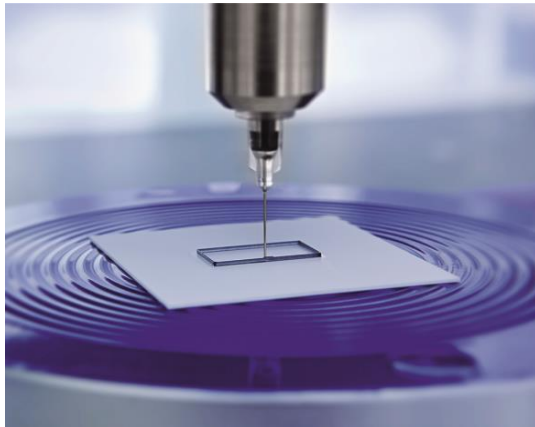

FRAUNHOFER IPA

INSTITUTE FOR MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING AND AUTOMATION

In cooperation with the University Institutes ISW and IFF



We produce future

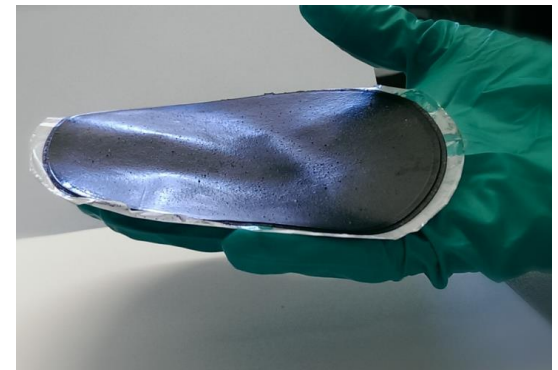
Innovative. Interdisciplinary. Sustainable.

Nanocarbons in Supercapacitor Electrodes

An approach to foster nanotechnology in electric power trains



Raphael Neuhaus¹
Researcher
Dipl.-Ing. aerospace engineering
Dpt. of functional materials



- 1) Fraunhofer IPA, Stuttgart, Germany
- 2) HRI AIST, Ikeda, Osaka, Japan

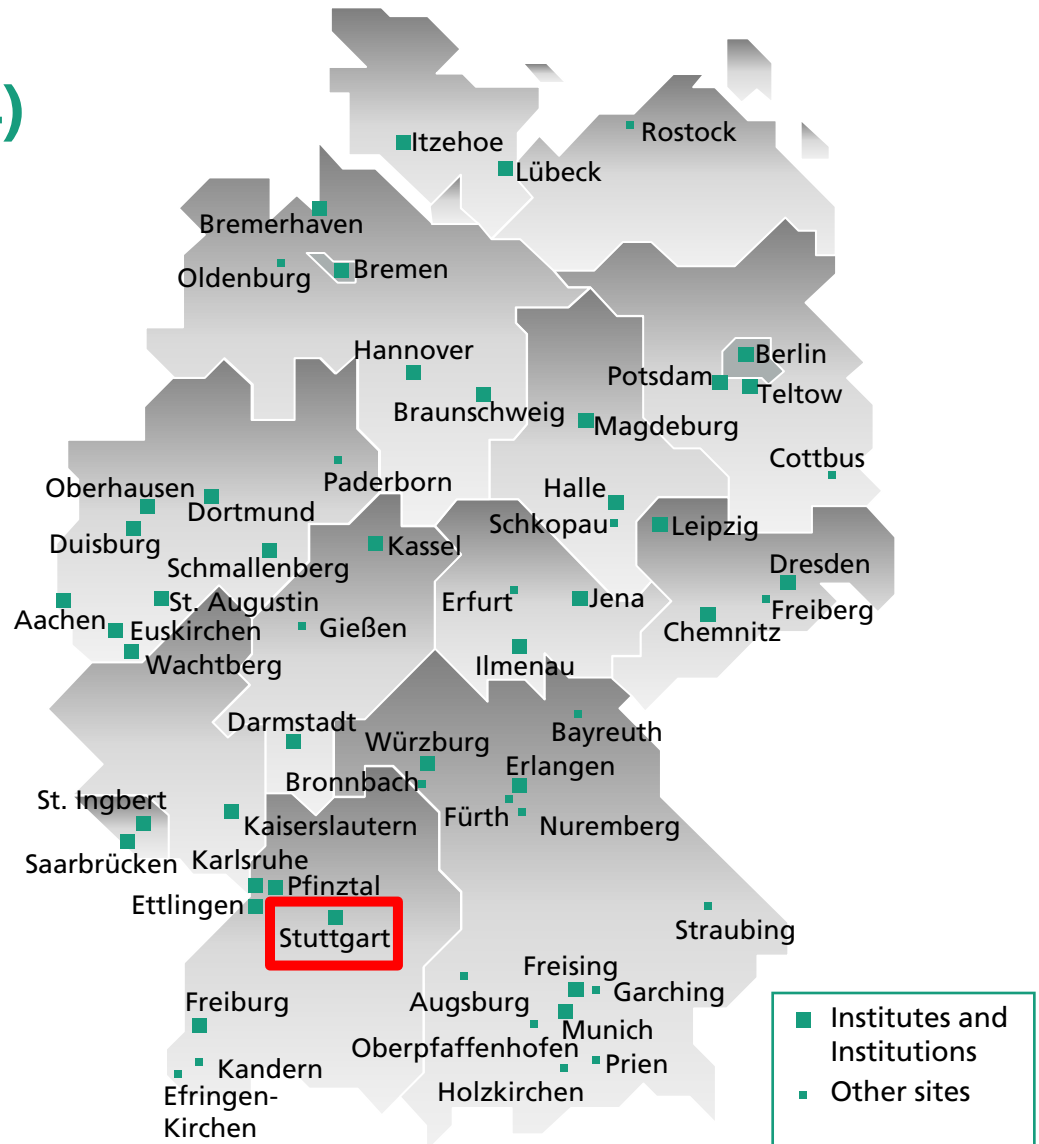
Co-authors: Carsten Glanz¹, Takushi Sugino², Ivica Kolaric¹, Kinji Asaka²

2

Fraunhofer Society - Facts and Figures (2014)

- More than 24 000 employees
- € 2.0 billion budget
- 67 institutes

Largest Applied Research
Organization in Europe!



Fraunhofer IPA

Facts and Figures (2014)

Operational Budget (excluding investments): 51 Mio. €

Projects with industry: 22,2 Mio. €

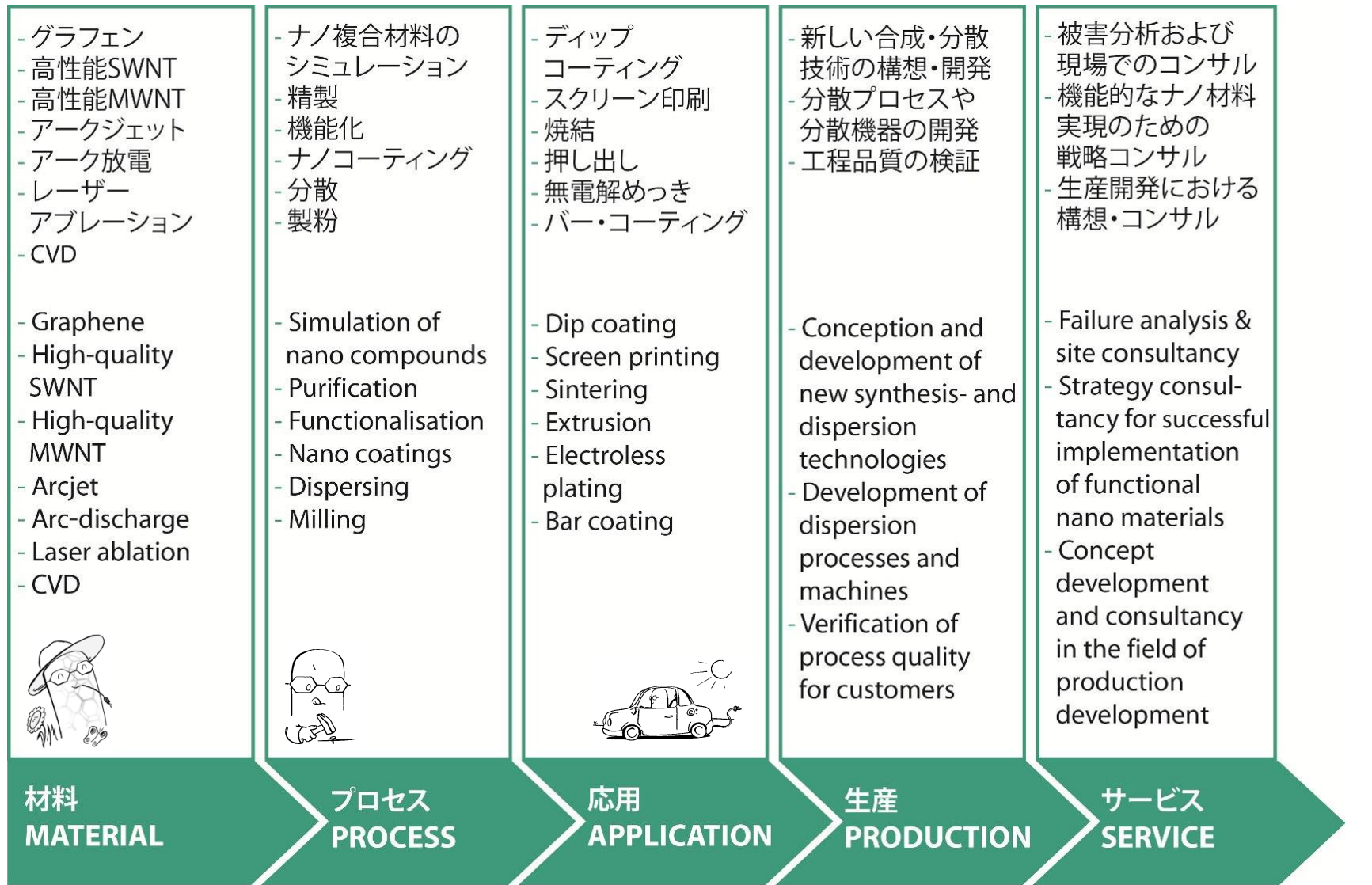
Staff

■ researchers:	350
■ administration and specialists:	70
■ scientific assistants:	300

