

Batteries: Fundamentals, Recent Advances, and Inherent Safety Aspects

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Fall 2023



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<https://engineering.purdue.edu/ViPER/pol.html>



PURDUE

ENGINEERING

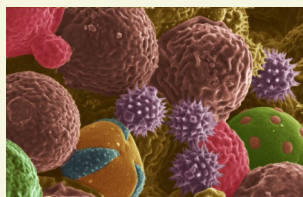
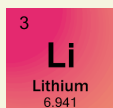
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING



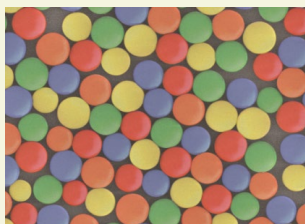
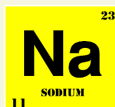
Prof. Vilas G. Pol

Research Areas

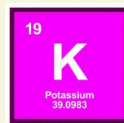
Lithium-ion



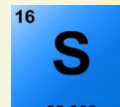
Sodium ion



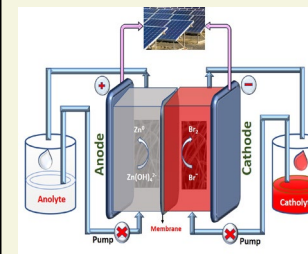
Potassium ion



Li-S/Solid state



Flow



SBIR/STTR
SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH
SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



PURDUE
RESEARCH FOUNDATION



VALGOTECH **TIMKEN**



260+ Publications; H index 55, 150+ invited talks
19 issued US patents, 20+ pending, 40+ awards

Types of Energy Storage

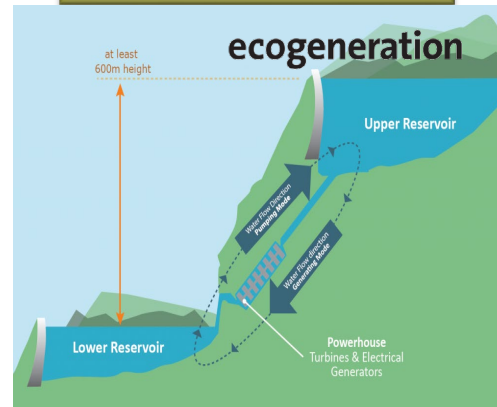


Electrochemical



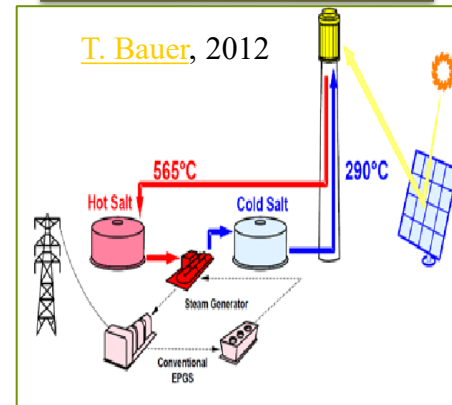
Rechargeable Batteries

Mechanical



Pumped Hydro

Thermal



Molten Salt

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|----------|
| Discharge Time | 1 min – 8h | 4-16h | hours |
| Lifetime | 1,000 – 10,000 | 30-60 years | 30 years |
| Energy Density (Wh/L) | 200-400 | 0.2-2 | 70-200 |
| Efficiency | 85-95% | 70-85% | 80-90% |
| Cost | High | Low | Low |

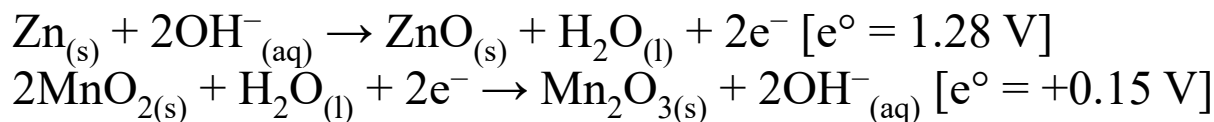
Classes of battery

Primary vs. Secondary Batteries

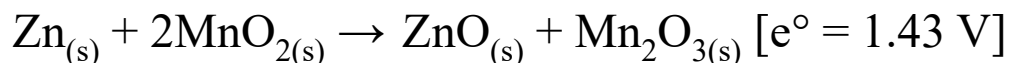
- Cell reaction is **irreversible**
- Must be **discarded** after use
- Have relatively **short shelf** life
- They cannot be used as **storage devices**
- Can not be **recharged**
- e.g. Dry cell.
- Cell reaction is reversible
- May be recharged
- Have long shelf life
- They can be used as energy storage devices
- They can be recharged.
- e.g. Li-MnO₂ battery, Lead acid, Ni-Cd battery.

Standard Modern Primary Batteries

- Zinc-Carbon: used in all inexpensive AA, C and D dry-cell batteries. The electrodes are zinc and MnO_2 -carbon, with an acidic paste between them that serves as the electrolyte. (disposable)
- Alkaline: used in common Duracell and Energizer batteries, the electrodes are zinc and manganese-oxide, with an alkaline electrolyte (KOH).



Overall reaction:



▪ **CANNOT BE RECHARGED**

Theoretical Capacity of Materials

- From Faraday's 1st Law of Electrochemistry

$$1Q = [6.241 \times 10^{18} \text{ electrons}]$$

- 1 gm. equivalent wt. of materials will deliver 96487 Coulombs

Thus, $96487 / 3600 = 26.8 \text{ Ah}$

- At # of C is $6 \times 2 = 12$ (atomic mass)

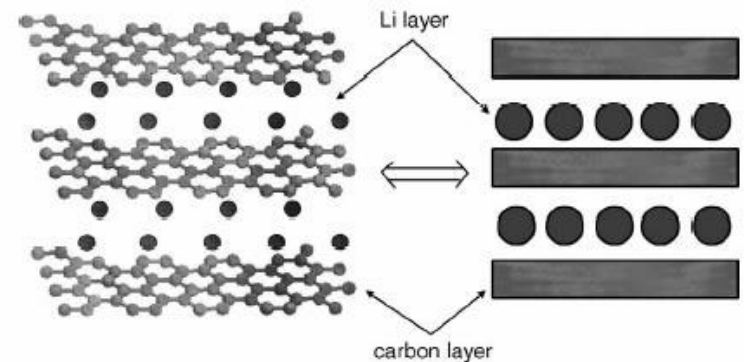
Forming LiC_6 structure $6 \times 12 = 72$

- Theoretical specific capacity of Graphite

$$= 26.8 / 72$$

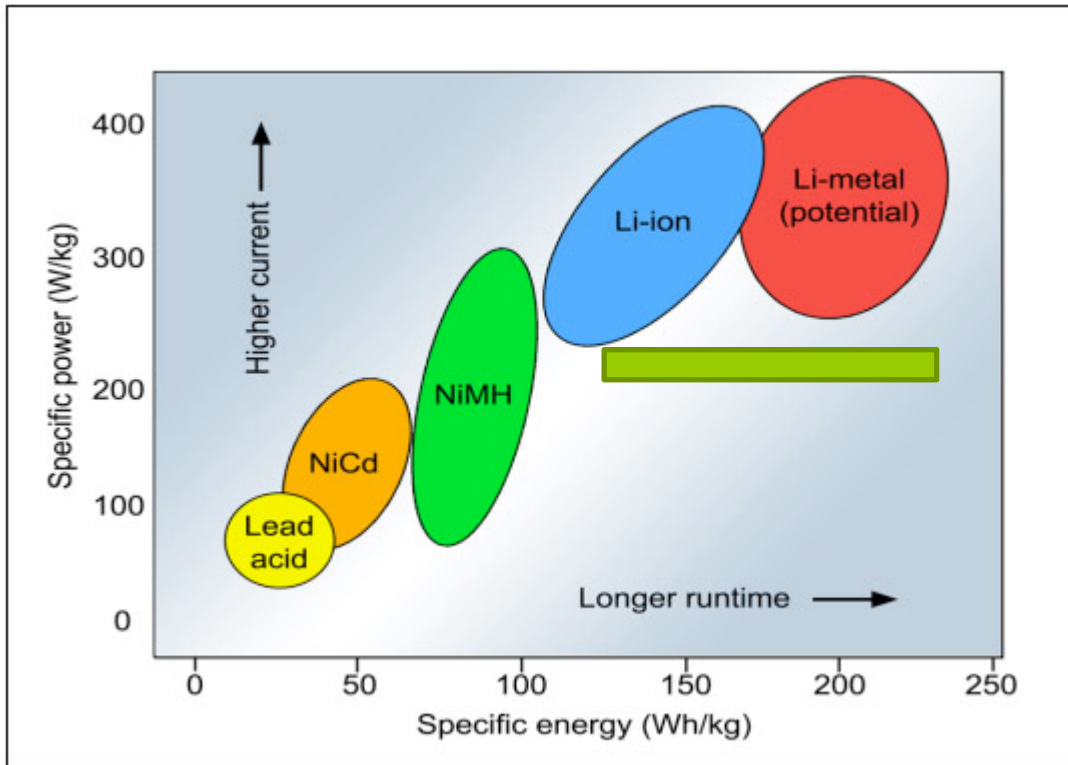
$$= 0.372 \text{ Ah/g}$$

$$= 372 \text{ mAh/g}$$



Existing Battery Types

Ragone Plot



Higher power and energy are driving the Li Ion battery growth

Specific energy is the total energy a battery can deliver in watt-hours per kilogram (Wh/kg)

Specific power is the battery's ability to deliver power in watts per kilogram (W/kg).

History of Li-ion batteries

1970: **M. S. Whittingham** – Proposed Li ion battery (SUNY, USA).

1980 : **J. Goodenough** - Layered LiCoO_2 material as cathode (Oxford University, Now at UT)

1991 : **SONY** Commercialized Li ion battery (LiCoO_2 as cathode, Japan).

Chevrolet Volt (GM)



LG Chem. battery

EV Range : 50 miles per charge
Battery Type : 16kW.h Lithium Ion
Cost of Battery : \$11,000



Currently, >90 % of Li-ion cells are manufactured in Japan, Korea, China



We are not trading our dependence on foreign oil to a dependence on foreign batteries

How many batteries are required to run your EV?

