

# From power to aesthetics, from nano to terawatts : how can solar change people ?

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*Director CSEM PV-center*

*Prof. EPFL, Director Photovoltaics and thin film electronics  
laboratory*

**Becquerel Prize acceptance speech, Munich 20.06.2016**

# The unanswered questions...

- Do we need an «ecological» terror to get people and politician to curb CO2 emission ?

Out of 2-3 TW of PV in 2030, how much will have perovskite absorber ?

Do we still need research institutes in photovoltaics ?

- Is there any value to local contents/manufacturing of PV systems ?

- When will Al-BSF cells be replaced by c-Si heterojunction and passivated contact cells ?

## POWERPURE

Ultra-low cost solar electricity

2020 >20%, < 0.4€/Wp, > 30 years  
2026 >23% <0.3€/Wp, > 40 years  
high energy yield

## ELEGANCE

Changing the cities and the way  
people relate to solar and energy

All shapes, all colors, affordable PV  
construction material

## CONNECTED

20% indoor  
autonomous

High performance  
ubiquitous energy  
scavenger

## EXPLORE

Specialty power  
applications

In the air, on water,  
on the road

## SMART

A more intelligent  
energy supply and  
management

Algorithms and  
electronics/IT  
services

## Improve standard technologies

PERC, PERT  
Selective Emitter, local doping  
Low-cost Si

## Passivating contacts

High T: SIPOS, TOPCON, Polo....  
Lower T: TiO<sub>2</sub>, MoO<sub>x</sub>  
A-Si/c-Si heterojunction  
Variation of heterojunction

**NBT**

## Advanced interconnection/cell and module design

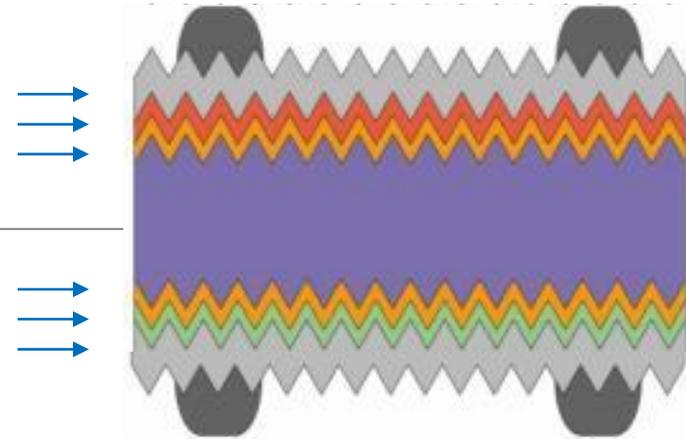
Multi-wire, shingles, conductive back-sheets  
Bi-facial  
MWT, IBC  
Thin wafers  
Ultra-long reliability



**You may never know what results come of your actions, but if you do nothing, there will be no results.” *Mahatma Gandhi***



## C-Si heterojunction cells



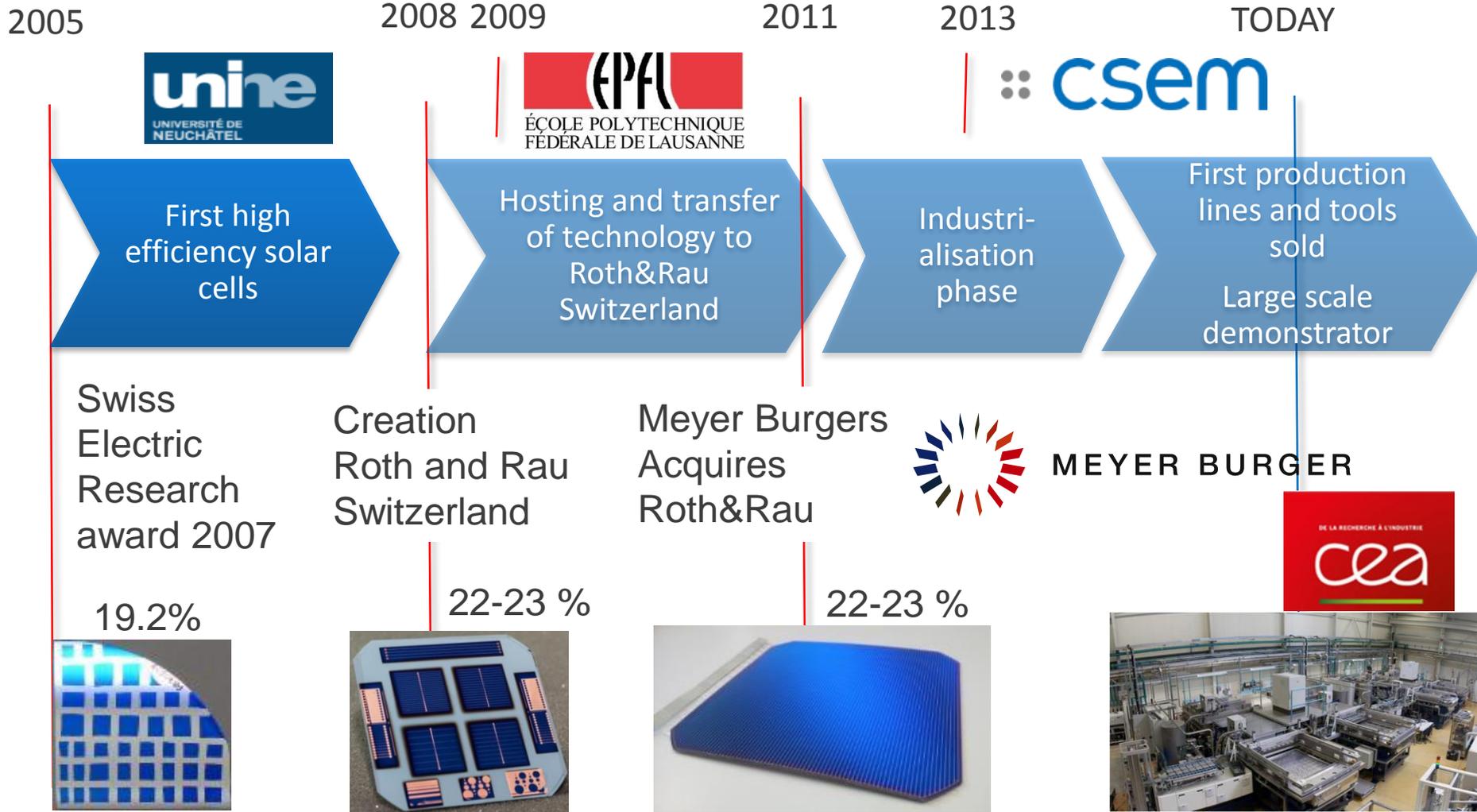
**Based on coating technologies:  
all matured in the last decades, low COO**

