



SAND2018-12481PE

# Grid Energy Storage Technologies and the Future Electric Grid

Dr. Babu Chalamala  
Sandia National Laboratories  
[bchalam@sandia.gov](mailto:bchalam@sandia.gov)

University of Notre Dame

Notre Dame Energy Institute, October 30, 2018  
Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525. SAND2018-12481PE

2 Sandia National Laboratories



*Albuquerque, New Mexico*



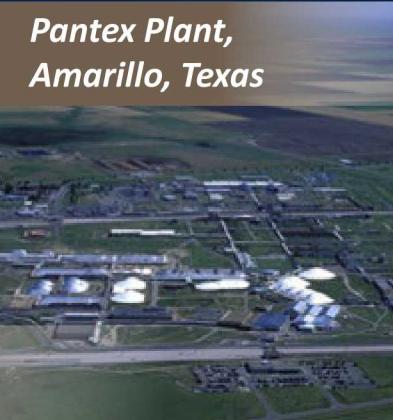
*Livermore, California*



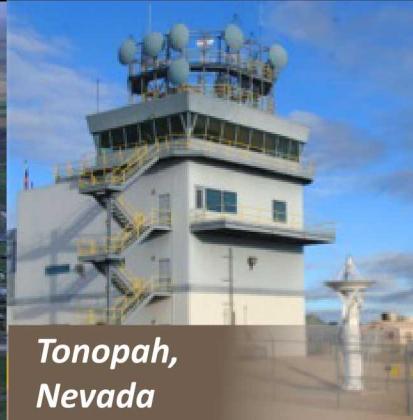
*Kauai, Hawaii*



*Waste Isolation Pilot Plant,  
Carlsbad, New Mexico*

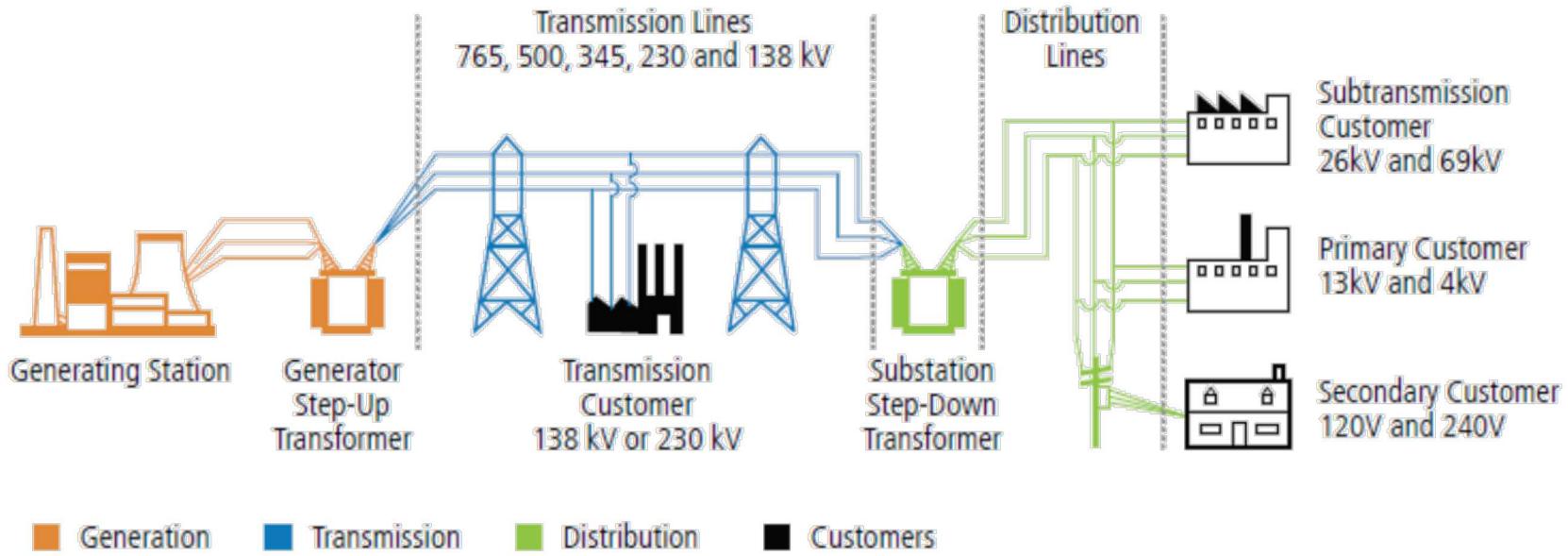


*Pantex Plant,  
Amarillo, Texas*



*Tonopah,  
Nevada*

## The Success of the Electric Grid



- A one way delivery system with very little flexibility, with generation and load always balanced
- Utilities deliver reliable power at prices set by regulators in most markets, and variable market driven pricing in a few markets

# The Success of the Grid

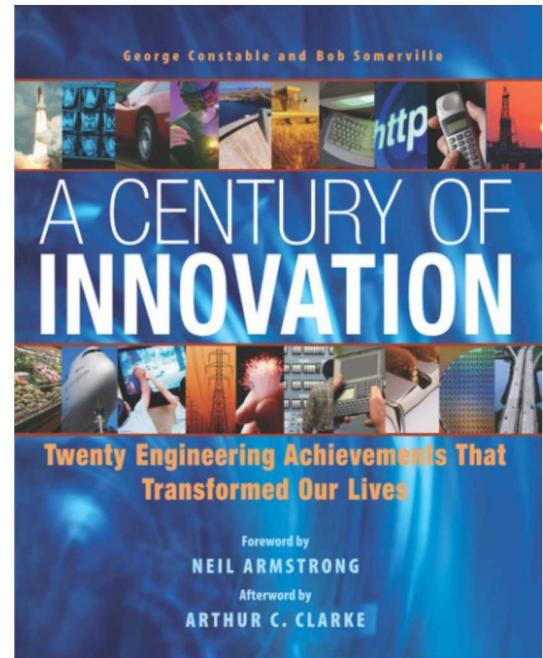


## Remarkably reliable and efficient

- Large interconnected network
- Just-in-time production and consumption
- Highly reliable 99.999%

## Success rests on two important principles

- Diversity of aggregated loads
  - Aggregated loads change is predictable
- Control over generation, throttled to provide power as needed



Electrification ranks as the most important engineering achievement of the 20<sup>th</sup> century  
National Academy of Engineering, 2003

# U.S. Electric Grid

850GW baseload, 1250 GW summer peak, 7,000 operational power plants

3,200 utilities, 60k substations, 642k miles of HV transmission lines, 6.2 million miles of distribution circuit, 159 million customers.

In 2015, total U.S. electricity generation was 4,087,381 GWh

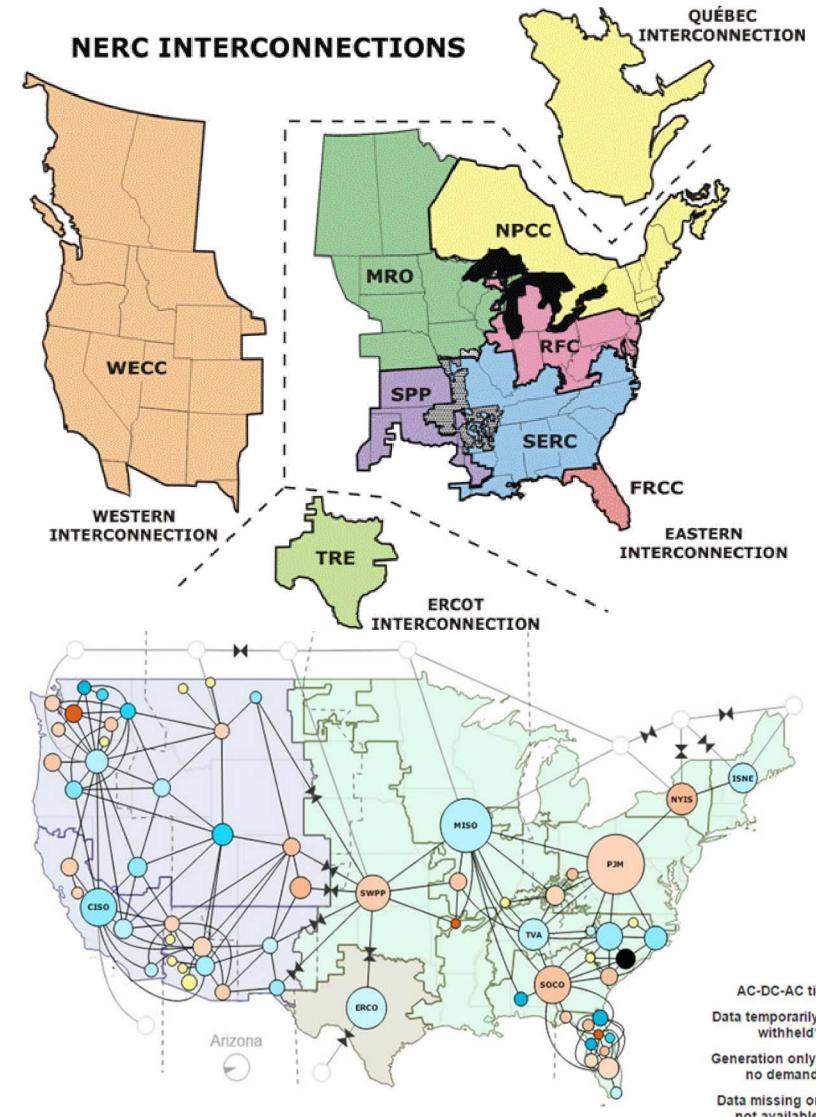
- Increasing NG and renewable generation (6.1% hydropower and 7.3% from wind and solar)

Revenues reaching \$400 B, 10.42 c/kWh avg

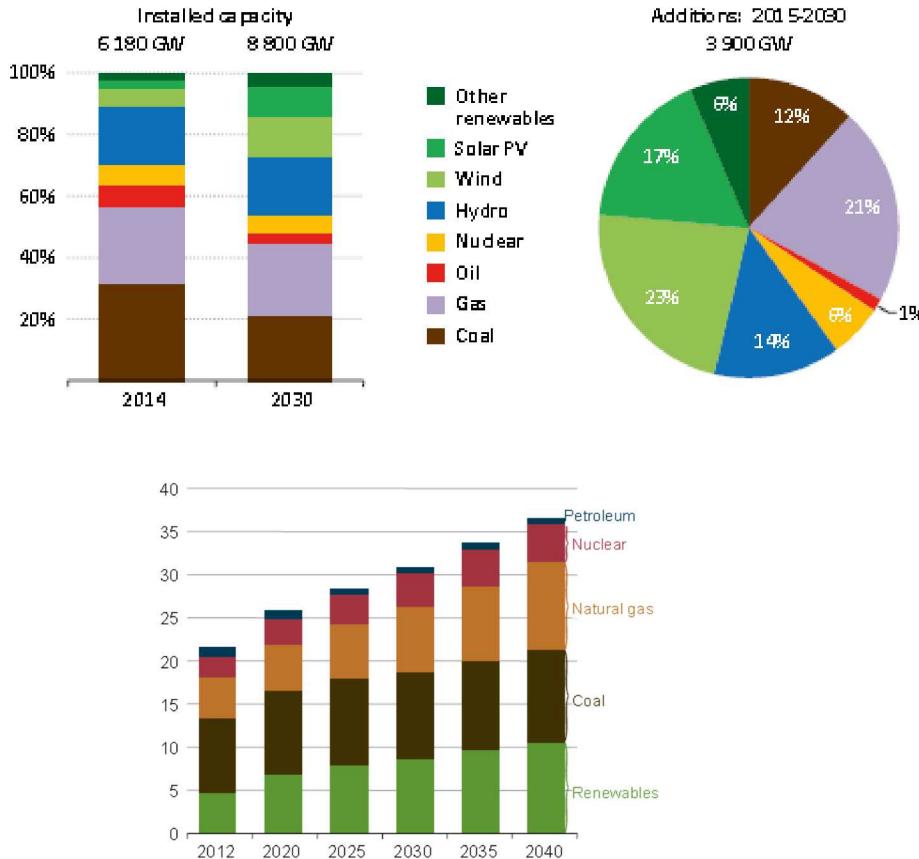
Four interconnect regions and a number of balancing authorities:

- Eastern Interconnection (31 US, 5 Canada)
- Western Interconnection (34 US, 2 Canada, 1 Mexico)
- ERCOT, Hydro-Quebec

Sources: EIA, EEI



# Electric Grid: Are we at the cusp of a major transformation?



Source: International Energy Outlook, EIA, 2016

Of the 6 TW of worldwide generation capacity, renewables are reaching the 20% range in many markets.

- Installed solar and wind capacity reached 1 TW in 2018, penetration levels approaching 30-40% in some markets.

US Grid: 850 GW baseload, 1250 GW summer capacity.

- Installed solar and wind capacity reached 150GW in 2018

Handling intermittency is becoming a challenge in many markets

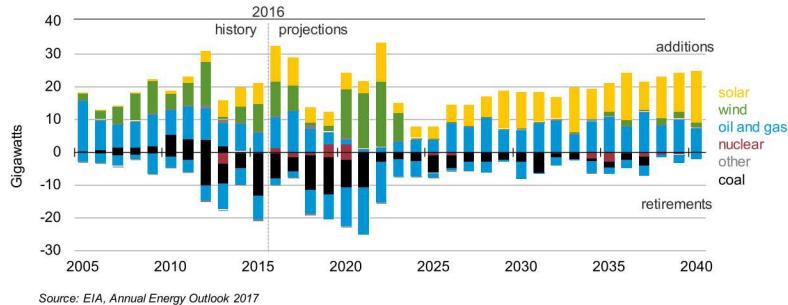
- High level integration of energy storage and hybrids, on a grand scale.

