

Novel concept to extract salinity energy using capacitive layers

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Outline

- **BACKGROUND ON THE BLUE ENERGY:**
Context & extraction approaches.
- **AIM OF MY THESIS:**
Increasing the Power density.
- **MATERIALS & METHODS:**
The cell and the electrochemical analysis.
- **RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS:**
The characterization and Modeling
The energy production and Modeling.
- **CONCLUSION & OUTLOOKS:**
The importance of the capacitive layers.



BACKGROUND

on the blue energy

Energy context



Solar

Credit: google



Hydro

Credit: google



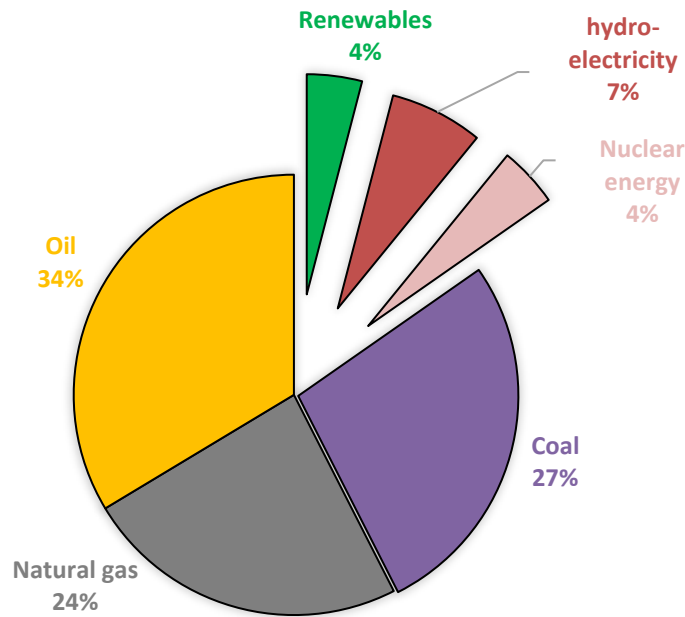
Wind

Credit: google



Nuclear

Credit: google



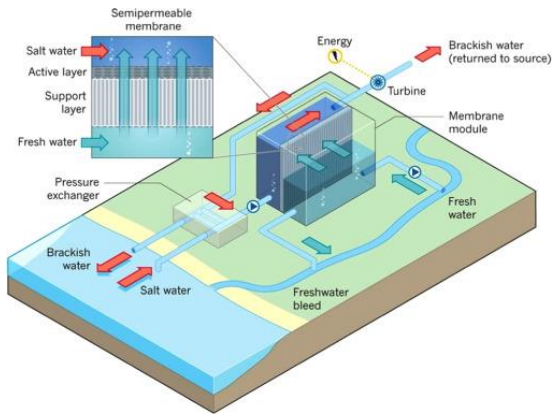
WORD ENERGY CONSUMPTION

BP 2018

Blue Energy



A.Siria et al. (Nat Rev Chem 2017)



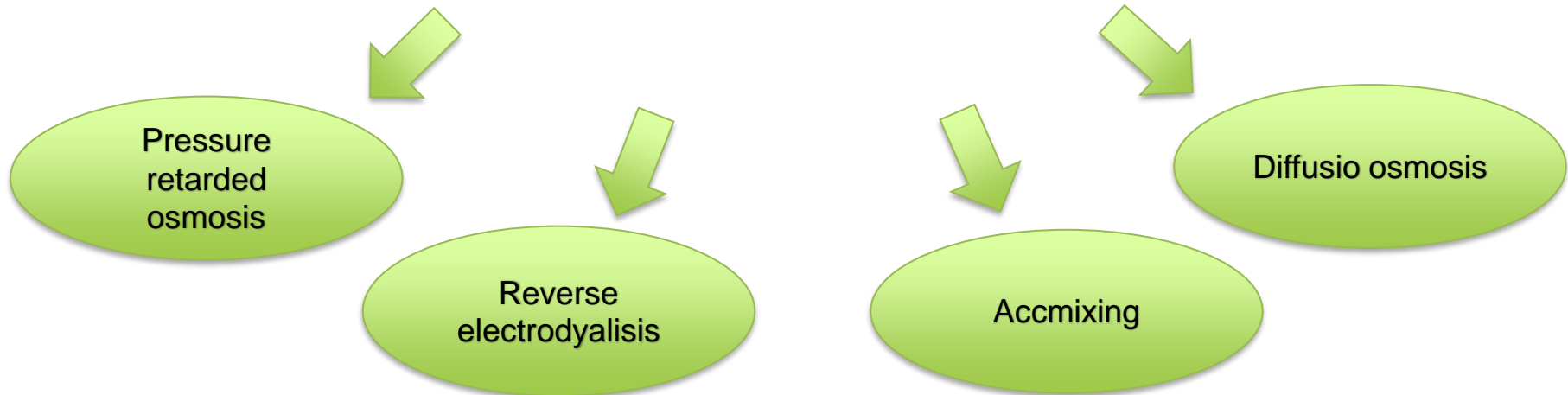
$$\Delta G_{mix} = G_{mix} - (G_L + G_H)$$

Credit: google

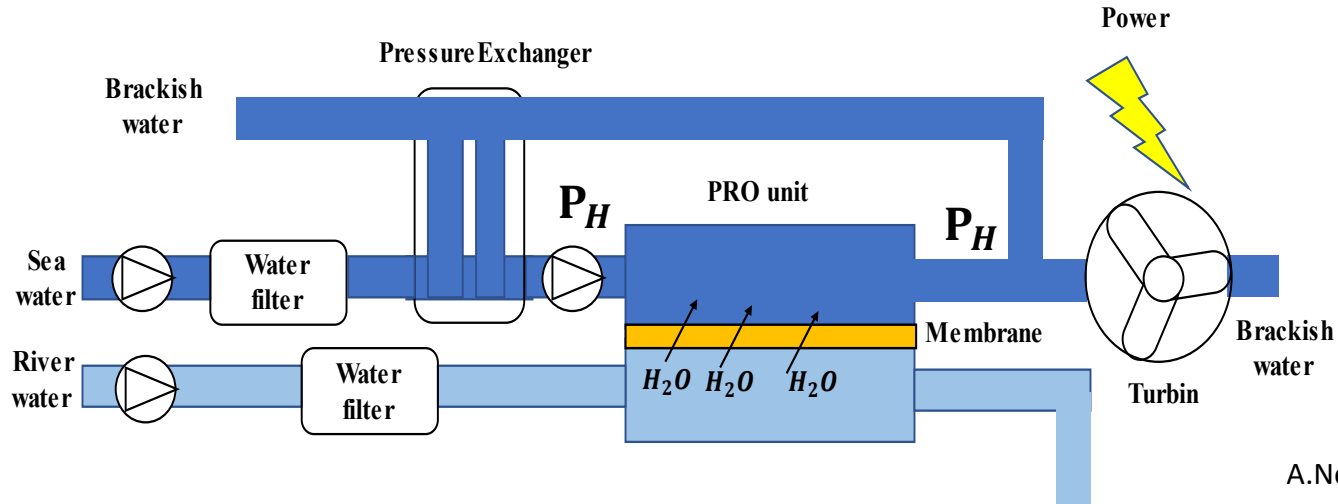


Amazon river

➤ The total dissipated Power ≈ 2.4 TW (J N Weinstein et al. science 1976)



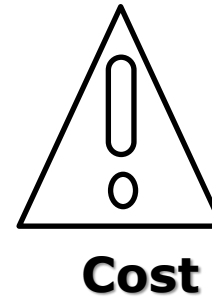
Pressure retarded osmosis



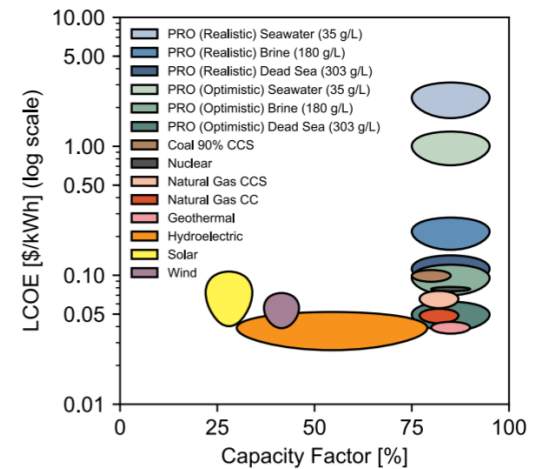
Van't Hoff

$$\Delta\pi = i(C_H - C_L)RT$$

$$P_{gross} = (\Delta V + V_H)\Delta P \quad \text{with } \Delta P = P_H$$



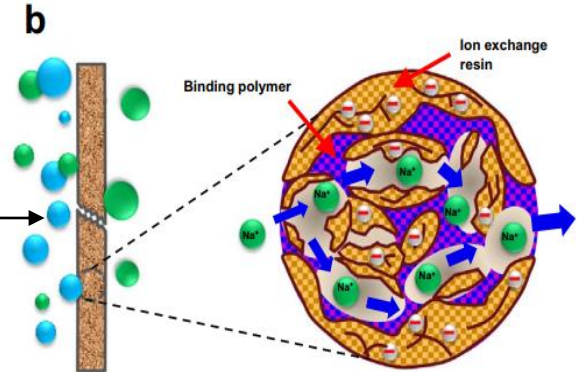
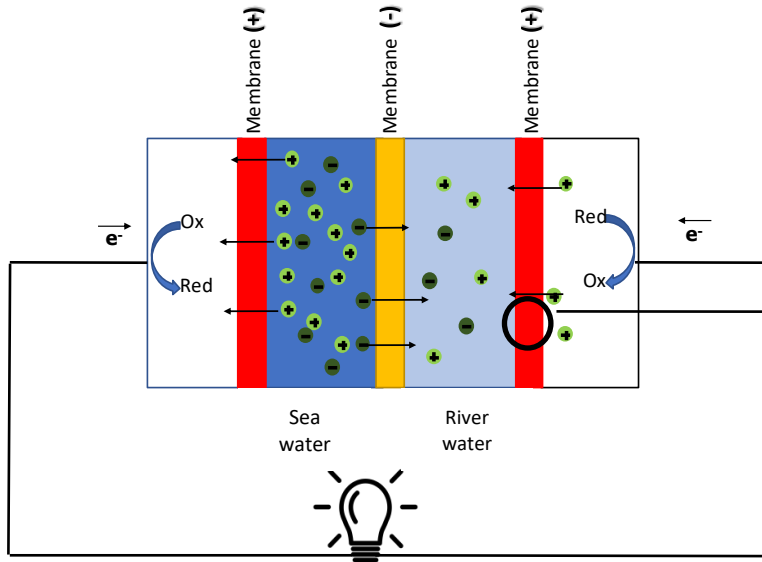
A. Newby et al. (acsestengg 2021)



Reverse Electrodialysis



Y. Mei et al (J. desal. 2017)



Donnan Potential



$$P = \frac{E_{emf}^2 R_{Load}}{(R_{Cell} + R_{Load})^2}$$



Internal resistance

$$E_{emf} = \frac{\alpha RT}{zF} \log\left(\frac{a_H}{a_L}\right)$$

$$R_{Cell} = R_{ohm} + R_{\Delta C} + R_{BL}$$

$$R_{ohm} = R_{CH} + R_{CL} + R_{MEM}$$

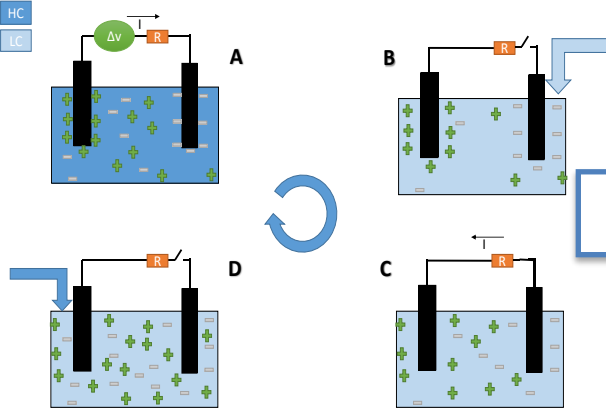


$$P = \frac{E_{emf}^2}{4R_{Cell}}$$

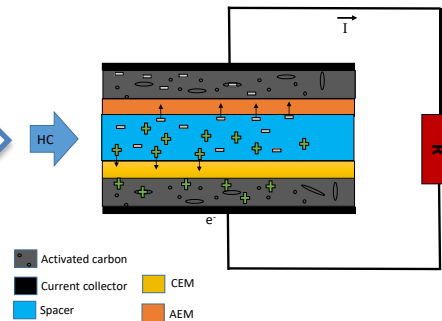
Accumulating mixing

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P_{gross} = \oint E(q) dq \\ C_L < C_H \quad E = \frac{q}{C} \end{array} \right.$$

CAPMIXING

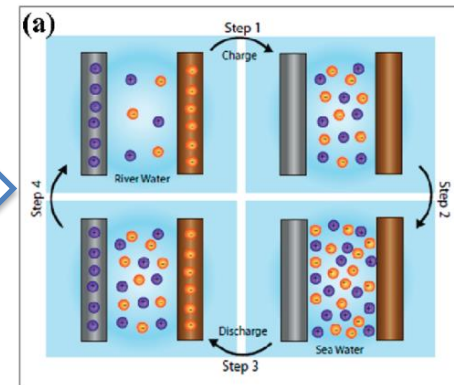


CAPACITIVE DONNAN POTENTIAL



BATTERY ENTROPY MIXING

La Mantia et al. (NanoLett 2011)



