

**JORNADA D'ECOSISTEMA DE TRANSFERÈNCIA
I INNOVACIÓ EN ENERGIA**



3D Printing Solid Oxide Fuel Cells

Nanoionics & Fuel Cells Group

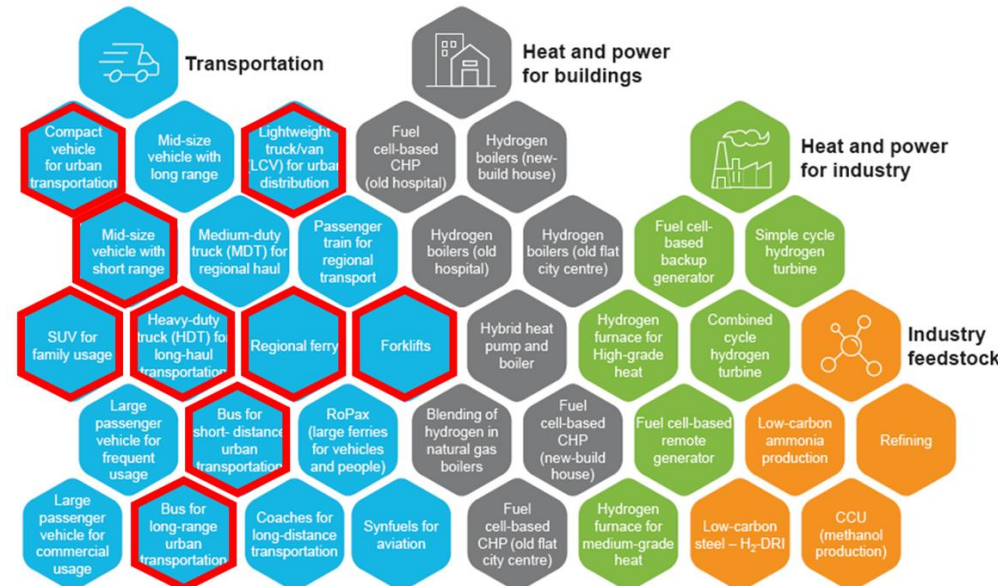
Institut de Recerca en Energia de Catalunya



Barcelona 21st June 2023

Marc Torrell Faro

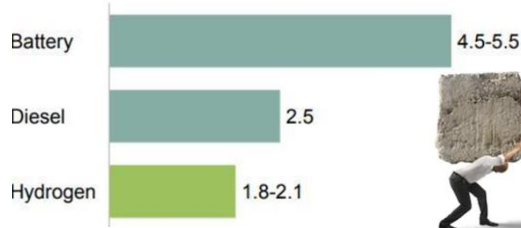
CHALLENGES AND MARKET



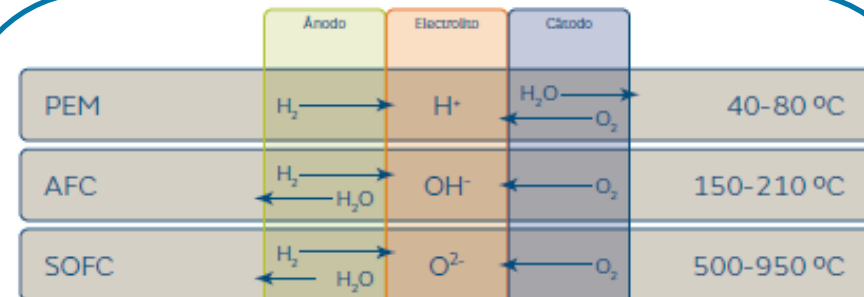
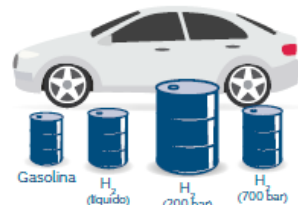
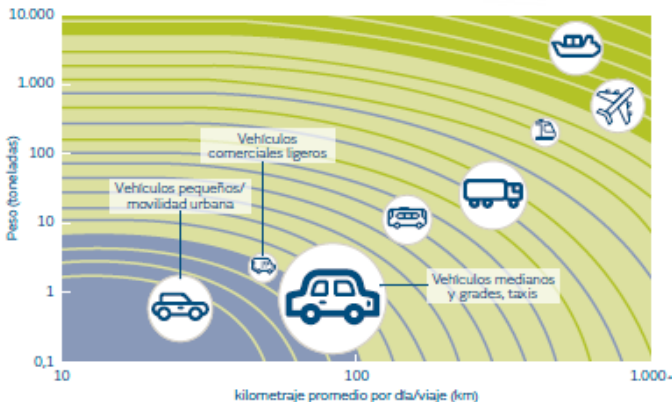
- EU takes **H₂ as key energy vector** for the decarbonisation.
- Renewable energy based scenario **requires EFFICIENT hydrogen technologies**
- **EU needs new actors producing and developing Fuel Cells & Electrolysers**
- **Heavy transport sector will be decarbonised by the use of Hydrogen Technologies**

