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Review on the research of hydrogen storage system fast refueling in fuel cell vehicle

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A B S T R A C T

A comprehensive review of the hydrogen storage systems and investigations performed in search for development of fast refueling technology for fuel cell vehicles are presented. Nowadays, hydrogen is considered as a good and promising energy carrier and can be stored in gaseous, liquid or solid state. Among the three ways, high pressure (such as 35 MPa or 70 MPa) appears to be the most suitable method for transportation due to its technical simplicity, high reliability, high energy efficiency and affordability. However, the refueling of high pressure hydrogen can cause a rapid increase of inner temperature of the storage cylinder, which may result not only in a decrease of the state of charge (SOC) but also in damages to the tank walls and finally to safety problems. In this paper, the theoretical analysis, experiments and simulations on the factors related to the fast refueling, such as initial pressure, initial temperature, filling rate and ambient temperature, are reviewed and analyzed. Understanding the potential relationships between these parameters and the temperature rise may shed a light in developing novel controlling strategies and innovative routes for hydrogen tank fast filling.

Keywords:
Hydrogen storage
Fast filling
Temperature rise
CFD
Strategy

Contents

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Theoretical analysis .......................................................... 00

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Introduction

The proton exchange membrane (PEM) fuel cells enjoy the merits of low operating temperature, low noise, quick startup and high efficiency [1,2]. PEMFCs can generate powers from a few Watt to hundreds of kilo-Watt and are already in the commercialization stage in three areas: transportation, stationary power system and portable market [3,4]. The most in sight and promising application field of PEM fuel cells is in the transportation [5], including automobiles, buses, scooters, boats and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) [6]. During the recent years, almost all major car manufacturers have declared intending or being manufacturing FC vehicles. Hydrogen energy is a high promising candidate as an energy carrier for fuel cell vehicle since it can be produced locally from a variety of renewable sources with nontoxic, noncorrosive, environment friendly, high efficiency processes [7]. Nevertheless, there is no easy or immediate solution for on-board hydrogen storage currently. Hydrogen storage is an important issue that restricts the widely application of fuel cell vehicles.

At present, the possible storage methods of hydrogen are compressed gas, cryogenic liquid and metal hydride [8]. In transportation field, the compressed gas storage method is more common than other methods due to its technical simplicity, high reliability, acceptable efficiency and affordability [7,9,10]. Nevertheless, considering the process of fast refueling, the temperature rise is a significant issue which is caused by three main thermodynamic phenomena [11]. Firstly, the kinetic energy of the fast-flowing hydrogen converted into the internal energy gas generates lots of heat in the process of filling. Secondly, the hydrogen expanding through a throttling valve results in an increase of temperature, called as Joule-Thomson effect. Thirdly, the compression of hydrogen in the tank during its filling causes a temperature rise, too. Moreover, the temperature rise not only reduce the SOC of the hydrogen tank but could also bring safety hazards. Thus, hydrogen fast charging is a serious process that needs to be considered with care to reduce risks.

In practice, several parameters (e.g. the initial pressure, initial temperature of hydrogen, the filling rate and so on) have various influences on the final temperature. To investigate the relationships between the temperature and the parameters, several experiments and simulations investigated the temperature rise within a compressed cylinder. In order to study the thermal behavior during hydrogen fast filling process, Johnson et al. [10] developed one-dimensional and 3D models and conducted experiments for comparing. The mass flow rate has a more significant effect than other parameters. However, drivers do not expected to spend a longer time for refueling the hydrogen vehicles compared to the conventional liquid fuel powered vehicles [12]. Nevertheless, the temperature rise during the fast filling process is a serious issue and it is significant to develop an effective strategy to achieve the safe and fast refueling. In view of the influence of initial gas temperature on temperature rise, precooling measures are adopted to improve the fast filling of hydrogen and have been validated to be the most effective way to reduce the final temperature. In addition, the process of multi-stage filling is adopted to decrease the energy consumption and Guo et al. [13] designed a dynamic simulation module to optimize the gas cycling test system in a view of energy consumption reduction.

The construction and operation of refueling stations hydrogen refueling stations requires high capital investment [14–16]. Adopting appropriate operational strategies could reduce capital investment while improving equipment utilization. Hence, the research of fast filling strategies is necessary. At present, the process of multi-stage filling combined with the measure of precooling have been widely applied in most filling stations. The precooling of hydrogen could decrease the temperature rise effectively and the process of multi-stage filling could reduce the energy consumption. The configurations of off-site hydrogen generation filling station
are shown as Fig. 1 [8]. The hydrogen source is the high-pressure tube-trailers. The tube trailers can be used to supply hydrogen to the buffer storage vessels through the compressor. The high-pressure tubes (25 MPa or higher) on the tube trailer can also be used to initially charge the vehicle’s tank before the pressure drops. Then the suitable control strategy is adopted to refuel the vehicle tank successively from the multi-stage hydrogen storage system. The pre-cooling system can be determined whether to enable or not according to the ambient temperature.

In this paper, the current methods on controlling the temperature rise during refueling, such as changing the gas initial temperature, initial pressure, ambient temperature and pre-cooling process are reviewed. The organization of this paper is as follows. Section Hydrogen storage systems presents hydrogen storage systems, such as compressed hydrogen storage, liquid hydrogen storage and metal hydride hydrogen storage. Based on compressed hydrogen storage, four different types of tanks are compared. The thermodynamic mechanism and theoretical analysis of temperature rise are reviewed in Section Theoretical analysis. Section The effects of parameters on temperature rise during refueling summarizes the current experiments and simulations on fast and safe hydrogen refueling technology. Section CFD simulations summarizes a series of CFD models on the flow field and temperature field during the process of hydrogen charging. Section The safety and fast filling strategies studies the safety and fast filling strategies. Finally, conclusion is given in Section Conclusion.

