



# BESSYII@HZB

## Synchrotron Light Sources for Building the Global Scientific Community

Antje Vollmer



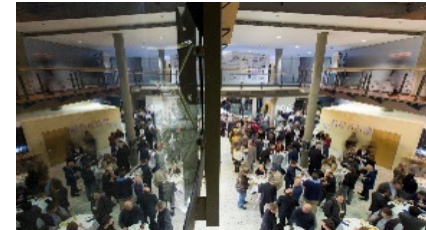
# Outline

BESSY II and her sisters in the world

Users and user communities

Challenges and solutions

Beyond brilliant science

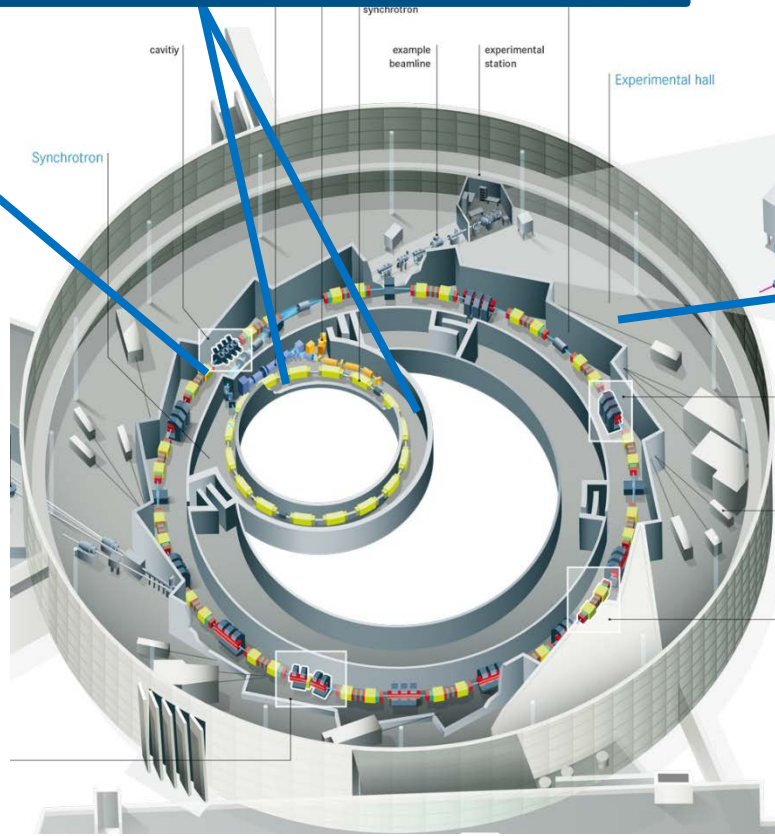


# WHAT IS SYNCHROTRON RADIATION SOURCE?

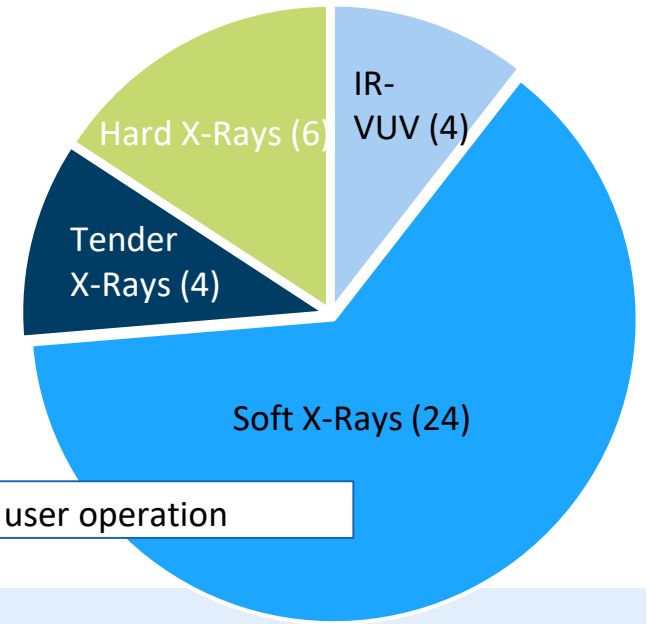
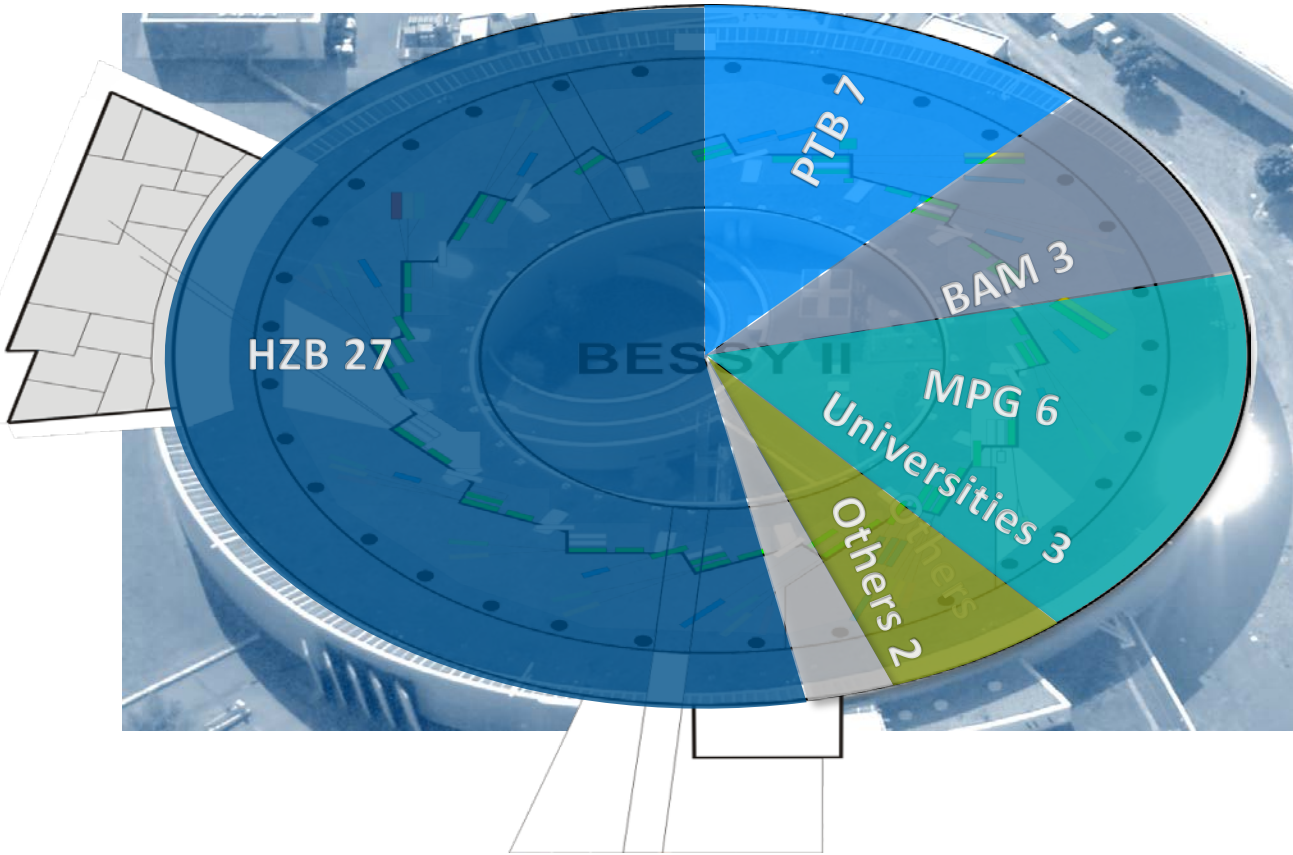
LINAC and Synchrotron

the Storage Ring

Beamline and Experiment



# BEAMLINES AT BESSY II



Beamlines in user operation

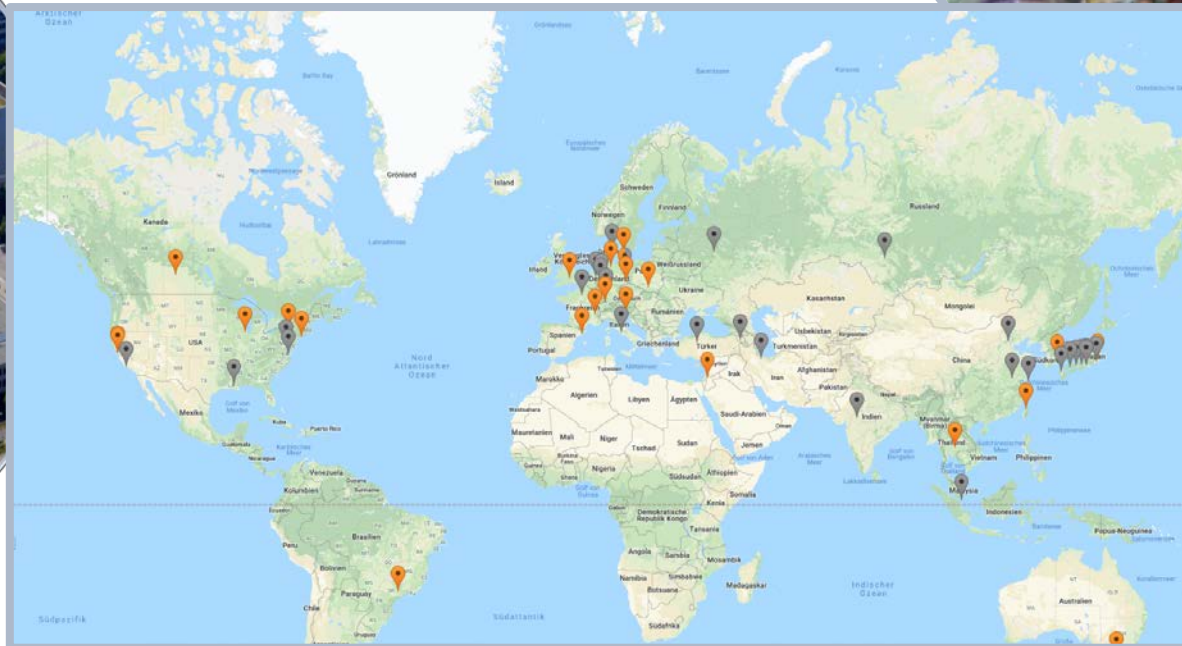
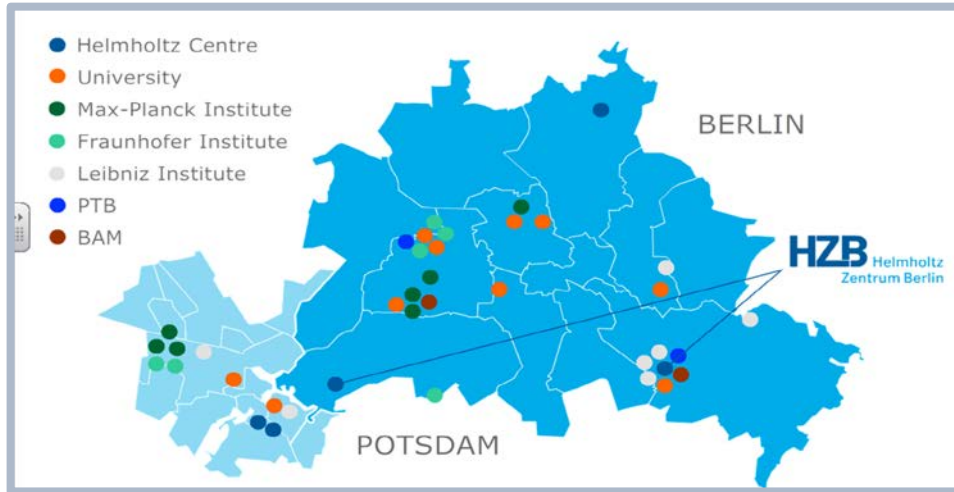
**Beamlines:**  
48 beamlines in operation, thereof  
38 beamlines in user operation