Partner Institutes at the University of Stuttgart

■ IFF, Institute of Industrial Manufacturing and Management:	50
■ ISW, Institute for Control Engineering of Machine Tools and Manufacturing Units:	50
■ GSaME, Graduate School for advanced Manufacturing Engineering:	50

„Functional Materials“ at Fraunhofer IPA: Service Range



Cooperation Partners

**Fraunhofer Institute for
Manufacturing
Engineering and
Automation (IPA)**

**Department Functional
Materials**

**AIST Kansai
National Institute of
Advanced Industrial
Science and Technology
(AIST)**

**Research Institute for Cell
Engineering**

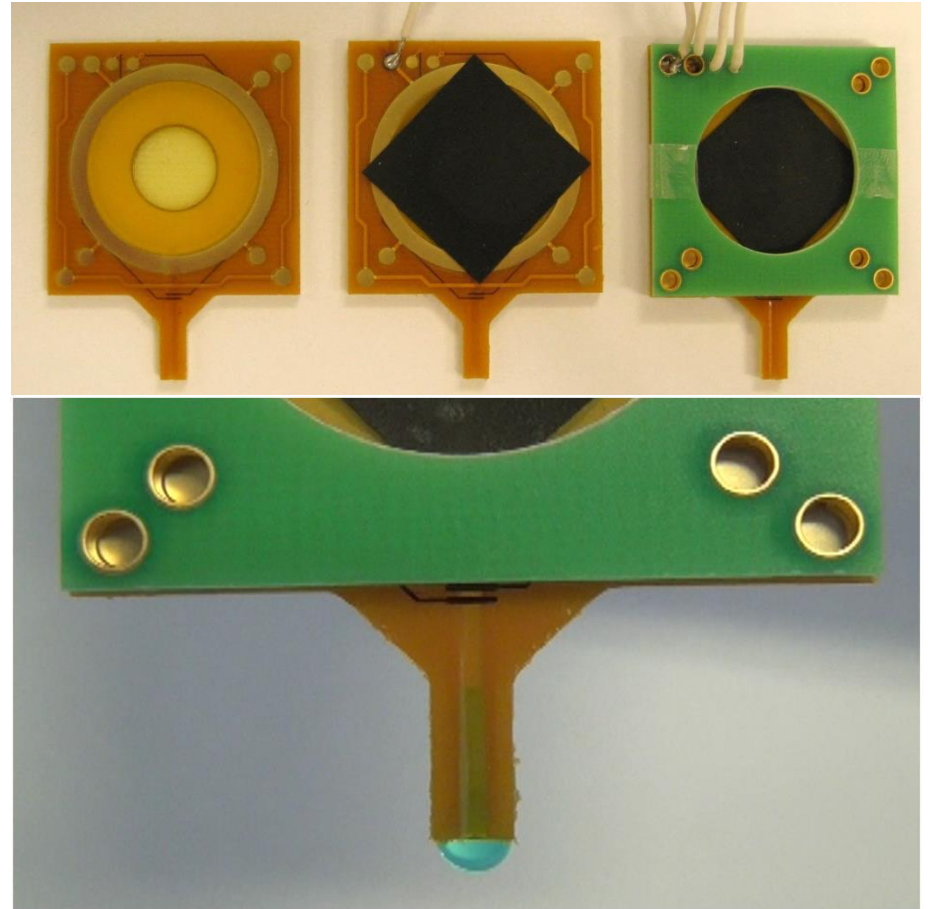


Picture source: <http://cio-perspectives.com>

Yesterday

German-Japanese Cooperation – First Joint Development 2012 – Pipette with CNT actuator

- Simulation of actuation and geometry
- Material development and processing
- Electrical contacting and system integration
- Construction and engineering of Pipette based on PCB board
- Showed at Nanotech 2013



The 12th International Nanotechnology
Exhibition & Conference

nano tech 2013

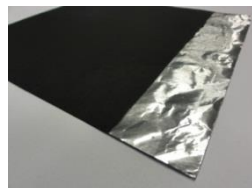
Today

SkiPper – a joint research project

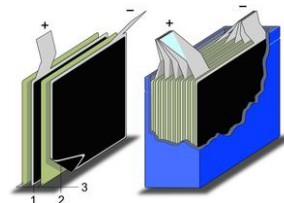
- Three-year research and development cooperation in the field of functional materials and energy related applications.
- Development of nanocarbon based materials for energy storage devices
- Consideration of:
 - Development of electrodes for supercapacitor modules
 - Multifunctionality of materials and devices



Nanocarbons



High-performance electrodes



Supercapacitor cells



Supercapacitor modules

Tomorrow

Fraunhofer Project Center (FPC) for EAP Applications at AIST KANSAI in Ikeda, Japan

- 3 years of continuing cooperation starting in Summer 2014
 - Ca. 900 000 Euro financial contribution from BMBF
 - Mutual exchange of scientific personnel (2 – 3 months)
 - Focus on EAP technology (Electro Active Polymers)
-
- The worlds #2 in applied science (FHG) joins forces with #3 (AIST)



Artificial muscle ©SRI EPAM

What is our goal ?

Use supercaps as

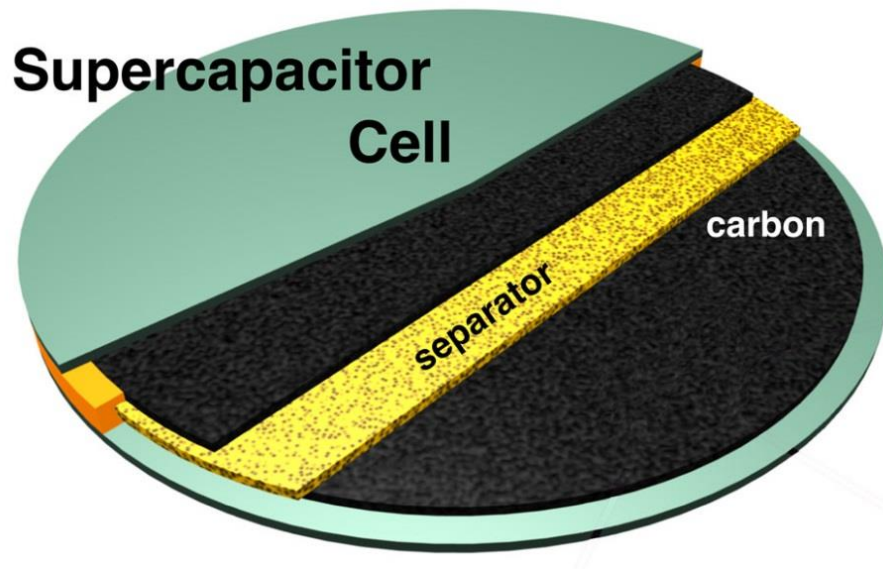
- fast,
- high power-density,
- temperature independent,
- temporary

Energy storage system for automotive applications

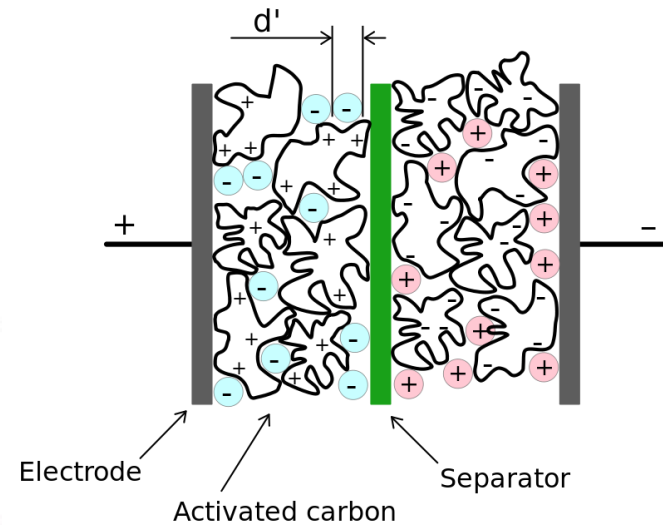
What is a Supercap?

