

# New Energy Materials

An Interdisciplinary Challenge for Research & Innovation

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*TU Graz - Institute for Chemistry & Technology of Materials (ICTM)*

Bucharest 14.6.2019

# OUTLINE

- Intro - General Situation
- Sustainable Energy Systems  
(short survey on advantages & needs)
  - Wind-, Solar-, Geothermic-, Hydro-Power
  - Storage systems
- Materials/Methods/Innovations needed
- Possible Contributions of TU Graz / eseia
  - Some Selected Examples
- Conclusion & Discussion

# General Situation

## some statements

- Reduction of use of fossil resources & nuclear energy is an absolute demand !
- Move to renewable resources → implantable technologies (biomass direct incineration, BtL, BtG, etc.)
- Natural energy resources wind & sun – not deliverable „on demand“ → Storage necessary
- Different needs for transportation/heating/climatization/industry with respect to
  - Capacity,
  - charging speed & infrastructure,
  - Output power

# Sustainable Systems

## some special demands , selected examples

- **General: restrictions with respect to protection of nature, deep(er) understanding of physics&chemistry, technologies, ...**  
**in addition:**
  - Wind: availability of / access to mineral resources (rare earths !!), noise, ice prevention / de-icing
  - Solar: large areas, new materials and systems(textile architecture, low light intensity (dawn), thin film technology, organic materials,
- **Storage / Recovery Systems**
  - Hydropower (protection of nature – caves/underground = expensive);
  - Hydrogen (electrolysis – catalysts/electrodes? – fuel cells)
  - Accumulators/batteries :
    - Safety, new solid state electrolytes
    - Capacity: new electrode materials, alternative renewable resources (e.g. lignin),
    - Charging technology (fast!! ?) or exchange system (deposite return scheme)

# Over All: Interdisciplinary / Multidisciplinary Development Schemes are necessary Example: organo- electronics, including PV

From History to presence to Future: multidisciplinary approaches:

1980 onwards: Physicists → Theories, Chemists – new Materials („conductive polymers“),

1990s: technology developments – thin films („Nano layers“), structuring technologies (photo-litho etc. towards real „Nanotechnology“

2000s ongoing: nano structuring, self-assembly, additive manufacturing, „molecular technology“

Still necessary (or even more than ever): collaboration/clustering between chemistry/physics/characterization techniques/production technology/technology/

# Some selected Contributions and Examples for the postulated Interactions as found at TU Graz

- Examples, series 1, materials for **Photovoltaics** /  
Research Group Gregor Trimmel
- Examples, series 2) materials for Energy Storage /  
Research Group Martin Wilklening

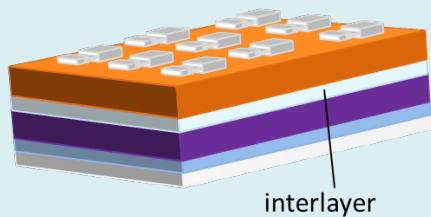
# New Materials for photovoltaics

Focus on:

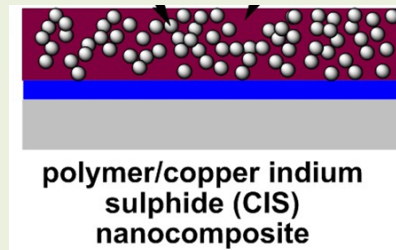
absorber materials processable from solutions (via spin coating, doctor blading etc.)

new materials and/or new synthetic approaches

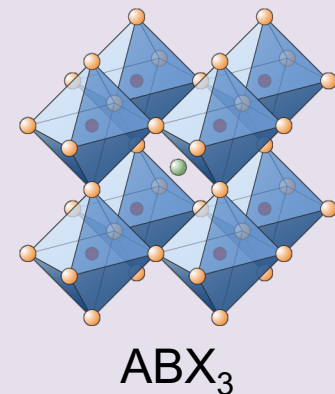
Polymer-NFA  
(tandem) solar cells



Nanocrystal-polymer  
solar cells

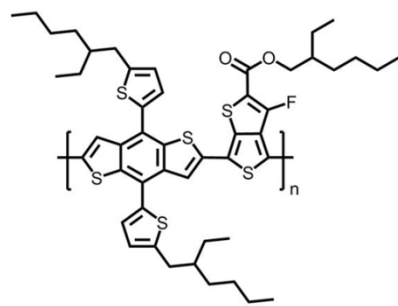


Perovskite solar cells

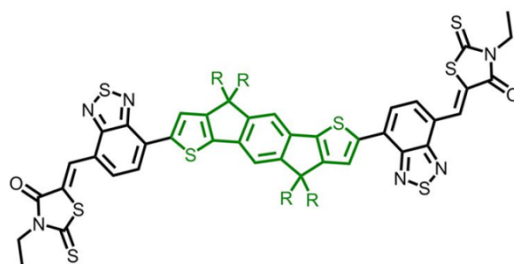


# Non fullerene acceptor – polymer solar cells

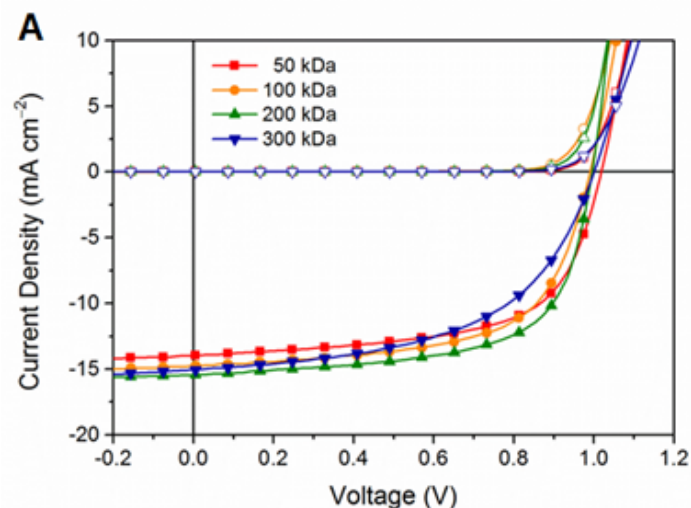
Effect of Polymer Molecular Weight on the Performance of PTB7-Th:O-IDTBR Non-Fullerene Organic Solar Cells



