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Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School
and Young Researchers' Day CMBO

15 and 16 April 2019, Planica

ORGANIZED BY



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Student Council
Jožef Stefan IPS



Jožef Stefan Institute



Institute of Metals and Technology



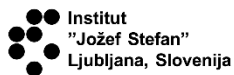
Mednarodni inštitut za raziskovanje in razvoj v slovenski in evropski uniji
Evropskega sklada za regionalni razvoj

SRIP TOP



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exchange ideas & share knowledge



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Evropskega sklada za regionalni razvoj



B/S/H/ d.o.o. 1022 LJ



WELCOME SPEECH

(IPSSC and the Dean of IPS)

9:30 - 9:40

ELEVATOR PITCH SESSION 1

9:40 - 10:50

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Metals and ceramics, competition or synergy

Matej Kocen,

Petra Jenuš, Anže Abram, Borut
Žužek, Jaka Burja, Saša Novak

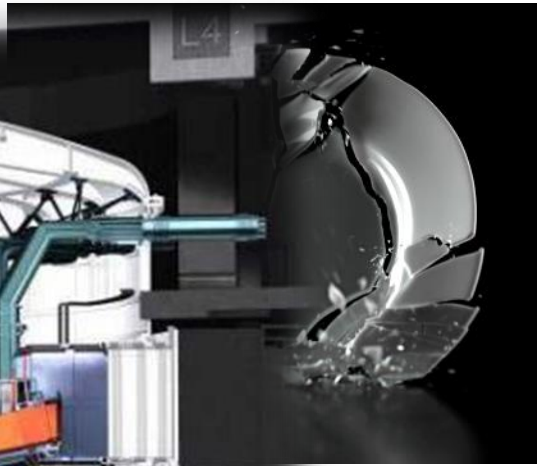
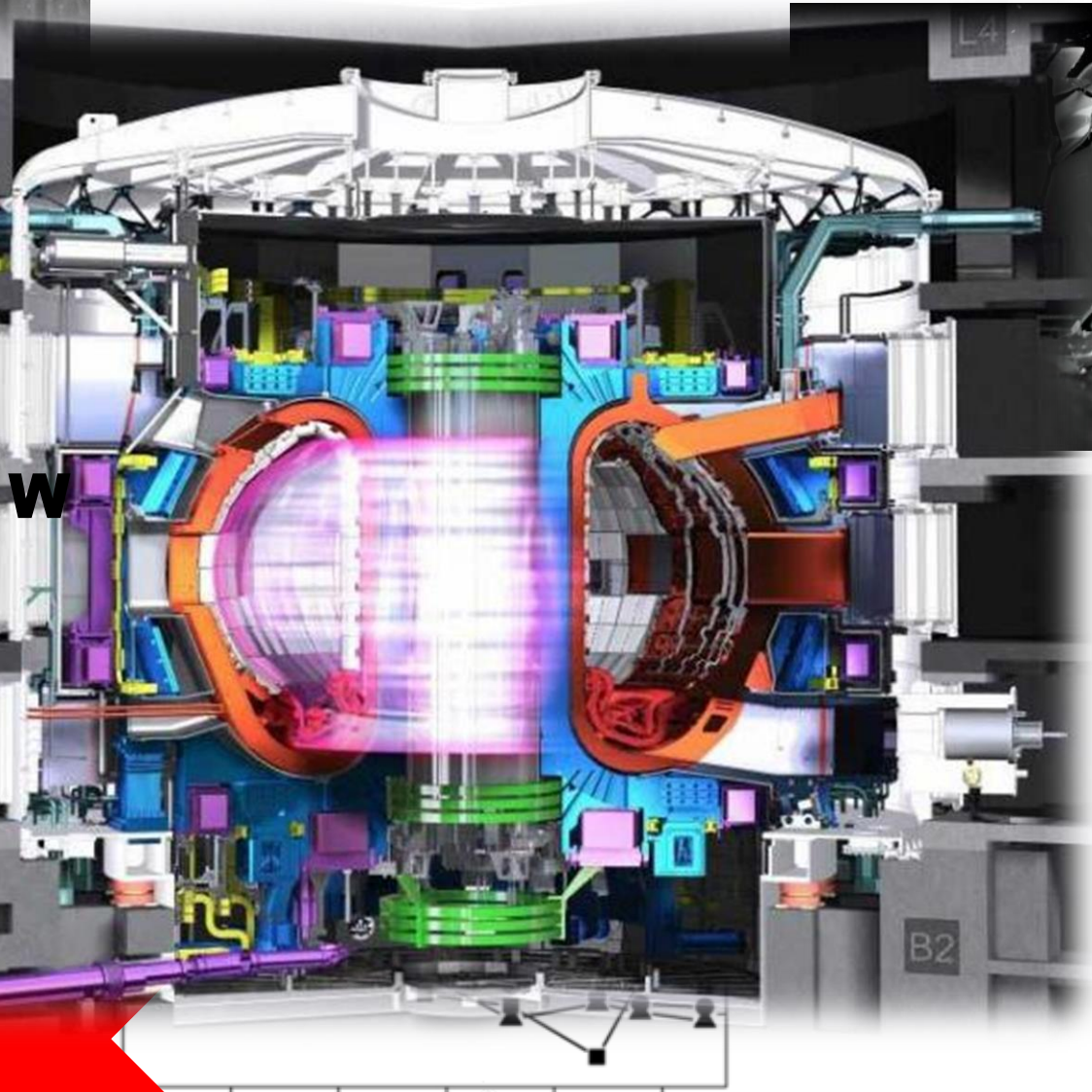
Poster number: **33**



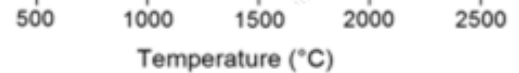
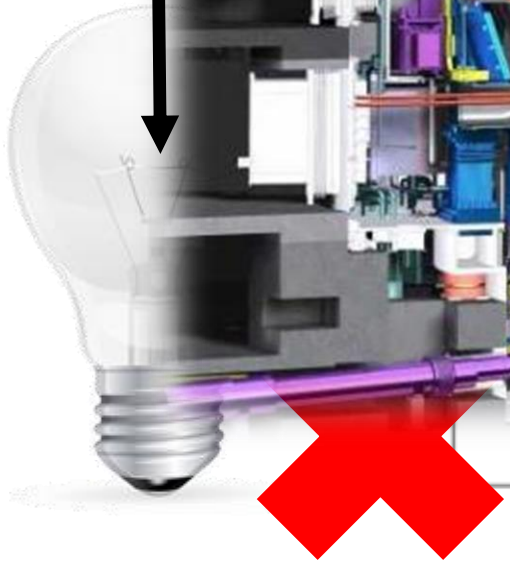




PUT YOUR HANDS TOGETHER



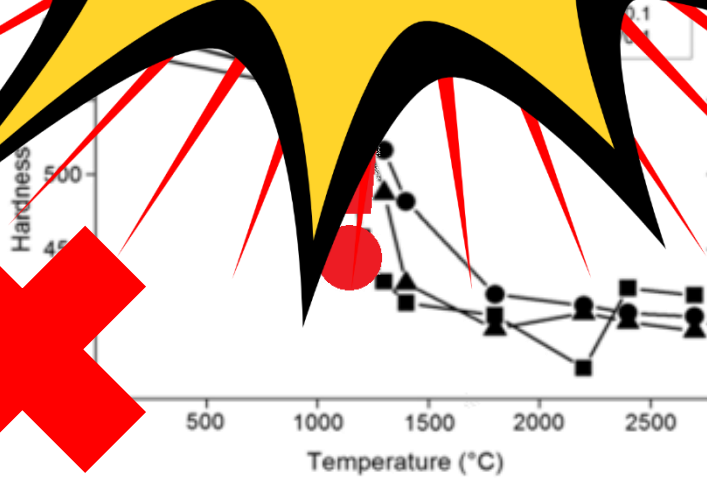
Tungsten - W



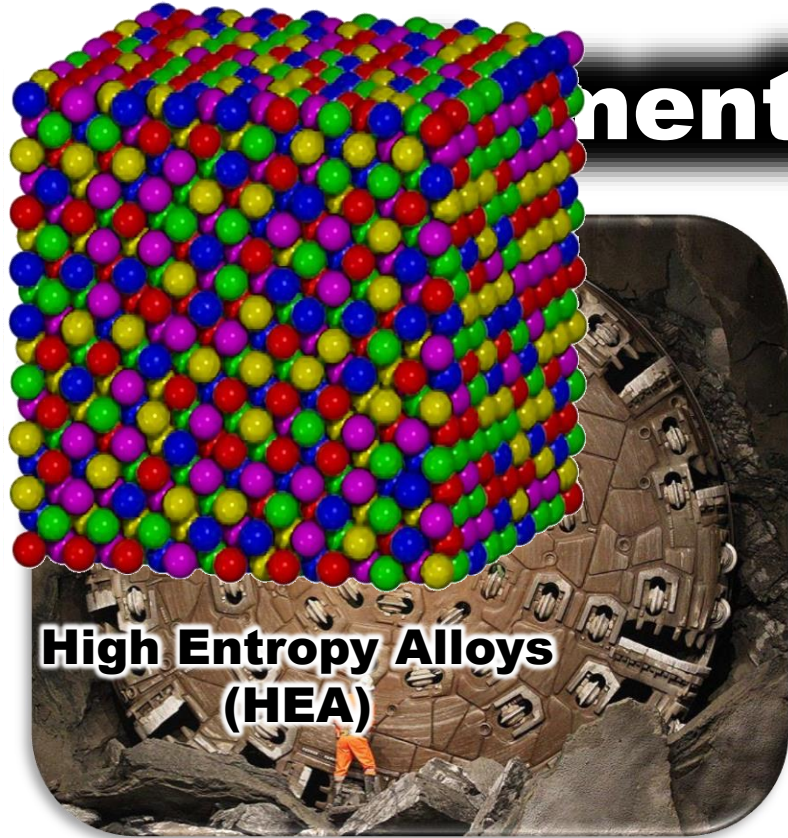
B2



Tungsten



mented ca



**High Entropy Alloys
(HEA)**



WC - Co/Fe/Ni



WC - HEA

IJS samples



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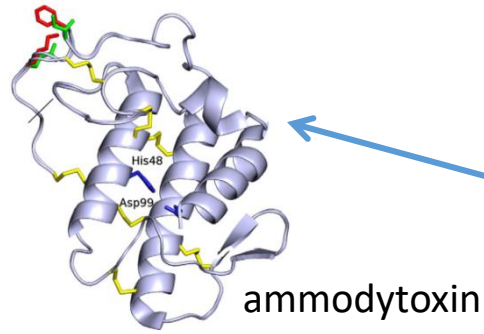
Ammodytoxin: a tool for studying neurodegenerative diseases

Adrijan Ivanušec

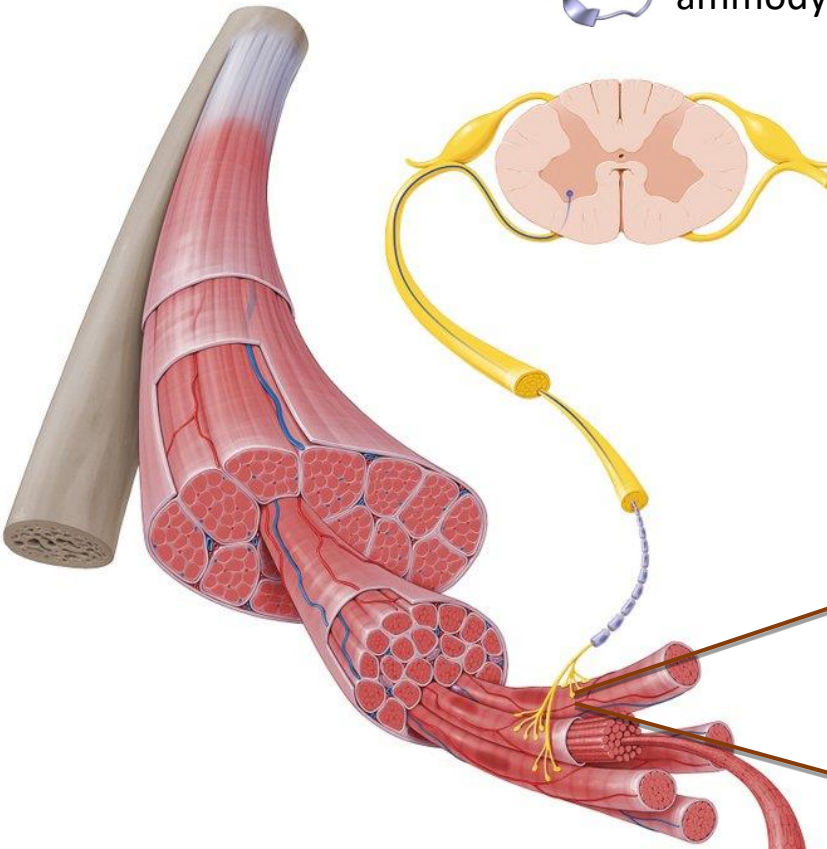
Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, Jožef Stefan Institute
Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana

Poster number: **54**

Ammodytotoxin: a presynaptic neurotoxin from the nose-horned viper venom



Nose-horned viper (*Vipera ammodytes ammodytes*)

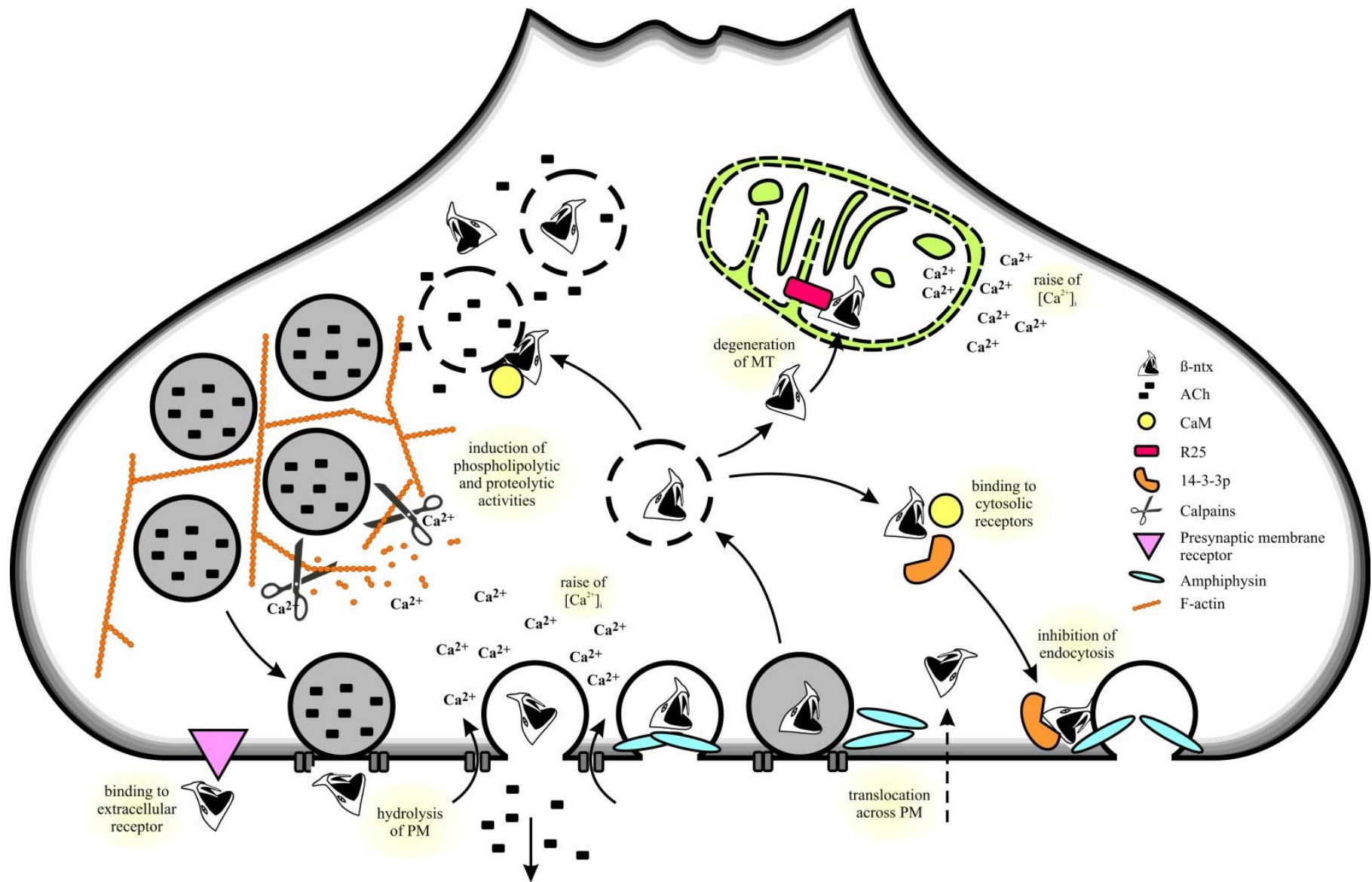


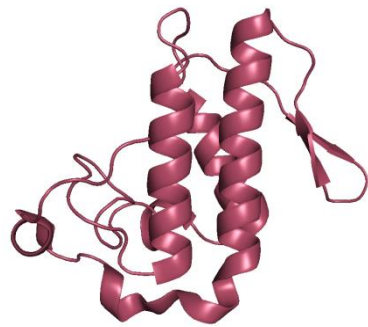
Presynaptic c.

Postsynaptic c.

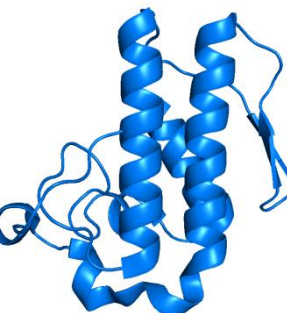
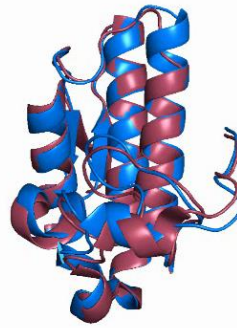


→ paralysis

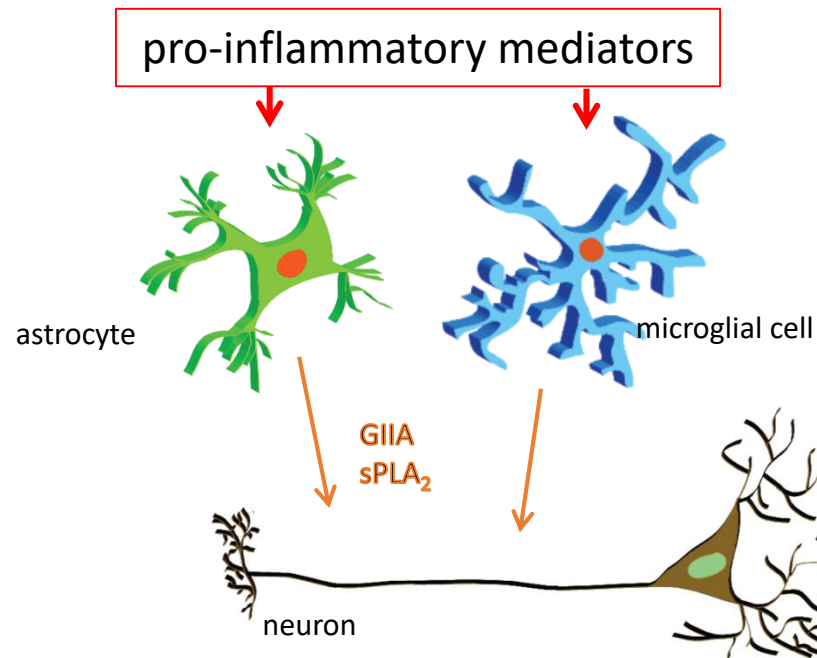
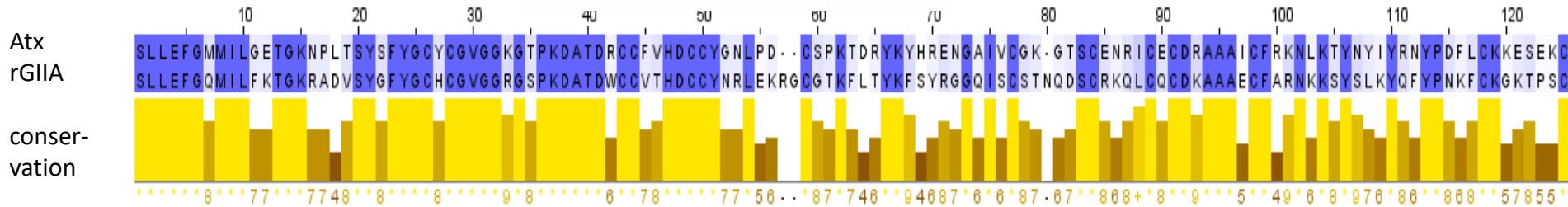




ammodytoxin



mammalian GIIA



Interaction between ammodytoxin, a neurotoxic snake venom secreted phospholipase A₂, and neuronal mitochondria



Adrijan Ivanušec^{1,2}, Jernej Šribar¹, Peter Veranič², Igor Kržija¹

¹Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia
²Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Background

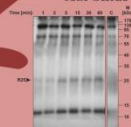
Ammodytoxin (Atx) is a neurotoxic snake venom secreted phospholipase A₂ (sPLA₂), an enzyme that hydrolyses glycerophospholipids to sn-2 lysophospholipids and fatty acids. It acts as a β-neurotoxin (β-ntx), meaning that it blocks neuro-muscular transmission by poisoning nerve terminals, causing flaccid paralysis.

