

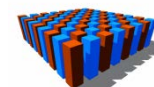
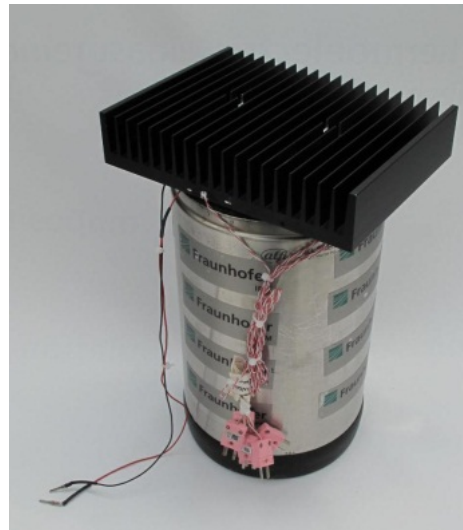
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# FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR PHYSICAL MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES (IPM)

Jan König, K. Tarantik, A. Jacquot, J. Heuer, M. Winkler, M. Jäggle, K. Bartholomé  
EMRS Spring Meeting 2016, 04.05.2016

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## Survey on thermoelectric energy harvesters



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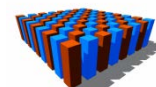
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4. Self powered sensor systems (IPM / Micropelt / other)

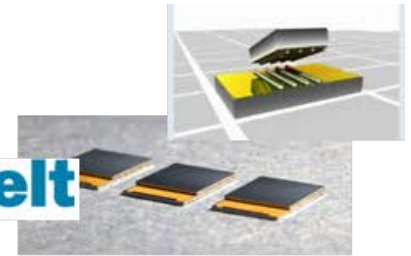


# Energy Harvesting

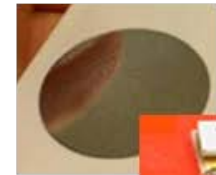
>25 years of experience in thermoelectrics



R&D for **micr°pelt**



Nanoscale materials  
Nanocomposites



Bulk Materials  
Modules  
>200 °C



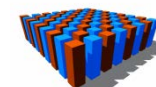
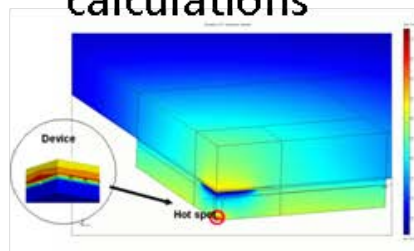
Thermoelectric metrology



Customer-specific applications

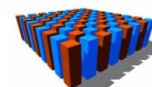
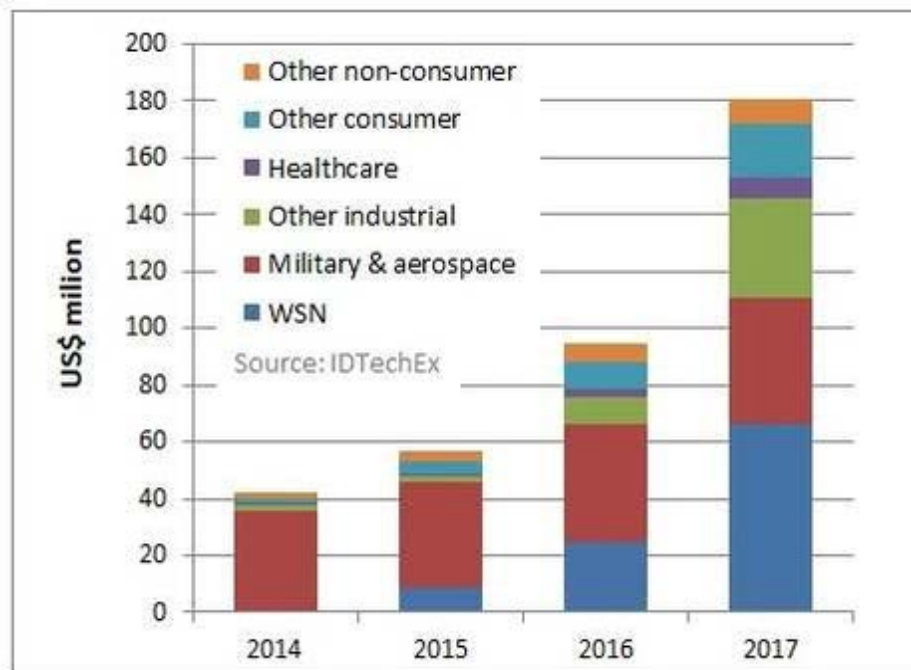


Simulations/  
calculations

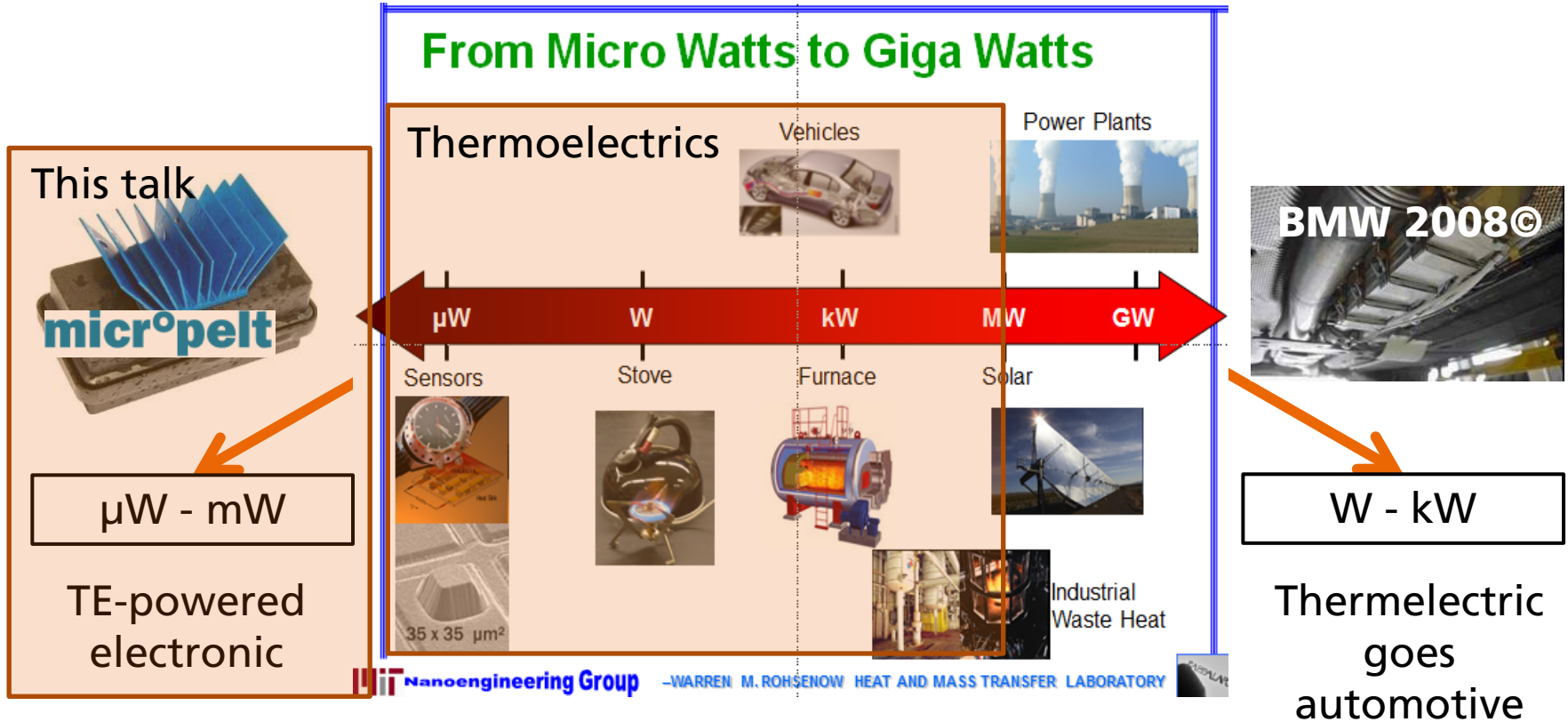


# Market forecast for thermoelectric energy harvesting

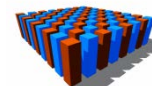
"The market for thermoelectric energy harvesters will reach over \$950 million by 2024"



