



**Thin Film Solutions**



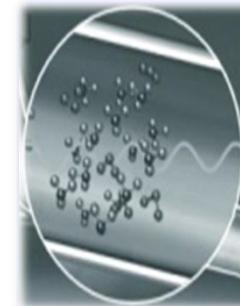
Bulk and  
special gas  
distribution



Service and  
operation



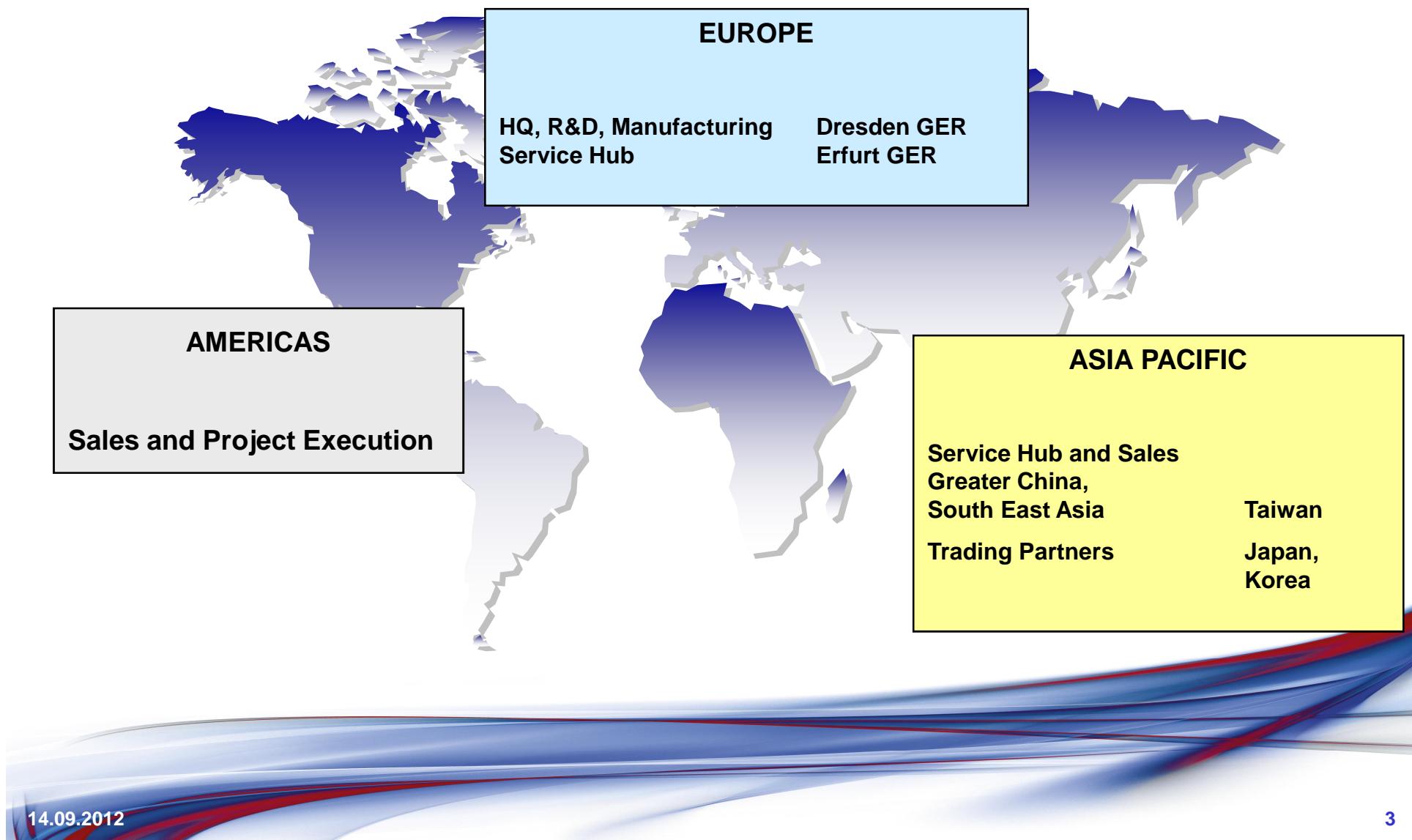
Chemical supply  
systems



Engineering,  
design and  
development



Process vacuum  
and exhaust systems



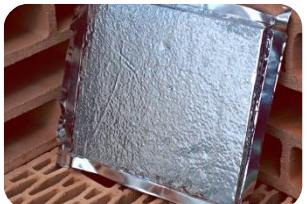
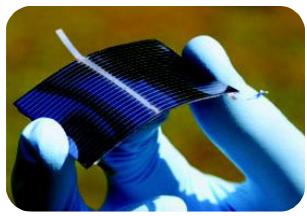
- HiBarSens
- Special equipment for thin film deposition (excerpt...)
  - DEZn supply for ZnO TCO layers
  - TMAI supply for AlOx backside passivation
  - PECVD for barrier layers – HMDSO...
  - Enabling III/V on Si
  - Special liquid Indium-MO source supply systems for IGZO
  - LED supply systems for MO-III (TMGa)
  - ....



**HiBar ens**  
**HBS 18-1**

Water Vapor  
Permeation  
Measurement System

# Summary: Starting point



**Food industry**

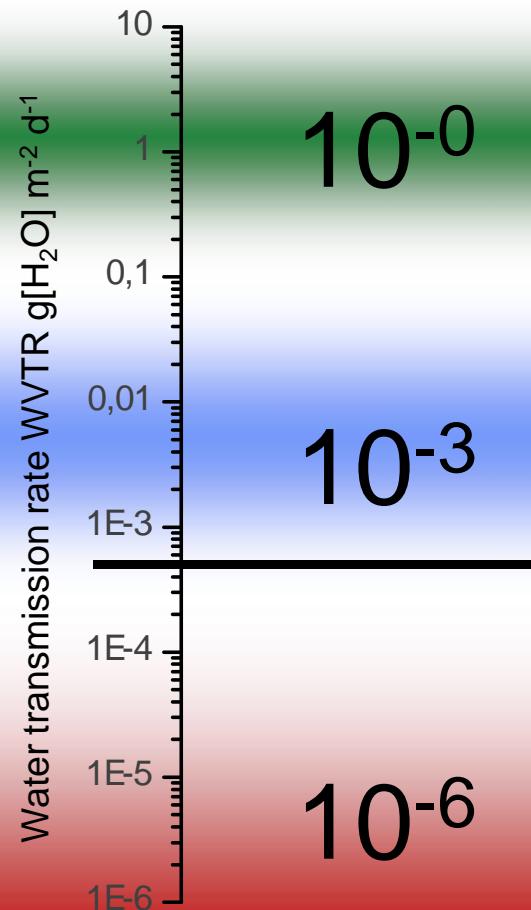
**Pharmaceutical industry**

**Anorganic solar cells**

**Organic solar cells**

**Vacuum isolation panele**

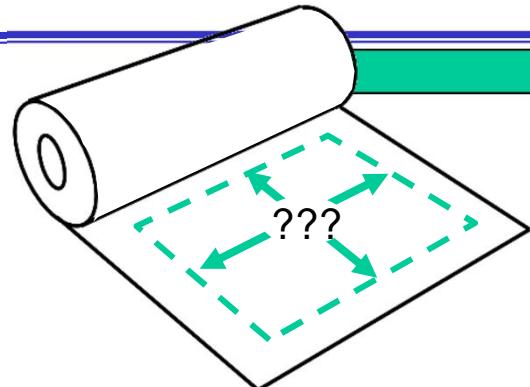
**Organic LED**



currently  
measurable  
by  
standard  
methods

?