CHALLENGES AND MARKET

Powertrain weight comparison, in tons (18-ton tractor unit of a semitruck)



Hydrogen tanks have **10 times** the energy density (by weight) than batteries¹



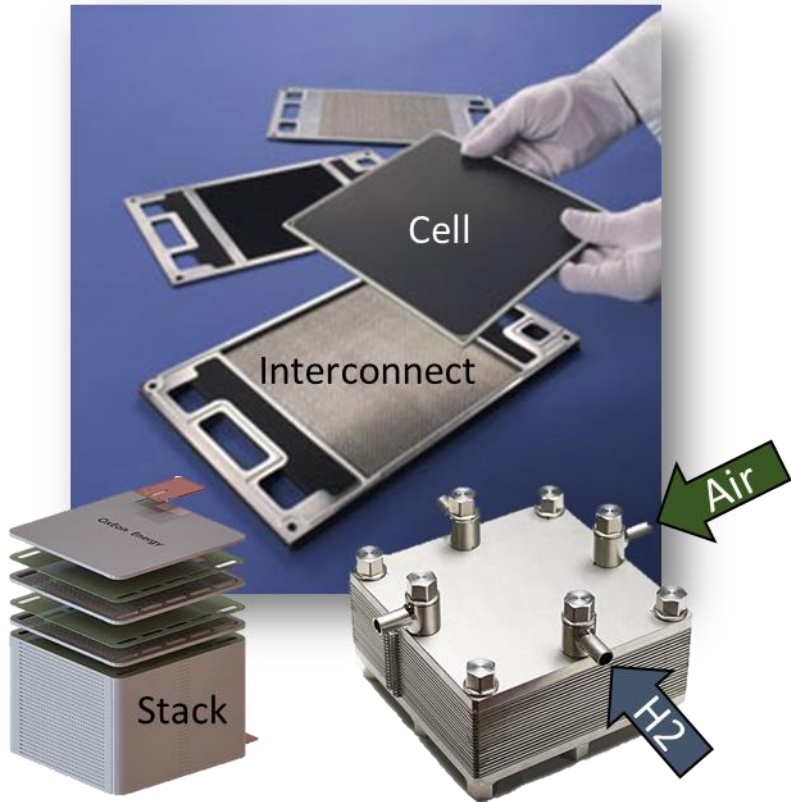
Tipos de pilas de combustible					
	PEFC	AFC	PAFC	MCFC	SOFC
Combustible utilizado	Hidrógeno o metano	Hidrógeno	Hidrógeno	Metano	Hidrógeno o metano
Rango de potencia (kW)	1-100	1-100	5-400	300-3.000	1-2.000
Eficiencia (%) H ₂ /CH ₄	60/40	60/-	40/-	-/50	70/60
Temperaturas de operación (°C)	40-80	65-220	150-210	600-700	600-900
Aplicación	Transporte Electricidad Cogeneración Generación distribuida	Electricidad Aplicaciones espaciales	Electricidad Cogeneración	Generación estacionaria a gran escala	Electricidad Cogeneración Generación distribuida

