ARPA-E Grid-Scale Energy Storage Workshop Summary



October 4, 2009
Seattle Renaissance Hotel
Seattle, Washington



Defining the need for storage

Possible storage solutions

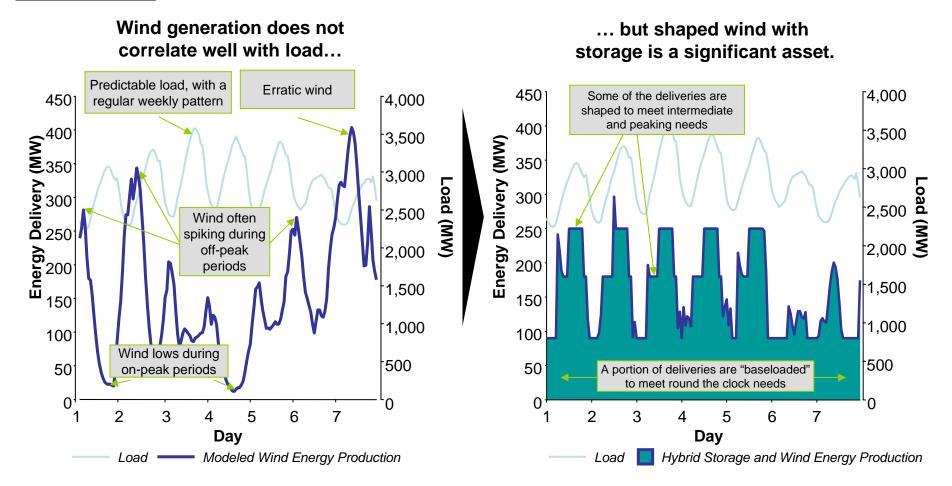
Energy Storage Technologies

Key Findings Summary



Energy Storage is required to confer reliability to renewable energy sources and to produce power when the load occurs

Texas Panhandle Example



Notes: 400 MW of wind in Texas Panhandle modeled in conjunction w / local storage facility. Grid storage parameters – 400 MW of capacity

Source: Ridge Energy Storage.





Depending on the technology and application, energy storage can provide a wide variety of benefits

Supply Delivery

Renewables Integration

Use of storage to provide capacity value, predictable scheduling, and time shifting of intermittent renewable generation, along with ancillary service requirements

Rate Optimization

Use by customers to reduce demand charges and on peak energy charges

Price Arbitrage / Peak Shaving

Purchase of cheap energy for charging (off peak), and discharging to sell at high prices (on peak)

Capacity Value

Use of storage in place of traditional generation to meet capacity reserve requirements

Cycling Cost Management

Provide a sink for off-peak power to reduce need to cycle mid-merit generation, avoiding startup fuel costs and significant wear and tear on the turbines

Ancillary Services

Use of storage to provide spinning reserve, load following, regulation, black start, etc.

T&D Network Investment Deferral

Use of storage to defer the need for new transmission or distribution capacity to meet demand growth or power systems requirements

T&D Component Life Extension

Use of storage to reduce maximum loading on the grid segments, thereby extending the life of T&D assets

Transmission Access / Congestion Charge Management

Use of storage to avoid congestion charges when demand for transmission service is high

T&D Asset Utilization

Improve capital returns on capital investment in T&D investments by increasing capacity utilization of T&D resources via storage

Reliability

Use of storage to provide ride-through power or to provide time for an orderly shut down in the case of an unexpected power outage

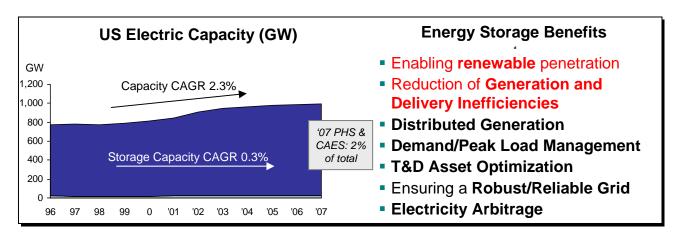
Power Quality

Use of energy storage to condition power to reduce voltage variations, reduce frequency variations, maintain power factor, and manage harmonics





Our workshop concerns two broad categories of grid scale energy storage and how to advance related technologies



Storage Applications	Description	Performance Metrics	Technology Examples	
Energy Management (hours/ diurnal))	The strategy of adjusting and optimizing energy generation including reducing the large fluctuations that occur in electricity demand by storing excess electricity during periods of low demand for use during periods of high demand.	 Discharge Time System Power Rating Round Trip Efficiency Capital Cost Cycle and Calendar Life Site Availability 	 Pumped Hydro Storage CAES Bulk Electrochemical Storage Advanced Batteries Chemical Storage 	
Power Applications (seconds/ minutes))	Faults, dynamic operations, or nonlinear loads often cause various types of power quality disturbances such as voltage sags, voltage swells, impulses, notches, flickers, harmonics, etc.	 Response Time System Power Rating Round Trip Efficiency Capital Cost Cycle and Calendar Life 	 Bulk Electrochemical Storage Advanced Batteries Flywheels Ultracapacitors SMES 	
			Where can ARPA-E make the greatest	

impact?

