



Hydrogen-energy systems for transportation applications

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- General Chair, IEEE Vehicular Power Propulsion Conference 2017, Belfort, France

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Hydrogen-energy systems for transportation applications

Motivations

Part 1 – Fuel Cell technology and PEMFC Systems

Part 2 – What are the targets for automotive applications ?

Part 3 – Open issues & ongoing research actions

Concluding remarks



Hydrogen-energy systems for transportation applications

Motivations

Towards FC systems

– Switching to fuel cell ? - Transportation applications

▪ Fossil fuel ICE

- Low efficiency
- Limited fossil resources

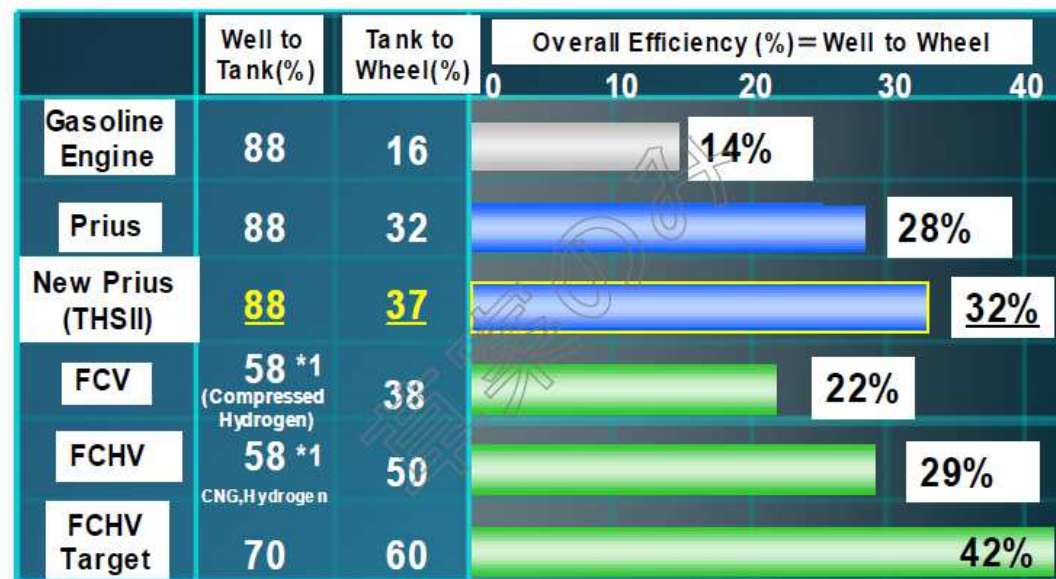
▪ First alternative: BEV or HEV

- BEV : Significant progresses have been made BUT
 - Long duration recharging operation
 - Limited autonomy of the electrical vehicle
 - Limited durability of the batteries
- HEV : reduce rather than eliminate the dependency on fossil fuels...

▪ Second alternative: FCV / FCHV

- High efficiency
- (*Theoretical & in-situ*) pollutant emissions is zero
- Fast recharging – high autonomy

⇒ **Attractive alternative**



*1 : natural gas to hydrogen

T. Teratani, Toyota Motor Corp., Electric Propulsion Vehicles and Total Energy Management, IEEE VPPC 2012, Seoul, South Korea.

Towards FC systems

– Switching to fuel cell ? – Stationary applications

▪ Increasing interest for the storage of electricity

- Wide use of renewables
- Intermittency of renewables

▪ First alternative: “classical” solutions

- Electrochemical batteries, flywheels
 - High cost, limited durability, limited energy density
 - ➔ moreover, limited ability to store electricity for long time
- Pumped storage
 - Large scale only at specific places

▪ Second alternative: hydrogen

- Based on the duality between electricity & hydrogen
- Ability for long duration storage
- Can be considered at a microgrid level and at a grid level
- **Can be coupled to refueling of FCV fleets**

⇒ **Attractive alternative**





Hydrogen-energy systems for transportation applications

Part 1 – Fuel Cell technology and PEMFC Systems

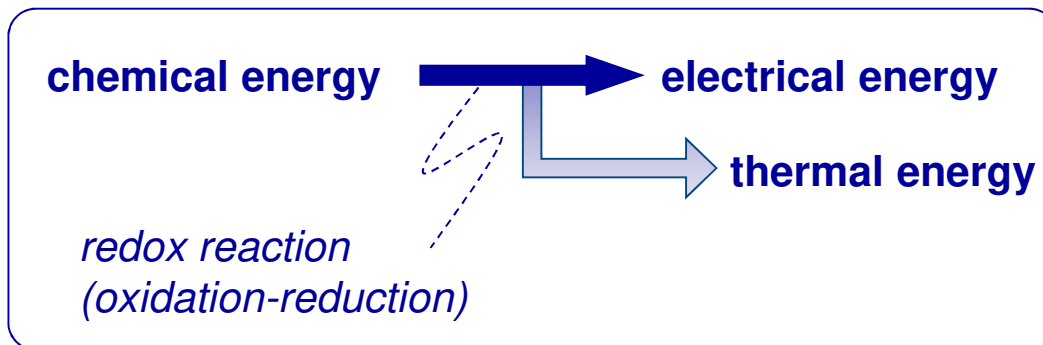
Fuel Cell technology



– Principle of a fuel cell

▪ What is a Fuel Cell?

- US Fuel Cell Council definition, modified by FC Testing and STandardisation NETwork
 - An **electrochemical device** that continuously converts the chemical energy of a fuel and an oxidant to electrical energy (DC power), heat and other reaction products. The fuel and oxidant are typically **stored outside** of the cell and transferred into the cell as the reactants are consumed.
- Main difference with "traditional" battery
 - Fuel is **supplied continuously & stored outside**



PEMFC -CEA

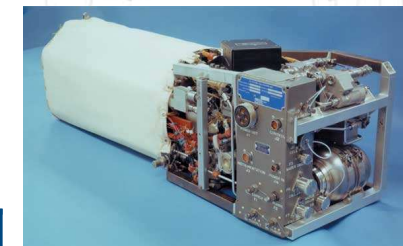
Fuel Cell technology

Taxonomy of Fuel Cell

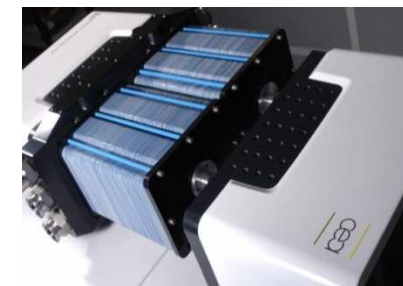
	Oper. Temp. (°C)	Power range (W)	Main application area
DMFC	20 – 90	1 – 100	Low-power portable applications (mobile phones, computers)
PEMFC	30 – 100	1 – 100k	Automobile / Transport Low-power stationary appl. (residential sector)
AFC	50 – 200	500 – 10k	Spaceships
PAFC	~220	10k – 1M	Domestic heat & electricity co-generation (CHP)
MCFC	~650	100k – 10M+	High-power units for CHP, maritime applications
SOFC	500 – 1000	1k – 10M+	Same as MCFC + Transport



AFC – Apollo (NASA)



PEMFC –
Car Appl. (CEA)



SOFC –
Stat. Appl. (MSRI)



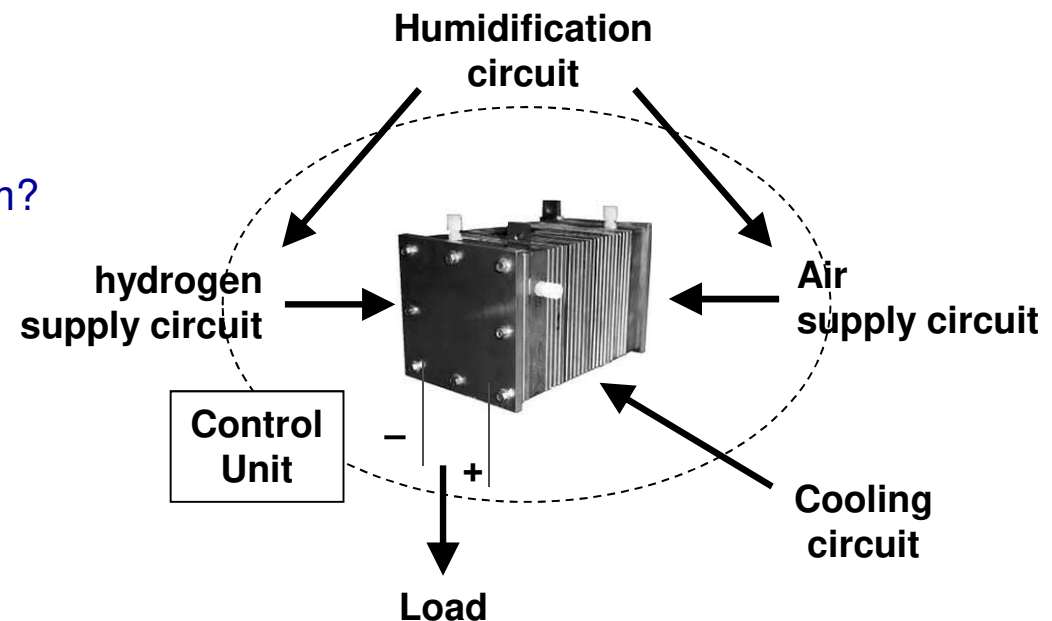
PEMFC Systems

– Whole PEMFC System

▪ The stack within a whole system

- Stack "only" converts energy...
- Prior to the electrochemical reaction
 - How to supply "produce", store, and supply the hydrogen and oxygen?
- After the electrochemical reaction
 - How to manage the electricity generated?
 - How to manage the heat generated?
 - How to manage the water generated?
- During the electrochemical reaction
 - How to control the process?
 - How to ensure safety of the whole system?

