

## (12) United States Patent Eiletz et al.

### (54) MODULAR MOTOR VEHICLE ARCHITECTURE

(71) Applicant: Bayerische Motoren Werke

Aktiengesellschaft, Munich (DE)

(72) Inventors: Richard Eiletz, Deisenhofen (DE);

Alexander-Wilhelm Otte, Egenhofen (DE); Christoph Warkotsch, Munich

(DE)

Assignee: Bayerische Motoren Werke

Aktiengesellschaft, Munich (DE)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 429 days.

Appl. No.: 17/790,313

PCT Filed: Dec. 17, 2020

(86) PCT No.: PCT/EP2020/086876

§ 371 (c)(1),

Jun. 30, 2022 (2) Date:

(87) PCT Pub. No.: WO2021/148209

PCT Pub. Date: Jul. 29, 2021

(65)**Prior Publication Data** 

> US 2023/0039653 A1 Feb. 9, 2023 US 2025/0178422 A2 Jun. 5, 2025

(30)Foreign Application Priority Data

Jan. 20, 2020 (DE) ...... 10 2020 101 154.7

(51) Int. Cl.

(2019.01)B60K 1/04 B60K 15/07 (2006.01)B60K 15/063 (2006.01)

US 12,391,106 B2 (10) **Patent No.:** 

(45) Date of Patent: Aug. 19, 2025

(52) U.S. Cl.

CPC ...... **B60K 1/04** (2013.01); **B60K 15/07** (2013.01); B60K 2001/0438 (2013.01); B60K

2015/0634 (2013.01)

(58) Field of Classification Search

CPC .. B60K 1/04; B60K 15/07; B60K 2001/0438; B60K 2015/0634

See application file for complete search history.

(56)References Cited

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

10,792,992 B2 \* 10/2020 DeLizo ...... B60K 6/24 11,225,151 B2\* 1/2022 Enning ...... B60L 50/66 (Continued)

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

CN103241112 A 8/2013 CN 9/2013 103303374 A (Continued)

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210) issued in PCT Application No. PCT/EP2020/086876 dated Mar. 9, 2021 with English translation (five (5) pages).

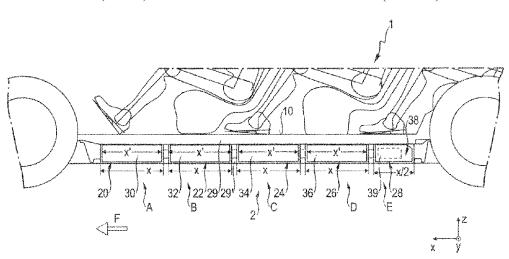
(Continued)

Primary Examiner — Bryan A Evans (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Crowell & Moring LLP

#### (57)**ABSTRACT**

A modular motor vehicle architecture is provided for motor vehicles of different motor vehicle types, in each case having at least one drive machine and at least one energy storage unit paired with the at least one drive machine. The at least one energy storage unit is received in a modularly designed underfloor energy storage unit assembly that has a plurality of energy storage unit modules, at least one outer dimension of which is standardized. Each vehicle type is paired with one underfloor energy storage unit assembly from a plurality of standardized underfloor energy storage unit assemblies.

(Continued)



And, each underfloor energy storage unit assembly has a plurality of unit module installation areas, a longitudinal dimension of which extending in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle is standardized and each of which is designed to receive at least one respective standardized energy storage unit module.

#### 13 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

#### 

10/2019

102008061757 A1 \* 6/2010 ..... B60K 1/00

110293832 A

CN

DE

DE	10 2013 204 765 A1	9/2014
DE	10 2014 018 343 A1	6/2016
DE	10 2016 007 124 A1	2/2017
DE	10 2017 117 726 A1	2/2019
EP	2 463 162 A2	6/2012
JP	2019-89376 A	6/2019

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

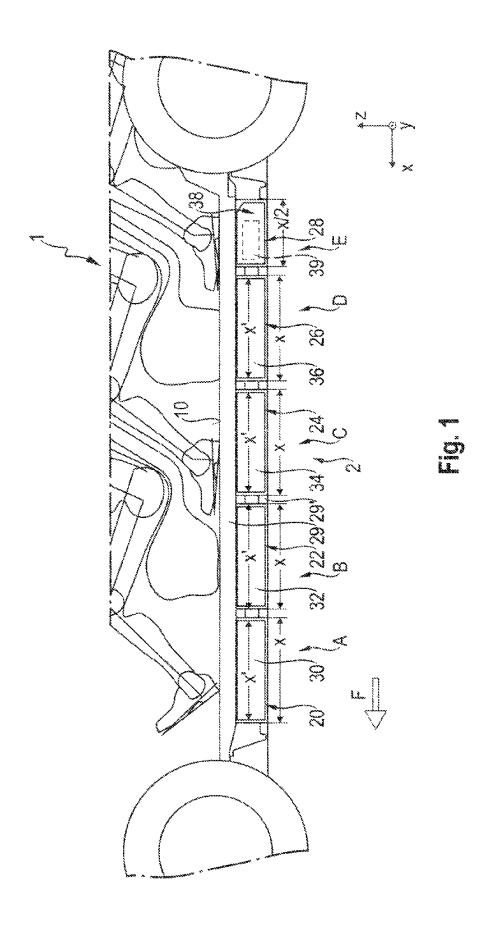
German-language Written Opinion (PCT/ISA/237) issued in PCT Application No. PCT/EP2020/086876 dated Mar. 9, 2021 (six (6) pages).