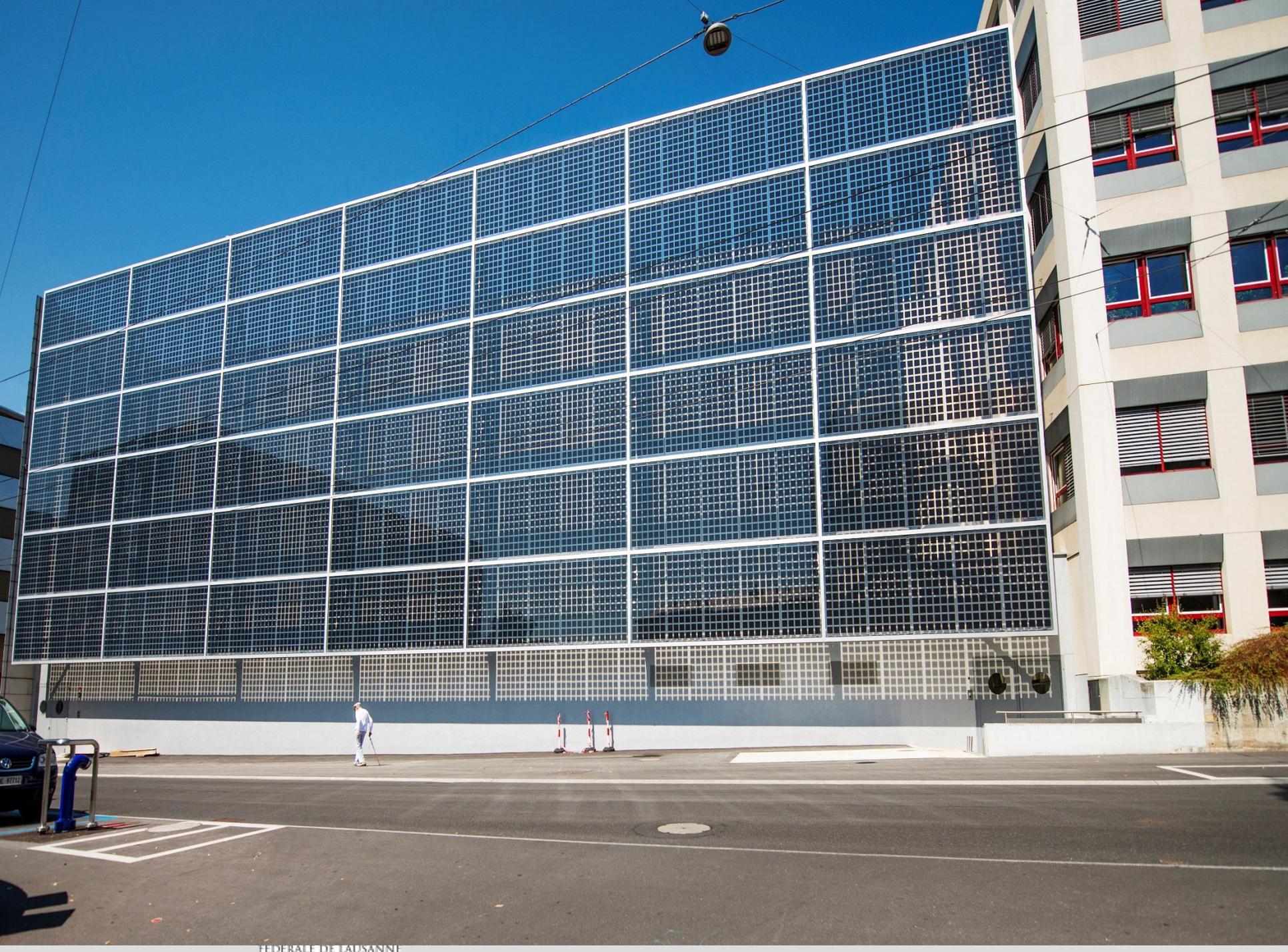
- Infinite number of possibilities to change the layers (plasma !)  
→ SiO<sub>x</sub>, SiN<sub>x</sub>, SiC<sub>x</sub>, SiONC, amorphous, nanocrystalline
- Wide variety of TCO's and interface
- New ways to design ideal membranes (hole and electron collectors)
- Advanced metallization (plating, multiwire...)
- .....