Supercapacitor cell

Working principle

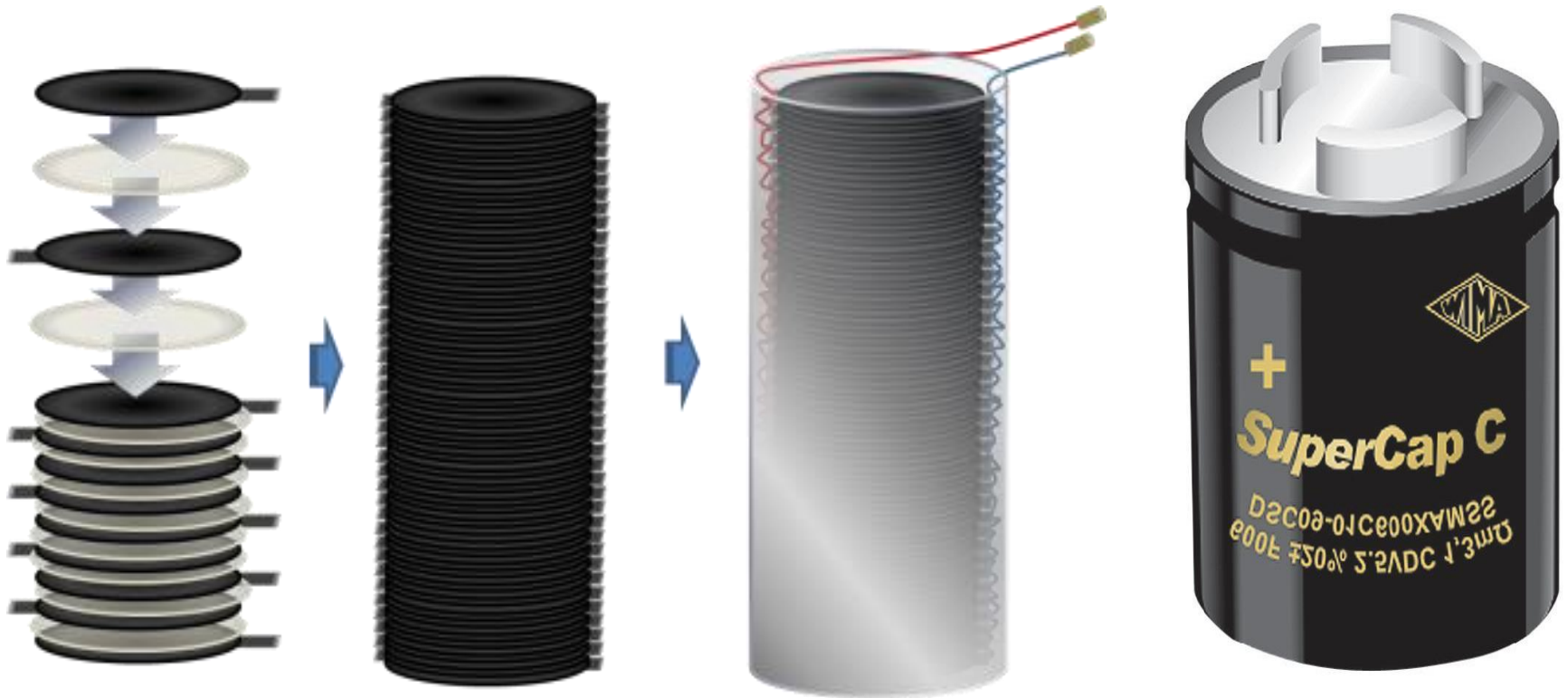


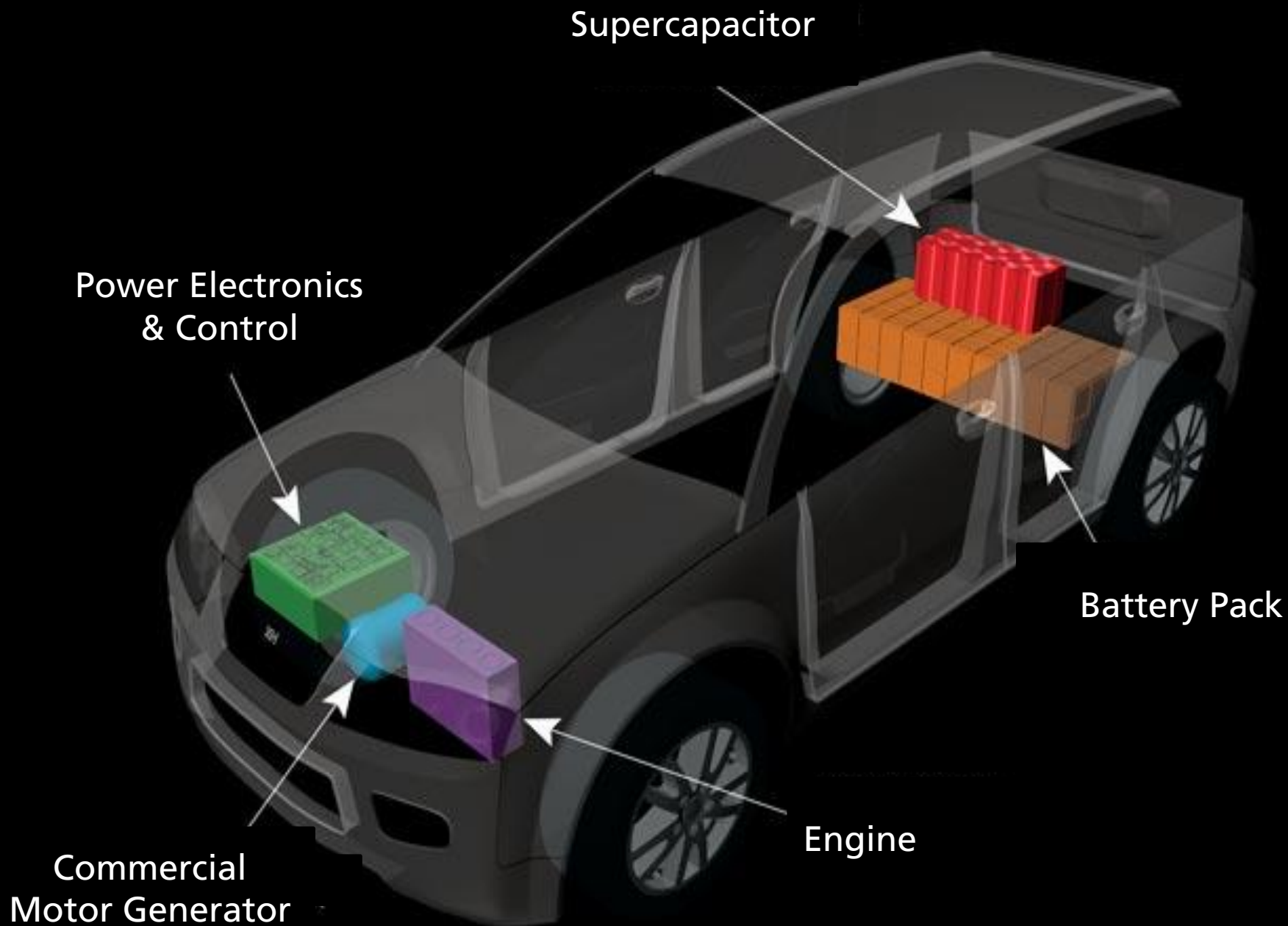
Electrochemical double-layer



Supercapacitor

Stacking of electrodes to form cells

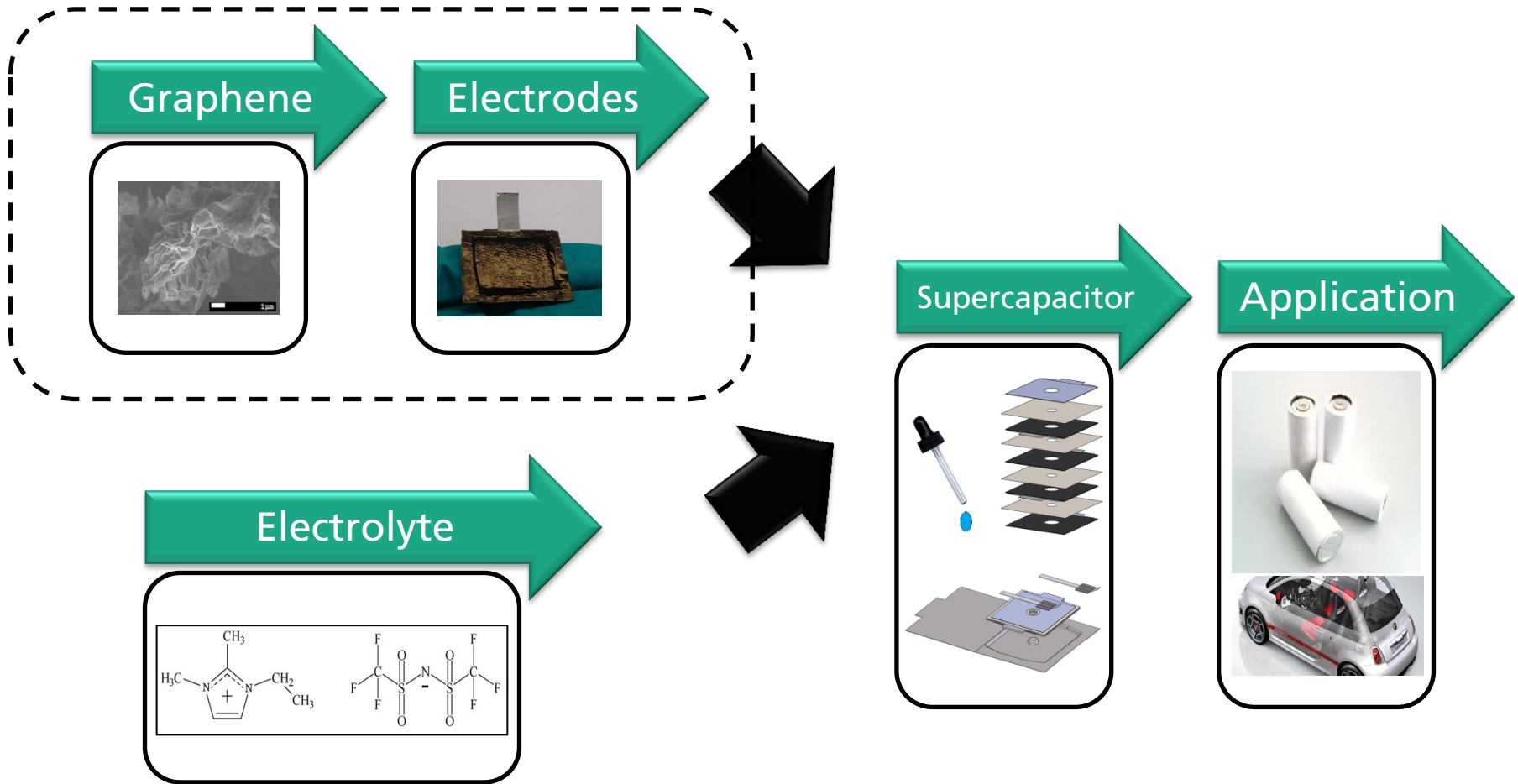




How do we make it better ?

Scope

Make better and lighter electrodes

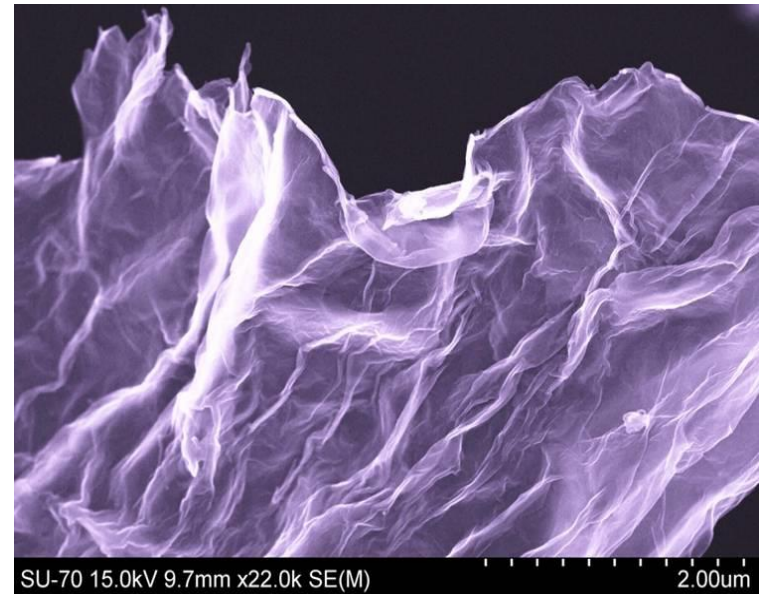
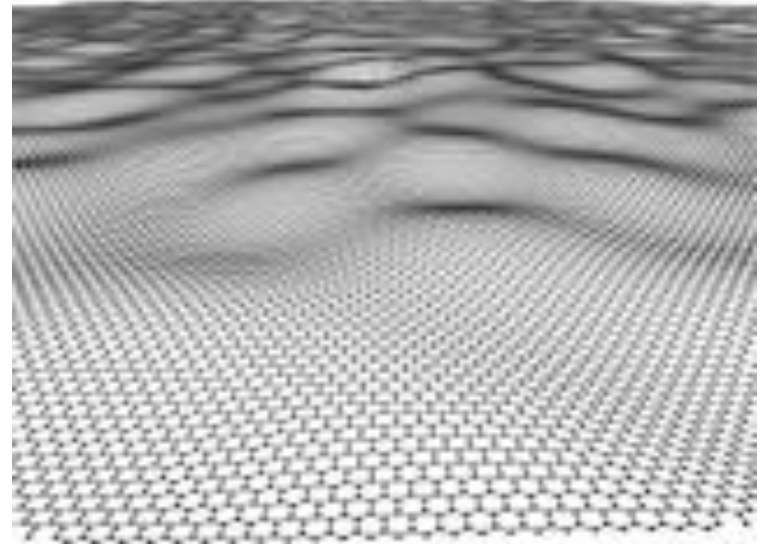


Graphene

- First “discovered” in the form of isolated thin sheets in 2004.
- One-atom-thick planar sheet of sp²-bonded carbon atoms that are densely packed in a honeycomb crystal lattice.

Mechanical and material properties

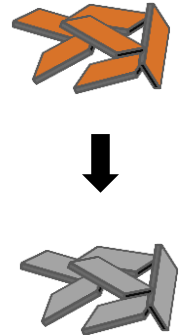
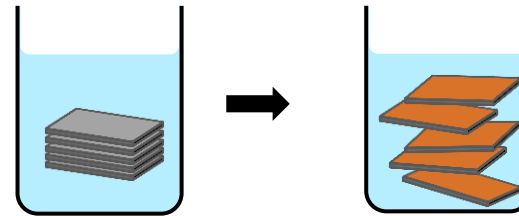
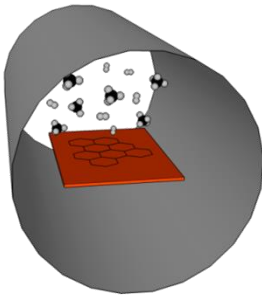
- As of 2009, graphene appeared the strongest material ever tested.
- Young’s modulus ~ 1,100 GPa
- Fracture strength 125 GPa
- Specific surface area 2,630 m²/g



