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Laboratories

A Modular Prototype of Hybrid Storage Technologies for Grid Applications



PRESENTED BY

Valerio De Angelis

SPEEDAM 2024

Advances in Grid ESS solutions

06/19/2024

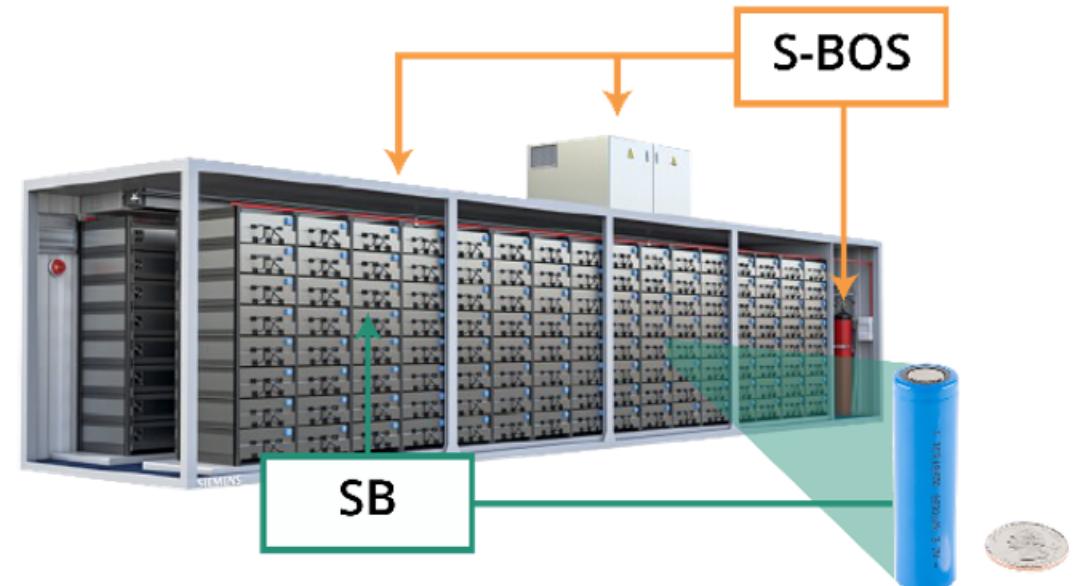
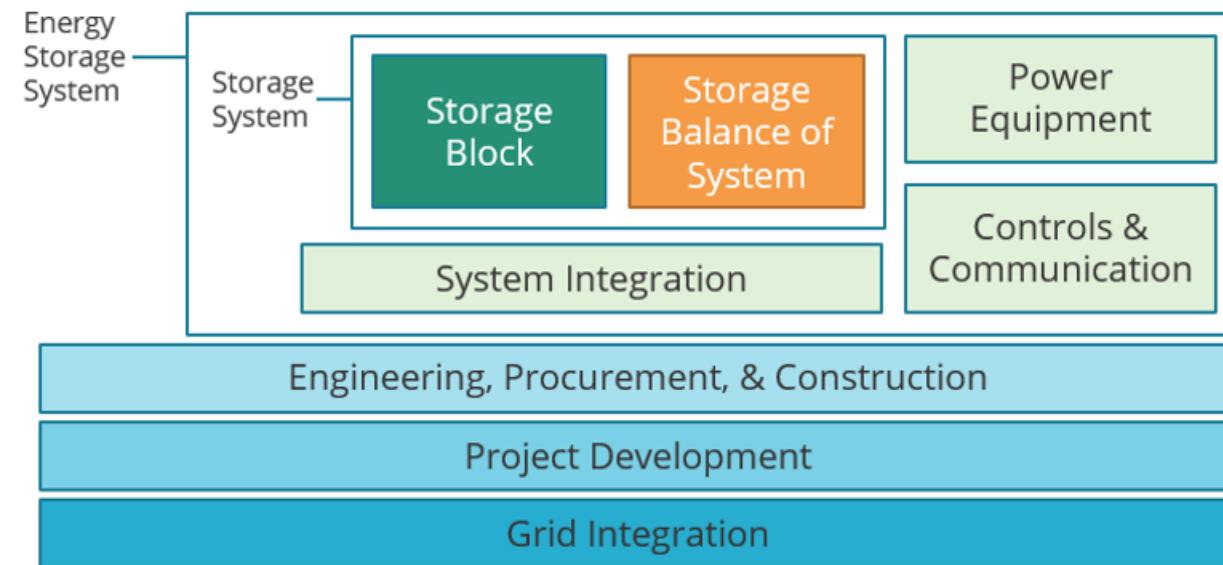
CORE PROJECT MEMBERS

O. Dutta, J. Mueller, R. Wauneka, A.R.R. Dow, and V. De Angelis



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Energy storage systems include multiple components



