

Stellan Bergman
(stellan.bergman@uadm.uu.se)

Interested in electric vehicles
since late 80's

My EVs:

Mini-el 1987

Berix Eloped ca 1990

Citroen Berlingo Electrique 2001



That seems to change now – here are some of the electric cars available today:

Mitshubishi MiEV/Citroen C-Zero/Peugeot iOn

Nissan Leaf

Renault Kangoo Z.E.

Tazzari Zero

Tesla

Opel Ampera/Chevrolet Volt

Fisker Karma



Since Toyota's break-through with the Prius around 2000 we have become used to hybrid cars:

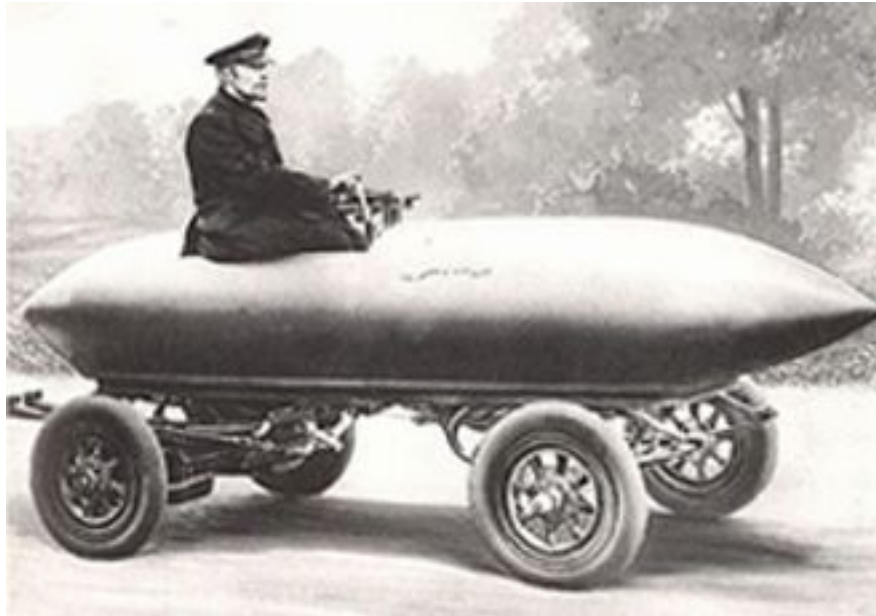
Toyota Prius/Auris/Camry
Honda Insight/Civic
Porsche
Lexus
Mercedes
BMW...



So, is the electric car a recent invention?

Not at all – here are some examples:

First car to reach 100 km/h!



This belgian car was called 'La jamais contente' since the lead-acid batteries required frequent water replenishment .

With 2 motors with a total power of 50 kW
This car reached 100 km/h in 1899.

Porsche 1903 hybrid



Ferdinand Porsche himself at the wheel of a Lohner-Porsche plug-in hybrid built 1903. Note the hub motors in the front wheels!

Detroit Electric



“Grandma Duck's car”, produced 1907-1939.
Range some 130 km, speed 30 km/h.

Milk delivery trucks and luggage trucks are probably among the more successful electric vehicles – they can be seen at airports and railway stations worldwide



Why would we want electric cars?

1) Efficiency!

Efficiency of a diesel car from crude oil to driving wheel: 17%

Efficiency of a battery car charged with electricity from average european power mix: 23%

Efficiency of a battery car charged with electricity from best available power plants: 38%

Electric efficiency of a battery car: 70%

Why would we want electric cars?

2) Renewable energy, small scale production

Wind power, Hydropower, Wave power, Solar cells all deliver electricity

German (small scale) solar power produced 18 TWh in 2011
– enough to drive 7.5 million electric cars 15 000 km !

(Swedish nuclear power produced 60 TWh in 2011)

Why would we want electric cars?

2) Renewable energy, small scale production (part 2)

Today it is possible for a house owner to produce enough electricity to power his own electric car! Driving 15 000 km in a MiEV requires some 2400 kWh. 3KW solar cells would probably cover that need at a cost of SEK 100 000.

That is a lot of money but the cost of a MiEV and the solar cells in this example is on par with the cost of a BMW 335...



+



=



Why would we want electric cars?

Perhaps the most obvious reason –

Minimal environmental impact:

No emissions from the car itself

No noise (both Japan and US work on legislation to simulate car noise to warn pedestrians..)

No climate impact if powered by wind, wave or sun.

Sounds great – so, what's the catch?

Number one problem – range!

