

# Hydrogen-Rail (hydrail) Development

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H2@Rail Workshop, Lansing, MI

March 27, 2019

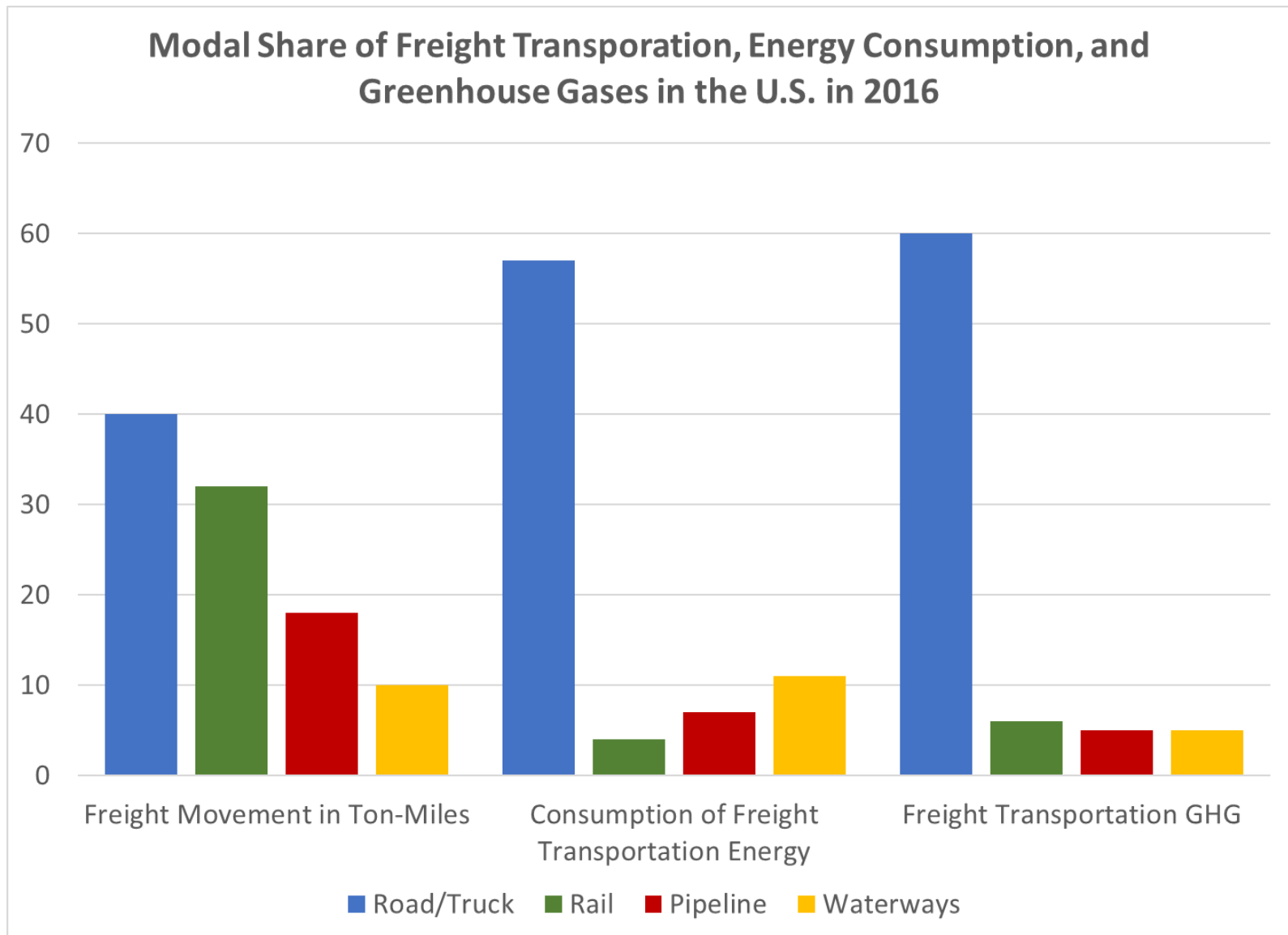
WHO WILL MAKE  
BUSINESS HAPPEN?  
**SPARTANS WILL.**

# Contents

- Current rail energy consumption and emissions
- Hybrids
- Primary power plant efficiencies
- Hydrail development
- Past and on-going research