Hydrogen storage systems

Comparison of hydrogen storage ways

In the development of hydrogen energy, storage is considered as a key issue for the widespread use in transportation, stationary power system and portable market [17,18]. At present, the most common ways to store hydrogen are compressed hydrogen storage, cryogenic liquid and metal hydride [19,20]. Recently, Abdalla et al. [21] summarized the storage methods of hydrogen in one of their studies, covering compressed hydrogen, liquefied hydrogen, metal hydride, carbon nanotubes, liquid organic hydrogen carrier and metal-organic framework. There is amount of ways for storing hydrogen fuel in different forms as show in Table 1 [22-26]. Compared with the above several methods, compressed gas storage is more popular due to its technical simplicity, high reliability, acceptable efficiency and affordability [27].

Comparison of hydrogen storage vessel

The key technology for the widespread use of compressed hydrogen is the storage vessel. The requirements of the material used in the hydrogen storage vessel are: safe, reliable, cost effective and any strong interaction with hydrogen or any reaction. As early as 1880, pressure vessel use has been reported: hydrogen was stored in wrought iron vessel at 12 MPa for military application [19]. Currently, hydrogen vessels are mainly divided into 4 different types (Type I to Type IV) as shown in Table 2 [21,28-30]. It is the most mature and commonly adopted solution of hydrogen storage in vehicles [7,31]. Usually hydrogen cylinders can be pressurized up to
Table 1 – Hydrogen storage types and comparisons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gas storage</td>
<td>Compressed hydrogen</td>
<td>High efficiency, convenient, mature technology.</td>
<td>Expensive cylinder and the immature technology of fast filling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid storage</td>
<td>Liquid hydrogen</td>
<td>High liquid density and storage efficiency.</td>
<td>Large consume of energy and time, low temperature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon nanotubes</td>
<td>Gaseous hydrogen</td>
<td>Highly porous structure and particular interaction between carbon atoms and gas molecules.</td>
<td>Immature technology and hydrogen capacity depends on many factors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical storage (metal hydride)</td>
<td>MgH2, CaH2, NaH</td>
<td>High safety, high purity of hydrogen, good reversible cycle performance, large volume of hydrogen density.</td>
<td>Absorbing impurities, reducing the hydrogen capacity and the lifetime of tank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical storage (metal organic framework)</td>
<td>Porous coordination network</td>
<td>Highly porous, high uptake of H2 and specific surface areas.</td>
<td>Hydrogen storage temperature is far below operating temperature.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

25 MPa, 35 MPa or 70 MPa. Considering the driving range and limited space in vehicle, 70 MPa is to be the most economic pressure for onboard storage [28,32]. Comparing the above four types, it is found that Type I and Type II cannot be used in vehicles due to low hydrogen storage density and serious hydrogen embrittlement problems. In the industry of fuel cell vehicles (FCVs), Type III and Type IV are widely used for fuel minimization [7,31,33]. However, Type III and IV have different behavior with respect to temperature rise due to the material differences. Some characteristic property data of Type III and IV are shown in Table 3, according to Ref. [29].

In China, the technology development of Type III is relatively mature. Among them, the 35 MPa vessel has been widely used in fuel cell vehicles in recent years and the 70 MPa vessel is near the market. However, the shortage of carbon fiber and resin, and the performance of these materials block the development of hydrogen vessel. The Type IV vessel have only recently been developed [28].

At present, most of the developed fuel cell vehicles use high-pressure cylinders to store hydrogen on board. Table 4 documents the key parameters of several fuel cell vehicles. The Honda FCX is equipped with two 35 MPa tanks that can achieve a 156.6 L hydrogen capacity [34]. Toyota FCV-adv used four type IV 70 MPa tanks to supply hydrogen for its fuel cell stack, the total volume of the four tanks is 156 L, which could achieve a driving range in practical driving conditions of at least 500 km with a roughly 10 min fueling time [35,36]. In order to reduce the weight, size and cost of high-pressure hydrogen storage system, Toyota “Mirai” employs two new larger diameter tanks (60 L and 62.4 L). They can store nearly 5 kg hydrogen in 3 min and provide a driving range of approximately 500 km [36]. Recently, Hyundai released a new fuel cell SUV, NEXO, which features three same fuel tanks with a total capacity of 156 L and 6.3 kg and with a fueling time of 5 min. It is said that the newly fuel cell vehicle can achieve a driving range of up to 800 km under current NEDC testing cycle.

Effects of thermo-mechanical effects on hydrogen storage tanks

In the application process, compressed-hydrogen tanks for vehicles are fatigued by cycles of filling and consumption [46,47]. Pressure vessels are directly subjected to the cyclic loading of both high pressure and extreme temperature. The temperature in the tank increases significantly during the fast filling process but declines in the process of gas usage routine. The violent changes of temperature can lead to severe thermal stress due to the mismatch in the coefficient of thermal expansion of adjacent plies with different fiber orientations, which accompanied by internal pressure during numerous charge-discharge processes. The superposition of thermal stress and internal pressure will cause obvious lamination damage in the form of micro-cracks in the resin, and then lead to the failure of the composite material. Furthermore, the temperature changes will seriously affect mechanical properties of the epoxy resin and carbon fibers. The fracture toughness of the epoxy resin matrix will decrease seriously at low temperatures, while the inter laminar shear strength of the composites will dramatically decrease at high temperature. Thus, the strength and fatigue life of the composite vessel are seriously affected [48].

Indeed, risks of an early failure appear when the type III vessels are subjected to cyclic pressures and permeation problems happen for the type IV [49]. Tomioka et al. investigate the influence of the environmental temperature on the fatigue strength of compressed-hydrogen tanks (Type III and Type IV). The fatigue strength of the Type III tank decreases in a low temperature environment and increases in a high-temperature environment. However, the fatigue strength of type IV decreased in a high-temperature environment [50]. The temperature rise result in stratification between the plastic liner and the composite wrapping materials of type IV tank [28]. Some experimental researches on the fatigue of composite hydrogen storage vessels are shown in Table 5.

