

Research State of the Art and Knowledge Gaps in High Pressure Hydrogen Storage

Jinyang Zheng

Changjiang Scholar, Zhejiang University
Chair, SAC/TC31/SC8 Gas Cylinders/High Pressure Vehicle Fuel Tanks
Director, MOE Engineering Research Center for High Pressure Process Equipment and Safety
Vice Chair, National Technical Committee on Hydrogen Energy of Standardization Administration of China





- 1. High Pressure Hydrogen Storage Technology
- 2. High Pressure Vehicle Tanks
- 3. High Pressure Stationary Vessels



1. High Pressure Hydrogen Storage Technology

HP H2 storage equipment is classified into vehicle tanks and stationary vessels:

High pressure vehicle tanks

Characteristics: installed on and carried by vehicles.

Requirements: HP resistant, lightweight, and safe in use.

Technical route: composite tanks

■ High pressure stationary vessels

Characteristics: fixed locations and user,

Requirements: HP resistant and safe in use.

Applications: HRS, power plant etc.

Technical route: Metallic or composite vessels



1. High Pressure Hydrogen Storage Technology

Development Trends:
Higher pressure
Lighter weight



70MPa high-pressure hydrogen refueling station



Key components: 70MPa light-weight on-board HP H2 storage tank

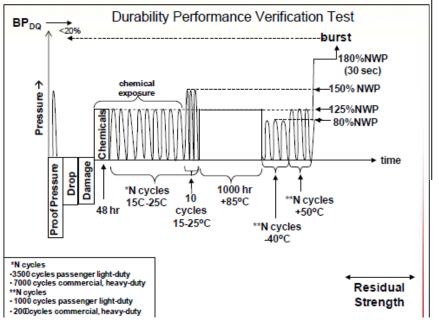


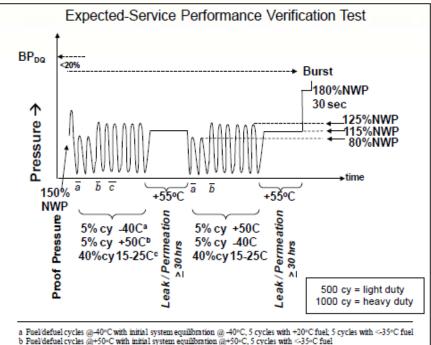
1. High Pressure Hydrogen Storage Technology

Trends:

Sequential test ☆

hydrogen cycle test





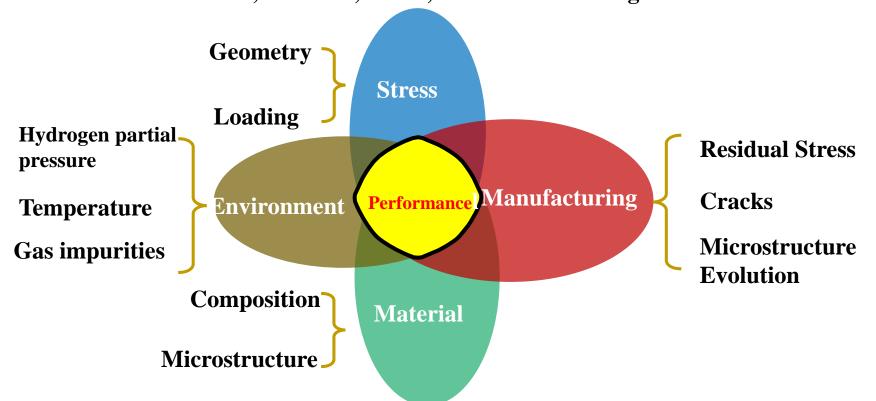
Pneumatic test(H2)

Hydraulic test





Performance of Component/System in Contact With HP Hydrogen is determined by the intersection of variables representing: Environment, Material, Stress, and Manufacturing Process.