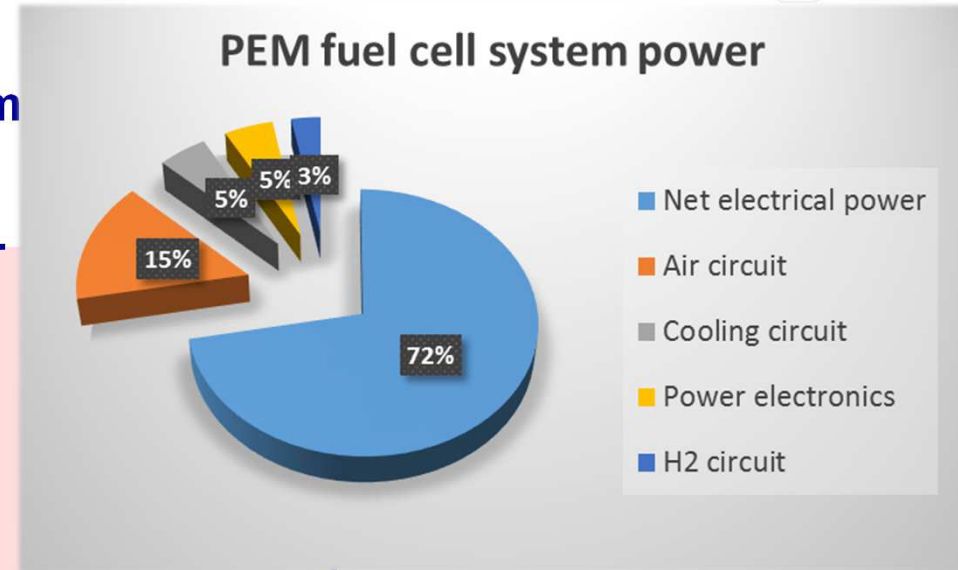
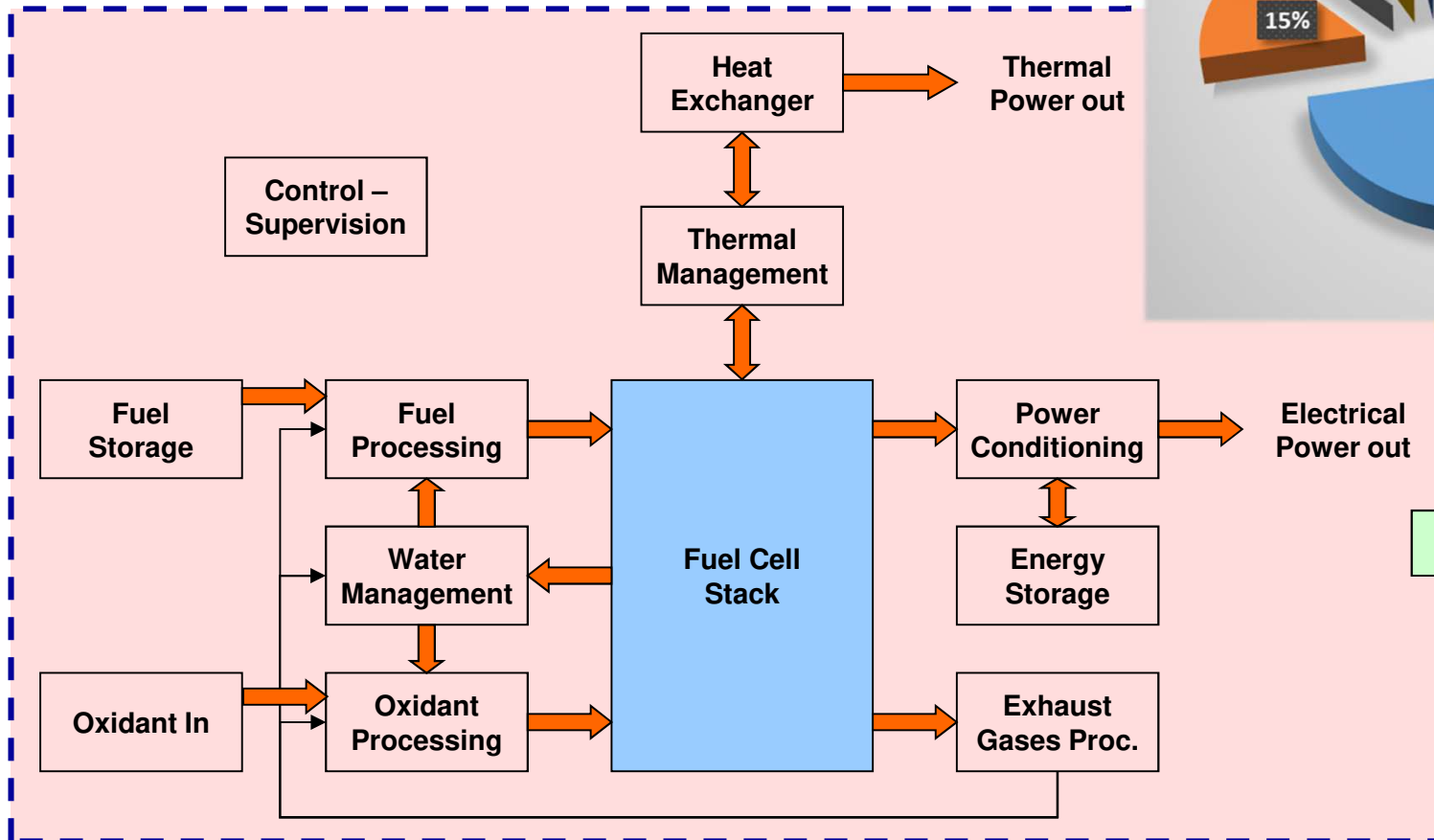
⇒ FC System = Stack + Ancillaries



PEMFC Systems

– Drawback from FC system's ancillaries

- PEMFC system: complex multiphysics system
- Leads to different losses (/ gross power)...



PEMFC Systems

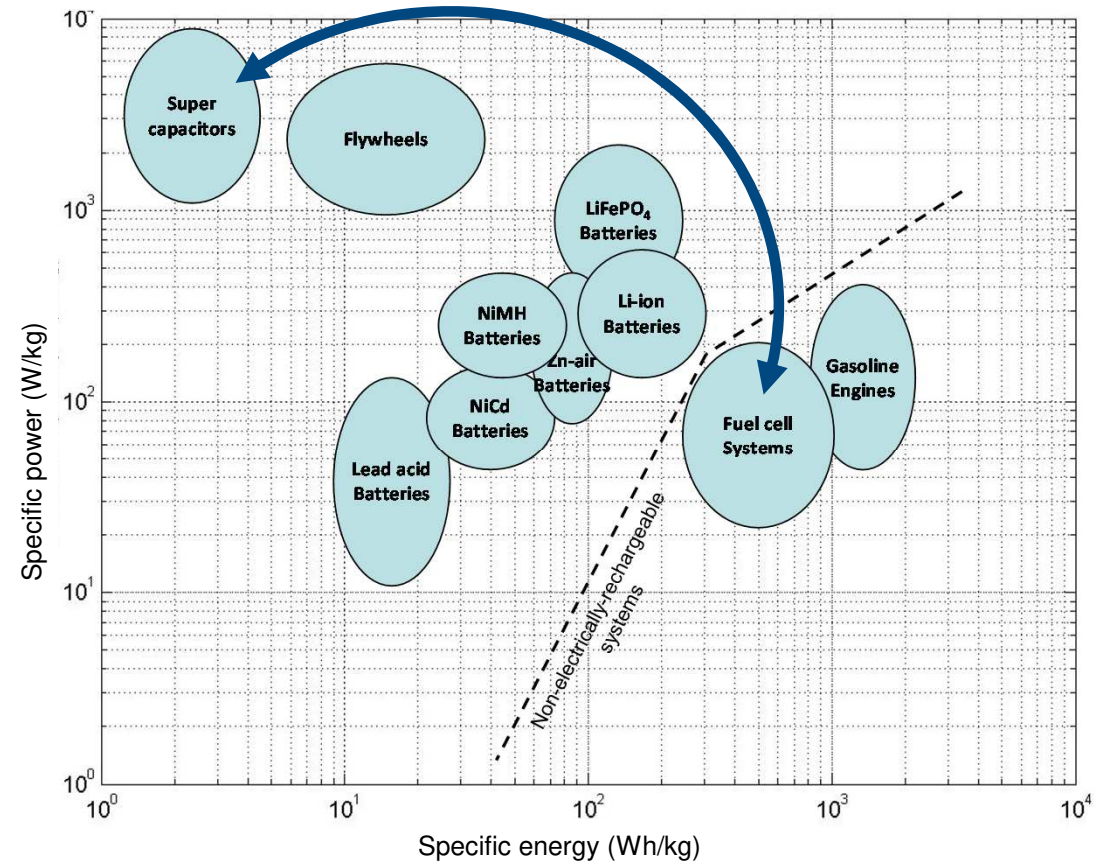
– Whole PEMFC System

▪ The need of electrical hybridization...

