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A Hybrid Energy Storage System for an Electric Vehicle and Its Efectiveness Validation

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Abstract

A hybrid energy storage system (HESS), which consists of a battery and a supercapacitor, presents good performances on both the power density and the energy density when applying to electric vehicles. In this research, an HESS is designed targeting at a commercialized EV model and a driving condition-adaptive rule-based energy management strategy (EMS) is proposed for the HESS, which takes into account the superiority achievement of each ESS and also the protection to each ESS. The efectiveness of the HESS plus the EMS compared to the single battery case is validated by both the computer simulation and the semi-physical rapid control prototype (RCP) test bench. An electric loading equipment is adopted in the RCP experiment validation for simulating the vehicle driving cycle instead of the traditional combination of a motor and a dynamometer. Both validation results show that compared to the single battery case, the working status of the battery is stabilized by the addition of the supercapacitor in the HESS case during both the propelling and regeneration modes and the battery energy is also saved. A dynamic degradation model for the battery is adopted in order to evaluate the life cycle cost of the HESS. Results show that the HESS plus the EMS has the efect of prolonging the battery lifetime and the HESS is economically effective compared to the single battery case.

Keywords Hybrid energy storage system · Electric vehicle · Energy management strategy · Rapid control prototype · Lifetime prolonging · Energy saving · Life cycle cost

1 Introduction

A single energy storage system (ESS) is commonly used in electric vehicles (EVs) currently. The ESS should satisfy both the power and energy density requirements as EVs should be able to cover a complicated driving cycle, including starting, acceleration, cruising, and deceleration modes, and meet a long driving mileage per charging. However, each single ESS has some inherent demerits. For example, batteries present a much lower power density, a shorter

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cycle life, a much longer charging time, a worse starting performance at low temperature compared to supercapacitors, whereas supercapacitors provide a much lower energy density compared to batteries. Currently, there is no such a single ESS which meets the power density and the energy density requirements of EVs at the same time. A hybrid ESS (HESS), in which a battery is the main ESS and a supercapacitor is the auxiliary ESS, can fgure out the problems by combining the energy density superiority of the battery and the power density superiority of the supercapacitor. Because of the use of two ESSs, the HESS should be accompanied by an energy management strategy (EMS) to distribute the totally required power between the two ESSs appropriately, otherwise the energy may be wasted.

Regarding the EMS of the HESS for EVs, there have been two major types of EMSs, which are the heuristic conceptbased EMS $[1-10]$ $[1-10]$ $[1-10]$ and the optimal control theory-based EMS [[3,](#page-14-2) [9](#page-14-3), [11](#page-14-4)] respectively. The former EMS is established by a number of rules or fuzzy logics, which are based on expert knowledge. This type of EMS is simple and its logic relationship is explicit, thus it is convenient for the

implementation. Research [\[1\]](#page-14-0) proposed an EMS which is based on simple rules and takes advantage of the high power density of the supercapacitor and prevents an overstress on the battery. Research [\[2](#page-14-5)] presented a novel rule-based EMS by considering two objectives which are improving the vehicle's efficiency and reducing peak battery currents to increase the battery life. Several heuristic concept-based EMSs were proposed and compared for bus applications in research [\[3](#page-14-2)] including a rule-based EMS and a fuzzy logicbased EMS, and comparison results showed that the rulebased and the fuzzy logic-based EMSs reduce more than 50% of the battery capacity loss along the China Bus Driving Cycle compared to the single battery configuration. In research [\[4](#page-14-6)], a rule based EMS was developed aiming at exploiting the supercapacitor characteristics and increasing the battery lifetime and the system efficiency, and the effectiveness of the proposed EMS was validated by experiments and results showed that the integration of the supercapacitor enables the battery to share the low frequency load current, which would be very helpful to increase the battery lifetime. In addition to above EMSs, there is also a totally diferent concept of rule-based EMS named the frequency-based strategy $[7-10]$ $[7-10]$ $[7-10]$, the main idea of which is to allocate the low and high frequency contents of the demanded power into the battery and the supercapacitor respectively based on Wavelet Transform.

