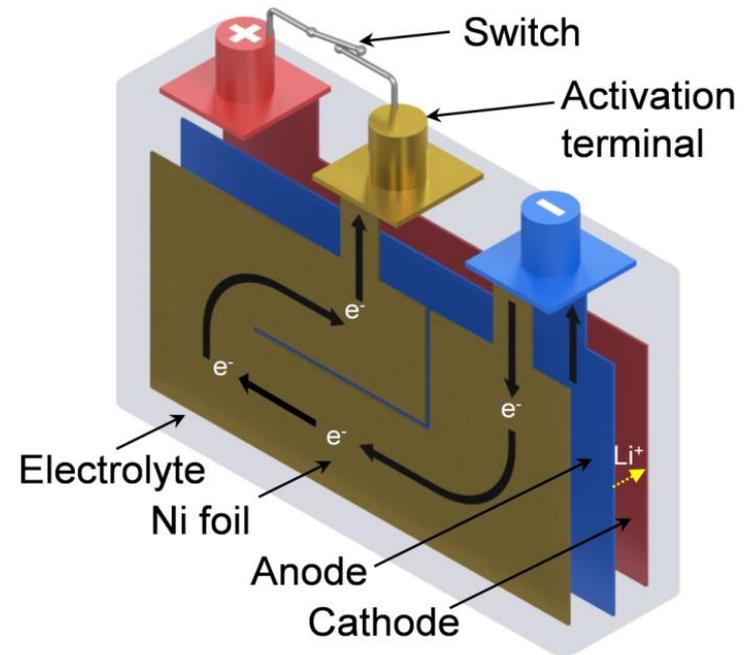


# Internal Temperature Sensing and Thermal Management of Large-format Li-ion Cells

## Guangsheng Zhang

Assistant Professor  
Dept. of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering  
University of Alabama in Huntsville  
Electrochemical Energy Diagnostics & Design Lab  
(08/2017 - )  
[guangsheng.zhang@uah.edu](mailto:guangsheng.zhang@uah.edu)



## EEDD

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PennState



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# Lithium-ion (Li-ion) cells are increasingly used in automotive and aerospace applications



newairplane.com

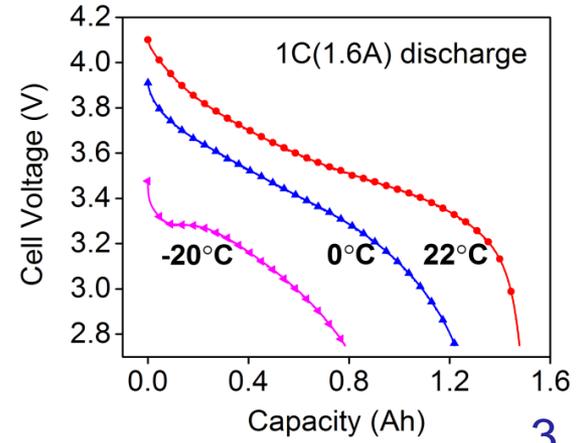
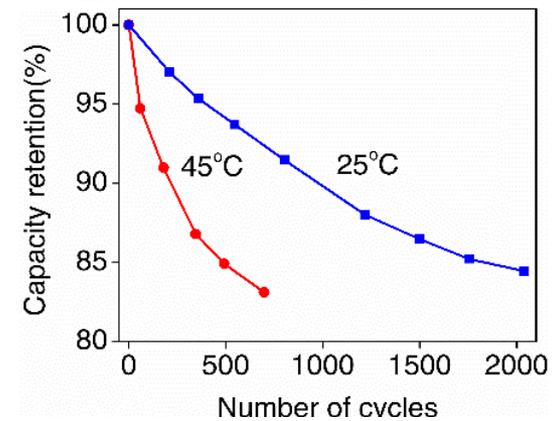
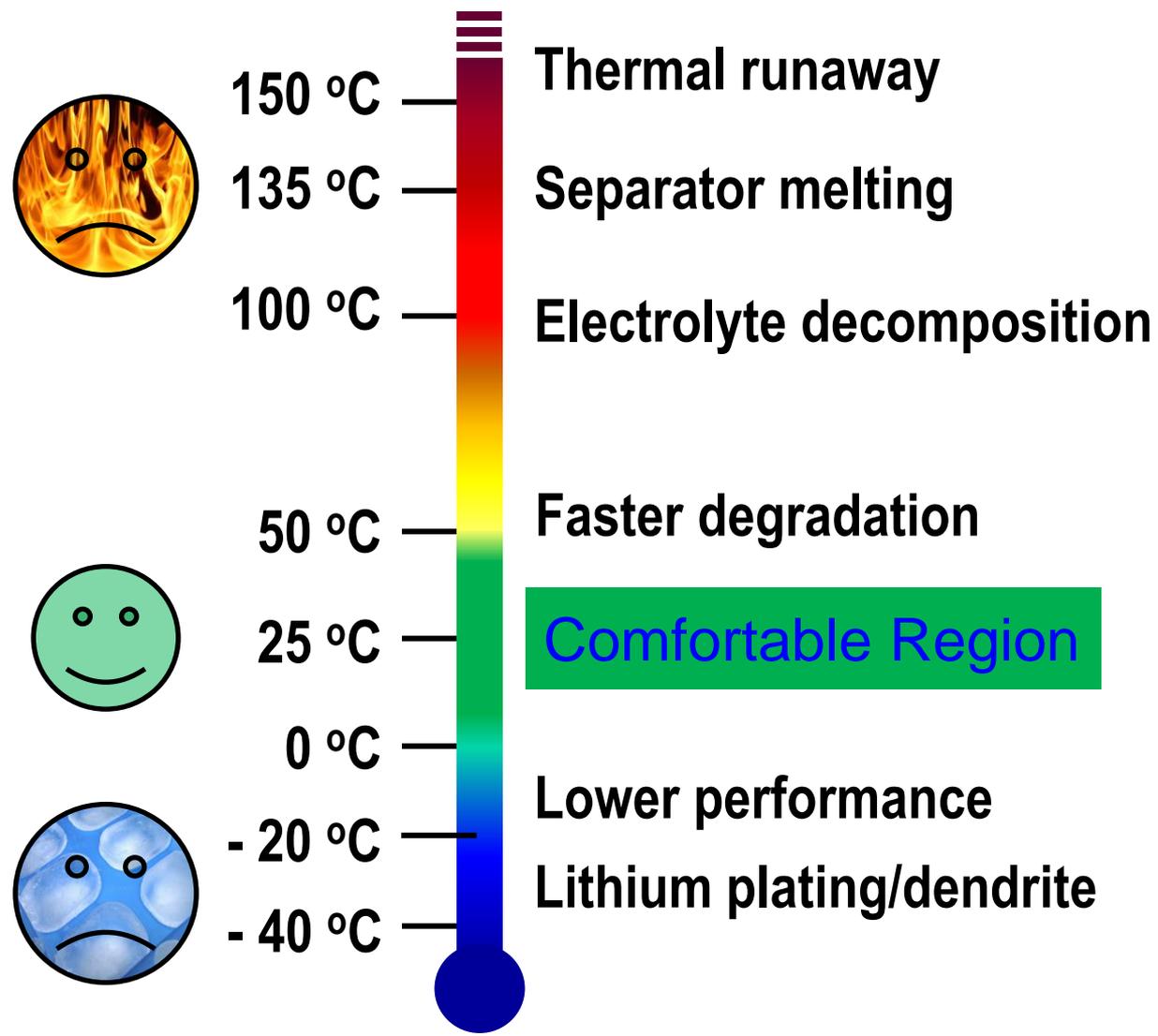


telegraph.co.uk

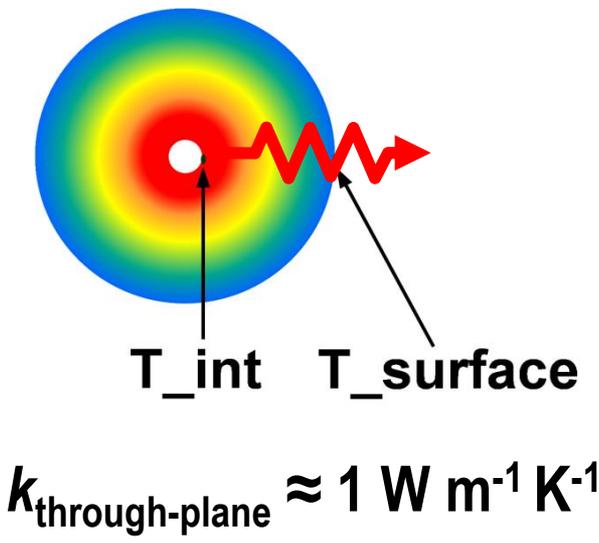


nasaspaceflight.com

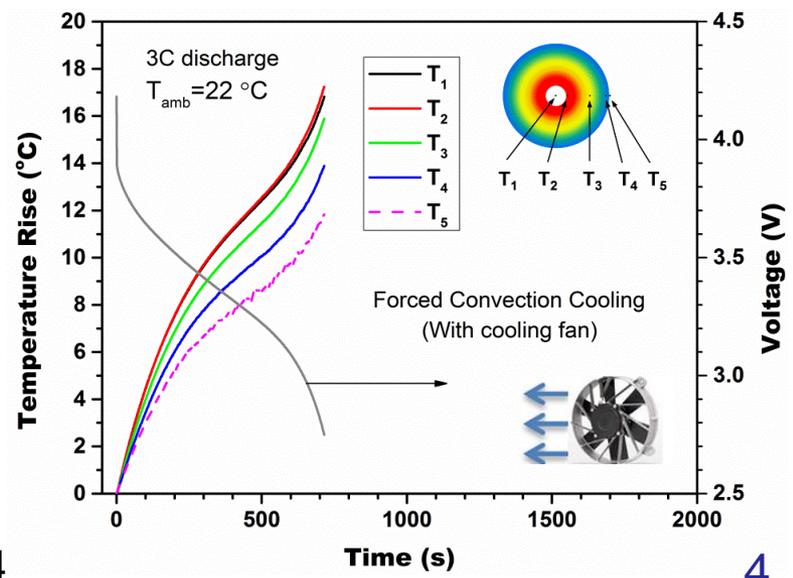
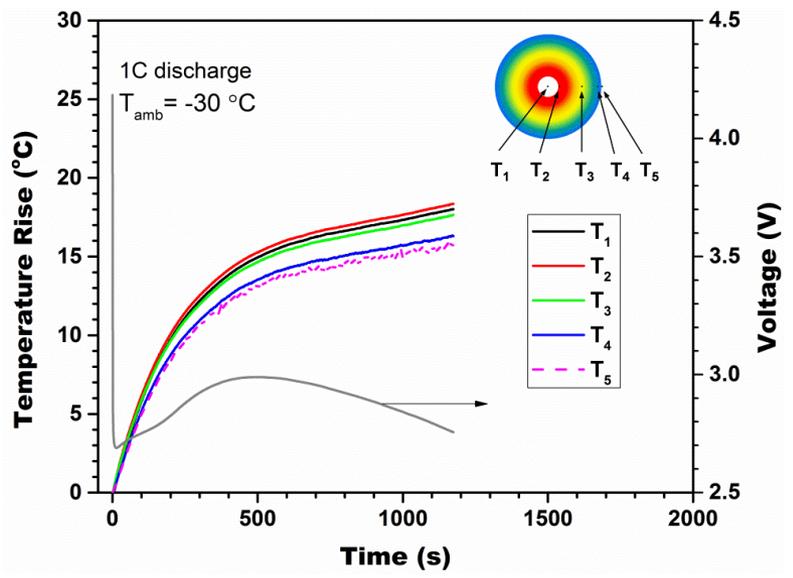
# Li-ion cells are very sensitive to temperature, making their thermal management important