- External charge
- capacitive electrodes

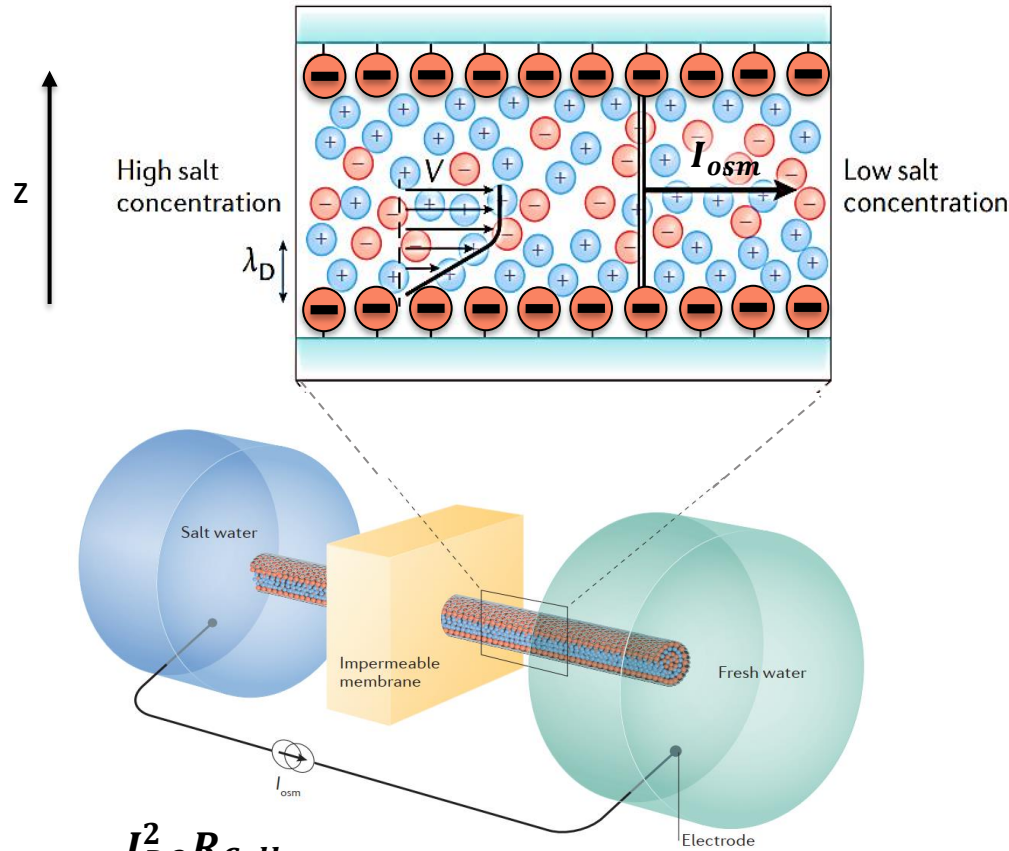
- Donnan charge
- capacitive electrodes

- Pseudo capacitive electrodes

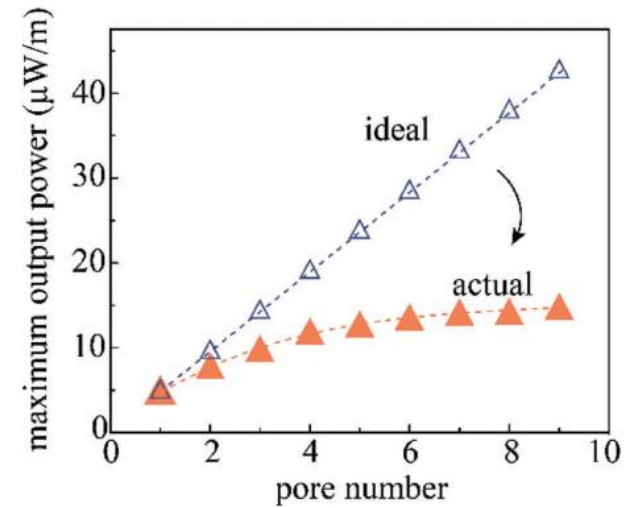
Diffusio Osmosis



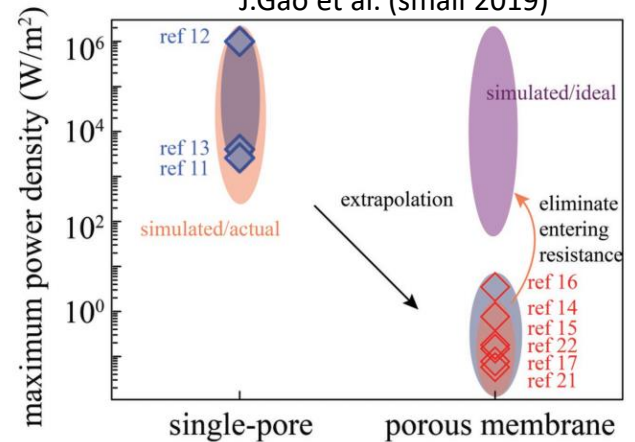
A.Siria et al. (Nature 2013)



J.Gao et al. (small 2019)



J.Gao et al. (small 2019)



$$P = \frac{I_{DO}^2 R_{cell}}{4}$$

$$I_{DO} = 2\pi r \sigma V_{DO}$$



AIM OF MY THESIS

How to extract more energy



?

$$P_{max} = \frac{E_{emf}^2}{4R_{cell}}$$



Centimeter-scale membrane

No chemicals (low cost/safe)

No external Charge



Diffusio osmosis



RED

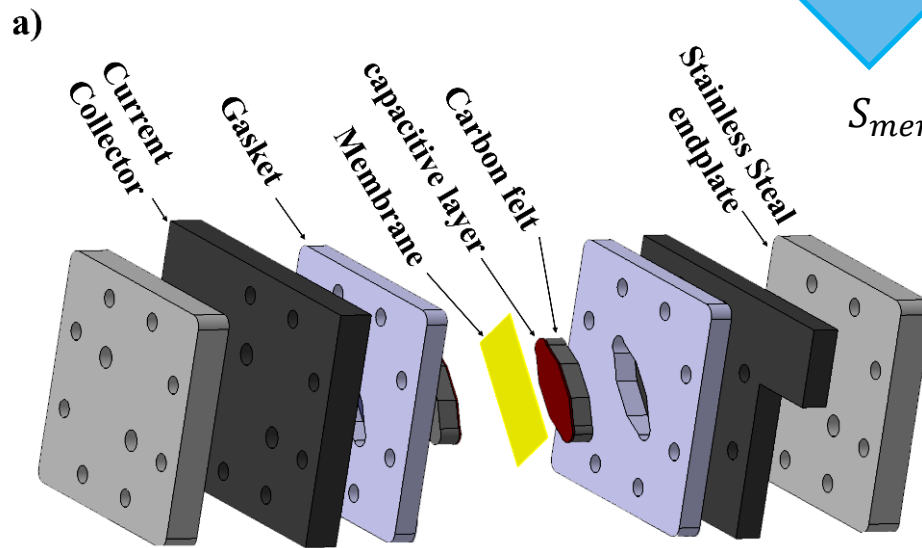
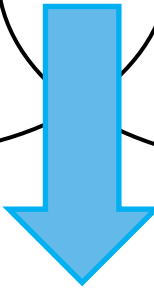
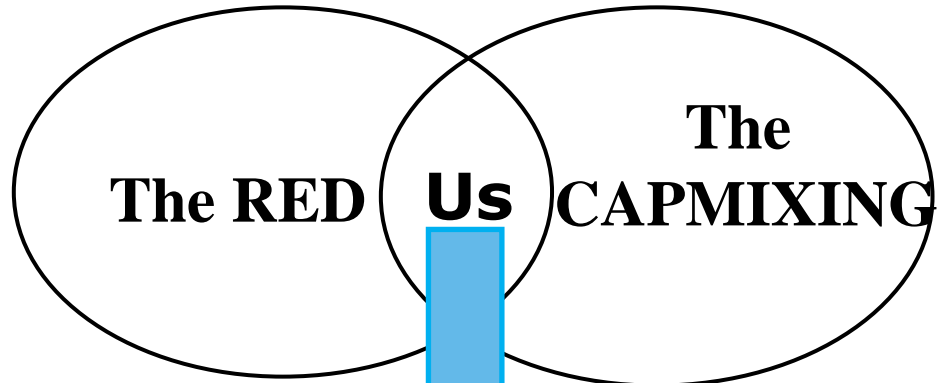


Capmixing

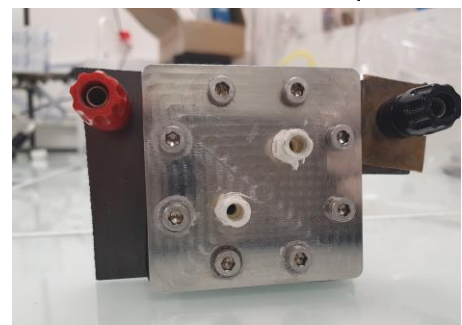
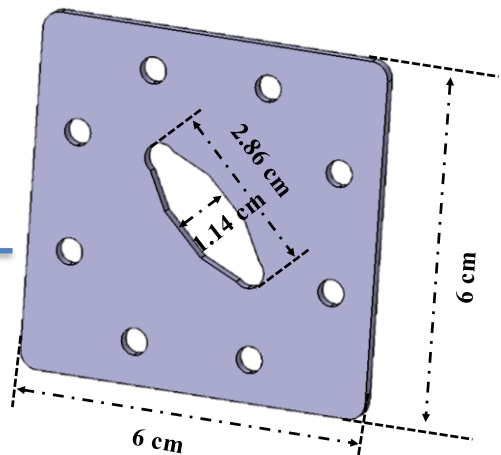


MATERIALS & METHODS

The Cell



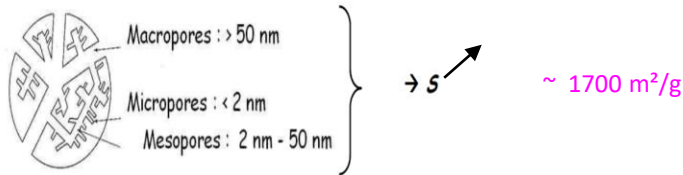
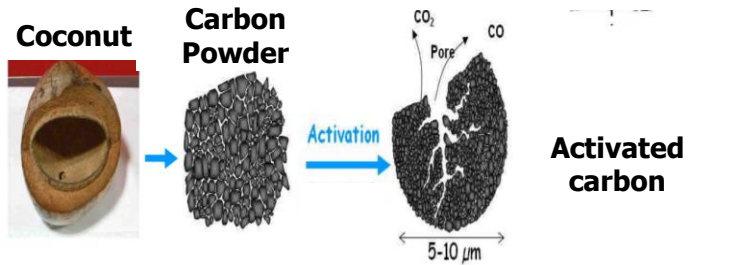
$$S_{\text{membrane}} (\text{Nafion 211}) = 2,24 \text{ cm}^2$$



Capacitive layers

AC

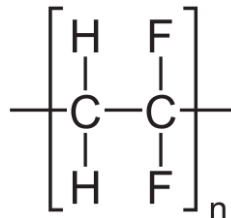
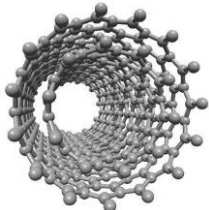
Adapted from P.SIMON (2014)



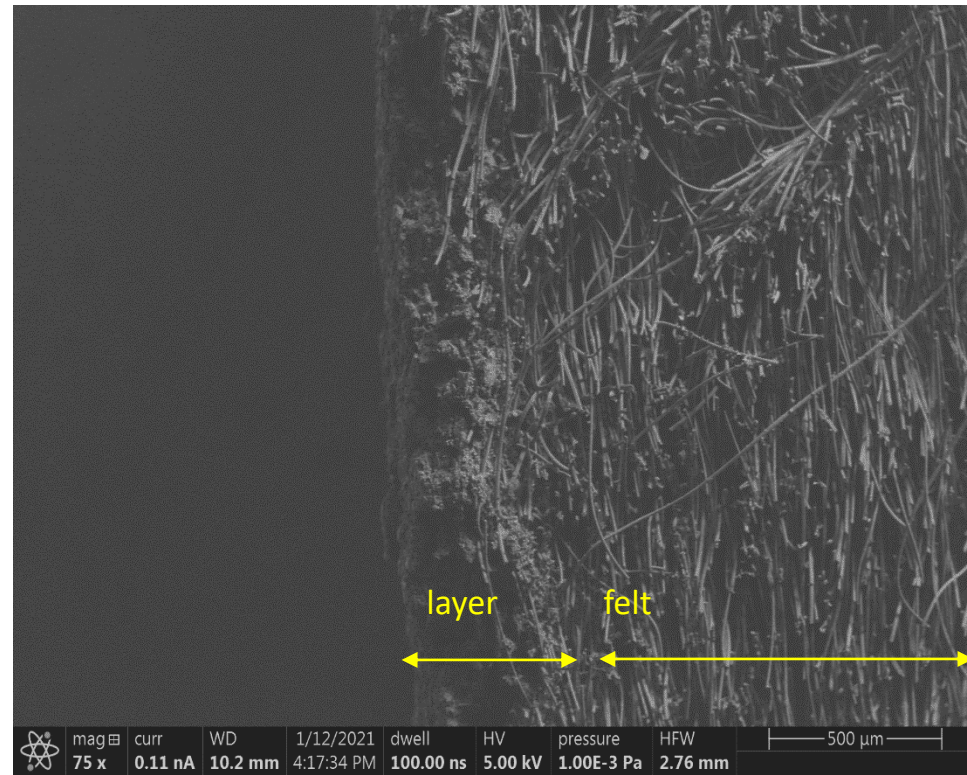
MWCNT



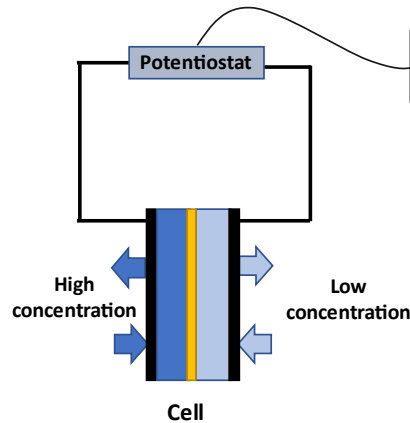
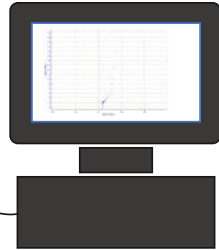
PVDF



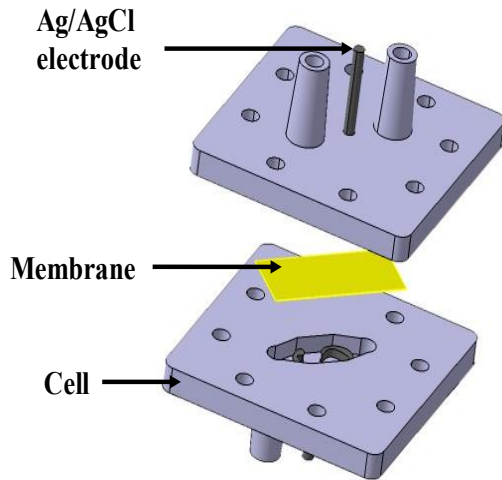
Credit : google



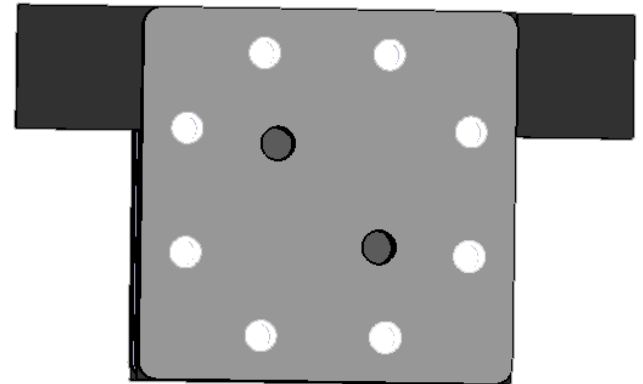
The Cell Potential



Membrane potential



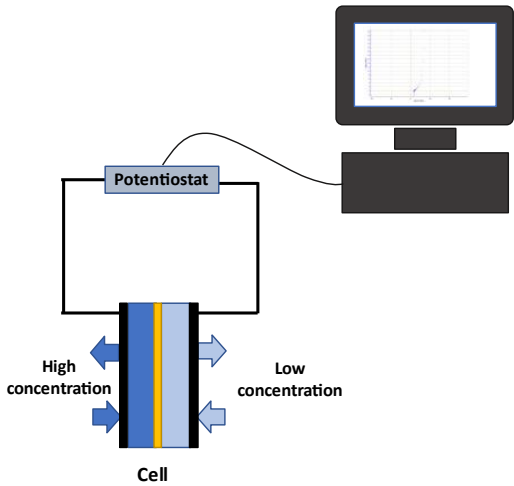
Cell potential



$$E_m = E_{ddp2} - E_{Ag/AgCl}$$

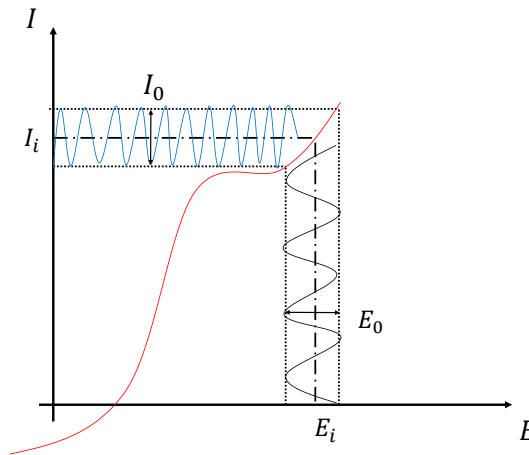
$$E_{ddp1} = 2 E_{OCV}$$

The EIS



Hardware

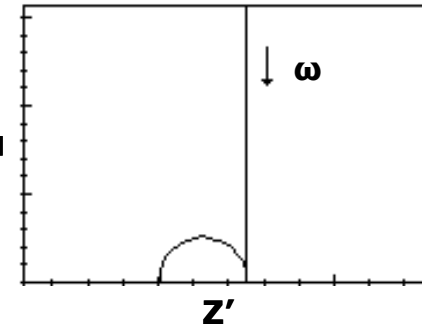
$$E = E_0 \sin(\omega t)$$



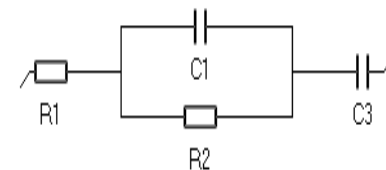
Software

$$Z(\omega) = \frac{E_0 \sin(\omega t)}{I_0 \sin(\omega t + \varphi)}$$

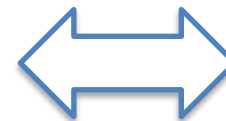
$$Z(\omega) = Z'(\omega) + j Z''(\omega)$$