In spite of the aforementioned advantages, the heuristic concept-based EMS is difficult to achieve the theoretically optimal results on the energy management between the battery and the supercapacitor. Thus, the optimal control theory-based EMS is developed later for HESSs. This type of EMS is also widely used to the engine/battery hybrid vehicles [\[12](#page-14-8), [13\]](#page-14-9), which adopts either the global optimization theory including Dynamic Programming (DP) and the instantaneous optimization theory including Pontryagin's Minimum Principle (PMP). An optimal EMS was proposed based on the PMP in research [[9\]](#page-14-3), the objective of which is to minimize the electricity usage of the EV and meanwhile to maximize the battery lifetime, and simulation results showed that the proposed EMS saves electricity and has the efect of prolonging the battery lifetime compared to a rule-based EMS and the single ESS case. Research [[11\]](#page-14-4) presented a DP algorithm-based EMS including a simplifed battery ageing model in the formulation, and simulation results showed that the root mean square value of the battery current is reduced by 10% compared to a rule-based EMS whilst the battery peak current value is also decreased by 45% compared to the same rule-based EMS, which is helpful for prolonging the battery lifetime. The optimal control theory-based EMS guarantees the theoretically optimal results on the energy management, however it cannot be used to the real controllers for the global optimization theory case because of the excessively long calculation time, the backward calculation

process, and the whole driving cycle information-in-advance requirement. For the instantaneous optimization theory case, the difficulty lies in the heavy computational burden for real-time applications and the determination of the control parameters, which depend on the driving condition.

Each type of EMS mentioned above has its own merits and demerits. Thus, some researchers [\[14](#page-14-10)[–17\]](#page-14-11) have developed new EMSs for HESSs by combing the heuristic concept and the optimal control theory including Simulated Annealing (SA), Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO), and Genetic Algorithm (GA). Research [\[14\]](#page-14-10) proposed a nearoptimal EMS, in which control rules were extracted from DP results, and proved that a well-tuned rule-based EMS presents a good performance when compared to DP approach. Research [\[15](#page-14-12)] proposed a rule-based EMS in which SA was introduced to optimize the reference supercapacitor SOC and the battery power, so that the most suitable mode of the multi-mode HESS could be selected and the global energy management optimization of the HESS could also be well realized. A fuzzy logic-based EMS was presented in research [[17\]](#page-14-11), in which GA was adopted to optimize lower and upper limits of membership functions aiming to maximize the driving range and performance of the EV.

Regarding the efectiveness validation of the HESS plus the EMS, it is generally a three-step process, which consists of the computer simulation, the semi-physical experiment, and the real vehicle test. Because of the relatively low cost and short time required, the computer simulation technique is adopted by most researchers for the frst validation step. However, the reliability is relatively low due to the ideal simulation environment and the validation is also infuenced by the simulation model precision. The semi-physical experiment validation is the next step to the computer simulation validation, in which a part of components are switched to real components, so that the reliability can be improved compared to the computer simulation validation and the time and cost can be saved compared to the real vehicle test. In the rapid control prototype (RCP) semi-physical experiment, the controller is virtual and the control objects are real. In research [[4\]](#page-14-6), a rule-based EMS was proposed and validated by the RCP experiment based on a dSPACEbased MicroAutoBox (DS1401). Research [[15](#page-14-12)] presented an SA-adaptive mode switch strategy, by which the global energy management optimization of the multi-mode HESS can be well realized, and the efectiveness of the strategy was proved by the RCP experiment using a microcontroller MSP430f5438a and two control boxes. A similar validation work was also carried out in another research [[18](#page-14-13)]. In research [[19](#page-14-14)], the proposed SA-based EMS was tested by the RCP experiment based on the Compact RIO real-time controller. Similarly, in their further research [[20\]](#page-14-15), the proposed PSO-based EMS was implemented using the Compact RIO real-time controller for RCP experiment validation. In research [\[21\]](#page-14-16), a fuzzy logic-based EMS was implemented using the xPC Target for the RCP experiment validation. In their further research [[22](#page-14-17)], the rule-based strategy, DP algorithm, and real-time reinforcement learning algorithm were systematically compared, and the performance of the control strategies was tested by the RCP experiment based on the xPC Target.

In this research, an HESS is designed targeting at a commercialized EV model, i.e. BMW i3. In spite of the merits of other types of EMS mentioned above, a rule-based EMS is developed for the designed HESS considering that this type of EMS can be easily implemented in a real vehicle. The developed EMS is driving condition-adaptive and considers the superiority achievement of each ESS and the protection to each ESS. There are several control parameters defned in the EMS, which are dependent on the driving condition. The effectiveness of the designed EHSS plus the developed EMS compared to the single battery case is validated by both the computer simulation and the semi-physical test bench, which is constructed based on the RCP using the dSPACE. In the RCP validation, an electric loading equipment is adopted for simulating the vehicle driving cycle instead of the traditional combination of a motor and a dynamometer. This is beneficial for increasing the precision of the driving cycle modeling due to the simple working principle and high controllability of the electric loading equipment and also helpful for reducing the validation risk and cost. The effectiveness of the HESS plus the EMS compared to the single battery case mainly includes the battery lifetime prolonging, the battery electricity saving, and the life cycle cost down in this research. The economic efectiveness of the HESS is proved by adopting a dynamic battery degradation model and comparing the life cycle cost between the HESS and the single battery cases.

