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ECRICE 2020
Excellence and Innovation
in Chemistry Teaching and Learning



Authenticity in (out-of-school) learning opportunities

ECRICE 2020 Webinar
July 6th 2020

Stefan Schwarzer
LMU Munich

- 1. Authenticity**
- 2. Out-of-school learning**
- 3. Research project on language**

1. Authenticity

- Theory
- Benefits

2. Out-of-school learning

3. Research project on language

- The term **authenticity** is often used to emphasize a close **link** between the **activity** or content and **scientific research** and practical techniques.
- But what are characteristics of this „link“?

“A simplistic notion is that **scientists represent ,real science‘** and thereby bring an **authentic element** to science communication”.

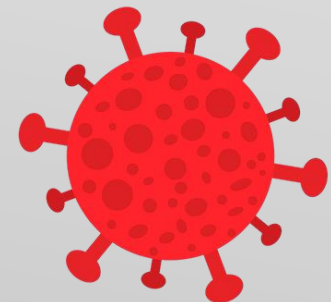
(Laherto et al., 2018).

“[...] improving the authenticity of science learning and communication certainly requires **more than ‘listening to researchers‘** (cf. Kapon, Laherto & Levrini, 2016; Buxton, 2006; Rahm et al., 2003)”.

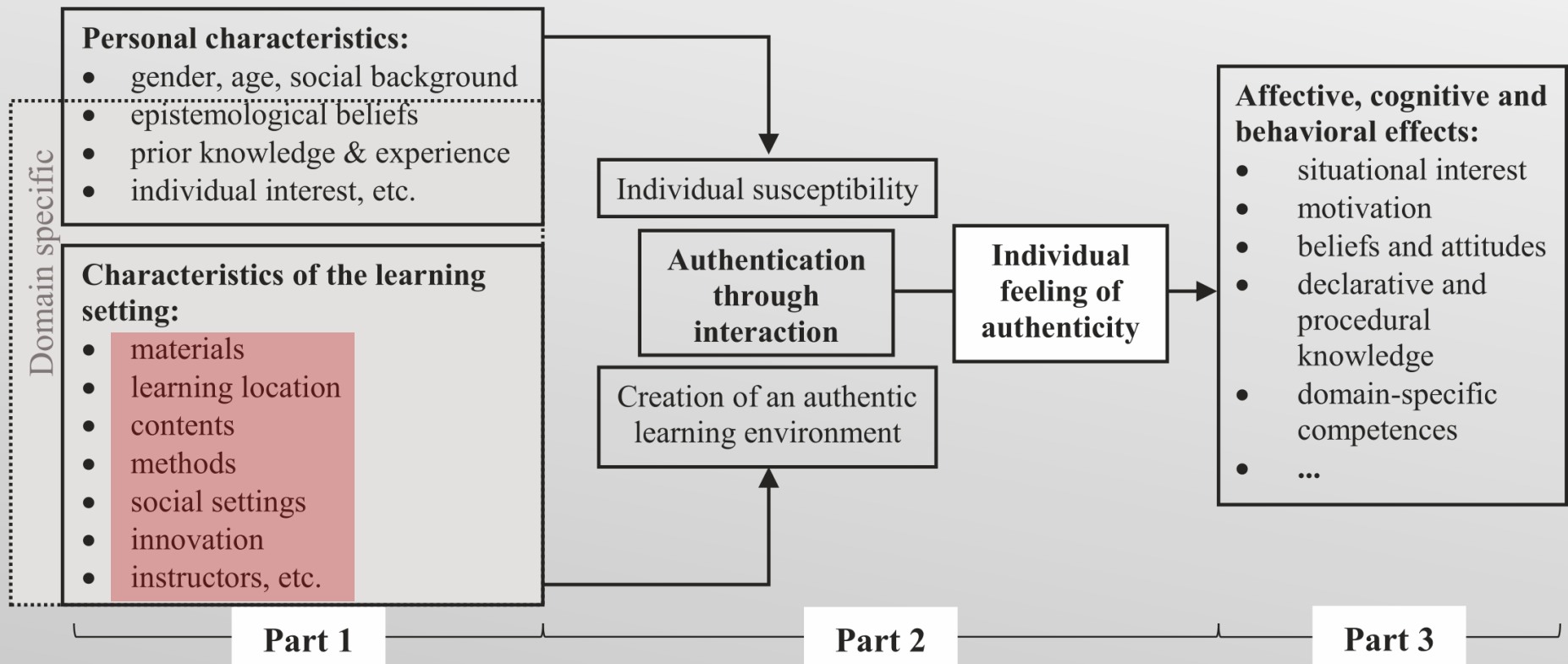
(Laherto et al., 2018)



