

# **System-Level Modeling, Estimation and Control of Battery System**

**Dr. Xinfan Lin**

**Department of Vehicle Controls and Systems Engineering  
Center of Research and Advanced Engineering  
Ford Motor Company**

# Outline

---

- **System-level battery management**
  - Temperature estimation of battery system
  - Reduced battery voltage sensing
- **Physics-based Investigation and Modeling**
  - Neutron Imaging
- **Work Experiences at Ford Motor Company**
  - EV DC fast charging system
  - University collaboration

# Outline

---

- **System-level battery management**
  - Temperature estimation of battery system
  - Reduced battery voltage sensing
- **Physics-based Investigation and Modeling**
  - Neutron Imaging
- **Work Experiences at Ford Motor Company**
  - EV DC fast charging system
  - University collaboration

# Li-ion Cells : Human Like

---

- Poke them and they can *bleed* and burst into *flames*
- Hate to be over-worked
- Picky about temperature
- Diversity
- All cells must die

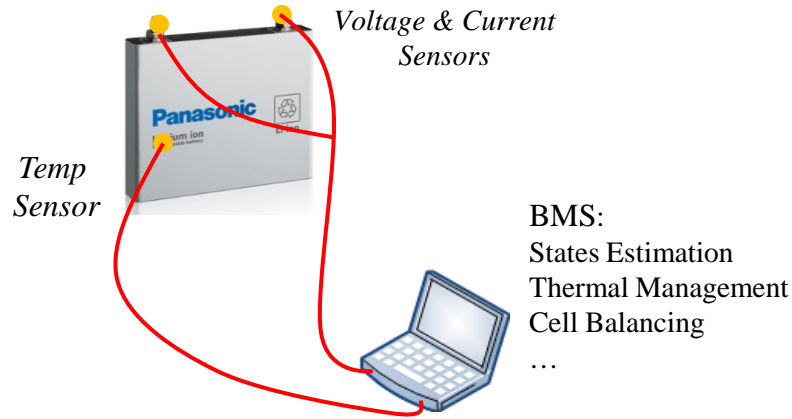


## They need to be taken care of! Battery Management:

- **State Estimation**
  - State of charge (SOC)
  - State of health (SOH)
  - Power capability
- **Thermal Management**
  - Temperature control
  - Temperature imbalance control
- **Cell Balancing...**

# Existing Studies on Battery Management

## State of Art: Cell-level Battery Management



**Reality: Battery systems come in packs.**



Nissan Leaf: 192 cells



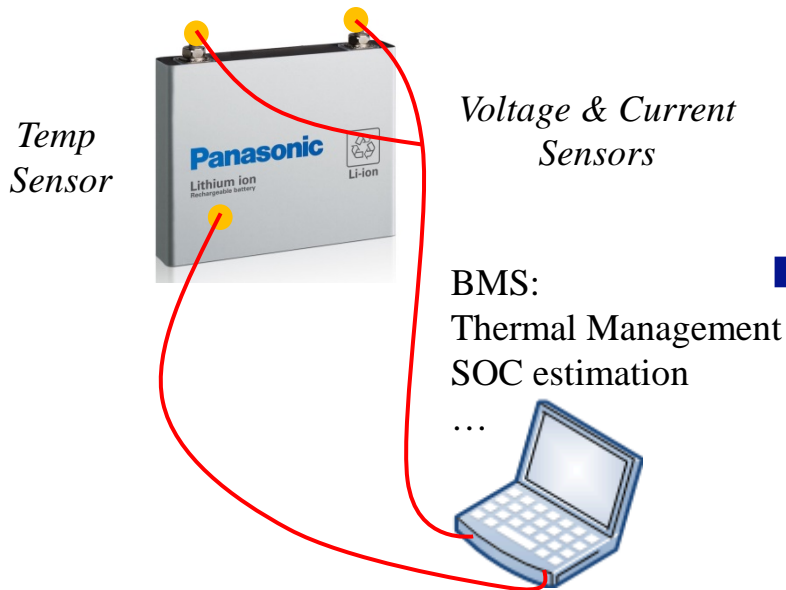
Chevy Volt: 288 cells



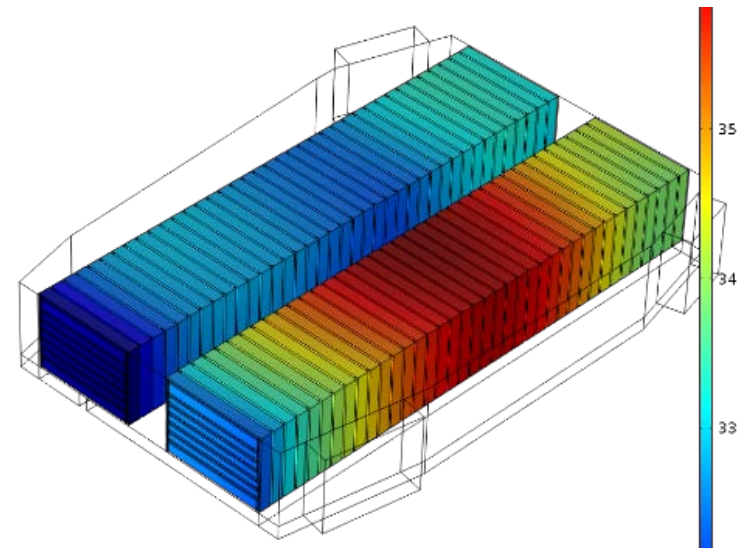
Tesla Model S: >7000 cells

# Goal: System-level BMS

Battery Cell



Battery System



**Cell-Level Battery Management  
with Full Sensing**

**System-Level Battery Management  
under **Sparse Sensing**,  
**Limited Computational Capacity**  
and **System Uncertainty****

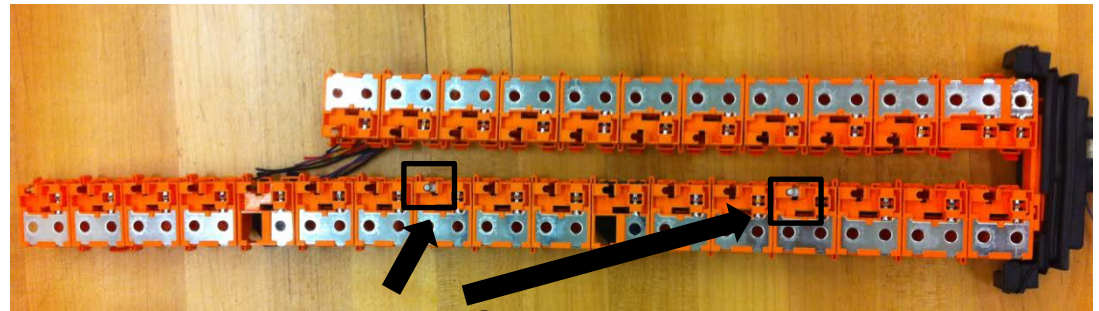
***A lesson learned from Industry***

# Outline

---

- **System-level battery management**
  - Temperature estimation of battery system
  - Reduced battery voltage sensing
- **Physics-based Investigation and Modeling**
  - Neutron Imaging
- **Work Experiences at Ford Motor Company**
  - EV DC fast charging system
  - University collaboration

