



University of Technology Sydney

Centre for Green Energy and Vehicle Innovations

Faculty of Engineering and IT

**A NOVEL BATTERY-SUPERCAPACITOR  
POWER SUPPLY FOR ELECTRIC  
VEHICLES (EVs) – DESIGN, SIMULATION  
AND EXPERIMENT**

A thesis submitted for the degree of

**Doctor of Philosophy**

**Li SUN**

Aug 2017

# **CERTIFICATION OF ORIGINALITY**

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged within the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

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Aug 2017

# ABSTRACT

Most existing electric vehicles (EVs) employ rechargeable batteries alone. As a consequence, they suffer from performance degradation such as power deprivation or battery aging, and have difficulty to cope with the whole spectrum of driving load without compromising durability or safety. A more complex design is therefore, required to address this drawback. More specifically, a Hybrid Energy Storage System (HESS) is proposed to hybridize batteries with other sources possessing higher power density such as a supercapacitor via a smart power converter to electrically regulate each power flow. This unique power sharing capability can effectively reduce power stress that would otherwise be applied to batteries alone, whilst increase the attractiveness of the EV market due to the potential power-boost capabilities. However, the novel HESS increases the cost and weight of the vehicle. This thesis is intended to resolve these conflicts and consists of following three innovative aspects.

- 1) A four-quadrant, supercapacitor-only drive solution is first investigated, developed and characterized to gain better insights into the unique properties of the supercapacitor and the bi-directional DC-DC converter, during both driving and regenerative braking mode – Chapter 3.
- 2) In order to justify various design trade-offs, a novel Multi Objective Optimization Problem (MOOP) based component sizing algorithm is developed aiming at solving two conflicting objectives – cost and total stored energy in HESS, when considering the presence of a power converter – Chapter 4.

- 3) Finally, an adaptive power split strategy (PSS) is developed in order to intelligently split load power between batteries and supercapacitors as a function of the ever-changing load profile. A simplified HESS model is first developed in Matlab and then, the real-time PSS is coded using Labview and deployed on a 5kW EV-HESS integrated test rig. Both simulation and experimental results prove its effectiveness in coping with even the harshest driving scenarios in real life – Chapter 5.

Although I specifically present the results for HESS applications, the concept of MOOP, HESS and PSS can be easily tailored for other types of hybridized systems such as series hybrid electric vehicles, battery assisted fuel cell electric vehicles, solar-battery power systems or any dual-source power systems that need to perform load-leveling functions.

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# NOMENCLATURE

## Global abbreviations used in this thesis

HEV	Hybrid Electric Vehicle
EV	Electric Vehicle
ESS	Energy Storage System
HESS	Hybrid Energy Storage System
ICE	Internal Combustion Engine
SOC	State Of Charge
BP	Battery Pack
SC	Supercapacitor
SP	Supercapacitor Pack
PC	Power Converter
EMS	Energy Management Strategy
PSS	Power Split Strategy
MOOP	Multi Objective Optimization Problem
$P_{LOAD}$	Load Power (W)
$P_{SP}$	Supercapacitor Power (W)
$P_{BP}$	Battery Power (W)

## Chapter 1 Notation

EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
DCT	Dual Clutch Transmission
VCU	Vehicle Control Unit
TCU	Transmission Control Unit

## Chapter 2 Notation

ESR	Equivalent Series Resistance
NTC	Negative Temperature Coefficient
PTC	Positive Temperature Coefficient
RB	Rule Based
ECMS	Equivalent Consumption Minimization Strategy
SVM	Support Vector Machine

## Chapter 3 Notation

OCL	Overhead Contact Lines
NiMH	Nickel-Metal Hydride
EMF	Electromotive Force
VSD	Variable Speed Drive
$V_1$	Cut-off voltage of the supercapacitor bank (V)
$V_2$	Fully charged DC voltage of the supercapacitor bank (V)
C	Total capacitance of the supercapacitor bank (F)
E	Total energy stored within the supercapacitor bank (J)
M	Total Mass of the scooter and driver (kg)
$S_1$	Scooter end speed (m/s)
$S_2$	Scooter initial speed (m/s)
$V_{scap}$	Supercapacitor terminal voltage (V)
$I_{scap}$	Supercapacitor current (A)
$V_m$	Scooter motor back EMF (V)
$I_m$	Scooter motor current (A)
$V_o$	Converter output voltage (V)
$P_m$	Net motor(generator) power (W)
$R_a$	Armature resistance
$P_{in}$	Total electromotive input power (W)
$P_{dc}$	Converter output power (W)
$P_{scap}$	Supercapacitor power (W)
$EFF_m$	Power conversion efficiency over motor energy conversion stage
$EFF_{dc}$	Power conversion efficiency over DC-DC energy conversion stage
$EFF_{regen}$	Power conversion efficiency over regenerative energy conversion stage
$EFF_{overall}$	Overall power conversion efficiency