2 The Vehicle Model and the HESS Design

The powertrain confguration of the EV with the HESS studied in this research is illustrated in Fig. [1](#page-2-0). Regarding the HESS topology, the passive, active, and semi-active topologies were proposed and compared to each other in the research [[23–](#page-14-18)[25](#page-14-19)]. It can be concluded as follows: the power density superiority of the supercapacitor is limited in the passive confguration, in which there is no bidirectional DC/DC converter and thus the energy transfer in the battery and in the supercapacitor is passively controlled; the performance of the active confguration can be the best, in which the energy transfer in the battery and in the supercapacitor is controlled by two bidirectional DC/DC converters respectively, however, this confguration increases the cost and the difficulty in control; the semi-active configuration can be the most efective one considering both the cost and controllability, in which the energy in the supercapacitor

Fig. 1 Powertrain confguration of an EV with an HESS

Table 1 Vehicle parameters of the BMW i3

Parameter	Value		
Vehicle total mass (kg)	1443		
Wheel base (mm)	2570		
Vehicle size (mm)	$4006 \times 1775 \times 1600$		
Max speed of vehicle (km/h)	150		
Transmission gear ratio	9.67:1		
Propulsion mode	RR		

is controlled by a bidirectional DC/DC converter while that in the battery is controlled passively. Thus, the semi-active confguration is adopted in this research for the HESS topology.

The battery is the primary ESS, and the supercapacitor is the auxiliary ESS which is connected to a bidirectional DC/ DC converter in series and then connected to the battery in parallel. This confguration is benefcial for increasing the DC/ DC converter's energy conversion efficiency and the system controllability due to the rapid response of the supercapacitor voltage. The battery and the supercapacitor cover the smooth and the frequent transient loads respectively during the propulsion mode of the vehicle, and in a similar way, they are responsible for the smooth charging and the frequent charging respectively during regenerative braking mode of the vehicle. In some cases, it is possible for the supercapacitor to be charged by the battery.

2.1 Vehicle Dynamics

BMW i3 EV is selected as the target vehicle in this research, parameters of which are listed in Table [1](#page-2-1) [[26\]](#page-14-20). Usually, the vehicle dynamics during driving can be expressed as follows:

$$
F_t - F_r - F_a - F_g = m \cdot a
$$

$$
F_t - f_r mg \cos \alpha - 0.5 \rho_a A_f C_D v^2 - mg \sin \alpha = m \cdot a
$$
 (1)

where F_t is the traction force provided by the vehicle power system, and F_r , F_a , and F_g represent the tire rolling

resistance, the aerodynamic drag, and the uphill resistance respectively. *m* is the vehicle total mass, and *a* is the vehicle acceleration.

Equation [\(1](#page-2-2)) is widely adopted in the vehicle energy management research previously. However, this equation is not always appropriate because sometimes results derived from it can be much diferent from the real case especially the tire rolling resistance and the aerodynamic drag. In order to fgure out this problem, the sum of the tire rolling resistance and the aerodynamic drag during driving F_{f+w} is expressed using the vehicle speed ν and three coefficients as follows:

$$
F_{f+w} = A + Bv + Cv^2 \tag{2}
$$

where coefficients A , B , and C are fitted by the real vehicle coast-down experiments [\[27](#page-14-21)]. Argonne National Laboratory has conducted the experiments and provided those coefficients for a number of EV models including the BMW i3 [\[28\]](#page-14-22). According to the provided data, Eq. ([2\)](#page-3-0) for the BMW i3 is fxed as follows:

$$
F_{f+w} = 104.907 + 1.8321v + 0.026498v^2
$$
\n(3)

and accordingly, the Eq. [\(1](#page-2-2)) can be revised as follows:

$$
F_t - (104.907 + 1.8321v + 0.026498v^2) - mg\sin\alpha = m \cdot a
$$

(4)

where α represents the road slope. Equation [\(4](#page-3-1)) is used to express the vehicle dynamics in this research.

2.2 Motor Model

The electric motor is one of the most important components for EVs, which transfers the electrical energy of the HESS into the mechanical energy to propel the vehicle during the propulsion mode. Oppositely, the motor is controlled to be

Fig. 2 Motor efficiency map of the BMW i3

her Kant

working as a generator and transfers the mechanical energy of the vehicle into the electrical energy and stores it into the HESS during the regenerative braking mode. The motor is usually modeled by a motor efficiency map, which expresses the relationship among the speed, the torque, and the efficiency. According to the open data of the BMW i3 [[29\]](#page-14-23), the motor efficiency map can be derived as shown in Fig. [2,](#page-3-2) where quadrants I and IV correspond to the propulsion mode and the regenerative braking mode respectively. Some important parameters of the motor are listed in Table [2.](#page-3-3)

2.3 Battery Model

The internal resistance model is used for the battery, in which the battery is expressed by a voltage source and a resistance connected to the voltage source in series. The voltage source and the resistance change according to the battery state of charge (SOC). The equivalent circuit diagram of the battery model is illustrated in Fig. [3,](#page-3-4) in which U_{oc} and R_{int} represent the voltage source, which is called the open circuit voltage (OCV), and the internal resistance respectively.

