

Kemian osaaminen vihreän siirtymän ja kiertotalouden vauhdittajana

(TIA) Professori Ulla Lassi

Oulun yliopisto, Kokkolan yliopistokeskus Chydenius

7.10.2023



UNIVERSITY
OF OULU

Battery
chemistry
research
since 2007





Sustainable Chemistry Research Unit



Prof. Ulla Lassi, head of the Unit

FACTS (2021):

Staff: 53

3 Full professor, 5 adj. prof., 17 post docs

Degrees: 15-20 M.Sc., 3 Ph.D.

14 public research projects (BF, AF, EU funded)

Over 40 international publications, 3 pending patents

Close company collaboration

Disciplines in material chemistry, physical chemistry and chemical engineering



UNIVERSITY OF OULU

Battery chemistry research since 2007



RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS IN APPLIED CHEMISTRY

- I. Lithium-ion battery chemicals
Metals recovery, leaching, and co-precipitation
- II. New inorganic water treatment chemicals
- III. Inorganic catalysts in biomass conversion
- IV. Carbon materials as catalysts and energy storage

(Scientific results during past years)

- (5 PhD, 6 PhD students, 20 M.Sc., publ.,)
(6 PhD, 6 PhD students, 10 M.Sc., 30 publ)
(5 PhD, 4 PhD students, 6 M.Sc., 15 publ.)
(3 PhD, 3 M.Sc., 20 publ.)

Research unit of Sustainable chemistry

FACTS (2022):

Staff: 54

4 professors, 7 senior researchers, 17 post docs

Degrees: 15-20 M.Sc., 3 Ph.D.

14 public research projects (BF, AF, EU funded)

Over 60 international publications

5 pending patents/invention disclosures

Close company collaboration

Kokkola Industrial Park (KIP), www.kip.fi, the largest hub of inorganic chemical industry in Northern Europe. Close research collaboration with the university.



FIFTH
INNOVATION

TRACEGROW



www oulu.fi/sustainablechemistry



Battery
chemistry
research
since 2007



Vihreä siirtymä



BIOPOLTTOAINEET
FOSSIILISTEN
POLTTONESTEIDEN
KORVAAJINA
(biobensiini,
biodiesel,
uusiutuva diesel)

POLTTOKENNOLLA
VARUSTETUT
VETYAUTOT



©Keliber Oy

KAASUAUTOT
(maakaasu, biokaasu)

HYBRIDIAJONEUVOT
(kaksi vaihtoehtoista
energiälähdettä)

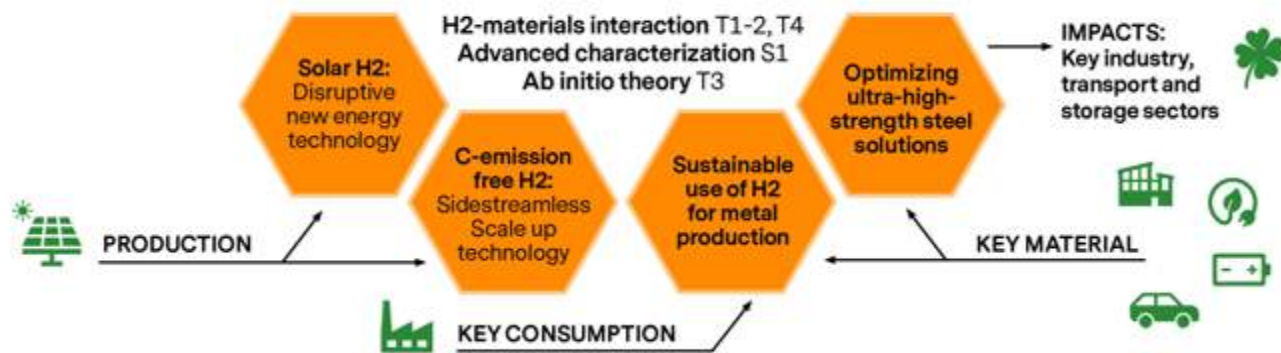
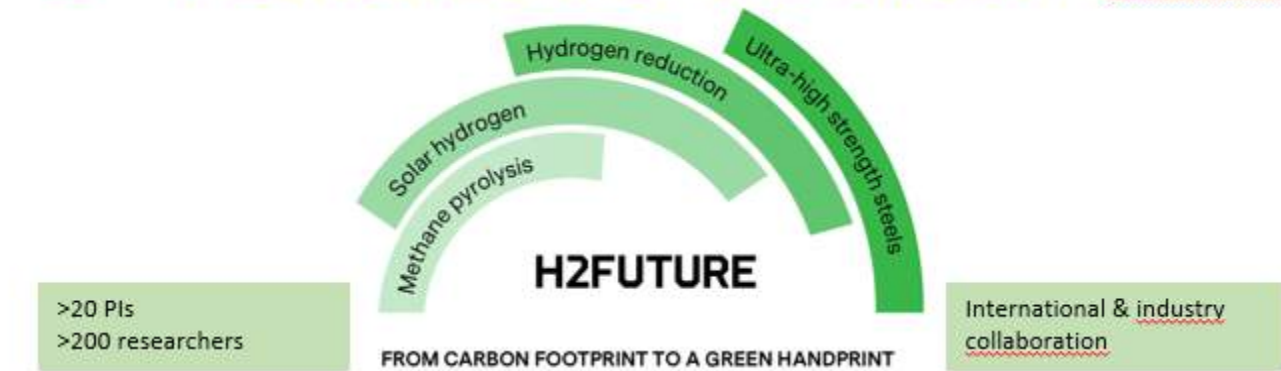
LITIUMIONIAKULLA
VARUSTETUT
SÄHKÖAUTOT

The background features a dark blue gradient with abstract digital patterns. On the left, there are glowing blue and green rectangular shapes resembling data blocks or server racks. A thin green line with a dot at its end extends from the center towards the left. On the right, there are faint, glowing red and green circular shapes. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and technological.

Vetytalous osana vihreää siirtymää



H2FUTURE - Multidisciplinary Research and Education as a Foundation of the Green Transition



STATE-OF-THE-ART RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES (TRL 1-8)

CENTRE FOR MATERIALS ANALYSIS	(PHOTO)CATALYST SYNTHESIS, TEST & VALIDATION	FABRICATION, SCALE-UP AND COMMERCIALIZATION

- National profilation project **H2FUTURE** 2023-2028
- CO₂ free and energy efficient H₂ production methods: solar H₂ and (bio)methane pyrolysis
- Energy materials research: electroceramics
- Solar panels and nanocoatings
- Coordination of Hydrogen Research Forum Finland (9 research organization members): Research based view on hydrogen transition
- National graduate school on H₂ transition under construction
- I4WORLD EU-Horizon MSCA docotoral program focusing on UN SDG themes
- Offering courses on energy technology and systems, minor on sustainable development
- Open university and continuous learning, education on H₂ transition (FiTech) and UNIC collaboration





Hydrogen roadmap – Sustainable chemistry

2008-2015

FT synthesis

Catalytic conversion of biomass-derived synthesis gas to olefins/FT diesel



Collaboration with LTU & NTNU

PhD thesis Romar 2015

PhD thesis Tuomikoski 2014

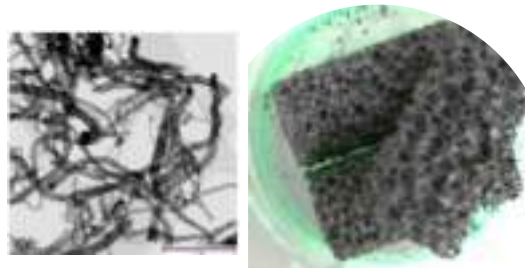
2015-2021

Methane pyrolysis to hydrogen and carbon

Carbon applications (activated carbon, carbon foams, carbon catalysis)

Carbon use in batteries

Hydrogen reduction (with MET)



PhD thesis Bergna 2019

PhD thesis Kupila 2021

PhD thesis Varila 2020

2022-

Improved material efficiency for **methane pyrolysis** (use of secondary materials)

Hydrogen reduction in metallurgical industry (with MET)





Katalyyttinen metaanipyrolyysi

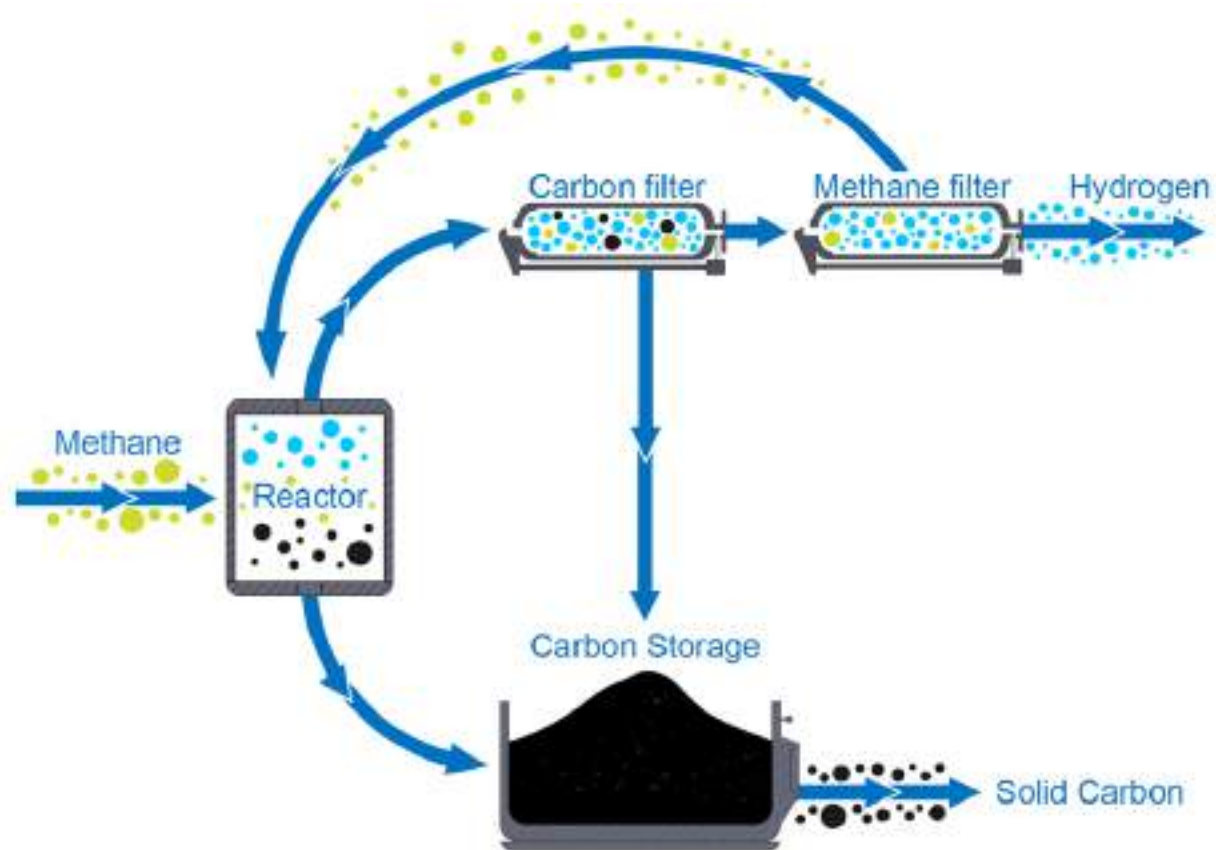




(Bio)methane pyrolysis (in the presence of catalyst)



