

Studies on Solar Thermal Hydrogen Production-A Review

Rajat Agrawal *

Department of Mechanical Engineering, National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli. *Corresponding Author Email: <u>211321020@nitt.edu</u> Article received: <u>14/02/2023</u> Article Payised: <u>22/03/2023</u> Article Accented: <u>25/03/2023</u>

Article received: 14/02/2023, Article Revised: 22/03/2023, Article Accepted: 25/03/2023 Doi: 10.5281/zenodo.7789582

© 2023 The Authors. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License 4.0 (CC-BY), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Abstract

Climate change increasing environmental acts are placing the force of pressure on the energy sector to divest from fossil fuels, with the transportation sector expected to be the most affected. Electric vehicles and hydrogen are two current alternative energy sources. Conventional hydrogen production processes are reliant on fossil fuels and emit considerable amounts of CO_2 . To manufacture non-pollute hydrogen in the world, this article investigates several strategies to combine geothermal mechanics into H_2 manufacturing. Because of its enormous solar resources, Africa has the largest participant in the H_2 market. Thermal hydrogen, on the other hand, is at a pricing disadvantage to traditional production technologies due to the high expenses involved with solar energy. Solar hydrogen is not likely to reach significant market penetration in the next 10 years, but price reductions owing to improved production technologies and bigger manufacturing quantities may decrease the delay in the long run.

Keywords: Solar Power plant, Electric vehicles, Hydrogen production, Solar hydrogen.

1. INTRODUCTION

Without energy, life is impossible. The sun provides energy to the Earth in the formation of sunbeams. Sunlight also known as solar rays has sufficient power to be transformed into electricity [1]. Various formations for a type of uses greenhouses powered by the sun, solar stills, water heaters, and air warmers are all examples of solar technologies. Thermal energy from the sun is used by collectors, agricultural driers, and other devices [2]. Solar lighting vs. rays (side road and community lighting), Agricultural water pumping, and different active types of components Active systems include active solar stills, solar driers, and water systems [3]. Heaters, for example, rely on electrical energy that has been converted via a converter. Photovoltaic or photochemical converters are two types of photovoltaic converters [4, 5]. Another promising candidate is a method of transforming solar thermal energy into a usable type of energy. Hydrogen generation as a source of chemical energy. Steinfeld [6] looked examined the Exergy productivity of twenty-nine percent and thirty-six

percent for two separate gathering ratios, 5000 or ten thousand, which were discovered for 2 steps calorimetric cycle for generating H_2 from water using energy [7]. The following are the two steps: (1) endothermic step, in which ZnO(s) is thermally dissociated into Zink and oxygen at twenty-three thousand Kelvin utilizing the application of solar radiation as an origin of process temperature, or (2) non-radiation heat-releasing steps, in which Zink is hydrolyzed at seven hundred Kelvin to create Zink oxide. In the second stage, the ZnO(s) naturally separate or are reused in the first process. The production of H_2 takes place in separate processes, obviating the requirement for high [8].

2. ALKALINE ELECTROLYSIS AT MINIMUM TEMPERATURE PHOTOVOLTAIC AND AIR POWER

Wind plants are widely scattered across Africa, and no aim was constructed to determine the average inter space electricity and H₂ generation factory. Many countries have enough wind capacity to operate a one fifty mega watt lowest temperature of alkaline liquids electrolyser and related alter osmosis desalination process along the seashore (Saldanha Bay), with occasional dips in power supply below 150 MWe. Only in May did wind power generation reach its lowest level in 2016 [9]. Wind potential output immerses below 110 MWe only 18% of the time throughout the night. At a balanced Cost of 4.42 dollars per kilogram, a 220 MWe temperature alkaline water electrolysis yard using wind and photovoltaic power should be able to produce 16,819 tonnes of hydrogen per year (less than 2% of predicted Japanese demand). South Africa, on the other hand, would be unable to deliver constant electricity to this plant due to its entire installed wind and photovoltaic capacity, limiting the amount of hydrogen that could be produced.

3. STUDY OF OVERALL EFFICIENCY AND EXERGY EFFICIENCY

The vitality and exergy planning of the cosmic hydrogen synthesis system was investigated using a stellar thermal structure. The numerous components of the system are also illustrated in the same diagram. A focusing concentrator, a heat engine, a motor, and an electrolyzable are the four main components of the system. To ensure that the internal combustion engine has a consistent source of thermal energy, energy warmth storage unit is connected to the circle. When sunlight hit the attentiveness collector, it is focused on the soaks plane, which is connected to the H.E. Some of this heated power, is converted into automatic (shank) work via an engine. Heat loss occurs when residual thermic energy is lost to the atmosphere. The rod work is then employed to bring about energy. The values of various parameters for a solar engrossed plate and an H.E. were calculated. The overall efficiencies of the S.T.G production system are 14.25 and 6.12 percent, respectively [10]. It can be written down that for theoretical calculations, the mean value of motor proficiency is fifty-six percent, while the mean value of H.E. Productivity is forty-five percent. According to Joshi et al., a lower emissivity of 0.2 and a lower absorptivity of 0.8 are recommended. If the collector's efficiency is taken into account at a soaking surface temperature of four hundred centigrade, they are sixty-one percent and 36 percent, respectively. The sun rays thermal production system's overall energy and effectiveness are fourteen percent and six percent, respectively, which is quite near to Joshi's estimates [11-14]. If the concentrated plant's proficiency is high, By comparison, 48.4 percent and 32.51 percent are assigned to collectors, respectively. Using the values, the overall energy and The S.T.H₂ system's energy efficiency can be improved by eleven percent and seven percent, respectively.

4. CONCLUSION

Sun and air energy surpassed coal as the dominant energy sources in the country. However, because of the sporadic nature of both origins, hydro production capacity can be limited. This implies that battery capacity will be unavailable shortly. It can provideH₂ at a competitive cost of seven per kilogram of hydrogen, but this is still not competitive with CH4 refine, especially if CO₂ taxes or carbon representation for the reforming process are made mandatory. A devoted S.T.P plant and the alkaline decomposition were reported to have the highest contribution cost of two to eight rupee per kg of H₂. Future cost reductions may be restricted because all technologies have attained maturity. This technology, on the other hand, is ready for use. Maximum temperature steam electrolysis reduces both the energy requirements and the high cost of hydrogen production plants. Its connection to a solar facility means it can't compete on pricing. In the face of more established technology in the maximum degree of heat environments, steam electrolysis is a new technology that has recently gained popularity. Plant component costs are low, as proved on a laboratory scale. As manufacturing volumes and costs decline, the price is likely to fall automation for production is improving. Estimates that are optimistic propose that the cost of a decomposition reaction might be reduced by a sequence of intensity stack substitution meantime can lift by a factor of ten, from 10,000 to over 40,000 hours Particle receivers work similarly are also put to the test on a small scale, and they cost a lot of money. There will be cutbacks.

Acknowledgement/Funding Acknowledgement

The author(s) received no financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

REFERENCES

- [1] Jones, H., & Botha, N. (2014). Accelerating the fuel cell Industry in South Africa. In *The 6th International Platinum conference: 'Platinum-Metal for the Future* (pp. 317-324).
- [2] Anonymous. South African Department of energy: integrated resource plan 2018.
- [3] Holladay, J. D., Hu, J., King, D. L., & Wang, Y. (2009). An overview of hydrogen production technologies. *Catalysis today*, 139(4), 244-260.
- [4] Sheu, E. J., Mokheimer, E. M., & Ghoniem, A. F. (2015). A review of solar methane reforming systems. *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, 40(38), 12929-12955.
- [5] Kemp, D. (2011). *Technical evaluation of the copper chloride water splitting cycle* (Doctoral dissertation, North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus).
- [6] Harvego, E. A., O'Brien, J. E., & McKellar, M. G. (2012). System evaluations and life-cycle cost analyses for high-temperature electrolysis hydrogen production facilities (No. INL/EXT-12-25968). Idaho National Lab.(INL), Idaho Falls, ID (United States).
- [7] Dincer, I., & Acar, C. (2015). Review and evaluation of hydrogen production methods for better sustainability. *International journal of hydrogen energy*, *40*(34), 11094-11111.
- [8] Carmo, M., Fritz, D. L., Mergel, J., & Stolten, D. (2013). A comprehensive review on PEM water electrolysis. *International journal of hydrogen energy*, *38*(12), 4901-4934.
- [9] Doenitz, W., Schmidberger, R., Steinheil, E., & Streicher, R. (1980). Hydrogen production by high temperature electrolysis of water vapour. *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, *5*(1), 55-63.
- [10] O'Brien, J. E. (2012). Thermodynamics and transport phenomena in high temperature steam electrolysis cells. *Journal of Heat Transfer*, 134(3).
- [11] Zedtwitz, P. V., Petrasch, J., Trommer, D., & Steinfeld, A. (2006). Hydrogen production via the solar thermal decarbonization of fossil fuels. *Solar Energy*, *80*(10), 1333-1337.
- [12] Calderón, M., Calderón, A. J., Ramiro, A., González, J. F., & González, I. (2011). Evaluation of a hybrid photovoltaic-wind system with hydrogen storage performance using exergy analysis. *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, *36*(10), 5751-5762.
- [13] Steinfeld, A. (2005). Solar thermochemical production of hydrogen—a review. *Solar energy*, 78(5), 603-615.
- [14] Crouse, W. H., & Anglin, D. L. Automotive mechanics, 1993. New York.