The following relationship can be drawn from Fig. [3](#page-3-4):

$$
P_b = U_{bat} \cdot I_{bat} = (U_{oc}(SOC_b) - I_{bat} \cdot R_{int}(SOC_b)) \cdot I_{bat}
$$

$$
P_b - (U_{oc}(SOC_b) - I_{bat} \cdot R_{int}(SOC_b)) \cdot I_{bat} = 0
$$
 (5)

where P_b is the battery power and I_{bat} is the battery current. *Ibat* can be expressed as follows by solving the quadratic equation in (5) (5) (5) .

$$
I_{bat} = \frac{U_{oc}(SOC_b) \pm \sqrt{U_{oc}(SOC_b)^2 - 4R_{int}(SOC_b) \cdot P_b}}{2R_{int}(SOC_b)}
$$
\n(6)

Fig. 3 Equivalent circuit diagram of the battery model

For a certain battery power, there are two diferent operating modes, i.e. the high-current low-voltage mode and the opposite mode. The high current causes the battery performance degradation including its lifetime, thus it is not suitable for the battery operation. The low-current high-voltage mode is usually preferred for the battery modeling, therefore the minus is selected in Eq. (6) (6) as follows:

$$
I_{bat} = \frac{U_{oc}(SOC_b) - \sqrt{U_{oc}(SOC_b)^2 - 4R_{int}(SOC_b) \cdot P_b}}{2R_{int}(SOC_b)}
$$
\n(7)

The battery SOC is calculated by the ampere-hour integral method as follows:

$$
\dot{SOC}_b = -\frac{I_{bat}}{Q} \tag{8}
$$

where *Q* represents the battery capacity, which is assumed to be a constant value here.

2.4 Supercapacitor Model

The equivalent circuit diagram of the supercapacitor used in this research is illustrated in Fig. [4.](#page-4-0) A resistance *Rs* is connected to the capacitor in series, which indicates the internal resistance characteristic of the supercapacitor, while the other resistance *Rp* is connected to the capacitor in parallel to express the overall leakage phenomenon of the supercapacitor.

According to the relationship in Fig. [4,](#page-4-0) the following equations can be drawn:

$$
U_{cap} = U_c - I_{cap} R_s
$$

\n
$$
P_s = U_{cap} \cdot I_{cap}
$$

\n
$$
I_c = \frac{dU_c}{dt} = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{C_p R_p} U_c + \frac{I_{cap}}{C_p} & I_{cap} \ge 0\\ \frac{1}{C_p R_p} U_c + \frac{I_{cap}}{C_p} & I_{cap} \le 0 \end{cases}
$$
\n(9)

where C_p represents the capacitance of the supercapacitor and P_s is the supercapacitor output power. The supercapacitor SOC is calculated in the same way as the battery, as follows:

Fig. 4 Equivalent circuit diagram of the supercapacitor model

$$
\dot{S}\dot{O}C_s = -\frac{1}{C_p} \cdot \left[\left(\frac{1}{2R_s} \pm \frac{1}{R_p} \right) \cdot SOC_s - \frac{1}{2R_s} \sqrt SOC_s^2 - \frac{4R_s}{V_{c,\text{max}}^2} \cdot P_s \right]
$$
\n(10)

where $V_{c,max}$ is the maximum capacitance voltage. The plus corresponds to the discharging case, whereas the minus corresponds to the charging case.

2.5 Bidirectional DC/DC Converter Model

The bidirectional DC/DC converter in the HESS can be regarded as a voltage regulator on the supercapacitor side, which controls the power distribution between the battery and the supercapacitor. A number of power electronic devices form the bridge buck-boost converter, and it is possible for it to realize the bidirectional energy fow either from the high voltage side to the low voltage side and vice versa. In this research, the bidirectional DC/DC converter is modeled by using an efficiency map as illustrated in Fig. [5](#page-4-1), which provides the relationship among the converter efficiency, the supercapacitor output power, and the voltage transformer ratio of the converter.

2.6 HESS Design

The supercapacitor and the DC/DC converter should be newly designed on the basis of the battery to form the HESS. Data of the BMW i3 battery produced by Samsung SDI are listed in Table [3](#page-5-0). The battery internal resistance information can be consulted in the literature [[30](#page-14-24)].