Theoretical analysis

Temperature of the cylinder could maintain within the specified threshold after refueling is expected. Therefore, investigating the mechanism of temperature rise during the fast filling process becomes the focus of research. There is a rapid increase in hydrogen temperature due to three main thermodynamic phenomena during hydrogen filling process [51]. Firstly, the kinetic energy of the fast-flowing hydrogen
converted into the internal energy gas generates lots of heat in the process of filling. Secondly, the compression of hydrogen in the tank during its filling causes a temperature rise, which is the most important among all factors leading to temperature rise. Thirdly, the hydrogen expanding through a throttling valve results in an increase of temperature, called as Joule-Thomson effect. Other than general gases, the Joule-Thompson negative effect appears during hydrogen expend through a throttling valve due to its unique nature. In the meantime, a good news is that part of the heat in the cylinder may transfer to the ambient due to the difference in temperature. Nevertheless, most part of the heat is stored in the wall of the cylinder, which lead to the temperature rise of the cylinder. Taking into account the simplicity of the model, the hydrogen filling process could be simplified as Fig. 3.

The theoretical analysis is mainly based on the simplified thermodynamic model. The energy and mass conservation equations combined with the real gas equation of state to obtain the relationship of the temperature and pressure in initial state and final state respectively. In the theoretical model of Liu et al. [51] as shown in Table 6. The internal energy and kinetic energy of hydrogen were considered. Considering that refueling time is short and assuming it an adiabatic process, the heat transferring to ambient is ignored. Another assumption is that initial temperature within the cylinder equals to hydrogen temperature before filling. The result shows the final hydrogen temperature in the cylinder could be calculated accurately with the relative parameters in the simplified process. In another work accomplished by M. Hosseini et al. [52], additional work have been done is that the exergy of the hydrogen in the cylinder is also investigated, which could illustrate the thermodynamic mechanism more comprehensively. Yang et al. [53] carried out the model analysis with the gaseous hydrogen treated as an ideal or a non-ideal gas and the refueling process analyzed based on adiabatic, isothermal, or diathermal condition of the cylinder. A constant feed-rate is assumed in the analysis. The consequence shows that the adiabatic and isothermal conditions were the lower and upper bounds of the filling time for a given final target pressure. Assuming that the specific heat is constant (C_p = 5.178 kJ/kg K), Wang et al. [54] developed the thermodynamical model based on the conservation equation of energy. The mass and temperature after filling could be obtained.

The theoretical analysis shows the change of temperature clearly with mathematical formula. As we can see, the temperature rise of hydrogen is mainly determined by filling parameters. In addition, some other parameters such as the geometrical parameters of the cylinder may also affect the state of cylinder after filling. Hence, further research of the effects of these parameters is required.

**The effects of parameters on temperature rise during refueling**

The gas temperature may rise significantly during the high-pressure hydrogen cylinder refueling and lead to a failure of the hydrogen storage tank [29]. Furthermore, the high temperature also reduces the hydrogen density in the tank, resulting in a reduction of the final mass delivery and in turn, decreasing the driving range of the hydrogen vehicles. Hence, the study of temperature rise during refueling is a significant concern regarding hydrogen safety [55]. Syrian et al. [29] and Zheng et al. [7] carried out experimental studies and CFD simulations on type III vessels. Kim et al. [28], Galassi et al. [17] and Melideo et al. [56] worked on experimental studies and CFD simulations on type IV vessels. Heitsch et al. [57] and Melideo et al. [12] compared the influence of the type (III or IV) on temperature rise in cylinders during fast refueling. For safety concern, the GTR-HFCV [58], the SAE-J2579 [59] and the ISO-15869 [60] have restricted the maximum wall temperature inside the hydrogen vessel below 358 K and the maximum fueling pressure has to limited below 125% of the designed pressure. Therefore, the temperature rise in the hydrogen vessel during the fueling process has to be controlled within these allowed limitations. Investigating the

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cylinder types</th>
<th>Thermal conductivity (W/mK)</th>
<th>Density (Kg/m³)</th>
<th>Specific heat capacity (J/kg K)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type Metal liner</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>2730</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III: Laminate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1494</td>
<td>938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type Plastic liner</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV: Laminate</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>1400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2 – Different types of hydrogen compressed tank.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cylinder types</th>
<th>Materials</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Applications</th>
<th>Hydrogen storage pressure and mass percent (WT%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type I All metal</td>
<td>Heavy, internal corrosion</td>
<td>For industrial, not suited for vehicular use</td>
<td>17.5–20 MPa, 1 WT%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type II Metal liner with hoop wrapping</td>
<td>Heavy, short life due to internal corrosion</td>
<td>Not suited for vehicular use</td>
<td>26.3–30 MPa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type III Metal liner with full composite wrapping</td>
<td>Lightness, high burst pressure, no permeation, galvanic corrosion between liner and fiber</td>
<td>Suited for vehicular use. 25–75% mass gain over I and II</td>
<td>35 MPa: 3.9 WT% – 70 MPa: 5 WT%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type IV Plastic liner with full composite wrapping</td>
<td>Lightness, lower burst pressure. Permeation through liner, high durability against repeated charging Simple manufacturability</td>
<td>Longer life than Type III (no creep fatigue).</td>
<td>70 MPa: more than 5 WT%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 3 – The property of type III and type IV tank.**
fuelling parameters, such as the initial pressure, initial gas temperature, ambient temperature, filling rate and even the cylinder dimensions, is very significant to control the final tank gas and wall temperature below 85 °C effectively.

**Effect of initial pressure**

During the fast filling process, the initial pressure in the cylinder has a significant effect to the final temperature. Higher initial pressure means more hydrogen initially stored in the tank and a lower pressure ratio between final and initial pressure, which both can mitigate the temperature rise during refueling [61]. In order to estimate the influence of the different initial pressures on the final temperature, several experiments and simulations completed by researchers are shown in Table 7.

