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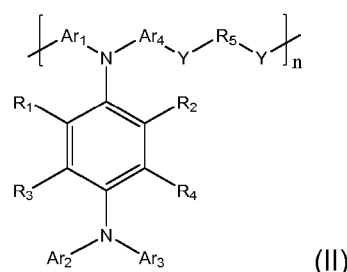
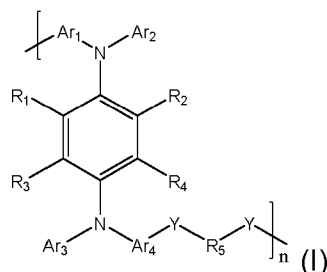
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(54) Title: ELECTRODE FOR AN ELECTROCHEMICAL ELEMENT WITH AN ORGANIC ELECTROLYTE, ELECTROCHEMICAL ELEMENTS COMPRISING THE ELECTRODE AND POLYMERIC MATERIAL AND ITS USE AS ELECTRODE ACTIVE MATERIAL OR AS ELECTRODE BINDER



(57) Abstract: Disclosed is an electrode comprising a polymeric material containing or being composed of subunits according to general formulae (I) and (II) wherein in these structures (I) and (II) n is an integer not smaller than 2, Y represents an amide group (-NH-CO- or -CO-NH-), an ester group (-O-CO- or -CO-O-) or a urethane group (-NH-CO-O- or -O-CO-NH-), R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ each independently represent H, alkyl (preferably -CH₃, -C₂H₅), alkoxy (preferably -OCH₃, -OC₂H₅), -halogen or -CN, Ar₁ and Ar₄ independently represent a bridging aryl group, Ar₂ and Ar₃ independently represent a non-bridging aryl group, and R₅ is a bridging alkyl, alkene or aryl group. Further, a Lithium-ion battery and a supercapacitor with such an electrode and the use of said polymeric material as electrode active material in the electrode of a battery or in the electrode of a supercapacitor and/or as an electrode binder is disclosed.

Electrode for an electrochemical element with an organic electrolyte, electrochemical elements comprising the electrode and polymeric material and its use as electrode active material or as electrode binder

The present invention relates to an electrode for an electrochemical element with an organic electrolyte, electrochemical elements comprising the electrode and a polymeric material capable of storing electrical energy and its use as electrode active material in the electrode or as an electrode binder.

The term "battery" originally meant a plurality of electrochemical cells connected in series in a housing. However, even single electrochemical cells are nowadays frequently referred to as a battery. During discharge of an electrochemical cell, an energy-supplying chemical reaction made up of two electrically coupled but spatially separated part reactions takes place. A part reaction which takes place at a relatively low redox potential proceeds at the negative electrode and a part reaction takes place at a relatively high redox potential at the positive electrode. During discharge, electrons are liberated by means of an oxidation process at the negative electrode, resulting in an electron current which flows via an external load to the positive electrode which takes up a corresponding quantity of electrons. Thus, a reduction process takes place at the positive electrode. At the same time, an ion current corresponding to the electrode reaction flows within the cell. This ion current is ensured by means of an ionically conductive electrolyte. In secondary cells and batteries, this discharging reaction is reversible, i.e. it is possible to reverse the transformation of chemical energy into electric energy which occurred during discharge. Where the terms "anode" and "cathode" are used in this context, the electrodes are generally named according to their function during discharging. The negative electrode in such cells is thus the anode, and the positive electrode is the cathode.

Each electrode comprises at least one electrode active material and electrochemically inactive components. An electrode active material experiences a chemical transformation during charging and discharging, in particular an oxidation or reduction (the above-mentioned oxidation and reduction processes). In contrast, electrochemically inactive components are essentially unaffected during charging and discharging. Examples of electrochemically inactive components of an electrode are electrode binders, current collectors, power outlet leads and conductivity-improving additives. Electrons are supplied to or conducted away from the electrodes by power outlet leads. Electrode binders ensure the mechanical stability of the electrodes and contacting of the particles of electrochemically active material with one another and with the power outlet

lead. Conductivity-improving additives contribute to an improved electric connection between the electrochemically active particles and the power outlet lead.

Lithium-ion batteries are the most frequently used secondary batteries for portable electronic devices. The mechanism for charge storage is based on the intercalation / deintercalation of Li-
5 ions in usually metal oxides (electrode active material on the cathode side) and carbon (elec-
trode active material on the anode side). Lithium-ion batteries exhibit good energy density and
cycle stability, but moderate capacities or capacity retention at higher current densities because
of the slow rates of the electrode reactions, resulting in low power densities.

In contrast, supercapacitors (formerly electric double-layer capacitors) can provide high pulsed
10 currents at high power densities. However, the capacity of double-layer capacitors is limited
according to the nature of a capacitor. Furthermore, like all capacitors, supercapacitors have a
falling voltage characteristic.

Battery cells utilizing organic compounds as electrode active materials are capable of showing
higher power densities and also higher gravimetric energy densities than Lithium-ion batteries.
15 One example is the utilization of reversible oxidation / reduction – reactions of compounds con-
taining stable radicals, such as nitroxide radicals. For example EP 2 025 689 A1 discloses the
use of nitroxide radical containing polymers as electrode active materials in secondary batteries
which show very good capacity retention at higher current rates (high power density) and cyclic
stability.

20 However, many organic electrode materials, like e.g. conducting polymers or also some poly-
radicals, start to degrade when cycled to and held at higher potentials, for example at potentials
close to or above 4 V vs. Li/Li+.

Compounds containing N,N,N',N'-tetrasubstituted-1,4-phenylenediamine units are utilized in
optoelectronic devices, such as organic light emitting devices (OLED) or electrochromic devic-
25 es. The use as electrochromic material has been described, for example, in Liou, G.; Chang, C.
Macromolecules 2008, 41, 1667–1674. The preparation of polyamides containing N,N,N',N'-
tetraphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine units is described. As another example, US 8 304 514 A dis-
closes a polyfluorene compound containing N,N,N',N'-tetraphenyl-p-phenylenediamine units
and its utilization as electrochromic material.

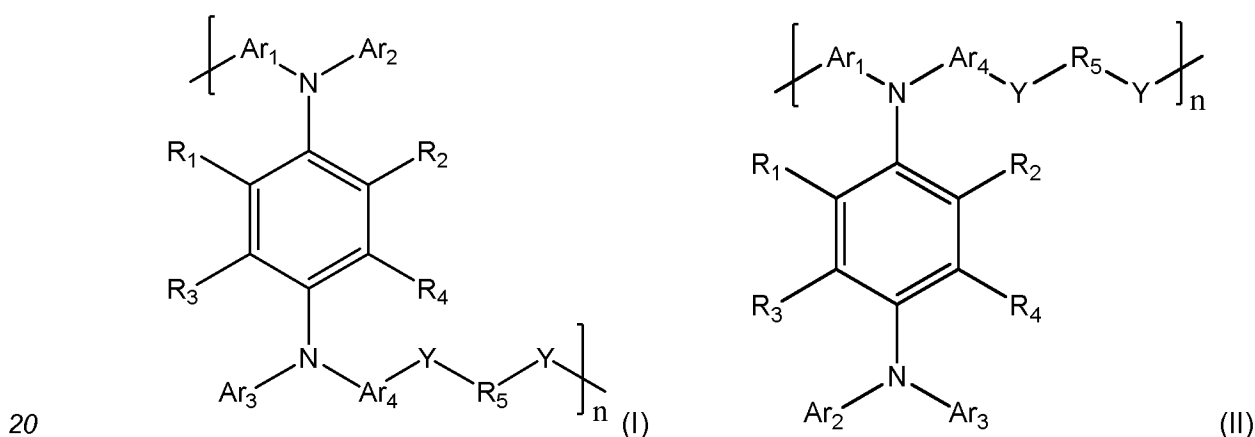
30 The use of poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) containing N,N,N',N'-tetraalkylated-1,4-phenylene-
diamine units as electrical energy storage material has been described in Conte, S.; Rodríguez-

Calero, G. G.; Burkhardt, S. E.; Lowe, M. A.; Abruña, H. D. RSC Advances 2013, 3, 1957-1964. The use of a polymer containing N,N,N',N'-tetraphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine units as cathode material for lithium ion batteries has been described in Chang Su; Fang Yang; LvLv Ji; Lihuan Xu; Cheng Zhang, J. Mater. Chem. A 2014, 2, 20083-20088.

- 5 In accordance with the above, it has been a major goal to manufacture Li-ion batteries with metal oxide electrodes that have good capacity retention at high current densities or high power densities. On the other hand electric double layer capacitors show high power densities but low energy densities.

10 The above-mentioned problems can be solved by utilizing polymers containing N,N,N',N'-tetraphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine subunits represented by general formulae (I) and/or (II) as electrode active materials in Li-ion batteries. Electrode materials based on these polymers, and utilized e.g. in secondary Li-ion batteries show high gravimetric energy densities and also high power densities.

15 According to the present invention, an electrode is provided that is suitable as electrode for electrochemical elements with organic electrolytes, in particular for batteries and supercapacitors with organic electrolytes. Preferably the electrode is a positive electrode, for example a positive electrode of a Lithium-ion battery or a positive electrode of a supercapacitor. The electrode comprises, preferably as electrode active material, a polymeric material that contains or is composed of subunits according to general formulae (I) and/or (II):

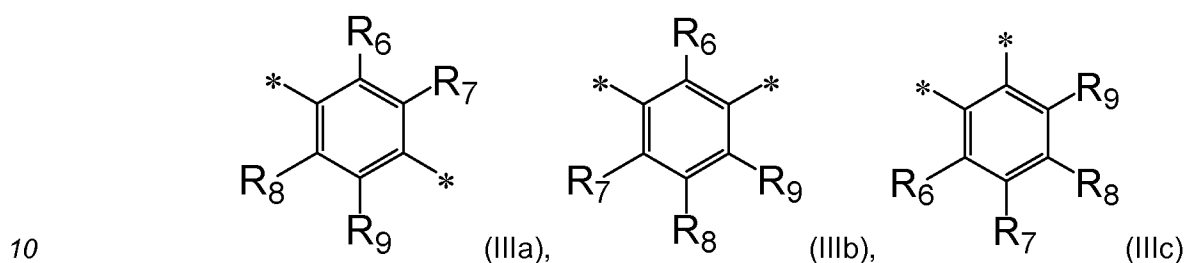


In these structures (I) and (II)

- n is an integer ≥ 2 , preferably ≥ 20 ,

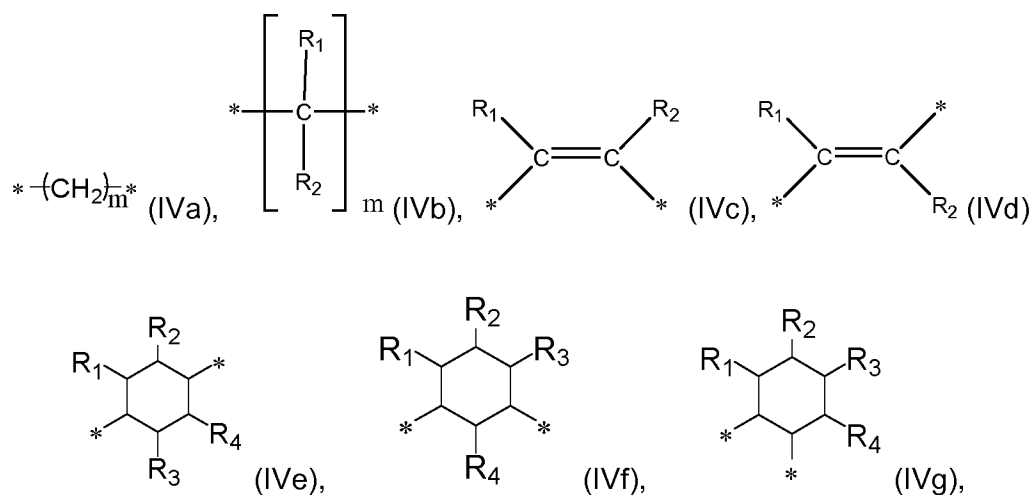
- Y represents an amide group (-NH-CO- or -CO-NH-), an ester group (-O-CO- or -CO-O-) or a urethane group (-NH-CO-O- or -O-CO-NH-),
 - R₁, R₂, R₃ and R₄ each independently represent H, alkyl (preferably -CH₃, -C₂H₅), Alkoxy- (preferably -OCH₃, -OC₂H₅), -halogen or -CN,
- 5
- Ar₁ and Ar₄ independently represent a bridging aryl group,
 - Ar₂ and Ar₃ independently represent a non-bridging aryl group, and
 - R₅ is a bridging alkyl, alkene or aryl group.

