

# IN-OPERANDO CHARACTERISATION OF VOLUME CHANGES AND PRESSURE EVOLUTION IN POUCH CELLS

Quality Testing – Characterisation techniques for battery cells



Julian Engeser

Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems ISE

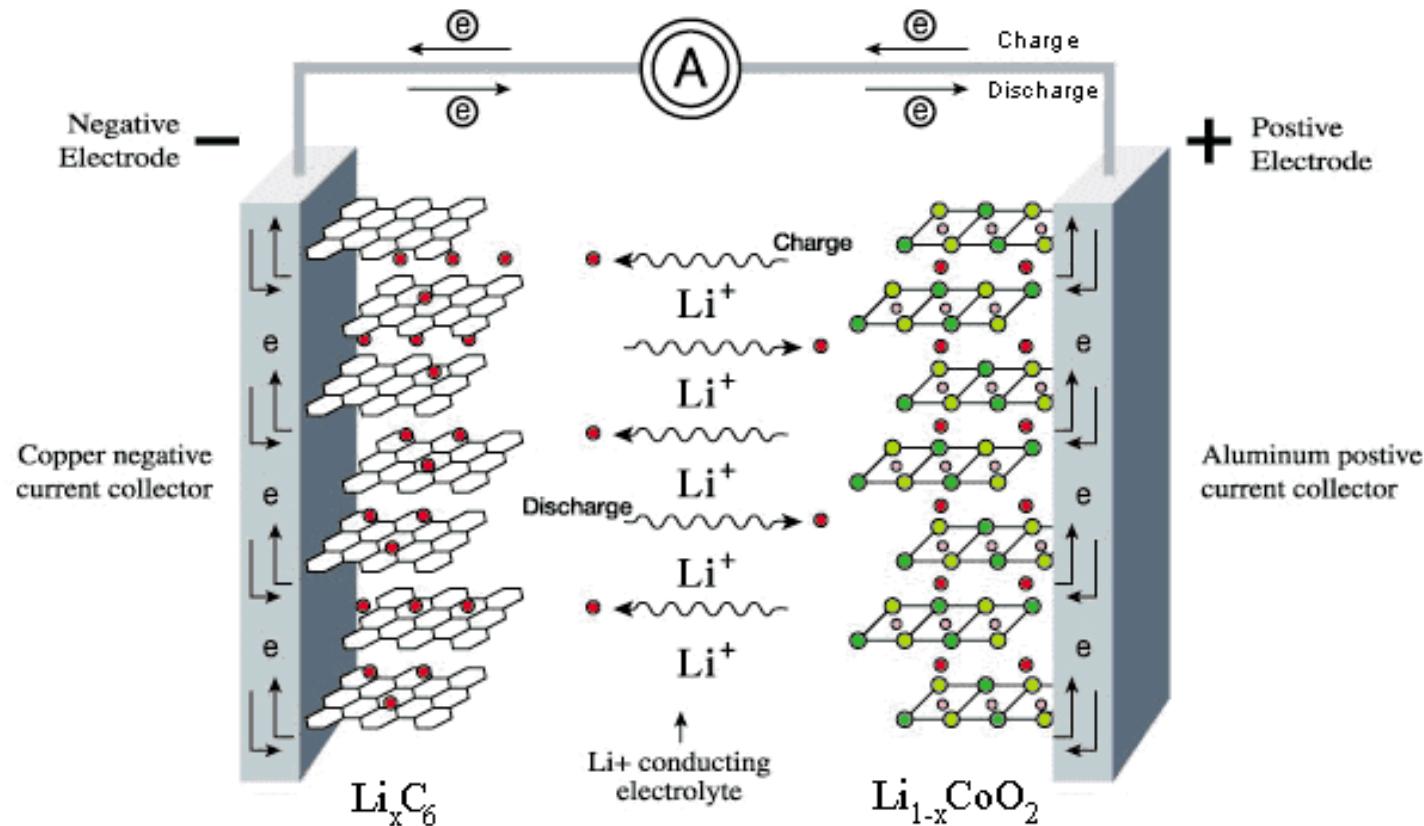
Smarter E Industry Days/ Qualitiy Testing

Live from Freiburg, 22.07.2021

[www.ise.fraunhofer.de](http://www.ise.fraunhofer.de)

# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

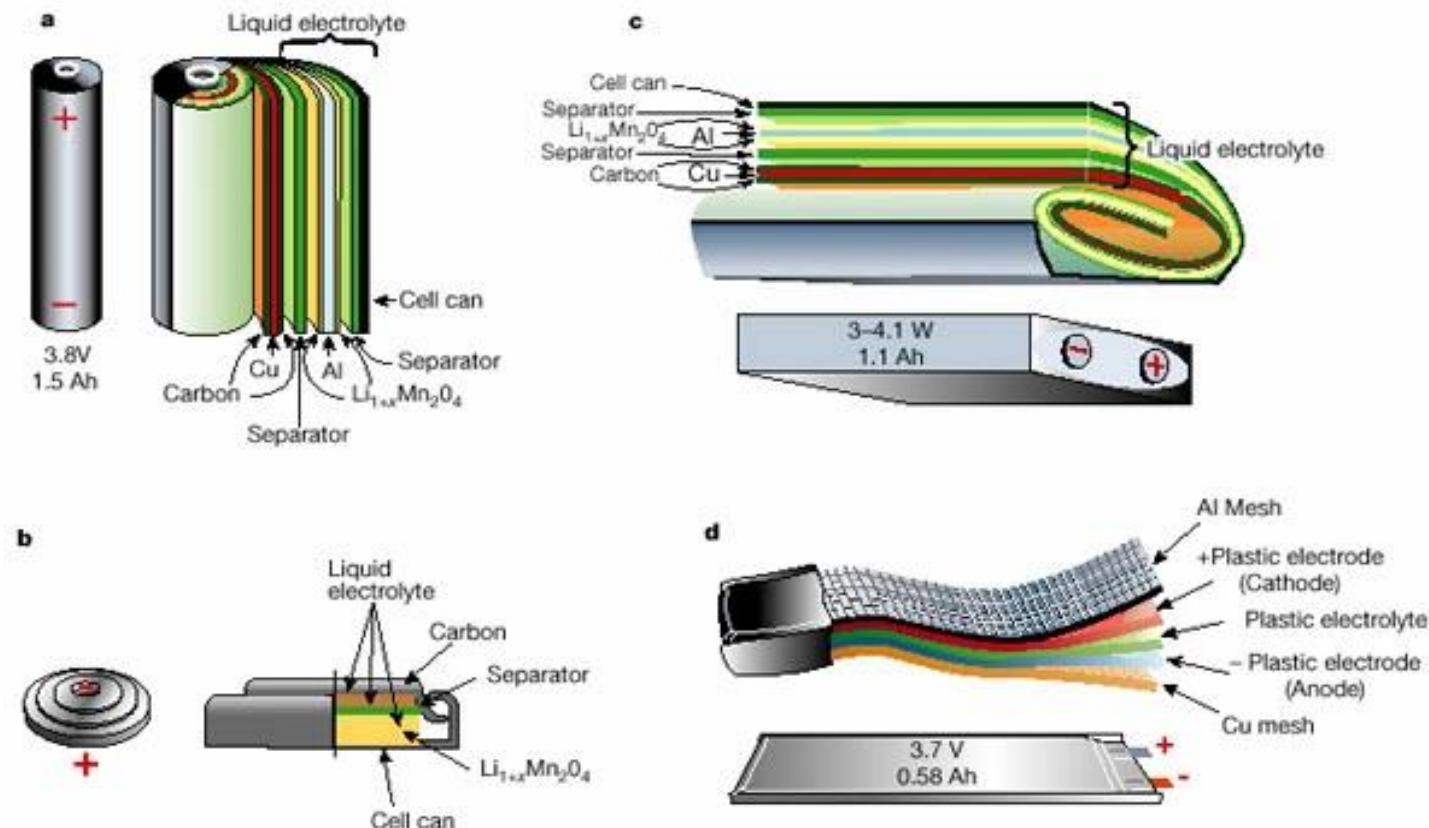
## A first close-up – electrochemical Principle



Fraunhofer ICT: <http://www1.ict.fraunhofer.de/deutsch/scope/ae/Libattery.gif> (21/07/2021)

# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## A first close-up – Cell designs



J.-M. Tarascon & M. Armand (2001): <https://doi.org/10.1038/35104644>, Figure 4

# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## Volume changes in pouch cells

