**Hydrogen economy and its production impact on automobile industry forecasting in South America and Ecuador using principal component analysis**

**Abstract:**

**Keywords:** PCA, hydrogen, vehicle, simulation, economy

1. **Introduction**

Hydrogen (H2) is the first element in the Periodic Table and the main constituent of matter in the Universe with approximately 75%. On Earth, H2 is also found in abundance, but adhered to organic components such as methane or oxygen, forming water [1]. Currently, H2 is considered an Energetic Vector like cells, batteries and all fossil fuels because it is a substance that stores energy that can be released in a controlled way later [2]. H2 as an energy vector serves as “fuel” and it must be manufactured through the separation of the other elements because it is not found in its pure state on the planet. Because the emission result is water and electricity, H2 is considered the clean fuel of the present and future [3].

To replace fossil fuels due to the pollution to the environment that their use generates, we have chosen to use renewable energy to boost our means of transport. Such is the case that today you have electric or battery-powered motorcycles, cars, trucks, trains, boats and even aeroplanes. However, these means of transport are not found in abundance or on par with H2 as an energy source. Although H2 is commonly recognized as the fuel of the future, it does not burn like gasoline, LPG, or diesel. In reality, H2 generates energy to move an electric motor and thus obtain the movement of the vehicle. So, when talking about a hydrogen vehicle is talking about an electric vehicle, whose difference from commonly known electric vehicles is in how electricity is generated. While an H2 vehicle uses this gas to generate electricity through a fuel cell integrated with it and thus drive the engine, an electric vehicle receives the electrical charge generated in a Power Plant (solar, wind, hydro or combustion) to insert it into a battery and finally propel the vehicle.

There are various processes to manufacture H2. At an industrial level, there are grey hydrogen, blue hydrogen and green hydrogen. Gray hydrogen consists of obtaining H2 through natural gas, oil or coal, generating carbon dioxide (CO2) and carbon monoxide (CO). Steam Methane Reforming (SMR) is a pressure swing adsorption purification technology. An example of grey hydrogen is compressing methane with steam and heat, thus obtaining H2. Blue hydrogen is generated by electrolysis, which consists of separating hydrogen from oxygen in water by applying electrical energy. If in the electrolysis process the electricity comes from renewable energies such as solar, wind, water; then it is called green hydrogen. The electrolysis process loses efficiency between 20 to 30% of the energy. A feasible technology to implement in Ecuador is through residual biomass suitable for the production of bio-ethanol and thus obtain hydrogen and acetaldehyde [4]. Another potential source of hydrogen production is hydroelectricity. Just as a study has been developed on the production of H2 for an economy in Colombia, it can be developed for Ecuador since it has 27 hydroelectric plants and where an approximate waste of 50% is assumed [5], [6].

H2 Vehicle Simulation Framework is a Matlab tool that simulates a light commercial vehicle with a fuel hydrogen cell (PEM) and its hydrogen storage system. Test cases are played on the vehicle simulation framework related to the storage system. Driving conditions are associated with standard drive cycles on a specific test case. Fist case is the Ambient drive cycle or Fuel economy test. Cycles involved in it are UDDS which means low speeds in stop-and-go urban traffic and HWFET or Free-flow traffic at highway speeds. The second case is Aggressive drive using the cycle US06 for higher speeds; harder acceleration and breaking. The third case is Cold drive with FTP-45 cycle at colder ambient temperature (-20 °C). Finally, Hot drive cycle related to SC03 standard is used for hot ambient (35 °C). conditions.

A 700 bar compressed gas system is used as a hydrogen storage system. Because hydrogen is very light, at atmosphere pressure, transport 1 Kg of H2 would need an 11 000 lt tank for more than 100 Km. That´s a problem. The solution, compress H2 at 700 bar to transport 4 – 5 Kg of it given 500 Km of autonomy.