# Temperature Estimation of Battery System



Temperature Sensing

Issue: ineffective temperature sensing:

- Limited number of sensors: ~ 1 in every 10 cells
- Only measuring surface but not the internal cell temperature

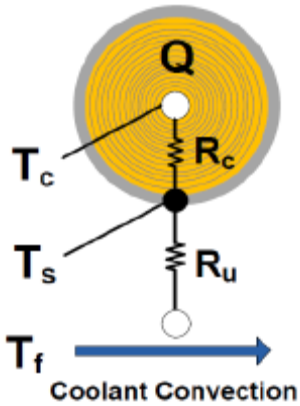
Solution: combining sparse sensing with model-based estimation



*Sponsored by US Army TARDEC*



# Single-Cell Model and Identification

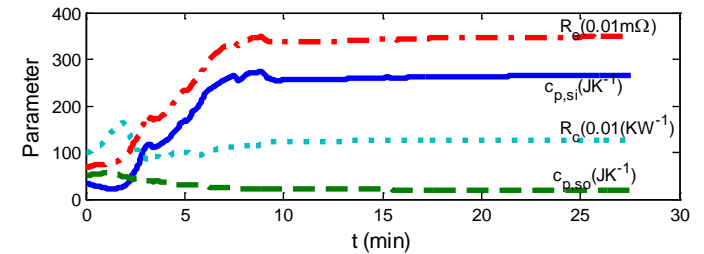
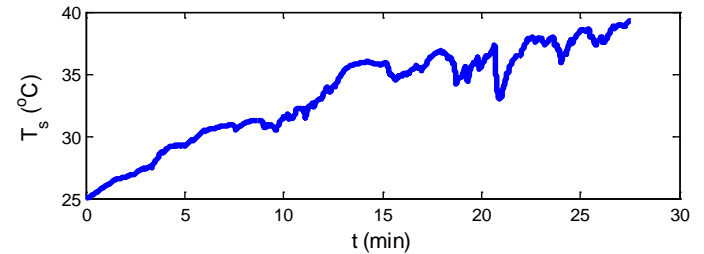


Core temp  $T_c$

$$C_c \frac{dT_c}{dt} = I^2 R_e + \frac{T_s - T_c}{R_c}$$

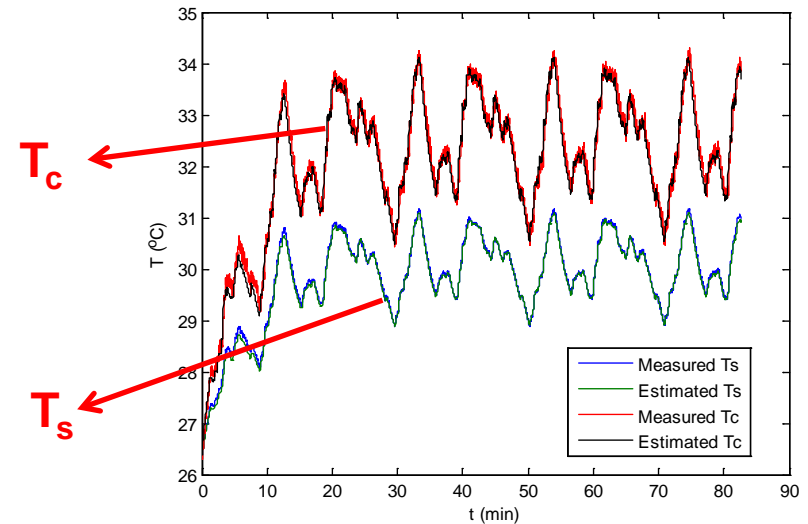
Surface temp  $T_s$

$$C_s \frac{dT_s}{dt} = \frac{T_f - T_s}{R_u} - \frac{T_s - T_c}{R_c}$$



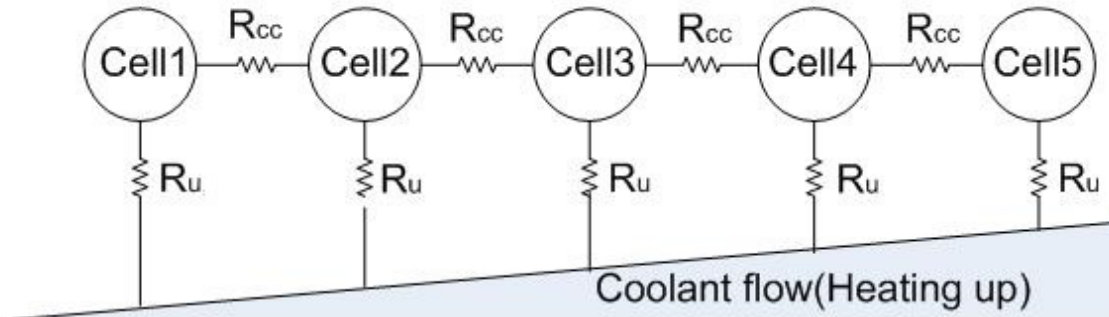
## System Identification

- To determine model parameters
- Online ID using  $T_s$  and  $I$
- Experimental validation



Lin, et al., IEEE Transaction, Control Systems and Technology 2013  
 Lin, et al., American Control Conference 2012

# Battery System Thermal Model



## Single Cell Model

$$C_c \frac{dT_{c,i}}{dt} = I^2 R_e + \frac{T_{s,i} - T_{c,i}}{R_c}$$

$$C_s \frac{dT_{s,i}}{dt} = \frac{T_{f,in,i} - T_{s,i}}{R_u} - \frac{T_{s,i} - T_{c,i}}{R_c} + \frac{T_{s,i-1} + T_{s,i+1} - 2T_{s,i}}{R_{cc}}$$

