

# Hydrogen Storage Activities in Geesthacht

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# Non-university public research in Germany



Max Planck (1858-1947)  
theoretical physicist: quantum theory



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

**Max-Planck-Association**  
80 Institutes,  
13 300 Employees  
Budget ~ 1,3 bill. €



Hermann von Helmholtz (1821-1894)

great natural scientist

„Kanzler der deutschen Physik“

optician and physicist: Fraunhofer lines,  
excellent optical glass and instruments



**Fraunhofer** Gesellschaft  
**Fraunhofer Society**

60 Institutes,  
18 000 Employees  
Budget ~ 1,6 bill. €



Joseph von Fraunhofer  
(1787-1826)



**Helmholtz-Association**  
18 Research Centres,  
40 000 Employees  
Budget ~ 4 bill. €



**Leibniz Association**  
87 Institutes,  
16 100 Employees  
Budget ~ 1,3 bill. €



Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz (1646-1716)

great universal scholar

## Helmholtz Research Centres: **18 medium and large scale research centres**

**Employees:** 40000

**Budget:** 4.3 Bill. €

### **Mission:**

- Solving **major challenges** with cutting-edge research
- Developing and operating **complex infrastructure** and **large-scale facilities** for the national and international scientific community
- **Creating wealth** for society and industry through knowledge transformation and innovation





# Prehistory of the site – Alfred Nobel

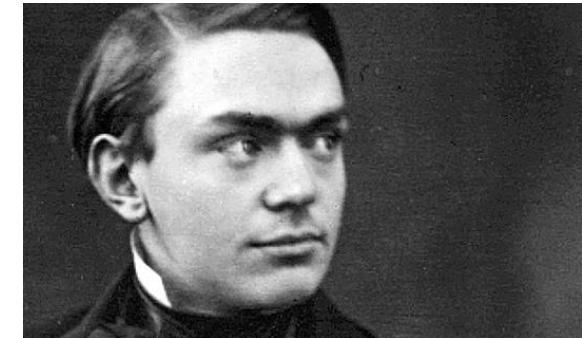
First fabric of explosives of Alfred Nobel (since 1865)  
outside of Sweden

Until 1910 fabric Krümmel: largest munition fabric of Europe

- Manufacture and export of a liquid combination of nitroglycerin and gunpowder known as "Blasting Oil,"  
(extremely unstable and difficult to transport, as shown in numerous catastrophes.)

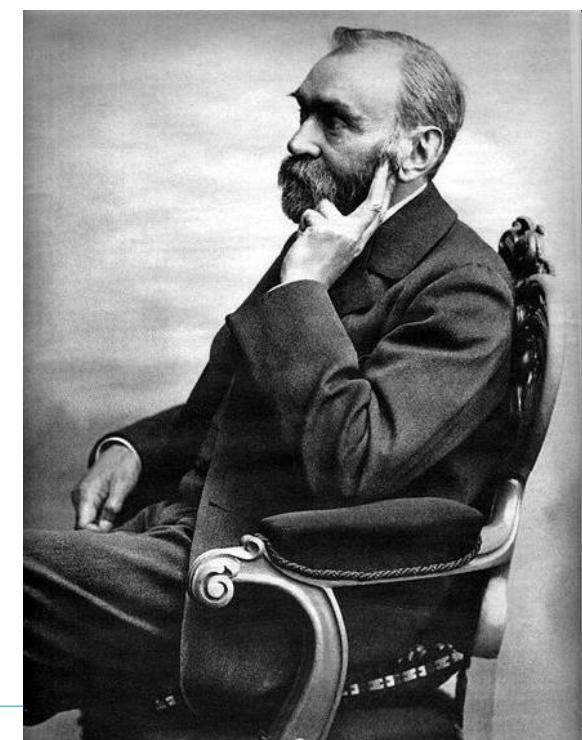
The buildings of the factory in Geesthacht itself destroyed in 1866 and again in 1870)

- October 1866 Experiments on a raft on the Elbe river
- Alfred Nobel & Company's development of dynamite in 1867, made by mixing the nitroglycerin with the diatomaceous earth (*kieselguhr*) found in the Krümmel hills.
- Several other inventions
- after World War II demolition of the fabric



Alfred Nobel (1833-1896)  
swed. Chemist und Engineer

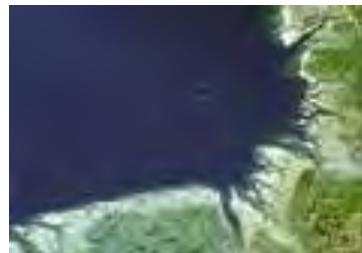
Inventor of Dynamite  
Founder/Donor of the Nobel prize



# Portfolio of the Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht

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## Coastal and Climate Research

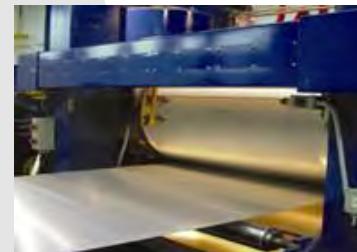
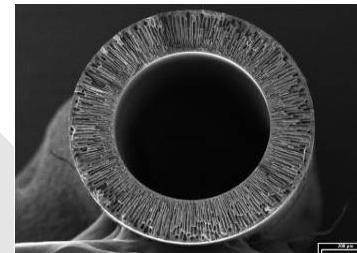


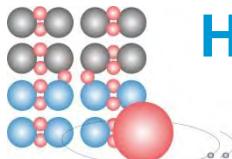
**Total budget**  
**100 Mio €**

**Employees**  
**950**

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## Materials Research





# Hydrogen Storage @ Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht

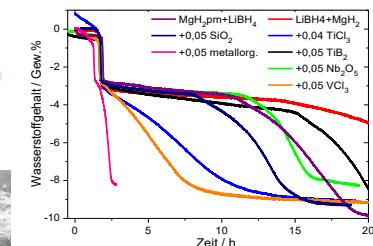
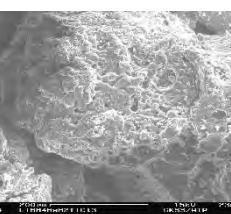
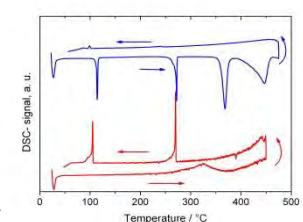
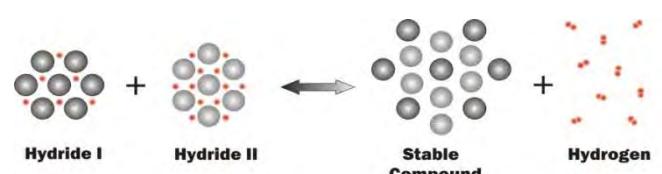
## From Basic Research Towards Applications



# Tank system



# Basic Research



# Identification and optimization of novel hydrogen storage materials

# Thermodynamic modification

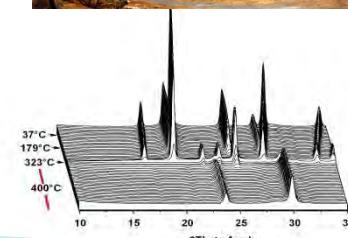
# Kinetic optimization / development of suitable catalysts

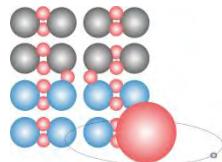
# Scale up and cost efficient material preparation

