



Using MCFC for capturing CO₂ from flue gases and delivering to Sabatier reactor for SNG synthesis

Jaroslav Milewski^{*}, Aliaksandr Martsinchyk

Warsaw University of Technology, Faculty of Power and Aeronautical Engineering, Institute of Heat Engineering, Warsaw, Poland

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received September 7, 2024

Accepted September 9, 2024

Keywords:

Molten Carbonate Fuel Cell, MCFC, Solid Oxide Electrolysis Cell, SOEC, Sabatier reactor, Power-to-gas, Energy storage, Aspen HYSYS.

ABSTRACT

In contemporary power generation, enhancing efficiency and mitigating environmental contamination are of paramount importance. The imperative to curtail greenhouse gas emissions stands as a preeminent challenge within this sector. Concurrently, there is a marked surge in the exploitation of renewable energy sources, which, due to their intermittent nature, precipitates the imperative for advanced energy storage solutions. This paper introduces an integrated system designed to address both the reduction of CO₂ emissions and the storage of energy. The advocated system integrates a Molten Carbonate Fuel Cell (MCFC), Solid Oxide Electrolysis Cell (SOEC), and a Sabatier reactor. The MCFC is employed for its proficient CO₂ capture capabilities at the cathode, exhibiting remarkable efficiency, operational flexibility, and a high CO₂ separation quotient. The SOEC is recognized for its effective hydrogen production, leveraging high operational temperatures to augment hydrogen output while diminishing electrical energy consumption through thermal energy substitution. The Sabatier reactor is utilized for catalytic methanation, transforming CO₂ into Substitute Natural Gas—a compound predominantly comprising methane and hydrogen with minimal CO₂ and water traces. This system facilitates the capture and utilization of over 80% of CO₂ from exhaust fumes, achieving an overall energy efficiency of 71%. The system's design and off-design operational parameters were meticulously modeled and analyzed.

1. INTRODUCTION

Although the harmful effect of CO₂ on the atmosphere is obvious, its emission hadn't been regulated for many years. However, in 2005 the European Union has initialized European Union Emission Trading

^{*} Corresponding author, E-mail address: jaroslav.milewski@pw.edu.pl