- Formation – Solid electrolyte interface (SEI)
- Reversible expansion – Intercalation
- Irreversible expansion – Aging



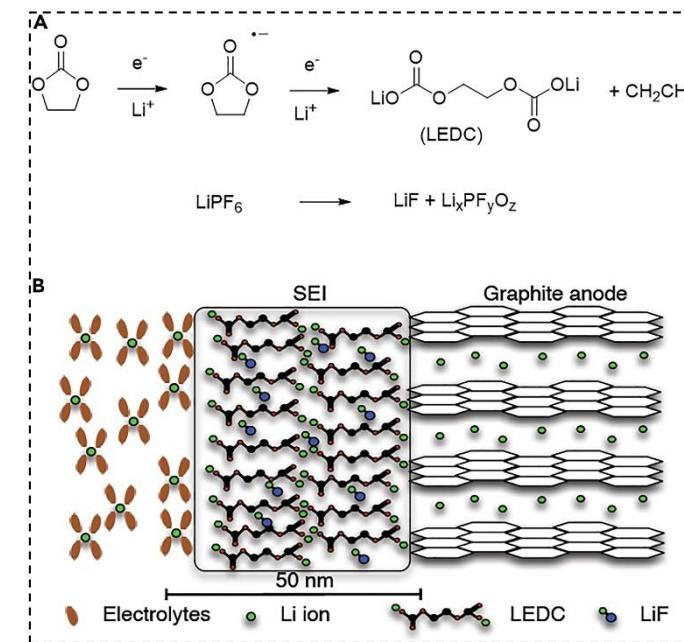
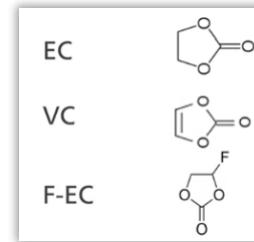
# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## Volume changes in pouch cells

- Formation – Solid electrolyte interface
- Reversible expansion – intercalation
- Irreversible expansion – aging

1,5 – 2  $\mu\text{m}$

SEI forming additives  
in electrolyte:



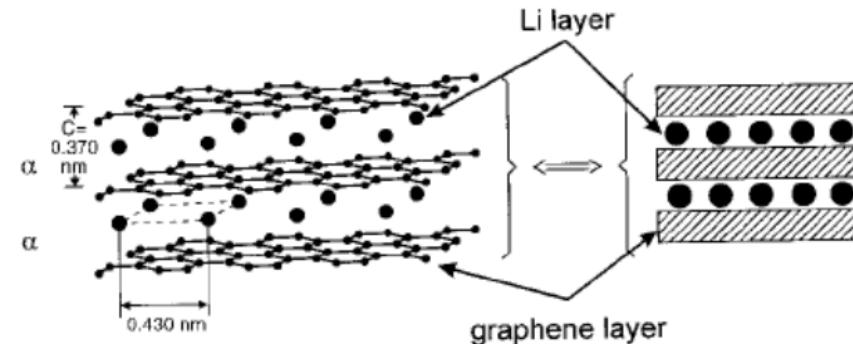
Heiskanen et al. (2019): [https://ars.els-cdn.com/content/image/1-s2.0-S2542435119304210-gr1\\_lrg.jpg](https://ars.els-cdn.com/content/image/1-s2.0-S2542435119304210-gr1_lrg.jpg), Figure 1

# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## Volume changes in pouch cells

- Formation – Solid electrolyte interface
- Reversible expansion – intercalation
- Irreversible expansion – aging