- [...], there are different contexts and also possibilities to convey authentic science to schools students, for example through **real data, actual materials** and **instruments** and the **contact to scientists** (Pea, 1994, Braund & Reiss, 2006).
- “[...] at least in terms of practical work in school science, that authentic science should provide **experiences** that are more **in line with** the sorts of activities that **scientists and technologists** do in **real world of science** [...]” (Braund & Reiss, 2006).
- “[...] authentic inquiry tasks provide opportunities for students to experience **knowledge development** in **actual contexts of use.**” (Lee & Butler Songer, 2003).

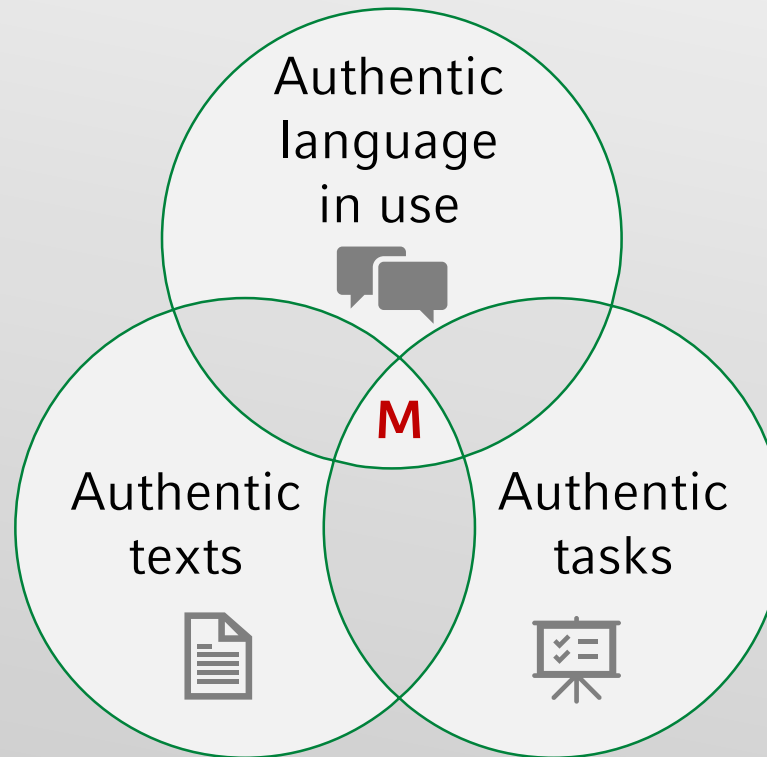


• Model of authenticity in teaching and learning contexts



(Nachtigall et al., 2018)

- More detailed characteristics of the learning setting feature:
'Materials'



- **English** as language (of science) **contributes** to perceived **authenticity**

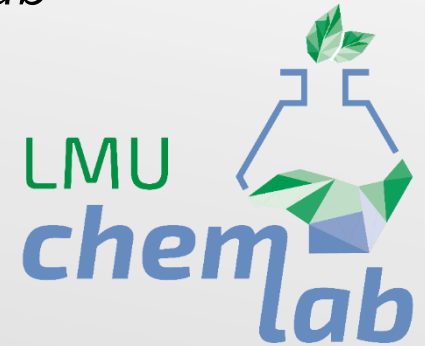
- Why to foster students' perceived authenticity in out-of-school learning settings?
 - Improves **students' attitudes** towards science and scientific careers
(Coll & Paku, 2011)
 - Important contributor to positive **science engagement**
(Woods-McConney et al., 2013)
 - Foster the **engagement** and (situational) **interest** in science (Nachtigall, 2018)