In order to study the relationship between the initial pressure and the final temperature during the refueling process, various experiments with different facilities and conditions have been conducted. The negative influence of the initial pressure on the final temperature can be seen. An experimental system built by Zheng et al. [7] was equipped with sixteen thermocouples and a pre-cooling system. Their results indicated the final temperature of the gas decreases about 4.5 K when the initial pressure increases 5 MPa. In the meanwhile, other experiments developed by Kim et al. [28] and Liu et al. [51] also validates the maximum temperature decreases almost linearly as the initial gas pressure increases. Grouset et al. [64], using a 0D model for the gas and a 1D model for the tank wall, also reports a linear variation with a sensitivity coefficient of 1.06 °C/MPa at 70 MPa and −1.64 °C/MPa at 70 MPa. Therefore, the initial pressure has an important effect on the temperature rise. In order to limit the filling temperature under the threshold, the optimal filling initial pressure must be considered combined with other parameters.

**Effect of filling rate**

With the wide application of hydrogen energy in automobiles [5], the length of the fill time becomes the focus of people’s attention. However, increasing the filling rate to minimize the fill time may result in a final temperature exceeding the

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Max. output (bhp/kw)</th>
<th>Total volume of tanks (L) and tank type</th>
<th>Driving range (km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honda FCX 2nd Generation</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>156.6</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honda FCX Clarity</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>134/100</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota FCV-adv</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>121/90</td>
<td>156 (type 4)</td>
<td>483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toyota Mirai</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>153/144</td>
<td>122.4 (type 4)</td>
<td>502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyundai ix35</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>136/100</td>
<td>5.63 kg under 70 MPa</td>
<td>594</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyundai NEXO</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>161/95</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>595.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 5 – Experimental researches on the fatigue of hydrogen storage vessels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Experiment</th>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Results analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chuan-xiang ZHENG</td>
<td>70-MPa Fatigue test system using hydrogen as medium</td>
<td>The highest testing pressure of the system: 70 MPa. The greatest hydrogen mass flow rate: 3.24 kg/min.</td>
<td>10 min/cycle</td>
<td>The experimental results show that hydrogen environment fatigue affects the ultimate strength of the composite vessels: nearly 15% drop off compared with design pressure. The fatigue life of another test sample is 5122 times which is much shorter than that under hydraulic fatigue test (about 12,000 times). The fatigue life at high temperatures (85 °C, 44 MPa) was shorter than that under other conditions. As shown in Fig. 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomioka</td>
<td>Hydraulic pressure-cycle tests to investigate the fatigue life of Type III tanks when environmental temperature and filling pressure are changed.</td>
<td>Low temperatures (−40 °C, 28 MPa) Room temperature (15 °C, 35 MPa) High temperatures (85 °C, 44 MPa) Normal temperature (15 °C−35 °C, (with no temperature control), 44 MPa)</td>
<td>1 min/cycle 10,000 cycles</td>
<td>The fatigue strength of the Type III tank decreases at low temperatures and increases at high temperatures; The fatigue life of the CFRP layer of a Type IV tank decreases in a high-temperature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomioka</td>
<td>Hydraulic pressure-cycle tests with varying environmental temperatures were conducted until the tank was broken or for 45,000 cycles.</td>
<td>Room temperature (without temperature control) High temperatures (85 °C, 95% relative humidity) Low temperature (85 °C)</td>
<td>4 cycles/min Cycle the pressure in the tank between less than 1 MPa and more than 125% of the normal filling pressure</td>
<td>“As shown in Fig. 2.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The temperature rise varies linearly with the filling time, with growth as the mass filling rate increases. Several typical experiments are presented in Table 8.

Short filling time reduces the time for the heat transfer between the gas and the cylinder wall to evacuate the heat accumulated in the gas. Systematic studies have been conducted by Dicken et al. [62]. Based on the Spallart-Allmaras turbulence model and the real gas equation of the state, a numerical model was developed to investigate the mechanism of temperature rise and heat transfer within a type III cylinder during refueling [65]. It is found that the mass flow rate, initial pressure and inlet temperature are the main factors that affect the final temperature rise. Especially the mass flow rate has a high effect, with a high, nearly exponential, growth as the mass filling rate increases. In another research [64], the 0D gas 1D wall model shows the heat transfer is limited by the conduction in the tank wall and the temperature rise varies linearly with the filling time square root with a sensitivity coefficient of $-8.8 \text{ C/(min)}^2$ at 70 MPa and $-10.6 \text{ C/(min)}^2$ at 70 MPa. In addition, Zheng et al. [63] revealed that the greatest increase in temperature occurs at the start of filling due to the Joule-Thomson effect. Optimized filling strategy could be developed by using a slow filling rate at the beginning and then higher rate later without sacrificing average fueling rate. However, this has still to be demonstrated.

**Effect of inlet temperature (or feeding temperature)**

In addition, cooling the gas before injecting it into the vessel is also an effective way to meet the safety requirement. Several researches were conducted as shown in Table 9. Melideo et al. [56] developed different filling strategies to study its effects on 3 key-parameters: the maximum temperature, the SOC and the theoretical cooling energy demand. For energy saving, higher SOC and lower final temperature rise, precooling the gas in the second half of the filling seems more suitable. However, Bourgeois et al. [68] showed that the most important parameter in pre-cooling is the mass average temperature of the gas at the inlet of the tank. In another work [12], based on a type IV 70 MPa vessel, Melideo et al. performed a CFD model to investigate the effects of inlet gas temperature on final temperature during the fast filling process with pre-cooling. The results show that the final gas temperature increases when the pre-cooling temperature increases. The 0 °C is a critical point: inlet gas temperature that higher than 0 °C can lead to a final temperature higher than 85 °C.

