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### **Others:**





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# A superhydrophobic coating that will stop any corrosion

Damir Hamulić, Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School, Ljubljana

Poster number: 23

# Problem



dirty shoes



fouling hulls



stains



dirty cars



fogged mirrors

# Superhydrophobic coatings

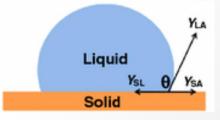
Protection of steel structures in maritime (ships, ports cranes...)



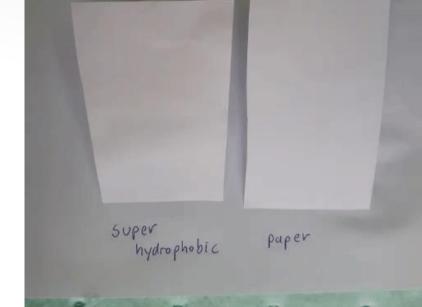


Copper Statue: Tartini Square, Piran

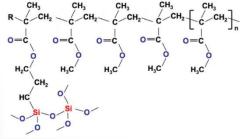
- Corrosion:  $M \rightarrow M^+ + e^-$
- Theory of superhydrophobicity:



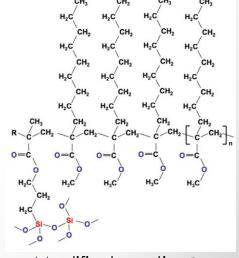
Synthesis of superhydrophobic coatings



- Upgrading existing coatings with good anticorrosion properties
- Change the basic monomer with longer alkyl chains and fluorinated molecules



Already known coatings



Modified coatings

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# DFT study of adsorption of azoles on Cu<sub>2</sub>O(111)

Dunja Gustinčič,

Jožef Stefan Institute

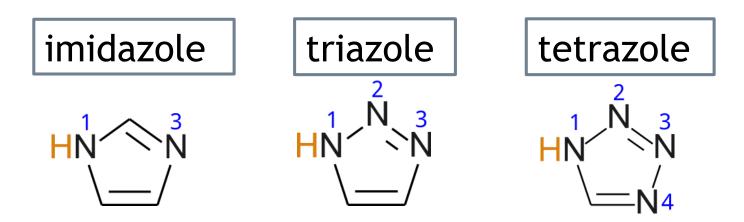
Poster number: 41

# Introduction

Corrosion inhibitors: substances used in a very small amount that significantly reduce the rate of corrosion processes.

# Azole molecules

five-membered nitrogen heterocyclic ring molecules



# Aim of work

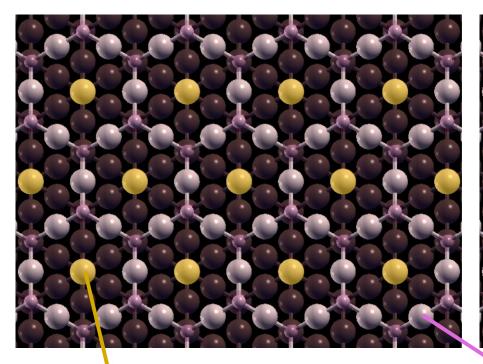
Molecular adsorption is a prerequisite for achieving inhibition.

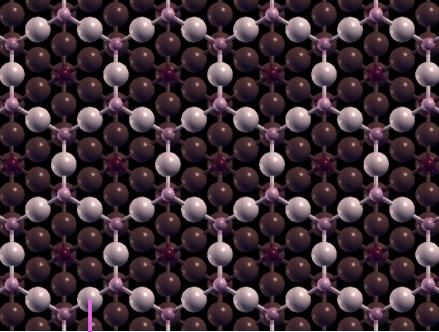
Aim: to characterize the interaction of imidazole, triazole, and tetrazole with  $Cu_2O$  model of oxidized copper surfaces.

# Surface structures

### stoichiometric Cu<sub>2</sub>O(111)

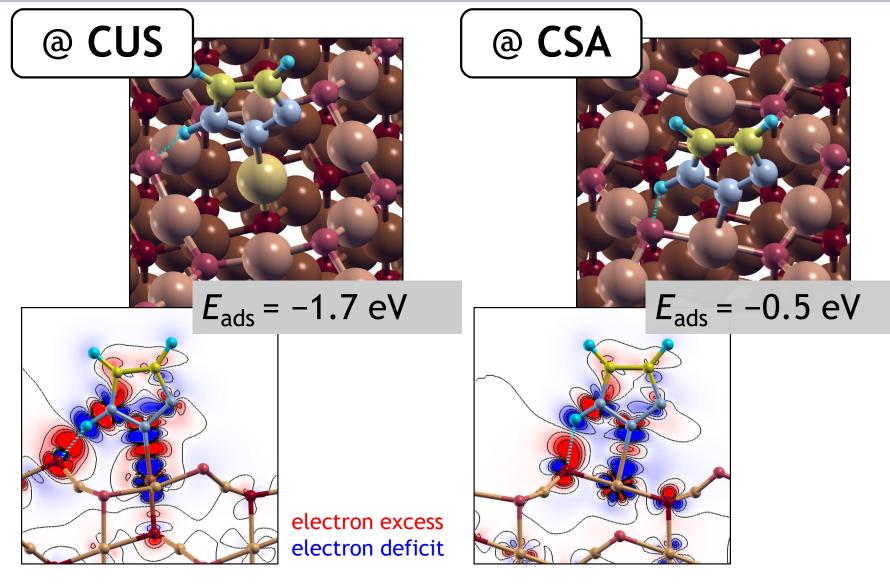
# nonstoichiometric Cu<sub>2</sub>O(111)-w/o-CUS





 $CUS \equiv coordinatively$ unsaturated Cu site CSA ≡ coordinatively saturated Cu site

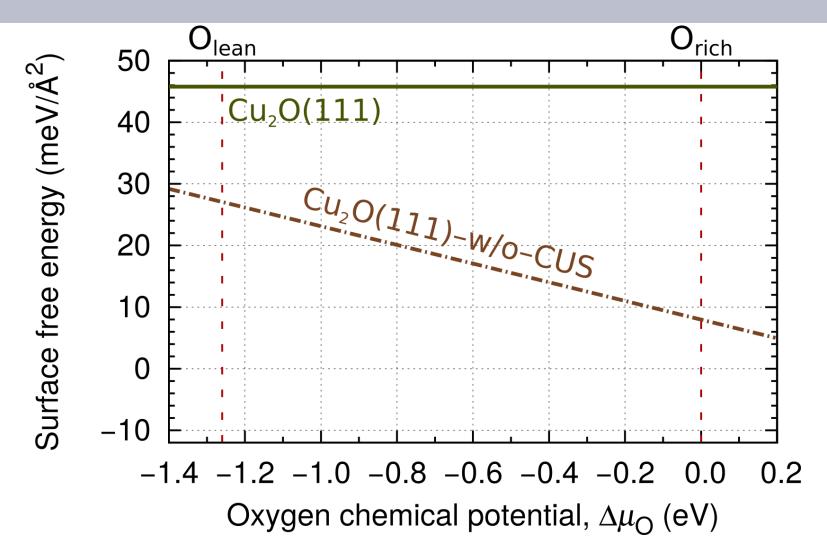
# Triazole bonding to CUS & CSA



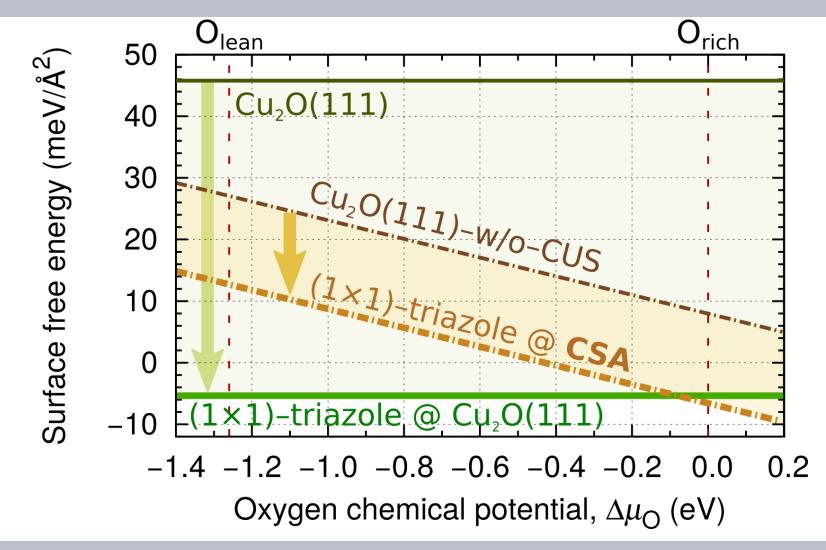
**CUS**  $\equiv$  **C**oordinatively **U**n**S**aturated site &

