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Title / Keyword Author / Affiliation / Email Thermo Journals / Thermo / Volume 1 / Issue 2 / 10.3390/thermo1020010 Order Article Reprints 0 Open Access Review < Hybrid Electric Vehicles: A Review of Existing Configurations and Thermodynamic Cycles by Rogelio León 🖾 🗓 Christian Montaleza 🖾 🗓 José Luis Maldonado 🖾 🗓 Marcos Tostado-Véliz * 🖾 🗓 and Francisco Jurado 🖾 🗓 H Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Jaén, EPS Linares, 23700 Jaén, Spain Author to whom correspondence should be addressed ,, Thermo 2021, 1(2), 134-150; https://doi.org/10.3390/thermo1020010 Submission received: 10 June 2021 / Revised: 15 July 2021 / Accepted: 21 July 2021 / Published: 22 July 2021 Download ✓ Browse Figures Versions Notes

The mobility industry has experienced a fast evolution towards electric-based transport in recent years. Recently, hybrid electric vehicles, which combine electric and conventional combustion systems, have become the most popular alternative by far. This is due to longer autonomy and more extended refueling networks in comparison with the recharging points system, which is still quite limited in some countries. This paper aims to conduct a literature review in thermodynamic models of heat engines used in hybrid electric vehicles and their respective configurations for series, parallel and mixed powertrain. It will discuss the most important models of thermal energy in combustion engines such as the Otto, Atkinson and Miller cycles which are widely used in commercial hybrid electric vehicle models. In short, this work aims at serving as an illustrative but descriptive document, which may be valuable for multiple research and academic purposes.

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Keywords: hybrid electric vehicle; ignition engines; thermodynamic models; autonomy; hybrid configuration series-parallel-mixed; hybridization; micro-hybrid; full-hybrid; ful

Nowadays, low pollutant mobility throughout the world is being substantially developed and promoted, especially focusing on the automotive segment [1,2]. In this regard, the reaport sector represents one of the main sources of air pollution [3], especially by contributing carbon mono minimize gas emissions caused by the mobility sector [6,7]. Thereby, the automotive industry is experiencing a deep transformation towards electric-based mobility [8,9]. This trend is providing leading brands to be oriented to this new sector, by developing a plethora of novel vehicle models [10]. In this context, the launching of the Toyota Prius in December 1997 [11] was a first milestone that was followed in 1999 with the Honda Insight, a semi-hybrid with manual change or CVT of reduced size and weight, with a low fuel consumption and optimized aerodynamics [11,12]. At the same time, environmental anti-pollution laws are evolving to address the incoming environmental issues in order

Lecement 1997 [17] was a first misestone that was followed in 1999 with the Honda Insight, a semi-hybrid with manual change or CVT of reduced size and weight, with a low fuel consumption and optimized aerodynamics [411.2]. At the same time, environmental anti-pollution laws are evolving to address the incoming environmental susses in order to safeguard ecosystems and people's health [13]. Such is the case of the Euro standards, which are regulating key aspects such as emission bounds since 1988 [14]. Consequently, unlike the Japanese and American automotive markets which have objectives of manufacturing gasoline hybrid vehicles, hybrid solutions with diesel engines have been profusely studied in the European market by leading brands such as Citrode, Opel and Peugeot [12]. According to the Society of Automotive Engineers, a hybrid vehicle can be defined as that vehicle with two or more energy storage systems with must provide power to the propellant system either longether or independently [15]. Similarly, the heavy duty hybrid vehicles group indicates that a hybrid vehicle must have at least two energy storage systems and energy converters. In practice, a hybrid electric vehicle (HEV) combines the great autonomy of conventional legisles of electric vehicles, obtaining an automobile with lower consumption and lower pollutant emissions to the atmosphere [16,17,18]. In general, pure electric vehicles have limited autonomy [19] (see Table 1 and Table 2), due to the low energy density of batteries [20] (see Table 3) compared with conventional liquid fuels for internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles. The autonomy depends on the capacity of the batteries and the type of driving, but currently, with the advances of automotive technolox, autonomies from 800 to 1000 km can be achieved [21,221, while the zero emissions autonomy (oure electric) ranges from 60 to 75 km. In times. In addition, the contraction of the properties of t information about your use of our site with our social media, advertising and analytics partners who may combine it with being imposed in other information that you've provided to them or that they've collected from your use of their services. example, one cri echnology, which a 20-year horizon sector [20,32,33]. (Marketing Necessary Preferences Statistics Show details > Allow all Denv Allow selection Powered by Cookiebot by Usercentrics

Figure 1. Energy density feature for various typical battery technologies in automotive sector and expected future trend (adapted from [33]).



