

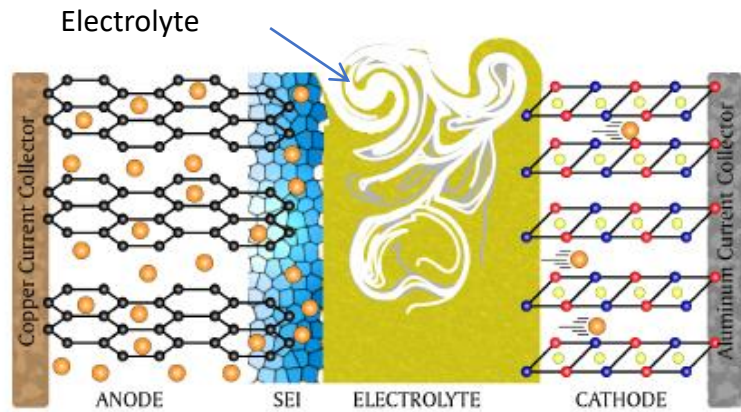
THERMAL ANALYSIS PROJECTIONS FOR SCALE UP FROM 18650 TO 21700

Paul Coman and Ralph E. White

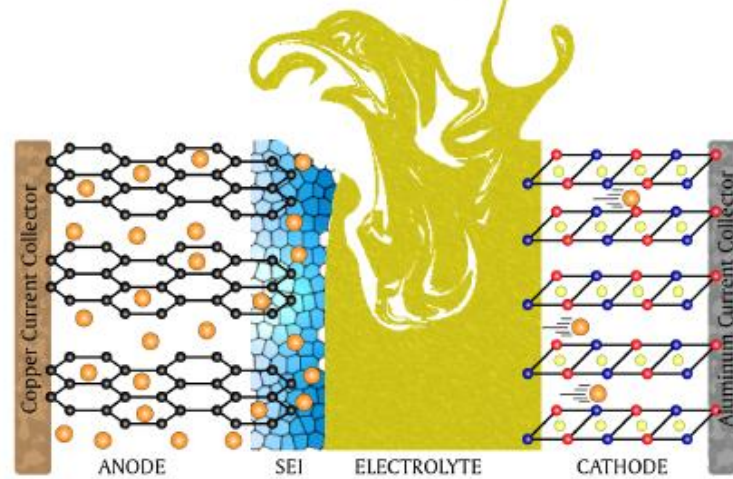
NASA Team: Eric Darcy, David Petrushenko, Jacob Darst, Jesus Trillo



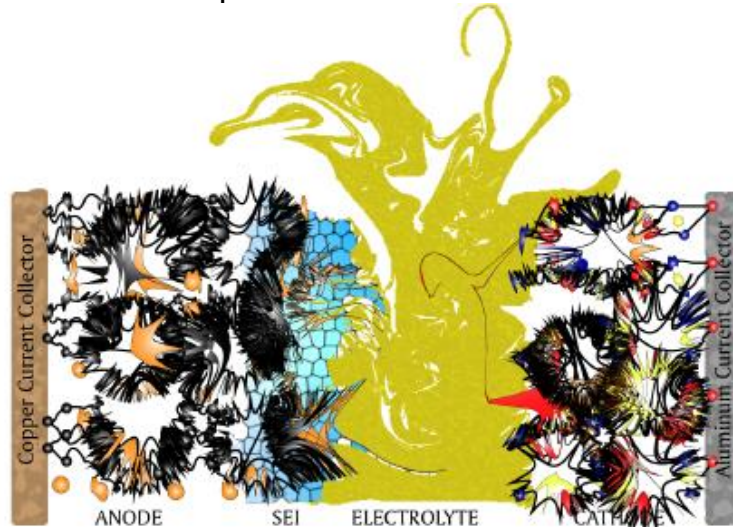
THERMAL RUNAWAY IN 18650 (HEAT TRIGGER)



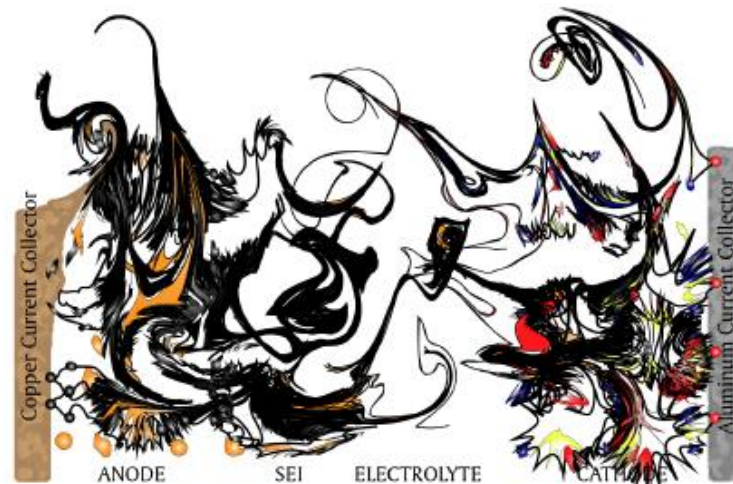
a) The pressure inside increases



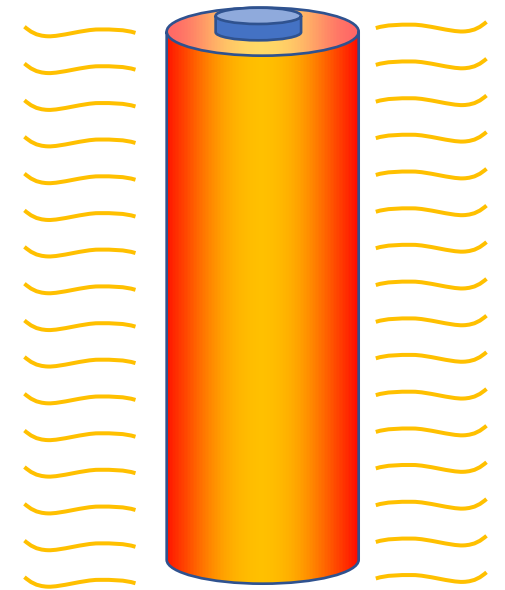
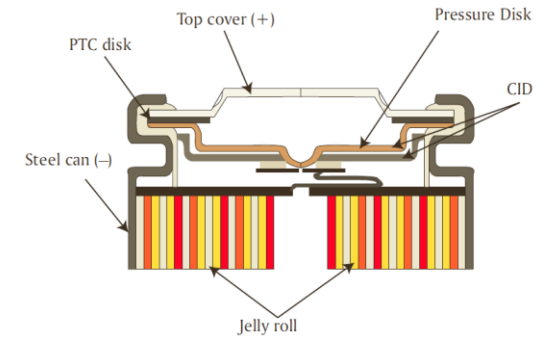
b) The CID membrane opens (1st venting)



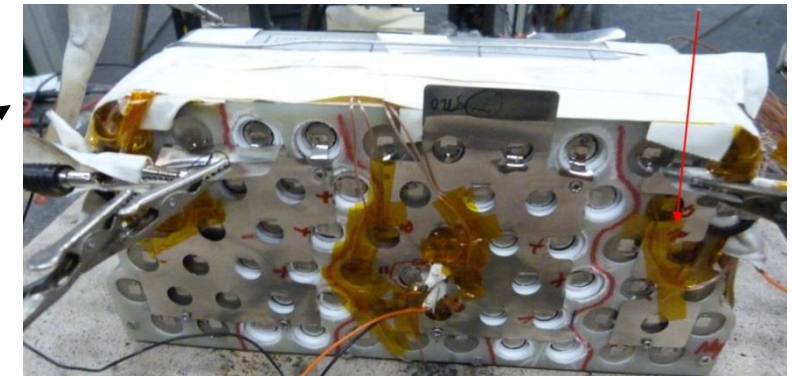
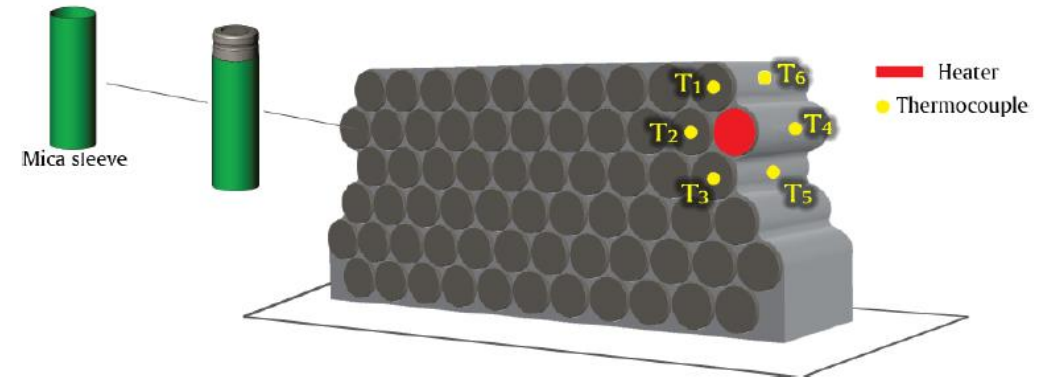
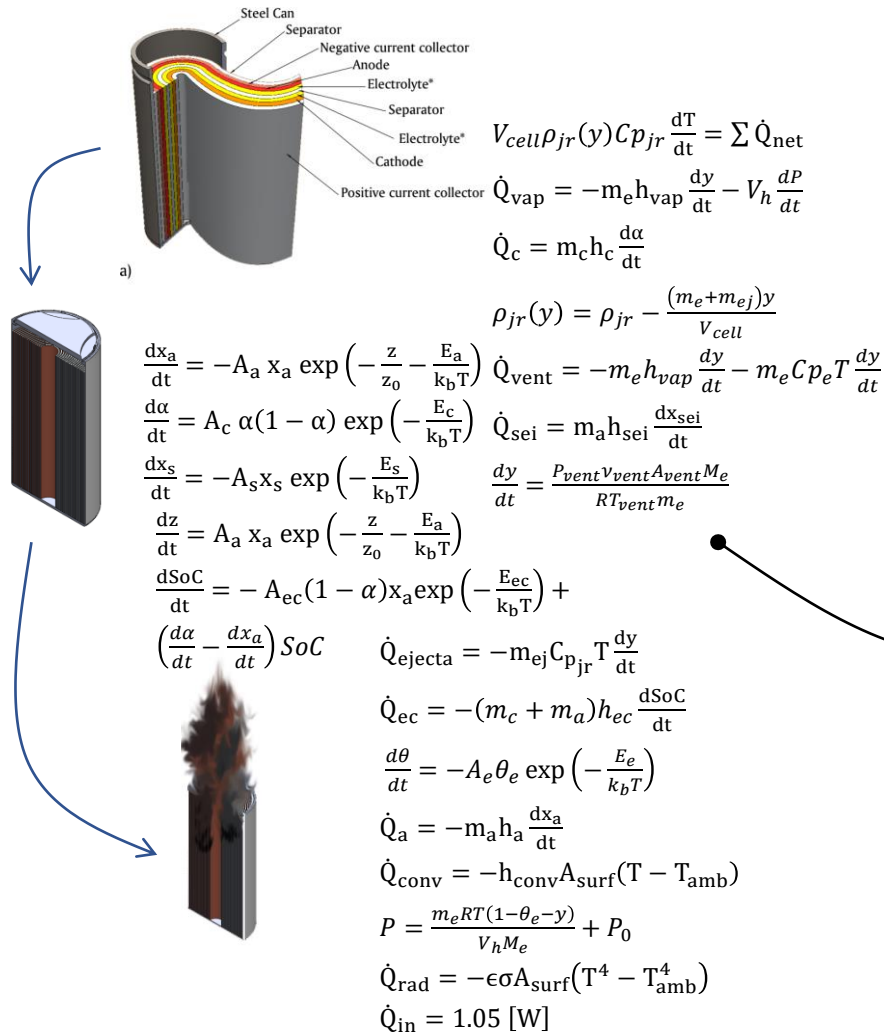
c) The Decomposition are activated



d) Parts of the solids are ejected out (2nd venting)



