



# The importance of the electrolyte-membrane combination for long lifetime Viologen-Tempo AORFB

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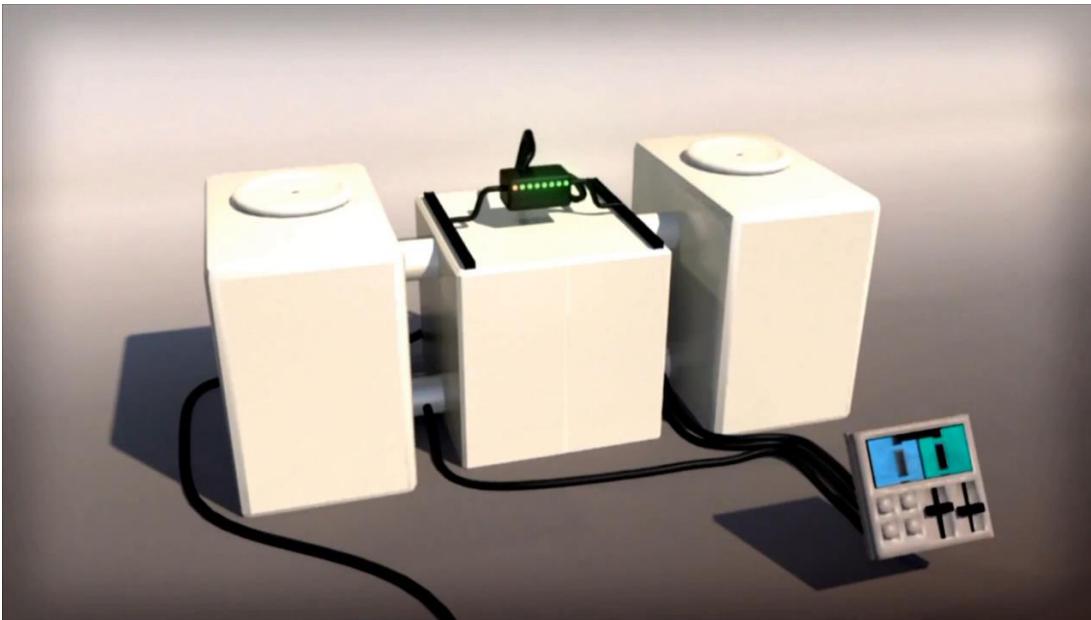


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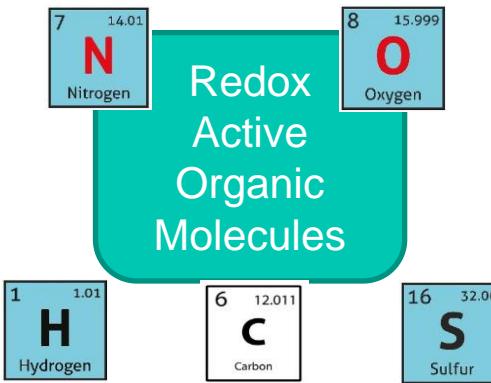
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& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

# > AORFB

GOING ORGANIC!



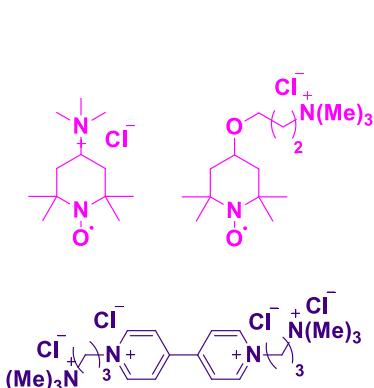
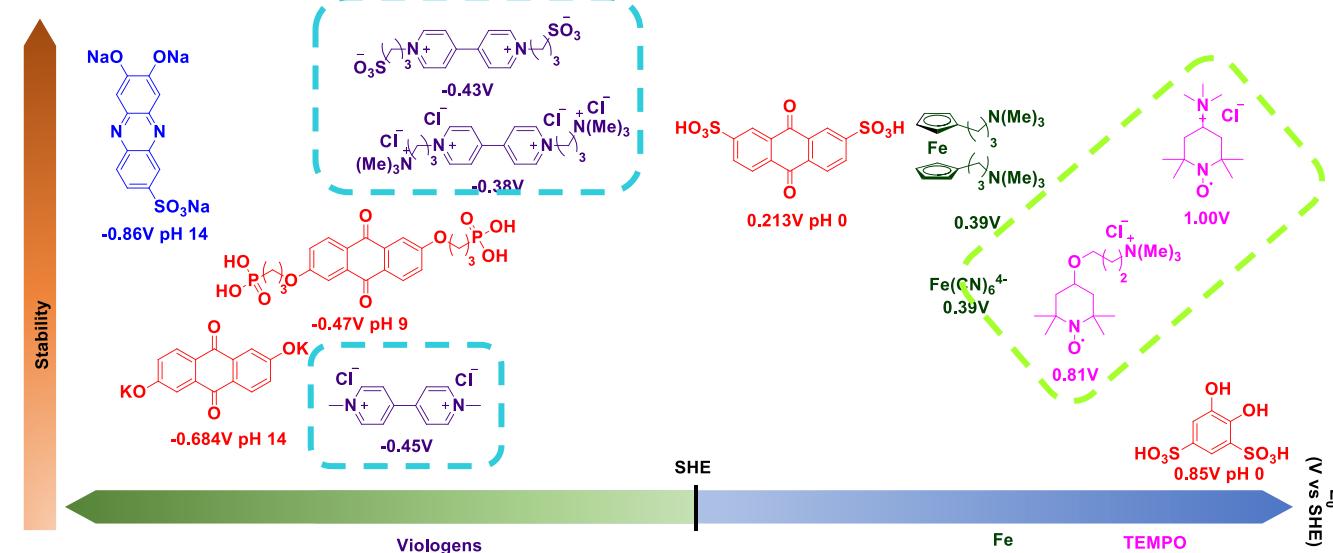
Aqueous  
Organic  
Redox  
Flow  
Batteries



- Earth abundant
- Low cost
- Environmentally friendly
- Thermally stable
- Easy tailorability

