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Fuel Cells Program AreaPlenary Presentation-

Dimitrios Papageorgopoulos Fuel Cell Technologies Office

2017 Annual Merit Review and Peer Evaluation Meeting June 5 - 9, 2017

Goal and Objectives

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GOAL: Advance fuel cell technologies for transportation, stationary and early market applications



Fuel Cells MYRD&D Plan

http://energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/downloads/fuel-cell-technologiesoffice-multi-year-research-development-and-22 Market-driven targets allow fuel cells to compete with incumbent and advanced alternative technologies

2020 Targets by Application





 Fuel Cell Cost
 \$40/kW
 \$1,000/kW**

 \$30/kW*
 \$1,500/kW***

 Durability
 5,000 hrs
 80,000 hrs

 8,000 hrs*
 80,000 hrs

 Efficiency
 65%
 50% †

* Ultimate

** For Natural Gas *** For Biogas

90% ‡

+ Electrical

СНР

Challenges and Strategy

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Durability <u>and</u> Cost are the primary challenges to fuel cell commercialization and must be met concurrently Materials and components (stack & BOP) R&D to achieve low-cost, high-performance fuel cell systems

Membrane (1)

Catalyst Layer (2)

Internal Gasket (2)

Bipolar Plates (2)

Gas Diffusion Layer (2)

Fuel Cell Stack



Improvements in multiple components are required to meet the 2020 cost target

R&D portfolio focused on PEMFCs, but also includes longer-term technologies (e.g.
AEMFCs) and higher temperature fuel cells (e.g. MCFCs) for stationary applications

Fuel Cell Car

Challenges & Strategy

BARRIERS

Cost

Durability

Performance

FOCUS AREAS

The Fuel Cells program supports applied early-stage R&D of fuel cells with goals of reducing cost and improving durability

STRATEGY

Materials,

components,

R&D to achieve

low-cost, high-

performance

fuel cell systems

Fuel Cell

<u>R&D</u>

Testing and

Cost/Technical

Assessments

Stack Components Catalysts Electrodes Electrolytes MEAs and Cells Gas diffusion media Seals Bipolar plates

Performance and Durability

> Mass transport Durability Impurities

Balance of Plant Components (BOP)

Strategic Analysis Guides Fuel Cell R&D Focus Areas and Priorities

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Sensitivity Analysis 2016 Auto System Tornado Chart Balance of Stack Pt Loading Power Density Air Loop Cost (including CEM) **Bipolar Plate Cost** GDL Cost **Bipolar Plates** Air Stoichiometry **Key Focus** Hydrogen Recirculation System Cost Areas for Active to Total Area Ratio R&D Q/∆T Constraint Catalyst + ePTFE Cost Membranes Application Ionomer Cost Min Param. Value Membrane Humidifier Cost Max Param. Value **Bipolar Plate Welding Speed** \$40 \$44 \$48 \$52 \$56 **\$60** \$64 \$68 System Cost (\$/kW_{net})

PEMFC Stack Cost Breakdown*

Strategy

- *Reduce PGM levels in catalysts*
- Improve MEA performance

<u>Catalyst cost</u> is projected to be the largest single component of the cost of a **PEMFC manufactured at high** volume.

*@ 500,000 systems/year

Fuel Cell Cost Improvements

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Fuel Cell Cost Status

- **\$53/kW*** for 500,000 units/year
- **\$59/kW*** for 100,000 units/year
- \$230/kW⁺ for currently commercialized technology at 1,000 units/year



Preliminary values for 2017 fuel cell transportation system cost at volumes of 500,000 and 100,000 units/year are \$45/kW and \$50/kW, respectively.