# Current Rail Energy Efficiency and GHG



DOT (2018), ORNL (2018)



# Regulated Exhaust Emissions

- The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has regulated the exhaust emissions from locomotives
- Four different tiers, depending on construction year of locomotive
- Increasingly stringent emission reduction requirements
- Tier 5 is now in discussion (see next slide)
- Achieving Tier 4 was already very challenging for manufacturers

	Duty-Cycle <sup>b</sup>	Tier	Year <sup>c</sup>	HC <sup>i</sup> (g/hp-hr)	NO <sub>x</sub> (g/bhp-hr)	PM (g/bhp-hr)	CO (g/bhp-hr)	Smoke (percentage) <sup>m</sup>	Minimum Useful Life (hours / years / miles) <sup>n</sup>	Warranty Period (hours / years / miles) <sup>n</sup>
Federal <sup>a</sup>	Line-haul	Tier 0	1973- 1992 <sup>d,e</sup>	1.00	9.5 [ABT]	0.22 [ABT]	5.0	30 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / 750,000 <sup>o</sup>	1/3 * Useful Life
		Tier 1	1993- 2004 <sup>d,e</sup>	0.55	7.4 [ABT]	0.22 [ABT]	2.2	25 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / 750,000 <sup>o</sup> (7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 2	2005- 2011 <sup>d</sup>	0.30	5.5 [ABT]	0.10 <sup>k</sup> [ABT]	1.5	20 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 3	2012- 2014 <sup>f</sup>	0.30	5.5 [ABT]	0.10 [ABT]	1.5	20 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 4	2015+ <sup>g</sup>	0.14	1.3 [ABT]	0.03 [ABT]	1.5	-	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
	Switch	Tier 0	1973- 2001	2.10	11.8 [ABT]	0.26 [ABT]	8.0	30 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / 750,000 <sup>o</sup>	
		Tier 1	2002- 2004 <sup>h</sup>	1.20	11.0 [ABT]	0.26 [ABT]	2.5	25 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 2	2005- 2010 <sup>h</sup>	0.60	8.1 [ABT]	0.13 <sup>l</sup> [ABT]	2.4	20 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 3	2011- 2014	0.60	5.0 [ABT]	0.10 [ABT]	2.4	20 / 40 / 50	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	
		Tier 4	2015+	0.14 <sup>j</sup>	1.3 <sup>j</sup> [ABT]	0.03 [ABT]	2.4	-	(7.5 x hp) / 10 / -	

(EPA, 2016)



Center for Railway  
Research and Education  
Broad College of Business  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

# Proposed Tier 5 Emission Regulation

- California proposed rail emission regulation to be adopted at the federal level

## Potential Amended Emission Standards for Newly Manufactured Locomotives and Locomotive Engines

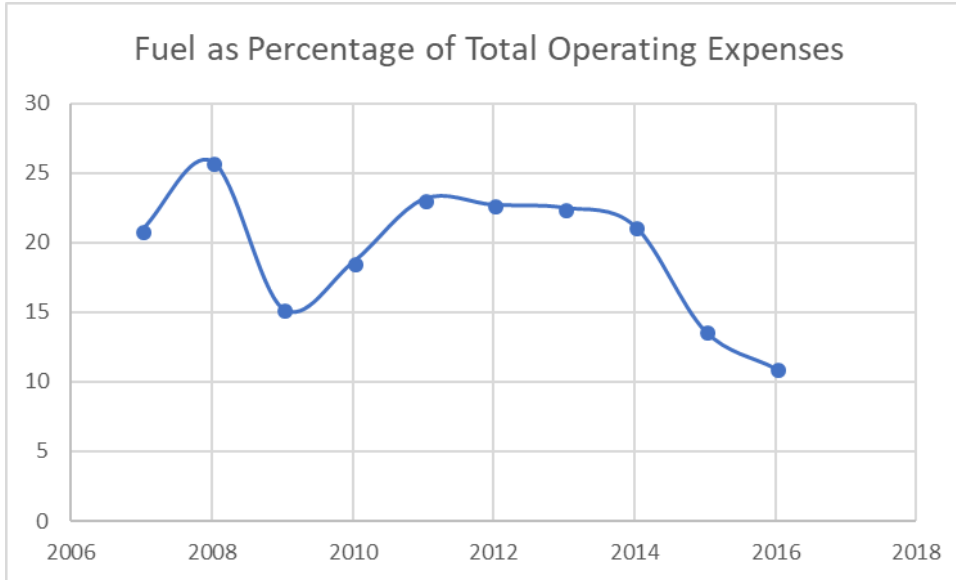
Tier Level	Proposed Year of Manufacture	NOx		PM		GHG		HC		Proposed Effective Date
		Standard (g/bhp-hr) <sup>1</sup>	Percent Control <sup>2</sup>	Standard (g/bhp-hr) <sup>1</sup>	Percent Control <sup>2</sup>	Standard (g/bhp-hr) <sup>1</sup>	Percent Control <sup>1</sup>	Standard (g/bhp-hr)	Percent Control <sup>2</sup>	
5	2025	0.2	99+	<0.01	99	NA	10-25%	0.02	98	2025
With capability for zero-emission operation in designated areas.										

