

# An optimal charging algorithm to minimise solid electrolyte interface layer in lithium-ion battery

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## Abstract

This article presents a novel control algorithm for online optimal charging of lithium-ion battery by explicitly incorporating degradation mechanism into control, to reduce the degradation process. The health of battery directly relates to degradation and capacity fade in cycles of charging. We mainly focus on the growth of the solid electrolyte interface (SEI) layer, which is the primary source of degradation of batteries. This article addresses the challenge of minimising SEI layer growth during charging by incorporating the first-order SEI layer growth rate model into a non-linear model predictive control approach. A single particle model (SPM) is used for optimal charging using orthogonal projection-based model reformulation. Gauss pseudo-spectral method is used for the optimisation of charging trajectories. Results of the optimal algorithm are compared with the traditional constant current constant voltage (CCCV) approach without considering SEI layer growth. It is ensured that overpotential caused by lithium plating remains in a healthy regime which is another feature of the proposed strategy. Simulation results are presented to demonstrate the advantages of the proposed charging method.

*Keywords:* Optimal Charging, Non-linear model predictive control, lithium-ion battery, Pseudo-spectral methods

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## 1. Introduction

This paper proposes a non-linear model predictive control (NMPC) framework to extend the life of a lithium-ion battery by decreasing the growth rate of the solid electrolyte interface (SEI) layer during charging. Due to the advantages including high energy density, low self-discharge rate and low maintenance requirements, lithium-ion batteries have been used as energy storage components in many applications, such as electric vehicles (EVs). Long charging time of EVs is one of the hurdles for EV applications. However, fast charging at higher rates can accelerate the degradation process of batteries, reduce their power and capacity limits. Conventional charging methods include constant current (CC), constant voltage (CV), multi-stage constant current, pulse, variable current and constant current constant voltage (CCCV) charging strategies [1]. All of these charging strategies are simple to implement, but they cannot explicitly deal with the ageing of batteries. In order to reduce the effect of capacity fade, optimal charging strategies are proposed to deal with the state of health (SOH) of batteries [3]. Off-line and online optimal charging strategies are proposed in which the influence of battery SOC, charging current and charging profile are closely related to capacity fade.

The motivation of this article stems from the need to explicitly incorporate the degradation effects in battery charging in a manner that minimises charging time while ensuring safety, reliability and reducing the degradation process. Excessive

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15 battery damage and ageing of battery systems can be reduced by imposing predefined limits on various states or variables such  
16 as current rates, state of charge (SOC) and temperature. The popular adopted CCCV charging method cannot guarantee the  
17 satisfaction of these limits if the charging current is too high. In contrast, it is possible to charge batteries more aggressively  
18 using model-based control algorithms based on electrochemical models while not causing damage and increasing degradation.  
19 Such algorithms rely on electrochemical models instead of equivalent circuit models because the equivalent circuit models  
20 cannot cope with the constraints on the internal variables. The existing model-based optimal charging algorithms include  
21 dynamic programming [4], genetic algorithms [6, 7] and pseudo-spectral optimisation [5, 8]. One drawback of the model-based  
22 controller is the heavy computational burden because of the complexities of the electrochemical models. Researchers tried  
23 to reduce the computational burden by introducing efficient algorithms, e.g. [9]. The primary advantage of the model-based  
24 controller is to directly constrain unwanted reactions, associated with degradation. Secondly, a model-based controller can  
25 adapt to parametric variations in the battery, and thereby quantifies the ageing of the battery and explicitly measures SOH  
26 [2]. These variations represent the dynamics of lithium-ion batteries with specific accuracy and computational efficiency. In  
27 this paper, we incorporate the SEI layer growth model to an optimal charging control algorithm so that an optimal trade-off  
28 between charging time and growth of SEI layer film subject to constraints can be achieved.

29 This work can be seen as an extension of published work on health-conscious NMPC of lithium-ion batteries [9], where the  
30 effect of lithium plating into online optimal charging of battery management system (BMS). Battery charge/trajectory was  
31 expressed in terms of one flat output trajectory to reduce computational burden by a factor of 5 compared with pseudo-  
32 spectral optimisation alone. Moreover, the proposed constant current constant side reaction overpotential ( $CCC\eta$ ) strategy  
33 ensured the side reaction constraint to remain in healthy regime during charging. However, in [9], authors considered only  
34 one side reaction with no quantification of SOH. Optimal charging trajectories are calculated in a healthy regime without  
35 estimation of degradation effects [10, 11]. Moreover, researchers also proposed a health-aware fast-charging methodology  
36 using model predictive control. For example, [12] explored moving horizon approach incorporating chemical degradation  
37 effects, but the SEI film resistance is not estimated. Due to ageing effects, battery SOH does not follow a specified trajectory.  
38 This deviation is minimised by proposing the balancing control method [13]. The effect of temperature and degradation  
39 effects also alter the voltage and state of energy responses [14]. All of the above research works do not contribute to the  
40 quantification of the ageing effect represented by the thickness of the SEI layer.

