



The German energiewende:  
Smart solutions & market potential in Saxony-Anhalt

# Materials for renewable energies

Hartmut S. Leipner



ForMaT  
UNTERNEHMEN REGION  
Die BMBF-Innovationsinitiative  
Neue Länder



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Martin Luther University  
of Halle-Wittenberg

weinberg  
campus  
GERMANY HALLE (SAALE)



Interdisciplinary Center  
of Materials Science

# Weinberg Campus



# Martin-Luther-Universität Halle–Wittenberg





## **Scientists – Founders – Entrepreneurs**

Infrastructure for research institutes, the university and SME  
Synergy for new technologies

# Interdisciplinary Center of Materials Science (CMAT)



TGZ  
Bio–Nano Center

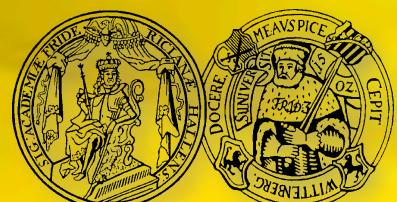
## **TGZ Bio–Nano Center**

Research facility for physicists, chemists, materials scientists, biologists, pharmacists  
Max Planck, Fraunhofer, SME

## **CMAT = nanotechnology pilot plant of the University**

- ◆ Nanostructuring: lithography, thin film deposition, device prototyping
- ◆ Nanoanalysis: electron microscopy, optical characterization, positron annihilation
- ◆ 1800 m<sup>2</sup> labs, 620 m<sup>2</sup> cleanroom

