

An Application of Hybrid Method For Improving Of Ignition System In Small Power Explosion Engine

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Abstract

In spark ignition engine (SI engine), the mixture of air and fuel is usually formed outside of the cylinder and ignited by a spark plug. Basing on the way of energy-accumulation, there are two types of ignition systems: capacitive discharge ignition system (CDI) and transistorized ignition system (TI). Although the two types of ignition system are different, they have provided the same high-voltage pulse. This paper attempts to represent a hybrid ignition system that could be used in two distinct types of ignition system with a programmable controller. According to the range of activation of the engine, the controller automatically select between CID or TI system in the optimization of consumption of fuel.

Experiment results of the research shows that the hybrid ignition system could reduce the fuel consumption up to 55% per 100km. The CO and HC levels are also reduced to 0.02%.

Keywords: Capacitive Discharge Ignition System, Transistorized Ignition System, Ignition Energy And Hybrid Ignition System.

1. Introduction

So far, on the spark ignition engine, capacitive discharge ignition system and transistorized ignition system are only two types of ignition systems that are commonly used. The most important advantage of transistorized ignition system is the spark lifetime quite long [1]. This is because initially, the ignition energy requirement is just enough to pass over the spark plug gap. However, the current growth in the primary coil is relatively slow. So, when an engine working at high speed, it is risked that the ignition energy is not able to get the needed value for creating spark. Meanwhile, at low speeds, the current will exist so long that will make the primary coil overheating and waste energy.

With the advantage of fast increase in secondary voltage [1], capacitive sparks can easily make fuel mixture catch fire especially when the combustion chamber get too much oil deposit, the mixture is too rich or in low temperature. Another key advantage is that the charging and discharging time of the capacitor is very short, so it is guaranteed to be always sufficient energy when the engine cranking at high speed [1]. However, the discharged cycle happens so fast, the energy depletion converges quickly causing short spark duration. Therefore, it is difficult to burn the mixture in some special cases. For example, a lean fuel condition [2].

We have seen that the drawbacks of any kind of ignition system are only affecting some particular domains work of engine. Moreover, for the two types of ignition system, the advantages of this system are almost the disadvantages of the other and vice versa. Therefore, the study of a hybrid

ignition system that could apply in both types if ignition is very important.

2. Analyzing processes

A. Analyze the ignition system in Honda Wave RS.

On Honda Wave RS engine, there are three signals generated from the flywheel assembly coils, which are charging signal, high voltage signal to the charge the capacitor and the timing signal pulse at each 360° BTDC.

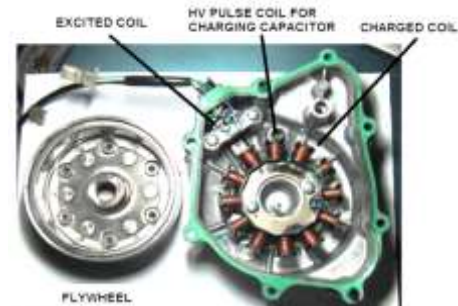


Figure 1: Flywheel assembly coils of Honda Wave RS



Figure 2: The signal pulse emitted by the crankshaft position sensor

B. Analyze the capacitor charging voltage pulse of CDI.



Figure 3: High voltage pulse waveform of primary winding coil of CDI

The voltage value at the top of the first pulse is the highest value of the capacitive voltage that was charged before launching through the primary winding coils [3].

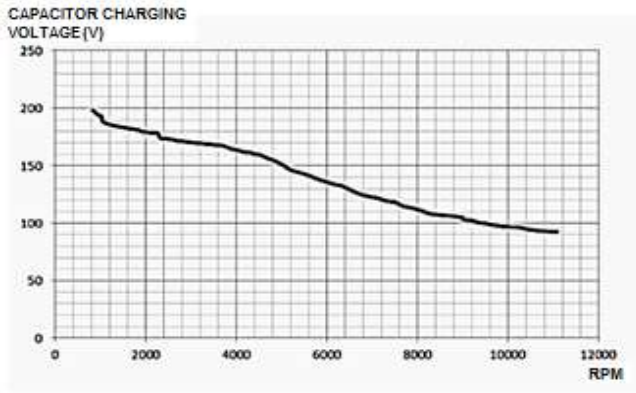


Figure 4: Capacitive voltage changing with engine revs.

Inside the Honda's ignition igniter, main capacitor is 225K400. This capacitor is 2.2 μF and the charging voltage peak is 400 V.