Damage inflicted by Atx and similar β-ntxs on neuronal mitochondria is characteristic, very similar to that induced by structurally homologous mammalian group IIA sPLA₂ when its activity is elevated, as, for example, in the early phase of Alzheimer's disease.

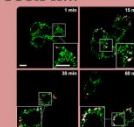
The molecular mechanism of action of β-ntxs is not yet fully understood. However, the interaction with mitochondria seems to have an important role.

Recently, we characterized the interaction between Atx and its mitochondrial receptor, cytochrome C oxidase subunit II (CCOX-II), an essential constituent of the respiratory chain complex.

Atx binds to CCOX-II...



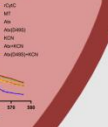
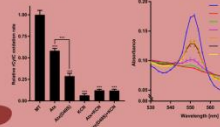
By affinity labeling PC12 cells using photoreactive subunit S82E-Atx, we detected Atx-binding proteins. The specifically labelled band of about 25 kDa demonstrates that Atx interacts with CCOX-II in living neurotoxic cells.



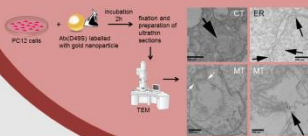
Using confocal microscopy we found that fluorescently labelled Atx (red) colocalizes with CCOX-II (green) in PC12 cells, showing this interaction as physiologically relevant.

... and inhibits its enzymatic activity.

By performing CCOX activity assay on mitochondria, isolated from PC12 cells, we demonstrated that Atx inhibits the enzymatic activity of CCOX. Interestingly, the enzymatically inactive mutant of Atx, Abi(D48S), has a similar effect, indicating that the inhibition is due to the physical interaction of the two proteins and not the phospholipase activity of the toxin.



Enzymatically inactive mutant of Atx translocates into PC12 cells.



Preliminary results, obtained by TEM analysis of PC12 cells incubated with Abi(D48S) labelled with gold nanoparticles, show the translocation of the derivative into the cytosol (CT), endoplasmic reticulum (ER) and mitochondria (MT), suggesting that phospholipase activity of Atx is not needed for its translocation into the cells and organelles.

Conclusions

Atx binds to CCOX-II, an essential constituent of the respiratory chain complex, and inhibits its enzymatic activity. The phospholipase activity of Atx is not needed for the inhibition of CCOX enzymatic activity.

Enzymatically inactive mutant of Atx translocates to the cytosol, ER and mitochondria of PC12 cells.

The results suggest the explanation of the mechanism by which β-ntxs hinder the production of ATP in poisoned nerve endings and open an important direction of study to advance the understanding of the mitochondrial function and dysfunction of endogenous GIIA sPLA₂.

Reference

[1] J. Šribar, L. Kovačič, J. Oberčkal, A. Ivanušec, T. Petan, J.W. Fox, I. Kržija, *Sci. Rep.* 2019, 9, 283.

adrijan.ivanusec@ijs.si

Acknowledgment

Supported by grants from the Slovenian Research Agency (P1-0207 and young researcher grant 1000-17-0106-6).

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Shape control and mechanism investigation

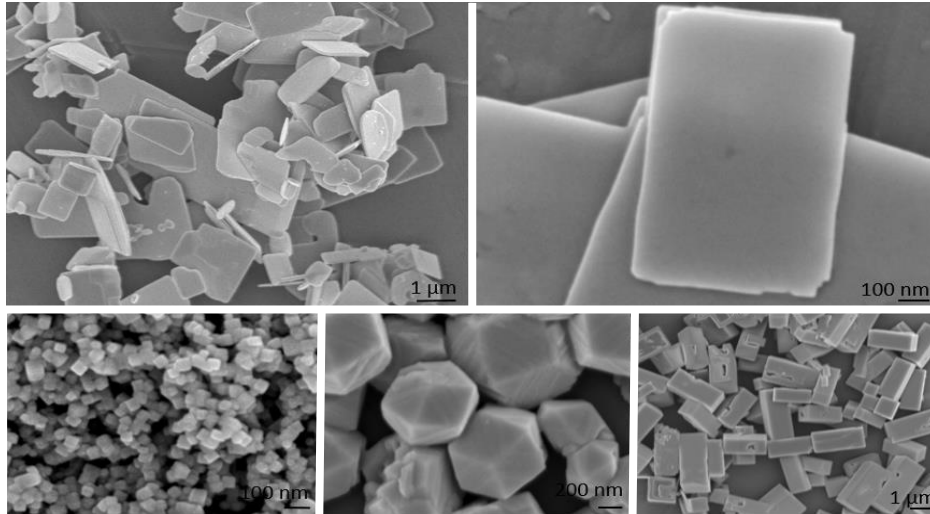
Mechanism of Topochemical Conversion of $\text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12}$ Plates
to SrTiO_3 Plates under Hydrothermal Conditions

Alja Čontala

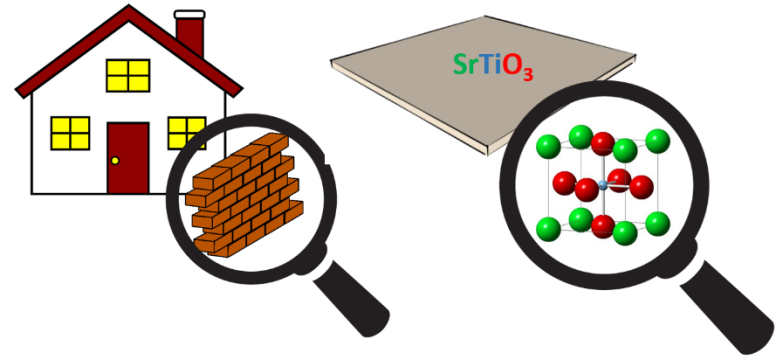
Advanced Materials Department (K9) JSI

Poster number: 25

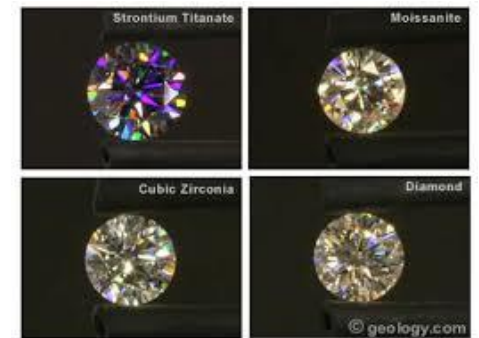
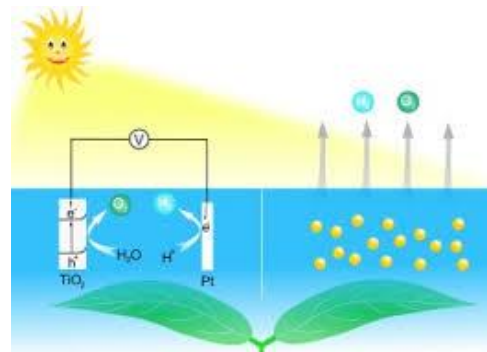
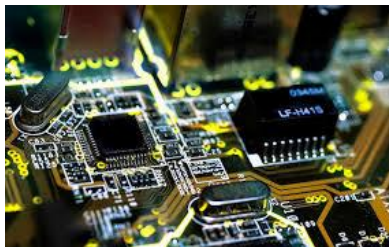
Synthesis – morphology - properties



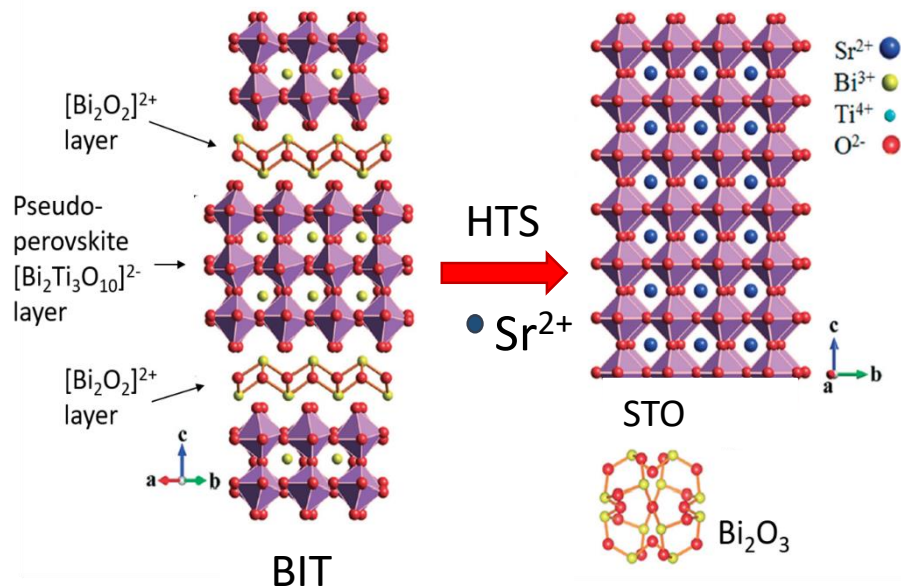
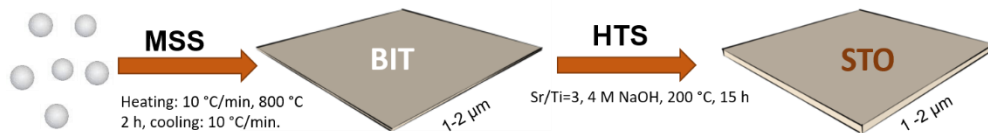
Crystal structure and preferential orientation



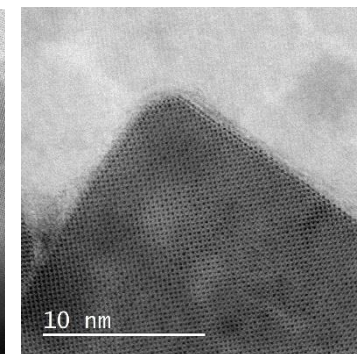
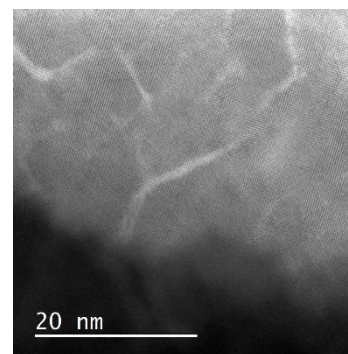
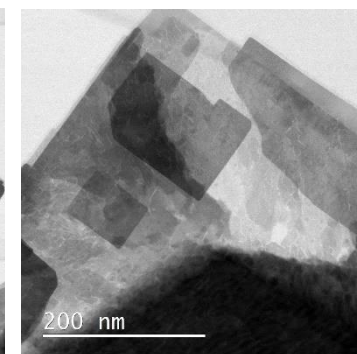
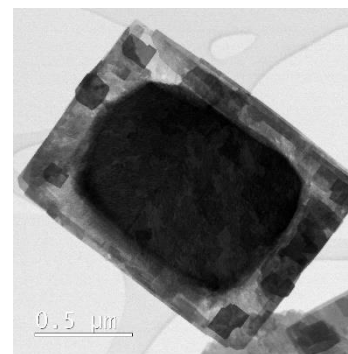
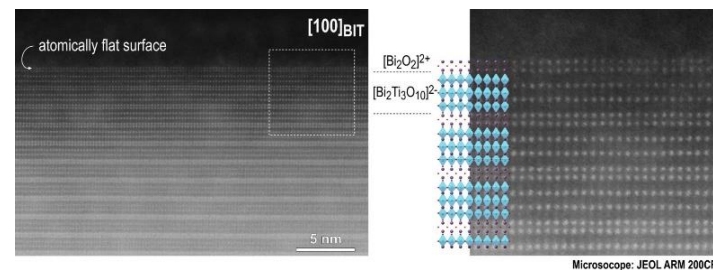
Application



Synthesis:




Examination of the mechanism by TEM:



You can find me by
the poster number
25

Mechanism of Topochemical Conversion of $\text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12}$ Plates to SrTiO_3 Plates under Hydrothermal Conditions

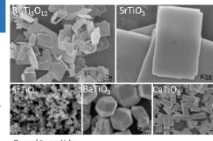


Alja ČONTALA^{1,2}, Nina DANEU¹, Matjaž SPREITZER¹ and Marjeta MAČEK KRŽMANC¹

¹ Advanced Materials Department, "Jožef Stefan" Institute, Jamova 39, Ljubljana, Slovenia
² Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School (Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies), Jamova 39, Ljubljana, Slovenia

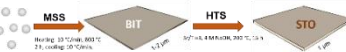
MOTIVATION

The synthesis of anisotropically shaped MTiO_3 (M= Ca, Sr, Ba) particles is a great challenge, because these particles tend to grow in cube- or sphere-like rather than in anisotropic shape due to the high symmetry of their crystal structure at the formation temperature. Different approaches to control the shape and size of ABO_3 -type perovskites were reported, including topochemical conversion.^{[1]-[6]} In this study, SrTiO_3 (STO) was chosen as a model system. Understanding the mechanism of topochemical conversion of $\text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12}$ (BIT) template platelets to STO platelets is of great interest, because the morphological characteristics influence the material's electrical and optical properties.

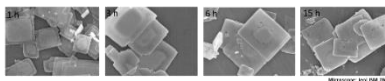


SYNTHESIS

- $\text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12}$ (BIT) synthesis in molten KCl/NaCl salt (M55) at 800 °C for 2 h.
→ Characterisation using SEM, TEM, XRD, DSC, BET.
- Washing with H_2O , 2 M HNO_3 and again with H_2O , freeze-drying.
→ Characterisation using SEM, TEM, XRD, DSC, BET.
- Topochemical synthesis of SrTiO_3 (STO) from $\text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12}$ under hydrothermal conditions (HTS).
→ Characterisation using SEM, TEM, EDS, XRD, DSC.
- Washing with H_2O , 1 M HNO_3 and again with H_2O , freeze-drying.
→ Characterisation using SEM, TEM, EDS, XRD, DSC.



REACTION MECHANISM



SEM micrographs of nanoplatelets after 1, 3, 6 and 15 hours of conversion

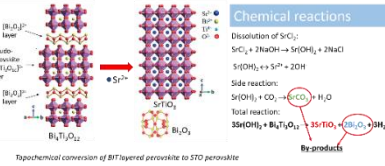
Chemical reactions

Dissolution of SrCl_2 :
 $\text{SrCl}_2 + 2\text{NaOH} \rightarrow \text{Sr(OH)}_2 + 2\text{NaCl}$

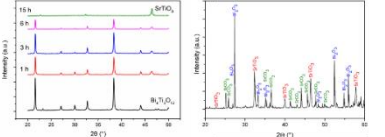
Side reactions:
 $\text{Sr(OH)}_2 + \text{CO}_2 \rightarrow \text{SrCO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$

Total reaction:
 $3\text{Sr(OH)}_2 + \text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12} \rightarrow 3\text{SrTiO}_3 + \text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$

By-products: Bi_2O_3



Topochemical conversion of BIT layered perovskite to STO perovskite



XRD diffractograms (as Si monocrystal) of (001)-oriented BIT nanoplatelets and (100)-oriented STO nanoplatelets with different amount of BIT residues after 1, 3, 6 and 15 hours of reaction (BT) and STO sample before washing with 2 M HNO_3 (BTg)


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

M-era.Net
Slovenian Research Agency

The authors acknowledge the project J2-6753 and the M-era.Net project 3184 HarvExFlax, which were financially supported by the Slovenian Research Agency and the Ministry of Higher Education Science and Technology, respectively.

TEM ANALYSIS

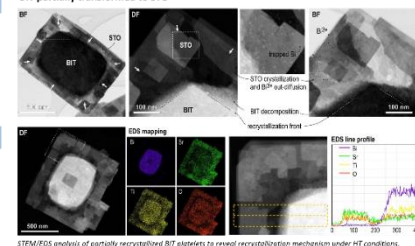
Starting BIT crystals



HAADF-STEM analysis of edge-on oriented starting $\text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12}$ crystals.

- the surface of BIT particles is atomically flat and BIT platelets are $[\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_2]^{2+}$ layer terminated.
- No defects are observed in BIT platelets.

BIT partially transformed to STO



STEM/EDS analysis of partially recrystallized BIT platelets to reveal recrystallization mechanism under HT conditions.

- BIT plates start to recrystallize to STO from the edges, recrystallization continues towards the center of the crystals.
- Many nucleation sites are formed around the initial BIT platelets.
- Nanocrystallites of STO grow along pseudo-perovskite layers of BIT.
- Bi^{3+} diffuses out of the structure through "exchange channels". Traces of Bi^{3+} remains trapped between formed STO nanocrystallites.
- Converted STO resembles mesocrystalline assembly of oriented nanocrystallites.

- CONCLUSIONS**
- STO nano-platelets were prepared from BIT template platelets under hydrothermal conditions and the morphology was preserved.
 - This is the first study of the mechanism of the topochemical conversion of BIT to STO under hydrothermal conditions.
 - Understanding this mechanism is important for preparation of other MTiO_3 (M= Ca, Ba) perovskite nanoplatelets using this template and method.

References:

- Zhang P, Cui T, Fujitaka M, et al. *Angew Chem*. 2017; 76: 5299-5303.
- Cao J, Huang X, Liu Y, Wu J, Ji Y. *Mater Res Express*. 2016; 3: 5903-5911.
- Hu D, Ma H, Tanaka Y, Zhou L, Feng Q. *Chem Mater*. 2015; 24: 4983-4994.
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- Wu J, Chang Y, Li W, et al. *CryprFinComm*. 2018; 20: 3384-3395.
- Čontala A., Maček Kržmanc M., Daneu N., Spreitzer M., *Acta Chim Slov*. 2018; 65: 630-637.

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Milk as an «imprinting» of the area of origin: the case study of Parmigiano Reggiano cheese

Marta Boito

¹Department of S.C.V.S.A., University of Parma

²Jožef Stefan Institute

Poster number: **28**

INTRO&AIMS

METHOD&RESULT

CONCLUSION

Milk n°1



Milk n°2



Milk n°3



Milk n°..



Origin of raw materials?