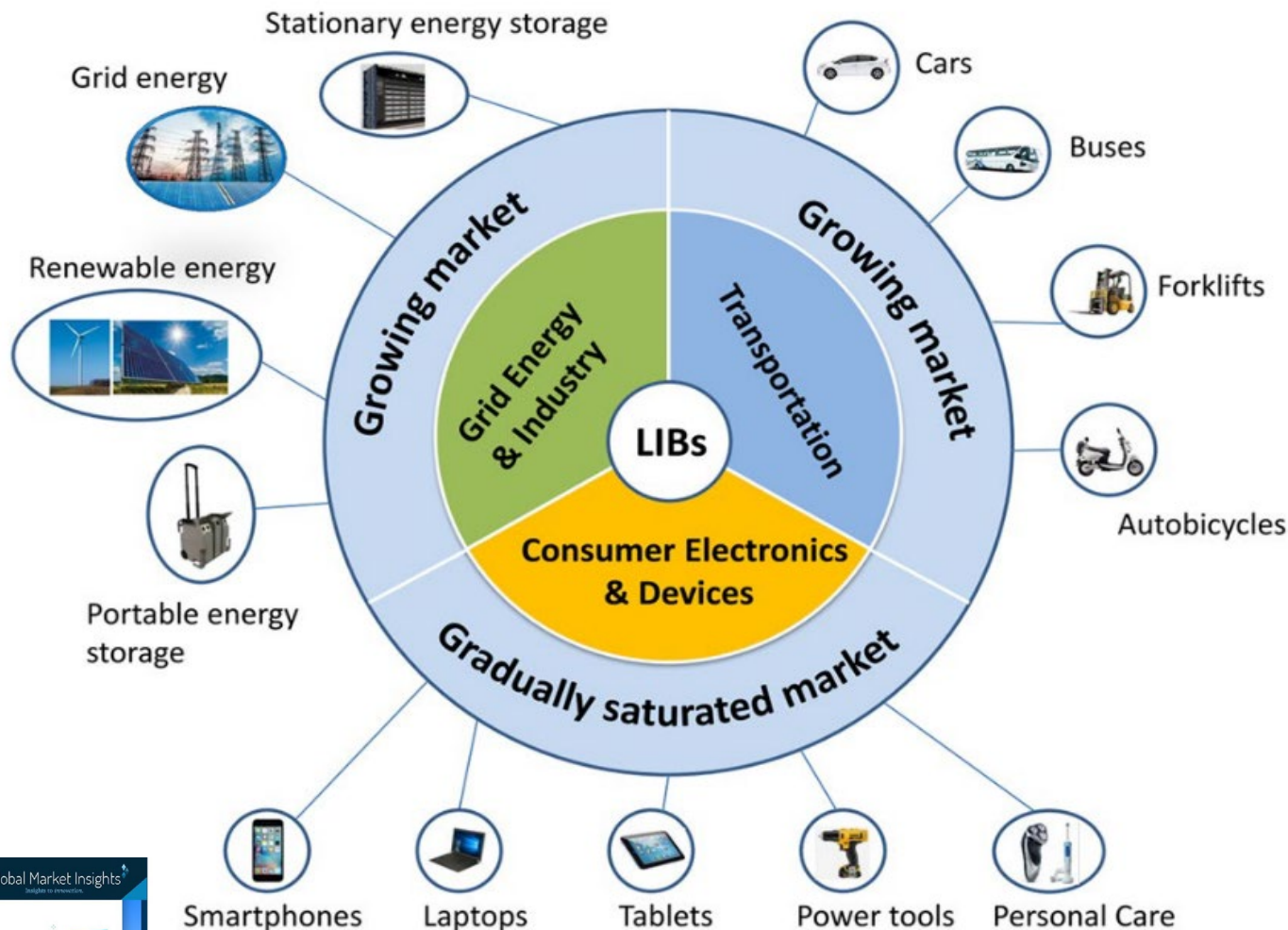


18650

A 90 kWh *battery* built with Panasonic 3.4 Ah 18650 *cells* will require about **9000 cells**



Lithium ion Batteries are Everywhere!



LITHIUM ION BATTERY MARKET

Global Market Insights
Report by Regions

MARKET VALUE

(2018) (2025)
\$33 BN >\$73 BN

CAGR (2019-25)
11%



Ding et al., *Electrochem. Energy Rev.* 2019

Li-ion Battery Research Challenges

New



■ Cost

- Current projected cost (25 kW battery) ~ \$1000
- Target cost (25 kW battery) ~ \$500



■ Safety

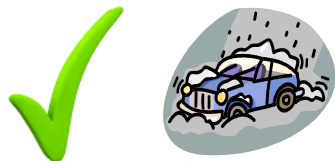
Inherently safe batteries needed

- Overcharge protection circuitry expensive



■ Life

- Current technology ~ 5 to 10 years
- Target ~ 15 years



■ Low Temperature Performance

- Current technology ~ Sluggish $< 0^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Target ~ -30°C (cold cranking)



Safety Concerns of Lithium-ion Batteries



Boeing 787, Dec. 2014 ⁽¹⁾



Tesla Model S, Aug. 2016 ⁽²⁾



Samsung Note 7, Sept. 2016 ⁽³⁾

- LIBs dominate rechargeable energy storage market due to high energy density
- Safety incidents still occurring for mature Li-ion battery technology
- Susceptible to thermal runaway: can occur by overcharging, cell puncture, dendrites

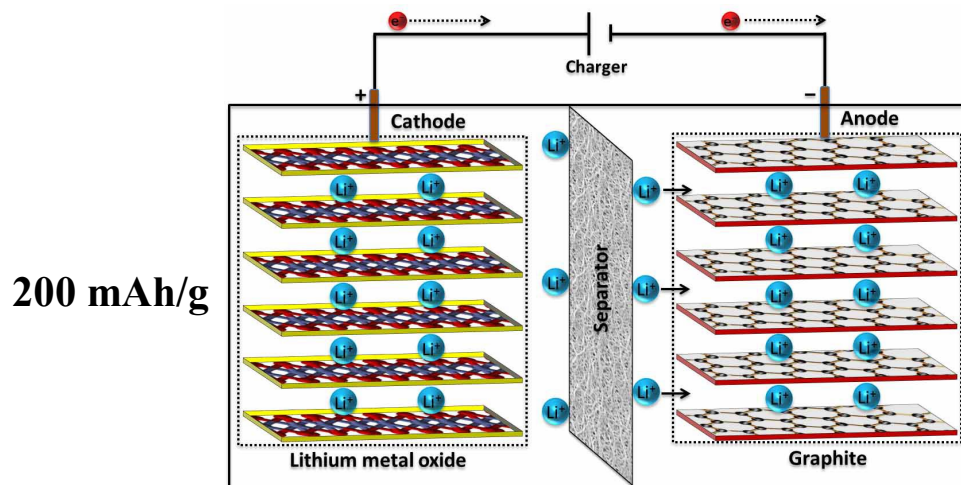
Motivation: Improve understanding of thermal runaway and how to mitigate for rechargeable battery

(1) <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-lithium-ion-batteries-grounded-the-dreamliner/>

(2) <https://electrek.co/2016/08/15/tesla-model-s-catches-fire-test-drive-france/>

(3) <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/samsung-galaxy-note-7-batteries-fires-faa-warnings-passengers-worldwide-recall/>

Need: High safety, high energy density solid-state Li metal batteries required for electric vehicles, electronics and defense applications



➤ Graphite: 372 mAh/g



➤ Li metal: 3840 mAh/g

Li-ion battery with liquid electrolytes



Energy density ~ 250 Wh/kg

Solid-state



Cutting



Punching

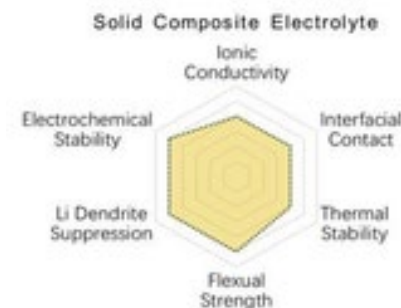
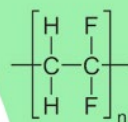
Energy density ~ 450 Wh/kg

Purdue's Advanced Solid-state Battery Technology

Purdue Innovation

1. High ionic conductivity
2. Wide voltage window
3. Thermal Safe
4. Li Dendrite free

Polyvinylidene fluoride (**PVDF**)
 $\text{Li}_{6.4}\text{La}_3\text{Zr}_{1.4}\text{Ta}_{0.6}\text{O}_{12}$ (**LLZTO**)



1. Low ionic conductivity
2. Narrow voltage window
3. Li dendrite

Poly(ethylene oxide) (PEO)

Electrolytes
for LBs

Liquid electrolyte

Composite SSE

Polymer SSE

Ceramic SSE

1. Flammable
2. Leak
3. Li dendrite

1. High interfacial resistance
2. Li dendrite

Purdue's Generation I

Chemical Engineering Journal 400 (2020) 125996



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Chemical Engineering Journal

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/cej



Room-temperature, high-voltage solid-state lithium battery with composite solid polymer electrolyte with *in-situ* thermal safety study ✓



Sensen Zhang^{a,b,1}, Zheng Li^{b,1}, Yue Guo^{c,d}, Lirong Cai^b, Palanisamy Manikandan^b, Kejie Zhao^c, Ying Li^{a,*}, Vilas G. Pol^{b,*}

^a School of Metallurgy, Northeastern University, Shenyang 110819, China

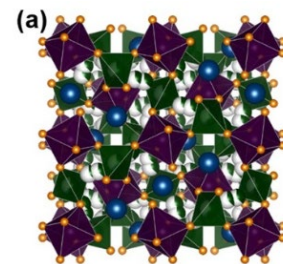
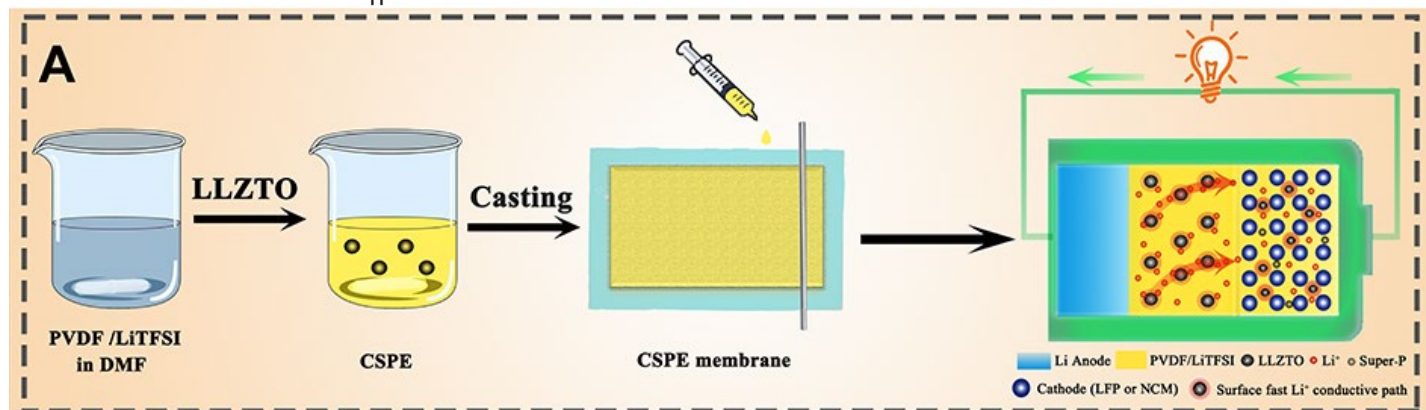
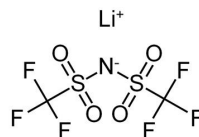
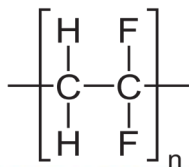
^b Davidson School of Chemical Engineering, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47906, USA

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^d School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Jilin University, Changchun 130022, China

