

# ***The Electrification of the Automobile and Opportunities It Presents for Your Engineering Career***

**BYU-I ASME student chapter forum**

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[www.inl.gov](http://www.inl.gov)



# Personal Background

- BSME from BYU (Provo), 2001
- Numerous internships before and during undergraduate program
- Ford Motor Company 2001 – 2007
  - Powertrain Product Development



## *Living the dream*

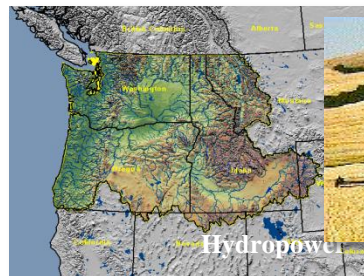
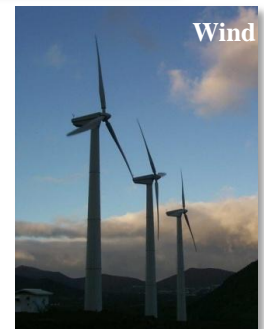
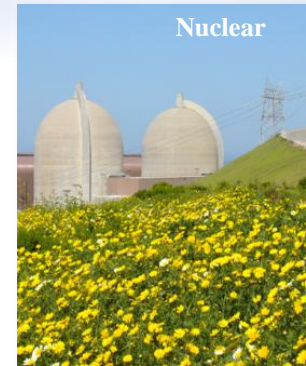


- Idaho National Laboratory 2007 – present
  - Energy Storage and Transportation Systems



# Idaho National Laboratory

- Eastern Idaho based U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Federal laboratory
- 890 square mile site with 3,600 staff
- Support DOE's strategic goal:
  - Increase U.S. energy security and reduce the nation's dependence on foreign oil
- Multi-program DOE laboratory
  - Nuclear Energy
  - Fossil, Biomass, Wind, Geothermal and Hydropower Energy
  - Advanced Vehicles and Battery Development
  - Energy Critical Infrastructure Protection



# ***Advanced Vehicle Testing Activity (AVTA)***

- Part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Program
- INL and ECOtality N.A. conduct the AVTA's light-duty vehicle testing, with Argonne National Laboratory performing dynamometer testing

## **AVTA Goals**

- Determine actual petroleum displacement and overall operating cost of advanced technology vehicles through *testing* and *real-world demonstrations*
- Provide benchmark data to industry and government research and development programs
- Assist fleet managers and consumers in making informed vehicle purchase and operating decisions

# AVTA Testing by Technology

- Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV)
  - 12 models, 259 vehicles, 1.5 million test miles
- Hybrid electric vehicles (HEV)
  - 18 models, 47 vehicles, 5 million test miles
- Full-size battery electric vehicles (BEVs)
  - 40 EV models, 5+ million test miles
- Neighborhood & Urban electric vehicles
  - 26 models, 1.2 million test miles
- Hydrogen internal combustion engine vehicles
  - 7 models, 500,000 test miles



# The EV Project

- INL is a principle participant with ECOtality N.A. in largest electric vehicle / charging infrastructure demonstration ever undertaken
- 5,700 Nissan Leaf BEVs
- 2,600 Chevrolet Volt EREVS
- >14,000 Level II EVSE charging units
- >300 DC fast chargers
- 7 market areas in:
  - Oregon, Washington, California,
  - Arizona, Tennessee, D.C.
- > 40 project partners, including electric utilities



Charging Infrastructure Locations

[www.theevproject.com](http://www.theevproject.com)

Project Supporter



# ***Electrified Vehicles as a Solution to Oil Dependency***

## Areas of concern

- Energy security
  - Insufficient domestic supply of easily obtainable oil forces us to rely on imports
- Global climate change
  - Tailpipe and smoke stack CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Economic stability
  - Unbalanced supply and demand affect all levels of the economy (global, national, personal)

# ***Electrified Vehicles as a Solution to Oil Dependency***

## Advantages of Plug-in Electric Vehicles

- Displace petroleum consumption with electricity
- Provide ***alternatives***
  - Use domestically generated electricity from a variety of sources
  - Use existing infrastructure
  - Leverage nuclear and renewable energy sources (wind, solar, hydro, geothermal)