TRL3 -> TRL7



Several innovations behind this:

- 1) Use of CO_2/CO free technology
- 2) Catalyst
- 3) Reactor set-up
- 4) Solid carbon for energy storage applications



 hycamite

Sustainable Carbon as a secondary product supplementing the sales

PRODUCTS

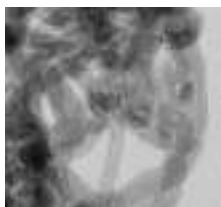
Carbon nanotubes (CNT)

Carbon nanofibers (CNF)

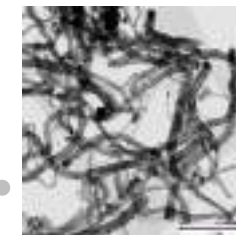
Amorphous carbon → activated carbon

Graphite

Graphite



CNT, CNF



Activated carbon



- ▶ Battery industry
- ▶ Lightweight materials for automotive and aerospace industry

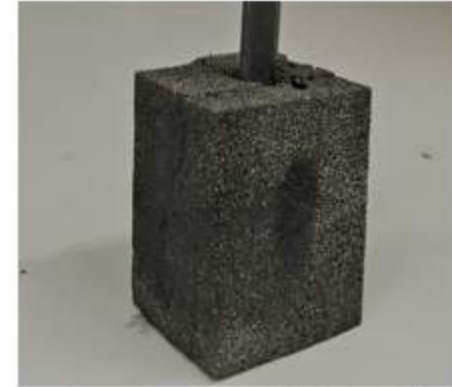
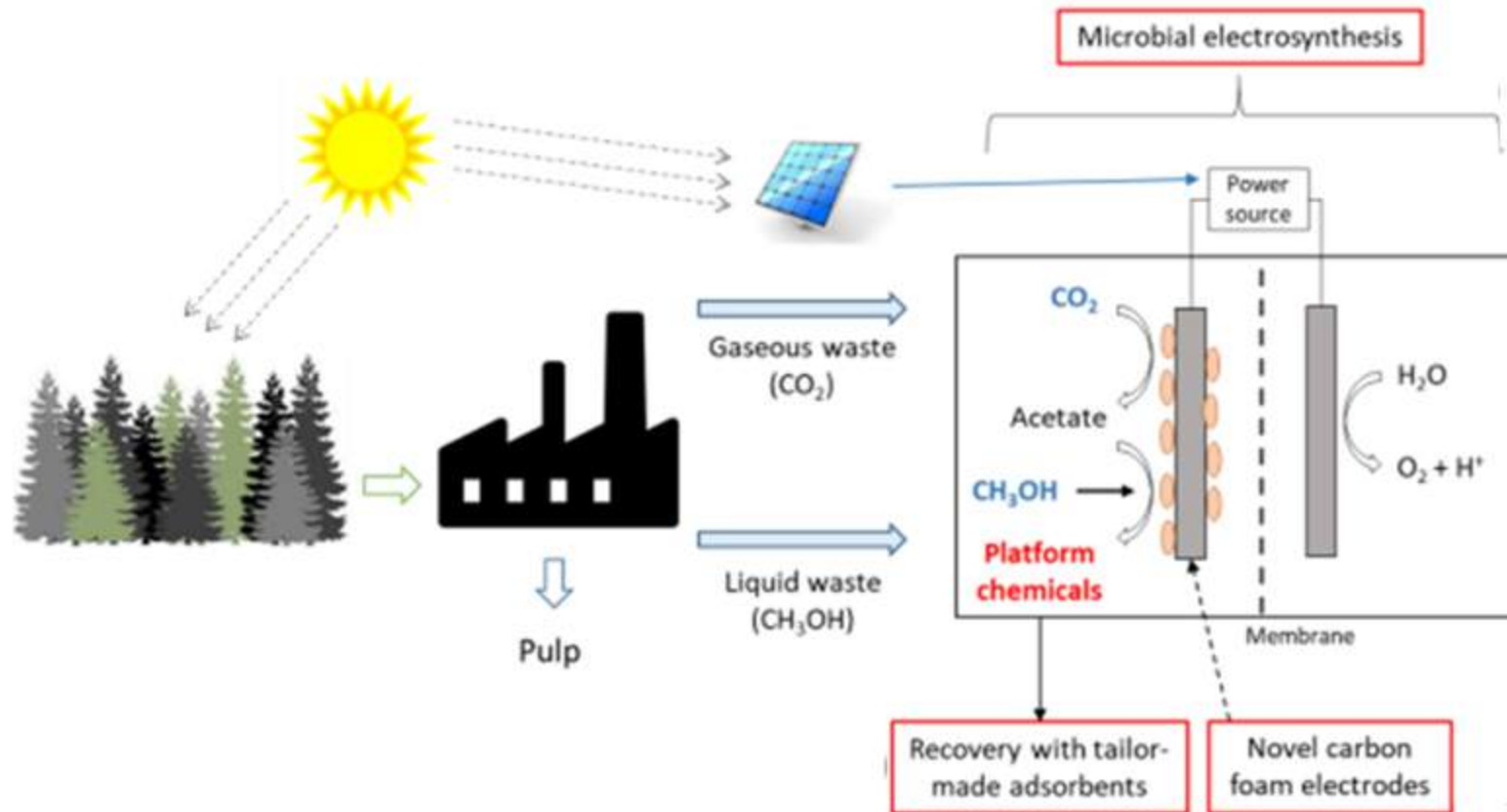
- ▶ Water treatment
- ▶ Pharmaceutical purification
- ▶ Industrial applications

- ▶ Battery industry
- ▶ Electric vehicles (supercapacitors)
- ▶ Catalysts



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General project idea of CO₂MetMes



Main aim: Establish a bioelectrochemical technology for the conversion of CO₂ and methanol into platform chemicals. The integration of novel side stream based carbon catalysts and inline product extraction will enable high production rates of fatty acids.

Energianvarastointi
(akut) osana vihreää
siirtymää



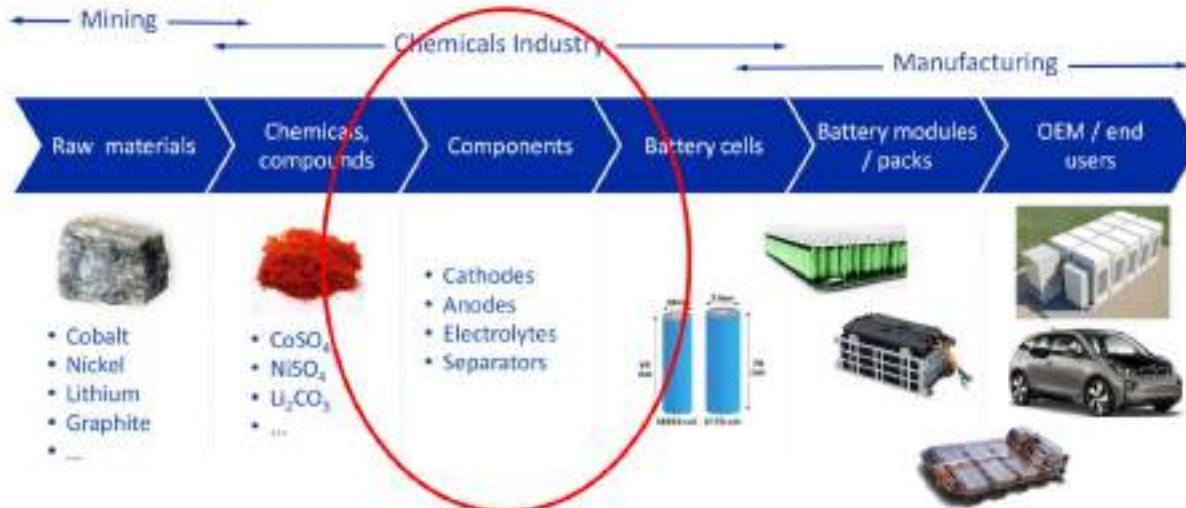
Akkuarvoketju



LITHIUM VALUE CHAIN



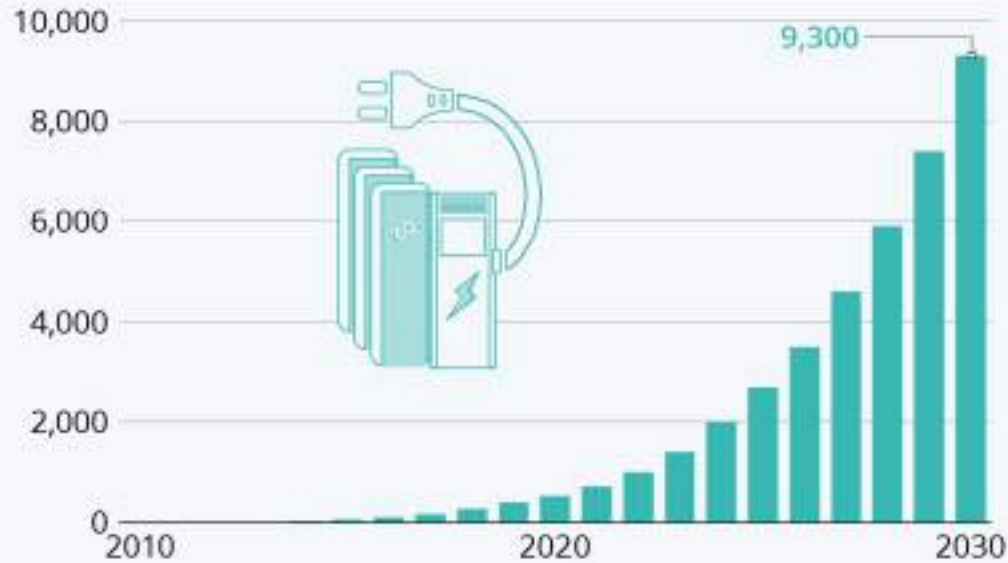
Prof. Ulla Lassi, University of Oulu,
Faculty of Technology, Research unit of Sustainable Chemistry



