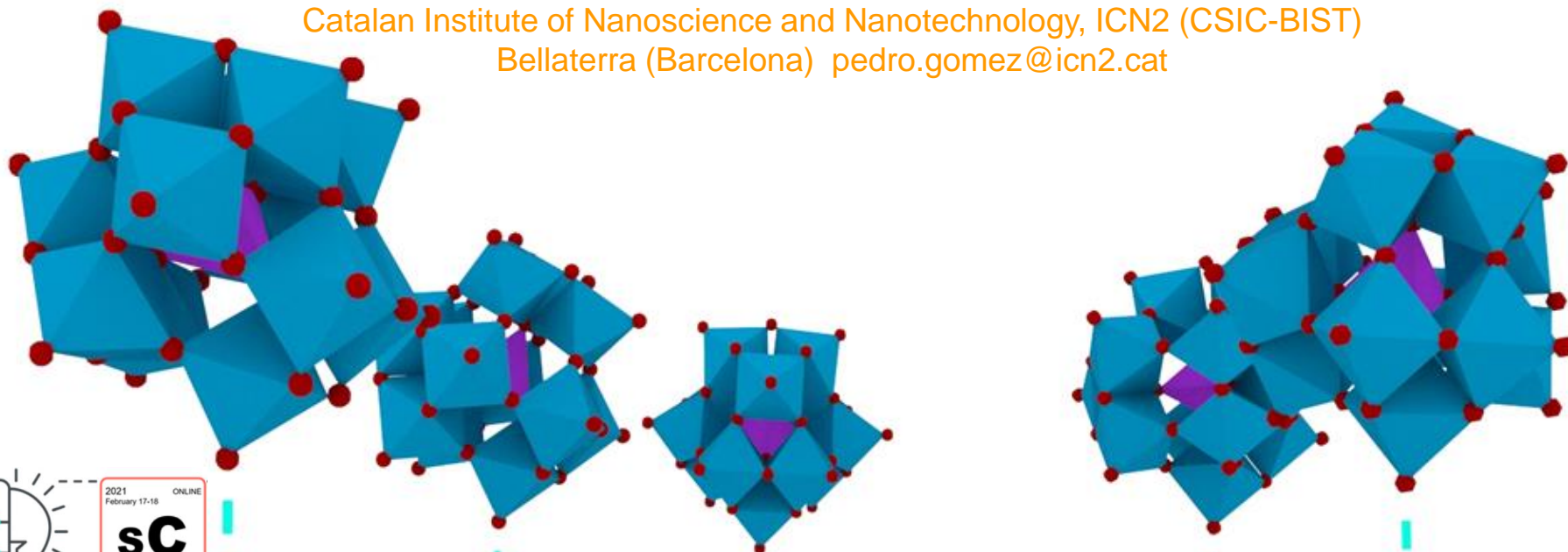




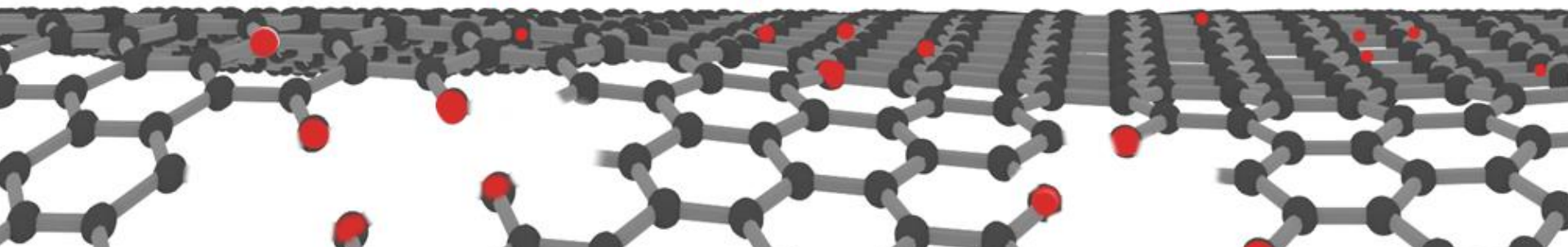
# *Polyoxometalates: from inorganic chemicals to energy materials*

**Prof. Pedro Gómez-Romero**

Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, ICN2 (CSIC-BIST)  
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SmallChem International Online Conference. Feb 18-19 2021



# Polyoxometalates: A story with some history

11064

*J. Phys. Chem.* **1993**, *97*, 11064–11070

## Photoelectrochemistry of Quantized WO<sub>3</sub> Colloids. Electron Storage, Electrochromic, and Photoelectrochromic Effects

Idriss Bedja,<sup>†‡</sup> Surat Hotchandani,<sup>†‡</sup> and Prashant V. Kamat<sup>\*†</sup>

*Radiation Laboratory, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556, and Centre de Recherche en Photobiophysique, Université du Québec à Trois Rivières, Trois Rivières, Québec, Canada G9A 5H7*

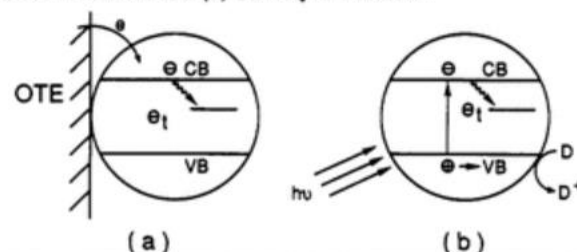
*Received: May 21, 1993; In Final Form: July 27, 1993\**

Electron storage effects in quantized WO<sub>3</sub> colloids have been investigated by spectroelectrochemical and photochemical methods. Electrons trapped within the colloidal particles exhibit blue coloration with absorption in the red-IR region. From picosecond laser flash photolysis experiments, we estimate the rate constant for electron trapping to be 10<sup>10</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. These trapped electrons are stable in an inert atmosphere and can be utilized to reduce substrates such as thiazine and oxazine dyes which have reduction potentials less negative than the conduction band of WO<sub>3</sub>. The rate constants for the heterogeneous electron transfer at the semiconductor/electrolyte interface are in the range (0.7–2.4) × 10<sup>9</sup> M<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>.

### Introduction

Photoelectrochemical conversion and storage of solar energy using semiconductor colloids have attracted considerable interest in recent years.<sup>1–3</sup> Photophysical and photochemical properties of several metal oxides and metal chalcogenides have been studied in this context. Semiconductor films prepared from quantized semiconductor colloidal suspensions have been shown to exhibit excellent photoelectrochemical properties.<sup>4–10</sup> Recently, we employed quantized WO<sub>3</sub> colloids to prepare optically transparent thin films on glass plates.<sup>11</sup> These films were found to exhibit blue coloration when electrons were injected by either electro-

SCHEME I: Electron Trapping in WO<sub>3</sub> Colloids by (a) Electrochemical and (b) Photolysis Methods\*



# Colloidal? Nano? $\text{WO}_3$

## Colloidal $\text{WO}_3$



“Tungstic Acid”

White precipitate



Oxalic acid  
+ Warming

Transparent Sol



Heating  
 $50^\circ\text{C}$

Yellow sol  
“ $\text{WO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ”  
colloid

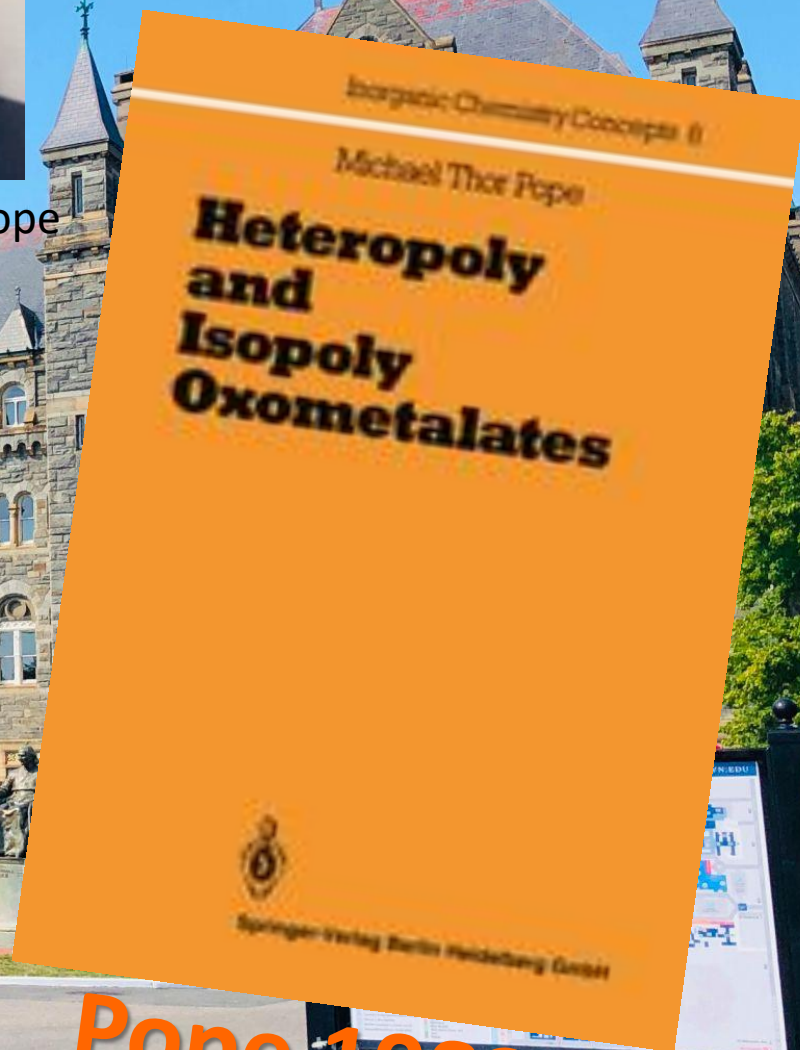
# Georgetwon U.



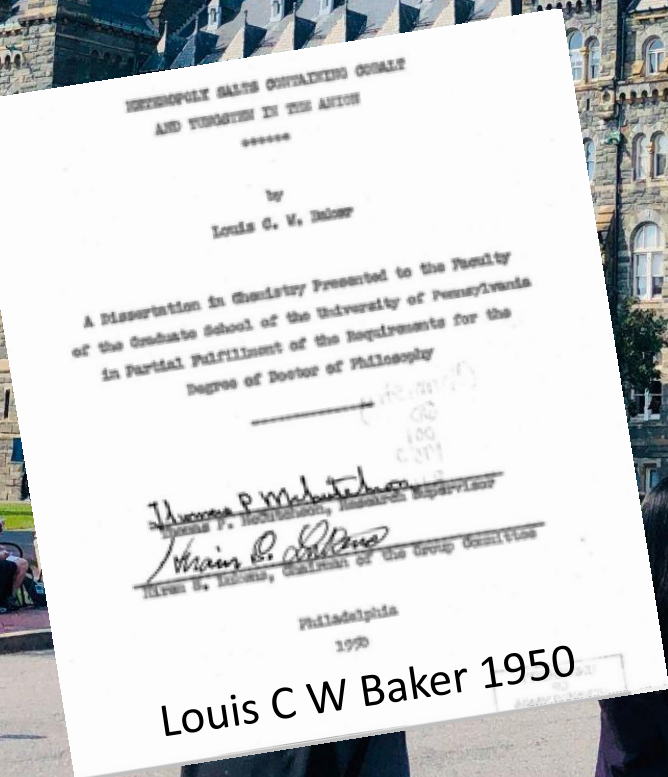
Prof. Louis C W Baker



Prof. Michael T Pope



Pope 1983



Louis C W Baker 1950

## Crystal Structures of $\alpha$ -[Co<sup>II</sup>W<sub>12</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]<sup>6-</sup> and Its Heteropoly Blue 2e Reduction Product, $\alpha$ -[Co<sup>II</sup>W<sub>12</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]<sup>8-</sup>. Structural, Electronic, and Chemical Consequences of Electron Delocalization in a Multiatom Mixed-Valence System

Nieves Casañ-Pastor,<sup>†</sup> Pedro Gomez-Romero,<sup>†</sup> Geoffrey B. Jameson, and Louis C. W. Baker\*

