



# Overview of the Advanced Battery Materials Research (BMR) Program and the Battery500 Consortium

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# Introduction

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## Energy Storage R&D Interactions at DOE

### Fundamental Research



#### Office of Science

Fundamental research to understand, predict, and control the interactions of matter and energy at the electronic, atomic, and molecular levels

- ❑ JCESR (energy storage hub)
- ❑ EFRC
- ❑ Core scientific research

### Transformational Research



#### Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy

High-risk transformational research

- ❑ BEEST (high energy)
- ❑ AMPED (battery sensors and controls)
- ❑ RANGE (flow, solid state, multifunctional)
- ❑ IONICS (solid state)

### Applied Research



U.S. Department of Energy  
Energy Efficiency  
and Renewable Energy

Fiscal  
Year  
2017:  
\$101M

#### Vehicle Technologies Office

Advanced Batteries for  
Automotive applications

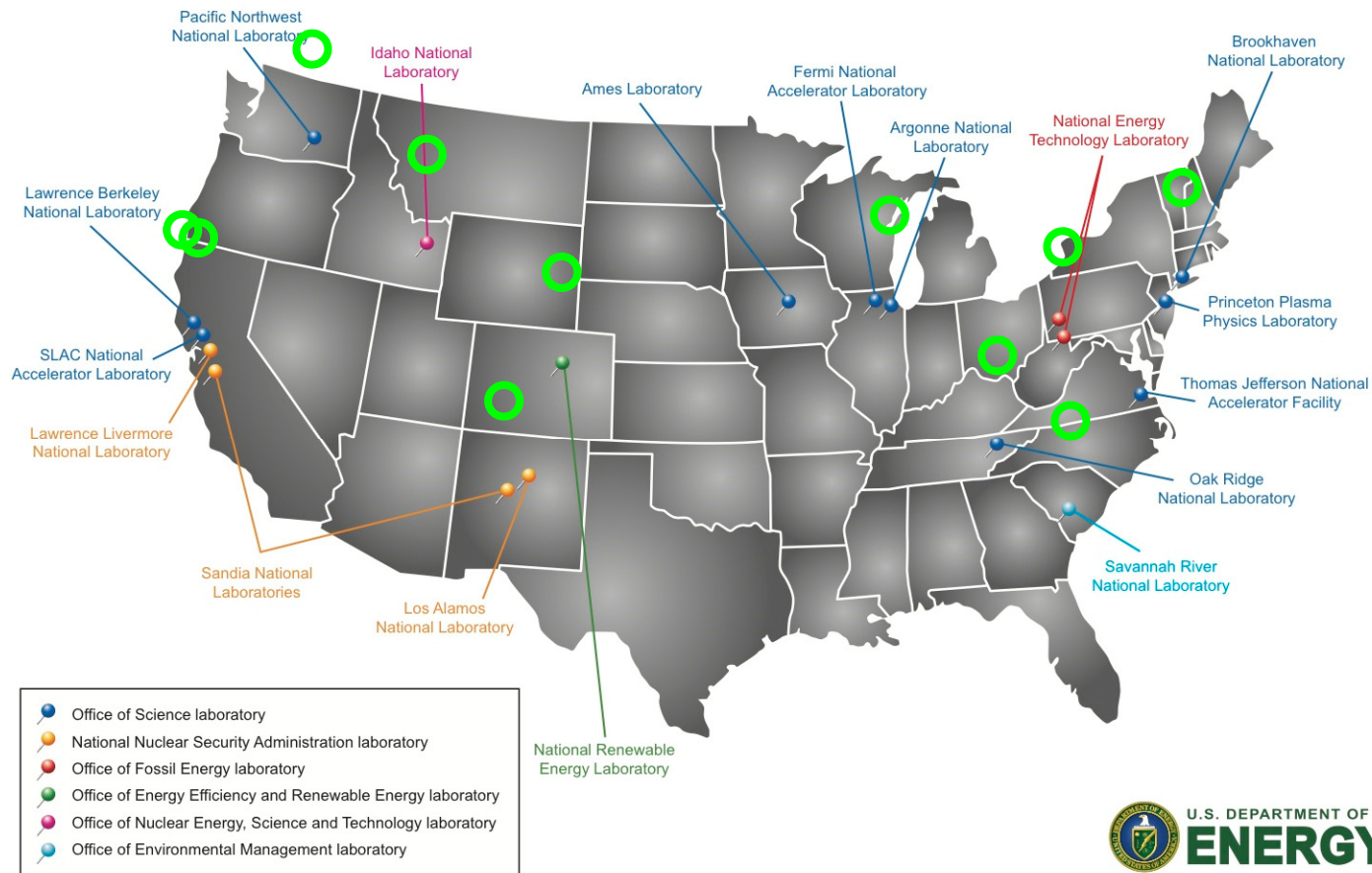
- ❑ Full system development & testing
- ❑ High-energy density & high-power density cells
- ❑ Advanced battery materials research (BMR)
- ❑ Battery500
- ❑ Extreme fast-charging