Defining the need for storage

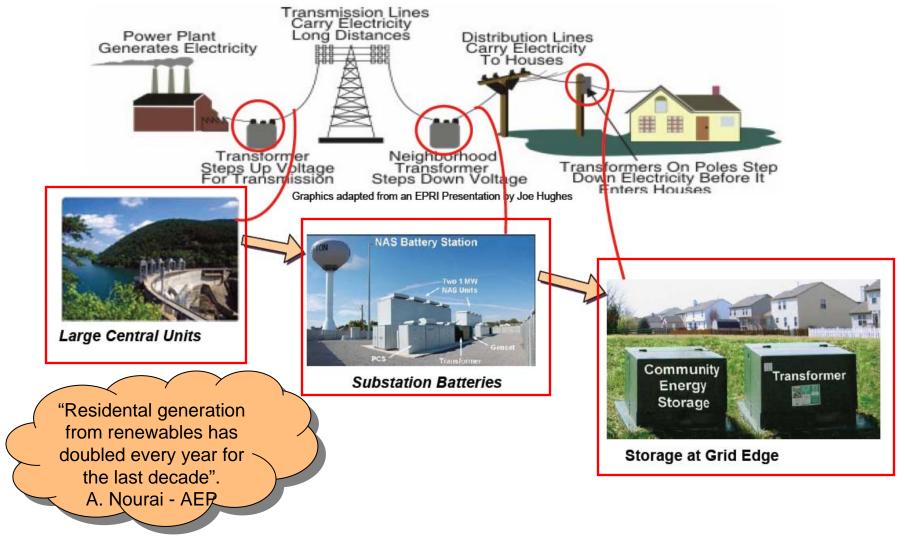
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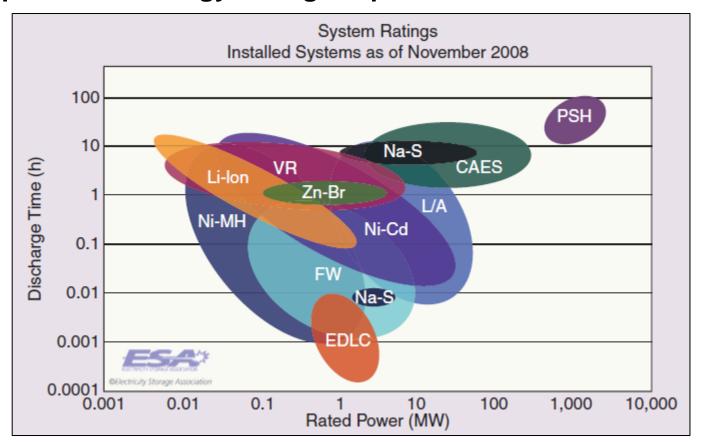


Workshop participants from utilities believed that storage is headed toward wide utilization from generation points to individual homes



... each technology has technical challenges, and room for development within ARPA-E.

Grid storage will by supplied by a combination of technologies with Varied power and energy storage capacities



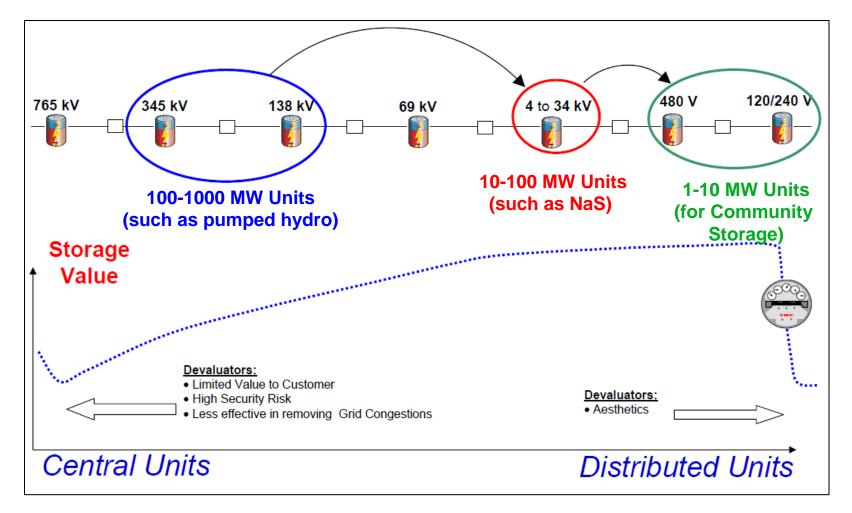
- Ni-Cd: Nickel-Cadmium
- Ni-MH: Nickel-Metal Hydride
- PSH: Pumped Hydro
- Vanadium Redox
- ZnBr: Zinc-Bromine