→ BESSY II focuses on VUV to soft X-rays, but we offer radiation from THz to hard X-rays

**EU:**  
More than 270 Beamlines  
More than 6000 beamtime campaigns  
More than 30.000 users  
More than 10000 publications



# SYNCHROTRONS OF THE WORLD

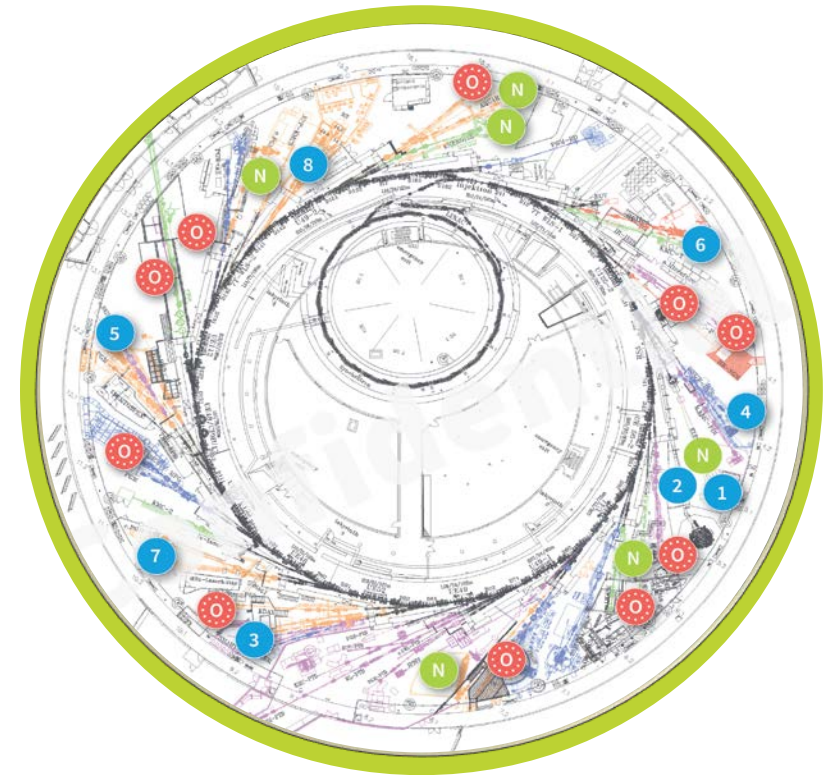


BESSY II and her sisters in the world

Users and user communities

Changes and Challenges

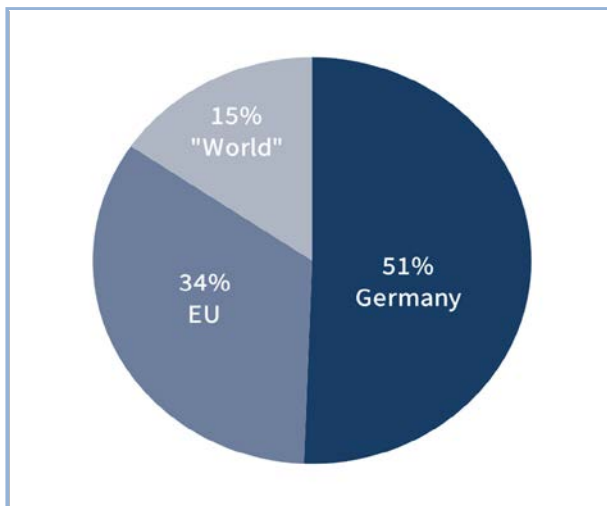
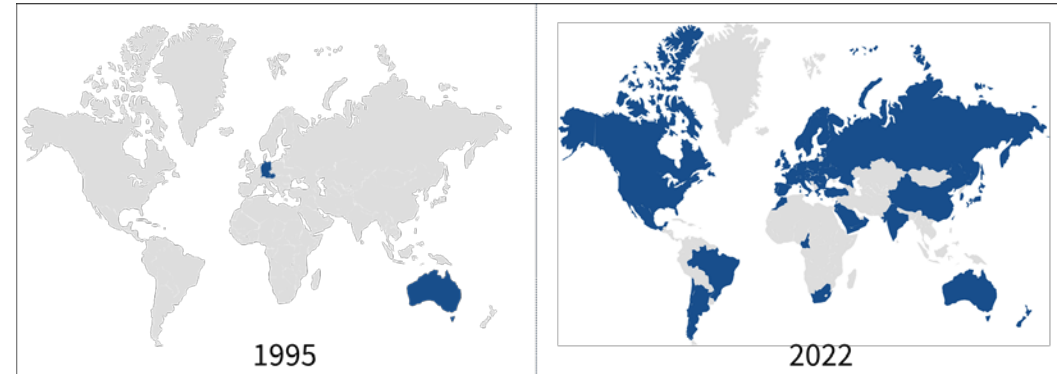
Beyond brilliant science



# The world is visting BESSY



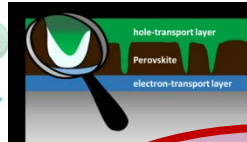
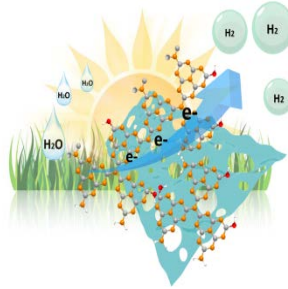
Origin of proposals BESSY II  
(2014 - today)



## Average numbers per year (before Corona):

- More than 1200 proposals per year
- About 800 beamtime campaigns
- Up to 3000 user visits
- More than 11000 registered users
- 12000 overnight stays in the guesthouse
- More than 500 verified publications

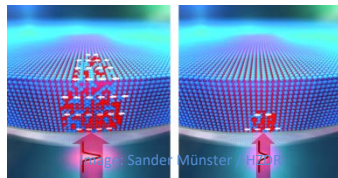
# BESSY II– MULTITUDE OF USERS AND RESEARCH FIELDS



**Energy & Energy Storage**

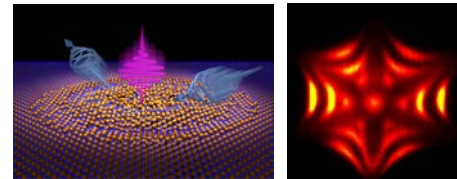
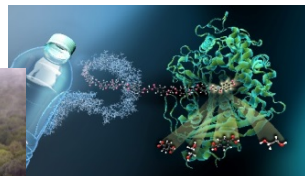
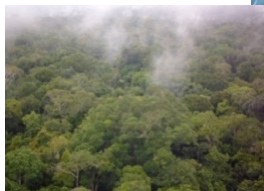


**Metrology**

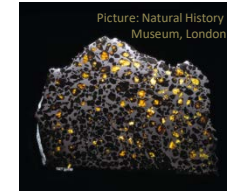


**Information**

**Environment**



**Physics**



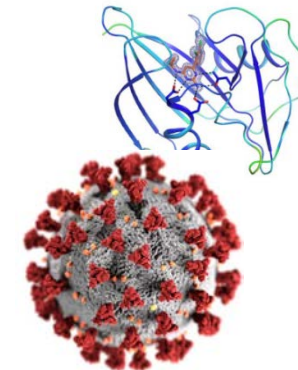
**Space**



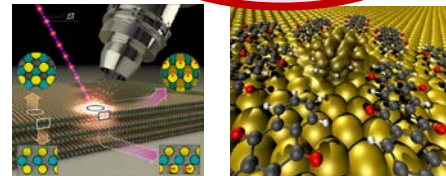
**Cultural Heritage**



**Medicine & Biology**

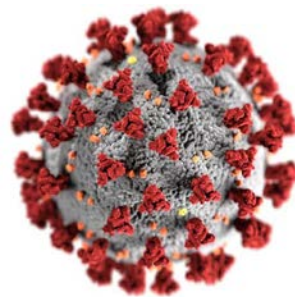
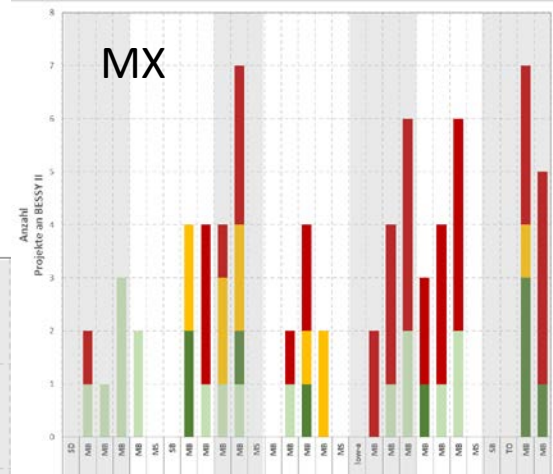
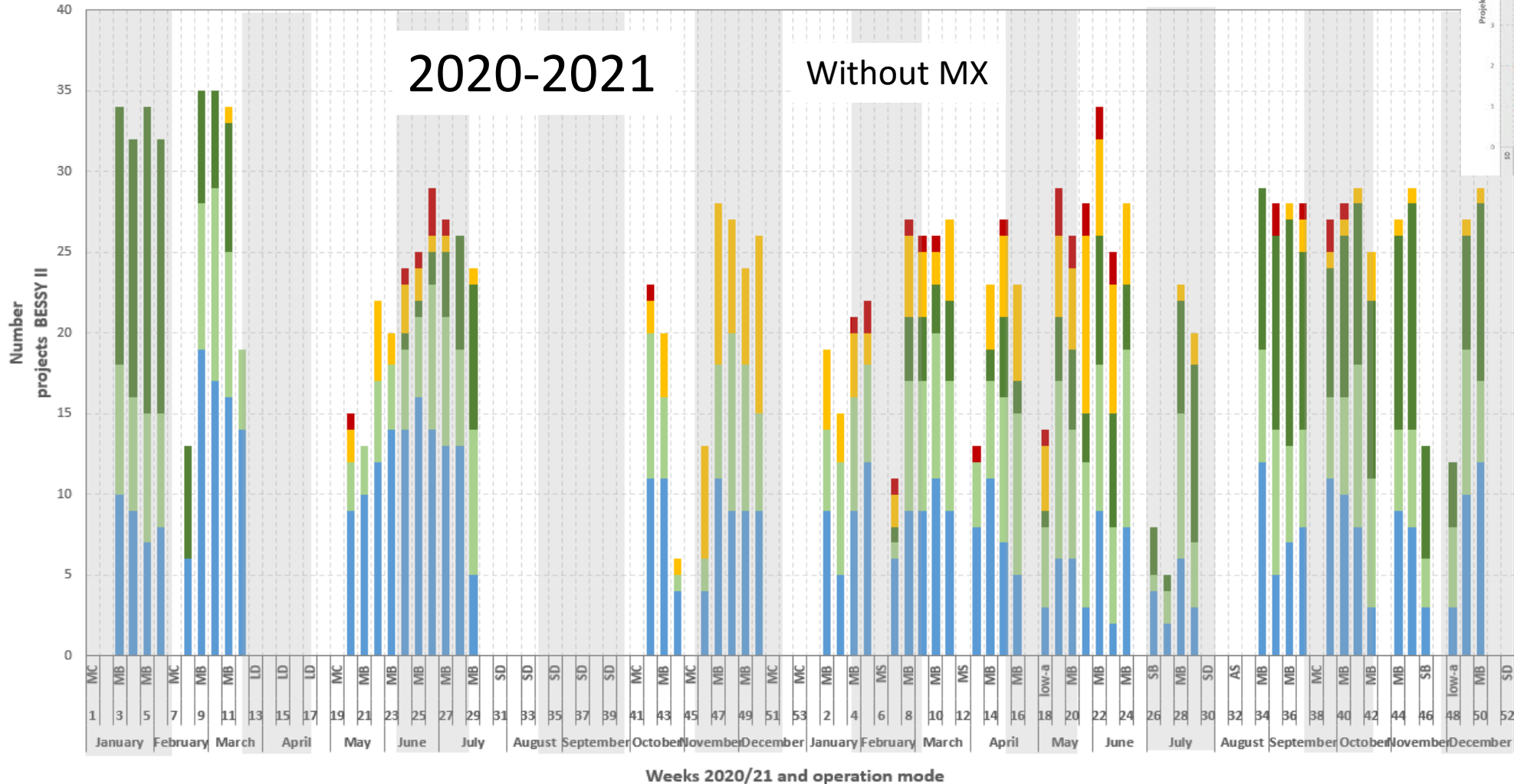