- ARB, Technology Assessment: Freight Locomotives, 2016.<sup>3</sup>
- Compared with uncontrolled baseline, reflects percent control over line haul baseline for illustrative purposes; ARB staff assumed older pre-Tier 0 line haul and switch locomotives would be able to emit up to the Tier 0 PM emission standards, based on American Association of Railroads in-use emission testing (required to comply with U.S. EPA in-use emission testing requirements) for older switch locomotives with EMD 645 engines.

(California Air Resources Board, 2017)



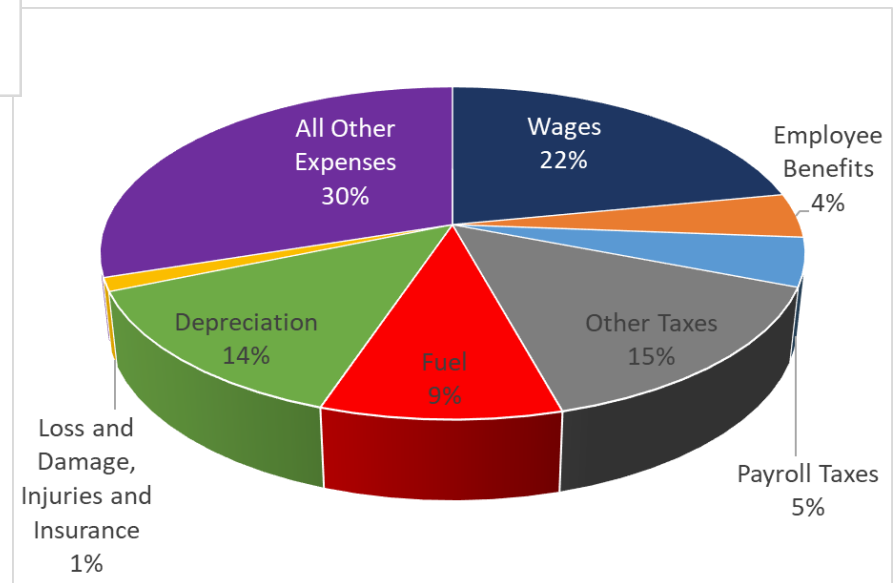
# Class I Railroad Fuel Cost



(AAR, 2017)

- Interest from railways in alternatives high when diesel cost high, interest low when diesel cost low
- When diesel cost are high, often fuel surcharges introduced to shippers
- Average railroad diesel price for the last 10 years ~US\$2.50 per gallon

