

PEM Fuel Cell system analysis

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1 Calculation of the power demand inside the vehicle

- The specification of the vehicle are the following:

- Weight $M = 2000kg$
- Front area $A = 2.25m^2$
- Drag coefficient (or air penetration coefficient) $C = 0.29$
- Rolling Resistance coefficient $C_r = 0.0115$

- The efforts applied on the vehicle in the rolling direction have to following expression:

- Air penetration :

$$F(t) = \frac{1}{2} \rho_{air} v_{(t)}^2 C A \quad (1.1)$$

with $\rho_{air} = 1.2kg/m^3$

- Rolling resistance :

$$F(t) = MgC_r \cos \alpha \quad (1.2)$$

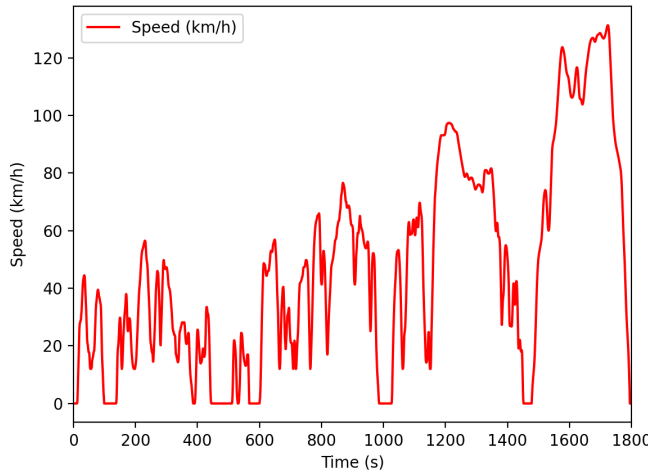
with $g = 9.81m/s^2$ and α the slope angle

- Climbing or descent :

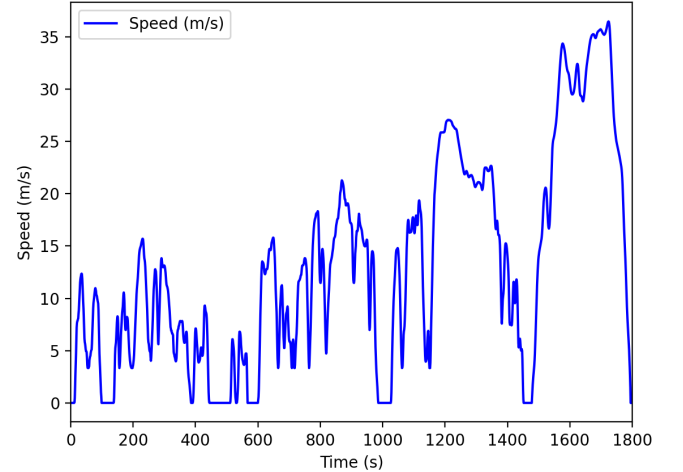
$$F(t) = Mg \sin \alpha \quad (1.3)$$

1.1 Calculate and plot the instant power provided by the vehicle powertrain for the road cycles " WLTC "

- ★ Consider a flat road ($\alpha = 0$)



(a) Speed Profile in km/h



(b) Speed Profile in m/s

Figure 1: Graph of the Speed Profile in km/h and Speed in m/s

1.1.1 Calculation

To calculate the **Instant Power**, we need to study of the *force* that have action on the car. By using second Newton's law with the Figure (2) shown below, we can assume that there are 4 forces that have action on the car while driving.

- The first force is to make the car move in direction. It called the force from motor or machine of the car (F_{motor})

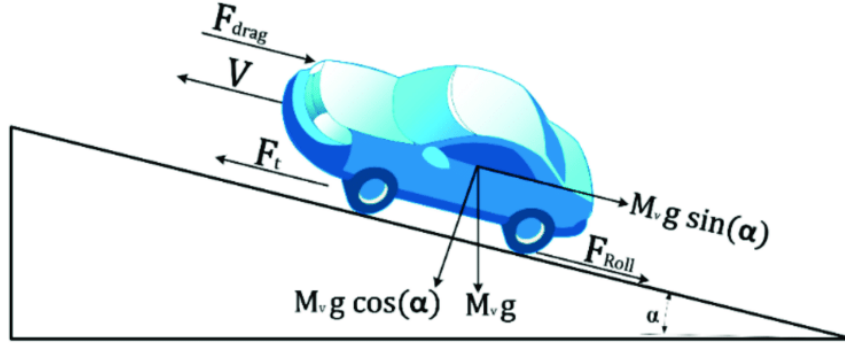


Figure 2: Speed (km/h) of the vehicle powertrain by time (s)

- The second force is the rolling force from the car wheels. It called **Rolling Resistance** ($F_{rolling}$)
- The third force is the climbing or descent force (F_{climb})
- The fourth force is the force from the air friction. we can called it Air penetration (F_{air}).

Using second Newton's law, we can written :

$$\vec{F}_{motor} - \vec{F}_{rolling} - \vec{F}_{climb} - \vec{F}_{air} = m \vec{a} \quad (1.4)$$

$$\vec{F}_{motor} = \vec{F}_{rolling} + \vec{F}_{climb} + \vec{F}_{air} + m \vec{a} \quad (1.5)$$

since a is the acceleration of the vehical in time t , as we written :

$$\vec{a} = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta t} \quad (1.6)$$

By using Equation (1.6), we can get the result of acceleration on the Figure (3)

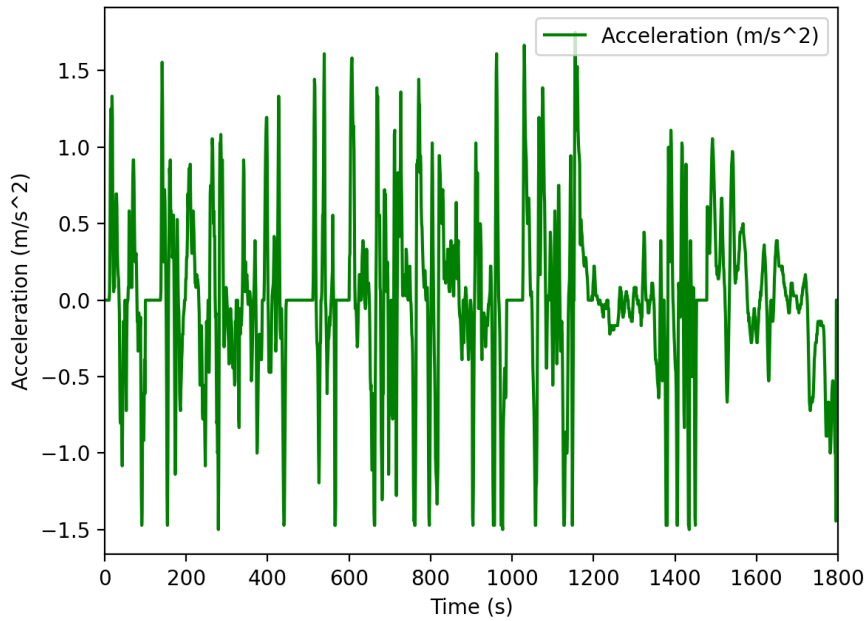


Figure 3: Acceleration (m/s^2) of the vehicle powertrain by time (s)

According to the graph, it shown that the vehical did not have the stable speed drive on the. At the some time (t), the vehical increasing the speed immediately. In contrast, at some time (t), the vehical reducing the speed quickly as shown in the Figure (3).

- For calculate F_{air} by using Equation (1.1) , we got :

$F_{air}(t) = \frac{1}{2}\rho_{air}v^2CA = \frac{1}{2} \times 1.2 \times v_{m/s,t}^2 \times 0.29 \times 2.25(1.7)$ In this section, to calculate F_{air} we need to get the speed in each time t in m/s^2 to analyze in the Equation (1.1.1) By using the Equation (1.1), we got the result of the force air penetration by shown in below graph.

- For calculate $F_{rolling}$, we will be using the Equation (1.2), we got :

$$F_{rolling}(t) = MgC_r \cos(\alpha) = 2000kg \times 9.81m/s^2 \times 0.0115 \times \cos(0^\circ) = \mathbf{225.630} \quad (1.8)$$

For this force, it will be constant in time (t) becuase there is not any parameter in the Equation (1.8) will change in which time.

- For calculate F_{climb} , we will use Equation (1.4) then we got:

$$F_{climb}(t) = Mg \sin(\alpha) = 2000kg \times 9.81m/s^2 \times \sin(0^\circ) = 0 \quad (1.9)$$

By using Equation (1.6), (1.1.1), (1.8) and (1.9) substitution into Equation (1.5). The result of total force was shown by the graph in Figure (4).

