the results obtained on this unique cycle are very promising. However, several tests with other driving cycles would be necessary to show that the extra energy consumption of eSC
would be compensated with some effective energy management strategies (note that the eSC is practically only activated in low load region).

5. Concluding Remarks

In this work, PMP-based strategies are developed to "optimally" control the vehicular electric power systems. We have shown that this approach has several advantages for real-time implementation. First, causal strategies, which can mimic the behavior of optimal solution, can be easily obtained with a simple feedback control scheme. Second, it is very efficient in terms of time computation because it is based on the instantaneous minimization of the Hamiltonian. The effectiveness of the approach is pointed out through several simulation results for both case studies. Most of fuel saving comes from regenerative braking which is "free" energy. Despite the additional cost for hardware investments, the dual storage electric power system offers a limited fuel saving performance compared to single storage electric power system for the given parameter values in the simulator AMESim. However, this electric structure may be used to reduce the capacity of the battery since it is not practically used or it would be more interesting for electric hybrid vehicles with "stop and start" operation.

The energy management problem considered in this work can be directly applied to parallel hybrid electric vehicles. They are also easily generalized to others hybrid architectures with some slight modifications.

Acknowledgements

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References


Appendix. Some notations of vehicle variables used in this paper

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$T_w$</td>
<td>Wheel torque</td>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>$\omega_w$</td>
<td>Wheel speed</td>
<td>rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$T_{ice}$</td>
<td>ICE torque</td>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>$\omega_{ice}$</td>
<td>ICE speed</td>
<td>rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$T_{alt}$</td>
<td>Alternator torque</td>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>$\omega_{alt}$</td>
<td>Alternator speed</td>
<td>rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$T_{ps}$</td>
<td>Primary shaft torque</td>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>$\rho$</td>
<td>Gear ratio of the reducer</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\eta_{gb}$</td>
<td>Gearbox efficiency</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>$k$</td>
<td>$k^{th}$ gear of the gearbox</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Q_{lhv}$</td>
<td>Constant fuel energy density</td>
<td>kJ/kg</td>
<td>$R(k)$</td>
<td>Gearbox ratio of the $k^{th}$ gear</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>