



Instituto de Ciencia y Tecnología del Carbono
Institute of Carbon Science & Technology

**Consejo Superior de
Investigaciones Científicas**

Oviedo - Spain





Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)

- Founded in 1939
- Belongs to the Ministry of Science and Innovation
- Research at CSIC is structured into three Global Areas, Society, Life and Matter, covering all disciplines of human knowledge, and is carried out in its 121 research centres distributed throughout Spain (& Italy).
- Multidisciplinary and multisectorial organisation. Its activity covers everything from basic research to technological development.

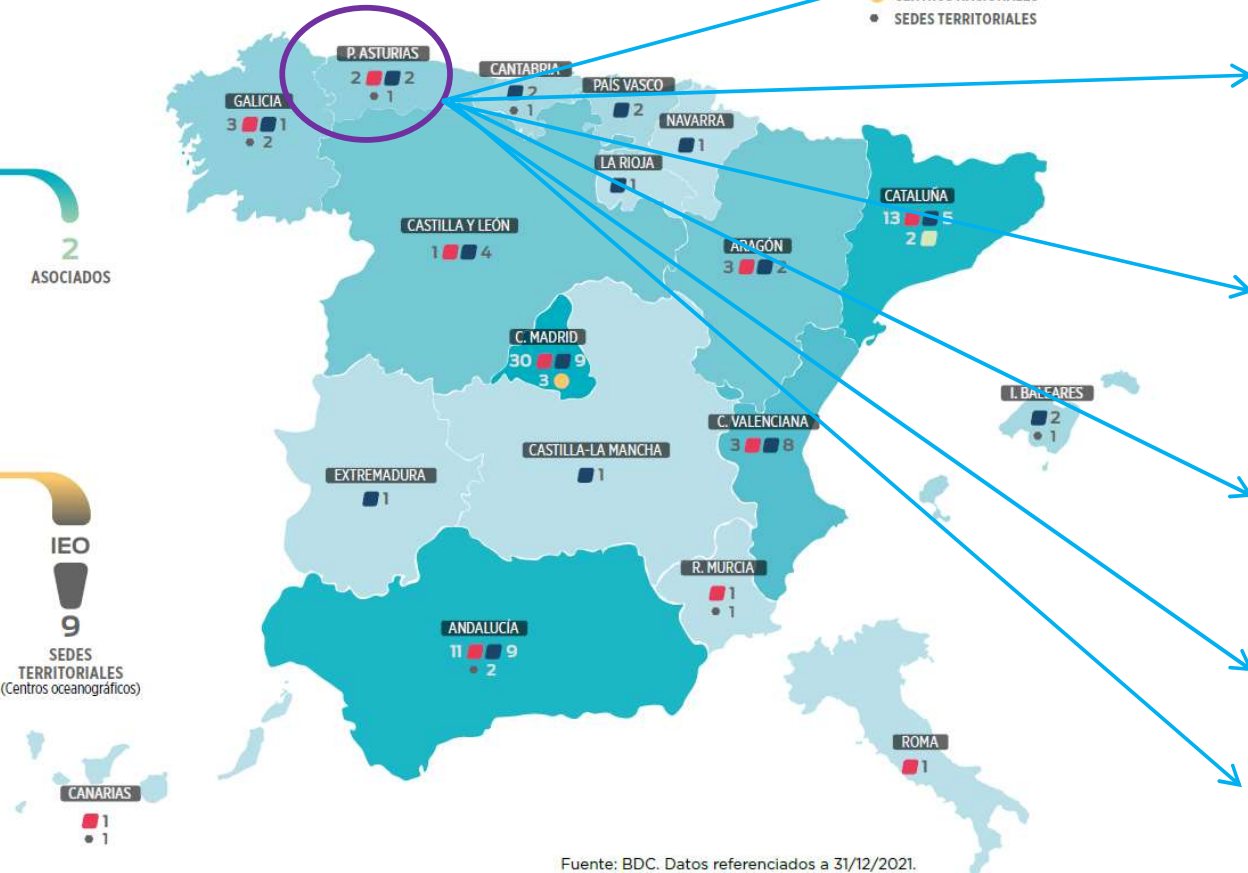
Research Areas

- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Biology and Biomedicine
- Natural Resources
- Agricultural Sciences
- Physical Science and Technologies
- Materials Science and Technology
- Food Science and Technology
- Chemical Science and Technology

The Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) is the largest public research organisation in Spain, the fourth largest in Europe and the seventh largest in the world. CSIC has 6% of all the staff dedicated to R&D in Spain, and they generate approximately 20% of all scientific production in the country.

CSIC

- INSTITUTOS PROPIOS
- INSTITUTOS MIXTOS
- INSTITUTOS ASOCIADOS
- CENTROS NACIONALES
- SEDES TERRITORIALES



Fuente: BDC. Datos referenciados a 31/12/2021.