**Chemistry & Catalysis**





# The Corona Challenge



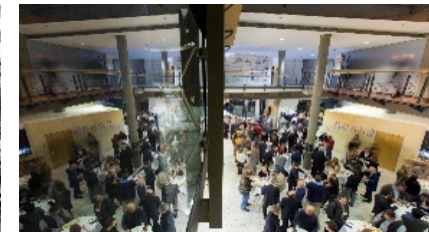
Blue: HZZB, light green: users from the Berlin area, dark green: external users (except Berlin), yellow: staff assisted beamtime, red: remote beamtime

BESSY II and her sisters in the world

Users and user communities

Changes and Challenges

Beyond brilliant science



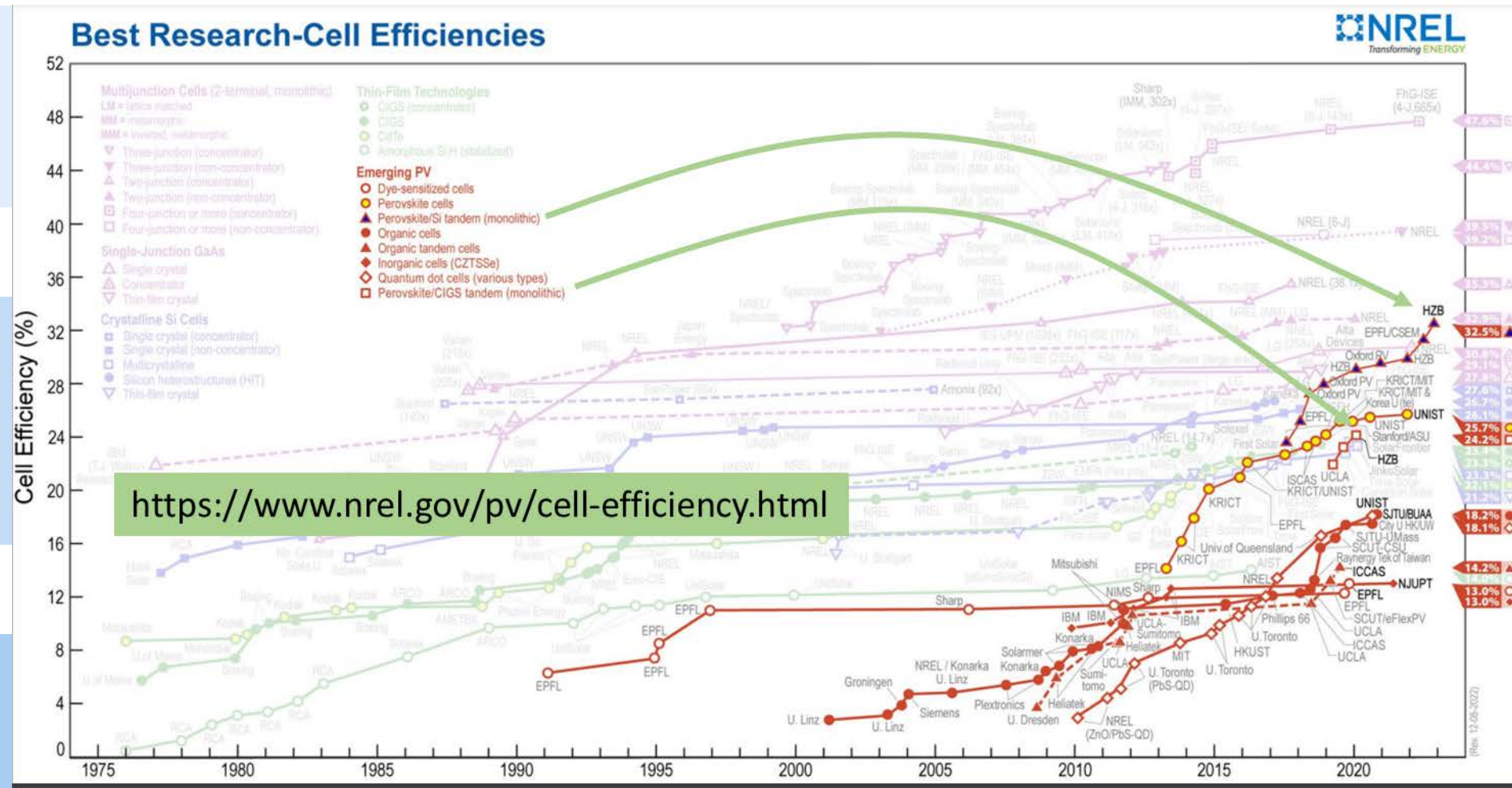
# SCIENTIFIC CHALLENGES

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY - CLIMATE – ENVIRONMENT - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – HEALTH – MATERIALS – BASIC RESEARCH

60 Minutes:  
the sun delivers the energy  
the whole world needs in one  
year<sup>1</sup>

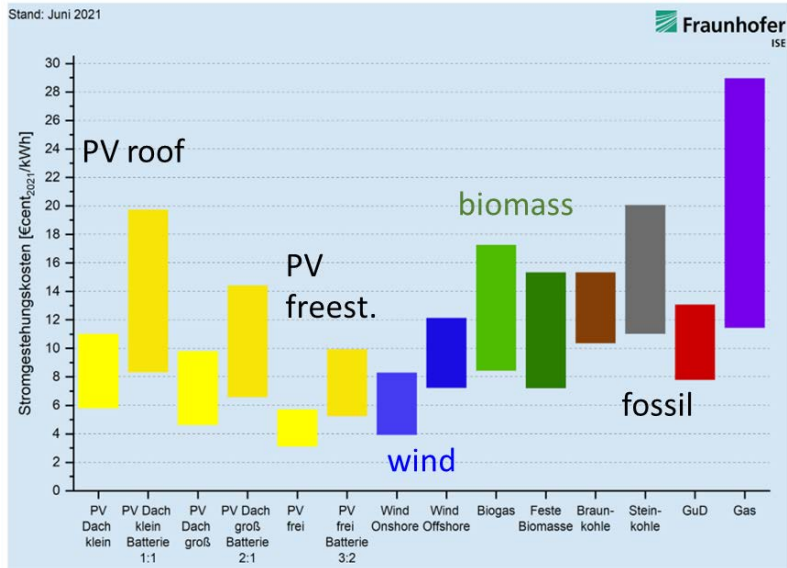
567x567 km<sup>2</sup>:  
of solar panels in the Sahara  
(3,5% of the area) would  
satisfy the world's energy  
demand.

22m<sup>2</sup>  
Of solar panels cover the need  
of an average household



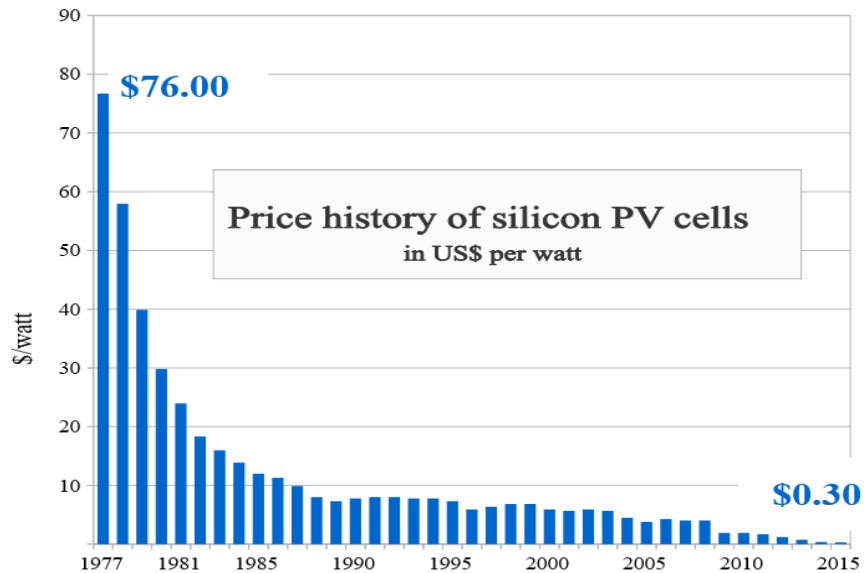
<sup>1</sup>BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2018, 67th edition 2018, Weltenergieverbrauch 2017: 157135,25 TWh

# PHOTOVOLTAICS

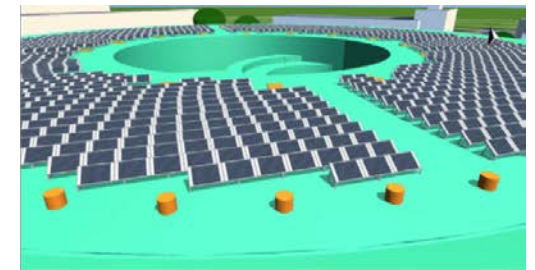


Building integrated photovoltaics Up to 50kW 360 CIGS-Solar Modules

<https://www.helmholtz-berlin.de/projects/baip/>



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance & pv.energytrend.com



BESSY II PV roof (600 MWh p.a.) & heat recovery (1.2 MW all year)  
 → annual energy consumption costs can be reduced by approx. 500.000 €

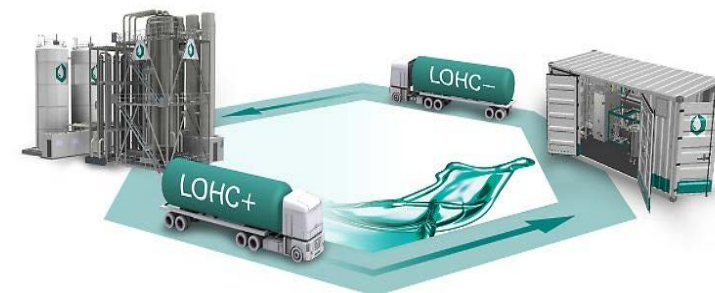
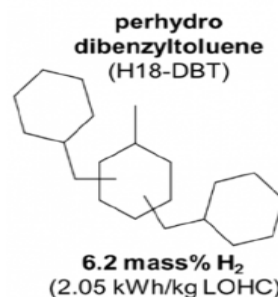