# Introduction (2)



## DOE National Laboratory System

□ Energy storage R&D currently pursued at 11 of the 17 DOE national laboratories



# Advanced Battery Materials Research (BMR) Program

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- ❑ Previously known as:
  - Exploratory Technology Research (ETR) (1980-2001)
    - Exclusively focused on batteries for automobile applications since 1992
  - Batteries for Advanced Transportation Technologies (BATT) (2002-2014)
- ❑ **Charter:** Perform cutting edge research in new materials and conduct comprehensive modeling and diagnostics analyses of materials and electrochemical cell behavior to address chemical, physical and mechanical instabilities
- ❑ 11 Topic areas, 63 research projects
  - Modeling (10), Diagnostics (9), Cell Analysis (4), Silicon Anodes (2), Intercalation Cathodes (8), Polymer/Liquid/Self-Healing Electrolytes (7), Solid State Electrolytes (4), Metallic Lithium (6), Sulfur Electrodes (9), Air Electrode/Electrolyte (3), and Sodium (1)

# BMR: Current Participants

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□ BMR participants include 7 national labs, 20 universities, and 4 industry partners

## National Labs



## Academia



## Industry



# Vehicle Technologies Office Energy Storage R&D Program Structure

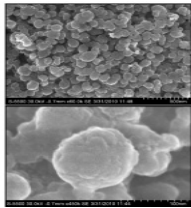
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- ❑ The BMR program is one of the three key energy storage R&D programs in VTO

## Advanced Battery Materials Research (BMR Program)

SEM of  $\text{Li}_2\text{FeSiO}_4/\text{C}$  Nanospheres



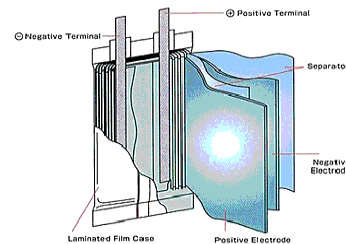
- ❑ High capacity cathodes
- ❑ Alloys, and lithium metal anodes
- ❑ High voltage electrolytes
- ❑ Solid State electrolytes

### Cell Materials Targets

- ❑ Anode capacity > 1000mAh/g
- ❑ Cathode capacity > 300mAh/g
- ❑ High-voltage cathodes & 5V stable electrolytes
- ❑ Solid-polymer electrolytes with >  $10^{-3}$  S/cm ionic conductivity

## High Energy & High Power Cell R&D (ABR Program)

Aluminum Laminate Package



- ❑ Electrodes exhibiting high energy density and high rate capability
- ❑ Fabrication of high energy density cells
- ❑ Cell diagnostics
- ❑ Improved manufacturing processes

### Cell Targets

- ❑ 350 Wh/kg
- ❑ 750 Wh/l
- ❑ 1,000 cycles
- ❑ 10+ calendar year life

## Full System Development & Testing (Developer Program)



- ❑ Focus on cost reduction, life and performance improvement
- ❑ Robust battery cell and module development
- ❑ Testing and analysis
- ❑ Battery design tools
- ❑ Fast charge