# ***Electrified Vehicles as a Solution to Oil Dependency***

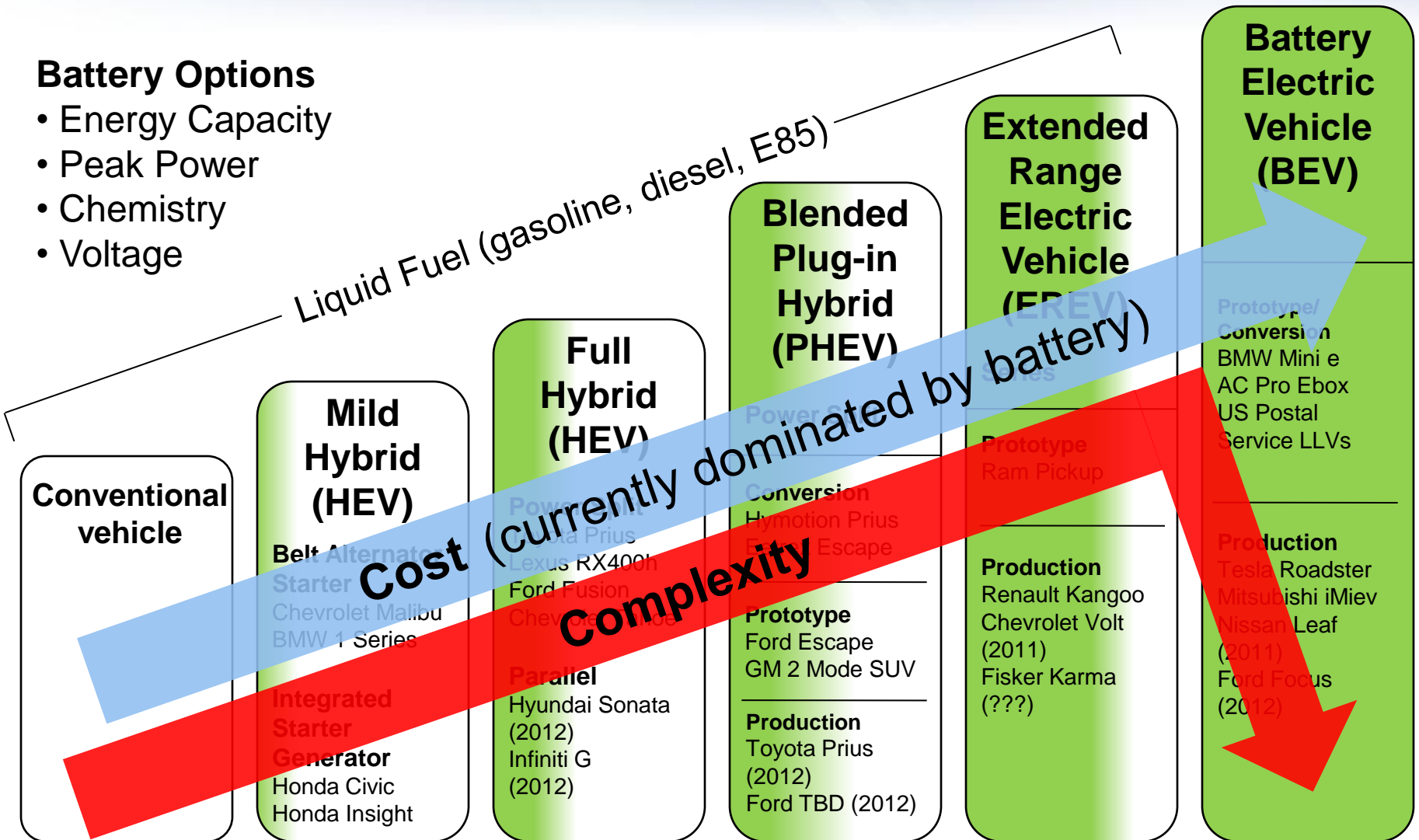
## Challenges with Plug-in Electric Vehicles

- Current technology limitations (batteries!)
- Some infrastructure required
  - Charging stations (short term)
  - Communication between vehicles and electric grid (mid-term)
  - Additional electricity generation/transmission/distribution (long-term)
- Consumer market acceptance

# Electrified Vehicle Powertrain Architectures

## Battery Options

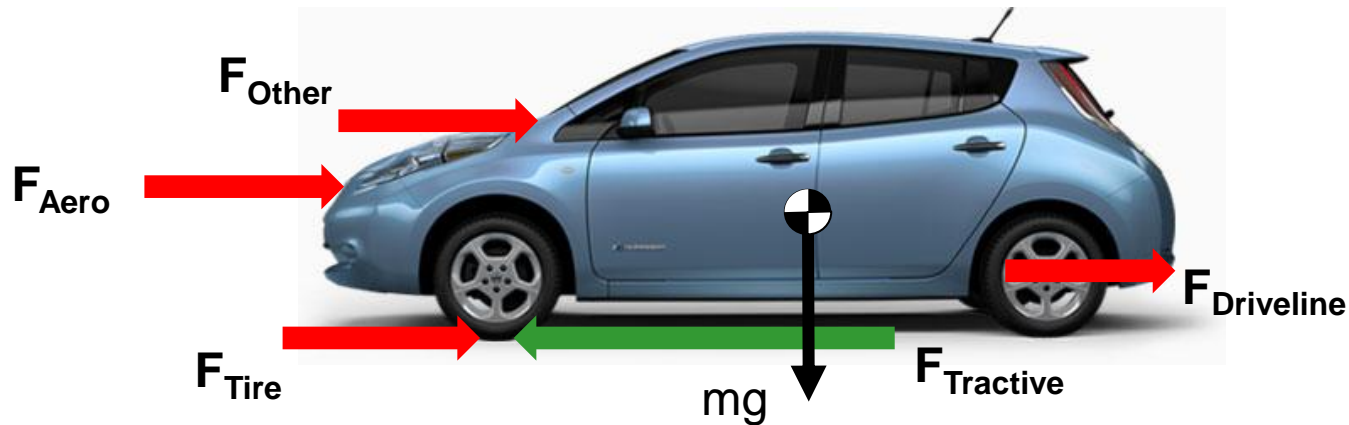
- Energy Capacity
- Peak Power
- Chemistry
- Voltage