INCAR



IPLA



CINN



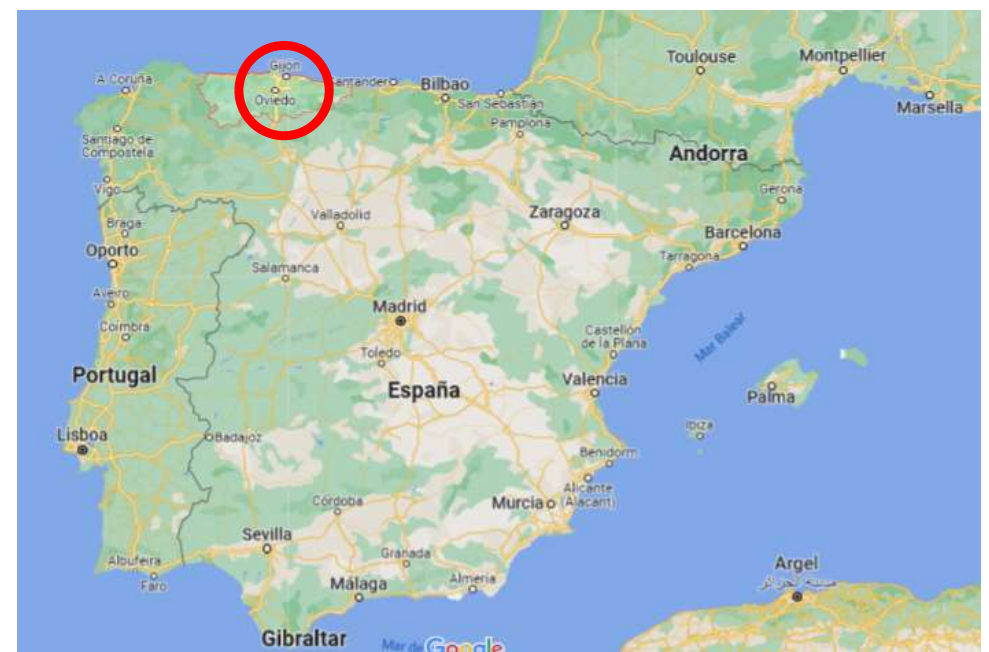
IMIB



IEO

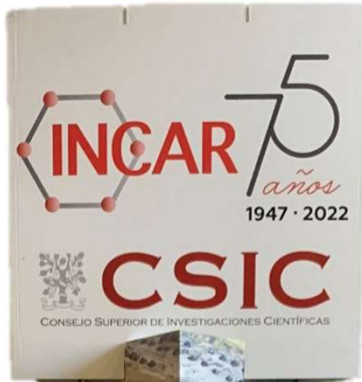
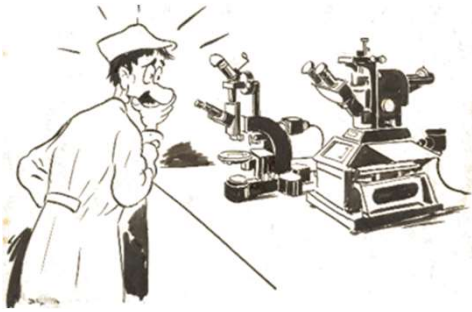


IGME

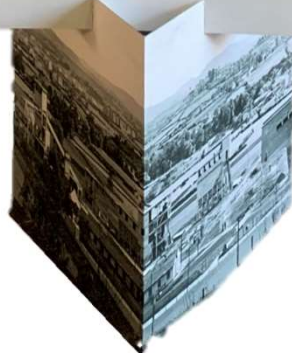


- The Institute of Science and Technology of Carbon (INCAR) is located in Oviedo (Asturias). INCAR is a public research centre integrated into the global area of MATTER of the CSIC, and specifically in the CHEMICAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY line.
- Founded in 1947, its activity was oriented towards the processes of preparation and utilisation of Asturian coals, giving support to the regional industry (coal mining, iron&steel, energetic).