With the ignition energy equation:

$$W = \frac{CU^2}{2} \text{ (J)} \quad (1)$$

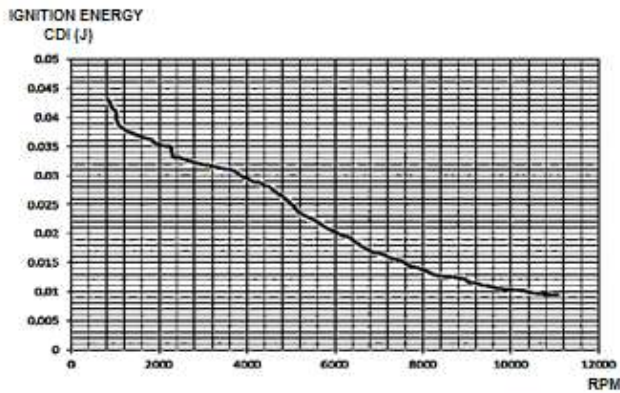


Figure 5: Capacitive energy change with engine revs

C. Analyze the ignition coils on a Honda Wave RS

The parameters of the ignition coil are displayed below.

$$R_1 = 0.8 \Omega, R_2 = 12700 \Omega$$

$$L_1 = 2 \text{ mH}, L_2 = 16.5 \text{ H}$$

The relationship between the numbers of winding turns and the inductance is:

$$\frac{N_2}{N_1} = \sqrt{\frac{L_2}{L_1}} = \sqrt{\frac{16.5}{0.002}} \approx 91 \quad (2)$$

The waveforms of the primary voltage:

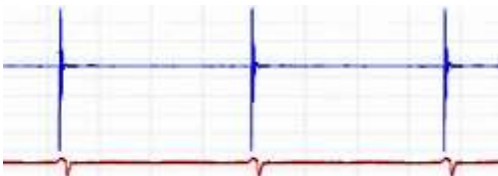


Figure 6: Relationship between voltage waveform of capacitive ignition and crankshaft position sensor.

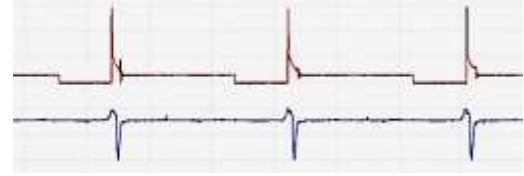


Figure 7: Relationship between voltage waveform of transistorized ignition and crankshaft position sensor.



Figure 8: Current builds in the primary coil when the power transistor switched on.

I prolong the dwelling time until the current building through the primary coil reaches the saturation value.

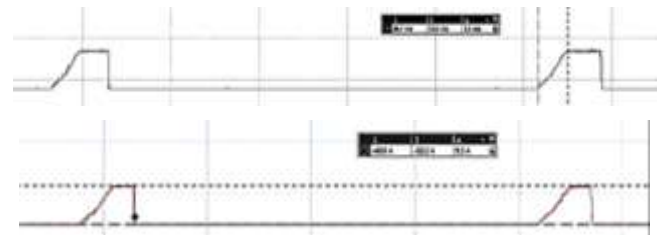


Figure 9: Current growth through primary winding derives to saturation

From the measurement data, we have the minimum time for current to reach the maximum value of 9.3 A is 3.3 ms.

$$T_{E_{max}} = 3.3 \text{ ms.}$$

To ensure the power transistor in transistorized ignition igniter steady work, no overheating, we choose the ratio between the maximum dwelling time and minimum ignition cycle is 2/3 [3].

$$\frac{T_{dwellmax}}{T_{min}} = \frac{2}{3} \quad (3)$$

When $T_{dwellmax} = T_{E_{max}}$ the ignition cycle is at minimum value (T_{min}) which corresponds to the engine's rpm at highest RPM ($n_{e_{max}}$).

$$T_{min} = \frac{3 \cdot T_{E_{max}}}{2} = \frac{3 \cdot 3.3}{2} \approx 5 \text{ ms} \quad (4)$$

$$n_{e_{max}} = \frac{60}{T_{min}} = \frac{60 \cdot 1000}{5} = 12000 \text{ rpm} \quad (5)$$

The Honda Wave RS achieves maximum power of 5.5 kW at 8000 rpm. Therefore, if we switch the ignition system to the transistorized ignition system type, it will not affect the capability of engine's power.