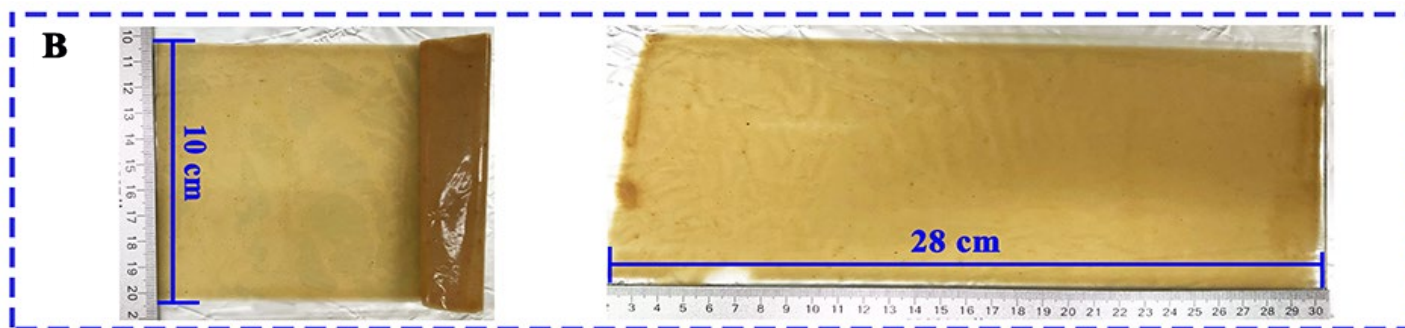
Scalable Fabrication of SS Composite Electrolyte

PVDF – Polymer Matrix; LiTFSI – Li salt; LLZTO – ceramic nanoparticles



- ✓ Facile synthesis
- ✓ Operation at room temperature

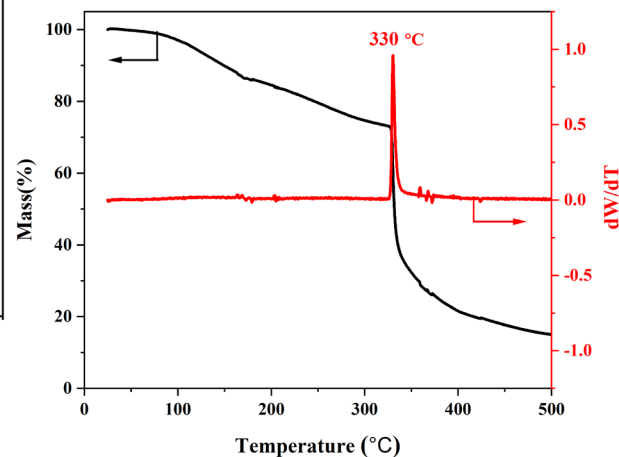
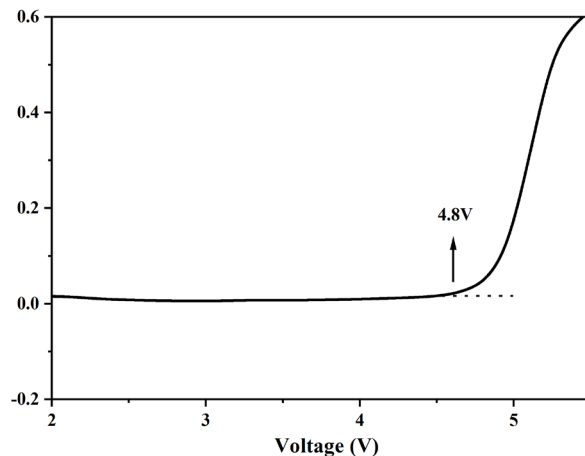
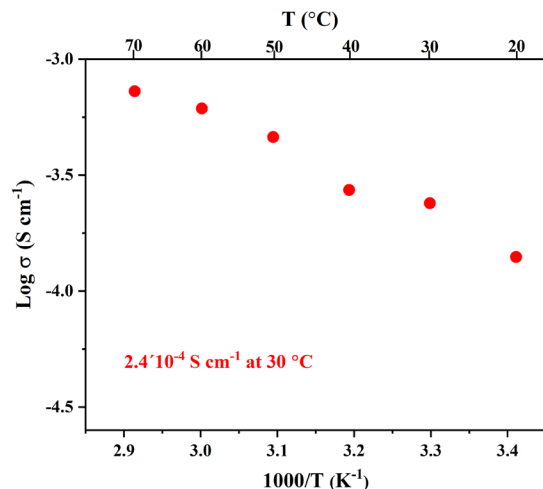
The synthesis of composite solid polymer electrolyte



- ✓ Flexible
- ✓ Free standing
- ✓ Scalable

Pictures of as-prepared composite solid polymer electrolyte

Ionic Conductivity, Voltage Window, Thermal Stability



- ✓ High room-temperature ionic conductivity ($2.4 \times 10^{-4} S\text{ cm}^{-1}$)
- ✓ Wide voltage window ($\sim 4.8\text{ V}$)
- ✓ Excellent thermal stability ($\sim 330^\circ\text{C}$)



VS

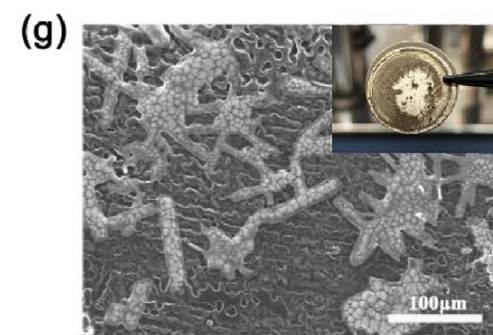
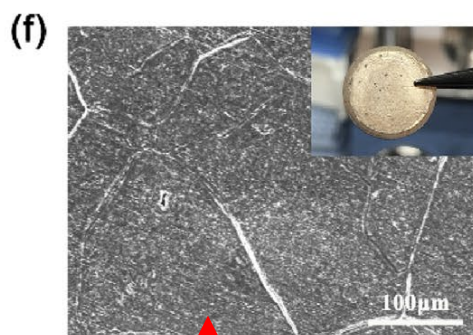
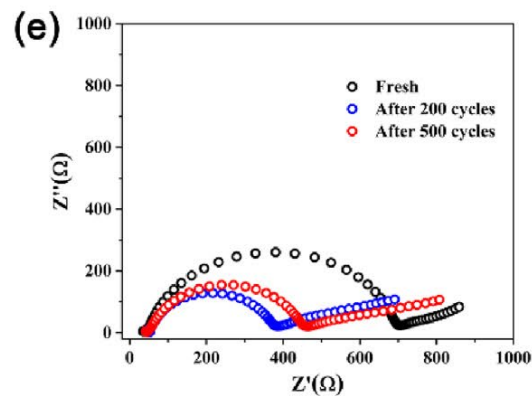
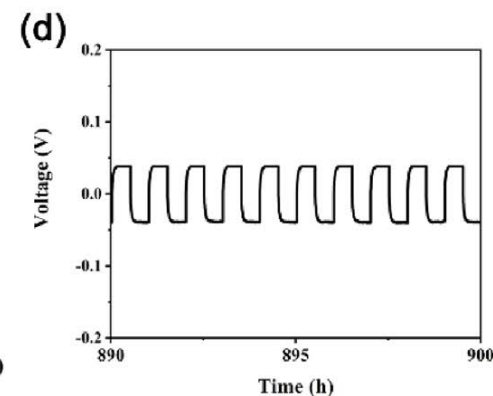
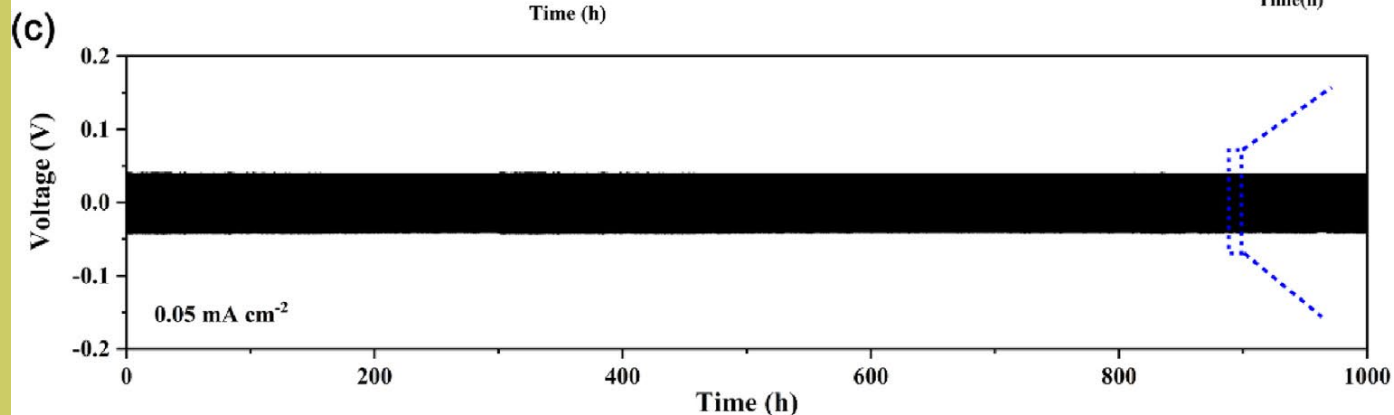
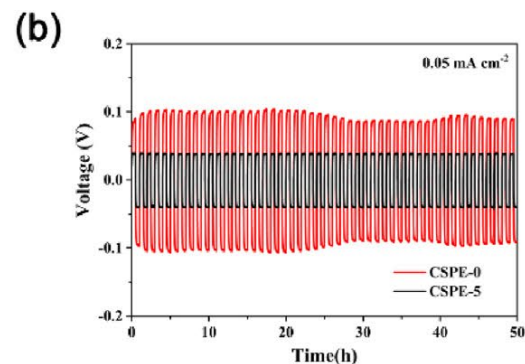
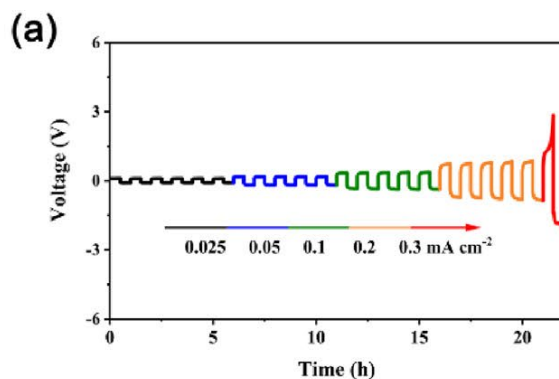


- ✗ Low room-temperature ionic conductivity ($10^{-7} - 10^{-5} S\text{ cm}^{-1}$)
- ✗ Narrow voltage window ($\sim 3.8\text{ V}$)
- ✗ Inferior thermal stability ($\sim 230^\circ\text{C}$)

