

ME 417

Design of Alternative Energy Systems

Fuel Cell Problems

1. Determine the ideal voltage, current, and required mass flow rate of hydrogen for an ideal air/hydrogen fuel cell operating at 101 kPa and 350 K that is producing 25 kW.
2. Determine the ideal voltage, current, and required mass flow rate of ethanol (C_2H_6O) for an ideal air/ethanol–water fuel cell operating at 101 kPa and 280 K that is producing 500 kW. You may take the c_p of ethanol to be 2.77 kJ/(kg·K).
3. Determine the ideal voltage, current, number of stacks required, and required mass flow rate of isopropanol (C_3H_7OH) for an ideal air/isopropanol –water fuel cell operating at 101 kPa and 298 K that is producing 50 kW. You may take the following properties for liquid isopropanol.

$$c_p = 2.35 \text{ kJ/(kgK)}$$

$$\bar{h}_f = -316,000 \text{ kJ/kmole}$$

$$\bar{s}^\circ(\text{at } 298\text{K}) = 194.6 \text{ kJ/(kmole} \cdot \text{K)}$$