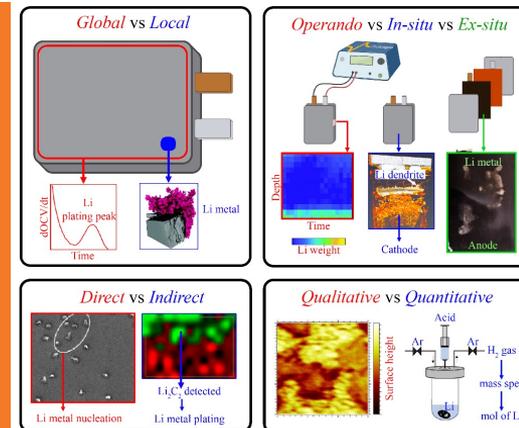


# eXtreme Fast Charge Cell Evaluation of Lithium-Ion Batteries (XCEL)

## METHODS FOR THE DETECTION AND QUANTIFICATION OF LITHIUM PLATING



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SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory

This presentation does not contain any proprietary, confidential, or otherwise restricted information

# OVERVIEW

## Timeline

- Start: October 1, 2017
- End: September 30, 2021
- Percent Complete: 94%

## Budget

- Funding for FY20 – \$5.6M

## Barriers

- Cell degradation during fast charge
- Low energy density and high cost of fast charge cells

## Partners

- Argonne National Laboratory
- Idaho National Laboratory
- Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
- National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- SLAC National Accelerator Lab
- Oak Ridge National Lab

# Relevance

## Impact

- Decrease charging time without sacrificing lifetime
- Connect Li plating to cell degradation mechanisms
- Identify and mitigate unfavorable Li plating to reduce capacity fade from extreme fast charging (XFC)

## Objectives

- Develop approaches to accurately detect and quantify Li deposition during extreme fast charge conditions
- Link detection of onset of Li with cell performance, age, and local heterogeneity

# MILESTONES

## High level Li detection related milestones in XCEL

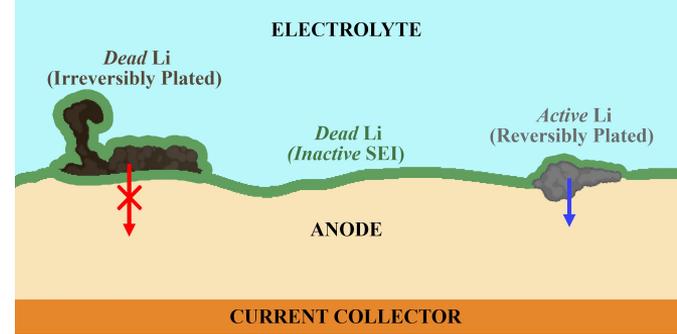
Milestone	End Date	Status
1. Determine where the lost Li inventory is trapped using a combination of at least two Li detection techniques.	12/31/2020	Completed
2. Submit review paper on Li detection techniques which will outline where each technique is in terms of detection accuracy and correlations between multiple techniques.	12/31/2020	Completed
3. Connect “dead Li” to cycling age and determine if dead Li accelerates additional Li plating. Understand how intentional Li plating in the first few cycles affects future capacity fade during standard CCCV cycling.	6/30/2021	On Track
4. Identify if and what are the early warning signs of Li plating for different Li detection techniques. Identify which detection techniques that could be incorporated on a vehicle.	6/30/2021	On Track
5. Determine if the hero cell-1 plates less Li or later in life or SOC compared to R-II cells?	9/30/2021	On Track

Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels

# Approach

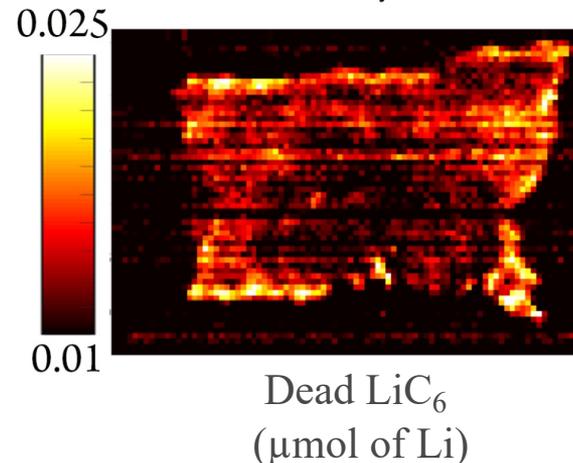
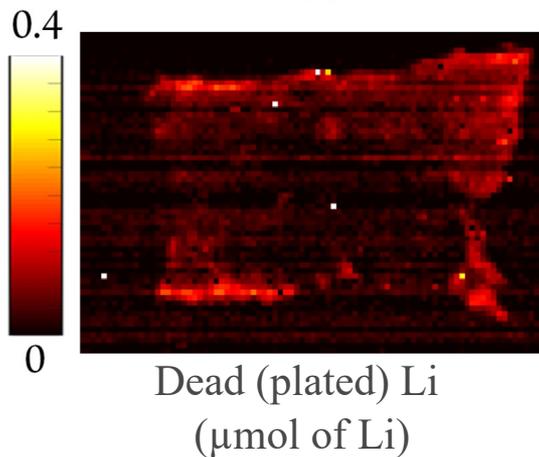
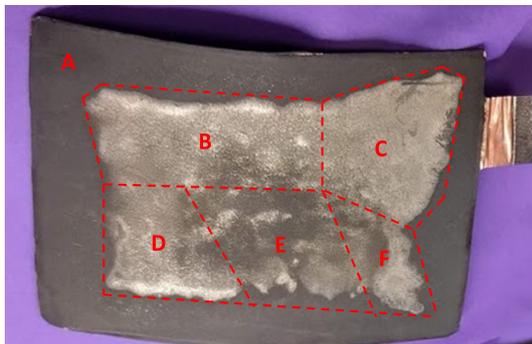
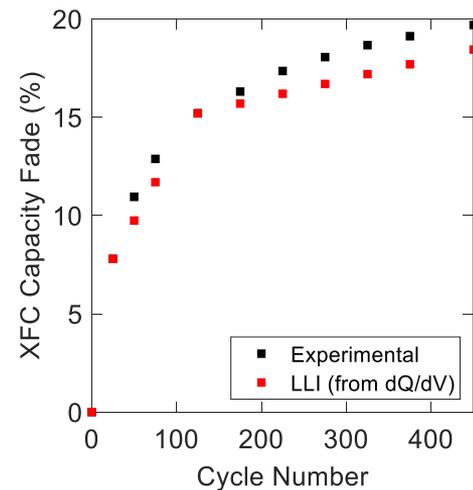
Leveraging different Li detection techniques to answer:

- Where is the lost Li inventory trapped?
  - Combine multiple detection techniques to gain holistic understanding of degradation processes during fast charge
- What *operando*, readily accessible techniques could be used for early detection?
  - Explore inexpensive, non-invasive detection & connect to modeling
- Will a small amount of Li plating result in irreversible damage contributing to cell failure?