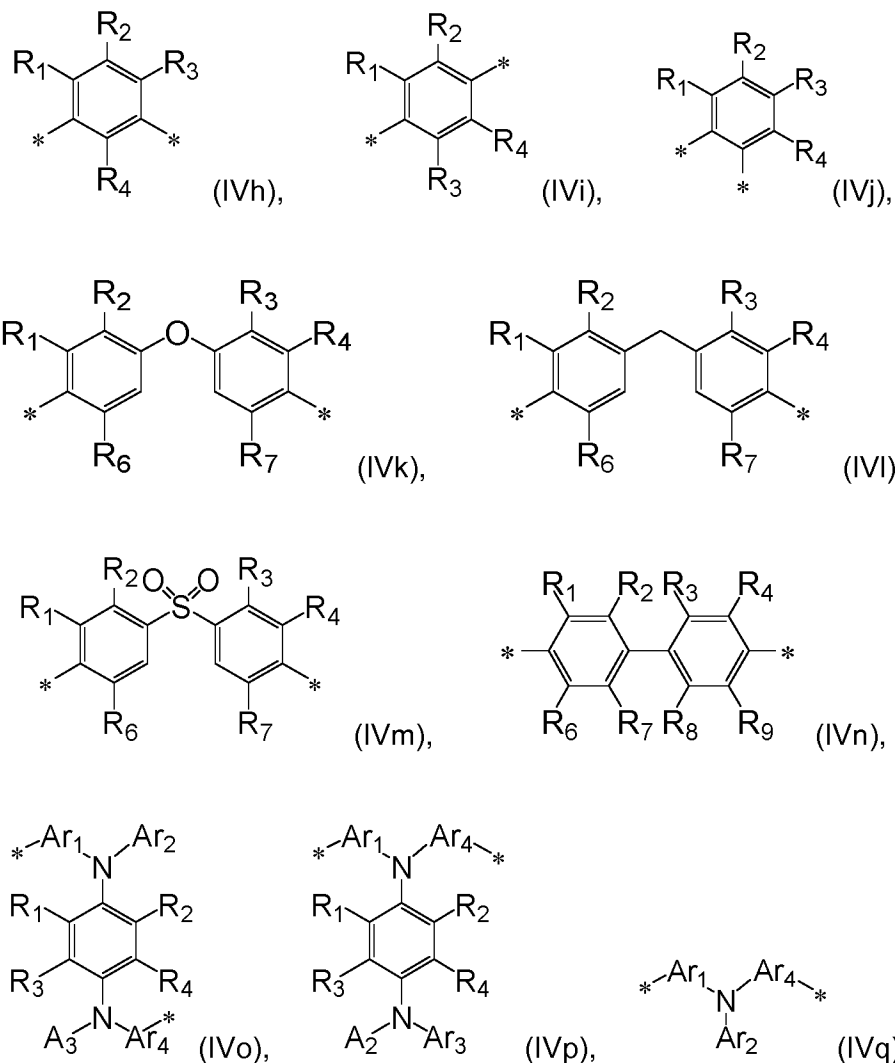
Of particular importance are the bridging groups Ar₁, Ar₄ and R₅. Ar₁ and Ar₄ in structures (I) and (II) independently represent a bridging aryl group of formula (IIIa), (IIIb) or (IIIc)



In these structures (IIIa) to (IIIc)

- * marks a point of attachment
 - R₆, R₇, R₈ and R₉ each independently represent H, alkyl (preferably -CH₃, -C₂H₅), Alkoxy- (preferably -OCH₃, -OC₂H₅), -halogen or -CN
- 15
- R₅ represents one of the groups of formulae (IVa) to (IVq)



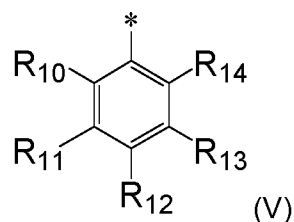


5 wherein

- * marks a point of attachment,
- $m = 1$ to 20, and
- $R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_6, R_7, R_8, R_9, Ar_1, Ar_2, Ar_3$ and Ar_4 have the same meaning as before.

10 Thus, the polymeric material according to the invention is either a polyamide or a polyester or a polyurethane. Cycle stabilities of Li-ion batteries containing the described polyamide or polyester or polyurethane as electrode active material are comparable to capacitors and excellent electrochemical stability when cycled to and held at high potentials is also given.

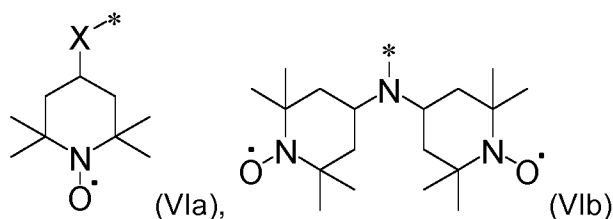
In preferred embodiments Ar_2 and Ar_3 in structures (I) and (II) independently represent a non-bridging aryl group of formula (V)



wherein

- R_{10} , R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} and R_{14} each independently represent H, alkyl (preferably $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$), Alkoxy- (preferably $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5$), halogen, CN or one of the groups of formulae (VIa) and (VIb)

5

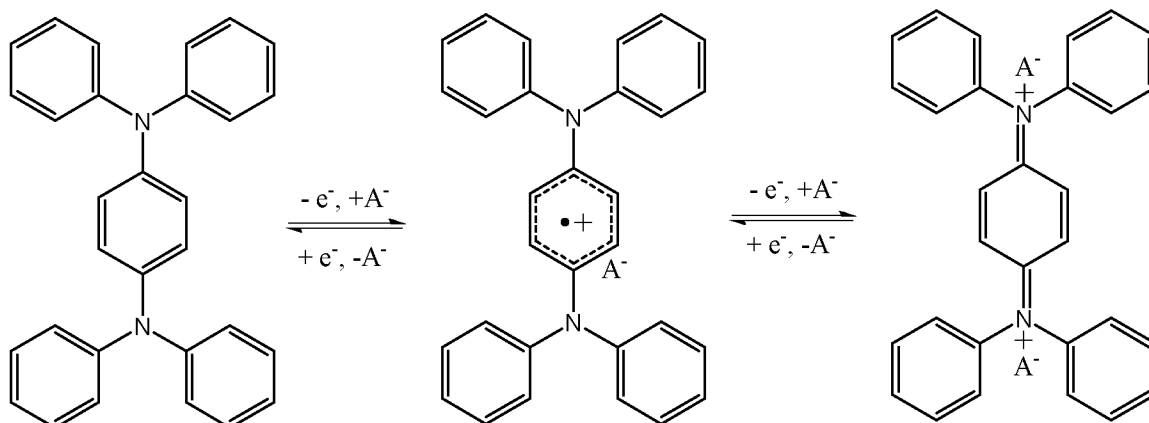


wherein

- * marks a point of attachment and
- X represents O or NH.

- 10 In electrochemical elements with an organic electrolyte which contain polymers represented by general formulae (I) and (II) as electrode active material, the mechanism of energy storage is the reversible oxidation / reduction of the N,N,N',N'-tetraphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine unit according to scheme 1:

Scheme 1

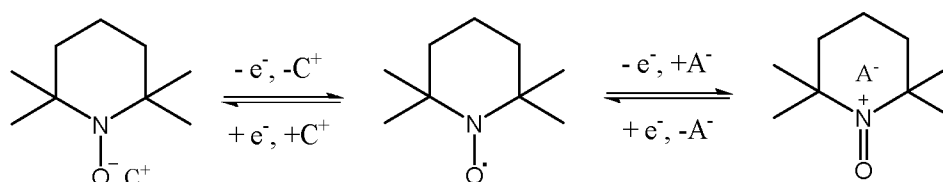


15

In this scheme A^- is the anion derived from the electrolyte salt and may be, for example, the anion derived from $LiPF_6$, $LiClO_4$, $LiBF_4$, $LiN(SO_2CF_3)_2$ or $NaCl$.

The polymer compound may also carry stable nitroxide radicals. The underlying mechanism of energy storage is the reversible oxidation / reduction of the nitroxide radical according to scheme 2 representatively showing the redox couples of 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine-1-oxyl (TEMPO):

Scheme 2



In this scheme A^- has the same meaning as before and C^+ is the cation derived from the electrolyte salt and may be, for example, Li^+ or Na^+ .

Polymer examples

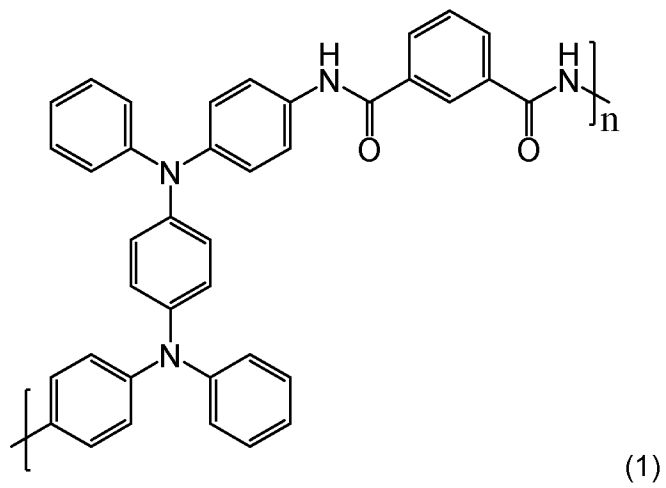
Not limiting examples of individual compounds, which have a structure represented by general formulae (I) and (II), are represented by the following formulae 1-16. The theoretical specific capacity (Ah/kg) is shown in brackets and has been calculated using equation 1.

15 Theoretical specific capacity = $F / [3.6 \times (M/z)]$ (eq.1)

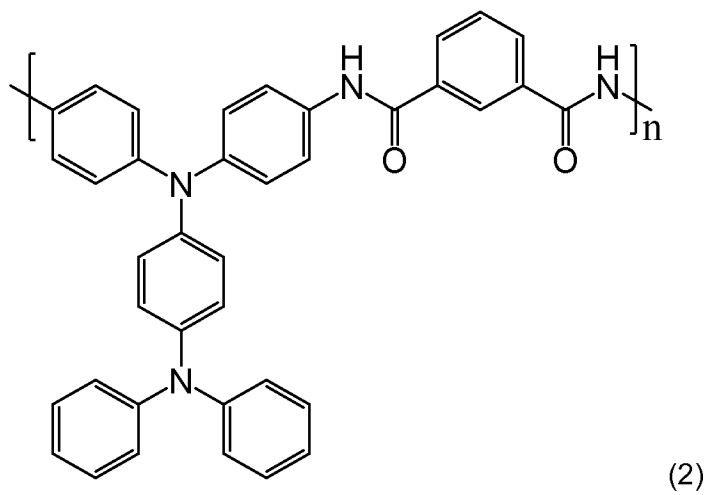
F = Faraday constant = 96485 C/mol

M = molecular weight of the repeating unit

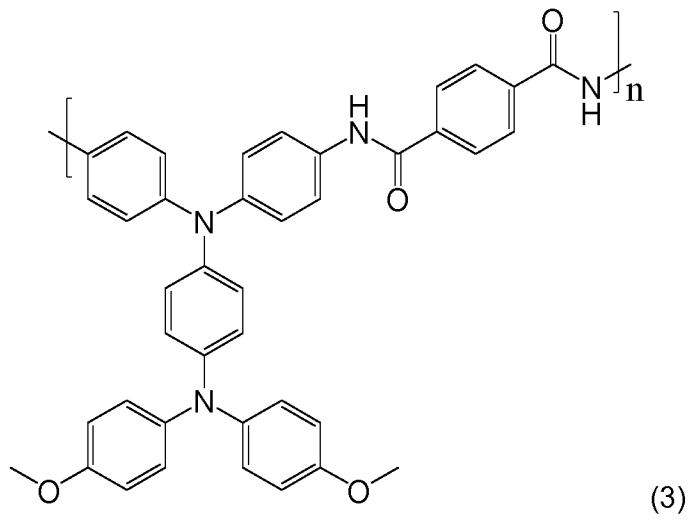
z = electrons transferred per repeating unit



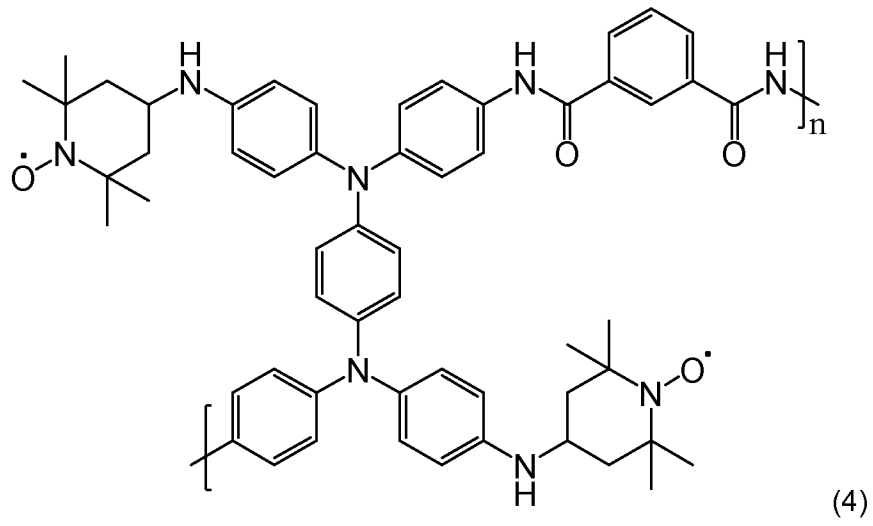
(93.6 Ah/kg)