TRANSITION FROM FUNDAMENTALS TO REAL-LIFE



SIMPLIFICATION OF PACK TR

- Energy Balance (using effective properties):

$$m_{\text{cell}} C_{p\text{eff}} \frac{dT}{dt} = \dot{Q}_a + \dot{Q}_c + \dot{Q}_{\text{sei}} + \dot{Q}_{\text{ec,ISC}} + \dot{Q}_{\text{conv}} + \dot{Q}_{\text{rad}} + \dot{Q}_{\text{heater}}$$

- Heat Sources and fluxes:

- Decomposition of anode:

$$\dot{Q}_a = m_a h_a \frac{dx_a}{dt}$$

- Decomposition of cathode:

$$\dot{Q}_c = m_c h_c \frac{d\alpha}{dt}$$

- Decomposition of SEI:

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{sei}} = m_a h_{\text{sei}} \frac{dx_{\text{sei}}}{dt}$$

- Electrochemical reactions:

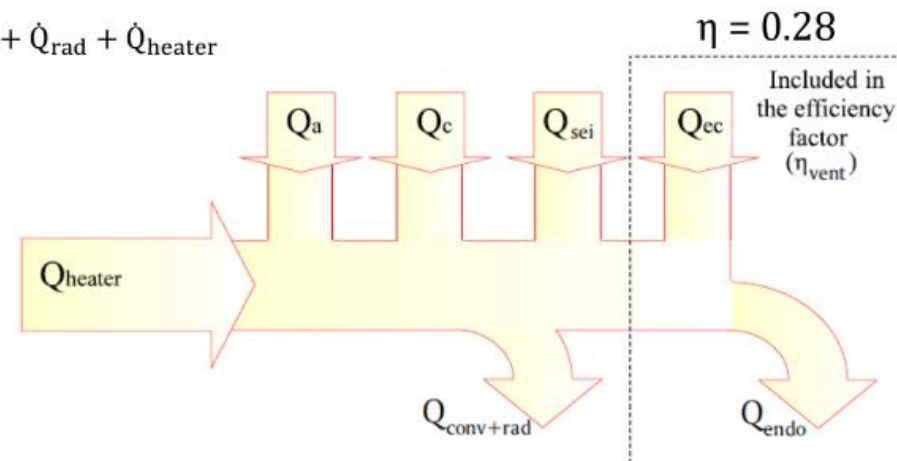
$$\dot{Q}_{\text{ec}} = \eta H_{\text{ec}} \frac{d\text{SoC}}{dt}$$

- Heat rate due to radiation:

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{rad}} = -\epsilon \sigma A_{\text{surf}} (T^4 - T_{\text{amb}}^4)$$

- Heat rate due to convection:

$$\dot{Q}_{\text{conv}} = -h_{\text{conv}} A_{\text{surf}} (T - T_{\text{amb}})$$



- State of Charge Equation

$$\frac{d\text{SoC}}{dt} = \text{ISC}_{\text{cond}} \text{SoC} \cdot A_{\text{ISC}} \exp\left(-\frac{E_{\text{ISC}}}{k_b T}\right)$$

- Triggering condition:

$$\text{ISC}_{\text{cond}} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } T \leq 57^\circ\text{C} \\ 1 & \text{if } T > 57^\circ\text{C} \end{cases}$$

Simplified
SoC

SIMPLIFICATION

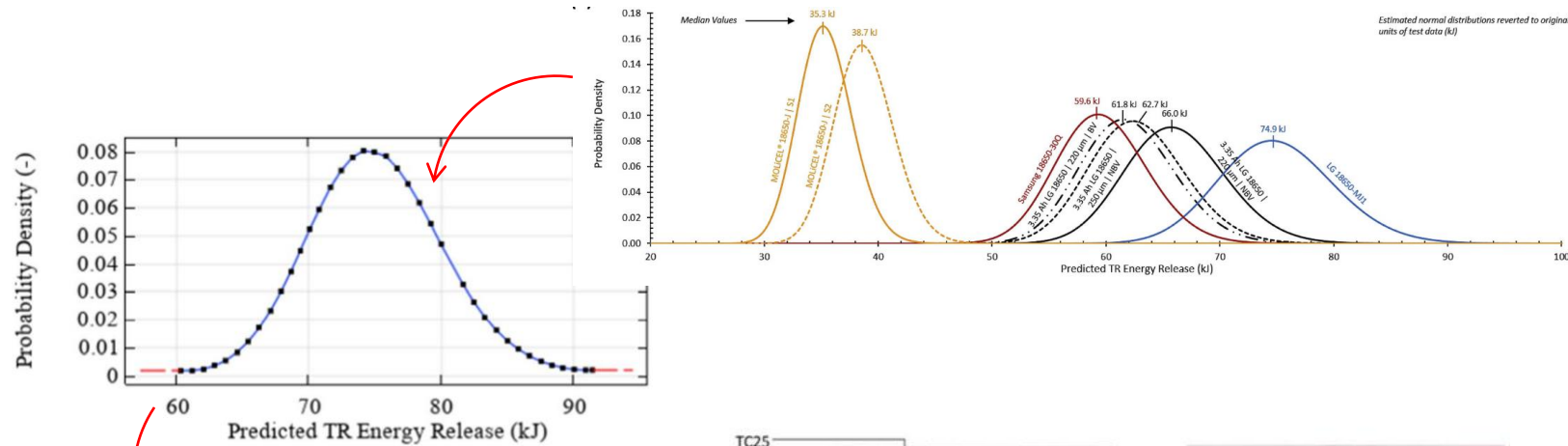


Figure 2. Predicted TR Energy for an LG 18650 MJ1 cell.²⁶

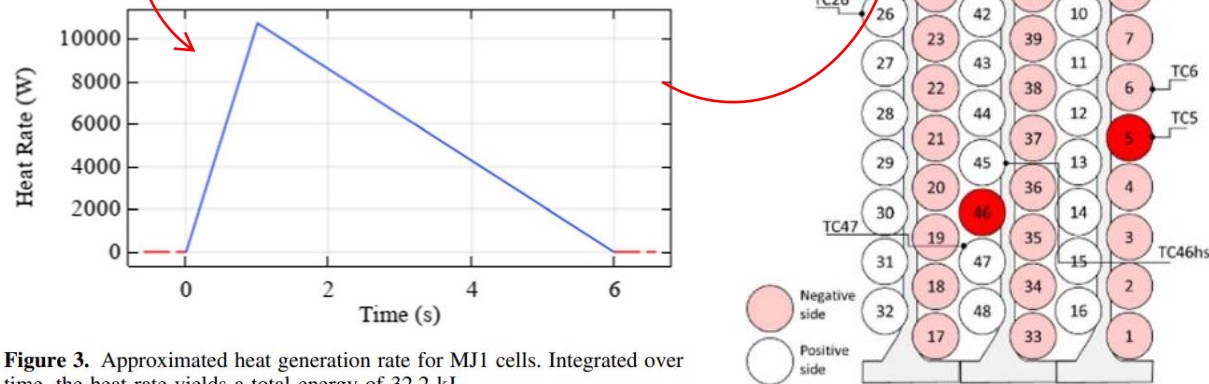
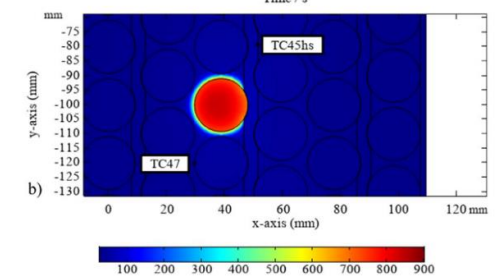
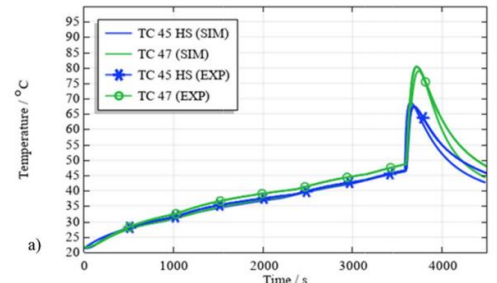
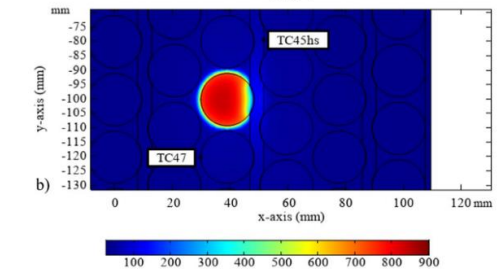
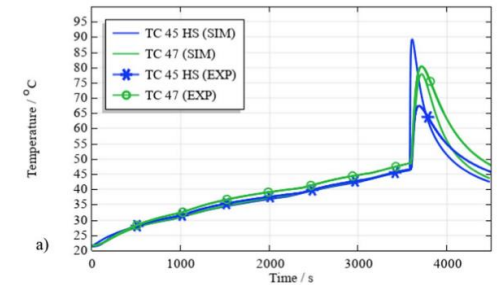


Figure 3. Approximated heat generation rate for MJ1 cells. Integrated over time, the heat rate yields a total energy of 32.2 kJ.

Paul T. Coman, Eric C. Darcy and Ralph E. White, Simplified Thermal Runaway Model for Assisting the Design of a Novel Safe Li-Ion Battery Pack, 2022 *J. Electrochem. Soc.* **169** 040516

William Q. Walker, John J. Darst, Donal P. Finegan, Gary A. Bayles, Kenneth L. Johnson, Eric C. Darcy, Steven L. Rickman, Decoupling of heat generated from ejected and non-ejected contents of 18650-format lithium-ion cells using statistical methods, *Journal of Power Sources*, 415 (2019) 207-218