**CSA** ≡ Coordinatively **SA**turated site

# Adsorption stabilized surfaces



# Adsorption stabilized surfaces



#### **References:**

D. Gustinčič, A. Kokalj, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 2015, 17, 28602-28615.

D. Gustinčič, A. Kokalj, Metals 2018, 8, 310; *ibid*. 2018, 8, 311.

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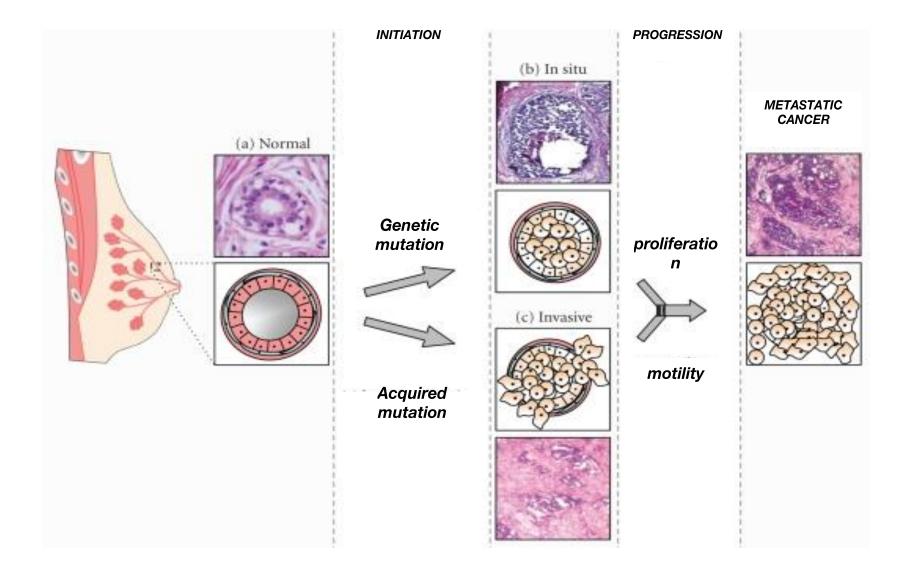
# Lipid droplets – potential targets in breast cancer therapy

### Eva Jarc

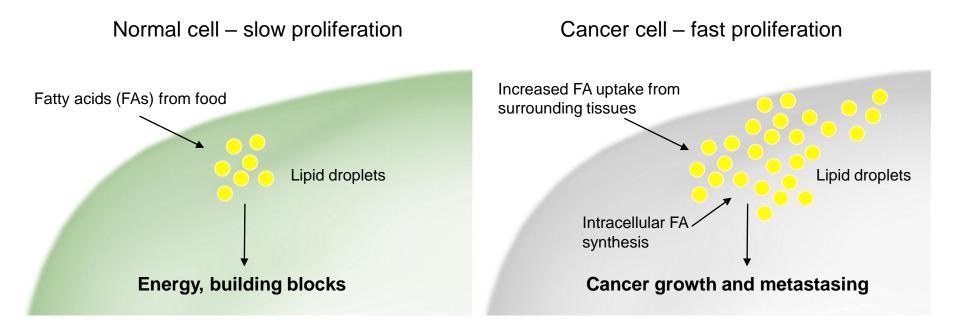
Jožef Stefan Institute, Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences

Poster number: 12

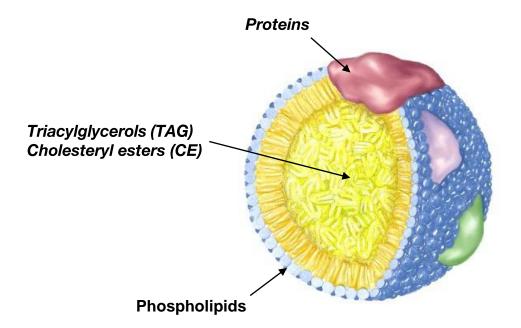
### Breast cancer development



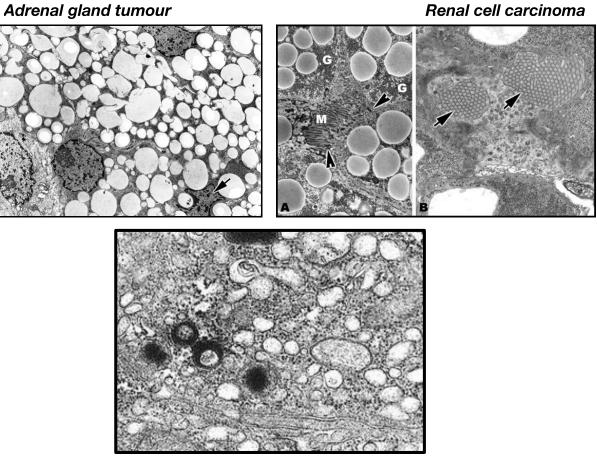
# Cancer cells need fatty acids to satisfy their lipid requirements



### Cancer cells accumulate lipid droplets

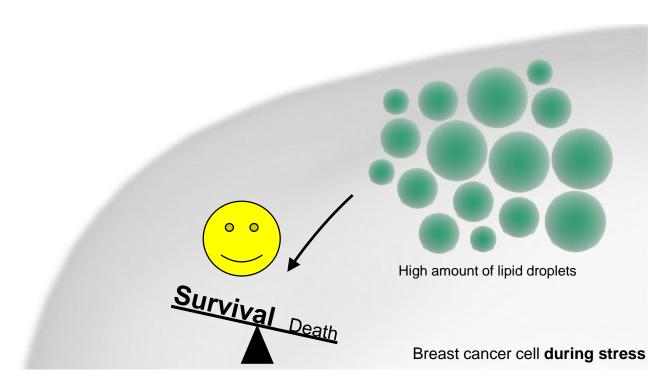


### Cancer cells accumulate lipid droplets

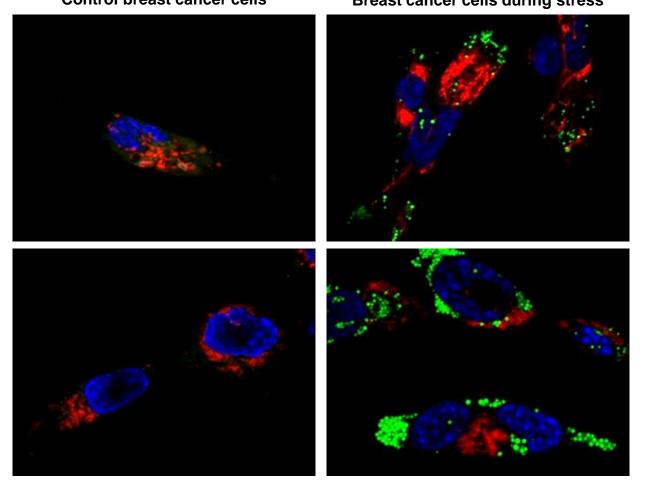


Breast, malignant

# Lipid droplets are involved in breast cancer survival during stress



# Lipid droplets are involved in breast cancer survival during stress Control breast cancer cells Breast cancer cells during stress



Breast cancer cells with defect in LD synthesis during stress

Breast cancer cells with defect in LD degradation during stress

#### Targeting lipid droplets to prevent breast cancer survival

# Lipid droplet group at Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, Jožef Stefan Institute

Assist. Prof. Toni Petan
Eva Jarc, PhD student
Ana Kump, PhD student
Maida Jusović, PhD student
Ema Guštin, MSc student
Toni Nagode, MSc student
Pia Starič, MSc student
Barbara Lipovšek, MSc student

Dr. Anja Pucer JanežDr. Vesna Brglez



# You are welcome to lipid droplet poster n. 12!

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# Arrest the corrosion of aluminum alloys using the synergistic effect of green inhibitors

# Dževad Kozlica

<sup>1</sup> Jožef Stefan Institute, Department of Physical and Organic Chemistry, Ljubljana, Slovenia

<sup>2</sup> Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School, Ljubljana, Slovenia

### Poster number: 42

# Corrosion and aluminum alloys



- Usage
- Reactivity
- Cost
- Protection (Arresting the corrosion)



# **Materials and Methods**

- > 2 mm thick copper foil in the shape of discs of 15 mm in diameter
- the specimens grounded mechanically with successive SiC papers of gradation 1200, 2400, 4000.
- Cleaning of samples in ethanol in an ultrasonic bath, rinsing with distilled water and drying with nitrogen gas.
- electrochemical polarization methods

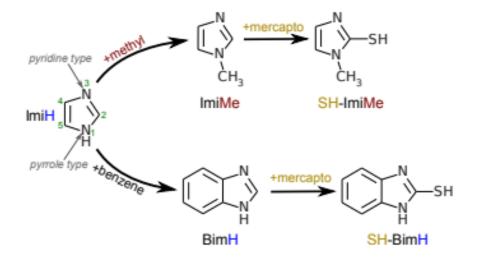


Fig. 1. Skeleton structures of different imidazole inhibitors.