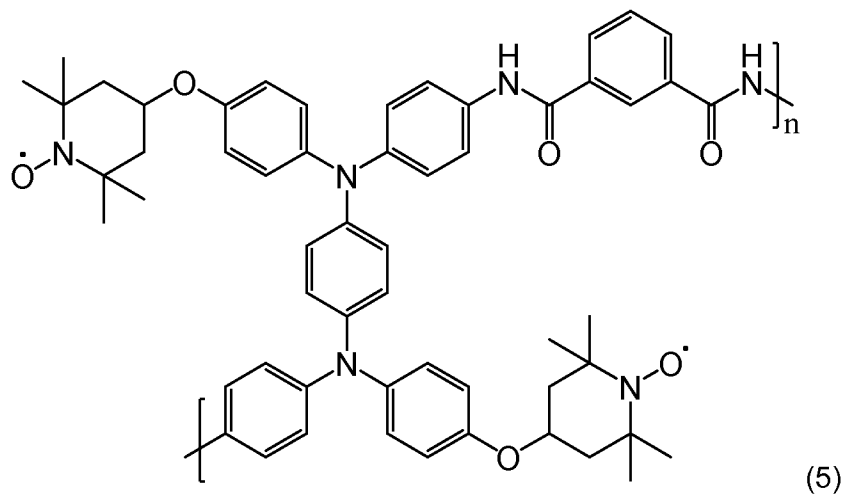
5 (93.6 Ah/kg)



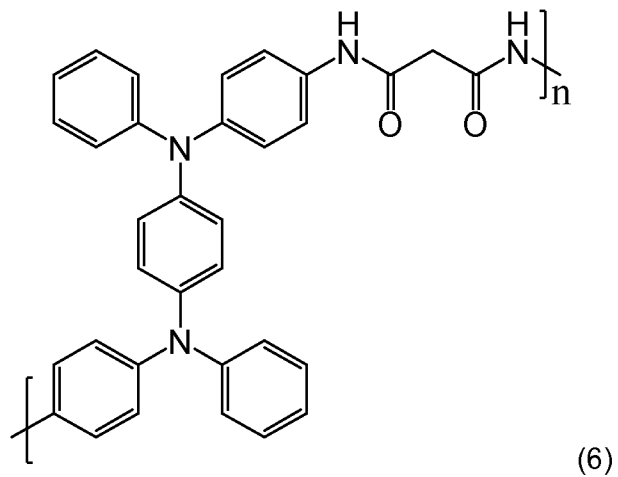
(84.7 Ah/kg)



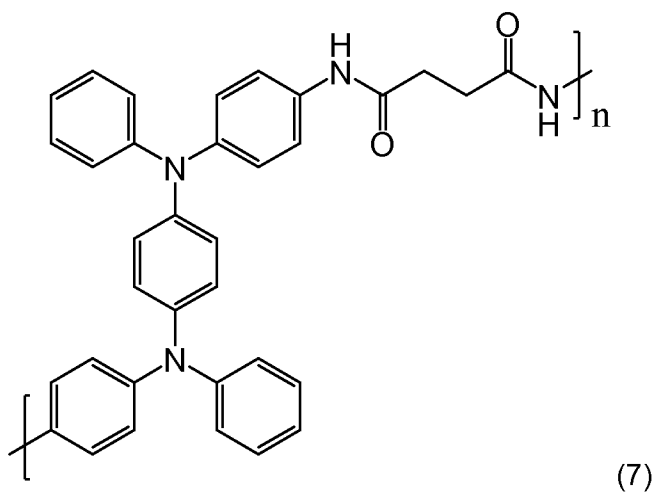
(117.7 Ah/kg)



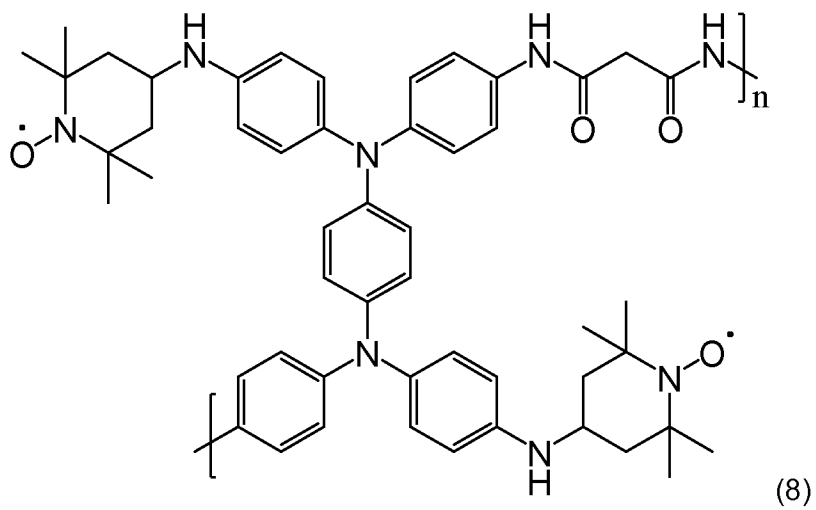
(117.4 Ah/kg)



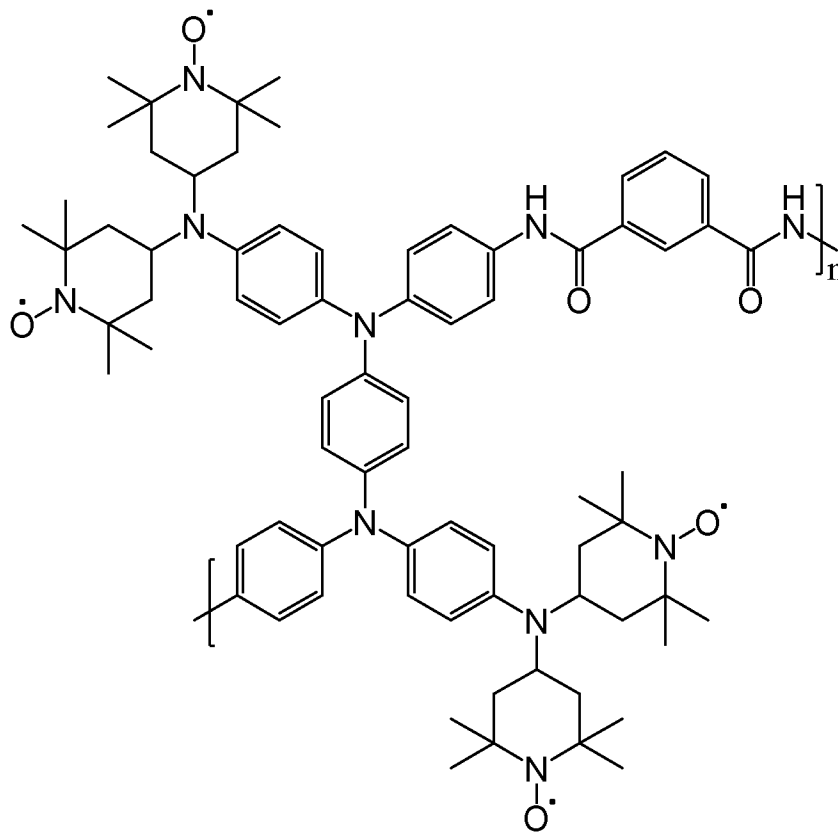
(105 Ah/kg)



5 (102.2 Ah/kg)

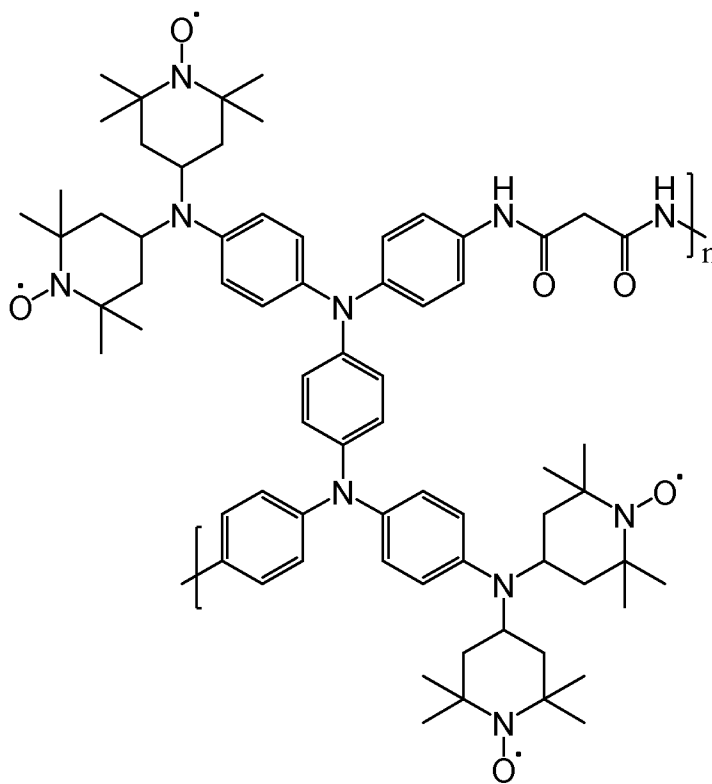


(126.3 Ah/kg)



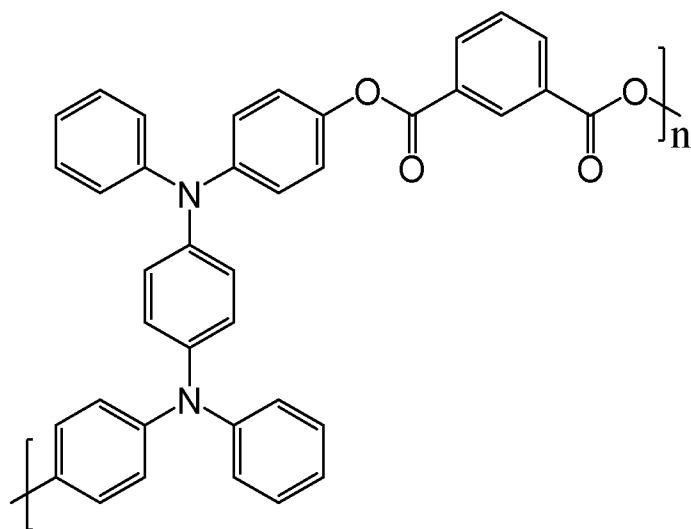
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(131.9 Ah/kg)



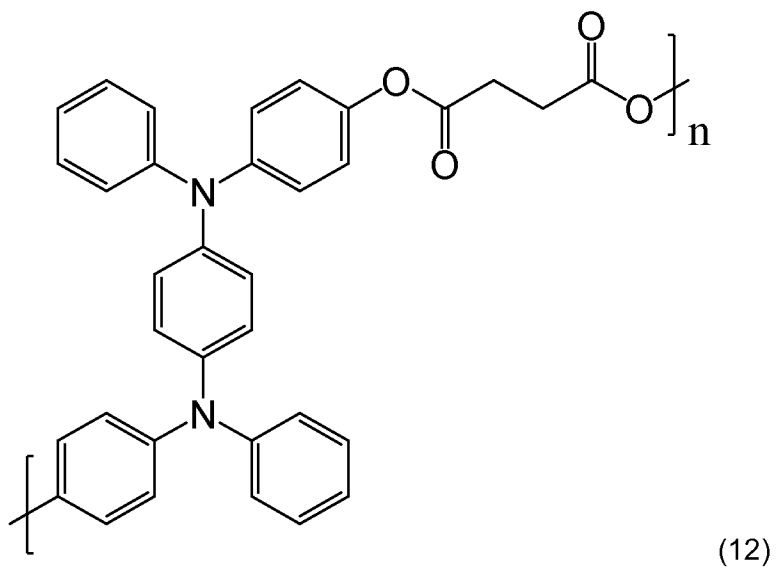
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(138.9 Ah/kg)