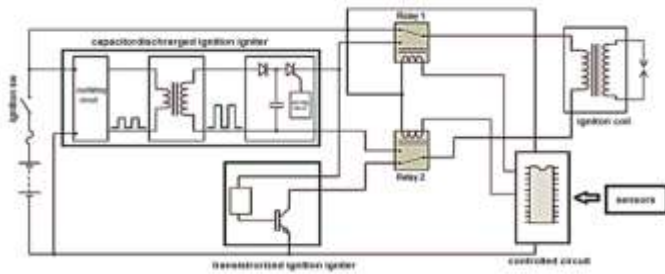


Figure 10: Diagram of hybrid ignition system installed on Honda Wave RS.

D. Select the timing of ignition switching circuit.

According to [5], there are three key points that help to determine what type of spark is more suitable for each working ranges of engine.

a. Pressure inside the cylinder

If the pressure inside the cylinder is high, the resistance between spark plug's gaps will increase. Therefore, it requires a higher ignition voltage than normal to cause spark. At this time, the engine is working in heavy load or in acceleration. With the characteristic of fast growth in secondary voltage [3], capacitive park is more suitable for engine at this time.

b. Air fuel ratio

The rate of fuel mixture inside the cylinder is not constancy. It will continuously vary according to the engine load.

Table 1: Fuel mixture ratio under the regime of the load in an engine [3]

No	Engine working range	Air fuel ratio
1	Cold start (0°C)	1 : 1
2	Normal start (20°C)	5 : 1
3	Fast idle	10 : 1
4	Idle	11 : 1
5	Low load	12-13 : 1
6	Medium load	16-18 : 1
7	High load	12-13 : 1
8	Accelerations	8 : 1

When the mixture is rich ($A/F < 14.7$), it is easy to propagate the flame. Therefore, it only needs a small spark with short duration to trigger fire. Otherwise, when mixture is poor ($A/F > 14.7$), the molecules of air and fuel are set wide apart. Therefore, they require a longer spark to ignite the mixture [2].

Capacitive spark should be more appropriate for the engine of rich mixture range. In average load range, the air fuel is relatively poor. With the featuring of secondary voltage pulse slowing growth and survival time sparks long [4], transistorized ignition type is the best use for this mode.

c. Engine speed

When the engine is at high speed, the time for an ignition cycle will decreased. If we use transistorized ignition system, the dwell timing has to be reduced accordingly. Therefore, the current cannot get to the demanded value to cause the spark. In this case, capacitive discharged ignition system will fit the engine operation at high RPMs.

2.5 Controller board designed ignition system combines

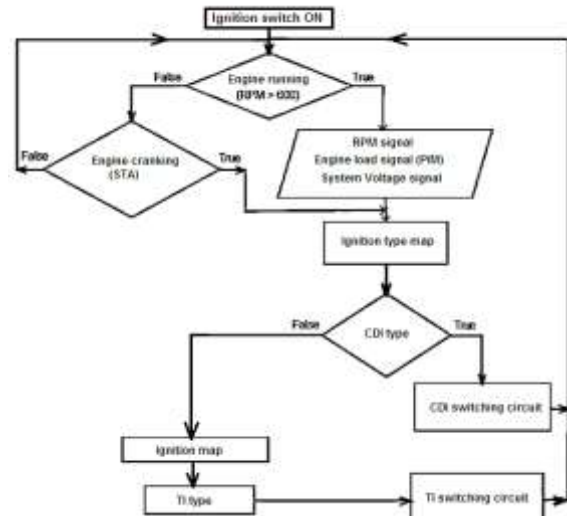


Figure 11: The algorithm controls the ignition switch



Figure 12: Control main board assembly and mounting on the vehicle.

2.6 Test operation of the system.

a. Check the secondary Voltage waveform when the hybrid ignition system switching circuit.

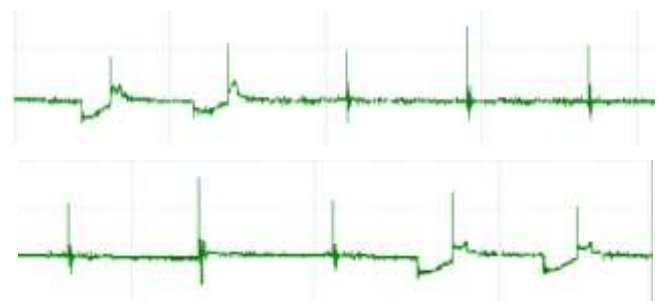


Figure 13: Secondary Voltage at the time of switching circuit from TI to CDI and CDI to TI ignition type

The switching circuit works smoothly and does not cause any voltage spike or interference to electronic devices.

b. Measurement of fuel consumption

Fuel consumption is tested at internal combustion engine laboratory in the University of Technology Ho Chi Minh City. At that time, Honda Wave RS produced in 2005 had an odometer reached 67000 km. Gasoline used to test is A95.