# Power ranges for thermoelectric energy harvesting



G. Chen, MIT, USA; CIMTEC; Montecatini Terme Juni 2010



# Powers provided by energy harvesting sources

## Ambient micro Energy Harvesting sources

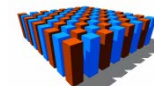


Source	Technology	Energy	Remarks
Acoustic (100dB)	Piezo	950 nW/cm <sup>3</sup>	Little research done
RF-waves	Antennas	< 1 μW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Near field only
Light	Solar cell	100 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Sunlight
	Solar cell	100 μW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Light
Switching operation	Electrodynamic	50 μJ/N	50μW EnOcean PTM-200-module
Temperature	Seebeck	60 μW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Standard elements
	Seebeck	710 μW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Micropelt @ 3K differential
Vibration	Piezo	4 μW/cm <sup>3</sup>	Human motion (Hz)
	Piezo	800 μW/cm <sup>3</sup>	Machine motion (kHz)

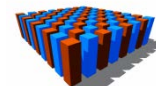
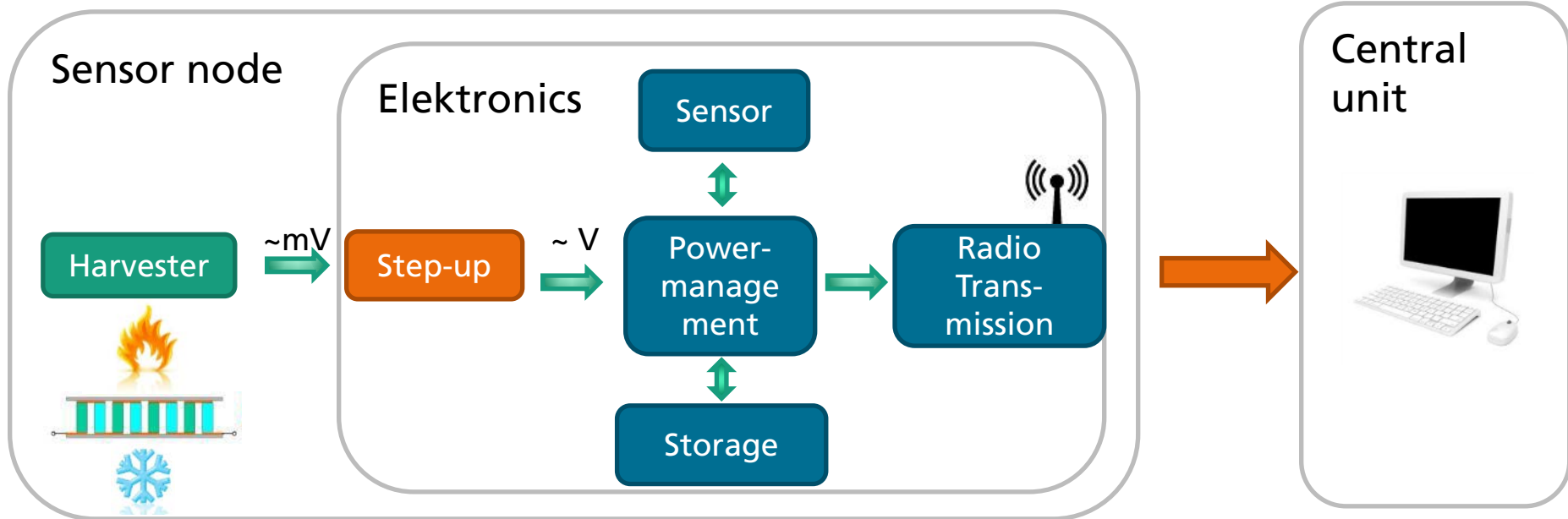
May 2011 -University of Hamburg Harburg

**micropelt**

**micropelt**



# Self-powered sensor systems: Typical setup



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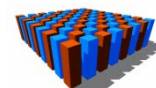
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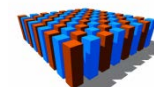
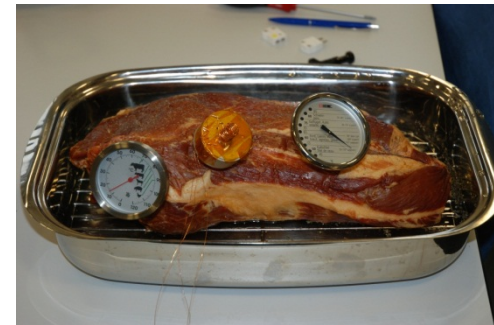




# Self powered sensor systems at Fraunhofer-IPM

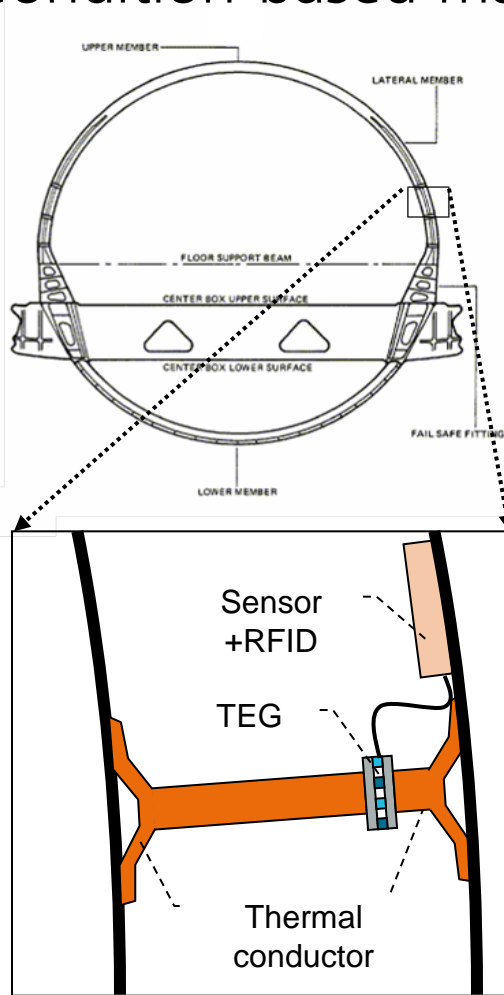
## Applications:

- ‚Hands-on‘-demonstrator:  
use body heat to generate power and transmit temperature to computer
- Roast temperature sensor:  
thermoelectric skewer to measure temperature of roast and transmit it to oven
- Coffee pot demonstrator:  
use water/coffee heat and report filling level and temperature
- Aircrafts:  
monitor aircraft skin with energy-autarkic sensors
- Environmental monitoring:  
Exploit day/night temperature cycle



# Aircraft monitoring

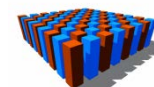
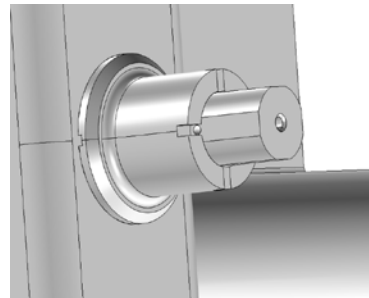
## Condition-based maintenance



Exploitation of the temperature gradient between airplane body shell ( $\sim -50^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and passenger cabin ( $\sim 20^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

Thermal integration

Generation of sufficient power ( $> 10\text{mW}$ ) while limiting the weight ( $< 10\text{g}$ )



