



Polymer-sealed planar Na-NiCl₂ batteries at 180°C

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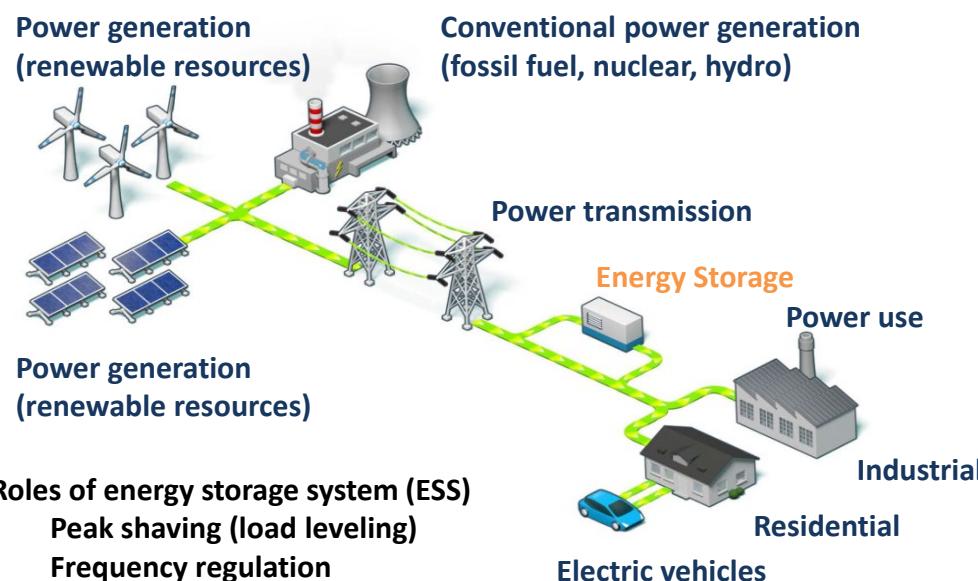
efficient electric power management

- ESS is an essential component for efficient electric power management.
- Stationary ESS market is expected to be as big as 368GWh in 2030.

Key requirements (1) High safety, (2) Long lifetime, (3) Low cost, (4) Sustainable law materials

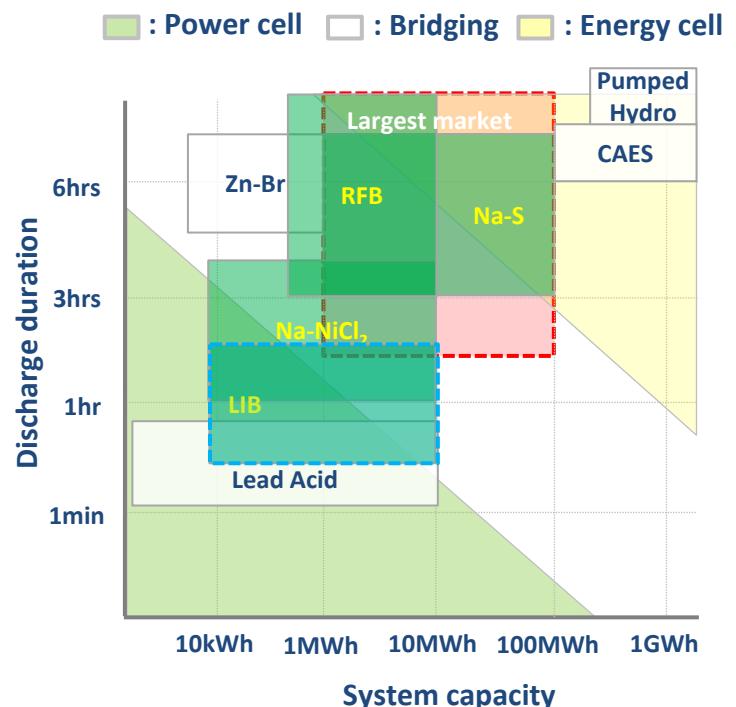
- No battery meets market's technological demands yet.
→ Market expansion is being delayed than expected.