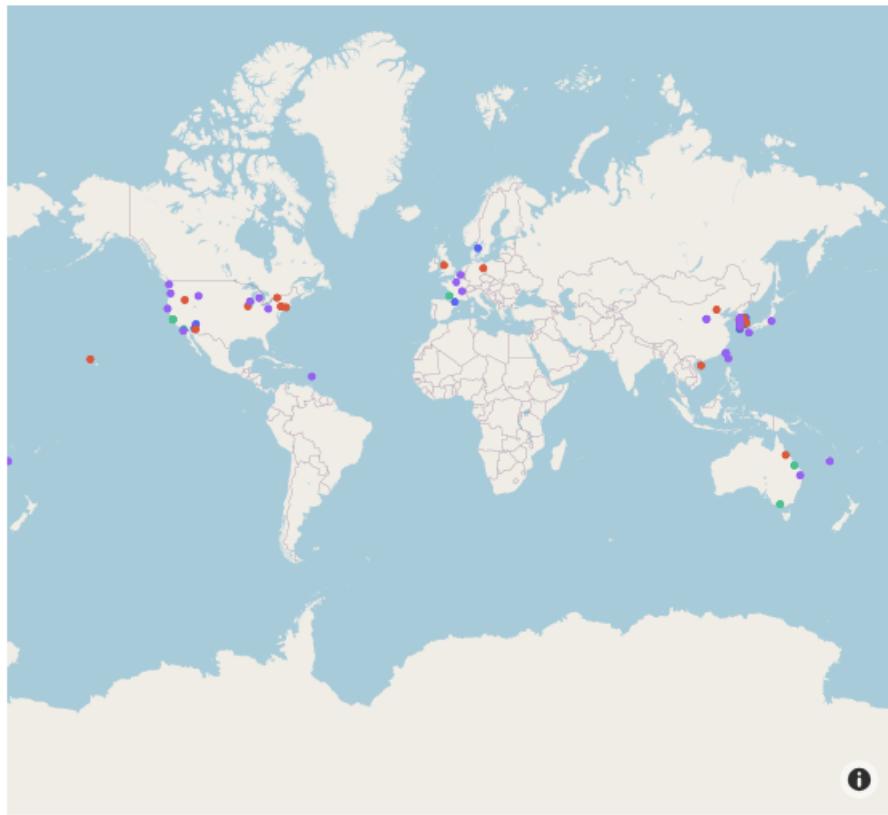
SB → storage block

S-BOS → storage balance of system

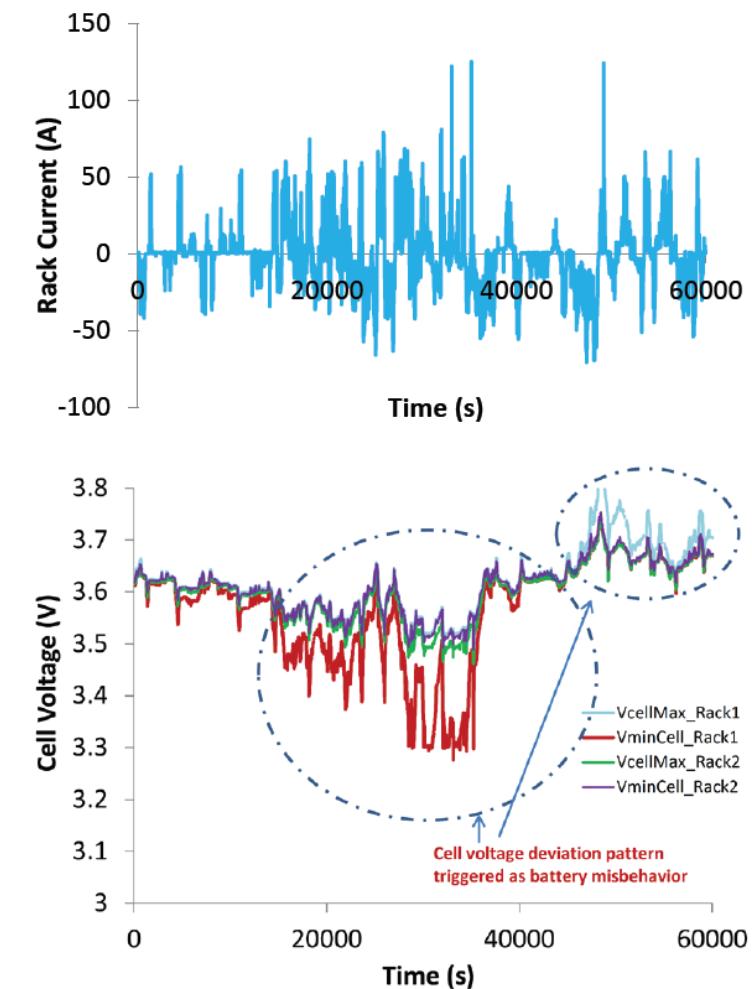
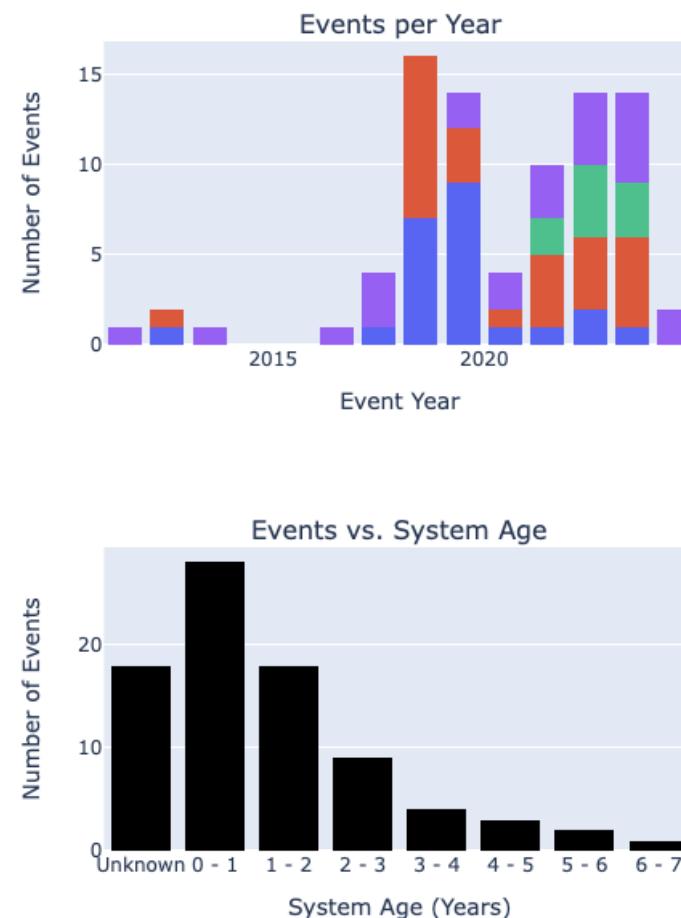
Systems fail early



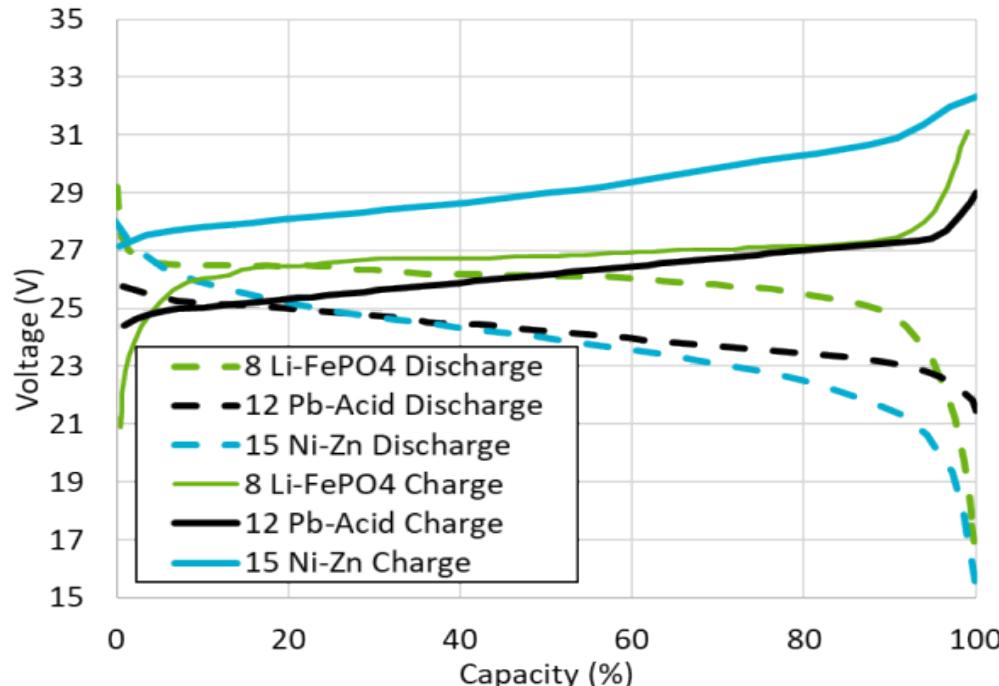
System Size █ < 5MWh █ 5 - 50 MWh █ 50 MWh < █ Unknown



