

# OPTIMAL SENSOR PLACEMENT FOR FAULT DIAGNOSIS AND ISOLATION IN AEROSPACE BATTERY PACKS

2020 NASA AEROSPACE BATTERY WORKSHOP

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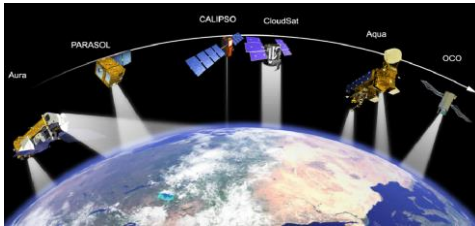
November 17, 2020



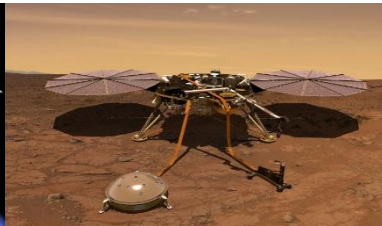
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# Outline

1. Motivation
2. Intrinsic properties of SP and PS battery pack configurations
3. Methodology description and single cell example
4. Analysis of traditional sensor set
5. Performing sensor placement to find minimal sensor set that can achieve complete fault isolation
6. Conclusions



Satellites



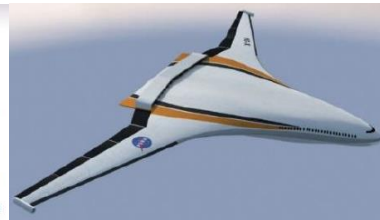
Moon/Mars exploration



Launch vehicles



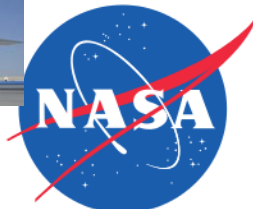
More Electric Aircraft



Electric/Hybrid  
commercial aviation



UAV/UAM





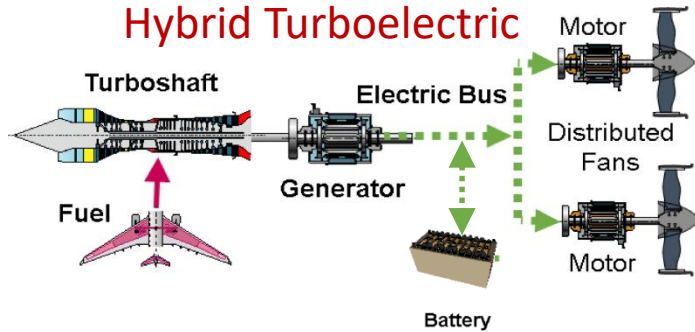
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# MOTIVATION

# NASA ULI Electric Propulsion: Challenges and Opportunities

## Hybrid Turboelectric



Felder, J.L., NASA Electric Propulsion System Studies, Report No. GRC-E-DAA-TN28410, 2015, Available at [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov).

Distributed electric propulsion is a leading architecture for measurable CO<sub>2</sub> reduction on large commercial aircraft - regional, single aisle, and twin aisle.

- Two turbo-generators to supply electrical power to distributed motors
- Eight motors with embedded power electronics
- Integrated thermal management system
- Battery energy management can be charge-depleting or charge-sustaining; battery thermal management system is separate from powertrain

### Challenge 1 System Integration

**Success Criteria:** Vehicle energy and CO<sub>2</sub> >20% improvement over existing solutions

### Challenge 2 Ultra-High Power Density Electric Machine and Power Electronics

**Success Criteria:** Electric machines > 14 kW/kg, power electronics > 25 kW/kg, efficiency > 99%, bus voltage up to 2kV without partial discharge

### Challenge 3 Energy Storage

**Success Criteria:** Power density and reliability (desired 450 Wh/kg)

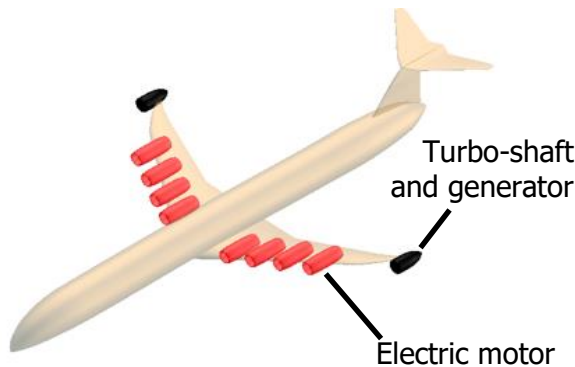
### Challenge 4 Advanced Control of Onboard Electrical Power Systems

**Success Criteria:** System remains stable at 20% voltage sag and 200% step load change

### Challenge 5 Research Infrastructure for More Electric Aircrafts

**Success Criteria:** Sub-system and component prototyping and testing at elevation – 2 kV, 1 MW, 20 kRPM drive tests

Research on thermal management system design is integrated in every aspect of the project.



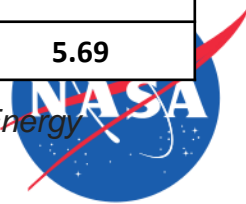
# NASA ULI Electric Propulsion: Challenges and Opportunities

5

Design of a 2MWh battery pack for the 600nm. 30% climb – 20% cruise mission profile.

Cell	Cell 1	Cell 2	Cell 6	Cell 7	Cell 8	Cell 9
Format	18650 Cylindrical		Pouch			
Chemistry	LMO	NMC	NMC	Li-Si	Li-Metal	Li-S
Capacity assessment [Ah] (@1C, 23°C)	3.25	2.85	10.87	10.24	(19.40)	(14.7)
Energy Density assessment [Wh/kg] (@1C, 23°C)	237	215	224	336	(478)	(363)
Experimentally Tested?	Yes				No	No
$\Delta SoC_{avail}$	(10-95)%					
$m_e n_e$ - Total Cell Number	176,472 (516s x 342p)	196,560 (504s x 390p)	51,816 (508s x 102p)	54,752 (472s x 116p)	27,608 (476s x 58p)	66,990 (770s x 87p)
Max C-rate (discharge)	2.20	2.26	2.16	2.15	2.28	2.06
Heat Generation (kW) (Peak/Average)	672 / 66	357 / 42	438 / 41	330 / 24	74 / 7	-
Efficiency [%] (Min/Average)	88 / 97	90 / 97	92 / 98	94 / 98	94 / 98	-
Pack Weight (Tons)	8.39	9.26	8.88	5.91	4.16	5.69

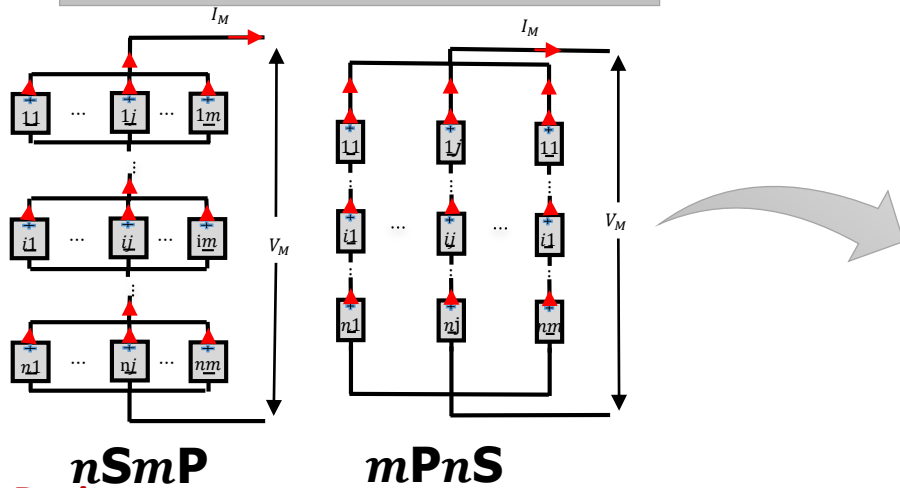
Sergent, A., Ramunno, M., D'Arpino, M., Canova, M., & Perullo, C. (2020). *Optimal Sizing and Control of Battery Energy Storage Systems for Hybrid Turboelectric Aircraft* (No. 2020-01-0050). SAE Technical Paper.



# Definition of design optimization problem for large scale battery packs

**Assumption:** cell selection and pack sizing has already taken place (see presentation on Thursday 'A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF LI-ION BATTERY TECHNOLOGIES FOR HYBRID-ELECTRIC REGIONAL AIRCRAFT APPLICATIONS')

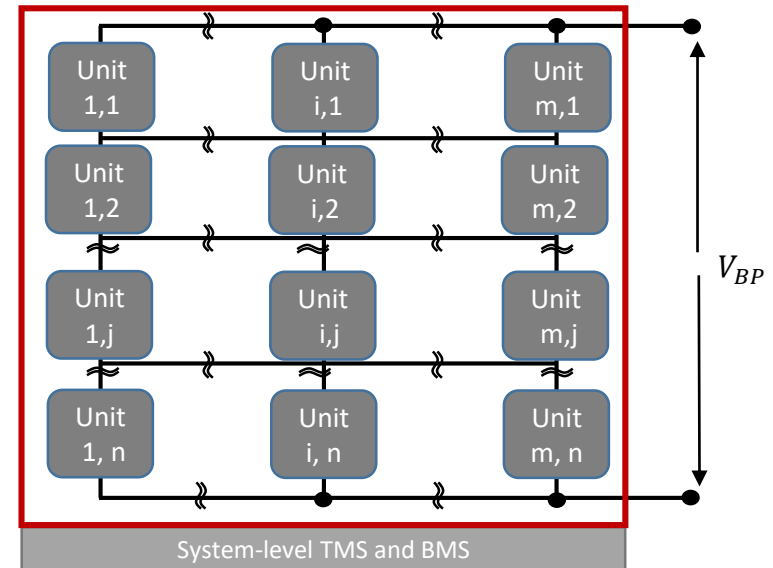
## Basic Unit Design and Sizing



### Design parameters

1. **Architecture** – SP vs. PS in different modular configurations.
2. Type, number and location of **sensors**
3. **Balancing** (if passive, answer is unique for each architecture, if active there are more options)
4. **Protection device** sizing and placement