## Tank tests & demonstration

## Tank design

# Application

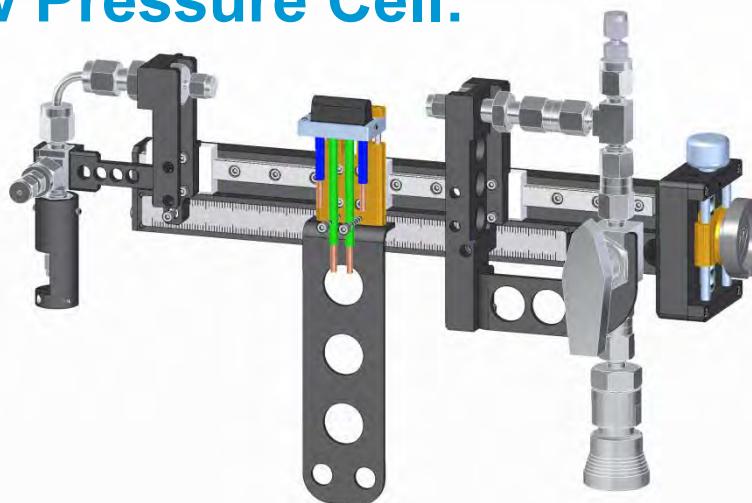




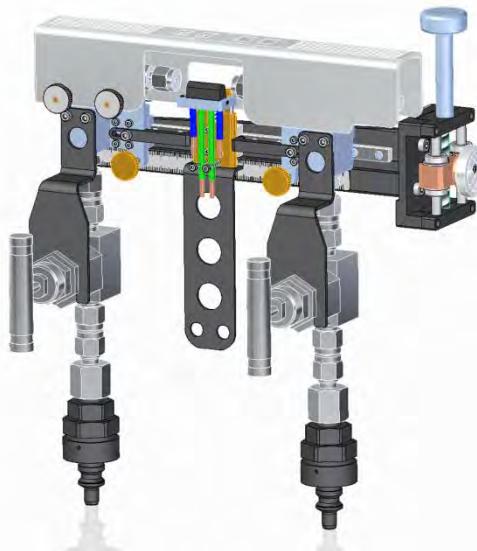
# Material Characterisation

## Characterization: in-situ XRD

### Low Pressure Cell:



### High Pressure Cell:



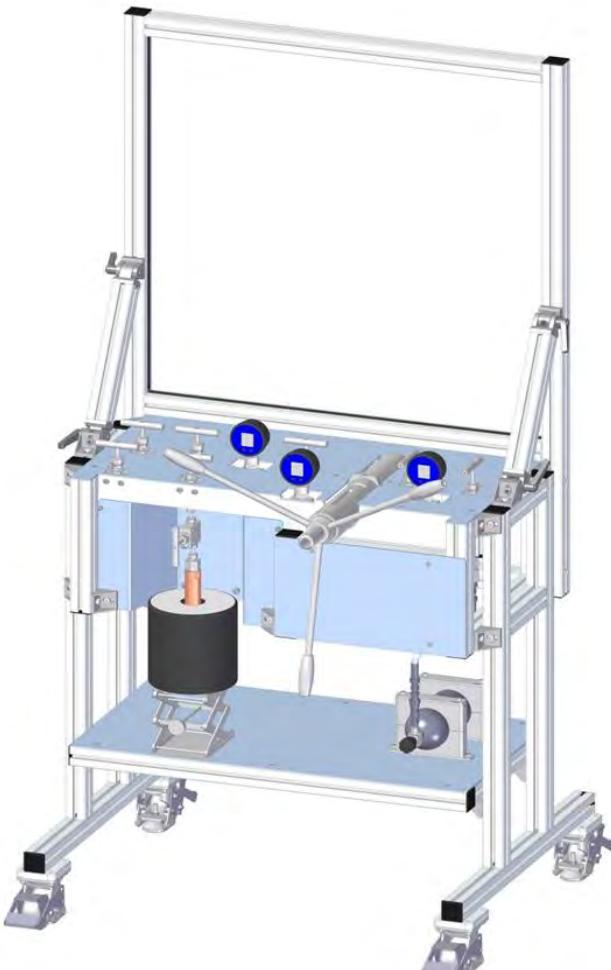
Pmax. = 650 bar

Claudio  
Pistidda

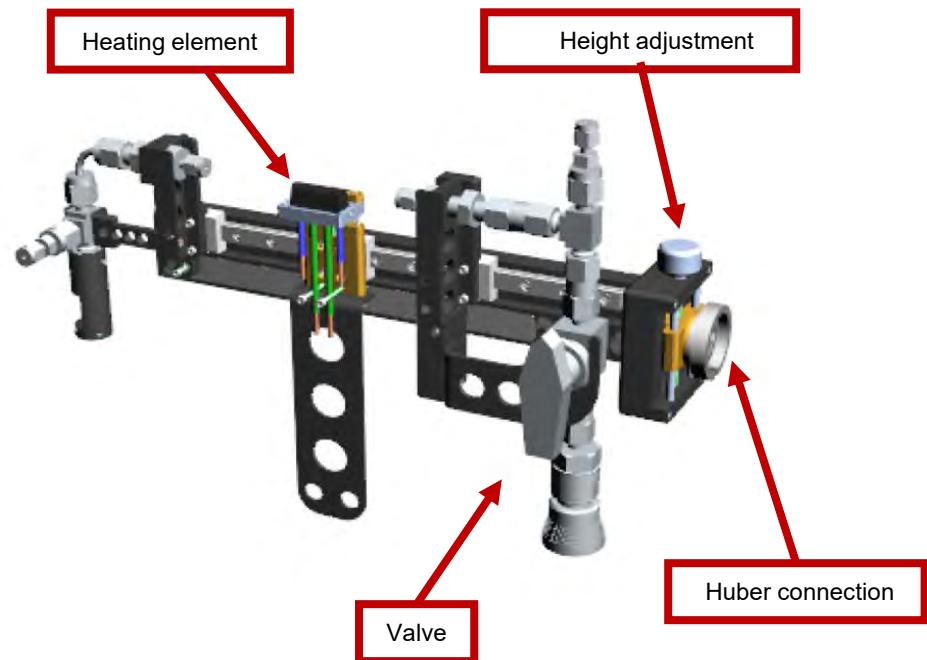
Christian  
Horstmann

# *In situ* SR-PXD equipment

Gas Loading Station



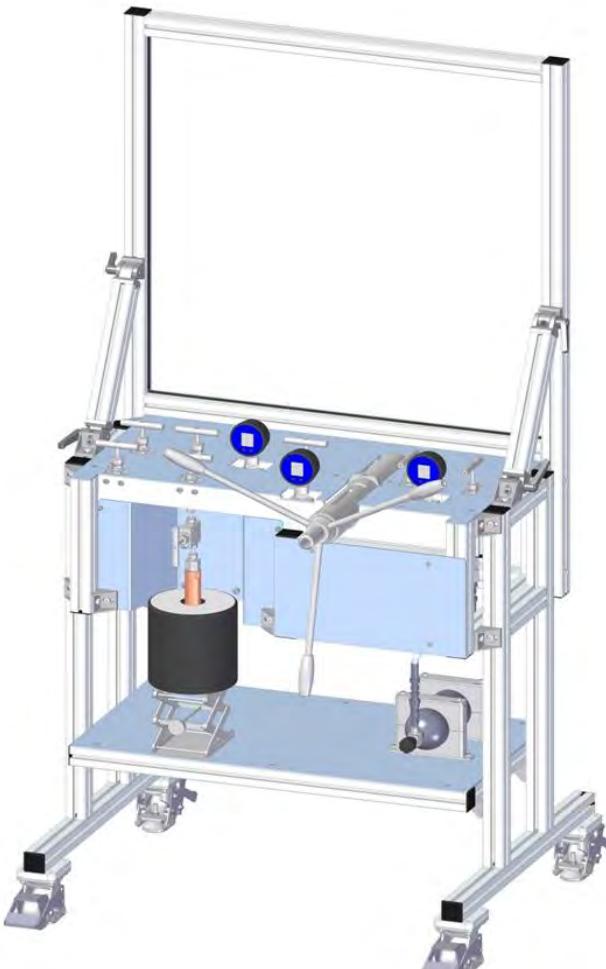
Low pressure cell



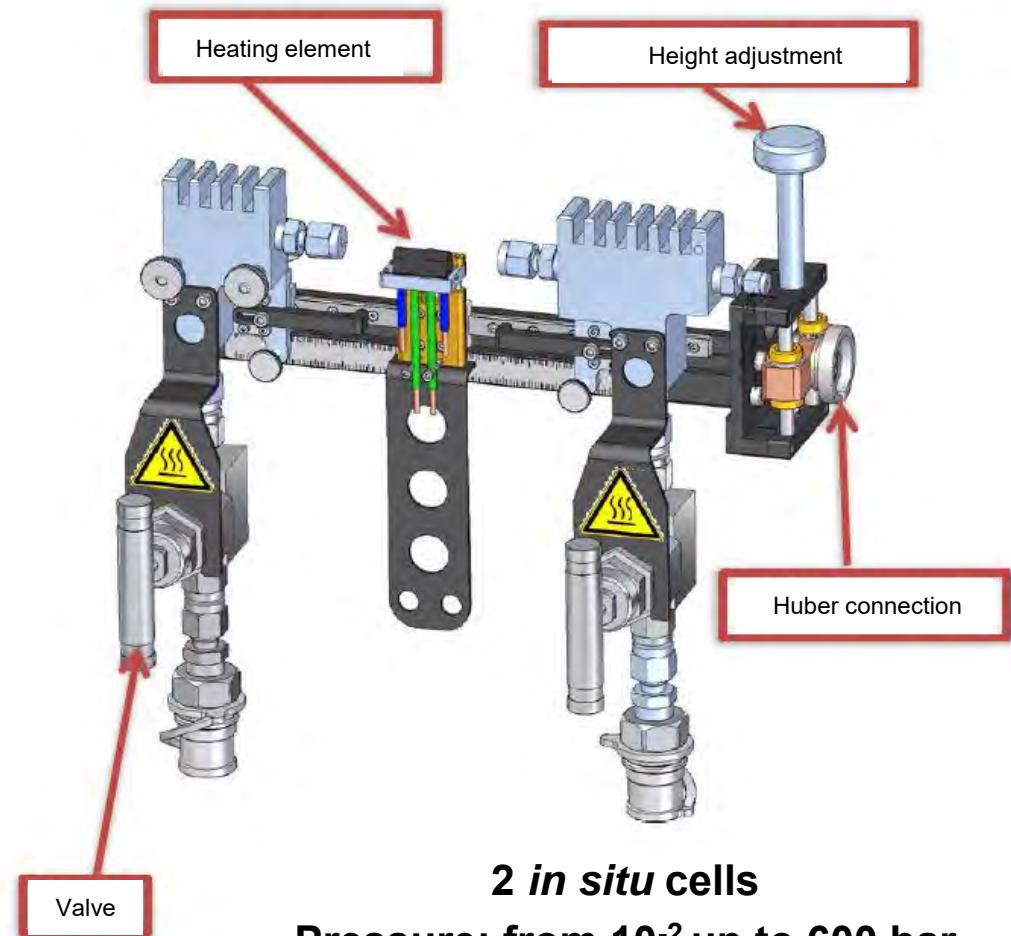
**2 *in situ* cells**  
**Pressure: from  $10^{-2}$  up to 200 bar**