75 años de investigación en Asturias



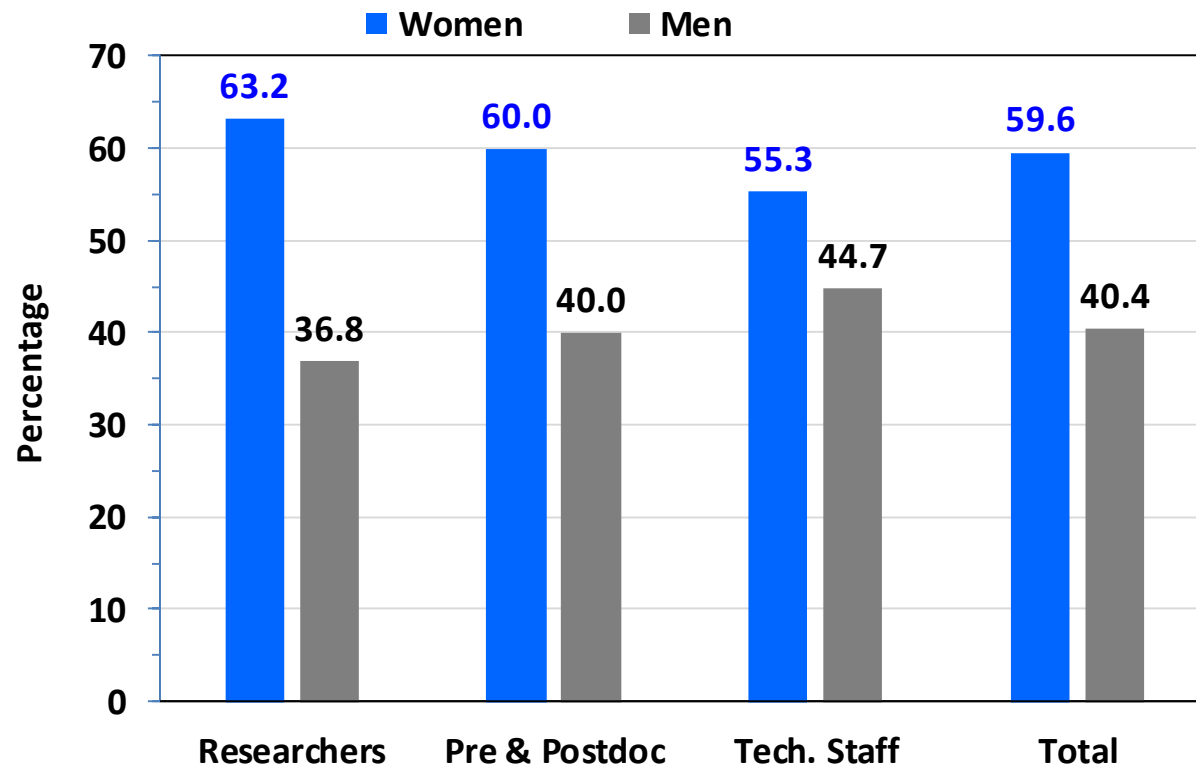
INCAR Personnel

INCAR Total staff: 136

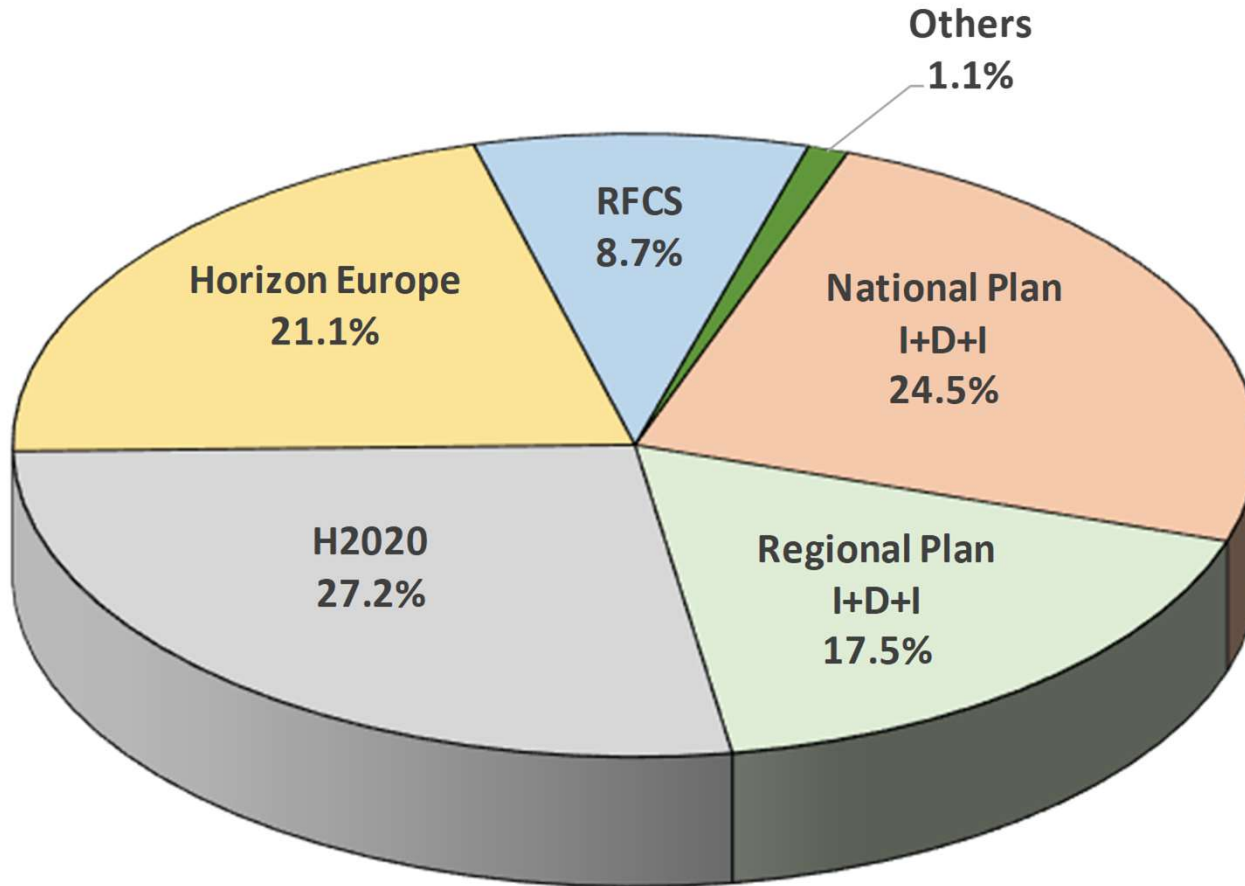
38 Researchers

60 Post- and Pre-docs

**38 Technical Staff
(Services and Administration)**



Current Projects



Total: 12.4 M€

Research lines



Development of high-performance carbon materials for energy



Decarbonisation of industrial sectors

Departments



Sustainable Chemical Processes



Chemistry of Materials



Energy Transition Technologies

Line: Development of high performance carbon materials for energy generation and storage applications

Objectives:

- Develop carbon materials (porous and graphene) by sustainable methods.
- Develop electrodes for batteries (ion-Li/Na, Li-S, redox flow, etc.) and supercapacitors based on sustainable carbon materials.

Line: Decarbonisation of industrial sectors

Objectives:

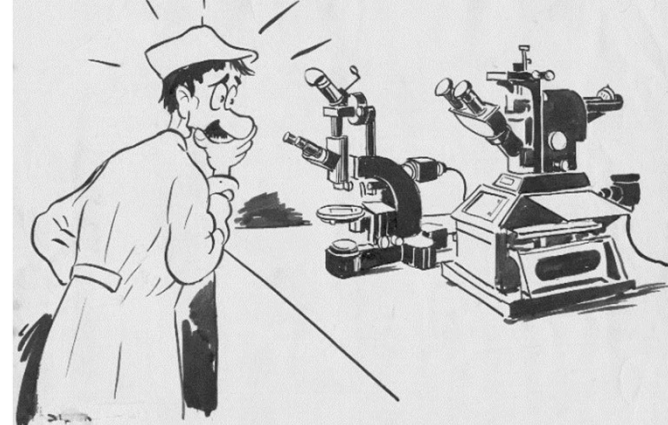
- Develop CO₂ capture technologies for industrial processes and systems with negative emissions.
- Valorisation of biomass as an energy source.
- Develop processes and materials for the production and storage of H₂.