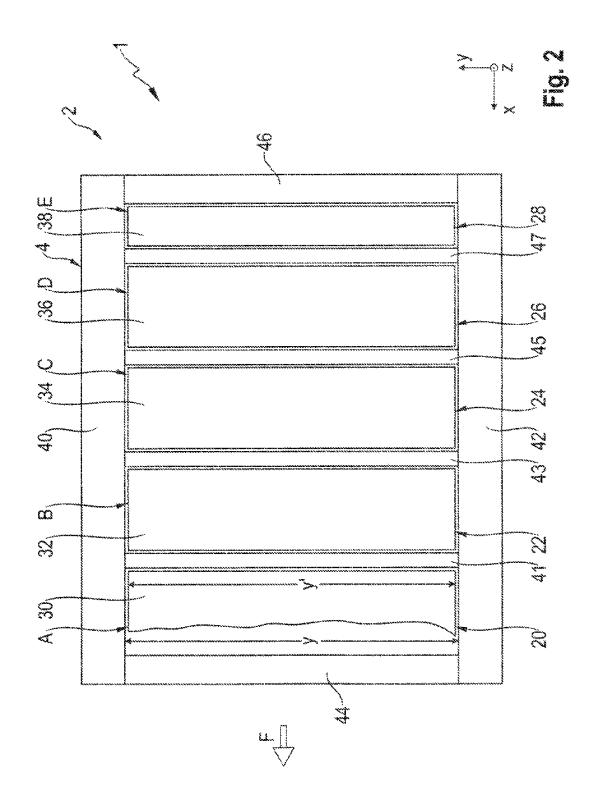
German-language Search Report issued in German Application No. 10 2020 101 154.7 dated Oct. 13, 2020 with partial English translation (12 pages).

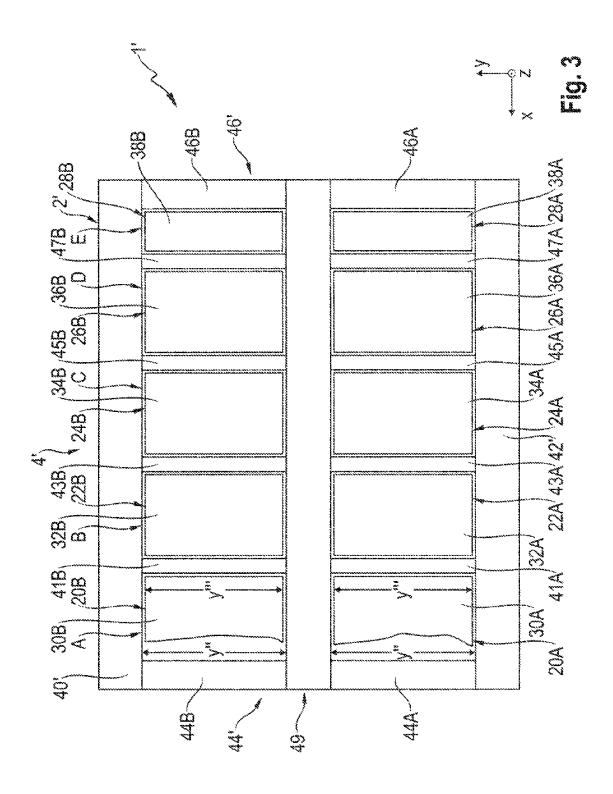
English translation of Chinese-language Office Action issued in Chinese Application No. 202080081880.3 dated Mar. 7, 2025 (10 pages).

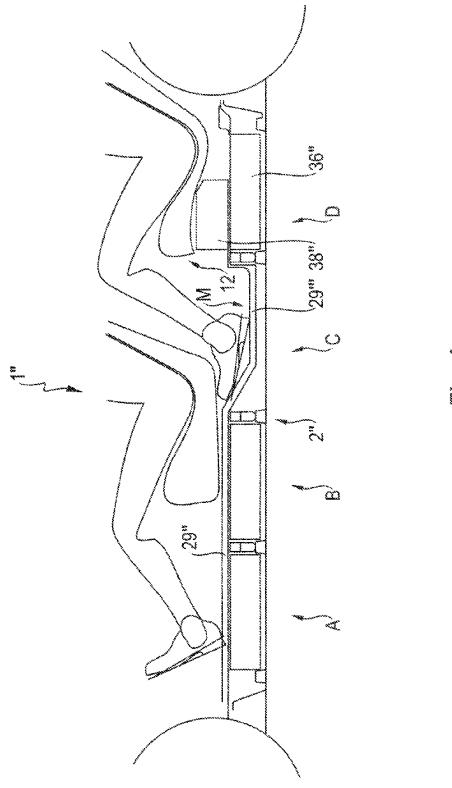
English translation of Chinese-language Office Action issued in Chinese Application No. 202080081880.3 dated Jun. 13, 2025 (11 pages).

