

# Batteries

Energy  
ITP / NYU / Feddersen



# Batteries

Electrochemical energy storage devices. Many materials, chemistries, forms.

No matter how they work, the same considerations apply as for any energy storage:

- Energy per unit volume and mass
- Power per unit volume and mass
- Efficiency – ratio of energy in to energy out

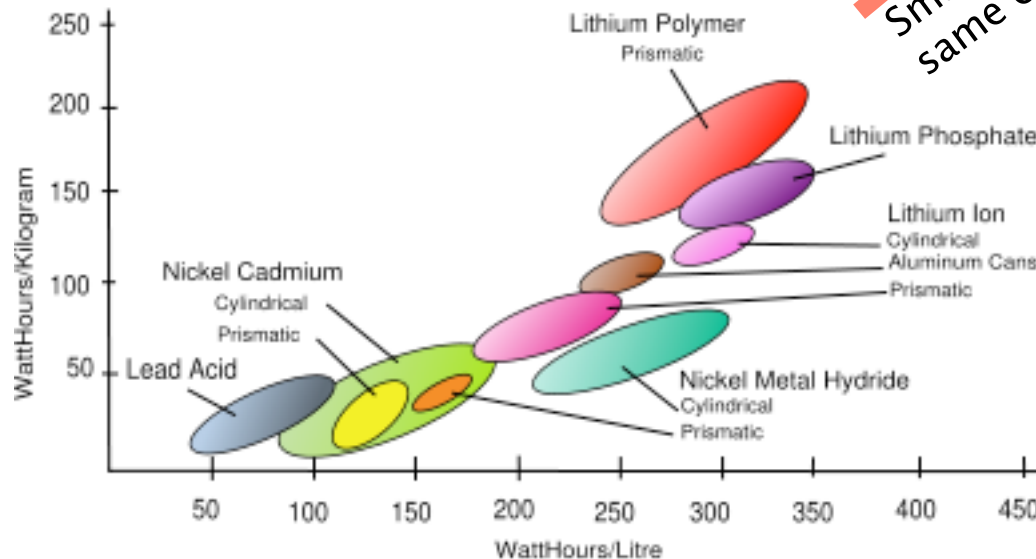
# General battery concepts

- “**Cell**” refers to single electrochemical unit; “**battery**” to an array of cells.
- **Voltage** of a cell is intrinsic to chemistry involved; maximum current depends on amount of material (like PV).
- Cells can be arranged in **parallel** to increase maximum **current**.
- Cells can be arranged in **series** to increase **voltage**.
- “**Primary**” = non-rechargeable, “**secondary**” = rechargeable.
- Exceeding maximum or minimum cell voltage will damage the cell (potentially hazardously).

# Chemistry – what is the battery made of?

Effects energy density, charging methods, safety considerations, etc. Some common types are:

- Lead acid
- Nickel Cadmium (NiCad)
- Nickel Metal Hydride (NiMh)
- Lithium



Smaller/lighter for same energy stored

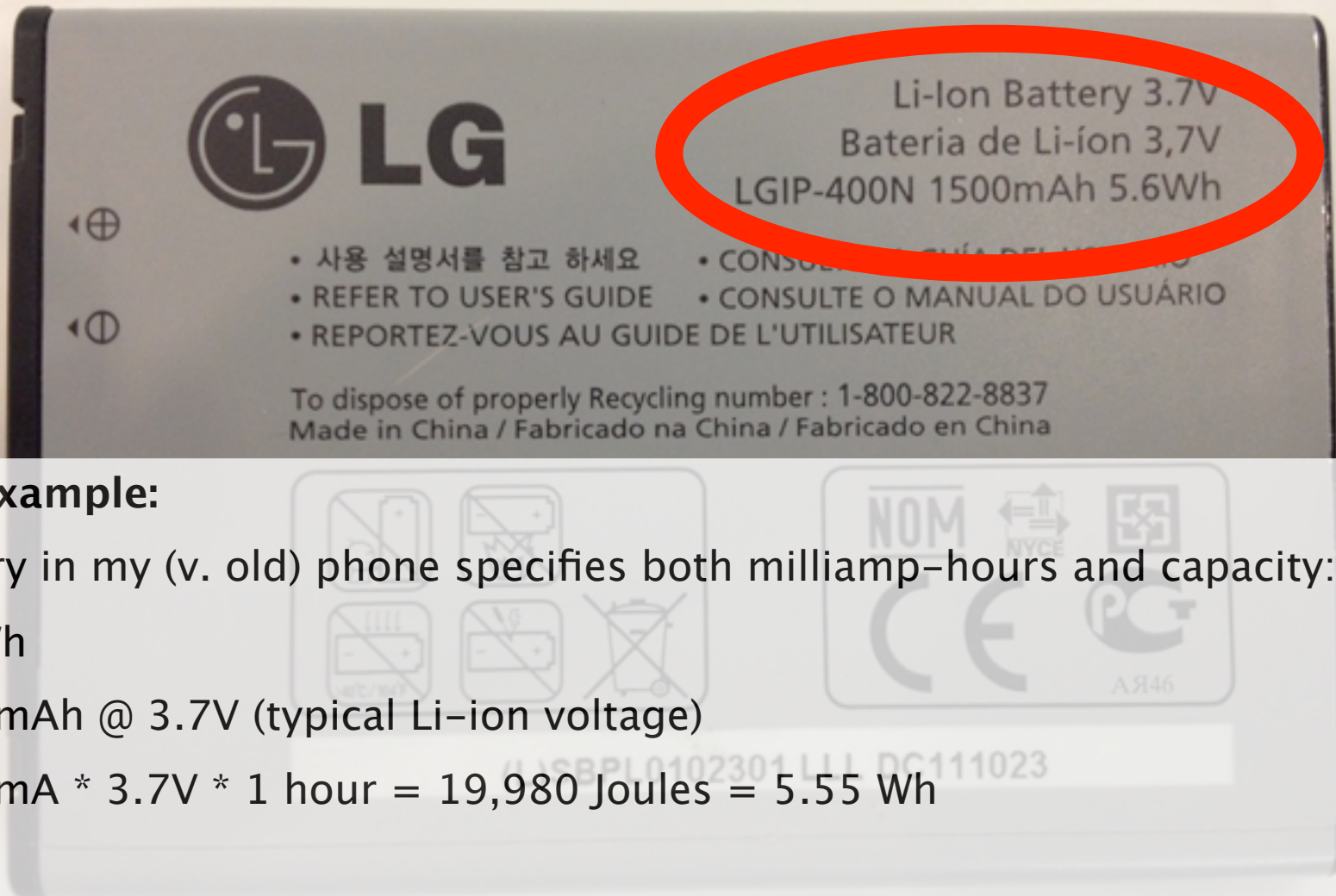
# Capacity – how much can the battery hold?

Typically specified in **amp-hours** (or milliamp-hours), abbreviated Ah or mAh.

Can be roughly converted to watt-hours (or Joules) by multiplying amps \* 1 hour \* nominal voltage.



# Capacity – how much can the battery hold?



## For example:

Battery in my (v. old) phone specifies both milliamp-hours and capacity:

5.6 Wh

1500mAh @ 3.7V (typical Li-ion voltage)

$1500\text{mA} * 3.7\text{V} * 1 \text{ hour} = 19,980 \text{ Joules} = 5.55 \text{ Wh}$

# C-Rate

Battery charge/discharge currents are typically given as a **ratio to total capacity** called the **C-Rate**.