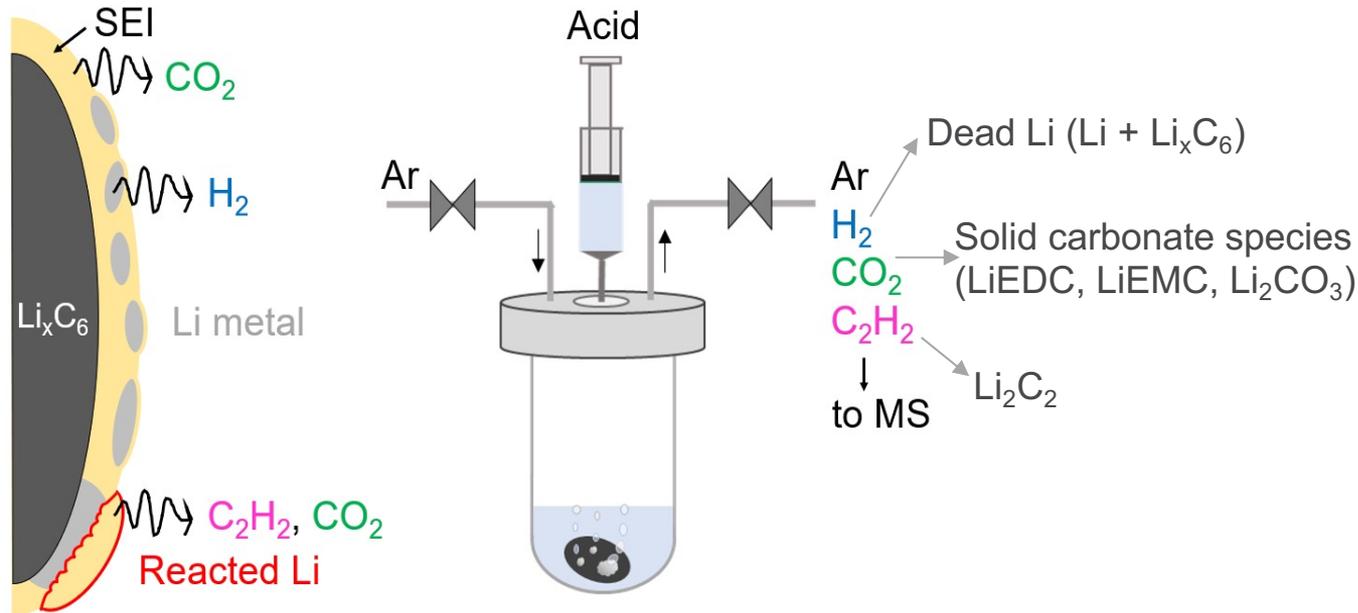
# XRD quantification of dead Li

- Depth-averaged XRD gives 'quantitative' spatial maps of crystalline Li-containing species
- When summed up over the cell, we can get the total amount of such species over the cell