Nyquist diagram



Equivalent circuit

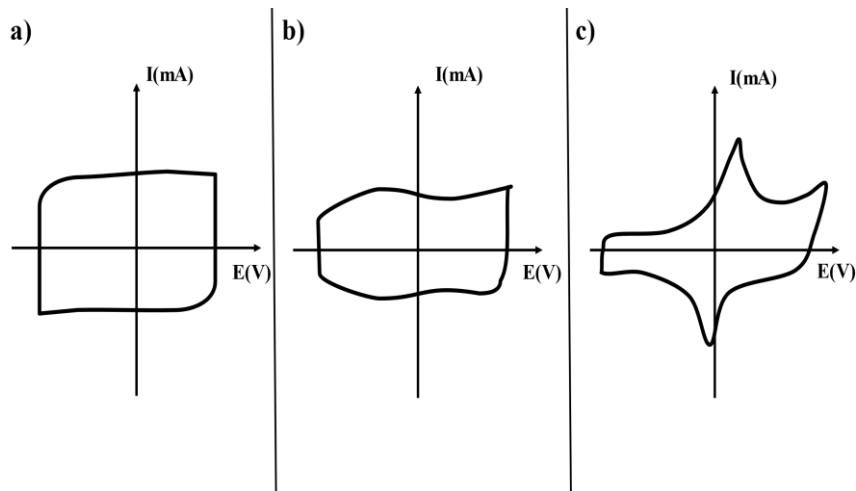


Electrochemical

Direct current



Cyclic voltammetry

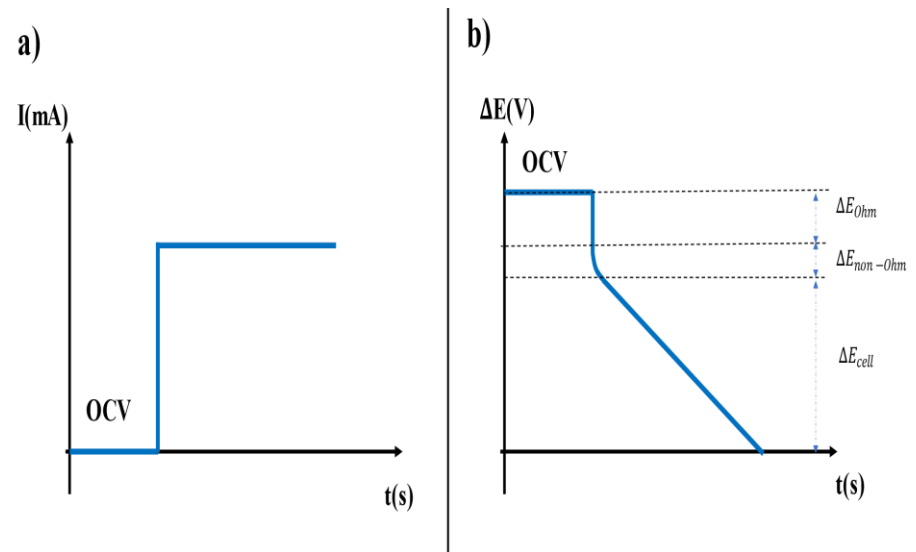


- The nature of the Electrodes

$$C = \frac{I}{v} = \frac{I}{\Delta E} dt$$

$$C = \frac{Q}{\Delta E}$$

chronopotentiometry



$$C = \frac{I \Delta t}{\Delta E_{cell}}$$

$$\Delta E = I \cdot R$$



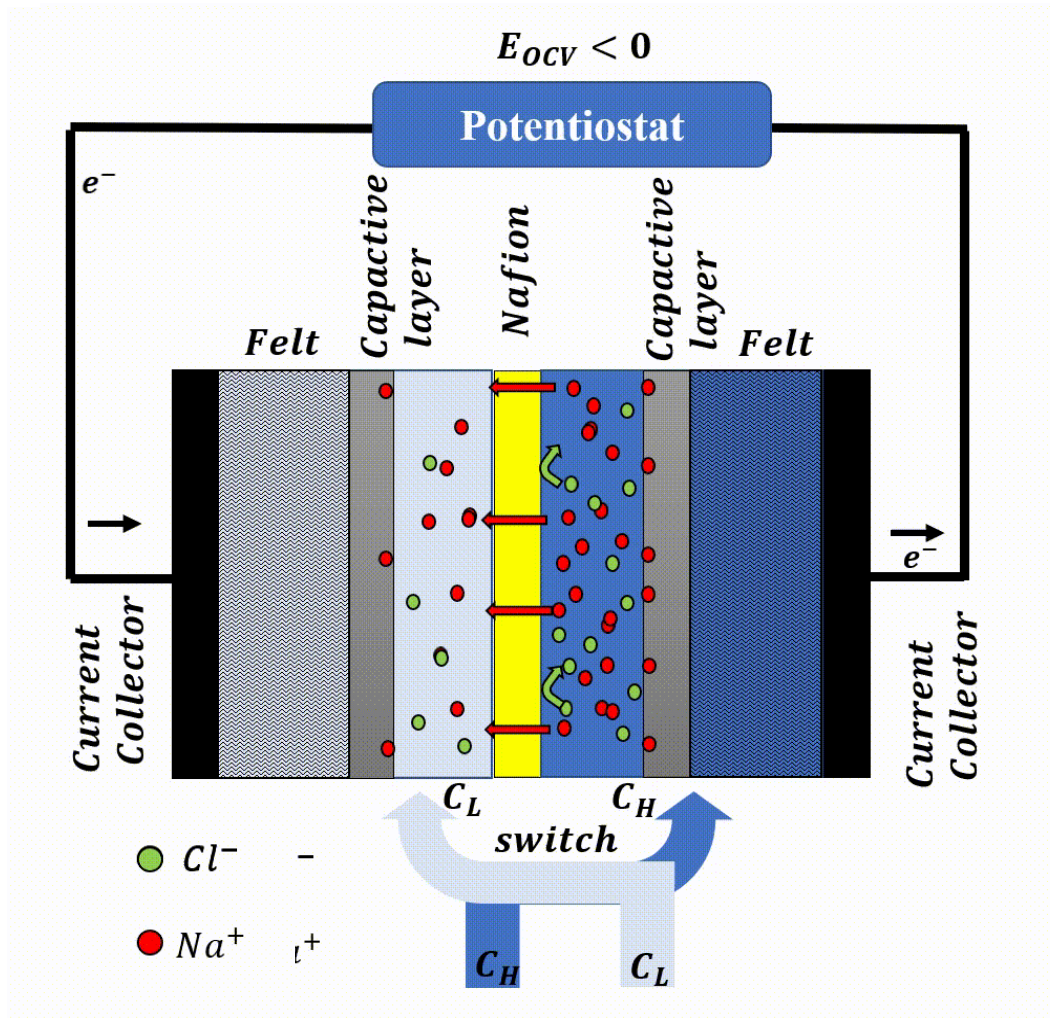
RESULTS & DISCUSSION



CHARACTERIZATION OF THE CELL



Voltage measurement



EDL formation
(Capacitor)
($t(\infty)$)

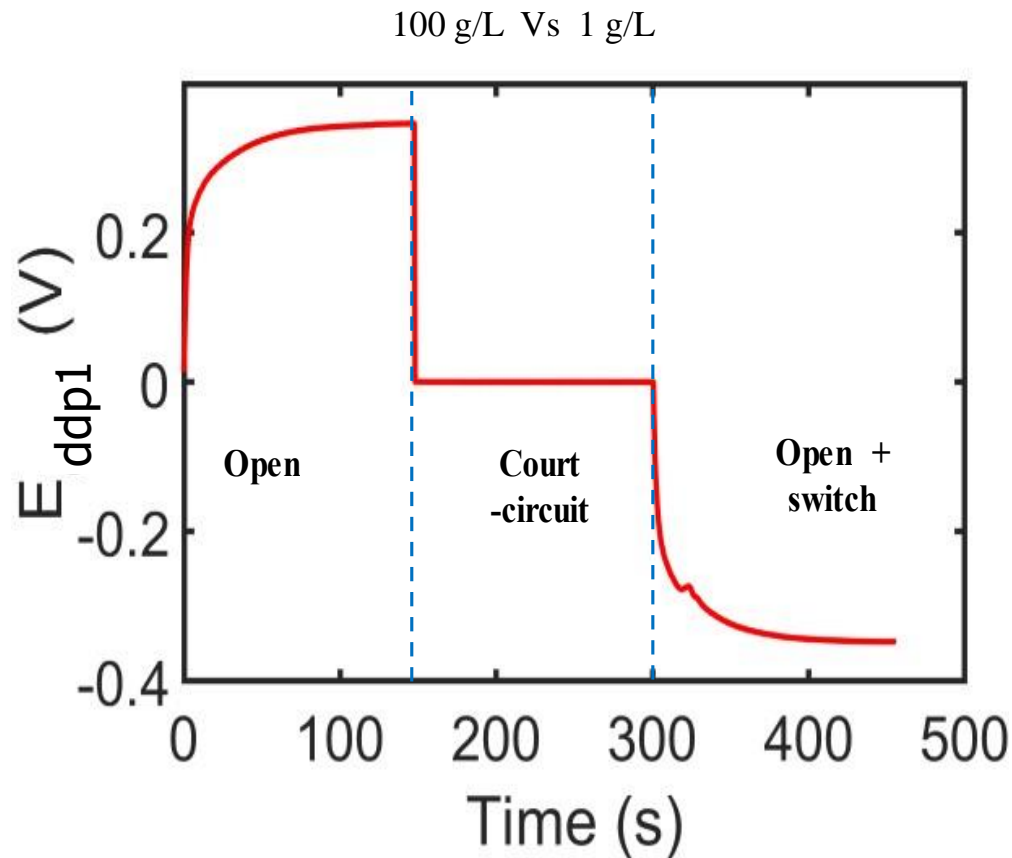


Electrons stop
moving



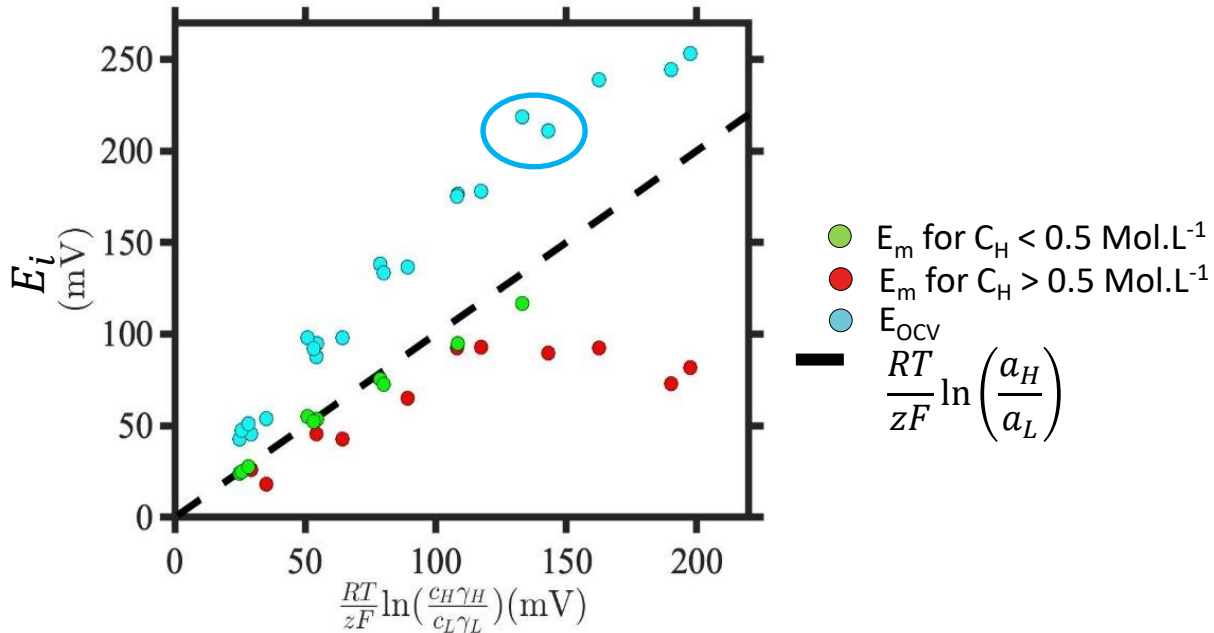
No current

Open circuit Voltage



$$E_{ddp1} = 2 E_{OCV}$$

Concentration effect



$$E_m = E_{ddp2} - E_{Ag/AgCl}$$

with $E_{Ag/AgCl} = -\frac{RT}{F} \ln\left(\frac{a_{Cl^-}}{a_{Cl^-}}\right)$

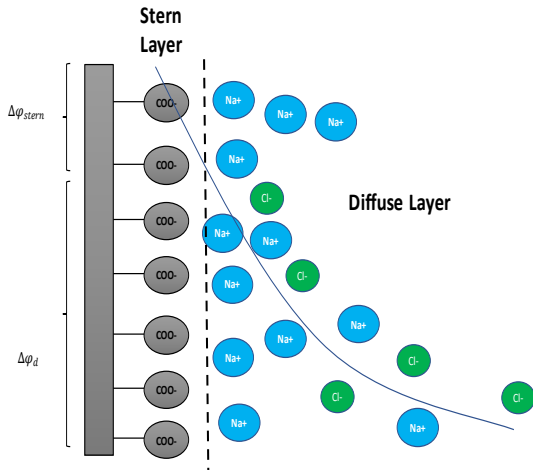
$$\frac{1}{2} E_{ddp1} = E_{ocv} = E_C + E_m$$

with $E_m = \alpha \frac{RT}{zF} \ln\left(\frac{a_L}{a_H}\right)$

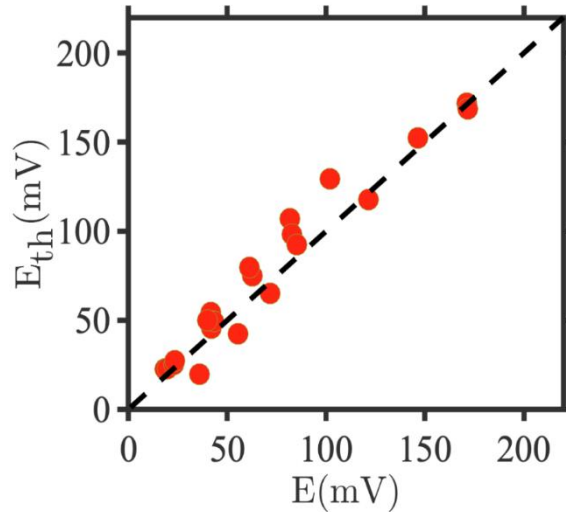
- At high concentration α starts to vanish.
- The open circuit potential is doubled.
- E_C is stable even at high concentrations



