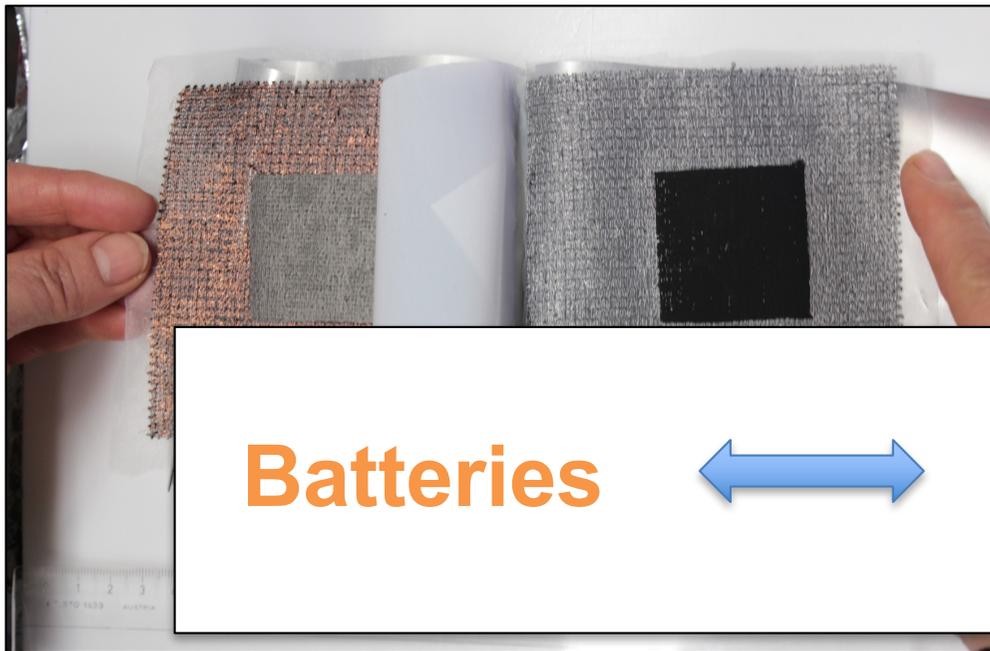


Textile structures in batteries

- Lithium-ion batteries

- Redox flow batteries



Batteries

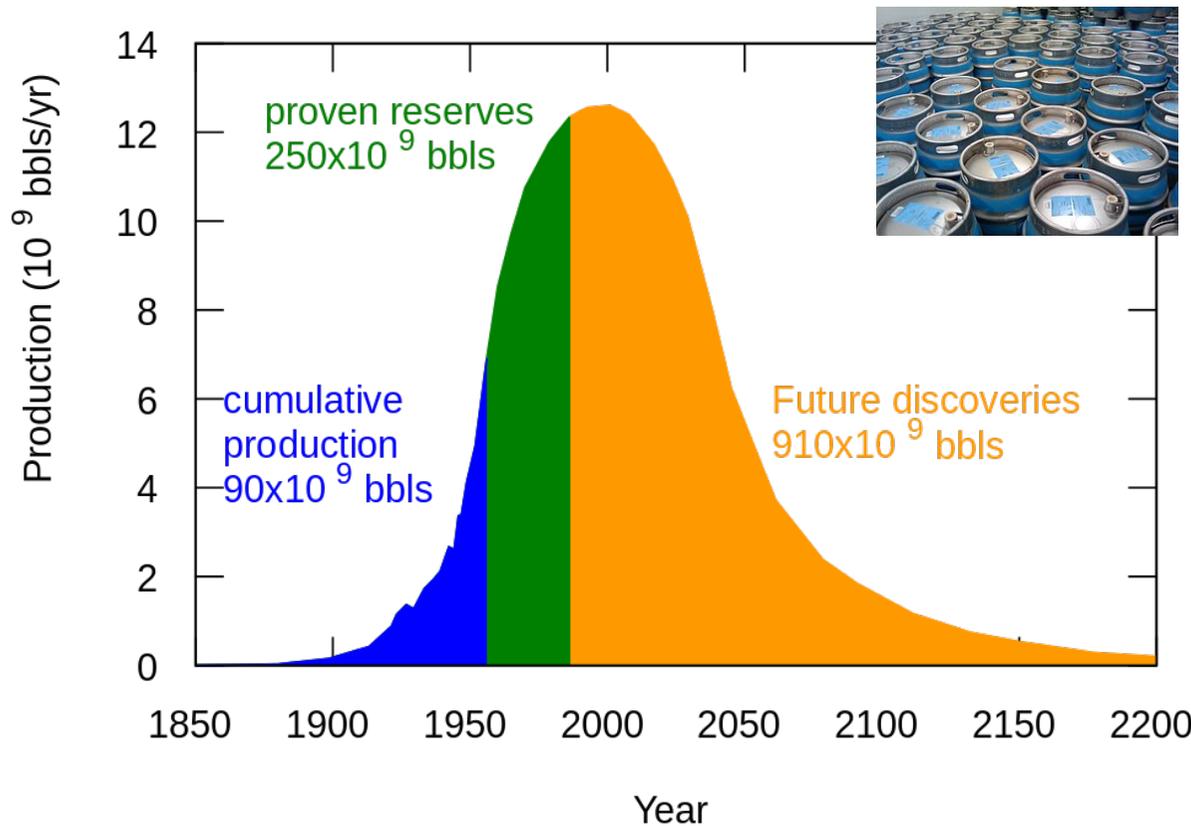


Energy concerns

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6th May 2019

1956 M. King Hubbert predicted that oil production in US lower 48 states would peak in the early 1970s



There is something worse than finishing the supply of fossil fuels....

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
Umweltbelastung



human health and wellbeing
menschliche Gesundheit und Wohlbefinden

2016, the world's oil production was 29.4 billion barrels per year (80.6 Mbbbl/day)



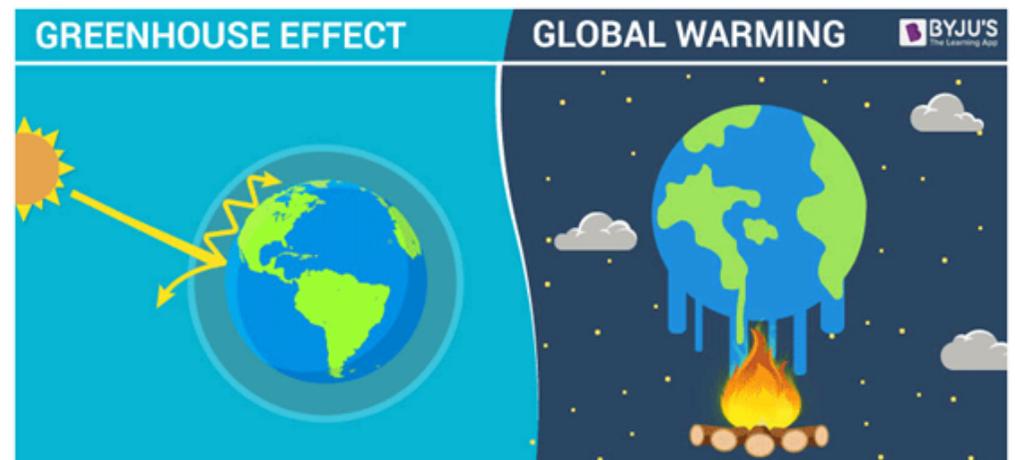
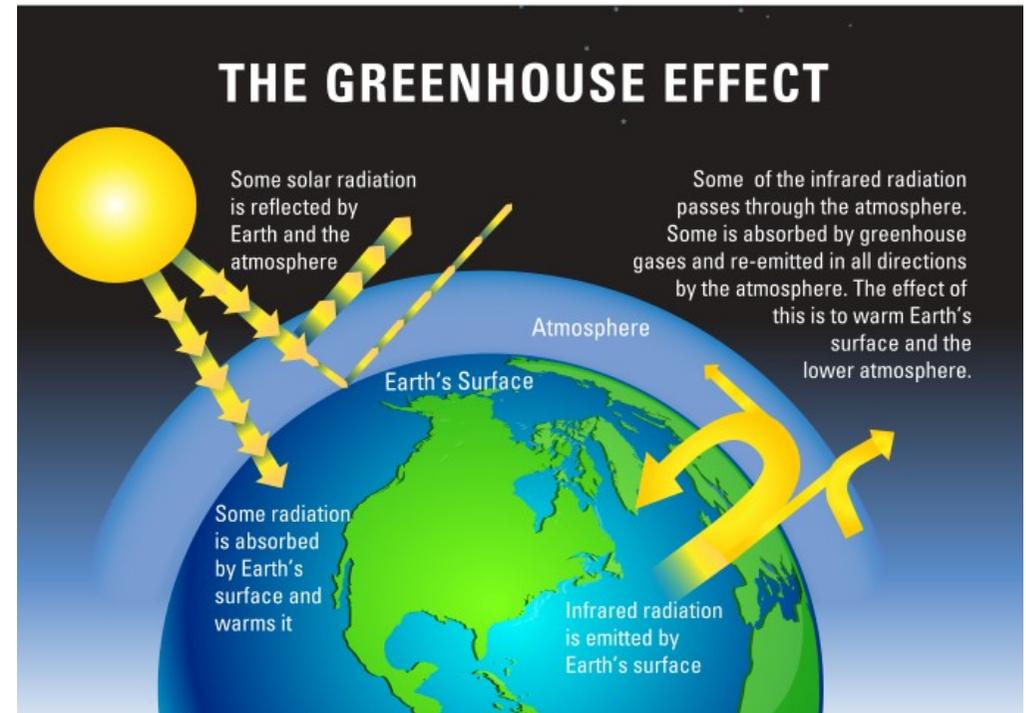
BP (British Petroleum company) Statistical Review of World Energy 2016
50 years of both oil and natural gas remaining, 115 years of oil production

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peak_oil

<https://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/energy-economics/statistical-review-of-world-energy/downloads.html>

Negative impact of fossil fuels on the environment:

- Air pollution by burning fossil fuels:
- Carbon dioxide CO₂, huge contributor to the greenhouse effect, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions contribute to acid rain and formation of harmful particulate matter...



Smog can burn lung tissue and can make people more susceptible to asthma, bronchitis, and other chronic respiratory diseases, premature death due to cancer and respiratory diseases.

Negative impact of fossil fuels on the environment:

- **Extracting fossil fuels** (e.g. coal mining, fracking...)
 - Surface mining involves removing **overlying soils** **devastating local environments**
 - Mines can collapse or gradually subside, **affecting surface and subsurface water flows**
 - Job site accidents, coal mining can lead to **chronic health disorders**. Black lung disease (pneumoconiosis) among coal miners
 - **When oil and gas are extracted, the water** that had been trapped in the geologic formation is brought to the surface. This “produced water” can carry with it naturally-occurring dissolved solids, heavy metals, hydrocarbons, and radioactive materials in concentrations that make it **unsuitable for human consumption and difficult to dispose of safely**
 - The **full global warming** impact of natural gas also includes **methane emissions** from drilling wells and pipeline transportation.