Lead-acid battery cars typically have 20-50 km range, Ni-Cd batteries 50-100 km and Li-ion 100-300 km.

Many users would not be able to satisfy all their transport needs but it seems likely that electric cars are quite adequate for most daily transports.

Provided sufficient range, battery life/cost will be the great concern of the electric car owner.

On a large scale environmental impact of battery production may become a problem.

So, it's all about the batteries!

Whats the problem with batteries for EV's?

You need high energy and power density and the batteries must withstand a large number of charge cycles without capacity reduction.

In order to achieve high power with reasonable current you need high voltage = an EV battery pack consists of a large number of cells connected in series.

The current drawn is still significant...

A large number of cells or blocks of large capacity presents practical problems – they will be heavy and difficult to install in a car

What can be done to assure maximum capacity and life?

Different types of battery chemistry will require different charge/discharge strategies but two factors are of great Importance for all battery packs:

All cells in the pack should be balanced to achieve maximum range.

All cells need optimal charging to achieve maximum life (# charge cycles)

The weakest cell determines the useful capacity of the whole battery pack. We want to discover and replace a degraded cell before the whole pack is affected

The key to this is the Battery Management System, BMS.

An example – Citroen Berlingo Electrique:

The weight of the car is 1450 kg, nominal engine power 15.5kW.
Top speed 90 km/h. Range 75 km.

Batteries:

27 water cooled 6V/100Ah NiCD-battery blocks in series.
Weight 350 kg. System voltage 162V, capacity 16.2 kWh
(which corresponds to 1.7 liter (!) diesel or petrol.)

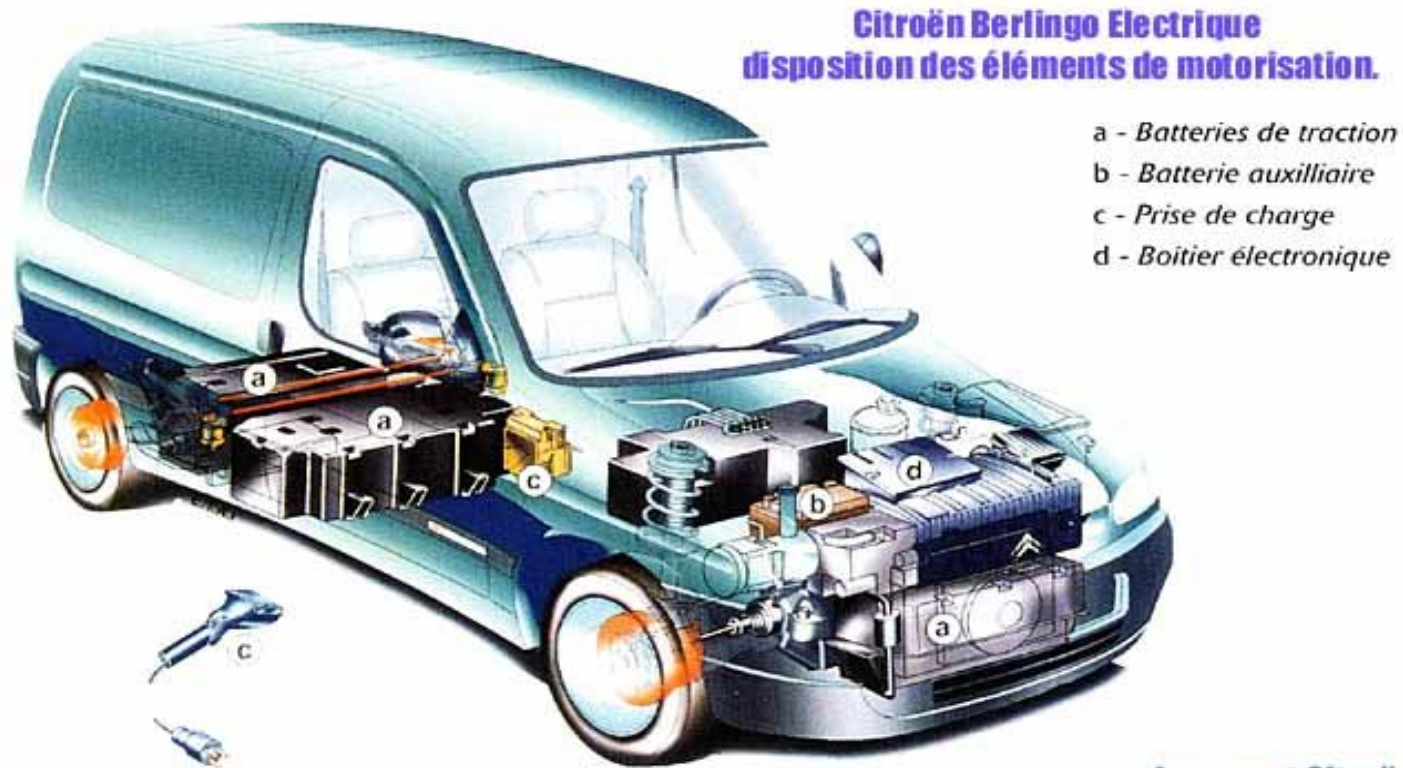
Current 80-100A at a cruising speed of 70-80 km/h.