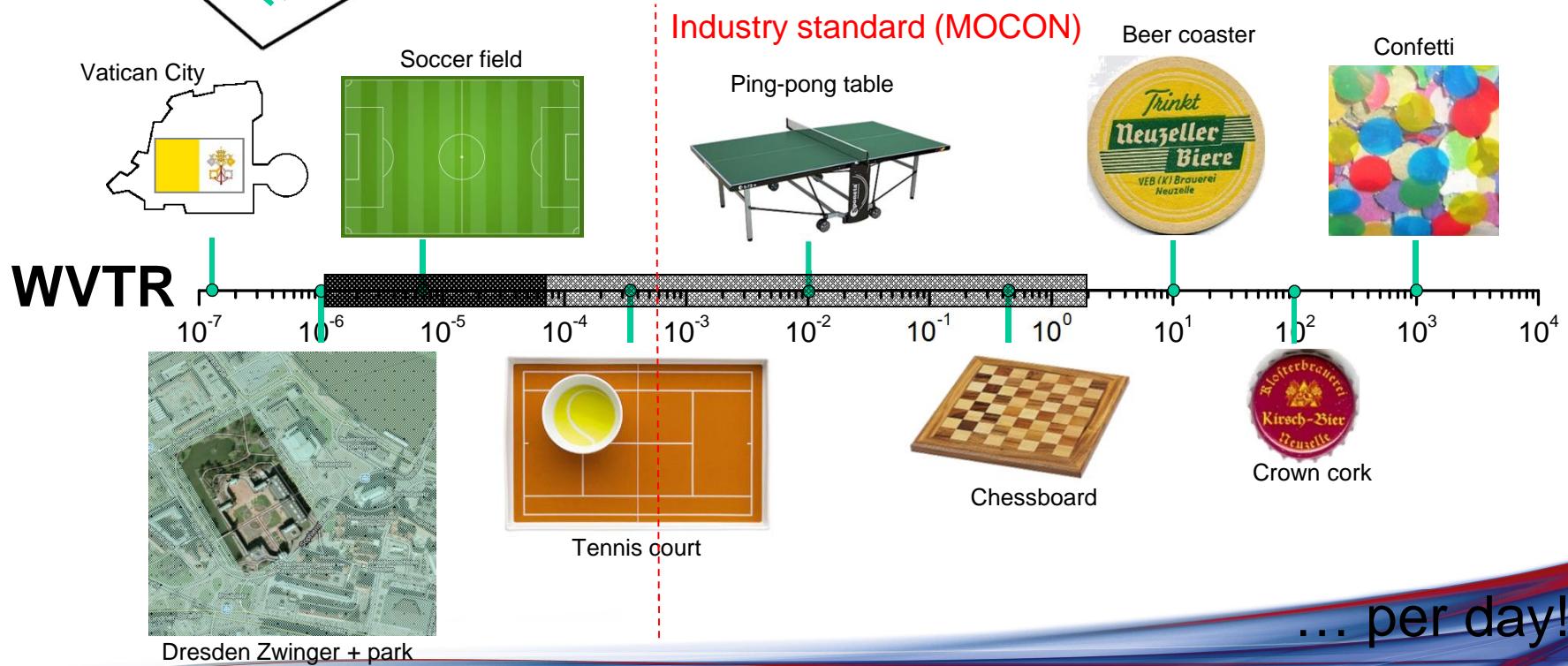
WVTR of  $10^x \text{ g m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$  is equivalent to:



One water drop ...

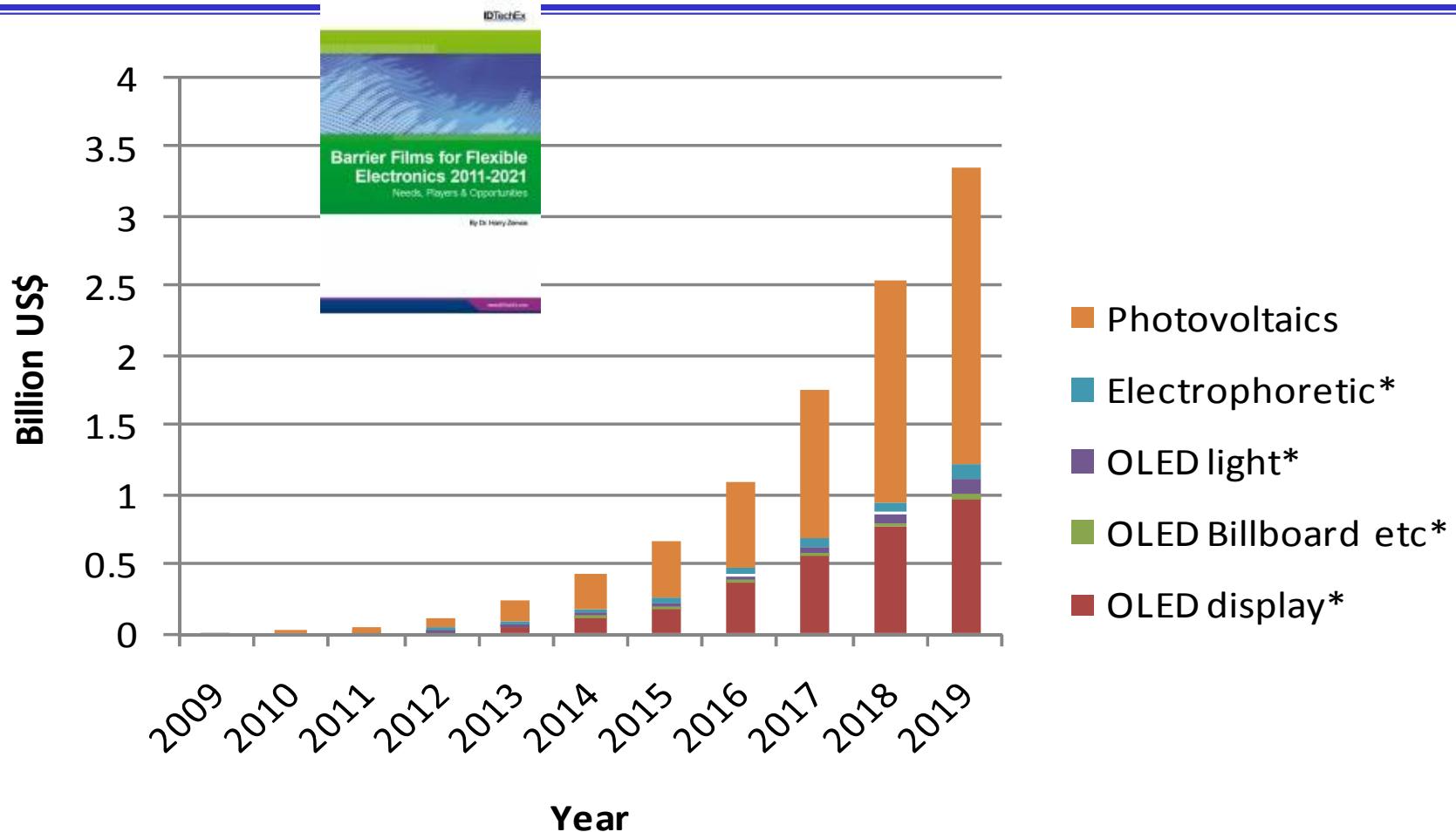


... at a sample area of:



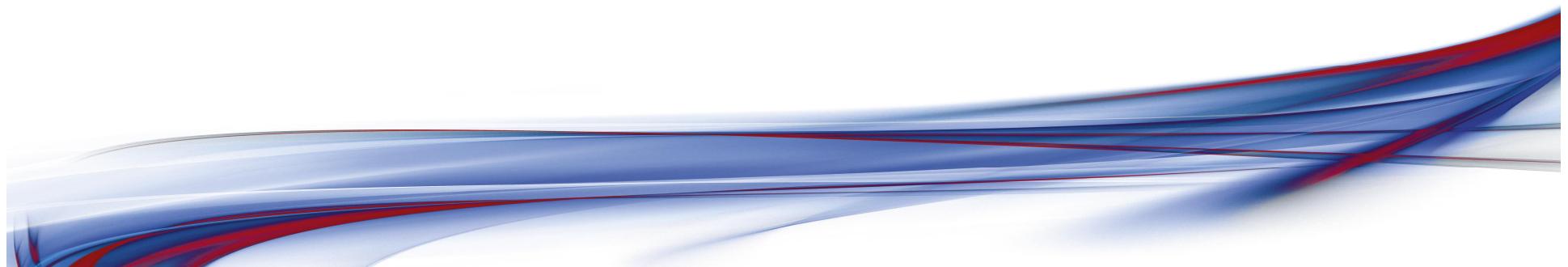
... per day!