2016

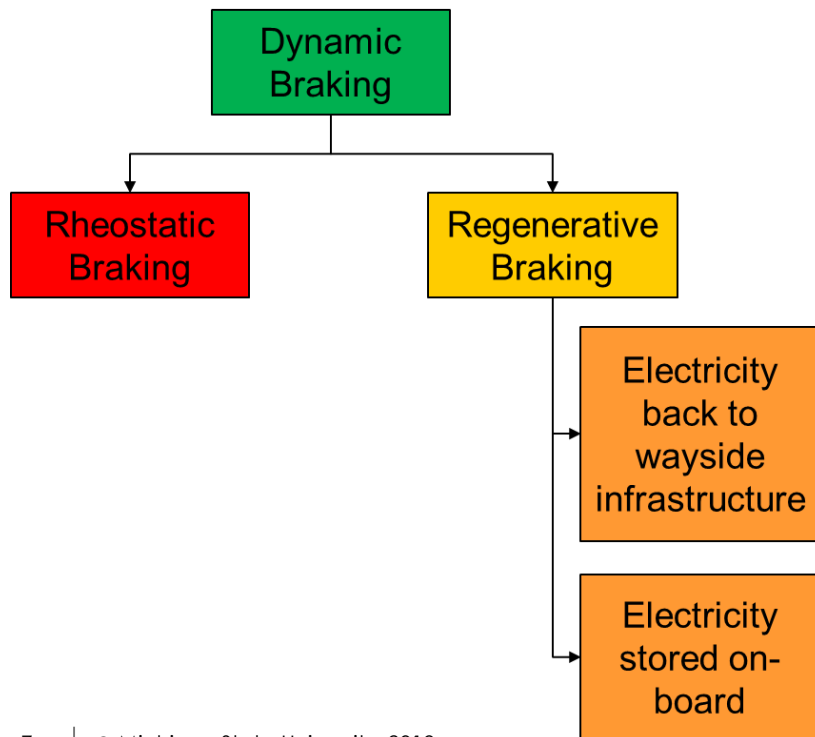


(AAR, 2017)



# Dynamic Braking

- Traction motors are used as generators
- Generated electricity is:
  - Converted to heat in resistors, called rheostatic braking
  - Fed back into wayside infrastructure or stored on-board of train, called regenerative braking
- Reduces brake shoe/pad wear, e.g., replacement every 18 month rather than every 18 days (UK commuter train example)
- Can reduce energy consumption. Typically ~30% in a regional train service