Research sublines

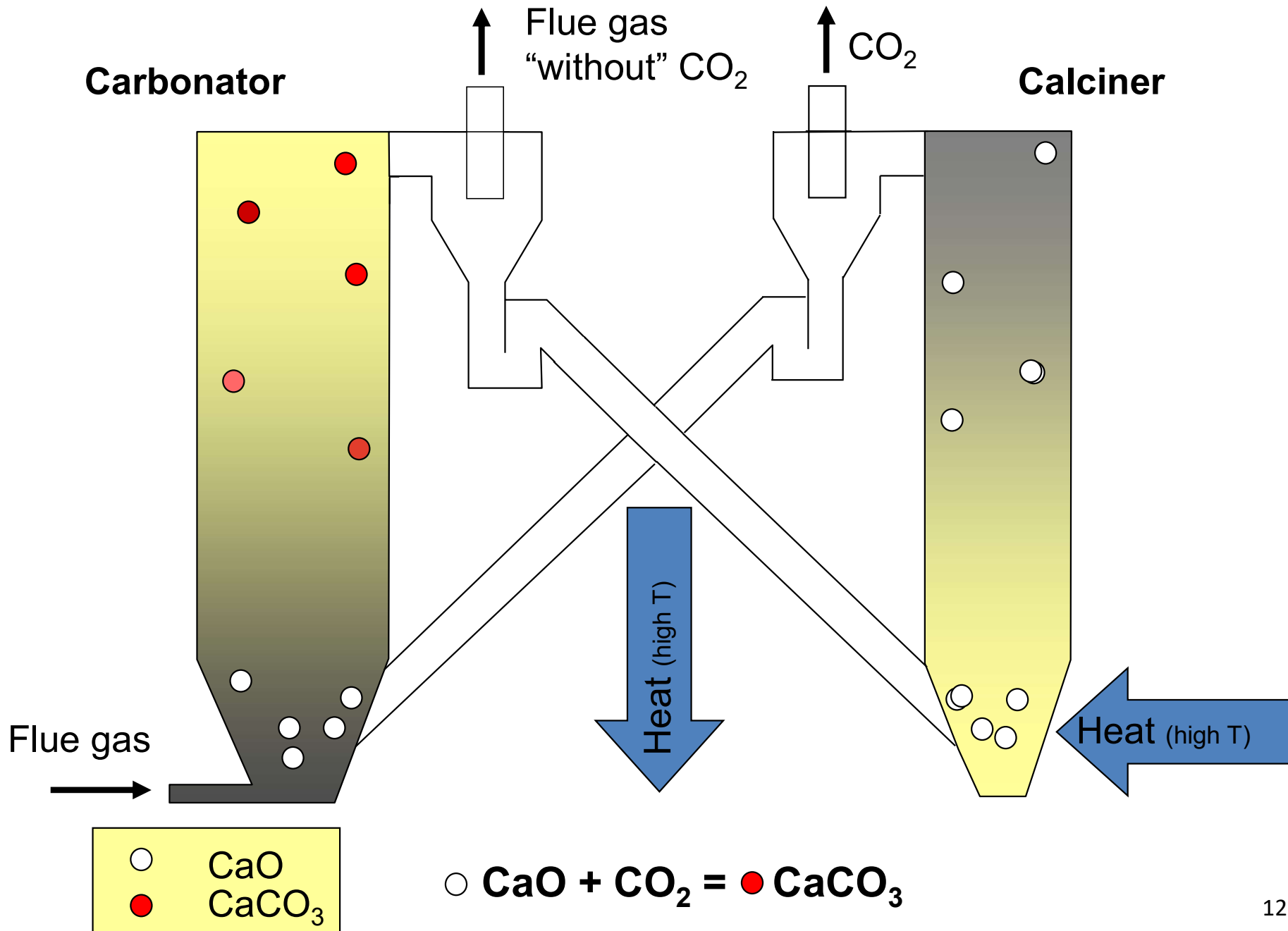
- Development of **carbon materials**: high surface area with tailored porosity.
- **Graphitic nanomaterials** as anodes of Li-ion and Na-ion batteries.
- Novel **carbon materials** as electrodes in electrochemical systems such as supercapacitors and vanadium flow redox batteries.
- Synthesis and applications of **graphene based materials**.
- Application of microwave heating to several industrial processes.
- **Valorisation of residues**: hydrogen production, electrodes of supercapacitors.
- Climate change proxies in organic deposits.
- **Biomass** densification: torrefaction, pelletisation, hydrothermal carbonisation.
- Petrographic characterization of **coals**, disperse organic matter and solid residues.
- Optimisation of the **carbonisation** process to increase metallurgical **coke** quality.
- Reduction of toxic metals emissions, i.e., Hg.
- Conversion processes of **biomass**: combustión, gasification.
- **CO₂ capture**: Carbonation-calcination cycles (calcium looping/carbonate looping).