Contribution from the Department of Chemistry, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. 20057.  
Received February 14, 1991

**Abstract:** This paper reports for the first time X-ray crystal structures for a parent heteropoly complex and for its heteropoly blue reduction product. The potassium salt of the former complex,  $\alpha$ -[Co<sup>II</sup>W<sub>12</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]<sup>6-</sup>, is ordered in space group *P6<sub>2</sub>22*; and the potassium salt of its two-electron heteropoly blue reduction product,  $\alpha$ -[Co<sup>II</sup>W<sub>12</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]<sup>8-</sup>, is disordered in space group *Pm3m*. The structures were refined to  $R(\text{on } F) = 0.034$  and  $R(\text{on } F) = 0.044$ , respectively. Except for a shortening of each central Co–O<sub>tet</sub> distance, by 0.03 Å, and a consequent corresponding increase in W–O<sub>tet</sub> distances, the reduction caused remarkably little change in interatomic distances within the complex. Very slight lengthening of W–W distances between edge-sharing WO<sub>6</sub> octahedra, upon reduction, and a corresponding contribution toward slight shortening of the W–W distances through corner-sharing between WO<sub>6</sub> groups, as suggested by previous data, were near the limits of statistical significance. On the other hand, the reduction apparently creates sizable new energy barriers to atomic displacements for both W's and O's. The displacement parameters for all of those atoms in the heteropoly complex decrease markedly, upon its reduction, while such parameters remain unchanged for all of the atoms not in the complex (H<sub>2</sub>O's and K<sup>+</sup>'s). The attendant significantly enhanced rigidity of the reduced complex is consistent with increased kinetic stability of heteropoly blue products to substitution and to degradation by base. The increased resistance to atom displacements in the heteropoly blue species may be seen as a consequence of the additional energy factor involved in maintaining favorable orbital overlaps for the delocalization of the added electrons. While the delocalization of the “blue” electrons presumably does involve thermal hopping of those electrons among W atoms, the greatly decreased displacement parameters, observed for the O's as well as the W's, suggest the importance of a ground-state delocalization mechanism involving partial “blue” electron residency in molecular orbitals that involve oxygen atoms. The increase in negative charge on bridging O atoms is consistent with their increased nucleophilicity and with the above-cited changes in Co–O<sub>tet</sub> and W–O<sub>tet</sub> distances. Those changes imply that the central Co<sup>II</sup>O<sub>4</sub> tetrahedron is slightly more isolated from the rest of the W–O framework in the reduced species. This is consistent with a pronounced decrease, upon reduction, in the magnitude of the large isotropic shift for the <sup>183</sup>W NMR signal.

### Background

Heteropoly complexes resemble discrete fragments of metal oxide structures of definite sizes and shapes.<sup>1–6</sup> They maintain their identities in aqueous and nonaqueous solutions as well as in ionic crystals. Many heteropoly complexes can be made which contain various combinations of d-transition metals at specific

electron hopping process from one addendum (e.g., W or Mo) atom to the next and a ground-state delocalization (gsd)<sup>6</sup> pre-

(1) Baker, L. C. W. In *Advances in the Chemistry of the Coordination Compounds*; Kirschner, S., Ed.; Macmillan: New York, 1961; pp 608ff.  
(2) Souchay, P. *Polyanions et Polycations*; Gauthier-Villars: Paris, 1963.

## Keggin structure

5662 *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, Vol. 113, No. 15, 1991

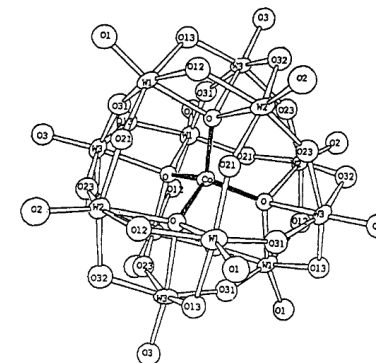
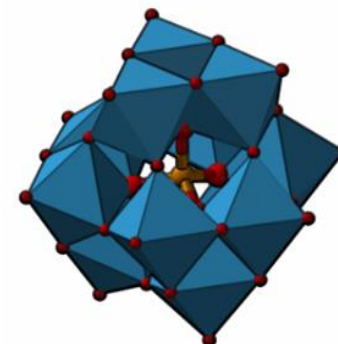


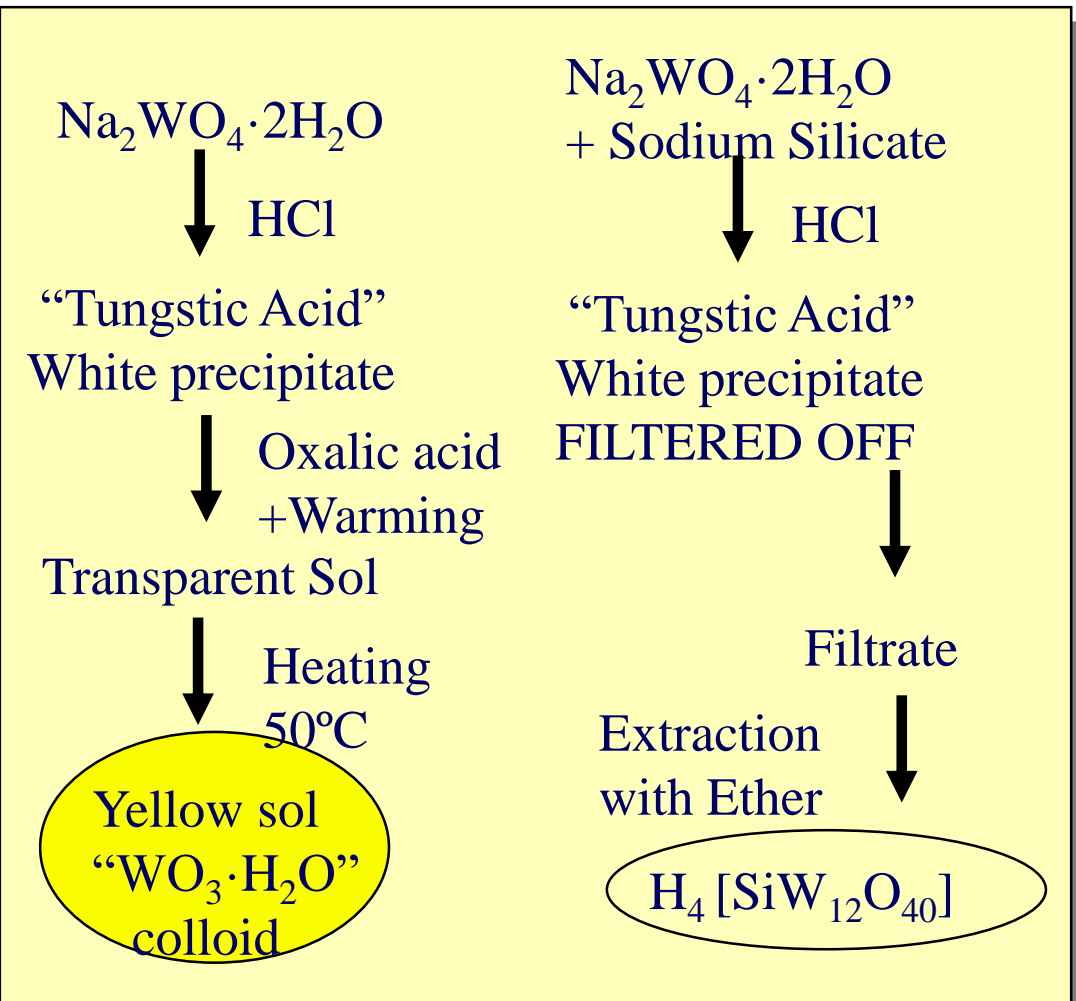
Figure 2. Perspective ORTEP diagram for oxidized species  $\alpha$ -[Co<sup>II</sup>W<sub>12</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]<sup>6-</sup>. Except for much smaller atomic displacement ellipsoids, an ORTEP diagram for the reduced species  $\alpha$ -[Co<sup>II</sup>W<sub>12</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]<sup>8-</sup> would not show atomic positions that are detectably different from those for this oxidized species when drawn at this scale.



# The two paths to Nano-WO<sub>3</sub>

Colloidal WO<sub>3</sub>

Polyoxotungstates



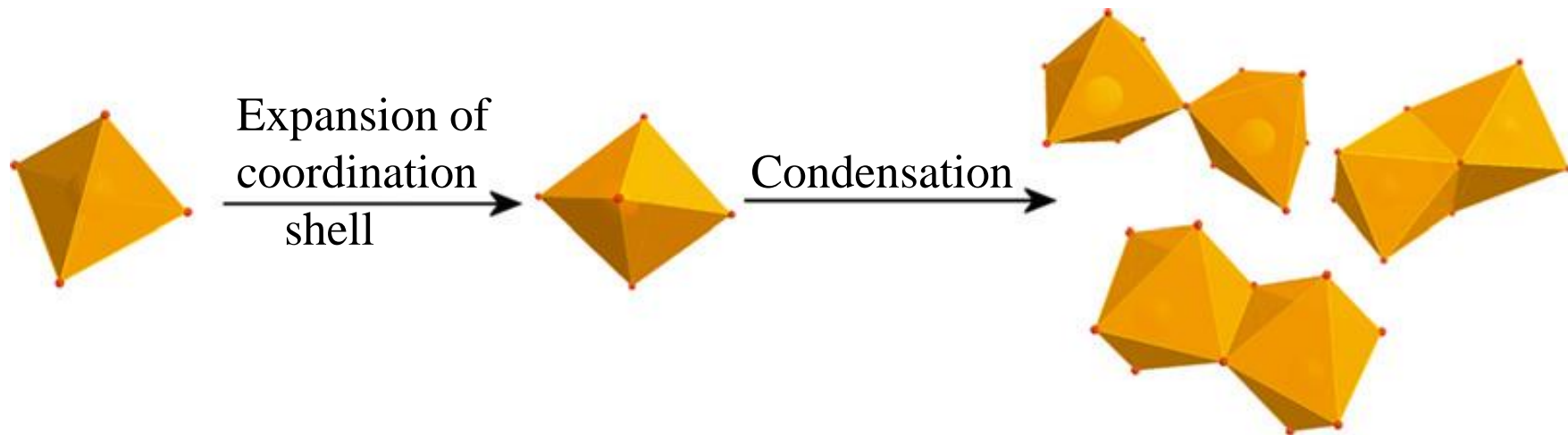
Same chemistry

Top-Down

Bottom-Up

Two different  
approaches

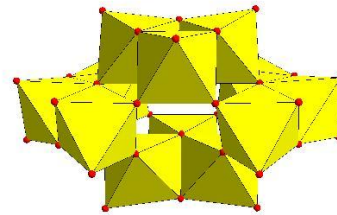
# Polyoxometalates Formation



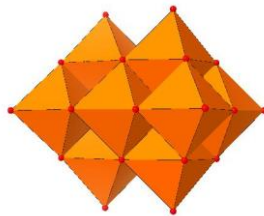
Self-assembly process, whereby the tetrahedral metal  $\{MO_4\}$  expands into octahedra  $\{MO_6\}$  and then condenses into larger assemblies sharing oxygen ligands, where M commonly is Mo, W, or V.