### Battery Pack Targets

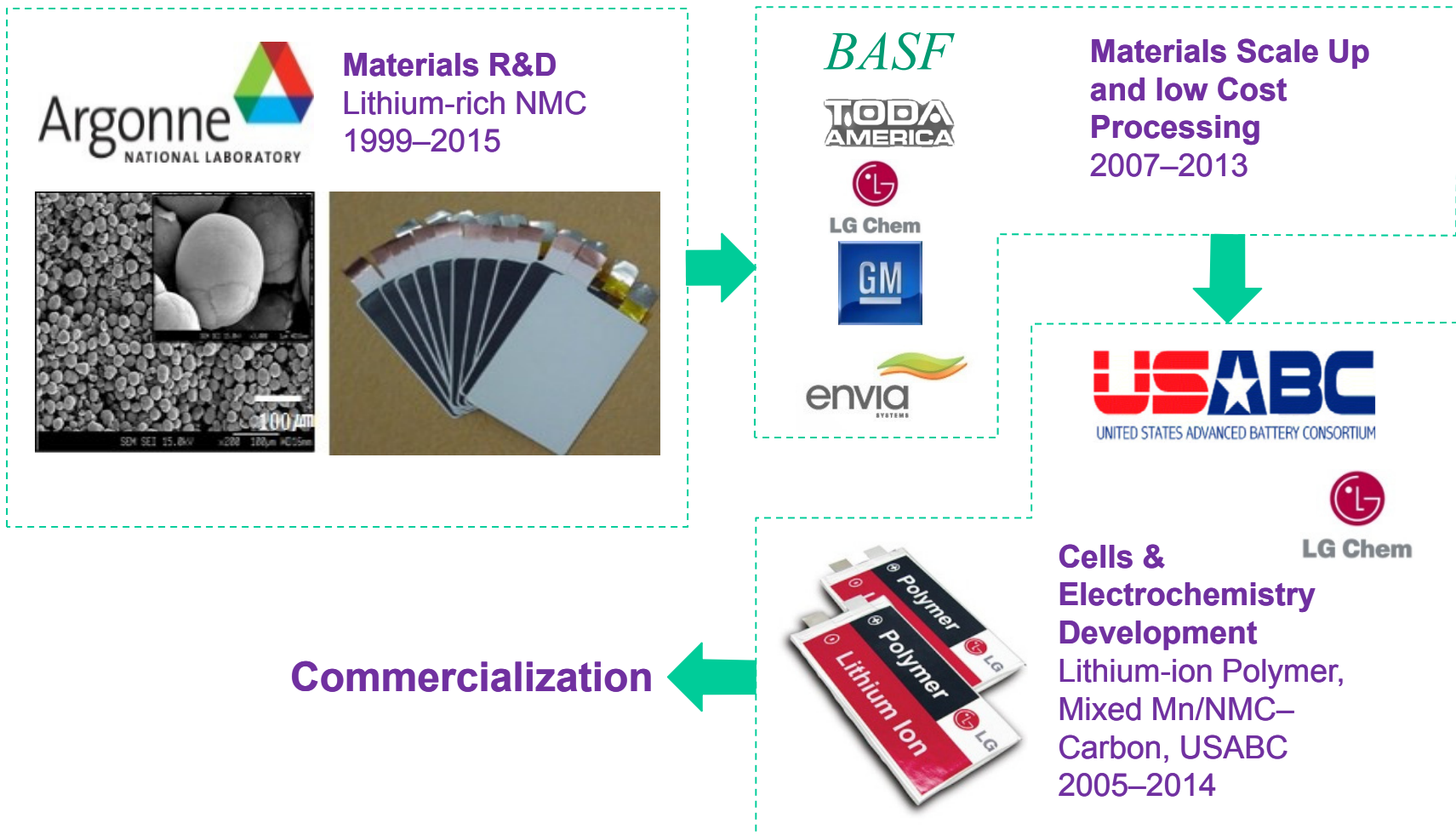
- ❑ \$125/kWh EV pack cost
- ❑ Fast charge (80% SOC in 15 minutes)
- ❑ \$180, 12V start/stop pack cost

# BMR Program in Context of VTO Battery R&D

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## Technology Progression Example: Advanced Cathode Materials



# Research Emphasis on Li-ion Batteries (1)

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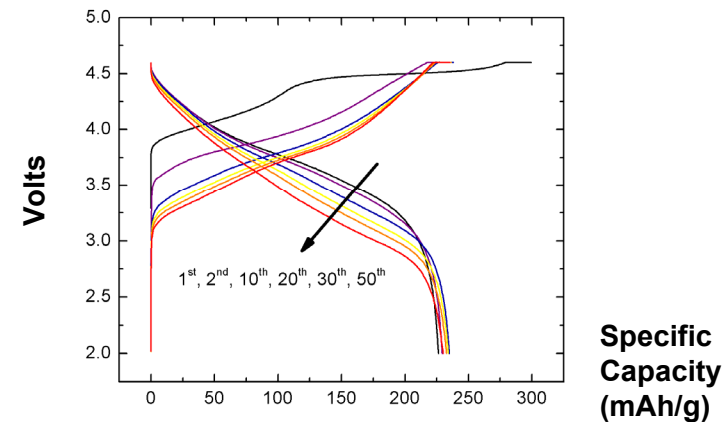
## Cathodes

