

Article



Analysis of the Use of Electric and Hybrid Drives on SWATH Ships

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Abstract: The article presents issues related to the possibility of using electric and hybrid systems to drive Small Waterplane Area Twin Hull (SWATH) vessels. Ships of this type have significantly less sway and heave compared to monohull crafts and catamarans. Thanks to the synergistic combination of the hydrodynamic properties of SWATH hull and electric drive systems, they can be an interesting proposition for use in transport of passengers and offshore wind farms service crews. The paper presents comparative test results of an electric drive system powered by Hybrid Energy Storage System, which are a combination of systems consisting of batteries (BAT), hydrogen fuel cells (FC) and diesel generators (D). For the presented configurations of propulsion systems, mathematical models taking into account the hydrodynamic resistance of the hull of the vessel have been developed and implemented in the Modelica simulation environment. The tests carried out for various configurations of the drive system have shown reduced energy consumption by the DIESEL-ELECTRIC drive system (by approx. 62%), as well as the reduction of harmful greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere (by approx. 62%) compared to the conventional DIESEL drive.

Keywords: electric vehicles; electric ships; electric marine propulsion; electric hybrid systems

1. Introduction

The restrictions related to the emission of harmful gases to the atmosphere related to transport [1-4]contribute to the development of environmentally friendly technologies. In order to achieve this task, an effort related to the use of ecological drive systems [5], including electric and hybrid [6,7], is undertaken. Thanks to the use of low-emission drive systems, the level of energy consumption is reduced, as well as the amount of poisonous exhaust gases emitted to the natural environment [8,9]. The exhaust gases emitted by the internal combustion engine include those that can be classified as harmless to the health of living organisms (oxygen O_2 , nitrogen N_2 , hydrogen H_2); poisonous to living organisms (carbon monoxide CO, HC hydrocarbons and their derivatives, nitrous oxides (monoxide and dioxide), sulphur oxides (monoxide, dioxide, trioxide), soot and smoke (PM), ashes, heavy metals, other solid substances and heavy organic compounds) harmful to the environment and favouring the development of the greenhouse phenomenon in the atmosphere (carbon dioxide CO₂, methane CH_4 , ammonia NH_3 , nitrous oxide N_2O [10,11]. Another factor contributing to the reduction of energy consumption and the amount of poisonous exhaust gases emitted to the atmosphere by ships is the use of hull structures with low hydrodynamic drag [12,13] or optimization of the hull shape in terms of minimizing motion resistance [14,15]. In practice, one can come across innovative structures limiting resistance, such as, a catamaran with an air cushion [16], multihull crafts with various float configurations [17,18], numerous designs of SWATH type vessels [19–21] and various innovative structures employing hydrofoils [22–29]. Anti-collision systems [30–34] and methods of optimal ship steering [35–40] are also used as another way of minimizing the ship energy consumption. Bearing in mind the comfort of people working and transported by sea, parallel efforts are made to develop a ship hull structure with the greatest possible stability in wave. The minimum level of acceleration that should be met by sea vessels in order to ensure the comfort of travel according to ISO 6954: 2000 is 0.2 g for the crew and passengers and 0.4 g for an experienced crew [41].

The above criteria are certainly met by Small Waterplane Area Twin Hull (SWATH) vessels. Due to the stable position of this type of ships in wave, they can be used in hydrographic surveys, passenger transport, public utility services, offshore wind farms and others.

With the development of tools for modeling the hydrodynamic drag of the ship's hull [42], the design of the SWATH type underwent modifications [21] from the 1st generation developed in the 1970s, consisting of two struts and two torpedo-shaped floats through the SWATH II (four struts, two torpedoes) [43], SWATH III (four struts, four torpedoes), up to the SWASH (one central strut and large torpedo, with two small side floats) (Figure 1) and finally to vessels using hydrofoils under its hull like the HYSWATH [44].



Figure 1. Comparison of hull shapes of various vessel types: (**a**) MONOHULL, (**b**) CATAMARAN, (**c**) SWASH, (**d**) SWATH I, (**e**) SWATH II, (**f**) SWATH III.

SWATH type vessels are built on the basis of two submerged floats connected by struts to the platform above the waterline. Thanks to this, they have a hull with a small waterline area, which minimizes the contact area with the sea surface. Minimizing the area of the ship having contact with the water surface has a very beneficial effect on reducing the wave resistance of the ship's hull. At the same time, basing the structure on two submerged torpedoes results in very high stability at high operating speeds and significant waves on the high seas. Unfortunately, the use of submerged torpedoes increases the total wetted surface area and increases the frictional resistance. Thanks to this, SWATH ships achieve very high stability at high operating speeds and significant waves on the high seas [12,21,45]. Additionally, they have a large, wide and flat platform that can be used for transportation of goods or to install specialized equipment. Examples of SWATH vessel structures are shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Sample photos of SWATH ships: (a) SWATH GEN. I [46], (b) SWATH GEN. II [47], (c) SWATH GEN. III [48], (d) SWATH GEN. IV–SWASH [49].

The article analyzes the possibility of using an electric propulsion system for a SWATH type vessel powered by Hybrid Energy Storage System, consisting of: a chemical-based energy store (rechargeable battery packs—BAT), a hydrogen fuel cell (FC) and a diesel engine generator (D).

Based on the operational data from the actual SWATH ship, simulation models were developed for which the conventional internal combustion engine propulsion system was replaced with an electric one powered by Hybrid Energy Storage System (HESS). The advantage of using electric main propulsion of the ship is the possibility of reducing the energy consumption and emission of poisonous gases into the atmosphere.