For example, for a 750 mA-hour battery:

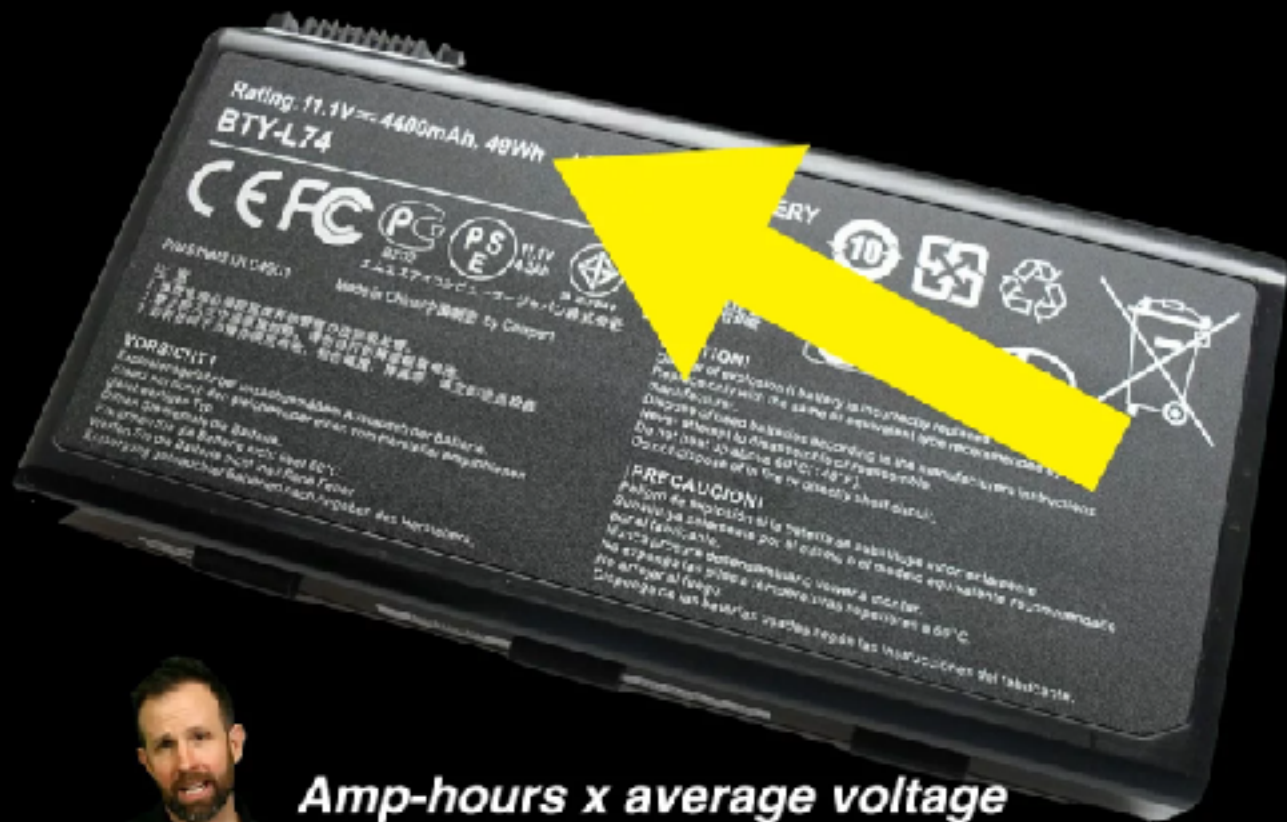
$$1C = 750\text{mA}$$

$$2C = 1500\text{mA}$$

$$.5C = 375 \text{ mA}$$

A very important battery specification will be its **maximum safe discharge current**. This will vary widely depending on battery type.

The rated capacity of a battery is (usually) specified for its **C/20 (1/20 C) discharge rate**. Higher or lower rates of discharge may decrease realized capacity.



**Amp-hours x average voltage**  
**11.1V \* 4.4Ah = 48.84Wh**  
**(175824 Joules)**

*ITP Energy* channel has detailed lecture on Amp-hours and C-Rate



# Capacity – technical note

## Technical Detail:

Actual capacity depends on how fast the battery is discharged. Discharging a battery very quickly, or slowly, can reduce the realized capacity.

The capacity figure is given for 20-hour discharge rate (C/20)

## For example:

A 12 volt battery (~14–10V during use) with a rated capacity of 10 amp-hours could average 12V while supplying 1/2 amp (500 mA) for 20 hours:



$$(12 \text{ volts}) * (500 \text{ milliamperes}) * (20 \text{ hours}) = 432\,000 \text{ joules}$$

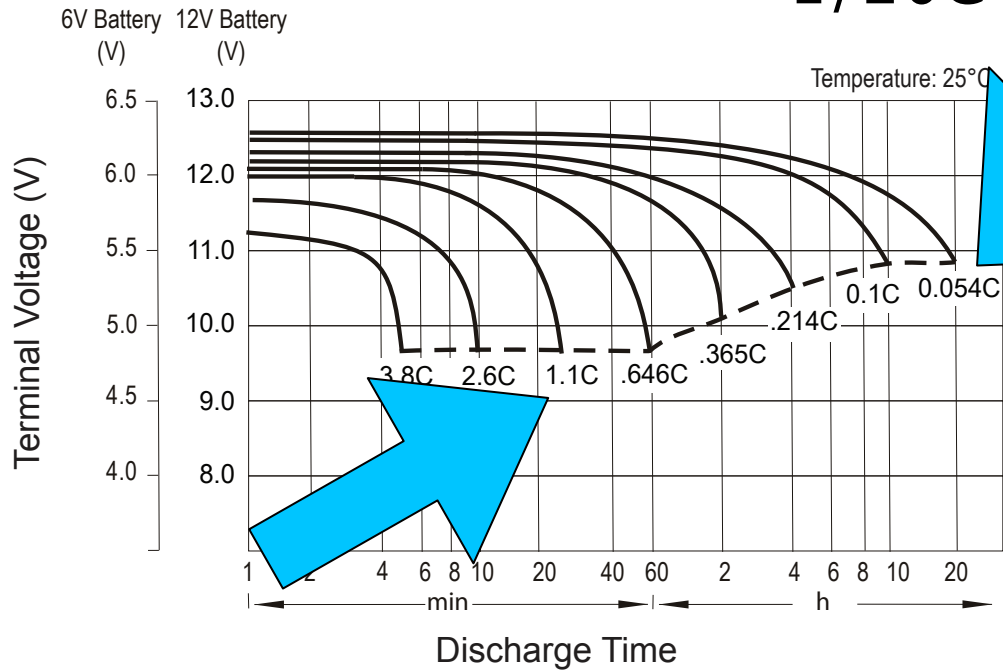
[More about calculator.](#)

PDC-121100	12	107	100.0	12.99	330	6.81	173	8.46	215	8.66	220
PDC-122000	12	214	200.0	20.55	522	9.45	240	8.58	218	8.82	224