- ❑ **Barrier:** Electrode capacity – still a limiting factor

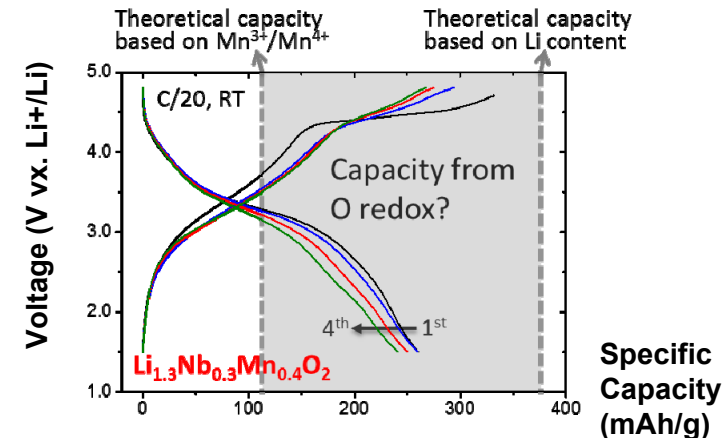
## Approaches

- ❑ **Develop Ni-rich cathodes** that exhibit stable operation at high voltage with long cycle life
- ❑ **Optimize the composition** of structurally-integrated Li-rich ‘layered-layered’ and ‘layered-layered-spinel’ to mitigate voltage fade during cycling
- ❑ **Discover new materials:** gain fundamental understanding of the role of  $O_2$  in Li-excess cathodes

Voltage Profiles for Li-rich, Layered Cathode



High-Capacity Li-Excess Oxides



Source: BATT projects



# Research Emphasis on Li-ion Batteries (2)

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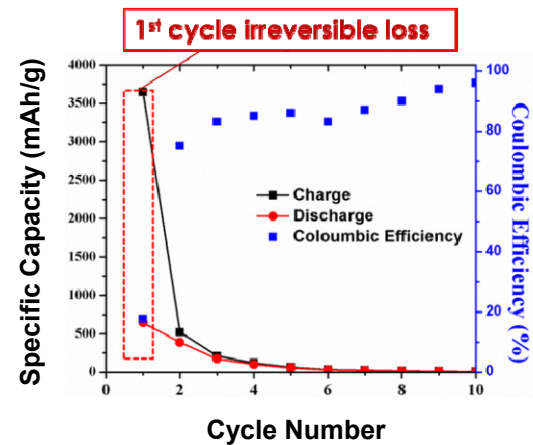
## Silicon Anode

- ❑ **Barrier:** Continuous formation of the SEI during cycling consumes lithium and solvent

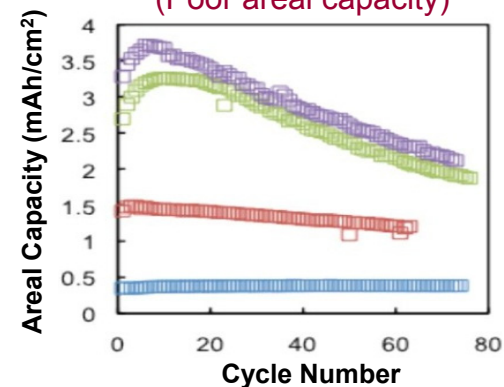
## Approaches

- ❑ **New architectures:** Design of novel morphologies and configurations; e.g. nanotubes, nanowires, core-shell and nanocomposite structures
- ❑ **Development of functional coatings:** metals,  $\text{Li}^+$  and  $\text{e}^-$  conducting ceramics including high strength and elastomeric polymer binders

Bulk Si Anode



Si Nanoparticle Anode  
(Poor areal capacity)



(Note: most of the research projects in this area have been transferred to the ABR program.)

# Research Emphasis on Li-ion Batteries (3)

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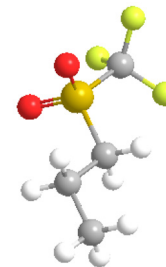
## Electrolytes

- ❑ **Current focus:** Explore fluorinated carbonate and sulfone solvents

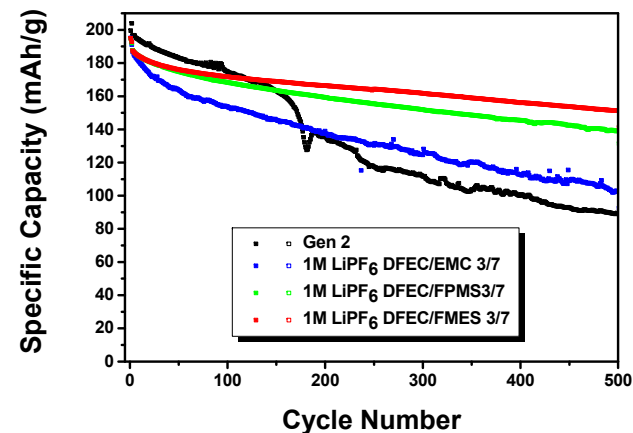
## Approaches

- ❑ **Understand** reactivity at voltages above 4.3V
- ❑ **Design** new electrolytes and additives
- ❑ **Maintain current focus** on fluorinated carbonate, and sulfone solvents