# Polyoxometalates

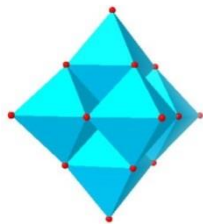
## Isopoly-oxometalates (isopolyanions)



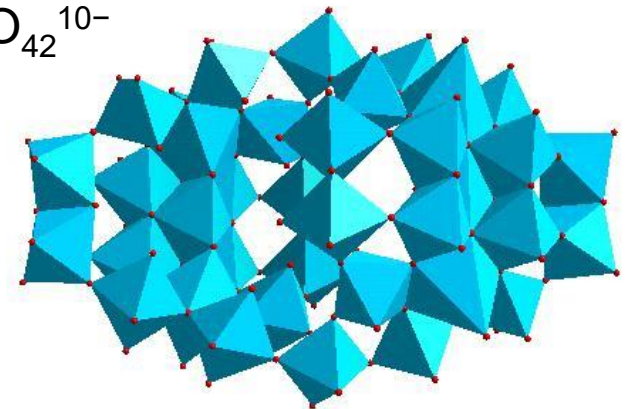
Paratungstate B,  $\text{H}_2\text{W}_{12}\text{O}_{42}^{10-}$



Decavanadate,  $\text{V}_{10}\text{O}_{28}^{6-}$



Lindqvist hexamolybdate,  $\text{Mo}_6\text{O}_{19}^{2-}$

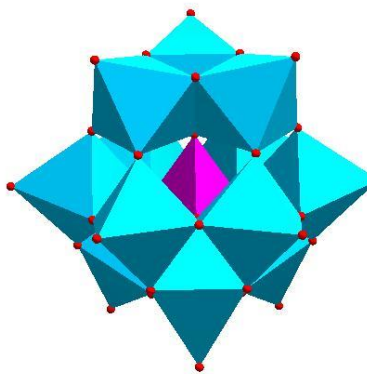


Mo36-polymolybdate,  $\text{Mo}_{36}\text{O}_{112}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{16}^{8-}$

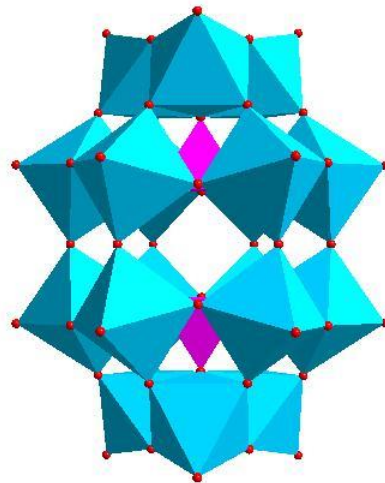


# Polyoxometalates

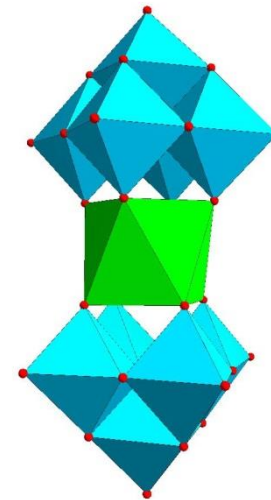
## Heteropoly-oxometalates (heteropolyanions)



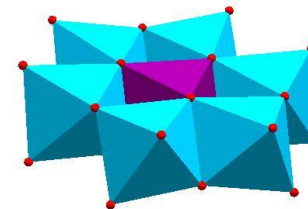
Keggin structure,  $\text{XM}_{12}\text{O}_{40}^{n-}$



Dawson structure,  $\text{X}_2\text{M}_{18}\text{O}_{62}^{n-}$



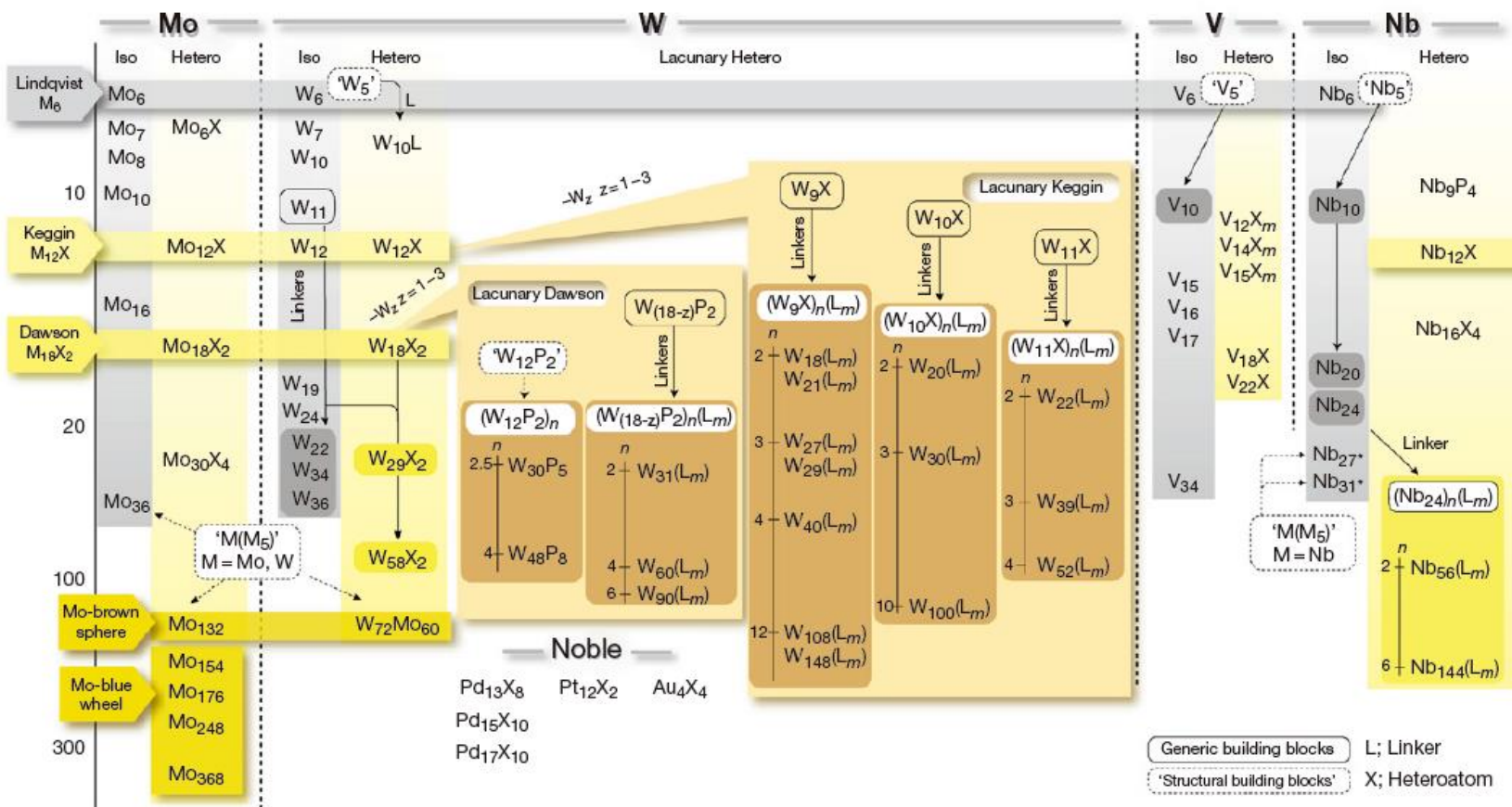
Weakley-Yamase structure,  $\text{XM}_{10}\text{O}_{36}^{n-}$



Anderson structure,  $\text{XM}_6\text{O}_{24}^{n-}$

# Polyoxometalates

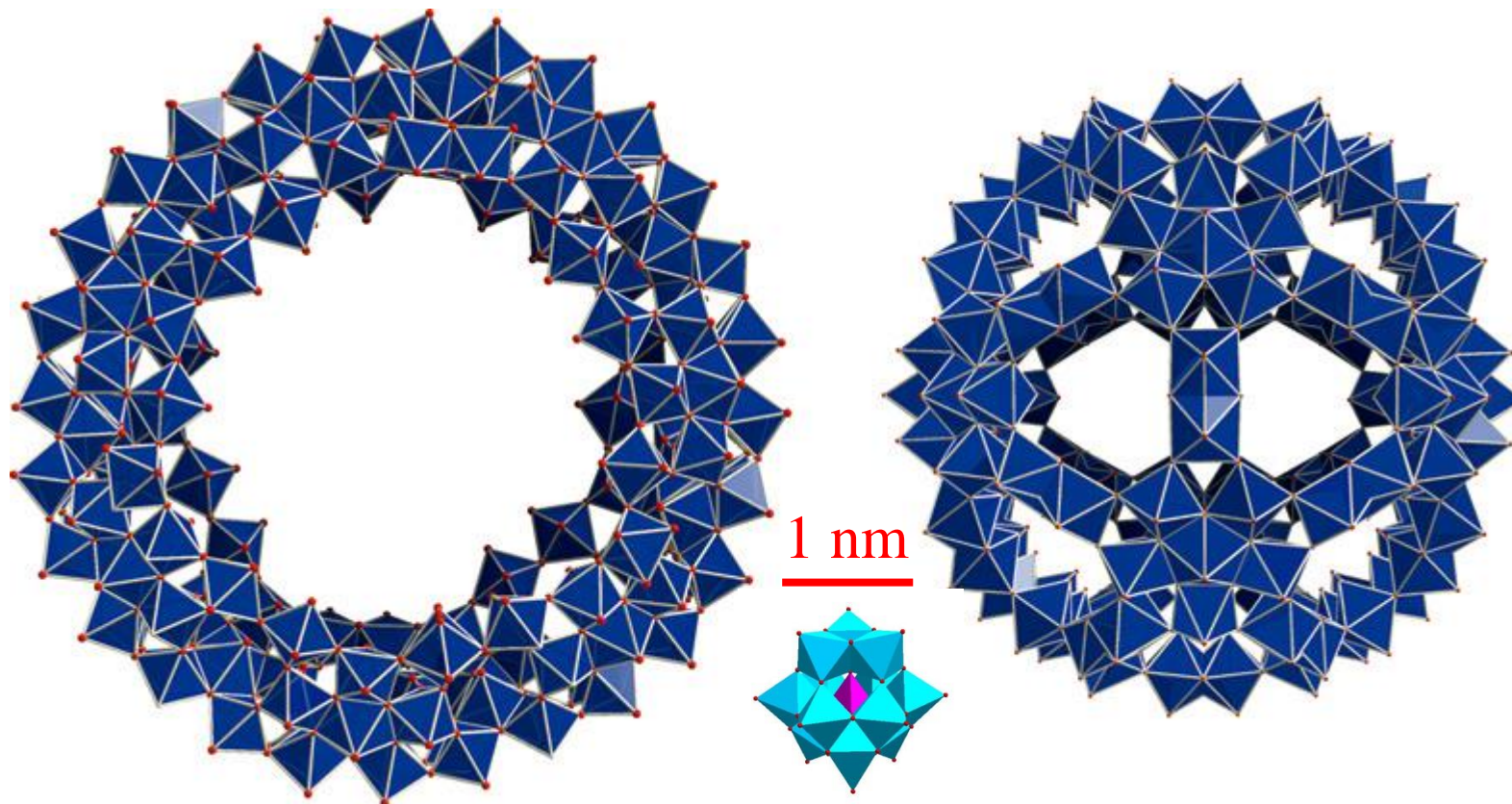
## Taxonomy



Hutin M., Rosnes M.H., Long D.-L. and Cronin L. Polyoxometalates: Synthesis and Structure – From Building Blocks to Emergent Materials. In: Jan Reedijk and Kenneth Poepelmeier, editors. Comprehensive Inorganic Chemistry II, Vol 2. Oxford: Elsevier; 2013. p. 241-269.