Purdue's Composite solid polymer electrolyte

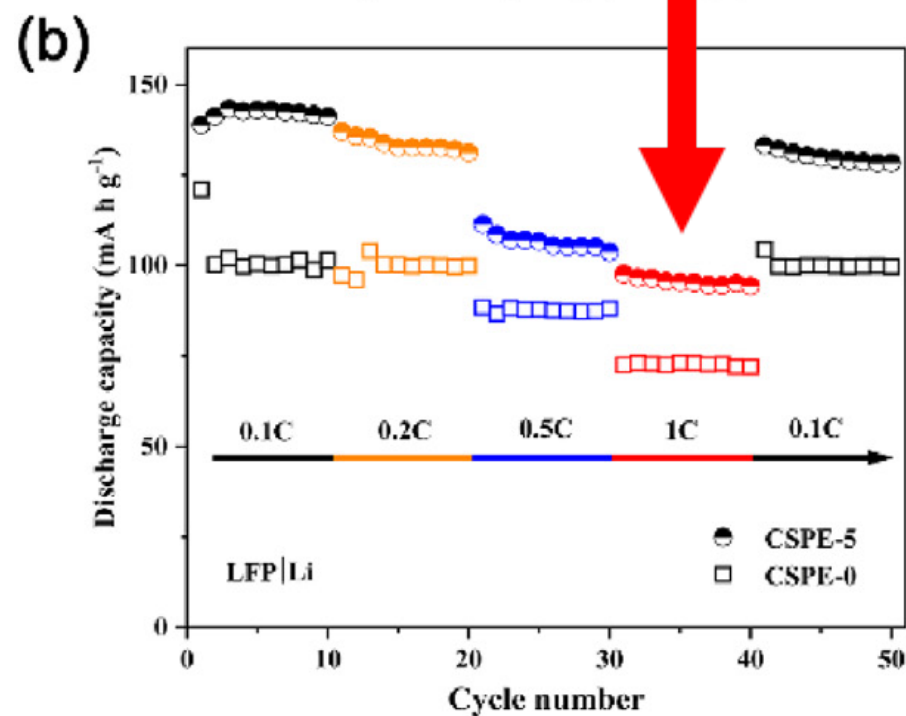
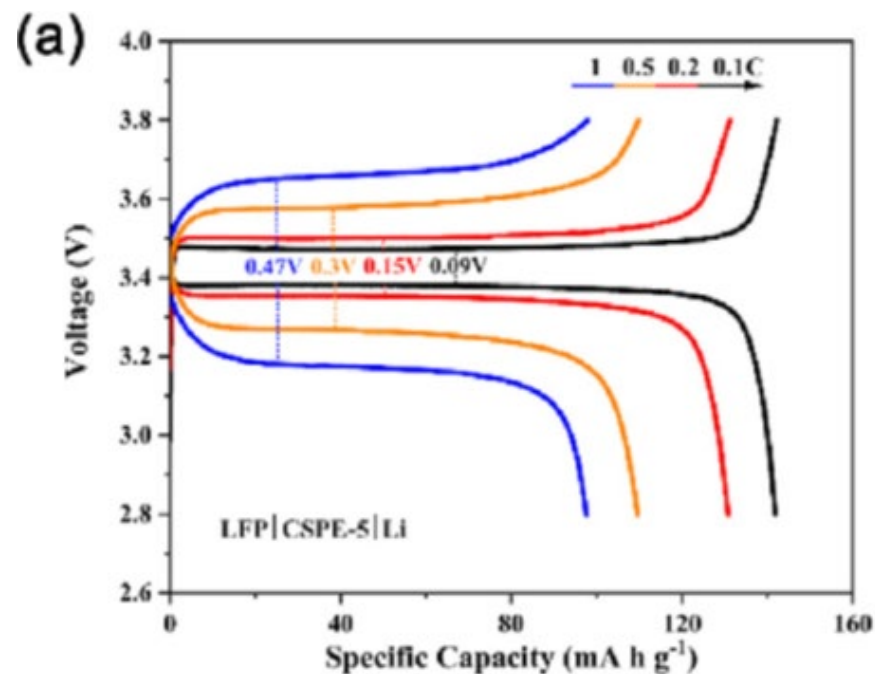
Typical PEO-based polymer electrolyte

Li|CSPE-5|Li symmetric cell

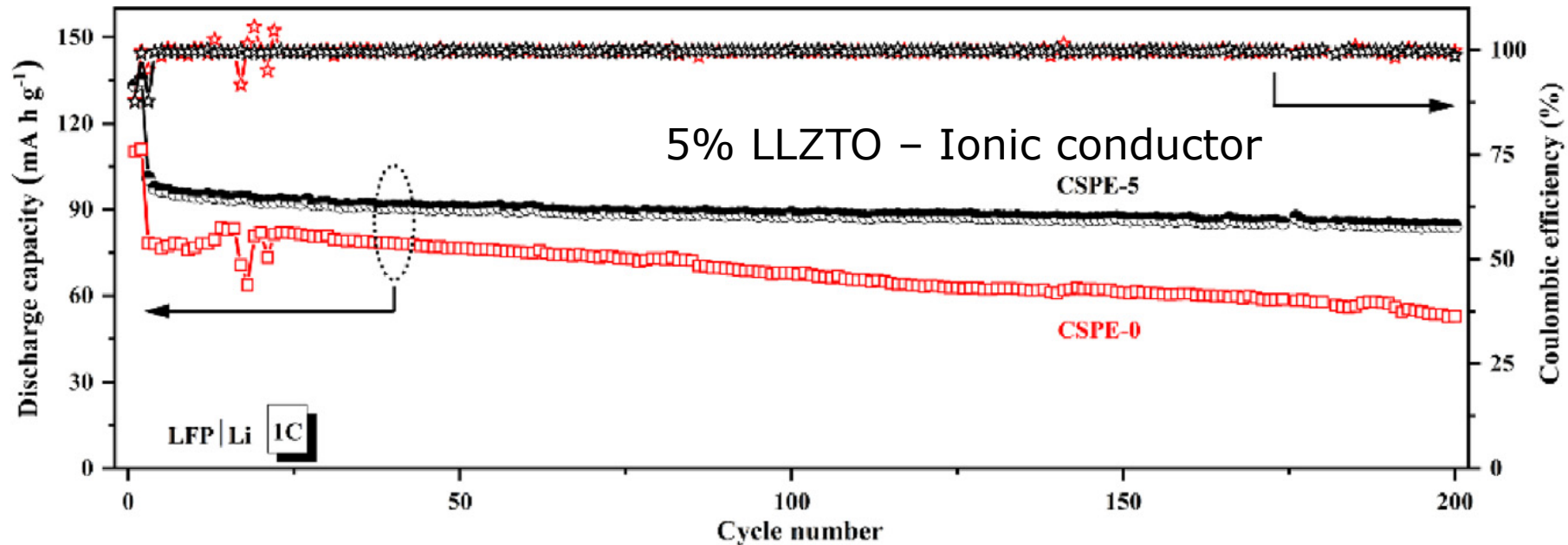


Li| Liquid Electrolyte |Li

Rate studies

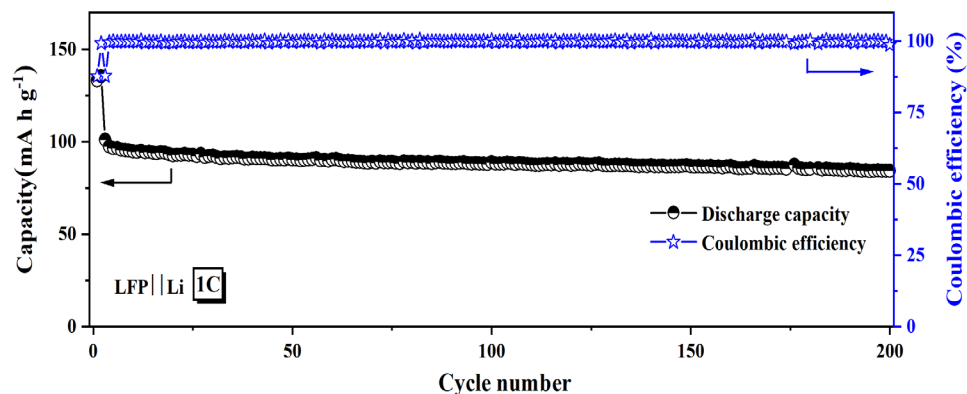


Long-term cycling stability of the LFP|Li cell using CSPE-0 and CSPE-5

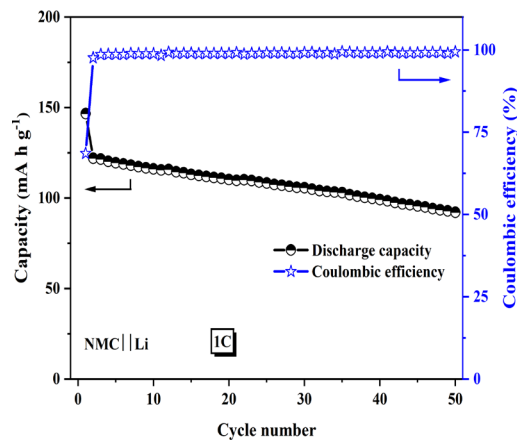
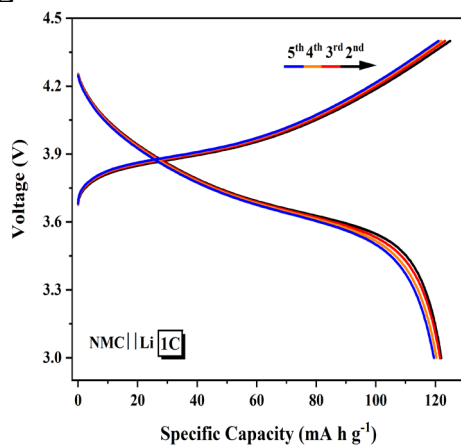


- ✓ Purdue's Gen. I Composite solid polymer electrolyte does have stability once combines polymer, ionic conductor, salt etc. with remaining solvent DMF

Electrochemical Performance of Solid-state Full Cell



LiFePO₄
2.8 ~ 3.8 V



Room Temperature

LiNi_{1/3}Mn_{1/3}Co_{1/3}O₂
3 ~ 4.4 V



✓ Purdue's Gen I composite solid polymer electrolyte **does work with various cathodes**