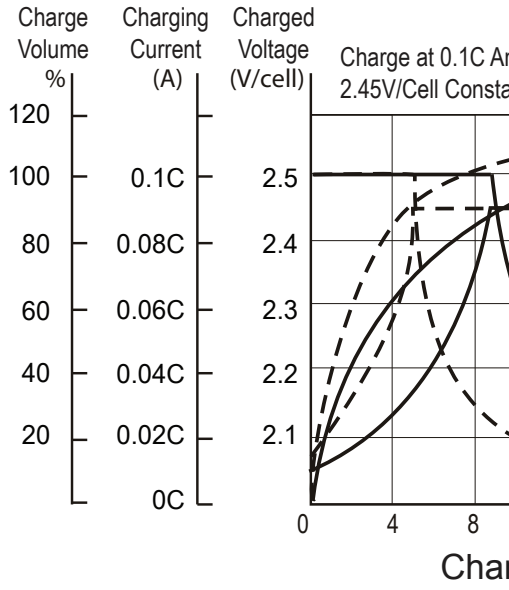
## Discharge Characteristics

## Float Charging Character

1/20C for 20 hours OK!



1C for only ~20 minutes, NOT 1 hour



## Temperature Effects in Relation to Capacity

## Cycle Life in Relation to D



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Gens Ace LiPo

Gens Ace Roar Approved	<b>1C</b> Gens Ace 1C	<b>15C</b> Gens Ace 15C 1S	<b>20C</b> Gens Ace 20C 2S 3S	<b>25C</b> Gens Ace 25C 1S 2S 3S 4S 5S 6S	<b>30C</b> Gens Ace 30C 2S 3S 4S 5S 6S
<b>35C</b> Gens Ace 35C	<b>40C</b> Gens Ace 40C 2S 3S 4S	<b>45C</b> Gens Ace 45C 2S	<b>50C</b> Gens Ace 50C 2S	<b>55C</b> Gens Ace 55C 3S	<b>60C</b> Gens Ace 60C 2S 3S 4S 5S 6S 12S
<b>65C</b> Gens Ace 65C 2S					

Gens Ace Roar Approved

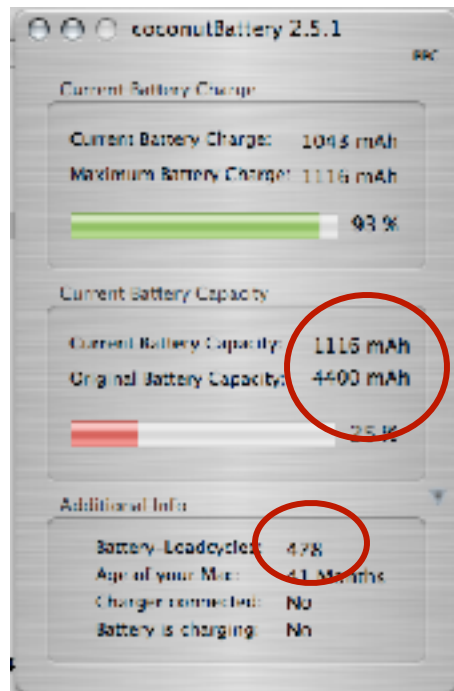
 <p><b>GENS ACE 4000mAh 2S1P 7.4V 25C Hard Case Lipo Battery ROAR Racing Approved (Direct)</b> Regular Price: <del>\$50.15</del> <b>On Sale Now: \$28.54</b> You save 43% Out of Stock!</p>	 <p><b>GENS ACE 4000mAh 2S1P 7.4V 25C Hard Case Lipo Battery ROAR Racing Approved</b> Regular Price: <del>\$50.15</del> <b>On Sale Now: \$28.54</b> You save 43% Out of Stock!</p>	 <p><b>GENS ACE 4000mAh 2S1P 7.4V 30C Hard Case Lipo Battery ROAR Approved (Direct Version)</b> Regular Price: <del>\$46.99</del> <b>On Sale Now: \$29.04</b> You save 39% Out of Stock!</p>
 <p><b>GENS ACE 5300mAh 30C 7.4V</b></p>	 <p><b>GENS ACE 4000mAh 2S1P 7.4V 30C</b></p>	 <p><b>GENS ACE 5000mAh 40C 7.4V</b></p>

**FREE SHIPPING**

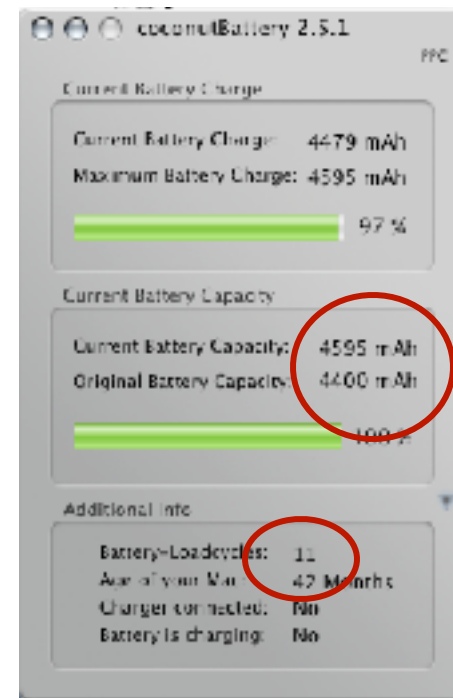
# Other considerations:

Battery life – how many times a battery can be charged and discharged. Varies widely by type.

Depth of discharge – how deeply can it be discharged?  
Decreasing DOD increased life expectancy.



Old Battery



New Battery

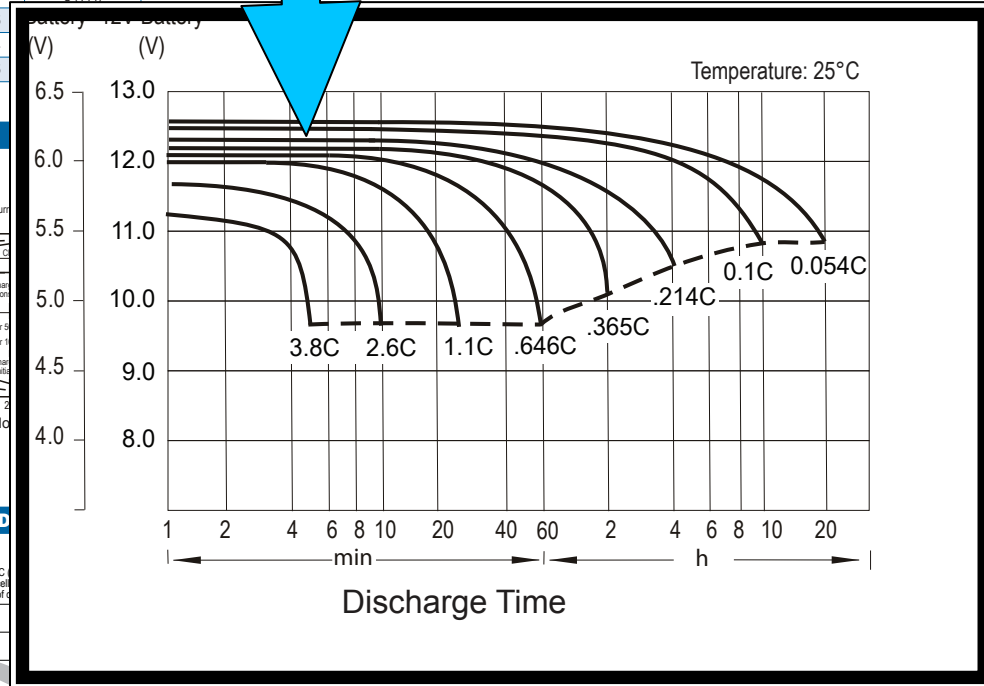
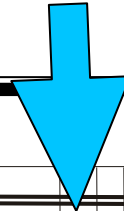
Capacity