<sup>\*</sup> cited by examiner









T D

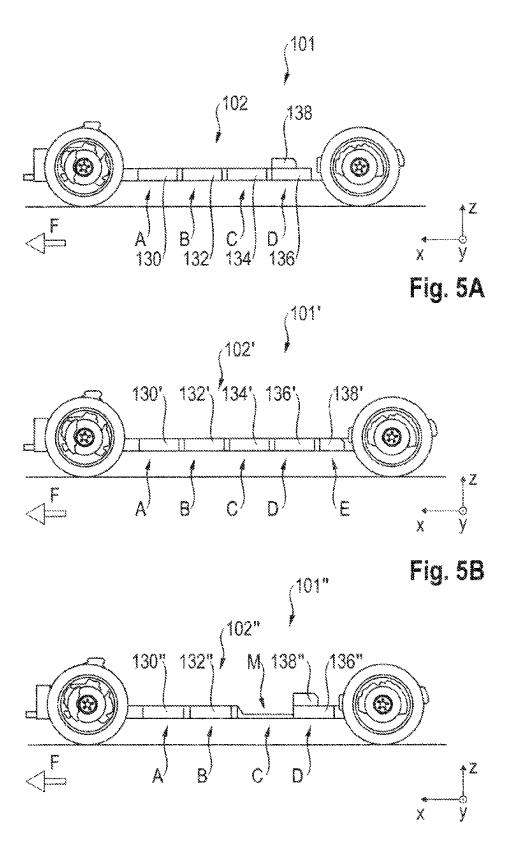


Fig. 5C

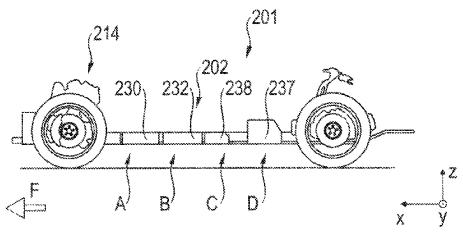


Fig. 6a

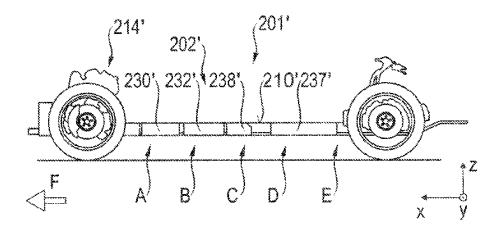


Fig. 6b

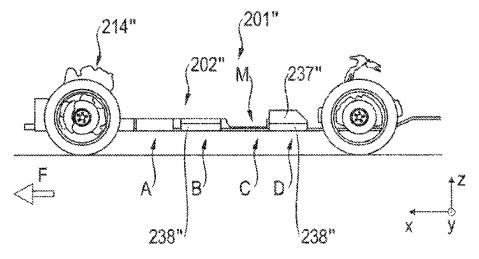
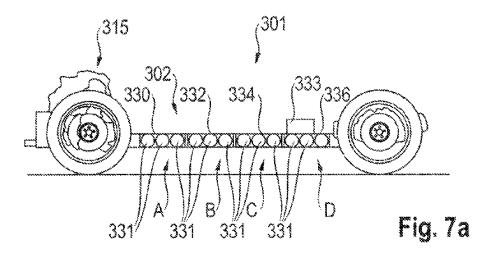
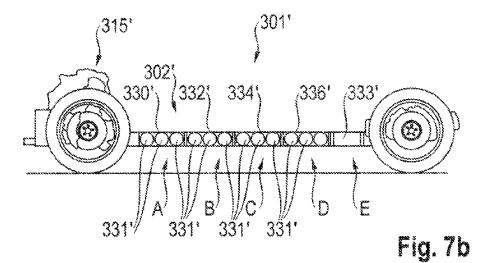
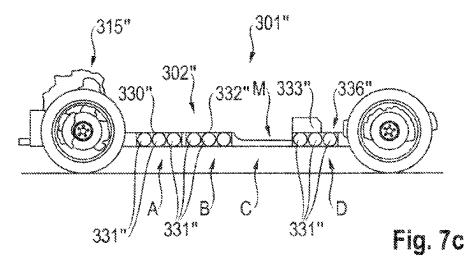


Fig. 6c







# MODULAR MOTOR VEHICLE ARCHITECTURE

#### TECHNICAL FIELD

The invention relates to a modular motor vehicle architecture for motor vehicles of different motor vehicle types with in each case at least one drive unit and at least one energy store which is assigned to the at least one drive unit and is received in an underfloor energy store assembly of 10 modular construction. Furthermore, the invention relates to a motor vehicle with a modular motor vehicle architecture of this type with an underfloor energy store assembly of modular construction.

#### BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

Known electric vehicles have what is known as a traction battery which serves to store electric energy for an electric drive of the electric vehicle. A traction battery of this type 20 forms a battery assembly which has battery modules which are in turn constructed from battery cells. The battery modules are accommodated in a housing which serves to protect the battery modules and therefore also the battery cells and which also contains apparatuses for thermal management and control of the battery cells. For example, a battery assembly of this type is arranged with a housing in a floor region of a motor vehicle between the front and rear axle of the motor vehicle as an underfloor battery.

Battery electric vehicles (BEV) are commonly provided 30 with underfloor battery arrangements of this type. An arrangement of this type of the battery modules ensures a low center of gravity of the vehicle which is generally desired with regard to the driving behavior. Furthermore, the underfloor arrangement makes uncomplicated access to the 35 battery modules and even a rapid replacement of the battery modules in the case of repairs or service possible. The battery modules which are composed of a multiplicity of battery cells are conventionally adapted to the underfloor architecture of the respective vehicle. This design approach 40 is complex, in particular if a vehicle type has a plurality of vehicle derivatives, that is to say is offered in a plurality of drive variants (BEV, internal combustion engine vehicles, hybrid vehicles, fuel cell vehicles) which require different energy stores, and is offered in a plurality of vehicle body 45 variants with, for example, different vehicle heights, different wheelbases and different wheel diameters (short/long limousine, coupe, cabriolet, station wagon, SUV, sports car, etc.) which have different space conditions for an underfloor arrangement of energy stores.

DE 10 2013 204 765 A1 describes a storage cell unit for storing electric energy for driving an electric motor of a motor vehicle. The housing is connected from below to a left-hand side sill and a right-hand side sill. In the case of a side-on collision, collision energy is dissipated by way of 55 deformation of the relevant side sill and an adjoining side sill of the housing of the storage cell unit. In order to protect the storage cells which are accommodated in the housing, associated deformation zones are configured adjacently with respect to the side walls of the housing, as a result of which 60 the storage cells are arranged in a central region of the housing. Intermediate walls which run in the vehicle longitudinal direction and vehicle transverse direction are provided in order to reinforce the housing.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a 65 modular motor vehicle architecture for motor vehicles of different motor vehicle types, by way of which modular

2

motor vehicle architecture it is possible to reduce the costs of development and production of a multiplicity of different motor vehicle types and to simplify the production thereof. It is a further part of the object to specify a motor vehicle with a modular motor vehicle architecture of this type.

That part of the object which is directed to the modular motor vehicle architecture is achieved by way of the independent claim.

A modular motor vehicle architecture according to the invention is provided for motor vehicles of different motor vehicle types with in each case at least one drive unit and at least one energy store which is assigned to the at least one drive unit, the at least one energy store being received in an underfloor energy store assembly of modular construction which has a plurality of energy store modules which are standardized in terms of at least one external dimension, each vehicle type being assigned an underfloor energy store assembly consisting of a plurality of standardized underfloor energy store assemblies, and the respective underfloor energy store assembly having a plurality of uniform module installation spaces which are standardized in terms of a longitudinal dimension which runs in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle, and which are configured to receive in each case at least one standardized energy store module.

The term "standardized energy store modules" denotes, in particular, geometrically uniform energy store modules.

The use of underfloor energy store assemblies which are standardized at least in terms of their internal construction with uniform module installation spaces which are provided in their respective interior and are configured for receiving energy store modules which are for their part again standardized permits standardized mass production of identical standardized energy store modules for different vehicle types. The standardization of the underfloor energy store assemblies at least with regard to their internal architecture, that is to say their internal construction, with the likewise standardized uniform module installation spaces also not only makes a high degree of common part manufacture possible, but rather also more efficient production, since those dimensions of the components which are relevant for robot assembly, for example of the shaped parts which have the uniform module installation spaces, are identical for different vehicle types.