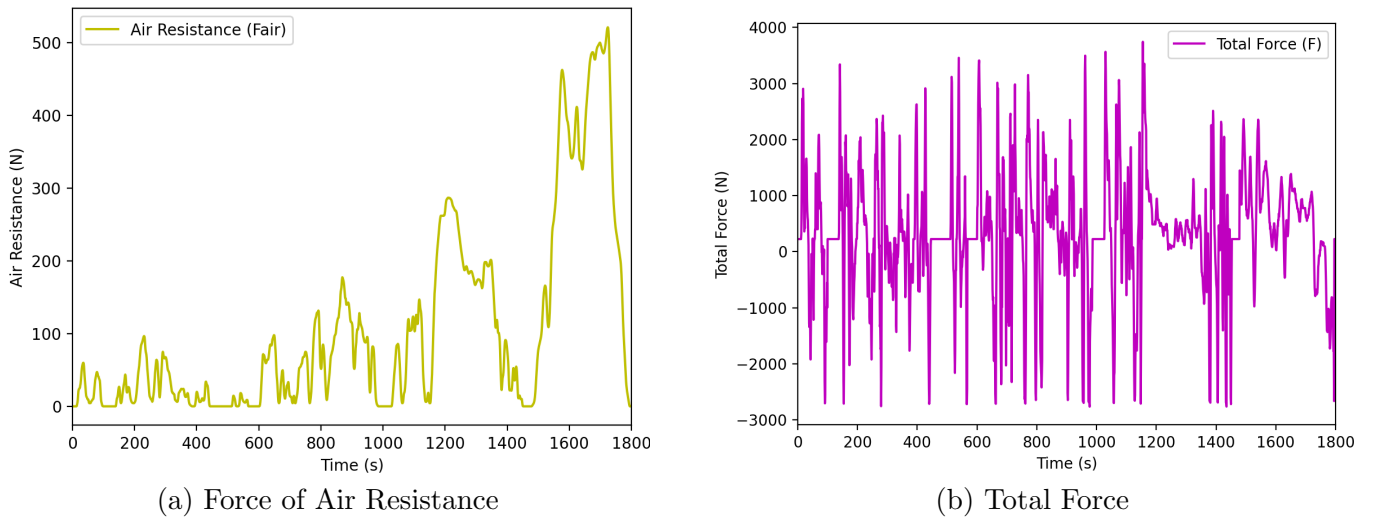


Figure 4: Graph of the Force of Air Resistance and Total Force

To calculate Instant power we are using :

$$P = F \times v \quad (1.10)$$

The result of the instant power calculation will be show at Figure (5)b. The instant power of the vehical are depend on two parameter :

- The total force from the vehical action (N).
- The speed that make the vehical go forward (m/s).

As now, we can write that

$$P_t = F_t \times v_t \quad (1.11)$$

The result of the instant power will show in the Figure (5).

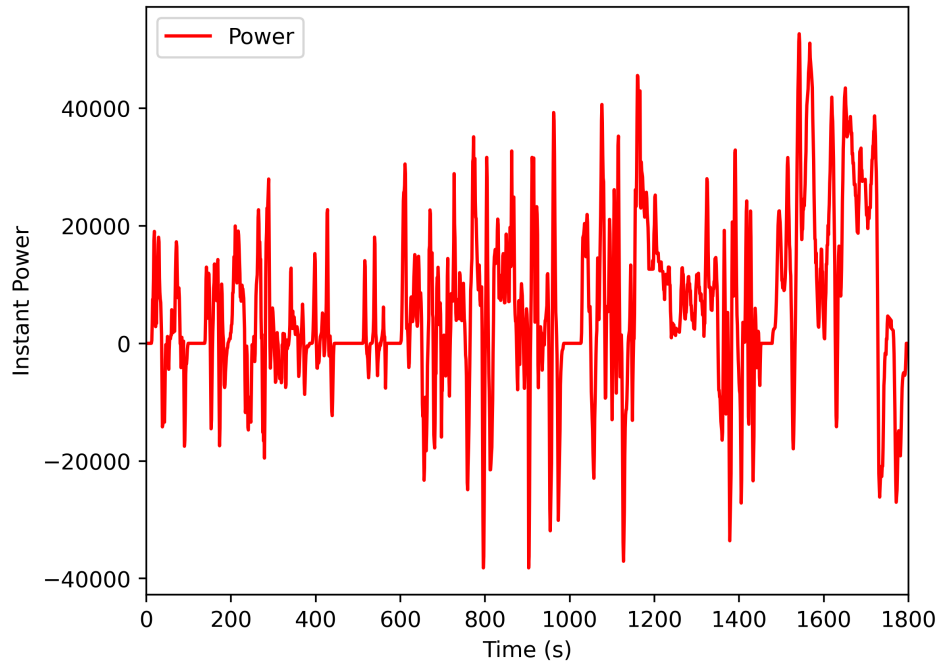


Figure 5: Instant Power of the Vechicle (W)

1.2 Calculate the instant power provide (positive) or received (negative) by the electric hybrid power source.

The vehicle auxiliaries consume an electrical power of 300W (no air conditioning, minimum consumption of all the equipment of the vehicle: sensor, supervisor, etc.) The DC/DC converter efficiency is assumed constant at 90% both direction.

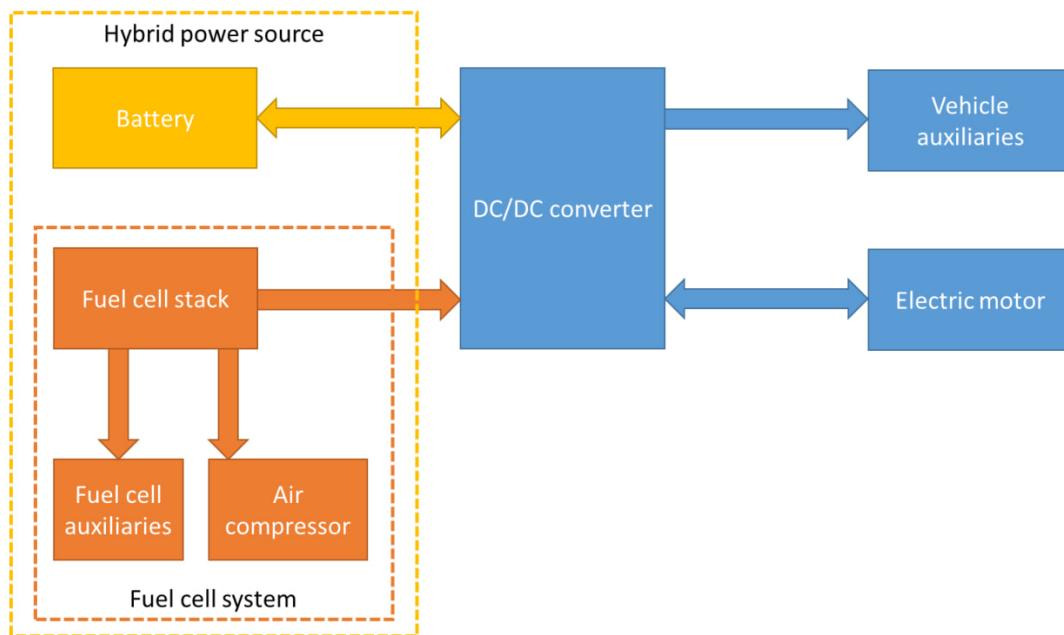


Figure 6: Hybrid system in the vehicle

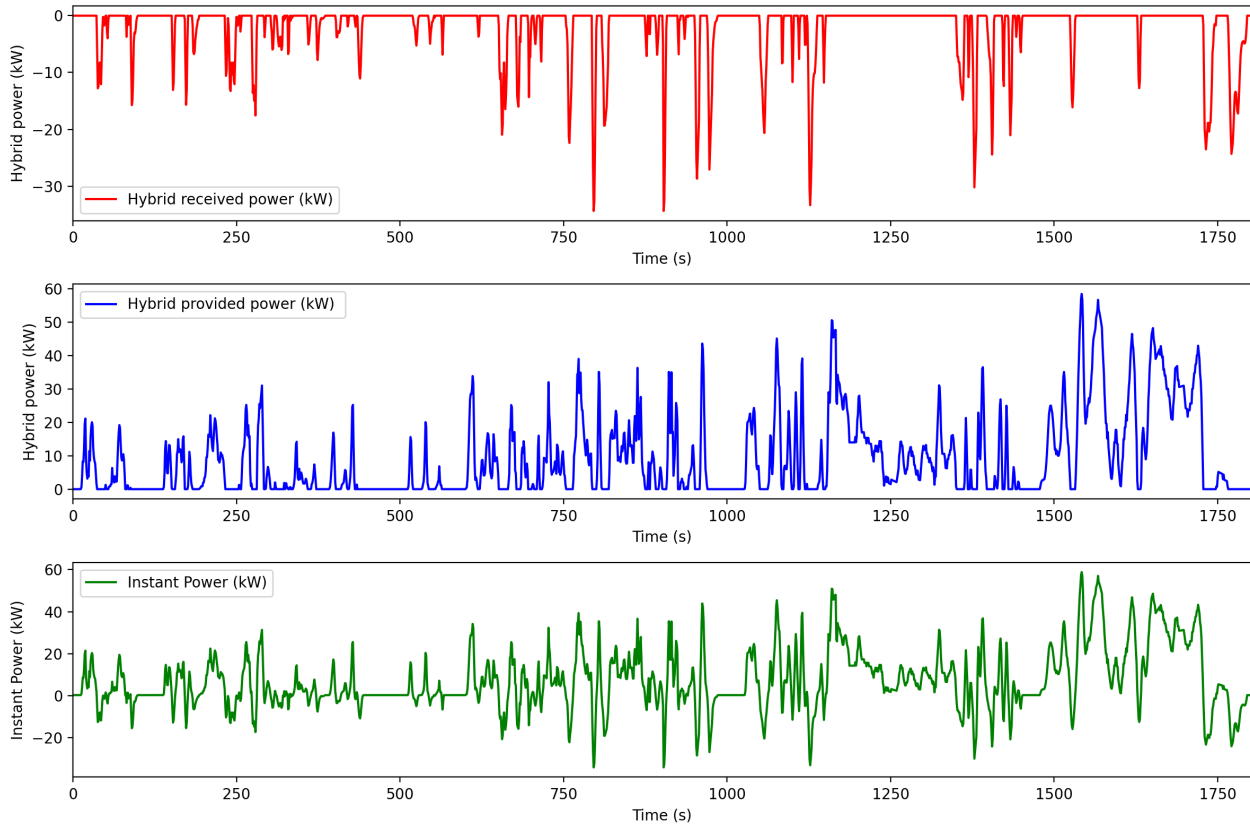


Figure 7: Hybrid working system in power transfer

To find the transfer power in the hybrid system in order to find the provided (positive) or received (negative), we have used instant power from the previous question as data in the Figure (5) with the efficiency of the DC/DC converter. As shown in the Figure (7): At the **first figure** had been shown the **RED line graph** represented the received power (negative) to the hybrid power with the maximum received is **34.365 kW**. Moreover, as shown in the **second figure** shown the **Blue line graph** represented the provided power (positive) from the hybrid system to the motor and auxiliaries. The maximum provided power to the motor was around **58.488 kW**. According to data from the calculation, we can assume that the vehicle mostly consumes power from the hybrid and less provided power to the hybrid system based on the data of speed that provided.