Cycles

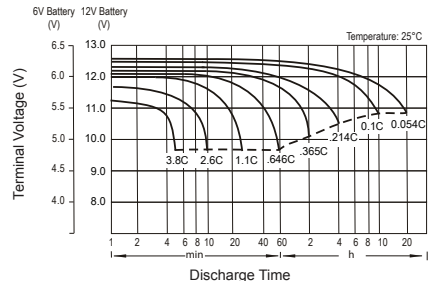
# PDC Series - AGM Deep Cycle Batteries

Model	Nominal Voltage	Rated Capacity AH		Length		Width		Height		Total Height		Weight		Terminal Type
		20-hr	10-hr	in.	mm.	in.	mm.	in.	mm.	in.	mm.	lbs.	kgs.	
PDC-1275	12	7.5	7.2	5.94	151	2.56	65	3.72	94.5	3.94	100	5.5	2.5	F2
PDC-1285	12	8.5	8.0	5.94	151	2.56	65	3.72	94.5	3.94	100	6.0	2.7	F2
PDC-12140	12	14.0	13.0	5.96	151.5	3.92	100	3.82	97	3.98	101	9.5	4.3	F2
PDC-12200	12	21.0	20.0	7.15	181.5	3.01	77	6.73	171	6.73	171	15	6.9	B (T12)
PDC-12260	12	28.0	26.0	6.56	166.5	6.89	175	4.92	125	4.92	125	21	9.4	NB
PDC-12260H	12	26.0	24.0	6.50	165	4.92	125	6.89	175	6.89	175	21	9.5	B (T12)
PDC-12350	12	35.0	33.0	7.68	195	5.12	130	6.46	164	7.09	180	25	11.2	NB
PDC-12400	12	40.0	38.0	7.76	197	6.50	165	6.69	170	6.69	170	32	14.5	B (T6)
PDC-12600	12	60.0	55.0	9.04	230	5.45	138	8.27	210	8.66	220	39	17.7	U (T9)
PDC-12800	12	80.0	75.0	10.24	260	6.61	168	8.27	210	9.06	230	50	22.7	U (T14)
PDC-121000	12	100	92.0	12.05	306	6.61	168	8.27	210	8.50	216	61	27.5	
PDC-121100	12	107	100.0	12.99	330	6.81	173	8.46	215	8.66	220	67	30.4	
PDC-122000	12	214	200.0	20.55	522	9.45	240	8.58	218	8.82	224	138	62.5	

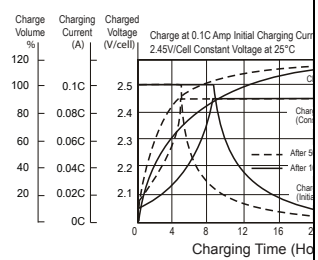
Hard to use Voltage alone to determine state of battery since these curves are so flat



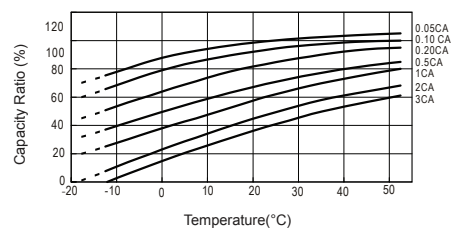
## Discharge Characteristics



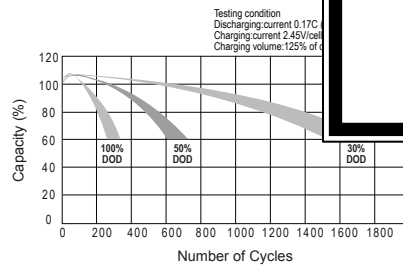
## Float Charging Characteristics



## Temperature Effects in Relation to Capacity



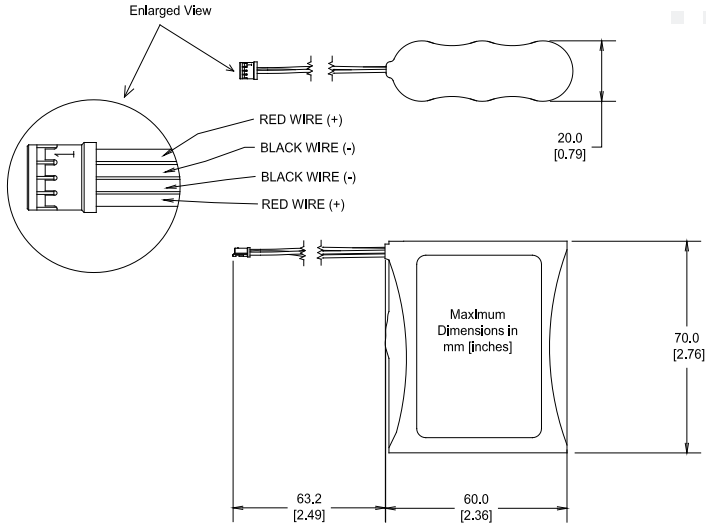
## Cycle Life in Relation to Depth of Discharge