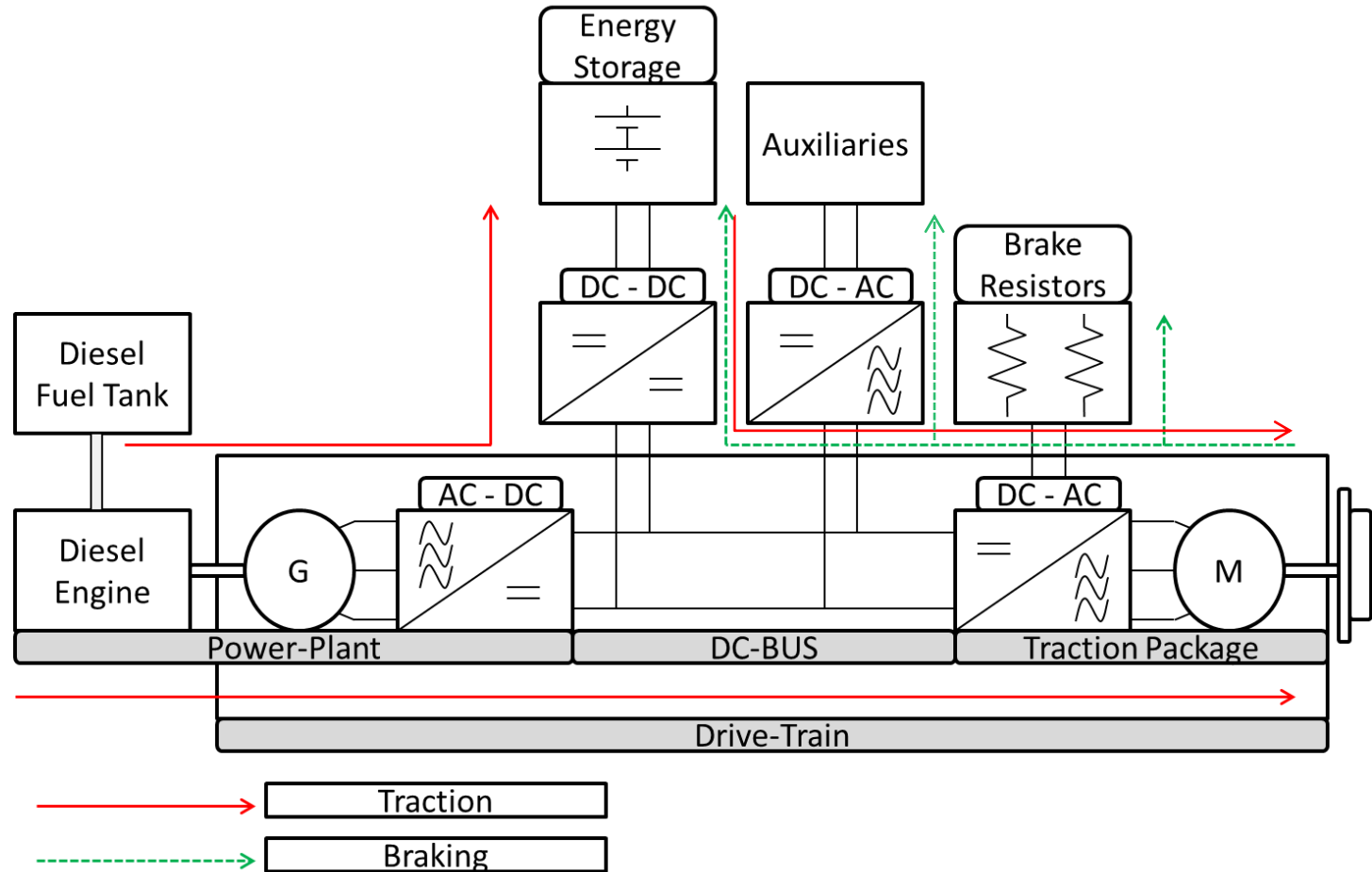


RailPictures.Net - Image Copyright © James Belmont

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# Energy Storage Hybrid Drive Train



Prime Mover can be:

- Internal Combustion Engine
- Gas Turbine
- Electricity from Infrastructure
- Fuel Cell

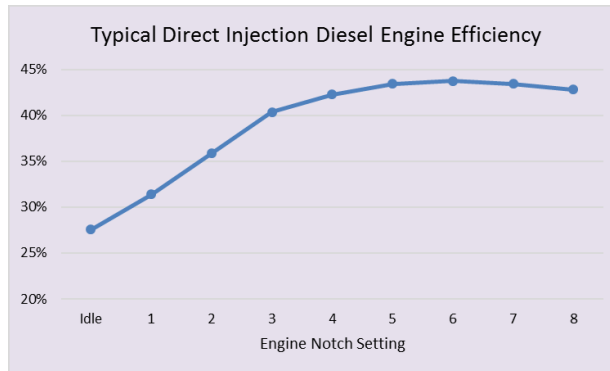
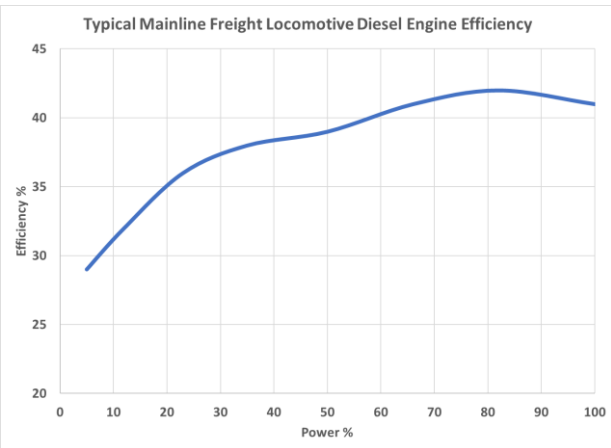
On-Board Energy Storage System (OESS) can be:

- Battery
- Fly Wheel
- Super capacitor

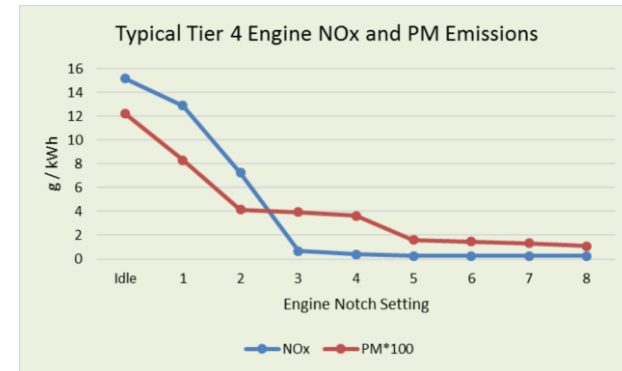




# Typical Rail Diesel Engine Efficiency



Bloedt (2019)



Bloedt (2019)

