

# ERA ENERGY RESEARCH ACCELERATOR

At the forefront of energy transformation



## Thermal Energy Storage for Heat, Cold, Power & Mobility

Yulong Ding

Birmingham Centre for Energy Storage

University of Birmingham

Edgbaston Park Hotel, University of Birmingham

23 January 2020

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# Birmingham Centre for Energy Storage (BCES)



- **BCES consists of BCCES and BCTES – a distributed centre across the university campus**



BCES was established with substantial support from UK EPSRC under the Eight Great Technologies (£12.5M) and UK BEIS under Energy Research Accelerator (ERA, £60M)

- **BCES initially focuses on:**
  - Novel TES Materials & Advanced Manufacturing Technology
  - TES Components/Devices
  - TES Systems Integration, Optimisation and the Big Data including Cyber Security
  - Energy Storage Economics & Policy
  - TES Applications



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# Birmingham Centre for Energy Storage (BCES)

- BCES has grown significantly since 2013 and BCES research themes have increased



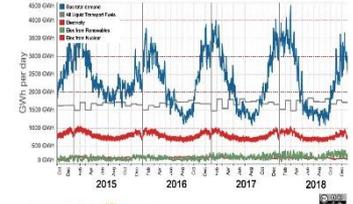
Cold Chain Technologies



"WHAT'S THE RANGE OF OUR ELECTRIC CAR? IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE LENGTH OF YOUR EXTENSION CORD."

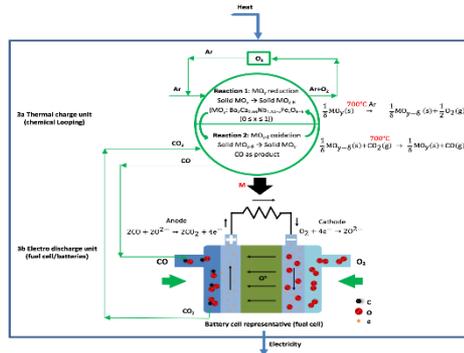
- Electrical batteries + **Thermal Batteries**;
- Electrical and thermal charge in **energy charging station**;
- Air conditioning in energy charging station;
- Range increase** by up to 30-40%;
- COP increase** by >2-3 times;
- Use of **AI & Telecommunication**

Thermal Storage based EVs



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM | BIRMINGHAM ENERGY INSTITUTE | University data are from National Grid, Elexon and BEIS. Figure produced by Dr. Green Water, Iqbal, and Dr. Green Water, Iqbal, and Dr. Green Water, Iqbal.