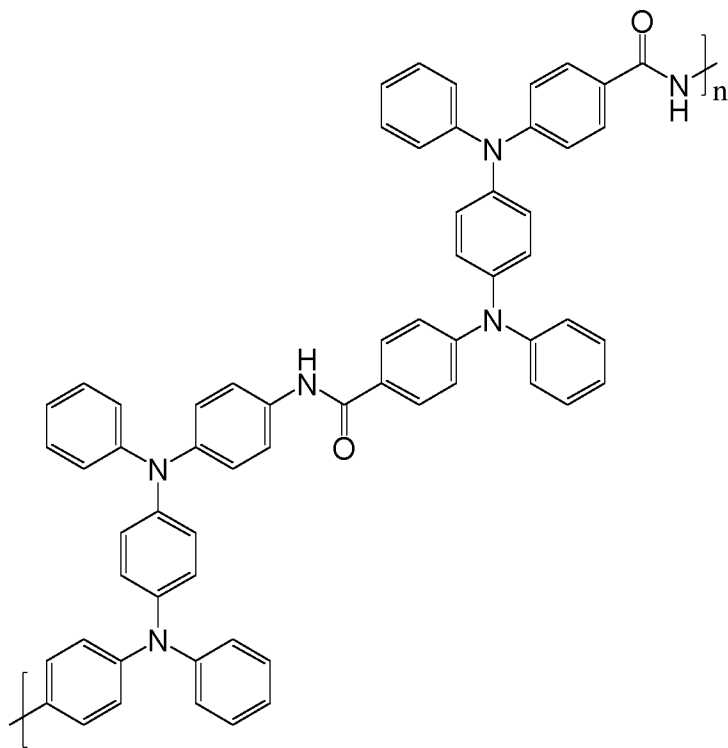


(93.3 Ah/kg)

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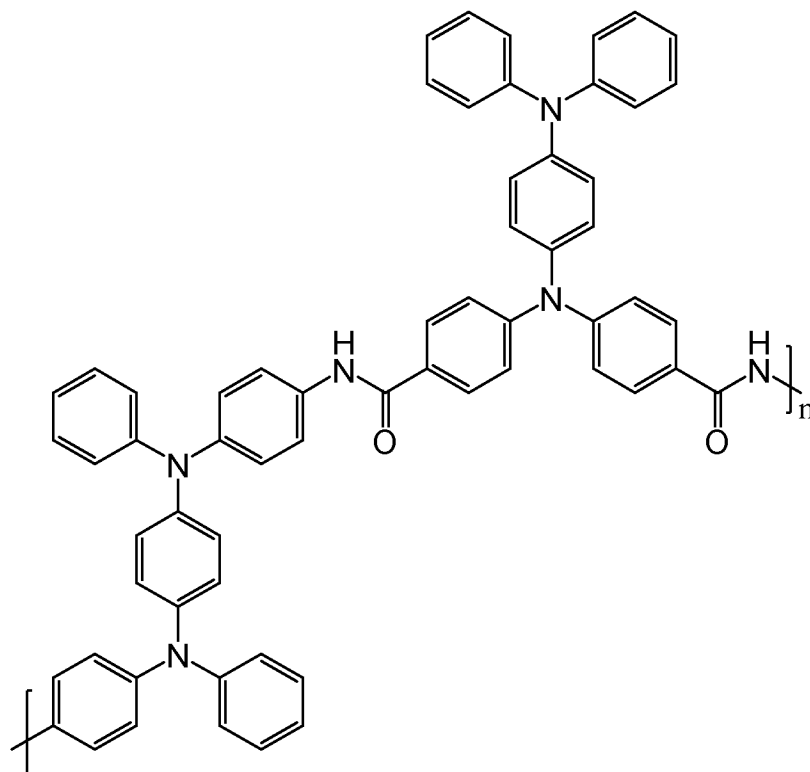


(101.8 Ah/kg)



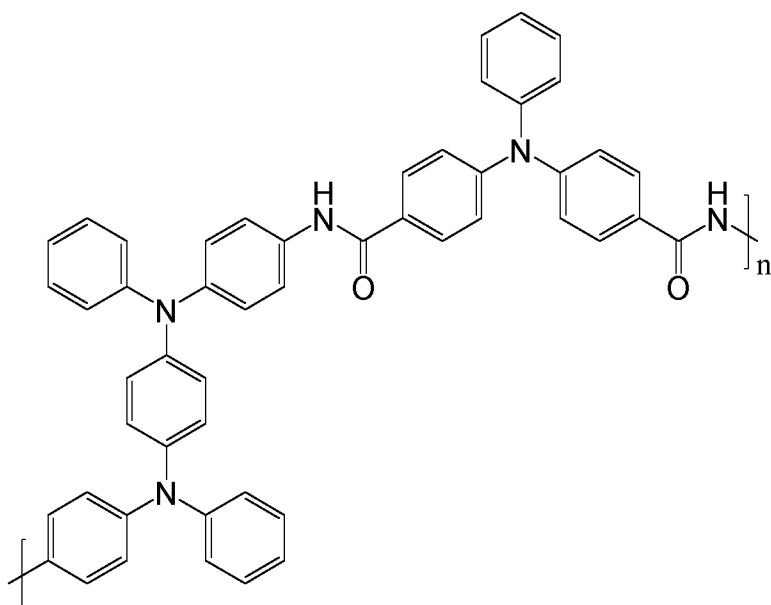
(13)

(118.2 Ah/kg)

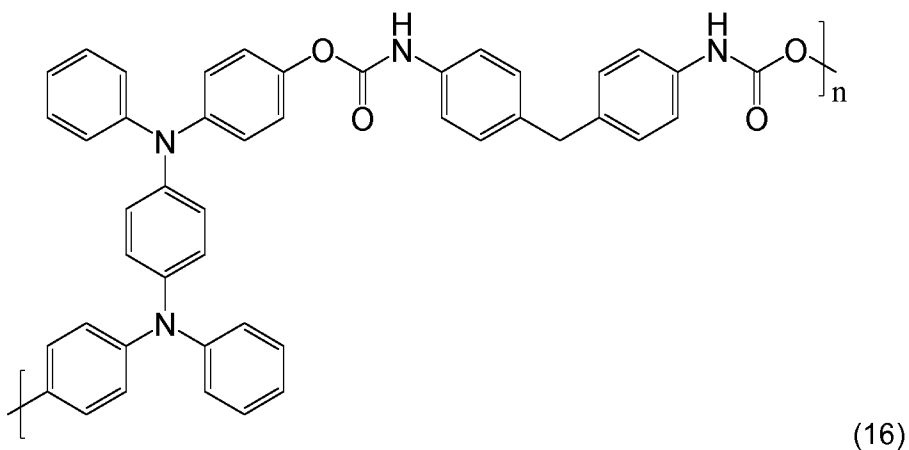


(14)

(118.2 Ah/kg)



(108.7 Ah/g)



5 (77.1 Ah/kg)

The polymeric material preferably has a dynamic viscosity from 2.5 mPas to 50 mPas (measured in NMP at 20 °C and a concentration of 2 wt.%).

Preferably the polymeric material has an average molecular weight in the range from 200.000 g/mol to 400.000 g/mol.

The electrode may comprise a current collector, in particular a current collector made of aluminium or copper.

It is preferred, that the electrode comprises, in addition to the polymeric material according to general formulae (I) and (II) or to one of the preferred embodiments above, at least one carbon material selected from the group consisting of carbon black, graphite, activated carbon, carbon nanotubes and graphene, in particular as conductivity-improving additive.

- 5 Preferably the carbon material is contained in the electrode in an amount between 0,1 % by weight and 99,9 % by weight, more preferably between 25 % by weight and 95 % by weight, in particular between 45 % by weight and 75 % by weight.

The polymeric electrode material is preferably contained in the electrode in an amount between 0,1 % by weight and 99,9 % by weight, more preferably between 25 % by weight and 95 % by weight, in particular between 45 % by weight and 75 % by weight.

In a further preferred embodiment, the electrode comprises at least one electrode binder. All known binders for Lithium-ion batteries are suitable as binder for an electrode according to the invention, however, particularly preferred the binder is selected from the group consisting of a cellulose-based binder, a polyacrylate-based binder and a polyvinylidene-based binder (in particular polyvinylidene fluoride and polyvinylidene difluoride).

The electrode binder is preferably contained in the electrode in an amount between 0,1 % by weight and 20 % by weight, more preferably between 0,1 % by weight and 10 % by weight, in particular between 1 % by weight and 10 % by weight. Even more preferred is an amount between 1 % by weight and 7,5 % by weight.

- 20 Surprisingly it has been found that the polymeric material described above itself has binding properties. Thus, it is possible to use the polymeric material as reactive electrode binder. There are preferred embodiments of the electrode according to the invention that do not contain any additional electrode binder. These electrodes can consist of the polymeric electrode material and the carbon material.

- 25 Each Lithium-ion battery that comprises an electrode as described above or the polymeric electrode material containing or being composed of subunits according to general formulae (I) and (II) above is claimed to be part of the present invention. It is preferred, that the claimed Lithium-ion battery is a secondary battery.

In preferred embodiments the claimed Lithium-ion battery contains the electrode described above as positive electrode.

In a further preferred embodiment the positive electrode of the claimed Lithium-ion battery contains at least one metal oxide as active material, in particular at least one oxide from the group

comprising lithium-cobalt oxide (LiCoO_2), LiMn_2O_4 spinel, lithium-iron phosphate (LiFePO_4) and derivatives such as $\text{LiNi}_{1/3}\text{Mn}_{1/3}\text{Co}_{1/3}\text{O}_2$ or LiMnPO_4 , and the polymeric electrode material containing or being composed of subunits according to general formulae (I) and (II) above as electrode binder. In this case, the polymeric material is preferably contained in the electrode in an amount between 0,1 % by weight and 20 % by weight, more preferably between 0,1 % by weight and 10 % by weight, in particular between 1 % by weight and 10 % by weight.

The negative electrode of the claimed battery may contain metallic lithium or particles based on carbon like graphitic carbon or nongraphitic carbon materials capable of intercalation of lithium. Furthermore, the negative electrode may also contain metallic and semimetallic materials which can be alloyed with lithium. Thus, for example, the elements tin, antimony and silicon are able to form intermetallic phases with lithium.

Further, each supercapacitor that comprises an electrode as described above or the polymeric electrode material containing or being composed of subunits according to general formulae (I) and (II) above is claimed to be part of the present invention.

It is well known that supercapacitors both show a double-layer capacitance and a pseudocapacitance. Double-layer capacitance means that electrostatic storage is achieved by separation of charge in a Helmholtz double layer at the interface between the surface of a conductive electrode and an electrolyte and pseudocapacitance means a faradaic electrochemical storage with electron charge-transfer, achieved by redox reactions, intercalation or electrosorption.

Preferably a supercapacitor according to the invention comprises as negative electrode a carbon electrode, in particular an electrode comprising or being composed of activated carbon. Preferably the negative electrode contains the carbon or activated carbon in an amount between 10 % by weight and 100 % by weight, more preferably between 25 % by weight and 99 % by weight, in particular between 50 % by weight and 99 % by weight. Even more preferred is an amount between 75 % by weight and 99 % by weight.

The positive electrode of a supercapacitor according to the invention preferably comprises the polymeric compound described above, preferably in combination with carbon, in particular with activated carbon.

The positive electrode of a supercapacitor according to the invention preferably comprises the carbon in an amount between 1 % by weight and 99 % by weight, more preferably between 15 % by weight and 95 % by weight, more preferably between 50 % by weight and 85 % by weight, in particular between 60 % by weight and 80 % by weight.

The polymeric electrode material is preferably contained in the positive electrode of a supercapacitor according to the invention in an amount between 5 % by weight and 75 % by weight, more preferably between 10 % by weight and 50 % by weight, in particular between 15 % by weight and 40 % by weight.

- 5 If the polymeric compound is present in combination with the carbon, the carbon is preferably contained in the electrode in an amount between 40 % by weight and 99 % by weight, more preferably between 50 % by weight and 80 % by weight, and the polymeric compound is preferably contained in the electrode in an amount between 1 % by weight and 60 % by weight, more preferably between 20 % by weight and 50 % by weight.
- 10 In preferred embodiments the activated carbon used in the positive and/or in the negative electrode of the supercapacitor or in the electrode according to the invention has a BET-surface of at least 900 m²/g (determined according to German standard DIN ISO 9277) and/or a capacity of at least 60 F/g (determined according to German standard DIN IEC 62391).

The positive and the negative electrode of a supercapacitor according to the invention may contain an electrode binder and/or a conductivity-improving additive, in particular one of the known binders for Lithium-ion batteries and/or one of the conductivity-improving additives described above, preferably in an amount between 0,1 % by weight and 20 % by weight, more preferably between 0,1 % by weight and 10 % by weight, in particular between 1 % by weight and 10 % by weight.

20 The above mentioned percentages relate in each case to the total weight of the electrodes in a dry condition, that is before the electrodes are impregnated with electrolyte, without taking into account the weight of a current collector, if any. Further, the above mentioned percentages preferably sum up to 100% by weight.