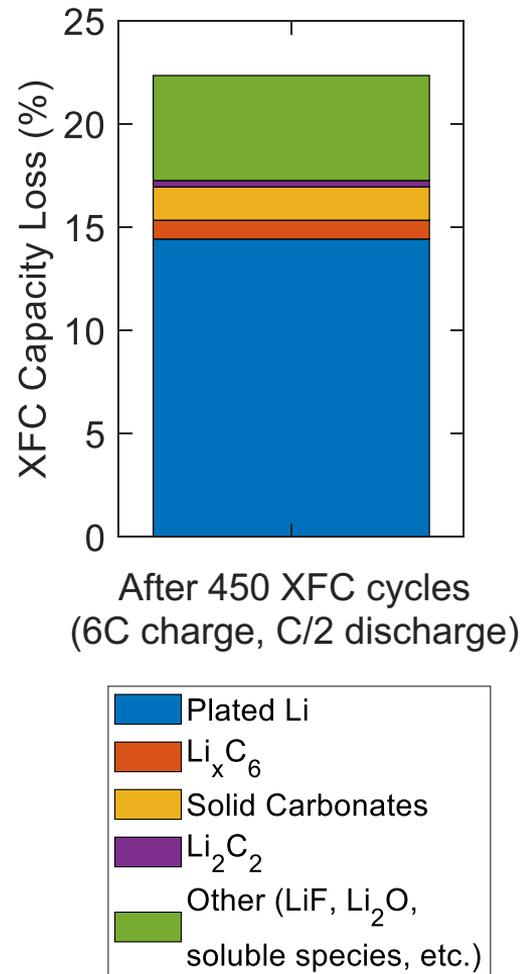


NMC532/Graphite Round 2  
pouch cell after 450 XFC

# Mass Spectrometry Titration (MST)

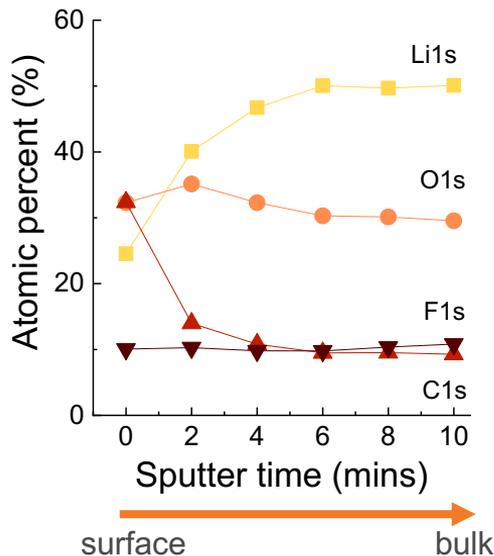


Graphite anodes from NMC532/Gr  
Round 2 pouch cell after 450 XFC

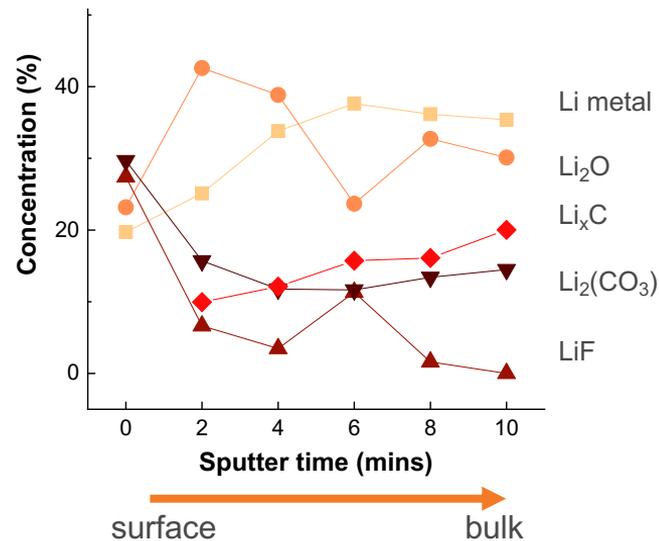


# Other Li species – XPS depth profiling

## Atomic concentration from surface to bulk



## Detailed peak fitting of Li1s region

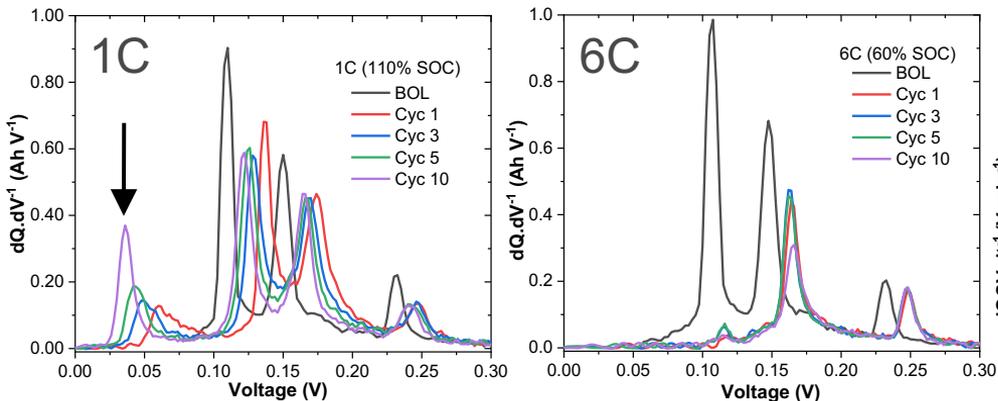


- Cannot compare same electrode as MST and XPS depth profiling are destructive
- But estimate of undetectable species (LiF, Li<sub>2</sub>O, etc.) reasonable

# dQ/dV and dOCV sensitive to cycling conditions

dQ/dV:

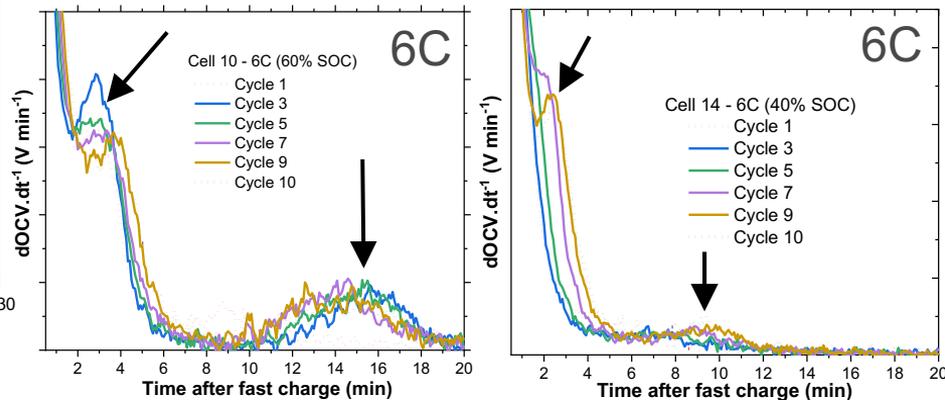
- reliable at low C-rates
- disappears at moderate/high rates



increasing C-rate

dOCV/dt:

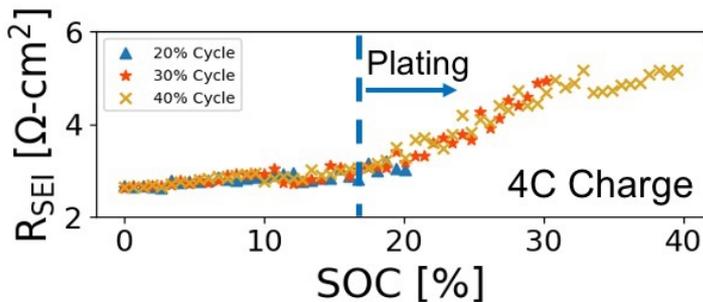
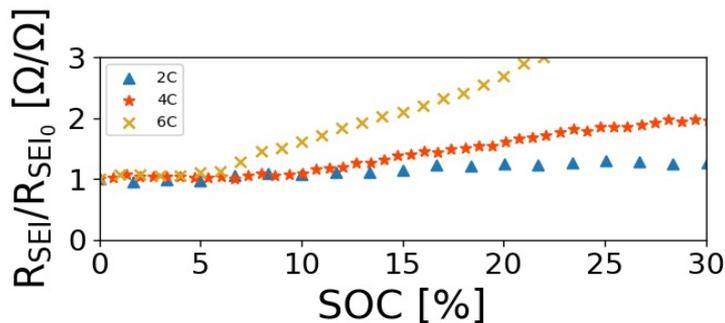
- reliable at low & moderate C-rates
- signal highly variable at high C-rates and disappears after a few cycles



For confident detection, need multi-modal EC approach that includes modeling

# Galvanostatic impedance

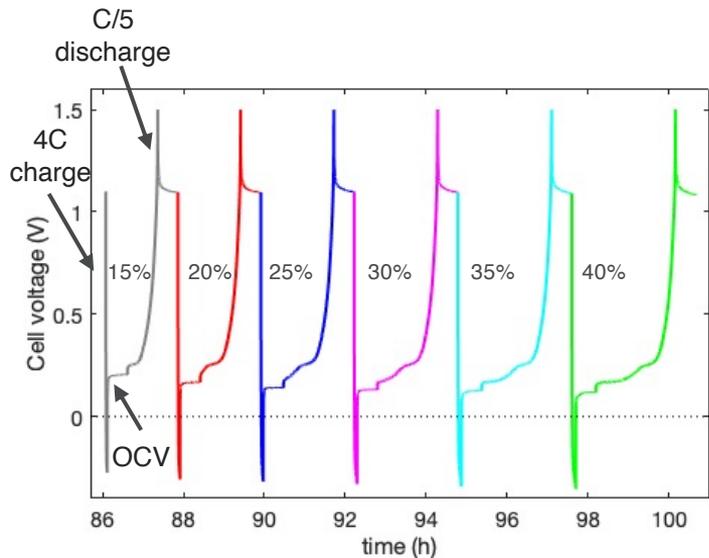
## Measure impedance *during* fast charging



