

A Rule Based Power Split Strategy for Battery/Ultracapacitor Energy Storage Systems in Hybrid Electric Vehicles

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This paper presents a simple and efficient rule based power split strategy for a combined battery/ultracapacitor energy storage system having electrochemical characteristics in hybrid electric vehicles. For this purpose, a novel rule based controller with three stages is introduced. The first stage is determination of the operation modes (i.e. either charge or discharge commands) of the energy sources based on the direction of the power request (i.e. either in traction or regen request) and the charge/discharge states (i.e. energy sources either in charging or discharging phase). In the second stage, new weighting parameters used in rule tables are formulated based on the state of charge levels (SOC) of the energy sources to ensure the charge sustainability (i.e. SOC within limits). In the last stage, the power split rules are defined in rule tables based on the operation modes, states of the energy sources and the weighting parameters. The performance of the proposed strategy has been tested on a hybrid electric city bus developed in MATLAB/Simulink and compared with alternative rule based power split strategy through comprehensive simulation studies under different drive cycle conditions. For comparison purpose, two different case studies have been conducted. First, the results have been compared with the battery only system and then the effectiveness of the proposed strategy has been compared with that of alternative one. The simulation results showed that the proposed strategy significantly reduces the frequency of high C-rate current drawn from the battery and provides a more smooth change in battery current during sudden acceleration events when comparing with alternative strategy.

Keywords: battery, ultracapacitor, energy storage, hybrid electric vehicle, rule based control.

1. INTRODUCTION

Battery is the most safety critical and expensive electrochemical component in electric vehicles and offers high efficiency at average power. However, battery life is severely diminished when exposed to high temperatures due to the high charge/discharge current pulses. On the other hand,

ultracapacitors (supercapacitors) have high power density, inherently long cycle life and high current rapid charge/discharge characteristics [1-3]. They provide significant improvements not only in acceleration and regenerative braking performance of the vehicle but also in cost, weight and lifetime of the battery by supplying or accepting peak power demands during transients. These complementary features of the batteries and the ultracapacitors make the combination of them quite attractive for hybrid city bus applications where high energy and power densities are required. There have been many studies in the literature that expose the benefits of using ultracapacitors in hybrid electric vehicles [4-11].

In recent years, considerable efforts have been devoted to the management of energy flow through multiple energy sources. For this purpose, bidirectional DC/DC converters in different topologies have been used between the battery and ultracapacitor systems [12]. In these topologies, the power that is absorbed or supplied by each energy source has been determined based on the power limits and characteristics of the components, which is called passive strategies [13]. However, active strategies are the most effective in reducing current stress and improving the lifetime of the energy sources. For example, ultracapacitor voltage can be controlled based on the vehicle speed such that the voltage is low at high speeds and the voltage is high at low speeds [14]. Thus, ultracapacitor can be charged to fully capacity during braking and provide peak power for acceleration. In [15], a coordinated power distribution method has been proposed between the batteries and the ultracapacitors to reduce the current stress on the batteries. In another study, a model predictive controller has been developed to split the power between the ultracapacitor and the battery in a hybrid electric vehicle with the objective of reducing the discharge intensity (C-rate) of the battery [16]. The results showed that cycling the battery at high C-rates has been reduced to a large extent with the introduction of the ultracapacitors to the system. In [17], a dynamic control of the battery/ultracapacitor systems has been performed for mild hybrid electric vehicles such that the battery is paralleled with ultracapacitor through a switch that connects/disconnects the battery to the power line. This switch has been controlled by battery management system (BMS) based on the estimated SOC of the storage devices. The test results indicated that the battery voltage drop has been reduced and the peak charge/discharge current has been eliminated compared to the battery only case by implementing this switching strategy. In [18], a frequency decomposition technique has been employed for load power splitting between the battery, ultracapacitor and fuel cell in which the ultracapacitor acts as a high pass filter, battery acts as a medium pass filter and fuel cell acts as a low pass filter. In [19], ultracapacitor was used as a load leveling device for fuel cell system such that the current demand from the fuel cell was calculated by simply averaging the load current and the remaining transient current was supplied by the ultracapacitor system. In [20], the interaction between the two electrochemical sources, fuel cell and battery, was examined. For this purpose, a hybrid fuel cell pack has been developed for unmanned aerial vehicle in which the instantaneous high power has been supplied by the battery to assist the fuel cell system.

Among these active strategies, rule based control strategies offer good solutions to the power split problems in hybrid electric vehicles due to their ease of applicability and robustness. In [21], a fuzzy logic control method has been applied to the battery/ultracapacitor composite power supply in a series HEV with the aim of improving the vehicle dynamic performance and protecting the batteries. A

rule based energy management algorithm has been also employed in [22] to split the power demand between the battery and the ultracapacitor in a parallel HEV such that peak power is supplied/absorbed by ultracapacitor while the average power is supplied by battery. In [23], a fuzzy logic controller has been employed for power splitting between the solar panel and battery. In [24], the load power has been distributed between the solar panel, battery and hydro system based on a flow chart of some rules.

In this work, a novel rule based control strategy has been developed for battery/ultracapacitor hybrid energy source to investigate the effect of adding ultracapacitors on the performance of the batteries. The proposed strategy does not require a pre-knowledge about the driving cycle, vehicle speed and voltage levels of the energy sources. In the proposed strategy, the operation modes of the energy sources have been determined based on the power request and the charge/discharge states and some new weighting parameters have been introduced based on the state of charge levels of the energy sources. Rules are derived based on these weighting parameters by considering the charge/discharge states of the batteries and ultracapacitors and the operation modes to ensure that the SOC of the energy storage systems remains within the specified limits. The proposed strategy splits the power between the battery and the ultracapacitor system in such a way that the battery is not exposed to high temperature and high charge/discharge currents. The performance of the proposed strategy has been tested on a hybrid electric city bus developed in MATLAB/Simulink through comprehensive simulation studies under different drive cycle conditions. The results have been compared with the battery only case and the alternative strategy. It has been shown that, thanks to the effective power management strategy, high current stress on the batteries has been removed and the frequency of high charge/discharge rates have been significantly reduced. Therefore, the battery, which is the most critical component in electric vehicles in terms of cost, safety and performance, can be protected effectively, so the lifetime of the battery would be extended with the proposed power split strategy.

2. MATHEMATICAL MODELS OF ENERGY SOURCES

In order to study the proposed power split strategy, the battery and ultracapacitor models are developed as illustrated in Figure 1.