- FC = non electrical rechargeable system
- FC = no possibility of recovering braking energy

→ Ragone plot...

→ Hybridization with supercapacitors / flywheels / power batteries?



MC.Péra, D.Hissel, H.Gualous, Ch.Turpin, "Electrochemical components", Wiley, 2013.

Behavior and losses of PEMFC



– PEMFC is a complex system

- Building behaviors models would be of prime importance for design, control, diagnostic, optimization... **BUT**
- **FC = highly multiphysics and multiscale systems**
 - Multiphysics = electrical, mechanical, thermal engineering, electrochemistry...
 - Multiscale = from the μm to the m
 - Multiscale = different time constants are involved
 - Electrochemistry \approx instantaneous
 - Electrical power converter $\approx 10^{-4}\text{s}$
 - Membrane water hydration content $\approx 10^0\text{s}$
 - Temperature $\approx 10^2\text{s}$
 - Durability $\approx 10^5\text{s}$
- **High difficulty to access internal parameters**
 - Specific know-how of the manufacturers
 - No sensor available

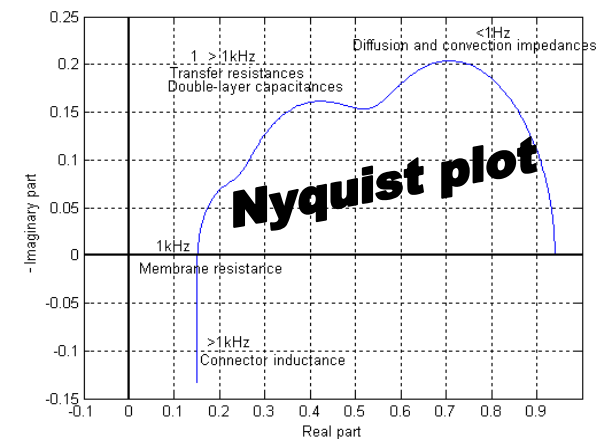
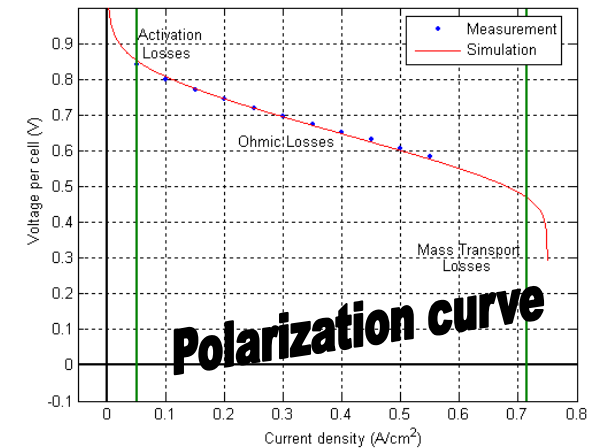
PEMFC behavior is hard to catch. Even if research increases in this area, a "complete" multiscale FC system model is still not available.

Behavior and losses of PEMFC

– Characterization of a stack

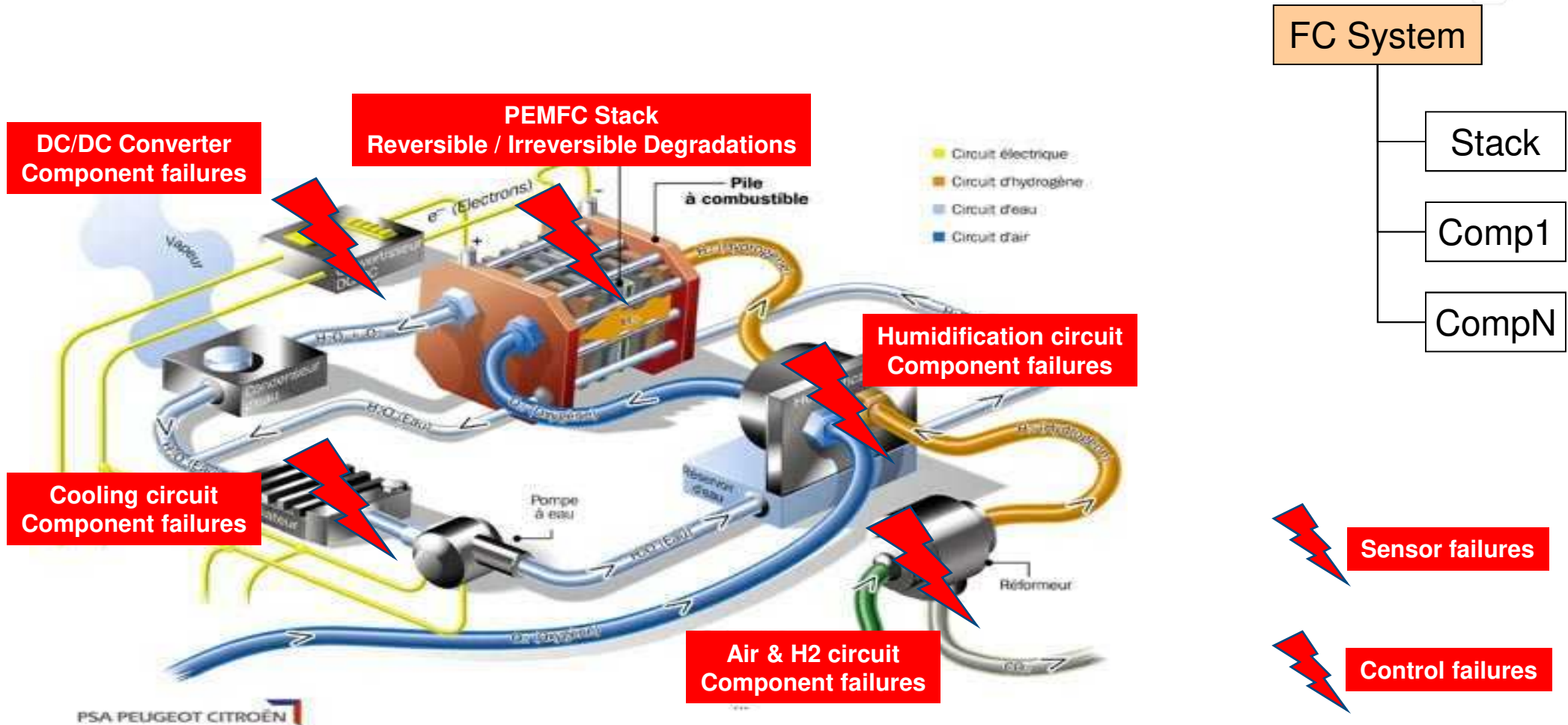
▪ Two useful "tools"

- Polarization curve
 - Enables to estimate losses
 - Enables to estimate efficiency
- Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy
 - Enables to build impedance spectra (Nyquist plots)
 - Nyquist plot
 - Enables to estimate internal resistances / impedances of a fuel cell
 - Enables to depict and analyze failure / ageing mechanisms