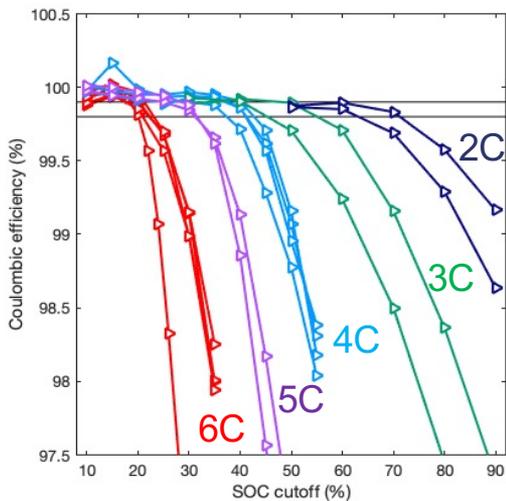
- Fast impedance scans ( $\sim 6$  s/scan) at up to 6C
- Increase in graphite solid electrolyte interphase resistance ( $R_{SEI}$ ) indicates plating
- Cross-validation with MST suggests detection sensitivity:  $< 0.5\%$  of graphite
- Ongoing work:
  - Implement in 2 electrode full cells
  - Detection of plating in aged cells
  - Detection during CCCV (currently only CC)

# SOC sweep protocol to detect onset with CE's

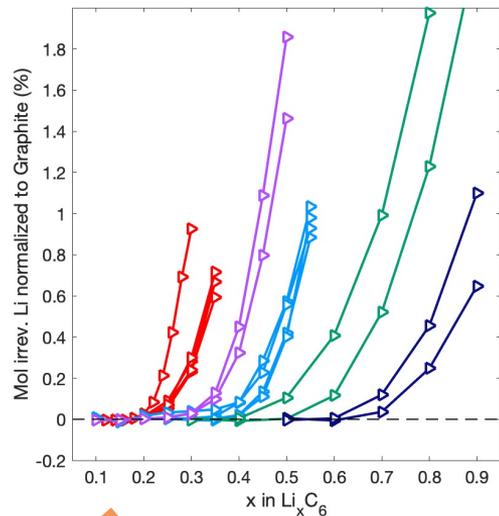
Graphite/Li coincell to determine Li plating onset during CC charging



Repeat for different C-rates



Normalized irrev. Li plating



Convert CE% to normalized irreversible Li plating

## Protocol overview

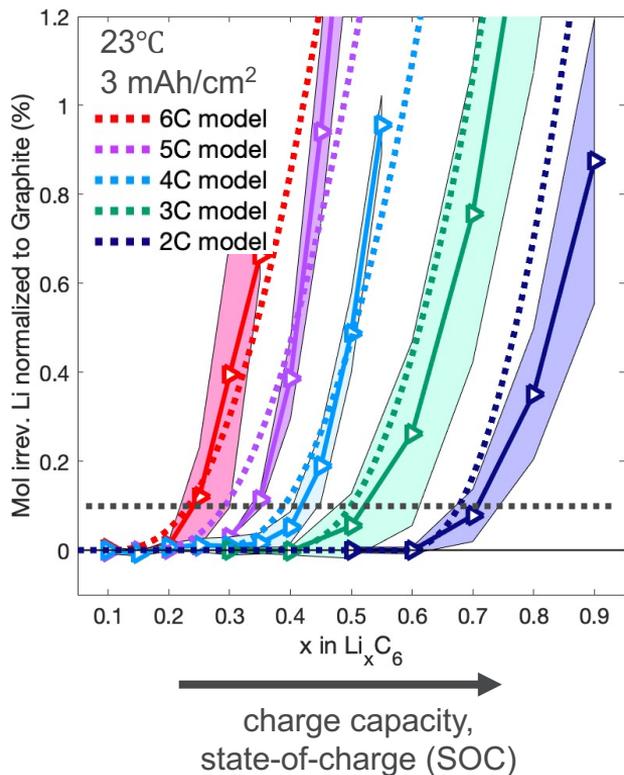
Three C/10 formation

Fast charge cycling at 5-10% increments

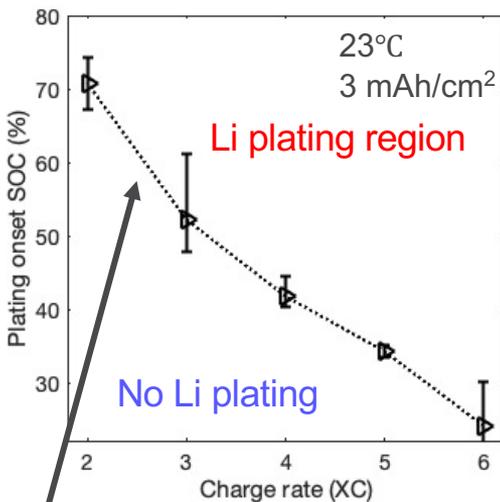
All C/5 deintercalation, OCV between steps