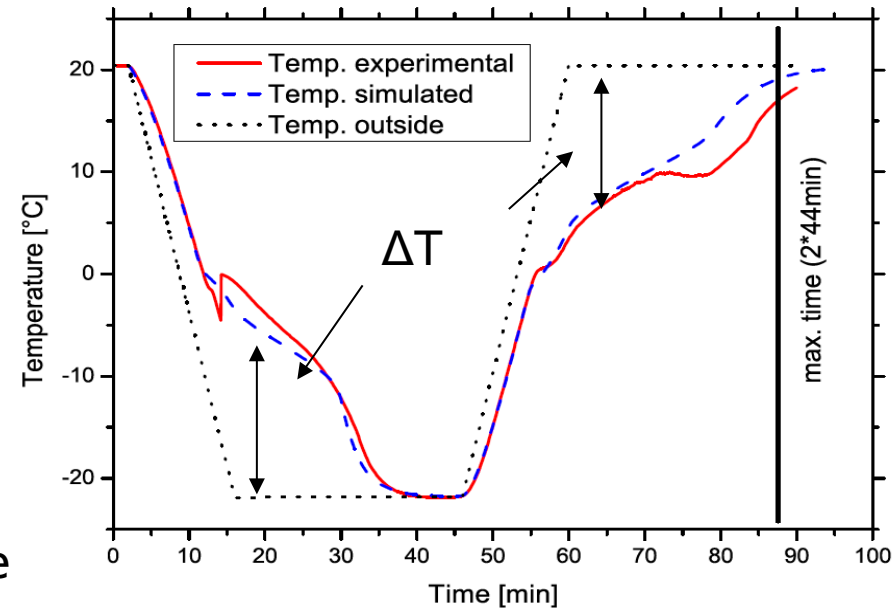
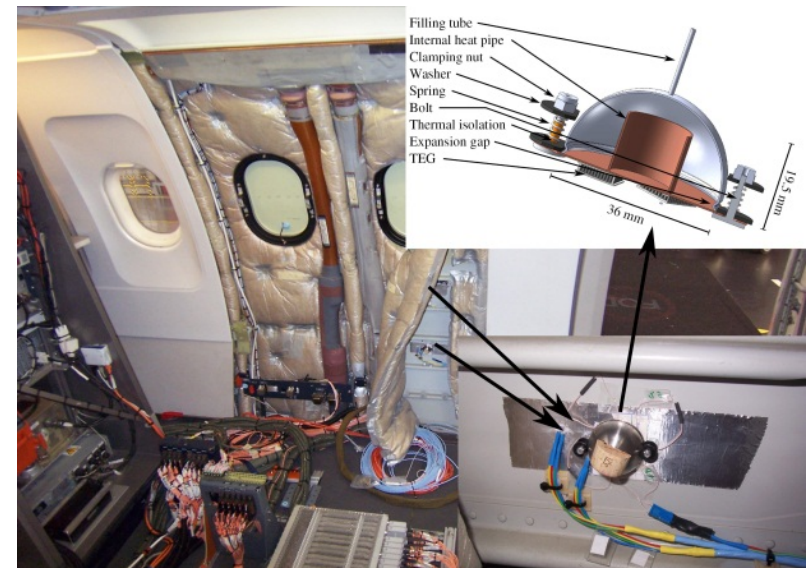
# Aircraft monitoring

Exploiting temporal changes –  
Aircraft

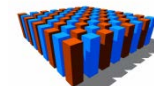
B3\_1: A. Elefsiniotis, EADS:

Harvester exploiting temporal  
temperature changes in aircrafts:

- generate  $\Delta T$  with heat reservoir
- up to 17mW of electrical power
- average energy collected during one typical flight: ~23 J
- Sufficient for powering a sensor node >6h

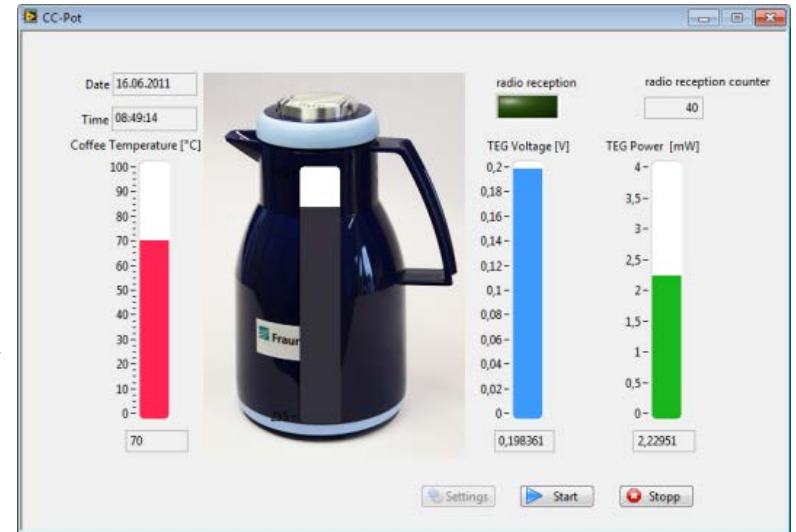


Samson, D., et al., Journal of Electronic Materials, 2012. 41(6)



# The communicating coffee pot

## A smart home application



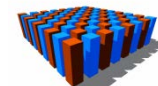
See it live at the exhibition - booth 39

### What it does:

- Monitors coffee filling level and temperature
- Alerts secretary if coffee is empty or cold

### Electrical data:

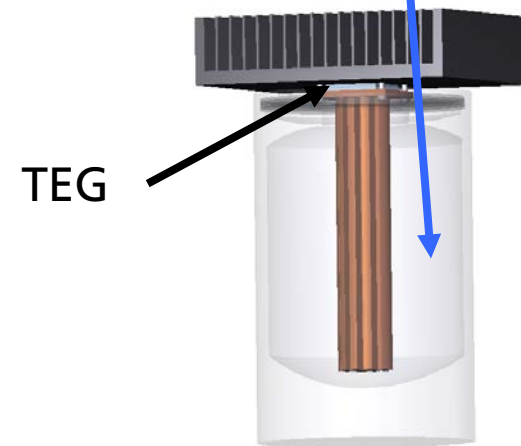
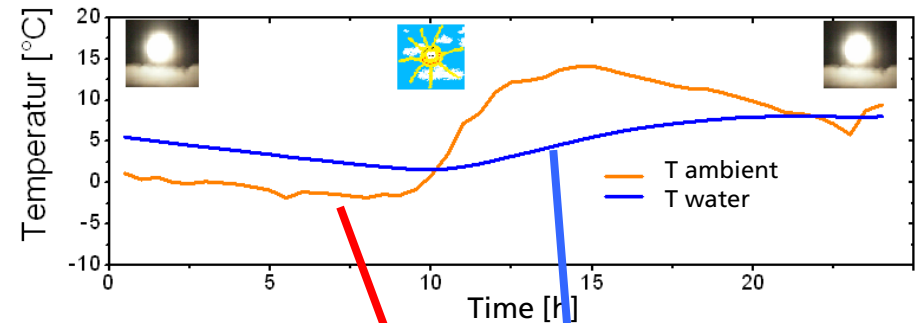
- maximum voltage of generator: 400 mV
- average voltage of generator: 150 mV
- maximum power: 85 mW
- average power: 12 mW



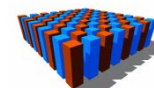
# Environmental monitoring

Exploiting temporal changes with freestanding harvester

- Exploit temporal in contrast to spatial changes in temperature
- Fixed temperature at heat reservoir
- Temporal changing temperature at heat sink
- Resulting  $\Delta T$  at TEG
- Generate sufficient  $\Delta T$  for step-up converter, power management, sensors and radio transmission