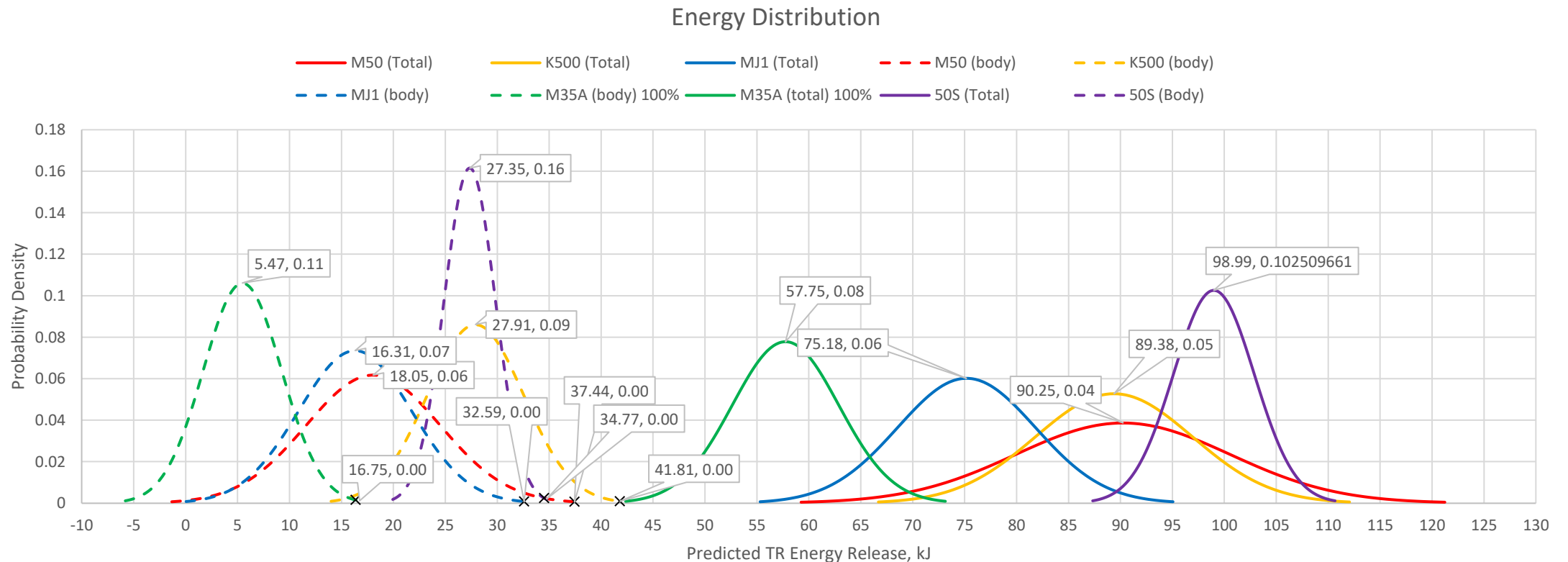


SAMPLE FOR LG18650-MJ1

LG 18650-MJ1

| Item | Unit | Orion-Run4 | Orion-Run5 | Orion-Run7 | Orion-Run8 | Orion-Run10 | Orion-Run11 | Orion-Run13 | DLS-Run55 | DLS-Run56 | DLS-Run59 | DLS-Run60 | DLS-Run62 | Orion-Run1 | Orion-Run2 | Orion-Run12 | NBR | | BR | | GLOBAL | |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|-------|----------|-------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Avg. | St. Dev. | Avg. | St. Dev. | Avg. | St. Dev. |
| Total Energy | kJ | 78.3 | 76.9 | 82.4 | 79.7 | 77.7 | 73.7 | 82.9 | 75.2 | 66.6 | 70.2 | 59.4 | 77.3 | 81.8 | 67.6 | 78.0 | 75.0 | 6.8 | 75.8 | 7.4 | 75.2 | 6.6 |
| Electrochemical Ratio | kJ kJ^{-1} | 1.73 | 1.70 | 1.82 | 1.76 | 1.71 | 1.63 | 1.83 | 1.66 | 1.47 | 1.55 | 1.31 | 1.71 | 1.81 | 1.49 | 1.72 | 1.66 | 0.15 | 1.67 | 0.16 | 1.66 | 0.15 |
| Distribution $E_{\text{Cell Body}}$ | kJ | 17.6 | 14.3 | 13.2 | 10.2 | 10.3 | 15.6 | 18.8 | 17.2 | 11.7 | 19.7 | 8.6 | 20.6 | 17.4 | 19.2 | 30.3 | 14.8 | 4.0 | 22.3 | 7.0 | 16.3 | 5.4 |
| Distribution $E_{\text{Ejecta and Gas (+)}}$ | kJ | 60.4 | 62.2 | 68.7 | 69.1 | 67.0 | 57.4 | 63.1 | 56.5 | 54.2 | 49.7 | 50.0 | 55.7 | 57.4 | 35.2 | 36.2 | 59.5 | 6.7 | 42.9 | 12.5 | 56.2 | 10.2 |
| Distribution $E_{\text{Ejecta and Gas (-)}}$ | kJ | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 7.0 | 13.1 | 11.5 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 10.5 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 4.2 |
| Percent $E_{\text{Cell Body}}$ | % | 22.5 | 18.6 | 16.0 | 12.8 | 13.3 | 21.2 | 22.7 | 22.9 | 17.6 | 28.1 | 14.5 | 26.6 | 21.3 | 28.4 | 38.8 | 19.7 | 5.1 | 29.5 | 8.8 | 21.7 | 6.9 |
| Percent $E_{\text{Ejecta and Gas (+)}}$ | % | 77.1 | 80.9 | 83.4 | 86.7 | 86.2 | 77.9 | 76.1 | 75.1 | 81.4 | 70.8 | 84.2 | 72.1 | 70.2 | 52.1 | 46.4 | 79.3 | 5.3 | 56.2 | 12.4 | 74.7 | 11.6 |
| Percent $E_{\text{Ejecta and Gas (-)}}$ | % | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 8.6 | 19.4 | 14.7 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 14.2 | 5.4 | 3.6 | 5.9 |
| Avg. Heater Power | W | 905.0 | 899.0 | 893.0 | 923.0 | 944.0 | 942.0 | 940.0 | | | | | | 990.0 | 772.0 | 941.0 | 920.9 | 21.8 | 901.0 | 114.4 | 914.9 | 57.6 |
| Time to Trigger | s | 92.3 | 93.5 | 91.7 | 96.2 | 91.8 | 94.2 | 95.4 | 107.0 | 116.7 | 94.9 | 97.0 | 92.5 | 83.9 | 105.9 | 90.6 | 96.9 | 7.5 | 93.5 | 11.3 | 96.2 | 8.0 |
| Avg. Cell Casing Temperature at Trigger | $^{\circ}\text{C}$ | 242.5 | 252.1 | 256.9 | 250.3 | 280.8 | 291.4 | 298.8 | 247.4 | 239.4 | 271.7 | 263.4 | 269.1 | 253.2 | 250.3 | 275.9 | 263.7 | 19.2 | 259.8 | 14.0 | 262.9 | 17.9 |
| Cell Mass (Pre-TR) | g | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | 47.0 | | | | | | |
| Cell Mass (Post-Tr) | g | 11.3 | 10.5 | 12.0 | 7.6 | 9.4 | 9.8 | 13.9 | 13.4 | 10.0 | 17.3 | 8.3 | 16.1 | 11.3 | 15.2 | 20.2 | 11.6 | 3.0 | 15.6 | 4.5 | 12.4 | 3.6 |
| Pos. Ejecta Mating Soot Mass (Post-TR) | g | 4.0 | 8.5 | 0.2 | 5.4 | 7.5 | 8.2 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 6.6 | 1.2 | 8.2 | 2.1 | 3.6 | 2.1 | 0.4 | 4.4 | 3.4 | 2.0 | 1.6 | 3.9 | 3.2 |
| Pos. Ejecta Bore Soot Mass (Post-TR) | g | 14.3 | 15.2 | 20.0 | 21.1 | 17.4 | 14.3 | 17.8 | 17.6 | 15.9 | 17.1 | 17.1 | 18.3 | 13.0 | 14.1 | 8.2 | 17.2 | 2.1 | 11.8 | 3.1 | 16.1 | 3.1 |
| Neg. Ejecta Mating Soot Mass (Post-TR) | g | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.4 |
| Neg. Ejecta Bore Soot Mass (Post-TR) | g | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.9 | 3.5 | 2.4 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 2.6 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 1.1 |
| Estimated Mass Ejected from System | g | 17.4 | 12.8 | 14.8 | 12.9 | 12.7 | 14.7 | 14.7 | 15.1 | 14.5 | 11.4 | 13.4 | 10.5 | 16.8 | 11.2 | 14.5 | 13.7 | 1.8 | 14.2 | 2.8 | 13.8 | 2.0 |
| Casing Thickness | μm | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | | | | | | |

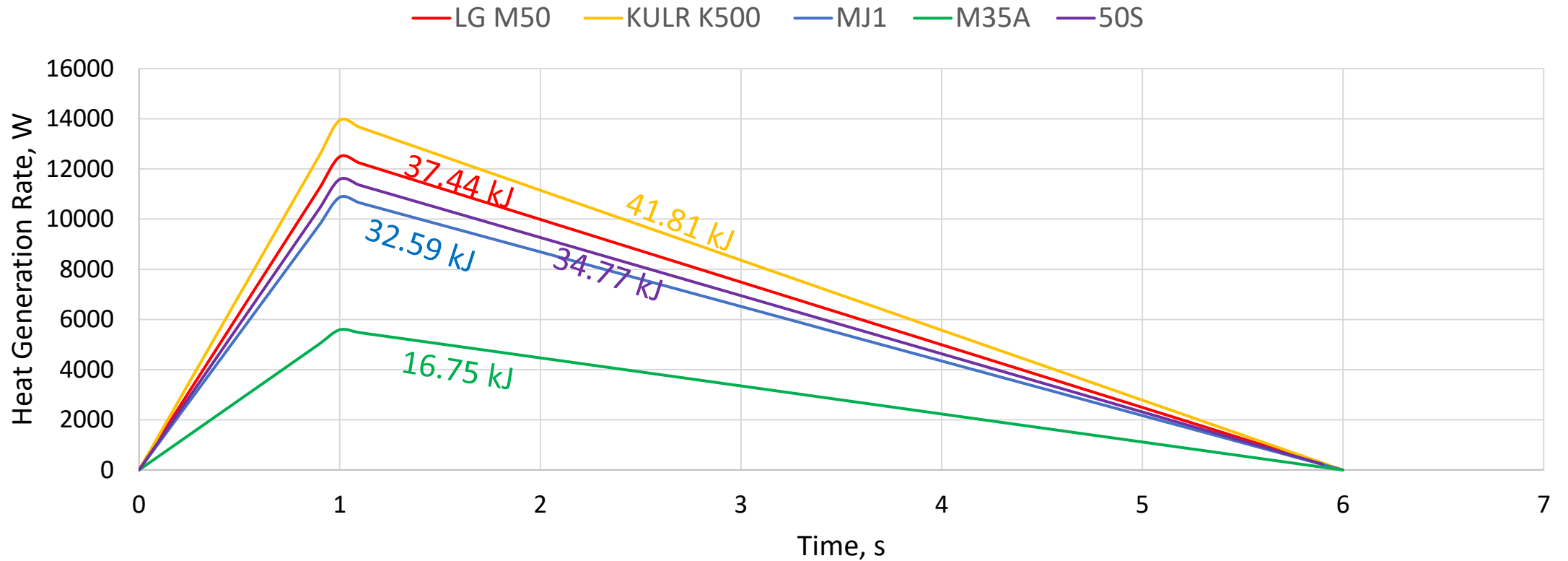
ENERGY DISTRIBUTION (SAMPLE STDEV.S)



See more: Matthew Sharp et al. Thermal Runaway of Li-Ion Cells: How Internal Dynamics, Mass Ejection, and Heat Vary with Cell Geometry and Abuse Type, Journal of The Electrochemical Society, 2022 169 020526

