

Flexible high energy density supercapacitors

Ramakrishnan Rajagopalan

Department of Engineering – Applied Materials

The Pennsylvania State University

Electrode design

- Control of porosity and pore size distribution
- High density electrode with flexible form factor
- Pseudocapacitive coating process
- Electrochemical stability

Research focus in
flexible
supercapacitors

```
graph TD; A[Research focus in flexible supercapacitors] --> B[Electrode design]; A --> C[Porous membranes]; A --> D[Device fabrication and electrochemical testing];
```

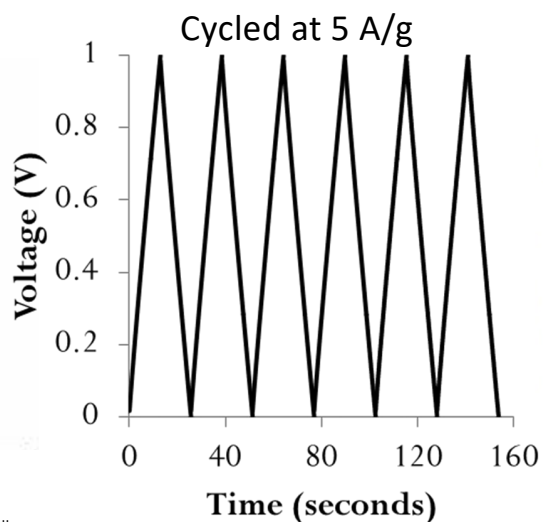
Porous membranes

Fabrication and testing of solid state membranes as well as gel-electrolyte membranes

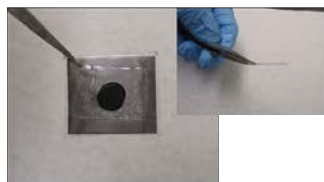
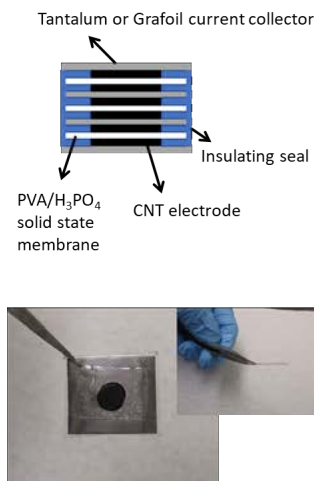
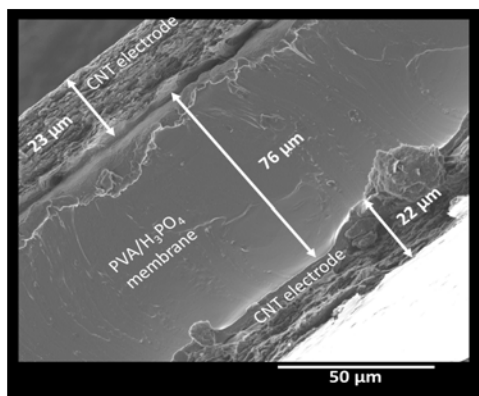
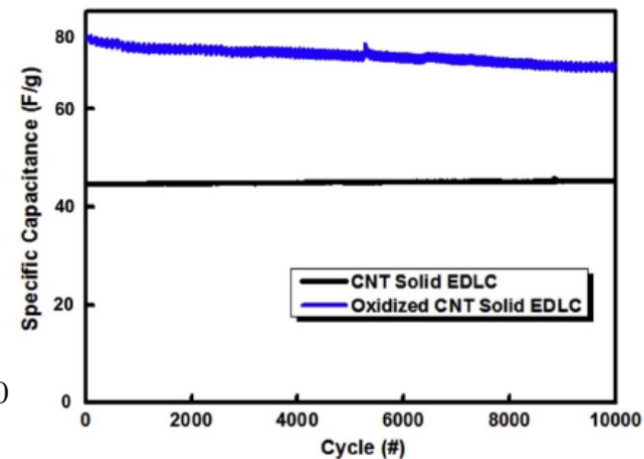
Device fabrication and electrochemical testing

- High voltage Asymmetric and Hybrid capacitor design
- Device fabrication with flexible form factor that include interdigitated capacitor, bipolar stacked design and pouch cells

