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Introducing Hybrid Vehicle Dynamics in Microscopic Traffic Simulation

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- Background & motivation
- Generic hybrid MFC model
- Experimental setup
- Results and discussion
- Conclusions

➤ Challenges and opportunities for road transport

Oil dependency

95% of motor vehicles depend on oil for energy



Emissions

20% of GHG emissions come from combustion engines



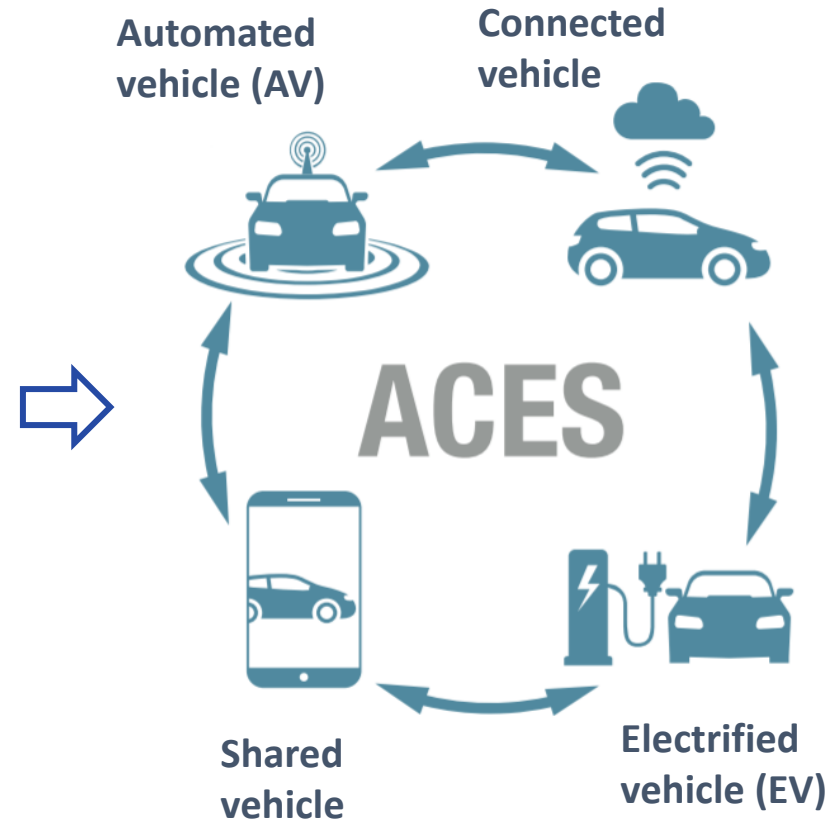
Safety

1.2 million people die on the road each year



Congestion

\$305 billion are lost each year in the US due to jams



Traffic simulation → Technology development and evaluation

➤ Our previous studies

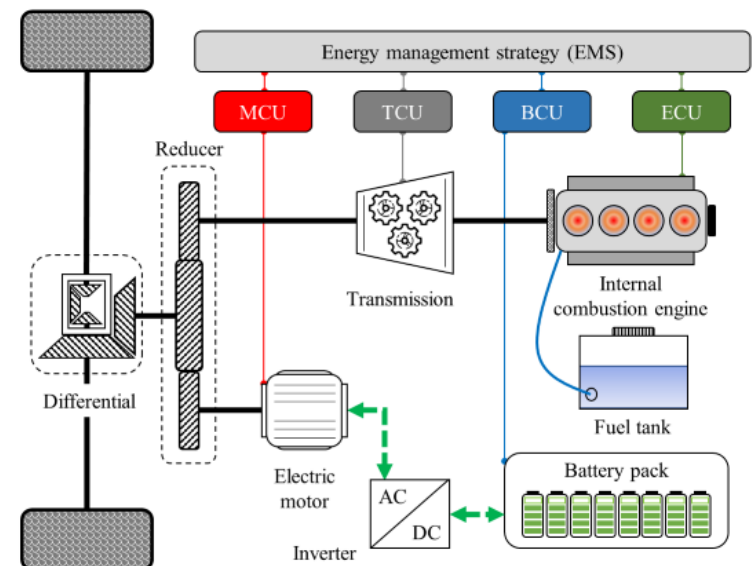
Microsimulation free-flow acceleration (MFC) models → Dynamics of **ICEVs** and **EVs**, which are directly **propelled by a single type** of power source (ICE or EM).

He et al. Transp. Res. Rec. 2020;2674(9):776-91; Makridis et al. Transp. Res. Rec. 2019;2673(4):762-77.