#### **Chapter 4 Notation**

HCR	Hybridized Cost Ratio
LiFePO <sub>4</sub>	Lithium Iron Phosphate
LMO	Lithium Manganese Oxide
MOOP	Multi-Objective Optimization Problem
NCM	Nickel-Cobalt-Manganese



PCOA	Parallel Chaos Optimization Algorithm
ZVC	Zero Voltage Switching
W	Total weight of HESS (kg)
$W_b$	Weight of battery pack (kg)
$W_{sc}$	Weight of supercapacitor pack (kg)
$W_{pc}$	Weight of power converter (kg)
E	Total stored energy of HESS (kWh)
$E_b$	Stored energy of battery pack (kWh)
$E_{sc}$	Stored energy of supercapacitor pack (kWh)
P	Total power capacity of HESS (kW)
$P_b$	Power capacity of battery pack (kW)
$P_{sc}$	Power capacity of supercapacitor pack (kW)
$P_{pc}$	Power capacity of power converter (kW)
X	Total cost of HESS (AUD)
$X_b$	Cost of battery pack (AUD)
$X_{sc}$	Cost of supercapacitor pack (AUD)
$X_{pc}$	Cost of power converter (AUD)
m	Curb weight of the vehicle excluding the weight of HESS (kg)
P2W	Power to weight ratio of the vehicle (kW/kg)
$\Phi_b$	(Weight) Specific energy of battery pack (Wh/kg)
$\Phi_{sc}$	(Weight) Specific energy of supercapacitor pack (Wh/kg)
$\theta_b$	(Weight) Specific power of battery pack (kW/kg)
$\theta_{sc}$	(Weight) Specific power of supercapacitor pack (kW/kg)
$\theta_{pc}$	(Weight) Specific power of power converter (kW/kg)
$C_b$	(Weight) Specific cost of battery pack (AUD/kg)
$C_{sc}$	(Weight) Specific cost of supercapacitor pack (AUD/kg)
$C_{pc}$	(Weight) Specific cost of power converter (AUD/kg)
$V_{dc}$	DC link voltage (V)
J	Multi-objective optimization function vector [(kWh), (AUD)]
$J_E$	Multi-objective optimization function vector – minimum system energy (kWh)
$J_C$	Multi-objective optimization function vector – minimum cost (AUD)
$P_{min}$	Minimum total power of HESS (kW)

$P_{sc\_min}$	Minimum total power of supercapacitor (kW)
$P_{b\_min}$	Minimum total power of battery (kW)
$E_{sc\_min}$	Minimum energy stored in SP (Wh)
$P2W\_min$	Minimum P2W ratio
$W\_max$	Maximum weight of the overall HESS (kg)

### **Chapter 5 Notation**

AI	Artificial Intelligence
DFT	Discrete Fourier Transform
EMS	Energy Management Strategy
FIR	Finite Impulse Response
LPF	Low Pass Filter
PAPR	Peak-to-Average Power Ratio
PAVR	Peak-to-Average Velocity Ratio
$I_{SP}$	Output current of the SP (A)
$I_{BP}$	Output current of the BP (A)
$I_{LOAD}$	Load current (A)
R	Ratio of area
$f_c$	Cut-off frequency (Hz)
$F_r$	Tyre rolling resistance (N)
$F_d$	Aerodynamic drag force (N)
$\eta$	Total electrical energy conversion efficiency
M	Vehicle mass (kg)
$C_r$	Aerodynamic drag coefficient
A	Frontal area (m <sup>2</sup> )
$\rho$	Air density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )
$C_d$	Rolling resistance coefficient
$R_w$	Wheel radius (m)
V	Vehicle velocity (km/hr)