Table 2. Characteristics of various com



Table 3. Comparison of energy densities of various fuels and battery technologies (adapted from [20]).



Besides the electrical part of an HEV, the conventional combustion layout is still present in current HEV models. The combustion components are expected to have a vital importance in future HEVs, helping to overcome the limitations of purely electric vehicles. In this sense, the combustion system is still necessary for extending the autonomy offered by the electric counterpart. In addition, electricity cost in many countries is still quite high and few competitive with traditional fuel prices. In this context, vehicle manufacturers and researchers have developed many configurations for coupling both systems. The various configuration of a het engine and an electric traction in an HEV seek significant improvements in autonomy, as the heat engine has the mission of recharging the batteries in a standard configuration and provides the propulsion force in conditions of constant running and overtaking, in this context, this work provides a review of the missipacion aspired in industrial HEVs. In a second stage, the state of art of the thermodynamic models considered in such applications are reviewed. This way, this paper aims at providing an overall review of the current technological status of HEVs, with emphasis on the vehicle layout and mathematical models.

In the rest of this paper, Section 2 reviews the most typical configurations currently contemplated in HEVs. Section 3 develops the thermodynamic models of thermal cycles that are usually exploited for heat engines in HEVs. This paper is concluded with Section 4.

2. Most Typical Configurations for HEVs

In general, a powertrain system for a vehicle in general requires to meet a series of characteristics [17,18]:

- · High performance.
- Low pollutant emissions from fossil fuels. Enough energy storage on board to cover adequate autonomy
- Sufficient power generation to supply the various requirements in the driving and behavior of a vehicle.

The powertrain is defined as the junction of an energy source and the energy converter or also referred to as a power source. For example, gasoline and ICE, hydrogen In epowertrain is defined as the junction of an energy's source and the energy conventer or also reterred to as a power source. Por example, againstine and LLC, hydrogen-fue cledia and an electric motor, butteries and electric motor, etc. Figure 2 schematically shows the overall energy flows in a hybrid powertrain. In this case, there is the possibility of operating two powertrains according to load requirements. In the case of the vehicle with gasoline hybridization comprising ICE, battery system and electric motor, the path 1 indicated in Figure 2 is met. Through this energy path, the propulsion mode with ICE is not yapiled when the risers are almost discharged and the ICE is not able to charge them, or also when the batteries have been fully charged and the ICE is able to supply the power demand of the vehicle. In contrast, the path 2 corresponds to the purely electric mode, in which the ICE is switched off, for example, at low speed or in zero pollutant emission zones (38). The path 2 can be conducted in reverse mode when the batteries are charged from the ICE.

Figure 2. Energy flows in a hybrid powertrain.

The transmission of an HEV lacks a conventional gearbox. In contrast, the central part in the transmission of such vehicles is the epicycloidal gear, also called planetary, movement to the intermediate sprockets is transferred. The movement towards the differential assembly is through the intermediate sprockets while the net is achieved by reversing the direction of the electric motor. For the sake of clarity, Figure 3 schematically illustrates a typical transmission for a hybrid

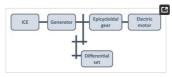


Figure 3. Schematic diagram of a typical hybrid transmission systematic diagram of a typical hybrid transmission diagram of the typical hybrid diagram of a typical hybrid diagram of the typical hybrid

Throughout this section, the most typical configurations with applications on HEVs are reviewed. In the literature, the different configurations in HEVs are broadly saffied either on the basis of the hybridization level or according to its architecture [39,40].

2.1. Classification by Vehicle Hybridization Level

In essence, the hybridization concept refers to HEVs and mentions the level at which a vehicle could be considered as purely electric. Roughly speaking, the hybridization level determines the importance of the electric and combustion systems of an HEV. Thereby, the higher level of hybridization, the more important the electric system is. The hybridization of an HEV could be conceived from two different point of views [41]:

- Hybridization of the propulsion system: this classification comprises those vehicles that have at the same time an electric traction system and another based on a heat engine (usually combustion or compression engines). Therefore, both systems have the ability, either independently or in combination, to prope the automobile. Propulsion system hybridization vehicles are composed of a heat and electric motor, but the latter is only used for starting and keeping the vehicle at low speeds over short distances.