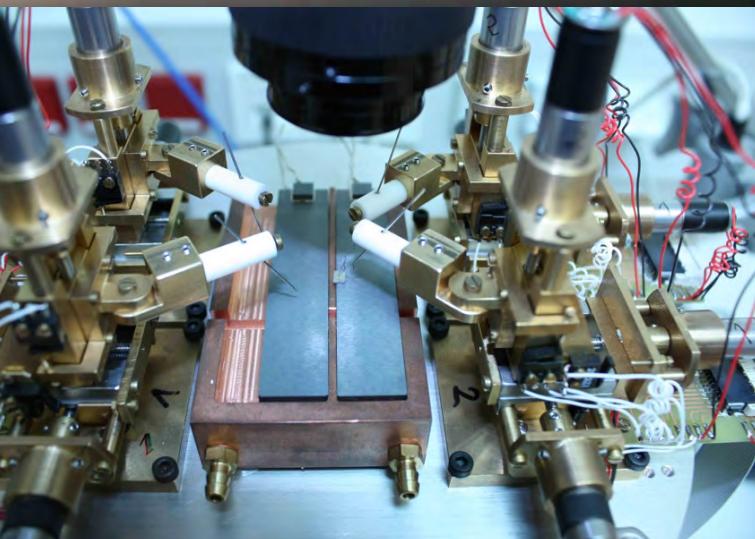
# Cleanroom of Nanotechnikum Weinberg



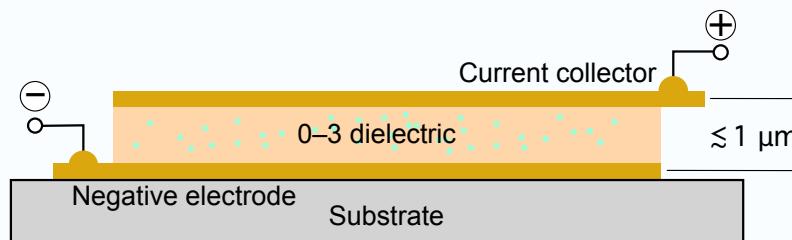
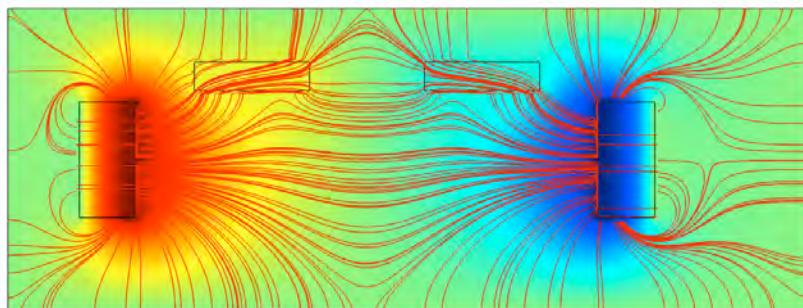
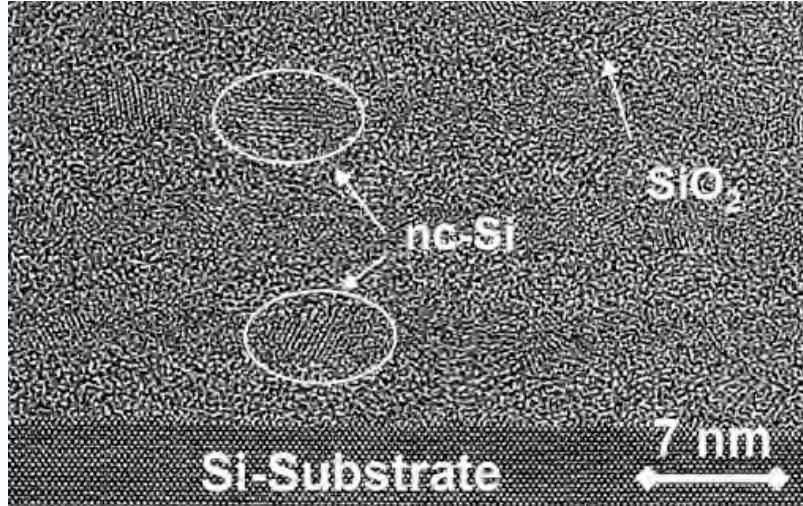
- ◆ MLU + Max Planck institute + Fraunhofer institutes
- ◆ 620 m<sup>2</sup> cleanroom class 10000/100/10

# Analytical labs of Nanotechnikum Weinberg

- ◆ Various electron microscopes
- ◆ Raman microscopy, ellipsometry
- ◆ Positron annihilation
- ◆ Scanning probe microscopy
- ◆ Electrical/thermal transport measurements



# Renewable energy materials



GEFÖRDERT VOM



- ◆ Silicon-based nanostructured thin film materials as functional elements for next-generation solar cells



