



Overview of Alternative Motive Power and Hydrogen Fuel Cell Propulsion for Rail Vehicles

Andreas Hoffrichter, PhD

Burkhardt Professor in Railway Management

Director of the Center for Railway Research and Education

Center for Railway Education and Research

Michigan State University

3535 Forest Road

Lansing, MI 48910

andreash@msu.edu

Urbana-Champaign: December 8, 2017

WHO WILL MAKE
BUSINESS HAPPEN?
SPARTANS WILL.

AGENDA

- Established Propulsion Systems
- Drivers for Alternative Propulsion Systems
- Wayside Options
- On-Board Options
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell (Hydrail) Option



Contents

- Established Propulsion Systems
 - Wayside Electrification
 - Diesel-Electric
- Drivers for Alternative Propulsion Systems
- Wayside Options
- On-Board Options
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell (Hydrail) Option



Established Propulsion Systems

- Two primary systems:
 - Continuous wayside power supply through electrification infrastructure (Direct Current [DC] or Alternating Current [AC])
 - On-board power supply through diesel engine generator-set
- Wayside Electrification
 - Electrification in specific locations, e.g., Amtrak North East Corridor (NEC) and urban railways, e.g., New York Subway
 - Introduced in 1879 by Siemens
 - Useful for very high speed (>125mph) railways and high density operation (e.g., 2min headway)
- On-Board Diesel
 - Diesel-Electric system most common in North America (other power transmission systems possible, e.g., diesel-hydraulic for multiple units common in Europe)
 - Electric drive system plus on-board power plant
 - Introduced in 1920s in the USA; prototype operation present previously



Replica of Siemens Electric Railway 1879, 3rd rail supply



Model of Edison (GE) Electric Railway 1880, running rail supply



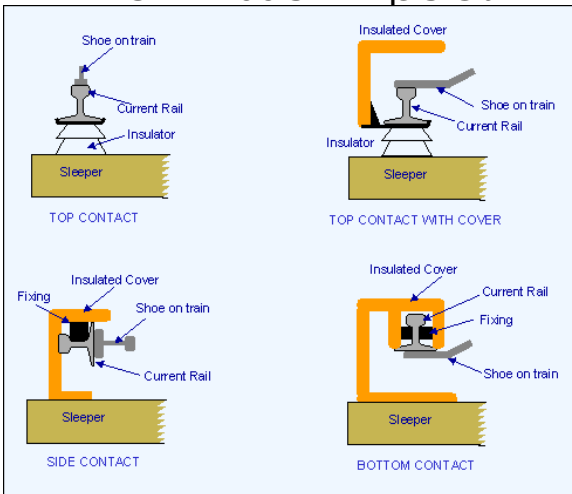
First commercially successful diesel-electric locomotive 1924, built by GE, Ingersoll-Rand, & Alco



Center for Railway
Research and Education
Broad College of Business
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

3rd Rail Electrification

- Additional rail next to running rails
- Running rails carry return current
- Always DC, typical voltage 600V, 750V
- Comparatively high electrical losses (I^2R losses)
 - Requires many substations where AC is converted to DC (as AC industrial, public grid)
 - No requirement for transformer on-board train
 - Voltage needs to be relatively low as rail is close to the ground to avoid short circuit (arcs)
- Available power is limited (in transit, voltage increases underway on many systems)
- Low clearance requirements
 - Popular with subways - smaller tunnels possible
- Low visual impact



Overhead Contact Systems (OCS)

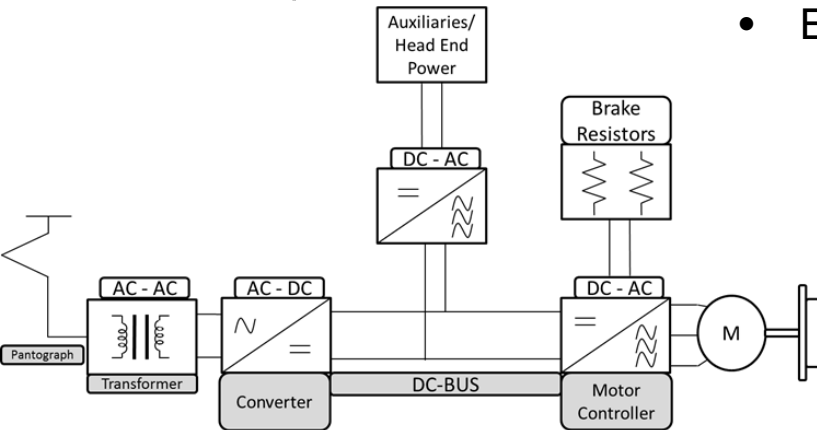
- Electricity is supplied through an overhead system of wires
- Allows higher voltages than ground-level as can be further away from the ground and other structures
- AC or DC. Modern mainline systems are 25kV, industrial frequency at 50/60Hz AC
- Usually single phase AC (not 3 phase AC)
 - 3 phases require two overhead conductor lines and 3rd phase via running rails
- Lower electrical losses
- Requires transformer on the motive power vehicles
- Visual impact



Source: Ryan Stavelly - ACS-64 Take 2
 Uploaded by Mackensen,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=31069155>



- Electrification is expensive:
 - ~\$2 million per single track kilometer
 - Cost varies significantly with region
 - More in urban environments, less rural if power supply available
 - Cost varies with type of electrification
 - Most electrification schemes have been supported by the government (e.g., for energy security)