■ Energy storage in grid



→ Efficient power management

■ Candidate battery chemistries

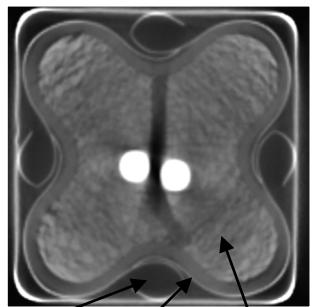


statement of the problem

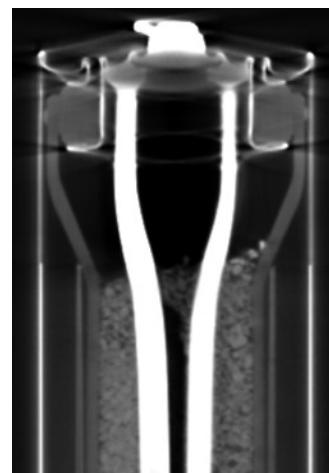
■ Total cost to operate an ESS system for 15 years

Chemistry	Installation and Maintenance Cost								Pros and Cons
LiB (1MW/6MWh)	\$350/kWh ('21)								Maintenance Cost (cell replace, HVAC etc.)
	200	90	60			??			Robust supply chain through EV/mobile Safety issue, HVAC, Lifetime
	Battery pack	BMS/	PCS+PMS						
	Container								
Na-S (1MW/5.6MWh)	\$320/kWh ('21)								Maintenance Plan for 15 years
	270	50	90						
	Battery System		PCS						
Na-NiCl ₂ (1MW/2MWh)	\$610/kWh (best case)								Maintenance Cost
	70	250	7	90	50	140	??		
	Materials	Process	Misc.	Module	Indirect	PCS			
Goal	<\$190/kWh								Maintenance Cost
	<50	30	7	30	50	<90			

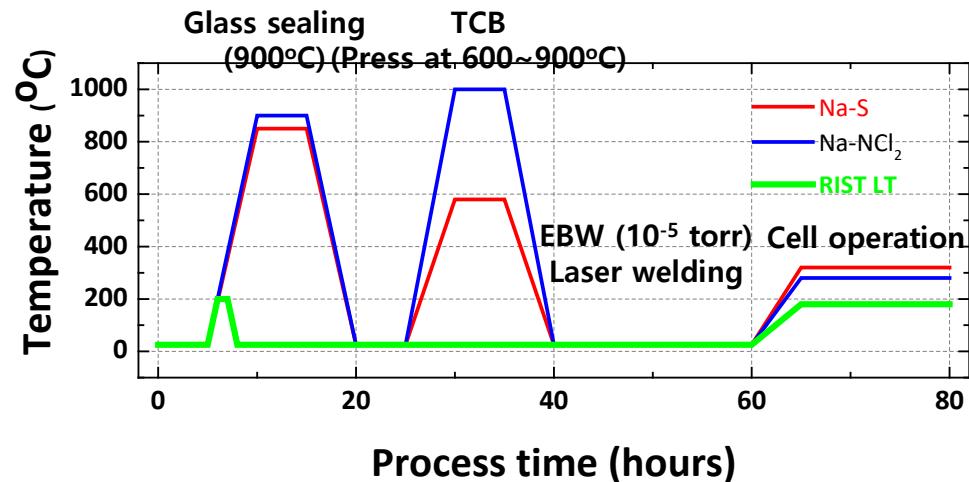
■ Cross-sectional computed X-ray tomography



Anode (blank) Solid electrolyte ($\beta''\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$) Cathode (Ni. NaCl)