## AORFB

### SCOPE AND OBJECTIVE



**Synthesis: 2-3 steps  
Complex Purification**

**Poor solubility in supporting electrolyte**

**Low efficiencies < 70%**

**Peak power densities < 100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>**

### Viologen-TEMPO (neutral pH)

- High solubility
- Rapid charge transfer kinetics
- High cell voltage



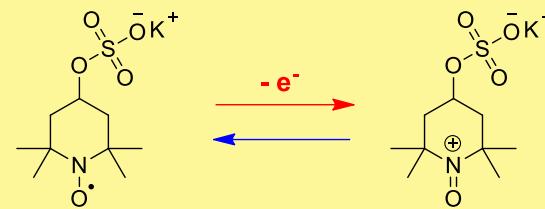
**(SPr)<sub>2</sub>V – TEMPO-SO<sub>4</sub>K**  
Cation Exchange membrane

## AORFB: Viologen-TEMPO system

HIGH PERFORMANCE & LOW-COST SOLUTION

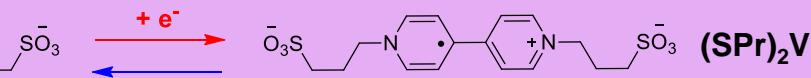
### One-Step Straightforward Synthetic routes

Catholyte  
TEMPO derivative

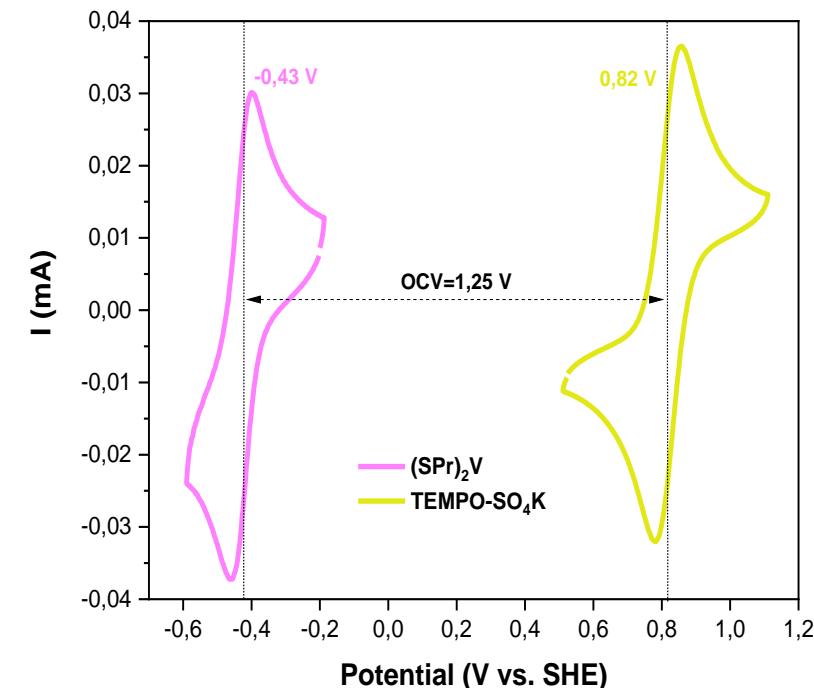


TEMPO-SO<sub>4</sub>K

Anolyte  
Viologen derivative



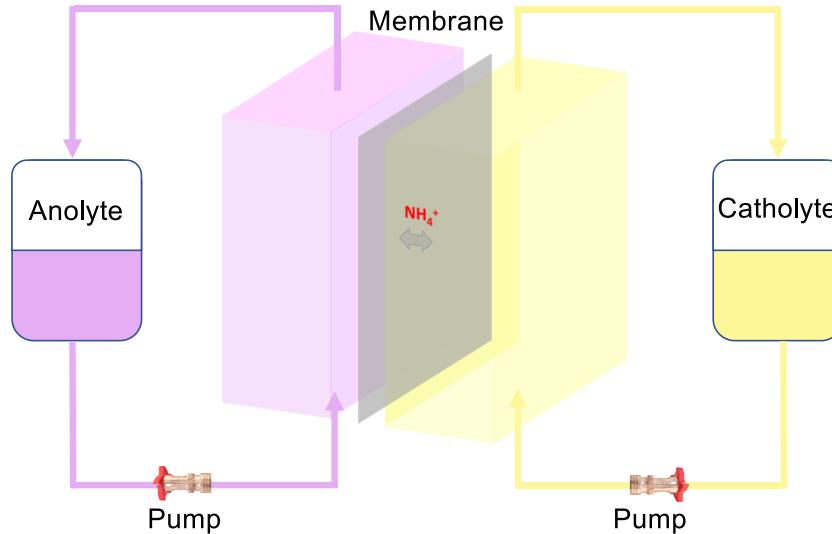
Joule 2019, 3, 1–15



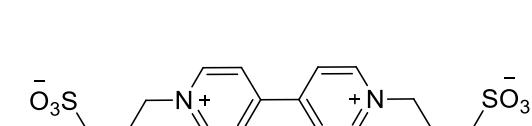
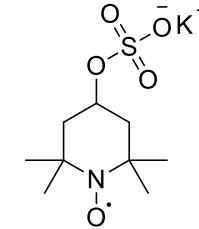
### Electrochemical characterization and solubility

Compound	$E_{1/2}$ (V vs. SHE)	D ( $\text{cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ )	$k_0$ ( $\text{cm s}^{-1}$ )	Water solubility (M)
TEMPO-SO <sub>4</sub> K	0,82	$8,9 \times 10^{-6}$	$1,5 \times 10^{-2}$	2,7
(SPr) <sub>2</sub> V	-0,43	$2,0 \times 10^{-6}$	$2,6 \times 10^{-2}$	1,2