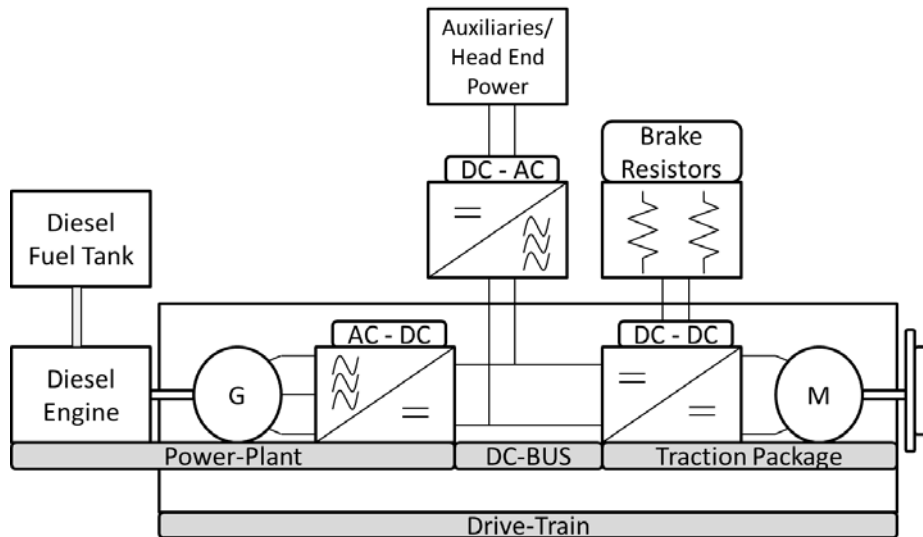


Diesel-Electric Motive Power

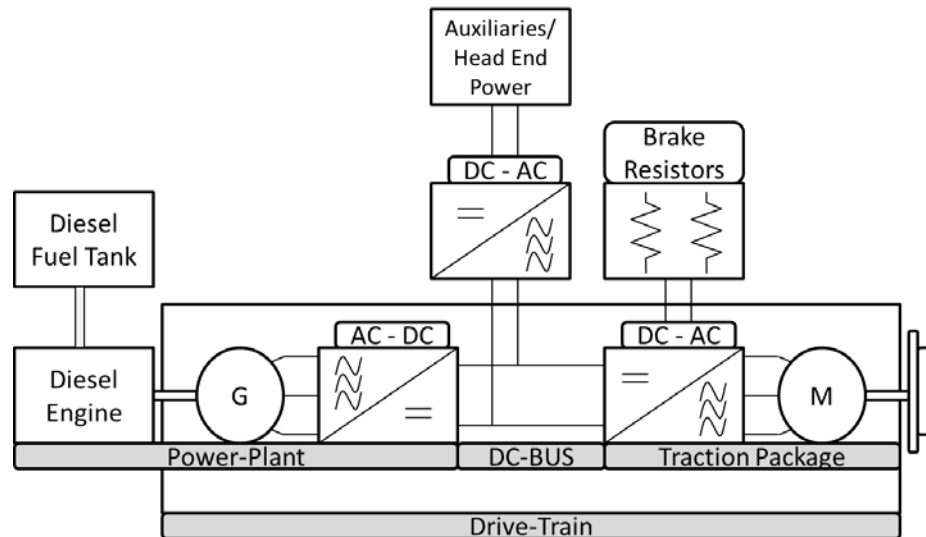
- Most diesel railway vehicles are diesel-electric
- An electric locomotive with it's own power-plant (diesel engine generator-set)
- Many components the same as in wayside electric motive power vehicle



DC Traction Motors



AC Traction Motors



Internal Combustion Engines

- Two main types:
 - Spark Ignition (Otto Cycle), rarely used in rail
 - Compression Ignition (Diesel Cycle)
- Diesel Engine
 - Popular in railway applications
 - Compressed air and associated heat ignites fuel
 - High efficiency
 - max. ~45% in rail applications
 - duty cycle lower, typically between 18%-25%
 - Efficiency limited by the Carnot Cycle
 - Produces high amount of torque, which is useful in rail
 - Diesel fuel combustion with air leads to emissions that impact local air quality as well as results in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions



Contents

- Established Propulsion Systems
- Drivers for Alternative Propulsion Systems
 - Cost
 - Local Emissions / Air Quality
 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions
 - Combustion of Hydrocarbons
- Wayside Options
- On-Board Options
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell (Hydrail) Option



Drivers for Alternative Motive Power

Two main drivers:

1. Cost

- Fuel cost
- Increase propulsion system efficiency to reduce consumption
- Infrastructure cost, particularly for electrification
- Energy security

2. Emissions

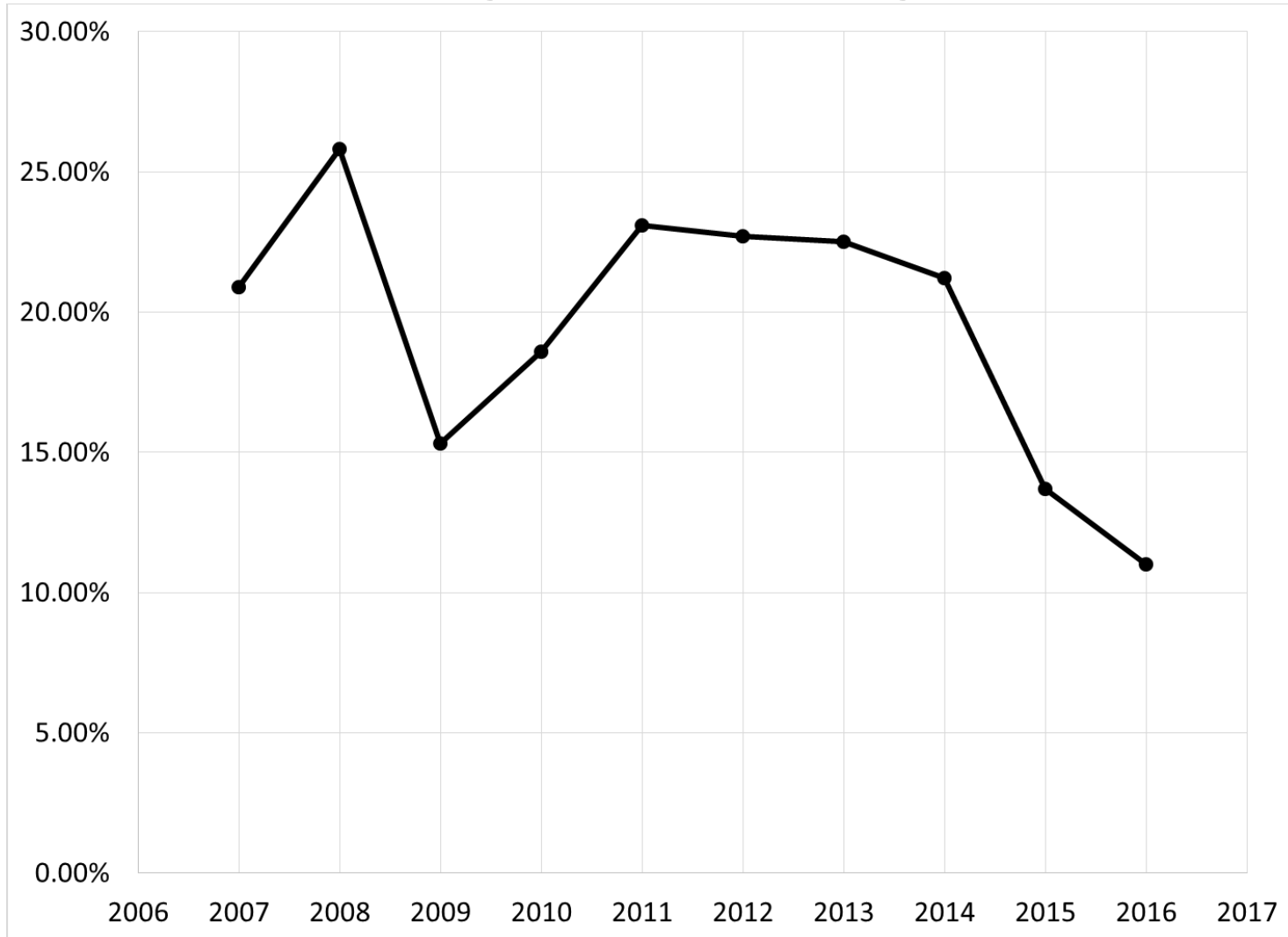
- To comply with regulation and improve local air quality
- Operational constraints (e.g., long tunnels)
- Visual impact, particularly for overhead electrification

• Sometimes Performance

- Acceleration
- Tractive effort
- Power
- Electrification almost never commercially viable on sole performance increase but might be only option, e.g., very high speed trains



Class I Railroad: Fuel as Percentage of Operating Expenses



Source: AAR (2017) Railroad Facts



Exhaust Emissions

- Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) causes SMOG
- Particulate Matter (PM) causes cancer
- Legislation limits amount of allowable emissions



Regulated Exhaust Emissions

- The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has regulated the exhaust emissions from locomotives
- Four different tiers, depending on construction year of locomotive
- Increasingly stringent emission reduction requirements
- Tier 5 is now in discussion, see next slide
- Achieving Tier 4 was already very challenging for manufacturers