■ Assembly and cell operation steps



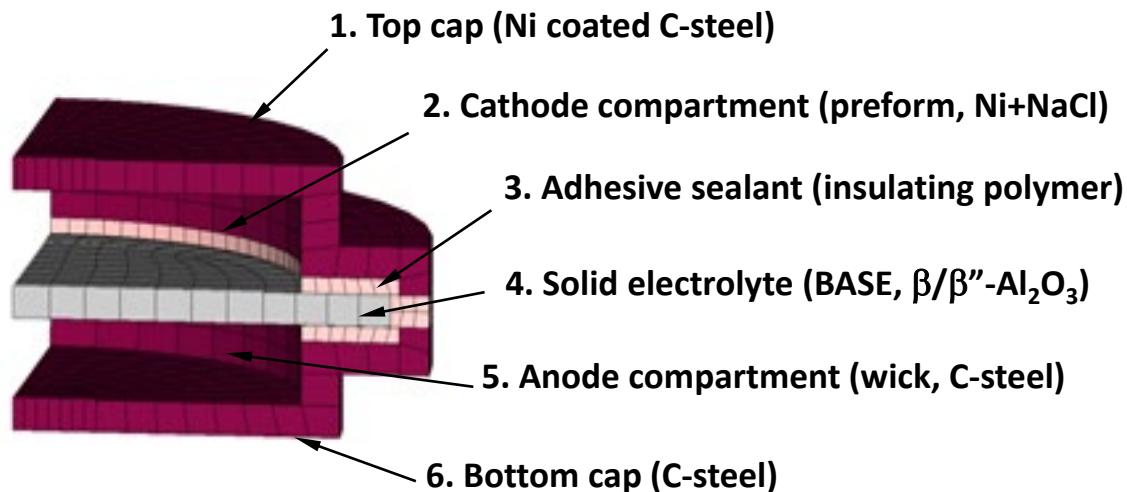
a novel Na-NiCl₂ cell design

■ Research direction

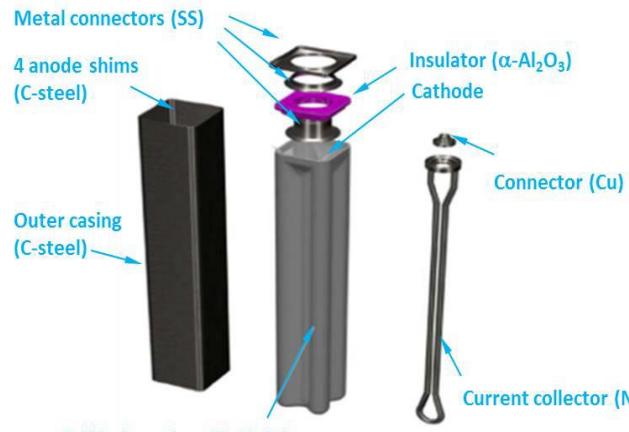
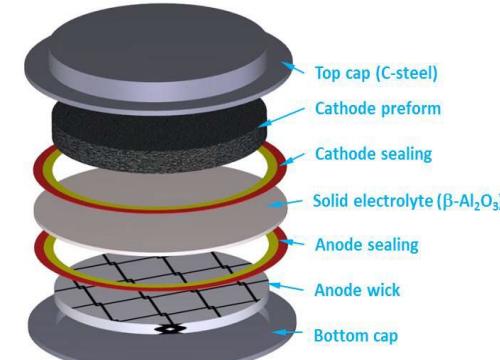
1. Remove expensive bonding technologies.
2. Reduce number of components and simplify cell manufacturing process.
3. Try to avoid thermal stress issues.