# Market forecast for ultra barrier films



Harry Zervos: "Barrier Films for Flexible Electronics: Needs, Players & Opportunities". IDTechEx Ltd., December 2008)

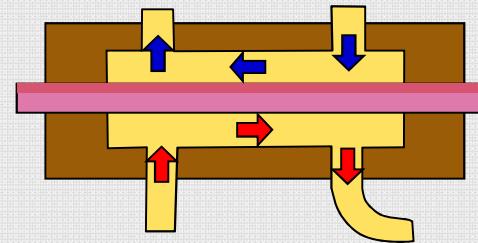
# BASICS



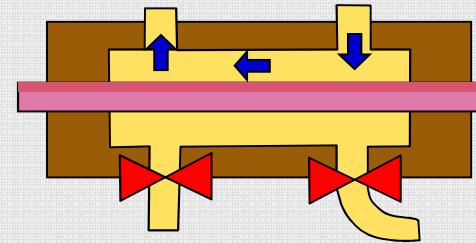
# Measuring modes: dynamic vs. static

- Measuring setup:

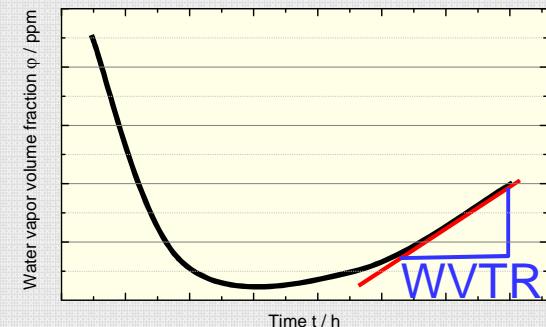
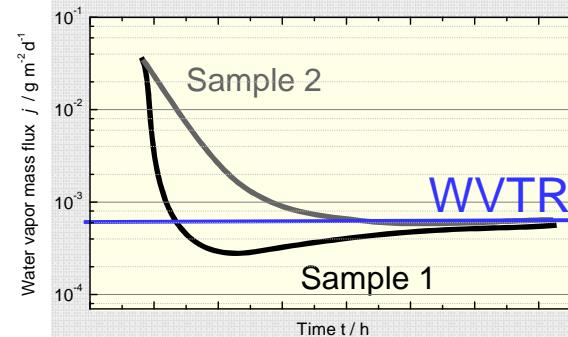
dynamic (isostatic)



static (quasi isostatic)



- Typical chart



- Calculation of WVTR

$$\boxed{\text{WVTR} = \frac{\dot{V}_{\text{Purge}} \cdot M_{H_2O}}{R \cdot T \cdot A_{\text{sample}}} \cdot p \cdot \frac{\varphi}{1-\varphi}}$$

$$\boxed{\text{WVTR} - \dot{n}_{\text{sorp}} = \frac{V_{\text{cell}}}{R \cdot T} \cdot \frac{M_{H_2O}}{A_{\text{sample}}} \cdot \frac{p \cdot \Delta\varphi}{\Delta t}}$$

$\varphi$  ... Water vapor volume fraction (measured by LDS)

- Tunable diode laser absorption spectroscopy (TDLAS)

Limit of Detection LOD( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ):

100 ppb m

- Measuring setup:

- Sample size
- Chamber volume
- Accumulation time
- Purge flow
- Optical path length

	dynamic	static
■ Sample size		100 cm <sup>2</sup>
■ Chamber volume		0,1 l
■ Accumulation time	-	10 h
■ Purge flow	0,01 slm	-
■ Optical path length		1 m

↓                      ↓

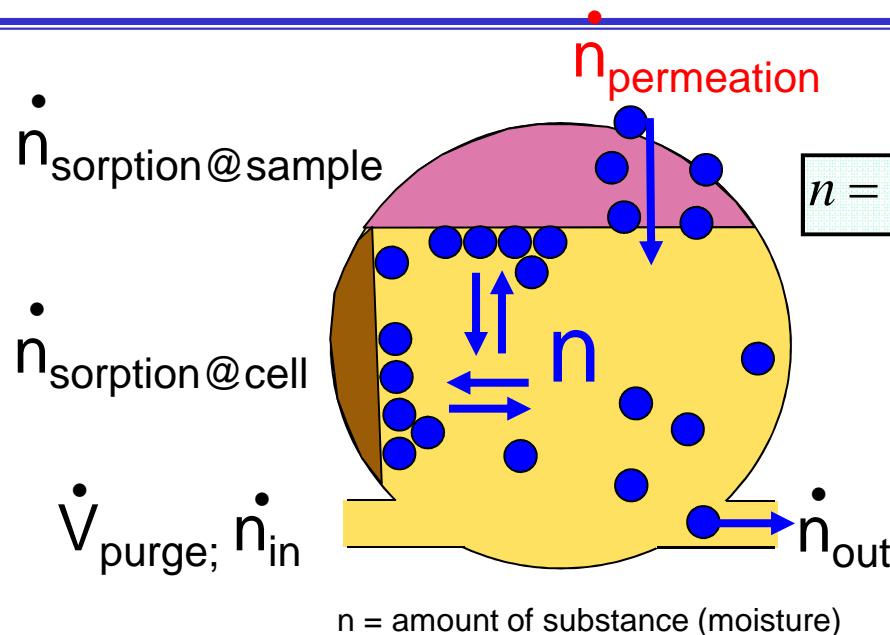
$\sim 10^{-5} \text{ g m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$
--

$\sim 10^{-6} \text{ g m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$
--

!Theoretical estimations!

- WVTR  $< 10^{-4} \text{ g m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$  are measurable

# Balance equation for dynamic



$$\text{General balance equation}$$

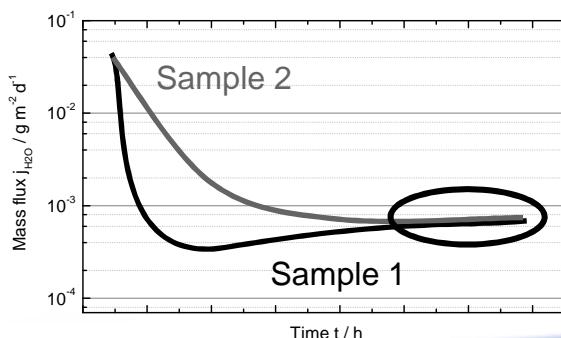
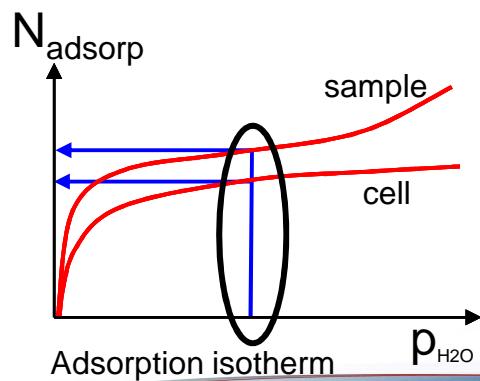
$$n = (\dot{n}_{\text{in}} + \dot{n}_{\text{perm}} + \dot{n}_{\text{sorpt}} + \dot{n}_{\text{leak}} - \dot{n}_{\text{out}}) \cdot \Delta t + n_o$$

Steady-state conditions

$$\dot{n}_{\text{sorption}} = \dot{n}_{\text{desorption}} - \dot{n}_{\text{adsorption}} = 0$$

$$p - p_0 = 0$$

$$n - n_0 = (\dot{n}_{\text{perm}} - \dot{n}_{\text{out}}) \cdot \Delta t = \text{const.}$$