Common Equipment

- Physical adsorción: N_2 , CO_2 , H_2O , organic vapours
- Adsorption at high P: H_2 , CO_2 , CH_4 , N_2
- He pycnometry
- Hg porosimetry
- Thermogravimetric analysis: TG, DTA, DSC
- Cromatography: GC-MS; GC-TCD
- SEM-EDX – Scanning electron microscopy
- DRX – X-ray diffraction
- XPS - X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy
- FTIR - Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy
- XRF – X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy
- Raman spectroscopy
- ICP-MS - inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry
- TOC – Total organic carbon
- Ash fusibility
- Diffusivity and thermal conductivity



CO₂ Capture – Calcium Looping



CSIC & the development of CaL technology



Multicycle testing TG at CSIC

Reactions kinetics,
deactivation studies,
reactivation methods

From 2000

Abanades and Alvarez, 2003.
Conversion limits in the reaction of
CO₂ with lime. *Energy and Fuels*, 17-
2, 308-315



0.03 MW_{th} pilot at INCAR-CSIC

Twin CFB reactor
concept validation in
lab scale. Basic reactor
and process modeling

From 2008

Rodriguez et al. 2010. Experimental
investigation of a CFB reactor to
capture CO₂ with CaO. *AIChE
Journal*, 57, pp. 1356 - 1366

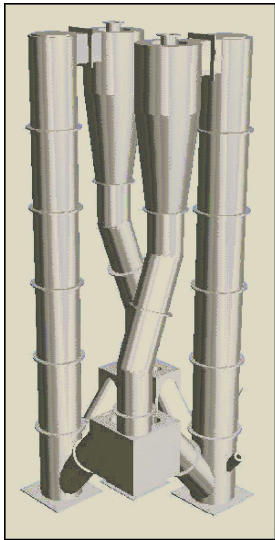


“La Pereda 1.7 MW_{th}” pilot

From 2012

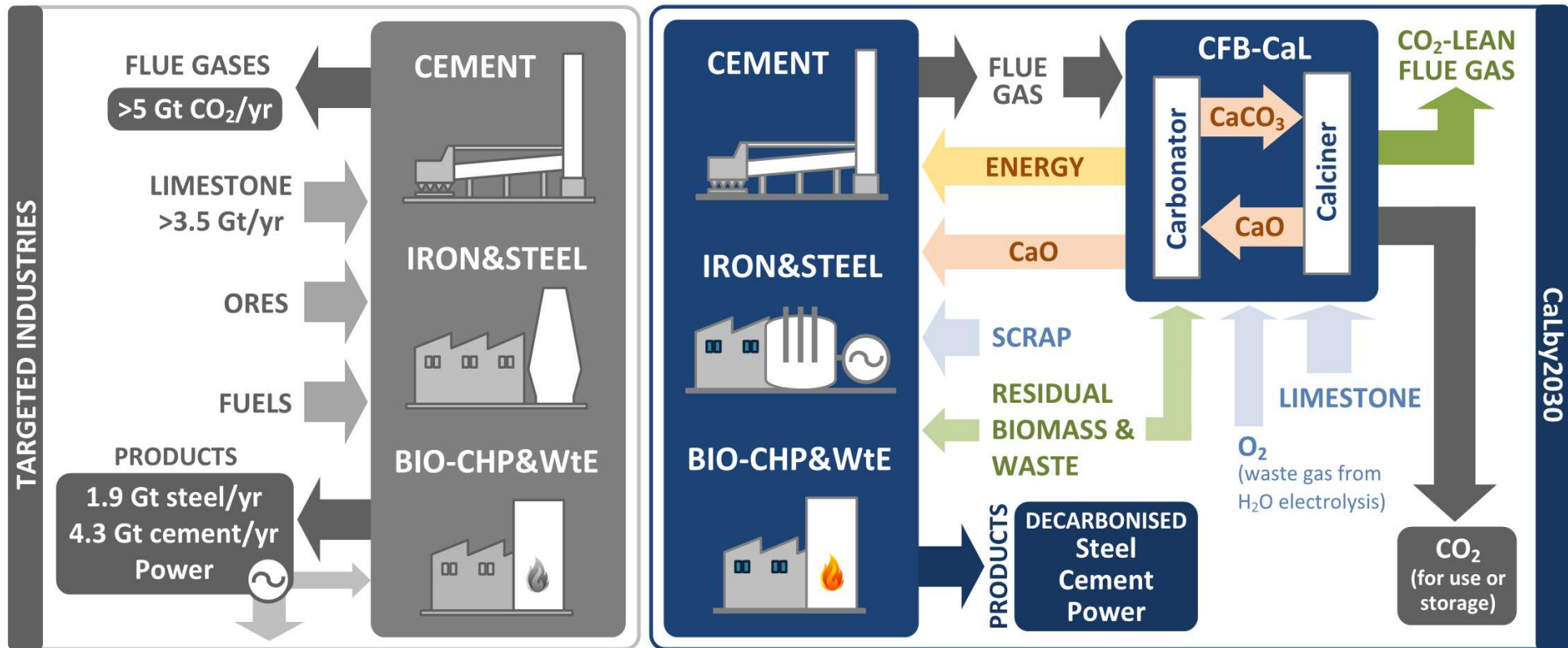
Arias et al. 2013. Demonstration of steady state
CO₂ capture in a 1.7 MW_{th} calcium looping pilot.
Int. J. of Greenhouse Gas Control 18, 237–245

1.7 MWt pilot plant in the CFB Boiler (50 MWe) “La Pereda”, Asturias, Spain



Reactors:
15 m height, 0.7 m i.d.