**In 2000**, the IEA forecast that by 2030, renewable energy would be 4.4% of the total mix  
**In 2018**, installed wind and solar capacity reached 1 TW, new generation is more renewable

# Major Trends in Electricity Markets

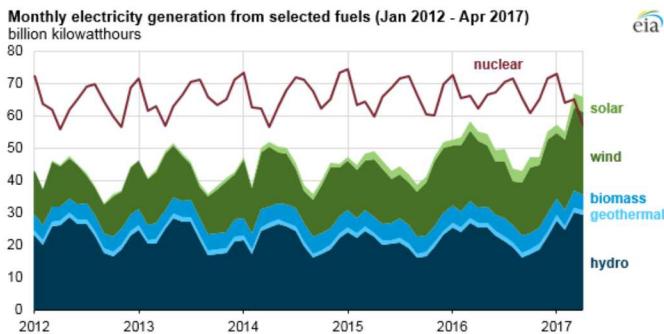


## Capacity Additions and Retirements

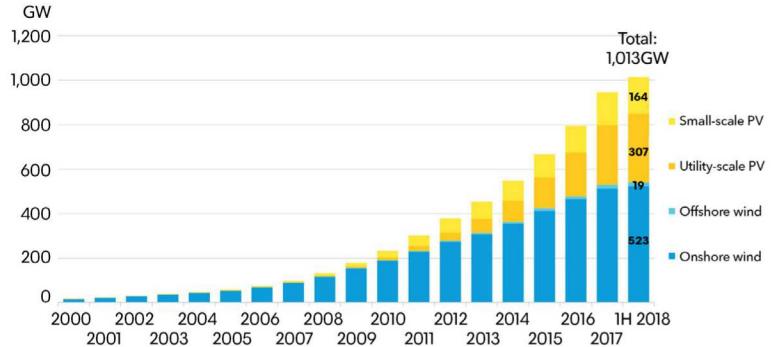


Coal-fired unit retirements driven by low NG prices (EIA, 2017)  
 In California by 2021, solar, storage and wind capacity additions will exceed natural gas (GTM Research)

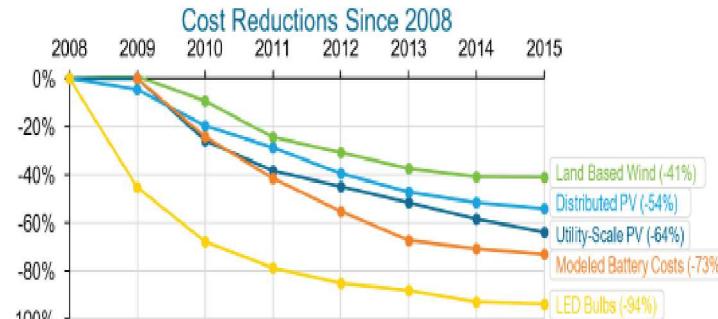
## Utility-scale Renewables Generation surpassed Nuclear Generation - April 2017



Global wind and solar installations, cumulative to June 30, 2018



Cost reductions primarily due to high volume manufacturing and large scale deployments



<http://energy.gov/eere/downloads/revolutionnow-2016-update>



## Electrification, Decentralization, Digitalization

### Electrification of the Transportation Sector

- EV charging infrastructure and fast charging
  - Ensure stability of the power grid
  - Accommodate large loads
  - Provide grid services, Infrastructure for transactive energy

### Advanced Batteries for longer EV range

- Increased energy density and materials use
- Recycling and repurposing
- Improved battery management systems

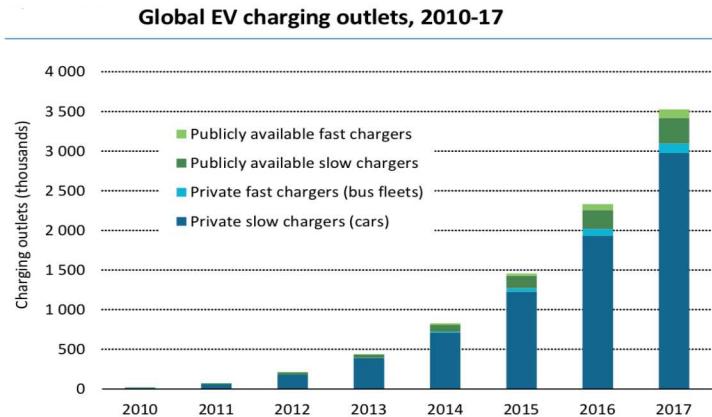
### Behind-the-meter technologies with bi-directional communication

- Smart meters, smart loads, rooftop solar, electric vehicles, battery storage

### Computation challenges associated with distributed sensing, control, and big data

### Increasing Role of Power Electronics

### Rapid evolution of off-grid and micro-grids

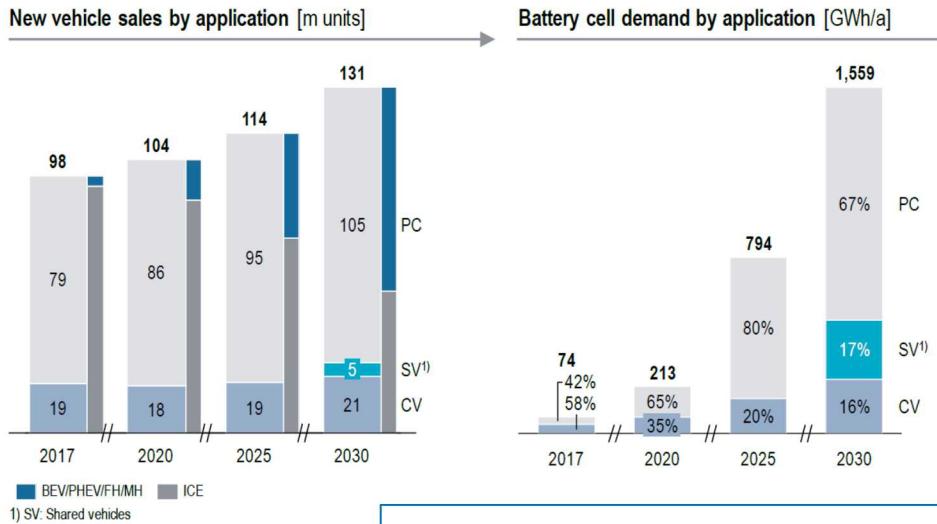


## 9 Electrification of Transportation



IEA, IHS, Bloomberg projections for annual production of electric vehicles reaching 20 Million by 2030 and a fleet of 130 Million vehicles (mostly passenger vehicles) on road as base case, 230M vehicles optimistic case'

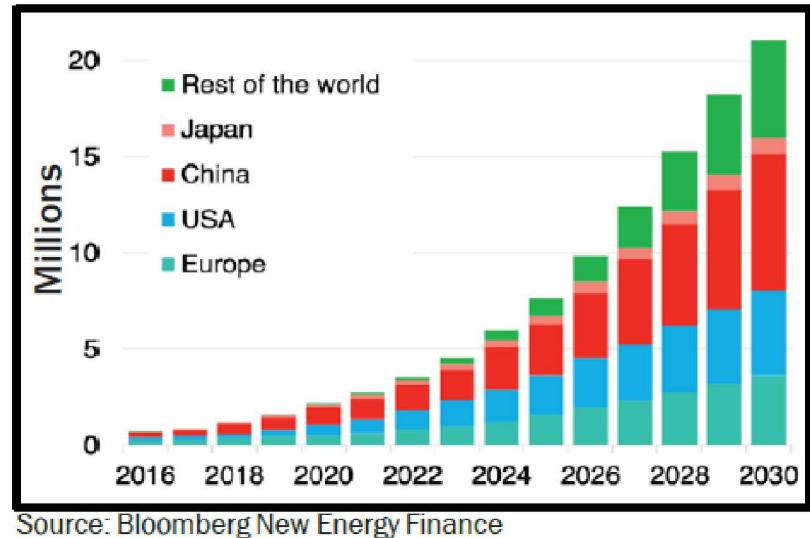
- Typical battery pack: 100 kWh/80kW, 500 mile



Source: IHS; Roland Berger

**Projected battery capacity needs for EVs in 2030**

- 1.5 - 2.5 TWh of manufacturing capacity



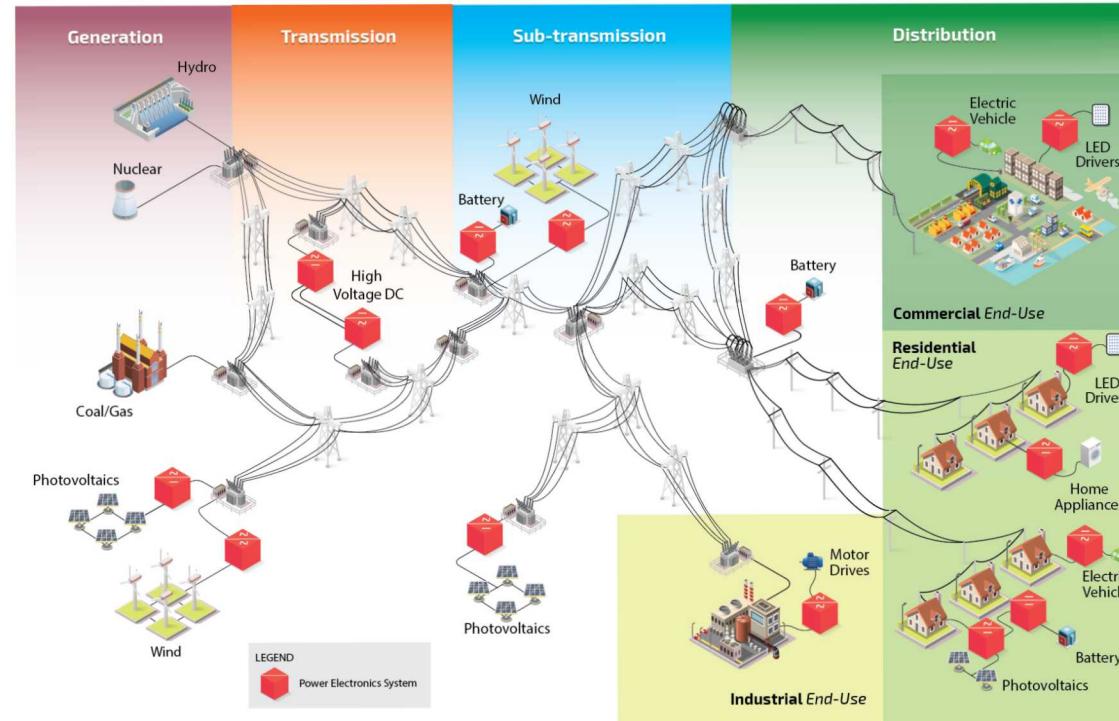
Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

**International Energy Agency projects at least 125 million EVs worldwide by 2030.**

Infrastructure updates required:

- prevalent charging stations
- accommodation of increased loads (potentially at ends of distribution feeders)

# Increasing Role of Power Electronics in Electricity Infrastructure



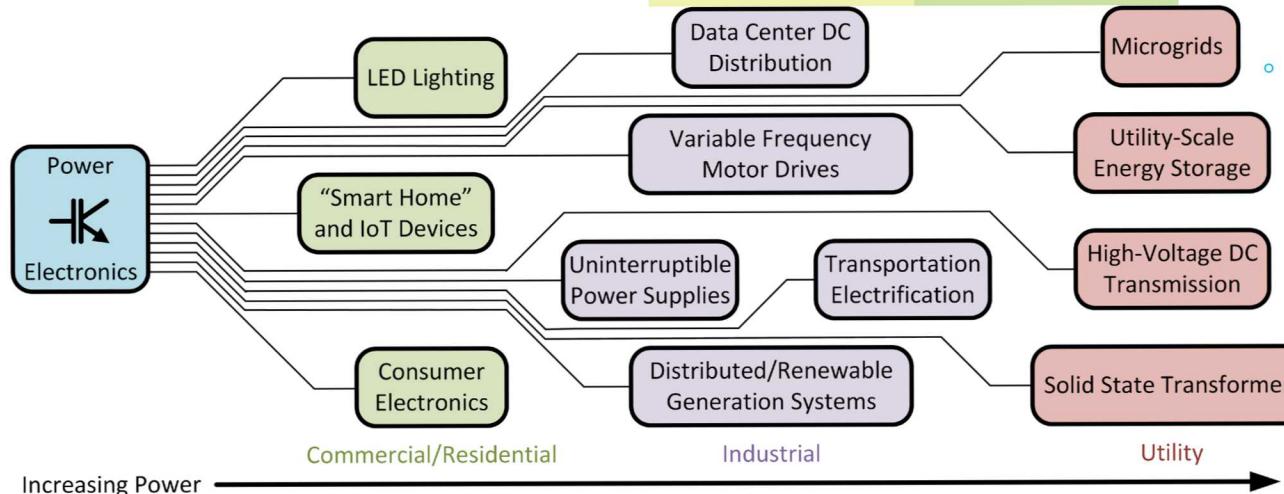
Continued increase in the role of power electronics throughout the grid

Approximately 30% of all electric power currently generated uses PE somewhere between the point of generation and distribution.

By 2030, it is expected that 80% of all electric power will flow through PE converters.

Cost reductions in power electronics and power conversion systems has been slow to come.

- Bringing in WBG devices can make format factor smaller, reduces thermal management issues
- New magnetics and high temperature capacitors can make the systems more compact and robust



## Policy Changes for a Greater Role for Clean Energy Technologies



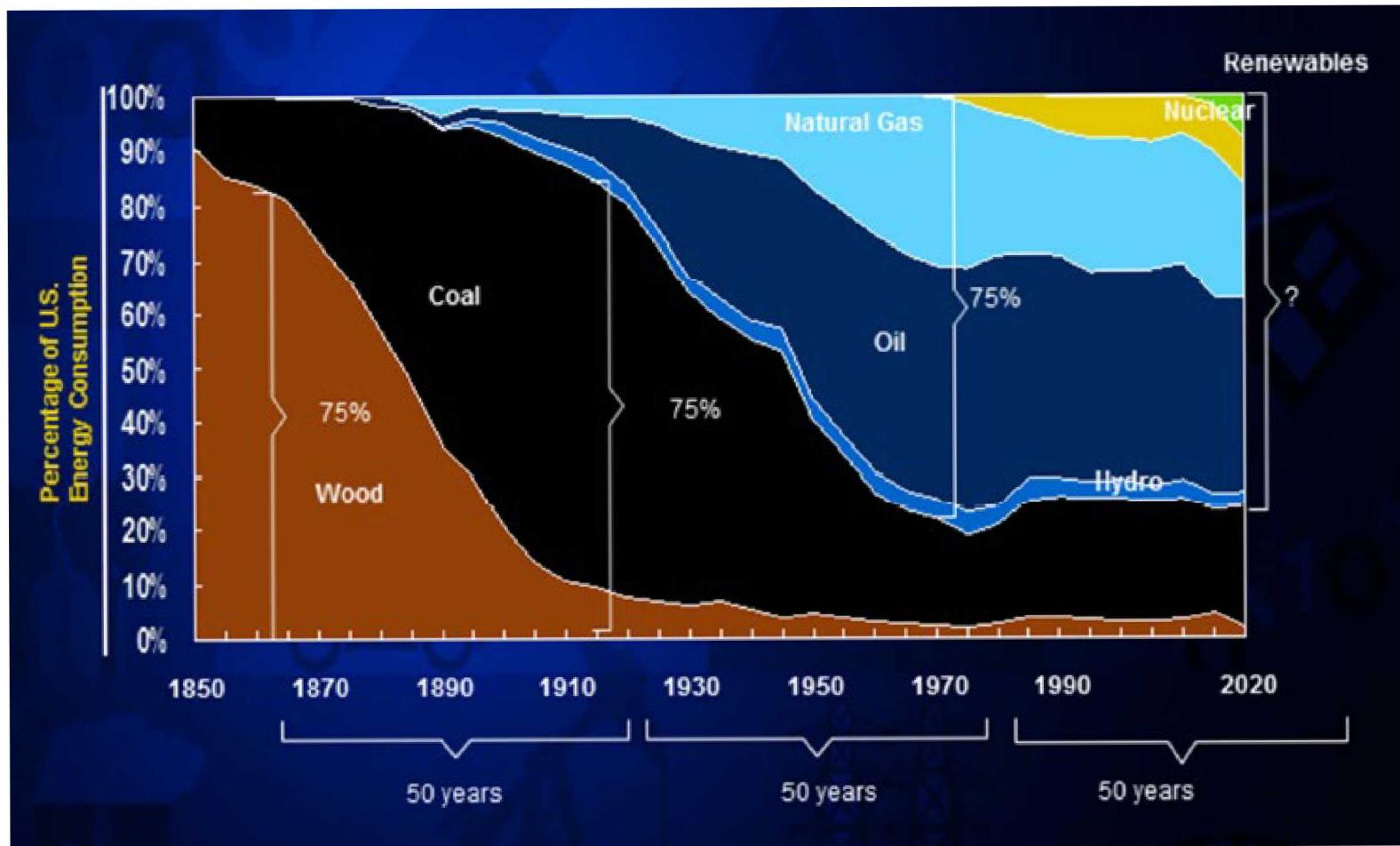
7 countries are already at 100% renewable including Albania, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Iceland, Lesotho, Nepal and Paraguay.

