

Annexure

How Can India Indigenise Hydrogen Electrolyser Manufacturing?

Quantifying the Potential for Indigenising Electrolysers using a Bottom-up Cost Assessment

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We reviewed literature and compiled data from various sources, including previous studies, patents, technical reports, data sheets, websites, and e-marketplaces, to comprehensively understand the cost parameters influencing the stack and system cost. This allowed us to develop assumptions for different manufacturing process studies in our analysis. The key parameters used to establish the bottom-up study are summarised here.

Annexure 1: Parameters and assumptions for PEM electrolyzers

Table A1 lists the major components, sub-components, and the respective material(s) used in the study to assess the bottom-up cost of PEM electrolyzers.

Table A1 Components and materials for PEM electrolyzers

Main component	Sub-component	Material(s)
Electrolyser stack	Anode	Iridium
	Cathode	Platinum on carbon black
	Separator	Perfluorosulphonic acid (PFSA) membranes (i.e., Nafion)
	PTL (anode)	Gold-coated sintered porous titanium
	PTL (cathode)	Sintered porous titanium or carbon cloth
	BPP (anode)	Gold-coated stainless steel
	BPP (cathode)	Gold-coated stainless steel
	Frames and sealing	Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE); PTFE with 40% reinforced glass fibre

Source: Authors' compilation from Mayyas, Ahmad, Mark Ruth, Keith Wipke, Bryan Pivovar, and Guido Bender. 2019. "Manufacturing Cost Analysis for Proton Exchange Membrane Water Electrolyzers". Golden, Colorado: US National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).

Table A2 lists the raw materials used in PEM manufacturing and their respective costs. The table also details the key material costs of the cell and stack assembly.

Table A2 Material cost assumption for PEM electrolyzers

Sr. No.	Material	Cost	Unit	Reference
1	Platinum	32.28	USD/g	(Metalary 2018)
2	Iridium	31.19	USD/g	(Metalary 2018)
3	Titanium powder	35	USD/kg	(NREL 2019)
4	Gold	43.54	USD/g	(Metalary 2018)
5	Ionomer	1.53	USD/g	(NREL 2019)
6	Carbon black	1	USD/kg	(Indiamart 2022)
7	Carbon cloth	350.00	USD/m ²	(NREL 2019)
8	Solvent in CCM	10	USD/gallon	(NREL 2019)
9	Ethanol	1.20	USD/kg	(Indiamart 2022)
10	Binder	1.50	USD/kg	(Indiamart 2022)
11	PPS-40%GF resin	15.40	USD/kg	(NREL 2019)
12	Stainless steel 316L	0.00372	USD/g	(Sachiya Steel 2022)

Source: Authors' compilation

Annexure 2: Parameters and assumptions for alkaline electrolyzers

The assumptions we considered for alkaline electrolyzers included a detailed analysis of components and sub-components essential for the process as shown in Table A3.

Table A3 Components and materials for alkaline electrolyzers

Main component	Sub-component	Material
Electrolyser stack	Anode	Nickel-coated perforated stainless steel
	Cathode	Nickel-coated perforated stainless steel
	Electrolyte	30–40% potassium hydroxide (KOH)
	Separator	ZrO ₂ stabilised with PPS mesh (Zirfon)
	PTL (anode)	Nickel foam
	PTL (cathode)	Nickel foam
	BPP (anode)	Nickel-coated stainless steel
	BPP (cathode)	Nickel-coated stainless steel

	Frames and sealing	PTFE, PFSA 40% reinforced glass fibre
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Source: Authors' compilation from Mayyas, Ahmad, Mark Ruth, and Margaret Mann. 2017. "Manufacturing Competitiveness Analysis for PEM and Alkaline Water Electrolysis Systems." Presented at the 2017 Fuel Cell Seminar and Energy Exposition, November 6–9, 2017. Long Beach, California.

The material costs for an alkaline electrolyser are primarily determined by the cost associated with key materials such as nickel for electrodes, zirconium for membranes, and metals used for cell frames as shown in Table A4.

Table A4 Material costs assumed for alkaline electrolyzers

Sr. No.	Material	Value	Unit	Reference
1	Nickel	23.92	USD/kg	(Nornickel 2019)
2	Average raney nickel	0.044	USD/kg	(Indiamart 2022, Indiamart 2022)
3	Steel	3.72	USD/kg	(Steel Tubes India 2022)
4	PPS-40GF resin	8.85	USD/kg	(Alibaba 2022)
5	PTFE gasket	10	USD/kg	(Made in China 2022)
6	Zirfon	60	USD/m ²	(Kazemi 2014) and quotation from Agfa, 2022
7	Expanded/woven nickel mesh	64.15	USD/m ²	(Made in China 2022, Alibaba 2022)
8	Nickel foam	21.70	USD/m ²	(Made in China 2022)
9	Molybdenum powder	50.87	USD/kg	(Ministry of Commerce n.d.)

