
ELECTROCHEMICAL ENERGY STORAGE BASED ON LATEST GENERATION OF LITHIUM BATTERIES AND SODIUM/NICKEL-CHLORIDE BATTERIES

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Fraunhofer IKTS in Profile

Energy and Environmental Technologies at IKTS

High temperature batteries



Gas reforming



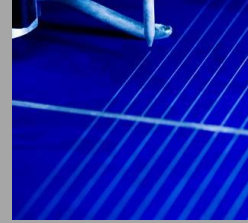
Supercaps



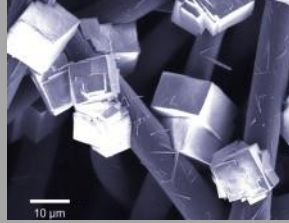
Lithium batteries



Photovoltaics



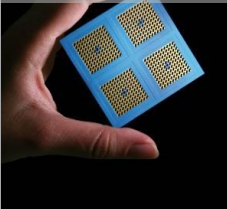
Metal air batteries



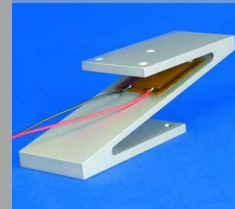
Gas purification



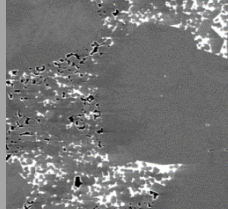
Small low temperature fuel cells (PEFC)



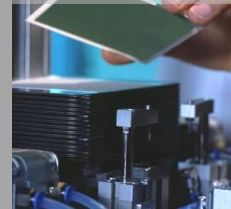
Energy harvesting (piezo ceramic)



Thermoelectric materials



High temperature fuel cells

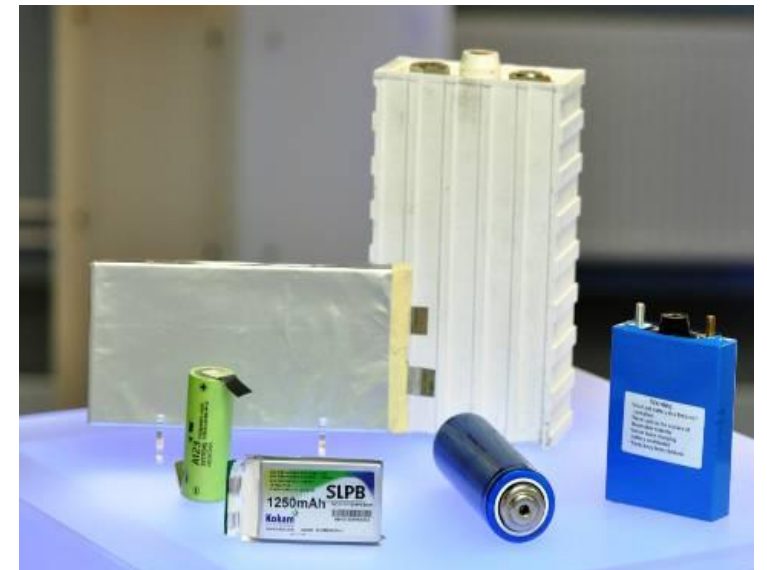


All solid state batteries



Motivation

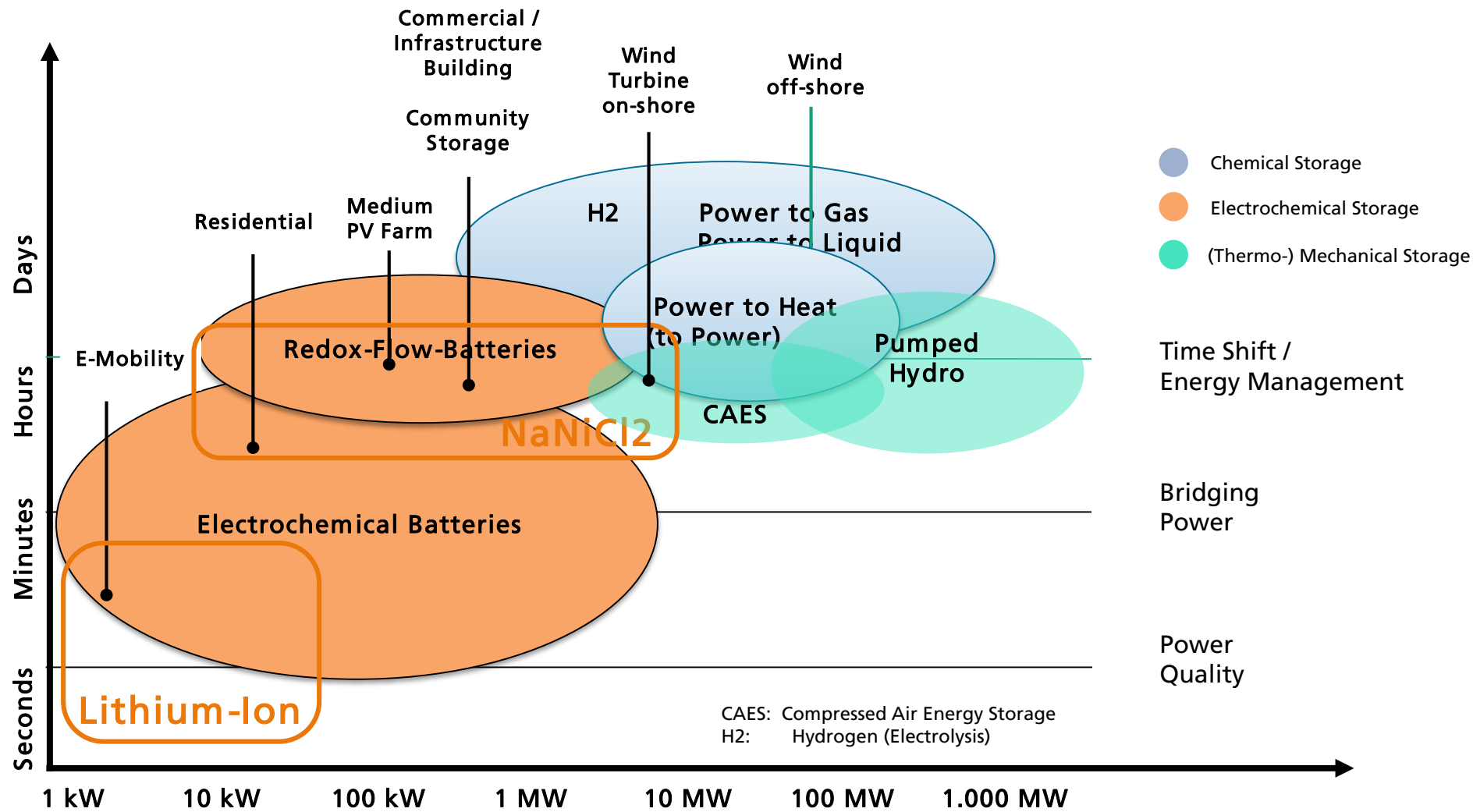
Energy storage for stationary and mobile application



Sources: NGK Insulators, Younicos

- strictly confidential -

Electrochemical energy storage devices - application fields addressed



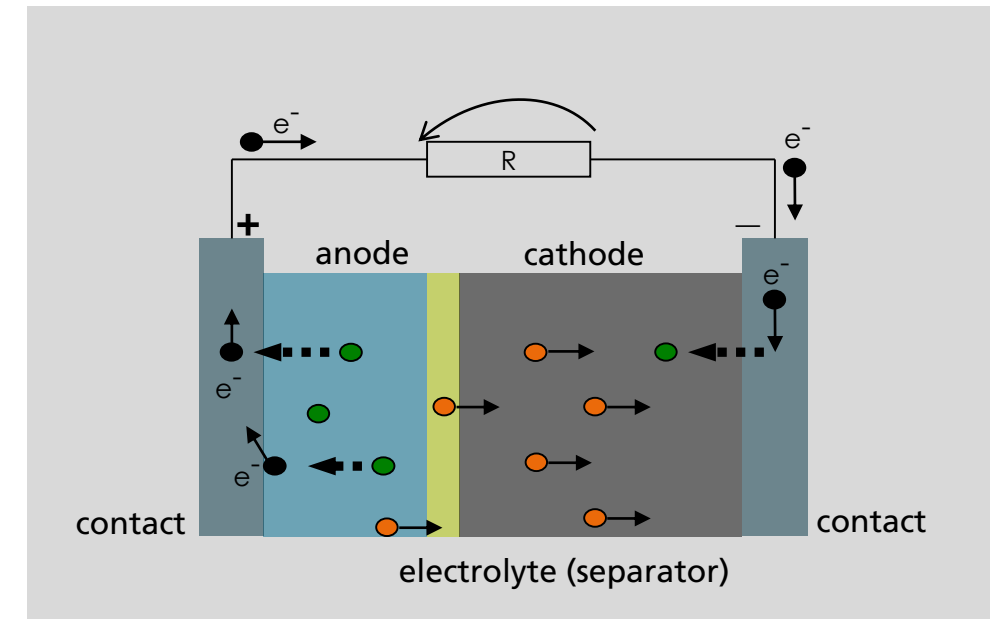
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Electrochemical energy storage devices