The present invention further comprises the use of a compound according to formulae (I) and (II) or the use of one of the preferred embodiments described above as electrode active material in the electrode of a battery, in particular in a Lithium-ion battery, or in the electrode of a supercapacitor.

Further, the invention comprises the use of a compound according to formulae (I) and (II) as electrode binder in the electrode of a battery, in particular in a Lithium-ion battery.

30 As organic electrolyte the electrochemical element and the electrode according to the invention may contain in particular any organic electrolyte known to be suitable as electrolyte for Lithium-ion batteries or supercapacitors. Preferably the electrolyte is a mixture of a solvent and a con-

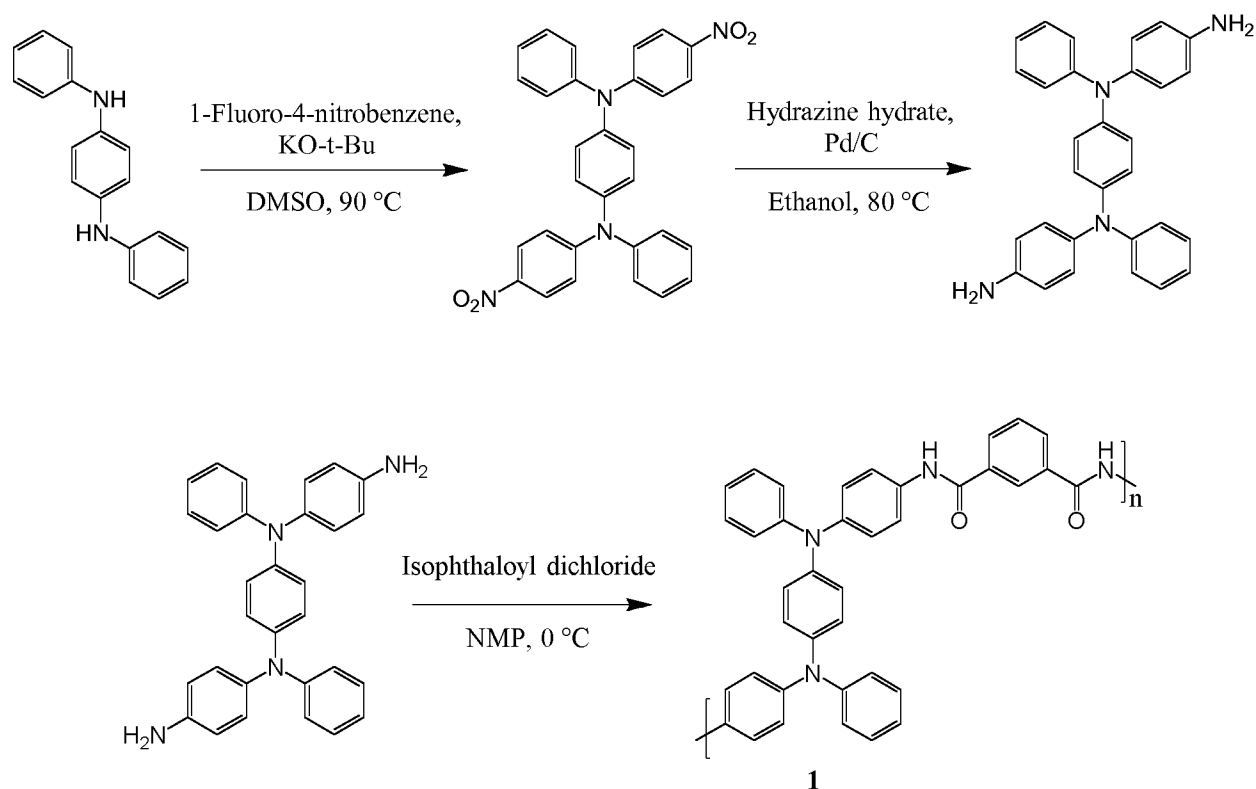
ducting salt contained therein. The solvent preferably comprises ethylene carbonate (EC) and at least one further carbonate selected from the group consisting of diethyl carbonate (DEC), dimethyl carbonate (DMC), ethyl-methyl carbonate (EMC) and propylene carbonate (PC).

The conducting salt is preferably a lithium fluorophosphate, a lithium borate and/or a lithium alkylsulfonylimid.

The present invention is further illustrated by the following figures and examples, however, without being restricted thereto

Examples

Example 1: A copolymer of N,N'-bis(4-aminophenyl)-N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine and isophthaloyl dichloride (compound 1) was synthesized as a first example of a polymeric electrode material according to the present invention according to the following scheme:



15 Step A: N,N'-bis(4-nitrophenyl)-N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine

Prepared as described in Davis, M. C.; Chafin, A. C.; Sathrum, A. J. Synthetic Communications 2005, 35, 2085–2090.

Purified N,N'-diphenyl-p-phenylenediamine (2.03 g, 7.8 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DMSO (13.4 mL), potassium tert-butoxide (2.20 g, 2.5 eq.) and 1-fluoro-4-nitrobenzene (2.15 mL, 2.6 eq) were added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 17 h at 90 °C. The mixture was cooled to room temperature and added dropwise to 200 mL of a stirred solution of saturated aqueous NaCl. The resulting orange-brown precipitate was filtered, washed with 100 mL of water and dissolved in 100 mL of dichloromethane. The organic phase was washed 2 times with approximately 50 mL of water, dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was dispersed in 100 mL of refluxing acetonitrile for 1 h, cooled, filtered and dried under vacuum to obtain the title compound as orange-red solid (3.57 g, 91 %).

¹H NMR (300.36 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ in ppm): 8.14-8.04 (m, 4H), 7.54-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.35-7.25 (m, 10H), 6.92-6.83 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (APT, 75.53 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ in ppm): 153.18, 144.82, 142.38, 139.28, 130.37, 127.93, 127.00, 126.44, 125.65, 117.34; EI-MS: M⁺, m/z found: 502.1635 Da, calculated for C₃₀H₂₂N₄O₄: 502.1641 Da; IR: 1581, 1486, 1310, 1298, 1279, 1255, 1185, 1107, 997, 832, 749, 710, 691, 649, 553, 519, 502, 414 cm⁻¹

Step B: N,N'-bis(4-aminophenyl)-N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine

Prepared as described in Liou, G.-S.; Hsiao, S.-H.; Ishida, M.; Kakimoto, M.; Imai, Y. Journal of Polymer Science Part A: Polymer Chemistry 2002, 40, 2810–2818.

N,N'-bis(4-nitrophenyl)-N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine (1.52 g, 3 mmol) and Pd/C (80 mg, 5.3 wt-%) were dispersed in ethanol (10 mL), hydrazine hydrate (1.5 mL, 10.2 eq.) was added dropwise and the reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 17 h. After cooling, 20 mL of DMF were added, the mixture was filtered to remove the catalyst and washed thoroughly with approximately 30 mL of DMF. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure, added dropwise to 100 mL of a stirred solution of saturated aqueous NaCl and the resulting precipitate was filtered. The crude product was slurried in 50 mL of boiling toluene for 3 h, cooled and filtered. This purifying procedure was repeated and the resulting solid was dried under vacuum to obtain the title compound as beige solid (0.62 g, 46 %).

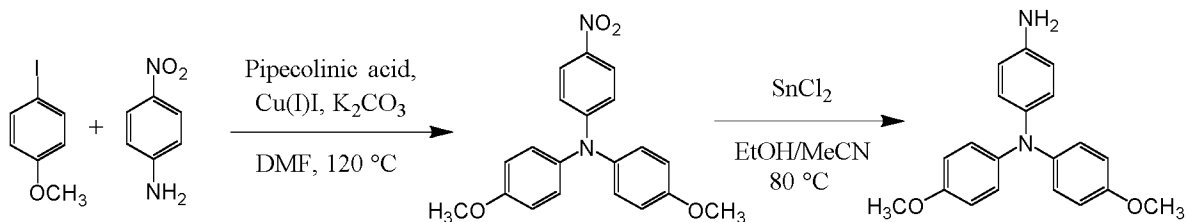
¹H NMR (300.36 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ in ppm): 7.20-7.10 (m, 4H), 6.90-7.73 (m, 14H), 6.60-6.52 (m, 4H), 5.05 (s, 4H, -NH₂); ¹³C NMR (APT, 75.53 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ in ppm): 148.45, 146.11, 142.06, 135.27, 128.95, 127.91, 123.80, 119.95, 119.78, 115.0; EI-MS: M⁺, m/z found: 442.2146 Da, calculated for C₃₀H₂₆N₄: 442.2158 Da; IR: 3469, 3377, 3032, 1620, 1590, 1501, 1482, 1306, 1263, 1175, 1121, 1079, 1026, 834, 754, 723, 697, 665, 586, 534, 518, 507, 442, 409 cm⁻¹

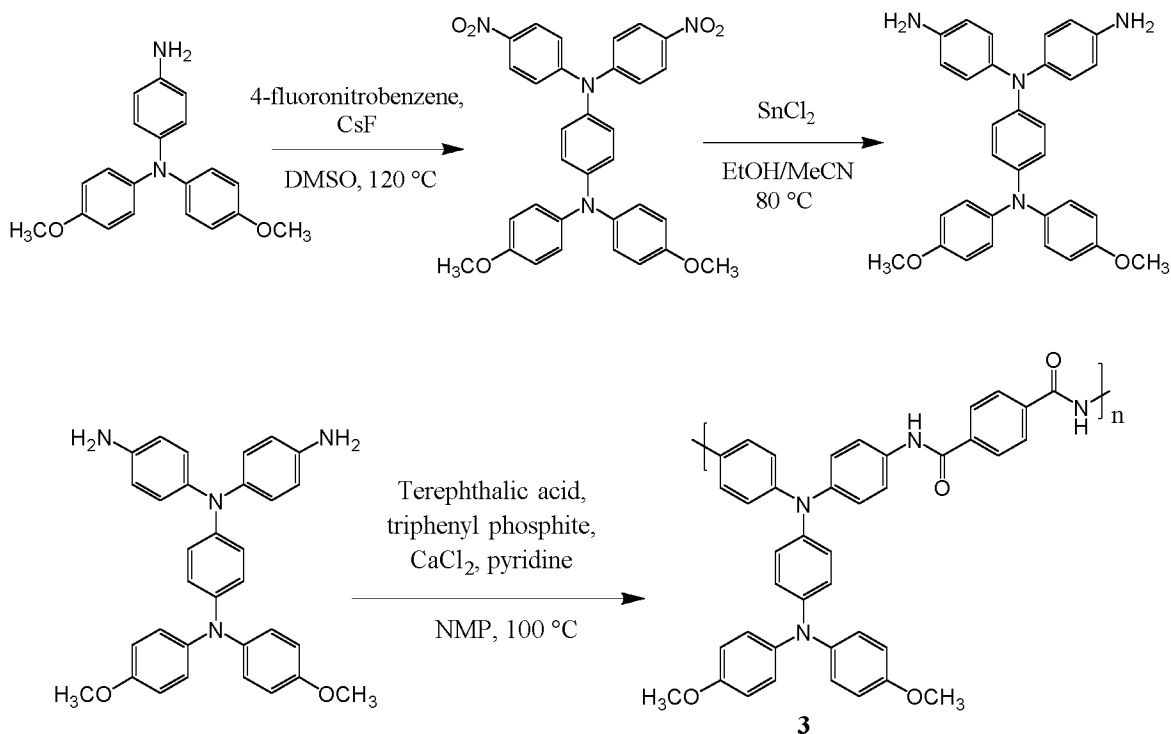
Step C: Polymerization

N,N'-bis(4-aminophenyl)-N,N'-diphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine (306 mg, 0.69 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous NMP (1.85 mL), cooled to 0 °C and isophthaloyl dichloride (140 mg, 1 eq., recrystallized from n-hexane prior to use) was added in portions. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed up to room temperature with stirring. After 3 h the now highly viscous solution was added dropwise to 20 mL of stirred methanol. The precipitate was stirred in 20 mL of boiling methanol for 3 hours, filtered and dried under vacuum to obtain compound 1 as green solid (389 mg, 98 %).

¹H NMR (300.36 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ in ppm): 10.35 (s, 2H, -NH-CO-), 8.44 (s, 1H), 8.12-7.98 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.55 (m, 5H), 7.20 (br, 4H), 7.05-6.81 (m, 14H); ¹³C NMR (APT, 75.53 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ in ppm): 164.78, 147.47, 142.97, 142.24, 135.19, 134.47, 129.40, 124.84, 124.49, 122.52, 121.72; IR: 3273, 3035, 1665, 1593, 1498, 1308, 1263, 1111, 827, 753, 718, 695, 522, 470, 411 cm⁻¹

Example 2: A copolymer of N,N-Bis(4-aminophenyl)-N',N'-di(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine and terephthalic acid (compound 3) was synthesized as a second example of a polymeric electrode material according to the present invention according to the following scheme:





Step A: 4-Nitro-4', 4''-dimethoxytriphenylamine

5 Iodoanisole (2 g, 8.54 mmol, 4 eq) and nitroaniline (295 mg, 2.14 mmol, 1 eq) were dissolved in 8 mL DMF and added dropwise to pipercolinic acid (221 mg, 1.71 mmol, 0.8 eq), copper(I)iodide (163 mg, 0.86 mmol, 0.4 eq) and potassium carbonate (2.4 g, 0.22 mol, 8 eq). The reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h at 120 °C. After cooling, the mixture was extracted with ethylacetate and NaOH. The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure.