# Polyoxometalates

## From 1nm to Giant clusters

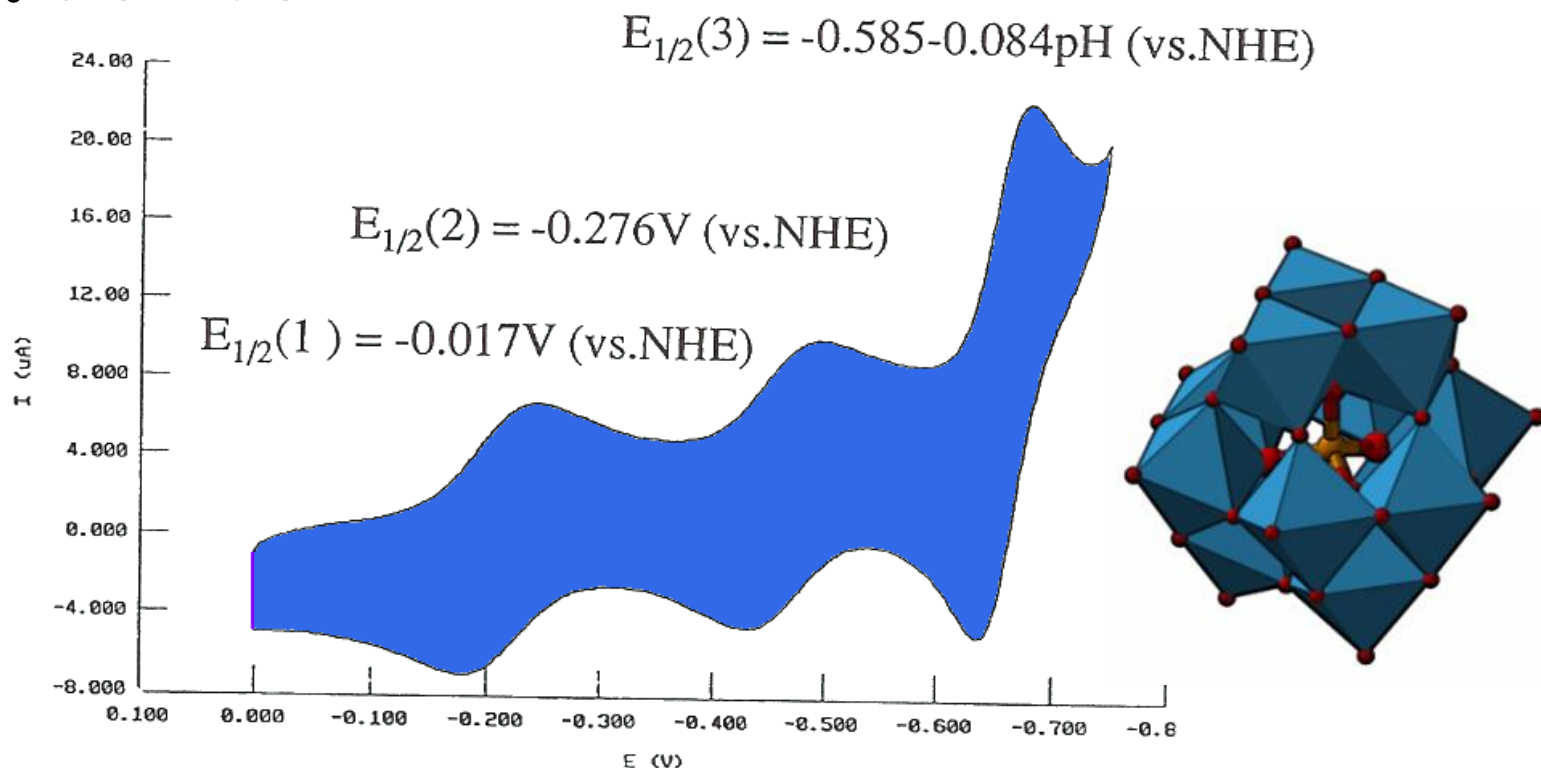


Polyhedra representation of the {Mo154} (left) and {Mo132} (right). Color scheme: Mo, blue (polyhedra); O, red.

*Comprehensive Inorganic Chemistry II: From Elements to Applications*, (2013), vol. 2, pp. 241-269

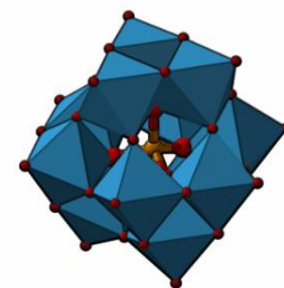
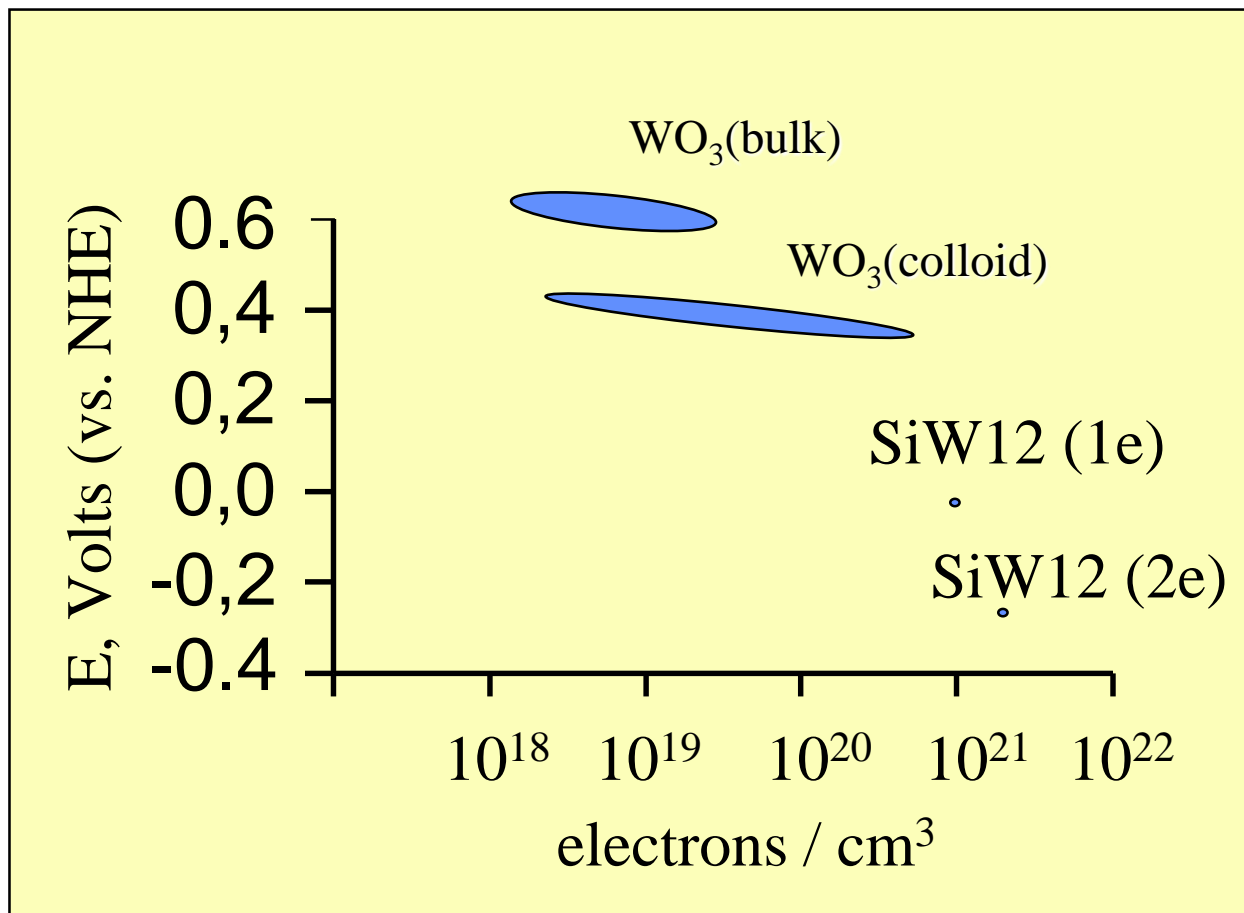
## Cyclic Voltammogram (CV) of $H_4[SiW_{12}O_{40}]$ (SiW12)

$H_4[SiW_{12}O_{40}]$  (aq.HCl), pH=0.8



Photoredox Chemistry in Oxide Clusters. Photochromic and Redox Properties of Polyoxometalates in Connection with Analog Solid State Colloidal Systems.  
Pedro Gómez-Romero\* et al J.Phys.Chem. **1996**, 100(30), 12448-54.

# Polyoxometalates (POMs) as models for quantum-sized oxides



Effect of particle size on flat-band potential

# Comparative analysis

## POLYOXO-TUNGSTATES

- photoreducible
- e- storage
- 10 Å diameter
- monodisperse
- reproducible synthesis
- controlled composition
- well-known structure
- stable in solution
- lower potentials
- more tunability

## WO<sub>3</sub> COLLOIDS

- photoreducible
- e- storage
- 20-450 Å
- polydisperse
- uncontrolled parameters with unknown effect
  - pH
- unknown structure
- less stable (ageing, coagulation)

How to...

## Design materials with POMs



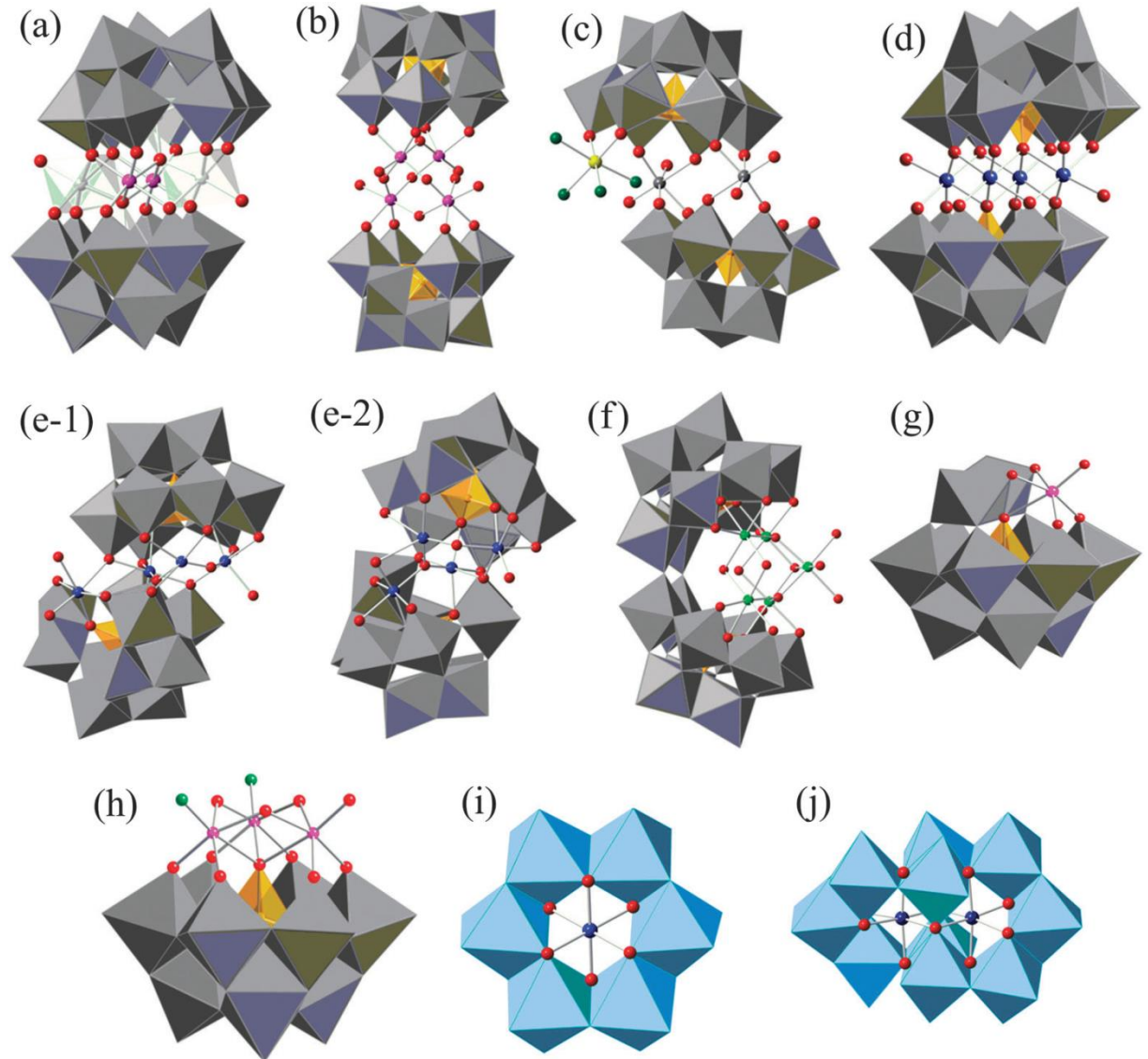
Energy Storage

Energy Conversion

Photo-  
Electro-catalysis  
Borrás-Almenar

# Polyoxometalates

## Derivatives



Polyoxometalate water  
oxidation catalysts and the  
production of green fuel

Hongjin\_Lv, et al.

*Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2012,41, 7572



# How to...

## Design materials with POMs



Energy Storage

Energy Conversion



Electrolytes   Electrodes



conducting matrix  
+  
electroactive POM

# Hybrid material

# Electrochemical energy storage in transition

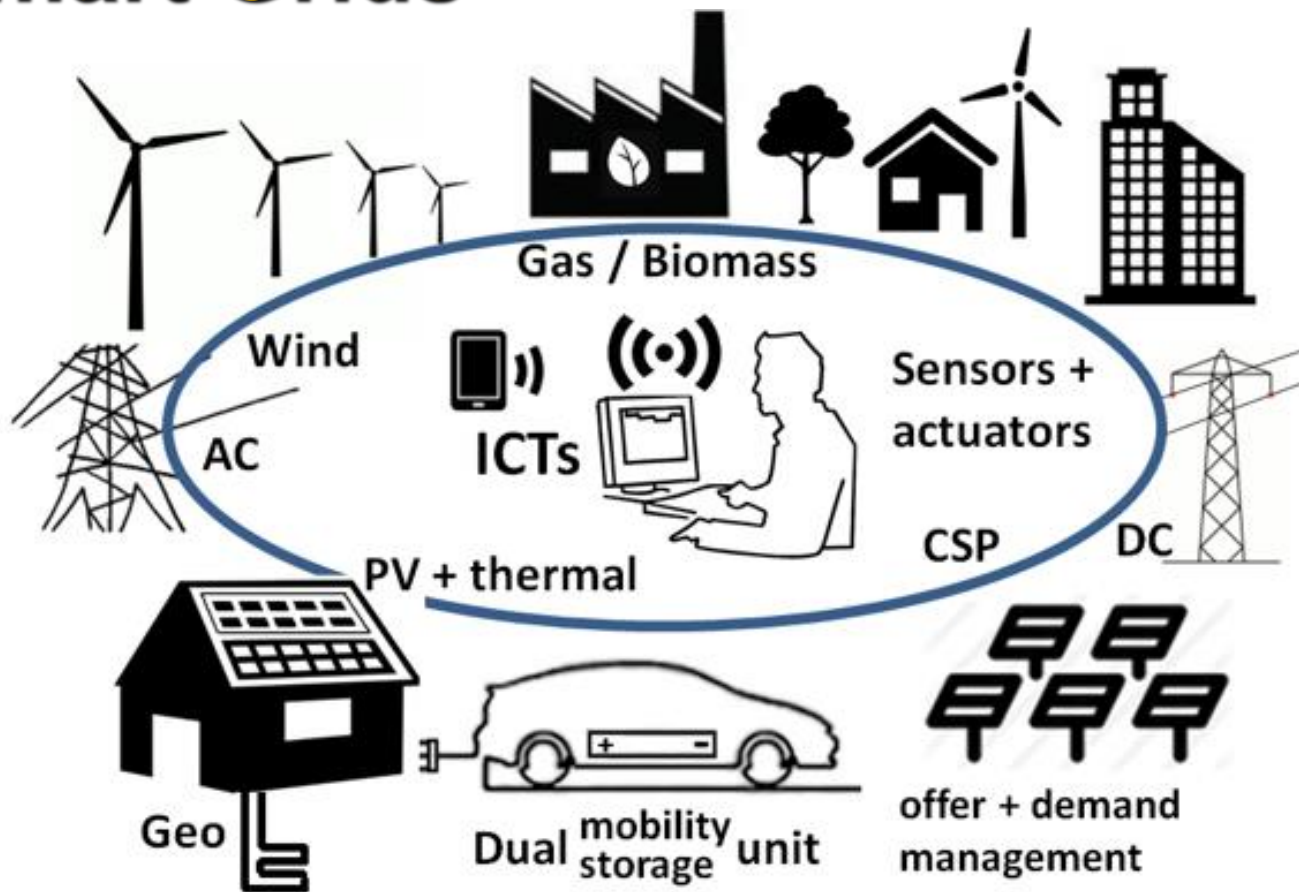


Towards flexible solid-state supercapacitors for smart and wearable electronics  
D. P. Dubal,\* N.R. Chodankar, D-H. Kim and P. Gomez-Romero\*  
Chemical Society Reviews, **2018**, 47(6), 2065-2129

# Centralized AND Distributed Energy

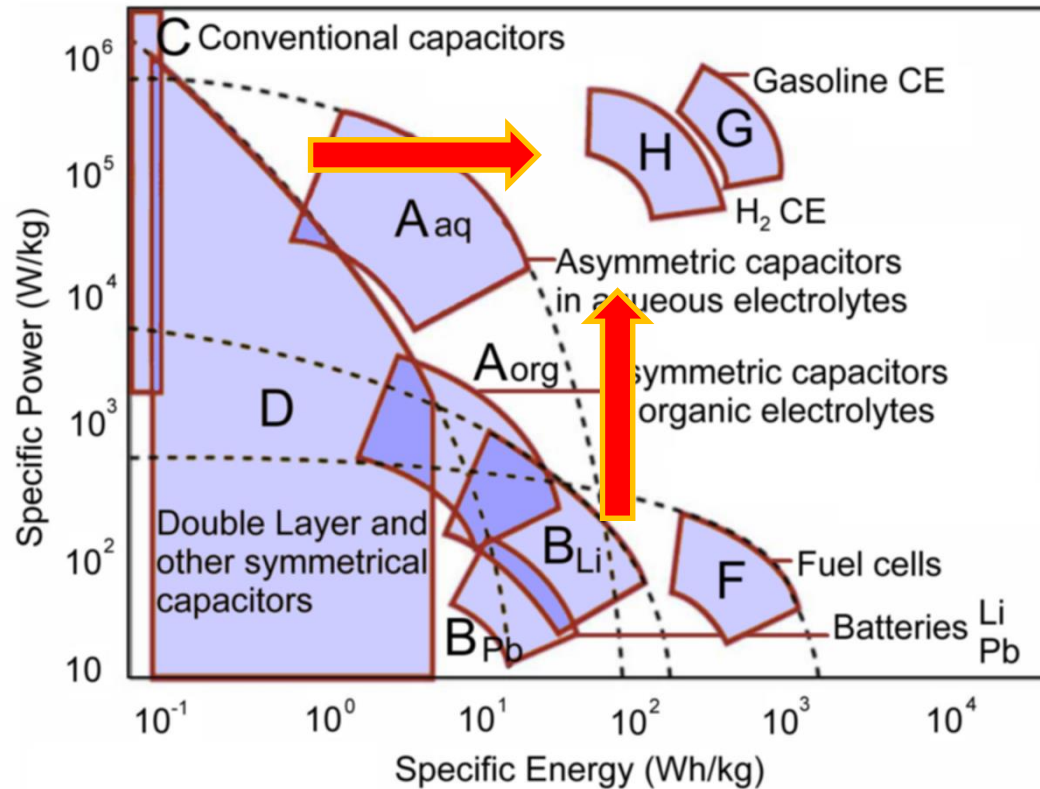
## Smart Grids

## Internet of Things



# Batteries vs. Supercapacitors

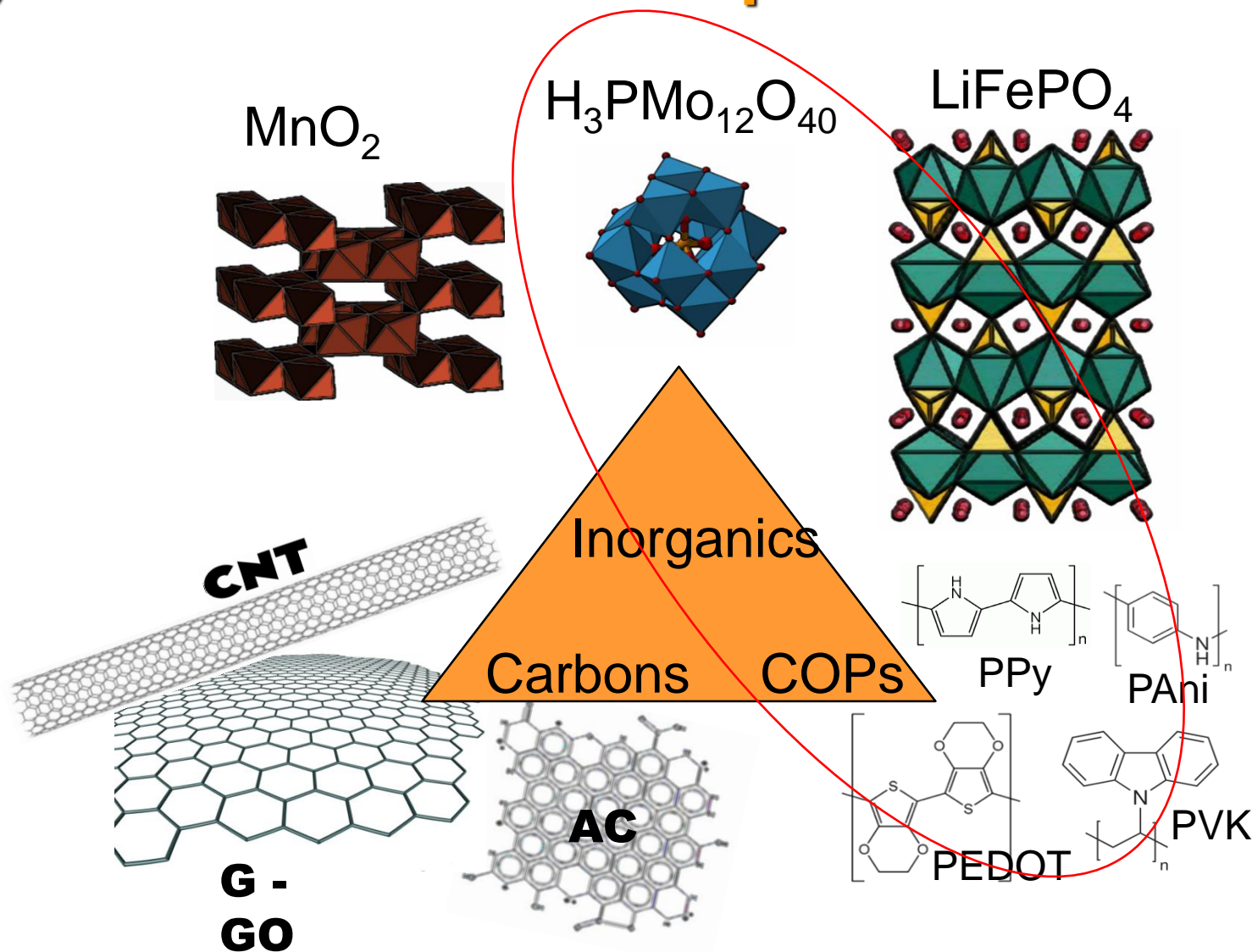
## Ragone Plot: the energy storage chessboard



Hybrid Energy Storage. The merging of battery and supercapacitor chemistries.