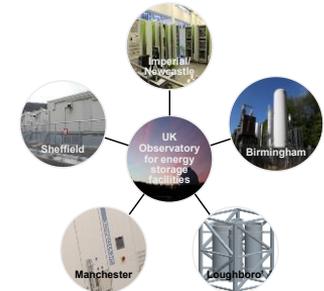
Energy + Data



Thermo/Chemical/Electrochem/Electrical Conversion & Storage



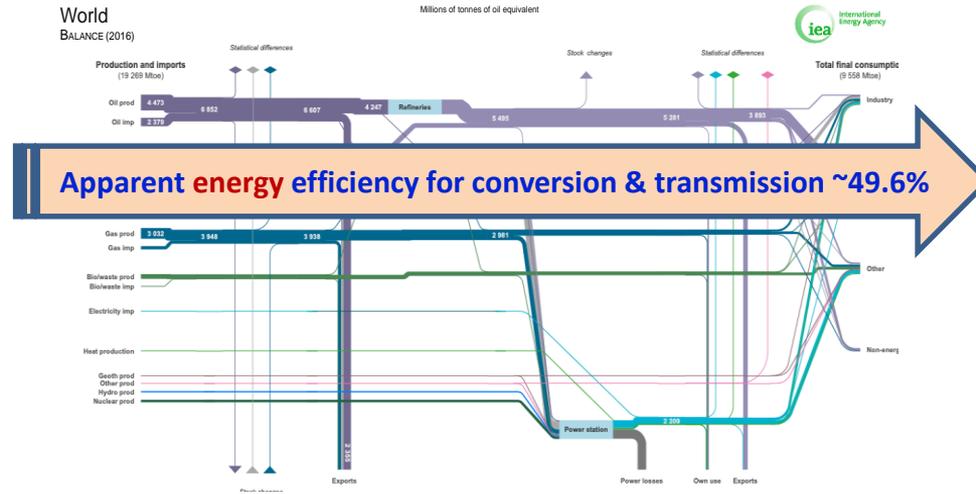
Advanced Manufacturing Technologies



Energy systems and policy analysis

# Why Thermal Energy Storage?

## The World Energy Flow Chart 2016



Energy Production & Import  
19269 MTOE

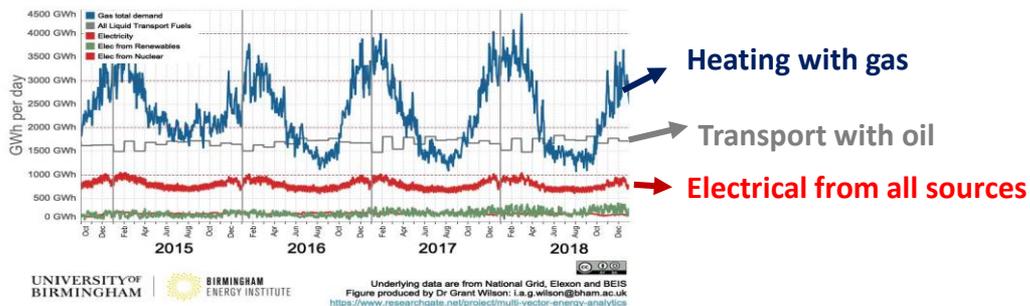
Final Energy Consumption  
9558 MTOE

• The efficiency is very very low also indeed in the whole world!

# Why Thermal Energy Storage?

Energy system  $\neq$  electrical power system; challenges related to thermal energy >> that related to electrical power system & transport

Take the UK as an example: energy consumption as a function of time (energy)



Seasons / Total	Electricity	Gas - heating	Transport
Summer, GWh/day	~600	~1600	~1650
Winter, GWh/day	~1000	~3500	~1650
Total	~336 TWh/year	~600 TWh/year	~600 TWh/year

**Thermal Energy is the main challenge!**

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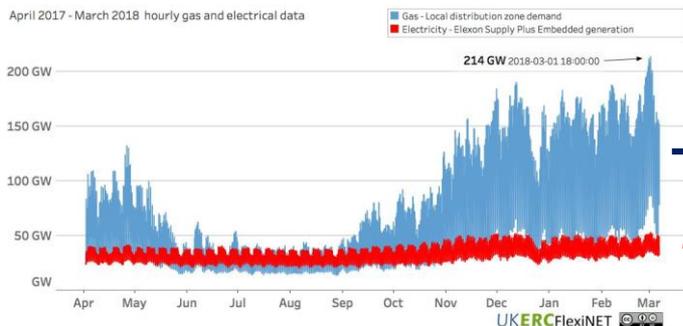
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# Why Thermal Energy Storage?

Energy system  $\neq$  electrical power system; challenges related to thermal energy >> that related to electrical power system & transport

Take the UK as an example: energy consumption as a function of time (power)



➔ Heating with gas

➔ Electrical from all sources

Seasons / Total	Electricity	Thermal Energy
Summer, GW	~20-40	~15-55
Winter, GW	~30-50	~100-210

**Thermal Energy is the main challenge!**

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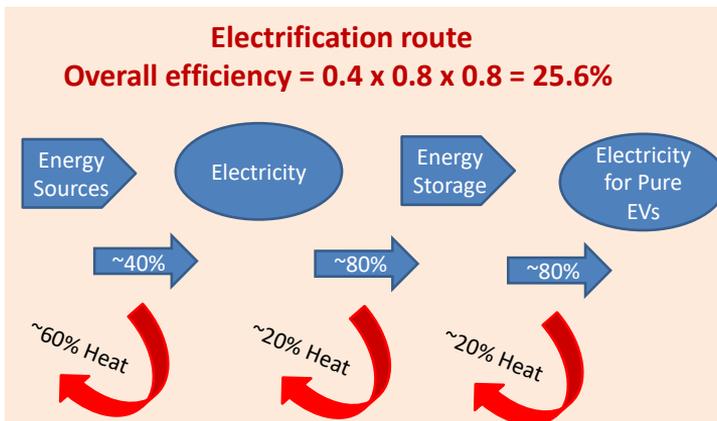


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# Why Thermal Energy Storage?

