



Contents

Abstract	1
Zusammenfassung	3
1 Introduction	5
2 Theoretical Principles	9
2.1 Rectifier	9
2.1.1 Rectifier Topologies	10
2.1.1.1 Six-pulse Bridge Rectifier	10
2.1.1.2 Twelve-pulse Bridge Rectifier	11
2.1.1.3 Two-staged AC Power Controller with Passive Six-pulse Bridge	12
2.2 Water Electrolysis	13
2.2.1 Hydrogen Evolution Reaction	16
2.2.2 Oxygen Evolution Reaction	17
2.2.3 Thermodynamics of the Electrolysis Process	18
2.2.4 Electrode Kinetics	22
2.2.5 Gas Bubble Evolution	23
2.2.5.1 Bubble Effects on the Electrochemical Behavior at Electrodes	23
2.2.5.2 Bubble Nucleation	24
2.2.5.3 Bubble Growth on Electrodes	27
2.2.5.4 Bubble Dissolution	28
2.2.6 Alkaline Electrolysis	29
2.2.7 Proton Exchange Membrane Electrolysis	31
2.2.8 High-Temperature Electrolysis	32
2.2.9 Electrolysis Technology Comparison	33



2.3	Plasma Processes	34
2.3.1	Plasmolysis of Carbon Dioxide and Methanation	36
2.3.1.1	Dielectric-Barrier Discharge Plasma	37
2.3.1.2	High Frequency Plasma	38
2.3.1.3	Glow Discharge Plasma	39
2.3.1.4	Corona Discharge Plasma	40
2.3.2	Carbon Dioxide Sources	41
2.4	Adaptive Models for Real-Time Tracking	43
3	Measurement Methods	47
3.1	Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy	47
3.2	Gas Chromatography	50
3.3	Gas Quantity	51
3.4	Electrical Parameters	52
4	Simulations	56
4.1	Rectifier Simulation	56
4.2	Current Profile Modulation and Communication	58
4.3	Automated Gas Bubble Detection	60
4.4	Computational Fluid Dynamics	64
5	Experimental Foundation	65
5.1	Experimental Electrolysis Setup	65
5.1.1	Alkaline Electrolyzer	66
5.1.2	Process Current Source	68
5.2	Experimental Methanation Setup	70
6	Results and Discussion	73
6.1	Alkaline Electrolysis Performance	74
6.1.1	Cell Characteristics	74
6.1.2	Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy Results	81
6.1.3	Influence of Pulsed Current Profiles on Internal Cell Resistance	88
6.1.3.1	Automated Visual Detection of Gas Bubble Behavior	90
6.1.4	Simulated Rectifier Current Profiles	101
6.1.4.1	Quality of Rectification - Ripple Factor	103
6.1.5	Electrolysis Energy Consumption	105
6.1.6	Hydrogen Gas Quality	106



6.2 Plasma-based Methanation	108
6.2.1 Carbon Dioxide Reduction	112
6.2.1.1 Oxygen Ion Extraction	112
6.2.1.2 Parameter Study of Carbon Dioxide Reduction	116
6.2.2 Methane Synthesis	118
7 Conclusion and Outlook	124
Appendix	128
Nomenclature	137
List of Tables	142
List of Figures	143
Bibliography	152
Publications	162
Curriculum Vitae	164
Publications	164