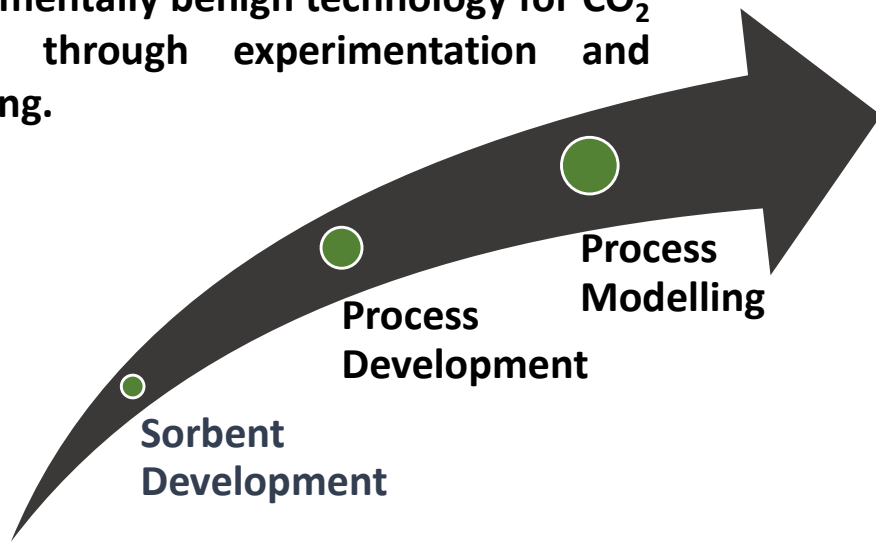
CaLby2030 is a European project granted under Horizon Europe framework programme. The main goal is to act as enabling tool to achieve, by 2030, commercial deployment of Calcium Looping technology (CaL) using Circulating Fluidised Bed reactors. Three pilot plants will be used in Germany, Sweden and Spain to demonstrate >99% CO₂ capture rates in three hard to abate industrial sectors: cement, steel and waste to energy.

CO₂ Capture – Adsorption processes

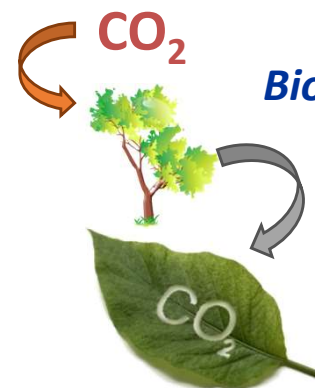
HiPerCap - High Performance Capture
FP7 Grant agreement n° 608555



Demonstrate **low-temperature adsorption** with **solid sorbents** as a highly efficient and environmentally benign technology for CO₂ capture through experimentation and modelling.