- ◆ Si and Si–Ge thin films for thermoelectric applications



- ◆ New supercapacitors as energy storage devices

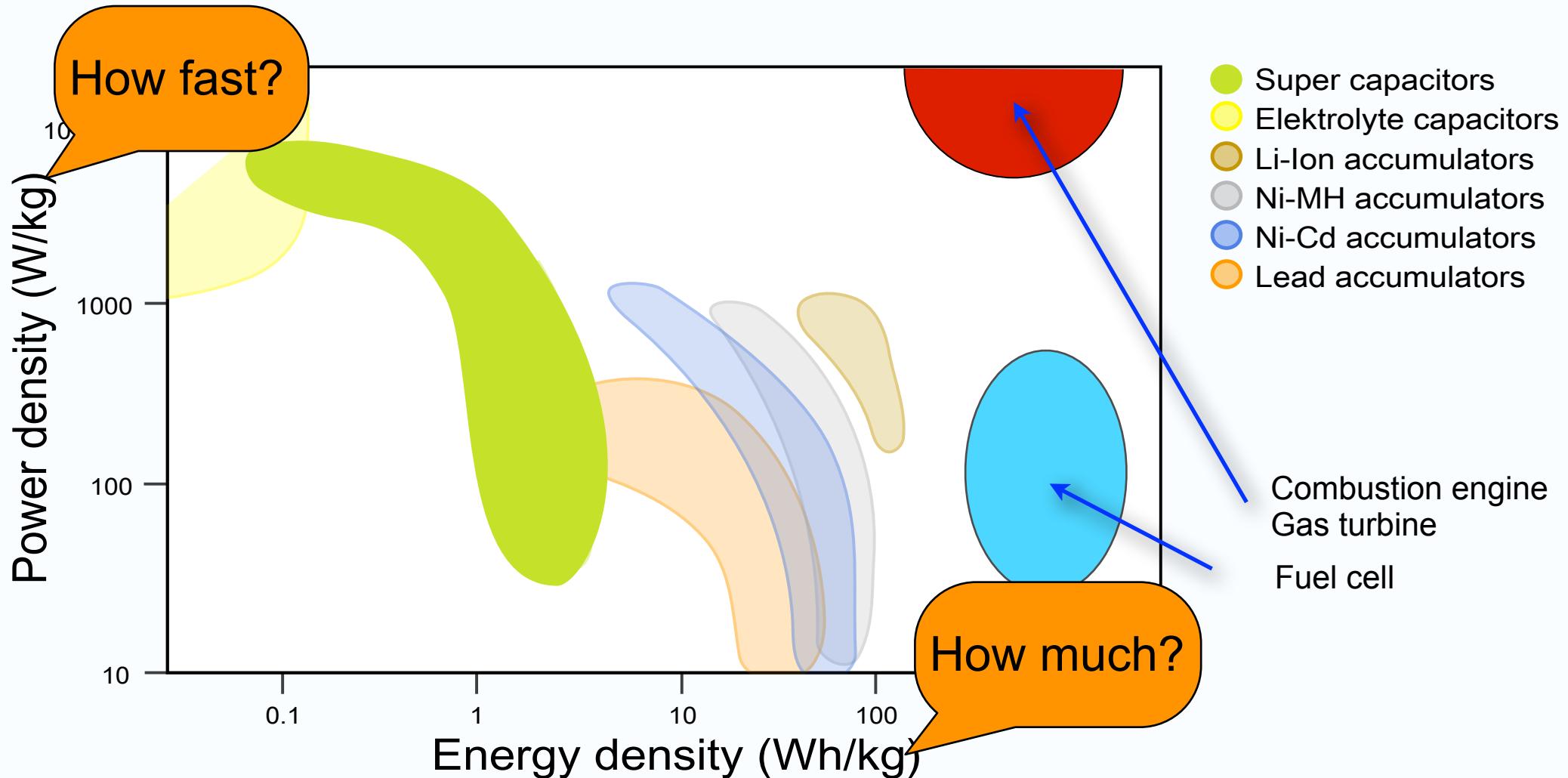
# Energy concept of Saxony-Anhalt



*“Energiestudie mit Prognosen der Energiekennzahlen für die Jahre 2020 und 2030 zur Vorbereitung der Fortschreibung des Energiekonzeptes der Landesregierung von Sachsen-Anhalt”*

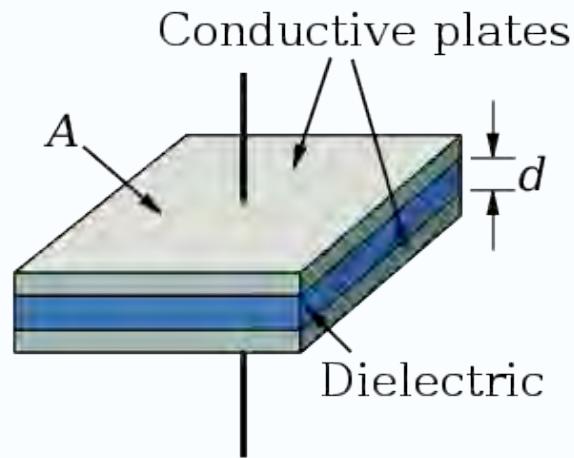
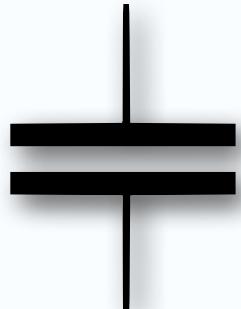
→ Demand for energy storage

# Ragone diagram



# Capacitors

Capacitance  $C$  = Amount of charge stored per unit voltage



$$C = \epsilon_r \epsilon_0 \frac{A}{d}$$

$\epsilon_0$  vacuum permittivity  $\approx 9 \cdot 10^{-12} \text{ F/m}$

$\epsilon_r$  relative static permittivity of the dielectric  
(sometimes called dielectric constant)

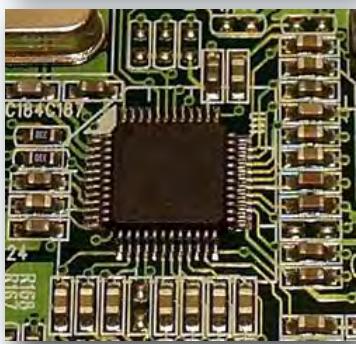
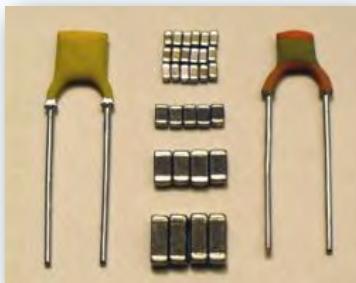
Energy stored:  $E = \frac{1}{2} C U^2 = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_r \epsilon_0 \frac{A}{d} U^2$