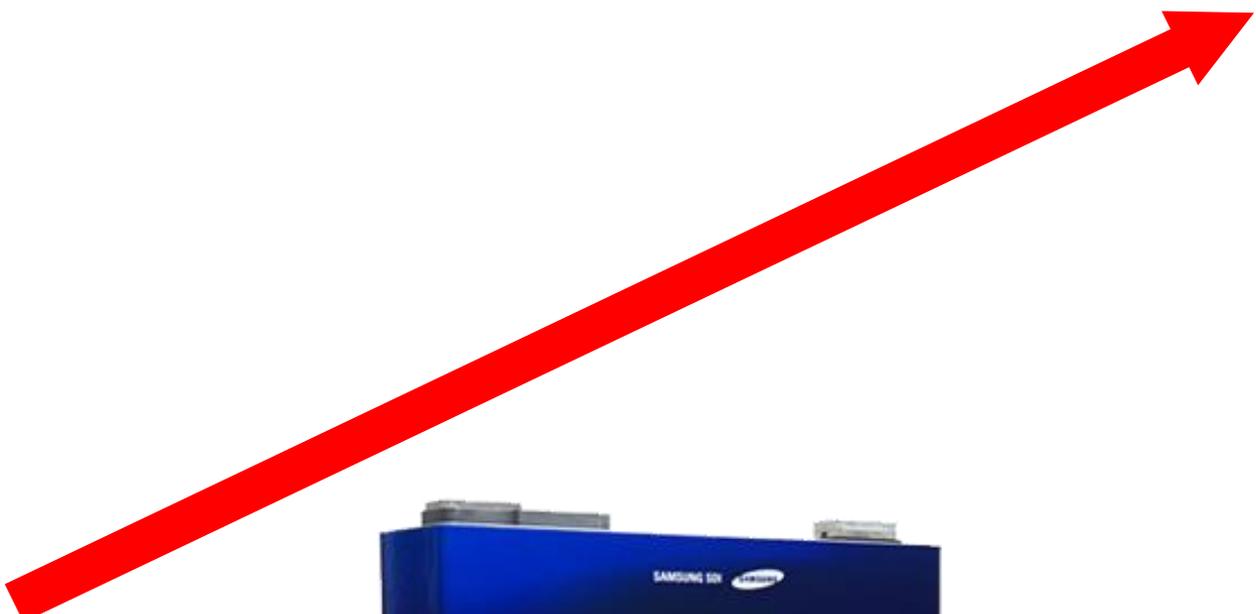
# Temperature gradient can exist in Li-ion cells due to very low thermal conductivity in thru-plane direction



$\sim 5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} / 7 \text{ mm}$



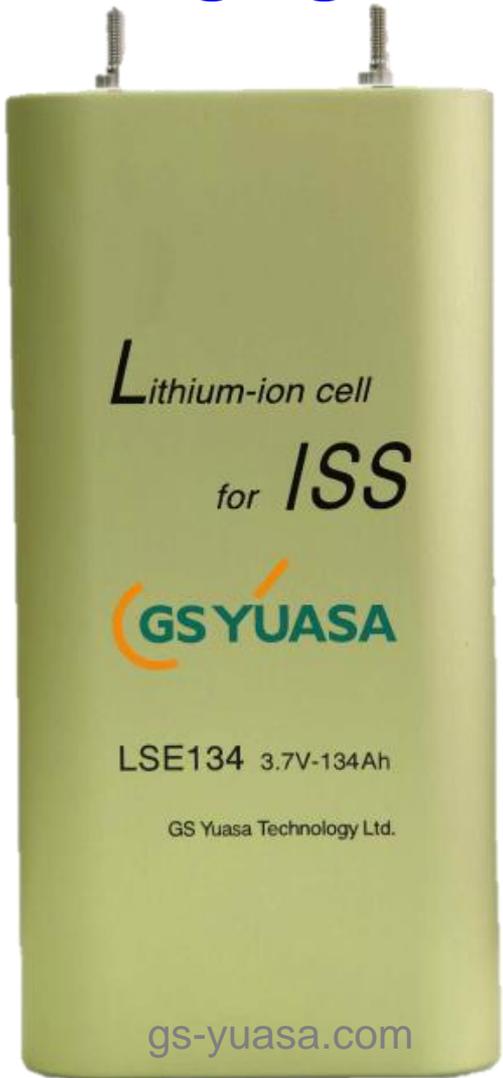
# Automotive and aerospace Li-ion cells are typically large, making thermal management challenging