It is advantageous here from the viewpoint of the designer that there is a high proportion of uniform structures across all vehicle types and vehicle derivatives within the vehicle architecture as a result of the use of standardized components.

Further preferred and advantageous design features of the modular motor vehicle architecture according to the invention are the subject matter of the dependent claims.

A plurality of standardized uniform module installation regions which lie behind one another are provided in the underfloor energy store assembly in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle.

It is advantageous here if the longitudinal dimension, running in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle, of each standardized uniform module installation area corresponds to the longitudinal dimension of the standardized uniform module installation space.

In one advantageous development, the underfloor energy store assembly has a further uniform module installation region with at least one shortened uniform module installation space, the longitudinal dimension, running in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle, of the further uniform module installation region and the longitudinal

dimension, running in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle, of the shortened uniform module installation space are shorter than those of a regular standardized uniform module installation region and a regular standardized uniform module installation space, respectively. As a result of the provision of a shortened uniform module installation region of this type, the remaining space between the axles can still be utilized for the installation of additional shortened energy stores or their peripheral components in the case of vehicles, in the case of which the wheelbase does not permit the provision of a whole multiple of the standardized uniform module installation spaces.

3

One preferred development provides that a middle channel which runs in the longitudinal direction of the motor 15 vehicle is provided which divides the respective uniform module installation space region into a left-hand and a right-hand uniform module installation space. This channel can be utilized, for example, for accommodating electric lines, fuel lines or other peripheral components, and it 20 divides the respective uniform module installation space region into a left-hand and a right-hand uniform module installation space.

At least one energy store module is formed by at least one electric battery module or has at least one electric battery 25 differ, depending on the vehicle concept, as follows, for module.

In addition, at least one energy store peripheral unit is preferably provided which is configured for receiving in a uniform module installation space and has the electric control and/or regulating devices for the electric battery modules. In the case of a battery electric vehicle, the standardized energy store modules are, for example, the battery modules and also battery peripheral components such as, for example, control units or contactors. These battery peripheral components orient themselves in terms of their external dimensions to the form factor which is predefined by way of the standardized energy store modules; they are as a rule smaller than or as large as the standardized energy store modules. In particular, their height and their 40 extent in the vehicle longitudinal direction are of identical magnitude to those of the standardized energy store mod-

As an alternative or in addition, at least one energy store module is formed by at least one liquid fuel tank or has at 45 least one liquid fuel tank.

It is advantageous here if at least one energy store peripheral unit is provided which is configured for receiving in a uniform module installation space and has the control and/or regulating devices for the liquid fuel.

As an alternative or in addition, furthermore, at least one energy store module is formed by at least one pressure tank for a gaseous fuel or has at least one pressure tank of this type.

least one energy store peripheral unit is provided which is configured for reception in a uniform module installation space and has the control and/or regulating devices for the gaseous fuel.

That part of the object which is directed to the motor 60 vehicle is achieved by way of a motor vehicle according to the independent claim, having a modular motor vehicle architecture with a modular underfloor energy store assembly.

In the case of a motor vehicle of this type with a modular 65 motor vehicle architecture with a modular underfloor energy store assembly, the modular underfloor energy store assem-

bly preferably has three or more uniform module installation space regions in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle.

A motor vehicle with a modular motor vehicle architecture with a modular underfloor energy store assembly is also particularly advantageous, in the case of which motor vehicle at least one uniform module installation space is configured as footwell recess in at least one of the uniform module installation space regions. This variant is advantageous, in particular, in the case of low vehicles. Here, the uniform module installation space can be open toward the top and can receive a recessed interior compartment floor region, or the upper covering of the underfloor energy store assembly can be recessed in the region of this uniform module installation space.

The fundamental idea of the inventive concept for a modular motor vehicle architecture therefore consists in a use across different motor vehicle types and vehicle classes of standardized uniform module installation spaces for receiving standardized energy store modules for a motor vehicle family, for example across at least two vehicle classes.

The different vehicle derivatives within the vehicle family

High vehicles (for example, SUVs or big sedans/station wagons) have a continuous underfloor energy store assembly with four uniform module installation space regions ("module rows"); the at least one energy store peripheral unit is arranged above the fourth, rearmost module row.

Low and aerodynamically favorable vehicles (for example, coupes) likewise have four module rows, the third (that is to say, the penultimate) module row being configured with footwell recesses for the rear seat passengers; the energy store modules are therefore omitted in the third of four module rows, and the at least one energy store peripheral unit is also arranged here above the fourth, rearmost module row.

Space-functional vehicles have a continuous underfloor energy store assembly with four uniform module installation space regions ("module rows"); the at least one energy store peripheral unit is arranged behind the fourth, rearmost module row; there is therefore the option of providing a flat interior compartment floor as far as the rear part of the vehicle.

Highly sporty, two-seat vehicles have a continuous underfloor energy store assembly in the case of a shortened wheelbase with only three uniform module installation space regions ("module rows"); the at least one energy store peripheral unit is arranged above the third module

In the case of the plug-in hybrid vehicle (PHEV), battery Also in the case of this variant, it is advantageous if at 55 electric vehicle with range extender (BEVx) and fuel cell vehicle (FCEV) drive types, partial fitting of the uniform module installation spaces with from two to four energy store modules which are configured as a high voltage battery (corresponds to from one to two module rows) takes place for the high voltage energy store. At least one fuel tank (in the case of PHEV and BEVx) or transversely arranged hydrogen tanks (in the case of FCEV) is/are installed into the remaining uniform module installation spaces.

> The essential advantages of the invention are a design of the vehicles of a vehicle product family, which design is minimized in terms of complexity and is therefore optimum in terms of costs, and a reduced protection complexity as a

result of standardized energy store modules and as a result of a high proportion of uniform structures across all vehicle derivatives.

Preferred exemplary embodiments of the invention with additional design details and further advantages are 5 described and explained in greater detail in the following text with reference to the appended drawing.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows a diagrammatic longitudinal section through a first variant of an underfloor energy store assembly of modular construction of a modular motor vehicle architecture according to the invention.

FIG. 2 shows a diagrammatic outline of an underfloor <sup>15</sup> energy store assembly of modular construction of a modular motor vehicle architecture according to the invention.

FIG. 3 shows a diagrammatic outline of a modified underfloor energy store assembly of modular construction.