The Potential modeling



a) Before



$$\sigma_{St} = -0.12 \text{ C/m}^2$$

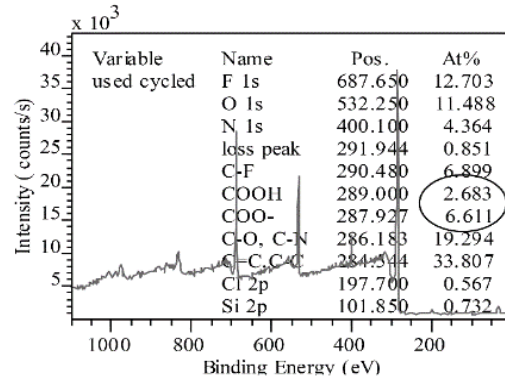
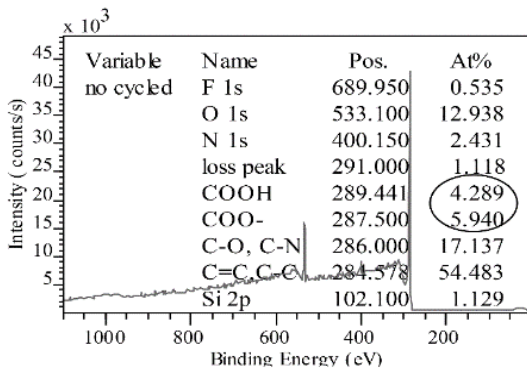
b) After

$$E_{ocv} = E_m + \Delta\phi_{CH} - \Delta\phi_{CL}$$

Gouy Chapman Stern

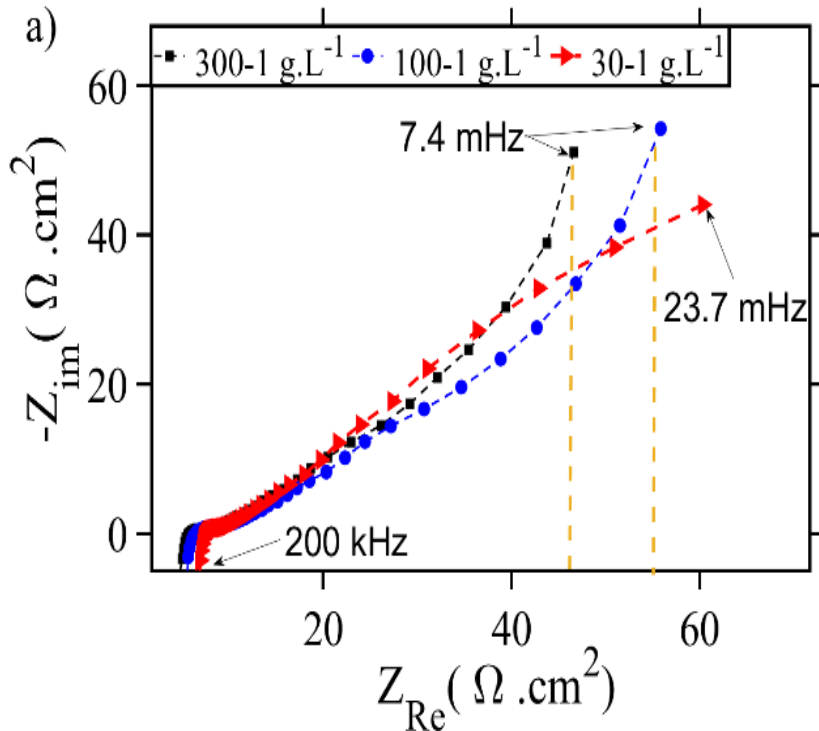
$$\Delta\phi_i = \frac{\sigma_{St}}{C_{St}} + \phi_d - \phi_i$$

➤ **COO⁻** attracts the **Na⁺** Ions creating Nernst behavior.

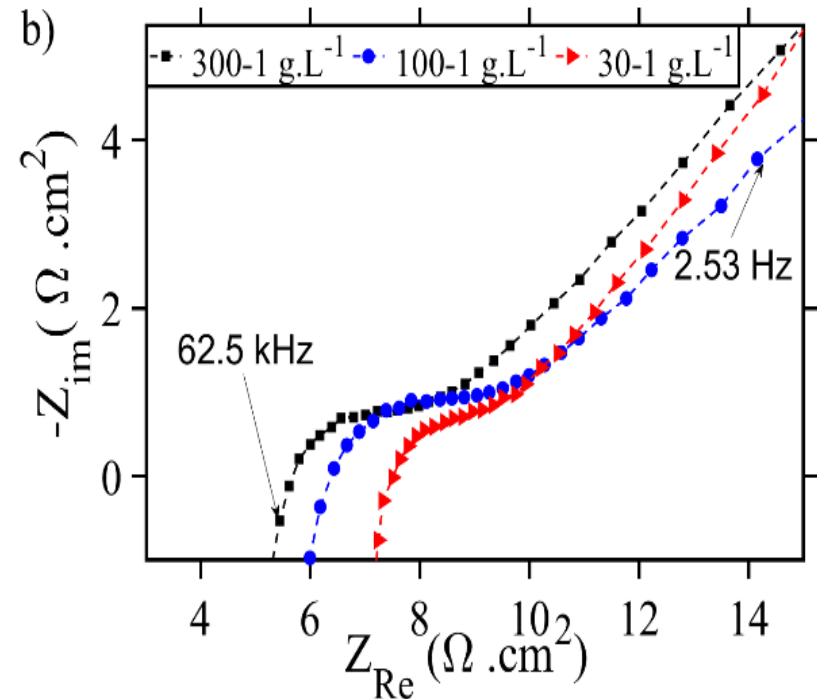


$$E_{ocv} - E_m = \frac{RT}{zF} \ln \left(\frac{C_{CH}}{C_{CL}} \right)$$

The EIS



Midrange & low frequencies



High frequencies

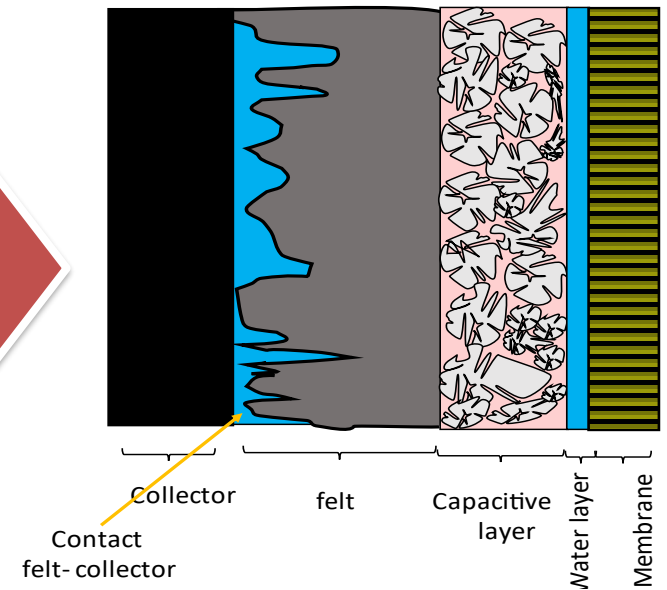
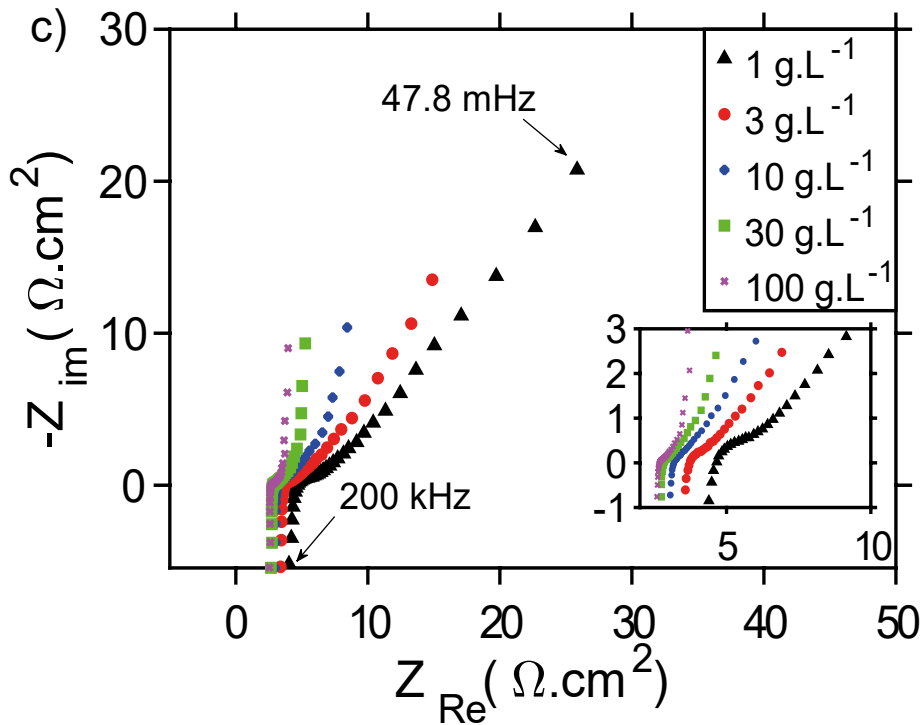
- Ion transport from the bulk electrolyte to the porous electrode
- A dominant capacitive behavior.

- The equivalent series resistance (ESR).
- Charge transfer resistance.

The impedance modeling



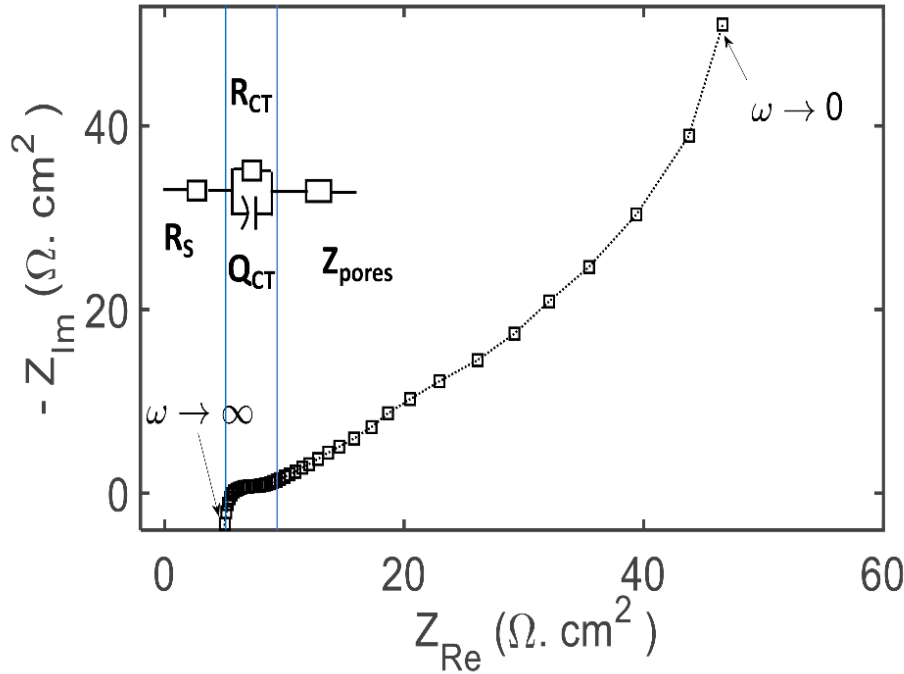
$C_H = 300 \text{ g/L}$ vs



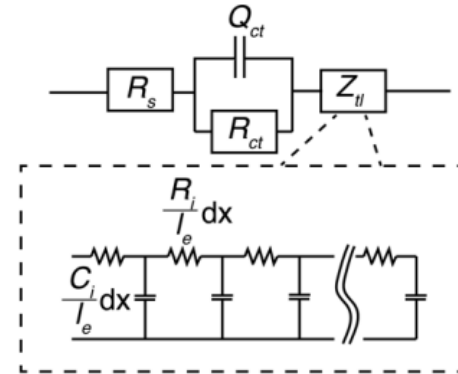
The impedance modeling



100 g/L Vs 1 g/L



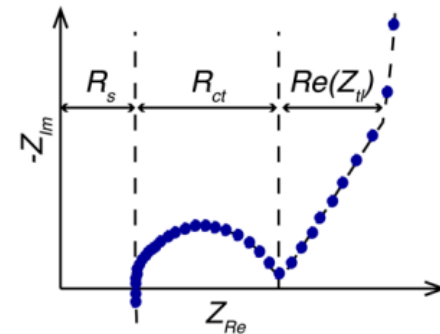
A. Kuo (*Environ. Sci.: Water Res. Technol.*, 2020)
 Yatian Qu, (*Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2015)



$$Z_{Re}^{\omega \rightarrow \infty} = R_s = R_{felt} + R_{collector} + R_{membrane} + R_{ls}$$

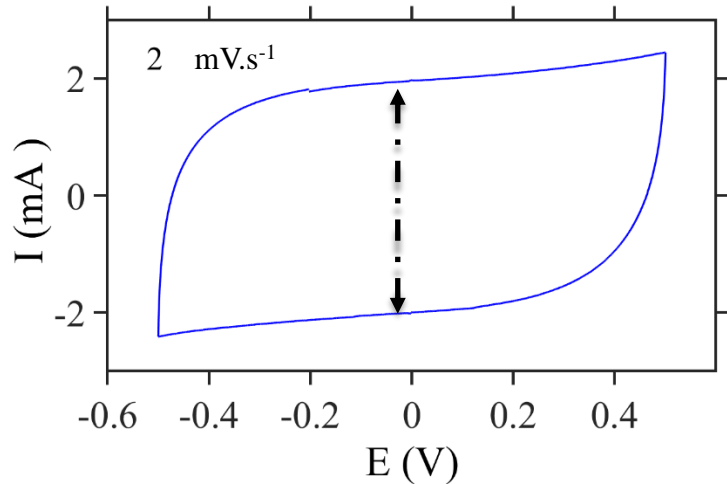
$$Z_{Re}^{\omega \rightarrow 0} = R_s + R_{CT} + \frac{R_{pores}}{3}$$