Dates given are announced target years for start of production

# Underlying Physics Principles

- Conservation of energy – it has to come from somewhere
- How much energy does it take to get from point A to point B?



**Find the power (P) required to maintain a speed of V**

\* Assume Rotational Inertias are negligible

$$F_{Tractive} = m a = m \frac{dv}{dt}$$

$$P = F_{Tractive} V = m \frac{dv}{dt} v$$

$$\sum F_x = m a$$

$$F_x = F_a + F_{tire} - F_T = - F_{inertia}$$

$$F_{Tractive} = m a + (F_{Aero} + F_{RR} + F_{Tire})$$

$$F_A + F_{RR} + F_{Tire} = F_{resistance}$$

$$F_{resistance} = CV^2 + BV + A$$

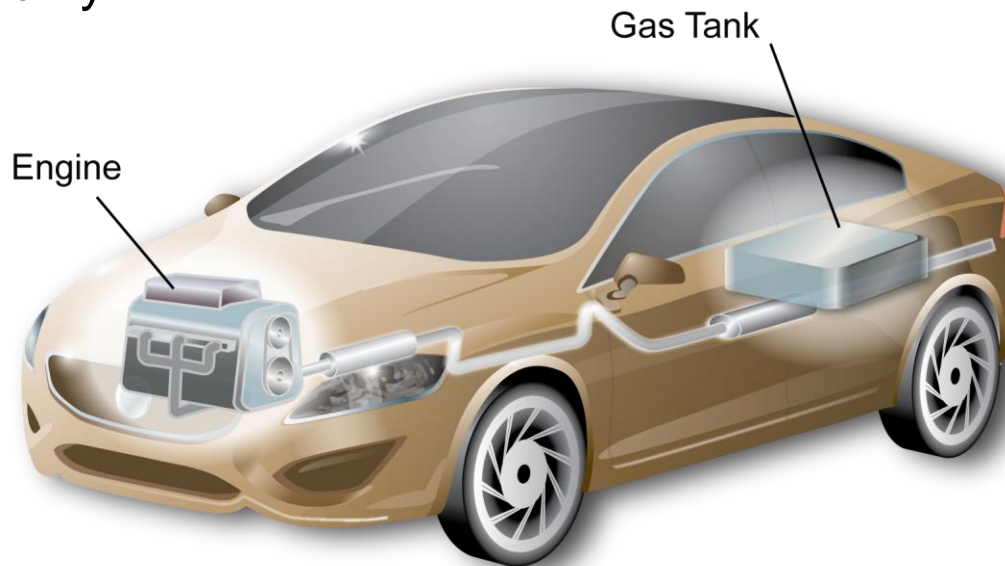
## ***Comparison of Energy Density of Fuels***

- Onboard energy storage is the constraint
  - It's all about the batteries

Insert plot of Wh/kg vs. Wh/L for various fuels and battery chemistries here

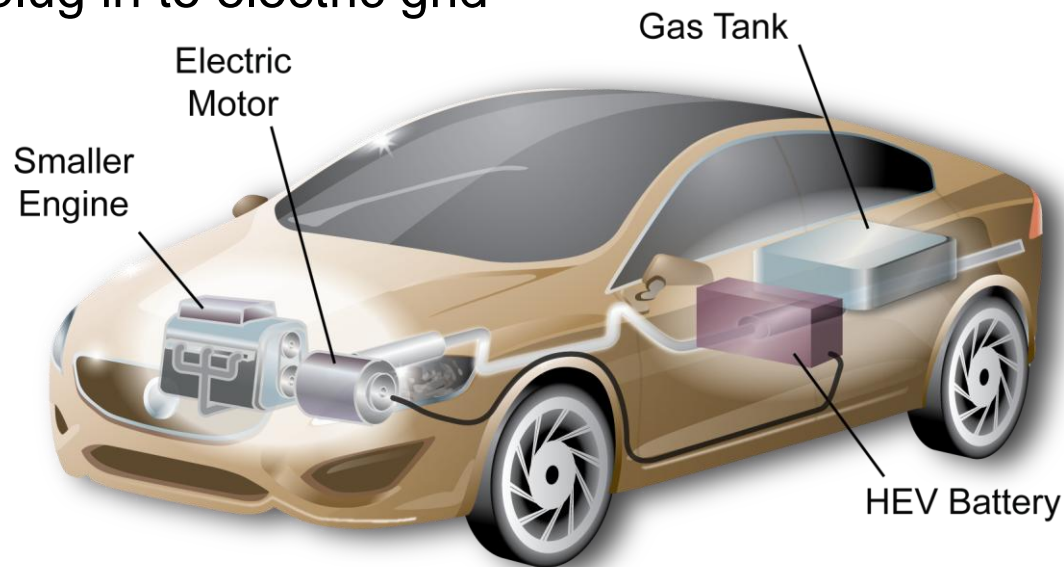
# ***Comparison of Vehicle Technology***