2. Operational Properties of SWATH Vessels

Increased stability of SWATH vessels on the wave compared to monohull ships, and the possibility of reducing the emission of harmful gases into the atmosphere from the diesel propulsion system, have a positive net effect on the possibility of their implementation. SWATH ships are characterized by small waterplane area, thanks to their streamlined shape and small area struts supporting the wide and spacious structure of the main deck on two submerged hulls similar to torpedoes. It is estimated that the SWATH type vessels have a waterline area that is half the size of monohull vessels of similar displacement. SWATH struts are characterized by streamlined shapes, thanks to which the wave resistance of such a vessel is much lower than in a classic monohull. The presence of the supports has an effect on reducing the volume of the ship's hull and the area of its contact with sea waves. As a result, the energy transferred by the waves to the hull is lower, and the ship itself becomes more stable. At the same time, the space available on board of a SWATH vessel is much larger compared to monohull vessels. Unfortunately, placing the load-bearing elements of the SWATH structure completely under the water surface increases the total wetted area of vessel and increases the frictional resistance, which in turn translates into increased consumption of energy used to propel the ship. On the other

hand, when the torpedo-shaped hulls are submerged, they act as stabilizers, using the phenomenon of an exponential decrease in wave influence with increasing depth. An important element when designing a SWATH vessel is the selection of the appropriate width between the supports. The spacing of supports influences the ship's stability related to the action of heeling moments from wind and the movement of the transported cargo and passengers. Figure 3 shows an example of a vessel of the SWATH II type, called M/V FOB SWATH 4, which belongs to the family of sister vessels built at Danish Yachts A/S. These ships are currently used mainly to operate offshore wind farms [50].



Figure 3. SWATH GENERATION II-M/V FOB SWATH 4, IMO 9672947, (former SEA STORM) [51].

The operational data of an exemplary FOB SWATH vessel was taken from the shipowner [52]. Table 1 presents exemplary parameters of M/V FOB SWATH 2,3,4,5 and 6.

Parameter	Description	Parameter	Description	
Name	M/V Fob Swath 2-3-4-5	Engines	2 × 1213 kW MAN V12-1650	
Owner	Offshore Windservice A/S	Waterjets	2× Hamilton HM721	
Built	2014-2015/2020	Gear	2× Hundested GI50	
Туре	SWATH	Generator	2 × 80 ekW KOHLER/John Deere	
Classification	DNV-GL 1A1 HSCLC CREW R1	Service speed	20–22 kn	
Hull and Superstruct.	Aluminum	Max. speed	23–24 kn	
Gross Tonnage	243	Fuel tank	36,000 L	
Net Tonnage	73	Fuel consumpt.	approx. 323 L/h	
Length Overall	25.70 m	Operating time	24 h	
Breadth	10.60 m	Freshwater	4000 L	
Draft max CAT	1.80 m	Crew	4	
Draft max SWATH	2.40 m	IP	24	
		Crane	TMP750K, max. load 1.47 t (5 m)	

Table 1. Specification of M/V FOB SWATH 2,3,4,5 and 6 [52,53].

The SWATH propulsion system is most often located in submerged torpedoes and partially in the supports together with ballast, fuel and freshwater tanks. Classic propellers or water jet drives are used as propulsors. Both designs can be driven by internal combustion engines located on the vessel's deck and transmitting the driving torque through the Z-type drive with bevel gears or directly by engines located in the torpedoes and transmitting the driving torque through the propeller shaft or belt transmissions. In some constructions, gearboxes between the drive motor and the propeller are used to increase the efficiency of the drive system. The location of the drive system components has an obvious impact on the dimensions of the struts, which translates into the value of the wave resistance of the vessel. An important aspect is also crew access to the propulsion system components and the possibility of service. The employed propulsion systems make it possible to accelerate these ships to speeds of up to 25 kn. SWATH type crafts are characterized by very good wave stability and resistance to rolling even in difficult sea conditions and wave height reaching several meters. Table 2 presents a summary of the design parameters of Monohull/Catamaran/SWATH ships.

Parameter	Unit	Monohull	Catamaran	SWATH I	SWATH II	SWATH III	SWATH IV
Torpedoes (floats)	-	0	0	2	2	3	1
Strut	-	0	0	2	4	4	3
Hull	-	1	2	0	0	0	0
Strut breadth	m	-	2.50	0.61	0.65	0.65	0.87
Strut length	m	-	25.40	15.73	9.10	9.14	15.74
Length Overall LOA	m	25	25	25	25	25	25
Beam Overall BOA	m	11	11	11	11	11	11
Waterline Beam BWL	m	10.50	11.00	8.67	8.67	8.67	8.38
Waterline Length LWL	m	22.37	23.38	15.75	15.59	15.59	15.74
Draft	m	1.40	1.50	2.71	2.71	2.71	4.10
Displaced volume	m ³	190.91	173.42	171.31	157.03	158.88	70.17
Displacement	t	195.87	177.93	175.76	161.11	163.01	71.99
Wetted area	m ²	231.08	229.02	314.82	302.01	308.41	161.55
Waterplane area coeff.	-	0.844	0.559	0.106	0.053	0.053	0.108
Total resistance (at 24 kn)	kN	139.00	171.65	165.65	159.88	157.95	138.59
Total Power (at 24 kn)	kW	2451.72	2119.27	2921.71	2819.97	2785.95	2444.54

Table 2. Comparison of design parameters of Monohull/Catamaran/SWATH craft types.