1. Authenticity
2. **Out-of-school learning**
3. Research project on language

1. Authenticity
2. **Out-of-school learning**
 - *LMUchemlab*
 - Experiments
3. Research project on language

- Science labs for school students, e.g. LMUchemlab
- Characteristics of the learning setting:
 - Addresses students from the age of **14 years**
 - **Preparation and follow-up** work in school
 - Lab work at the university on the topic of **modern materials** and **sustainability**



- LMU*chemlab* experiments were **educationally reconstructed** in close cooperation **with chemists** of the department
- Experimental stations on:
 - “Green” **sparkler** (Scheid et al., submitted)
 - Synthesis of a **LED** phosphor (Diekemper et al., 2019)
 - **3D printing** and investigation of filaments (Scheid et al., 2019)
 - Azulene **after sun-care** (Hollweck & Schwarzer, in print)
 - ...



- Starting point: Commercial sparklers contain **barium nitrate** as oxidizer [1], which is harmful to health.

Art.-Nr.: 7706 Wunderkerzen
Inhalt: 40 Stück
WUNDERKERZE, IN DER HAND ZU HALTEN • KAT F1
Abgabe nur in ungeöffneter Originalverpackung erlaubt!
NEM: ca. 50 g (per Stück ca. 1,3 g)
0589-F1-0133 • BAM-F1-0133 • Bruttomasse: ca. 80 g

CE 0589



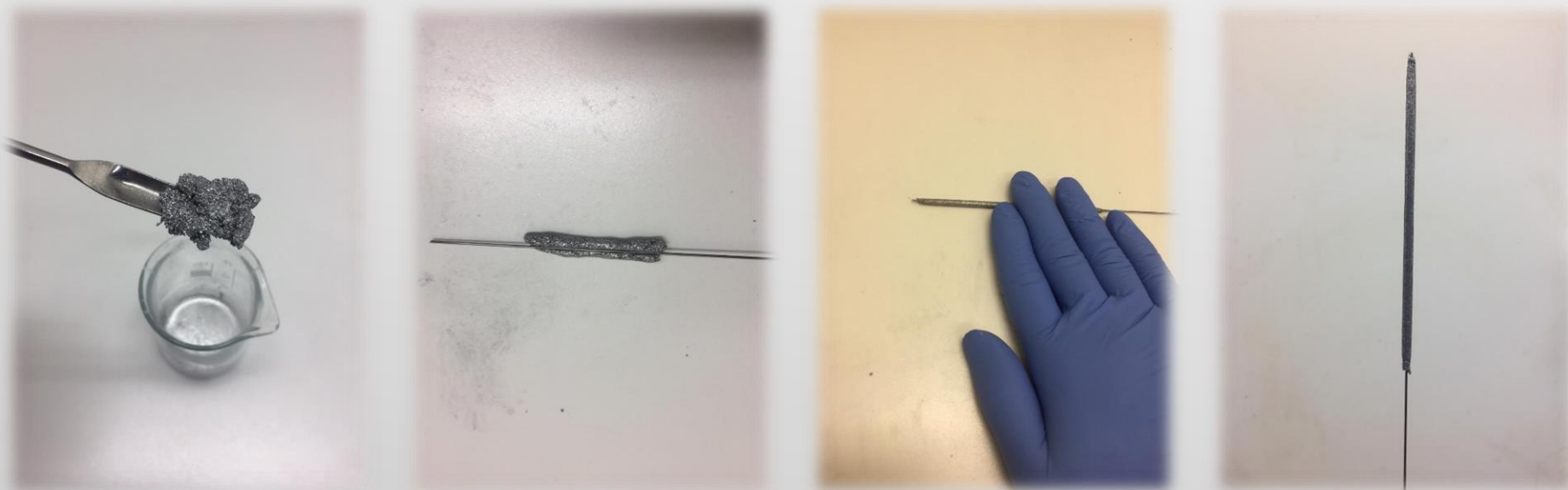
Gebrauchsanweisung: Nur im Freien verwenden!
Einzel über nicht brennbarer Oberfläche verwenden.
Eine Wunderkerze nach der anderen am äußersten
Ende anzünden. **Sicherheitsabstand: 1 Meter,**
Wunderkerze von allen Körperteilen und brennbaren
Materialien fernhalten. **Rauch nicht einatmen!**
Abgebrannte Wunderkerze ist noch sehr heiß;
z. B. in einem Wassereimer ablöschen

Enthält Bariumnitrat, beim Einatmen vom Rauch
und beim Verschlucken gesundheitsschädlich.