- CAES: Compressed Air Energy Storage
- EDLC: Double Layer Capacitors
- L/A: Lead Acid
- Li-lon: Lithium Ion
- Na-S: Sodium Sulfur



Requirements for Grid Scale Energy Storage are becoming more clear and fall into three categories, according to our participants

Power Outputs at Different Points on the Grid





Grid storage will by supplied by a combination of technologies at varied stages of development

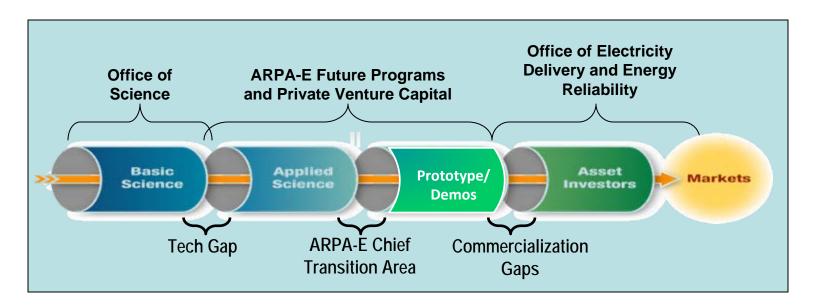
Grid Storage Stages of Maturity by Technology

The participants would like to see ARPA-E catapult more of these technologies to maturity, in order to:

- 1) Increase functionality of renewables
- 2) Reduce the need for spinning reserves and thereby
- 3) Cut greenhouse gasses and
- 4) Reduce the use of fossil fuels



Workshop participants agreed that ARPA-E and the DOE Office of Electricity have a complementary roles in technology development



- ARPA-E should develop alpha-prototype level stage,
- OE should then develop alpha-prototypes to a final stage
- ARPA-E should focus on Valley of Death between laboratory models and alpha prototype



Defining the need for storage

Possible storage solutions

Energy Storage Technologies

Key Findings Summary



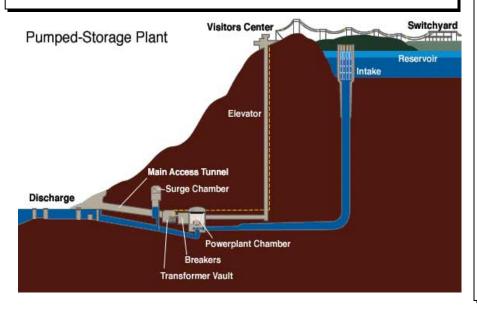
Pumped Storage Hydro is the most popular form of grid scale energy management, but offers little potential for innovation

Pumped Storage Hydro (PSH) Technical Overview

Technology Highlights

PSH uses off peak power to pump water from a reservoir to a higher elevation; during periods of high electrical demand, the stored water is released through turbines to create electricity

PSH is technologically mature and reliable compared to other storage options



Description

- The pumping process makes the plant a net consumer of energy overall, but pumped storage is the largest-capacity form of grid energy storage commercially available
- Within the US, there are 38 facilities with 22 GW of power capacity
- These power plants are still used to provide ancillary services (such as helping manage grid frequency and providing clean reserve generation)
- The number of environmentally acceptable sites for future pumped hydroelectric facilities is very limited due to the need for significant elevation changes in pumped hydroelectric plan designs
- Pumped storage can be constructed at capacities of 100-1000 of MW and discharge from 4-10 hours with cost in the range of \$2200 - \$2250/KW

R&D Pilot-scale Commercial Bench-scale Demonstration

Key Players

- Pumped storage plants are in wide use globally
- Largest pumped hydro facility globally is in Bath County, Virginia





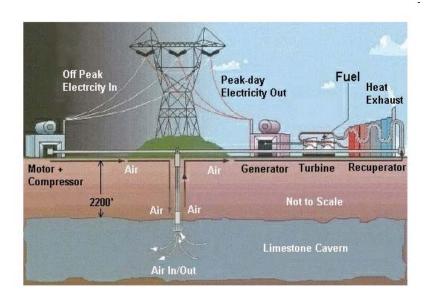
CAES has demonstrated operational improvements in NG plants and potential with renewables, but siting is limiting