80 – 150  $\mu\text{m}$



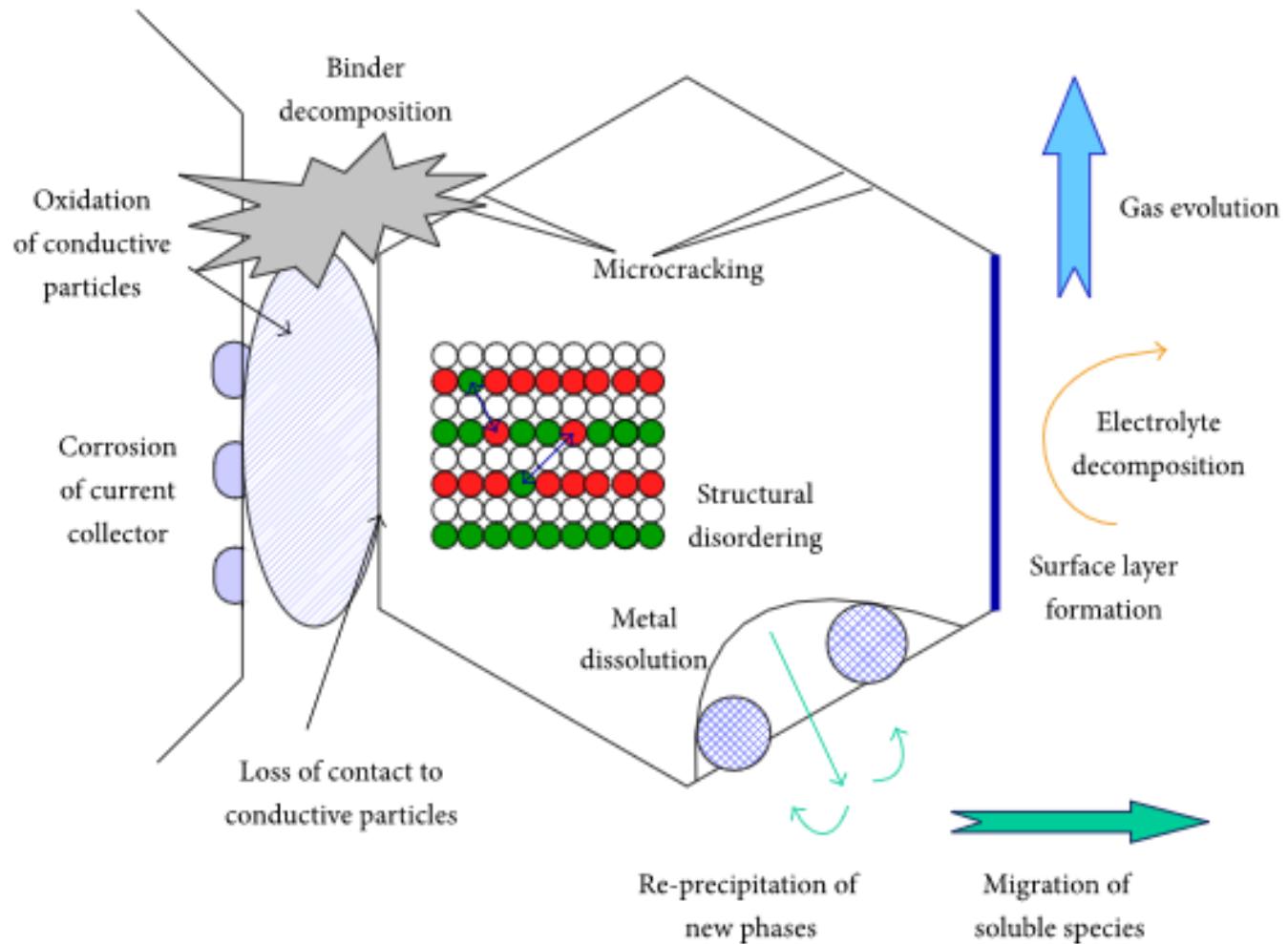
Winter et al. (1998): [https://doi.org/10.1002/\(SICI\)1521-4095\(199807\)10:10<725::AID-ADMA725>3.0.CO;2-Z](https://doi.org/10.1002/(SICI)1521-4095(199807)10:10<725::AID-ADMA725>3.0.CO;2-Z), Figure 6

# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## Volume changes in pouch cells

- Formation – Solid electrolyte interface
- Reversible expansion – intercalation
- **Irreversible expansion – aging**

5 – 500 µm



Lin et al. (2015): <https://doi.org/10.1155/2015/104673>, Figure 1

# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

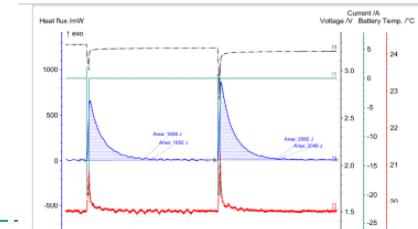
## Characterisation methods – quality testing