# Commercially available standard capacitors

## Ceramic capacitors

based e. g. on barium titanate

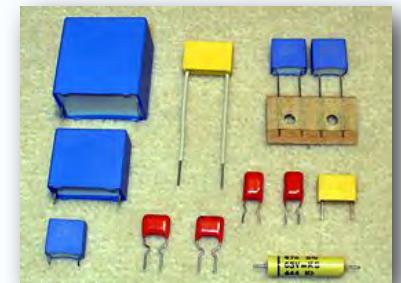
- + high permittivity
- + thermal stability
- + allow high frequencies
- brittle



## Thin-film polymer capacitors

e. g. PET, PP

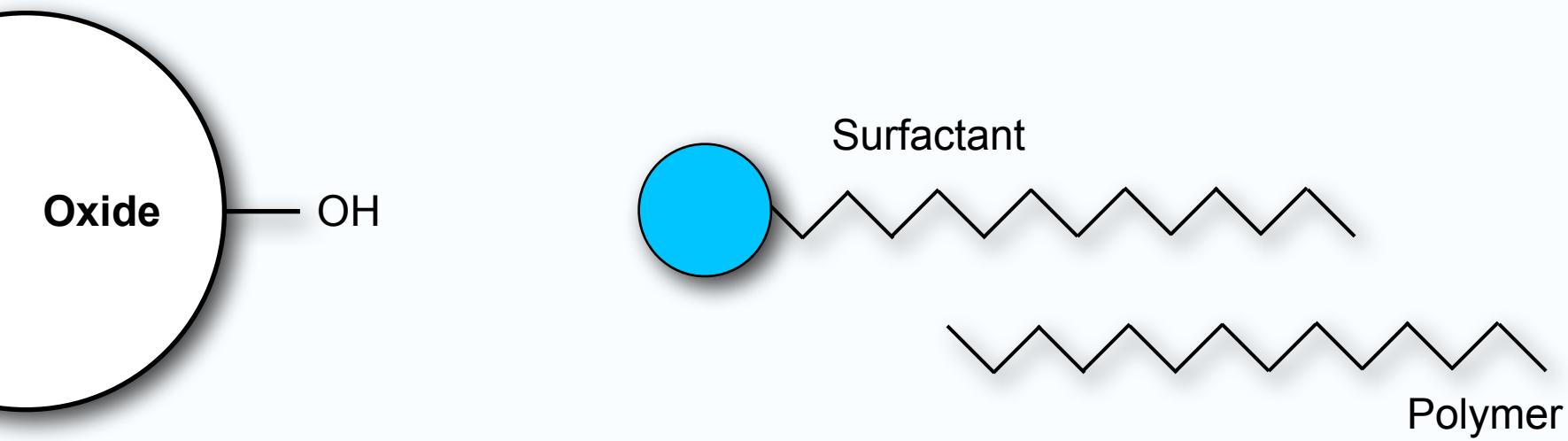
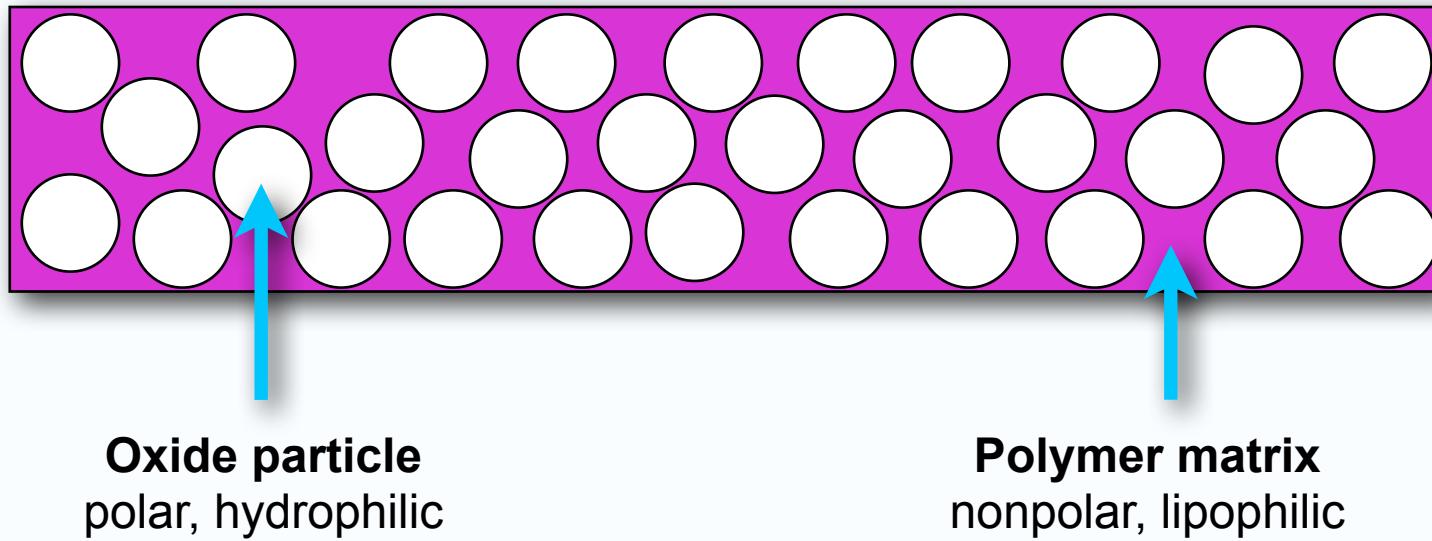
- + high voltage
- + low conductivity
- + simple shapes
- low permittivity



