

Zinc|Manganese Dioxide Batteries for Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES) Systems

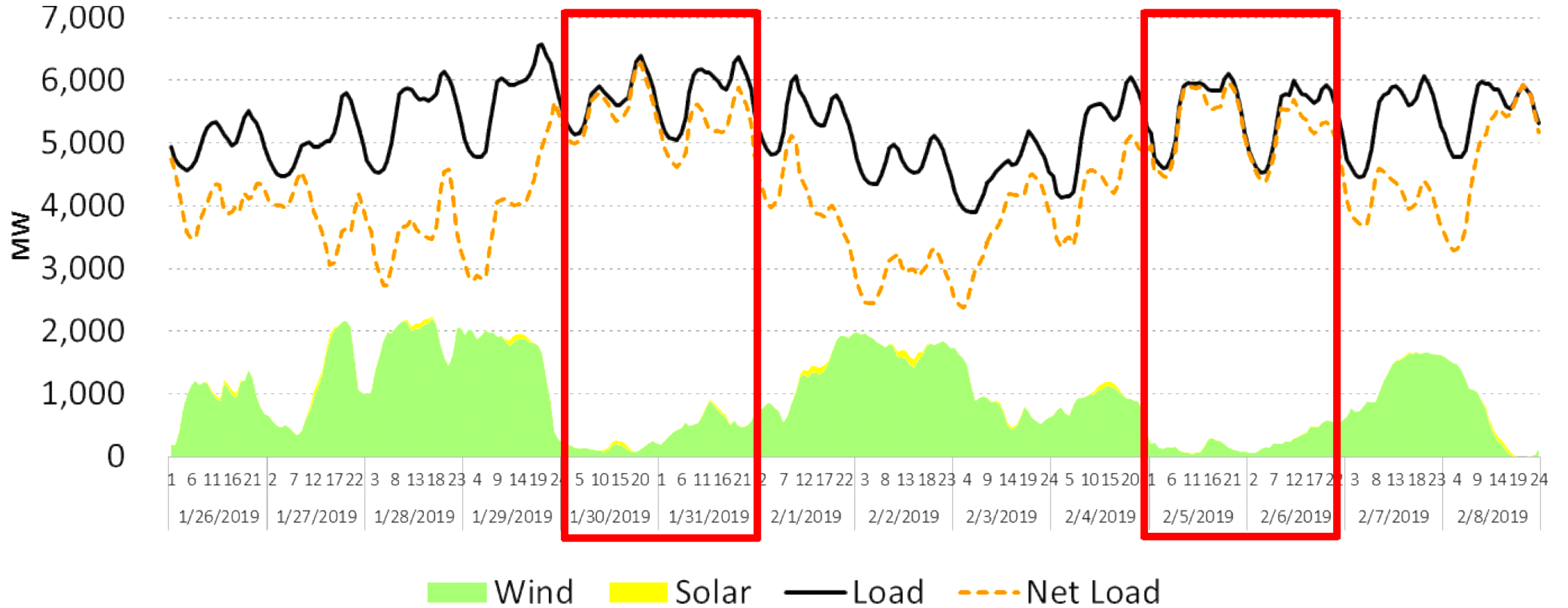
Gautam G. Yadav, PhD

10.25.2023

DOE Peer Review Meeting

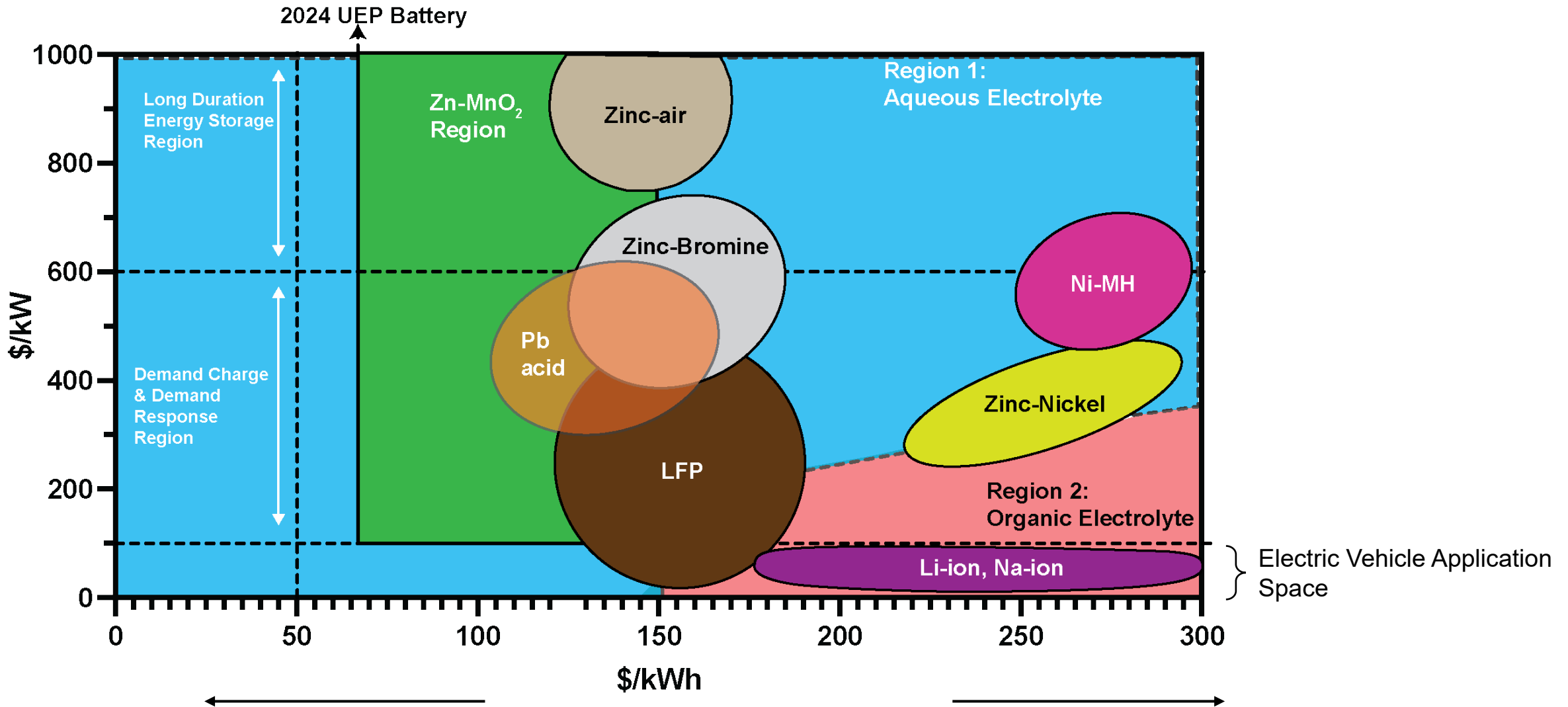
Need of Viable Solutions for LDES

Key Takeaway: For greater penetration of renewables into the grid we need storage solutions >10+ hours