➤ Research gap

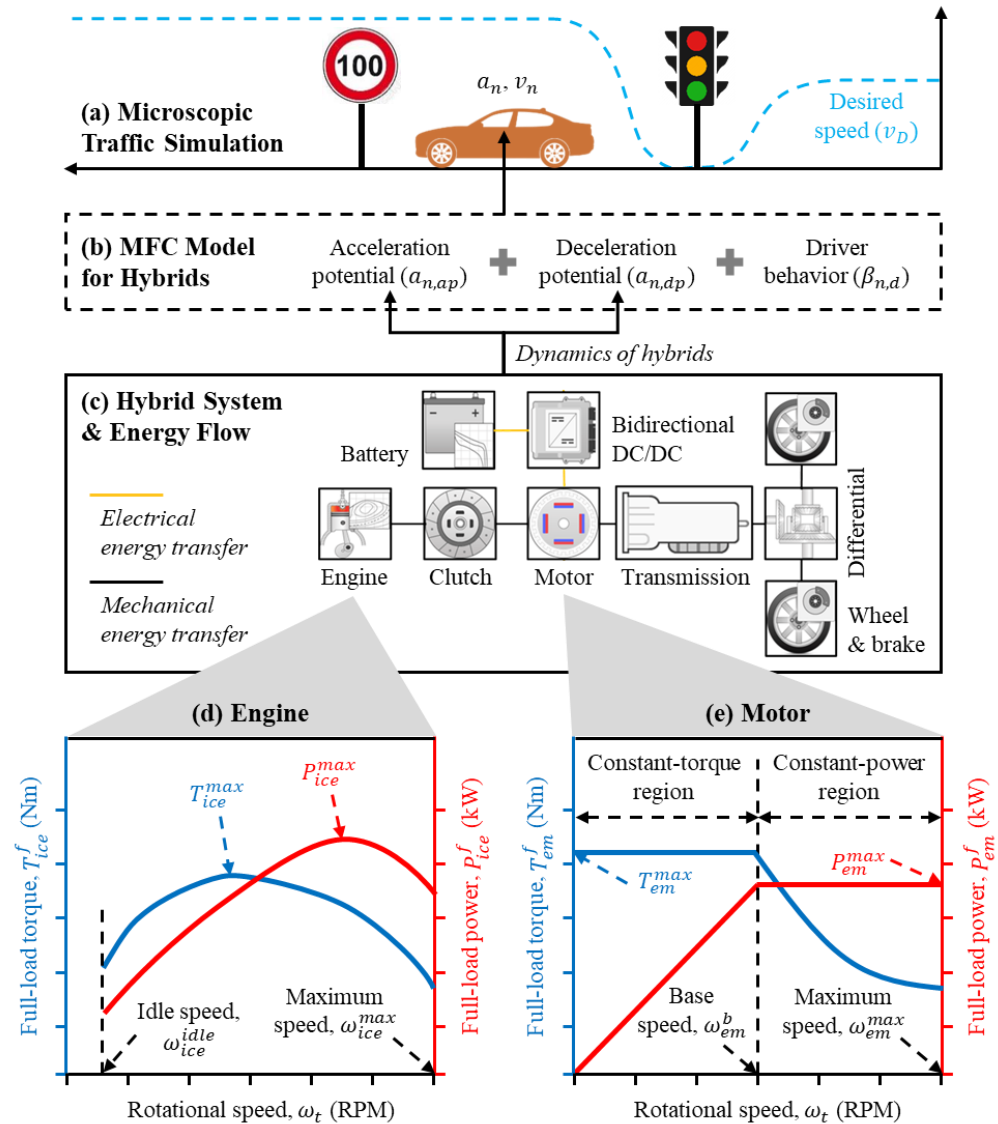
No traffic model accounts for vehicle dynamics of **HEVs** (propelled by EM alone or together with ICE, depending on battery SoC and power demand).

Challenge: HEVs have more degrees of freedom for propulsion → More complex acceleration characteristics.



➤ Overview

- **(d) & (e)** Power sources: ICE & EM, *different propulsion characteristics*
- **(c)** Energy flows: Electrical & mechanical
- **(b)** MFC model:
 - ✓ Dynamics of hybrids $a_{n,ap}$ & $a_{n,dp}$
 - ✓ Driver behavior: $\beta_{n,d}$



Model inputs

Vehicle specifications and other parameters

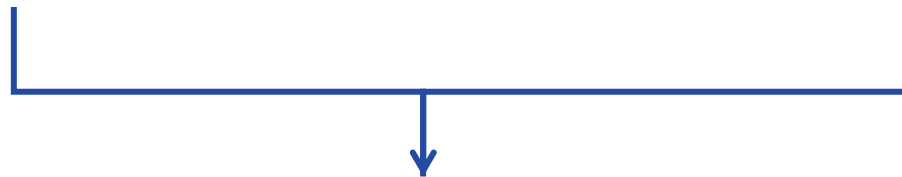


- **Acceleration potential, $a_{n,ap}$**

The hybrid's propulsion capability

- **Deceleration potential, $a_{n,dp}$**

The hybrid's braking capability



- **Driver behaviour, $\beta_{n,d}$**

The driver's or controller's willingness to use the above capabilities.