<https://www.ucsusa.org/clean-energy/coal-and-other-fossil-fuels/hidden-cost-of-fossils>

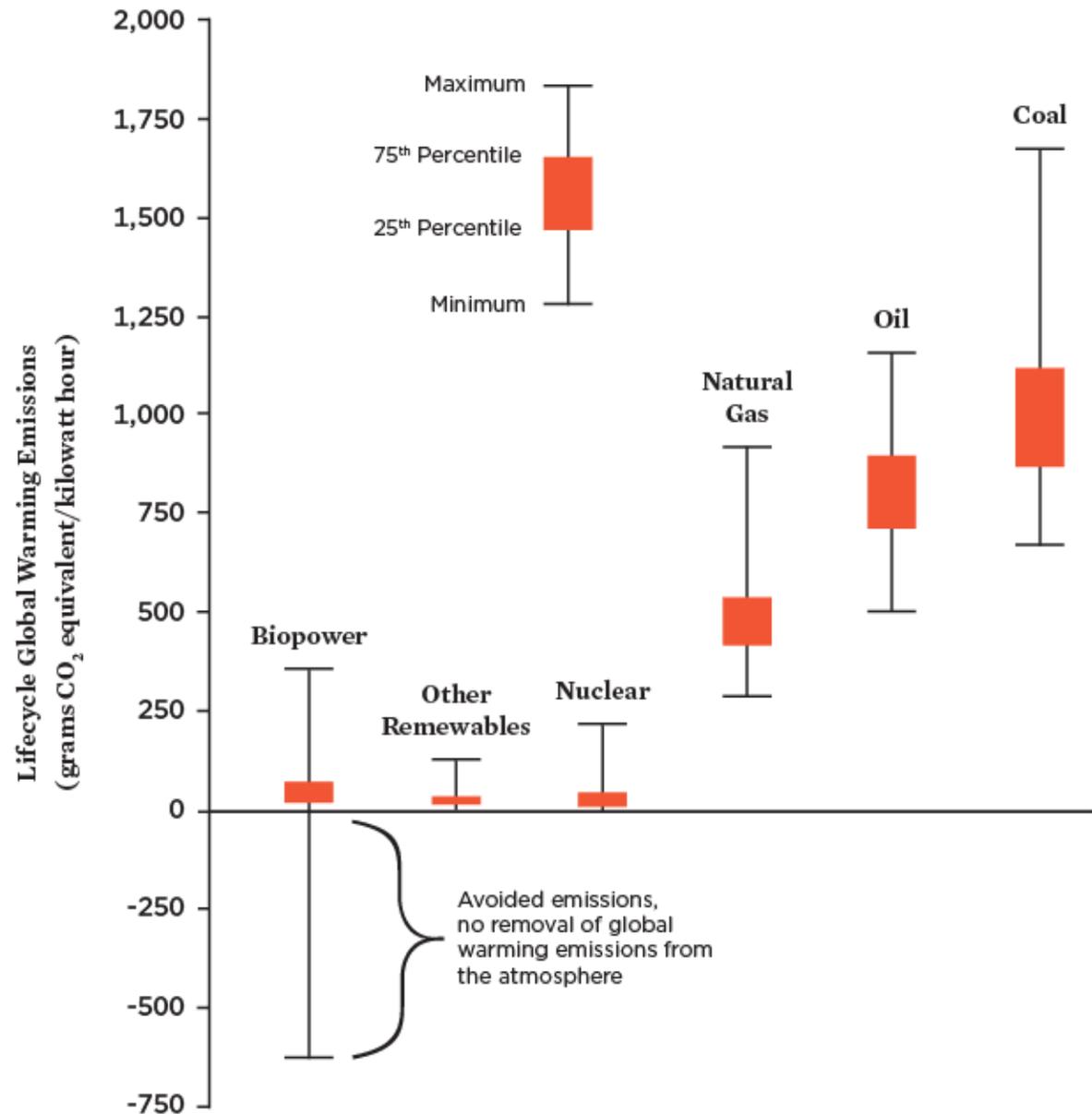
Negative impact of fossil fuels on the environment:

- **Transporting fuel** can generate its own pollution, and increase the potential for catastrophic accidents.
- Transporting coal can also produce **coal dust**, which presents serious **cardiovascular and respiratory risks** for communities near transportation routes
- **Natural gas leaks** from transmission and distribution pipelines are a significant source of **methane emissions**.

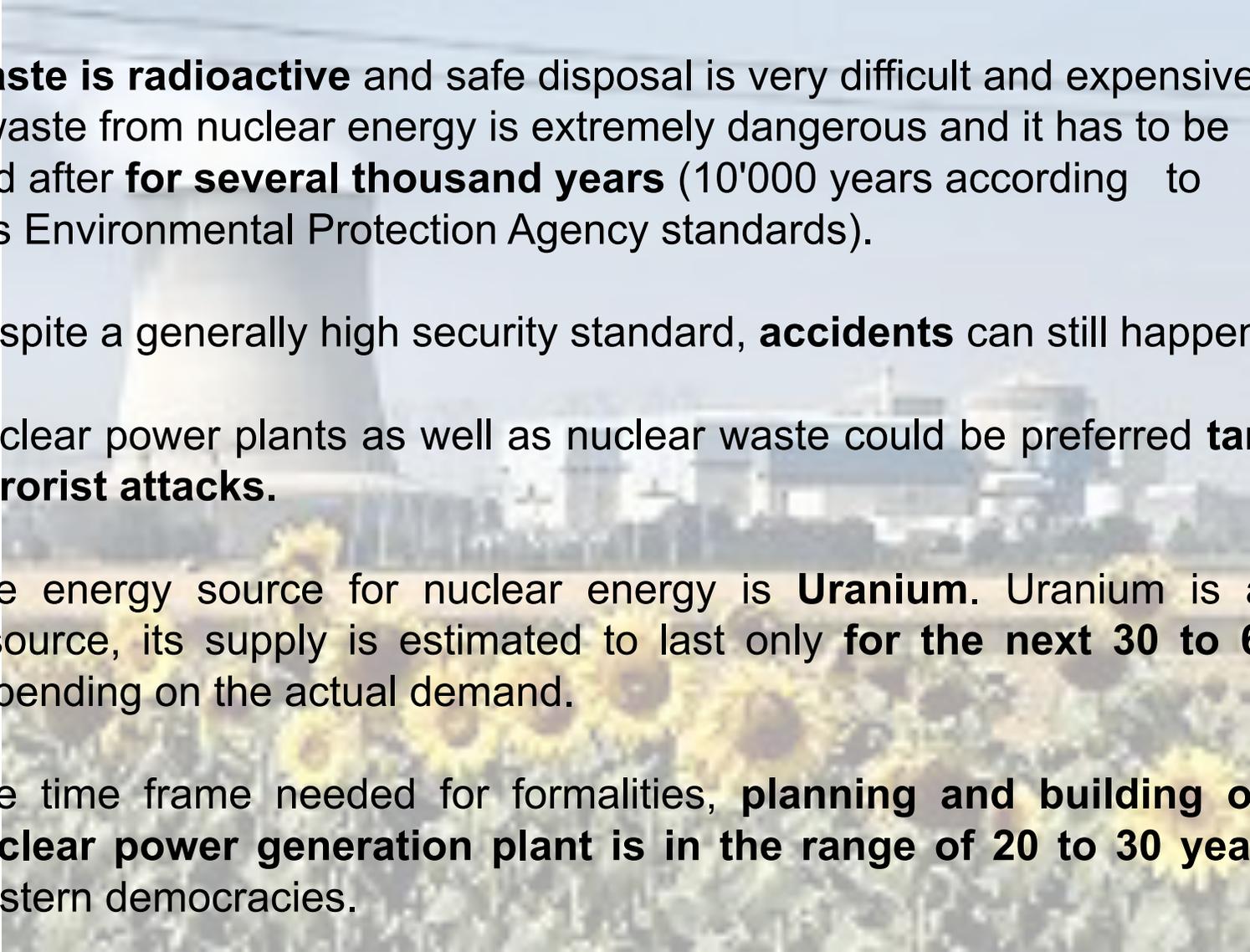


Comparing Global Warming Emissions of Energy Sources

Non-fossil fuel energy generation technologies, like wind, solar, and geothermal, contributed less than 1 percent of the total energy related global warming emissions.



Disadvantages of nuclear power

- 
- **Waste is radioactive** and safe disposal is very difficult and expensive. The waste from nuclear energy is extremely dangerous and it has to be carefully looked after **for several thousand years** (10'000 years according to United States Environmental Protection Agency standards).
 - Despite a generally high security standard, **accidents** can still happen.
 - Nuclear power plants as well as nuclear waste could be preferred **targets for terrorist attacks**.
 - The energy source for nuclear energy is **Uranium**. Uranium is a scarce resource, its supply is estimated to last only **for the next 30 to 60 years** depending on the actual demand.
 - The time frame needed for formalities, **planning and building of a new nuclear power generation plant is in the range of 20 to 30 years** in the western democracies.

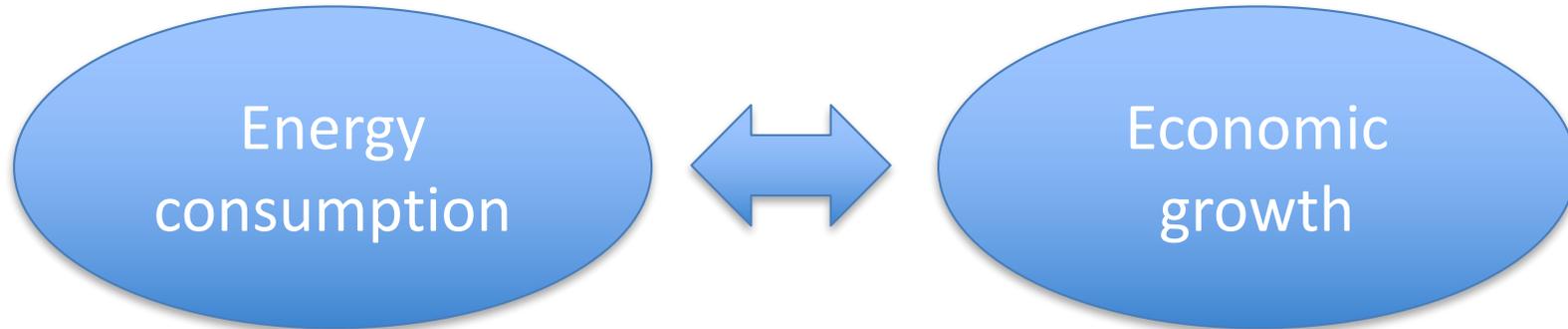
General disadvantages of renewable energy

Wind, geothermal, solar, hydroelectric energy, biomass

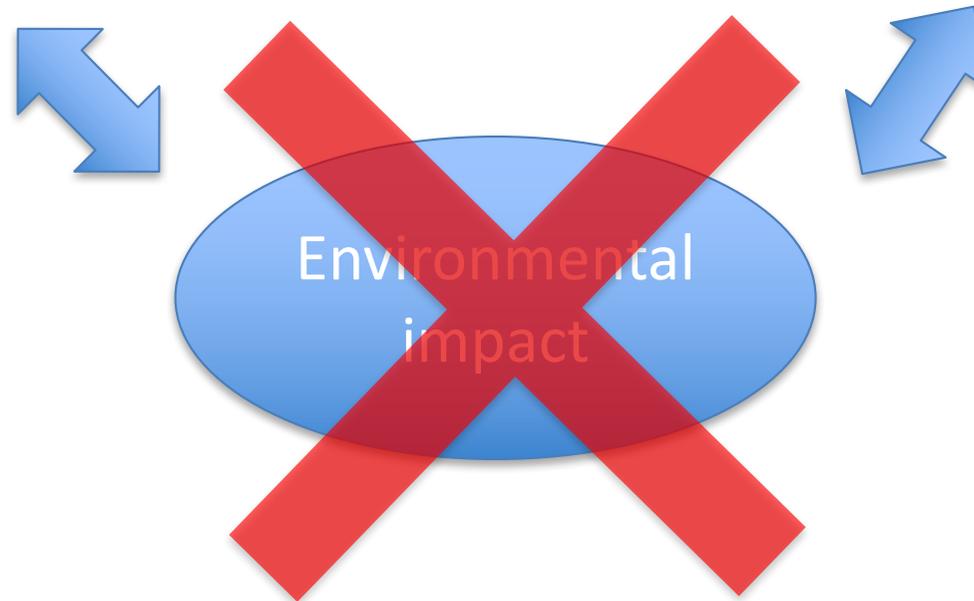
- **Higher upfront costs.** The technologies are more expensive than traditional energy generators.
- **Intermittency.** Some days are more windy than others, the sun doesn't shine at night, droughts may occur for periods of time... unpredictable weather.
- **Storage capabilities.** There is a need for energy storage. The technology can be expensive and under development.
- **Geographic limitations.** But you can still benefit by purchasing green energy in a community.