Conventional vehicle with internal combustion engine (ICE) only



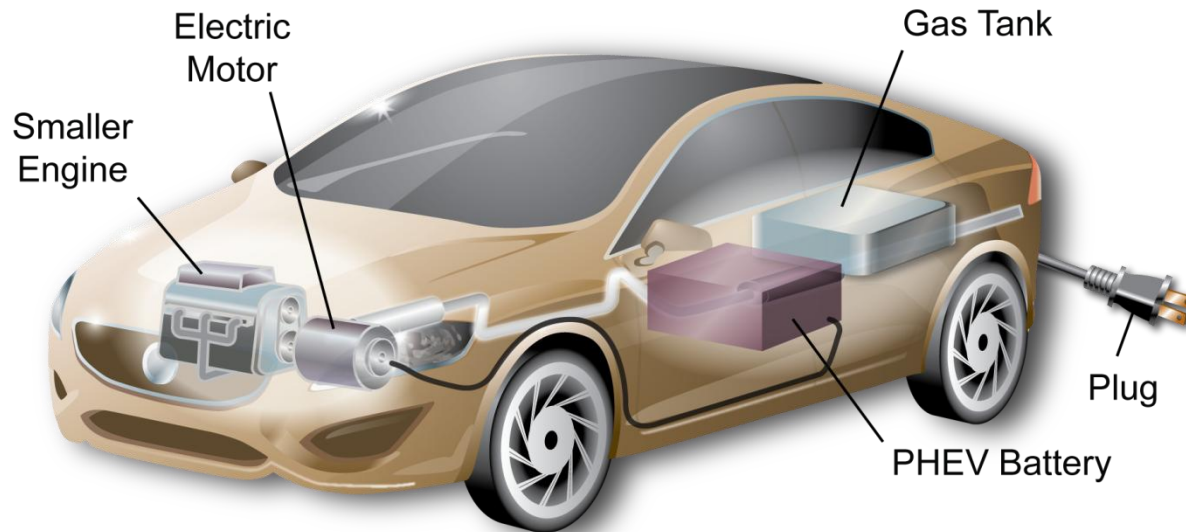
## ***Comparison of Vehicle Technology***

- Hybrid Electric Vehicle (HEV) with ICE and electric drive
- Does not plug in to electric grid



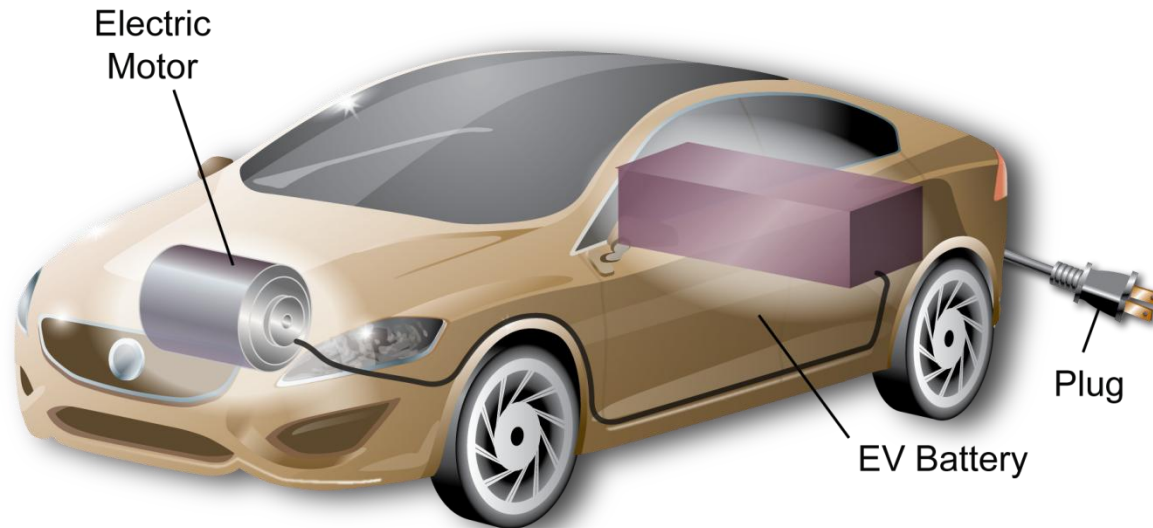
# Comparison of Vehicle Technology

- Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) with ICE and electric drive