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HEAT RATES



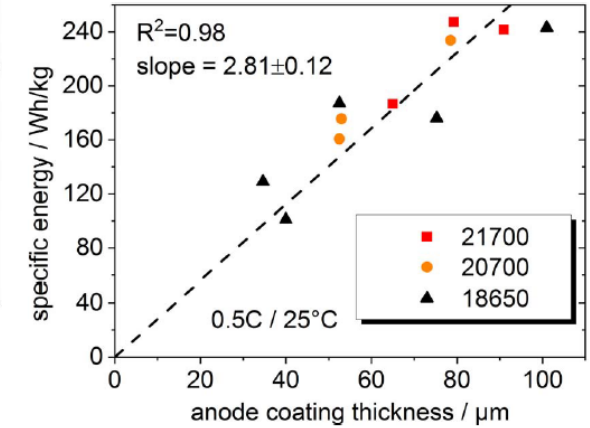
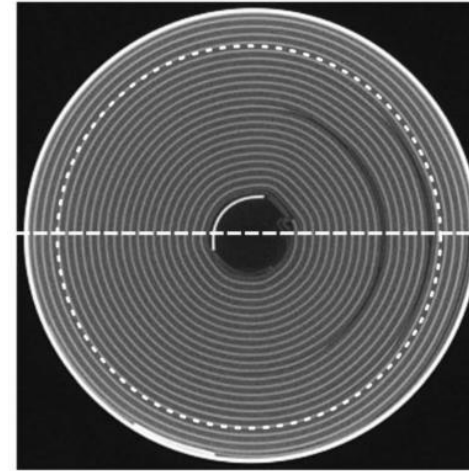
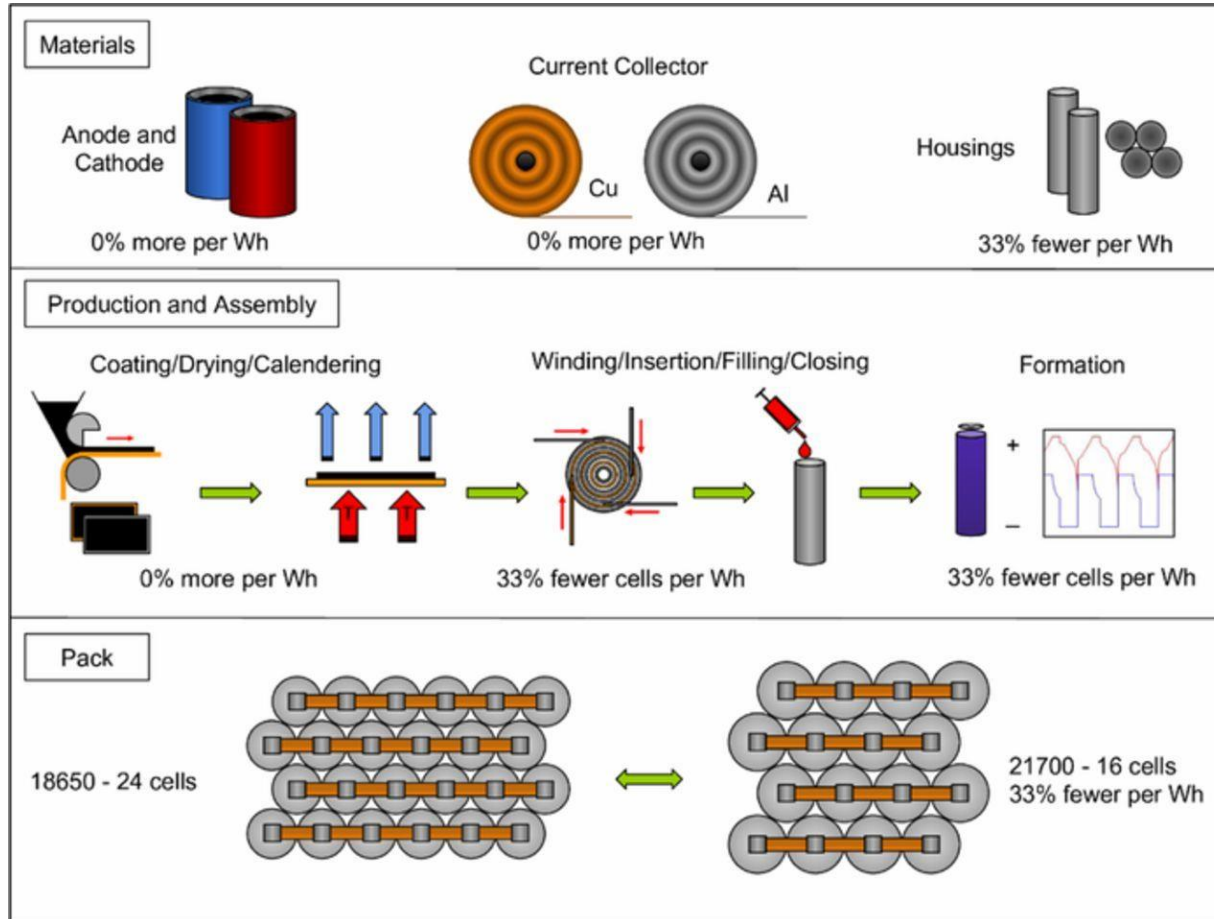
18650 - 21700

- LG MJ1 (18650)
 - 3.5Ah
 - 49 g
 - 3.6V
 - 12.6Wh
 - 257 Wh/kg
 - 711 Wh/L
- Moli M35A
 - 3.5Ah
 - 48 g
 - 3.6V
 - 12.6Wh
 - 262 Wh/kg
- KULR K500 (21700)
 - 5Ah
 - 72 g
 - 3.6V
 - 18Wh
 - 250 Wh/kg
 - 742 Wh/L
- LG M50 (21700)
 - 5Ah
 - 69 g
 - 3.6V
 - 18 Wh
 - 261 Wh/kg

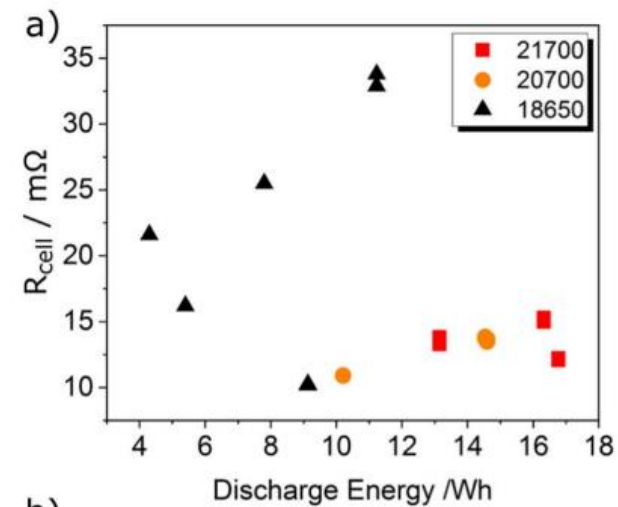
See more: Matthew Sharp et al. Thermal Runaway of Li-Ion Cells: How Internal Dynamics, Mass Ejection, and Heat Vary with Cell Geometry and Abuse Type, Journal of The Electrochemical Society, 2022 169 020526

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18650 - 21700



$$d [\mu\text{m}] = \frac{\text{specific energy [Wh/kg]}}{2.81 \pm 0.12}$$



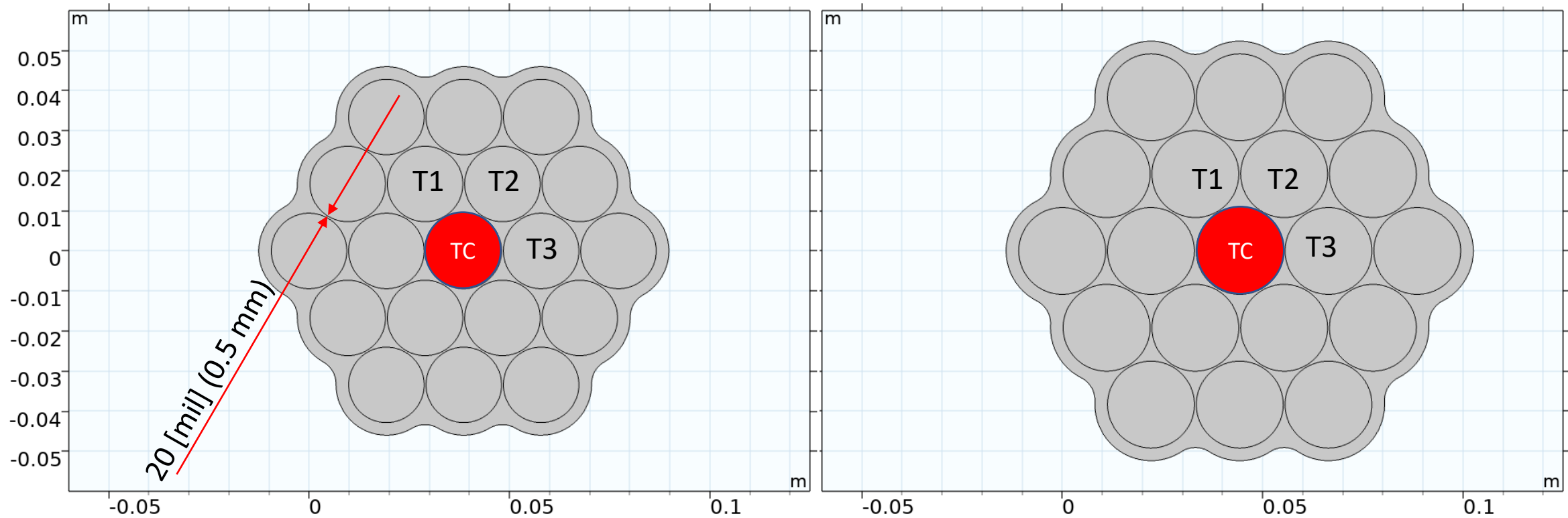
CASE 1 (ADIABATIC PACK)

$m_{\text{tot}} = 1.23 \text{ kg}$
 $Q = 239.4 \text{ Wh}$
 $Q_m = 194 \text{ Wh/kg}$
 $Q_v = 525 \text{ Wh/L}$

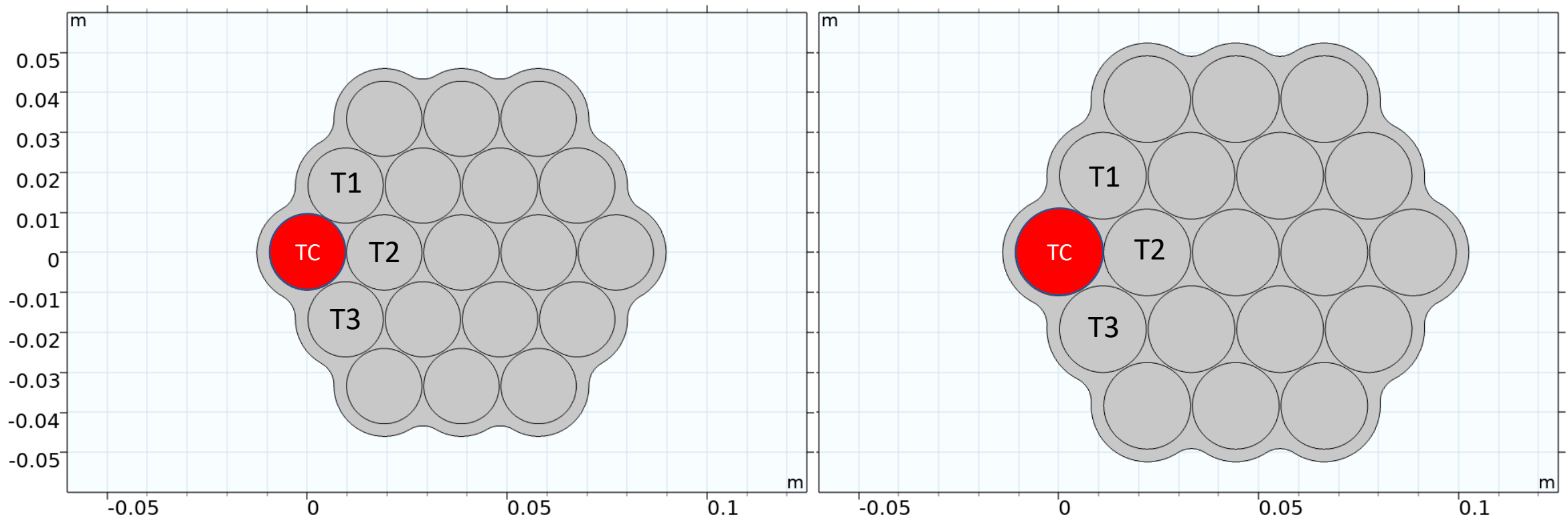
LG MJ1 18650

$m_{\text{tot}} = 1.75 \text{ kg}$
 $Q = 342 \text{ Wh (43\%↑)}$
 $Q_m = 195 \text{ Wh/kg}$
 $Q_v = 539.48 \text{ Wh/L (3\%↑)}$

KULR K500 21700



CASE 2 (ADIABATIC PACK)



