Research Article

Online Energy Management of Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles for Prolongation of All-Electric Range Based on Dynamic Programming

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The employed energy management strategy plays an important role in energy saving performance and exhausted emission reduction of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs). An application of dynamic programming for optimization of power allocation is implemented in this paper with certain driving cycle and a limited driving range. Considering the DP algorithm can barely be used in real-time control because of its huge computational task and the dependence on *a priori* driving cycle, several online useful control rules are established based on the offline optimization results of DP. With the above efforts, an online energy management strategy is proposed finally. The presented energy management strategy concerns the prolongation of all-electric driving range as well as the energy saving performance. A simulation study is deployed to evaluate the control performance of the proposed energy management approach. All-electric range of the plug-in HEV can be prolonged by up to 2.86% for a certain driving condition. The energy saving performance is relative to the driving distance. The presented energy management strategy brings a little higher energy cost when driving distance is short, but for a long driving distance, it can reduce the energy consumption by up to 5.77% compared to the traditional CD-CS strategy.

1. Introduction

Circumstance pollution, energy crisis, and global warming aggravated by urban transportation have attracted remarkable attention recently, impelling the rapid development of alternative energy-based vehicles, among which the HEVs have been recognized as a promising type of vehicle due to their potential to enhance the energy economy and reduce exhausted emission [1]. The advantages of HEVs benefit from two onboard energy sources, gasoline and electricity, which enable the power demand to be split between the engine and onboard battery pack. According to the capacity of onboard battery pack and its capability to be recharged directly from power grid, HEVs can be further categorized into normal HEVs and plug-in HEVs. Unlike the traditional normal HEVs that can only be operated at a charge sustaining (CS) manner, plug-in HEVs can also be operated at charge

depleting (CD) manner thanks to the possession of onboard large capacity battery pack [2]. Plug-in HEVs can achieve better energy saving performance compared to normal HEVs, but the operation manners and power allocation become more complicated accordingly due to multiple operation manners.

Energy management strategy plays a significant role in the supervisory control of both normal HEVs and plug-in HEVs to reach the optimal power split policy [3–5]. The energy management problem can be normally formulated as an optimization problem, which is to minimize a cost function by determining the rational operation manner and optimal power allocation. To resolve this problem, several advance optimization algorithms have been employed [6–11], the most representative of which is dynamic programming (DP). For example, Zhang and Xiong [12] deployed DP-based adaptive energy management on different driving conditions,

incorporating a fuzzy driving condition recognition algorithm for plug-in HEVs. Pérez and Pilotta [13] implemented DP to resolve the energy management problem of HEVs on the finite time horizon and used the optimization results as a benchmark for other strategies' design and components sizing optimization. The implementation of DP relies on an *a priori* driving cycle. According to the driving cycle it uses, specific or random, DP algorithm can be further divided into two categories: deterministic DP and stochastic DP.

Although the deterministic DP is effective in reaching the global optimality, it can barely be used in real-time control because the specific driving cycle is unknown. A viable method for the deterministic DP to be utilized in the online application is to operate DP offline with some representative driving cycles first and then extract online control policy from the optimization results [14]. The drawback of this method is that the extraction process may lose optimality to some extent. But control performance of the control policy extracted from offline optimization has been recognized as better than that of intuition-based control algorithm [15]. Unlike deterministic DP, stochastic DP is to implement DP algorithm based on prediction of future driving condition, which is obtained by stochastic method using a discrete-time Markov chain [16, 17]. The potential of stochastic DP if useful information of driving cycle is available has been investigated in [18] by dividing the prediction into three levels. Stochastic DP can achieve a near-optimal control performance, and it is time-invariant and capable of being implemented online. Stochastic DP does not rely on a specific known driving cycle as requisite to implement, but it is sensitive to the real-world driving condition as well because the transition probabilities in Markov chain are based on certain collected driving cycles [19]; if the actual driving condition is obviously different from the collected driving data, stochastic DP algorithm cannot always guarantee the validity.