# Results

Linear polarization resistance

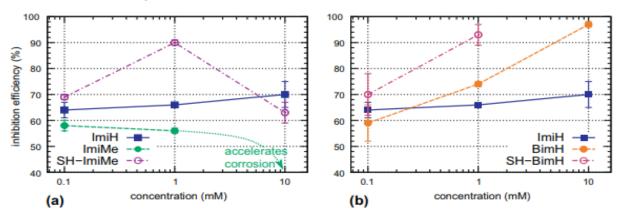


Fig.2. Inhibition efficiency

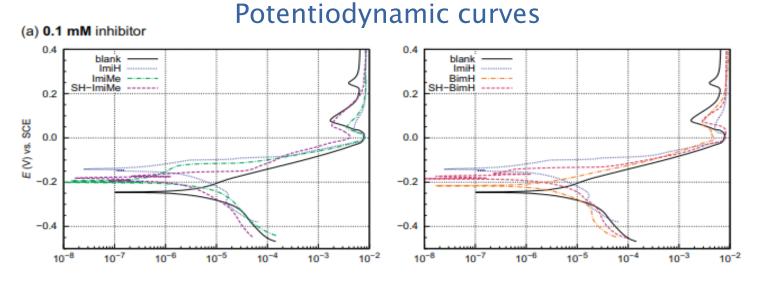
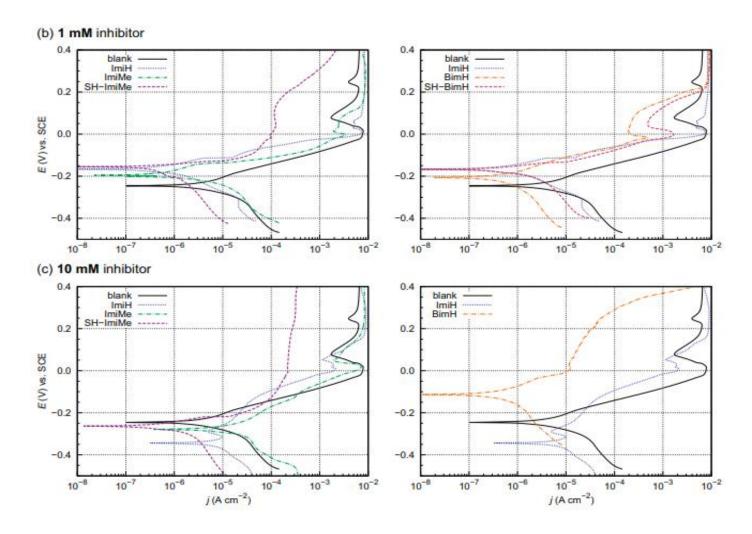


Fig . 3. Potentiodynamic curves recorded for copper without and with addition of inhibitor



At 1 mM concentration the order of inhibition efficiency: ImiMe < ImiH < BimH < SHImiMe < SH-BimH</p>

> The synergistic effect of inhibitors \* (the future work) \*

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# **Op**timization of zirconium based conversion coatings applied on aluminium alloy ENAB-AISi7Mg0.3

Gavrilo Šekularac

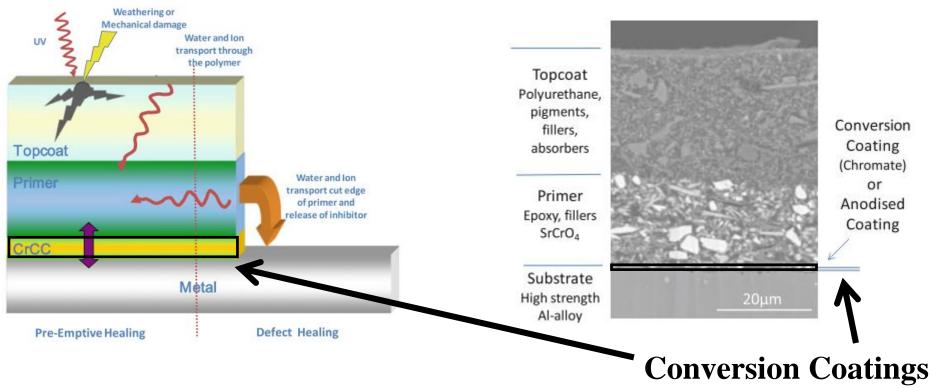
Jožef stefan institute, Department of Physical and Organic Chemistry,

Ljubljana, Slovenia

Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School, Nanoscience and Nanotechnology

Ljubljana, Slovenia

# Poster number: 31



**100-200nm thick** 

- Surface pre-treatment
- Better adhesion of top paint
- Corrosion protection

**Conversion Coating Process** is 1<sup>st</sup> step in application of paints

If Conversion Coating Fails whole paint system will fail

# Conversion coating process Requirements

- Non-toxic and green process
- Safe, simple and cheap process
- Energy saving
- Short process time 5min
- Good corrosion protection

# State of the art conversion coatings process

- Hexavalent chromate conversion coating (CCC) (Best performance, Cancerogenic, Forbidden)
- Trivalent chromate process (TCP)
- Zirconium/Titanium conversion coatings
- Zirconium conversion coatings

Meet almost all requirements

# **General Aim**

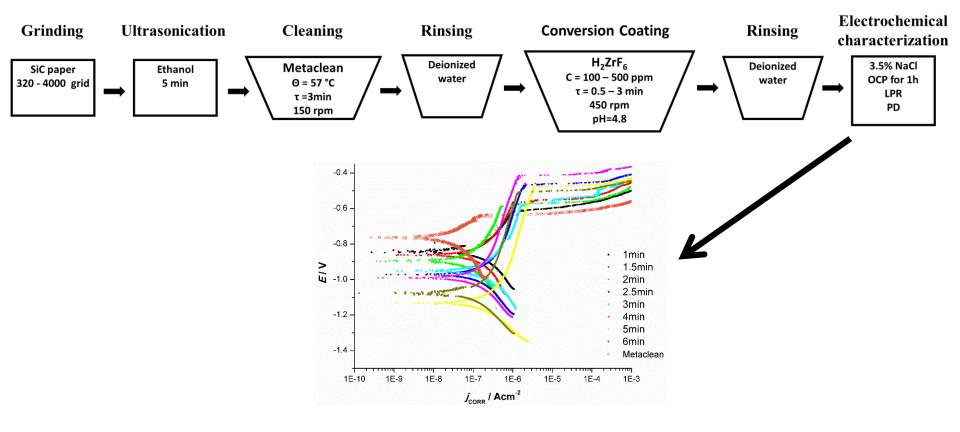
# Find replacement for chromate conversion coatings

- Rare earth conversion coatings Sol-gel coatings Trivalent chromate process – TCPCommercializedZirconium conversion coatingsMost promising
  - Commercialized



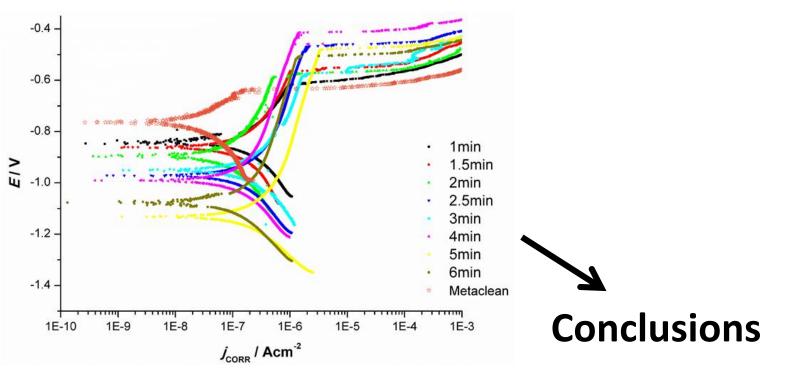
# **Optimization of process parameters** (concentration of $H_2ZrF_{6}$ , process time, surface cleaning, temperature)

### Experimental



# Results

Potentiodynamic polarization curves



- Optimal process time was 3 4 min
- Optimal concentration of H<sub>2</sub>ZrF<sub>6</sub> was in range 150 200 ppm

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# Modern magnets for a modern society

Tomaž Tomše Department for Nanostructured Materials, Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia

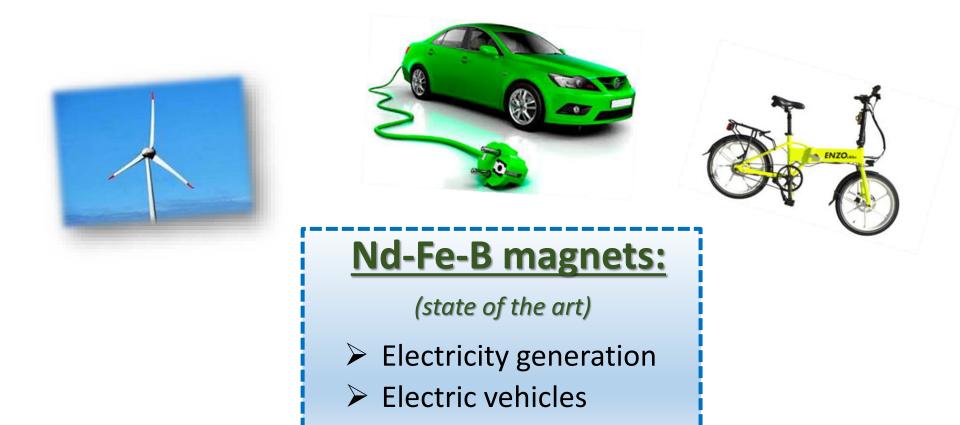
Poster number: 14

# I really like magnets...

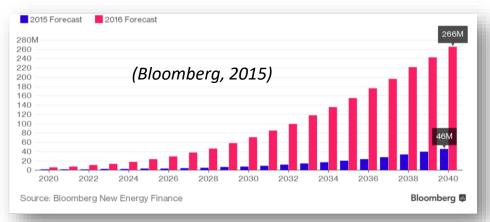
✓ Computers
 ✓ Cell phones
 ✓ Cameras
 ✓ Washing machines, air conditioners,...
 ✓ Automobiles







#### Electric vehicle market (predictions):



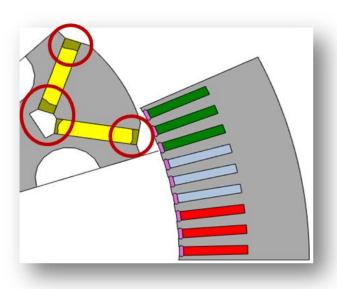
- Lower battery costs
- Reduced dependence on fossil fuels
- Low impact on the environment

# Intrinsic coercivity:

(resistance to demagnetization)

- Important in electric motors (magnets exposed to strong reverse magnetic fields)
- Increased with expensive dysprosium (Dy)

# How to lower the price???



-----> <u>Our idea:</u> Place Dy only where needed...