# *In situ* SR-PXD equipment

Gas Loading Station

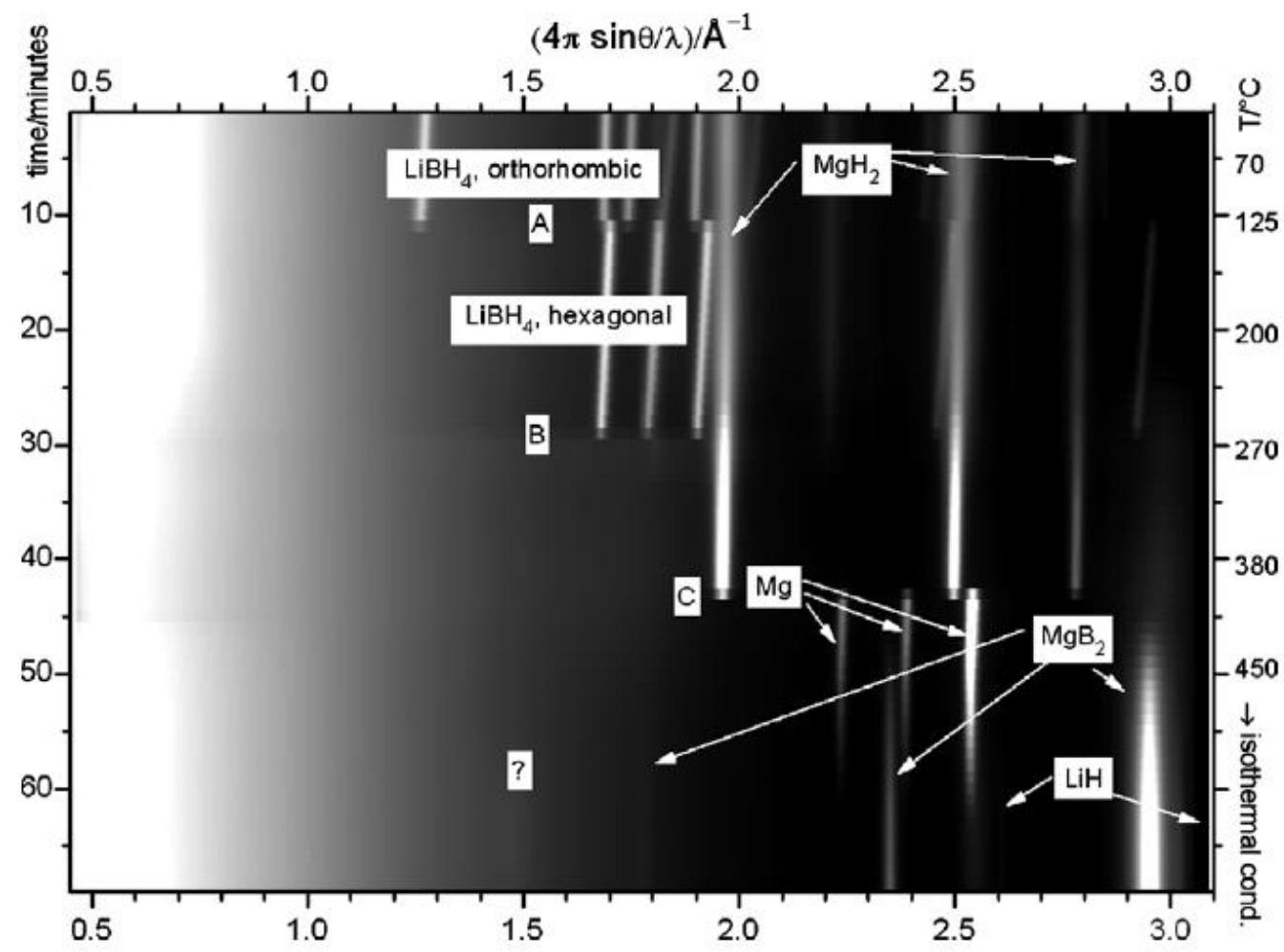


High pressure cell



# Reversible Reactive Hydride Composites:

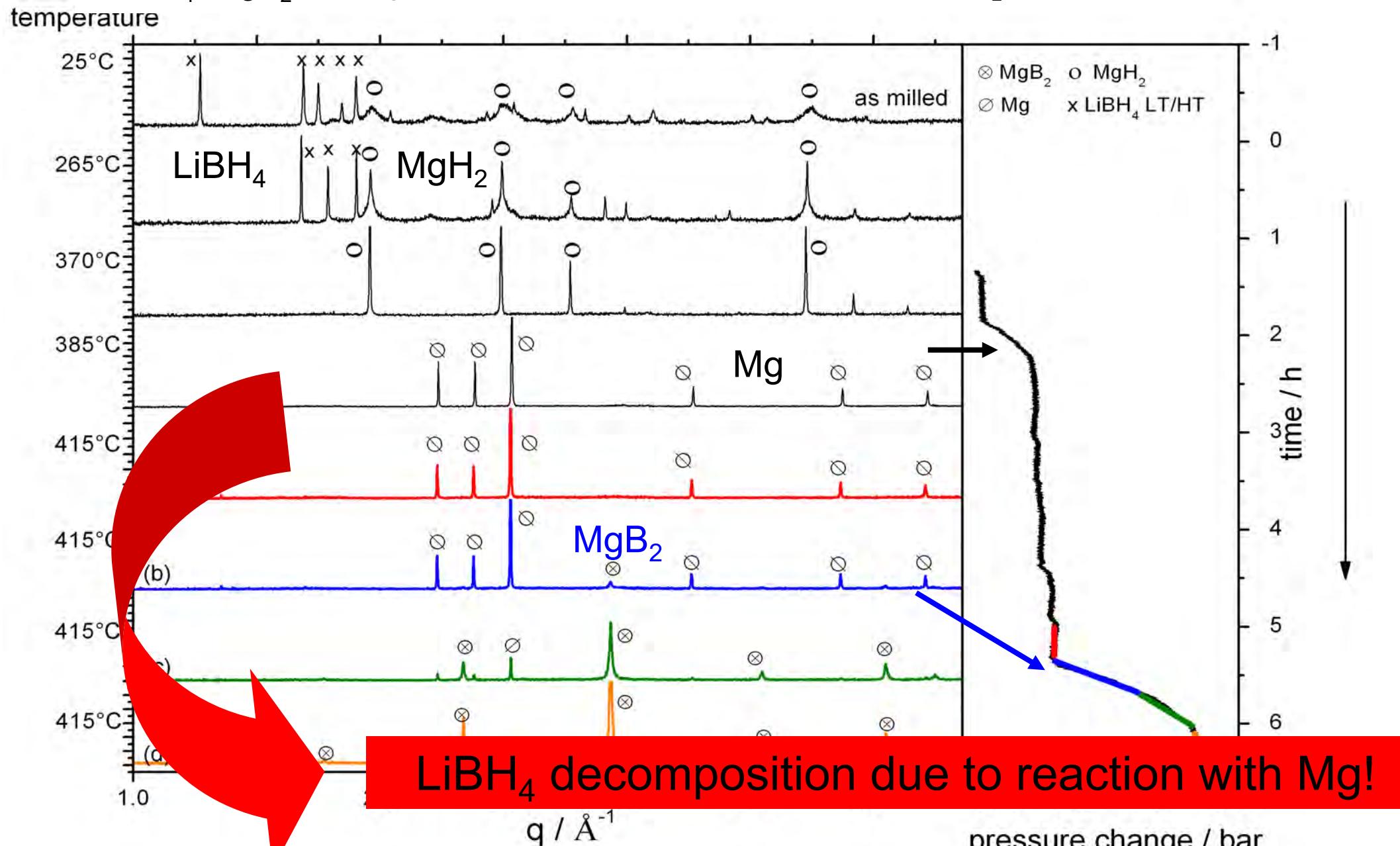
## Hydrogen Storage Materials: Reactive Hydride Composites