PTB7-Th



O-IDTBR

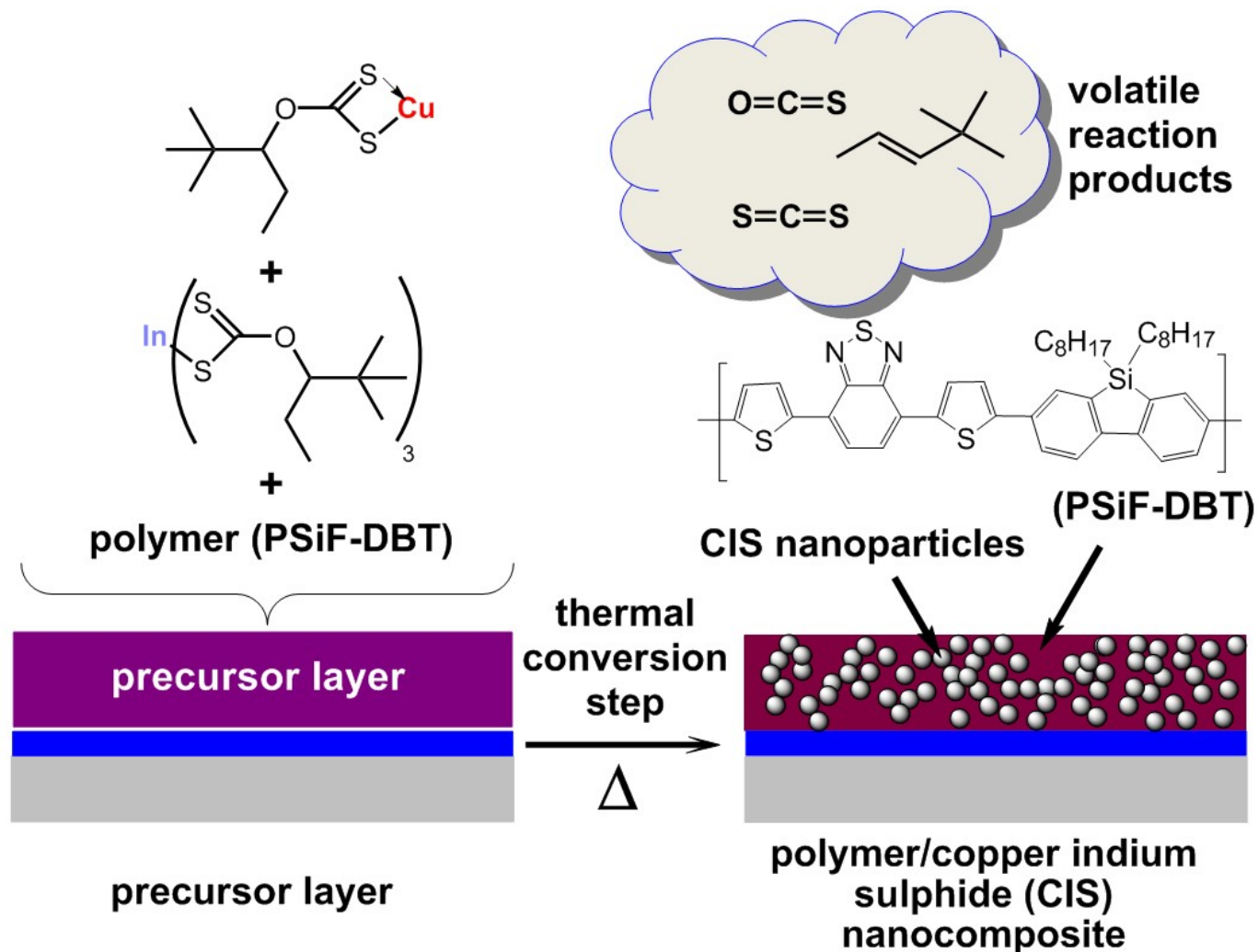


Molecular Weight	$V_{oc}$ (V)	$J_{sc}$ ( $\text{mA cm}^{-2}$ )	FF (%)	PCE (%)	$\text{EQE}_{\text{max}}$ (%)
50 kDa	$1.01 \pm 0.01$	$13.5 \pm 0.3$	$62.1 \pm 0.6$	$8.44 \pm 0.21$ (max. 8.84)	62.4
100 kDa	$1.00 \pm 0.01$	$14.2 \pm 0.5$	$61.4 \pm 1.4$	$8.68 \pm 0.23$ (max. 9.08)	64.1
200 kDa	$1.00 \pm 0.01$	$15.2 \pm 0.5$	$63.0 \pm 1.6$	$9.57 \pm 0.25$ (max. 9.94)	74.9
300 kDa	$0.99 \pm 0.01$	$15.1 \pm 0.5$	$51.6 \pm 1.3$	$7.73 \pm 0.18$ (max. 8.09)	74.0

S. F. Höfler, et al. *J. Mater. Chem. A*, **2018**, DOI: 10.1039/C8TA02467G



# New route to metal sulfide/polymer solar cells

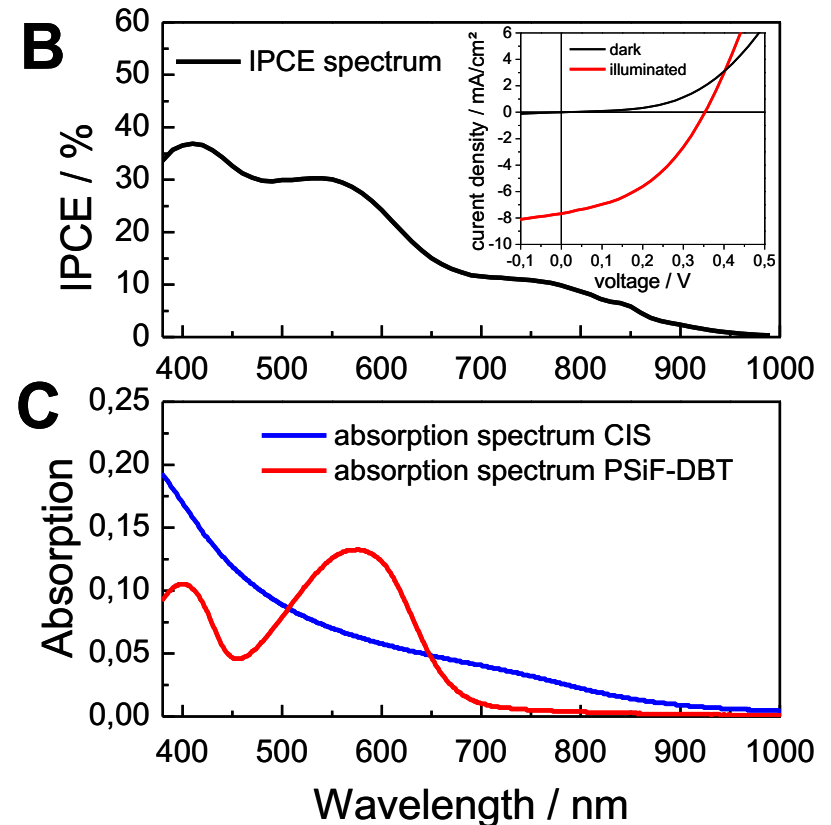
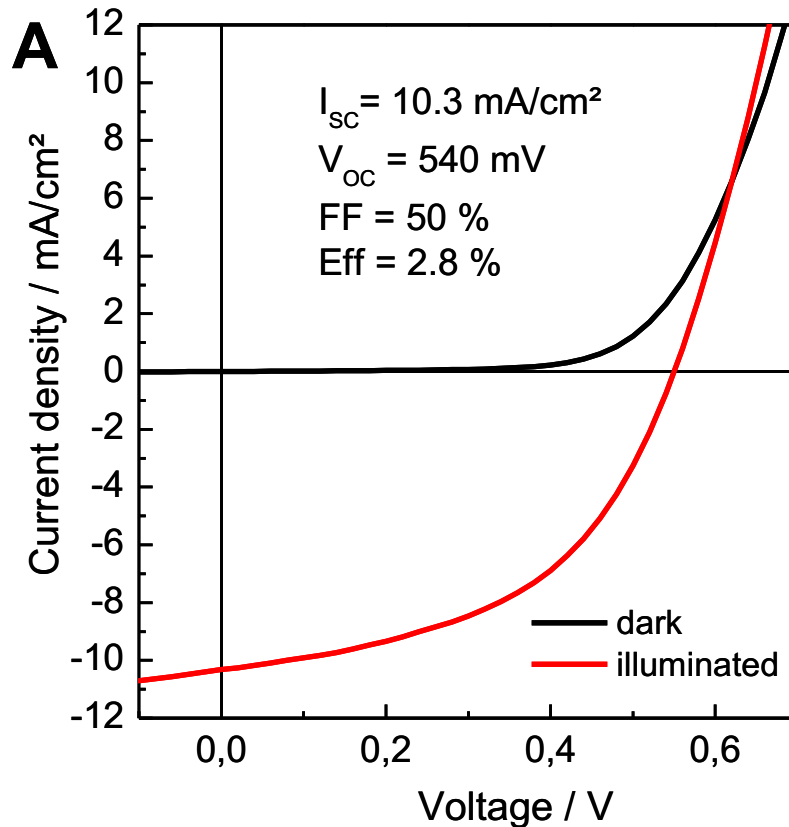


T. Rath et al. Adv. Energy Mater. 2011, 1, 1046

# Solar Cells up to 3% efficiency

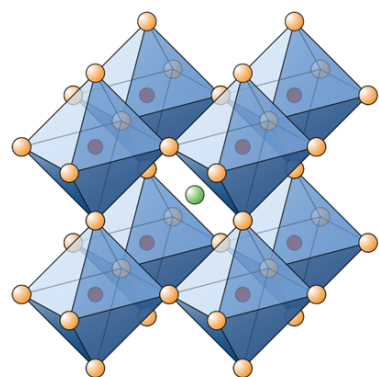


Glass/ITO/PEDOT:PSS/PAL/Al or Ag

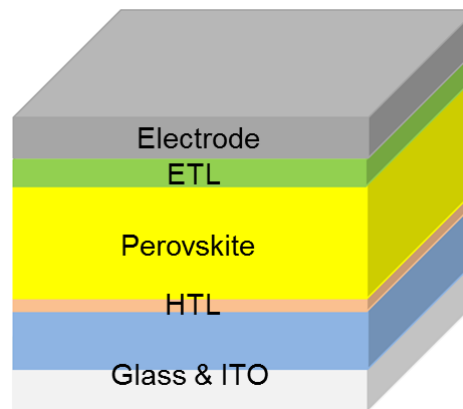


T. Rath et al. Adv. Energy Mater. 2011, 1, 1046

# Lead-based Perovskite Solar Cells

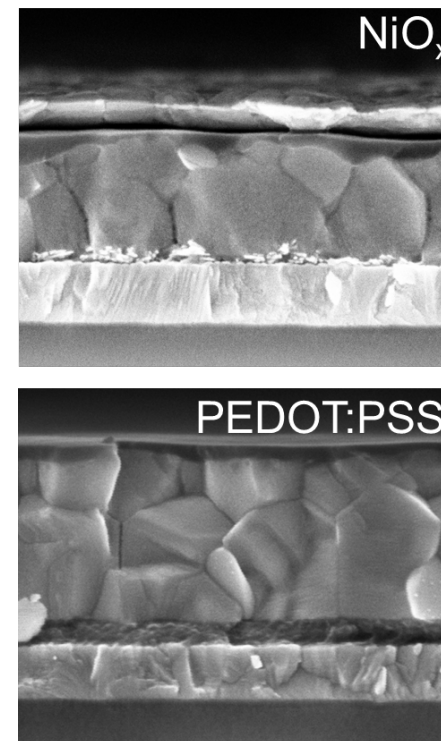


● A  
● B  
● X



A  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ ,  $\text{FA}^+$ ,  $\text{Cs}^+$   
B Pb  
C  $\text{I}^-$ ,  $\text{Br}^-$