MATERIALS USED

AL6061 Heat Sink

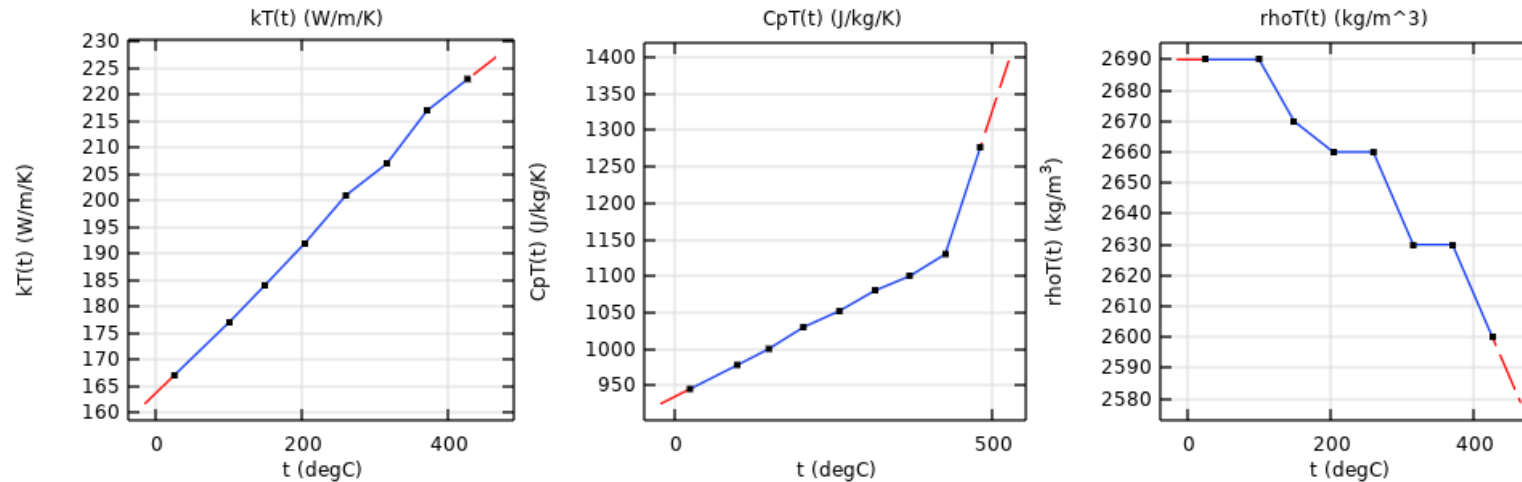
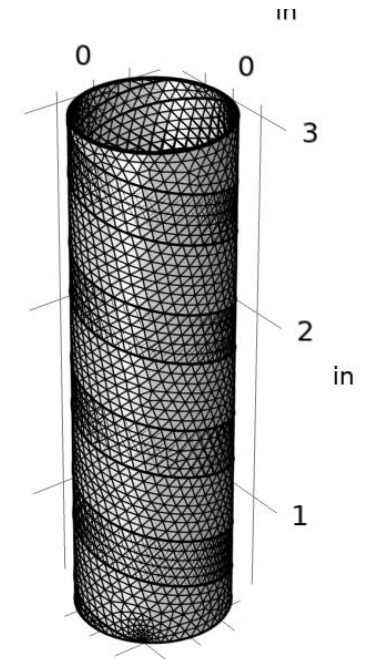
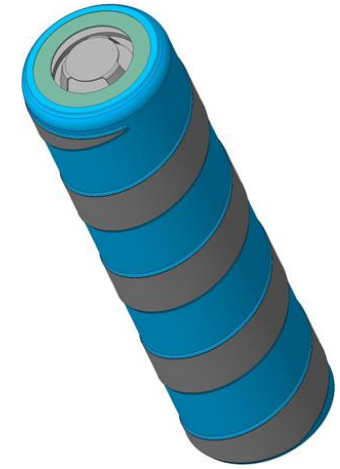
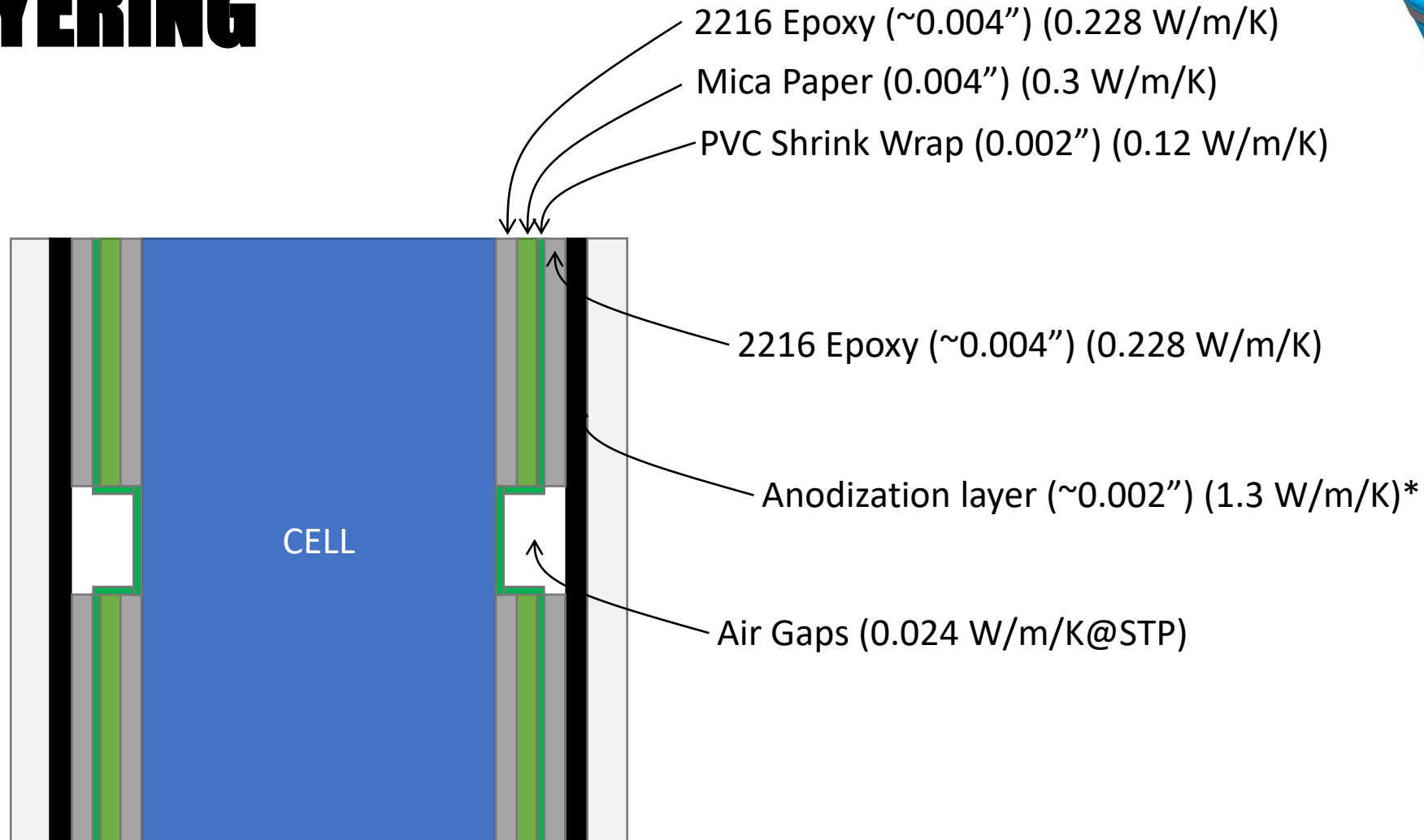


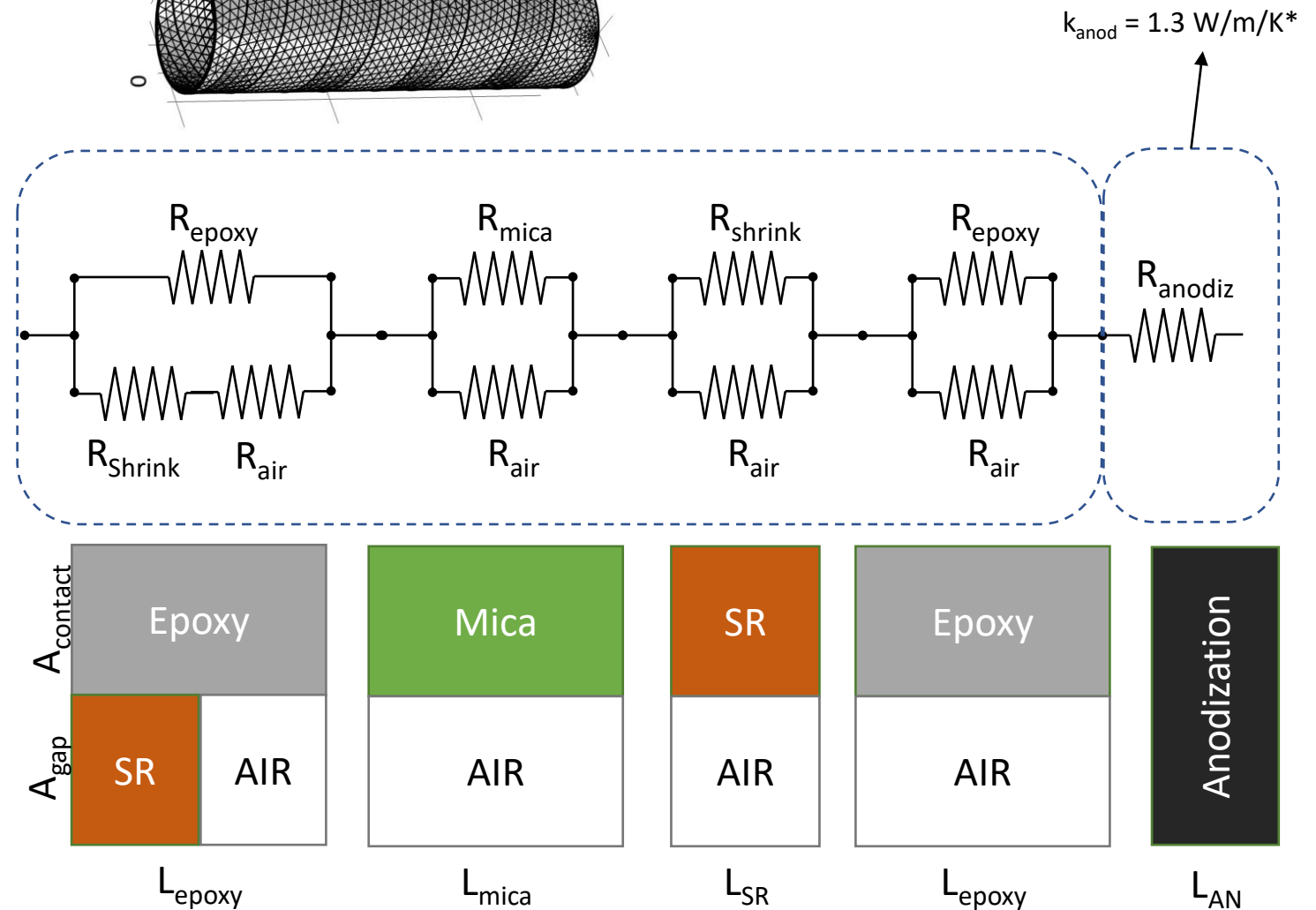
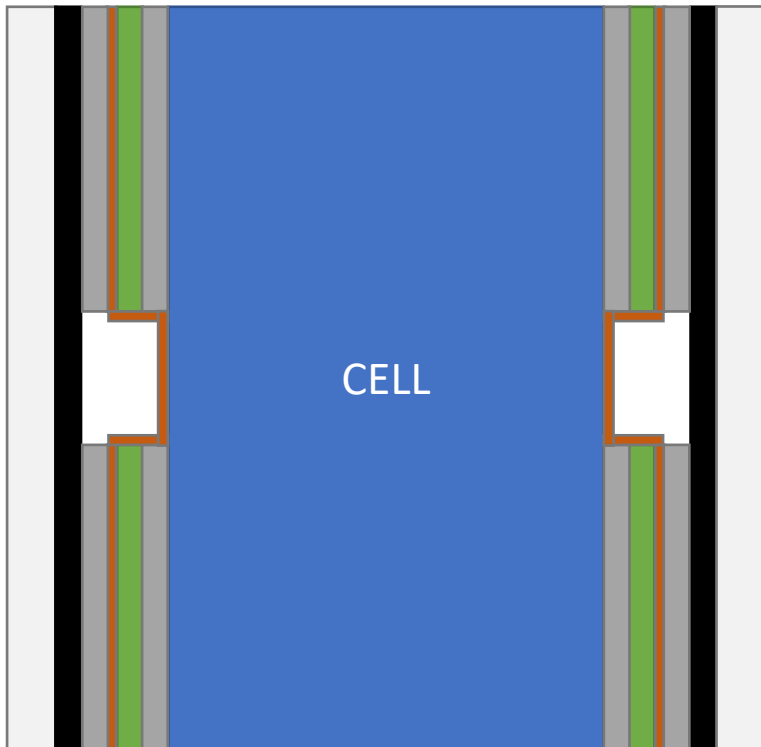
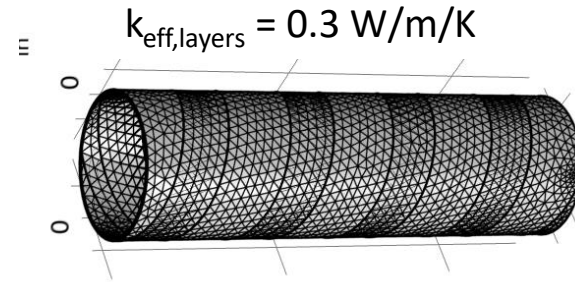
Table 1. Temperature-dependent material properties for Al6061-T6.