1.3 Calculate and Plot as a function of time : The power of the battery (kW), The power of the fuel cell system (kW), The SOC battery (%)

The energy management strategy of the hybridization between the battery and the fuel cell system is not disclosed by Toyota.

- The battery technology is Li-ion, with a stored energy of **1.24kWh**.
- The test results of Mirai 1 indicate that the battery State of Charge (SoC) is comprised between **50%** and **65%**
- The power delivered by the battery is often close to **5%** of the total power provided by the hybrid power source when $SoC < 55\%$ or **30%** when $SoC > 55\%$
- Discharging power of the battery is approximately **12.4 kW** (or 10C), while the charging power depends on the battery SoC: **10C** if $SoC < 55\%$ or **6C** if $SoC > 55\%$
- The battery provides 0%, 5%, 30% of the total power depending on its SoC and in the limit of its maximum discharging power.

- The EMS avoids values of SoC below 50% and above 65%
- The fuel cell system provides the rest of the power required, except if the power demand is too low: the power provided by the fuel cell system can't be lower than **2.5kW**

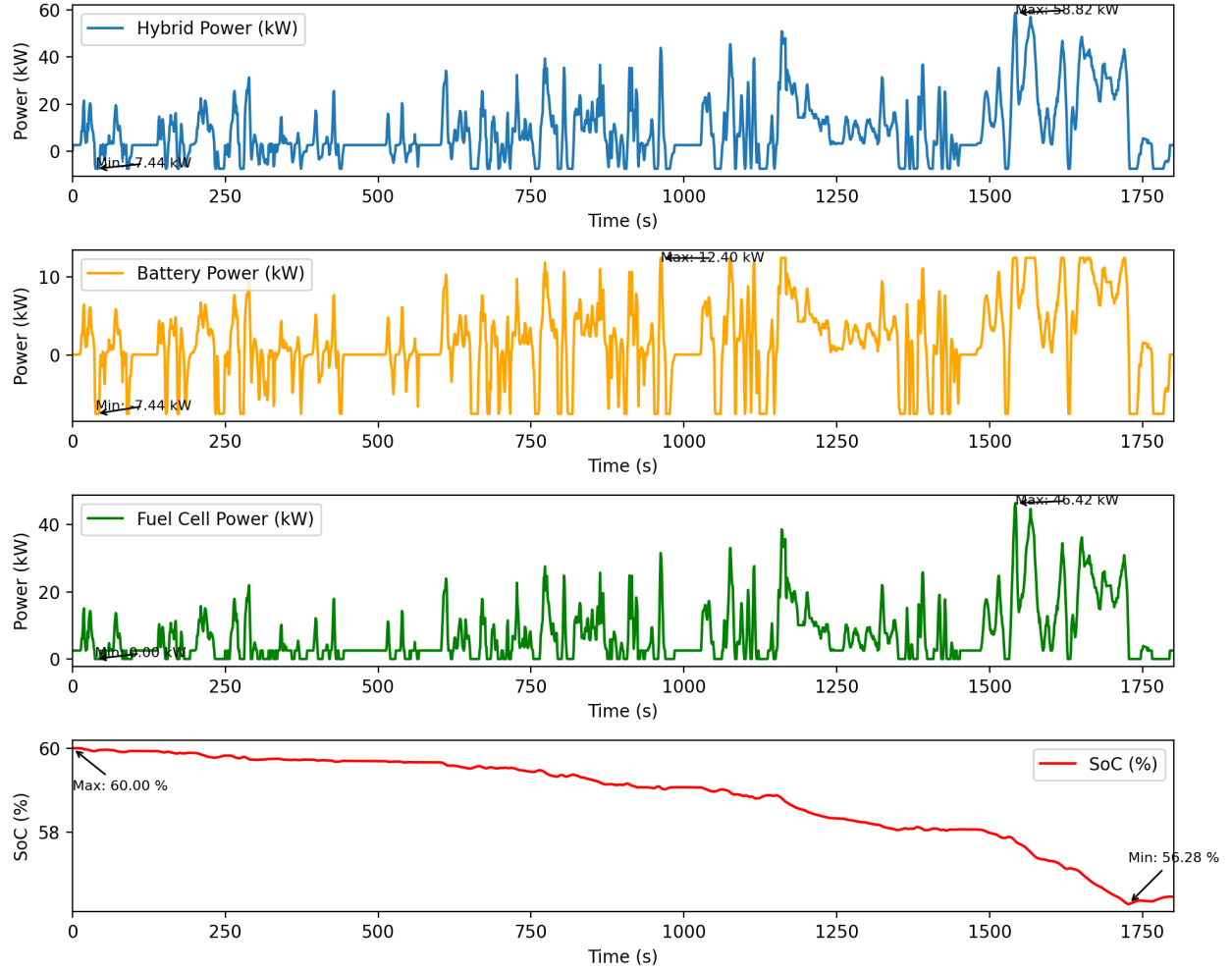


Figure 8: Hybrid system, Battery Management, Fuel Cell power and State of Charge in the Vehicle

As the result that shown in the Figure (8),

- The first plot of the Figure (8) (represented by the by blue curve) show about the **Hybrid Power** working in the system.
- The second plot of the Figure (8) (represented by the by yellow curve) show the characteristic of the charging and discharging of the Battery in the vehicle. The maximum power discharging is **12.4 kW** and the maximum power charging is **7.44 kW**. The status of charge and discharge ws depend on the time and speed per second.
- The third plot of the Figure (8) (represented by the by green curve) show the fuel cell consumption that will be use in the system. The maximum fuel cell consumption is **46.42 kW**. The consumption of the fuel cell variable depend on the time.
- The fourth plot in Figure (8) (represented by the by red curve) illustrates the State of Charge (SoC) of the battery system. By using formula to determine State of Charge in the system, we do it by :

$$SoC_i = \min \left(SoC_{\max}, \max \left(SoC_{\min}, SoC_{i-1} - \frac{\text{power bat}_i}{3600 \cdot \text{batcapacity}} + \frac{\text{demand}_i}{3600 \cdot \text{batcapacity}} \right) \right) \quad (1.12)$$

It starts with an initial SoC of approximately **60%** and gradually decreases to **56.28%** over time, depending on the driving characteristics. The SoC can fluctuate, increasing or decreasing based on the motor's operation and the dynamics of the hybrid system.

1.4 Make the same analysis with the road cycle "130 kmh". Consider two different cases : $\alpha = 0^\circ$ and $\alpha = 2^\circ$

1.4.1 Analysis $\alpha = 0^\circ$

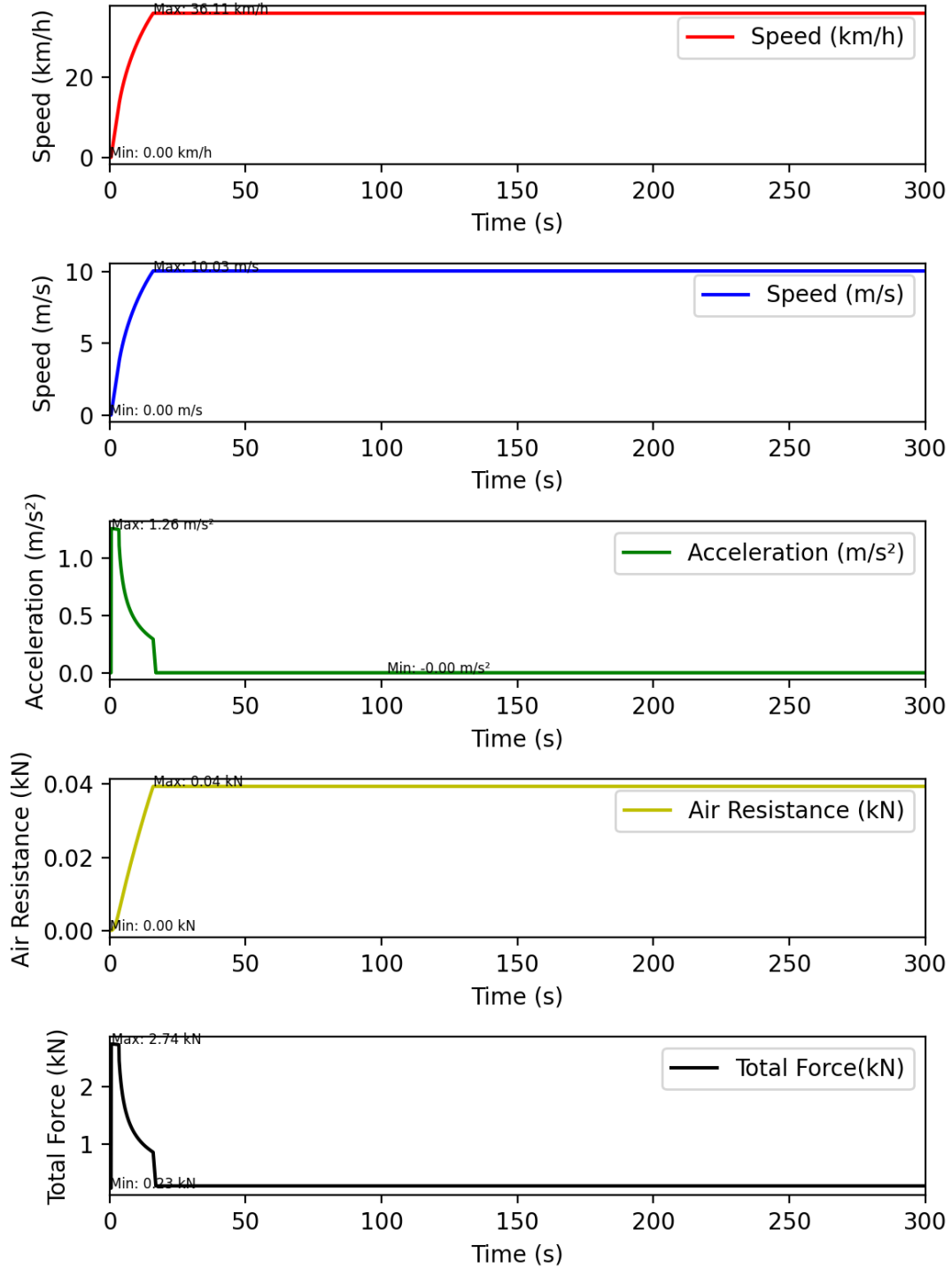


Figure 9: Plots related to Speed, acceleration, air resistance, and Total Force over time

In the Figure (9), it was shown the data curve about the speed within km/h and m/s , acceleration in m/s^2 , Air Resistance and Rolling Resistance.