measuring overlapping effects

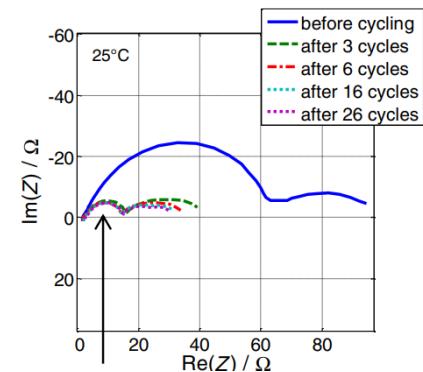
calorimetry

mainly electrical  
quality testing

pulse response methods



Millet et al. (2011): <https://doi.org/10.1109/IEV.2011.793595>, Figure 5



Ecker et al. (2015): <https://doi.org/10.1149/2.0551509jes>, Figure A1 (b)

ohmic resistance

Pressure evolution investigations

physical quality testing

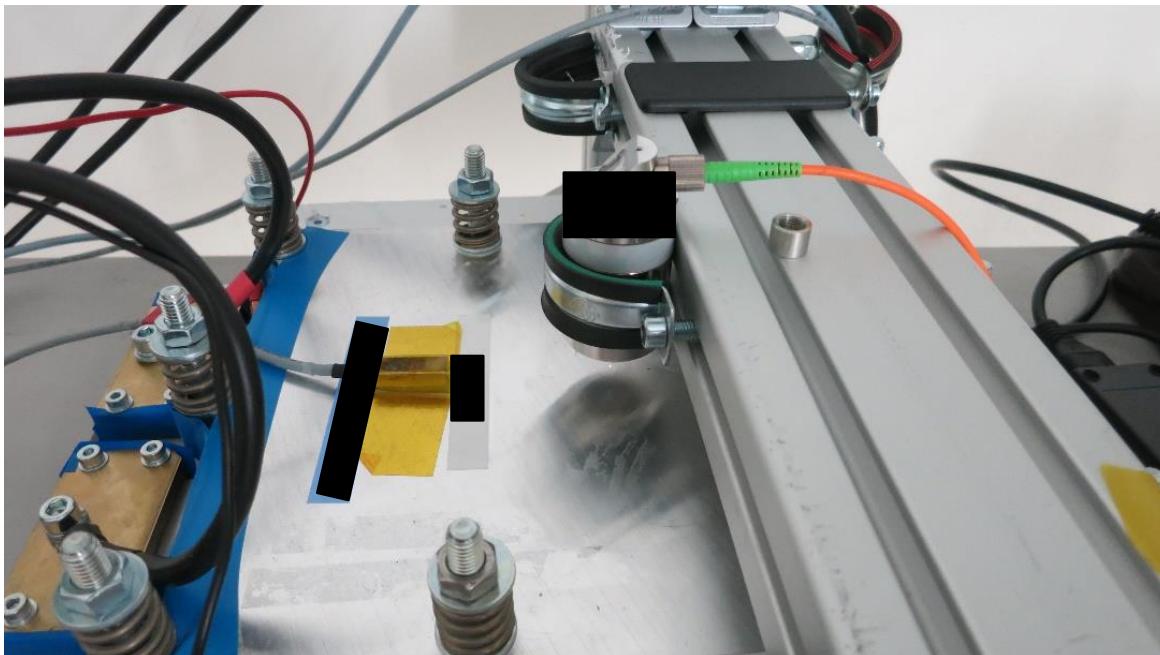
measuring local effects

# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## Characterisation methods – quality testing