Many others are close to this mark such as Norway (98.5%), New Zealand (80.8%) and Brazil (75%).

California and Hawaii are aiming for 100% renewable energy by 2045; many U.S cities and counties have made public commitments to reach 100% clean energy in the next ten to twenty years.

**100% fossil free generation is no longer an idea**

## But, Energy Transition Cycles are Long (50 Year Cycles)



# Immediate Needs to for Grid Modernization

## Economic

- Aging electric power system exacts substantial costs due to outages and inefficient energy technologies.

## Environmental and Policy

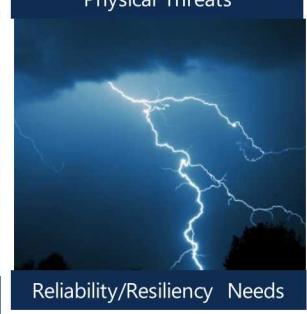
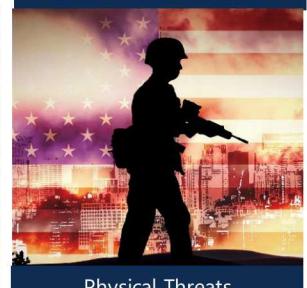
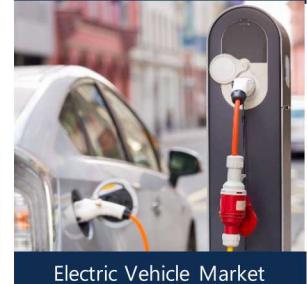
- Increasing frequency and severity of extreme weather (drought, storms, etc.) affects the ability to generate power and stress the resiliency of electric power grid.

## Security

- Physical: damage to infrastructure by malicious actors or natural hazards increasing risk to critical assets
- Cyber: disruption of energy production/energy flow and damage to equipment caused by cyber threats/attacks.

## Competitiveness

- Increasing competition worldwide in energy sector as countries are moving toward clean energy technologies
- Competitive energy markets needed for economic competitiveness



# How is the Grid Evolving?



We are beginning to see existing business models breaking down

Flat to declining electricity sales in OECD markets

- Investors struggling with poor returns due to long adoption cycles. \$2 Tn Asset Base in the US alone

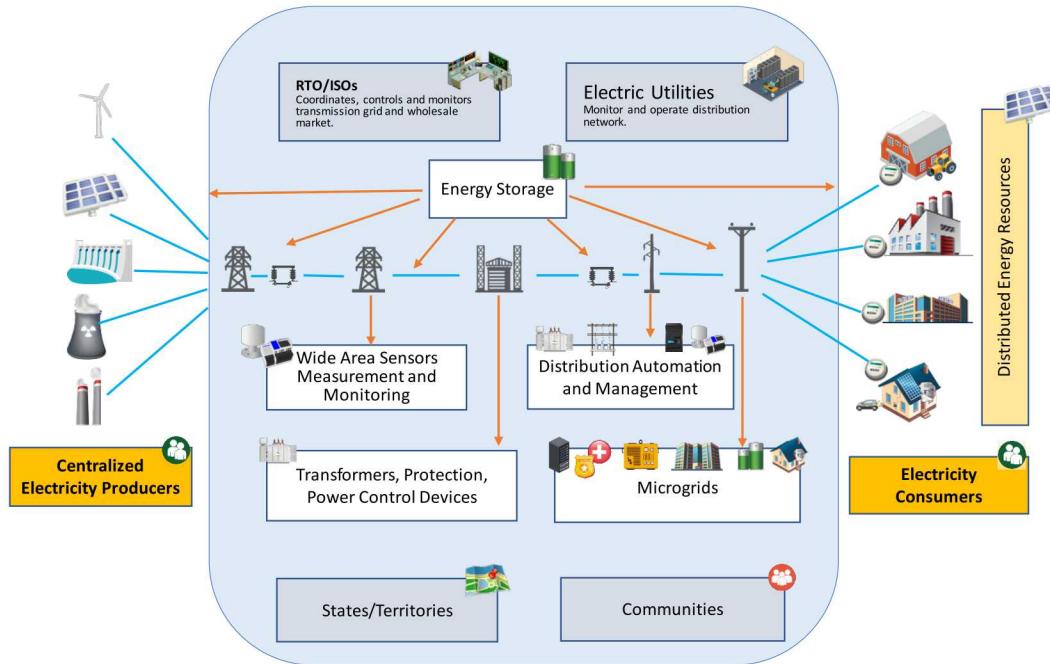
Conservative regulated utility industry

- Not open or reluctant to change business models
- IOUs and PUCs struggling to adapt to rapid change

Rapid change is bottom-up, with major transformation at the grid edge

- EVs, DER, Smart metering, microgrids, demand response, energy efficiency

Changes cuts across technology, economics, policy, and markets



Source: US DOE Office of Electricity

**Centralized to a Decentralized Power Delivery Model?  
Will we have a hybrid model?**

**Energy Storage is needed**

# Role of Energy Storage in the Grid



Grid resiliency and reliability

Improving power quality

Improving the efficiency of existing generation fleet

Demand management

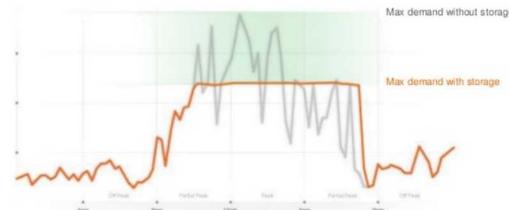
Renewable integration

Transmission & Distribution upgrade deferral

Off-grid applications



**Mitigate \$79B/yr in commercial losses from outages**

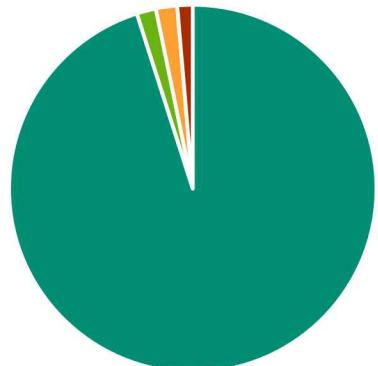


**Reduce commercial and industrial electrical bills through demand charge management. 7.5 million U.S. customers are enrolled in dynamic pricing (EIA 2015)**

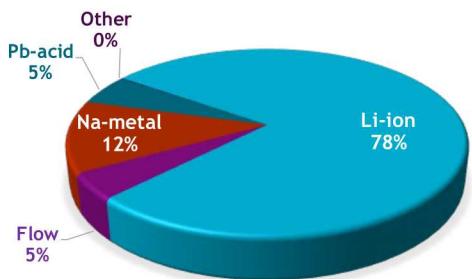


**Balance the variability of 825 GW of new renewable generation while improving grid reliability and efficiency.**

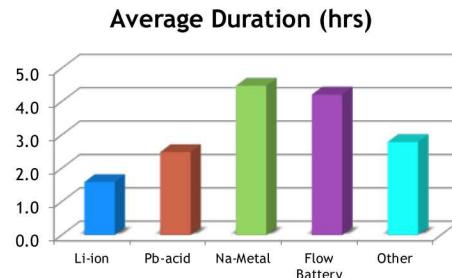
# Energy Storage in the Grid Today



Global Installed Storage Capacity



US Battery Energy Storage Deployed Reaching 2 GW in 2018



Numbers reflect projects reported to the DOE Global Energy Storage Database as of Nov 2017

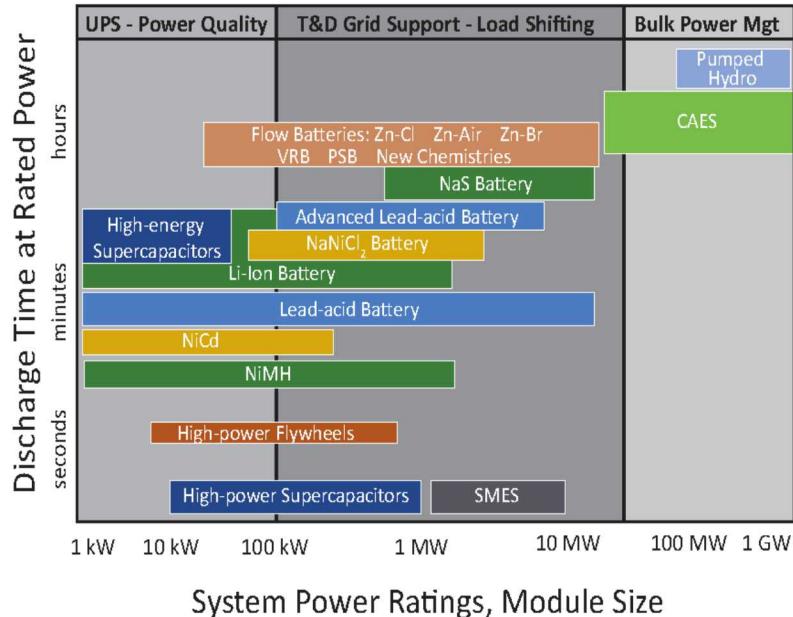
| Technology Type      | Projects | Rated Power (MW) |
|----------------------|----------|------------------|
| Electro-chemical     | 993      | 3,279            |
| Pumped Hydro Storage | 352      | 183,800          |
| Thermal Storage      | 206      | 3,622            |
| Electro-mechanical   | 70       | 2,616            |

US installed energy storage capacity of 32 GW represents 15 min ride through

Compared to the need, scale of energy storage deployments are insignificant.

DOE Global Energy Storage Database  
[www.energystorageexchange.org](http://www.energystorageexchange.org)

# Energy Storage System Needs and Applications



Range of applications and storage system needs [Source: DOE/EPRI Electricity Storage Handbook in Collaboration with NRECA, 2013]

| Energy Applications          | Power Applications         |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Arbitrage                    | Frequency regulation       |
| Renewable energy time shift  | Voltage support            |
| Demand charge reduction      | Small signal stability     |
| Time-of-use charge reduction | Frequency droop            |
| T&D upgrade deferral         | Synthetic inertia          |
| Grid resiliency              | Renewable capacity firming |

## Energy storage application time scale

- “Energy” applications – slower time scale, large amounts of energy
- “Power” applications – faster time scale, real-time control of the electric grid

## The grid needs energy storage – right now there are several barriers

- Expensive, especially in energy markets
- Electricity markets/utilities do not properly allocate payments/costs for services provided

## The future ....

- Higher energy prices – storage starts looking better
- Lower technology costs – storage starts looking better
- Efficient market design – helps pay for storage costs



Range of battery technologies for short duration energy storage, seconds to days

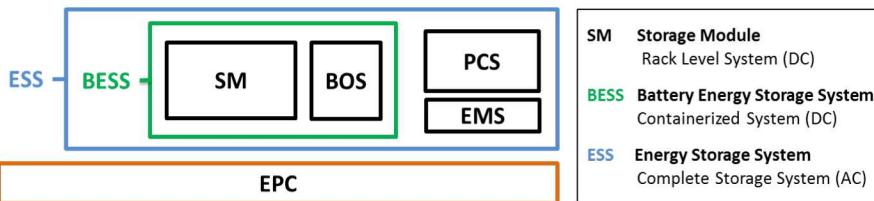
- Li-ion, advanced lead acid, Sodium and Zinc-based battery for power and some energy applications
- Flow batteries – energy applications

Pumped hydro and CAES for hours to day long energy storage

No ready solutions for real long duration and seasonal storage needs

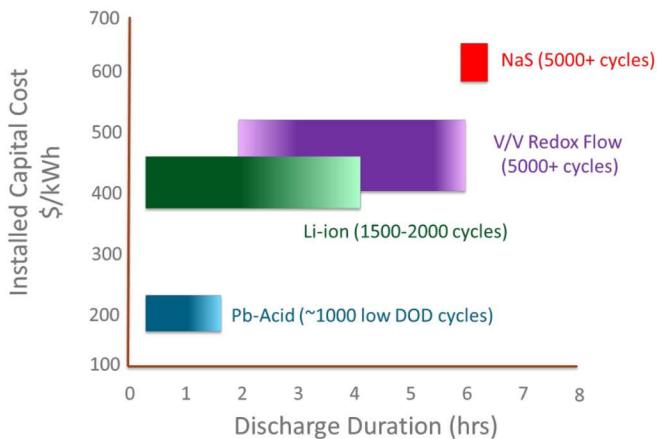
- Range of options including liquid fuels, hydrogen, thermal storage technologies

# Energy Storage is Not Just Batteries



| Storage Module (SM)         | Balance of System (BOS)           | Power Conversion System (PCS) | Energy Management System (EMS) | Engineering Procurement & Construction (EPC) |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Racking Frame / Cabinet     | Container                         | Bi-directional Inverter       | Application Library            | Project Management                           |
| Local Protection (Breakers) | Electrical Distribution & Control | Electrical Protection         | Economic Optimization          | Engineering Studies / Permitting             |
| Rack Management System      | Fire Suppression                  | Connection to Transformer     | Distributed Asset Integration  | Site Preparation / Construction              |
| Battery Management System   | HVAC / Thermal Management         |                               | Data Logging                   | Foundation / Mounting                        |
| Battery Module              |                                   |                               | Communication                  | Commissioning                                |