18 (D) x 65 mm  
~50 g



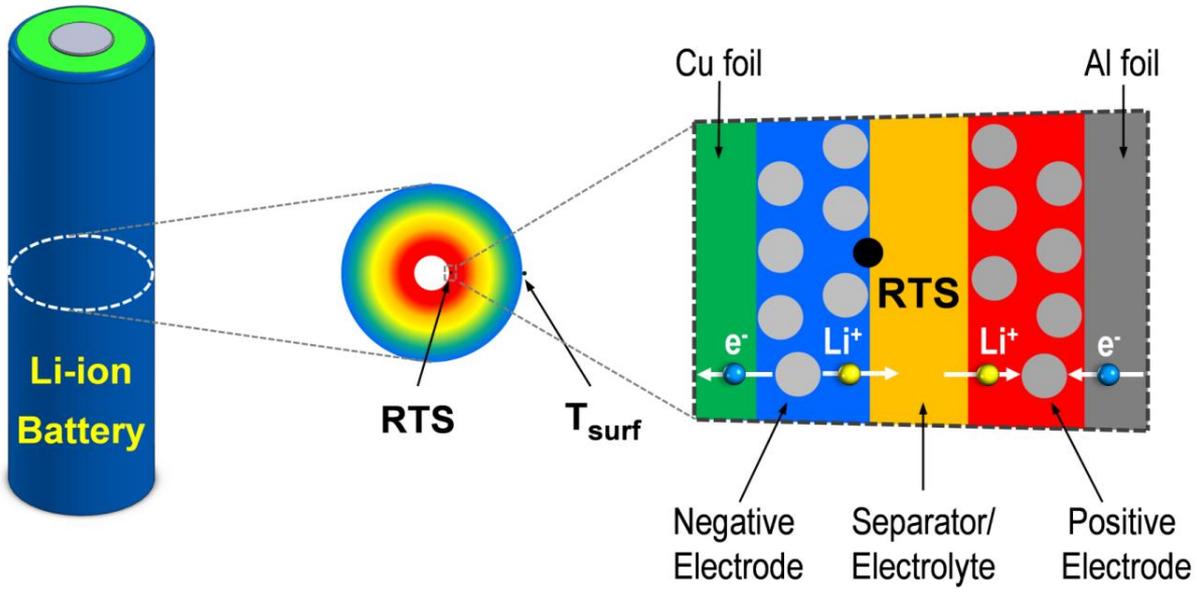
173 x 45 x 125 mm  
~2,000 g



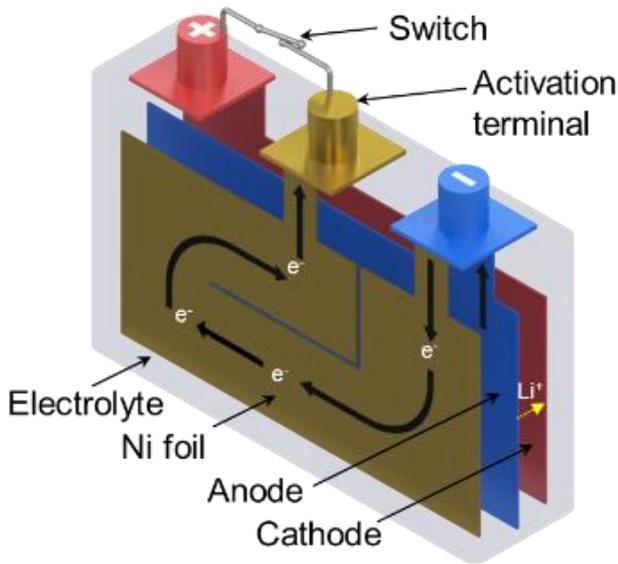
130 x 50 x 263 mm  
~3,530 g

# Internal temperature sensing and internal thermal management can be very useful

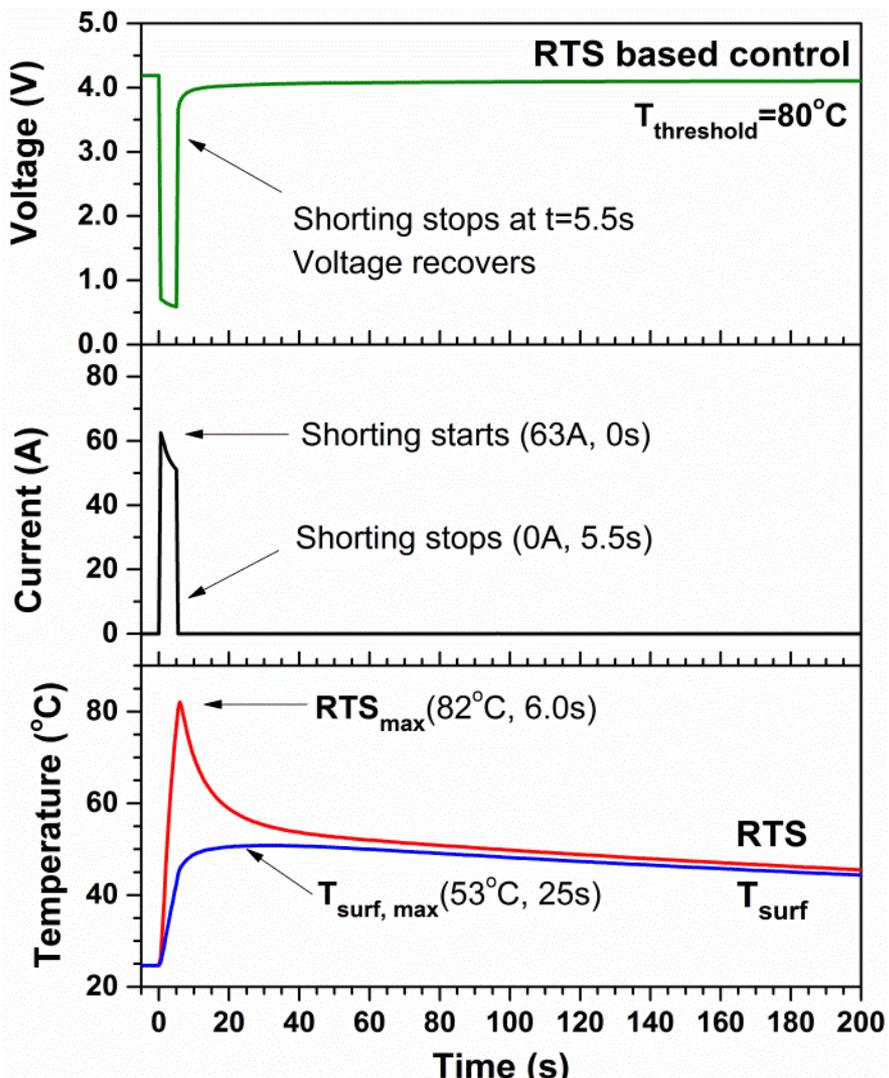
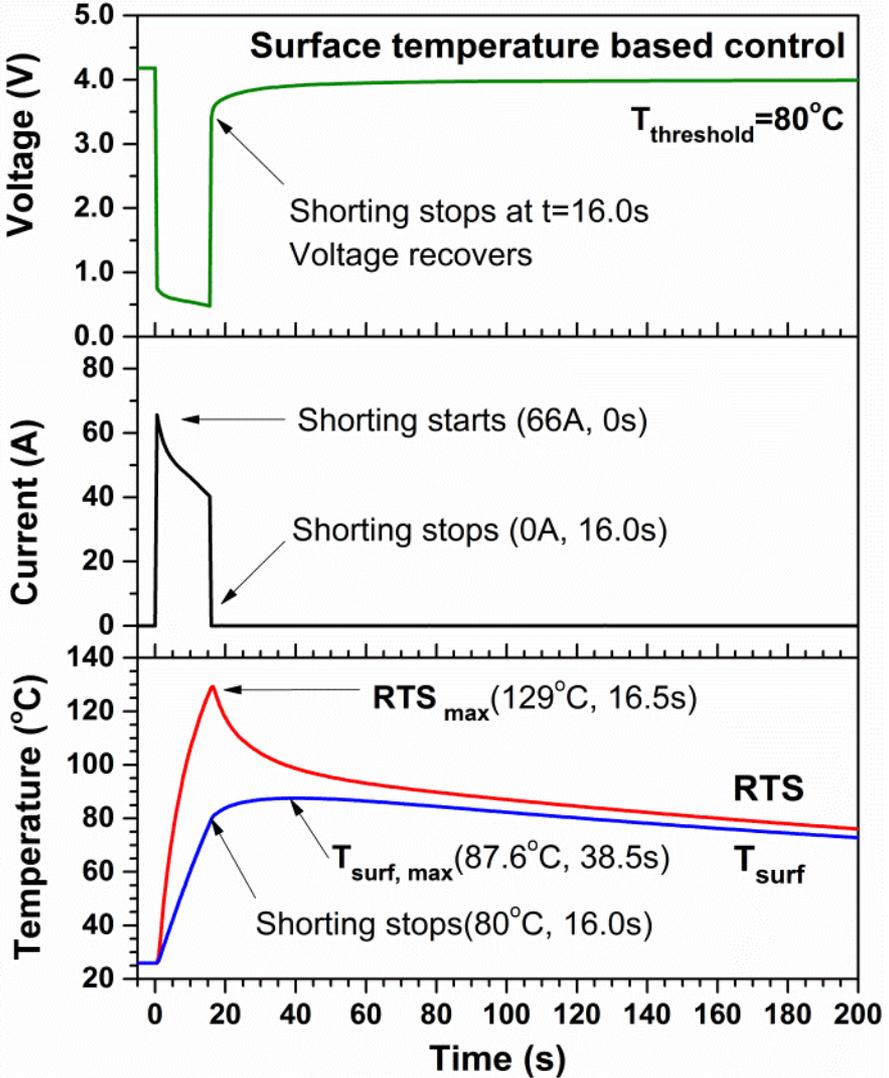
Case 1