In order to reduce energy consumption for ship motion, it is proposed to use an electric propulsion system powered by HESS. The use of an electric propulsion system can contribute to an increase in its overall efficiency, which would consequently translate into a reduction in energy consumption for ship propulsion and the amount of exhaust gases emitted into the atmosphere. The electric drive system, including the main electric machine, is characterized by smaller dimensions compared to the conventional internal combustion engine. Moreover, the use of energy storage in the form of HESS, and in particular electrochemical batteries, contributes to the even distribution of the ship's weight. Thanks to the use of the power grid on the ship, it is possible to arrange the elements of the electric propulsion system in different places of the ship, ensuring optimal use of space. Moreover, in order to increase the ship's operability, it is possible to use containerized, interchangeable energy stores, which can be easily installed onboard the vessel. Several configurations of propulsion systems were analysed: DIESEL (ship powered only by an internal combustion engines); BAT-D (vessel powered by electric motors powered by battery electricity storage and diesel generating sets); BAT (ship powered by electric motors powered only by battery electricity storage); FC-BAT-D (vessel powered by electric motors powered by hydrogen fuel cell and battery electricity storage with diesel generating sets), FC-BAT (vessel powered by electric motors powered by hydrogen fuel cell and battery electricity storage).

3. Modeling

3.1. Mathematical Description

An important element influencing the operational properties of a marine craft is the optimal selection of the propulsion system. The above issue should be resolved on the basis of the tasks the vessel will perform, the future navigation area and operational requirements. An essential element

when choosing a propulsion system is to determine the total resistance associated with a moving ship, and on this basis, with the known efficiency of propellers, it is possible to determine the power necessary to propel the ship under specific environmental conditions (ship speed, sea state, wind strength, sea currents). The total resistance of a moving ship is related to the external and hydrodynamic forces acting on the hull. The magnitude of these forces depends mainly on the speed of the ship, as well as its geometrical dimensions and shape.

The estimated value of the resistance of every ship can be determined by a dependence taking into account the following values: wave resistance, frictional resistance, pressure resistance and additional resistance:

$$R_{TOT} = R_w + R_{fr} + R_p + R_{ADD} \tag{1}$$

where: R_{TOT} —total ship resistance; R_w —wave resistance; R_{fr} —frictional resistance; R_p —pressure resistance; R_{ADD} —additional resistance.

There are many studies in the literature explaining the individual components of Equation (1) and the method of determining the total resistance of the ship [26,54–57]. However, it should be remembered that the parameters that are taken into account when determining the total resistance of a SWATH vessel are more complicated and must take into account more components related to the geometrical dimensions of the SWATH hull, such as: dimensions of torpedoes and supports, spacing of torpedoes, draft, superstructure height and others [12].

Taking into account the appropriate coefficients, the total resistance of a SWATH type vessel can be expressed by the relationship:

$$R_{TOT} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \rho_w \cdot v^2 \cdot \left(C_w + C_{fr} + C_p \right) \cdot C_{ADD} \cdot \Omega = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \rho_w \cdot v^2 \cdot C_{TOT} \cdot \Omega$$
(2)

where: ρ_W —density of water (kg/m³); *v*—SWATH speed (m/s); *C_w*—wave resistance coefficient (-); *C_{fr}*—frictional resistance coefficient (-); *C_p*—pressure resistance coefficient (-); *C_{ADD}*—additional resistance coefficient (-); Ω —wetted area of the hull (m²).

Depending on the shape of the hull of a SWATH type ship, the percentage share of particular types may change with the change of the speed of the vessel. The wave resistance R_w , related to the formation of waves from the moving hull, due to the slender structure and streamlined shape of the supports is small and, at low speeds, it can amount to 10 to 20% of the total resistance. At higher speeds, the wave resistance can be as high as 50% of the total resistance. The percentage share of the frictional resistance R_{fr} in the total drag of a SWATH vessel can be as high as 70 to 90% due to the large, wetted area of this type of craft in relation to monohull vessels. The pressure resistance R_p , caused by the turbulence of the water flowing around the ship's torpedo floats, depends mainly on their shape and the ship speed. Usually, the value of the pressure resistance for SWATH ships is small and amounts to few percent of total resistance.

The value of additional resistance R_{ADD} is mainly influenced by: aerodynamic resistance; appendage resistance of protruding parts such as rudder, propellers, fins, etc.; resistance due to fouling of the hull with seaweed; resistance resulting from deterioration of weather conditions; resistances in shallow waters and in channels which are negligibly small. The value of additional resistances can be initially estimated on the basis of:

$$R_{ADD} = R_{air} + R_{ap} + R_{hf} + R_{ac} \tag{3}$$

where: R_{air} —aerodynamic drag (kN), dependent on the speed of the ship and the force of the wind acting on the surface of the ship's hull; R_{ap} —appendage resistance (kN), shows the influence of various hull appendages such as propeller, rudders, keels, skegs, thrusters, stabilizer fins, and exposed propeller shafts; R_{hf} —hull fouling resistance (kN); R_{ac} —atmospheric conditions resistance (kN), dependent with the state of the sea.

Aerodynamic drag value R_{air} under normal weather conditions does not exceed 2 to 5% of the total drag. The value of appendage resistance R_{ap} , depending on the used components and drive system, can be up to about a dozen percent of total resistance (bow thrusters 1–5%, shaft covers 4–8%). Depending on the frequency of surveys of the ship's hull and the water temperature in the area in which it is operated, the value of resistance related to fouling of the hull, R_{hf} , may be from 0.2 to 0.5% of the total resistance. The most unpredictable and difficult to determine resistances are related to fluctuating hydro-meteorological conditions. Changes in wind speed and the resulting wave may lead to increased heeling, dive, rocking and flooding the sides and decks. They can also decrease the efficiency of the propeller and increase the resistance to motion. For SWATH vessels, despite the fact that they are very resistant to unfavorable weather conditions, in extreme conditions the value of resistance related to hydro-meteorological conditions may reach a value of up to 25% of the total resistance.