## > Electrolyte screening



**Active material**

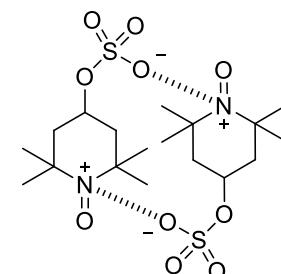


**Supporting electrolyte**  
LOW concentration trials



High concentration  
of active material

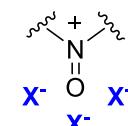
0.5 M Active material in 1 M KCl



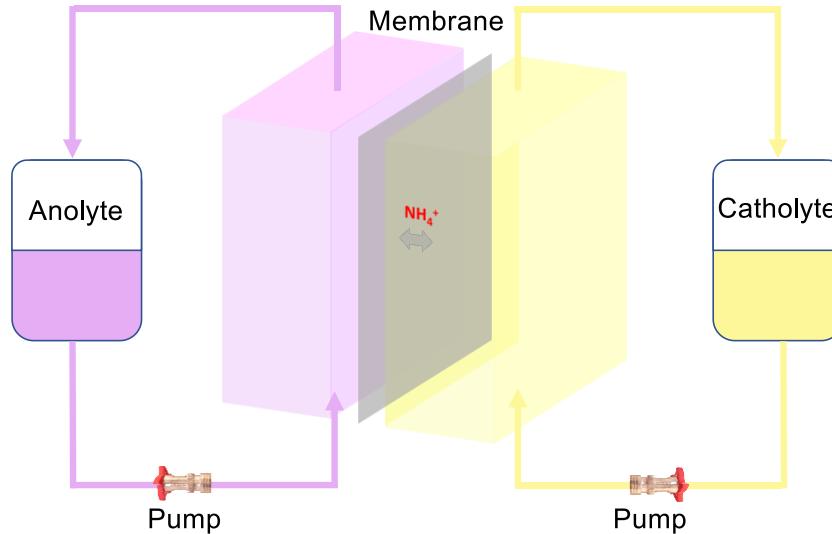
Large aggregates formation

**Supporting electrolyte**

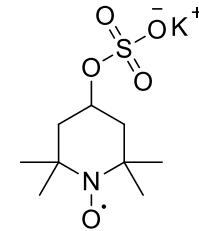
Anion shielding



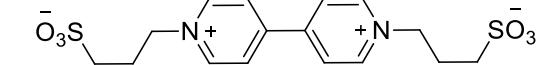
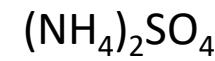
## > Electrolyte screening



**Active material**



**Supporting electrolyte**

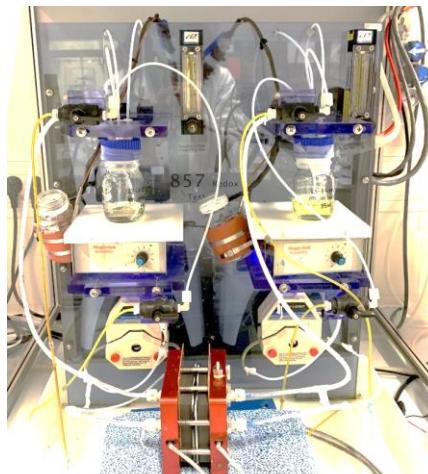


	Anolyte	Catholyte	$\sigma$ (mS/cm)	
A	0,5M SPr <sub>2</sub> V + 2,6M NH <sub>4</sub> Cl	0,5M TEMPO-SO <sub>4</sub> K + 3,6M NH <sub>4</sub> Cl + 0,9M KCl	186	271
B	0,5M SPr <sub>2</sub> V + 2M NaCl	0,5M TEMPO-SO <sub>4</sub> K + 3,5M NaCl	60	153
C	0,5M SPr <sub>2</sub> V + 1,5M (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0,5M TEMPO-SO <sub>4</sub> K + 2M (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	91	175

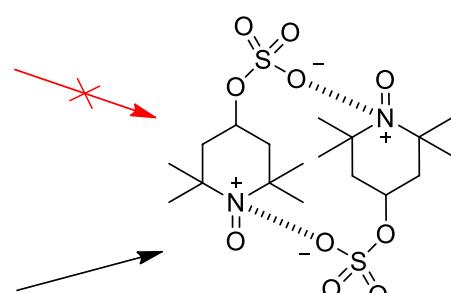
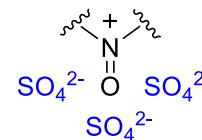
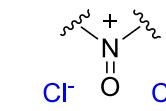
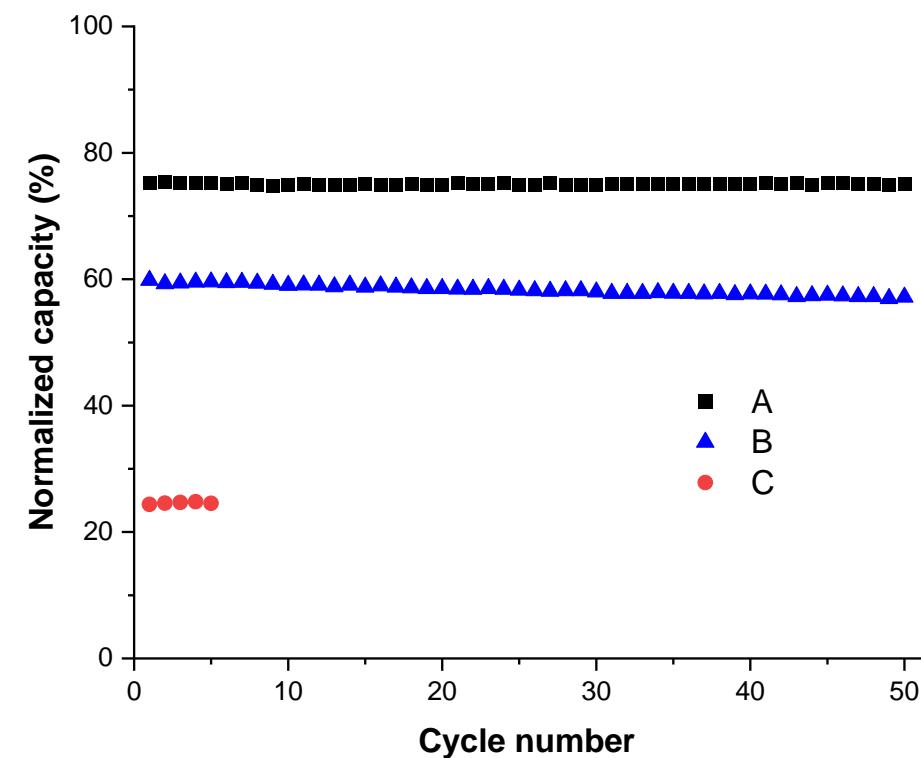
## > Electrolyte screening

