

# **Combining baffles and secondary porous layers for performance enhancement of proton exchange membrane fuel cells**

## **(Supplementary Materials)**

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### **1. Model development**

### 1.1.1. Electrochemistry

Two potential equations are solved. One accounts for the electron transport through the solid materials resolved in the triple-phase boundaries (TPBs) of the CL, solid component of the GDL, and collectors. The second equation resolves the ionic transport of protons inside the TPBs and the polymer electrolyte membrane. The equations are written as:

$$\nabla \cdot (\sigma_{sol} \nabla \phi_{sol}) + R_{sol} = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\sigma_{mem} \nabla \phi_{mem}) + R_{mem} = 0 \quad (2)$$

where  $\sigma$  represents electrical conductivity,  $\phi$  electric potential and  $R$  volumetric transfer current. Zero flux for  $\phi_{mem}$  is prescribed on all outside walls. There are external boundaries for the solid phase potential  $\phi_{sol}$  at the anode and cathode side, representing the external electric circuit and the current generated by the cell passes through the specified boundaries, i. e. current collectors. On the remaining external walls  $\phi_{sol}$  is set to zero flux.  $\phi_{sol}$  on the cathode side can be set to constant flux or constant value, representing galvanostatic or potentiostatic boundary conditions, respectively. The transfer current source terms, specified in Eqns. (1) and (2), are non-zero only in the CLs, computed as follows.

For the potential equation in solid phase:

$$R_{sol} = -R_{an} (< 0) \quad (3)$$

$$R_{sol} = +R_{cat} (> 0) \quad (4)$$

For the potential equation in the electrolyte phase:

$$R_{mem} = +R_{an} (> 0) \quad (5)$$

$$R_{mem} = -R_{cat} (< 0) \quad (6)$$

where the subscripts an (in Eqns. 3 and 5) and cat (in Eqns. 4 and 6) present the anode and cathode, respectively. The source terms in Eqns. (3)-(6) represent the exchange current density, defined as:

$$R_{an} = (\zeta_{an} j_{an}(T)) \left( \frac{[A]}{[A]_{ref}} \right)^{\gamma_{an}} \left( e^{\frac{\alpha_{an}^{an} F \eta_{an}}{RT}} + e^{-\frac{\alpha_{cat}^{an} F \eta_{an}}{RT}} \right) \quad (7)$$

$$R_{cat} = (\zeta_{cat} j_{cat}(T)) \left( \frac{[C]}{[C]_{ref}} \right)^{\gamma_{cat}} \left( -e^{\frac{\alpha_{an}^{cat} F \eta_{cat}}{RT}} + e^{-\frac{\alpha_{cat}^{cat} F \eta_{cat}}{RT}} \right) \quad (8)$$

where  $j(T)$  represents reference exchange current density per active surface area,  $\zeta$  specific active surface area,  $\gamma$  concentration dependence,  $\alpha_{an}^{an}$  and  $\alpha_{cat}^{an}$  anode and cathode transfer coefficients on the anode electrode, respectively,  $\alpha_{an}^{cat}$  and  $\alpha_{cat}^{cat}$  anode and cathode transfer coefficients on the cathode electrode, respectively,  $\eta_{an}$  surface overpotential on the anode,  $\eta_{cat}$  surface overpotential on the cathode,  $F$  Faraday constant,  $R$  universal gas constant,  $T$  temperature,  $[A]$  and  $[C]$  molar concentration of species, where  $A$  represents  $H_2$  and  $C$  represents  $O_2$ . The subscript ref represents reference concentration. When the surface overpotential is large, the Butler-Volmer formulation (Eqns. 7 and 8) reduces to Tafel formulation as follows:

$$R_{an} = \zeta_{an} j_{an}(T) \left( \frac{[A]}{[A]_{ref}} \right)^{\gamma_{an}} \left( e^{\frac{\alpha_{an} F \eta_{an}}{RT}} \right) \quad (9)$$

$$R_{cat} = \zeta_{cat} j_{cat}(T) \left( \frac{[C]}{[C]_{ref}} \right)^{\gamma_{cat}} \left( e^{\frac{\alpha_{cat} F \eta_{cat}}{RT}} \right) \quad (10)$$

Reference exchange current density formulation is temperature dependent as follows:

$$j_{an}(T) = j_{an}^{ref} e^{-\frac{E_{an}}{RT \left( 1 - \frac{T}{T_{an}^{ref}} \right)}} \quad (11)$$

$$j_{cat}(T) = j_{cat}^{ref} e^{-\frac{E_{cat}}{RT \left( 1 - \frac{T}{T_{cat}^{ref}} \right)}} \quad (12)$$

where  $E$  represents user-specified activation energy,  $T_{an}^{ref}$  and  $T_{cat}^{ref}$  user-specified reference temperature and  $j_{an}^{ref}$  and  $j_{cat}^{ref}$  reference exchange current density specified at the reference temperature.

