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Performance Comparison of Three Storage Systems for Mild-HEVs using PHIL Simulation

Rochdi Trigui, *Member, IEEE*, Bruno Jeanneret, Bertrand Malaquin and Cedric Plasse

Abstract-HEVs would contribute to the energy saving and GHE reduction if they are launched massively on the market. A notable effort has been done in simulation in order to optimize the energy consumption and the component sizing. PHIL simulation could be a further step in order to obtain more realistic performance and to compare different solutions including economic aspects. This paper deals with the implementation on a high dynamic test bench of a diesel Mild-hybrid parallel HEV using PHIL technique. Three configurations, corresponding to different energy storage systems, have been tested in the same conditions. Power, energy, consumption and pollutant emission performance, measured on the test bench, are compared and discussed.

Index terms - Hybrid Electric Vehicle, Hardware In the Loop, fuel consumption, diesel engine.

I. INTRODUCTION

Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEVs) represent an interesting alternative to the conventional vehicles in terms of fuel economy and lower atmospheric pollutants emission. For the midterm, charge-sustaining based HEVs allow the use of relatively small batteries and/or super-capacitors, the main energy gain comes from the energy recovery during deceleration phases. For the long term, plug-in HEVs using charge depleting strategies would introduce electric energy as a share of consumption to reduce CO₂ emission and petroleum dependency. However, price and reliability of the storage systems for this type of vehicle remains the most critical problem for a large market introduction. Consequently, each hybrid solution should be optimized in term of cost versus energetic performance.

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As several hybrid topologies exist and can operate in charge sustaining mode as well as in charge depleting, an important number of solutions, mainly if we consider the hybridization rate as a variable [1, 2, 3], should be investigated and optimized. For this purpose, simulation has been identified as a good approach and many software based on system modelling have been developed for HEVs simulation and gave different fuel economy results according to the type and size components of the vehicle [4, 6, 7, 27, 28].

Nevertheless, realistic performance of critical components is difficult to obtain only by simulation (Pollutant Emission, storage system behaviour, cold start effect...). This can affect the accuracy of the simulation results mainly when the optimization methods used in the energy management depend strongly on the models parameters, which is usually the case [21, 22].

PHIL (Power Hardware In the Loop) simulation constitutes an interesting intermediate step, before prototype building, in order to obtain more realistic performances than pure simulation [8]. In this concept, one or more components of the powertrain can be tested on a bench while the other components are simulated. The actual component receives request from the Real Time simulation process and communicates information from sensors installed.

Different applications: EVs and their components [8, 9, 10], wind energy [11, 12], HEVs and their components [13, 14, 15, 16] have used successfully the PHIL technique mainly for control development. Our approach here is to use a PHIL which combines dynamic and control tests with a necessary consumption and pollutant emission measurements in order to compare more precisely different powertrains and different energy management strategies. For example, diesel hybrid would be a very interesting solution for CO₂ reduction if the NO_x emissions are drastically reduced according to the European future standards. This approach is cost effective and allows fair assessment by mastering test conditions while testing a large panel of the possible vehicle use (standard, urban, road, highway).

This paper highlights how we can apply the PHIL principle in order to test the ICE, the Electric machine and the storage systems in a parallel mild-hybrid configuration. One of the main advantages of this approach demonstrated here is a more effective assessment than pure simulation of different solutions by exchanging components for a same configuration and same conditions. For the special case of the electric storage systems, the near actual test allowed by the PHIL simulation presented here is very useful for analysing their behaviour during different entire driving cycles collected from actual vehicle uses [17].

Three storage systems, two batteries and an ultracapacitor, are tested in the PHIL mild hybrid configuration and the performance are compared in term of power, energy and fuel economy of each hybrid solution. The first section presents the three HEVs configurations and the reference vehicle used for comparison. Then the PHIL principle is detailed and its implementation described. And finally the experimental results are given and discussed.

II. REFERENCE VEHICLE AND HEVs FEATURES

In order to appreciate the fuel economy allowed by each of the three HEVs corresponding to the three storage systems, we will consider a conventional vehicle as a reference. This vehicle is a passenger car, Compressed Ignition Direct Injection (CIDI) powered, with a conventional transmission consisting of a two-plate friction clutch, a five manual gear box and a final ratio. The Mild-hybrid HEVs are two clutched parallel hybrid which have the same body and the same ICE than the reference vehicle (figure 1). The tables I and II summarize the characteristics of the reference vehicle and the added elements for each of the HEVs (called from now: HEV1, HEV2 and HEV3).