* SA Inc., bottom-up analysis of model system manufacturing cost, high volume manufacturing with next-gen lab technology † SA Inc., bottom-up analysis of model system based on commercially available FCEVs

https://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/pdfs/16020_fuel_cell_system_cost_2016.pdf

Potential Cost Reduction Pathway

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PGM-free catalysts are a key research goal for moving towards DOE's ultimate \$30/kW target

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Maximum projected durability to 10% voltage degradation of fuel cell systems increased from 950 hours in 2006 to over **4,100** hours in 2016



Surpassed the 2016 interim 18,000 hour target, nearing the 25,000 hour target

12 fuel cell systems have passed 15,000 operation hours, high operation hours is no longer confined to one bus

Further progress required to meet ultimate durability and cost targets concurrently

https://www.hydrogen.energy.gov/pdfs/16019_fuel_cell_stack_durability_2016.pdf





Emphasis is on early stage applied R&D in the key areas of fuel cell components and materials, including catalysts and membranes, as well as fuel cell performance and durability

Number of Projects in Portfolio by Focus Area



- Catalysts & Electrodes
- Membranes/Electrolytes
- Fuel Cell Performance & Durability

Full-upfront funding for non-lab financial assistance projects selected from FOAs

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*Demonstrated in MEA @ 150 kPa (abs) meeting heat rejection requirement

Improved the catalyst specific power of fuel cells to 10.6 kW/g_{PGM}, a more than 3x improvement to the 2008 baseline of 2.8 kW/g_{PGM} and exceeding the 2020 target of 8.0 kW/g_{PGM}

Accomplishments: UTF PtNi Catalysts



Ultra-thin film (UTF) PtNi catalyst 8.1 kW/g_{PGM}, exceeding 2020 DOE target

- Total Pt loading 0.077 g_{Pt}/cm^2
- Nearly meets targets for mass activity (0.37 A/mg_{PGM}) and activity loss during AST (43%)
- UTF PtNilr meets mass activity and H₂/Air durability targets

						Electrocatalys	t AST Durability
	Total PGM	Spec. Power	Rated Power		ORR Mass	(NSTF Ca	thode Only)
	Loading	@ Q/∆T=1.45	@ Q/∆T=1.45	1/4 Power	Activity	Mass Act.	∆V @ 0.8A/cm ²
	(mg/cm ²)	(kW/g _{PGM})	(W/cm ²)	(A/cm ² @ 0.80V)	(A/mg _{PGM})	Loss (%)	(mV)
DOE 2020 Target	0.125	8.0	1.000	0.300	0.44	40	30
2017 (Jan.) UTF PtNi	0.077	8.1	0.626	NA	0.37	43	50
2017 (Mar.) UTF PtNilr	< 0.089	>6.6	0.584	< 0.200	0.44	45	23

A. Steinbach et al., 3M

Accomplishments: PtCo Catalysts Supported on High Surface Area Carbons

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✓ Better stability

✓ High ORR activity

✓ Easy to make good alloy

Highest catalyst specific power demonstrated to date: 10.6 kW/g_{PGM}



- Total Pt loading 0.088 mg_{PGM}/cm²
- PtCo/HSC-f catalyst exceeds targets for specific power, PGM loading
- Power density 0.93 W/cm²; needs improvement in other MEA components
- AST testing not yet performed
- Mass activity 0.7 A/mg_{PGM}

A. Kongkanand et al., GM

ElectroCat (Electrocatalysis Consortium)

www.electrocat.org

Goal	Mission
Construction of fuel cell systems by eliminating the use of platinum group metal-free (PGM-free) catalysts	 Develop and implement PGM-free catalysts by: streamlining access to unique synthesis and characterization tools across national labs developing missing strategic capabilities curating a public database of information
Core Lab Team	Accomplishments To-Date and Next Steps
<image/> <image/> <image/> <image/>	 Established key tech transfer agreement templates, data management plan, capability set, and national laboratory team Initiated technical work, achieving significant progress in (a) catalyst development, (b) active-site characterization, and (c) high- throughput PGM-free catalyst modeling and synthesis
testing electrodes	 Next: Plan and host advanced computational modeling workshop (<i>tentative</i>)

• Next: Add partners through FY17 FOA

ElectroCat Technical Accomplishments

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Performance Improvement

 Improved PGM-free H₂-air as-measured performance by 25% versus 2016 status by using Zn as a pore-forming component in the (CM+PANI)-Fe-C catalyst synthesis and by optimizing electrode ionomer content