Activation loss is specified as:

$$\eta_{an} = \phi_{sol} - \phi_{mem} - U_{an}^0 \quad (13)$$

$$\eta_{cat} = \phi_{sol} - \phi_{mem} - U_{cat}^0 \quad (14)$$

The anode and cathode half-cell potentials are computed according to the Nernst equations:

$$U_{an}^0 = E_{an}^0 - \frac{\Delta S_{an}}{2F}(T - T_0) - \frac{RT}{2F} \ln\left(\frac{p_{H_2}}{p^0}\right) \quad (15)$$

$$U_{cat}^0 = E_{cat}^0 + \frac{\Delta S_{cat}}{2F}(T - T_0) - \frac{RT}{2F} \ln\left(\frac{p_{H_2O}}{p_{sat} \sqrt{\frac{p_{O_2}}{p^0}}}\right) \quad (16)$$

where  $p_{sat}$  represents water saturation pressure,  $p_{H_2}$ ,  $p_{O_2}$ , and  $p_{H_2O}$  partial pressures of hydrogen, oxygen and water vapor, respectively. Standard state variables  $T^0$  and  $p^0$ , reversible potentials  $E_{an}^0$  and  $E_{cat}^0$ , and reaction entropies  $\Delta S_{an}$  and  $\Delta S_{cat}$  are user-specified. Two potential fields are obtained by solving Eqns. (1) - (16).

#### 1.1.2. Cathode particle model

The mass transport resistance within the porous electrode is not considered in the B-V equations, i. e. Eqns. (9) and (10) [27]. Otherwise, the calculated resistance consists of two parts: the resistance of the ionomer film,  $\mathfrak{R}_{ion}$ , and resistance due to liquid water film surrounding the catalyst particles,  $\mathfrak{R}_{liq}$ . The volumetric transfer current inside the cathode CL is expressed as:

$$R_{cat} = 4F \frac{c_{O_2}}{\frac{c_{O_2}}{j_{O_2}^{ideal}} + \mathfrak{R}_{ion} + \mathfrak{R}_{liq}} \quad (17)$$

where  $c_{O_2}$  is concentration of  $O_2$  at the wall,  $\mathfrak{R}_{ion}$  is user-specified,  $\mathfrak{R}_{liq}$  is calculated as:

$$\mathfrak{R}_{liq} = \frac{\zeta_{cat} r_p^2}{K_w D_w} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[3]{1 + \frac{S\varepsilon}{1 - \varepsilon}}}{3(1 - \varepsilon)} \quad (18)$$

where  $\zeta_{cat}$  represents active surface area of the cathode catalyst layer,  $s$  liquid saturation,  $\varepsilon$  porosity,  $r_p$  particle diameter and  $K_w D_w$  product of oxygen solubility in liquid water, while  $j_{O_2}^{ideal}$  is calculated as:

$$j_{O_2}^{ideal} = \frac{R_{cat}^0}{4F} \quad (19)$$

where  $R_{cat}^0$  represents ideal transfer current computed according to Eq. (8) without considering the resistance.

#### 1.1.3. Conservation of current and mass

Source terms for  $H_2$ ,  $O_2$  and dissolved water content  $\lambda$  in the CLs due to electrochemical reactions have the following form:

$$S_{H_2} = -\frac{M_{w,H_2}}{2F} R_{an} < 0 \quad (20)$$

$$S_{O_2} = -\frac{M_{w,O_2}}{4F} R_{cat} < 0 \quad (21)$$

$$S_{\lambda} = -\frac{M_{w,H_2O}}{2F} R_{cat} > 0 \quad (22)$$

where  $M_{w,H_2}$ ,  $M_{w,O_2}$  and  $M_{w,H_2O}$  represent molecular masses of the species,  $F$  Faraday constant, as previously mentioned, and 2 and 4 the number of electrons per mole of the reactants and products.