Based on the knowledge of the total resistance value R_{TOT} and assuming the overall efficiency of individual elements of classic ship structures, at the level of: free running propeller efficiency (0.35–0.75), rotational efficiency (1–1.07), the shaft line efficiency (0.9–0.99), hull efficiency (0.95–1.05) [12,58–60], it is possible to determine the power value of P_M (electric motor/internal combustion engine) motors used to drive the SWATH type vessel. For SWATH type units, the ranges of the presented coefficients may be slightly wider, depending on the shape of the structure and the number of torpedoes and struts. To determine the power of the propulsion engine, it is necessary to know the drive train efficiency, which consists of:

$$P_M = \frac{\mathbf{R}_{TOT} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}}{\eta \cdot \eta_H} \tag{4}$$

where: P_M —power of drive motor (kW); R_{TOT} —total resistance (kN); v—SWATH speed (m/s); η —drive train efficiency; η_H —SWATH hull efficiency.

Figure 4 shows the value of individual resistances related to the motion of a SWATH II vessel.



Figure 4. Resistance related to a moving SWATH II vessel.

The Holtrop and Multihull methods [61] implemented in FREE!Ship Plus software were used to estimate the total resistance and the necessary drive power for vessels of similar dimensions namely MONOHULL, CATAMARAN, SWATH I, SWATH II shown in Figure 5, SWATH III, and SWATH IV a.k.a. SWASH, the parameters of which are presented in Table 2. The presented test results and characteristics are approximate in order to maintain the same calculation methods to enable comparative tests.



Figure 5. Geometric shape of the SWATH II hull in FREE!ship [61].

Figure 6 shows the approximate results of calculations of the total resistance, depending on the vessel speed for the above-mentioned ships. The presented dependencies show that the hull of the SWASH craft has the lowest resistances in the speed range from 0–14 [kn] to 24–30 [kn], while in the speed range of 14–24 [kn] the MONOHULL vessel performs better.



Figure 6. Approximate plot of the relationship of total resistance versus longitudinal speed for MONOHULL, CATAMARAN, SWATH I, SWATH II, SWATH III, SWATH IV–SWASH ships.

Figure 7 shows the results of the demand for propulsive power of MONOHULL, CATAMARAN, SWATH I, SWATH II, SWATH II, SWATH IV–SWASH vessels.

SWATH I, SWATH II and SWATH III ships, thanks to the ballast tanks, can change their draft. This allows them to be operated in two modes: with submerged floats, as SWATH ships and with floats partially surfaced, in catamaran mode. Figure 8 shows the results of calculations of total resistance for the two operating modes of SWATH type vessels with torpedoes submerged (draft max 2.40 m) (SWATH I, SWATH II, SWATH III) and surfaced (draft max 1.80 m), in catamaran mode (SWATH I cat, SWATH II cat).



Figure 7. Approximate plot of the relationship of required drive power versus longitudinal speed for MONOHULL, CATAMARAN, SWATH I, SWATH II, SWATH III, SWATH IV–SWASH vessels.



Figure 8. Approximate plot of the relationship of total resistance versus longitudinal speed for SWATH I, SWATH II and SWATH III ships depending on float submerged/surfaced mode.

Figure 9 shows the results of the demand for propulsive power for SWATH I, SWATH II and SWATH III vessels for two modes: with torpedoes submerged and partially surfaced in catamaran mode.

The SWATH II design was selected for further analysis on the basis of the determined thrust characteristics and the vessel's motive power demand. Due to the shape of the torpedoes and the separation of the struts, this structure is more rigid and requires less power in the catamaran operation mode than the SWATH III type structure. On the other hand, in the range of higher speeds, exceeding 15 knots, the total resistance generated by the hull of the SWATH II type ship is slightly higher than the SWATH III type vessel.



Figure 9. Approximate plot of the required propulsion power versus longitudinal speed for SWATH I, SWATH II and SWATH III ships depending on float submerged/surfaced mode.

3.2. Model of a Hybrid SWATH II Powertrain

Using the Modelica programming environment (with Modelica Energy Storages library and Modelica Standard Library) [62], and vessel operations data gathered from the MarineTraffic website [63], a mathematical model of a SWATH II ship with an diesel propulsion system has been developed. Subsequently the model of the electric propulsion system powered by HESS hybrid energy stores has been developed, modeling the rechargeable battery packs (BAT); hydrogen fuel cell (FC) and internal combustion engine (D).

The mathematical model was developed on the basis of the available elements of the Modelica standard library and the elements developed and/or modified by the authors taking into account the properties and correlations between devices as well as parameters and catalog data of real devices. Figures 10–18 show the basic blocks of the mathematical model with a description of the functions performed.



Figure 10. Model of a Diesel-Propeller SWATH II powertrain developed in Modelica.



Figure 11. Model of a hybrid Diesel-Battery-Electric SWATH II powertrain developed in Modelica.



Figure 12. Model of a MAN V12-1650 diesel engine developed in Modelica.



Figure 14. Model of a generator set developed in Modelica.



Figure 15. Model of electrical energy store developed in Modelica.



Figure 16. Model of a PEM hydrogen fuel cell developed in Modelica.



Figure 17. Model of a 20 MPa compressed hydrogen storage tank developed in Modelica.



Figure 18. Model of the ship's hull and hull resistance components developed in Modelica.