| T [°C] | ρ [kg m ⁻³] | E [GPa] | ν | α [10 ⁻⁶ ·°C ⁻¹] | C_p [J kg ⁻¹ ·°C ⁻¹] | λ [W m ⁻¹ ·°C ⁻¹] |
|----------|------------------------------|-----------|-------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 25 | 2690 | 66.94 | 0.33 | 23.5 | 945 | 167 |
| 100 | 2690 | 63.21 | 0.334 | 24.6 | 978 | 177 |
| 149 | 2670 | 61.32 | 0.335 | 25.7 | 1000 | 184 |
| 204 | 2660 | 56.8 | 0.336 | 26.6 | 1030 | 192 |
| 260 | 2660 | 51.15 | 0.338 | 27.6 | 1052 | 201 |
| 316 | 2630 | 47.17 | 0.36 | 28.5 | 1080 | 207 |
| 371 | 2630 | 43.51 | 0.4 | 29.6 | 1100 | 217 |
| 427 | 2600 | 28.77 | 0.41 | 30.7 | 1130 | 223 |
| 482 | - | 20.2 | 0.42 | - | 1276 | - |

LAYERING



LAYERING



MATERIALS USED

18650 M35A

| Cell | Heat capacity [J/gK] | | |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| | @ 0% SOC | @ 30% SOC | @ 100% SOC |
| AR46 (25 °C) | 0.890 | 0.891 | 0.888 |
| AR47 (25 °C) | 0.880 | 0.884 | 0.872 |
| AR48 (25 °C) | 0.878 | 0.878 | 0.879 |
| AR49 (50 °C) | - | 0.859 | - |
| AR50 (50 °C) | - | 0.896 | - |
| AR51 (50 °C) | - | 0.909 | - |
| AR52 (0 °C) | - | * | - |
| AR53 (0 °C) | - | * | - |
| AR54 (0 °C) | - | * | - |

Table IVb. In-plane thermal properties of Sony US-18650 lithium-ion battery components with and without electrolyte [EC-DMC (1:1 wt %)/1 M LiPF₆].

| Materials | ρ (g cm ⁻³) | C_p (J g ⁻¹ K ⁻¹) | α (cm ² s ⁻¹) | | k (W m ⁻¹ K ⁻¹) | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | OCV = 2.45 V | OCV = 3.75 V | OCV = 2.45 V | OCV = 3.75 V |
| PE | 3.121 | 0.602 | 0.115 ± 0.0040 | 0.116 ± 0.0010 | 21.57 | 21.75 |
| NE | 1.620 | 0.598 | 0.090 ± 0.00017 | 0.156 ± 0.0030 | 8.72 | 15.11 |
| PE/Sp/NE | 2.291 | 1.088 | 0.0071 ± 0.0040 | 0.099 ± 0.00150 | 17.69 | 24.66 |
| PE/Sp/NE + electrolyte | 2.78 | 1.278 | 0.058 ± 0.0010 | 0.079 ± 0.0004 | 20.06 | 28.05 |

Table IVa. Cross-plane thermal properties of Sony US-18650 lithium-ion battery components with and without electrolyte [EC-DMC (1:1 wt %)/1 M LiPF₆].

| Materials | ρ (g cm ⁻³) | C_p (J g ⁻¹ K ⁻¹) | α (cm ² s ⁻¹): sd 4×10^{-4} | | k (W m ⁻¹ K ⁻¹) | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | OCV = 2.45 V | OCV = 3.75 V | OCV = 2.45 V | OCV = 3.75 V |
| PE | 3.115 | 0.601 | 0.0124 | 0.0133 | 2.33 | 2.49 |
| NE | 1.622 | 0.623 | 0.0088 | 0.0119 | 0.89 | 1.20 |
| PE/Sp/NE | 2.290 | 1.089 | 0.0076 | 0.0095 | 1.90 | 2.36 |
| PE/Sp/NE + electrolyte | 2.680 | 1.280 | 0.0099 | 0.0100 | 3.39 | 3.40 |

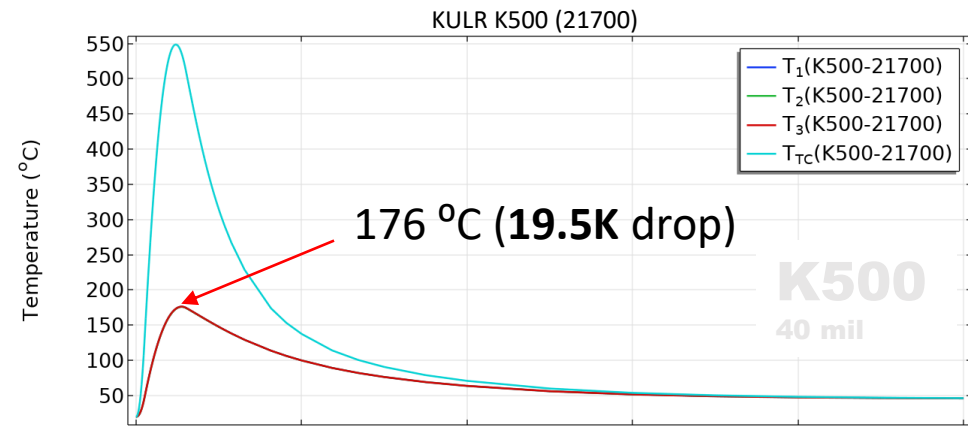
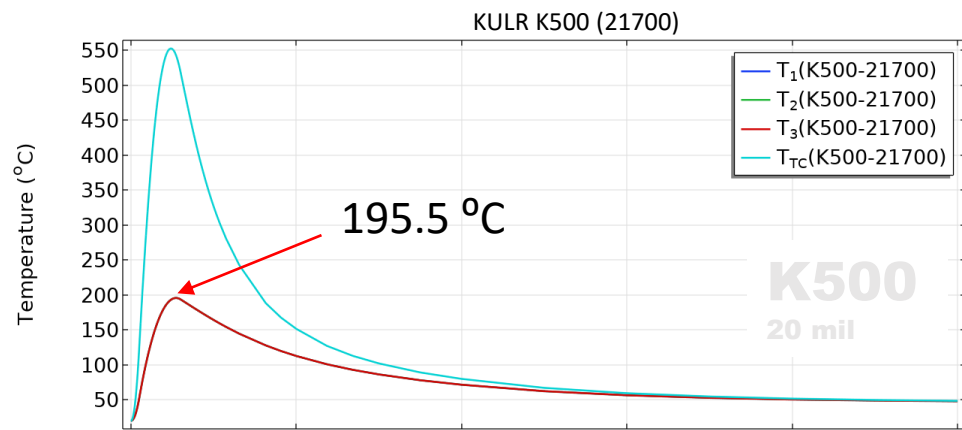
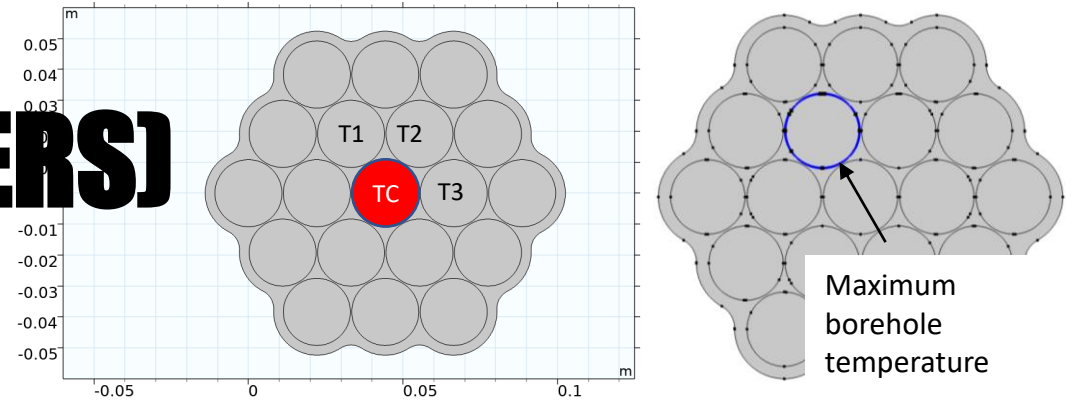
$$\rho = 2,780 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

$$C_p = 880 \text{ J/g/K}$$

$$k_{\text{eff}} = 11.62 \text{ W/m/K}$$

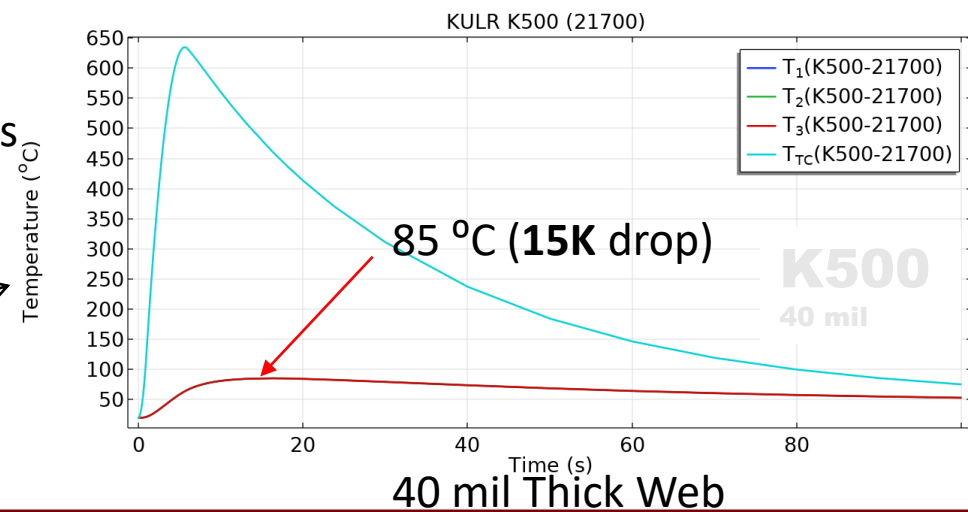
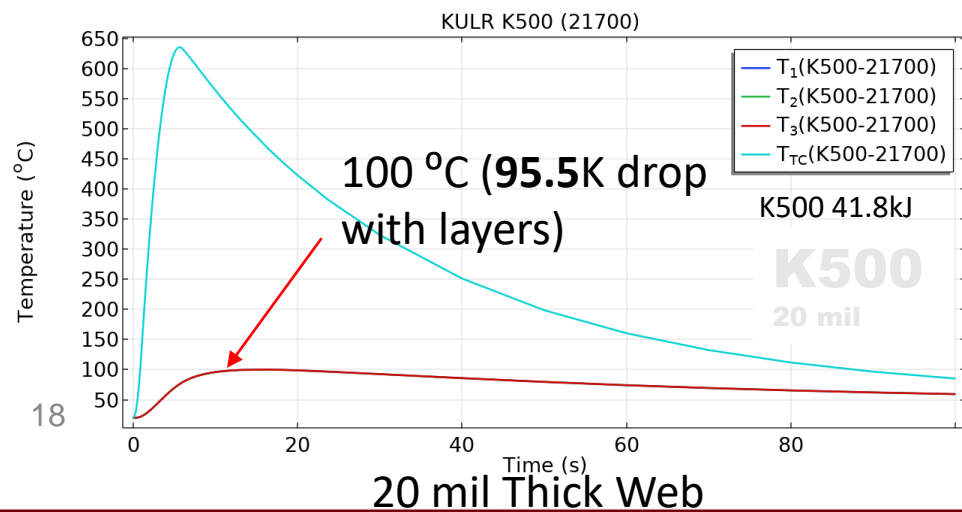
CASE 1 (LAYERS VS. NO LAYERS)