The conservation is achieved by equal production of the current at the anode and cathode catalyst layer, and is written as follows:

$$\int_{an} R_{an} dV = \int_{cat} R_{cat} dV \quad (23)$$

#### 1.1.4. Water transport and mass transfer

Water inside the PEM fuel cell exists in three phases: dissolved, liquid, and gaseous, i. e. water vapour. The dissolved phase exists in the membrane/ionomer phase of the CLs and inside the membrane, while the generation and transport of dissolved water is described by the following expression in [28].

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\varepsilon_i M_{w,H_2O} \rho_i \lambda}{EW} \right) + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{i}_m n_d M_{w,H_2O}}{F} \right) \quad (24)$$

$$= \nabla \cdot (M_{w,H_2O} D_w^i \nabla \lambda) + S_\lambda + S_{gd} + S_{ld}$$

where  $\varepsilon_i$  represents porosity of the porous media,  $\vec{i}_m$  ionic current density (with  $\vec{i}_m = -\sigma_{mem} \nabla \phi_{mem}$ ),  $\lambda$  dissolved water content,  $n_d$  osmotic drag coefficient,  $D_w^i$  diffusion coefficient of water content,  $S_\lambda$  water generation in the cathode catalyst layer due to electrochemical reaction,  $S_{gd}$  mass change between the gaseous and dissolved phase and  $S_{ld}$  mass change between the liquid and dissolved phase, calculated as [27].

$$S_{gd} = (1 - s^\theta) \gamma_{gd} M_{w,H_2O} \frac{\rho_i}{EW} (\lambda_{eq} - \lambda) \quad (25)$$

$$S_{ld} = s^\theta \gamma_{ld} M_{w,H_2O} \frac{\rho_i}{EW} (\lambda_{eq} - \lambda) \quad (26)$$

where  $\rho_i$  represents dry ionomer, or membrane, density,  $EW$  equivalent weight of the membrane,  $s$  liquid saturation,  $\lambda_{eq}$  equilibrium water content,  $\gamma_{gd}$  and  $\gamma_{ld}$  gas and liquid mass exchange rate constants, while  $\gamma_{gd}$ ,  $\gamma_{ld}$  and  $\theta$  are user-specified constants.

Equilibrium water content is expressed as [27]:

$$\lambda_{eq} = 0.36 + 6a(1 - \tanh(a - 0.5)) \quad (27)$$

$$+ 0.69(\lambda_{a=1} - 3.52)a^{0.5} \left( 1 + \tanh \left( \frac{a - 0.89}{0.23} \right) \right) + s(\lambda_{s=1}$$

where  $a$  represents water activity, defined as:

$$a = \frac{p_{wv}}{p_{sat}} \quad (28)$$

where  $p_{wv}$  represents water vapor partial pressure and  $p_{sat}$  water vapor saturation pressure, while  $\lambda_{s=1}$  and  $\lambda_{a=1}$  are user-specified parameters which can be used to fit the function according the experimental measurement data, e.g. Zawodzinski et al. [29], Hinatsu et al. [30], or custom membrane water content equations. In this work, the data is fitted to represent the original Zawodzinski's expression which resulted in the most accurate prediction as seen in previous studies [31,32].

Liquid water is considered in all porous electrodes and gas channels. The driving force for liquid water transport is the liquid pressure gradient  $\nabla p_l$ , calculated as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\varepsilon_i \rho_l s) = \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{\rho_l K K_r}{\mu_l} \nabla p_l \right) + S_{gl} - S_{ld} \quad (29)$$

where  $\rho_l$  represents liquid water density,  $\mu_l$  absolute viscosity,  $K$  absolute permeability,  $K_r$  relative permeability,  $p_l$  liquid pressure and  $S_{gl}$  and  $S_{ld}$  mass change between gas and liquid phase, and liquid and dissolved phase, respectively.  $K_r$  In GDLs and MPLs is computed as:

$$K_r = s^b \quad (30)$$

where  $s$  represents liquid saturation and  $b$  is user-defined constant. In the membrane  $K_r$  is computed as:

$$K_r = \left( \frac{\frac{M_{w,H_2O}}{\rho_l} \lambda_{s=1} + \frac{EW}{\rho_i}}{\frac{M_{w,H_2O}}{\rho_l} \lambda + \frac{EW}{\rho_i}} \cdot \frac{\lambda}{\lambda_{s=1}} \right)^2 \quad (31)$$