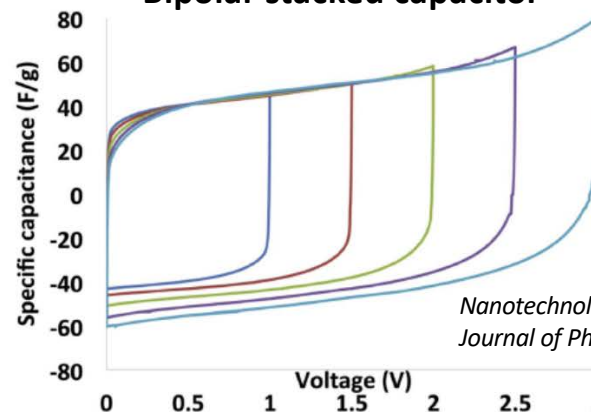
Carbon nanotube based solid state capacitor



Enhancement in capacitance through pseudocapacitance

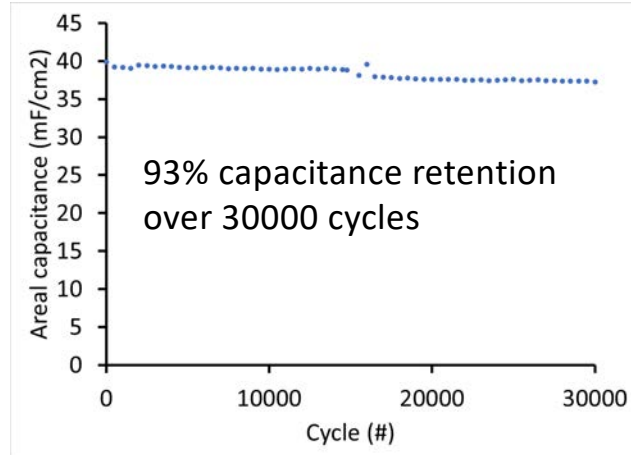
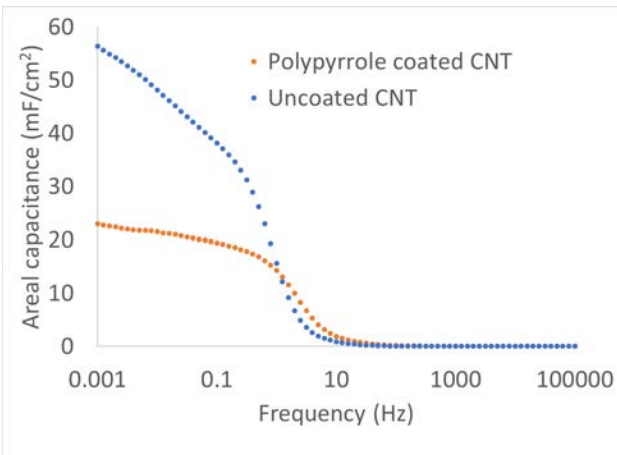
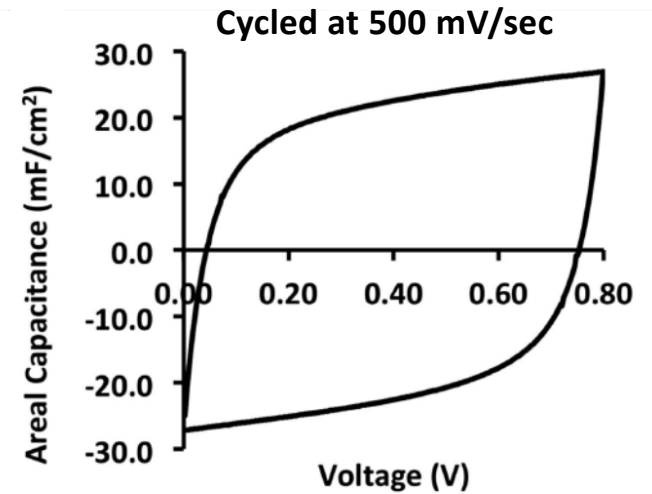
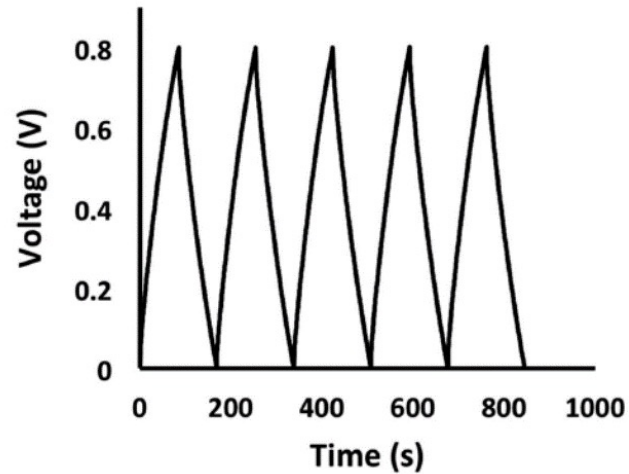