	Duty-Cycle ^b	Tier	Year ^c	HC ⁱ (g/hp-hr)	NO _x (g/bhp-hr)	PM (g/bhp-hr)	CO (g/bhp-hr)	Smoke (percentage) ^m	Minimum Useful Life (hours / years / miles) ⁿ	Warranty Period (hours / years / miles) ⁿ
Federal ^a	Line-haul	Tier 0	1973-1992 ^{d,e}	1.00	9.5 [ABT]	0.22 [ABT]	5.0	30 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / 750,000 ^o	1/3 * Useful Life
		Tier 1	1993-2004 ^{d,e}	0.55	7.4 [ABT]	0.22 [ABT]	2.2	25 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / 750,000 ^o (7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 2	2005-2011 ^d	0.30	5.5 [ABT]	0.10 ^k [ABT]	1.5	20 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 3	2012-2014 ^f	0.30	5.5 [ABT]	0.10 [ABT]	1.5	20 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 4	2015+ ^g	0.14	1.3 [ABT]	0.03 [ABT]	1.5	-	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
	Switch	Tier 0	1973-2001	2.10	11.8 [ABT]	0.26 [ABT]	8.0	30 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / 750,000 ^o	
		Tier 1	2002-2004 ^h	1.20	11.0 [ABT]	0.26 [ABT]	2.5	25 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 2	2005-2010 ^h	0.60	8.1 [ABT]	0.13 ^l [ABT]	2.4	20 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 3	2011-2014	0.60	5.0 [ABT]	0.10 [ABT]	2.4	20 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 4	2015+ ^j	0.14 ^j	1.3 ^j [ABT]	0.03 [ABT]	2.4	-	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	

(EPA, 2016)



Center for Railway
Research and Education
Broad College of Business
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Proposed Tier 5 Emission Regulation

- California proposed rail emission regulation to be adopted at the federal level

Potential Amended Emission Standards for Newly Manufactured Locomotives and Locomotive Engines

Tier Level	Proposed Year of Manufacture	NOx		PM		GHG		HC		Proposed Effective Date
		Standard (g/bhp-hr) ¹	Percent Control ²	Standard (g/bhp-hr) ¹	Percent Control ²	Standard (g/bhp-hr) ¹	Percent Control ¹	Standard (g/bhp-hr)	Percent Control ²	
5	2025	0.2	99+	<0.01	99	NA	10-25%	0.02	98	2025
With capability for zero-emission operation in designated areas.										

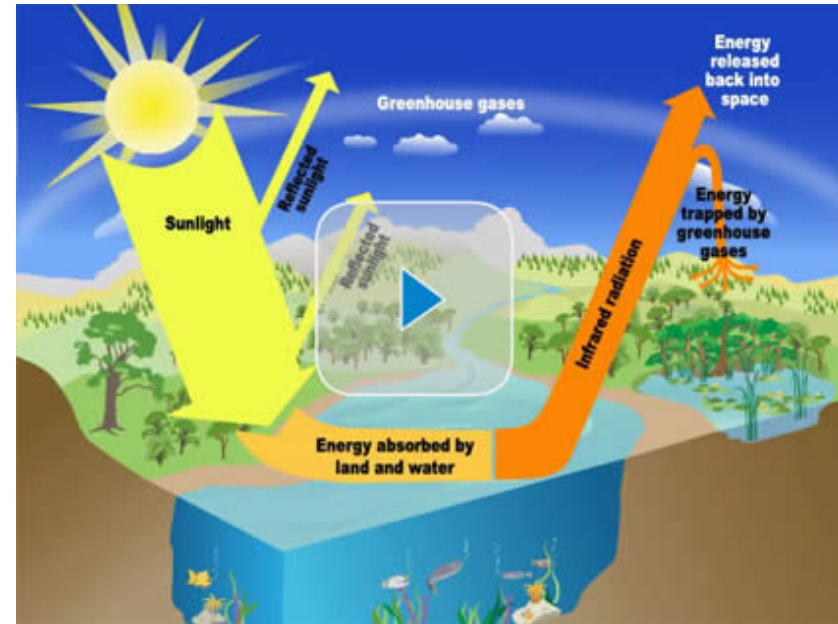
- ARB, Technology Assessment: Freight Locomotives, 2016.³
- Compared with uncontrolled baseline, reflects percent control over line haul baseline for illustrative purposes; ARB staff assumed older pre-Tier 0 line haul and switch locomotives would be able to emit up to the Tier 0 PM emission standards, based on American Association of Railroads in-use emission testing (required to comply with U.S. EPA in-use emission testing requirements) for older switch locomotives with EMD 645 engines.

(California Air Resources Board, 2017)



Greenhouse Effect / Gases

- Solar radiation either
 - reflected back into space or
 - absorbed by Earth
- Planet releases some energy back into the atmosphere as infrared radiation (heat)
- Infrared radiation is released
 - Some into space
 - some absorbed by Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)
 - slow or prevent heat release to space
- Absorbed energy by GHGs is re-emitted, warming Earth's surface and the lower atmosphere
- This cycle is called the Greenhouse Effect



(EPA, 2014)

Major GHGs:

Water Vapour (H₂O)

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)

Methane (CH₄)

Nitrous Oxide (N₂O)



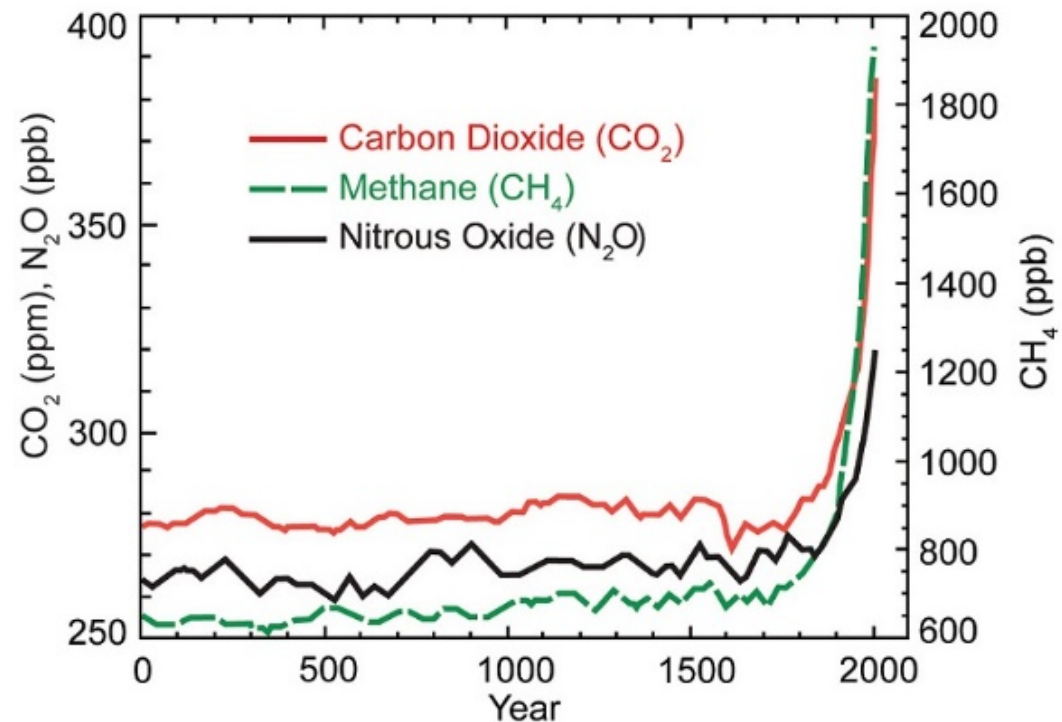
Global Warming

- Many GHGs occur naturally and they are part of the natural greenhouse effect
 - water vapour H₂O (water cycle)
 - carbon dioxide CO₂ (carbon cycle)
- GHGs have different impact on the greenhouse effect
 - Water vapour is the most abundant GHG and the most important in the natural greenhouse effect
 - Global concentration of water vapour is not substantially affected by human activity
- Human activities add GHGs, such as
 - Carbon dioxide (CO₂)
 - Methane (CH₄)
 - Nitrous Oxide (N₂O)
 - Sources include:
 - fossil fuel combustion
 - agricultural activity
 - Electric sparks and arcs (N₂O), e.g., in substations
- Observations and models show that average global temperature has been rising
- Most scientist (~97%) agree that the temperature rise is due to higher concentrations of GHGs in the atmosphere, in particular CO₂