Substituting  $p_l$  from Eq. (29) with the sum of capillary pressure  $p_c$  and gas pressure  $p$ , Eq. (29) is redefined to:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\varepsilon_i \rho_l s) = \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{\rho_l K K_r}{\mu_l} \nabla (p_c + p) \right) + S_{gl} - S_{ld} \quad (32)$$

while the mass transfer rate between the liquid and gas phases is computed based on the unidirectional diffusion expressions as follows. When  $p_{wv} \leq p_{sat}$ , we have:

$$S_{gl} = \frac{\gamma_e \varepsilon S D_{gl} M_{w,H_2O}}{RT} p \ln \left( \frac{p - p_{sat}}{p - p_{wv}} \right) \quad (33)$$

otherwise,

$$S_{gl} = \frac{\gamma_c \varepsilon (1 - s) D_{gl} M_{w,H_2O}}{RT} p \ln \left( \frac{p - p_{sat}}{p - p_{wv}} \right) \quad (34)$$

where  $\varepsilon$  represents porosity,  $\gamma_e$  evaporation and  $\gamma_c$  condensation rate coefficient, and  $D_{gl}$  is calculated as follow. At the cathode side:

$$D_{gl} = 0.365 \cdot 10^{-4} \left( \frac{T}{343} \right)^{2.334} \cdot \left( \frac{10^5}{p} \right) \quad (35)$$

At the anode side:

$$D_{gl} = 1.79 \cdot 10^{-4} \left( \frac{T}{343} \right)^{2.334} \cdot \left( \frac{10^5}{p} \right) \quad (36)$$

Eq. (32) is solved in all regions between the anode and cathode GDL-channel interfaces. At the specified interfaces, the water flux is only allowed in the gas channel direction, without the possibility for back-flow, and the water flux is driven by the capillary pressure as follows:

$$f_{liq} = \theta \varepsilon s \cdot \max \left[ \left( p_c + \frac{1}{2} \rho v^2 \right), 0 \right] \quad (37)$$

where  $\theta$  represents coefficient of liquid water removal. Liquid saturation is computed using Leverett function. For hydrophilic materials with contact angle  $\theta_c < 90^\circ$ , the capillary pressure is expressed as:

$$p_c = \sigma \cos \theta_c \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon}{K}} J(1 - s) \quad (38)$$

where  $\sigma$  is surface tension, and for hydrophobic materials with contact angle  $\theta_c > 90^\circ$ , we have:

$$p_c = \sigma \cos \theta_c \sqrt{\frac{\varepsilon}{K}} J(s) \quad (39)$$

The Leverett function can be expressed as the following polynomial expression:

$$J(x) = ax - bx^2 + cx^3 \quad (40)$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are user-specified Leverett function coefficients (standard value 1.417, 2.12 and 1.263, respectively). The reduction of the effective surface area of the catalyst is modeled by modifying the transfer current by adopting the following expression:

$$R_j = (1 - s)^{\gamma_j} R_j \quad (41)$$

where  $\gamma_j$  is user-specified parameter.

Liquid water transport inside the channels is tracked using the correlation as follow:



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\rho_l s) + \nabla \cdot (\rho_l \vec{v}_l s) = \nabla \cdot (D_{liq} \nabla s) \quad (42)$$

where  $D_{liq}$  represents liquid water diffusion coefficient in the channels and  $\vec{v}_l$  liquid velocity being a fraction of the gas velocity  $\vec{v}_g$

$$\vec{v}_l = \chi \vec{v}_g \quad (43)$$

where  $\chi$  represents liquid to gas velocity ratio. The phase-change in the channels is not considered, since it is assumed that the flow is convection-dominated.

#### 1.1.5. Heat sources

Volumetric heat sources are calculated according to the following expressions. Inside the GDL and MPL ( $S_{GDL+MPL}$ ), anode CL ( $S_{ACL}$ ), cathode CL ( $S_{CCL}$ ), membrane ( $S_{MEM}$ ), and current collector solid ( $S_{CC}$ ), the heat source is respectively described by the following expressions as:

$$S_{GDL+MPL} = \frac{i_s^2}{\sigma_{sol}} - S_{gl^*} \cdot L \quad (44)$$

$$S_{ACL} = R_{an} \left( \eta_{an} - \frac{T \Delta S_{an}}{2F} \right) + \frac{i_s^2}{\sigma_{sol}} + \frac{i_m^2}{\sigma_{mem}} - (S_{dl} + S_{gl}) \cdot L \quad (45)$$

$$S_{CCL} = R_{cat} \left( -\eta_{cat} - \frac{T \Delta S_{cat}}{2F} \right) + \frac{i_s^2}{\sigma_{sol}} + \frac{i_m^2}{\sigma_{mem}} - (S_{dl} + S_{gl}) \cdot L \quad (46)$$

$$S_{MEM} = \frac{i_m^2}{\sigma_{mem}} \quad (47)$$

$$S_{CC} = \frac{i_s^2}{\sigma_{sol}} \quad (48)$$

where  $i_s$  and  $i_m$  represent the current densities of solid and electrolyte phase, respectively, and  $L < 0$  latent heat of condensation. Heat sources in the gas channels are not modeled.