## Cell to Cell Conduction

$$T_{f,in,i} = T_{f,out,i-1}$$

$$T_{f,out,i} = T_{f,in,i} - \frac{T_{f,in,i} - T_s}{R_u C_{p,air}}$$

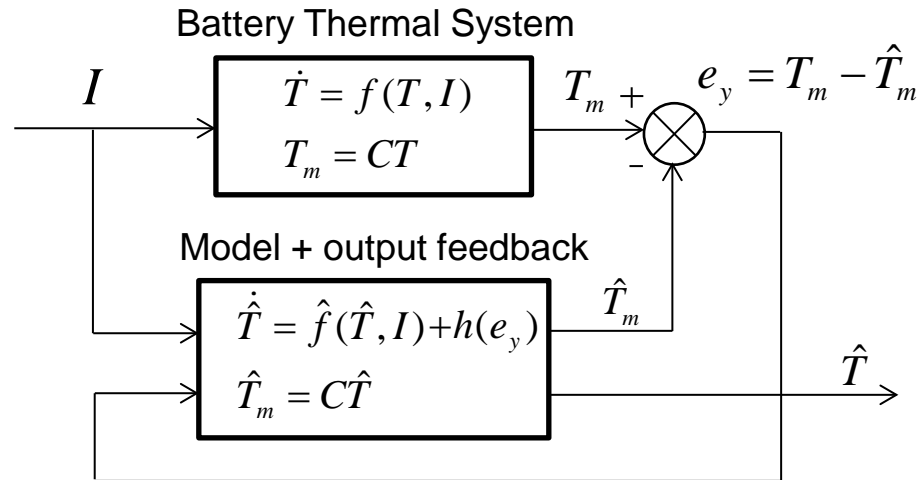
## Coolant Flow Dynamics

Lin, et al., IFP RHEVE 2011

Lin, et al., Journal of Power Sources 2014

# Model-based Observer Design

## Observer for Temperature Estimation



$$T = [T_{c1} \quad T_{s1} \quad T_{c2} \quad T_{s2} \quad \dots \quad T_{cn} \quad T_{sn}]^T \quad T_m = [T_{s1} \quad \dots \quad T_{sj}]^T$$

- Issue caused by sparse temperature sensing:  $n \geq 10j$ 
  - Inaccurate model parameters for cells with no sensor

$$f \neq \hat{f}$$

# Problem Formulation

Battery thermal model in state-space representation:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{T} &= AT + BI^2 \\ T_m &= CT \end{aligned} \quad B = \frac{R_e}{C_c} = \frac{1}{C_c} \begin{bmatrix} R_{e,1} & 0 & R_{e,2} & 0 & \dots & R_{e,n} & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

Model uncertainty: resistance imbalance among cells

$$\Delta R_e = R_e - R_{e,0} = \frac{1}{C_c} [\Delta R_{e,1}, 0, \Delta R_{e,2}, 0, \dots, \Delta R_{e,n}, 0]^T \quad |\Delta R_{e,i}| \leq 0.1R_{e,0}$$

Goal: to design an optimal “worst-case” observer

$$F : \dot{\hat{T}} = A_h \hat{T} + B_h I + G T_m$$

$$\hat{y} = C_h \hat{x}$$

$$e = T - \hat{T}$$



$$\min_F \max_{\Delta R_e} J(e(\Delta R_e))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta R_e &= \begin{bmatrix} \Delta R_{e,1} & 0 & \Delta R_{e,2} & 0 & \dots & \Delta R_{e,n} & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T, \\ \text{s.t. } &-0.1R_{e,0} \leq \Delta R_{e,i} \leq 0.1R_{e,0}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

Guarantee minimized worst-case error  
under all possible degree of uncertainties!

# Method: Robust $H_\infty$ Observer

Robust  $H_\infty$  observer: solving linear matrix inequality (LMI)

$$\min_F \max_{\omega \in [0, +\infty), \Delta R_e} \|G_{eu}(j\omega)\|_2$$

If  $\Delta B$  belongs to a polytope:  $\Delta B = \sum_j^q \alpha_j B_j, \quad \alpha_j \geq 0, \quad \sum_j^q \alpha_j = 1,$

$$\min_{R, X, M, N, D_h, \gamma^2} \gamma^2$$

$$s.t. \begin{bmatrix} RA + A^T R & RA + A^T X + C^T Z^T + M^T & R \Delta B_j & W^T - C^T D_h^T - N^T \\ * & A^T X + XA + C^T Z^T + ZC & XB + ZD & W^T - C^T D_h^T \\ * & * & -\mathbf{I} & -D^T D_h^T \\ * & * & * & -\gamma^2 \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} < 0,$$

$$\forall j = 1, 2, \dots, q$$

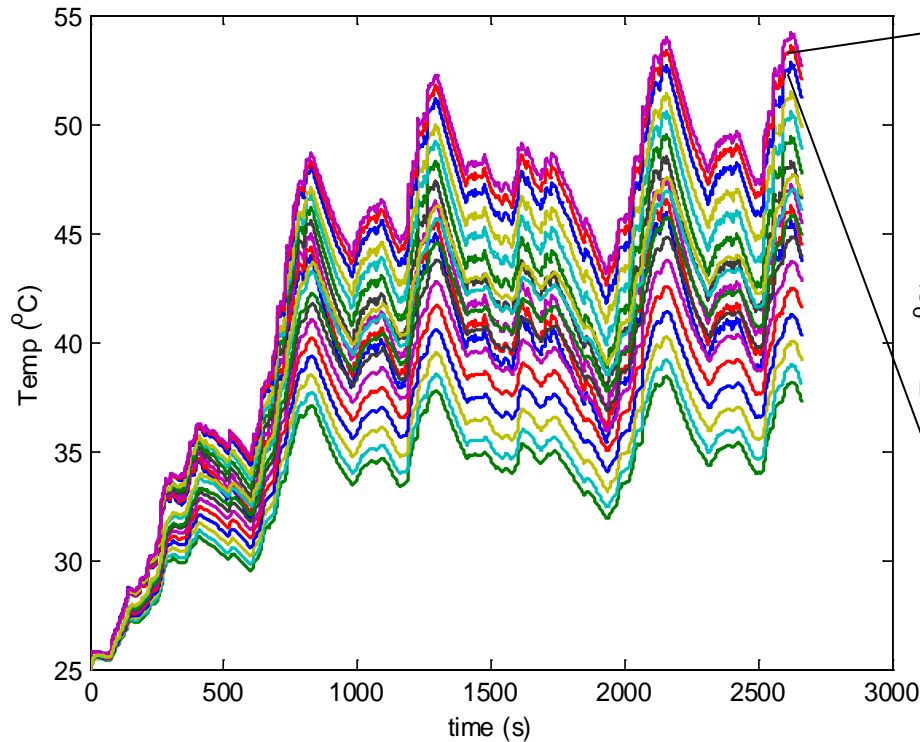
$$R - X < 0$$

In our case:  $\Delta B_j = \frac{1}{C_c} [\Delta R_{e,1} \quad 0 \quad \Delta R_{e,2} \quad 0 \quad \dots \quad \Delta R_{e,n} \quad 0]^T,$

