



Sustainable Energy
**Mod. 6: Fuel Cells & Distributed
Generation Systems**

Dr. Ing. Mario L. Ferrari

Thermochemical Power Group (TPG) - DIMSET – University of Genoa, Italy



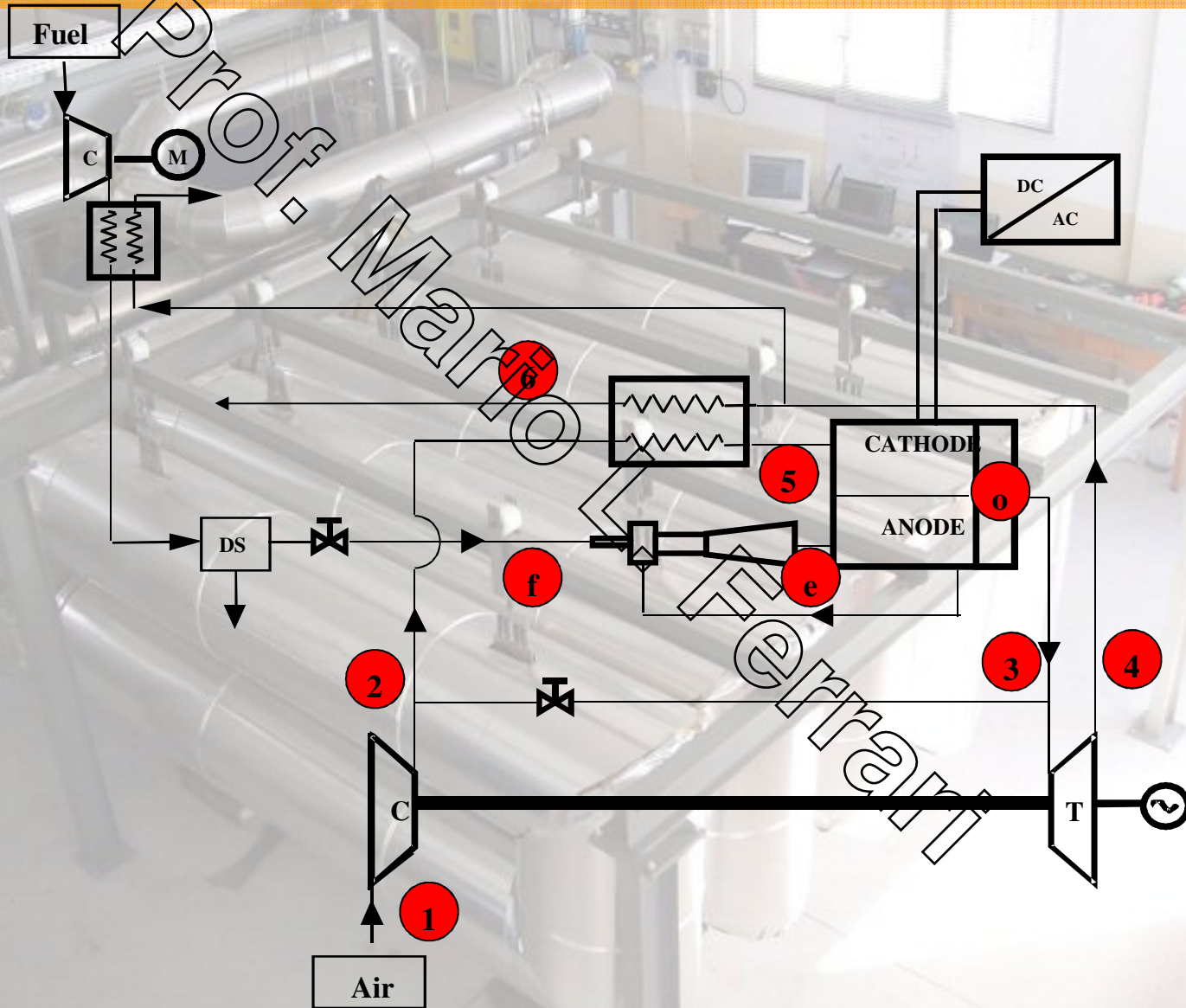
Exercise IV: hybrid systems (calculations)