#### 1.1.6. Material properties

Gas species diffusivity is computed using dilute approximation or full multi-component diffusion. The dilute approximation is calculated as:

$$D_i = \varepsilon^{1.5}(1 - s)^{r_s} D_i^0 \left(\frac{p_0}{p}\right)^{\gamma_p} \left(\frac{T}{T_0}\right)^{\gamma_t} \quad (49)$$

where  $\varepsilon$  represents the porosity of the porous media,  $D_i^0$  mass diffusivity of the species  $i$  at reference pressure ( $p_0 = 101325 \text{ Pa}$ ) and temperature ( $T_0 = 300 \text{ K}$ ). The reference values for the exponents are  $\gamma_p = 1.0$ ,  $\gamma_t = 1.5$ , pore blockage exponent  $r_s = 2.5$ . Full multicomponent diffusion with tortuosity correction is calculated according to the following expression [26]:

$$D_{eff}^{ij} = (1 - s)^{r_s} \varepsilon^{1.5} D^{ij} \quad (50)$$

where  $D_{eff}^{ij}$  represents the effective diffusivity, while the  $D^{ij}$  is the diffusivity calculated by the full multicomponent diffusion method, as described in more detail in the software manual [26].

Electrolyte phase ionic conductivity is calculated based on the following expression:

$$\sigma_{mem} = \Gamma_i (0.514\lambda - 0.326)^{\omega_i} e^{E_i \left(\frac{1}{303} + \frac{1}{T}\right)} \quad (51)$$

where  $\lambda$  represents membrane/ionomer water content,  $E_i$  activation energy for the temperature correction term, and  $\Gamma_i$  of the membrane, the ionomer in the anode and cathode CLs are calculated respectively according to the following expression:

$$\Gamma_i = \beta_{mem} \quad (52)$$

$$\Gamma_i = \beta_{an}^{\frac{\varsigma_a}{\tau_a}} \quad (53)$$

$$\Gamma_i = \beta_{cat}^{\frac{\varsigma_c}{\tau_c}} \quad (54)$$

where  $\varsigma_a$  and  $\varsigma_c$  represents the anode and cathode ionomer volume fraction and  $\tau_a$  and  $\tau_c$  anode and cathode CLs tortuosity, respectively. Parameters  $\beta$  and  $\omega$  are introduced for generality purpose.

The diffusivity coefficient of dissolved water transport through membrane and ionomer is calculated as:

$$D_w^i = \frac{\eta_\lambda \rho_i}{EW} f(\lambda) \quad (55)$$

where  $\eta_\lambda$  represents user-defined generality coefficient, while  $f(\lambda)$  for is given as follow according to Wu et al. [28] or according to Wang and Wang [33], who adopted it from Motupally et al. [34] who presented it first. In this work, Wu [28] model was considered.

$$f(\lambda) = 4.1 \cdot 10^{-10} \left( \frac{\lambda}{25} \right)^{0.15} \left[ 1 + \tanh \left( \frac{\lambda - 2.5}{1.4} \right) \right] \quad (56)$$

The osmotic drag coefficient  $n_d$  is calculated as:

$$n_d = n_{osm} g(\lambda) \quad (57)$$

where  $\eta_{osm}$  is user-defined generality coefficient, set in this work to the default value of 1.0, according to the referenced suggestions [34], and the function  $g(\lambda)$  represents standard Springer et al. [35] expression as:

$$g(\lambda) = \frac{2.5\lambda}{22} \quad (58)$$

The saturation pressure, converted to archaic units *atm* is calculated according to the expression of

$$\log_{10} p_{sat} = a + bt + ct^2 + dt^3 \quad (59)$$

where  $t$  represents temperature in  $^{\circ}C$ , and saturation coefficients are equal to  $a = -2.1794$ ,  $b = 0.02953$ ,  $c = -9.1837 \times 10^{-5}$  and  $d = 1.4454 \times 10^{-7}$ .

