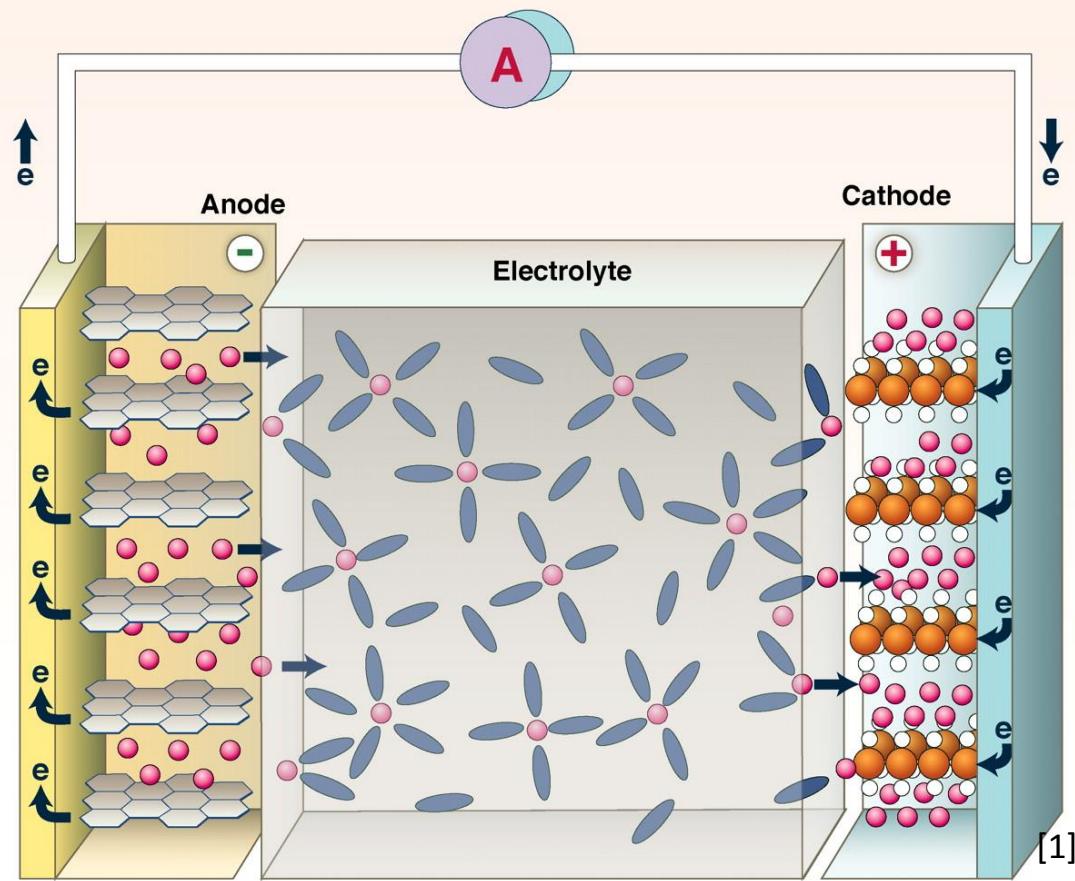


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**Quick Facts about Thermal Batteries** [2]