Compressed Air Energy System (CAES) Technical Overview

Technology Highlights

In CAES systems, electricity is used to compress air during off-peak hours

The compressed air is most economically stored underground in salt caverns, hard rock caverns, or porous rock formations



Description

- A CAES plant with underground storage must be built near a favorable geological formation
- Cost of the underground cavern is a significant contributor to cost
- Above ground compressed air storage in gas pipes or pressure vessels is practical and cost effective for storage plants with less than about 100 MWh of storage
- Compressed air stored in underground caverns released to power the compression cycle of the gas turbine generator reduces startup time from (20 – 30 minutes to 9 – 11) and also cuts natural gas usage
- Charging Ratio ranges from .82-1.3 (kWh used to store/kWh discharge)
- Newer systems under investigation currently will generate power by air discharge, without natural gas as a required cogeneration carburant.

R&D Pilot-scale Commercial Bench-scale Demonstration

Key Players

Alabama Electric Cooperative Inc (McIntosh, AL)





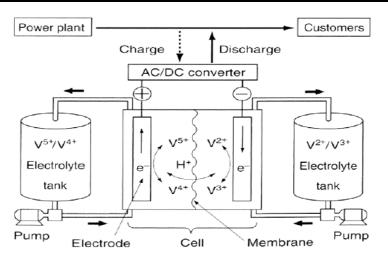
VRB has enormous performance potential at scale but a reduction in system cost is required for deployment

Vanadium Redox Flow Battery (VRB) Technical Overview

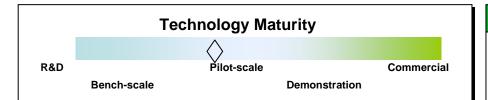
Technology Highlights

The VRB exploits the ability of vanadium to exist in solution in 4 different oxidation states; it thus uses only one electroactive element, preventing cross contamination by diffusion of ions across the membrane

Also, as a flow battery, VRB's capacity in only limited by the size of the storage tanks



VRB Schematic



Description

- Two aqueous electrolytes with active vanadium species in different oxidation states pumped through reaction cell halves
- At negative electrode, V3+ is converted to V2+ during battery charging; during discharge, V2+ ions are reconverted back to V3+; at the positive electrode, similar reaction occurs between ionic forms V5+ and V4+
- Electrolyte stored externally, allowing independent power and energy ratings: energy determined by electrolyte stored externally; power determined by size and number of electrodes in cell stack
- Efficiency ~70%
- Cost: ~\$500/kWh, with cost at \$150/kWh possible for 8-hour storage systems (due to scale up); installation costs currently at \$2500/kW; mass market costs are projected at \$720/kW and \$144/kWh
- Cost of electrolytes for scale up is more than double that for zinc-bromine (another notable flow battery type), but system is more scalable
- Capacity: 275 kW 3 MW
- Lifetime: 10-20 years
- Projected doubling of energy density possible (through better absoption of active materials by electrolyte), up from 25 Wh/kg

Key Players

- Current DOE Demo Project: SMUD/Sprint 20 kW in Sacramento
- Prudent Energy (China) recently acquired VRB, which had earlier acquired other VRB patent holders (such as a Sumitomo division and Pinnacle)
- GEFC (China) focus areas include membrane, electrode, electrolyte and stack
- University of New South Wales





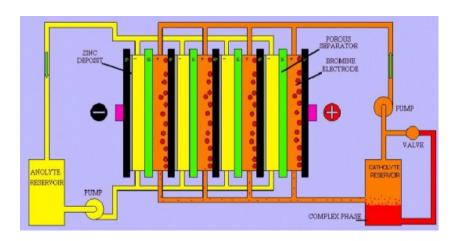
Zn-Br batteries have moderate energy density, good power density, better cycling performance and poor scalability

Zinc - Bromine Flow Battery Technical Overview

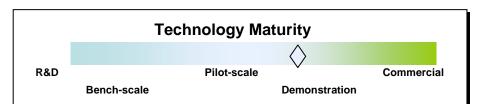
Technology Highlights

A solution of zinc bromide is stored in 2 tanks (one tank stores electrolyte for positive electrode reactions and the other for the negative)

Zn-Br battery capacity is less scalable than VRB flow batteries since it is not a pure flow battery



Zinc-Bromine Flow Battery Schematic



Description

- Construction similar to other Flow batteries, however, rather than all active materials being dissolved in the electrolyte, during charge, zinc is electroplated on the anode and bromine is evolved at the cathode
- On discharge, the bromine is returned to the battery stacks, and zinc is oxidized to zinc ions on the anodes, bromine is reduced to bromide ions on the cathodes
- Efficiency: 65-75%
- Cost: initial system cost comparable to VRB; electrolytes for scale up is much cheaper, but system less scalable; mass market costs projected at \$ 720 kW and 144 / kWh
- Capacity, Power Ratings: <1 MW, 0.01 5 MWh
- Lifetime: 5-10 years
- Safety enhanced (by polybromide formation during compounding)