Fig. 5 Efficiency map of the DC/DC converter

2.6.1 Supercapacitor Sizing

The most signifcant factor for the supercapacitor sizing is the driving condition of the vehicle, as the role of the supercapacitor is to meet the peak power demands during driving. In this research, the supercapacitor is selected to be able to cover all the high power parts during driving, which is above the average required power of the vehicle. Because the energy capacity of the supercapacitor is very low and it can be charged rapidly during deceleration after discharging during acceleration in a city driving condition, considering one extreme driving case in the whole driving cycle is sufficient for the supercapacitor sizing. Additionally, the following relationship is adopted in order to protect the supercapacitor.

$$
E_s = E_{cycle_extreme}/0.75\tag{11}
$$

where E_s is the finally selected supercapacitor energy, and $E_{cycle_extreme}$ is the one calculated from the driving cycle for the most extreme case. Considering several typical driving cycles, the following supercapacitor produced by Maxwell is selected as shown in Table [4](#page-5-1).

2.6.2 Bidirectional DC/DC Converter Sizing

The selection of the DC/DC converter also depends on the driving condition of the vehicle, especially the peak power demand during the propelling mode and the peak regenerative braking power, and the size of the supercapacitor. Considering several typical driving cycles and the supercapacitor selected in 2.6.1, the DC/DC converter is chosen as shown in Table 5 , which is produced by a local supplier. The efficiency map of the selected converter is illustrated in Fig. [6.](#page-6-0)

The increased mass and volume caused by the supercapacitor and the DC/DC converter is about 60 kg and 50 L respectively in this research, which can be ignored.

3 An EMS Design for the HESS

An EMS is a signifcant factor for the HESS, which adequately distributes the totally required power between the two ESSs, so that the superiority of each ESS can be

Table 3 Parameters of BMW i3 battery (2018 version)

Parameter	Value
Cell type	NCM
Cell number and connection	96 in series
Rated voltage (V)	355
Capacity (Ah)	120

Table 4 Parameters of the selected supercapacitor (Maxwell DuraBlue series)

achieved. In addition, the EMS can also protect each ESS by limiting the over-charging and the over-discharging. A driving condition-adaptive rule-based EMS is proposed in this research which considers the superiority achievement of each ESS and the protection to each ESS at the same time. There are several control parameters defned in the EMS, which are dependent on the driving cycle. The EMS is established based on the driving condition and the status of the vehicle for both the driving mode and the regenerative mode, and in each mode, several operating modes of the HESS are defned.

Figure [6](#page-6-0) illustrates the control flowchart of the rule-based EMS proposed in this research. The supercapacitor involving power P_{in} and P_{in} and the battery constant power P_{in} constant are all the driving cycle-dependent parameters. P_{in} and P_{-in} are threshold values of the required power of the vehicle *Preq*, which determine whether the supercapacitor starts to work in the vehicle propelling and regenerative modes respectively. $P_{b_constant}$ is the battery power output during the supercapacitor charging mode for the vehicle propelling mode.

Several threshold values are set in the EMS including the supercapacitor involving power P_{in} and P_{-in} , which are defined as the average totally required power of the vehicle for the propelling and regenerative modes respectively, the supercapacitor target SOC *SOCs*_*target* , the setting objective of which is to maintain the supercapacitor SOC in the desired range so that the supercapacitor is ready to be charged or discharged anytime, the upper and lower limits of the supercapacitor SOC *SOCs*_*max* and

Table 5 Parameters of the selected DC/DC converter

Parameter	Value		
Circuit type	Half H-bridge		
Rated power (kW)	35		
High voltage side range (V)	250-400		
Low voltage side range (V)	$100 - 300$		

Fig. 6 Control flow chart of the proposed EMS

*SOCs*_*min*, the upper and lower limits of the battery SOC SOC_b _{*max*} and SOC_b _{*min*}, the lower limit of the battery power P_b _{*limit*}, which is set to protect the battery during the vehicle propelling mode.

Besides the power distribution rules, the following rules are also adopted in the proposed EMS from the HESS protection point of view:

- In the driving mode, if the battery SOC is less than its lower limit SOC_b _{*min*}, in order to protect the battery and keep the vehicle's driving, the battery output power will be limited to P_b _{*limit*} and the supercapacitor will not work anymore, which corresponds to the driving protection mode in Fig. [6](#page-6-0);

- In the regenerative mode, if the battery SOC is greater than its upper limit $SOC_{b,max}$, the regeneration mode will be terminated, which corresponds to the recovering protection mode in Fig. [6.](#page-6-0)

4 Validation of the HESS plus EMS

Regarding the efectiveness validation of the HESS plus the EMS, the computer simulation is the most commonly used means owing to the time-saving and cost-saving characteristics. However, the reliability of the computer simulation validation is comparatively low due to the ideal simulation environment. The real vehicle test validation $[10, 31]$ $[10, 31]$ $[10, 31]$ $[10, 31]$ is the closest means to the reality, but it is cost-consuming and some safety problems may occur. Thus, some researchers have concentrated on the semi-physical validation, which can be divided into the RCP [[24,](#page-14-26) [32](#page-14-27), [33](#page-14-28)] and the hardware in the loop (HIL) [\[34\]](#page-15-0). In the former, the control objects, such as the battery, the supercapacitor, and the DC/DC converter, are real and the controller is virtual, which is constructed in the computer simulation program, whereas in the latter, it is the opposite. For a real vehicle development process, the RCP validation is the previous step to the HIL validation.