Low temperature processing without  $\text{TiO}_2$  which is suitable for preparing flexible solar cells



Substrate/HTLs	$V_{oc}$ (V)	$I_{sc}$ (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	FF (%)	PCE (%)
$\text{NiO}_x$	0.94	21.73	62.8	12.83
PEDOT:PSS	0.85	18.25	53.8	8.37
$\text{MoO}_3$	0.23	9.84	24.0	0.54
$\text{V}_2\text{O}_5$	0.58	3.83	34.3	0.76
no HTL	0.27	15.80	30.8	1.33

© AIT

S. Weber, et al. *J. Mater. Sci. Mater. Electron.* **2018**, 29, 1847-1855

# Lead-free Perovskite Materials for Solar Cells

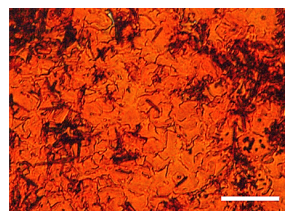
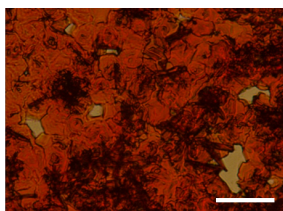
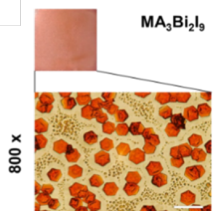
## Bismuth-Perovskites

### film formation

Standard procedure

THF drop – modification

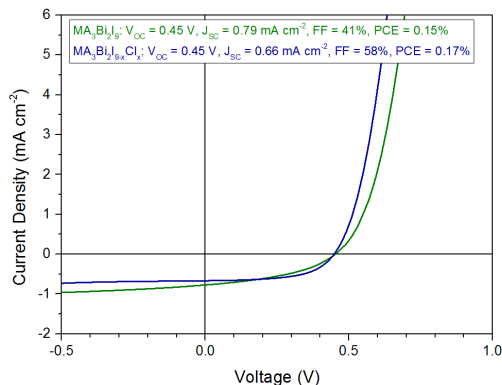
Spin coating of presynthesized  $\text{MA}_3\text{Bi}_2\text{I}_9$  dissolved in THF



scale bar = 30  $\mu\text{m}$   
magnification: 1000 x

scale bar = 30  $\mu\text{m}$   
magnification: 1000 x

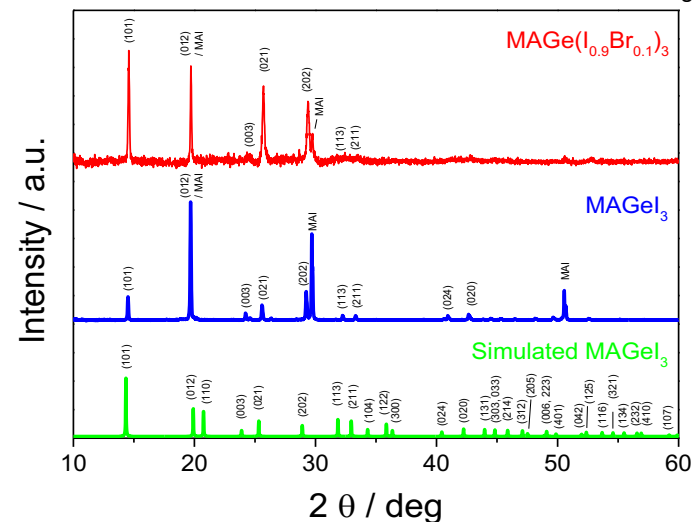
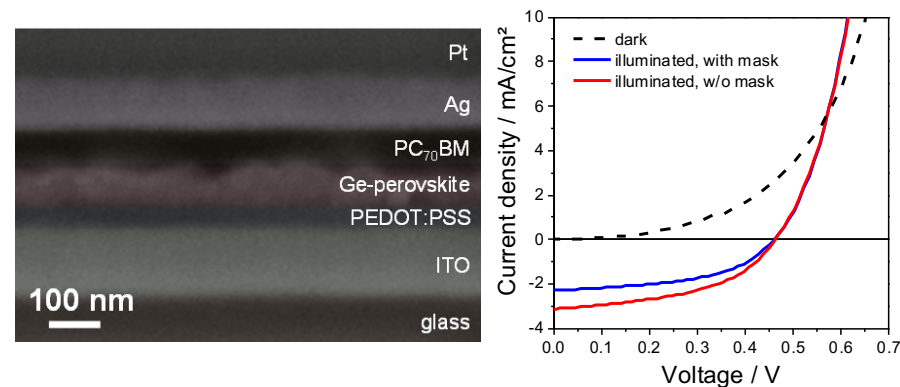
ITO/c-TiO<sub>2</sub>/mp-TiO<sub>2</sub>/perovskite/  
spiro-MeOTAD+TBP+LiTFSI/Au



IV-curves

S. F. Höfler, Inorg. Chem. 2019

## Germanium-Perovskites



I. Kopacic et al. ACS Appl. Energy Mater. 2018, 1, 343–347

# Tin perovskite solar cells

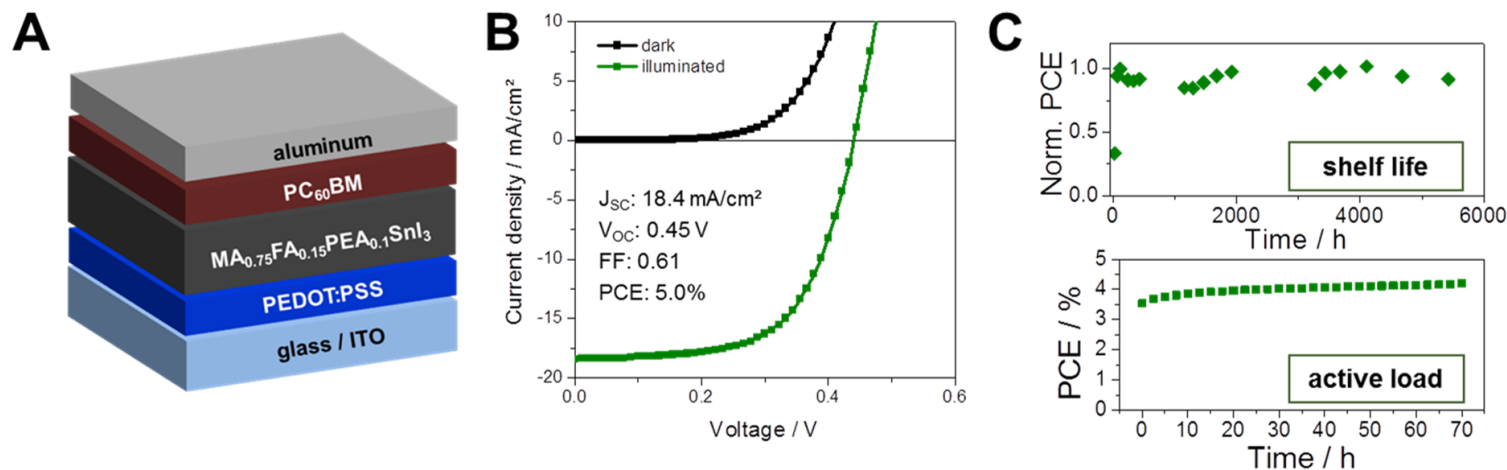
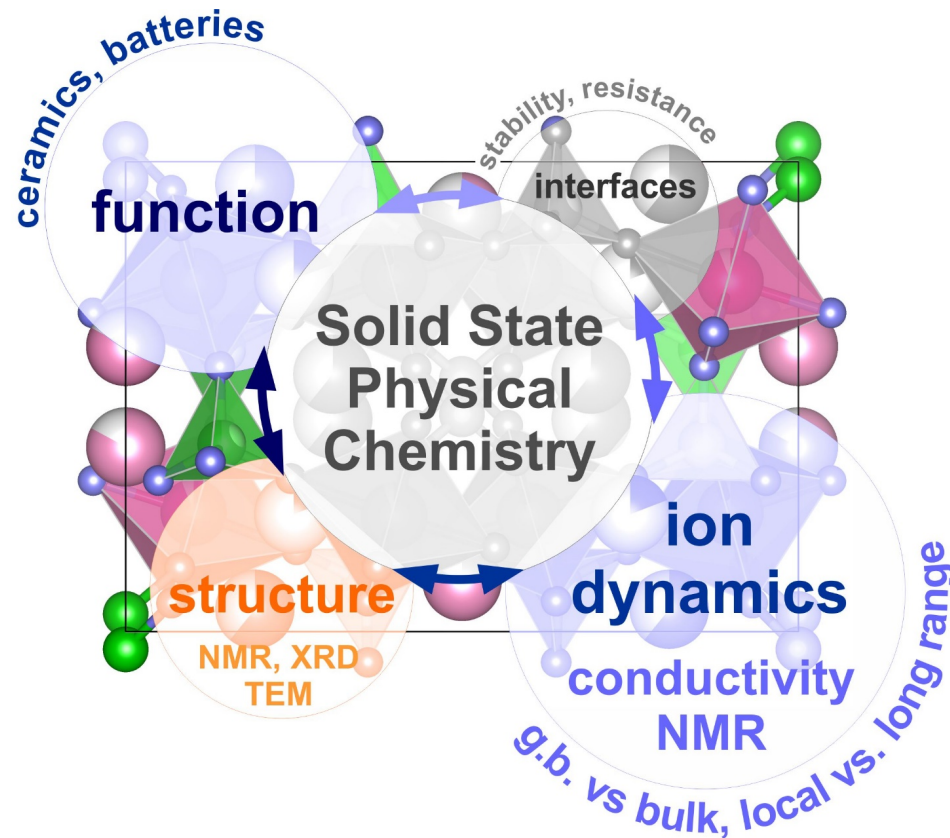


