

Battery Pack Safety Testing and System-level Integration

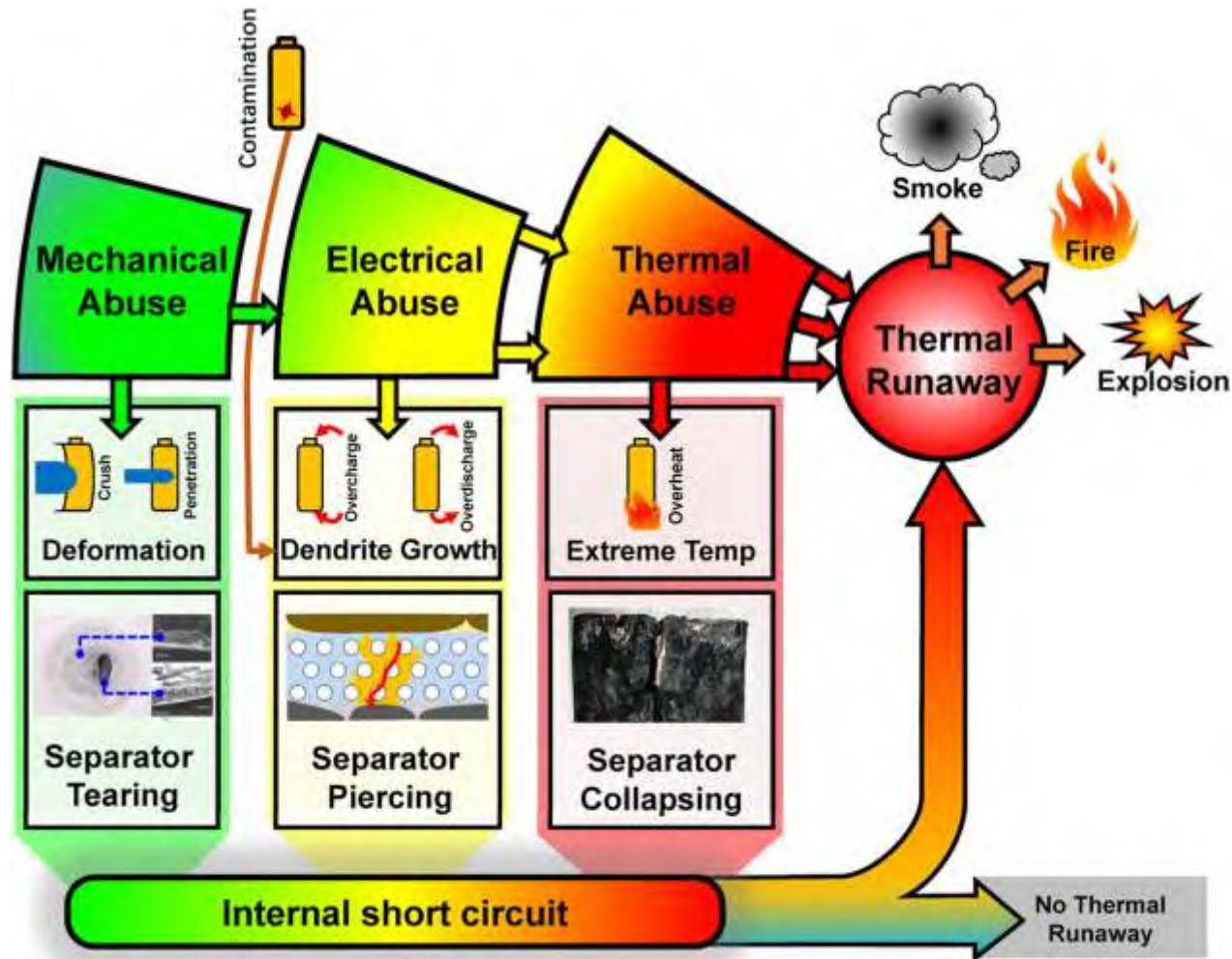
Austin Downey and Xinyu Huang

Mechanical Engineering Dept., Univ of South Carolina



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Fire and explosion hazard due to LIB thermal runaway is a major concern

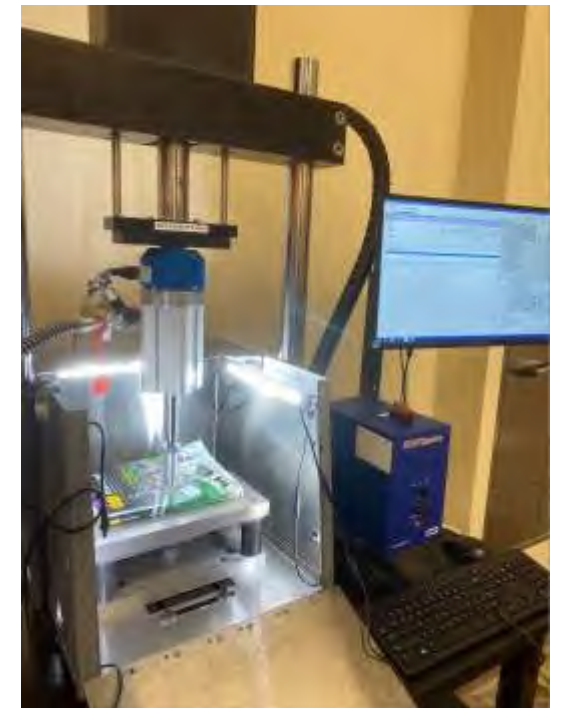
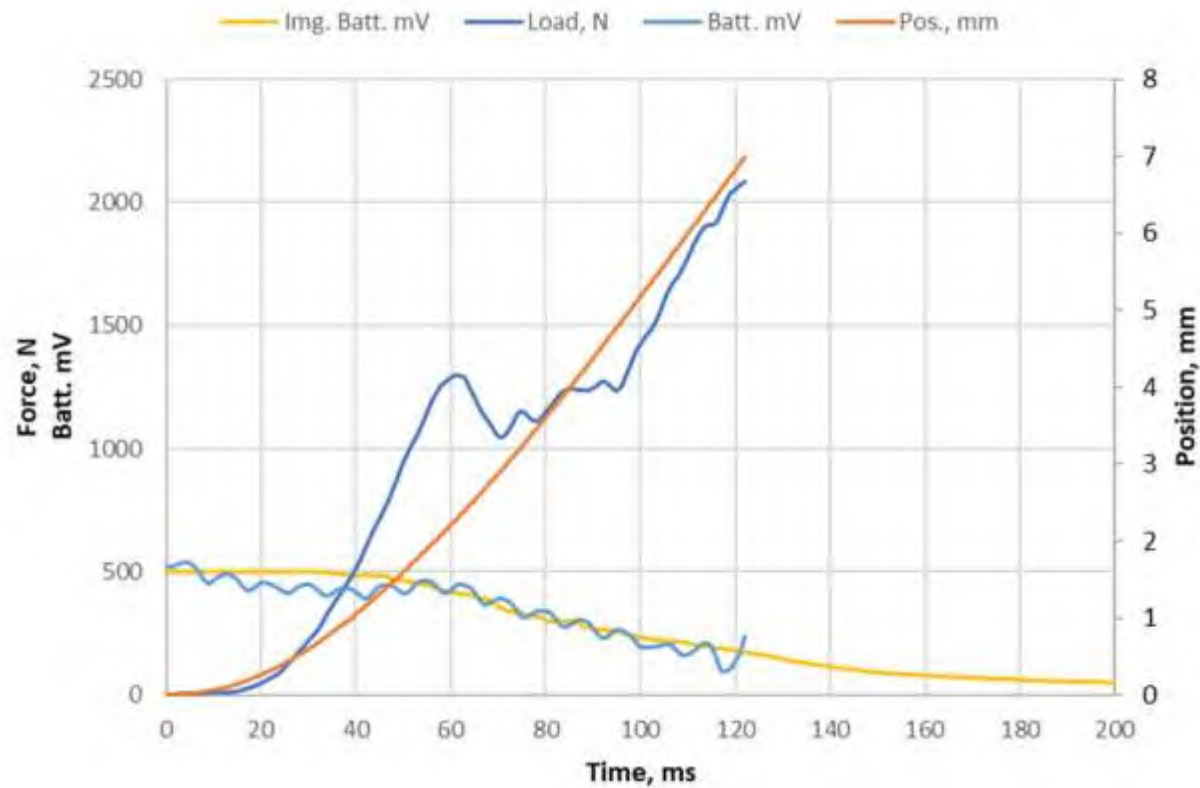