The developed mathematical model includes such elements as:

- dynamics of the mechanical structure of the ship's hull expressed on the basis of the geometrical shapes of the ship and its mass,
- description of the characteristics of internal combustion engines related to the generated power, torque and energy consumption (fuel) depending on the operating point (rotational speed, load),
- description of the characteristics of the electric power generators related to the supplied mechanical power and the generated power at a specific efficiency defined by the efficiency map,
- description of the properties of the electricity storage taking into account: cell temperature and related physicochemical properties such as maximum load current and operating voltage (SOC),
- description of the properties of the inverter-motor electric drive system, taking into account: the efficiency of the inverter and the motor, the allowable load and power curve (torque, power, rotational speed, current, voltage),
- ship's propellers with a certain constant efficiency value,
- gearboxes with a specific ratio and efficiency,
- description of the properties of the DC/DC power electronic converter, taking into account the constant value of the average load of the on-board receivers,
- description of the properties of the fuel cell related to the maximum load and consumption of the energy contained in the hydrogen fuel and its efficiency,
- 1. description of the properties of the hydrogen tank related to its parameters such as volume of hydrogen in the tank, hydrogen pressure,
- ship's speed regulator with a block for setting the route of passage (set speed on individual sections of the route),
- 2. power management system, including control of the flow and consumption of power between individual energy sources (generating sets, fuel cell, electric energy storage),
- auxiliary generator for the DIESEL system, providing power supply at the level of a constant average load value of on-board receivers,
- a measurement system tasked with the recording of all electrical and mechanical parameters of the above-mentioned devices and additionally performing the functions of converting all parameters related to energy consumption, CO₂ emissions and fuel costs.

The two configurations of drive systems were modeled: the first with a DIESEL engine (Figure 10) and the second hybrid DIESEL-ELECTRIC (Figure 11) with the use of HESS in combination with batteries and hydrogen fuel cells.

The DIESEL propulsion system (D) was implemented on the basis of two identical systems installed in each of the SWATH II torpedoes, which include: a diesel engine with a nominal power of 1200 kW, reduction gear and a propeller [64]. Additionally, in order to provide power to the electric on-board devices, the use of an auxiliary diesel generator with a power of 18 kW was adopted. The structure of the modeled SWATH type diesel propulsion system consists of blocks such as: SWATH II type ship hull block modeling the hull form with the forces acting on it; internal combustion engine block; reduction gear block; propeller block; auxiliary power generator block and a transition route block.

Configuration of the hybrid propulsion system DIESEL-ELECTRIC (DE) with HESS mathematical model implemented in the Modelica environment allows performing research depending on the selected structure of the electric power sources. Possible configurations include: battery electricity storage with diesel generating sets (BAT-D), as well as hydrogen fuel cell and battery electricity storage with diesel generating sets (FC-BAT-D). When selecting a given power sources combination, the individual masses of propulsion system components [65–68], automatically update the total ship mass, which affect the overall energy consumption of the ship [69–73].

The modeled drive system consists of: two generating sets with a power of 1200 kW each; electricity storage system (two parallel packages of 220 LiFePO4 300 Ah cells connected in series, with a total capacity of 422.4 kWh and a weight of 4400 kg); two electric motors with a nominal power of 1022 kW; DC/AC converter with a nominal power of 20 kW feeding the ship power grid; two hydrogen tanks, with capacity of 37.44 m³ each, and rated pressure 200 bar, containing 549 kg of hydrogen at a mass of 10,200 kg; and 14 PEM hydrogen fuel cells with a nominal power of 85 kW and a weight of 256 kg each. Based on the above parameters, the total weight of the ship was determined for each configuration at: D 118.4 t; BAT-D 119.1 t; FC-BAT-D 135.88 t.

The elements of the hybrid propulsion system (Figure 11) of the DIESEL-ELECTRIC type are presented in the form of blocks modeling: the SWATH II hull block with the forces acting on it; block of two generating sets; electric energy storage block which includes two battery packs; on-board equipment power supply unit included in the Power Management System (PMS); inverter module and electric motor block, gearbox block; propeller block; the transition route block.

Tests were carried out for two types of drive systems DIESEL (D) and DIESEL-ELECTRIC (DE). For the drive type D, one power train configuration consisting only of diesel engines was analyzed. For the second configuration of DE, seven different configurations of drive systems were analyzed, including: BAT-D with SOC_{ON-OFF} = 15–85%, BAT-D with SOC_{ON-OFF} = 10–90%, BAT-D with SOC_{ON-OFF} = 40–60%, BAT-D with SOC_{ON-OFF} = 30–70%, BAT with SOC_{ON-OFF} = 15–85%, FC-BAT-D with SOC_{ON-OFF} = 15–85%, and FC-BAT with SOC_{ON-OFF} = 15–85%. The proposed designation of SOC_{ON-OFF} = 15–85% means that the charging and discharging thresholds for BAT energy storage were chosen at 15% SOC and 85% SOC, respectively. This means that when the battery State Of Charge (SOC) drops below 15%, the BAT energy storage will be connected to the generator to supplement its energy and if the SOC exceeds 85%, the charging process will halt.

The structure of the internal combustion engine block is presented in Figure 12. The basis for modeling the engine operation is the characteristic of the maximum torque depending on the rotational speed, and the Brake Specific Fuel Consumption (BSFC) characteristic describing the fuel consumption of the engine depending on the power delivered, all presented in Figure 13.

The engine is controlled by setting the desired RPM to the RPM demand input. This value is limited to a maximum of 2200 RPM. Then it is transferred to the input of the PID controller of the engine speed. The value of the torque signal from the output of the PID controller is limited based on the torque characteristics in the torque limiter block, and then it controls the engine torque block corresponding to the actual torque generated by the crankshaft.

The mechanical power of rotation measured by the power meter block is the basis for measuring the amount of fuel consumed by the engine based on the BSFC curve. The instantaneous fuel consumption value in kg/s is available at the INST_FUEL output of the engine model; it is also integrated to obtain

the total value of fuel consumed by the engine, expressed in kilograms (FUEL output). The value of the total mechanical energy generated by the motor expressed in kWh is available at the KWH output.

The block directly cooperating with the internal combustion engine in the BAT-D configuration is the generator block shown in Figure 14. It is modeled by an electrical machine identical to the one used to drive the propeller, with the difference that it works in the generator mode as a synchronous generator, at the output of which is connected a rectifier circuit producing a direct current, used to charge the electricity store.