According to the HydrogenTools organization, in 2021 10068 Hydrogen Fueled Vehicles are operating in the US. The vehicles are subjected to the cycle mentioned during their operation. However, in South America, that kind of vehicles are not on the streets. Just a few projects or demo hydrogen cars are available in few cities. To apply hydrogen economy in the country, Ecuador has to overcome the following barriers: low and disperse investigation activity; low academic formation needed to operate and innovate on hydrogen technologies; lack of legal framework and regulations that incentive SESH penetration and incipient formation of collaborative networks in research and promotion [7].

1. **Materials and Methods**

H2 Vehicle Simulation Framework was downloaded from the Hydrogen Materials Advanced Research Consortium organization (HyMARC) and run on Matlab R2014a [8]. A compressed 700 bar was selected on Storage System. The fuel economy test was chosen for the first test case. The second case was an aggressive cycle. The third case was the cold cycle and finally, the hot cycle. All the tests were input with 0.7 auxiliary loads and the run.

Each drive cycle has his standard and configuration. Variables result of each simulation at the end are: H2 delivered [kg], H2 used [kg], Usable H2 [kg], Storage system mass [kg], Storage system volume [L], Gravimetric capacity [%], Volumetric capacity [g/L], Temperature [°C], Pressure [bar], Raw distance [miles], On-board efficiency [%], Calculated fuel economy [mpgge] and Calculated range [miles]. Storage system mass, Store system volume and On-board efficiency were excluded for PCA.

Principal component analysis (PCA) was developed with Minitab 18 software. Table 7 was input and with Statistics function, Multivariate, Principal components and Correlation Type Matrix. The result is shown in Table 8 and Table 9. The first three principal components were related to the context of Ecuador through an overview of the literature.

1. **Results and discussion**

Figura 1 Merchant Hydrogen Plants in South America and the Caribbean (2016) [9]

In 2016 Argentina had 4 commercial H2 production plants, three of these run by Air Liquide and one by Galileo. Two Air Liquide production companies have as their source of H2 gas production, while the other plant of the company does it for SMR. In Brazil, Air Liquide owns two Plants, one of which is for SMR. The other Plant in that country corresponds to Air Products, producing H and CO. In Venezuela, two plants correspond to Hyundai-Wison, while the other is owned by Linde (BOC) by SMR. The production plant in Trinidad and Tobago is Air Liquide, in Chile, it is Linde (BOC) and in Peru, it corresponds to Praxair, all the latter by SMR.

According to Figure 1, Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela cover 76.92% of the number of commercial H2 production plants in South America and the Caribbean. Ecuador does not appear on the list due to the following barriers: scant and scattered research activity; minimum training offer of the human talent necessary for the operation and innovation in H2 technologies; lack of a legal and regulatory framework that encourages the penetration of the SESH and the incipient formation of collaborative networks in research and promotion [7].

To achieve an H2 economy in Ecuador, it is important to produce it in a massive, clean, safe and efficient way. An alternative is implementing a Nuclear Hydrogen Production Plant. VHTR, a Very High-Temperature Reactor, is a helium gas-cooled graphite-moderated thermal neutron spectrum reactor that can provide electricity and process heat for a wide range of applications, including hydrogen production [10]. The characteristics of said Plant and the approximate costs to it are shown below [11]:

Tabla 1 Specification for Nuclear Hydrogen Production Plant [11]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Design Parameters | Specifications |
| Reactor Plant | VHTR |
| Hydrogen Plant | SI-Based Plant |
| Thermal Output | 4 x 600 MWth |
| Operating Life | 60 years |
| Plant Availability | 90 % |
| Capacity Factor | 90 % |
| Fuel Cycle | Open |

Tabla 2 Summary of Costs for Nuclear Hydrogen Plant ($M/year) [11]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Account Description | Amount ($M/year) |
| Reactor Plant Capital Cost | 115.7 |
| Reactor Plant O&M Cost | 73.4 |
| Nuclear Fuel Cost | 81.8 |
| Decommissioning Cost | 1.1 |
| Total Annual Cost | 272.0 |
|  |  |
| SI Plant Capital Cost | 85.1 |
| SI Plant O&M Cost | 34.8 |
| Energy Cost | 222.8 |
| Total Annual Cost | 342.7 |