## ***Comparison of Vehicle Technology***

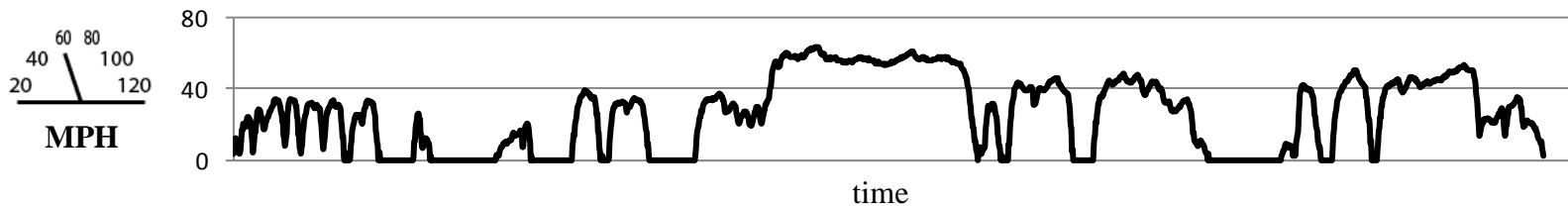
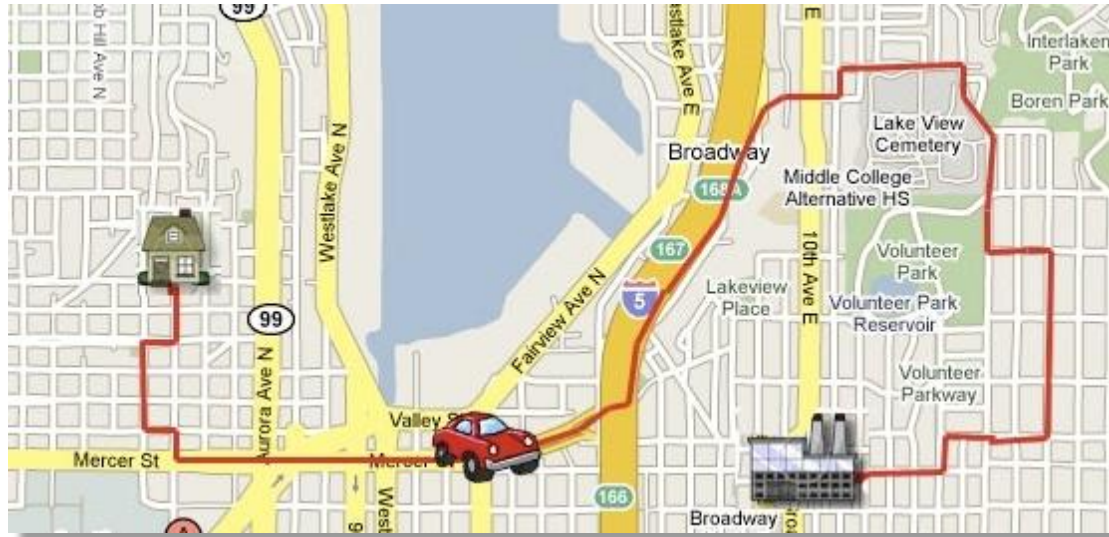
- Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) with electric drive only