## Pack Design



### Design parameters

1. **Architecture** – SP, PS and combinations.
2. Type, number and location of **sensors**
3. **Protection device** sizing and placement

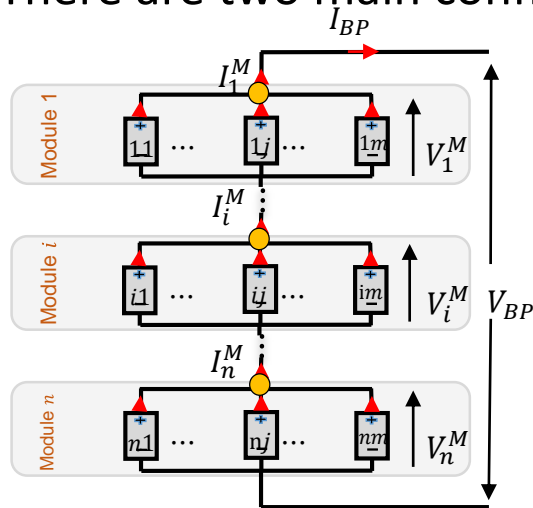
**Design objectives:** \$ cost, Diagnostic capabilities, Reliability, Adaptability to component variation, .....



# Battery pack configurations

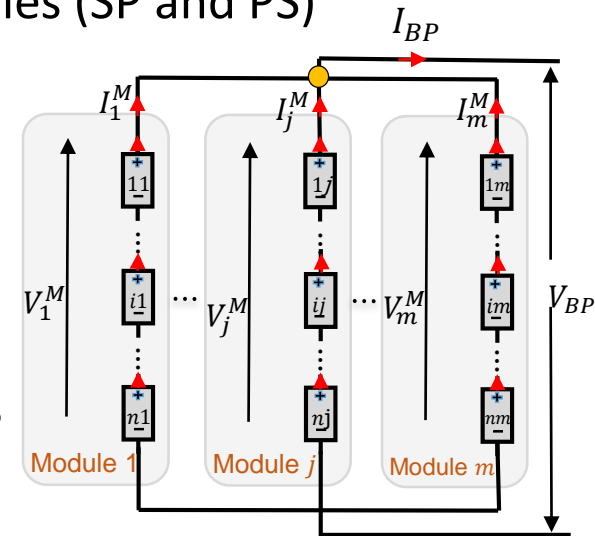
NASA ULI Hybrid turbo electric configuration require a large number of cells (10-100 of thousands of cells) interconnected together to access to the additional fuel burn reduction (up to 20% compared to turboelectric)

There are two main configurations for battery pack modules (SP and PS)



**nSmP**  
Series of parallel cells

**mPnS**  
Parallel of series connected cells



1. Explore the **intrinsic properties** of battery module architectures (SP and PS)
2. **Effects of current and voltage unbalance** considering
  1. Capacity and resistance unbalance
  2. Short circuit (*this will affect the sizing/selection of protective devices*)
3. **Sensor requirements for faults detectability and isolability** (traditional vs optimal) (*this will affect the selection of sensor set*)





# INTRINSIC PROPERTIES OF SP AND PS



# Battery modeling - Two architectures are commonly considered

Battery plant model consists of:

- 0<sup>th</sup> order equivalent circuit models (ECMs)
- lumped-parameter thermal models
- The KCL/KVL.

**Battery cell model**

$$V_{ij} = V_{oc,ij} - R_{ij}I_{ij}$$

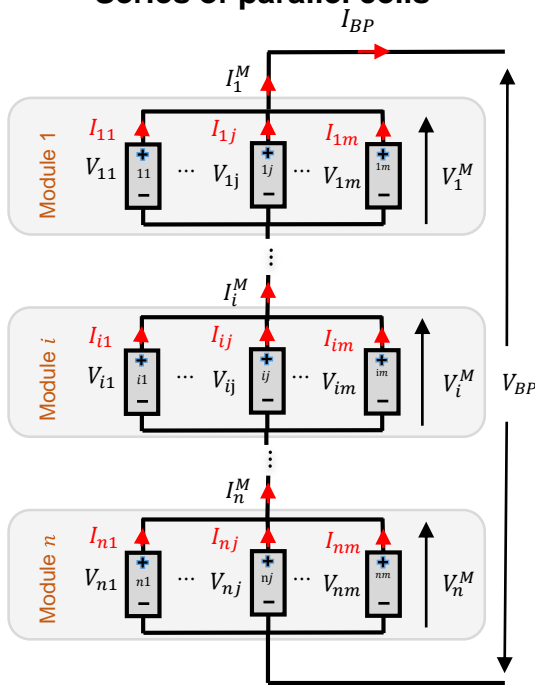
$$\frac{dSOC_{ij}}{dt} = -\frac{I_{ij}}{Q_{ij}}$$

$$V_{oc,ij} = f(SOC_{ij})$$

$$mC_p \frac{dT_{ij}}{dt} = R_{ij}(I_{ij})^2 - Q_{TMS}$$

## nSmP

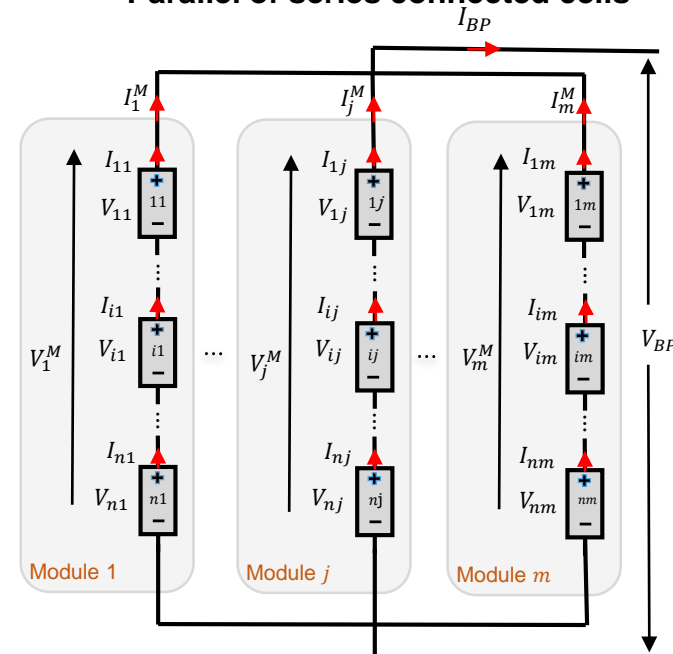
Series of parallel cells



Ideal conditions	nSmP	mPnS
# voltage sensors	$n$	$n \times m$
# current sensors	$n \times m$	$m$
# balancing circuits	$n$	$n \times m$
# fuses/ protections	$n \times m$	$m$

## mPnS

Parallel of series connected cells



### KCL & KVL for nSmP

$$\sum_{j=1}^m I_{ij} = I_i^M = I_{BP} \quad \forall i = 1 \dots n$$

$$V_{i1} = \dots = V_{ij} = \dots = V_{im} = V_i^M \quad \forall i = 1 \dots n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n V_i^M = V_{BP}$$

$I^M$  = module current  
 $V^M$  = module voltage

### KCL & KVL for mPnS

$$I_{ij} = I_j = I_j^M \quad \sum_{j=1}^m I_j^M = I_{BP} \quad \forall i = 1 \dots n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n V_{i1} = \dots = \sum_{i=1}^n V_{ij} = \dots = \sum_{i=1}^n V_{im} = V_j^M = V_{BP} \quad \forall j = 1 \dots m$$

# Battery Pack Architecture comparison using Bipartite Graph

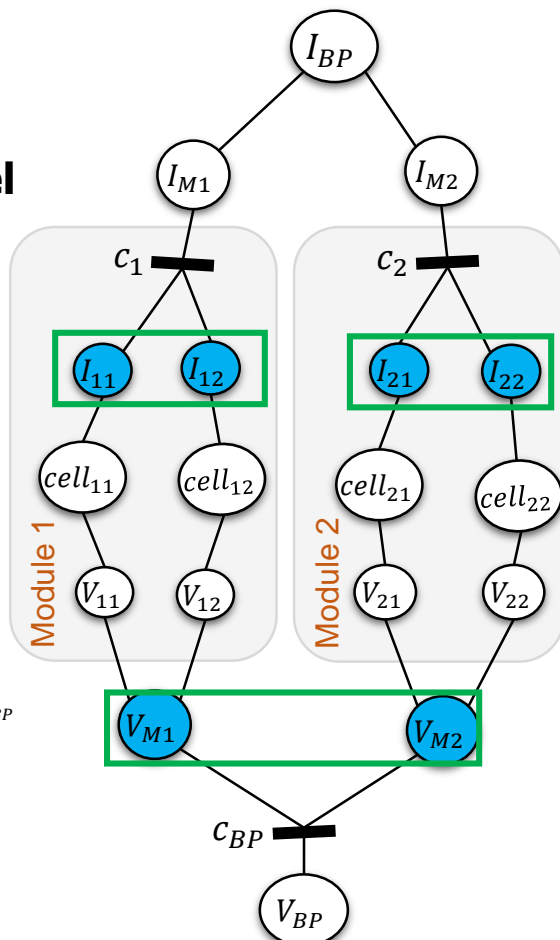
Bipartite Graph is a **graphical representation of a model** and it is used to analyze the<sup>10</sup> connection between known variables, unknown variables, and faults.