- The first red and blue curve in the Figure (9) represented to the speed of the vehicle drive over time in km/h and m/s .
- The green curve in the Figure (9) presented to the acceleration of the vehicle that show the characteristic of the vehicle drive. (Increase or Decrease Speed)
- The air resistance calculated by using Equation (1.1) and (1.8) . The result of the calculate shown in the yellow curve of the Figure (9).
- The total Force or Motor Force determined by usig Equation (1.5) and the result of the calculation displayed at the black curve shown that the maximum motor force is **2.74 kN**.

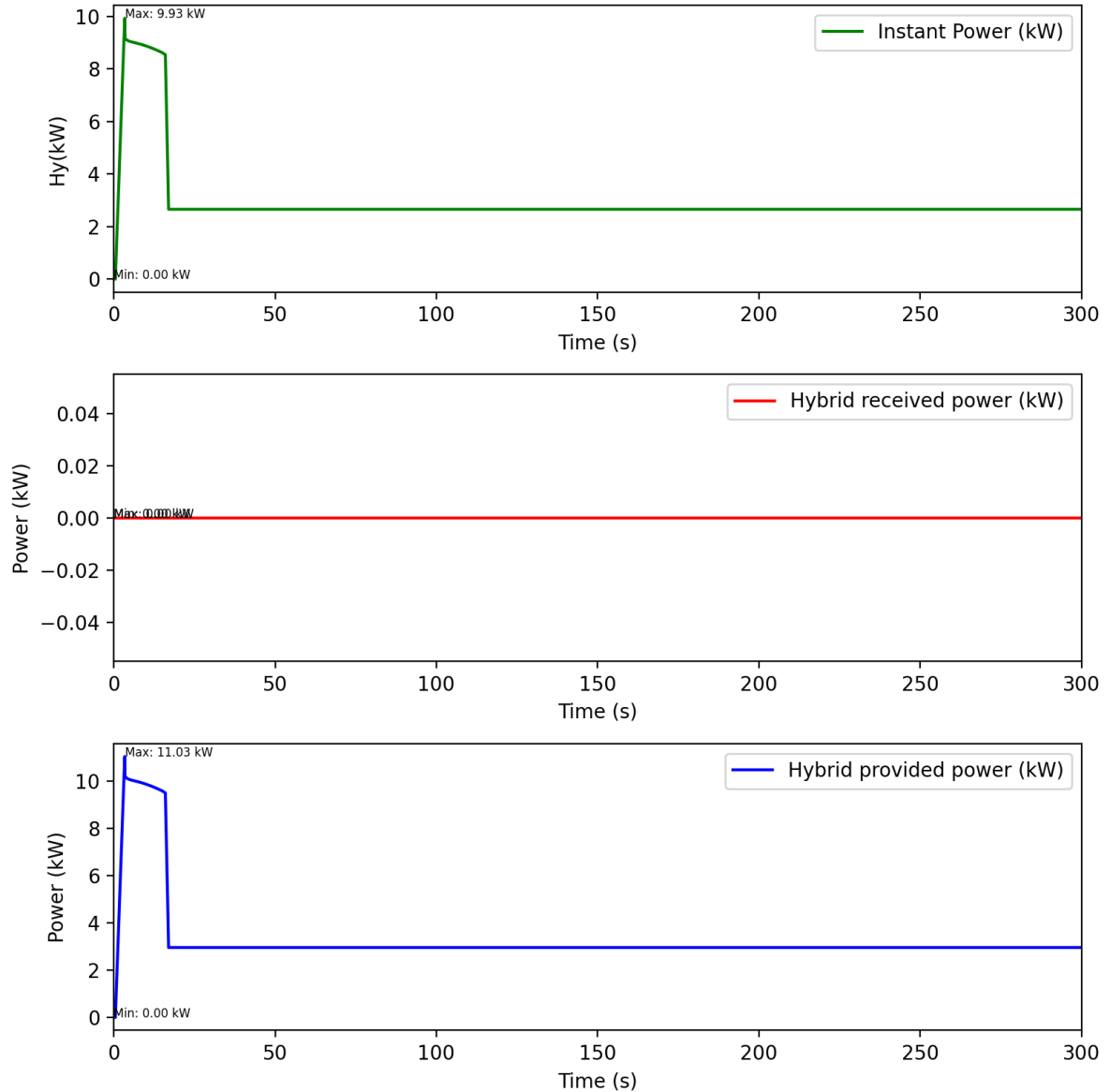


Figure 10: Hybrid working in Power transfer in Vehicle 130kmh

As show in Figure (10), we can assume that vehicle at this speed characteristic shown that the Hybrid system did not receive any power from the motor but it provided full power to the motor.

- **Hybrid Power (kW):**

- This plot shows the total hybrid power delivered by the system.

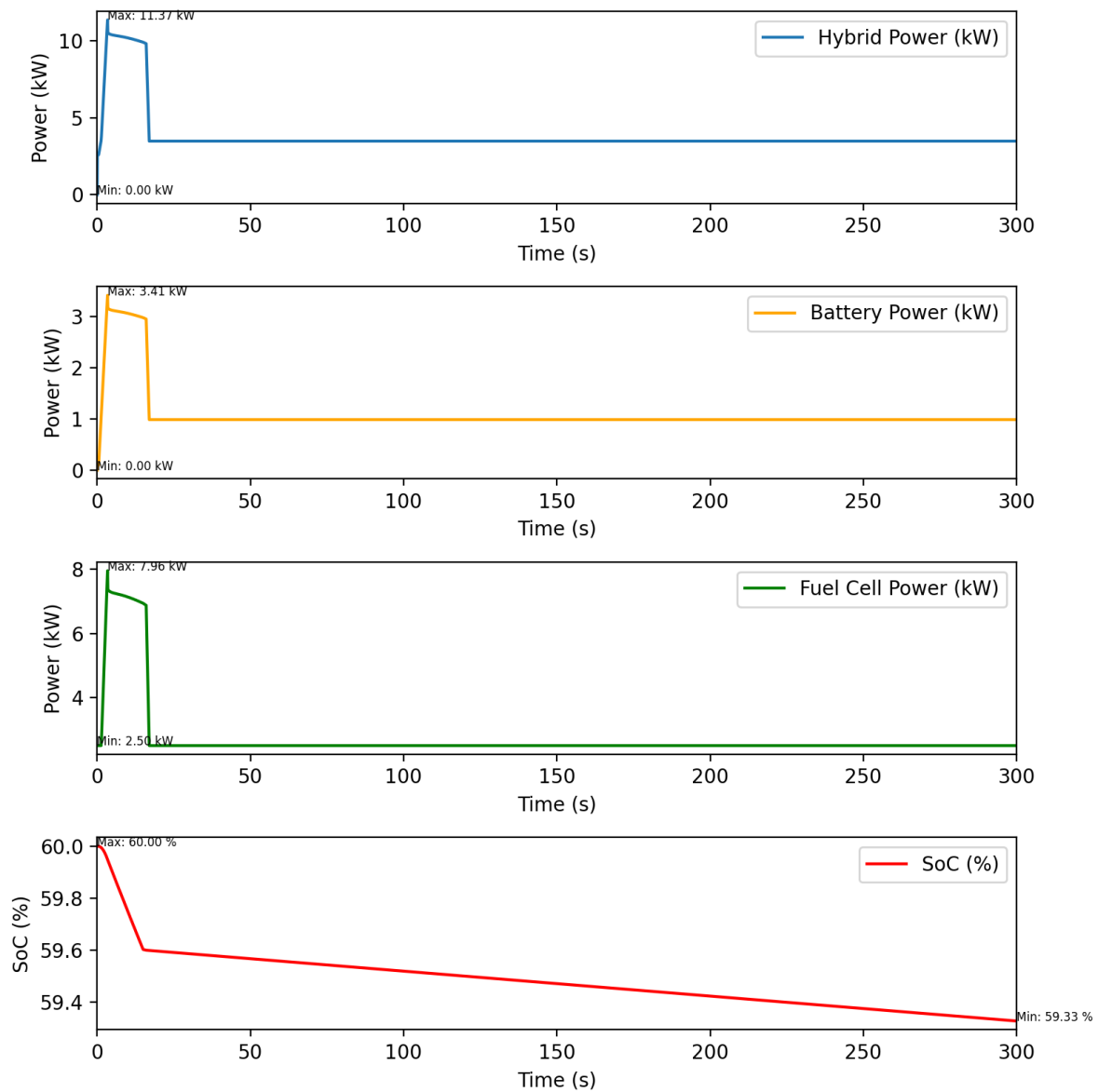


Figure 11: Hybrid system, Battery Management, Fuel Cell power and State of Charge in the Vehicle

- The power reaches a peak of approximately 3.17 kW at the start.
- It rapidly drops to 0 kW after around 25 seconds and remains flat for the rest of the 300-second period.
- **Battery Power (kW):**
 - This plot shows the power supplied by the battery alone.
 - Initially, the battery power spikes to a peak of around 3.31 kW.
 - It sharply decreases to 0 kW after about 25 seconds, staying at that level for the rest of the duration.
- **Fuel Cell Power (kW):**
 - This plot shows the power generated by the fuel cell.
 - The fuel cell power reaches a maximum of about 2.76 kW early in the period.
 - It drops rapidly to 2.5 kW within 25 seconds and remains constant at this level for the remainder of the time.