TABLE I
COMMON ELEMENTS FEATURES

	value	unit
Chassis		
Mass	780	kg
Sf	1.89	m ²
Cx	0.35	/
Roll. Coef.	0.0106	/
Wheels		
Number	4	/
Inertia	0.7	Kgm ²
radius	0.28	m
ICE		
type	Diesel CIDI	
displacement	1500	cm ³
Max. Power	60 @4000	kW@rpm
Max. Rot. speed	5000	rpm
Gear box		
	ratio	efficiency
1 st gear	3.72	0.90
2 nd gear	2.05	0.97
3 rd gear	1.32	0.98
4 th gear	0.97	0.98
5 th gear	0.75	0.98
Final ratio	3.29	0.97
Clutch		
Radius	0.1	m
Friction coeff.	0.28	/

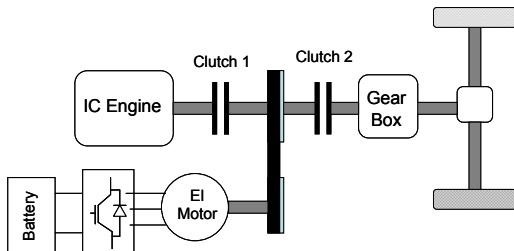


Fig. 1: Hybrid Power train considered

For HEV1, the electric motor is a modified conventional claw-pole alternator. The modifications consist of:

- rewinding the stator coil in order to have more important transient power;
- Active temperature control of the stator winding.

For HEV2 and HEV3, the electric motor is a synchronous motor with a hybrid excitation. The rotor is composed by both coils and permanent magnets. This allows a large area of torque/speed functioning associated to a quite good efficiency.

Table II
HEVs SPECIFIC ELEMENTS FEATURES

		HEV1	HEV2	HEV3
DC/AC inverter	type	MOSFET	MOSFET	MOSFET
	Manufacturer	Valeo	Valeo	Valeo
	DC Voltage	24-50 V	24-50 V	24-50 V
Electric Motor	type	Wound SM	PMSM +wound	PMSM +wound
	Manufacturer	Valeo	Valeo	Valeo
	Peak Power	9 kw	15 kW	15 kW
Storage System	type	V. R. L. A. battery	Ni-MH battery	DLUltra-capacitor
	Manufacturer	Exide	Saft	Maxwell
	Peak Power	10 kW	15 kW	> 18 kW
	Voltage	36 V (3*12V)	36V (3*12V)	48V
	Capacity	30 Ah	34 Ah	144 F
	cooling	air	water	air
Estimated* number of cycle @20% SOC	300-1000	500-2000	500k- 1M	

* Data source [18]

III. PHIL SIMULATION

A. Parallel HEV PHIL implementation :

As the conventional reference vehicle PHIL model is a part of the whole HEV model, we only describe here the implementation of the parallel HEV.

The experimental test bench is based on an industrial high dynamic load from AVL¹ with a maximum power of 120 kW. This load consists of an Induction motor generator (*dyno*) fed by bidirectional AC/DC DC/AC inverters and develops a Torque of ± 250 Nm with a high dynamic response (torque response time < 3 ms [19]) (Fig 2). For the considered configuration, the simulated parts are developed under VEHLIB [4, 5] (Fig. 3.) and corresponding models are briefly described in the next sections.

The actual components under test are:

- the diesel ICE
- the electric storage system
- The electric machine (EM) and its inverter
- The clutch 1.

¹ Austrian test bench manufacturer.

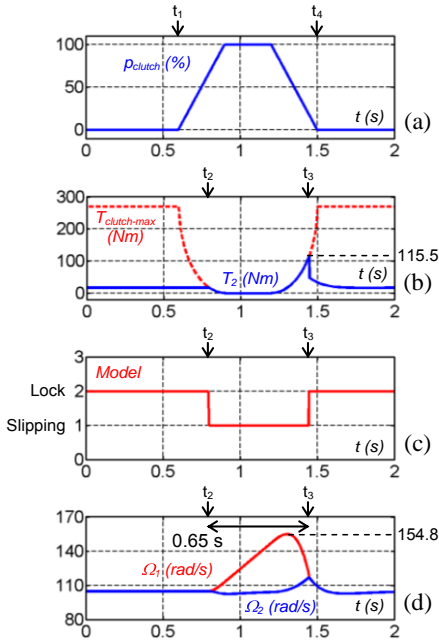


Fig. 4. Simulation results of the transmission with clutch: position of the clutch release bearing (a), clutch torque and maximal clutch torque (b), model used (c), rotation speeds (d)