Failure mechanisms

– Degradations/failures at system's level

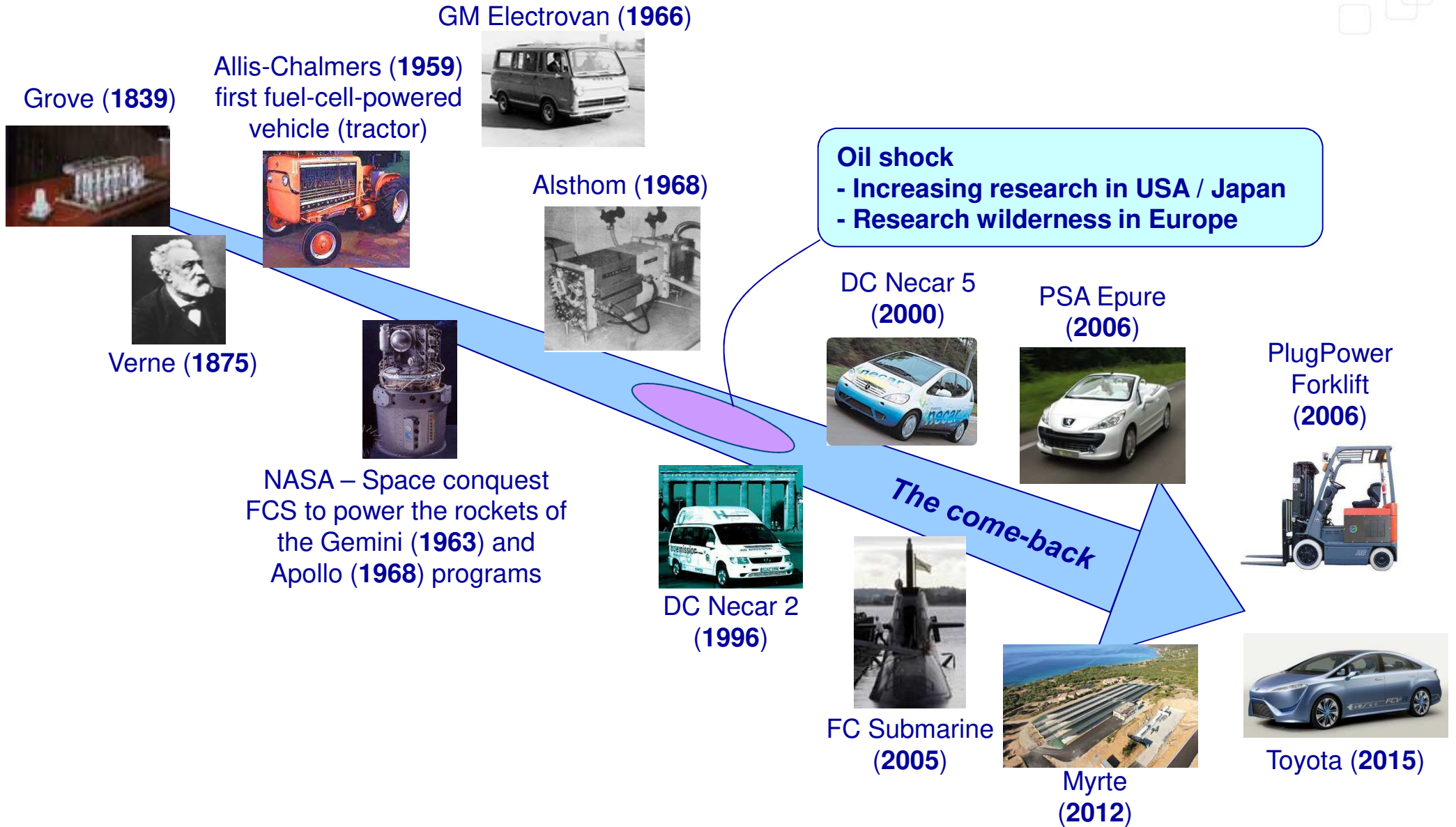




Hydrogen-energy systems for transportation applications

Part 2 – What are the targets for automotive applications ?

Brief history



Light duty commercial vehicles already exist !

– Toyota Mirai



– And also Hyundai & Honda !





Features	Values
Power	114 kW
Power density	2 kW/kg, 3.1 kW/l
NiMH battery	1.6 kWh
H ₂ tanks	700 bars, 10 kg
Autonomy	500 km
Price	Around \$60k (or leasing)

But only few FCV sold or leased worldwide...

- About 5000 vehicles sold / leased today
- A reference to be reached to ensure a larger market : DOE

2020 Targets by Application

		
Fuel Cell Cost	\$40/kW \$30/kW*	\$1,000/kW** \$1,500/kW***
Durability	5,000 hrs 8,000 hrs*	80,000 hrs
Efficiency	65% 70%*	50% † 90% ‡
H ₂ Storage Cost (On-Board)	\$10/kWh 1.8 kWh/L, 1.3 kWh/kg	
H ₂ Cost at Pump	<\$4/gge **** <\$7/gge (early market)	

[REF] D. Papageorgopoulos, DOE Fuel Cell R&D Activities: Strategy, Advancements, and Opportunities, FDFC'2017 Conference, Stuttgart, Germany, 2017.

* : ultimate

** : for natural gas

*** : for biogas

**** : gge = gallon gasoline equivalent = approx. 1kg H₂

Where are we today ?

– Electrical efficiency

- Maximal value of about **45% to 50%**

– Durability

- In-situ or ex-situ tests, under transportation actual operating conditions (stop/starts, vibrations, electrical cycling, thermal cycling, humidity & pollutant conditions, ...)

→ **about 3000 hours**

– Power density

- > 1,5 kW/l for the FC stack
- > 1 kW/l for the fuel cell system

– Energy density

- Strongly linked to the storage of H₂

– Cold start (automotive applications)

- From -20°C in 30 seconds without external energy

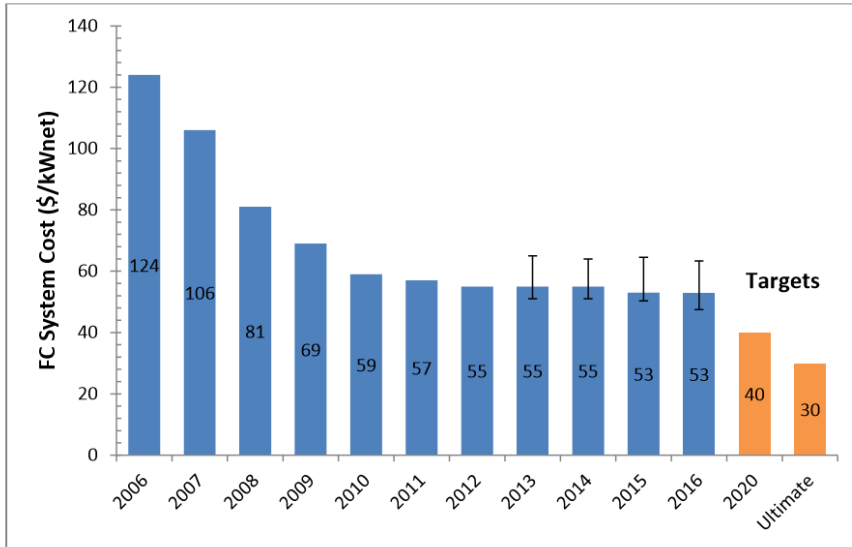


ElringKlinger PEMFC NM5

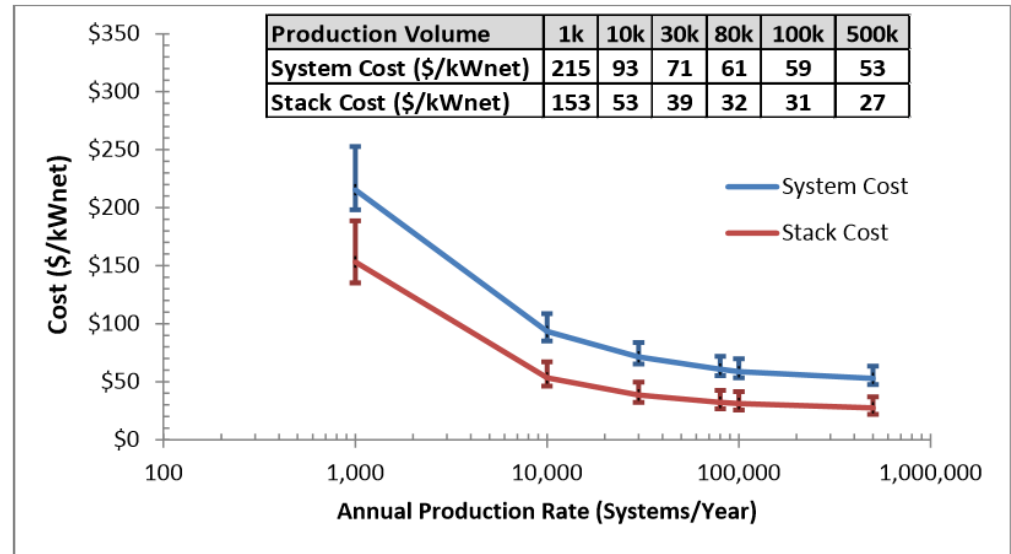
Where are we today ?

– Costs

▪ FCS costs



Projected costs for a 80kW-FCS - high-volume manufacturing (500000 units/year)



Projected costs for a 80kW-FC stack and 80kW-FCS (transportation) – 2016's status

▪ H2 costs

Approx. 10 €/kg (for 80kg/day of H2 distribution)

Large refueling station : approx. 1 M€

[REF] A. Wilson, J. Marcinkoski, D. Papageorgopoulos, Fuel Cell System Cost - 2016, Record #16020, DOE Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Program Record, 2016.

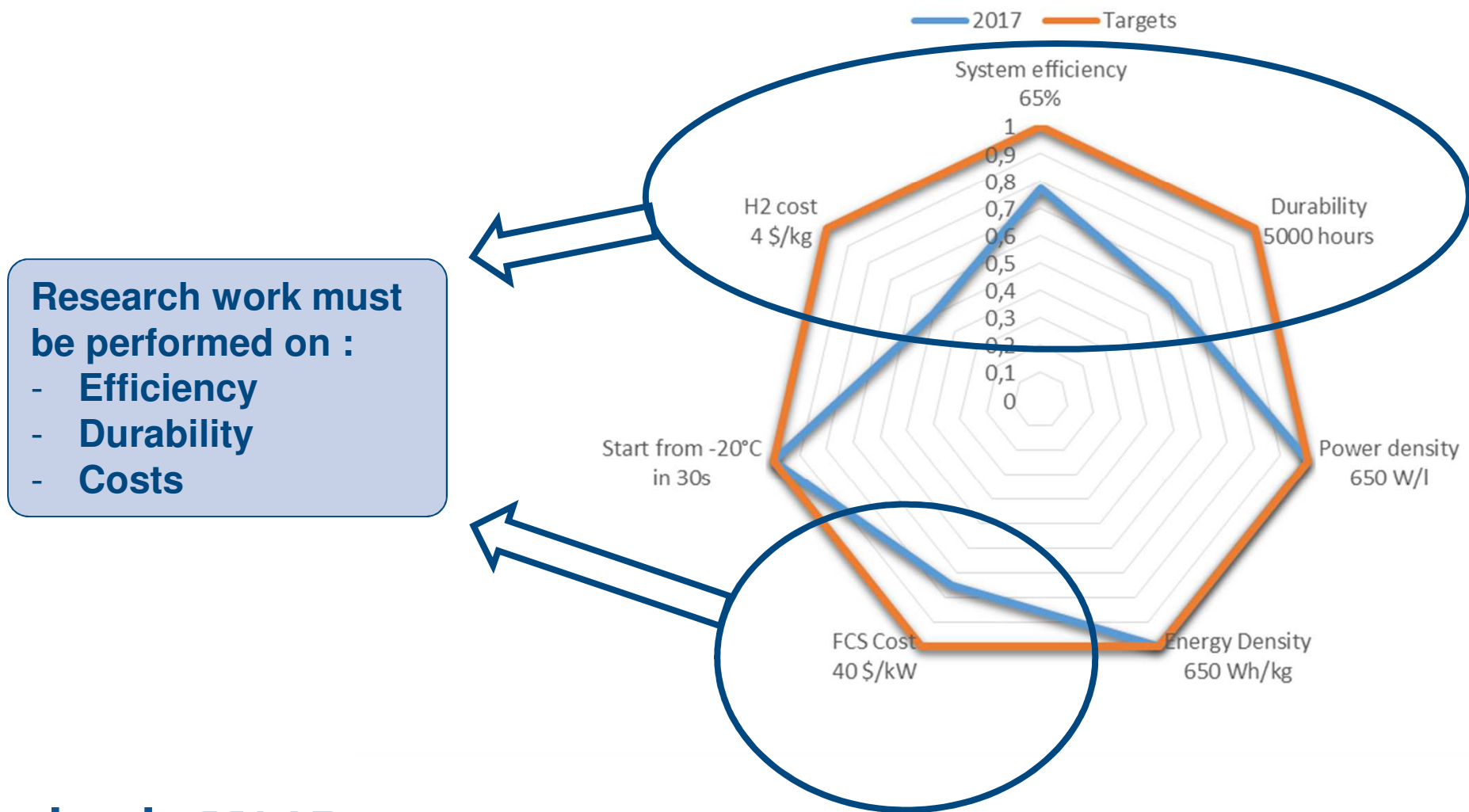
[REF] AFHYPAC, L'hydrogène, vecteur de la transition énergétique, Présentation au Sénat, 2014.