- **State of Charge (SoC) (%)**:

- This plot represents the battery's state of charge (SoC) over time.
- The SoC starts at approximately 60% and decreases gradually over time.
- By the end of the 300-second period, it reaches around 59.3%.

1.4.2 Analysis $\alpha = 2^\circ$

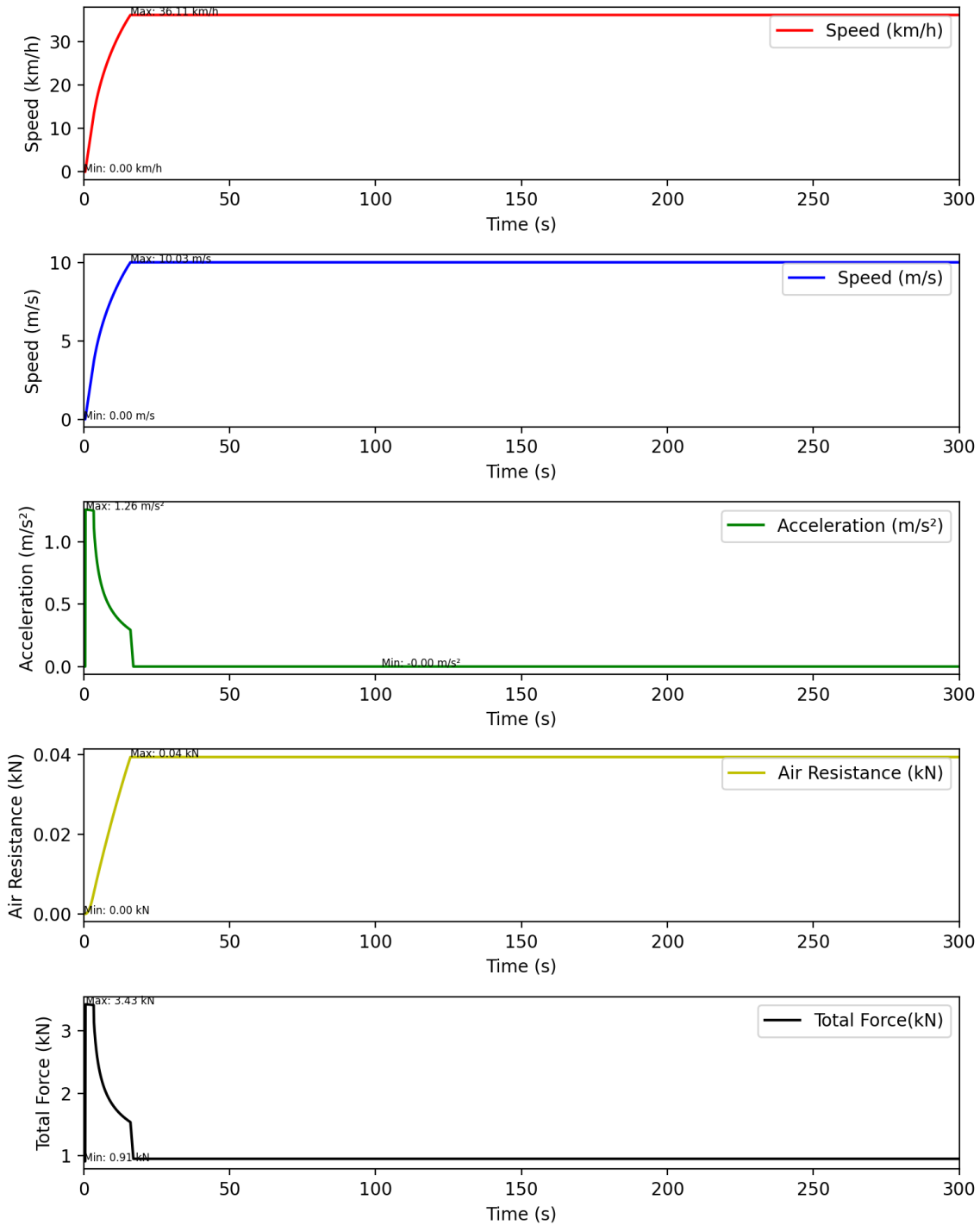


Figure 12: Plots related to Speed, acceleration, air resistance, and Total Force over time

The speed and acceleration are the same from the pervious but there are some change on the air resistance, rolling resistance and climbing resistance.

- For the Air resistance using Equation (1.1), we got the result shown in the Figure (12).
- The Rolling Resistance using Equation (1.2), as the result we can write :

$$F_{rolling}(t) = 200kg \times 9.81m/s^2 \times 0.0115 \times \cos(0^\circ) = \mathbf{225.4926 \text{ N}} \quad (1.13)$$

- The Climbing Resistance using Equation (1.3), as the result we computed :

$$F_{climb}(t) = Mg \sin(\alpha) = 2000kg \times 9.81m/s^2 \times \sin(2^\circ) = \mathbf{684.811 \text{ N}} \quad (1.14)$$

- The total Force or Motor Force determined by usig Equation (1.5) and the result of the calculation displayed at the black curve shown that the maximum motor force is **3.43 kN**.

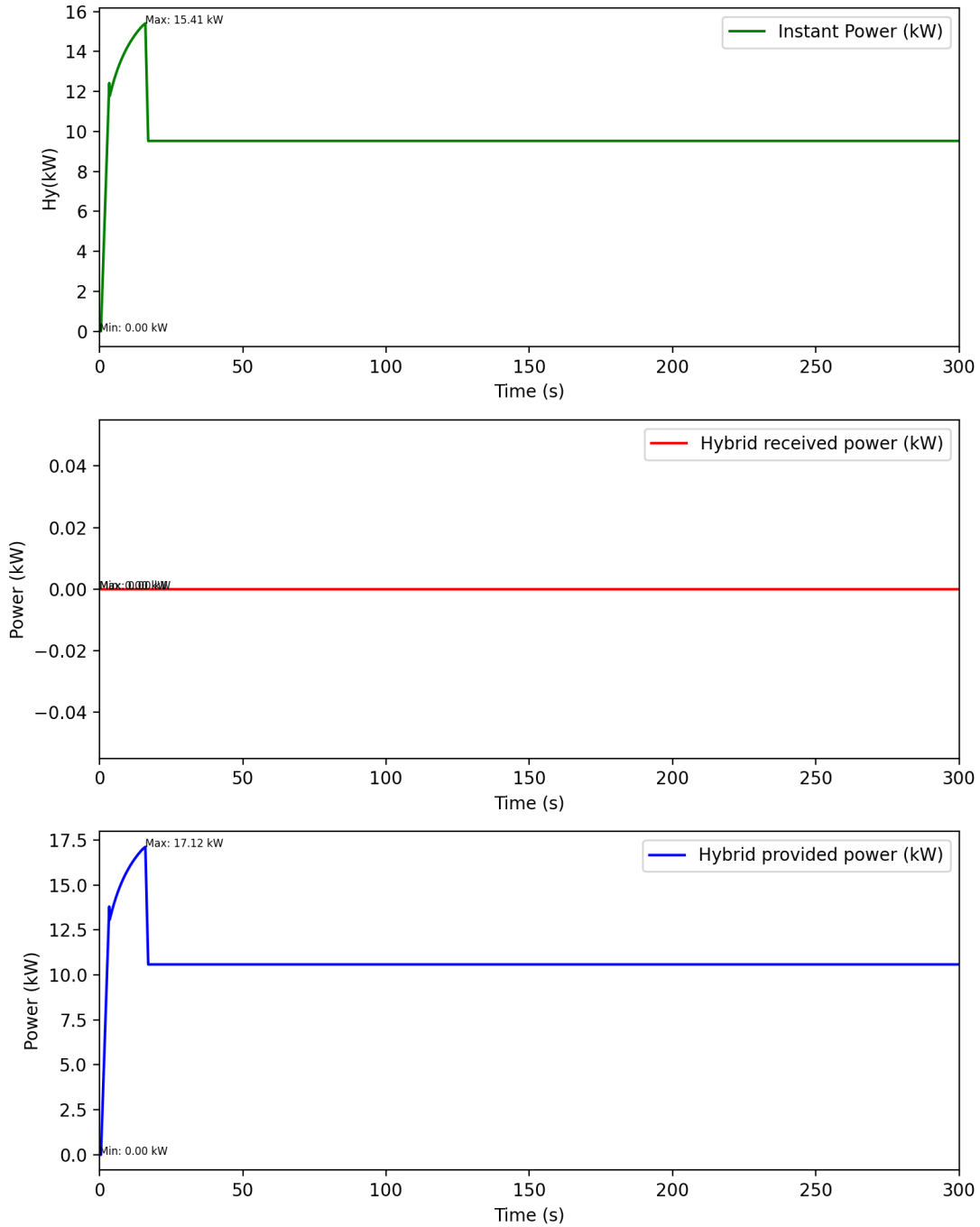


Figure 13: Hybrid working in Power transfer in Vehicle 130kmh

As show in Figure (13), we can assume that vehicle at this speed characteristic shown that the Hybrid system did not receive any power from the motor but it provided full power to the motor.