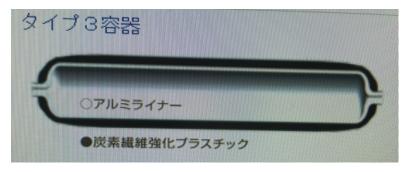
Type III Hydrogen tank







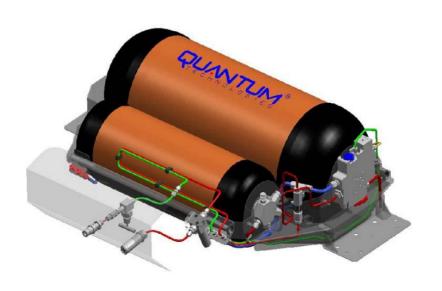








Type IV Hydrogen tank







Type IV Hydrogen Tank





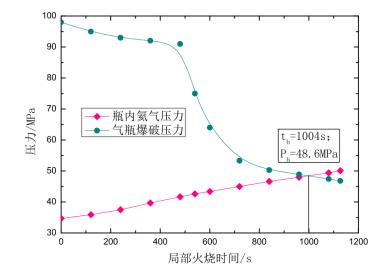
◆ pressure: 35 / 40 / 50 / 70 / 95 MPa

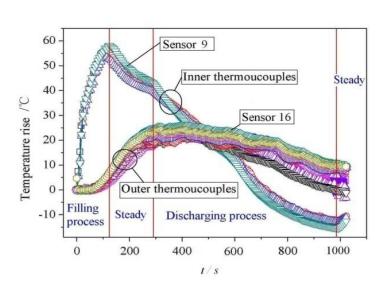
◆ volume: 29~539 L



What has been done

- prediction of burst pressure
- temperature rise due to fast filling (method for controlling the temperature)
- fire resistance prediction and optimization of fire protection
- blast wave due to burst









Next steps

- temperature change during hydraulic or pneumatic cycle test
- effect of temperature variation on tank fatigue life
- effect of lower pressure on tank fatigue life (particularly the HDPE liner)
- Degradation mechanisms under extreme condition such as thermal shock(rapid temperature change during filling), fire, etc.





3.1 Seamless HP H2 cylinder

Designed, manufactured and inspected to ASME BPVC VIII

Advantage: made from

seamless steel tubes closed up on both ends - integral structure without welds.



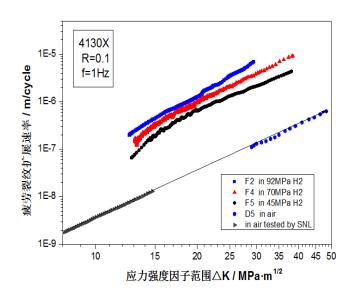


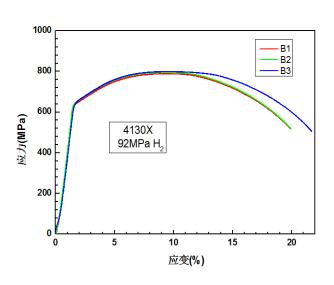


Disadvantages:

The Higher material strength, the more susceptible to hydrogen embrittlement:

Cr-Mo steel SA372







Difficulty in online safety inspection: -

The safety can only be determined through regular inspection.

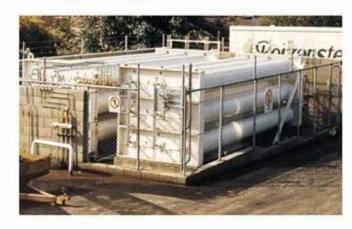
It is difficult to achieve online leakage inspection.

The capacity is restricted and points of leakage increase with its capacity:

Max diameter 900mm Capacity 400-3000L

The higher the pressure, the smaller the capacity. In case of large amount of H2 storage, it is required to use multiple vessels in parallel combined through removable stationary pipe supports, increasing the points of H2 leakage.

ASME Seamless Pressure Vessels for Stationary Storage of Gases





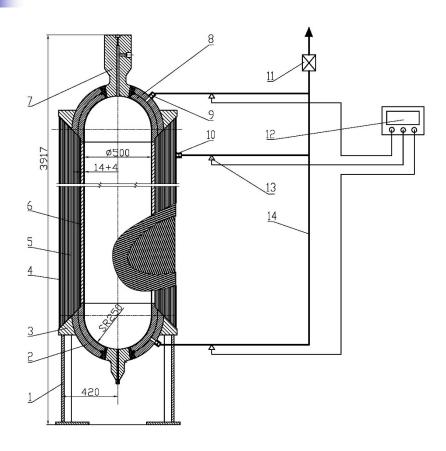


3.2 Large volume multi-layered HP H2 storage vessel

To overcome the disadvantages of seamless HP $\rm H_2$ cylinders, We have developed a proprietary multifunctional steel layered vessel (MSLV), which have been used in several stations in China. MSLV is flexible in parameters, convenient in fabrication, easy in online leak diagnosis, low in cost.