The cost of production of 1 Kilogram of H2 would be approximately $ 2.15 in the Nuclear Hydrogen Production Plant [11]. Analyzing the commercial plants available in South America and the Caribbean:

Figure 2 Capacity of Commercial H2 Plants in South America and Caribbean (2016) [9]

The figure above shows the different producers and their capacity for: the volume of non-condensable H2 at 1 atm pressure and 0 ° C or Normal cubic meter per hour (Nm3 / hr), thousand standard cubic feet per day (MSCF / day) and kilograms per day (Kg/day). Hyundai-Wison located in Venezuela is the Company that has the most capacity in all the exposed aspects. In the second place, regarding the capacity of Normal cubic meter per hour, there is Air Liquide, then there is Linde and finally Praxair. In second place in terms of capacity in standard cubic feet per day is Linde, followed by Air Liquide and finally Praxair. Finally, the second place regarding capacity in Kg per day is for Linde, then there is Air Liquide and finally Praxair. It should be noted that Air Liquide opened in 2002, Hyundai-Wison opened in 2014, Linde in 1996 and Praxair in 2016.

Tabla 3 South America Captive H2 Production Capacity at Refineries [12]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Argentina | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| Aruba | 93 | 93 | 93 | 93 | 93 | 93 | 93 | 93 | - | - | - |
| Bolivia | 0 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | - |
| Brazil | 126 | 126 | 126 | 126 | 126 | 126 | 126 | 126 | 126 | 126 | 126 |
| Columbia | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| Venezuela | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 | 148 |
| Total | **404** | **418** | **418** | **418** | **418** | **418** | **418** | **418** | **325** | **325** | **311** |

Figura 3 South America H2 Production Capacity at Refineries (2017) [12]

The South American capacity for captive hydrogen production in refineries is shown in Figure 3 and Table 1. Captive hydrogen is the amount of H2 that the Plant produces for its consumption in million standard cubic feet per day. As with commercial H2, Venezuela ranks first in terms of captive H2 production until 2017. In second place is Brazil and in third place until 2014 Aruba. As of 2015, third place is occupied by Argentina.

H2 vehicles operating or planned to operate in the United States with an updated date of March 31, 2021, are shown in the following graph [13]:

Figura 4 Cantidad de vehículos operando en Estados Unidos (2021) [13]

The Toyota Mirai and Honda Clarity account for more than 80% of hydrogen-powered vehicles in the United States according to Figure 4.

Even though there are hydrogen-producing plants in South America, observing cars driving is not frequent. Today, different automotive companies already have a commercial hydrogen product such as Toyota with its Mirai sedan, Hyundai with the Nexo jeep or Honda with the Clarity sedan, but these are not currently available in the South American continent. The 9 existing units are demos or projects [14]. The base cost of Toyota Mirai is $49500 in California [15], Hyundai Nexo is €72850 or $82000 more or less [16] and Honda Clarity $58490 [17]. In Ecuador, the best-selling vehicles in 2017 and which remain until 2020 are the Kia Sportage R jeep, the Chevrolet D-Max pick-up and the Chevrolet Sail sedan [18], [19]. The price for these cars is around $ 25,990, $ 29,990 and $ 16,570 respectively [20]–[22].

Figura 5 Precio Vehículos a H2 vs Combustión [$] (2020-2021)

. Tabla 4 Detail of Price of H2 and combustion vehicle

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Auto | Price | Energetic vector | Avarage Price |
| Toyota Mirai | $49,500.00 | Hydrogen | $63,330.00 |
| Hyundai Nexo | $82,000.00 | Hydrogen |
| Honda Clarity | $58,490.00 | Hydrogen |
| Kia Sportage | $25,990.00 | Gas | $24,183.33 |
| Chevrolet D-Max | $29,990.00 | Diesel |
| Chevrolet Sail | $16,570.00 | Gas |
|  |  | **Relation** | **2.62** |

According to Figure 5 and Table 2, commercial hydrogen cars not yet available in Ecuador are priced 2.62 times higher than the average price of the best-selling vehicles in the country in 2020.