— Thin Line connects variable those are always equal.

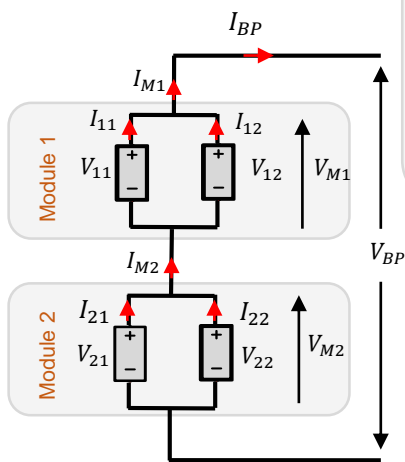
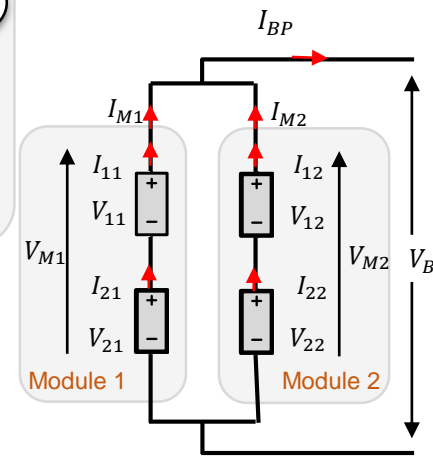
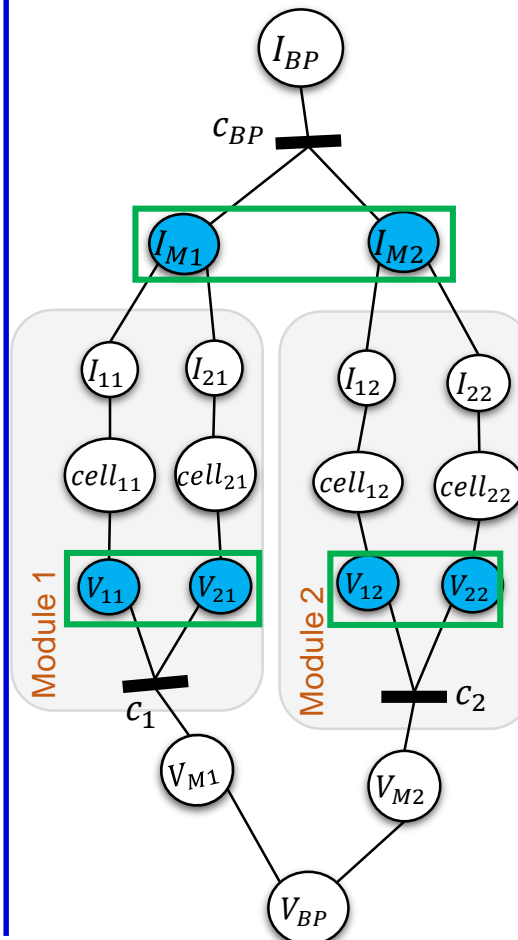
■ Think Line represents a sum (constraint). The sum is always true, but the element of the summation can be unbalanced due to parameters variation.

Variables in a green box are equal to each other in ideal case (if the cells are equals and have the same temperature).

***nSmP***  
Series of parallel cells



***mPnS***  
Parallel of series connected cells



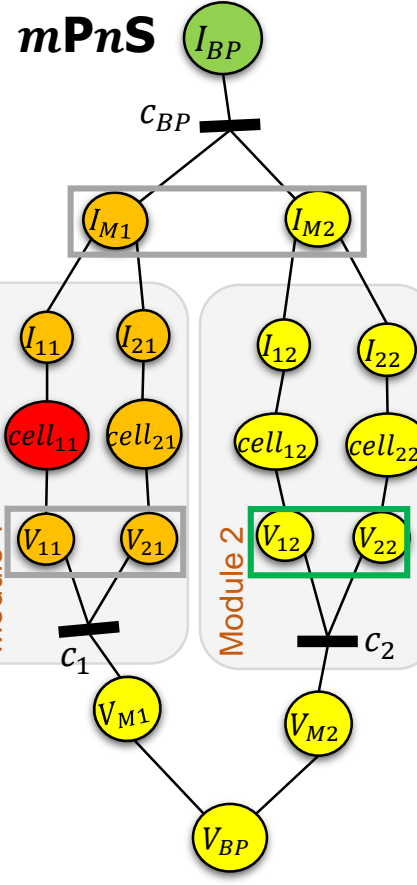
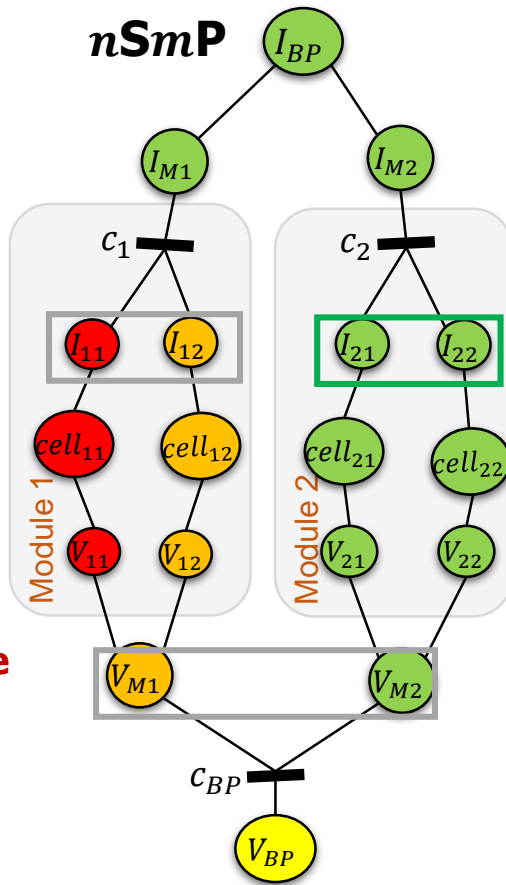
# Battery Pack Architecture comparison using Bipartite Graph

**Module 1:**  
 $cell_{11}$  has a problem  $\rightarrow$   
 $I_{11} \neq I_{12}$  imbalance  $\rightarrow$   
 $V_{M1} \neq V_{M2}$  unbalance

**Module 2:**  
 $I_{21} = I_{22}$  not affected.  
 $V_{M2}$  is not affected.

**Pack:**  
 $I_{BP}$  fixed (requirement)  
 $I_{M1} = I_{M2}$  not affected  
 $V_{BP}$  affected

**The fault of one cell is kept inside the module, however the entity of the current imbalance is high due to the limited impedance of the strings**



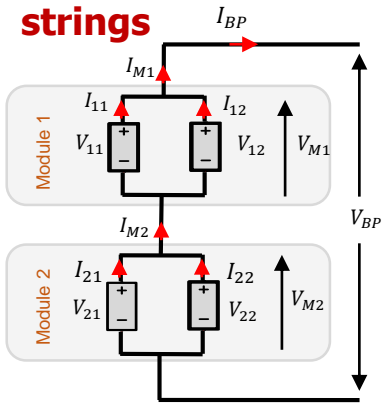
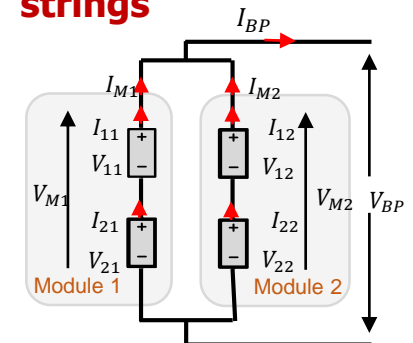
**Pack:** **11**  
 $I_{BP}$  fixed (requirement)  
 $I_{M1} \neq I_{M2}$  imbalance  $\rightarrow V_{M1} = V_{M2}$  affected  $\rightarrow V_{BP}$  affected.

**Module 1:**  
 $cell_{11}$  has a problem  $\rightarrow$   
 $I_{M1} = I_{11} = I_{21}$  is always true  
 $\rightarrow V_{11} \neq V_{21}$  imbalance  $\rightarrow V_{M1}$  affected

**Module 2:**  
 $I_{M2} = I_{12} = I_{22}$  is always true,  
but different current  $\rightarrow V_{12} = V_{22}$  affected  $\rightarrow V_{M2}$  affected

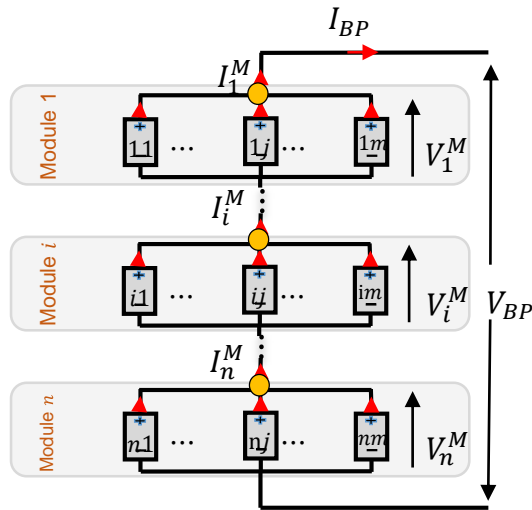
**The fault of a cell affect all the pack, however the entity of the current imbalance is lower due to the high impedance of the strings**

- A circle in red represents a cell with problem.
- A circle in orange represents a variable is affected seriously.
- A circle in yellow represents a variable is affected but not that seriously as in orange.
- A circle in green represents a cell is not affected.