Contact Information		www.power-sonic.com	
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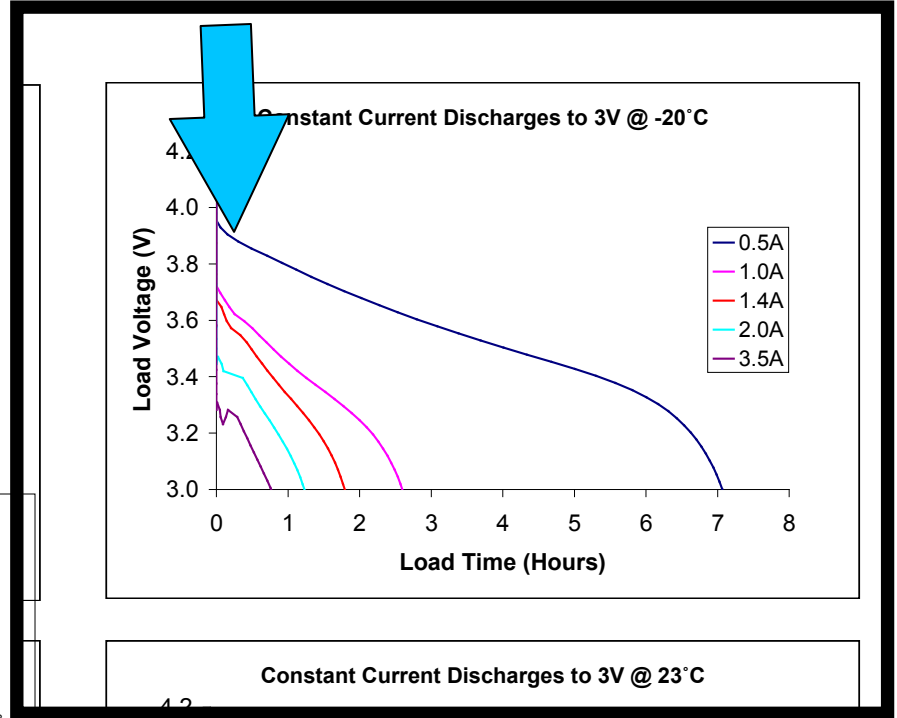
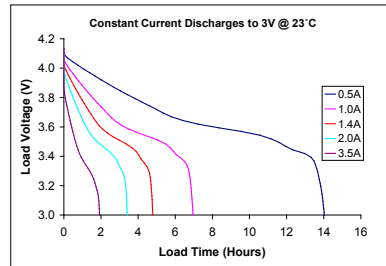
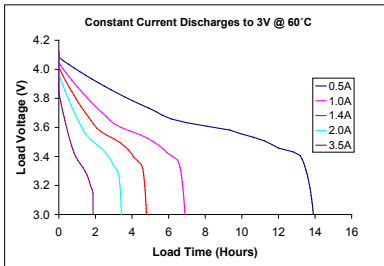
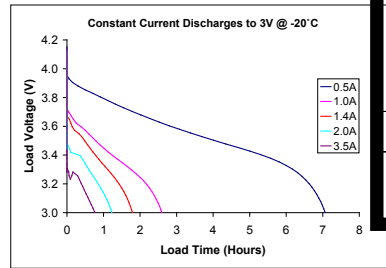
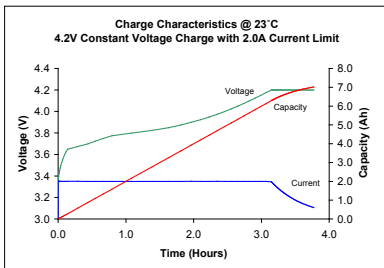


## Dimensions



# A little better... still need to know current in real time

## Performance Graphs



# Charging

Charging batteries can be very complex.

**Doing it wrong can be dangerous!**



Boeing  
Dreamliner

and the list goes on...  
(Note 7, Hoverboards...)



# Charging – the hard (high performance) way

In order to maximize battery performance (most energy over longest time in smallest, lightest package) complex battery monitoring and charging circuits and algorithms are used.

They take into account:

- Complete charge/discharge history of battery
- Temperature
- Battery age

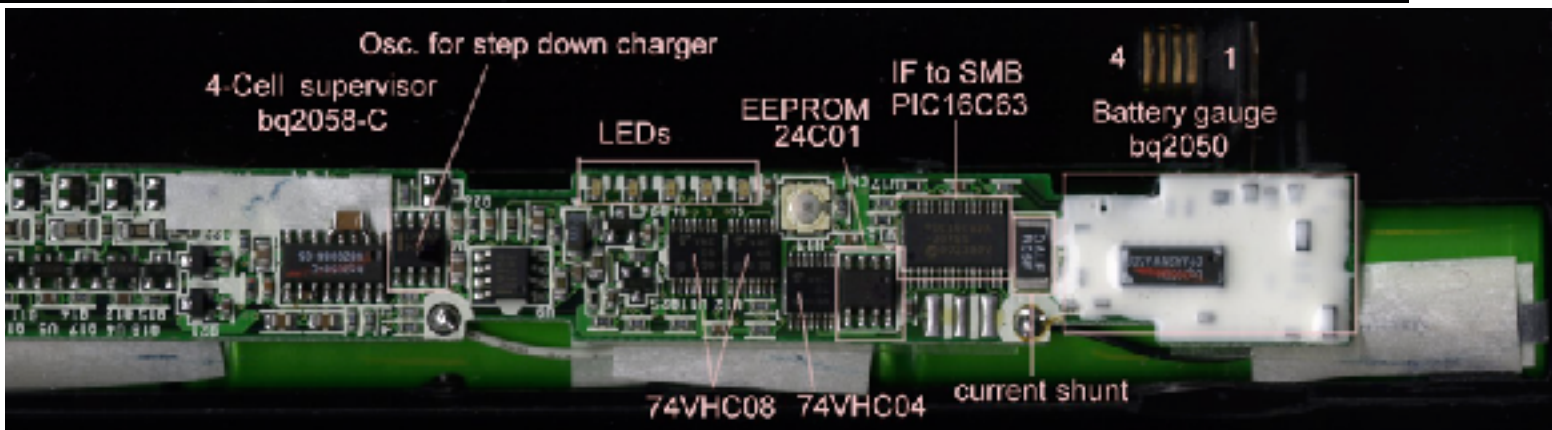
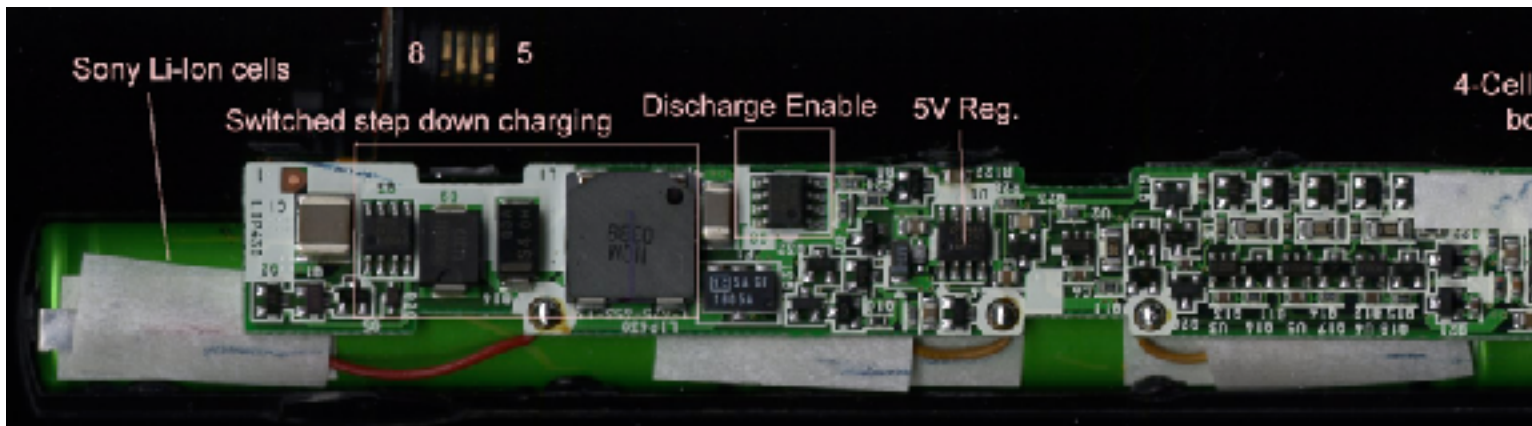
An advanced system typically uses a combination of **constant current** and/or **constant voltage** charge stages coupled with **current, delta V, and/or delta T monitoring** (changes in the rate of change of voltage or temperature). These will be tailored to the battery chemistry, number of cells, and other considerations. Term of art is “**coulomb counting**”



# Charging – the hard (high performance) way

Many manufacturers (Maxim, Analog Devices, etc) make dedicated battery ICs. (And publish whitepapers covering charging specifics)

The “Smart Battery” standard includes microcontrollers in the pack to communicate battery state to host device.