## Electrification of transport – pure EVs



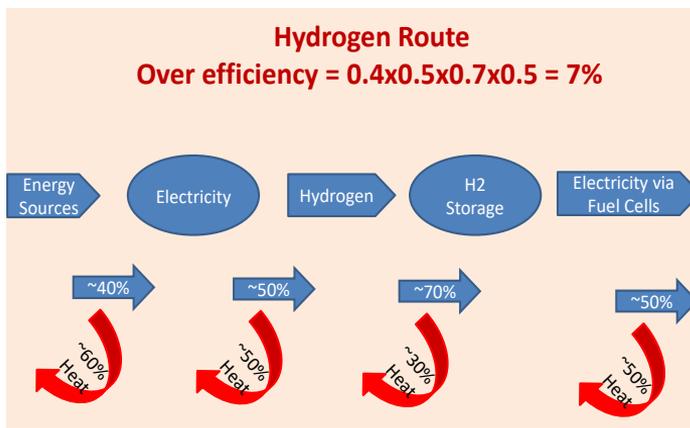
Heating consumes ~50% of battery power

Long range, heavy trucks and rail trains difficult

- Average data taken from various sources including academic literature and US national lab and DOE reports
- The importance of thermal energy

# Why Thermal Energy Storage?

## Hydrogen for transport via hydrogen fuel cells



Heating can be provided and possibly cooling by using heat

Long range easily achievable

- Average data taken from various sources including academic literature and US national lab and DOE reports
- The importance of thermal energy

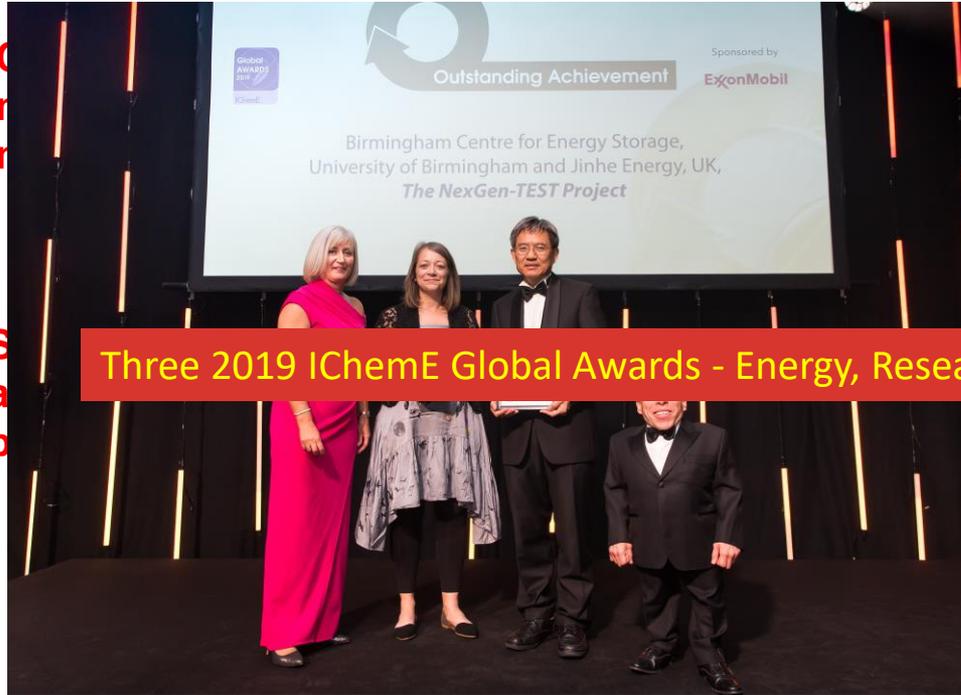
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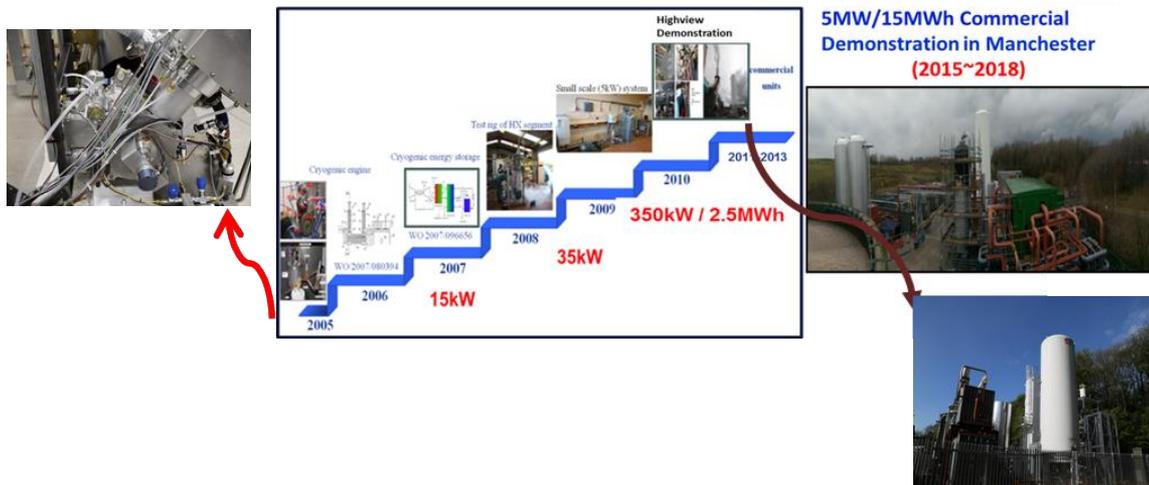
# Our Technologies – Thermal Energy Storage for Renewable Heating