Model output

Vehicle acceleration a_n

➤ Acceleration potential function, $a_{n,ap}(t)$

$$a_{n,ap}(t) = \frac{F_T^f(v_n(t)) - F_R(v_n(t))}{m},$$

v_n is the vehicle speed (m/s); m is the vehicle operating mass (kg); F_T^f and F_R are the full load tractive force (N) and the total resistance force (N), respectively.

$$F_R(t) = f_0 \cdot \cos(\theta(t)) + f_1 \cdot v_n(t) + f_2 \cdot v_n(t)^2 + mg \cdot \sin(\theta(t)),$$

θ is the road slope (rad); f_0 , f_1 , and f_2 are road load coefficients (N, kg/s, and kg/m, respectively).

$$F_T^f(t) = \min \left(\frac{T_T^f(v_n(t))}{r_w}, \mu \cdot m_{ta} \cdot g \right),$$

T_T^f is the full load tractive torque (Nm); r_w is the wheel radius (m); μ is the coefficient of friction between wheels and roadway surface; m_{ta} is the mass of the vehicle on the tractive axle (kg); g is the gravitational acceleration (9.81 m/s²).

$$T_T^f(t) = \begin{cases} T_{em}^f(\omega_t(t)) \cdot i_t \cdot i_d \cdot \eta_d, & \text{for CD mode, (Charge depleting)} \\ (T_{em}^f(\omega_t(t)) + T_{ice}^f(\omega_t(t))) \cdot i_t \cdot i_d \cdot \eta_d, & \text{for CS mode, (Charge sustaining)} \end{cases}$$

T_{em}^f and T_{ice}^f are full load torques of the electric motor (EM) and the internal combustion engine (ICE), respectively; ω_t is the rotational speed (rpm) of the transmission input shaft; i_t and i_d are the engaged gear ratios of the transmission and the differential, respectively; η_d is the driveline efficiency.

$$\omega_t(t) = \frac{60 \cdot i_t \cdot i_d \cdot v_n(t)}{2\pi \cdot r_w},$$

This equation represents the conversion between ω_t and v_n . Relevant parameters and variables are given previously.

$$T_{em}^f(t) = \begin{cases} T_{em}^{max}, & 0 \leq \omega_t(t) < \omega_{em}^b, \\ \frac{6 \times 10^4 \cdot P_{em}^{max}}{2\pi \cdot \omega_t(t)}, & \omega_{em}^b \leq \omega_t(t) < \omega_{em}^{max}, \end{cases} \quad \omega_{em}^b(t) = \frac{6 \times 10^4 \cdot P_{em}^{max}}{2\pi \cdot T_{em}^{max}},$$

T_{em}^{max} and P_{em}^{max} are the EM's maximum torque (Nm) and maximum power (kW), respectively; ω_{em}^b is the motor base speed (rpm) representing the split point between constant-torque and constant-power regions.

$$T_{ice}^f(t) = \frac{6 \times 10^4 \cdot P_{ice}^f(\omega_t(t))}{2\pi \cdot \omega_t(t)},$$

P_{ice}^f are the ICE's full load power (kW) derived from the CO2MPAS generic ICE model.

➤ Deceleration potential function, $a_{n,dp}(t)$

$$a_{n,dp}(t) = \varepsilon(v_n(t)) \cdot a_d^{lim},$$

$$a_d^{lim} = \mu \cdot g,$$

$$\varepsilon(t) = b_0 + b_1 \cdot v_n(t) + b_2 \cdot v_n(t)^2,$$

a_d^{lim} is the maximum frictional deceleration (m/s^2) that can be sustained between the tires and the roadway surface; ε is a reduction factor representing the driver's typical deceleration pattern at different speeds, in which b_0 , b_1 , and b_2 are empirical coefficients.

➤ Driver behaviour function, $\beta_{n,d}(t)$

$$\beta_{n,d}(t) = \max \left[1 - \left(1 + \frac{2(v_n(t) - v_D)}{v_D + 0.1} \right)^{30}, 1 - \left(1 - \frac{v_n(t) - v_D}{50} \right)^{100} \right],$$

$$a_n(t) = \begin{cases} DS \cdot \beta_{n,d}(v_n(t)) \cdot a_{n,ap}(v_n(t)), & 0 \leq v_n(t) < v_D, \\ DS \cdot \beta_{n,d}(v_n(t)) \cdot a_{n,dp}(v_n(t)), & v_n(t) \geq v_D, \end{cases}$$

v_D is the desired speed (m/s) in free-flow traffic; $\beta_{n,d}$ denotes the percentage of the acceleration and deceleration capabilities that drivers typically use under different conditions.

- Driver style factor: $DS \in [0,1] \rightarrow$ the aggressiveness in acceleration and deceleration.
- Gear-shifting factor: $GS \in [0,1] \rightarrow$ the threshold speeds for gear shifting based on the habits of drivers.

The experimental setup has 4 stages:

- ❖ Validation with VELA chassis dynamometer data to validate the reliability of the acceleration ($a_{n,ap}$) and deceleration ($a_{n,dp}$) potential functions
- ❖ Implementation in microsimulation
- ❖ Calibration and validation against trajectory data
- ❖ Validation with 0-100 km/h acceleration specifications for 203 commercial hybrid vehicles.