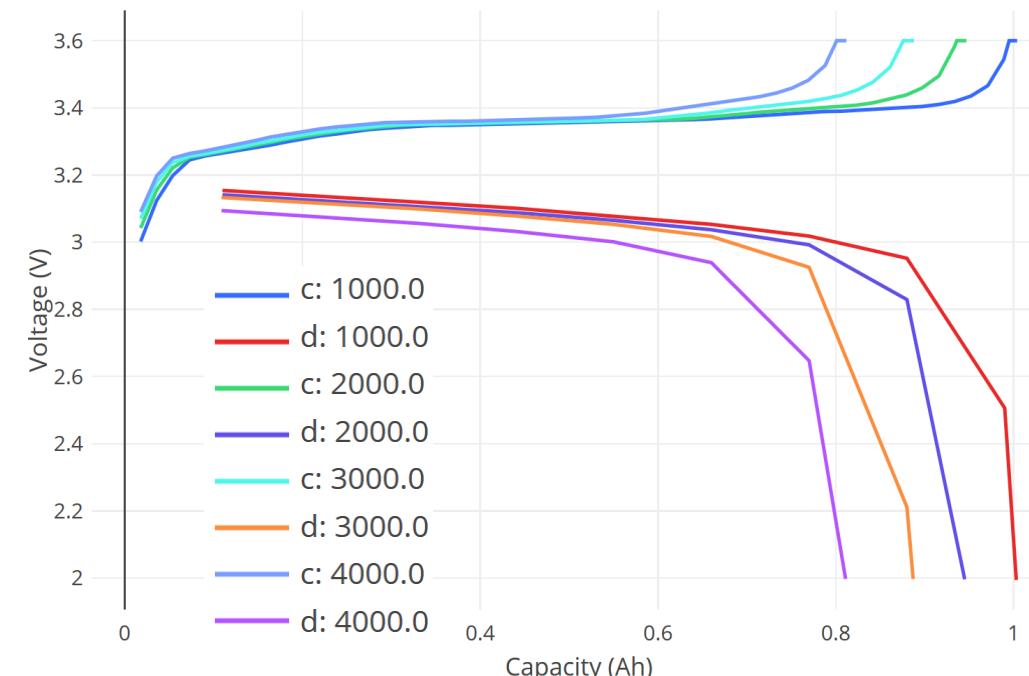
https://storagewiki.ePRI.com/index.php/BESS_Failure_Event_Database



Electrochemical systems have specific charge/discharge requirements

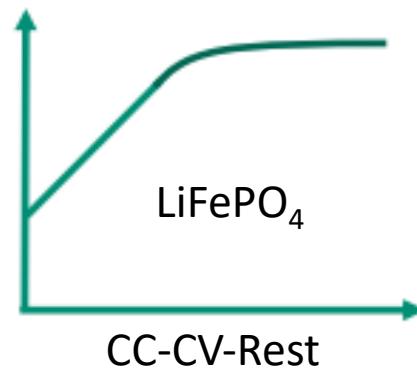


Different battery technologies operate within different voltage limits.

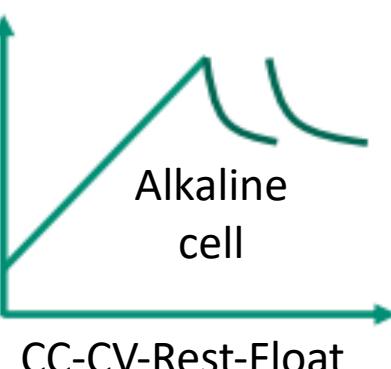


Operating voltages change as cells age.

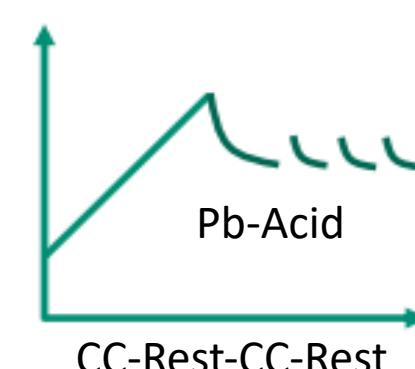
Different battery technologies operate with different charge-discharge protocol



CC- Constant Current



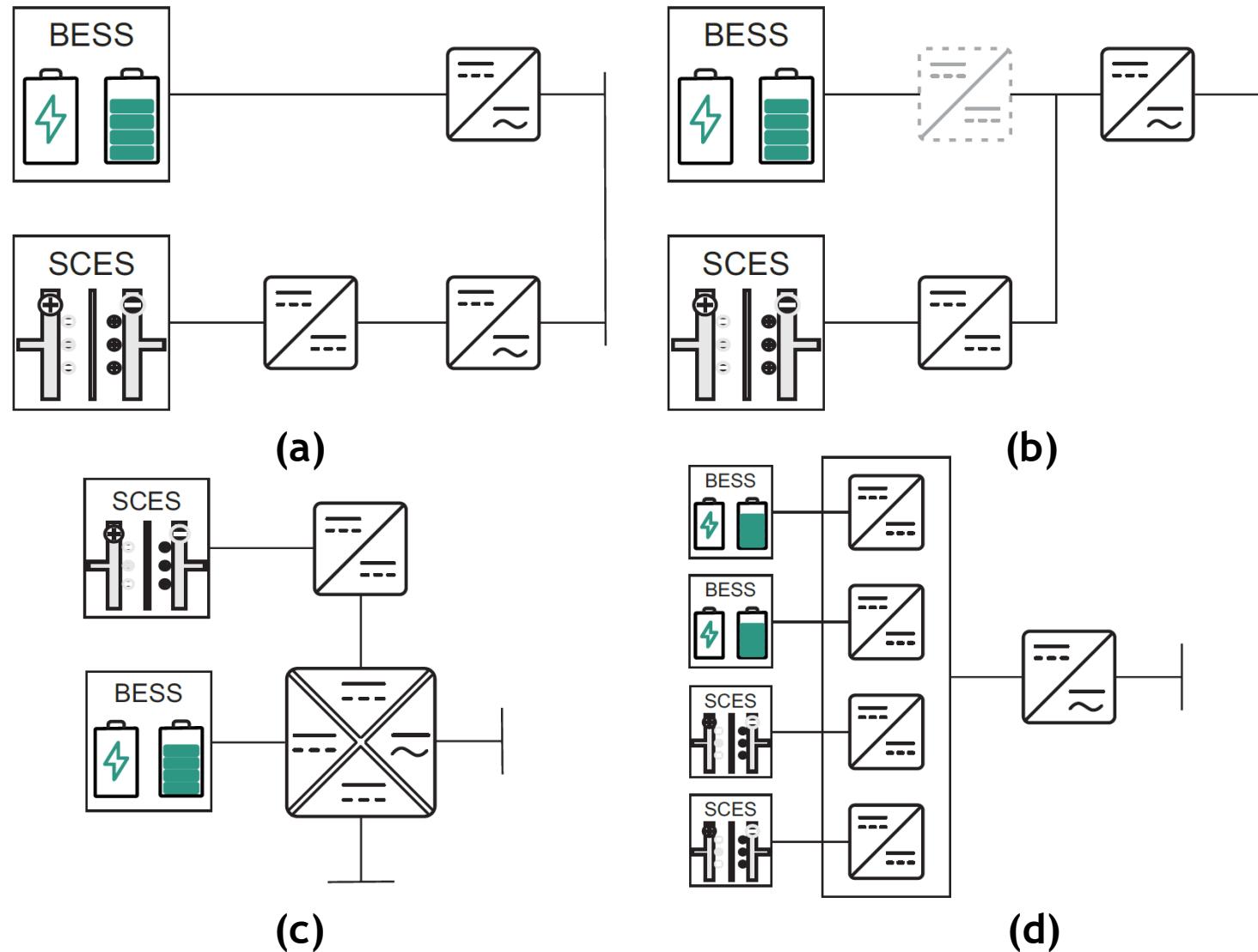
CV- Constant Voltage



CC-Rest-CC-Rest

Connection topologies

- AC (a)
 - Standard, off-the-shelf
 - Not optimized
 - Needs to be tuned for each battery system
- DC (b)
 - More efficient, cheaper
 - Not standardized
 - Needs to be tuned for each battery system
- Multi-port Converter (c)
 - Fully integrated
 - Not scalable
 - Needs to be tuned for each battery system
- Modular Multi-Level (d)
 - Fully optimized
 - Complexity, protection
 - Can accept multiple types of batteries