Tesla Megapack Fire, Geelong, Australia, July 2021



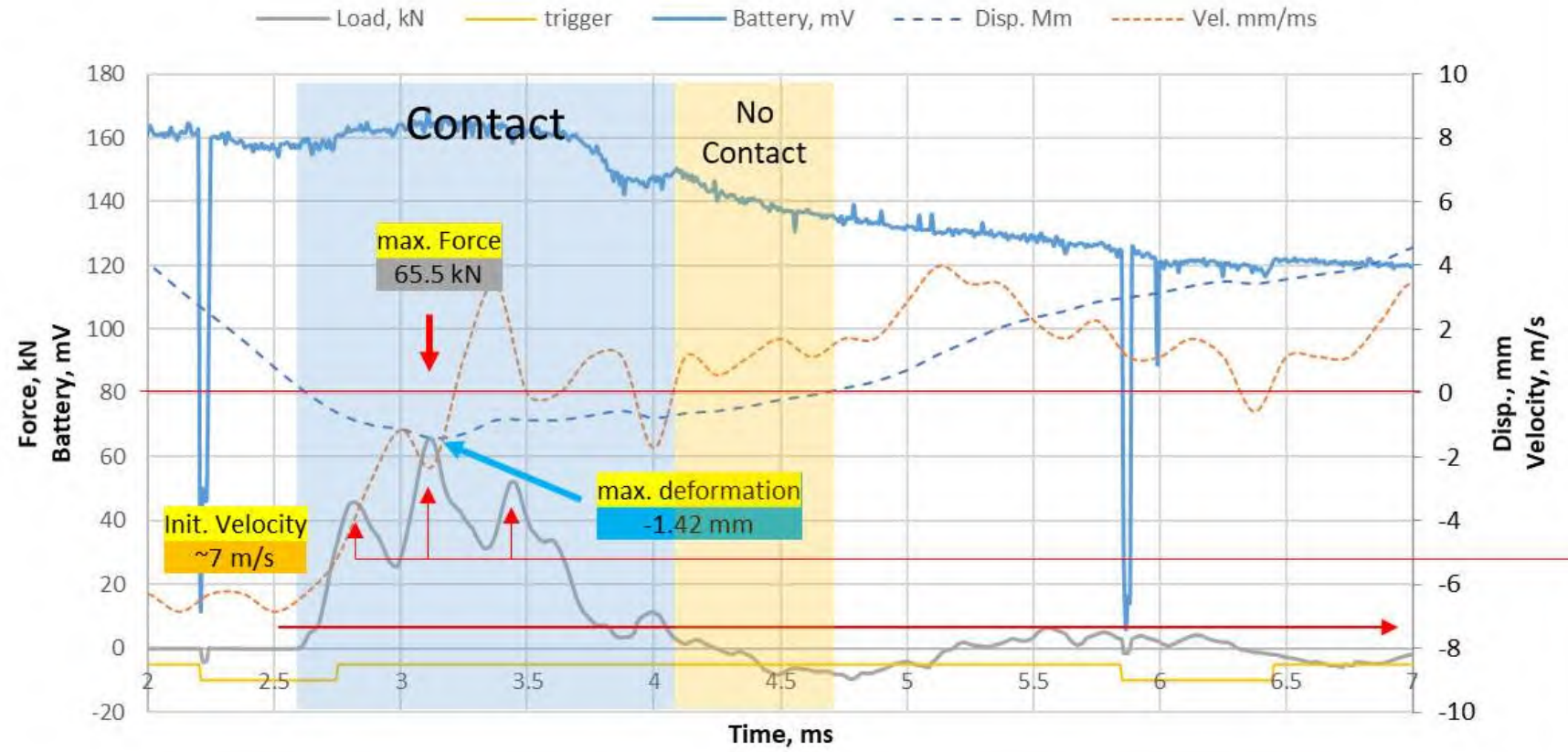
E-bike fire set a grocery store in blaze, NYC, Mar 2023