The method that extracts online control policy based on offline DP optimization is employed in this paper. Three contributions have been made. (1) The deterministic DP algorithm is implemented based on certain driving cycle and a limited driving distance. The presented DP algorithm-based optimal strategy is to determine the optimal control policy of power allocation between engine and battery pack in the CS operation manner. (2) An online energy management approach is proposed for the uncertain real-time control application with consideration of the prolongation of all-electric driving range. In this approach, the CD manner and CS manner are switched not only by battery state of charge (SoC) but also by the power request level at each time step. Power allocation in CS manner is determined by the control policy extracted from DP to guarantee the near-optimal energy saving performance. (3) The performance of the presented energy management approach is evaluated by a simulation study and compared to the traditional CD-CS strategy. The correlation between energy saving performance and driving distance is preliminarily disclosed.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: configuration of the studied plug-in HEV is introduced and modeled in Section 2; the formulation of energy management problem and dynamic programming algorithm and its

FIGURE 1: Configuration of the plug-in HEV power system.

implementation are described in Section 3. The online energy management strategy against uncertain driving condition is proposed in Section 4. Simulation results and analysis are shown in Section 5 while the conclusions are listed in Section 6.

2. System Model

Configuration of the powertrain in the studied plug-in HEV is shown in Figure 1. An electric motor is coupled through an automatic mechanical transmission (AMT) on the first axle. A lithium-ion battery pack is used as energy storage system (ESS) while the engine-generator set is used as auxiliary power unit (APU). Parameters of the main components are listed in Table 1.

Dynamics effects of the powertrain components are neglected because they are much faster than energy consumption variation and do not affect the power flow distribution [20]; thus, the power balance relationship is modeled as

$$P_{\text{ESS}}(t) + P_{\text{APU}}(t) = P_{\text{req}}(t), \quad (1)$$

where P_{ESS} , P_{APU} are output power from ESS and APU, respectively, and P_{req} is defined as the power request of driving electric motor, calculated as follows:

$$P_{\text{ESS}}(t) = \begin{cases} P_B(t) \eta_{\text{batt}}, & P_B \geq 0 \\ \frac{P_B(t)}{\eta_{\text{batt}}}, & P_B < 0, \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$P_{\text{APU}}(t) = P_E(t) \eta_A,$$

$$P_{\text{req}}(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{T_m(t) \omega_m(t)}{\eta_{\text{mot}}}, & T_m(t) \geq 0 \\ T_m(t) \omega_m(t) \eta_{\text{mot}}, & T_m(t) < 0, \end{cases}$$

where $P_B(t)$ is battery power, positive value represents discharging, negative value represents charging, $P_E(t)$ is engine power, T_m is the torque of electric motor, positive value

TABLE 1: Parameters of main components.

Components	Parameters	Value
Engine	Peak power (kW)	75
	Optimal point (kW@r·min ⁻¹)	30@2200
Electric motor	Peak power (kW)	155
	Maximum torque (Nm)	780
	Maximum speed (r/min)	5500
Battery	Capacity (Ah)	85
	Rated voltage (V)	380

represents driving, negative value represents braking, ω_m is the rotate speed of electric motor, and $\eta_{\text{batt}}(t)$, $\eta_A(t)$, and $\eta_{\text{mot}}(t)$ are the efficiency of battery pack, APU, and electric motor, respectively.

2.1. Battery Model. Battery pack is modeled by an equivalent circuit analogy. The impact of temperature variation is neglected in this study; then the battery terminal voltage is

$$V_{\text{batt}}(t) = V_{\text{oc}}(\text{SoC}(t)) - R_0(\text{SoC}(t)) \cdot I_{\text{batt}}(t), \quad (3)$$

where V_{oc} and R_0 are the open circuit voltage and internal resistance.

The Ampere-hour counting approach is adopted to calculate SoC:

$$\text{SoC}(t) = \text{SoC}(t_0) - \frac{1}{Q_{\text{nom}}} \int_{t_0}^t I_{\text{batt}}(t) dt, \quad (4)$$

where Q_{nom} is the nominal capacity of battery.

2.2. Engine-Generator Model. The electric generator driven through a speed-increase gearbox by the engine is connected with the DC bus by an uncontrolled rectifier. The equivalent electric circuit diagram of electric generator and rectifier is shown in Figure 2, while Figure 3 gives the efficiency map of the engine. Based on the equivalent circuit, the relationship among the engine-generator output current, the DC bus voltage, the torque, and the speed of the electric generator can be obtained as

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_g(t) &= \frac{U_{\text{dc}}(t)}{K_e - I_A(t) K_x}, \\ T_g(t) &= K_e I_A(t) - K_x I_A(t)^2, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where $T_g(t)$ and $\omega_g(t)$ are the output torque and speed of the electric generator, respectively, $I_A(t)$ is the current of DC bus, K_e is the equivalent electromotive force coefficient, K_x is the equivalent resistance coefficient, and $U_{\text{dc}}(t)$ is the DC bus voltage.