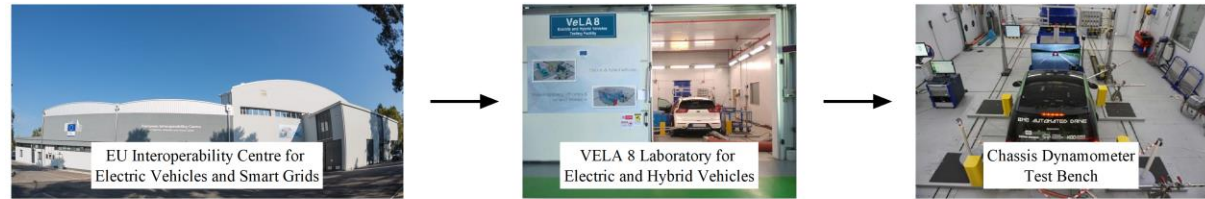
➤ Validation using chassis dynamometer test

Main specifications of the hybrid vehicle under test (Kia Niro PHEV 2019)

Specifications	Symbols	Units	Values
Vehicle operating mass	m	kg	1421
Height	H	m	1.55
Width	W	m	1.81
Wheel radius	r_w	m	0.33
Transmission gear ratios	i_t	na	[3.87, 2.22, 1.37, 0.96, 0.93, 0.77], (1st to 6th)
Differential gear ratio	i_d	na	3.23
0-100 km/h acceleration time	$T_{0-100km/h}$	s	11.5
Vehicle speed limit	v_{lim}	km/h	162
Battery capacity	C_{bat}	kWh	1.56
EM's peak torque	T_{em}^{max}	Nm	44.5
EM's peak power	P_{em}^{max}	kW	170
ICE's peak torque	T_{ice}^{max}	Nm	147
ICE's peak power	P_{ice}^{max}	kW	77

Note: na = not applicable.

Results and discussion



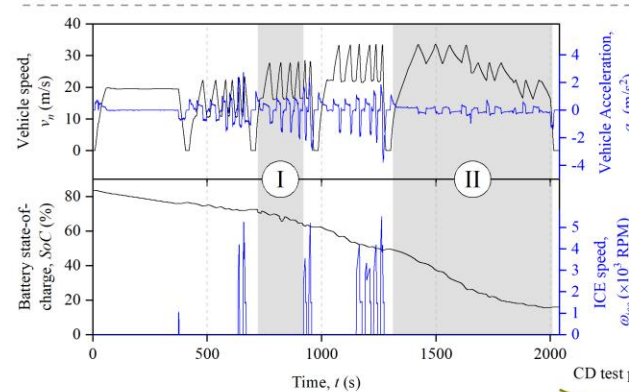
(a) JRC VELA 8 testing facility for electric and hybrid vehicles

- Two hybrid modes: (b)-(c) CD and (d)-(e) CS

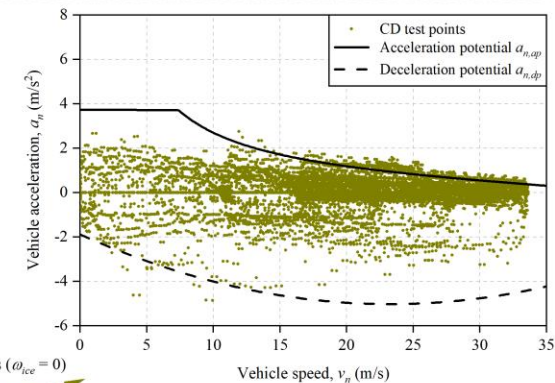
- (b) and (d): Operational data in CD and CS modes

- (c) and (e): Theoretical $a_{n,ap}$ and $a_{n,dp}$ have **good correlations** with the upper and lower boundaries of the experimental data

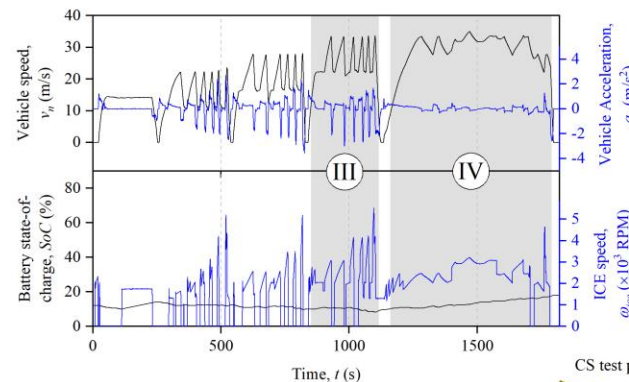
- Trajectories I-IV \rightarrow Calibrate and validate the MFC model subsequently