# Panasonic

# Lithium Ion NCR18650PF

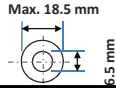
## Features & Benefits

- High energy and power density
- Long, stable, high power
- High safety performance
- Ideal for power assisted bicycles, 2-way radios, medical devices and robotics.

## Specifications

Rated capacity <sup>(1)</sup>	Min. 2700mAh
Capacity <sup>(2)</sup>	Min. 2750mAh Typ. 2900mAh
Nominal voltage	3.6V
Charging	CC-CV, Std. 1375mA, 4.20V, 4.0 hrs
Weight (max.)	48.0 g
Temperature	Charge*: 0 to +45°C Discharge: -20 to +60°C Storage: -20 to +50°C
Energy density <sup>(3)</sup>	Volumetric: 577 Wh/l Gravimetric: 207 Wh/kg

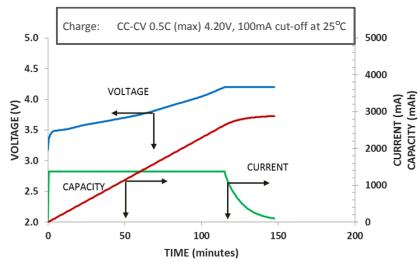
## Dimensions



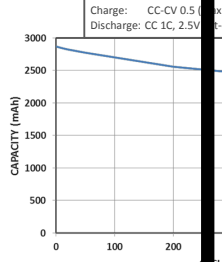
\* At temperatures below 10°C, charge at a 0.25C rate.

<sup>(1)</sup> At 20°C <sup>(2)</sup> At 25°C <sup>(3)</sup> Energy density based on bare cell dimensions

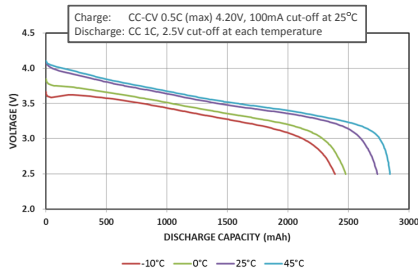
## Charge Characteristics



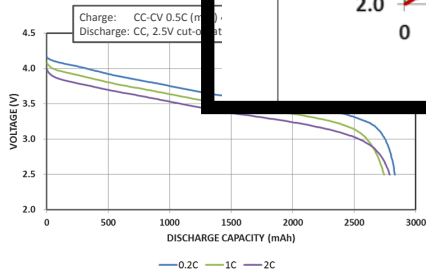
## Cycle Life Characteristics



## Discharge Characteristics (by temperature)

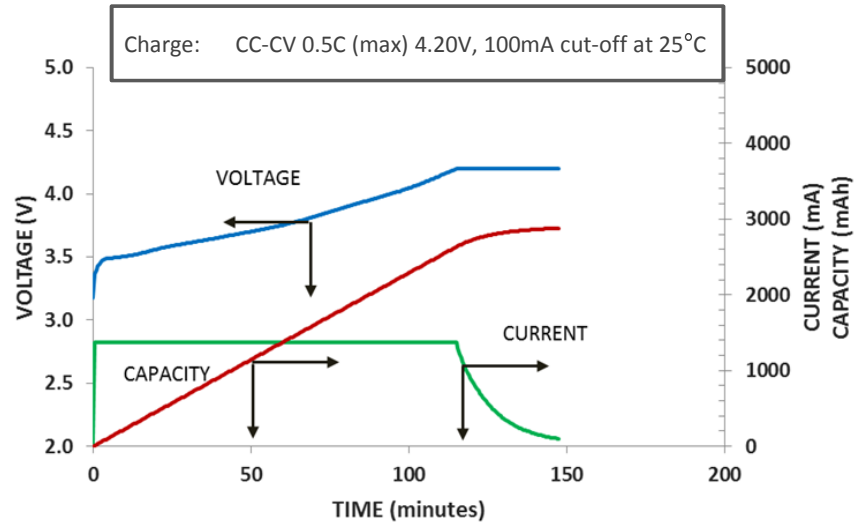


## Discharge Characteristics



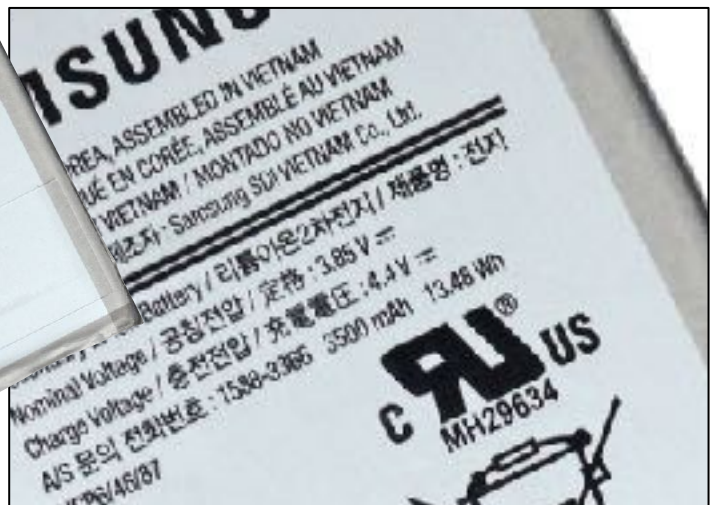
The data in this document is for descriptive purposes only and is not intended to make or imply any guarantee or warranty.

## Charge Characteristics






~1Wh AAA alkaline



~10Wh smart phone battery



~100Wh laptop battery



Xantrex  
XPower Powerpack 1500 Backup Power System

\$487.50

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**xantrex**

INFORMATION ▾ SPECIFICATIONS ▾ DOCUMENTS ▾ REVIEWS ▾

**INFORMATION**

The XPower Powerpack 1500 system consists of a battery pack that stores electricity, advanced electronics that convert 12 volts of DC power from the battery pack to household power, an AC power panel that contains two standard outlets, and a DC power panel that is used to operate 12 volt products.

**FEATURES:**

- Operates 120 Vac or 12 Vdc products anywhere
- Sealed, non-spillable 51 amp-hour AGM battery

~1kWh portable battery  
“generator”



Inergy  
**Inergy Kodiak 1100 Watt (1.1kWh) Power Bank Solar Generator - Basic Model - Lithium Ion Emergency & Camping Electric Battery Portable Power Source**

★★★★★ 18 customer reviews | 101 answered questions

Note: This item is only available from third party sellers (see all offers).

**Available from these sellers.**

- Ultra-light weight - 20 lbs.
- Expandable with deep cycle lead acid batteries
- Solar charging - minimum charge time 2.5 hours
- 1100 Watt hour lithium ion battery - 2000 cycles
- 1 year warranty

New (1) from \$1,599.99 & FREE shipping.