20 mil (left) vs 40mil (right) webbing, TC middle



Layers

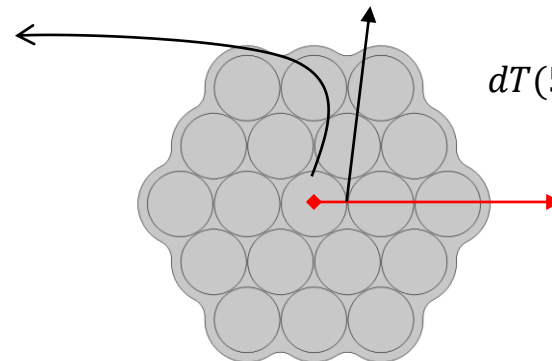
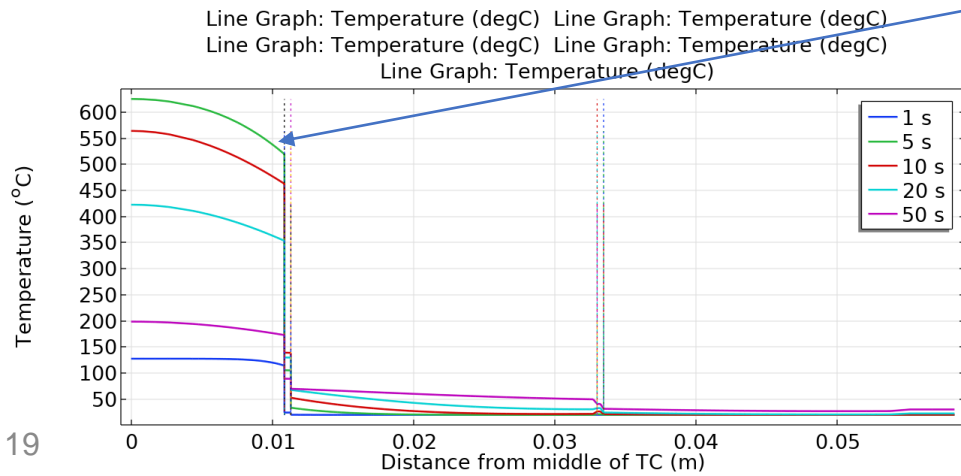
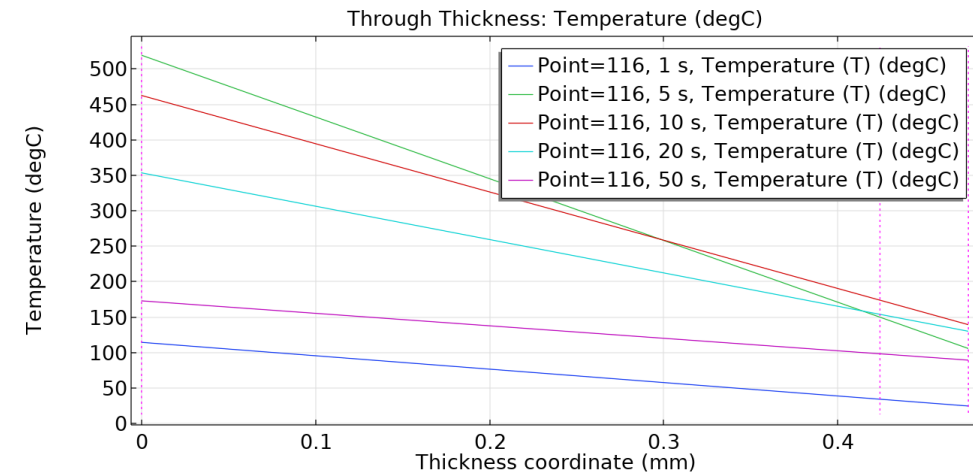
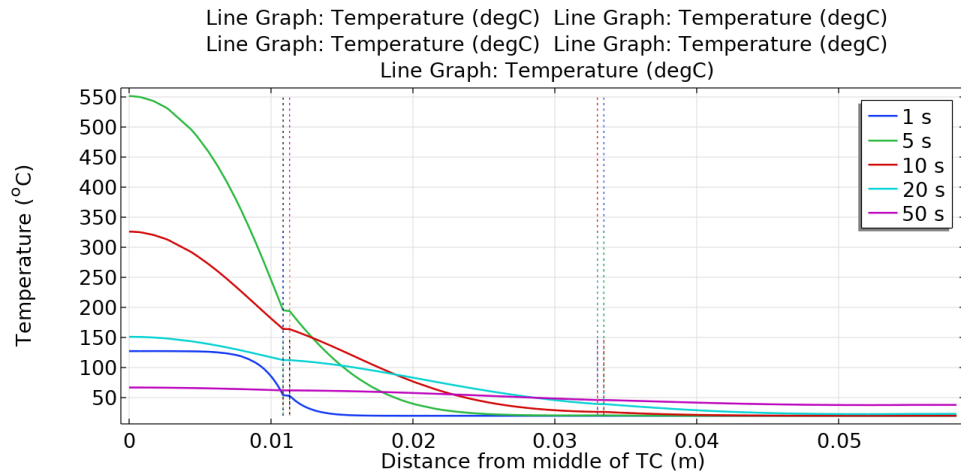
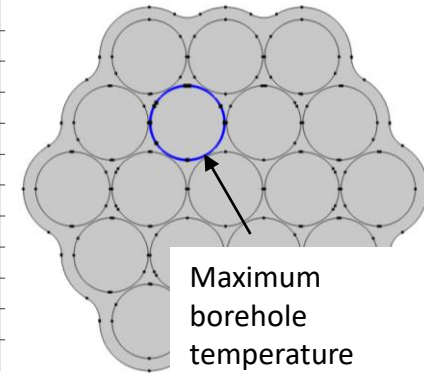
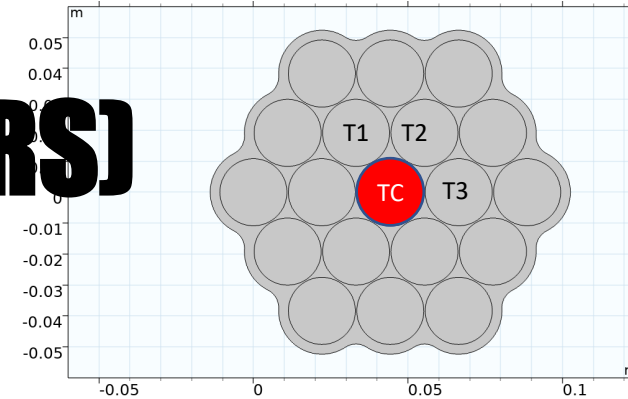
vs.



No Layers

ring
putting

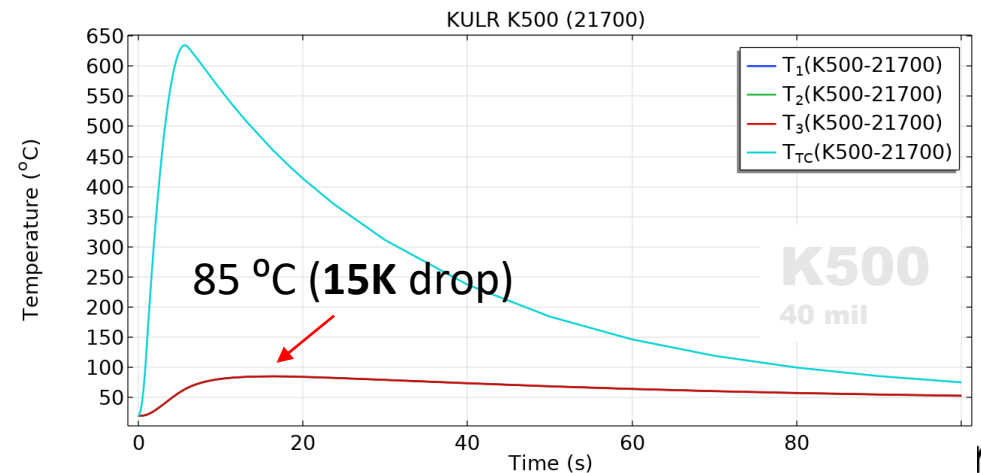
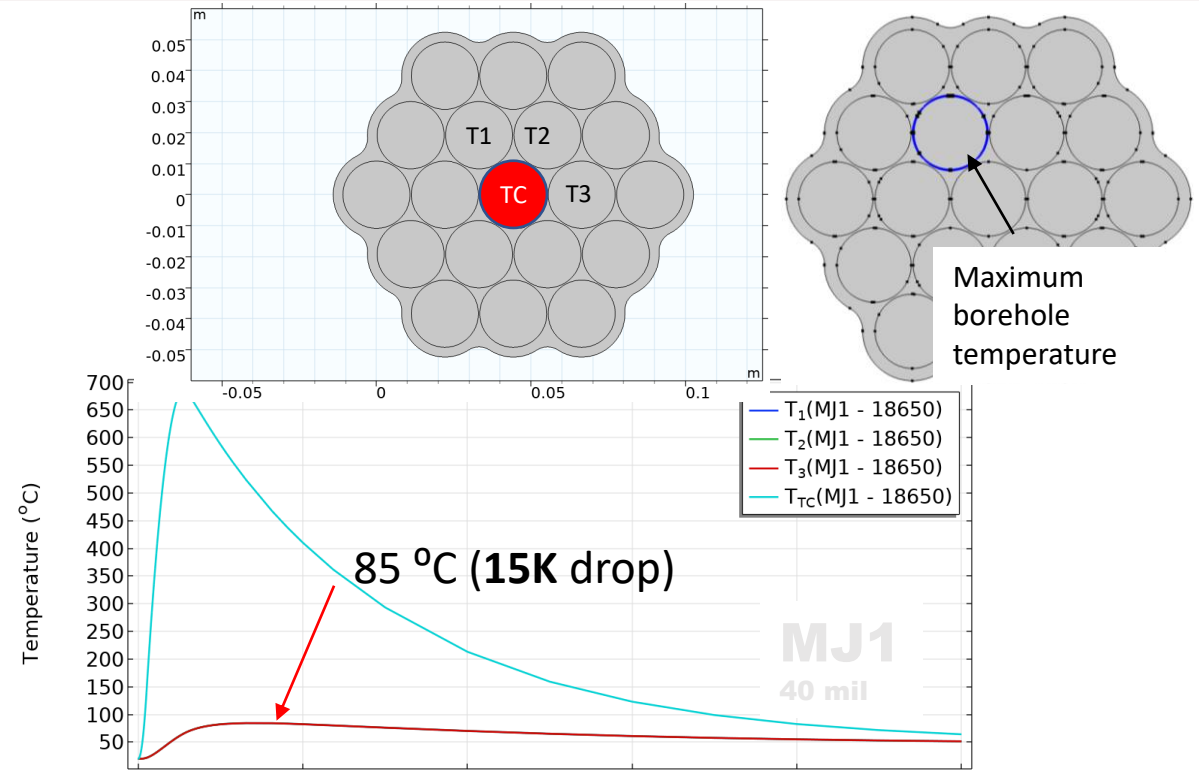
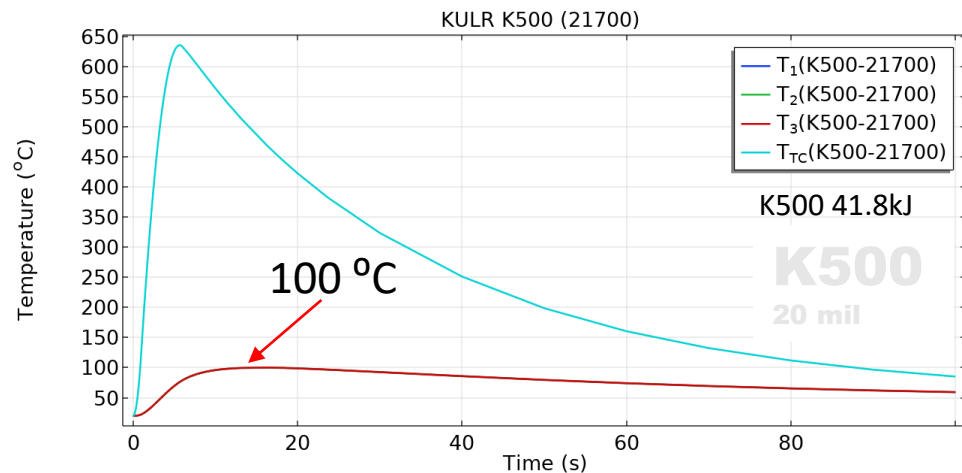
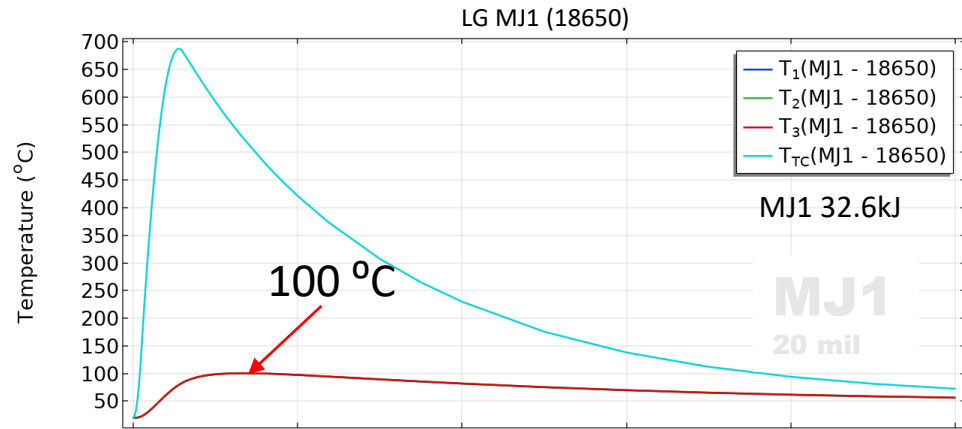
CASE 1 (LAYERS VS. NO LAYERS)