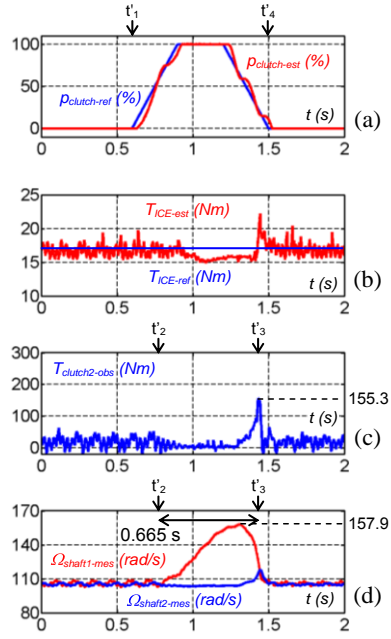


Fig. 5. Experimental results of the transmission with clutch: position of the clutch release bearing reference and estimated (a), ICE torque estimated (b), clutch torque observed (c), rotation speeds measured (d)

Where T_{ICE} is the ICE torque connected to the secondary of the clutch, and $T_{clutch-max}$ is the maximum transmissible torque given by the expression (4).

Except the maximum torque value underestimated in simulation (fig. 5 (c)), we can note a good agreement between simulation and experiments.

E. Driver model

The driver model is a simple PI controller applied to the vehicle speed, the reference torque is given by:

$$T_{driver}^* = P(\omega_r^* - \omega_r) + I \int (\omega_r^* - \omega_r) dt \quad (6)$$

Where P is the proportional coefficient and I is the integral coefficient.

F. Energy Management

In this first step of implementation, Energy management, verified by simulation in the model shown in Fig. 3, consists of a rule based algorithm. More advanced methods have been studied by simulation [26] and their implementation will be the subject of a next paper.

In the work presented here, the following functions have been implemented:

- stop/start operation of the ICE.
- maximum Energy recovery during deceleration
- electric mode when the power demand is lower than a given threshold
- boost capabilities while extreme accelerations
- serial flux (battery recharging through the ICE).

As it has been demonstrated in previous studies using dynamic programming [21], this last function does not give notable energy gain in our case. It is used here to maintain battery SOC in a given interval. Therefore, the

corresponding simplified algorithm is described on the figure 6.

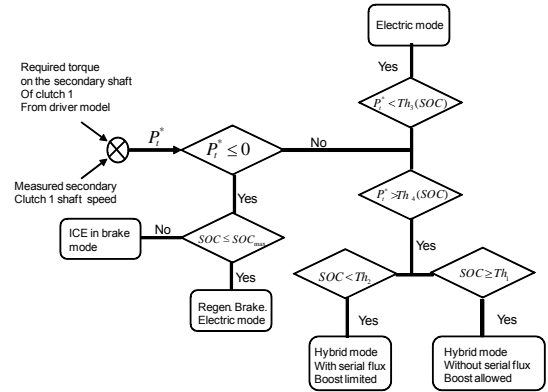


Fig. 6. Simplified Energy management algorithm diagram

Where P_t^* is the traction power demand, Th_1 and Th_2 , thresholds for battery and Ultra-capacitors SOC, and Th_3 and Th_4 the power demand thresholds for the ICE starting/stopping.

While the traction mode, P_t^* is positive: two cases are examined. If P_t^* is lower than Th_3 , function of the SOC (Th_3 becomes null if SOC is lower than a minimum value), then the electric mode is activated (the ICE is stopped and the clutch1 is opened). If P_t^* is greater than Th_4 , function of the SOC, then the ICE is started. In this case, when the storage system SOC is greater than the threshold Th_1 , then no serial flux is required and the boost mode is fully allowed beyond the ICE capabilities. However, if the SOC falls under the threshold Th_2 , than the serial flux is activated with an amount of power recharging the storage system function of the SOC. This amount is limited by a high value

corresponding to the SS power limit and a low value for efficiency reasons. In this case the boost mode is progressively inhibited if the SOC is decreasing below Th_2 .