- *PEM is nowadays the adopted solution due to better mechanical properties for mobile applications.*
- *SOFC are ceramic based devices working at high temperatures presenting higher efficiencies.*
- *Ceramic manufacturing has been limited to planar and tubular cells.*

SOLUTION/PRODUCT

State of the Art in SOFC:

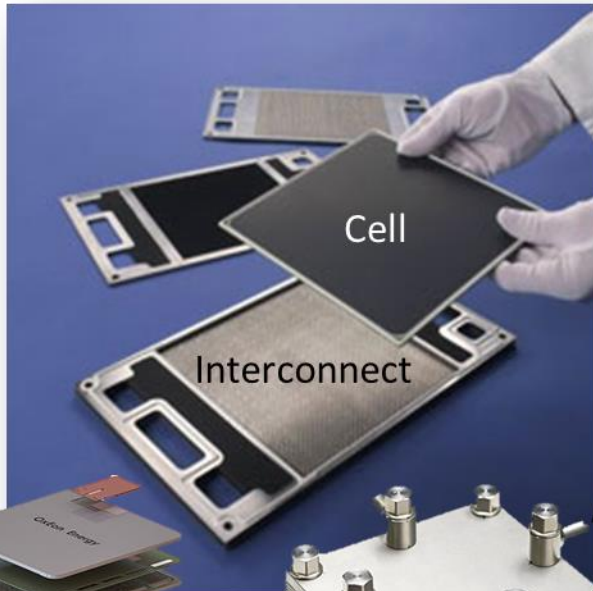
- Flat ceramic cells (ESCs/FESCs)
- Complex metallic interconnects



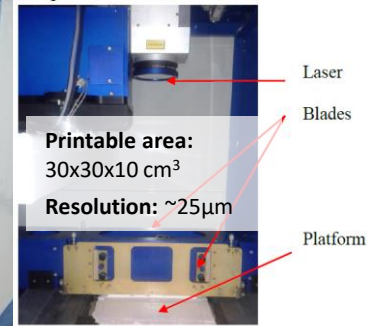
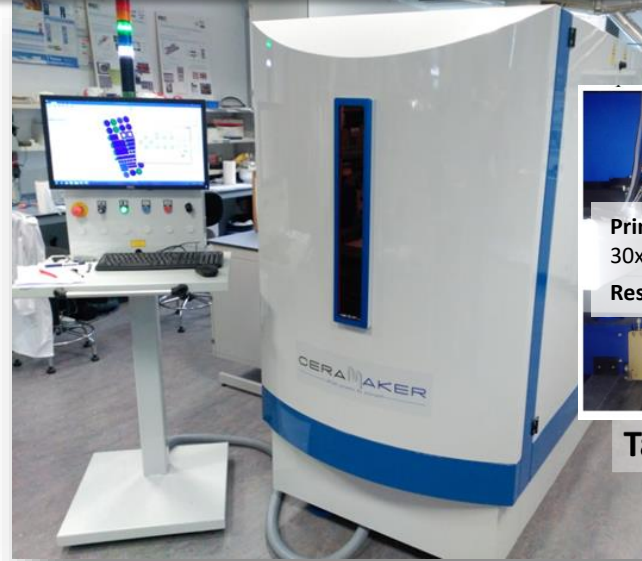
SOLUTION/PRODUCT

State of the Art in SOFC:

- Flat ceramic cells (ESCs/FESCs)
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Disruptive solution based on 3D printing of ceramics by SLA