$$Z_{im}^{\omega \rightarrow 0} = \frac{1}{C\omega}$$



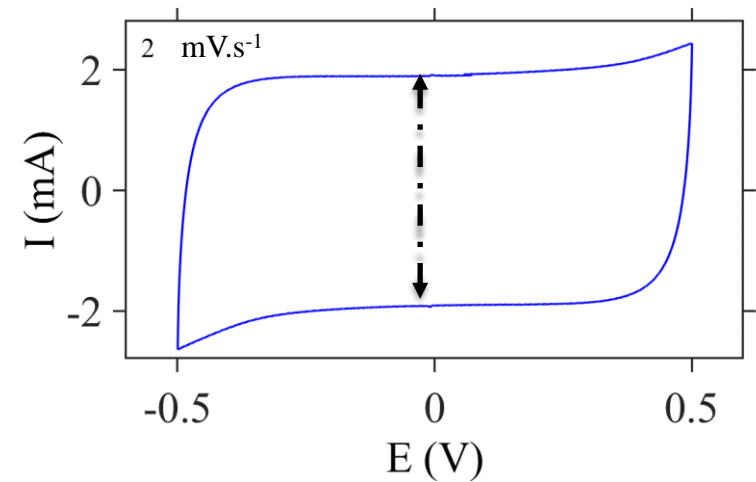
Cyclic voltammetry

100 g/L Vs 1 g/L



$$C = 0,87 \text{ F}$$

300 g/L Vs 1 g/L

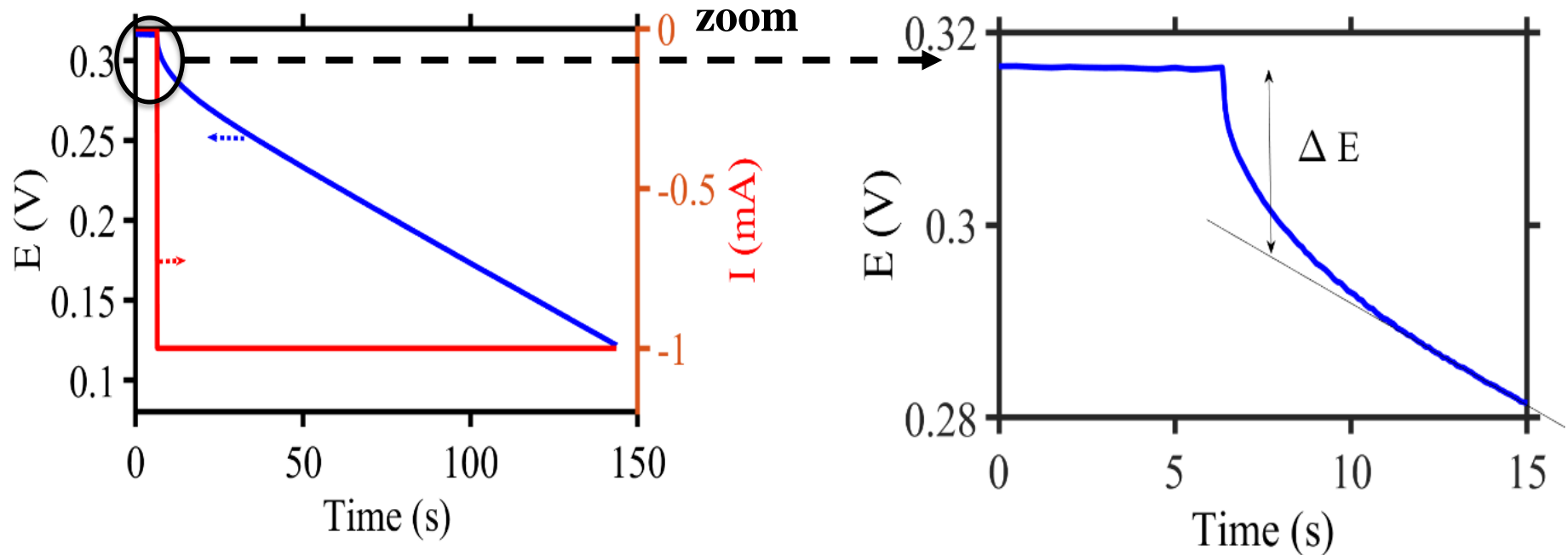


$$C = 0,95 \text{ F}$$

- *Capacitive behavior*
- $C \text{ (F)} \propto c_i \text{ (mol. L}^{-1}\text{)}$

Chronopotentiometry

100 g/L Vs 1 g/L



➤ *Capacitive behavior*

$$C = \frac{I\Delta t}{\Delta E} = 0,84 \text{ F}$$

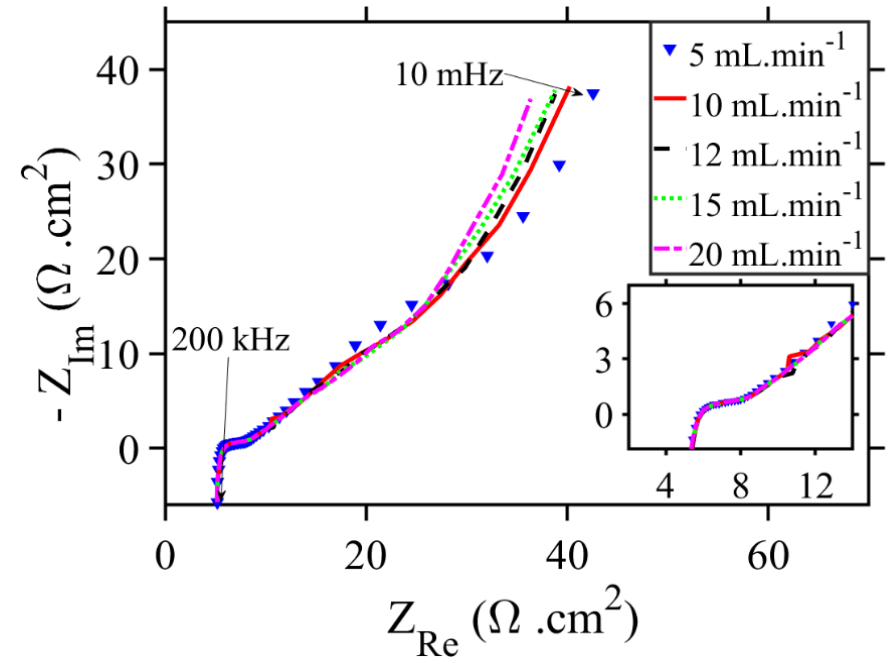
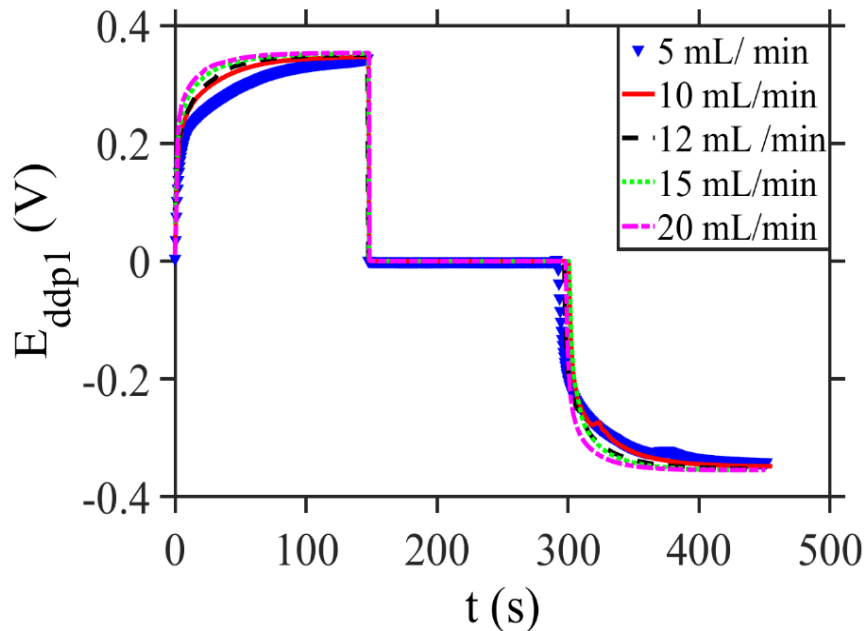
➤ $R \approx Z_{re}^{\omega \rightarrow 0}$

➤ $C \approx Z_{im}^{\omega \rightarrow 0}$

$$R = \frac{\Delta E}{I} = 24 \Omega$$

The flow rate

100 g/L Vs 1 g/L

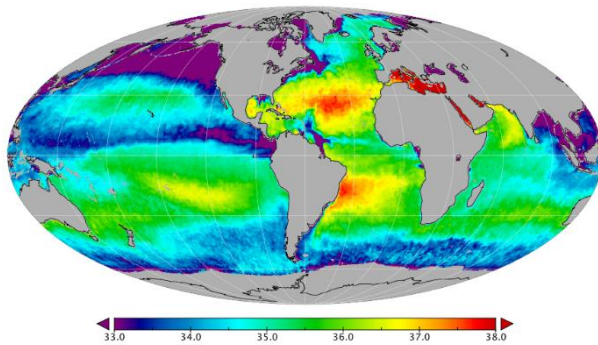


- Time to reach the $E_{OCV}(\infty)$ depends on the flow rate
- The ions transport inside the pores is modified.

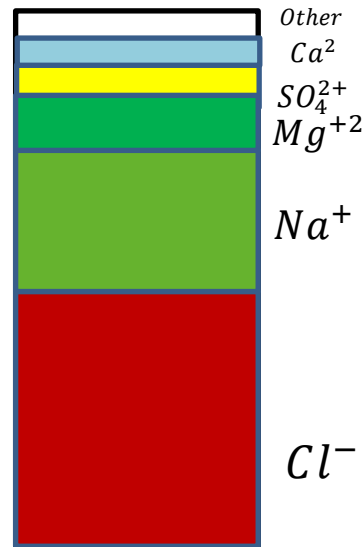
Solutions effect



W. Wurtsbaugh et al. (ngeo 2017)

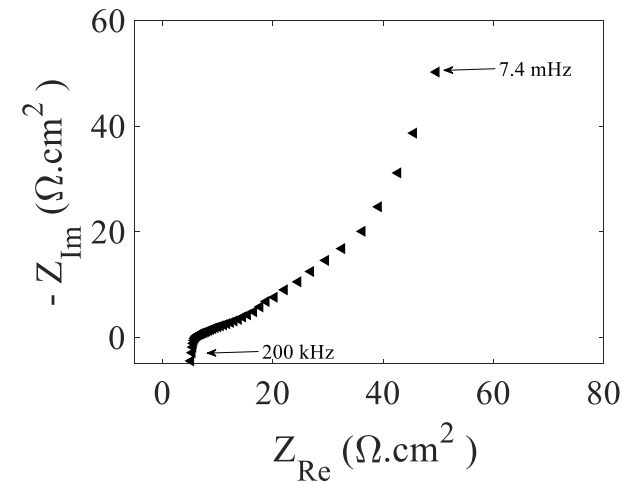
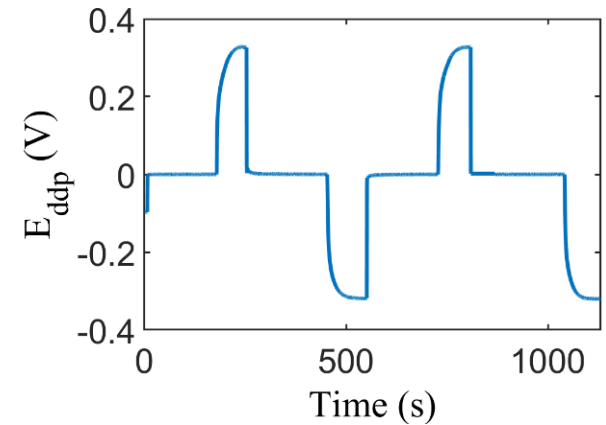


salinity.oceansciences.org



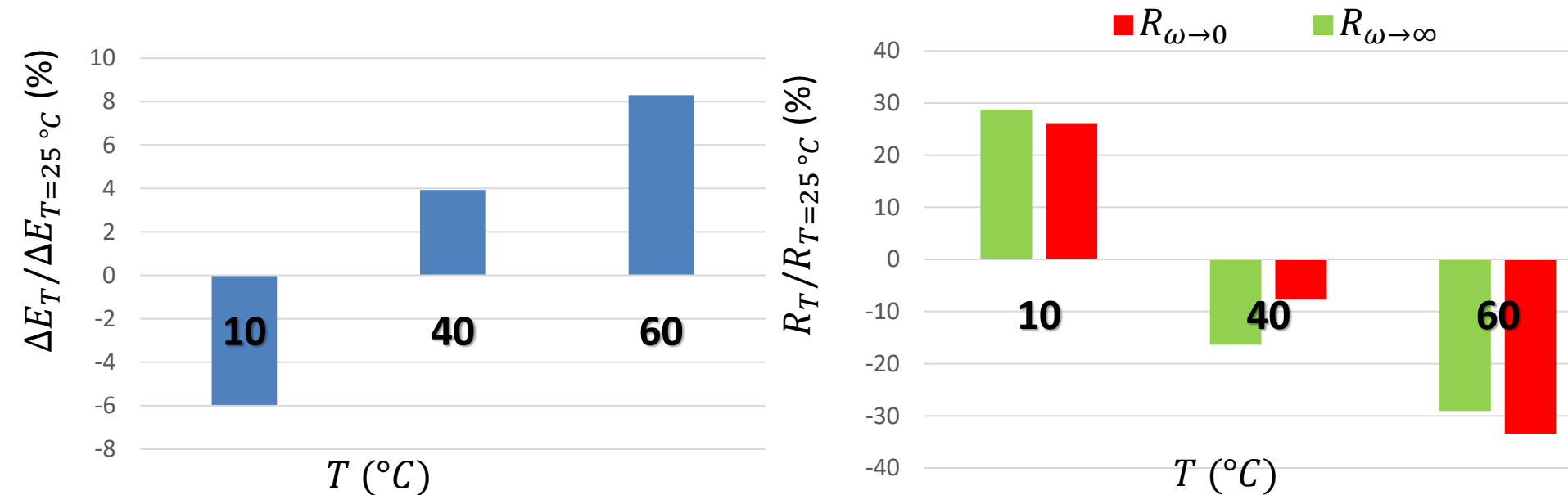
Artificial sea water
100g/L
ASTM D1141-98

$$C_H/C_L = 100$$



Temperature

100 g/L Vs 1 g/L



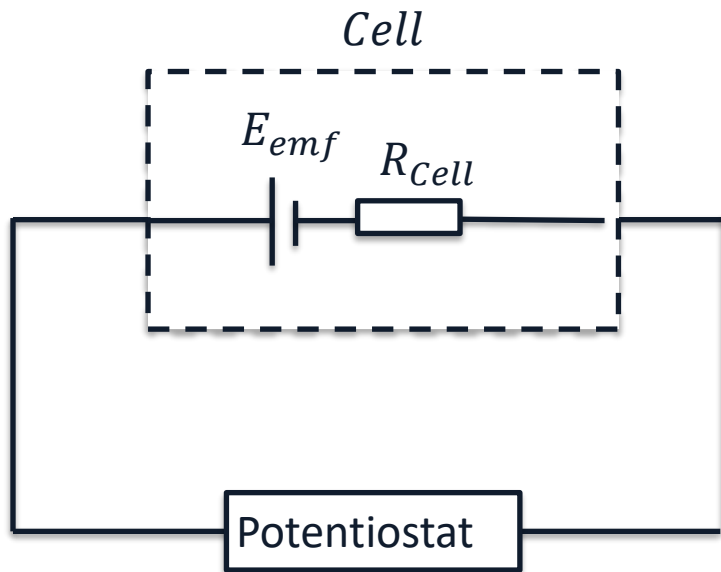
- ↗ Ions transport inside the pores
- ↗ Ions mobility
- ↗ Conductivity