Penetration resistance of large LIB pouch cell with a 6-mm dia. ball-end punch

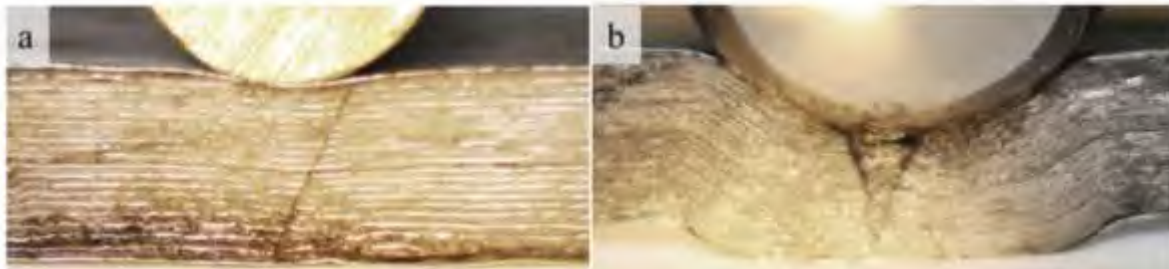


Large pouch cell under testing

Impact testing on LIB pouch cells with detailed mechanical response measurements



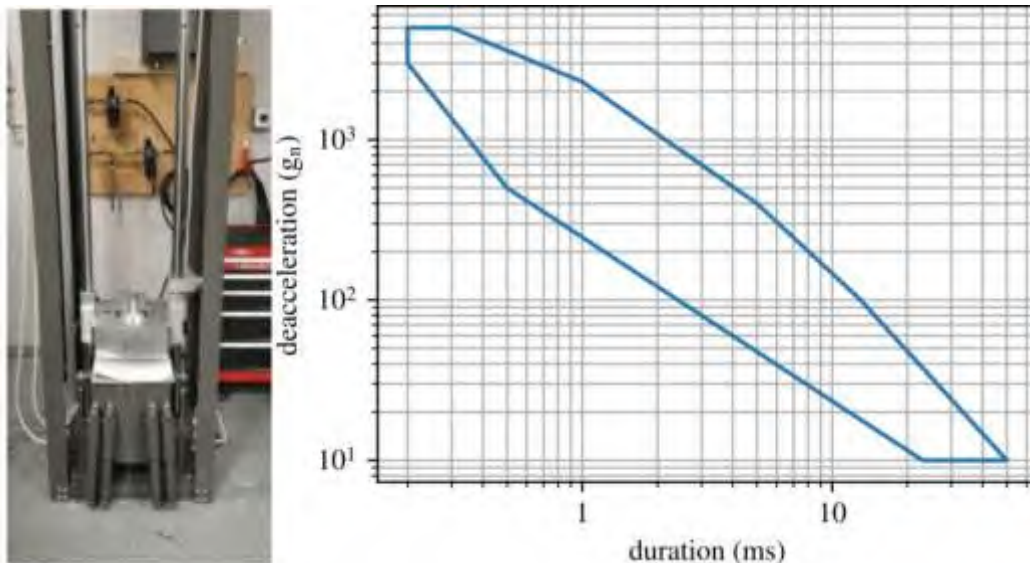
Impact testing on LIB pouch cells with detailed mechanical response measurements



Shock And Vibration Testing Capabilities

- Accelerated shock test system that can generate upto 5,000 g_n of de-acceleration and pulse times from 0.2 ms to 150 ms.
- Gravity shock test systems for testing full-scale battery components.
- 1-DOF vibration shake table for full-scale vibration testing of battery components.
- Substantial instrumentation for vibration and shock monitoring.

Accelerated Shock Test System



Gravity Shock Test System



Vibration Table



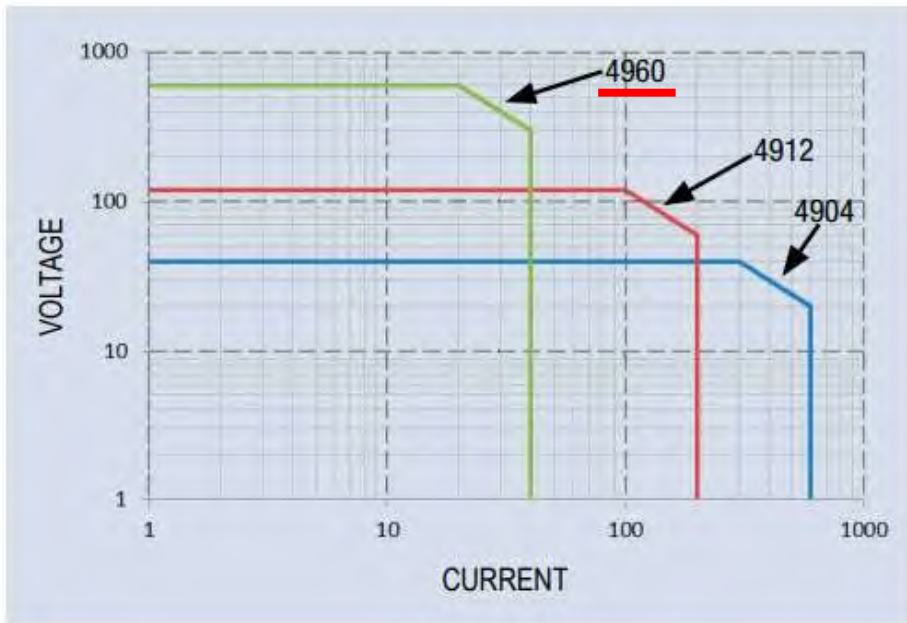
High-Voltage Battery Pack Testing Capabilities