FIG. 4 shows a diagrammatic longitudinal section through 20 a second variant of an underfloor energy store assembly of modular construction of a modular motor vehicle architecture according to the invention.

FIGS. **5**A-**5**C show different variants of an underfloor energy store assembly of modular construction in a battery <sup>25</sup> electric motor vehicle.

FIGS. 6A-6C show different variants of an underfloor energy store assembly of modular construction in a motor vehicle with a plug-in hybrid drive.

FIGS. 7A-7C show different variants of an underfloor <sup>30</sup> energy store assembly of modular construction in a fuel cell motor vehicle.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows a diagrammatic longitudinal section through a first variant of an underfloor energy store assembly 2 of modular construction in a motor vehicle 1 which is shown merely in details and diagrammatically and is equipped with a modular motor vehicle architecture according to the invention.

The underfloor energy store assembly 2 is provided with a plurality of uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 which are arranged behind one another in the longitudinal direction X of the motor vehicle 1 and in which, in 45 each case, at least one standardized energy store module 30, 32, 34, 36 of an energy store 3 is arranged. The front (in the traveling direction F) uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26 are standardized in terms of their longitudinal dimension x which runs in the longitudinal direction X of the 50 motor vehicle 1, and are therefore of equal length. The rearmost uniform module installation space 28 is only half as long as the standardized uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26, and therefore has merely a longitudinal dimension of ½ x. All uniform module installation 55 spaces are identical in terms of height, with the result that the upper covering 29 of the underfloor energy store assembly 2 forms a planar interior compartment floor 10 of the motor vehicle 1 in the example which is shown in FIG. 1. The underfloor energy store assembly is provided with a lower 60 floor 29' on the underside.

The energy store modules 30, 32, 34, 36 are likewise of identical configuration in terms of their longitudinal dimension x' which extends in the longitudinal direction X of the motor vehicle 1, and are therefore also standardized. Here, 65 the length x' of the energy store modules are slightly smaller than the interior compartment length, that is to say the

6

longitudinal dimension x of the uniform module installation spaces, with the result that an energy store module 30, 32, 34, 36 can be inserted with an accurate fit in a longitudinal direction into an associated uniform module installation space 20, 22, 24, 26.

An energy store peripheral unit 38 which has the control and/or regulating devices 39 (shown merely diagrammatically in FIG. 1) for the energy store modules 30, 32, 34, 36 is inserted into the last uniform module installation space 28 which is half as long.

FIG. 2 shows a top view of the underfloor energy store assembly 2 of the motor vehicle 1 in a diagrammatic illustration in outline, the covering 29 having been omitted. A peripheral protective frame 4 forms a safety housing of the underfloor energy store assembly 2.

The peripheral protective frame 4 is provided with lateral longitudinal beams 40, 42 and a front and a rear crossmember arrangement 44, 46. With the lower floor 29', the protective frame 4 forms a load-bearing structure for the standardized energy store modules 30, 32, 34, 36, received in the uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and the at least one energy store peripheral unit 38. Inner cross members 41, 43, 45, 47 extend between the right-hand lateral longitudinal beam 40 and the left-hand lateral longitudinal beam 42. The inner cross members 41, 43, 45, 47 serve firstly to reinforce the protective frame 4 in the transverse direction (Y-direction), and they are secondly also provided to support and to secure interior compartment fittings of the motor vehicle 1 such as, for example, vehicle seats. The spacing between crossmembers which are adjacent with respect to one another in the longitudinal direction X of the motor vehicle 1 corresponds in each case to the longitudinal dimension x of a standardized uniform module installation space 22, 24, 26 or (not shown) a whole multiple 35 of the longitudinal dimension x. In this way, the standardized uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26 are formed between the front crossmember arrangement 42 and the frontmost inner crossmember 41 and between the inner cross members 41, 43, 45, 47. The rear, half uniform module installation space 28 lies between the rearmost inner crossmember 47 and the rear crossmember arrangement 46. All the uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 extend, in their width y in the vehicle transverse direction Y, over the entire width between the lateral longitudinal beams 40, 42,

The width y' of the standardized energy store modules 30, 32, 34, 36 which are received in the standardized uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26 is slightly shorter than the width y of the uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26, with the result that the standardized energy store modules 30, 32, 34, 36 can be inserted with an accurate fit into the standardized uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26. In the example which is shown, the energy store peripheral unit 38 also extends over the entire width of the rearmost uniform module installation space 28.

The underfloor energy store assembly 2 which is shown in FIG. 2 therefore has five uniform module installation space regions A, B, C, D, E, of which the front uniform module installation space regions A, B, C, D in each case comprise a standardized uniform module installation space 20, 22, 24, 26 in this example, and the rearmost uniform module installation space 28 forming a shortened uniform module installation space region E.

FIG. 3 shows a diagrammatic outline of an underfloor energy store assembly 2', modified slightly with respect to the example from FIG. 2, of a motor vehicle l' with a modular motor vehicle architecture according to the inven-

tion. The peripheral protective frame 4' is fundamentally constructed like the peripheral protective frame 4 of FIG. 2, and has two lateral longitudinal beams 40', 42' and a front and a rear crossmember arrangement 44', 46'. The front crossmember arrangement 44' comprises a left-hand front 5 crossmember 44A and a right-hand front crossmember 44B which extend in each case between the associated lateral longitudinal beam 40', 42' and a middle channel 49 which runs in the longitudinal direction X of the motor vehicle 1. The channel 49 forms a central tunnel, running in the 10 longitudinal direction, of the underfloor energy store assembly 2', in which central tunnel, for example, electric lines, fuel lines and/or at least one exhaust gas pipe penetrate/ penetrates the underfloor energy store assembly 2' in the longitudinal direction. The channel 49 therefore divides the 15 underfloor energy store assembly 2' into a left-hand half and into a right-hand half, with the result that the lower crossmember arrangement 46' is also divided into a left-hand rear crossmember 46A and a right-hand rear crossmember 46B. In a corresponding way, the inner cross members are also 20 divided in each case into a left-hand inner crossmember 41A, 43A, 45A, 47A and a right-hand inner crossmember 41B, 43B, 45B, 47B, although at least some of the crossmembers can also be of continuous configuration, as is shown in the example of FIG. 2.