#### 1.1.7. Cross-over current

The cross-over current, is accounted by introducing the following source terms:

$$S_{H_2} = -\frac{M_{w,H_2}}{2F} \cdot \frac{I_l}{Vol_{an}} \quad (60)$$

$$S_{O_2} = -\frac{M_{w,O_2}}{4F} \cdot \frac{I_l}{Vol_{cat}} \quad (61)$$

$$S_\lambda = \frac{M_{w,H_2O}}{2F} \cdot \frac{I_l}{Vol_{cat}} \quad (62)$$

where  $Vol_{an}$  and  $Vol_{cat}$  represent the anode and cathode CL volumes, respectively, and numbers 2 and 4 are number of electrons per mole of reactants and products, the volumetric cross-over current  $I_l/Vol_{cat}$  is subtracted from the cathode transfer current  $R_{cat}$  in Eqns. (8) or (10), accordingly.

## 2. Results and discussion

Flow regimes in porous media are shown in Figure S1. Area marked with 1 is dominated by Darcy's law, 2 by weak inertial forces, 3 with Forchheimer's regime, i.e. intense inertia, 4 is transition between Forchheimer's and turbulent regime, and 5 is turbulent regime.

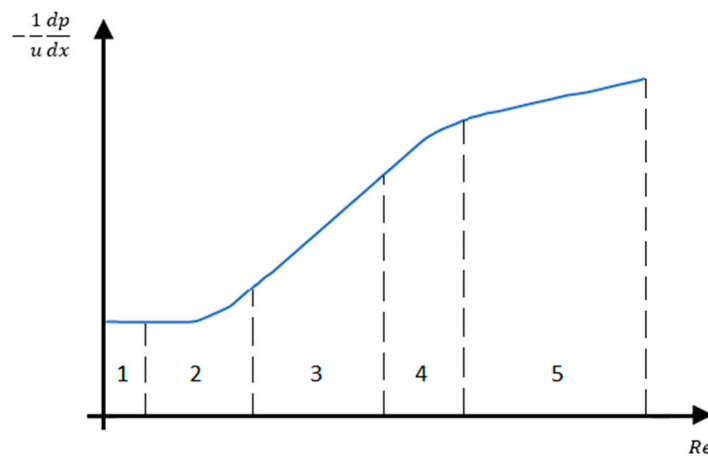
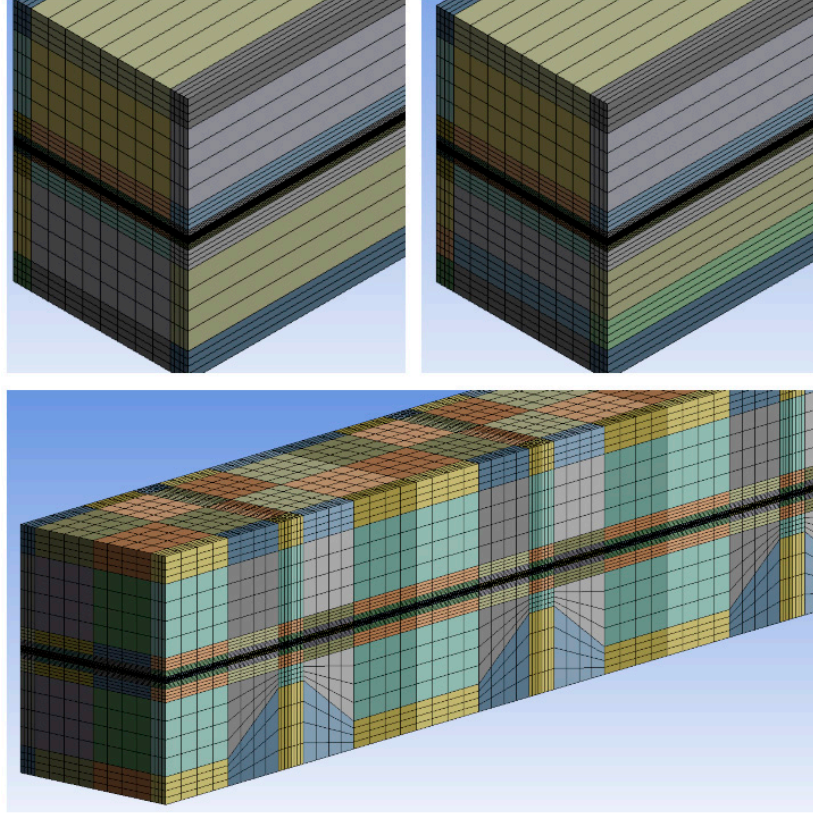


Figure S1. Flow regimes in porous media, Takhanov [36].