Figure 14: Honda Wave RS is mounted on a dynamometer.

Table 2: Parameters measured using the ignition system combines TI - CDI.

Date	: 3/1/2014	
Start time	: 10:43:11 AM	
End time	: 10:51:41 AM	
No. of driving errors	: 24	
Travel distance	: 4294m	
m1	806.5	g
m2	745	g
Fuel Consumption	61.5	g

Date	: 3/1/2014	
Start time	: 10:59:21 AM	
End time	: 11:07:51 AM	
No. of driving errors	: 9	
Travel distance	: 4102m	
m1	741.5	g
m2	680.5	g
Fuel Consumption	61	g

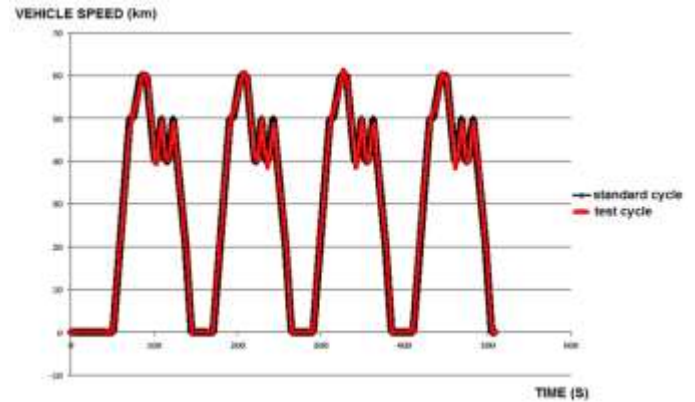


Figure 16: The correlation between the actual speed and the speed of standard cycle using the original ignition system CDI

Although the fuel consumption is somewhat higher of 0.5g but the distance traveled is farther (4294m than 4102m) when I used hybrid ignition system. From here, the amount of fuel consumed per 100 kilometers when using hybrid ignition system and capacitive discharge ignition system are 1432.23 g and 1487.08 g respectively. Therefore, we can conclude that the amount of fuel consumption when using the hybrid ignition system is less than 55g/100km in comparison with using traditional ignition system.

c. Emission testing

Emission measurement was carried out at gasoline engines workshop of University of Technical Education Ho Chi Minh City. Testing device for measuring emissions is exhaust gas analyzer Horiba MEXA - 324L. This device can analyze the two kinds of air, which are CO and HC.

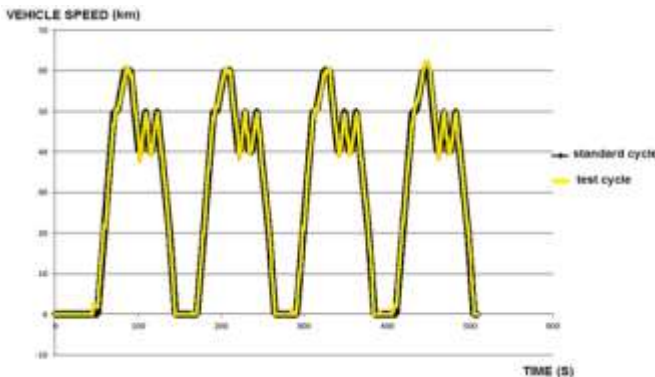


Figure 15: The correlation between the actual speed and the speed of standard cycle using the hybrid ignition system.

Table 3: Parameters measured using the standard capacitive discharge ignition.



Figure 17: Smoke emissions measuring equipment connected to the exhaust pipe



Figure 18: Parameters measured emission results when using TI - CDI ignition and overseas original CDI ignition.

For CO level, we found almost no significant differences when we change the ignition type. However, the application of the hybrid ignition system, the HC level is significantly lower than when using CDI ignition type. This is due to time sparks exist longer than one of CDI, that help to burn out completely the mixture and to reduce the HC emission.

3. Conclusion

The use of the correct ignition type gets more efficiency to the engine, reduces environmental pollution.

The practical tests have given out some positive results, which are shown that the hybrid ignition system can help consume less fuel and reduce certain of exhaust level. The switching circuit controlled board has worked stable and precision. This subject has taken a completely new direction for research and practical when applied on a motorbike.

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