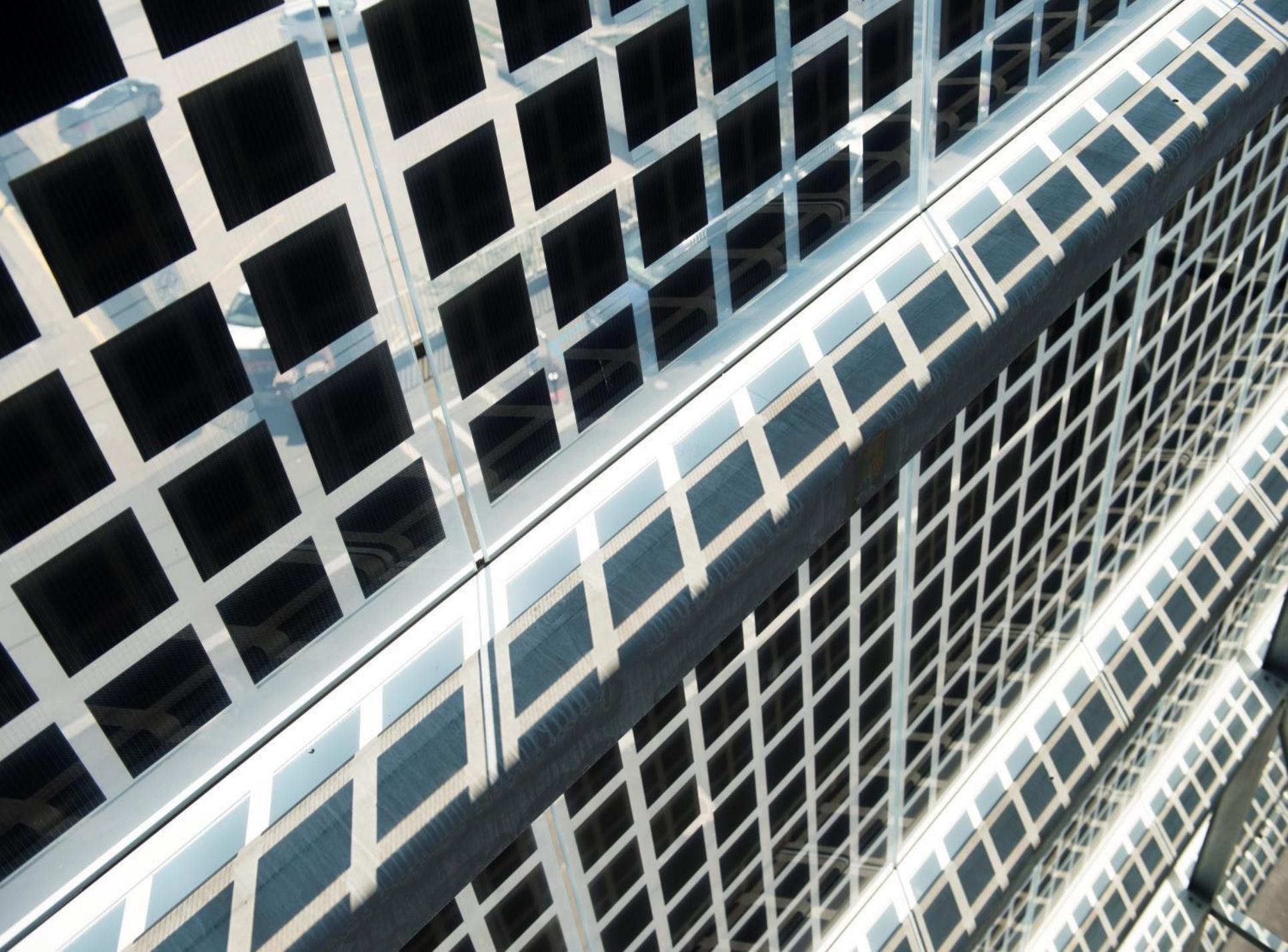


**a class of technology to reach 24-26% ....**

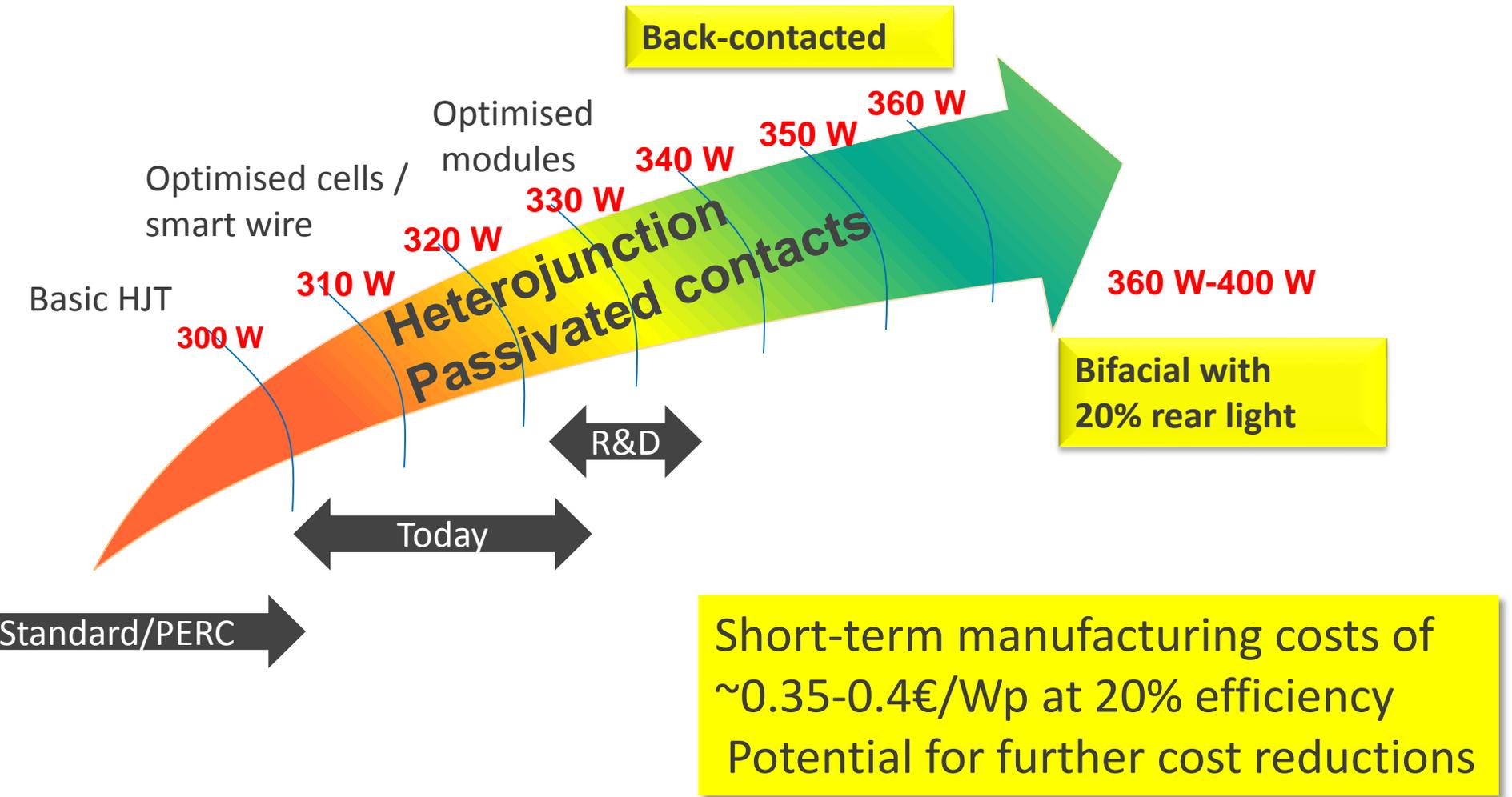
# High efficiency, « lean but subtle » process for c-Si heterojunction







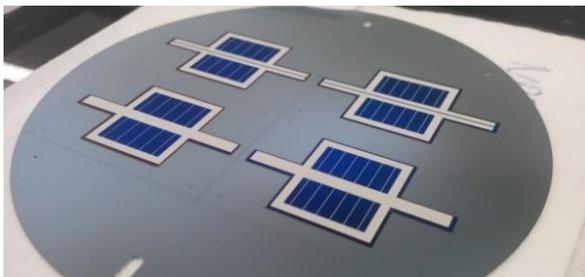