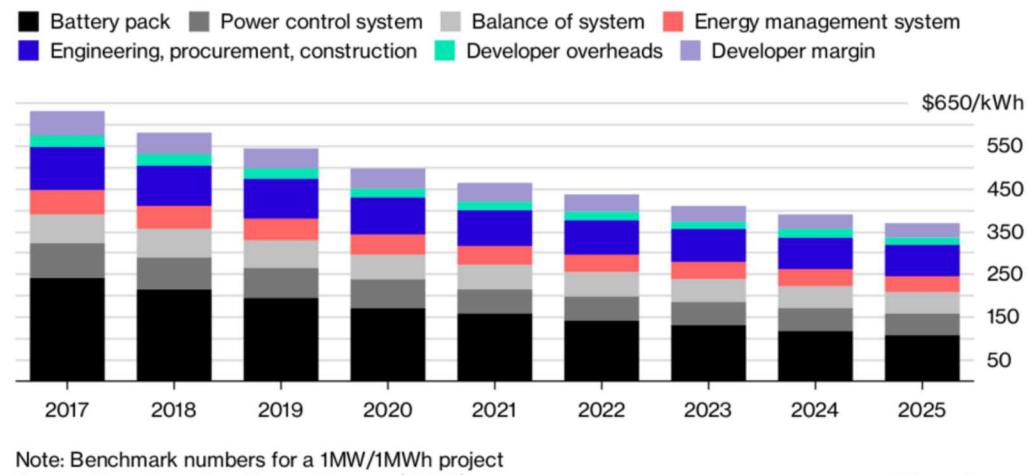
Source: R. Baxter, I. Gyuk, R.H. Byrne, B.R. Chalamala, IEEE Electrification, Aug 2018



Source: V. Sprengle, PNNL, 2017

**Cell to Battery to a Storage System**  
Doubling in cost, \$250/kWh battery leads to \$500-\$700/kWh at the System level

- Energy Storage is competitive in power markets such as regulation
- Expensive in most energy markets



Energy Storage Installed Costs (BNEF, 2018)

Bloomberg

# Major Battery Technologies for EVs and Grid Storage



**Traditional Batteries**  
e.g. Lead-acid, Ni-Cd, Ni-MH, Zn-MnO<sub>2</sub>



**Lithium Batteries**  
e.g. Li-ion, Li-polymer, Li-metal, Li-S



**High-temperature Batteries**  
e.g. Na-S, Na-NiCl<sub>2</sub>



**Flow Batteries**  
e.g. Vanadium redox, Zn-Br



|   | World Wide Production Capacity | Cost and Performance Improvements                           |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Lead Acid Batteries                                 | 350 GWh                        | 2%/year (30 year data). \$80-150/kWh                        |
| Li-ion Batteries                                    | 100 GWh                        | 5%/year (20 year data). Cell level price reaching \$150/kWh |
| NaS and NaNiCl <sub>2</sub>                         | 300 MWh                        | Mature, but no economies of scale                           |
| Flow Batteries                                      | <200 MWh                       | Potential for lower cost. \$400/kWh. Reach \$270/kWh        |
| Alkaline chemistries (Zn-MnO <sub>2</sub> , Zn-air) | <100 MWh                       | Not fully mature. Lowest cost BOM                           |

Data Sources: Avicenne, 2017; Enersys, 2018



## Cell Architecture

- Cell format
  - Cylindrical, Prismatic
  - Bipolar
  - Flow Cell

## Cell Chemistry

- Aqueous
- Non-aqueous

## Thermal management

- Heating
- Cooling

## Safety

- Abuse resistance
- Flammability
- Toxicity
- Containment

## Plant Models

- Modular
- Centralized

## Power vs. Energy

- High-power, short-duration discharge
- High-energy, long-duration discharge
- Fast Charging

## Modularity and Scalability

- kW to MW (Power Scaling)
- kWh to MWh (Energy Scaling)
- Module stacking and Containerization

## Cycle Life

- Electrical
- Thermal

## Operational Aspects

- Round-trip efficiency
- Auxiliary power consumption
- O&M Costs

# Li-ion Batteries



Family of electrochemical systems

Positive electrode

- Metal-oxides (e.g. LCO, NMC, NCA)
- Phosphates (e.g. LFP)

Negative electrode

- Graphite and other carbons
- Lithium titanate

High energy density

Better cycle life than Lead - Acid

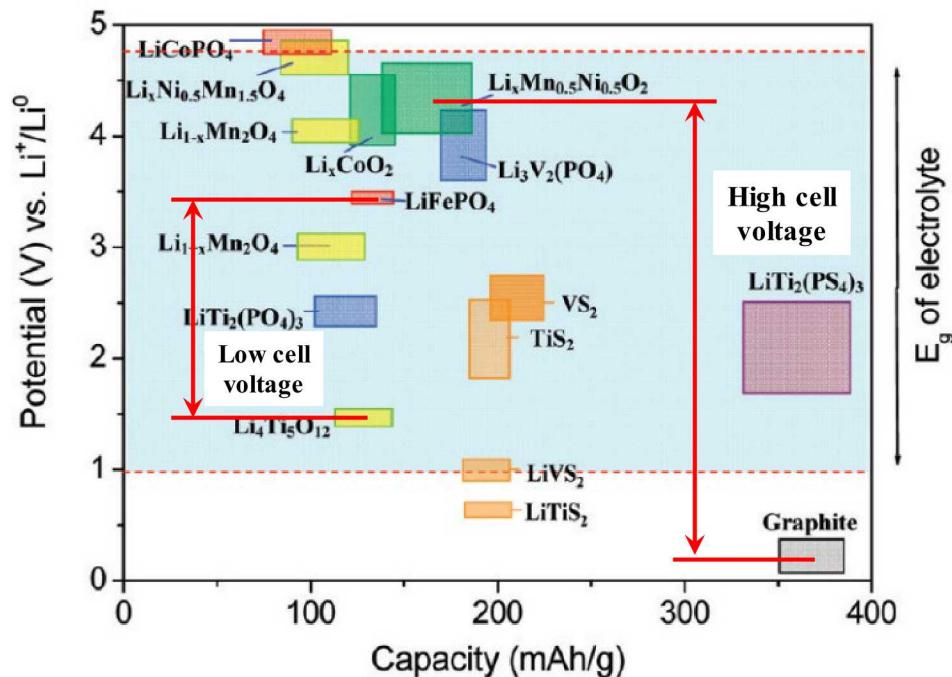
Decreasing costs

Ubiquitous – Multiple vendors

Fast response

Higher efficiency

No single type is best for all applications

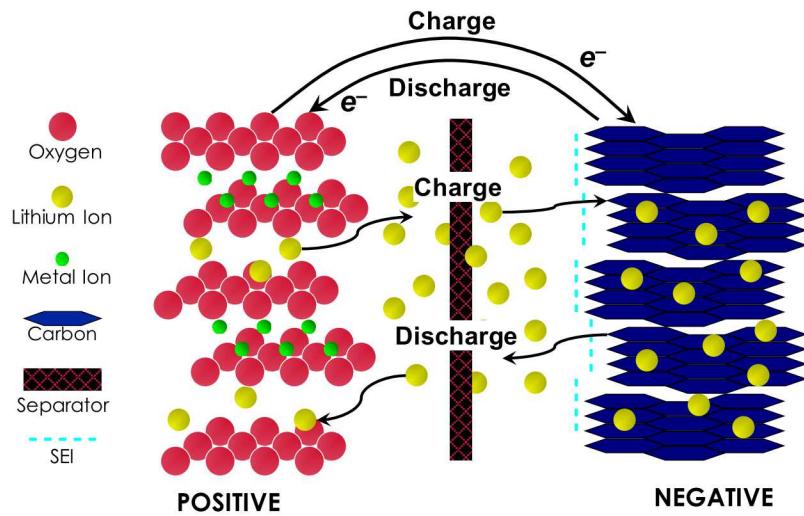


## Anodes

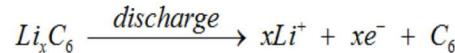
| Chemistry                             | Specific Capacity | Potential vs. Li <sup>+</sup> /Li |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Soft Carbon                           | < 700             | < 1                               |
| Hard Carbon                           | 600               | < 1                               |
| $\text{Li}_4\text{Ti}_5\text{O}_{12}$ | 175 / 170         | 1.55                              |
| $\text{TiO}_2$                        | 168 / 168         | 1.85                              |
| $\text{SnO}_2$                        | 782 / 780         | < 0.5                             |
| Sn                                    | 993 / 990         | < 0.5                             |
| Si                                    | 4198 / < 3500     | 0.5 ~ 1                           |

## *Cathodes*

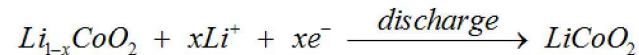
| Chemistry                     | Specific Capacity | Potential vs. Li <sup>+</sup> /Li |                             |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <chem>LiCoO2</chem>           | 273 / 160         | 3.9                               | <i>Consumer Electronics</i> |
| <chem>LiNiO2</chem>           | 274 / 180         | 3.6                               |                             |
| <chem>LiNi_xCo_yMn_zO2</chem> | ~ 270 / 150~180   | 3.8                               | <i>NMC - LG/Volt</i>        |
| <chem>LiNi_xCo_yAl_zO2</chem> | ~ 250 / 180       | 3.7                               | <i>NCA - Tesla</i>          |
| <chem>LiMn2O4</chem>          | 148 / 130         | 4.1                               |                             |
| <chem>LiMn1.5Ni0.5O4</chem>   | 146 / 130         | 4.7                               |                             |
| <chem>LiFePO4</chem>          | 170 / 160         | 3.45                              | <i>LFP</i>                  |
| <chem>LiMnPO4</chem>          | 171 / 80~150      | 4.1                               |                             |
| <chem>LiNiPO4</chem>          | 166 / -           | 5.1                               |                             |
| <chem>LiCoPO4</chem>          | 166 / 60~130      | 4.8                               |                             |



### Anode



## Cathode



# Li-ion Batteries - SOA



First two generations driven by consumer electronics, newer chemistries geared for automotive applications

- LiCoO<sub>2</sub> continues be the dominant technology for consumer electronics
- 2nd Generation Li-Ion Chemistries offering better performance, wider temp range, improved safety and lower cost. NMC, NCA preferred for EVs

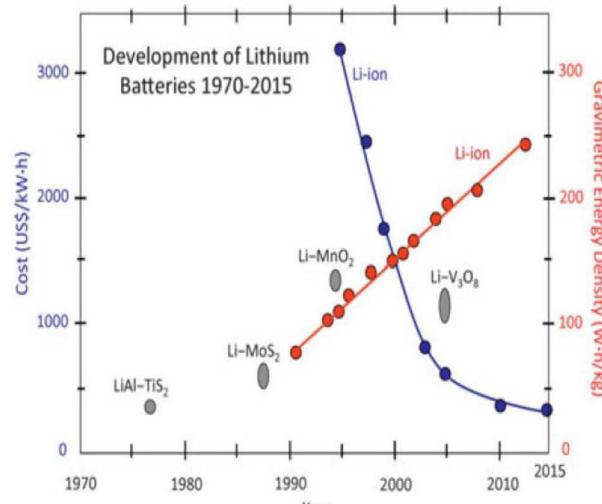
Rapid growth of application beyond frequency regulation and power quality to energy applications. Large plants in the 100 MW are being built.

Capacity improvements are becoming incremental

- 8% for LIB (1992-2007); BOM is 80-85% of cell costs, Scaling down materials cost proving difficult
- Engineering larger cells (>100 Ah) is not still economical

Safety and reliability continue to be significant concerns

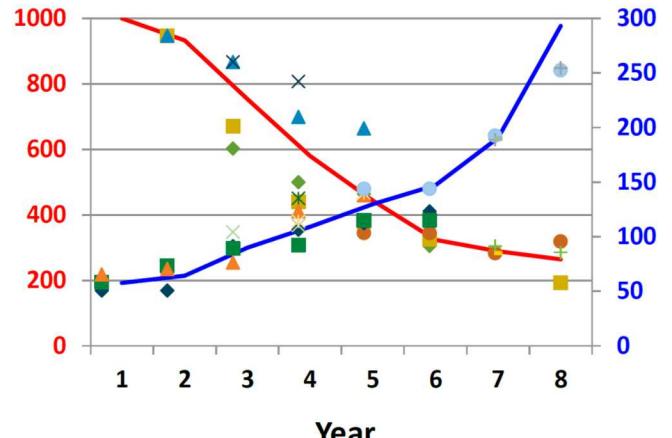
Deep discharge cycle life issues for energy applications (1000 cycles for automotive)



Source: Crabtree, Kocs, Trahey, MRS Bulletin, Dec 2015

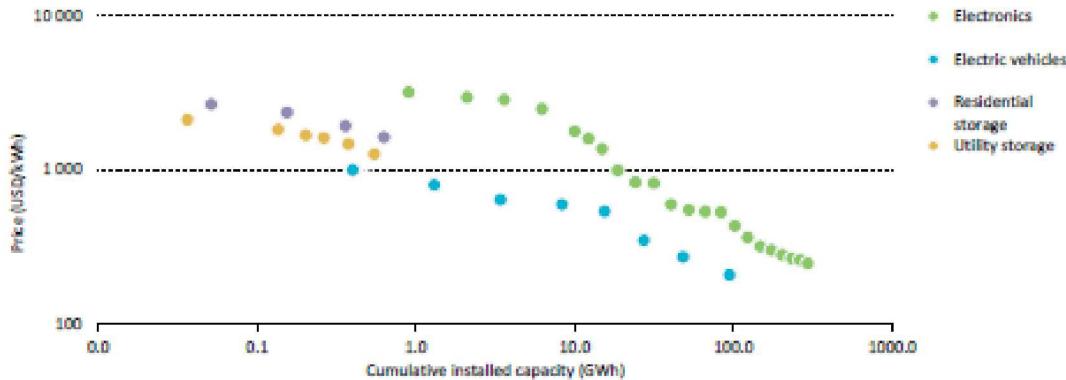
Pack Cost (\$/kWh)

Pack Energy Density (Wh/L)



Source: David Howell, DOE VTO, 2017

# Manufacturing Scale and Cell/System Costs



Li-ion storage technology price with manufacturing volume

Source: IEA, 2018

## Projected global market share, 2018<sup>1)</sup>



1) 2018 market value in USD calculated as follows: 280 USD/kWh for PHEVs and 200 USD/kWh for EVs; shift from single to dual sourcing strategies expected mid-term