Considering pre-cooling the gas improves the SOC value as well, a new analytical solution from a simplified lumped parameter model was proposed by Cebolla et al. [67] to determine hydrogen pre-cooling temperature from refueling parameters. Experiments were carried out at different gas flow rates and initial temperatures, coupling the two parameters to get the cross effect on the final value of SOC. The case without precooling gets a higher temperature, exceeding 85 °C. It can be observed that the increase in the inlet temperature not only reduces the SOC, but also increases the negative impact of the flow rate on the final SOC with the result. With its 0D gas 1D wall model, it [64] shows a linear variation of the final temperature with the inlet temperature, with a sensitivity coefficient of 0.99 °C/°C at 70 MPa and 0.88 °C/°C at 35 MPa, but the cross effect is not characterized.

---

### Table 6 - Theoretical analysis of temperature rise.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Equations</th>
<th>Annotation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liu et al. [51]</td>
<td>$Q = \Delta E - U_0 - W_{int} = m_2u_2 - m_1u_1 - (m_2 - m_1)h_i$ $K_j = P_j / R_j$ $\alpha = 1.9155 \times 10^{-6} \text{kPa} = \rho h_i / c_e^2$ $c_e / c_v$</td>
<td>$m_i = \frac{dm}{dt}$ $Q = \frac{dQ}{dt}$ $\eta_{filling, 1-2}$: The exergy efficiency $h_i$: molar enthalpy of inlet hydrogen, $c_e$: molar of gas input to the system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Hosseini et al. [52]</td>
<td>$m_1u_1 + (m_1t)h_i = m_2u_2 + T_2(Q - m_1ex_1) + (m_1t)ex_1 = m_2ex_2 + l_{filling}m_1ex_1 + m_2ex_2 + T_2(1 - \frac{T_2}{T_1}) + h_2\psi_{filling, 1-2} = m_2ex_2 + m_2ex_2 + (m_1t)ex_1$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yang et al. [53]</td>
<td>$du = d\eta = \int dU = x_hh_i - h_kd_xN_h + k_d \frac{du}{dt} = uK = h_iK$ $\alpha = 1.9155 \times 10^{-6} \text{kPa} = 5.178k/(kg-k)$ $\lambda = c_i / c_v$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wang et al. [54]</td>
<td>$T_2 = \frac{\int P_1V_1d\tau + \int T_2(\tau / \alpha P_2) / ndt}{\int P_1V_1 + \int \left(\frac{RT_1}{P} + \alpha \tau P_2 \right) / ndt}$ $m_2 = \frac{\int P_1V_1 + \int \left(\frac{RT_1}{P} + \alpha \tau P_2 \right) / ndt}{\int P_1V_1 + \int \left(\frac{RT_1}{P} + \alpha \tau P_2 \right) / ndt}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---
Effect of cylinder dimension or cylinder type

At present, the type III and type IV are considered as most suitable solutions for on-board hydrogen storage. The inner layer of type III tank is made of aluminum, while the type IV inner layer is made of plastic (e.g. high density polyethylene). Since the thermal conductivity of the plastic liner is smaller than that of the metal one, the heat transfer from the gas to the tank wall is slower in the type IV than in the type III and the type IV cylinder absorbs less heat. There are several researches shown in Table 10. So the temperature evolution have the same trend in both cylinders, but a lower final

![Fig. 4 – Thermocouple support mechanism [62.]](image-url)
temperature is obtained in the type III tank due to the higher thermal diffusivity of the aluminum liner with respect to the plastic liner. When the inlet temperature rise, the maximum gas temperature, reached at the end of the filling, increases linearly while the state of charge decreases linearly [69]. With similar inlet gas temperature and other boundary conditions, the final SOC is higher in a type III than in a type IV tank. Due to the effect of heat transfer, it also found that the higher the inlet gas temperature, the higher the influence of the tank type on the final SOC [67].

To study the effect of cylinder dimensions, cylinder A with 1652 mm length and 376 mm inner diameter was selected by Zheng et al. [7] to be compared with cylinder B which has a smaller length to diameter ratio. From the calculated temperature profile, shown in Fig. 5, the gas temperature in cylinder A is non-uniformly distributed and increases gradually in axial direction, the highest temperature occurs in the caudal region while the lowest is near the inlet. Cylinder B has a good temperature homogeneity that is consistent with the experimental results. According to this result, the large length to diameter ratio may cause too high local temperature, so reducing the length to diameter ratio is beneficial to cylinder safety.

**Effect of initial and ambient temperature**

Concerning the ambient temperature, according [61] the higher ambient temperature causes heat releasing difficulty. Therefore, the ambient temperature would also have an effect on the final temperature. But following the research [64], it is preferable to distinguish the ambient temperature (outside or external temperature) and the initial temperature of the gas and wall tank, which, in some cases, can be different. Indeed, the initial temperature has an effect on the final temperature, whereas for the short fueling times (a few minutes) heat conduction to the outer side of the tank wall only concern a marginal part of the heat transferred to the inner part of the wall; therefore, the external temperature has a marginal effect.

A three dimensional computation model was developed to predict the thermo-fluid dynamic behavior as shown in Table 11 [29]. The results revealed that the ambient temperature has an ignorable effect on the final temperature; but when the initial gas and wall temperature is increased, the effect become significant and the maximum temperature can exceed the safety limit. It can be concluded that the maximum temperature rise has the same trend as the initial temperature and there is a linear relationship between them. From the numerical simulations carried out by Zhao et al. [66], an increase of $1^\circ C$ in the initial temperature is followed by a growth of $0.3^\circ C$ in the maximum temperature.