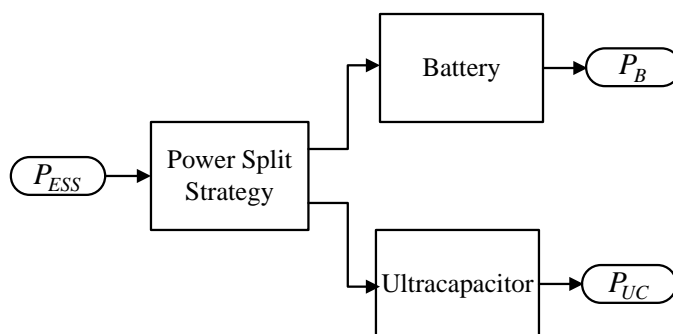


Figure 1. An overview of the battery/ultracapacitor system.

P_{ESS} is the total amount of power demanded from the battery/ultracapacitor system and is calculated as,

$$P_{ESS} = P_{req} - P_{Genset} \tag{1}$$

P_{req} is the required power of the motor drive system either be supplied or captured by the energy sources. P_{Genset} is the available engine-generator set output power. P_{ESS} and P_{Genset} are determined by the energy management system. P_B and P_{UC} are the available battery and ultracapacitor powers determined by the power split logic as described in Section 3.

2.1. Battery model

Battery is modeled as a voltage source and an internal resistor. Battery resistance model is then established with the following circuit equations,

$$I_B(k) = P_B(k) / V_B(k) \tag{2}$$

$$V_{B_OC}(k) = \frac{P_B(k)R_B(k) + V_B(k)^2}{V_B(k)} \tag{3}$$

$$V_B(k) = \frac{V_{B_OC}(k-1)}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{V_{B_OC}(k-1)^2 - 4P_B(k)R_B(k)}}{2} \tag{4}$$

$$SOC_B(k) = SOC_B(k-1) - I_B(k)T / Q_{nom} \tag{5}$$

$$P_{B_DMax}(k) = V_{B_OC}(k)^2 / 4R_D(k) \geq 0 \tag{6}$$

$$P_{B_CMax}(k) = -V_{BMax} \frac{V_{BMax} - V_{B_OC}(k)}{R_C(k)} < 0 \tag{7}$$

$$R_B(k) = \begin{cases} R_D(k), & P_B(k) \geq 0 \\ R_C(k), & P_B(k) < 0 \end{cases} \tag{8}$$

Where, kT indicates discrete time step and denoted as k for simplicity. T is sampling time in second. $V_{B_OC}(SOC)$, $R_D(T^\circ, SOC)$ and $R_C(T^\circ, SOC)$ are the open circuit voltage (OCV), discharge and charge resistances of the battery, respectively, and varies with the operating temperature and the SOC. I_B is the battery terminal current, V_B is the battery terminal voltage and Q_{nom} is the nominal battery capacity, generally provided in ampere hours. P_{B_DMax} and P_{B_CMax} are the maximum discharge and charge powers that the battery can produce at that time step, k . V_{BMax} is the maximum allowed charging voltage of the batteries provided in the battery specifications.

Battery thermal model used in the simulations is a simple thermal capacitance - thermal resistance model as formulated in [25].

$$T_B(k+1) = T_B(k) + \frac{1}{C_B} \left(I_B(k+1)^2 R_B(k+1) - \frac{1}{R_{th}} (T_B(k+1) - T_{air}(k+1)) \right) \tag{9}$$

$$C_B = m_B c_p \tag{10}$$

$$R_{th} = \frac{d}{\alpha A} \tag{11}$$

Where, C_B is the thermal capacitance in J/K, m_B is battery mass in kg, c_p is specific heat capacity in J/(kg.K), R_{th} is thermal resistivity in K/W, d is thickness in m, α is thermal conductivity in W/(m.K), A is surface area in m². These parameters can be derived experimentally or obtained from the manufacturer’s data sheets. T_B is the battery temperature and T_{air} is the temperature of air surrounding the battery.

2.2. Ultracapacitor model

Ultracapacitor is modeled as a simple RC circuit by the following equations,

$$I_{UC}(k) = P_{UC}(k) / V_C(k) \tag{12}$$

$$V_{UC_oc}(k) = \frac{P_{UC}(k)R_{UC} + V_C(k)^2}{V_C(k)} \tag{13}$$

$$V_C(k) = \frac{V_{UC_oc}(k-1)}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{V_{UC_oc}(k-1)^2 - 4 \frac{1+m}{m} P_{UC}(k)R_{UC}}}{2} \tag{14}$$

$$SOC_{UC}(k) = \frac{V_{UC_oc}(k)}{V_{UC_Nom}} \tag{15}$$

$$P_{UC_DMax}(k) = V_{UC_oc}(k)^2 / 4R_{UC} \geq 0 \tag{16}$$

$$P_{UC_CMax}(k) = -V_{UC_Max} \left(\frac{V_{UC_Max} - V_{UC_oc}(k)}{R_{UC}} \right) < 0 \tag{17}$$

Where, $m = R_{UC}C_{UC} / T$, R_{UC} is the internal resistance of the ultracapacitor and C_{UC} is the rated capacitance in Farad. V_{UC_Nom} is the nominal ultracapacitor voltage and V_{UC_Max} is the maximum allowed charging voltage of the ultracapacitor given in the technical specifications.

3. ALTERNATIVE RULE BASED STRATEGY

Rule based strategies offer good solutions to the power split problems in hybrid electric vehicles because of their flexibility and robustness. In these strategies, the portion of the power supplied by each energy storage system (i.e. load leveling) is determined based on some pre-defined rules.

In this study, the proposed power split strategy has been compared with an alternative one already presented in [26]. In [26], the rules were established based on two parameters that can be adjusted to achieve different degree of load leveling. The first parameter defines a minimum amount of power, $0 \leq P_{Min} \leq P_{DMax_aku}$, that would be drawn from the battery and the second parameter defines a charging power, P_{B_Add} , delivered by the battery to charge the ultracapacitors. By changing these

parameters, one can change the contribution of each source to the load power. Figure 2 shows the flowchart of this alternative rule based power split strategy.