THE POWER DENSITY

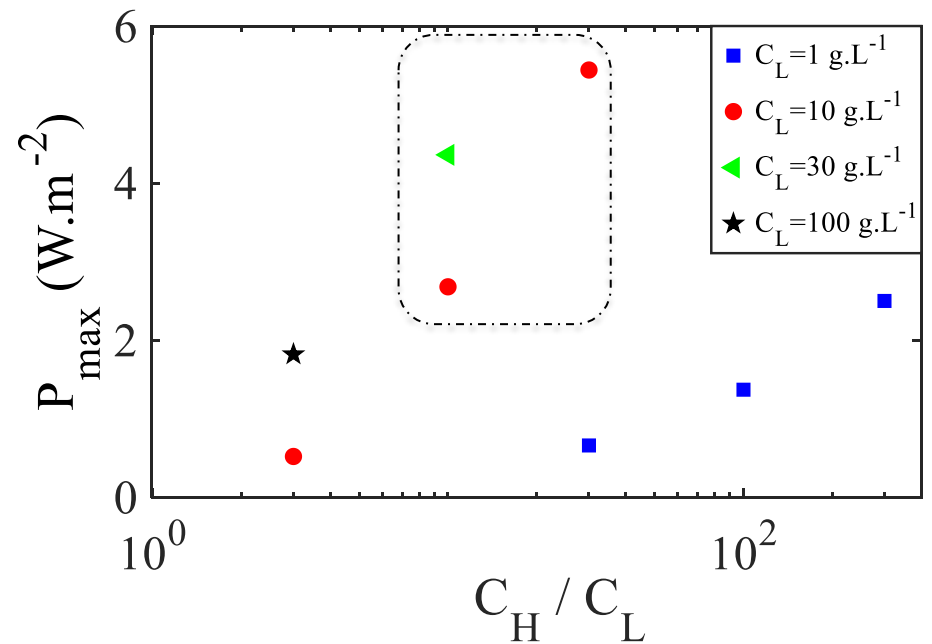
The Calculated Power density

Simplified circuit

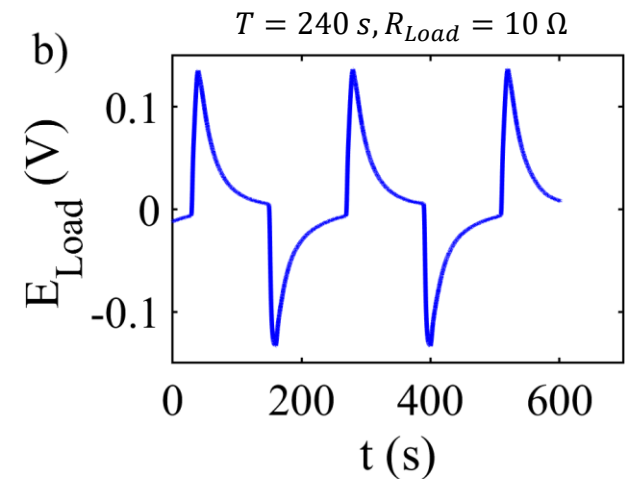
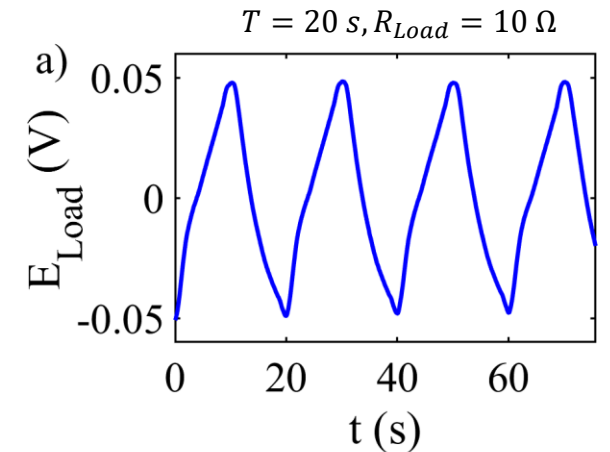
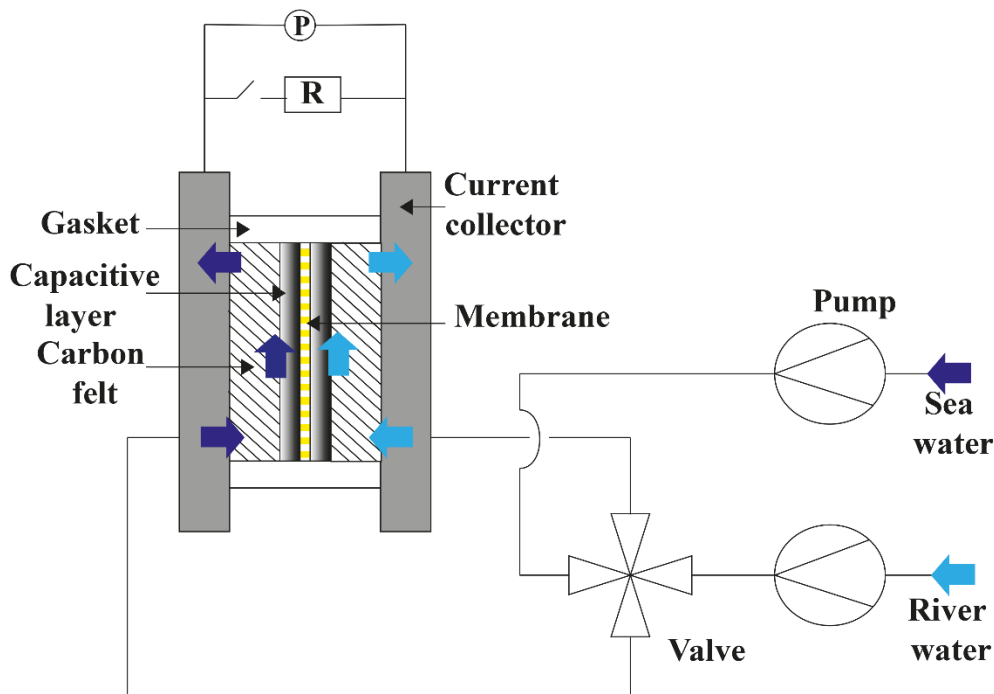


$$P_{max} = \frac{E_{emf}^2}{4R_{Cell}}$$

- $\nearrow P_{max}$ for hypersaline solutions



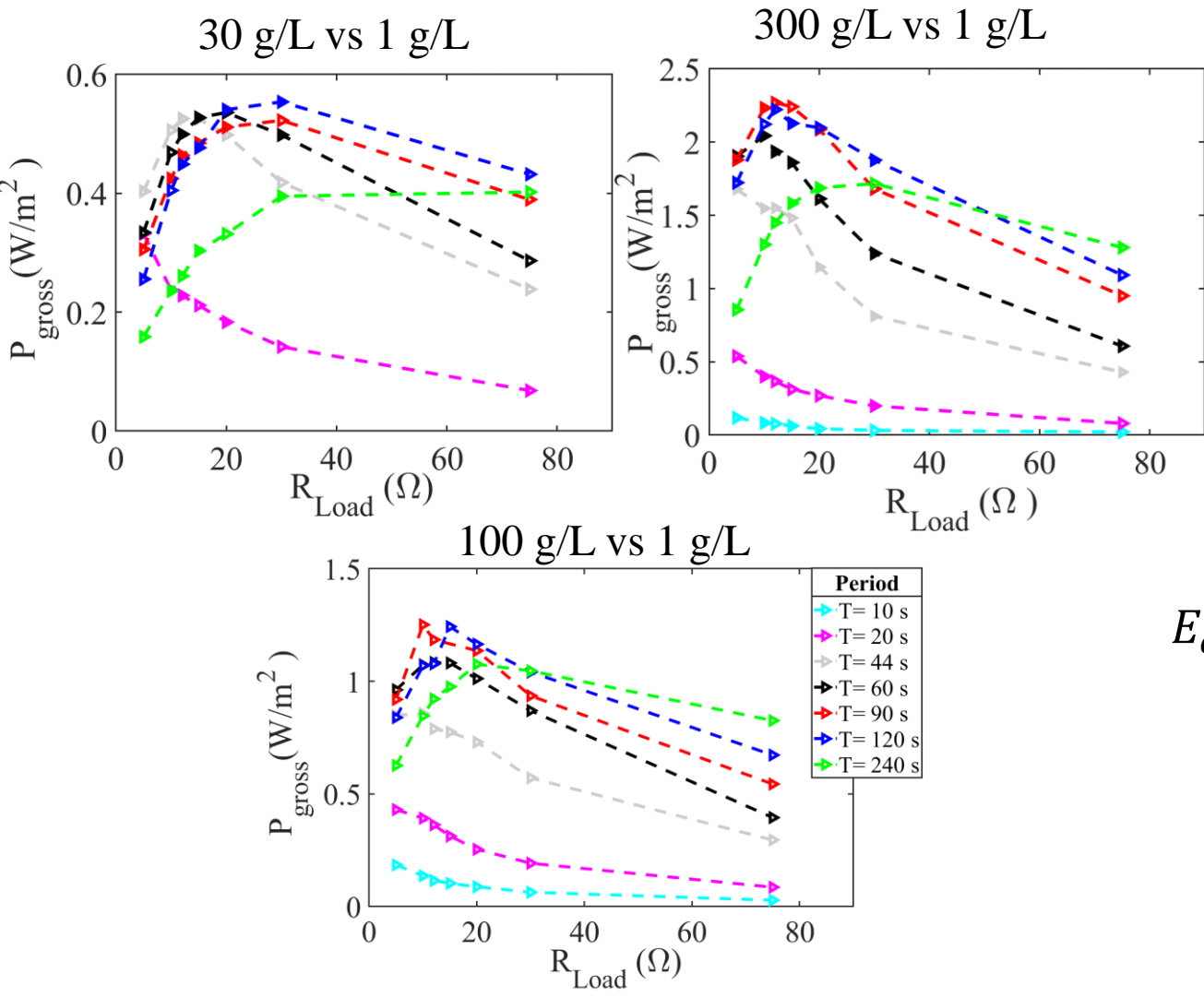
The efficient Power density



$S=2,24 \text{ cm}^2 \mid C_H=100 \text{ g/L} \mid C_L=1 \text{ g/L}$



The efficient Power density



$$P = \frac{1}{A \cdot T} \int_0^T \frac{E_{Load}^2(t)}{R_{Load}(t)} dt$$

E_c & E_m R_{Cell}

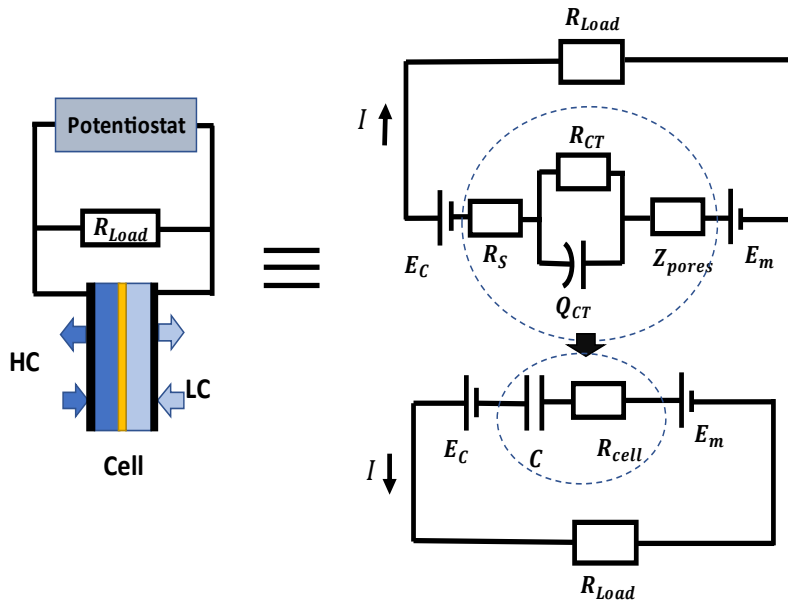


- *The concentrations*
- *Ions transport's inside the pores*
- *Time constant*
- *Ions generation*

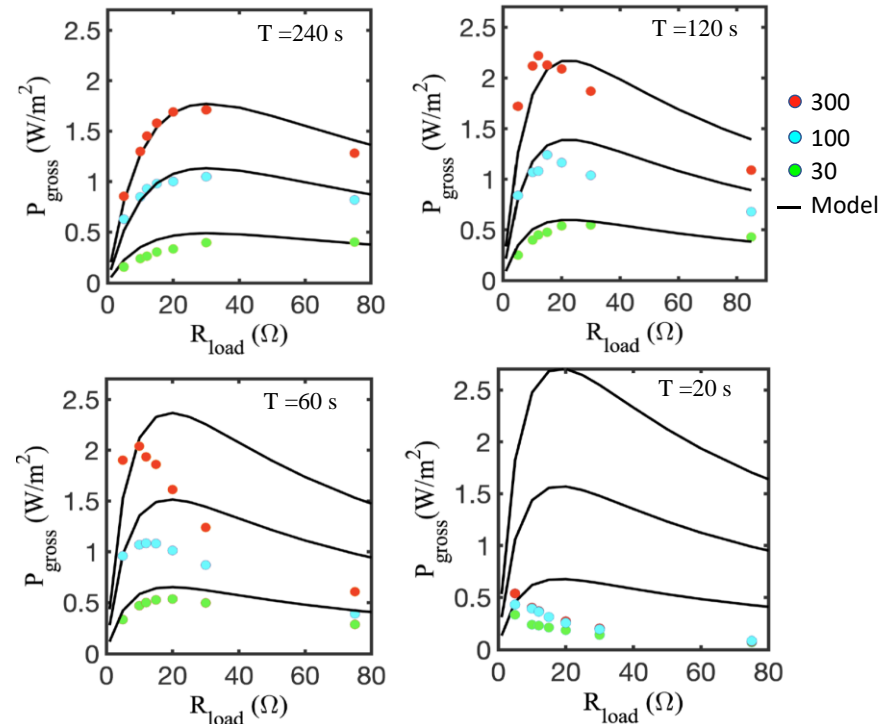
Power Modeling



Equivalent Model



Power modeling



$$E_{OCV} = (R_{Load} + R_{cell})I(t) + \frac{q(t)}{C}$$

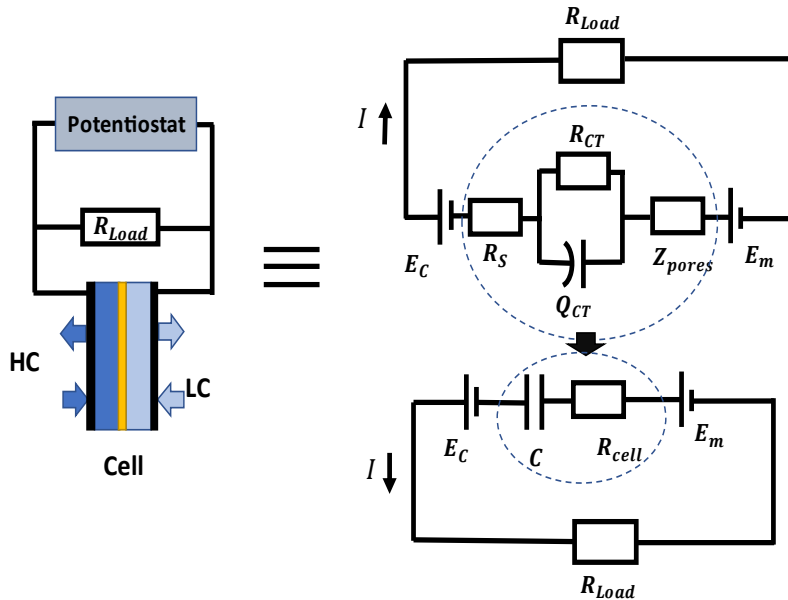
$$\frac{dq(t)}{dt} = I(t)$$

- A good match at long periods
- Time to fill & develop the potential is estimated **X**

Power Modeling



Equivalent Model

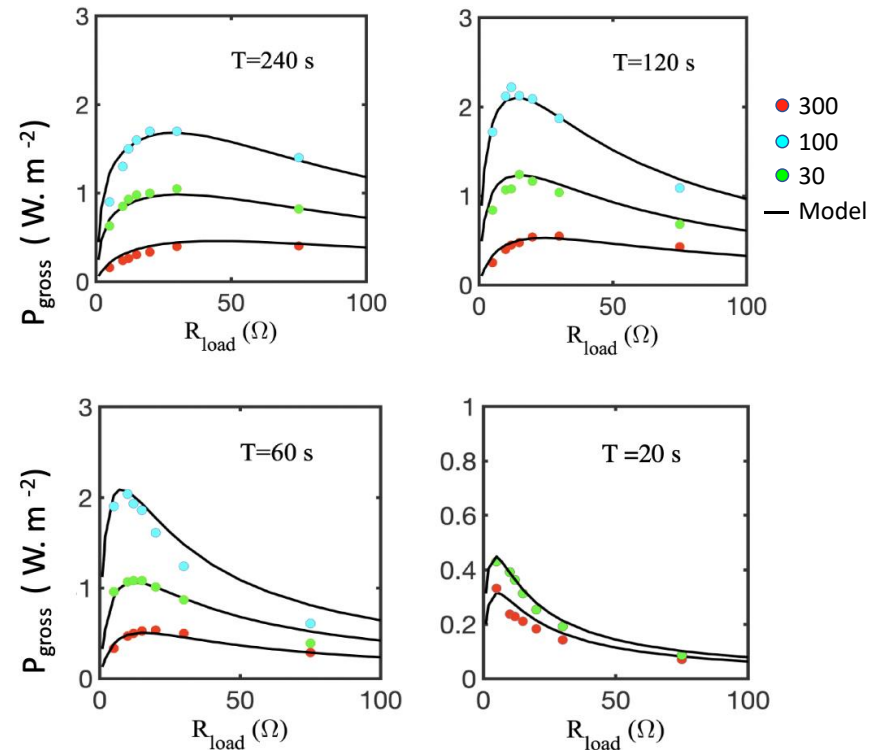


$$E_{OCV}(t) = (R_{load} + R_{cell}(t))I(t) + \frac{q(t)}{C}$$

$$E_{OCV}(t) = \frac{E_{OCV}(\infty)}{2} + \frac{E_{OCV}(\infty)}{2} * (1 - e^{-t/\tau})$$