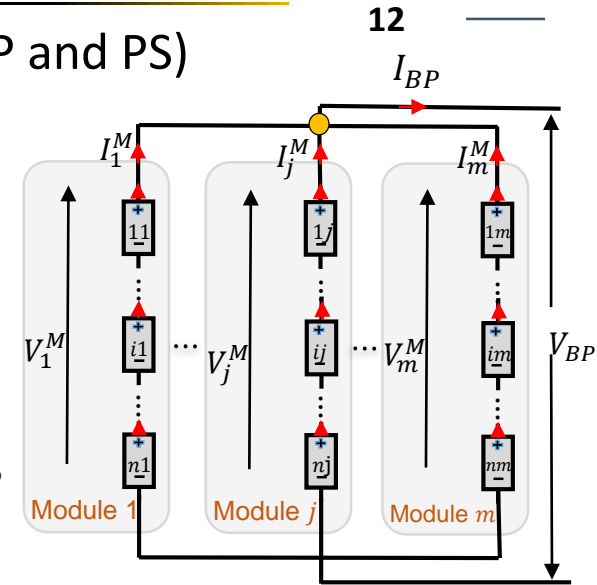
# Two commonly used battery pack topologies

- There are two main configurations for battery packs (SP and PS)



**nSmP**  
Series of parallel cells

**mPnS**  
Parallel of series connected cells



Mostly used in automotive because of the reduced number of cell voltage sensors

The fault or parameter unbalance of one cell is kept inside the module (**positive**), however the entity of the voltage/current imbalance is higher (**negative**)

Considered by NASA for some space and aviation applications

The fault or parameter unbalance of a cell affects all the pack (**negative**), however the entity of the voltage/current imbalance is reduced (**positive**)

- Which architecture will need less expensive sensor set to monitor cell condition?*
- When there is an unhealthy cell, which architecture will need less sensors to detect and isolate the unhealthy cell?*

*Use of Structural Analysis methods as sensor placement tool.*





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# METHODOLOGY DESCRIPTION

# Definition of Structural Analysis and example for single cell model

## Analytical Model

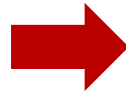
**Plant Equations:** (a single cell)

$$e_1: V_{11} = V_{oc11} - R_{11}I_{11}$$

$$e_2: \frac{dSoC_{11}}{dt} = -\frac{I_{11}}{Q}$$

$$e_3: V_{oc11} = f(SoC_{11})$$

$$e_4: mc_p \frac{dT_{11}}{dt} = R_{11}(I_{11})^2 - Q_{TMS_{11}}$$

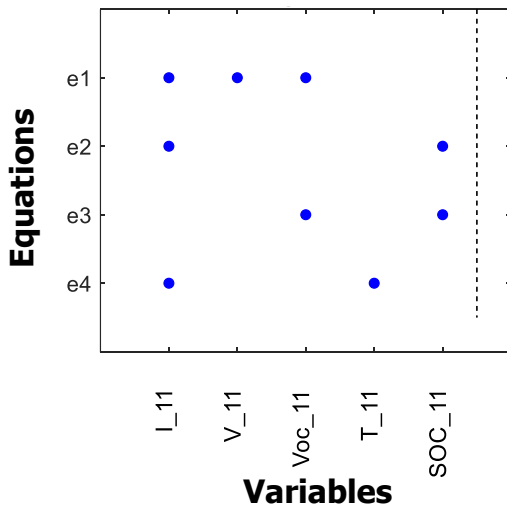


## Structural Model

Equations	Unknown variables				
	$I_{11}$	$V_{11}$	$V_{oc11}$	$T_{11}$	$SoC_{11}$
$e_1$	1	1	1	0	0
$e_2$	1	0	0	0	1
$e_3$	0	0	1	0	1
$e_4$	1	0	0	1	0

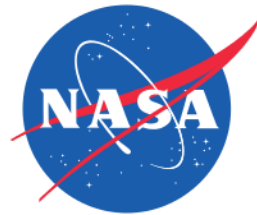
**Incidence Matrix**

## Incidence Matrix



- Structural analysis investigates the **model constraint structure**, i.e., the **connections between known variables, unknown variables, and faults**.
- The connections can be represented through **bipartite graphs or incidence matrices**.

Toolbox/MATLAB

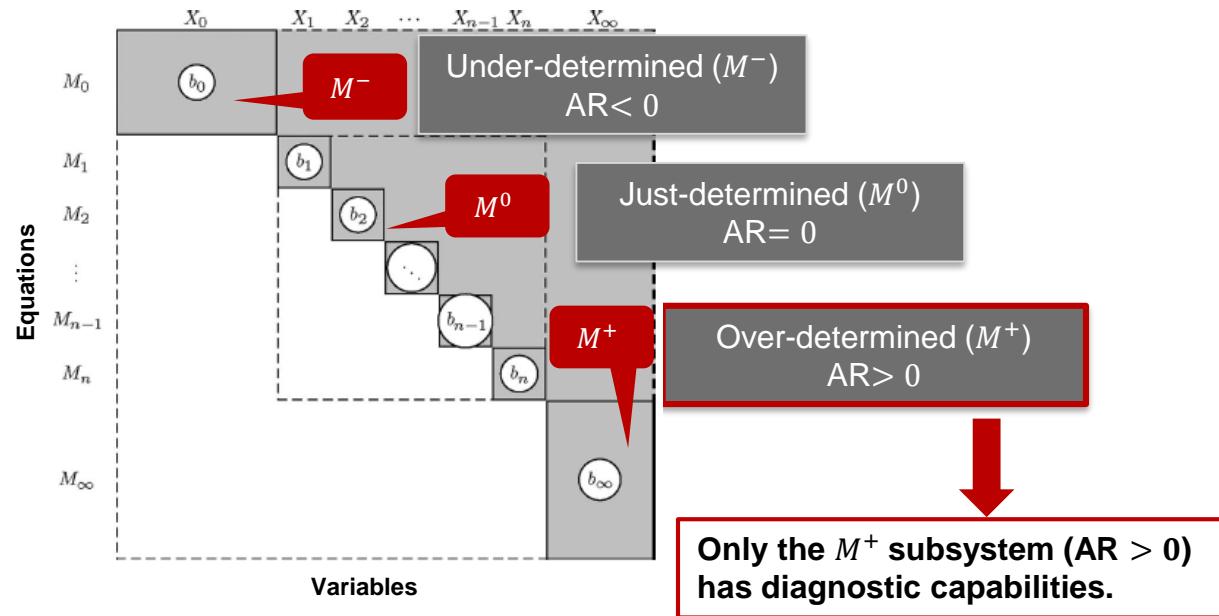


# Definition of Structural Analysis

**Dulmage-Mendelsohn (DM)-Decomposition** is used to evaluate the analytical redundancy (AR) of a structural model. The equations of the models are divided in classes:

- **Under-determined  $M^-$  (AR<0)** (e.g. I do not have enough eq.s to solve this part of the model, I need to transform some of the unknown variables in known variables by adding sensors)
- **Just-determined  $M^0$  (AR=0)** (e.g. I do have just enough eq.s to solve this part of the model)
- **Over-determined  $M^+$  (AR>0)** (e.g. I do have enough eq.s to solve this part of the model and I have some extra eq.s that I can use for diagnosis methodologies)

## (Example)

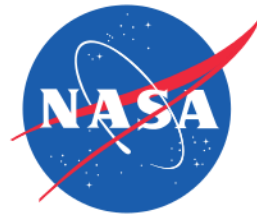


### Analytical redundancy (AR):

The number of unknown variables minus the number of equations

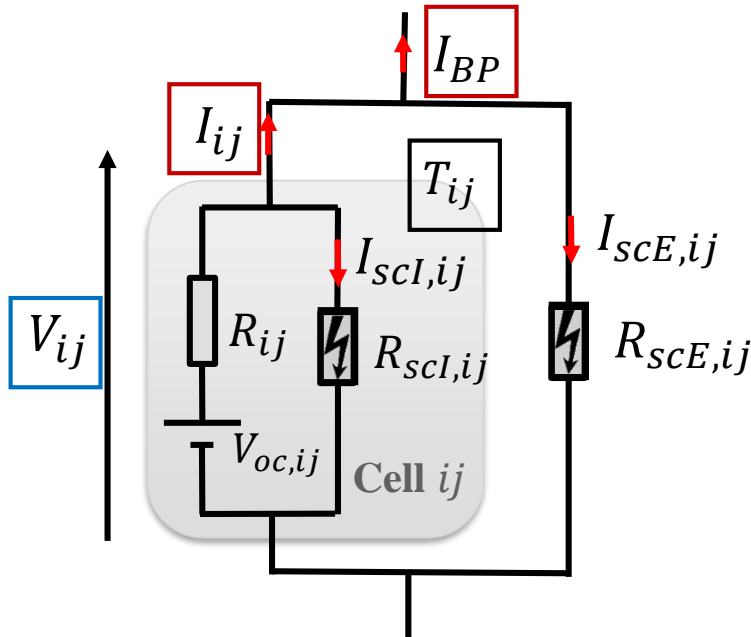
### Minimum structurally over-determined (MSO) set:

An over-determined set of model equations such that its **AR = 1**.