Where are we today ?

- Radar plot regarding the DOE targets



FCS status in 2017 - vehicle applications





Hydrogen-energy systems for transportation applications

Part 3 – Open issues & ongoing research actions

Where are the development headings ?

– Towards enhanced performances

▪ Scientific and technological bolts

- Fuel cell system **efficiency**
 - Increase it (elec. only) from about 40-45% to about 55-65%
- Fuel cell system **durability**
 - Ex. for PEMFC systems
 - 5000 hours are required for light vehicles (3000 hours obtained)
 - 30000 hours are required for trucks
 - And up to 80000 hours for stationary applications & railways



- Public **acceptance**
 - Socio-economic aspect: hydrogen-based energy is unknown
 - Strong link with public policies



- **Cost** (whole life cycle)
 - Linked to industrial deployment



- **“Green” H₂ availability**
 - Production, storage, distribution

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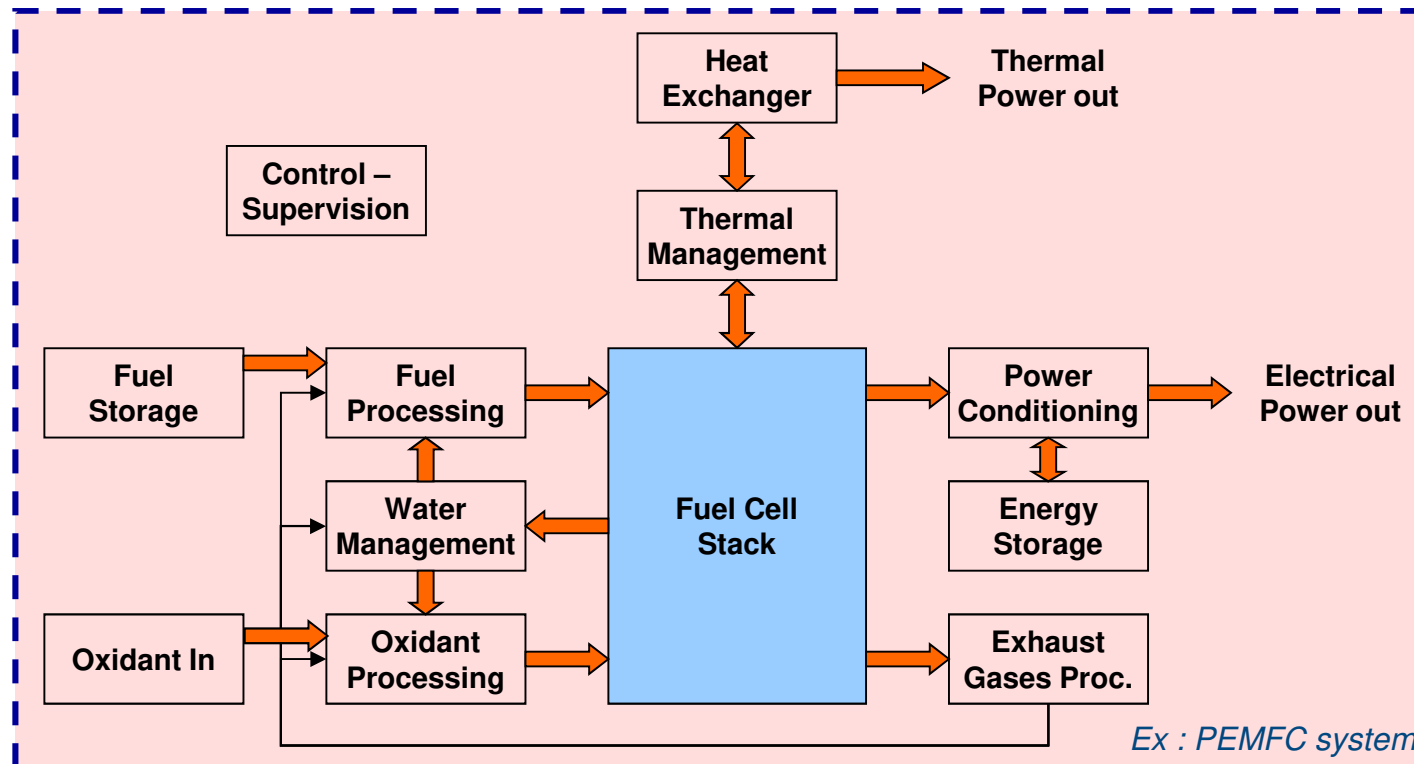
- **“Green” H₂ availability**
 - Production, storage, distribution



Areas of research : efficiency

– Efficient & dedicated ancillaries are required...

- Specific power converters
- Specific air compressor
- Systems for the humidification / cooling
- Fuel storage
- “Systemic” optimization of the architecture, taking care of all energy flows

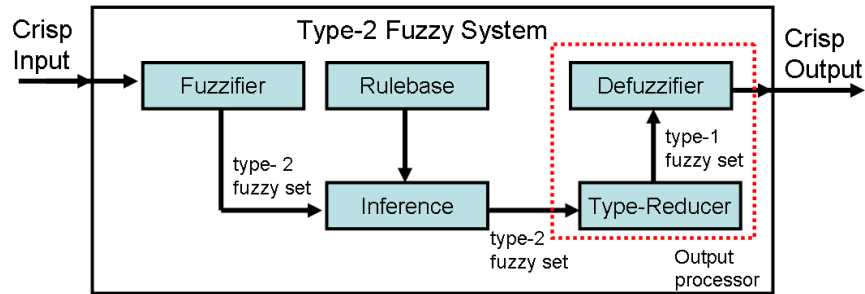


Areas of research : efficiency

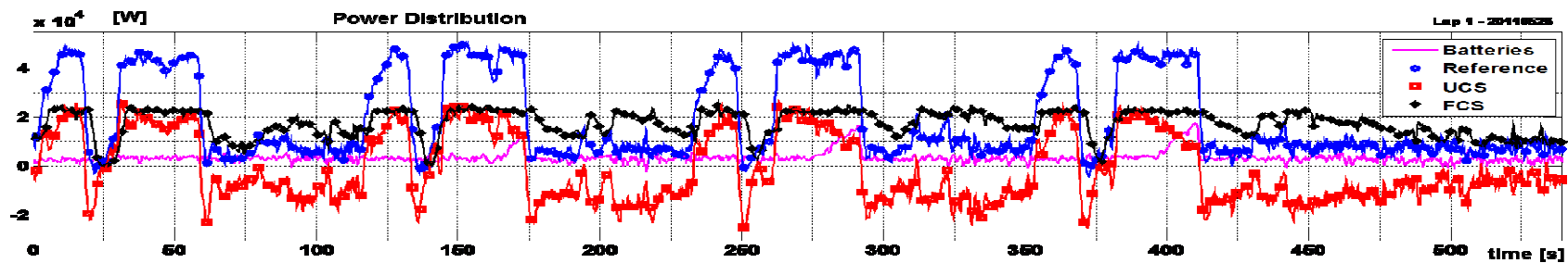
- Optimize energy flows...

Use of AI approaches

Propose efficient (& real-time) energy management strategies



Ex : PEMFC system



- Optimize simultaneously the energy flows and the vehicle architecture...

Use of new metaheuristics



Areas of research

– Towards enhanced performances

▪ Scientific and technological bolts

- Fuel cell system **efficiency**
 - Increase it (elec. only) from about 30-40% to about 55-65%
- Fuel cell system **durability**
 - Ex. for PEMFC systems
 - 5000 hours are required for light vehicles (2500-3000 hours obtained)
 - 30000 hours are required for trucks
 - And up to 100000 hours for stationary applications & railways



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- **Cost** (whole life cycle)
 - Linked to industrial deployment

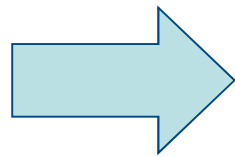


- **“Green” H₂ availability**
 - Production, storage, distribution



- **Objectives**

- Increase durability of the fuel cell stack and of the fuel cell system
- Increase efficiency of the FC system
- Increase reliability of the FC system
- Increase dynamic performances of the FC systems



**FC STACK S.O.H.
DIAGNOSTIC METHODOLOGIES
ARE A KEY ISSUE !!!**

- **Constraints**

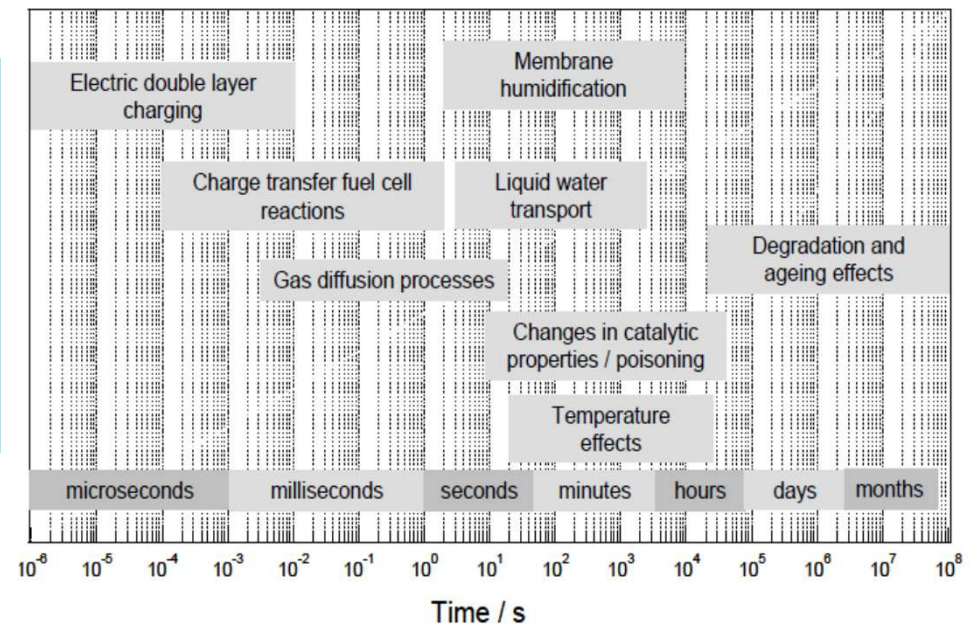
- Use of a minimal number of actual sensors
 - For complexity purpose
 - For cost purpose
 - For reliability purpose
 - For real-time control constraints

Diagnostic of FC

- **Activities at stack / system level started approx. 2001**
- **Model-based approaches**
 - Need of an accurate behavior model, easy-coupling with control (explicit physical causality)
 - Difficulties : multi-physics and multi-scale, determination of internal parameters, large number of sensors (expensive)
- **Non model-based approaches**
 - Need of large data sets, real-time ability
 - Difficulties: requirement of large experimental dataset under both normal and target fault conditions

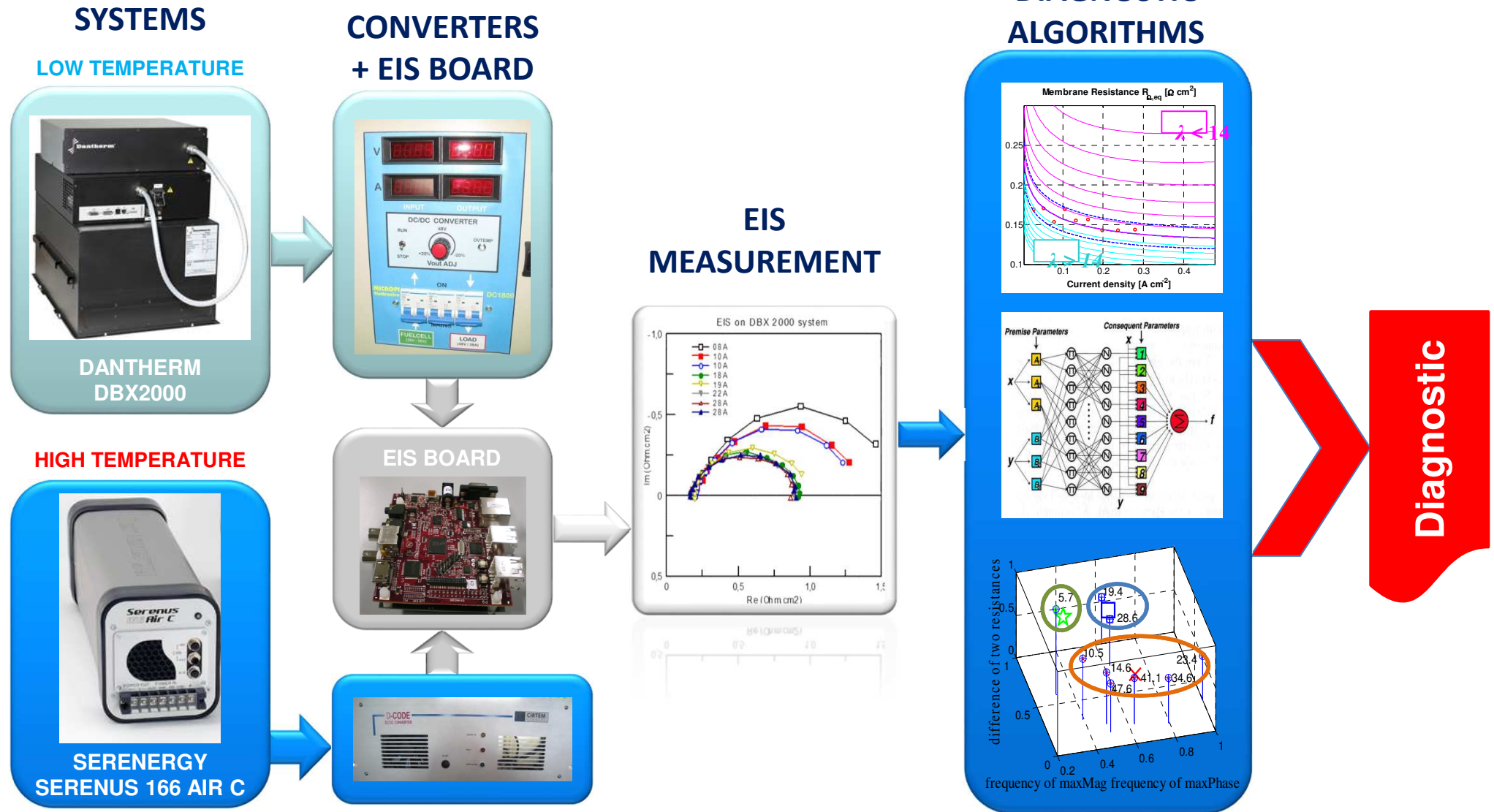
FC Specificities

- Time : from μ -scale to macro-scale (μ s to years)
- Scale : from μ -scale to macro-scale (μ m to m)
- Highly multi-physics (chemistry, electrochemistry, electrical engineering, thermodynamics, mechanical engineering, thermal engineering, control engineering, ...)



Example : signal-based FDI

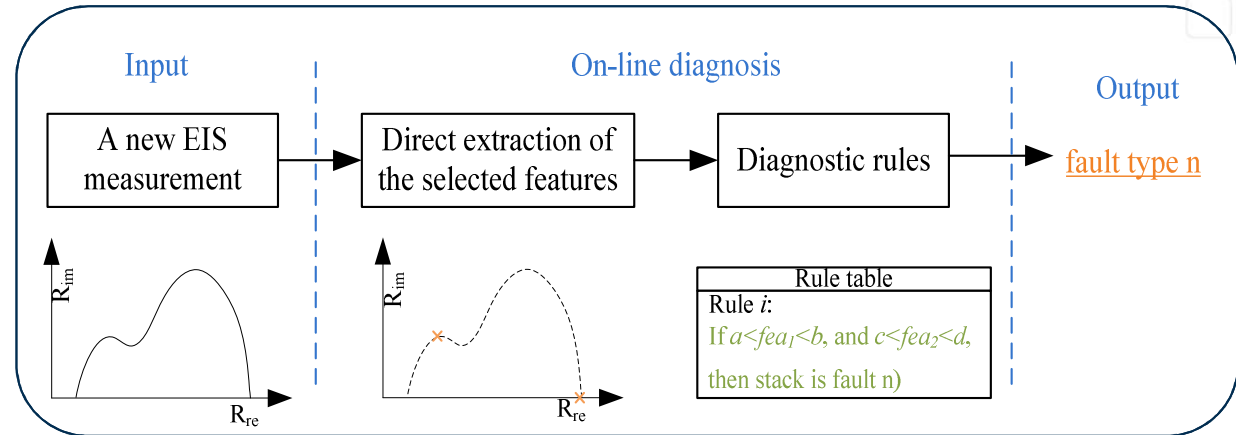
– Example : DC-DC converter based diagnostics for PEM systems



Example : signal-based FDI

– Example : DC-DC converter based diagnostics for PEM systems

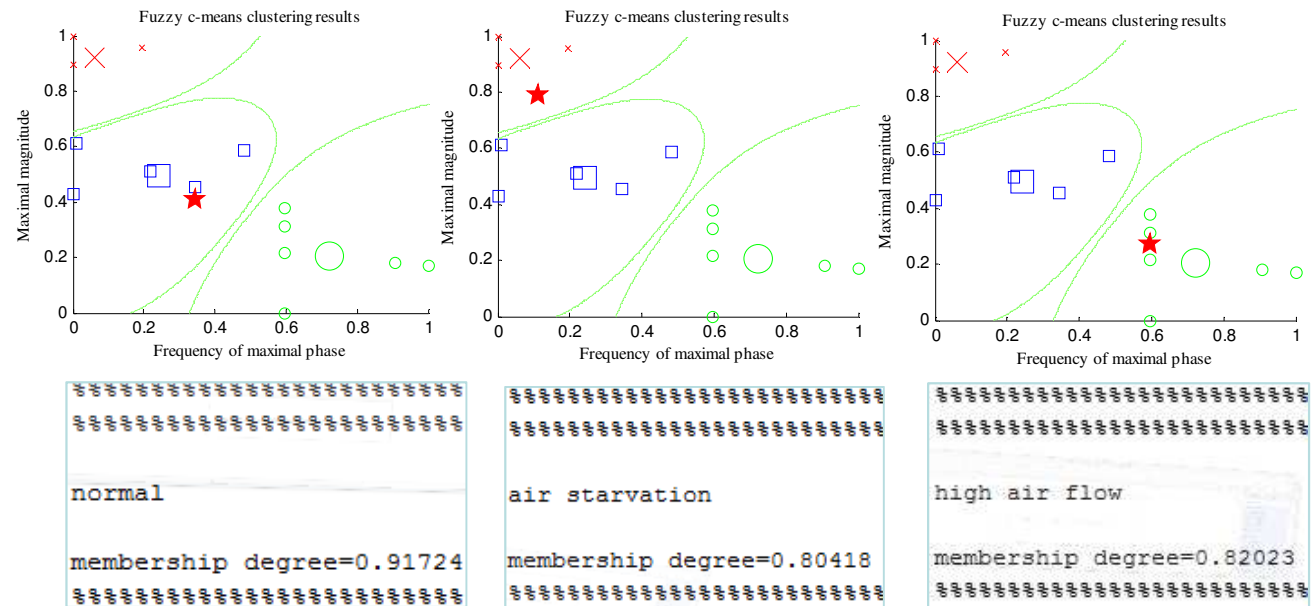
- Online diagnostic algorithm (Zheng et al. 2014)



- Online testing results based on Nexa™ stack + high voltage DC/DC converter

Training accuracy rate = 93%

Testing accuracy rate = 100%



Testing of 3 new points obtained under normal, low and high flow conditions

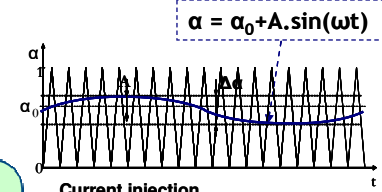
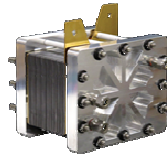
Relating activities : diagnostic to prognostic

– Already on-going works

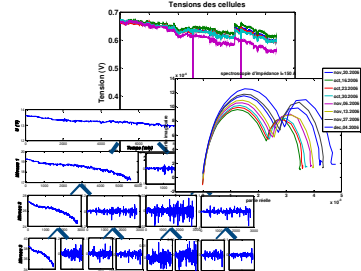
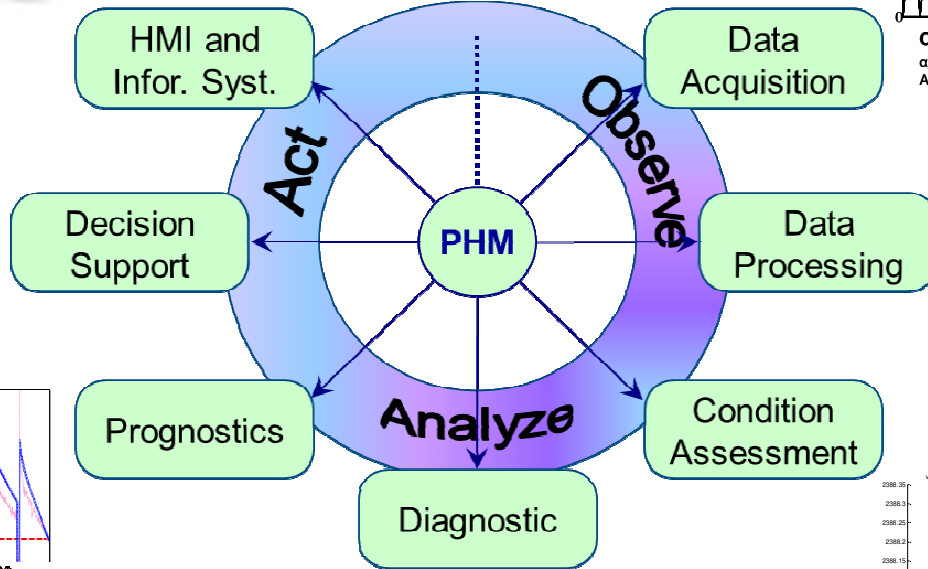
- residual-based control
- fault-tolerant control...

- taxonomy of failures
- wearing mechanism analysis...

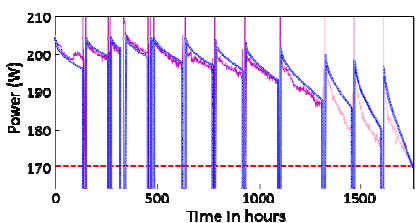
- T° , I , V
- EIS...



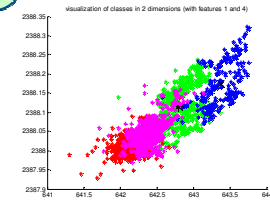
Current injection
 α_0 : duty cycle => normal behavior
 A : sinusoidal modulation amplitude



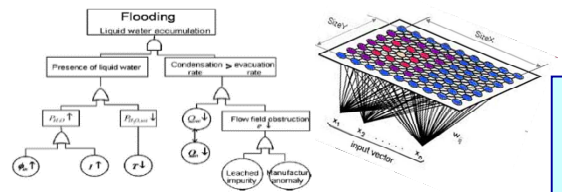
- polarization curves
- Nyquist diagrams...



- particle filtering
- echo state networks...



- fault tree analysis
- statistical analysis
- ANN models, wavelet analysis...



Prognostic of FC

– A new research field, strongly coupled to industrial requirements !

▪ Interest / issues

- Estimating remaining useful lifetime of FC stacks / systems under actual operating conditions
- Durability / reliability increase of multi-stack systems
- Issues :
 - Obtain consistent database in different operating conditions
 - AST procedures at stack / system level
 - Variability of FC stack performances (due to industrial process)
 - Prognostic under varying operating conditions
 - Definition of thresholds for RUL estimation (under varying operating conditions)

▪ Approaches currently evaluated :

- Kalman filters
- Particle filters
- Reservoir computing
- ANFIS approaches
- Time-evolving model-based approaches

▪ For free experimental database : see <http://eng.fclab.fr/ieee-phm-2014-data-challenge/>

Areas of research

– Towards enhanced performances

▪ Scientific and technological bolts

- Fuel cell system **efficiency**
 - Increase it (elec. only) from about 40-45% to about 55-65%
- Fuel cell system **durability**
 - Ex. for PEMFC systems
 - 5000 hours are required for light vehicles (3000 hours obtained)
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 - And up to 80000 hours for stationary applications & railways



- Public **acceptance**
 - Socio-economic aspect: hydrogen-based energy is unknown
 - Strong link with public policies



- **Cost** (whole life cycle)
 - Linked to industrial deployment



- **“Green” H₂ availability**
 - Production, storage, distribution

Areas of research : public acceptance

- A global framework

▪ Historical approach of H2 & FC

- Diachronic and synchronic approaches

▪ Public policies

- Strong involvement of governments is required (funding, taxes, ...)
- Funding for innovation & for research
- Key countries: Japan, Germany, Canada, USA, South Korea, France, ...