While the regenerative mode, P_t^* is negative and the electric mode is always activated unless the SOC becomes greater than a maximum value SOC_{max} . In this last case, recharging battery is forbidden and the ICE brake mode is activated by closing the clutch1.

The same laws have been used for the three HEVs tested. For the batteries, the SOC variable (in %) corresponds to the following equation.

$$SOC(T) = SOC(t_0) - \frac{100^* \int_0^T I_{bat}(t) \eta_F dt}{Q_n} \quad (7)$$

Where η_F is the Faradic efficiency (1 for positive current and 0.95 for negative current), Q_n is the nominal capacity (in As).

For the Ultra-capacitors the SOC is given directly by the voltage value. Thresholds Th_1 and Th_2 are fixed as the maximum and the minimum Voltage functioning limits.

G. HIL control

The HIL control of the parallel HEV configuration is performed using the simulink models of the simulated parts, a real time interface to adapt input and output signals, and actual components with their input demands (reference variables noted with ‘*’) and their sensors (Fig. 7).

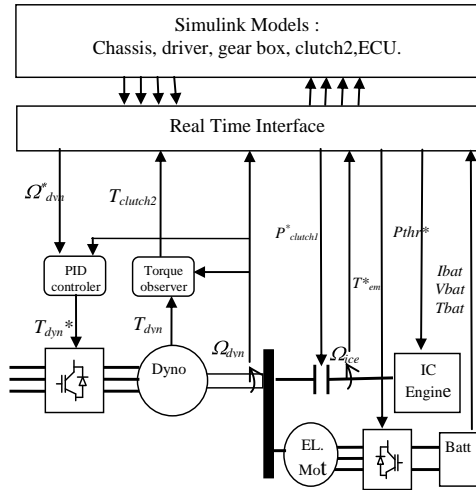


Fig. 7. Diagram of the HEV HIL control

At each sample time, the driver model gives the reference torque to be provided by the transmission, by comparing wheels target and actual speeds. Using the energy management implemented, this torque is split into an ICE torque demand T_{ice}^* and an EM torque demand T_{em}^* . The ICE torque demand is then converted into a throttle demand P_{thr}^* using a map and communicated to the Engine ECU through the real time interface. The EM torque demand is limited by the BMS (Battery Management System) using battery current, voltage and temperature measurements. Then the limited torque is transmitted to the EM inverter. Two modes are distinguished:

1) Electric mode: this mode is suggested by the simulated energy management and generates the following demands:

- $T_{ice}^* = 0 \Rightarrow P_{thr}^* = 0$ (throttle demand)
- Ignition* = 0 \Rightarrow ICE stop.
- $T_{em}^* = T_{driver}^*$
- $P_{clutch1}^* = 1$ (open).

2) Hybrid mode: In this mode the reference variables become:

- $T_{ice}^* = k T_{driver}^* \Rightarrow P_{thr}^* = f(T_{ice}^*, \Omega_{ice}^*)$
- $T_{em}^* = (1-k) T_{driver}^*$ ($k > 1$: serial flux, $k < 1$ boost mode)

- Ignition* = 1
- $P_{clutch1}^* = 0$ (locked).

In the hybrid mode (most general case), the two actual torques of the ICE and the EM are coupled through a transmission belt and transmitted to the dynamometer shaft. Using a PID controller, the *dyno* imposes a resistant torque in order to follow the reference speed generated by the simulation model.

Generation of the reference *dyno* speed :

A torque sensor on the *dyno* allows an accurate measurement of the torque T_{dyn} . In order to estimate correctly the torque actually applied on the shaft, the measured torque is compensated using a torque observer and the *dyno* inertia identified value. The torque observed is exactly that needed to be applied to the clutch2 primary shaft in the simulation model, and corresponds to the summation of the actual ICE and EM torques. When applying this torque, and according to clutch2 state, the wheels torque is calculated using gear box model and the instantaneous gear ratio imposed by the ECU. The chassis model allows the vehicle speed calculation (equation 1) and consequently the rotating speed of the primary plate of clutch2 when it is locked. When it is slipping (hybrid mode and ICE rotating speed < secondary clutch2 plate speed), clutch2 primary speed is calculated locally using the clutch position and the transmissible torque of the equation 4. In the two cases, it is that speed which is used as a reference for the *dyno* speed.

The corresponding vehicle (wheels) speed is used to generate the next driver reference torque according to the equation 6.