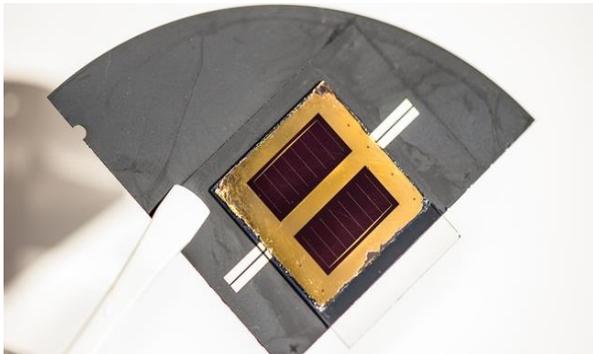
# Future of c-Si SHJ modules, 60 cells, 6''



# Cellules record du monde à «plusieurs jonctions» avec Silicium

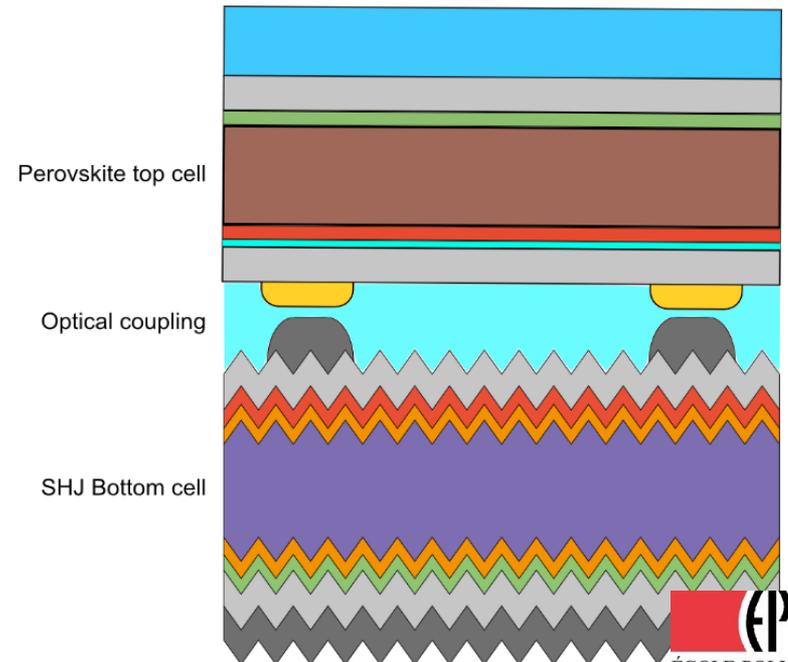
Custom designed small HJT cells  
4 terminals III-V /c-Si tandem,