According to the electric generator torque and the target engine speed, the engine torque is dynamically adjusted by the engine controller. The relationship between the engine torque T_e and the electric generator torque T_g is

$$T_e(t) = \frac{1}{i_z \eta_z} \left(T_g - \left(\frac{J_e}{i_z^2} + J_g \right) \frac{d\omega_g(t)}{dt} \right), \quad (6)$$

FIGURE 2: Equivalent circuit of generator and rectifier.

FIGURE 3: The universal characteristics curve of engine.

where J_e is engine rotational inertia, J_g is the electric generator rotational inertia, and i_z and η_z are the speed-increase gearbox transmission ratio and mechanical efficiency.

2.3. Electric Motor Model. The electric motor is modeled by using the steady-state experimental data with a dynamic correction. Figure 4 gives the external characteristic and efficiency map of the adopted electric motor. The torque of electric motor is determined by the driver operation, as shown in (7), in which the dynamic response process is equivalent to a first-order delay:

$$T_m(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{1 + \tau s} T_{m.\text{max}}(\omega_m(t)) (\lambda_d^* - \varepsilon u), & \lambda_d^* \geq 0 \\ \frac{1}{1 + \tau s} T_{m.\text{min}}(\omega_m(t)) \lambda_d^*, & \lambda_d^* < 0, \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

where τ is the time constant of torque dynamic response, λ_d^* is the operation signal of driver pedals, positive value represents driving pedal, negative value represents braking pedal, $T_{m.\text{max}}$ and $T_{m.\text{min}}$ are the upper and lower limit of motor torque under the current motor speed, u is the vehicle velocity, and ε is a small positive constant, used as a velocity feedback gain to improve the control stability.

2.4. Vehicle Model. Since the electric motor is mechanically connected to the wheel, the motor rotate speed $\omega_m(t)$ can be

FIGURE 4: Efficiency map of electric motor.

calculated from the vehicle speed. For the energy management problem, the yawing force is neglected, and then the longitudinal dynamics is

$$u(t) = \frac{1}{\delta m} \int_{t_0}^t \left(\frac{T_m(t) i_T \eta_{\text{mot}}}{r_w} - mg\psi - \frac{1}{2} C_d \rho_a A u(t)^2 \right) dt, \quad (8)$$

where m is vehicle mass, δ is correction coefficient of rotating mass, g is gravitational acceleration, C_d , ρ_a , and A are coefficient of air resistance, air density, and vehicle frontal area, respectively, ψ is coefficient of road resistance, i_T is transmission ratio, and r_w is the radius of wheel.

The values of coefficients in models are shown in Table 2.

3. Optimization Algorithm

3.1. Formulation of Optimal Energy Management Problem.

The purpose of DP algorithm here is to obtain the optimal power allocation between battery pack and engine in CS manner. As mentioned above, plug-in HEVs can be operated both in CD manner and in CS manner. The engine turns off in CD manner and battery pack is used to supply power to electric motor single-handedly so as to achieve a clean and economically driving manner. Obviously, optimization process does not work at this situation because only electricity is consumed. When CS manner is adopted, power demand is split between engine and battery; this is where DP algorithm comes in to play; the optimization objective is denoted as the summation of energy cost from two energy sources:

$$J(u) = m_{\text{equ}} = \int_{t_0}^{t_f} (\dot{m}_f(t) + \dot{m}_{\text{batt}}(t)) dt, \quad (9)$$

where $\dot{m}_f$ and $\dot{m}_{\text{batt}}$ are the fuel and electricity consumption, respectively, t_0 represents the time moment that the vehicle switches to CS manner, and t_f is the terminal time of CS manner.

TABLE 2: The values of coefficients in models.

The coefficients	Value or range
λ_d	$[-1, 1]$
ε	0.002
i_z	2
K_e	1.65
K_x	0.00037
τ	0.46
C_d	0.3
A (m ²)	2.2
ψ	0.018

Considering the battery will be unsafe when SoC is quite low, a penalty function is introduced into the “cost function,” described as

$$J(u) = m_{\text{equ}} = \int_{t_0}^{t_f} (\dot{m}_f(t) + \dot{m}_{\text{batt}}(t)) dt + \sigma(\text{SoC}), \quad (10)$$

where $\sigma(\text{SoC})$ is a penalty value when SoC is quite low.