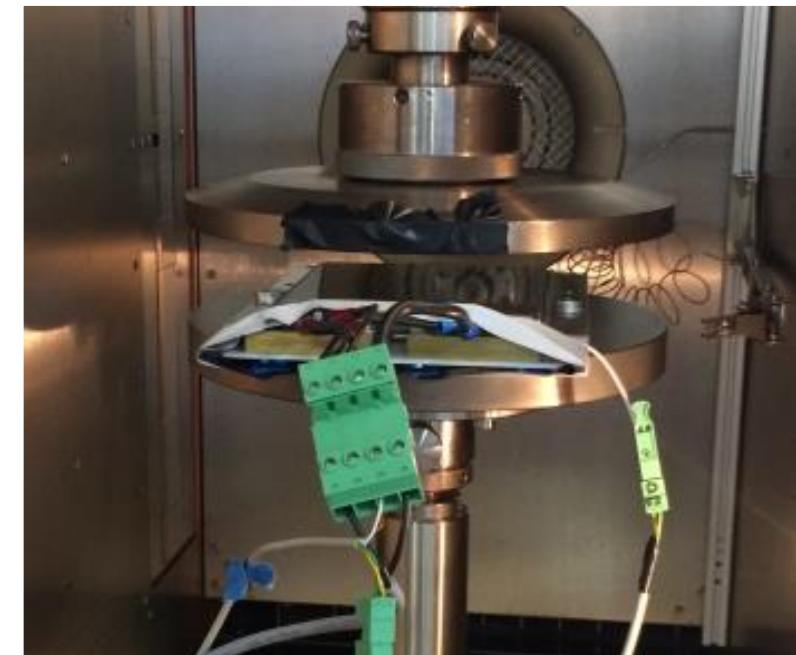
- Volume change investigations

- Local measurements possible
- Contactless



- Pressure evolution investigations

- Distinct material strain
- Closer to applications

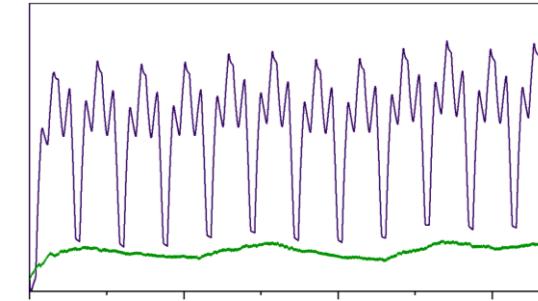
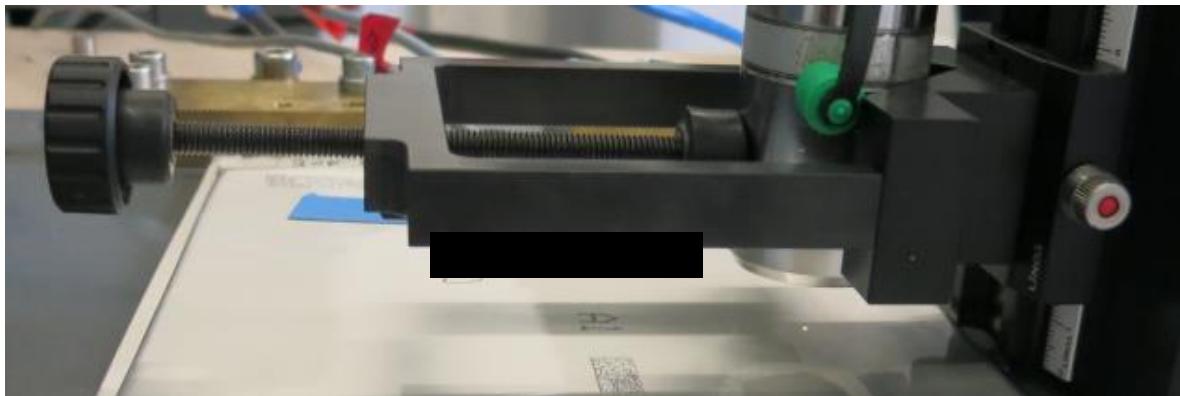


# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## Volume change investigation

### Techniques:

- Light/ laser-based sensors
  - Scanning vs. global measurements
  - Local measurements
- } During cycling



### Characteristics:

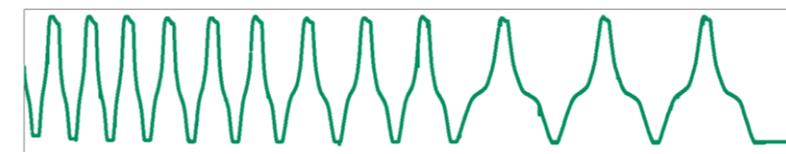
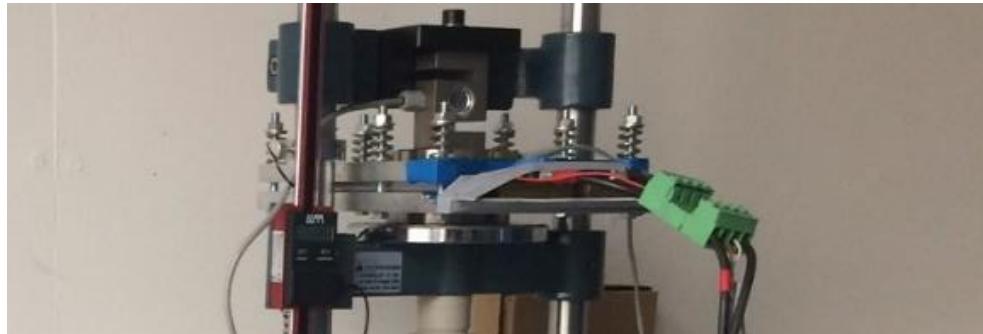
- Local electrode characteristics
- Temperature dependency

# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## Pressure evolution investigation

### Techniques:

- Mechanical press / matrix pressure sensors
- Global and local measurements simultaneously
- Locally limited measurements



### Characteristics:

- global electrode material characteristics
- Detailed intercalation mechanism

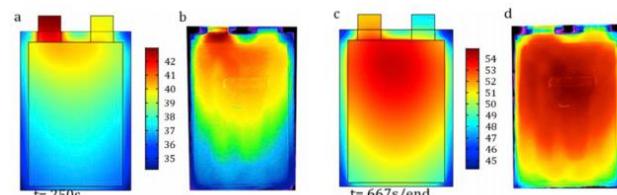
# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## Goals of research – value for industry

- Volume change investigations



Knowledge gain of aging and aging distribution

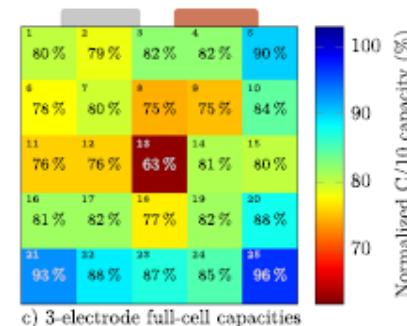


Tomaszewska et al. (2019):  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.etrn.2019.100011>, Figure 3

- Pressure evolution investigations



Knowledge transfer to applications



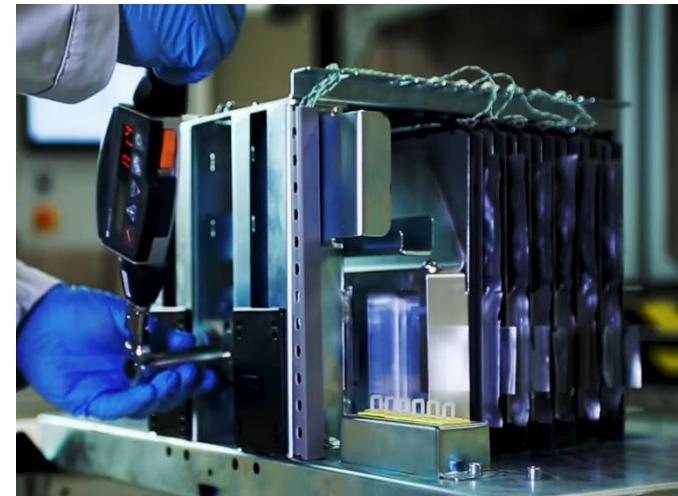
Homogeneous, reduced battery aging

Sieg et al. (2020): <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.est.2020.101582>, Figure 5c)

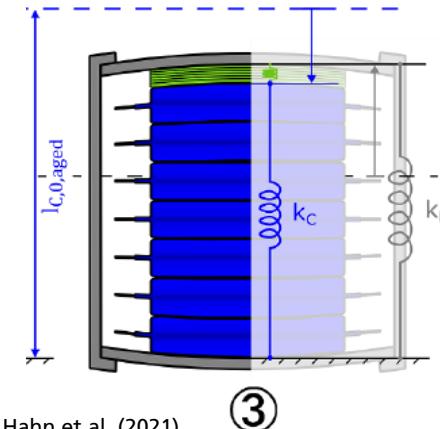
# In-operando characterisation of volume changes and pressure evolution in pouch cells

## Application transfer for all battery systems

- Pack installation → initial pressure
- Silicon – volume changes of up to 300%
- All-Solid-State Batteries – pressure for reduction of ohmic resistance and contact preservation



VOLKSWAGEN AG: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AE2Yogxgb8> (2:04), (21/07/2021)



Hahn et al. (2021)  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.est.2021.102517>, Figure 5a)

# Thank You for Your Attention!