Dilemma:

Sustainable



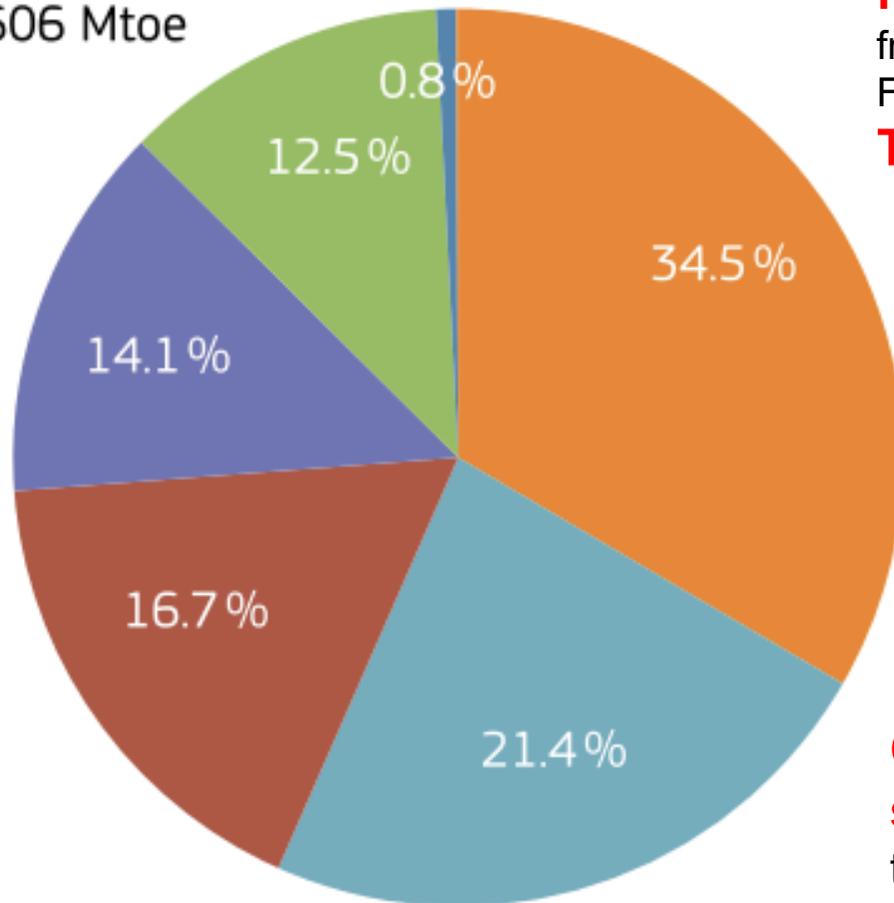
Renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, geothermal, hydropower, wave **are forms of sustainable energy**



Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

GROSS INLAND CONSUMPTION – BY FUEL – EU-28 – 2014 (% TOTAL)

Total = 1 606 Mtoe



Non-renewable energy sources...

from fossil fuels: 72.6%

From nuclear: 14.1%

Total: 86.7%

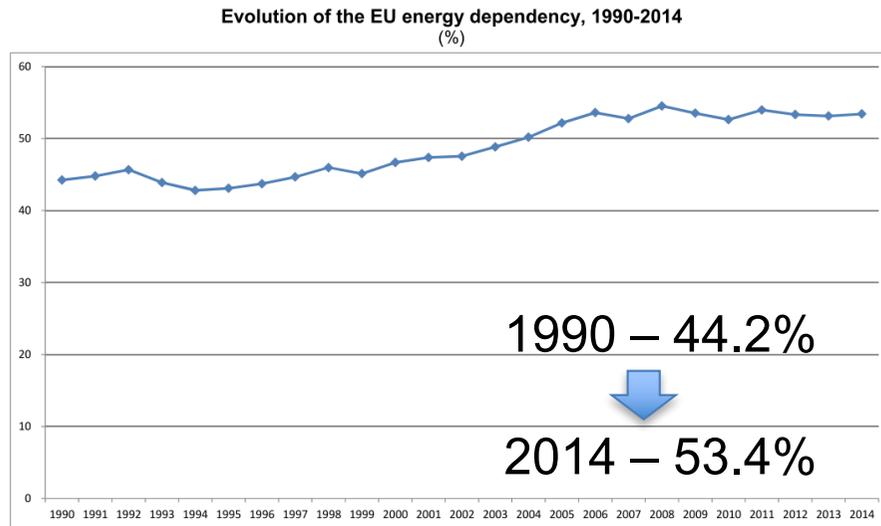
- Petroleum and Products
- Gases
- Solid Fuels
- Nuclear
- Renewables
- Wastes, Non-Renewable

Only 12.5% from renewable energy sources:

hydropower plants, wind turbines and solar power

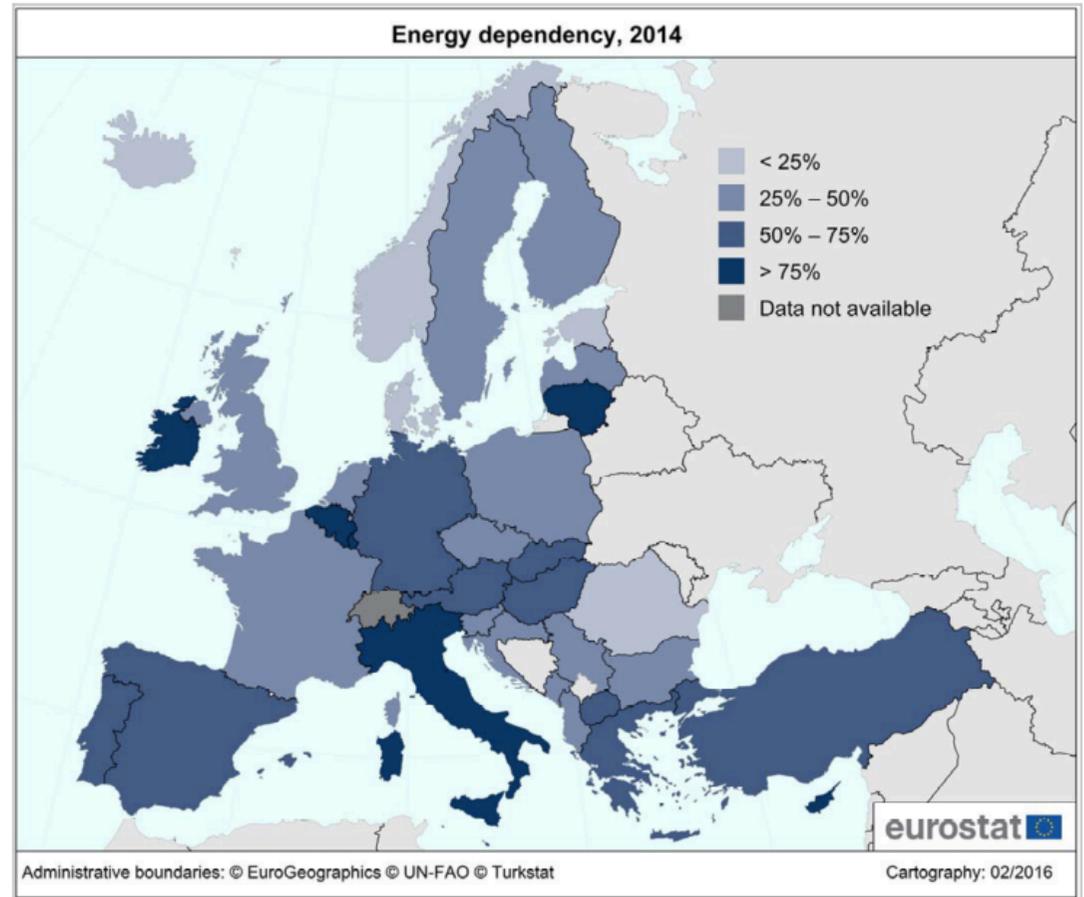
Mtoe: millions of tones of oil equivalent, energy released by burning one tonne of crude oil, ~ 42 Gigajoules

- ✓ The energy dependency of the European Union (EU) stood in **2014 at 53.4%**. EU needed to **import half of the energy it consumed** in 2014!



The EU imports:

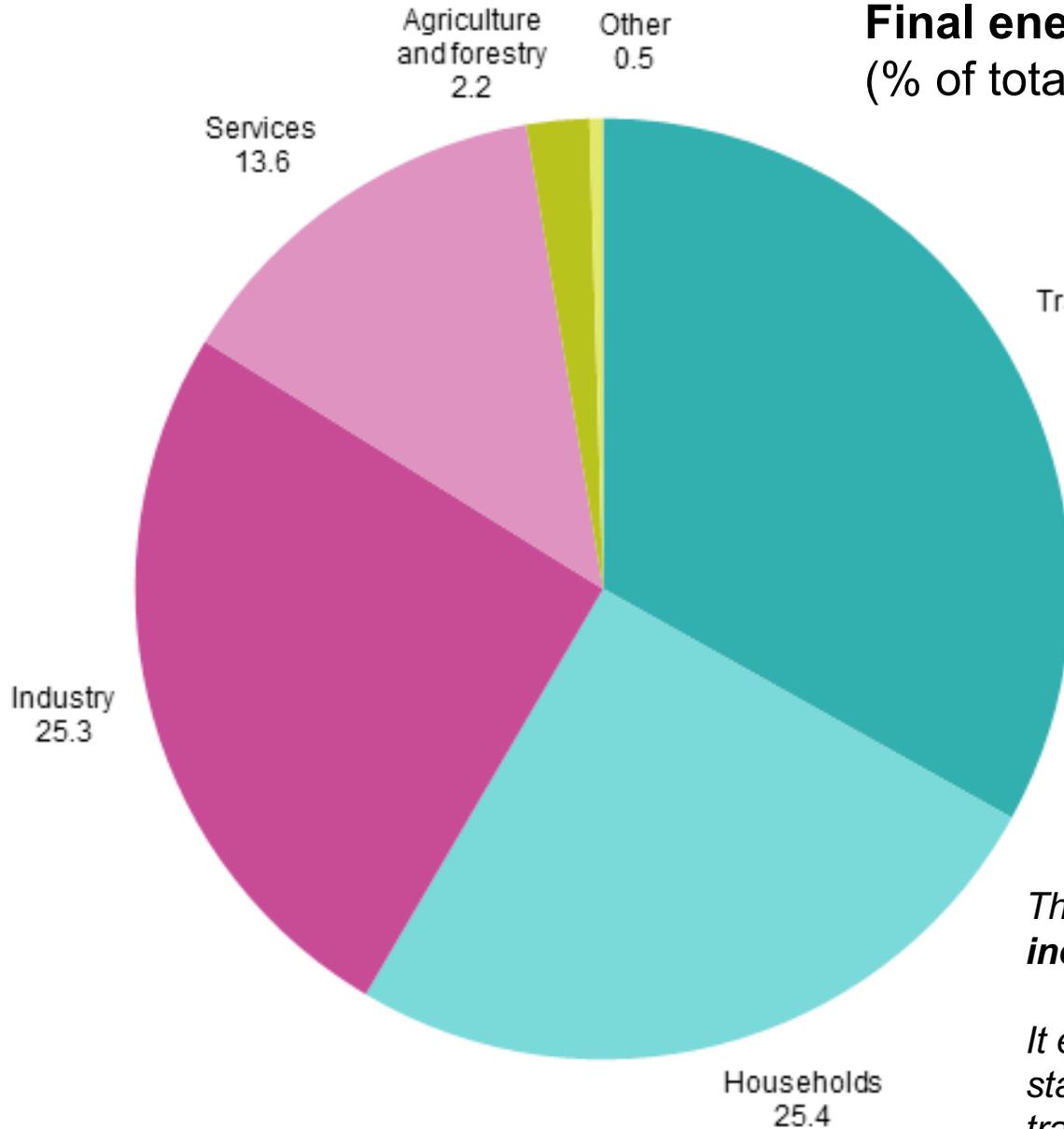
90% of its crude oil
 66% of its natural gas
 42% of its coal and other solid fuels
 40% of its uranium and other nuclear fuels.