# Reaction pathway

## – 5 bar hydrogen, 415 °C isothermal –

$2\text{LiBH}_4 + \text{MgH}_2$ , heating to 415°C with 5K/min, then isothermal, 5 bar H<sub>2</sub>-pressure



# Scale Up Material Synthesis

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# Lab-scale ball-milling

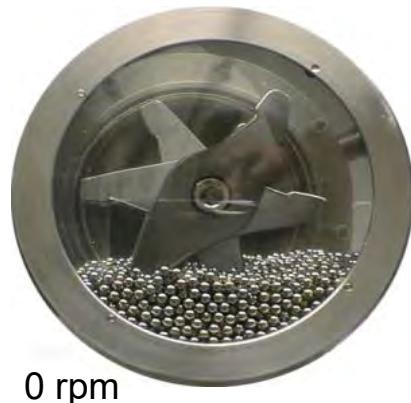


Spex mill: capacity ~5 g

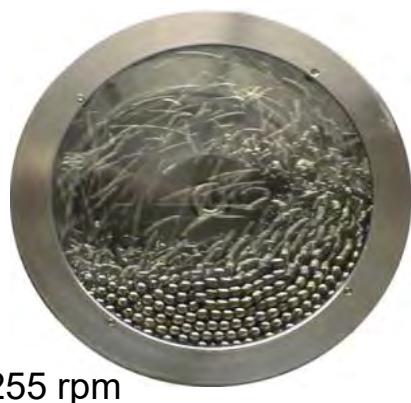


Fritsch P7: ~50g  
Fritsch P5: ~200 g

# Principle of mechano-chemical synthesis



0 rpm



255 rpm