D. P. Dubal, O. Ayyad, V. Ruiz, and P. Gomez-Romero\* Chem.Soc.Rev. 44(7):1777-90 2015

# Our window to the hybrid material landscape



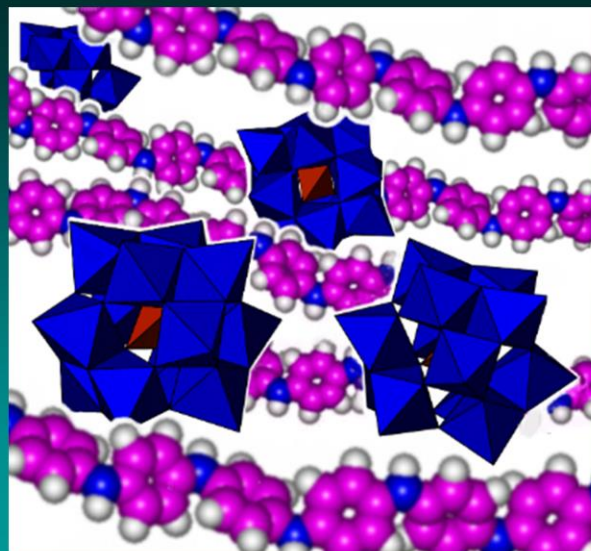
# POMs and COPs

## Integration of POMs in Conducting Polymers to form Hybrid (Organic-Inorganic) Nanocomposite Materials

### •Applications:

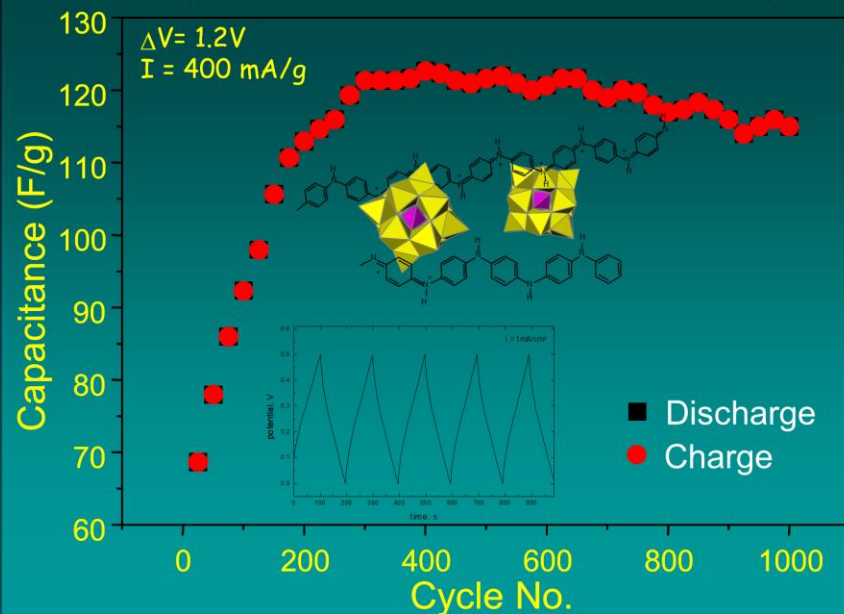
Energy storage  
Catalysis  
Magnetic  
Sensors  
Multifunctional  
...

PAni/PMo12



Polyaniline [PMo<sub>12</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]<sup>3-</sup>

Example: PAni/PMo12 electrochemical capacitor



[1] P. Gómez-Romero, M. Lira-Cantú *Adv. Mater.* 9(2) **1997** 144-7.

[2] M. Lira-Cantú and P. Gómez-Romero\* *Chem. Mater.* **1998**, 10, 698-704.

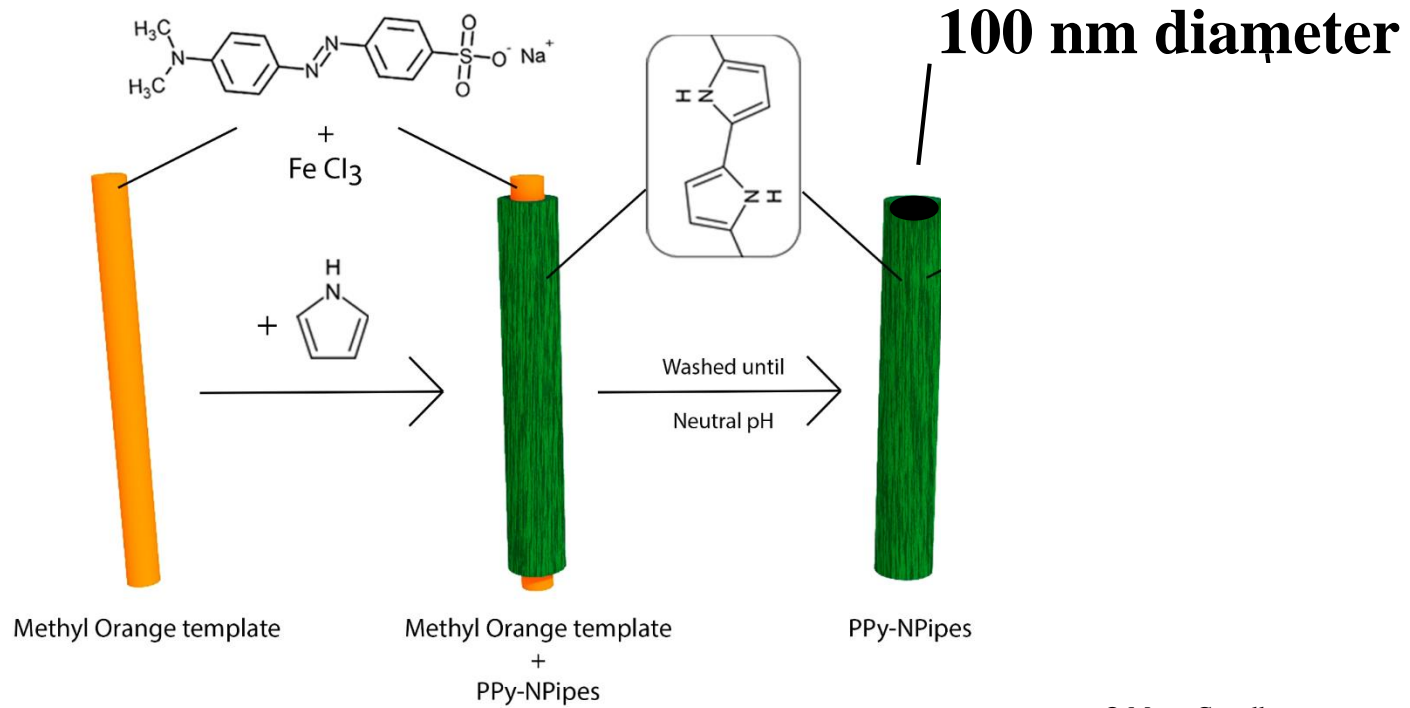
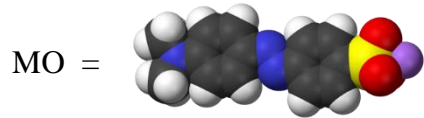
[3] P. Gómez-Romero Hybrid Organic-Inorganic Materials. In Search of Synergic Activity. *Adv. Mater.* **2001**, 13(3), 163-174.

[4] P. Gómez-Romero\*, M. Chojak, K. Cuentas-Gallegos, J.A. Asensio, P. Kulesza, N. Casañ-Pastor and M. Lira-Cantú. *Electrochem. Commun.* **2003**, 5, 149-153

[5] M. Lira-Cantú, P. Gómez-Romero, Chapter 7 of "Functional Hybrid Materials" P. Gómez-Romero and C. Sánchez (Editors). ISBN 3-527-30484-3 - Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, **2004**

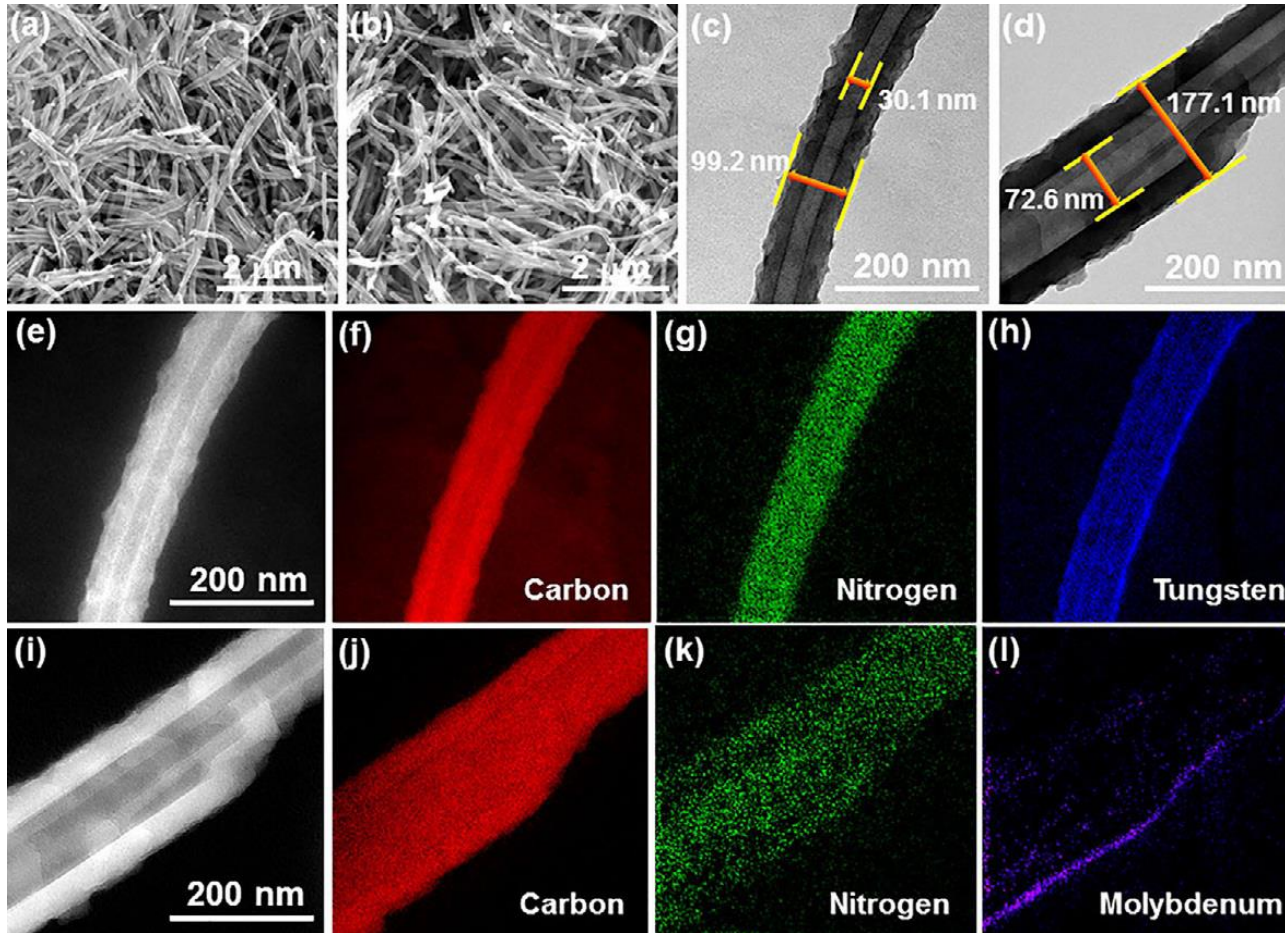
# The importance of Nano Micro structure