The effectiveness of the HESS plus the EMS is validated in this section by both the computer simulation and the RCP test. In order to emphasize the superiority of the HESS in EV applications, the validation results of the HESS are compared to those of the single battery case. Three representative driving cycles are selected for the validation in this research as shown in Figs. [7](#page-7-0) and [8](#page-7-1), which are the China Automotive Test Cycle (CATC), New European Driving Cycle (NEDC), and Urban Dynamometer Driving Schedule (UDDS) respectively. Among them, the CATC is the representative China automotive test cycle, which will be issued soon [[35\]](#page-15-1).

4.1 Computer Simulation Validation

Each component of the EV is modeled by the computer simulation program based on Sect. [2](#page-2-3), and the management algorithm is also established in the computer simulation environment based on Sect. [3.](#page-5-3) The threshold values defned in the EMS are set based on experience and simulation tests as listed in Table [6.](#page-7-2)

4.1.1 Simulation Results of the Proposed EMS

Figures [9,](#page-7-3) [10](#page-7-4), and [11](#page-8-0) illustrate the simulation results of the proposed EMS on the CATC, NEDC, and UDDS respectively. The results show that the supercapacitor responds to the frequent power transient requirements and the peak power demands of the vehicle so that the working status of the battery is stabilized during the propelling mode. During the regeneration mode, the supercapacitor recovers most of

Fig. 7 Three representative driving cycles used in this research

Fig. 8 Required power for the vehicle on the three representative driving cycles

Table 6 Threshold values defned in the EMS

Parameter	Value
Supercapacitor target SOC $SOCs target$	0.8
Upper limit of supercapacitor $SOCs$ max	0.99
Lower limit of supercapacitor $SOCs$ min	0.5
Upper limit of battery $SOCb$ max	0.95
Lower limit of battery SOC_{b} min	0.2

Fig. 9 Simulation results of the proposed EMS on the CATC

Fig. 10 Simulation results of the proposed EMS on the NEDC

Fig. 11 Simulation results of the proposed EMS on the UDDS

Fig. 12 Simulation results comparison between the HESS and the single battery cases on the CATC

Fig. 13 Simulation results comparison between the HESS and the single battery cases on the NEDC

Fig. 14 Simulation results comparison between the HESS and the single battery cases on the UDDS

Driving cycle	HESS case (kW/s)	Single battery case (kW/s)	Decrease percentage (%)
CATC	0.68	2.90	76.5
NEDC	0.27	0.77	64.9
UDDS	0.65	2.54	74.4

Table 7 Average changing rate comparison of battery output power

Table 8 Average battery current comparison

Driving cycle	HESS case (A)	Single bat- tery case (A)	Reducing percentage $(\%)$
CATC (propelling)	9.49	21.50	55.9
NEDC (propelling)	10.89	21.24	48.7
UDDS (propelling)	10.25	20.75	50.6
CATC (regeneration)	Ω	-10.23	100
NEDC (regeneration)	-0.18	-14.91	98.8
UDDS (regeneration)	-2.37	-13.34	82.2

the regenerative braking energy so that the battery is relieved from the frequent working mode changes between the charging and discharging.

4.1.2 Simulation Comparison to the Single Battery Case

Figures [12](#page-8-1), [13](#page-8-2), and [14](#page-8-3) show the comparison results between the HESS case and the single battery case on the CATC, NEDC, and UDDS respectively. The battery is the same for the two cases, and the small diference in the total vehicle mass between the two cases is neglected. It can be observed from the comparison results that the trajectories of the battery output power and the battery SOC are smoother for the HESS case compared to the single battery case, which is benefcial for prolonging the battery lifetime. The battery undertakes the energy shocks alone during both the propelling and regenerative modes in the single battery case, which will defnitely shorten its lifetime, whereas this problem can be eliminated in the HESS case.

Table [7](#page-9-0) provides the simulation results on the average changing rate of the battery output power for both the HESS case and the single battery case, which indicates that a maximum of 76.5% decrease on the average output power changing rate of the battery can be achieved by the use of the HESS. This decrease will result in prolonging the battery lifetime.