Parmigiano Reggiano cheese: Protected Designation of Origin (**PDO**)



${}^a\text{XZ}$ Isotopes \longrightarrow Stable isotopes

To check the authenticity and geographical origin of food

Aim: analysis of stable isotope ratios

${}^{18}\text{O}/{}^{16}\text{O}$

${}^2\text{H}/{}^1\text{H}$

${}^{13}\text{C}/{}^{12}\text{C}$

${}^{15}\text{N}/{}^{14}\text{N}$

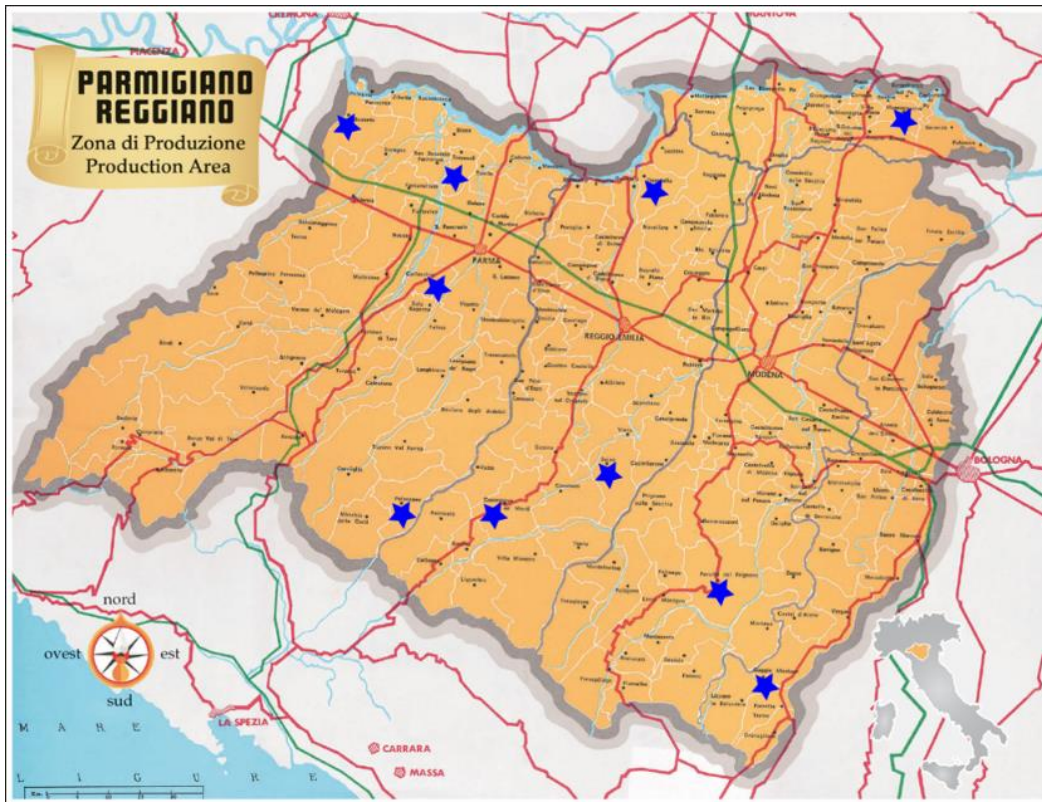


To plan a predictive model for the origin of milk - groundwater and feed -

- Environmental characteristics

★ 10 cattlesheds plain hill mountain

Monthly sampling: from February 2018 to January 2019



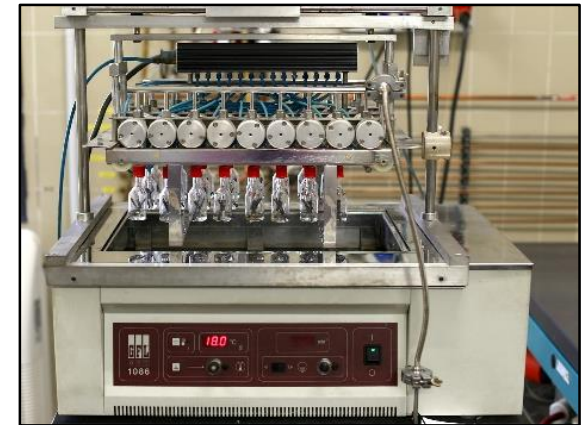
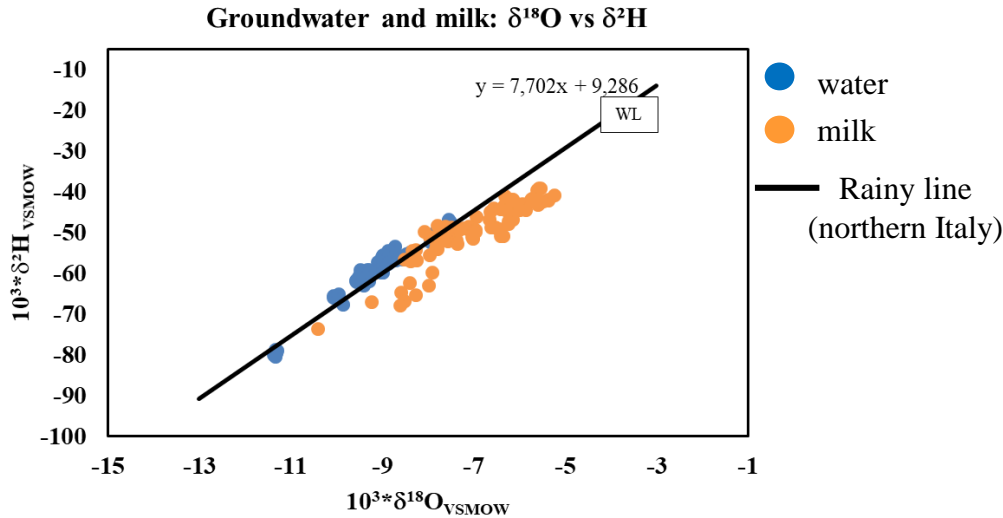
Source: Parmigiano Reggiano Consortium

- $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$, $^{15}\text{N}/^{14}\text{N}$: hay and fodder
- $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$, $^2\text{H}/^1\text{H}$: groundwater
- $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$, $^2\text{H}/^1\text{H}$: milk



Preliminary data

- 10 cattlesheds



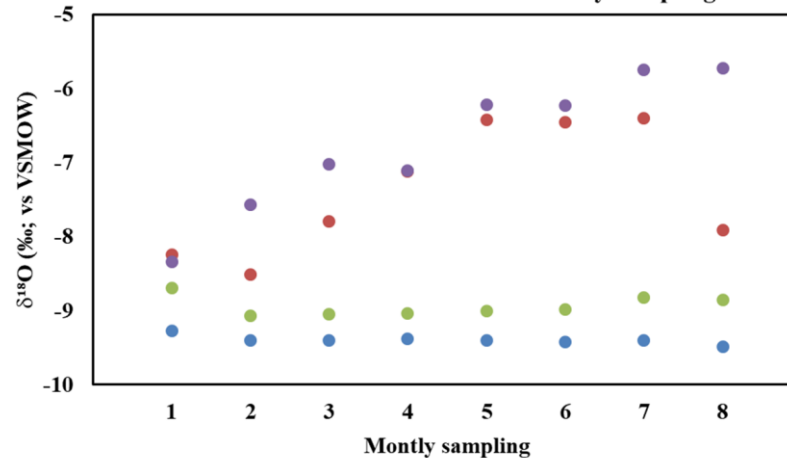
Automatic device-HDO-IRMS
($\delta^{18}\text{O} \pm 0.05\text{‰}$; $\delta^2\text{H} \pm 1\text{‰}$)

- 2 cattlesheds

plain

mountain

Plain and mountain: $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ vs monthly sampling



Plain:

- water
- whey

Mountain:

- water
- whey

- 1 February
- 2 March
- 3 April
- 4 May
- 5 June
- 6 July
- 7 August
- 8 September

α (milk-water)=1,00211



groundwater → milk → climatic factors

- Differentiation between plain and mountain milk
- Correlation between values belonging to the same cattleshed

In the future...



Research of scientific and economic interest:

- **Food origin guarantee** (milk and fodder)
- **Food adulteration** (food fraud)



Poster number: 28



Thanks for the kind attention!

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Development of Hydrogen Peroxide Gas Sensor for Security Applications

Jelena Isailović¹, P. Jovanovič², V. Jovanovski¹

¹*Department of Analytical Chemistry, National Institute of Chemistry, Ljubljana*

²*Department of Catalysis and Chemical Reaction Engineering, National Institute of Chemistry, Ljubljana*

Poster number: **36**

Terror attacks

◦Prevent◦

The casualties and loss of human lives and historical monuments.

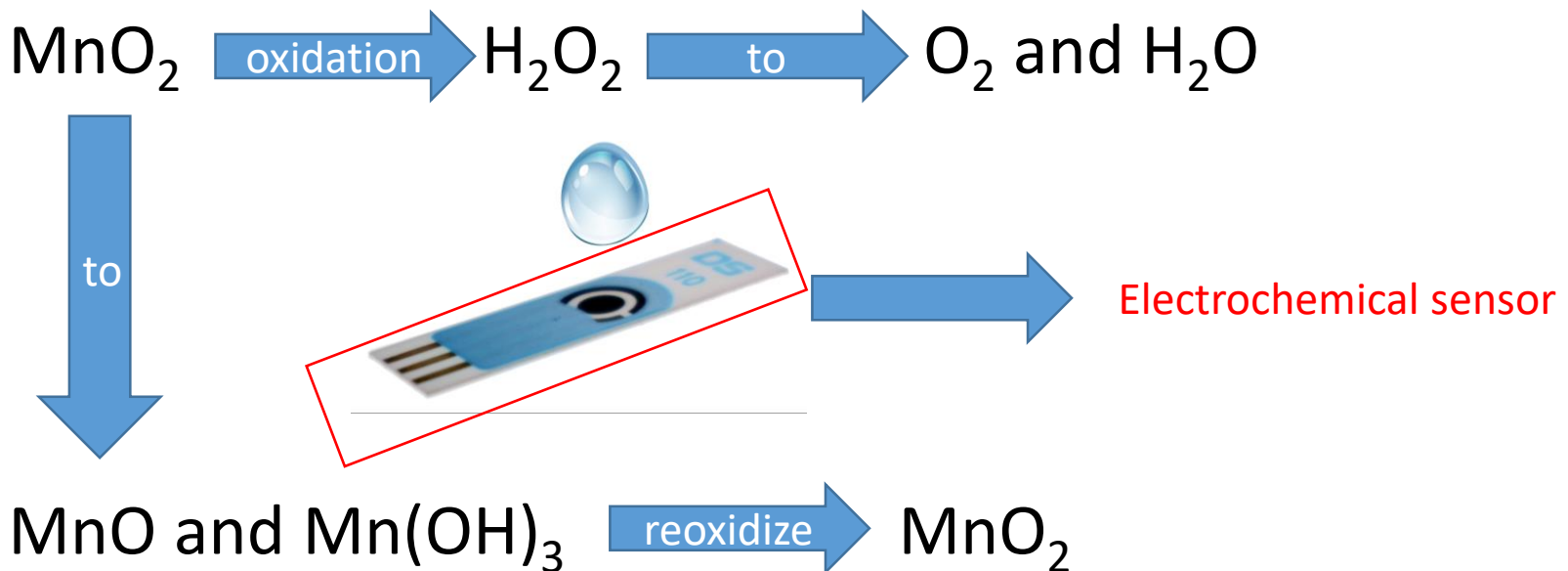
◦Protect◦

National intellectual properties, reduce vulnerability to attack by improving sensors for detection.



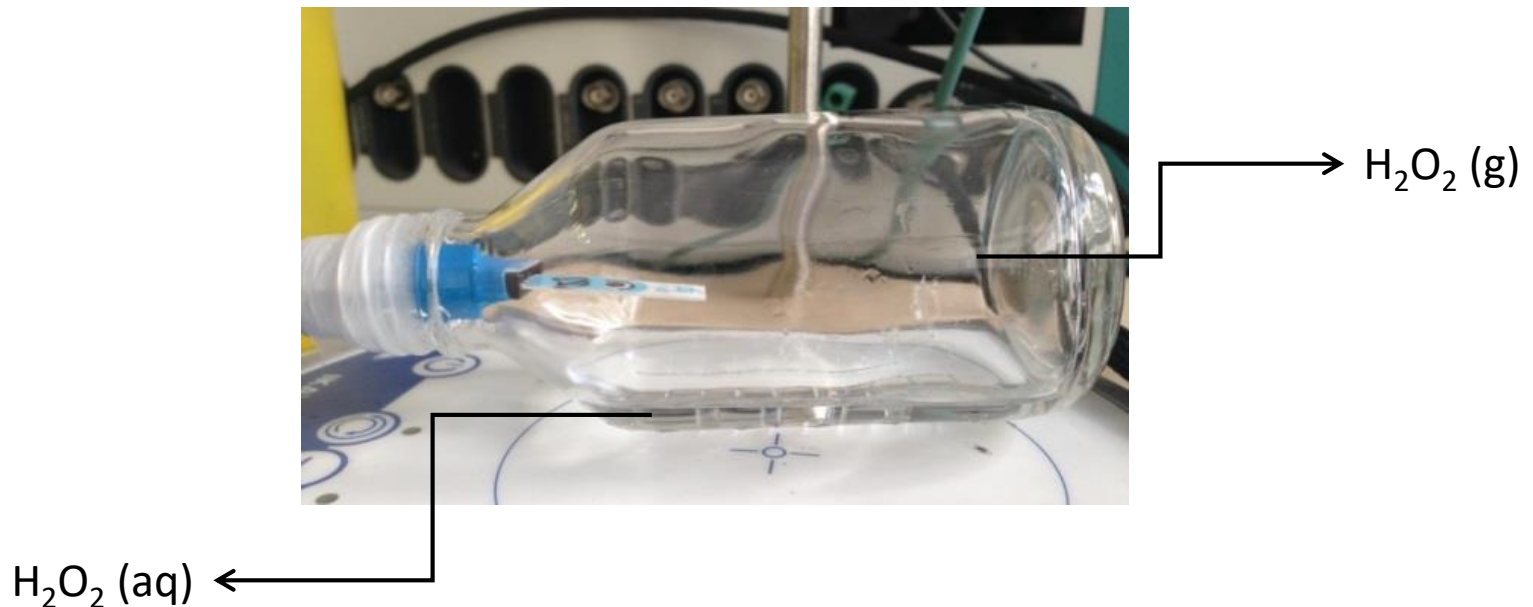
How are we contributing...

- By detecting H_2O_2 which is both precursor and degradation product of peroxy explosives.
- Using indirect method with MnO_2 , we can see the presence of H_2O_2 in the gas phase, by the following scheme:



A lot more to improve...

- I am working with different screen printed electrodes, and different electrolytes, to find the best system which can detect gaseous peroxide in small concentrations, as fast as possible.



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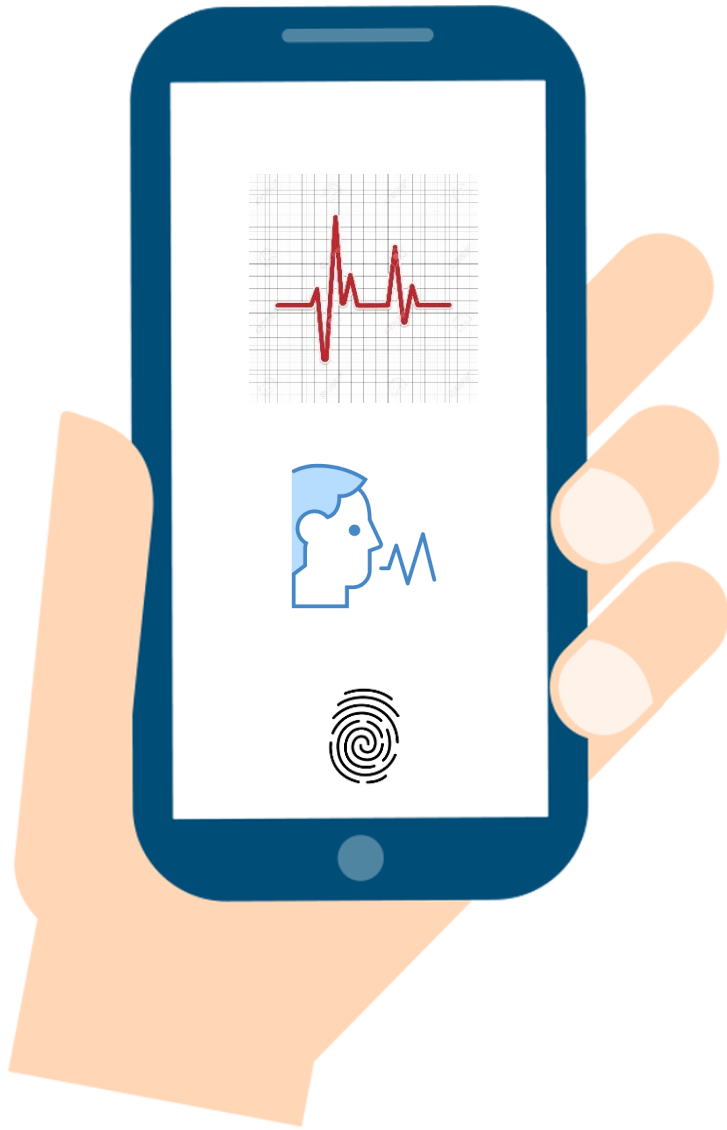


Compositional study of lead-free sodium potassium niobate based piezoelectric ceramics

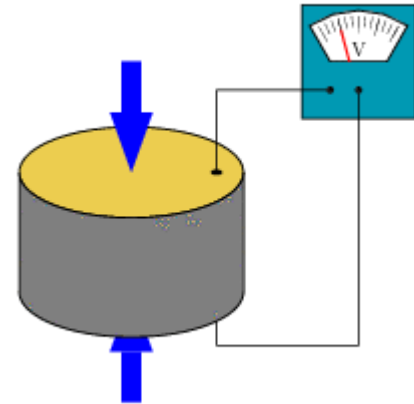
Oana Andreea Condurache,

¹Electronic Ceramics Department, Jožef Stefan Institute, Jamova 39, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

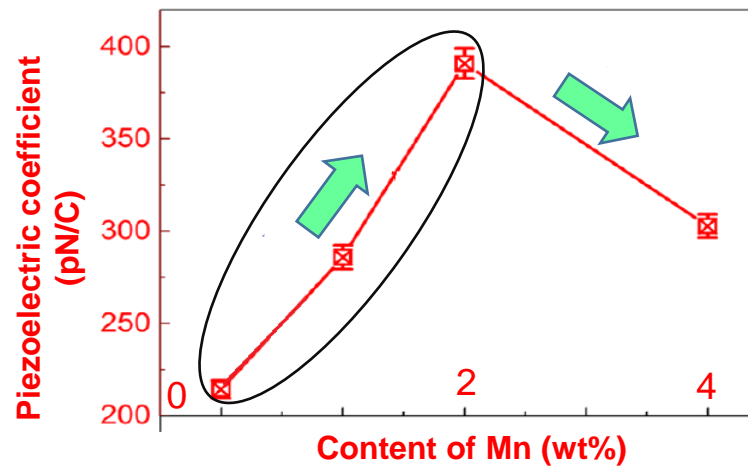
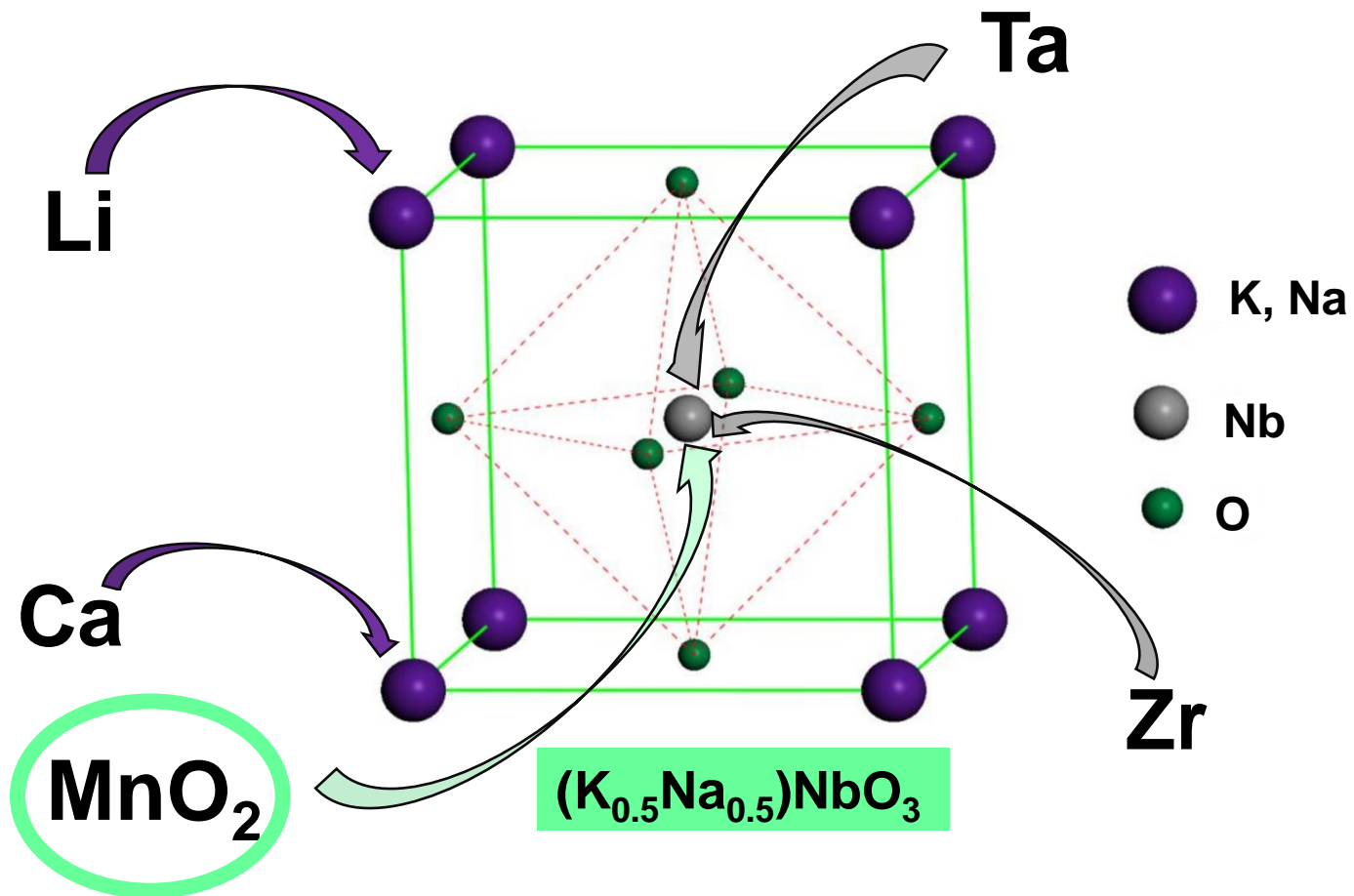
Poster number: 62