Key Players

- DOE funding 1MWh Demo project in California (2 500 kWh installations)
- ZBB Energy Corp.
- Premium Power Corporation



L/A Batteries have a low production cost but present cycling, weight, toxicity and depth of discharge problems

Lead Acid (L/A) Battery Technical Overview

Technology Highlights

L/A battery has low relative cost and is a popular choice for power quality and uninterrupted power supply application but it is limited due to its short cycle life



An islanded lead acid battery stack in Alaska

R&D Pilot-scale Commercial Bench-scale Demonstration

Description

- Lead-acid is one of the oldest and most developed battery technologies
- Several commercial, large-scale energy management applications have been installed (California, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Germany)
- Demonstrated rated energy ranges from 4.5 to 40 MWh
- Demonstrated rated power ranges from 3 to 10 MW; however, amount of energy (kWh or MWh) the battery can deliver is not fixed and depends on rate of discharge
- Cost: installed cost (\$/kw) have ranged from \$239 to \$805 (1995 dollars); cost / kWh have ranged from \$201 to \$707
- Innovative Lead Carbon batteries under development currently may make this system more attractive for Grid Storage applications

Key Players

 GNB Industrial Power/Exide, Delco, East Penn, Teledyne, Optima Batteries, JCI Battery Group, Crown Battery, Wildcat, Caterpillar/Firefly Energy.

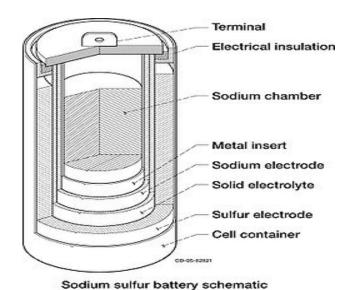


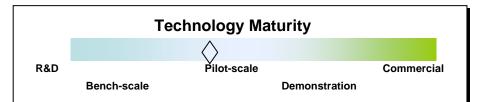
Na-S batteries are promising for grid-storage, but high operating temperatures (300 to 350 °C) limits its use

Sodium Sulfur Battery (Na-S) Technical Overview

Technology Highlights

A Na-S battery has high energy density, high efficiency, and long cycle life, and is fabricated from inexpensive materials





Description

- Cylindrical tube composed of negative electrode of liquid sodium in the inner core; positive electrode comprised of a surrounding layer of sulfur; Beta-Alumina Solid Electrolyte (BASE) layer separates the electrodes; BASE electrolyte is a good conductor of sodium ions, but a poor conductor of ions, thereby preventing self-discharge
- During discharge: molten sodium serves as anode; positive sodium ion passes through the BASE (electrolyte) to the sulfur layer to form sodium polysulfide; the sodium level in the inner core drops
- During charging: sodium polysulfides release the positive sodium ions back through the electrolyte to recombine as elemental sodium
- Once running, heat produced by charging and discharging cycles maintains sufficient operating temperature with no external source, however high temperatures of up to 350° C are needed initially
- Efficiency ~89-92%; Lifetime up to 15 years
- Capacity / Power: from 50 kW / 400 kWh to 8MW / 64MWh
- ESA claims in Japan there are > 190 sites totaling 270 MW

Key Players

- DOE funded Demo Project: Pacific Gas & Electric Sodium Sulfur Battery (allows substation upgrade deferment). Project on hold
- DOE funded Demo Project: a 1 MW, 7.2 MWh, NaS BESS at a major Long Island Bus depot facility (shifts a compressor peak load to off-peak capacity and provides emergency backup power); uses NASTM Battery (developed jointly by NGK and Tokyo Elec. Power)





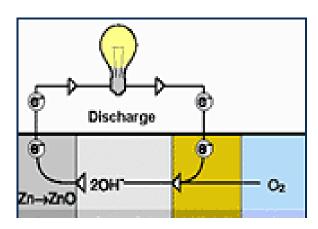
Metal Air battery's energy density and shelf life has garnered attention but poor recharge capability limits use currently

Metal Air Battery Technical Overview

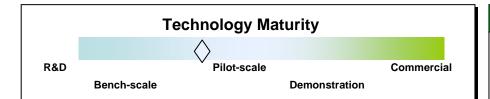
Technology Highlights

In metal air batteries, the reactive anode and air electrode result in an inexhaustible cathode reactant