Table 9 Final battery SOC comparison

Driving cycle	HESS case	Single battery case	Decrease percentage $(\%)$
CATC	0.69	0.67	2.8
NEDC	0.71	0.69	2.4
UDDS	0.71	0.70	1.9

Table 10 Q_{loss} *cycle* for each case (10⁻⁴ %)

Table [8](#page-9-1) presents the simulation results comparison on the average battery current for both the propelling and the regeneration modes. It reveals that the average battery current is reduced dramatically, for some case even reduced to 0, by the use of the HESS compared to the single battery case for both the propelling and the regeneration modes. This will also result in prolonging the battery lifetime [[9\]](#page-14-3).

The battery energy is also saved in the HESS case compared to the single battery case because of the improvement on the battery efficiency. The final battery SOC after three times of repetitions for each driving cycle is summarized in Table [9,](#page-9-2) which reveals that a maximum of 2.8% of the battery energy can be saved by the use of the HESS.

4.1.3 Life Cycle Cost Analysis of HESS

Comparison results in 4.1.2 show that the HESS is good for prolonging the battery lifetime and also benefcial for saving the battery energy. However, the addition of the supercapacitor and the DC/DC converter will also increase the system cost, thus an economic analysis is necessary for the life cycle cost comparison between the HESS and the single battery cases.

A dynamic degradation model [\[3](#page-14-2)] for the battery is adopted to evaluate the battery capacity loss during driving, as follows:

$$
Q_{loss} = Ae^{-(\frac{E_a + B \cdot C_R a t e}{R \cdot T_{bat}})} (A_h)^z
$$
\n(12)

where Q_{loss} represents the battery capacity loss in percentage, *A* is the pre-exponential factor, E_a is the activation energy (J), *R* is the gas constant (J/(mol K)), T_{bat} is the absolute temperature (K), *Ah* is the Ah-throughput, *C_Rate* is the battery discharging rate, and *B* is the compensation factor of

C_Rate. Assuming that the battery should be replaced when its capacity decreases to 80% of the original status, then the life cycle cost of the HESS and the single battery for each driving cycle can be obtained as follows:

$$
cost_{life_cycle} = \frac{cost_{bat} + cost_{sup} + cost_{DC/DC}}{D_{cycle} \cdot (20/Q_{loss_cycle})}
$$
(13)

where $cost_{bat}$, $cost_{sup}$, and $cost_{DC/DC}$ represent the cost of the battery, the supercapacitor, and the DC/DC converter, respectively, D_{cycle} is the driving distance of each driving cycle, *Qloss*_*cycle* is the battery capacity loss corresponding to one accomplishment of each driving cycle derived from (12), which is listed in Table [10](#page-9-3) for each case. The battery lifetime prolonging efect benefted from the HESS is quantitatively proved in Table [10](#page-9-3). Considering the Chinese market, 1000¥/kWh for the battery, 10,000¥/kWh for the supercapacitor, and 30¥/kW for the DC/DC converter are adopted for the costs of each component, and the life cycle cost $cost_{life\ cycle}$ for each case derived from (13) is listed in Table [11.](#page-10-0) It can be concluded from Table [11](#page-10-0) that although

Positive current Negative current Control signal Electric loading equipment Bat Sensor signal and control signal bus Supercapacitor Positive **dSPACE** $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \text{D} & \text{D} & \text{D} & \text{D} \end{array}$ **dSPACE Bidirectional DC/DC D** D_C/D_C \textbf{SPACE} $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \textbf{S} \textbf{PACE} & \textbf{S} \textbf{S} & \textbf{S} \textbf{S} & \textbf{S} \textbf{S} & \textbf{S} \textbf{S} \textbf{S} & \textbf{S} & \textbf{S} \textbf{S} & \textbf{S} & \$ **Power equipment workbench Power eq Signal equipment workbench Electric loading equipment Battery DC** air switch **Supercapacitor Supercapacitor Positive junction box Bidirectional DC/DC Negative junction box Power equipment workbench Control desk Control desk PC**

Fig. 15 Schematic diagram of the test bench **Fig. 16 Fig. 16** Test bench for the RCP validation

the addition of the supercapacitor and the DC/DC converter increases the initial cost of the system, the life cycle cost of the HESS is lower than that of the single battery owing to the battery lifetime prolonging efect.

4.2 RCP Validation

The computer simulation environment is very ideal compared to reality, in which there are no communication delays between components and a number of assumptions applied to each component. In order to validate the HESS plus the EMS in a more realistic environment, the RCP validation is adopted in this research, in which the control objectives, such as the battery, the supercapacitor, and the DC/DC converter, are the real components while the controller is virtual, which is established in the simulation program. The schematic diagram of the test bench is illustrated in Fig. [15,](#page-10-1) in which the dSPACE Microlabbox is used in the connection between the hardware and the software. An electric loading equipment is used to simulate the totally required power according to the driving cycle. The Microlabbox receives signals from current sensors, which are equipped in the bus, the battery, and the supercapacitor, and the electric loading equipment and controls the bidirectional DC/DC converter based on the EMS and the received signals, so that the rulebased EMS is realized to the real powertrain components.