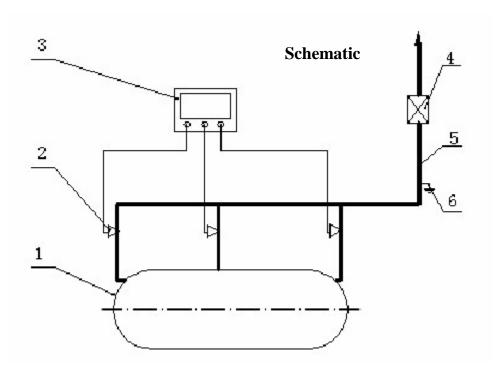


- 1 support
- 2 outer hemispherical head
- 3 reinforcing ring
- 4 protective shell
- 5 steel ribbon layer
- 6 inner shell
- 7 top nozzle support
- 8 inner hemispherical head
- 9 head nozzle
- 10 cylinder nozzle
- 11 hydrogen flame arrester
- 12 display and alarm instrument
- 13 sensor,
- 14 vent pipe





Online Diagnosis System



- 1. Storage vessel
- 2. Transmitter
- 3. Indicator and alarm
- 4. H2 fire arrestor
- 5. H2 vent pipe
- 6. Antistatic earthing device





National standard

GB/T 26466-2011 Stationary flat steel ribbon wound vessels for storage of high pressure hydrogen

Max design pressure

100MPa

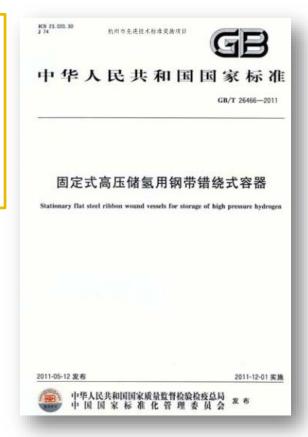
Operating temperature

-40-80°C

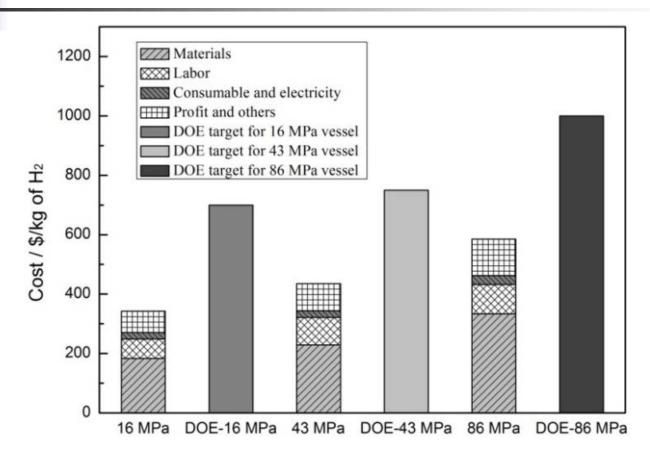
Max inner diameter of vessel

Max length of vessel

25m







Comparison Between the Cost of MSLVs and The DOE Targets









Volume/m³

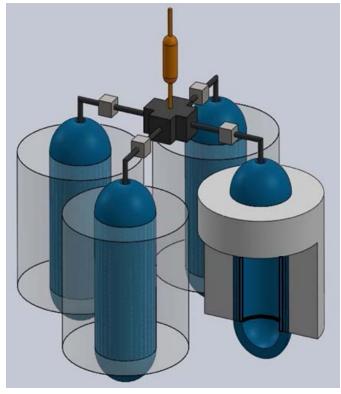
Design Pressure/MPa 20, 25, 42, 47, 77, 98

0.5, 5.0, 20.0, 25.0









Steel Concrete Composite Vessel-DOE Project





3.4 Next steps

- 1) Material data for developing hydrogen-damage mechanism based methods for design of high pressure stationary vessels
- 2) Degrading mechanism of material/component/system in contact with high pressure hydrogen
- 3) Multi-physics approaches for coupled simulation of chemical/thermal transport, mechanical loading, microstructural evolution and distribution of properties in related to manufacturing process, to predict performance
- 4) Techniques for monitoring damage of high pressure stationary vessels
- 5) Nondestructive Evaluation method for aging of high pressure stationary vessels