Comparing the autonomy and the price of filling the tank of the Hyundai Nexo and the Kia Sportage R, the following results are obtained:

Tabla 5 Relación Precio Autonomía

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Vehículo | Autonomy [Km] | Price fuel tank [$] | Relation Price/Autonomy [$/Km] | Energetic vector |
| Hyundai Nexo | 666 | 79.92 | 0.12 | Hydrogen |
| Kia Sportage R | 552 | 27.79 | 0.05 | Gas |
| Hyundai Nexo con GHC | 666 | 13.32 | 0.02 | Hydrogen |

Both the Hyundai Nexo and the Kia Sportage are 5-passenger Jeep-type vehicles. On the one hand, taking into account the information from the manufacturer of Nexo of 1 Kg of H2 per 100 Km and the price of the Kilo of H2 at $ 12, the Price / Autonomy ratio is 0.12 $/Km [23]. Taking advantage of the Green Hydrogen Catapult (GHC) project, the price of 1 Kg of H2 would be $ 2 by 2026 and with it, the ratio drops to 0.02 $ / Km in the Hyundai Nexo [24], [25]. On the other hand, as of April 17, 2021, and with data from the manufacturer, the Kia Sportage R, with an extra gasoline price of $ 1.91 per gallon, requires $ 27.79 to cover the range of 552 km, obtaining a ratio of 0.05 $ / Km [20], [26].

Paris in 2015 already had 5 hydrogen taxis. In 2019 the number of taxis amounted to 100, while by 2020 600 units were expected [27], [28]. In 2018 the number of taxis registered in Ambato was 2055 units [29]. A taxi travels up to 300 km a day in 20 races consuming 10 to 12 gallons of extra gasoline. In this way, the driver of the unit has an income of $ 40 to $ 45 [30]. A taxi driver in Ambato if he used a hydrogen unit with GHC would obtain a daily profit of approximately $ 38.55 versus $ 22.08 that he obtains for using a gasoline vehicle.

Tabla 6 Gas vs. H2 Taxi Economy

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Vehicle | Range [Km] | Amount energetic vector | Price energetic vector | Cost energetic vector [$] | Incomes [$] | Utility [$] |
| Taxi a gasolina (gal) | 300 | 12 | 1.91 | 22.92 | 45 | 22.08 |
| Taxi a H2 GHC (Kg) | 300 | 3 | 2.15 | 6.45 | 45 | 38.55 |

Amount of hydrogen required for the circulation of 2055 taxis during a year:

Tungurahua has a potential for hydrogen production from Solar Photovoltaic Energy, which in one year would be capable of producing , which is enough to cover the demand of the 2055 taxis [31].

H2 vehicles need a safe "hydro generation" and continuous supply as infrastructure for refuelling this energy vector. A viable deployment of such a refuelling infrastructure requires an initial market for vehicles, such as city taxis. Using the city's fleet of taxis as consumers, the hydrogen chicken and egg dilemma can be overcome: “What comes first: Assemble the infrastructure to lower the price and promote consumption or Consumption to accelerate the implementation of the infrastructure”. In addition to meeting the objectives of ensuring the supply of hydrogen, having a city refuel the energy vector and promote the use of H2 [32].