The energy cost rate of oil and electricity can be calculated by

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{m}_f(t) &= f_E(\omega_{\text{opt}}(P_E(t)), P_E(t)) \cdot P_E(t), \\ \dot{m}_{\text{batt}}(t) &= Q_{\text{equ}} \cdot P_B(t), \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where $f_E()$ is the look-up table function from engine efficiency map, ω_{opt} is rotate speed of engine corresponding to optimal efficiency, and Q_{equ} is the equivalent factor to transform the electric energy to fuel consumption.

The control variable is set as $u = [P_E, P_B]^T$; thus, the optimal control problem can be described as to find an optimal control policy u^* to minimize the cost function:

$$J(u^*) \leq J(u) \quad \forall u \in U. \quad (12)$$

To ensure the optimal control policy obtained by DP belongs to feasible solutions, the control variables are subject to some constraints.

3.1.1. Inequality Constraints. Inequality constraints define the power limitations for the operation characteristics of components in power system, described as

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq P_E \leq P_{E,\text{max}}, \\ P_{B,\text{min}} &\leq P_B \leq P_{B,\text{max}}, \\ \text{SoC}_{\text{min}} &\leq \text{SoC} \leq \text{SoC}_{\text{max}}, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where $P_{E,\text{max}}$ is upper limit of engine power, $P_{\text{batt},\text{min}}$ and $P_{\text{batt},\text{max}}$ are upper limit and lower limit of battery power, respectively, and SoC_{min} and SoC_{max} are the upper limit and lower limit of battery SoC, respectively.

3.1.2. Equality Constraints. The engine power and battery power are subject to the equality constraint described in (1).

The power request and battery SoC are used to represent system state, denoted as $x = [P_{\text{req}}, \text{SoC}]^T$; the equality constraint of initial system state is

$$x(t_0) = x_0, \quad (14)$$

where x_0 is the initial system state when CS manner is switched on.

The system state is uncertain at terminal due to the existence of CD manner. Therefore, the equality constraint of terminal should be eliminated for plug-in HEVs. However, in order to implement the DP algorithm, an equality constraint is put on the terminal state, described as

$$x(t_f) = x_f, \quad (15)$$

where x_f is the system state at the end of CS manner.

3.2. Dynamic Programming. A deterministic DP algorithm is employed to resolve the optimization problem formulated above. DP is a discrete-time global optimal algorithm based on a property that no matter what the previous decisions constitute, the remaining decisions should be an optimal policy. Firstly the previous control problem is rewritten in a discrete-time form for DP application, as shown in Figure 5. At each time step k ($k = n-1, n-2, \dots, 0$), the function J when moving from the time step k to the end of the optimization horizon is calculated.

The optimization principle is applied from the end step; when $k = n$, there is $J_n(x) = \varphi(x_n)$. Then for each step,

$$J_k(x) = J_{k+1}(x) + \min_{u_k \in U} (L(x_k, u_k, t)). \quad (16)$$

Starting from the end step to first step, the total cost can be deduced as

$$J_0(\pi) = \varphi(x_n) + \sum_0^{n-1} L(x_k, u_k, t), \quad (17)$$

where $\pi = [u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{n-1}]$ is the discrete control policy.

After the DP operates from the end step to the start point, the optimal control policy π^* can be determined. Since engine power and battery power are subject to an equality constraint, engine power P_E is chosen as the control variable of DP to be discretized at each iterative step, as shown in Figure 3. The terminal state variable is set in advance and then, at each step, SoC_k can be deduced by SoC_{k+1} with the control policy $P_E(k)$:

$$\text{SoC}(k) = \text{SoC}(k+1) + \frac{(P_{\text{req}}(k) - P_E(k)) \Delta t}{\eta_{\text{batt}} Q_{\text{nom}}}. \quad (18)$$

3.3. Implementation of Optimization Algorithm. Two driving cycles (HWFET and IM240, as shown in Figure 6) are used to implement DP algorithm to resolve the previous optimization problem. As the power allocation is quite clear in CD manner, DP is only employed to obtain the optimal power allocation in CS manner, in which the battery and engine output power together meet the power demand.

FIGURE 5: Discrete-time state for DP algorithm.

FIGURE 6: Driving cycles for DP implementation.