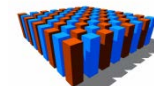
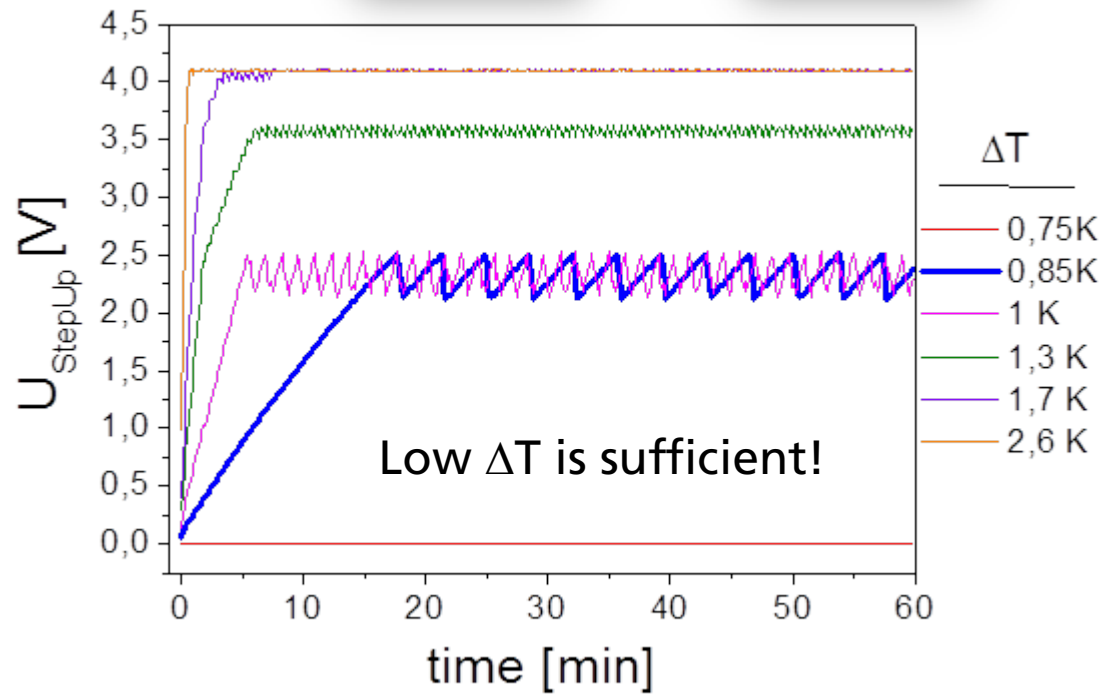
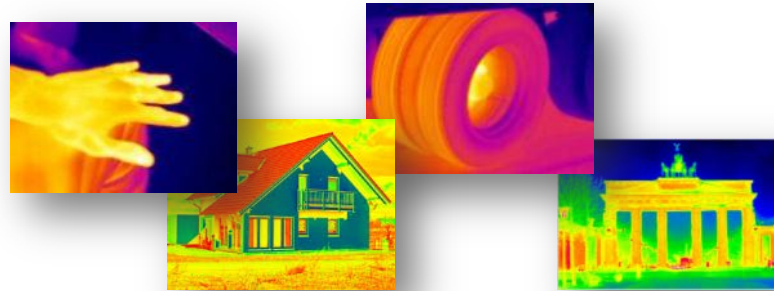
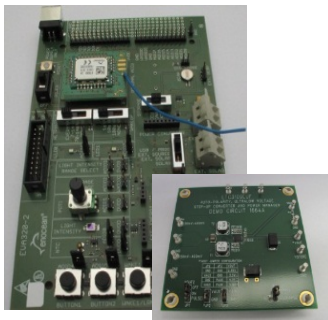
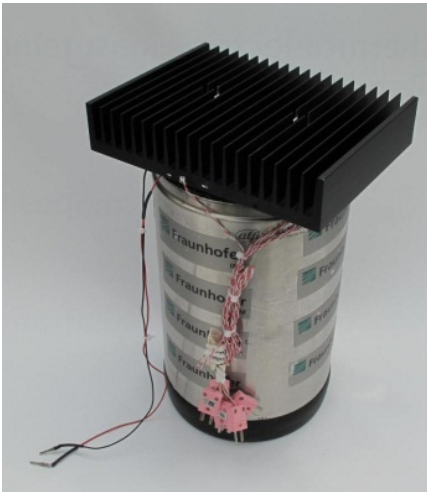


Bartel, Master Thesis Fraunhofer IPM, 2011



# Freestanding harvester

Voltage and  $\Delta T$



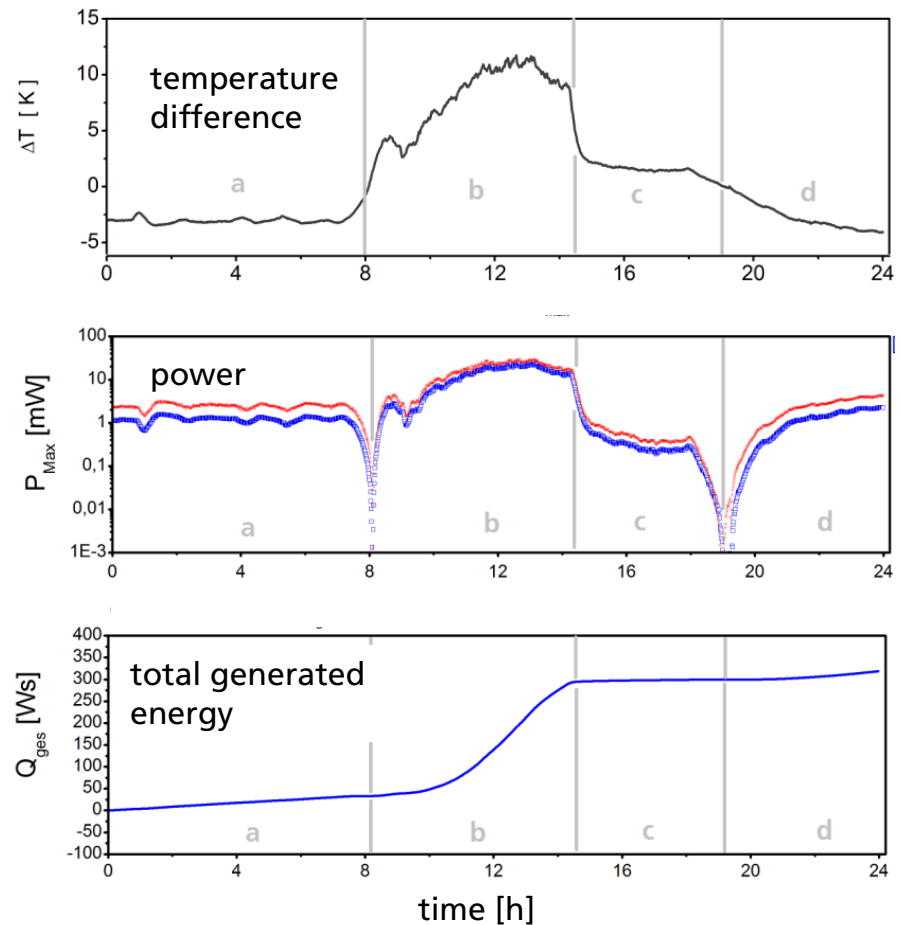
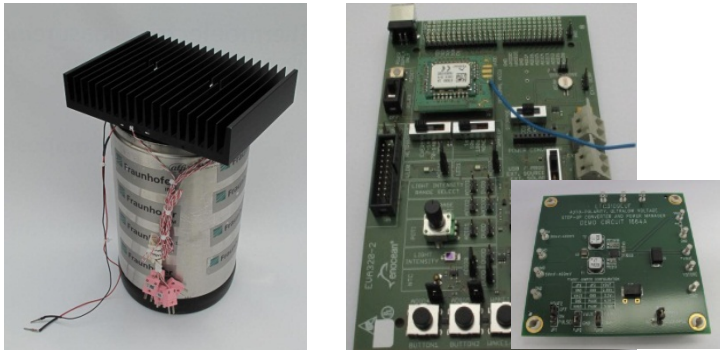
# Freestanding harvester

Exploiting temporal changes with freestanding harvester

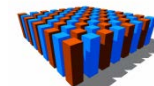
experimental results:

system on **IPM roof**:

- system starts at  $\Delta T \sim 1\text{K}$
- signal transmission **each second**
- $\sim 300 - 350\text{ J}$  per day