29.8 % Certified



«low cost» Perovskites on  
Silicon, 4 terminal  
measurements

25.2% in house

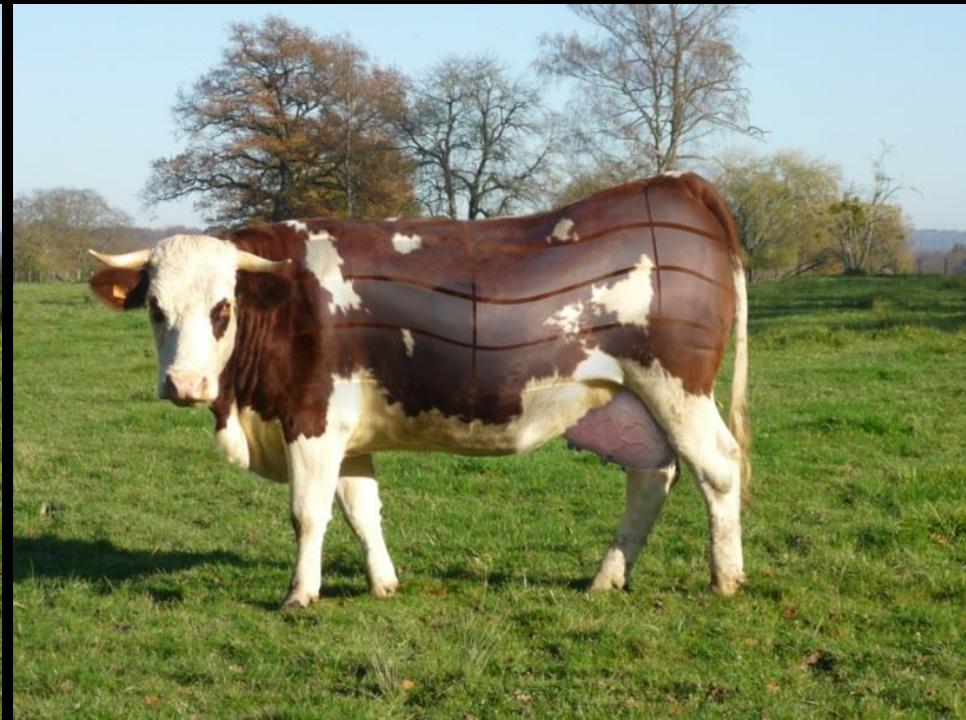
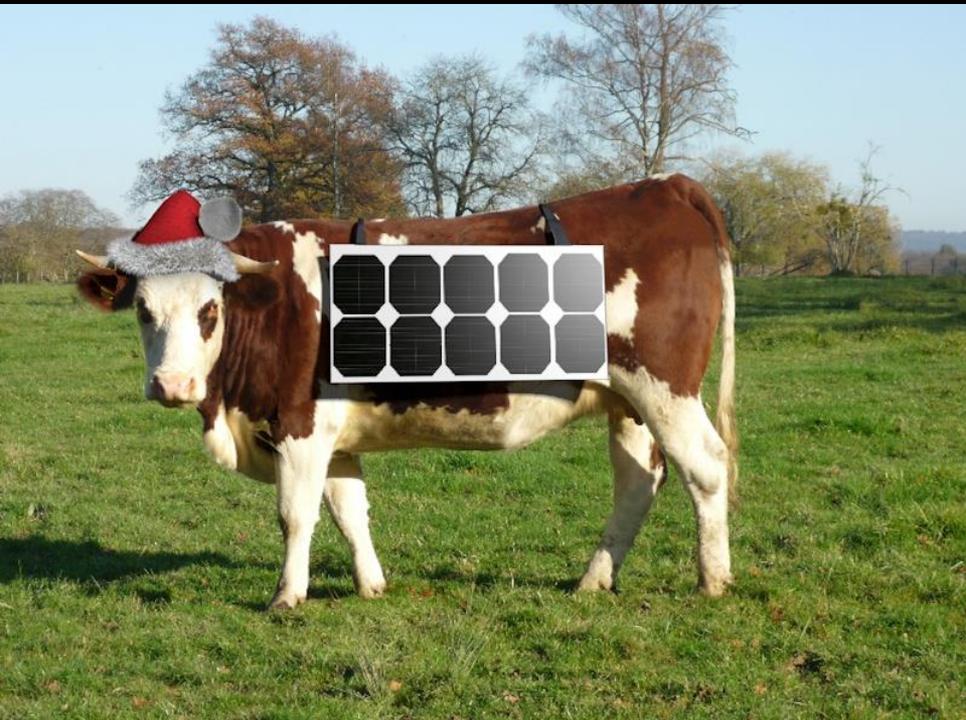


# ELEGANCE

Switzerland, sensitive to acceptance in Rural and Urban Environment



Sensitive to aesthetics



# Integrated «Megaslates»



Swiss Solar Award 2015 «renovation category»

Over 10'000  
systems installed



# Terra-cotta PV

An example of technological transfer



Thin-film terra-cotta

Mat or shiny finish

Sizes: full size ( 1100 x 1400) and small size available



# Photovoltaic in buildings

Demonstration project in Switzerland



# White photovoltaic modules

A new building material

- Better aesthetics
- Easiest integration
- Building façade are becoming active
- Possible over 10% efficiency

➤ A new building material

**SOLAXESS**  
white solar technology



Field testing



# Spatial patterns of solar photovoltaic system adoption: The influence of neighbors and the built environment<sup>‡</sup>

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†Corresponding author: Kenneth Gillingham, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, Department of Economics, School of Management, 195 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511.