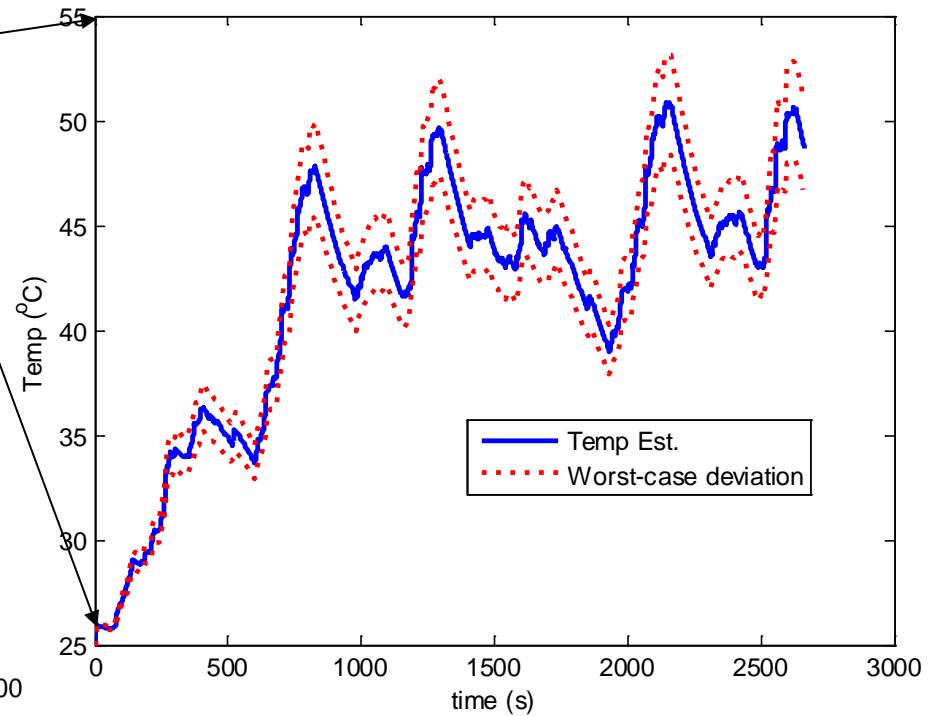
$$\Delta R_{e,i} \in \{0.1R_{e,0}, -0.1R_{e,0}\}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Lin, Ph.D. Dissertation  
Lin, et al., ASME DSCC 2014

# Observer Performance



Estimated Temperature Distribution in the pack (core and surface T of each cell)



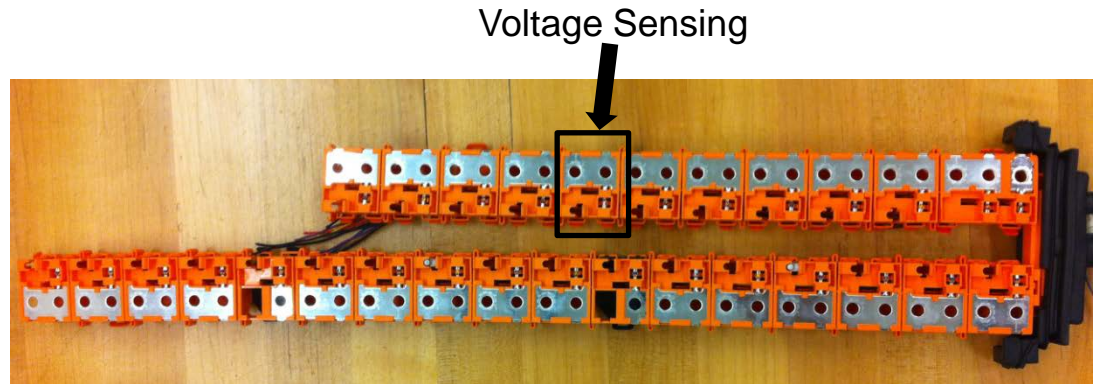
Worst-case Estimation Deviation Under the 10% Resistance Uncertainty

# Outline

---

- **System-level battery management**
  - Temperature estimation of battery system
  - **Reduced battery voltage sensing**
- **Physics-based Investigation and Modeling**
  - Neutron Imaging
- **Work Experiences at Ford Motor Company**
  - EV DC fast charging system
  - University collaboration

# SOC Estimation Under Reduced Voltage Sensing



- **Issue: Too much voltage sensing**
  - Need to measure the voltage of single cells
  - For overvoltage protection
- **Disadvantages:**
  - High cost and complexity
  - Difficulty for maintenance
- **Solution: reduced voltage sensing**
  - Measuring the total voltage instead of cell voltage
  - Estimating the cell voltage from the total voltage

*Are sensors such a big deal?  
Yes for auto industry!*



# Problem Formulation

## Two cells in series

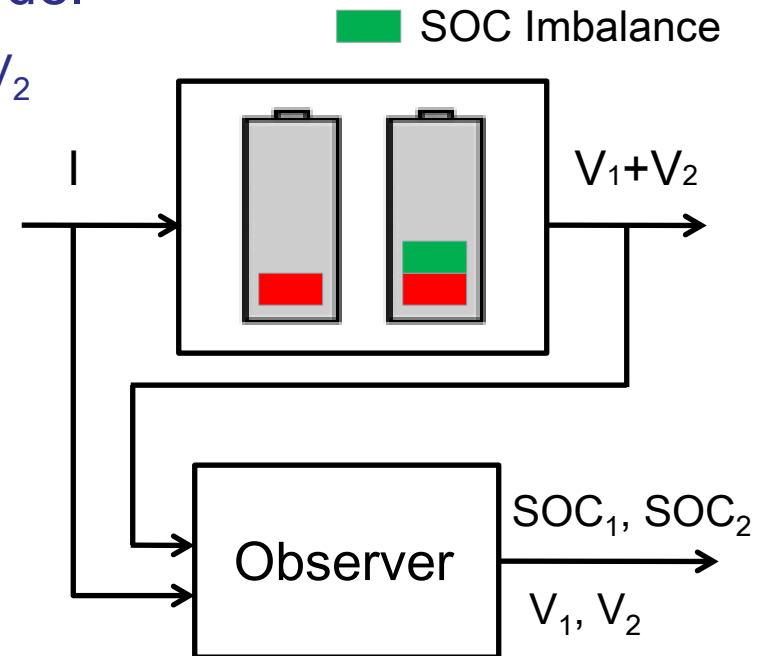
- $x_1 \neq x_2$  (SOC: state of charge)
- Analysis using a battery electrical model
- Goal: to estimate  $x_1, x_2$  based on  $V_1 + V_2$

$$x_{1,k} = x_{1,k-1} + \frac{I_{k-1}\Delta t}{Q}, \quad V_{1,k} = g(x_{1,k}) + IR$$