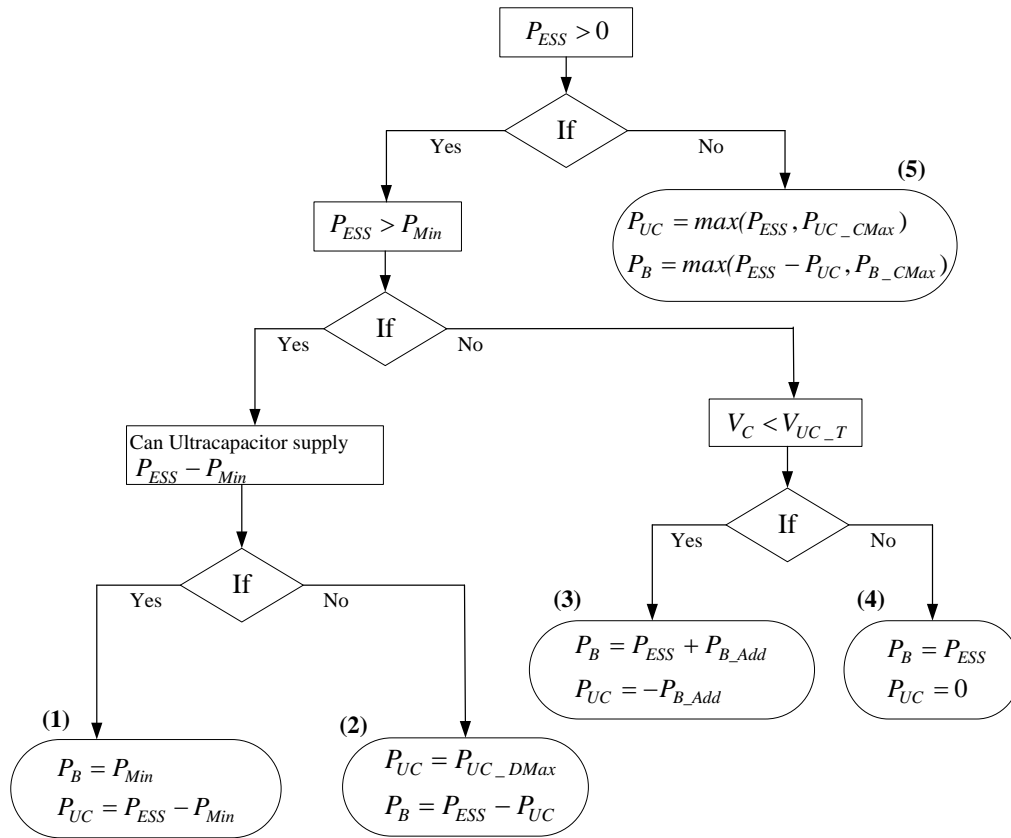


Figure 2. Alternative rule based power strategy.

As can be seen from Figure 2, if $P_{min} = 0$ then all requested power is supplied by ultracapacitor. Thus, a reasonable value should be chosen for P_{min} . P_{B_Add} is additional power that the battery should supply to charge the ultracapacitors if the ultracapacitor voltage, V_C , is less than the target operating voltage, V_{UC_T} . V_{UC_T} is expressed based on the vehicle speed, v , as,

$$V_{UC_T} = V_{UC_Max} \sqrt{1 - \frac{3v_{ach}}{160}} \tag{18}$$

In Figure 2, each numbered rule step (i.e. 1-5) has been described in detail as,

Step-1: If $P_{ESS} > 0$ (i.e. traction mode) and $P_{ESS} > P_{Min}$ and ultracapacitor can supply the power, $P_{ESS} - P_{Min}$, then $P_B = P_{min}$ and $P_{UC} = P_{ESS} - P_{Min}$.

Step-2: If $P_{ESS} > 0$ and $P_{ESS} > P_{Min}$ and ultracapacitor cannot supply the power, $P_{ESS} - P_{Min}$, then $P_{UC} = P_{UC_DMax}$ and $P_B = P_{ESS} - P_{UC}$.

Step-3: If $P_{ESS} > 0$ and $P_{ESS} < P_{Min}$ and $V_C < V_{UC_T}$ then batteries supply both requested power and the additional power to charge the ultracapacitors, $P_B = P_{ESS} + P_{B_Add}$ and $P_{UC} = -P_{B_Add}$.

Step-4: If $P_{ESS} > 0$ and $P_{ESS} < P_{Min}$ and $V_C > V_{UC_T}$ then batteries supply the requested power, $P_B = P_{ESS}$ and P_{UC} .

Step-5: If $P_{ESS} < 0$ (i.e. regen mode), ultracapacitor is charged with power as much as it can accept and the remaining power is stored in batteries, $P_{UC} = \max(P_{ESS}, P_{UC_CMax})$ and $P_B = \max(P_{ESS} - P_{UC}, P_{B_CMax})$.

In comparative simulation study, P_{Min} and P_{B_Add} can be assigned to their optimum values based on the driving cycle simulations.

4. PROPOSED POWER SPLIT STRATEGY

The goal of the proposed rule based power split strategy is to distribute the power between the battery and the ultracapacitor system to ensure that the batteries are protected against high current pulses and high temperature rise that could result in shortening of the battery life. In order to achieve this, a rule based controller has been developed as illustrated in Figure 3 and has been implemented in Simulink environment as shown in Figure 4.

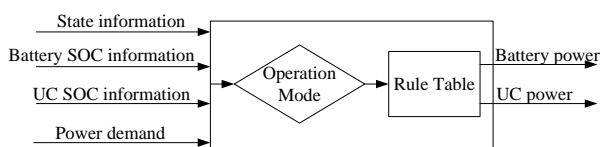


Figure 3. Rule based controller.

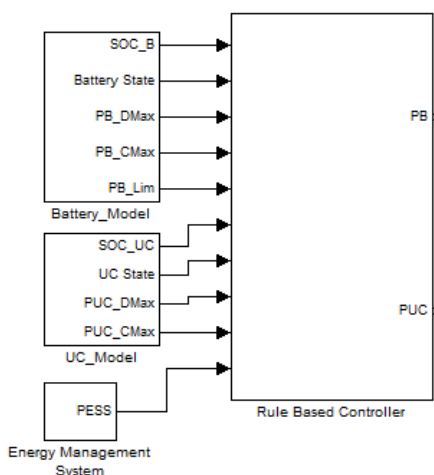


Figure 4. Simulink model of rule based controller.

As shown in Figure 4, the inputs of the controller are; the battery and ultracapacitor state (i.e. charge or discharge state) information, SOC information, maximum available charge and discharge powers of the energy sources, maximum allowable battery power (i.e. limited power) and the power demand, P_{ESS} which is calculated by the energy management system. Based on this information, controller decides the appropriate operation mode and determines the required battery and ultracapacitor powers from the rule tables (i.e. Tab. 1-2). Figure 5 shows the internal block diagram of the rule based controller developed in Simulink in Figure 4.