Applications Space Overview

Key Takeaway: *Aqueous batteries can serve the need for LDES solutions*

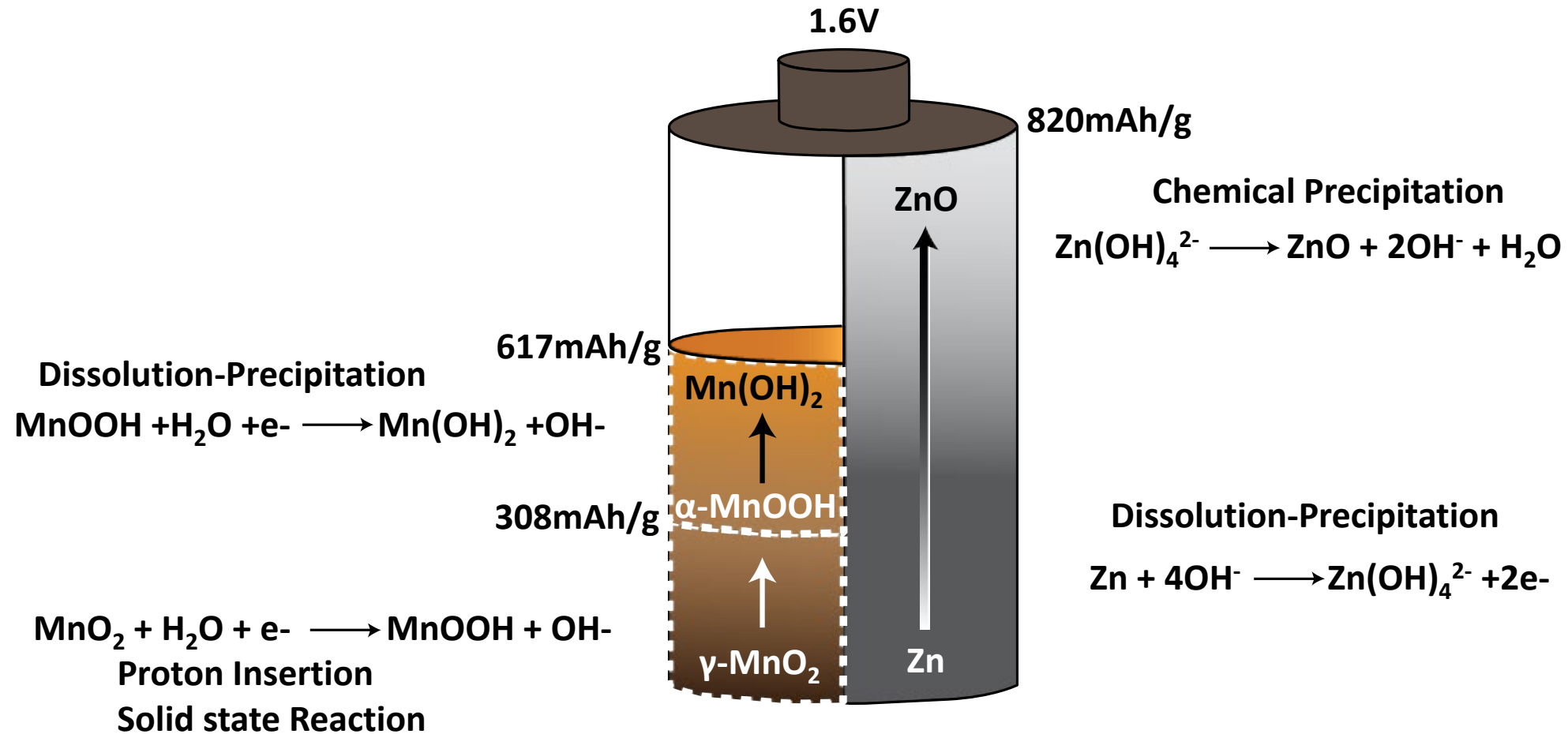


Active material contribution is higher. Bobbin-type cell designs are a good solution

Inactive contribution like current collectors to the overall cost dominates

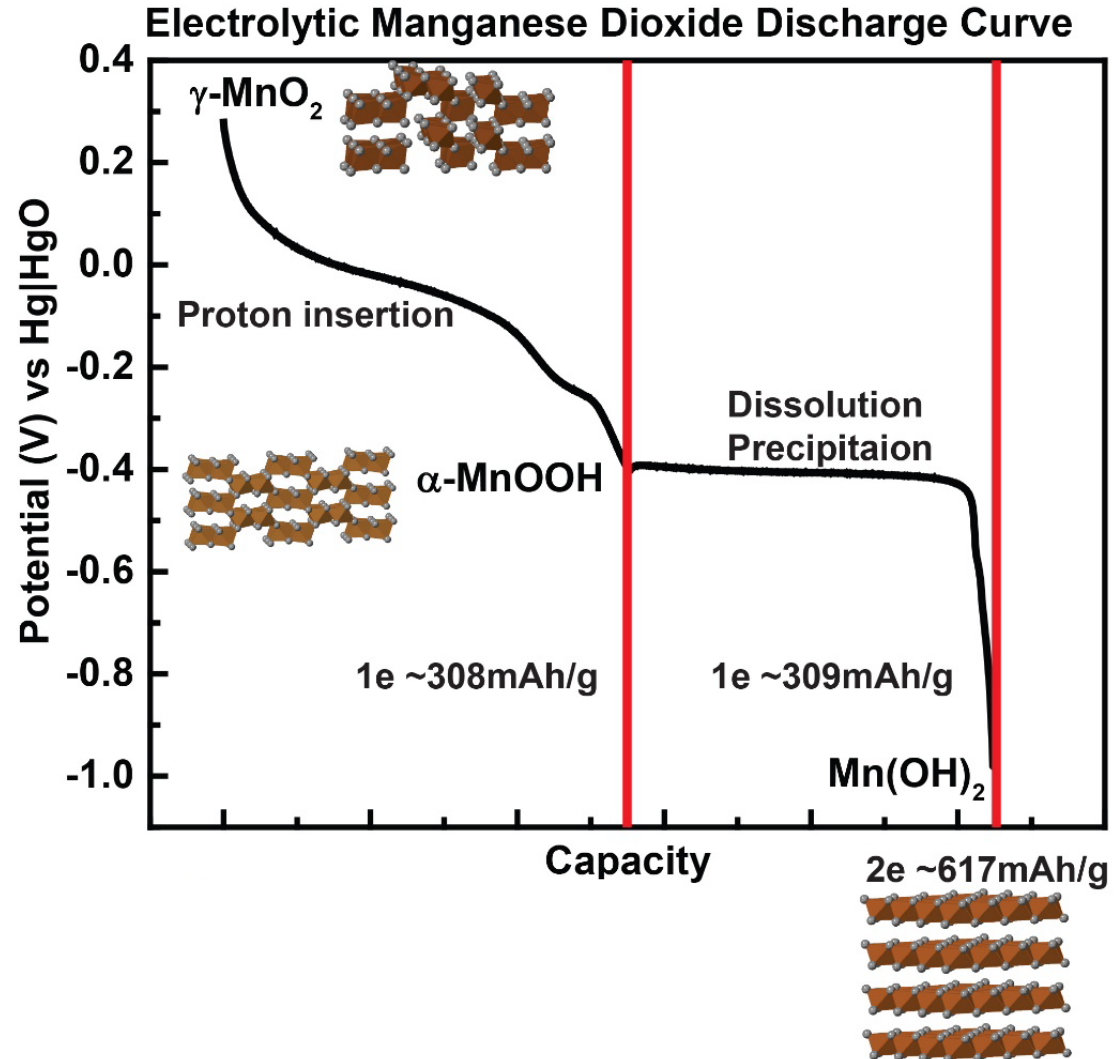
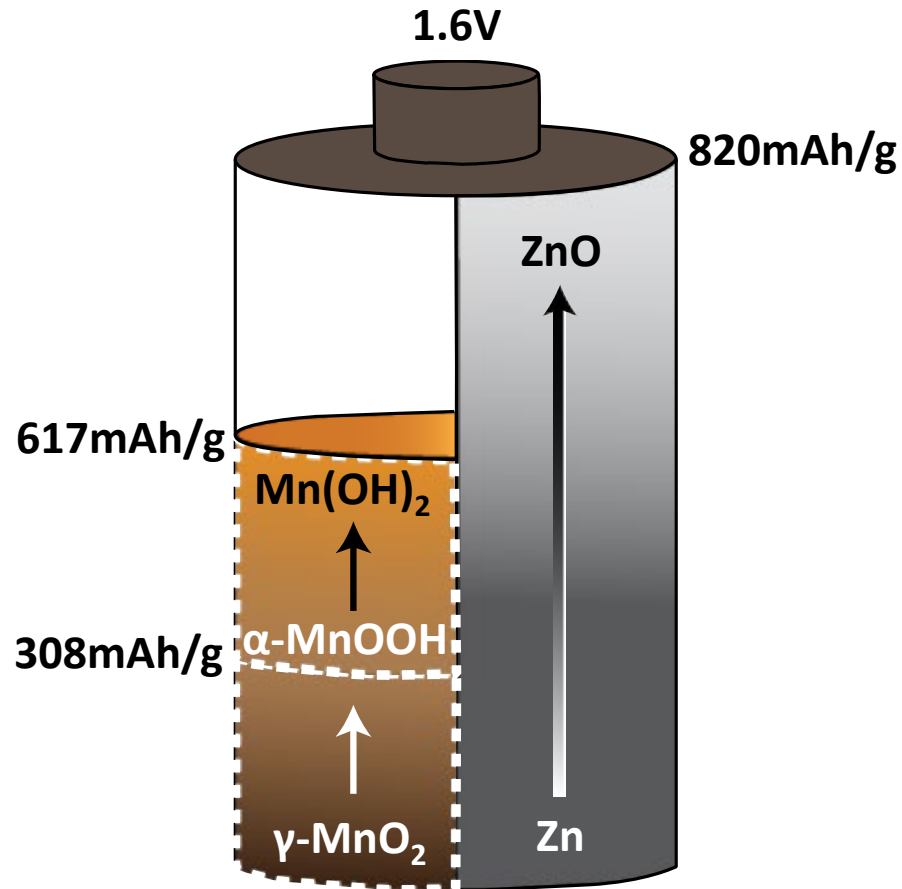
Introduction to the Zinc|Manganese Dioxide Chemistry

Key Takeaway: Chemistry has the potential to be a high energy density battery coupled with its safe and non-toxic properties



