

---

# Contents

---

<b>Preface</b> . . . . .	ix
<b>Chapter 1. Introduction to Hydrogen Technology</b> . . . . .	1
1.1. Hydrogen as an energy vector . . . . .	2
1.1.1. Production methods . . . . .	7
1.1.2. Storage technologies . . . . .	9
1.1.3. Distribution networks and associated risks . . . . .	10
1.1.4. Advantages and challenges to raise . . . . .	11
1.2. Types of fuel cell . . . . .	12
1.2.1. The different fuel cell technologies . . . . .	13
1.2.2. Fuel cell and their applications . . . . .	32
1.2.3. Advantages and issues to improve . . . . .	34
1.3. The proton-exchange membrane fuel cell . . . . .	35
1.3.1. The basic structure of the PEMFC . . . . .	37
1.3.2. PEMFC design and configuration . . . . .	45
1.3.3. Operation and aging problem . . . . .	47
1.3.4. The fuel cell and its technical system entourage technique . . . . .	48
1.4. Conclusion . . . . .	50
1.5. Questions . . . . .	51
<b>Chapter 2. Charge Transfer Phenomena</b> . . . . .	53
2.1. Introduction. . . . .	53
2.2. Thermodynamics and chemistry of the PEM fuel cell . . . . .	54
2.2.1. The base reaction . . . . .	54
2.2.2. Heat reaction. . . . .	54
2.2.3. Electrical work . . . . .	55

2.2.4. Empty voltage . . . . .	57
2.2.5. Effect of pressure . . . . .	58
2.2.6. Effect of temperature . . . . .	59
2.2.7. Theoretical efficiency . . . . .	63
2.3. The flow rates of reactants and products . . . . .	65
2.3.1. Oxygen flow rate . . . . .	65
2.3.2. Hydrogen flow rate . . . . .	66
2.3.3. Amount of water produced . . . . .	67
2.4. Electrochemistry of the fuel cell . . . . .	67
2.4.1. Electrode kinetics . . . . .	67
2.4.2. Activation energy . . . . .	68
2.4.3. Reaction rate . . . . .	69
2.4.4. Exchange current . . . . .	69
2.4.5. Current density . . . . .	71
2.5. Polarization phenomena . . . . .	72
2.5.1. Activation polarization . . . . .	72
2.5.2. Ohmic polarization . . . . .	74
2.5.3. Concentration polarization . . . . .	75
2.5.4. Real cell voltage . . . . .	77
2.5.5. Polarization curve . . . . .	77
2.5.6. Optimum operating range . . . . .	79
2.6. Modeling of charge transfer . . . . .	79
2.7. Overview of analytical models . . . . .	79
2.7.1. Simple analytical models . . . . .	80
2.7.2. Complex analytical models . . . . .	80
2.8. Empirical models . . . . .	80
2.9. Current transport and charge conservation . . . . .	81
2.10. Conclusion . . . . .	82
<b>Chapter 3. Mass Transfer Phenomena . . . . .</b>	<b>85</b>
3.1. Introduction . . . . .	85
3.2. Flow of matter . . . . .	85
3.3. Mass transfer by convection . . . . .	90
3.4. Mass transfer in porous diffusers . . . . .	92
3.4.1. Conservation of mass . . . . .	92
3.4.2. The conservation of species . . . . .	93
3.4.3. Some parametric laws . . . . .	98
3.5. Mass transfer in the catalyst layers (electrodes) . . . . .	101
3.5.1. Low current model (Butler–Volmer) . . . . .	102
3.5.2. Agglomerate model with strong current . . . . .	103

---

3.6. Mass transfer in the membrane . . . . .	105
3.6.1. Schrödinger's paradox . . . . .	106
3.6.2. Microscopic scale . . . . .	107
3.6.3. Mesoscopic scale . . . . .	110
3.6.4. Macroscopic scale . . . . .	112
3.6.5. Parametric laws . . . . .	121
3.7. Conclusion . . . . .	124
<b>Chapter 4. Heat Transfer Phenomena . . . . .</b>	<b>125</b>
4.1. Introduction. . . . .	125
4.2. Energy balances for a PEMFC . . . . .	127
4.2.1. Energy balance for a stack . . . . .	127
4.2.2. Energy balance for compounds and gases . . . . .	130
4.2.3. Energy balance for the gas phase. . . . .	130
4.2.4. Energy balance for the solid structure . . . . .	131
4.3. The heat flow in the different layers of the PEMFC . . . . .	131
4.3.1. Heat transfer by conduction. . . . .	132
4.3.2. Heat dissipation by natural convection and radiation . . . . .	133
4.4. Thermal management in a PEMFC. . . . .	134
4.4.1. Cooling systems. . . . .	134
4.4.2. Convection cooling of the airflow at the cathode . . . . .	134
4.4.3. The effect of temperature on the performance of the PEMFC. . . . .	138
4.5. Heat sources in the PEMFC . . . . .	138
4.5.1. In the polymer membrane . . . . .	140
4.5.2. At the electrodes . . . . .	141
4.5.3. In the GDLs . . . . .	143
4.5.4. Water evaporation and condensation . . . . .	145
4.6. Temperature distribution between two cathodes: case study . . . . .	147
4.7. Conclusion . . . . .	152
<b>List of Symbols . . . . .</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>Bibliography . . . . .</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>Index . . . . .</b>	<b>175</b>