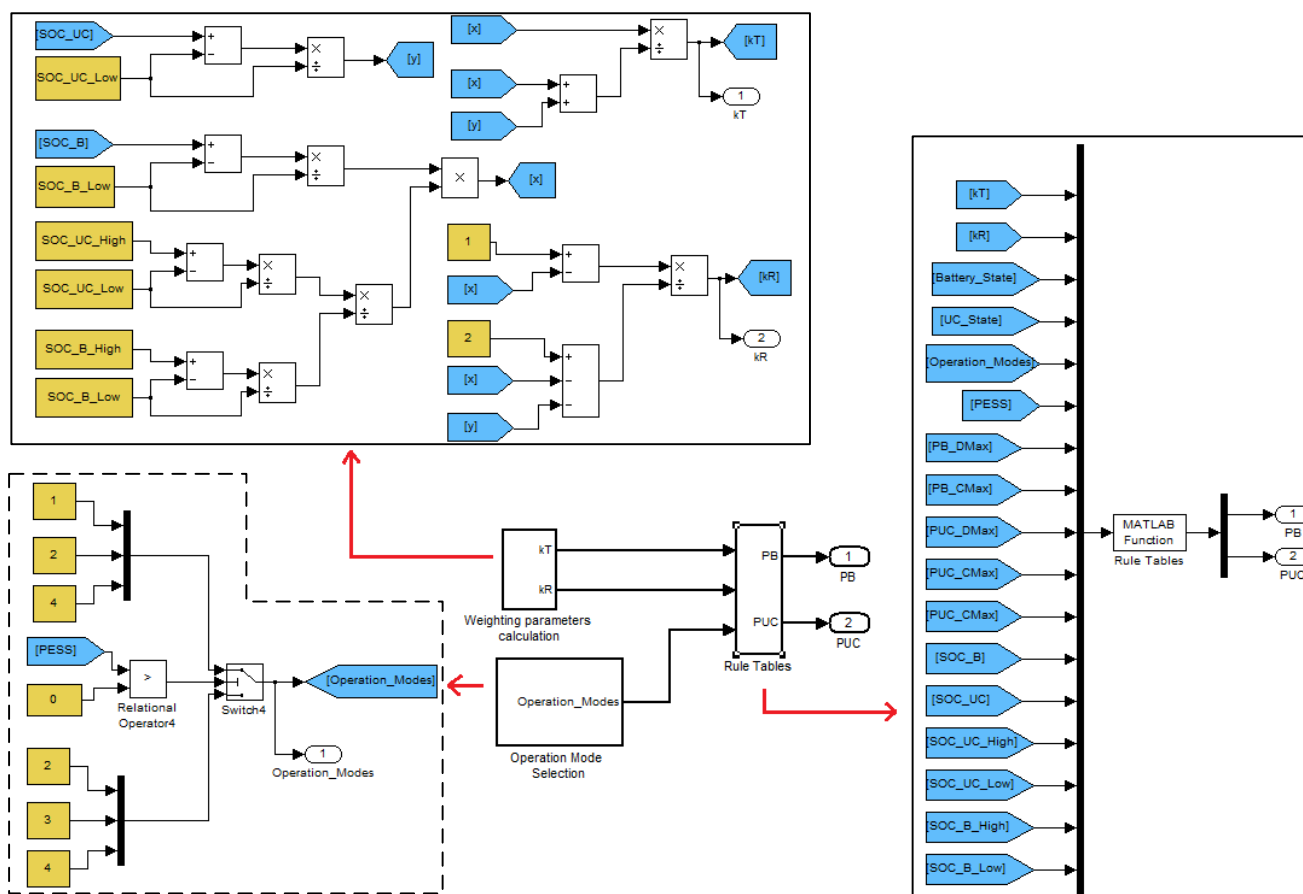


Figure 5. Simulink block diagram of the rule based controller

As shown in Figure 5, rule based controller developed in Simulink mainly consists of three parts; operation mode selection, rule tables and the calculation of weighting parameters. All the definitions and calculations corresponding to the rule tables, weighting parameters and the operation modes have been described below.

Energy sources have been operated in charge sustaining mode in which the aim is to maintain the SOC between the upper and lower limits in a certain range. For battery, this is usually a narrow band, for example, $0.65 < SOC < 0.55$. For ultracapacitor, this range is $0.9 < SOC < 0.5$ such that it is not allowed to fall below half of the nominal voltage (i.e. 50% SOC). This charge sustaining mode is illustrated in Figure 6 to demonstrate the battery case.

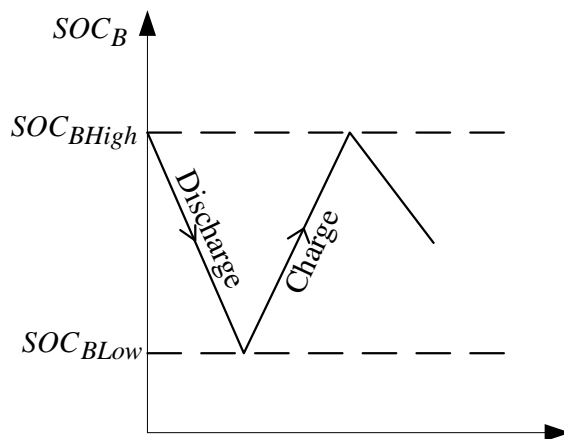


Figure 6. Charge sustaining mode.

As can be seen from Figure 6, the battery is in discharge state while SOC is decreasing from high to low level and it is in charge state while SOC is increasing from low to high level.

For 2 different energy sources, there are 4 operation modes as illustrated in Figure 7.

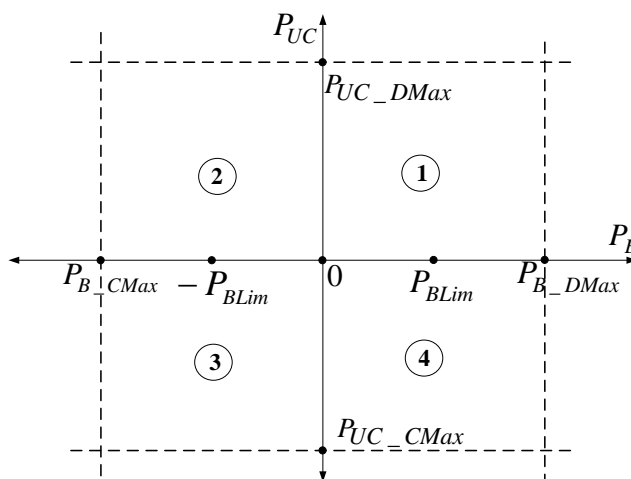


Figure 7. Operation modes.