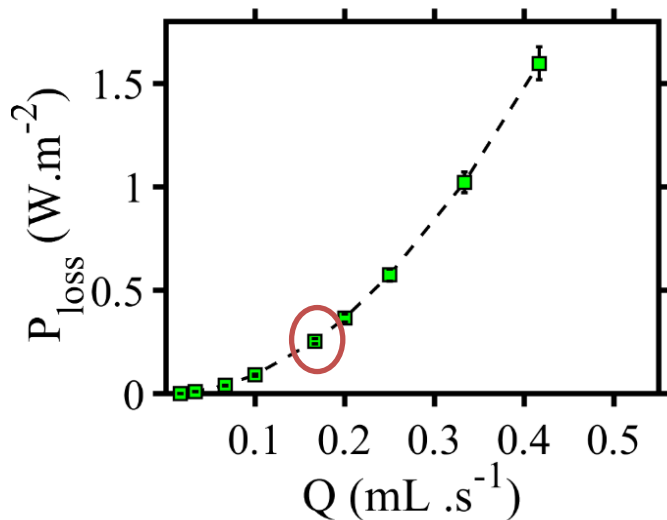
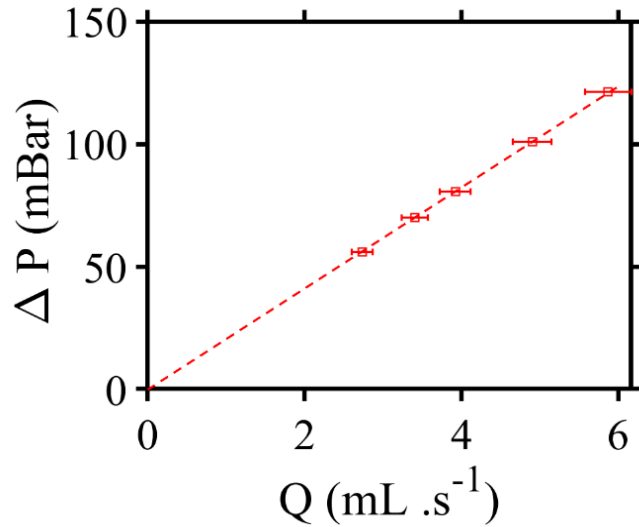
$$R_{cell}(t) = R_{cell}(\infty) * (1 - B e^{-t/\tau})$$

Power modeling



- A perfect match with $R(t)$
- B is equal to 0.9 and $\tau = 30$ s for all the experiments.

Power loss



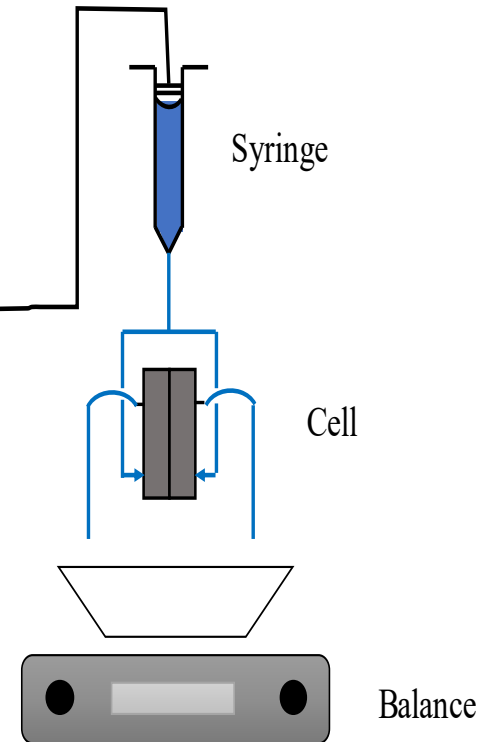
Pressure controller

$$\Delta P = R_h Q$$

$$P_{loss} = \frac{R_h Q^2}{A}$$

for $Q = 10 \text{ mL/min}$

$$P_{loss} = 0,23 \text{ W/m}^2$$

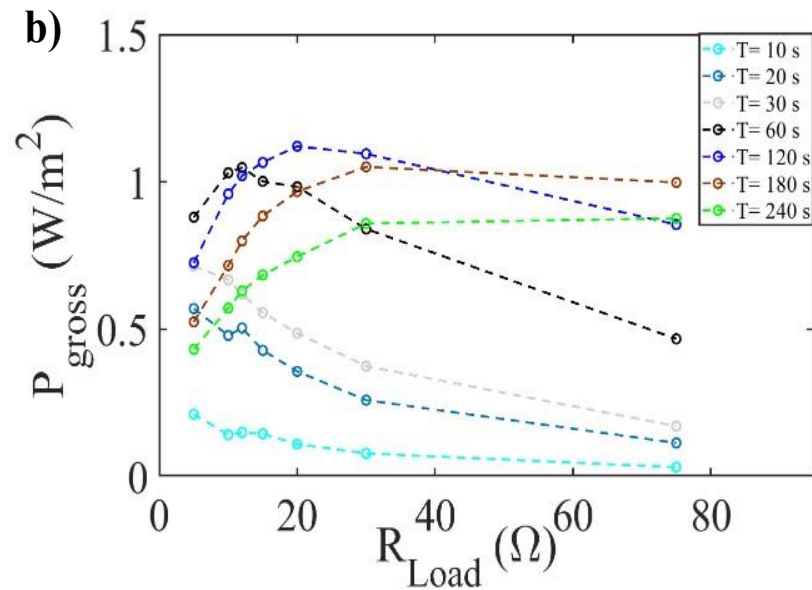
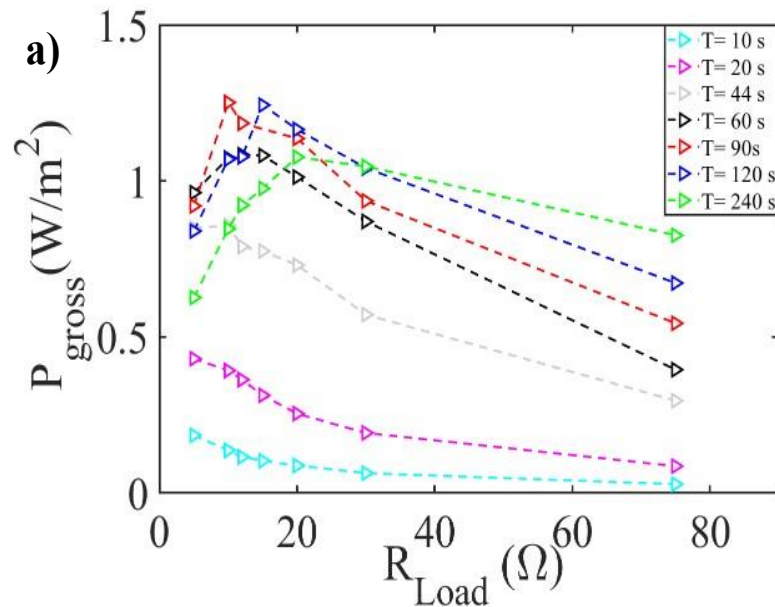


The felt thickness

$S=2,24 \text{ cm}^2 \mid C_H=100 \text{ g/L} \mid C_L=1 \text{ g/L}$

6 mm

2 mm

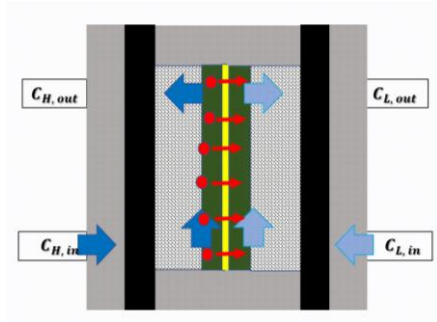
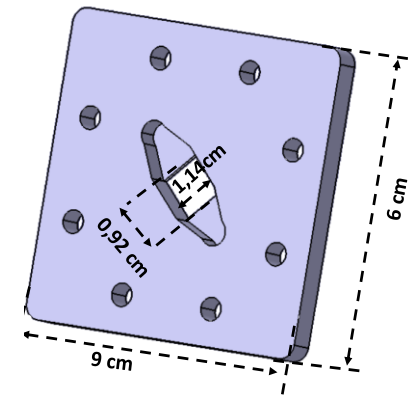
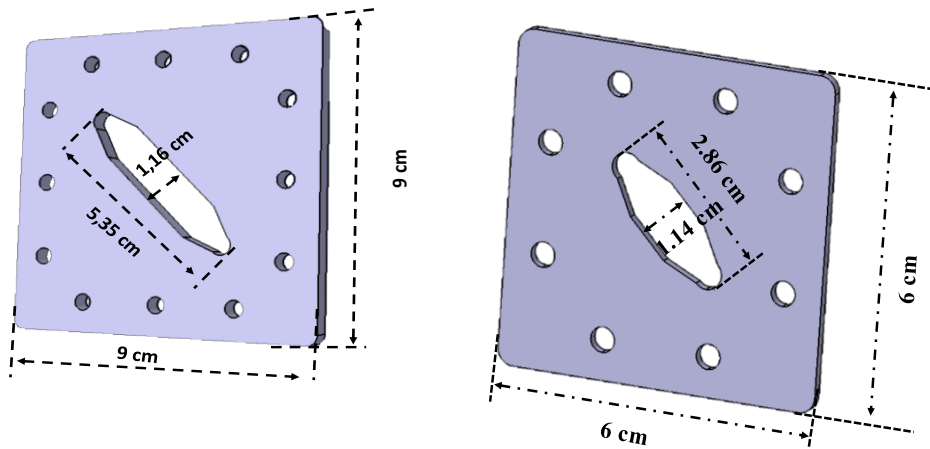


- The gross power density is barely affected
- The Power loss is 3 times bigger in thinner felt

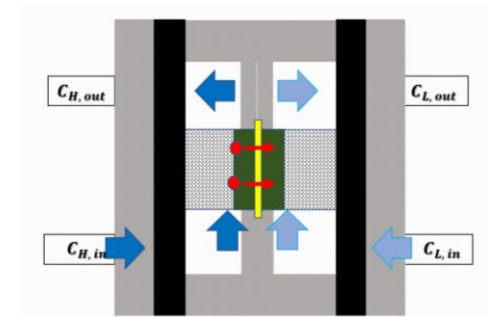
Membrane length (surface)



$C_H=100 \text{ g/L} | C_L=1 \text{ g/L}$



Cross flow

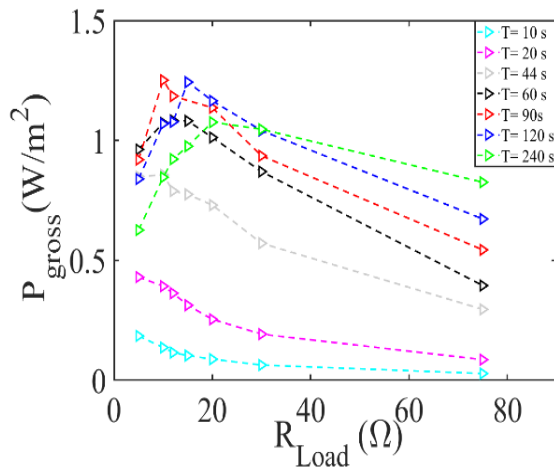


Co-flow

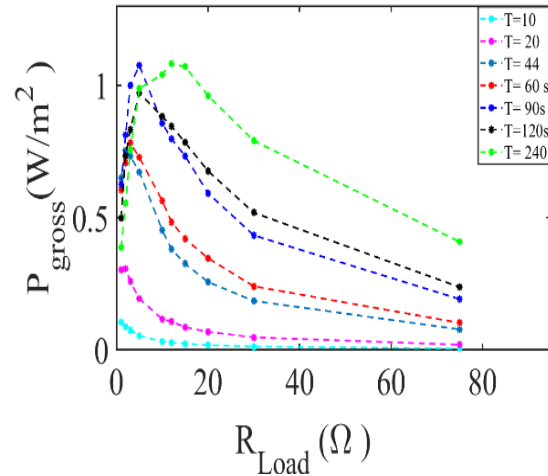
Membrane length (surface)


 $C_H=100 \text{ g/L} | C_L=1 \text{ g/L}$

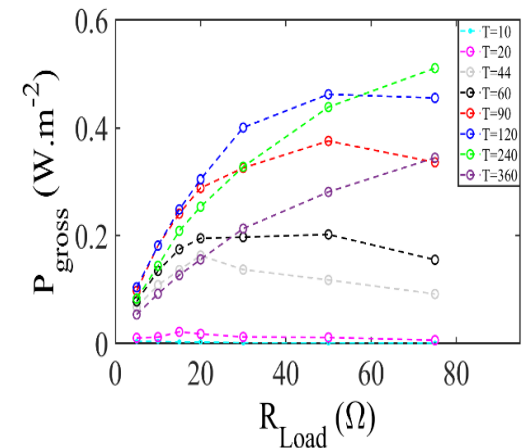
$S = 5,25 \text{ cm}^2$



$S = 2,24 \text{ cm}^2$



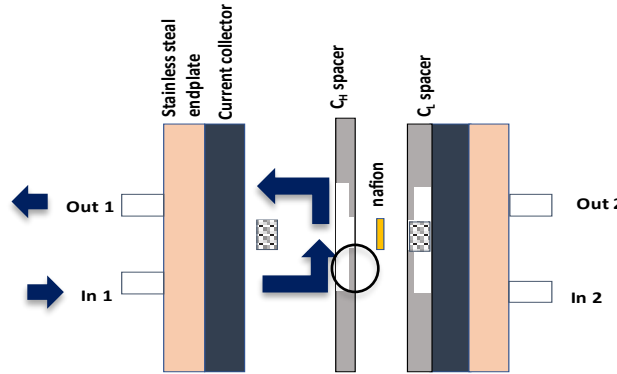
$S = 1,07 \text{ cm}^2$



- The time to fill the cell depends on the membrane length
- The power density is barely changed for the crossflow
- The **CP** is more important in co-flow