Tabla 7 Summary Simulation Storage System 700 bar

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| N° | Detail | H2 delivered [kg] | H2 used [kg] | Usable H2 [kg] | Gravimetric capacity [%] | Volumetric capacity [g/L] | Temperature [C] | Pressure [bar] | Raw distance [miles] | Calculated fuel economy [mpgge] | Calculated range [miles] |
| 1 | Fuel Economy test (UDDS+HWY, 24C) | 5.67 | 5.67 | 5.67 | 4.8 | 25.3 | 7.5 | 5 | 464 | 55 | 311 |
| 2 | Aggressive cycle (US06, 24C) | 5.66 | 5.66 | 5.66 | 4.8 | 25.3 | -6.4 | 6 | 328 | 58 | 328 |
| 3 | Cold cycle (FTP-75, -20C) | 5.4 | 5.4 | 5.4 | 4.5 | 24.1 | -29.1 | 25 | 403 | 75 | 403 |
| 4 | Hot Cycle (SC03, 35C) | 5.66 | 5.66 | 5.66 | 4.8 | 25.3 | 19.3 | 6 | 409 | 72 | 409 |

Tabla 8 Eigenanalysis of the Correlation Matrix

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Principal component (PC) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Eigenvalue | 7.5763 | 1.3769 | 1.0467 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Proportion | 0.758 | 0.138 | 0.105 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cumulative | 0.758 | 0.895 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Tabla 9 Eigenvectors

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Variable | PC1 | PC2 | PC3 | PC4 | PC5 | PC6 | PC7 | PC8 | PC9 | PC10 |
| H2 delivered [kg] | 0,362 | 0,064 | -0,062 | 0,398 | 0,172 | -0,333 | 0,707 | 0,236 | -0,081 | 0,009 |
| H2 used [kg] | 0,362 | 0,064 | -0,062 | 0,398 | 0,172 | -0,333 | -0,707 | 0,236 | -0,081 | 0,009 |
| Usable H2 [kg] | 0,362 | 0,064 | -0,062 | 0,398 | 0,172 | 0,667 | 0,000 | -0,471 | -0,081 | 0,009 |
| Gravimetric capacity [%] | 0,360 | 0,073 | -0,095 | -0,476 | 0,187 | 0,408 | 0,000 | 0,577 | -0,226 | -0,208 |
| Volumetric capacity [g/L] | 0,360 | 0,073 | -0,095 | -0,476 | 0,187 | -0,408 | 0,000 | -0,577 | -0,226 | -0,208 |
| Temperature [C] | 0,302 | 0,466 | 0,091 | -0,079 | -0,700 | -0,000 | 0,000 | -0,000 | -0,181 | 0,392 |
| Pressure [bar] | -0,362 | -0,061 | 0,050 | 0,165 | -0,008 | -0,000 | 0,000 | 0,000 | -0,912 | -0,064 |
| Raw distance [miles] | 0,015 | 0,272 | 0,925 | -0,000 | 0,224 | -0,000 | 0,000 | 0,000 | 0,034 | -0,135 |
| Calculated fuel economy [mpgge] | -0,272 | 0,536 | -0,202 | -0,113 | 0,533 | 0,000 | 0,000 | 0,000 | -0,002 | 0,549 |
| Calculated range [miles] | -0,227 | 0,629 | -0,250 | 0,160 | -0,129 | 0,000 | 0,000 | 0,000 | 0,111 | -0,660 |

The first principal component represents 75.8% of the total variation. The variables that are more correlated with Principal Component 1 (PC1) are: H2 delivered (0.362), H2 used (0.362), Usable H2 (0.362), Pressure (-0.362), Gravimetric capacity [%] (0.360) and Volumetric capacity [g/L] (0.360). PC1 has a positive correlation with the first three variables and the last two. However, it has a negative correlation with Pressure. So, increase the values of H2 delivered, H2 used, Usable H2, Gravimetric capacity and Volumetric capacity will increase the value of the first principal component. But, increase the value of Pressure will decrease the value of PC1.



Figure 6 Scree plot

The first three components have an Eigenvalue of more than 1. According to Kaiser criterion, components with a value of more than 1 are used as Principal Components. The first three principal components explain 100% of the variation of the data. So, PC1, PC2, PC3 are used. Also, the Scee plot shows that Eigenvalues form a straight line after the third principal component.