Austria: 65.4 %
 Germany 61.4%, France: 46.1%, Italy: 75.9%
 Estonia: 8.9%, Denmark: 12.8%, Romania: 17%

Eurostat Press Office, The EU was dependent on energy imports for slightly over half of its consumption in 2014, Eurostat. (2016) 1–4.

Final energy consumption, EU-28, 2015 (% of total, based on tonnes of oil equivalent)



Transport 33.1%

Households 25.4 %

Industry 25.3 %

Services 13.6 %

Agriculture and forestry 2.2 %

Other 0.5 %

*This excludes energy used by **the energy sector, including for deliveries, and transformation.***

It excludes fuel transformed in the electrical power stations of industrial auto-producers and coke transformed into blast-furnace gas where this is not part of overall industrial consumption but of the transformation sector.

Note: figures do not sum to 100.0 % due to rounding.

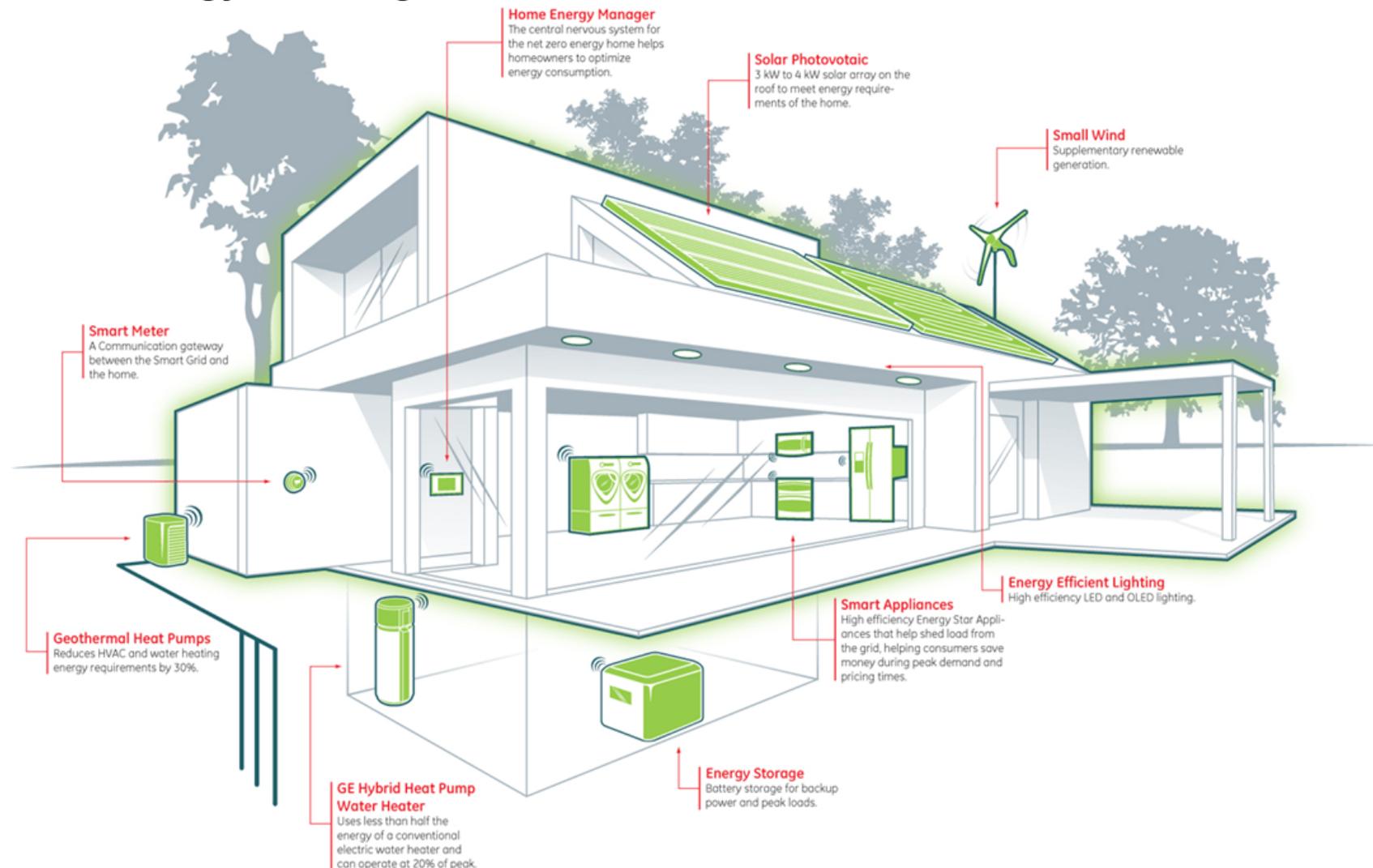
Source: Eurostat (online data code: nrg_100a)

Electric cars

- EU commission: CO₂ emissions from new cars should be cut by 30% by 2030.
- Expensive
- They require charging stations
- Recharging batteries takes about 3 hours
- Autonomy on traveling long distances (200 km on average)
- Lack of power (behind gas powered vehicles in their ability to accelerate)
- Safety concerns (thermal runaway causing fire and explosion depending on the material used).



Zero net energy buildings



The [Energy Performance of Buildings Directive](https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-performance-of-buildings/nearly-zero-energy-buildings) requires all new buildings in the EU to be nearly zero-energy by the end of 2020. All new public buildings must be nearly zero-energy by 2018.

<https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-performance-of-buildings/nearly-zero-energy-buildings> <https://www.lgc.org/newsletter/zero-net-energy-hub/>

There is only one solution....

To reduce the energy consumption!

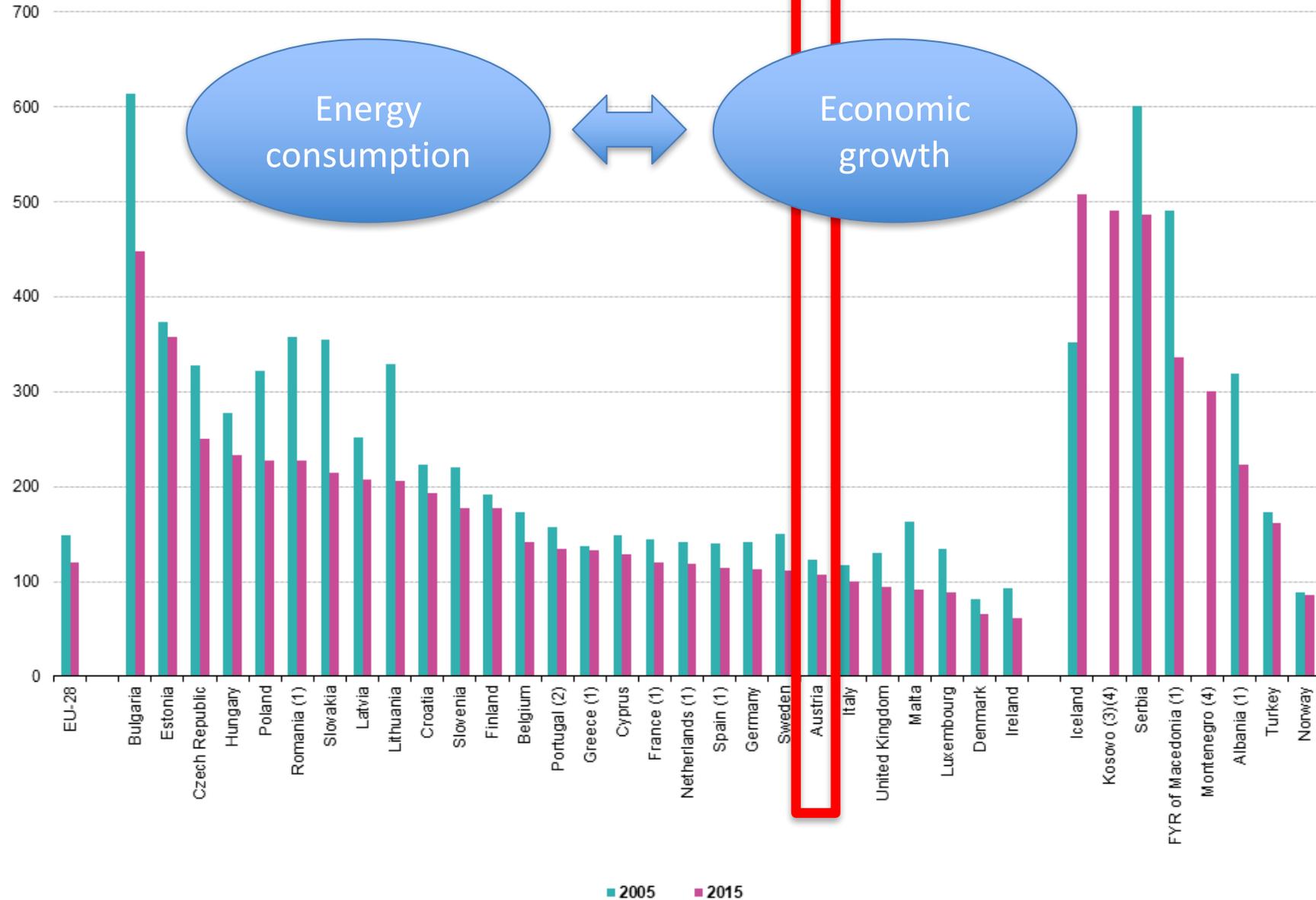
- The EU has pledged to cut its energy consumption by **20%** (compared with projected levels) by 2020
- The level of EU-28 energy consumption in 2015 was **11.6 % lower** than its previous peak of 1 840 Mtoe recorded in 2006, equivalent to an average **reduction of 1.4 % per annum**
- The number of inhabitants living in the EU-28 increased by 33.3 million persons.