Case 2

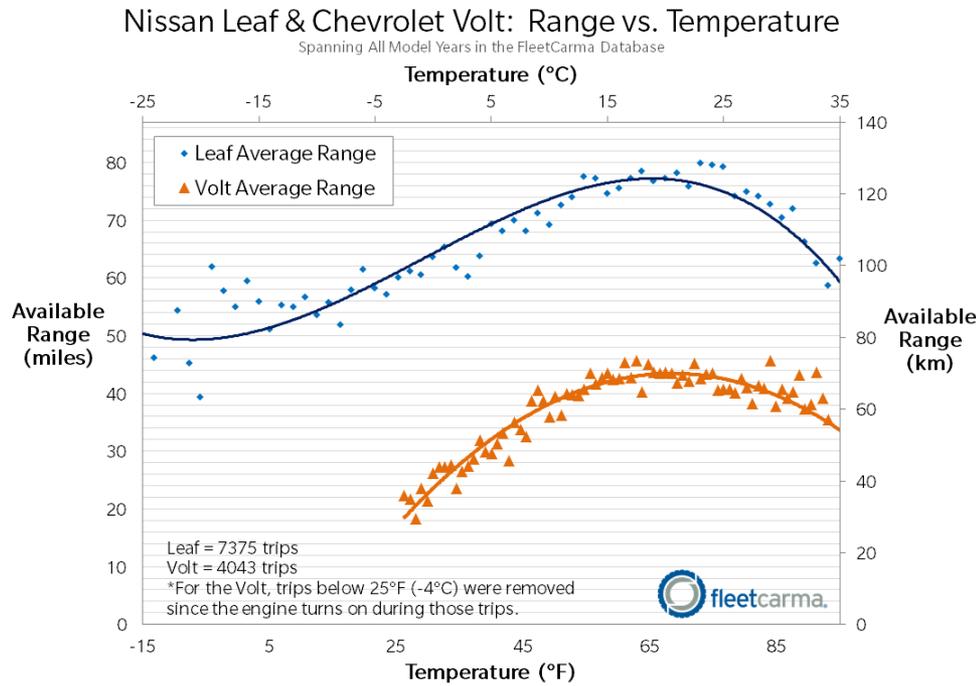


# Case 1: Internal temperature sensing in early detection of abnormal behaviors for enhanced safety

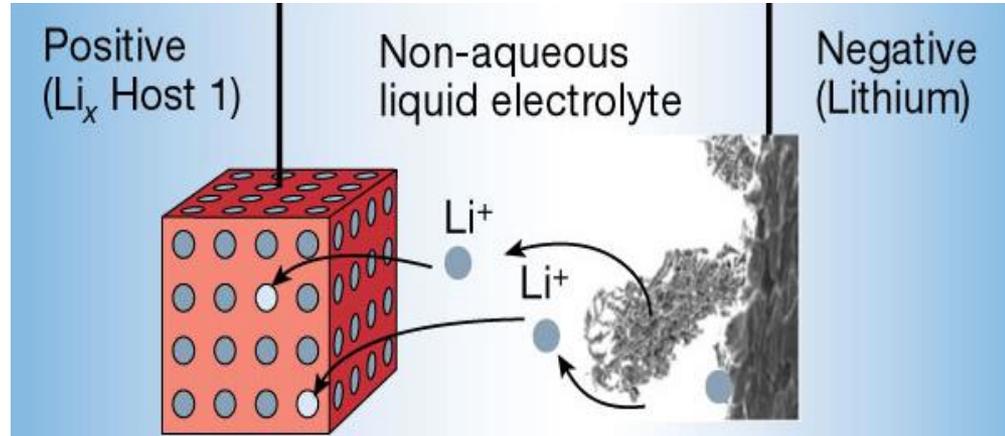


# Case 2: Self-Heating Li-ion Battery (SHLB) with internal thermal management for low temperature challenges

Shorter Range

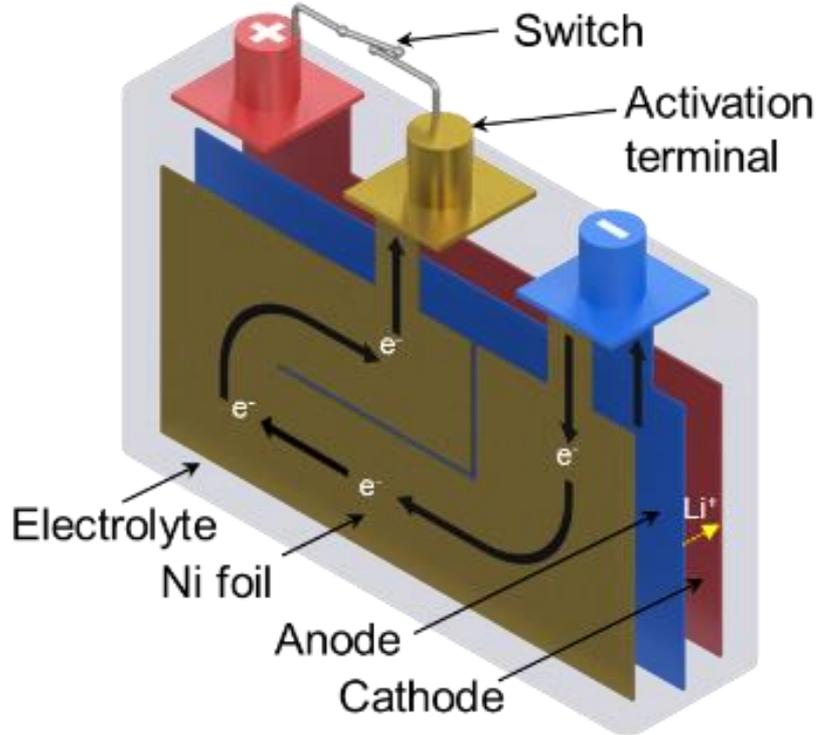


Slow Charging



Tarascon and Armand, *Nature*, 2001

# Self-Heating Li-ion Battery (SHLB) cell has a novel structure for internal thermal management



**Structure Innovation**  
(Making best use of materials)

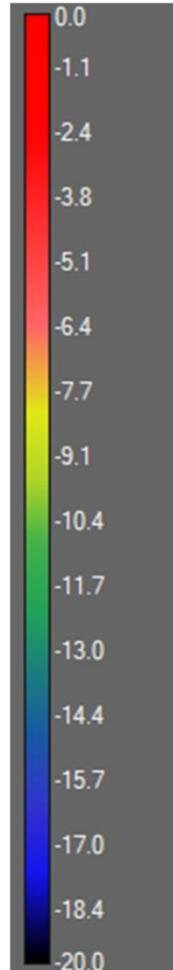
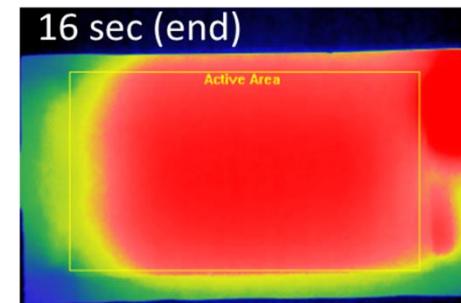
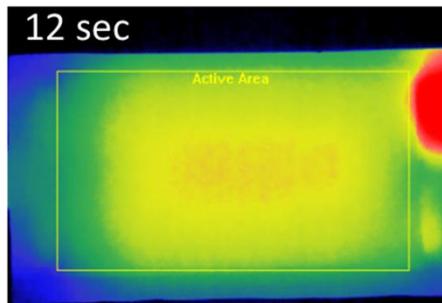
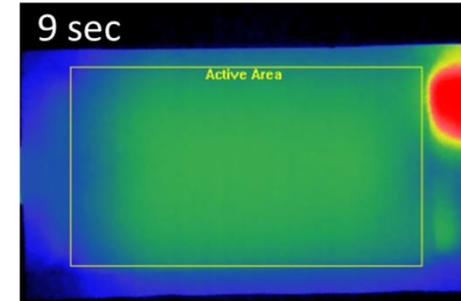
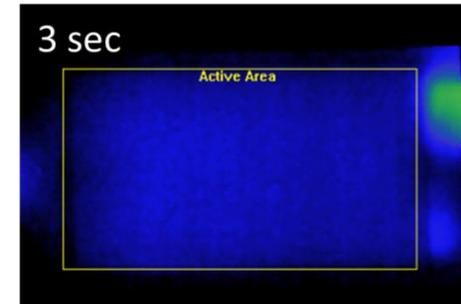
$T < T_{set}$ : Switch ON

$T \geq T_{set}$ : Switch OFF

Wang, Zhang, Ge, Xu, Ji, Yang, Leng. *Nature*, 2016  
Zhang, Ge, Xu, Yang, Tian, Wang. *Electrochim Acta*, 2016

# SHLB warms up quickly and uniformly

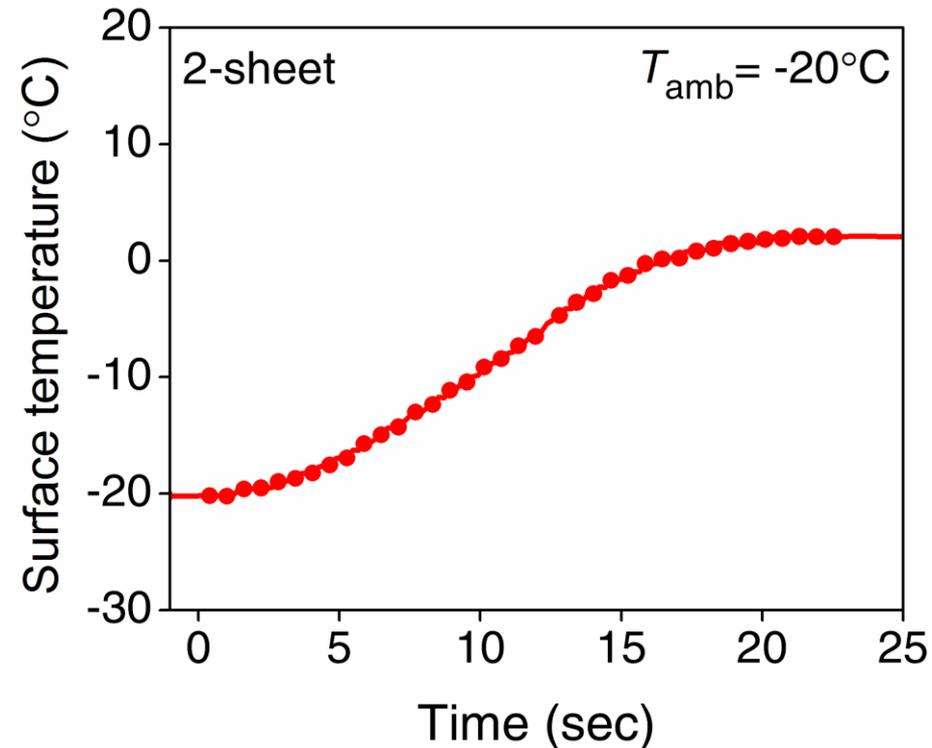
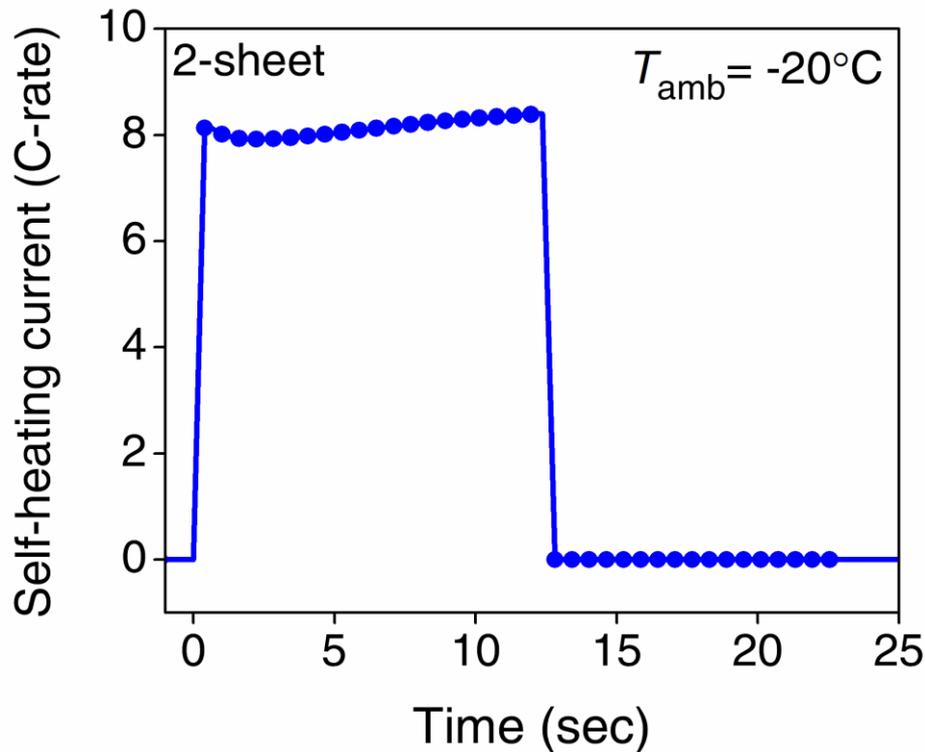
## Infrared imaging of self-heating process



Videos available: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378775317315197>

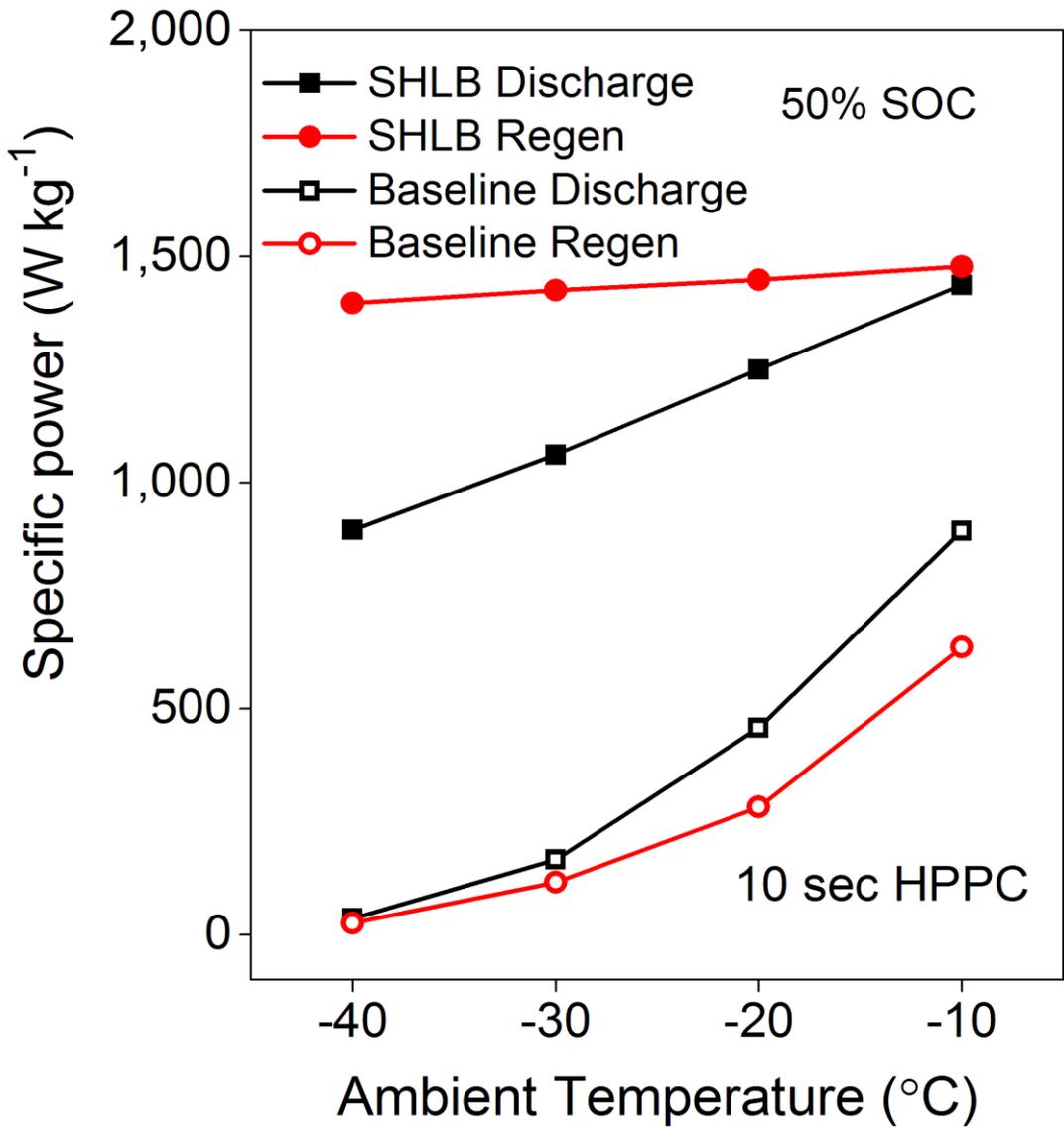
Zhang, Tian, Ge, Marple, Sun, Wang. *J Power Sources*, 2017