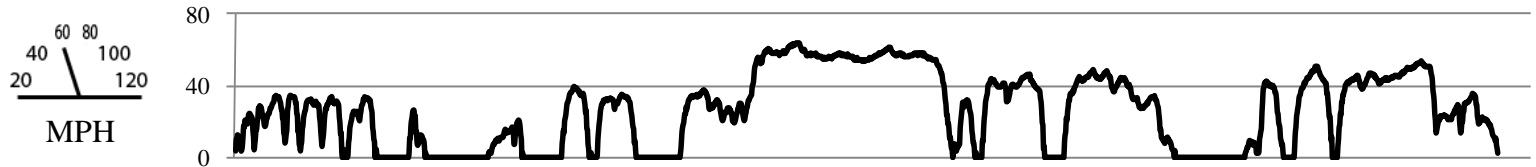


# Conceptual Comparison of Vehicle Operation

Hypothetical 15 mile drive cycle



# Conceptual Comparison of Vehicle Operation



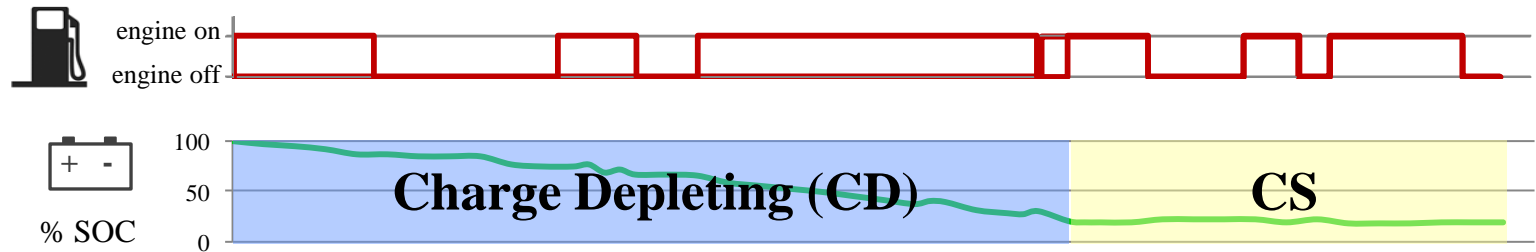
**Conventional vehicle**



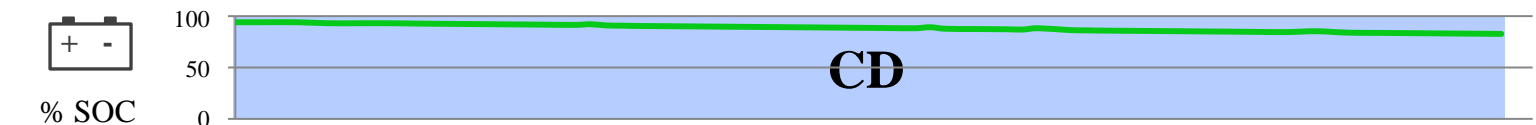
**HEV**



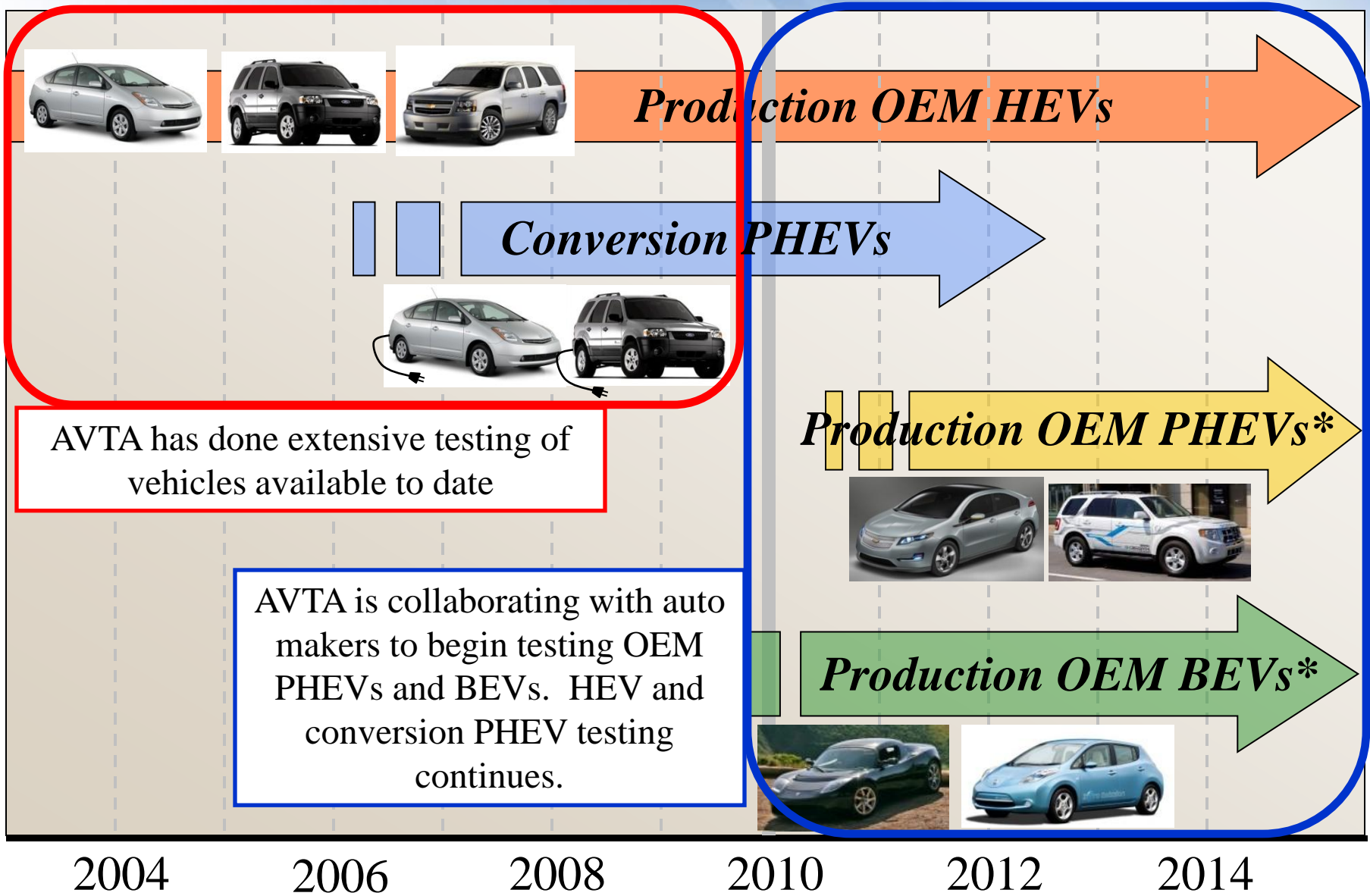
**PHEV10  
(all electric capable)**



**BEV  
(100 mi range)**



# Timeline of Advanced Electric Vehicle Availability



AVTA has done extensive testing of vehicles available to date

AVTA is collaborating with auto makers to begin testing OEM PHEVs and BEVs. HEV and conversion PHEV testing continues.

\* Refers to PHEVs and BEVs produced for the mass market. OEMs have produced PHEVs and BEVs in low volume intermittently since the 1990's.

# Opportunities for You in the Auto Industry

The industry has shrunken dramatically

- Sales

Year	Annual North American Light-duty Passenger Vehicle Sales
2007	16,089,222
2008	13,194,563
2009	xxx

Source: Ward's AutoInfoBank, Ward's Automotive Group

- Lay-offs

**“A big year for auto industry layoffs”**

Publication: Manufacturing & Technology News

Date: March 11, 2007

The U.S. automotive industry has announced the layoff of almost 90,000 workers so far this year, and this year's total could top the 110,000 announced layoffs made last year, according to Challenger Gray & Christmas...

Source: <http://www.allbusiness.com/manufacturing/3895023-1.html>

## HOWEVER...

# *Opportunities for You in the Auto Industry*

... Auto companies and suppliers are aggressively recruiting engineers with specialized skills in:

- Design, integration, and testing of
  - High voltage power electronics
  - Electric motors
  - Batteries
  - Auxiliary electric systems (electro-hydraulic regenerative braking systems, electric power steering, etc.)
- Controls development and verification
- Noise, vibration, and harshness (NVH) systems integration and testing
- Vehicle network communications protocols
- Anything with the word BATTERY in it!

## *How to Develop These Skills*

- Undergraduate coursework and projects
  - Mechatronics
  - Analog and digital controls
  - Embedded controls programming
  - Vehicle design projects that involve electrical and mechanical systems
- Graduate courses focused on electric vehicles and grid integration
- Student competitions

There's no substitute for hands-on experience  
(with proper safety supervision!)

# EcoCar

A DOE advanced vehicle technology competition meant to simulate a real-world integrated vehicle design and development process. Develop vehicles following a modified GM Global Vehicle Development Process (GVDP) and deliver a fully developed vehicle equivalent to a prototype ready for a production decision.