**CFD simulations**

The experiments consume many workers and material resources. In addition, it may be dangerous to a certain extent. Fortunately, Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) codes already proved to be a valuable tool for predicting the temperature distribution within a tank during refueling [17]. The CFD simulation models should be established based on turbulence model, real gas model and heat transfer model. Moreover, the model capabilities are evaluated by sensitivity analyses of grid refinement, turbulence model, boundary

### Table 9 – Researches on the effect of inlet temperature on final temperature or the SOC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total volume of tanks (L) and tank’ type</th>
<th>Initial inlet gas temperature (°C)</th>
<th>Filling time (s)</th>
<th>SOC or final temperature (% or °C)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melideo et al.</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Type 4</td>
<td>–40</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>–20</td>
<td></td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cebolla et al.</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>40 (type 3)</td>
<td>–40</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>–20</td>
<td></td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melideo et al.</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>29 (type 4)</td>
<td>–40</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>58 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>–20</td>
<td></td>
<td>74 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>85 °C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>96 °C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 10 – Researches on the effect of cylinder dimension or type on final temperature.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total volume of tanks (L) and tank’ type</th>
<th>Initial to final pressure (MPa)</th>
<th>Ambient temperature (°C)</th>
<th>Ref</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miguel et al.</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Type III</td>
<td>2 → 77</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>[69]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Type IV</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cebolla et al.</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Type III</td>
<td>2 → 78/77</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>[67]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Type IV</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zheng et al.</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>150 (cylinder A)</td>
<td>2 → 35</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>[7]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>74 (cylinder B)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
conditions, inlet pipe geometry, external wall heat transfer coefficient and tank material properties [17]. Many scholars have made a series of CFD simulations and validations by comparing the transient three-dimensional CFD results with experimental data for various scenarios of hydrogen filling. With using the commercially available CFD package FLUENT, CFX [70,71] the hydrogen filling process can be modeled under the given operating conditions by changing the parameters to study the effects of different temperature and pressure on the temperature rise in the cylinder. As known, the key points in CFD analysis are division of geometric grids, selection of turbulence model, gas state equation, setting of definite initial and boundary conditions and post-processing.

**Geometry grid**

Of course, the geometry should be the first consideration in the modeling process. From the perspective of computing resources, if the filling stage only is to be studied a two-dimensional model can be built firstly, because a three-dimensional model needs to run completely for several weeks. Melideo et al. [56] firstly validate the possibility to use 2D axisymmetric meshes successfully for the CFD simulations of fast filling with pre-cooling. The article shows that the temperature histories for the 3D and 2D meshes are almost completely overlapping. In other words, the 2D axisymmetric approach can be used during the filling stage. However, a 3D computational mesh has to be considered after the filling is completed. Because the speed of flow is so fast that the influence of buoyancy can be neglected during the filling stage. However, the buoyancy effect becomes more relevant in the holding time and during the emptying process due to the low flow velocity. Thus, the 3D might be more appropriate if we look at the whole process. Also considering only half of the geometry for the CFD simulations is an effective strategy to reduce the computer run-time. Melideo et al. [72] performed simulations with the whole 3D geometry and with half of the geometry and gave the fact that the effects of that approach on the temperature histories are negligible.

**Fig. 5 – Hydrogen temperature distribution within the cylinder at the end of refueling [7].**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total volume of tanks (L) and tank type</th>
<th>Initial to final pressure (MPa)</th>
<th>Initial temperature (°C)</th>
<th>Ref</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suryan et al.</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>74 (type 3)</td>
<td>9.3 → 35</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>[29]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhao et al.</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>2 → 35</td>
<td>40.4</td>
<td>[66]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>50.4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Model</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Realizable k-ε model | \[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial (\rho k)}{\partial t} & + \frac{\partial (\rho k u_j)}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu t}{\sigma_k} \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} \right) + G_k + G_b + \rho \mu - \rho Y M, \\
\frac{\partial (\rho \varepsilon)}{\partial t} & + \frac{\partial (\rho \varepsilon u_j)}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu t}{\sigma_\varepsilon} \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial x_j} \right) + \rho Y C_1 \varepsilon - C_2 \frac{\varepsilon^2}{k + \sqrt{\varepsilon}} \quad \text{\texttt{v}} \end{align*}
\]

| Renormalization group k-ε model | \[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial (\rho k)}{\partial t} & + \frac{\partial (\rho k u_i)}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu t}{\sigma_k} \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_i} \right) + G_k + G_b + S k - \rho \mu - \rho Y M, \\
\frac{\partial (\rho \varepsilon)}{\partial t} & + \frac{\partial (\rho \varepsilon u_i)}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu t}{\sigma_\varepsilon} \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial x_i} \right) + C_1 \frac{\varepsilon}{k} (G_k + C_3 k G_b) + S r - \rho C_2 r^2 k^2
\end{align*}
\]

| Shear stress transport k-ω model | \[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial (\rho k)}{\partial t} & + \frac{\partial (\rho k u_i)}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu t}{\sigma_k} \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_i} \right) + G_k + \beta \rho k u_i, \\
\frac{\partial (\rho \varepsilon)}{\partial t} & + \frac{\partial (\rho \varepsilon u_i)}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu t}{\sigma_\varepsilon} \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial x_i} \right) + G_b - \beta \rho \varepsilon + D_b \\
\frac{\partial (\rho u_j)}{\partial t} & + \frac{\partial (\rho u_j u_i)}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu t}{\sigma_k} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right) + G_{u_j} - \beta \rho \varepsilon^2 + \rho u_j
\end{align*}
\]

| Reynolds stress model | \[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \rho \langle u_i u_j \rangle \right) & + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left( \rho \langle u_i u_j u_k \rangle \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left( \mu \langle u_i u_j u_k \rangle \right) + \rho (G_b \langle u_i u_j \rangle + \delta u_i u_j) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left( \mu \langle u_i u_j u_k \rangle \right) \\
& - \rho \left( \langle u_i u_j \rangle \frac{\partial \langle u_i \rangle}{\partial x_k} + \frac{\partial \langle u_j \rangle}{\partial x_k} \right) - \rho \beta \left( \langle u_i u_j \rangle \right) + g \langle \varepsilon \rangle \varepsilon
\end{align*}
\]
Grid quality directly affects the rationality and correctness of CFD simulation results. Generally, the finer the mesh, the more accurate the result is, but the longer the calculation time takes. It is reasonable to draw as few grid cells as possible on the premise of accuracy. And Kim et al. [28] made a simple comparison between the results with 300,000 cells of hybrid mesh and with 600,000 cells of tetrahedral mesh. Finally, the results show the effect of the grid resolution on the accuracy was minimal in this study.