In Figure 7, the x and y axis represent the battery and ultracapacitor powers, respectively. Positive power means that the power flows from energy source to the supply (i.e. discharging) while the negative power means that the power flows from supply to the energy source (i.e. charging). Here is the description of the operation modes,

In operation mode “1”: battery and ultracapacitor are discharging together. In operation mode “2”: battery is charging and ultracapacitor is discharging. In operation mode “3”: battery and ultracapacitor are charging together. In operation mode “4”: battery is discharging and ultracapacitor is charging. Based on the power request, P_{ESS} , the rule based controller choses the most suitable operation mode for the battery and the ultracapacitor system by using the following rule tables under

some constraints. If $P_{ESS} > 0$, then the rules in Tab. 1 are conducted and if $P_{ESS} < 0$, then the rules in Tab. 2 are conducted.

Table 1. Power distribution for positive power demands

State		Operation modes	P_B	P_{UC}
UC	B			
C	D	4	P_{ESS}	$P_{ESS} - P_B$
C	C	1	$P_{ESS}k_T$	$P_{ESS}(1-k_T)$
D	D	1	$P_{ESS}k_T$	$P_{ESS}(1-k_T)$
D	C	2	$P_{ESS} - P_{UC}$	P_{ESS}

Table 2. Power distribution for negative power demands

State		Operation modes	P_B	P_{UC}
UC	B			
C	D	4	$P_{ESS} - P_{UC}$	P_{ESS}
C	C	3	$P_{ESS}k_R$	$P_{ESS}(1-k_R)$
D	D	3	$P_{ESS}k_R$	$P_{ESS}(1-k_R)$
D	C	2	P_{ESS}	$P_{ESS} - P_B$

In state columns, “C” refers to charge and “D” refers to discharge states. Rule based controller distributes the requested power between the battery and the ultracapacitor systems under the following constraints,

$$P_{ESS} = P_B + P_{UC} \tag{19}$$

$$P_{B_CMax} < P_B < P_{B_DMax} \tag{20}$$

$$P_{UC_CMax} < P_{UC} < P_{UC_DMax} \tag{21}$$

$$SOC_{BLow} < SOC < SOC_{BHigh} \tag{22}$$

$$SOC_{UCLow} < SOC < SOC_{UCHigh} \tag{23}$$

There is also one special constraint concerning the battery power limitation as,

$$-P_{BLim} < P_B < P_{BLim} \tag{24}$$

Battery is allowed to supply or accept power as much as P_{BLim} which is an upper power limit and calculated based on the maximum continuous charge/discharge current, $I_{ch/dsch}$, as,

$$P_{BLim} = V_{B_Nom} I_{ch/dsch} \tag{25}$$

Among these constraints, the equality constraint (Eq. 19) must be strictly satisfied to ensure the vehicle's performance. In Table 1-2, k_T and k_R are the weighting parameters defined for positive and negative power demands, respectively. These factors are taken into account when the batteries and ultracapacitors are discharging (i.e. mode "1") or charging (i.e. mode "3") at the same time and are calculated based on the SOC levels of the energy storage systems as,

$$k_T = \frac{x}{x+y} \quad (26)$$

$$k_R = \frac{1-x}{2-x-y}$$

$$x = \alpha_{SOC} \frac{SOC_B - SOC_{BLoW}}{SOC_{BLoW}} \quad (27)$$

$$y = \frac{SOC_{UC} - SOC_{UCLoW}}{SOC_{UCLoW}}$$

Where, $0 \leq (k_T, k_R) \leq 1$ and SOC_{BLoW} and SOC_{UCLoW} are the lowest SOC values and SOC_{BHigh} and SOC_{UHigh} are the highest SOC values of the battery and the ultracapacitor, respectively. α_{SOC} is a scale factor which is used to make the operating SOC range of the battery match that of ultracapacitor and calculated as,

$$\alpha_{SOC} = \frac{\frac{SOC_{UHigh} - SOC_{UCLoW}}{SOC_{UCLoW}}}{\frac{SOC_{BHigh} - SOC_{BLoW}}{SOC_{BLoW}}} \quad (28)$$

For example if $(SOC_{BLoW}, SOC_{BHigh}) = (0.55, 0.65)$ and $(SOC_{UCLoW}, SOC_{UHigh}) = (0.5, 1)$ then α_{SOC} is calculated as 5.5.

5. SIMULATION STUDY

In order to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed strategy, series hybrid electric bus model with the topology shown in Figure 8 has been developed in MATLAB/Simulink. Tab. 3 shows the real vehicle parameters and the specifications of the battery and ultracapacitor systems used in the simulations. Battery and ultracapacitor systems have been sized based on the energy and power requirements obtained from drive cycle simulations. Manhattan (low-speed transit bus operation) and UDDS (high speed bus operation) drive cycles have been used in the simulations in order to study the performance of the proposed power split strategy. In this simulation study, 4 consecutive cycles have been used lasting a total of approximately 1 hour and 12 minutes in order to simulate the real transit bus operation.

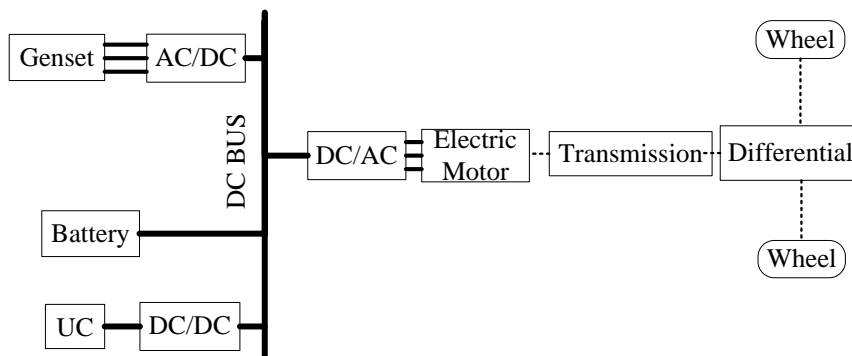


Figure 8. Series hybrid electric vehicle topology

Table 3. Simulation vehicle parameters

	Parameter	Value
Vehicle Dynamics	GVW (gross vehicle weight)	18 000 kg
	Wheel rolling radius	0,47 m
	Frontal area	7.3 m ²
	Aerodynamic drag coefficient	0,61
	Rolling friction coefficient	0,0078
Valence U24-12XP LiFePO4 Battery Pack	Number of modules	35 (1p35s)
	Number of cells	140
	Peak load current (30 seconds)	300 A
	Max. continuous current	150 A
	Rated capacity	110 Ah
	Nominal voltage	450 V
Maxwell BMOD0063P125 Ultracapacitor Pack	Number of modules	6 (2p3s)
	Nominal voltage	375 V
	Peak load current (1 sec., 10% duty cycle)	1500 A
	Max. continuous current	600 A

The performance of power split strategy was investigated in two case studies: 1) comparison with battery only system; and 2) comparison with alternative strategy described in Section 3.