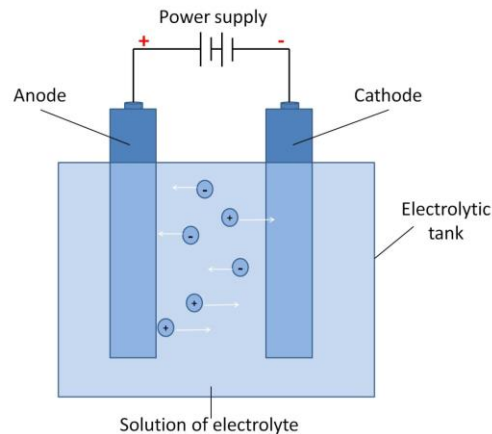
Graphene Synthesis at Fraunhofer IPA

3 different routes

- Chemical Vapour Deposition (CVD)
- Reduction of Graphene Oxide



- Electrochemical exfoliation of graphite



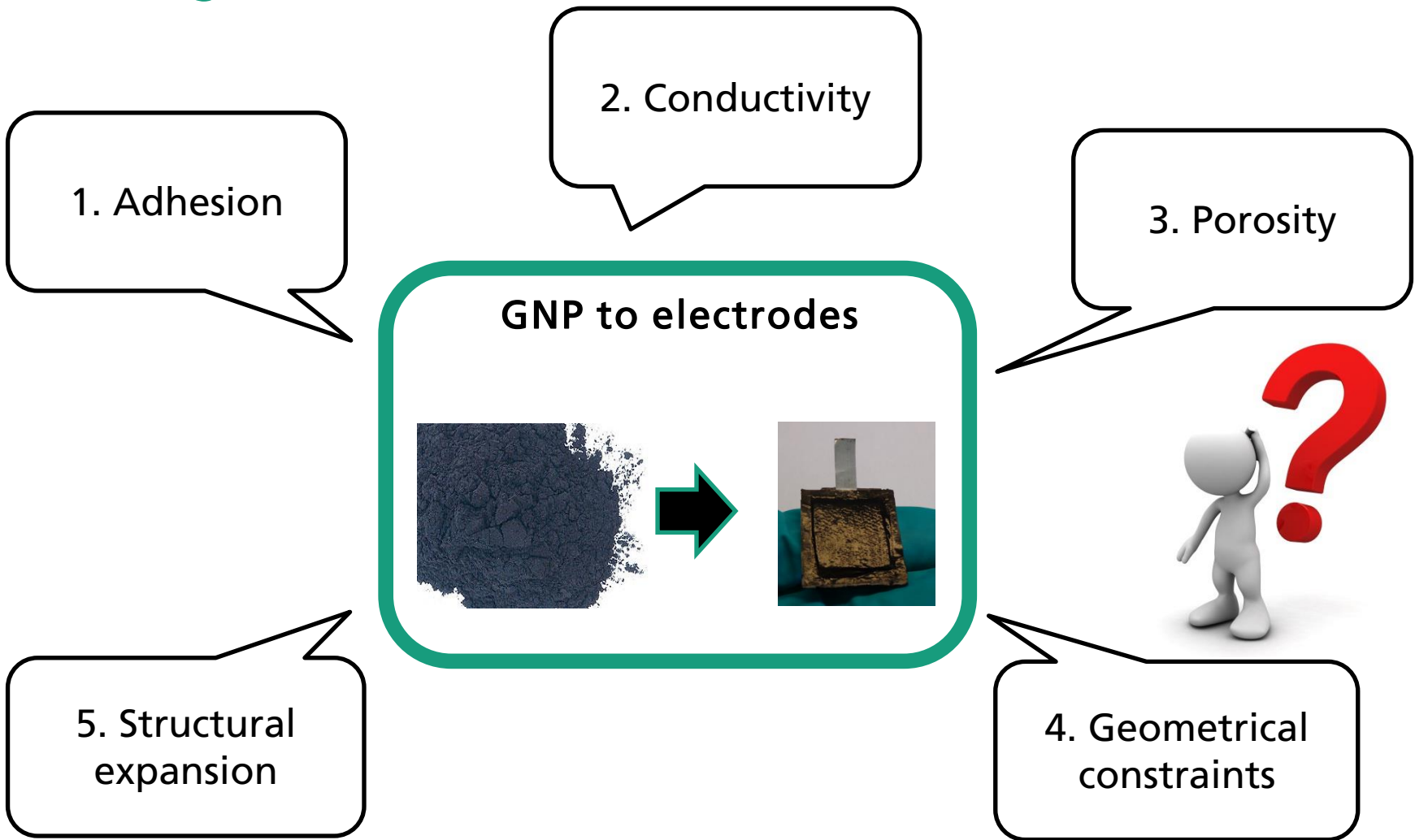
GNP production at Fraunhofer IPA

Simplyfied electrochemical exfoliation setup



Electrode fabrication

Challenges faced



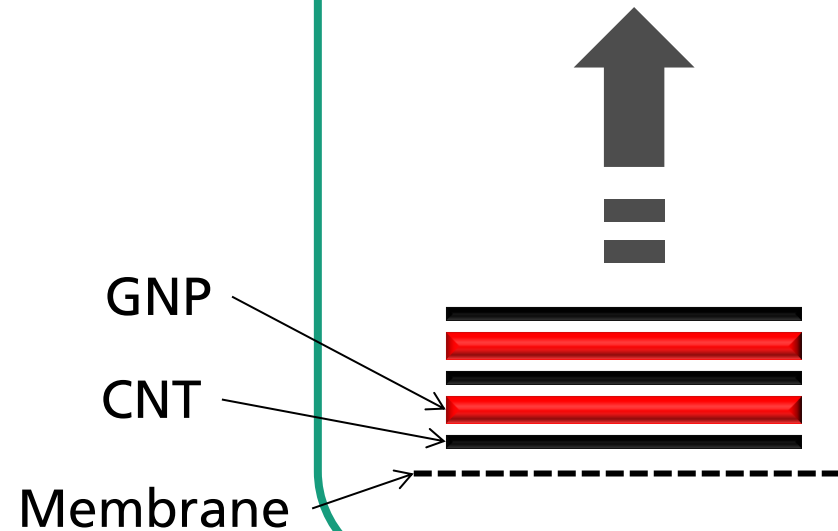
Electrode fabrication

Lab scale