To conclude this section, we can say that the key variables to connect the real time simulation model to the tested components are the estimated **clutch2 torque** (as input) and the clutch2 primary calculated **speed** as the reference for *dyno* speed.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

A. *Dyno and ICE Control*

In order to validate the whole HIL control, one should verify that the calculated speed imposed by the model causality through the vehicle inertia is well respected by the *dyno* performance. The Fig. 8 represents, for the extra urban part of the NEDC, the calculated primary speed of clutch2 (*dyno* speed reference) and the measured speed performed by the *dyno* on the actual shaft.

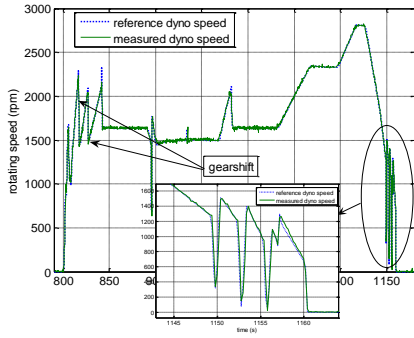


Fig. 8. Reference and measured speed of the dyno during the HIL simulation of the parallel HEV. Extra urban sequence of the NEDC.

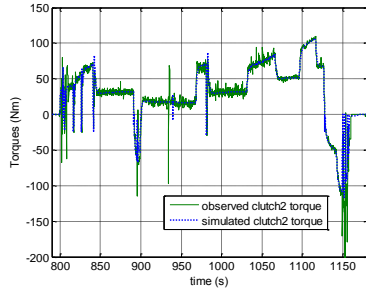


Fig. 9. Observed and simulated clutch2 torques.

As illustrated in Fig 8, the *dyno* speed is well controlled, even during the gearshift phases where the speed variations are relatively fast (see enlarged graph).

This issue being checked, one should also examine clutch2 primary torque behaviour and its coherence with the all simulation model results (Fig. 9). Even if some transient torques are under-estimated in simulation, mainly during the clutching phases (e.g. section III. D), we can note a good concordance between the real time observed torque and the simulated one.

At this step of the work, we can estimate that the instantaneous power performed by the *dyno* corresponds well to the simulated power required by the vehicle and provided by the actual components.

B. Regenerative braking Limitation for the HEV1

Figure 10 shows experimental results concerning electric motor torque for the HEV1 during a sequence of the NEDC driving cycle.

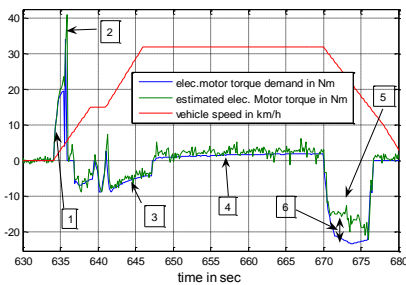


Fig. 10. experimental motor torque demand and response for HEV1.(same sequence)

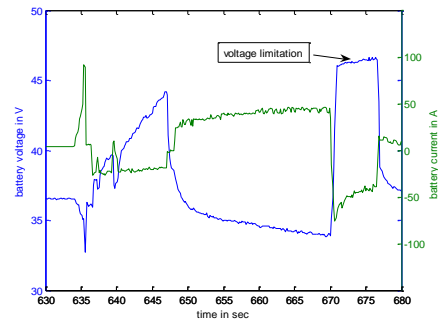


Fig. 11. Voltage and current of the lead acid battery for HEV1.(same sequence)

We can observe the following phases:

- 1- Electric mode when the vehicle starts to move,
- 2- ICE cranking with an extra torque demand. Here the power demand threshold of the hybrid mode is reached,
- 3- *Serial flux* for battery SOC balancing,
- 4 - Electric mode during low power demand (steady speed),
- 5- Regenerative braking mode.

In this last phase (5), one could note that the reference EM torque is not respected, as it is shown in zone 6 of Fig. 10. This behaviour is due to a voltage limitation of the lead acid battery during the recharging phase (Fig. 11).

Above this limit, battery voltage increase may entail water dissociation into hydrogen and Oxygen. It appears that this issue limits considerably the charge acceptance of the sealed type lead acid battery and consequently the expected fuel economy of the HEV1 is also limited. This is not the case for HEV2 and HEV3 as it is explained in the next section.

C. Power and energy performance comparison of the three SS

The figures 12 and 13 represent the powers delivered by the three storage systems during urban and extra –urban sequence of the NEDC cycle.