- “Contains barium nitrate, harmful to health if swallowed and smoke is inhaled.”

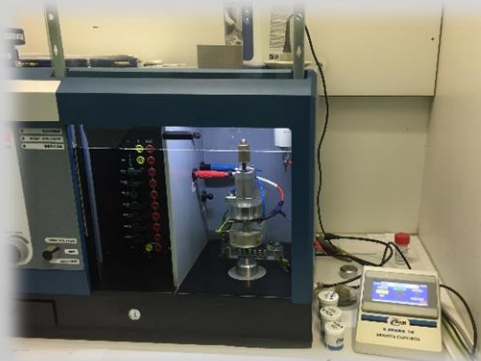


- Production of a barium-free sparkler, using **strontium nitrate** instead (Scheid et al., submitted).

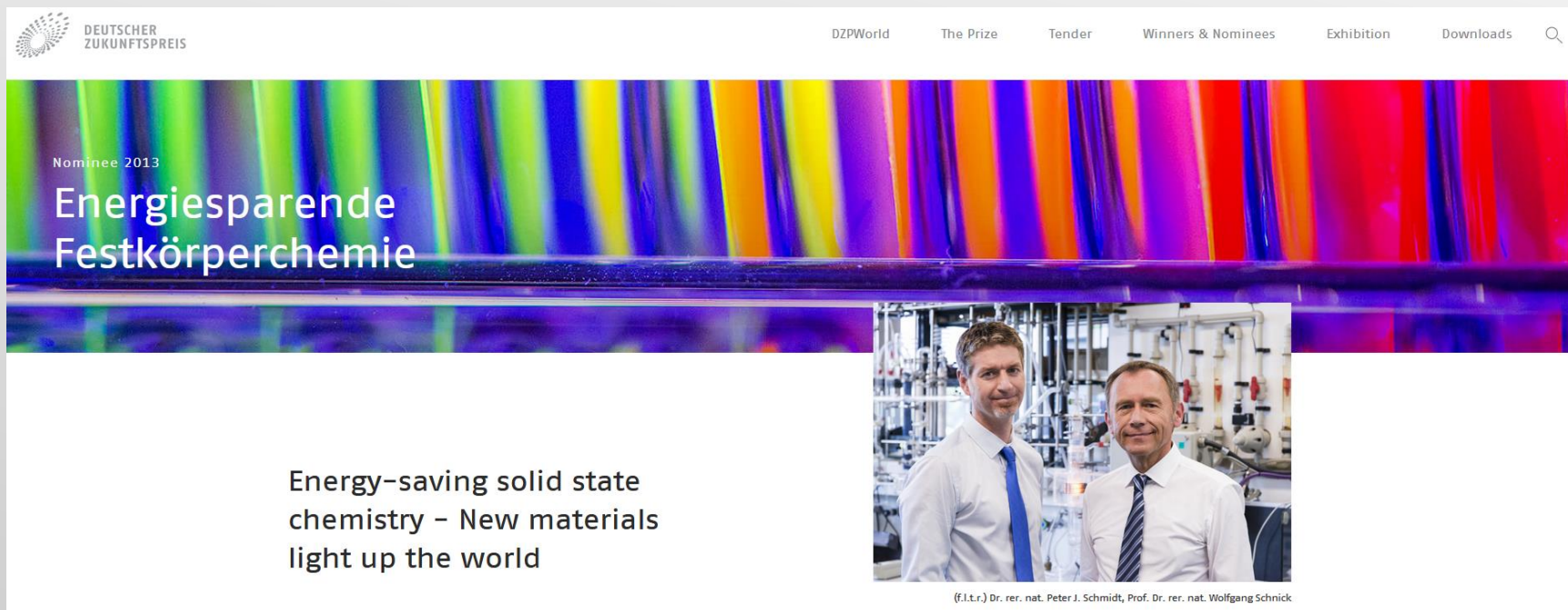


- New developed sparkler is **less threatening for health** and environment → Therefore classified as “green” alternative.

- Various tests for categorization of the high-energetic sparkler material show: the newly developed chemical composition are **not to be classified as explosive**.
- For the first time school **students are allowed to produce** their own sparklers in school or student lab.