## Composite capacitors



# Composite dielectrics



# Composite capacitors

Nanoparticles of ceramic dielectrics like BaTiO<sub>3</sub>

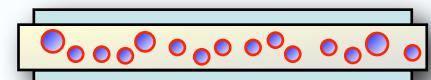
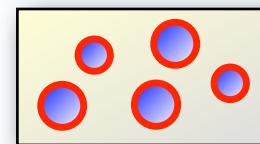
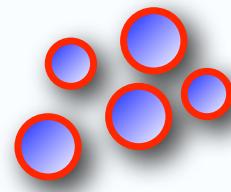
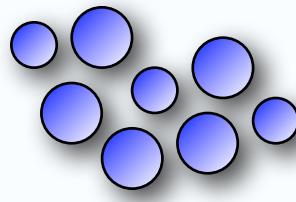


Specific surface coating

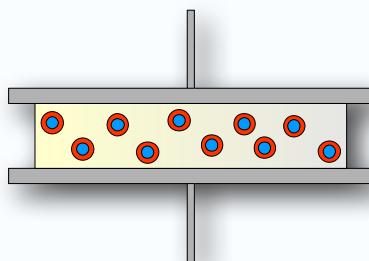


Embedding in polymer or glassy matrix

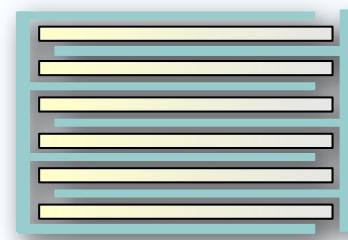
Processing to thin films and electric contacting