# Li plating onset with CE experiments & modeling

Estimate irreversible Li plating from coulombic inefficiencies

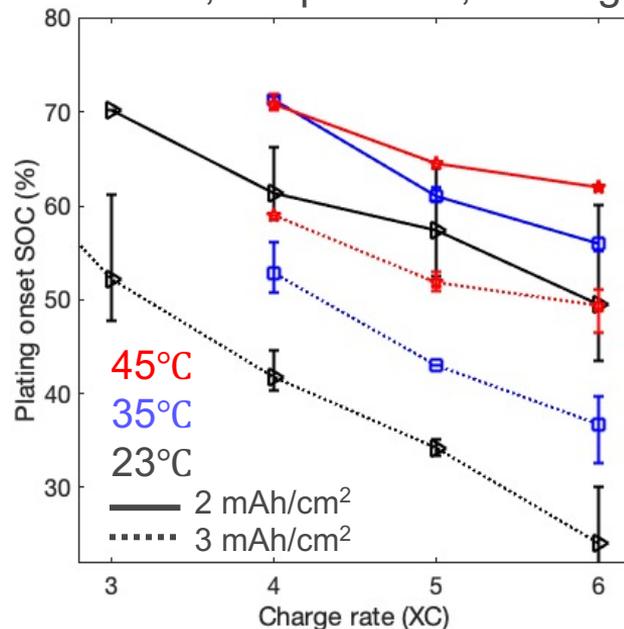


Mapping Li plating onset



Define 0.1 mol% as the onset

Onset as a function of: C-rate, temperature, loading

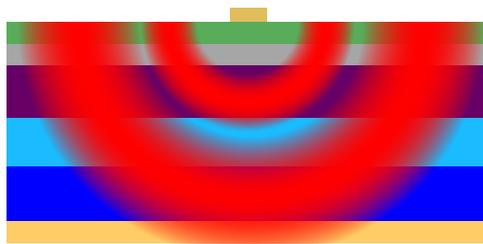


**Model development will be invaluable for full-cell plating predictions**

# Map Li Concentration Gradient in Anode

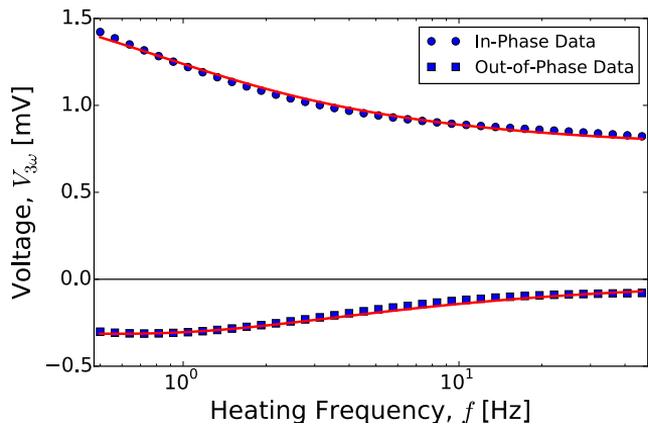
Stronger gradient precursor to Li plating

thermal wave sensor:

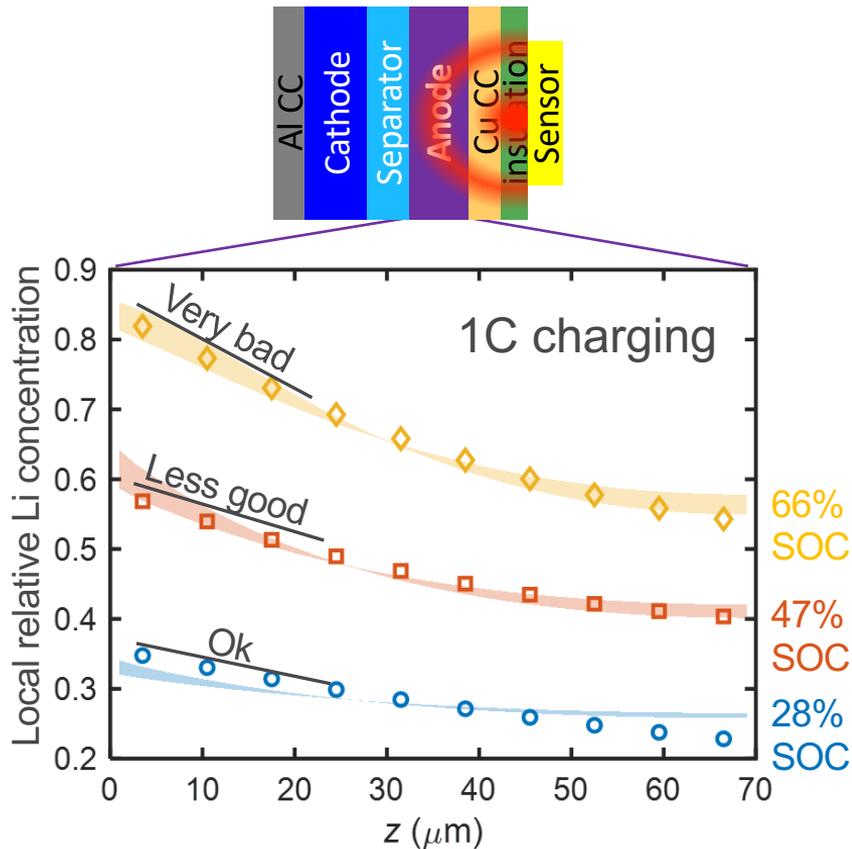


Typically  
0.01 Hz – 100 Hz

cross section view

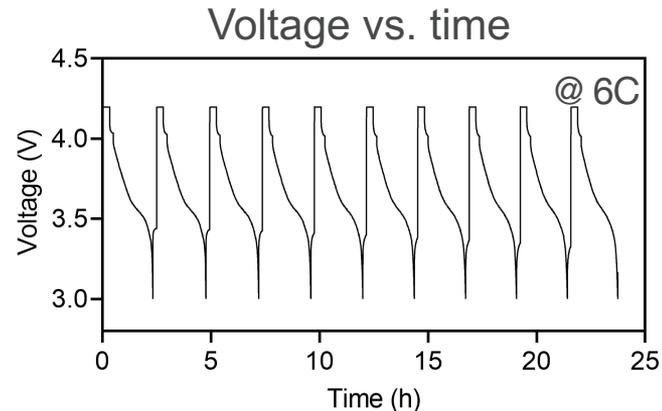
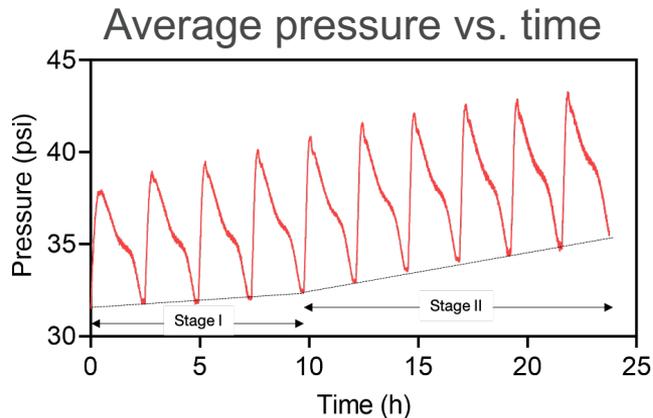
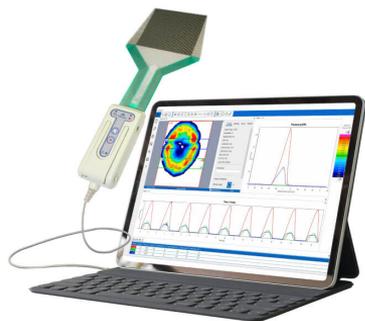
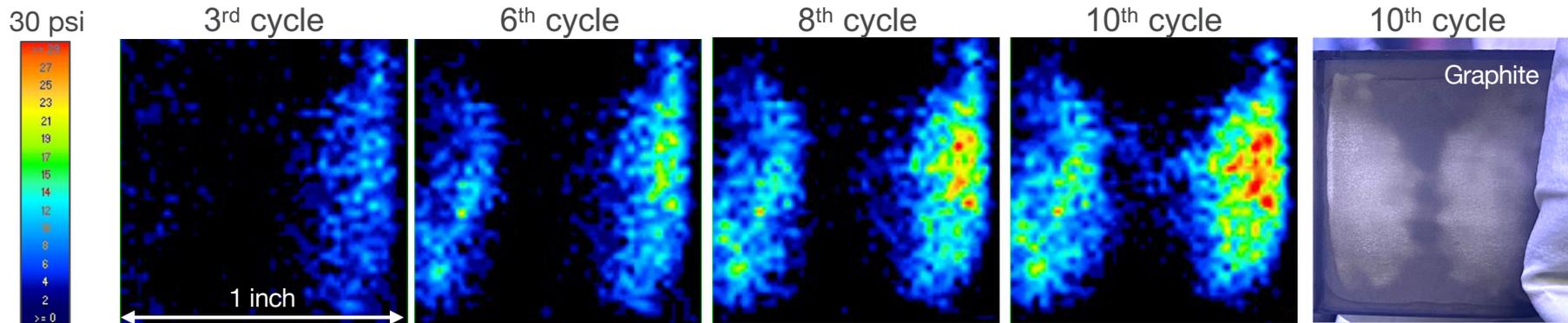


Points = sensor measurements  
Shading = agnostic predictions from  
electrochemical simulations



# Pressure evolution with cycling

Pressure changes at discharged state correlate with dead Li



# Does Li plating create irreversible damage?

## Preliminary electrochemical results for two cases studied

- Case 1: plate small amount of Li then cycle cell under “safe” (no plating) conditions

- No additional Li is plated while cycling
- No effect on long term capacity



- Case 2: repeatedly expose cell to plating conditions

- Each cycle results in more irreversible plating per exposure



- **Preliminary conclusion:** small amounts of Li plating may not necessarily trigger cell failure

**System:** Coin-cells (no spring)  
LFP vs. Round 1 graphite (N/P <<1)

# Responses to previous year reviewers' comments

*Not reviewed last year*

# COLLABORATION ACROSS LABS AND UNIVERSITIES



Cell and electrode design and building, performance characterization, post-test, cell and atomistic modeling, cost modeling



Performance characterization, failure analysis, electrolyte modeling and characterization, Li detection, charging protocols



Li detection, electrode architecture, diagnostics



Thermal characterization, life modeling, micro and macro scale modeling, electrolyte modeling and characterization



Detailed Li plating kinetic models, SEI modeling

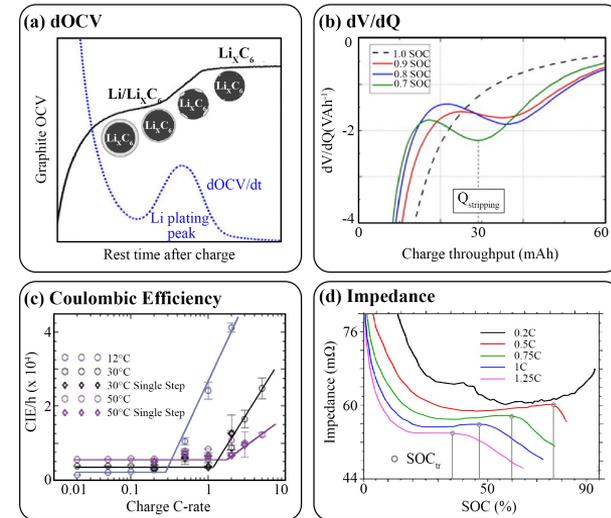


Li detection, novel separators, diagnostics



# Remaining Challenges and Barriers

- Does the nature of lost Li inventory (metal, SEI, etc.) correlate to capacity fade or cycling conditions?
- How can we use models in combination with electrochemistry techniques as a reliable, readily-accessible, multimodal Li detection technique?
  - Should work with both new and aged cells
  - Should work under realistic charging conditions
- Can we find a reliable predictor of Li plating?
- How does Li plating (and stripping efficiency) evolve with battery age



Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels

# Next steps

- Connect differences in SEI components and Li plating to capacity fade and cycle rate (XRD/MST analyses)
- Compare relative differences in SEI components with cycling temperature (30°C vs. 45°C) with XPS depth profiling
- Study reversibility of Li plating and  $\text{Li}_x\text{C}$  with XPS depth profiling and *in situ* XRD mapping
- Leverage models to extend the limitations of echem detection methods
- Quantify how much Li plating is acceptable before irreversible damage
- Compare Li plating conditions of “hero” cell compared to round 2 cells

Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels

# Summary

- Identify and contrast approaches to accurately detect and quantify Li plating during extreme fast charge conditions resulting in a review paper
- Holistic approach to determine where the lost Li inventory is trapped
- Shown standard electrochemical techniques don't work in all cycling conditions
  - Need to combine techniques and support with robust modeling
- Small amounts of reversible Li plating does not contribute to long term capacity fade