MULTICOMPONENT MAGNETS



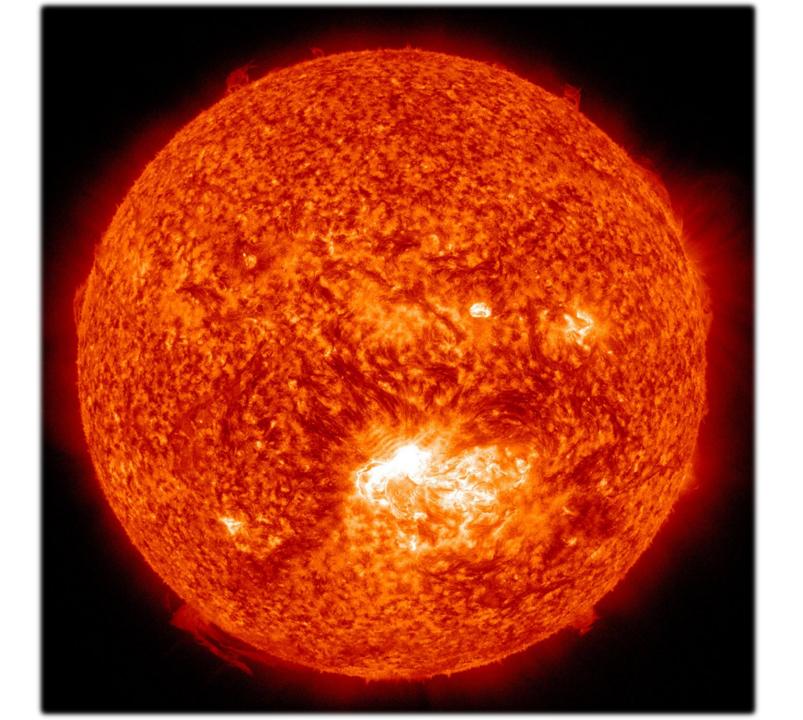
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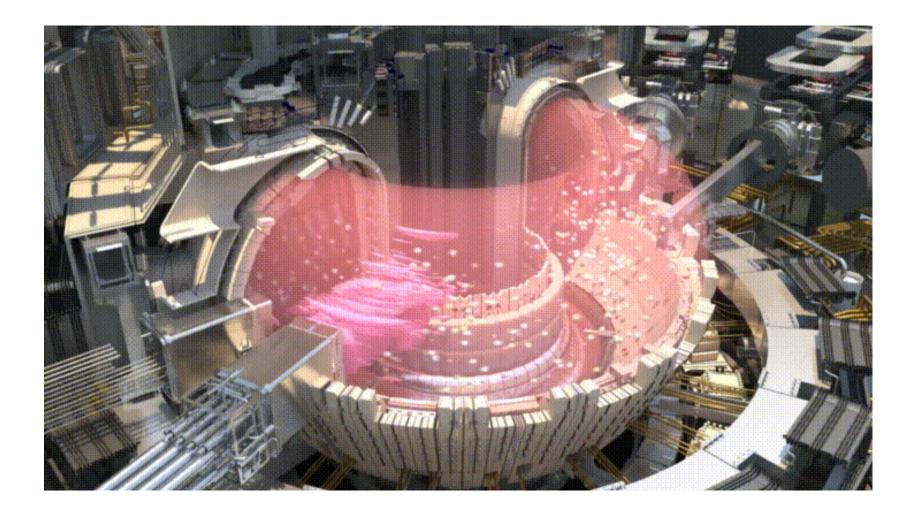
Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School and Young Researchers' Day CMBO 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> May

# Capturing the Sun in a tungsten "box"

#### Matej Kocen

**Department for Nanostructured Materials, Jožef Stefan Institute** 





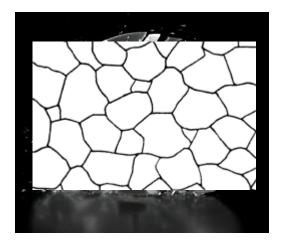


extreme high-heat flows, erosion by hot plasma, high temperatures, neutron bombardment

# Tungsten

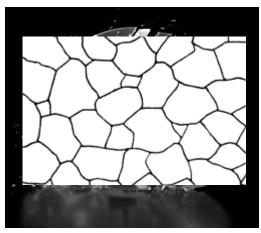


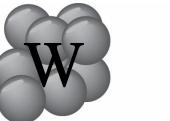
# Tungsten





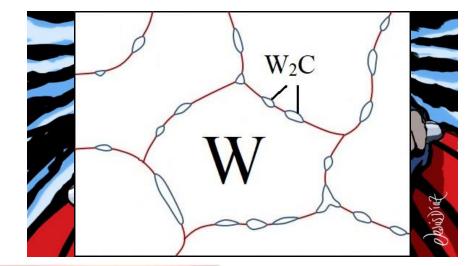
# Tungsten





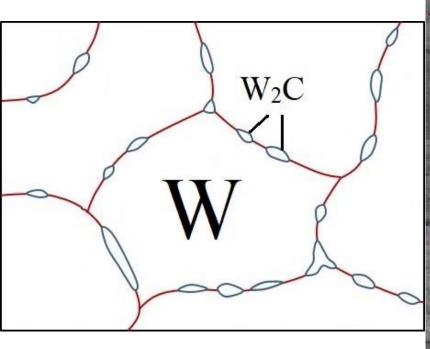


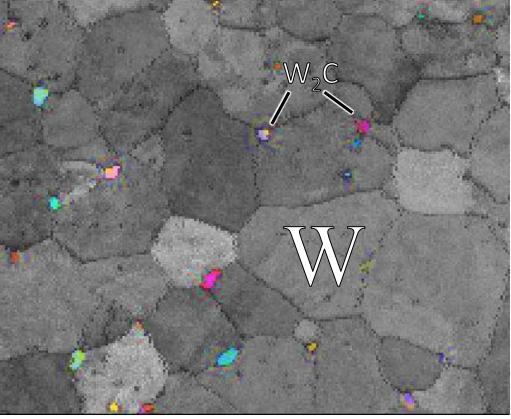












### Poster no. 5

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# In3 project: towards animalfree chemical safety assessment

Liadys Mora Lagares, National Institute of Chemistry

### Is it necessary to use animals in research?



- Chemical safety assessment traditionally based on animal testing
- EU promoting the **3Rs**











## Why human based models in toxicology?





**Animal models** 

#### Human based in vitro and in silico models

- Humans are not rats or guinea pigs
- Poor prediction of adverse drug reactions (high rate of false negatives (30 to 50%) and of false positives)
- Animal tests and human results agree "5%-25% of the time (According to the former scientific executive of Huntingdon Life Sciences)
- Too expensive and time consuming
- Valid ethical concerns

- Ethically sound
- Cheaper and quicker (in theory)
- Accuracy rates of 80 85%

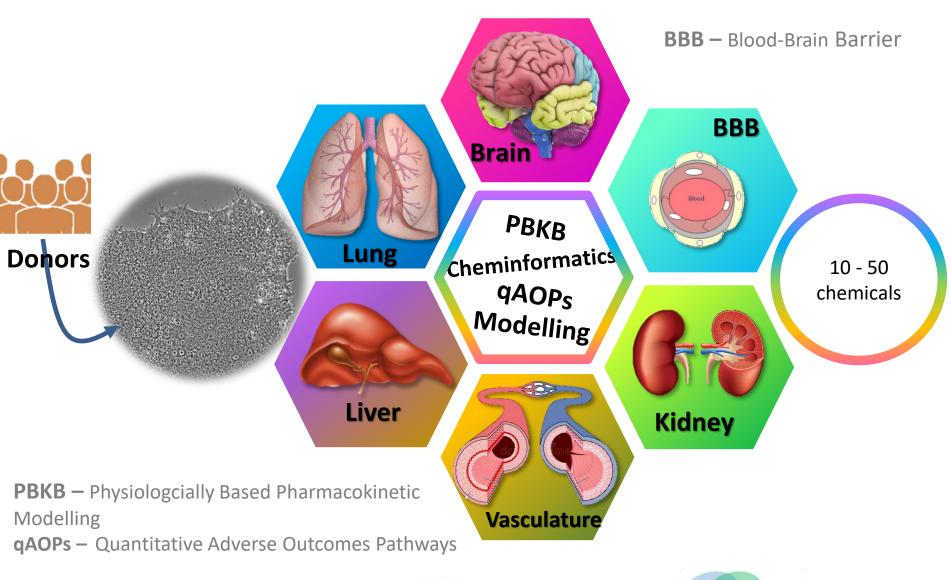
Human skin models outperform animal models for corrosion and irritation (SkinEthic™ RHE1 and epiCS®)



















# Thanks for your attention!

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# **POWERFUL MAGNETS FOR** GREEN ENERGY

Matic Korent Department for Nanostructured Materials Jožef Stefan Institute International Postgraduate School Jožef Stefan

# ΜοτινατιοΝ



https://www.digitaltrends.com/cool-tech/wind-turbines-stop-eagles-flying/
 https://smartercharger.com/2013/05/electric-car-development/
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 http://biology4isc.weebly.com/2-environmental-issues.html