Single capacitor



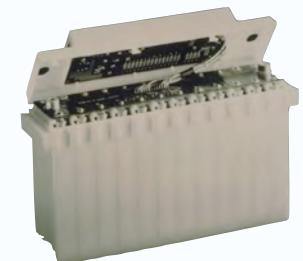
Multilayer capacitor



Assembly



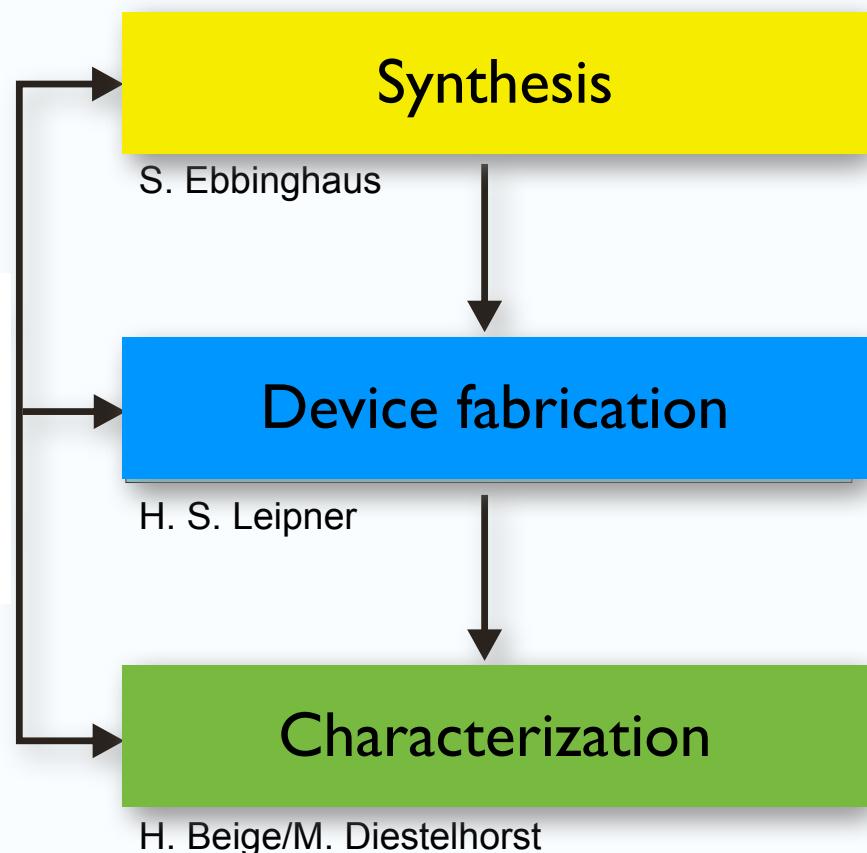
Module



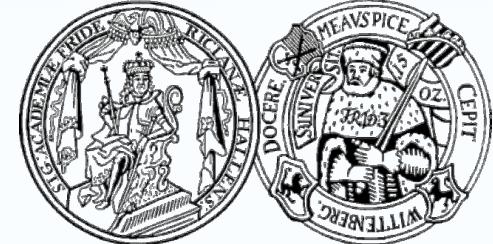
# Advantages of composite supercapacitors

- ◆ Robust, negligible aging, high lifetime
- ◆ High charging voltages
- ◆ Thermal stability (operation temperatures > 60 °C possible)
- ◆ No cooling
- ◆ High charging or discharging rates
- ◆ High efficiency
- ◆ Modular structure
- ◆ Environmentally friendly
- ◆ Reasonable energy and power density

# Super-Kon team



## Super-Kon collaboration



### Institut für Chemie

- ◆ Synthesis of oxides and coating
- ◆ Thin film preparation
- ◆ Sintering spin coating, spray coating

### Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für Materialwissenschaften

- ◆ Elektrodes
- ◆ Device fabrication
- ◆ Structure characterization

### Institut für Physik

- ◆ Electric/dielectric characterization
- ◆ Theory/simulation

# Device performance

## Polymer composites

- ◆ BaTiO<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles
- ◆ Matrix: P(VDF-HFP)
- ◆ max. permittivity (1 kHz): 50
- ◆ max. field strength: 100 V/µm
- ◆ Energy density  $\sim 10 \text{ J cm}^{-3}$

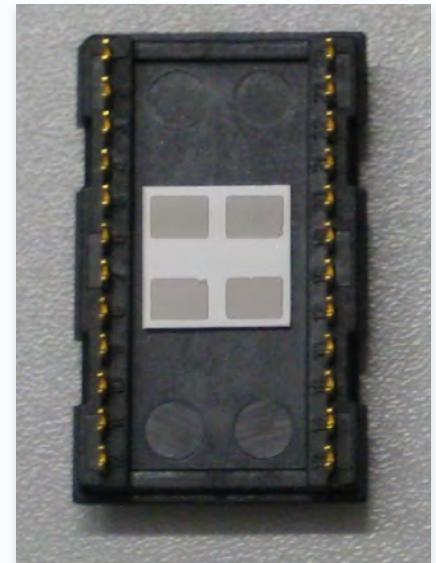
## Glassy composites

- ◆ Ba(Ti,Ge)O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles
- ◆ Matrix: BBS glass
- ◆ max. permittivity (1 kHz): 4000
- ◆ max. field strength: 6 V/µm
- ◆ Energy density  $\approx 1 \text{ J cm}^{-3}$