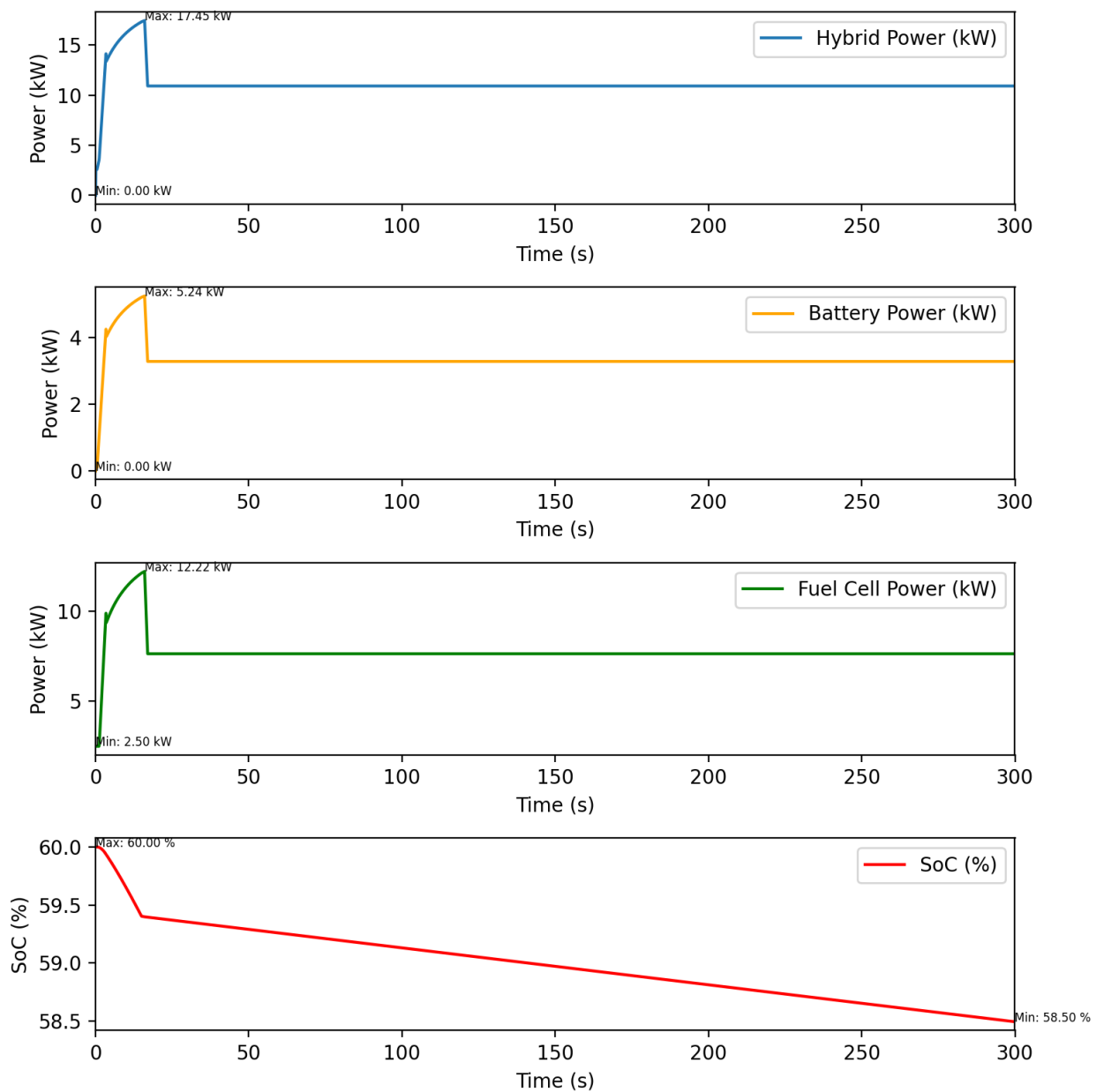


Figure 14: Hybrid working in Power transfer in Vehicle 130kmh

- **Hybrid Power (kW) - Blue Curve (Top Plot):**

- The hybrid power increases sharply from 0 to about **17.45 kW** within the first few seconds.
- After this peak, the power stabilizes around **16 kW** and remains constant for the rest of the 300-second interval.

- **Battery Power (kW) - Orange Curve (Second Plot):**

- The battery power rises rapidly to a maximum value of **5.24 kW** at the beginning and then drops slightly, stabilizing around **4.5 kW**.
- The battery maintains this output throughout the time period shown.

- **Fuel Cell Power (kW) - Green Curve (Third Plot):**

- The fuel cell power ramps up initially to about **12.22 kW**.

- After reaching this maximum value, the fuel cell output drops slightly and stabilizes at around **10 kW** for the remainder of the time.
- **State of Charge (SoC %) - Red Curve (Bottom Plot):**
 - The SoC starts at **60.0%** and decreases gradually over time.
 - By the end of the 300-second period, the SoC has dropped to **58.5%**.

2 Analysis of the fuel cell system with WLTC profile

We assume that the fuel cell system of the vehicle has the following characteristics, based on some specifications of the Mirai 2 and an experimental study of the Mirai 1:

- Hydrogen storage: 5.6 kg stored at 700 bars
- Molar mass of dihydrogen: 2.016 g/mol
- Enthalpy of hydrogen combustion in oxygen:
 - LHV: 242 kJ/mol
 - HHV: 285 kJ/mol
- The hydrogen loss (mainly in the purge) represents 2% of the consumed hydrogen
- Air stoichiometry is 1.5
- Atmospheric pressure is 1 bar
- Oxygen molar fraction in ambient air is 21%
- Air compressor's efficiency is 60% (comprising both compression efficiency and electric motor efficiency)
- The stack is composed of 330 cells of 273 cm²

2.1 Calculate and Plot as a function of the stack current:

2.1.1 The electrical power consumed by the air compressor

To calculate of the compression power are proportional to the current:

$$P_{comp}(t) = \frac{1}{\eta_{sys}(t)} q_{m_{air}(t)} c_p T_e \left(\tau^{\frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma}} - 1 \right) \quad (2.1)$$

Where we got :

- Air mass Flow :

$$q_{m_{air}}(t) = M_{air} F_{air}(t) = M_{air} \frac{v_{air}}{x_{O_2}} \frac{N_{cell} I(t)}{4\mathcal{F}} = M_{air} \frac{v_{air}}{x_{O_2}} \frac{P_{sys}(t)}{2v_{H_2}(t) \rho_{sys} \Delta H} \quad (2.2)$$

- Heat Capacity:

$$c_p = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} \frac{R}{M} \quad (2.3)$$

- Compression ratio:

$$\tau = \frac{p_{out}}{p_{in}} \quad (2.4)$$

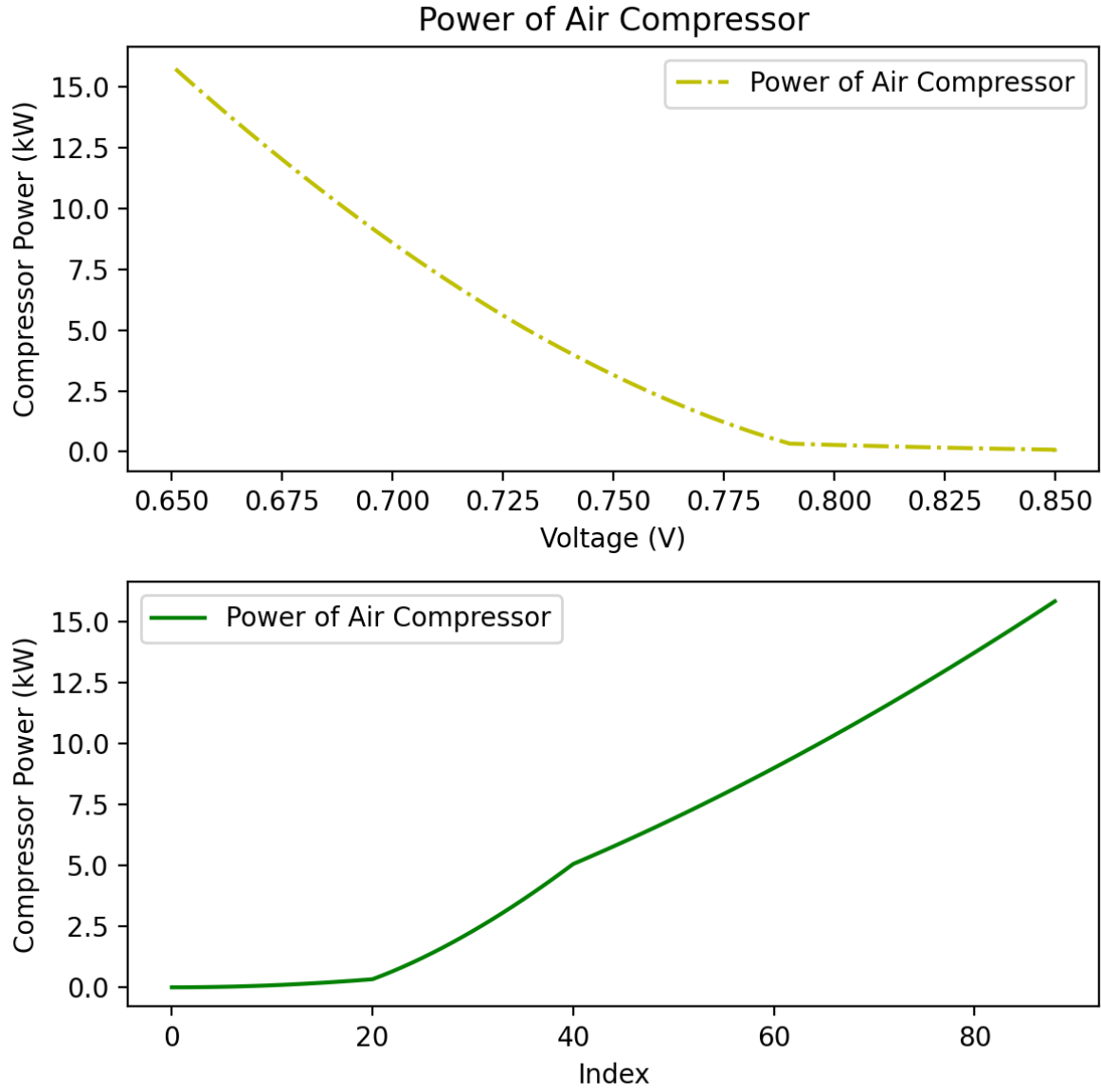


Figure 15: Power of Air Compressor

Get Equation (2.2), Equation (2.3), Equation (2.4) Substitution into Equation (2.1)

$$P_{comp}(t) = \frac{1}{\eta_{sys}(t)} \frac{v_{air}}{x_{O_2}} \frac{N_{cell} I(t)}{4\mathcal{F}} \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} RT_e \left(\tau^{\frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma}} - 1 \right) \quad (2.5)$$

• **Figure (15) Top Plot: Power vs. Voltage (Yellow Dashed Curve)**

- The curve shows a downward trend as the voltage increases. It starts high on the left (at around 15 kW for a voltage near 0.65 V) and gradually declines, approaching zero as the voltage nears 0.85 V.
- The decrease is non-linear, with a steep drop at first and then leveling off as the voltage approaches higher values. This suggests that as voltage increases, the power output of the air compressor significantly reduces, particularly more rapidly at lower voltage values.