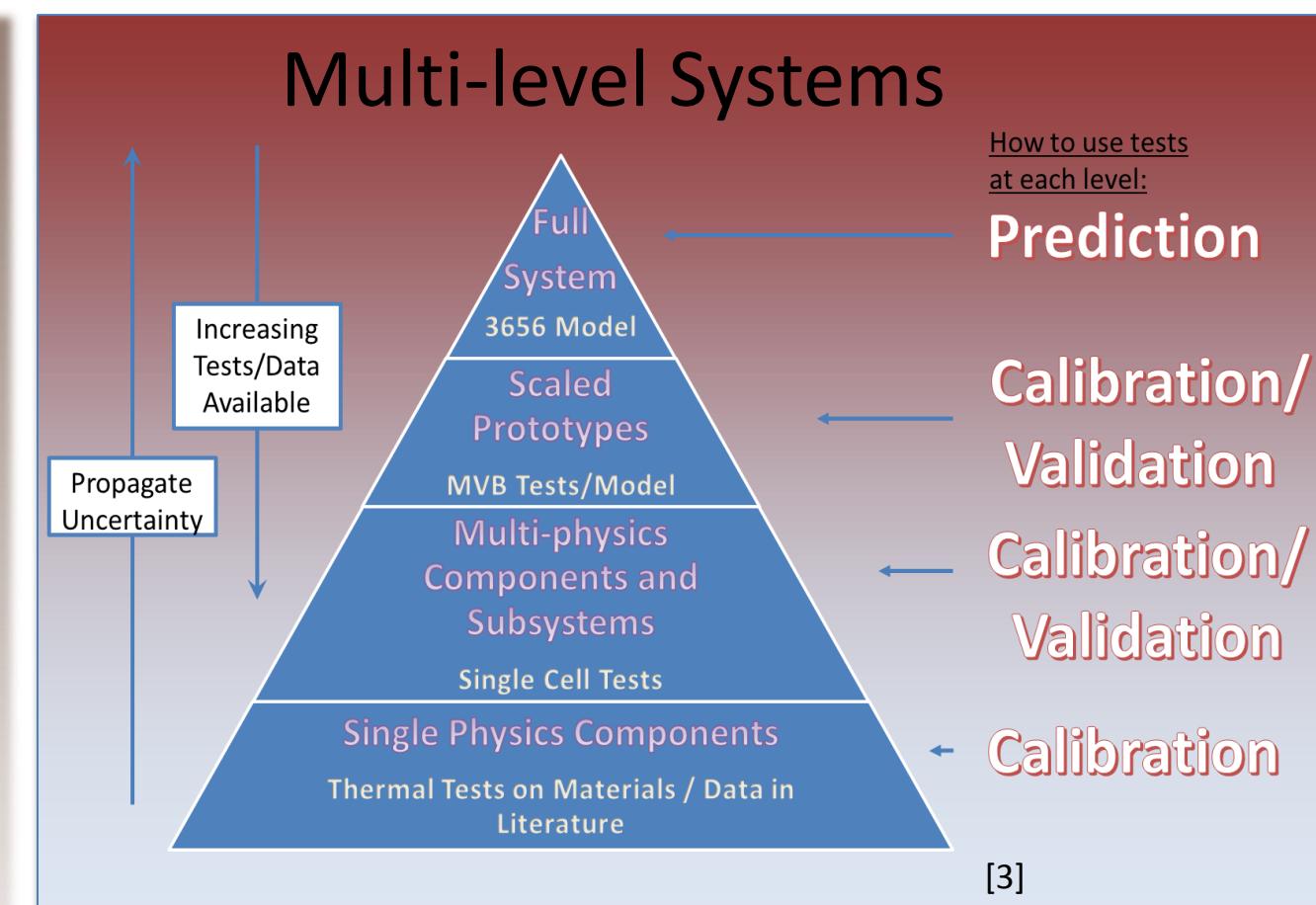
**History:** Developed by Georg Otto Erb, a German scientist, during World War II. USA's information about the battery was garnered via interrogation of Erb after the war.

**Components:** solid salt electrolyte, anode, cathode, separator

**How it Works:** Pyrotechnics are used to produce heat and melt the salt electrolyte, which activates the battery. This is why these batteries are often called molten salt batteries.