**But if the sun does not shine?**

# HIGHLIGHT – ENERGY STORAGE

## Towards a Hydrogen-free Hydrogen Economy – just borrow H from a molecule

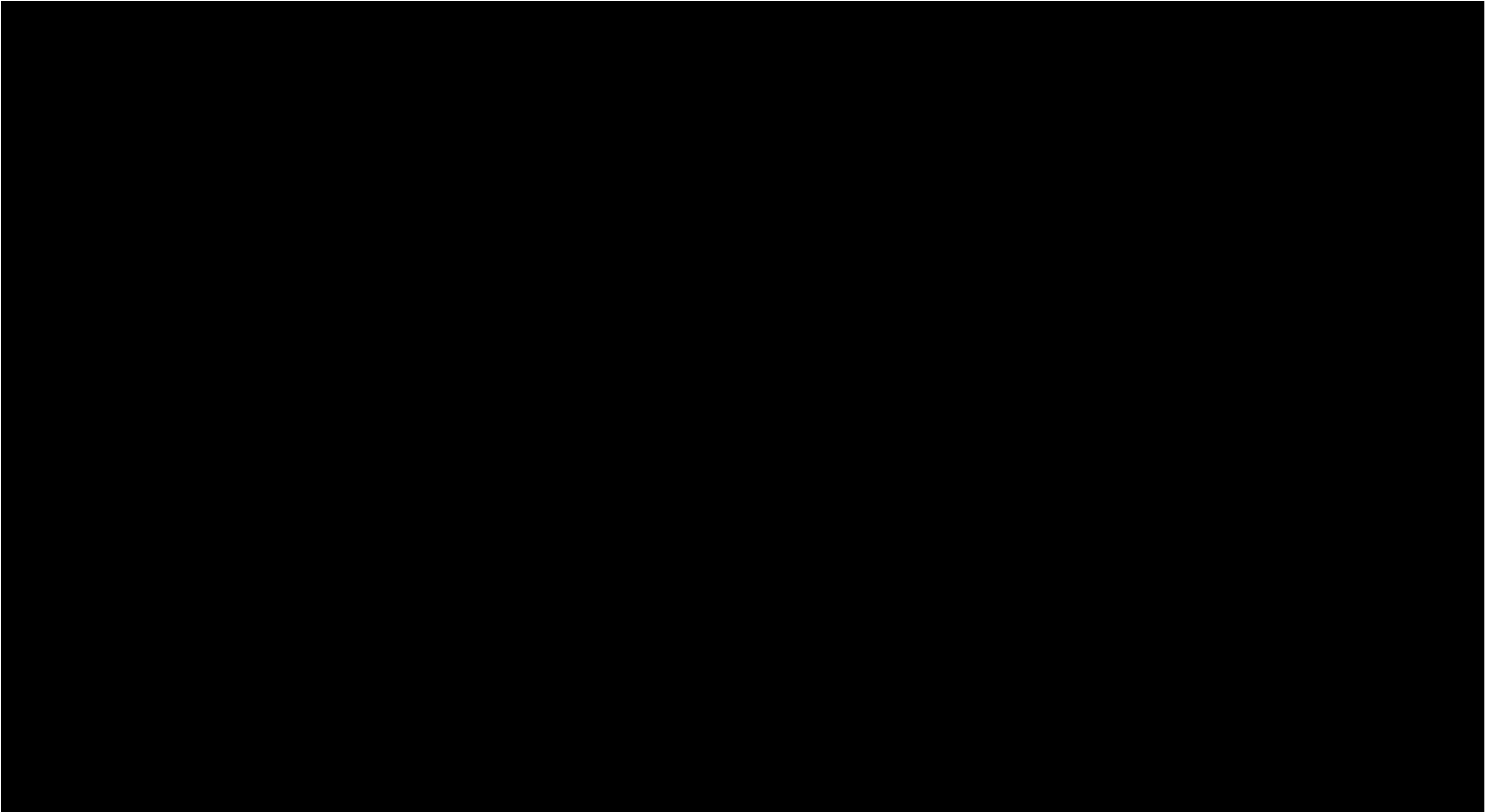
The nature of hydrogen requires dedicated infrastructures. So far this has prevented the introduction of elemental hydrogen into the energy sector to a large extent.



- liquid organic hydrogen carrier (LOHC): pairs of hydrogen-lean and hydrogen-rich organic compounds.
- A future hydrogen economy may work without handling large amounts of elemental hydrogen.
- Repeated catalytic hydrogenation and dehydrogenation cycles.
- Use of the existing infrastructure for fuels, public confidence in dealing with liquid energy carriers.

FAU Erlangen

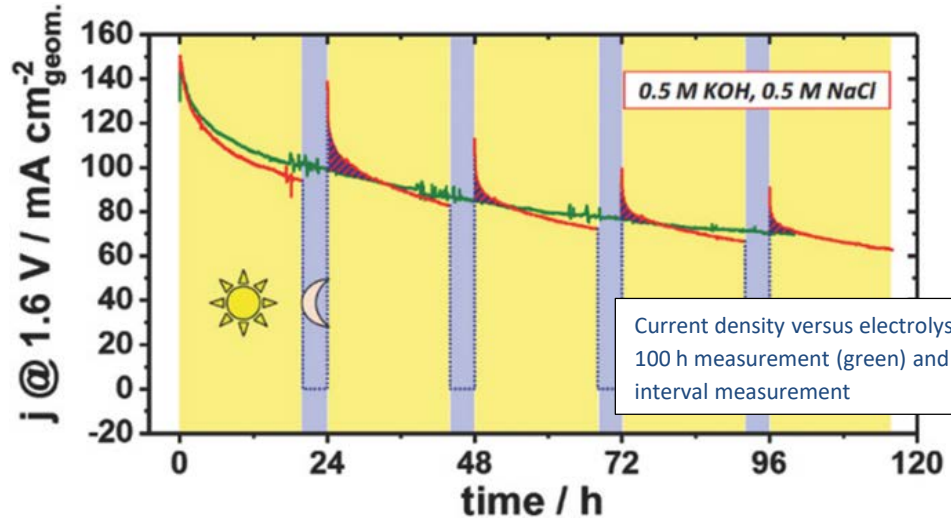




# HIGHLIGHT – ENERGY

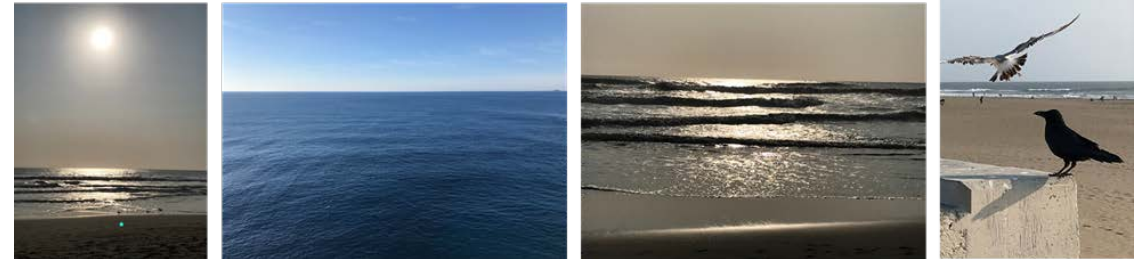
Oversalted? That's good! Electricity only during the day?

An advantage! Direct electrolytic splitting of seawater



Current water electrolyzer technologies only split either highly alkaline (20–40 wt% KOH) electrolyte obtained from purified freshwater or else purified freshwater alone.

Seawater electrolysis faces fundamental chemical challenges

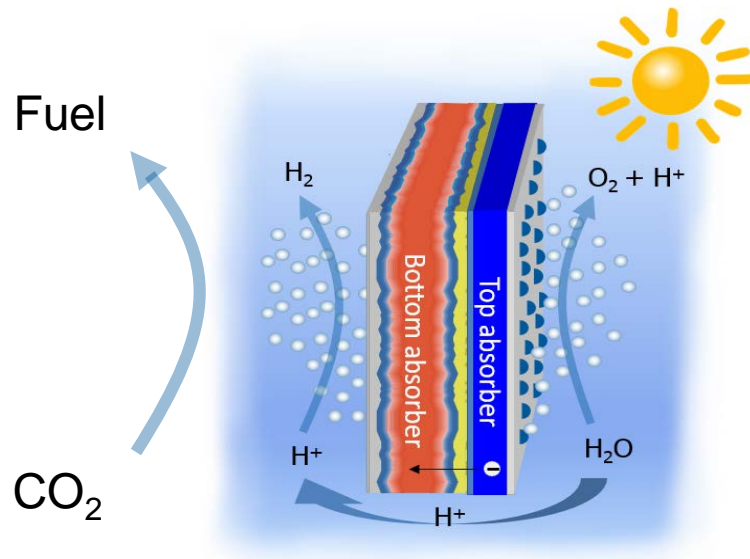


- First efficient working alkaline electrolyzer, splitting artificial alkaline seawater, based on nanostructured NiFe-layered double hydroxide (anode) and Pt nanoparticles (cathode).
- The natural day-night cycles could function as a refreshment protocol when using renewable energy sources like photovoltaics or wind power to operate the electrolyzer.
- Direct use of the vastly more abundant seawater supplies could solve the problematics related to scarce water provision and high fresh water demand, which are severe in many arid zones.

FU/TU Berlin

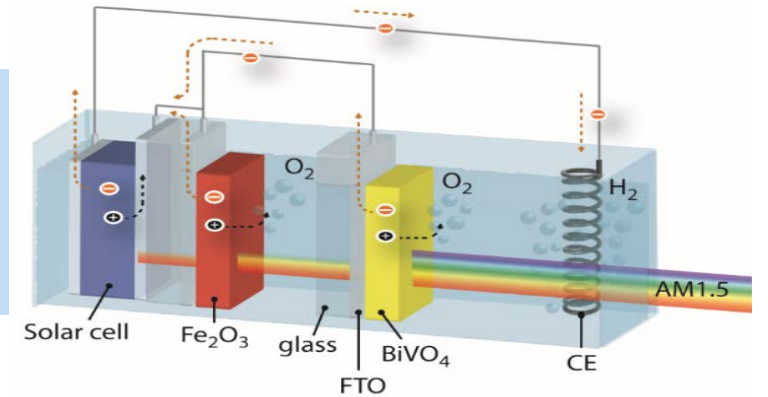


# DEVELOPMENT – SOLAR FUELS



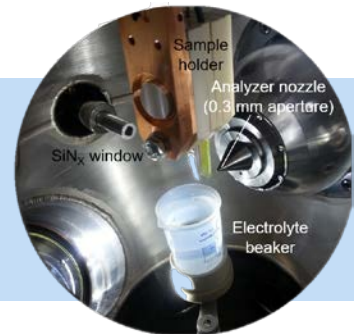
From green hydrogen various pathways can lead to synthetic gas, alcohol or ammonia, being starting products for higher hydrocarbons, plastics, fertilizers via catalytic reactions

		$2\text{H}^+$	+	$2\text{e}^-$	$\rightarrow$	$\text{H}_2$	
$\text{CO}_2$	+	$2\text{H}^+$	+	$2\text{e}^-$	$\rightarrow$	$\text{CO} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	
$\text{CO}_2$	+	$4\text{H}^+$	+	$4\text{e}^-$	$\rightarrow$	$\text{HCHO} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	(formic acid)
$\text{CO}_2$	+	$6\text{H}^+$	+	$6\text{e}^-$	$\rightarrow$	$\text{CH}_3\text{OH} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	(methanol)
$\text{CO}_2$	+	$8\text{H}^+$	+	$8\text{e}^-$	$\rightarrow$	$\text{CH}_4 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	(methane)
$2\text{CO}_2$	+	$12\text{H}^+$	+	$12\text{e}^-$	$\rightarrow$	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	(ethylene)
$\text{N}_2$	+	$6\text{H}^+$	+	$6\text{e}^-$	$\rightarrow$	$2\text{NH}_3$	(ammonia)



7.7% solar-to-H<sub>2</sub> efficiency *en route* to the goal for practical solar hydrogen production, *Nat. Commun.* 7, 13380 (2016)

- Key challenge 1: Understanding surface chemistry during operation
- Key challenge 2: Optimizing catalysts for the different reactions
- New developments in synchrotron methods allow study of solid-liquid interfaces with XPS



J. Electron Spectrosc. Relat. Phenom. 221, 106 (2017); J. Phys. Chem. B 122, 801 (2018)

[https://www.helmholtz-berlin.de/projects/catlab/index\\_de.html](https://www.helmholtz-berlin.de/projects/catlab/index_de.html)



# BATTERIES

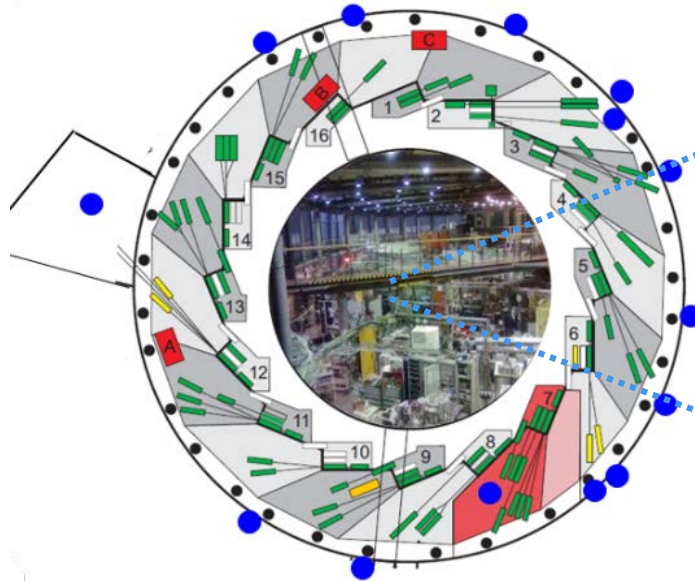
## Batteries - the major technological challenge for green energy storage

### The perfect battery

- has a high capacity,
- short charging times,
- long-term stability (many charge-discharge cycles),
- is light weight and
- consists of abundantly available cheap materials.