• **Figure (15) Bottom Plot: Power vs. Index (Green Solid Curve)**

- The curve exhibits a steady upward trend as the index increases. Starting close to 0 kW at a low index, it rises continuously, reaching around 15 kW at the highest index value.

- The increase appears almost linear, with a constant or slightly accelerating rate of power increase as the index progresses.

2.1.2 The electrical power delivered by fuel cell system.

To calculate the fuel cell that consumption in the system, we used: To find the hydrogen consumption, we will use:

$$P_{comp}(t) = U_{cell} \times i(t) \times N_{cell} \times A_{cell} \quad (2.6)$$

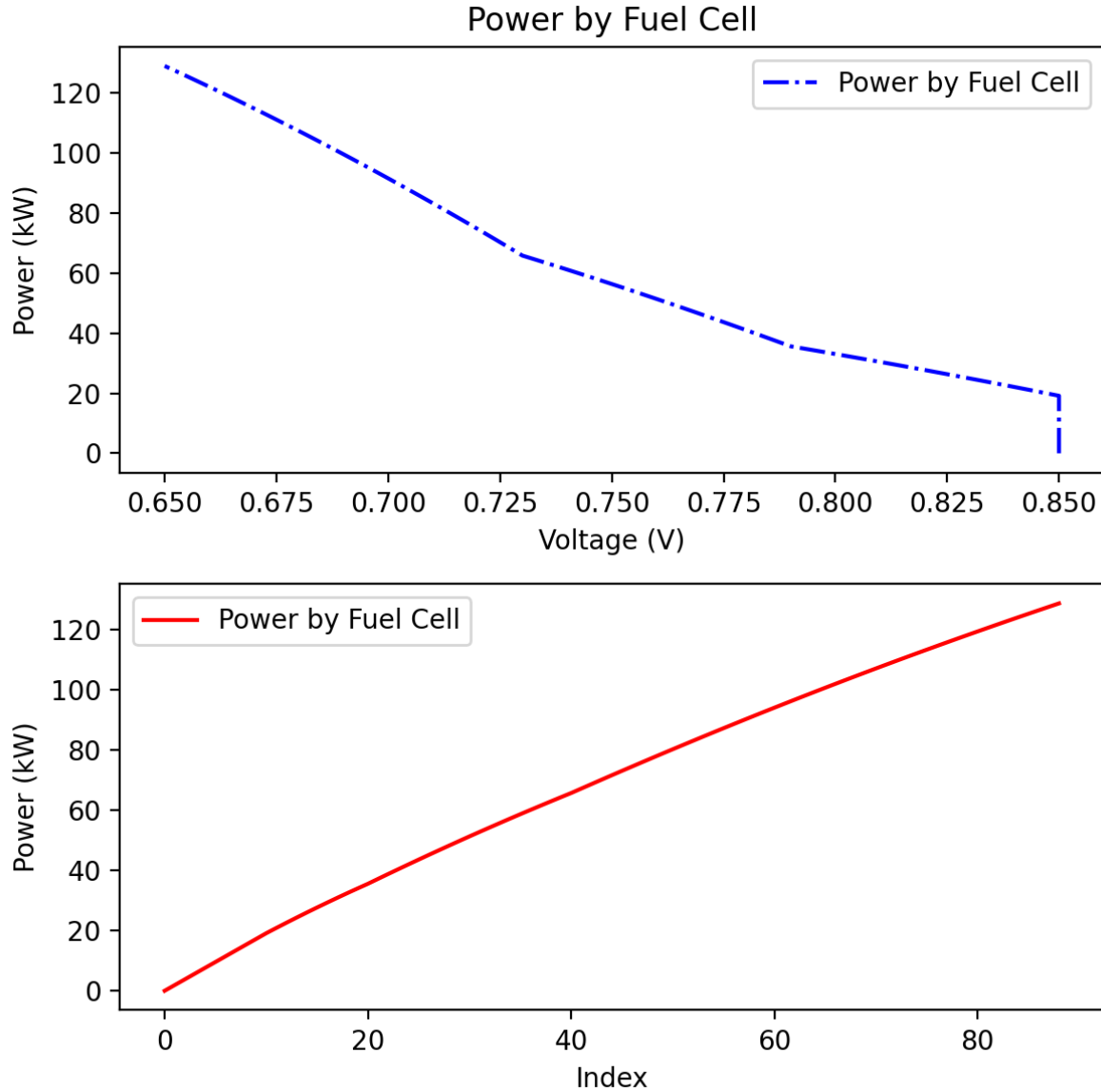


Figure 16: The electrical power delivered by fuel cell system

• Figure (16) : Top Plot

- The x-axis represents the **Voltage (V)** of the fuel cell, ranging from approximately 0.65V to 0.85V.
- The y-axis represents the **Power output** in watts, ranging from 0 to around 120 watts.
- The plot shows a **decreasing trend** as voltage increases, suggesting that power output drops as voltage rises. The line is **dash-dotted and blue**, indicating a measured or calculated trend of power with respect to voltage.

• **Figure (16) : Bottom Plot**

- The x-axis represents the **Index**, possibly indicating the step number or data point (e.g., time or sequence index), ranging from 0 to 90.
- The y-axis again represents **Power output** in watts, similar to the top plot.
- The plot shows a **steady increase** in power as the index increases, potentially reflecting the increase in power over time or due to increasing load. The line is **solid red**, representing a direct correlation between index and power output.

2.1.3 The hydrogen consumption by the duel cell system. Fit the curve with a fifth degree polynomial.

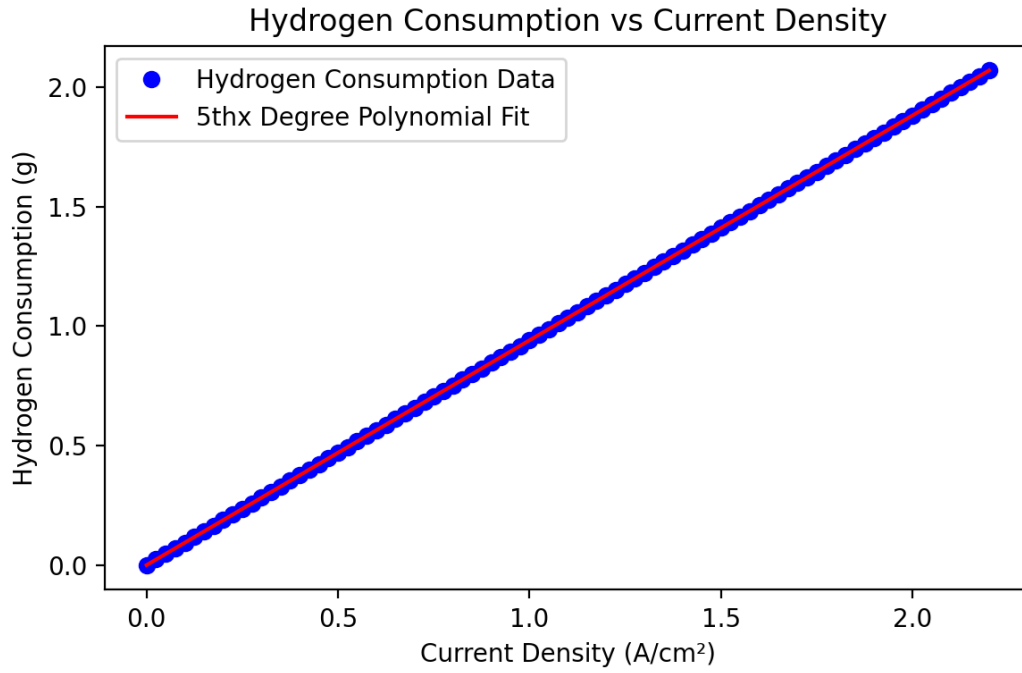


Figure 17: Hydrogen Consumption vs Current Density fit with fifth degree polynomial

- Find the mole flow in the system :

$$\dot{m}_{H_2}(t) = \frac{I(t)}{2\mathcal{F}} \times M_{H_2} \times N_{Cell} \times A_{cell} \quad (2.7)$$

- Fifth-Degree Polynomial Equation

$$P(x) = a_5x^5 + a_4x^4 + a_3x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0 \quad (2.8)$$

- Hydrogen Consumption as a Function of Current Density:

$$P(i) = a_5(i)^5 + a_4(i)^4 + a_3(i)^3 + a_2(i)^2 + a_1(i) + a_0 \quad (2.9)$$

- $(a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5)$: Coefficients of the polynomial, determined through the fitting process. These coefficients define the shape of the polynomial curve.

This graph displays in Figure (17) the relationship between hydrogen consumption (in grams) and current density (in A/cm²)

- **Data Points (Blue):**

- The blue markers represent the experimental hydrogen consumption data at various current densities.
- A clear linear trend is observed, where hydrogen consumption increases as the current density increases.

- **Polynomial Fit (Red Curve):**

- The red line represents a 5th-degree polynomial fit to the data.
- Despite being a higher-order polynomial, the fit closely resembles a straight line, indicating a strong linear relationship between current density and hydrogen consumption.