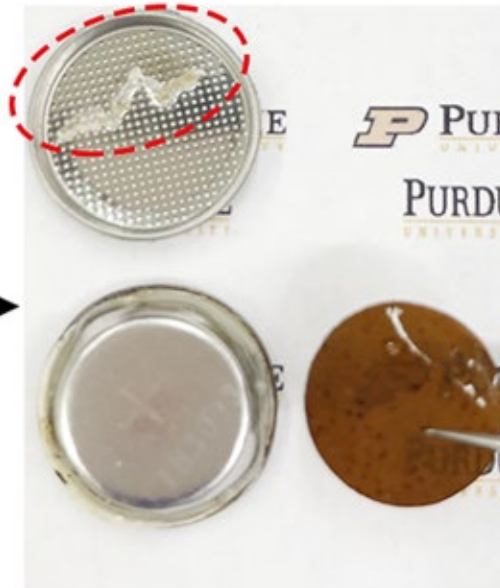
Thermal Stability

Commercial PP
separator

Purdue's CSPE



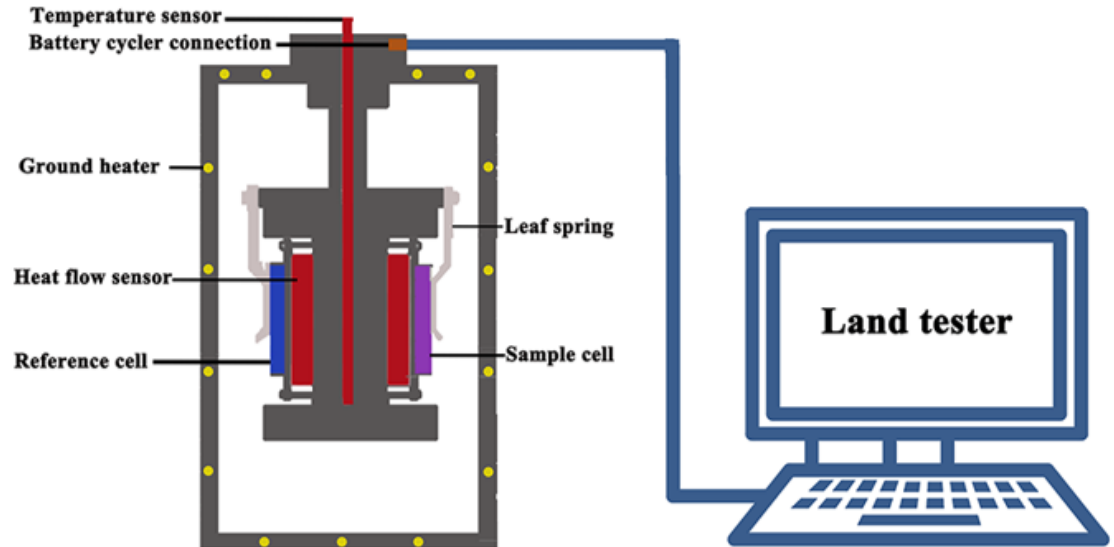
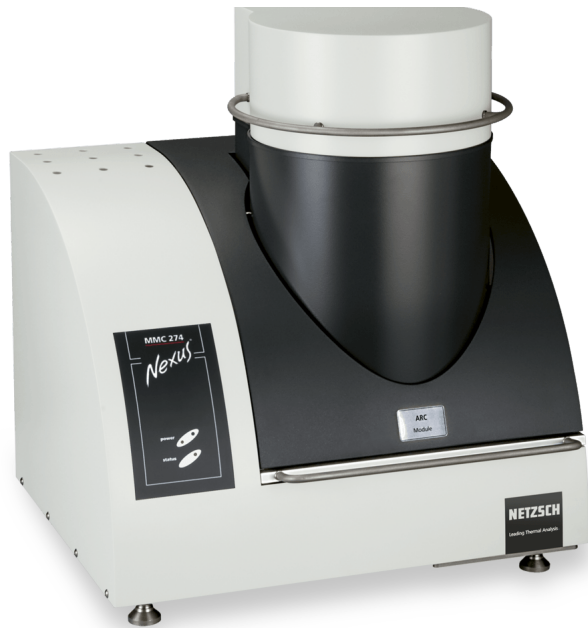
300°C
 $\xrightarrow{1\text{h}}$



× Melt and shrink

✓ Maintain its structure

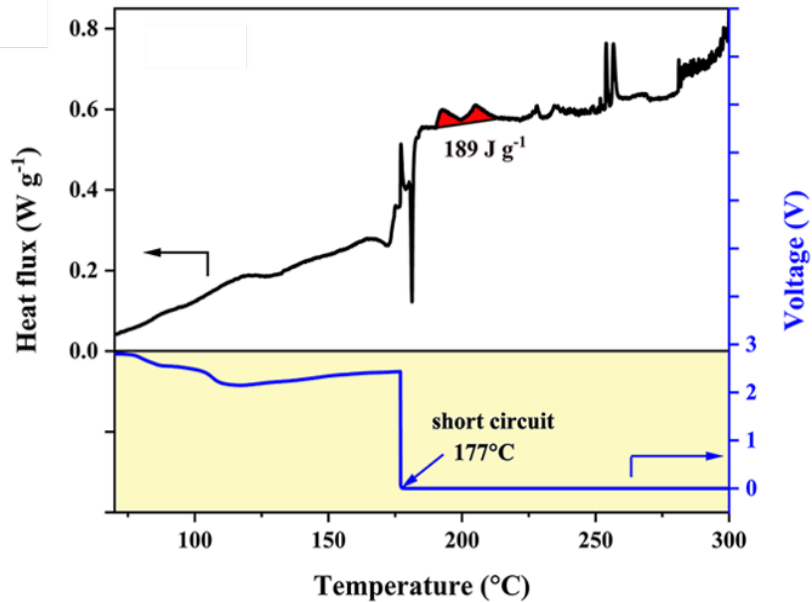
Schematic of multiple module calorimeter



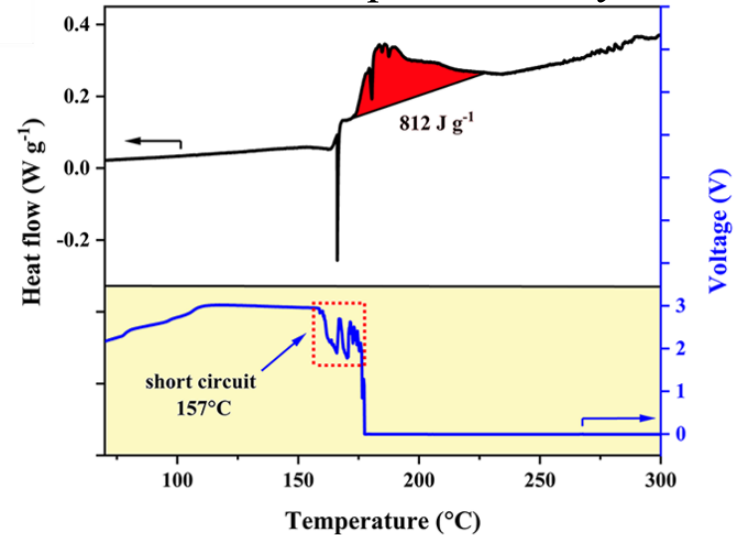
- Different from DSC and ARC
- **MMC** can **in-situ** investigate the thermal behavior of an **entire coin cell** instead of individual components

Thermal Safety Performance

Purdue's solid-state battery



Traditional liquid electrolyte battery



Thermal stable window:

✓ up to 177°C



VS



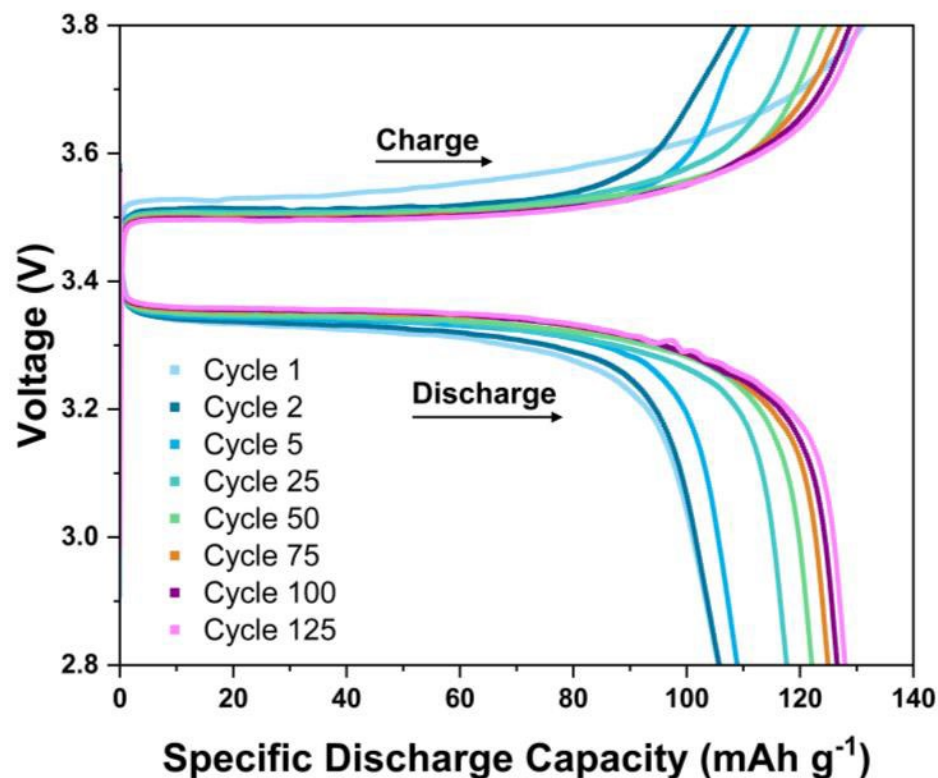
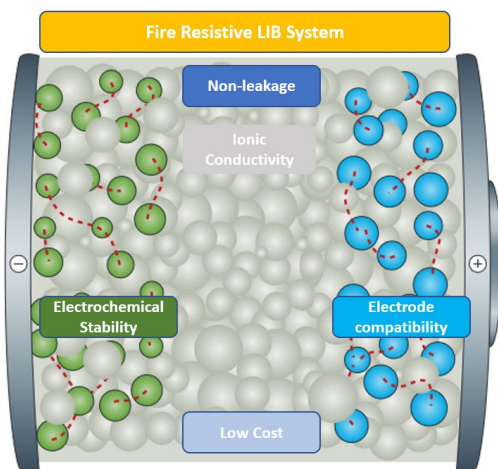
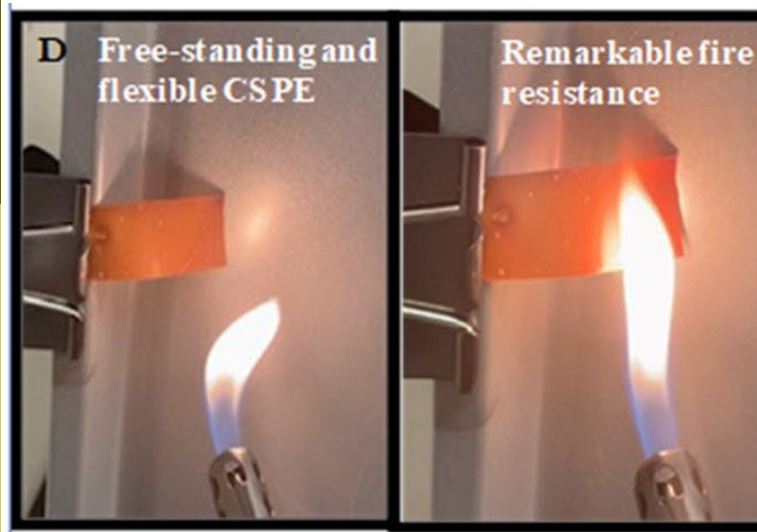
✗ up to 157°C
✗ 812 J g^{-1}

Heat generation:

✓ 189 J g^{-1}

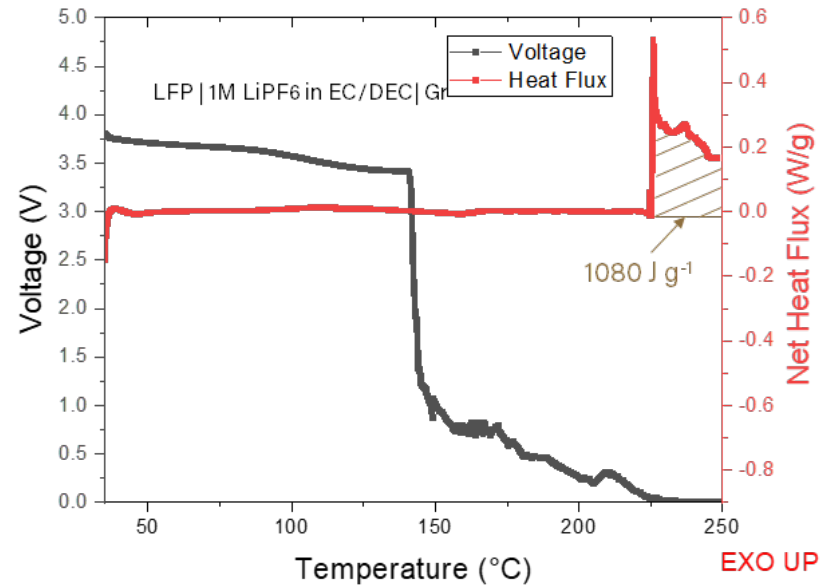
Purdue's Generation II:

Fire retardant molecule as solvent and plasticizer

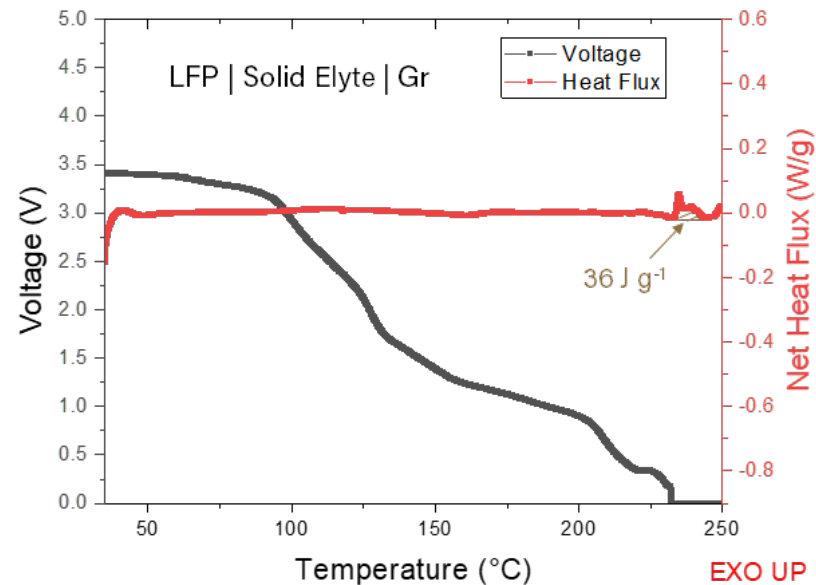


Exothermic heat measurements - MMC

Conventional



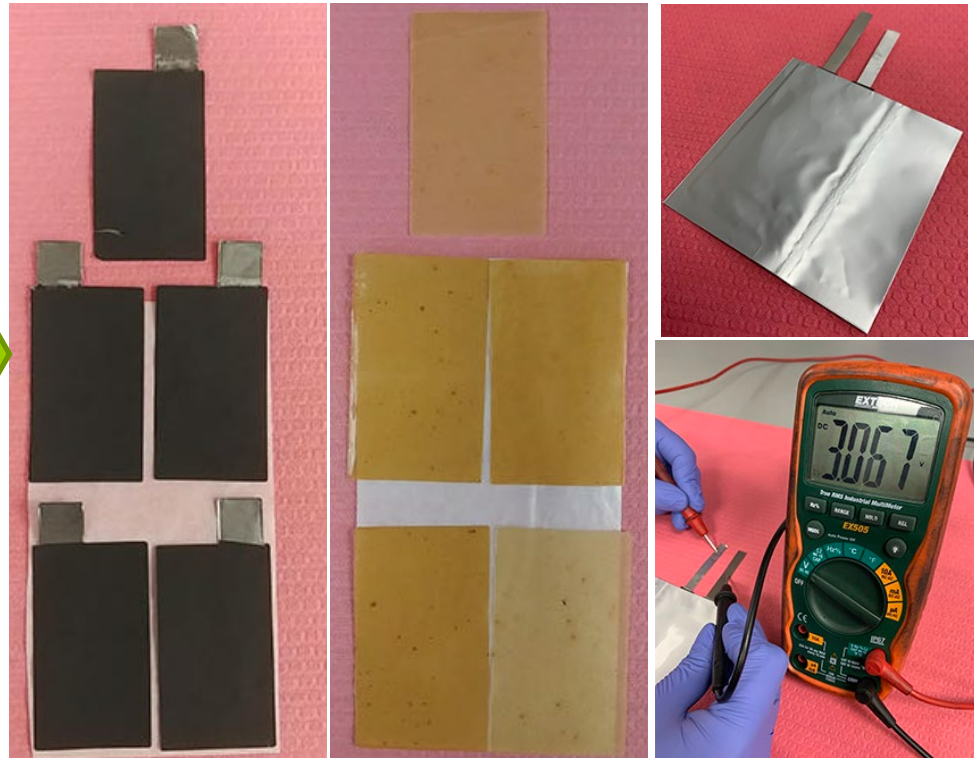
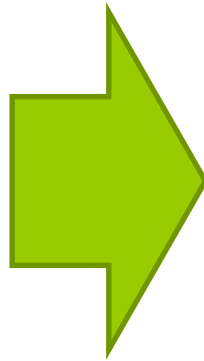
Quasi-solid state



A scalable quasi-solid state battery



Small scale coin cell



Large scale, single-layer pouch cell

Abuse testing with functionality



Original



Bending



Cutting



Punching


- Apart from various abuse tests still functional

Non-polar ether-based electrolyte solutions for stable high-voltage non-aqueous lithium metal batteries

Received: 21 July 2022

Accepted: 10 February 2023

Published online: 16 February 2023

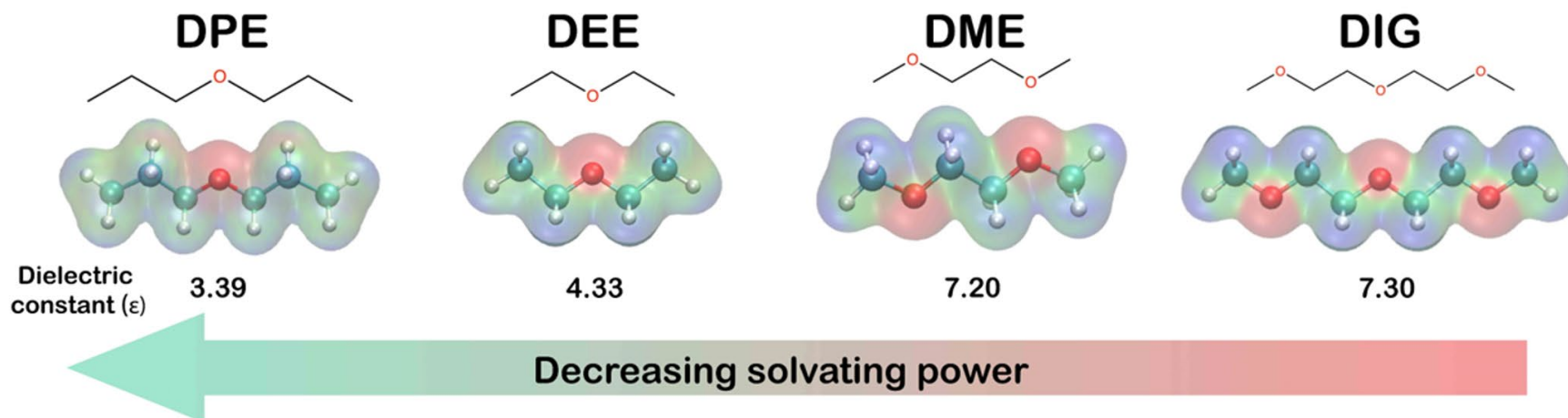
 Check for updates

Zheng Li¹✉, Harsha Rao¹, Rasha Atwi², Bhuvaneswari M. Sivakumar³, Bharat Gwalani^{3,4}, Scott Gray⁵, Kee Sung Han^{3,4}, Thomas A. Everett⁶, Tanvi A. Ajantiwalay³, Vijayakumar Murugesan^{3,4}, Nav Nidhi Rajput² & Vilas G. Pol¹✉

The electrochemical instability of ether-based electrolyte solutions hinders their practical applications in high-voltage Li metal batteries. To circumvent this issue, here, we propose a dilution strategy to lose the Li⁺/solvent interaction and use the dilute non-aqueous electrolyte solution in high-voltage lithium metal batteries. We demonstrate that in a non-polar dipropyl ether (DPE)-based electrolyte solution with lithium bis(fluorosulfonyl) imide salt, the decomposition order of solvated species can be adjusted to promote the Li⁺/salt-derived anion clusters decomposition over free ether solvent molecules. This selective mechanism favors the formation of a robust cathode electrolyte interphase (CEI) and a solvent-deficient electric double-layer structure at the positive electrode interface. When the DPE-based electrolyte is tested in combination with a Li metal negative electrode (50 μm thick) and a LiNi_{0.8}Co_{0.1}Mn_{0.1}O₂-based positive electrode (3.3 mAh/cm²) in pouch cell configuration at 25 °C, a specific discharge capacity retention of about 74% after 150 cycles (0.33 and 1 mA/cm² charge and discharge, respectively) is obtained.

Solvation structure-dependent stability

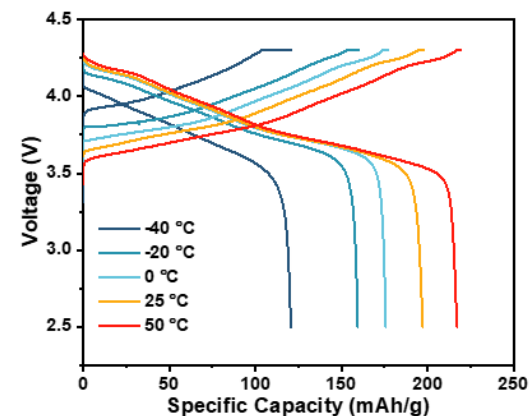
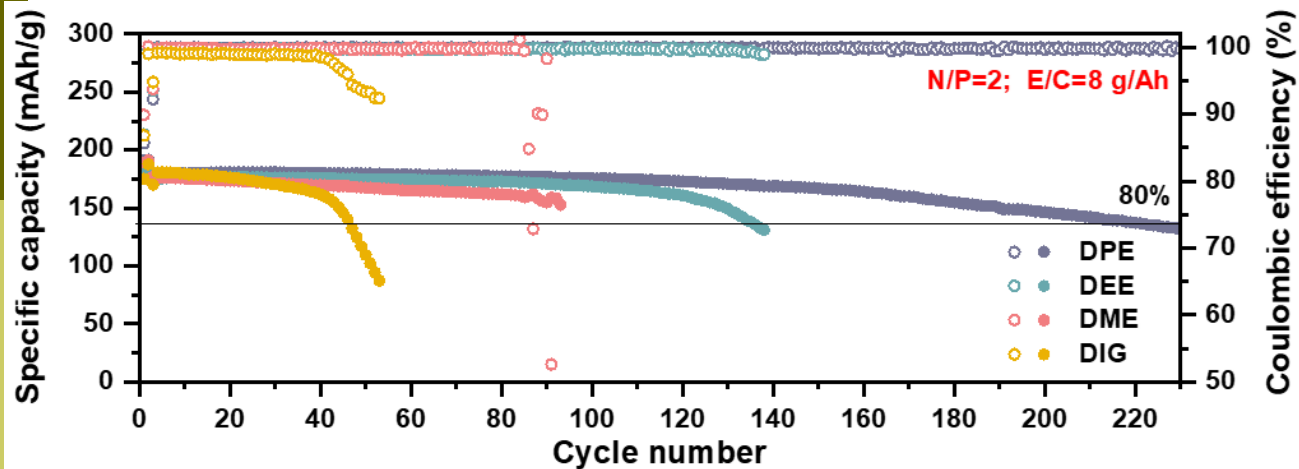
Ethers are inherently more stable on Li metal surface, which enables **higher cycling efficiency** than carbonates. However, they are extremely unstable at high operating potential