Anode: 0.3 mg_{Pt} cm⁻² Pt/C H₂, 200 sccm, 1.0 bar H₂ partial pressure; Cathode: ca. 4.8 mg cm⁻² catalyst loading, air, 200 sccm, 1.0 bar air partial pressure; Membrane: Nafion[®], 211; Cell: 5 cm², 80 °C



Increased ORR activity for atomically-dispersed
 Fe-N-C catalyst by 20 mV at E_{1/2}



•

Characterization

 Obtained direct microscopic and spectroscopic evidence of a majority of Fe sites being on the surface and atomically dispersed in (AD)Fe-N-C



High-Throughput (HT)

- Used HT software to calculate durability descriptor for PGM-free cathode catalysts
- Used **HT robotic system to** synthesize and characterize 40 variations of (AD)Fe-N-C





Accomplishments: Alkaline Membrane Fuel Cells

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Need better understanding of electrode performance and degradation issues

NREL and LANL demonstrate AEMFCs with significantly improved performance

FC-PAD: Consortium to Advance Fuel Cell Performance ENERGY Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy and Durability Fuel Cell Technologies Office | 16

Approach	Objectives		
Couple national lab capabilities with funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) for an influx of innovative ideas and research	 Improve component stability and durability Improve cell performance with optimized transport Develop new diagnostics, characterization tools, and models 		
Consortium fosters sustained capabilities and collaborations	Structured across six component and cross- cutting thrusts		
<image/>	<text></text>		

FC-PAD: Enhanced Understanding of Pt Alloy Catalysts

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Understanding performance and durability of low-PGM catalysts with different morphologies





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- 77% of PtCo particles are *inside* HSAC support
- Porous particles show *lower Pt* but *higher Co* dissolution leading to accelerated performance loss
- Higher surface oxidation for alloys versus Pt-only, leads to poorer durability
- PtCo catalysts become more "Pt-like" during ASTs and potential-cycling operation



RDE Testing Protocol and Best Practices Disseminated

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Standard test protocol and best practices will assist the scientific community by enabling procedural consistency and less variability

Test protocol and best practices validated at NREL and ANL



3 film deposition/drying methods evaluated

Nafion-based Rotational Air Drying (N-RAD) most reliable method for routine screening

Pt/C mass activity (mA/mg_{Pt}) inter-lab comparison (N-RAD technique)



Kocha, Shyam S., Kazuma Shinozaki, Jason W. Zack, Deborah J. Myers, Nancy N. Kariuki, Tammi Nowicki, Vojislav Stamenkovic, Yijin Kang, Dongguo Li, and Dimitrios Papageorgopoulos. "Best Practices and Testing Protocols for Benchmarking ORR Activities of Fuel Cell Electrocatalysts Using Rotating Disk Electrode." Electrocatalysis (2017): 1-9. doi:10.1007/s12678-017-0378-6

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L'Innovator Pilot Bundles BNL & LANL IP



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- Applied early-stage R&D addresses cost reduction, performance and durability enhancement of stack components including catalysts, membranes and MEAs
- ElectroCat established with core capabilities to expedite the development of PGM-free catalysts and electrodes.
- FC-PAD Consortium added industry/university partners to advance fuel cell performance and durability

Upcoming Events/Milestones

- Tentative workshop: Advanced computational modeling for catalyst R&D (ElectroCat)
- Technical milestones:
 - Demonstrate 20 mA cm⁻² at 0.9 V (iR-corrected) in an H_2 -O₂ fuel cell (4Q 2017)
 - Demonstrate 25 mA cm⁻² at 0.9 V (iR-corrected) in an H_2 -O₂ fuel cell (4Q 2018)

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Bipolar Plates Workshop

- R&D Needs for Bipolar Plates for PEM Fuel Cell Technologies Workshop held on February 14, 2017, in Southfield, Michigan.
- Presentations, agenda, and summary of workshop available online <u>https://energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/downloads/research-and-</u> <u>development-needs-bipolar-plates-pem-fuel-cell-technologies</u>