# Definition of Structural Analysis – example single cell

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## Plant equations with faults:

(a single cell is called *cell 11*,  $i = 1, j = 1$ )

$$e_1: V_{11} = V_{oc11} - R_{11}(I_{11} + I_{scI,11})$$

$$e_2: \frac{dSoC_{11}}{dt} = -\frac{I_{11} + I_{scI,11}}{Q}$$

$$e_3: V_{oc11} = f(SoC_{11})$$

$$e_4: mc_p \frac{dT_{11}}{dt} = R_{11}(I_{11} + I_{scI,11})^2 - Q_{TMS_1}$$

$$e_5: I_{scI,11} = \left(\frac{V_{11}}{R_{scI}}\right) f_{scI,11}$$

$$e_6: I_{scE,11} = \left(\frac{V_{11}}{R_{scE}}\right) f_{scE,11}$$

$$e_7: I_{11} = I_{BP} + I_{scE,11}$$

## Sensor equation with faults:

$$y_u = u + f_{y_u}$$

possible sensor positions:

$\{I_{BP}, I_{11}, V_{11}, T_{11}\}$ .

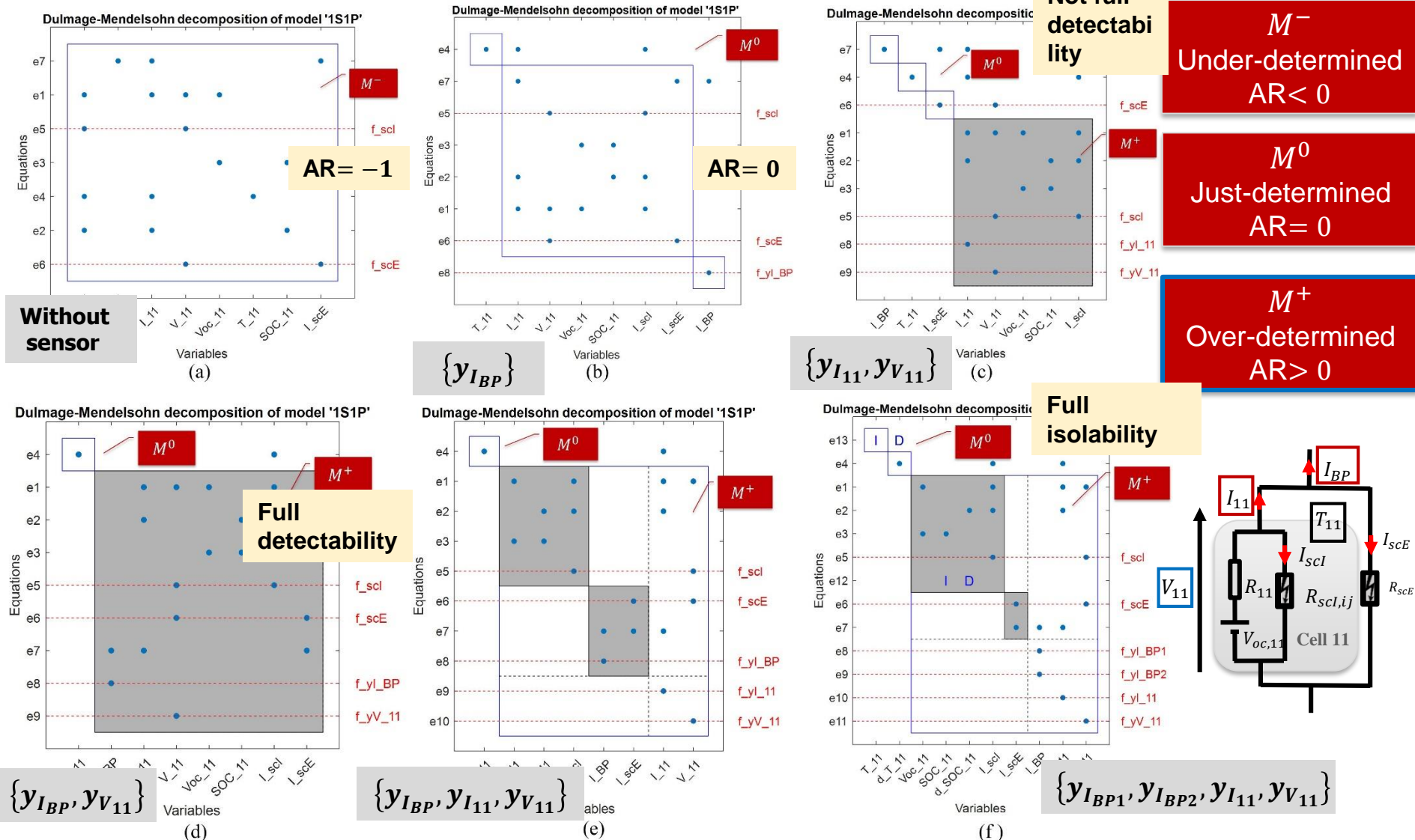
The set of short circuit faults :  $\{f_{scI,11}, f_{scE,11}\}$ .

The set of sensor faults: depends on what sensors are added to the battery system.





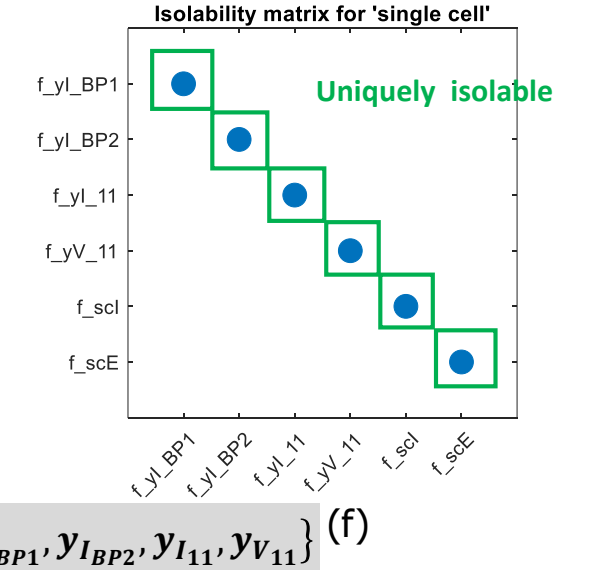
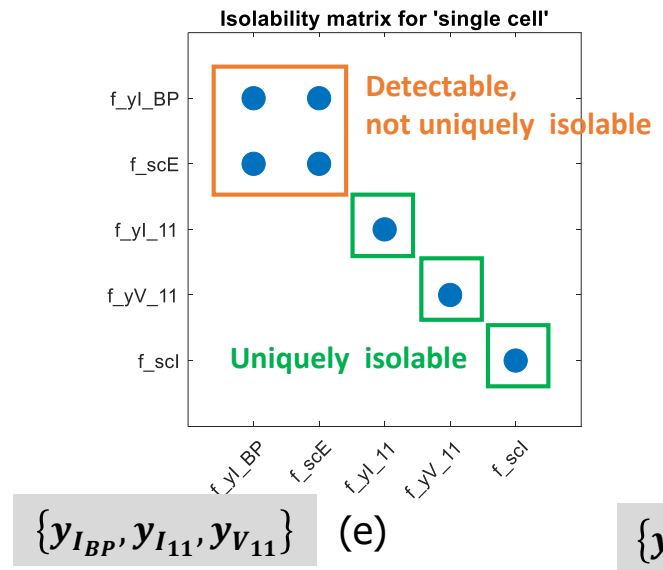
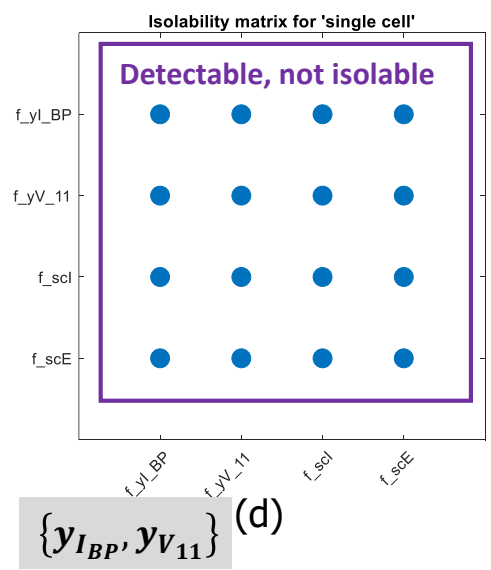
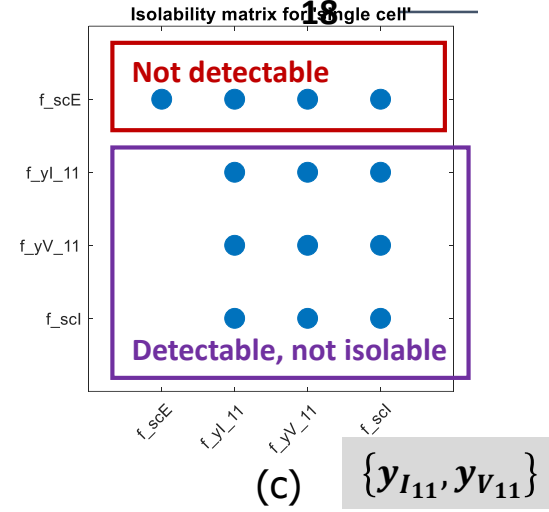
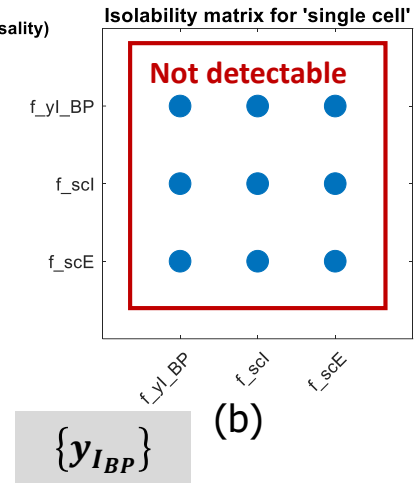
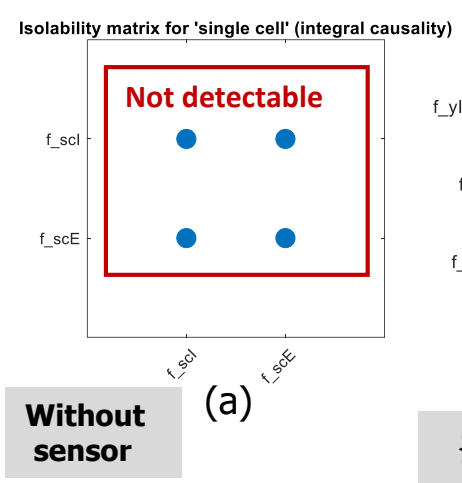
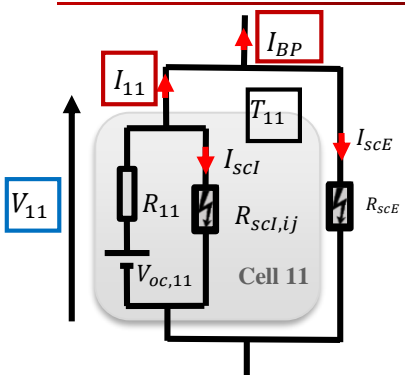
# Definition of Structural Analysis – example single cell



