Why hydrogen as zero carbon energy carrier, feedstock and reducing agent?

5-4-2022

Prof. Dr. Ad van Wijk





Electrification energy system is the trend, both for production as well as demand. 'Key driver' is low solar and wind electricity production cost



Source: IRENA Renewable Cost and Auction and PPA Databases

IRENA, "Renewable power generation costs in 2020," https://www.irena.org/publications/2021/Jun/Renewable-Power-Costs-in-2020





Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Farm in Dubai; 3.000 MW ready, expansion to 5.000 MW





Low cost wind electricity at good wind resources sites, often at the oceans far from energy demand



Yearly totals: 730 876 1022 1168 1314 1461 1607 1753 1899 2045 2191 2337

Solar Resources Map

Wind Speed at 100 meter height Map



Surface needed to produce all the world's energy 556 EJ = 155.000 TWh







10% SOLAR AUSTRALIA

1.5% WIND PACIFIC OCEAN



A. van Wijk, E. van der Roest and J. Boere, Solar Power to the People, Nieuwegein-Utrecht: Allied Waters, 2017

Water Electrolysis

Technology	Temp. Range	Cathodic Reaction (HER)	Charge Carrier	Anodic Reaction (OER)
Alkaline <mark>electroly</mark> sis	40 - 90 °C	$2H_2O + 2e^- \Rightarrow H_2 + 2OH^-$	OH-	$2OH^- \Rightarrow \gamma_2 O_2 + H_2 O + 2e^-$
Membrane electrolysis	20 - 100 °C	$2H^+ + 2e^- \Rightarrow H_2$	H+	$H_2O \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}O_2 + 2H^+ + 2e^-$
High temp. <mark>electroly</mark> sis	- 700 - 1000 °C	$H_2O + 2e^- \Rightarrow H_2 + O^{2-}$	O ²⁻	$O^{2-} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}O_2 + 2e^{-1}$



20 MW alkaline electrolyser ThyssenKrupp

AEL H2 10.5 02	H ₂ 0.5 O ₂	
Cathode KOH or KOH H ₂ O	Cathode Cathode PEMEL	H ₂ O HTEL H ₂ O HTEL

TUDelft

	5 MW module	20 MW module
Design capacity H ₂	1000 Nm³/h	4000 Nm³/h
Efficiency electrolyzer (DC)	> 82% _{HHV} *	> 82% _{HHV} *
Power consumption (DC)	max. 4.3 kWh/Nm ³ H ₂	max. 4.3 kWh/Nm ³ H ₂
Water consumption	<11/Nm ³ H ₂	<11/Nm ³ H ₂
Standard operation window	10% - 100%	10% - 100%
${\rm H}_2$ product quality at electrolyzer outlet	> 99.95% purity (dry basis)	> 99.95% purity (dry basis)
$\rm H_2$ product quality after treatment (optional)	as required by customer, up to 99.9998 $\%$	as required by customer, up to 99.9998%
H ₂ product pressure at module outlet	~300 mbar	~300 mbar
Operating temperature	up to 90 °C	up to 90 °C

* HHV = calculated with reference to higher heating value of hydrogen. All values may vary depending on operating conditions.

Technology structure electrolysers similar to solar PV, batteries, fuel cells



https://hydrogencouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Hydrogen-Insights-2021.pdf

Technology structure:

- Cells as the fundamental production unit
- Cells are grouped or stacked together in modules or stacks as a physical production unit.
- A number of modules/stacks together with balance of plant equipment is the system production unit.
- These technologies do not have mechanical components and operates at low temperatures.
- Only balance of plant cost scale with system size, but module/stack or cell cost do not scale with system size.



Electrolyser learning rates expected in same range as solar PV and batteries Mass production of cells and stacks will bring down Capex cost rapidly **GE Haliade X 12-14 MW**

UDelft

Offshore integrated Wind-Hydrogen Turbines



hydrogen turbine will reduce Total (Wind turbine + Electrolyser) CAPEX

ERM UK, 10 MW floating offshore wind turbine with electrolyser at turbine platform

Gas Infrastructure in Europe can be reused for hydrogen Gas Pipeline Capacity 10-20 GW, Electricity cable capacity 1-2 GW Gas transport cost roughly a factor 10 cheaper than electricity transport



Gas Pipelines Europe Transporting gas from gas fields at North Sea, Norway, Russia, Algeria, Libya to Europe

ÚUDelft

Gas from North-Sea 2017 production 190 bcm = 1.900 TWh **Gas from North-Africa** 60 GW Natural Gas Pipeline 2x0.7 GW Electricity Cable

European Hydrogen Backbone 75% re-used gas pipelines 25% new hydrogen pipelines 40.000 km pipelines



Hydrogen, connecting MENA region to Europe

Middle-East to Europe Eastmed Hydrogen Pipeline



North-Africa to Europe Repurposing and new pipelines



Storage will become an even larger challenge then today Today large scale seasonal storage is already present **Example the Netherlands**



= storage capacity of 1 billion battery electric vehicles with 100 kWh battery.

Hydrogen storage in salt caverns

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Salt formations and caverns in Europa



1 salt cavern can contain up to 6,000 ton (= 236.4 GWh HHV) hydrogen, Salt Cavern CAPEX = 0.5 Euro per kWh, Total Salt cavern CAPEX is 100 million Euro

For comparison, with battery CAPEX 100 Euro per kWh, Total battery CAPEX would be 23.6 billion Euro

Base load solar hydrogen Morocco to Germany,



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*Pedro Quintela de Saldanha; Sines H2 Hub; a cost perspective of the transmission & storage infrastructure of the Sines green hydrogen hub, TU Delft, MsC thesis, April 2021 **Gas for Climate/Guide house; "Extending the European Hydrogen Backbone; A European Hydrogen Infrastructure vision covering 21 countries." April 2021

Hydrogen in a carbon-free energy system

1. To deliver cheap solar and wind energy cost-effectively at the right time and place (transport and storage)

2. To decarbonize hard to abate energy use (industry, feedstock, mobility, heating and balancing electricity system)

Finally cost competition between imported hydrogen with regionally produced



hydrogen and electricity

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https://hydrogencouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Hydrogen-Council-Vision-Document.pdf

Hydrogen Markets

Industry Feedstock/HT Heat



Electricity Balancing





Transport

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The Future for Steel Plant and site IJmuiden

Tata Steel IJmuiden 7 million ton steel per year 12,5 Million ton CO₂ emissions/year 7% of Dutch CO₂ emissions



DRI (Directed Reduced Iron) Proces on Natural Gas





DRI (Directed Reduced Iron) Plants on Natural Gas mature technology









Two Modules:

2.0 Mtpy each Carbon 1.5-2.5% Met. 94%-96% Hot DRI feed to EAF

Startup 2009/2011

One Module:

2.0 Mtpy Carbon 3.0-4.0% Met. 94%-96% Hot DRI feed to EAF

Startup 2013

One Module:

2.5 Mtpy Carbon 3.0-4.5% Met. 94%-96.5% Cold DRI

Startup 2013

One Module:

1.95 Mtpy Carbon 1.5-2.5% Met. 94%-96% Cold DRI

Startup 2015

Tata Steel on green hydrogen, biomethane and electricity



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Tata Steel the Netherlands chooses for hydrogen 15-9-2021

Manufacturing Offshore Wind Turbine components only possible at the coast, because of Size and Weight

Offshore wind turbine about 100 ton steel per MW

For Foundations, Mast, Nacelle



15 MW wind turbine nacelle



Further Reading www.profadvanwijk.com

