



U.S.-CHINA CLEAN  
ENERGY RESEARCH CENTER  
中美清洁能源研究中心  
Clean Vehicle Consortium

# Update on US Activities

## US-China Clean Energy Research Center Clean Vehicles Consortium (CERC-CVC)

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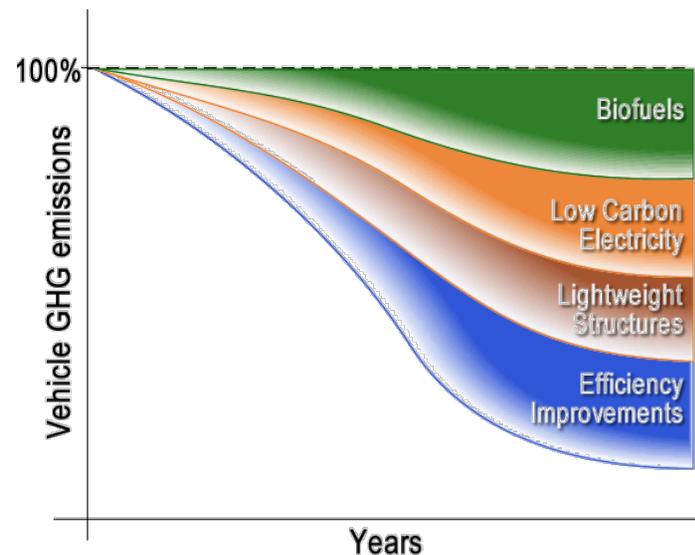
# CERC Objectives

“The objective of CERC-CVC is to contribute to *dramatic improvements in technologies with the potential to reduce the dependence of vehicles on oil and improve vehicle fuel efficiency*”

through the synergy of:

- **Vehicle electrification**
- **Novel energy storage materials**
- **Next-generation biofuels**
- **Lightweight structures**
- **Efficient energy conversion**

guided by a holistic life cycle design and optimization framework





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# Academic and National Lab Partners



U.S.



UNIVERSITY OF  
MICHIGAN



China





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# Industrial Partners



U.S.