If all the faults are included in the  $M^+$  (over-determined part of the model) but same equivalence class (gray area) -> **all the faults can be detected, but not isolated**

If all the faults are included in the  $M^+$  (over-determined part of the model) -> **all the faults can be detected and uniquely isolated**

# Definition of Structural Analysis – example single cell



If all the faults are included in the M+ (over-determined part of the model) but same equivalence class (gray area) -> **all the faults can be detected, but not isolated**

If all the faults are included in the M+ (over-determined part of the model) -> **all the faults can be detected and uniquely isolated**



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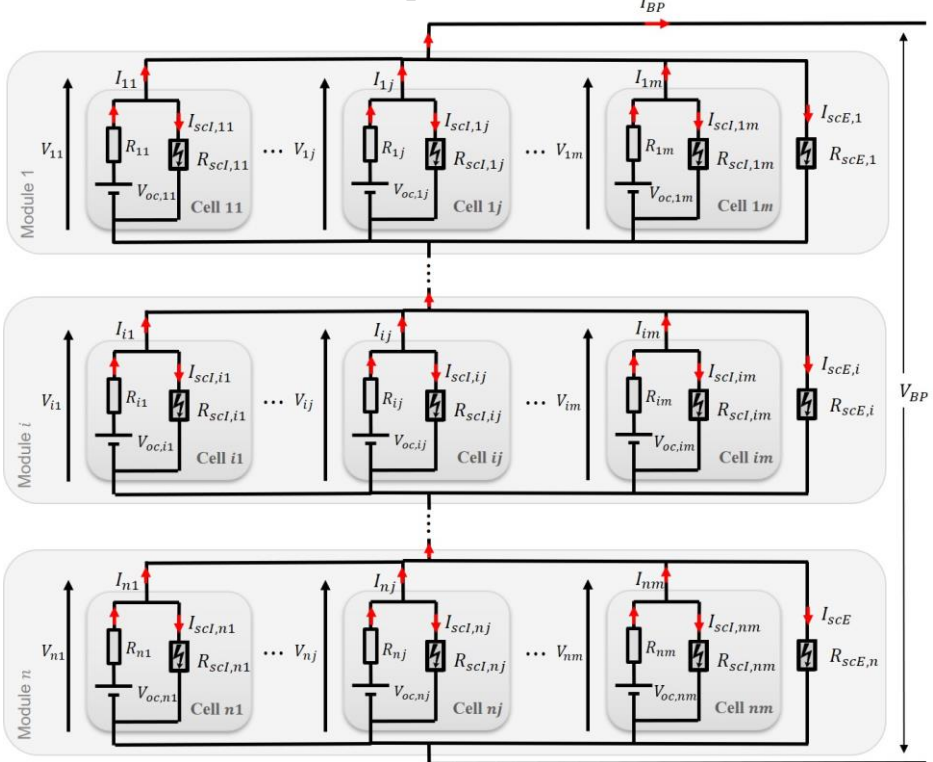
# ANALYSIS OF TRADITIONAL SENSOR SET

# Fault modeling for battery pack

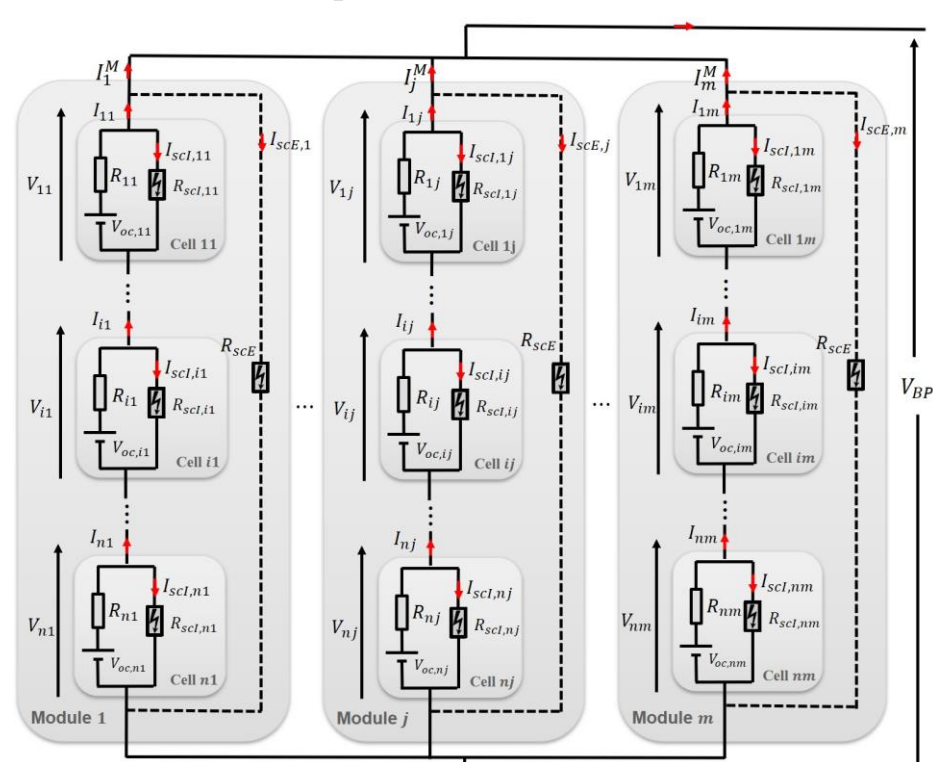
Type of faults we want to diagnose:

1. **internal short circuit** (**each cell** is modeled with an internal short circuit fault signal in it)
2. **external short circuit** (an external short circuit fault signal is modeled in **each module**)
3. **Sensor faults** (depending on the sensor set)

***nSmP***  
(*n* series of *m* parallel cells) **AR= -1**



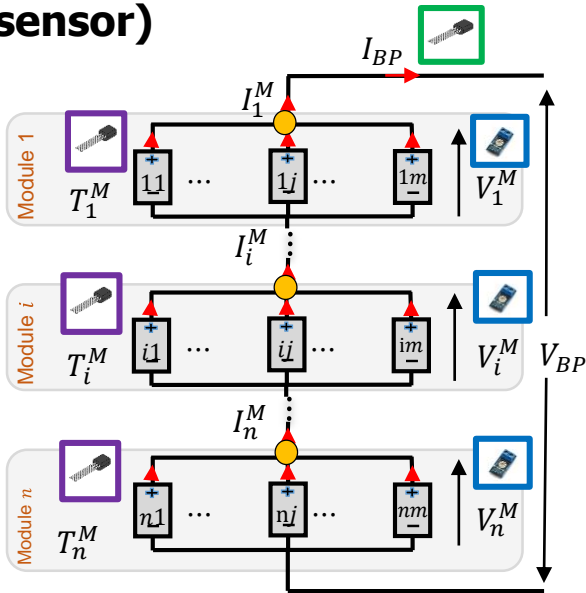
***mPnS***  
(*m* parallel of *n* series cells) **AR= -1**



# Can a **traditional sensor set** diagnose/isolate internal and external short circuit faults as well as sensors (BMS) faults?




Traditional sensor set for the  $nSmP$  topology battery pack:

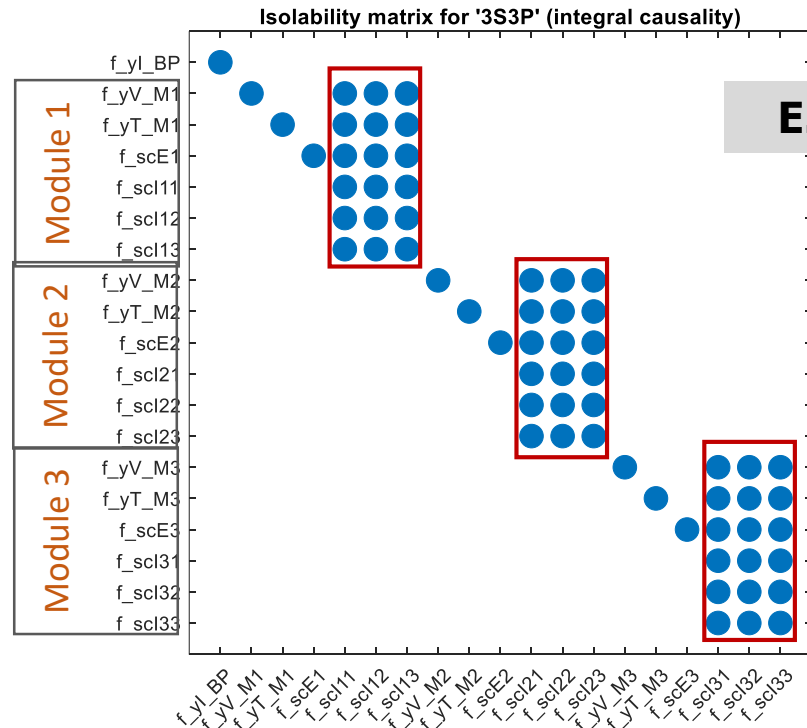
- a **load current sensor** to measure  $I_{BP}$ .
- cells that are in parallel share a voltage sensor (**each module has a voltage sensor**).
- cells that are in parallel share a temperature sensor (**each module has a temperature sensor**)