*Figure S2. Mesh detail of conventional cathode channel and porous cathode channel geometry (above left); bi-porous cathode channel (above right); porous and baffled cathode channel (below).*

As can be seen, the minimal number of subdivisions across the layers is 4. The porous and baffled channel mesh is very fine in the axial direction due to numerous restrictions in the channel cross-sections, while the axial discretization for conventional channel and bi-porous layer is 1 mm, which is sufficiently fine for this type of simulations, as seen in previous studies [22,28].

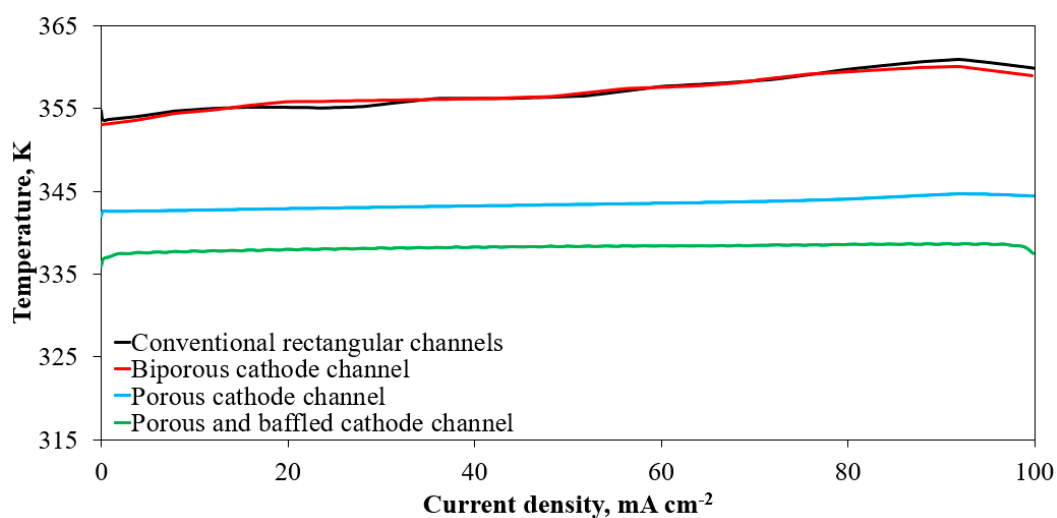


Figure S3. Temperature plots along the membrane mid-line at operating current density of  $4.0 \text{ A cm}^{-2}$ . The operating temperature is set to  $328 \text{ K}$  (i.e.  $55^\circ\text{C}$ ) at the current collector terminals,

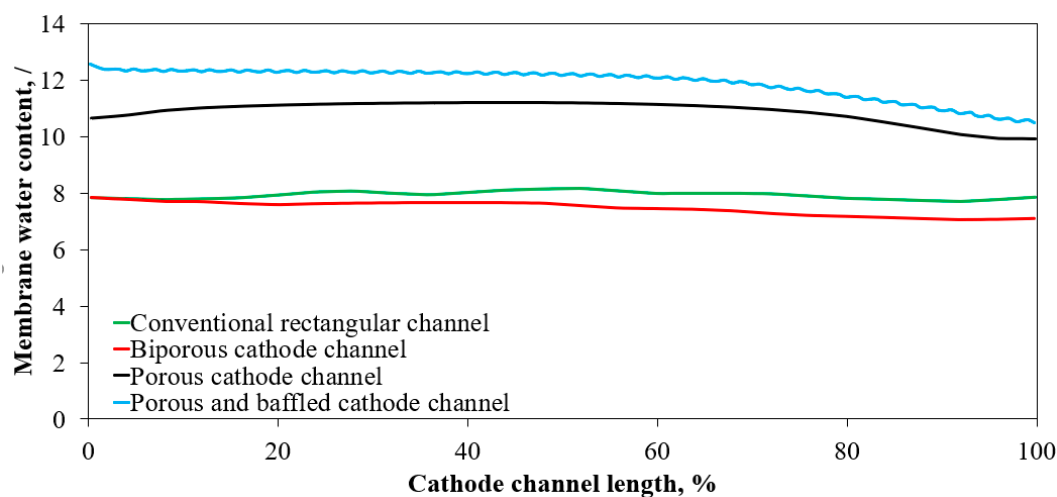


Figure S4. Membrane water content along the membrane mid-line at operating current density of  $4.0 \text{ A cm}^{-2}$ .

As a result of temperature built-up inside the MEA, the membrane water content is significantly lower for the conventional and bi-porous layer cases than that of the porous channel and porous and baffled channel, resulting in lower performance of the former two cases.