# Polypyrrole Nanopipes



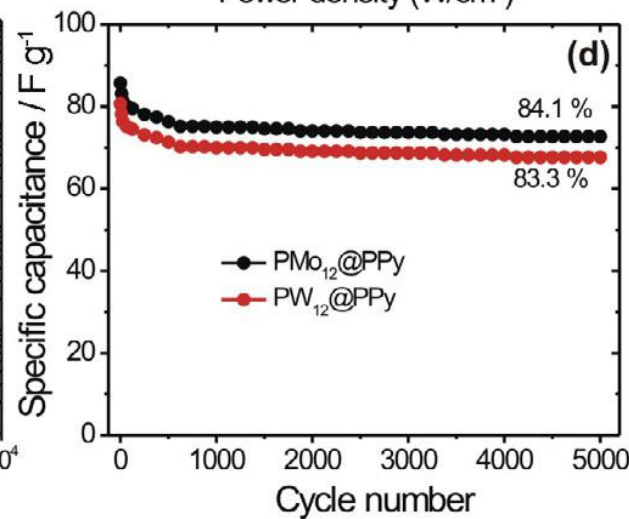
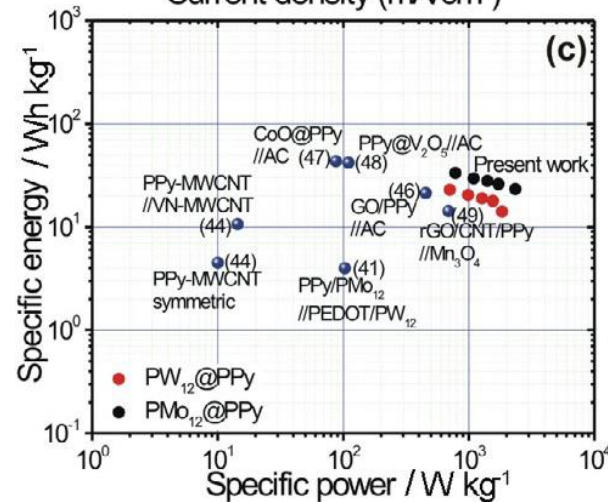
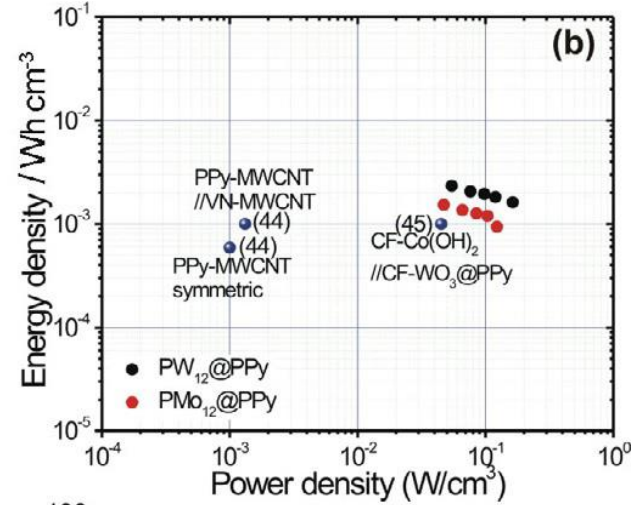
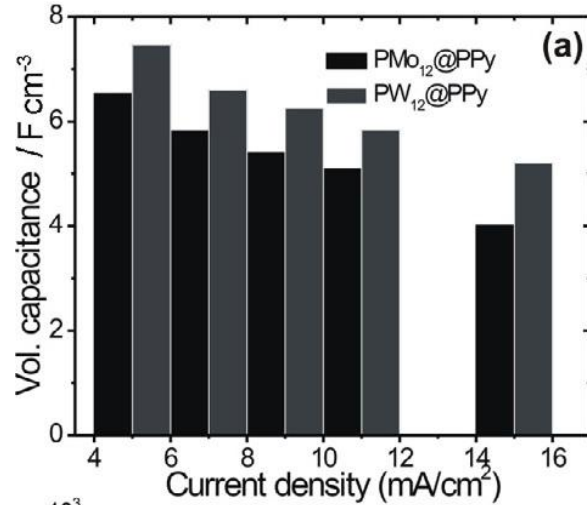


# PPy NanoPipes and their Hybrids

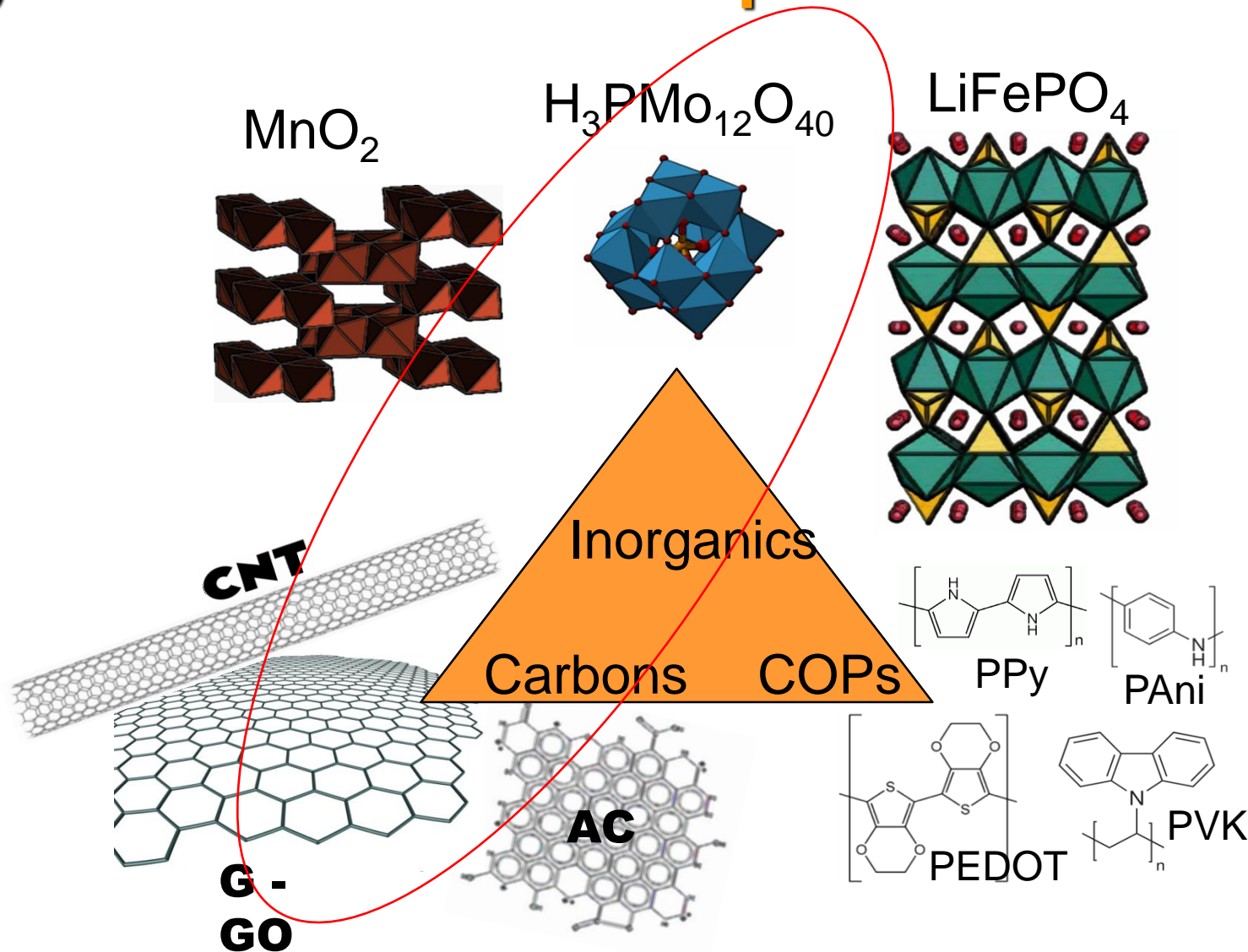


Functionalization of PPy NanoPipes with Redox-Active Polyoxometalates for High Energy Density Supercapacitors  
D. P. Dubal, B. Ballesteros, A. A. Mohite, P. Gómez-Romero, *ChemSusChem* **2017**, 10, 731-737.

# PPy NanoPipes with POMs

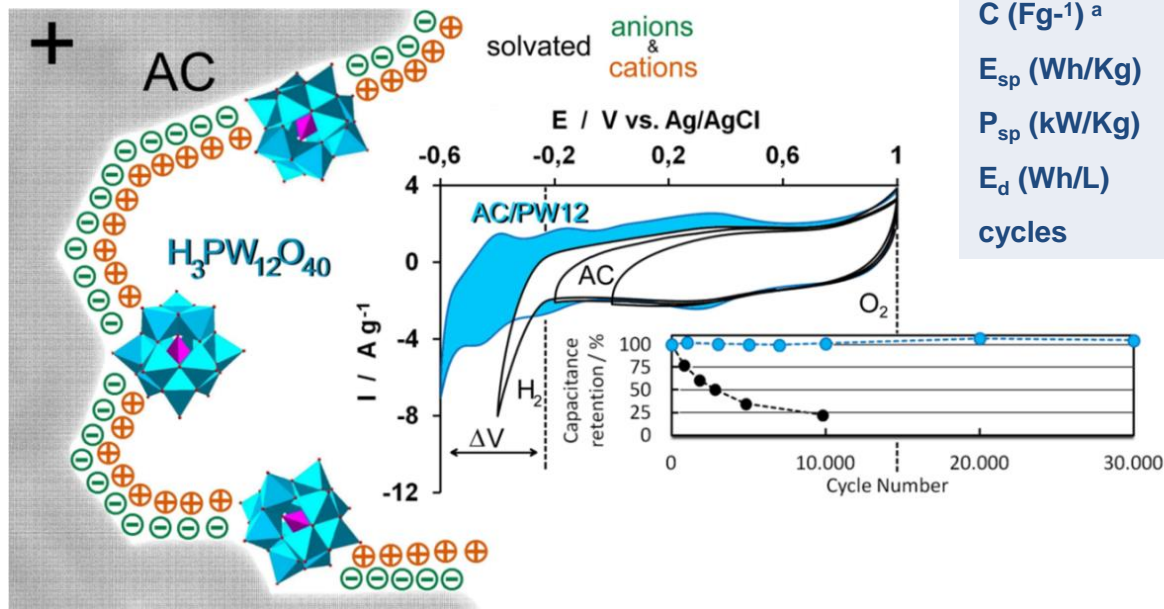


# Our window to the hybrid material landscape



# Hybrid Energy Storage: Hybrid electrode materials

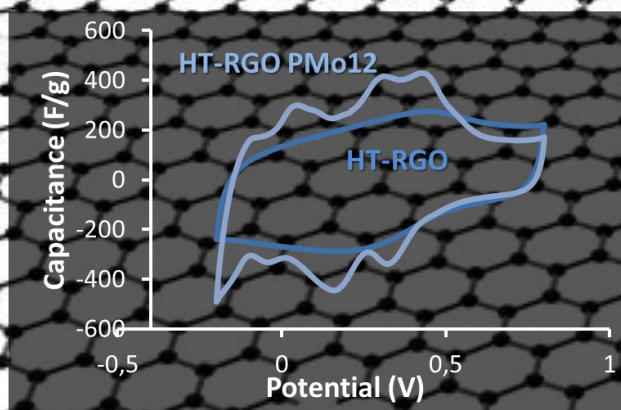
## Hybrid Activated Carbon- $\text{H}_3\text{PW}_{12}\text{O}_{40}$