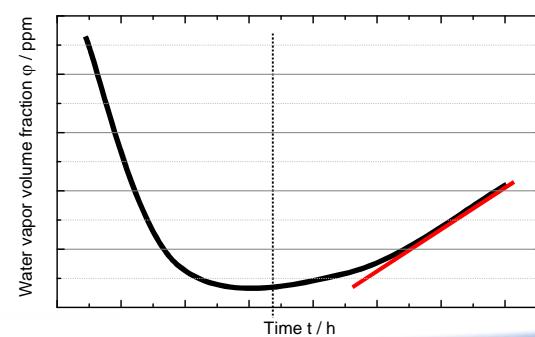
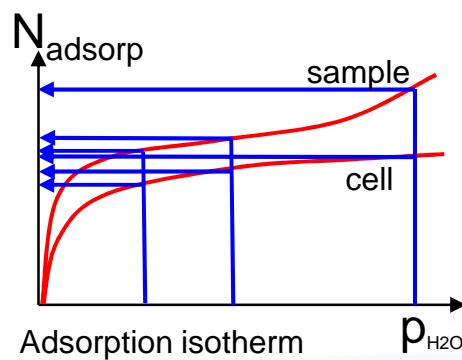
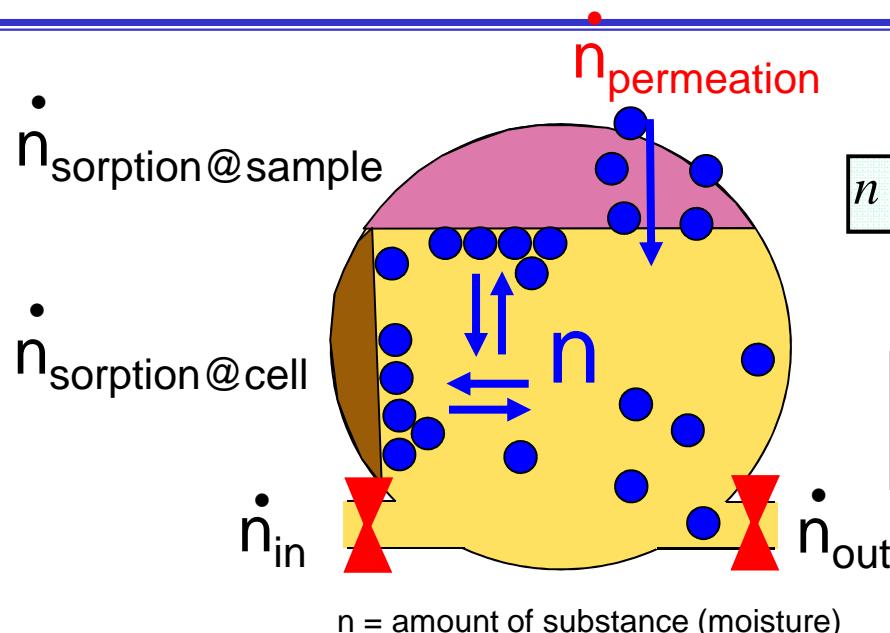


Calculation of WVTR

$$n = (\dot{n}_{\text{perm}} - \dot{n}_{\text{out}}) \cdot \Delta t + n_o$$

$$\text{WVTR} = \frac{\dot{V}_{\text{Purge}} \cdot M_{H_2O} \cdot p \cdot \varphi}{R \cdot T \cdot A_{\text{Sample}}} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \varphi}$$

# Balance equation for static setup



General balance equation

$$n = (\dot{n}_{\text{in}} + \dot{n}_{\text{perm}} + \dot{n}_{\text{sorpt}} + \dot{n}_{\text{leak}} - \dot{n}_{\text{out}}) \cdot \Delta t + n_o$$

„non constant“ conditions

$$\dot{n}_{\text{in}} = \dot{n}_{\text{out}} = 0; \quad \dot{n}_{\text{perm}} = \text{const}$$

$$\dot{n}_{\text{sorption}} = \dot{n}_{\text{adsorption}} - \dot{n}_{\text{desorption}} > 0; \quad p - p_0 > 0$$

Calculation of WVTR

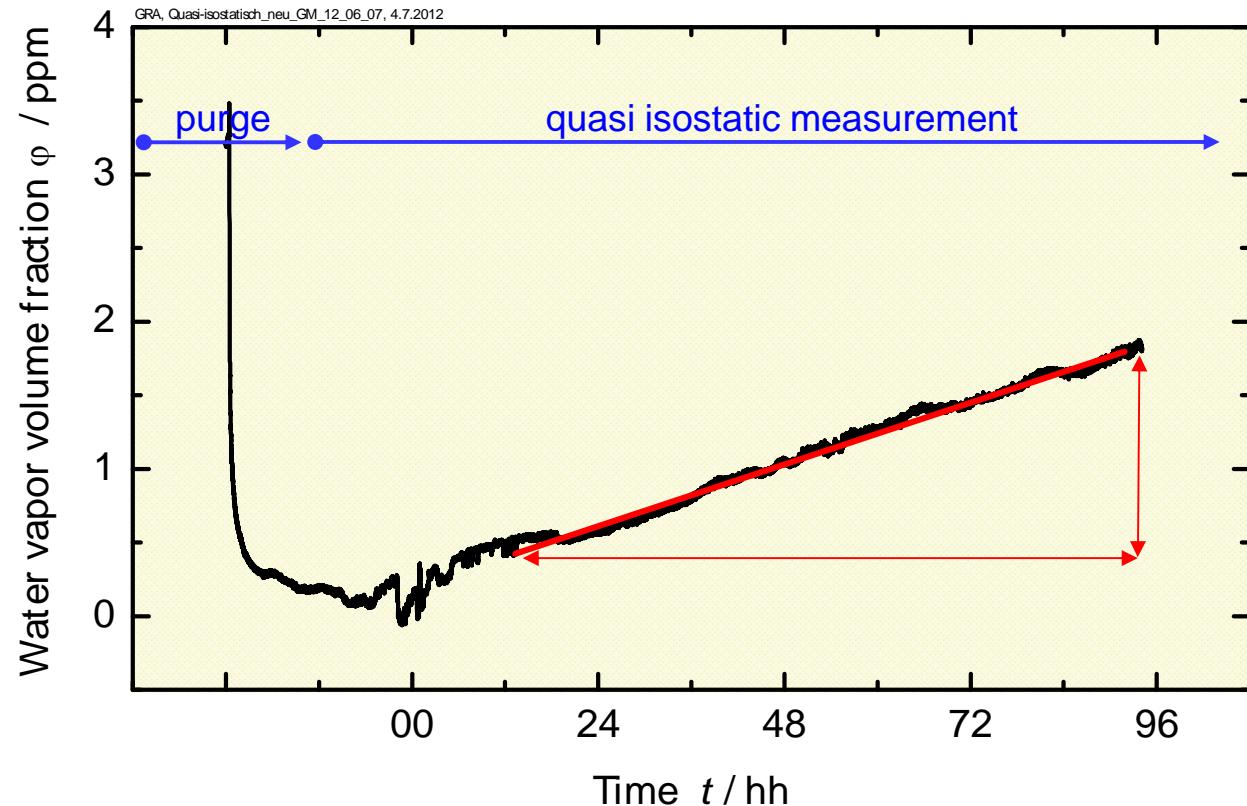
$$n = (\dot{n}_{\text{perm}} + \dot{n}_{\text{sorpt}}) \cdot \Delta t + n_o$$

$$\text{WVTR} = \dot{n}_{\text{perm}} \frac{M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}}{A_{\text{Sample}}} = \frac{\Delta n}{\Delta t} \cdot \frac{M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}}{A_{\text{Sample}}}$$

$$\text{WVTR} = \frac{V_{\text{cell}}}{R \cdot T} \cdot \frac{M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}}{A_{\text{Sample}}} \cdot \frac{p \cdot \Delta \varphi}{\Delta t}$$

$$\text{WVTR} - \dot{n}_{\text{sorpt}} = \frac{V_{\text{cell}}}{R \cdot T} \cdot \frac{M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}}{A_{\text{Sample}}} \cdot \frac{p \cdot \Delta \varphi}{\Delta t}$$

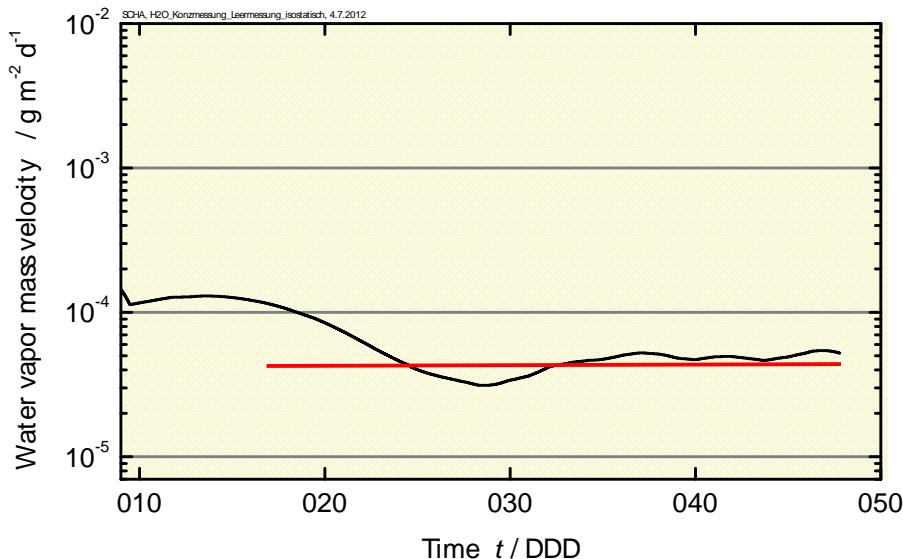
# Static measurement: Background level



Measured background level  
(sample: stainless steel)  
@ 38°C / 90% r.H.