The generator block operation is controlled by the Demand power input, to which the required electrical power is supplied. Based on the current value of the voltage at the SUPPLY output terminals permanently connected to the energy store, the value of the output current is determined, taking into account two restrictions.

The first is related to the generator rated current, which is limited by the current limiter. The second limitation, which results from the possibility of overloading the generator at too low rotational speed, resulting e.g., from the recent start of the internal combustion engine driving the generator, or from the drop in speed as a result of engine overload. In this case, the hysteresis overload safety will limit the generator current to zero for the duration of the rotational speed hysteresis system action.

The current supplied to the SUPPLY output, created by the generator, causes the flow of electricity to the storage, measured with an electrical power wattmeter. Power measurement is used to calculate shaft load. At the same time, depending on the generator rotational speed, the efficiency map of the generator-rectifier system is taken into account, which is the basis for the generator block operation.

The diagram of the electric energy storage block is shown in Figure 15. In its central place there is a model of a LiFePO₄ battery with a capacity of 300 Ah, developed on the basis of a battery model from the Modelica EnergyStorages library. The introduced modifications to the battery model included the implementation of the cell load characteristics depending on temperature and SOC.

The individual energy systems, such as GEN1, GEN2, FC (fuel cell), DC/DC converter and motors MOT1 and MOT2 generators are connected through the corresponding DC junctions, distributed around the perimeter of the energy storage block. Each of the device groups: generators, fuel cells and engines, has its own measurement system for the electric power flowing through this group, with the values available on the P_FC, P_GEN and P_CONS connectors. The value of the total energy consumed by the DC/DC converter and drive motors expressed in kWh is available on the KWH_CONS connector.

The fuel cell block showed in Figure 16 models a stack of fuel cells with a specific power rating and efficiency. The base model to determine the efficiency was a 30 kW PEM Ballard FCveloCity MD fuel cell, with a total efficiency of 30%. The fuel cell model works in two states, controlled by the Enable input. Starting the module energizes the SUPPLY output with a specific rated power calculated in the FC power block, through the flow of the current forced by the FC current block, appropriate to the actual voltage level at SUPPLY terminals. [74].

The energy released by the fuel cell, expressed in joules, is counted in the Fuel Energy block. This value is then converted into an energy value expressed in kWh available at the KWH output and into a mass value of hydrogen fuel consumed. The mass of consumed hydrogen, available at the output H2_KG, is calculated on the basis of the calorific value of hydrogen and the total efficiency of the fuel cell.

Figure 17 shows a diagram of the hydrogen pressure vessel model. The model represents two tanks with a rated pressure p_n equal to 20 MPa and rated capacity m_n equal to 549 kg of hydrogen. The modeled variable is the pressure in the tank p expressed in MPa, changing according to the relationship:

$$p = \frac{(m_n - m_f) \cdot p_n}{m_n} \tag{5}$$

where: m_n -rated capacity of the tanks in kg H₂, m_f -mass of H₂ consumed by the fuel cell in kg, p_n -rated pressure of the tank in MPa.

Due to the fact that fuel cells are supplied with hydrogen directly from the pressure tank, without the participation of pumps, taking into account the requirements of fuel cells related to the minimum fuel pressure at the inlet of 0.8 MPa, the hydrogen tank model block is equipped with a system comparing the pressure in the hydrogen tank with the set minimum pressure. If the pressure in the tank is above the minimum pressure, the comparison system transmits the FUEL PRESENT signal to the fuel cell, which allows the cell to operate.

The model of the ship's hull with its resistances is shown in Figure 18. The main modeled element is the hull mass block, the value of which is automatically calculated before starting the simulation, based on the defined type of propulsion system.

The mass block is directly related to the R_{TOT} hull resistance force block, the value of which is the sum of the hydrodynamic and aerodynamic resistances (1). The value of the total aerodynamic drag R_{air} is derived from the drag equation:

$$R_{air} = \frac{\rho \cdot A \cdot C_d \cdot v^2}{2} \tag{6}$$

where: ρ —air density in kg/m³, *A*—frontal area of the ship's surfaced part, expressed in m², C_d —coefficient of aerodynamic drag, v—apparent wind velocity in relation to the ship's hull, expressed in m/s.

The value of total hydrodynamic resistance is taken from the Resistance table containing the results of the simulation of hull resistances depending on the ship speed. Additionally, the ship's hull block has two outputs. The first one, the DISTANCE output, provides the value of the distance traveled by the vessel in km. The second SOG output (Speed over Ground) allows for one to read the value of the longitudinal speed of the vessel in km/h.

All parameters of the modeled elements and devices presented in the diagrams are recorded by the measuring system, which additionally performs conversion functions related to energy consumption, CO₂ emissions and fuel costs.

4. Simulation Results

The comparative analysis for the developed models of DIESEL and DIESEL-ELECTRIC propulsion systems has been carried out in the Modelica environment using the actual route of the M/V FOB SWATH 4, IMO 9672947 [52] as available from the MarineTraffic website [63].

The simulation was carried out in the OpenModelica environment, using the DASSL solver with a variable step with a maximum length of 100 s and a maximum simulation duration of 300,000 s. The following solver options were used: Root Finding, Restart After Event as well as coloredNumerical Jacobian. The maximum integration order of 5 was selected.

Figure 19 shows the registered speed profile of the M/V FOB SWATH 4, which was used as a test profile for all the analyzed configurations of the propulsion system in the developed SWATH II ship model. Selected test route covers a period of approximately 82 h (3 days, 10 h) and is associated with the ship tasks including leaving the port, traveling to the vicinity of offshore wind farm towers, maneuvering there and finally returning to the home port. The maximum speed during the journey under the given route did not exceed 20 kn.