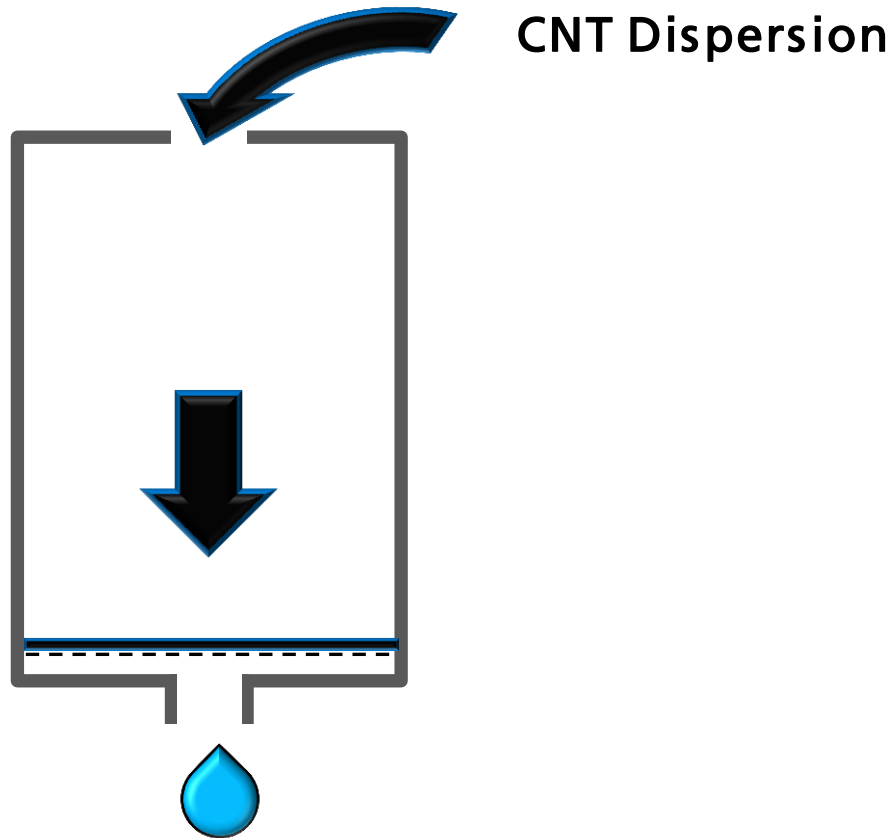
Film filtration



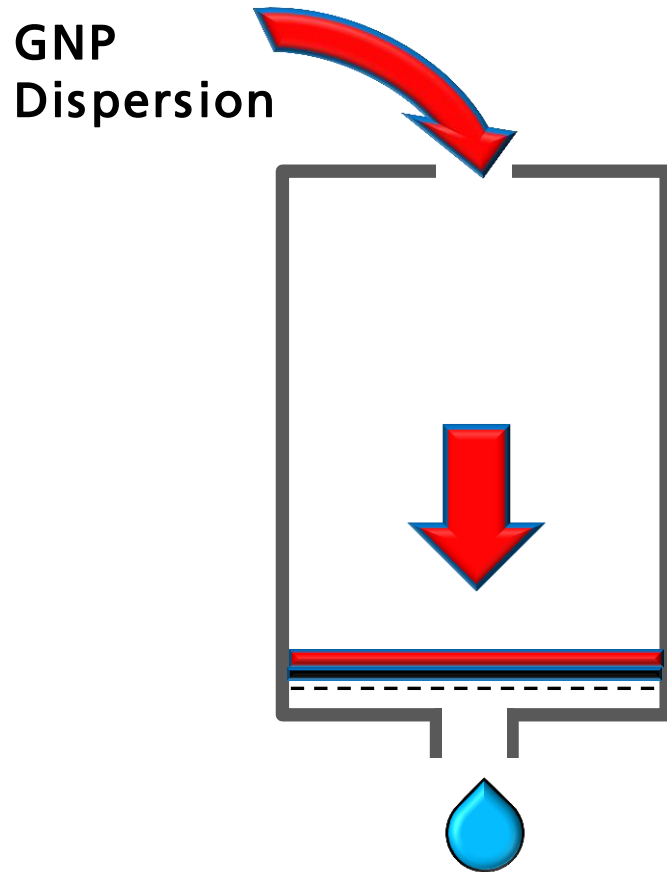
Build up of coating layers



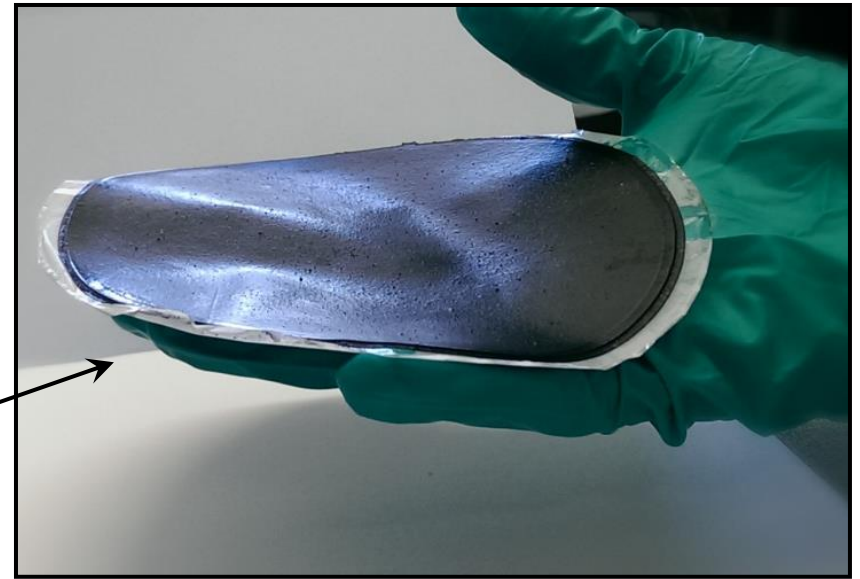
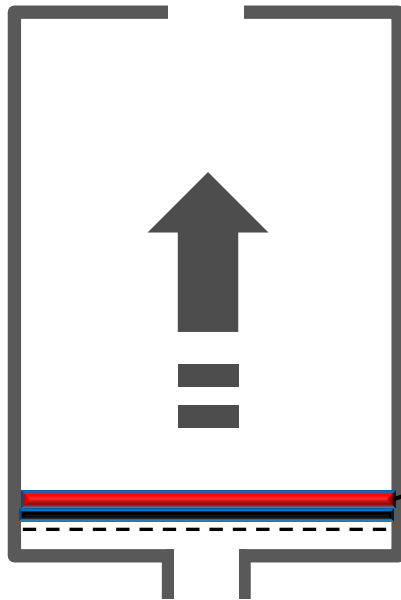
Filtration process



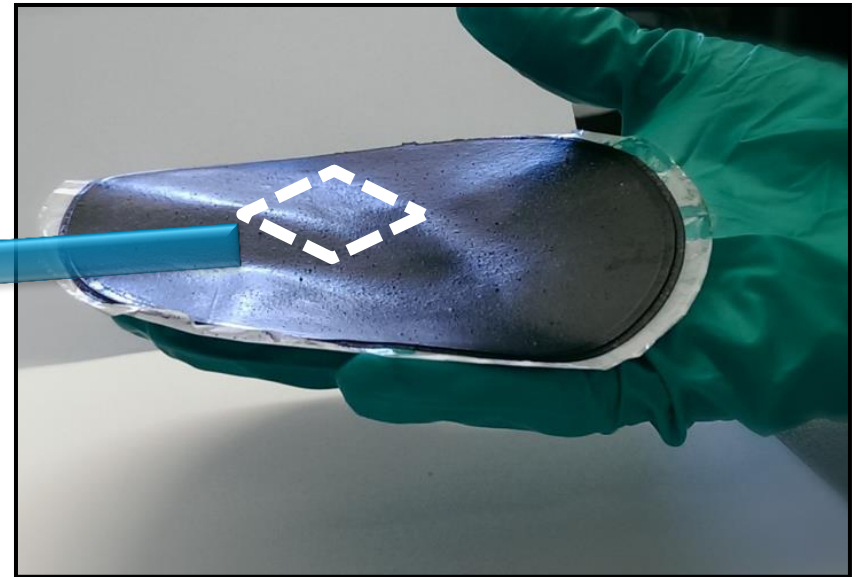
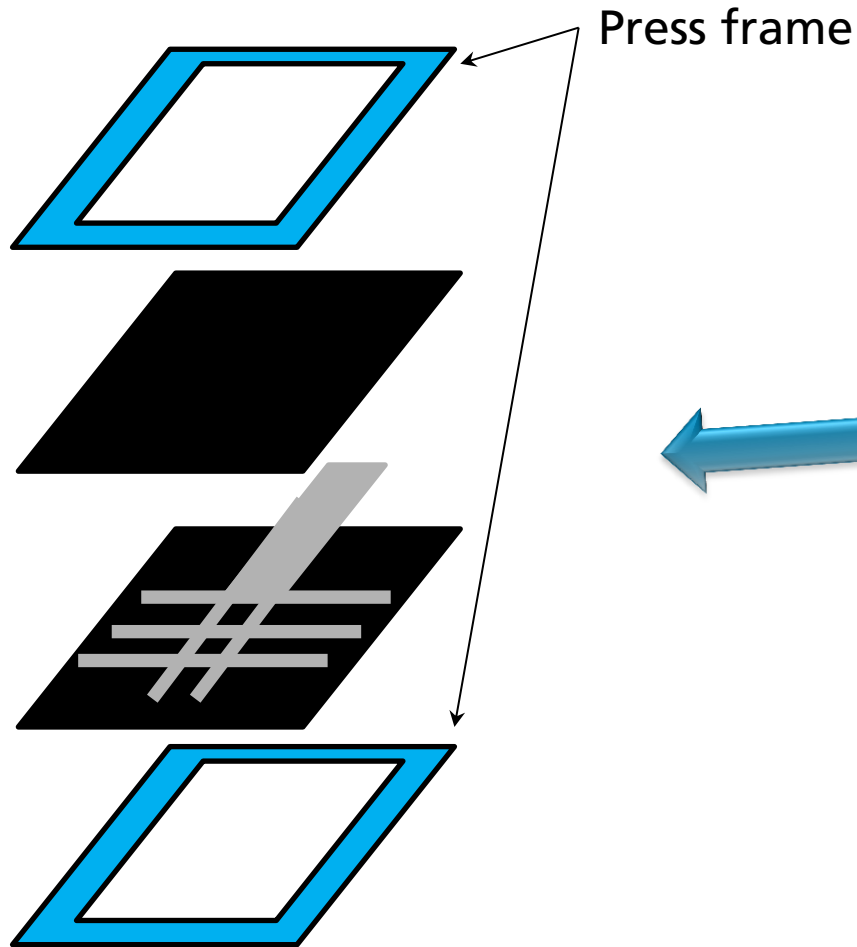
Filtration process



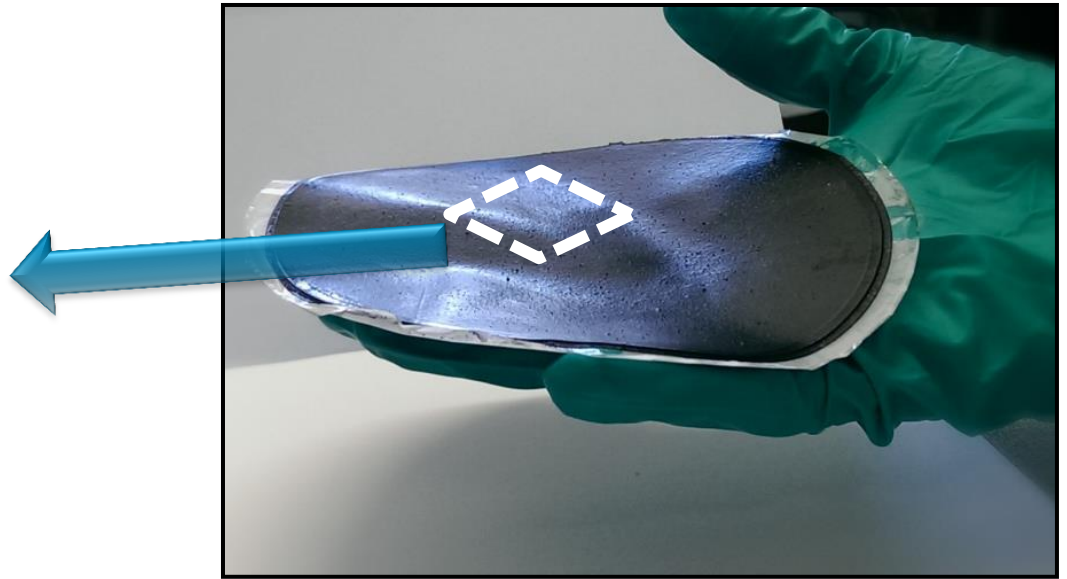
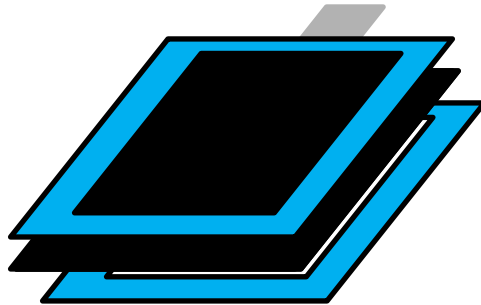
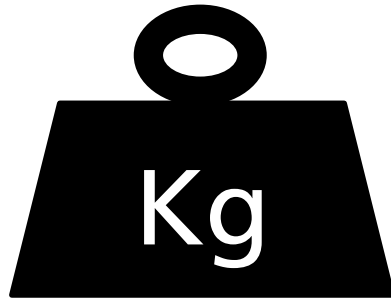
Filtration process