Cell monitoring and balancing

Standard solutions (a)

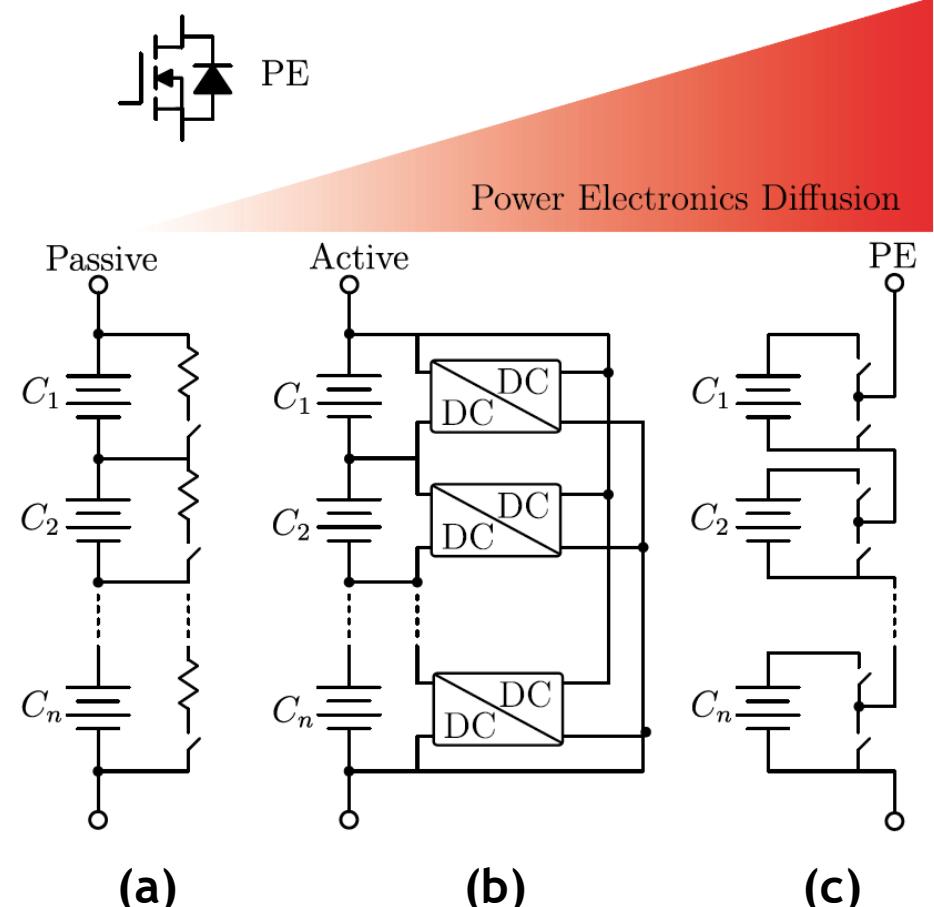
- Passive, switches connected to resistors,
- Applied in industry
- Only works for Li-ion cell requirements

Active solutions (b)

- Converter-connected cells
- More flexibility, more components

Power Electronics-integrated solutions (c)

- Tailored solutions for ESS cells
- More complex, but optimized for different types of batteries and modular



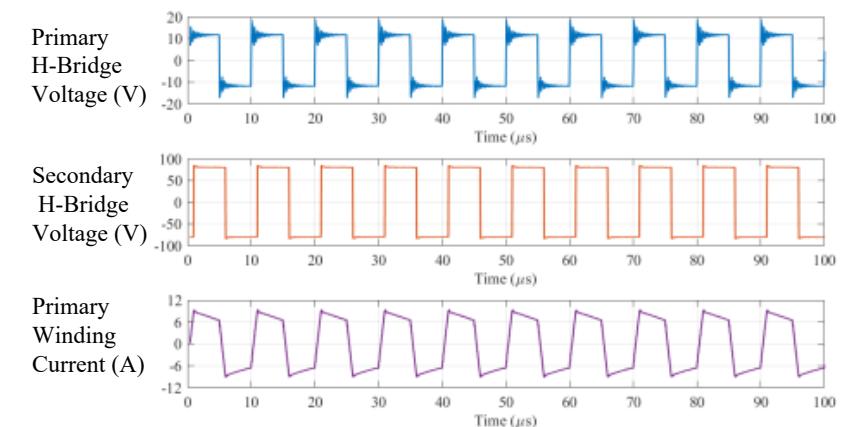
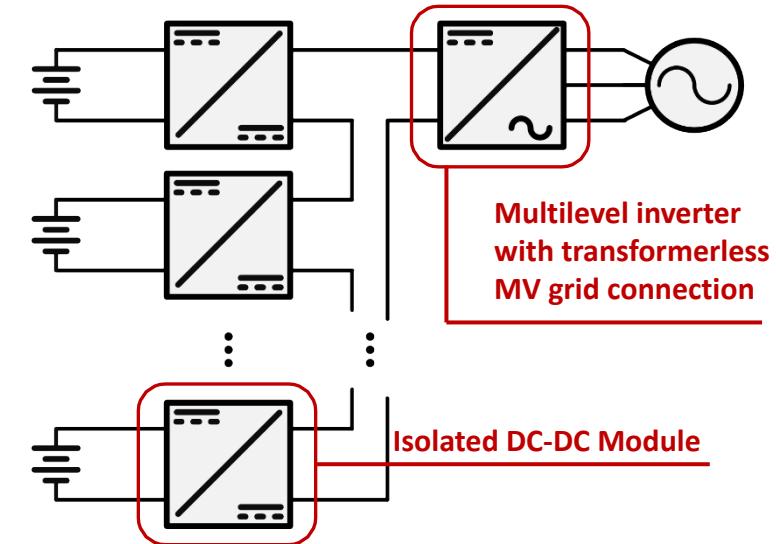
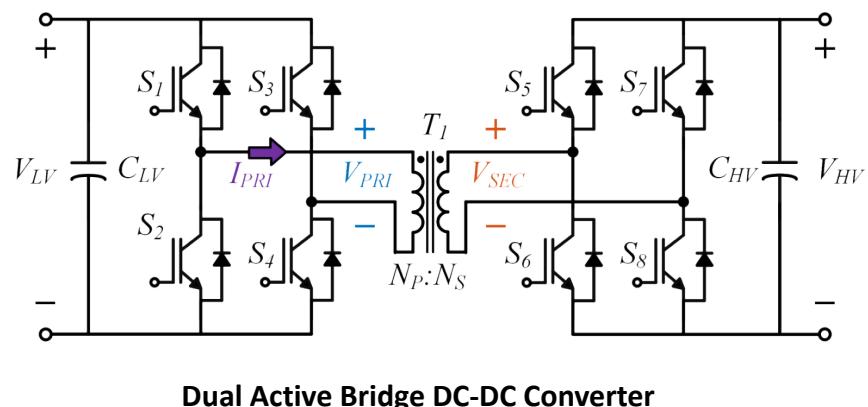
Modular power electronics: an open-source approach