Figure 20 shows the demand for power from drive motors necessary to drive a SWATH II ship along a given test route, shown in Figure 19 using the vessel's longitudinal speed controller.

Figure 21 shows the consumption of energy contained in the fuel for individual types of drive systems of the SWATH II ship. Additionally, for the BAT-D hybrid system, the test results for various configurations of the electricity storage related to the setting of charging and discharging thresholds depending on the SOC are presented.



Figure 19. Ship transition route speed profile of a SWATH II type ship.



Figure 20. Propulsion power during the tested transition route of SWATH II type vessel.

Figure 21. Time plot of consumed fuel energy, depending on the selected configuration of powertrain: Diesel, BAT-D (15–85), BAT-D (10–90), BAT-D (30–70), BAT-D (40–60), FC-BAT-D (15–85).

Figure 22 shows the waveforms of the state of charge of the energy storage (SOC) cooperating with generating sets. The characteristics are presented for the adopted four switch-on and switch-off thresholds for charging the energy storage: $SOC_{ON-OFF} = 15-85\%$, $SOC_{ON-OFF} = 10-90\%$, $SOC_{ON-OFF} = 30-70\%$, $SOC_{ON-OFF} = 40-60\%$. The presented values were recorded by the measuring system during the simulation tests.

Figure 22. BAT energy store State Of Charge plot, depending on the selected configuration of powertrain: BAT-D (15–85), BAT-D (10–90), BAT-D (30–70), BAT-D (40–60).

Figure 23 presents the changes in the HESS battery voltage for the four selected charge-discharge threshold values. At the start of simulation, the SOC of the battery is equal to 1, which explains the high initial peak in all four cases. During the course of simulation, the higher voltage peak-to-peak values can be observed in the wider threshold cases, such as BAT-D (10–90) configuration, compared to smaller differences of BAT-D (30–70) case, caused by deeper discharging and charging.

Figure 23. BAT energy store voltage, depending on the selected configuration of powertrain: BAT-D (15–85), BAT-D (10–90), BAT-D (30–70), BAT-D (40–60).

Based on the examination of the waveforms in Figures 21–23, it can be concluded that the picked threshold level of charge/discharge of the electricity storage has little effect on the total energy consumption for the adopted test route.

Figure 24 shows the emission of carbon dioxide and other harmful substances into the atmosphere, linked to the fuel consumption of the SWATH II vessel. Carbon dioxide emissions by combustion engines were estimated on the basis of the assumption that 3.08 kg of CO₂ is generated from one kilogram of diesel after combustion [75].

Figure 24. CO₂ emission depending on the selected drivetrain configuration: DIESEL, BAT-D (15–85), BAT-D (10–90), BAT-D (30–70), BAT-D (40–60), FC-BAT-D (15–85).

Figure 25 shows the costs related to fuel consumption of a SWATH II ship depending on the selected configuration of the drive system. The operating costs of a given drive system were estimated on the basis of the unit fuel consumption and the adopted market prices: diesel oil USD 328/ton [76], electricity USD 0.14/kWh [77], hydrogen USD 16.51/kg [78].

Figure 25. Comparison of operating costs of a SWATH II vessel on a given test route, depending on the adopted configuration of the drive system: DIESEL, BAT-D (15–85), BAT-D (10–90), BAT-D (30–70), BAT-D (40–60), FC-BAT-D (15–85).

The flow of energy between its sources, namely the BAT energy storage, FC hydrogen fuel cells and generating sets D, and electricity consumers and the main electric drive, is shown in Figure 26.

SWATH II Power Flow Details

Figure 26. Plot of power flow between battery (BAT), generators (D), fuel cell (FC) and propulsion system.

5. Discussion

The analysis of the obtained test results of various configurations of the SWATH II drive system showed that the use of a DIESEL-ELECTRIC hybrid drive system may significantly reduce the operating costs of the vessel, as well as the amount of exhaust gases emitted to the environment, when compared to the drive type DIESEL. In addition to the development of a mathematical model based on actual operating data, the research also includes the development of models for electric drive system components such as inverters, drive motors, power electronic converters, electricity storage, hydrogen tanks and hydrogen fuel cells.

The length of the test route was about 580 nm and it was not a problem to cover it for DIESEL, BAT-D and FC-BAT-D drive systems. The maximum range achieved by the vessel for the BAT configuration was 7.2 nm and for FC 181.2 nm. In order for the given route to be covered only on battery power, using the LiFePO₄ cell technology with the energy density of approx. 100 Wh/kg, the mass of the energy storage would have to be approx. 350 tons, and using Li-Ion cells with a density of 200 Wh/kg—169 tons, and for upcoming cells with a density of 1000 Wh/kg—about 34 tons [79].

Based on the analysis of the waveforms related to consumption of energy contained in fuel, the state of charge of energy store and the voltage at energy store terminals (Figures 20–22), it can be concluded that the adopted SOC_{ON-OFF} level of discharge and charging of the electricity storage has little effect on the total energy consumption for the adopted test route. Taking into account the influence of the SOC charge level on the cell life parameter called SOH (State Of Health), it is recommended to adopt a configuration of at least SOC_{ON-OFF} = 15–85%. Adopting the SOC_{ON-OFF} = 10–90% configuration causes the energy store to operate within extreme limits that may shorten the SOH lifetime of the energy store. On the other hand, assuming too narrow operating range of the energy store operation range at the level of SOC_{ON-OFF} = 10–90%. Therefore, assuming a certain level of operation SOC_{ON-OFF} of the energy store, the operational situation of the ship should be calculated, taking into account the ship's route and the stops schedule.