Leading edge automotive technologies with the focus of minimizing environmental impacts and pathways Towards a sustainable transportation future. Only fuels approved for use in EcoCAR are E10, E85, B20, compressed gaseous hydrogen, and electricity.

- Ohio State University
- University of Victoria
- Mississippi State University
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- University of Waterloo
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
- Pennsylvania State University
- West Virginia University
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Missouri University of Science & Technology
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- University of Ontario Institute of Technology
- Michigan Technological University
- Texas Tech
- North Carolina State University
- Howard University



# SAE Formula Hybrid

Students design, build and race high performance, fuel efficient plug-in hybrid vehicles

Arizona State University  
Brigham Young University  
California Polytechnic State University  
California State Polytechnic University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Colorado State University  
Dartmouth College  
Drexel University  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Ferris State University  
Florida A&M University  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Illinois Institute of Technology  
Lawrence Technological University  
McGill University  
Milwaukee School of Engineering  
National Chiao Tung University  
New Hampshire Technical Institute  
North Carolina State University  
Oakland University  
Politecnico di Torino  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
San Jose State University  
Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology  
St Cloud State University  
Technical University Russia  
Texas A&M University  
Thapar University  
Tufts University  
University of Alabama - Tuscaloosa  
University of California - Davis

University of California - Irvine  
University of California - San Diego  
University of Houston - College of Technology  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
University of Manitoba  
University of Vermont  
University of Wisconsin - Madison  
Wentworth Institute of Technology  
Yale University



**0 – 60: 3.9 secs**

**80 mpg**



# ***Advanced Electric Drive Graduate Programs with DOE awards***

- Colorado State
- West Virginia University
- Purdue University
- Missouri University of Science & Technology
- Wayne State University
- Michigan Technological University
- University of Michigan