# CONTRIBUTORS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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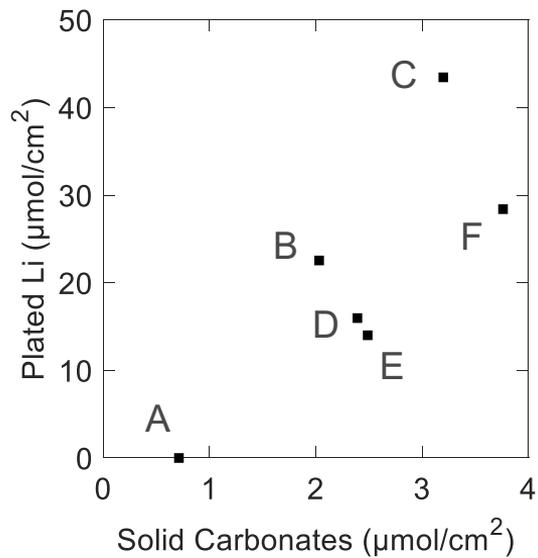
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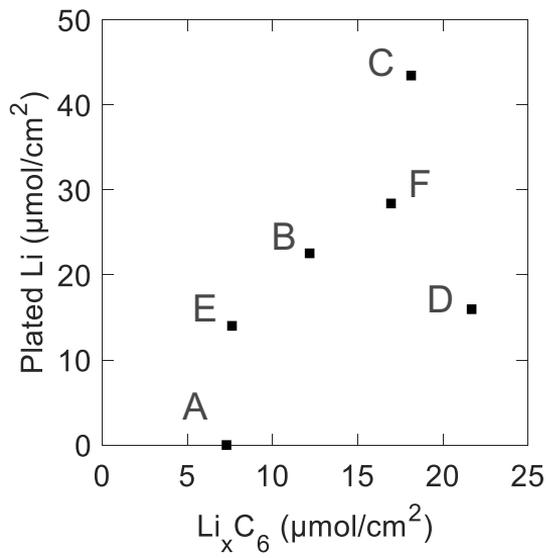


# TECHNICAL BACKUP SLIDES

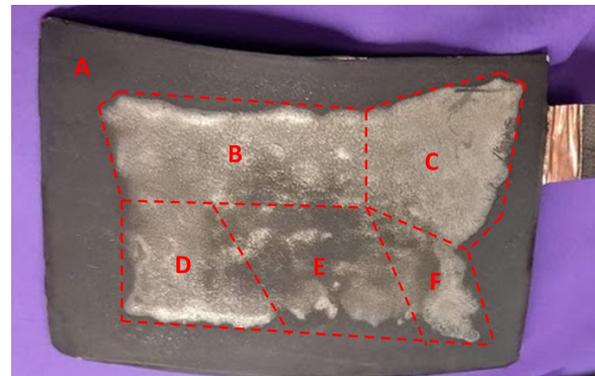
# Local Analysis: XRD & MST



Thicker solid carbonate layer in areas with plating

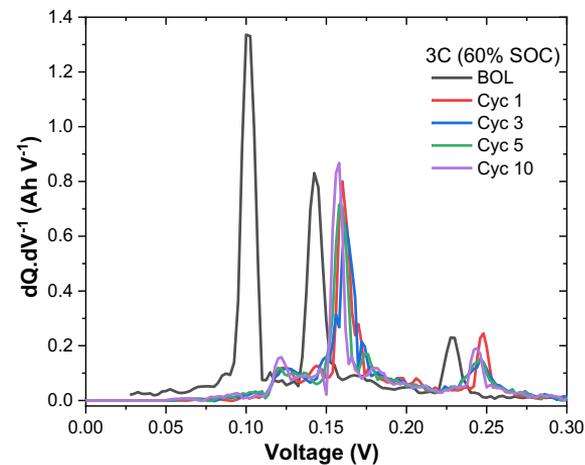
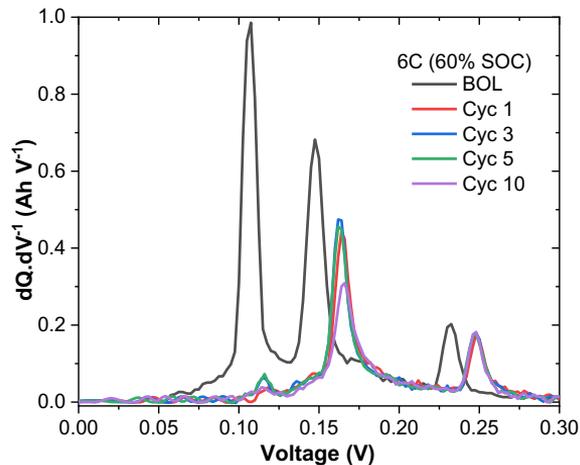
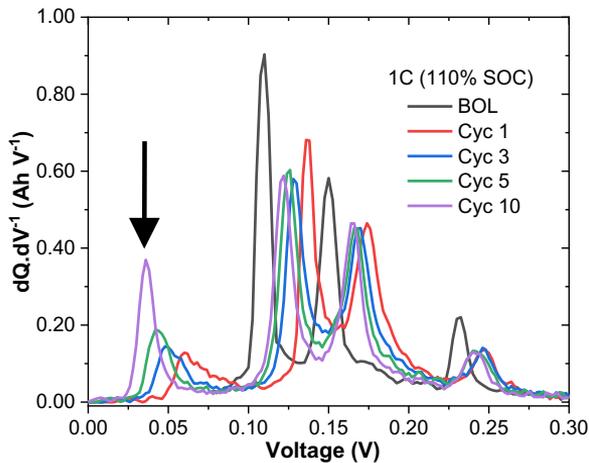


$\text{Li}_x\text{C}_6$  colocalized with plating



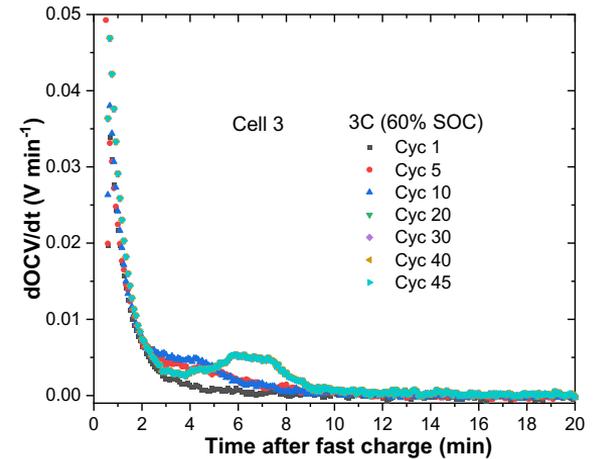
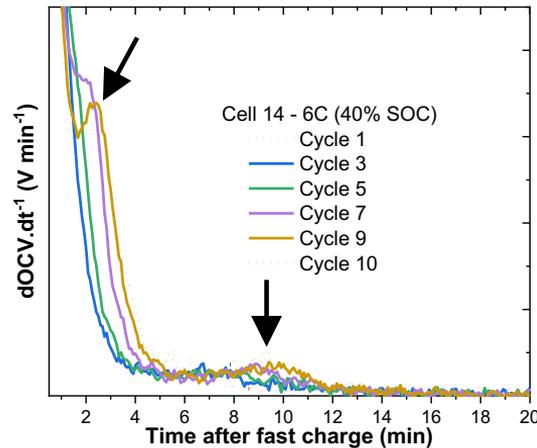
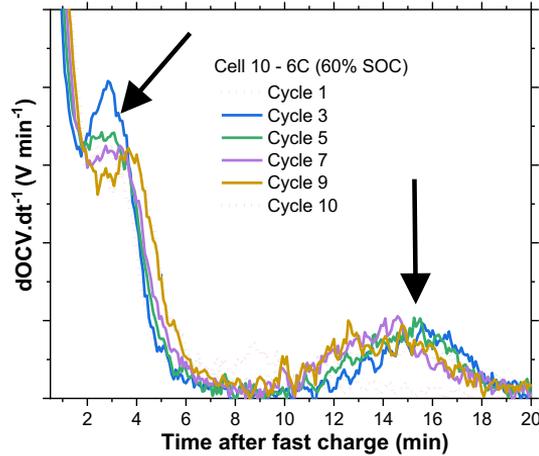
Ongoing work: Perform similar analyses on 3 additional electrodes with varying amounts of plating