All these properties can already be fulfilled, yet not in one but “rather 4 different batteries”.

Molecular understanding, is required for rational design of new batteries



More than 20 national and international groups working on battery research

Currently at **12 BESSY II beamlines**

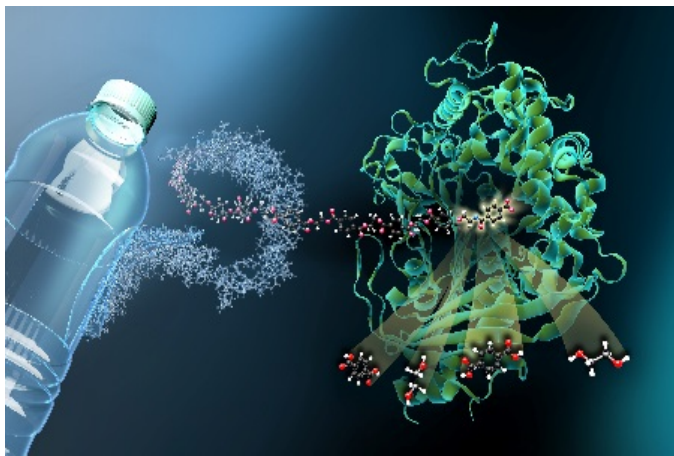
Applying **10 different scientific methods**

User community in this field is growing

All European synchrotrons have accepted the battery challenge (see: LEAPS paper: European Battery 2030+ ) More than that , ARIE (Analytical Research Infrastructures In Europe) addresses 40,000 researchers in academia and industry

# HIGHLIGHT - ENVIRONMENT

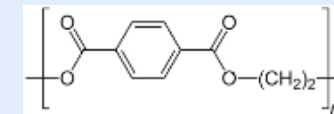
## Combat plastic waste -a genuine recycling process for PET materials



MHET-molecules from PET plastic dock at the active site inside the MHETase and are broken down into their basic building blocks. © M. Künsting/HZB

Plastics are excellent materials: extremely versatile and almost eternally durable.

After only about 100 years of producing plastics, plastic particles are now found everywhere – in groundwater, in the oceans, in the air, and in the food chain.



50 million tons of PET (Polyethylenterephthalat) are newly produced every year

100 Mio

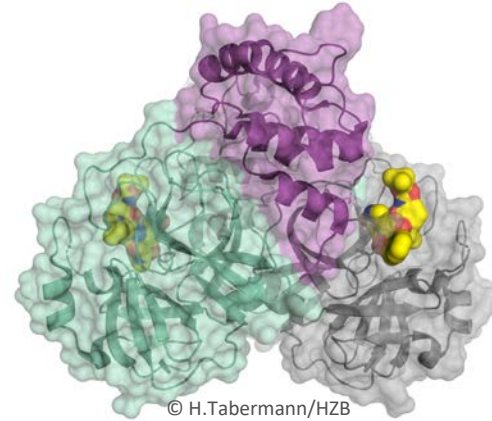
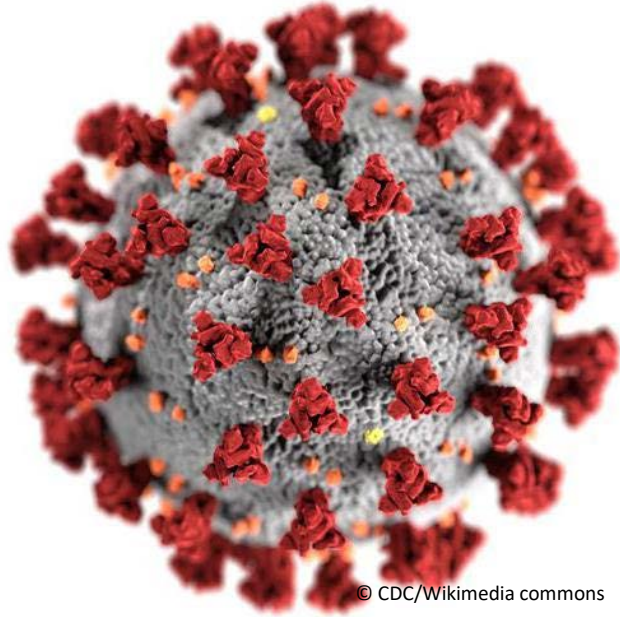


A yellow chain 4 times around the globe, just PET

- Discovery of a bacterium that grows on PET and partially feeds on it.
- Bacterium possesses two special enzymes, which are able to digest PET plastic polymers. one breaks down the plastic into smaller PET building blocks (“PET monomer”), the other splits this into the two basic precursor building blocks of PET, terephthalic acid and ethylene glycol.
- Synthesising new PET without the addition of crude oil, a closed sustainable production and recovery cycle.

Uni Greifswald/HZB

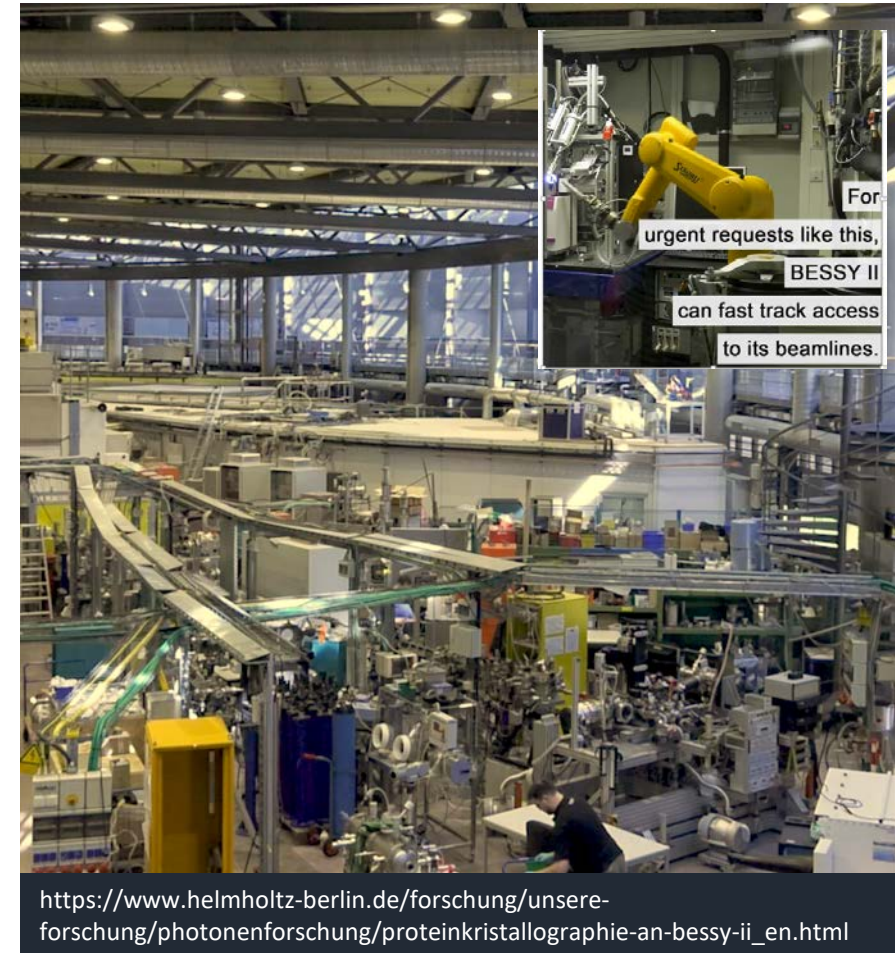
# CORONA RESEARCH AT BESSY II



At BESSY II, Prof. Rolf Hilgenfeld (Uni Lübeck) was able to analyse an important protein of the SARS-CoV2 virus, the viral main protease which enables the virus to multiply.

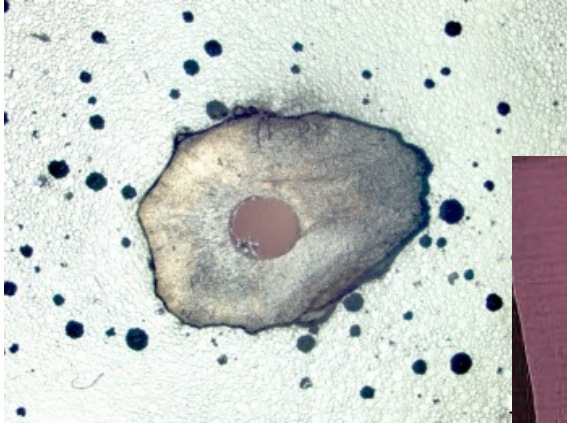
**In the first year of the pandemic, synchrotron based research led to one Corona-relevant publication every 5 days!**

Crystal structure of SARS-CoV-2 main protease provides a basis for design of improved  $\alpha$ -ketoamide inhibitors  
DOI: [10.1126/science.abb3405](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abb3405)

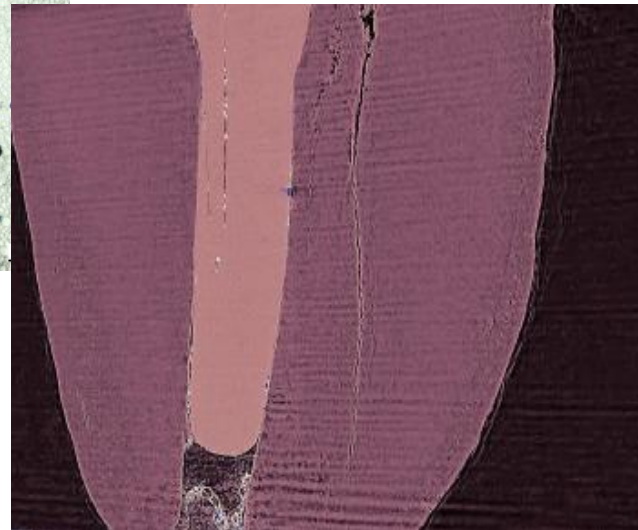


# DENTISTRY

## Root canal treatment – not as bad as you think



Optical image of a filled root.  
© P. Zaslansky



A section along a treated root canal (filling in pink) reveals dentine cracks by phase contrast-enhanced  $\mu$ CT. © P. Zaslansky

Root canal treatment is sometimes necessary....

The procedure involves drilling an opening through the crown in order to reach the inflamed pulp and remove it.

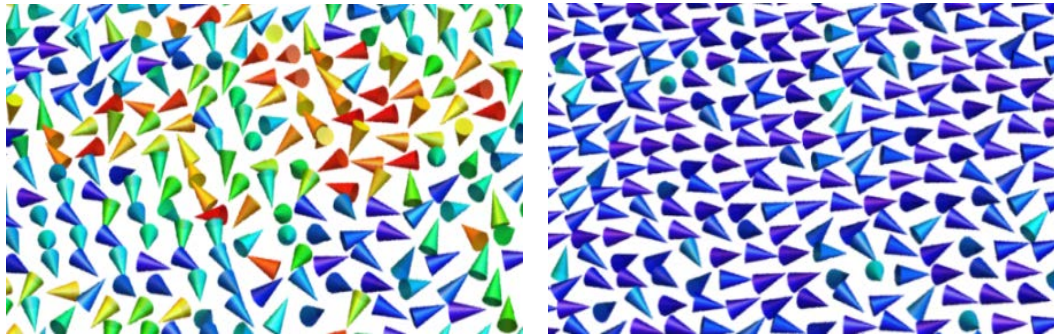
One unfortunate possible complication is root fracture. Causes for such fractures are not fully understood, but it was suggested that stresses in the roots arising from the mechanical instrumentation may contribute to the appearance of cracks.