- Latest research on **LED** and luminescent materials (“phosphor”):



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Nominee 2013
**Energiesparende
Festkörperchemie**

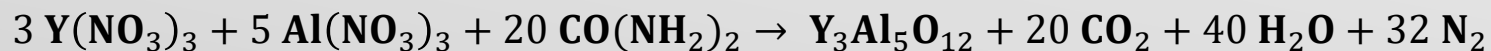
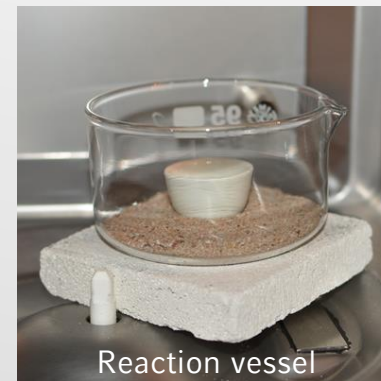
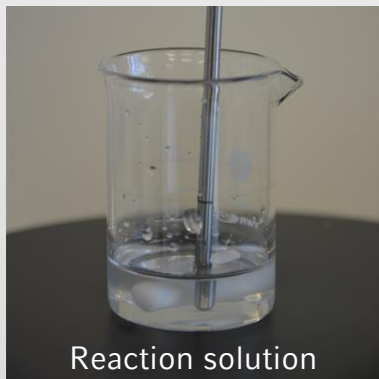
Energy-saving solid state
chemistry – New materials
light up the world

(f.l.t.r.) Dr. rer. nat. Peter J. Schmidt, Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Wolfgang Schnick

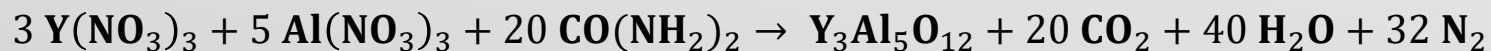
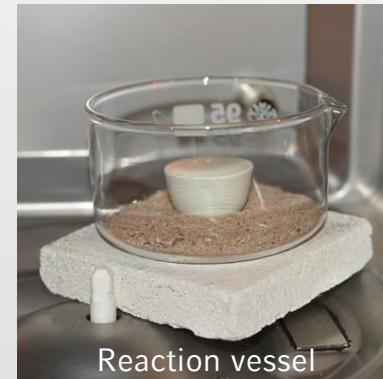
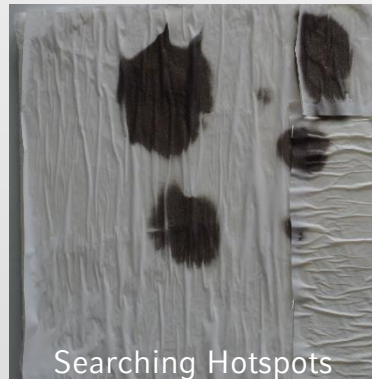
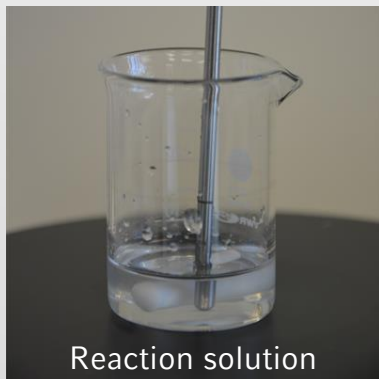
(www.deutscher-zukunftspreis.de/en/team-3-2013)

- Microwave synthesis of a **LED phosphor** with light converting properties for school students.