# SHLB warms up even more quickly with thermal insulation (practical applications)



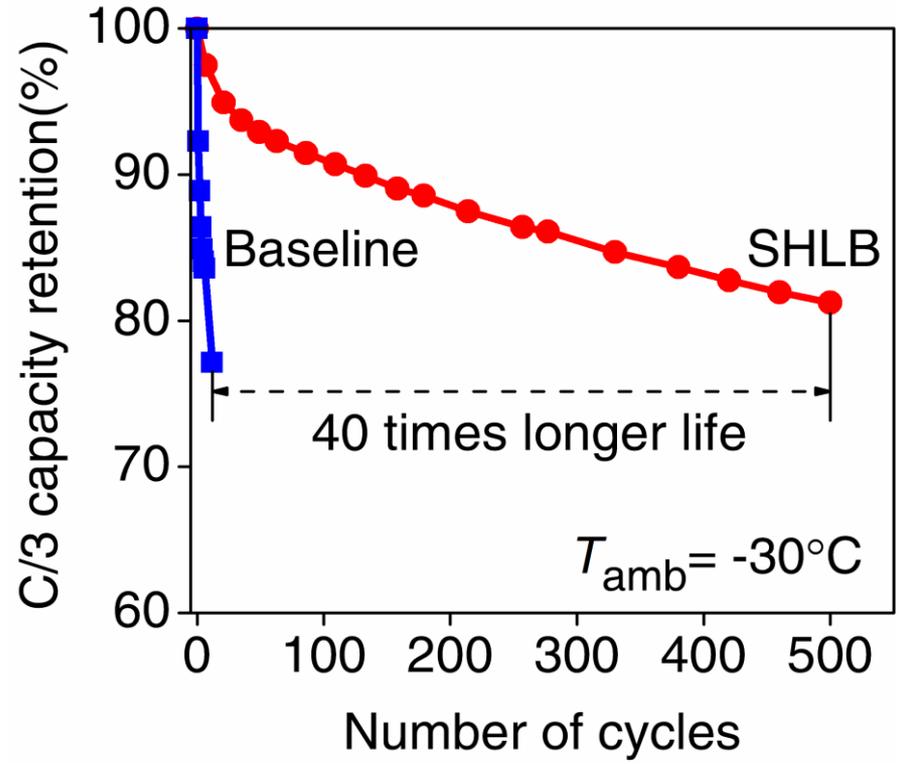
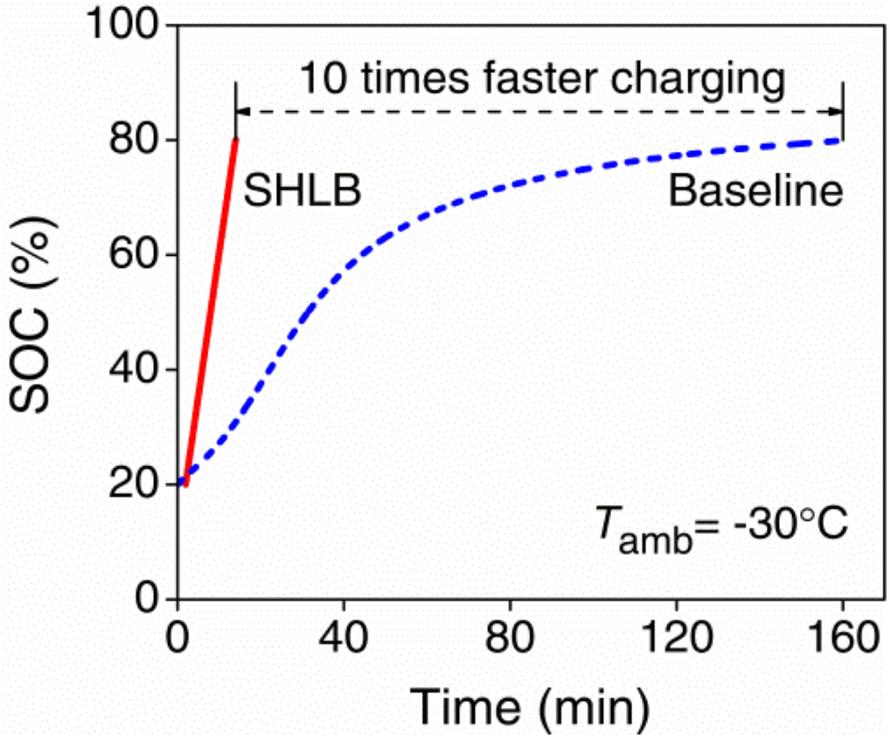
**~12 seconds  
from  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$**

# SHLB greatly boosts power at low temperatures



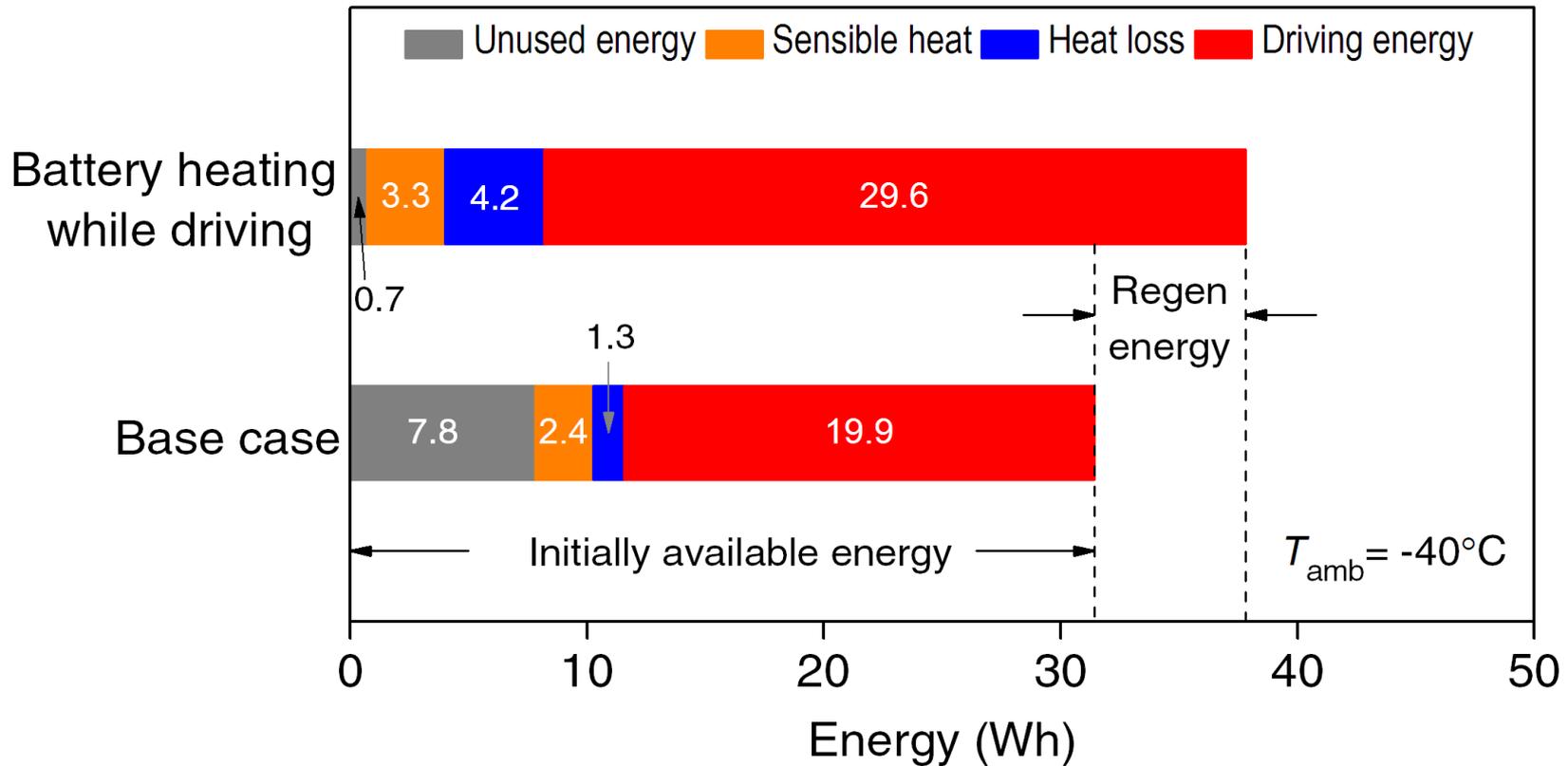
Wang, Zhang, Ge, Xu, Ji, Yang, Leng. *Nature*, 2016