The Case Study-1

Figure 9-10 show the speed profile and current variations of the battery only and battery/ultracapacitor systems for Manhattan and UDDS cycles during acceleration and deceleration periods, respectively.

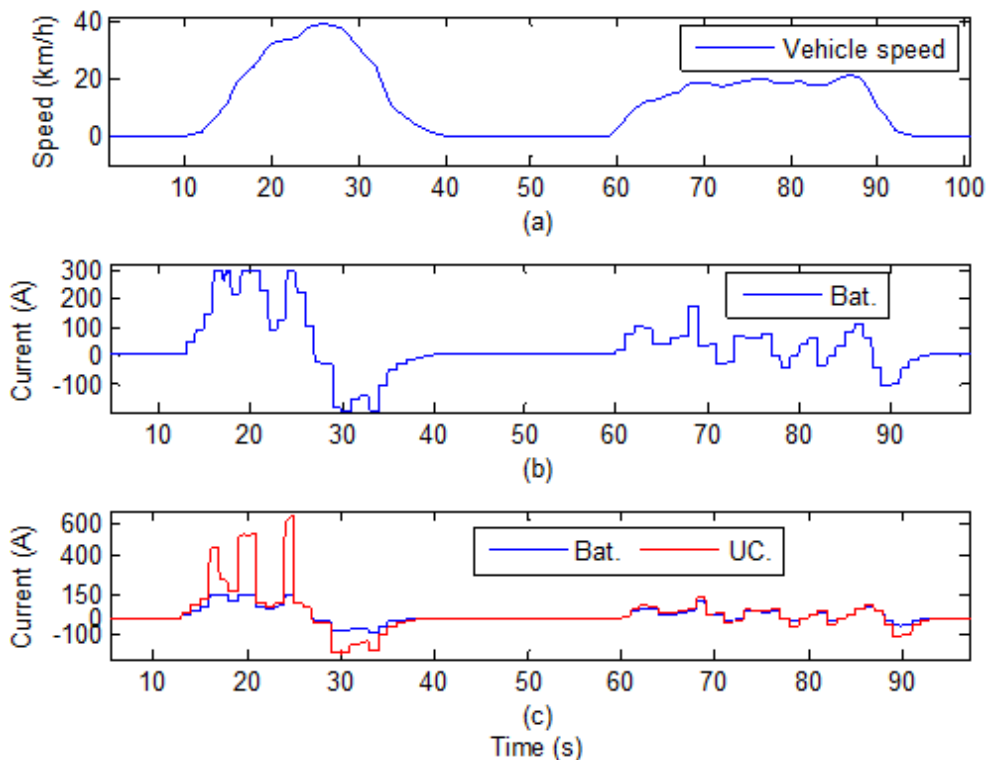


Figure 9. Results for Manhattan cycle (a) Vehicle speed (b) Battery only case (c) Bat/UC.

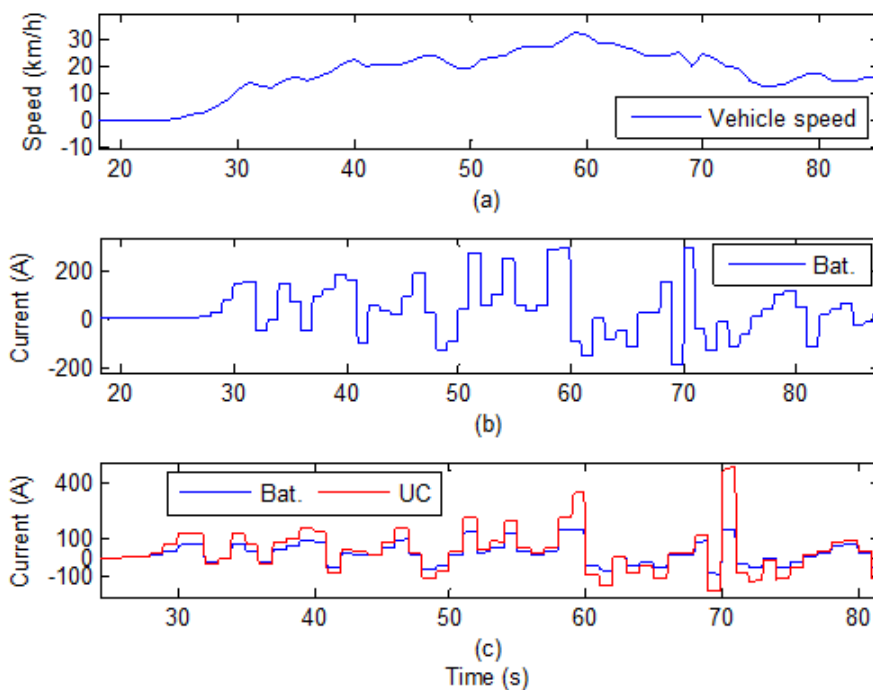


Figure 10. Results for UDDS cycle (a) Vehicle speed (b) Battery only case (c) Bat/UC.

As can be expected, it is seen that the battery current in battery only system is much higher than that of battery/ultracapacitor system in both driving cycles. It is also seen that battery provides the average power and ultracapacitor provides the peak power to the driving system in battery/ultracapacitor system.

Figure 11-12 show the variation of battery and ultracapacitor SOC and battery temperature variation in the battery/ultracapacitor and battery only system for Manhattan and UDDS cycles, respectively. In the simulations, the ambient temperature is considered constant at 25°C and the initial SOC value of the battery has been set to 0.6.

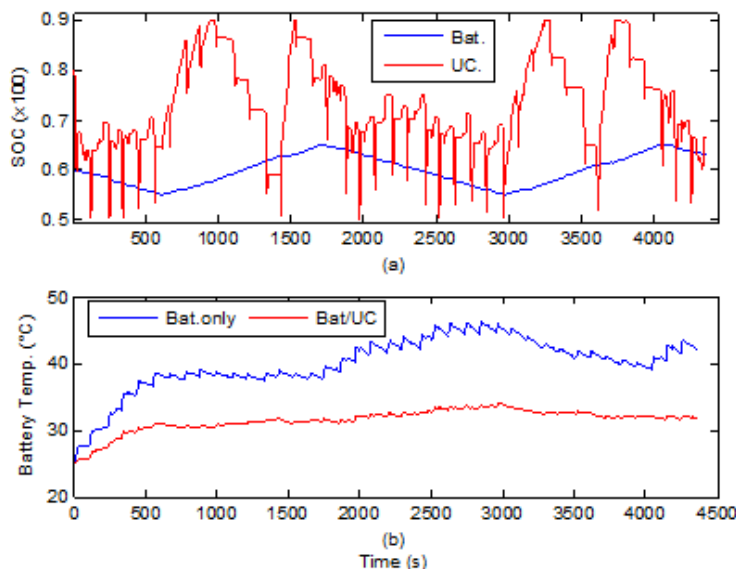


Figure 11. Variation of SOC and temperature for Manhattan cycle (a) SOC variation (b) battery temperature.