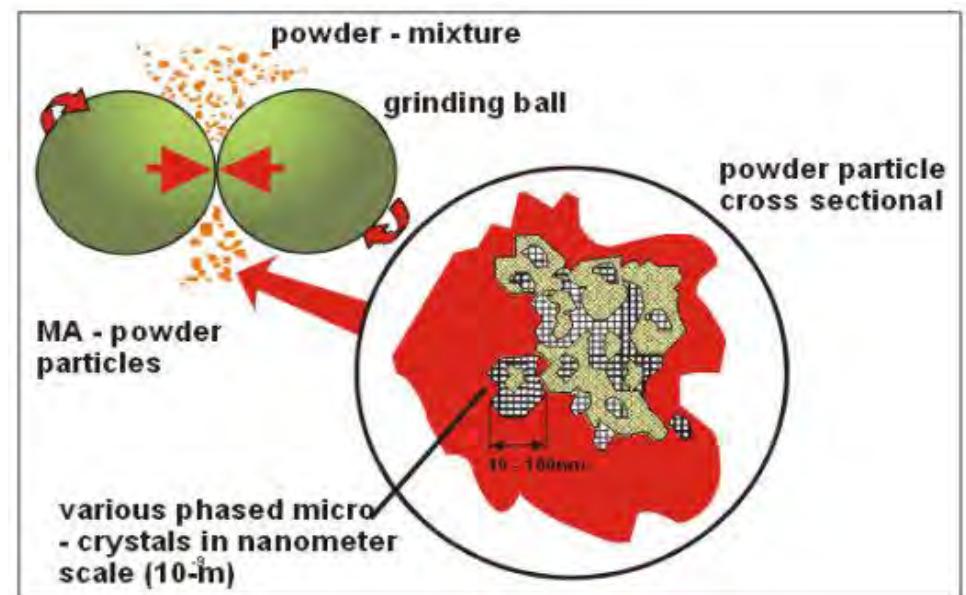
600 rpm



1700 rpm

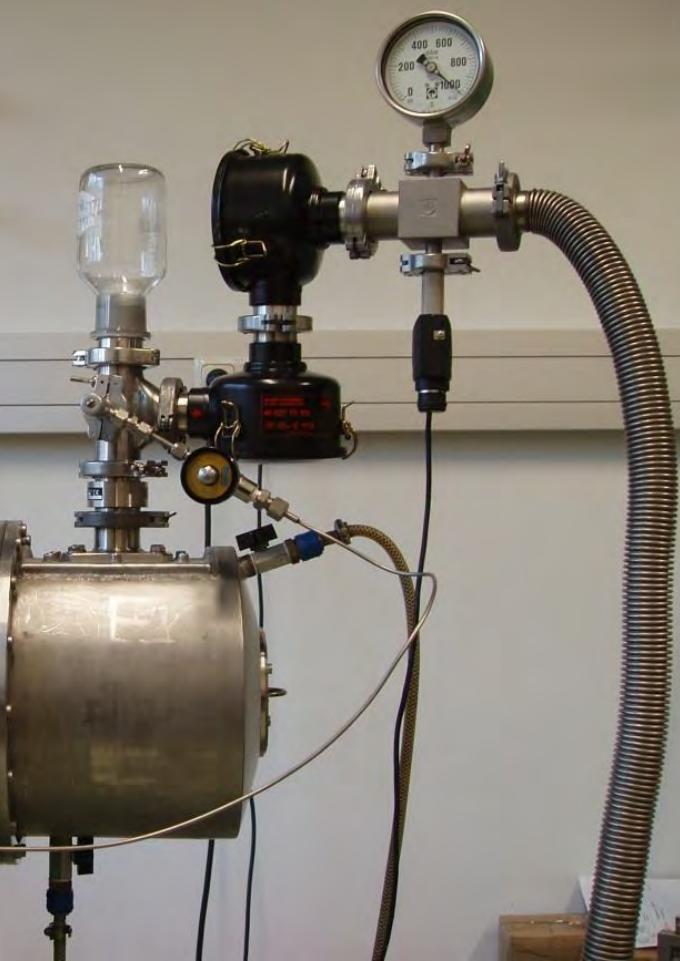


Materials synthesis by High Kinetic Processing  
by HEM, MA, RM

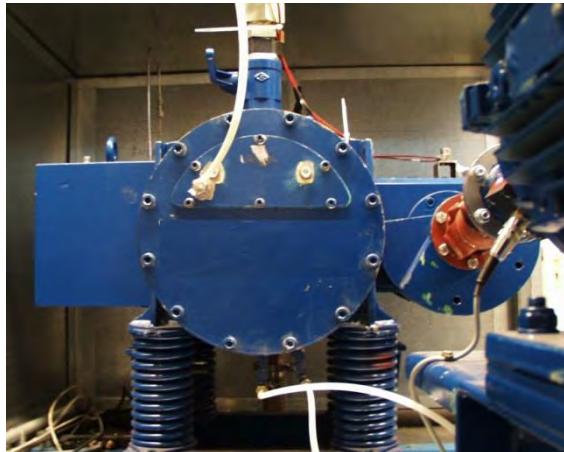


Principle of collision of grinding media

# ZOZ Simoyer CM01 , CM08:

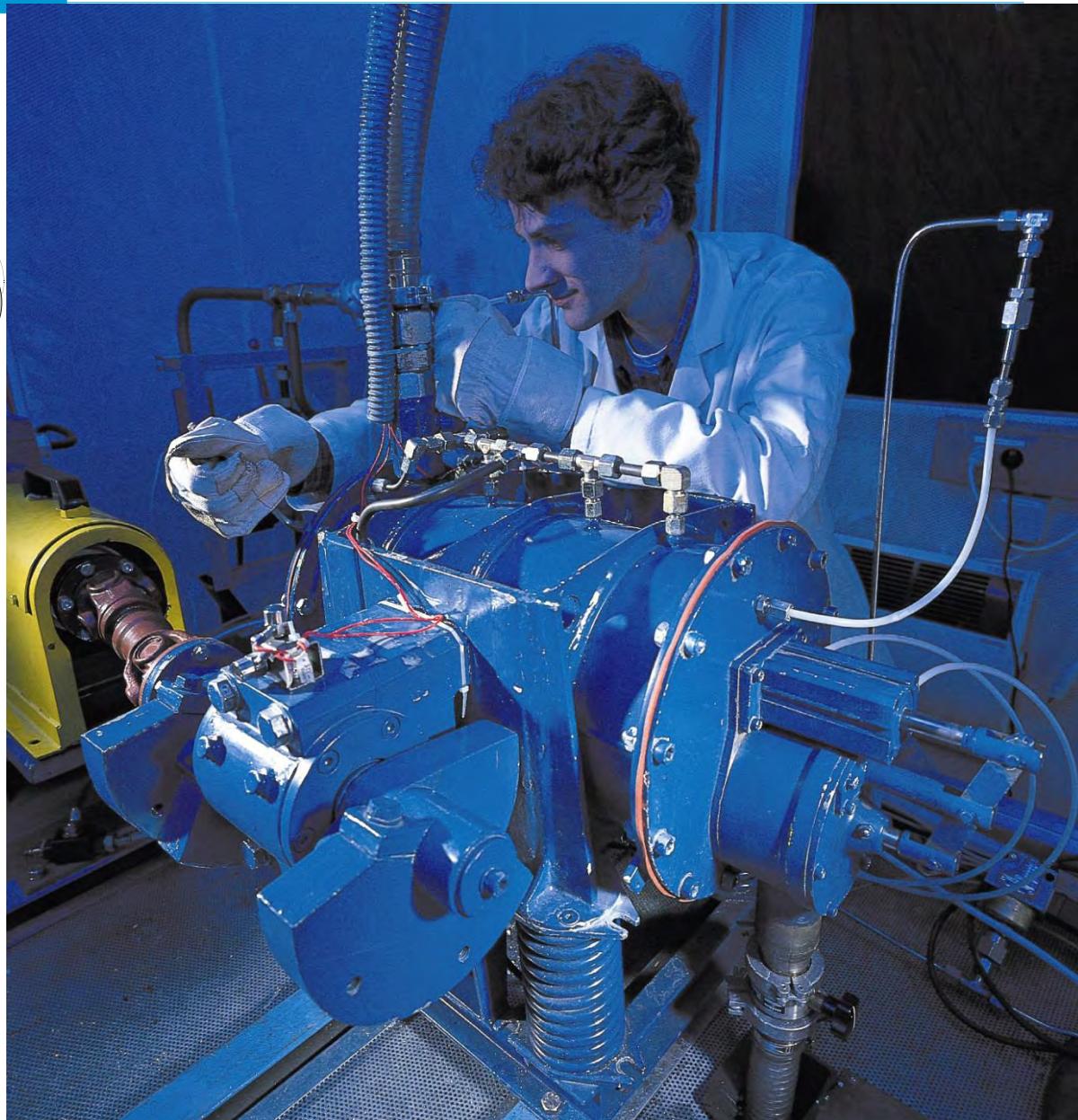


# Siebtechnik ball-mill

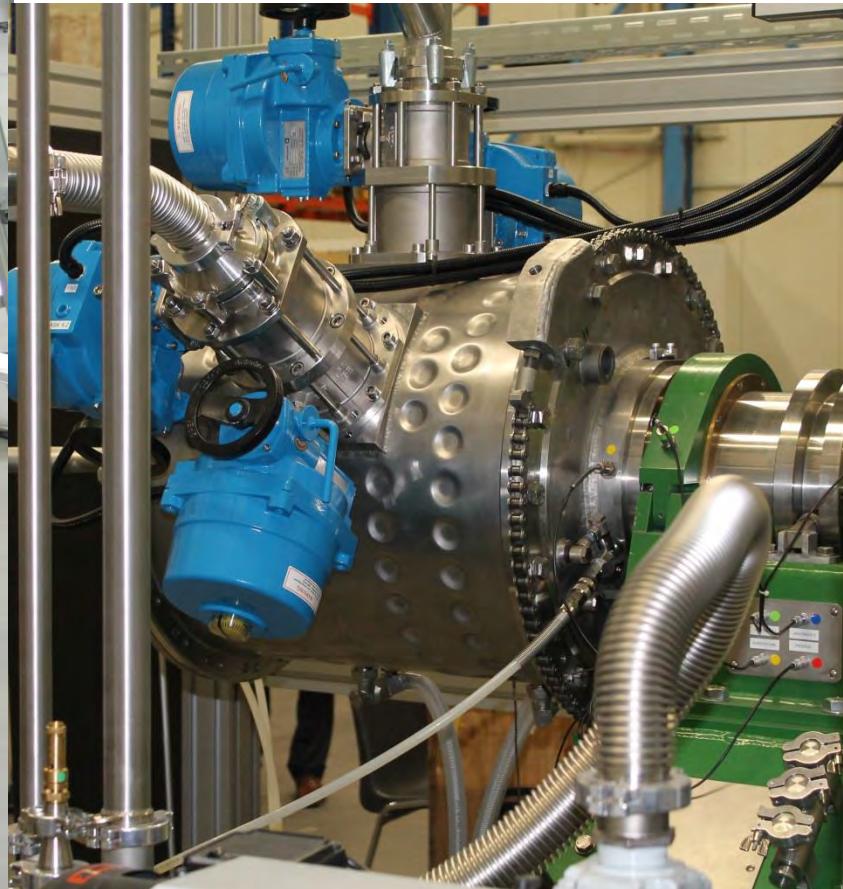


Siebtechnik vibration mill

- bis zu 10 kg Pulverchargen
- hochskalierbar  
bis in den Tonnenmaßstab
- kontinuierlicher Betrieb  
möglich

