Virtual Vehicle Application: Battery Cooling Network Study

# MathWorks AUTOMOTIVE CONFERENCE 2020





## Virtual Vehicle Application: Battery Cooling Network Study





### Key Takeaways

- Battery cooling network design requires component level analysis and tests within a full-vehicle simulation
- Integrating fluid, thermal, electrical, and mechanical domains is key to assessing system-level performance
- Rapid simulations covering a wide range of drive cycles and ambient conditions are needed to evaluate design criteria





### Agenda

- Importance of Battery Cooling
- Exploring Battery Cooling Network Designs
- Integration in Vehicle Model
- Evaluation of Design in Full Vehicle Tests



### Why Explore Battery Cooling?

- Electrification is a cross-industry market driver
  - Power, heating, transportation
  - Shift to electric and hybrid powertrains
- Key to success: efficiency and safety







EV Sales and Market Share



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- Requirements
  - Cell temperature range: 20-40 °C
  - Cell temperature max delta: 8 °C
- Evaluation
  - Hot and cold environments
  - Driving conditions (FTP75, US06, WOT, etc.)
  - Charge cycle
- Two options considered
  - One-pass
  - Two-pass



### Design Process for Battery Cooling Network

1. Explore designs





### Design Process for Battery Cooling Network

- 1. Explore designs
- 2. Integrate in vehicle model





### Design Process for Battery Cooling Network

- 1. Explore designs
- 2. Integrate in vehicle model
- 3. Perform full vehicle tests





### Design Challenge: Battery Cooling Network Modeling and Simulation Options

### CFD and FEA

- Accurate, but computation intensive

Spreadsheet

- Accessible, but limited scalability
- Limited options for integrating other models

Lumped parameter physical networks

- Less accurate than CFD, but scalable
- Appropriate for system-level analysis
- Integrates well with other domains including control algorithms



#### Computational Time vs. Model Complexity

Model Complexity & Detail



### Simscape: Build Accurate Models Quickly

- Simply connect the components you need
- The more complex the system, the more value you get from Simscape
- Resulting model is intuitive, easy to modify, and easy for others to understand





### Physical Modeling Within Simulink

- Simulink is best known for signal-based modeling

   Causal, or input/output
- Simscape enables bidirectional flow of energy between components
- System level equations:
  - Formulated automatically
  - Solved simultaneously
  - Cover multiple domains





Simulink: Input/Output











### **Battery Model**

- Modeled using Simscape
  - 60kWh total capacity (4 sections)
  - Equivalent circuit captures transient dynamics
  - Lookup tables: nonlinear and thermal effects
  - Battery aging can be included







Resistors, capacitor, and voltage source depend upon SOC, DOC, and temperature



### Battery Pack

- Create test to compare the cooling network designs
- Lumped thermal model
  - Divided into four sections along flow path
- Heat transferred to different portions of the cooling channel





### Battery Cooling Network

Physical connections in the Simscape model match architecture of design





### Battery Cooling Network

- Simplify testing using Variant Subsystems
  - Swap in different cooling designs
  - Interactive or automated using MATLAB commands
- Same model, settings, and test set up
  - Input vectors
  - Results analysis





### **Cooling Network Test**

- Fast charge (cooling critical)
  - 1. From 2% to 99% in 1 hour
  - 2. Range of coolant flow rates







### **Cooling Network Test**

- Fast charge (cooling critical)
- Performance criteria
  - a. Maximum temperature
  - b. Temperature gradients
  - c. Pump power consumption







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### **Component Level Analysis**

- Criteria 1: Temperature Range
  - For same flow rate, Two-Pass has lower maximum temperature
  - Acceptable range for either design





### **Component Level Analysis**

- Criteria 1: Temperature Range
  - For same flow rate, Two-Pass has lower maximum temperature
  - Acceptable range for either design
- Criteria 2: Temperature Gradient
  - Both designs acceptable
  - Two-pass has very low temperature difference between sections



### **Component Level Analysis**

- Criteria 3: Pump Power
  - One Pass requires less pump power than Two Pass for the same flow rate
    - Two Pass has smaller pipe diameter and longer channel



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### **Component Level Analysis**

- Criteria 3: Pump Power
  - One Pass requires less pump power than Two Pass for the same flow rate
    - Two Pass has smaller pipe diameter and longer channel
- Test shows advantages of designs
- Now test system in vehicle
  - Control system, rest of physical system
  - See which criteria is most important





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### **Electric Vehicle Model**







### **Electric Vehicle Model**

- Battery Electric vehicle
- 3-Motor Architecture
  - Rear: 40 kW Motor (2x)
  - Front: 60 kW Motor







### **Full Vehicle Test**

- Integrate into Reference Application from Powertrain Blockset
  - Baseline model provides architecture
  - Extend to 3 motor system
- Use Model-Based Design to
  - Assess performance including fuel economy and acceleration
  - Develop control algorithms
  - Deploy to hardware





Pre-built reference applications

### **Powertrain Blockset**

### Library of blocks





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### Scenario Testing

- 342 simulations:
  - 2 cooling networks
  - 57 drive cycles
  - 3 temperatures: 0/20/40 °C
- Criteria
  - Temperature range: 20-40 °C
  - Temperature gradient: <8 °C</li>
  - Total cooling energy
- Accelerate testing
  - Parallel Computing Toolbox

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TESTS						
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#### Results from One Drive Cycle



- Observations from 342 tests
  - Two Pass has lower temperature difference Less cell imbalance, better battery life
  - One Pass has lower energy consumption:
     Better fuel economy for same maximum temperature





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### Products Used

- Battery Cooling Network
   Simscape, Simscape Fluids
- Electrical Network
   Simscape Electrical
   Simscape Driveline
- Vehicle and Environment
   Powertrain Blockset
- Testing

Simulink Test Parallel Computing Toolbox

# Q&A

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Which tasks shown in this presentation are most interesting to you?

- Battery Modeling
  - Cooling System Modeling
  - **Electrical Network Modeling**
- Full Vehicle Simulation
- Parameter Sweeps and Results Analysis

Please contact us with questions



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