Results show that principal component 1 has a positive association with H2 delivered, H2 used, Usable H2, Gravimetric capacity and Volumetric capacity, but a negative association with Pressure. Five positive PC1 are the amount of H2 before, while and after a hydrogen vehicle function. The second principal component is associated with Calculated fuel economy and calculated range. So, this component measures the autonomy of the vehicle. Finally, the third principal component is Raw distance.



Figura 7 Loading Plot

The loading plot shows the variables that are heavier on each component. Influences approaching -1 or 1 indicate that the variable significantly affects the component. Influences close to 0 means that the variable has a low influence on the component. In Figure 7, Volumetric capacity, H2 used, Usable H2, Gravimetric capacity and H2 delivered have a positive influence on component one. Pressure has a negative influence on PC 1. Calculated fuel economy and Calculated range have a strong positive influence on principal component 2. It means autonomy of the vehicle, an important factor now to decide which car to buy.

Tabla Eigenvectors for PC

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **PC1** | **PC2** | **PC3** |
| H2 delivered [kg] | 0.362 | 0.064 | -0.062 |
| H2 used [kg] | 0.362 | 0.064 | -0.062 |
| Usable H2 [kg] | 0.362 | 0.064 | -0.062 |
| Gravimetric capacity [%] | 0.36 | 0.073 | -0.095 |
| Volumetric capacity [g/L] | 0.36 | 0.073 | -0.095 |
| Temperature [C] | 0.302 | 0.466 | 0.091 |
| Pressure [bar] | -0.362 | -0.061 | 0.05 |
| Raw distance [miles] | 0.015 | 0.272 | 0.925 |
| Calculated fuel economy [mpgge] | -0.272 | 0.536 | -0.202 |
| Calculated range [miles] | -0.227 | 0.629 | -0.25 |

Figura PC 1 vs PC 2

Figura PC 2 vs PC 3

Figura PC 1 vs PC 3

1. **Conclusions**

Ecuador has the potential to produce hydrogen through biomass and photovoltaic solar energy despite the different current barriers. Similarly, the possibility of implementing a Nuclear Plant to produce H2. The goal is the cost of $ 2.15 per kilogram of hydrogen.

The hydrogen vehicle, Toyota Mirai, is the most accessible car for the implementation of this technology in the country due to its price. Commercial hydrogen cars not yet available in Ecuador are priced 2.62 times higher than the average price of the best-selling vehicles in the country in 2020.

The comparison of the Hyundai Nexo to H2 with the gasoline-powered Kia Sportage shows that if the first car circulated in Ecuador, it would have a Price-Range ratio of $ 0.12 / km compared to $ 0.05 / km of the second car. However, if one of the advantages of the Green Hydrogen Catapult project were applied, the ratio would be more favourable for the Hyundai Nexo with 0.02 $ / Km.

The profit that a taxi driver would have after a workday of 8 to 10 hours travelling 300 km approximately is $ 22.08 using a gasoline vehicle at $ 38.55 if using a hydrogen vehicle and with the advantage of the Green Hydrogen Catapult project or the Implementation of the Nuclear Plant.

The photovoltaic solar energy that is generated in the Province of Tungurahua would cover the demand of 2,055 city taxis in the city of Ambato. Furthermore, with the hydrogen-powered taxi fleet, the hydrogen chicken and Egg dilemma can be broken.

H2 Vehicle Simulation Framework is a three-dimensional scale that assesses the H2 amount of the vehicle, the autonomy of the car and raw distance. This dimension will be important at the moment to buy an H2 vehicle.

**References**

[1] Centro Nacional del Hidrógeno, “El Hidrógeno,” 2021. https://www.cnh2.es/el-hidrogeno/#:~:text=En la Tierra es muy,al carbono%2C formando compuestos orgánicos. (accessed Apr. 15, 2021).