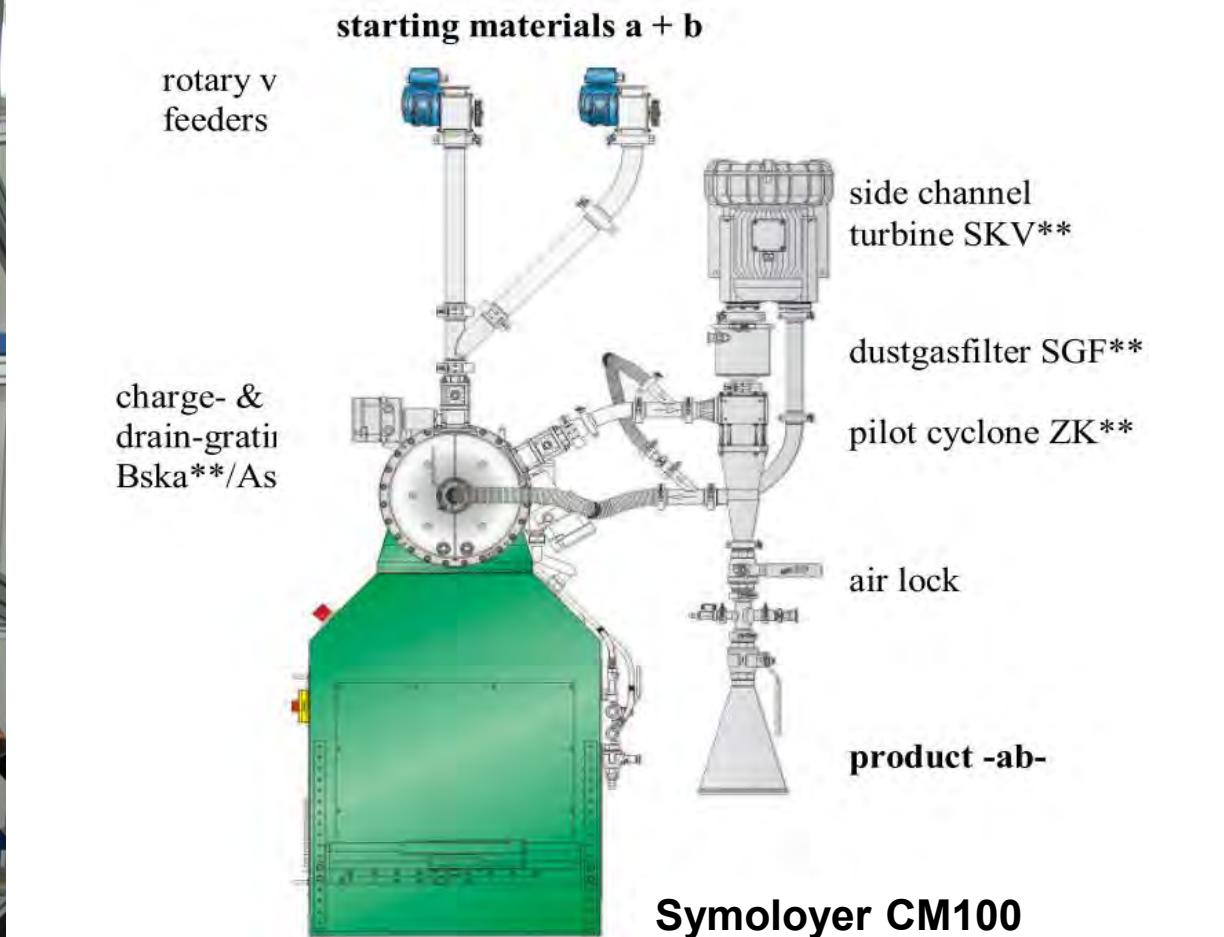


# Hydrogen Technology Centre Olpe





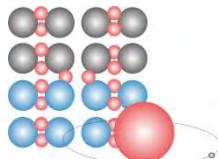
# Industrial scale production costs



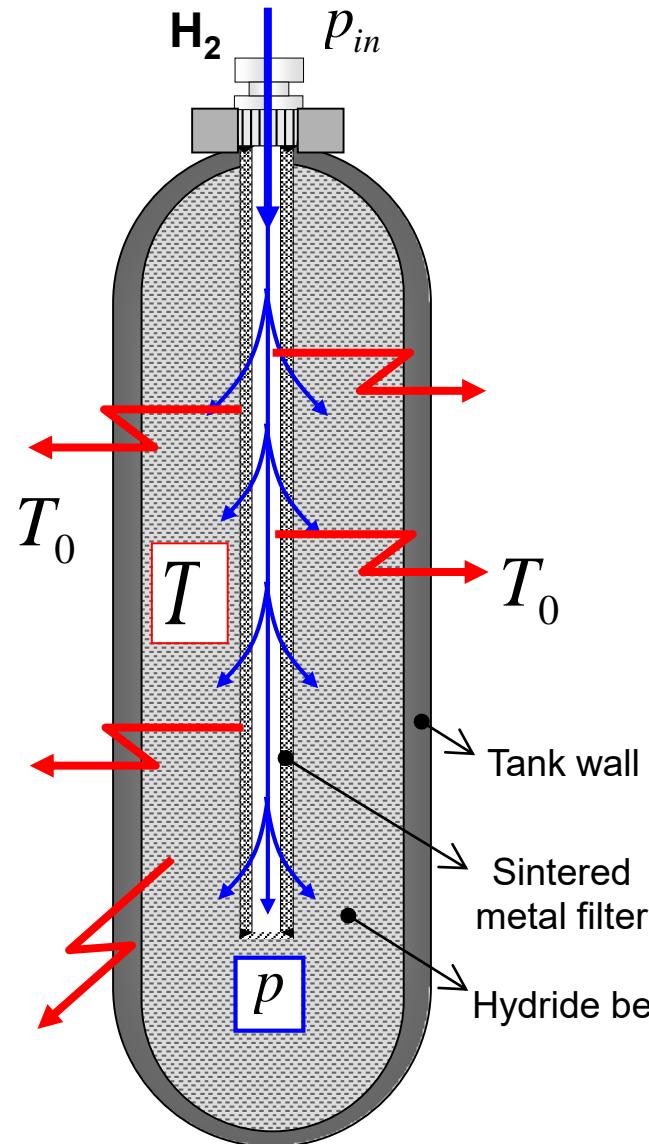
		CM100	CM400	CM900
powder production	[kg/h]	5	20	45
production capacity	[to]	480	1920	4320
processing costs	[€/kg]	2,09 €	0,98 €	0,68 €

# Hydride Based Storage System Simulation, Development, Test and Demonstration

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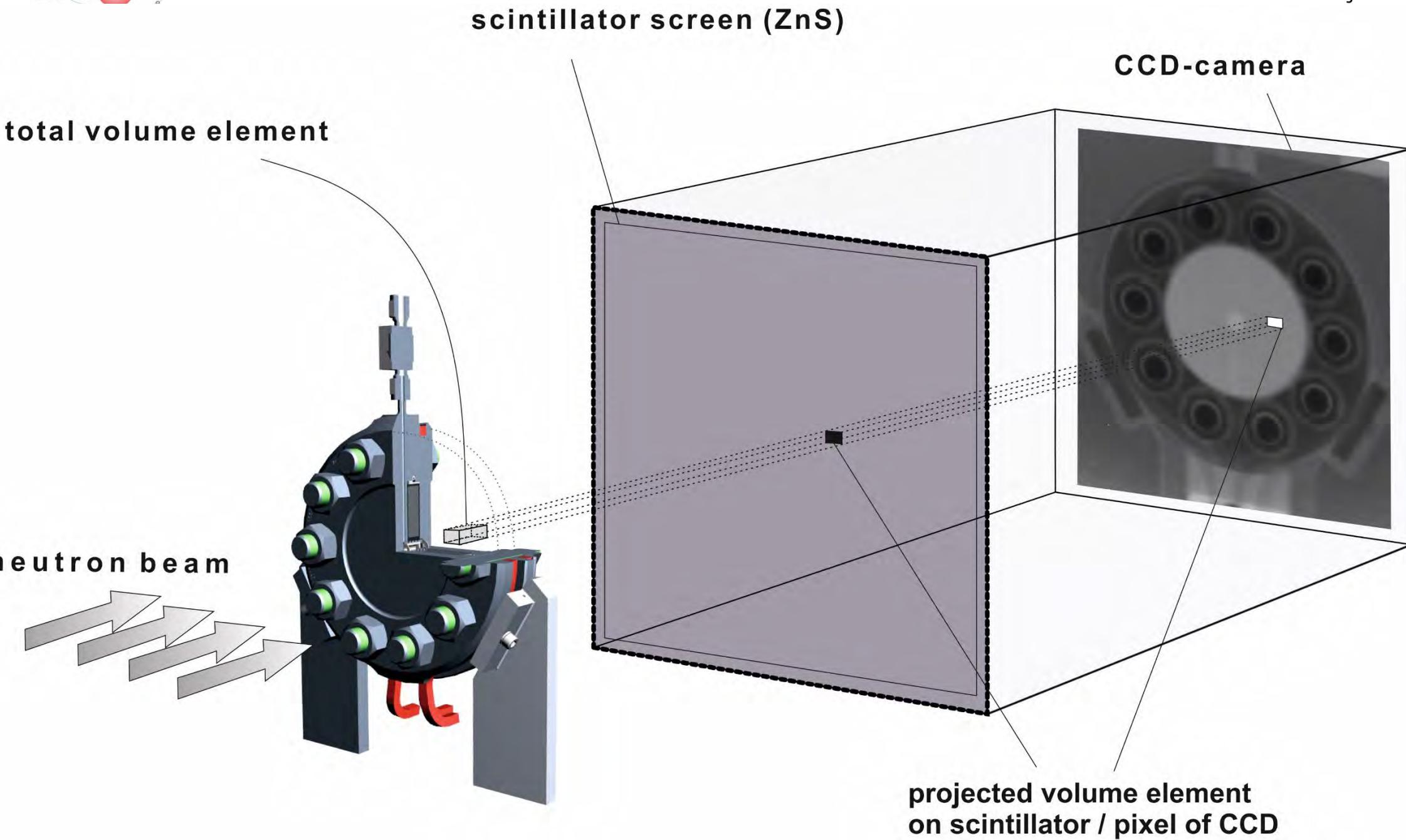
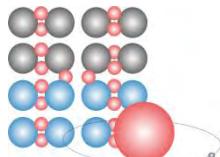


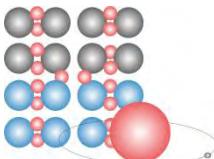
# Process of Hydrogen Sorption



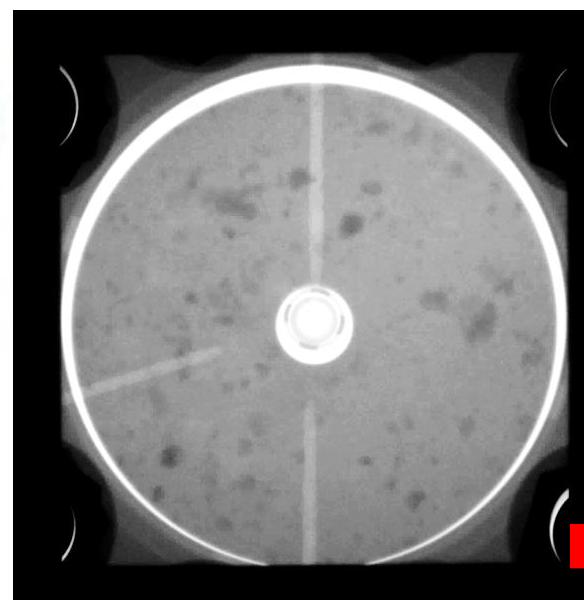
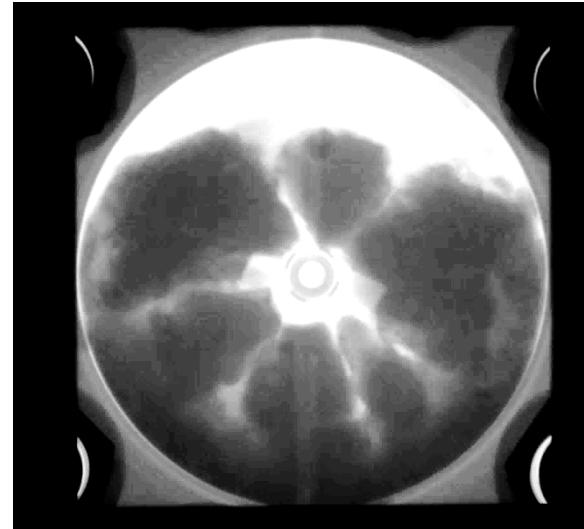
3 sequential subprocesses with different driving forces (d.f.):