Figure 7 shows the optimization results of power allocation in two driving cycles. Although DP cannot be directly used in real-time control, it can provide some useful information about the rational power allocation. Two thresholds χ_1 and χ_2 are defined as engine power control instructions with the analysis of DP optimization results, described as follows:

- (1) It can be concluded that the engine is turned off by DP when the power request from engine is low. Thereby, χ_1 is chosen as the threshold to determine the lower limit of the engine output power (here, χ_1 is assigned as 30 kW).
- (2) Similarly, χ_2 is defined as a threshold corresponding to the upper limits of engine output power in Figures 7(a) and 7(c) (here, χ_2 is assigned as 42 kW). When power request exceeds this threshold, the rest of power demand is provided by the battery.

4. Online Energy Management Strategy

Based on the optimization results of power allocation by DP, some specific control rules will be extracted and further form the online energy management strategy in this section. As mentioned above, the operation manner of plug-in HEVs is

FIGURE 7: Optimization results of DP algorithm from two driving conditions. (a) Engine power in HWFET. (b) Battery power in HWFET. (c) Engine power in IM240. (d) Battery power in IM240.

divided into CD and CS manner. The driving range covered by CD manner is zero emissions, referred to as all-electric range (AER). In existing research results, the most common used online energy management approach is CD-CS strategy [21], which utilizes the CD manner at first and switches to CS manner when a long driving distance is required; the boundary between CD and CS manner is usually controlled according to the threshold of battery SoC. The shortage of CD-CS strategy is that the control policies are independent with power request of driving condition. For example, if the front part of the route has a quite high power request, according to the CD-CS strategy, vehicle will operate at CD manner at first and the electricity will be consumed at a rapid speed, resulting in a very short AER. In this paper, prolongation of AER is considered as a control objective of the online energy management.

The presented energy management strategy contains two layers: the top layer is to determine the operation manner and the bottom layer concerns the specific power allocation based on DP. Figure 8 shows operation manner control policy in the top layer. Unlike the traditional CD-CS strategy that uses a clear boundary to divide the entire trip into CD and CS stages, here CD manner and CS manner are fused together with each other during vehicle utilization. Besides battery SoC, the power request level at each time is a reference of operation manner control as well. The specific control rules in the top layer can be further described as follows:

Critical Condition 1: High Power Request. When P_{req} exceeds a threshold P_M , no matter how high the battery SoC is, the vehicle operation is switched to CS manner, denoted as $CS^{(P)}$, representing the fact that this CS manner is triggered by power request. The engine output power, according to DP, electricity will continue being consumed in this manner due to the high P_{req} , but the rate of electricity consumption is reduced.

FIGURE 8: Schematic diagram of online operation manner control strategy. (a) Power request. (b) Operation manner: CD or CS. (c) Battery SoC.

Critical Condition 2: Low SoC. CS manner is adopted when SoC reaches the threshold SoC_{Low} , denoted as $CS^{(B)}$, representing the fact that this CS manner is triggered by battery SoC. Different from $CS^{(P)}$, in this manner, electricity is not utilized to supply the power request any longer.

FIGURE 9: The adopted driving cycles in simulation study. (a), (b) Speed profile and power request, respectively, in cycle 1. (c), (d) Speed profile and power request, respectively, in cycle 2. (e), (f) Speed profile and power request, respectively, in cycle 3.

Critical Condition 3: Low Power Request and High SoC.
The vehicle is operated at CD manner when P_{req} is below P_M and battery SoC is higher than SoC_{Low} .

In control algorithm of bottom layer, power allocation is based on the optimization result from DP. Two thresholds are used to divide the engine power into three parts according to power request. To achieve the minimum of cost function, DP turns engine off when the power request is low. This control policy reduces the energy consumption but increases the start-stop times of engine. Consequently, the power allocation is modified when power request is low. The power allocation control policy in bottom layer is described as

if $P_{\text{req}}(t) > P_M$ and $\text{SoC} \geq \text{SoC}_{\text{Low}}$, calculate:

$$P_E(t) = \begin{cases} \chi_2 & \text{if } P_{\text{req}}(t) > \chi_2 \\ P_{\text{req}}(t) & \text{if } \chi_1 < P_{\text{req}}(t) \leq \chi_2 \\ \chi_1 & \text{if } P_{\text{req}}(t) \leq \chi_1 \end{cases}$$

else if $\text{SoC} < \text{SoC}_{\text{Low}}$, calculate:

$$P_E(t) = \begin{cases} \min \{P_{E_{\text{max}}}, P_{\text{req}}(t)\} & \text{if } P_{\text{req}}(t) > \chi_1 \\ \chi_1 & \text{if } P_{\text{req}}(t) \leq \chi_1 \end{cases}$$

else

$$P_E(t) = 0,$$

(19)

where $P_{E_{\text{max}}}$ is the maximum of engine power and χ_1 and χ_2 are two thresholds of engine power which are predetermined by DP.