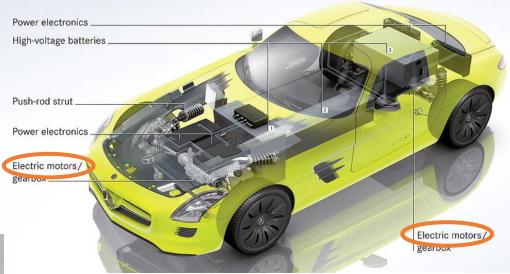


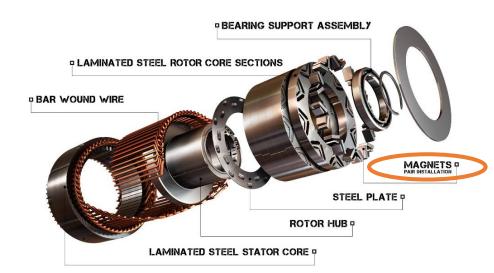


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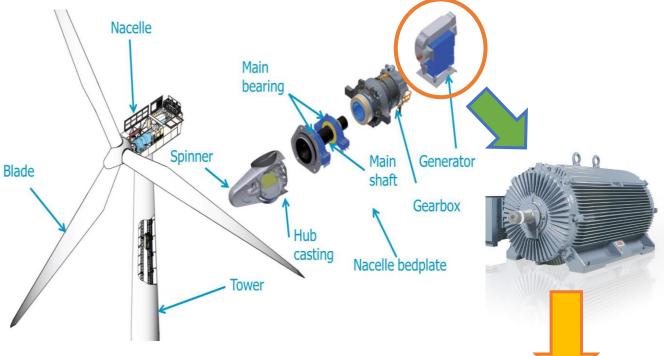
### **EVERYDAY LIFE**

Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG E-CELL

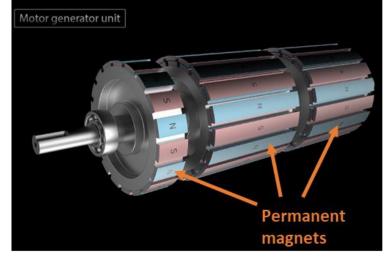




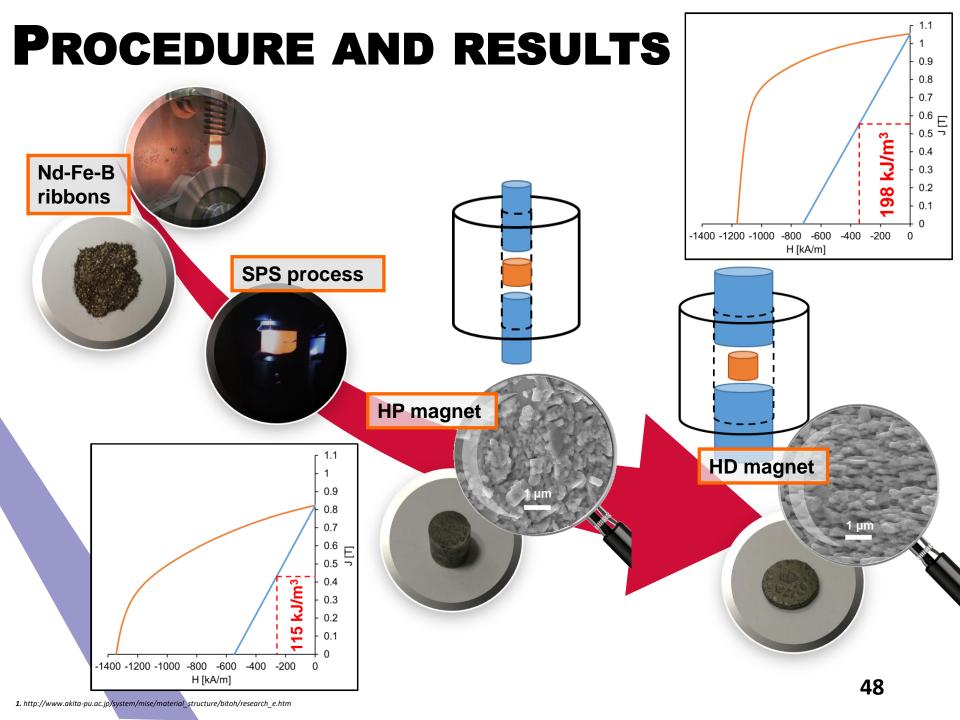








https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wind\_turbine
 http://www.kentwindenergy.co.uk/building-wind-farm.php
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 https://www.geogle.si/search?q=vetraa+elktrarna+slovenija&rlz=1C1BLWB\_enSI792SI792&source=Inmst
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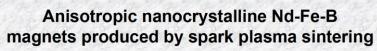


# CONCLUSION

#### Studying of microstructure and improvement of magnetic properties



https://reset.org/blog/vehicle-grid-so-wird-das-e-auto-zum-temporaeren-energiespeicher-07052017

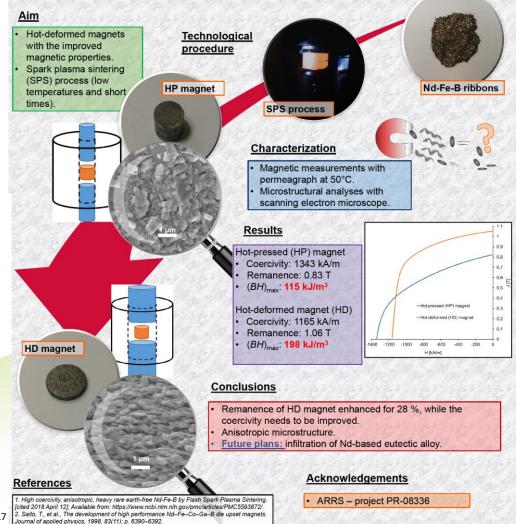


Matic Korent<sup>1, 2</sup>, Marko Soderžnik<sup>1</sup>, Kristina Žagar Soderžnik<sup>1</sup>, Spomenka Kobe<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department for Nanostructured Materials Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia <sup>2</sup> Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School, Ljubljana, Slovenia Program: Nanoscience and Nanotechnologies

#### Background

Green technology is an important issue in the direction of preserving and maintaining sustainable environment via wind turbines, electric vehicles and electric generators [1]. For such applications, Nd-Fe-B magnets are the most suitable choice due to their high energy product  $(BH)_{max}$ . The largest  $(BH)_{max}$  value of 433 kJ/m<sup>3</sup> was reported for high-performance anisotropic hot-deformed Nd-Fe-B magnets [2]. However, the coercivity needs to be improved in order to withstand the demagnetization fields during motor operation. Therefore, for achieving magnetic properties of high performance Nd-Fe-B magnets, addition of Nd-based eutectic alloy or/and heavy rare earths (Tb, Dy) needs to be considered.



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# **Graphene – The start of a new technological revolution**

Aswathy Vasudevan Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School

# Graphene : A promise for future

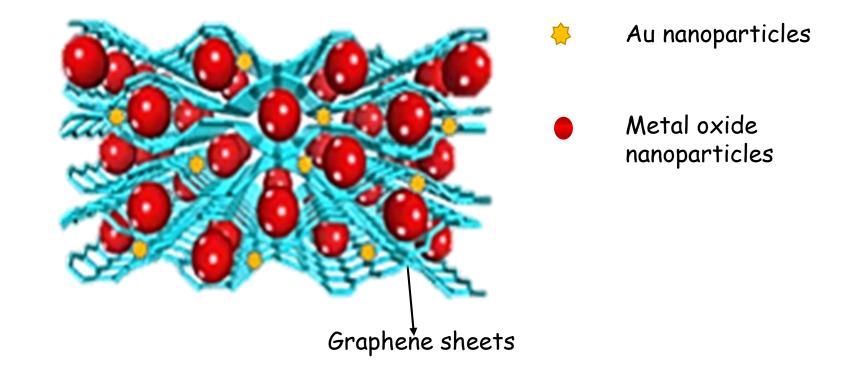


- Multifunctionality
- Flexibility and transparency
- Conductive



# Combining advantages of materials

Metal oxide anchored graphene/Au NPs hybrid



# Applications in energy efficient devices

A phone that charges in seconds?

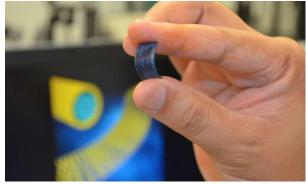
'Moth eyes' to power future smart technologies ?



Batteries



Solar cells



Super capacitors

# Thankyou for your attention!

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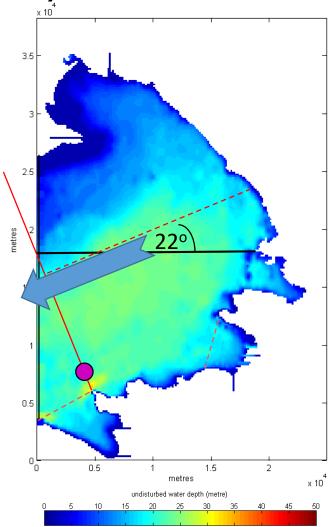
# Circulation model of wideopen bays

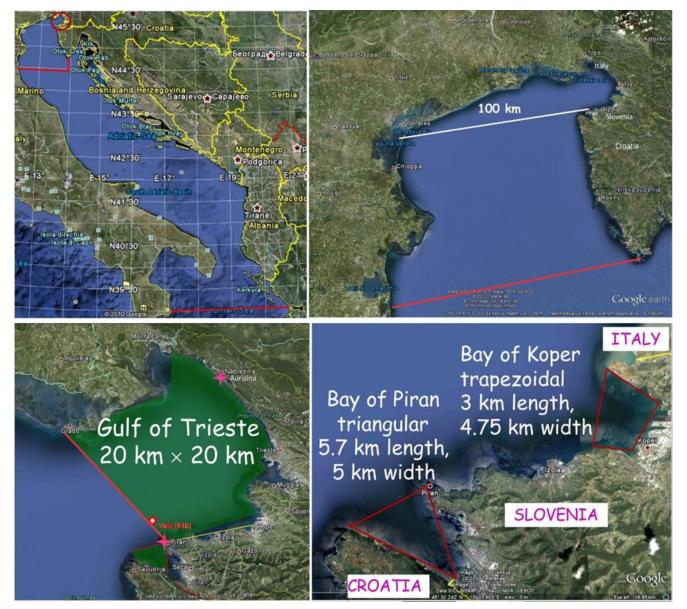
Borut Umer,

National Institute of Biology, Marine Biology Station Piran

# Physical oceanography

- Pollutants
- Plastic
- Sediment transport
- Understanding the Sea





Nucleus for European Modelling of the Ocean (NEMO)

$$\frac{\partial U_h}{\partial t} = -\left[ (\nabla \times U) \times U + \frac{1}{2} \nabla (U^2) \right]_h - fk \times U_h - \frac{1}{\rho_0} \nabla_h p + D^U + F^U$$
$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} = -\rho g$$
$$\nabla \cdot U = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot (TU) + D^T + F^T$$
$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot (SU) + D^S + F^S$$
$$\rho = \rho(S, T, p)$$

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#### Lipid droplets are targets for reducing cancer resistance to stress Maida Jusović, Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences

#### **Autophagy**

For the long period of time, it was thought that the process of autophagy is only the way the cell dies, however, in the last decades, it is understood that this process is very important for prolonging cell survival and for lipid droplets.