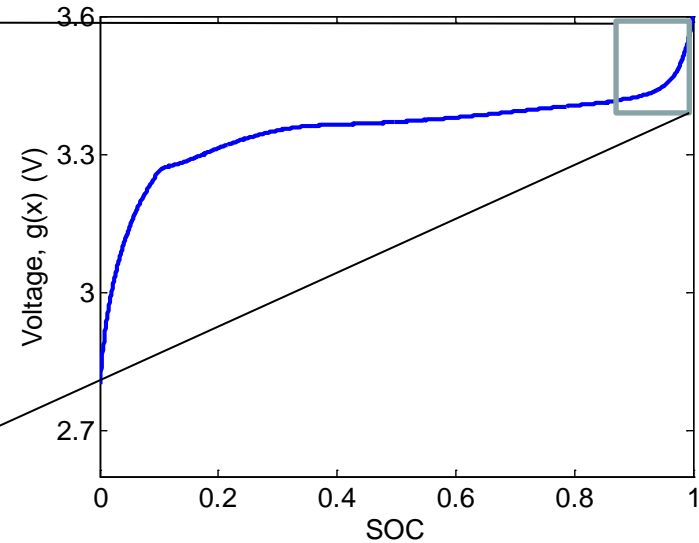
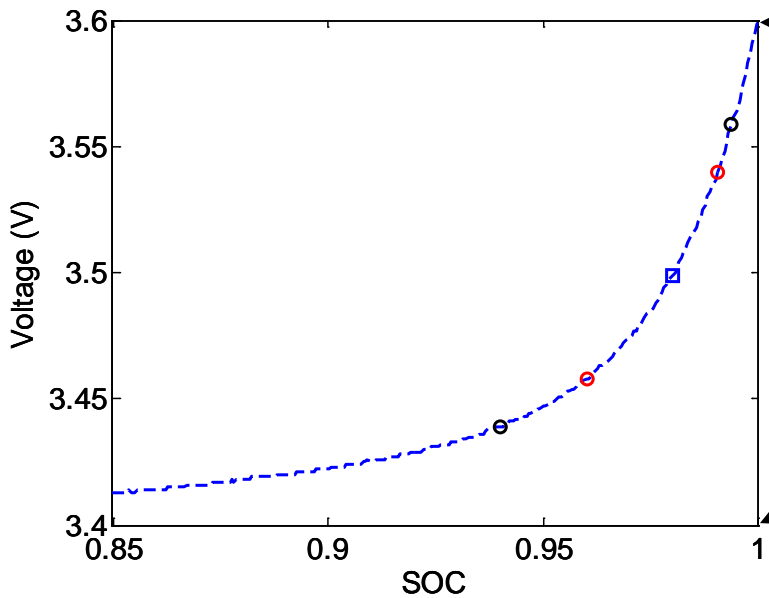
$$x_{2,k} = x_{2,k-1} + \frac{I_{k-1}\Delta t}{Q}, \quad V_{2,k} = g(x_{2,k}) + IR$$

$$x_{str,k} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{1,k} & x_{2,k} \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$V_{str,k} = V_{1,k} + V_{2,k} = g(x_{1,k}) + g(x_{2,k}) + 2IR$$



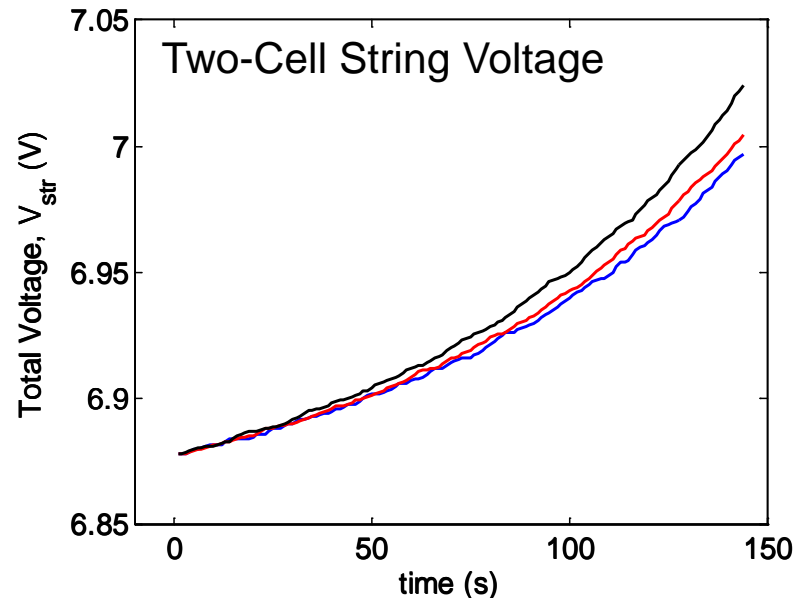
# Feasibility?



## Consider 3 combinations:

- $SOC_1 = SOC_2 = 0.94$
- $SOC_1 = 0.92, SOC_2 = 0.952$
- $SOC_1 = 0.9, SOC_2 = 0.958$

Single point: indistinguishable.  
Trajectory: distinguishable.