Bipolar stacked capacitor



Nanotechnology, 29,035605 (2017)
Journal of Physical Chemistry C, 118, 2943 – 2952 (2014)

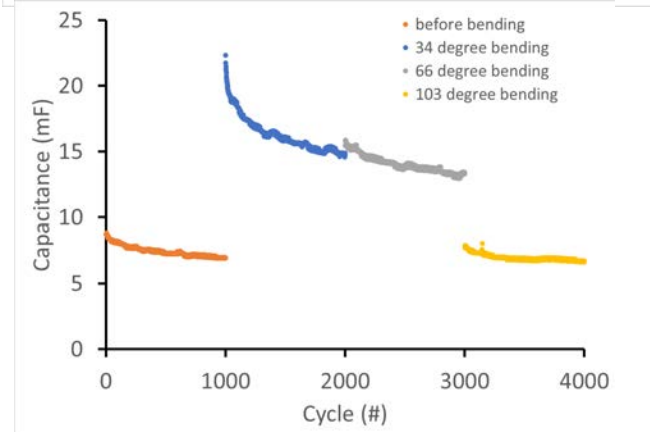
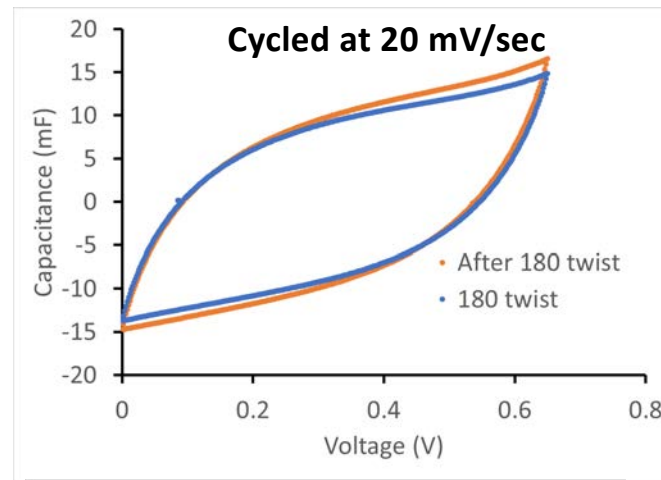
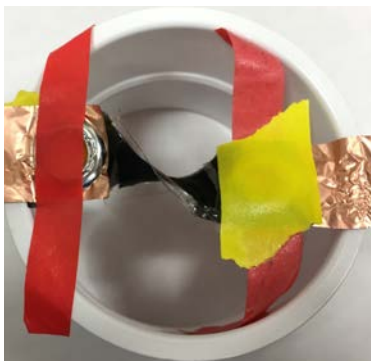
CNT based interdigitated capacitor



- Interdigitated solid state capacitors were fabricated by laser scribing CNT electrodes
- Areal capacitance almost double using polypyrrole coated electrodes with excellent cyclability