$nSmP$

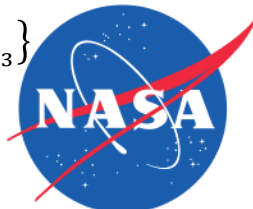
Series of parallel cells

-  **Current sensor**
-  **Voltage sensor**
-  **Temperature sensor**



E.g. 3S3P

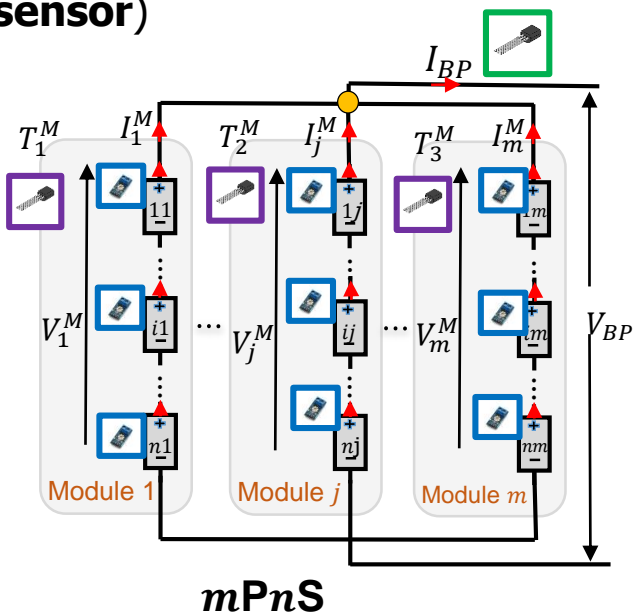
Fault isolability matrix of 3S3P topology battery pack with traditional sensor set  $\{y_{I_{BP}}, y_{V_{M1}}, y_{V_{M2}}, y_{V_{M3}}, y_{T_{M1}}, y_{T_{M2}}, y_{T_{M3}}\}$






# Can a **traditional sensor set** diagnose/isolate internal and external short circuit faults as well as sensors (BMS) faults?

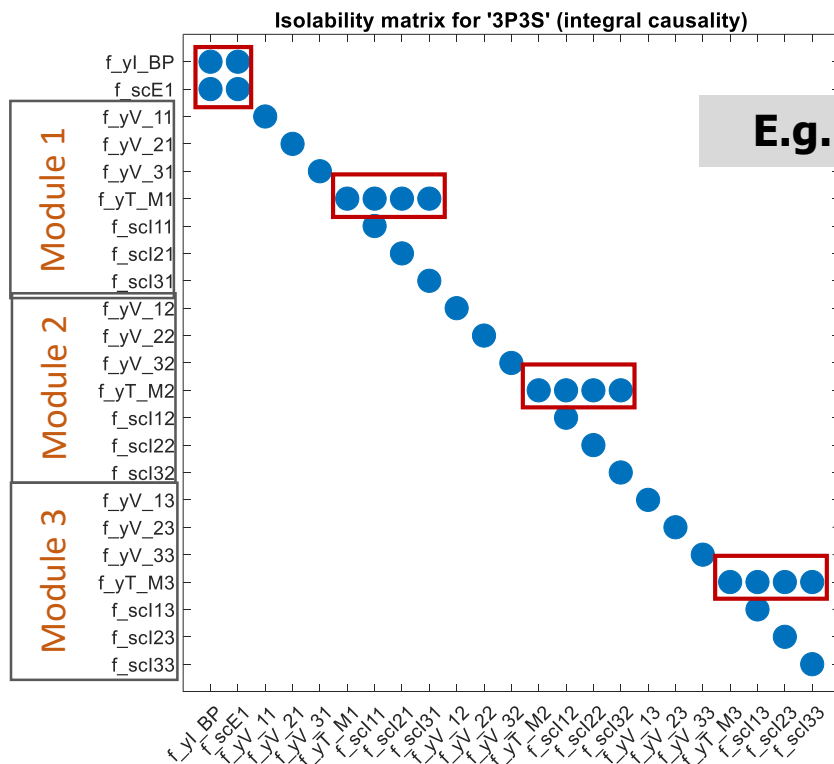
Traditional sensor set for the  $mPnS$  topology:

- a **load current sensor** to measure  $I_{BP}$ .
- **each cell has its own voltage sensor.**
- cells that are in series share a single temperature sensor (**each module has a temperature sensor**)



Parallel of series connected cells

-  **Current sensor**
-  **Voltage sensor**
-  **Temperature sensor**



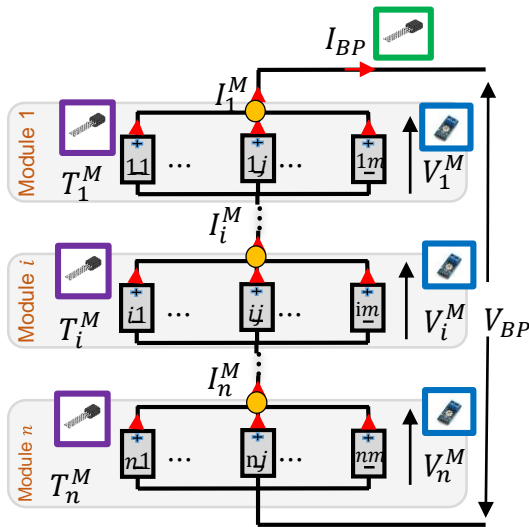
E.g. 3P3S

Fault isolability matrix of 3P3S topology battery pack with traditional sensor set  $\{y_{I_{BP}}, y_{T_{M1}}, y_{T_{M2}}, y_{T_{M3}}, y_{V_{11}}, y_{V_{21}}, y_{V_{31}}, y_{V_{12}}, y_{V_{22}}, y_{V_{32}}, y_{V_{13}}, y_{V_{23}}, y_{V_{33}}\}$



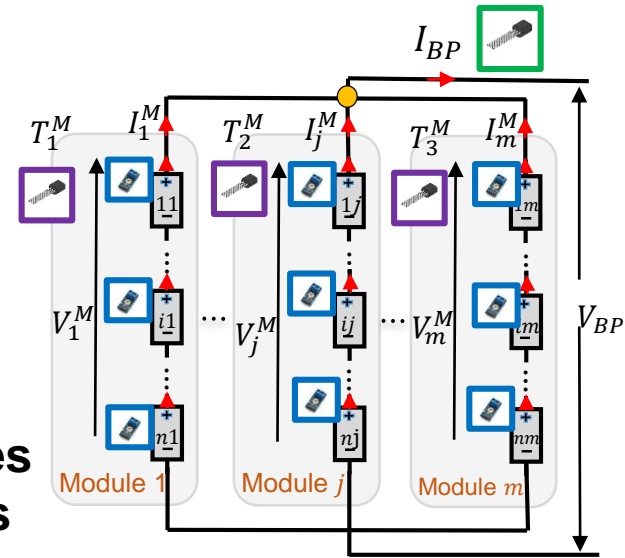
# Diagnostic property of two battery pack topologies with traditional sensor set (summary)

Can a **traditional sensor set** diagnose/isolate internal and external short circuit faults as well as sensors (BMS) faults?



**nSmP**  
Series of parallel cells

**mPnS**  
Parallel of series connected cells



# sensors: 1 pack current +  $n$  module temperatures +  $n$  module voltages (positive)

**Detectability:** all the faults can be detected (positive)

**Module fault isolability:** isolate faults between module (positive)

**Cell fault isolability:** not allow for isolating which cell happens to be faulted in the module (negative)

# sensors: 1 pack current +  $m$  module temperatures +  $n \times m$  cell voltages (negative)

**Detectability:** all the faults can be detected (positive)

**Module fault isolability:** isolate which fault is happening and in which module, except battery pack current sensor fault and the external short circuit fault (positive)

**Cell fault isolability:** allow for isolating which cell happens to be faulted in the module, except the temperature sensor fault is not isolable from the internal short circuit faults. (positive)