Piezoelectric effect



Mechanical energy \leftrightarrow Electrical energy

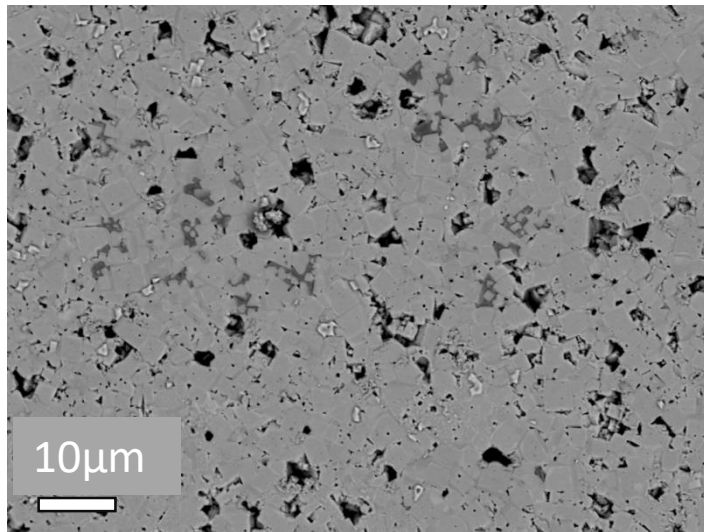


$0.95(\text{K}_{0.49}\text{Na}_{0.49}\text{Li}_{0.02})(\text{Nb}_{0.8}\text{Ta}_{0.2})\text{O}_3 - 0.05\text{CaZrO}_3$ with 2 wt %
 MnO_2 (KNLNT)

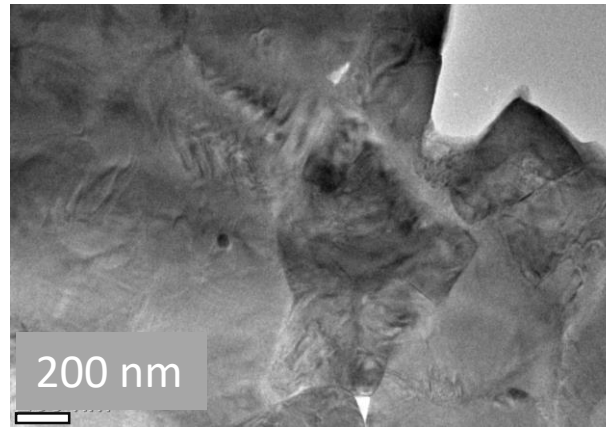
Micro level

Nano level

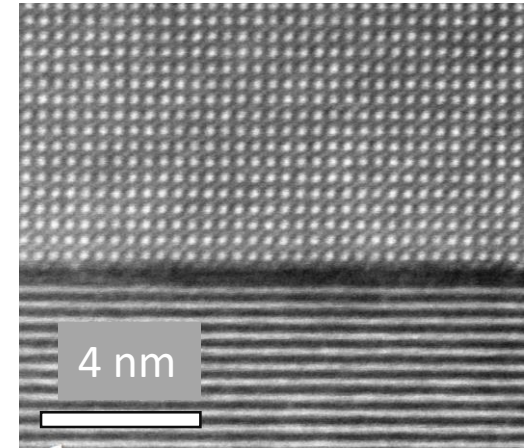
Atomic level



By SEM

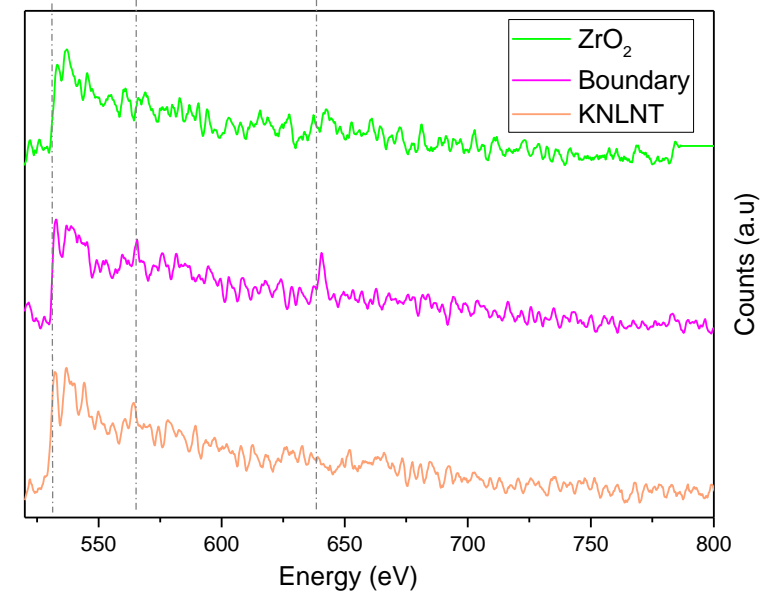
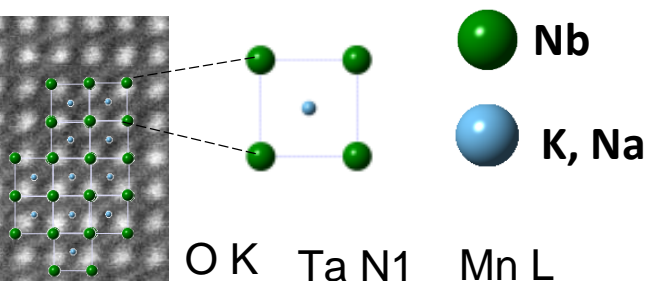
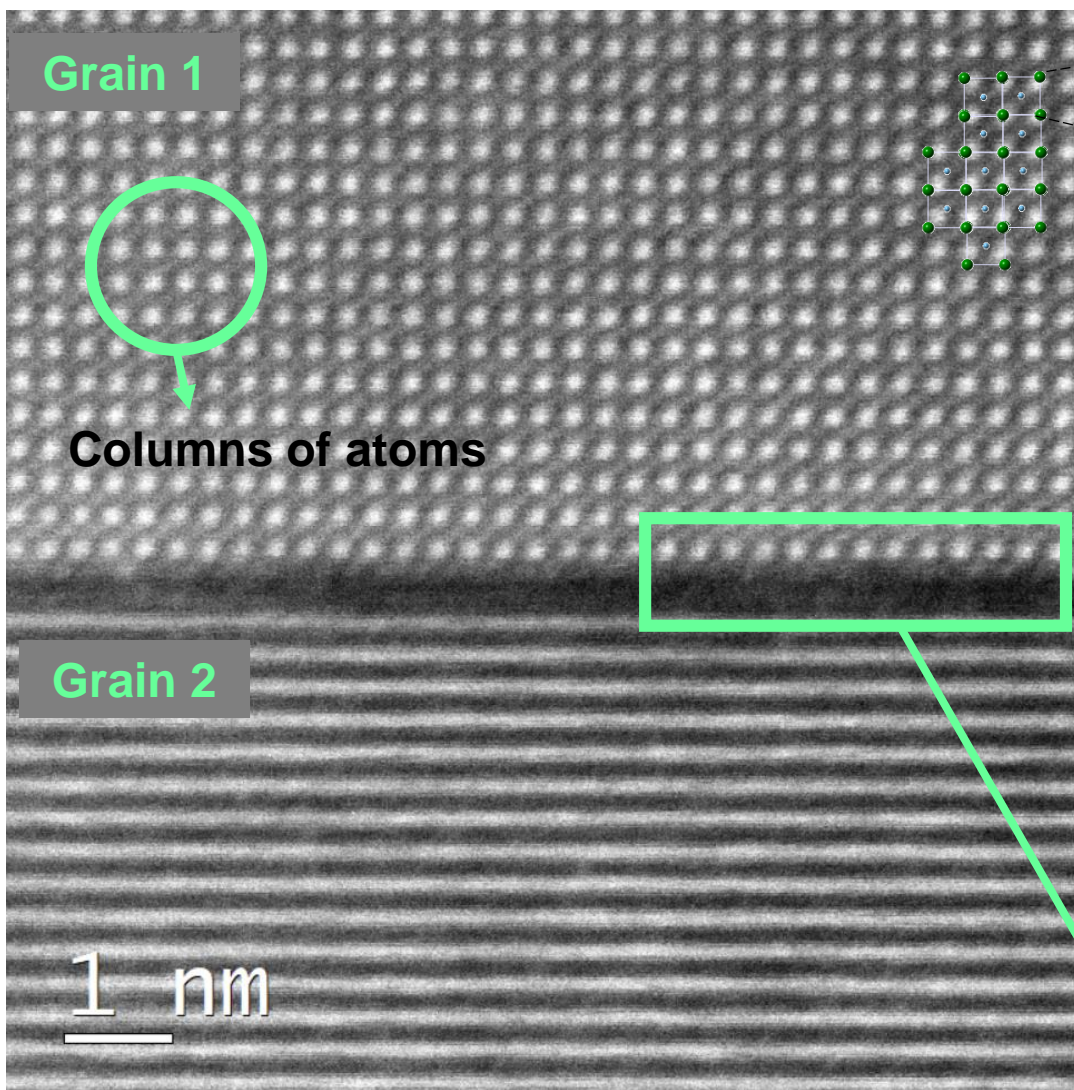


By TEM



By STEM

Is all about small things.... Small things change big things....



Atomic layer of
secondary phases

STEM image

Compositional study of lead-free sodium potassium niobate based piezoelectric ceramics

Oana Condurache^{1,2}, Kristlan Radan¹, Brilgita Kmet¹, Goran Dražič^{1,2,3}, Uroš Prah^{1,2}, Barbara Malič^{1,2} and Andreja Benčan^{1,2}

¹Electronic Ceramics Department-KS, Jožef Stefan Institute, Jamova 39, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

²Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School, Jamova 39, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

³National Institute of Chemistry, Hajdrihova 19, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

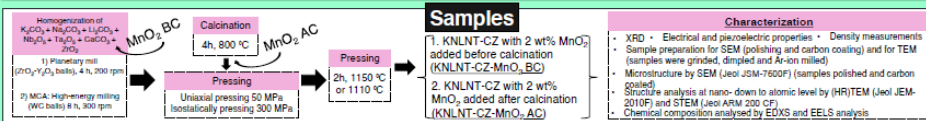
oana.condurache@ijs.si Supervisor: prof. dr. Andreja Benčan



Introduction

Piezoelectrics are one of the key components of modern technology. However, commercial piezoelectric ceramics are in majority **lead-based** and consequently, **toxic and environmentally unfriendly**. Things must change! But how? A **possible solution** was given by Wang et al. [1] who reported piezoelectric properties comparable with lead-based materials in (K,Na,Li)(Nb,Ta)O₃-CaZrO₃ with 2 wt% MnO₂ (KNLNT-CZ-MnO₂). Notwithstanding, there is still room for understanding the relationship between synthesis route and properties.

The aim of the present work was to investigate the influence of the addition of MnO₂ either before (BC) or after the calcination step (AC) on the microstructure and chemical inhomogeneities in KNLNT-CZ-MnO₂ samples prepared by mechanochemical activation synthesis route (MCA) [2, 3] and, ultimately, understanding their influence on the functional macroscopic properties. For this purpose complementary microscopic techniques, combined with analytical tools were employed.



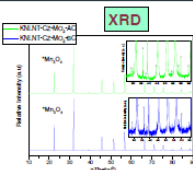
Samples

1. KNLNT-CZ with 2 wt% MnO₂ added before calcination (KNLNT-CZ-MnO₂-BC)
2. KNLNT-CZ with 2 wt% MnO₂ added after calcination (KNLNT-CZ-MnO₂-AC)

Characterization

- XRD • Electrical and piezoelectric properties • Density measurements
- Sample preparation for SEM (polishing and carbon coating) and for TEM (samples were grinded, dimpled and Au-ion milled)
- Microstructure by SEM (Jeol JSM-7600F) (samples polished and carbon coated)
- Structure analysis at nano- down to atomic level by (HR)TEM (Jeol JEM-2010F) and STEM (Jeol ARM 200 CF)
- Chemical composition analysed by EDXS and EELS analysis

Results



From quantitative Rietveld refinement:

Phases	KNLNT-CZ-MnO ₂ -BC	KNLNT-CZ-MnO ₂ -AC
KNLNT orthorhombic	41.84	51.07
KNLNT tetragonal	57.14	47.91
Mn ₂ O ₃	1.22	1.02

Secondary phases detected from XRD.

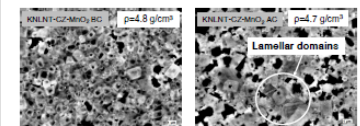
Electrical properties by Impedance analyzer
The coupling coefficient *k_p* by resonance method
The *d₃₃* coefficient measured with a piezometer

Functional properties

	KNLNT-CZ-MnO ₂ -BC	KNLNT-CZ-MnO ₂ -AC
Relative permittivity ϵ_r	1918	2132
Dielectric losses $\tan\delta$	0.034	0.05
Conductivity σ (S/m)	3.34E10 ³	2.37E10 ³
Piezoelectric coefficient d_{33} (pC/N)	140	238
The coupling factor k_p (%)	27	40

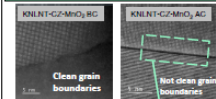
The piezoelectric properties are improved when MnO₂ is added after the calcination step.

Microstructure (by SEM)

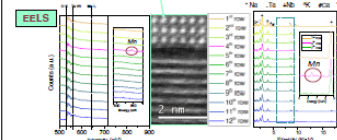


Adding MnO₂ after calcination resulted in larger grains, and consequently, larger domains.

Grain boundaries analysis (STEM)

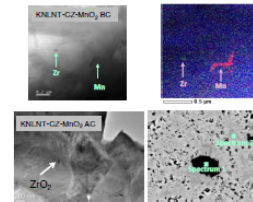


When the MnO₂ is added after calcination, an amorphous atomic layer of Mn rich phase is formed at grain boundaries.



Moreover, an amorphous atomic layer of Mn rich phase is formed at the boundary between ZrO₂ and the matrix.

EDXS analysis by TEM and SEM

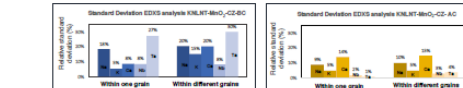


The EDXS analysis proved that there are two secondary phases that are not dissolving in the perovskite matrix: Zr rich and Mn rich.

Slightly differences from the nominal composition in both samples.

	Na (at%)	K (at%)	Ca (at%)	Zr (at%)	Nb (at%)	Ta (at%)
KNLNT-CZ-MnO ₂ -BC (average of 20 points)	7.20	8.51	0.87	0.71	15.47	4.02
KNLNT-CZ-MnO ₂ -AC (average of 20 points)	7.18	8.35	1.06	0.81	15.88	4.62
Nominal Composition	8.33	8.33	1.00	1.00	15.20	5.80

When adding MnO₂ after calcination, the sample is more homogeneous within a grain but also between grains in comparison with the sample in which MnO₂ was added before calcination.



Conclusions

- The step in which MnO₂ is added in the synthesis process can influence the structure and chemical homogeneity down to atomic level, and subsequently, the final functional properties.
- The sample for which the MnO₂ was added after the calcination step shows improved piezoelectric properties, however showing slightly enhanced dielectric losses (5% compared with 3.5%). A higher piezoelectric activity can be correlated with a higher degree of homogeneity, however the slight increase in the losses can be due to the presence of secondary phases at grain boundaries.

References

- [1] K. Wang et al., *Adv. Funct. Mater.* 2013, 23, 4079–4086.
- [2] T. Ržajac et al., *Ceramics* 2018, 1, 304–318.
- [3] K. Radan et al., *Ceramics* 2018, 1, 304–318.

Abbreviations

- XRD: X-Ray Diffraction; SEM: Scanning Electron Microscopy; HRTEM: (High-Resolution) Transmission Electron Microscopy; STEM: Scanning Transmission Electron Microscopy; EDXS: Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectroscopy; EELS: Electron Energy Loss Spectroscopy.

Acknowledgements

This work was funded by Slovenian Research Agency (PR-0876) and by Research Core Funding (P9-0105)



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15 and 16 April 2019, Planica

Authenticity and safety of food supplements in Slovenian market

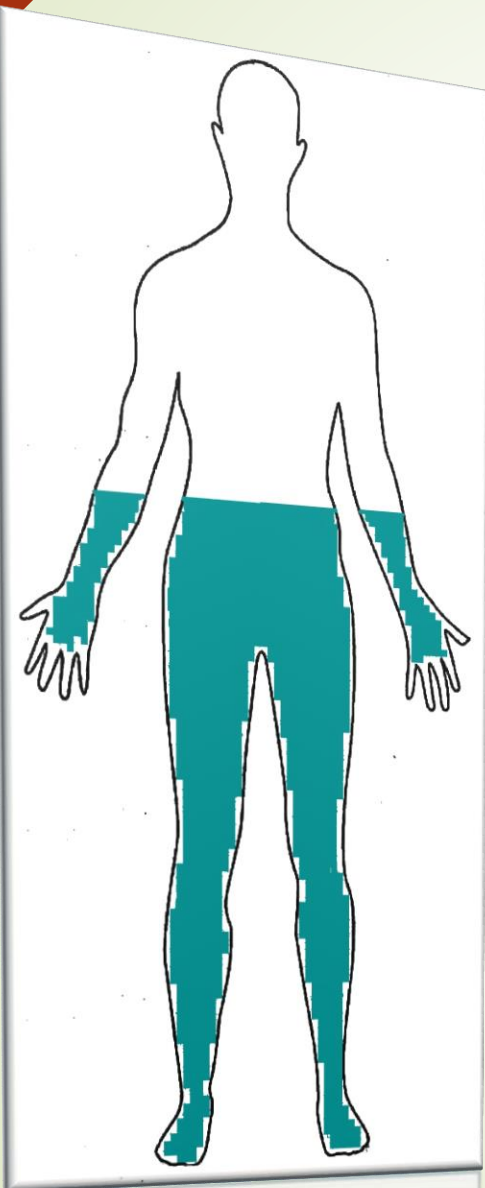


Jasmina Masten,

Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School,
Dept. of Environmental Sciences, Jožef Stefan Institute

Poster number: **57**

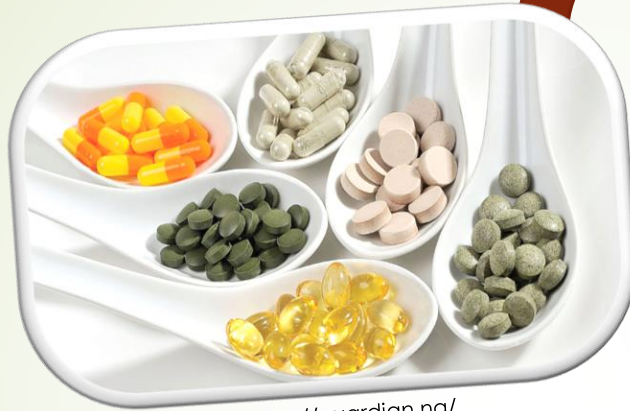
Satisfying the need for nutrients



<http://littledoglost.blogspot.com/>

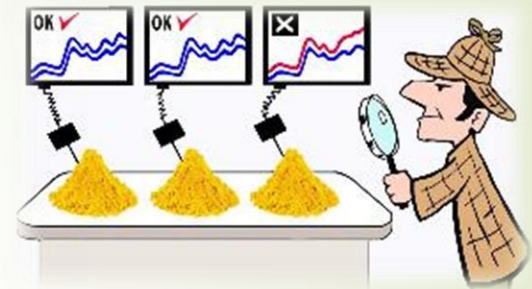
Poster number: 57

Quality and safety monitoring?