- Inherently low-voltage/high-current storage devices must interface with high-voltage/low-current power systems
- Conventional grid-tied storage is limited to working voltages on the order of 1000V DC and 480V AC
- Connect low-voltage storage resources directly into medium voltage grids using modular power electronics
- Isolated DC-DC converter building blocks modules connected in series/parallel arrangements for high voltage gain



Converter Module Prototype

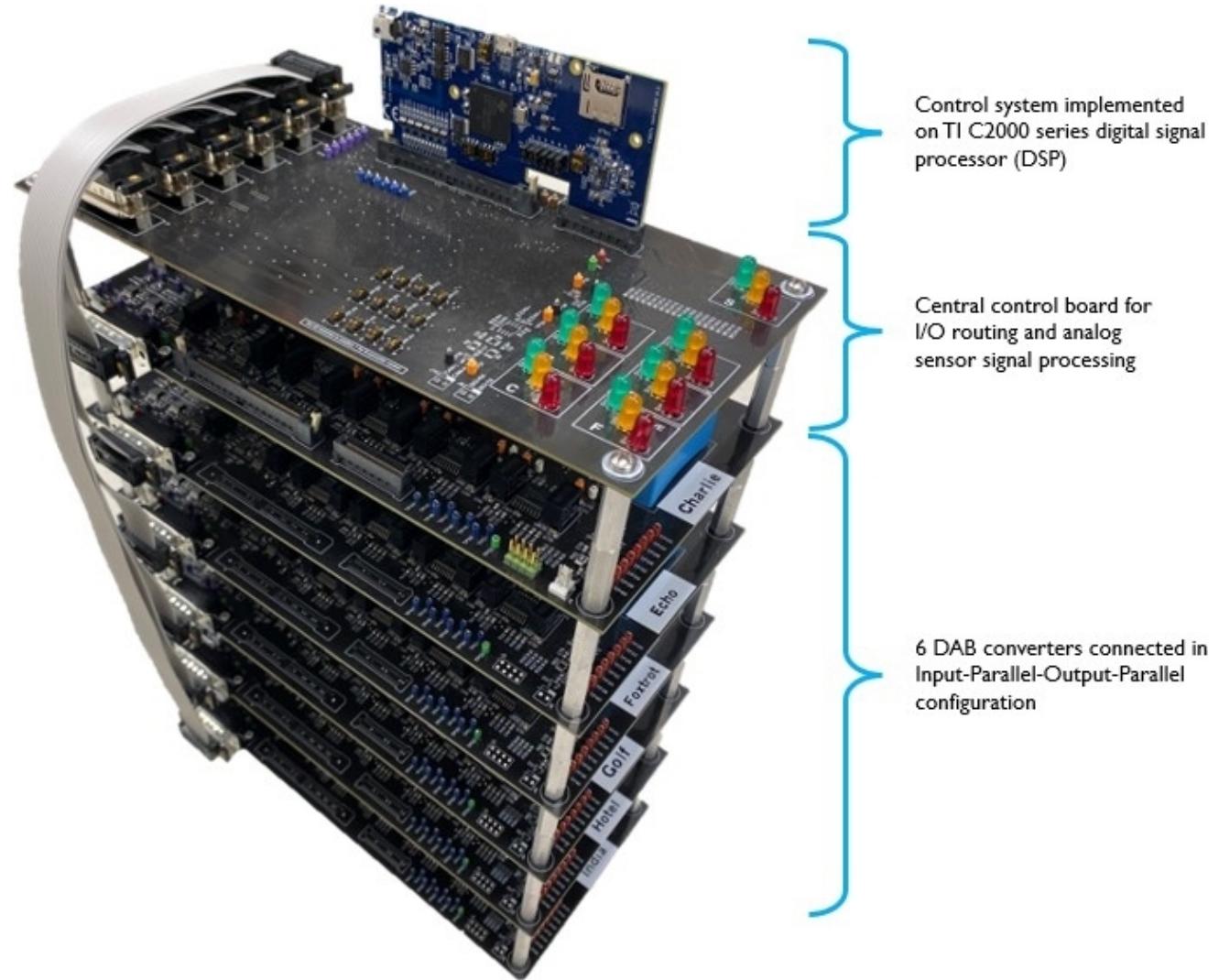


1st version of DAB and series topology

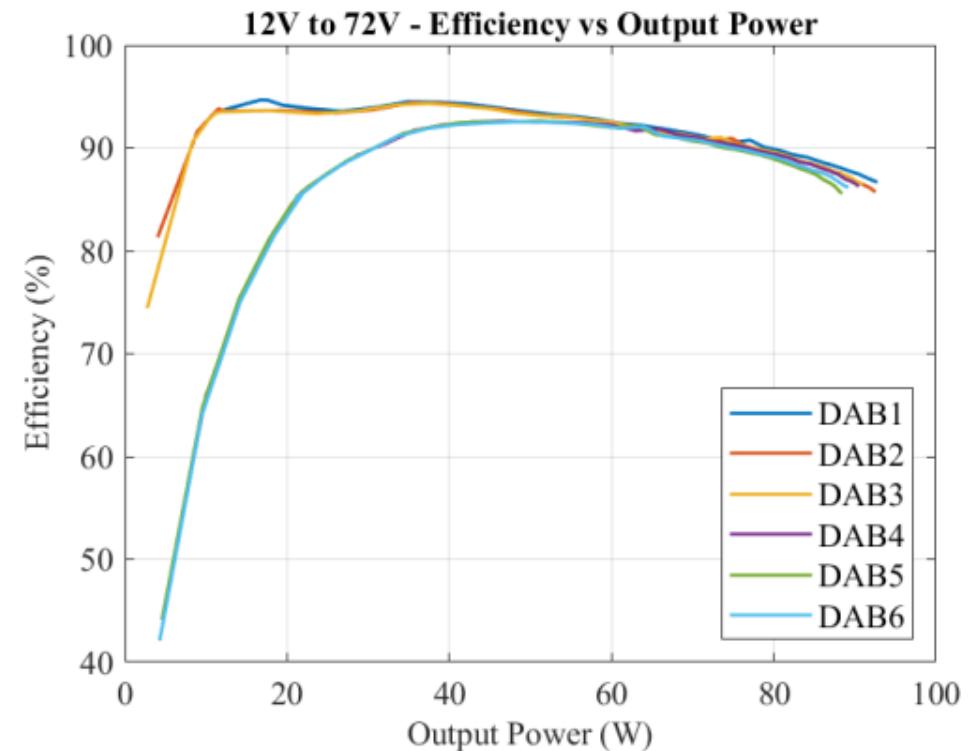


Gen. 1 System Prototype (FY22)