2) Including Primearth's market share

## Domestic cell production, 2014-2018 [MWh]

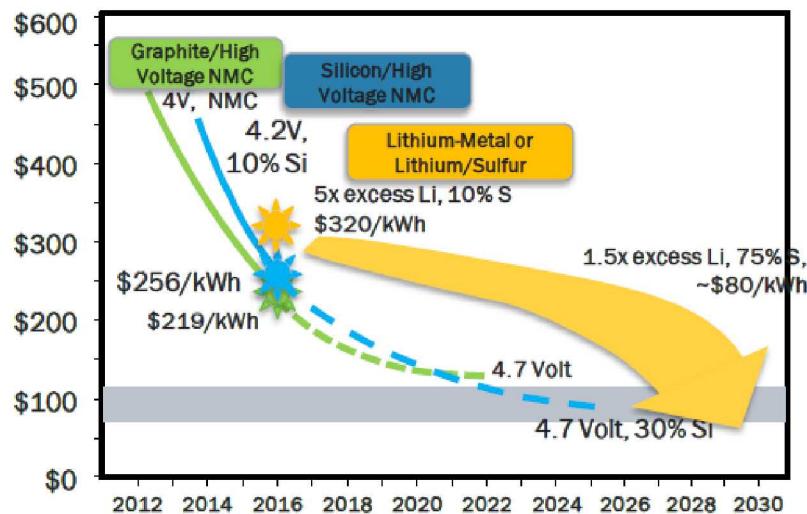
|           |        |  |
|-----------|--------|--|
| Panasonic | 34,700 | > Leading cell producer<br>> Panasonic is the leader   |
| BYD       | 25,700 | > Primarily BYD, Wanxiang, Lishen and other "local" players  |
| LG Chem   | 9,400  | > LG Chem ahead of Samsung<br>> SK Innovation counted as part of Korean footprint  |
| SAMSUNG   | 3,100  | > Still primarily A123 and Japanese manufacturers with local production (AESC), and LGC<br>> Tesla set to grow in importance |
| 中国万向      | 230    | > LiTec is the only market player, stopped cell production in 2016   |
| GSYUASA   | 0      | > No significant cell production   |
| LISHEN    | 0      | > No significant cell production   |

Source: fka; Roland Berger

Most new capacity coming online is primarily for EVs

Future cost projections predicated on stable commodity prices, significant improvements in energy density, and cell performance

## Cost Trends for Lithium-based EV Batteries



Cost trends for Li-based EV Batteries (pack level)

Source: David Howell, DOE VTO, 2018



### Heat Generation

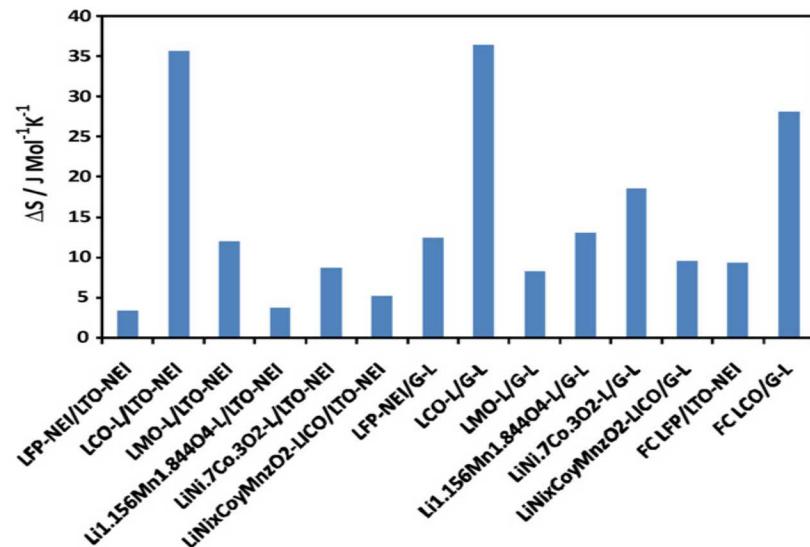
- Dictates smaller form factor
- Higher production costs

### High Temperature

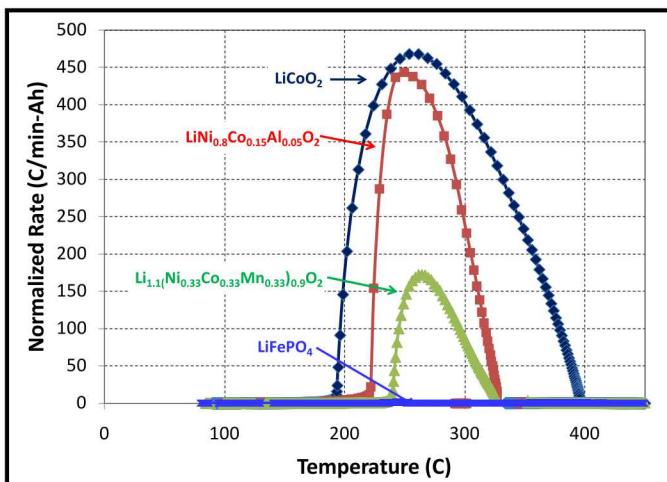
- Typical operating window 0-50°C
- Operation above this temperature can lead to organic electrolyte decomposition and flammable gas, rapid internal pressure build-up

### Overcharging

- Max voltage depends on materials, overcharging can lead to Li metal plating on anode, potential for short



Inherent Heat Generation of Electrodes



Calorimetric measurements of Li-ion chemistries  
Source: Josh Lamb, Sandia, 2018

# Li-ion Batteries for Grid Applications



Technology – wider range than EV needs, lower costs, longer cycle life and simpler packaging

Already a dominant technology for Power Applications in the grid

Expanding range of deployments

- Behind the meter, regulation, ramping products

Advantages

- High energy density
- Better cycle life than Lead - Acid
- Decreasing costs – Stationary on coattails of increasing EV
- Ubiquitous – Range of vendors
- Fast response
- Higher efficiency

Challenges

- Intolerance to deep discharge
- Cycle life for energy applications
- Sensitive to:
  - Over temperature
  - Overcharge
  - Internal pressure buildup



SCE Tehachapi plant, 8MW, 32MWh

# Large Commercial Li-ion Deployments



AES 30 MW / 120 MWh ESS, Escondido, CA  
Peaker replacement



Tesla 100 MW / 129 MWh ESS  
Australia - Grid stability



Saft 6 MW / 4.2 MWh ESS  
Kauai - Grid Stability

# Future Developments in Li-based Batteries



Higher-voltage positive (cathode) materials

- Lithium manganese phosphate
- Lithium cobalt phosphate

Higher-capacity negative (anode) materials

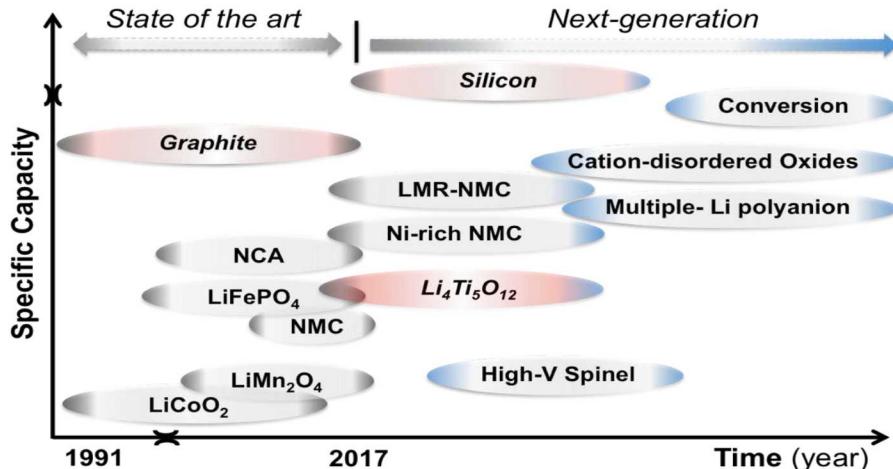
- Silicon-based

Safer electrolytes

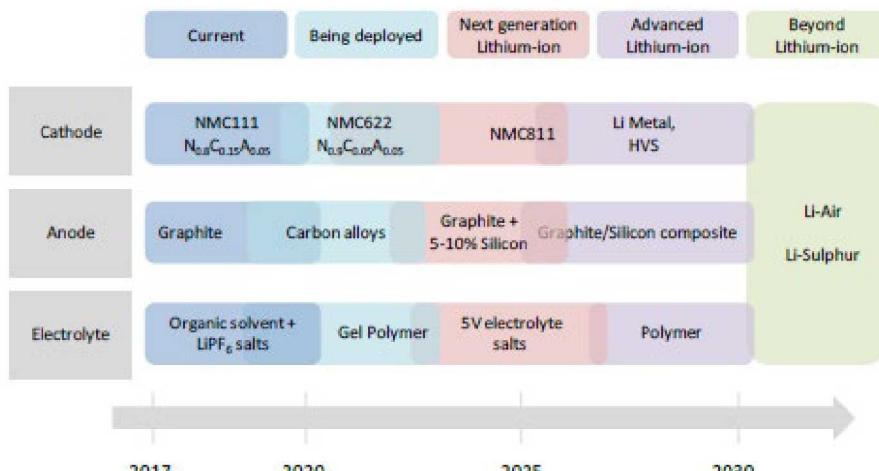
- Inorganic
- Solid-state electrolytes

Other Li chemistries

- Lithium-sulfur



DOE Basic Research Needs Report on Energy Storage  
DOE Office of Science, 2017



Global EV Outlook Report, IEA 2018  
Based on DOE-VTO and NEDO Projections

# High Energy Density Li and Metal Air Batteries



All metal air batteries (Li-air, Zn-air) have the potential to deliver high energy densities at low cost

Challenges with recharging have so far precluded commercialization of the technology

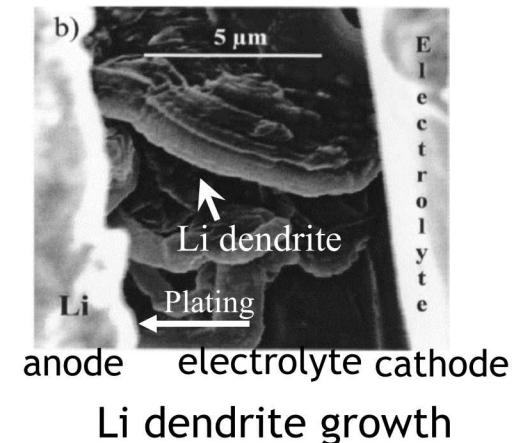
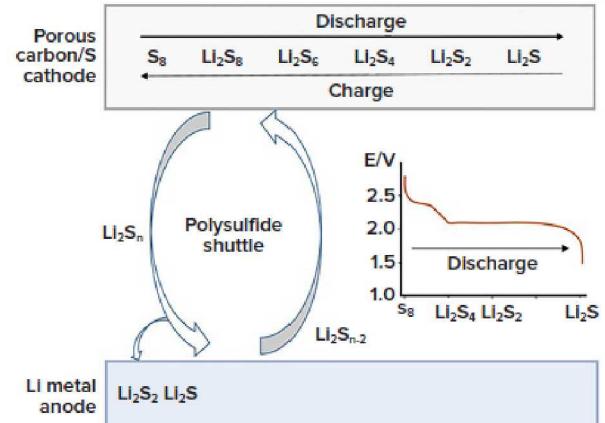
- Lot of startup activity in Metal-Air batteries
- Technology not mature, decade or more away
- Potential fundamental problems

Li-Air combines difficulties of air and lithium electrodes

- Breakthroughs needed in cheap catalysts, more stable and conductive ceramic separators
- Developing a robust air electrode is a challenge, need major breakthroughs

Li-S suffers from major problems of self discharge and poor life

- Breakthroughs needed for life of Li electrode, low cost separator



H. Pan, et. al, Adv. Energy Mater., 2015

# Lead-Acid Batteries



## Overall Reaction

- $\text{Pb(s)} + \text{PbO}_2(\text{s}) + 2\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4(\text{aq}) \rightarrow 2\text{PbSO}_4(\text{s}) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O(l)}$
- OCV  $\sim 2.0$  V

## Flooded lead-acid

- Requires continuous maintenance
- Most common

## Sealed lead-acid

- Gel and Absorbed Glass Mat (AGM)
- More temperature dependent

## Advanced Lead Acid Energy Storage

- Carbon plates significantly improve performance

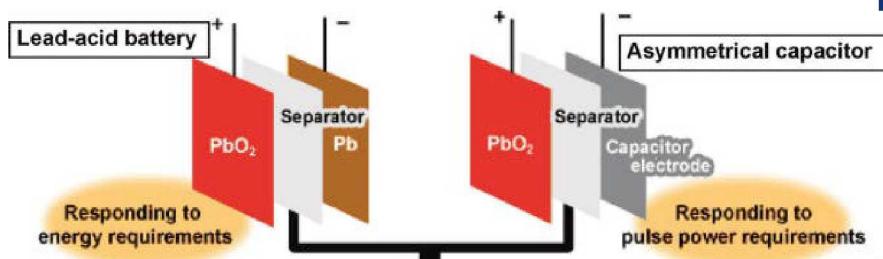
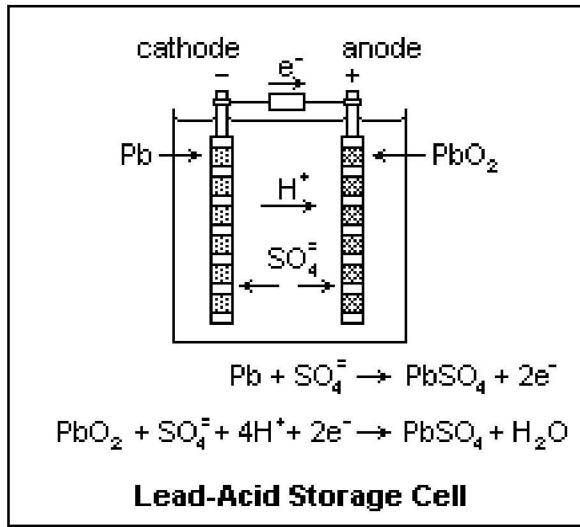
## Mature technology

## High recycled content

## Good battery life

## Advantages/Drawbacks

- Low cost/Ubiquitous
- Limited life time (5~15 yrs)/cycle life (500~1000 cycles) and degradation w/ deep discharge (>50% DoD)
- New Pb/C systems > 5,000 cycles.
- Low specific energy (30-50 Wh/kg)
- Overcharging leads to H<sub>2</sub> evolution.
- Sulfation from prolonged storage



[www.ultrabattery.com](http://www.ultrabattery.com)

## Lead Acid Batteries – Deployment for Grid Services



3 MW/3 MWh advanced lead acid battery system for utility applications (Source: EastPenn, East Lyons, PA)



1.3MW/1.9 MWh advanced lead acid battery system providing support for a 68MW solar farm in Alt Daber, Germany (Source: BAE Batteries, 2018)



Solar plus Ultrabattery Storage  
(Source: PNM Albuquerque, NM)