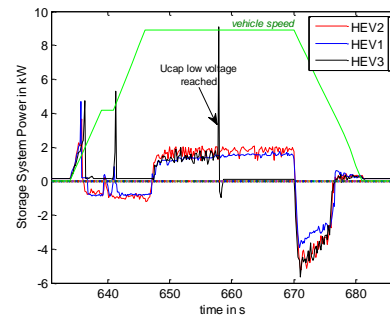


Fig. 12. Power of the 3 storage systems (urban sequence)

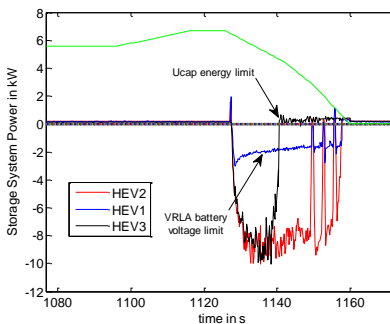


Fig. 13. Power of the 3 storage systems (extra-urban)

Globally, the same behaviour in term of energy management can be observed for the three HEVs which is in concordance with the algorithm described in the section III.F. Only the thresholds are different and lead to local differences such as ICE start for HEV3 at 658s because of low Ultra-capacitors voltage limit. We can also see the same phenomenon described in the previous section concerning HEV1 and emphasised in the last deceleration of the second sequence (fig. 13). For the HEV3, the regenerative power is not limited but as we can expect for the Ultra-capacitors, energy limitation is observed during the last deceleration of the cycle. Only HEV2 presents no limitation of its power and energy performance on this cycle.

For the energy variation of the three storage systems, we have plotted the SOC of the batteries and the Ultra-capacitors voltage during a nearly balanced NEDC cycle (figure 14 and 15)

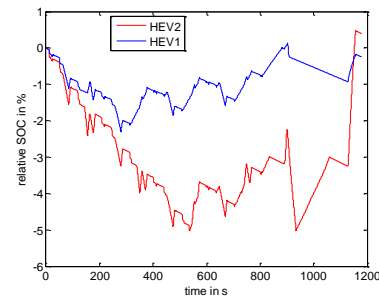


Fig. 14. Batteries relative SOC of HEV1 and HEV2.

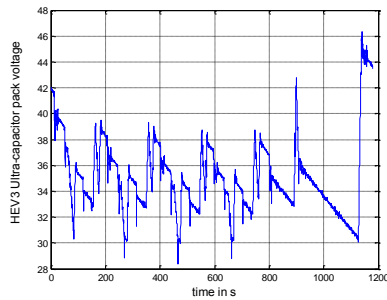


Fig. 15. Ultra-capacitors voltage of HEV3 on NEDC.

We can note that for HEV2, Energy recovery capabilities allow a deeper use of the batteries and then more electric mode at low speed, which is not the case for the HEV1. For the ultra-capacitors, only instantaneous power is important and the energy management is reduced to voltage limits management.

In the next section we will highlight the weight of these power and energy behaviour on the fuel economy results.

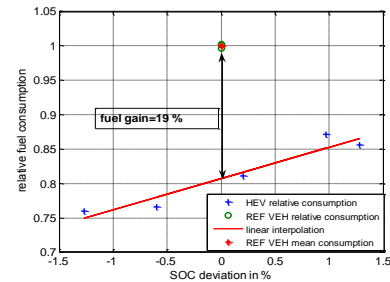
D. Fuel consumption and (CO₂,NO_x) emission of the three HEVs

The fuel consumption and the pollutants emission (CO, HC, NO_x) are measured using an industrial device based on Constant exhaust gas Volume Sampling (CVS). Chemical equations of the fuel combustion allow fuel consumption calculation using the measured gases concentrations. In addition, a fuel balance is used to evaluate the fuel mass consumed during the entire cycle and this value is correlated with the CVS calculation.