## Fluorinated Sulfone Molecules (3D structure)



## NMC532/Graphite Cells (C/3 for 500 cycles, cut-off voltage 3.0-4.6 V)



# Li-metal Based Batteries: Enabling A New Class of Electrodes

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## Potential Benefits

- Li metal anodes allow doubling of energy density. Enabling new class of high capacity cathodes, such as sulfur and other non-lithiated structures

## Status

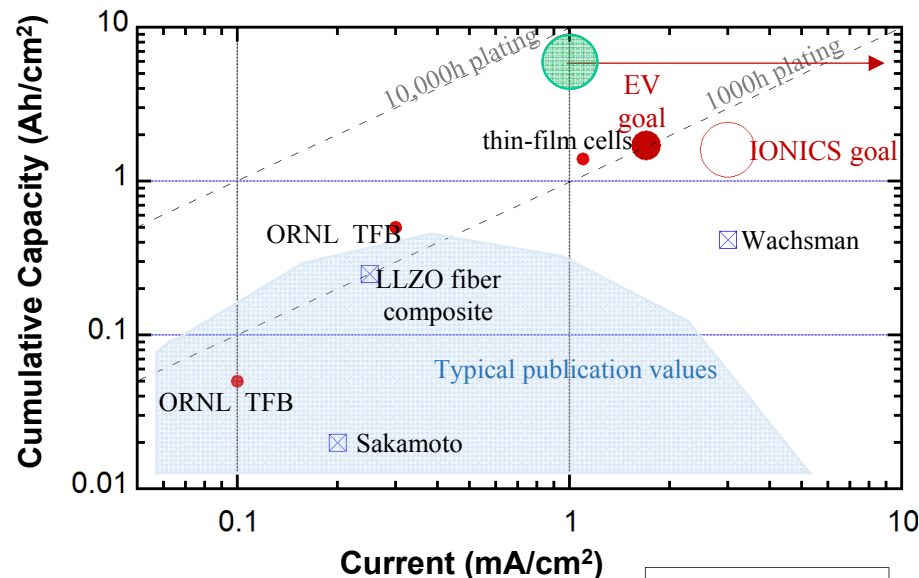
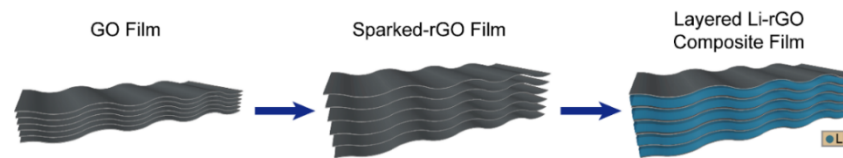
- Lithium reactivity and dendrite growth remain primary challenges

## Approaches

- Additives/solvents to planarize deposition
- Polymers to compress protrusions
- Ceramics with high Li-ion conductivity
- Novel framework structures for lithium storage and cycling

## Future Issues

- Enable use and operation of functional polymers at room temperature
- Generate interlayers to protect reaction of Li-metal with ceramics
- Processing of thin, brittle ceramic layers
- Maintain compression stability over Li diffusion lengths exceeding 10's of microns
- Need for consistent testing protocols



# Li-Sulfur Batteries: High Specific-Energy System

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## Potential Benefits

- ❑ Inexpensive, abundant material that promises high specific energy compared to Li-ion