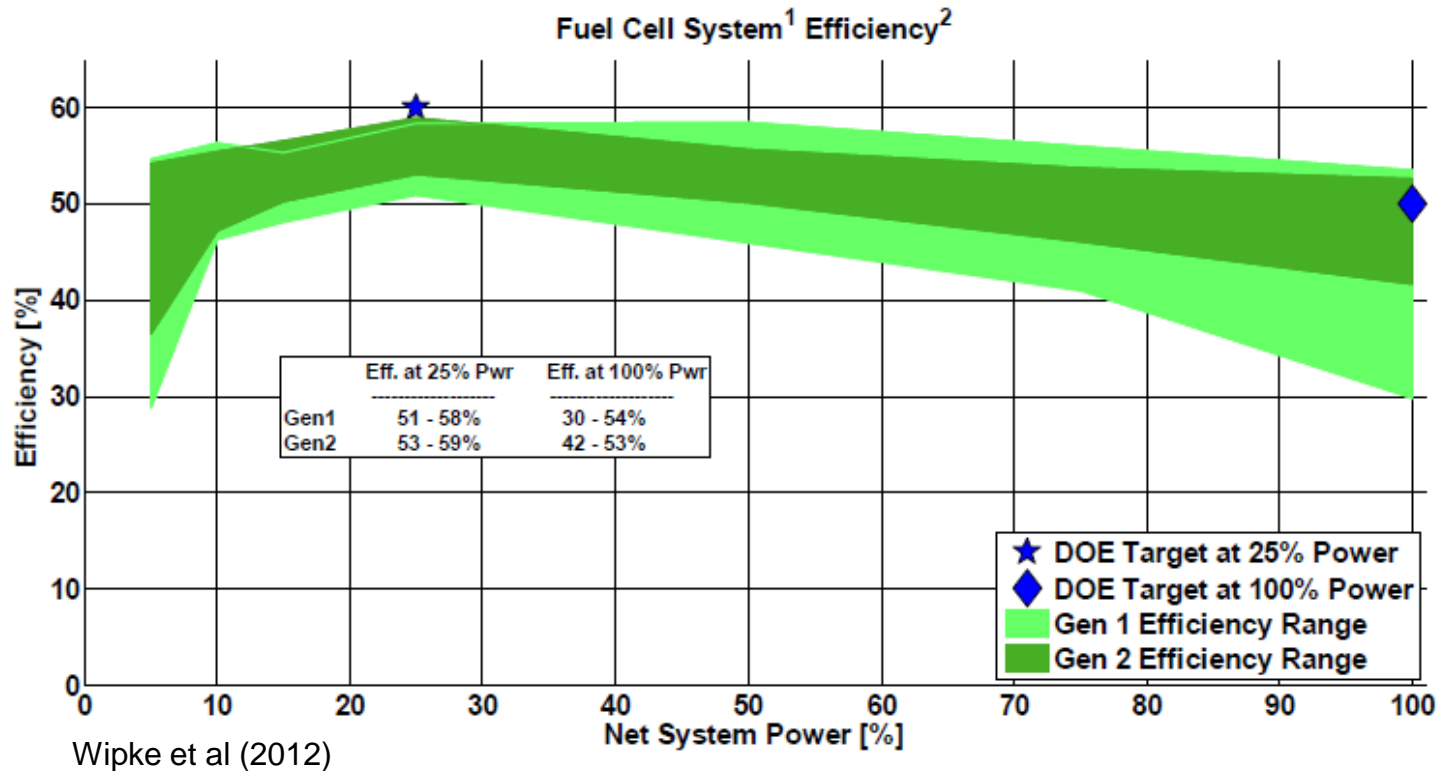
Simpson (2018)

- Typical mainline locomotive duty-cycle diesel engine efficiency is 30%-34% (3.3MW diesel engine)
- Other drive system components have to be considered as well, including traction motors, gears, etc.
- Typical intercity passenger locomotive duty-cycle powertrain efficiency ~22%-25%
- Head-end power for passenger services is significant, particularly for regional trains, light rail, and streetcars
  - Can be 40%-60% of total energy demand
- Emissions for Tier 4 locomotive engines are lower at higher notch settings (i.e., power output)



# Typical Fuel Cell System Efficiency

- Duty-Cycle primary powertrain (tank to wheel) system efficiency of ~45% and higher possible (~twice the efficiency of diesel-electric)
- Further efficiency increase / fuel reduction possible, if regenerative braking considered (hybrid)