Global Warming Potential (GWP)

- Each GHG
 - absorbs a different amount of heat
 - remains in the atmosphere for a different amount of time
- GWP allows comparison of global warming impact of different GHGs
 - CO₂ has GWP of 1
 - CH₄ has GWP of 28-36
 - N₂O has GWP of 265-298
- Often impact of all GHG associated with an activity is expressed in CO₂ equivalent (CO₂-eq, CO₂e)



Change of GHG concentration in the atmosphere over the last 2000 years (EPA, 2009)



Hydrocarbon Fuel Combustion

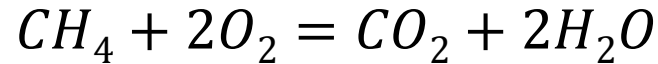
- Hydrocarbons are fuels that consist of carbon and hydrogen, e.g.,
 - Natural Gas
 - Petroleum
 - Gasoline
 - Diesel
 - Coal
- Combustion of fuel is a chemical process, with
 - Reactants:
 - Hydrocarbon (fuel)
 - Oxygen (from air)
 - Product:
 - Water
 - Carbon Dioxide
- A perfect fuel and oxygen mixture is called stoichiometric combustion
 - Pure, exact amount of chemicals is present to achieve the stoichiometric reaction



Stoichiometric Combustion

Example:

Combustion of one mole methane with oxygen



CH_4 = methane

O_2 = oxygen

CO_2 = carbon dioxide

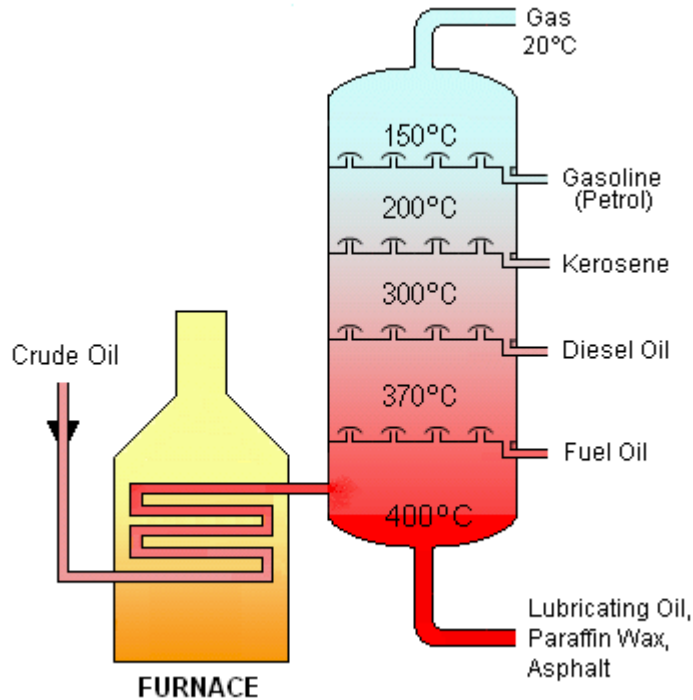
H_2O = water

- In most practical applications, including the railway, this is not possible
 - Pure chemicals are not present e.g., air instead of pure oxygen
 - Results in emissions



Petroleum-Based Fuels

- Mixed hydrocarbon fractions C_aH_b



Gasoline $\sim C_nH_{2.25n}$

Diesel $\sim C_nH_{2.12n}$

Chemical Formula of Fuels

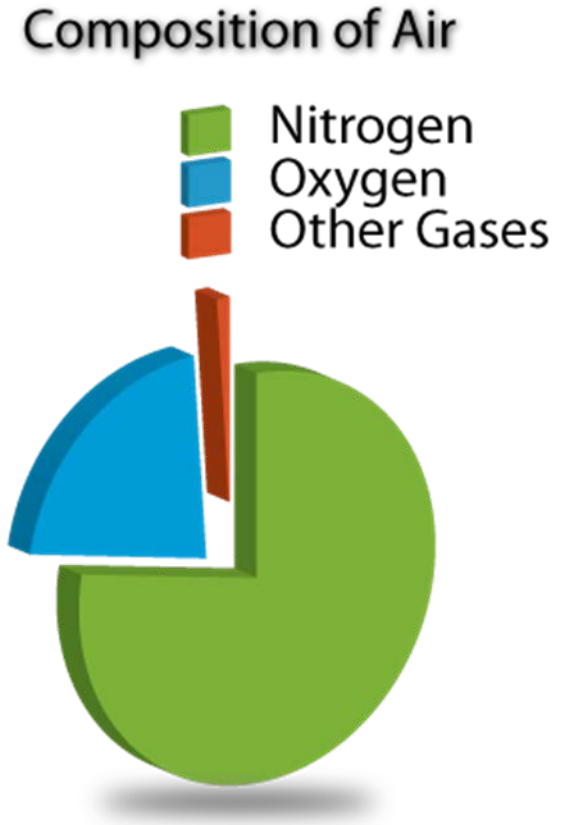
Fuel	Chemical Formula
Hydrogen	H
Natural Gas / Methane	CH ₄
Propane	C ₃ H ₈
Gasoline (isooctane)	C ₈ H ₁₈
Diesel	C ₁₆ H ₃₄

- CO₂ is linearly proportional to fuel consumption
 - Diesel: ~ 2.68 kg of CO₂ per litre of fuel



Composition of Air

Chemical	Composition by Volume
Nitrogen (N ₂)	~78%
Oxygen (O ₂)	~21%
Other gases, of which	~1%
e.g., CO ₂	~0.03%
e.g., CH ₄	~0.0002%



Combustion with Air

Oxides of Nitrogen

- At high temperatures air reacts with itself
 - Oxygen + Nitrogen \rightarrow NO_x
 - Mostly N₂O, NO, and NO₂
- Reduction strategies
 - Lower combustion temperature
 - Reduce excess oxygen
 - After-treatment solutions
- In a Diesel engine
 - Exhaust gas displaces excess air through Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR)
 - Less spare oxygen
 - Less nitrogen
 - Therefore less NO_x
 - Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR)
 - After-treatment solution
 - Chemical (Urea, Diesel Exhaust Fluid [DEF]), primarily ammonia (NH₃) and CO₂, added to the exhaust gas to convert NO_x to nitrogen, water and small amounts of CO₂



Incomplete Combustion

Carbon-Based Emission

- Results in other emission than water and CO₂
 - Hydrocarbon (HC), i.e., unburned fuel
 - Pure carbon
 - Soot
 - Particulate Matter (PM)
 - Carbon Monoxide (CO)
- After-treatment essentially tries to complete the combustion process
- Reduction options for PM emissions:
 - Increase oxygen content by reducing EGR
 - But then NO_x levels increase
 - Oxidise with controlled combustion in after-treatment
 - Diesel Particulate Filter with regeneration strategy (burn carbon off at frequent intervals)
- High EGR levels increase soot build-up
 - Can cause premature component failure