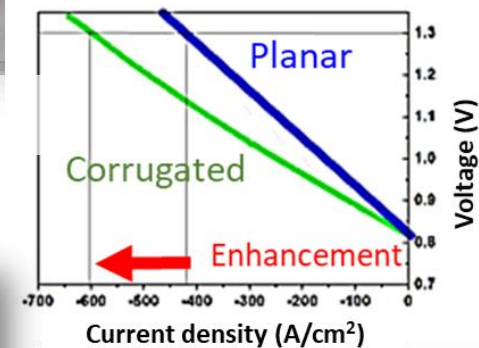
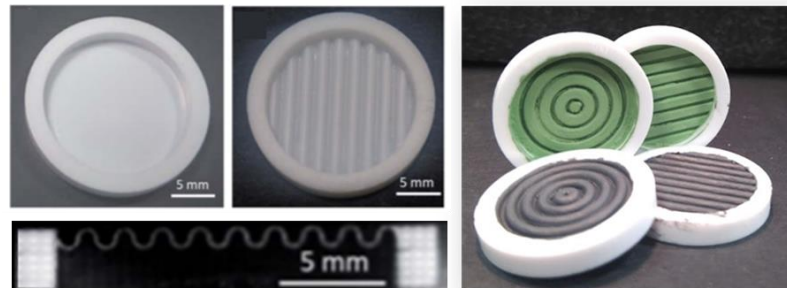


Printable area:
30x30x10 cm³
Resolution: ~25µm

- INDUSTRIAL SLA printing:**
- Layer-by-layer (doctor blade)
 - Laser photo-polymerization

Table-top factory

Enhanced performance



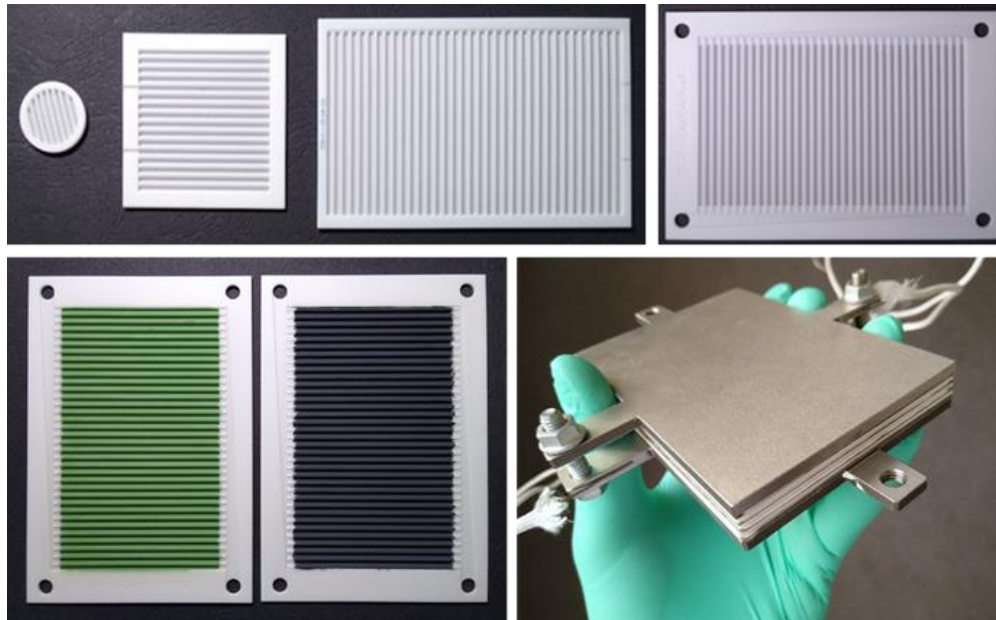
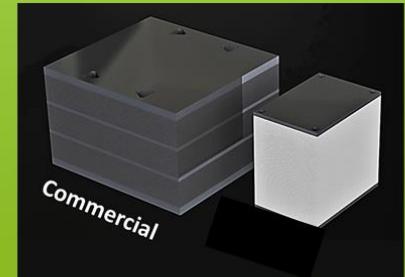
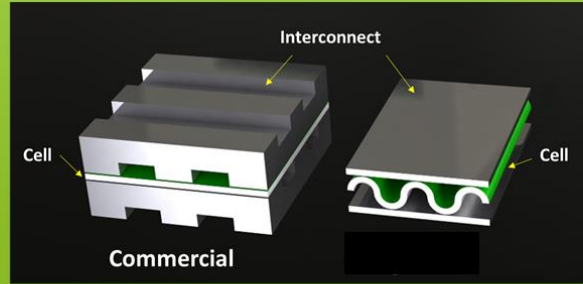
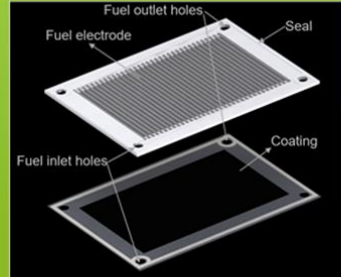
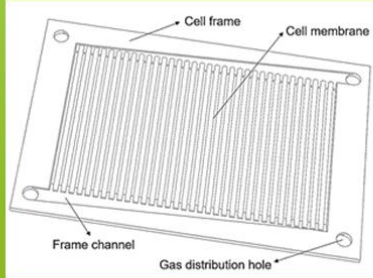
SOLUTION/PRODUCT