■ Galvanic cell

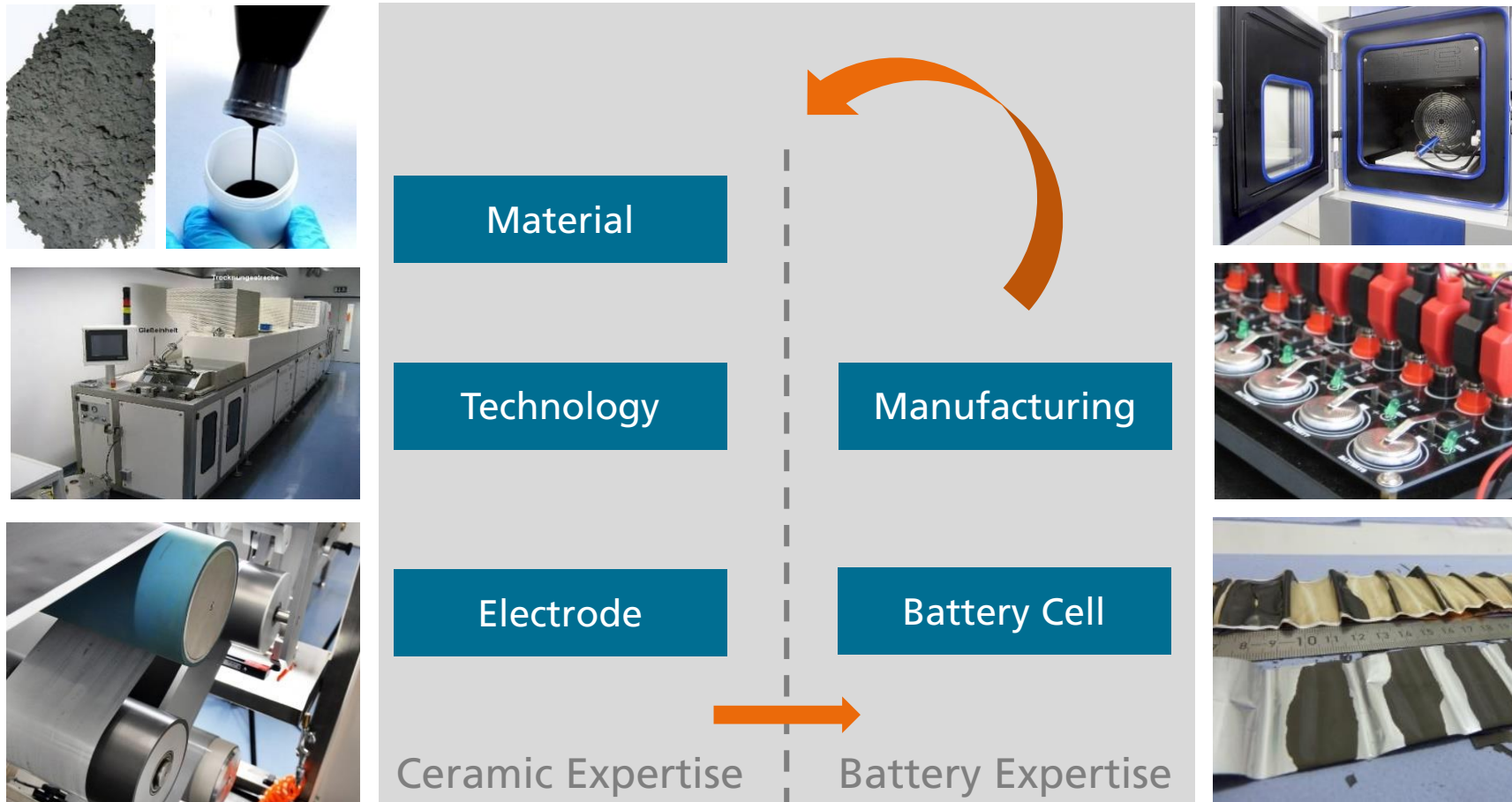
Electrochemical cell that derives electrical energy from spontaneous redox reactions

Primary cell	Secondary cell	Tertiary cell
non-rechargeable batteries	Rechargeable batteries, accumulator	Fuel cells → require a constant flow of reactants from outside source



- strictly confidential -

Electrochemical energy storage devices – IKTS Approach



- strictly confidential -

Sites of IKTS & Battery Pilot Plants



IKTS-HD

Pilot Plant NaNiCl_2

(Cerenergy®) Material & Production Development

Technology Center 'Tape Casting'

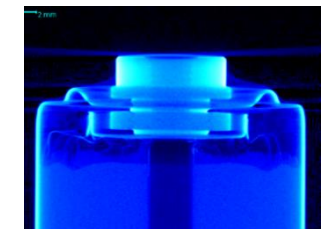
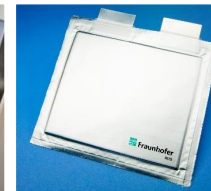
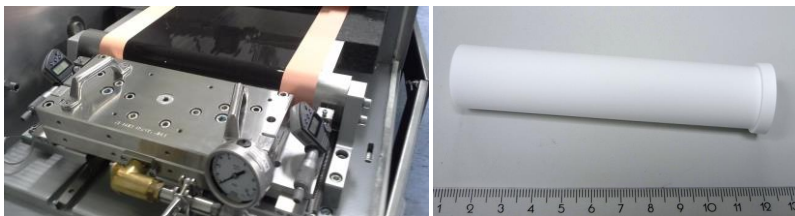
Roll-to-roll technology development

Application Center 'Battery Technology'

Production Development
Cooperation with ThyssenKrupp
System Engineering

Headquarter IKTS-DD & IKTS-MD

Li-Ion Battery Material Development &
Battery Testing
Material Diagnostics



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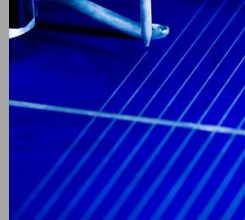
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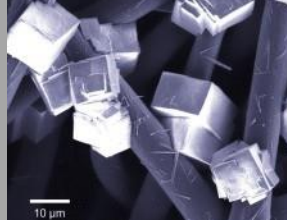
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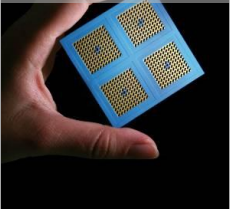
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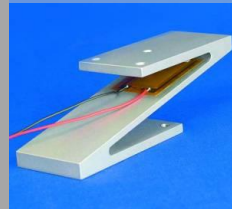
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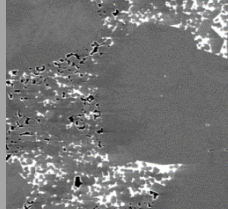
Small low temperature fuel cells (PEFC)



Energy harvesting (piezo ceramic)



Thermoelectric materials



High temperature fuel cells



All solid state batteries



Lithium-Ion-Batteries

Applications:

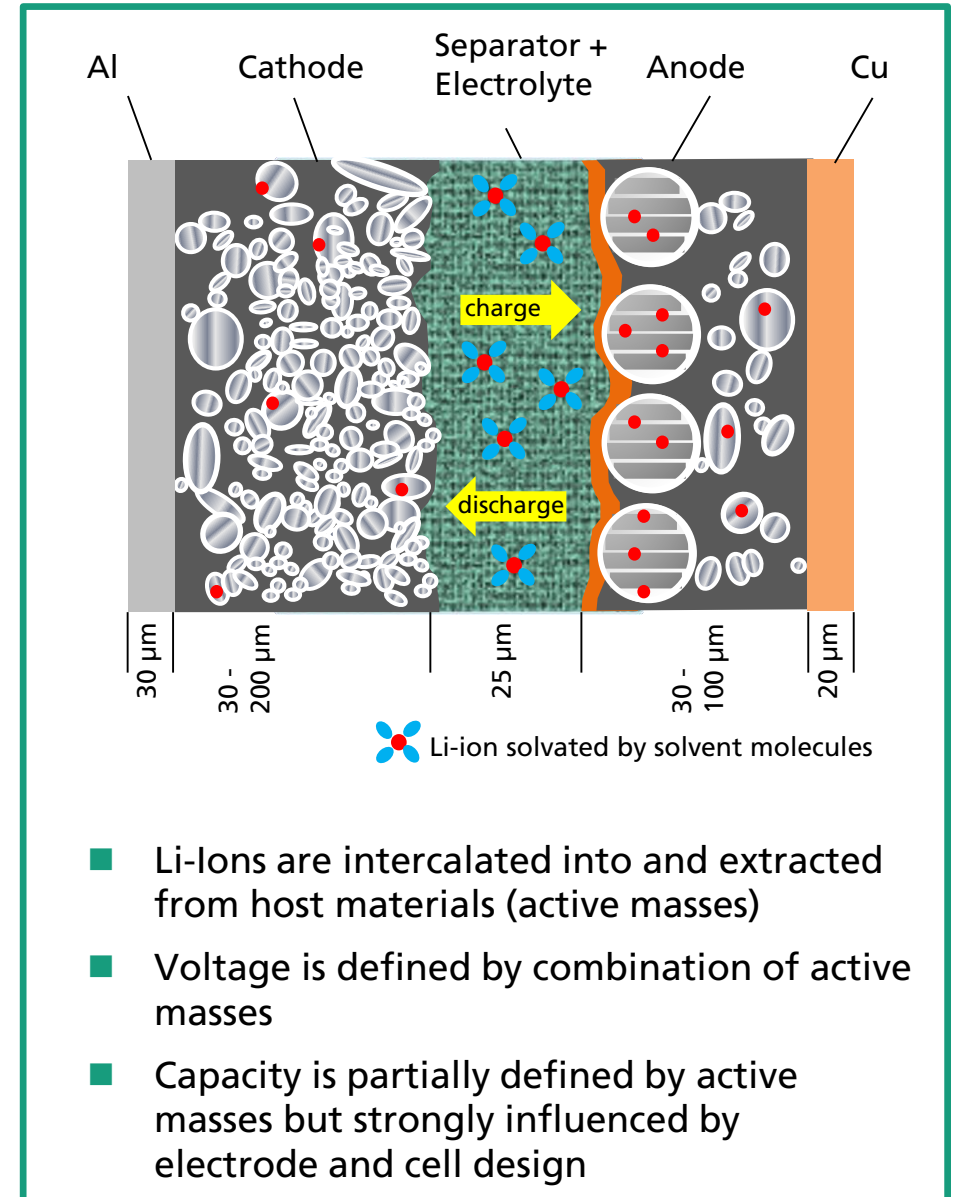
- E-Mobility
- Small stationary power systems