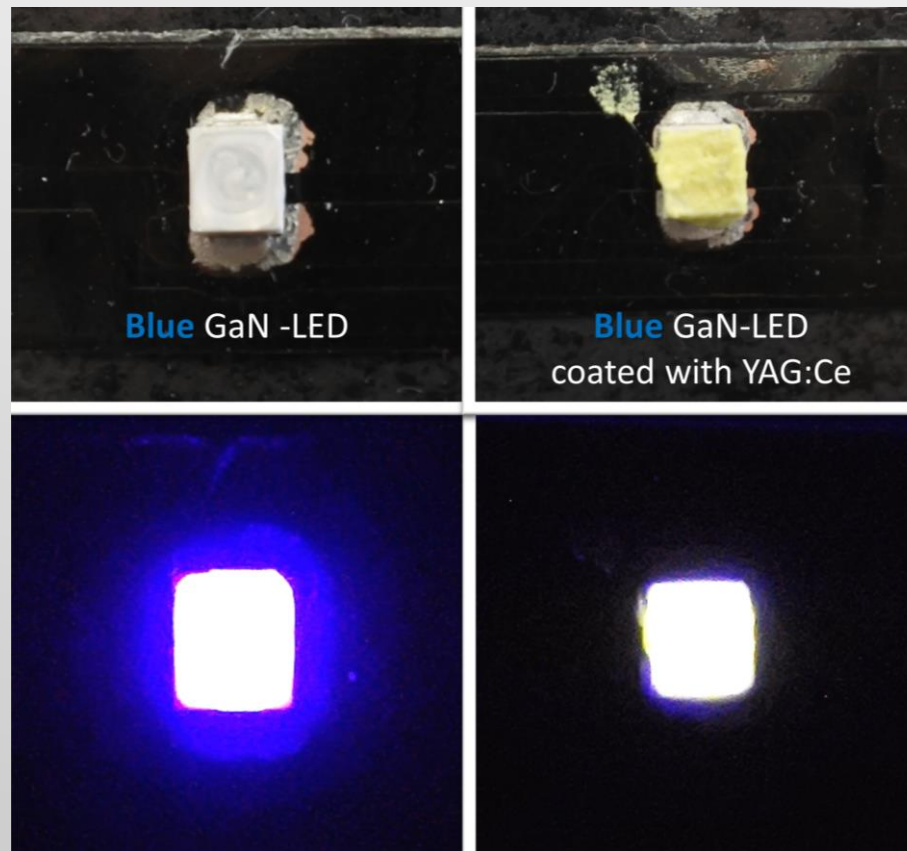
- Synthesis of the LED phosphor **YAG:Ce** (Diekemper et al., 2019)



- Synthesis of the LED phosphor **YAG:Ce** (Diekemper et al., 2019)



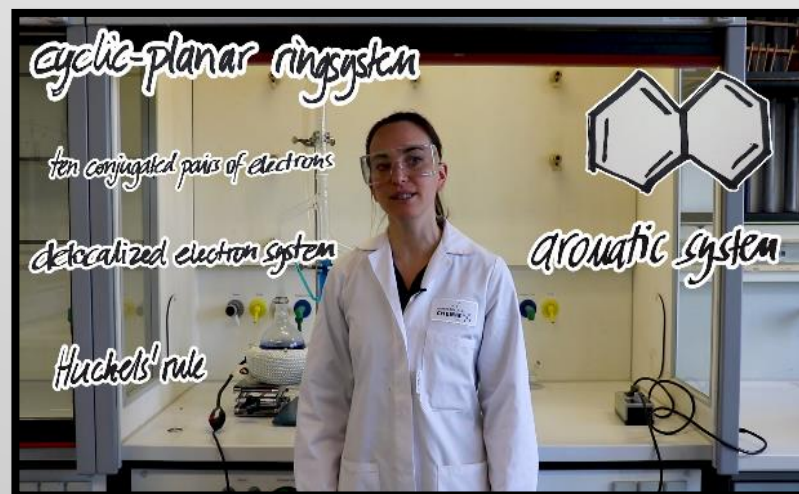
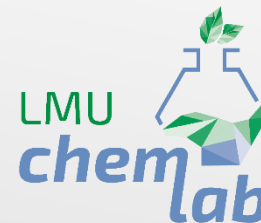
- Investigation of **colour converting properties** (Diekemper et al., 2019)