<https://guardian.ng/>

Inspection?



(Illustration Sorensen et al., 2018)



<http://clipart-library.com/>

Safety,
quality?



<https://ambical.com/>

Authenticity?



<https://www.eurofins.de/>

Poster number: 57

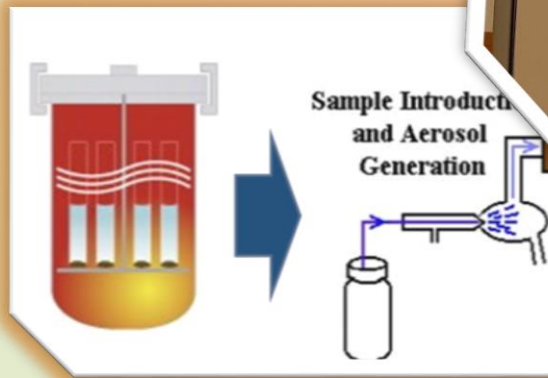
Authenticity and safety: Stable isotope ratio and elemental analysis



X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF)



Inductively Coupled

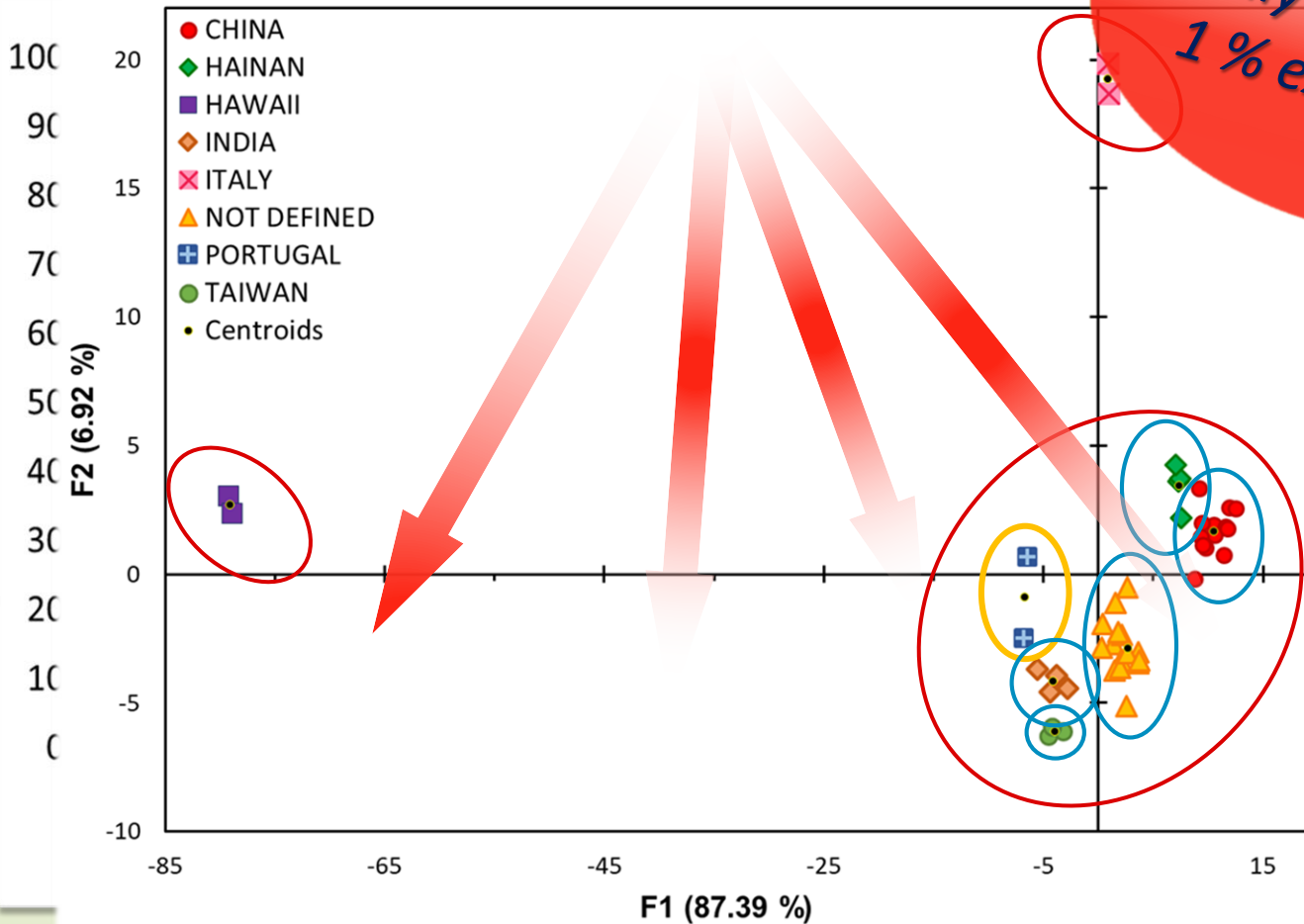


Elemental Analysis – Isotope Ratio
Mass Spectrometry (EA-IRMS), high
temperature TC/EA-IRMS

<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/82362334.pdf>, <https://slideplayer.cz/slide/2012246/>

Poster number: 57

Promising results!



Acknowledgements



ANALYSIS OF ELEMENT COMPOSITION AND STABLE ISOTOPE RATIOS OF LIGHT ELEMENTS FOR CHARACTERIZATION OF SPIRULINA FOOD SUPPLEMENTS FROM SLOVENIAN MARKET

Tamrina Masten^{1,2}, Marja Jagodic^{1,3}, Lidija Strojnik^{1,4}, Marjan Nečemer², Katarina Vogel-Mikuč^{1,4}, Nives Ogrinc^{1,2*}

¹Department of Environmental Sciences, Jožef Stefan Institute, Javorje 21, Ljubljana, Slovenia
²Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
³Department of Law and Radiation Energy Physics, Jožef Stefan Institute, Javorje 21, Ljubljana, Slovenia
⁴Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Spirulina potential biomarkers and the stable isotopic composition of carbon, nitrogen, sulfur, hydrogen and oxygen can be affected by location of production and environmental conditions (climate change and variability) that influence algal growth [1]-[2]. Geographical origin of microalgae and the authenticity of algal products can be discriminated using these parameters. Objective of this study was to determine geographical origin, authenticity and safety of the Spirulina food supplements in the Slovenian market using light element stable isotope ratio and element composition analysis.

Methodology: 47 Spirulina samples: Hawaii, China, Italy, Portugal, Taiwan, India

MACRO- AND MICROELEMENT ANALYSIS: X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF), Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS)

STABLE ISOTOPE ANALYSIS: Elemental Analysis - Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (EA-IRMS), High-temperature TGA-IRMS

Results: Geographical origin and authenticity

Stable isotope ratio and elemental composition analysis was used to determine geographical origin and authenticity of the samples:

Stable isotope composition of the Spirulina samples:

- $\delta^{13}C$: from -22.2‰ to -12.7‰
- $\delta^{15}N$: from -5.6‰ to 23.8‰
- $\delta^{34}S$: from -3.8‰ to 23.8‰
- δ^2H : from 23.2‰ to 27.2‰
- $\delta^{18}O$: from -208‰ to -176‰

Results: Elemental composition

Toxic trace elements content:

- Major toxic values (USP) determined by European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) were not exceeded for:
 - arsenic (1.3-7.7 µg/kg dwt)
 - cadmium (1.0-14.6 µg/kg dwt)
 - lead (1.0-14.6 µg/kg dwt)
- USP for mercury (5.1 µg/kg dwt) was 2% exceeded in one conventional sample (0.11 µg/kg dwt).
- Average values in analyzed samples were well below the USP!

Conclusions

- Significant differentiation of samples originating from different countries was found by DA taking into account stable isotope ratio and macro- and microelemental composition.
- $\delta^{13}C$, $\delta^{15}N$, $\delta^{34}S$, δ^2H values varied greatly among the samples, which is attributed to different cultivation systems (open or closed), which affect $\delta^{13}C$, $\delta^{15}N$ and δ^2H values, and different nutrient mediums affecting $\delta^{15}N$ and $\delta^{34}S$ values.
- Preliminary results indicate that Spirulina is a good nutritional source of macro- and microelements such as Fe, Ca, Se, Mn and R.
- Average values of toxic trace elements did not exceed the USP determined by EFSA.

*Corresponding author: nives.ogrinc@ijs.si

Thank you!

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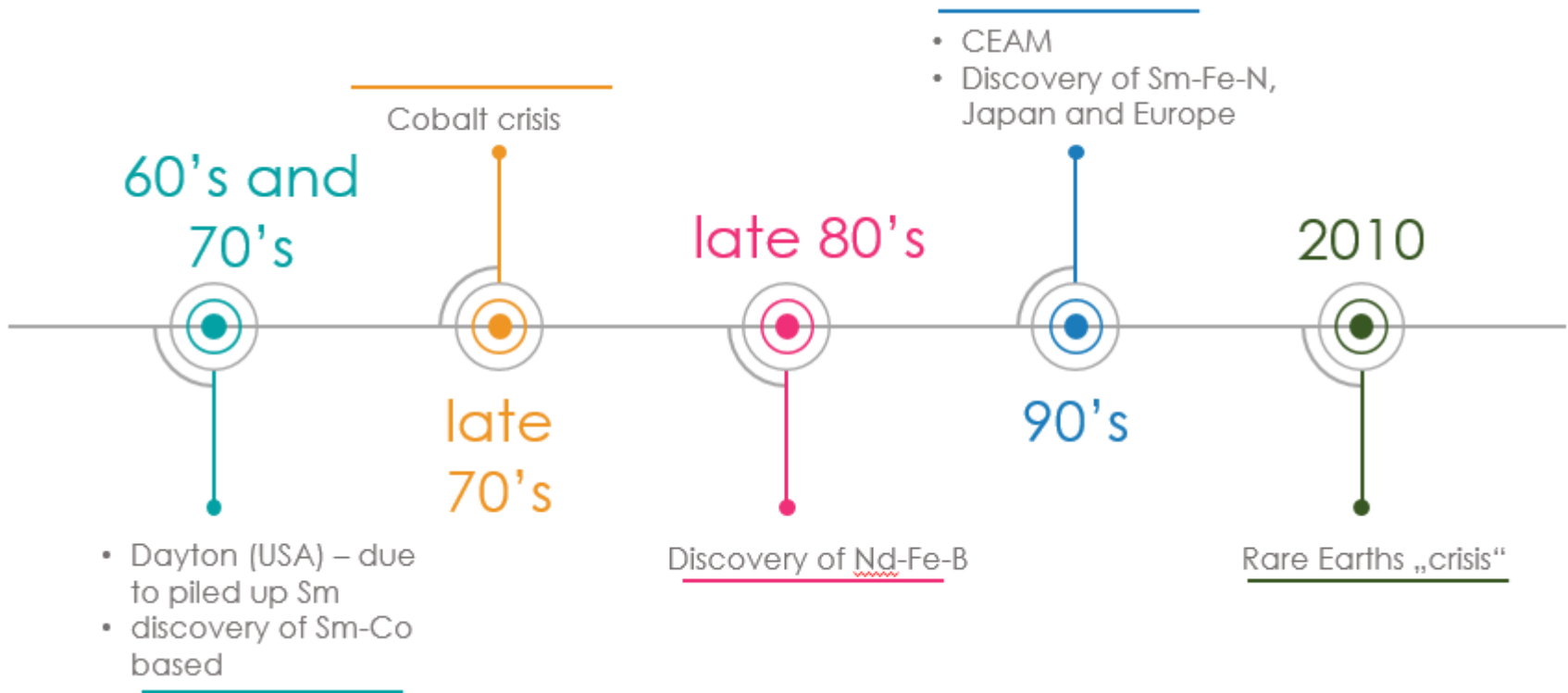
Corrosion protection of SmFeN magnetic materials

Ana Damnjanović

Kolektor Group, Si; MPS, Si

Poster number: **55**

Development of Rare Earth based magnets



- corrosion costs 3%-4% of GDP
- between **US\$375 and \$875 billion** per year on a global basis could be saved

Future trends:

- Recycle RE materials
- No RE
- Extend life shell

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Bacterial degradation of plant biopolymers for making highly valuable products

Jutra Černilogar

Jožef Stefan institute, Department of Environmental Science, Ljubljana, Slovenia

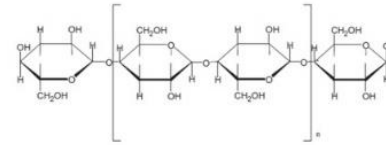
Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Poster number: **40**

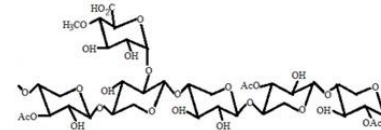
Plant biomass



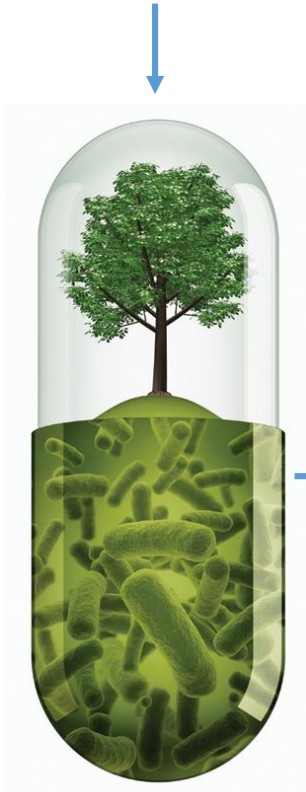
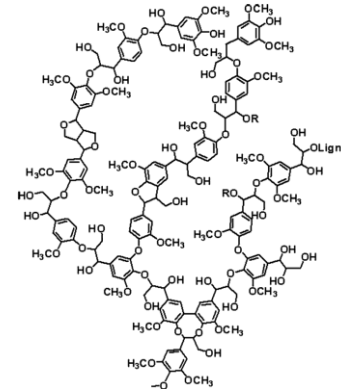
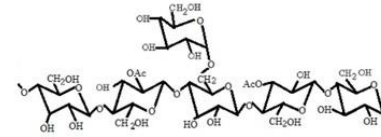
cellulose



hemicellulose



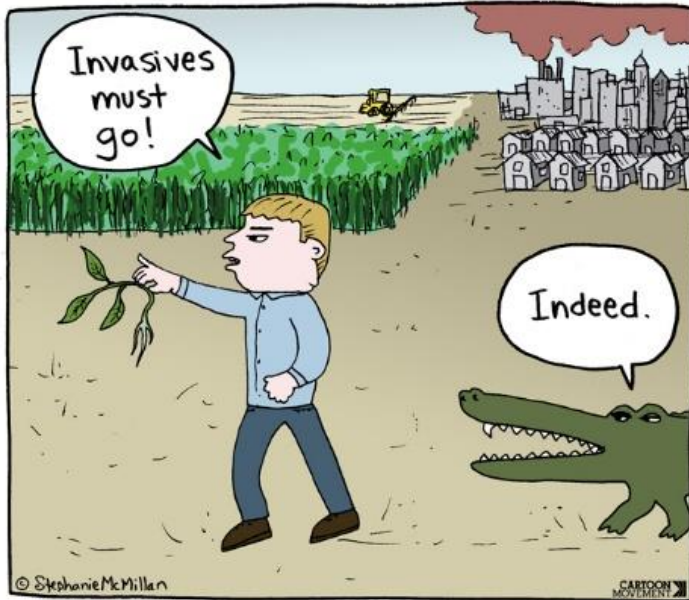
lignin



enzymes

- ferulic acid,
- vanillin,
- vanillic acid,...

Invasive species

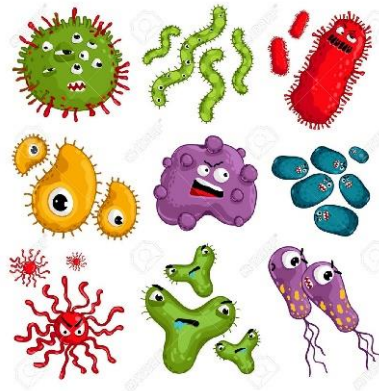


Harmful?
Eliminate it?

Like other plant biomass,
they have a great
potential!

Benefits of invasive
plants:

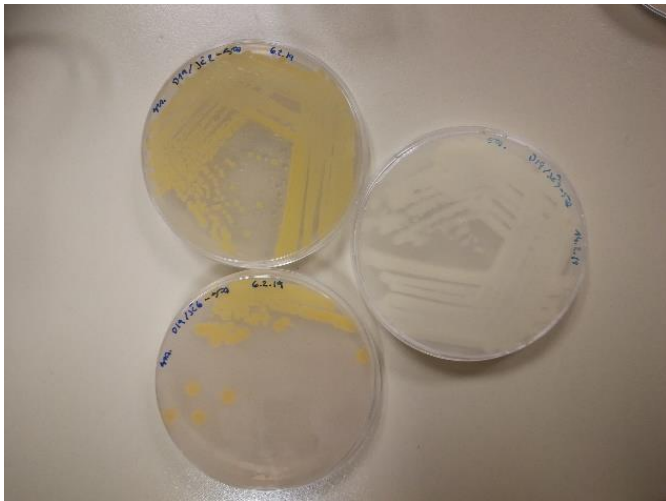
- growing fast → a lot of biomass
- easily accessible for use



→ Ferulic acid,
vanillin, vanillic
acid,...

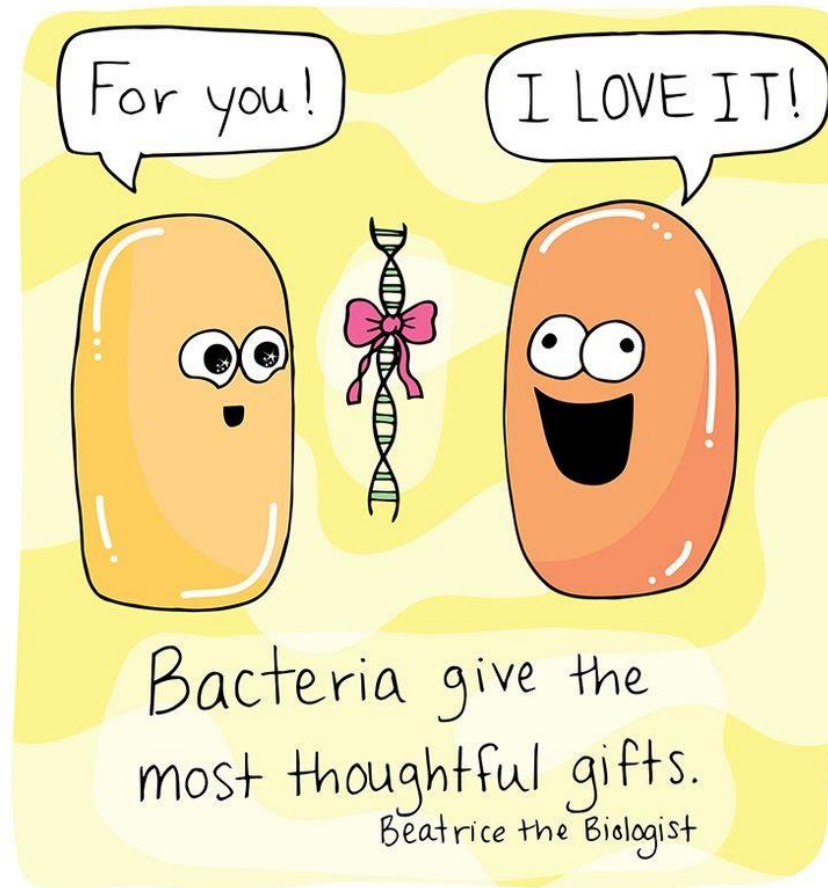


Selective
media



Enzymes with
high activity to
break lignin's
bonds

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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Do we have to choose between
our car and clean air?

Petra Stražar,
Institut Jožef Stefan

Poster number: **53**





We have a solution?

- Creating a new material (catalyst) that will eliminate all sulphur in fossil fuels.
- Made out of cheap material (zinc oxide and nickel).
- Can be recycled!