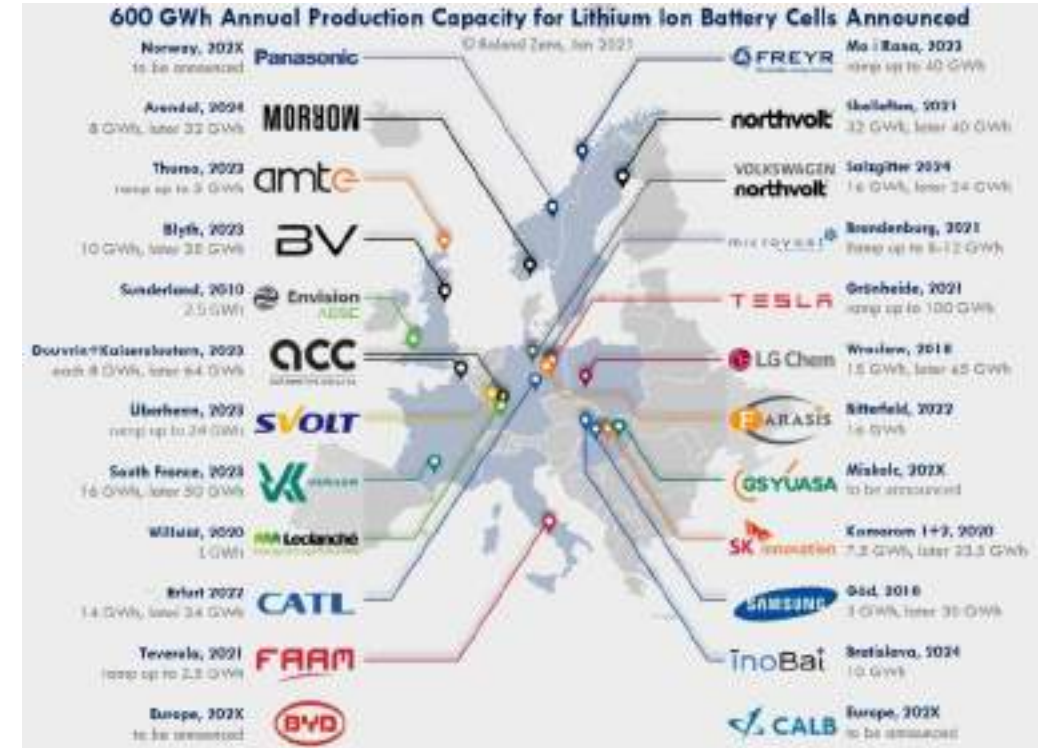


High Demand for Lithium-Ion Batteries

Cumulative lithium-ion battery demand for electric vehicle/energy storage applications (in GW hours)



Source: Bloomberg

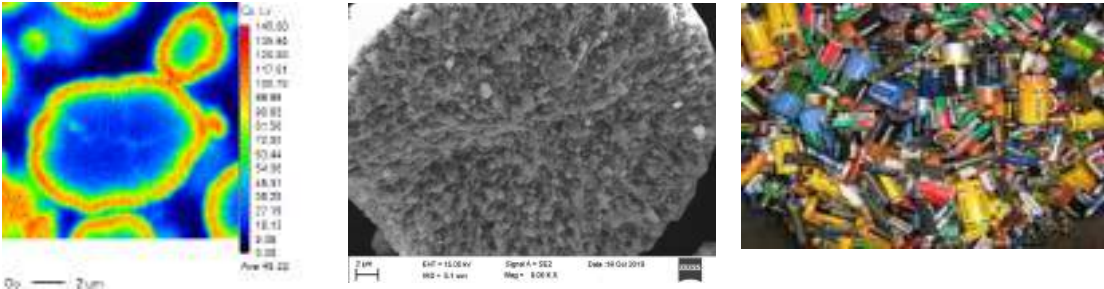


Overview of research competence and activities in the field of batteries (University of Oulu)

Co-precipitation of high-nickel precursors or lithium-rich cathodes



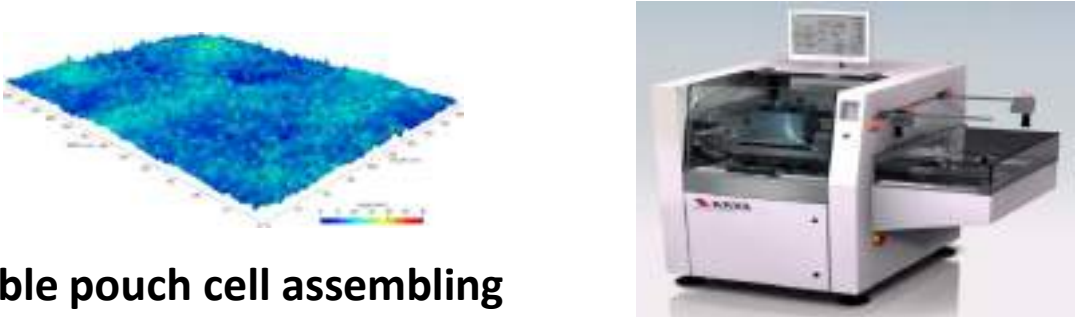
Improved characterization tools for solid precursors and electrodes



Improved lithiation processes for high-nickel NMCs, precursor effect on lithiation, role of washing, wet/dry lithiation



Use of secondary material flows in co-precipitation, role of impurities, reuse of sodium sulphate



Sustainable pouch cell assembling
-new approaches to material-efficient coating
-use of greener solvents, additives and binders



Cathode materials - overview



EV CHASSIS



A battery pack consists of multiple interconnected modules, and each module is made up of hundreds of individual cells.

\$101/kWh
Avg. Cell Cost in 2021



The cathode material determines the capacity and power of a battery, typically composed of lithium and other battery metals.



The largest EV battery manufacturers are all headquartered in Asia.

80% of all cell manufacturing occurs in China.



The anode is the negatively-charged electrode, typically made of graphite.



Separators prevent electric contact between the cathode and the anode.