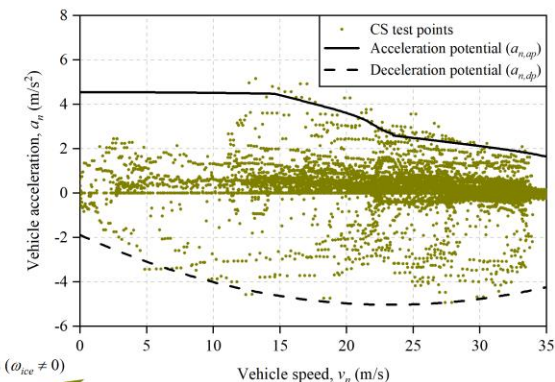
(b) CD driving test



(c) Validate $a_{n,ap}$ and $a_{n,dp}$ in CD mode



(d) CS driving test

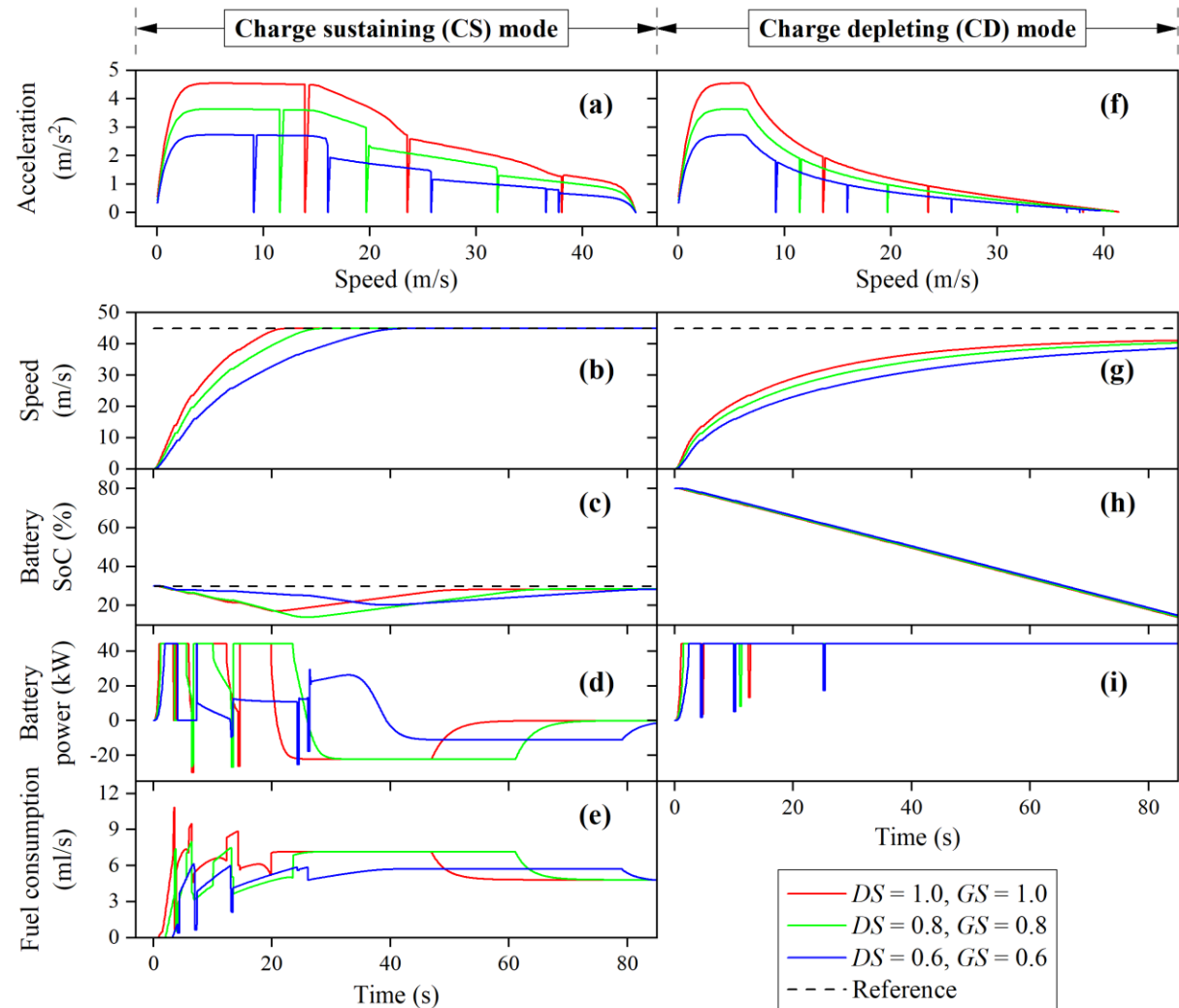


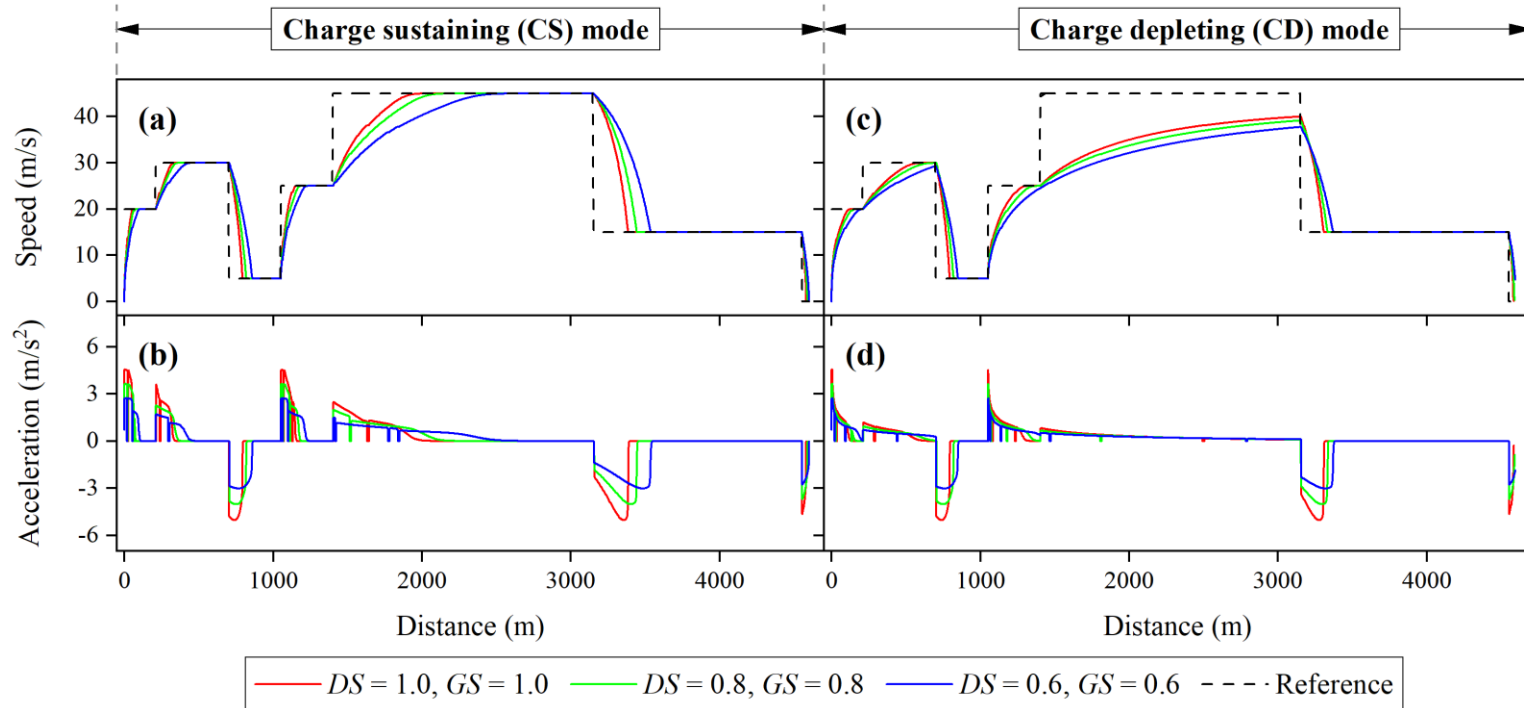
(e) Validate $a_{n,ap}$ and $a_{n,dp}$ in CS mode

➤ Model implementation in microsimulation

a) Acceleration simulation (from 0 to 45 m/s)

- 3 typical drivers:
DS and *GS*
- 2 modes: CS (a)-(e) and
CD (f)-(i)
- (a) & (f): Smaller *GS* →
Earlier gear shifting
- (b) & (g): CD mode use
EM alone → Cannot
reach the specified top
speed (45 m/s)
- (e): aggressive driver
(*DS*, *GS*) = (1, 1) →
More fuel consumption





b) Artificial driving cycle simulation

- Two modes: CS (a)-(b) and CD (c)-(d)
- MFC model → Ensure smooth transitions between different speed levels → Avoid obvious oscillations or overshoots in simulation

➤ Calibration and validation against driving trajectories

- 3 models: MFC, Gipps', IDM
- (a)-(b): CD calibration
- (e)-(f): CS calibration
- **Validation of CD mode** → Compared to Gipps' and IDM, MFC **reduces**:

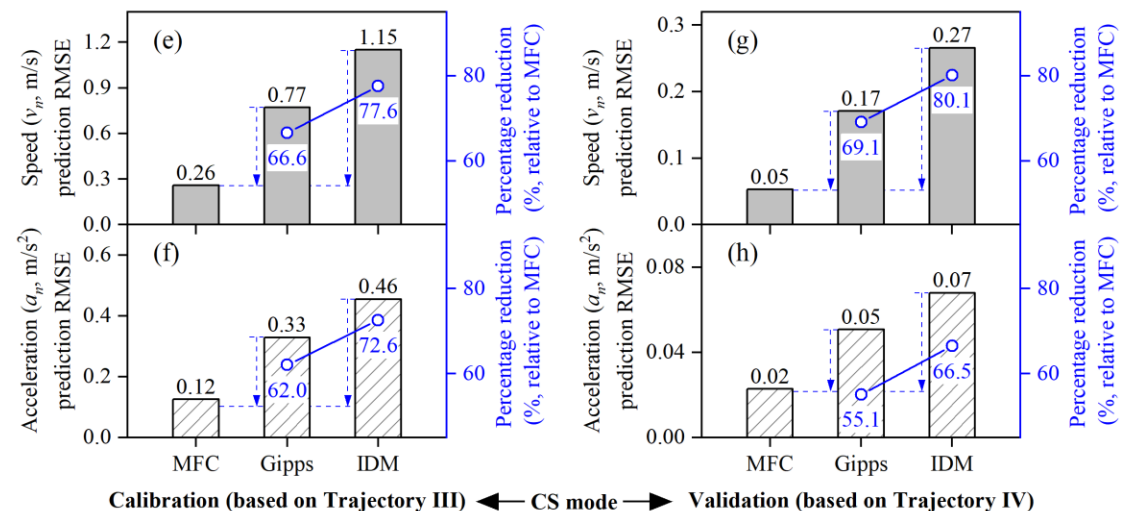
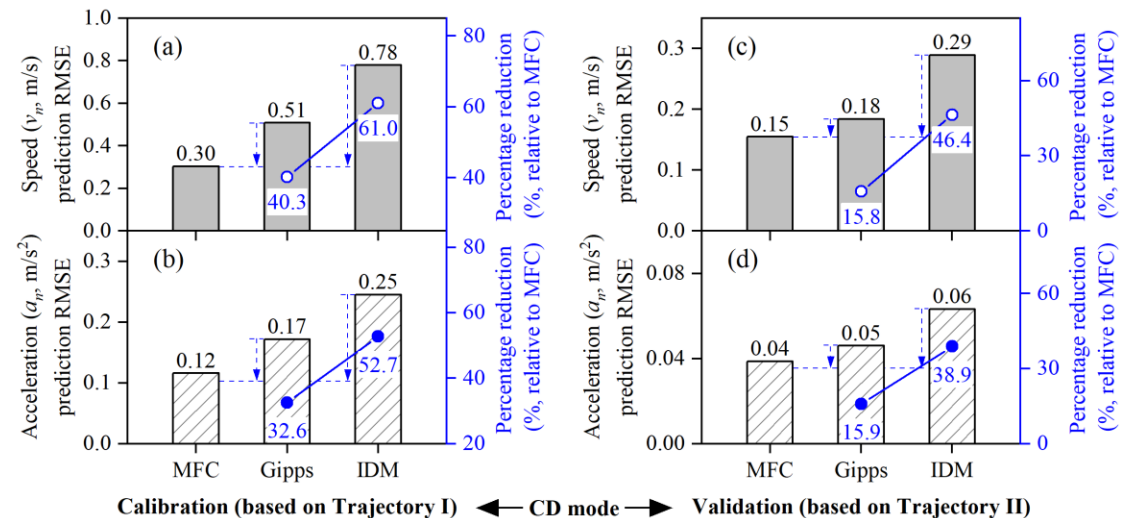
✓ (c) RMSE of speed

✓ (d) RMSE of acceleration

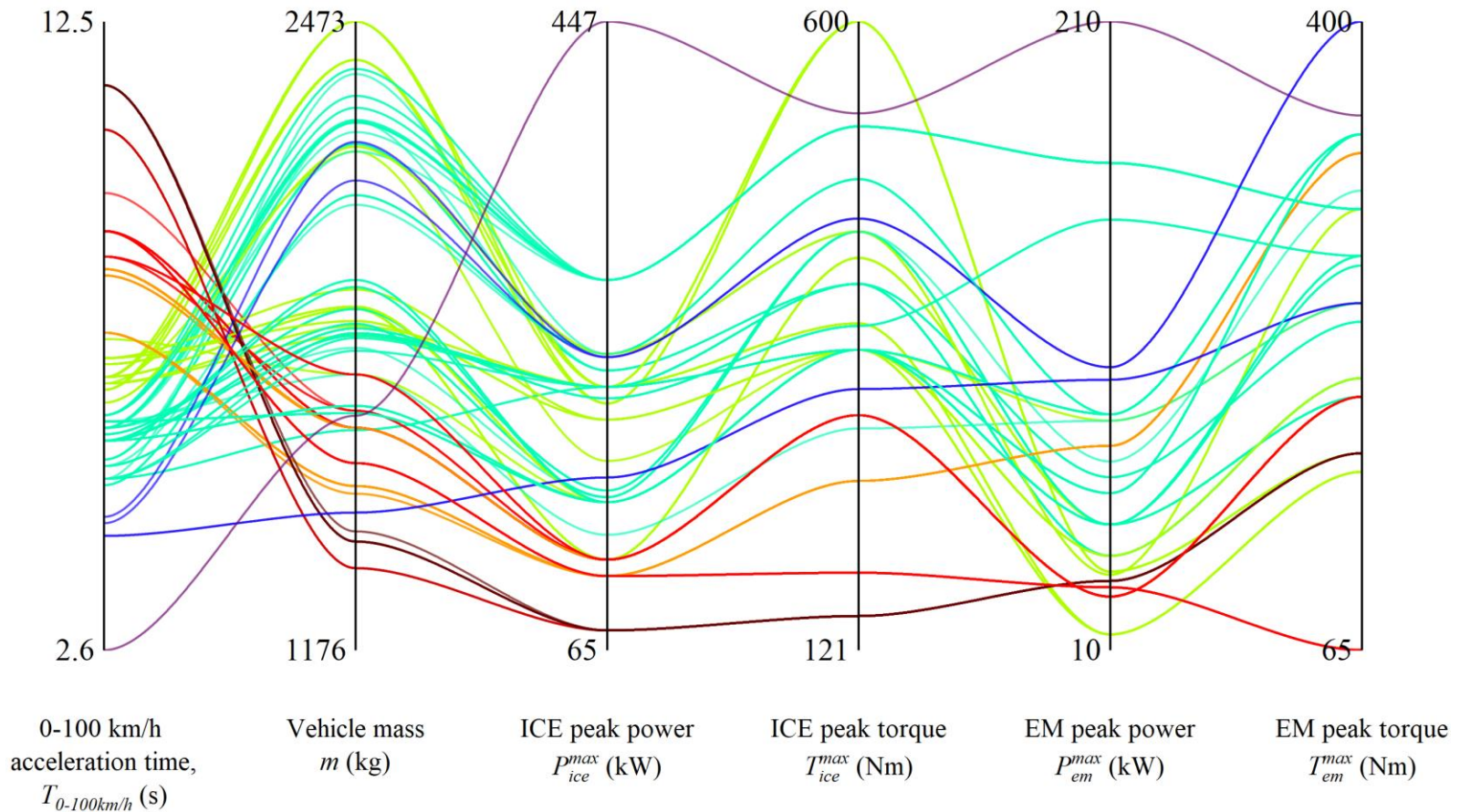
- **Validation of CS mode** → MFC achieves **even more accuracy gains**, reducing:

✓ (g) RMSE of speed

✓ (h) RMSE of acceleration



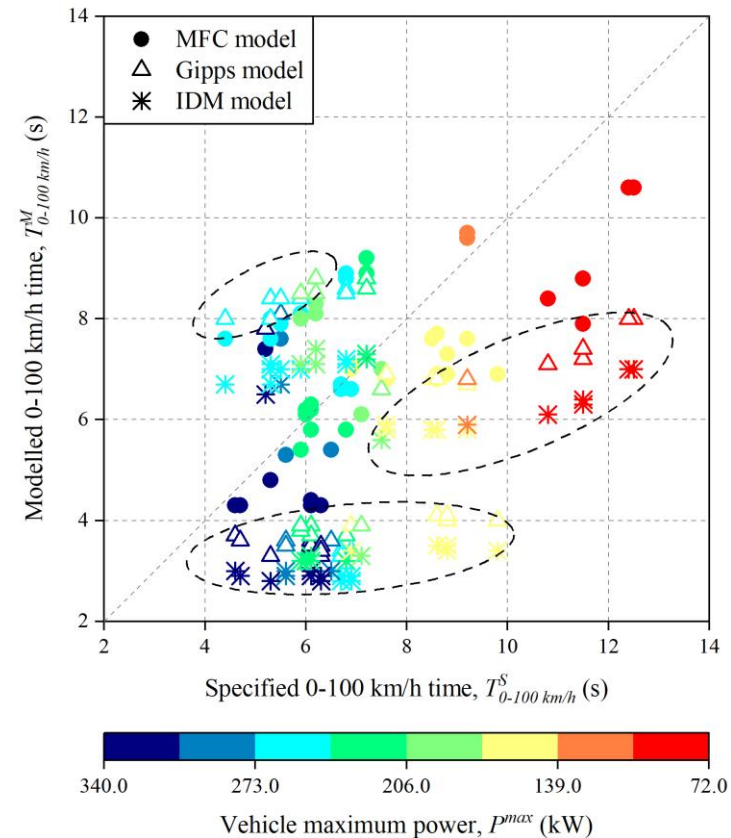
➤ Validation against 0-100 km/h acceleration specifications



Main specifications of the hybrid vehicles in the database

Results and discussion

- X axis $\rightarrow T_{0-100km/h}^S$
(specified/ground-truth in database)
- Y axis $\rightarrow T_{0-100km/h}^M$
(modelled/predicted by MFC, Gipps', and IDM)
- MFC cluster: Closer to the diagonal \rightarrow **More accurate**
- Compared to Gipps' and IDM, MFC reduces RMSE of $T_{0-100km/h}$ by 40-50%.



Model	RMSE (s)	Reduction (% , relative to MFC)
MFC	1.65	na
Gipps'	3.05	45.8
IDM	3.44	51.9

Note: RMSE = root mean square error; IDM = intelligent driver model; MFC = microsimulation free-flow acceleration model; na = not applicable.

- MFC model is hitherto **the first traffic model** to capture the acceleration dynamics of **hybrid** vehicles.
- MFC can ensure **smooth transitions** between different speed levels, avoiding oscillations or overshoots in microsimulation.
- MFC can quantify hybrids' energy consumption (both electricity & fuel).
- MFC outperforms Gipps' and IDM in reproducing driving trajectories, **reducing validation errors** (speed & acceleration) in CD mode, and yielding even **greater accuracy gains** in CS mode (MFC captures complex ICE-EM coupling dynamics).
- MFC gives **more accurate predictions** in 0-100 km/h acceleration specifications.



Thank you!

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