□ During evolution, organisms have developed unique mechanisms for controlling and responding to changes in the attainability of nutrients.

□ Cells adapt to nutrient starvation by shifting their metabolism from reliance on glucose to dependence on mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation.

□ Cells store fatty acids in the form of lipid droplets, which have only recently been recognized as organelles.

#### Lipid droplets are newly recognized organelles

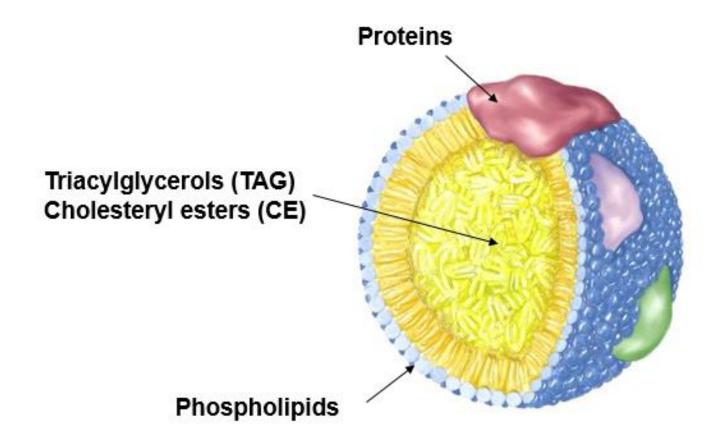
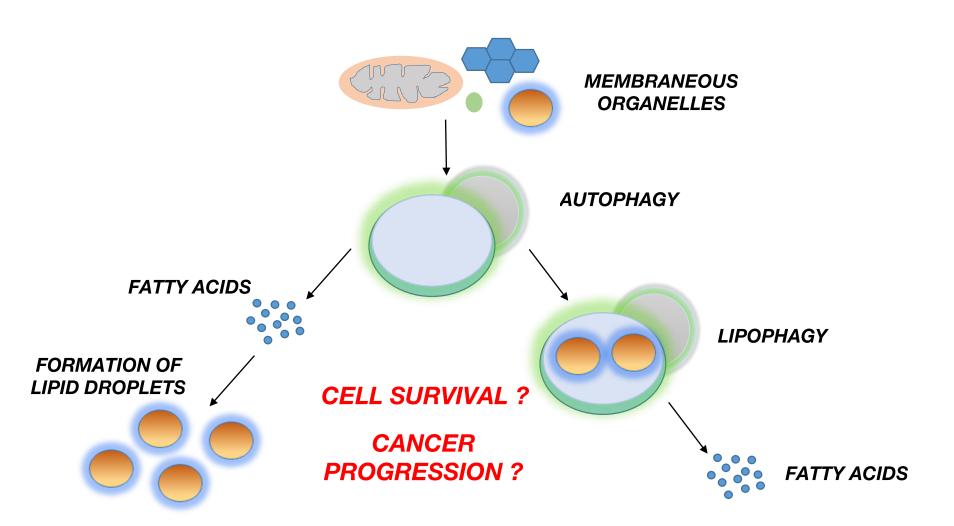


Figure: Anatomy of a lipid droplet. Acquired from: http://www3.mpibpc.mpg.de/groups/jaeckle/pages/Project\_Beller/project\_Beller.htm '

# Is autophagy important for lipid droplet biogenesis and function ?

- □ Since fluctuations in nutrient and oxygen availability are characteristic of the tumour environment, cancer cells have developed strategies to overcome these conditions.
- □ The inability to synthesize their own fatty acids during stress forces cancer cells to scavenge extracellular lipids or to recycle intracellular lipids through autophagy.
- Recent studies suggest that degradation of membranous organelles by autophagy provides fatty acids for lipid droplet biogenesis, whereas lipophagy, a lipid droplet-selective form of autophagy, may also participate in lipid droplet breakdown.

We have shown that lipid droplets protect breast cancer cells from starvation-induced cell death, but the mechanisms involved are not known.



#### **PROJECT GOALS ?**

Analyze the effects on lipid droplet content and cell survival.

#### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AUTOPHAGY AND LIPID DROPLETS

Lipidomic and proteomic analyses.

Check whether lipid droplets and autophagy are important for tumor growth in vivo.

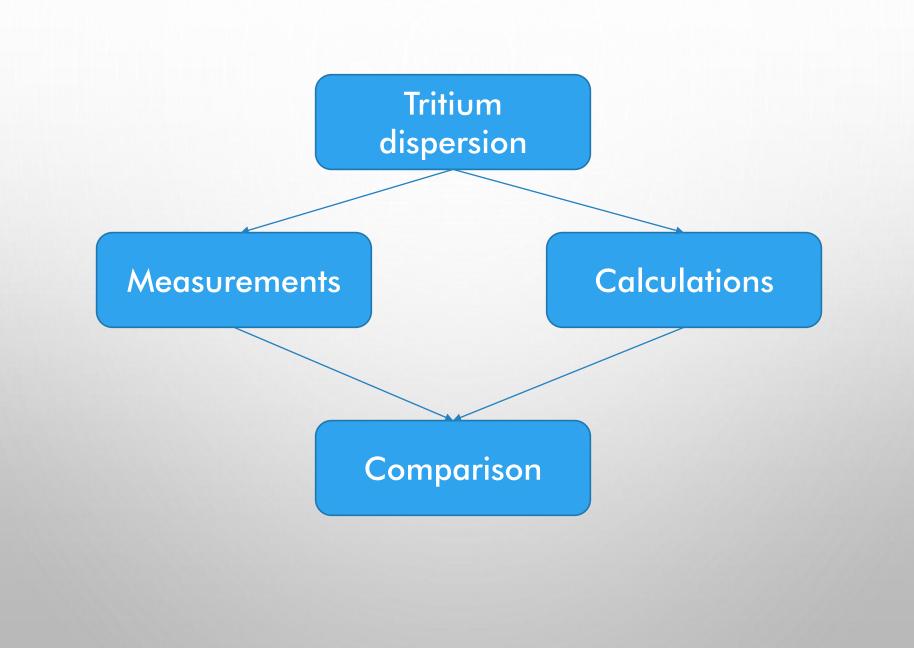
#### Thank you for your attention!

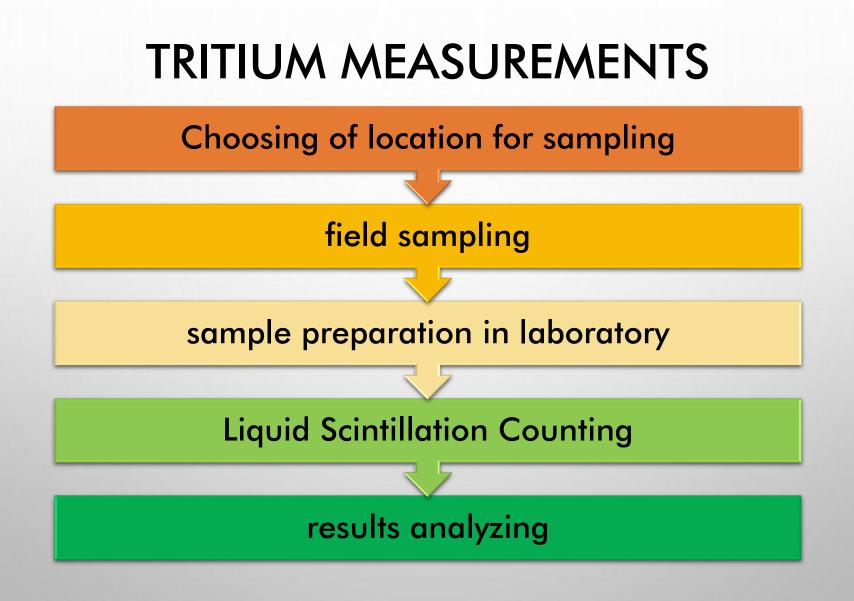
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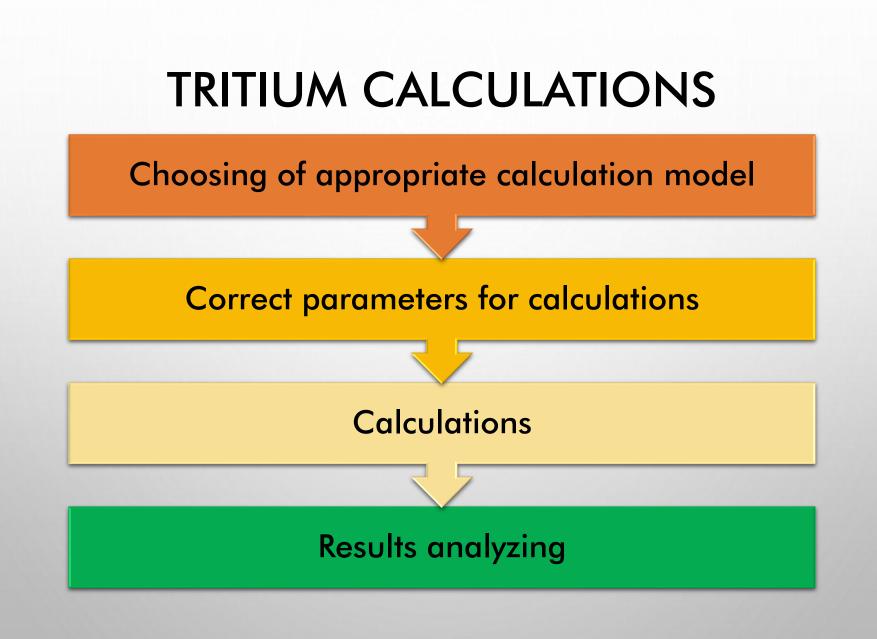
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# Tritium dispersion around Krško Nuclear Power Plant