Source: Authors' compilation

Annexure 3: Parameters and assumptions for SOEs

The cells in SOEs are arranged in a stack configuration to maximise efficiency and output. Each cell is sandwiched between interconnects that facilitate electrical conductivity and gas flow. The stack configuration typically includes repeating units of anode–electrolyte–cathode assemblies known as SRU. Figure A1 shows a typical cell and stack arrangement for an SOE.

Figure A1 Arrangement of the cell and stack for SOEs

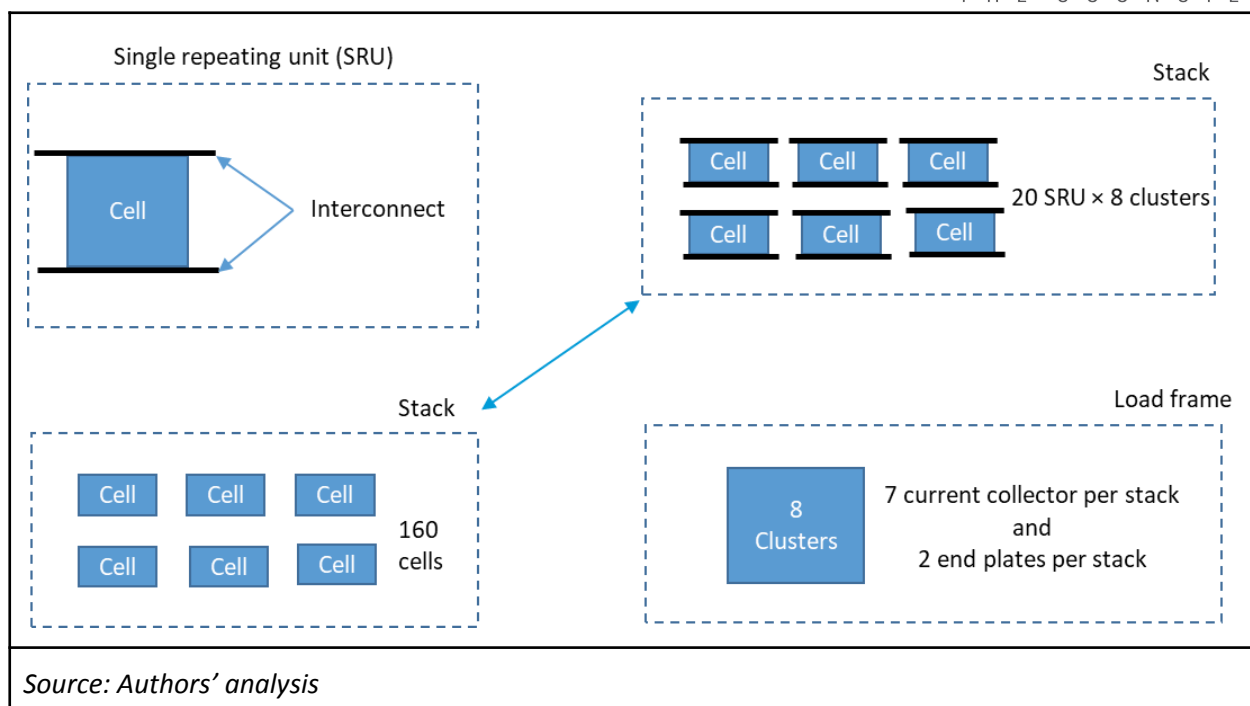


Table A5 lists key components and materials for SOEs, including materials used for anodes, cathodes, electrolytes, and interconnects.

Table A5 Components and material for SOE

Main component	Sub-component	Material
Electrolyser stack	Cathode	Nickel oxide + ceria gadolinium oxide (CGO)
	Electrolyte	Scandia-stabilised zirconia (SSZ)
	Anode	lanthanum strontium cobalt ferrite (LSCF)
	Current collector	Stainless steel with manganese cobalt oxide (MCO) coating
	Sealing gasket	Lanthanum oxide (LO) and borosilicate glass (BSG)
	Interconnect	Ferritic steel with MCO coating (Crofer 22 APU)

Source: Authors' compilation from Anghilante, Régis, David Colomar, Annabelle Brisse, and Mathieu Marrony. 2018. "Bottom-Up Cost Evaluation of SOEC Systems in the Range of 10–100 MW." *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, 43 (45): 20309–22.

Table A6 lists the key parameters that we used for the bottom-up cost assessment of SOEs, including cell size, stack configuration, specifications, operating conditions, and efficiency metrics.

Table A6 Parameters assumed for the bottom-up cost assessment of SOEs

Sr. No.	Parameter	Value	Unit
1	Cell length	15.83	cm
2	Cell width	10.55	cm
3	Overall scrap rate for cell-making	10–15%	
	Anode (LSCF)		
4	Thickness	0.0025	cm
5	Density of LSCF	6.21	g/cm ³
6	Mass of anode	2.59	g
	Electrolyte (SSZ)		
7	Thickness	0.013	cm
8	Density of SSZ	5.25	g/cm ³
9	Mass of electrolyte	11.40	g
	GDL coating (CGO)		
10	Thickness	0.0020	cm
11	Density of CGO	7.26	g/cm ³
12	Mass of coating	2.42	g
	Cathode (NiO/CGO)		
13	Thickness	0.0025	cm
14	Density of NiO/CGO	7.01	g/cm ³
15	Mass of cathode	2.92	g
	Organic solvents		
16	Quantity required (scenario 1)	24.5	g
17	Quantity required (scenario 2)	23.9	g
	General info: Interconnect (Crofer 22 APU)		
18	Margin for interconnect	1	cm
19	Interconnect plate length	17.83	cm