Internal resistance per block 0.004 Ohm.

Temperaturecoefficient for charging voltage is $-.015\text{V/C}$
per block.

Example Citroen Berlingo (cont):

The battery blocks are installed in 3 boxes under the car (a in the picture) and one box on top of the engine which means that considerable work is involved to locate and replace a defective block..



document Citroën.

About BMS:

Battery management systems were probably introduced when Li-ion batteries began to replace older battery types.

As far as I know lead-acid and NiCd battery cars simply overcharge the batteries according to some simple algorithm to keep the cells balanced.

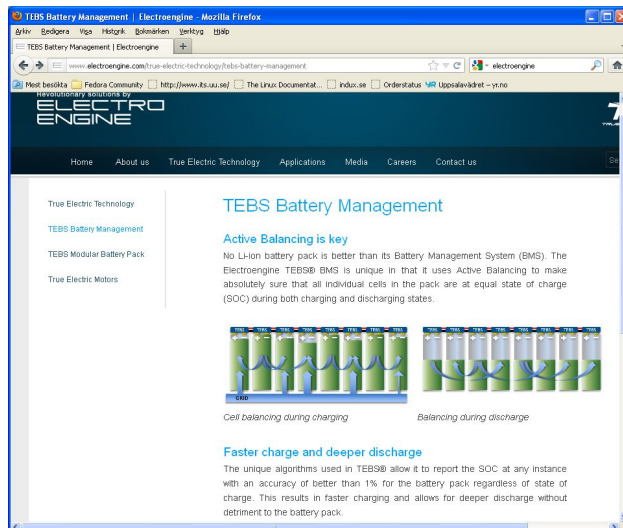
In the Berlingo the difficulties in servicing the batteries was solved (from the customer point of view) by a leasing arrangement in which Citroen simply replaced the whole box containing a degraded block when the range of the car was reduced to 80%

More about BMS (2):

Li-ion-batteries need more precise charge control. Even laptop batteries contains a BMS.

If you google 'battery management systems for large Lithium-ion battery packs' you get 2 360 000 hits!

In Sweden, Electroengine in Uppsala and ABATEL in Oskarshamn and Sollentuna, and probably others, have developed battery management systems of their own.



What should the BMS do?

It is desirable to measure the voltage and if possible temperature of individual blocks/cells. To achieve long block life we also need to control the charging of individual blocks.

There are some practical difficulties.. Measuring the voltage of 27 individual blocks in 4 different locations in the car would require a lot of cabling and connectors..

How about wireless sensor networks?

Why wireless sensors?

A lot simpler installation and service

Galvanic separation of measurement circuits, power circuits, and the central BMS control unit.

Improved accuracy and reliability – measurements are not affected by voltage drops in cabling or connectors.

Adoption of a common BMS communication protocol would make it possible to integrate sensor and communication in the battery blocks reducing both hardware cost and work involved in installation and service.

We intend to do a test with Roberts sensors!

On the left a prototype pcb, on the right a mock-up on a UPS battery pack.



What about EV future?

Personally I hope for smaller, lighter vehicles with smaller environmental impact.

Two examples: the Swiss Twike on the left and MySmite, which has a special relation to KTH, on the right.



Curious? Want to test an electric car?

Some electric cars are available for rent:

MiEV at OK Slussen and Häggvik

Volvo C30 at Statoil Hammarby sjöstad

Nissan LEAF will be offered by Herz

Nissan Leaf is available at Avis Uppsala (Kvarnängsgatan)



**Bli först i Uppsala
att hyra en riktig Elbil.**



Curious? Want to read more?

Some links..

www.elbilsverige.se

www.evworld.se

www.evguide.nu

www.gronabilister.se

www.twike.de

www.smiles-world.de

www.elbil.forum24.se

Thank you for listening!