$$dT(5s) = q \frac{dx}{k} = 2.615e5 \left[\frac{W}{m^2} \right] \frac{4.75e-4[m]}{0.3 \left[\frac{W}{mK} \right]} = 414[K]$$

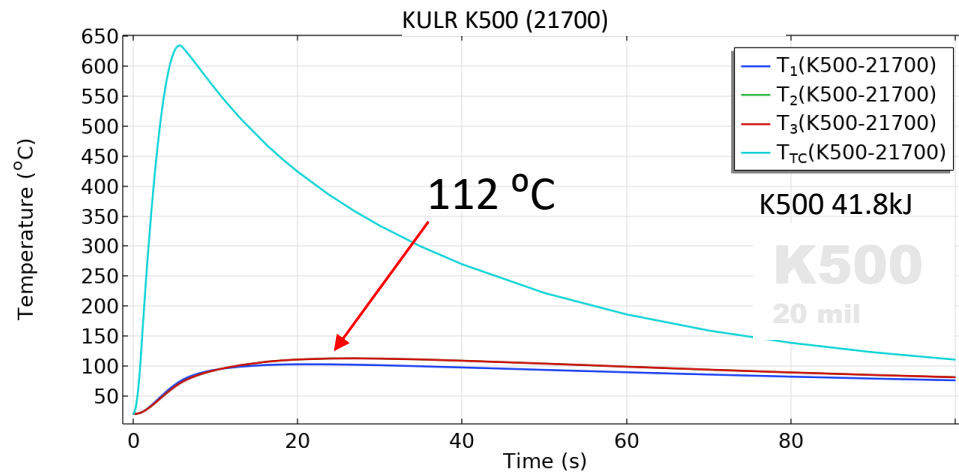
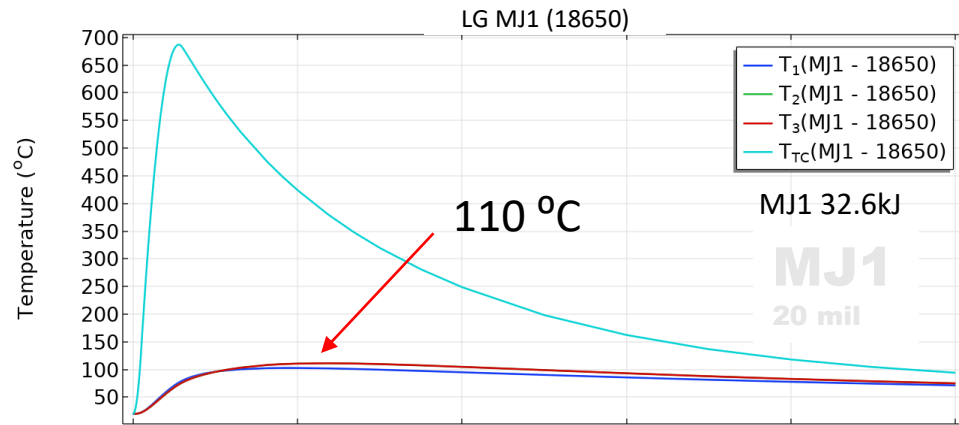
CASE 1

20 mil (left) vs 40mil (right) webbing, TC middle

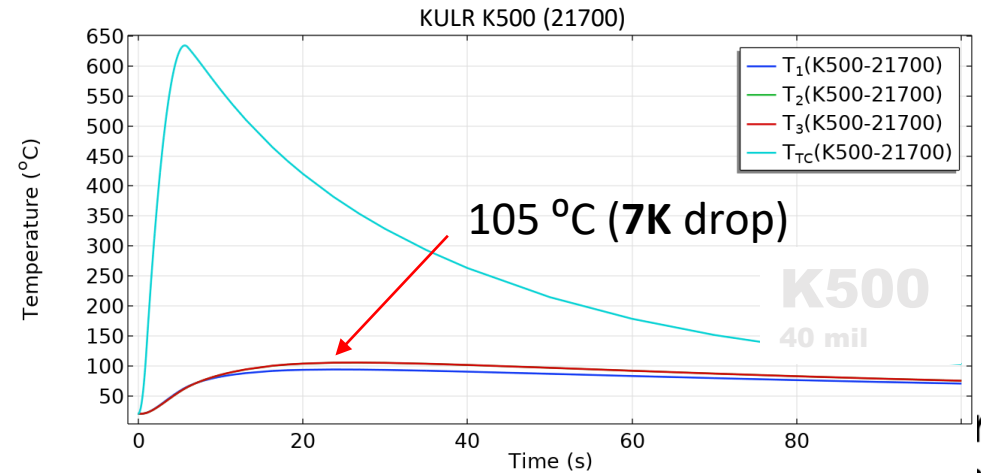
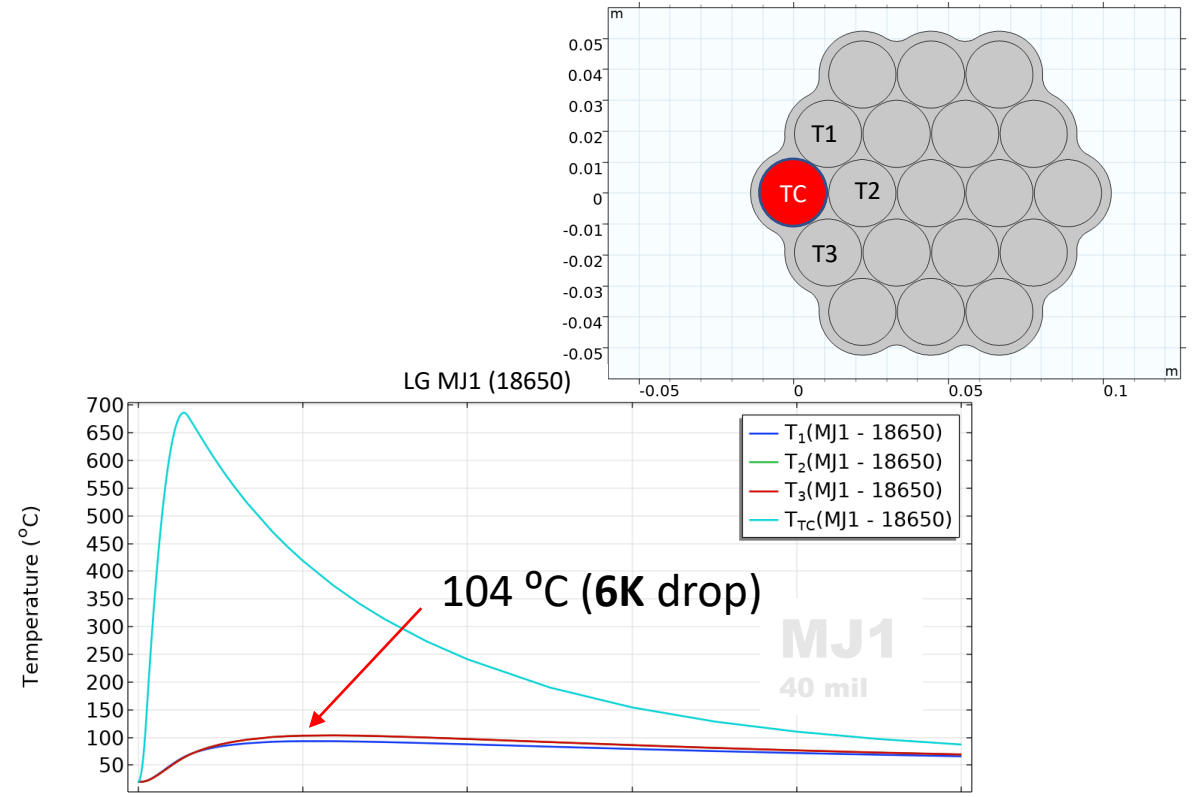


CASE 2

20 mil (left) vs 40mil (right) webbing, TC middle



20 mil Thick Web



40 mil Thick Web

UPSCALING CONCLUSIONS

- Taking the worst-case scenario for 18650 (MJ1) vs worst case scenario 21700 (K500):
 - Upscaling leads to higher energy storage (~43% higher energy) in 21700 comparing to 18650, with small difference in terms of energy density at a pack level, but with a better volumetric energy density at a pack level (~3%)
 - Both cells have a similar behavior during thermal runaway, even though there is a higher difference in the energy released through the cell body (~28% higher energy release in K500, compared with MJ1 at 3σ)