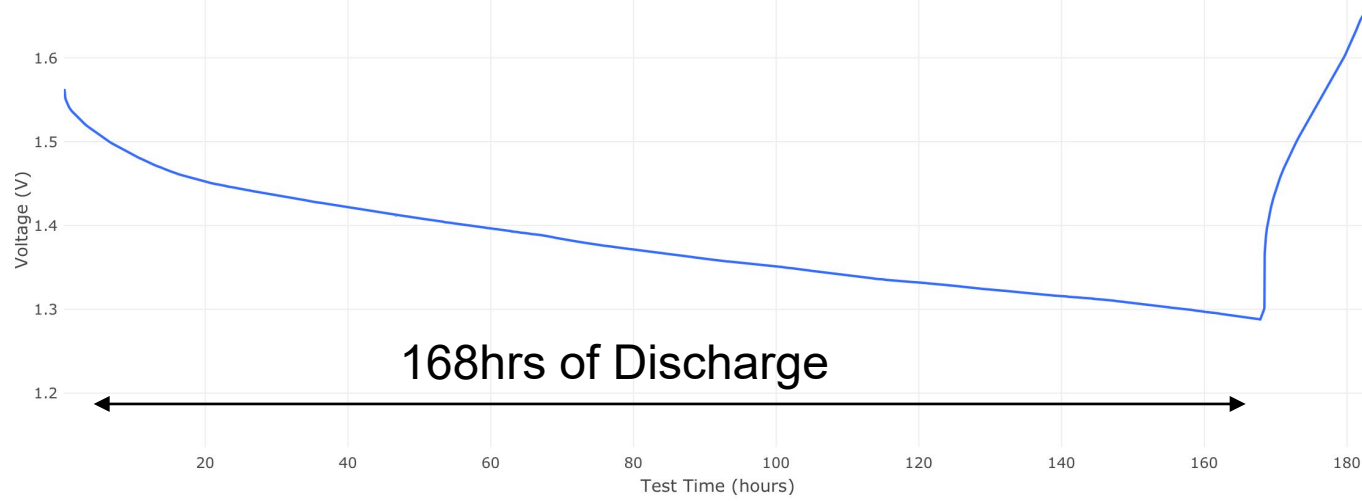
Introduction to the Zinc|Manganese Dioxide Chemistry

Key Takeaway: Reversibility is dictated by which electron is accessed in the MnO_2 discharge.



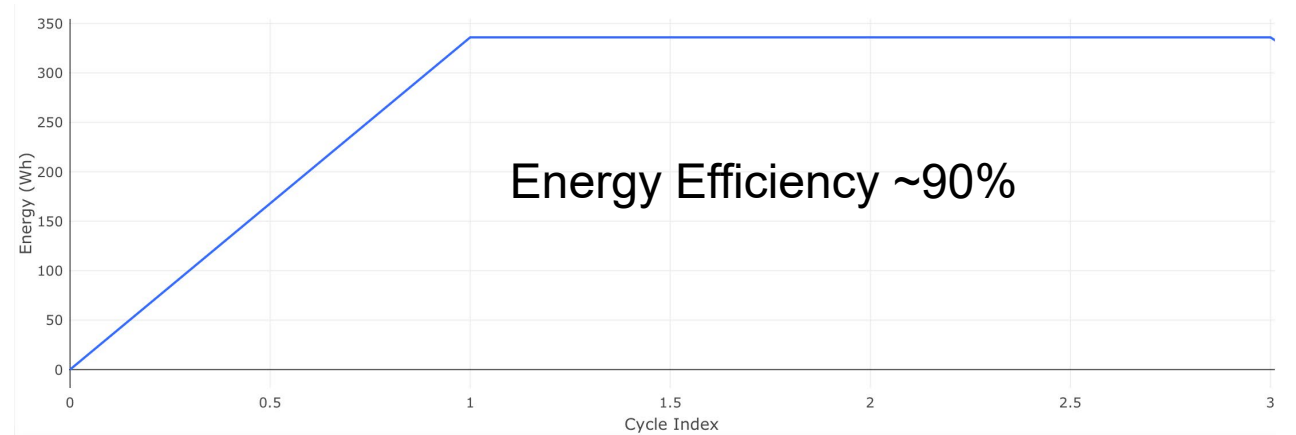
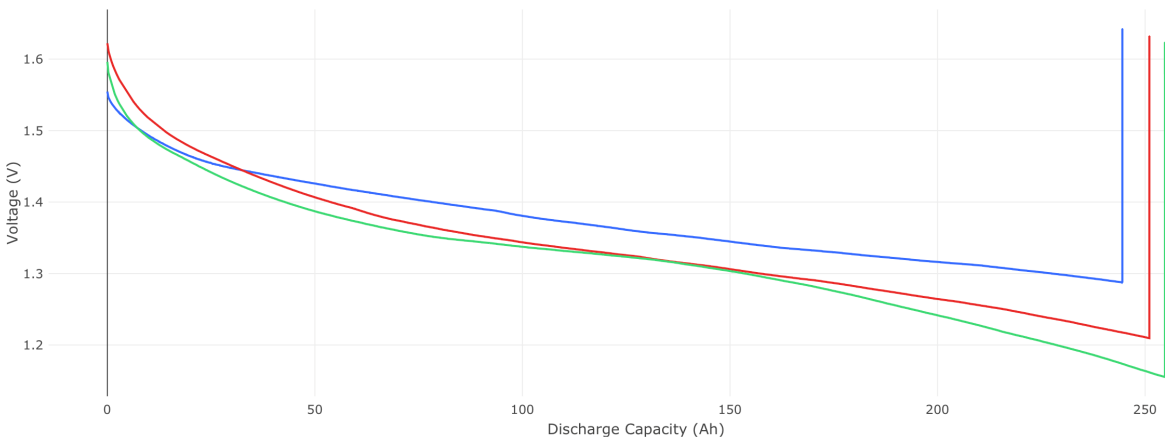
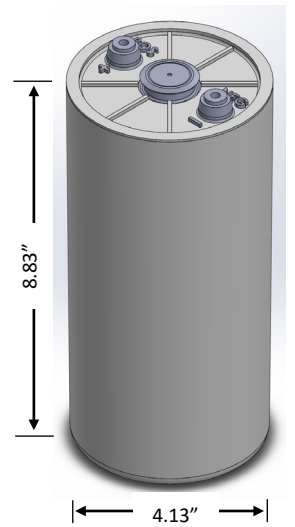
UEP Cells for LDES

Key Takeaway: UEP cells can provide 1 week of discharge multiple times at high energy efficiency



Cell charged in ~14hours

High-Energy Cell



Comparison

Key Takeaway: Zn-anode batteries are versatile but cathode determines the viability for specific applications

	UEP Current Generation Zn-MnO₂	EOS Zn-Br	Zinc8 Zn-air	E-Zn Zn-air	Zinc Five Zn-Ni	ZAF Zn-Ni
Self-Discharge	0.01% per day	1% per hour	N/A	N/A	0.1% per day	0.1% per day
Round Trip Efficiency	80-90%	70-80%	64%	40-50%	71-88%	85%
System Energy Density (Wh/L)	>100	11	N/A	N/A	34	N/A

↑
Targeted
for intraday
storage

↑
Targeted for LDES

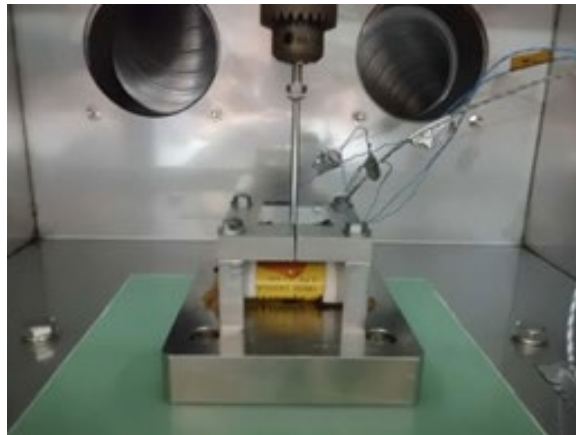
↑
Targeted for Short Duration
Storage

Safety Study of the UEP's Battery

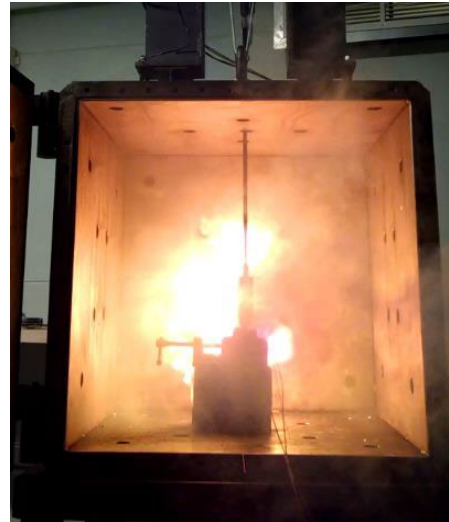


"World leader in Risk Management & Quality Assurance Service"