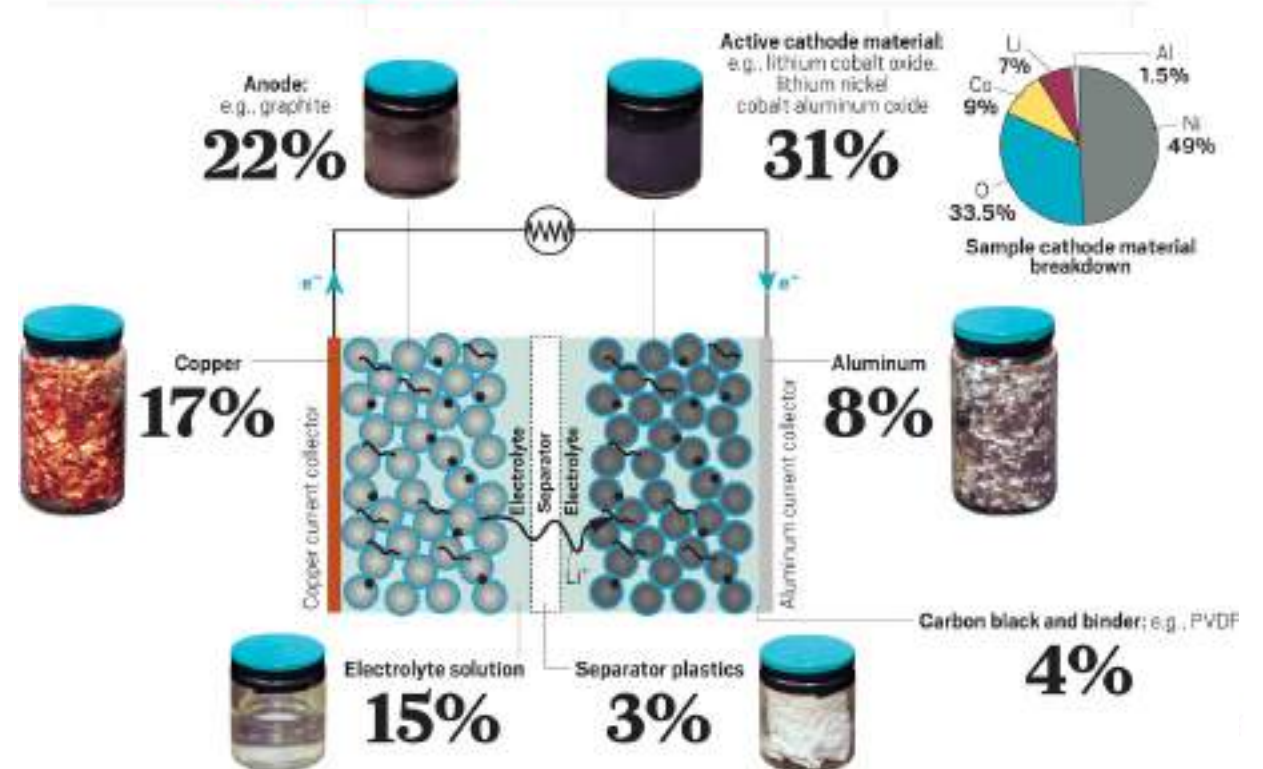


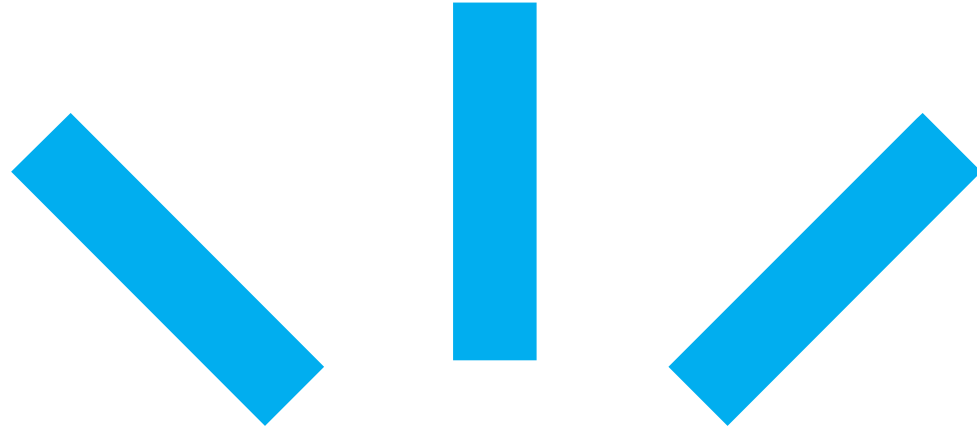
The electrolyte is the medium that transports lithium ions from the cathode to the anode.



Battery housings are cases that contain and protect battery packs, usually made of steel or aluminum.

Cathode	$\text{LiNi}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_{1.5}\text{O}_4$	LiCoO_2	LiMn_2O_4	LiFePO_4	$\text{LiCo}_{1/3}\text{Ni}_{1/3}\text{Mn}_{1/3}\text{O}_2$
Energy Density (Wh kg^{-1})	650	518	400	495	576
Discharge Voltage (V)	4.7	3.7	3.9	3.4	3.7
Specific capacity (mAh g^{-1})	138	140	100	145	155





Kiertotalous osana vihreää siirtymää



ALKALIPARISTOJEN KIERRÄTYS – TEOLLINEN PROSESSI



Business Finland – ADCHEM 2016-2018



<https://www.paristokierratys.fi/blog/2021/01/20/kaytetyista-paristoista-kierratettiin-ruomuviljelyyn-sopiva-lannoite/>

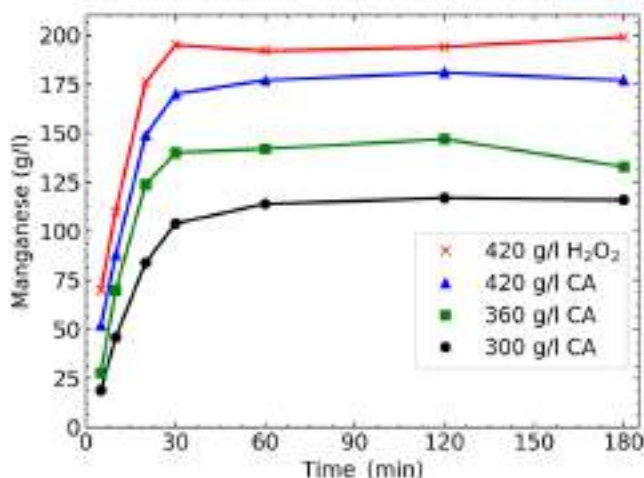
<http://www.tracegrow.com/en/welcome>



TEOLLISEN SIVUTUOTTEEN HYÖDYNTÄMINEN AKKUKEMIKAALEIKSI



Effect of S/L on manganese concentration at 60 °C.



Kauppinen, T; Vielma, T; Salminen, J; Lassi, U (2020)
ChemEngineering 4 (2), 40. <https://doi.org/10.3390/chemengineering4020040>

<https://www.boliden.com/sustainability/case-studies/purification-of-manganese-from-anode-sludge-at-kokkola>

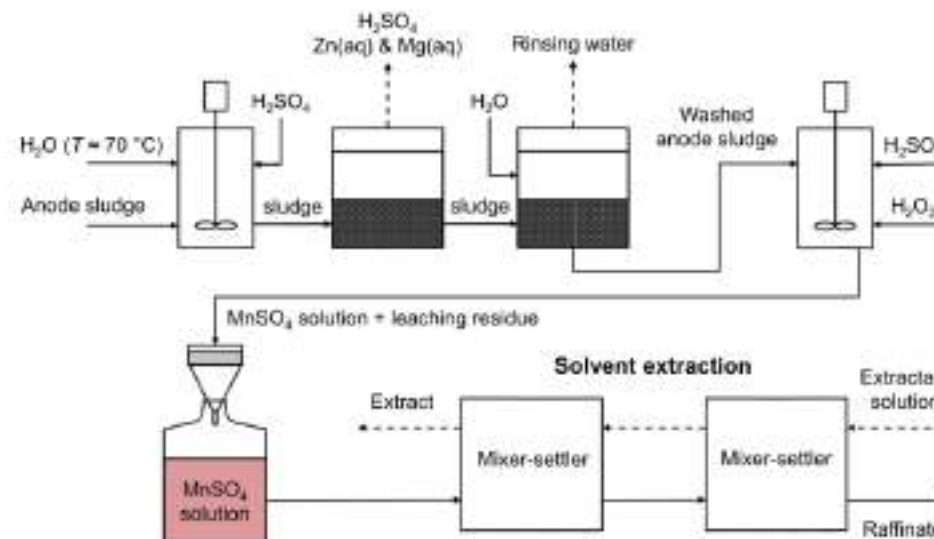
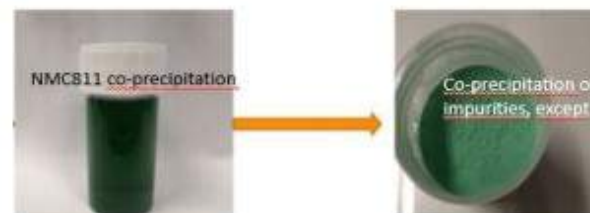


Fig. 1. Schematics showing the processing of the anode sludge in this study.



Initial discharge capacity 183 mAh/g
Capacity retention >80% after 1100 cycles



Jantunen, N.; Kauppinen, T;
Salminen, J; Virolainen S;
Lassi, U; Sainio T (2021)
Minerals Engineering 173,
107200.

*T. Kauppinen, P. Laine, J. Välikangas,
Dr. P. Tynjälä, Dr. T. Hu, Dr. J. Salminen,
Prof. U. Lassi**

1 – 11

**Co-precipitation of NCM 811 Using
Recycled and Purified Manganese:
Effect of Impurities on the Battery
Cell Performance**

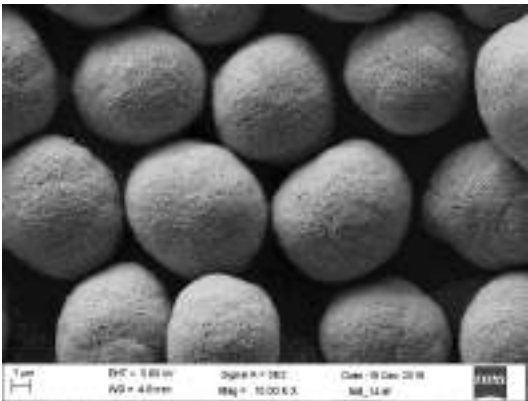
Ovatko akut
vihreää
teknologiaa?



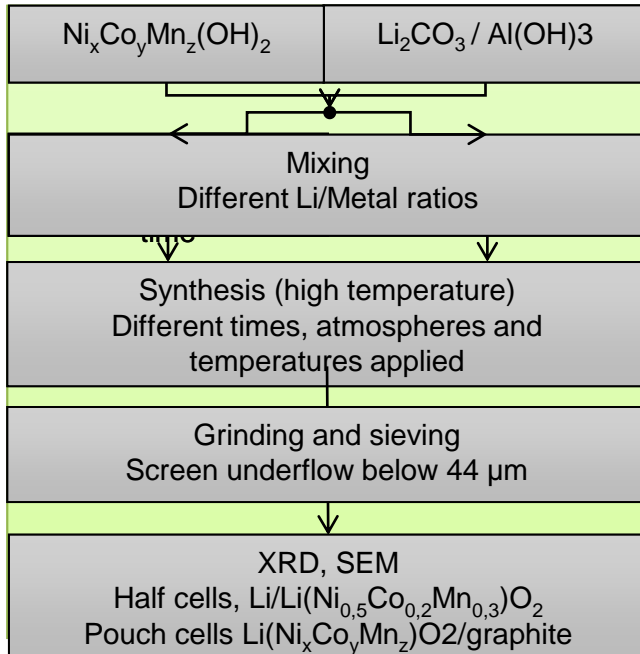


RESEARCH OF NCM CATHODE MATERIALS

Lithium mixed metal oxides $\text{Li}(\text{Ni}_x\text{Co}_y\text{Mn}_{1-x-y})\text{O}_2$



Co-precipitation

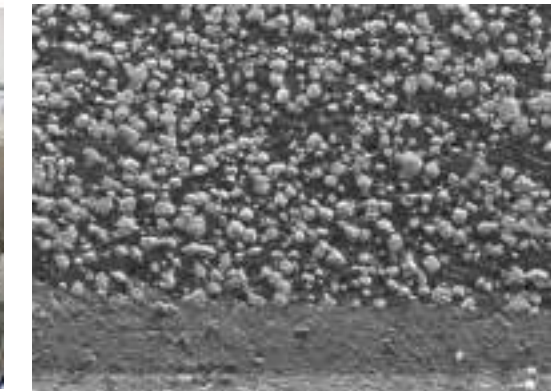


Solid-state synthesis of $\text{Li}(\text{Ni}_x\text{Co}_y\text{Mn}_{1-x-y})\text{O}_2$ or lithium-rich compounds