[Report incorrect product information.](#)

TESLA

44" x 1150mm

**Usable Capacity**  
13.5 kWh

**Depth of Discharge**  
100%

**Efficiency**  
90% round-trip

**Power**  
7kW peak / 5kW continuous

**Supported Applications**  
Solar self consumption  
Time of use load shifting  
Backup  
Off grid

**Scalable**  
Up to 9 Powerwalls

**Operating Temperature**  
-4° to 122°F / -20°C to 50°C

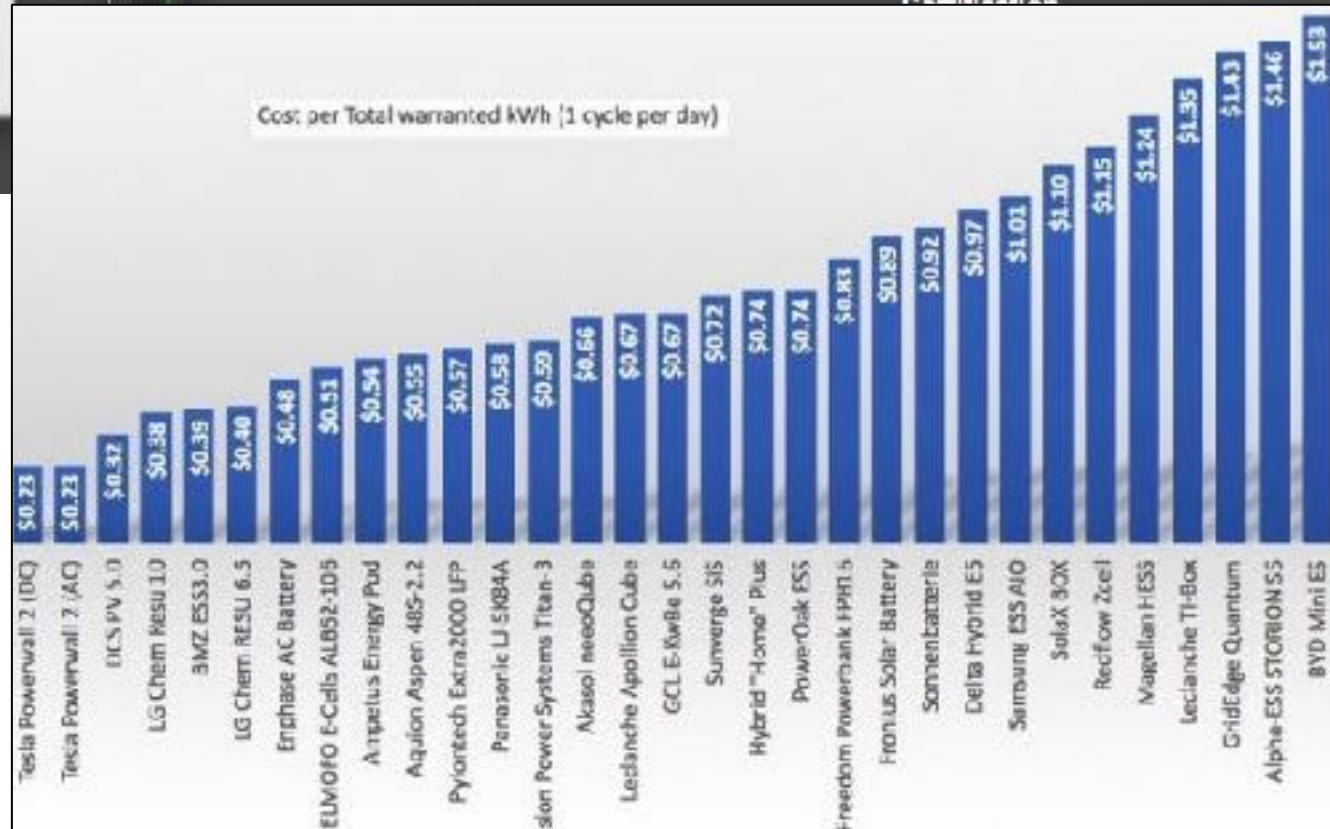
**Dimensions**  
L x W x D: 44" x 29" x 5.5"  
(1150mm x 755mm x 155mm)