- Extracted teeth from the dental clinic at Charité were treated at a dental lab at the beamline and examined for possible cracks before, during, and after root canal treatment.
- The good news. Mechanical treatment is not contributing to micro fractures.

Charité Berlin

# HIGHLIGHT – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

## Spintronics by “straintronics”: Superferromagnetism with electric-field induced strain



Magnetization of the nanoparticles.  
In the absence of electric field .  
Random orientation of their  
magnetization, known as  
superparamagnetism.

With an electric field, the strain  
induced on the BaTiO<sub>3</sub> substrate is  
transferred to the nanoparticles  
forcing their realignment, known as  
superferromagnetism.

Data storage in today’s magnetic media is very energy consuming.

A combination of novel materials and the coupling between their properties could reduce the energy needed to control magnetic memories  
→ a smaller carbon footprint of the IT sector.

*By the way:  
did you know that each email produces 10g CO<sub>2</sub>  
The number of spam mails is about 300 Billion per  
day (May2020, Cisco)*

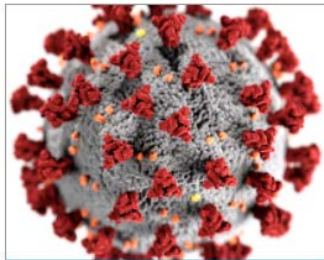
- Switching magnetic domains requires normally magnetic requiring large amounts of electrical power.
- Magnetic order on a small region of the sample can be achieved by employing a small electric field instead of using magnetic fields using a ferroelectric and ferroelastic material BaTiO<sub>3</sub> as substrate.
- Strain is transmitted to the iron nanograins on top of it and formerly superparamagnetic regions switch to a new state: a collective long-range ferromagnetic order known as superferromagnetism.

CNRS/ICMAB and  
Uni Barcelona/HZB

# RESEARCH FIELDS, METHODS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

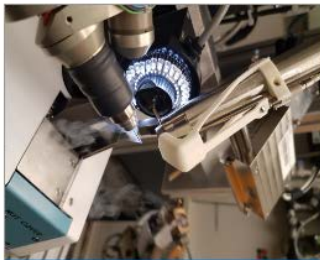
<https://www.helmholtz-berlin.de/pubbin/newsroom>

[https://www.helmholtz-berlin.de/forschung/unsere-forschung/photonenforschung/corona-forschung\\_en.html#c495658](https://www.helmholtz-berlin.de/forschung/unsere-forschung/photonenforschung/corona-forschung_en.html#c495658)



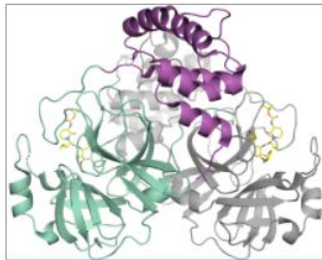
NEWS

04.05.2020 - #Corona: HZB resumes operation step by step



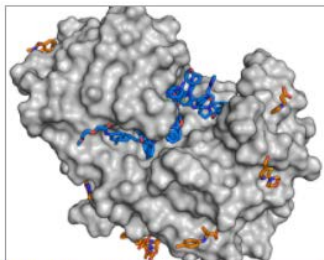
NEWS

Corona research: Consortium of Berlin research and industry seeks active...



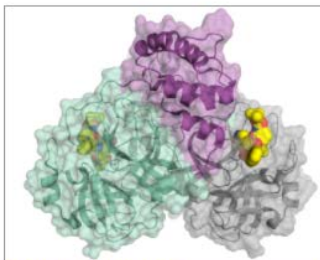
NEWS

Corona research at BESSY II: Two days of measuring operation to find the right...



SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

New substance library to accelerate the search for active compounds



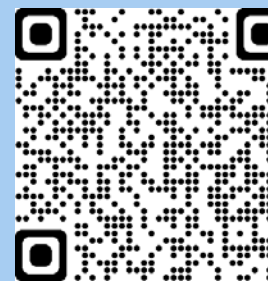
SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

Coronavirus SARS-CoV2: BESSY II data accelerate drug development

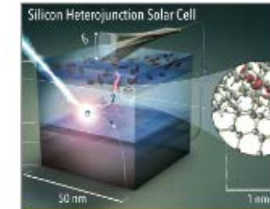
## Videos



## Virtual Tours

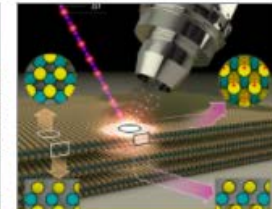


## Search results - Rubric: Science Highlight



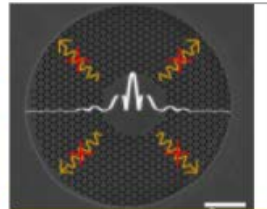
SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

Solar cells: Losses made visible on the nanoscale



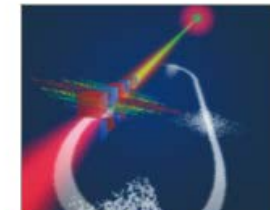
SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

Instrument at BESSY II shows how light activates MoS2 layers to become catalysts



SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

New skills of Graphene: Tunable lattice vibrations



SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

Accelerator physics: Experiment reveals new options for synchrotron light...



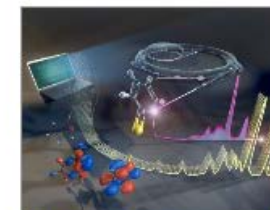
SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

The perfect recipe for efficient perovskite solar cells



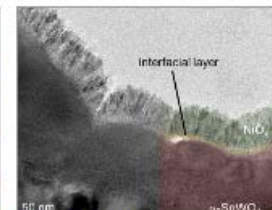
SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

World's first video recording of a space-time crystal



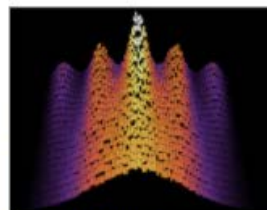
SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

An efficient tool to link X-ray experiments and ab initio theory



SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

Solar hydrogen: Photoanodes made of  $\alpha$ -SnWO<sub>4</sub> promise high efficiencies



SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT

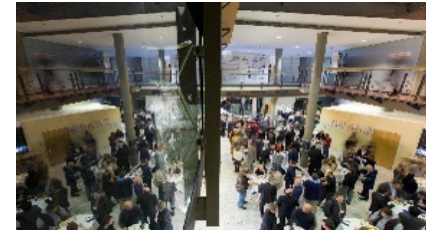
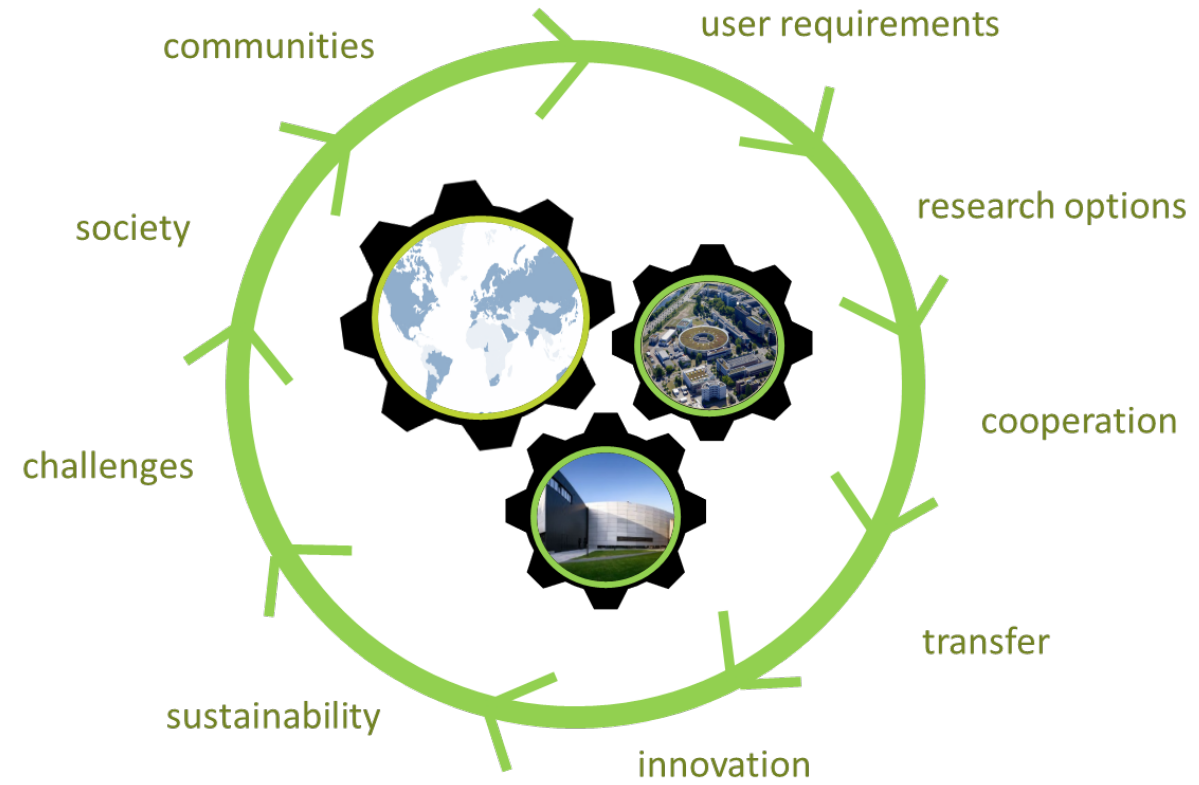
How complex oscillations in a quantum system simplify with time

BESSY II and her sisters in the world

Users and user communities

Changes and Challenges

Beyond brilliant science





# Global challenges

The role of Science: discover, publish, innovate, share...



The role of Large Scale Research Infrastructures:  
enable the best science  
bring people together,  
pave the way for peaceful cooperation

**We need to bring people from all regions of the world together for the benefit of humans and society**



<https://www.lindau-nobel.org/en/press-releases/force-towards-renewed-scientific-cooperation/> Picture: iStock.com/Rawpixel Ltd

# CERN – Fostering cooperation between peoples recently in conflict

## Examples of bridges between peoples built by CERN

- 1<sup>st</sup> intergovernmental organisation that Germany joined after WW II (on probation!)
- 1<sup>st</sup> post WW II meetings between German and Israeli physicists at CERN
- Collaboration between CERN and Russia at the height of the Cold War kept door open, establishes trust and was model for USA-Russian collaboration
- In the 1970s, when China was “closed” scientific contacts were pioneered at DESY and CERN – Nobel Laureat Sam Ting (MIT) got backing from Deng Xiaoping
- In 1985, when USSR-USA arms negotiations in Geneva were stalled, a dinner for Russian and American scientific advisors was arranged, which facilitates a subsequent breakthrough
- CERN had an open door policy for East European countries during the Cold War – this allowed them to quickly join CERN following the fall of the Berlin wall



**1954** European Reconstruction  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of CERN Council



**1980** The East Meets the West  
Visit of delegation from Beijing



**Today** The LHC brings together > 8000  
scientists and some 100 nationalities

# SESAME

## Synchrotron-Light for Experimental Science and Applications in the Middle East

Conceived late 1990s – two aims:

- Enable construction of a facility for a broad range of scientific research beyond the means of individual members
- Foster cooperation between peoples



The current (2018) Members of SESAME are Cyprus, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jordan, Pakistan, Palestine, and Turkey



In 2019 SESAME became the world's first large accelerator complex to be fully powered by renewable energy