■ Our design concepts

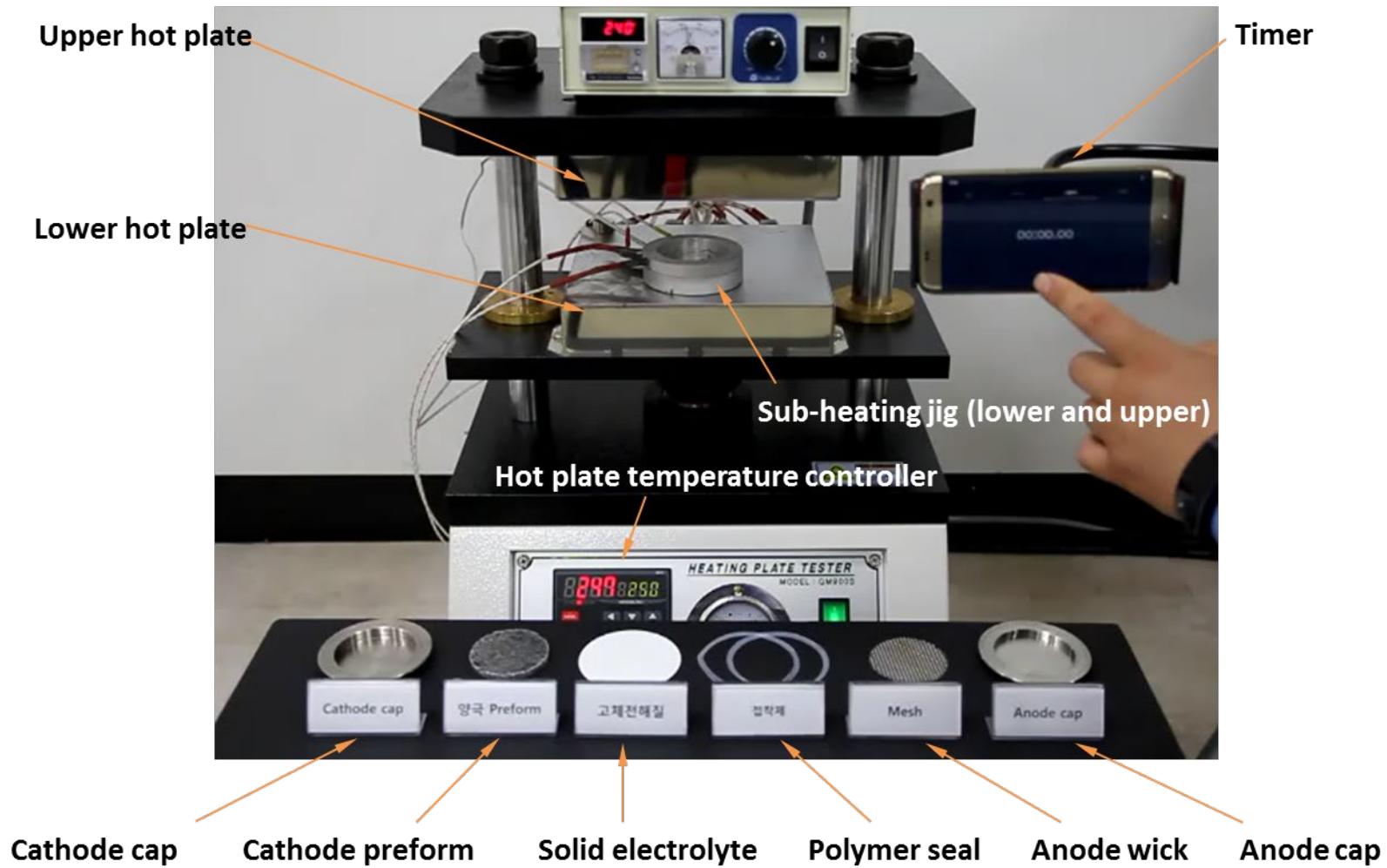
1. Adopt **polymer seal** in order to (1) avoid conventional sealing and (2) compliant joints.
2. Need to **reduce operation temperature** (<200°C) in order to use conventional high T polymers.
3. Adopt **planar cell designs** in order to simplify cell manufacturing process.