## Status

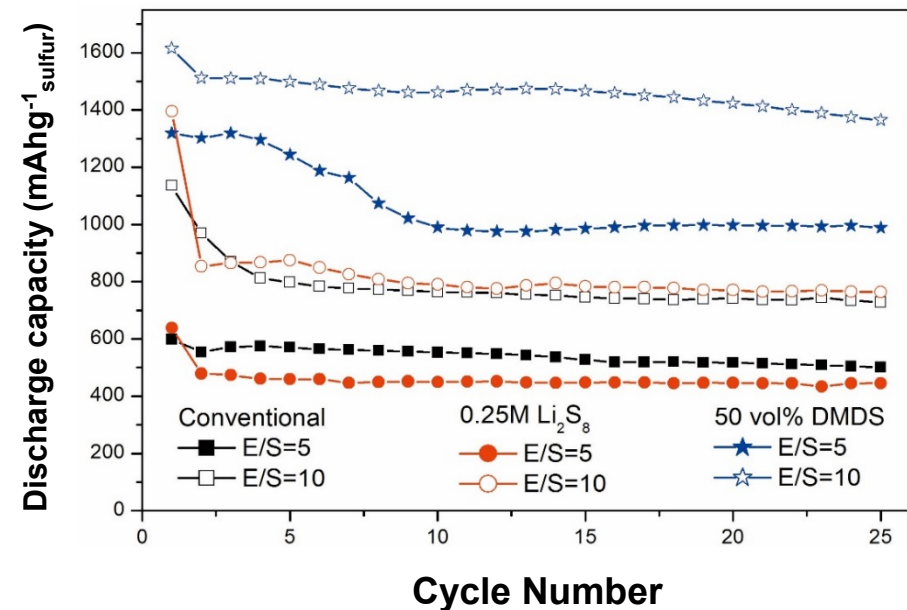
- ❑ Polysulfide “shuttle” and deposition of insoluble polysulfides remain challenges

## Approaches

- ❑ Constraining the polysulfide within the cathode
- ❑ Development of separators with blocking ability
- ❑ Mechanistic understanding of speciation

## Future Issues

- ❑ Operation of cathodes with high sulfur loading
- ❑ Understanding speciation in different electrolytes
- ❑ Operating under low electrolyte volumes (lean electrolyte)
- ❑ Co-locating the electrochemically oxidized and reduced products to ensure reversibility
- ❑ Ensure isolation of Li metal from the polysulfide species



# Solid-State Batteries: A Path to Safer Li Metal-based Batteries

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## Potential Benefits

- ❑ Solid electrolytes provide a unique path to lithium metal anodes while enabling safer operation

## Status

- ❑ Current focus on Li conducting lanthanum zirconate ceramic structures (LLZO) and sulfide based glasses

## Approaches

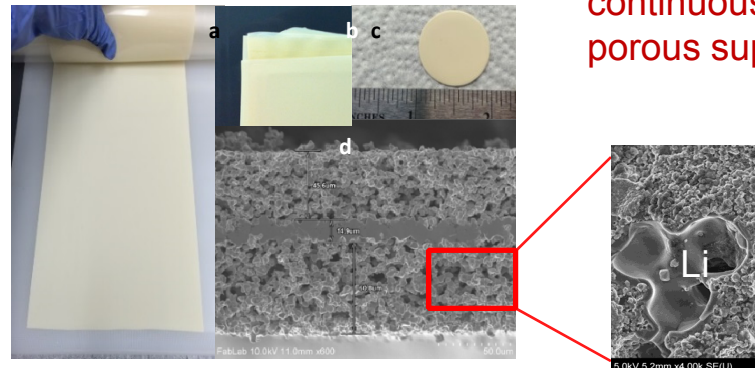
- ❑ All-polymer systems e.g. PEO
- ❑ All inorganic systems with ceramic integrated into porous cathodes

## Future Issues

- ❑ Develop polymers with high room temperature Li-ion conductivity
- ❑ Ceramics with both high- and low-voltage stability
- ❑ Integrate ceramics into porous cathode structures with intimate contact
- ❑ Can we demonstrate an all solid-state Li-ion battery with similar performance to liquid-based systems?
- ❑ Can Li-metal be stabilized to withstand abuse-tolerance?

Scalable and reproducible process to fabricate multilayer garnet structures

With surface treatment, Li metal wets garnet surface continuously inside porous support



# Battery500 Consortium: Overview

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## Timeline

- ❑ Start date: September 2016
- ❑ End date: September 2021
- ❑ Percent complete: 20%



## Barriers

- ❑ Barriers to overcome
  - Address the grand scientific and technological challenge:
    - Increase the energy density of advanced lithium (Li) metal batteries beyond the current state of Li-ion batteries

## Partners

- ❑ **Project lead:** Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- ❑ **Partner Institutions:** Binghamton University, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Idaho National Laboratory, SLAC, Stanford University, University of California San Diego, University of Texas at Austin, University of Washington
- ❑ **Other Partners:** Seedling project teams

# Battery500 Consortium: Team

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## Battery500 Consortium: Relevance/Objectives

