Advanced Characterization of Pillared Graphene-Based Materials for Supercapacitors

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Graphene-derived materials are studied for supercapacitors as they -theoretically- display the porosity parameters required for this application; however experimentally the achieved capacitance (CSP) remain limited because **graphene sheets tend to re-aggregate.** Our **group has selected a method to avoid this issue by creating an expanded graphene structure** by separating graphene sheets using aliphatic **diamine pillars** [1]. These assemblies are called **pillared graphene material**. Electrochemical results showed that the interlayer galleries (dCL) could sieve electrolyte ions based on size constrictions [2,3]. Our main goal is to correlate electrochemical performances to material properties in order to further optimize their design. One challenge we want to address is to characterize the **microstructure**, **and multi-scale porosity** of these materials (**Fig.1**). For this purpose, we have started to perform advanced characterization (SAXS, SANS, XRD) analysis that we correlate to physicochemical and morphological observation of samples with pillared and non pillared structures. This poster will present this strategy and the first results obtained in the frame of an ongoing PhD work.

References

- [1] M. Salanne, et al, Nat. Energy 2016
- [2] H. Banda, et al, J. Power Sources 2017
- [3] H. Banda, et al, ACS Nano **2019**
- [4] D. Saurel et al. Energy Storage Materials 2019

Figures

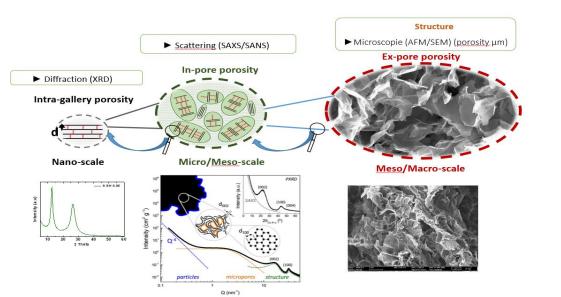


Figure 1: Conceptual scheme of the different level of porosity in pillared graphene based assemblies and the methodology employed for their characterization [4].