# Redox Flow Batteries



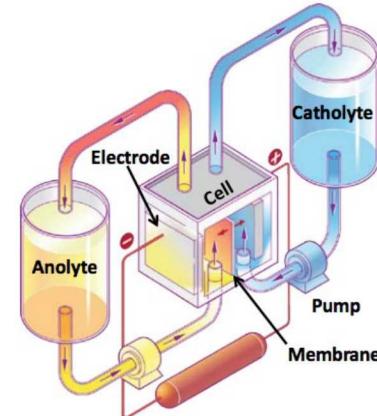
**Energy storage technology utilizing redox states of various species for charge/discharge purposes**

## Key Aspects

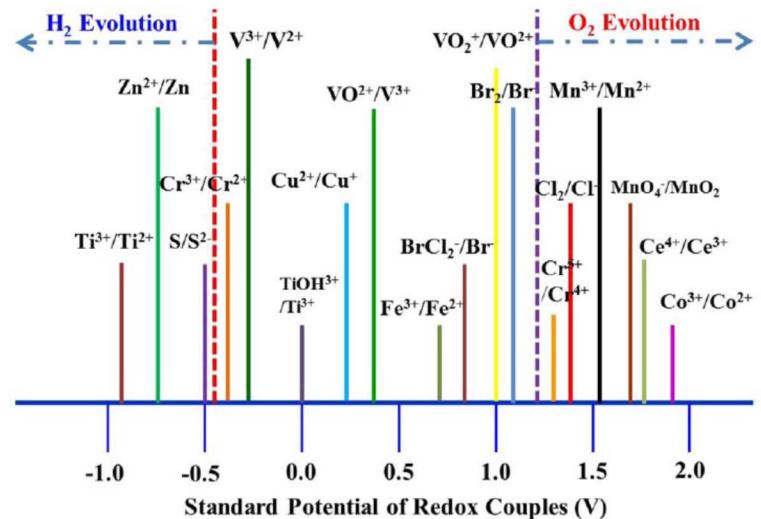
- Power (kW) and energy (kWh) separation
- Greater flexibility and safety
- Modular and scalable across a wide range of power and energy
- Long cycle life
- Low energy density  $\sim 30$  Wh/L

## Range of redox chemistries

- Fe-Cr, Zn-Br, V-V are most studied and large systems demonstrated
- Most large commercial flow batteries are based on V-V chemistry, and Zn-Br



Source: Travis Anderson, Sandia National Laboratories, 2013



# Redox Flow Batteries – Technical Challenges



## Low energy density

- Limited voltage window of aqueous electrolyte solutions (< 1.5 V)
- Large form factor/footprint

## Limited electrolyte stability

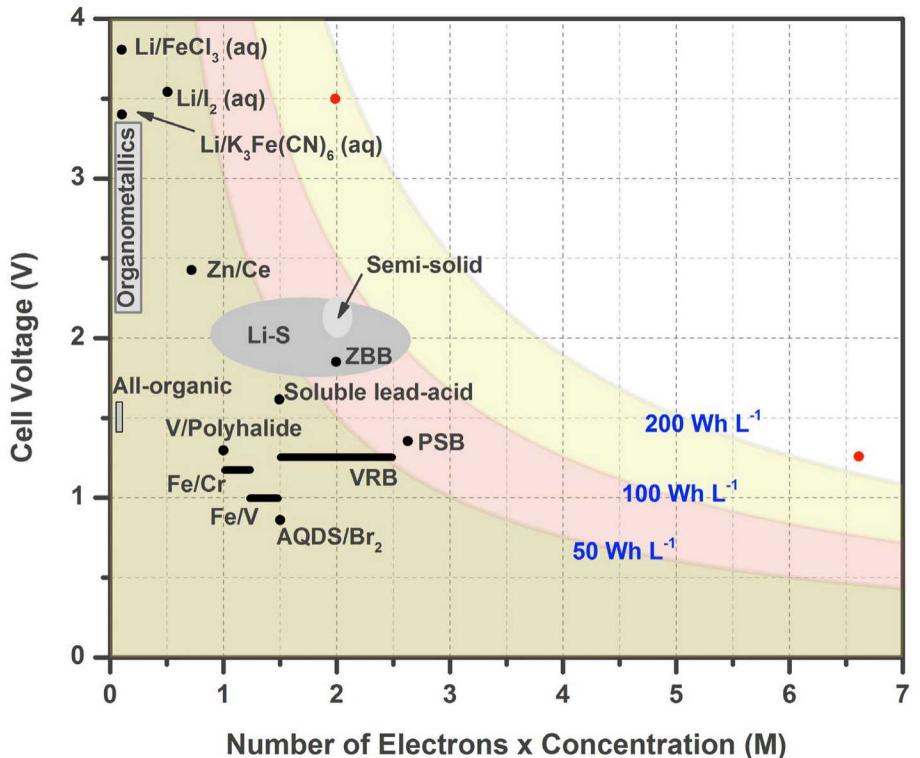
- Low solubility of redox species in aqueous electrolytes
- Capacity decay during cycling
- Narrow temperature range

## Corrosion of membranes and electrode materials by acidic electrolyte solutions

- Long-term reliability

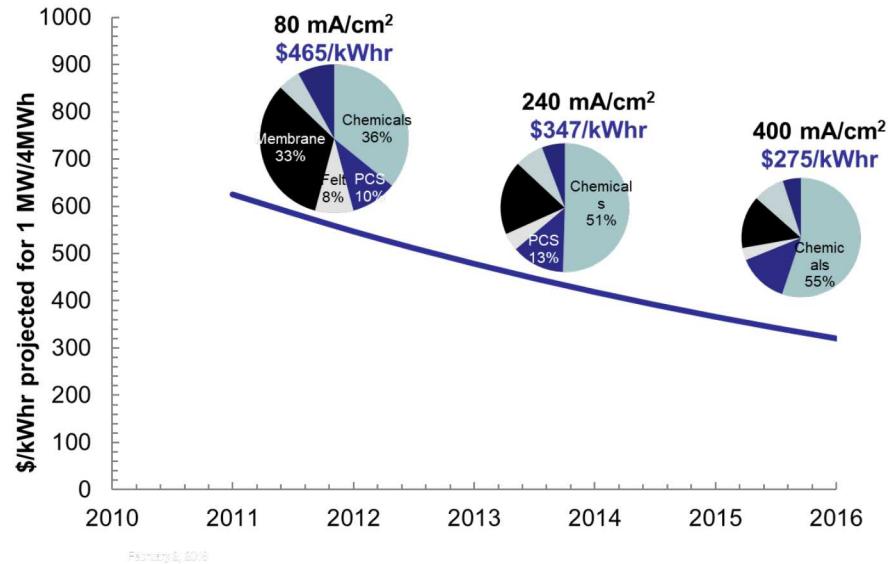
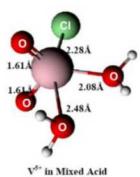
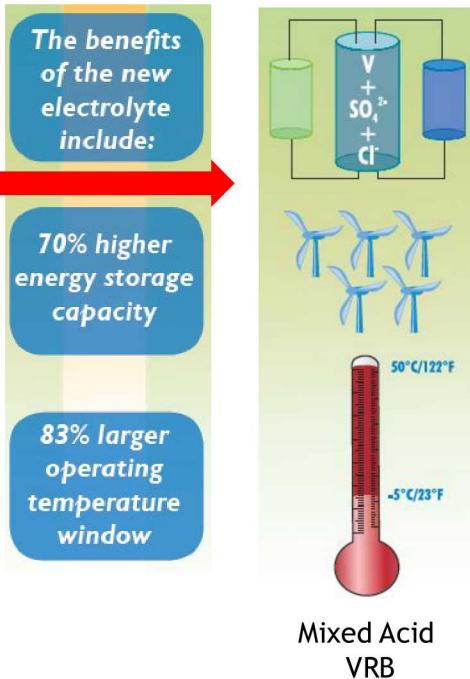
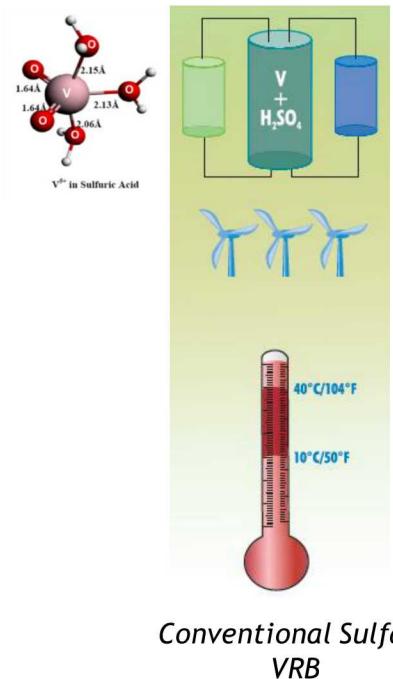
## Opportunities to Reduce Materials Cost

- New redox chemistries, new electrolytes under development
- Lower cost of membranes
- Increased current density and lower cost stack design



Wei Wang, et. al., *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, **23**, 970, 2013

# Vanadium Mixed Acid Electrolyte



Source: V. Sprenkle, PNNL, DOE OE ESS Peer Review 2017

Increased energy density and larger temperature window  
 Continued cost reductions in materials and system costs

# RFB Stack Sizes Continue to Grow – Large Plants being built



Rapid progress in the development of large utility class redox flow battery systems

Rapid development of new electrolytes to replace Vanadium species

Further potential to reduce the size of the stacks and to increase energy density

## Containerized Systems



UniEnergyTechnologies, 1MW/4MWh

## Flow battery power plants



Sumitomo Electric, 15MW/60MWh



32 KW Stack  
Rongke  
Power/UET  
120 mA/cm<sup>2</sup>  
Meter size  
stack



Stack room

# Next Generation Flow Batteries

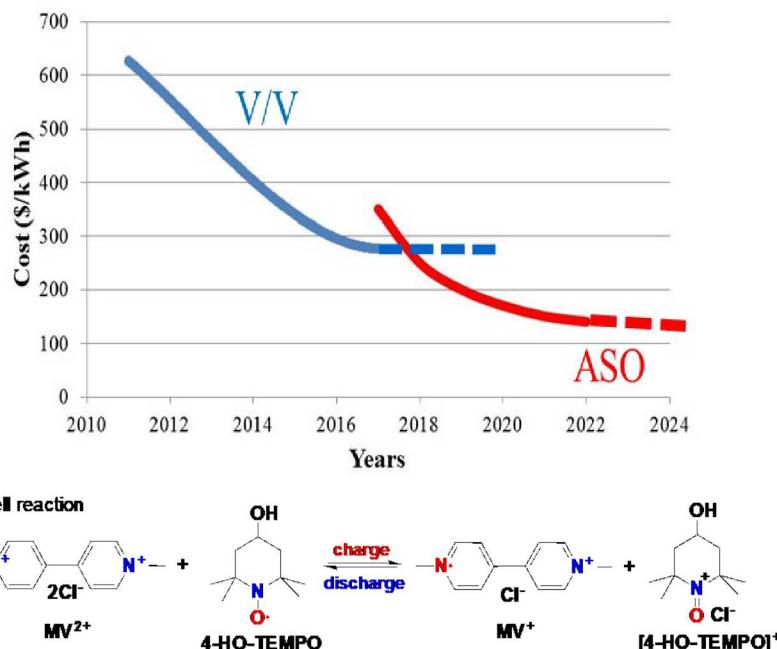


## Aqueous Organic Electrolytes

Aqueous soluble organic electrolytes showing promise as drop-in replacement to current V/V systems

Potential for  $\frac{1}{2}$  cost reduction if performance and stability targets can be obtained

No resource constraints



Advanced Energ

## Non-Aqueous Organic Electrolytes

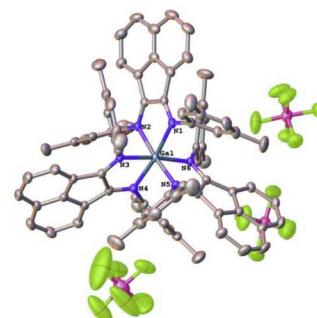
Wider voltage window, Potentially higher energy density

Decreased temperature sensitivity

Potentially favorable cost projections

Metal coordinated redox couple

- Metal coordination complexes (UMich)
- Metal-based ionic liquids (Sandia)
- Semi-solid lithium flow battery (MIT)
- Li-redox flow battery (UTexas/JAIST)
- Li-S flow battery (Stanford/MIT/PNNL)
- Metal-organic hybrid RFB (PNNL)



Mitch Anstey, 2016  
DOE Energy Storage Peer Review

# Sodium Batteries (NaS and NaNiCl<sub>2</sub>)



Batteries consisting of molten sodium anode and  $\beta''\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$  solid electrolyte (BASE)

- High specific energy density (120~240 Wh/kg)
- Good specific power (150-230 W/kg)
- Long duration batteries, with 4-6 hr discharge
- Operated at relatively high temperature (300~350°C)

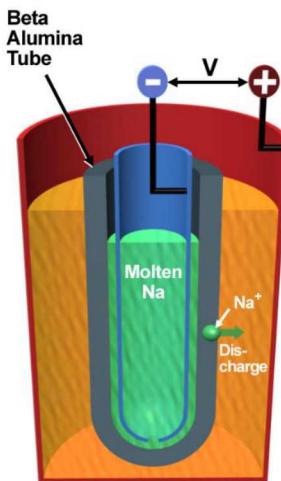
Two primary chemistries

- NaS, mature technology, deployed in grid applications
- NaNiCl<sub>2</sub>, mature, more stable than NaS

NaNiCl<sub>2</sub> (Zebra) developed in the 1980s

- FIAMM in limited production, GE no longer in manufacturing

Neither NaS nor NaNiCl<sub>2</sub> are at high production volumes and the economies of scale needed



# NaS Batteries



Most widely deployed of long duration batteries

NaS first developed by Ford Motor Co. in 1960s

- Commercialized by NGK in Japan
- 530 MW/3700 MWh of installed capacity, primarily in Japan

NaS battery

- $2\text{Na} + x\text{S} \rightarrow \text{Na}_2\text{S}_x$  ( $x = 3 \sim 5$ )
- $E = 2.08 \sim 1.78 \text{ V}$  at  $350^\circ\text{C}$

Applications

- Power quality, Congestion relief
- Renewable integration

Challenges

- Battery is assembled fully charged, presents a major safety/handling issue
- System needs to be maintained at temperature
- High temperature operation, safety and containment challenges
- Relatively expensive

NGK is the only committed manufacturer



34MW /245 MWh NaS at a wind farm  
Rokkasho, Aomori, Japan (Source: NGK, 2017)