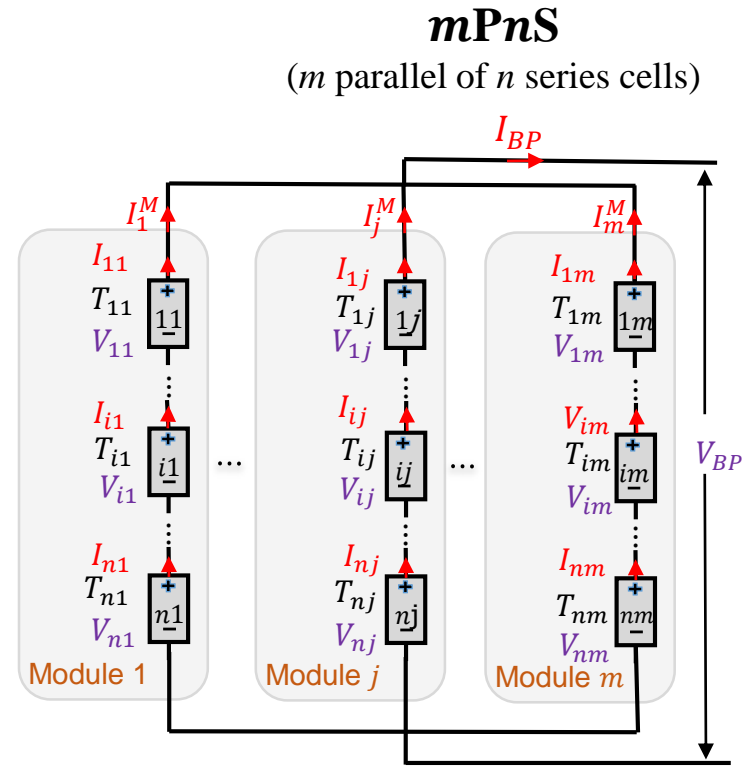
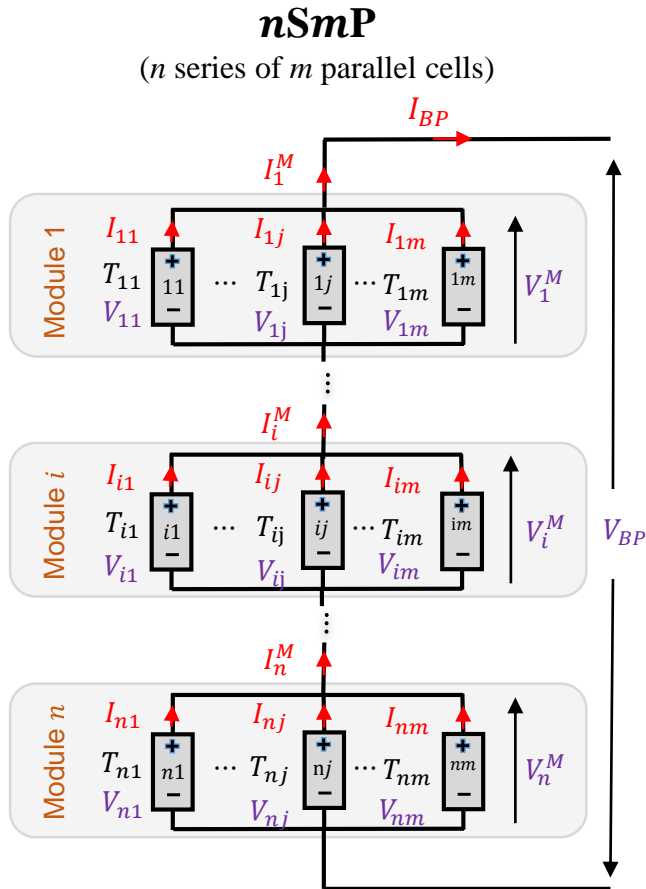


# PERFORMING SENSOR PLACEMENT TO FIND MINIMAL SENSOR SET THAT CAN ACHIEVE COMPLETE FAULT ISOLATION



# Possible sensor locations and types

Type of fault that we want to diagnose: internal and external short circuit, and sensor faults ( sensor faults depend on the sensor set added to the system.)



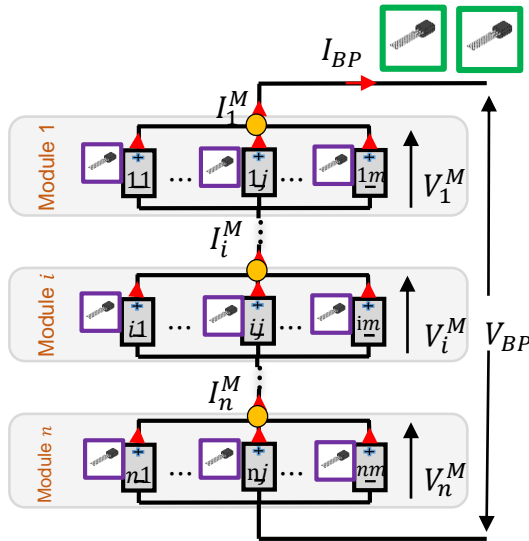
**Locations: cell, module, pack**  
**Types: current, voltage or temperature**

All the possible combination of sensor set are considered






# Optimal Sensor Placement for Battery Packs

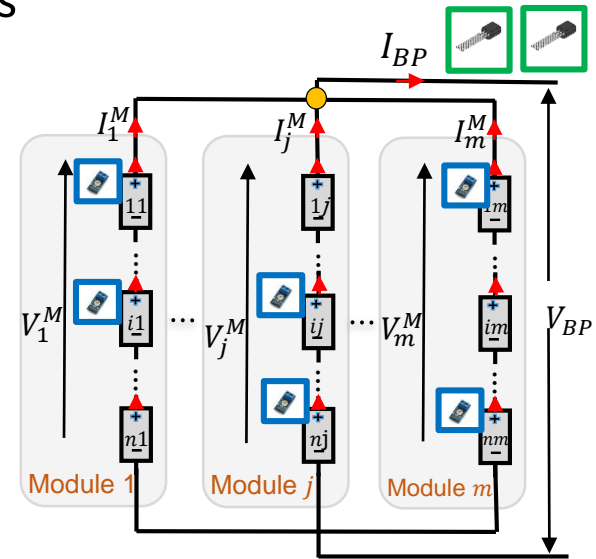
**Goal:** complete detection/isolation of internal and external short circuit conditions as well as sensors (BMS) faults, without cost constraints



**nSmP**

**Series of parallel cells**

-  **Load current sensor**
-  **Voltage/Temperature sensor**
-  **Current/Temperature sensor**



**mPnS**

**Parallel of series connected cells**

**The minimum sensor set:**

**Module level:** Each cell should be equipped with a sensor. It could measure current or temperature. Preferred  $n \cdot m$  cell current measurement (negative)

**Pack level:** 2 duplicate sensors to measure battery pack current. (same)

**The addition of voltage sensors doesn't help.**

**The minimum sensor set:**

**Module level:**  $n - 1$  cells in each module should be equipped with a sensor. It could measure voltage or temperature. Preferred  $(n - 1) \cdot m$  cell voltage measurement (positive)

**Pack level:** 2 duplicate sensors to measure battery pack current. (same)

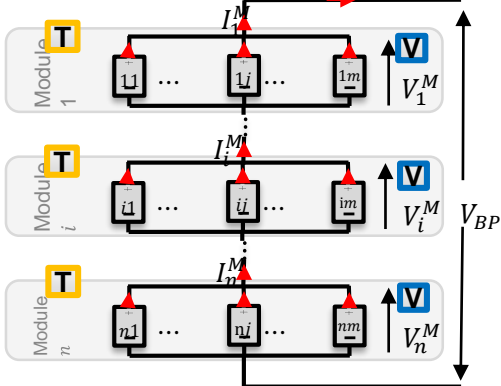
**The addition of current sensors doesn't help.**



# Conclusions

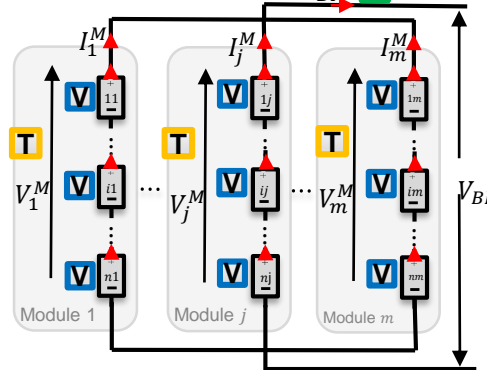
- A comparative analysis between SP and PS has been carried out
  - PS seems to have several advantages due to the fact that the entity of the fault or imbalance in case of malfunction is  $n$  times smaller than SP, however the malfunction is spread across the whole pack
- A methodology for the optimal sensor set has been proposed and compared with traditional sensor set. The team is performing further economic analysis.

## $nSmP$



(a)  $nSmP$  with traditional sensor set

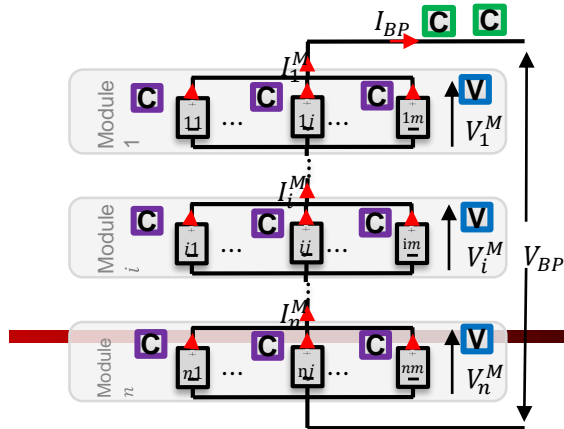
## $mPnS$



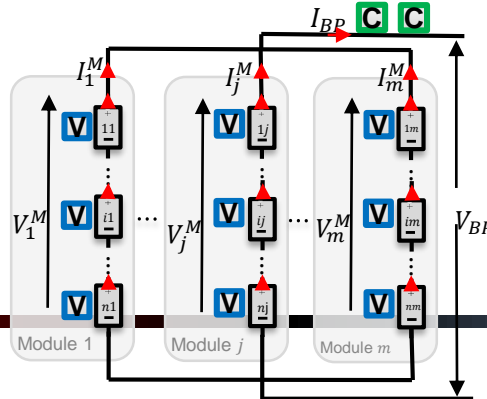
(b)  $mPnS$  with traditional sensor set

Traditional set up for battery packs  
Having partial fault detection and isolation (FDI) capability

- C Load current sensor
- V Voltage sensor and hardware for voltage balancing
- C Cell current sensor
- T Temperature sensor



(c)  $nSmP$  with optimal sensor set



(d)  $mPnS$  with optimal sensor set

Optimal set up for battery pack  
Having fully fault detection and isolation (FDI) capability



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# Thank You for Your Kind Attention!

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