Lithiation

360/40 mAh pouch cells



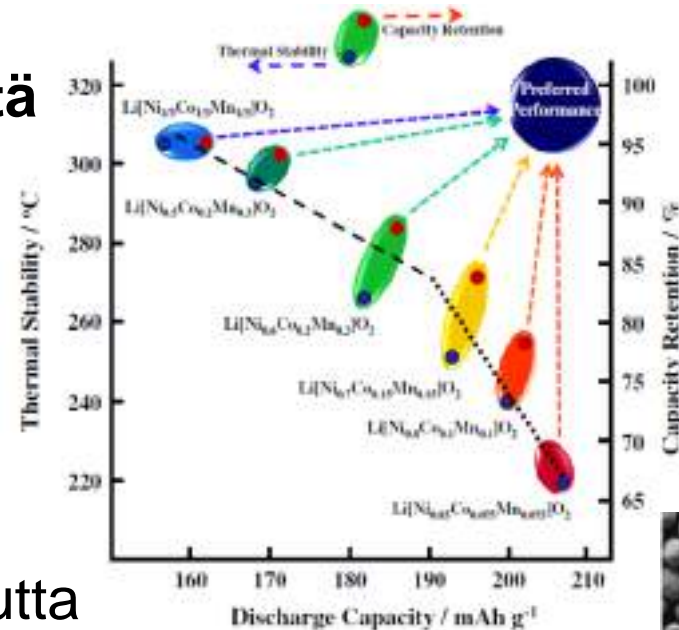
Cell assembling

Researchers Pekka Tynjälä, Tao Hu, Marianna Hietaniemi, Yan Lin, Petteri Laine, Juho Välikangas, Eva Bozo, Toni Kauppinen, Palanivel Molayian, Immo Kervinen, Eeki Airola et al.

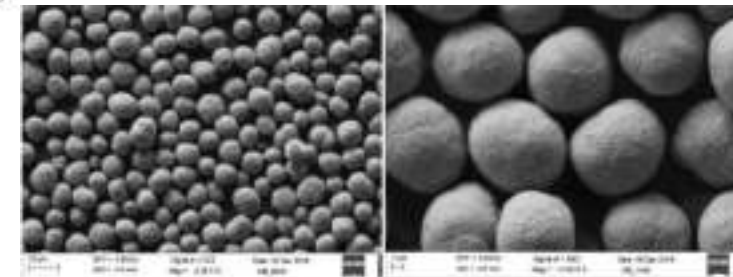
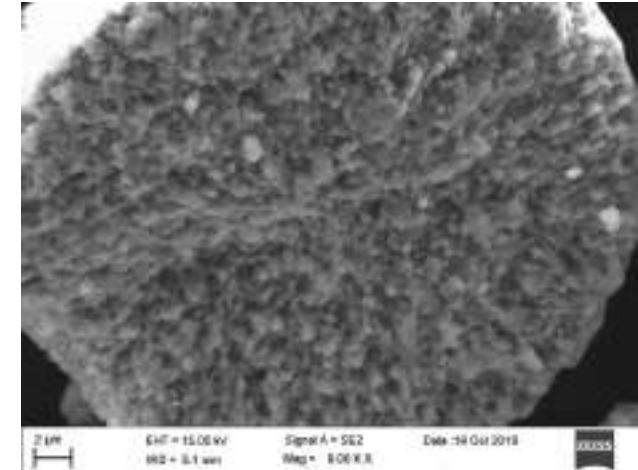


Kuinka parantaa kestävyyttä akkukemikaalien valmistuksessa?

- Vähennetään riippuvuutta kriittisistä raaka-aineista (Co, grafiitti)
- Ratkaistaan haasteet liittyen muodostuvan nasun käsittelyyn
- Parannetaan partikkelien morfologiaa (tehokkaampi litioituminen)
- Lisätään kierrätysraaka-aineiden osuutta



Noh *et al.* J. Power Sources.
233, 2013, 121-130



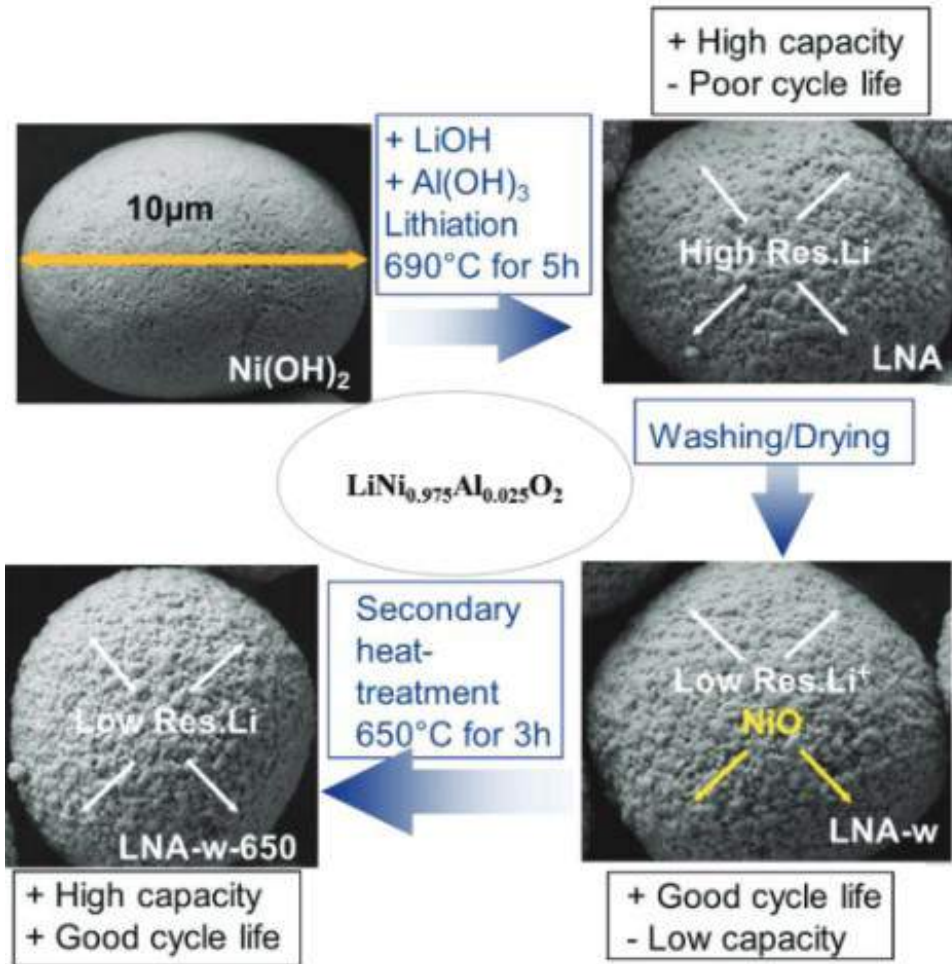
U Lassi, P Tynjälä, T Kauppinen (2022) Industrial solution for sodium sulphate, patent application

T Tuovinen, P Tynjälä, T Vielma, U Lassi (2021) Utilization of waste sodium sulfate from battery chemical production in neutral electrolytic pickling, Journal of Cleaner Production 324, 129237