5. Simulation Results and Discussion

The presented energy management approach is evaluated by a simulation study in this section. Three driving cycles are used as simulation conditions. The speed profiles and power requests of the adopted driving cycles are shown in Figure 9.

FIGURE 10: Simulation results of power allocation. (a), (b) Engine power and battery power, respectively, in presented strategy. (c), (d) Engine power and battery power, respectively, in CD-CS strategy.

To better analyze and assess the effectiveness of the presented online energy management approach, the traditional CD-CS strategy is adopted as a benchmark.

The simulation is repeated through the driving cycle until the driving distance exceeds 60 km to make sure that the CS manner could be reached. Results of power allocation of two strategies in the three driving cycles are given in Figures 10–12, respectively. The length of all-electric range is defined as the summation of driving distance covered by CD manner. The engine power indicates the distribution of CD manner in both strategies. In the presented energy management strategy, the CD manner and the $CS^{(P)}$ manner are interlaced while the boundary of CD manner and CS manner is quite clear in CD-CS strategy. This control performance will refrain the battery from the overquick electricity consumption rate when the battery SoC is high. At the last part of simulation, the engine power is enhanced and battery no longer outputs power because the electricity in battery is exhausted and the $CS^{(B)}$ manner is switched on. From the simulation result of battery power, it is clear that the electricity consumption rate in the presented strategy is lower than that in CD-CS

TABLE 3: The AER results in three cycles.

Cycles	The presented strategy	CD-CS strategy	Prolongation
1	45.76 km	44.61 km	2.58%
2	64.65 km	62.85 km	2.86%
3	65.16 km	64.03 km	1.76%

strategy at most situations and most of the transient large power discharge situations in CD-CS strategy are eliminated in the presented strategy. The lower battery power can result in a more healthy battery working condition and a probably longer AER. The lengths of AER with two strategies have been recorded in three simulation driving cycles, described in Table 3. Compared to traditional CD-CS strategy, the presented strategy can prolong the ARE by up to 2.86% at certain driving condition.

To assess the energy saving performance of the presented strategy with uncertain driving distance, the comparison of energy cost between presented strategy and traditional

FIGURE 11: Simulation results of power allocation. (a), (b) Engine power and battery power, respectively, in presented strategy. (c), (d) Engine power and battery power, respectively, in CD-CS strategy.

CD-CS strategy is calculated at 20 km, 40 km, and 60 km, respectively. The comparison results in three driving cycles are given in Figure 13. Apparently, the performance of energy saving in the presented strategy is relative to the driving distance. When the trip is quite short, the traditional CD-CS strategy has an obvious advantage. When driving distance is 40 km, energy cost with the presented strategy is lower than that with traditional CD-CS strategy by 5.77% in driving cycle 1. When the driving distance reaches 60 km, the reduction of energy consumption compared to CD-CS strategy is 4.28%, 4.67%, and 4.06%, respectively, in three driving cycles. This result indicates that the presented strategy can achieve a better energy economy when driving distance is quite long, but for a short distance trip, the traditional CD-CS strategy still owns its advantage in terms of energy saving performance.

6. Conclusions

A novel DP-based online energy management approach is proposed for the plug-in HEVs in this paper. The presented approach utilizes control policy extracted from optimization

results of DP to reduce the energy consumption. Both the power request and the battery SoC are used to control the operation manners for the prolongation of AER. Three driving cycles are employed to evaluate the presented strategy. Simulation results indicate that the AER in the presented approach can be extended by up to 2.86% compared to CD-CS strategy. The comparison result of energy saving performance between the presented strategy and traditional CD-CS strategy is related to the driving distance. For some certain driving conditions, the reduction of energy consumption can be up to 5.77%.

Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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FIGURE 12: Simulation results of power allocation. (a), (b) Engine power and battery power, respectively, in presented strategy. (c), (d) Engine power and battery power, respectively, in CD-CS strategy.

FIGURE 13: Comparison of energy consumption at different driving distances in three driving cycles. (a) Driving cycle 1; (b) driving cycle 2; (c) driving cycle 3.

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