# CERN and SESAME and more...

## (some) lessons learned

Science bridges Cultures

Acceptance of diversity is vital

Trust between people is a mandatory ingredient

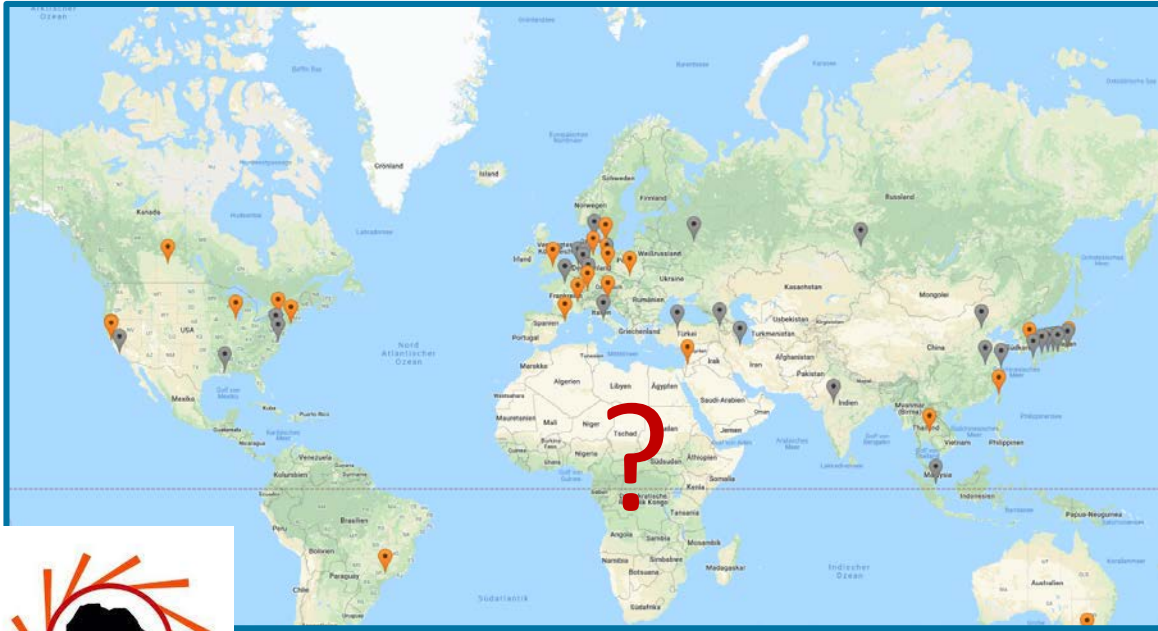
Scientists can/should/must be ambassadors for peaceful cooperation



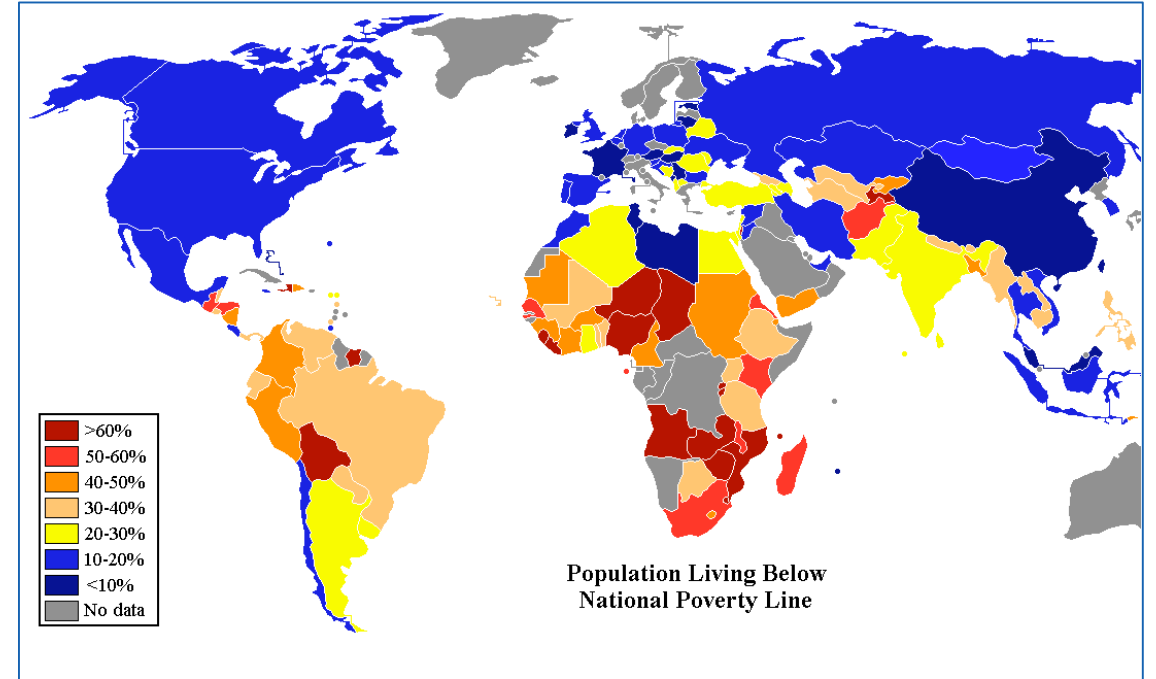
CERN and SESAME have become examples for Science Diplomacy...



# AFRICA



Origin of  
BESSY II  
proposals



Currently, Africa as a whole has 169 scientist per 1 million people (cf. Europe 20 times more), a number that has to increase drastically to achieve economic development through innovation.

S.H. Connell et al., Towards an African Light Source,  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12551-019-00578-3>

# AFRICA

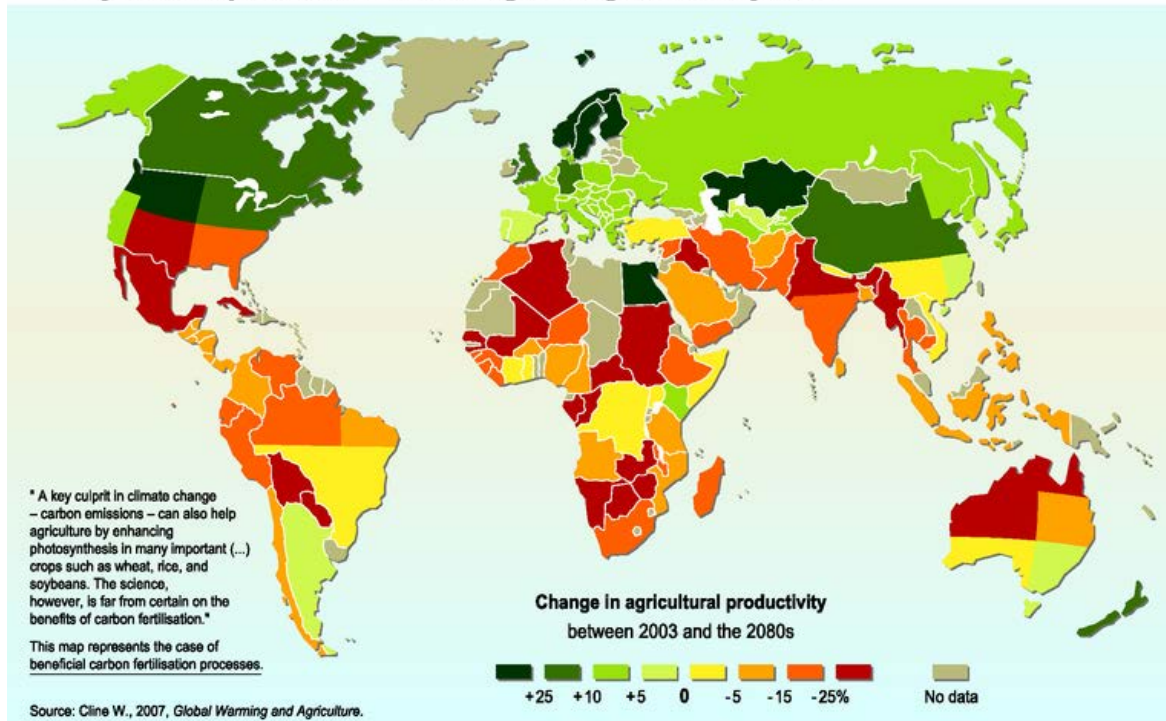
And now, please remember the research highlights: solar energy, water splitting from sea water, transport of hydrogen in existing infrastructures, using hydrogen for solar fuels (from alcohols to synthetic aviation fuel)

But also:

every Euro spent in R&D creates 11 Euros for society.

Africa will soon become the home to the best part of the world's youth, these young people will need be part of the economy and developments in their countries.

## Projected impact of climate change on agricultural yields



In the past the formerly so called third world was basically excluded from knowledge circulation; most of the exchange - for example at conferences - took place in the northern hemisphere.

This is changing, but more can be done to speed up a broader inclusivity.

To solve global problems, intensified transnational cooperation, distribution of knowledge, and most importantly intellectual exchange are major ingredients.

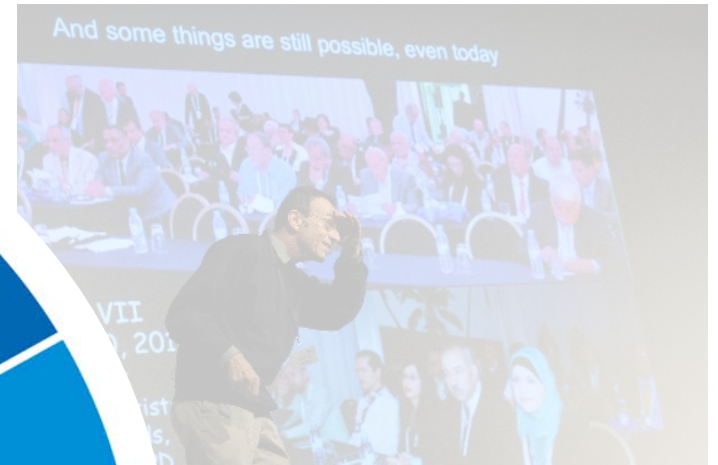
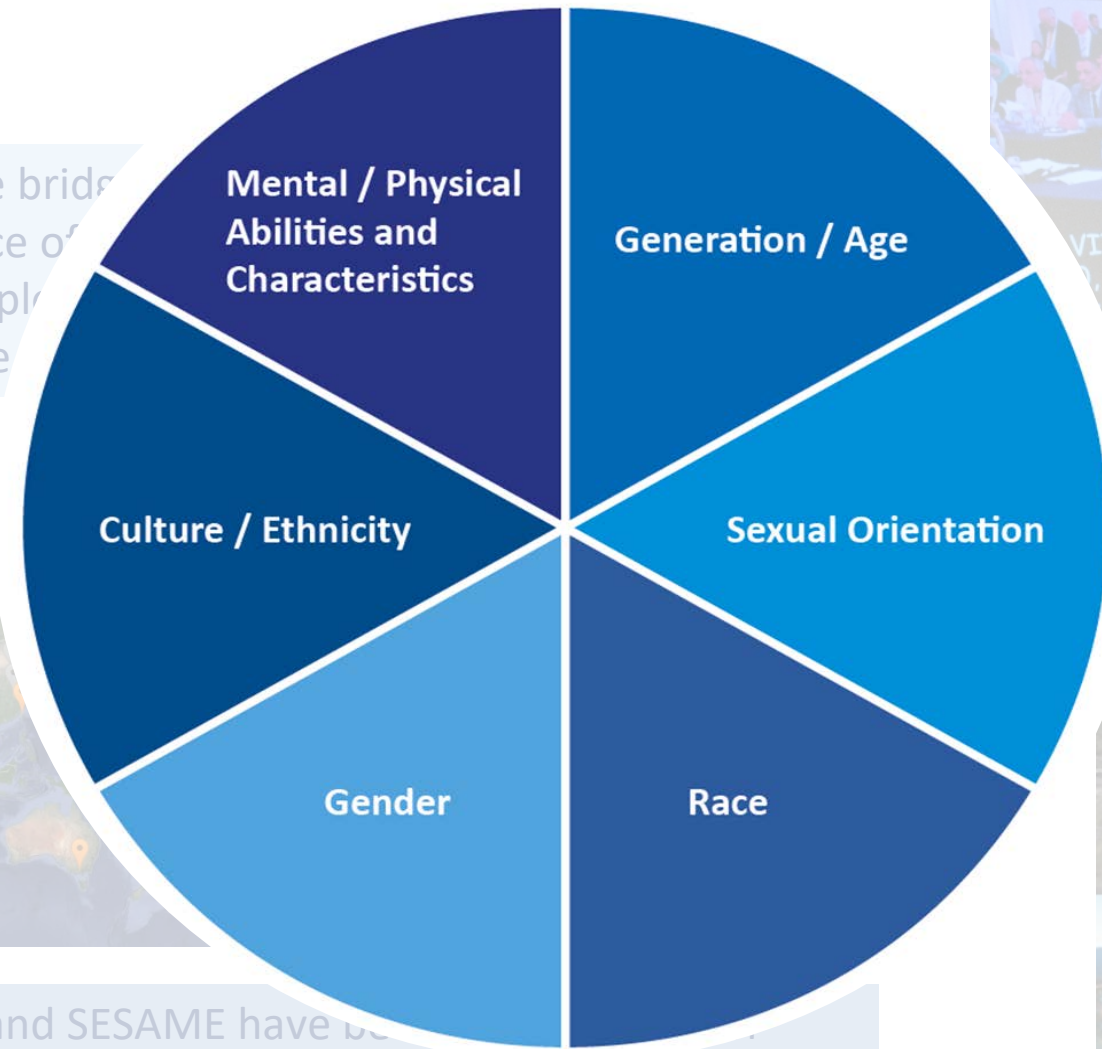
# IDEA - inclusion, diversity, equity, and anti-discrimination