### CELL TESTING

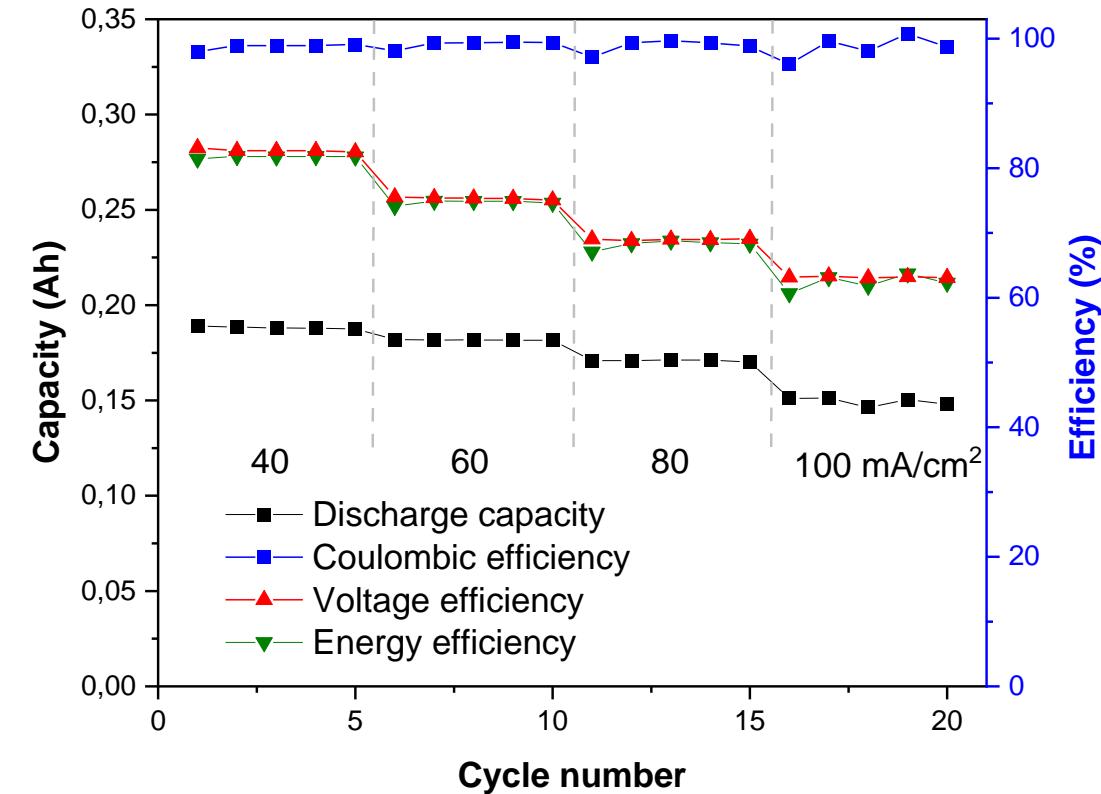
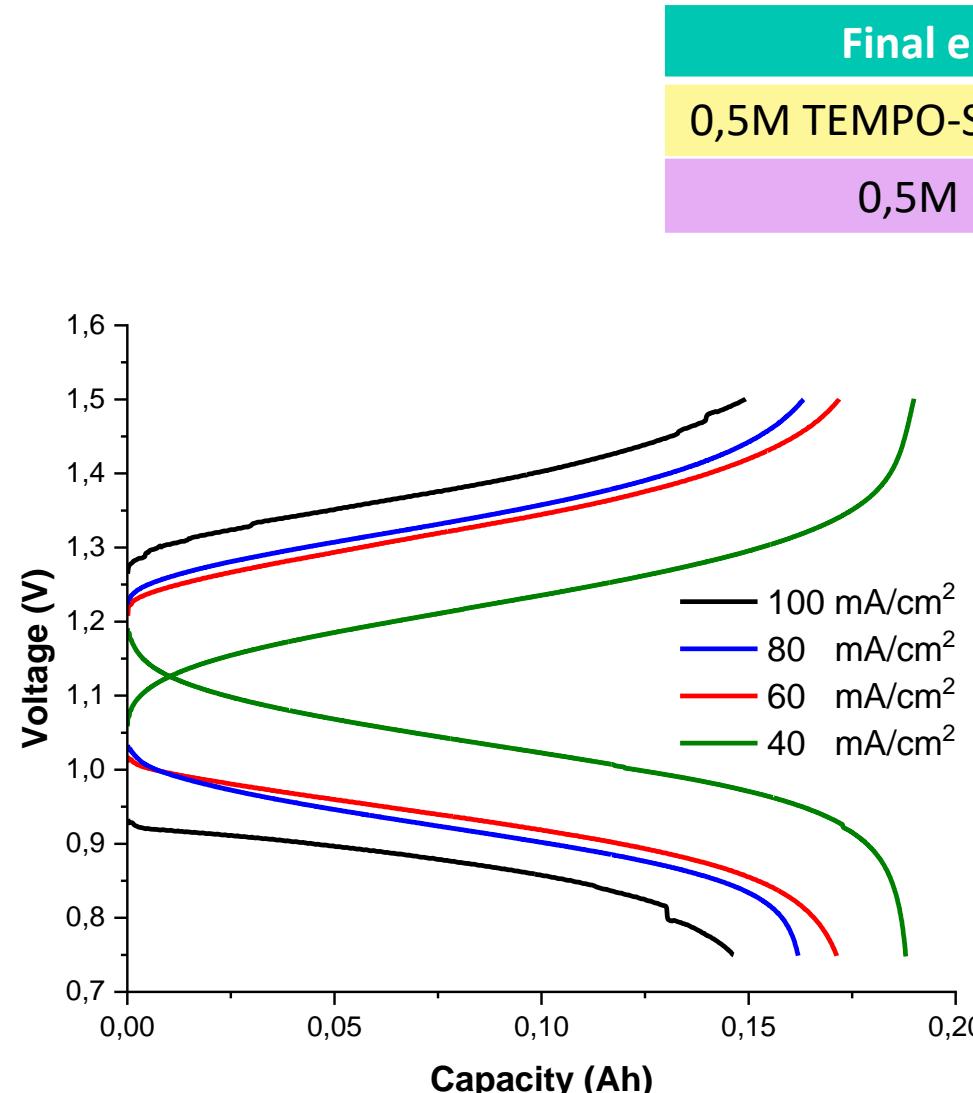
	Anolyte	Catholyte	$R_{\text{ohm}} (\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2)$ SOC 50
A	0,5M SPr <sub>2</sub> V + 2,6M NH <sub>4</sub> Cl	0,5M TEMPO-SO <sub>4</sub> K + 3,6M NH <sub>4</sub> Cl + 0,9M KCl	1,68
B	0,5M SPr <sub>2</sub> V + 2M NaCl	0,5M TEMPO-SO <sub>4</sub> K + 3,5M NaCl	2,26
C	0,5M SPr <sub>2</sub> V + 1,5M (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0,5M TEMPO-SO <sub>4</sub> K + 2M (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	1,92