This battery is potentially the most compact and, potentially, the least expensive battery, but recharging remains difficult and inefficient



Metal Air Schematic



Description

- The anodes in these batteries are commonly available metals with high energy density that release electrons when oxidized; anode candidates include zinc for larger battery ranges (Other metals such as lithium, calcium, magnesium, aluminum, or iron may be used but are not as commercially developed as zinc)
- The cathodes (or air electrodes) are often made of a porous carbon structure or a metal mesh covered with proper catalysts; there is essentially no weight associated with the cathode reactant, other than the air electrode, since the cathode reactant is oxygen from air
- The electrolytes are often a good OH- ion conductor such as KOH; electrolyte may be in liquid form or a solid polymer membrane saturated with KOH
- Not yet technically viable for grid-storage:
 - Electrical recharging very difficult and inefficient; many manufacturers offer refuelable units where the consumed metal is mechanically replaced and processed separately
 - Rechargeable metal air batteries that are under development have a life of only a few hundred cycles and an efficiency about 50%
- Zinc-Air systems are potentially rechargeable

Key Players

 EVionyx, AER Energy Resources, Metallic Power, Chem Tek, Power Zinc, Electric Fuel, Alupower, Aluminum Power, Zoxy Energy Systems, ReVolt



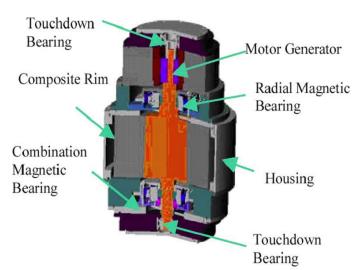


Flywheels are used in instances when high power density is required for disruptions lasting seconds to minutes

Flywheels Technical Overview

Technology Highlights

Flywheels are marketed as environmentally safe, reliable, modular, and high-cycle life alternative for uninterruptible power supplies and other power-conditioning equipment designed to improve the quality of power delivered to critical or protected loads



Cross-Section Of A Flywheel Module

(Courtesy NASA Glenn Research Center)

R&D Pilot-scale Commercial Bench-scale Demonstration

Description

- A flywheel is a simple form of mechanical (kinetic) energy storage; energy is stored by causing a disk or rotor to spin on its axis; stored energy is proportional to the flywheel's mass and the square of its rotational speed
- The energy and power characteristics of a flywheel system are more or less independent variables therefore in theory it can be designed for any power and energy combination; in practice, technical limitations such as rotor strength and weight, and resource limitations such as cost limit design characteristics
- In general, flywheels can be classified as low speed with rpm measured in thousands or high speed with rpm measured in the tens of thousands
 - Low-speed flywheels are usually made from steel and designed for high-power output
 - High-speed flywheels are typically made from carbon or carbon and fiberglass composite materials that will withstand the higher stresses associated with higher rpm
- There are two major avenues of research in flywheel technology at present improved passive magnetic bearings, and improved wheel materials
- Primary cost areas are the rotor materials fabrication and motor generator materials fabrication efficiency

Key Players

- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories; Pennsylvania State University; University of Texas
- Beacon Power; Boeing Phantom Works



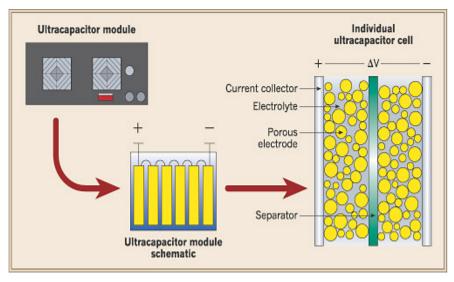


Ultracapacitors are an effective way to buffer high power requirements, but still fall short of battery energy levels

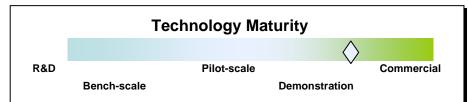
Ultracapacitors Technical Overview

Technology Highlights

•Ultracapacitors are two series capacitors with an electric double layer (EDL) of very high surface area. These systems have 100,000x energy density over standard capacitors, beginning to approach lithium ion batteries. Their widespread use is hampered by self discharge and cost issues.



Ultracapacitor Overview Schematic



Description

- Ultracapacitors' electric double layer (EDL) is formed between each of the electrodes and the electrolyte ion layers. The distance over which the charge separation occurs is just a few angstroms. The extremely large surface area makes the capacitance and energy density of these devices thousands of times larger than those of conventional electrolytic capacitors
- The electrodes are often made with porous carbon material.
- The electrolyte is either aqueous or organic.
- Aqueous ultracaps have a lower energy density due to a lower cell voltage, but are less expensive and work in a wider temperature range.
- Asymmetrical ultracaps use metal for one of the electrodes have a significantly larger energy density than the symmetric ones do and also have a lower leakage current.
- Lower energy density than batteries, but can be cycled 100,000x and are much more powerful than batteries (fast charge and discharge capability).
- Have been used for wind turbine blade-pitch control devices to control the rate at which power increases and decreases with changes in wind velocity.