Two Main Alternatives

- Wayside power supply
 - Inductive loops to avoid visual impact and increase robustness (particularly relevant for light rail)
 - Advanced ground level electrification to reduce visual impact (particularly relevant for light rail)
 - Linear motors, improves performance and does not rely on wheel-rail interface for motive power
 - Magnetic levitation, improves performance and does not rely on wheel-rail interface
- On-board power supply
 - Energy storage devices, e.g., flywheel, batteries, supercapacitors. Reduce energy consumption and allow a certain independent operating range away from primary power sources
 - Alternative fuels or energy carriers, e.g., natural gas, bio-diesel, ethanol, hydrogen. Reduce cost or emissions or both



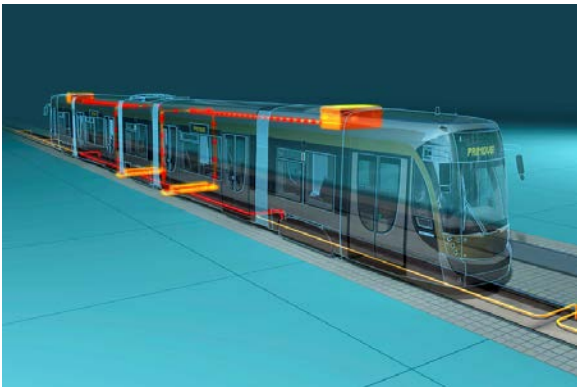
Contents

- Established Propulsion Systems
- Drivers for Alternative Propulsion Systems
- Wayside Options
 - Inductive Power Transfer
 - Advanced Ground-Level Electrification
 - Linear Motors
 - Magnetic Levitation (Maglev)
- On-Board Options
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell (Hydrail) Option



Wayside: Inductive Loops

- Electricity supply to vehicles is through inductive loops in the ground
- No overhead or 3rd rail necessary
- Reduces visual impact significantly
- Increases resilience through covered infrastructure
- Currently, more expensive than conventional electrification
- Also used for buses and cars
- Example: Augsburg tram, Nanjing tram



[Video: Bombardier \(2012\) Primove: Game-changing turnkey solution for tram systems](#)



Wayside: Advanced Ground Level Electrification

- Uses a 3rd rail that is buried in the ground
- Only energized when the vehicle is on top of it
- Reduces visual impact
- Currently, significantly more expensive than conventional overhead electrification
- Example: Bordeaux Tram



Wayside: Linear Motors

- Traction motor is split into two parts
 - One is installed on the vehicle
 - One is installed on the track
- Reduces visual impact
- Improves performance as no longer dependent on wheel-rail adhesion
- Also used in magnetic levitation vehicles
- Currently, significantly more expensive than conventional electrification
- Example: Vancouver Skytrain



Wayside: Magnetic Levitation (MagLev)

- Uses electromagnets instead of wheels to guide the vehicle, provide motive power, and transfer loads
- Magnets on the train and in the track
- Improves performance as no longer relies on wheel-rail interface
- Technology is not new, has been developed and been in operation since the 1980s in low-speed operation
- Allows for very high speeds
- Currently, extremely expensive
- Example: Shanghai airport link

[Video: Tongtech \(2009\) How the Shanghai Maglev Transrapid works](#)



Contents

- Established Propulsion Systems
- Drivers for Alternative Propulsion Systems
- Wayside Options
- On-Board Options
 - Energy Density of Energy Storage
 - Potential for Regenerative Braking
 - Genset Locomotives
 - Energy Storage Hybrids
 - Bio-Fuel
 - Natural Gas
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell (Hydrail) Option



On-Board: Gensets

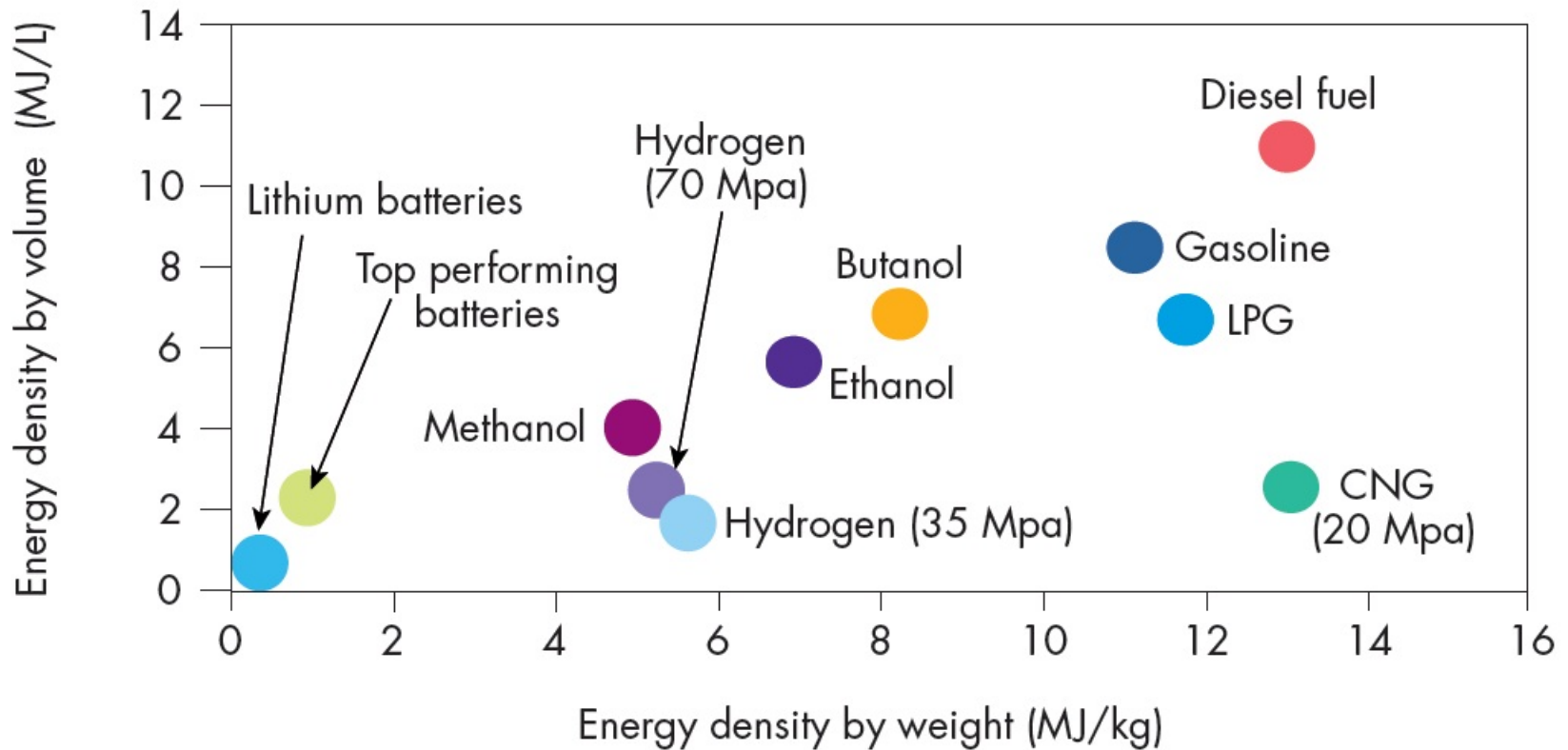
- Locomotives that have more than one diesel engine generator-set (genset), usually three
 - Individual gensets are turned on or off depending on power demand
- Can reduce emissions
- Can reduce fuel consumption
- Traction and drive system control for quick response and sustained tractive effort essential
- May result in lower reliability as three rather than one genset
- May result in higher reliability if designed accordingly as failure of one genset still allows operation of the locomotive at lower power rating and 'limp home' mode



Source: By Roy Luck - Flickr: Union Pacific
Genset switcher, Eureka Yard, CC BY 2.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=16097400>



