## **Fuel Cell Vehicle Systems Analysis**

## Fuel Cells for Transportation Program Review May 9, 2002

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## Outline

- Objective
- Approach
- Timeline of Milestones
- Accomplishments
- Addressing Reviewer Comments
- Industry Interactions
- Future Plans
- Summary







## **Objectives**

- Provide DOE and industry with early design insights and modeling tools that lead to introduction and application of advanced technology
- Quantify benefits and impacts of Fuel Cells for Transportation program technology development efforts at the vehicle level







## Approach

- Collaborate with industry to populate the model database
- Develop and link to existing component and vehicle models to enhance systems analysis capabilities
- Apply optimization tools to automate analysis process
- Study benefits of fuel cell vehicle design scenarios







## **Highlights/Milestones**

- **10/01** M Presented drive cycle impacts study at EVS-18
- **11/01 M** Presented optimization methods for fuel cell hybrid vehicles at ASME IMECE Conference
- 2/02 Testing of initial fuel cell thermal systems model from Virginia Tech
- 4/02 Participated in SAE Fuel Cell Standards Committee
- 4/02 Initiated data collection effort with web seminar
- 5/02 M Incorporation of fuel cell component data into vehicle systems models
- 6/02 Present fuel cell system characteristics study at FutureCar Congress
- **7/02** M Analysis of vehicles using DOE fuel cell technology
- 8/02 M Evaluation of technical target based vehicle

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M - Completed Milestones





## Accomplishments Fuel Cell Vehicle Design Optimization

- Optimization Algorithms
  - efficiency of gradient and derivativefree algorithms



- Drive Cycle Impacts
  - Vehicle optimization for a drive cycle
  - Assessment of robustness of vehicle design



- Fuel Cell Systems Characteristics Impacts
  - Component characteristics drive system design







## Results: Drive Cycle Investigation (D = vehicle designed for this cycle)





## **Characteristics of Components for Optimized Vehicles**





## **Cycle Operating Characteristics on the 4 Cycles**



# **Comparison of Hybrid, Neat, and Conventional Vehicles**



## **Optimization of Fuel Cell Vehicle Design Provides Insight into System Trade-offs**

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- Determined that derivative-free optimization algorithms necessary for complex design space of HEVs
- Drive cycle influences optimal degree of hybridization and control parameters
  - NEDC provides robust design
- Fuel cell transient response capability critical for neat fuel cell vehicle
- An optimized hybrid design can nullify the effects of fuel cell transient response







Collaboration will help identify applicability and systems issues early in the R&D process.



NREL, Center for Transportation Technologies and Systems



## Draw Upon All Available Sources to Gather Data and and New Models

### National Labs -- Vehicle Manufacturer's -- Component Suppliers





Processing



Advanced Vehicle Simulator KEL, CENTER FOR I RANSPORTATION TECHNOLOGIES AND SYSTEMS



## **Addressing Reviewer Comments**

- Focus on fuel cell system model improvement with lab and industry input for experimental verification of assumptions, conclusions, and results
  - developing partnerships with program contractors that can provide data and feedback on modeling assumptions
- Model validation with experimental data
  - initiated data collection effort to help with model validation and enhancement
- Apply models to analysis questions and disseminate results in peer reviewed setting
  - published three key papers this year discussing fuel cell hybrid vehicle systems analysis





## **Recent Interactions with Industry**

- Creating partnerships with key fuel cell component developers to address technical barriers
- Corresponding with more than 30 entities under contract to DOE to collect data for model validation and systems analysis
- Initiated discussions with Vairex and Opcon Autorotor on air compression systems
- Contributing to development of SAE Code & Standards for fuel cell vehicle testing





## **Plans and Future Milestones**

- Fuel cell hybrid vehicle system optimization
  - Using ultra-capacitors, and other storage technologies
  - Investigating fuel cell idle rather than shut-down
  - Technology application to multiple platforms
- Data collection and systems modeling
- Evaluate options for fuel cell system performance enhancement and cost reduction in a vehicle application
- Completion of enhanced fuel cell system thermal model under development at Virginia Tech







## Summary

- Vehicle systems tools coupled with optimization are being applied to provide design insights
- Progress has been made to collect data for populating models and validating model results
- Many fuel cell vehicle systems design scenarios yet to be evaluated
- Developing partnerships with industry to provide modeling assumptions review