Gross Inland energy consumption: the quantity of energy necessary to satisfy inland consumption (2015)

Germany 19.6%
France 15.5%
UK 11.7%
Italy 10.7%
Austria 2.5%

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Share in EU-28, 2015 (%)
EU-28	1 085.0	1 082.8	1 132.9	1 192.3	1 164.5	1 107.2	1 108.0	1 107.6	1 061.7	1 084.0	100.0
Belgium	31.5	34.3	37.5	36.6	37.6	35.0	35.1	36.4	34.2	35.8	3.3
Bulgaria	16.4	11.4	9.1	10.2	8.8	9.3	9.2	8.8	9.0	9.5	0.9
Czech Republic	32.7	26.3	25.1	26.3	25.4	24.6	24.5	24.3	23.6	24.2	2.2
Denmark	13.5	14.8	14.7	15.5	15.5	14.8	14.2	14.1	13.5	13.9	1.3
Germany	228.9	221.6	220.0	218.5	219.7	208.8	212.1	217.7	208.9	212.1	19.6
Estonia	5.7	2.6	2.4	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	0.3
Ireland	7.3	8.0	10.8	12.6	12.0	10.9	10.6	10.7	10.8	11.2	1.0
Greece	14.7	15.8	18.7	21.0	19.0	18.9	17.0	15.3	15.5	16.5	1.5
Spain	57.1	64.0	79.9	97.8	89.1	86.7	83.2	80.8	79.2	80.5	7.4
France	136.2	143.5	155.3	160.8	155.3	143.8	148.5	151.2	140.3	144.1	13.3
Croatia	6.5	5.3	6.0	7.2	7.2	7.0	6.7	6.6	6.2	6.6	0.6
Italy	107.7	114.6	124.7	137.2	128.5	123.1	121.8	118.5	113.3	116.4	10.7
Cyprus	1.1	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.7	0.2
Latvia	6.4	3.8	3.3	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	0.3
Lithuania	9.7	4.6	3.8	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	0.4
Luxembourg	3.3	3.1	3.5	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.0	0.4
Hungary	19.9	16.2	16.1	18.2	17.4	17.5	16.5	16.6	16.2	17.3	1.6
Malta	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.1
Netherlands	45.5	51.0	52.3	54.2	55.1	51.6	51.5	51.6	47.3	48.5	4.5
Austria	19.3	21.4	23.7	27.8	28.2	27.2	27.1	28.0	26.7	27.4	2.5
Poland	59.9	62.9	55.2	58.5	66.3	64.7	64.4	63.3	61.6	62.3	5.7
Portugal	11.9	13.9	17.9	19.0	18.1	17.3	16.0	15.9	15.8	16.0	1.5
Romania	40.8	27.0	22.8	24.7	22.6	22.8	22.8	21.8	21.7	21.9	2.0
Slovenia	3.7	4.1	4.5	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.7	0.4
Slovakia	15.2	11.0	11.0	11.6	11.5	10.8	10.3	10.6	10.0	10.1	0.9
Finland	21.7	22.0	24.3	25.2	26.2	25.0	25.2	24.7	24.5	24.2	2.2
Sweden	31.2	35.1	35.0	33.7	34.1	32.4	32.4	31.6	31.2	31.8	2.9
United Kingdom	136.9	142.7	153.2	152.8	143.2	132.0	135.9	136.7	129.6	131.4	12.1
Iceland	1.4	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.9	3.1	-
Norway	16.1	16.9	18.1	18.6	19.6	18.7	18.8	19.0	18.5	18.7	-
Montenegro	-	-	-	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	-
FYR of Macedonia	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	-
Albania	1.9	0.9	1.5	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.0	-
Serbia	11.8	6.1	6.9	9.6	9.0	9.2	8.5	8.3	7.8	8.2	-
Turkey	38.7	45.2	56.2	63.5	74.1	78.8	84.2	82.0	85.9	93.2	-
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3.3	0.8	1.2	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	4.5	:	-
Kosovo (*)	-	-	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	-

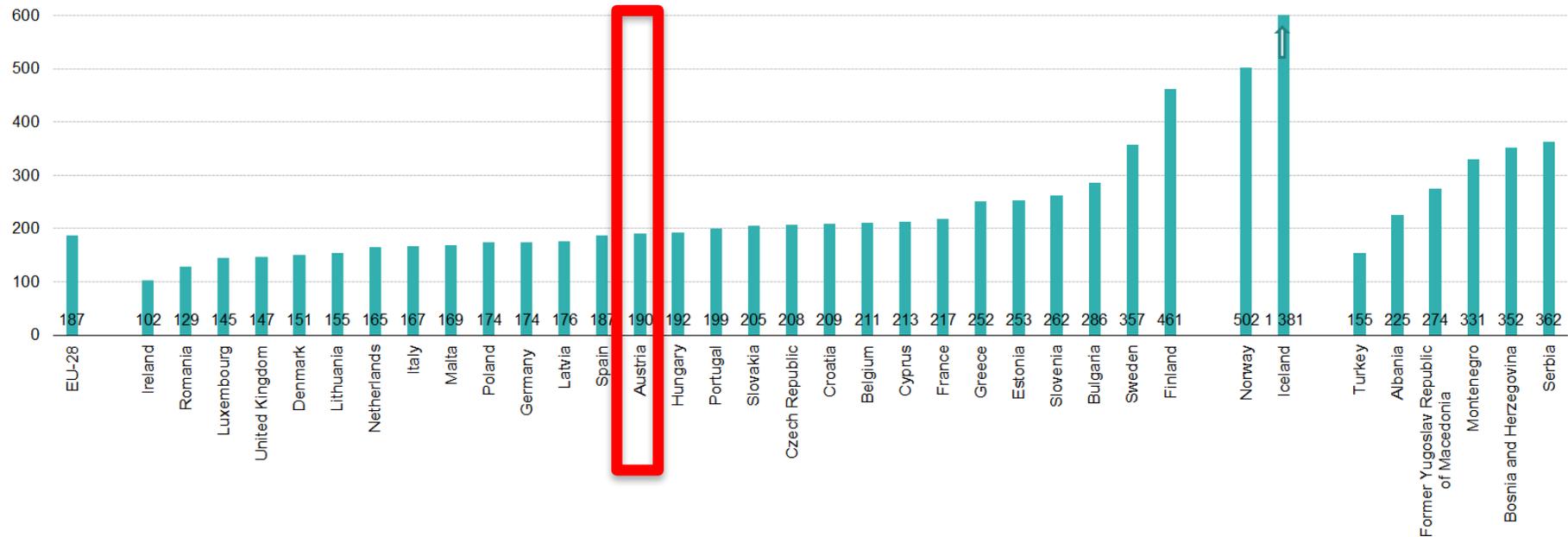
Energy intensity of the economy, 2005 and 2015 (kg of oil equivalent per 1 000 EUR of GDP) YB17



Energy consumption per capita

Electricity consumption per unit of GDP (Gross Domestic Product, using Purchasing Power Standards) in the **EU-28 in 2016 was 186.8 kWh per 1000 EUR** (Figure 7). The amount of electricity consumed per unit of GDP depends on many factors, starting from the general standard of living, the economy and weather conditions as well as energy efficiency of buildings and appliances. Using GDP in Purchasing Power Standards allows for better comparison across countries in one year.

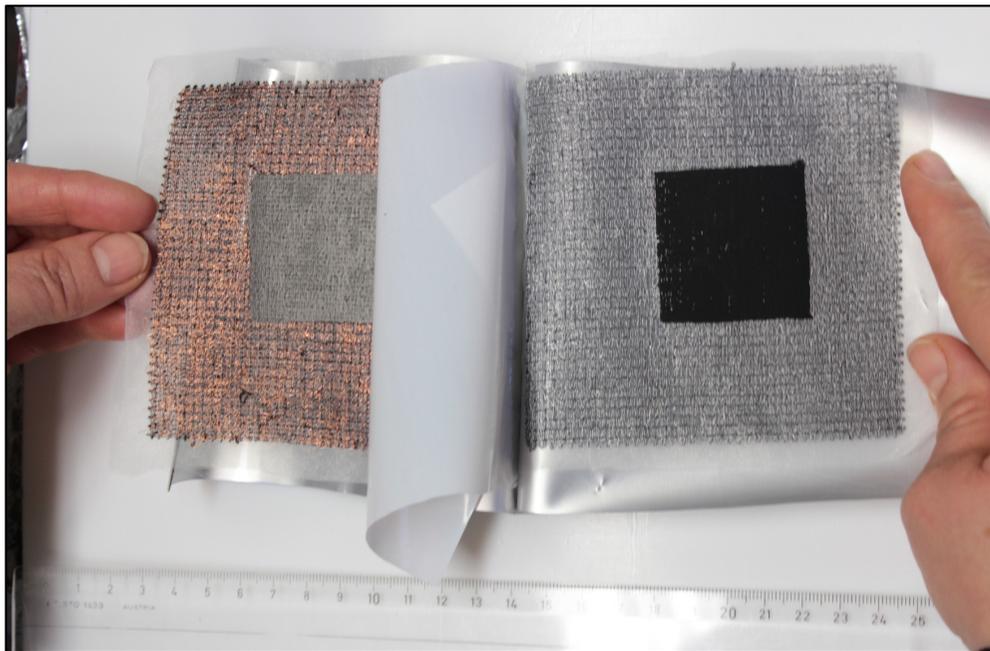
Final consumption of electricity per GDP (PPS), kWh per 1000 EUR (PPS), 2016



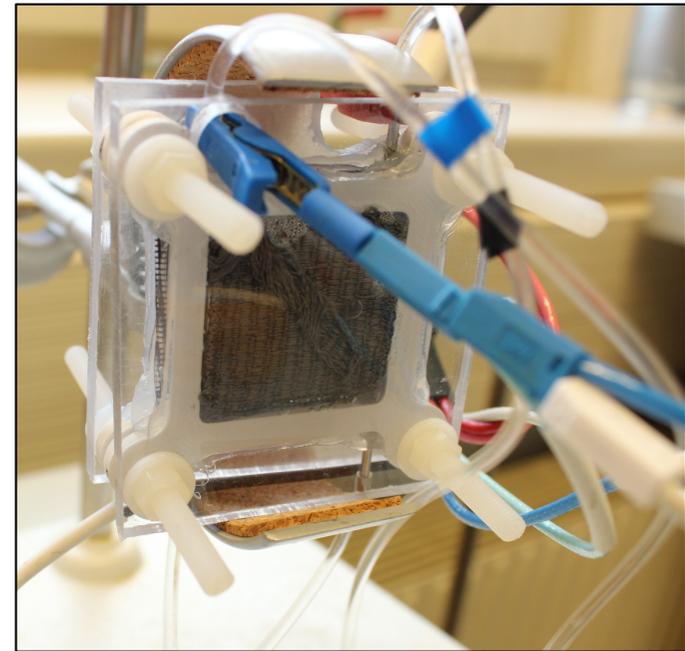
Source: Eurostat (online data code: nrg_105a, nama_10_gdp)

Textile structures in batteries

- Lithium-ion batteries



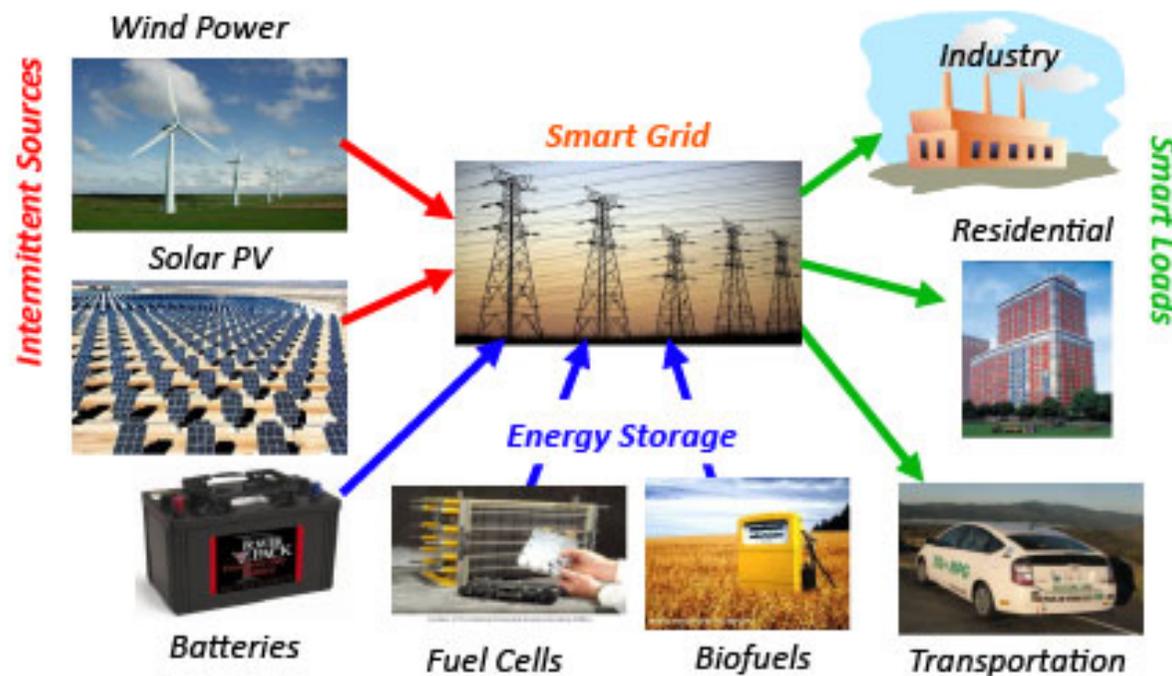
- Redox flow batteries



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6th May 2019

- Replacing fossil-fuel electricity
- Storage systems supporting intermittent renewable energy sources
- ✓ Different types depending on applications: **Electrochemical energy storage systems**

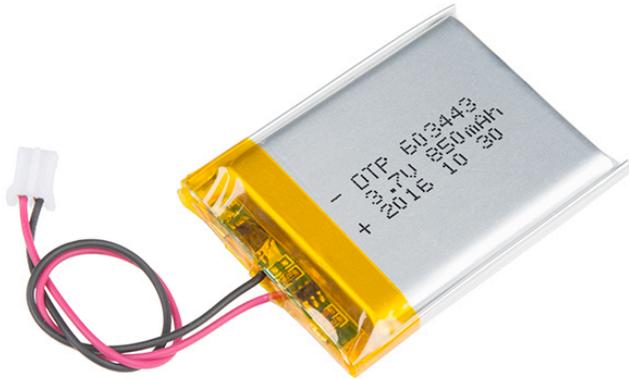


- automotive,
- stationary applications,
- portable electronic devices,

Depending on energy and power requirements...