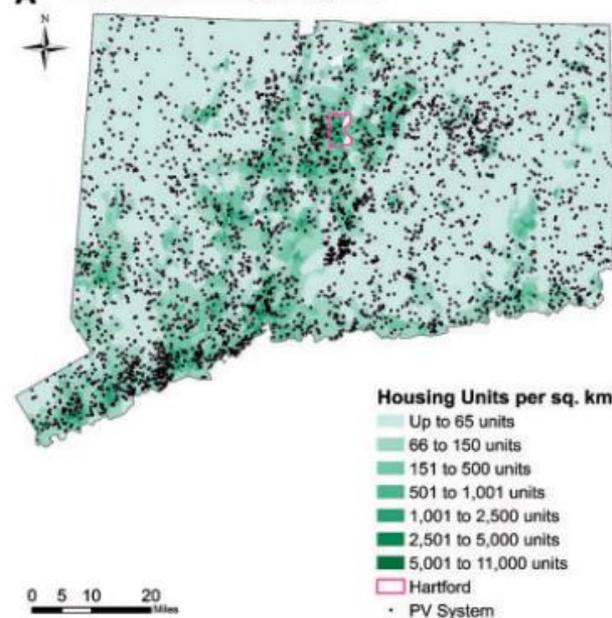
email <kenneth.gillingham@yale.edu>

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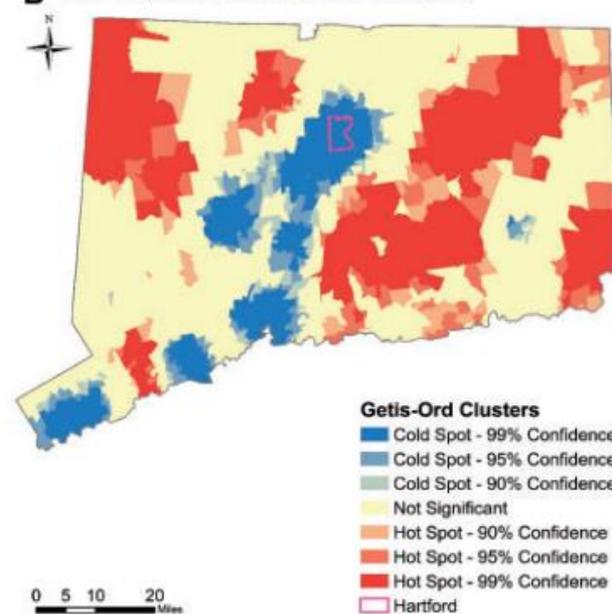
## Influence your neighbors ...

“Example isn't another way to teach, it is the only way to teach”, A. Einstein

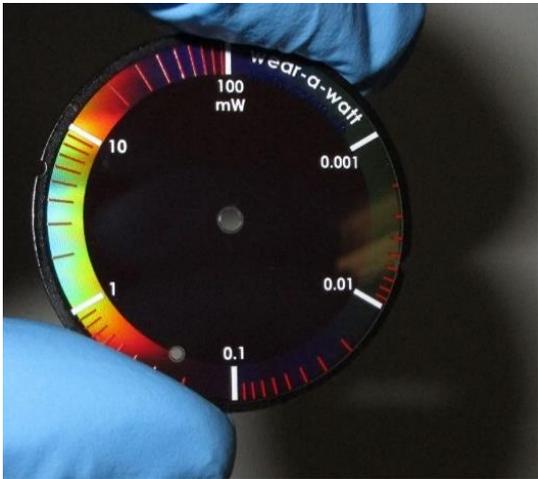
A PV Systems and Housing Density (2013)



B Block Group Level Optimized Getis-Ord Results (2013)



# Connect





**4 million solar** products sold by members of the Global Off-grid Lighting Association (GOGLA) in the second half of 2015

2 millions in Sub-Saharan Africa.