10 After column chromatography on silica (eluent: cyclohexane/ethyl acetate = 1:1) the title compound was obtained (487 mg, 65 %).

¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 8.00 (d, 2H) 7.13 (d, 4H), 6.91 (d, 4H), 6.75 (d, 2H), 3.82 (s, 6H, OCH₃); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 157.7, 154.1, 139.0, 138.3, 128.1, 125.6, 115.7, 115.2, 55.5.

15 Step B: 4-Amino-4', 4''-dimethoxytriphenylamine

4-Nitro-4', 4''-dimethoxytriphenylamine (0.3 g, 0.86 mmol, 1 eq) was dissolved in 14 mL acetonitrile and 12 mL ethanol. Tin(II)chloride (1.8 g, 9.64 mmol, 11 eq) was added and the mixture was stirred at 80 °C over night. After cooling, ethylacetate was added and the mixture was washed with NaHCO₃ and brine.

The resulting emulsion was extracted 10 times with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure (240 mg, 88%).

5 ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 6.81 (d, 4H), 6.77 (d, 4H), 6.72 (d, 2H), 6.53 (d, 2H), 4.90 (s, 2H, NH₂), 3.67 (s, 6H, OCH₃); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 154.1, 145.1, 142.2, 137.1, 126.6, 123.4, 115.1, 114.7, 55.3; IR: 3455, 3371 cm⁻¹ (N-H stretch), 2966, 2920, 2845 cm⁻¹ (OCH₃, C-H stretch).

Step C: N,N-Bis(4-nitrophenyl)-N',N'-di(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

10 Prepared as described in Liou, G.; Chang, C. *Macromolecules* 2008, 41, 1667–1674.

15 Cesium fluoride (247 mg, 1.62 mmol, 2.2 eq) in 4 mL DMSO was stirred at room temperature. 4-amino-4', 4''-dimethoxytriphenylamine (240 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.1 eq) and 4-fluoronitrobenzene (165 μL = 220 mg, 1.56 mmol, 2 eq) were added in sequence and the reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C. After 24 h the mixture was slowly poured into 50 mL of stirred H₂O and the precipitation was filtered. The crude product was recrystallized from DMF/MeOH (315 mg, 75%).

20 ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 8.16 (d, 4H), 7.19 (d, 4H), 7.11 (d, 4H), 7.04 (d, 2H), 6.93 (d, 4H), 6.77 (d, 2H), 3.73 (s, 6H, OCH₃); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 156.5, 151.9, 147.8, 141.8, 139.6, 135.5, 128.8, 127.7, 125.8, 122.0, 119.4, 115.3, 55.5; IR: 2934, 2834 (OCH₃, C-H stretch), 1581, 1311 (NO₂ stretch)

Step D: N,N-Bis(4-aminophenyl)-N',N'-di(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine

25 N,N-Bis(4-nitrophenyl)-N',N'-di(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine (1.6 g, 2.84 mmol, 1 eq) was dissolved in 45 mL acetonitrile and 50 mL ethanol and tin(II)dichloride (14.1 g, 62.6 mmol, 22 eq) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C over night. After cooling ethyl acetate was added and the mixture was washed with brine and NaHCO₃. The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. After column chromatography on silica the title compound was obtained (1.4 g, 70%).

¹H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 6.85 (d, 4H), 6.80 (d, 4H), 6.77 (d, 4H), 6.70 (d, 2H), 6.56 (d, 2H), 6.50 (d, 4H), 4.50 (bs, 4H, NH₂), 3.73 (s, 6H, OCH₃); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 154.6, 145.3, 144.9, 141.8, 139.6, 136.6, 127.7, 124.6, 124.4, 118.9, 115.0, 114.9, 55.4; IR: 3434, 3360 cm⁻¹ (N-H stretch), 2947, 2832 cm⁻¹ (OCH₃, C-H stretch)

5

Step E: Polymerization

Prepared as described in Liou, G.; Chang, C. *Macromolecules* 2008, 41, 1667–1674.

N,N-Bis(4-aminophenyl)-N',N'-di(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,4-phenylenediamine (0.1 g, 0.2 mmol, 1 eq), terephthalic acid (33 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 eq), calcium chloride (24 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1 eq) were dissolved in 0.19 mL NMP and evacuated while stirring. Pyridine (0.1 mL, 1.24 mmol, 6 eq) was added and the mixture was heated to 100°C. At this temperature triphenyl phosphite (0.17 g, 0.77 mmol, 3.6 eq) was added, the reaction mixture was stirred for four hours and then added dropwise to cold methanol (129 mg, 97%).

10

15

¹H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 10.40 (s, 2H, -NH-CO-), 8.11 (s, 4H), 7.70 (d, 4H), 7.00 (d, 8H), 6.88 (d, 6H), 6.77 (d, 2H), 3.72 (s, 6H, OCH₃); ¹³C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 164.7, 155.5, 144.0, 143.7, 140.8, 137.6, 133.8, 127.8, 126.1, 125.3, 123.3, 122.0, 115.1, 55.4; IR: 3312 cm⁻¹ (N-H stretch), 3037 cm⁻¹ (aromatic C-H stretch), 2932, 2833 cm⁻¹ (OCH₃, C-H stretch), 1654 cm⁻¹ (amide carbonyl), 1239 cm⁻¹ (asymmetric stretch C-O-C), 1034 cm⁻¹ (symmetric stretch C-O-C).

20

Electrode Example 1 – Lithium-ion battery

A slurry containing 25 wt-% compound 1, 55 wt-% Super P and 20 wt-% PVdF (polyvinylidene difluoride) binder in NMP was cast on carbon-coated aluminum foil (current collector) by doctor blading (the percentages relate in each case to the total weight of the solids in the slurry, without taking into account the weight of NMP).

25

Electrodes were die cut, dried and assembled in Swagelok cells, containing Lithium as anode and reference electrode, a Freudenberg 2190 separator, ethylene carbonate/diethyl carbonate (3/7, v/v) containing 1M LiPF₆ as electrolyte.

30

Figure 1 shows the cyclic voltammogram of a composite electrode of electrode example 1 (scan rate: 0.1 mV/s)

Figure 2 shows a rate capability test of a composite electrode of electrode example 1.

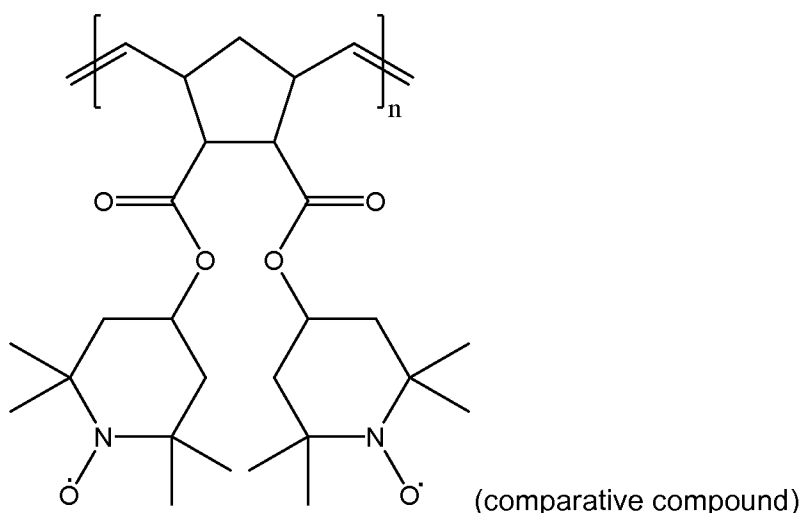
Figure 3 shows constant current charging / discharging at 10 C of a composite electrode of electrode example 1.

Figure 4 shows an IU-charging test of a composite electrode of electrode example 1, where the half-cell is charged with a constant current of 1 C until the cut-off voltage of 4 V (vs. Li/Li⁺) is reached. The half-cell is held at 4 V (vs. Li/Li⁺) for 2 h and then discharged with a constant current of 1 C.

10 Comparative Electrode Example 1

A slurry containing 10 wt-% of a comparative compound (see structure below), 80 wt-% Super P and 10 wt-% PVdF (polyvinylidene difluoride) binder in NMP was cast on aluminum foil (current collector) by doctor blading (the percentages relate in each case to the total weight of the solids in the slurry, without taking into account the weight of NMP).

15 Electrodes were die cut, dried and assembled in Swagelok cells, containing Lithium as anode and reference electrode, a Freudenberg 2190 separator, ethylene carbonate/diethyl carbonate (3/7, v/v) containing 1M LiPF₆ as electrolyte.



(109 Ah/kg)

Figure 5 shows an IU-charging test of a composite electrode of comparative electrode example 1, where the half-cell is charged with a constant current of 1 C until the cut-off voltage of 4 V (vs. Li/Li⁺) is reached. The half-cell is held at 4 V (vs. Li/Li⁺) for 1 h and then discharged with a constant current of 1 C.

5 Electrode Example 2 – Supercapacitor

A slurry containing 22 wt-% of compound 1, 5 wt-% Super P (carbon black, a conductivity improving additive), 5 wt-% PVdF (polyvinylidene difluoride) binder in NMP and 68 wt-% of an activated carbon was cast on carbon-coated aluminum foil (current collector) by doctor blading (the percentages relate in each case to the total weight of the solids in the slurry, without taking into account the weight of NMP). Electrodes were die cut and dried.

In order to produce a supercapacitor, some of the obtained positive electrodes were combined with negative carbon electrodes. Positive and negative electrodes were separated by a polyolefine separator. The carbon electrodes had been prepared using a slurry containing 6 wt-% Super P (a conductivity enhancer), 6 wt-% PVdF binder in NMP and 88 wt-% of an activated carbon.

The obtained positive electrodes have been compared to classical carbon supercapacitor electrodes. For characterization, as organic electrolyte ethylene carbonate/diethyl carbonate (3/7, v/v) containing 1M LiPF₆ was used.

The voltage curves in Figure 6 correspond to charge/discharge processes, one conducted with the obtained positive electrode comprising compound 1 (2), the other conducted with a classical carbon supercapacitor electrode (1).

Electrode Example 3 – Lithium-ion battery

A slurry containing 5 wt-% compound 1, 5 wt-% Super P, 85 wt-% lithium-iron phosphate and 5 wt-% PVdF (polyvinylidene difluoride) binder in NMP was cast on carbon-coated aluminum foil (current collector) by doctor blading (the percentages relate in each case to the total weight of the solids in the slurry, without taking into account the weight of NMP).

Electrodes were die cut, dried and assembled in Swagelok cells, containing Lithium as anode and reference electrode, a Freudenberg 2190 separator, ethylene carbonate/diethyl carbonate (3/7, v/v) containing 1M LiPF₆ as electrolyte. The cell showed good cyclability.

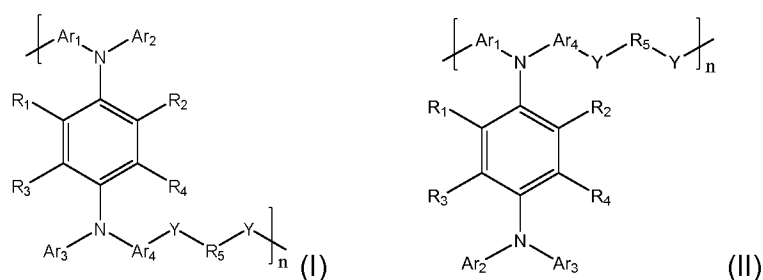
Electrode Example 4 – Lithium-ion battery

A slurry containing 7,5 wt-% compound 1, 5 wt-% Super P and 87,5 wt-% lithium-iron phosphate in NMP was cast on carbon-coated aluminum foil (current collector) by doctor blading (the percentages relate in each case to the total weight of the solids in the slurry, without taking into
5 account the weight of NMP).

Electrodes were die cut, dried and assembled in Swagelok cells, containing Lithium as anode and reference electrode, a Freudenberg 2190 separator, ethylene carbonate/diethyl carbonate (3/7, v/v) containing 1M LiPF₆ as electrolyte. The cell showed good cyclability.