Figure 2: (A) Schematic of the solar cell architecture (B) J-V curves of the tin perovskite solar cell measured in forward scan direction 120 h after fabrication, (C) shelf life time and operational lifetime of these solar cells.

J. Handl, S. Weber, B. Friesenbichler, P. Fürk, T. Dimopoulos, B. Kunert, T. Rath, G. Trimmel, J. Mater. Chem. A 2019, 7, 9523-9529

# Energy Storage - From Fundamentals to Applications

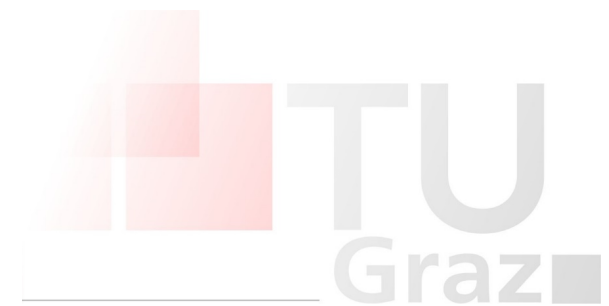


workgroup Wilkening@ICTM

focusses on the development of sustainable materials

- active materials (anode side)
- solid electrolytes

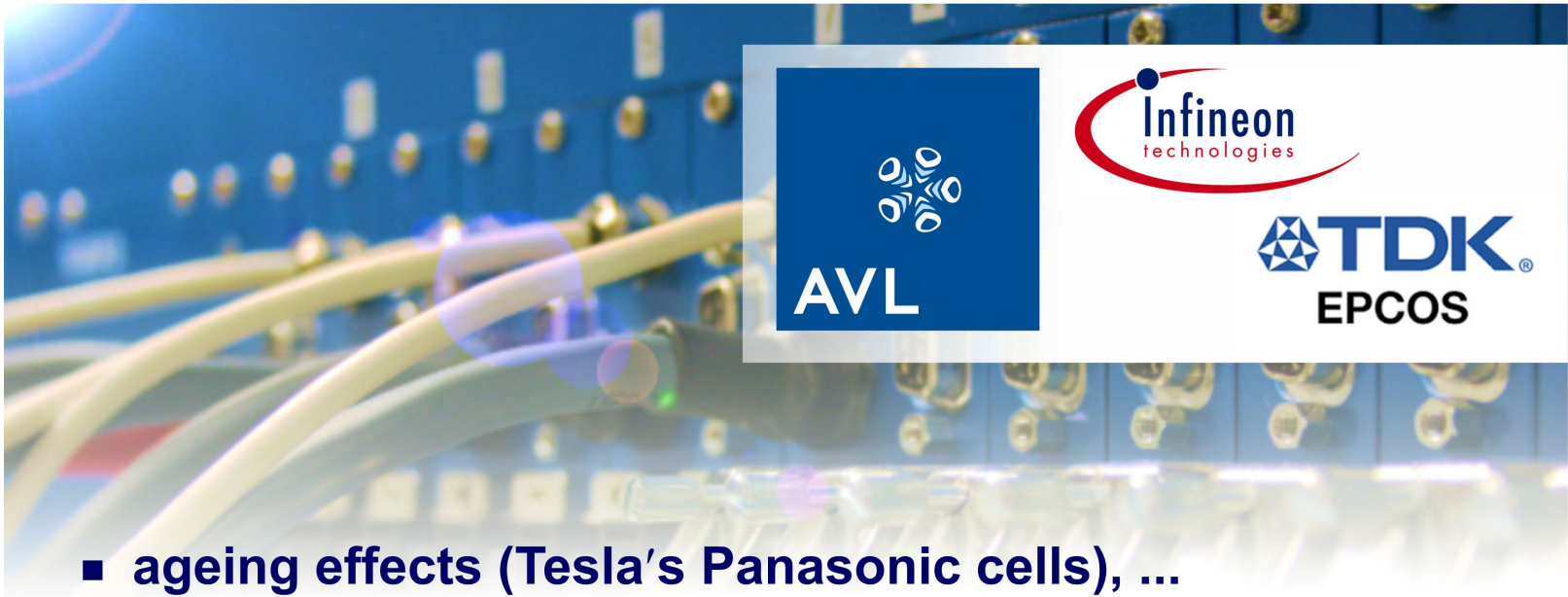
for battery applications



# industrial partners

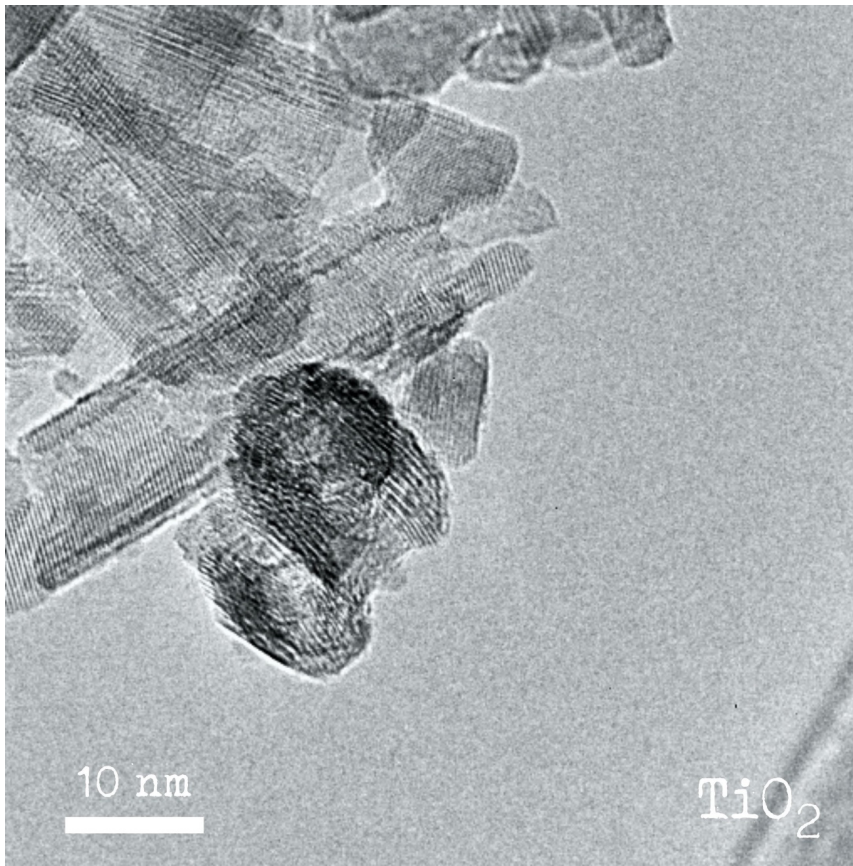
## research topics

Christian-Doppler-Laboratory  
for Lithium-Batteries



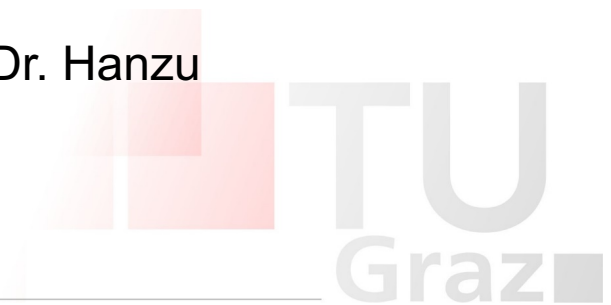
- ageing effects (Tesla's Panasonic cells), ...
- $\mu$ -batteries using single crystalline silicon, ...
- all-solid-state lithium batteries, ...