Independent Input Parallel Output Configuration

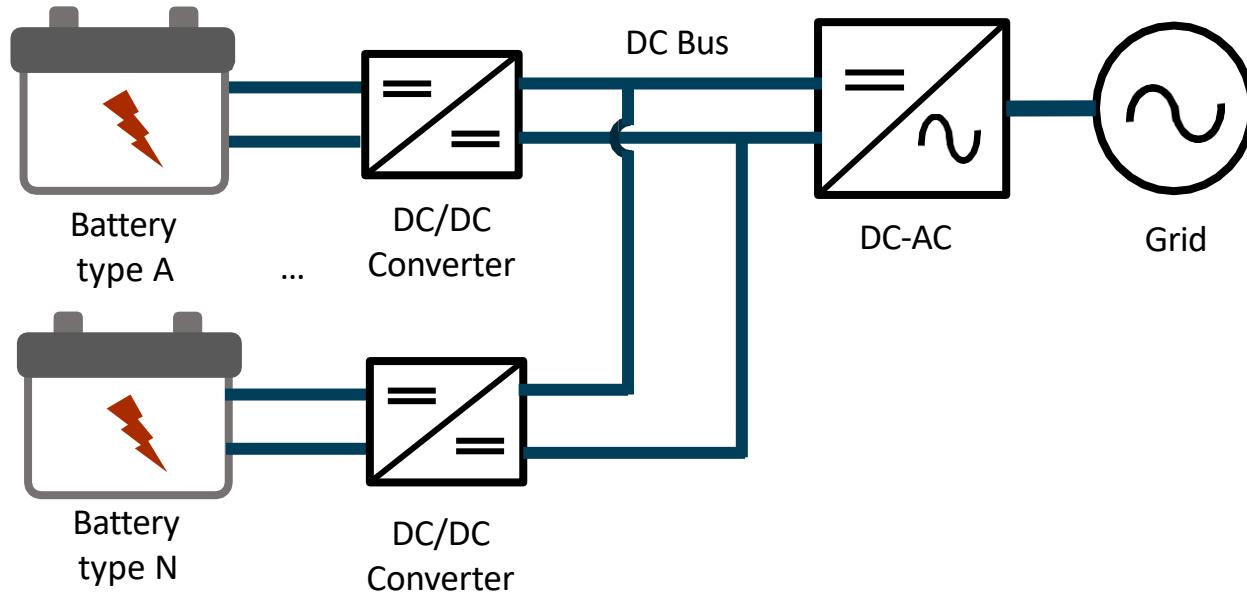


System Specifications	
Low-Side Voltage	12V nom
High-Side Voltage	72V nom
Switching Freq	100kHz
Rated Power (Module)	±85W
Transformer Turns Ratio	1:6
System Voltage Gain	6



9 Parallel DC bus with different types of batteries

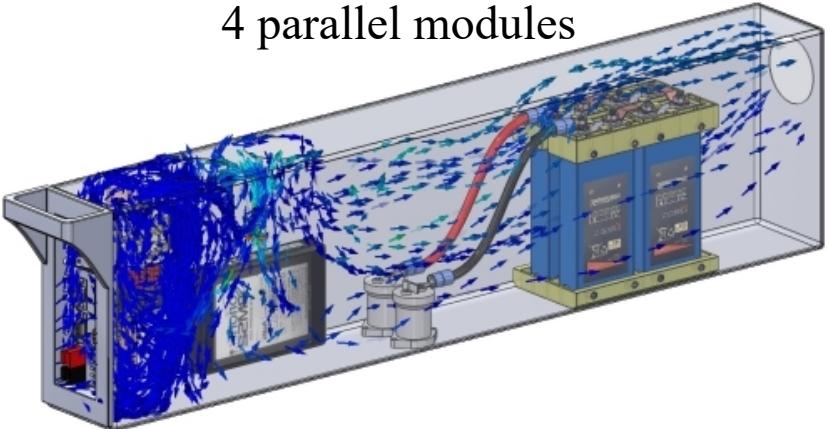
- Each controller be set to a different charging/discharging current or voltage, and can be disconnected at different voltage levels.
- Aging batteries can be replaced without turning the string off
- If one battery fails, all the other batteries can still be used (mix old and new batteries)



Modular system built to meet UL standards



4 parallel modules



- Battery packs, DC-DC converter, BMS, Fans, E-stop Contactors, Power and Communication cables



Orion Battery Management System (BMS)

- Low voltage side is connected to different battery packs.
- High voltage side is connected to an inverter's DC link.

Pb-Acid pack



- 6 cells connected in series.
- Nominal Voltage of a cell: 2V
- Cell capacity: 25Ah