Andrii Kholodiuk Institute for Safety Problems of NPPs, Chornobyl, Ukraine







# COMPARISON OF CALCULATED AND MEASURED RESULTS

Table shows comparison of measured with modeled data

Sampling date	2.8.2017						
Sampling location	Measured Value		Modele d values	χ/Q	HTO emission rate (Bq/s)	Measured value / modeled	
	Bq/m <sup>3</sup>		Bq/m <sup>3</sup>	s/m <sup>3</sup>	Bq/s	value	
Spodnji Stari Grad	8,7E-02	±	1,1E-02	1,4E-01	9,0E-07		0,6
Krsko	1,7E-02	±	1,4E-03	6,4E-03	4,1E-08	1,6E+05	2,7
Gorni Lenart	2,0E-02	±	5,2E-03	2,8E-02	1,8E-07		0,7

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# "WHY ARE MY EVERGREENS TURNING BROWN?"

Dona Pavlović

"Jožef Stefan" Institute,

Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School

Poster number: 13







## HF attacks spruce needles causing NECROSIS







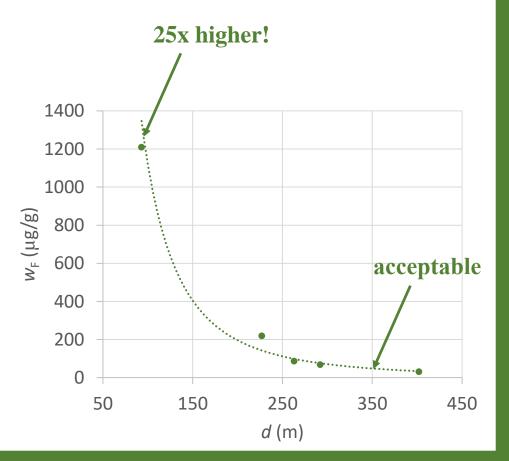


### **DETERMINATION OF FLUORINE**

Sample	$w_{\rm F}  (\mu g/g)^*$
Spruce needles, $d = 93$ m	$1209\pm82$
Spruce needles, $d = 227$ m	$219\pm28$
Spruce needles, $d = 263$ m	$87 \pm 11$
Spruce needles, $d = 292$ m	$68 \pm 9$
Spruce needles, $d = 402 \text{ m}$	$31 \pm 9$
Spruce needles, background	$10 \pm 9$

\*The reported uncertainties are expanded uncertainties calculated using k = 1.96, which corresponds to the 95 % level of confidence.

Upper limit for animal consumption is  $50 \mu g/g$ .





### **FLUOROSIS**













Institut "Jožef Stefan" Ljubljana, Slovenija



Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School



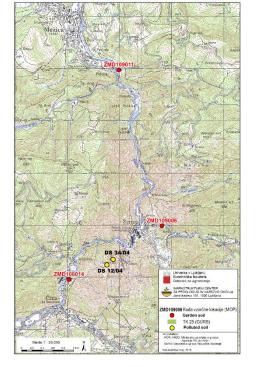
Mining-metallurgical Institute of Tajikistan

# Investigation of arsenic in contaminated soils in the Mežica valley

Dalerjon Khojiboev<sup>1,4</sup>, Peter Stegnar<sup>2</sup>, Zafar Razykov<sup>1</sup>, Muzafar Yunusov<sup>1</sup>, Marko Zupan<sup>3</sup> Helena Grčman<sup>3</sup> and Zdenka Šlejkovec<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mining-metallurgical institute of Tajikistan, Department of Ecology, Buston, Tajikistan <sup>2</sup>Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School, Ljubljana, Slovenia <sup>3</sup>University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Agronomy, Ljubljana, Slovenia

<sup>4</sup>"Jožef Stefan" Institute, Department of Environmental Sciences, Ljubljana, Slovenia



The Mežica valley has been exposed to more than three hundred years of active lead mining and smelting. Soils in the valley, including about 7000 ha of agricultural land, are polluted especially with Pb and Zn, but also with Cd and As.

Location	Code	Sampling date	Type of location	Depth (cm)	Total As (mg/kg)
ZMD108014	1424/16	Sep.16	Vegetable	0-20	16.8
	1425/16		garden	0-20	15.8
ZMD109006	1561/17	Sep.17	Kindergarten -	0-5	12.6
	1562/17		remediated	5-20	12.4
	1563/17			20-30	14
ZMD109011	1574/17	Sep.17	Garden	0-5	11.1
	1575/17			5-20	12.6
DS12/04	B12	Apr.04	Mountain ridge	0-15	224
DS34/04	B34	Apr.04	Mountain ridge	0-15	314
	D34		-	15-30	nd
	F34			>30	nd

### Soil sampling

- top soil samples;
- middle layer;
- and bedrock soil samples were taken at 5 location in Mežica valley

**Samples were** dried (40-50 °C) for 2 days and sifted to obtain a fraction smaller than 0,25 mm.

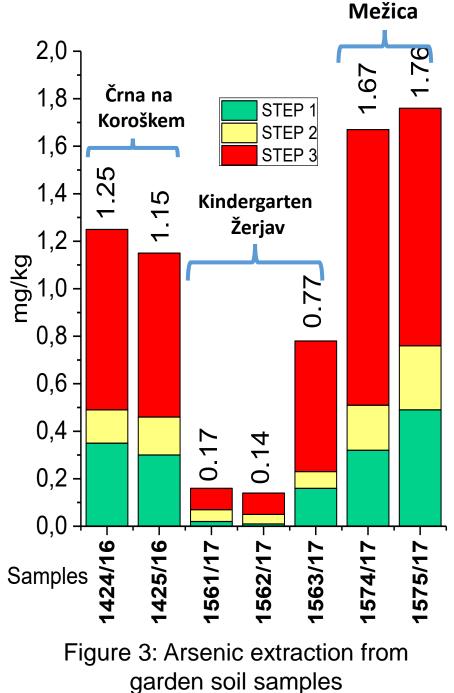
Prepared samples were extracted using BCR scheme

Table 1. BCR sequential extraction scheme

STEPS	Fraction targeted	Extractant used
Step1	exchangeable elements and elements bound to carbonate	0.1M CH <sub>3</sub> COOH
Step 2	elements bound to iron and manganese oxides (reducible fraction)	0.1M N <sub>2</sub> OH·HCl in HNO <sub>3</sub> at pH 2
Step 3	elements bound to organic matter and sulphides	30% H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> and 1M CH <sub>3</sub> COONH <sub>4</sub>

Arsenic pollution in and around the Mežica valley

- from more or less unpolluted (< 20 µg g<sup>-1</sup>) in some garden soils
- to heavily polluted (> 200 μg g<sup>-1</sup>) in the top soil on the ridge above Death valley.



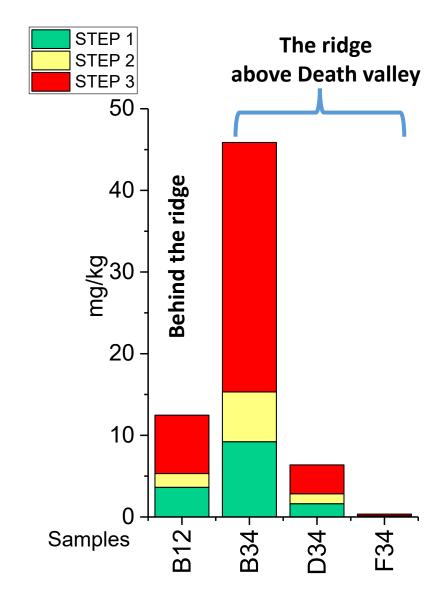


Figure 4: Arsenic extraction from polluted soil samples above the Death valley

### As was found in:

- **0.2-4 %** in an exchangeable/ bound to carbonate fraction,
- **0.4-2.1%** in a fraction bound to iron and manganese oxides;
- **0.7-10.5%** attached to organic matter and sulphides.

Major part of arsenic **remained** unextracted, is **not bioavailable** and poses relatively low risk. The most environmentally mobile is the exchangeable fraction (extracted in STEP 1), which also presents the highest potential danger to the environment.