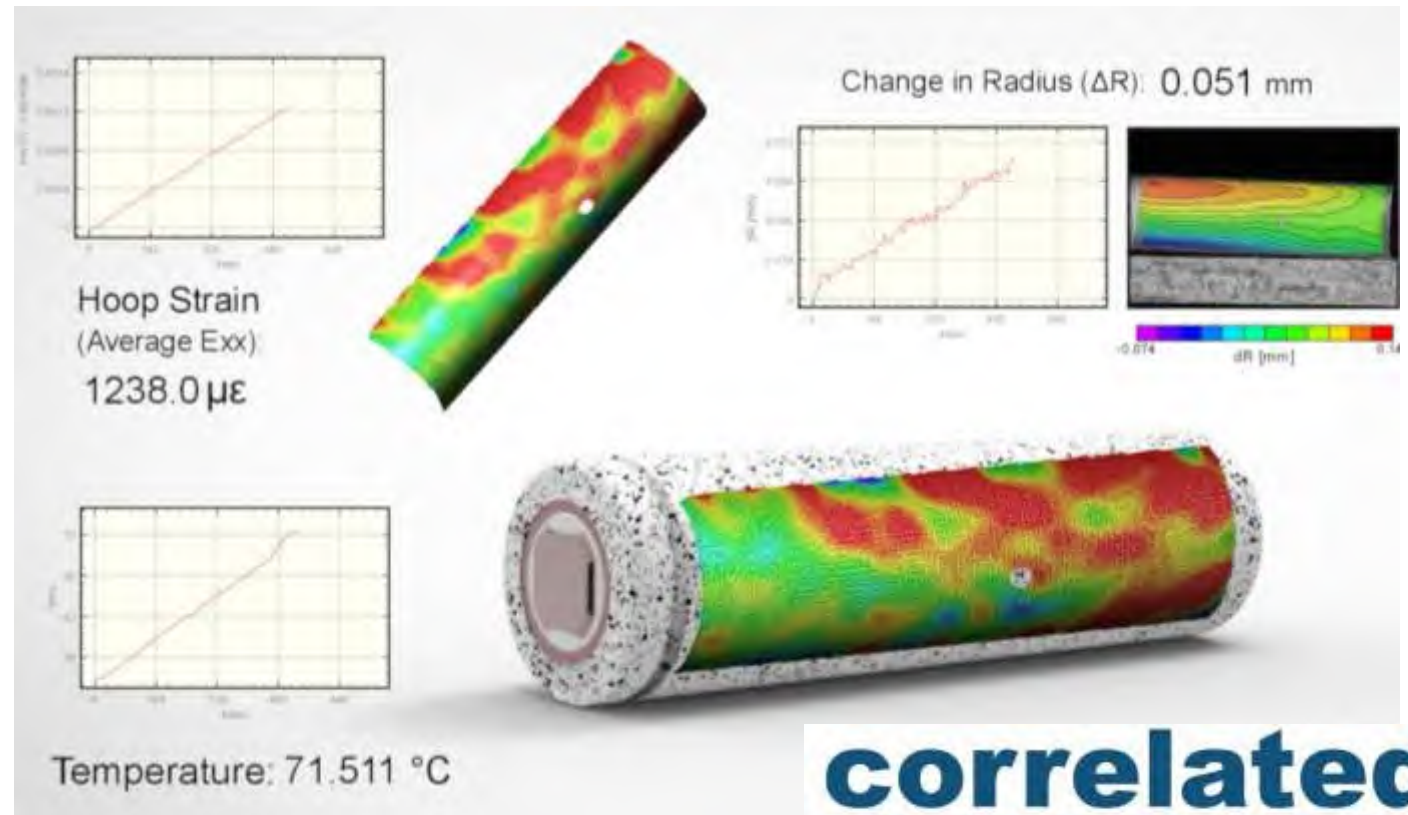
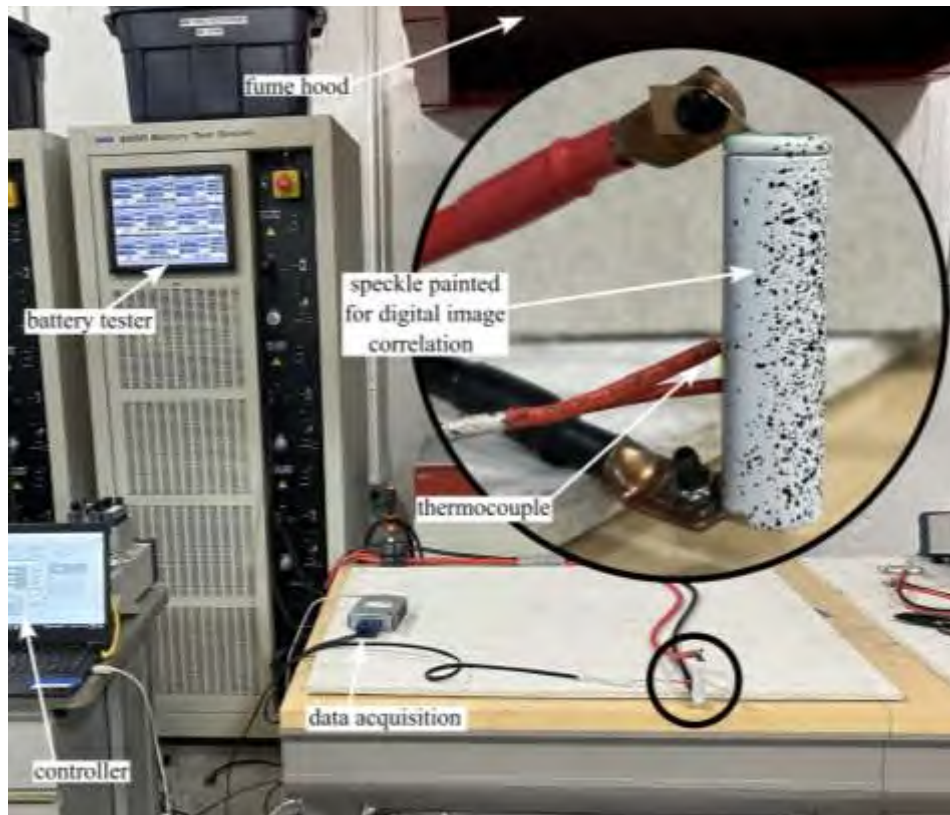
High-Voltage Battery Pack Testing Capabilities

Recently acquired battery pack test system,

- 108 kW Maximum test power (All three cabinets required).
- 9 channels at 12 kW per channel.
- Power module maximums of 600 V and 360 A.
- Can be coupled with shock and vibration testing.

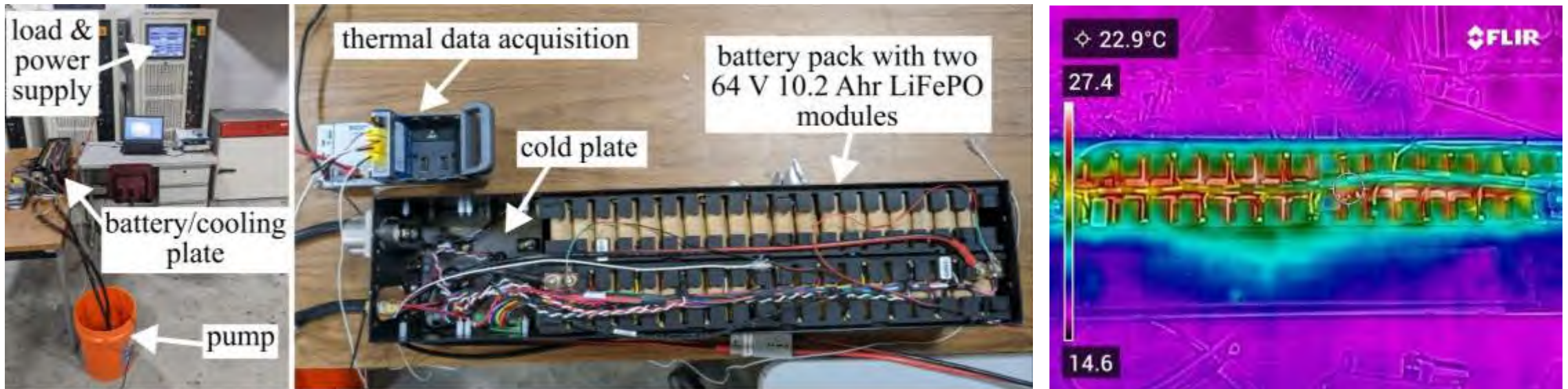


Strain-based Cell Failure Investigations



correlated
SOLUTIONS

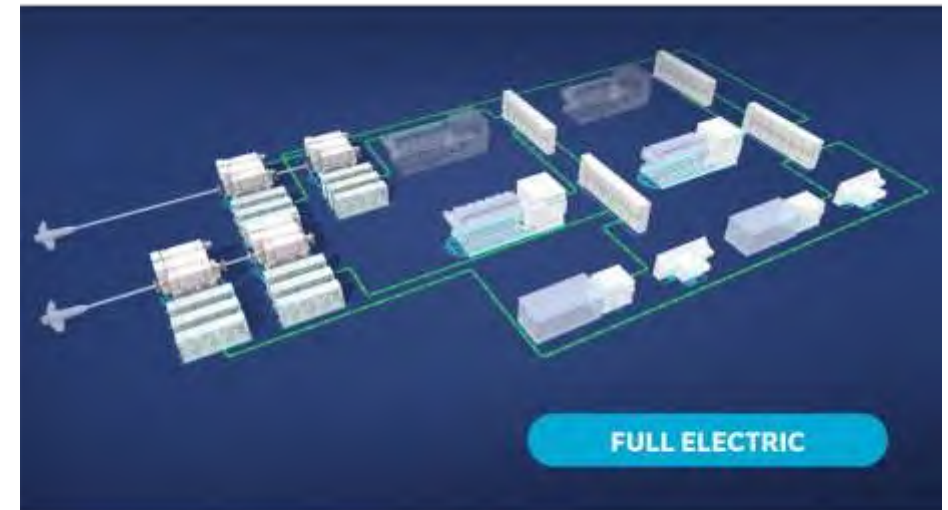
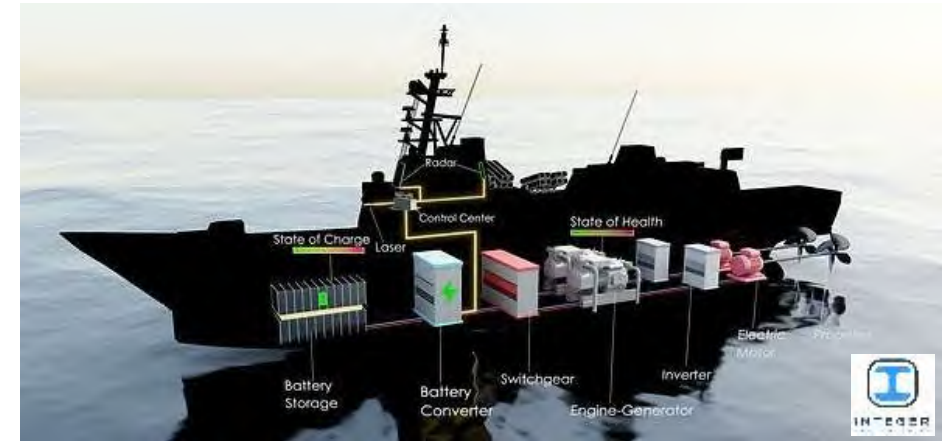
Full-scale Battery Pack Testing