Turbulence models

CFD is a numerical solution to the Navier–Stokes (N–S) equations to obtain all the variables of the full field. The addition of Reynolds stress equation in the N–S equations of turbulence makes the equation system unclosed. Therefore, a corresponding turbulence model has been established to be able to solve the whole flow field. The governing model suitable for hydrogen flows needs to be determined. Four different kinds of turbulence models are summarized as shown in Table 12. Suryan et al. [73] compared the consistency between simulation results of different turbulence models in CFD and experiments. The realizable k–ε model and the Reynolds Stress Model were identified as the most suitable turbulence models for the simulation of hydrogen gas fast filling process.

The unsteady Favre averaged Navier–Stokes equations are given by Ref. [74].

\[
\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0
\]  

(1)

\[
\frac{\partial (\rho \mathbf{v})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} \otimes \mathbf{v}) = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot (\tau) + \rho g
\]  

(2)

\[
\frac{\partial (\rho E)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v} (\rho E + p)) = \nabla \cdot (k_{\text{eff}} \nabla T + (\rho \varepsilon_{\text{eff}} \mathbf{v}))
\]  

(3)

Real gas model

The system of N–S equations and turbulence model equations has to be closed with an equation of state for the hydrogen gas. The ideal gas model is suitable for most engineering flows. However, the compressibility effects are significant in the hydrogen tank filling and at high pressure the hydrogen gas may deviate from ideal gas behavior. Therefore, a suitable real gas model has to be chosen. In Suryan’s other articles [29], four real gas equations are offered as shown Table 13 [75–78] and their validity is verified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Equations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Redlich-Kwong equation</td>
<td>( p = \frac{RT}{V_m - b} \sqrt{T V_m (V_m + b)} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soave’s modified</td>
<td>( p = \frac{RT}{V_m - b} \frac{V_m (V_m + b)}{a_a} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aungier’s modified</td>
<td>( p = \frac{RT}{V_m - b} \frac{V_m (V_m + b)}{a_a} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peng-Robinson equation</td>
<td>( p = \frac{RT}{V_m - b} \frac{V_m (V_m + b)}{a_a} )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definite conditions

The definite conditions (initial conditions and boundary conditions) are the premises that the governing equations have a definite solution. Thus, based on the research on CFD model analysis, the information shown in Table 14 is summarized.

The safety and fast filling strategies

How to refuel safely and fast becomes a significant issue with the large-scale development of FCVs. The SAE J2601 protocol was developed to ensure that 5–7 kg of hydrogen could be safely filled into FCVs within 3–5 min from the station. The safety limits of the vehicle storage system are shown in Table 15 [80]. The fueling protocol determines the fueling average pressure ramp rate (APRR) at the dispenser, which is affected by the hydrogen precooling temperature at the dispenser, the vehicle tank volume and tank initial pressure, and the ambient temperature. There are two fueling methods involved in this protocol, known as the “lookup table” method and the “MC formula” method. The lookup table method provides a fixed end-of-fill pressure target. The MC method is the dynamic control of the APRR, taking advantage of the thermodynamic properties of the hydrogen tank to calculate the pressure target continuously. The current standard method of fueling for FCVs is the lookup table method. However, the “MC formula” method has a greater advantage in reducing fueling time in certain conditions. Reddi et al. employ a physical model to compares the fueling performance of two fueling methods [81].

In order to reduce the final temperature and minimize the energy consumption for hydrogen compression, three effective control strategies of fast filling are proposed via the analysis of the relationships between temperature rise and filling parameters above. The first method is controlling the mass flow rate accurately in the filling process: slow at first and then faster. The second method is that the cylinder can be refueled with a multi-level storage system, which is composed of several hydrogen storage vessels with staged initial pressures. The last method is adjusting the hydrogen pre-cooling temperature by analyzing the refueling parameters.

Filling rate control strategy

In order to achieve a short refueling time, the filling rate must be controlled in an appropriate range. However, the temperature rise has a high growth as the mass filling rate increases compared to other parameters. Therefore, accurate filling rate control is particularly important to satisfy both filling time and the temperature rise.

The filling rate has a remarkable effect on the temperature rise. Therefore, varying the filling rate could control the temperature better than the constant flow rate. It can be seen from a large number of experiments and simulation results that the gas temperature in the cylinder increases sharply at first and then slowly when all the filling parameters are kept constant like Fig. 6 [11]. Temperature rise mainly occurs in the first quarter of the filling time [82]. Therefore, the mass flow rate may be controlled slowly at first and then fast without
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Tank</th>
<th>Boundary and initial conditions</th>
<th>Geometry and computational grid</th>
<th>Turbulence model</th>
<th>Real gas equation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sung Chan Kim [28]</td>
<td>72 L</td>
<td>Boundary: inlet the mass flow rate</td>
<td>Gas: hexahedral solid volume: tetrahedral</td>
<td>Standard k-ε turbulence</td>
<td>Redlich-Kwong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35 MPa</td>
<td>Initial conditions: Temperature: 17 °C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Heitsch [57]</td>
<td>74 L</td>
<td>Boundary: mass flow rate, experimental pressure and temperature</td>
<td>Gas domain: tetrahedra and pyramids</td>
<td>SST</td>
<td>Redlich-Kwong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35 MPa</td>
<td>Initial conditions: quiescent flow conditions</td>
<td>Liner and insulation: hexahedral</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>70 MPa</td>
<td>Tank inlet: experimental pressure and temperature</td>
<td>fluid domain: tetrahedral</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Initial conditions: experimental temperature and pressure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abhilash Suryan [29]</td>
<td>74 L</td>
<td>Boundary: experimental pressure and temperature</td>
<td>Fluid domain: 209,190 hexahedral. Solid domain: 96,510 hexahedral</td>
<td>(SST) k-ε turbulence model</td>
<td>Four real gas equations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35 MPa</td>
<td>Initial conditions: pressure 9.3 MPa and temperature 293.4 K</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abhilash Suryan [73]</td>
<td>74 L</td>
<td>Boundary: experimental inlet conditions</td>
<td>Fluid domain: 16752 quadrilateral</td>
<td>Comparison of four turbulence models</td>
<td>Redlich-Kwong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35 MPa</td>
<td>tank inside wall: no-slip condition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Initial conditions: pressure 9.3 MPa and temperature 293.4 K</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniele Melideo [56]</td>
<td>28.9 L</td>
<td>Boundary: All walls: non-slip boundary condition. Tank inlet: experimental pressure and temperature</td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>A modified k-ε model</td>
<td>Aungier's modified Redlich-Kwong equation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2–77.5 MPa</td>
<td>Initial conditions: initial temperature and pressure (p = 2.2 MPa, T = 15 °C)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Melideo [72]</td>
<td>40 L</td>
<td>Initial conditions: experiment initial tank temperature and pressure</td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>A modified k-ε approach</td>
<td>Redlich-Kwong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75 MPa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Cristina Galassi [79]</td>
<td>70 MPa</td>
<td>Boundary: Inner tank and inlet pipe: non-slip boundary condition. Initial conditions: H2 initial temperature (291 K) and gage pressure (0.2 bar)</td>
<td>4 different 3D computational with various mesh refinements</td>
<td>A modified k-ε model</td>
<td>Redlich-Kwong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
increasing the overall filling time. However, the optimized mass flow rate variation requires further research according to different initial parameters.