**Advantages:** Long shelf life, doesn't lose charge, inert (safe to handle), reliable

**Disadvantages:** 1 time use only, short activated life



# Quantifying and Reducing the Uncertainty in Thermal Battery Predicted Performance

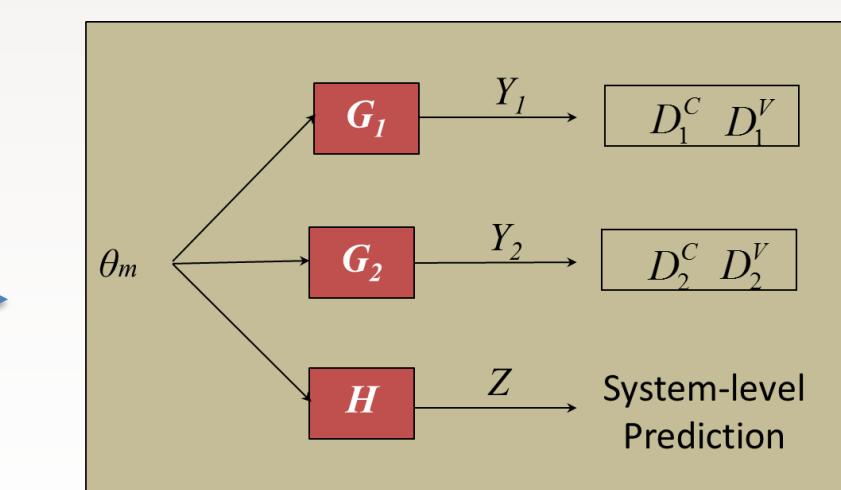
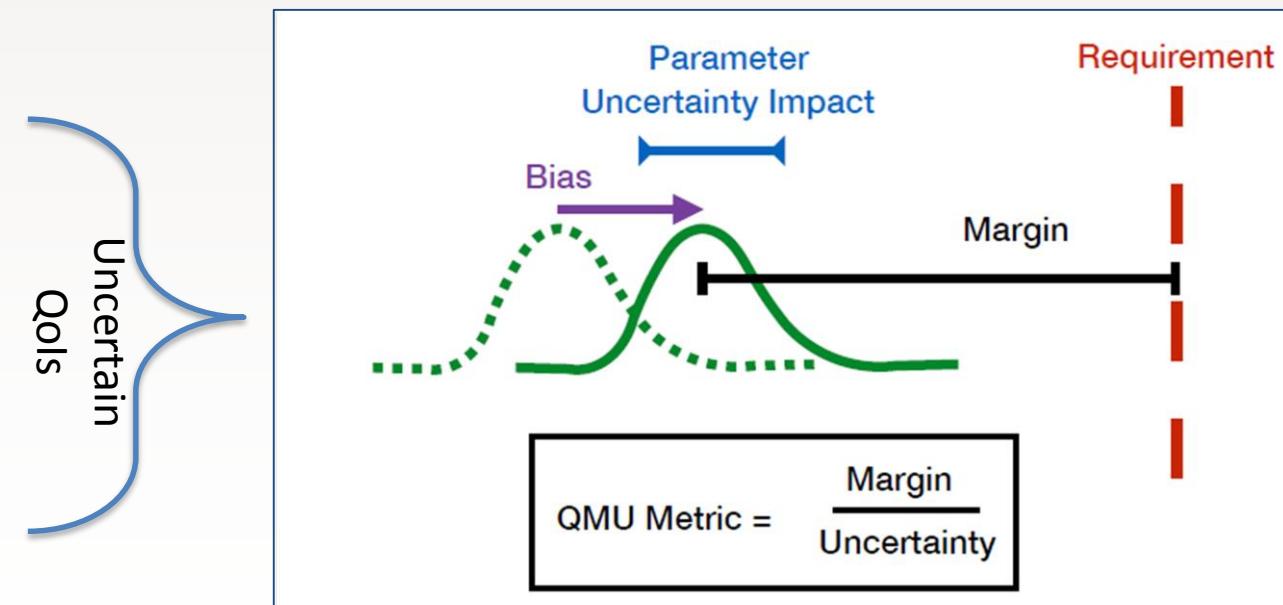
PhD Student  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Expected Graduation: May 2019

Kyle D. Neal  
Vanderbilt University

Manager: Walter R. Witkowski  
Mentors: Joshua G. Mullins & Benjamin B. Schroeder  
Organization: 1544 – V&V, UQ, Credibility Processes