## ***Conclusion***

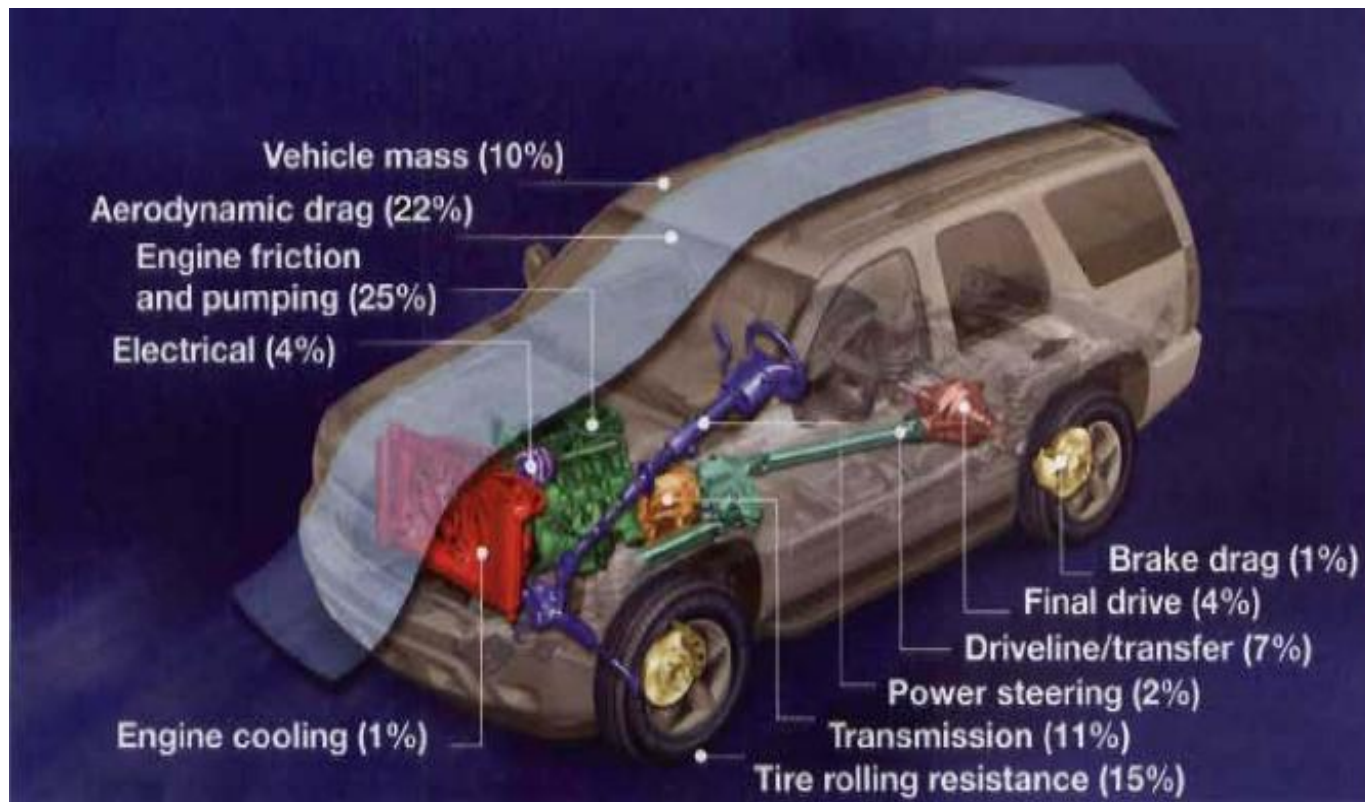
- The progression toward vehicle electrification is under way
- There are a lot of forces at work that may speed or slow the progression, not the least of which is technology development
- One thing is certain:

Engineers with specialized skills required for electric vehicle and charging infrastructure product development are in high demand

# ***APPENDIX***

# Vehicle Losses

Example: Chevrolet Tahoe (non-hybrid)



Source: Automotive Engineering International, March 2010

# ***What Do Engineers Do All Day?***

- Communicate
- Paper work
  - Conduct business processes for project management, safety, procurement, budgeting, etc.
- Engineering
  - Define, design, analyze, create, test/verify, iterate
  - Create models based on first principles (what you go to school to learn how to do)
  - Create models based on experimentation/testing and past experience (institutional knowledge)
  - Use models to create something
  - Verify it works (... it probably won't) and figure out why not
- Logistics
- Reporting

**It's all about problem solving!**

# *Automotive Engineering Challenges*

- Increasing product complexity
- Pressures on:
  - Minimizing cost
  - Decreasing time to market
  - Continuously improving quality
- High volume
- All done in an extremely large business enterprise

But the test drive makes it all worth it!