+Micro-credit  
+Smart Phone payments

# EXPLORE



# EXPLORE

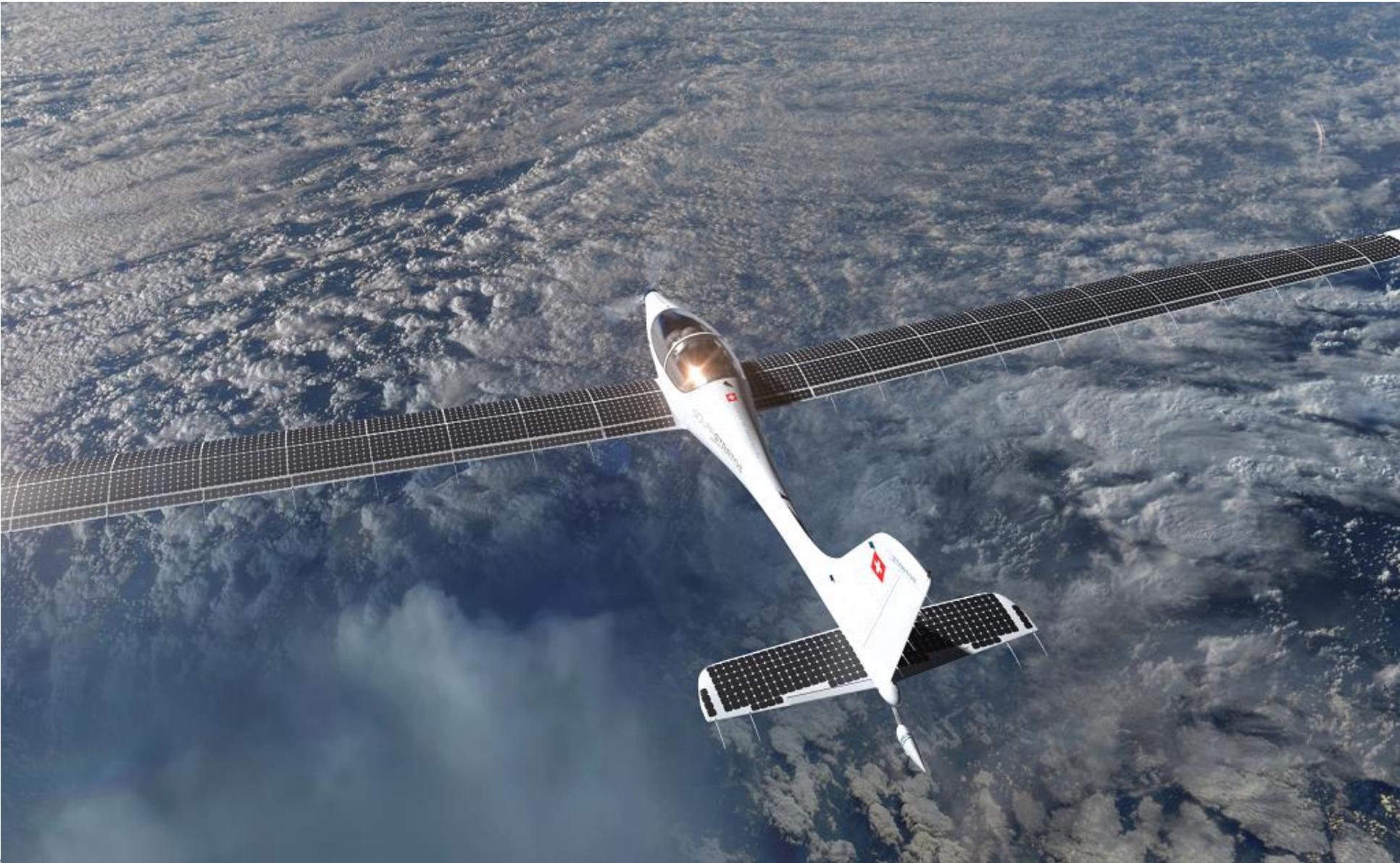




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ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE  
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE

# Solar Stratos... à la frontière de l'espace



# Solar Stratos... at the edge of space



# Make people love solar for different reasons

Get people to see beautiful examples, everywhere

Get people to wear solar

Produce with local content, have people involved in companies

Will bring people, society and politics

- to invest in Solar

- To vote for Solar

- To support energy transition

(Re) industrialise

Local modules, local cells

XGWp

European Gigawatt Fab

# Strongly supporting local partners/start-ups

**oerlikon**  
solar

 **TEL Solar**



 **PASAN**

 **MEYER BURGER**

 **ROTH & RAU**

 **INDEOtec**

**SOLAXESS**  
white solar technology

 **BLUEBIRD**

 **ÜSERHUUS**

 **BASF**  
We create chemistry

 **BKW**



+ thanks to the 40 companies which are or have been in contract with us

# Financial support and collaborations



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE

Kommission für Technologie und  
Innovation KTI

Secrétariat d'Etat à la formation,  
à la recherche et à l'innovation SEFRI



FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE  
SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS  
FONDO NAZIONALE SVIZZERO  
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