# SHLB enables fast charging in extreme cold



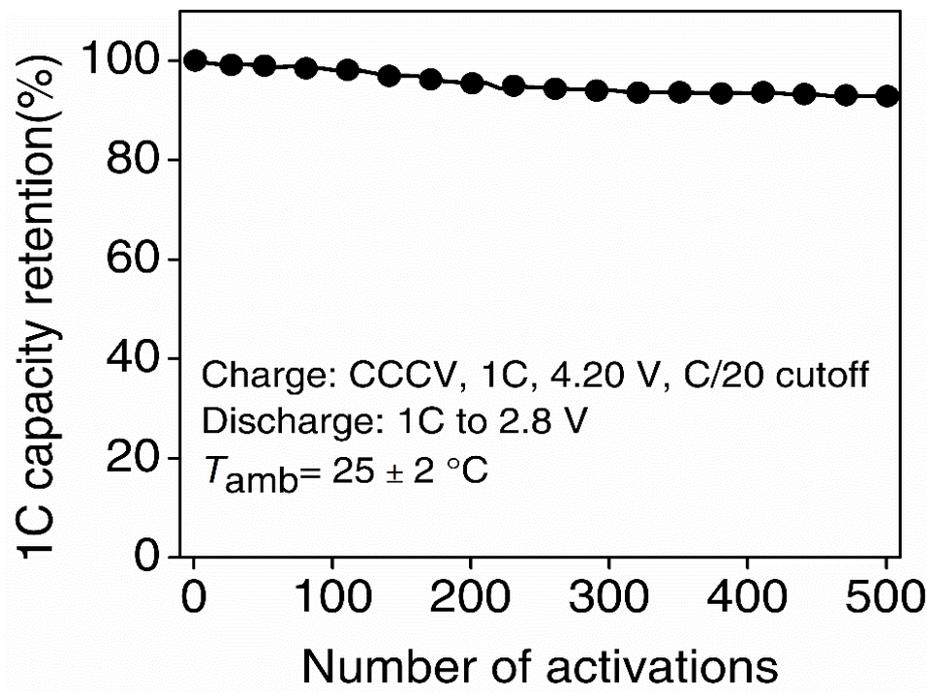
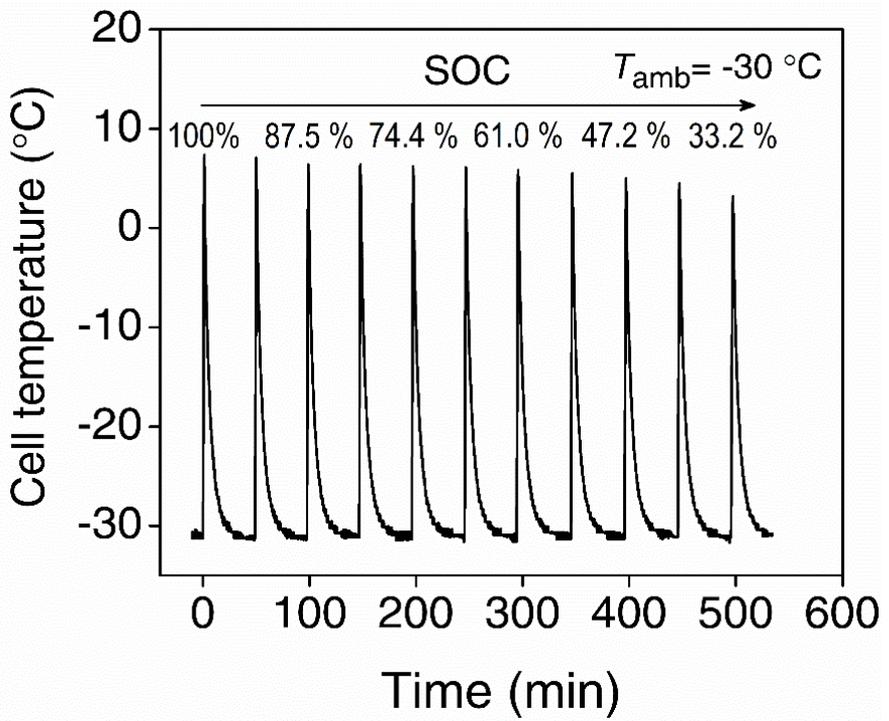
# Self-Heating While Driving could increase EV driving range at -40°C by ~50%

$$E_{\text{available}} + E_{\text{regen}} = E_{\text{driving}} + E_{\text{sensible heat}} + E_{\text{heat loss}} + E_{\text{unused}}$$



Increased range due to (1) Higher utilization, (2) Full recovery of regen energy

# SHLB is very durable

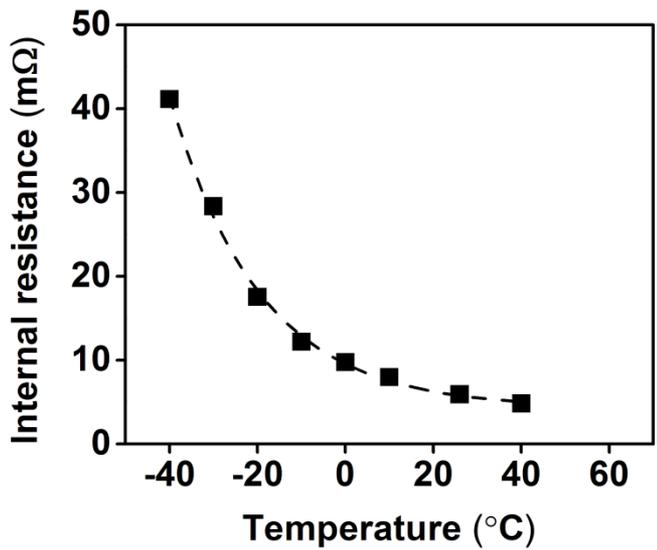
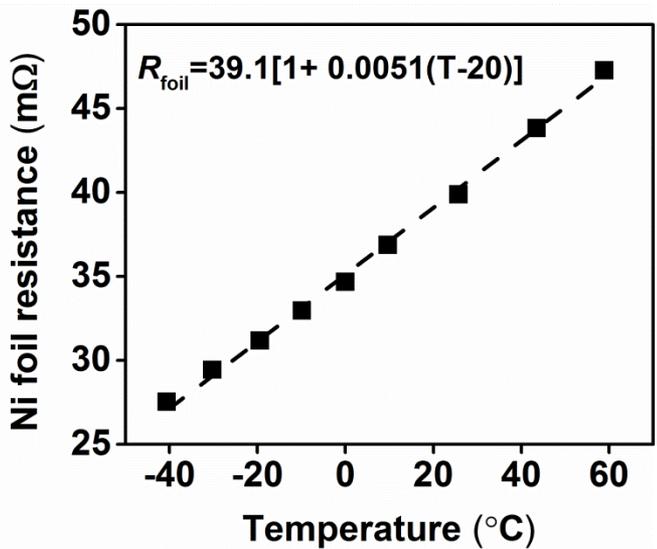
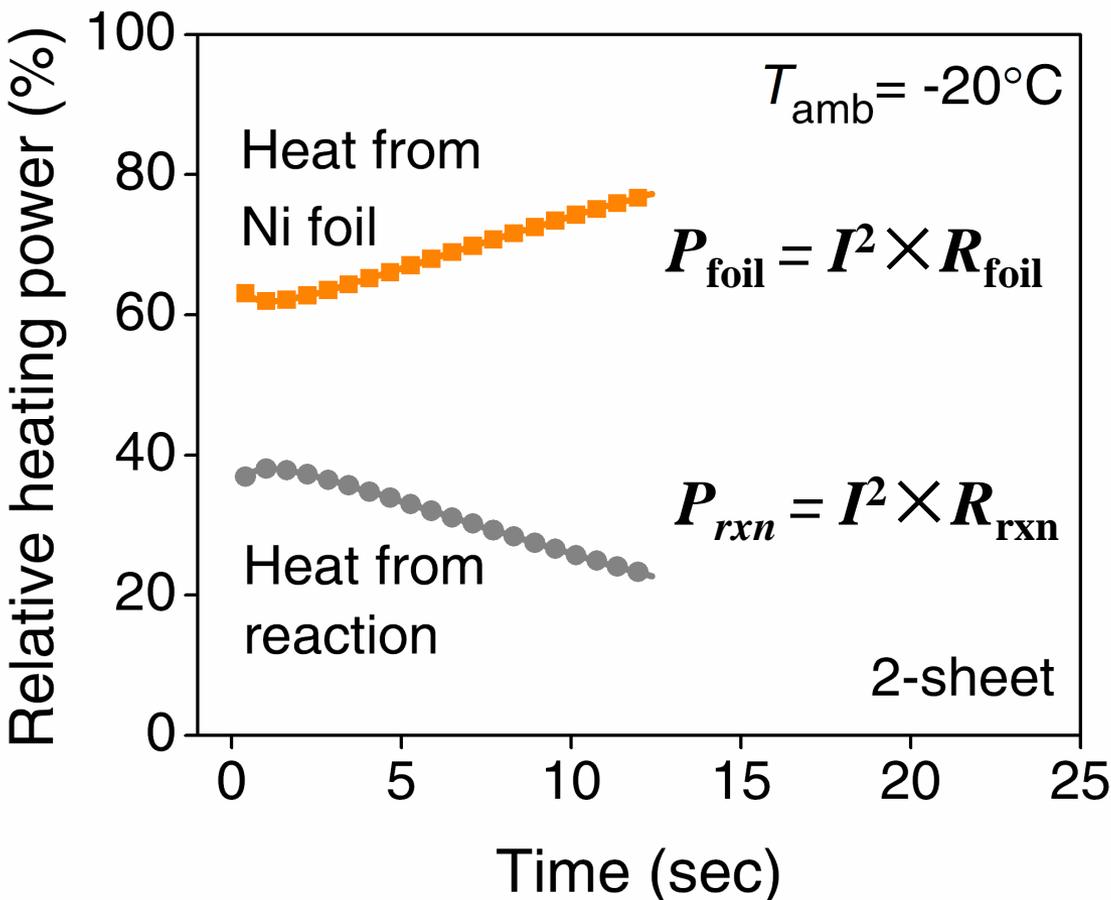


**Repetitive activations at -30°C**

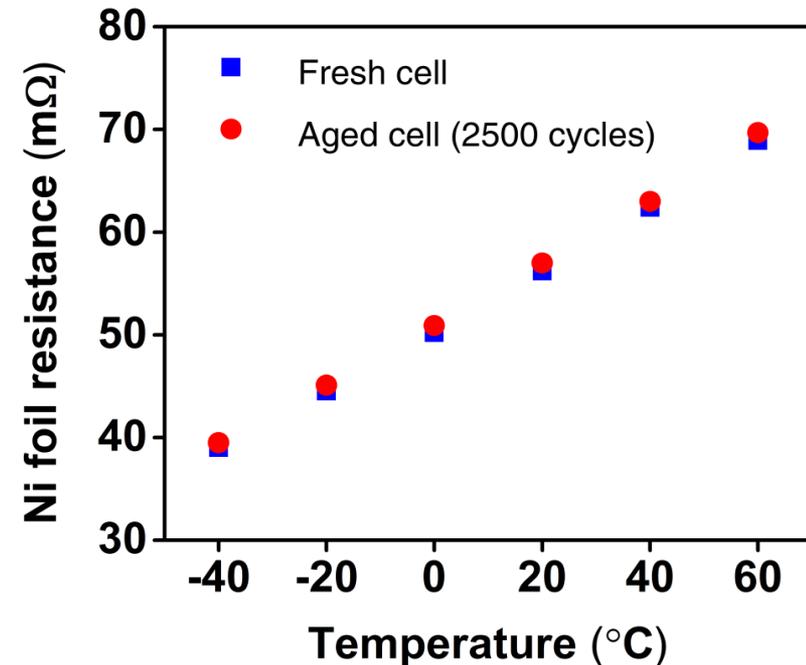
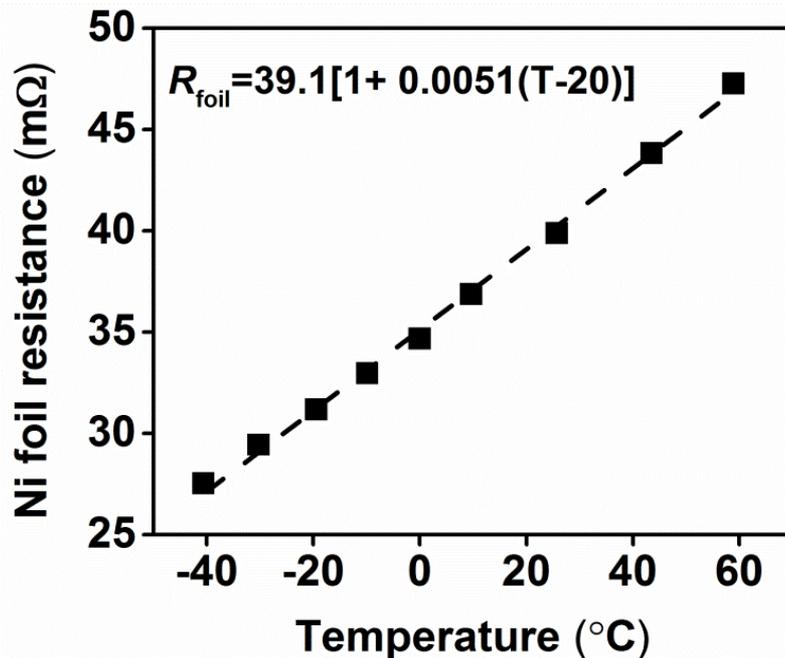
**Only 7.4% degradation after 500 activations  
(indicating no obvious damage)**