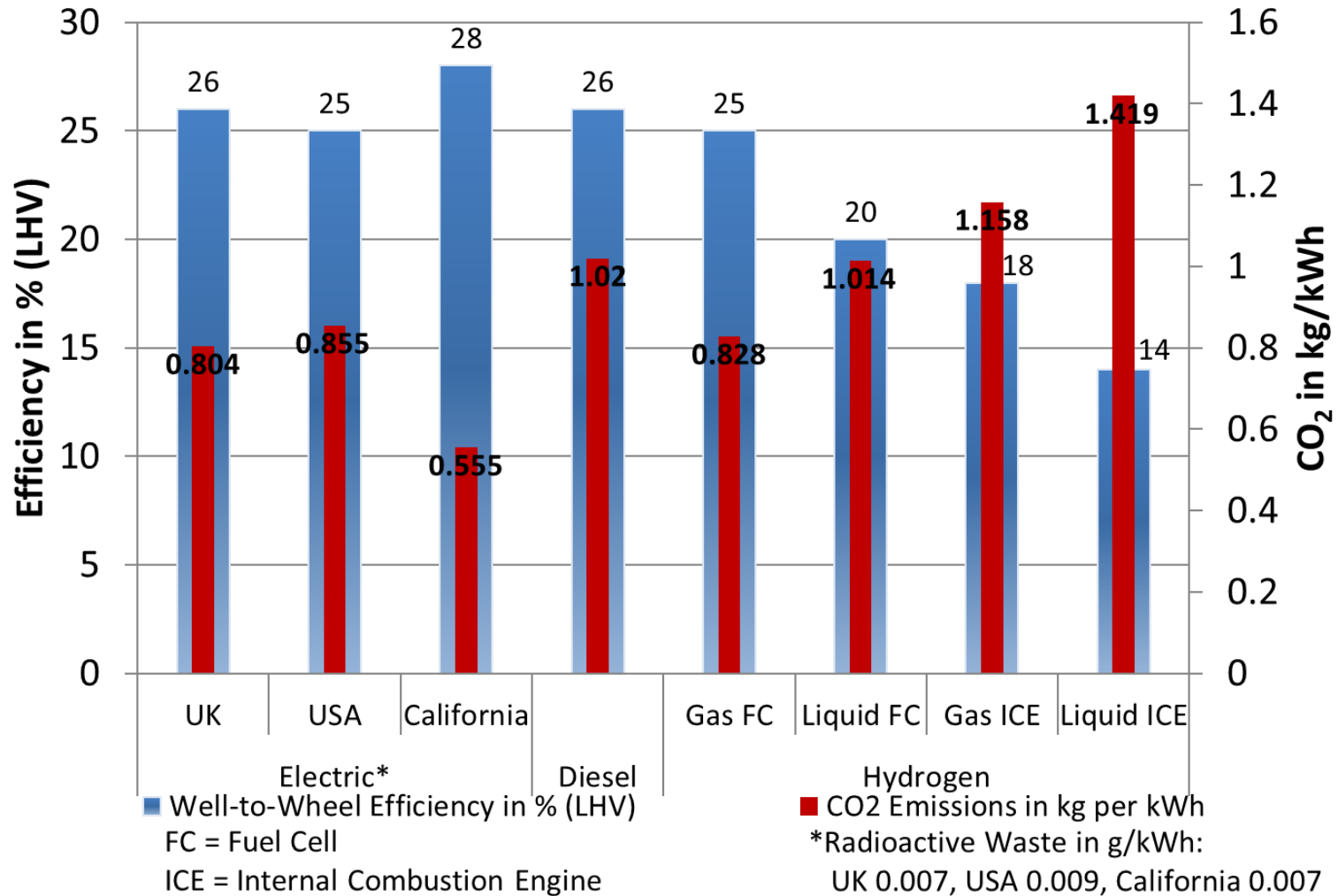


Fuel Cell Efficiency at ¼ Power	60%	57% (average)	--	53% – 59%	51% – 58%
Fuel Cell Efficiency at Full Power		43% (average)	--	42% – 53%	30% – 54%

Kurtz et al (2016)



# Railway Traction Well-to-Wheel Analysis 2008



All hydrogen produced from natural gas through steam-methane reforming  
 Hoffrichter (2012, 2013)