Claims

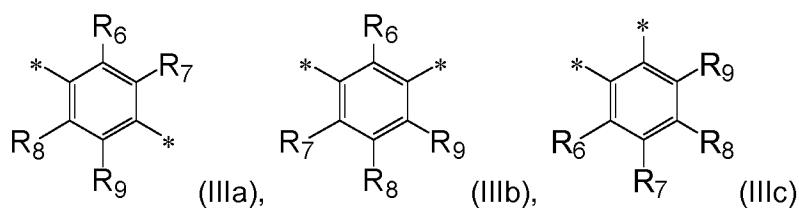
1. Electrode for an electrochemical element with an organic electrolyte, comprising a polymeric material that contains or is composed of subunits according to general formulae (I) and/or (II)



wherein in these structures (I) and (II)

- n is an integer ≥ 2 , preferably ≥ 20 ,
- Y represents an amide group ($-NH-CO-$ or $-CO-NH-$), an ester group ($-O-CO-$ or $-CO-O-$) or a urethane group ($-NH-CO-O-$ or $-O-CO-NH-$),
- R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 each independently represent H, alkyl (preferably $-CH_3$, $-C_2H_5$), Alkoxy-(preferably $-OCH_3$, $-OC_2H_5$), -halogen or $-CN$,
- Ar_1 and Ar_4 independently represent a bridging aryl group,
- Ar_2 and Ar_3 independently represent a non-bridging aryl group, and
- R_5 is a bridging alkyl, alkene or aryl group,

wherein Ar_1 and Ar_4 in structures (I) and (II) independently represent a bridging aryl group of formula (IIIa), (IIIb) or (IIIc)

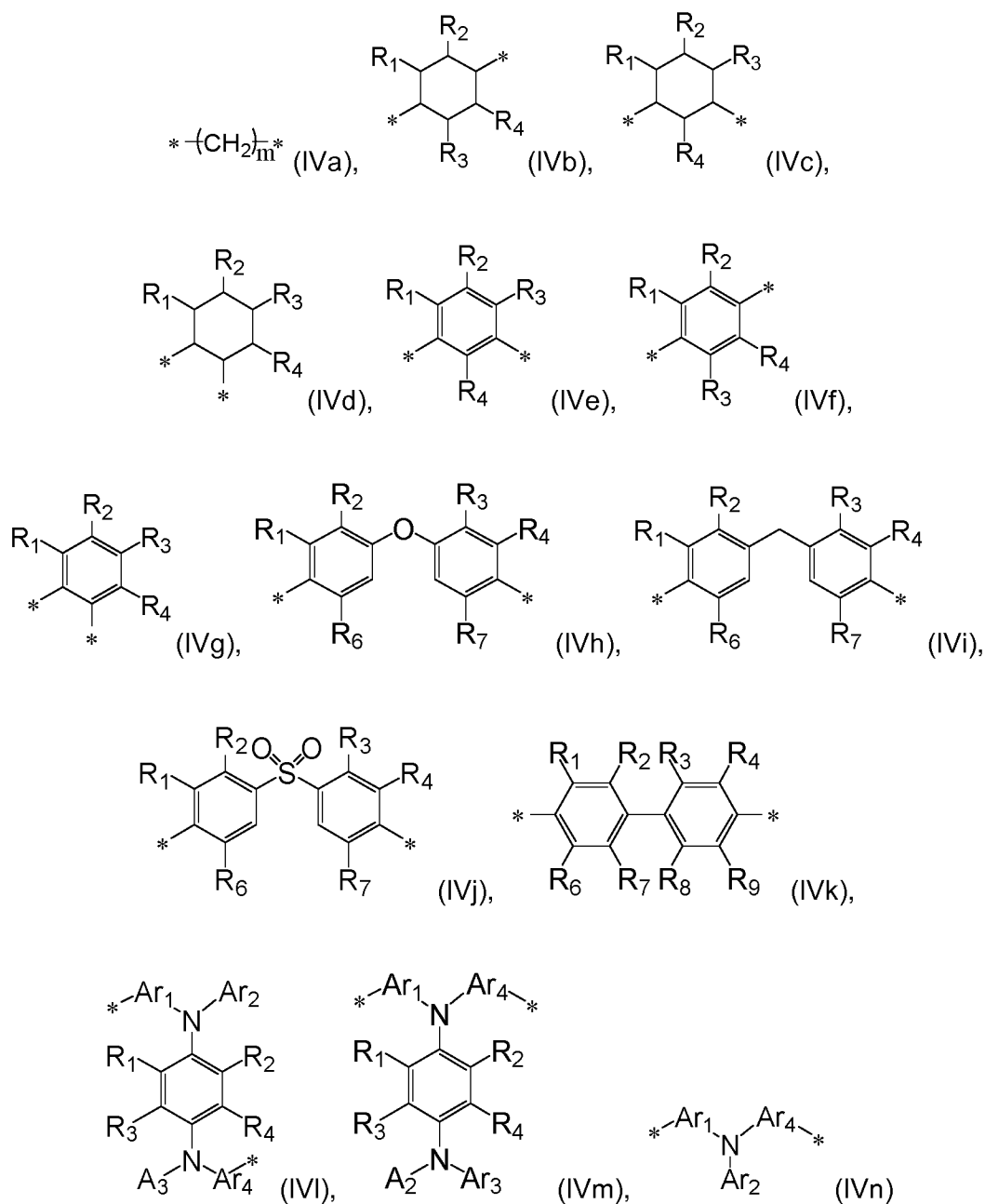


wherein in these structures (IIIa) to (IIIc)

- * marks a point of attachment

- R_6 , R_7 , R_8 and R_9 each independently represent H, alkyl (preferably $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$), Alkoxy- (preferably $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5$), -halogen or $-\text{CN}$

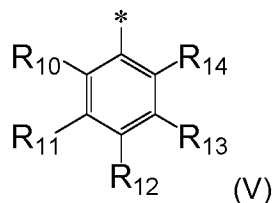
and wherein R_5 represents one of the groups of formulae (IVa) to (IVn)



wherein

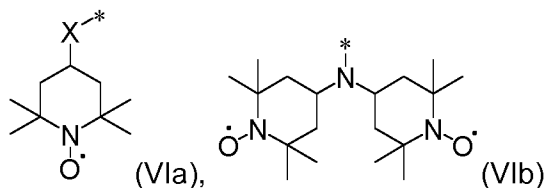
- * marks a point of attachment,
- $m = 1$ to 20, and

- $R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_6, R_7, R_8, R_9, Ar_1, Ar_2, Ar_3$ and Ar_4 have the same meaning as before.
2. Electrode according to claim 1, wherein Ar_2 and Ar_3 in structures (I) and (II) independently represent a non-bridging aryl group of formula (V)



wherein

- $R_{10}, R_{11}, R_{12}, R_{13}$ and R_{14} each independently represent H, alkyl (preferably $-CH_3, -C_2H_5$), Alkoxy- (preferably $-OCH_3, -OC_2H_5$), halogen, CN or one of the groups of formulae (VIa) and (VIb)



wherein

- * marks a point of attachment and
 - X represents O or NH.
3. Electrode according to claim 1 or claim 2, further comprising at least one carbon material selected from the group consisting of carbon black, graphite, carbon nanotubes and graphene.
4. Electrode according to one of the preceding claims, further comprising at least one electrode binder, preferably selected from the group consisting of a cellulose-based binder, a polyacrylate-based binder and a polyvinyliden-based binder.
5. Lithium-ion battery, in particular secondary Lithium-ion battery, comprising an electrode according to one of the preceding claims or a polymeric material containing or being composed of subunits according to general formulae (I) and (II).

6. Supercapacitor, comprising an electrode according to one of the preceding claims or a polymeric material containing or being composed of subunits according to general formulae (I) and (II).
7. Use of a compound according to formulae (I) and (II) as electrode active material in the electrode of a battery, in particular in a Lithium-ion battery, or in the electrode of a supercapacitor.
8. Use of a compound according to formulae (I) and (II) as electrode binder in the electrode of a battery, in particular in a Lithium-ion battery.

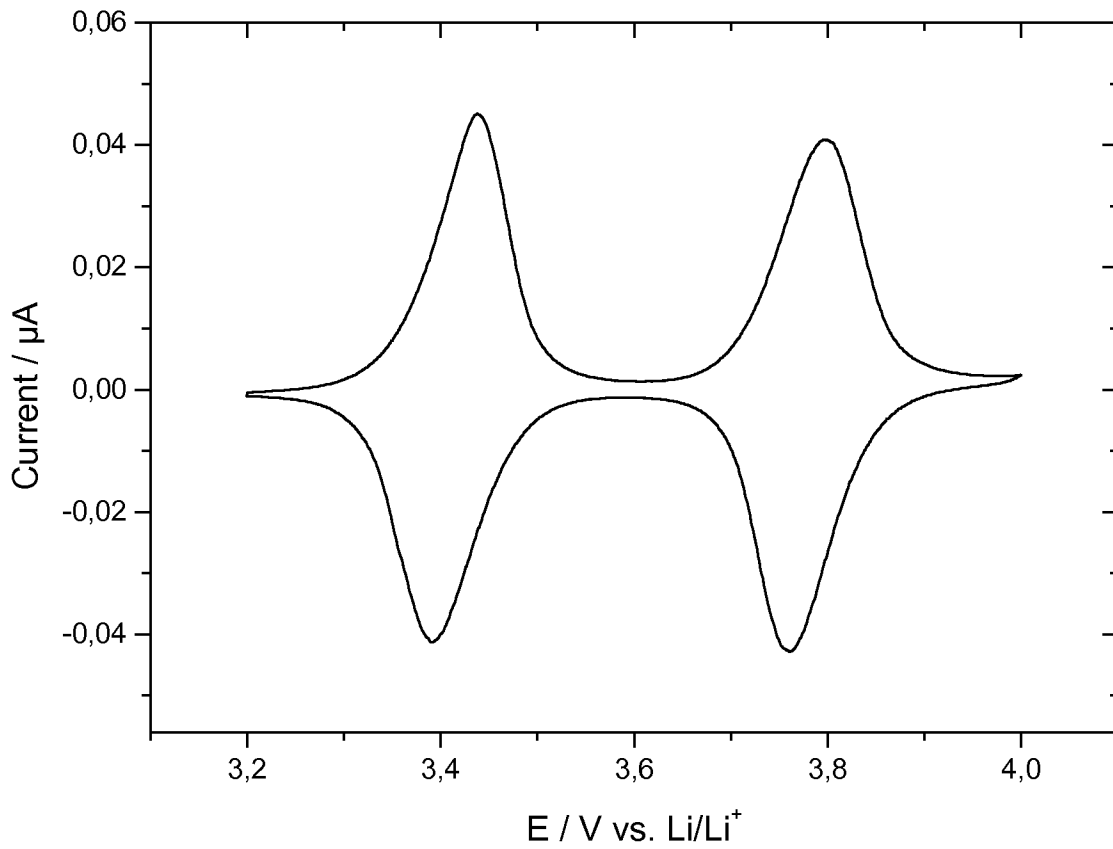
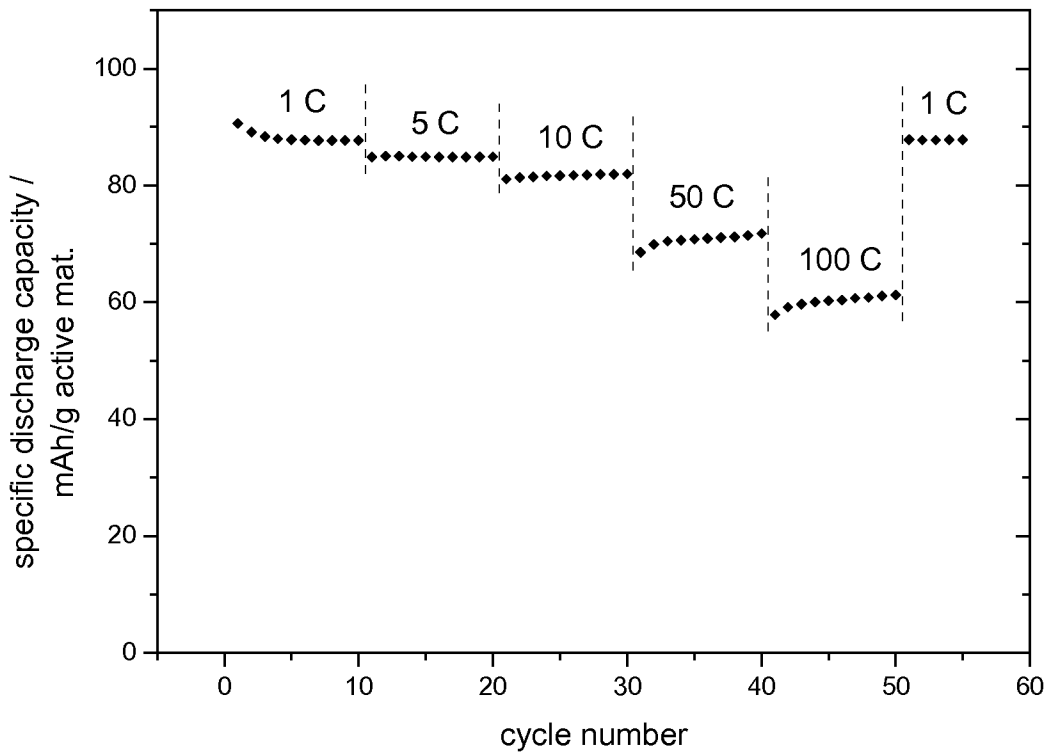