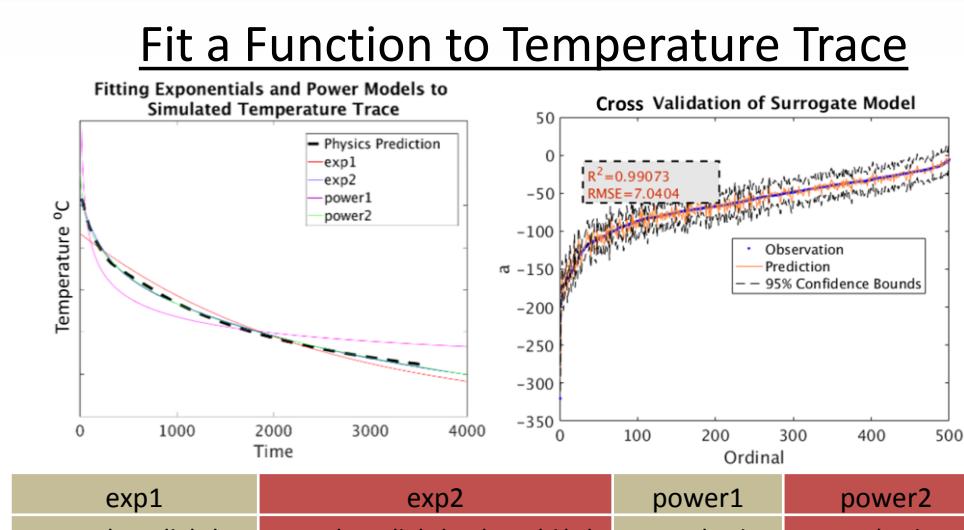
Performance Requirements

- Rise Time (s)
  - Time needed for battery to become active
- Lifetime (s)
  - Time that battery will remain active
- Maximum Temperature (°C)
  - The anode and cathode are subject to high temperatures



Method

- Replace expensive physics models with surrogate models (Gaussian Process)
  - Sensitivity analysis to reduce number of model parameters
  - Fit a function to the temperature trace
  - Train surrogate with function coefficients as outputs
- Use available experimental data for calibration/validation
- Aggregate uncertainties via Roll-up
- Propagate updated model parameters through the system model – predict QoI



Future Work

Consider Multiple Lower Levels:

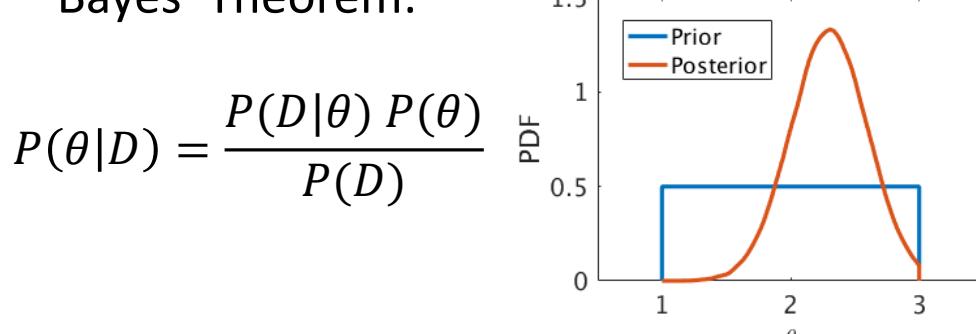
- Thus far I have only considered one lower level. When multiple lower levels are considered this should further reduce uncertainty in the predicted QoI.

Resource Allocation and Test Design:

- How many and what type of tests should be performed at each level? (Inverse Problem)

Calibration  
Use experimental observations to reduce uncertainty in model parameters.

Bayes' Theorem:



Validation  
How well does the model represent reality?  
Characterize the bias in the model using experimental observations.

Rollup  
The quality of the calibration is dependent on having an accurate model. In Rollup, calibration and validation results are combined through a weighted sum of the prior and posterior distributions.

References

- Dunn, B., Kamath, H., & Tarascon, J. M. (2011). Electrical energy storage for the grid: a battery of choices. *Science*, 334(6058), 928-935.
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- Rider, J., Kamm, J. R., Weirs, V. G., & Cacu, D. G. (2010). Verification, validation and Uncertainty Quantification Workflow in CASL.