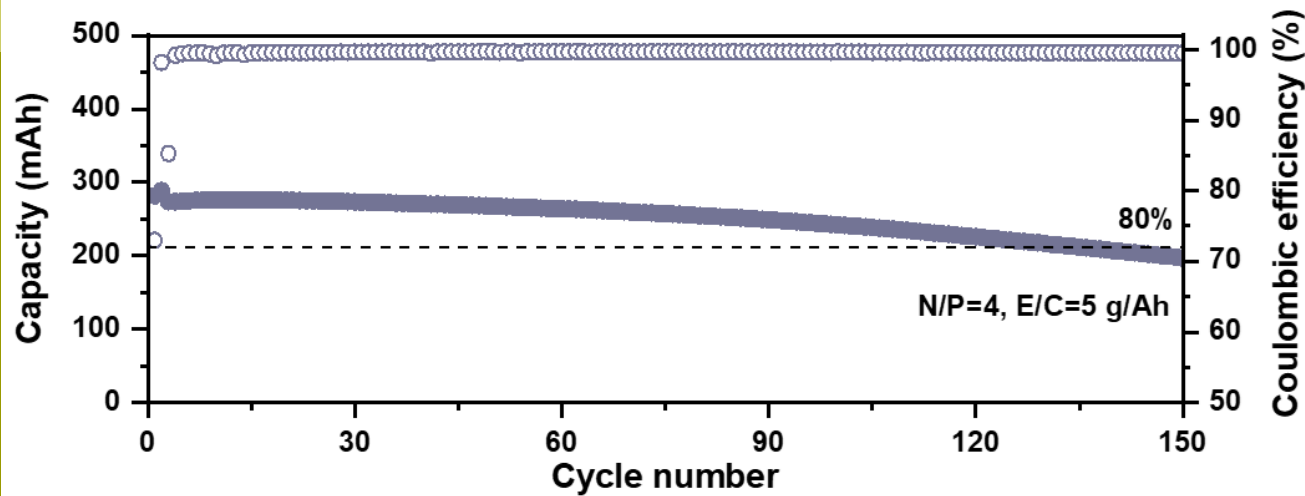
- ✓ Modulating the solvating power of ether solvents is hypothesized to change the interfacial stability via selectively forming a protective **anion-derived CEI** and **kinetically stabilized the interface**, because the solvation structure controlled by solvent strength governs the electrolyte decomposition pathways and the CEI composition.

Long cycle performance in Practical LMBs

Coin cell with controlled amount of anode and electrolyte

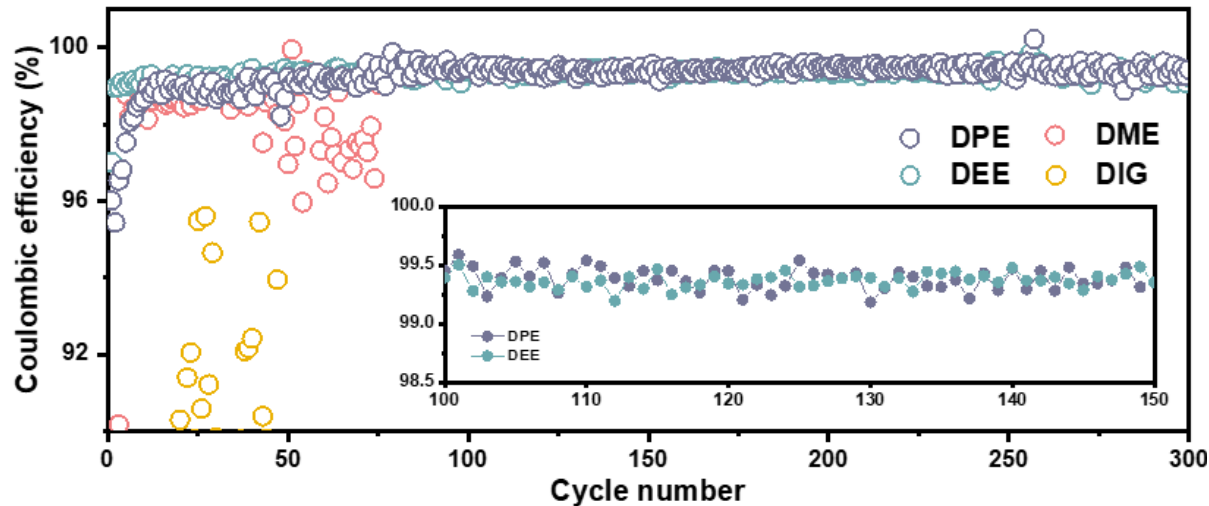


300 mAh pouch cell performance

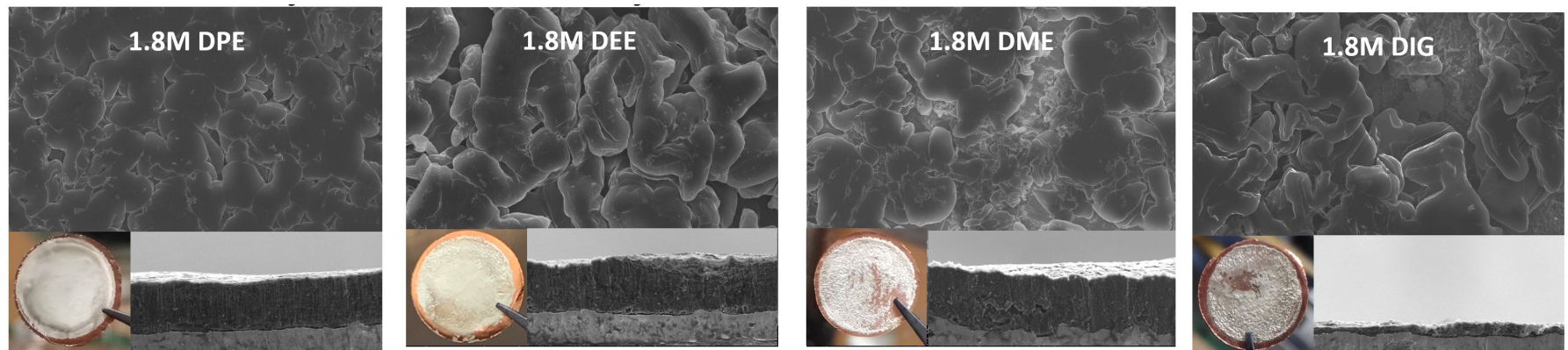


Compatibility to Li metal anode:

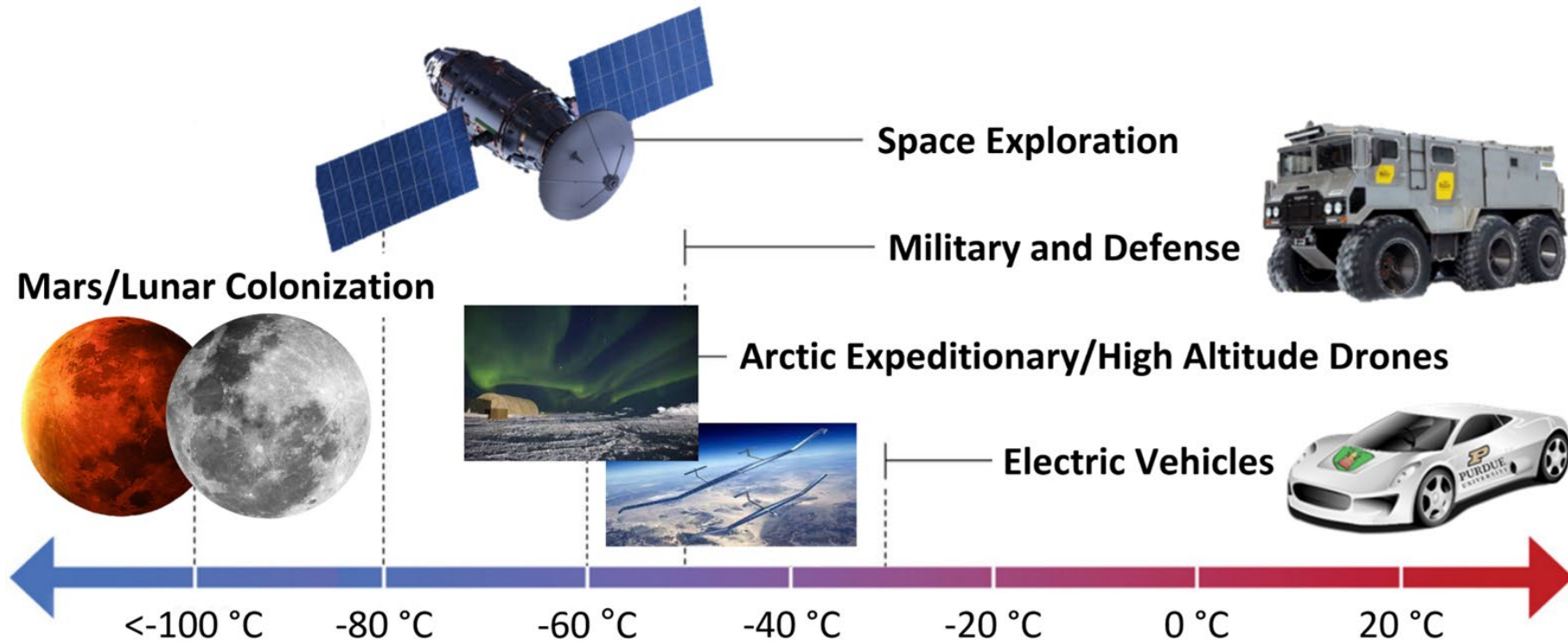
- High coulombic efficiency of 99.5% over 300 cycles



- Dense Li depositing morphology



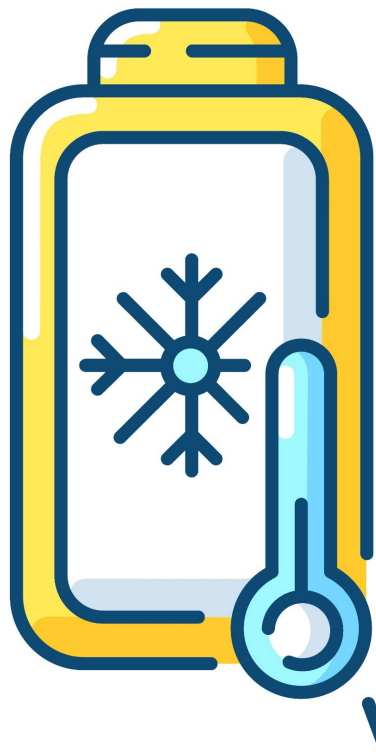
Low Temperature Battery Applications



- Space, defense, daily life applications of lithium-ion batteries

Major Two Challenges in Current Systems

Electrolyte issue



- **Electrolyte freezing and sluggish Li^+ reaction kinetics** originated from high melting point and Li^+ desolvation barrier of ethylene carbonate (EC).

Battery evaluation system issue

- **Several limitations to test batteries below $-70\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$** with commercially available chambers and battery cyclers.