 Hybridization of the power supply system: in this case, the vehicles have more than one type of energy system, which could be either production or storage, being at least one of them purely electric. Intuitively, this configuration must count with at least an electric motor. The hybridization system with power supply combines an electrical system and a falled that serves to increase the autonomy, but the tractor system will be electric, being the function of the heat engine to recharge the batteries when they are running out. This model is also valid for fuel-cell electric vehicles, in which the electric energy is produced through fuel cells that convert hydrogen to electrical energy [42].

According to [43], the above classification can be further subdivided into four levels. In that sense, the electric part in a hybrid vehicle is increased as it reaches a ignificant percentage of hybridization. That is, with the increase in the rate of hybridization, the environmental impact continues to decrease, but the level of complexity (power ontrol, coupling, energy diversification) of the vehicle system continues to increase until there is no longer the need of a heat engine. This classification approach is described subsequent sections.

2.1.1. Micro-Hybrid

The vehicles in this classification encompass the alternator and the start button in the same set. A small electric motor is other key feature of this kind of vehicles. In this sense, the engine only serves to charge the battery system as much as possible during braking phases, besides providing the so-called 'Stop and Start' service, which is devoted on restoring the heat engine before starting the unning. In this sense, any automobile that provides such kind of capability could be encompassed into this category. One highlight of the 'Stop and Start' service is the moment during which the engine is gut on below 8 kind, and starts surfaciled with the help of the electric motor when it needs to accelerate again. Finally, it is worth remarking that vehicles within this category usually present a petrol economy between 5% and 8%.

In the second category, the mild-hybrid vehicles have a more powerful electric motor and are usually equipped with a higher capacity battery system. This configuration allows the electric system supports the heat engine even during acceleration. However, the electric counterpart is still only able to partially fuffill the function of ICE, because it lacks the sufficiently capacity for propelling the vehicle by itself. In this kind of HEV, the electric system is also used to start the propulsion of the vehicle and initialize the whole traction system. This type of hybridization system allows to recover the kinetic energy of the vehicle through the braking phase with reversible electrical components, in the same way the gasc

2.1.3. Full-Hybrid

In this catego incorporates a ge system needs to b frequent start-stop reduce the gasolin reduced, applying

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Figure 4. Typical architecture of an HEV with full-hybridization level.

2.1.4. Plug-in-Hybrid

The vehicles within this category present an architecture very similar to the full-hybrid level. However, the plug-in-hybrid has the capability of being connected to an upscale electric grid. This way, the battery system can be recharged from the traction system during breaking stages or directly from the electric system. One interesting feature of this kind of vehicle is the possibility of exploiting the on-board storage system for grid supporting lasks. For example, the vehicle batteries could be exploited as storage features in smart homes through bidirectional chargers, thus supporting the labor of onsite renewable generators on pursuing a more efficient energy management in dwellings [43]. This principle is called vehicle-to-home and is illustrated in Figure 5.



Figure 5. Vehicle-to-home capability

In the literature (e.g., see [40]), the HEVs are often classified attending to their architecture. This classification attends to the on-board system layout, components and interconnection and enabled energy paths among them. Subsequent sections describe the different categories within this classification approach.

2.2.1. Series Configuration

2.2.1. Senes Configuration

These kinds of vehicles are also called vehicles of extended autonomy. In this case, the vehicle is driven entirely by the electric motor, which is moved by a heat engine with fuel supply. Figure 6 depicts a schematic diagram of this architecture. The mechanical output of the ICE is first converted into electricity by a generator, then, this energy could be destined to charge the batteries or propel the wheels through the electric motor, which also allows to capture the energy during braking. Thereby, the ICE is mechanically decoupled to the transmission system. This configuration allows to perpet the ICE elicitently, since its torque and speed are independent of the mechanical demand of the vehicle. Hence, the ICE can be operated at any point of its characteristics. This way, the vehicle generally works at those operating points by which consumption and emissions are minimal. By this configuration, the battery system acts an accumulator facility that can store the excess of energy thus allowing to disconnect the ICE momentally. This principle is normally handled by energy management programs, which continuously control the state of charge of the batteries on pursuing a fuel consumption reduction [44,45].

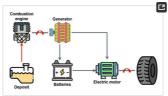


Figure 6. Series configuration of an HEV.

2.2.2 Parallel Configuration

By this configuration, both the heat and electric engines can propel the transmission systems. An electric hybrid vehicle with the parallel configuration has the ICE and electric motor coupled to the final drive axle of the wheels via clutches. Moreover, this configuration allows the ICE and electric motor to supply power to drive the wheels in

series configuration [45]

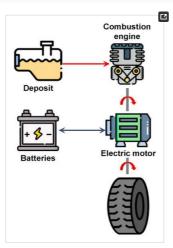


Figure 7. Parallel configuration of an HEV.