# Math Underpinning: Observability

## Total voltage trajectory based on the string model

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} \delta V_{str,k} \\ \delta V_{str,k+1} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} g'(x_{1,k}) & g'(x_{2,k}) \\ g'(x_{1,k} + \frac{I_k \Delta t}{Q}) & g'(x_{2,k} + \frac{I_k \Delta t}{Q}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta x_{1,k} \\ \delta x_{2,k} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= O(x_{str,k}) \delta x_{str,k} \end{aligned}$$

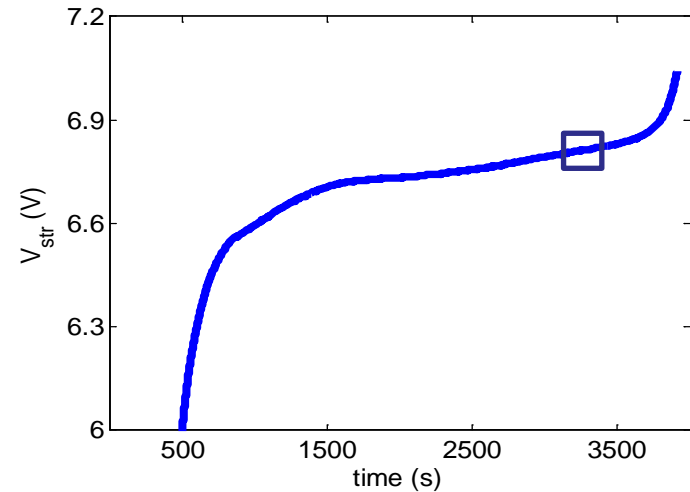
To be observable,  $\delta x_{str,k}$  and  $(\delta V_{str,k}, \delta V_{str,k+1})$  needs to be an one-to-one mapping, meaning that  $O(x_{str,k})$  should be of full rank.

$$\begin{aligned} O(x_{str,k}) &= \begin{bmatrix} g'(x_{1,k}) & g'(x_{2,k}) \\ g'(x_{1,k} + \frac{I_k \Delta t}{Q}) & g'(x_{2,k} + \frac{I_k \Delta t}{Q}) \end{bmatrix} && \text{Observability Matrix} \\ \Leftrightarrow & \begin{bmatrix} g'(x_{1,k}) & g'(x_{2,k}) \\ g''(x_{1,k}) \frac{I}{Q} & g''(x_{2,k}) \frac{I}{Q} \end{bmatrix} && \text{Nonlinear observability:} \\ & && \text{2}^{\text{nd}} \text{ order gradient of } g(x) \end{aligned}$$

# Algorithm

## Trajectory-based method: Moving Horizon Observer

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_{str,0} \\ \dots \\ V_{str,k} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} g(x_{1,0}) + g(x_{2,0}) \\ g(x_{1,0} + \frac{I_0 \Delta t}{Q}) + g(x_{2,0} + \frac{I_0 \Delta t}{Q}) \\ \dots \\ g(x_{1,0} + \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} I_i \Delta t}{Q}) + g(x_{2,0} + \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} I_i \Delta t}{Q}) \end{bmatrix} = H(x_{str,0})$$



Use Newton's method to calculate  $x_{str,0}$  iteratively:

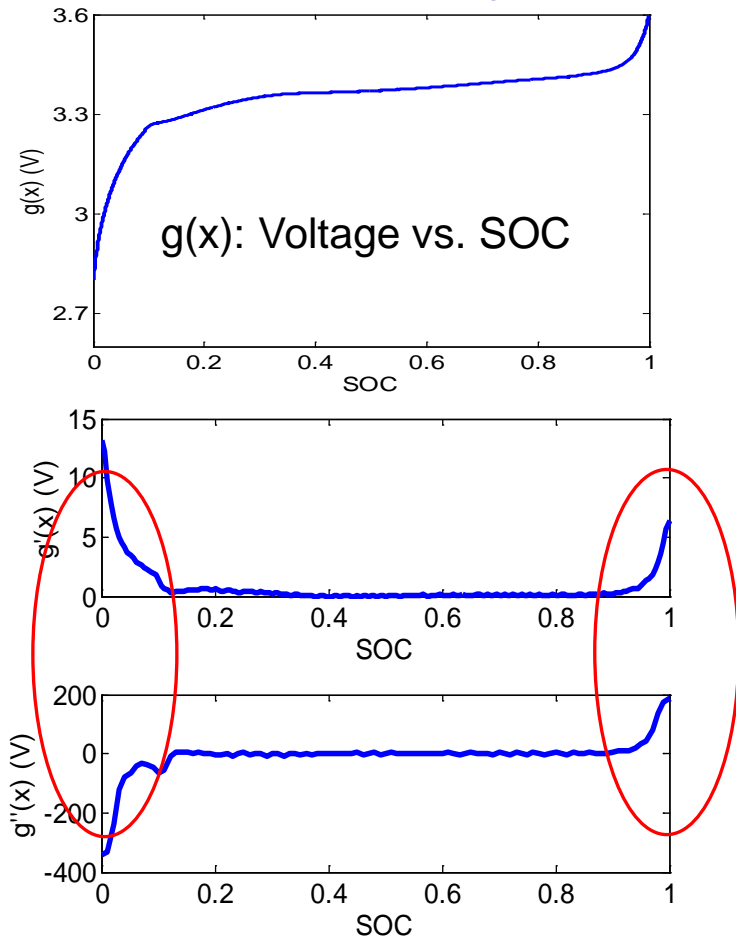
$$\tilde{x}_{str,0}^{j+1} = \tilde{x}_{str,0}^j + \left[ \frac{\partial H}{\partial x_{str,0}} (\tilde{x}_{str,0}^j, I_{[0,k]}) \right]^{-1} (V_{str,[0,k]} - H(\tilde{x}_{str,0}^j, I_{[0,k]}))$$

Lin, et al., IEEE Control Systems and Technology 2014

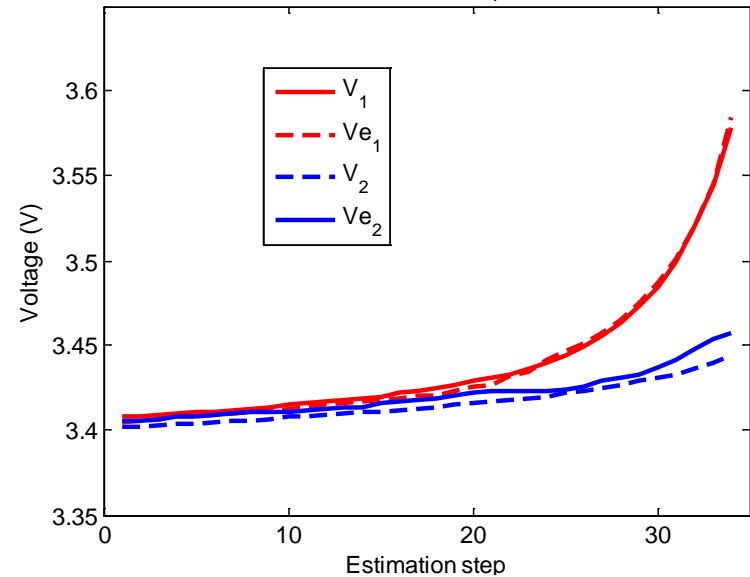
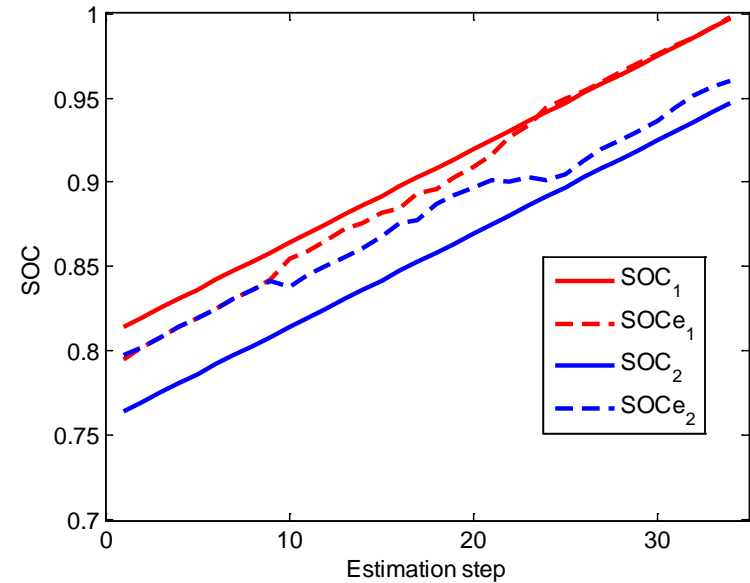
Lin, et al., American Control Conference 2013