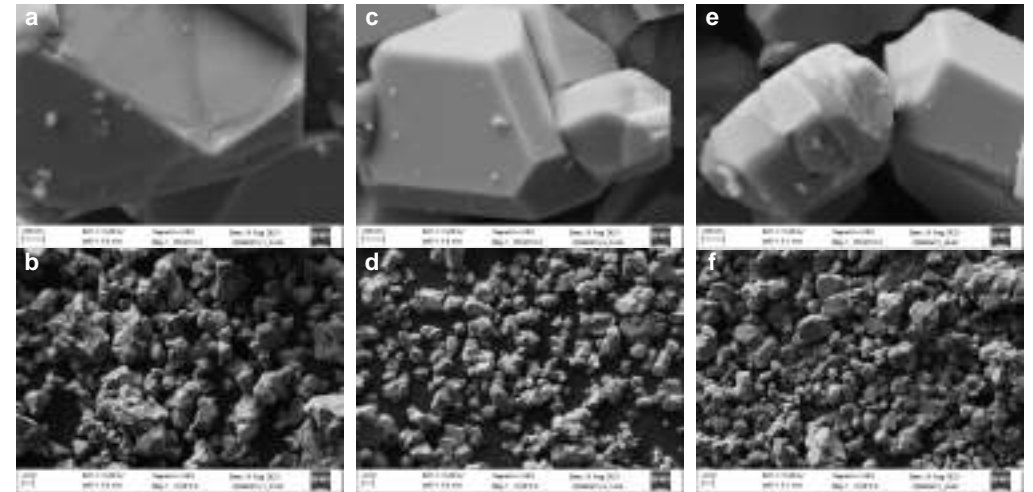




LN(M)O -katodi



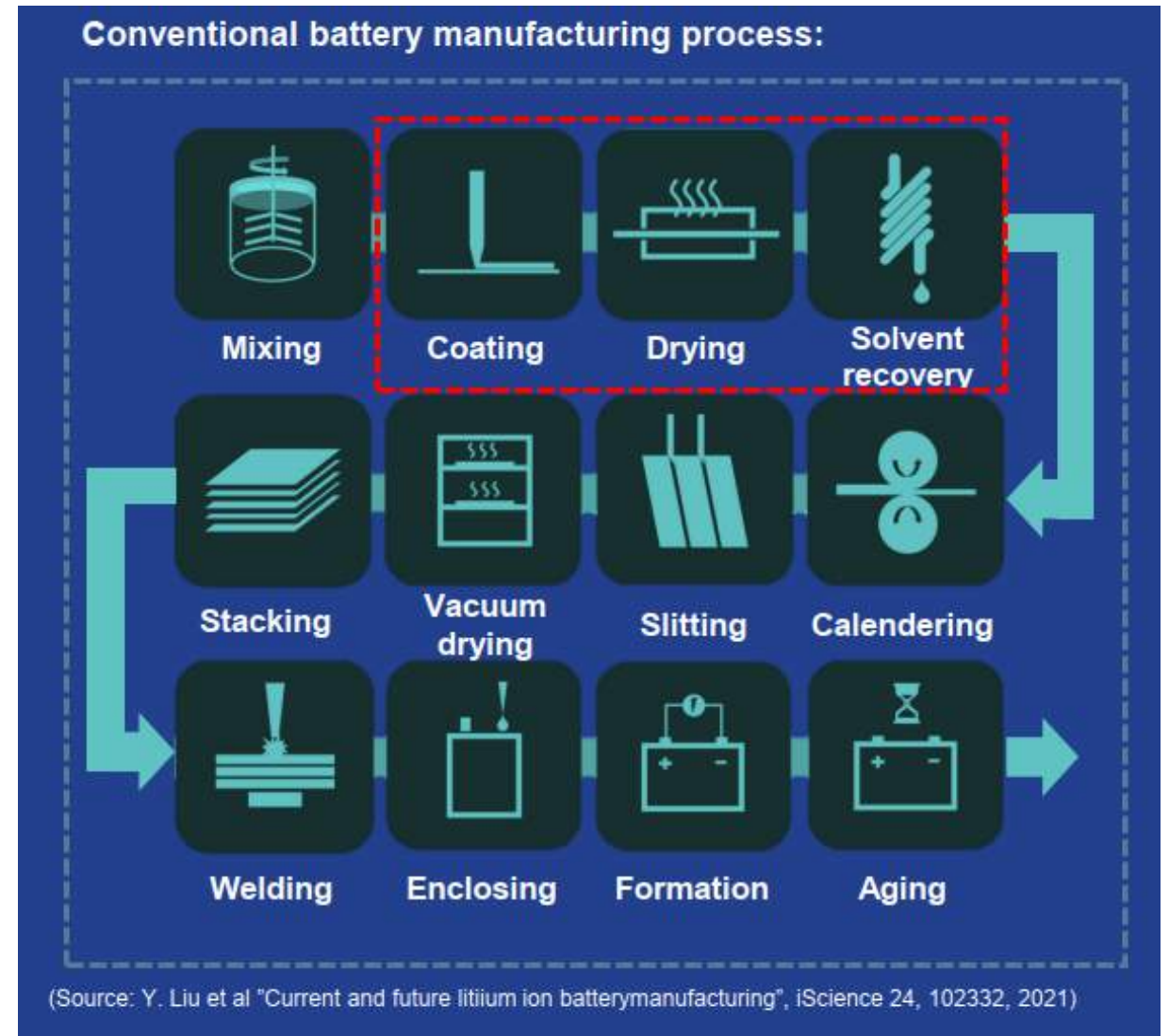
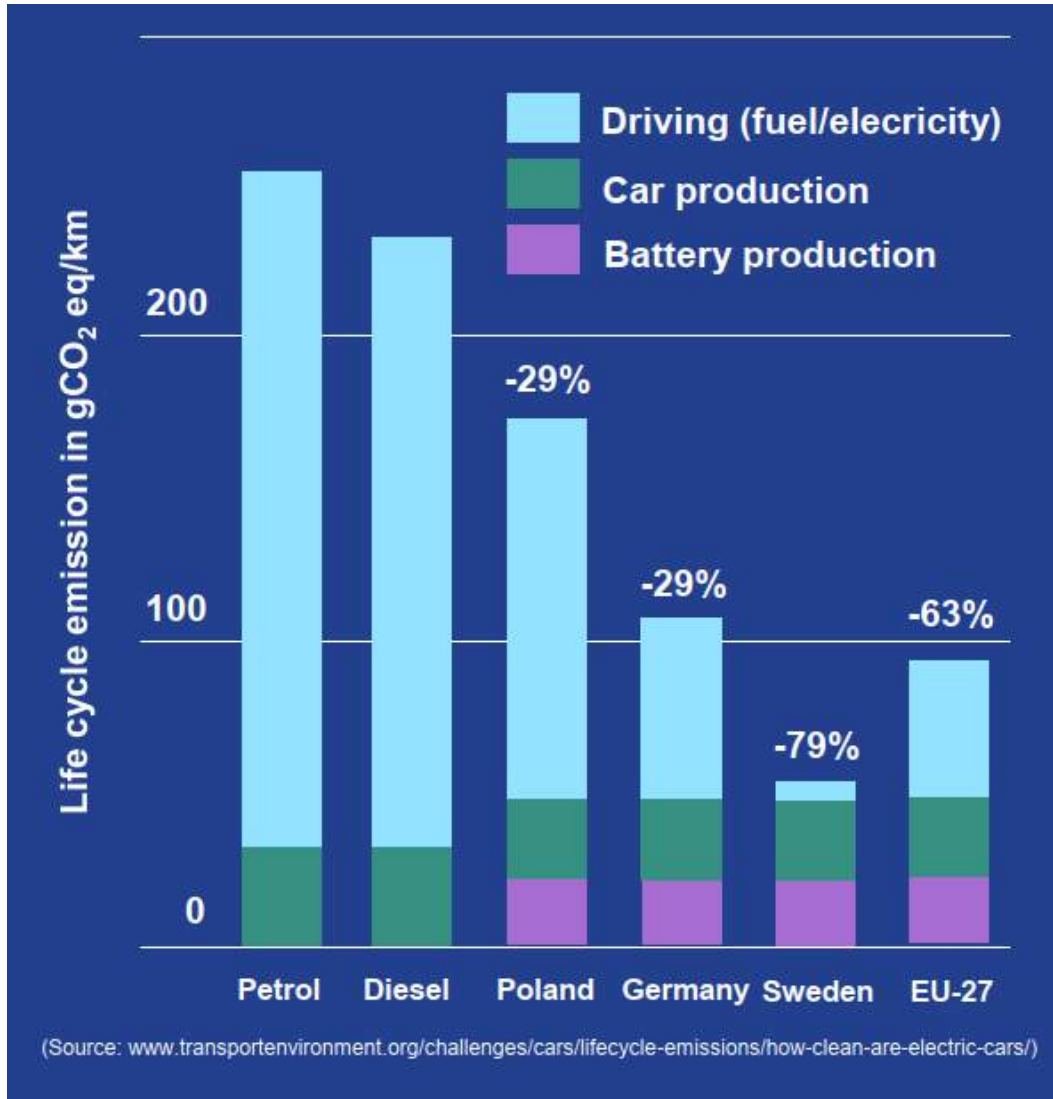
Cathode	$\text{LiNi}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_{1.5}\text{O}_4$	LiCoO_2	LiMn_2O_4	LiFePO_4	$\text{LiCo}_{1/3}\text{Ni}_{1/3}\text{Mn}_{1/3}\text{O}_2$
Energy Density (Wh kg^{-1})	650	518	400	495	576
Discharge Voltage (V)	4.7	3.7	3.9	3.4	3.7
Specific capacity (mAh g^{-1})	138	140	100	145	155



Yan, Lin.; Valikangas, Juho; Tynjala, Pekka; Hu, Tao; Lassi, Ulla (2022) Synthesis of high-voltage LNMO for LIBs, manuscript.