Key Players

• Maxwell, Kwanwa.

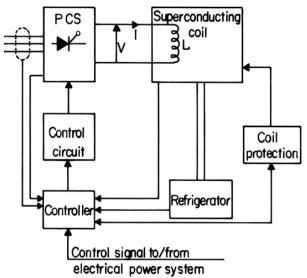


SMES is utilized to enhance power quality in a few areas, but do not see widespread use due to cost

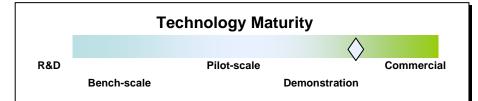
Superconducting Magnetic Energy Storage (SMES) Technical Overview

Technology Highlights

SMES offer efficient energy storage with 5% loss, since there are none of the inherent losses associated with energy conversion Power is available almost instantaneously, and very high power output is provided for a brief period of time



SMES schematic



Description

- SMES systems store energy in the magnetic field created by the flow of direct current in a superconducting coil which has been cryogenically cooled to a temperature below its superconducting critical temperature. SMES system include:
 - Superconducting coil, all practical SMES systems installed to date use a superconducting alloy of niobium and titanium (Nb-Ti), which requires operation at temperatures near the boiling point of liquid helium, about 4.2 K (-269°C or -452°F) 4.2 centigrade degrees above absolute zero
 - Cryogenic refrigerator to maintain the coil at a temperature sufficiently low to maintain a superconducting state in the wires; commercial SMES today this temperature is about 4.5 K (-269°C) requiring 200 to 1000 watts of electric power for each watt that must be removed
 - Power conversion system
 - Control system, establishes a link between power demands from the grid and power flow to and from the SMES coil
- The superconductor material is one of the major costs of a superconducting coil and SMES system

Key Players

• American Superconductor



Defining the need for storage

Possible storage solutions

Energy Storage Technologies

Key Findings Summary



Our first breakout sessions was devoted to large-scale energy management technologies

- Compressed Air Energy Storage (CAES)
 - Chair: Georgianne Peek, Sandia
- Bulk Electrochemical Storage: Liquid metal/flow batteries/metal air)
 - Chair: John Boyes, Sandia
- Advanced Batteries: Advanced Li-ion/NiCd/Pb-Acid/beyond Li-Ion)
 - Chair: Ali Nourai, AEP
- Other Bulk Storage Approaches: Underground Pumped Hydro/Chemical Storage
 - Chair: Klaus Lackner, Columbia University
- Power Conditioning Systems and Balance of Plant
 - Chair: Brad Roberts, ESA



Whereas our second round of breakout sessions focused on high power applications necessary for seconds-to-minutes management

- Bulk Electrochemical Storage: Liquid metal/flow batteries/metal air)
 Chair: Ali Nourai, AEP
- Advanced Batteries: Advanced Li-ion/NiCd/Pb-Acid/beyond Li-Ion)
 - Chair: John Boyes, Sandia
- Ultracapacitors/SMES
 - Chair: Dan Rastler, EPRI
- Flywheels and Other Power Focused Storage Applications
 - Chair: Haresh Kamath, EPRI



Each breakout session was asked to answer a list of questions about their candidate technologies for discussion with the group

Key questions for each technology breakout session:

- Highest ARPA-E mission impact storage applications and why
 - Reduction of energy-related emissions, including greenhouse gases
 - Improvements in efficiency of power generation and delivery
 - U.S. technological lead
- Required performance and cost for significant deployment in these applications vs state of the art
- Key technical and cost barriers/challenges
- Promising emerging technology opportunities/approaches to overcome barriers
- "Holy grails"/grand challenges that if solved would be game changers
- Existing funding gaps (government, private investors, corporate R&D)
 - Development stage gaps, Technology funding gaps
- Ideal roles of ARPA-E vs Office of Electricity @ DOE
- Level of development required for private sector hand-off
- Required levels of funding for meaningful progress
 - Proof of Concept
 - Meaningful prototype (scale?)
 - Meaningful small-scale demonstration



Workshop participants agreed on the general cost and performance metrics for any future ARPA-E Grid Storage Programs