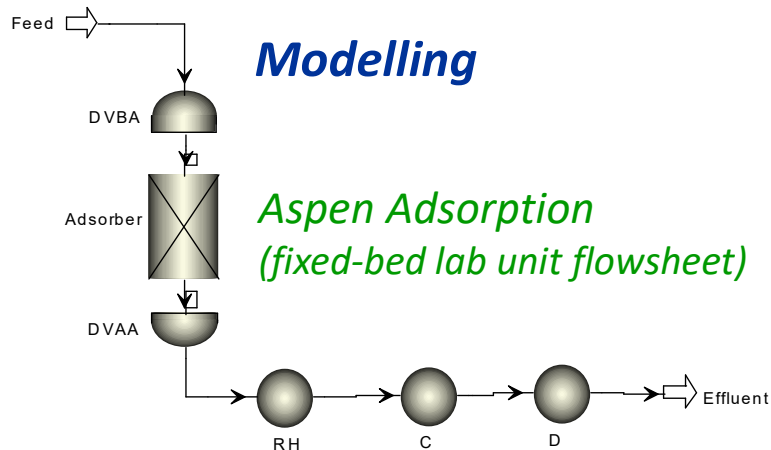
Technology Assessment



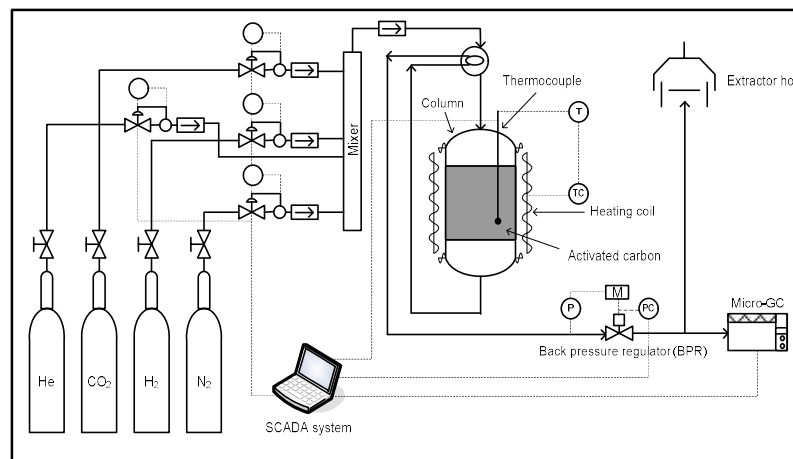
Biomass-based carbon production



- + High stability
- + Low cost
- + Easy regeneration
- + Tailored pores



Fixed-bed process evaluation



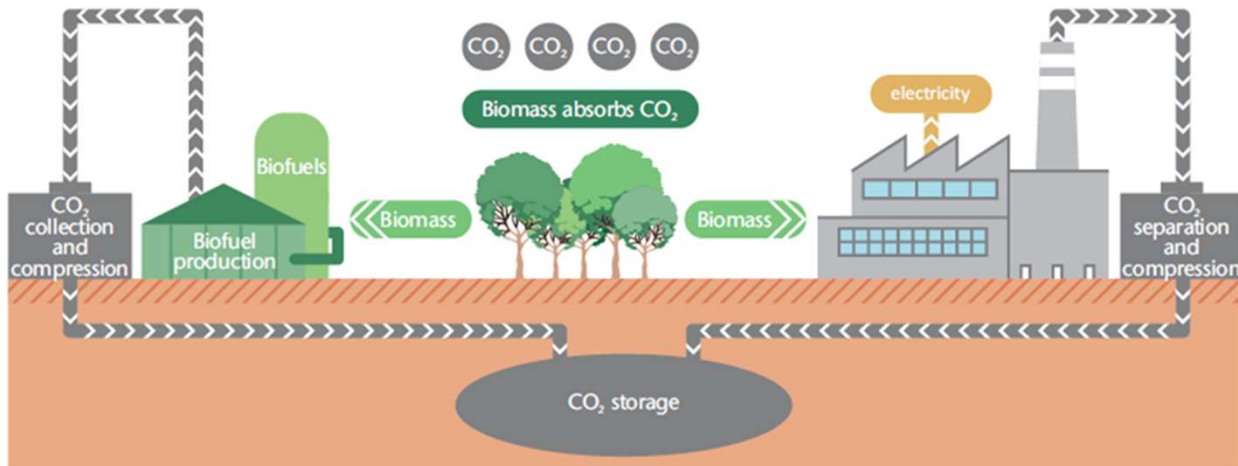
Carbon dioxide removal (CDR) approaches



Launched 1st June 2023

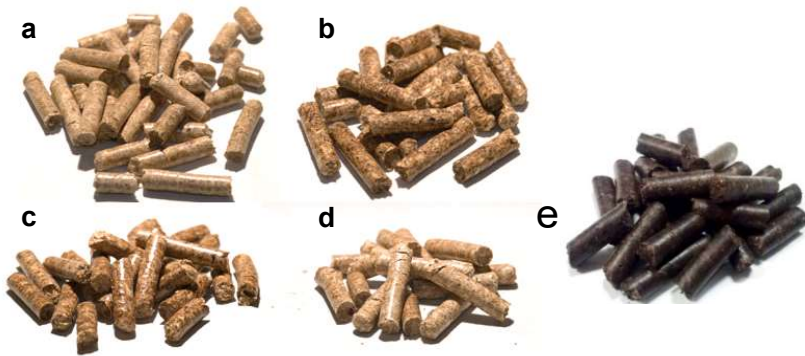
Figure 1. C-SINK view on the necessary key enabling components to ensure a trustable and sustainable CDR..

BECCS – Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage

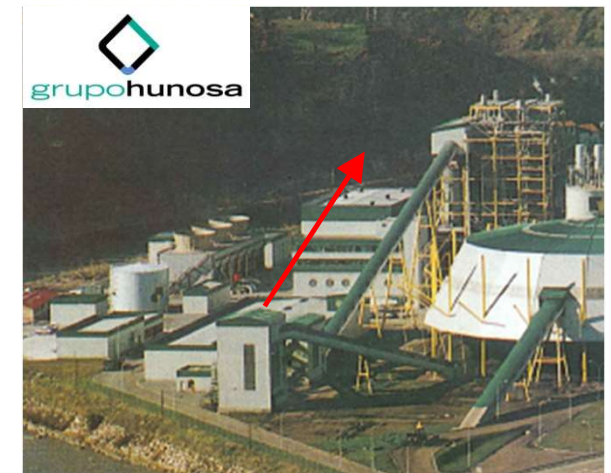


- PrEM will address BECCS technologies in C-Sink
- BECCS leads to negative carbon emissions





a. Pine, b. Pin-Che15, c. Chestnut, d. Pin-Che20, e. Torrefied pine



- Hydrothermal Carbonisation (HTC): sustainable process, allows to stabilize and inertize highly degradable wet organic waste, transforming it into solids (hydrocarbons) and liquids with application in construction materials, decontamination and soil amendment, bioenergy, etc.
- Valorisation of hydrocarbons obtained by hydrothermal carbonisation of sludge from wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) and/or organic waste from the mechanical-biological treatment (MBT) of municipal waste.
- Improvement of soil conditions for forest use and degraded soil, as well as CO₂ sinks.



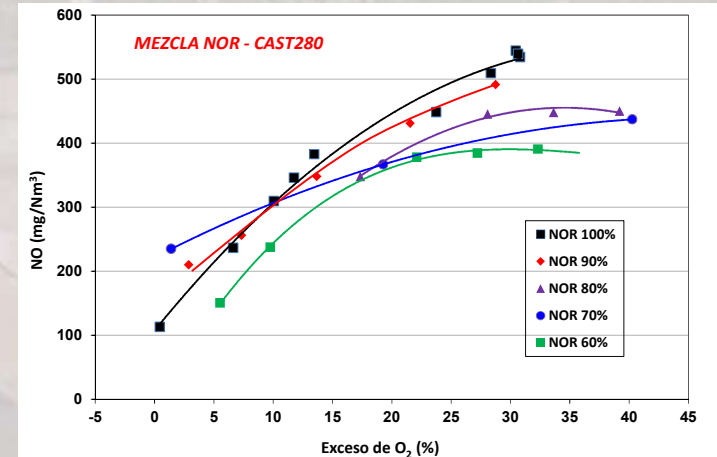
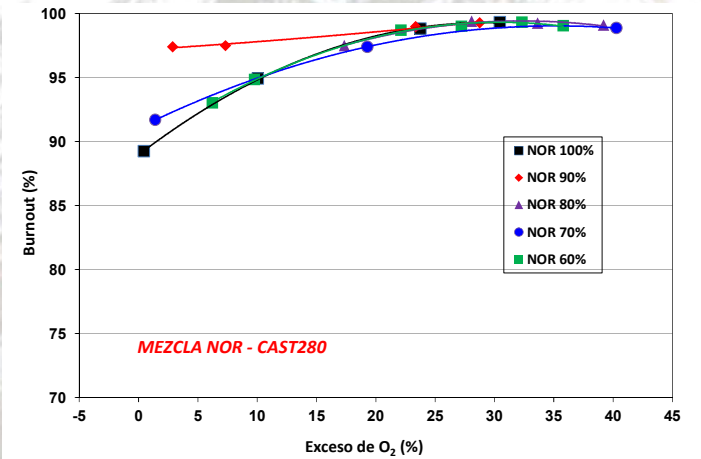
- OLMAR autoclave. Heating by steam generated in the COGERSA incineration furnace.
- Diameter: 1.3 m, Length 1.5 m. Removable container: 1 m³.
- Conditions: Temperature 203 °C; Pressure 15,5 barg.
- Feed: Organic Fraction of Municipal Solid Waste (OFMSW), green waste from parks and gardens, sewage sludge, digestates, *magaya*, solid waste, invasive species (Plumero de la Pampa).
- Products: CO₂-neutral solid fuel, soil amendment, precursor of carbon materials, aqueous phase rich in phenolic compounds with antioxidant capacity and fatty acids of interest for cosmetics, inertization of Plumero de la Pampa seeds.