Nail Penetration Test



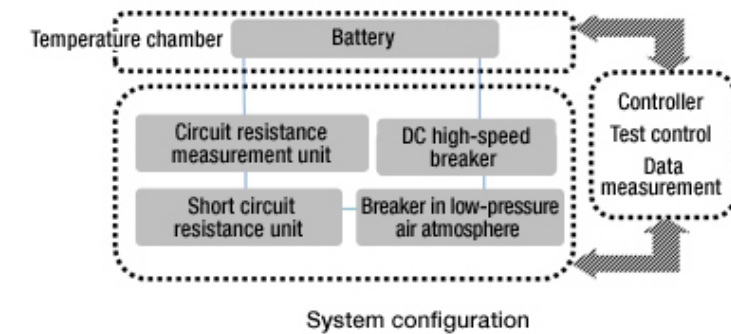
Heat Exposure Test



Overcharge Test



Short Circuit Test



Key Takeaway: UEP cells tested by 3rd party for safety evaluation

Nail Penetration Test



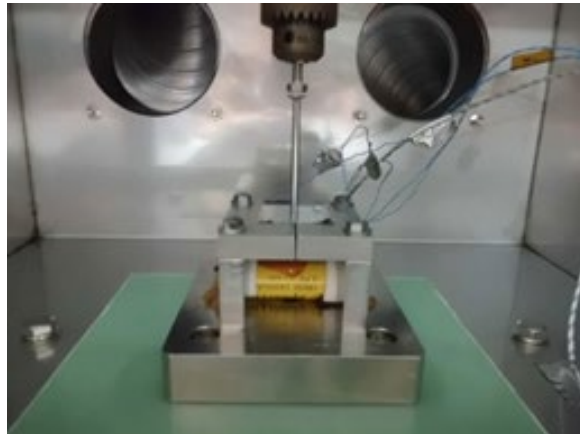
URBAN ELECTRIC POWER



“World leader in Risk Management & Quality Assurance Service”

Key Takeaway: Cells did not result heat generation and spillage issues. Passed the nail penetration test

Nail Penetration Test

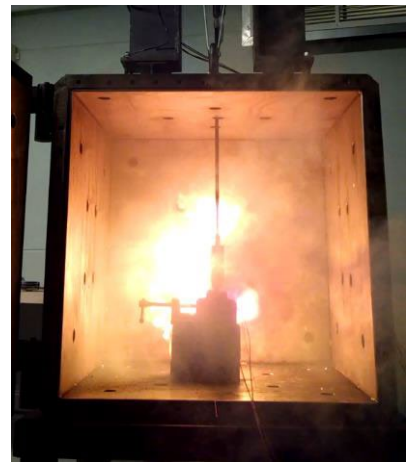


- *Low internal resistance of the cell*
- *Low chemical spill risk because of the general toughness of the cell*
- *Low likelihood of adverse chemical reaction*

Heat Exposure Test

Key Takeaway: Cells did not result in thermal runaway reaction and did not catch on fire. Passed heat exposure test

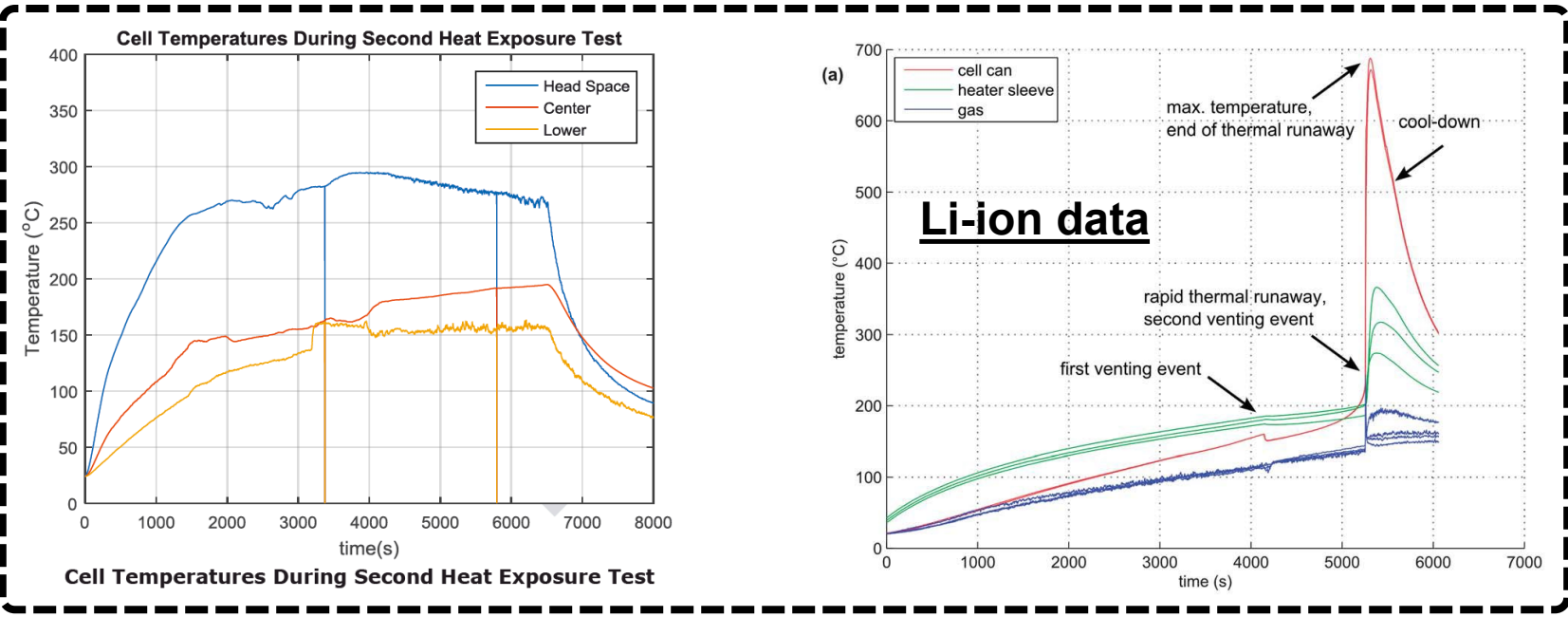
Experimental Design



Thermal Runaway Comparison with Lithium-ion



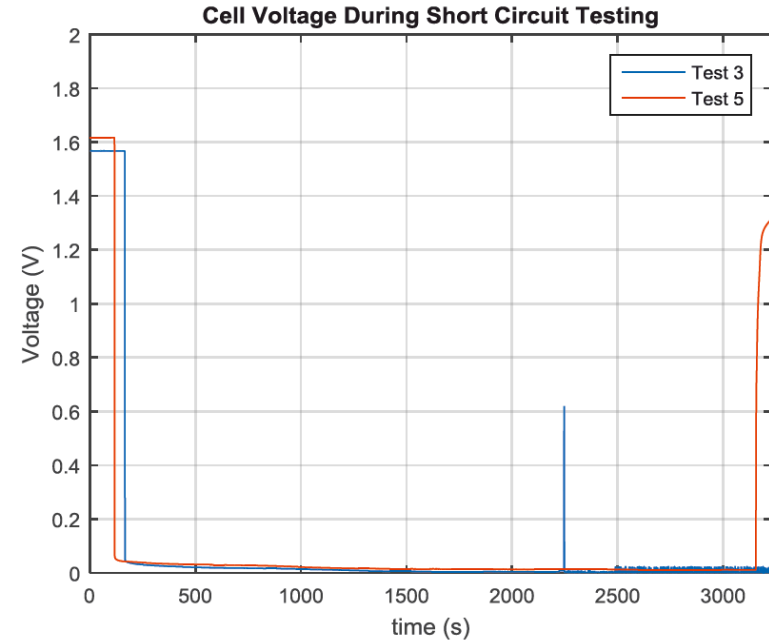
Melted Down Cell Following Heat Exposure Test, No Fire!



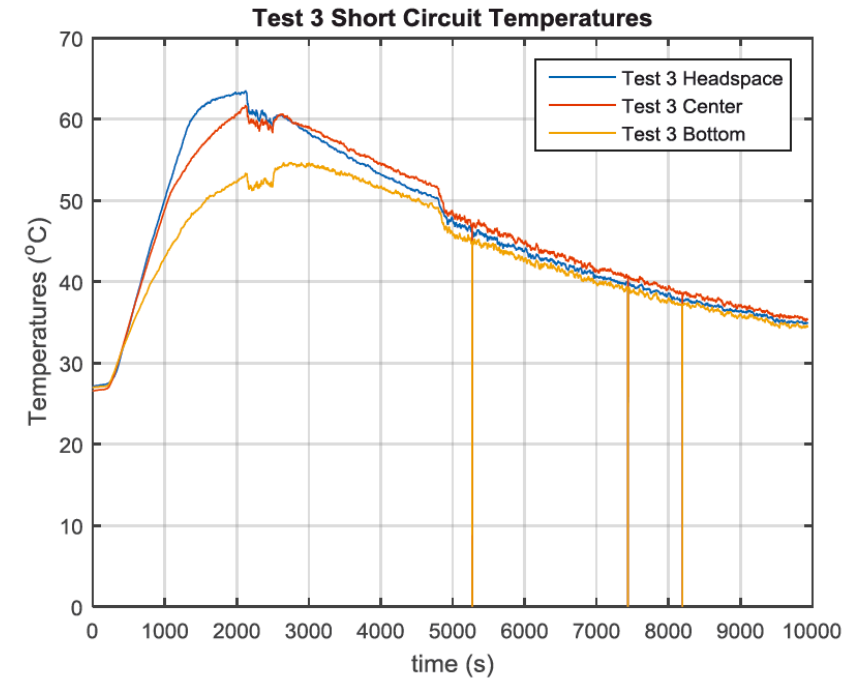
Short Circuit Test

Key Takeaway: The temperature increase in the cells was not high. They passed the short circuit test