Bartel, Masterthesis Fraunhofer IPM, 2011



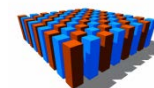
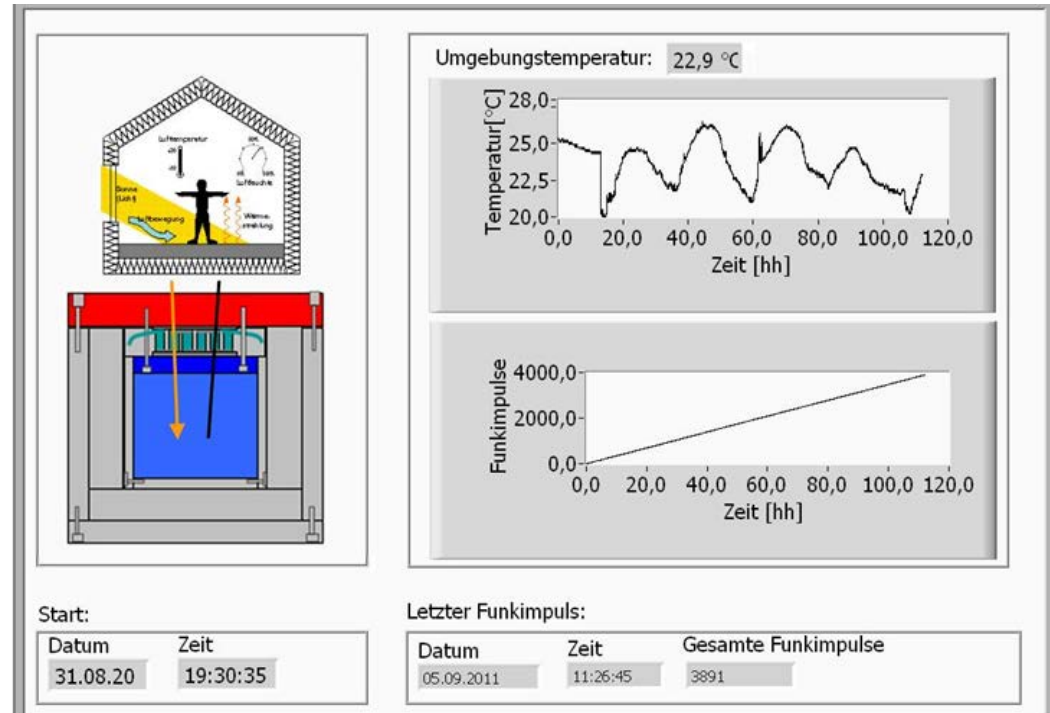
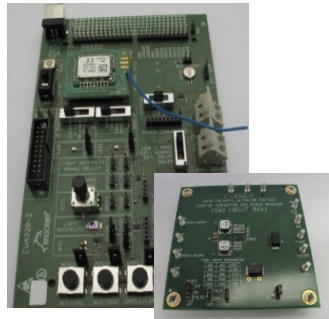
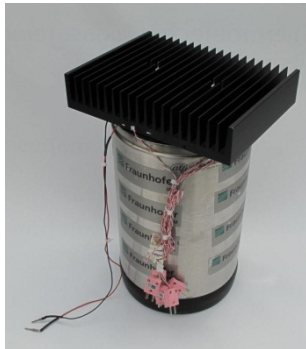
# Freestanding harvester

Exploiting temporal changes with freestanding harvester

experimental results:

system **in the lab**:

- system starts at  $\Delta T \sim 1K$
- signal transmission **every 100 seconds**
- $\sim 50 J$  per day

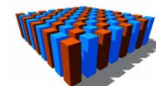
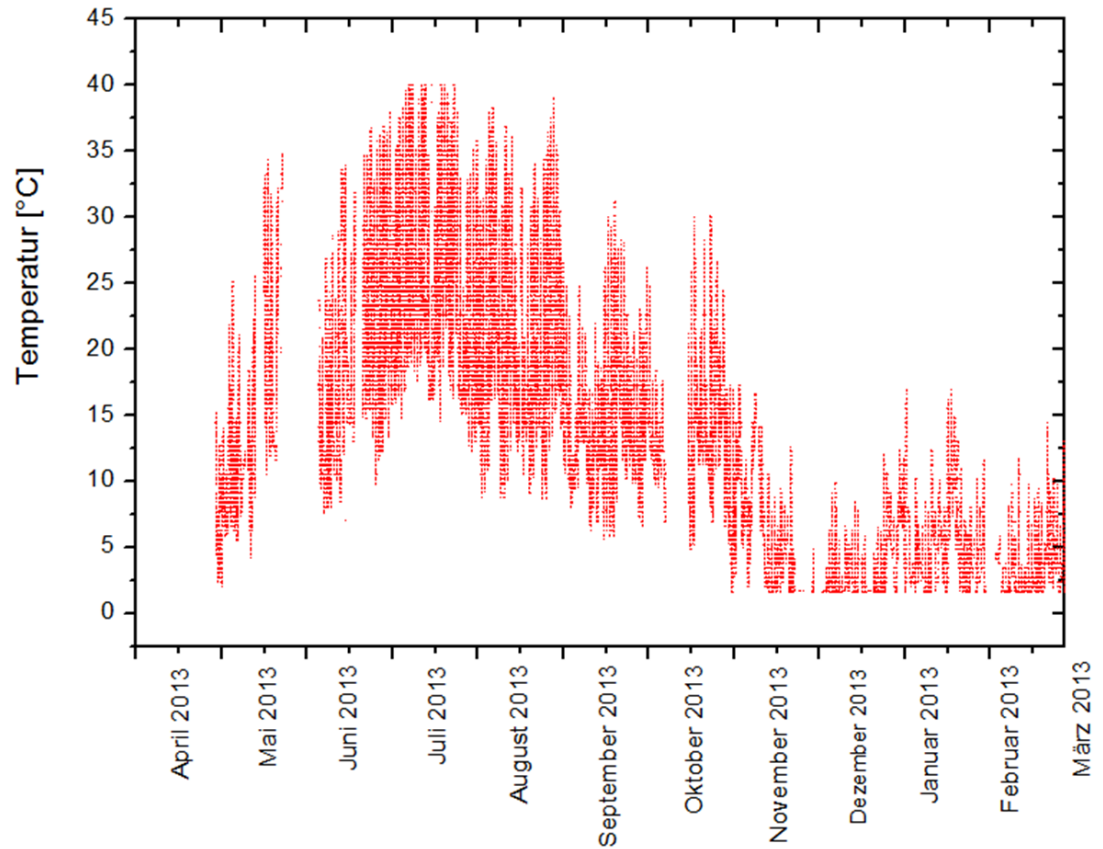
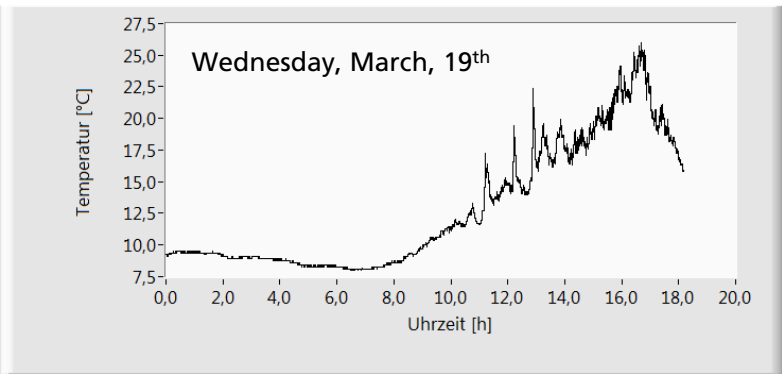
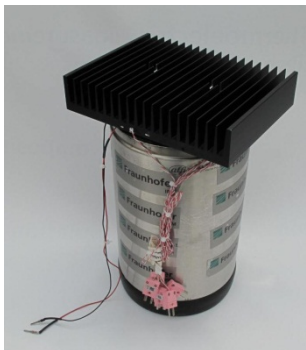




# Freestanding harvester

## Exploiting temporal changes

More than 1 million data points transmitted by self powered system



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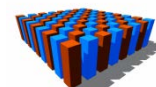
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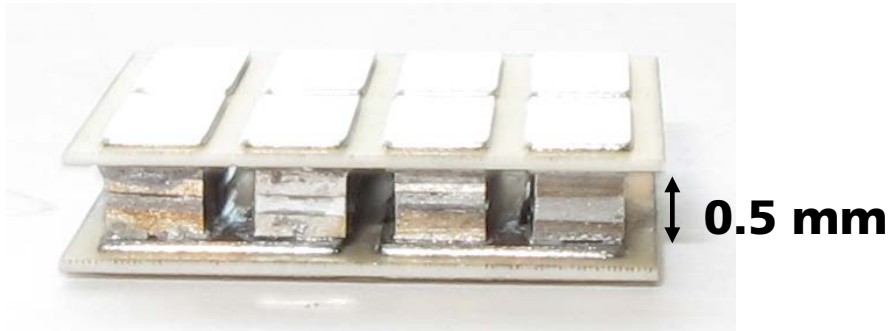
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## Survey on thermoelectric energy harvesters