a novel Na-NiCl₂ cell design

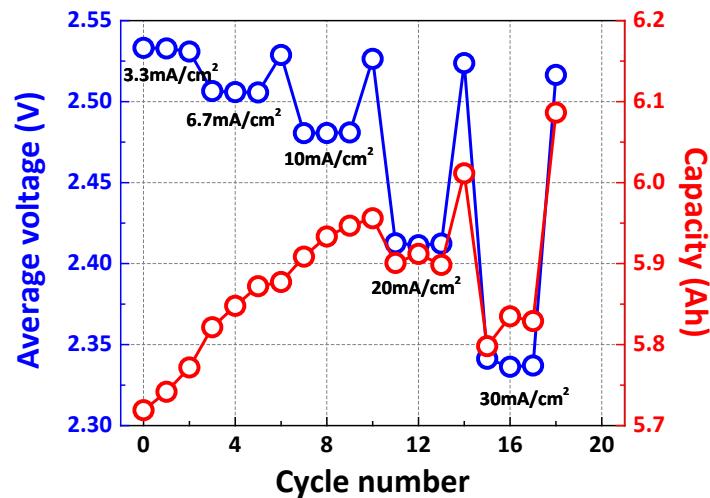
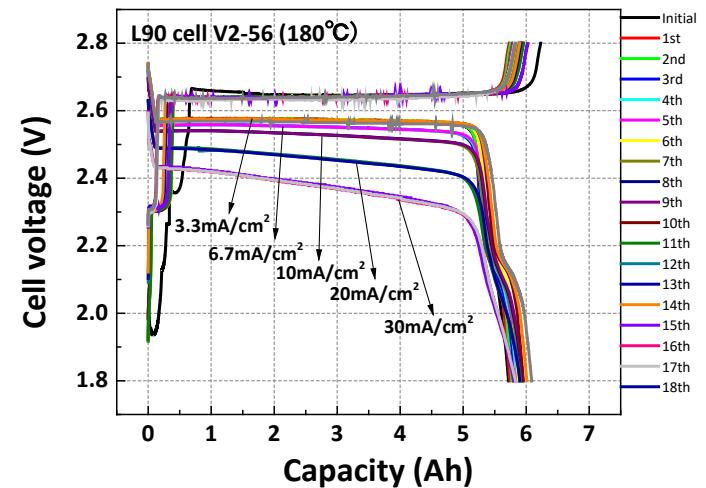
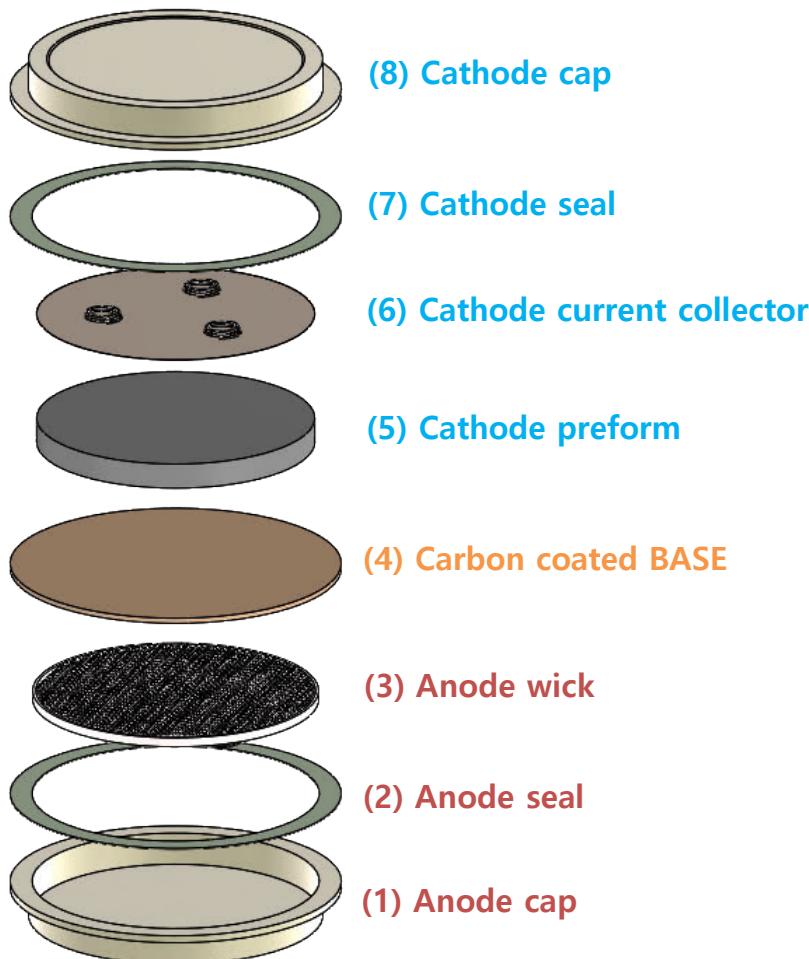
	Na-NiCl ₂ (100Wh)	Lower T planar cell (25Wh class)
C/DC Reaction	$\text{Ni(s)} + \text{NaCl(s)} = \text{NiCl}_2, V=2.58\text{V}$	$\text{Ni(s)} + \text{NaCl(s)} = \text{NiCl}_2, V=2.58\text{V}$
Temperature	280°C	190°C
Cell design	 <p>Number of components ~20</p>	 <p>Number of components <10</p>
Heterogeneous bonding	<p>C-C: Glass sealing (900°C)</p> <p>C-M: TCB (Ni metallization + pressing, 1000°C)</p> <p>M-M: Laser welding or E-beam welding</p>	<p>C-C: none</p> <p>C-M: Polymer sealing (170~300°C, 1 min Press)</p> <p>M-M: none</p>
Key components	<p>BASE (CIP), Cathode (Particulate granules), Machined $\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ insulating ring</p>	<p>Solid electrolyte (Tape casting), Cathode (Preform), Metal components (Stamping), No use of $\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ring</p>

proof of concept (video clip)