Advantages

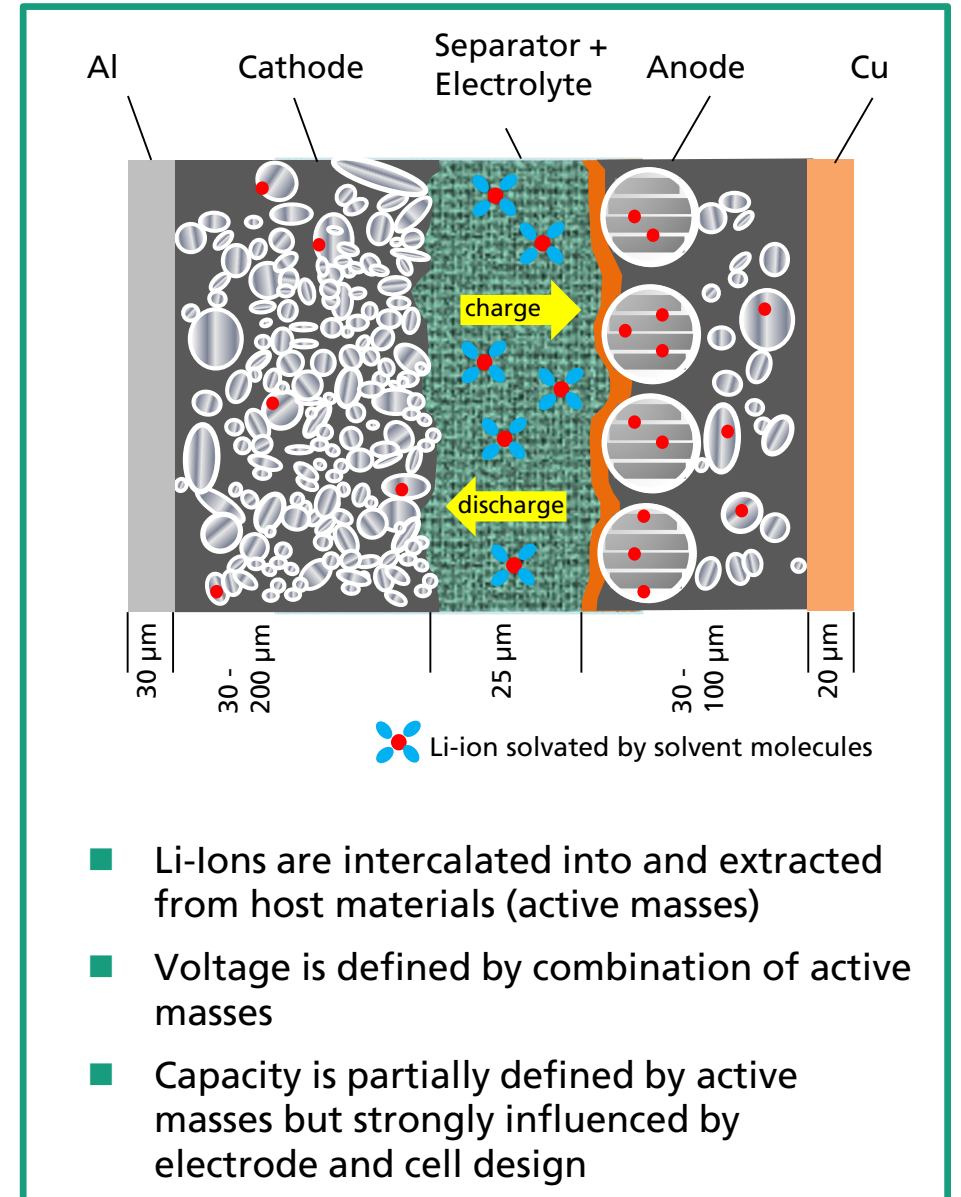
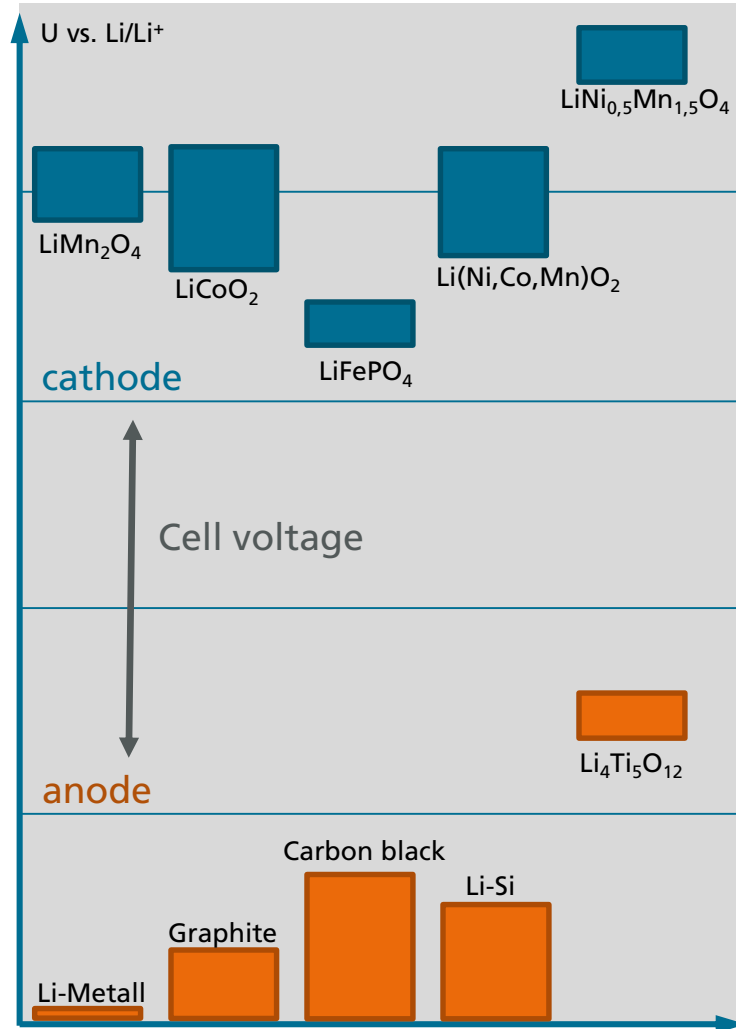
- High energy density
- High performance dynamics

Development topics

- Reduction of manufacturing costs
- Improvement of durability and costs



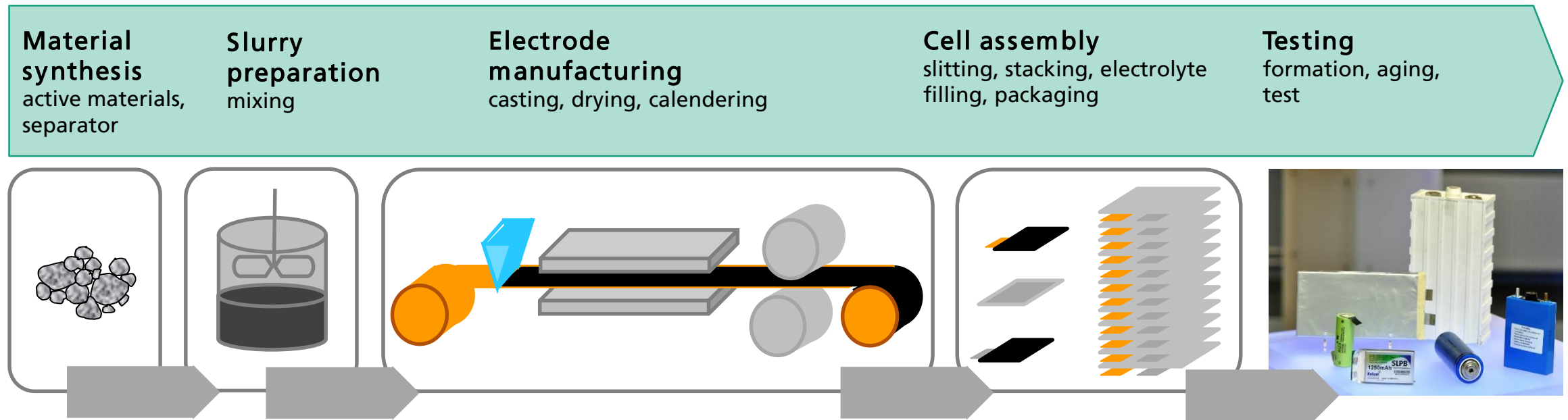
Lithium-Ion-Batteries



Manufacturing process of Lithium-Ion battery cells

Optimum battery performance and lifetime relies on optimized battery manufacture

- State of the art process was developed for small consumer cells
 - Automotive and large stationary application require
4x lifetime; 10x cycle number; 20x larger electrode areas
- significant higher requirements on production processes



Manufacturing process of Lithium-Ion battery cells



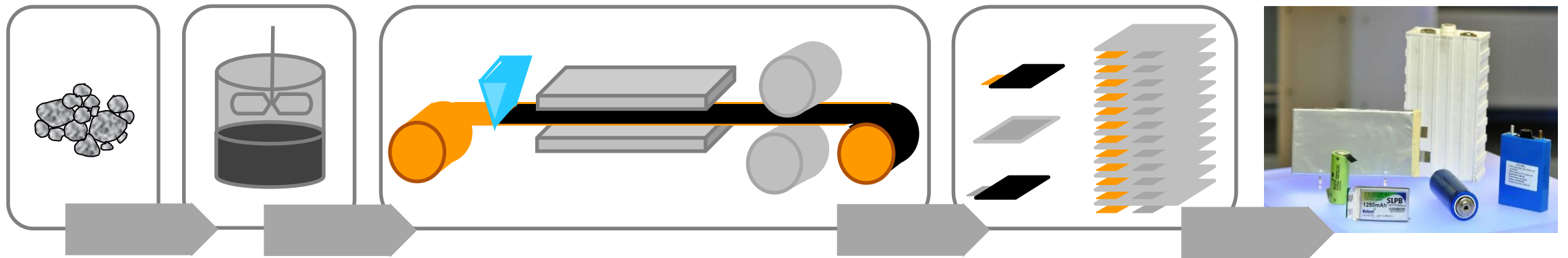
Material synthesis
active materials,
separator

Slurry preparation
mixing

Electrode manufacturing
casting, drying, calendaring

Cell assembly
slitting, stacking, electrolyte
filling, packaging

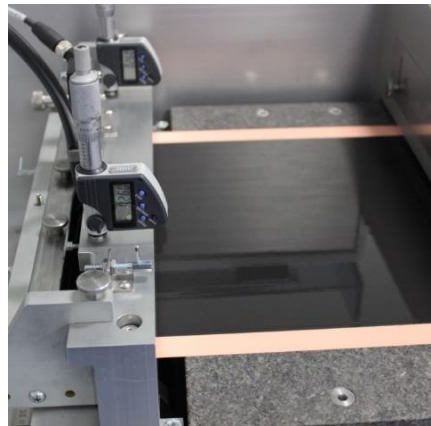
Testing
formation, aging,
test



Application Center ‚Battery Technology‘ (Fraunhofer IKTS/ThyssenKrupp)

Process development and optimization for battery production

- Optimum battery performance and lifetime relies on optimized battery production
 - Development of optimized manufacturing methods along the entire value chain of lithium ion cell production
- Process optimization is the main tool to reach cost targets
 - Manufacturing methods for high-performance lithium ion battery cells
 - From discontinuous laboratory to (semi)continuous pilot plant processes
 - Up-Scaling to high throughput production processes



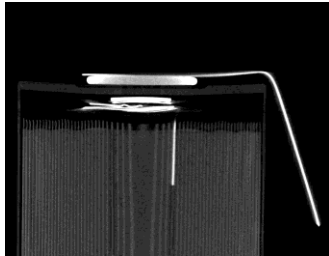
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Energy density in lithium ion batteries