# Application to Actual Battery

## A123 LiFePO4 battery:



The SOC's are observable in high and low SOC ranges due to non-zero 2<sup>nd</sup> order gradient!



# Summary: System-Level Battery Management

---

## Battery Pack Temperature Estimation

- Thermal Model:
  - Capture surface and core temperatures of all cells in the pack
- Online parameter ID algorithm:
  - Determine parameters by using onboard signals
- Robust Observer design:
  - Guarantee minimized worst-case estimation error under uncertainty

## SOC and Voltage Estimation under Reduced Voltage Sensing:

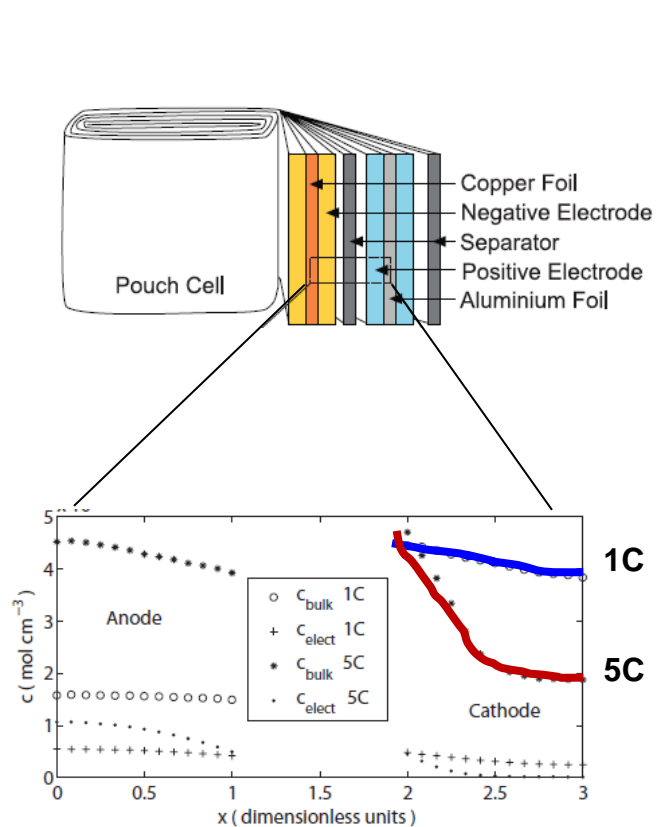
- Observability Analysis:
  - Establish the conditions for the cell SOC to be observable
- Nonlinear Observer Design:
  - Trajectory-based moving horizon observer ...
- Extension to cell capacity and resistance estimation

# Outline

---

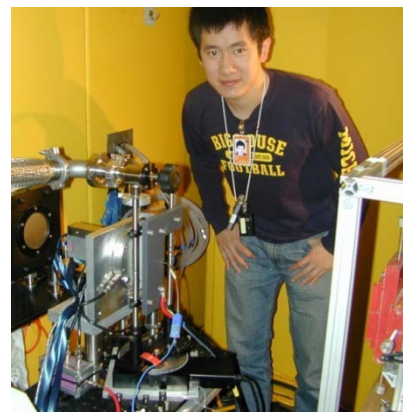
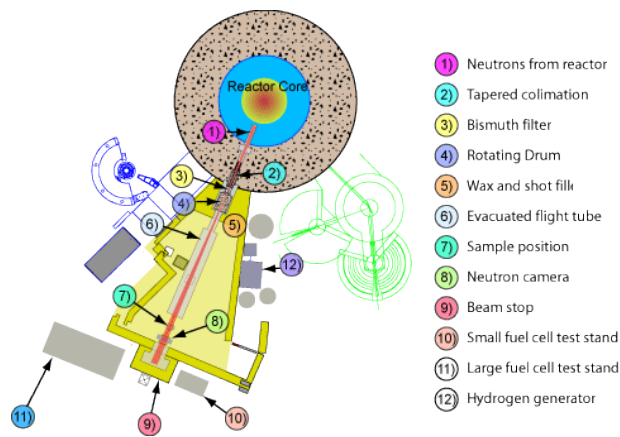
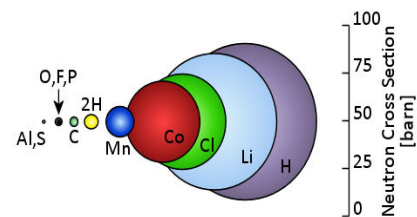
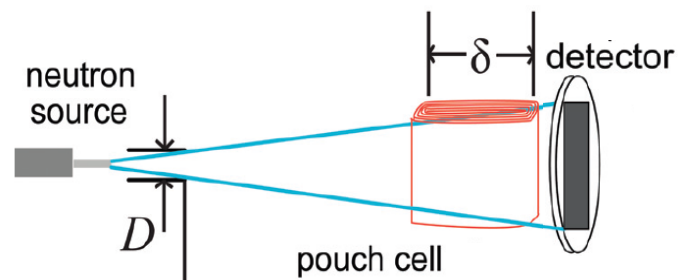
- **System-level battery management**
  - Temperature estimation of battery system
  - Reduced battery voltage sensing
- **Physics-based Investigation and Modeling**
  - Neutron Imaging
- **Work Experiences at Ford Motor Company**
  - EV DC fast charging system
  - University collaboration

# Neutron Imaging of Li-ion Battery



lithium distribution inside battery

Siegel, Lin, et al., *J. Electrochemical Soc.* 2011  
 Siegel, Lin, et al., *American Control Conference* 2011  
 Siegel, Lin, et al., *American Control Conference* 2012





# Design and Fabrication of Battery Cells

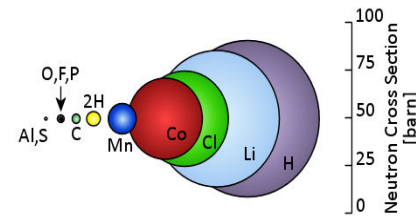
## Why we made our own cells?