## Example 1: nano-titania as anode material



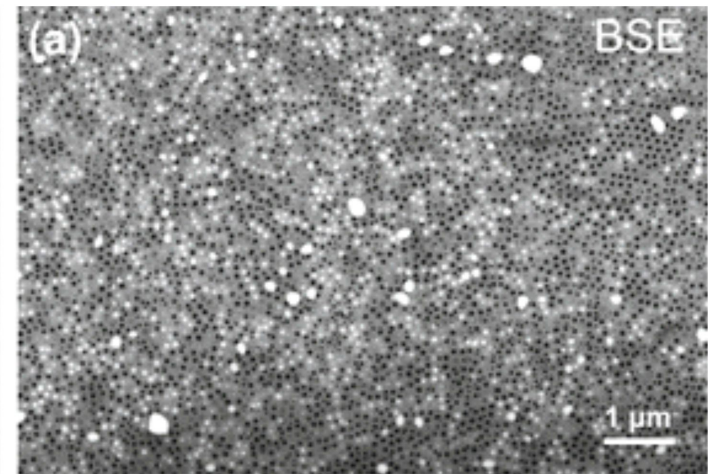
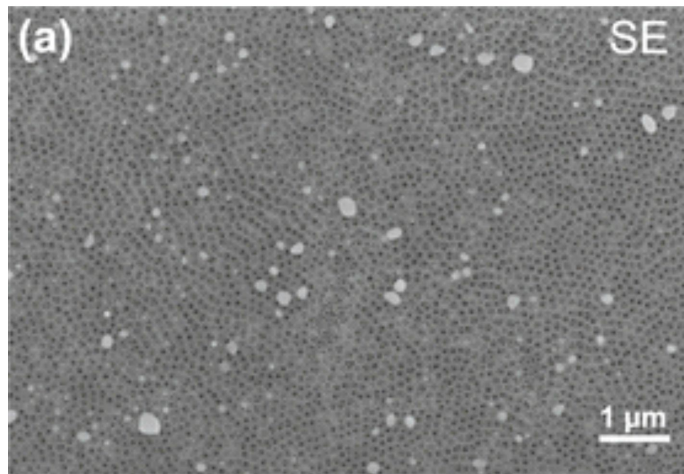
- prepared via hydrothermal techniques in the form of nanotubes
- anodic etching of Ti foil yields amorphous tubes
- useful for both Li and Na batteries.

contact: Dr. Hanzu

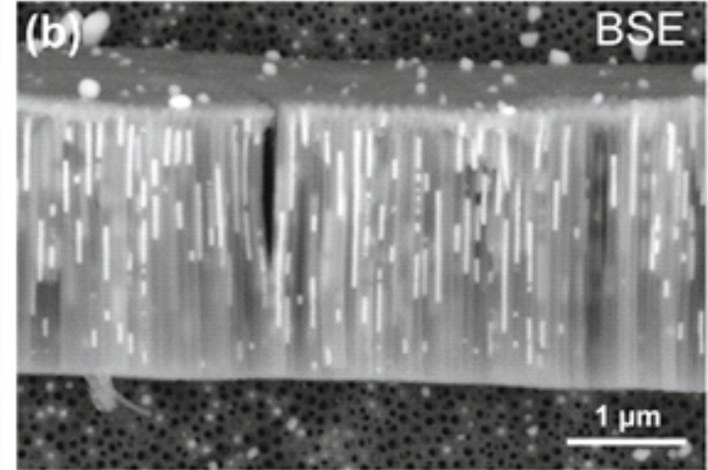
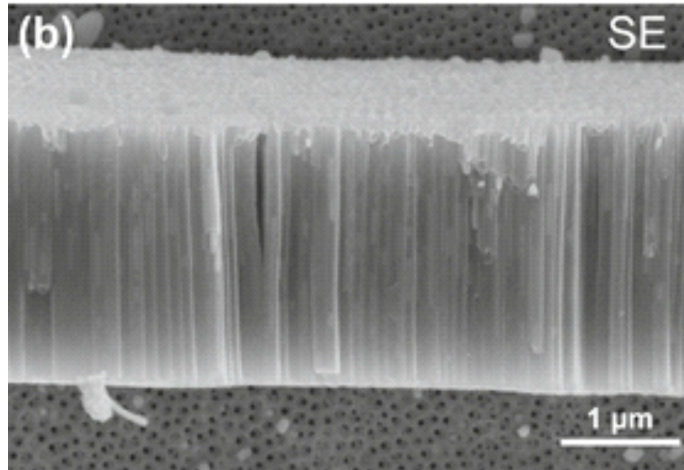




nanotubes  
of titania  
filled with  
Sn  
(white areas in  
BSE mode)



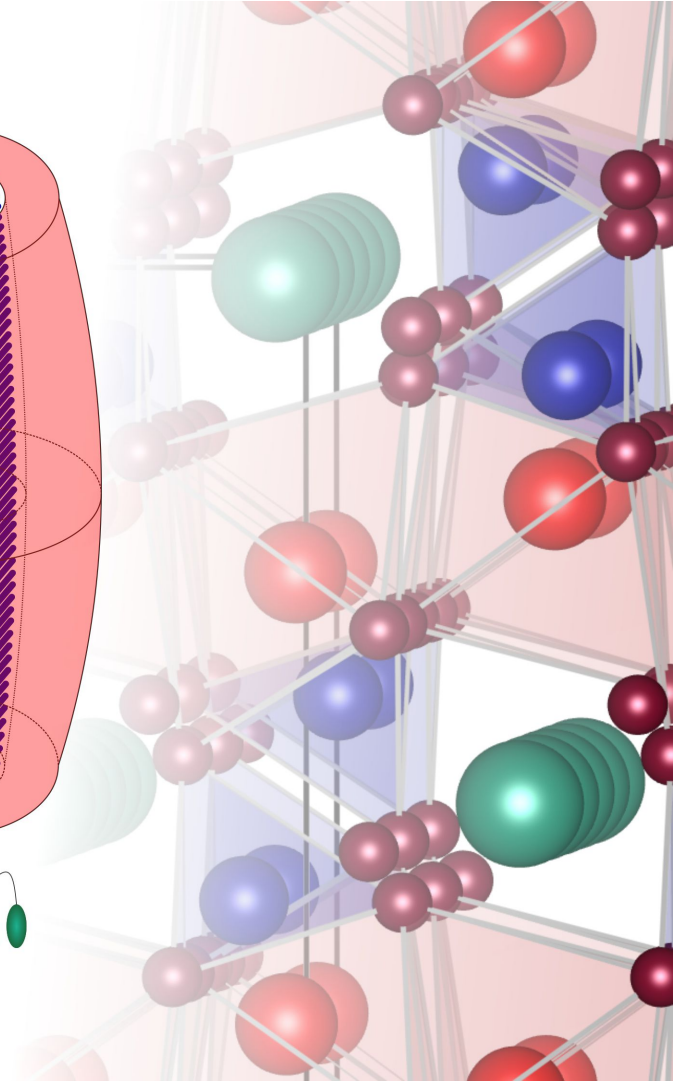
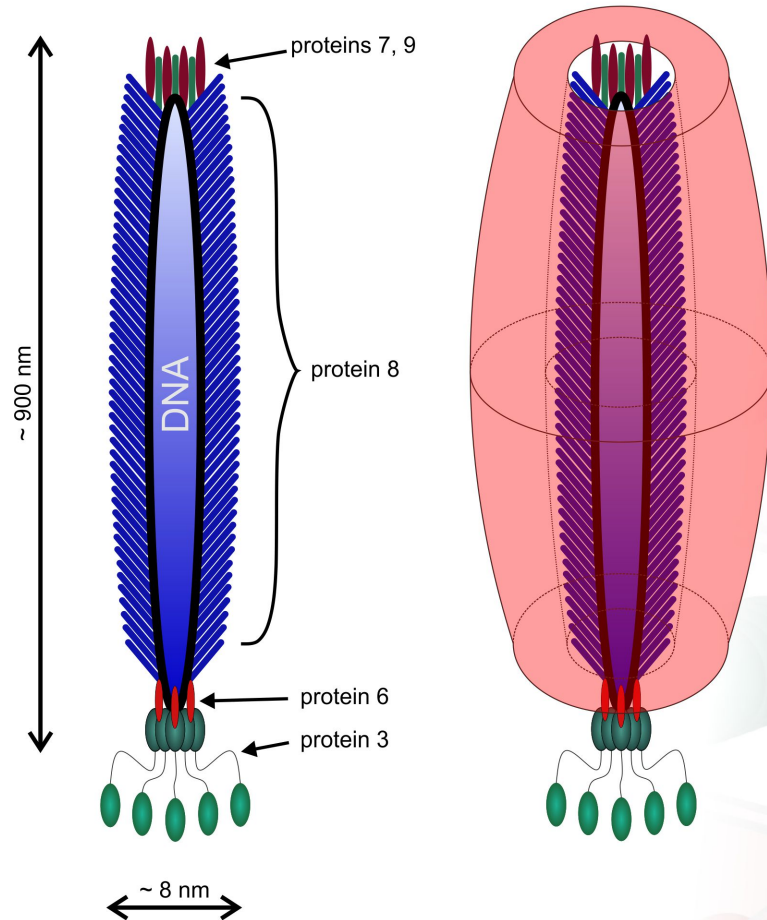
electrochemical  
synthesis of anode  
materials



## Example 2: nano-LiFePO<sub>4</sub>

DNA-modified  
viruses or bacterio-  
phages act as  
**biotemplates**

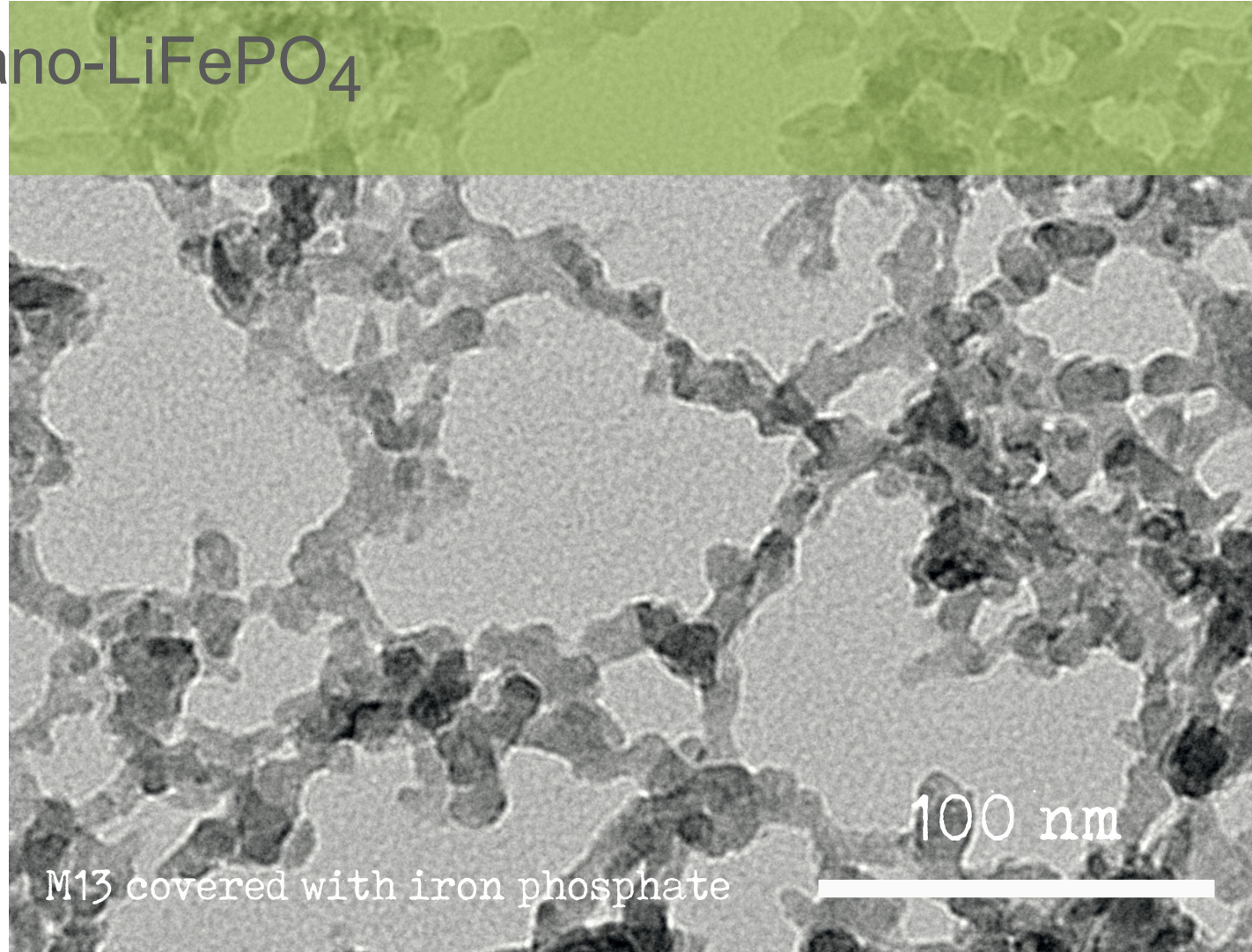
covering  
of the bacteriophages  
with LiFePO<sub>4</sub> from  
aqueous solution



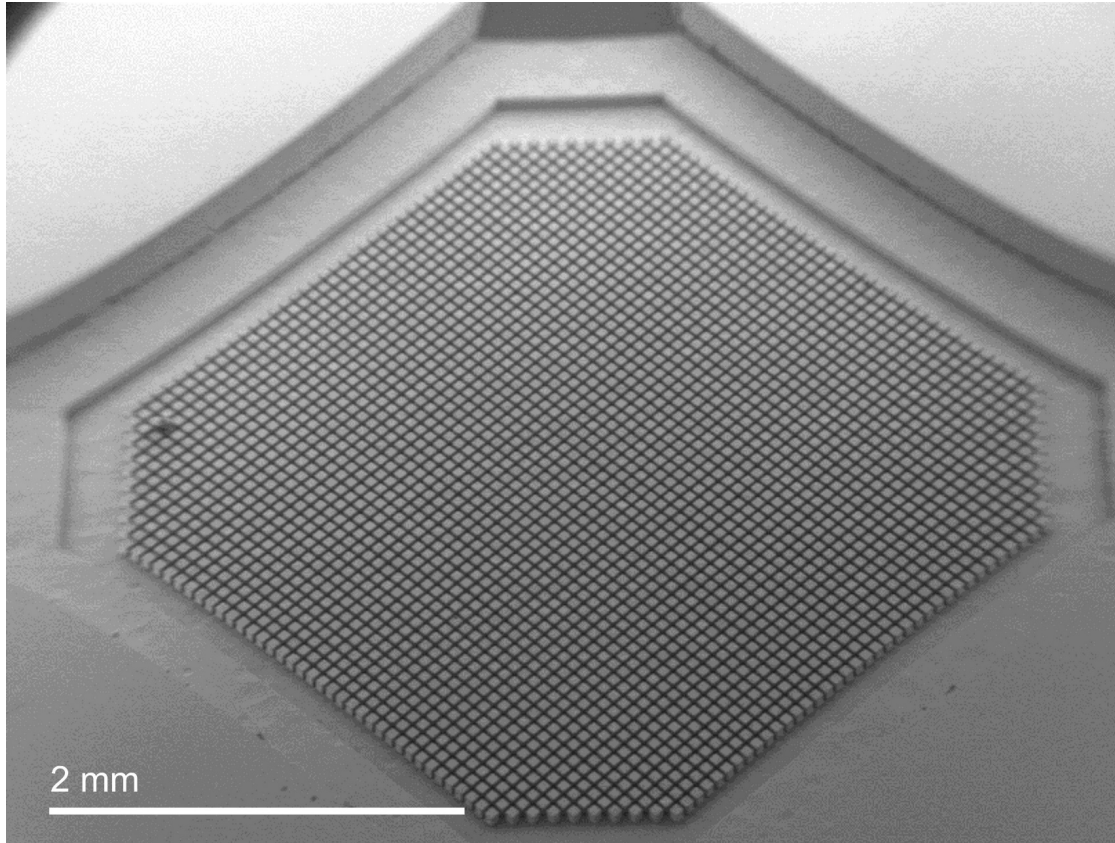
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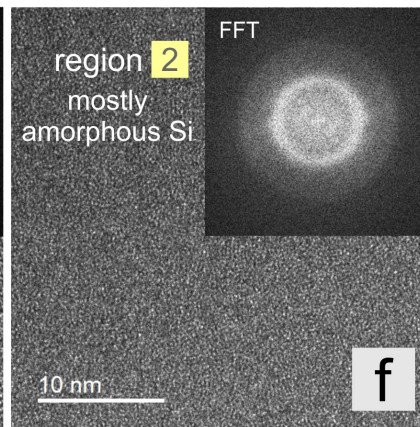
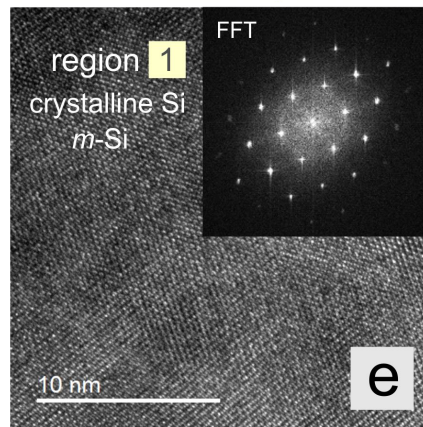
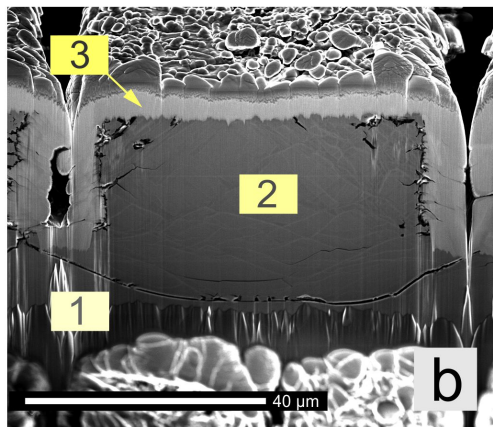
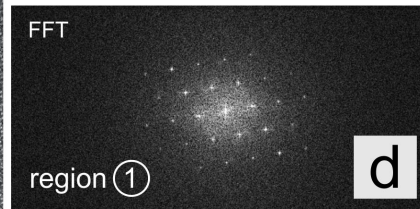
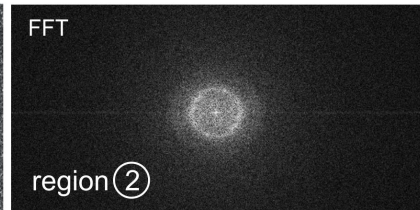
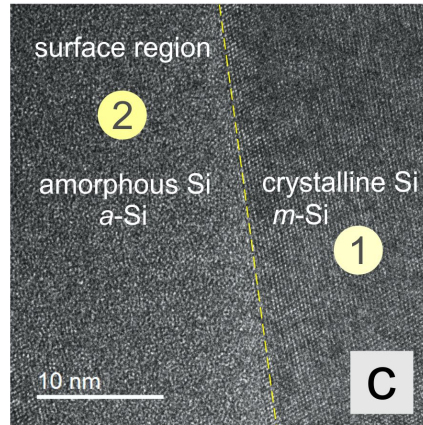
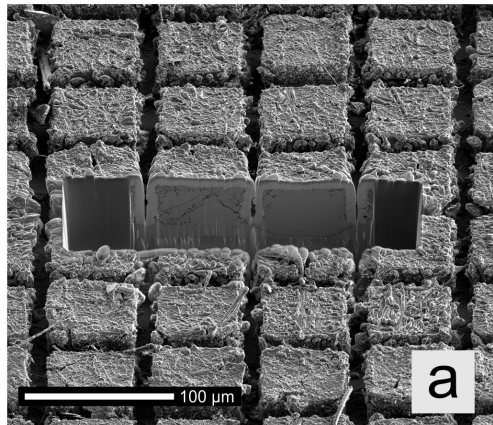


## Example 2: Si as anode material in $\mu$ -batteries



- monocrystalline Si
- collaboration with Infineon Austria
- structured, 3D-patterned via the BOSCH process
- batteries for the internet of things
- batteries for medicine, smart sensors, RFIDs

## Example 2: investigation via SEM and HR-TEM



- formation of amorphous LiSi
- investigation of transport parameters via **lithium NMR** at TUG

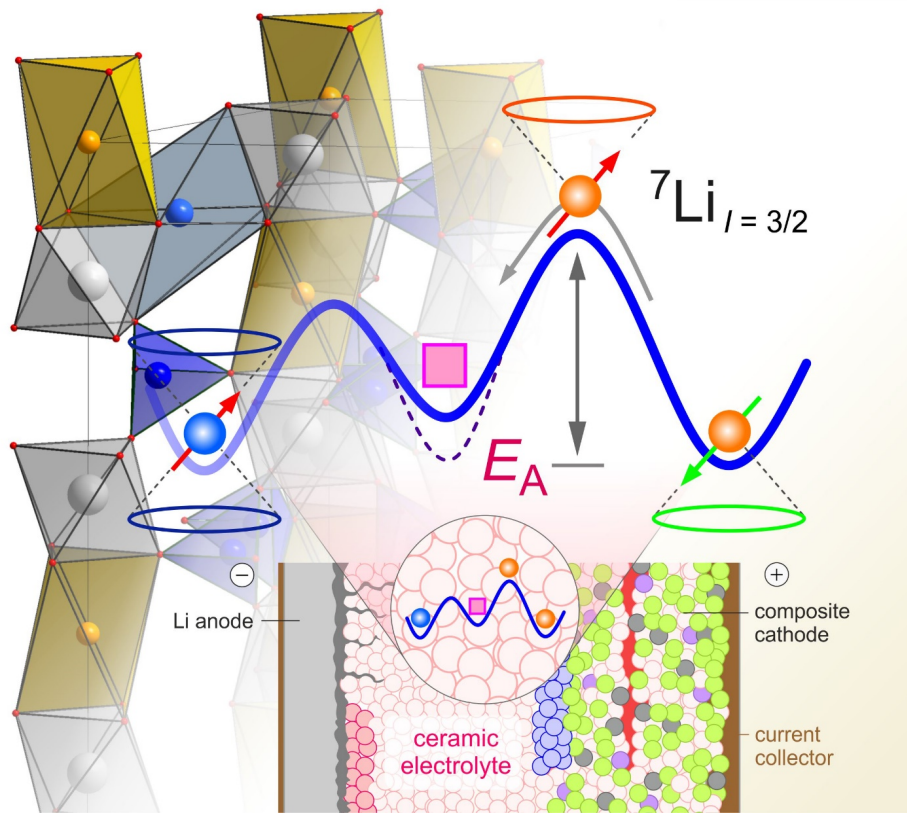
(USP in Europe)



# Example 3: ceramic electrolytes (ion dynamics)

see Uitz et al. *J. Electroceram.*, 38 (2017) 142.  
front cover, all-solid state batteries

**JECR** | Journal of  
Electroceramics



- micro- and macroscopic Li diffusion parameters
- NMR, broadband impedance spectroscopy

cooperation partners:

QENS, EXAFS, positron annihilation, beta-NMR, neutron diffraction, etc.

# Materials: selection



- **LATP: bulk vs. g.b.**

PCCP,  
J. Mater. Chem.

lithium aluminum phosphates

Li(7) spin-lock NMR

low  $T$  broadband conductivity spectr.

- **garnets: LLZO-based**

Chem. Mater.  
Inorg. Chem.

LLZMO, Mo on Zr sites

LLZTO, Ta on Zr sites, single crystal

Al-/Ga-bearing LLZO

- **thiophosphates  
argyrodites**

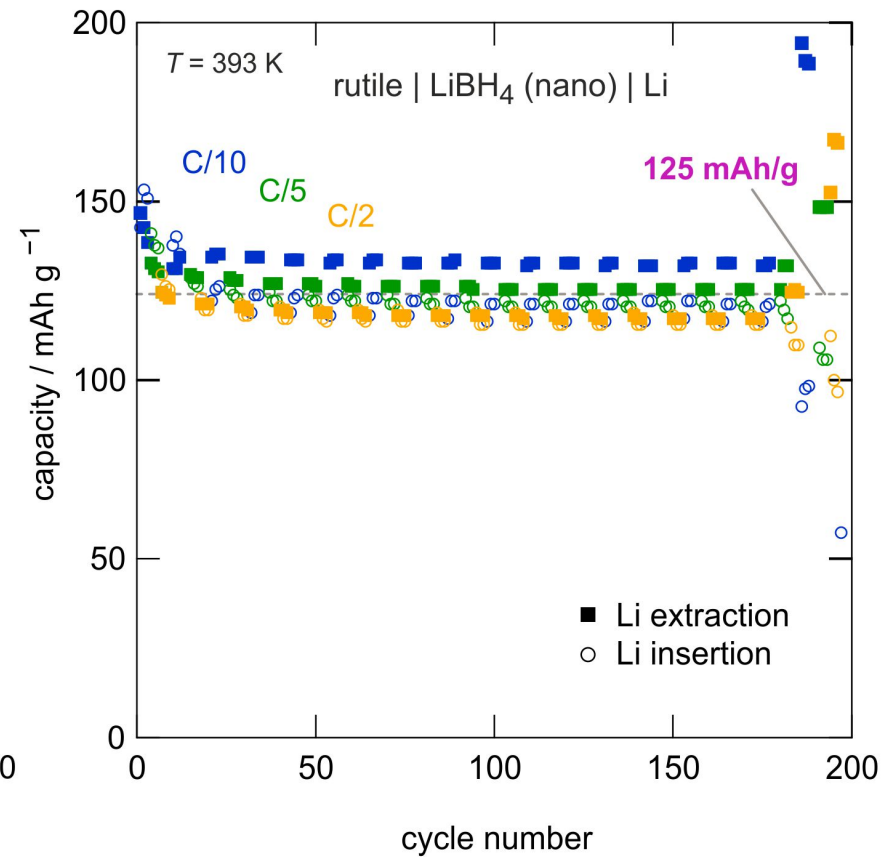
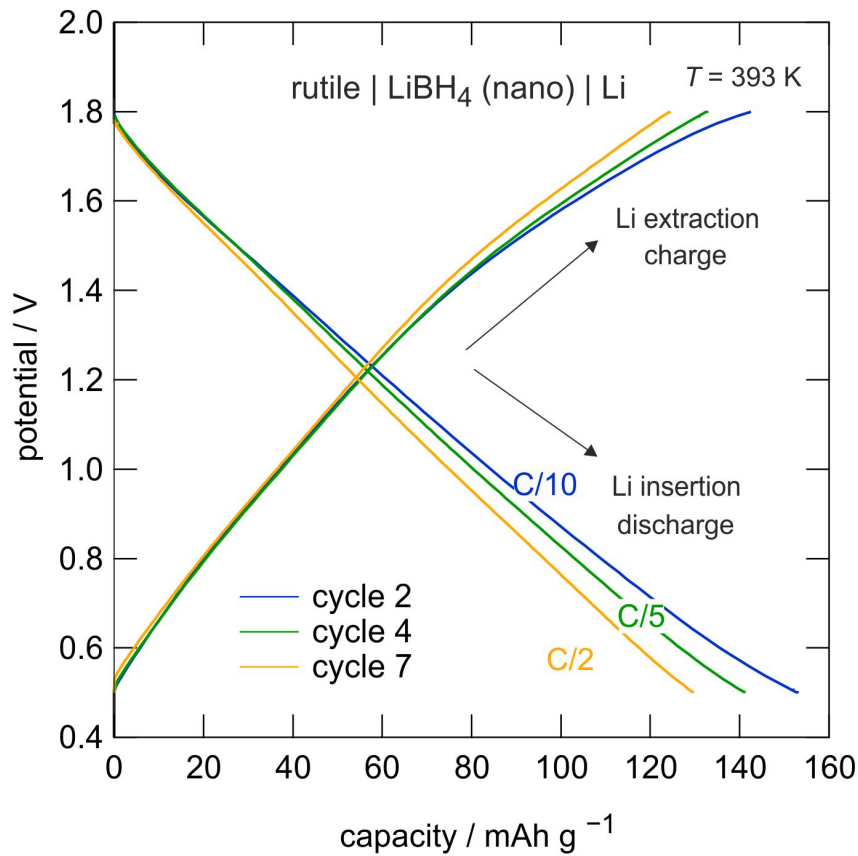
J. Phys. Chem. Lett.  
ChemPhysChem  
J. Phys. Chem. C

Li-7-P-11 phase,  $\text{Li}_7\text{P}_3\text{S}_{11}$

$\gamma$ - and  $\beta$ - $\text{Li}_3\text{PS}_4$

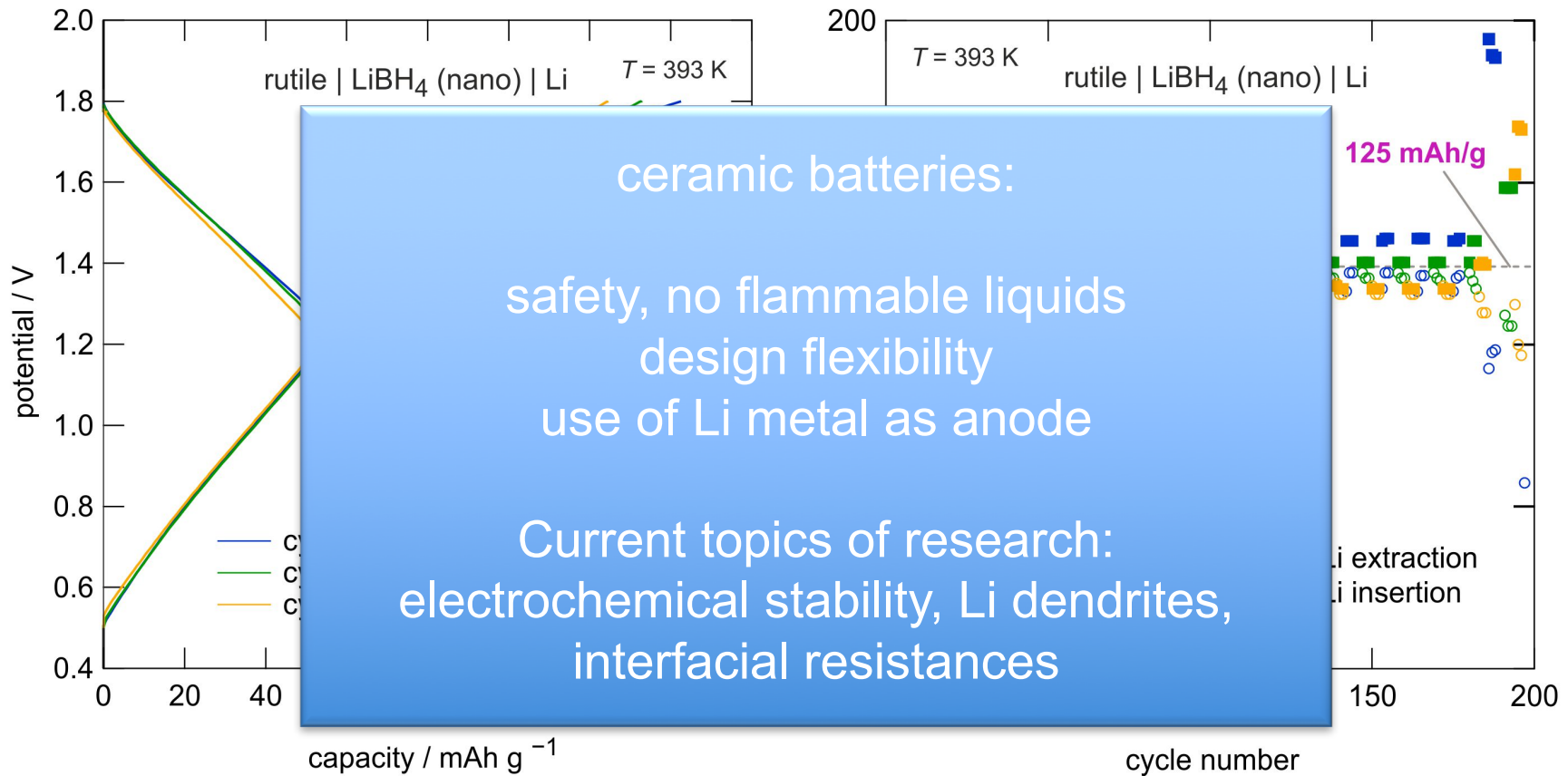
# ion dynamics

# Example 3: titania as anode in all-solid-state batteries





# Example 3: titania as anode in all-solid-state batteries



Take Home Message:

## Development of „Energy Materials“

- Has not yet reached its peak
- Only possible by intensive **inter- /multi-disciplinary/ multinational collaboration**
- Needs
  - **sustainable resources**
  - **sustainable infrastructure**
  - **Intensive collaboration between science and application (industry) with strong funding at low TRLs**