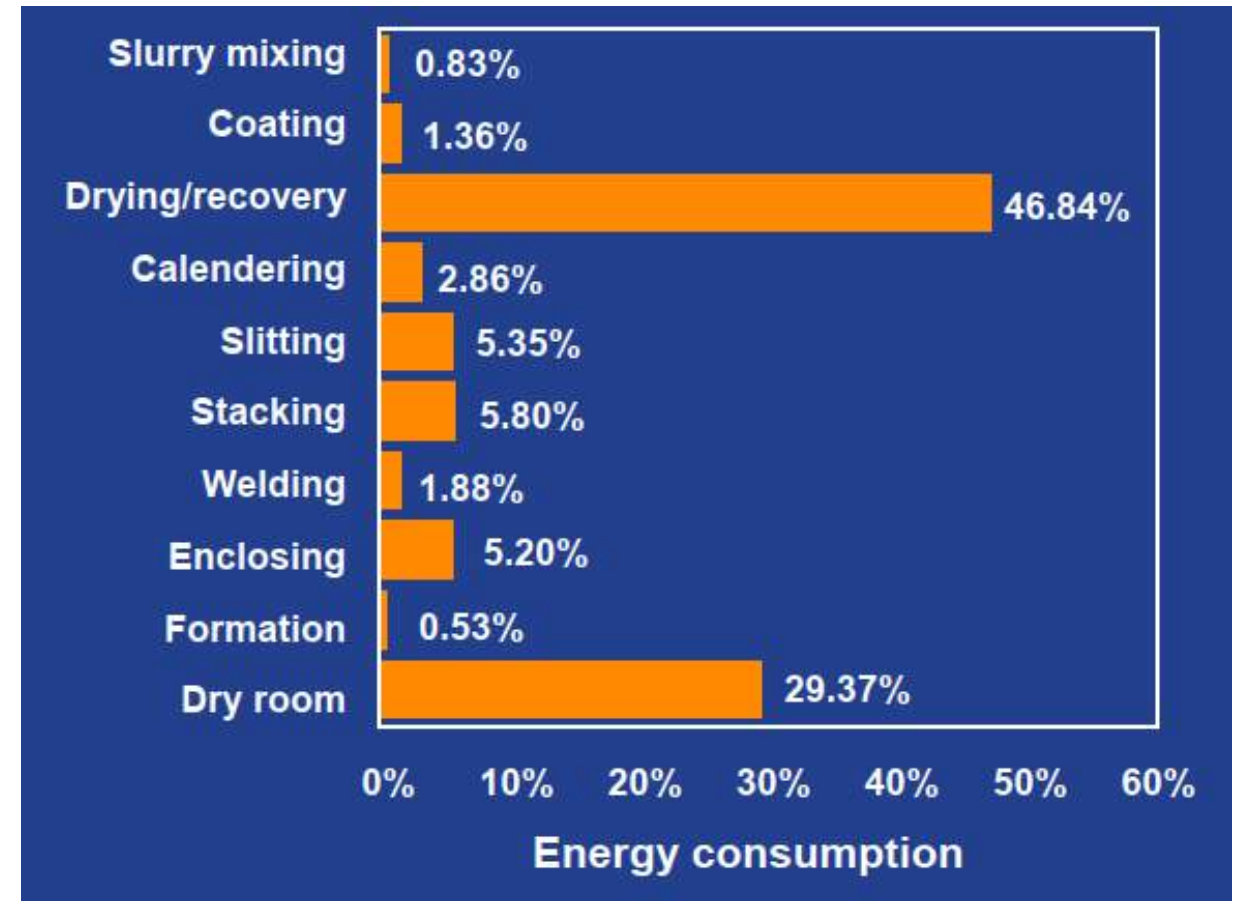
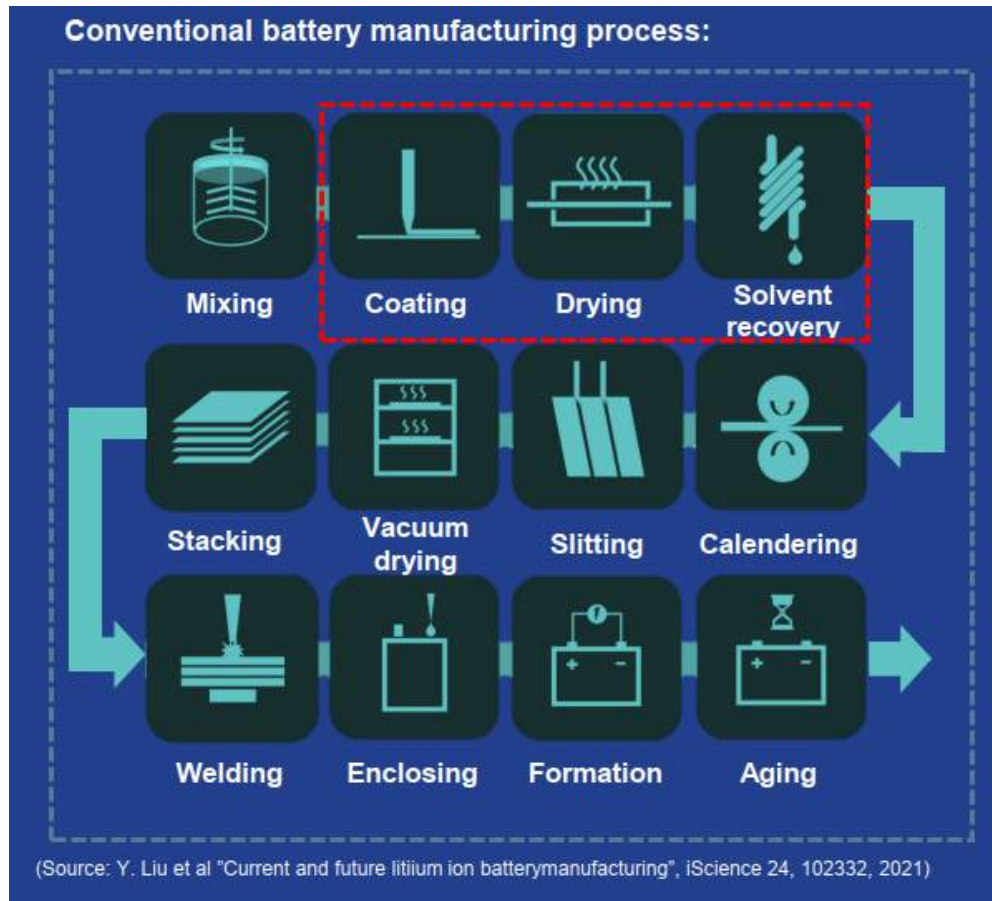


Kestävyys akkukennojen valmistuksessa





Energiatarve akkukennojen valmistuksessa







Mitä tämä tarkoittaa (Tesla S)?

Tesla S model:

Estimated driving range 650 km

Total capacity of 103 kWh.



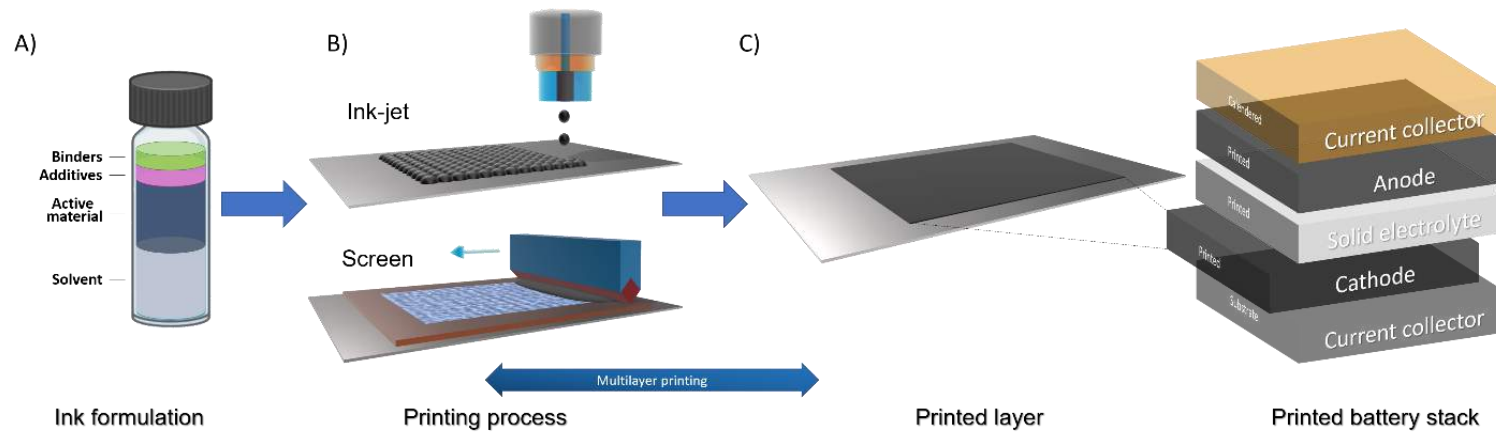
Battery pack is build by modules. Pack consists of thousands of battery cells in total

(Source: <https://screenrant.com/tesla-model-s-traveled-752-miles-single-charge-how/>)

- Akkukapasiteetti 103 kWh
- Tähän kennostoon tarvitaan noin 100 litraa liuotinta
- Liuotin (tyypillisesti NMP) on toksista ja se tulee ottaa talteenottaa
- Energian tarve tähän 5-6.5 MWh
- Voisiko tämän tehdä paremmin?

Miten viedään kestävyys osaksi kennonvalmistusta?

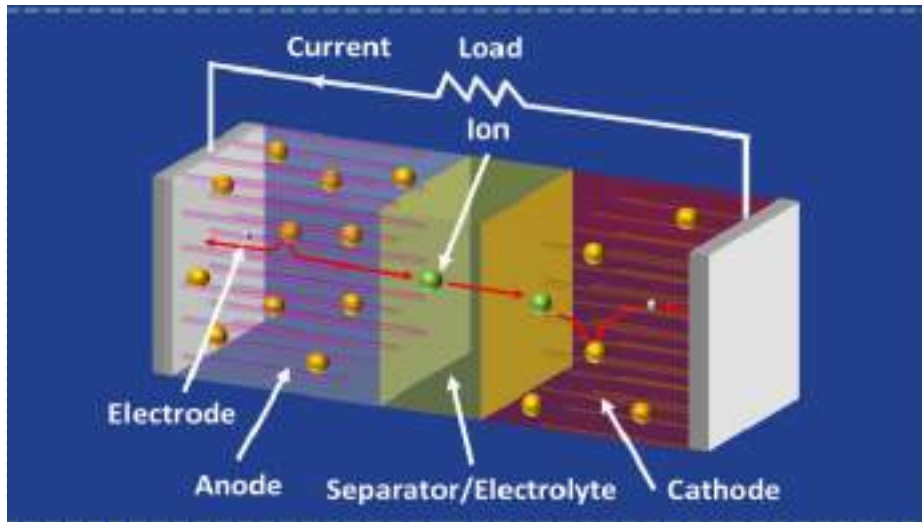
- Korvataan haitallisia liuottimia, tarvitaan vähemmän kuivausenergiaa kennon valmistuksessa
- Korvataan halogeeniyhdisteitä (sideaineet, elektrolyyttisuola)
- Käytetään painotekniikkaa valmistuksessa