2.2.3. Mixed Configuration

In essence, this configuration combines both previous architectures on a whole. This way, the vehicle could be propelled in this case through the ICE, the electric motor or both systems at once [45]. The heat engine is directly connected to the transmission system and is mechanically coupled to the electric system through a differential set, which mechanically couples both electric and heat systems. The electric system is composed by a motor and a generator, which allows to convert the excess of energy produced by the ICE during briating into electricity to be stored in batteries. By far, this configuration is more complex than the others, but allows to gather all the advantages obtained with series and parallel configurations. Figure 8 presents a diagram of the mixed configuration for HEVs.

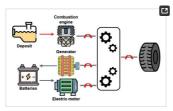
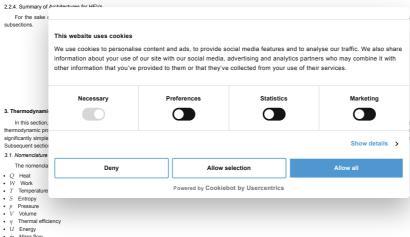


Figure 8. Mixed configuration of an HEV.



The subscripts denote the different stages of the thermodynamic cycles, as they are labelled in the corresponding figures

3.2. Otto Cycle

This cycle is associated with the ignition process that happens in the heat engine. In the literature, this cycle is also called Spark ignition. Figure 9 shows the p/V scheme of the Otto cycle whose main steps are:

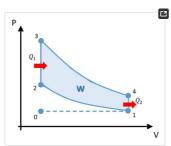


Figure 9. p/V diagram of the Otto cycle

- Adiabatic compression (1–2): compression of the working fluid, the piston has to perform the work W_1 .
 Contribution of heat at constant volume (2–3): instantaneous introduction of the heat Q_1 is provided.
 Adiabatic expansion (3–4): expansion, which is corresponding to the W_2 work, performed by the working fluid.
 Extraction of heat at constant volume (4–5): instantaneous extraction of Q_2 heat.

Extraction of heat at constant volume (4–5): instantaneous extraction of Q₂ heat.
 In the engines of four strokes (4T), the extraction of heat occurs in the exhaust phase, from the opening of the exhaust valve (4–1–0). In addition, the mixture of the airfuel hiuld is introduced into the intake stroke (0–1). This process is graphically represented in the horizontal dashed line of the p/V diagram of Figure 9. Theoretically the processes (1–0 and 0–1) between them are cancelled out, in such a way that a loss or gain of zero heat is generated, so that the p/V diagram of the ideal Otto cycle only considers the closed cycle. Similarly, the work in this phase is zero, V₂₋₂ = 0 the heat supply is performed at constant Q₁ volume [41,50]. From the p/V diagram of the Otto cycle in Figure 9 one can establish the following relationships:

$$V_2 = V_3, \ V_4 = V_1$$

While the compression (CR) and pressure (PR) ratios for this cycle are given by [46]:

$$PR = \frac{p_3}{p_0}$$

The thermal efficiency of the Otto cycle can be established as [51]:

$$\eta^{Otto} = 1 - \frac{T_1}{T_2} \tag{6}$$

The first law can be applied to the adiabatic process (1-2), obtaining [46]:

$$\frac{T_1}{T_2} = \left(\frac{V_1}{V_2}\right)^{1-K}$$

$$\eta^{Otto} = 1 - CR^{1-K}$$
(7)

By the mathematical model above, the performance of an Otto cycle only depends on the values of K and CR, and therefore it is not affected by the amount of heat provided or the degree of explosion [50]. The influence of such parameters on the thermal efficiency of the Otto cycle is shown in Figure 10 (48,49). For a given value of K, thermal efficiency notably increases with increasing CR at low values of the compression ratio. This tend changes for higher values of the volumetric compression ratio (approximately CR = 10). Beyond this threshold, thermal efficiency curves flatten out, lessening the benefits of working with high pressures.

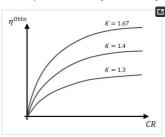


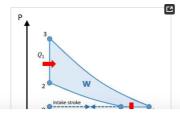
Figure 10. Thermal efficiency of the Otto cycle as function of the specific-heat and comp

bed above for the Otto cycle responds to ideal conditions. In practice, performing of heat engines may be far away to these ideal conditions mainly due to the following reasons [52]:

- Heat loss through the walls, caused by the need to have a cooling system for the ignition engines organs.
 Need to anticipate ignition with respect to death point, because combustion is not instantaneous and a certain time is needed.
 Exhaust opening advance, due to the inertia of the valves and gas masses.
 Loss of pumping work during the exhaust and intake stroke.