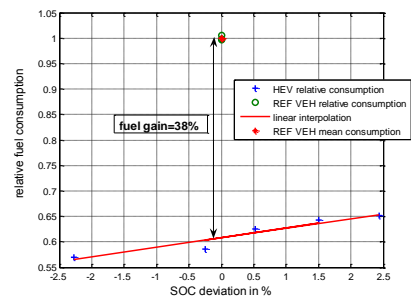
In order to evaluate the fuel economy performance of the HIL simulated HEVs, one must compare HIL simulated

conventional vehicle consumption with the HEVs one, obtained at battery balanced SOC (ie final SOC=initial SOC). As it is difficult to obtain experimentally a perfect zero Δ SOC (called SOC deviation on the figures), the different driving cycles are performed several times with different initial SOC. Then the consumption at zero SOC deviation is estimated using linear interpolation. Fig. 16 presents the relative consumption results of the HEV1, 2 and 3 for a HYZEM urban driving cycle [17]. For the Ultra-capacitors case (HEV3, fig 16 c), the fuel consumption is not sensitive to the SOC (here equivalent to the voltage), because of the low amount of energy available in this type of storage system.

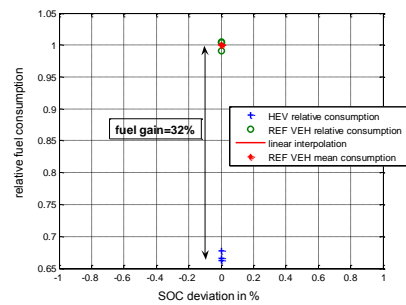
For the three cases, the relative consumption values are the measured consumptions divided by the mean value of the reference vehicle consumptions.



a)

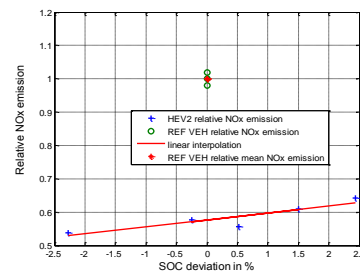


b)



c)

Fig. 16. Urban Relative fuel consumption versus the SOC deviation of the storage system. a) HEV1, b) HEV2, c) HEV3.



a)

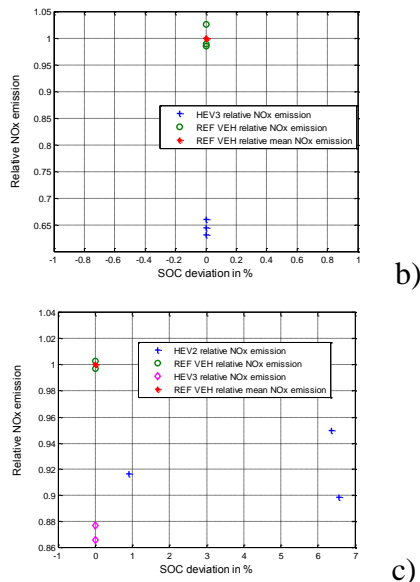


Fig. 17. Measured NOx emission versus the SOC deviation of the storage system. a) HEV2, urban cycle, b) HEV3, urban cycle, c) HEV2 and 3, road cycle.

In urban conditions, notable fuel economy is registered for the 3 HEVs with a more important advantage for the HEV2 and HEV3. Concerning NOx, HEV2 and HEV3 (HEV1 data is not available) lead to lower emission than the reference vehicle in urban use, which is interesting for diesel engine. However, as shown in figure 17 c), NOx emission reduction is much more discussable in road condition and results should be analysed with caution because of the relatively high error on this type of measurement (2 different values at almost the same SOC variation for HEV2).

In term of CO2 emission, which is the most important and urgent problem to solve nowadays, the table 3 summarizes the performances of the three HEVs compared to the reference vehicle.

TABLE III
CO2 EMISSION OF THE REFERENCE VEHICLE AND THE 3 STUDIED HEVS ACCORDING TO THE DRIVING CYCLE.

	Ref VEH	HEV1		HEV2		HEV3	
	CO2 (g/km)	CO2 (g/km)	Gain (%)	CO2 (g/km)	Gain (%)	CO2 (g/km)	Gain (%)
NEDC Warm	105.7	89.0	15.2	83.4	21.1	83.6	18.8
URBAN	137.8	108.8	19.3	84.3	38.7	89.9	32.8
ROAD	114.3	104.9	8.0	97.2	14.9	101.8	8.7
HIGH-WAY	130.5	130.8	-0.2	129.5	0.7	130.2	0.2

We can note that the reference vehicle presents already low CO2 emission thanks to its diesel engine. Hybridization however allows appreciable gains mainly in urban use and especially for HEV2 and HEV3 with less than 90 g/km of CO2 emission. The most efficient solution for all kind of use is HEV2.

E. Comparison of PHIL with simulation for HEV1

In order to highlight PHIL approach advantages, one should compare experimental results to those obtained by pure

simulation. Table IV summarizes fuel consumption gain predicted by the simulation model for HEV1, compared to experimental values obtained in the PHIL configuration.