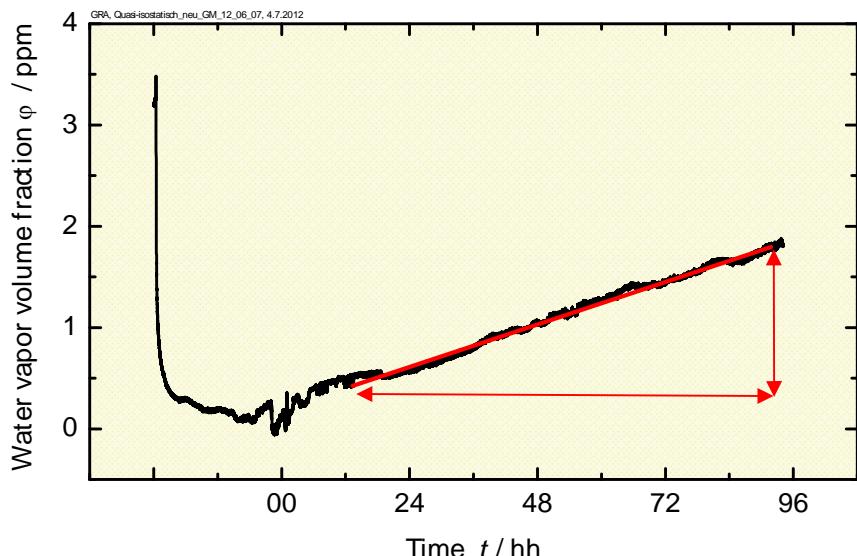
$$WVTR_{qis} = 2,5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ g m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$$

**Dynamic setup**



$$\text{WVTR}_{\text{qis}} = 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ g m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$$

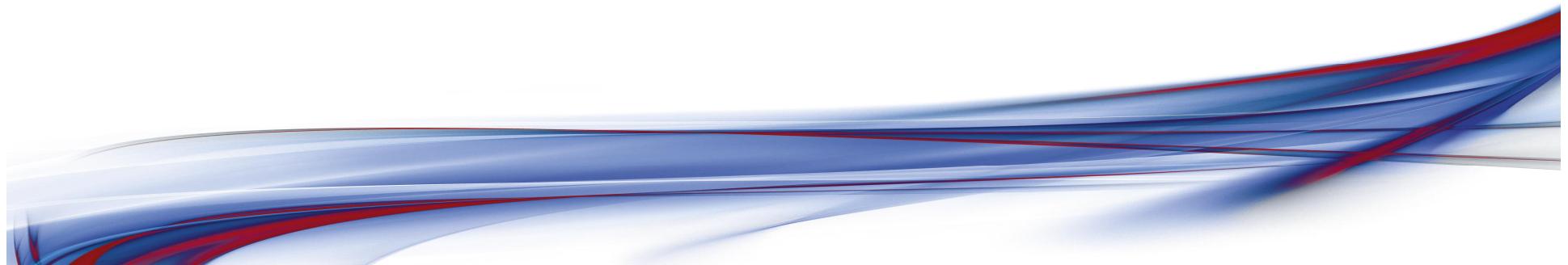
**Static setup**

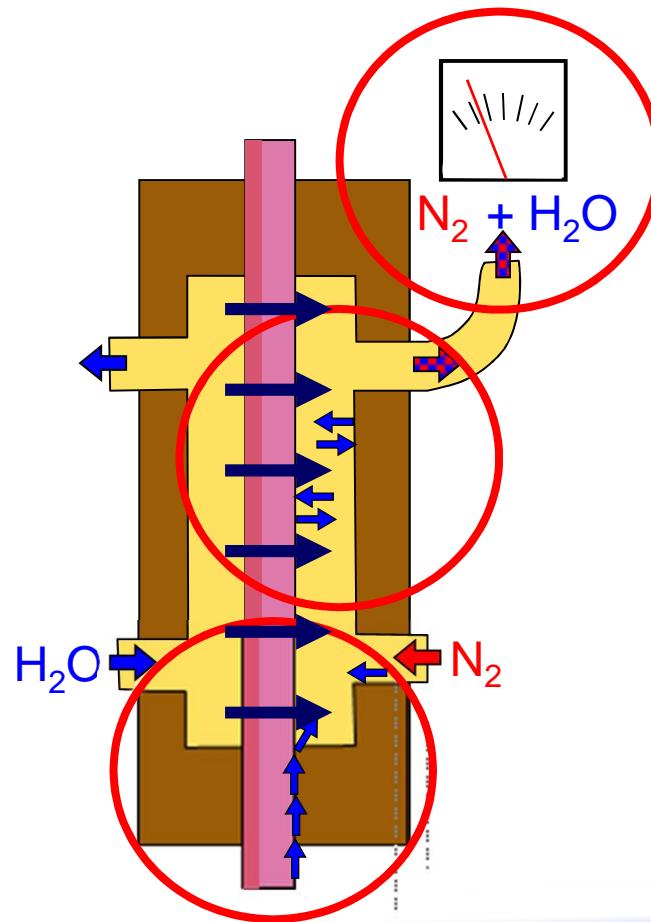


$$\text{WVTR}_{\text{qis}} = 2,5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ g m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$$

Measured background level (sample: stainless steel) @ 38°C / 90% r. H.

# PRODUCT IMPLEMENTATION



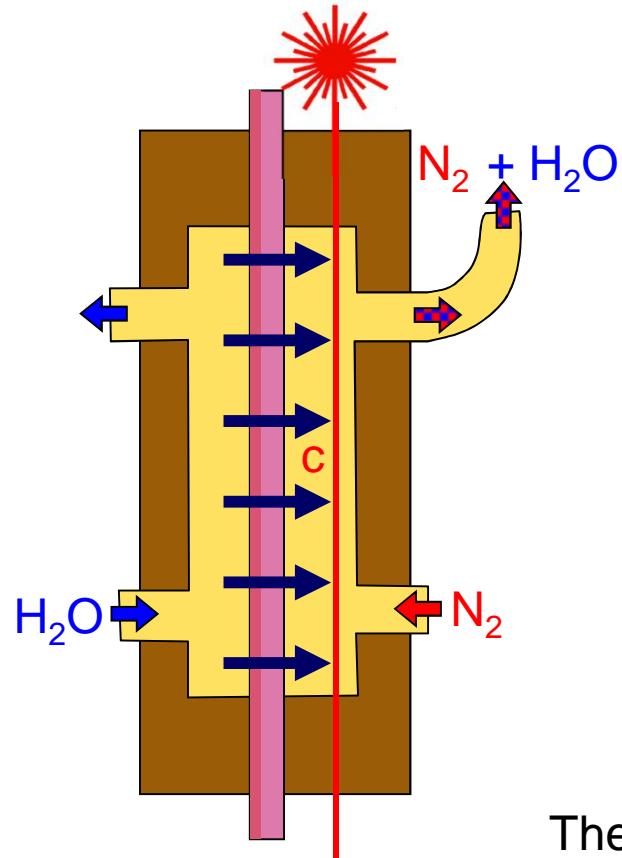


Sensor sensitivity

Adsorption / desorption of moisture

Sealing of the test cell

# Parameters for tuning the sensitivity



- Optical path length
- Carrier gas flow → c
- Sample area → c
- Selection of absorption line