Figure 2



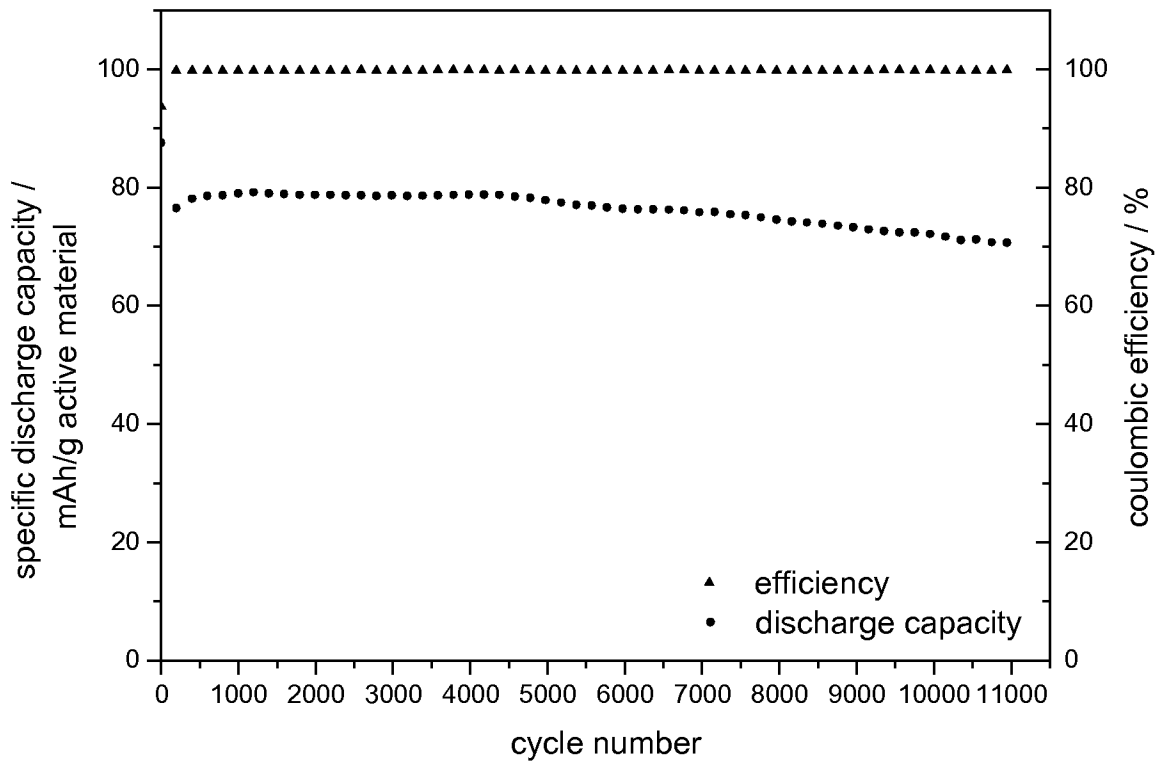
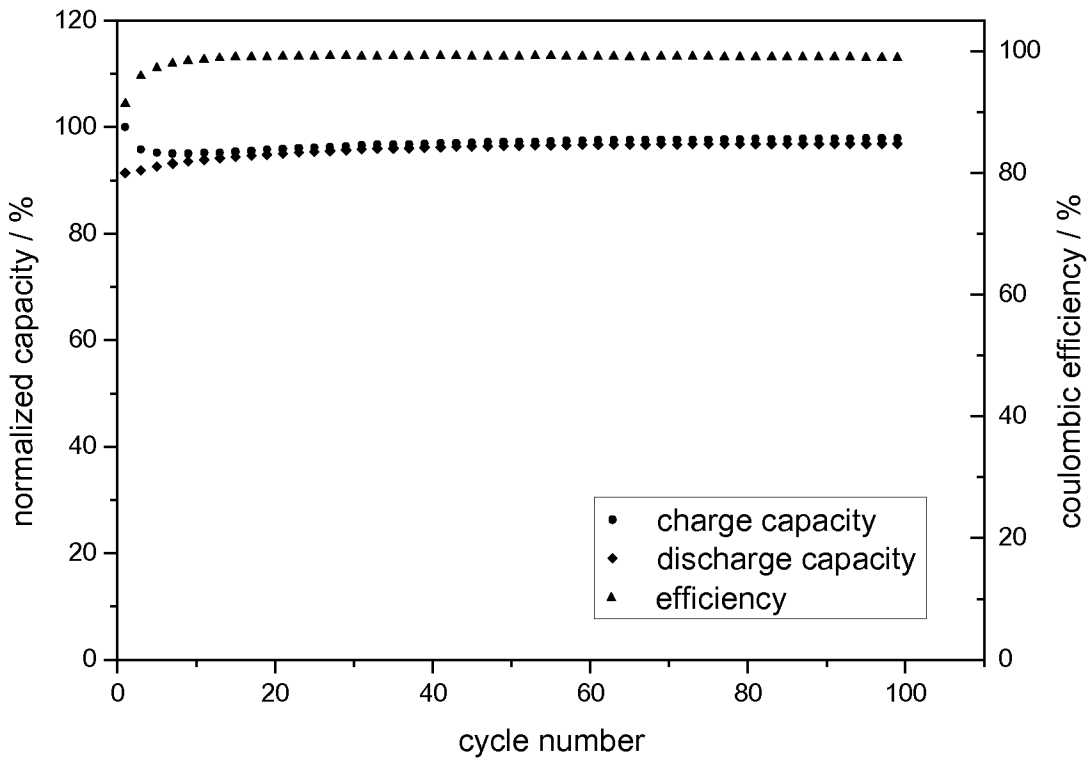


Figure 4



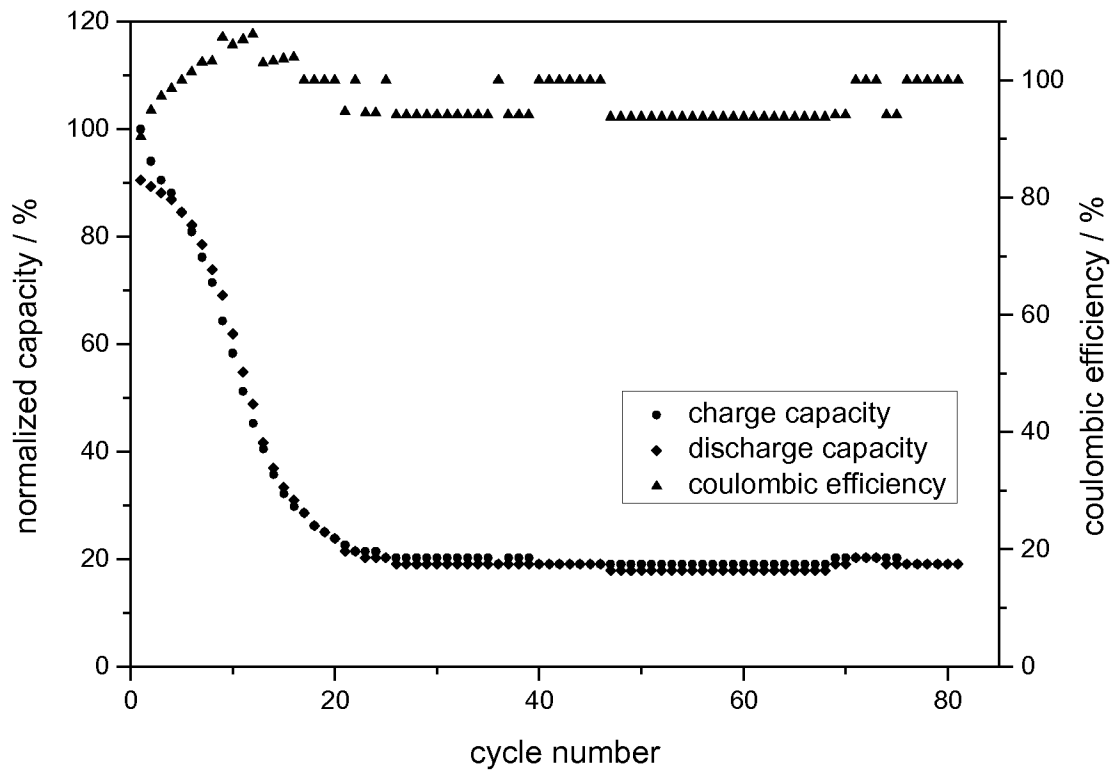
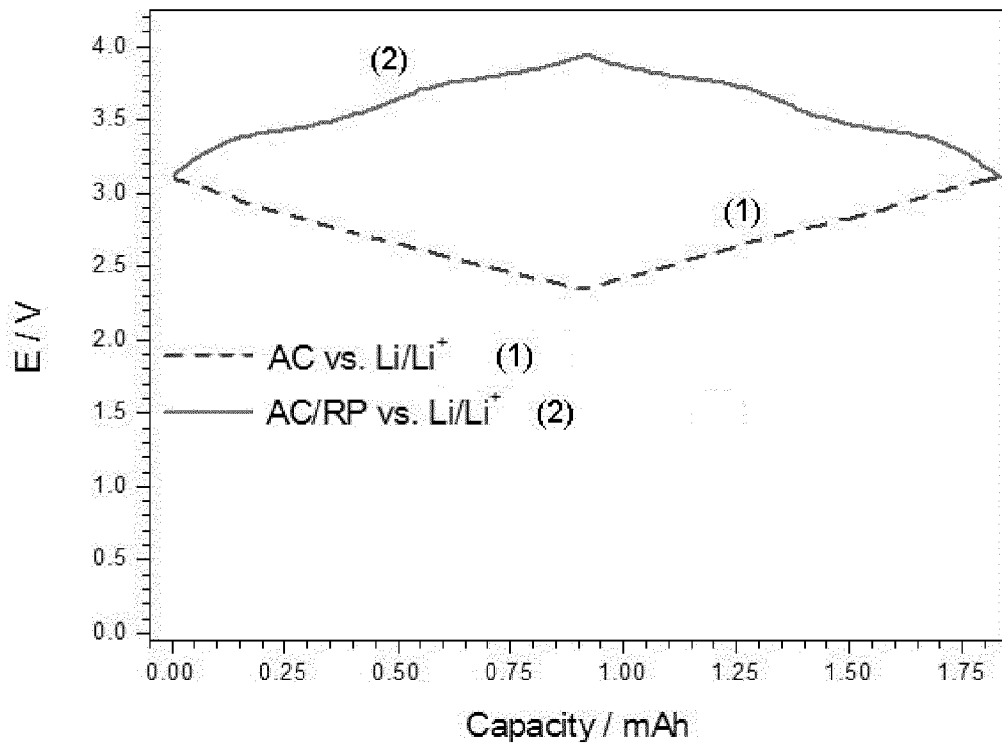


Figure 6



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2015/077346

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 INV. H01M4/60 H01G11/30 H01G11/48 H01M4/62 H01M10/05
 H01M10/052
 ADD.
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 H01M H01G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	LIU ET AL: "Electrochemical behavior of N,N,N',N'-tetraphenyl-1,4-phenylenediamine moiety on novel aromatic polyamides and their electrochromic properties", DYES AND PIGMENTS, ELSEVIER APPLIED SCIENCE PUBLISHERS. BARKING, GB, vol. 74, no. 2, 2 February 2007 (2007-02-02), pages 273-278, XP005871147, ISSN: 0143-7208, DOI: 10.1016/J.DYEPIG.2006.01.042	1-4
A	page 274 - page 277 ----- -/--	5-8

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

<p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>
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Date of the actual completion of the international search 21 January 2016	Date of mailing of the international search report 28/01/2016
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Panitz, J
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2015/077346

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	LIU, G.; CHANG, C.: MACROMOLECULES, vol. 41, 2008, pages 1667-1674, XP055035369, cited in the application	1-4
A	page 1668 - page 1673 -----	5-8
A	WO 2010/051259 A1 (PLEXTRONICS INC [US]; SESHADRI VENKATARAMANAN [IN]; BROWN CHRISTOPER T) 6 May 2010 (2010-05-06) page 7, line 17 - page 27, line 23 -----	1-8

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/EP2015/077346

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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