Liquid cooled Li-Iron Phosphate Battery Pack
Pack is two 64 V 10.2 Ahr modules

Battery Integration into Naval Systems

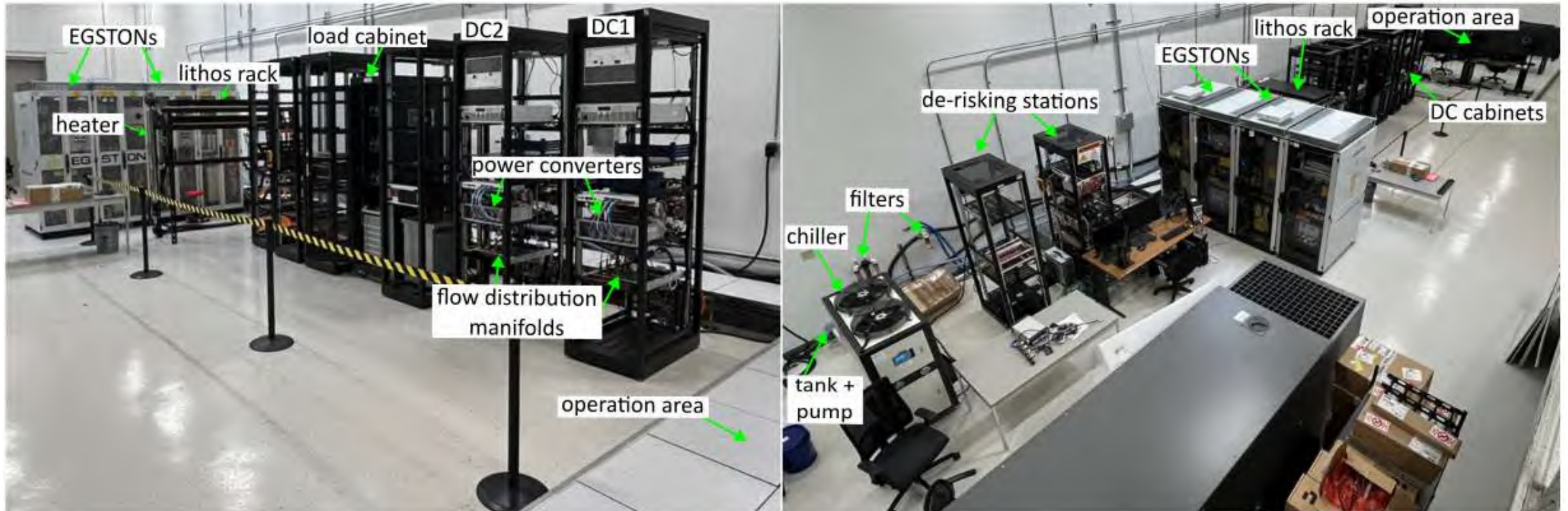
- USC is developing a digital twin test bed for naval propulsion at University of South Carolina.
- System includes the integration of large battery packs into a coupled electro-thermal system.
- Also developing electro-thermal battery emulators for system-level testing.



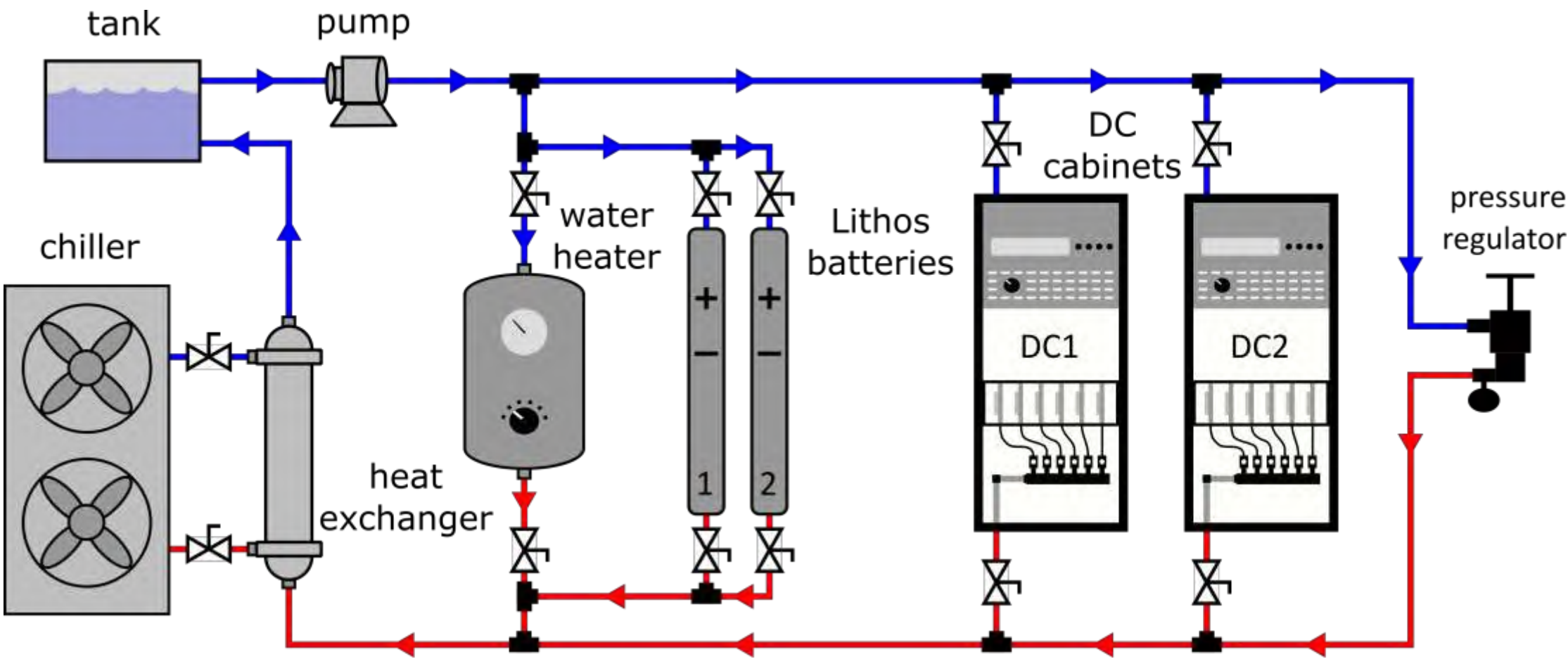
[1]“Solutions - Naval Electric Power & Propulsion.” *GE Power Conversion*, <https://www.gepowerconversion.com/product-solutions/Naval-Electric-Power-Propulsion>.