Shorting results in small Temperature rise but OCV is retained after short is released



Voltage Response from Tests 3 and 5 During Short Circuit

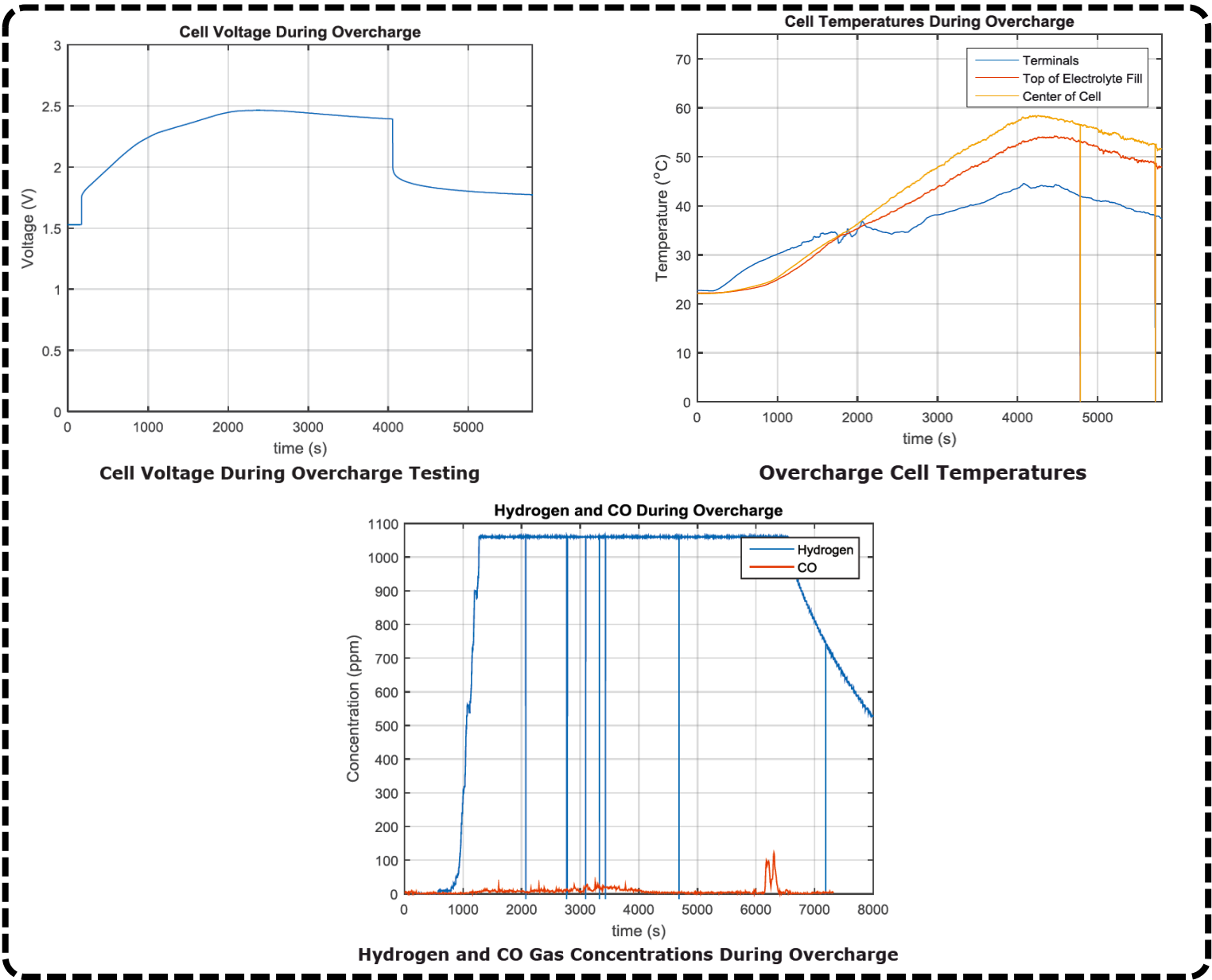


Short Circuit Test 3 Temperatures

Overcharge

Key Takeaway: Overcharge of the cells results in mostly electrolyte breakdown with no safety related issues. Cells passed overcharge test

Overcharge results in slight temperature increase and H₂ formation



Cell Voltage During Overcharge Testing

Overcharge Cell Temperatures

Hydrogen and CO Gas Concentrations During Overcharge

UEP LDES Projects

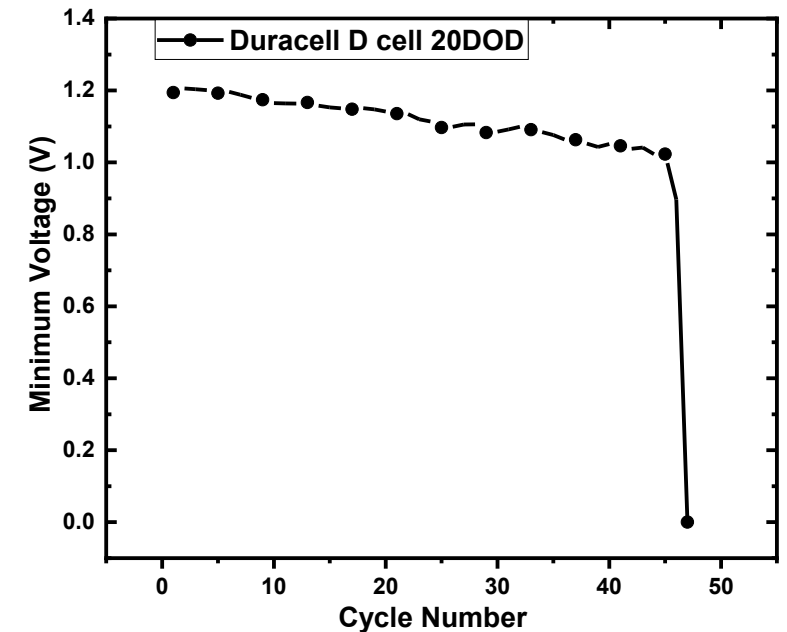
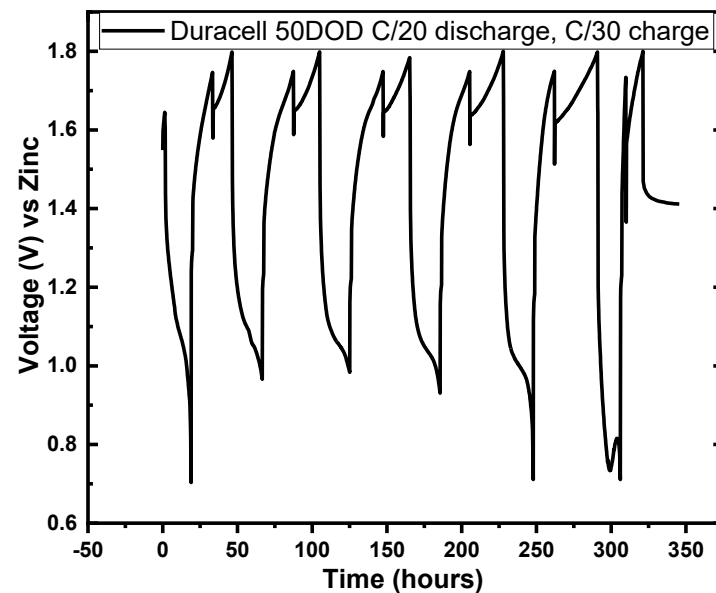
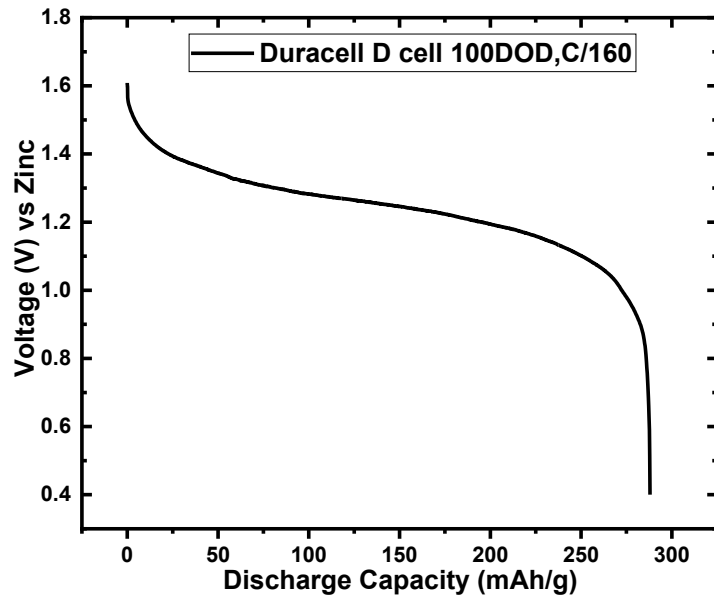
1. Project with NYSERDA
 1. Title: Deployment of Rechargeable Zinc Alkaline BESS for Long Duration Applications
 2. Size: 0.1MW/1MWh
 3. Collaboration: Hudson Valley Innovation Campus and EPRI
 4. Value: Provide power resilience to end users, reduce need for fossil fuel-based generators, allow for energy reduction through peak demand shaving, and support grid by participating in demand response events
2. 2 other DOE Awards
 1. Title: Demonstration of Rechargeable Zinc Alkaline LDES for Long Duration Applications in New York State
 2. Size: 2 Systems, Each is 0.3MW/3.6MWh
 3. Collaboration: NYPA and EPRI
 4. Value: Power backup, peak demand management and solar firming