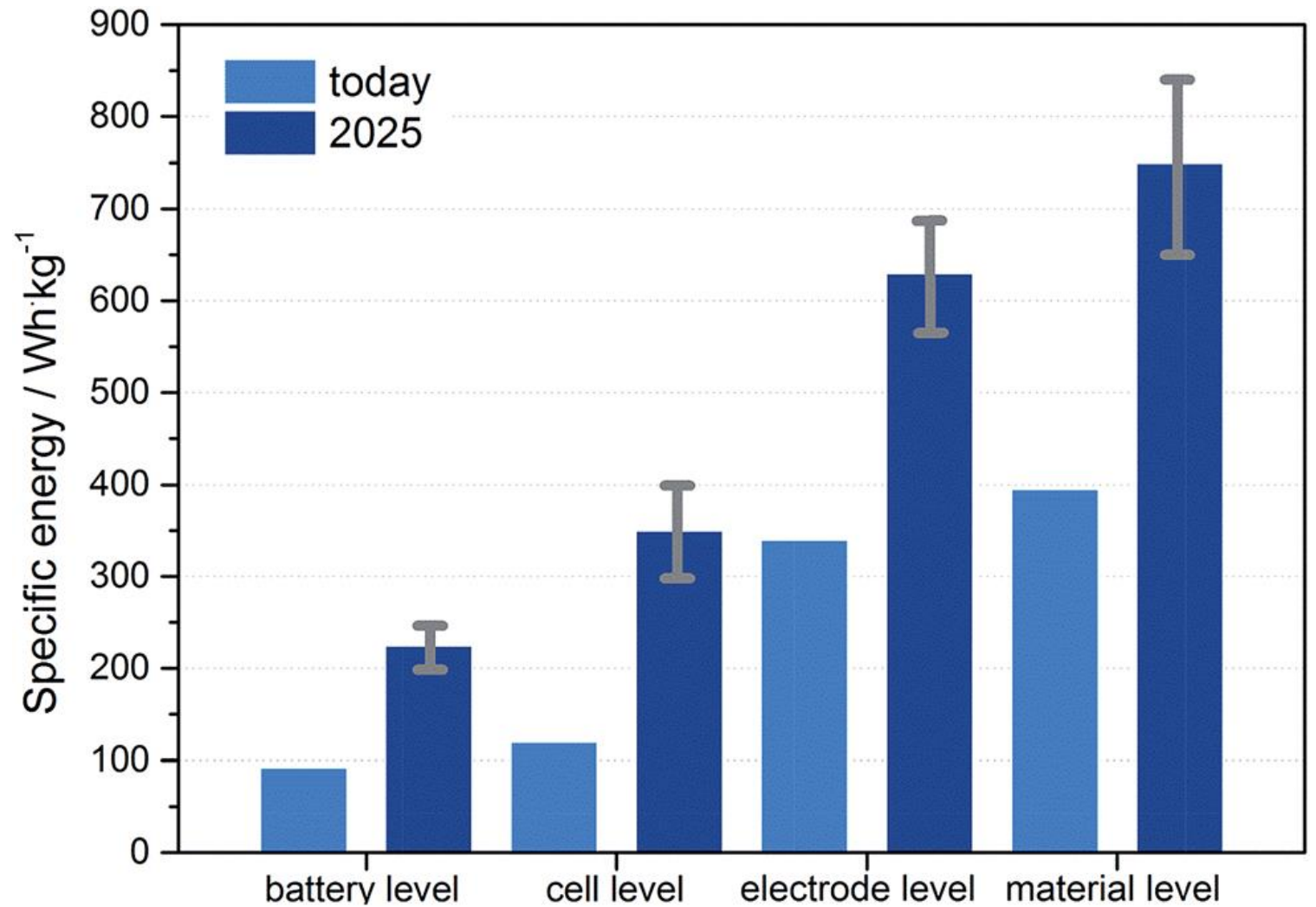
< 280 Wh/l



< 680 Wh/l



NCA: spec. 167 Ah/kg



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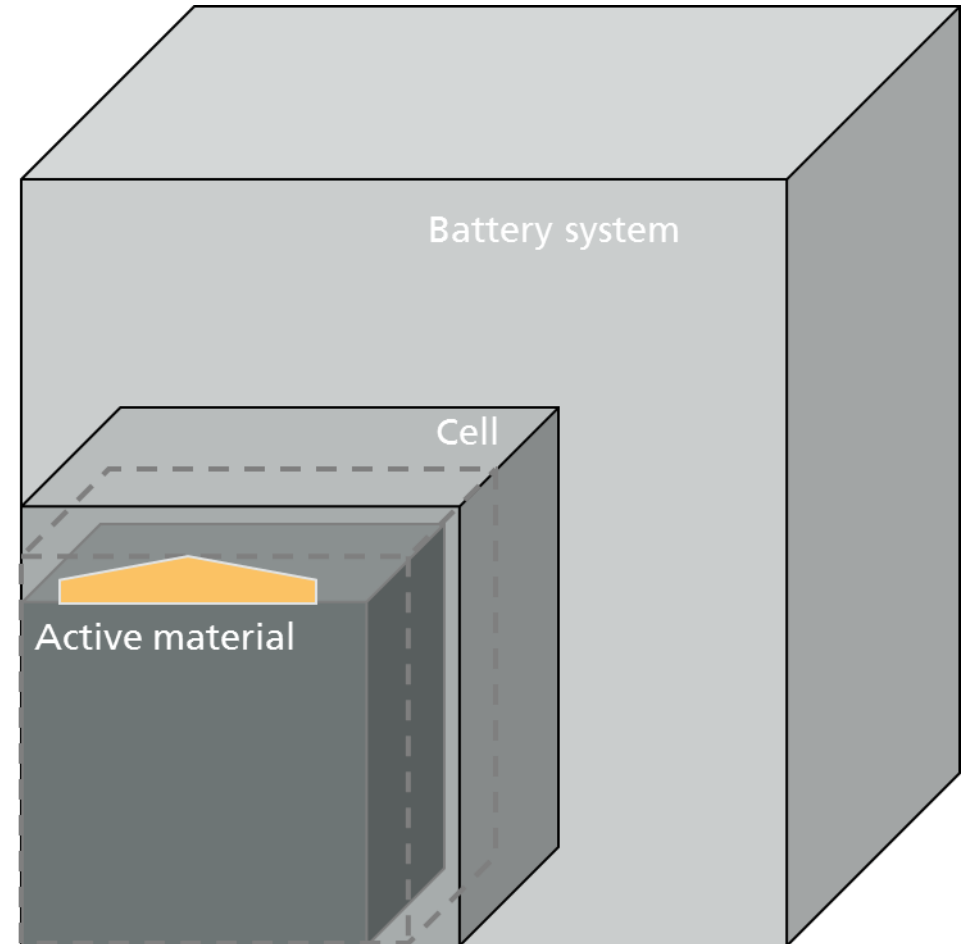
Energy density in lithium ion batteries

Cell level → approach to increase energy density

Active materials with improved storage capacity

Reduction of 'inactive' components (separator, binder,...)

Increase of packaging density in the cell



Energy density in lithium ion batteries

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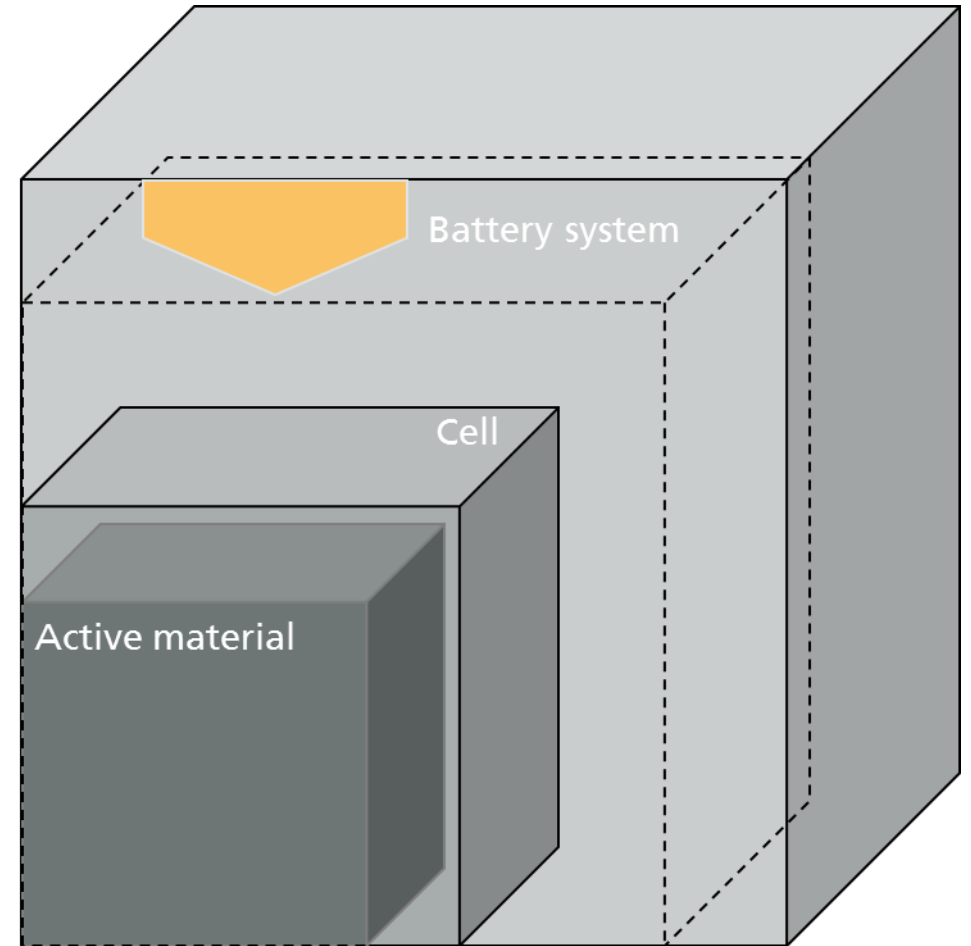
System level → approach to increase energy density

Increase of cell size

Reduction of component number → connectors, sensors

Efficient cooling

Safe cells to avoid safety devices on system level



High capacity electrodes (cell level)