Los Alamos, NM. 1 MW, 6MWh

# NaNiCl<sub>2</sub> Batteries



## NaNiCl<sub>2</sub> battery

- $2\text{Na} + \text{NiCl}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{NaCl} + \text{Ni}$
- $E = 2.58\text{V}$  at  $300^\circ\text{C}$

## Large cells and stable chemistry

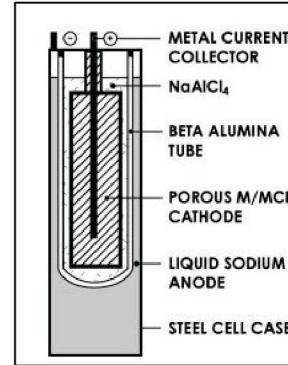
- Lower temperature than NaS
- Cells loaded in discharge mode
- Improved safety compared to NaS. Addition of catholyte  $\text{NaAlCl}_4$  leads to a closed circuit on failure

## High efficiency, low discharge

Long warm up time (16 hr)

Supply chain concerns. Only one manufacturer  
FIAMM. GE no longer in this business

- Limited deployments



FIAMM 222-kWh System  
Duke Energy Rankin Substation

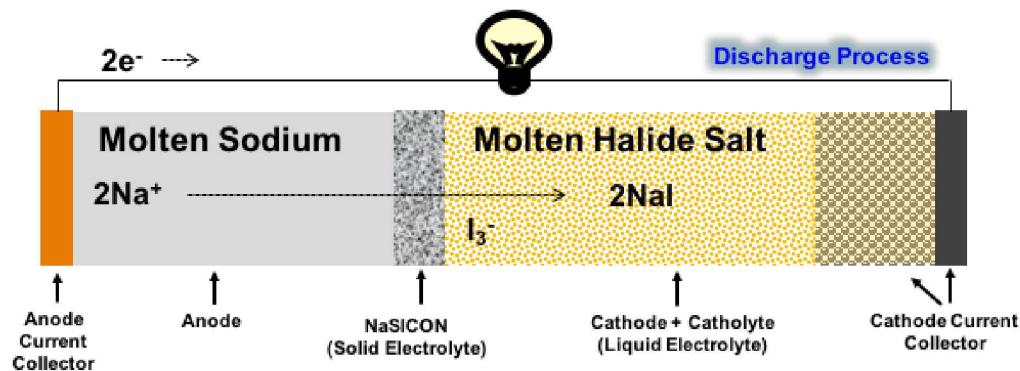


## Low cost active materials, but challenging systems engineering

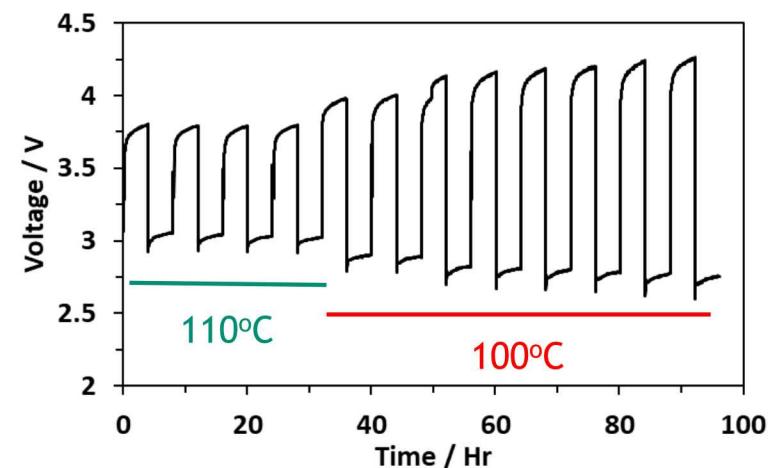
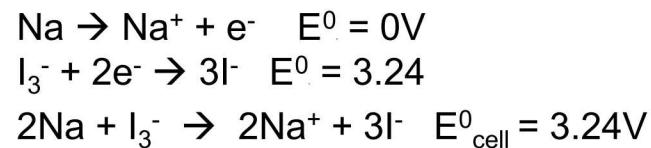
- Need for high temperature operation, kinetics driven by the solid ceramic electrolyte
- Typical operating window 250-350°C. Need for continuous thermal management even when not in use. At lower T, Na metal freezes out, degree of distortion to cell dictated by SOC of battery
- Safety concerns related to membrane rupture. In NaS, failure can lead to exothermic reaction
- Need hermetic seals
- Charging/discharging limitations

**Engineering cells that operate at lower T (150°C or lower) remains a challenge.  
Low temperature operation of a molten Na battery is tremendously enabling**

- Improved Lifetime
  - Reduced material degradation, Decreased reagent volatility, Fewer side reactions
- Lower material cost and processing
  - Seals, Separators, Cell body
  - Polymer components become realistic!
- Reduced operating costs
- Simplified heat management costs

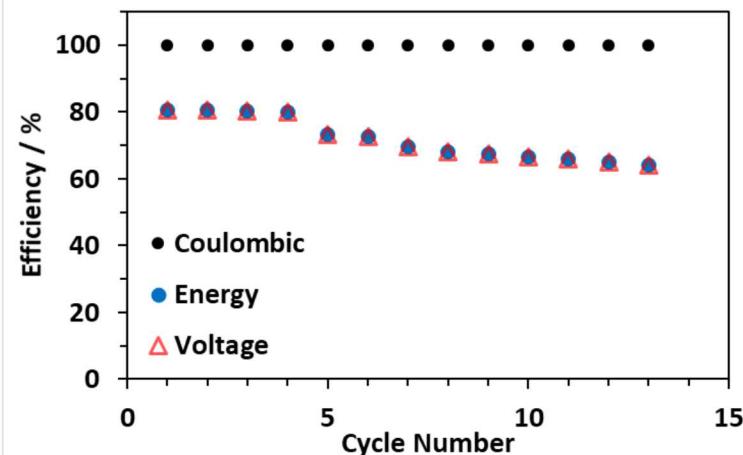


## Na-NaI battery:



## Battery cycling at 100°C!

25 mol% NaI-AlBr<sub>3</sub>  
with NaSICON  
separator.



# Rechargeable Alkaline Batteries



## Range of alkaline battery chemistries

- NiMH, Ni-Fe, Ni-Cd, Zn-Ni, Zn-MnO<sub>2</sub>

## Zn-MnO<sub>2</sub> shows most promise for grid storage

### Cost

- Traditional primary batteries, low cost (\$18-20/kWh primaries)
- Low-cost materials and manufacturing
- Established supply chain

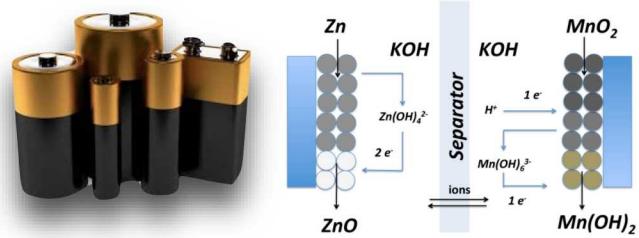
### Safety

- Aqueous chemistry
- Non-flammable
- EPA certified for landfill disposal

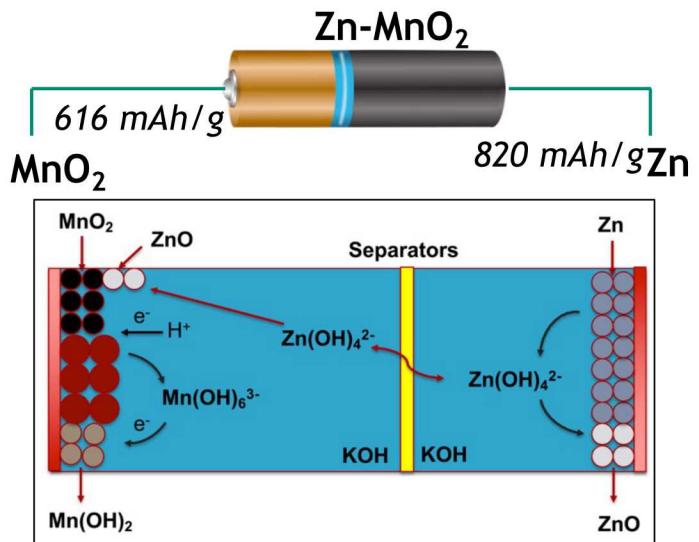
### Reliability

- Long shelf-life
- Limited thermal management required

**Reversibility and cycle life have been the primary technical challenges**



Single-use Alkaline Battery \$25/kWh



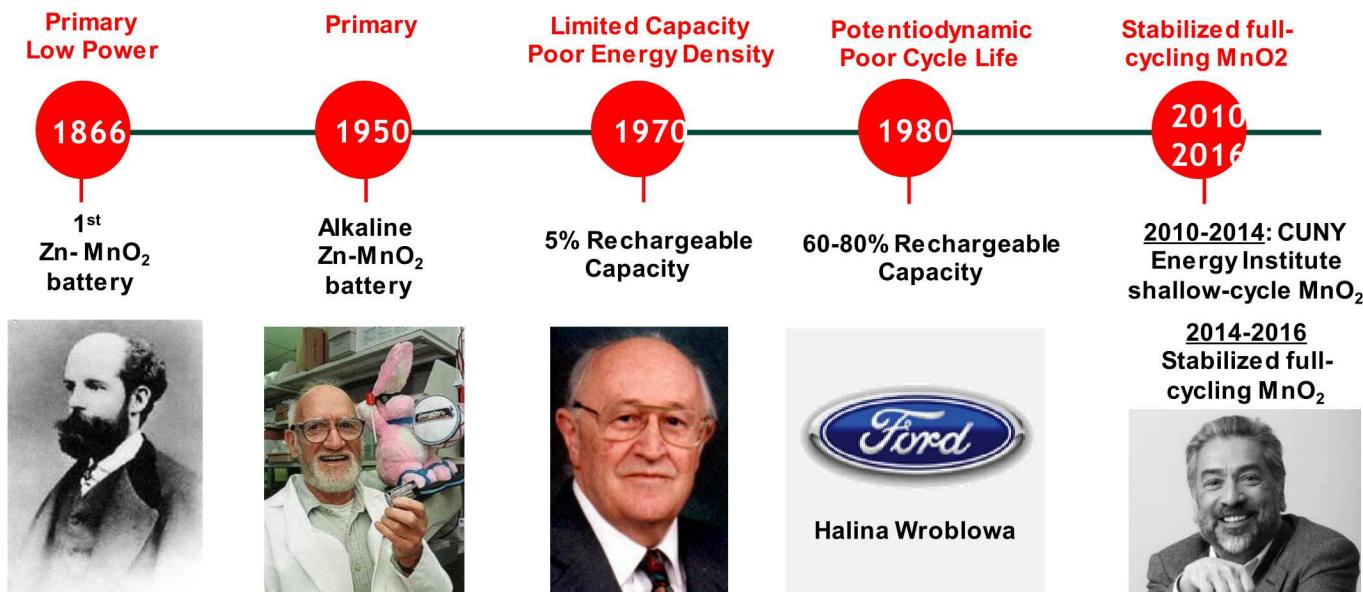
# History of Rechargeable Zn-MnO<sub>2</sub> Batteries



- Early commercial products based on cylindrical formats (Union Carbide, Rayovac, BTI, ...)
- Focused on consumer markets, rapid development of Li-ion batteries made small cell business not competitive
- Resurgence in the field for stationary storage



J. Daniel-Ivad and K. Kordesch, "Rechargeable Alkaline Manganese Technology: Past-Present-Future," ECS Annual Meeting, May 12-17, 2002



S. Banerjee, Symposium on Grid Energy Storage, MRS Spring Meeting, 2015; G. Yadav, CUNY Energy Institute, 2018

# Full Utilization of 2e



## On the $\text{MnO}_2$ Cathode

- Regeneration of cathode structure on solution/dissolution/precipitation cycle
- Formation of Inactive phases
- Reducing susceptibility to Zinc poisoning

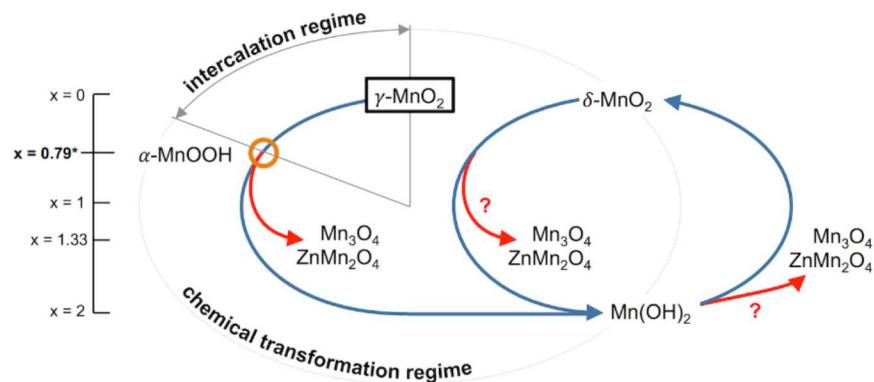
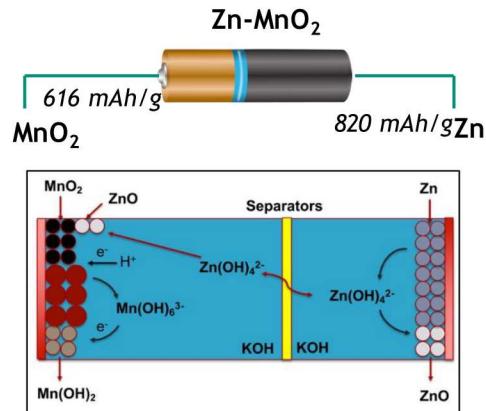
## Separator

- Reduce Zincate crossover

## On the Zn Anode

- Control shape change
- Passivation
- Reduce dendrite formation

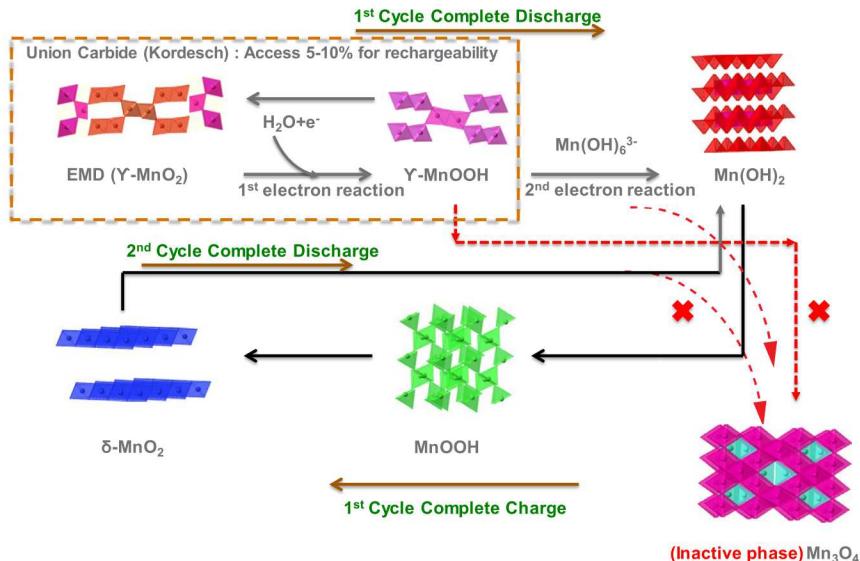
Need improvements in materials utilization, process optimization and engineering of large format cells



