

Re: We need a cute name for this deficiency (somewhat OT)

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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.energy.hydrogen/2005-08/msg00255.html>

- *From:* Ed Earl Ross <edearl@xxxxxxxxxxx>
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The Phantom wrote:

Here's an article where it is suggested that if a car runs partly on the energy from batteries and partly on gasoline, the gasoline mileage is thereby increased. Article at:
<http://aolsvc.news.aol.com/business/article.adp?id=20050813125209990004>

Quotes from the article:

"It looks like a typical Toyota Prius hybrid, but in the trunk sits an 80-miles-per-gallon secret—a stack of 18 brick-sized batteries that boosts the car's high mileage with an extra electrical charge so it can burn even less fuel."

"Monrovia-based Energy CS has converted two Priuses to get up to 230 mpg by using powerful lithium ion batteries. It is forming a new company, EDrive Systems, that will convert hybrids to plug-ins for about \$12,000 starting next year, company vice president Greg Hanssen said."

I guess if we follow this line of reasoning to its ultimate conclusion, an all-electric vehicle with a gallon of gas in a gas can in the trunk gets "infinite" miles per gallon. I suppose to be fair, "infinite" is too many. We should compute mileage this way: drive the car until it's scrapped out, having been driven for, say, 100,000 miles; divide by 1 gallon (the gallon that was in the gas can in the trunk all this time), and get 100,000 miles per gallon. A lot less than infinite, but quite impressive nonetheless.

We need a cute name for this inability to think straight about gas mileage.

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Couldn't that gallon of gasoline be recycled into another 100,000 mile car?

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Humbly--Ed

"If the man doesn't believe as we do,
we say he is a crank, and that settles it.
I mean, it does nowadays, because now we
can't burn him." (Mark Twain)

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