Wet film to electrodes

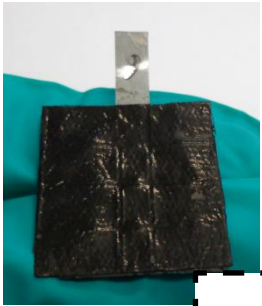


Wet film to electrodes

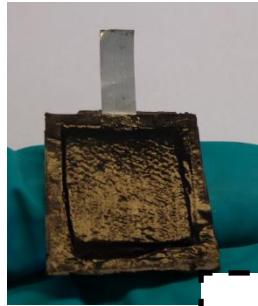


Different configurations

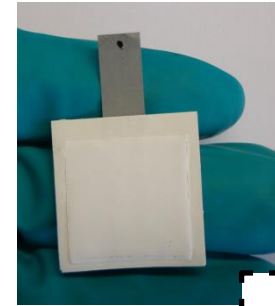
Layered structure



CNT enveloped



Polyamide enveloped





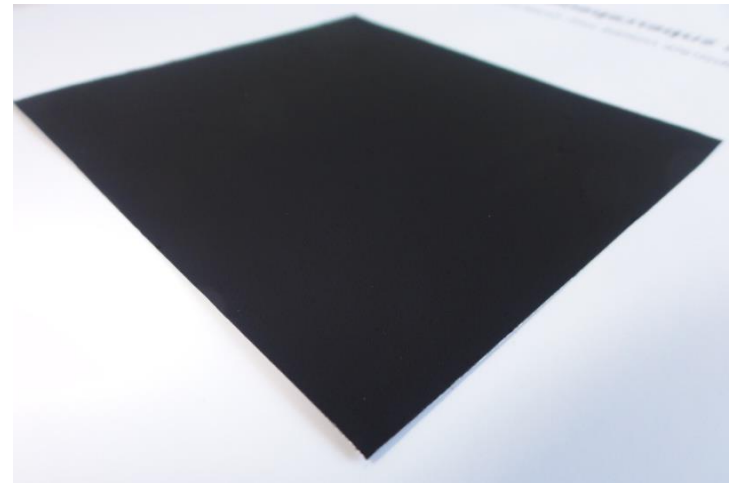
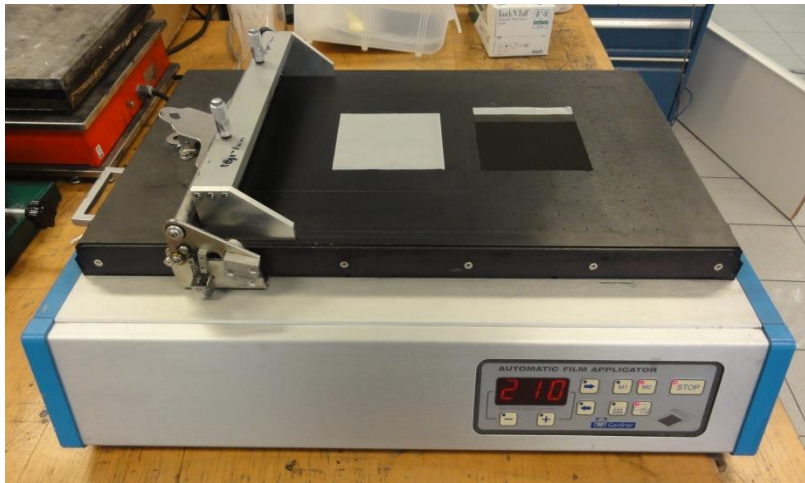
Electrode manufacturing

Process Engineering for components

Electrode layer fabrication via bar coating

1) Bar coating (commonly practiced in the industries)

- Controllable film thickness
- Fast and reproducible
- Up to DIN A4 – 30 x 21 cm



Process Engineering for components

Electrode ink preparation

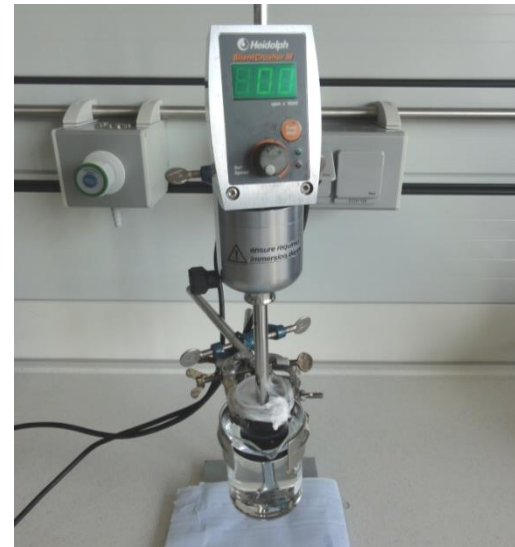
Ink compositions

- Acetone/DI-H₂O
- High solid content (10 -15 w%)
- Different binders (10 w%)
 - PVDF-HFP
 - PTFE



Dispersion method

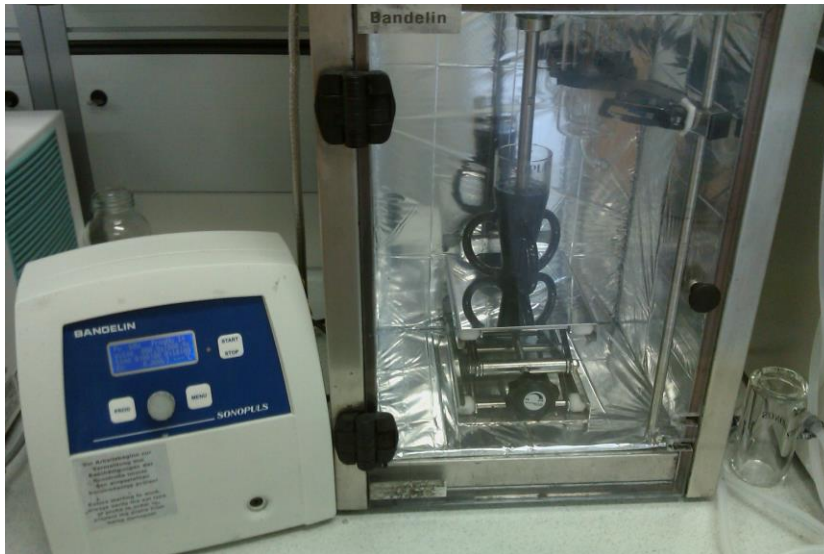
- Rotor/stator-homogeniser



Process Engineering for components

Dispersion preparation

Ultrasonication



GNP dispersion (water based)

0.1 w% GNP

CNT dispersion (water based)

0.1 w% MWCNT

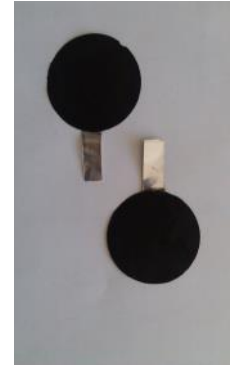
0.1 w% Polyvinyl-pyrrolidone
(Dispersant)

Manual fabrication

Lab scale

Electrode manufacturing

- via Filtration



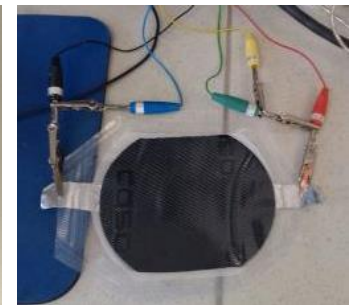
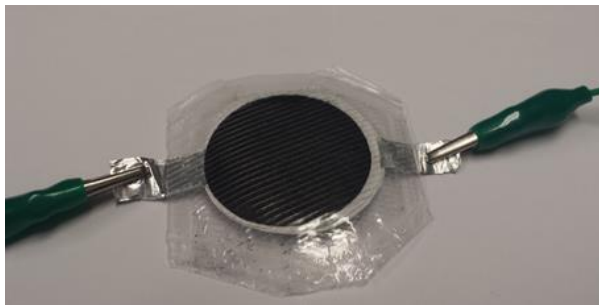
Cell manufacturing