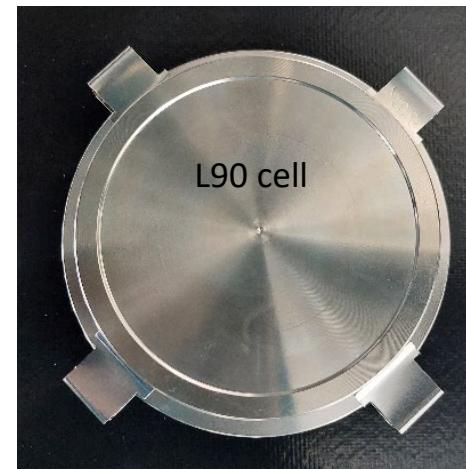
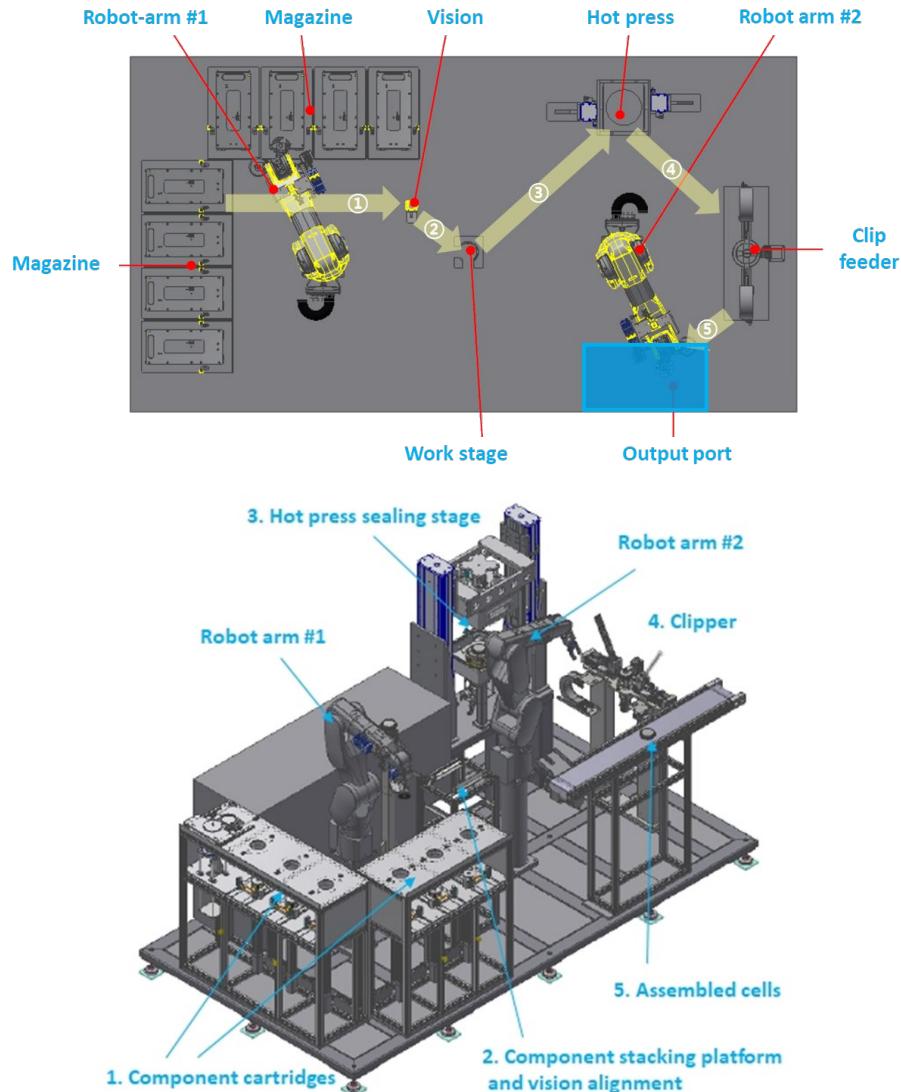
6Ah unit cell