- customize shape/dimension
- to know/control composition
- need special materials

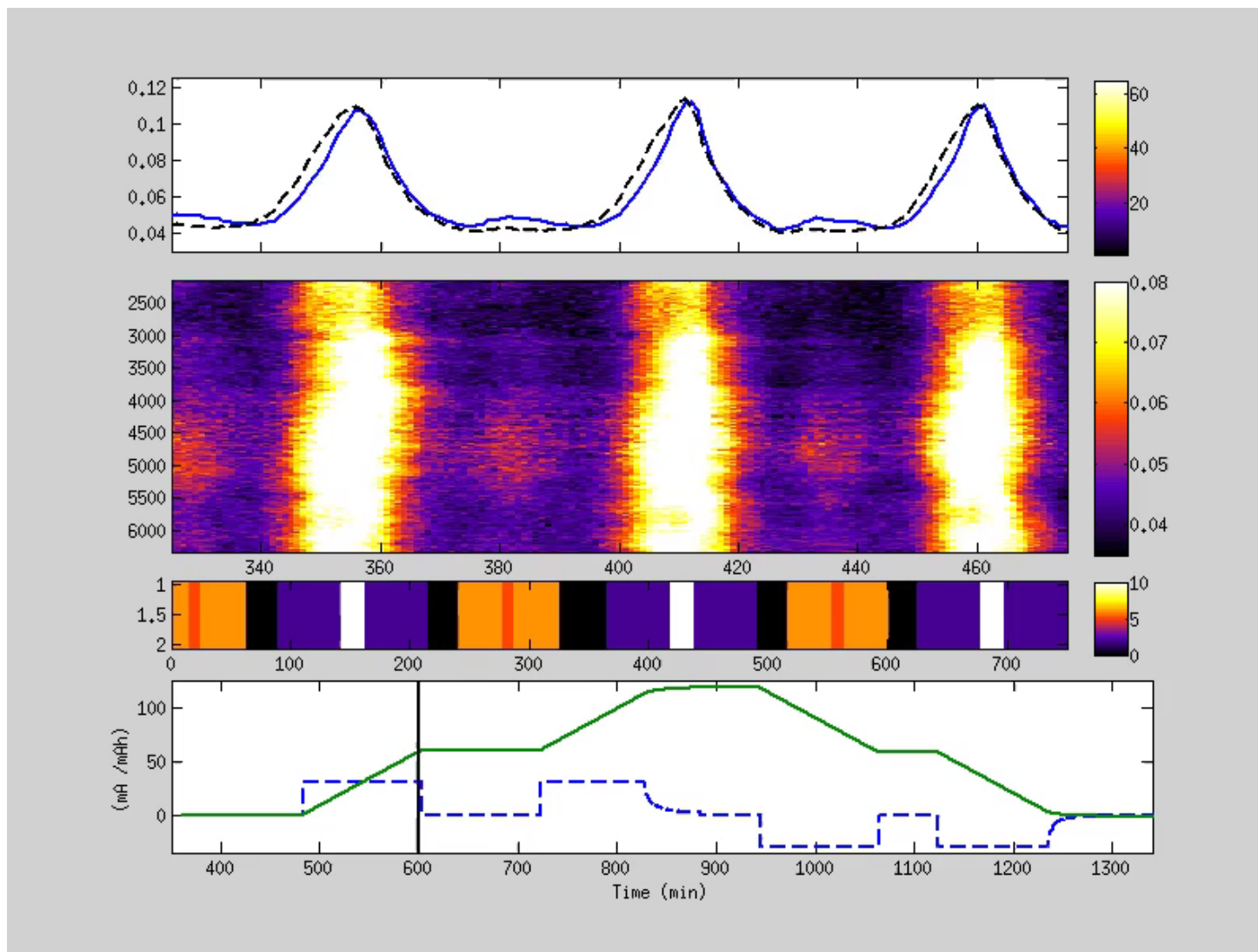


## Procedures:

- Start with: LMO, graphite...
- Mix and Grind
- Dissolve and make paste
- Paste on the mold
- Bake and dry up
- Assemble inside glove box



# Processed Lithium Concentration



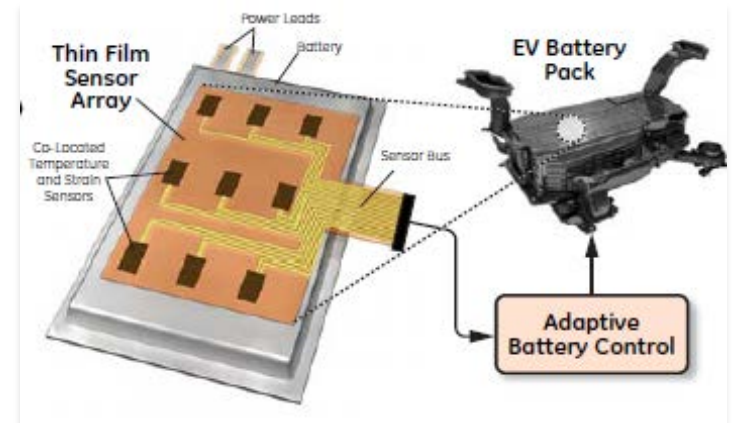
# Outline

---

- **System-level battery management**
  - Temperature estimation of battery system
  - Reduced battery voltage sensing
- **Physics-based Investigation and Modeling**
  - Neutron Imaging
- **Work Experiences at Ford Motor Company**
  - EV DC fast charging system
  - University collaboration

# Work Experiences at Ford

- **Applying the system-level BMS to EVs**
- **EV systems and components development**
  - EV DC Fast Charging System
    - Charging 80% range in 20 minutes
- **University Collaboration:**
  - UMich, GE: ARPA-E AMPED
    - Battery control based on strain/temp sensing
  - Ohio State: Ford URP
    - Aging propagation in battery packs



# Questions?