Membrane	FS950
Electrode	GFD 4,6EA
Cell area(cm <sup>2</sup> ):	25
Current (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> ):	60
Cut off voltage (V):	0,75-1,5



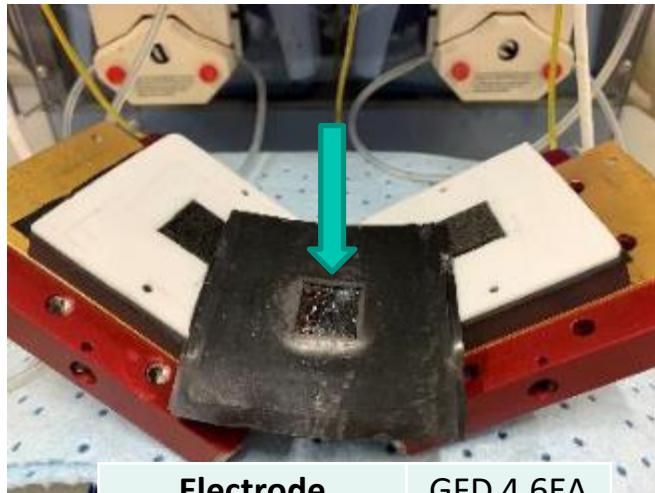
## > Comparative study of membranes



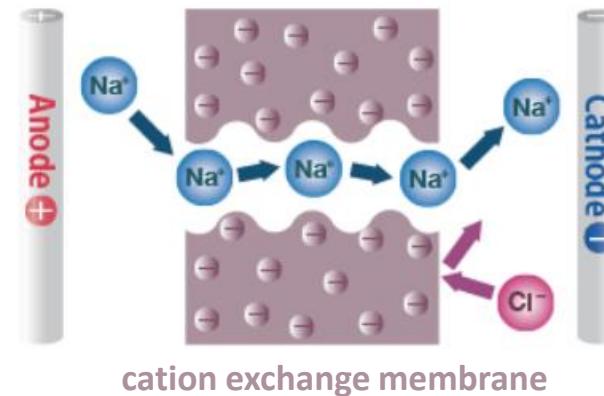
## > Comparative study of membranes

### Final electrolyte formulation

0,5M TEMPO-SO<sub>4</sub>K in 3,6M NH<sub>4</sub>Cl + 0,9M KCl  
0,5M (SPr)<sub>2</sub>V in 2,6M NH<sub>4</sub>Cl



<b>Electrode</b>	GFD 4,6EA
<b>Cell area(cm<sup>2</sup>):</b>	5
<b>Flow (mL/min):</b>	80
<b>Cut off voltage (V):</b>	0,75-1,5