In a corresponding way, the uniform module installation space regions A, B, C, D, E are equipped in each case with a left-hand standardized uniform module installation space 20A, 22A, 24A, 26A and a right-hand standardized uniform module installation space 20B, 22B, 24B, 26B. The rear- 30 most, shortened uniform module installation space region E is also divided by way of the channel 49 into two shortened rearmost uniform module installation spaces 28A, 28B. The respective length of the standardized uniform module installation spaces 20A, 20B, 22A, 22B, 24A, 24B, 26A, 26B 35 corresponds to the longitudinal dimension x of the standardized uniform module installation spaces 20, 22, 24, 26 of the embodiment from FIG. 2. The length of the two rearmost uniform module installation spaces 28A, 28B also corresponds to the value  $\frac{1}{2}$  x, as in the example of FIG. 2. The 40 width y" of the respective uniform module installation spaces 20A, 20B, 22A, 22B, 24A, 24B, 26A, 26B, 28A, 28B is identical on the left-hand side and on the right-hand side. Correspondingly, the width y'" of the respective energy store modules 30A, 30B, 32A, 32B, 34A, 34B, 36A, 36B is also 45 slightly smaller than the width y" of the uniform module installation spaces. This means that a standardized energy store module 30A, 30B, 32A, 32B, 34A, 34B, 36A, 36B, the longitudinal extent x' of which in the vehicle longitudinal direction X corresponds to the longitudinal extent x' in the 50 example of FIG. 2, is received with an accurate fit in each standardized uniform module installation space 20A, 20B, 22A, 22B, 24A, 24B, 26A, 26B. The respective rearmost, shortened uniform module installation space 28A, 28B is also configured in this example for receiving energy store 55 peripheral units 38A, 38B.

FIG. 4 shows a diagrammatic longitudinal section through a second variant of an underfloor energy store assembly 2" of modular construction of a motor vehicle 1", which underfloor energy store assembly 2" corresponds in terms of 60 its division in the longitudinal direction to the underfloor energy store assembly 2 from FIG. 1. In the vehicle transverse direction, it can correspond both to the embodiment from FIG. 2 and to the embodiment from FIG. 3.

Here, the uniform module installation space regions  $A,\,B\,$  65 and D correspond to the uniform module installation space regions  $A,\,B\,$  and D of the embodiment from FIG. 1. The

8

third uniform module installation space region C is of modified configuration in the variant of FIG. 4, however. Instead of the provision of uniform module installation spaces in the uniform module installation space region C, the covering 29" of the underfloor energy store assembly 2" is recessed here and configures a downwardly recessed interior compartment floor region 29" between the uniform module installation space region B and the uniform module installation space region D, with the result that a footwell recess M is formed in this way in the uniform module installation space region C, in which footwell recess M passengers seated on a rear seat bench 12 of the motor vehicle 1" can place their feet.

Since the motor vehicle 1" has a shorter wheelbase than the motor vehicle 1 of the exemplary embodiment from FIG. 1, the shortened, rearmost uniform module installation space region is absent in the case of the embodiment according to FIG. 4. Therefore, in the case of this embodiment, the energy store peripheral unit 38" is provided above the energy store module 36" in the uniform module installation space region D below a rear seat 12.

FIGS. 5A to 5C show a simplified illustration of the floor assemblies of three different motor vehicle types of a battery electric motor vehicle.

The motor vehicle 101 which is shown in FIG. 5A has a short wheelbase, and is equipped with four uniform module installation space regions A, B, C, D which are situated behind one another in the longitudinal direction and in which standardized energy store modules 130, 132, 134, 136 which are configured in each case as electric batteries are received. In the transverse direction, the underfloor energy store assembly 102 can be constructed like that of FIG. 2 or like that of FIG. 3. In the case of this vehicle 101, the energy store peripheral unit 138 with the control and/or regulating device is arranged in the fourth uniform module installation space region D above the energy store module 136 there and below a rear vehicle seat (not shown).

FIG. 5B shows a floor assembly of a motor vehicle 101' with an extended wheelbase, the underfloor energy store assembly 102' of which has five uniform module installation space regions A, B, C, D, E which are situated behind one another in the longitudinal direction, as has already been described in conjunction with FIG. 1. The standard uniform module installation space regions A, B, C, D are equipped with standard energy store modules 130', 132', 134', 136' which are likewise configured as electric batteries. An energy store peripheral unit 138 with the control and/or regulating device is provided in the rearmost, shortened uniform module installation space region, as in the example of FIG. 1.

FIG. 5C shows the floor assembly of a motor vehicle 101" with an underfloor energy store assembly 102", the motor vehicle 101" having the same short wheelbase as the motor vehicle 101 from FIG. 5a. The underfloor energy store assembly 102" in the example of FIG. 5c corresponds to the construction, as has already been described in conjunction with FIG. 4, with the result that the uniform module installation space regions A, B and D are equipped here with standard energy store modules 130", 132", 136" which are configured as electric batteries, and a footwell recess M being configured in the third standard uniform module installation space region C. The energy store peripheral unit 138" with the control and/or regulating device is also arranged here in the uniform module installation space region D above the energy store module 136" there and below a rear vehicle seat (not shown).

FIGS. 6A to 6C show a simplified illustration of the floor assemblies of three different motor vehicle types of a plug-in hybrid motor vehicle with an internal combustion engine and an electric motor.

Here too, the motor vehicle **201** which is shown in FIG. 5 **6**A has a short wheelbase, and the motor vehicle **201'** which is shown in FIG. 6B has a longer wheelbase. The motor vehicle **201"** in FIG. 6C is also provided here with a short wheelbase, and is equipped with a footwell recess M in the region of the third standard uniform module installation 10 space region C.

In the case of the variants of FIGS. 6A and 6B, the respective underfloor energy store assembly 202, 202' is fitted in the two front standard unit module installation space regions A and B with standardized energy store modules 230, 232, 230', 232' which are configured as an electric battery, and in each case one energy store peripheral unit 238, 238' is provided in the third standard uniform module installation space region C.

In the variant of FIG. **6A** with a short wheelbase, a liquid 20 fuel tank **237** for the supply of the internal combustion engine **214** is provided in the fourth uniform module installation space region D. The fuel tank **237** extends vertically beyond the standard height of a standardized energy store module as far as below a rear vehicle seat.

