

Table of Contents

Introduction	ix
Nomenclature	xiii
PART 1: STATE OF THE ART: OF FUEL CELLS MODELING	1
Chapter 1. General Introduction	3
1.1. What is a fuel cell?	3
1.2. Types of fuel cells	5
1.2.1. Proton exchange membrane fuel cell (PEMFC, PEFC)	7
1.2.2. Alkaline fuel cells (AFC)	8
1.2.3. Phosphoric acid fuel cells (PAFC)	9
1.2.4. Molten carbonate fuel cells (MCFC)	9
1.2.5. Solid oxide fuel cells (SOFC)	10
1.2.6. Direct methanol fuel cells (DMFC)	12
Chapter 2. PEMFC Structure	13
2.1. Bipolar plates	15
2.2. Membrane electrode assembly	16
2.2.1. Electrodes	16
2.2.2. Membrane	19
Chapter 3. Why Model a Fuel Cell?	21
3.1. Advantages of modeling and simulation	22
3.2. Complex system modeling methods	23
3.2.1. Behavior description	23
3.2.2. Behavior explanation	25

3.3. Modeling goals	26
3.3.1. Scientific understanding	27
3.3.2. Technological development	28
3.3.3. System control	29
Chapter 4. How Can a Fuel Cell be Modeled?	31
4.1. Space dimension: 0D, 1D, 2D, 3D	31
4.2. Temporal behavior: static or dynamic	32
4.3. Type: analytical, semi-empirical, empirical	33
4.4. Modeled areas: stack, single cell, individual layer	34
4.5. Modeled phenomena	35
4.5.1. Domains: electrical (electrochemical), fluidic, thermal	35
4.5.2. Individual layer phenomena	35
Chapter 5. Literature Models Synthesis	37
5.1. 50 models published in the literature	37
5.2. Model classification	42
PART 2: MODELING OF THE PROTON EXCHANGE MEMBRANE FUEL CELL	47
Chapter 6. Model Structural and Functional Approaches	49
Chapter 7. Stack-Level Modeling	53
7.1. Electrical domain	53
7.1.1. Cell voltage multiplication	53
7.1.2. Individual cell voltage sum	53
7.2. Fluidic domain	54
7.2.1. Static equilibrium of the stack's fluid flows	54
7.2.2. Dynamic equilibrium of the stack's fluid flow	55
7.2.3. Expressions for gas flow rates at the channel inlets and outlets	59
7.3. Thermal domain	61
7.3.1. Dynamic energy balance	61
Chapter 8. Cell-Level Modeling (Membrane-Electrode Assembly, MEA)	69
8.1. Electrical domain	69
8.1.1. Thermodynamic voltage of a cell [BLU 07]	69
8.1.2. Voltage drop due to activation loss	73
8.1.3. Voltage drop due to internal ohmic loss (membrane + plate)	79
8.1.4. Voltage drop due to concentration losses (mass transport limitation)	80
8.1.5. Dynamic effect of double layer capacity	83

8.2. Fluidic domain	85
8.2.1. Static or dynamic mass balance	85
8.2.2. Pressure loss in the global feeding channels (manifolds)	86
8.3. Thermal domain	89
8.3.1. Dynamic energy summary	89
Chapter 9. Individual Layer Level Modeling	91
9.1. Electrical domain	91
9.1.1. Gas channels	91
9.1.2. Gas diffusion layer (GDL)	92
9.1.3. Catalyst layer	94
9.1.4. Membrane	100
9.2. Fluidic domain	104
9.2.1. Gas channels	104
9.2.2. Gas diffusion layer (GDL)	111
9.2.3. Catalyst sites	122
9.2.4. Membrane	125
9.2.5. General vapor saturation pressure formula	133
9.3. Thermal domain	134
9.3.1. Gas channels	134
9.3.2. Gas diffusion layer (GDL)	137
9.3.3. Catalyst sites	138
9.3.4. Membrane	140
Chapter 10. Finite Element and Finite Volume Approach	141
10.1. Conservation of mass	141
10.2. Conservation of momentum	142
10.3. Conservation of matter	143
10.4. Conservation of charge	143
10.5. Conservation of energy	144
PART 3: 1D DYNAMIC MODEL OF A NEXA FUEL CELL STACK	147
Chapter 11. Detailed Nexa Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cell Stack Modeling	149
11.1. Modeling hypotheses	149
11.2. Modeling in the electrical domain	150
11.2.1. Cooling channels	151
11.2.2. Solid support and cathode gas channels	151
11.2.3. Cathode diffusion layer	152
11.2.4. Cathode catalytic layer	152
11.2.5. Membrane	154

11.2.6. Anode catalytic layer	157
11.2.7. Anode diffusion layer	158
11.2.8. Solid support and anode gas channels	158
11.3. Modeling in the fluidic domain	159
11.3.1. Cooling channels	159
11.3.2. Cathode gas channels	163
11.3.3. Cathode diffusion layer	166
11.3.4. Cathode catalytic layer	169
11.3.5. Membrane	170
11.3.6. Anode catalytic layer	174
11.3.7. Anode diffusion layer	175
11.3.8. Anode gas channels	176
11.4. Thermal domain modeling	179
11.4.1. Cooling channels	179
11.4.2. Solid support of the cathode channels	183
11.4.3. Cathode gas channels	185
11.4.4. Cathode diffusion layer	188
11.4.5. Cathode catalyst layer	189
11.4.6. Membrane	192
11.4.7. Anode catalyst layer	194
11.4.8. Anode diffusion layer	195
11.4.9. Anode gas channels	197
11.4.10. Solid support of the anode channels	200
11.5. Set of adjustable parameters	201
Chapter 12. Model Experimental Validation	205
12.1. Multiphysical model validation with a 1.2 kW fuel cell stack	205
12.1.1. Measuring equipment	205
12.1.2. Experimental validations	208
Bibliography	227
Index	235