Energy Density Comparison

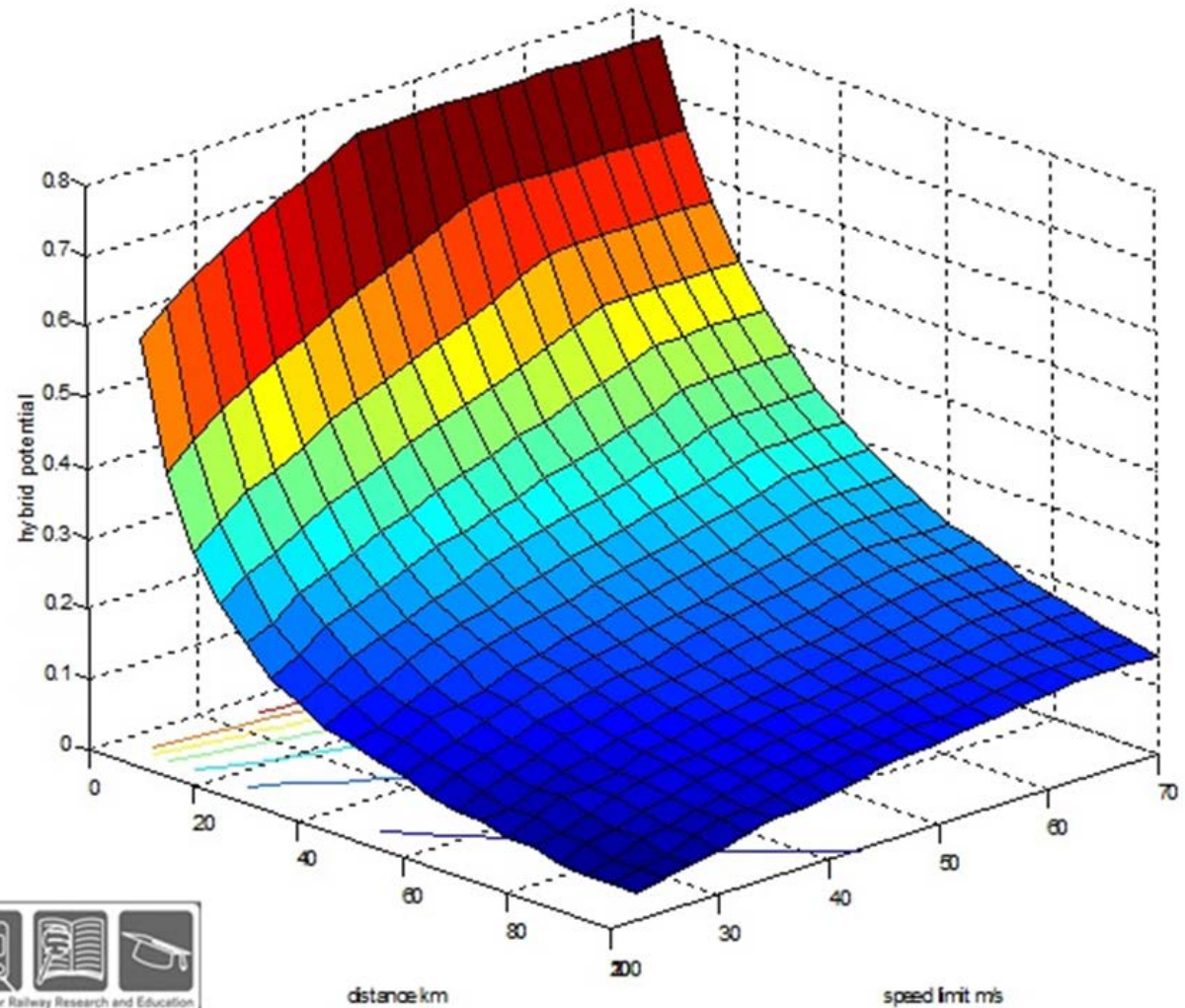


(IEA, 2009)



Regenerative Braking

- Kinetic energy converted into electrical in traction motors during braking
- Electricity either returned to wayside infrastructure or stored on-board
- Potential for energy recovery largely dependent on duty cycle
- Frequent braking events, e.g., for station stops, have high potential
- Speed less important



On-Board: Energy Storage Hybrids

- A hybrid vehicle has a primary power plant and an on-board energy storage device
- Primary power-plant
 - Transformer (Wayside electrification)
 - Combustion engine
 - Turbine
 - Fuel cell
- Storage device
 - Batteries
 - Flywheels
 - Supercapacitors
- For most duty cycles, allows downsizing of primary power-plant, e.g., diesel engine
- Allows regenerative braking
- Enables full electric operation for a specific period
- Reduces fuel consumption and emissions, local and GHG
- Used in several applications:
 - Switching (significant downsizing of diesel engine possible)
 - Regional trains (significant reduction in energy consumption)
 - Light rail, to overcome gaps in wayside infrastructure



On-Board: Energy Storage Only

- Currently, most energy storage devices (batteries, flywheels, supercapacitors) do not allow a long operating time/range
- Primary application in hybrids
- Some battery-only application
 - Freight, limited, e.g., Norfolk Southern 999
- Significantly higher cost compared to diesel
- No emissions
- Similar or better performance than diesel or wayside electric
- Long re-charge time for full charge
- Partial electrification possible
- Opportunity charging possible for some duty cycles

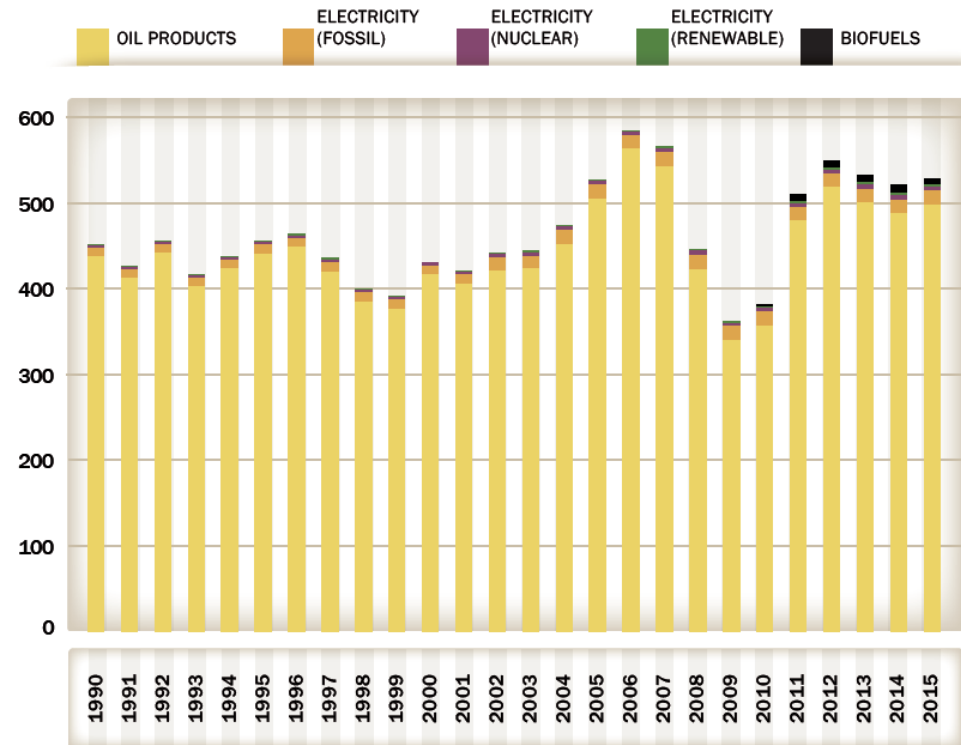


[Video: Allen \(2015\) Wireless Trams in Seville](#)