Figure [16](#page-10-2) shows the test bench, in which the real components are downsized compared to the original ones introduced in Sect. [2](#page-2-3) considering the safety and cost of the experiment. The DC bus voltage, the current, and the electric loading levels are accordingly downsized to 1/3, 1/8, and 1/24 respectively. Additionally, a flter function is applied to the battery current in order to reduce the impact of sudden currents to the battery. The information on each component of the test bench is shown in Table [12.](#page-11-0)

Table 12 Information on each component of the test bench

Fig. 17 Test results of the proposed EMS on the CATC

Fig. 18 Test results of the proposed EMS on the NEDC

Fig. 19 Test results of the proposed EMS on the UDDS

Fig. 20 Battery test results comparison on the CATC

Fig. 21 Battery test results comparison on the NEDC

Fig. 22 Battery test results comparison on the UDDS

4.2.1 Test Results of the Proposed EMS

Figures [17,](#page-11-1) [18](#page-11-2), and [19](#page-12-0) illustrate the test results on the three driving cycles respectively. The tendency of the test results is consistent with that of the simulation results, in which both the energy density superiority of the battery and the power density superiority of the supercapacitor are achieved. The communication delays between components and the response delay of the DC/DC converter infuence the test results. Besides, there are usually noisy signals in the communication system caused by the thermal efect or unwanted

external disturbing. These are the main reasons for the image diference between the computer simulation and the test res ults.

4.2.2 Test Comparison to the Single Battery Case

Figures [20](#page-12-1), [21](#page-12-2), and [22](#page-12-3) show the test results comparison between the HESS case and the single battery case on the three driving cycles respectively, in which the battery lifetime prolonging effect and the battery energy saving effect of the HESS under the EMS can both be checked. Table [13](#page-13-0) shows the fnal battery SOC for each case for the three driving cycles, which indicates that a maximum of 2.3% of the battery energy can be saved by the use of the HESS. Table [14](#page-13-1) provides the battery capacity loss *Qloss*_*cycle* obtained from (12) and the life cycle cost $cost_{life_cycle}$ obtained from (13) for each case, which also indicates that the life cycle cost of the HESS is lower than that of the single battery due to its battery lifetime prolonging efect. The values are much less than those in Tables [10](#page-9-3) and [11](#page-10-0) due to the relatively small battery current in the test.

5 Conclusion

The efectiveness of the HESS in a commercialized EV model is validated in this research. The HESS is designed for the BMW i3 and the driving condition-adaptive rulebased EMS is proposed for the HESS because it is simple and convenient for both the establishment and the validation compared to other types of EMSs. The HESS plus the EMS is validated by both the computer simulation and the RCP semi-physical test. Both validations show the following results:

- (1) Compared to the single battery case, the trajectories of the battery output power and the battery SOC are smoother in the HESS case. Simulation results indicate that a maximum of 76.5% decrease on the average output power changing rate of the battery can be achieved by the use of the HESS and dramatic decreases on the average battery current can also be realized by the use of the HESS for both the propelling mode and the regeneration mode. The battery lifetime prolonging efect benefted from the HESS is quantitatively proved by comparing the battery capacity loss for the HESS and the single battery cases based on the battery dynamic degradation model.
- (2) The battery energy is also saved in the HESS case compared to the single battery case. According to the simulation results, a maximum of 2.8% of the battery energy is saved by the use of the HESS.
- (3) Although the addition of the supercapacitor and the DC/DC converter increases the initial cost of the system, the life cycle cost of the HESS is lower than that of the single battery owing to the battery lifetime prolonging efect, thus the HESS is economically efective.
- (4) The tendency of the RCP test results is consistent with that of the simulation results. The communication delays between components and the response delay of the DC/DC converter are the main reasons for the image diference between both results. The battery energy saving efect and the economic efectiveness of the HESS are proved similarly based on the RCP test results.

Future work of this research is to reduce the number of assumptions used in the simulation models and remedy the limitations of this research for example adopting fexible threshold values for the EMS in order to increase the adaptability.

Table 14 Q_{loss_cycle} (10⁻⁴ %) and
cost (10⁻²¥/km) for each *costlife*_*cycle*(10−2¥/km) for each case

	CATC		NEDC			UDDS	
	HESS	Single battery	HESS	Single battery	HESS	Single battery	
$Q_{loss\ cycle}$	0.462	0.750	0.356	0.587	0.367	0.599	
$cost_{life\ cycle}$	0.76	1.12	0.78	1.16	0.73	1.08	

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