# First Hydrail Locomotive

- First hydrail locomotive, demonstrated in 2002
  - Developed and designed in the U.S. (company later called Vehicle Projects Inc)
  - Mining locomotive
  - Proof-of-concept
  - Non-hybrid
  - PEM fuel cell
  - Metal-hydride storage
  - Replaced battery-powered version due to performance (higher power, longer range, faster refueling)
- Subsequently five mining locomotives for commercial operation in South Africa in 2012
- International hydrail conference series started in 2005
  - Dedicated to connect global experts
  - Raise awareness of technology
  - Created the term 'hydrail' to find developments regarding the technology easily



Source: Vehicle Projects Inc



Source: Vehicle Projects Inc



# Passenger Hydrail Development Examples

- JR East railcar trialed in 2006/2007
  - 1 railcar
  - 130 kW Fuel Cell System
  - 350 bar H2 storage
  - 19 kWh battery
  - 100 km/h max. speed
- RTRI railcars, trialed in 2007/2008
  - 2 railcars
  - 120 kW Fuel Cell System
  - 350 bar H2 storage, 18kg H2
  - 36 kWh battery



# Other Developments

- Vehicle Projects, BNSF, Army
  - Switch locomotive in 2009
  - 350 bar H<sub>2</sub> storage, 68kg H<sub>2</sub>
  - 250 kW fuel cells
  - 1250 kW battery, lead-acid
- University of Birmingham
  - 1/5<sup>th</sup> scale locomotive in 2012
  - 1.1 kW fuel cell
  - 4.3 kWh batteries
  - 4.4 kW motors
  - Overall design suitable for full-scale vehicle



# Current Developments

- Alstom Coradia iLINT (France/Germany)
- TIG/m streetcars (USA)
  - Plug Power fuel cell system



Photos: Brad Read, TIG/m. TRB Annual Meeting.

- CRRE streetcars/trams (China)
- Other manufactures are developing offerings
  - Siemens
  - Stadler
  - JR East / Toyota
- Projects
  - 3 in the UK, France, Poland, et al
- Canada
  - Some railroads have to pay charges due to higher emissions than allowable to achieve air quality standards in urban areas
  - Incentive of full tax write-off in the year that zero-emission vehicle placed in service



# Past Research

- Regional train, several projects
- Mainline freight in Europe
- Well-to-wheel analysis
- Prototype development, design, and construction
- Prototype instrumentation





# Current Research

- MSU CRRE involved in several projects with sponsors
  - Freight switcher
  - Regional passenger
  - Intercity type passenger
- Graduate and PhD research\*
  - Heavy commuter
  - Regional passenger
  - Mainline freight

Several PhD projects. Many in collaboration with other institutions, including:

- University of California at Davis, Raphael Isaac
- University of British Columbia, Mohamed Hegazi
- University of Warwick, Michael Abbott, Athanasios Iraklis



# California: Capitol Corridor

- Route
  - Roseville to San Jose, roundtrip
  - ~500km per roundtrip
  - 2 round trips a day
- Based on locomotive-hauled train with double deck coaches
  - 3 coaches
  - 1 café car
  - 1 cab car
  - Train mass ~ 467t
  - Speed limited by route at max. 79mph
- 3.3 MW locomotive, primarily based on Siemens Charger
  - Diesel-electric (Benchmark)
  - Diesel-hybrid
  - Hydrogen fuel cell (non-hybrid)
  - Hydrogen fuel cell hybrid



Source: Wiki Commons, Jerry Huddleston



Source: Wiki Commons, Pi.1415926535



# Results

- Energy consumption reduction
  - Diesel-hybrid ~12%
  - H<sub>2</sub> fuel cell ~28%
  - H<sub>2</sub> hybrid ~38%
- High-level analysis
  - All equipment for hydrogen only and hydrogen-hybrid would fit (compressed H<sub>2</sub> gas storage)
  - Daily refueling possible
  - Similar journey times
  - Hydrogen-only locomotive has ~23% mass reduction, ballast might be needed
  - Hydrogen-hybrid locomotive has ~20% mass reduction, ballast might be needed
  - Locomotive would be taller than Charger but same as current coaches on the route



# Conclusions

- Hydrail development since 2002
- Several successful proof-of-concept trials
- Commercial vehicles available for some services
- Technology suitable for many railway services
  - Demonstrator trains needed
  - Government funding needed
- MSU CRRE has expertise to assist with:
  - Techno-economic feasibility studies
  - Development



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