Thank you for listening

Poster number **53** waits for you and
your questions

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Liquid magnet

Patricija Hribar Boštjančič



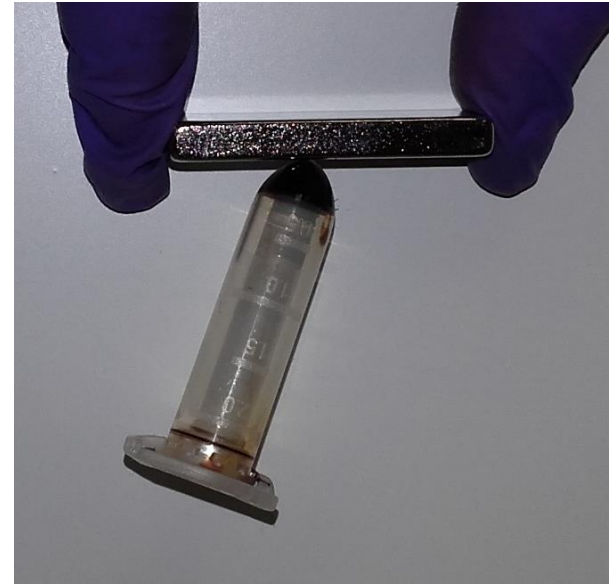
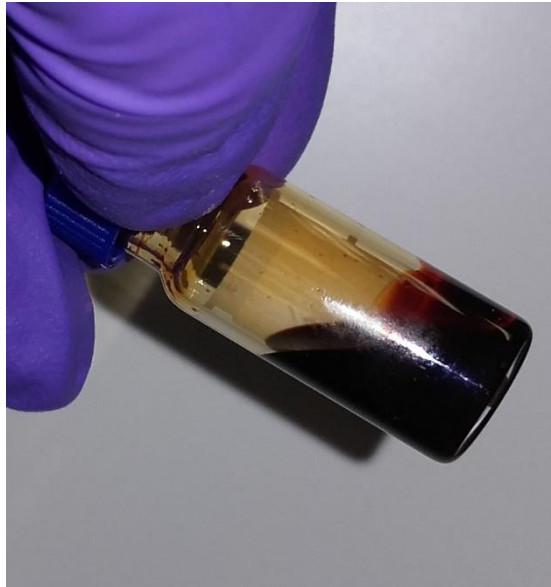
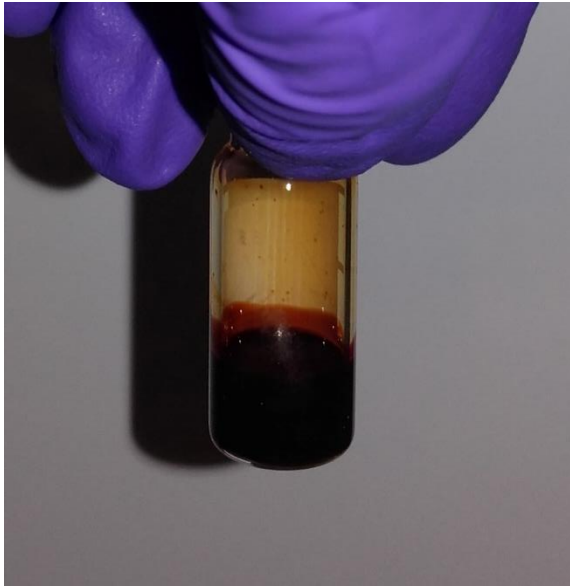
Department of Complex Matter



Jožef Stefan IPS

Poster number: **10**

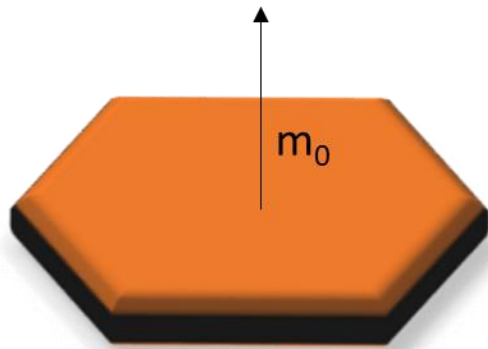
Liquid magnet



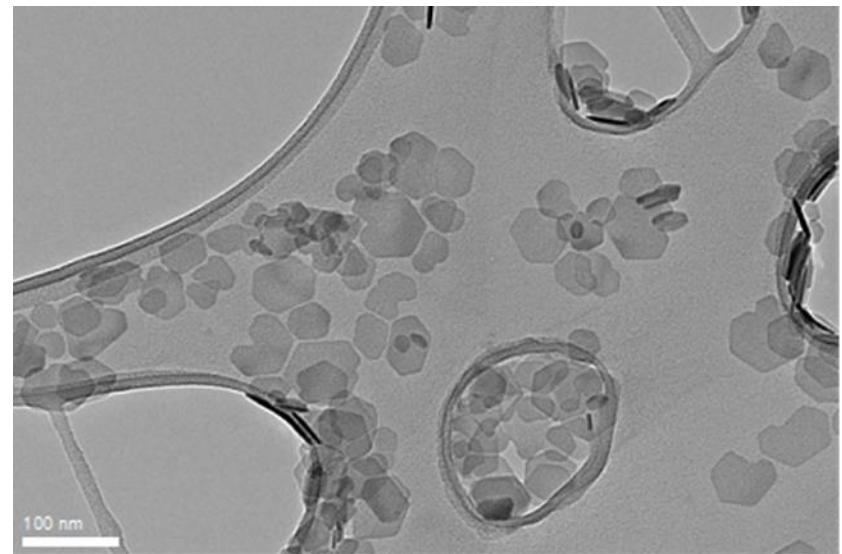
It is a dark brown liquid.

The liquid magnet composition

- Formation of a liquid magnet - barium hexaferrite (BHF) nanoplatelets + 1-butanol (concentrated) [1].



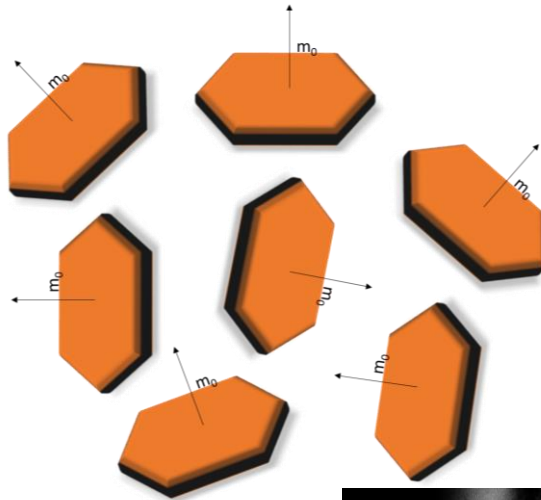
Barium hexaferrite nanoplatelet.



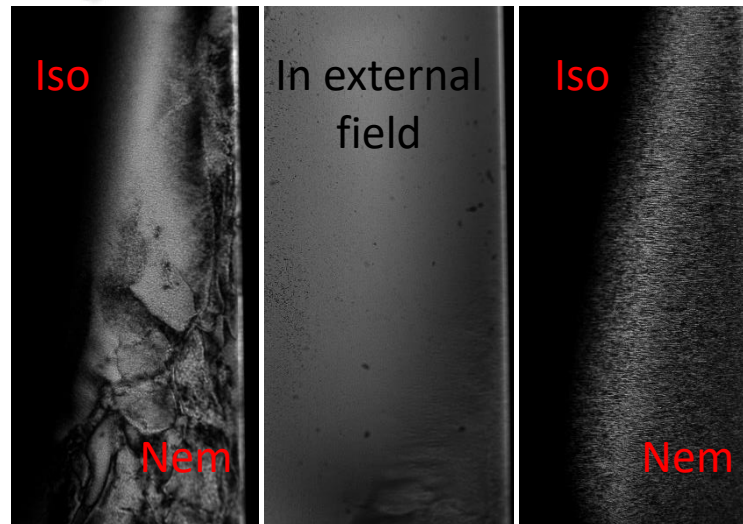
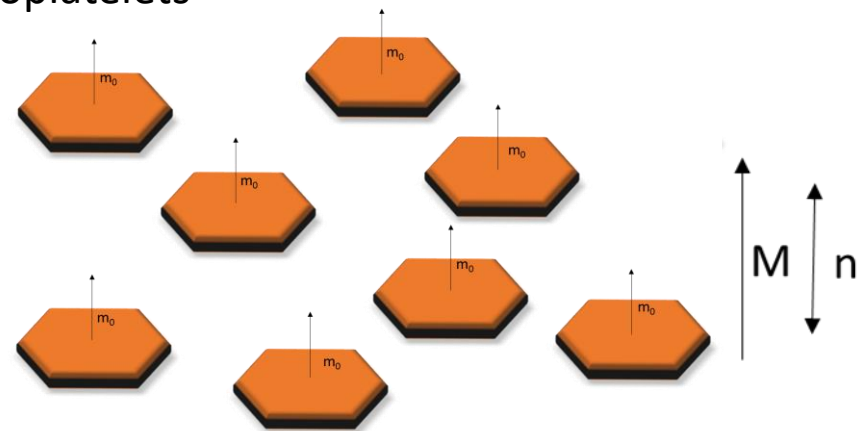
TEM image of barium hexaferrite nanoplatelets.

Isotropic and nematic suspension

Isotropic suspension of the nanoplatelets



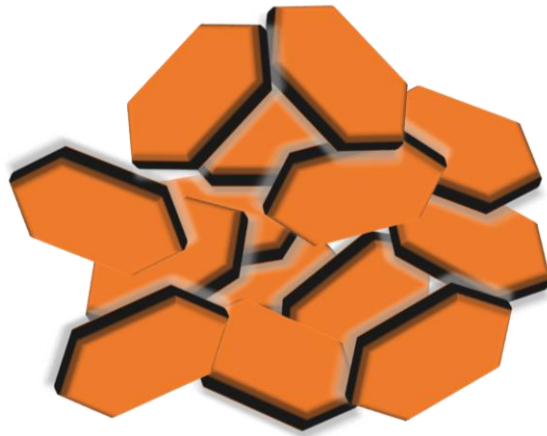
Ferromagnetic nematic suspension of the nanoplatelets



Formation of domains in 1-butanol ferromagnetic nematic suspension.

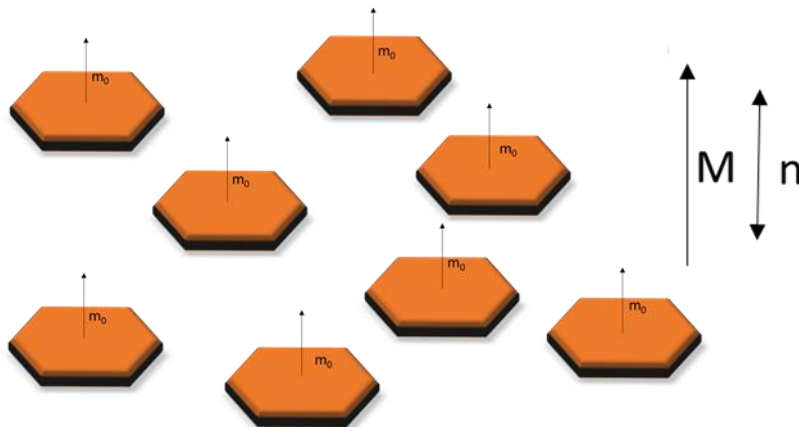
Aggregation vs nematic phase

Aggregation



<https://deadline.com/2015/07/minions-crosses-200-million-dollars-record-international-box-office-1201473560/>

The alignment in the nematic phase






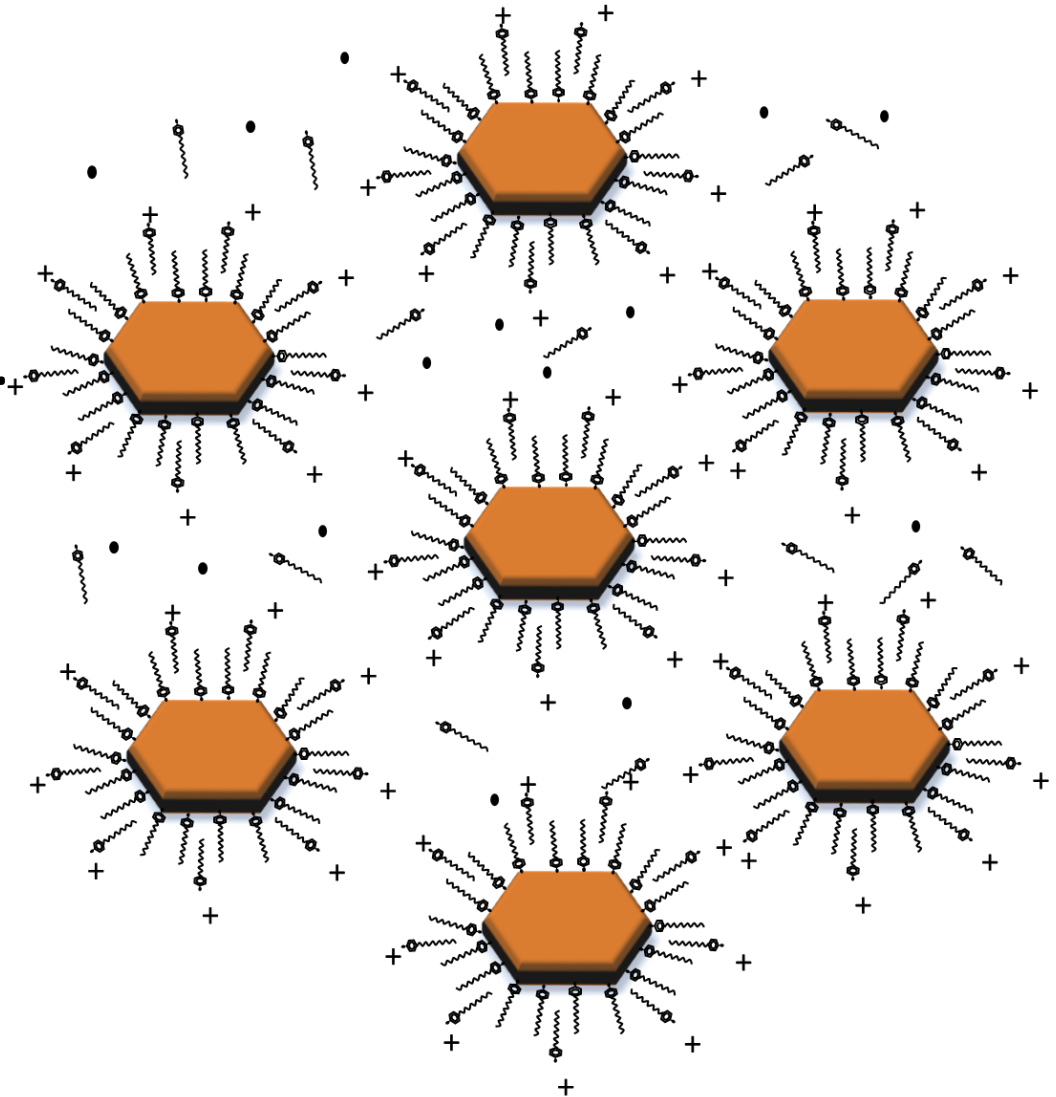
[greetings-day.com](https://giphy.com/gifs/happy-birthday-KJLOin5OUi6uQ)

<https://giphy.com/gifs/happy-birthday-KJLOin5OUi6uQ>

Electrostatic interaction

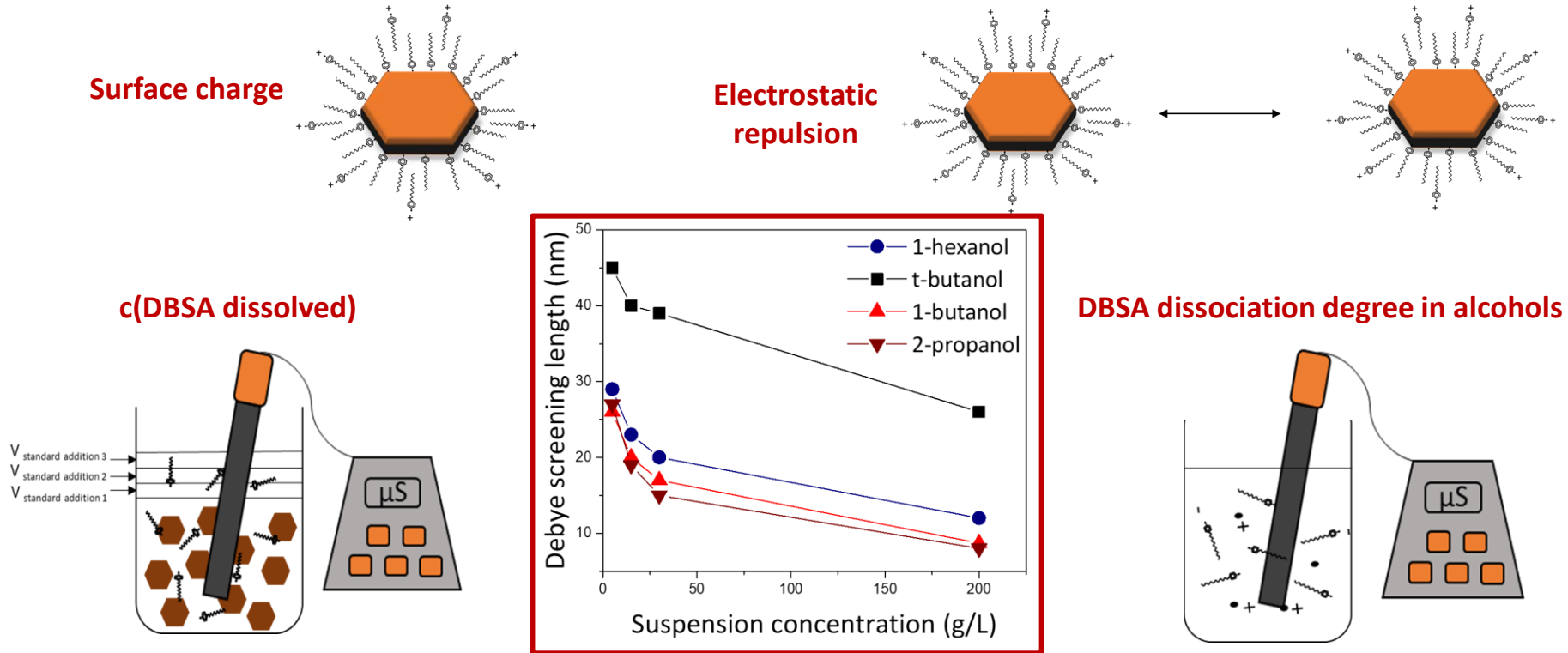
- Use of surfactant dodecylbenzene sulfonic acid (DBSA)

 BHF nanoplatelet
 DBSA molecule
 solvent



Our work

- Study of parameters that determine electrostatic interaction between the nanoplatelets in t-butanol, 1-hexanol, 1-butanol and 2-propanol.



Debye screening length:
t-butanol > 1-hexanol > 1-butanol > 2-propanol



Thank you for your attention!

Poster no. 10



e-mail: patricija.hribar.bostjancic@ijs.si

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Aerosol deposition of $0.9\text{Pb}(\text{Mg}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3-0.1\text{PbTiO}_3$ thick films onto low-cost metal substrates

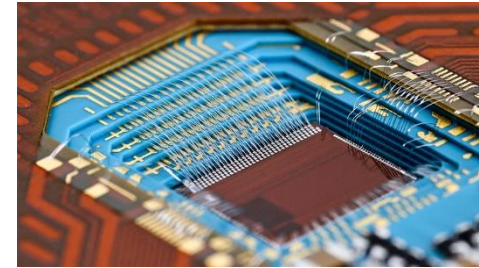
Matej Šadl

Electronic Ceramics Department (K5), Jožef Stefan Institute and
Jožef Stefan International Postgraduate School

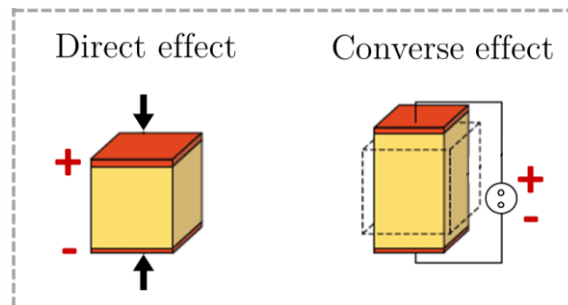
Poster number: **63**

Electronic ceramics

...used for their electrical properties



Piezoelectric effect



Ink-jet printer



Ultrasound diagnostics

How to miniaturize electronic ceramic components?