# LITHIUM PLATING DETECTION



- Li plating detection with  $dQ/dV$  technique sensitive to cycling conditions
- Reliable at low C-rate conditions but disappears at moderate and high C-rate conditions even with Li plating

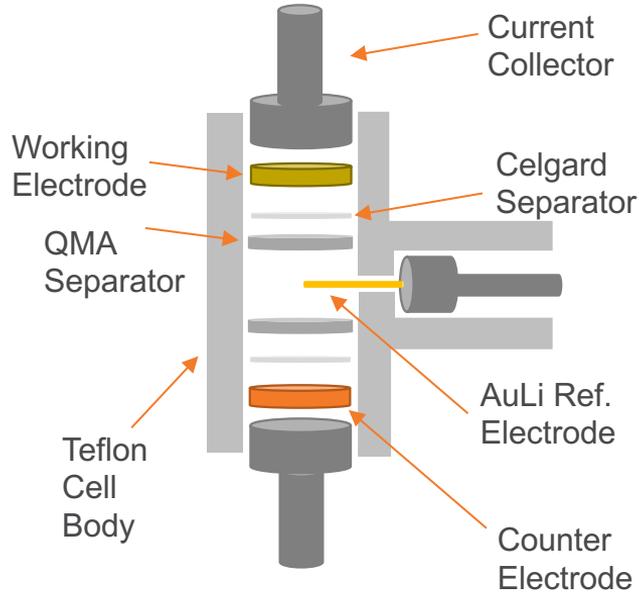
# LITHIUM PLATING DETECTION



- Li plating detection with dOCV/dt technique sensitive to cycling conditions
- Reliable at low and moderate C-rate conditions
- High C-rate conditions makes signal highly variable and vanishes after few cycles
- Multi-modal EC techniques helps to improve Li plating identification and improves confidence in EC detection sensitivity and reliability

# Galvanostatic impedance

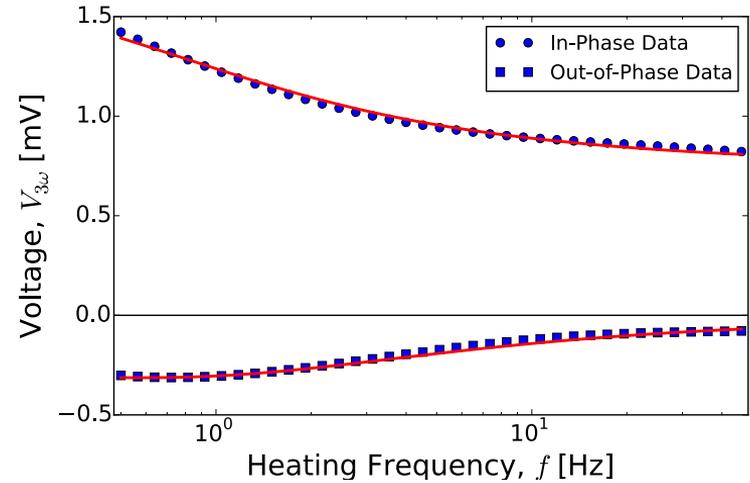
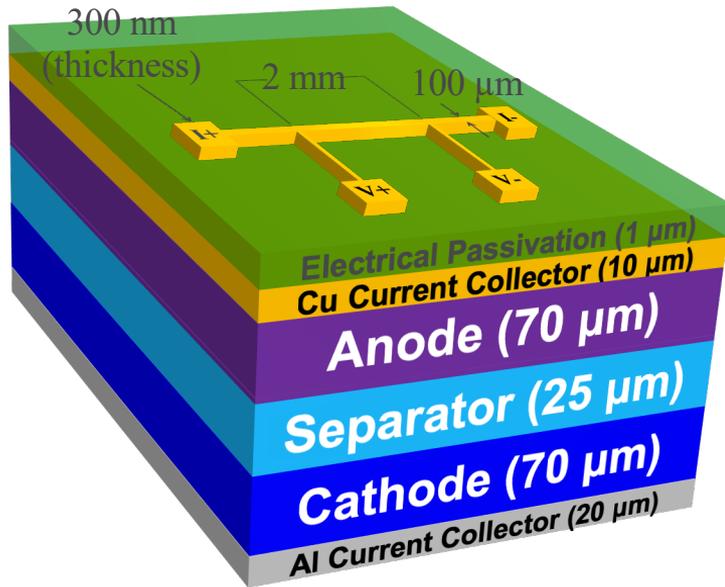
## Modified Swagelok-type cell



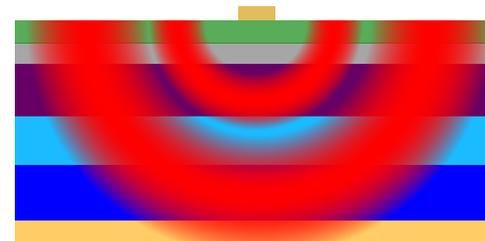
- Current work is in 3-electrodes cells
- We have also demonstrated that technique works, in principle, for 2-electrode full cells
- Implementing with CCCV cycling in future

# Thermal Wave Sensors

## Thermal wave frequency controls measurement



*Cross Section View*



Typically  
0.01 Hz – 100 Hz