Game-changing ultra-compact SOEC stack...

3D cell with functionality

Flat and thin interconnects

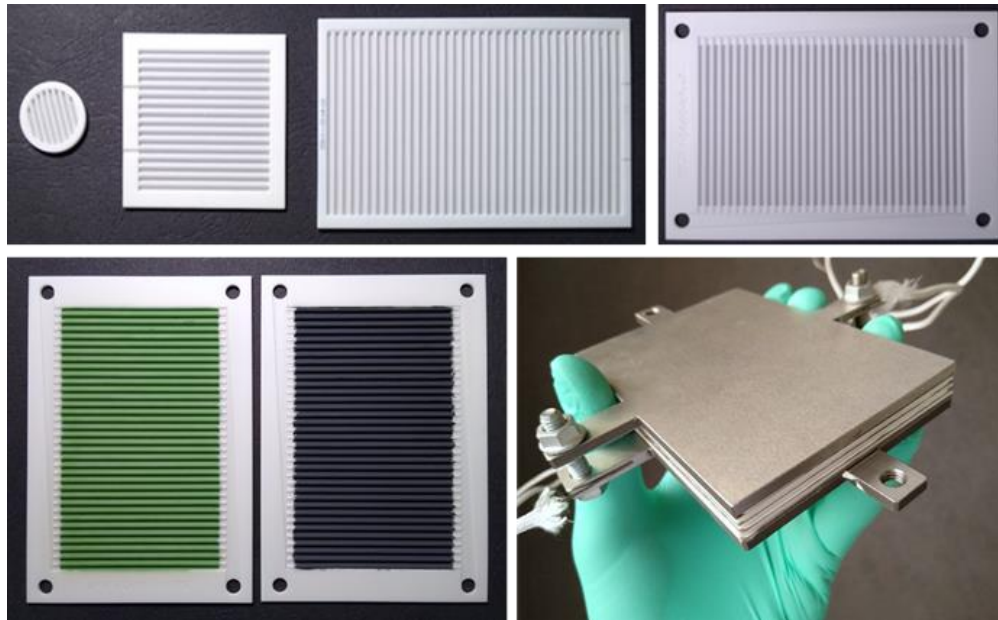
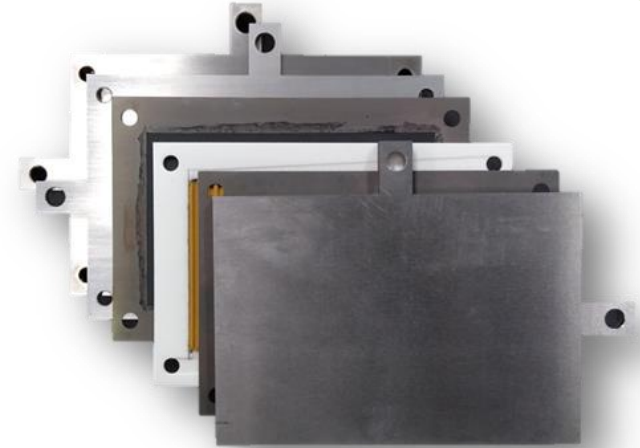
Simple stacking, more active area and great compactness