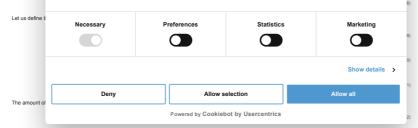
3.3. Atkinson Cycle

The vast majority of hybrid electric vehicles use the Atkinson cycle for internal combustion engines because its higher efficiency [51]. This cycle is characterized by having a longer expansion stroke than the compression one, thus largely managing the energy available in the injected fuel [53]. In this way, the mixture has more time to expand and produces within the combustion chamber a greater amount of work [54]. The Atkinson cycle is relatively ideal for a hybrid vehicle since the internal combustion engine with this cycle has greater efficiency in thermal energy, but at the cost of low power [55]. In this regard, an electric motor is generally needed to complement the heat engine [56]. Figure 11 depicts the p1/V diagram of the Atkinson cycle, which comprises an adiabatic compression (1–2), addition of isochoric heat (2–3), an adiabatic expansion (3–4) and finally isobaric heat extraction.



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$$Q_2 = \dot{m}_{C_p} \left(T_4 - T_1 \right) \tag{13}$$

Dividing (13) by (12) and simplifying one obtains:

$$\frac{Q_2}{Q_1} = K \frac{(T_4/T_1) - 1}{(T_3/T_1) - (T_2/T_1)} \tag{1}$$

Now, observing the adiabatic processes 1-2 and 3-4, one has:

$$\frac{T_2}{T_1} = \left(\frac{V_2}{V_1}\right)^{1-K} = \left(\frac{V_3}{V_1}\frac{T_4}{T_1}\right)^{1-K} = \left(CR^{-1}\frac{T_4}{T_1}\right)^{1-K}$$
(15)

$$\frac{T_4}{T_3} = \left(\frac{V_4}{V_3}\right)^{1-K} = CR^{1-K}$$
(16)

The Equation (16) could be used to determine the useful ratio $\frac{T_4}{T_1}$, as follows:

$$\frac{T_4}{T_1} = TR \cdot CR^{1-K}$$
(17)

Next, replacing (17) into (15) one obtains:

$$\frac{T_2}{T_1} = \left(TR \cdot CR^{-K}\right)^{1-K}$$
(18)

The expression for the thermal efficiency of the Atkinson cycle can now be obtained by substituting (17) and (18) into (14), which yields:

$$\eta^{Addroon} = 1 - K \frac{TR \cdot CR^{1-K} - 1}{TR - (TR \cdot CR^{-K})^{1-K}}$$
(1

From (9) and (11) the following relationship can be established in the Atkinson cycle:

$$CR = PR^{\frac{1}{K}}$$
 (2)

Equation (20) allows to derive an alternative expression for the thermal efficiency as a function of the pressure and temperature ratios, as follows:

$$\eta^{AMiroom} = 1 - K \frac{TR \cdot PR^{\frac{1}{K} \cdot K} - 1}{TR - (\frac{TR}{TR})^{1 \cdot K}}$$
(2)

The Miller cycle is used in those hybrid vehicles in which the lack of torque from the engine is compensated by the addition of the electric motor. In the Miller cycle a larger cylinder than usual is usually used. The compression stroke is shortened in conjunction with the expansion stroke, where, as the pistor moves upwards in the compression stroke the load is pushed out of the normally closed valve [5T]. Delaying the doising time of the intake valves causes the temperature of the mixture to be reduced as well as the load mixture fraction. Consequently, the indicated effective average pressure and net cyclic work is reduced [58]. To solve this issue, a variable valve timing mechanism could be used to increase the efficiency of the Miller cycle [58, 60]. Figure 12 plots the P/V diagram of the Miller cycle incompress an adiabatic compression (1–2), addition of isochoric heat (2–3), an adiabatic expansion (3–4), elimination of isochoric heat (4–5) and elimination of isobaric heat (5–1).



Figure 12. p/V diagram of the Miller cycle.