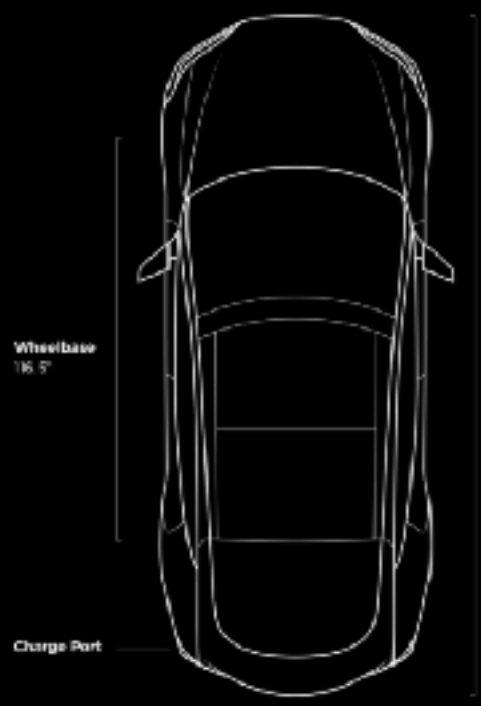
**Weight**  
284.4 lb / 120 kg

**Installation**  
Floor or wall mounted  
Indoor or outdoor

**Certification**

~10kWh home battery





## Model S Specs

- P100D
- 100D
- 75D

**Battery**  
100 kWh

**Acceleration**  
2.9s 0-60 mph

**Range**  
405 miles

**Drive**  
All-Wheel Drive

**Seating**  
5 Adults + 2 Children

**Wheels**  
18" or 21"

**Weight**  
4,941 lbs

**Cargo**  
50 cu ft

**Displays**  
Driver Display + 17" Touchscreen

**Supercarging**  
Free, Unlimited (with referral)

**Delivery Timing**  
1-6 weeks

**Warranty**  
4 years, basic vehicle  
8 years, battery & powertrain

+ EXPAND LIST

~100kWh EV



# 1-10MWh Grid-backup

GTM forecast: 1.6GW in US by 2020

This was built in 2017 in West Caldwell, NJ

896kW solar

250kW/1MWh battery

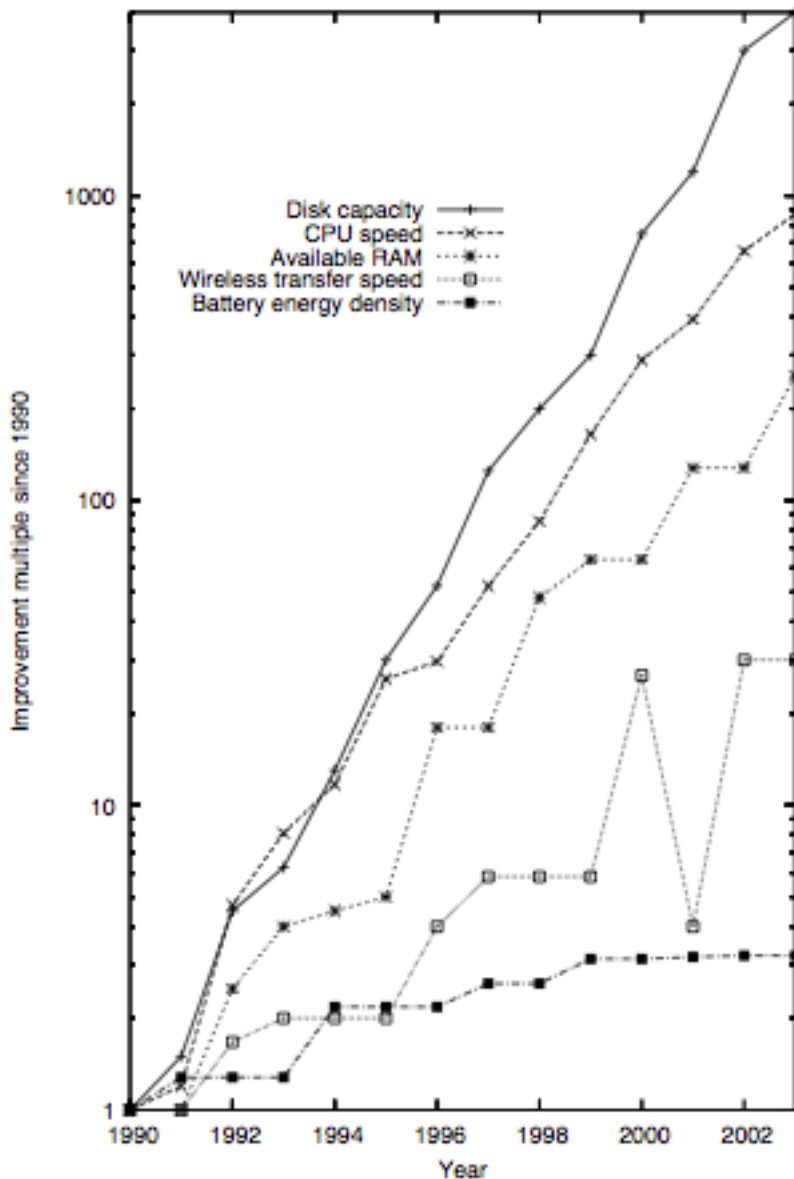
An aerial photograph of a battery storage facility. The central feature is a large, rectangular, multi-lane battery storage structure with a flat, light-colored roof. To the left and top of the battery structure are several large solar panel arrays. Various industrial buildings, including a red brick building and a white building, are scattered around the site. The facility is surrounded by green grass and trees. A white arrow points from the bottom left towards the top right, following the text '250kW/1MWh battery'.

# COMPARISON OF LITHIUM CHEMISTRIES

CHARACTERISTIC	LFP (LiFePO <sub>4</sub> )	NMC (LiNiMnCoO <sub>2</sub> )	LCO (LiCoO <sub>2</sub> )	LMO (LiMn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> )	LTO (Li <sub>4</sub> Ti <sub>5</sub> O <sub>12</sub> )
Voltage	3.2VPC (operating range 2.5-3.65VPC)	3.6VPC (operating range 3-4.2VPC)	3.6VPC (operating range 3-4.2VPC)	3.7VPC (operating range 3-4.2VPC)	2.4VPC (operating range 1.8-2.85VPC)
Specific Energy	90-120 Wh/kg	150-220 Wh/kg	150-200 Wh/kg	100-150 Wh/kg	50-80 Wh/kg
Energy Density	333 Wh/l	580 Wh/l	560 Wh/l	420 Wh/l	177 Wh/l
Charge Rate	1C	0.7-1C (>1C shortens life)	0.7-1C (>1C shortens life)	0.7-1C (3C Max)	1C (5C Max)
Charge Voltage	3.5-3.65VPC	4.2VPC	4.2VPC	4.2VPC	2.85VPC
Discharge Rate	1C (30C power cells), 2.0V cut-off	1C (2C on some cells); 2.5V cut-off	1C (>1C shortens life); 2.5V cut-off	1C (>1C shortens life); 2.5V cut-off	10C (30C 5 sec), 1.8V cut-off
Cycle Life (depending on depth of discharge)	2000-4000	1000-2000	500-1000	300-700	3000-7000
Thermal Runaway	270°C (518°F)	210°C (410°F)	150°C (302°F)	250°C (482°F)	NA
Prone to Thermal Runaway	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Applications	Motive power and stationary needing high currents and endurance	E-bikes, medical devices, EVs, industrial	Mobile phones, laptops, tablets, cameras	Power Tools, medical devices, electric powertrains	UPS, electric powertrains, solar street lighting
Cost	\$	\$	\$\$	\$\$	\$\$\$



Specifications	Lead Acid	NiCd	NiMH	Li-Ion <sup>1</sup>		
				Cobalt	Manganese	Phosphate
Specific energy (Wh/kg)	30-50	45-80	60-120	150-250	100-150	90-120
Internal resistance	Very Low	Very low	Low	Moderate	Low	Very low
Cycle life <sup>2</sup> (80% DoD)	200-300	1,000 <sup>3</sup>	300-500 <sup>3</sup>	500-1,000	500-1,000	1,000-2,000
Charge time <sup>4</sup>	8-16h	1-2h	2-4h	2-4h	1-2h	1-2h
Overcharge tolerance	High	Moderate	Low	Low. No trickle charge		
Self-discharge/month (room temp)	5%	20% <sup>5</sup>	30% <sup>5</sup>	<5% Protection circuit consumes 3%/month		
Cell voltage (nominal)	2V	1.2V <sup>6</sup>	1.2V <sup>6</sup>	3.6V <sup>7</sup>	3.7V <sup>7</sup>	3.2-3.3V
Charge cutoff voltage (V/cell)	2.40 Float 2.25	Full charge detection by voltage signature		4.20 typical Some go to higher V		3.60
Discharge cutoff voltage (V/cell, 1C)	1.75V	1.00V		2.50-3.00V		2.50V
Peak load current Best result	5C <sup>8</sup> 0.2C	20C 1C	5C 0.5C	2C <1C	>30C <10C	>30C <10C
Charge temperature	-20 to 50°C (-4 to 122°F)	0 to 45°C (32 to 113°F)		0 to 45°C <sup>9</sup> (32 to 113°F)		
Discharge temperature	-20 to 50°C (-4 to 122°F)	-20 to 65°C (-4 to 149°F)		-20 to 60°C (-4 to 140°F)		
Maintenance requirement	3-6 months <sup>10</sup> (toping chg.)	Full discharge every 90 days when in full use		Maintenance free		
Safety requirements	Thermally stable	Thermally stable, fuse protection		Protection circuit mandatory <sup>11</sup>		
In use since	Late 1800s	1950	1990	1991	1996	1999
Toxicity	Very high	Very high	Low	Low		
Coulombic efficiency <sup>12</sup>	~90%	~70% slow charge ~90% fast charge		99%		
Cost	Low	Moderate		High <sup>13</sup>		



“Don’t let anybody tell you batteries are going to get better. They can’t, it’s physically impossible.”

Batteries are made of electrons on metal with oxygen in between; without a way to compress matter and make it more dense, battery store can’t improve, ever. What people can speak to is “power density” — but on the whole, batteries are “lousy, lousy, lousy.” We use fuels because they have lots of energy. We could use other energy sources, but when push comes to shove, we get a lot of energy out of fuels, because we can put electrons in tiny volumes of space.

Daniel Nocera interviewed in:

<http://poptech.org/blog/>

[daniel\\_nocera\\_on\\_personalized\\_energy](#)