Failure Mechanisms of Cathode

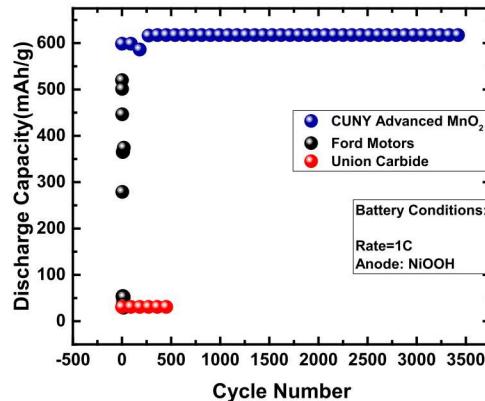
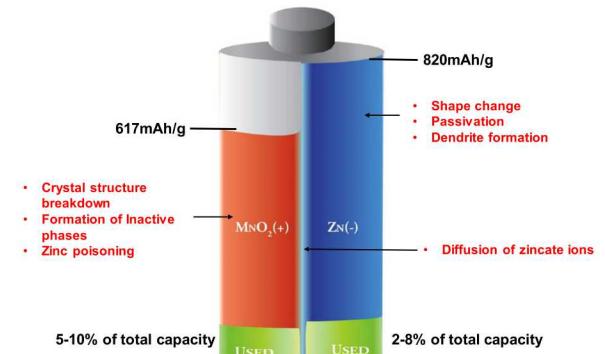
Instability of Mn(III) resulting in formation of irreversible  $\text{Mn}_3\text{O}_4$   
Zn poisoning forming irreversible  $\text{ZnMn}_2\text{O}_4$

# Making $\text{MnO}_2$ Fully Rechargeable



- Chemistry relies on formation of a layered birnessite  $\text{MnO}_2$  structure and stabilizing this structure for thousands of cycles
- $\text{MnO}_2$  goes through a complete regeneration process during each cycle

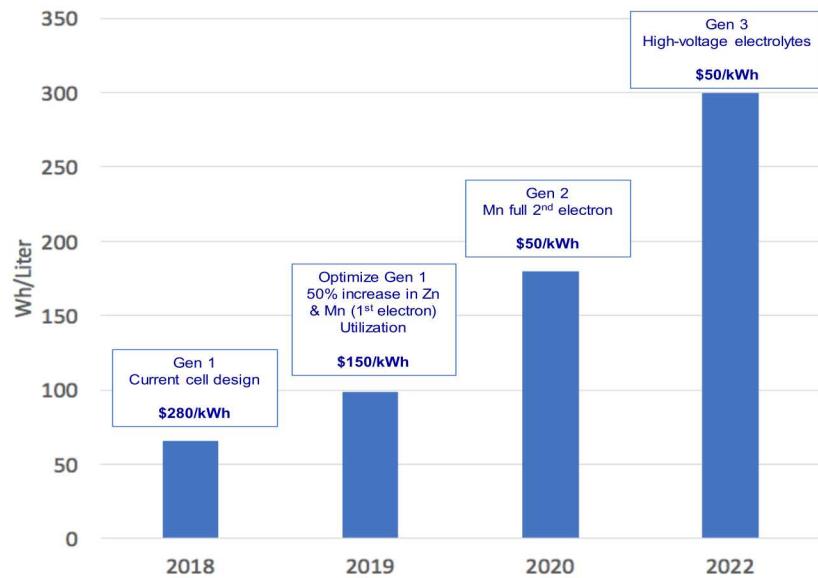
G.G. Yadav, J.W. Gallaway, D.E. Turney, M. Nyce, J. Huang, X. Wei and S. Banerjee, Nature Communications, vol. 8, 14424 (2017). doi:10.1038/ncomms14424



$\text{MnO}_2$  cycling data against reference anode

## Potential for Zn-MnO<sub>2</sub> Cells at \$50/kWh

- Recent breakthroughs in making MnO<sub>2</sub> fully rechargeable. Based on the formation of a layered birnessite MnO<sub>2</sub> structure and stabilizing this structure for thousands of cycles.
- Improvement in energy density and cost by improvement in zinc utilization
- Cathode degradation mitigation by improvements controlling Zn migration across separator
- Potential for \$50/Wh cells with high cycle-rechargeability of Zn-MnO<sub>2</sub>



Source: CUNY Energy Institute



Source: S. Banerjee, CUNY Energy Institute  
DOE OE Energy Storage Program Peer Review 2018

# Grid Storage needs Large Format Cells



Engineering costs are significant for small format cells. Large format cells are needed to reduce overall system costs.

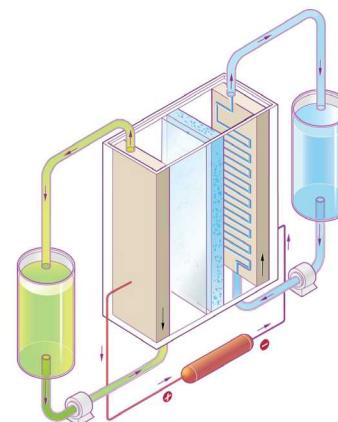
Large format cells also allow for tighter integration of power electronics, sensors, SOH monitoring at the cell level.

## High Conductivity Separators for Low Temperature Molten Sodium Batteries



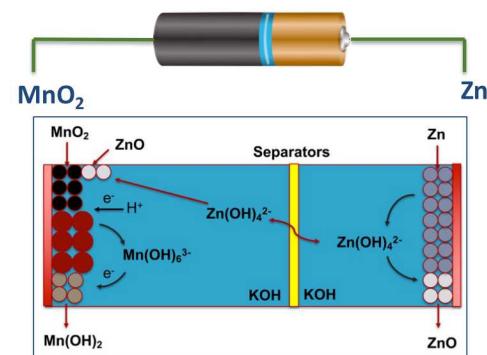
Robust ceramic separators exhibit low  $\text{Na}^+$  conductivity at lower, more cost effective temperatures (120-180 °C).

## Crossover in Redox Flow Batteries



Cross over of the electroactive species through the separator leads to severe capacity decay in flow battery systems.

## Zincate poisoning of $\text{MnO}_2$ in $\text{Zn}/\text{MnO}_2$ Batteries



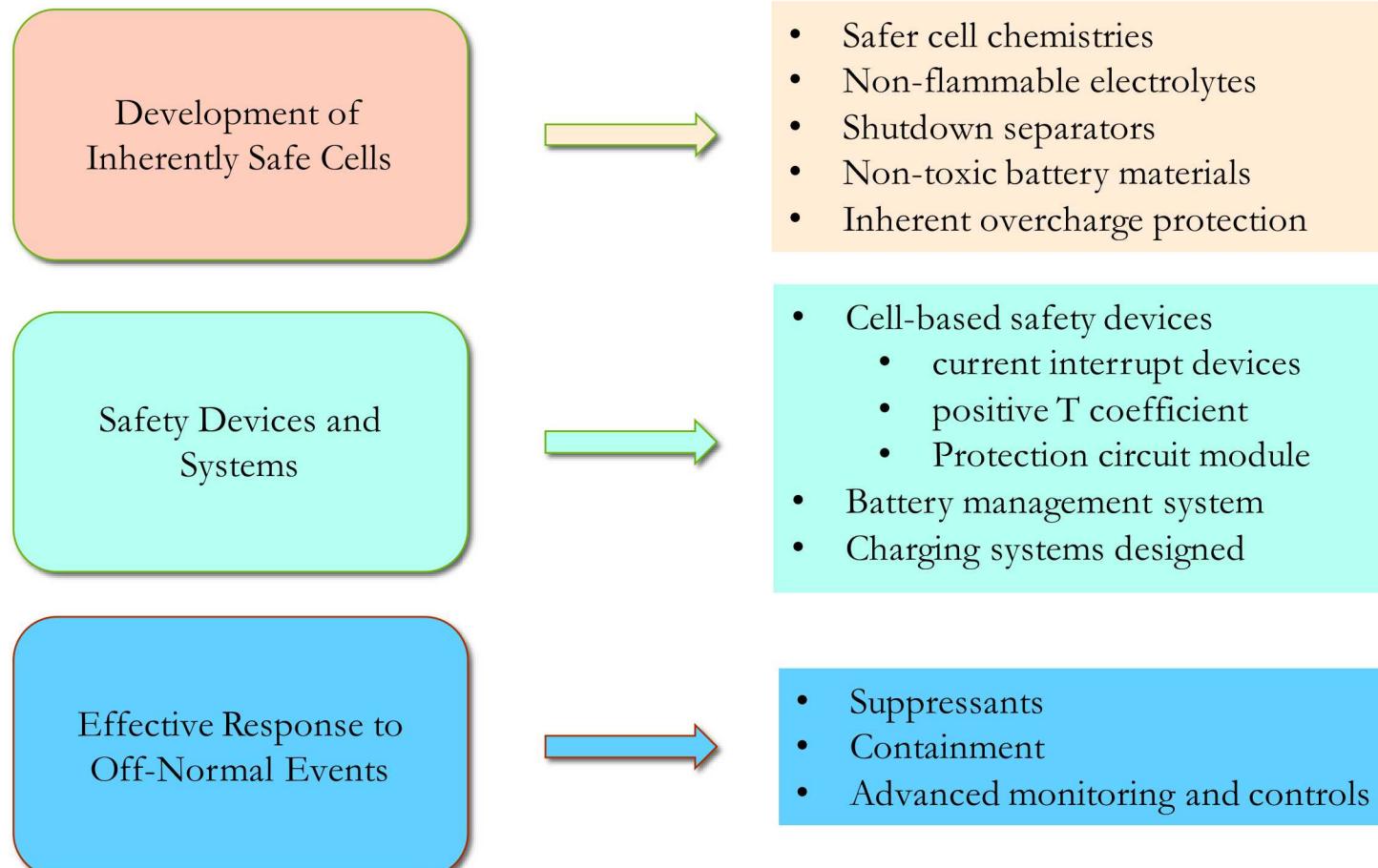
Zincate diffusion and subsequent poisoning of  $\text{MnO}_2$  impairs reversibility and significantly decreases lifetimes.

# Safety of Battery Storage Systems



Ensuring safety of battery storage systems remains a major concern

Need significant advances at materials, engineering and systems level



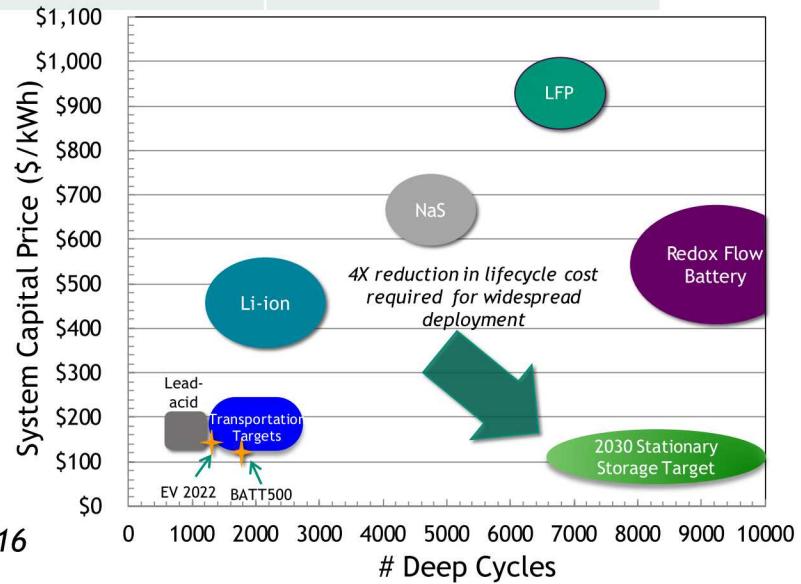
# Future of Energy Storage



All about application driven cost and performance metrics

| Application          | Consumer Electronics,<br>Hybrid EVs  | Electric Grid<br>Electric Vehicles  | Electric Flight  |
|----------------------|--|---|--|
| Advance Technologies | Incremental<br><br>Li-ion: Si anodes, low Co cathodes<br>Adv. Pb-acid: Pb-carbon<br>Adv. rechargeable alkaline | Significant<br><br>Adv. Li: Li metal anode, Solid state electrolytes<br>Zn metal: adv. MnO <sub>2</sub> cathodes<br>Adv. Flow | Breakthroughs<br><br>Beyond Li-ion: Li-S, Li-Air<br>Mg & Al Ion<br>Zn-Air<br>High voltage Zn Metal |
| Technology Risk      | Modest   | Significant   | Major  |

Adapted from G. Crabtree's presentation at Xlab, 2018



Energy Storage Systems Cost  
GTM/ESA US Energy Storage Monitor: Q2 2016



Program Goal - To solve critical problems to make energy storage safe, reliable, and cost effective across all markets.

- Advancing new battery chemistries through technology development and commercialization
- Optimization at the interface between power electronics and electrochemistry. Power electronics including high voltage devices (SiC, GaN), high voltage passives and magnetics.
- Energy storage safety – cell and module level safety test and analysis. Engineered safety of large systems. Predictive models for ES safety
- Developing competencies in analytics and controls for integration of utility class storage systems. Lower BOS and Integration Costs
- Defining role in the Grid of the Future
- Energy storage project development

Support DOE's demonstration projects and outreach to the industry

# Summary



Battery technologies for grid applications are advancing rapidly.

Building energy storage systems with high energy and high power capabilities while keeping safety and reliability remains challenging with a lot of technical questions

- How do we manage the universal tradeoff between energy and power due to a combination of electrical, ionic, structural and chemical effects?
- How to improve energy capacity without sacrificing safety and cycle life?
- How do we optimize power and energy at multiple length scales, especially for large format cells?
- How do we enable fast ion and electron transport without sacrificing energy density, while maintaining safety, long calendar and cycle life?
- How do we design materials to realize high energy and power simultaneously?
- How to achieve high reversibility, with low capacity loss, and low over-potentials?

## Market Gaps

- Existing battery technology solutions remain expensive for many applications
- Technologies not scalable to cover all markets and applications

## Acknowledgements



This work was supported by  
US DOE Office of Electricity Delivery  
Energy Storage Systems Program