Balance of Plant (BOP) Workshop

- FCTO and Office of Fossil Energy held a Balance of Plant Workshop on March 31, 2017, in Elyria, Ohio, in collaboration with the Ohio Fuel Cell Corridor as part of the Ohio Fuel Cell Symposium.
- Presentations, agenda, and summary of workshop available online <u>https://energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/downloads/2017-ohio-fuel-cell-</u> <u>symposium-and-balance-plant-workshop</u>

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8-00 - 8-30	Resistration					
8:30 - 8:45	Opening Rem	arks and Workshop Overview		Bahman Habibzadeh - DOE		
8:45 - 9:00	Bipolar Plate	Cost and Issues at High Production Rate		Brian James - SA		
9:00 - 9:15	GM Perspecti	ve on Bipolar Plate	Status and Needs	Balsu Lakshmanan - GM		
9:15 - 9:30	R&D for Auto	motive PEM Fuel Co	ell System – Bipolar I	Plates		
	Shinichi Hirano - Ford					
9:30 - 9:45	BREAK					
9:45 - 10:00	Graphite-Bas	ed Bipolar Plates for PEM Motive Fuel Cell Applications				
	Julian Norley - Graffech					
10:00 - 10:15	Corrosion Res	istant Coating of M	etal Bipolar Plates fo	or PEM Fuel Cells		
				CH Wang – TreadStone		
10:15 - 11:45	BREAKOUT SI	SSION (Materials a	nd Coatings)			
11:45 - 12:15	Recap					
12:15 - 1:15	LUNCH BREAD	¢				
1:15 - 1:30	Modeling Per	formance and Stabi	lity of Bipolar Plates	Rajesh Ahluwalia - ANL		
1:30 - 1:45	Bipolar Plate	Durability Testing		Rod Borup - LANL		
1:45 - 2:00	Forming and	Manufacturing Issue	es in Automotive Bip	olar Plate Production Simon Farrington - AFCC		
2:00 - 2:15	Approaches t	o Provide a Metallic	Bipolar Plate Modu	le to the Industry		
				Raimund Stroebel - Dana		
2:15 - 2:30	BREAK					
2:30-4:00	BREAKOUT SI	SSIONS (Manufactu	aring and Modeling/	Testing)		
4:00 - 4:30	Recap and Co	ncluding Remarks				
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Power Electronics Workshop Update

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Power Electronics Workshop

- Organized by NIST, FCTO, AMO
- Goal of the workshop was to identify major power electronics needs for enabling large-scale deployment of fuel cell and water electrolyzer systems





NIST - DOC High-Megawatt Converter Workshop

High-Megawatt - January 2007 -Converter Workshop

High-Megawatt - April 2008 Power Converter Technology R&D Roadmap Workshop

High Megawatt - March 2009 -Workshop on Future Large CO2 Compression Systems

High Megawatt - December 2009 Workshop on Challenges to Growth of Grid Connected Electronics

High Megawatt - June 2011 Workshop on Challenges to



2016 Workshop on Next Generation Power **Electronics for Enabling Large-Scale Deployment of** Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies

NIST, Gaithersburg, MD

*Page will be updated frequently

(December 19, 2016)

Proceedings Summary

Agenda Goals Key Questions

Presentations

Overview of DOE Fuel Cell (FC), Water Electrolyzer (WE), and Wide-Bandgap (WBG) Power Electronics Programs

- 1. Allen Hefner
- 2. Reuben Sarkar
- 3. Mark Ruth

Panel 1: Fuel Cell Systems Requirements – Dimitrios Papageorgopoulos

- 1. Ralph Teichmann
- 2. David Reale
- 3. Randy Petri
- 4. 30-minute discussion period

Panel 2: Water Electrolysis (WE) Systems Requirements – David Peterson

- 1 Kevin Harrison
- 2 Moniid Hamdan

Collaborations

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Applied R&D is coordinated among a range of organizations

Fuel Cells Program Contacts



http://energy.gov/eere/fuelcells/fuel-cell-technologies-office