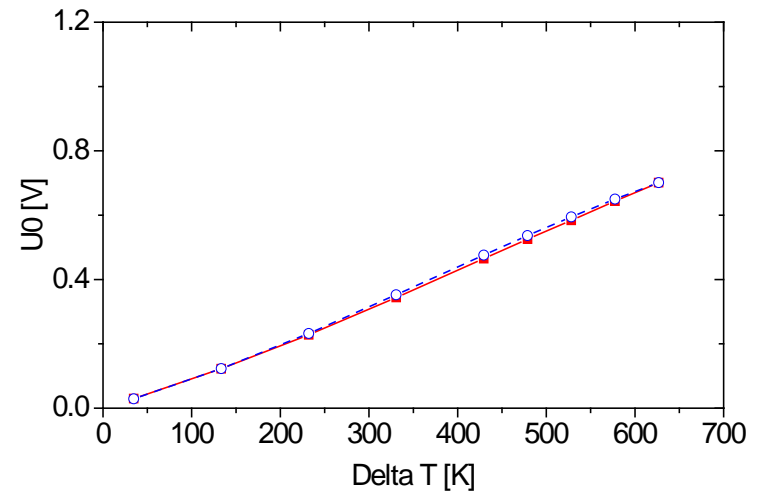
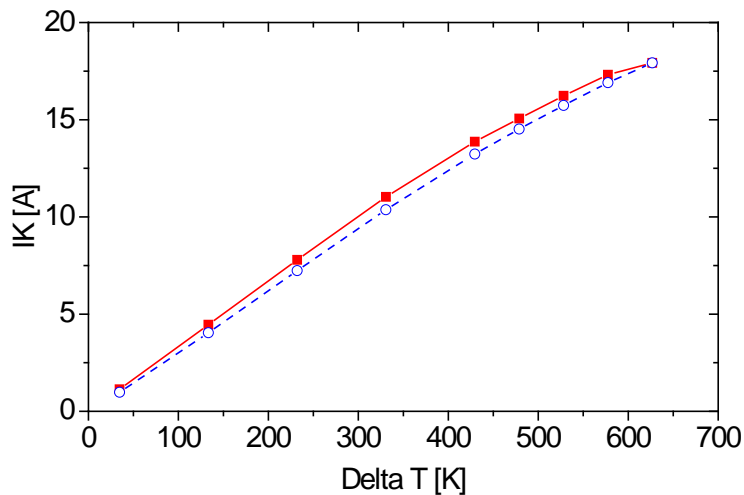
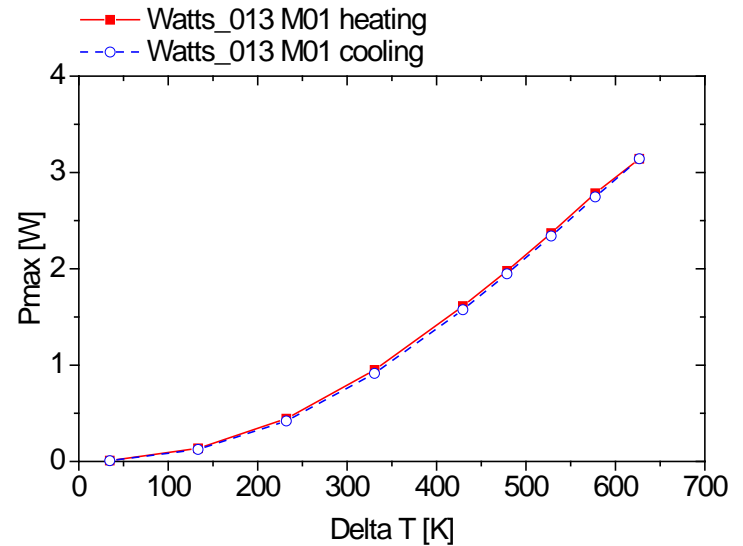
1. Introduction
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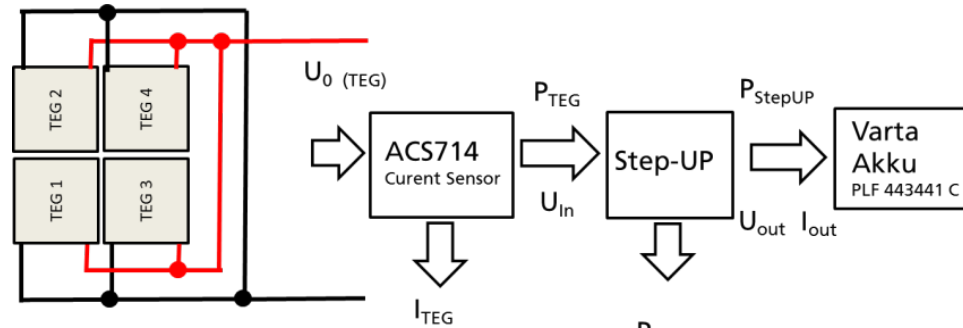
# Module development for high (intermediate) temperature harvesting



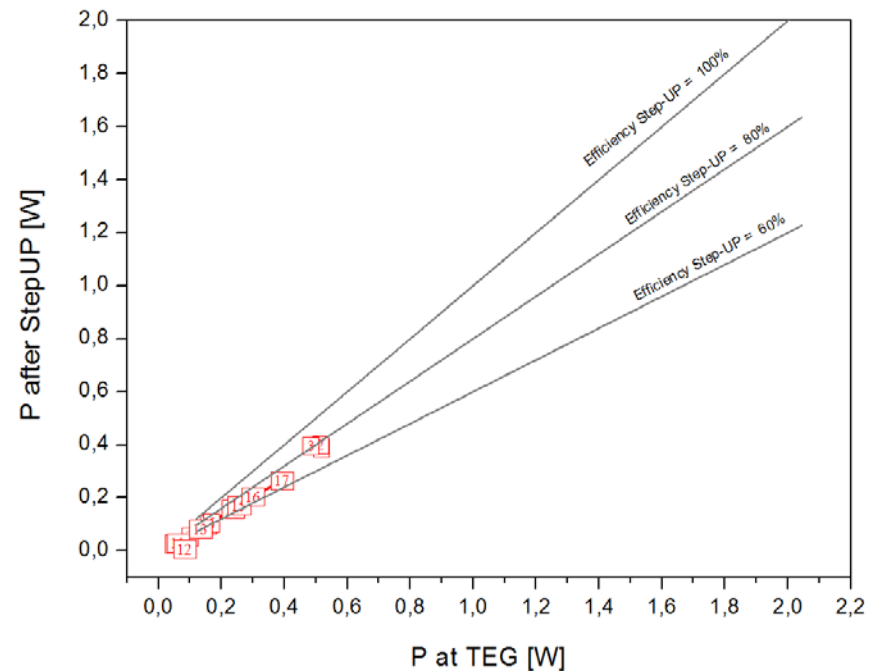
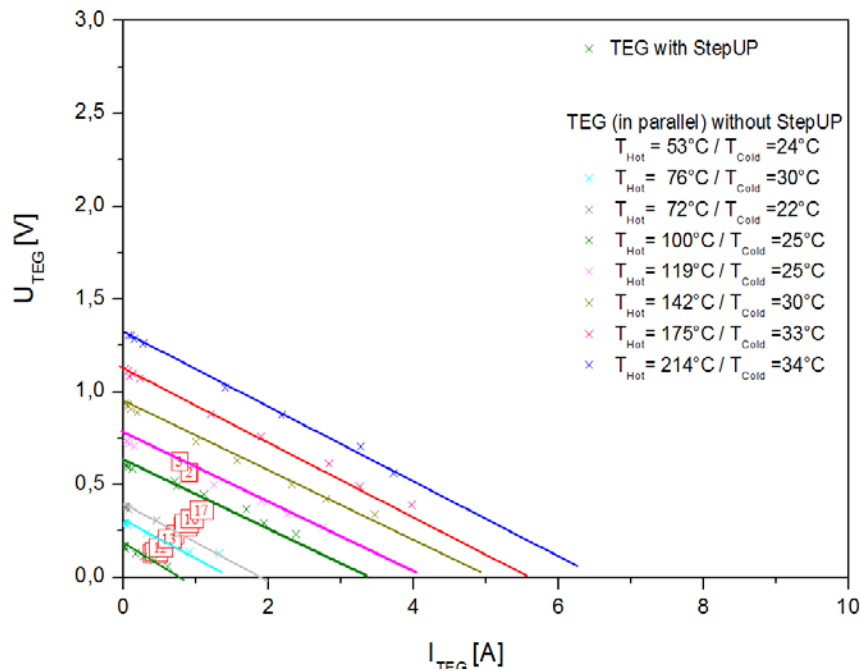
**Skutterudite module:** Thin legs, high power, high current, low voltage