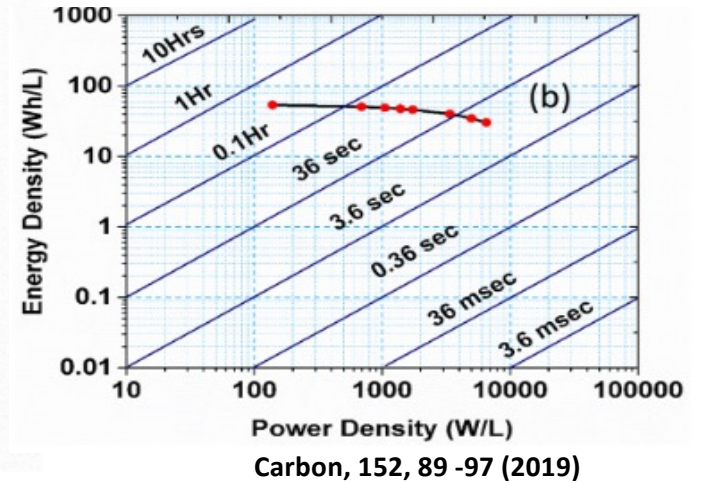
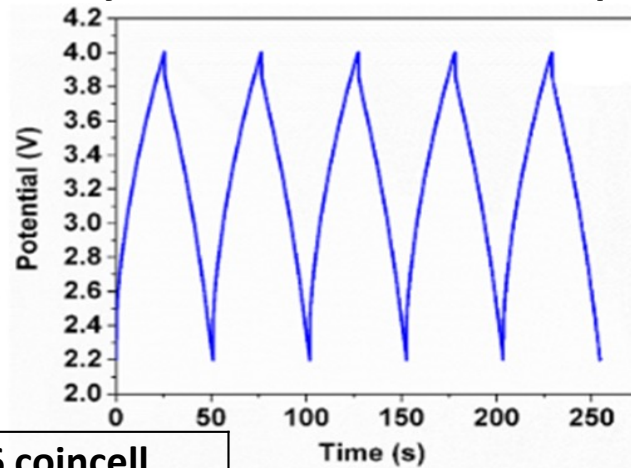
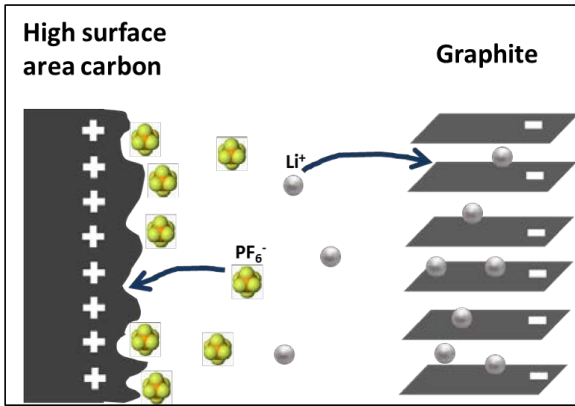
Flexible polypyrrole coated solid state capacitor

180° twist

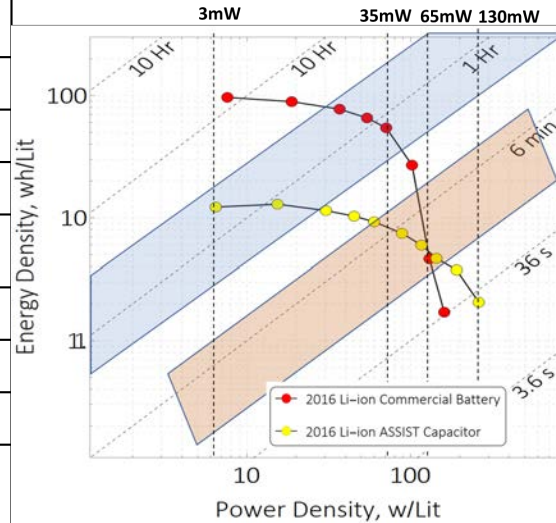


- Polypyrrole was electrodeposited on nonwoven carbon fiber electrodes that exhibit good mechanical flexibility
- The symmetric solid state capacitor showed excellent mechanical flexibility with good capacitance retention under different degrees of bending and twisting

High energy density Lithium-ion capacitor design



Specifications	2016 coin cell prototype
Cell Voltage	3.8V
Capacity	2.5 mAh (4.7F)
Nominal current	4C (10 mA)
Maximum current	50 mA for 36s
Operable Voltage range	2.2 – 3.8V
Leakage current	< 1 μ A
Self discharge	10% over 2 months
Volumetric packaged energy density (Wh/l)	13 Wh/L



Capacitor powered health sensor platform