UEP Bobbin Project: Lowest Cost Cells

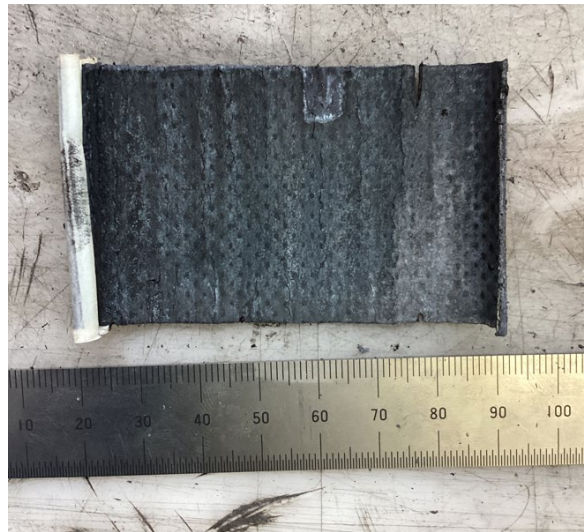
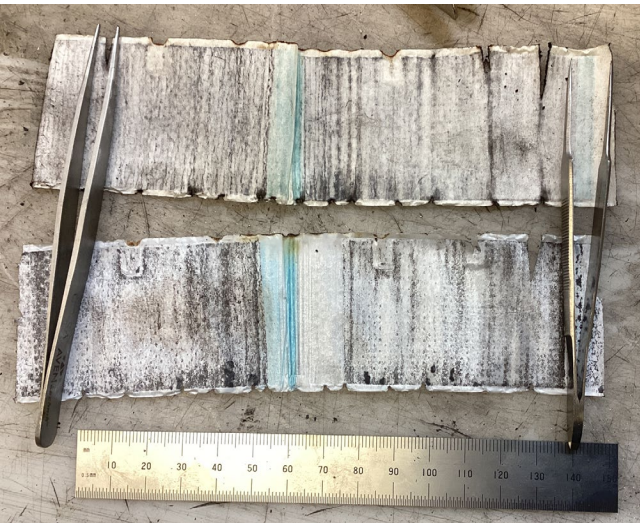
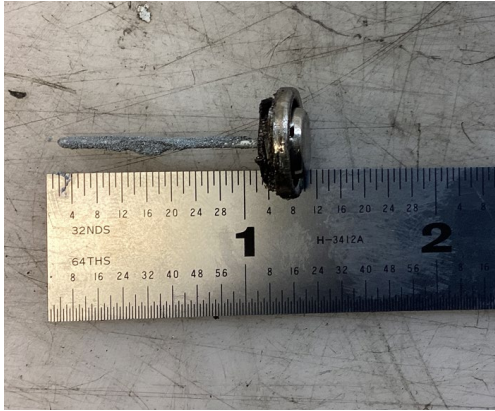
Assessing Commercial Cells

Key Takeaway: Bobbin-type cells are the lowest cost cells (\$20-\$40/kWh). But commercial cells suffer from rechargeability. Improvement in materials (electrode and electrolyte) property and internal cell design important for rechargeability.



UEP Bobbin Project

Dissection of Commercial Cells



Assembly Process of UEP Cells

Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



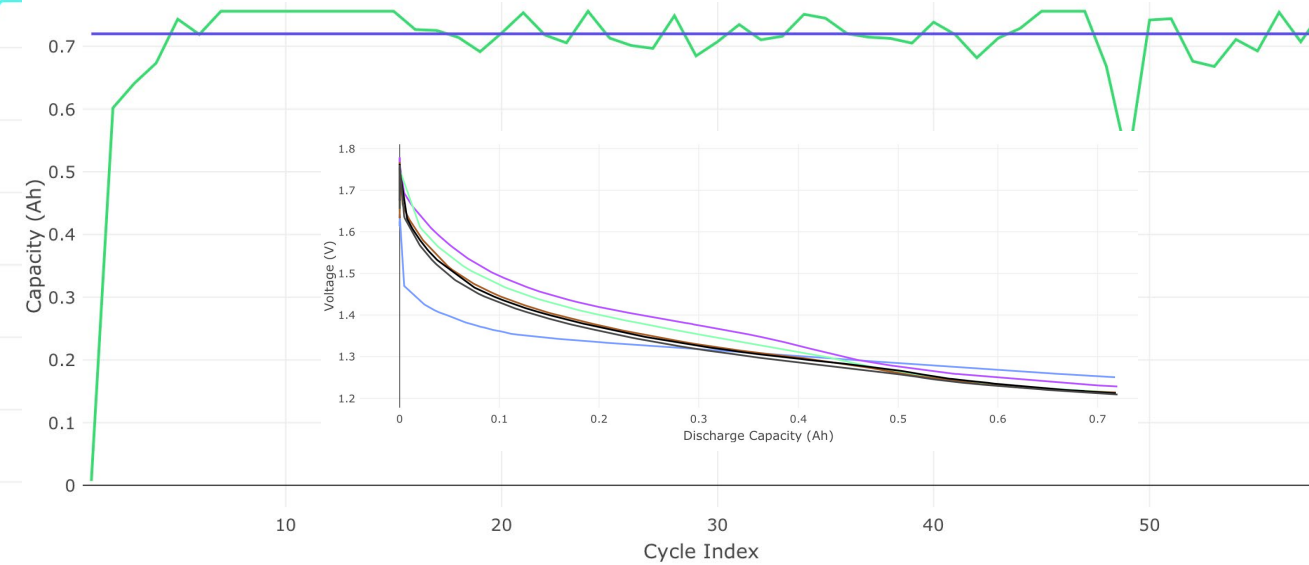
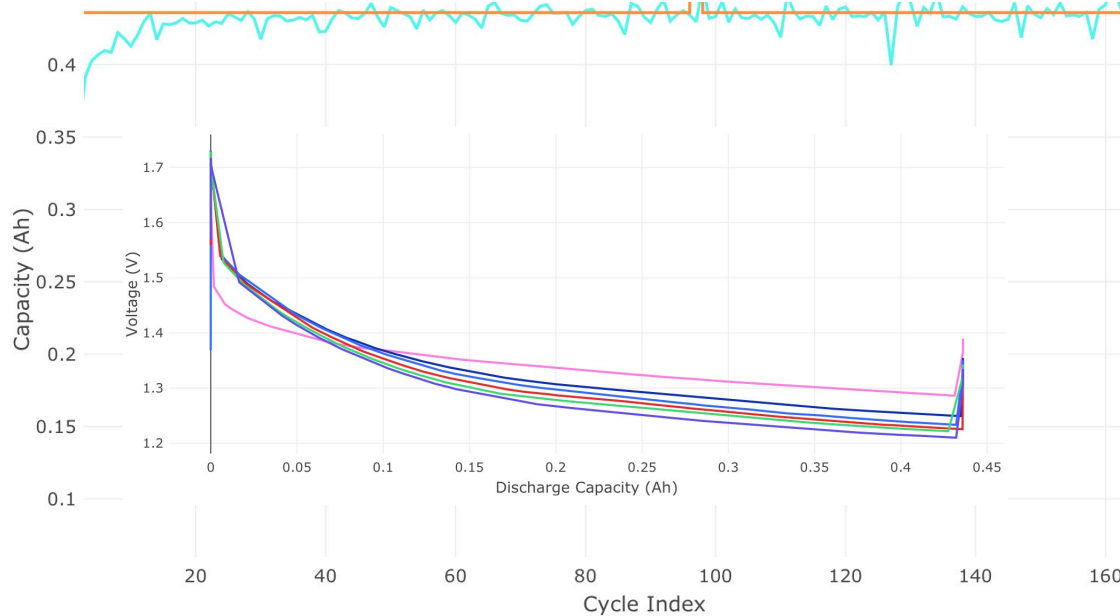
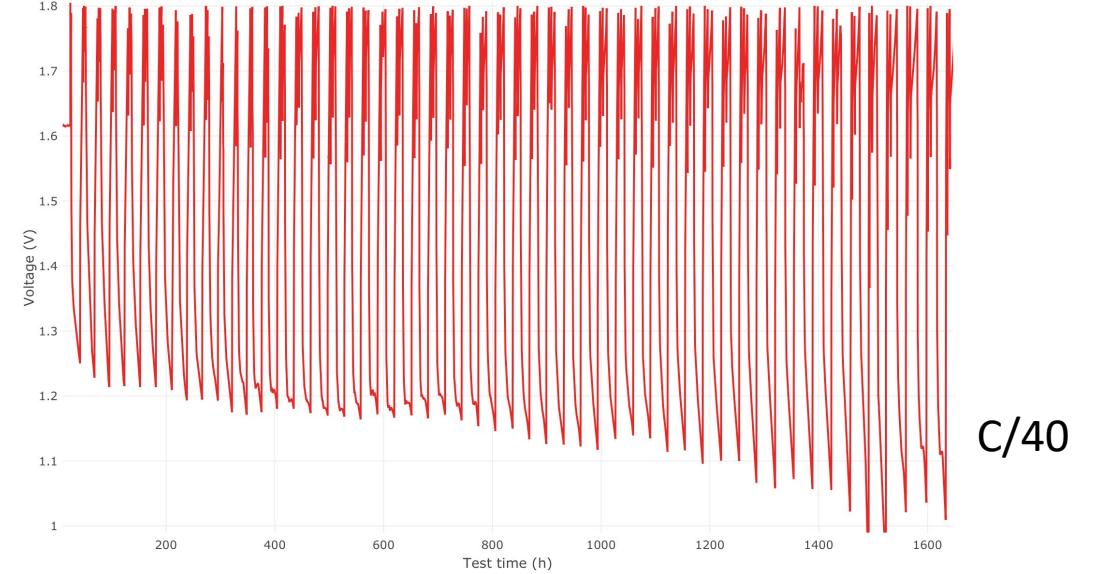
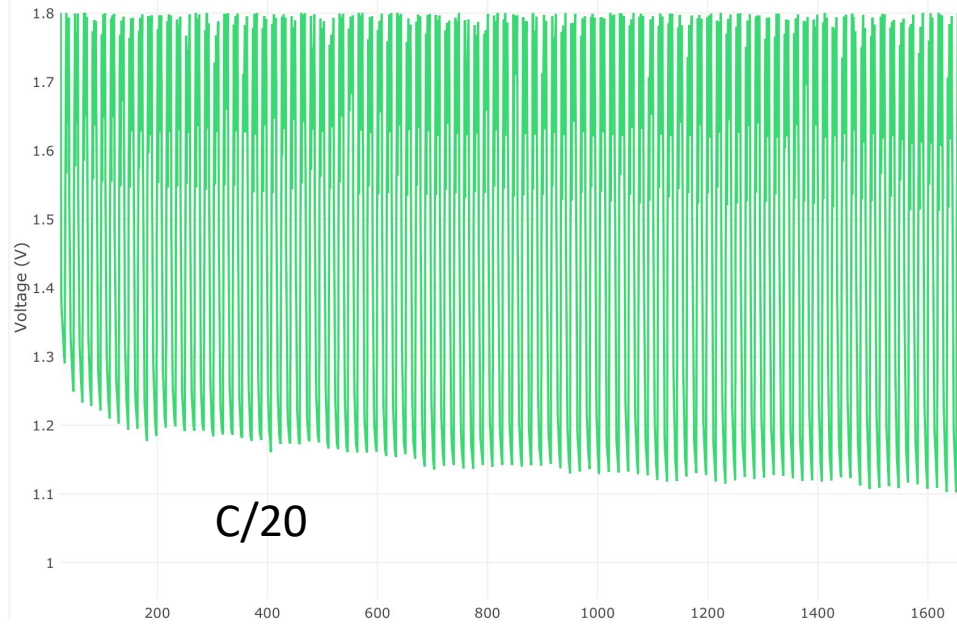
Step 4