Alternative Fuel: Bio- Fuel

- Attractive option due to relatively high energy density per volume compared to alternatives
- Possible reduction in cost
- Possible reduction in emission
- Overall effect on the environment largely dependent on source for bio-fuel (e.g., biodiesel & ethanol)
- Several trials, globally, where conventional diesel was blended with bio fuel
 - Typical contribution of bio fuel 20-30%
- Blended approach common for current diesel fuel
 - U.S. has a large, if not the largest, biofuel contribution to diesel fuel for rail applications
- Example: Amtrak trial on Heartland Flyer with 20% biofuel



Source: UIC & IEA (2017) Railway Handbook 2017



Alternative Fuel: Natural Gas

- Reduces GHG emissions, not necessarily all local emissions, depending on after-treatment (still combustion with air)
- Can take advantage of relatively low fuel cost
- Prime mover can be
 - Compression ignition engine
 - Spark ignition engine
 - Turbine
- Compressed natural gas (CNG)
 - Limited operating range
 - Suitable for switching, road-switching, maybe shortline use
 - Technology less complex than LNG
- Liquefied natural gas (LNG)
 - Similar operating range with a tender
 - Requires a specific ratio of diesel to operated, e.g., 20% diesel
 - Suitable for long-haul
- Typically efficiency slightly lower than diesel (~2-3, percentage points)



Alternative Fuel: CNG

- Several projects world-wide
- CNG usually used in spark ignition engines
- CNG is usually stored on the motive power vehicle but might have a tender to extend range
- Examples:
 - Napa Valley Wine train
 - Russian Railways
 - Norfolk Southern
 - Indiana Harbor Belt



Alternative Fuel: LNG

- Significant interest in LNG
- Can reduce local and GHG emission for line-haul locomotives
- Can reduce operating cost
- Several projects globally
 - Russia, use of gas turbine
 - North America, use of compression ignition/diesel engine
 - Most Class 1s have trial projects
 - Regional railroads
- EMD and GE offer conversion kits
- Requires a tender car for acceptable range
- Typically a 20% diesel, 80% natural gas mix; diesel at low notch setting and to start the engine
- Florida East Coast Railway converted entire mainline fleet to LNG
 - In full operation now



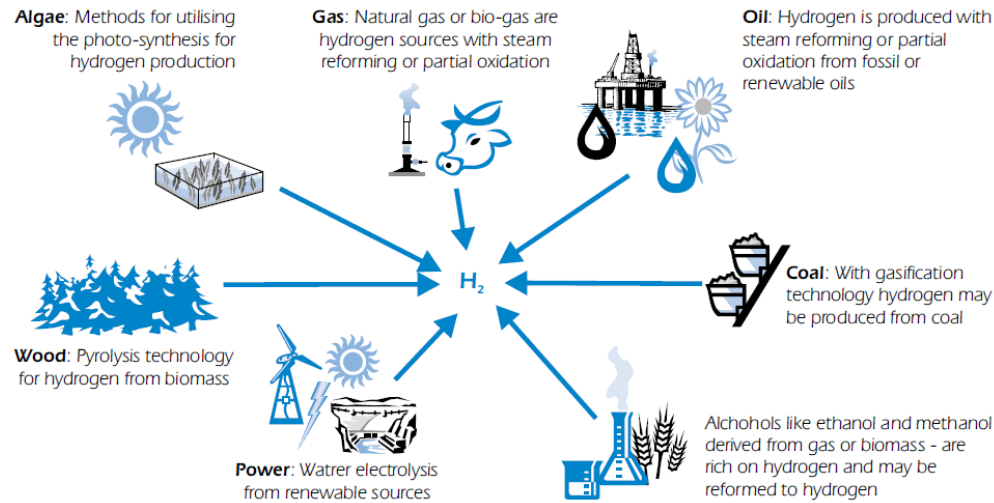
Contents

- Established Propulsion Systems
- Drivers for Alternative Propulsion Systems
- Wayside Options
- On-Board Options
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell (Hydrail) Option
 - Hydrogen as an Energy Carrier
 - Fuel Cell and Drive System Design
 - Example Projects



Fuels/Energy Carriers That Have No Carbon

- Only two chemical fuels/energy carriers that do not contain carbon
 - Hydrogen
 - Ammonia (NH_3)
- Ammonia combustion possible but produces NO_x
- Hydrogen
 - Energy carrier, like electricity, has to be produced from something else, e.g., hydrocarbons, water
 - Most common element in the universe and very common on Earth
 - Highest energy density by mass but low by volume
 - Can be used in combustion engine but more commonly in fuel cells as more efficient
 - No harmful emissions at the point-of-use, only water vapor
 - Reduction of GHG if produced from Natural Gas but potential to avoid GHG if produced from renewables

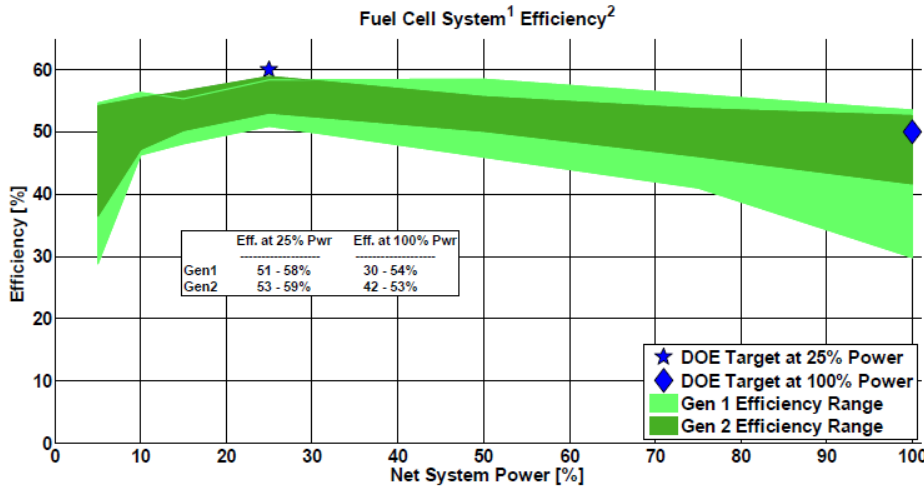
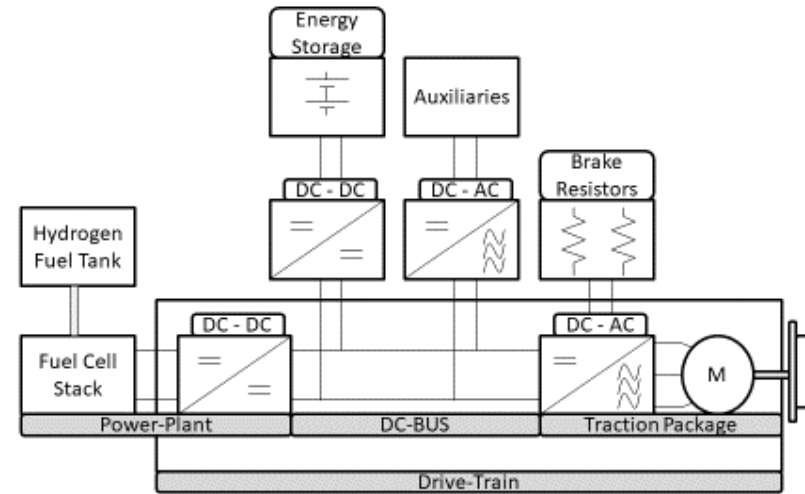