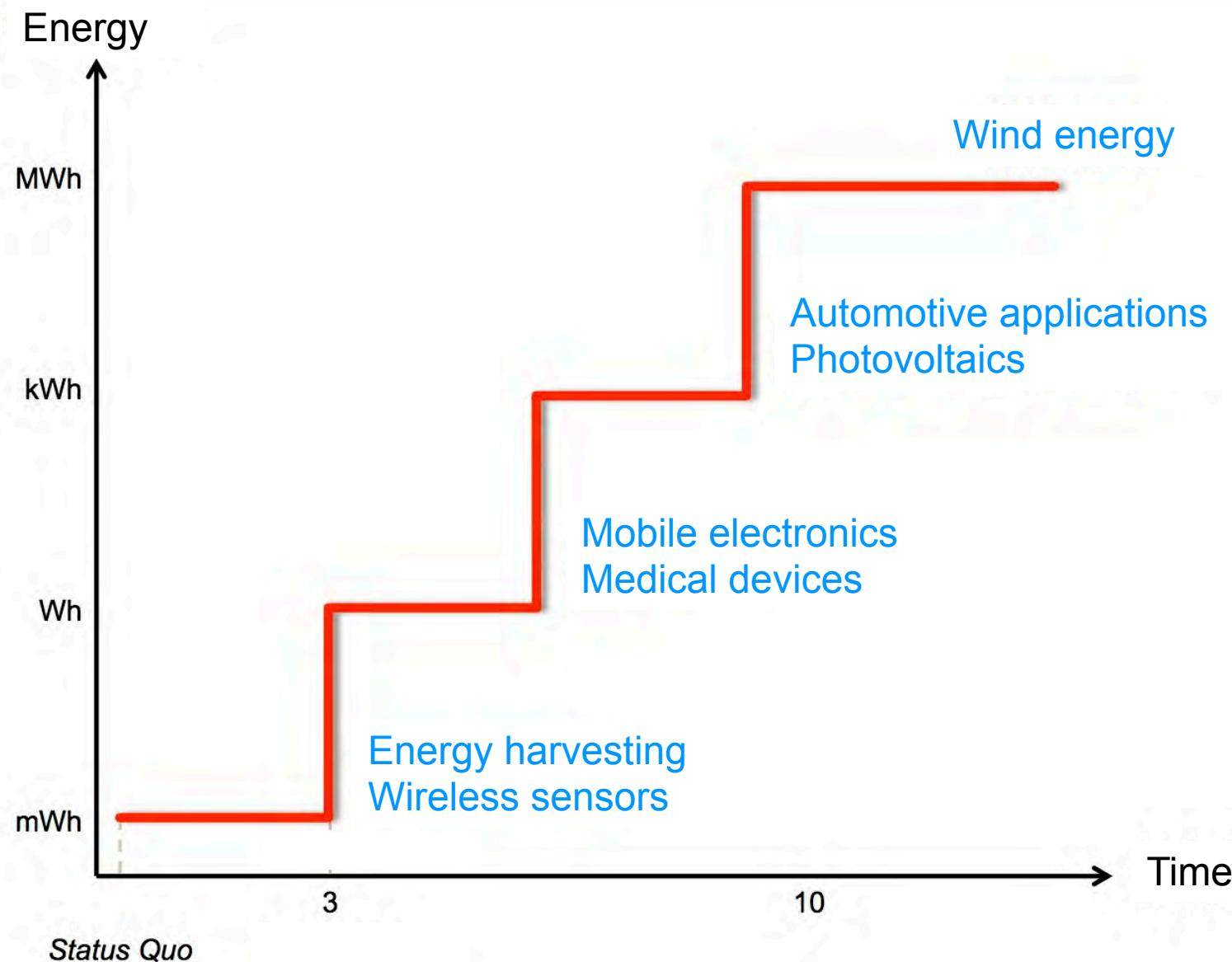
- ◆ Electrodes investigated: Aluminium, Silber, Gold

# Next targets of the Super-Kon project

- ◆ *Proof-of concept* →  
Development of a demonstrator module
- ◆ Analysis of the electrical break down; defect studies
- ◆ Testing in industrial environment
  - Influence of temperature, humidity, vibrations
  - Storage time, long-term stability
  - Compliance with industry standards
- ◆ Application for energy harvesting



# Technology roadmap





“Did anyone call for high-power, infinitely rechargeable electrical energy storage?”

### **Super-Kon-Team:**

H. Beige, A. Buchsteiner, M. Diestelhorst,  
S. Ebbinghaus, C. Ehrhardt, J. Glenneberg,  
T. Großmann, S. Lemm, W. Münchgesang,  
C. Pientschke, K. Suckau, G. Wagner, M. Zenkner

**SUPER**  
**KON**



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