[1]

South Carolina Energy and Power Testbed for Engineering Research (SCEPTER)



Electro-Thermal Testbed



Electro-Thermal Battery Emulator

Safety:

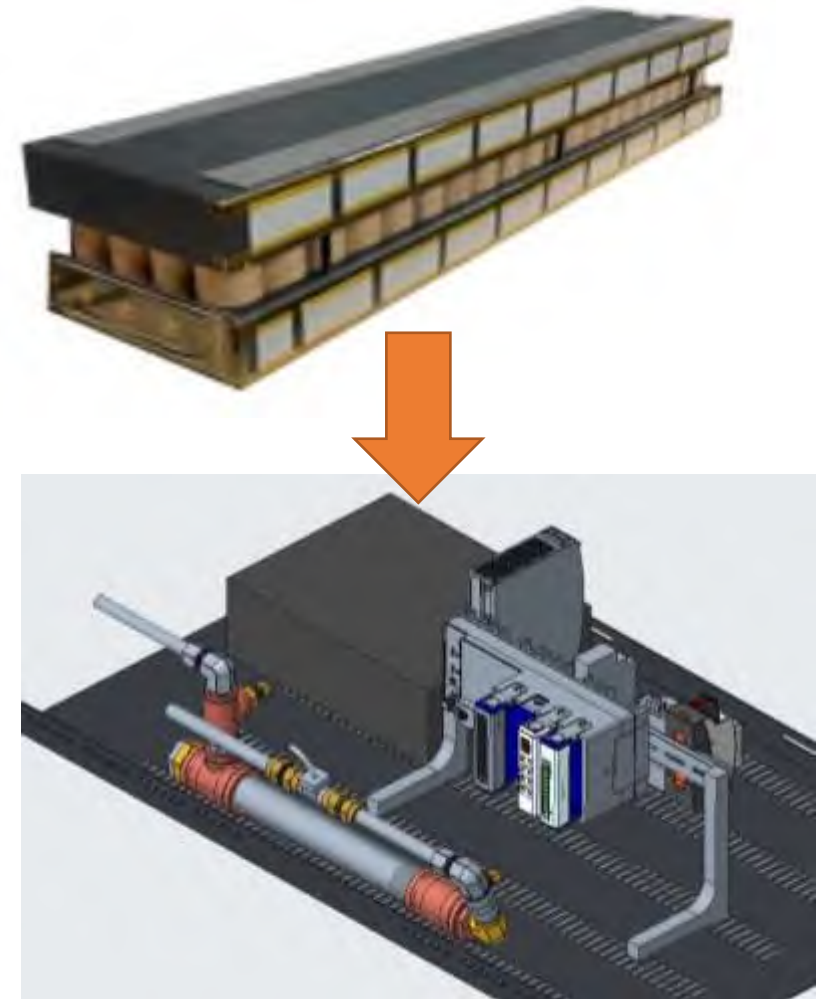
- Enable safe exploration of energy storage under extreme conditions

Scalability:

- Emulate characteristics of large battery at all system connections -- electrical terminals and fluid ports -- based on actual behavior of a single cell of the type used in the battery

Parity:

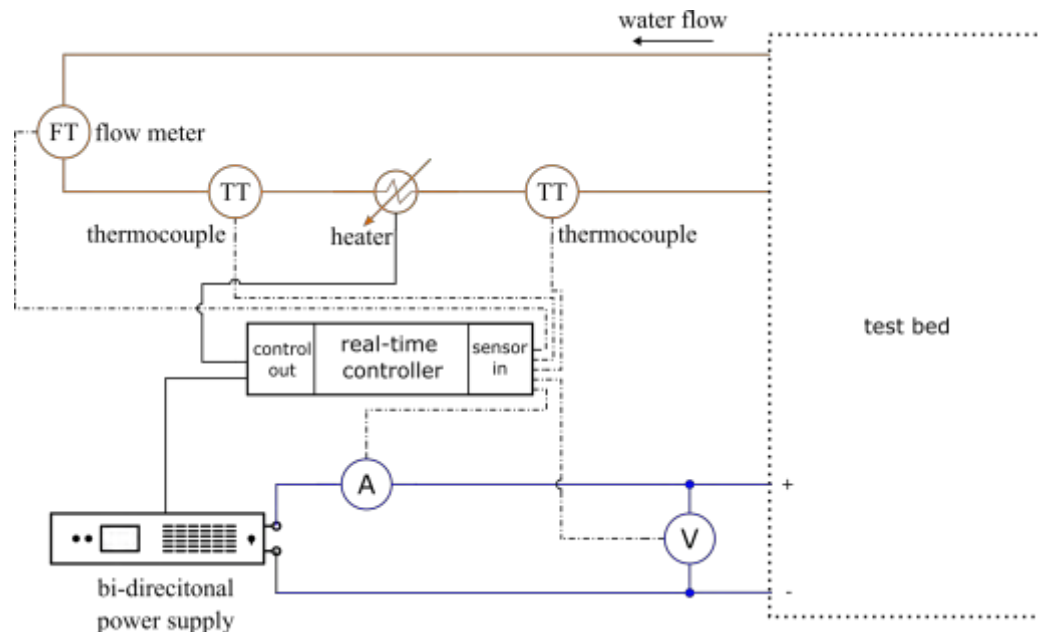
- Investigate equivalent thermal and electrical coupling effects