From the Figure 12 one can directly deduces

$$V_2 = V_3, V_4 = V_5, p_5 = p_1$$
 (22)

reas the compression, temperature and pressure ratios are respectively defined for this cycle as follows [46]:

$$CR = \frac{V_5}{V_3}$$
(2)

$$TR = \frac{T_3}{T_1}$$
(24)

$$PR = \frac{p_3}{p_5}$$
(25)

The thermal efficiency of the Miller cycle is determined by the relationship between the total and supplied heats, as follows [46]:

$$\eta^{Miller} = 1 - \frac{Q_2 + Q_3}{Q_1} = 1 - \frac{c_r(T_4 - T_5) + c_r(T_5 - T_1)}{c_r(T_3 - T_2)}$$
(25)

The Equation (26) can be rewritten as a function of the specific heat ratio straightforward as:

$$\eta^{Miller} = 1 - \frac{(T_4/T_1) + (K - 1)(T_5/T_1) - K}{TR - (T_7/T_1)}$$
(27)

By using the relations of the adiabatic process, the following relations must hold for the Miller cycle:

$$\frac{T_4}{T_3} = \left(\frac{V_4}{V_3}\right)^{1-K} = \left(\frac{V_3}{V_3}\right)^{1-K} = CR^{1-K}$$
(28)

$$p_4 = p_3 \left(\frac{V_4}{V_3}\right)^{-K} = p_3 C R^{-K}$$
(23)

The ratio $\frac{T_4}{T_1}$ can be deduced from Equation (28):

$$\frac{T_4}{T_1} = TR \cdot CR^{1-K}$$
(30)

For the isochoric process 4-5, the following relation holds

$$\tau_- = \tau_+ \left(\frac{p_-}{2} \right)$$
 (31)

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which take place {
 coefficients, overall reaction rates, etc. [63]. The very first steps of FTT took place in the mid-1970s, when Curzon and Ahlborn [64] derived the efficiency term of a Camot engine considering finite heat transfer between the working fluid and heat reservoir. This idea can be extended to any other endoreversible system (i.e., internally reversible) such as Otto [65]. Aktinson [66] and Miller cycles [67]. Nowadays, FTT has a crucial importance for studying optimum performances and configurations of internal combustion engines. Recent progresses are mainly devoted to further analyzing the optimum performances of air standard cycles, determining the optimal path of internal combustion cycles, assessing the limits of the cycles, and development of advanced simulation frameworks [62].

An illustrative example of the importance of FTT, is the analysis of the specific heat of working fluid. Traditionally, this parameter was considered constant. However, as pointed out in [62], this assumption does not reflect the reality. For practical, cycles, properties of working fluids change due to combustion reactions. These variations of the base parameters may introduce significant inaccuracies in the study of thermodynamic cycles. To solve this issue, the reference [68] introduced the concept of variable specific heat. In its simplest model, the specific heat varies linearly with the temperature, as follows [69]:

$$c_p = \alpha_p + K \cdot T \tag{3}$$

$$c_v = \alpha_v + K \cdot T \tag{3}$$

where a sar constant parameters.

Another important aspect in which traditional theories are not applicable is the consideration of heat transfer losses, for which the cycle maximum temperature should not be considered fixed [70]. On the other hand, other studies consider the quantum characteristics of the working fluid [71], in contrast to classical techniques which are based on phenomenological law and equilibrium statistical mechanics.

This paper has presented an illustrative but descriptive review of the most typical configurations and architectures for hybrid electric vehicles. Accordingly, the different configurations have been classified attending to different criteria contemplated in the literature. The main advantages and disadvantages of each architecture have been identified and highlighted with the aim of serving as a valuable contribution to related research and academic purposes. The other hand, the usual thermodynamic cycles that are typically exploited in HEVs have been developed and reviewed. Thus, Otto, Alkinson and Miller cycles have been mathematically elaborated and descriptively

The review presented in this paper has been performed as illustratively as possible, so as to be of interest for the wider public. Additionally, a variety of key references have been provided with the aim of serving as a bibliographic benchmark for the ease of further expanding the scope of this paper.

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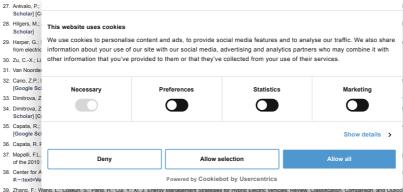
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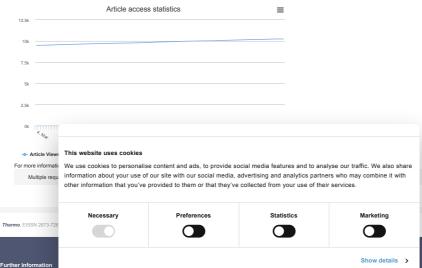
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