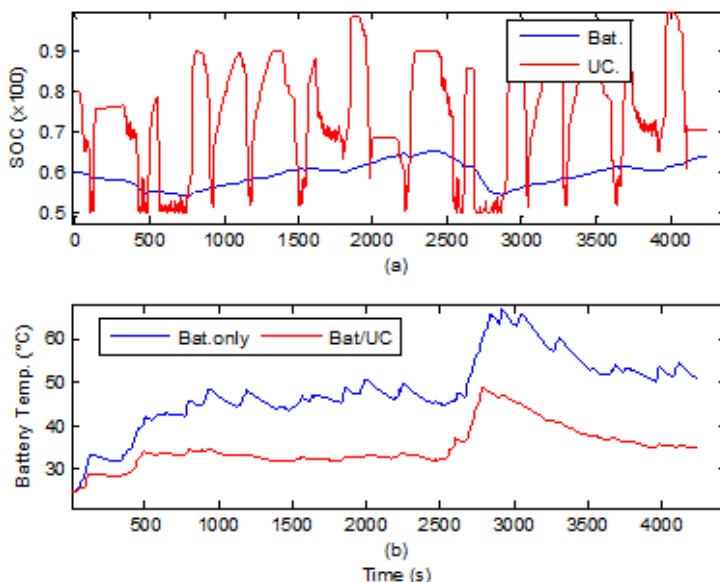


Figure 12. Variation of SOC and temperature for UDDS cycle (a) SOC variation (b) battery temperature.

These results show that the battery/ultracapacitor system has been successfully operated in charge sustaining mode in which the SOC are maintained between the upper and lower limits. It is also shown that the temperature in battery/ultracapacitor system is not as high as the temperature in battery only system as the current drawn from the battery has been significantly reduced in the battery/ultracapacitor system.

Tab. 4 compares the battery discharge and charge currents in battery only and battery/ultracapacitor systems for Manhattan and UDDS cycles, respectively.

Table 4. Simulation vehicle parameters

Battery Parameters	Battery only		Battery/UC	
	Manhattan	UDDS	Manhattan	UDDS
Avg. discharge current (A)	112	147	77.5	100
Avg. charge current (A)	60.5	68	42.2	45.8
Peak discharge current (A)	300	300	230	240
Peak charge current (A)	220	300	142	167

From Tab. 4, it is seen that the average battery discharge and charge currents have been reduced by 30%, the peak battery discharge current has been reduced by 25% and the peak battery charge current has been reduced by 50% for both driving cycles by adding ultracapacitor to the system.

Figure 13 shows the effect of ultracapacitor on the current drawn from the batteries in different C-rate ranges for the Manhattan cycle. C-rate describes the rate of charge or discharge of battery and is calculated as the ratio of the applied charge or discharge current to the rated capacity. For example, a battery with a rated capacity of 110 Ah supplying 220 A to the load will have a C-rate of 2.

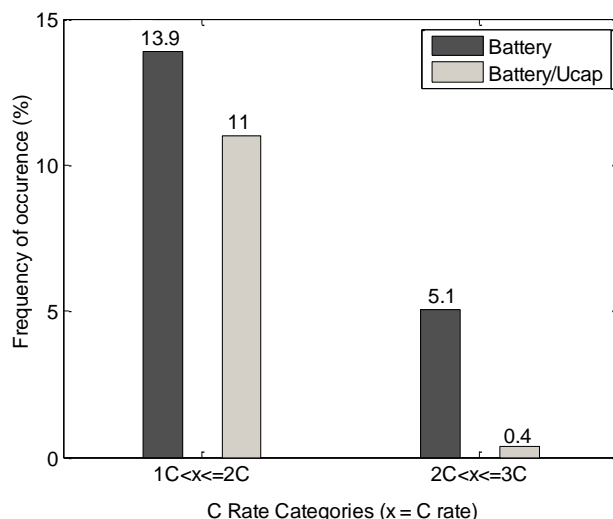


Figure 13. Battery C-rate distribution for Manhattan cycle.

From Figure 13, it is seen that adding of ultracapacitor to the battery system dramatically reduces the frequency of high C-rate current drawn from the battery. For example, battery only system is exposed to current in the range of 2C-3C during 5.1% of the Manhattan cycle. However, this

frequency is 0.4% for battery/ultracapacitor system, which is quite lower than that of battery only system. The benefit of adding ultracapacitor to the battery system is also evident for UDDS cycle as shown in Figure 14.

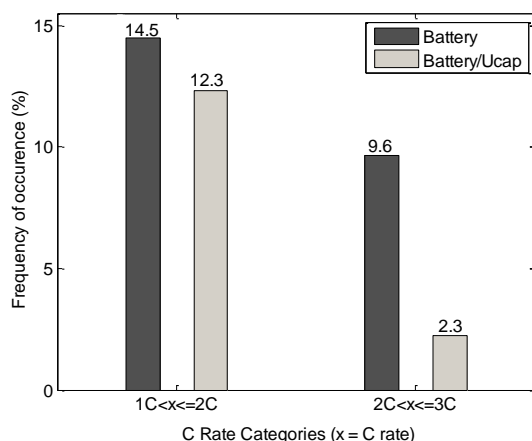


Figure 14. Battery C-rate distribution for UDDS cycle.

As UDDS cycle is much more aggressive than Manhattan cycle, the current drawn from the battery in UDDS cycle is higher than that of Manhattan cycle. This situation results in a higher frequency of occurrence of high battery C-rates for battery/ultracapacitor system (i.e. 2.3%) when compared to the results of Manhattan cycle (i.e. 0.4%).

The Case Study-2

The performance of the proposed power split strategy has been compared with that of alternative rule based power split strategy given in [26]. In simulation studies, the design parameters used in the alternative strategy have been chosen as $P_{Min} = 20kW$, $P_{B_Add} = 4kW$ and $P_{Min} = 50kW$, $P_{B_Add} = 10kW$ for Manhattan and UDDS cycles, respectively.

Figure 15-16 show the frequency of occurrence of battery C-rate ranges in the case of performing the proposed and the alternative strategies for Manhattan and UDDS cycles, respectively.