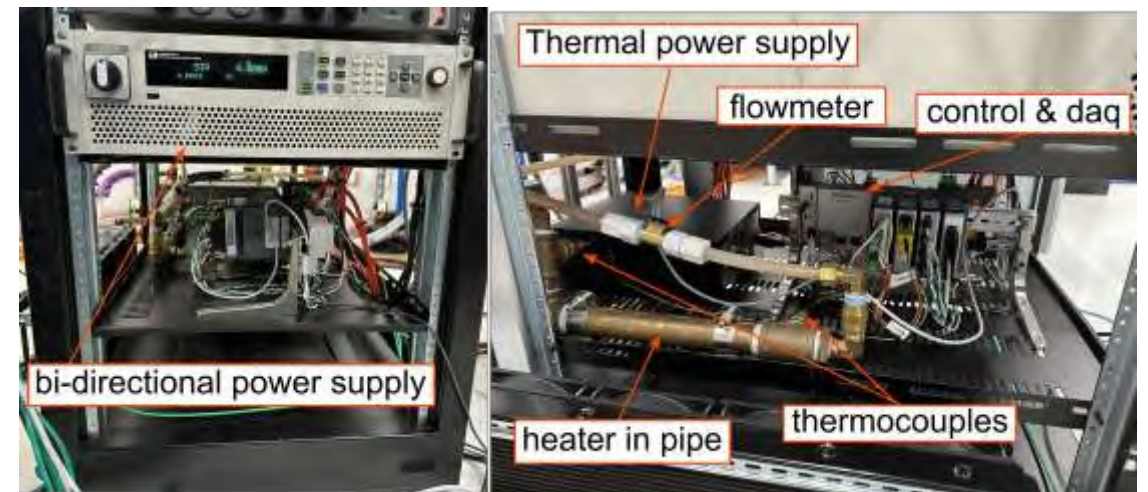
Emulator Hardware

- Implements Battery model on cRIO 9054 controller
- Electrical emulation through a bidirectional power supply
- Thermal Emulation through a heater

hardware diagram:

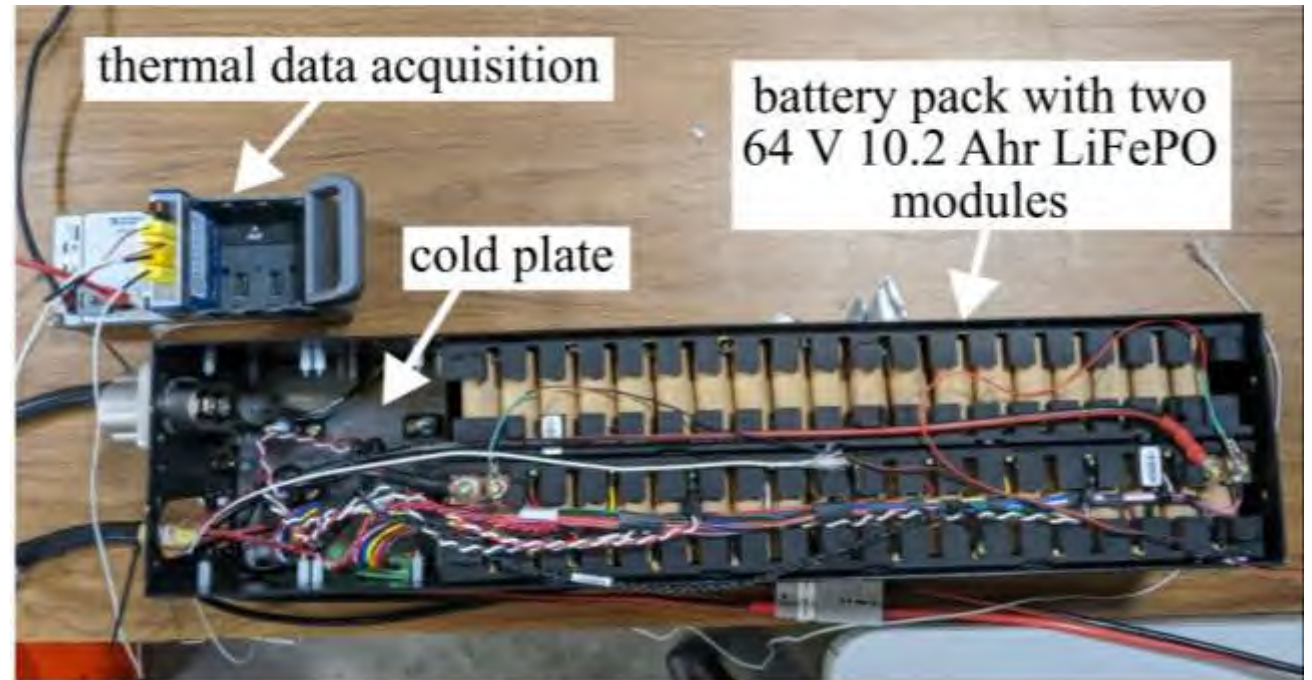


Physical setup:

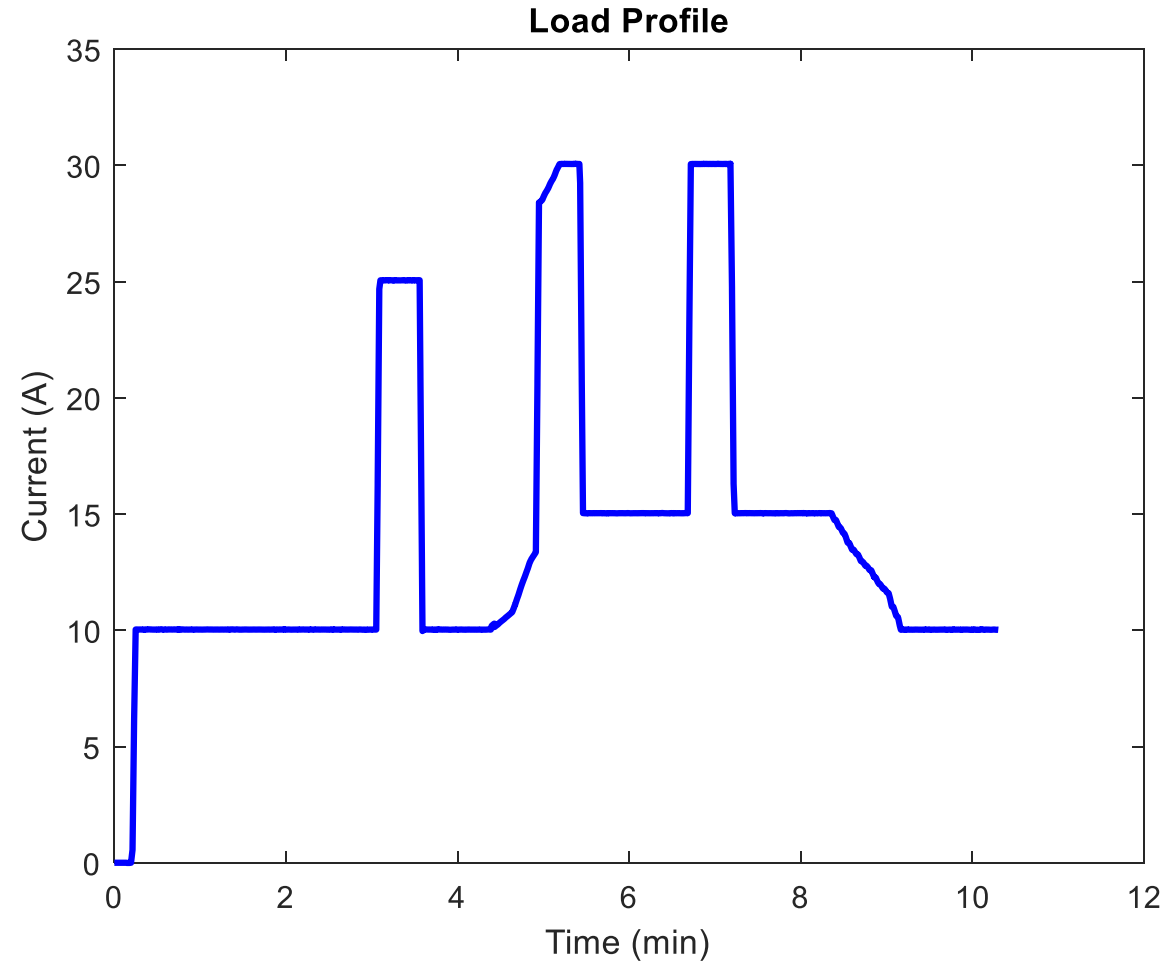


Electro-thermal Battery Pack Emulation

- Li-Iron Phosphate Battery
- 20 Cells in series
- 4 Cells in Parallel
- SoC set to 100%
- SoH approximately 60%
- Liquid cooled

