

Technical University of Graz Institute of Chemical Engineering and Environmental Technology WG Hacker



## Manufacturing of PTL Slurries for PEM Water Electrolysis

PEM water electrolysis is a technique to efficiently produce hydrogen gas through the electrochemical splitting of water into its constituent elements, hydrogen and oxygen. The porous transport layer (PTL) plays a crucial role as an essential component in the electrolysis cell. The topic of this thesis is to investigate novel materials and fabrication techniques to optimize the porosity, permeability, and conductivity of Titanium fibre PTLs.

The student's tasks include:

- Literature research on slurry composition, processing methods, materials...
- Synthesis and optimization of slurries in the laboratory
- Comparison and optimization of different material compositions
- Material characterization with various in-situ and ex-situ measurements, such as contact angle, SEM, EDX
- Validation of material in existing PEMWE test infrastructure



Figure 1. An overview of Ti PTL processing and integration into a PEMWE device.

This Master's thesis is paid with an expected duration of 6 months.

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