Source: International Energy Agency (2006)

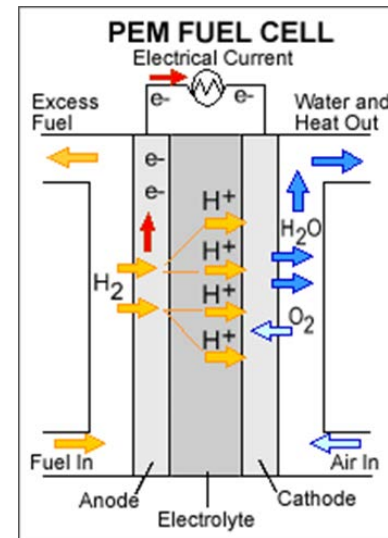


Hydrogen Fuel Cell-Hybrid

- Hybrid drive system
 - Fuel cell power plant
 - On-board energy storage, e.g., batteries
- Power plant meets average power
- Energy storage allows regenerative braking and meets peak power
- Hydrogen storage for long range
- Duty-Cycle Primary Drive System efficiency of 45% possible (~twice the efficiency of diesel-electric)
- Further efficiency increase / fuel reduction possible, if regenerative braking considered



Source: NREL (2012) National Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle Learning Demonstration Final Report



Fuel Cell Efficiency at ¼ Power	60%	57% (average)	--	53% - 59%	51% - 58%
Fuel Cell Efficiency at Full Power		43% (average)	--	42% - 53%	30% - 54%

Source: NREL (2016) Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle Evaluation

Alternative: Hydrail

- Increasing interest globally
 - Primarily light rail and regional trains
 - Metrolinx in Toronto is considering high-power commuter rail vehicles, e.g., locomotives
- Several studies show viability
- Several proof-of-concept demonstration projects in the past, e.g.,
 - Vehicle Projects / BNSF switch locomotive
 - Railcars in Japan
- Commercial vehicles now available
 - Alstom regional train
 - Streetcars from CRRC and TIG/m
- No harmful local emissions (water, water vapor)
- Can reduce GHG emissions (well-to-wheel)
- Can reduce fuel consumption
- Example UK study (hydrogen produced from natural gas):
 - 55% fuel reduction compared to diesel
 - 72% CO₂ reduction compared to diesel
- Typical energy saving from several studies show range from 20% to 50%, depending on the duty cycle



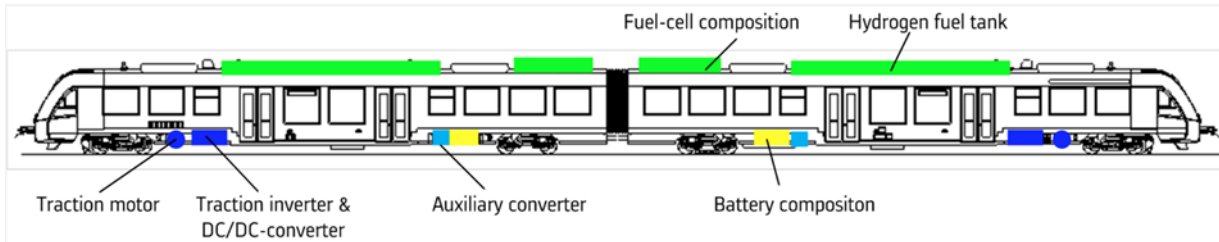
[Video: University of Birmingham \(2012\) UoB Hydrogen Locomotive](#)



Center for Railway
Research and Education
Broad College of Business
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Hydrail: Alstom iLINT

- Range 600 km – 800 km
- Refueling ~15 min, once a day
- 350 bar tanks
- ~180 kg hydrogen storage
- ~40% CO₂ reduction if hydrogen from natural gas
 - zero CO₂ if renewable, 'green' hydrogen
- Power per two car train
 - 2 x 200 kW fuel cell
 - 2 x 225 kW battery power
- Maximum speed 140 km/h (~87 mph)



Source: Ernst & Young (2016) Ergebnisbericht Studie Wasserstoff-Infrastruktur fuer die Schiene

[Video: Alstom \(2017\) Alstom's hydrogen train Coradia iLINT first successful run at 80km/h](#)



Summary

- Most established drive systems are electric, either power is supplied through wayside electrification or on-board diesel engine generator set
- Electrification has best performance of conventional systems
- Electrification is expensive but at a certain, high number of trains cheaper than the other options
- Main drivers for alternative propulsion are cost and emissions
- Alternatives to established systems can be wayside or on-board systems
 - Wayside alternatives are usually more expensive than conventional electrification
 - On-board alternatives address cost and emissions in varying degrees
- Hybrids can reduce emissions and operating cost while retaining diesel engine or utilize an alternative power plant
- Alternative fuels/energy carriers have potential to reduce fuel consumption, cost, and emissions
- Hydrogen fuel cell propulsion system for railway applications (Hydrail) is being introduced in Light Rail and Regional Passenger Service
- Hydrail is technically feasible for switch, road-switch, and commuter rail services
- Hydrail is possibly feasible for mainline intercity freight and long-distance passenger service (depends on duty cycles, refueling arrangements, and business case)



Thank You

Questions?

E-Mail: andreash@msu.edu



Bibliography

AAR. (2017). Railroad Facts 2017 Edition.

Coombe, D., Fisher, P., Hoffrichter, A., et al. (2016). Development and design of a narrow-gauge hydrogen-hybrid locomotive. IMechE Part F: Journal of Rail and Rapid Transit. DOI: 10.1177/0954409714532921

Ernst & Young. (2016). Ergebnisbericht Studie Wasserstoff-Infrastruktur fuer die Schiene. https://www.now-gmbh.de/content/1-aktuelles/1-presse/20160701-bmvi-studie-untersucht-wirtschaftliche-rechtliche-und-technische-voraussetzungen-fuer-den-einsatz-von-brennstoffzellentriebwagen-im-zugverkehr/h2-schiene_ergebnisbericht_online.pdf

Hoffrichter, A. (2013). Hydrogen as an energy carrier for railway traction. <http://etheses.bham.ac.uk/4345/>

Hoffrichter, A., Hillmansen, S., & Roberts, C. (2015). Conceptual propulsion system design for a hydrogen-powered regional train. IET Electrical Systems in Transportation. Doi: 10.1049/iet-est.2014.0049

International Railway Journal (IRJ): Various Issues

Iraklis, A., Iraklis, C., & Hoffrichter, A. (December, 2016). Catenary Free Battery Electric Operation with Opportunity Charging for Light Rail Networks. IEEE Transportation Electrification Newsletter.

<https://tec.ieee.org/newsletter/december-2016>

NREL. (2016). Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle Evaluation. <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy16osti/66760.pdf>

Railway Gazette International: Various Issues

Trains Magazine: Various Issues

UIC & IEA. (2017). Railway handbook 2017: Energy consumption and CO₂ emissions. https://uic.org/IMG/pdf/handbook_iea-uic_v3.pdf



Videos

- Allen (2015) Wireless Tram in Seville:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mdju2lpQfc4&app=desktop>
- Alstom (2017) Alstom's hydrogen train Coradia iLINT first successful run at 80km/h:
https://youtu.be/xoknkAu_RLc
- Bombardier (2012) Primove: Game-changing turnkey solution for tram systems:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g_afs6Y83c8&index=17&list=PLwMdN-yIsjO6eKyhVDW3XRjEyn50w8c5Q
- Tongtech (2009) How the Shanghai Maglev Transrapid works:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmsvzOV7iXM>
- University of Birmingham (2012) UoB Hydrogen Locomotive:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3i4zIBeKYgY>