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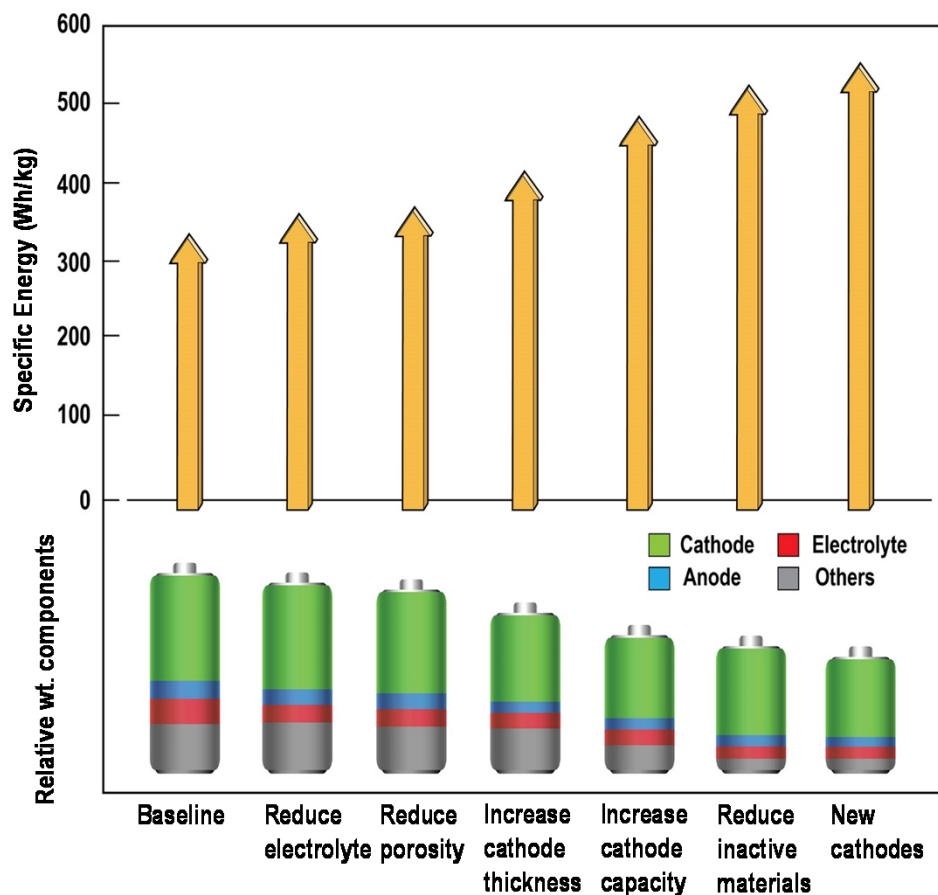


- ❑ The Battery500 Consortium aims to triple the specific energy density (to 500 Wh/kg) relative to current battery technology with achievement of 1,000 charge/discharge cycles.
- ❑ The consortium aims to overcome the existing fundamental scientific barriers and harvest the maximum capacity of electrode materials in two systems: Li metal-high Ni NMC and Li-S.
- ❑ The consortium leverages the advances made in the research on electrode materials and battery chemistries supported by DOE.