TABLE IV
COMPARISON OF FUEL CONSUMPTION GAIN FOR HEV1: SIMULATION AND PHIL.

	Simulated fuel Consumption gain (%)	Measured fuel Consumption gain (%)	Error (%)
NEDC	12	15	20
Urban	24	19	26
Road	7	6	16
highway	-1	#0	/

One could note that even if the fuel consumption gain values are of the same order and have the same variations, the estimated error between simulation and PHIL could be relatively important. Some elements of explanations could be given by the curves represented in Fig. 18, corresponding to an urban sequence of the NEDC cycle.

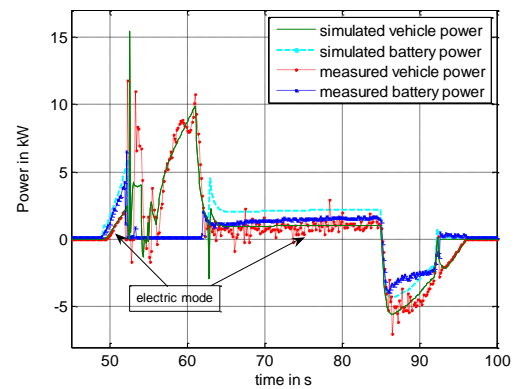


Fig. 18. Simulated and measured vehicle and battery powers. HEV1 Configuration.

In fact, we can see that, although the vehicle power is sensitively the same, the electric mode in simulation requires more power from the battery than recorded in the experiment. Consequently, the simulation model over-estimates the losses of the electric drive train and thus under-estimates the fuel economy. This is specially valid for the NEDC cycle where low steady speeds are frequent in the first part of the cycle.

For the HYZEM urban cycle, this advantage for the actual electric drive train is widely compensated by the battery charge acceptance problem discussed in the section IV.B. This phenomenon, not already taken into account in our simulation, entails more frequent voltage limitation in the urban cycle and then leads to a fuel consumption gain clearly lower than that predicted by simulation.

V. CONCLUSION

A PHIL approach has been applied to a parallel HEV configuration in order to simulate some parts of the vehicle and test in the same real time process the key components of the hybrid powertrain.

The implementation of this approach in a high dynamic test bench has been detailed and validated. It allowed us to check the effectiveness of the fuel consumption gain, predicted by simulation, using a rule based energy management law. Three storage systems: a lead acid battery, a NiMH battery and an Ultra-capacitor, have been tested and compared in term of fuel consumption and pollutants emission using the same vehicle characteristics and the same experimental conditions. NiMH batteries showed more important latitude for recharge acceptance and energy cycling, leading to the largest fuel economy among the three configurations. Ultra-capacitors could be also an interesting trade off between cost and CO2 benefits for hybrid vehicle without ZEV mode. However, the low cost solution using lead acid batteries (100 to 200 Euros per kWh [18]) presents low recharge acceptance and their life cycling performance is also relatively low. This type of batteries, considered as the most mature and available technology is also pointed as the greatest potential of pollution [27, 30]. The NiMH Batteries are considered also as a mature and safe solution thanks to Toyota and Honda HEVs experience during the last decade. However ultracapacitors, although the possible cost advantage compared to NiMH batteries, present less maturity and safety should be also improved. Finally, as perspectives, advanced energy management strategies studied by simulation will be implemented on the PHIL test bench [25, 26]. They particularly would give us more information on the NOx emission behaviour and if it is necessary or not to integrate them in the optimisation criterion for diesel HEVs.

Appendix:

AVL: Austrian test bench manufacturer.
 BMS: Battery management system.
 CIDI: Compressed Ignition Direct Injection.
 ECU: Engine control unit.
 EM: Electric motor.
 ICE: Internal combustion engine.
 HEV: Hybrid electric vehicle.
 HYZEM: a set of driving cycles recorded in Europe.
 NEDC: New European driving cycle.
 PHIL: Power Hardware In the Loop.
 SS: Storage system.
 SOC: State of charge.
 VEHLIB: Simulation library for vehicle dynamics and consumption.
 VRLA: Valve regulated lead acid.
 ZEV: Zero Emission Vehicle.

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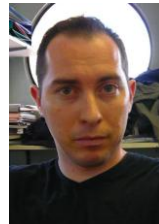
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