[2] R. Aguado, J.-L. Casteleiro-Roca, E. Jove, F. Zayas-Gato, H. Quintián, and J. L. Calvo-Rolle, “Hidrógeno y su almacenamiento: el futuro de la energía eléctrica,” 2021, doi: https://doi.org/10.17979/spudc.9788497497985.

[3] C. Fúnez Guerra, E. Almasa Rodríguez, and D. Fuentes Ferrara, “El hidrógeno: vector energético del futuro,” 2010. https://dialnet.unirioja.es/descarga/articulo/3395283.pdf (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[4] C. Donoso Quimbita, V. Ortiz Bustamante, B. Amón De La Guerra, and R. Herrera Albarracín, “Diseño de un reactor continuo para la producción de hidrógeno y acetaldehído a partir de etanol en Ecuador,” *UTCiencia*, vol. 5, no. 1, pp. 30–40, 2018.

[5] H. Carvajal Osorio, J. Babativa, and J. Alonso, “Estudio sobre producción de H con hidroelectricidad 2 para una economía de hidrógeno en Colombia,” *Ing. y Compet.*, vol. 12, no. 1, pp. 31–42, 2010.

[6] A. García Nieto, “Centrales hidroeléctricas en Ecuador,” *iCEX España Exportación e Inversiones*, 2018. https://www.icex.es/icex/GetDocumento?dDocName=DOC2018786164&urlNoAcceso=/icex/es/registro/iniciar-sesion/index.html?urlDestino=https://www.icex.es:443/icex/es/navegacion-principal/todos-nuestros-servicios/informacion-de-mercados/sectores/servicios/docume.

[7] F. Posso Rivera and J. Sánchez Quezada, “La Economía del Hidrógeno en el Ecuador: oportunidades y barreras,” *Av. Cienc. Ing.*, vol. 6, no. 2, 2014, doi: https://doi.org/10.18272/aci.v6i2.187.

[8] HyMARC, “Hydrogen Storage Systems Modeling.” https://www.hymarc.org/models.html.

[9] HydrogenTools, “Merchant Hydrogen Plants Jan 2016,” 2016. https://h2tools.org/hyarc/hydrogen-data/merchant-hydrogen-plant-capacities-asia.

[10] S. Deokattey, K. Bhanumurthy, P. K. Vijayan, and I. V. Dulera, “Hydrogen production using high temperature reactors: an overview,” *Techno Press*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 013–033, 2013, doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.12989/eri.2013.1.1.013.

[11] J. Kim, K. Lee, and M. Kim, “Calculation of LUEC using HEEP Software for Nuclear Hydrogen Production Plant,” *Trans. Korean Nucl. Soc. Spring Meet. Jeju, Korea*, 2015.

[12] HydrogenTools, “Worldwide Refinery Hydrogen Production Capacities,” 2017. https://h2tools.org/hyarc/hydrogen-data/refinery-hydrogen-production-capacities-country.

[13] HydrogenTools, “US Hydrogen-Fueled Vehicles,” 2021. https://h2tools.org/hyarc/hydrogen-data/inventory-us-over-road-hydrogen-powered-vehicles (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[14] HydrogenTools, “International Hydrogen Fueled Vehicles,” 2021. https://h2tools.org/hyarc/hydrogen-data/inventory-international-over-road-hydrogen-powered-vehicles (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[15] Toyota, “Mirai 2021,” 2021. https://www.toyota.com/espanol/mirai/ (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[16] Hyundai, “Nexo,” 2021. https://www.hyundai.com/es/modelos/nexo.html (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[17] Edmunds, “2021 Honda Clarity Electric (fuel Cell),” 2021. https://www.edmunds.com/honda/clarity/2021/electric-fuel-cell/ (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[18] J. L. Ulloa Masache and A. F. Velasco Vicuña, “Evaluación del consumo de combustible en vehículos, utilizando diferentes estrategias cambios de marcha,” Universidad del Azuay, 2018.