TRL 4-5 → Market deployment 2028
Based on SoA Materials and high MRL

SOLUTION/PRODUCT

- ❑ *Higher active area/ Higher performance*
- ❑ *Better mechanical properties*
- ❑ *Flexible design and fabrication*
- ❑ *Higher volumetric and gravimetric power density*



TRL 4-5 → Market deployment 2028
Based on SoA Materials and high MRL

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The main added value of **3D-POWER** is to develop an **innovative and zero-emission portable power source** suitable for mass customization. The 3D-POWER technology represents a new paradigm for the use of **highly efficient solid oxide fuel cells** in portable applications realized with **emergent 3D printing technologies**.

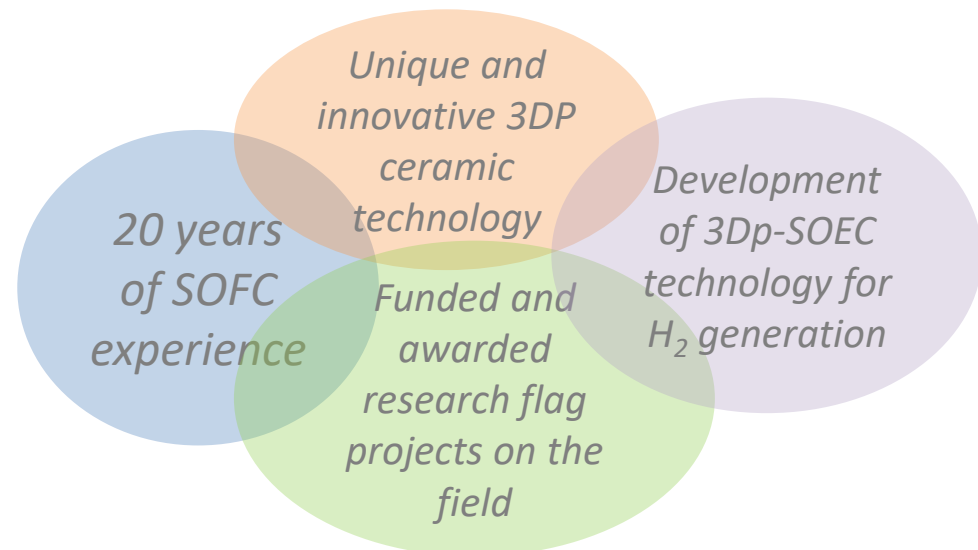
The developed and deployment of these **novel 3D energy concepts** will result in a new family of **standalone power sources with superior performance capabilities**, quick start-up and high specific power and energy density suitable for portable applications.

- Three IPR (Patents) on the field

EP3754768A1 **Granted**

EP22383154 **Filled**

EP4138165 **Filled**



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ICREA Professor
Group Leader



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Business developer



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SOC & 3D activities coordinator



TEAM

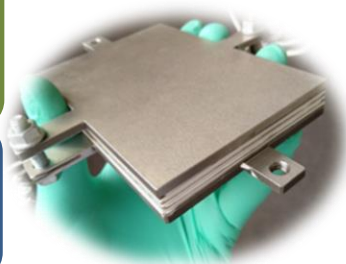
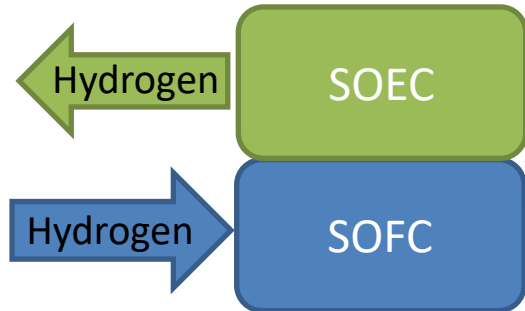


...leading a 35 researchers team

Collaborators & Projects

SOC Reversible technology

Energy Storage



Power Generation

SOEC >20M€ approved investment

SOFC Spin-off foundation (on going)

- Partners
- Projects
- Market

BACKGROUND

NEEDS



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