20	Interconnect plate width	12.55	cm
21	Interconnect plate thickness	0.025	cm
22	Crofer 22 APU / SS441 density (proprietary material)	7.70	g/cm ³
23	Mass of interconnect plate	43.07	g
General info: Interconnect coating material (MCO)			
24	MCO coating thickness	3.00E-04	cm
25	MCO density	1.41	g/cm ³
26	Volume of MCO coating	0.135	cm ³
27	Mass of MCO coating	0.19	g
General info: Sealing (Ceradyne VIOX V1649) made of LO and BSG			
28	Sealing material thickness on a 1 cm margin	148	microns
29	Sealing material width	0.80	cm
30	Seal area	0.0118	cm ²
31	Total sealing length	323.36	cm
32	Volume of seal material per cell	3.83	cm ³
33	Density of seal material	4.37	g/cm ³
34	Mass of seal material per cell	16.73	g
General info: Current collector (SS904L/SS441 with MCO)			
35	Current collector plate thickness	0.025	cm
36	Margin for current collector plate	1.00	cm
37	Current collector plate length	19.83	cm
38	Current collector plate width	14.55	cm
39	Current collector plate volume	7.21	cm ³
40	Mass of collector plate	58	g
General info: Current collector coating material (MCO)			
41	MCO coating thickness	3.00E-04	cm
42	MCO density	1.41	g/cm ³

43	Volume of MCO coating	0.194	cm ³
44	Mass of MCO coating	0.27	g
General info: End plate (A560 stainless steel)			
45	Margin for end plate	1.00	cm
46	End plate length	19.83	cm
47	End plate width	14.55	cm
48	End plate thickness	1.50	cm
49	Volume of an end plate	432.77	cm ³
50	Density of end plate material	7.80	g/cm ³
51	Mass of end plate	3376	g

Source: Authors' compilation from Anghilante, Régis, David Colomar, Annabelle Brisse, and Mathieu Marrony. 2018. "Bottom-up Cost Evaluation of SOEC Systems in the Range of 10–100 MW." *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, 43 (45): 20309–22.

Table A7 outlines the material costs associated with an SOE electrolyser consisting of rare earth materials, high-temperature ceramics, interconnect, and other key materials used in cell construction.

Table A7 Material cost assumption

Sr. No.	Material cost	Value	Unit	Reference
1	LSCF (anode)	53	EUR/kg	(Anghilante, et al. 2018)
2	SSZ (electrolyte)	256	EUR/kg	(Anghilante, et al. 2018)
3	CGO (coating)	42	EUR/kg	(Anghilante, et al. 2018)
4	NiO/CGO (cathode)	23	EUR/kg	(Anghilante, et al. 2018)
5	Organic solvents	10.6	EUR/kg	(Anghilante, et al. 2018)
6	Sheet metal (Crofer 22 APU)	25	USD/kg	(Scataglini, et al. 2015)
7	Coating powder (MCO)	300	USD/kg	(Scataglini, et al. 2015)
8	Sealing (LO and BSG)	24.25	USD/kg	(Battelle 2016)
9	Current collector (LSCF)	5.31	USD/kg	(Battelle 2016)
10	End plate (A560 cast steel)	7.95	USD/kg	(Battelle 2016)
11	Benzyl n-butyl phthalate (Alfa Aesar)	2.67	USD/kg	(Indiamart 2022)

12	n-butyl alcohol, 99.9% (Fisher Scientific)	1.33	USD/kg	(PNNL 2013)
13	Polyvinyl butyral, Butvar® B-79	19.75	USD/kg	(PNNL 2013)
14	Phospholan™ PS-236 surfactant	6.47	USD/kg	(PNNL 2013)
15	Glass powder	36.53	USD/kg	(PNNL 2013)
16	Argon	2.4	USD/kg	(Indiamart 2022)
17	Nitrogen	0.69	USD/kg	(Indiamart 2022)
18	Hydrogen	1.95	USD/kg	(Alibaba 2022)
19	CuO	11.3	USD/kg	(Indiamart 2022)
20	Carbon pore former	38	USD/kg	(Alibaba 2022)
21	2-butoxyethanol	1.01	USD/kg	(Indiamart 2022)
22	Inconel® 600	26.7	USD/kg	(Steel Tubes India 2022)
23	Al ₂ O ₃ substrate	42.38	USD/kg	(PNNL 2013)
24	Cr-steel support plate	0.67	USD/kg	(PNNL 2013)
25	Assembling cost (scenario 1)	25.84	EUR/kW	(Anghilante, et al. 2018)
26	Assembling cost (scenario 2)	4	EUR/kW	(Anghilante, et al. 2018)

Source: Authors' compilation

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