E87-05S

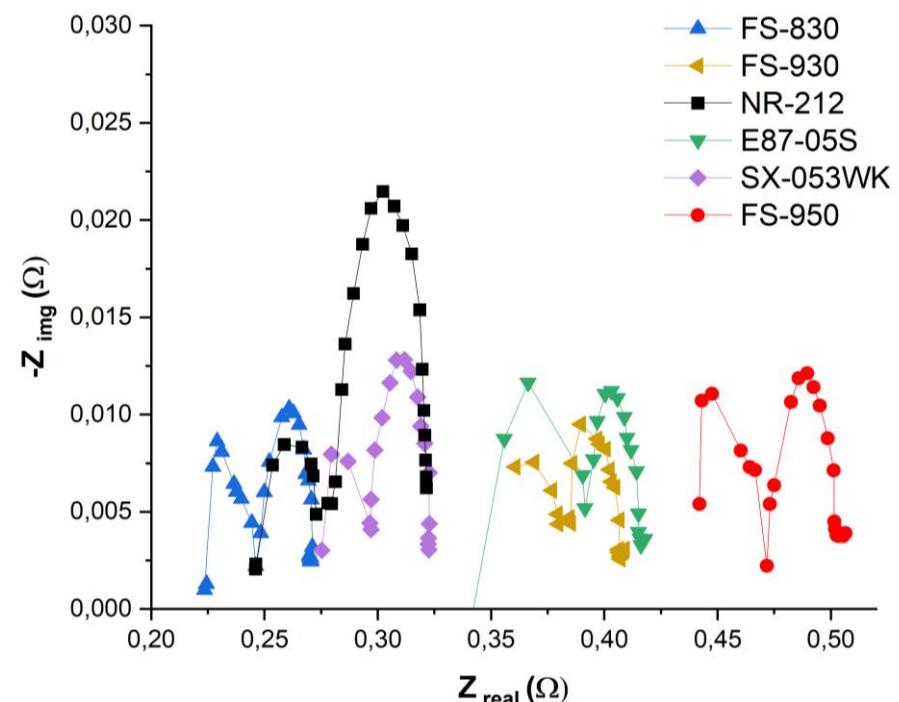
NR-212

SX-053WK

Fumasep membranes

FS-950      FS-830

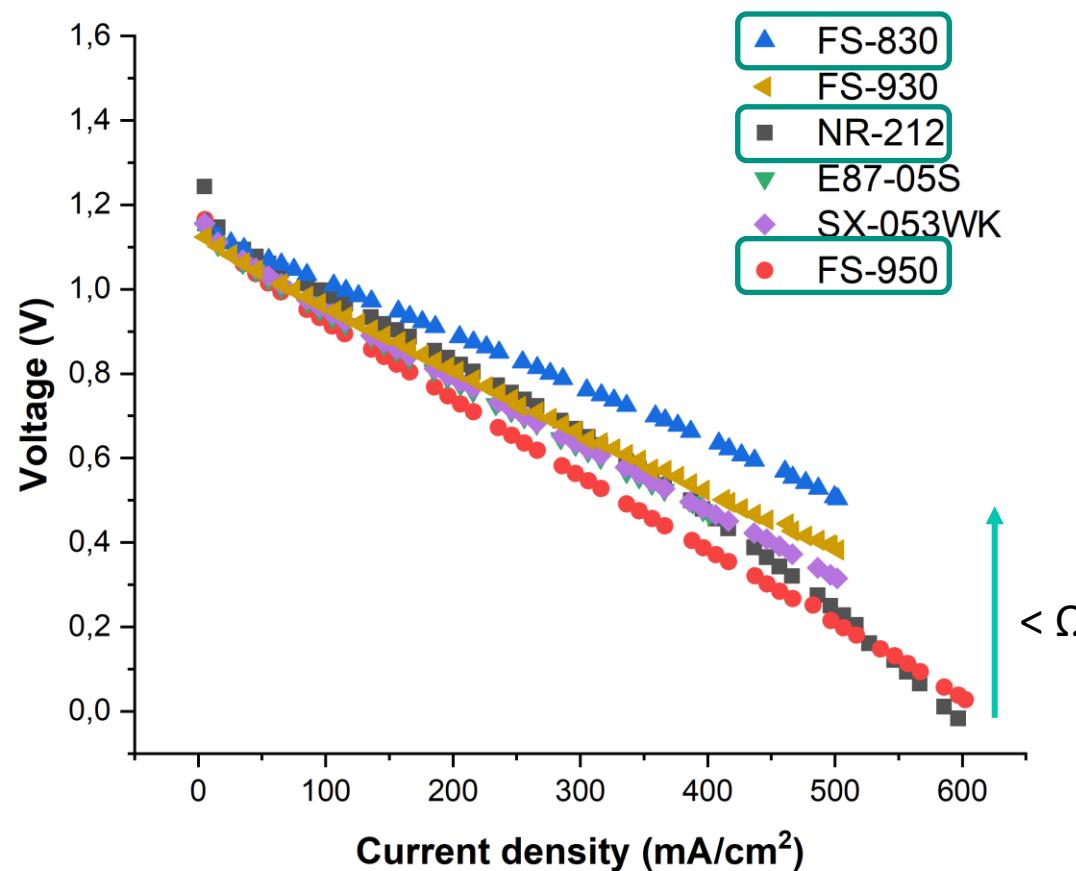
FS-930



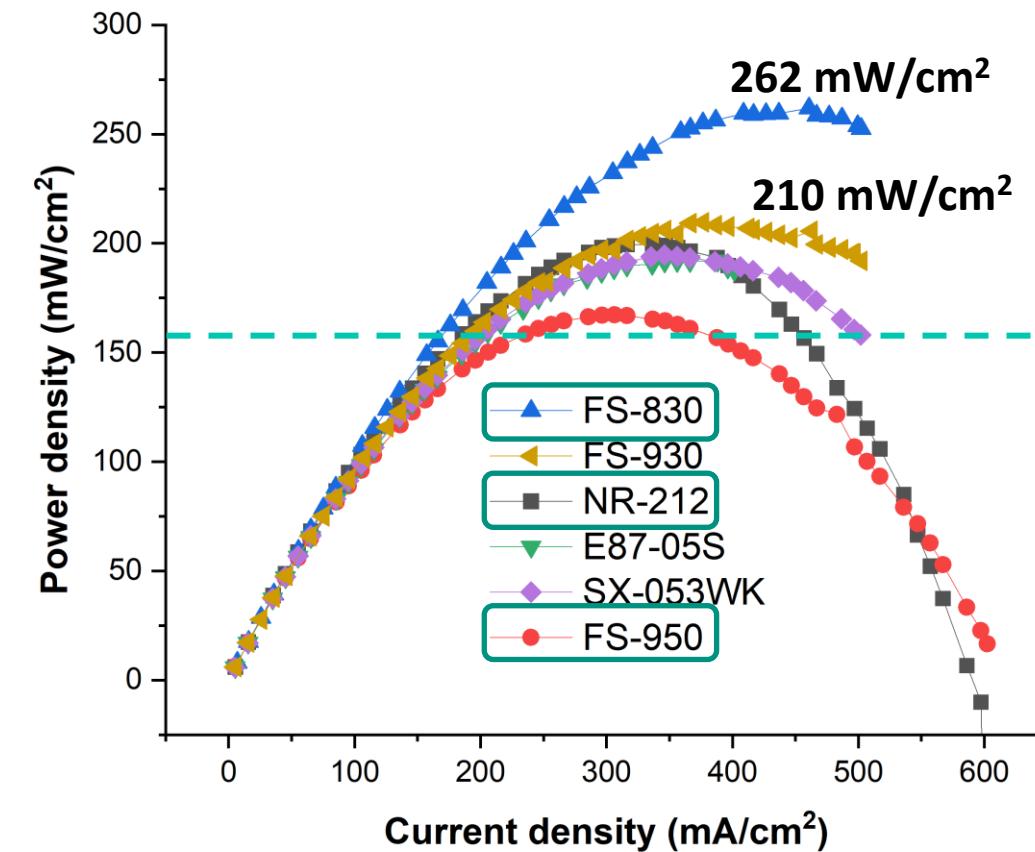
## > Comparative study of membranes

### TRANSPORT PHENOMENA

Polarization Curves SOC 50

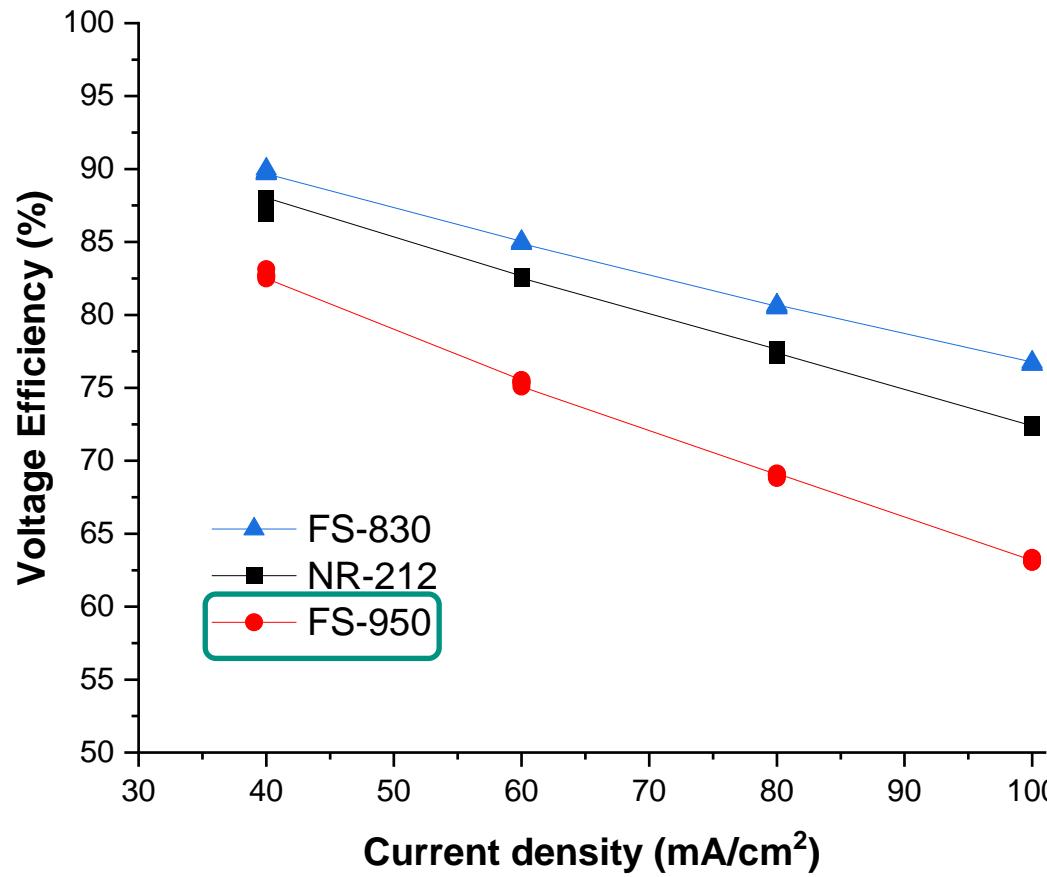


Power density curves SOC 50

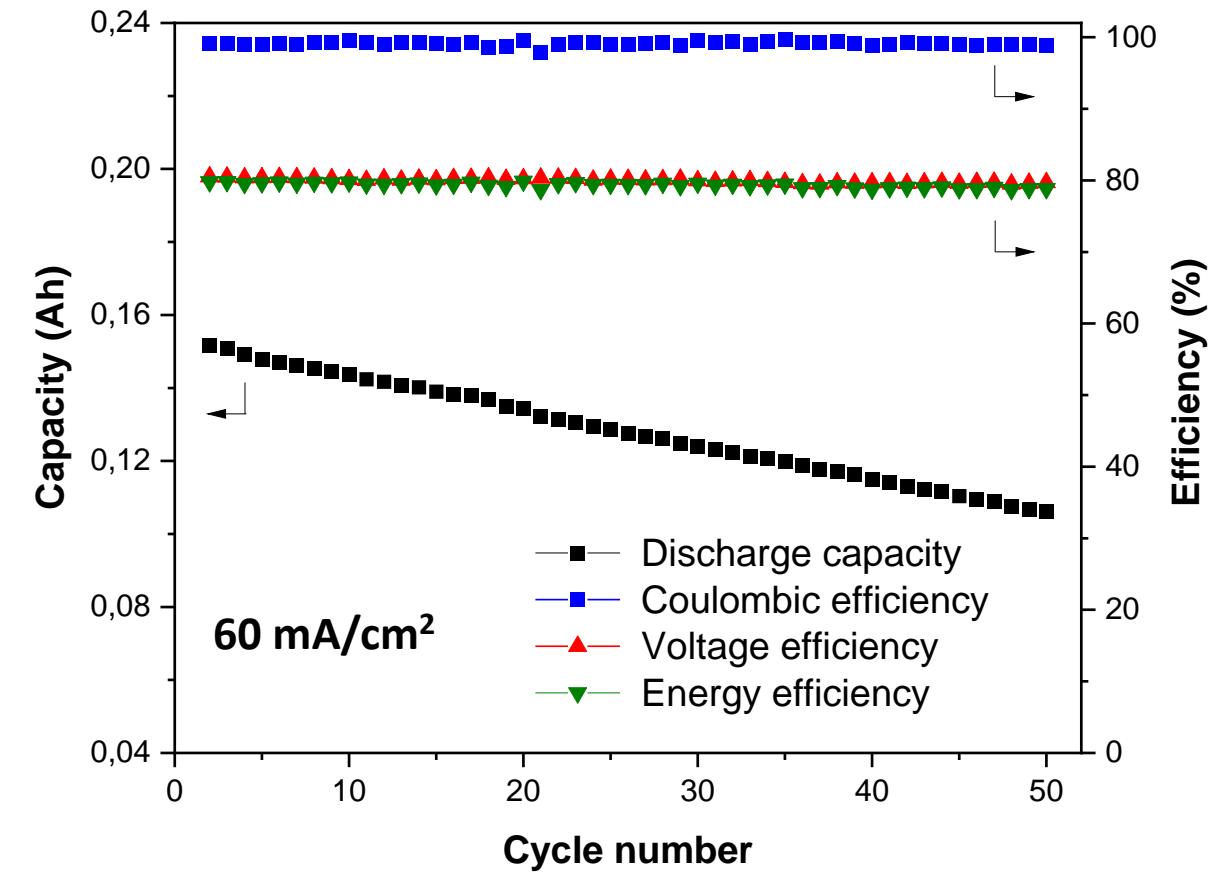


## ➤ Comparative study of membranes

Cycling tests at different currents

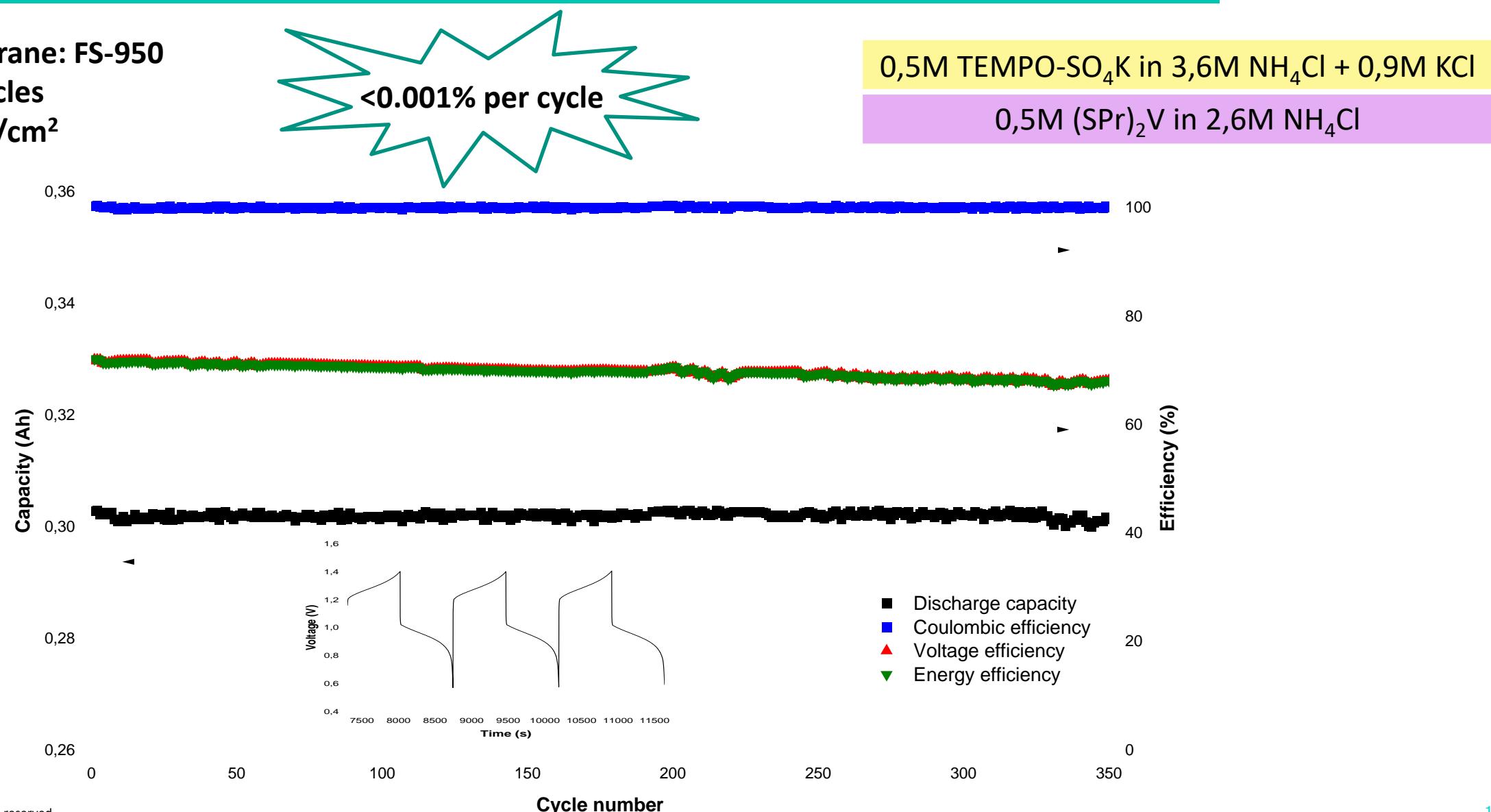


50-cycle experiment NR-212



## > Long cycling test

**Membrane: FS-950**  
**350 cycles**  
**60 mA/cm<sup>2</sup>**

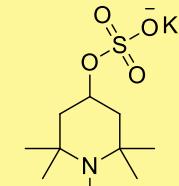


## > Conclusions

**(SPr)<sub>2</sub>V**



**TEMPO-SO<sub>4</sub>K**



Electrolyte

- High solubility in aqueous media in order to achieve high energy densities (cell voltage 1,25 V)
- Optimal electrolyte formulation to reach higher conductivities
- Critical role of chloride anions to avoid formation of aggregates

- Importance of the electrolyte-membrane combination when calculating parameters such as VE, capacity retention and cell resistance.
- Higher voltage efficiencies (**>70%**) and outstanding peak power densities **262 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>**
- Long cycling stability in terms of capacity and a low-capacity fade rate of 0.001% per cycle for over 350 cycles with nearly 100% Coulombic efficiency

## > Acknowledgements

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GRACIAS · THANK YOU · ESKERRIK ASKO

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& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

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*Making sustainability real*



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