Active materials with high specific storage capacity

Adapted powder grain size distribution

→ maximum packaging density

Increased electrode thickness

Reduced separator thickness

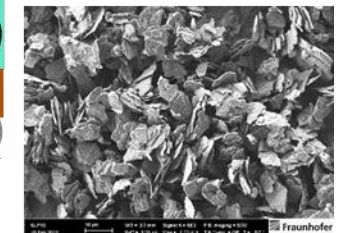
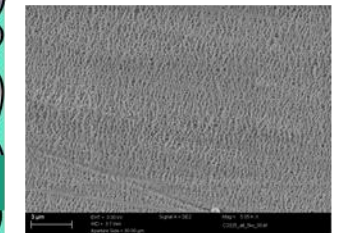
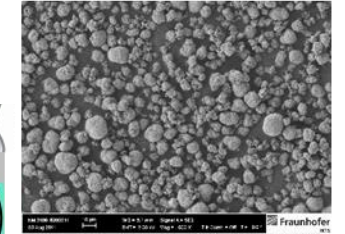
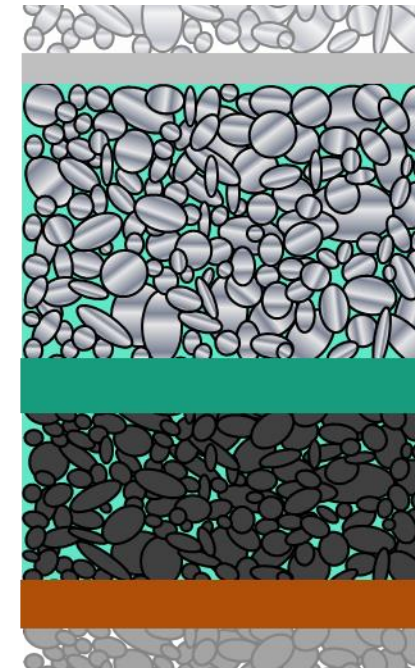
Influence on

- Subsequent process steps, e.g. electrolyte filling
- Cell performance and life time

contacts
cathode

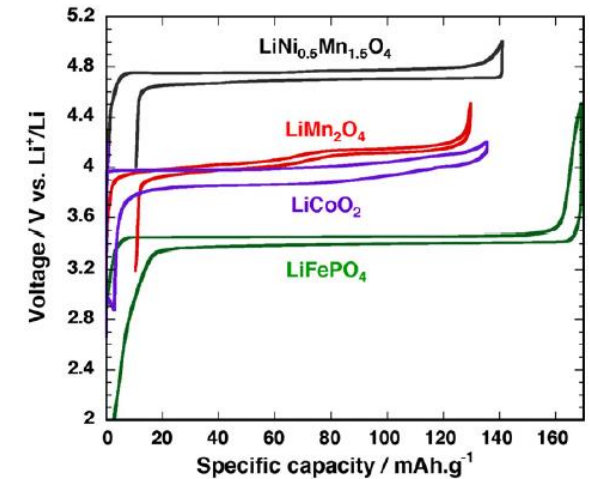
separator
anode

contacts



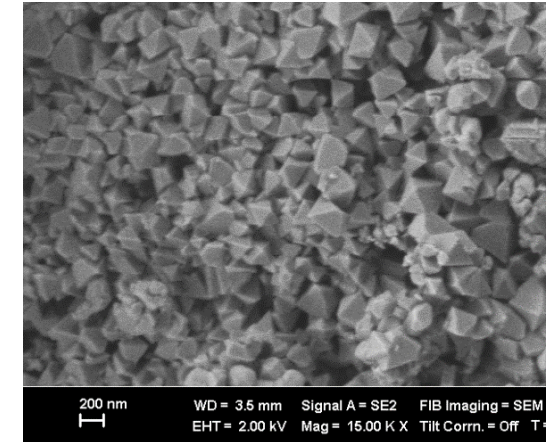
Synthesis of $\text{LiNi}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_{1.5}\text{O}_4$ high voltage spinel with adapted morphology

- High cell voltage of 4.7 V vs. Li/Li^+
- Theoretical capacity of 147 mAh/g
690 Wh/kg, 3034 Wh/l,
⇒ Full cells with high energy density possible
- Spinel type structure with 3D channel network
⇒ High lithium diffusivity enables high power cells
- Cobalt free
- Investigate synthesis parameters to achieve best material properties

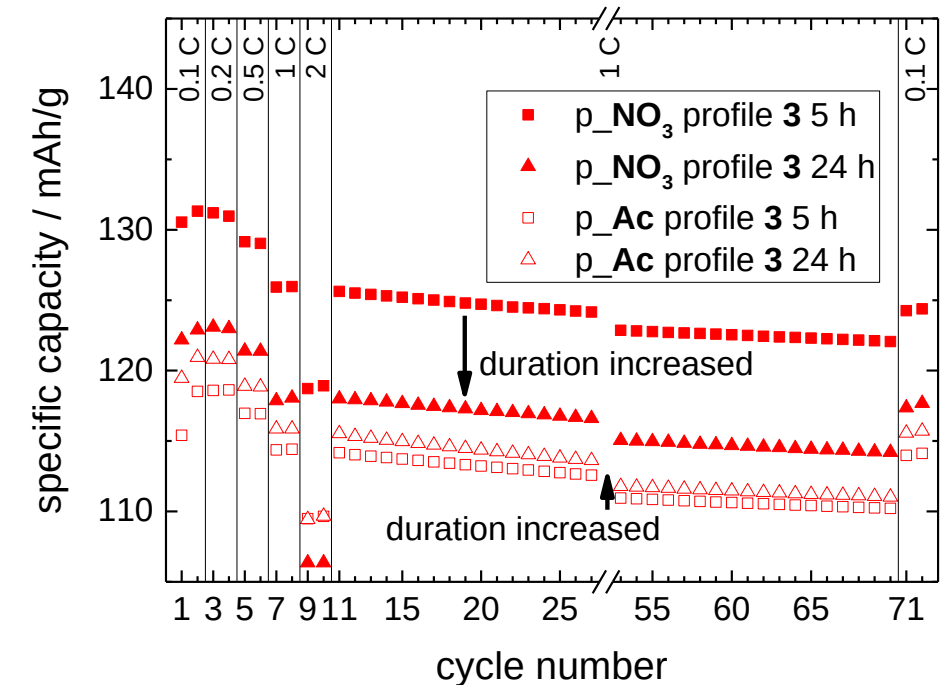


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Synthesis of $\text{LiNi}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_{1.5}\text{O}_4$ high voltage spinel with adapted morphology



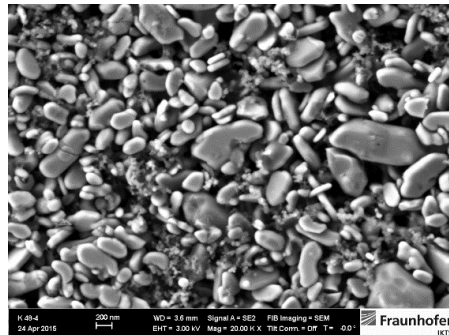
- Varied synthesis parameters and influence on material properties:
 - Precursor composition → nucleation, morphology
 - Pre-treatment → homogeneity
 - Calcination (temp., time) → phase, crystallite size
- Best samples show 131 mAh/g → in agreement with good literature results
- Highest capacity for short calcination times



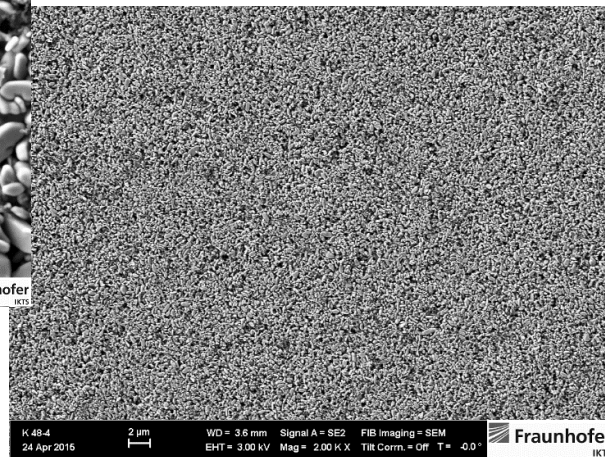
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Manufacturing of high capacity electrodes

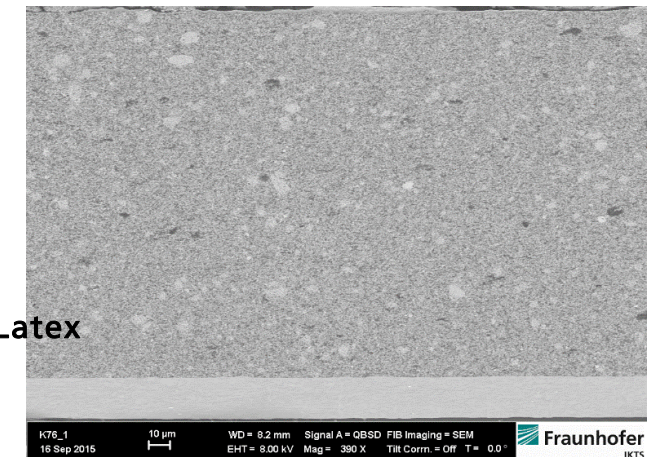
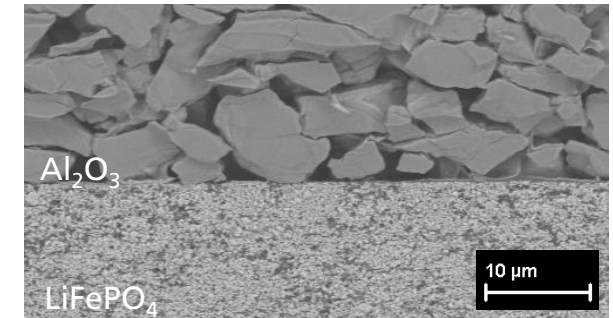
- Cost efficient, environmentally friendly manufacturing processes (e.g. aqueous processing)
- Increasing surface loading for high-energy electrode
- Realization of morphology, conductivity, wettability of the electrodes