OR



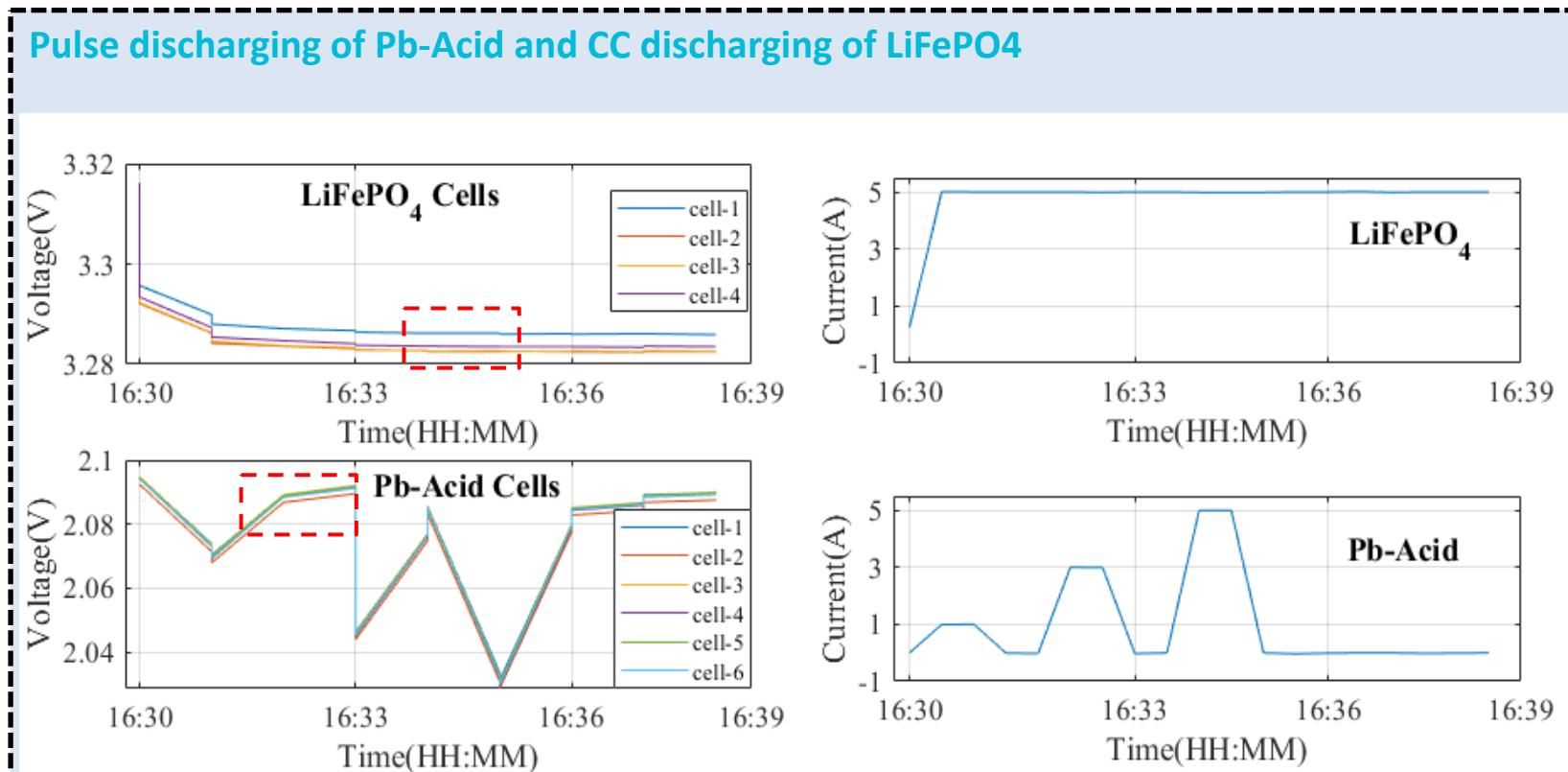
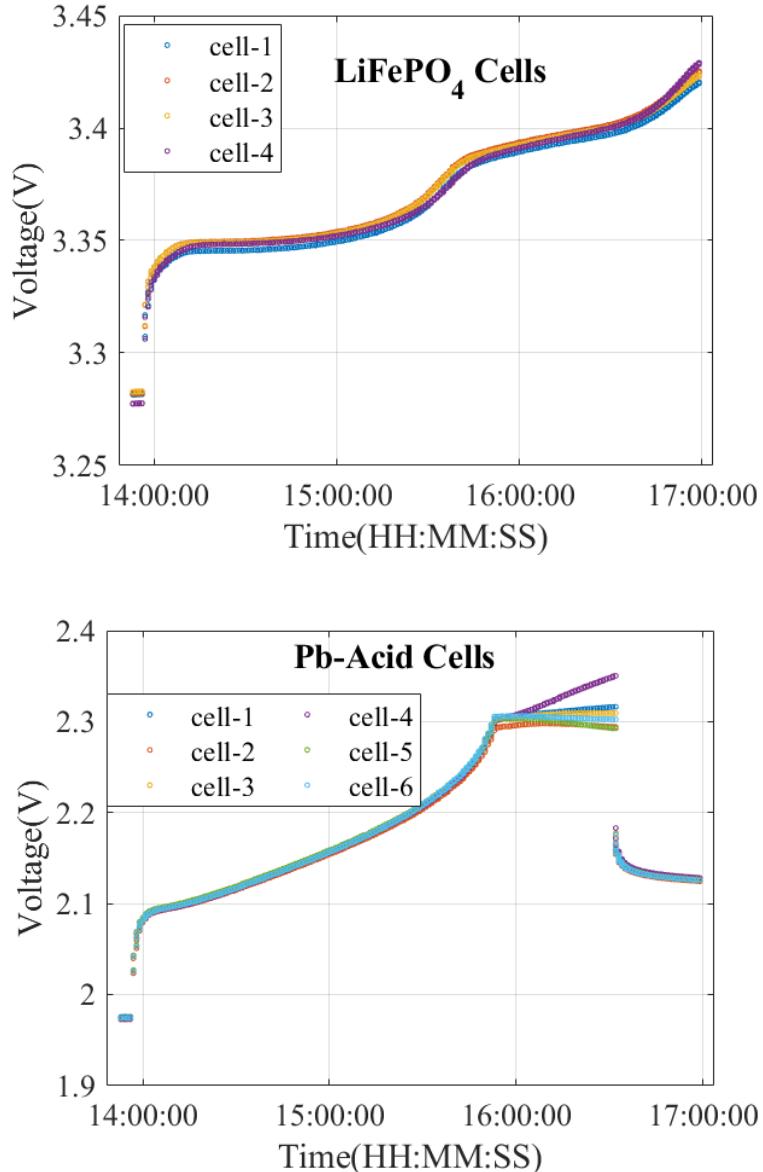
LiFePO₄ pack

- 4 cells connected in series
- Nominal Voltage of a cell: 3.2V
- Cell capacity: 25Ah

Modules cycling

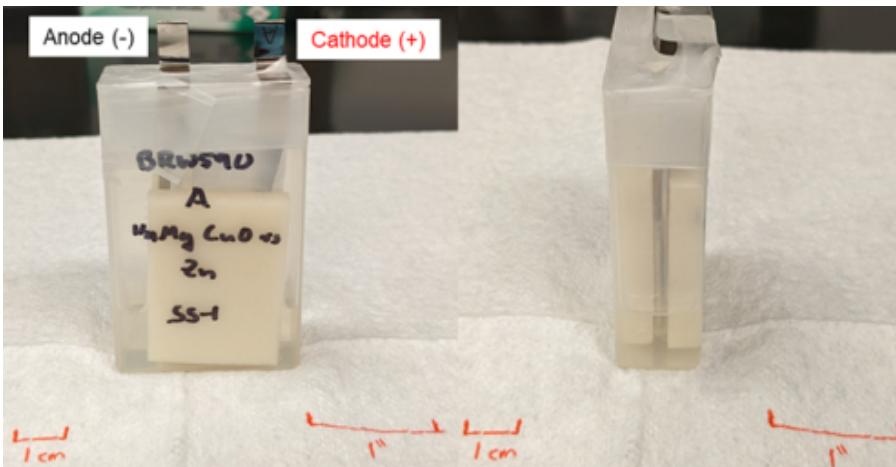


12 Independent operation of modules



LiFePO₄ battery pack is discharged at 5A while pulse test is performed on the Pb-acid battery. Pulse test is used for running quality control test on selected stacks.