# Advanced Materials to meet Battery500 Goals

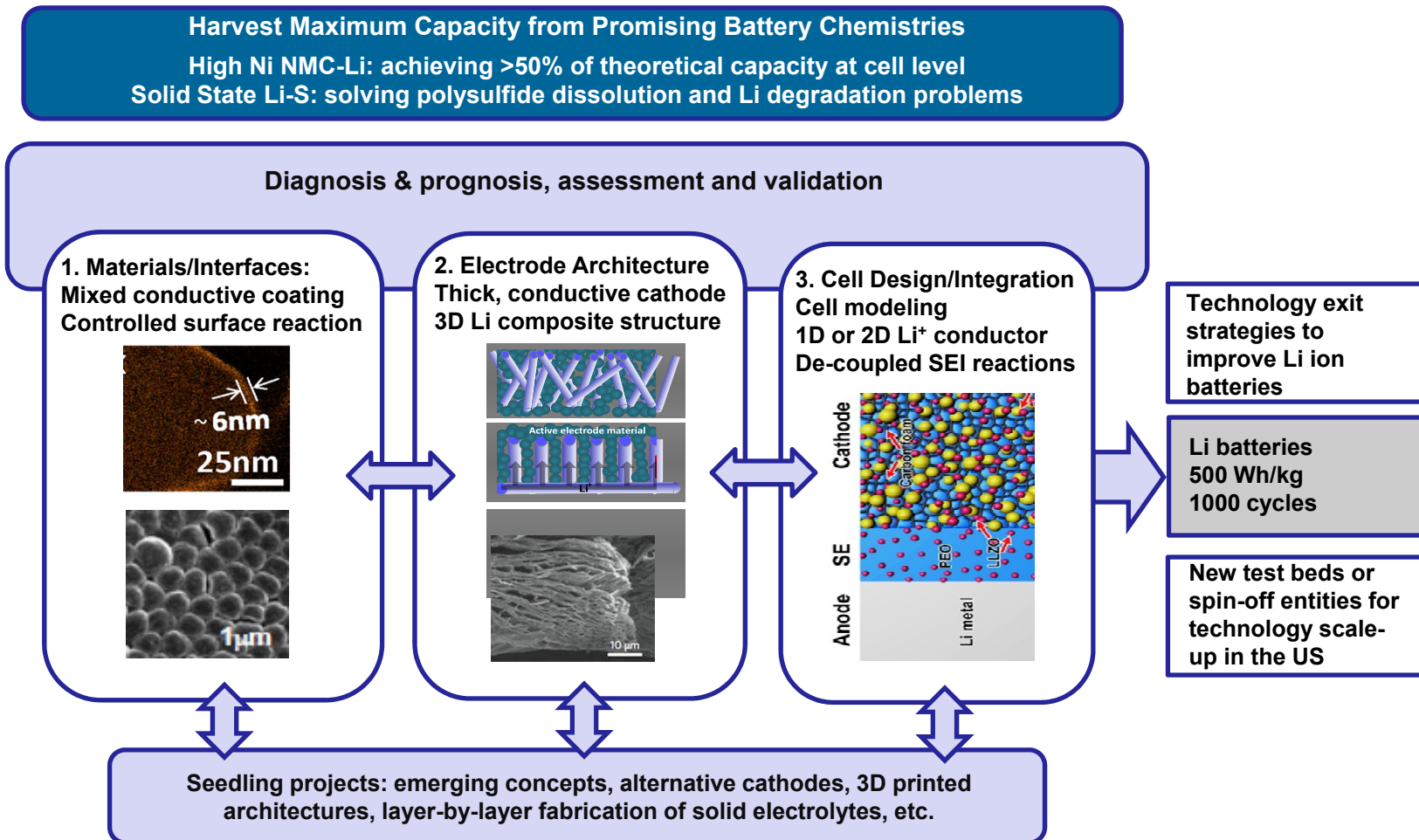
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- Achieve dendrite-free Li deposition with more than 99.9% Coulombic efficiency.
- <100% excess Li (compared to cathode).
- Increase cathode capacity to over 220 mAh/g and achieve stability over 4.4 V.
- Increase stability window of electrolytes and achieve interfacial stability at both cathodes and anodes.
- Develop thick (>120 μm) and dense (<23% porosity) electrode architectures.
- Reduce inactive materials (electrolyte, current collectors, separator).
- Optimize materials properties at the cell level.

# Battery500 Consortium: Keystone Projects

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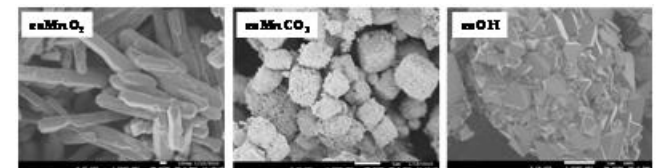
# Summary & Conclusions



- ❑ **VTO's demonstrated track-record of success**
  - NiMH batteries now used in commercial HEVs
  - Li-ion technologies being introduced in commercial PHEVs/EVs
  - American-based battery factories supplying batteries for several car companies
  
- ❑ **Clear pathway to meet 2022 goals**
  - **2022 cost goal:** reduce production cost of an EV battery to **\$125/kWh**
  - **Major focus:** Develop advanced Li-ion cells using higher voltage cathodes & intermetallic anodes
  - **Expanded work:** low-cost materials, electrode and cell manufacturing
  
- ❑ **BMR technologies beyond 2022 and Battery500 Consortium**
  - Continued focus on Li metal, sulfur electrodes and solid state electrolytes
  - Closely coordinated with the DOE Office of Basic Energy Sciences and other DOE offices



SEM of Li<sub>2</sub>FeSiO<sub>4</sub>/C nanospheres



SEM pictures of LiNi<sub>0.5</sub>Mn<sub>1.5</sub>O<sub>4</sub> made from MnO<sub>2</sub>, MnCO<sub>3</sub> and hydroxide precursors



# THANK YOU!

*For more information, contact:*

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