1. Feeder
2. Preheater
3. Union
4. Sample injection
5. Reaction zone
6. Collecting probe
7. Control panel
8. Analysers

Conditions

- T : 1300 °C
- tr: 2.5 s
- dp: 75-150 μm



- Research contract - EDP (Carbicator).
- M.V. Gil et al., Grindability and combustion behavior of coal and torrefied biomass blends. *Bioresource Technology* 191 (2015) 205.
- B. Arias et al., Effect of biomass blending on coal ignition and burnout during oxy-fuel combustion. *Fuel* 87 (2008) 2753.
- J. Riaza et al., Oxy-fuel combustion of coal and biomass blends. *Energy* 41 (2012) 429.

Biomass Bubbling Fluidised Bed Gasifier

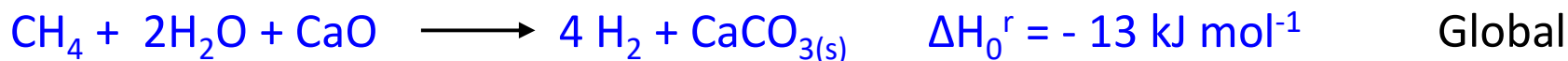
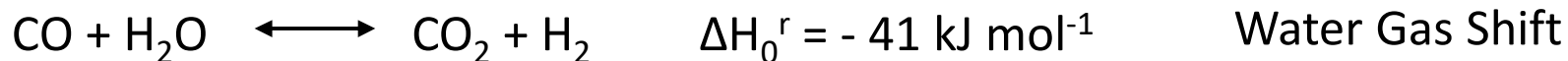


- Very versatile plant: gasification reactions with $H_2O(v)$, air, N_2 , O_2 , for the production of syngas (CO & H_2) from different types of biomass and/or waste.
- Feeding system: two hoppers and two refrigerated endless screws.
- SS310 stainless steel reactor, cylindrical shape, maximum temperature of $920\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$.
- Lower zone of 1 m length, 7.7 cm i.d.
- Upper zone or freeboard of 0.529 m length and 13.3 cm i.d.
- Analysers: CO , H_2 , CH_4 , O_2 , CO_2 .

GREEN HYDROGEN (NO ELECTROLYTIC)

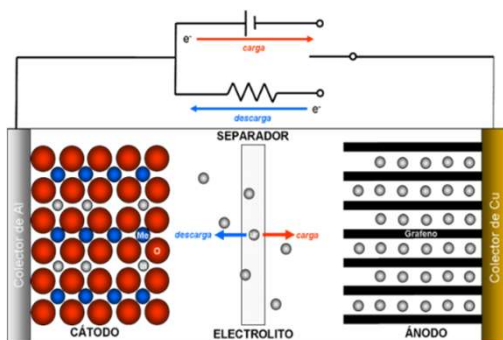
Another possibility to obtain renewable hydrogen is to use biomass or chemical compounds derived from it as raw material.

- Biomass gasification (food industry waste, lignocellulosic materials, etc.).
- Reforming processes (pyrolysis oil, biogas).
- Renewable hydrogen production is based on:
 - SEBG/SEBR (*Sorption Enhanced Biomass Gasification/Reforming*).

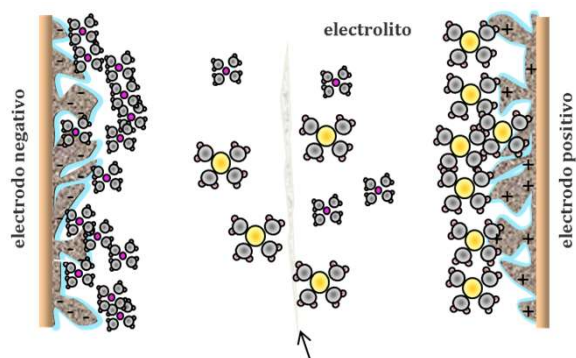


Electrochemical Energy Storage

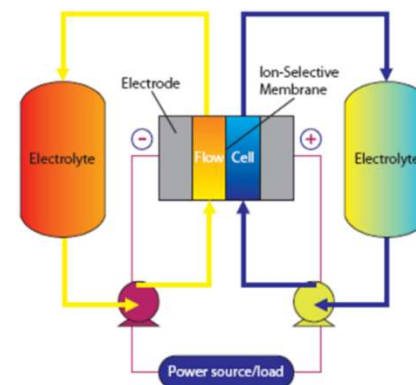
Ion-Li Batteries



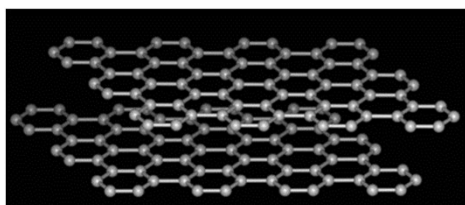
Supercapacitors



Redox Flow Batteries



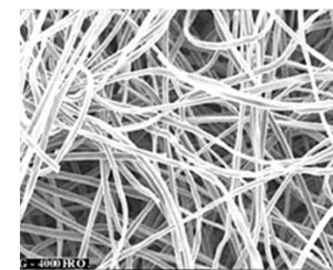
Grafite



Activated Carbon



Modified Carbon Fibres



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