The flow rate

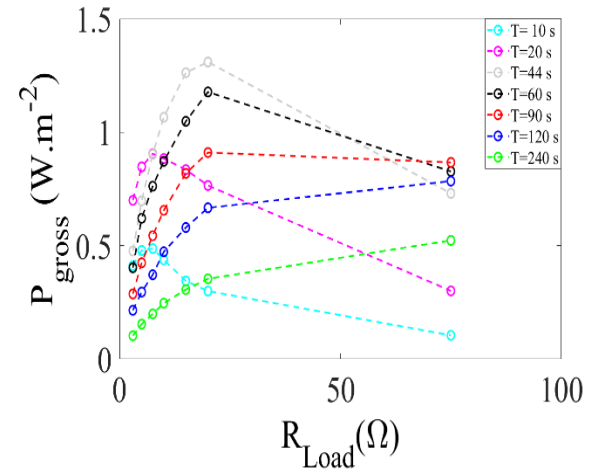
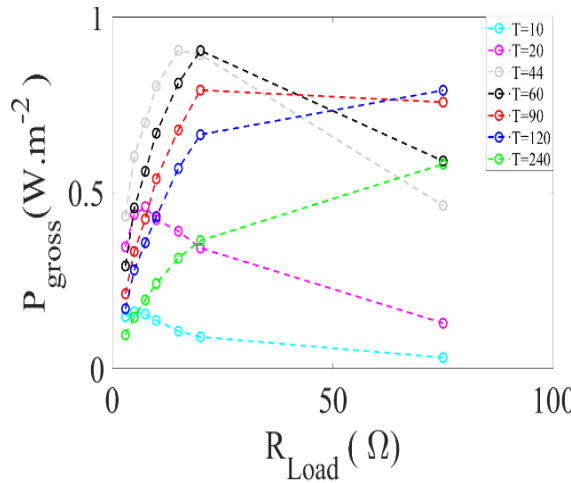
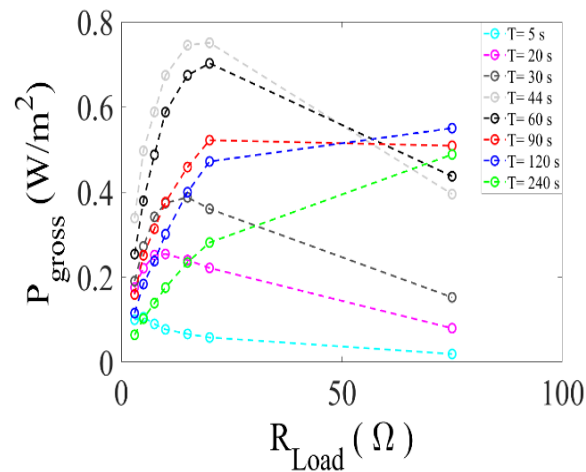
$S=1,07 \text{ cm}^2$
 $C_H=300 \text{ g/L}$
 $C_L=10 \text{ g/L}$



D=10 mL/min

D=20 mL/min

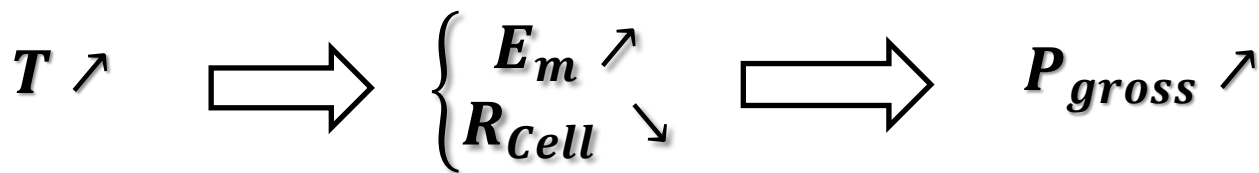
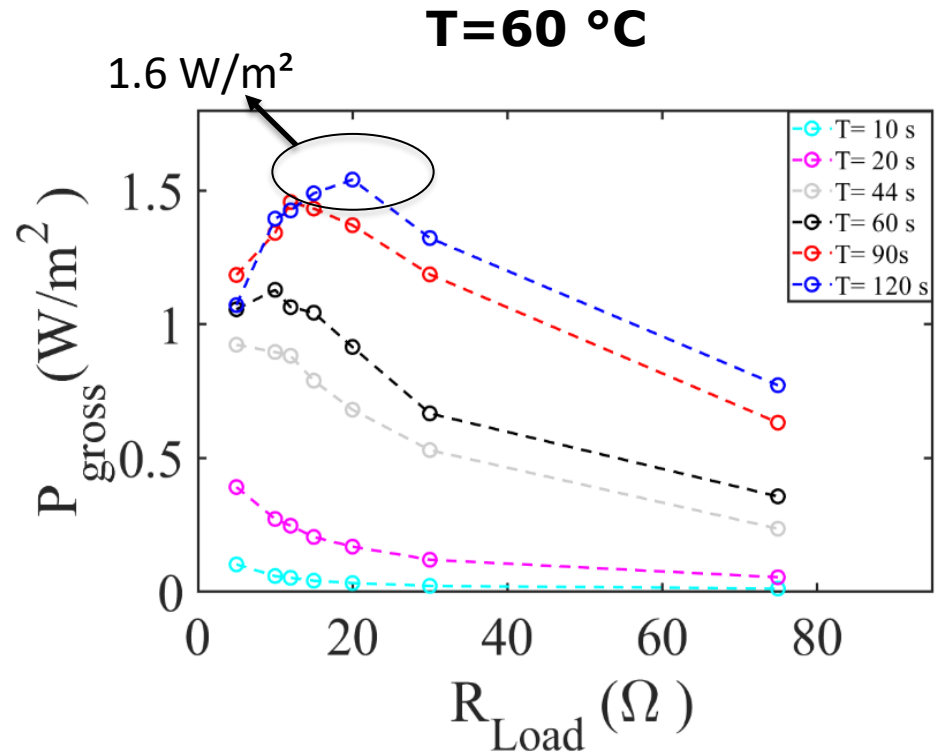
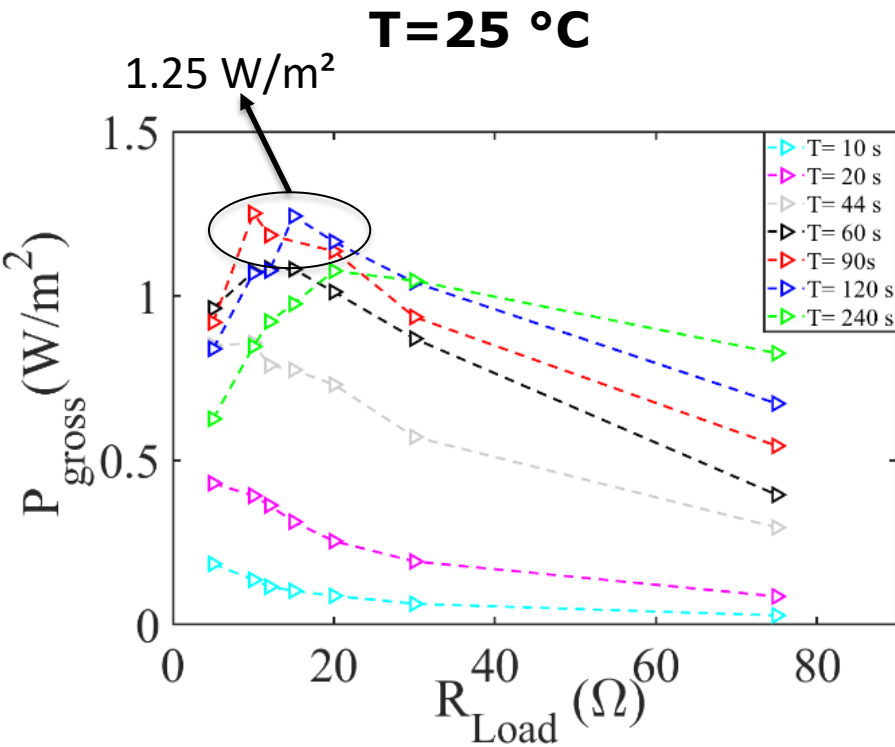
D=30 mL/min



\nearrow **Flow rate** \Rightarrow $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Ion transport} \nearrow \\ R_{\Delta C} \text{ (Polarization)} \searrow \end{array} \right. \Rightarrow P_{gross} \nearrow$

Temperature

$S=2,24 \text{ cm}^2 \mid C_H=100 \text{ g/L} \mid C_L=1 \text{ g/L}$





CONCLUSION & OUTLOOKS

General conclusion



- **Attaching tailored capacitive layers with charged surface to the IEM membranes double the potential.**
- **The capacitive layers can be used in hypersaline solutions.**
- **The transport inside the pores controls the impedance.**

General conclusion

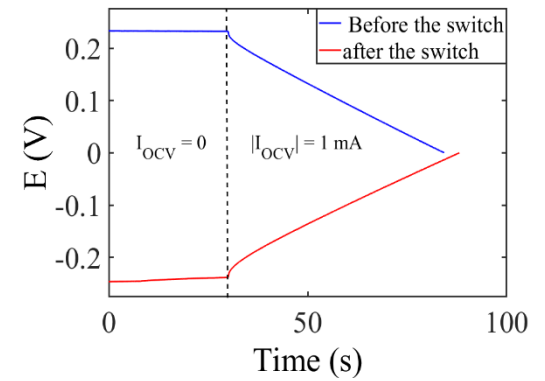
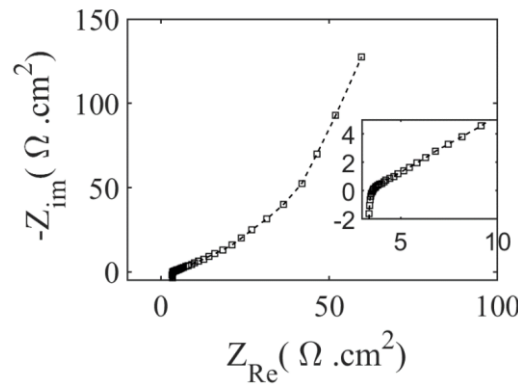
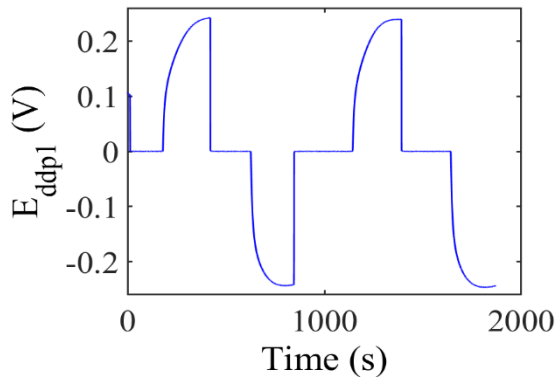
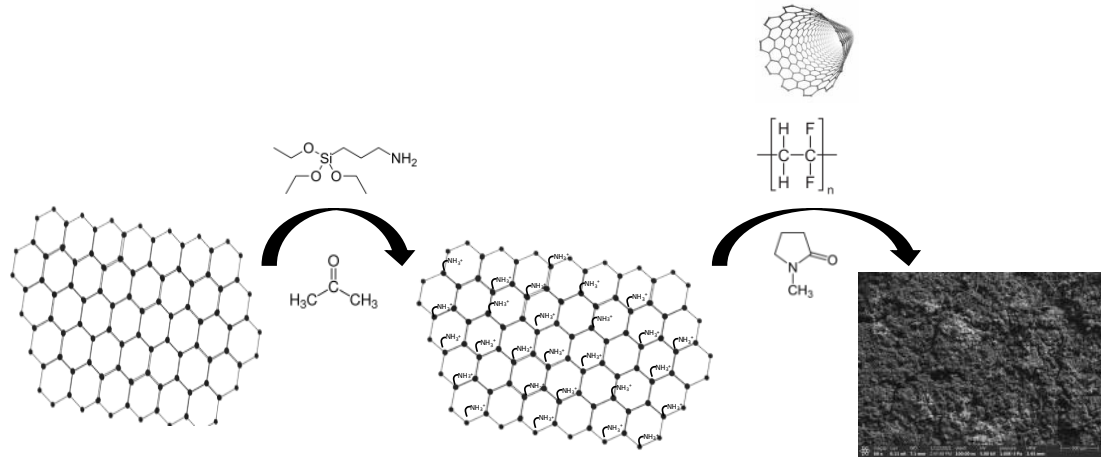


- **A tradeoff between R_h , R_{Cell} and C must be carefully optimized to maximize power generation.**
- **The CP is inherent of all membrane separation processes and can be reduced by using the appropriate flow.**
- **A Net power density of 2 W/m^2 is achieved using a 300 gradient.**

Outlooks



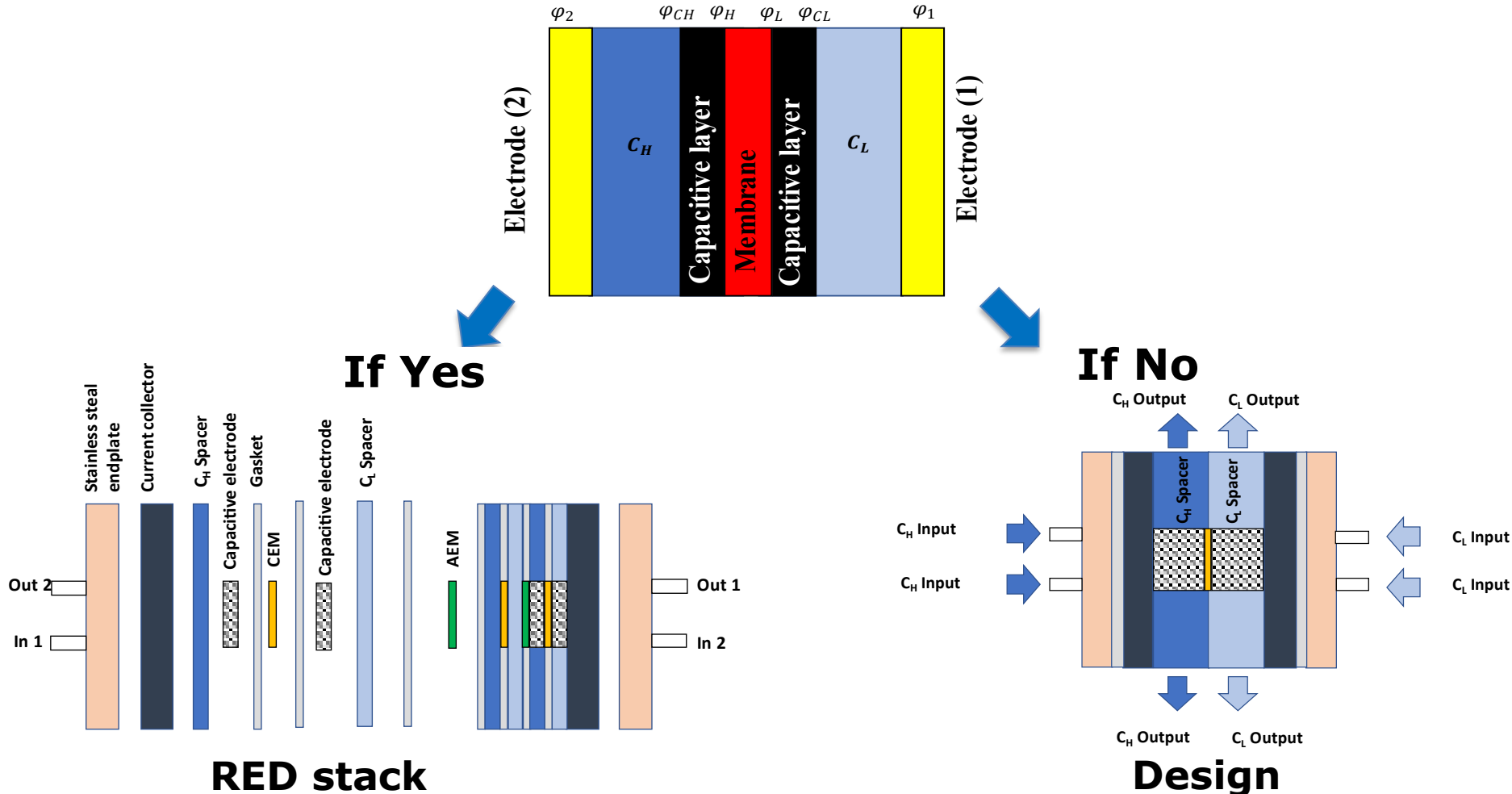
COULD WE INVERSE THE CAPACTIVE LAYERS CHARGE ?



S=2,24 cm² Membrane FAS 30
 C_H=100 g/L vs C_L=1 g/L

Outlooks

Could we add capacitive layers inside the cell between EIMs?



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION !**