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# RESSOURCENEFFIZIENTE NANOMATERIALIEN FÜR DIE ENERGIE- SPEICHERUNG – 3D-ARCHITEKTUR UND CHARAKTERISIERUNG

## RESOURCE-EFFICIENT NANOMATERIALS FOR ENERGY STORAGE – 3D ARCHITECTURE AND CHARACTERIZATION

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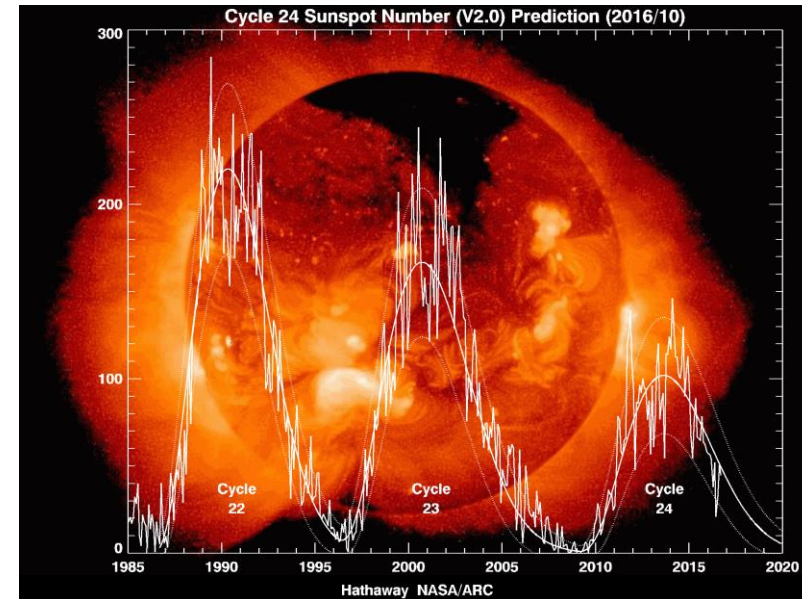
Lübeck, 13 January 2020

# Climate dynamics: Our earth does not guarantee constant climate

## Anthropogenic factors

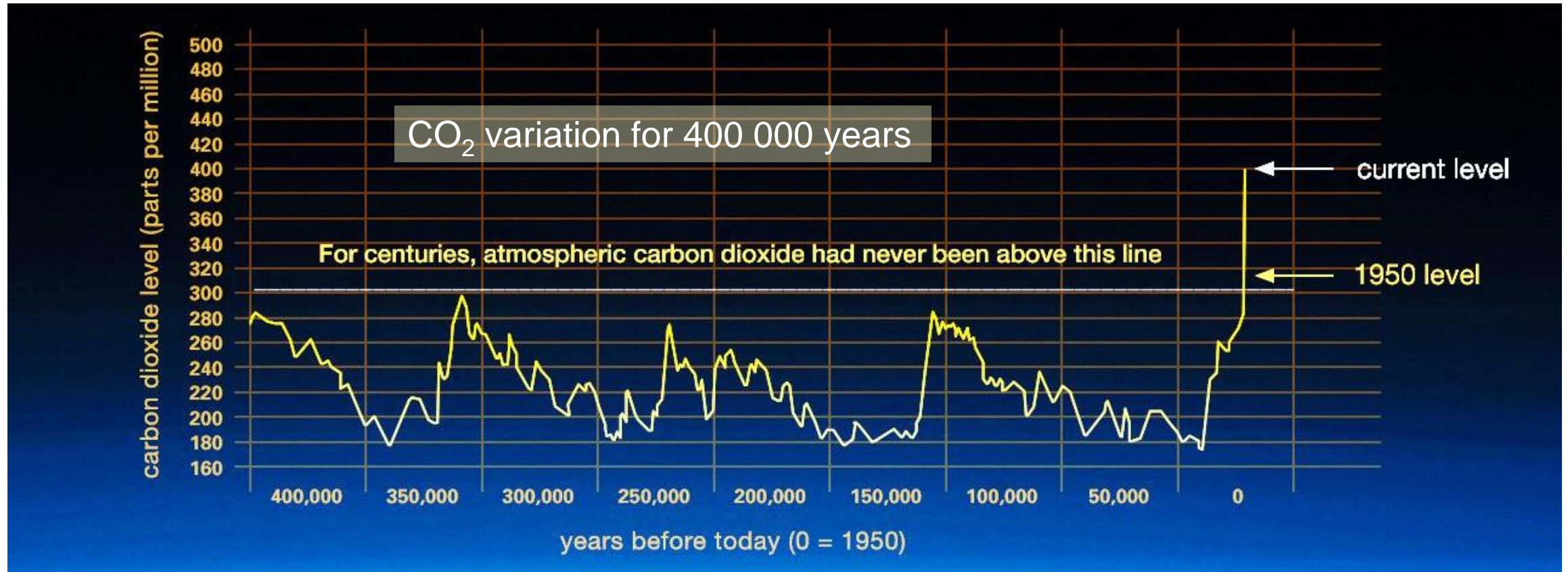


## Natural factors



**Climate change today and in future**

# Climate: Human factor



Increased CO<sub>2</sub> emission → Greenhouse effect (global warming)

**„Energiewende“ is essential to survive on our planet!!!**



Source: NASA; Credit: Vostok ice core data/J.R. Petit et al.; NOAA Mauna Loa CO<sub>2</sub> record

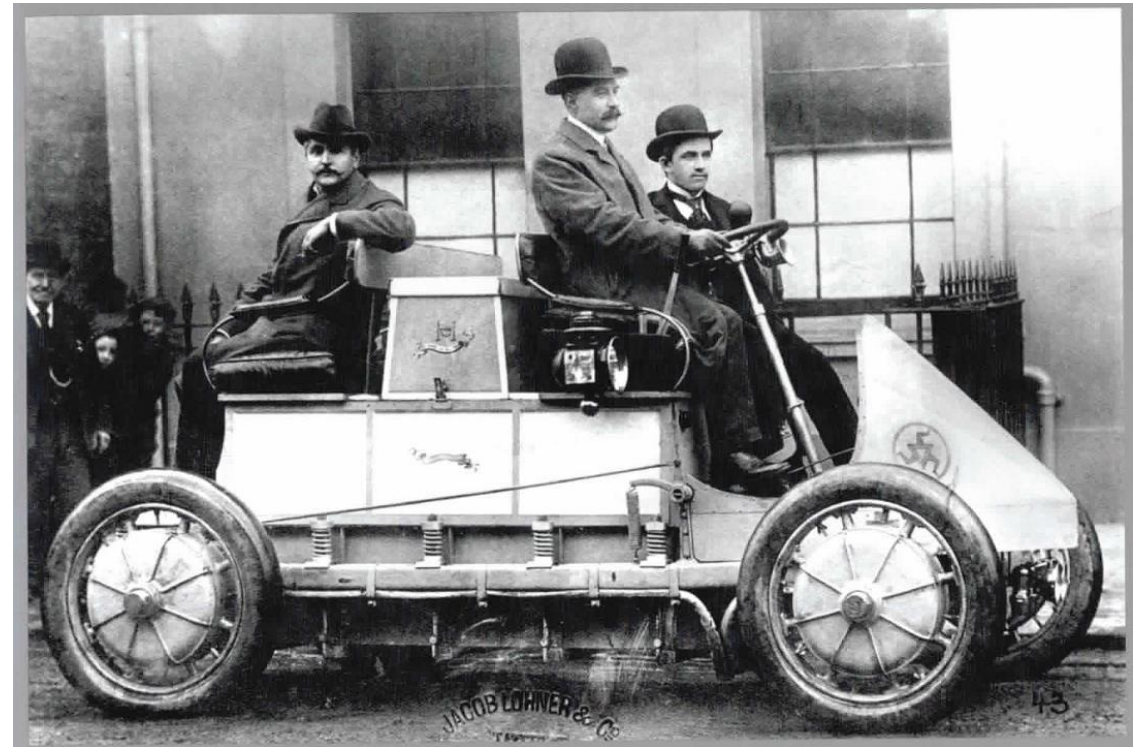
# Deutschland: Energiewende war schon immer schwierig...



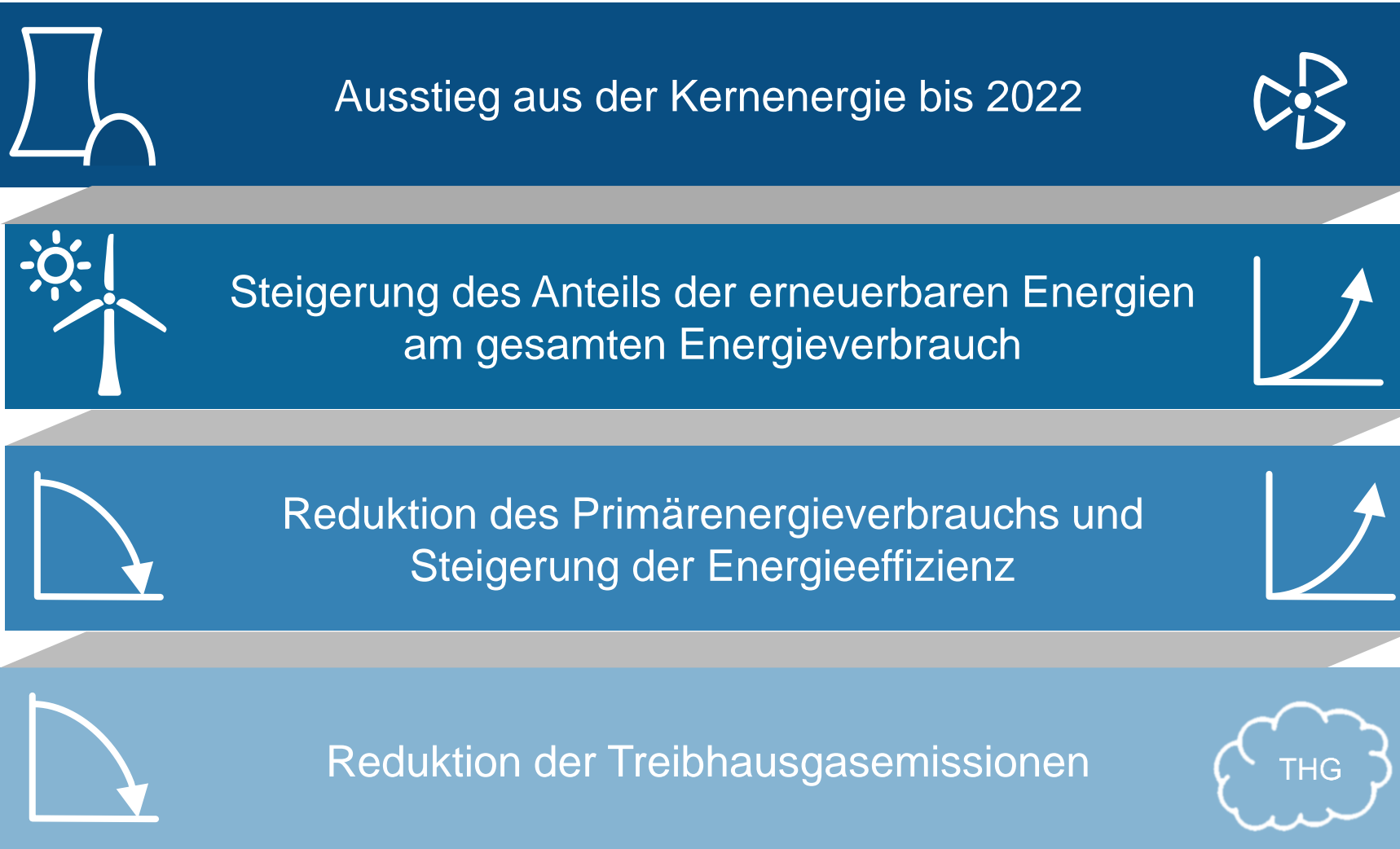
Kaiser Wilhelm II.

"Ich glaube an das Pferd.  
Das Automobil ist eine  
vorübergehende Erscheinung."

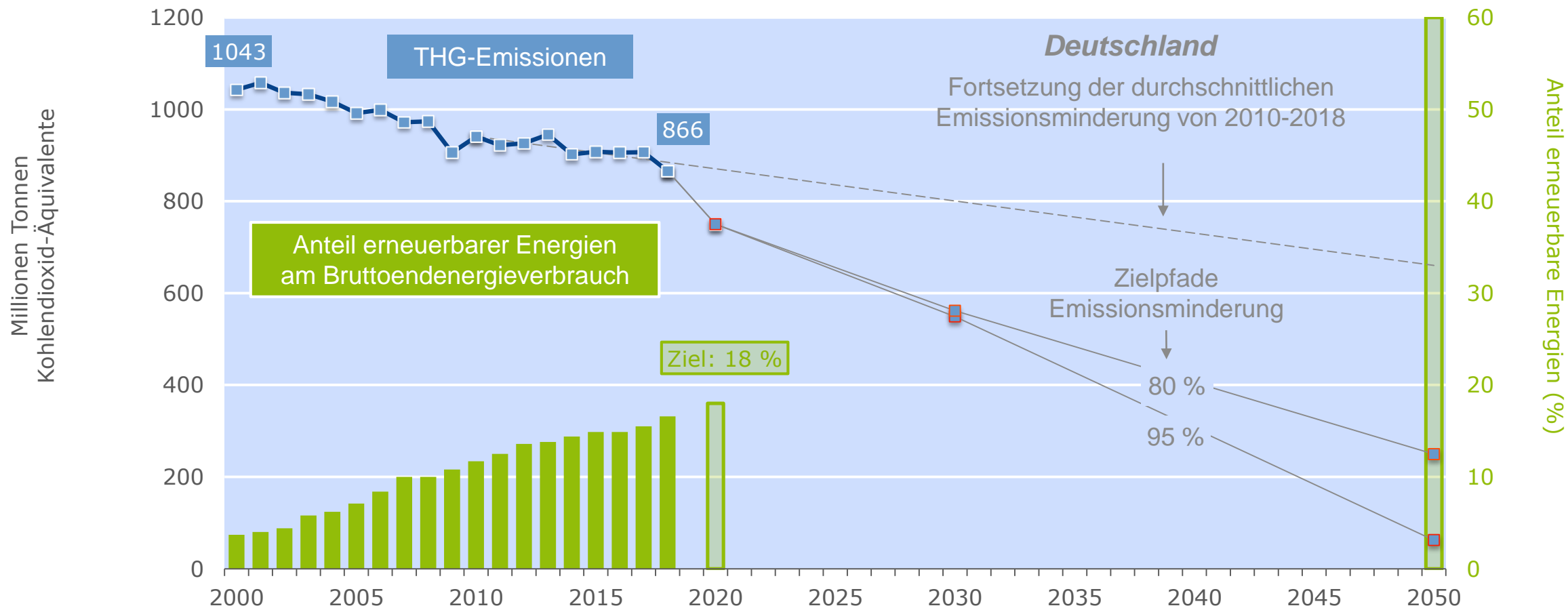
Weltausstellung 1900:  
Lohner-Porsche  
4x2.5 PS **Elektroantrieb**  
**Geschwindigkeit** 50km/h  
**Reichweite** 50km



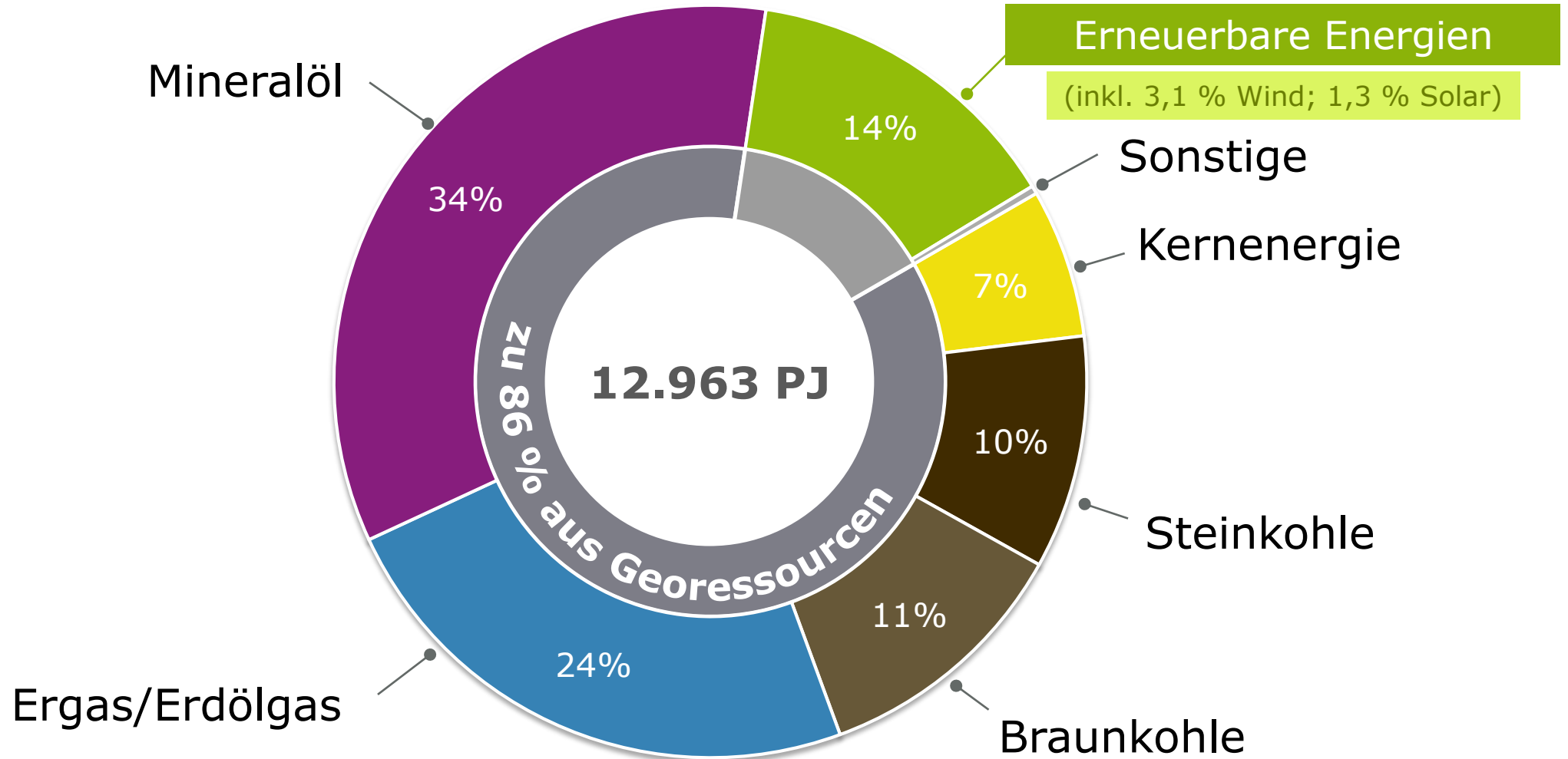
# Deutschland: Ziele der Energiewende



# Trends und Ziele für den Ausbau erneuerbarer Energien und die Minderung von Treibhausgasemissionen



# Primärenergieverbrauch nach Energieträgern in Deutschland (2018)

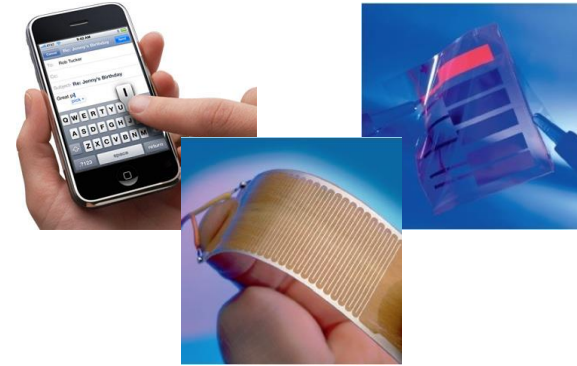


Daten: AGEB/BMWi, März 2019

# The 21st century: 3 key technologies and technical megatrends

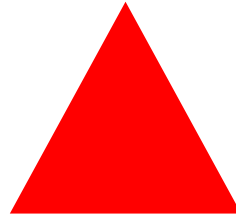


Energy, Mobility



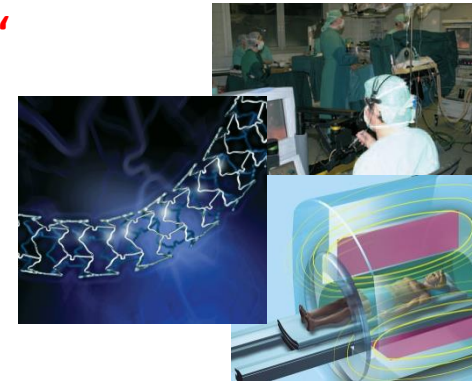
Information/Communication

„INFORMATICS“



Ressources/Raw materials

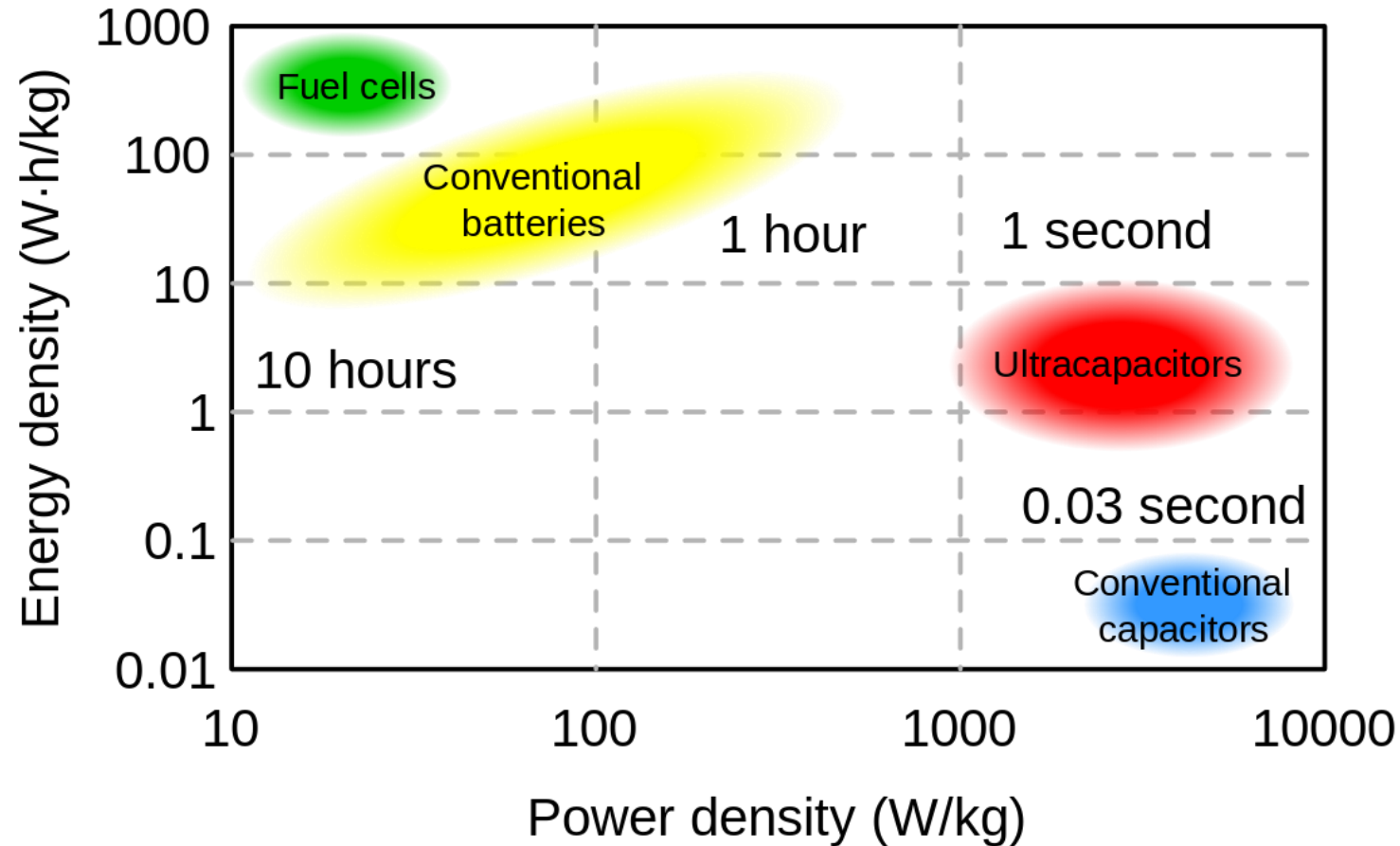
„MATERIALS“ „BIOTECH“



BioTech, Medicine



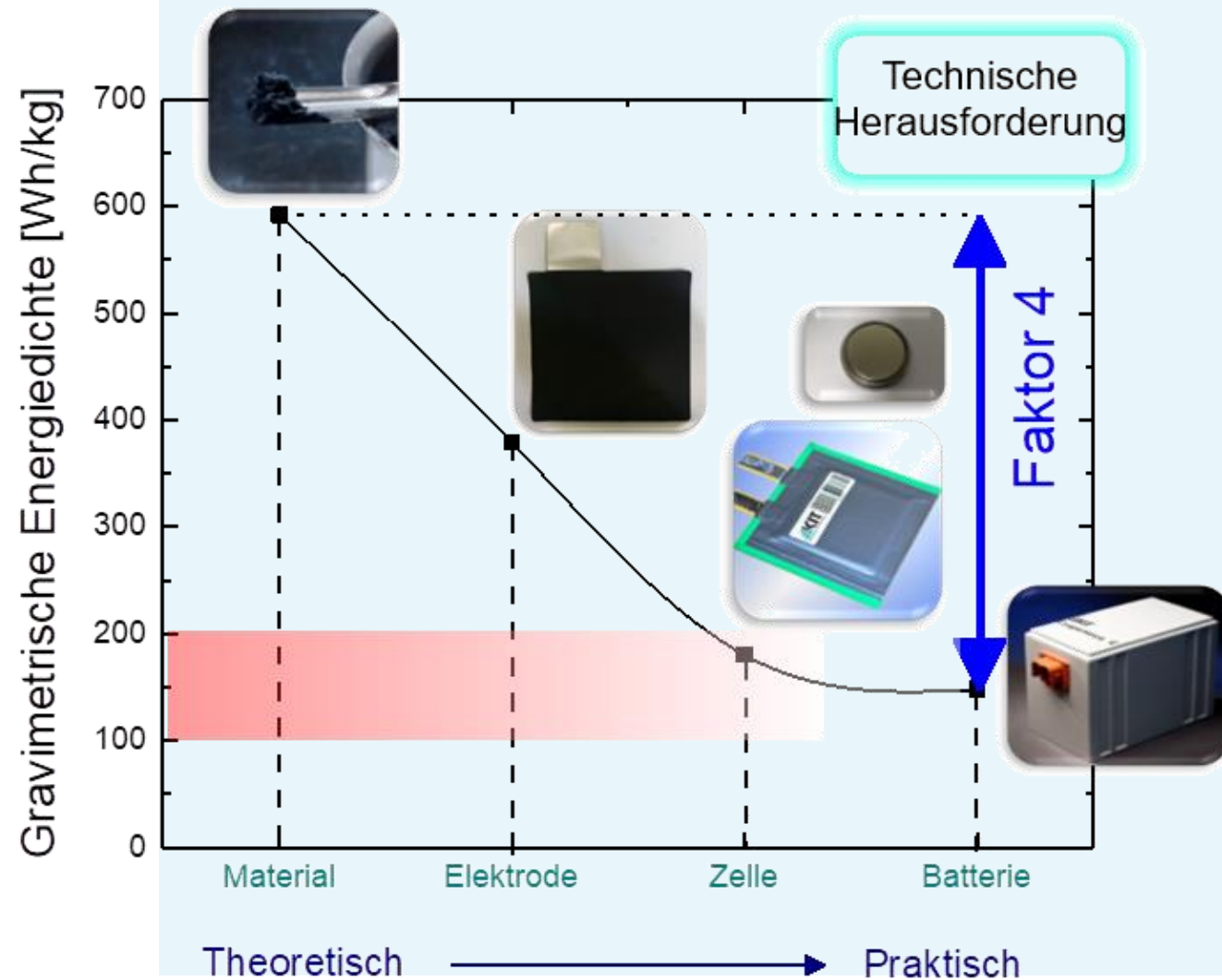
# Energy density vs. power density of several technologies



**Batteries have a higher energy density than capacitors, but a capacitor has a higher power density than a battery. This difference comes from batteries being able to store more energy, but capacitors can give off energy more quickly.**

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## Example: Battery



### Requirements for future mobility:

- high energy density
- high power density
- short time for charging

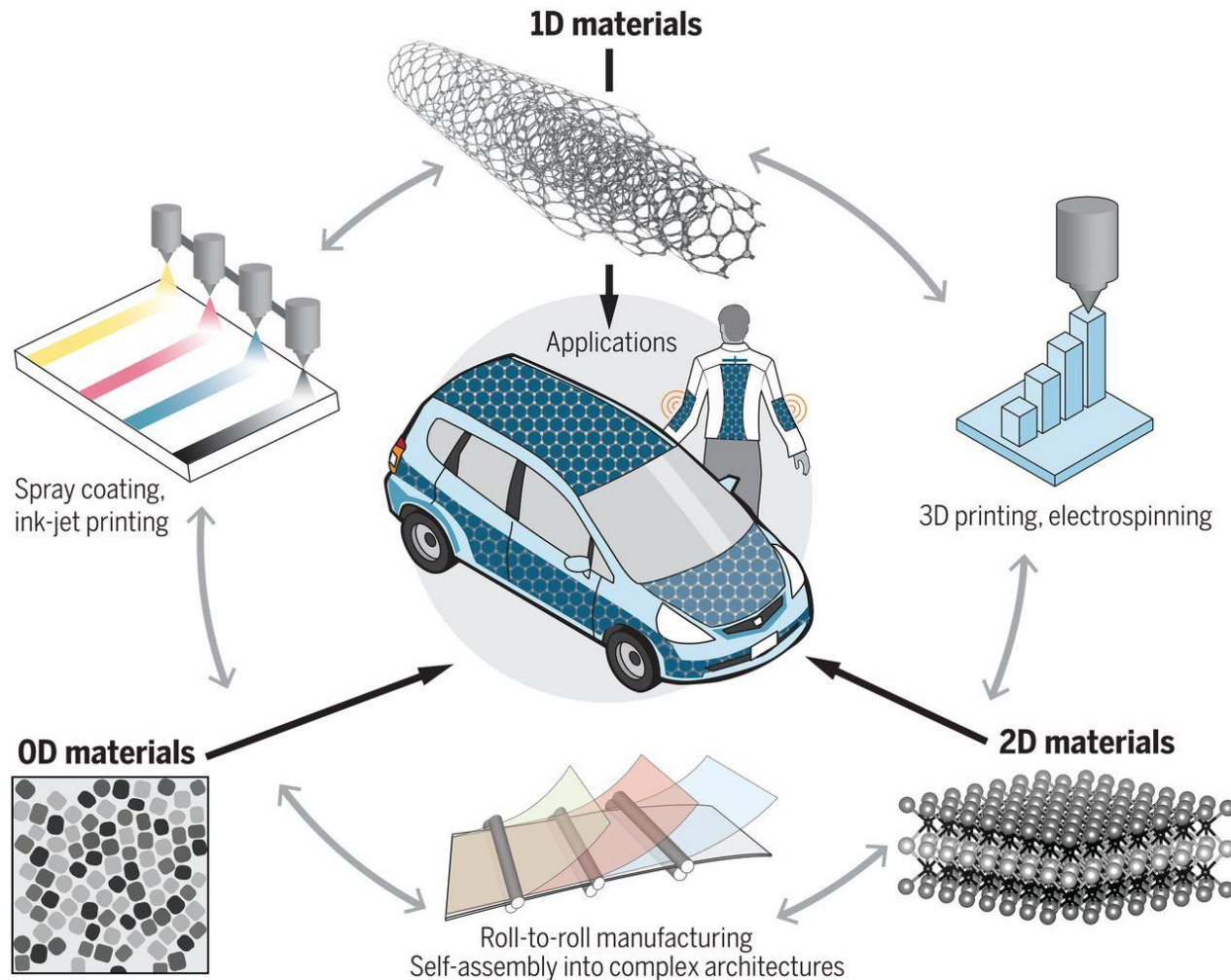


### Contrary requirements

### „Hierarchical approach“:

*New materials and new electrode architectures needed !!!*

# New materials: Why nanomaterials for energy storage applications?



## Nanomaterials:

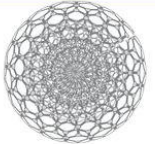
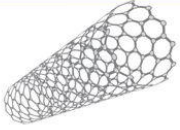
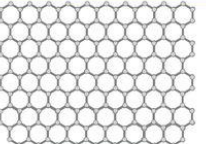
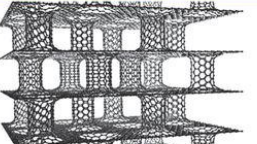
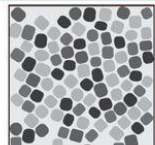

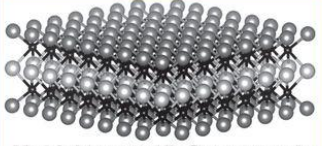
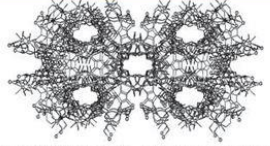
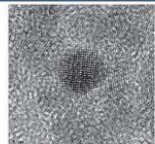
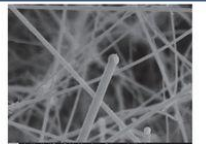

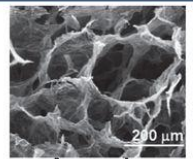
- high surface-to-volume ratio and short diffusion pathways

→ provide a solution for simultaneously achieving high energy density and high power density.

- compatibility of nanomaterials with advanced manufacturing techniques - such as printing, spray coating, roll-to-roll assembly

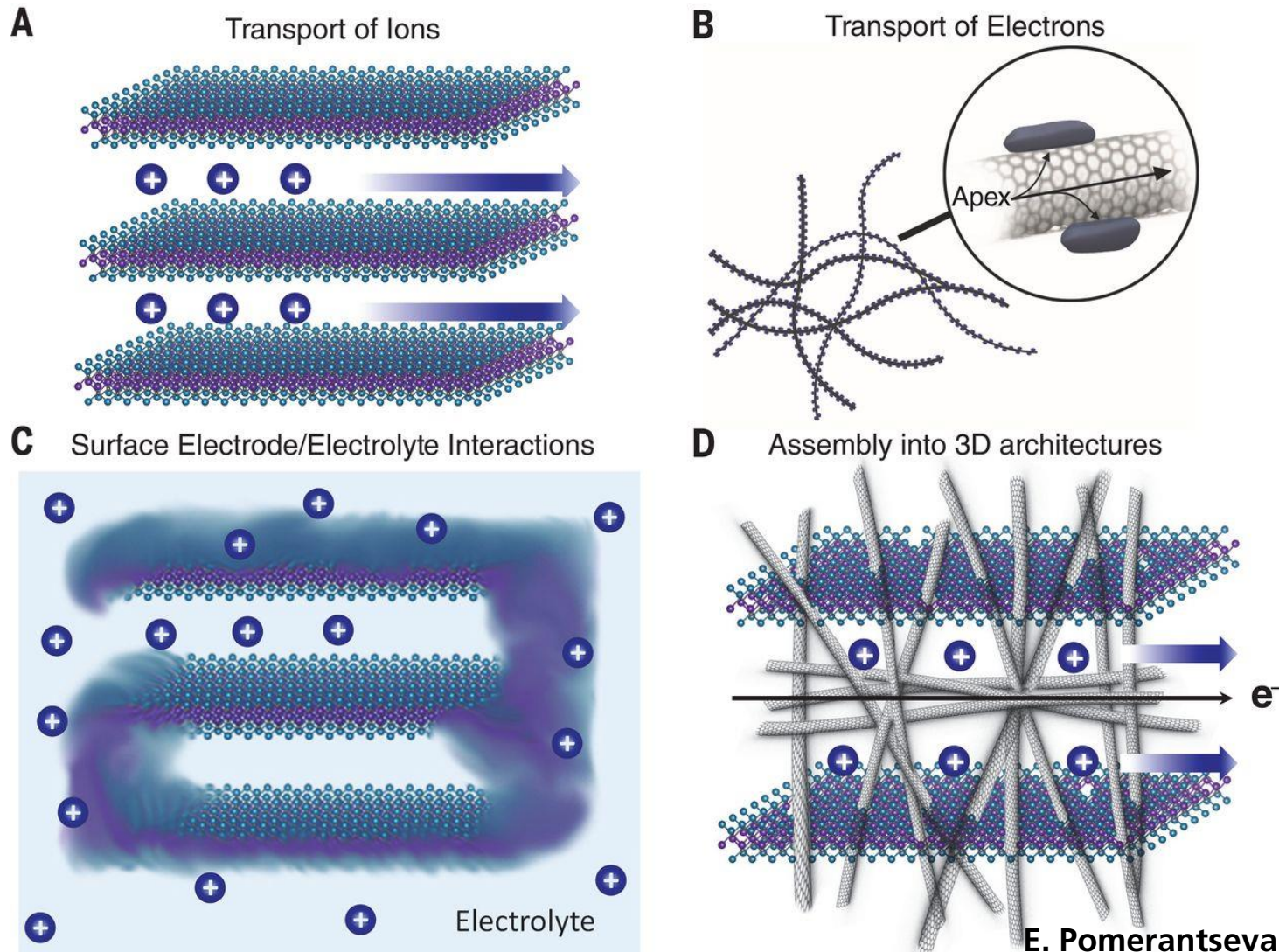
→ allows for the design and realization of wearable, flexible, and foldable energy storage devices.

# Overview of 0D, 1D, 2D and 3D nanomaterials

0D	1D	2D	3D
 Carbon Onion	 Single Wall Carbon Nanotube	 Graphene	 Pillared Graphene
 Nanoparticles	 Multiwall Nanotube	 Multielement 2D Compounds	 Metal-Organic Frameworks
 Quantum Dots	 Nanowires	 Nanoflakes	 Aerogels
Advantages			
Small in all dimensions Surfaces on all sites are accessible to electrolytes No bulk solid-state diffusion Can be integrated into multiple systems Can be used in stable inks for printing	Mechanical reliability Possibility to integrate with wearable devices Porous flexible freestanding films	Open 2D channels for ion transport; all surface is accessible enabling fast charge storage Compatible with flexible devices Small nanoflakes can be used in inks for printing	Can be used to create thick electrodes with large areal and volumetric storage properties
Limitations			
Agglomeration Do not densify and form only low density non-uniform structures Numerous points of contact lead to high resistance Poor chemical stability	Low packing density; cannot exhibit high volumetric performance Low yield and high cost of synthesis Diffusion pathways can be relatively long	Re-stacking Low out-of-plane electronic and ionic conductivity High cost of synthesis	Design Stability Manufacturing

Chemical, structural, and morphological diversity of the *available nanoscale building blocks* that can be used to create *complex hierarchical 3D architectures* for next-generation energy storage devices with improved performance compared with the currently available ones.

# Fundamental properties governing the performance of nanomaterials for energy storage and conversion



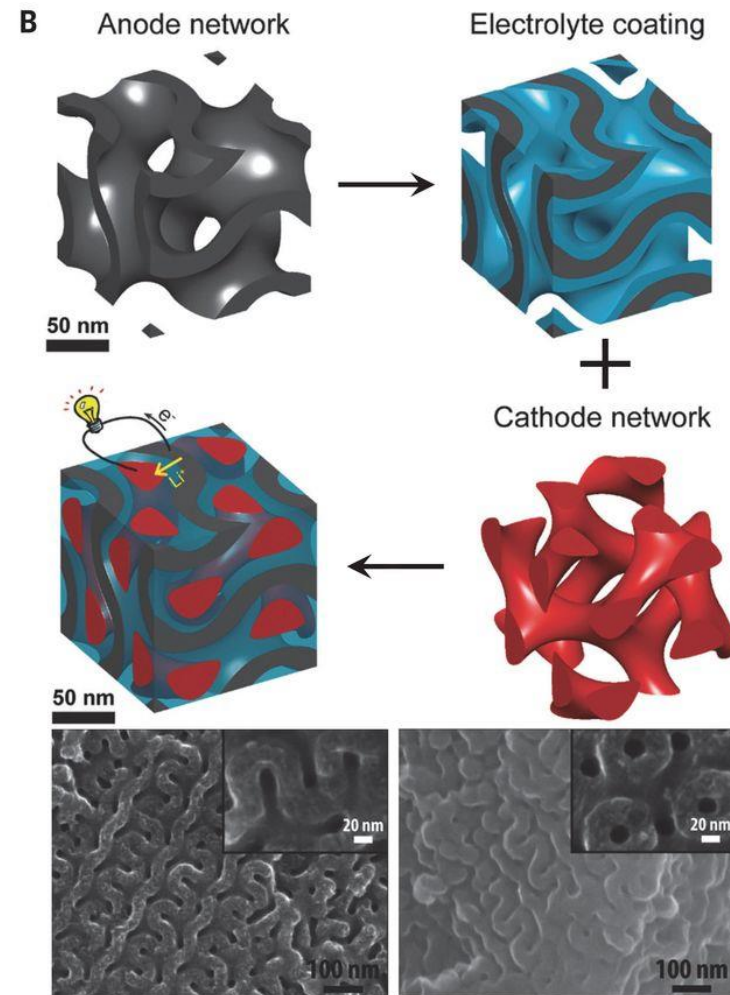
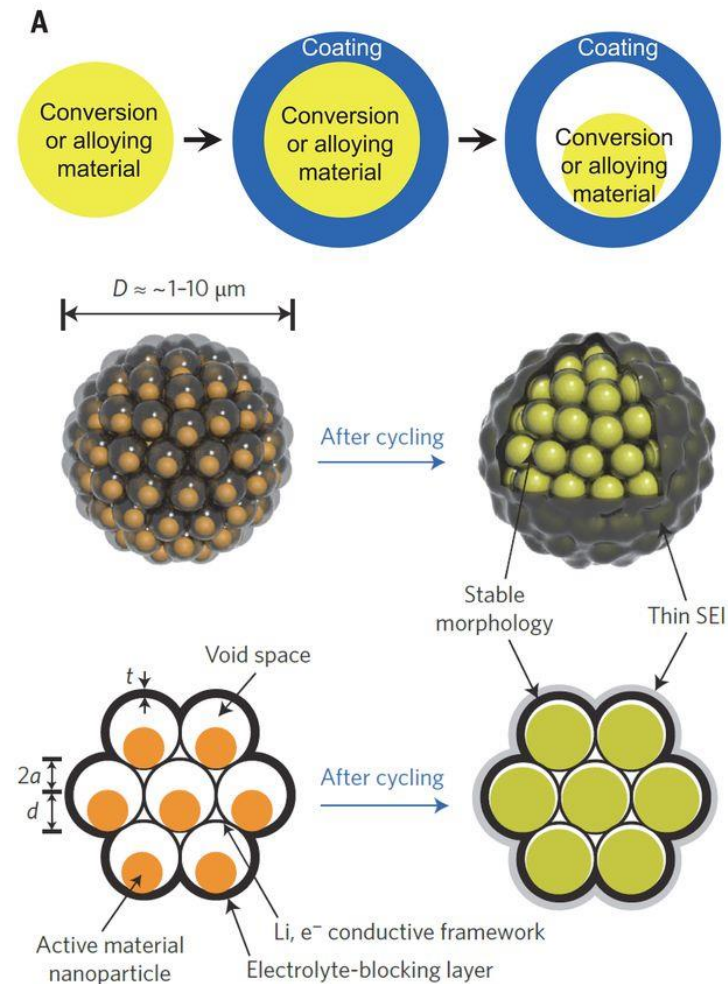
(A) Transport of ions.

(B) Transport of electrons.

(C) SEI formation and parasitic reactions between electrode and electrolyte. Blurry areas represent reaction products, such as SEI.

(D) Connectivity and transport in 3D space.

# Strategies to overcome performance limitations of nanomaterials in energy storage and conversion applications



(A) Nanoscale coatings on the surface of conversion and alloying electrode materials need to avoid mechanical instability caused by large-volume change and loss of the surface area as a result of agglomeration

$D$ , diameter of pomegranate microparticle;  $t$ , thickness of the conducting framework;  $2a$ , void dimension;  $d$ , diameter of the active material primary particles.

(B) Nanostructured 3D electrode architecture can be realized through a scalable block-copolymer self-assembly process

# How to characterize nanoscale materials and 3D hierarchical materials systems?

# How to characterize nanoscale materials and 3D hierarchical materials systems?

**X-ray microscopy**, based on two major inventions at the end of 19th century

1873:

Ernst Abbe:

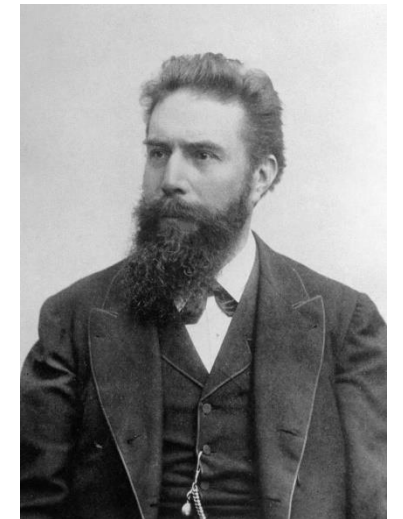
- Theory of image generation of an ideal lense



1895:

Conrad Röntgen:

Invention of X-ray radiography





# Why it took so long until X-ray microscopy became an imaging technique?

## 1) Arguments against X-ray microscopy

Complex refractive index  $> 0.999$

→ No lenses with sufficient refractive power.

$$\tilde{n} = 1 - \delta - i\beta$$

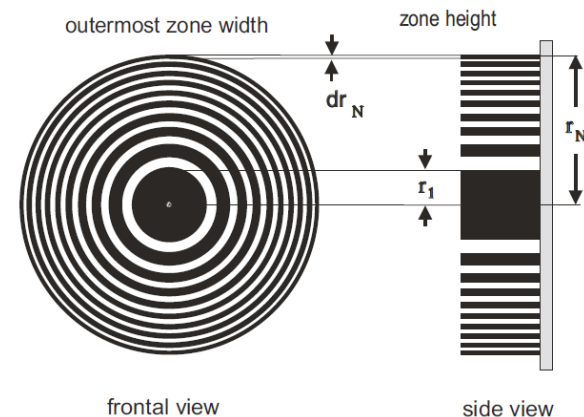
## 2) Technological limitations, particularly manufacturing of X-ray lenses

No technology to manufacture lenses for high resolution imaging.

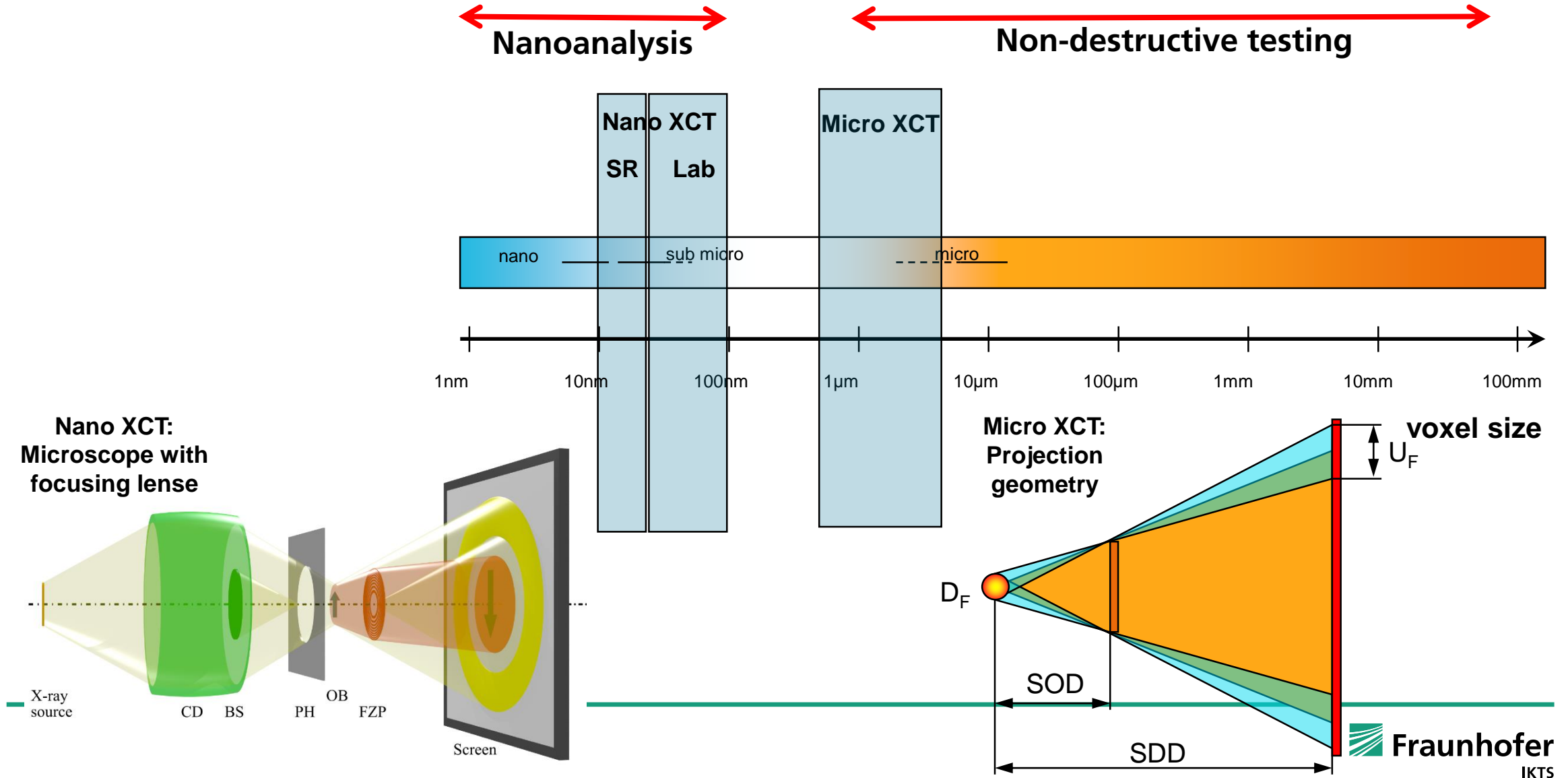
Ernst Ruska, Argument against an X-ray microscopy:

„There are no materials for the construction of X-ray lenses with sufficient refractive power – because the refractive index is close to one.“

Fresnel zone plate: Patterning – e-beam lithography + etching



# 3D characterization of defects in materials and products using laboratory X-ray computed tomography (XCT)



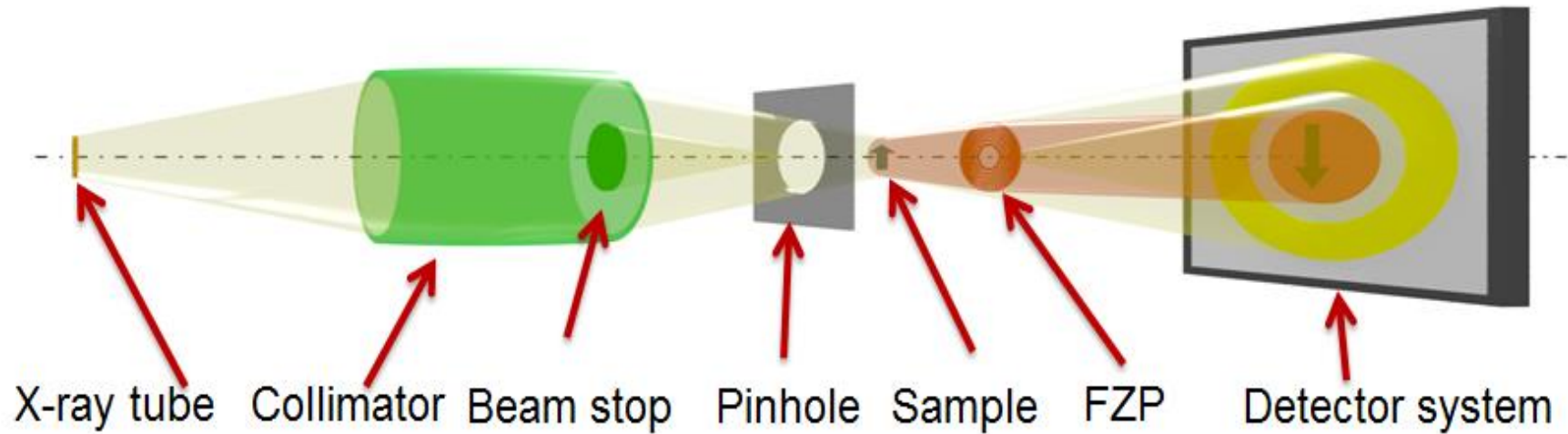
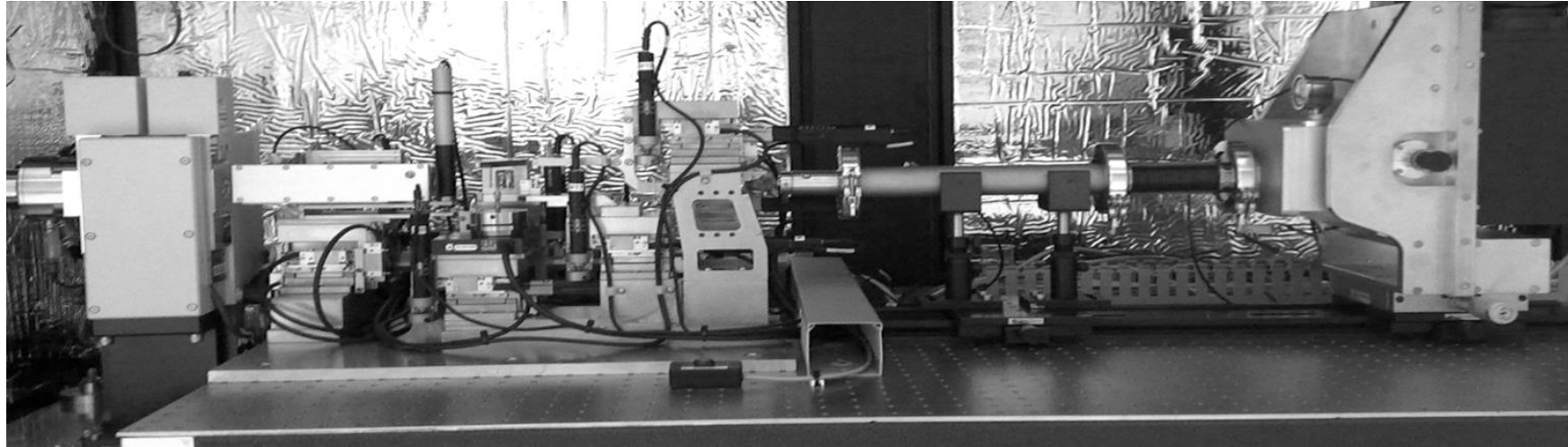
# Microscopy in materials science and engineering, and biology

	light microscopy	X-ray microscopy	Electron microscopy
resolution	~ 160 nm	~ 50 nm (lab) ~10 nm (SR)	~ 0.1 nm (TEM)
object thickness	> 10 $\mu\text{m}$	~ 1...100 $\mu\text{m}$	~ 0,1 $\mu\text{m}$ (TEM)
limits	wavelength	X-ray optics, X-ray sources (lab)	inelastic scattering, radiation damage
special forms	fluorescence-, ...	TXM, STXM, ...	TEM, STEM

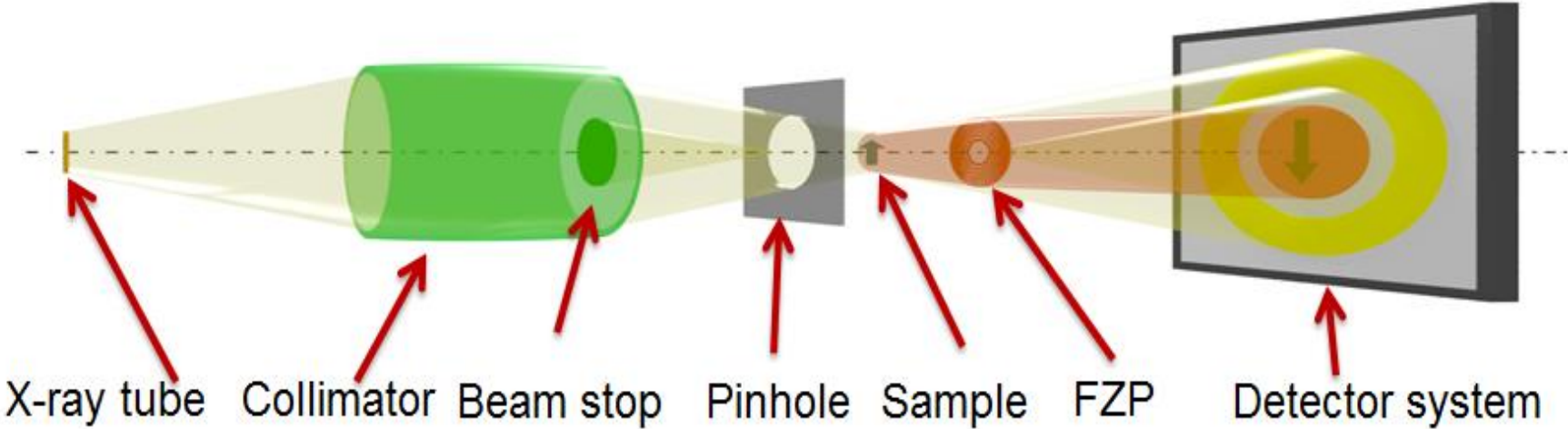
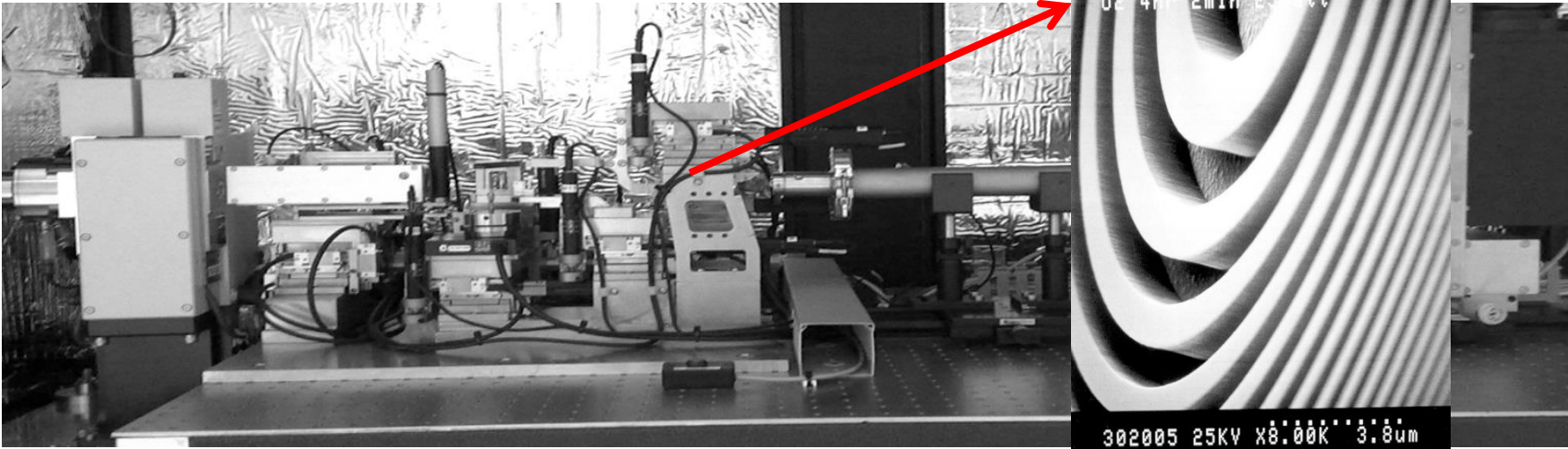


**X-ray microscopy: combination of high spatial resolution and sample penetration → High-res 3D volume data**

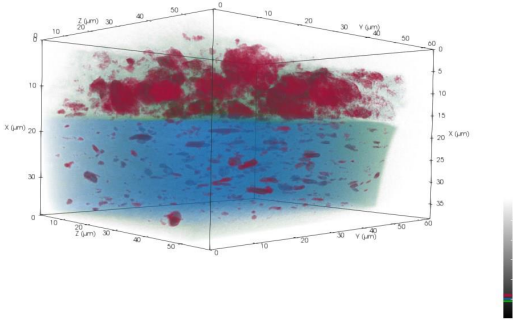
# Laboratory X-ray microscopy and nano XCT



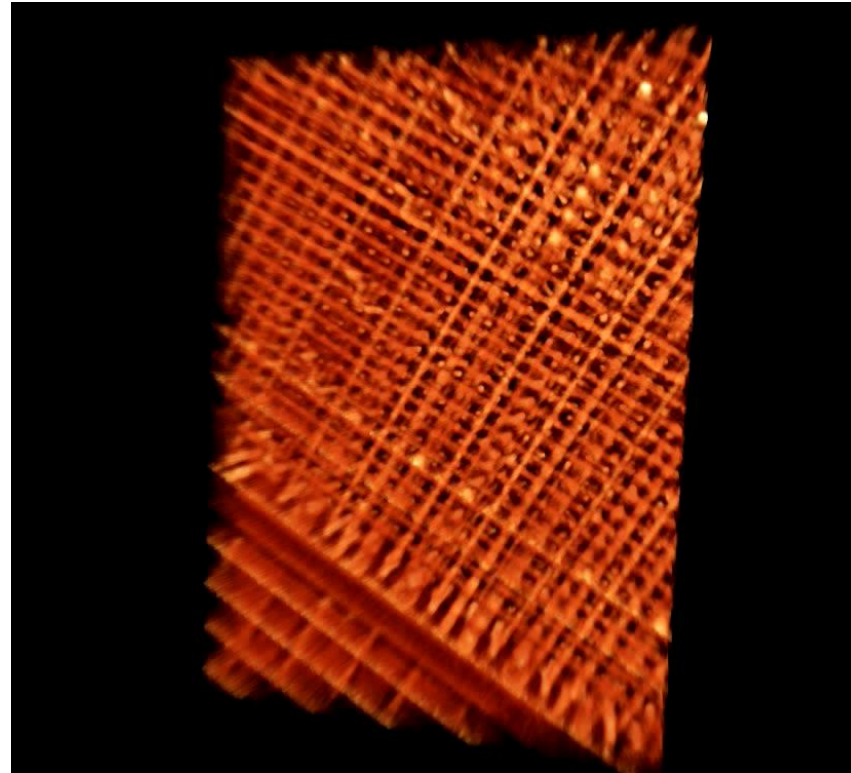
# Laboratory X-ray microscopy and nano XCT



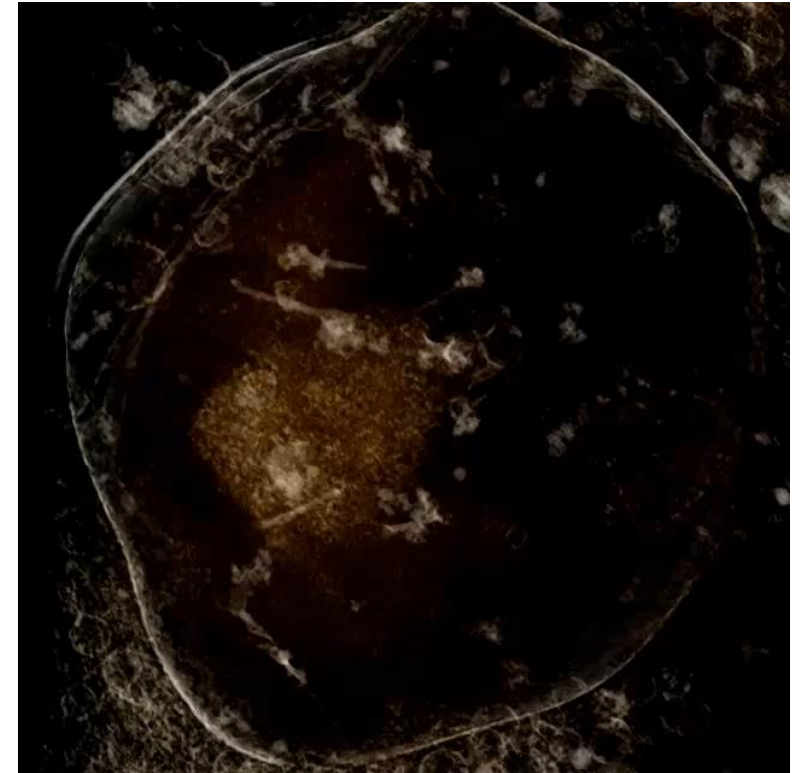
# Major application fields in laboratory X-ray microscopy



Energy technologies



Microelectronics



Biology/Medicine

## Next step in laboratory X-ray microscopy:

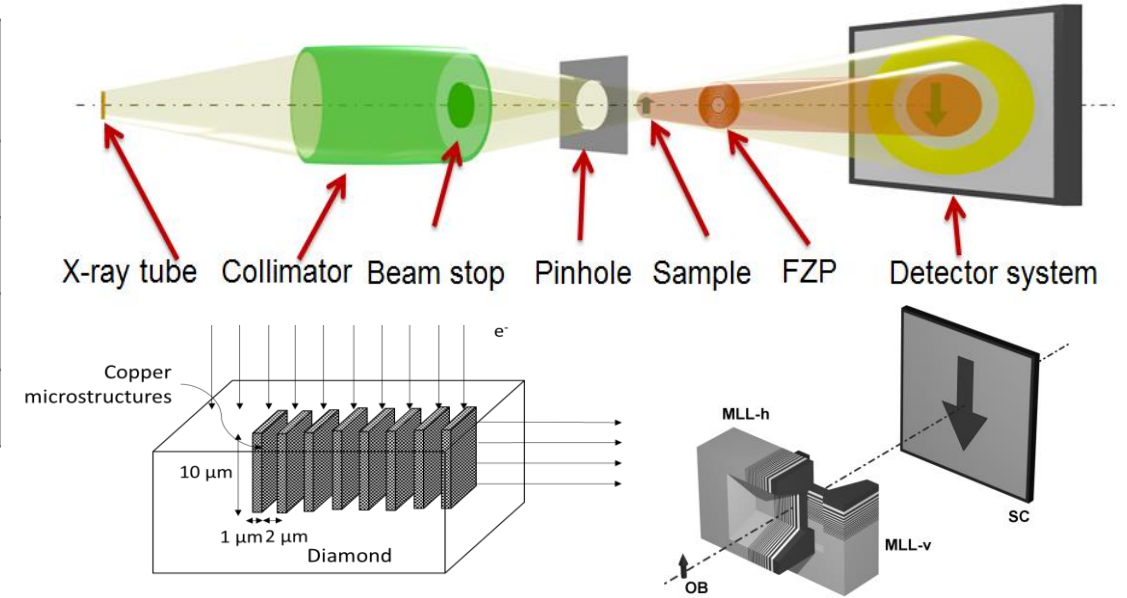


**X-ray microscope for photon energies  $> 10$  keV:  
Fast and really nondestructive**



# Laboratory nano XCT for 3D materials and object characterization: Nondestructive & 3D, high resolution, high throughput

Development Parameters	Status	Target
Resolution	50 nm →	10 nm
Energy range	< 10 keV →	> 10 keV
Acquisition time	2 min – 10 h →	40x faster
Sample thickness	50 μm →	some mm



## Innovations:

Novel nano X-ray tomography system with

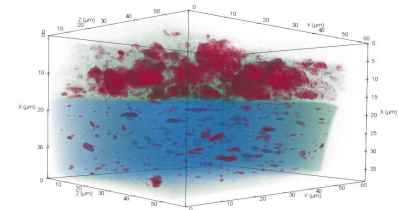
- High-flux X-ray source (Sigray Inc., Concord/CA, USA)
- Novel multilayer Laue lens X-ray optics (Fraunhofer IKTS + IWS Dresden)

## Solution/Application:

Novel tool for industry (process control, quality assessment) and academia (materials science and engineering, physics, chemistry, biology)

- Really non-destructive (no or low sample preparation efforts)
- High throughput: 3D data set in minutes
- Resolution down to 10 nm

3D imaging of morphology of battery electrode

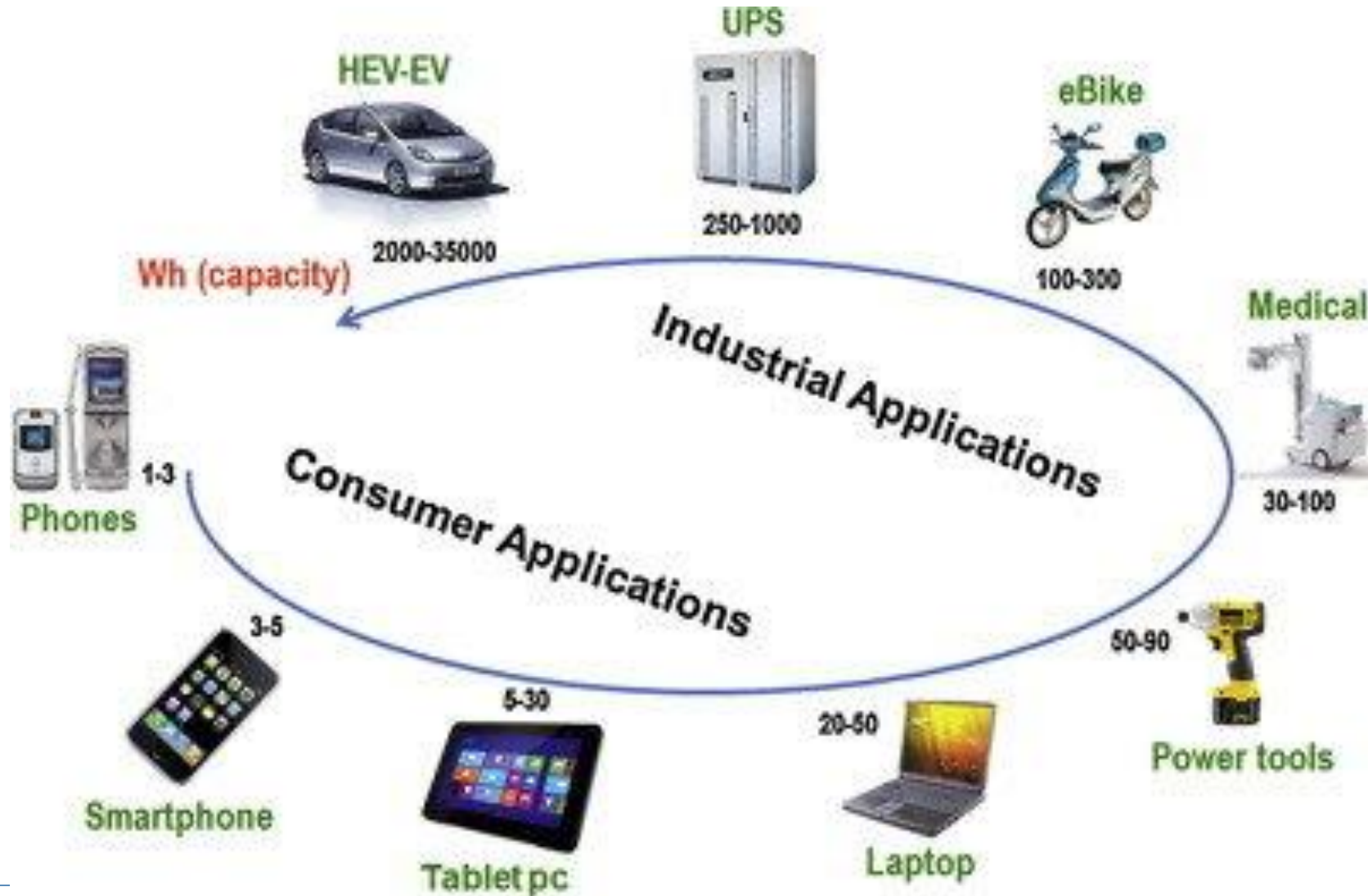


E. Zschech et al., FCMN 2017



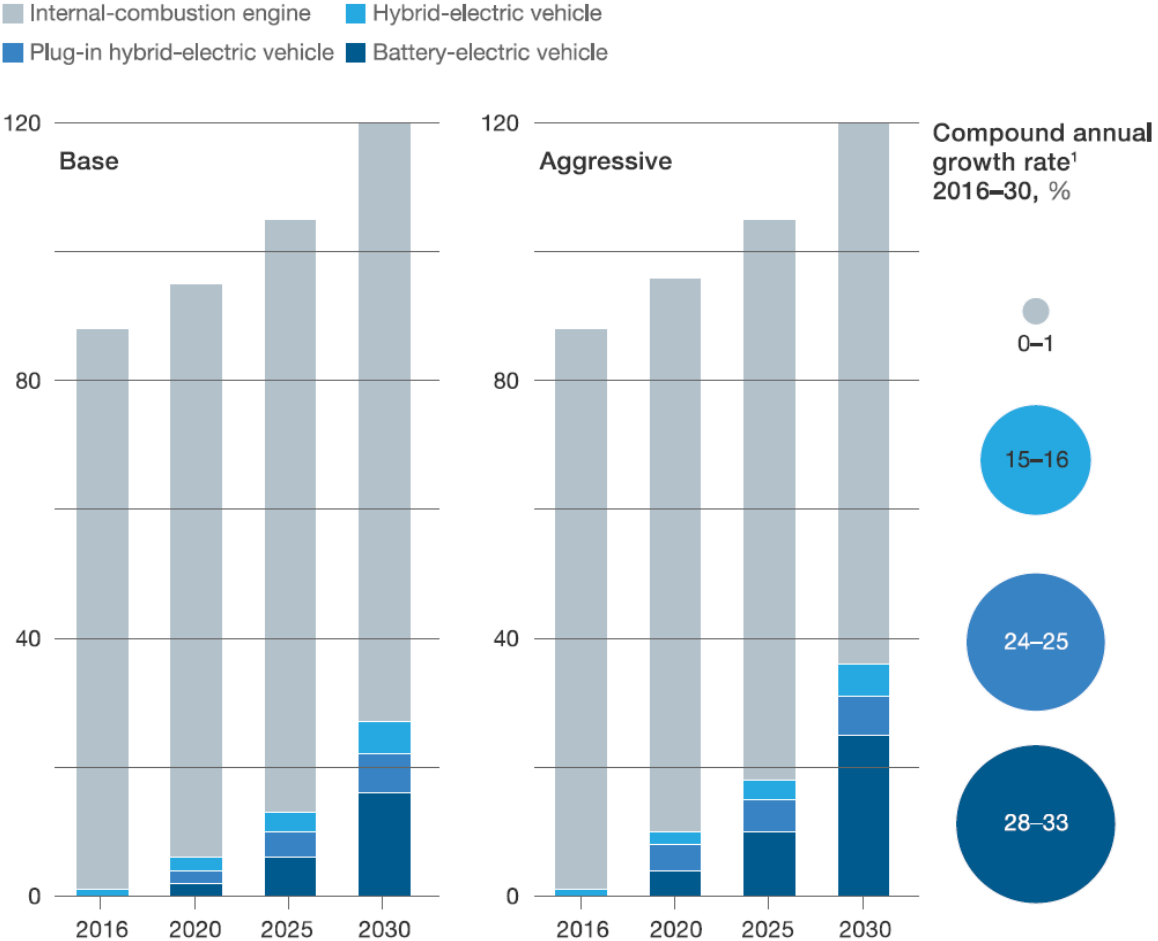
# Example 1: Battery

# Rechargeable batteries

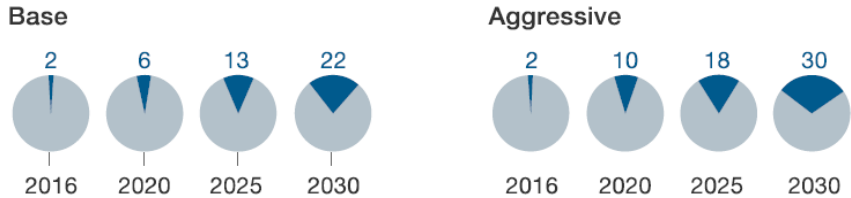


# Electric vehicle (EV) revolution → Driver for battery demand

Global light-vehicle annual production, million



Share of electric vehicles combined, %



<sup>1</sup>Range of base and aggressive scenarios.

# Demand for lithium and cobalt

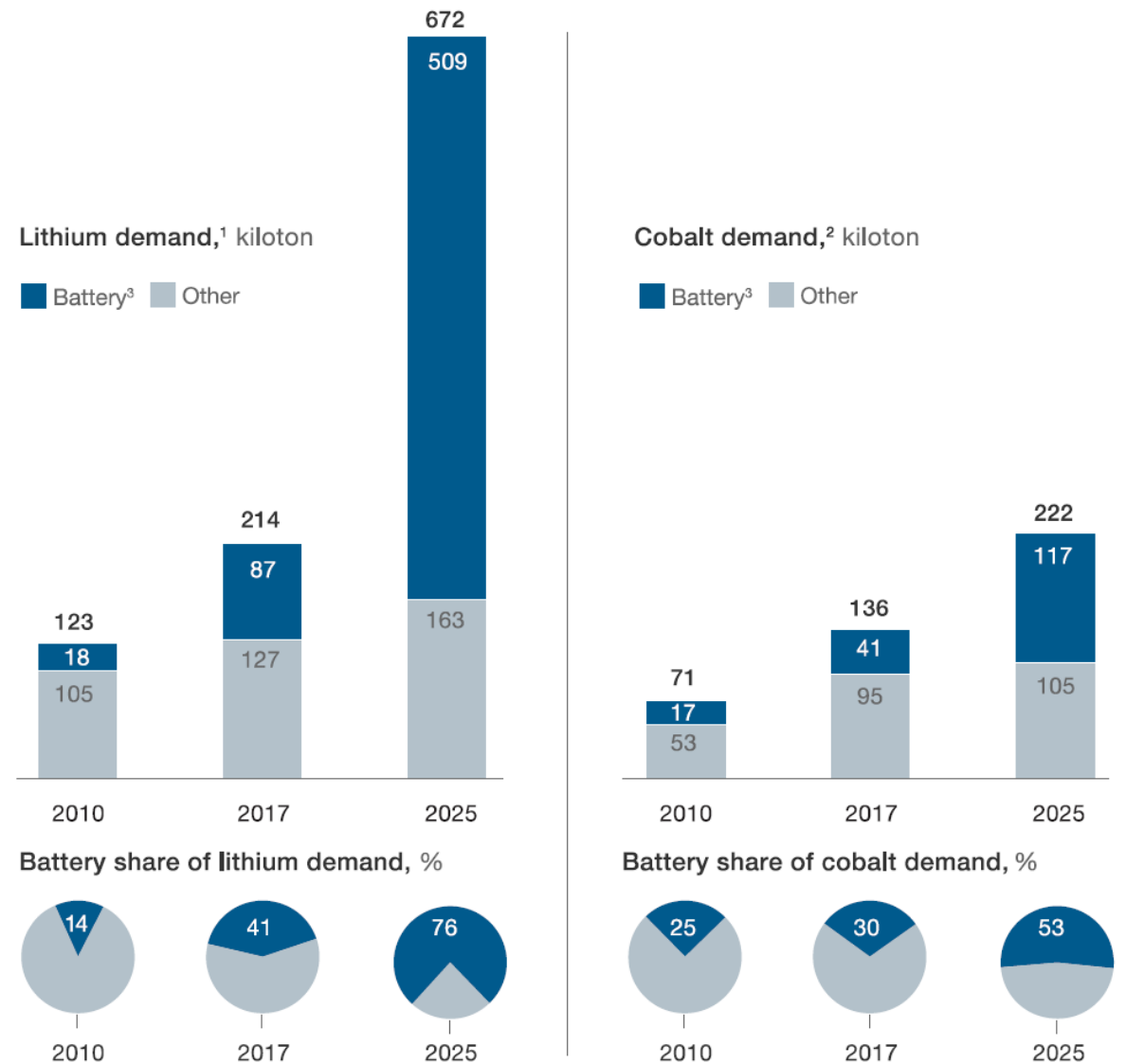
## Issues:

Concerns regarding the future of the raw-material supply availability for batteries

Impact of rising commodity prices on battery production costs

→ R&D for new materials needed, with no or low amount of critical raw materials

The growing adoption of EVs and the need for EV batteries with higher energy densities will see the demand for lithium increase more than threefold between 2017 and 2025. Cobalt will increase by 60 percent over the same period.



<sup>1</sup>Lithium carbonate equivalent.

<sup>2</sup>Refined metal equivalent.

<sup>3</sup>Includes automotive (hybrid-, plug-in hybrid-, and battery-electric vehicles), trucks and buses (light, medium, and heavy), two and three wheelers, machinery (forklifts and others), grid storage, and consumer electronics.

Note: Figures may not sum to listed totals, because of rounding.

# Research on Co-free and Li-free Na-ion batteries



AGH UST Kraków (PL)

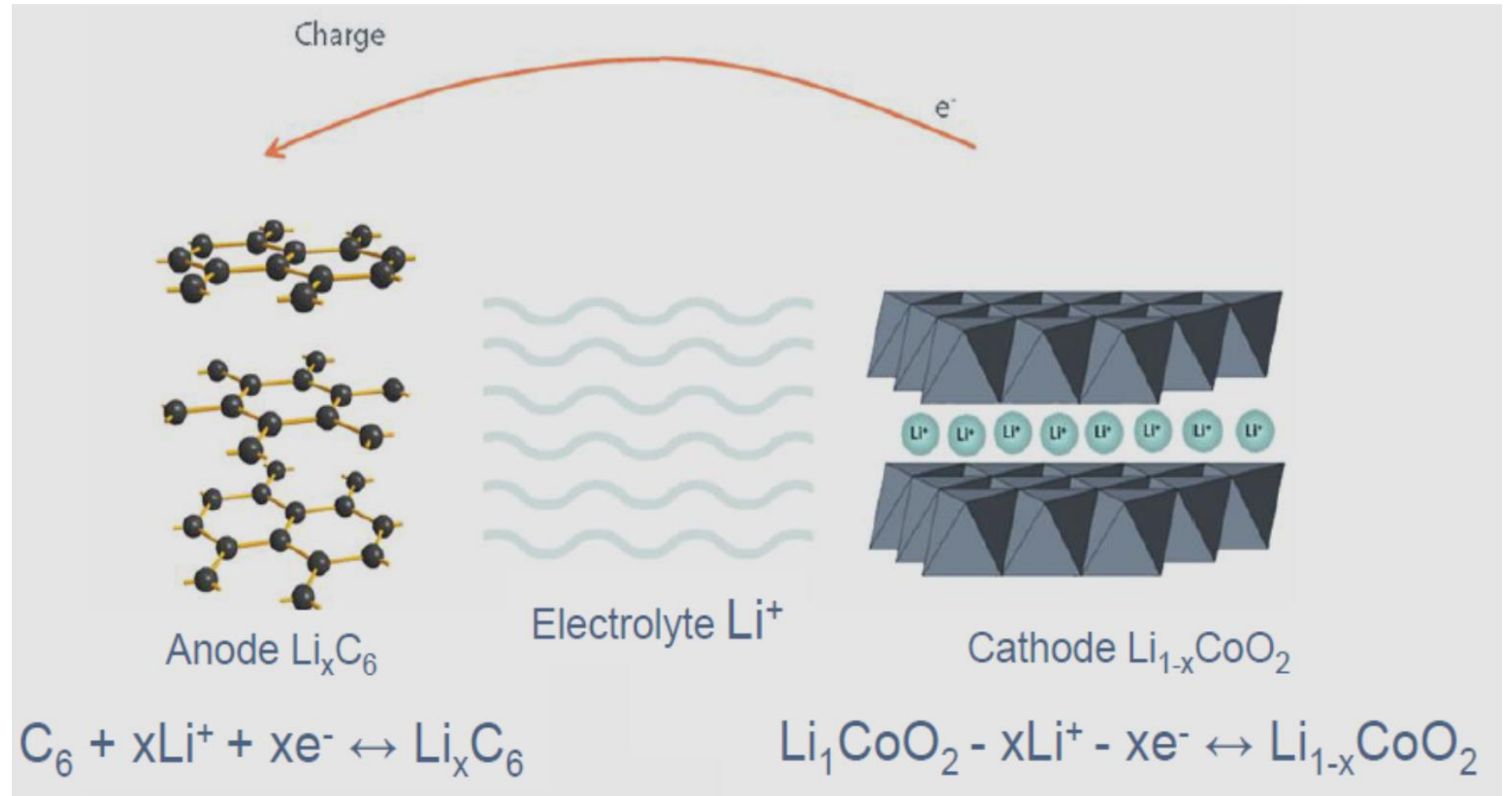


Fraunhofer IKTS Dresden (DE)

Co-free and Li-free Na-ion batteries have been recognized as one of the **candidates for next-generation rechargeable batteries**, because of their comparable energy density, significantly reduced costs and practically unlimited resources of sodium.

**Research goal: Battery with a novel cathode material based on the low cost, earth abundant elements with  $Na_2M_2(SO_4)_3$  chemical composition, green fabrication technology and with tailored microstructure.**

# Li-ion battery



Charging and discharging is related to a reversible „pumping” of lithium ions from one electrode to another (subsequent, reversible intercalation and deintercalation processes).

The intercalation of sodium is similar to intercalation of lithium.

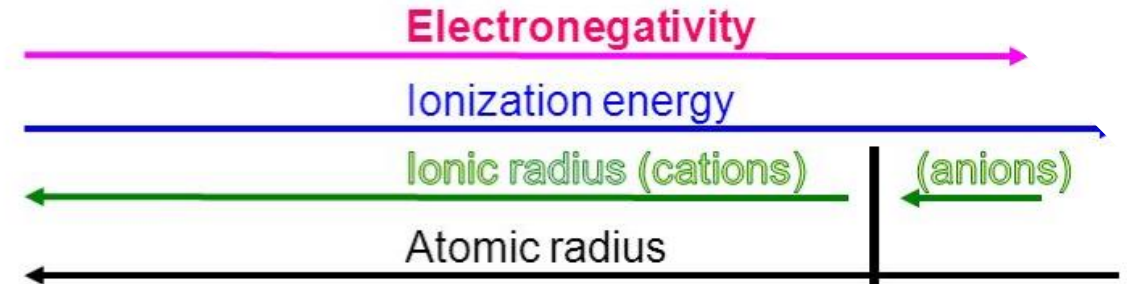
# Na-ion battery

- Ionic radius of Na<sup>+</sup> is higher than of Li<sup>+</sup> and results in a slightly lower volumetric and gravimetric energy density --> lower cell voltage and lower capacity



→ new approach called “electronic structure engineering” to control the electrochemical potential of Na<sup>+</sup>/Na<sub>2</sub>M<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (M = Fe, Mn, Ni) cathode and its changes during sodium insertion in the battery

→ It is assumed that the chemical substitutions at the 3d metal site can modify the electronic states of the cathode material near the Fermi level.



*Periodic Table of the Elements*

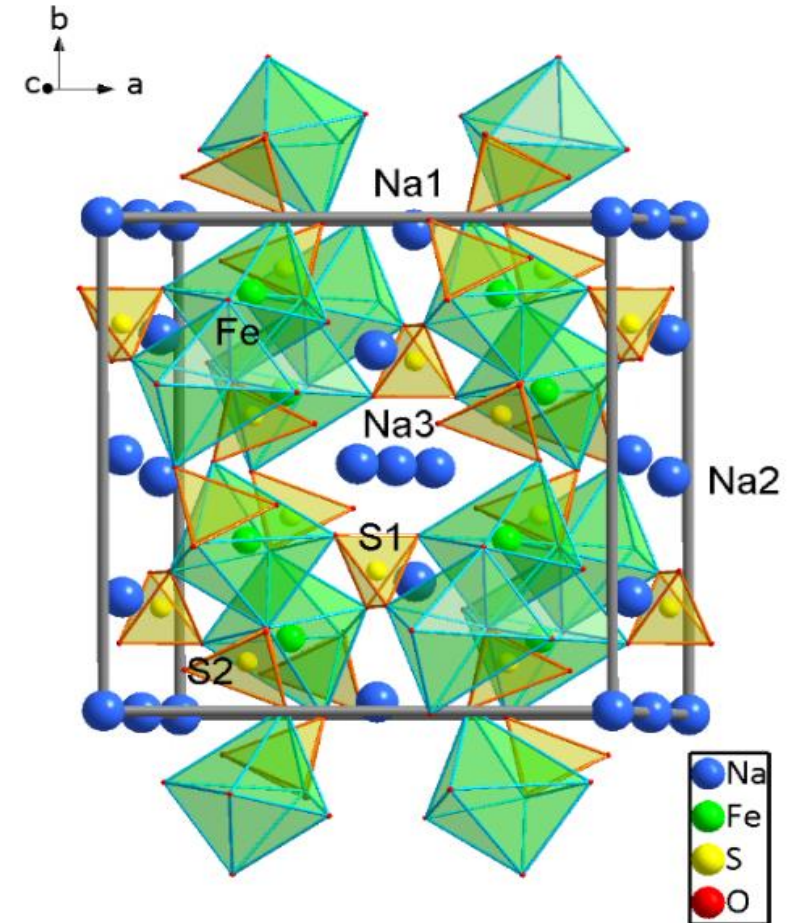
Group 1 IA		2 IIA												13 IIIA	14 IVA	15 VA	16 VIA	17 VIIA	18 VIIIA
1	H 1.008 Hydrogen																		2 He 4.0026 Helium
2	Li 6.941 Lithium	Be 9.012 Beryllium												B 10.81 Boron	C 12.011 Carbon	N 14.007 Nitrogen	O 15.999 Oxygen	F 18.998 Fluorine	Ne 20.179 Neon
3	Na 22.990	Mg 24.305 Magnesium												Al 26.982 Aluminum	Si 28.086 Silicon	P 30.974 Phosphorus	S 32.066 Sulfur	Cl 35.453 Chlorine	Ar 39.948 Argon
4	K 39.098 Potassium	Ca 40.08 Calcium		Sc 44.956 Scandium	Ti 47.88 Titanium	V 50.942 Vanadium	Cr 51.996 Chromium	Mn 54.938 Manganese	Fe 55.847 Iron	Co 58.933 Cobalt	Ni 58.69 Nickel	Cu 63.546 Copper	Zn 65.39 Zinc	Ga 69.72 Gallium	Ge 72.61 Germanium	As 74.922 Arsenic	Se 78.96 Selenium	Br 79.904 Bromine	Kr 83.80 Krypton
5	Rb 85.468 Rubidium	Sr 87.62 Strontium		Y 88.906 Yttrium	Zr 91.224 Zirconium	Nb 92.906 Niobium	Mo 95.94 Molybdenum	Tc (98) Technetium	Ru 101.07 Ruthenium	Rh 102.906 Rhodium	Pd 106.42 Palladium	Ag 107.868 Silver	Cd 112.41 Cadmium	In 114.82 Indium	Sn 118.71 Tin	Sb 121.763 Antimony	Te 127.60 Tellurium	I 126.904 Iodine	Xe 131.29 Xenon
6	Cs 132.905 Cesium	Ba 137.33 Barium		La 138.905 Lanthanum	Hf 178.49 Hafnium	Ta 180.948 Tantalum	W 183.84 Tungsten	Re 186.207 Rhenium	Os 190.23 Osmium	Ir 192.22 Iridium	Pt 195.08 Platinum	Au 196.967 Gold	Hg 200.59 Mercury	Tl 204.383 Thallium	Pb 207.2 Lead	Bi 208.980 Bismuth	Po (209) Polonium	At (210) Astatine	Rn (222) Radon
7	Fr (223) Francium	Ra 226.025 Radium		Ac 227.028 Actinium	Rf (261) Rutherfordium	Db (262) Dubnium	Sg (263) Seaborgium	Bh (264) Bohrium	Hs (265) Hassium	Mt (266) Meitnerium									
				Lanthanide Series															
				Actinide Series															

Mass numbers in parentheses are those of the most stable or most common isotope.

Revised October 15, 2001

# Cathodes for Na-ion battery

- The AGH Krakow team has developed and patented\* a facile, low cost, green chemistry, low temperature synthesis method yielding nanometric  $\text{Na}^+/\text{Na}_2\text{M}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$  cathode material.
- This synthesis method material could give negligible impurity level (3 wt.%).

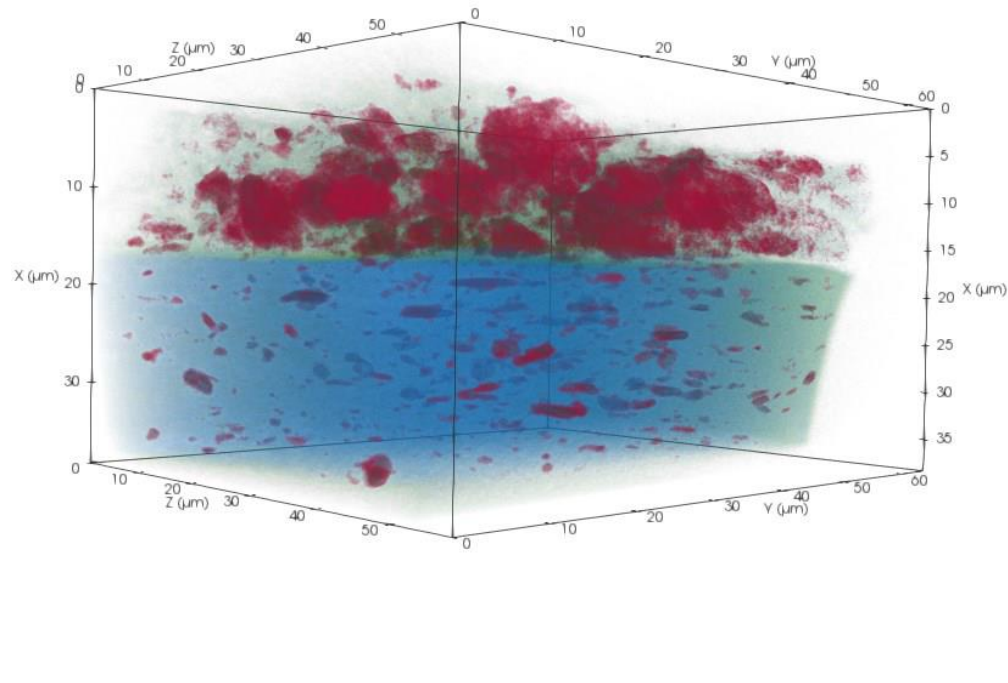


Crystal structure of  $\text{Na}_2\text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$   
alluaudite with sodium diffusion paths.

\* Polish Patent Office, patent application 2017 no. 423612



# X-ray studies at battery electrodes: Nano-XCT



**Nano XCT of cathode material (absorption contrast).**

**→ Determination of 3D morphology parameters such as tortuosity.**

# Tortuosity

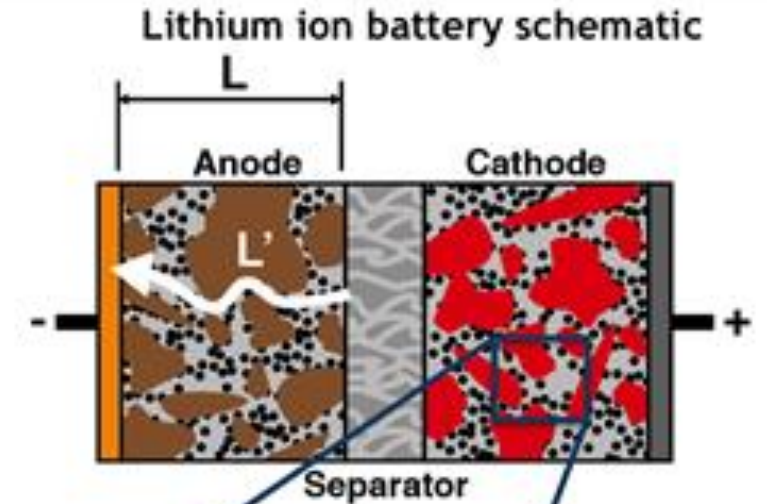
- In geometrical terms, tortuosity  $\tau$  is defined as the fraction of the shortest pathway through a porous structure  $L'$  and the Euclidean distance between the starting and end point of that pathway  $L$
- Tortuosity describes influence of the morphology of the electrode on the effective transport properties of lithium ions in the electrolyte.

Effective diffusion coefficient of lithium in electrolyte:

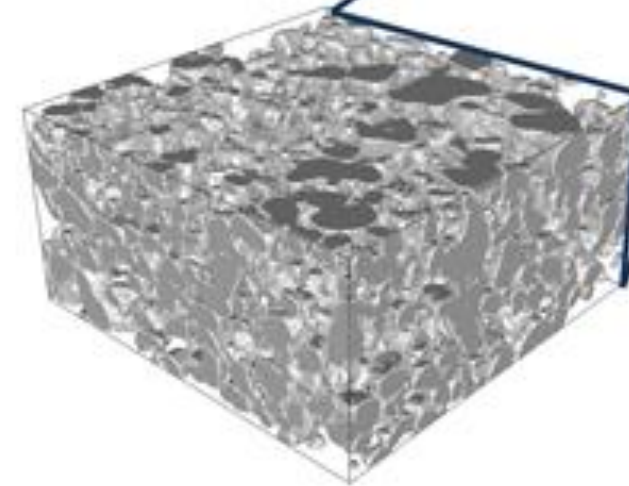
$$D_{eff} = \frac{\varepsilon}{\tau} D_0$$

← Porosity  $\varepsilon$  ← Diffusion coefficient of lithium in liquid electrolyte  $D_0$  ← Tortuosity  $\tau$

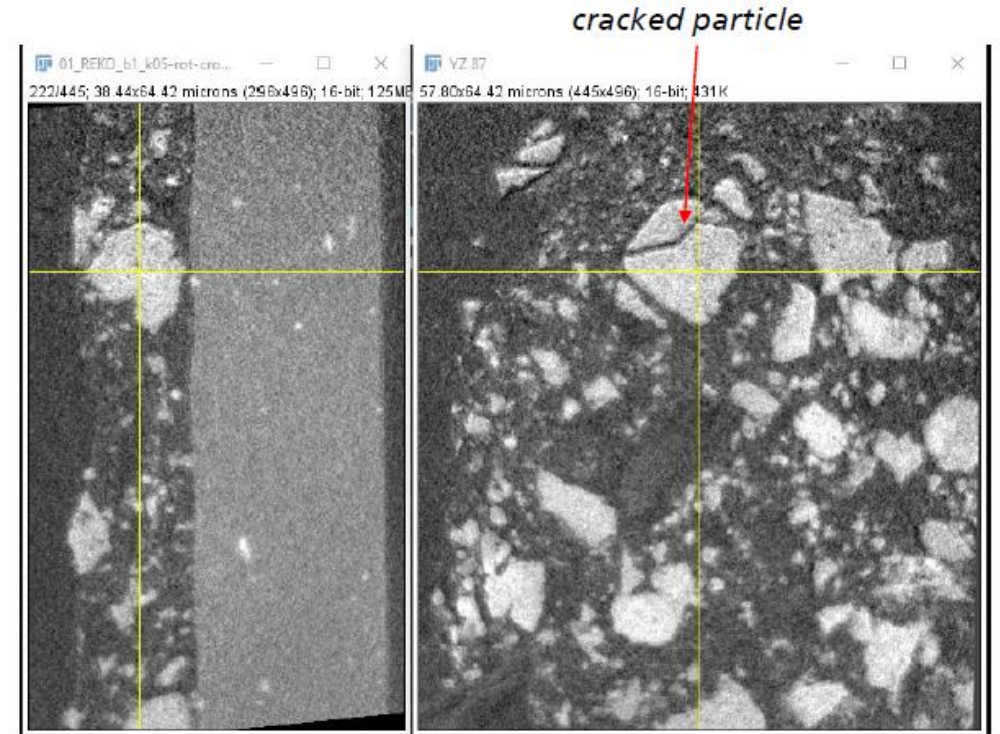
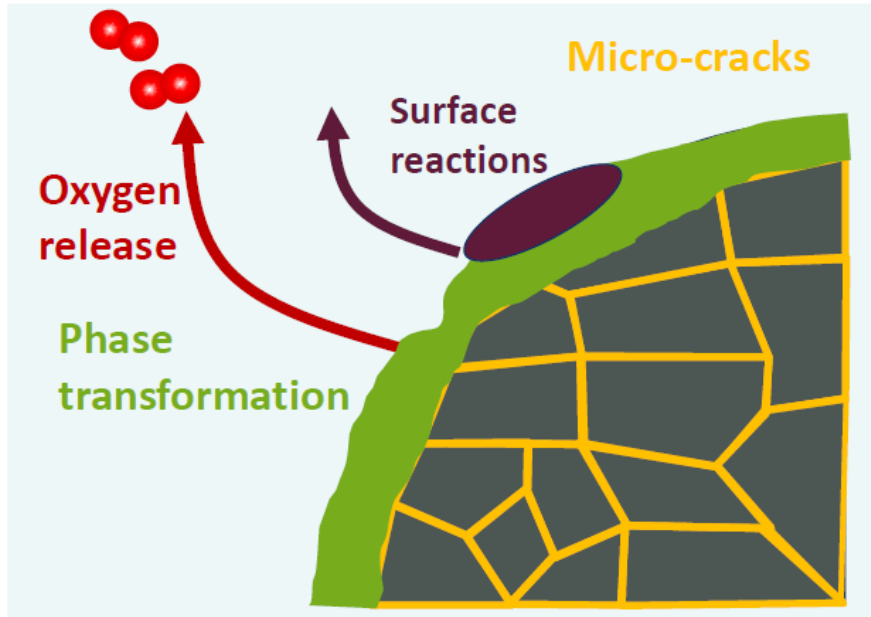
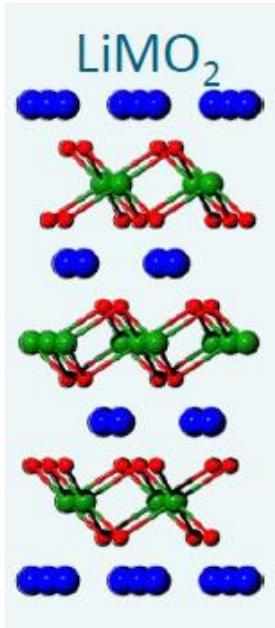
$$\tau = \left( \frac{L'}{L} \right)^2$$



X-ray tomographic reconstruction of a subvolume of a lithium ion battery cathode



# X-ray studies at battery electrodes: Micro-cracks in battery electrode materials

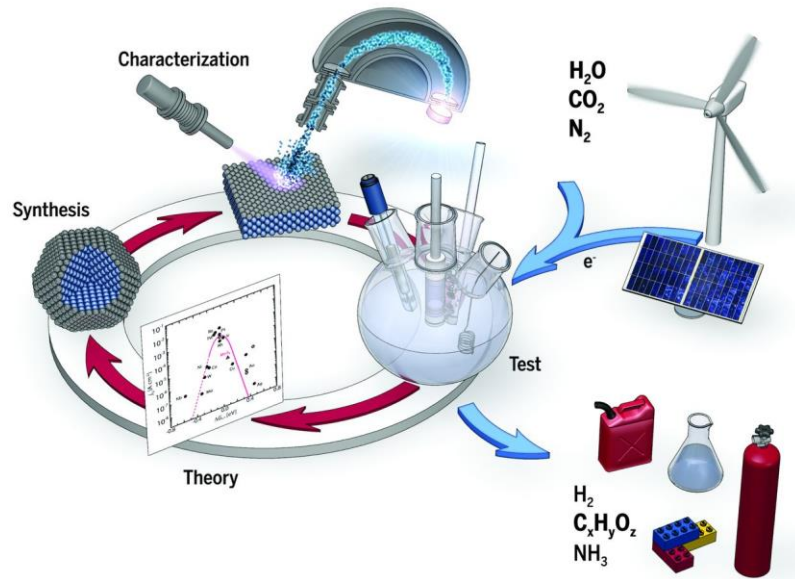


■ Tomography, virtual cross section

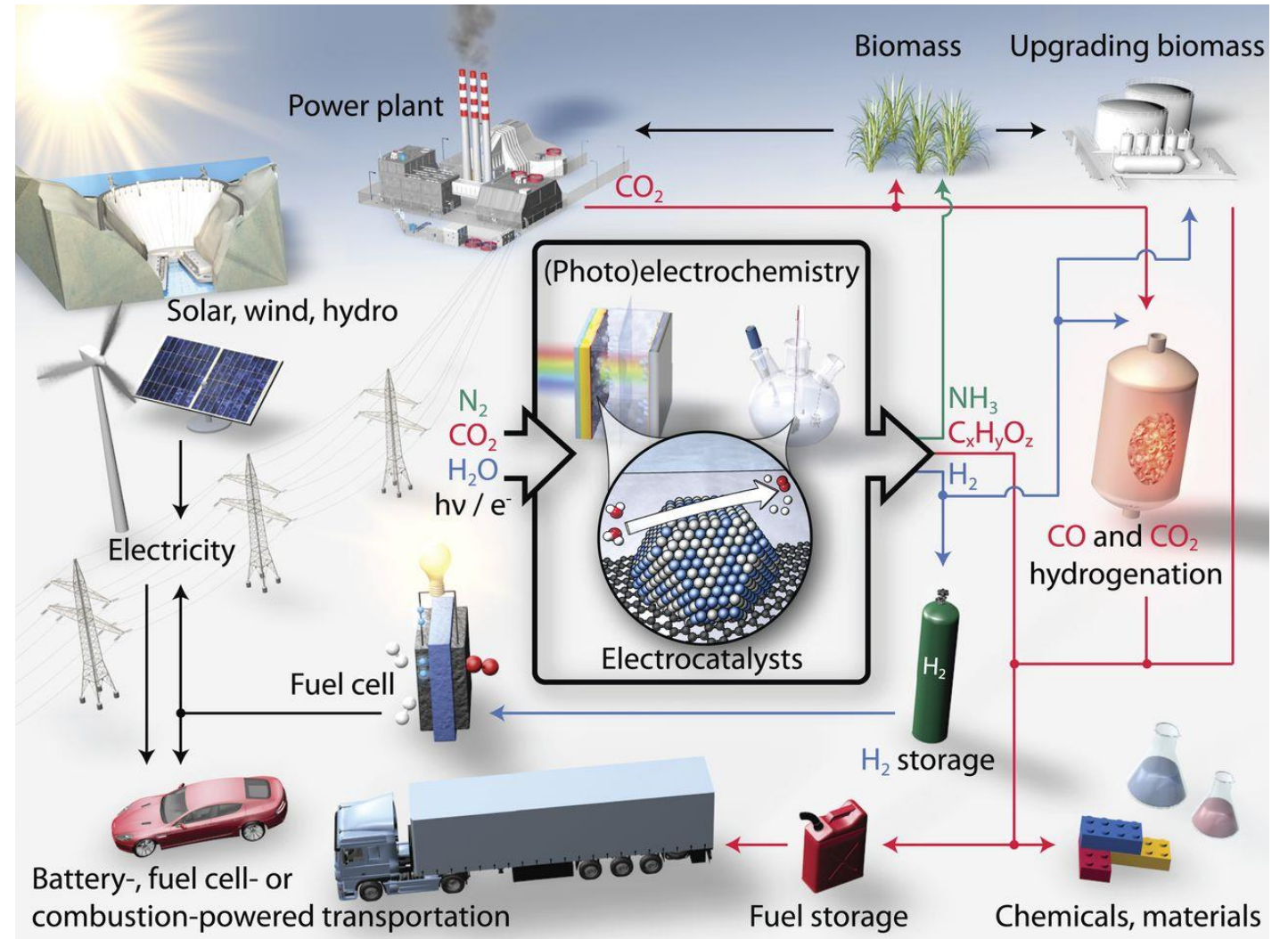
Nano XCT (absorption contrast):  
Cracks in  $Na_2M_2(SO_4)_3$  cathode material

## Example 2: Hydrogen technologies / Water splitting

# Sustainable energy future

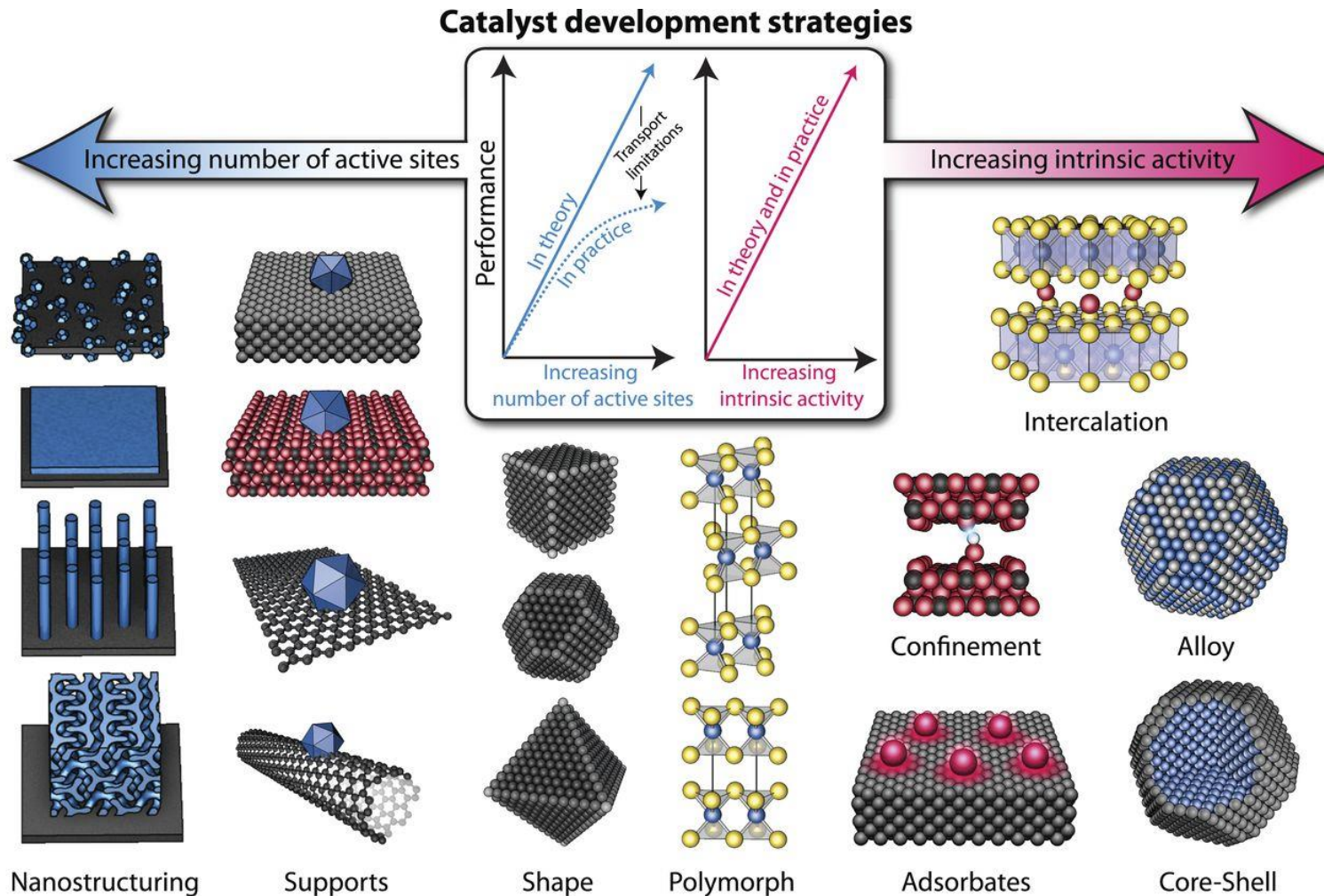


Schematic of **electrochemical conversion** of water, carbon dioxide, and nitrogen into value-added products, using energy from renewable sources.



Schematic of a sustainable energy landscape based on electrocatalysis

# Electrocatalyst development strategies



Schematic of various **catalyst development strategies**, which aim to increase the number of active sites and/or increase the intrinsic activity of each active site

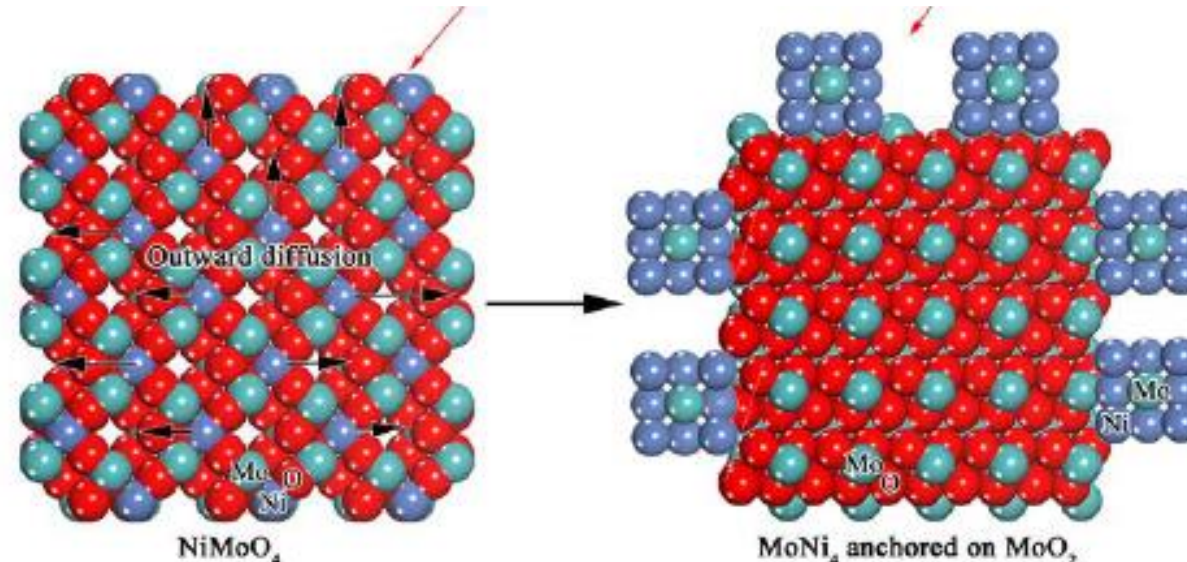
Z. W. Seh et al., Science 355, 6321 (2017)

# Design and synthesis of material systems for electrochemical energy conversion

Requirements for material systems with high electrocatalytic activity (performance) and electrochemical stability (reliability):

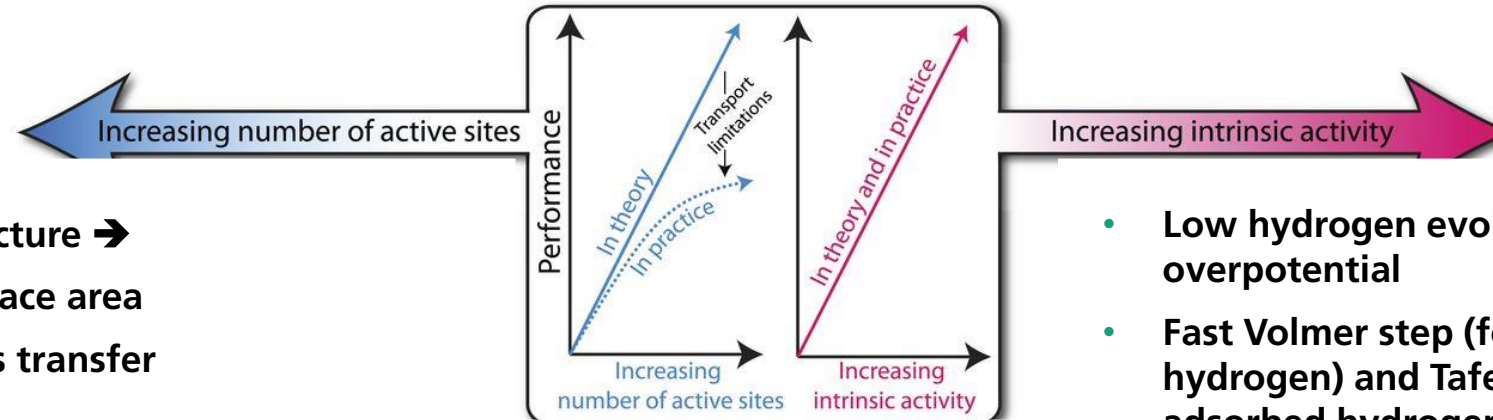
- 1) Materials with **optimized intrinsic properties of the electrocatalytic active components**
  - The intrinsic properties of a component determine its activity and conductivity.
- 2) Materials with **optimized morphology of hierarchically systems.**
  - Modification of the material's morphology selectively exposes specific crystal faces with higher activity.
  - The 3D porous structure with high surface area can provide abundant active sites because favorable structures contribute to preventing agglomeration and can promote mass transfer.

**Example:** MoNi<sub>4</sub> electrocatalysts, anchored on MoO<sub>2</sub> cuboids, aligned on Ni foam



# Intrinsic properties of MoNi<sub>4</sub> electrocatalyst and morphology of the system MoNi<sub>4</sub>/MoO<sub>2</sub>@Ni for water splitting

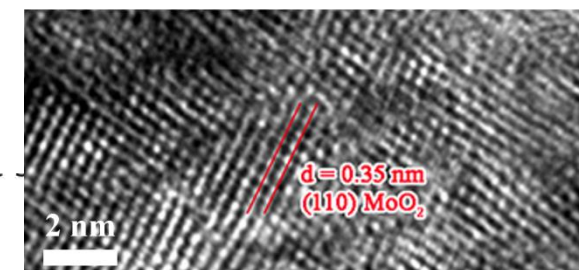
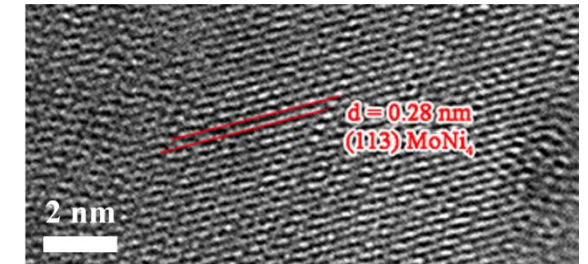
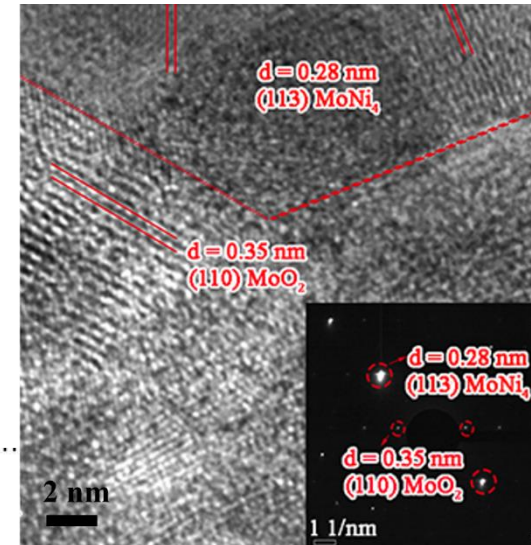
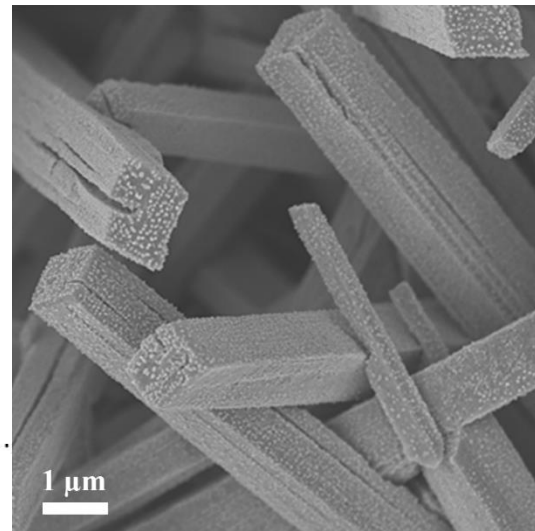
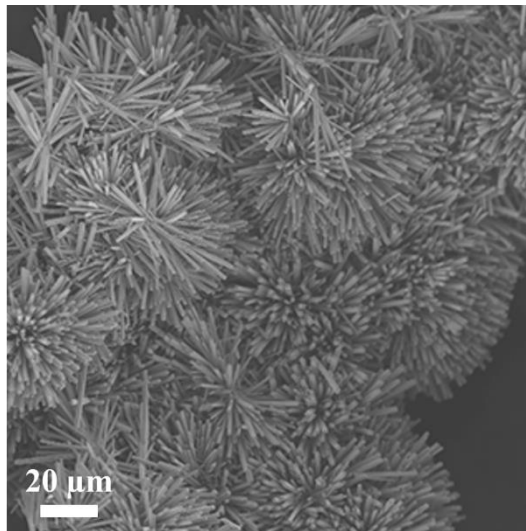
## Catalyst development strategies



- 3D porous structure →
  - large surface area
  - high mass transfer

- Low hydrogen evolution reaction (HER) overpotential
- Fast Volmer step (formation of adsorbed hydrogen) and Tafel step (combination of adsorbed hydrogen into molecular hydrogen)

## Morphology and structure analysis of MoNi<sub>4</sub>/MoO<sub>2</sub>@Ni.





# Morphology of the electrocatalytic system $\text{MoNi}_4/\text{MoO}_2@\text{Ni}$ : Multi-scale XCT

- Multi-scale 3D information is provided
- Possible image-based quantitative analysis
- Quantitative correlation between 3D hierarchical structure and performance
- Hierarchical structure design with 3D model

## Resulting data:

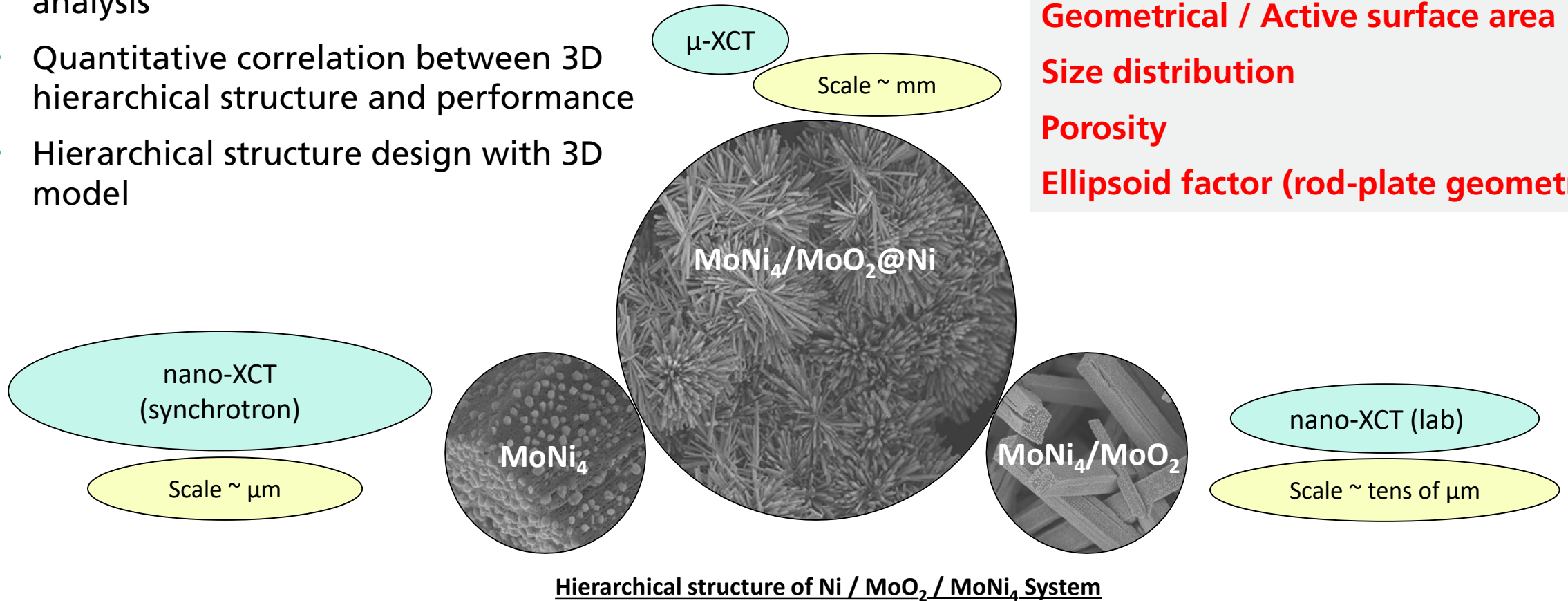
**Tortuosity**

**Geometrical / Active surface area**

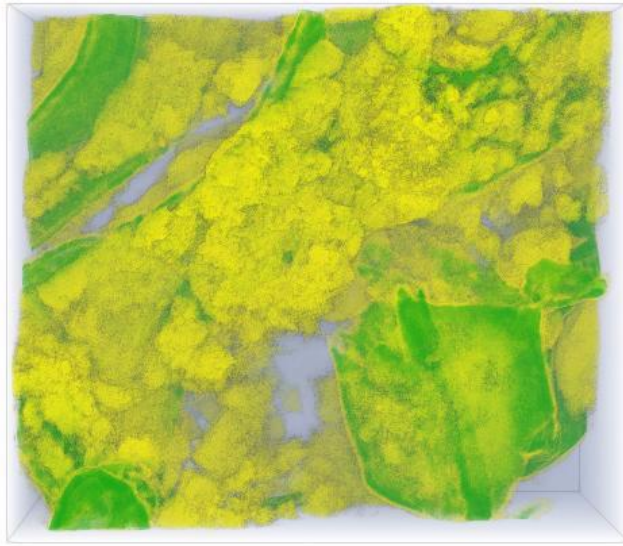
**Size distribution**

**Porosity**

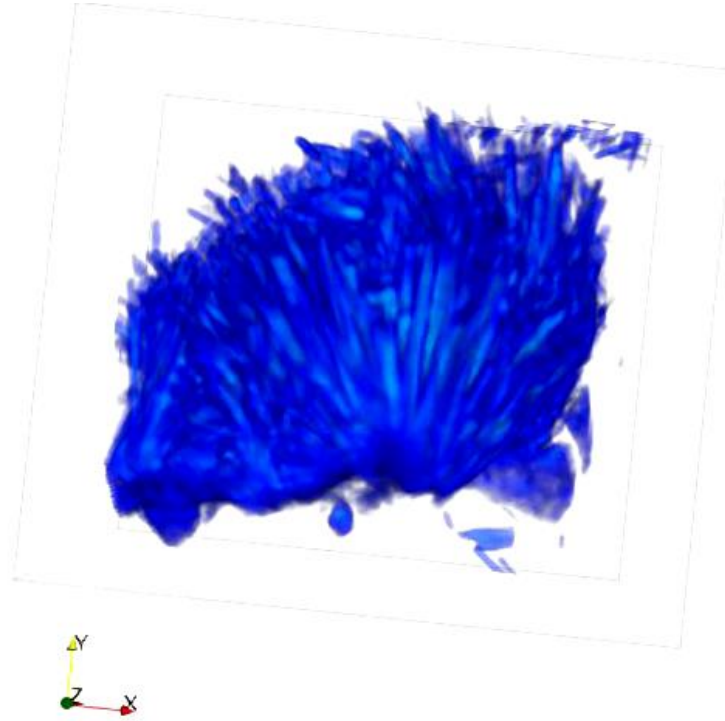
**Ellipsoid factor (rod-plate geometry)**



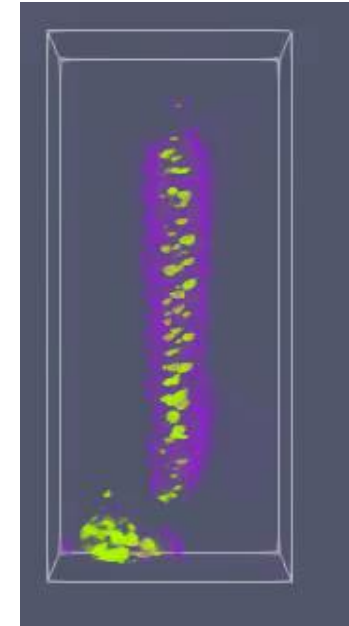
# Multi-scale XCT of the electrocatalytic system $\text{MoNi}_4/\text{MoO}_2/\text{Ni}$



Micro-XCT

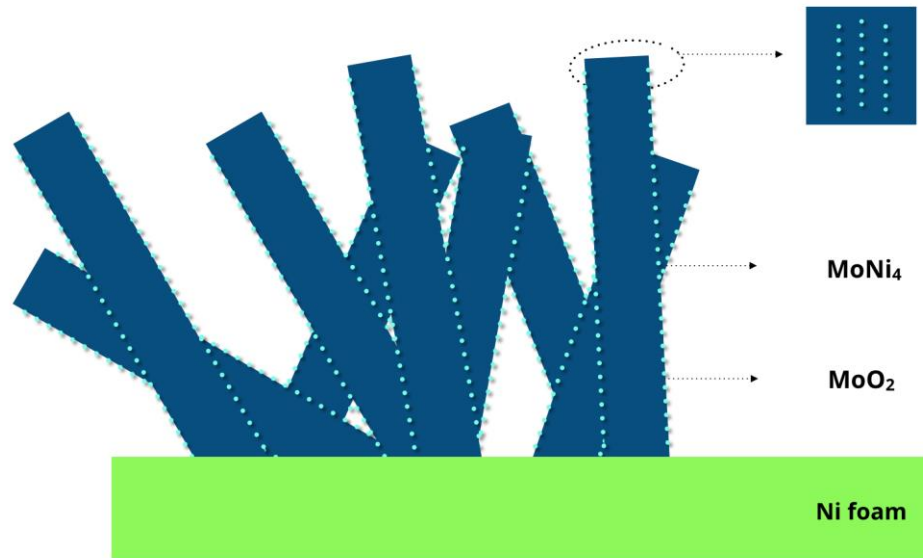


Nano-XCT (lab)



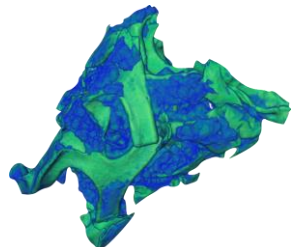
Nano-XCT (SR)

# Multi-scale XCT of hierarchically structured materials: MoNi<sub>4</sub> electrocatalysts anchored on MoO<sub>2</sub> cuboids aligned on Ni foam



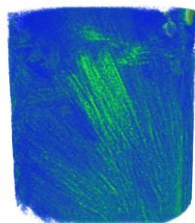
- The design of high-performance and durable 3D electrocatalysts requires electrochemically active surfaces and an optimized hierarchical morphology.
- **Multi-scale X-ray tomography:** A systematic approach to determine the 3D morphology of hierarchically structured materials with high accuracy.

A novel transition–metal-based materials system: MoNi<sub>4</sub> electrocatalysts anchored on MoO<sub>2</sub> cuboids aligned on Ni foam



MoO<sub>2</sub>@Ni

Micro-XCT



MoO<sub>2</sub>@Ni

Nano-XCT

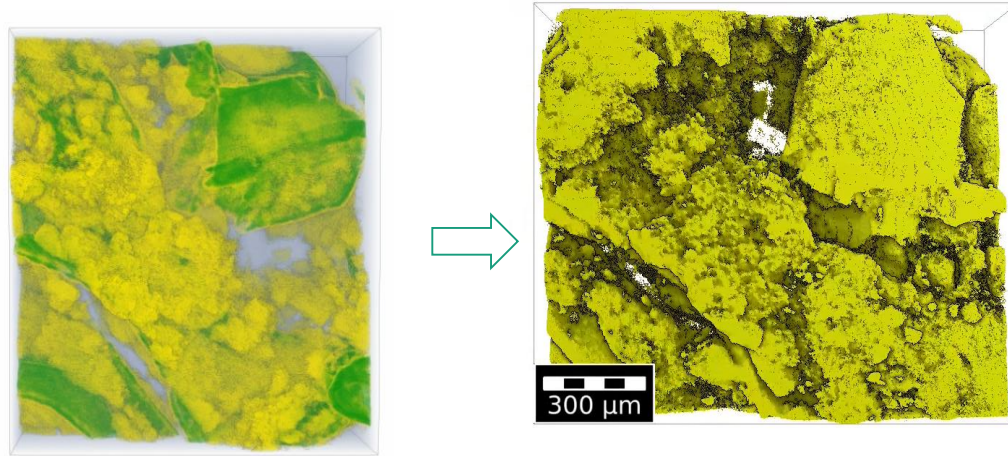


MoNi<sub>4</sub>@MoO<sub>2</sub>

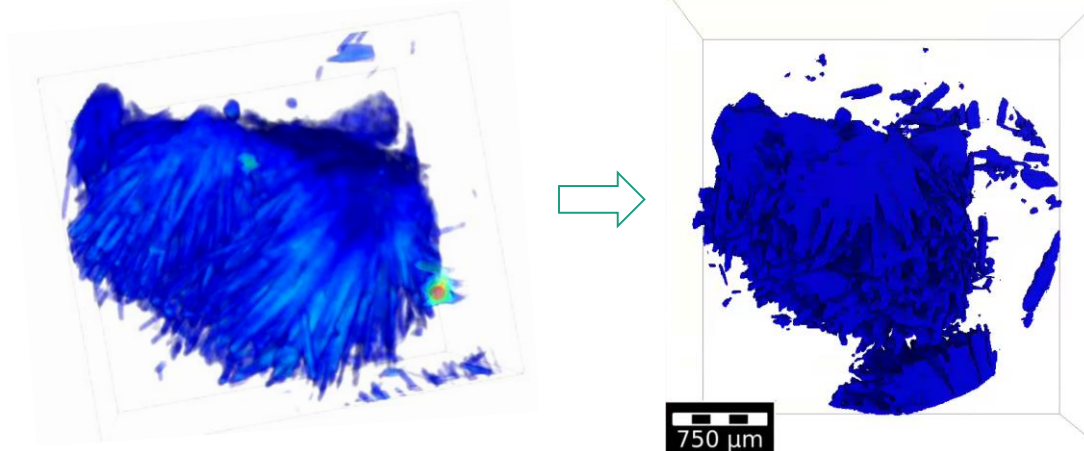
Nano-XCT

Method	FOV	Spatial resolution	Energy	Sample thickness
Micro-XCT	0.5–50 mm	0.7 μm	30–160 kV	0.5–70 mm
Laboratory nano-XCT	10–100 μm	30–100 nm	5–20 keV	50 μm–10 mm
Synchrotron radiation nano-XCT	5–100 μm	10–100 nm	0.1–20 keV	1 μm–10 mm

# Determination of morphology parameters, model building for the electrocatalytic system $\text{MoNi}_4/\text{MoO}_2@\text{Ni}$



GeoDict software



- Model building by importing the 3D CT data into GeoDict
- Design of a 3D model with performant and durable hierarchical microstructure



## **Results:**

**Tortuosity**

**Geometrical / Active surface area**

**Size distribution**

**Porosity**

**Ellipsoid factor (rod-plate geometry)**

# Take-away message

- **Materials** are a key technology for energy storage and conversion.
- **Nanomaterials** are characterized by a high surface-to-volume ratio and short diffusion pathways. They provide a solution for simultaneously achieving high energy density and high power density.
- **Nano X-ray computed tomography** is a novel technique to provide 3D information of the morphology of hierarchically structures materials systems, including kinetic electrochemical processes.
- R&D is needed for **new materials for battery electrodes** (materials substitution!) with no or low amount of critical raw materials (e.g. Co, Li).
- Advanced design and synthesis of **materials for future energy storage and conversion systems** is needed
  - with optimized intrinsic properties of the electrocatalytic active components *and*
  - with optimized morphology of hierarchically systems.

# Thank you !

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