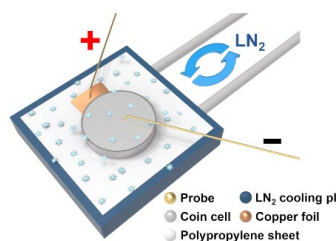
Solution to Electrolyte Issues

Approach 1 - Cyclopentyl Methyl Ether (CPME) based WSE

Approach 2 - Tetrahydrofuran (THF) based SCE

Solution to Battery evaluation system issue

Purdue's Ultra Low Temperature Test Facility

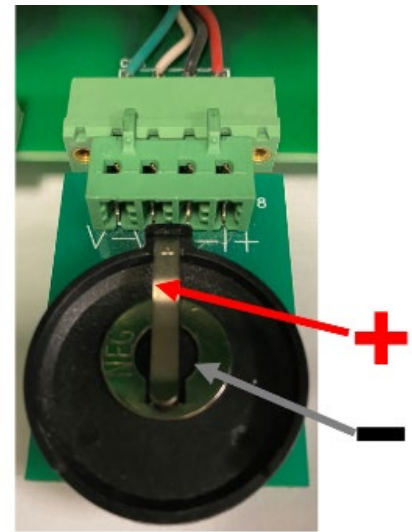


Coin cell



**3 cm x 3 cm
Pouch cell**

Limitations for Low Temperature Battery Testing



Expensive infrastructure is required

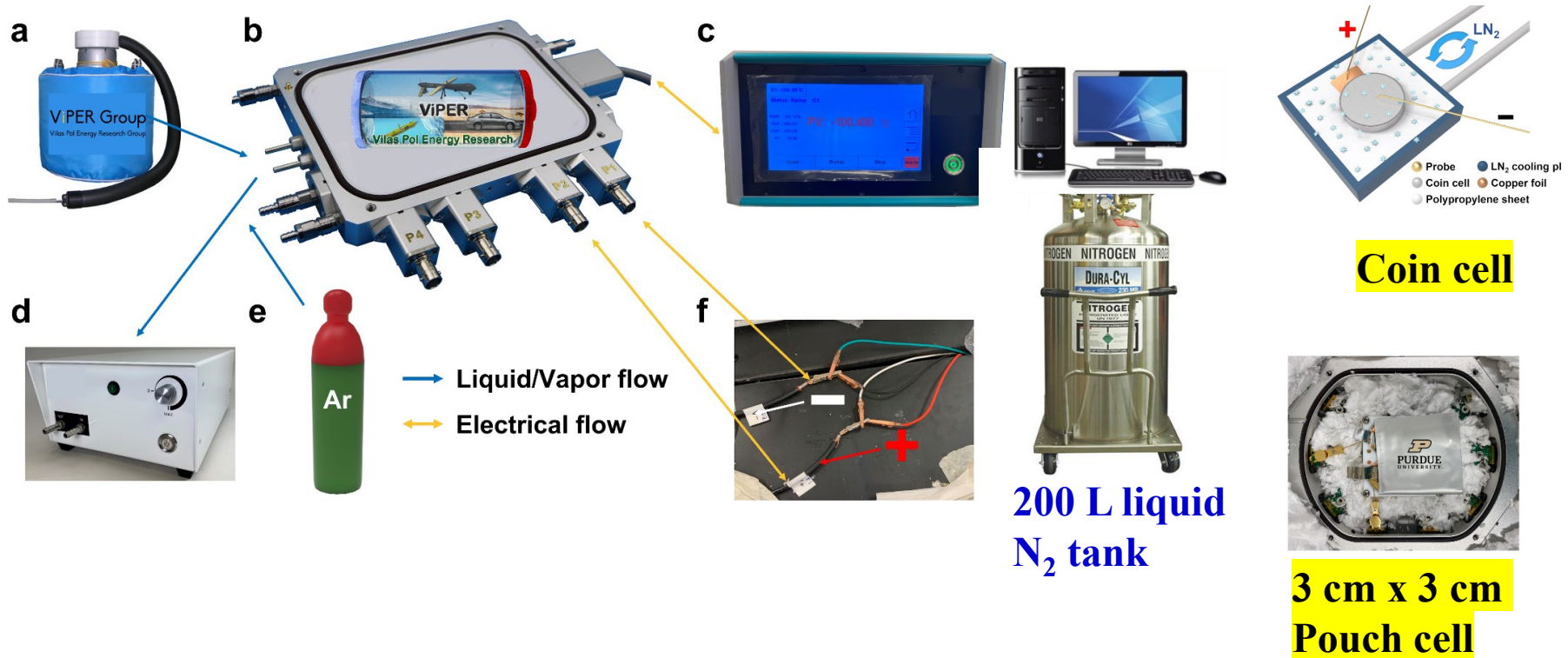
It is difficult to create a cooling system capable of $-100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ or below without LN_2 .

Commercial systems has high LN_2 consumption rates (6 to 30 L hr^{-1}).

Resistance issue on commercial cell holder at low temperature

Arbin battery cycler cell holders are only rated to operate down the $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ with negligible resistance change.

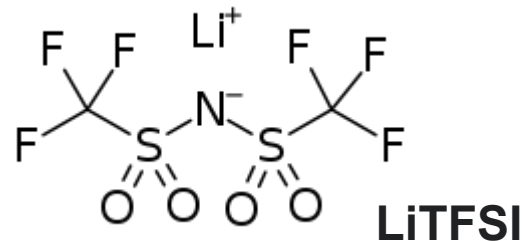
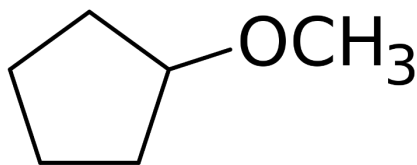
Purdue's Ultra Low Temperature Test Capability



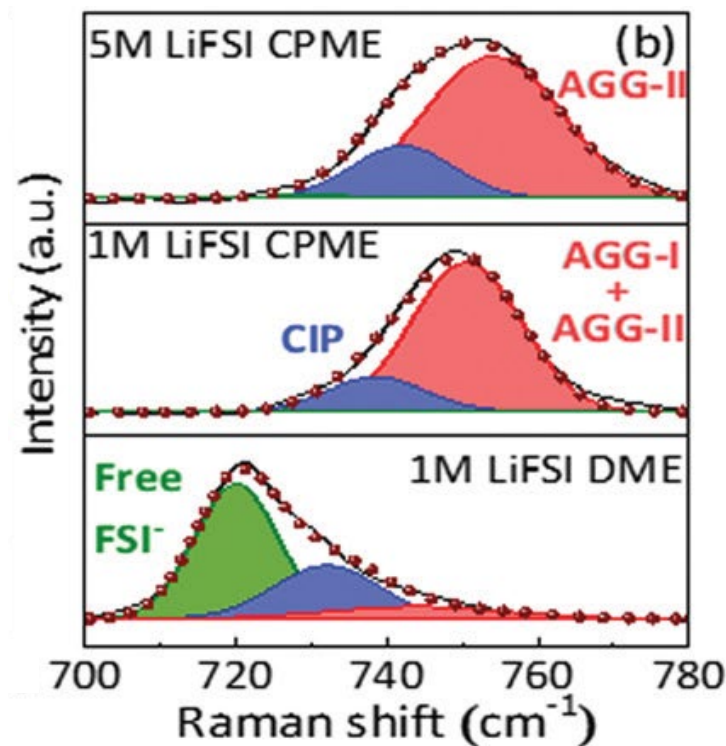
Affordable cost and accurate/reliable electrical measurement

- Available temperature → Up to -175 °C, Simulating extremely cold temperature environment (Lunar, Space, High Altitude, and Polar regions)
- Efficient LN₂ flow to minimize LN₂ usage (0.63 L hr⁻¹),
- Suppressed frost buildup by Ar purging *Pol et al, Energy Technol., 2022 2200799.*

Approach 1- Cyclopentyl Methyl Ether (CPME) based WSE

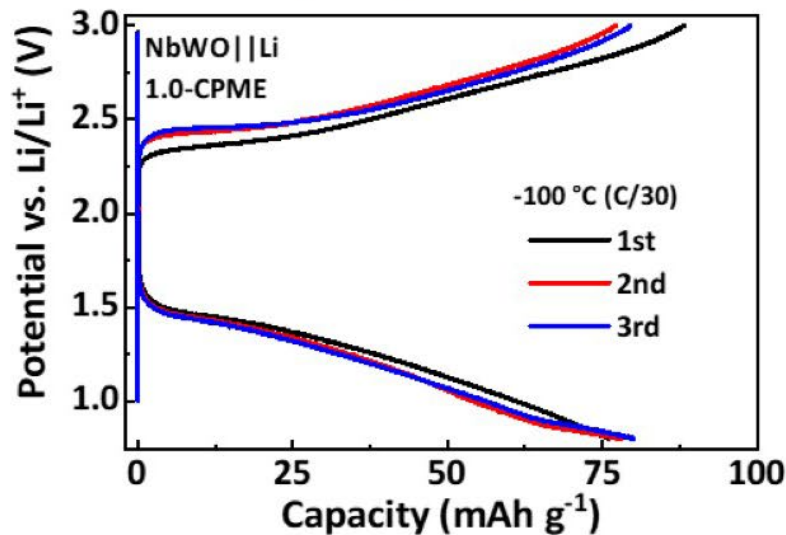


- CPME (B.P: 106 °C and M.P: -140 °C)
- High solubility of the salt (7M)
- Environmentally safe and economically feasible CPME solvent
- Unique solvation structure consisting of CIPs and AGGs
- AGG-I → An FSI⁻ bonded with 2 Li⁺,
AGG-II → An FSI⁻ bonded with 3 Li⁺



-100 °C Tests (NbWO₃ || Li)

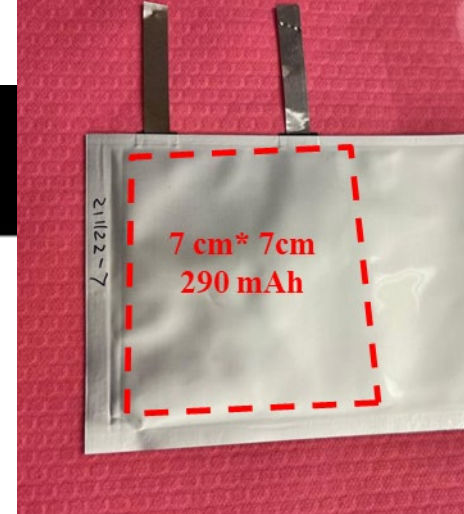
-100 °C (C/30) test (0.8-3.0V)



~75 mAh g⁻¹ @ -100 °C

-100 °C tests with 1.0-CPME

- 1.0-CPME
 - Good low-temperature performance (graphite anode)
 - Charge-discharge ability at -100 °C with a small capacity and extremely slow current rate
- Finally, NbWO₃ with 1.0-CPME achieved >75 mAh g⁻¹ at C/30.
 - Much improved extreme low-temperature battery performance



1.0-CPME electrolyte (1M LiFSI in CPME)

CPME: cyclopentyl methyl ether (-140 °C)



Summary

1. Engineered composite quasi-solid state batteries could be **safer** than conventional Lithium ion batteries.
2. **Gen III** are towards making quasi-solid state battery that would not catch fire with any abuse!
3. Li-metal batteries are **safe till 150 °C**, separator and lithium metal melts after that causing huge exothermic heat.
3. **Lithium metal** batteries are **VERY promising** with DPE based electrolyte