- **KPI:** 15Wh, SOC utilization 80% @30mA/cm²
- **Cycling condition:** UCV/LCV=2.8V/1.8V, CC 3.3~30mA/cm²



semi-automated cell manufacturing

■ Semi-automated Cell Assembly Set-up

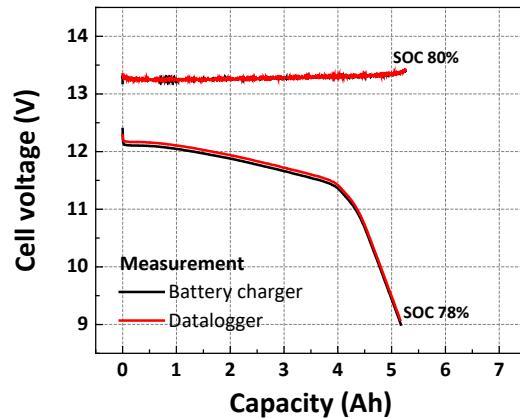
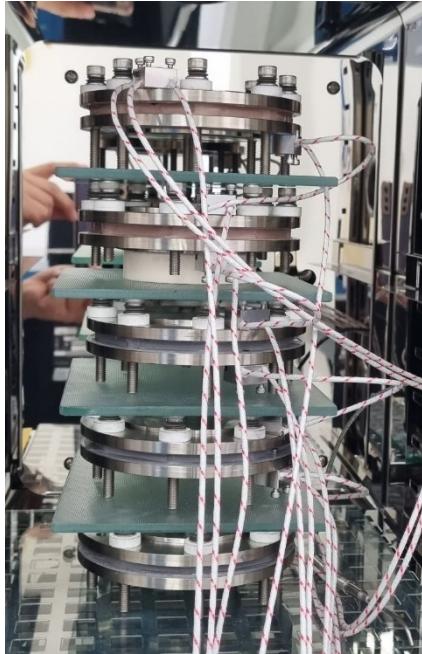


semi-automated cell manufacturing (video clip)

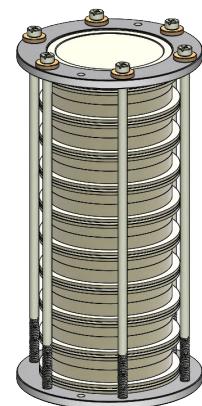


stacked cell (in progress)

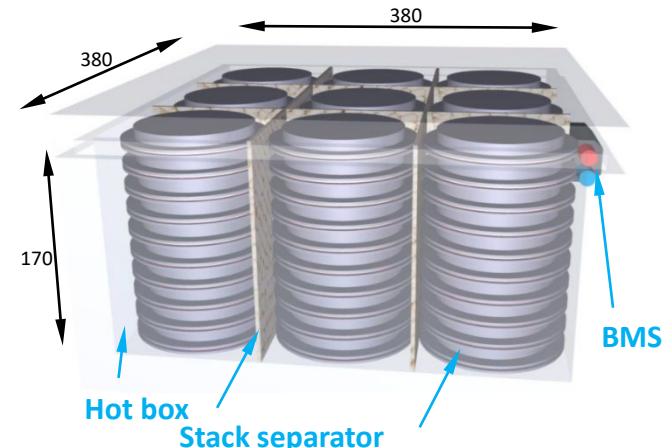
5S connected cell
(Minimizing difference in cell performance)



10s stack cell
(~'22E)



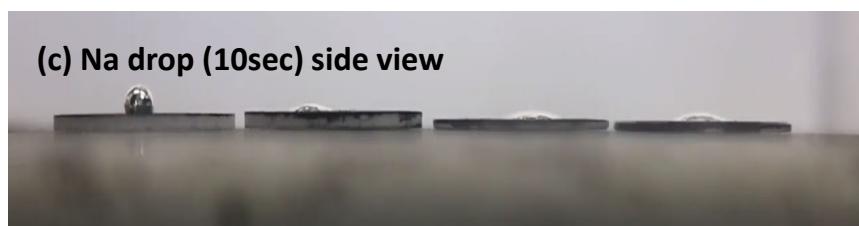
kWh class block
(~'23.6)



Item	5s	10s	90 cell block
Energy	75Wh	150Wh	1.35kWh
Operating V	9-14V	18-28V	60-86V
Operating T	180°C	180°C	180°C

Interfacial resistance reduction

■ Na(I) drop on C-coated BASE



■ Na(I) drop on uncoated and Ni-coated SS mesh

Time (s)	Uncoated mesh	Ni coated mesh
0	 121.72°	 101.88°
60	 121.55°	 101.17°
90	 117.97°	 71.56°

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