- Visible change in colour from **blue to yellow-white**

1. Authenticity
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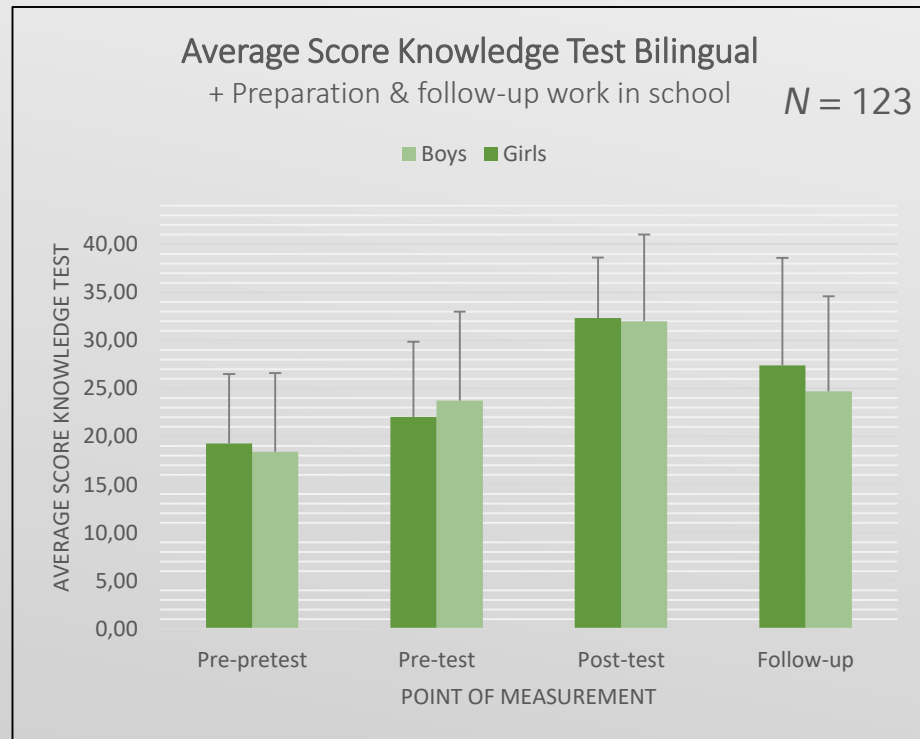
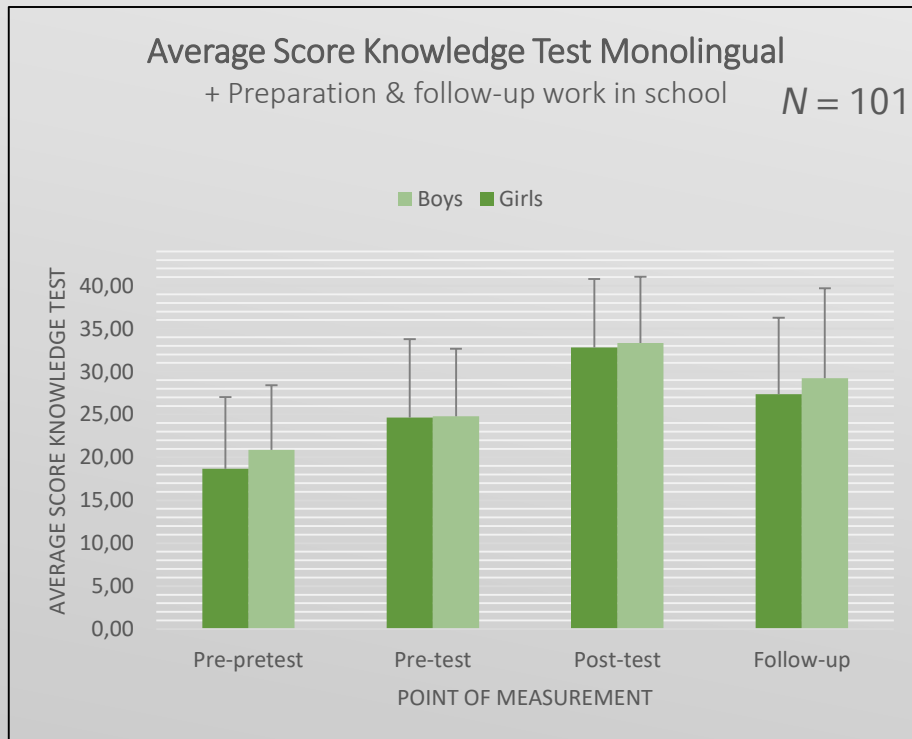
- A content and language integrated learning (CLIL) approach in a chemistry lab for school students
- Students work in the foreign language (**language of science**) English → Models of Nachtigall and Pinner
- Introductory **video vignettes** for each experimental station on subject matter content and scientific practice