[19] El Universo, “Cuáles han sido los 10 carros preferidos en Ecuador en 2020,” *Motores*, 2020. https://www.eluniverso.com/entretenimiento/2020/11/24/nota/8060893/cuales-han-sido-10-carros-preferidos-ecuador-2020/ (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[20] Kia, “Sportage R,” 2021. https://www.kia.com/ec/showroom/sportage-r.html (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[21] Chevrolet, “D-Max,” 2021. https://www.chevrolet.com.ec/pick-ups/dmax-hi-ride-pick-up?ppc=GOOGLE\_700000002066273\_71700000076472848\_58700006518091566\_p58929189063&gclid=CjwKCAjwjuqDBhAGEiwAdX2cj3LGRwPwt-y2q7rdG3W3QAN9IhSX9NuTyvX5Fzg2QMYgBwiz4scoHRoCiq8QAvD\_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[22] Chevrolet, “Sail,” 2021. https://www.chevrolet.com.ec/autos/sail-sedan?ppc=GOOGLE\_700000002067215\_71700000069088117\_58700006129062001\_p55368747102&gclid=CjwKCAjwjuqDBhAGEiwAdX2cj9niqeWaiEaFYb-H5Fy7aDCaVoEniBd5fANj9iNe-BnrVUUgTABSABoCnmYQAvD\_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[23] Motor.es, “El hidrógeno en los coches: ventajas e inconvenientes,” 2021. https://www.motor.es/que-es/hidrogeno#:~:text=Así%2C el kilo de hidrógeno,%2C9 kg%2F100 km. (accessed Apr. 30, 2021).

[24] Hyundai, “Todo sobre Hyundai NEXO,” 2021. https://www.hyundai.com/es/zonaeco/eco-drive/modelos/todo-sobre-hyundai-nexo-primer-coche-hidrogeno-espana#:~:text=El Hyundai NEXO dispone de,%2C2 litros cada uno). (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[25] United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, “Green Hydrogen Catapult,” 2020. https://racetozero.unfccc.int/green-hydrogen-catapult/ (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[26] Petroecuador, “Precios de venta de combustibles,” 2021. https://www.eppetroecuador.ec/?p=8062 (accessed Apr. 17, 2021).

[27] La Vanguardia, “El hidrógeno alimenta nuevos taxis en París,” 2015. https://www.lavanguardia.com/motor/tendencias/20151210/30714240786/hyundai-ix35-fuel-cell-taxi-hidrogeno-paris.html (accessed May 01, 2021).

[28] FuelCellWorks, “Taking a Taxi in Paris: Now with Hydrogen!,” 2019. https://fuelcellsworks.com/news/taking-a-taxi-in-paris-now-with-hydrogen/ (accessed May 01, 2021).

[29] El Heraldo, “Matriculados 24.063 vehículos en Ambato,” 2018. https://www.elheraldo.com.ec/matriculados-24-063-vehiculos-en-ambato/ (accessed May 01, 2021).

[30] El Comercio, “Costos operativos de taxis se ajustarán con el subsidio,” 2019. https://www.elcomercio.com/actualidad/taxis-subsidio-costos-operativos-gasolina.html#:~:text=Mera calcula que un taxi,una utilidad de hasta 25. (accessed May 01, 2021).

[31] F. R. Posso, J. P. Sánchez, and J. Siguencia, “Estimación del Potencial de Producción de Hidrógeno a partir de Energía Solar Fotovoltaica en Ecuador,” *Rev. Técnica “energía”.*, no. 12, pp. 373–378, 2016.

[32] S. Campíñez Romero, A. Colmenar Santos, C. Pérez Molina, and F. Mur Pérez, “A hydrogen refuelling stations infrastructure deployment for cities supported on fuel cell taxi roll-out,” *Elsevier*, vol. 148, pp. 1018–1031, 2018, doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.energy.2018.02.009.