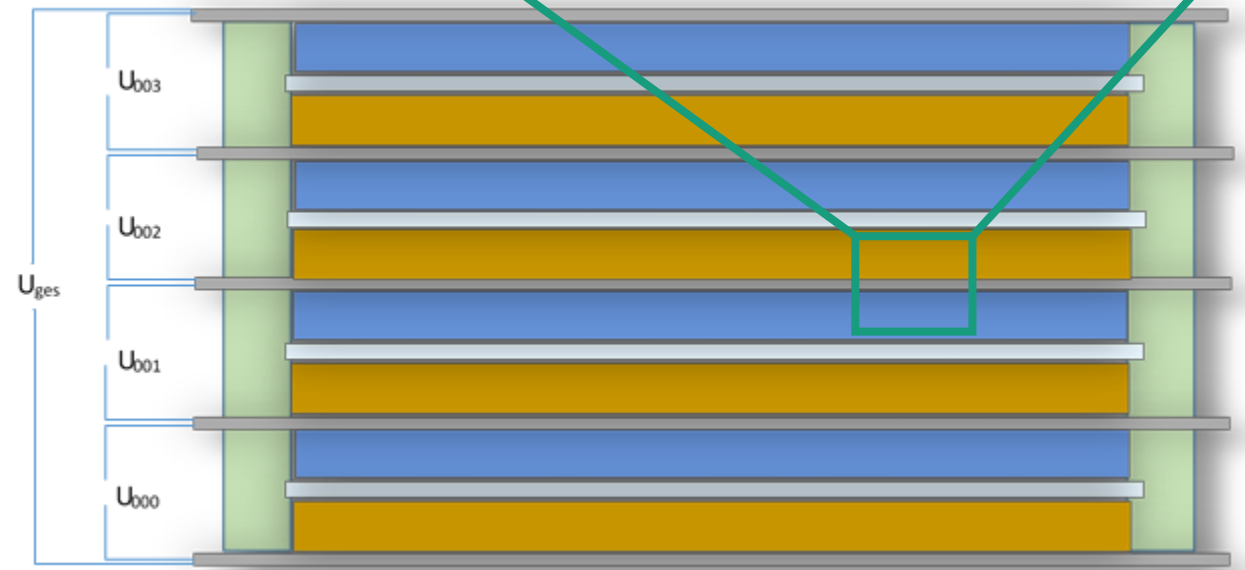
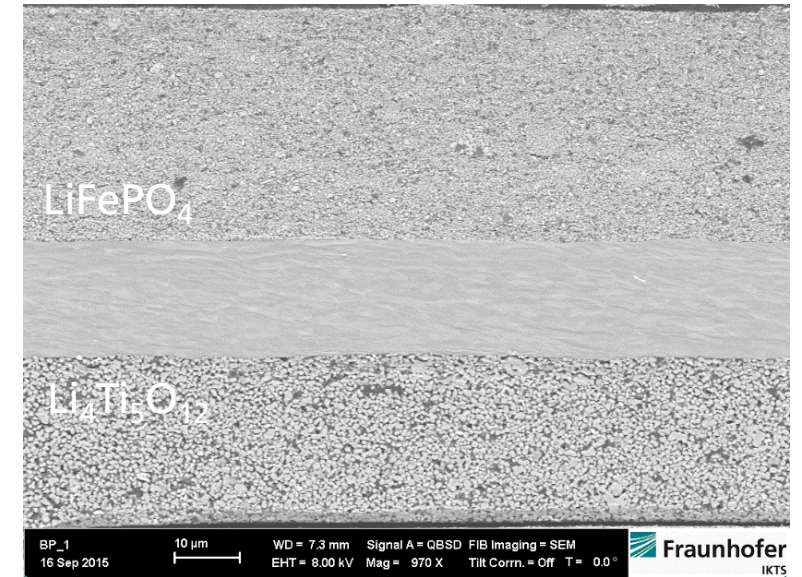
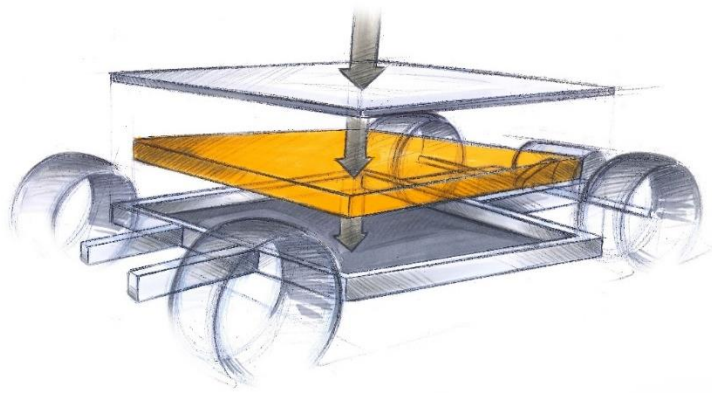
Thickness: 38 μm
SL 8,3 mg/cm^2 ; 1,18 mAh/cm^2
LiFePO₄ / Super P-Li / CMC / PVDF



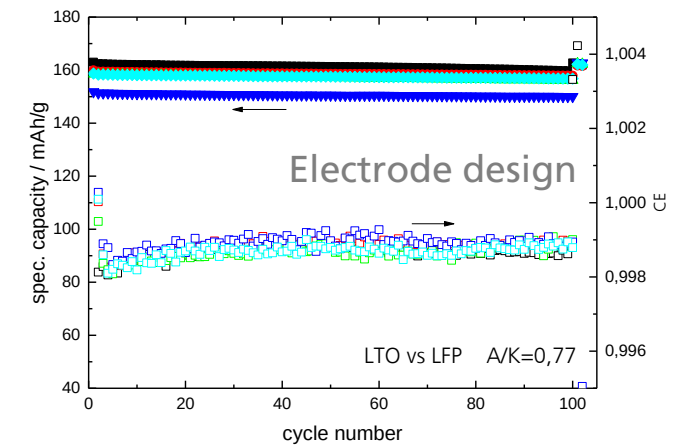
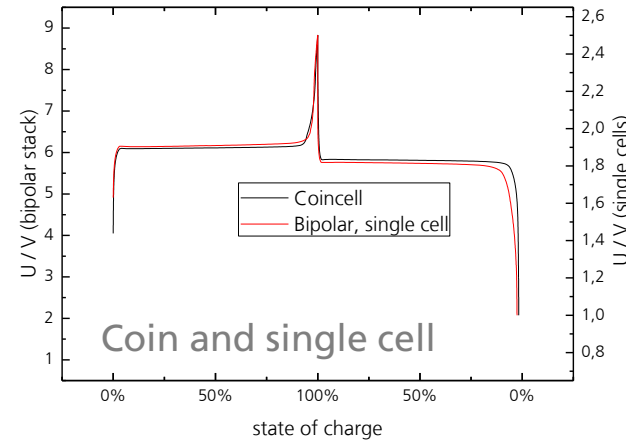
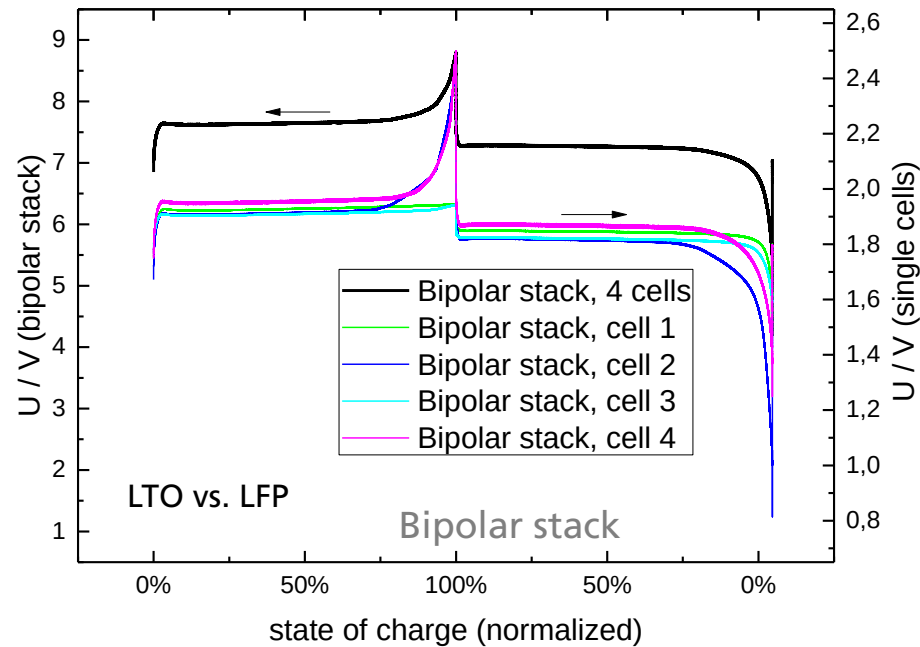
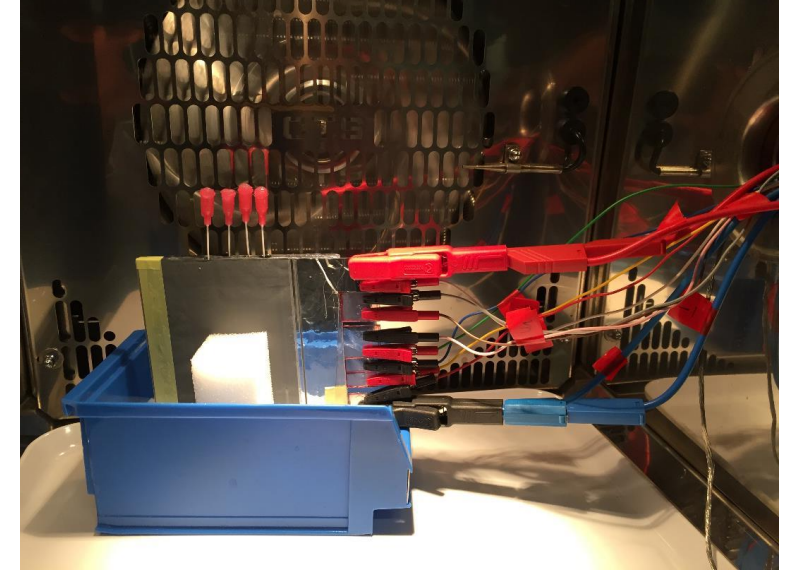
LiFePO₄ / Super P-Li / CMC / Latex
Thickness; 196 μm
SL 36,5 mg/cm^2 ; 4,05 mAh/cm^2