In the variant of FIG. 6B with a longer wheelbase, the liquid fuel tank 237' is accommodated in the fourth uniform module installation space region D and the rearmost, shortened uniform module installation space region E, the uniform module installation spaces of which are combined to 30 receive the liquid fuel tank 237' for the supply of the internal combustion engine 214'. Therefore, the energy store assembly 202' has a planar upper side, with the result that the motor vehicle 201' has a continuously planar interior compartment floor 210'.

The energy store assembly 202" of the variant of FIG. 6C is fundamentally constructed like the variant shown in FIG. 6a with a short wheelbase. The standardized energy store modules 230", 232" which are configured as an electric battery are provided in the two front uniform module 4 installation space regions A and B, and the liquid fuel tank 237' for the supply of the internal combustion engine 214" (as in the example of FIG. 6A) is provided in the fourth uniform module installation space region D. The energy store peripheral unit 238" is accommodated either in a 4 uniform module installation space in the second uniform module installation space region B or in the fourth uniform module installation space region D.

FIGS. 7A to 7C show a simplified illustration of the floor assemblies of three different vehicle types of fuel cell motor 5 vehicle 301, 301', 301".

Here, the motor vehicle which is shown in FIG. 7A likewise has the short wheelbase, and the motor vehicle which is shown in FIG. 7B has the longer wheelbase. The motor vehicle in FIG. 7C is also configured here with a short 5 wheelbase, and is equipped with a footwell recess M in the region of the third standard uniform module installation space region C.

In the case of all three variants, pressure tanks 331, 331', 331" for a gaseous fuel for the supply of the fuel cell 315, 6 215', 315" are received in corresponding standardized energy store modules 330, 232, 336, 330', 332', 336', 330", 332", 236" in the uniform module installation spaces of the respective underfloor energy store assembly 302, 302', 302" in the uniform module installation space regions A, B and D. 6 Whereas the third standard uniform module installation space region C is provided with a footwell recess M in the

10

case of the third variant of FIG. 7C, standardized energy store modules 334, 334' which are likewise fitted with pressure tanks 331, 331' for the gaseous fuel are provided in the case of the two first variants of FIGS. 7A and 7B in the uniform module installation spaces of the third standard uniform module installation space region C. In addition to the pressure tanks 331, 331', 331", an energy store module 333, 333', 333" which is configured as an electric battery is provided in each of the three variants, which energy store module 333, 333', 333" is arranged below a rear vehicle seat in the fourth uniform module installation space region D in the case of the variants with a short wheelbase (FIGS. 7A and 7B) and is arranged in the shortened, rearmost uniform module installation space region E in the case of the variant shown in FIG. 7B with a long wheelbase.

The invention is not restricted to the above exemplary embodiments which merely serve for general explanation of the core concept of the invention. Within the context of the scope of protection, the apparatus according to the invention can rather also assume different embodiment forms than those described above. Here, in particular, the apparatus can have features which represent a combination of the respective individual features of the claims.

Designations in the claims, the description and the drawings serve merely for improved comprehension of the invention, and are not intended to restrict the scope of protection. For improved clarity of the claims, not all designations of all embodiments are recorded in the superordinate claims, which does not represent a restriction of the superordinate claims, however.

### List of Designations

35	1	Motor vehicle
	1'	Motor vehicle
	1"	Motor vehicle
	2	Underfloor energy store assembly
	2' Underfloor ener	Underfloor energy store assembly
	2"	Underfloor energy store assembly
10	4	Protective frame
Ю	4'	Protective frame
	10	Interior compartment floor
	12	Rear seat
	20	Uniform module installation space
	20A	Uniform module installation space
	20B	Uniform module installation space
15	22	Uniform module installation space
	22A	Uniform module installation space
22A 22B	Uniform module installation space	
	24	Uniform module installation space
	24A	Uniform module installation space
2	24B	Uniform module installation space
0	26	Uniform module installation space
	26A	Uniform module installation space
	26B	tor vehicle derfloor energy store assembly tective frame module installation space iform mod
28	28	Uniform module installation space
	28A	Uniform module installation space
	28B	Uniform module installation space
55	29	Covering of the underfloor energy store assembly
	29'	Lower floor
20 Uniform module installation sp 20B Uniform module installation sp 20B Uniform module installation sp 20B Uniform module installation sp 22A Uniform module installation sp 22B Uniform module installation sp 24 Uniform module installation sp 24B Uniform module installation sp 24B Uniform module installation sp 26A Uniform module installation sp 26B Uniform module installation sp 28B Uniform module installation sp 28B Uniform module installation sp 28B Uniform module installation sp 29 Covering of the underfloor ener 29" Covering of the underfloor ener 29" Recessed interior compartment 30 Energy store module 30A Energy store module 31B Energy store module 32C Energy store module 33C Energy store module 34C Energy store module 34C Energy store module 34C Energy store module 34C Energy store module	Covering of the underfloor energy store assembly	
	29'''	Recessed interior compartment floor region
	30	Energy store module
	30A	Energy store module
:0	30B	Energy store module
00	32	Energy store module
	32A	Energy store module
	32B	Energy store module
	34	Energy store module
55	34A	Energy store module
	34B	Energy store module
	36	Energy store module
	36"	Energy store module