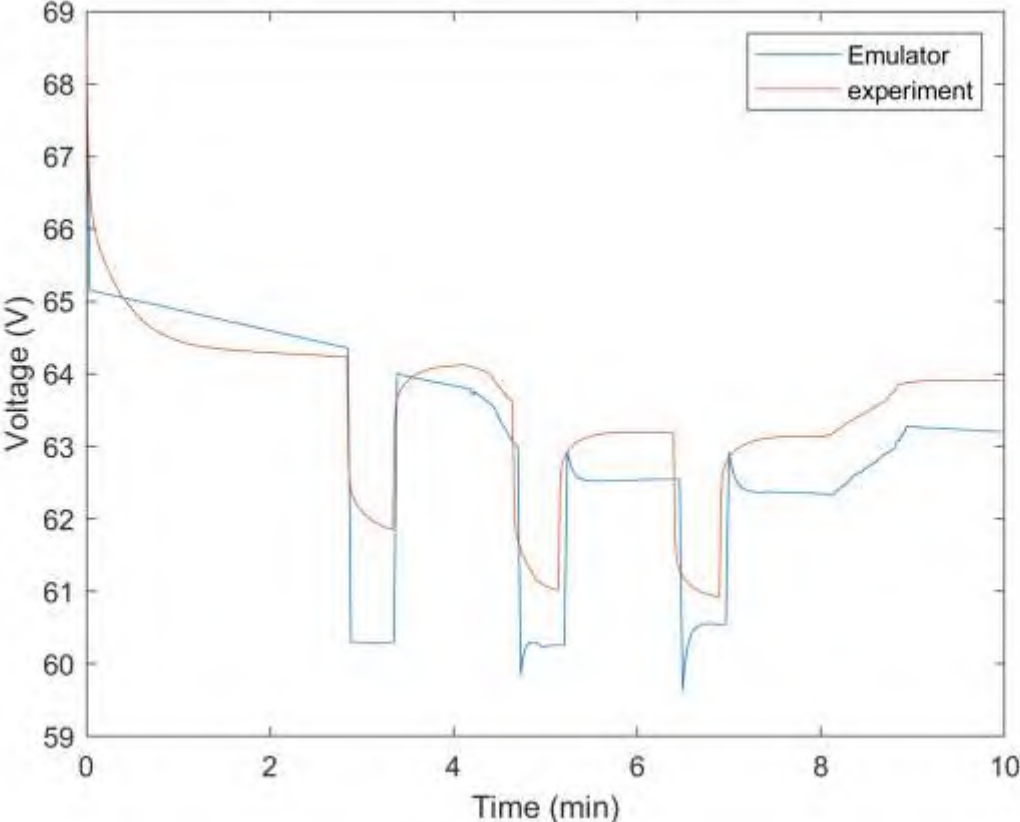


2.5C Pulse Load

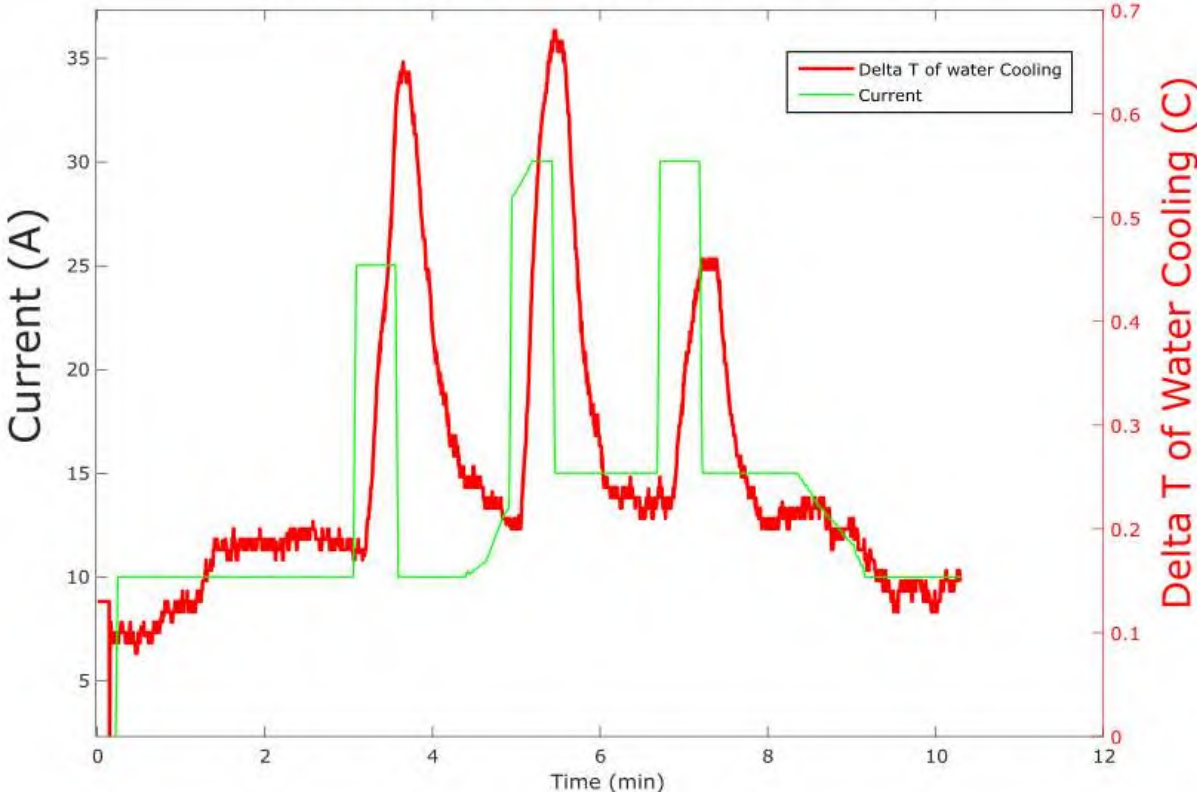


Electro-thermal Load Profile Results

Voltage Response



Temperature Response



Thank You For Your Time and Attention

Austin Downey
Department of Mechanical Engineering
austindowney@sc.edu