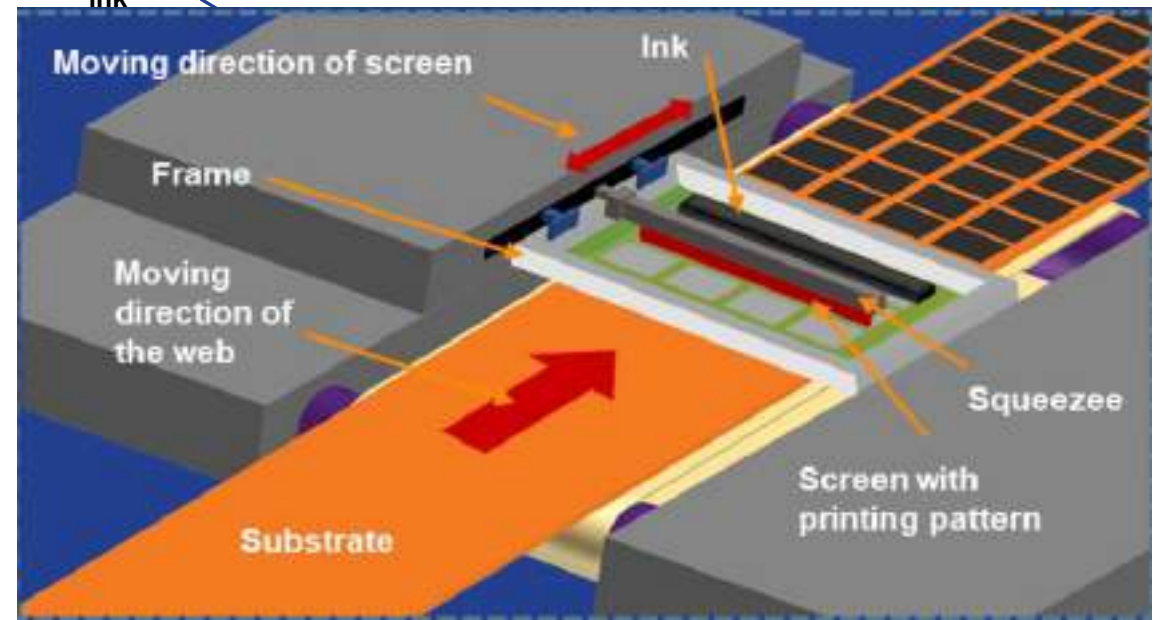
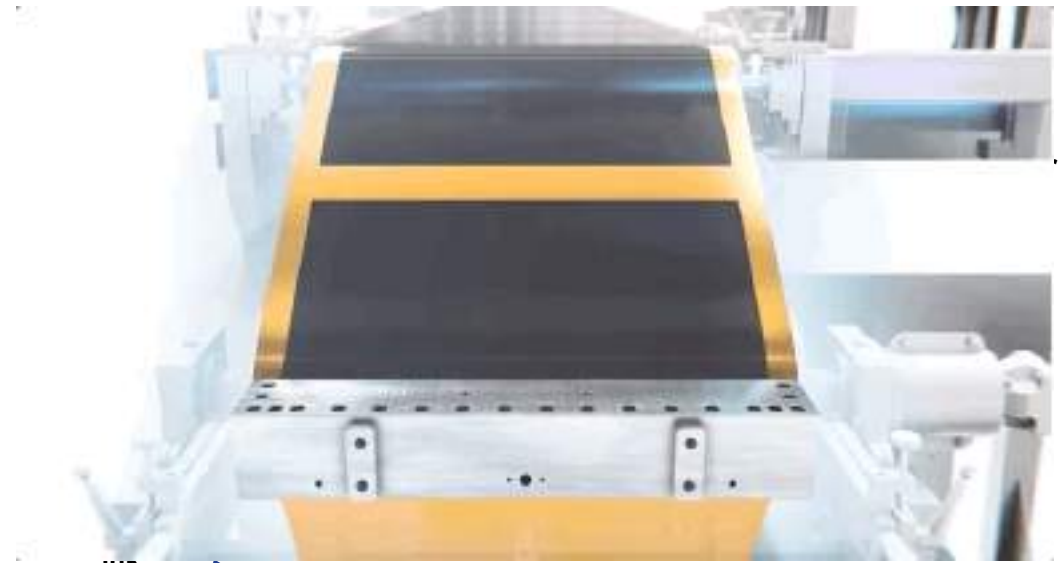
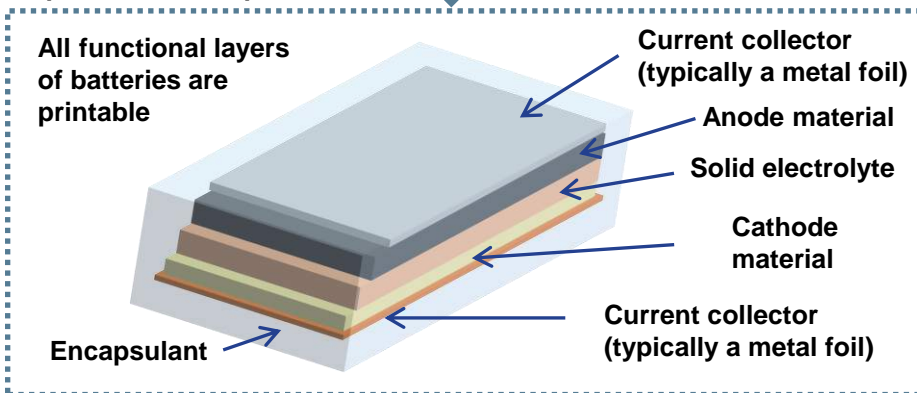
Sliz, Molayian, Fabritius, Lassi
(2022) Printed electronics to accelerate
solid-state battery development,
<https://doi.org/10.1088/2632-959X/ac5d8e>



Kennon valmistus R2R



Repetition of the process



R2R Printing is energy and material efficient approach for high volume production



Eroon toksisista liuottimista...

Conventional battery fabrication process as a reference:

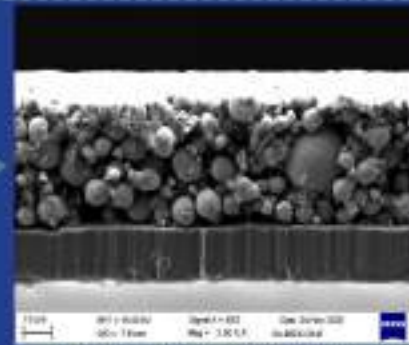


NMP (N-Methyl-2-pyrrolidone)

- Boiling point: 203 °C
- Density: 1.02 g/cm³
- Viscosity 1.89 mPa*s
- Surface tension: 41 mN/m



Blade-coater



SEM Crosssection NMP NMC88 Blade-coated

Greener and highly up-scalable approach:

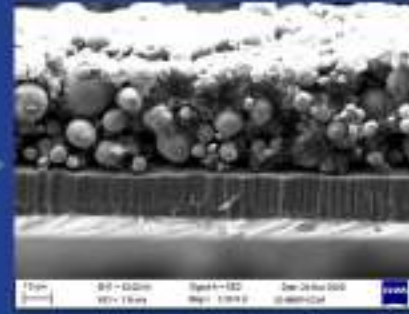


DMF (Dimethylformamide) :

- Boiling point: 153 °C
- Density: 0.95 g/cm³
- Viscosity 0.92 mPa*s
- Surface tension: 37 mN/m



Screen-Printer



SEM Crosssection DMF NMC88 Screen-printed

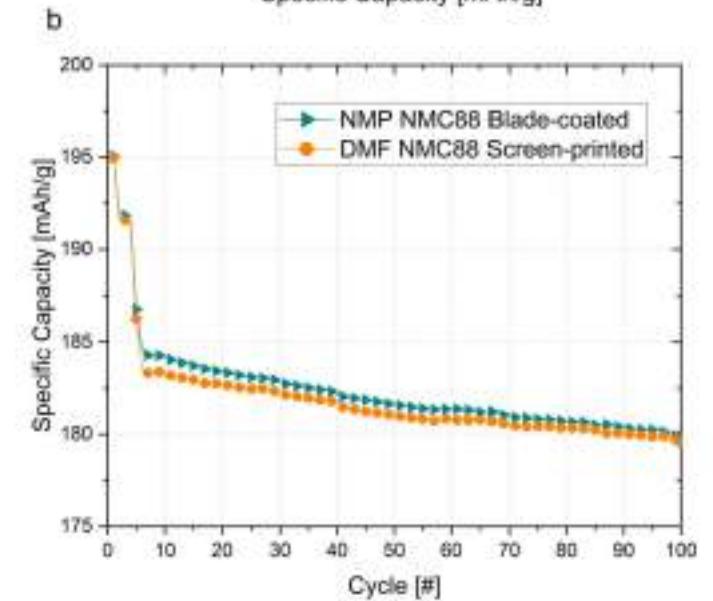
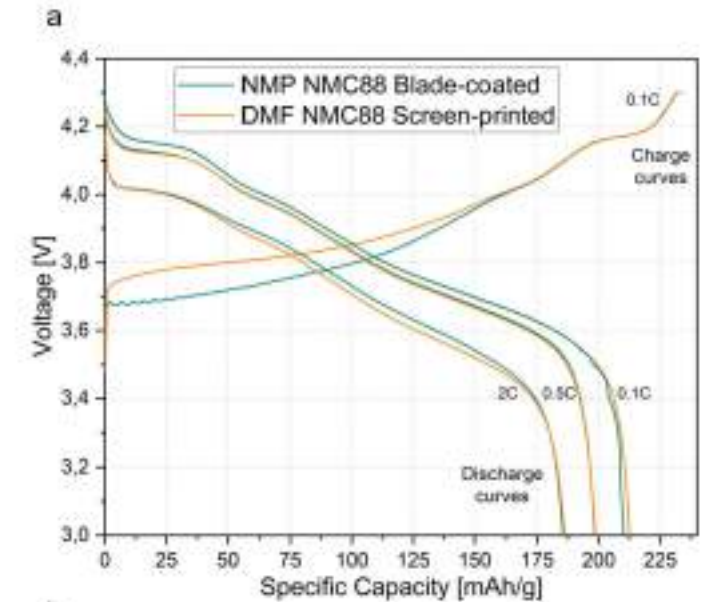


Figure 5. Electrical analysis of the fabricated batteries. a) Specific capacity vs voltage at various charge-discharge current (0.1C, 0.5C, 2C) for differently fabricated cathodes. b) Specific capacity during charging-discharging (1C/1C) process for differently fabricated cathodes.

Sliz, R., Valikangas, J., Silva Santos, H., ...Lassi, U., Fabritius, T. (2022) Suitable cathode NMP replacement for efficient sustainable printed Li-ion batteries, ACS Applied Energy Materials 5(4), pp. 4047–4058, <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsaem.1c02923>



Tulevaisuuden akkukemiat



Figure 1. Schematic summarizes the strategies to improve the electrolyte region for HV-LIBs applications. The abbreviations are defined as follows: liquid electrolytes (LEs), gel polymer electrolytes (GPEs), ionic liquids (ILs), ceramic oxide solid electrolytes (OSEs), sulfide solid electrolytes (SSEs), and polymer solid electrolytes (PSEs).

Cavers, H., Molayian, P., Abdollahifar, M., Lassi, U., Kwade, A. (2022) Perspectives on Improving the Safety and Sustainability of High Voltage Lithium-Ion Batteries Through the Electrolyte and Separator Region, *Advanced Energy Materials*, 10.1002/aenm.202200147



Kiitos mielenkiinnostanne!



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Prof. Tapio Fabritius
Asst Prof Rafal Sliz
Dr., Ass prof Pekka Tynjälä
Dr. Ass prof Tao Hu
Dr. Palanivel Molayian
Researchers Juho Välikangas, Marianna
Hietaniemi, Petteri Laine, Yan Lin, etc.

Funding for BF/BATCircle2.0, EU/BATTValue,
SolBat, PASS projects

AND COMPANIES INVOLVED!



Battery
chemistry
research
since 2007