▪ Evaluation / mitigation of risks

- Normalization / standardization
- Certification / evaluation of security issues



▪ Demonstration programs

- Assessment of the technology in real world applications

▪ Awareness on the technology

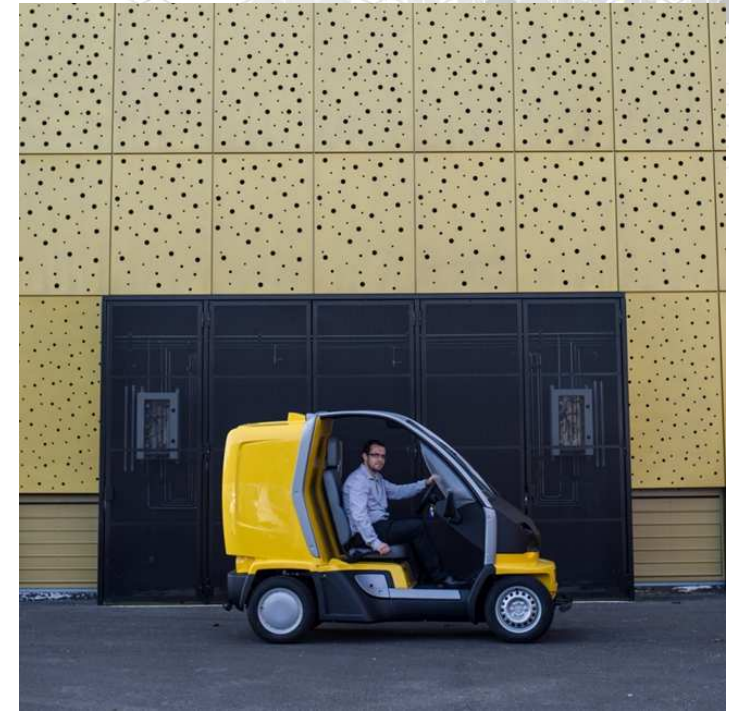
- Demonstration programs
- Teaching fuel cell from lower classes



Example : Assessment in real world

Mobypost EU project – La Poste objectives

- Economic perspectives :
 - Proof of concept for the vehicle + local production of H2
 - Demonstration of economic viability of H2 for captive fleets
- Energy transition :
 - Reduce CO2 emissions and dependency to fossil fuels
 - Coupling with renewables and storage of excess production
- Social acceptance :
 - Increase postmen's security and working conditions
 - Feedback on regulatory constraints



Key numbers

- **2** demonstration territories in B-FC region
- **2** years experimental trial
- **8** European partners
- **10** FC vehicles
- **920** MM work
- **1682** postal routes covered
- **2017** (demonstration ended in...)



Example : Assessment in real world

Mobypost EU project – Main project objectives

- Taking care of postmen requirements
- Design an optimized hybrid FC powertrain
- Energy flow supervision
- Coupling with renewables (PV panels)
- Hydrogen production & storage on-site
- 1st French FCV fleet (10 vehicles, 2 H2/PV stations) testing in constrained environment (temperature, power demand)

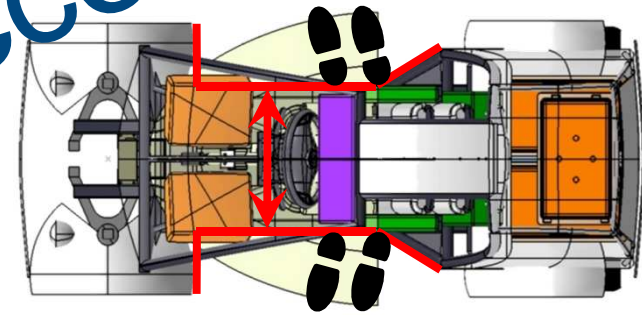


Example : Assessment in real world

Mobypost EU project – Design by postmen for postmen

- Identify actual postmen requirements
- Specifications from postal delivery business
- Design and architecture validated by postmen
 - 1m width
 - 45km/h
 - 4 wheels
 - no car doors
- Most of postal routes realized without going out of the vehicle
- Increased working conditions for postmen

A real success story!!!



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Areas of developments : costs



– Reduce the costs

- **A strong industrial interest** *(source US DOE annual market report)*
 - Fuel cells receive far more patents than other renewable energy technologies (950 patents in 2011 versus 450 for photovoltaic)
- **2016's prices**
 - About 500€-2000€/kW for one single stack – projected cost for 500000 units / year = 27€/kW
 - 35% FC stack + 35% FC ancillaries + 30% electrical powertrain
- **A (small) hydrogen refueling station ≈ 1M€**

– What can be done ?

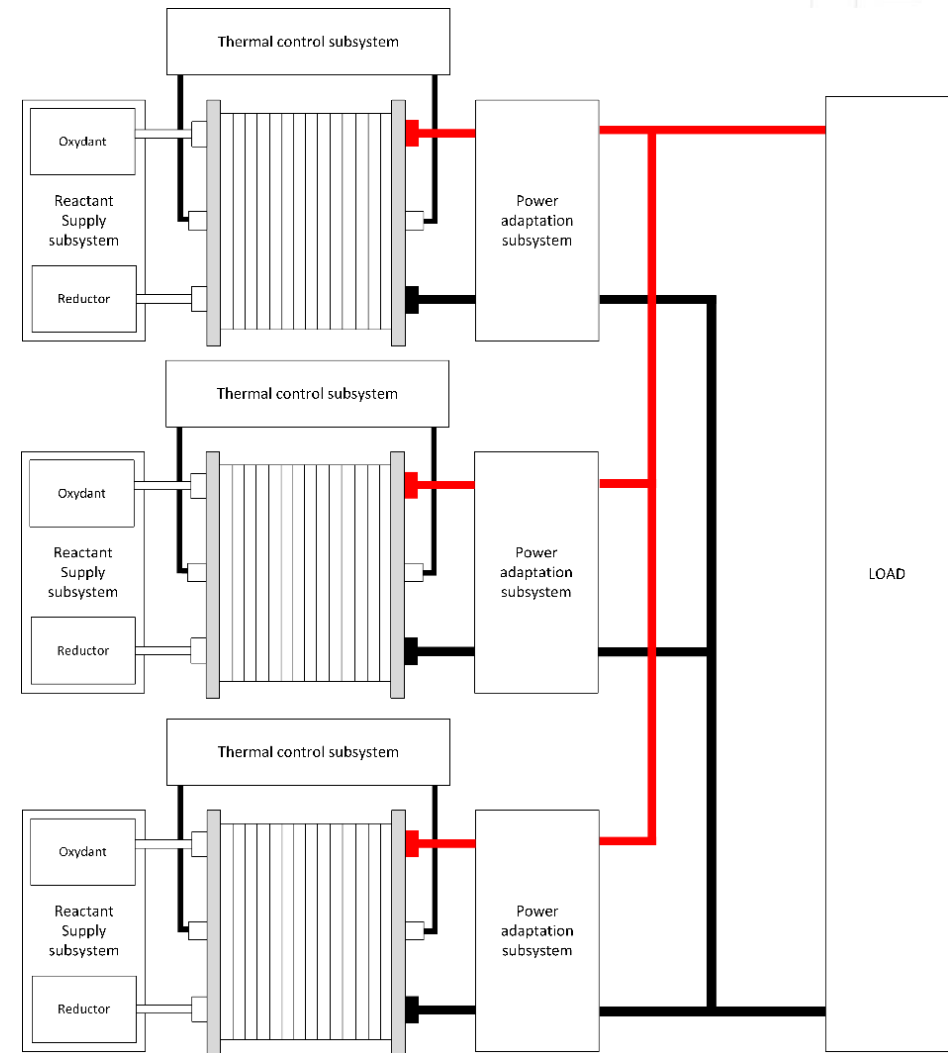
- Use of lower cost components (EME)
- Process automation (especially for bipolar plates)
- Design of specific ancillaries (e.g. the air compressor)
- Understand in deep the degradation mechanisms
- Optimize the whole system not only the components
- Focus on “interesting” emerging markets (forklifts, micro-CHP, backup power, storage of renewables, military applications (U-boats, portable, backup), aeronautic applications, ...)
- Increase modularity of FC systems



Example : Modularity of FC systems

Interests

- Ability to manage degraded mode operation
- Better performances:
 - Maximize efficiency
 - Increased lifetime
- Simplified implementation on board
- Easy scaling-up
- Modular system
 - Same FC system can address different applications (road, trucks, rail, ...)
 - Cost reductions



[REF] N. Marx, "Multi-stack FC systems for automotive applications", Cotutelle PhD. Univ. Franche-Comte, Univ. Quebec Trois-Rivières, 2017.

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- Public **acceptance**
 - Socio-economic aspect: hydrogen-based energy is unknown
 - Strong link with public policies
- **Cost** (whole life cycle)
 - Linked to industrial deployment
- **“Green” H₂ availability**
 - Production, storage, distribution



Areas of developments : green H₂ availability

– Increase H₂ production from renewables

▪ Today, about 95% of H₂ is coming from fossil fuels

- steam reforming or partial oxidation of methane
- coal gasification



▪ Key issue for :

- public acceptance
- sustainable energy developments
- decentralized energy production
- coupling to biomass



– What can be done ?

- **Seasonal storage** of renewable electricity
- **Convergence** between stationary applications & mobile applications
- Developments of PEM & SO **electrolyzers**
- Developments of new materials / solutions for hydrogen storage (increase of mass storage percentage)
- **Exergetic optimization** of the whole electrolyzer / storage / fuel cell system
- Development and deployment of refueling stations



Hydrogen-energy systems for transportation applications

Concluding remarks

Concluding remarks



– The interest of H2 technology

▪ H2

- Best candidate for next generation fuel?
- Will play a key role in the future energy economy
- Still issues on H2 production, public acceptance, on-board storage, distribution facilities

▪ FC are promising energy converters for next generation EVs

- High efficiency & low noise level
- Possibly no dependency to fossil fuels
- Applications can be considered in transportation, mobility, micro-CHP, storage of renewables
- Still issues at system-level :
 - Lot of interactions between the FC stack & its ancillaries
 - Limited durability under varying operating conditions
 - Reliability, Diagnostic & Prognostic
 - Dedicated ancillaries on a tiny market
 - Global optimization is required (architecture, stack, ancillaries, control, costs, efficiency, ...)

Thanks to our research team !



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Hydrogen-energy systems for transportation applications

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