General Metrics to Evaluate Grid Scale Energy Storage Projects

- Performance Metrics
 - Multi-hour storage for energy, seconds to minutes for power
 - High cycle efficiency,
 - Peak power capability,
 - Cycle life,
 - Calendar life,
 - Operation at temperature ext.
- Cost Metrics
 - \$/kWh cycled (over lifetime)
 - \$\/kW*h, capital cost
 - Total lifecycle cost
- How to measure R&D program successes
 - Include market pull as requirement in proposals
 - Build national utility scale testbed- badly needed
 - Understand storage reduction of GHG if charged with coal



For new technologies to be adopted however, the members urged consideration of the whole grid storage development landscape

Technology Challenges

New Storage

Industry **Cost Metrics** Stakeholders **New Drivers** Risks Requirements Technical **Capital Costs** Power Quality Regulators Climate Bill/Law Identification of Construction Power Storage RTO/ISO Executive Risk Levels Environment Costs Time Order (Calif.) Operations Life Cycle Mitigation **FERC** National **Activities** Maintenance Technical DOE Security Prototype **NIST Standards** Life Cvcle **Parameters** Industry Schedule Fabrication Gov't/ Industry Testing Analysis **Partnership** Risk Impacts Cost Sharing

First-of-a-kind (FOAK) Storage

Demonstration Plant (Usually administered Through DOE/OE)



Energy Storage

- Performance Metrics
- Reliability
- Availability



Many participants concurred with the EPRI goals/opportunities for grid energy storage paradigms

Grid Storage Energy System Requirements

Flow Battery	Li-lon Battery	NaS Battery	Pumped Hydro	CAES	Ultra Capacitors	SMES	Flywheels
Footprint Optimized for Site Double Energy Density Reduce Permitting Issues Reduce Capital Operating and Maintenance Costs over 20 years Incorporate Thermal Management into design Optimize Electrolyte concentration with Electrode surface area	Improved Electrolyte Improved Anode and Cathodes Reduce Content of Cobalt and graphite Improve Safety Scale-Up	Lower cost of chrome plating for battery can and/or go from aluminum to steel casing Beta Alumina Tube: Improve Characteristics Improve cell seal: ceramic to metal bond	Lower investment costs Reduced environment al impact	Machinery-Apply Higher temperature expansion turbines to CAES (go from 2100F to 2500 F) Above ground piping Demo surface DR CAES Systems Reduce cost of piping and potential corrosion of high pressure pipe systems	Develop nano-carbon materials to increase carbon surface area Increase cell voltage (from 2.5 to 3V to twice that)	Increase Superconductor temperature	Friction Reduction, joint durability New materials for reduced friction Flywheel tipspeed control





Finally, the group applauded the efforts of the AEP Storage Group for their efforts to define residential storage standards

- At current renewable generation growth rates, residential storage is forcasted to see wide deployment within five years
- No standards of performance are currently established/accepted by industry, but will be required for broad adoption
 - Standards development for energy storage should be pursued by DOE

AEP Guidelines for Residential Energy Storage

Key Parameters	Value		
Power	25 kVA		
Energy	50kWh		
Voltage	120/240 V		
Round Trip Energy Efficiency	>85%		

Target cost parameters are \$1000/kW and \$500/kWh



Similar guidelines are needed in other storage sectors





The participants also described enabling technologies and high-risk concepts that would greatly advance grid scale energy storage

- Reliable, inexpensive, rechargable metal-air batteries,
- Fuel as electrical storage media
- Electrochemical conversion to methanol
- Thermal storage cycles
- Economically viable Ericsson cycles for storage
- Storage system scalability
- Organic active materials for flow batteries.
- Algae farms growing carbon electrodes
- Hybrid supercaps to provide hours of energy
- Multiple platforms vehicle + grid
- Combine thermal + electrical storage



- Seasonal power storage
- Better balance of plant electronics
- More focus on Molten Salt Systems



A 34-MW, 245-MWh NaS battery installation.

In summary, the workshop revealed enormous unexplored territory across the grid storage energy space...

Opportunities in Grid Scale Energy Storage

- Large Scale Diurnal Storage, especially on the coasts
- Rapid increase in delocalized residential generation will cause unmet demand for storage
- The increase to 20% generation from renewables from many states will require significant storage to maintain grid output quality
- Wind generation providers are beginning to look at storage integration on their sites.

Reasons why project haven't already been developed

- Without significant government backing and testing, utilities wouldn't adopt new technologies
- Proposed new storage techniques were deemed too risky
- Grid research topics in general have been ignored for decades
 - In 2006, the total Grid Storage Budget of EPRI was < \$50k nationally!
- FERC previously financially disincentivized research by utilities

None of these reasons still apply!

... and a community of innovators waiting for the right environment to turn ideas into reality. That time is now!