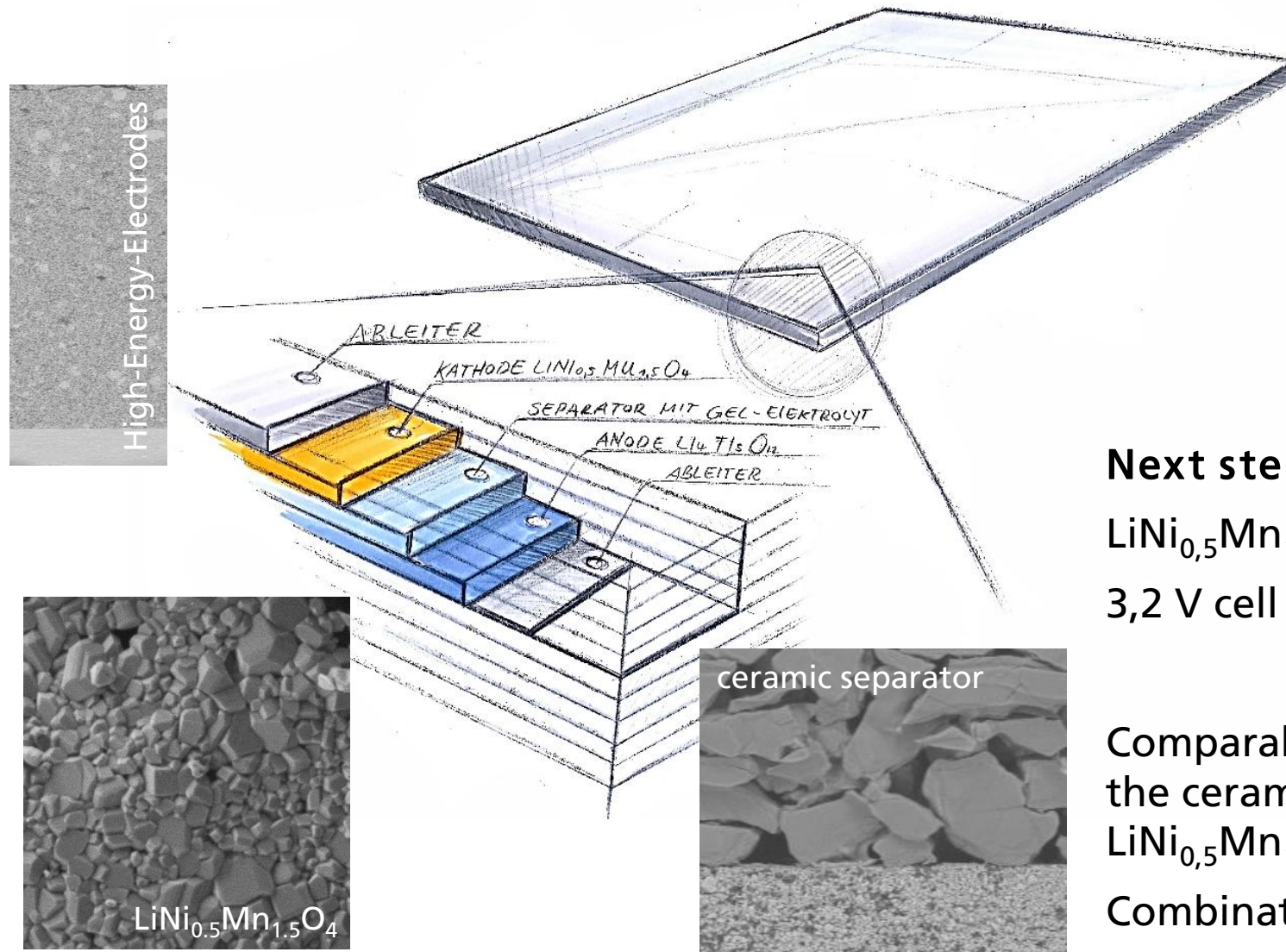
- Stack of electrodes in series
 - Large electrode areas
 - Integration of cell stack in one housing
 - Reduced contacting effort, extremely reduced internal resistance
 - Elimination of module boundaries
- 450 Wh/l on system level



- Development of bipolar electrodes
- Design of electrodes (balancing, capacity, performance)
- Investigation of manufacturing processes



- strictly confidential -



Next steps:

$\text{LiNi}_{0,5}\text{Mn}_{1,5}\text{O}_4$ / $\text{Li}_4\text{Ti}_5\text{O}_{12}$ active material
3,2 V cell voltage

Comparable processing properties of
the ceramic electrode materials
 $\text{LiNi}_{0,5}\text{Mn}_{1,5}\text{O}_4$ and $\text{Li}_4\text{Ti}_5\text{O}_{12}$
Combination with solid electrolyte

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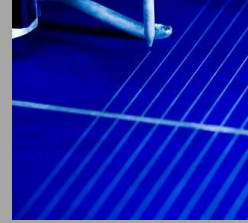
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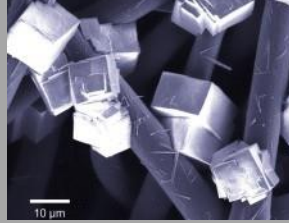
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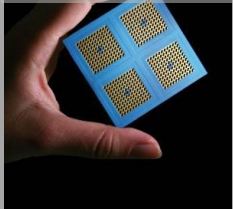
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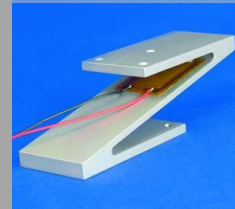
Gas purification



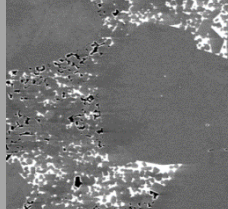
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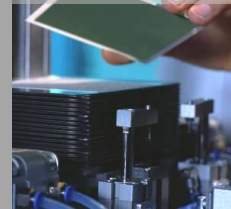
Energy harvesting (piezo ceramic)



Thermoelectric materials



High temperature fuel cells



All solid state batteries



High-Temperature-Sodium/Nickel-Chloride-Batteries

Applications:

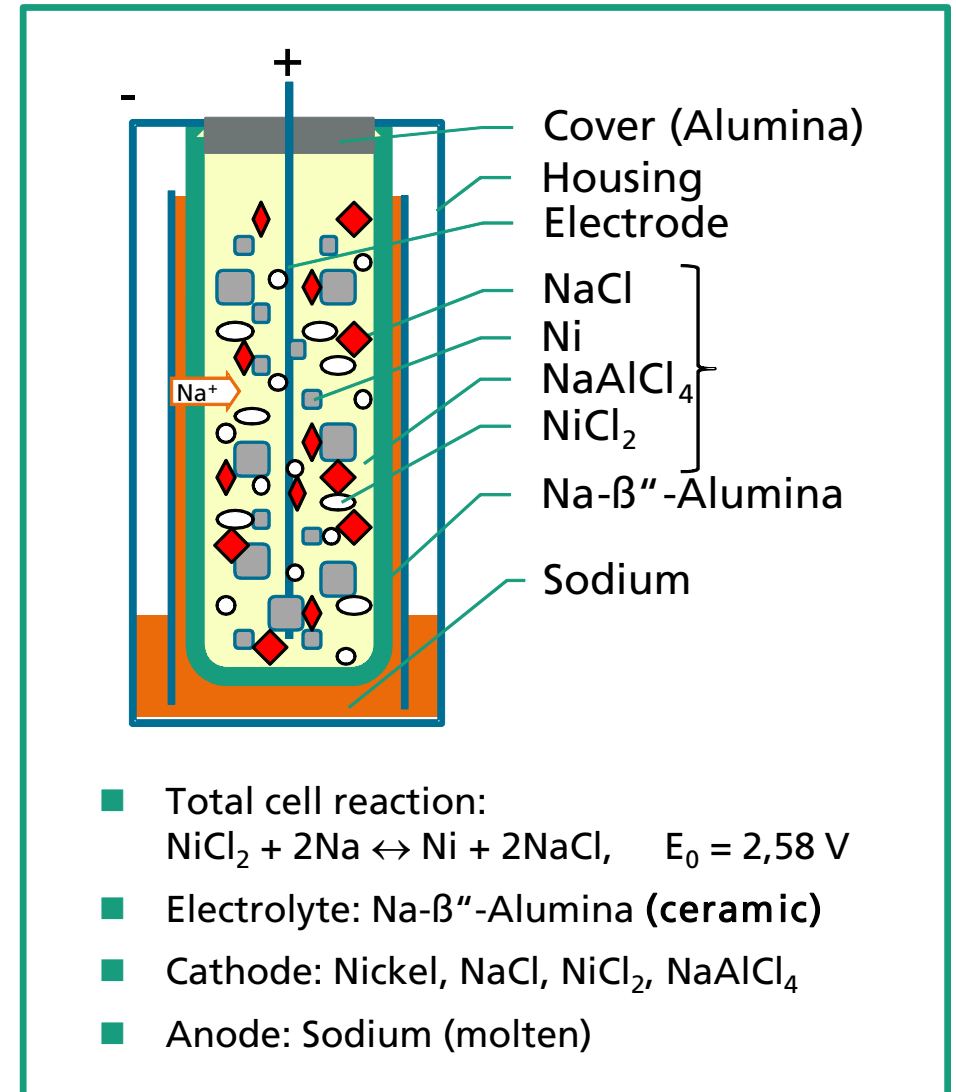
- Large stationary power systems

Advantages

- Cheap ceramic battery technology
- Cost target < 100€/kWh

Development topics

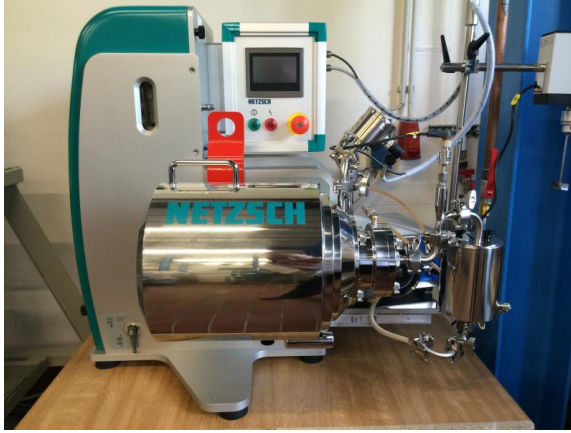
- High throughput ceramic mass production
- High quality ceramic components



Na- β -Alumina – Electrolyte



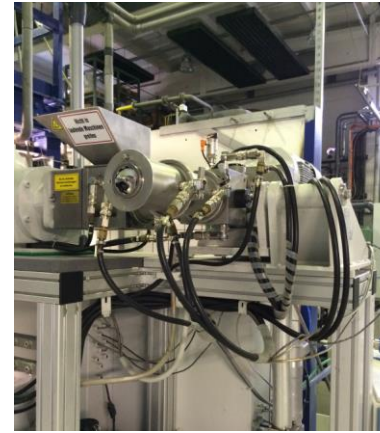
Raw materials



Milling /
Homogenization



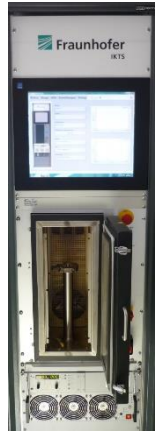
Calcination (1300°C)



Shaping
(Extrusion)