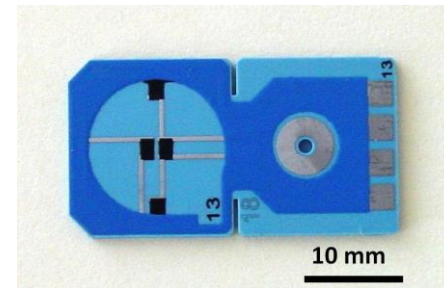
Conventional processing of bulk ceramics



Top-down approach
thickness > 100 μm

Thick film technology

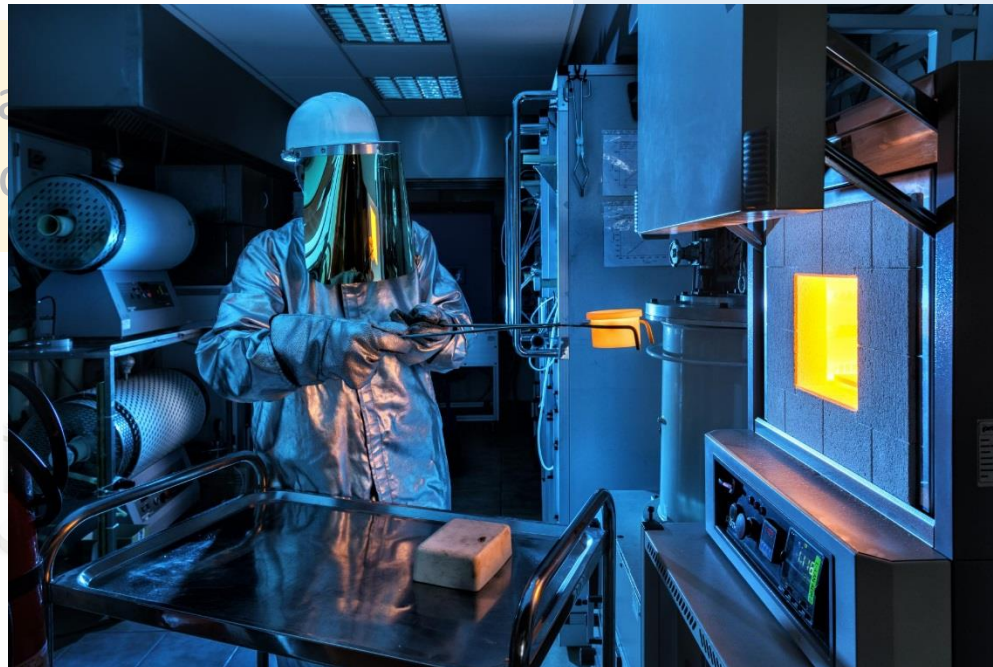
- screen-printing
- electrophoretic deposition
- ink-jet printing



Bottom-up approach
thickness = 1 – 100 μm

How to miniaturize electronic ceramic components?

Conventional
bulk ceramic



Thin film
deposition



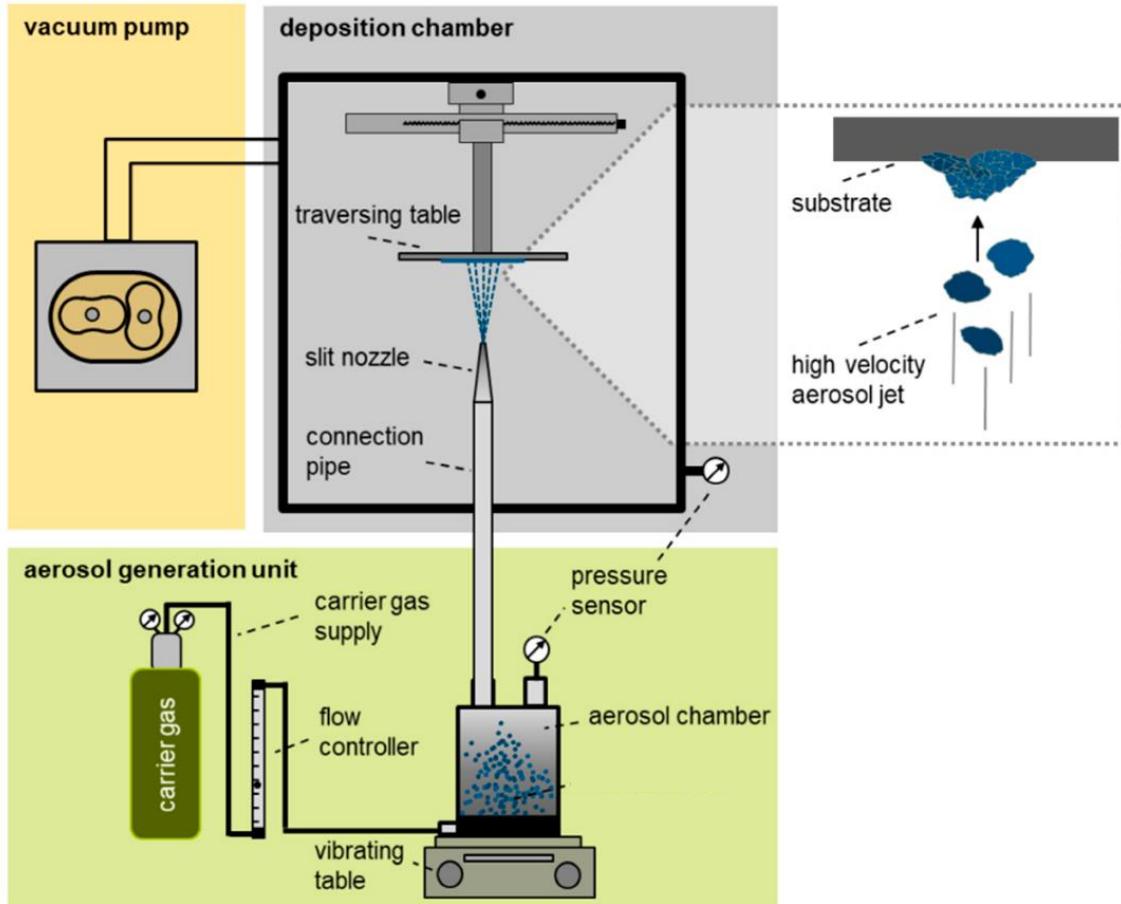
Top-down approach
thickness > 100 μm

high temperature treatment
(~1000 $^{\circ}\text{C}$)

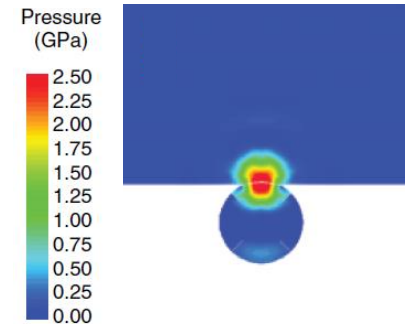
Bottom-up approach
thickness = 1 – 100 μm

Aerosol deposition method

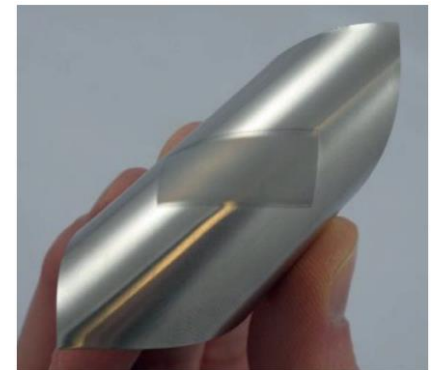
Unique for spray-coating of ceramics



High impact pressures



Thick film on a flexible foil

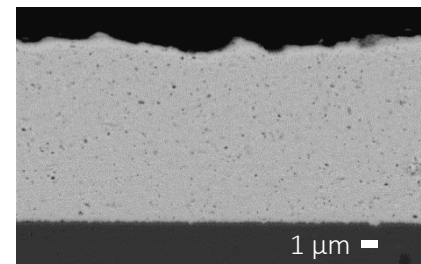
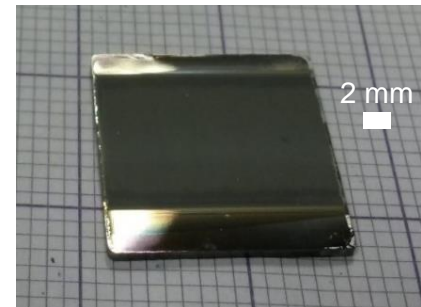


ULTRACOOOL lab

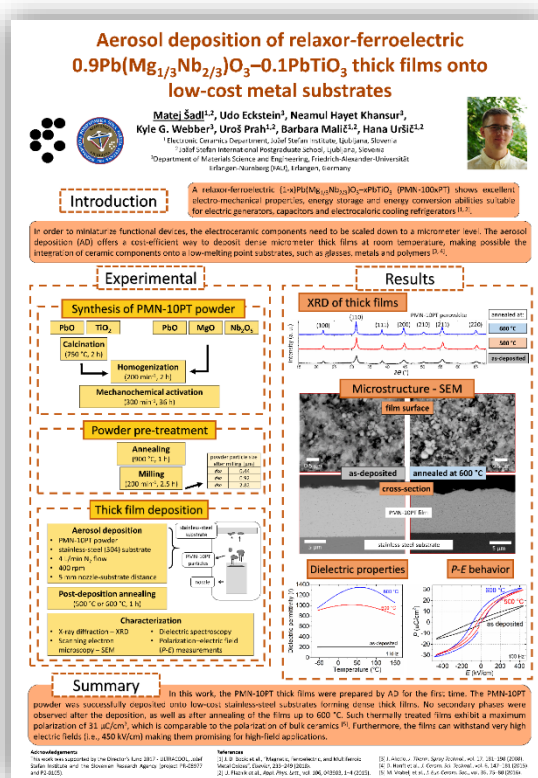
Electronic Ceramics Department – K5



Aerosol deposition of
 $0.9\text{Pb}(\text{Mg}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3-0.1\text{PbTiO}_3$ onto
stainless-steel substrates



Welcome to poster number 63



Matej Šadl

Electronic Ceramics Department (K5)

Jožef Stefan Institute (JSI)

e-mail: matej.sadl@ijs.si

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15 and 16 April 2019, Planica

Galaxies of gold nanoparticles with plasma

Aswathy Vasudevan,
Department F6, Jozef Stefan Institute

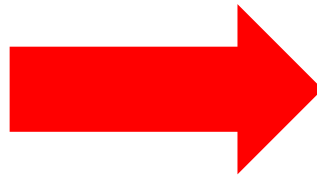
Poster number: **35**

Motivation

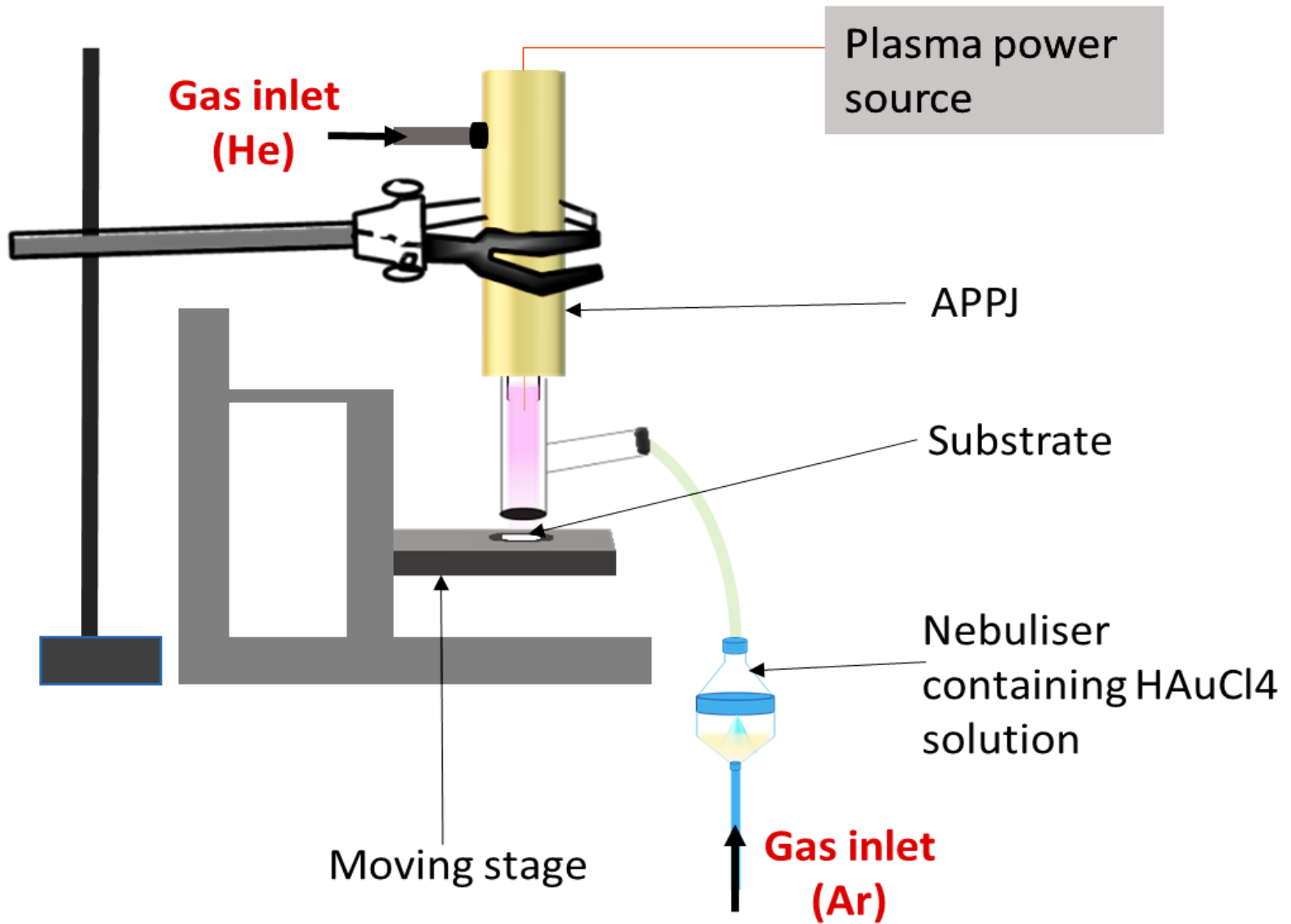
Atmospheric
pressure plasma jet
(APPJ)



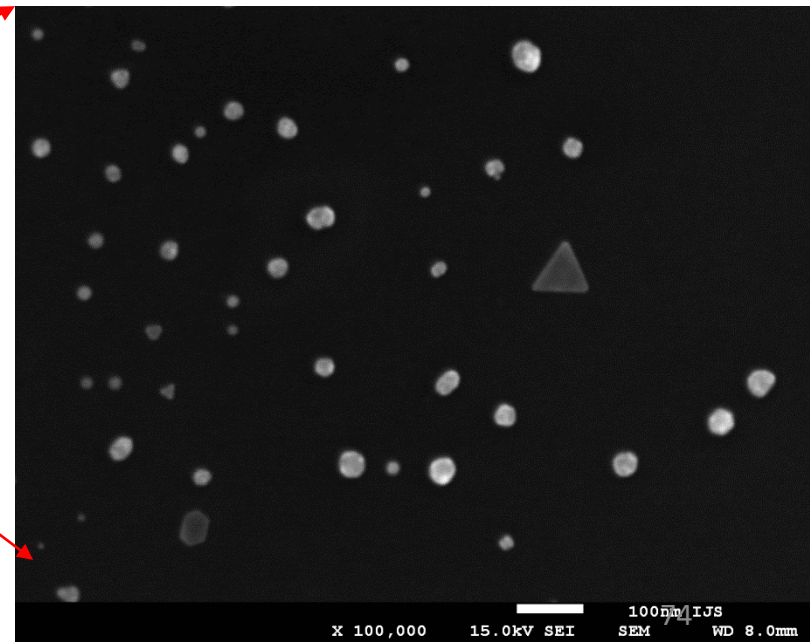
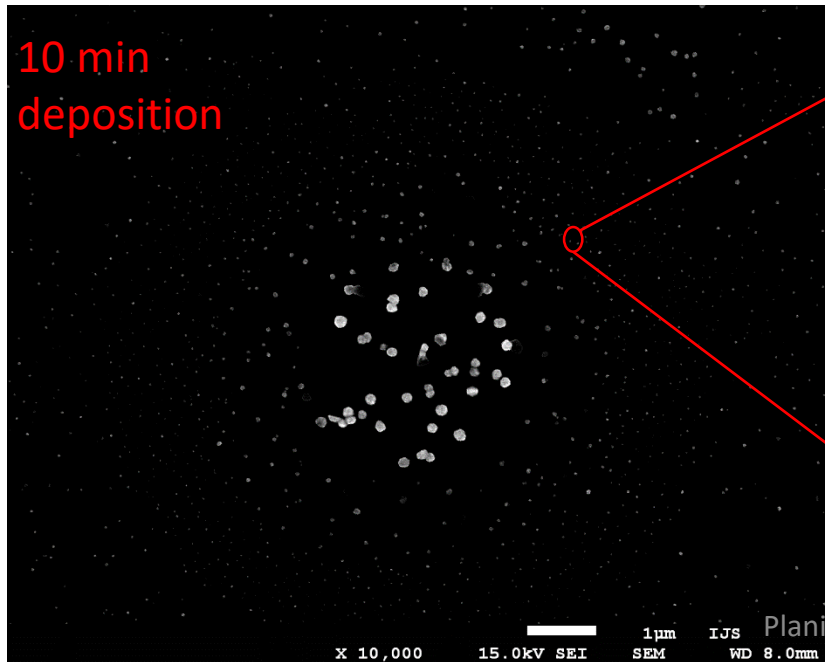
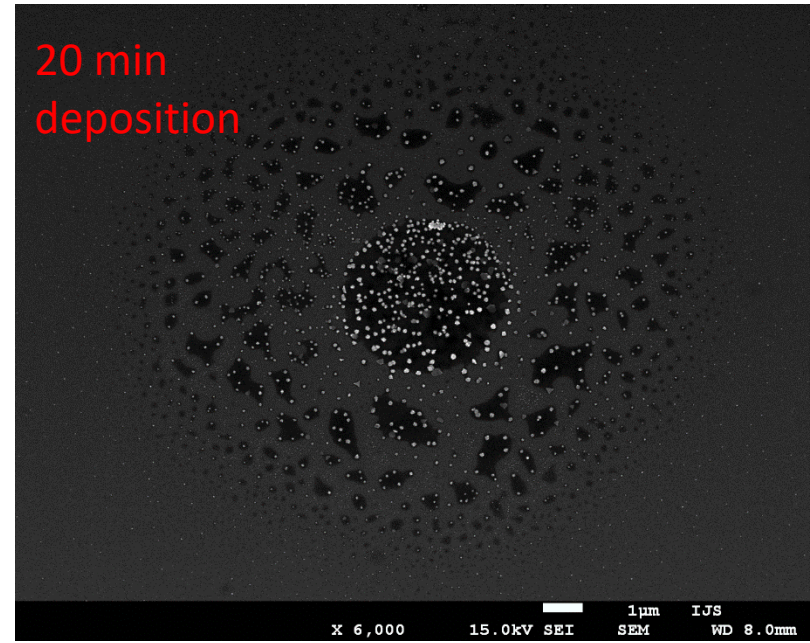
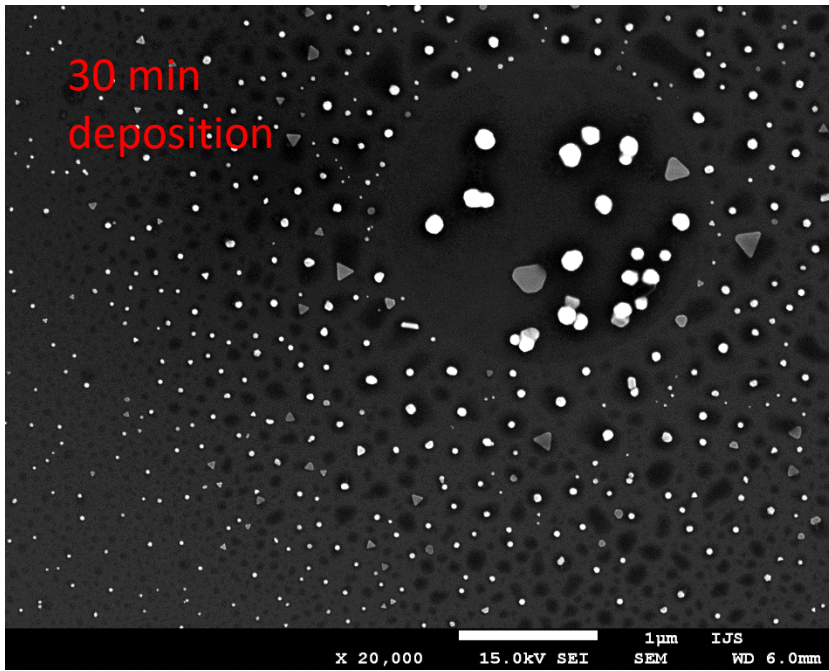
Hydrogen chloroauric
acid (HAuCl_4)



HAuCl_4 reduces to Gold in plasma



What did I get?