DELPHI

DENSO

EATON



TOYOTA

HONDA



Aramco Services  
Company



China



JAC



CAERI



Potevio



ECTEK

KeyPower  
科易动力



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# Thrust Areas



1. Advanced  
Batteries and  
Energy  
Conversion



4. Lightweight  
Structures



2. Advanced  
Biofuels, Clean  
Combustion and  
APU



5. Vehicle-Grid  
Integration



3. Vehicle  
Electrification

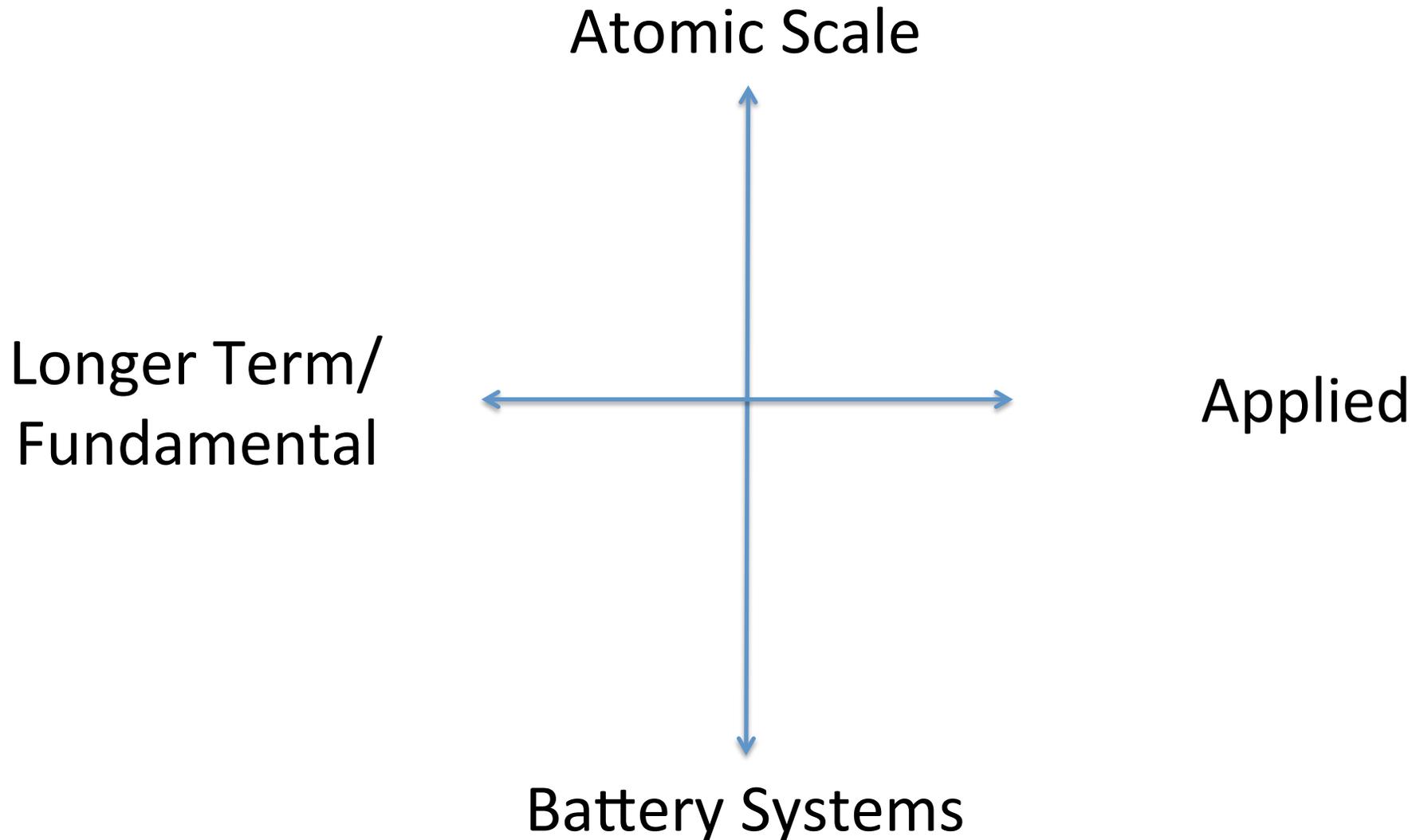


6. Energy  
Systems  
Analysis,  
Technology  
Roadmaps and  
Policies



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# Thrust Area Scope





# Battery Research Themes

## 1. Characterization of Degradation Mechanisms in Li-Ion Batteries

- Multi-scale Characterization of bulk degradation mechanisms
- Characterization of Solid Electrolyte Interfaces
- Computational study of degradation mechanisms resulting from phase transformations

## 2. High Energy Density Battery Chemistries

- Advanced Li-ion chemistries
- Li-sulfur batteries
- Metal-air batteries

## 3. Battery Implementation

- Safety
- Reuse & recycling
- Testing protocols & standardization

## 4. Modeling and control of Battery Systems

- Multi-scale modeling
- Control strategies and health management



# Progress Towards Goals

## Plan (2013)

- Leverage ORNL prototyping facility:
  - Manufacture LMR-NMC prototype cells
  - Distribute cells for analysis to partners
- Develop *in situ* capability to bridge length scales and better understand real-time degradation
- Safety assessment of Li-rich and high voltage systems
- Analysis of recycling efficiency and chemical processes for commercial Li-ion cathode materials
- Develop understanding of promotion mechanisms arising from metal-oxides in metal-air batteries
- Age and analyze commercial LFP cells donated to CERC

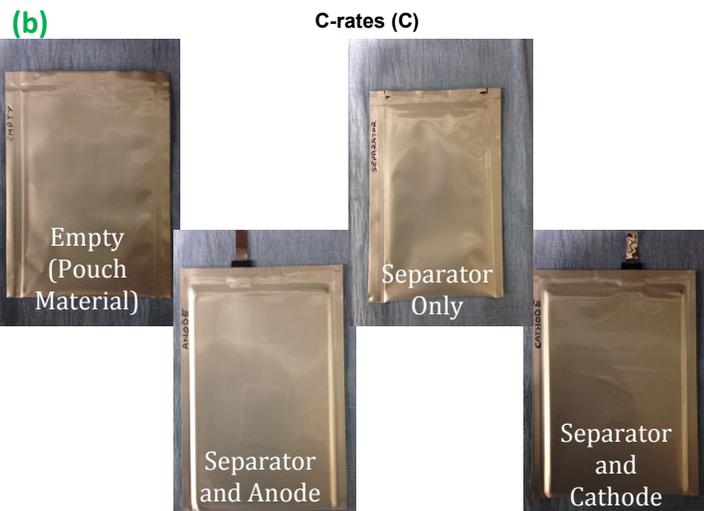
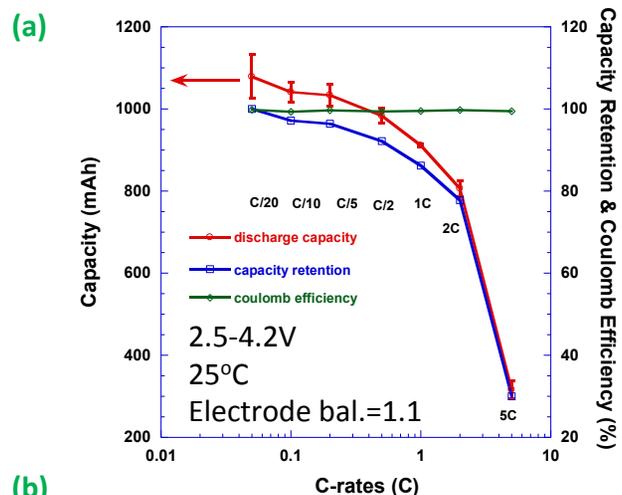


## Status (2014)

- **First round of cells manufactured for in-situ neutron diffraction characterization**
- **OSU NDP analysis of real-time lithiation/delithiation kinetics in Sn anodes** (*Angewandte Chemie*, 2014)
- THU analysis of thermal run-away & overcharging scenarios (L. Lu)
- BIT/ANL team analyzing chemical pathways and life-cycle efficiency (L. Li)
- **Examined Na-air systems, which show promise for efficient charging. Explored mechanisms for nucleation and transport within discharge phase**
- OSU using AFM and EELS to characterize LFP cells donated to CERC



# Manufacturing of Pouch Cells for Battery Degradation Studies



(a) Rate performance of 4 1Ah-pouch cells with NMC532 and A12 graphite as cathodes and anodes;  
(b) Special cells for *in-situ* neutron diffraction background signal analysis

## Scientific Achievement

Manufacturing custom large format pouch cells with consistent performance for *in-situ* neutron diffraction studies

## Significance and Impact

- Knowledge about components, their composition and cell processing methods will enable CERC partners to more quantitatively analyze battery performance
- Considerably improve our understanding of degradation mechanisms in electrodes aged in large format cells under realistic conditions
- Flexibility in cell design will aid researchers in developing new experimental techniques

## Future Plans

- Manufacture and age cells for material characterization and degradation studies to see effect of different parameters such as inhomogeneities, formation cycle current, areal solid loading gradient and aqueous processing



**HONDA**

Honda R&D Americas, Inc.

Work performed at Oak Ridge National Lab