**Over 2,600 cycles at room temperature**

# SHLB warms up quickly because heat generation is significantly enhanced by the embedded Ni foil



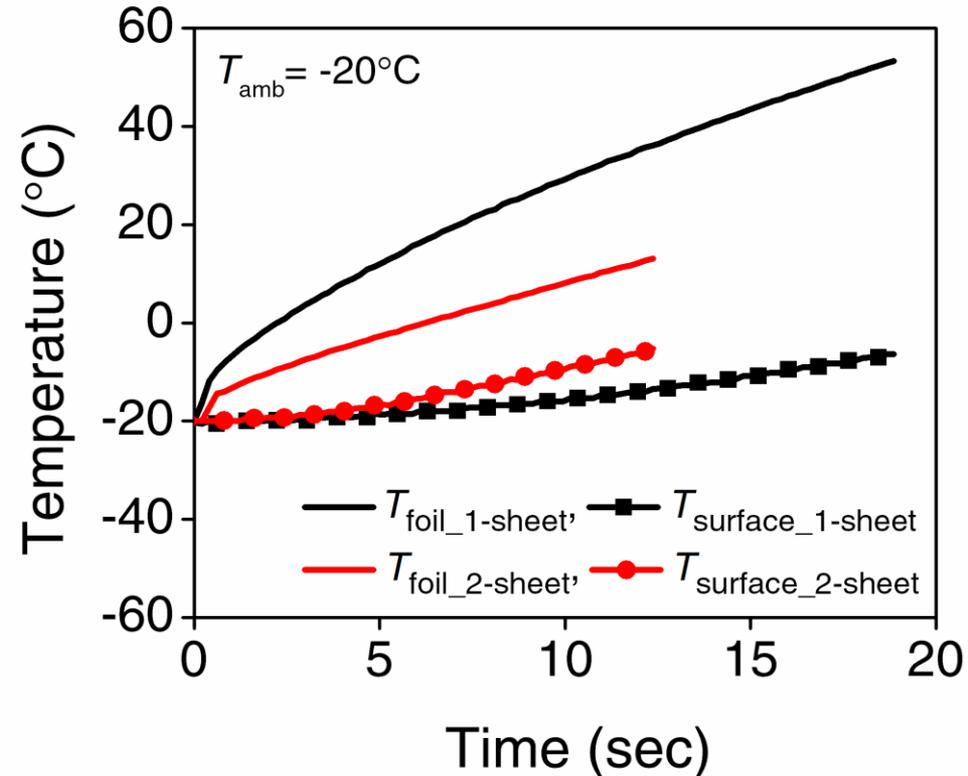
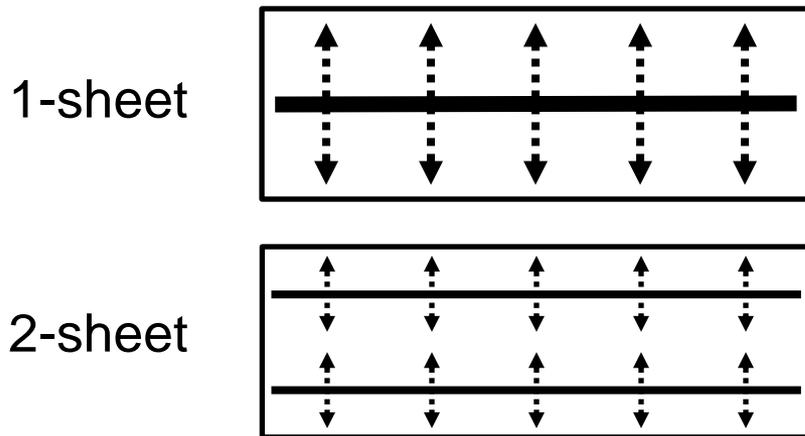
# The Ni foil in SHLB can simultaneously perform as a heater & an internal temperature sensor (RTD)



Zhang, Ge, Xu, Yang, Tian, Wang. *Electrochim Acta*, 2016

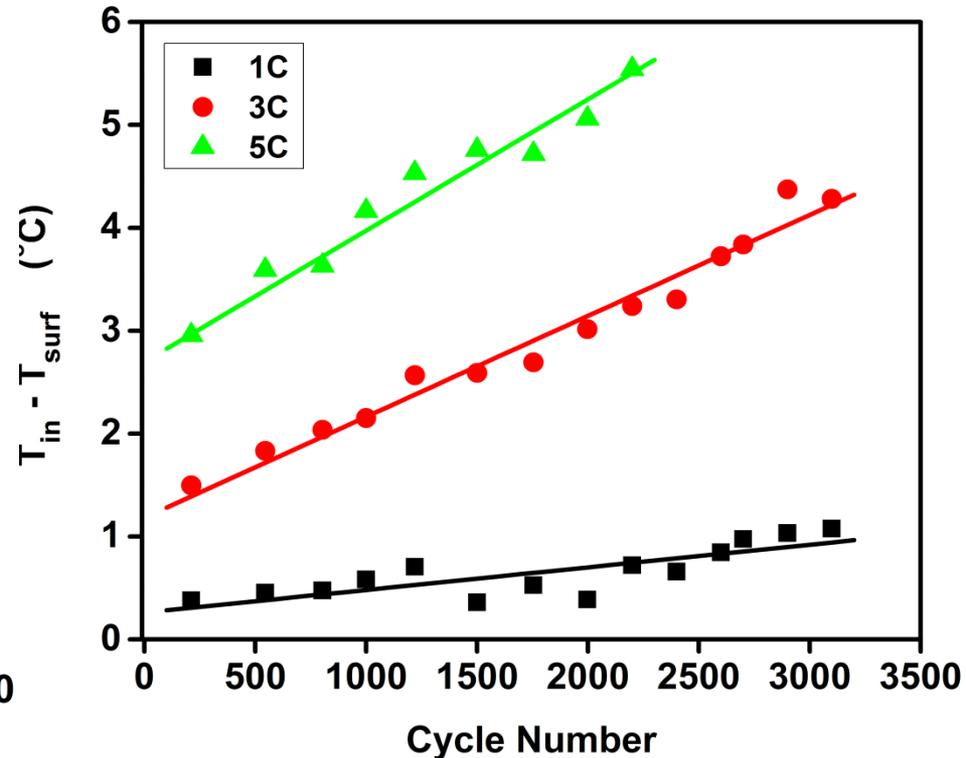
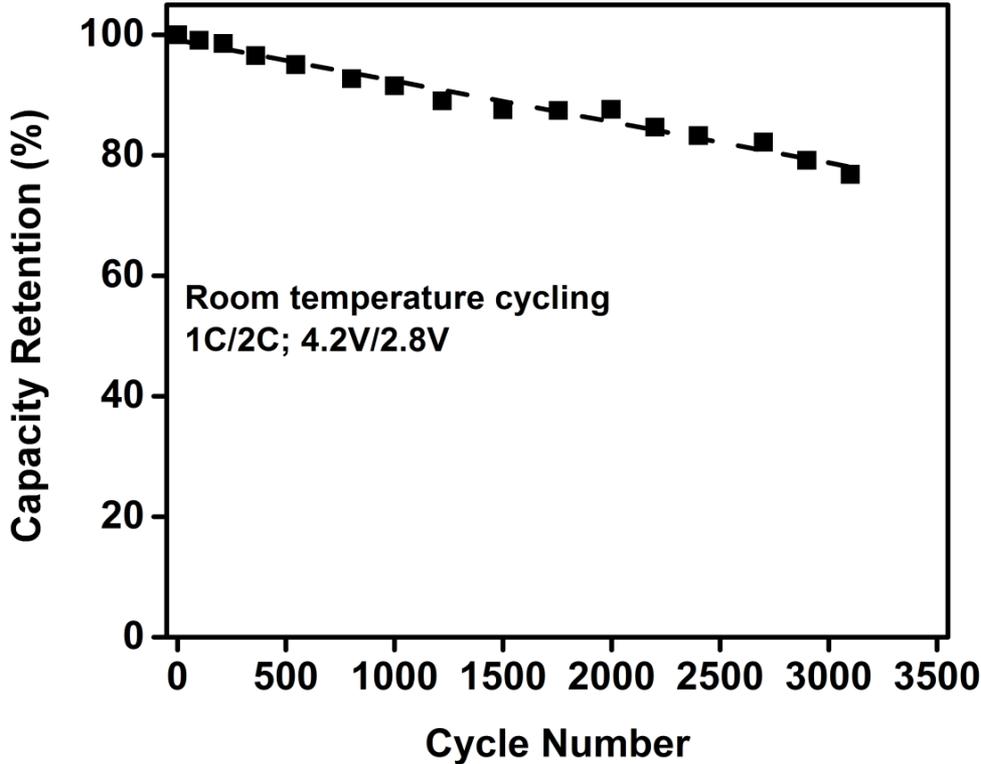
Zhang, Ge, Leng, Yang, Marple, Wang. *231<sup>st</sup> ECS Meeting*, 2017