(some) lessons learned

Science bridges  
Acceptance of  
Trust between people  
Scientists can/should/must be



CERN and SESAME have been...  
Science Diplomacy...



# LEAPS IDEA - inclusion, diversity, equity, and anti-discrimination

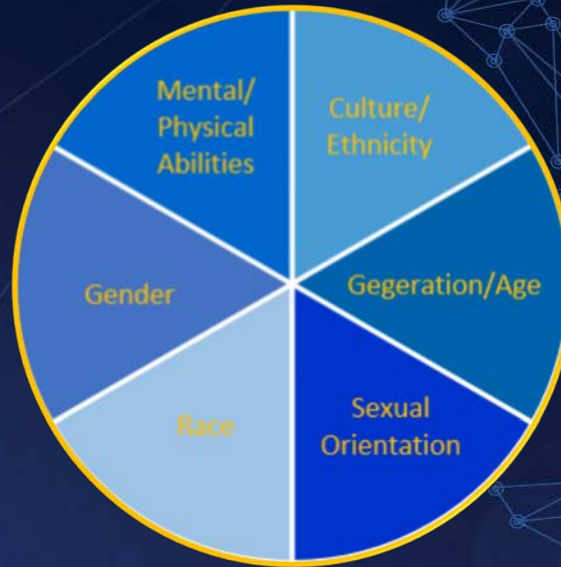
## LEAPS Statement on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-discrimination (IDEA)

"(...) As international large-scale research infrastructures where interdisciplinary scientific topics are explored, **LEAPS facilities are inherently diverse and dynamic.** (...)

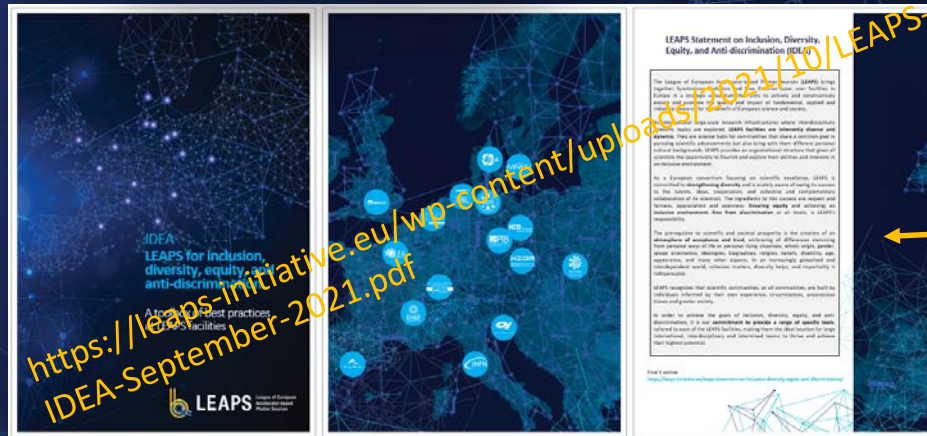
As a European consortium focusing on scientific excellence, LEAPS is committed to **strengthening diversity** and is acutely aware of owing its success to the talents, ideas, (...) and collaboration of its scientists. The ingredients to this success are respect and fairness, appreciation and openness. **Ensuring equity** and achieving an **inclusive environment, free from discrimination** at all levels, is LEAPS's responsibility.

The prerequisite to scientific and societal prosperity is the creation of an **atmosphere of acceptance and trust**, embracing all differences stemming from personal ways of life or personal living situations, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, ideologies, biographies, religion, beliefs, disability, age, appearance, and many other aspects. In an increasingly globalised and interdependent world, cohesion matters, diversity helps, and impartiality is indispensable. (...)"

### Primary Dimensions of Diversity



### LEAPS IDEA document on best practice examples and toolbox



<https://leaps-initiative.eu/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/LEAPS-IDEA-September-2021.pdf>

- Diversity audit
- Diversity self-report
- Diversity award
- Code of conduct
- Persons of trust
- Ombudspersons
- Complaints officer

Best practice IDEA examples from LEAPS facilities

- Dual career service
- Social counseling
- Multi-lingual communication
- Website accessibility
- Mentoring programmes
- Gender equality in academic career development

A lot can be done!

- Diversity roundtable
- Welcome culture
- Science and society initiatives
- Social hours
- Seminars on unconscious bias
- Training on prevention of sexual harassment

- Outreach events
- Science diplomacy activities
- Promotion of new user communities
- Country of honour
- Twinning programme

Please find more best practice examples and a toolbox for IDEA actions in this document.



# Curiosity driven research

Daniel Zajfmann:

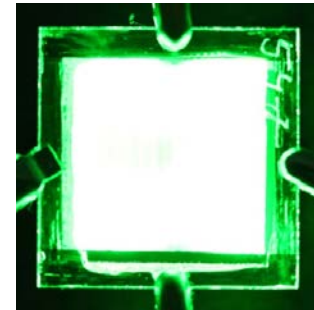
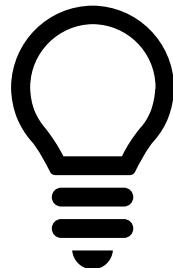
(...) If we would have been sitting here 200 and some years ago ... Well, of course there would be no projectors, no microphone, but also no light. And in any room that we would have been sitting, there would have been a lot of candles. About 200 years ago, actually mostly in the UK but also in Germany, there was a lot of R&D for candles. People were investing a lot of money to get better candles, producing more light, different colors, different perfume. (...)

Then came this gentleman named Michael Faraday and he invented electricity. Now I want to remind you of something. It doesn't matter how much money you're going to invest in developing new candles - you will never get electricity.

**The solution to your problem is not always where the problem is. (...)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Os6iIKTK5KM&t=6m22s>

**Therefore, it is even more important to include the whole world into the exchange of knowledge and ideas**

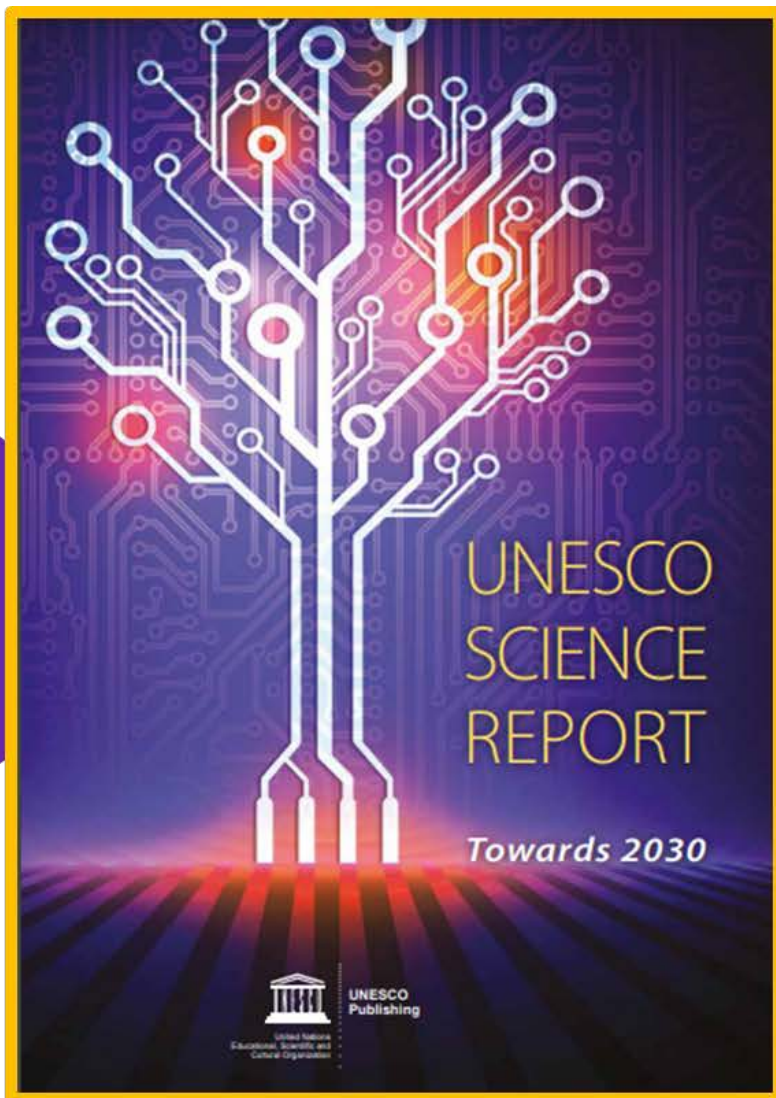




**Thank you for your kind attention**



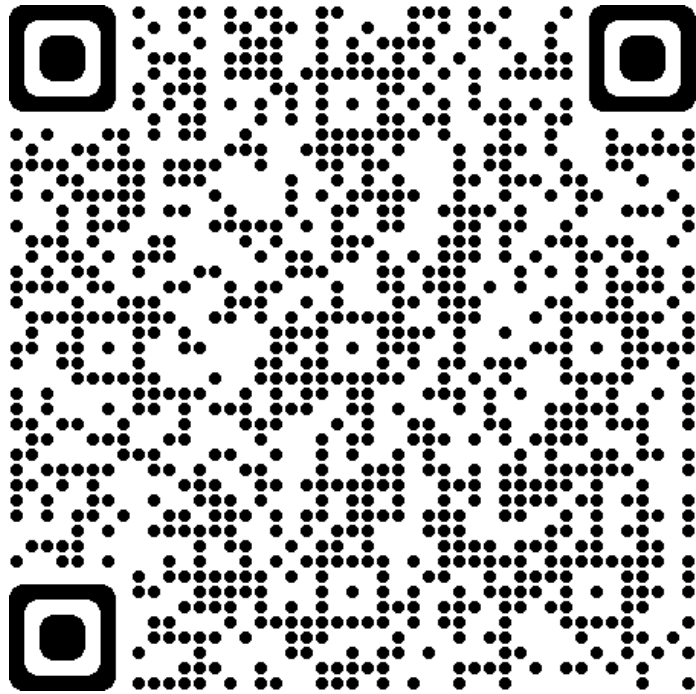
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[https://www.helmholtz-berlin.de/zentrum/aktuell/mediathek/index\\_en.html](https://www.helmholtz-berlin.de/zentrum/aktuell/mediathek/index_en.html)

Videos



Virtual Tours