Prof. Mario L. Ferrari

Exercise 1: Calculate the design performance (power and efficiency) for the tubular SOFC based hybrid system shown in the figure below. Known data:

- **Compressor inlet :** pressure, temperature, air humidity.
- **Compressor :** mass flow rate, efficiency, pressure ratio.
- **Recuperator:** effectiveness, pressure losses.
- **Fuel data (point 6):** pressure, temperature, chemical composition (LHV_f).
- **Anodic ejector data:** recirculation ratio.
- **Fuel cell data:** fuel utilization factor, coefficients for polarizations, heat loss, pressure losses, temperature (T_{cell}), effectiveness of pre-heating tube.
- **Off-gas burner:** combustion efficiency, pressure loss.
- **Expander:** efficiency.
- **Outlet duct:** pressure loss.
- **Electrical :** power conditioning component efficiency.
- **Machine shaft:** mechanical efficiency.

Plant layout:



Solution (1/2):

1. Calculation of compressor outlet temperature: $T_2 = T_1 + (1/\eta_c) * T_1 * (\beta_c^\theta - 1)$
2. Calculation of compressor power: $P_c = m_a * c_{p_a} * (T_2 - T_1)$
3. **Choice of a realistic value of TOT: T_4 .**
4. Calculation of recuperator outlet temperature: $T_5 = T_2 + \varepsilon * (T_4 - T_2)$
5. Calculation of cathode inlet pressure: $p_5 = p_2 - \Delta p_{2-5}$
6. Calculation of off-gas burner inlet pressure: $p_o = p_5 - \Delta p_{5-o}$
7. **Choice of a realistic fuel mass flow rate (m_f).**
8. **Choice of a realistic anode outlet composition.**
9. Calculation of ejector outlet mass flow rate: $m_e = m_f + m_f * (\text{Rec. Ratio})$
10. Calculation of ejector outlet composition (mixing) and temperature.
11. Calculation of ejector outlet pressure: $p_e = p_o + \Delta p_{e-o}$
12. Minimization of free Gibbs energy for reforming and shifting.
13. Calculation of reformer outlet composition and temperature.
14. Calculation of current from fuel utilization factor (U_f).
15. Calculation of anode outlet composition and **iteration from point 8.**
16. Calculation of pre-heating tube outlet temperature ($T_{\text{cath_out}} = T_{\text{cell}}$).
17. Calculation of Nernst's potential: $E = E^\circ + (RT/2F) \ln [P_{H_2} / P_{H_2O}] + (RT/2F) \ln [P_{O_2}^\circ]$
18. Calculation of voltage losses and real potential.

Solution (2/2):

19. Calculation of cathode outlet composition.
20. Calculation of T_{cell} (energy balance) and **iteration from point 7.**
21. Calculation of combustor outlet: temperature, pressure ($p_3 = p_o - p_{o-3}$), composition, mass flow rate ($m_3 = m_a + m_f$).
22. Calculation of turbine outlet pressure: $p_4 = p_{\text{amb}} + \Delta p_{\text{outlet_duct}} + \Delta p_{4-6}$
23. Calculation of turbine expansion ratio: $\beta_t = p_3/p_4$
24. Calculation of TOT ($T_4 = T_3 - \eta_t * T_3 * (1 - 1/\beta_t^\theta)$) and **iteration from point 3.**
25. Calculation of turbine power: $P_t = m_3 * c_{p_e} * (T_3 - T_4)$
26. Calculation of SOFC power: $P_{\text{SOFC}} = V * I * \eta_{\text{el_SOFC}}$
27. Calculation of machine power: $P_{\text{mGT}} = (P_t - P_c) * \eta_m * \eta_{\text{el_mGT}}$
28. Calculation of plant efficiency: $\eta_g = (P_{\text{SOFC}} + P_{\text{mGT}} - P_{\text{aux}}) / (m_f * \text{LHV}_f)$