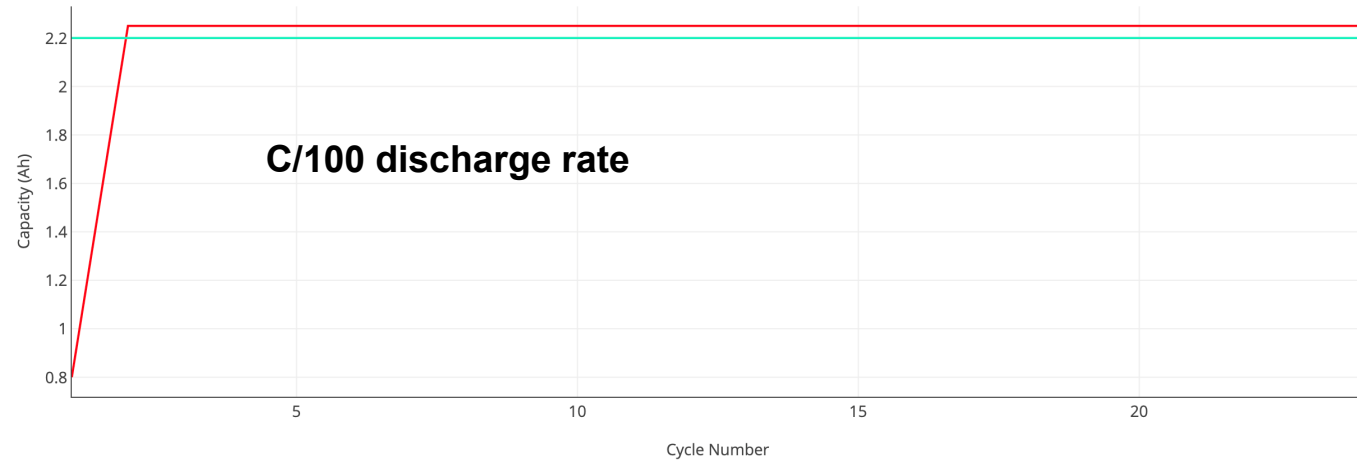
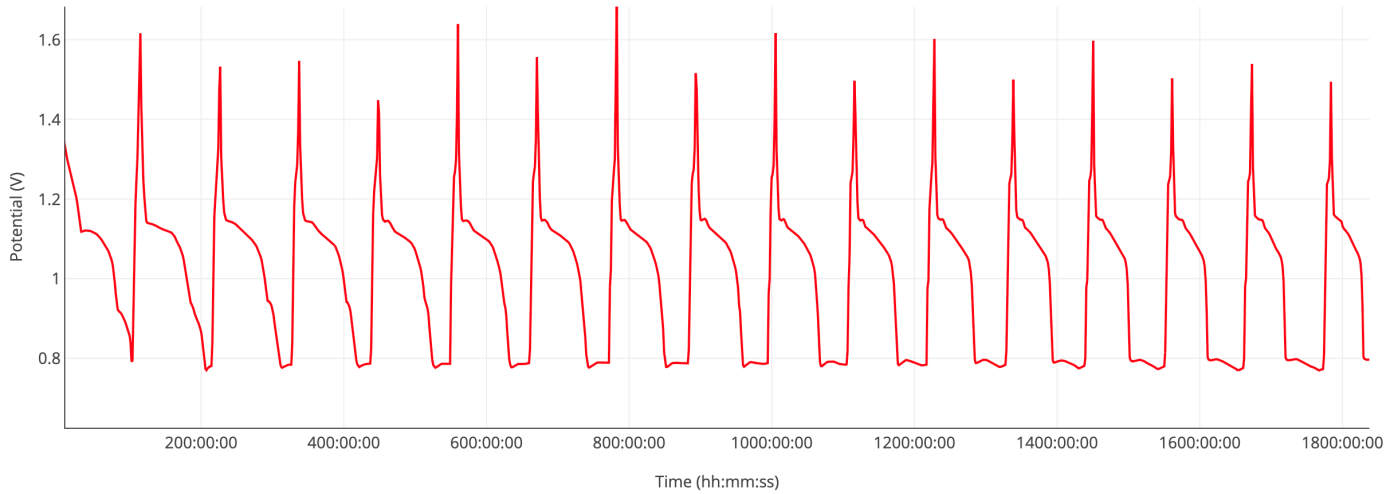
Key Takeaway: Learned about the bobbin cell design from various commercial cells. Learned the drawbacks in some designs and we have developed our own assembly process to make rechargeable bobbin cells