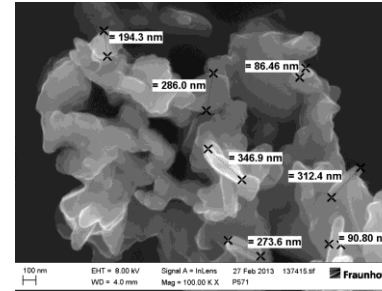
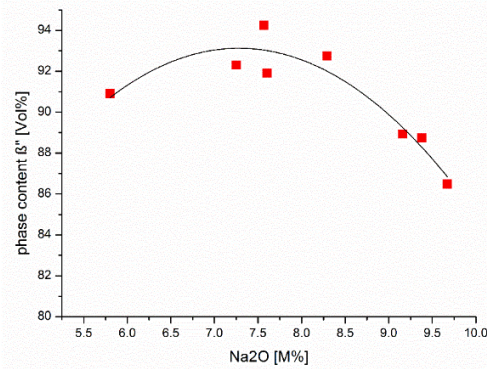
Sintering (1600°C)



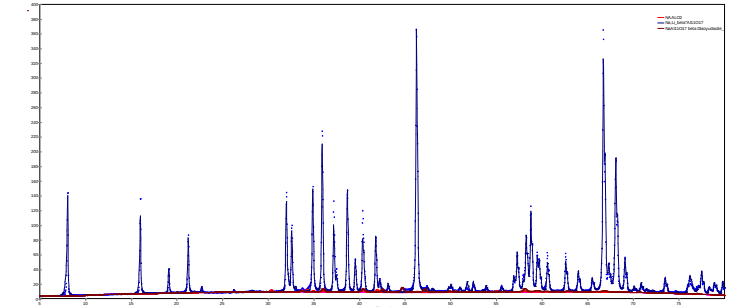
Targets

- density > 98 %
- strength > 200 MPa
- β'' content > 92 %
- $\sigma = 0,22 \text{ S/cm @ } 300^\circ\text{C}$

Na-β-Alumina – Electrolyte



Calcinated Li stabilized β''-Alumina



Rietveld Analysis of IKTS β-Alumina after Sintering

Raw materials
(Boehmite, Na_2CO_3 ,
 MgCO_3 , Li_2CO_3)

Milling /
Homogenization

Calcination (1300°C)

Shaping
(Extrusion)

Sintering (1600°C)

Preferred starting
material: Al_2O_3 or
 $\text{AlO}(\text{OH})/\gamma\text{-AlOOH}$
(Boehmite)

Phase formation
 $\beta''(\beta)\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$

Targets

- density > 98 %
- strength > 200 MPa
- β'' content > 92 %
- $\sigma = 0,22 \text{ S/cm @ } 300^\circ\text{C}$

Upscaling of Na- β -alumina batches

Laboratory synthesis

- Stoichiometry and resource variation
- Batches 1-2 kg
- Characterization, evaluation

20 kg batch synthesis (mixture of organic and aqueous material)
Experiments for resource adjustment to reach 100% aqueous
synthesis routes



Pilot plant synthesis

- Feasibility for upscaling by scalable aggregates
- Batches 5-20 kg
- Batches > 100 kg possible

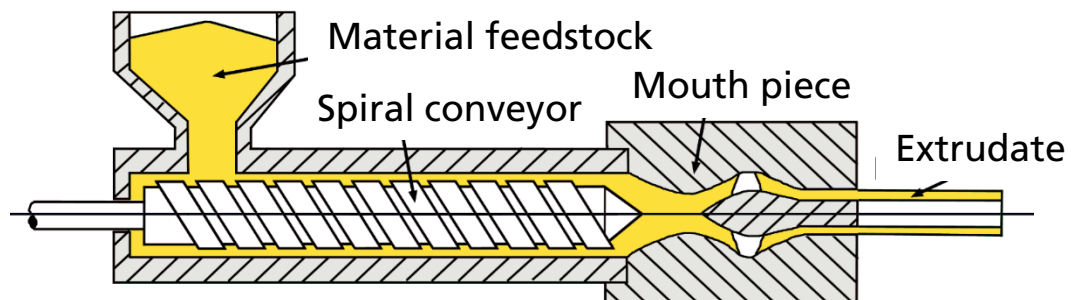


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New cost efficient production processes: extrusion of Na- β -alumina

Why extrusion?

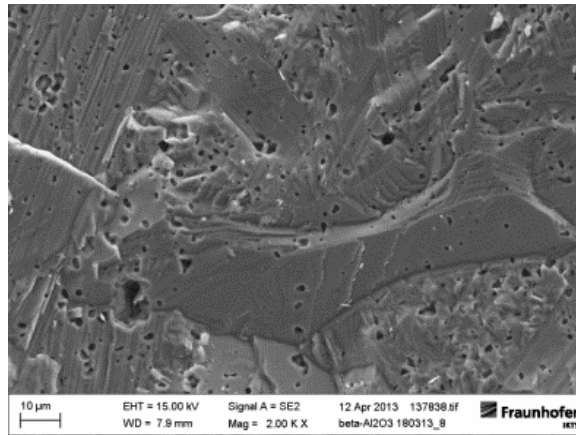
- High production rate
- Continuous process
- Tilting base (plug of a tube)
- Thinner wall thicknesses possible



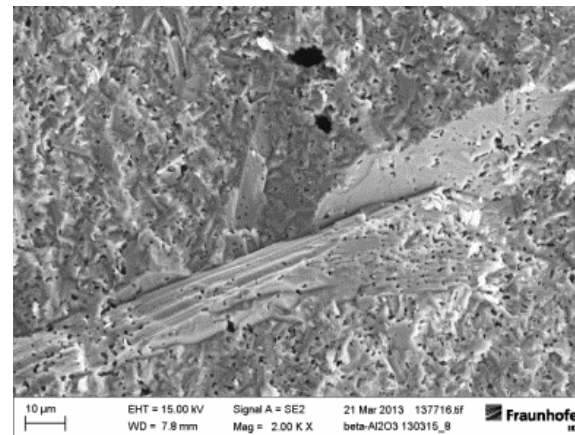
Cost reduction around > 5

Sintering of β -Alumina

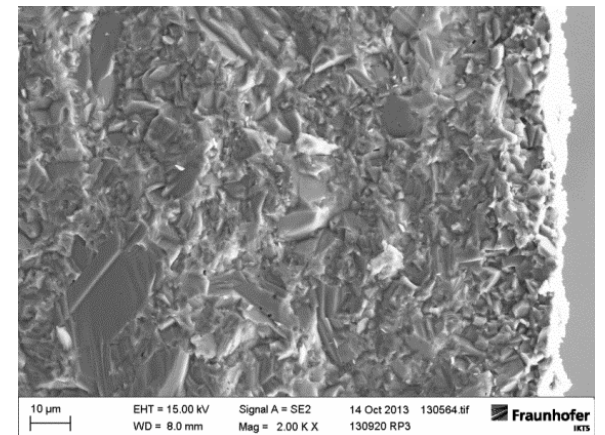
- Na_2O sublimation starting at $T > 1200^\circ\text{C}$
 - Furnace contamination (destruction of heaters)
 - Na deficit in β -Alumina: $\downarrow$ phase %, $\downarrow \rho$, $\downarrow \sigma$
- Na stable, gas tight kiln furniture (capsules) 1650°C
- Optimized temperature regime



Largely giant crystallites



Giant crystallites / crystalline base structure (duplex structure)



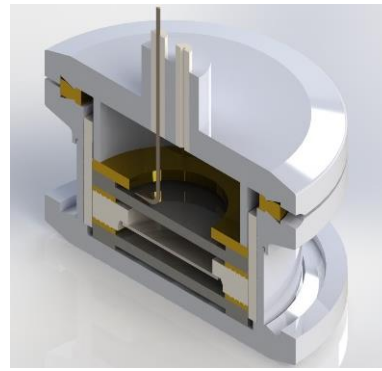
Small, uniform crystallites

Battery Development

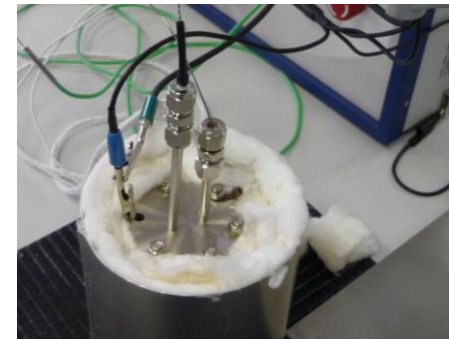
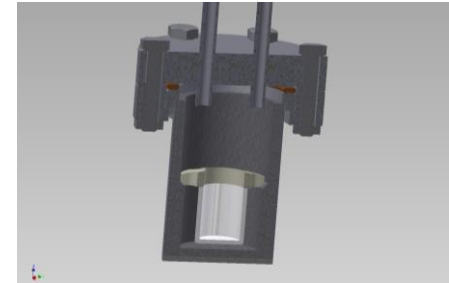
Different designs:

- <0.3 Ah flat cell for characterizing
- Cup cell (cathode testing, Na/Na tests, functionalized layers of anode)
- 5 Ah tubular cell for design control
- 40 Ah tubular cell „commercial“ design

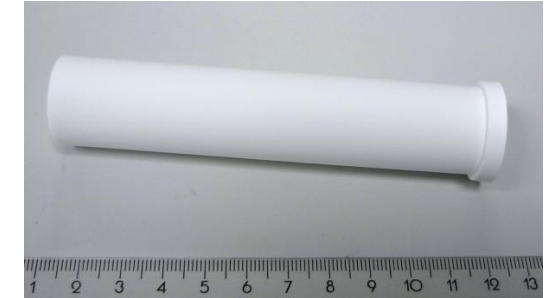
Planar cell



Cup cell



Laboratory cell



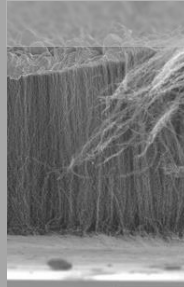
- strictly confidential -

Future Trends

High temperature batteries



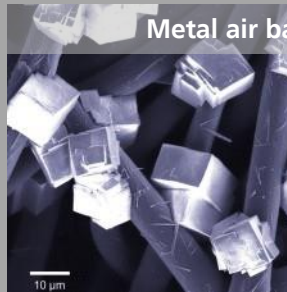
Supercaps



Lithium batteries



Metal air batteries



- Alternative battery chemistries
- Improved lifetime
- Increase in safety

- Cost reduction
→ materials and processes
- Increase in energy density

All solid state batteries



Thank you for your attention!



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