- 1 Hydrogen flow
- 2 Intrinsic kinetics
- 3 Heat Transfer





# Optimisation of Storage Tanks: Compaction



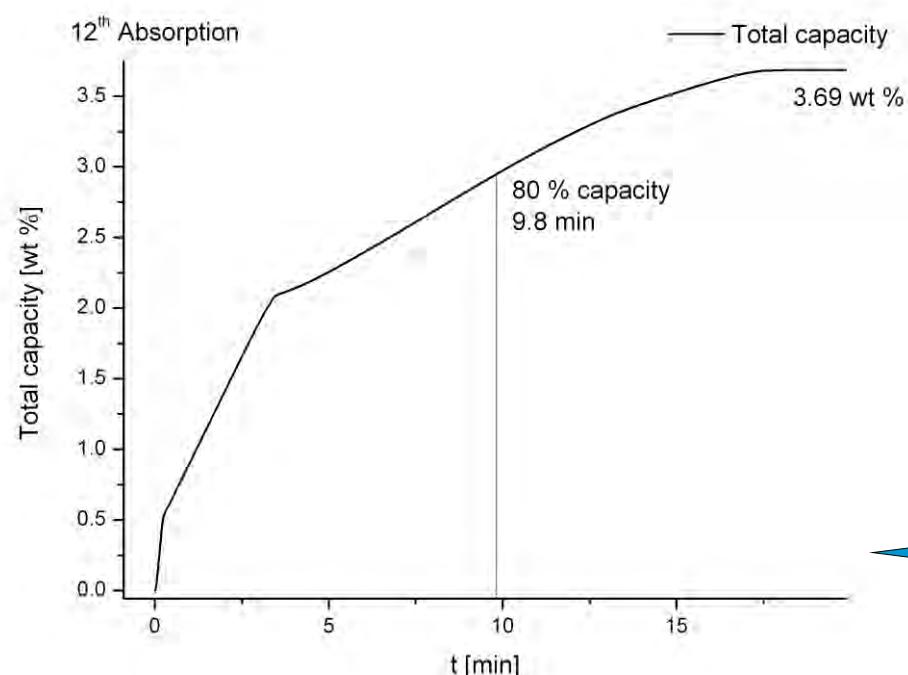
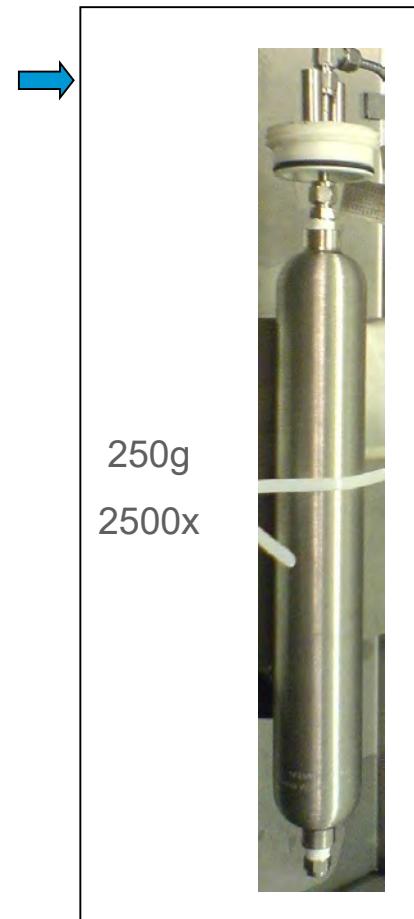
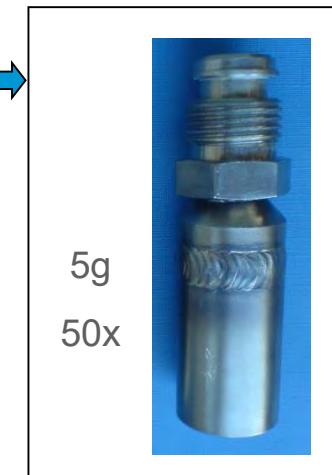
BERII; Conrad



Oliver Metz

Compaction important  
for increasing  
volumetric and  
gravimetric storage  
density!

# Upscaling of Materials Testing

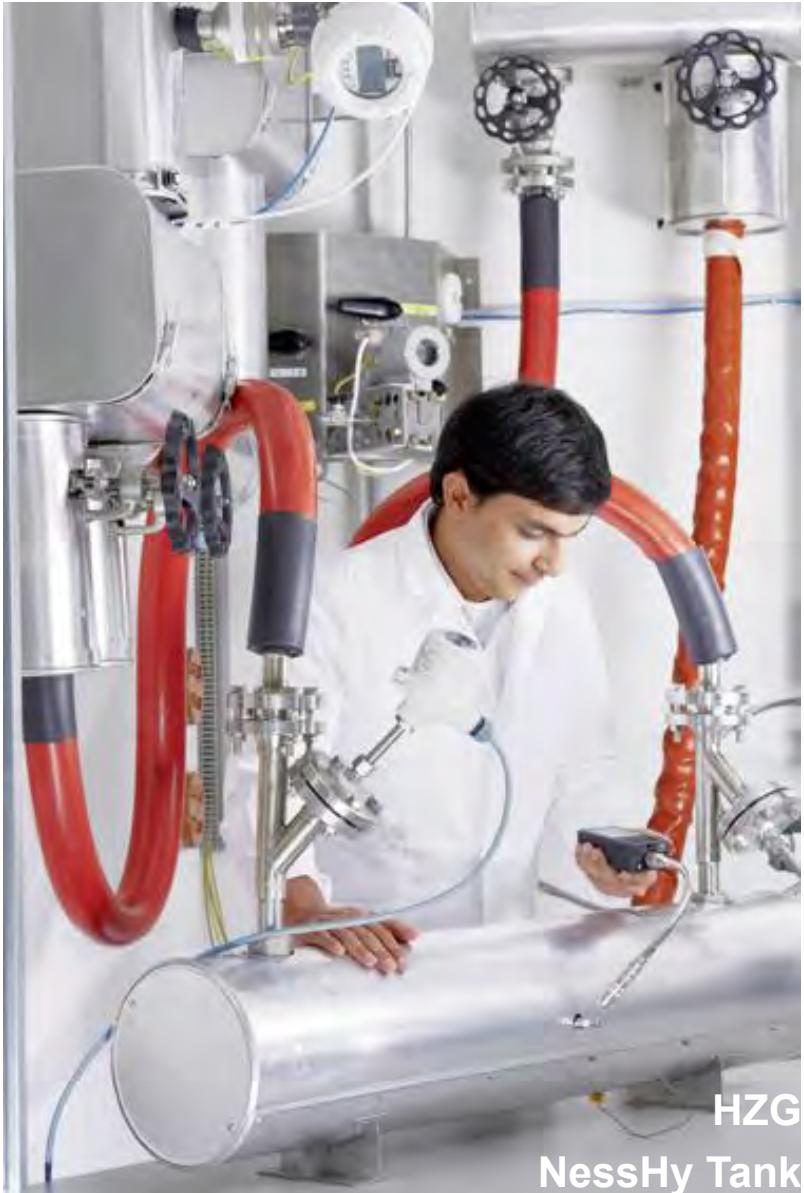


N. Eigen, C. NaRanong, J. Bellotta von Colbe, L. Gustavo, O. Metz et. al.



• M.  
rnheim et  
al. •  
22.02.2018

# Hydrogen Storage Tank based on Complex Hydrides (NESSHY Project)



- Tube and shell design with external cooling, following previous successful design of the 8 kg alanate tank
- Lightweight materials studied for both the internal and external vessels
- Alanate compacted to tablets to increase capacity





Helmholtz-Zentrum  
Geesthacht

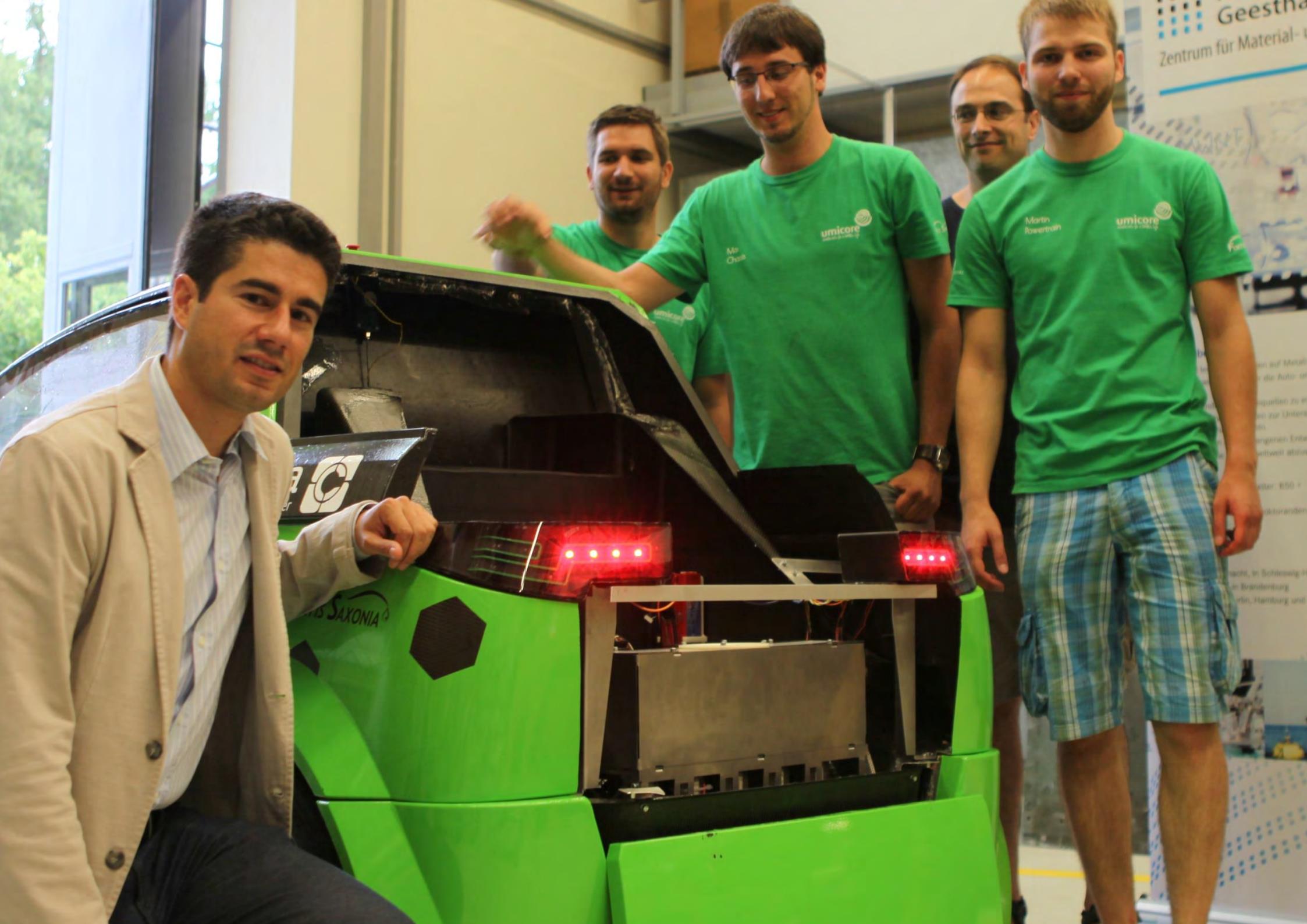
Zentrum für Material- und Küstenforschung