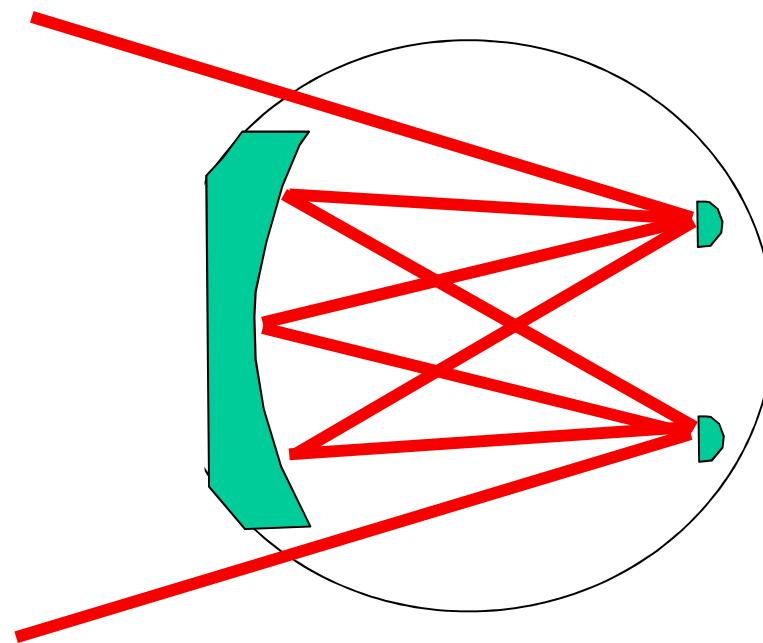
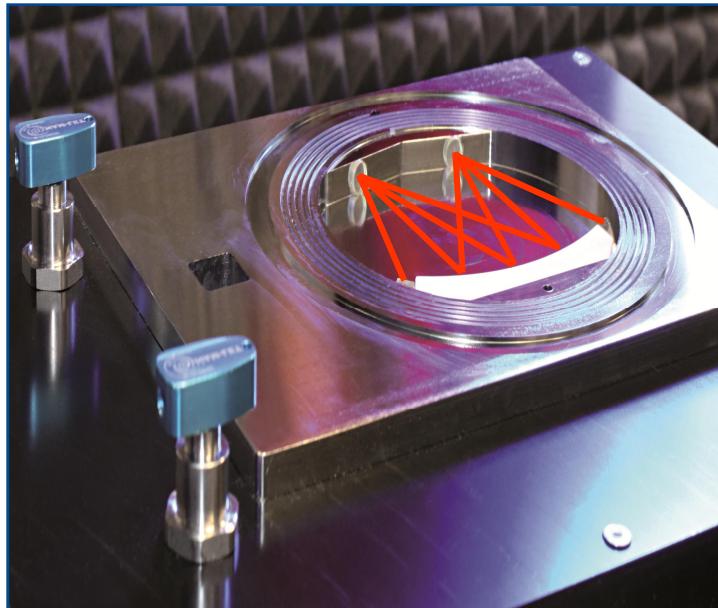
$$-\ln \frac{I(\lambda)}{I_o(\lambda)} = \varepsilon_\lambda \cdot c \cdot d$$

Theoretical sensitivity

**LOD = 150 ppb m**

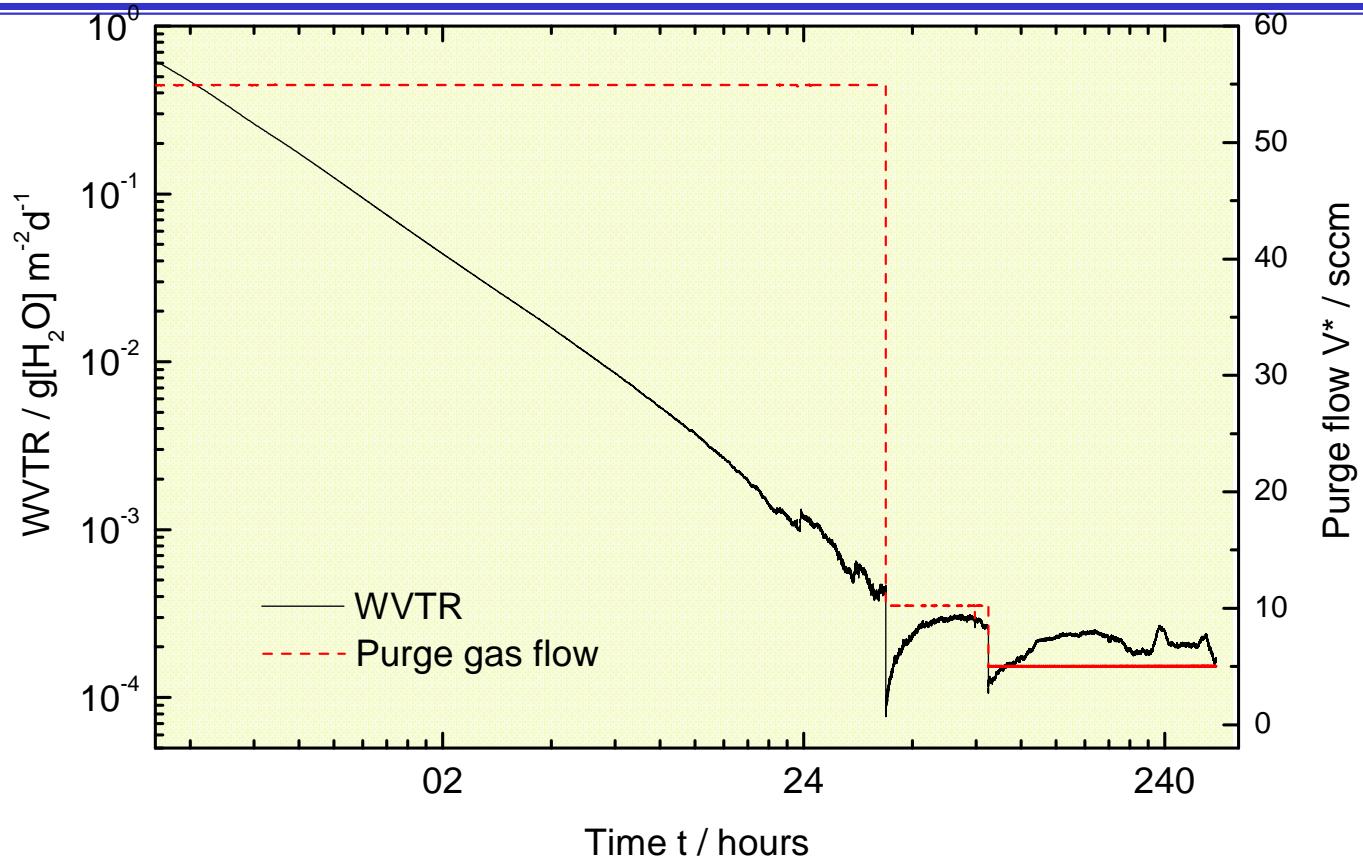
dynamic setup

## Tuning sensitivity: optical path length



Multipath design in HiBarSens®  
2 m optical path length by multi 20 reflections

## Tuning sensitivity: Carrier gas flow



Carrier gas flow  
3 sccm - 50 sccm

Boost the sensitivity  
by factor 16!

## Sensor sensitivity: the laser as a sensor

Further advantages

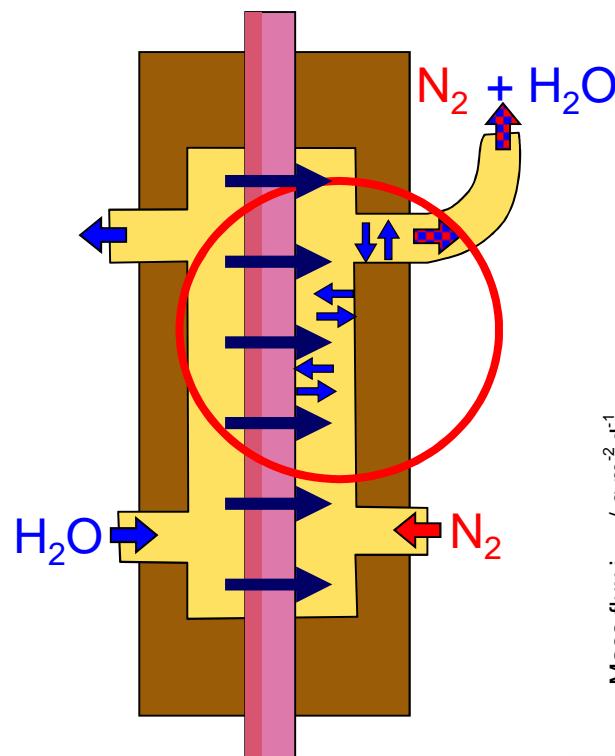


- High dynamic range: ppb - % ( $10^{-5} - 1 \text{ g m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$ )
- Very high selectivity
- Immune to high concentrated moisture
- Long time stable, no drift, no hysteresis
- Low-maintenance
- Change of target permeate by change of the laser diode
- Allows the realization of a compact design
- Easy to use

Tunable Diode Absorption Spectroscopy (TDLAS) is a non-invasive, high sensitive, high selective sensor for detection of moisture traces!