# The RTD was used to measure internal temperature during rapid self-heating and improve SHLB design



Temperature gradient was reduced by 3 times

# The RTD sensor is very durable and can be also used for investigation of Li-ion cell cycling

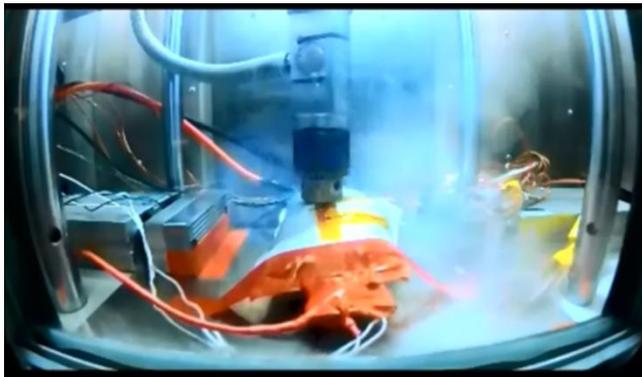


# Future: there are many challenges & opportunities for in situ diagnosis & internal thermal management

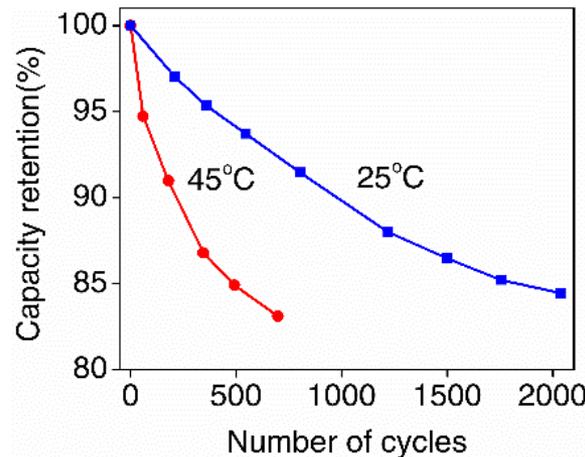
## Battery Safety

## Battery Durability at High Temperatures

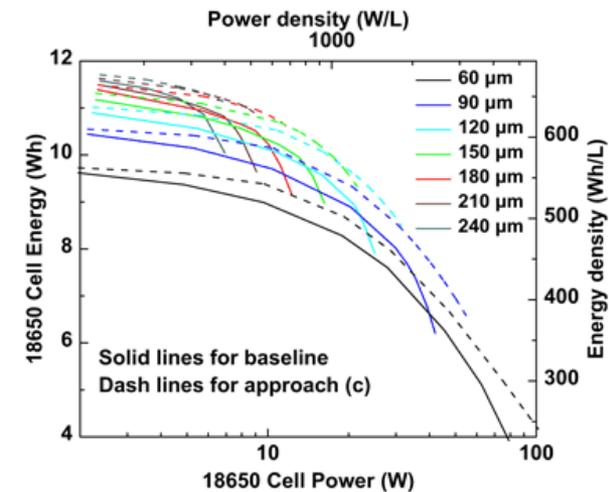
## Power Density of High Energy Battery



Zhang, Ge, Xu, Wang, Cao, Shaffer, Rahn. *228<sup>th</sup> ECS Meeting*, 2015

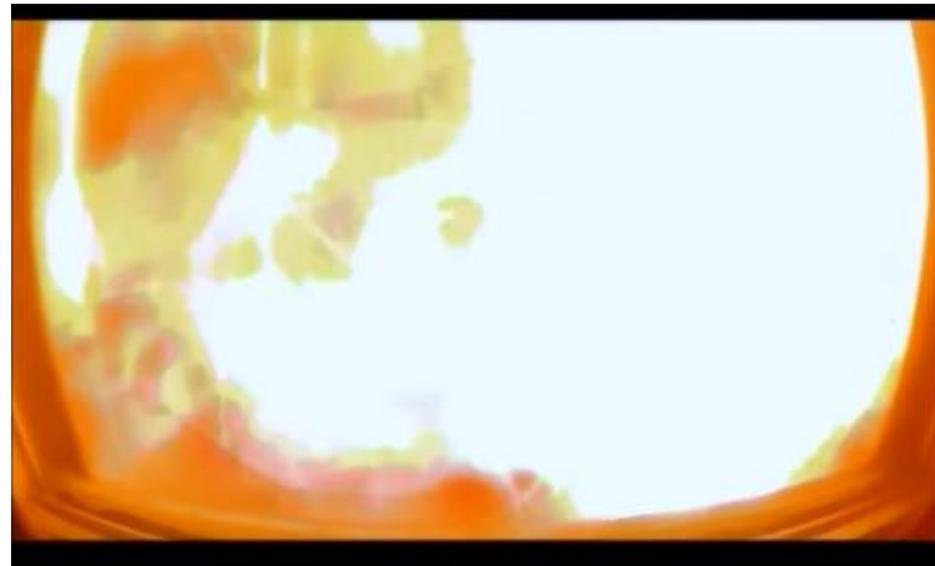
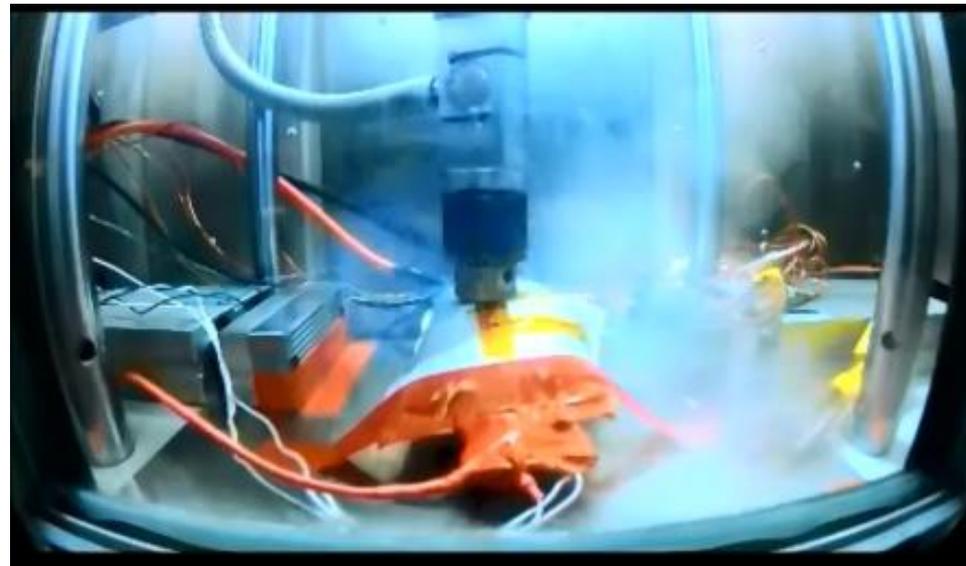


Wang, Zhang, Ge, Xu, Ji, Yang, Leng. *Nature*, 2016



Du, Wood, Kalnaus, Li. *JAE*, 2017

# Future #1: Battery Safety



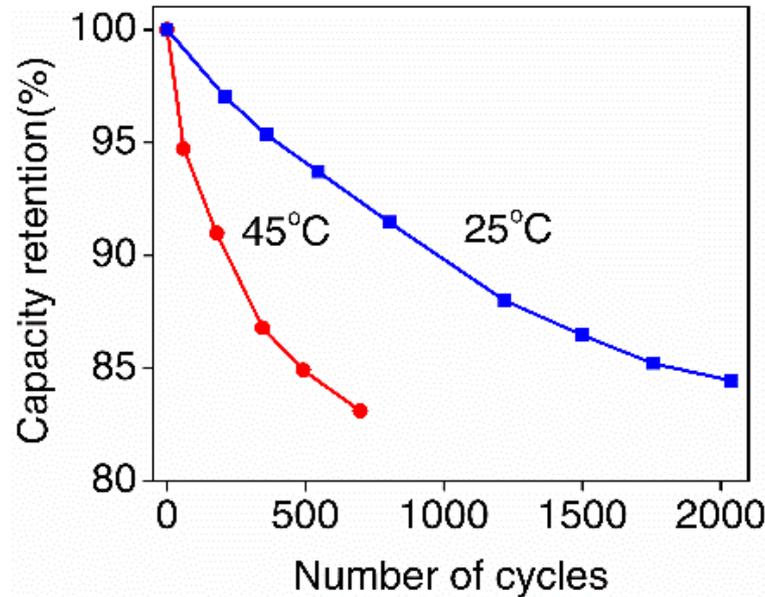
## Challenges:

- (1) Significant loss due to thermal runaway;
- (2) No fundamental solutions yet.

## Opportunities:

- (1) Understanding trigger and thermal runaway mechanisms through in situ diagnosis;
- (2) “Fail-Safe” design with internal thermal management.

# Future #2: Battery Durability at High Temperatures



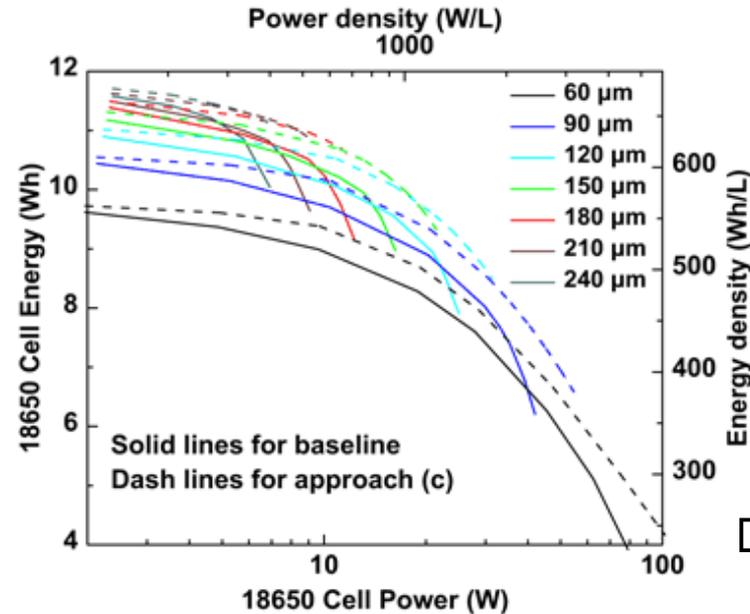
## Challenges:

- (1) Li-ion cells degrade much faster at higher temperatures;
- (2) Non-uniform temperature distribution in large Li-ion cells;
- (3) Temperature range and fluctuation (aerospace applications).

## Opportunities:

- (1) Understanding degradation due to non-uniform temperature distribution through in situ diagnosis;
- (2) Internal cooling of large-format Li-ion cells.

# Future #3: Power Density of High Energy Battery



Du, Wood, Kalnaus, Li, *JAE* 2017

## Challenges:

- (1) Underutilization of high energy cell capacity;
- (2) Slow charging of high energy cells.

## Opportunities:

- (1) Understanding power limiting factors from in situ diagnosis, e.g. current density and SOC distribution;
- (2) Novel electrode/cell structures for high power density.

# Summary

1. Internal temperature sensing is useful in understanding thermal behaviors of large-format Li-ion cells.

2. Internal thermal management, e.g. Self-Heating Li-ion Battery (SHLB) cell, can significantly boost performance.

3. There are many challenges & opportunities for in situ diagnosis and internal thermal management of large-format Li-ion cells.