The obtained test results confirmed the expectation of reduced fuel consumption used to propel the ship. Specific Energy Consumption (SEC) expressed in kilowatt hours kWh per nautical miles Nm was correspondingly for the configuration type: DIESEL 236.24 kWh/nm; BAT-D (10–90) 177.94 kWh/nm; BAT-D (15–85) 177.97 kWh/nm; BAT-D (30–70) 178.17 kWh/nm; BAT-D (40–60) 179.11 kWh/nm; BAT (15–85) 58.51 kWh/nm; FC-BAT-D (15–85) 179.05 kWh/nm; FC-BAT (15–85) 70.42 kWh/nm. Thus, the lowest SEC value was obtained for the BAT configuration 58.51 kWh/nm (percentage difference to DIESEL system (-75.23%), then FC-BAT 70.42 kWh/nm (-70.19%) and then in order with slight differences, BAT-D configurations 177.97 \div 179.11 kWh/nm ($-24.67 \div -24.18\%$), FC-BAT-D 179.51 kWh/nm (-24.21%) and finally, DIESEL 236.24 kWh/nm.

For DIESEL and BAT-D configurations, the efficiency of the drive system is largely dependent on the efficiency of the internal combustion engine (η), which depends on the engine operating point (Figure 13). The engine operating point depends on its load, which is simply a resultant function of the set engine rotational speed, the ship's loading condition and hydro-meteorological conditions (canopies, waves, sea currents). If a powerful engine is only slightly loaded, its efficiency will be low. On the other hand, if the same engine is loaded in the optimal range of its operation, i.e., approximately 85–90% of the rated power, for example by driving a generator as in the BAT-D configuration ($\eta \approx 41.5\%$), then the value of its average efficiency will be significantly higher than when the engine is operated in the DIESEL drive system ($\eta \approx 24.5\%$) on the same route.

The emission of poisonous gases and carbon dioxide into the atmosphere is related to the consumed energy (Figure 24). Along with the reduction of fuel consumption, the CO₂ emission was reduced and it amounted to: DIESEL 62.30 kgCO₂/nm; BAT-D (10–90) 46.80 kgCO₂/nm; BAT-D (15–85) 46.81 kgCO₂/nm; BAT-D (30–70) 46.86 kgCO₂/nm; BAT-D (40–60) 47.11 kgCO₂/nm; BAT 5.66 kgCO₂/nm; FC-BAT-D (15–85) 41.46 kgCO₂/nm; FC-BAT (15–85) 0.11 kgCO₂/nm [80]. The highest value of CO₂ emission reduction was obtained for the system powered mainly by FC-BAT hydrogen fuel cells (15–85) 0.11 kgCO₂/nm (–99.82%), due to the fact that generation of electricity from hydrogen gives no emission of CO₂. This was followed by BAT 5.66 kgCO₂/nm (–90.91%), FC-BAT-D (15–85) 41.46 kgCO₂/nm (–33.45%) systems; BAT-D (10–90) 46.80 kgCO₂/nm (–24.87%); BAT-D (15–85) 46.81 kgCO₂/nm (–24.38%).

It should be noted that the FC-BAT-D propulsion system uses hydrogen fuel cells, with power of one unit is not large (85 kW). In order to provide propulsion for the SWATH II type vessel, at least a dozen of them should be used only with hydrogen fuel cells. The maintenance and operation of hydrogen tanks may also be a problem. In addition, the cost analysis showed that the operation of the FC-BAT-D propulsion system is significantly more expensive compared to both DIESEL, BAT-D and BAT systems (Figure 25). The ship's cost per mile (CPM) in DIESEL is USD 6.64/nm; in BAT-D (10–90) is USD 5.16/nm; in BAT-D (15–85) USD 5.17/nm; in BAT-D (30–70) is USD 5.17 USD/nm; in BAT-D (40–60) is USD 5.20/nm; in BAT (15–85) is USD 14.63/nm; in FC-BAT-D (15–85) is USD 34.47/nm; in FC-BAT (15–85) is USD 96.32/nm. The lowest cost of operation in relation to the DIESEL configuration was obtained for the following configurations: BAT-D (10–90) at 5.16 USD/nm (–22.25%), BAT-D (15–85) at 5.17 USD/nm (–22.23%), BAT-D (30–70) at 5.17 USD/nm (–22.15%), BAT-D (40–60) at 5.20 USD/nm (–21.75%). The remaining systems generate higher unit costs in relation to the CPM index, respectively: BAT (15–85) at USD 14.63/nm (+220.23%); FC-BAT-D (15–85) at USD 34.47/nm (+518.95%); and FC-BAT (15–85) at USD 96.32/nm (+1450.18%).

6. Conclusions

The use of the DIESEL-ELECTRIC hybrid drive system to drive the SWATH II type craft can significantly contribute to the reduction of operating costs as well as the amount of exhaust gases emitted into the environment.

The obtained test results confirmed that thanks to the appropriate configuration of the electric drive system and the appropriate selection of parameters (SOC_{ON-OFF}), it is possible to extend the SOH life of the batteries.

The use of a hybrid drive system with electrical components allows for optimal placement of elements on board the ship, which translates into an increase in the level of safety for the crew and transported goods.

The use of hybrid propulsion enables the adaptation of vessels by shipowners to increasingly stringent environmental protection regulations. The operation of the internal combustion engine in its optimal load range in a hybrid system, such as BAT-D, has a positive effect on the increase of the average value of its efficiency, in relation to the DIESEL configuration, which entails a reduction in fuel consumption and emission of exhaust gases into the atmosphere.

The advantages of using a DIESEL-ELECTRIC hybrid drive, and in particular the possibility of temporary shutdown of diesel engines, allows local reduction of exhaust gases emissions to zero, especially in zones where exhaust emissions and noise from internal combustion engines are not desired.

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