Using experimental battery systems



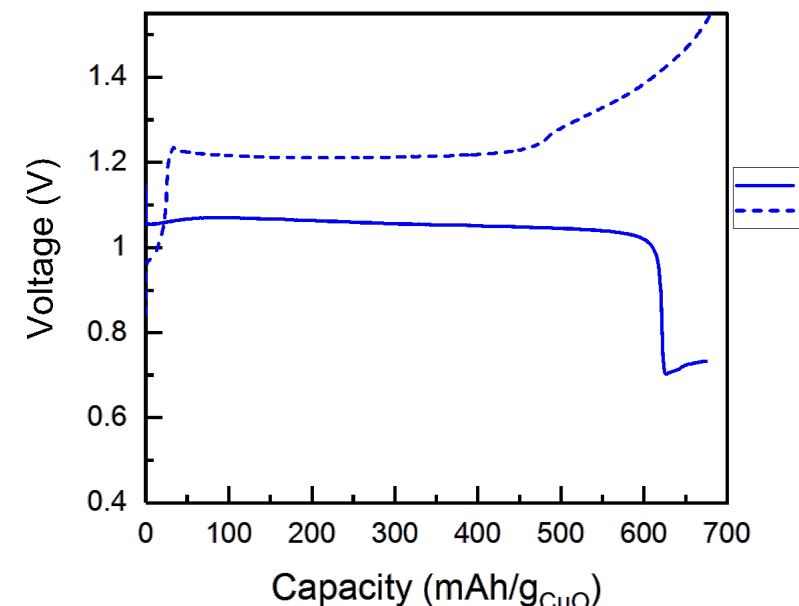
Cathode: Ni mesh current collector, Ni foil tab
Anode: Cu mesh current collector, Ni foil tab



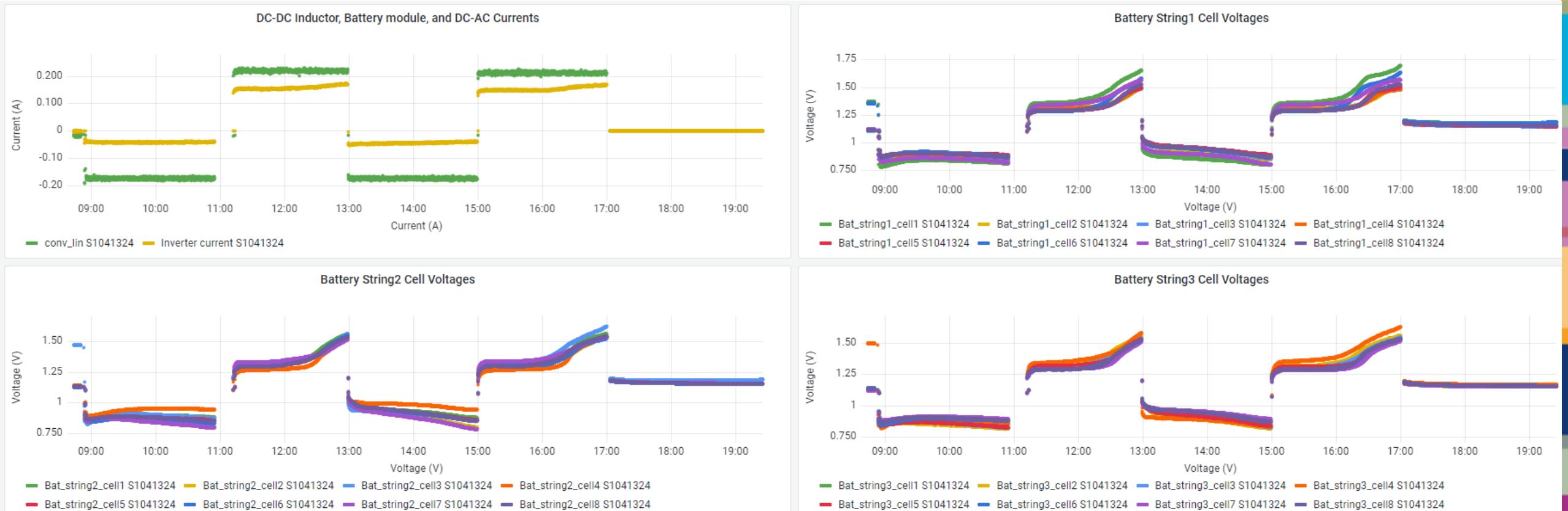
Module comprising 3 parallel blocks with 8 cells each

Single Cell Metrics

Average cycled capacity: 120 mAh
 Average discharge voltage: 1.027 V
 Charge/Discharge current: 12mA
 Voltage Range: -0.7 – 1.55 V

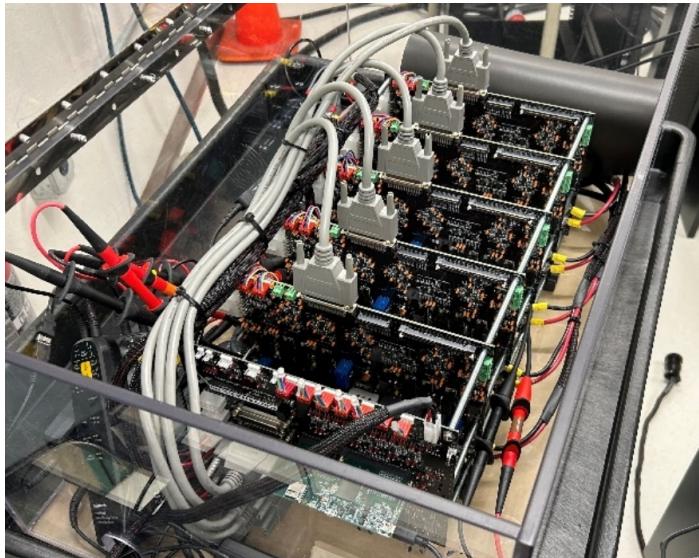


Using the same data framework for visualization



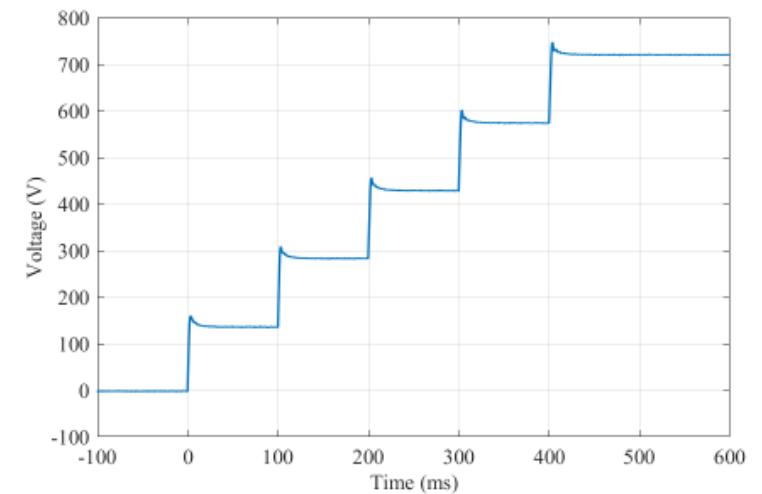
At-scale version of the system

- Demonstrated 24V to 720V conversion with 5 converter stack (6th converter assembly in progress)
- Signal integrity and power stage improvements in Gen 2 converter and control board designs enable significant extensibility
- Target for FY24 is system-level output voltage of 5kV



System Specifications	
Low-Side Voltage	24V nom
High-Side Voltage	144V nom
Switching Freq	100kHz
Rated Power (Module)	±350W
Transformer Turns Ratio	1:6
System Voltage Gain	36

System Output Voltage





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MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

- Oindrilla Dutta: System integration, software and firmware development.
- Jacob Mueller: DC-DC converter design, fabrication, and firmware.
- Robert Wauneka: Mechanical and electrical construction.
- Andrew Robert Roy Dow: DC-DC converter design, assembly and testing.
- Valerio De Angelis: Principal Investigator.