**Refueling with multi-stage initial pressures**

According to the investigations carried out by the researchers, another fast filling strategy is summarized: filling with multi-stage initial pressure. Firstly, it greatly reduces the energy consumption to compress the hydrogen with three different pressure tanks respectively; moreover, it also fits with the above strategy, which requires a slow filling rate at first and then a faster filling rate. The diagram of filling process is shown as Fig. 7.

The multi-stage refueling strategy has been investigated by several researchers so far and gradually gets a wide application in hydrogen stations. With the same cylinder, the difference is that there are multi-stage pressure storage tanks in the filling process. As known, the consumption of compressing the hydrogen declines with the increase of pressure stages. Nevertheless, the cost of the equipment is higher and the control strategy is more complex, which may reduce the reliability of the system. Therefore, a three-stage pressure storage process appears relatively reasonable. In this refueling process, the cylinder is filled by the three tanks in the order of low-pressure tank, medium-pressure tank and high-pressure tank [13].

To investigate the optimal pressures of the three storages and the fast filling strategy, Zheng et al. [83] quantified the hydrogen utilization ratio and the filling time and proposed a two-objective optimization model. Based on the two-objective optimization model, an optimized filling algorithm is proposed to achieve a high hydrogen utilization ratio and a fast filling; the optimization algorithm was validated by two examples. Soon afterwards, the temperature rise within a 70 Mpa type III cylinder with this strategy was studied in another paper. The equipment used in this experiment is shown in Fig. 8 and the results show that the experiment system with pre-cooling can meet the requirements of the 70 MPa hydrogen fast refueling.

**Determining pre-cooling temperature from refueling parameters**

At present, hydrogen pre-cooling is the most effective solution to reduce the temperature rise for fast filling. Nevertheless, as the initial pressure and initial temperature of each hydrogen cylinder are various with each of the different vehicles, whether the hydrogen needs to be pre-cooled or the pre-cooling temperature are unknown; furthermore, energy savings can be achieved if the initial conditions of the tank are correctly identified. Therefore, developing a strategy to predict the pre-cooled temperature according to the initial parameters is imperative.

In order to obtain the relationship between the precooling temperature and the filling parameters, a model of fast filling should be developed, including the filling parameters. Then, according to the large amount of data collected, the fitting formula that helps to determine the pre-cooling temperature could be obtained. A numerical solution for the lumped parameter thermodynamic model of adsorptive and cryo-adsorptive hydrogen storage systems was developed by Xiao et al. [84]. Based on the parameter thermodynamic model associated with the reference data during the filling process, the simple fitting formula is developed. They investigated the pre-cooling temperature determined from initial pressure and final pressure, filling time and final pressure and initial temperature and final pressure respectively. It is validated that the fittings agreed well with the experiment data. In brief, the pre-cooling hydrogen temperature could be well determined.
and the safety during the filling process may be ensured with this method.

**Conclusion**

In summary, multiple techniques of hydrogen storage are feasible for transportation storage and bulk stationary storage. However, the different hydrogen storage methods have their best application fields and the compressed hydrogen is more popular and suitable in the transportation domain due to its ease of carrying, ease of use, acceptable efficiency and mature technology. Currently, type III and IV cylinders are mainly used in vehicles due to their merit of lightweight and high mechanical strength. However, the violent changes of temperature will cause thermal stress, which may lead to significant laminate damages in the form of micro cracks in the resin and further result to composite failure, when added to the stresses caused by internal pressure.

It is observed that the temperature rises and SOC are affected by several parameters. However, controlling the parameters such as initial temperature, type of hydrogen storage cylinder and initial pressure in the tank is not significant for the different areas or vehicles, so the optimal control of initial inlet gas temperature and filling rate are particularly important. Precooling the hydrogen is an ideal method to decrease the initial inlet gas temperature. The targets of final temperature and filling time are achieved by coupling the control of cooling temperature and filling rate. In view of the reality, some numerical simulations based on experimental data were performed to verify the CFD. The boundary conditions, initial conditions and CFD simulation model, based on turbulence model, real gas model and heat transfer model are set to verify the validity of the model. Considering the effective parameters on the temperature rise and SOC, three fast filling strategies are reviewed: filling rate control strategy, refueling with multi-stage initial pressures and determining pre-cooling temperature from refueling parameters proposed. All of them are validated effective and the further study is coupling the three strategies to obtain an optimal multi-stage filling strategy which may decrease the temperature rise and reduce the energy consumption.

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