# Sensitivity of WVTR measurement

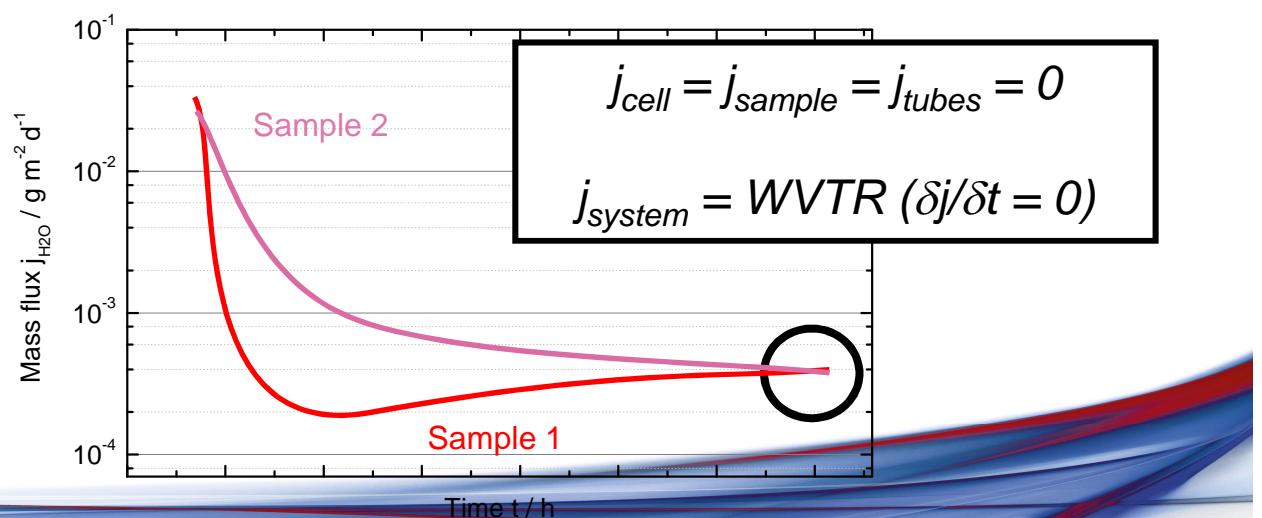
## Adsorption / desorption of moisture



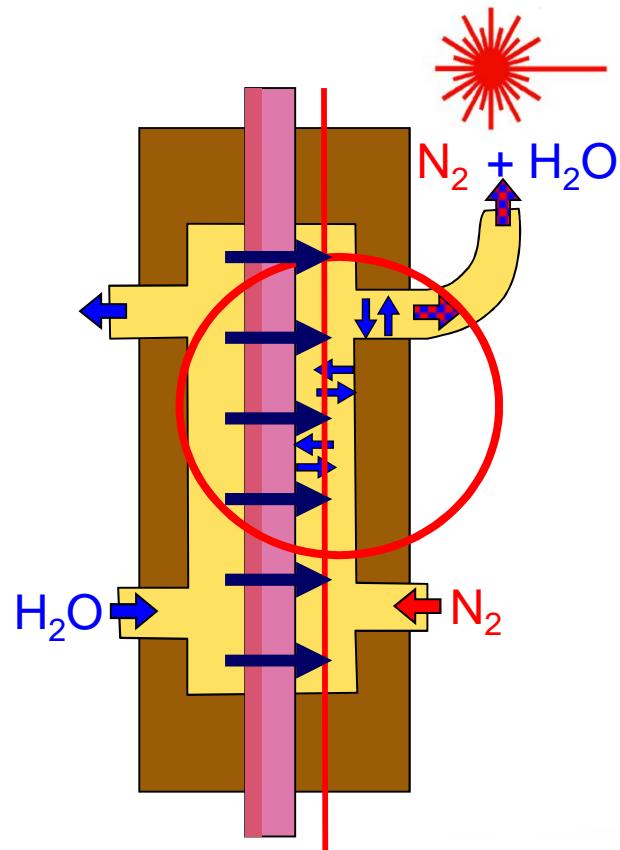
$$j_{\text{system}} = \text{WVTR} + j_{\text{cell}} + j_{\text{sample}} + j_{\text{tubes}}$$

Mass flux

$$j_x \left[ \frac{g}{m^2 \cdot d} \right] = \frac{\Delta m_{H_2O} [g]}{A_x [m^2] \cdot \Delta t [d]}$$



## Adsorption / desorption of moisture



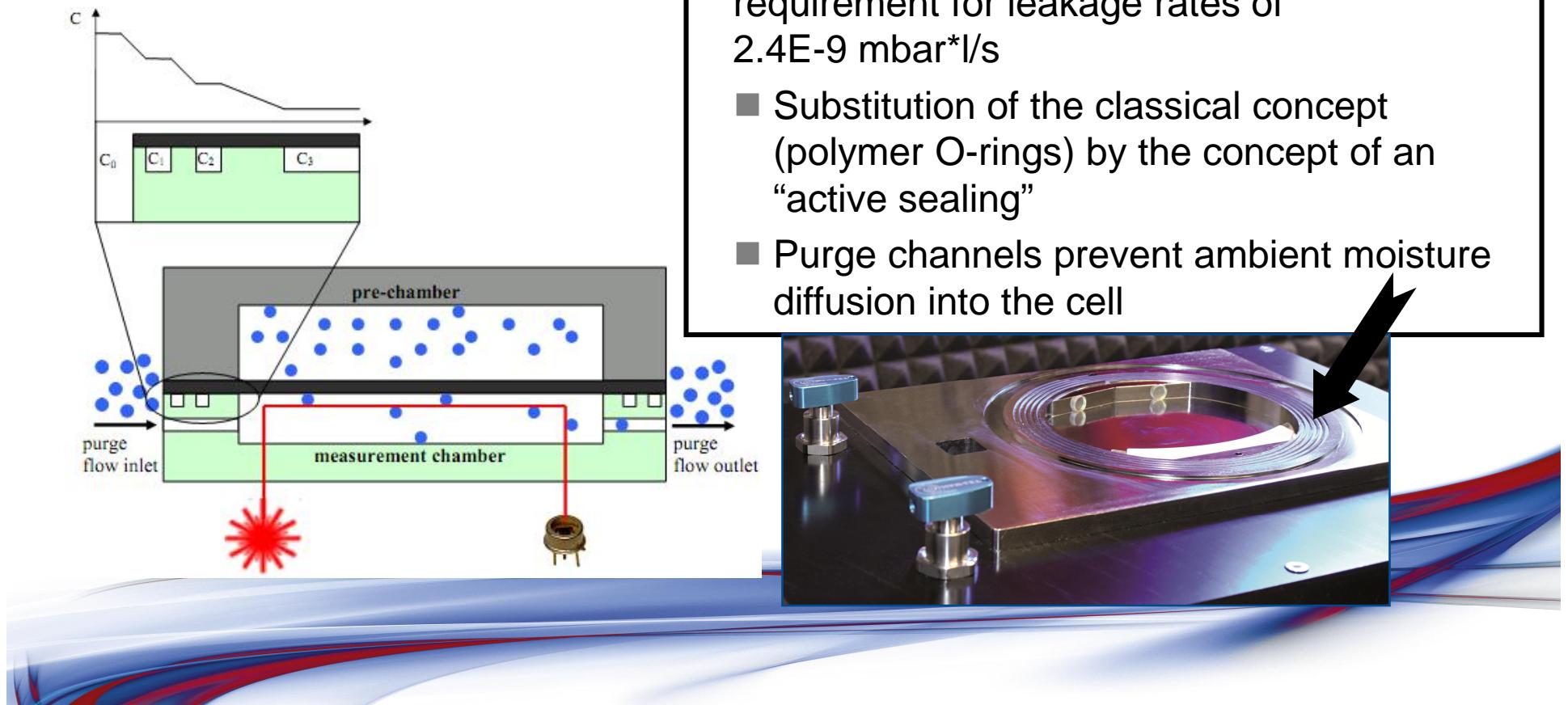
- Steady state conditions are required
  - As small as possible surface area of the cell in contact with moisture
  - Ultra smooth surfaces
  - Avoid any problematic materials inside the cell
  - Highest temperature stability
- HiBarSens - realization
  - Volume and surface vs. sample area optimized cell design
  - Electro-polished surfaces
  - Temperature stability < 0,5°C
  - Sensor is placed inside the test cell