11 -continued

**12** -continued

	List of Designations		List of Designations
36A	Energy store module		315 Fuel cell
36B	Energy store module	5	315' Fuel cell
38	Energy store peripheral unit		330 Energy store module
38"	Energy store peripheral unit		330' Energy store module
38A	Energy store peripheral unit		330" Energy store module
38B	Energy store peripheral unit		Pressure tank
39 40	Control and/or regulating device Right-hand lateral longitudinal beam	10	331' Pressure tank 331" Pressure tank
41	Inner crossmember	10	332 Energy store module
41A	Left-hand inner crossmember		332' Energy store module
41B	Right-hand inner crossmember		332" Energy store module
42	Left-hand lateral longitudinal beam		Energy store module
43	Inner crossmember		333' Energy store module
43A	Left-hand inner crossmember	15	
43B	Right-hand inner crossmember		Energy store module
44 44'	Front crossmember arrangement Front crossmember arrangement		336' Energy store module 336" Energy store module
44A	Left-hand front crossmember		A Uniform module installation region
44B	Right-hand front crossmember		B Uniform module installation region
45	Inner crossmember	20	C Uniform module installation region
45A	Left-hand inner crossmember	20	D Uniform module installation region
45B	Right-hand inner crossmember		E Uniform module installation region
46	Rear crossmember arrangement		M Footwell recess
46'	Rear crossmember arrangement		x Longitudinal dimension of a uniform module installation
46A 46B	Left-hand rear crossmember Right-hand rear crossmember		x' Longitudinal dimension X Longitudinal direction
47	Inner crossmember	25	Y Transverse direction
47A	Left-hand inner crossmember		y Width of a uniform module installation region
47B	Right-hand inner crossmember		y" Width of a uniform module installation region
49	Channel		y" Width of a uniform module installation region
101	Motor vehicle		
101' 101"	Motor vehicle Motor vehicle	30	
102	Underfloor energy store assembly	50	The invention claimed is:
102'	Underfloor energy store assembly		1. A modular motor vehicle architecture for motor
102"	Underfloor energy store assembly		
130	Energy store module		vehicles of different motor vehicle types with, in each case,
130'	Energy store module		at least one drive unit and at least one energy store assigned
130" 132	Energy store module	35	to the at least one drive unit, comprising:
132'	Energy store module Energy store module		a modular designed underfloor energy store assembly that
132"	Energy store module		has a plurality of energy store modules which are
134	Energy store module		standardized in terms of at least one external dimen-
134'	Energy store module		sion, the at least one energy store being received in the
136	Energy store module	40	underfloor energy store assembly, wherein
136' 136''	Energy store module Energy store module		each motor vehicle type is assigned one underfloor energy
138	Energy store peripheral standard		store assembly from a plurality of standardized under-
138'	Energy store peripheral standard		floor energy store assemblies, and
138"	Energy store peripheral standard		each underfloor energy store assembly has a plurality of
201	Motor vehicle	45	uniform module installation spaces which are standard-
201'	Motor vehicle	73	ized in terms of a longitudinal dimension which runs in
201" 202	Motor vehicle		
202'	Underfloor energy store assembly Underfloor energy store assembly		a longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle, and which
202"	Underfloor energy store assembly		are configured to receive, in each case, at least one
210'	Interior compartment floor		standardized energy store module;
214	Internal combustion engine	50	wherein the underfloor energy store assembly has a fur-
214'	Internal combustion engine		ther uniform module installation space region with at
230	Energy store module		least one shortened uniform module installation space,
230' 230"	Energy store module		the longitudinal dimension, running in the longitudinal
232	Energy store module Energy store module		direction of the motor vehicle, of the further uniform
232'	Energy store module	55	module installation space region and the longitudinal
232"	Energy store module	33	dimension, running in the longitudinal direction of the
237	Liquid fuel tank		
237'	Liquid fuel tank		motor vehicle, of the shortened uniform module instal-
237"	Liquid fuel tank		lation space being shorter than those of a regular
238	Energy store peripheral standard		standardized uniform module installation space region
238'	Energy store peripheral standard	60	and a regular standardized uniform module installation
238"	Energy store peripheral standard		space, respectively.
301	Motor vehicle		2. The modular motor vehicle architecture according to
301'	Motor vehicle		claim 1, wherein
301"	Motor vehicle		a plurality of standardized uniform module installation
302 302'	Underfloor energy store assembly Underfloor energy store assembly	65	space regions which lie behind one another are pro-
302"	Underfloor energy store assembly		vided in the underfloor energy store assembly in the
-	ου		longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle.

- **3**. The modular motor vehicle architecture according to claim **2**, wherein
  - the longitudinal dimension, running in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle, of each standardized uniform module installation space region corresponds to the longitudinal dimension of the standardized uniform module installation space.
- **4**. The modular motor vehicle architecture according to claim **2**, wherein
  - a middle channel extending in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle is provided which divides the respective uniform module installation space region into a left-hand and a right-hand uniform module installation space.
- 5. The modular motor vehicle architecture according to claim 1, wherein
  - at least one energy store module is formed by at least one electric battery module or has at least one electric battery module.
- **6**. The modular motor vehicle architecture according to claim **5**, wherein
  - at least one energy store peripheral unit is provided, which is configured for being received in a uniform module installation space, and has electric control and/or regulating devices for the at least one of electric battery module.
- 7. The modular motor vehicle architecture according to claim 1, wherein
  - at least one energy store module is formed by at least one liquid fuel tank or has at least one liquid fuel tank.
- ${f 8}.$  The modular motor vehicle architecture according to  $^{30}$  claim  ${f 7},$  wherein
  - at least one energy store peripheral unit is provided, which is configured for being received in a uniform module installation space, and has control and/or regulating devices for liquid fuel.
- **9**. The modular motor vehicle architecture according to claim **1**, wherein
  - at least one energy store module is formed by at least one pressure tank for a gaseous fuel or has at least one pressure tank.

14

- 10. The modular motor vehicle architecture according to claim 9, wherein
  - at least one energy store peripheral unit is provided, which is configured for being received in a uniform module installation space, and has control and/or regulating devices for gaseous fuel.
- 11. A motor vehicle comprising a modular motor vehicle architecture with a modular underfloor energy store assembly according to claim 1.
- 12. A motor vehicle comprising a modular motor vehicle architecture with a modular underfloor energy store assembly according to claim 2, wherein
  - the modular underfloor energy store assembly has three or more uniform module installation space regions in the longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle.
  - 13. A motor vehicle comprising:
  - a modular motor vehicle architecture with a modular underfloor energy store assembly comprising a plurality of energy store modules which are standardized in terms of at least one external dimension, at least one energy store being received in the underfloor energy store assembly, wherein:
    - each motor vehicle type of the modular motor vehicle architecture is assigned one underfloor energy store assembly from a plurality of standardized underfloor energy store assemblies,
    - each underfloor energy store assembly has a plurality of uniform module installation spaces which are standardized in terms of a longitudinal dimension which runs in a longitudinal direction of the motor vehicle, and which are configured to receive, in each case, at least one standardized energy store module,
    - at least one energy store module is formed by at least one pressure tank for a gaseous fuel or has at least one pressure tank, and,
    - at least one uniform module installation space is configured as a footwell recess in at least one of the uniform module installation space regions.

\* \* \* \* \*