Virage énergétique  
Programme national de recherche PNR 70



solar swiss  
connect



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toutes vos énergies



solar swiss  
connect



RÉPUBLIQUE ET CANTON DE NEUCHÂTEL



ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE  
FÉDÉRALE DE LAUSANNE



European  
Commission

FP6, FP7  
H2020



Univerza v Ljubljani



+ many others

ROW



NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY

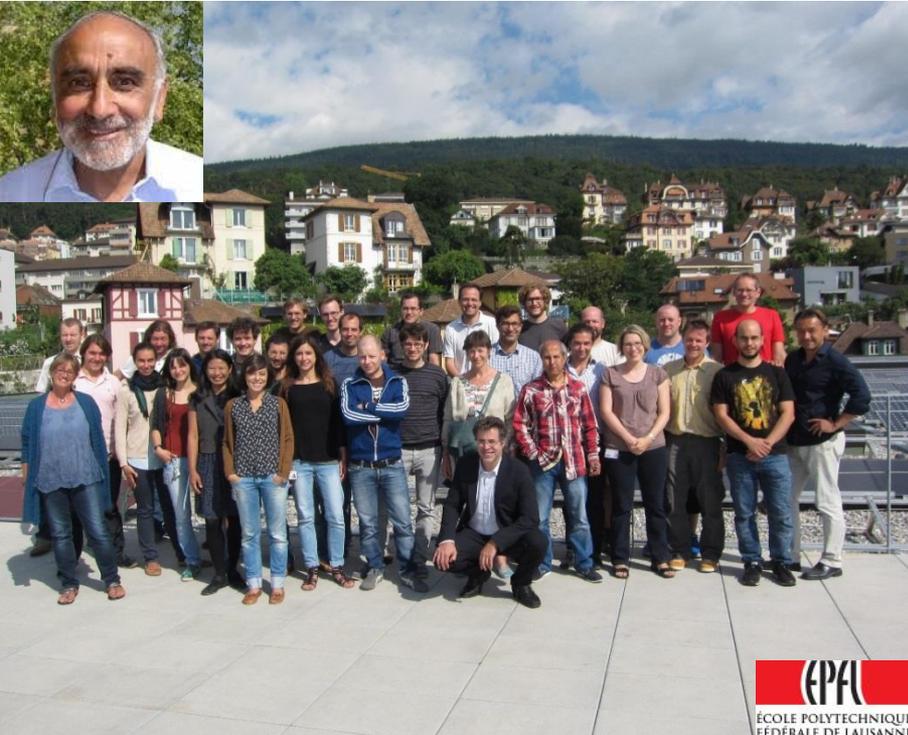


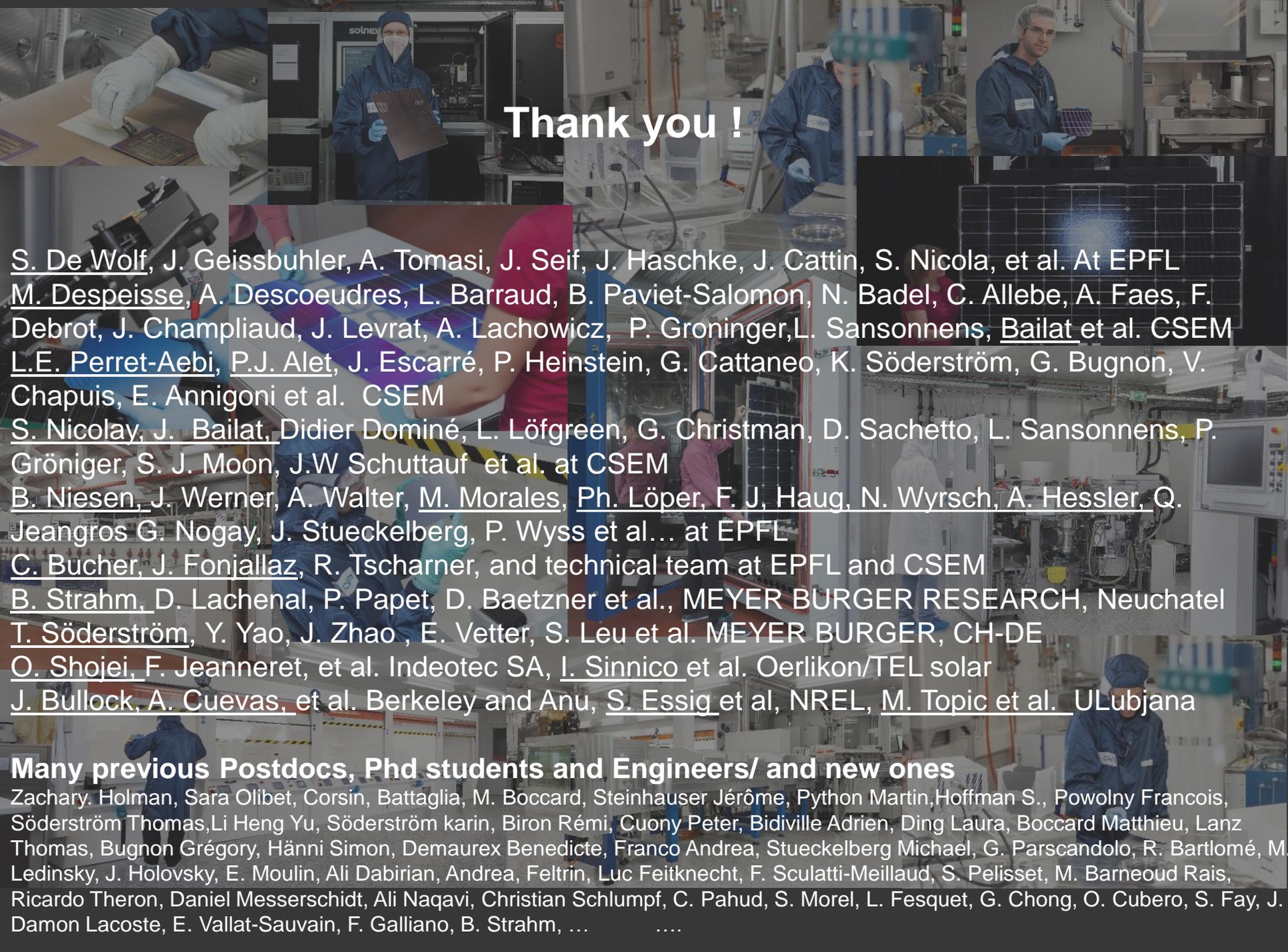
+ many others





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