# Sensitivity of WVTR measurement

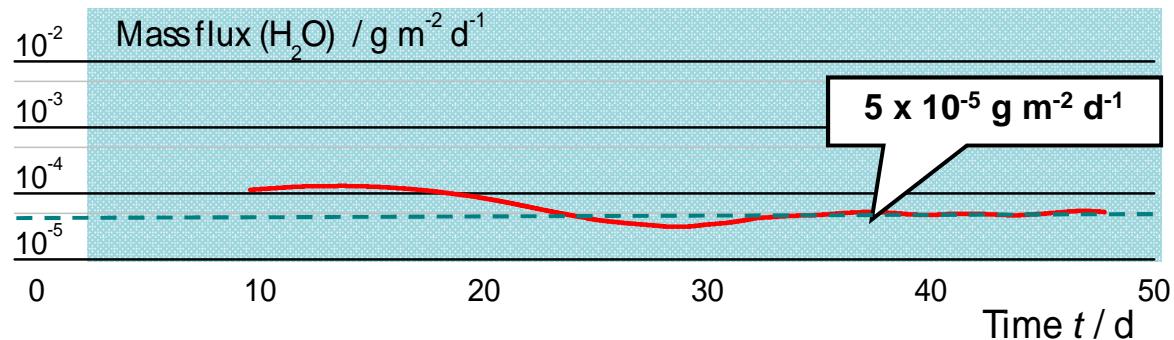
## Sealing of test (measuring) cell

$$\text{Mass flux: } j_{\text{system}} = \text{WVTR} + j_{\text{cell}} + \dots + j_{\text{leakage}}$$

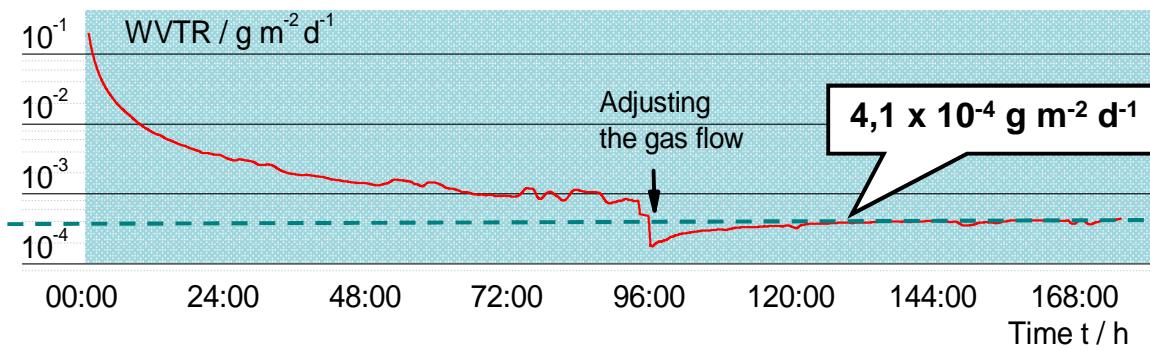
- Sample clamping has to follow the requirement for leakage rates of 2.4E-9 mbar\*l/s
  - Substitution of the classical concept (polymer O-rings) by the concept of an “active sealing”
  - Purge channels prevent ambient moisture diffusion into the cell



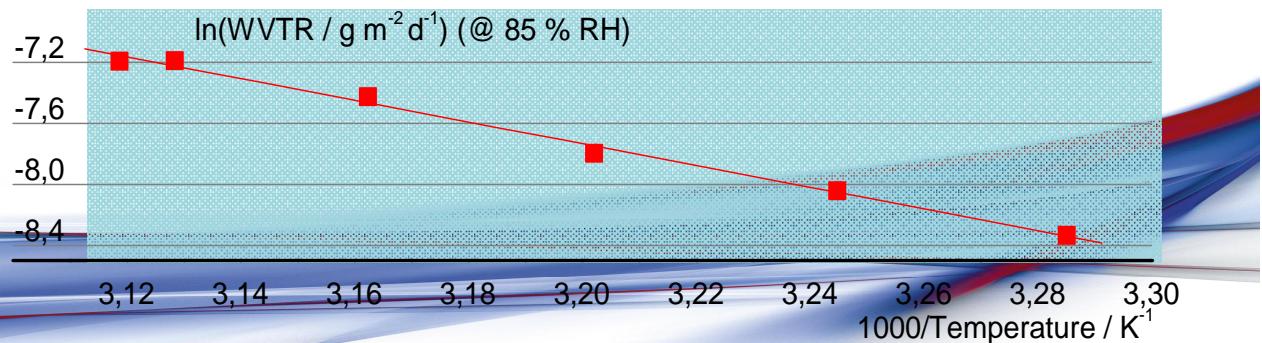
**Measured background level**  
 (sample: stainless steel)



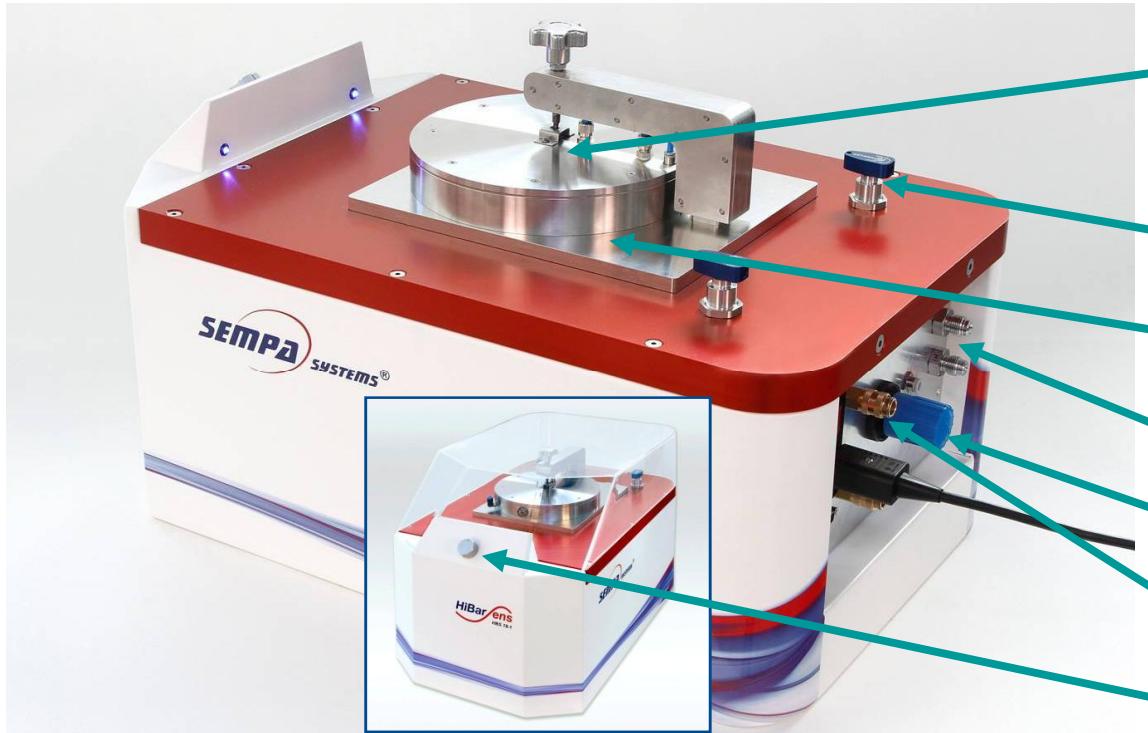
**WVTR-measurement  
 of ultra barrier sample  
 (Fraunhofer POLO)**



**Temperature dependence  
 of ultra barrier sample  
 (for photovoltaic)**



# compact & easy to use device



Permeation cell

- tempered
- integrated moisture generator
- Gentle clamping of the test sample

Purifier valve

Sample

N<sub>2</sub> purge gas in /out

Rel. Humidity controller

Connectors for thermostat

Flow controller

Place sample

Close test cell

Measurement  
Adjust rel. Humidity  
purge flow, temperature

Print report

■ HiBarSens

laser based sensor technology for highly sensitive determination of water vapor transmission rates of ultra barrier samples

■ HiBarSens

provides reliable measurements of WVTR down to  $10^{-5}$  g m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup> with the potential to  $10^{-6}$  g m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>

■ HiBarSens

is available as a compact, easy to use table top device





## Acknowledgment



responsible for manufacturing and sales

Johannes Grübler

Kurt Pietsch



Harald Beese

Wulf Grählert