Electrochemical energy storage systems

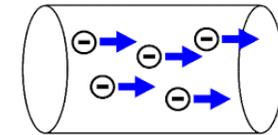
e.g. Li-ion batteries



Chemical energy

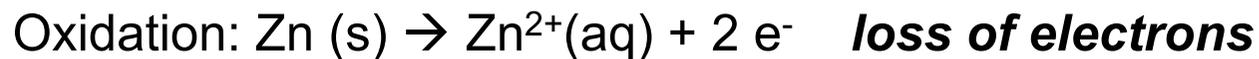


Electrical energy



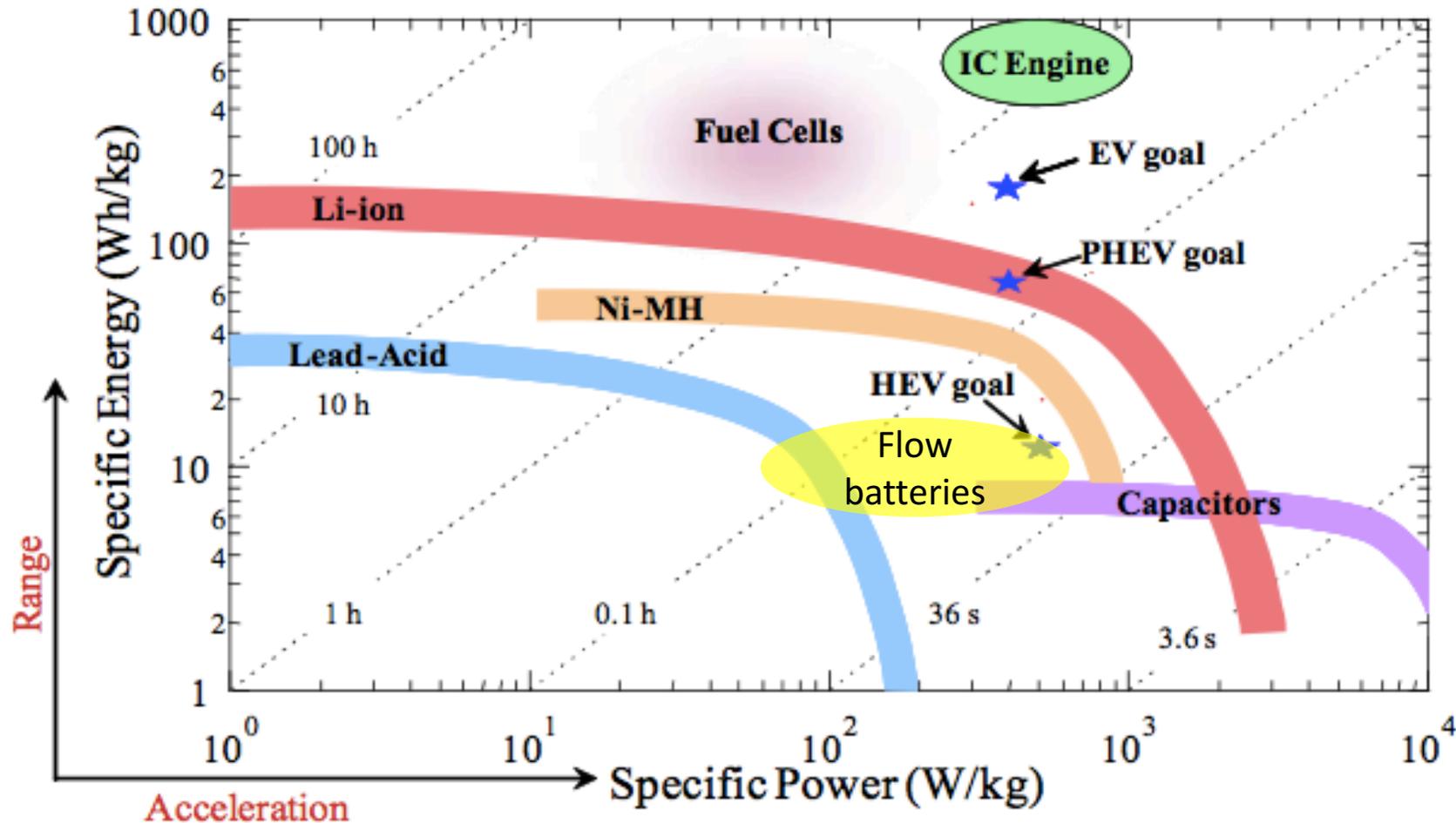
How?

Chemical reactions where electrons are transferred into molecules/atoms the so-called **reduction-oxidation reactions (redox reactions)**.



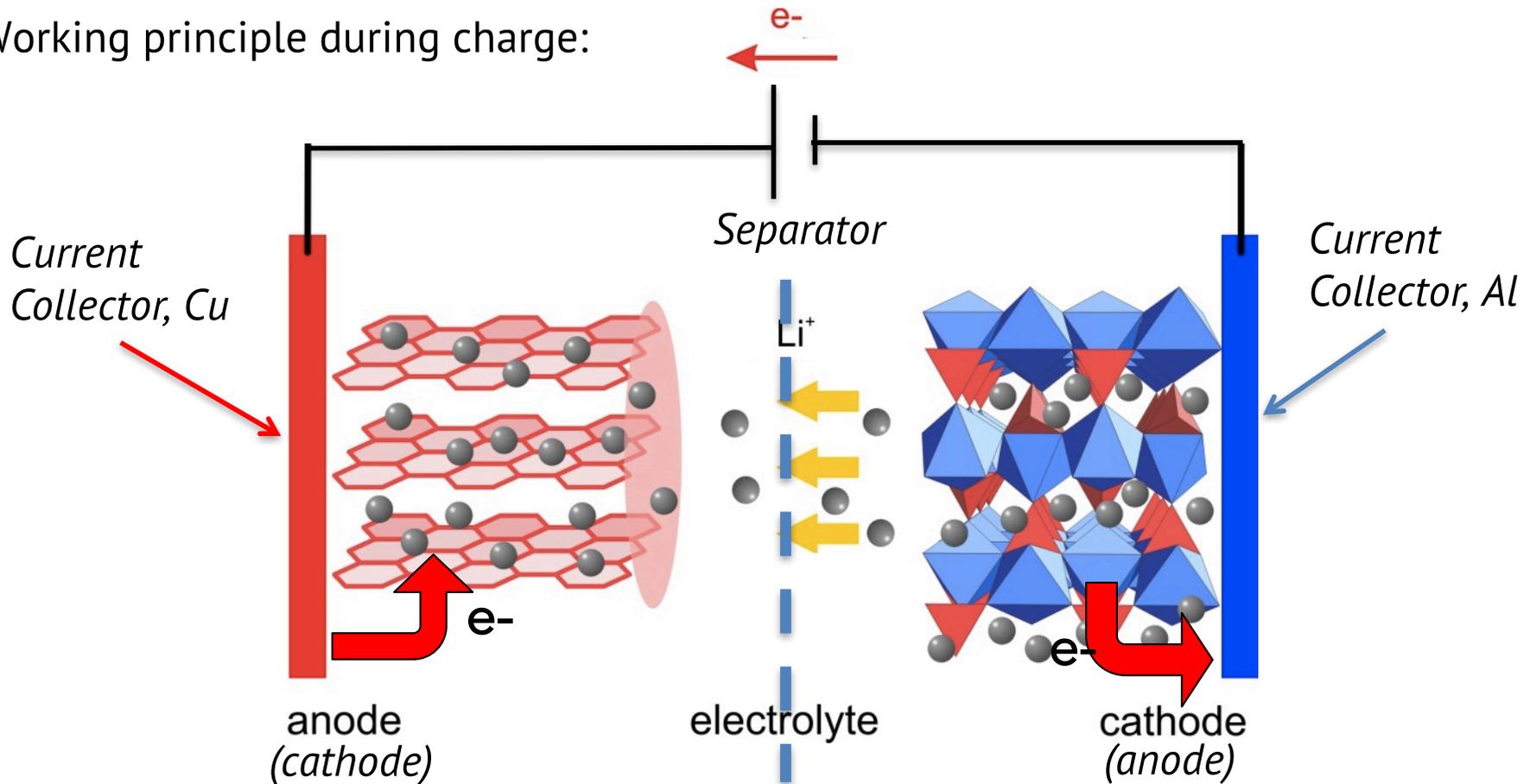
Electrochemical energy storage systems

- Different types:

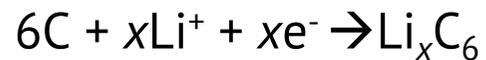


Li-ion batteries: Background

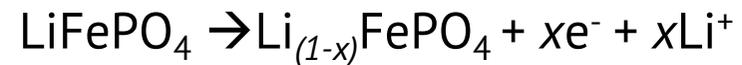
Working principle during charge:



Reduction:



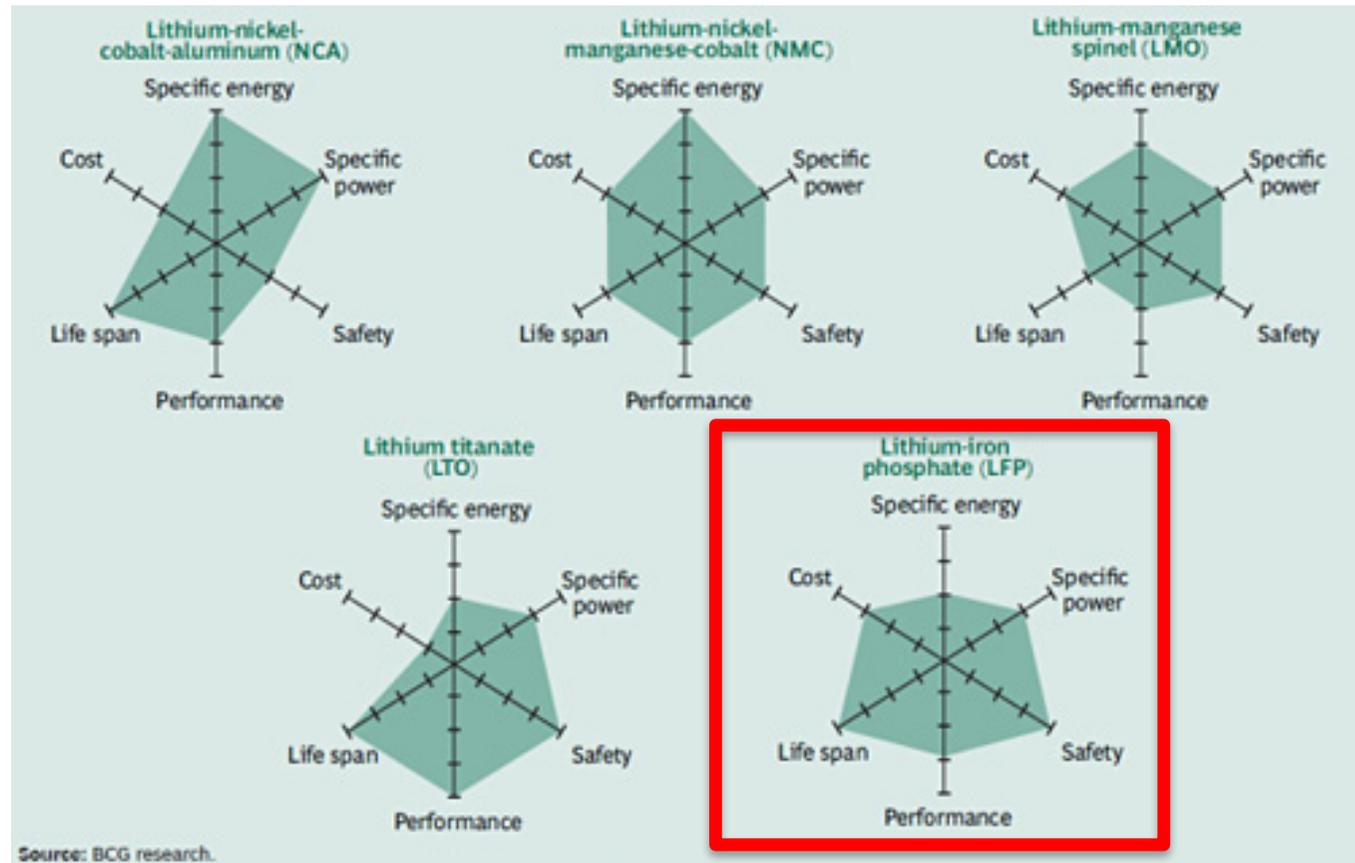
Oxidation: $\text{Fe}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+} + e^-$



Li-ion batteries: Background

e.g. different types of lithium-ion batteries:

- Specific energy
- Specific power
- Cost
- Life span
- Life cycles
- Performance
- Safety
- Environmental impact
- Technical maturity



Li-ion batteries: Two main problems

1) The trade-off between energy density and power density

- Poor electronic conductivity
- Poor mechanical stability



Thin layers of electrode material
 ~ 20-50 μm
 2-7 mg cm^{-2}



2) High costs

130 Wh/kg, 247 Wh/L → In 2020: 235 Wh/kg, 500 Wh/L
 for battery EVs cost competitive

How to reduce costs?

- Improving battery performance
- Reducing material costs



Water-based solutions, also more environmentally-friendly!

224 €/kWh → < 150 €/kWh



- Electroactive material
- Conductive additive
- Binder
- Solvent

The typical binder and solvent:

- Binder: Poly(vinylidene fluoride) (PVDF)
- Solvent: N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP)
 → toxic and expensive!

Li-ion batteries: Other problems

Too rigid structure



130 Wh/kg
295 Wh/L



Flexible Lithium-ion Battery (CG-064065)



Flexible Lithium-ion Battery
(From the left, CG-062939, CG-063555, CG-064065)

Nominal Capacity: 40 mAh

Weight: 1.4 g

Nominal voltage: 3.8 V

Thickness: 0.55 mm

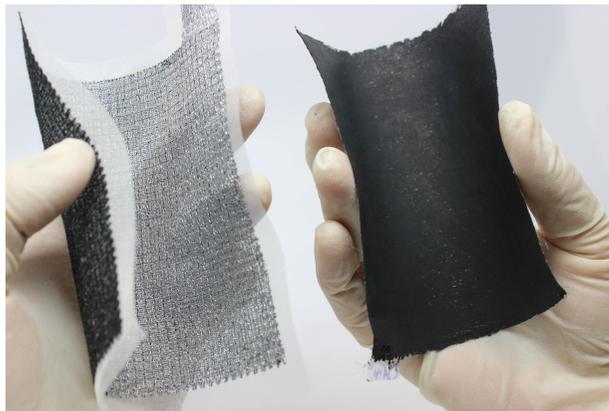
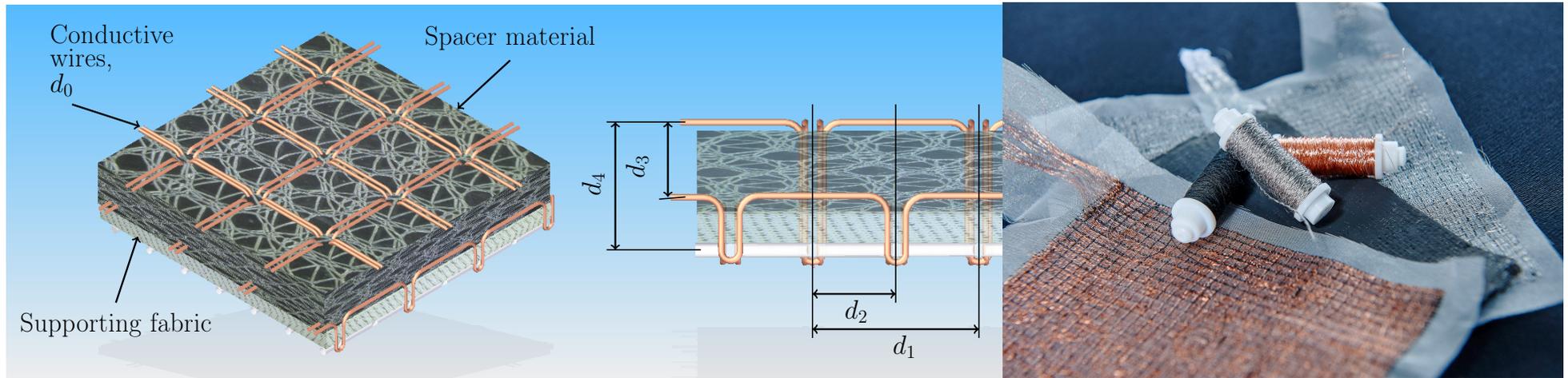
Size: 35.0 mm x 55.0 mm

$$40 \text{ mAh} * 3.8 \text{ V} / 1.4 \text{ g} = 109 \text{ Wh/kg}$$

$$40 \text{ mAh} * 3.8 \text{ V} / (0.05 * 3.5 * 5.5 \text{ cm}^3) = 157 \text{ Wh/L}$$

Li-ion batteries: Our proposal

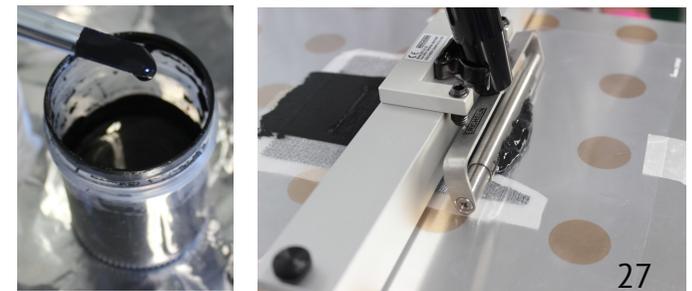
1) Embroidered current collectors → Thick electrodes

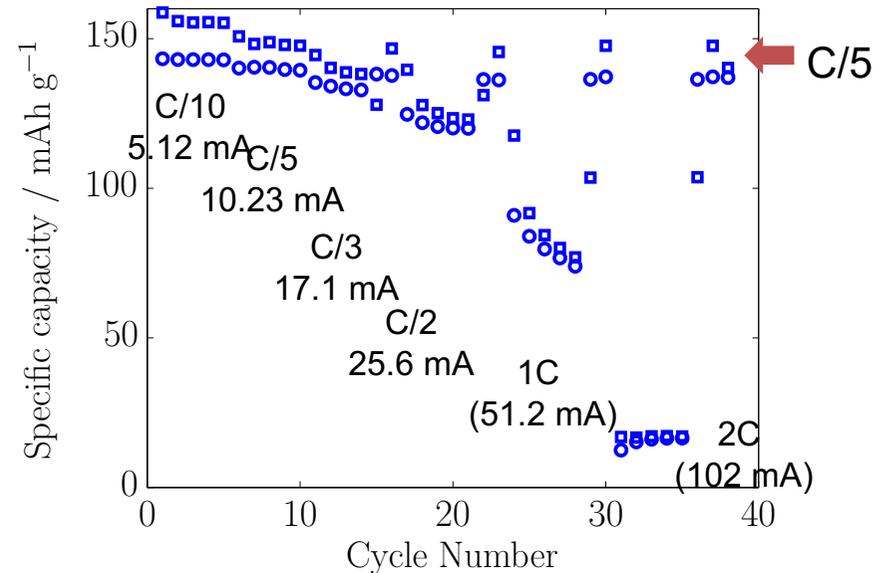
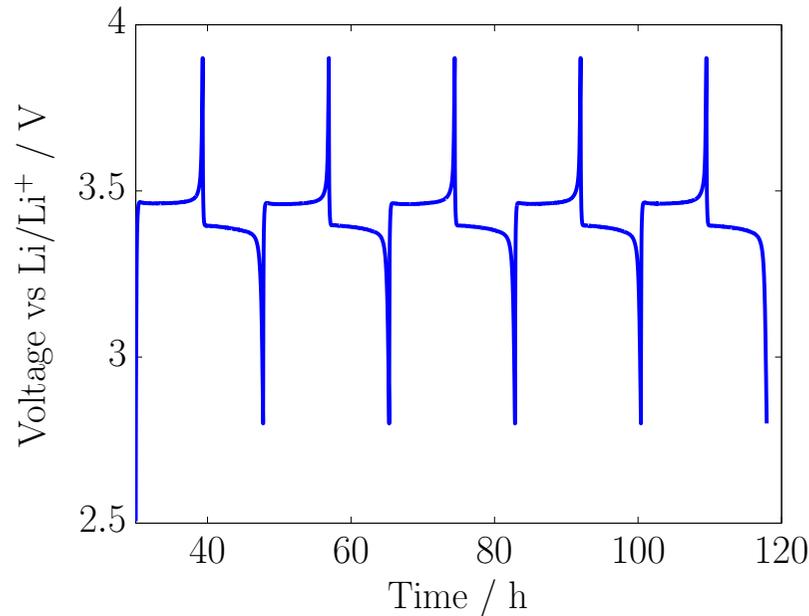


Open possibilities for:

- ✓ Better mechanical stability → larger amounts of electrode materials
- ✓ Improvement of the electrical and ionic conductivity → ease of electron transfer, ease ionic transport open macroporosity

2) Water-based solutions: optimization of water-based formulations for thick electrodes





Comparison of relevant technical parameters and specifications with systems on the market:

Embroidered LFP electrodes

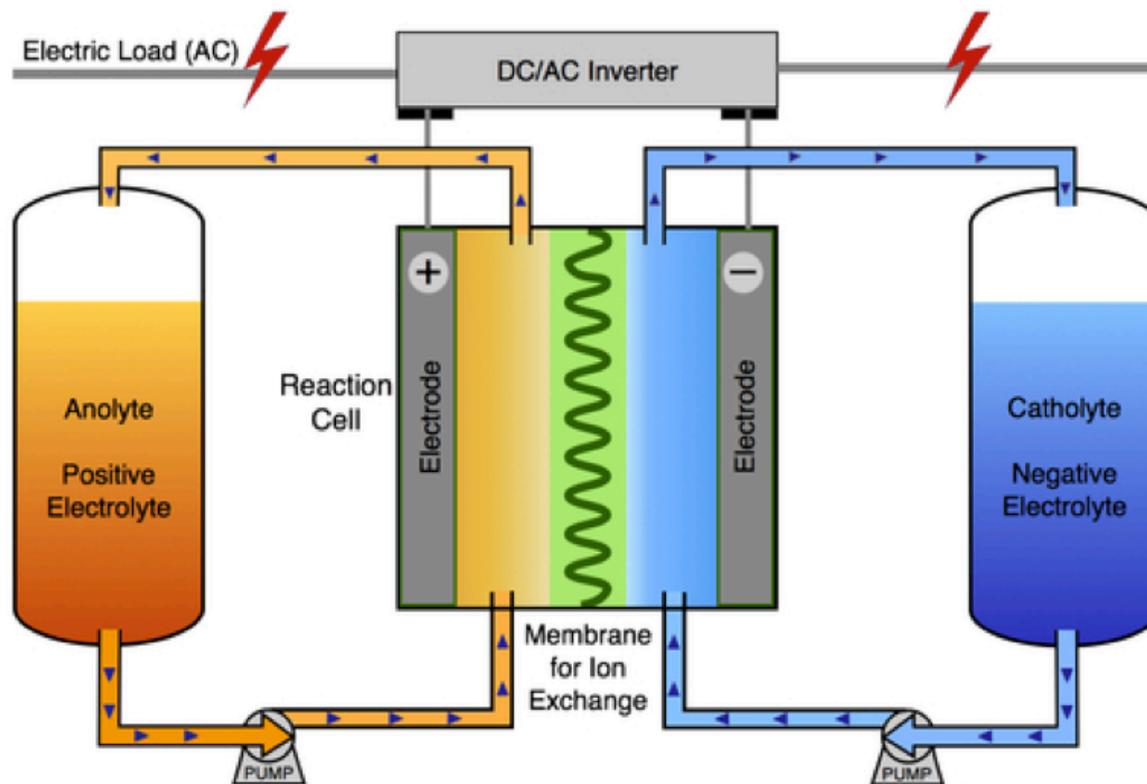
Areal active mass loading: 20 mg/cm²
 Active/total weight (em+cc): 55% **(1.5 times)**
 Thickness: 360 μm (em+cc)
 Areal capacity: 3.4 mAh/cm² (~4 times)
 Grav. capacity/energ.: 91 mAhg⁻¹ / **290 Whkg⁻¹ (1.5 times)**
 Vol. capacity/energ.: 94 mAhL⁻¹ / **302 WhL⁻¹**
 Water-based LFP slurries 150€/kwh
 Possibility to flexible high-energy batteries

Conventional LFP electrodes

5 mg/cm²
 36%
 30 μm (em) + 20 μm (cc) = 50 μm
 0.85 mAh/cm²
 60 mAhg⁻¹ / **192 Whkg⁻¹** (only electrode)
 170 mAh/L / **544 WhL⁻¹** (only electrode) **(1.8 times)**
 NMP-based LFP slurries 300-500€/kwh
 Flexibility achieved by reducing energy densities

Redox flow batteries

- Principle:



- External tanks containing the electroactive material dissolved in a solution
- Independence of the energy capacity with power capability.
- Leading candidate for stationary energy storage.

Embroidered current collectors in redox flow batteries

Embroidered electrodes



carbon paper/carbon felt



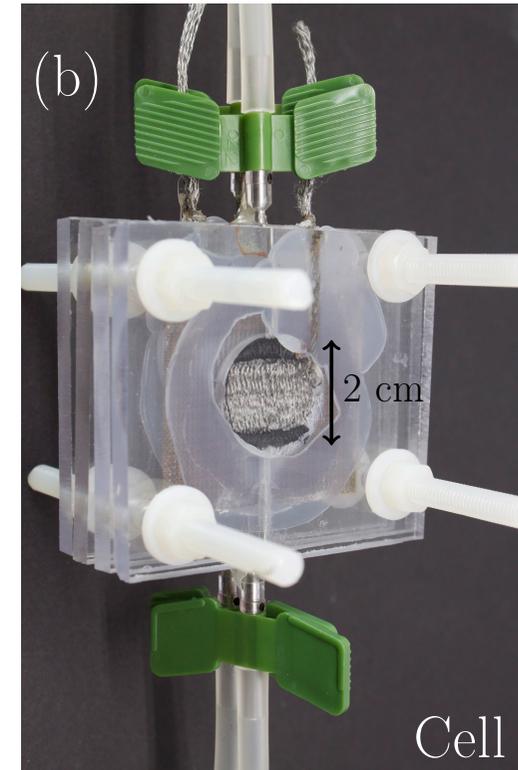
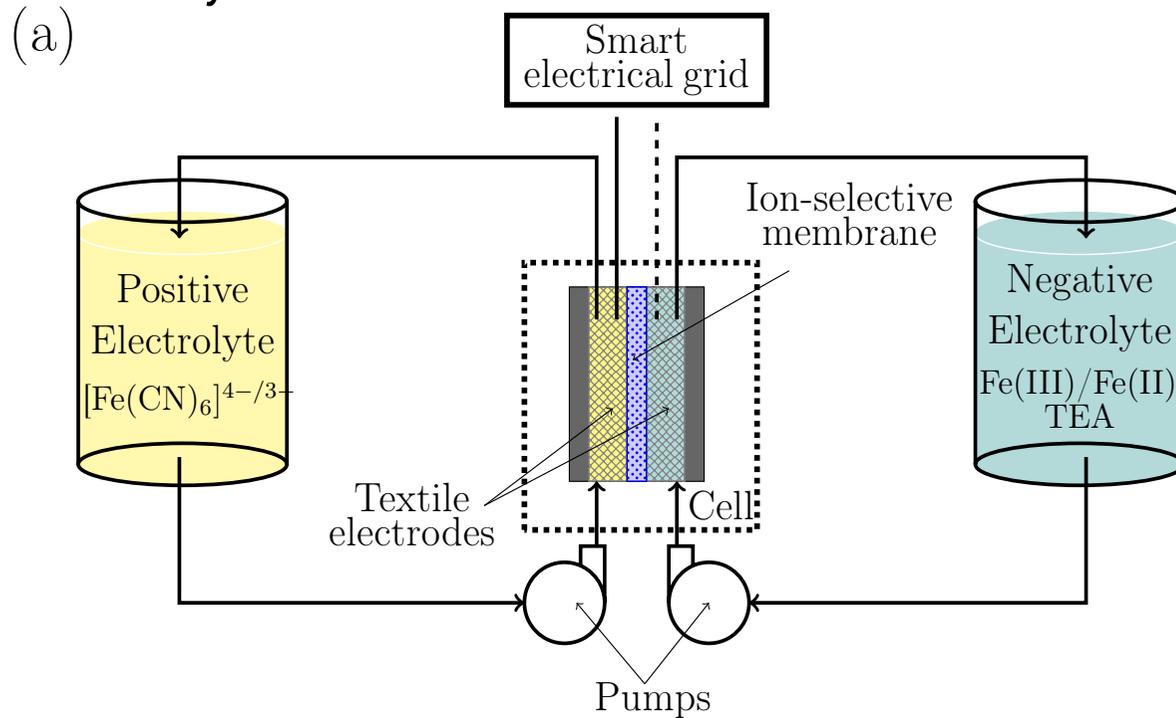
- High flexibility in selection of conductive materials.
- Controlled degree in porosity, real surface area of electrodes.
- Integration of non-conductive spacers to modulate flow dynamics.
- Electrode is also the current collector.

Frois, T.; Leninger, M.; Bechtold, T.; Grabher, G.; Hofer, J.; Riedmann, M. Electrode for a galvanic cell. WO2014028958 A1, February 27, 2014.

<http://fuelcellstore.com>
<http://www.avcarb.com>

Embroidered current collectors in redox flow batteries

- Our system:



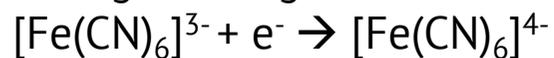
During charge:



During charge:



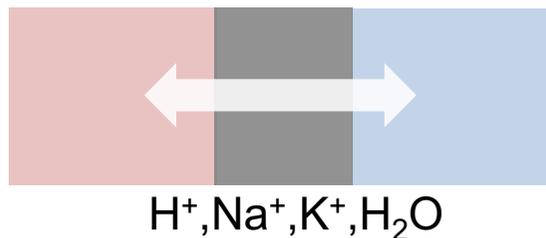
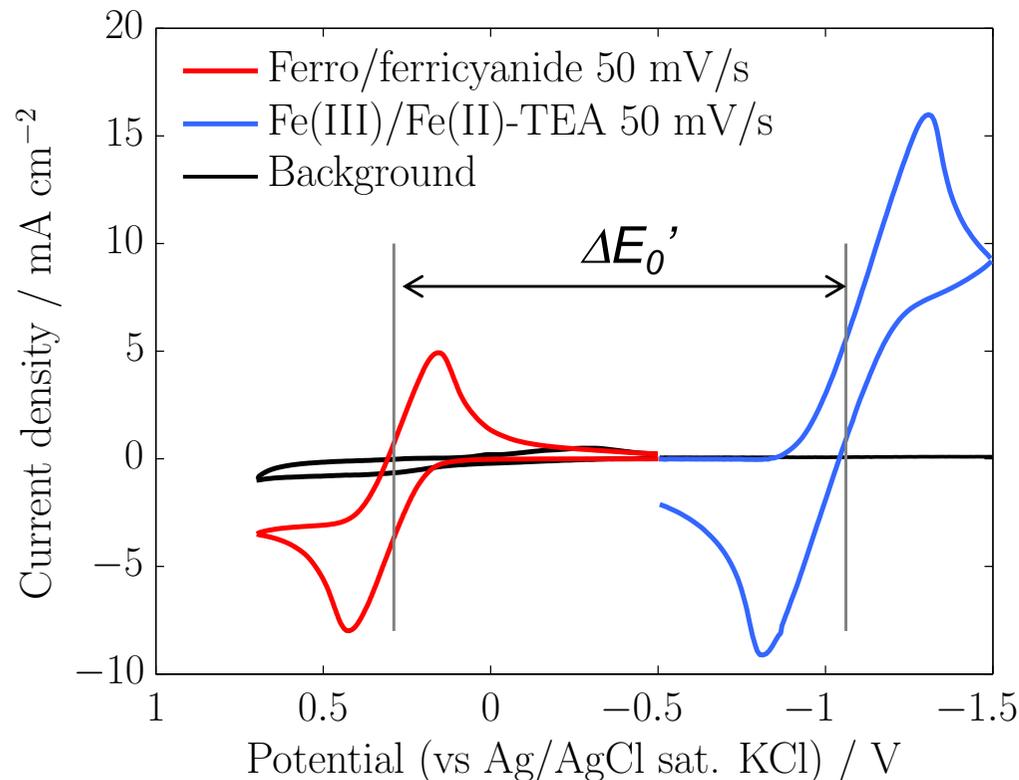
During discharge:



During discharge:



Embroidered current collectors in redox flow batteries



- ✓ Why Fe²⁺/Fe³⁺ system? **non-toxic**, reaction involves **colour change (monitoring state-of-charge)**.
- ✓ **High potential** in desirable potential window, $\Delta E_0' = 1350$ mV.
- ✓ Further electrolytes will be investigated → **Fe rich in family of complexes**.
- ✓ In redox flow batteries dynamic situation: similar pH is required, equilibrium, heterogeneous rate constants are pH, C dependent → worthy to be investigated

Thank you for your attention!!

Questions?