- ✓ Single step
- ✓ No other reagents
- ✓ Reproducible
- ✓ NOT time consuming

Under suitable experiment conditions it deposits gold nanoparticles of size ranging from 5 nm- 100nm

For more information about this works,
Please see poster number: **35**

Thank you for your attention!

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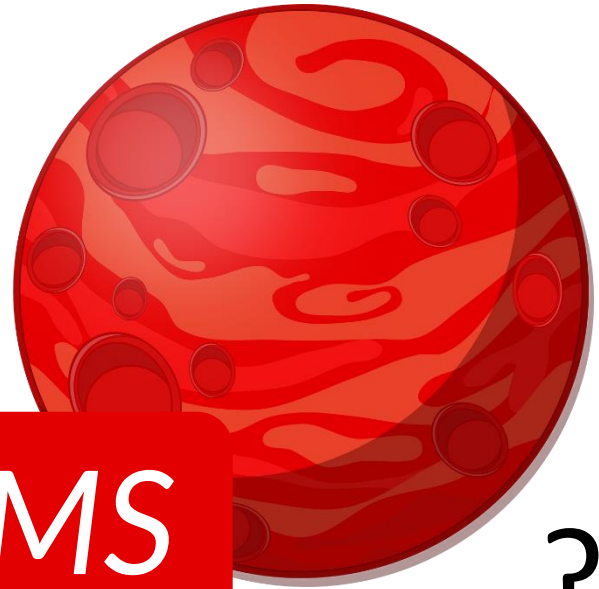
Titanium Metal-Matrix Composites - materials of the future

Martin Topole

Institute of Metals and Technology

International Postgraduate School Jožef Stefan

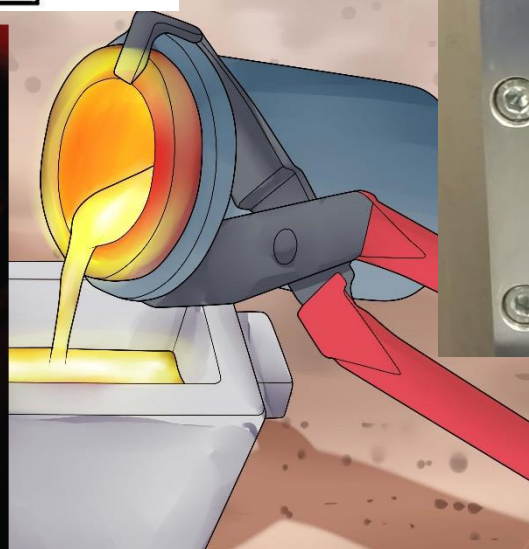
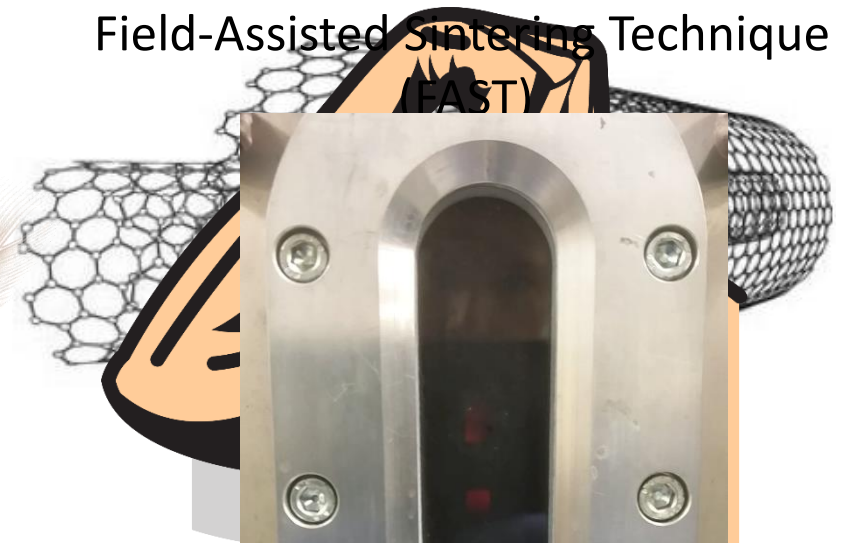
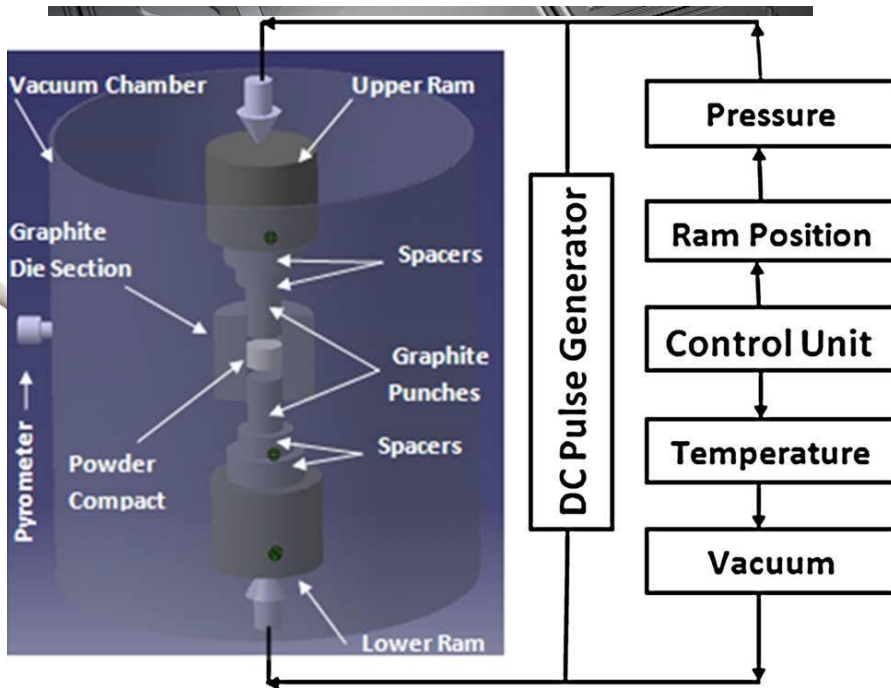
Poster number: **13**



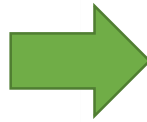
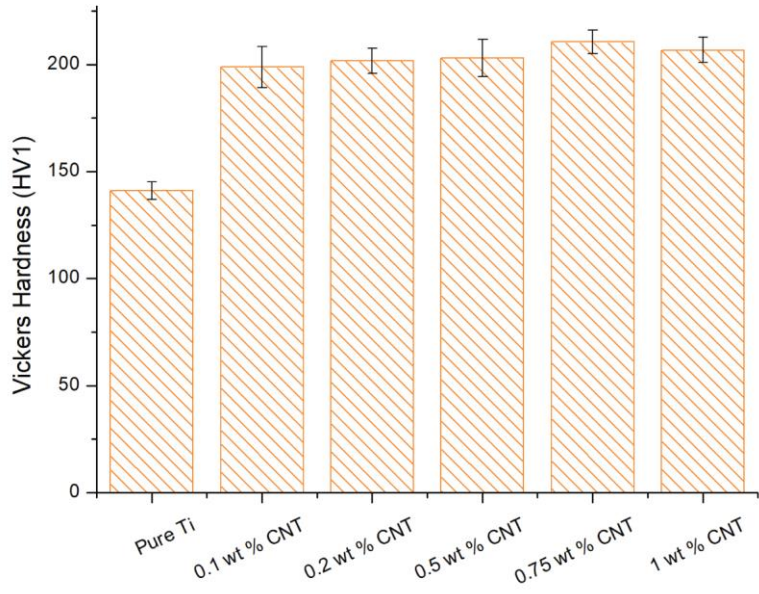
PROBLEMS

MATERIALS

Field-Assisted Sintering Technique (FAST)



1668 °C!



Acknowledgements

Assoc. prof. Paul McGuinness

Asst. prof. Matjaž Godec

Dr. Darja Jenko

Prof. Mike Reece

Dr. Elinor Gallanis

Dr. Theo Saunders



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A STORY OF CARBON, ALUMINIUM AND FLUORINE BOUND TOGETHER

Evelin Gruden

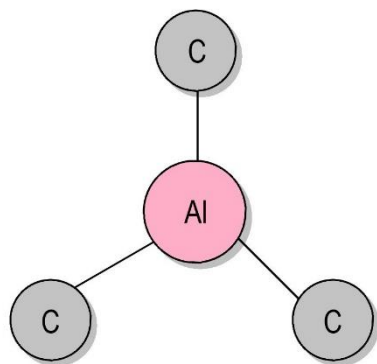
Jožef Stefan" Institute, Department of Inorganic Chemistry and Technology
"Jožef Stefan" International Postgraduate School

Poster number: 22

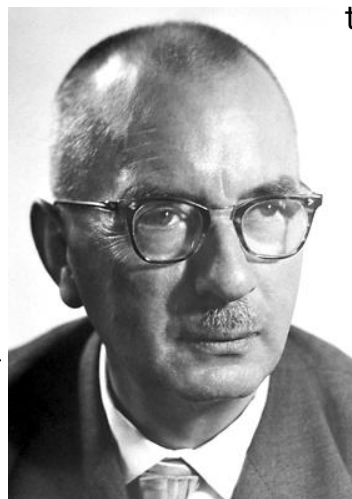
A story of a scientist



Organoaluminium chemistry



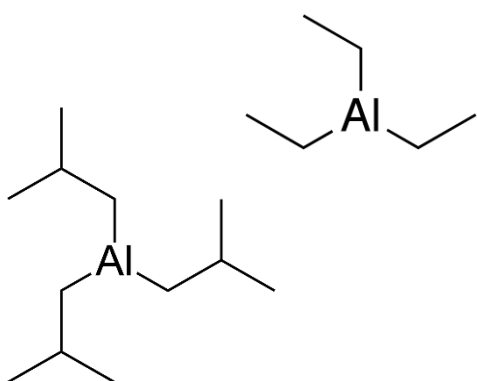
Timeline



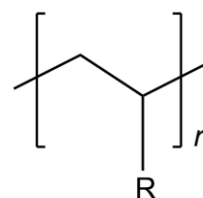
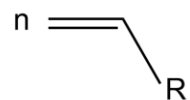
Karl Ziegler

Awarded the Nobel prize in 1963 together with Giulio Natta

Development of the direct synthesis



Catalytic olefin polymerization



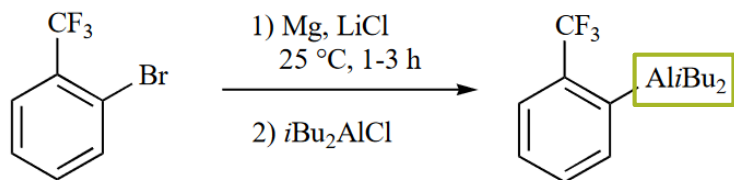
Common plastic

Organoaluminium halides

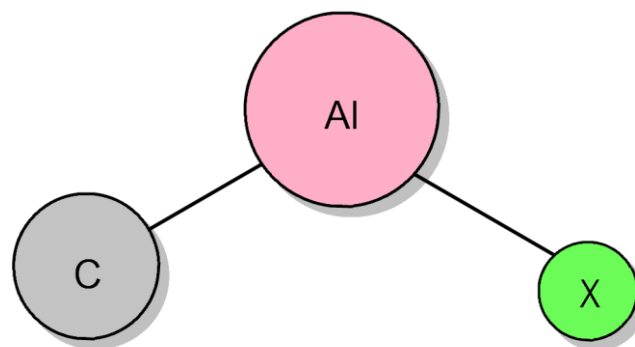
Compounds containing **C-Al-Cl** and **C-Al-Br** bonds are well known.

They are used as:

- Grignard-like reagents



- Ziegler-Natta catalysts



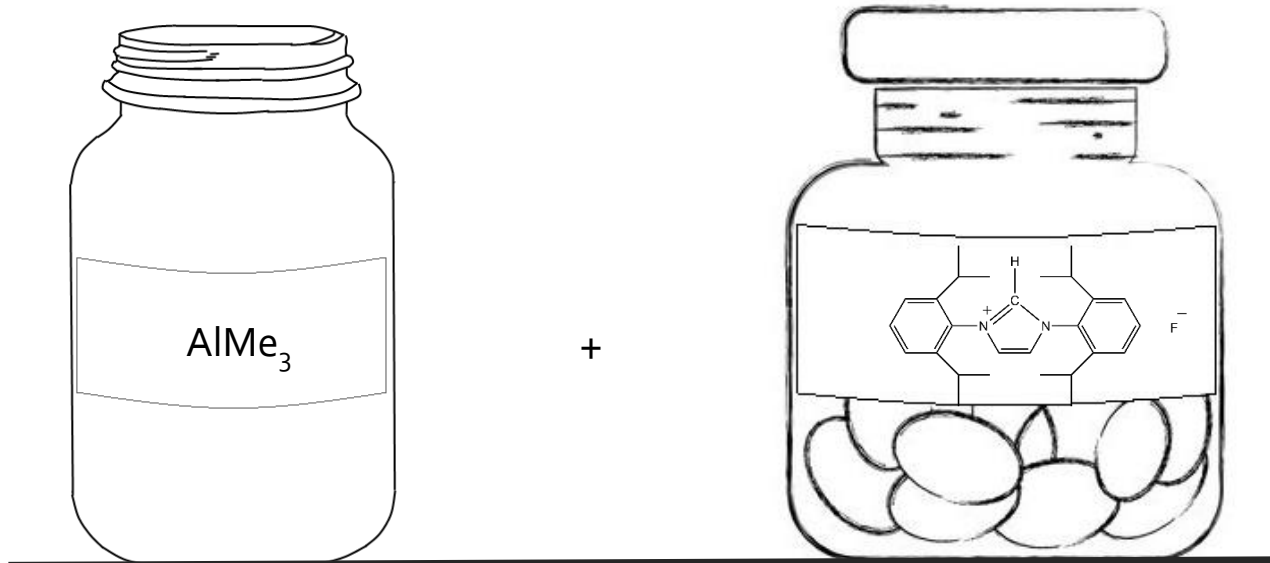
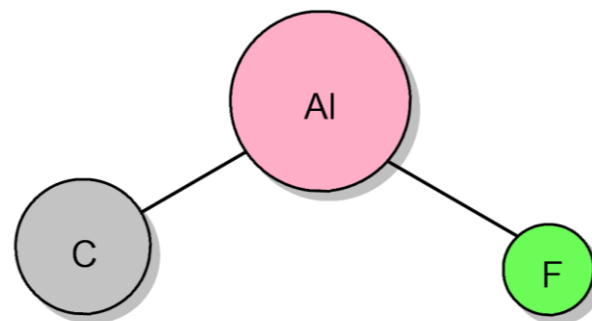
Fluorine?
What about C-Al-F bonds?

Organoaluminium fluorides are rare.
Could exhibit interesting
chemical properties.



Work of a scientist

Research goal: To introduce **fluorine** into organoaluminium compounds.



Work of a scientist

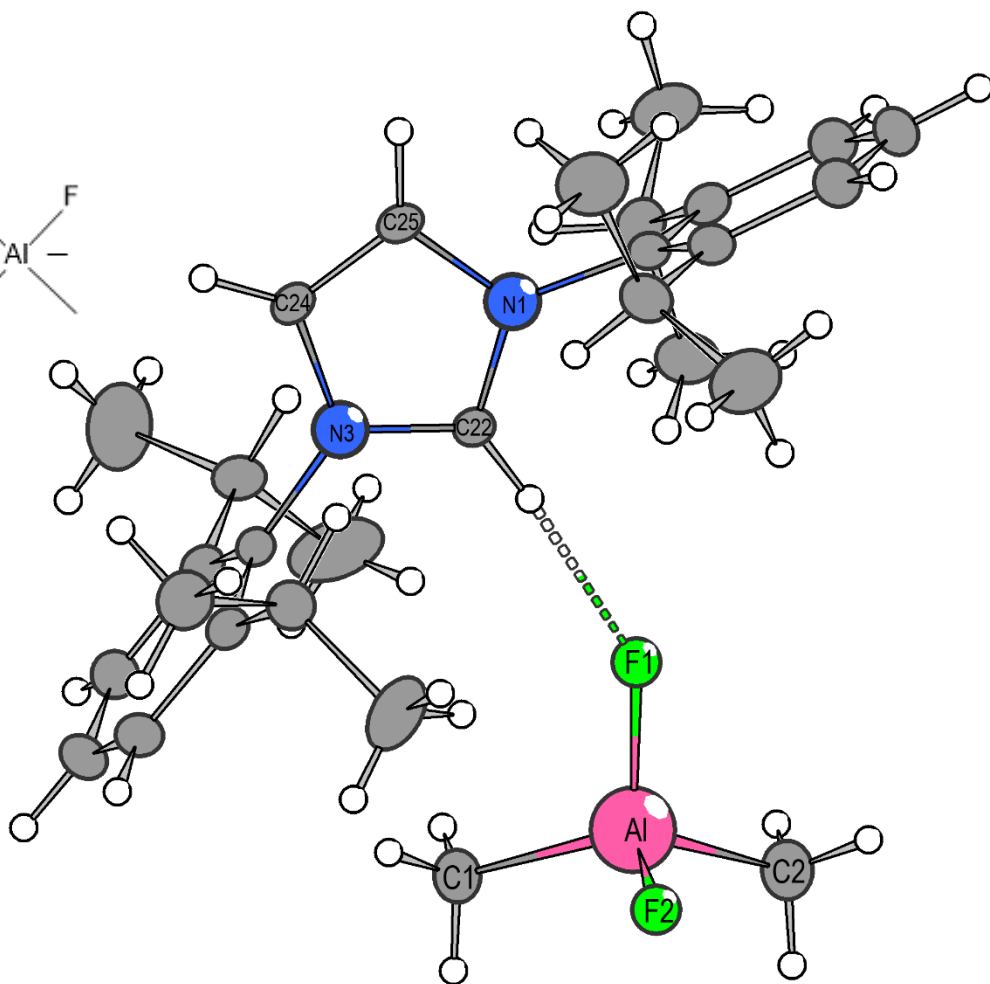
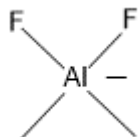
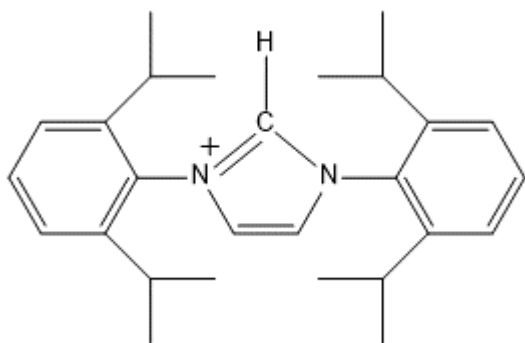
Problem: Stability of reactants.
Unstable in the presence of H_2O and O_2 .



Glovebox

← Schlenk techniques

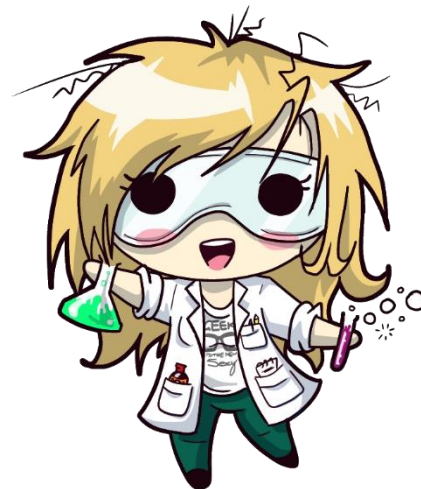
Result



New compound!

[lprH][Me₂AlF₂]

TO BE CONTINUED...



Thank you for your attention!

Evelin Gruden

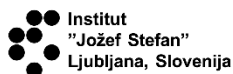
Department of Inorganic Chemistry and Technology

Poster Number: **22**

COFFEE BREAK & POSTER SESSION 1

10:50 - 11:15

SUPPORTED BY



SRIP TOP PRESENTATION

11:15 - 11:30

INVITED LECTURE

dr. Kristjan Anderle, Cosylab

11:30 - 12:05

IPSSC +
CMBO

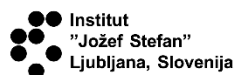
Monday, 15.04.2019

LUNCH BREAK

Hotel Dom Planica

12:15 - 13:30

SUPPORTED BY



KOLEKTOR



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BSH H. S. aparat d.o.o. 1000 Lj