- **Linear Trend:**

- The plot shows that hydrogen consumption increases almost linearly with the current density in the range of 0 to 2 A/cm².
- This is expected in electrochemical systems, where fuel consumption is proportional to the current density.

- **Accuracy of Fit:**

- The data points closely align with the polynomial fit, indicating a high degree of accuracy.
- The minimal deviation between the data and the fit suggests that a linear or near-linear model accurately describes the relationship.

- **Practical Implication:**

- Increasing the current density results in a proportional increase in hydrogen consumption.
- This insight is important for fuel cell applications, where controlling current density helps manage fuel consumption.

The graph effectively communicates that hydrogen consumption increases linearly with the current density over the given range.

2.2 Considering the WLTC drive cycle, calculate and plot the instant hydrogen consumption in kg/s as a function of time. Give the total amount of hydrogen consumed for one complete cycle. Calculate the average hydrogen consumption of the vehicle in kgH₂/100 km. Deduce the vehicle operating range, and the average energetic efficiency.

To Calculate the value in this question, we will use servals equation :

- To calculate the mass flow rate of hydrogen, we obtained :

$$\dot{m}_{H_2}(t) = \frac{I_{cell}(t) \times N_{cell} \times M_{H_2}}{2\mathcal{F}} \quad (2.10)$$

- To determine the Current of the cell, we used

$$I_{cell}(t) = \frac{\text{Power demand}(t)}{U_{cell}(t)} \quad (2.11)$$

- To obtain the Cell voltage, we use one of the optimization methods to find the optimal voltage of each cell depending on speed, time and power demand of the vehicle. We will use Scalar Optimization to do it.

- Let $f(x)$ be a scalar function defined as:

$$f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (2.12)$$

- The goal is to find x^* such that:

$$x^* = \arg \min_{x \in [a, b]} f(x) \quad (2.13)$$

- We may define constraints in optional bounds for x :

$$a \leq x \leq b \quad (2.14)$$

- The optimization seeks to minimize the function:

$$\min_{x \in [a, b]} f(x) \quad (2.15)$$

- Several methods can be used in the `minimize_scalar` function:

- * **Brent's Method:** A robust method that combines the bisection method, secant method, and inverse quadratic interpolation.
- * **Golden Section Search:** A technique that systematically narrows the interval containing the minimum point.
- * **Bounded Methods:** Enforces the constraints a and b while searching for the minimum.

- If the function f is differentiable, the first derivative condition is applied:

$$f'(x^*) = 0 \quad (2.16)$$

- To confirm that x^* is a local minimum, we use the second derivative condition:

$$f''(x^*) > 0 \quad (2.17)$$

- The optimization algorithm will typically terminate when:

- * The change in the objective function value is less than a specified tolerance level, ϵ :

$$|f(x_{k+1}) - f(x_k)| < \epsilon \quad (2.18)$$

- * The change in x is less than a specified tolerance level, δ :

$$|x_{k+1} - x_k| < \delta \quad (2.19)$$

- To find the total hydrogen consumed, we can use :

$$\text{Total Hydrogen Consumption} = \int_0^T \dot{m}_{H_2}(t) dt \quad (2.20)$$

- To determine System Efficiency, we do :

$$E_{\text{from H}_2} = \frac{m_{\text{hydro}}[i] \cdot LHV_{\text{hydrogen}}}{M_{\text{olar mass H}_2}} \quad \text{if } m_{\text{hydro}}[i] > 0 \quad (2.21)$$

$$\eta[i] = \begin{cases} \frac{P_{\text{fuel cell}}}{E_{\text{from H}_2}} & \text{if } E_{\text{from H}_2} > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } E_{\text{from H}_2} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (2.22)$$

- To calculate the range operation of the vehicle:

$$d_{\text{traveled}} = v_s[1:] \cdot \Delta t \quad (2.23)$$

$$D_{\text{total}} = \frac{\sum d_{\text{traveled}}}{1000} \quad (2.24)$$

$$\text{Consumption of Hydrogen Average} = \begin{cases} \frac{\text{Consumption of Hydrogen total} \cdot 100}{D_{\text{total}}} & \text{if } D_{\text{total}} > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } D_{\text{total}} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (2.25)$$

$$R_{\text{operation}} = \begin{cases} \frac{\text{Capacity tank}}{\text{Consumption of Hydrogen Average}} / 100 & \text{if Consumption of Hydrogen Average} > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if Consumption of Hydrogen Average} \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad (2.26)$$

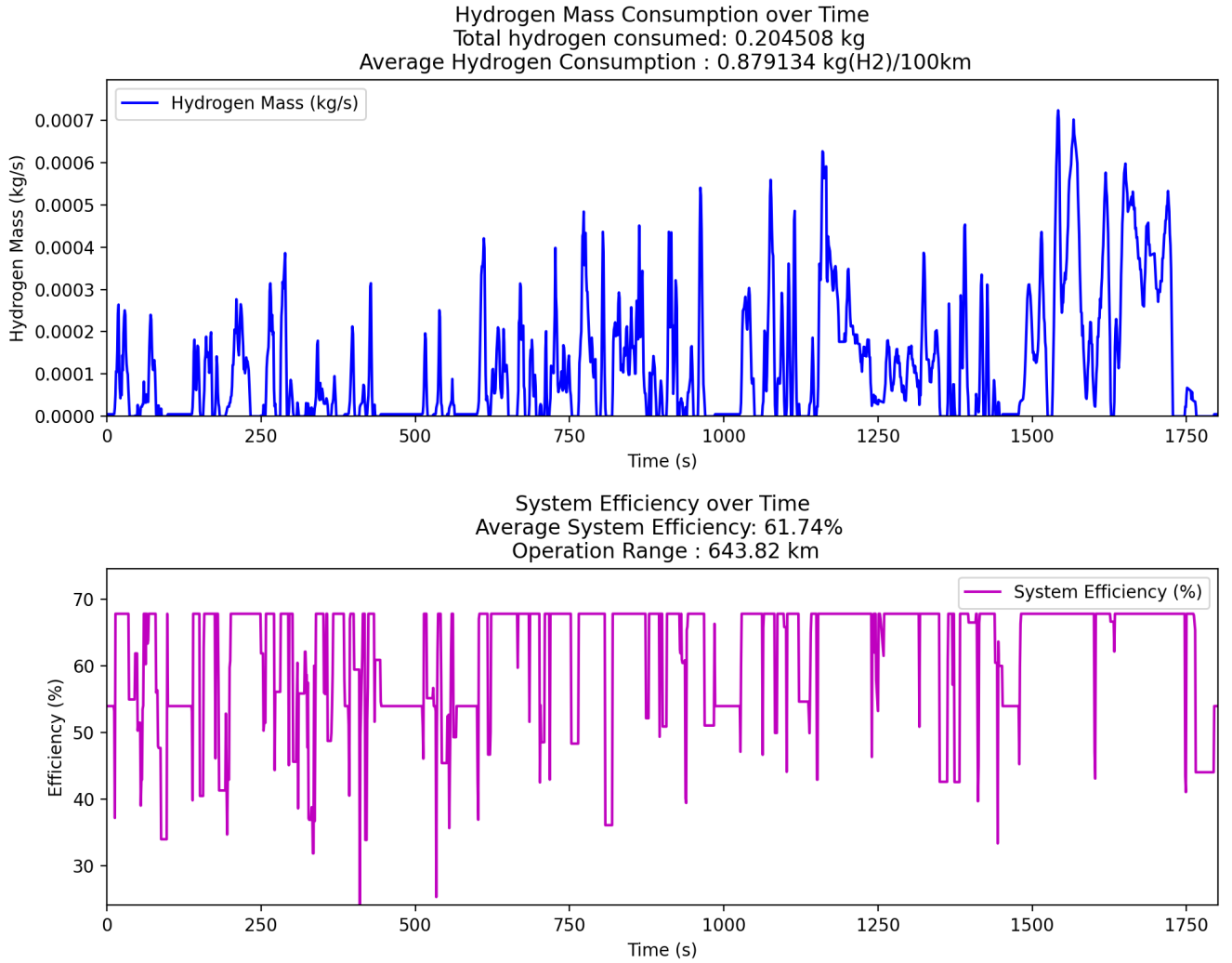


Figure 18: Mass Flow rate of the Hydrogen and Efficiency of the System

From Figure (18), the plot presents two graphs that examine hydrogen mass consumption and system efficiency over time, each shedding light on operational performance.

- The first graph shows hydrogen mass consumption in kilograms per second across a duration of **0 to 1800** seconds. It displays considerable fluctuations, with distinct spikes occurring at various points. This variability indicates that the system undergoes changing operational demands, potentially driven by factors such as load variations or environmental influences. The total hydrogen consumed is **0.204508 kg**, indicating the total usage during the observed timeframe and the average hydrogen consumption is approximately **0.879134 kg(H₂)/100 km**, serving as a useful reference for assessing efficiency relative to distance traveled.
- The second graph focuses on system efficiency, represented as a percentage, within the same time frame. Efficiency varies between **30%** and **70%**, suggesting that the system doesn't operate at a steady level. With an average system efficiency of around **61.74%**, the data reflects a moderate level of performance throughout the observed period. Additionally, the operation range is reported to be **643.82 km**, which may relate to the effective distance achieved based on hydrogen usage and efficiency. The fluctuations in efficiency highlight potential areas where operational improvements could be made.
- The relationship between hydrogen consumption and system efficiency is crucial to this analysis. The changes in hydrogen consumption can directly affect efficiency, with higher consumption periods possibly linked to lower efficiency levels. Identifying these patterns and understanding their underlying causes can offer valuable insights for optimizing system performance. Analyzing the factors that lead to low efficiency during certain periods will be vital for refining operational strategies. Collecting further data on load conditions and external factors during these fluctuations could deepen the analysis and help improve overall performance in hydrogen-dependent applications.