Three 2019 IChemE Global Awards - Energy, Research Project and Outstanding Achievement Awards

# Our Technologies – Thermal Energy Storage for Heat, cold & Power

Invented cryogenic engines and liquid air energy storage technologies some 15 years ago and led the initial technology developments



2019: Announcement of designing and building 50MW/250MWh system – Europe’s largest system non-pumped hydro system

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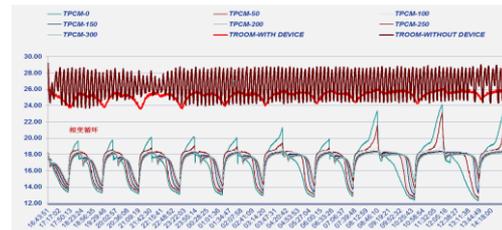
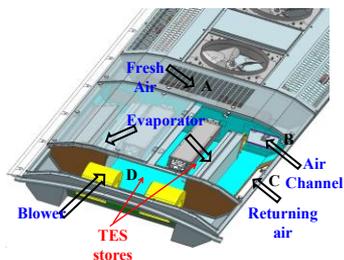


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# Our Technologies – Thermal Energy Storage for Rail Carriages

**Invented TES based rail carriage air-conditioning technology and carried out initial technology validation and demonstration work**



• Power: 44kW;  
• Weight: ~1000kg



• TES device ~500kg;  
• Heat transfer device ~300kg



**200kg**

Original AC

New AC

Weight reduction

Significant reduced start-stop frequency



Better customer experiences  
Better energy efficiency  
Lower maintenance cost  
Long life-span

**20% weight reduction, energy consumption reduction by ~18%, significant improvement of customers experience due to reduced stop-start frequency**

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# Our Technologies – Thermal Energy Storage for Transport

**Invented TES based rail freight technology for cold chain transportation and demonstrated the technology**

**2018: First generation technology trialed**  
**2019: Second generation technology commercialized**  
**2019: Planning and build of rail cold chain**



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## Institution of Chemical Engineers

Founded 1922  
Incorporated by Royal Charter 1957

Birmingham Centre for Energy Storage,  
University of Birmingham, UK, and Chinese  
Railway Rolling Stock Company (CRRC), China  
*Cold Storage for Integrated Road/Rail  
Transportation*

**2019年IChemE Global Award:  
Highly Commended for the Energy  
Award**

Ken Rivers CEng FIChemE FEI  
President

Jon Pichard CEng FICE FInstRE  
Chief Executive

**Global AWARDS 2019**  
IChemE

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Generation II: 2018-2019



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