Dynamic modelling of a 10kW hybrid system SOFC + mGT

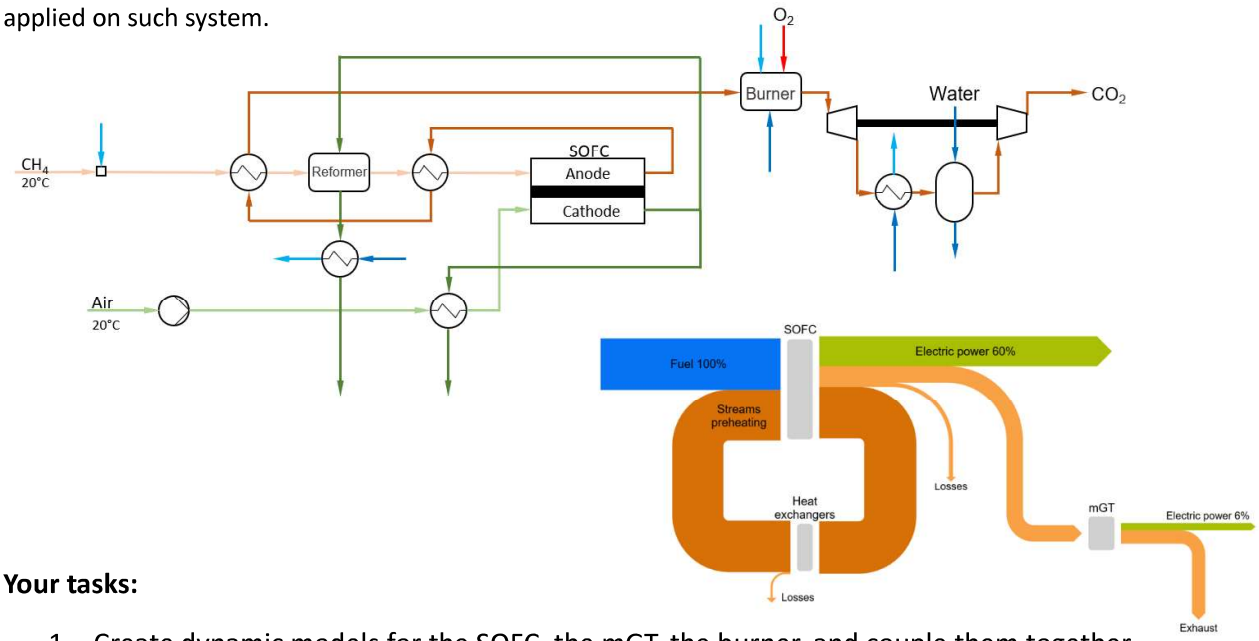
Master project (30 credits)

Supervisor: Martin Gay Prof: Jan Van Herle

Project description:

An 8 kW SOFC is coupled to a micro gas turbine (mGT) to maximize the conversion of methane into electricity. Coupling these two technologies requires a complex Balance of Plant (BOP) to maximize the heat exchanges and thus maximize efficiency. The consequence is a strong interplay between the two technologies and the intermediate components. Steady-state simulations have been made for the sizing of the components and the efficiency maximization. However, variations have not been simulated yet, especially during load variations and system start-up or shutdown.

The goal of this project is to create a dynamic model of the whole system, assess the behavior according to transients, and assess the consequences of the variations of some working parameters of the SOFC, the mGT, and the whole system. According to the results, define if RTO algorithms could be applied on such system.



Your tasks:

1. Create dynamic models for the SOFC, the mGT, the burner, and couple them together to create a dynamic model of the whole system.
2. Assess the consequences of load variation, start-up and shutdown.
3. Vary a set of parameters and assess the consequences in terms of efficiency, stability, safety, etc.
4. If possible, validate the dynamic model of the SOFC and the mGT with existing setups (not built yet)

Knowledge in software for dynamic modelling is a plus (gProms, COMSOL, Simulink, etc.)

Administrative:

The project will be supervised by Martin Gay (GEM). If interested, please send your CV, with short motivation letter, to Martin.

Location: This research work will be conducted at EPFL-Sion, or remotely.

Contact: Martin Gay, martin.gay@epfl.ch