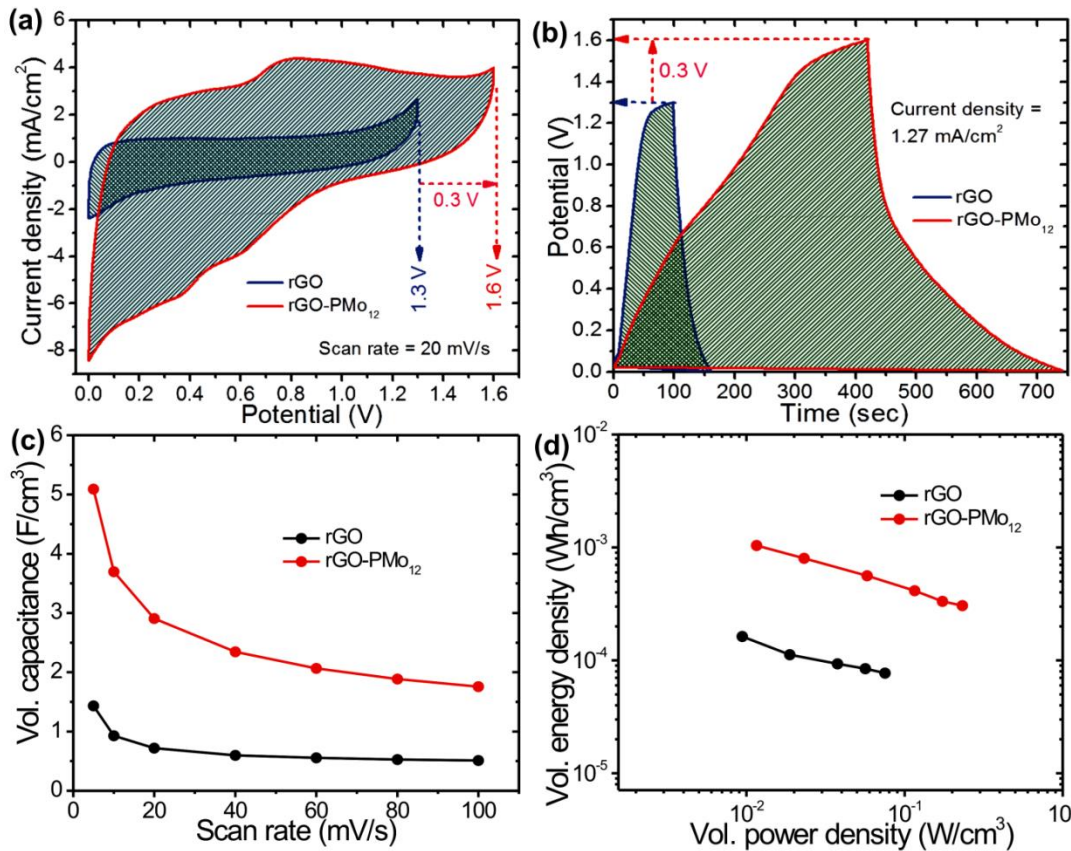
	AC	AC-PW12
$C$ ( $\text{Fg}^{-1}$ ) <sup>a</sup>	185	254
$E_{\text{sp}}$ ( $\text{Wh/Kg}$ )	4.05	4.96 (1.6 A/g)
$P_{\text{sp}}$ ( $\text{kW/Kg}$ )	45	115
$E_{\text{d}}$ ( $\text{Wh/L}$ )	1.55	2.32
cycles	10,000	> 30,000 (6 A/g)

1.6V  
in 1M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  !

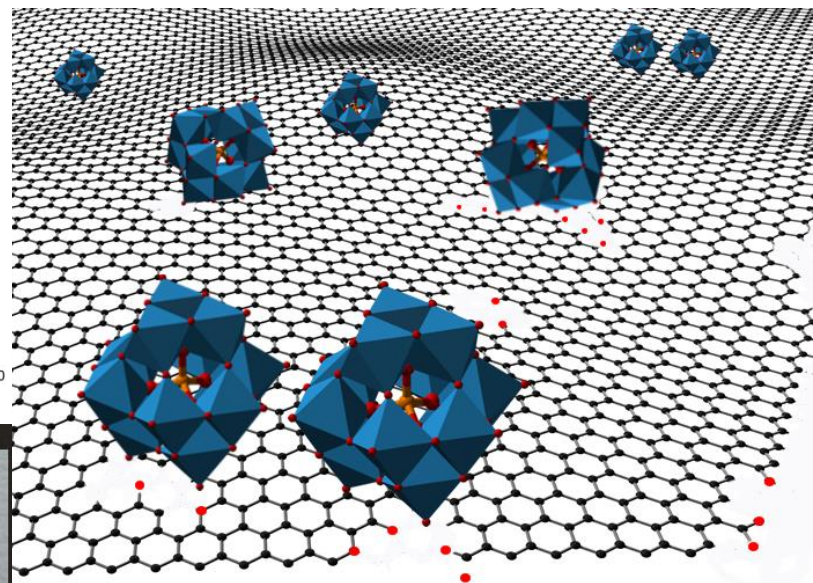
# Electroactive RGO-POM Hybrids



# Hybrid Graphene Polyoxometalate Electrodes

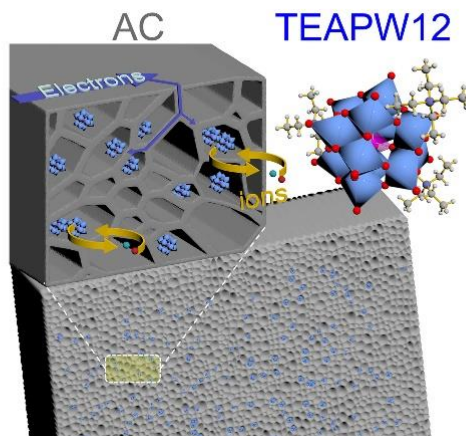
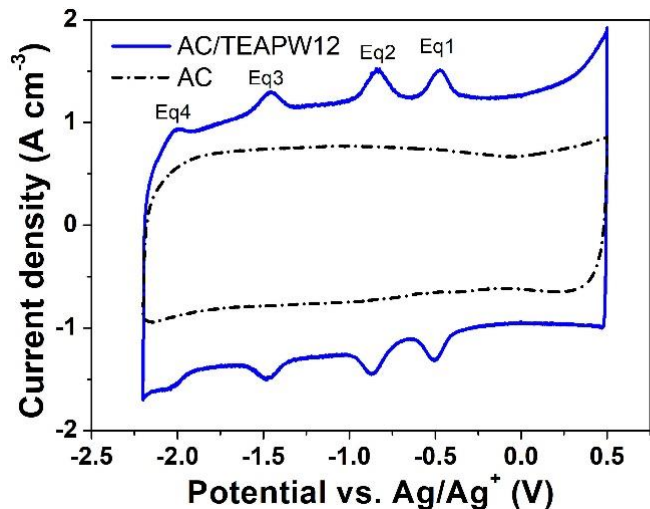


## Hybrid Energy Storage: Hybrid electrode materials + Electroactive electrolyte rGO / H3PMo12O40 / HQ

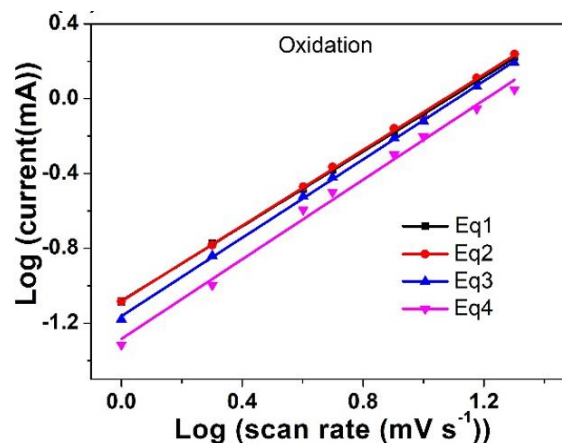
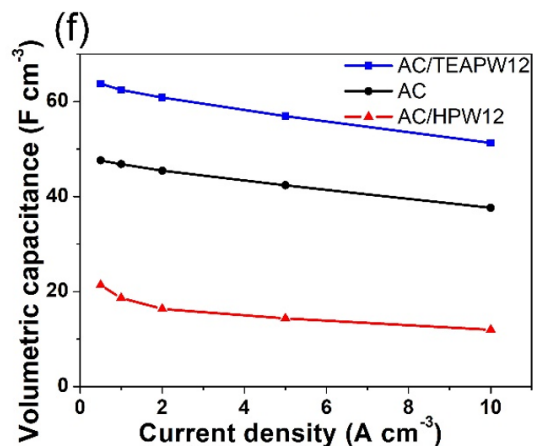


31 LEDs powered with a single rGO-PMo<sub>12</sub> symmetric cell with 0.2 M HQ doped polymer gel electrolyte.  
30 s charge 2 min lit

# AC/POMs Hybrid electrodes in organic electrolytes



1M TEA BF<sub>4</sub>  
in CH<sub>3</sub>CN



$$i = av^b$$

current  $\swarrow$   
 scan rate  $\swarrow$   
 $b=1$   
 NOT limited by diffusion

Can polyoxometalates enhance the capacitance and energy density of activated carbon in organic electrolyte supercapacitors?

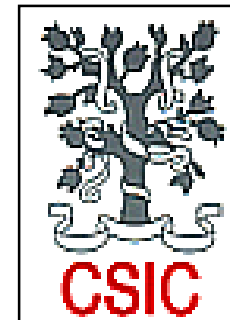
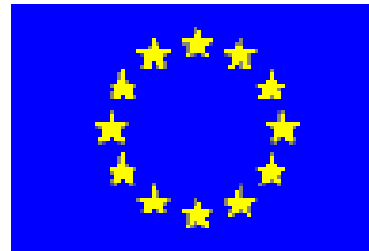
# Conclusions

- Polyoxometalates have a very rich chemistry of their own.
- They are ideal quantum models for W, Mo or V oxides (i.e. with all 12 MO<sub>6</sub> units on the surface of a Keggin anion)
- Their integration in e<sup>-</sup>-conducting or insulating matrices leads to synergic electrode or electrolyte materials respectively
- Hybrid electrodes show dual (Faradaic-capacitive) energy storage + more synergic effects (overpotentials leading to increased V and E
- Their utterly dispersed nature and reversible multi-electron redox chemistry can result in fast (not diffusion hindered) e<sup>-</sup> transfer.
- But remember the importance of Nano- Micro-structure



# NEO-Energy Lab

Prof. Pedro Gómez-Romero



**Generalitat  
de Catalunya**



## NEO-Energy Group @ ICN2 May 2019

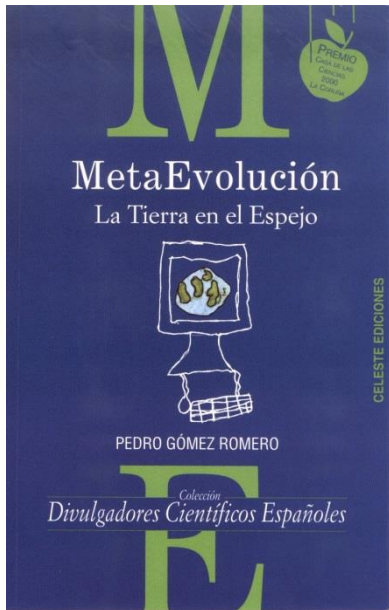


Dani Rueda, Verónica Fabián, Bhawna Nagar, Pedro Gómez, Raúl Benages, Carlos Marchante, Rocío Rodríguez, Jun-Jie Zhu

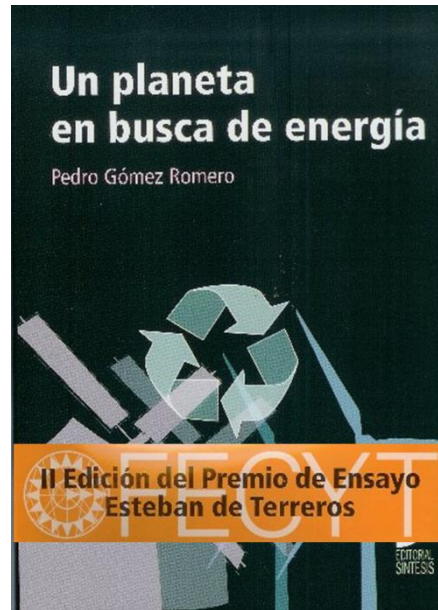


Gracias  
... for your attention!

# NEO-Energy Group. Social communication of science



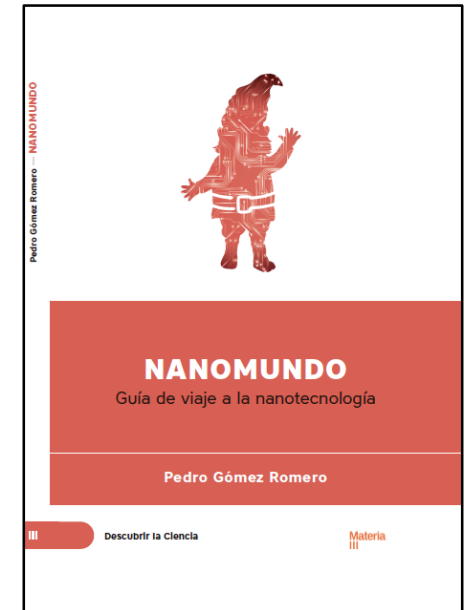
Celeste, 2001



Síntesis, 2007



Bromera, 2016



Materia/EP, 2016