### NEXT

- **investigate** this fraction and subject it to determination of inorganic arsenic forms (arsenite and arsenate),
- **study** the extractability and environmental mobility of **lead, zinc and cadmium** in these soils

Thank you for your attention!







Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School



Mining-metallurgical Institute of Tajikistan

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Mežica

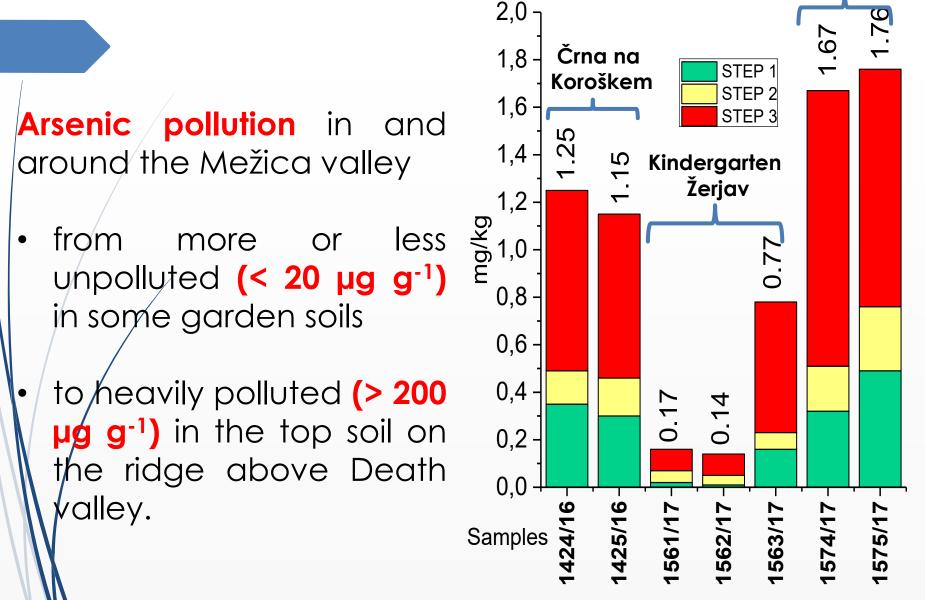
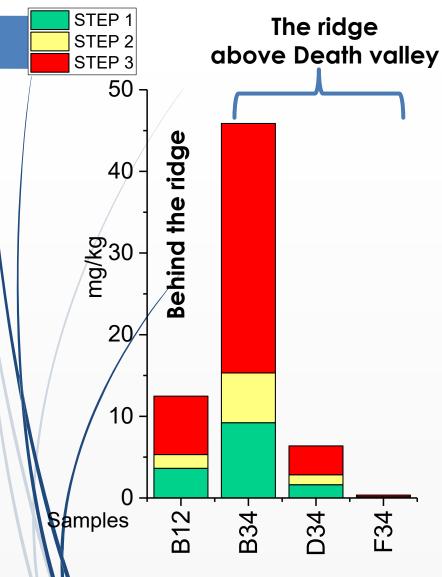


Figure 3: Arsenic extraction from garden soil samples



As was found in:

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Major part of arsenic remained unextracted, is not bioavailable and poses relatively low risk.

Figure 4: Arsenic extraction from polluted soil samples above the Death valley

The most environmentally mobile is the exchangeable fraction (extracted in STEP 1), which also presents the highest potential danger to the environment.

### NEXT

investigate this fraction and subject it to determination
of inorganic arsenic forms (arsenite and arsenate),
study the extractability and environmental mobility of
lead, zinc and cadmium in these soils

# Thank you for your attention!

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# From RNA to dementia and muscle wasting

Mirjana Malnar

Department of Biotechnology, Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia

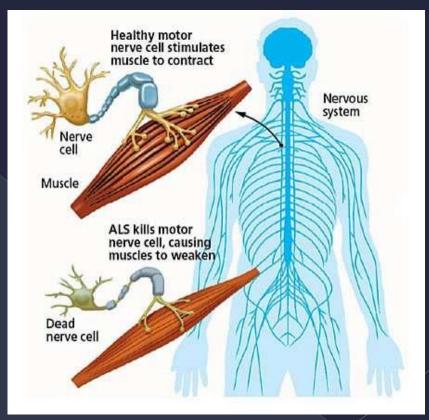
Faculty of Medicine, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Biomedicine, mentor : Boris Rogelj

### Poster number: 45

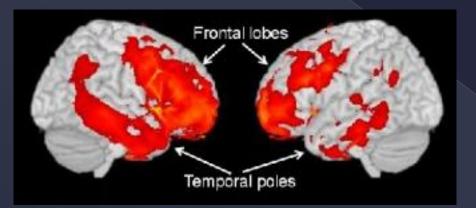
## ALS

- ALS Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
- most common motor neuron disease
  - > 1-2:100 000
  - > age of onset ~55
- muscle atrophy
- respiratory failure
- ~3 years
- no cure



(Medical Xpress, ALS Foundation for Life, 2018)



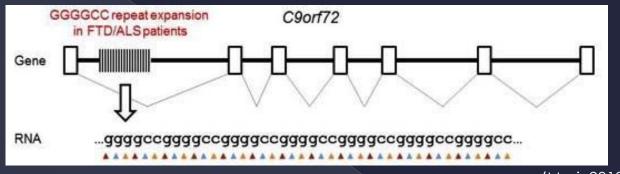


(HVNN, 2015)

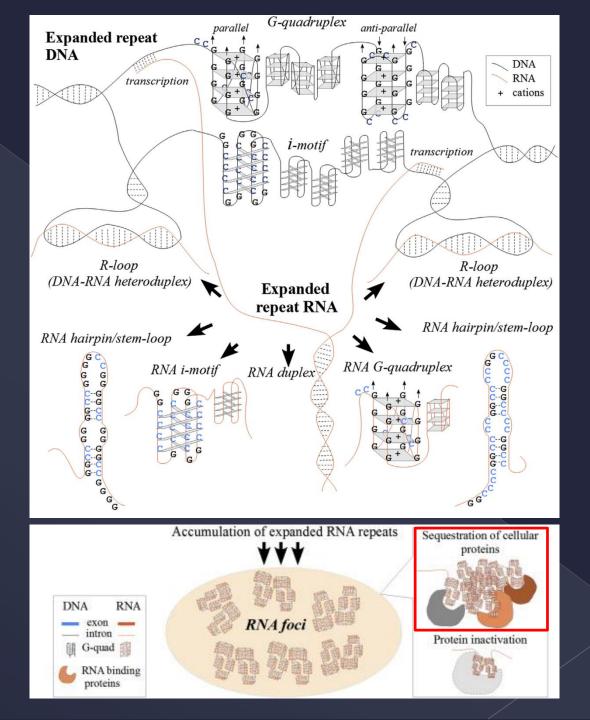
- FTD Frontotemporal Dementia
- second most common dementia
  - > 15: 100 000
  - > 45-64 years
- frontotemporal lobar degeneration
- o pneumonia
- 3 10 years
- no cure



#### • mutation

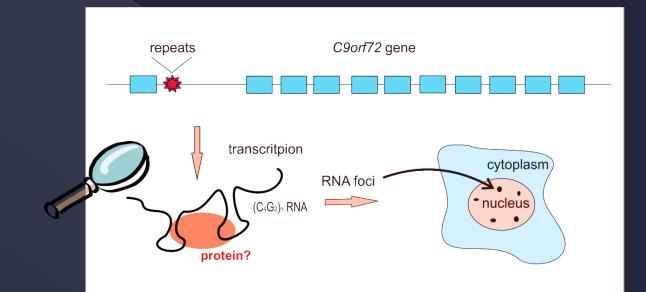


(Mori, 2013)



(Vatovec et al., 2014)

### My research project question – see poster 45





# Summary

- Incurable neurodegenerative diseases : ALS and FTD
- Impact of C9orf72 mutation

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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# Digital security in microfinance institutions

Eleonora Zgonjanin Petrovikj,

Jozef Stefan International postgraduate school

Supervisor

Prof.dr.Borka Jerman-Blažič

Laboratory for Open systems and Networks Jožef Stefan Institute and Faculty of Economics, Ljubljana University Slovenia

### Poster number: 26

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# WHAT

# Awareness, benefits and challenges of digital security (DS)



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# **WHOM**

# microfinance non-banking financial institutions (MFI).



"Information security is a major priority at this company. We've done a lot of stupid things we'd like to keep secret."

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# WHERE

## Republic of Macedonia, Greece, Bosna and Hercegovina, Serbia and Albania (selected countries).

Selected countries would be further determinate

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@ Cartoonbank.com



"You know, you can do this just as easily online."

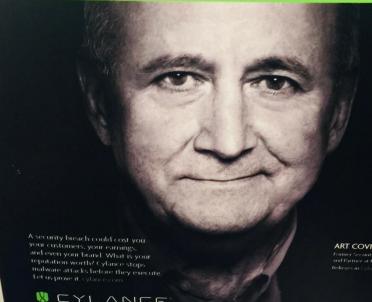
HOW

mix of self-respond questionnaires and interviews with executives responsible for digital security

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WHY



ART COVI

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**Potential findings** :

the level of awareness and knowledge of the executives for DS "proportional" level of DS as a regulatory requirement or to "protect" MFIs. inappropriate planned changes in DS NOT enough trained staff LACK of competitive packages for hiring IT specialists

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Thank you Eleonora Zgonjanin Petrovikj ezgonjanin@ fulm.com.mk