# Harvesting system



$$\eta_{\text{StepUP}} = \frac{P_{\text{StepUP}}}{P_{\text{TEG}}}$$



# Flexible platform for integrating energy harvesters



## Harvester demonstrator

3 TEG (15x15mm<sup>2</sup>)

75 W<sub>th</sub>

380 mW<sub>e</sub>

T<sub>hot</sub> = 160°C

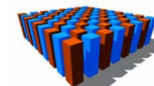
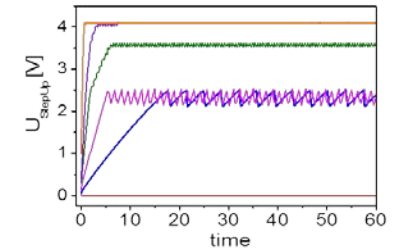
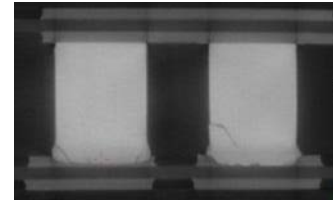
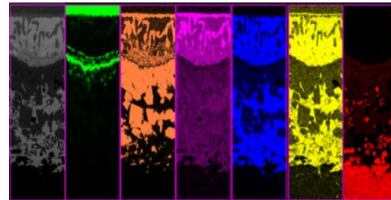
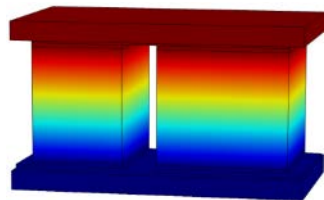
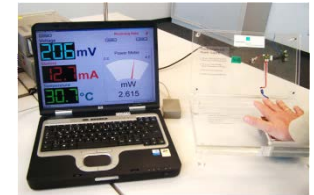
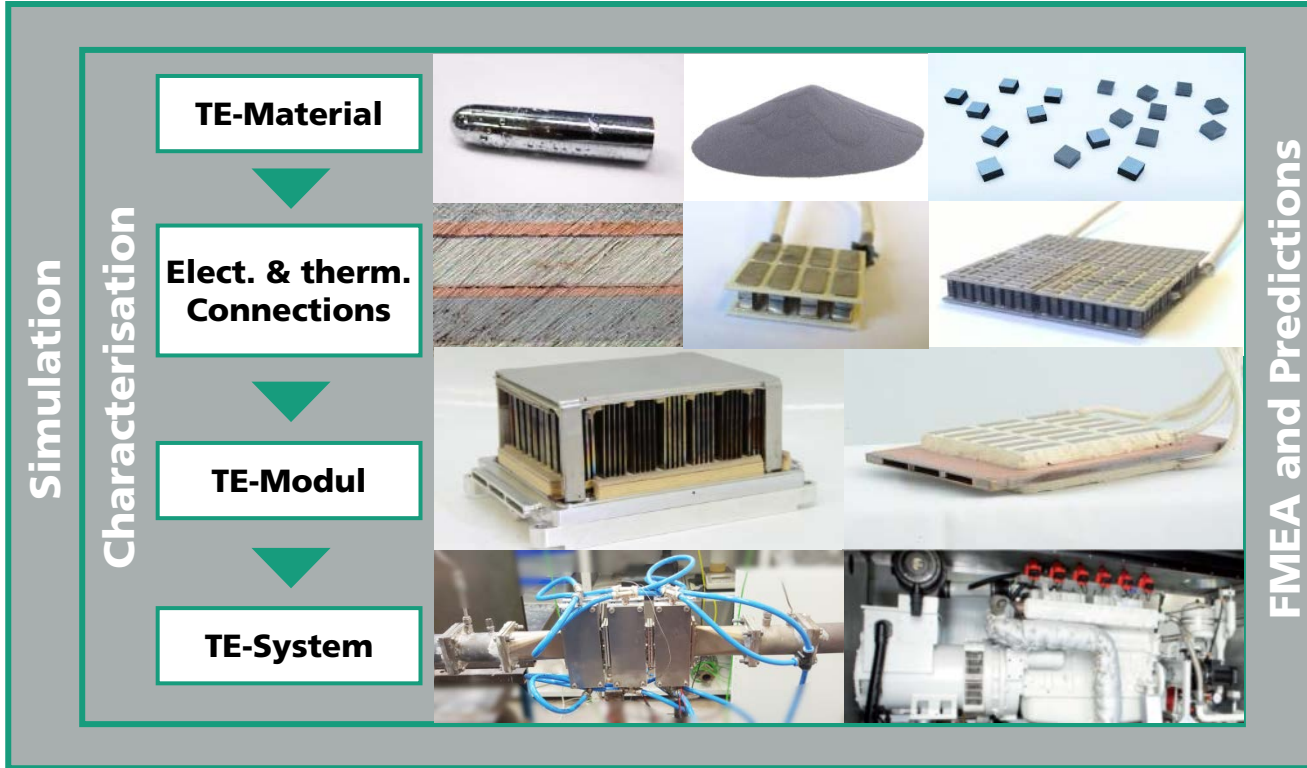
B<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub> based TEG



Integration of harvester in system:  
In progress..

# Thermoelectrics @ Fraunhofer IPM

## Thermoelectric Expertise



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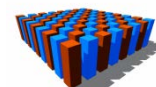
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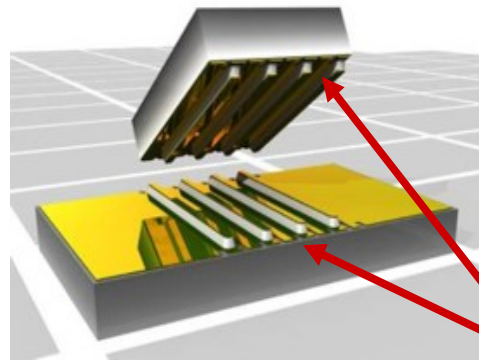
# Thermoelectrics @ Fraunhofer IPM

Thin film thermoelectric generators

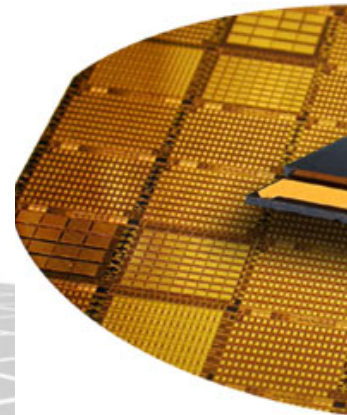
First Si-wafer based module  
fabrication based on  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3$

1998 - 2006

Now:  
Spin-off Company:

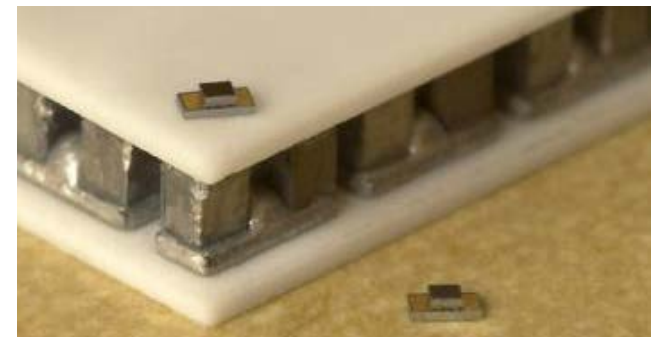


Micropelt device  
before soldering



Thermoelectric legs  
structured on wafer

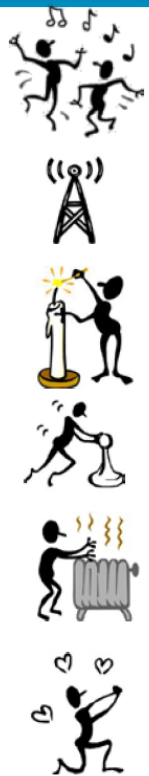
device height  
~440 $\mu\text{m}$   
leg height  
~20 $\mu\text{m}$   
80 leg pairs/mm<sup>2</sup>  
Output power:  
~1 mW @ $\Delta T$  ~10-15K  
output voltage:  
~0,5-1 Volt  
 $\Delta T_{\text{max}}$  @85°C ~60K





# Energy harvesting basics

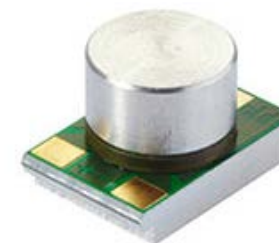
## Ambient micro Energy Harvesting sources



Source	Technology	Energy	Remarks
Acoustic (100dB)	Piezo	950 nW/cm <sup>3</sup>	Little research done
RF-waves	Antennas	< 1 μW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Near field only
Light	Solar cell	100 mW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Sunlight
	Solar cell	100 μW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Light
Switching operation	Electrodynamic	50 μJ/N	50μW EnOcean PTM-200-module
Temperature	Seebeck	60 μW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Standard elements
	Seebeck	710 μW/cm <sup>2</sup>	Micropelt @ 3K differential
Vibration	Piezo	4 μW/cm <sup>3</sup>	Human motion (Hz)
	Piezo	800 μW/cm <sup>3</sup>	Machine motion (kHz)

May 2011 -University of Hamburg Harburg

**micropelt**



Basic harvesting element

### TGP-755

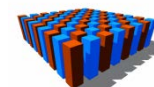
MPG-D755  
(~ 14 sqmm)

110 mV / K

300 Ω

18 K/W

15 x 10 x 9.3 mm



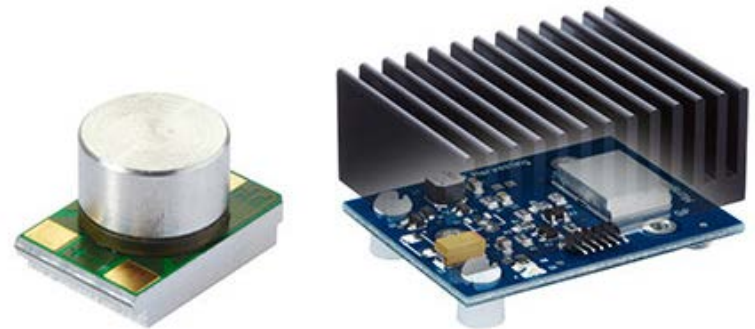
# Examples

Thermoelectrically-driven sensors in domestic homes

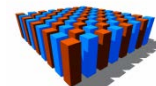
## Thermoelectrically powered CO<sub>2</sub>-sensor

Combination of:

- SST CO<sub>2</sub>-sensor:  
CO<sub>2</sub>-sensor with 3.5mW power consumption
- Micropelts TE-Core/RF harvesting module with RF-module
- Energy-autarkic CO<sub>2</sub>-sensor for monitoring air quality

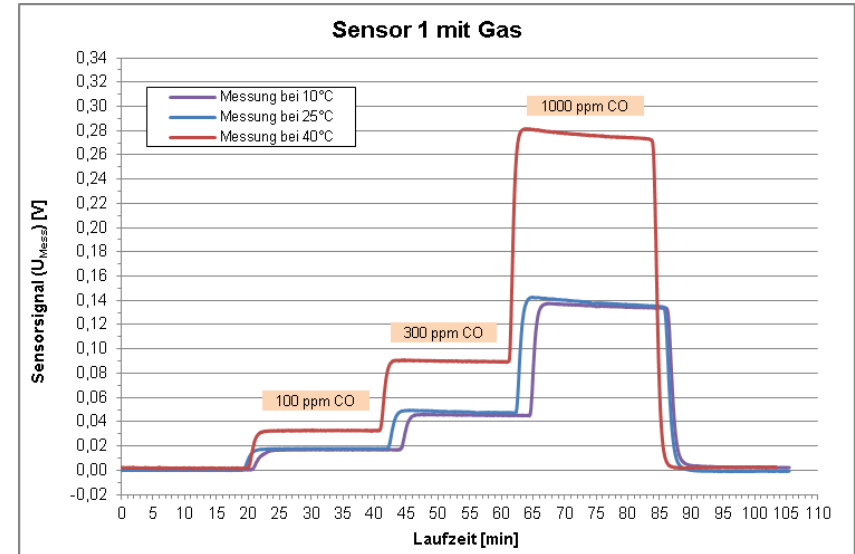


Fraunhofer + micropelt  
IPM

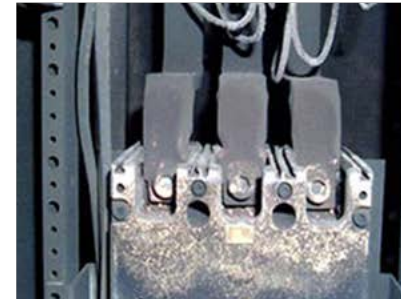
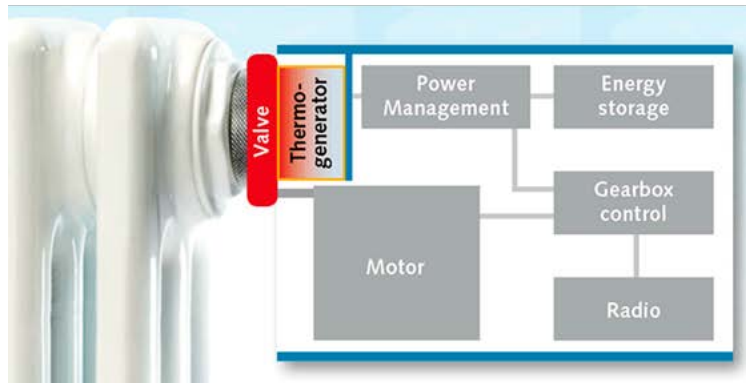


# Self-powered gas sensors

- Steel slag transport train: Monitor CO concentration and train position
- SensRFID-System with integrated thermogenerator, two gas sensors and RFID-transponder



# Some more application examples (Micropelt)



- iTRV: Intelligent thermostat saves heating costs
- mNODE: Temperature monitoring for busbars

**micropelt**

# Wireless PA sensor

 ISA100 Wireless



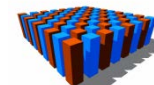
## Maintenance-free PA sensor

- Temperature, pressure, flow, .....
- WirelessHART, ISA100, Zigbee based
- No battery change over lifetime sensor

**micropelt**



Article PROZESSAUTOMATION & MESSTECHNIK | ENERGY HARVESTING  
<http://www.pua24.net/pi/index.php?StoryID=41&articleID=211898> May 2012



# Summary

## ■ Introduction

## ■ Self powered sensor systems (IPM)

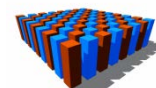
- Hands-on demonstrator
- Roast temperature sensor
- Coffee pot demonstrator
- Aircraft structural monitoring
- Environmental monitoring with temporal  $\Delta T$

## ■ Energy harvesting and self powering at high temperatures (IPM)

- Adapted Skutterudite modules
- Harvesting / voltage conversion / storage system

## ■ Self powered sensor systems (IPM / Micropelt / other)

- Self-powered gas sensors, temperature sensors, RFID systems, heating valves etc.



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# Good ideas for better solutions

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**[www.ipm.fraunhofer.de/en](http://www.ipm.fraunhofer.de/en)**

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