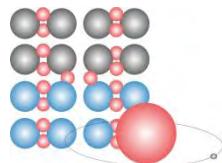


TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT  
CHEMNITZ



FORTIS SAXONIA





# The Ecobee car



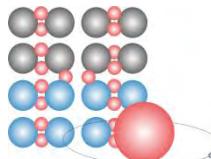
## EcoBee

- Urban Concept car
- Year of construction: 2014
- Weight: < 200 kg
- Fuell cell power: ca. 1 kW
- Max. speed: 50 km/h
- 1<sup>st</sup> Shell Eco-marathon: 2014
- Best result: 30 km/kWh

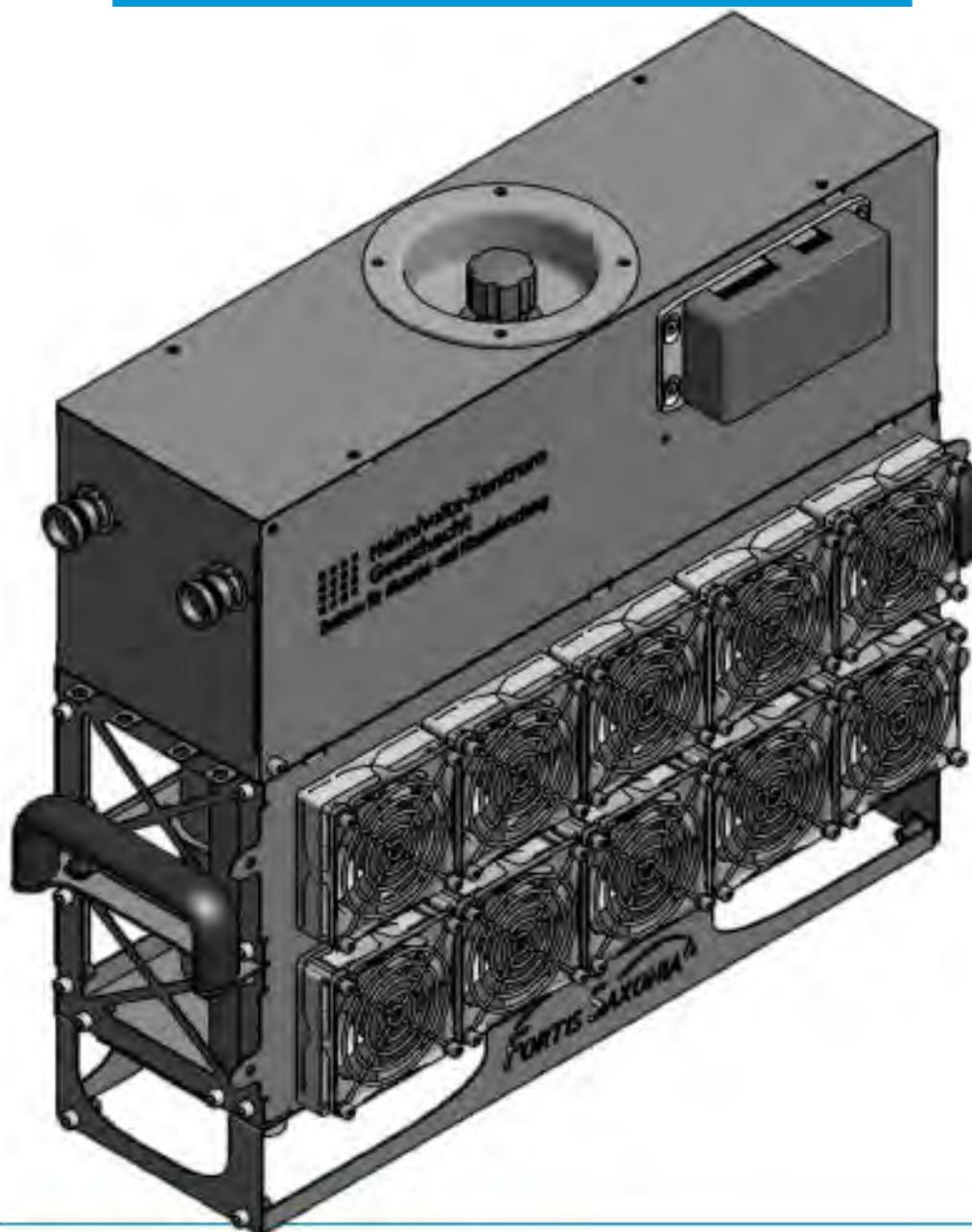
- Tank: 1 L compressed H<sub>2</sub> at 200 bar ... *until today!*

**FORTIS SAXONIA**





# The storage system



## 1 Module:

- 0,285 L and 960 g of hydride
- ~17 g H<sub>2</sub> stored
- Positive results

## 5 Modules:

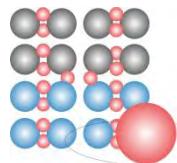
- 4720 g of hydride and ~85 g of H<sub>2</sub>
- Relief valve added

## 10 Modules:

- ~10 Kg hydride and ~170 g H<sub>2</sub>
- Positive full scale testing

## Frame and casing:

- Stable and robust
- Ancillaries and connections



## Hydrogen Tank Testing Facility (HTTF) Schematic overview



- Flow controller
- Data recording
- Process control



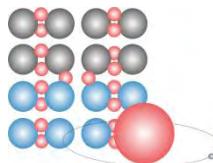
- Test chamber
- Hydride tank
- Vacuum pumps



- Thermal generator
- Heating and cooling
- Thermal fluid







# Current and recently finished third party projects on metal hydrides / hydrogen storage

	2018-2021	<b>H2Hybridtank:</b> Development of a cost efficient hybrid high pressure – hydride hydrogen storage system for mobile applications	<b>Coord.:</b> Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht Centre for Materials and Coastal Research
	2018-2020	<b>MSCA-Rise: Hydride4Mobility:</b> Hydr. fueled utility vehicles and support systems using metal hydrides	
Karl-Vossloh-Stiftung	2018-2020	High Efficient Adiatic Hydrogen Storage Tank	
Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung/Foundation	2017-2019	Optimised hybrid hydrogen storage reservoir with opt. capacity	
SPONSORED BY THE	2016-2018	<b>BmBF “HyScore”:</b> Eff. H2-Storage through hierarchical porous core shell structures with incorporated light metal hydrides	
	2013-2018	IEA Hydrogen Implementation Agreement Task 32	
	2012-2017	Helmholtz Energy Materials Characterization Platform	
	2012-2017	<b>HyFill-Fast”:</b> Fast efficient H2 storage	
	2013-2017	EU ITN “ECOSTORE”	<b>Coord.:</b> Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht Centre for Materials and Coastal Research
	2014-2017	Helmholtz-CAS Project “RevHy”	
	2016-2017	PPP Australien	
	2011-2015	EU MPNS COST Action “MP 1103”	
	2012-2015	FCHJU Project “BOR4STORE”	<b>Coord.:</b> Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht Centre for Materials and Coastal Research
	2013-2015	Concert Japan CP iTHEUS	