(Hollweck & Schwarzer, in print)

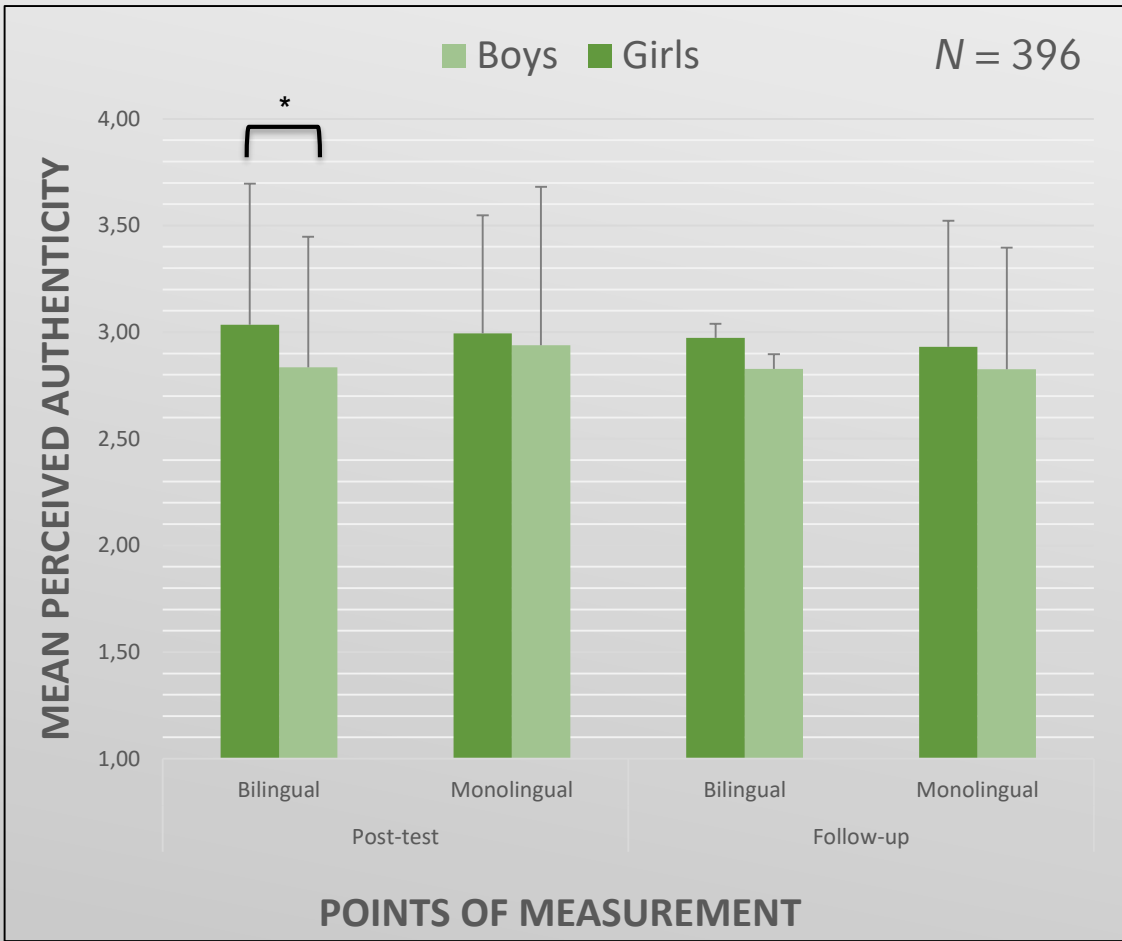
- **Expectations** on a CLIL chemistry student lab setting:
 - Possible benefits for girls and boys, because:
 - girls** tend to be more oriented towards **languages**
(Schmenk, 2004).
 - boys** appear to show more interest in **sciences and technology**
(Gardner 1985; Britner 2008).
- **Fear**: bilingual students acquire **less content knowledge**, due to the additional challenge of a foreign language

- **No differences** in monolingual and bilingual groups, concerning content **knowledge**.



(Hollweck, unpublished)

- Treatment has a short term **improvement** of the perceived **authenticity of girls** in our bilingual student lab.



- Dominik Diekemper, Sezen Hollweck & Michael Scheid and my entire group from LMU Munich

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