UEP Bobbin Project – Cycling Data

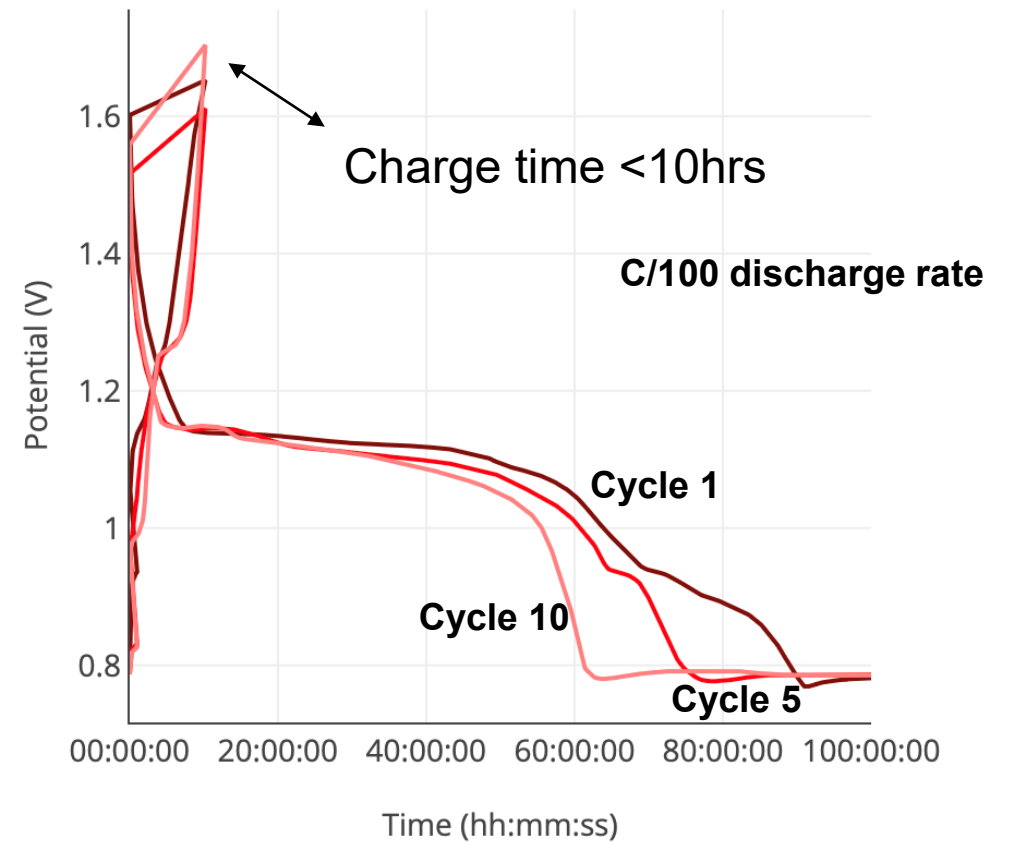
Key Takeaway: Achieved long cycle life cells at various C-rates.



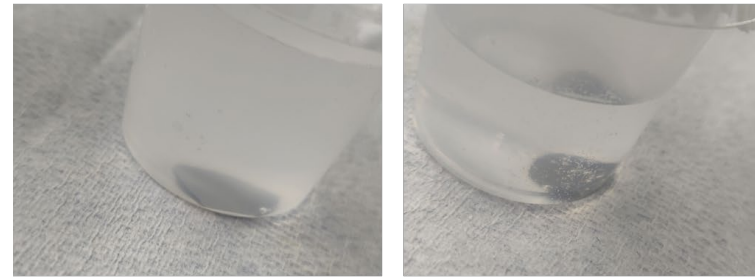
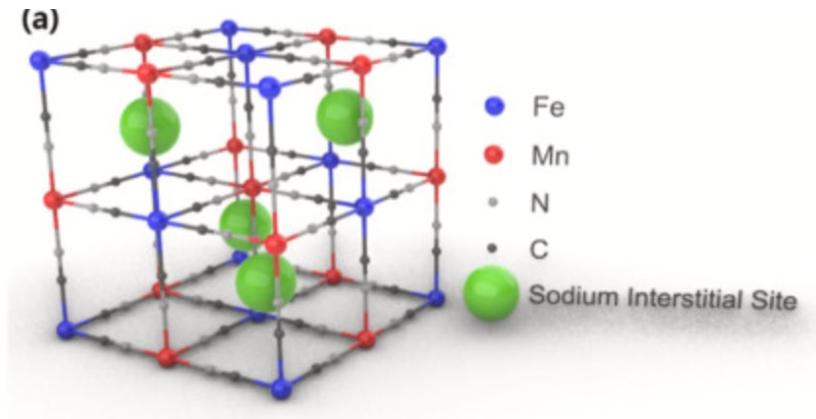
Next Generation Work - 2nd Electron Zn|MnO₂



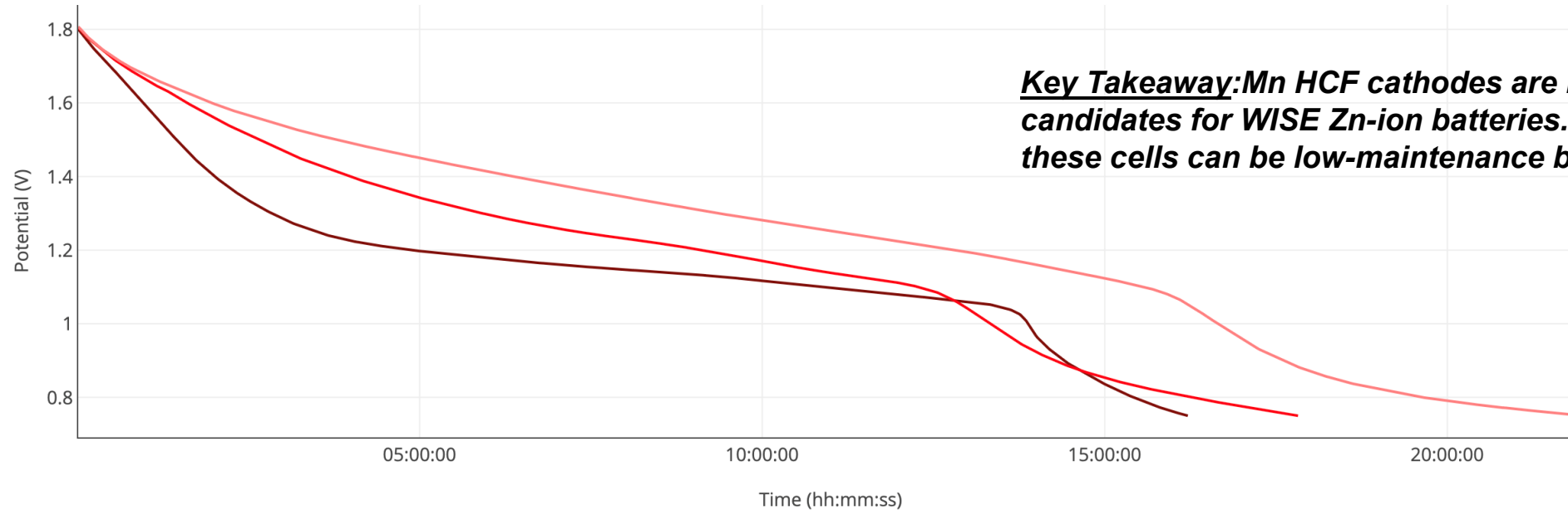
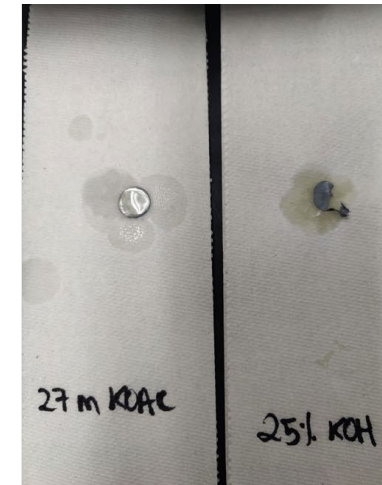
Key Takeaway: 2nd electron Zn|MnO₂ cells can be used for LDES. Capable of fast charging and cycling multiple times at 100hrs of discharge



Next Generation Work – Water-in-salt (WISE) Zn-anode cells



Zinc foil placed in 27 m KOAc (left) and 25% KOH (right) after 1 month



Looking Ahead

- UEP will manufacture lowest cost Zn|MnO₂ cells
- There will be 3 installation projects for LDES
- Bobbin cells are ahead in their development curve. We will be testing modules made of bobbin cells for LDES application
- 2nd generation cells will be scaled to larger cells and made on the UEP production line for further LDES testing
- WISE-type Zn-anode batteries are early in development. Cathodes have been identified and are being tested for LDES.

Acknowledgements

UEP Team



Sanjoy Banerjee



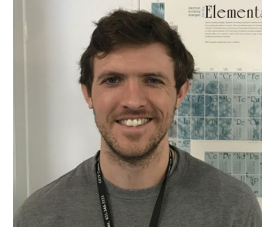
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Kristen Vitale



Brendan Hawkins

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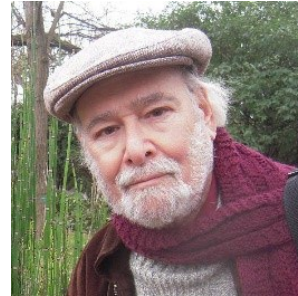


Tim N. Lambert



Babu Chalamala

Special Thanks To:



Imre Gyuk