- Wrapping
- Adding Electrolyte



Cell testing

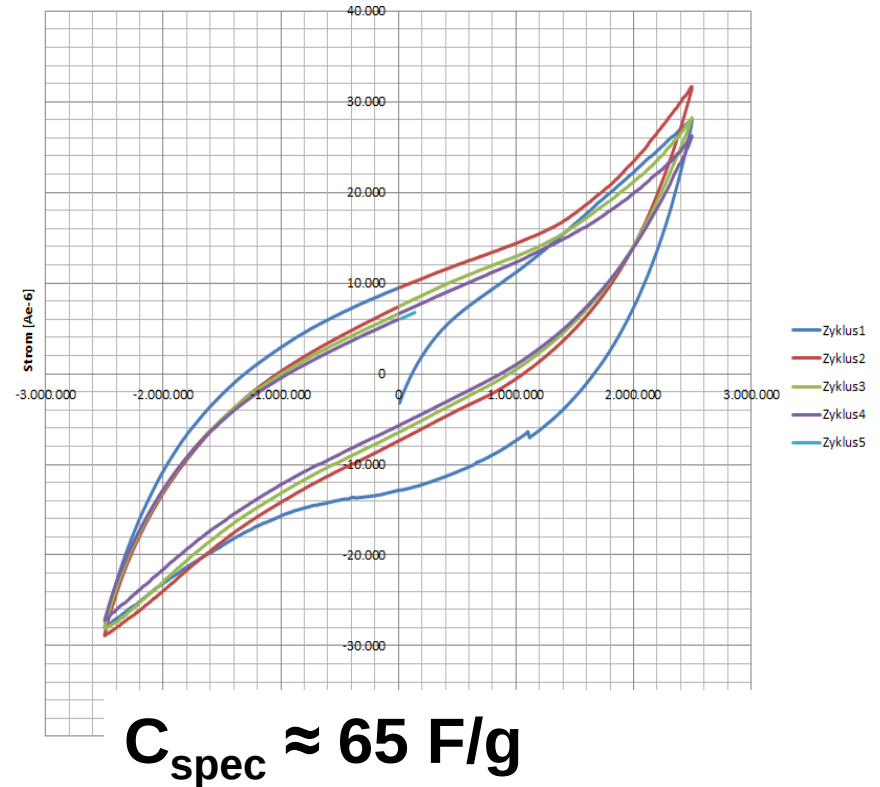
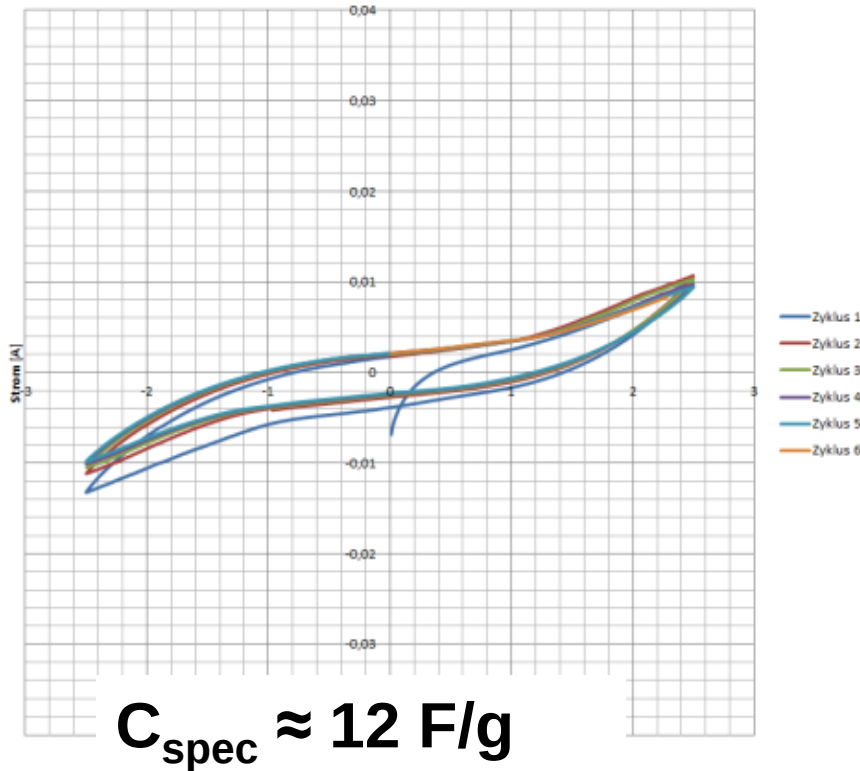
- CV
- CC



What are the results ?

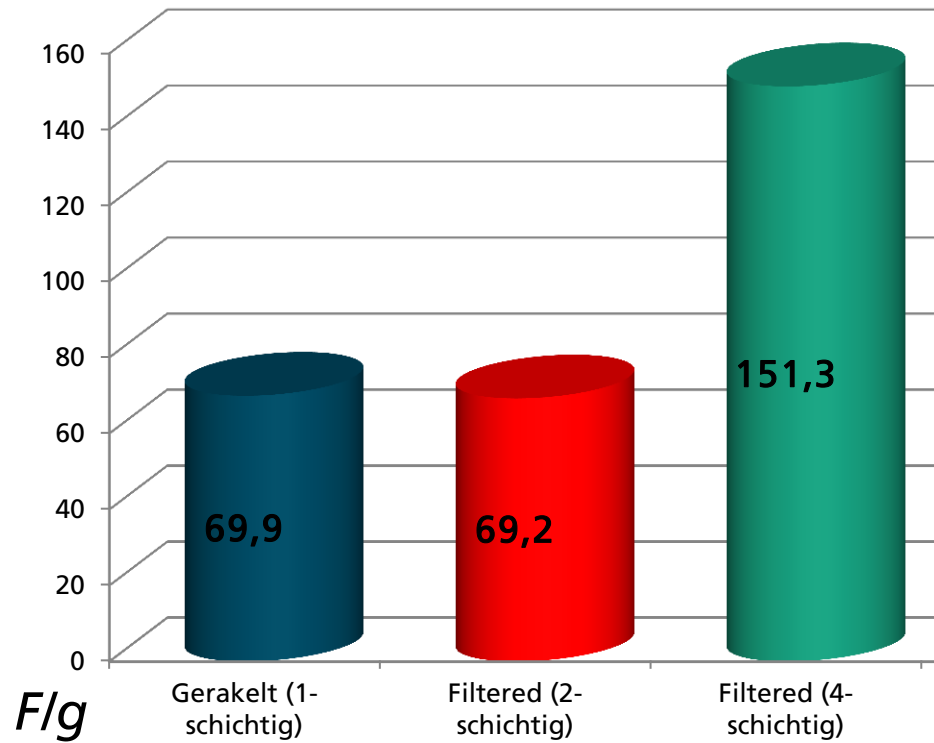
Performance measuring

Cyclo-voltametry



Performance measuring

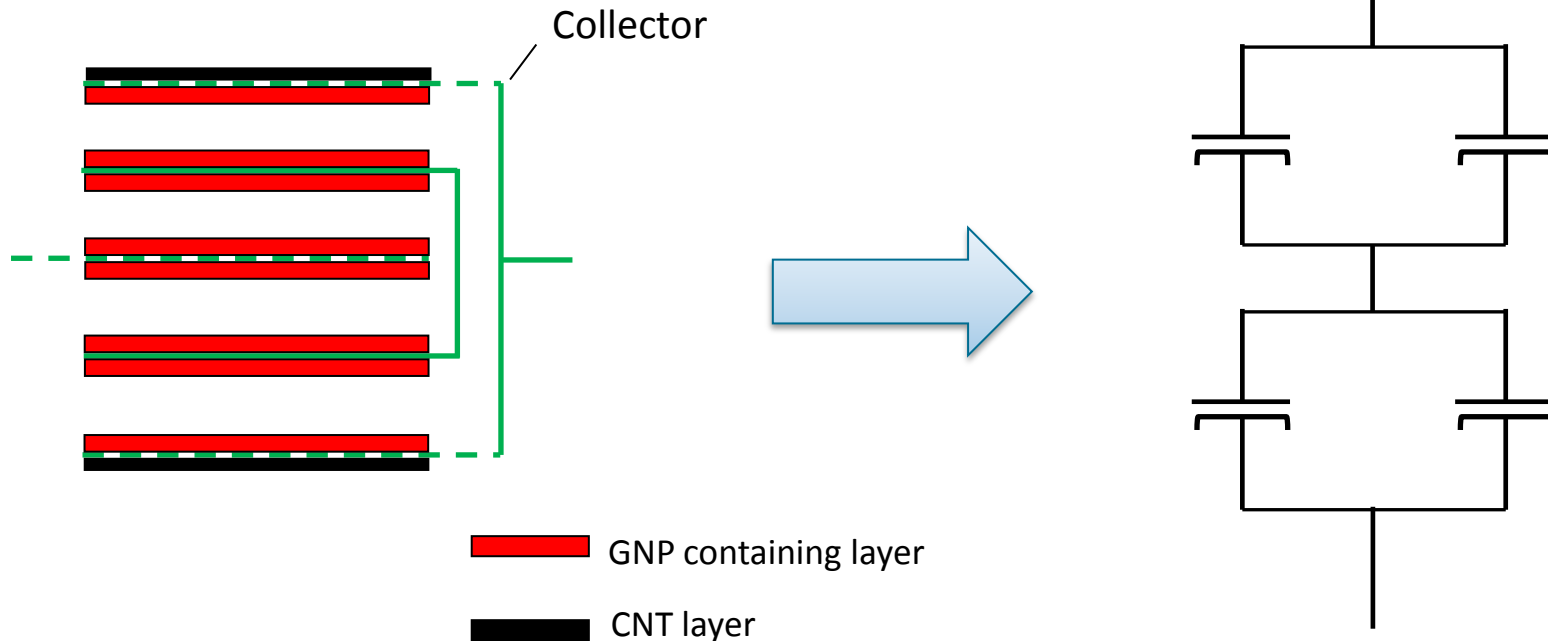
Results



Supercapacitor cell design

XG-Sciences GNPs with MnO_2

4 capacitors in a cell



Next Steps ?

Upscaling



Summary

Graphene can reproducibly be used as active material in supercapacitor electrodes (price of GNPs is decreasing tremendously)

Hybrid electrodes can be reproducibly manufactured with specific properties (Capacity of 150 F/g)

Energy density of supercapacitor cells & modules can be drastically increased by using a porous CNT-graphene nanostructure within the electrodes

THANK YOU !