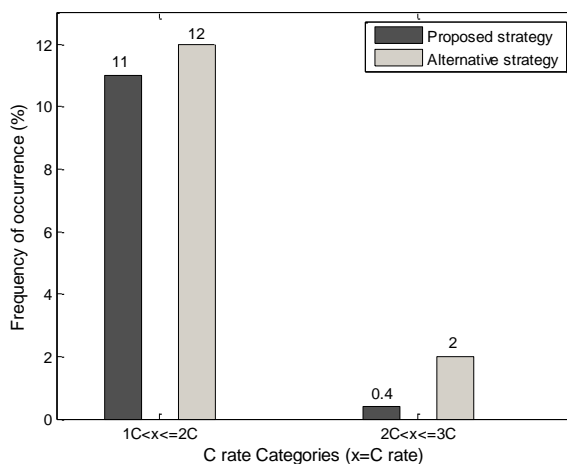


Figure 15. Battery C-rate distribution of proposed and alternative strategies for Manhattan cycle.

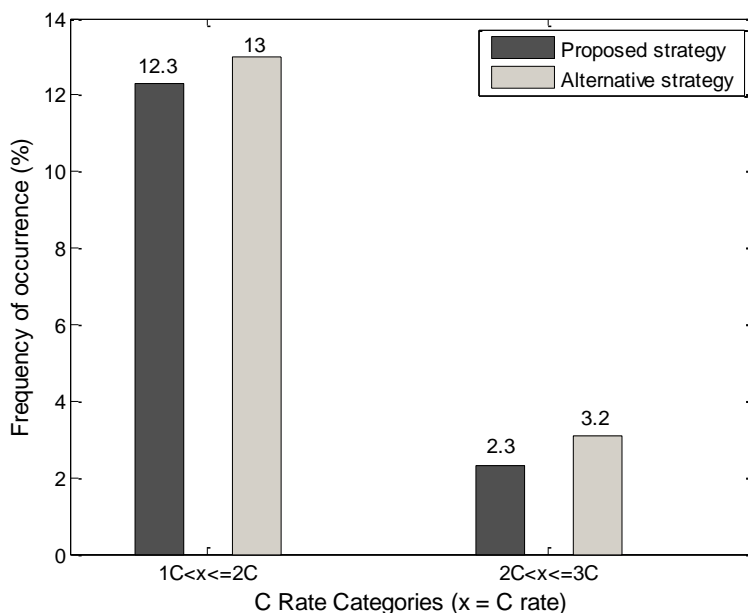


Figure 16. Battery C-rate distribution of proposed and alternative strategies for UDDS cycle.

As can be seen from Figure 15, the frequency of occurrence of battery current in 1C-2C range is 11% and 2C-3C range is 0.4% for the proposed strategy. However, these are 12% and 2% for alternative strategy. Thus, with the proposed strategy, the frequency of occurrence of battery current has been reduced by %1 and %1.5 in the range of 1C-2C and 2C-3C rates for Manhattan cycle, respectively.

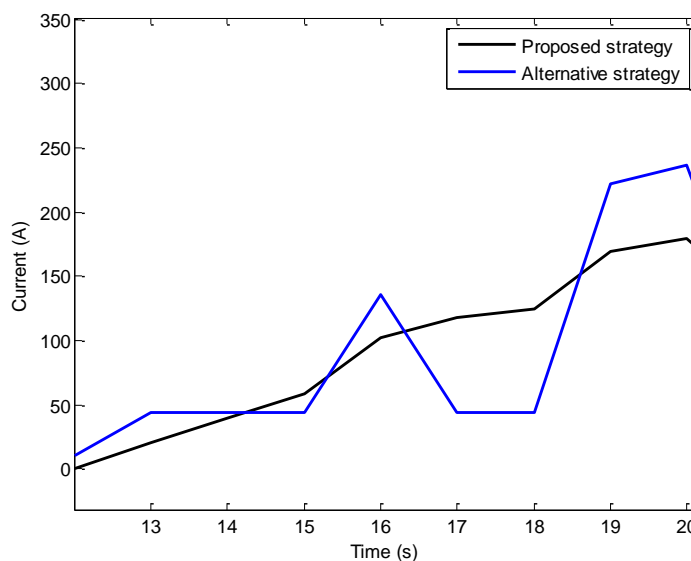


Figure 17. The variation of battery current for Manhattan cycle.

Similar results have been obtained for UDDS cycle as well. For this cycle, with the proposed strategy, the frequency of occurrence of battery current has been reduced by %0.7 and %0.9 in the range of 1C-2C and 2C-3C rates, respectively. Although, the difference of results obtained with both strategies is small, it can be significant when considering that the bus is operating whole day (i.e. the long driving time). For example, for consecutive Manhattan cycles which last 72 minutes, the duration of high current in 2C-3C range drawn from the battery is approximately one minute more when applying the alternative strategy. Furthermore, the optimum values of P_{Min} and P_{B_Add} parameters in alternative strategy are determined empirically by performing several time consuming simulation runs for each driving cycle condition.

The variation of battery current during acceleration periods has been also investigated for the proposed and alternative strategies in Figure 17 for Manhattan cycle.

From Figure 17, it is seen that the current drawn from the battery is much smoother and the peak battery current is much less during aggressive acceleration period when the proposed strategy is used. Similar results can be obtained for UDDS cycle as well.

6. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, a novel rule based controller has been developed to distribute the power between the battery and ultracapacitor systems in hybrid electric vehicles. The rule based controller consists of three stages; determination of operation modes for energy sources, calculation of newly introduced weighting parameters and creation of rules tables to determine the battery and ultracapacitor powers. Each stage has been described in detail in the paper. The effectiveness of the proposed strategy has been demonstrated on a hybrid electric bus model developed in MATLAB/Simulink through simulation studies under different drive cycle conditions. In simulation section, two different case studies have been conducted for comparison purpose. In the first case study, the results have been compared with the battery only system. It has been concluded that, with the proposed strategy, the peak battery discharge current has been reduced by 25% and the peak battery charge current has been reduced by 50% for both driving cycles and the battery is much less exposed to high currents in 2C-3C range (i.e. 5.1% in battery/uc system, 0.4% in battery only system) by adding ultracapacitors to the system. In the second case study, the performance of the proposed strategy has been compared with that of alternative rule based power split strategy explained in Section 3. The results showed that the the current drawn from the battery is much smoother during sudden acceleration and the frequency of occurrence of battery current in the range of 1C-2C and 2C-3C rates has been reduced by more than 1% when using the proposed strategy for specified driving cycles. Although this reduction is small, it can be significant if considering that the bus is operating whole day. Overall, comparative simulation studies showed that, with the proposed strategy, the battery is less exposed to rapid current changes and to high charge/discharge rates when compared to the alternative method and the battery only case.

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