Table S1. Parameters and resulting electric potential at current density of  $4.0 \text{ A cm}^{-2}$  part 1/5.

Parameter (mm)	Ref. case	Case #1	Case #2	Case #3	Case #4	Case #5	Case #6	Case #7	Case #8	Case #9	Case #10
Half length segment	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Half length baffle base	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.65	0.5	0.4	0.35	0.7	0.65	0.7	0.5
Half length baffle top	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.15	0.1	0.05	0.2	0.1	0.25	0.35	0.15
Thickness current collector cathode top	0.15	0.25	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.35	0.25	0.15
Height baffle	0.3	0.25	0.3	0.2	0.25	0.21	0.3	0.3	0.15	0.25	0.25
Distance baffle substrate	0.1	0.05	0.15	0.05	0.1	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.15	0.05
Electric potential (V):	0.51 5753	0.51 7451	0.51 1267	0.52 2654	0.51 8681	0.51 6568	0.52 2232	0.51 5933	0.51 9282	0.51 3656	0.51 6701

Table S2. Parameters and resulting electric potential at current density of  $4.0 \text{ A cm}^{-2}$  part 2/5.

Parameter (mm)	Case #11	Case #12	Case #13	Case #14	Case #15	Case #16	Case #17	Case #18	Case #19	Case #20	Case #21
Half length segment	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.8
Half length baffle base	0.65	0.35	0.65	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.45	0.6	0.5
Half length baffle top	0.15	0.2	0.25	0.1	0.1	0.15	0.15	0.25	0.05	0.25	0.1
Thickness current collector cathode top	0.3	0.2	0.35	0.1	0.15	0.2	0.25	0.2	0.25	0.25	0.15
Height baffle	0.2	0.3	0.15	0.35	0.3	0.35	0.35	0.3	0.35	0.4	0.3
Distance baffle substrate	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.15	0.1
Electric potential (V):	0.517075	0.517258	0.518698	0.514827	0.512365	0.512443	0.513033	0.513855	0.511368	0.511529	0.51364



Table S3. Parameters and resulting electric potential at current density of  $4.0 \text{ A cm}^{-2}$  part 3/5.

Parameter (mm)	Case #22	Case #23	Case #24	Case #25	Case #26	Case #27	Case #28	Case #29	Case #30	Case #31	Case #32
Half length segment	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	1	1	1
Half length baffle base	0.55	0.45	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.4	0.35	0.45	0.55	0.45	0.5
Half length baffle top	0.05	0.15	0.05	0.2	0.1	0.15	0.05	0.15	0.05	0.15	0.1
Thickness current collector cathode top	0.15	0.15	0.2	0.2	0.15	0.1	0.1	0.25	0.1	0.1	0.1
Height baffle	0.2	0.2	0.45	0.35	0.25	0.2	0.15	0.35	0.2	0.2	0.15
Distance baffle substrate	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.025	0.025	0.025
Electric potential (V):	0.514259	0.515027	0.511903	0.517772	0.516938	0.517903	0.517304	0.516932	0.519137	0.520896	0.521184

Table S4. Parameters and resulting electric potential at current density of  $4.0 \text{ A cm}^{-2}$  part 4/5.

Parameter (mm)	Case #33	Case #34	Case #35	Case #36	Case #37	Case #38	Case #39	Case #40	Case #41	Case #42	Case #43
Half length segment	1	1	1	1	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.8	1	1
Half length baffle base	0.55	0.65	0.35	0.25	0.65	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.65	0.65	0.35
Half length baffle top	0.1	0.15	0.2	0.05	0.25	0.2	0.15	0.15	0.3	0.15	0.2
Thickness current collector cathode top	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.35	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2
Height baffle	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.25	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
Distance baffle substrate	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.02	0.02
Electric potential (V):	0.517672	0.520807	0.521521	0.517017	0.521027	0.519921	0.519617	0.521716	0.524607	0.523019	0.51747

Table S5. Parameters and resulting electric potential at current density of  $4.0 \text{ A cm}^{-2}$  part 5/5.

Parameter (mm)	Case #44	Case #45	Case #46	Case #47	Case #48	Case #49
Half length segment	1	1	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.8
Half length baffle base	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.65	0.6
Half length baffle top	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.45	0.3	0.15
Thickness current collector cathode top	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1
Height baffle	0.15	0.4	0.35	0.5	0.4	0.2
Distance baffle substrate	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Electric potential (V):	0.522389	0.527433	0.521338	0.527106	0.526435	0.523954