41 The main contribution of this paper compared to the previously published works is that the proposed method explicitly  
42 minimises the effect of SEI layer growth in charging, thus reducing the capacity fade of battery. SEI layer is passively  
43 formed on negative electrode due to side reaction, and the main factor causing capacity fade for a battery [10, 15]. Lithium  
44 intercalation in a battery, during charging, increases the volume of graphite particles [22]. This volume change stretches the  
45 surface film on the edges, which has limited flexibility, resulting in the surface film to break. It changes the order of film  
46 passivity and exposes more carbon to the electrolyte. This will act as a barrier for lithium-ion intercalation, which introduces  
47 capacity fade effects. Therefore, incorporating SEI layer dynamics will help us to minimise the capacity degradation effect.  
48 The proposed online methodology controls the growth of the SEI layer during charging using a single-particle model (SPM) and  
49 Gauss pseudo-spectral method. SPM is an appropriate candidate because it gives a satisfactory trade-off between accuracy  
50 and computational efficiency compared to other electrochemical models in the literature. Dynamics of battery electrode

51 in SPM is approximated by a linear combination of Legendre polynomials and unknown time coefficients. The number of  
 52 Legendre polynomials depends on the best fit of the electrode trajectory compared to experimental results. Even polynomials  
 53 automatically satisfy the electrode’s condition at the centre of the particle, thus reducing the complexity of the electrochemical  
 54 model [17]. The non-convex behaviour of the resulting model-based optimal control is computationally challenging, even for  
 55 low order models. Dynamic programming and other optimisation algorithms can solve non-convex problems, but they have  
 56 the drawback of high computational cost, which makes them unsuitable for online control applications. A pseudo-spectral  
 57 method is used to optimise the charging trajectory because it has high convergence rates, which makes it computationally  
 58 efficient. Also, it can solve non-linear and non-convex optimisation problems effectively [25]. The pseudo-spectral method  
 59 transforms a continuous problem into a non-linear programming (NLP) problem, which can be efficiently solved using efficient  
 60 commercial software.

61 This paper’s novel and unique contribution is the development of a NMPC framework which accounts for chemical degradation  
 62 along-with side reaction overpotential. In the proposed strategy, a dynamic model predicts the future responses of a controlled  
 63 plant. These future predictions are computed by minimising performance cost, defined in terms of states and input sequences.  
 64 The concept of the receding horizon is introduced to realise online optimisation. The proposed strategy ensures that physics-  
 65 based constraint must be satisfied during the whole process of charging. The NMPC framework’s optimisation results are  
 66 compared with the traditional CCCV approach to show the advantages of the proposed strategy.

67 The remainder of this article is organised as follows: Section 2 presents the governing equations and reformulated SPM.  
 68 Theory of SEI layer is presented in Section 3 while Gauss pseudo-spectral method is briefly discussed in Section 4. Section  
 69 5 presents the problem formulation while Section 6 explains the mathematical formulation of NMPC strategy to find an  
 70 optimal solution. Section 7 shows the results of battery optimal control problem and compares it to the conventional CCCV  
 71 charging method. Section 8 concludes the article.

## 72 2. Single particle model

73 In this section, the governing equations of SPM are presented. Orthogonal projection techniques are used to convert  
 74 partial differential equations to ordinary differential equations[16]. A physics-based SPM is used in this work to achieve a  
 75 trade-off between accuracy and computational efficiency [17, 18]. The parameters of SPM and reference potential curves for  
 76 both electrodes are obtained from [19]. Assumptions for modelling SPM can be found in [10].

### 77 2.1. SPM equations

78 Fick’s second law of diffusion gives information about solid-phase diffusion dynamics. The governing differential equation  
 79 is

$$\frac{\partial c_s(r, t)}{\partial r} = \frac{D_s}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial c_s(r, t)}{\partial r} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial c(r, t)}{\partial r} \Big|_{r=0} = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial c(r, t)}{\partial r} \Big|_{r=R} = \pm \frac{J(t)}{FD_s a} \quad (3)$$

80 where  $c_s$ ,  $D_s$ ,  $a$  and  $J$  are the solid-state concentration, diffusion constant, interfacial surface area and molar flux of lithium-ion  
 81 of corresponding electrode (negative or positive) respectively.  $F$  is Faraday's constant and  $R$  is the radius of the corresponding  
 82 electrode. Interfacial area of electrode can be defined as

$$a = \frac{3\epsilon}{R} \quad (4)$$

where  $\epsilon$  is porosity of electrode. The molar flux of lithium-ions  $J_i$  are defined as

$$J_n(t) = -\frac{I(t)}{SL_n} \quad (\text{Negative Electrode}) \quad (5)$$

$$J_p(t) = \frac{I(t)}{SL_p} \quad (\text{Positive Electrode}) \quad (6)$$

83 where  $S$  and  $L_j$  are sheet area and length of electrode respectively.  $I(t)$  is applied current (positive for charging). The bulk  
 84 state of charge (SOC) is defined as

$$SOC(t) = \frac{c_{s,avg}(t)}{c_{s,max}} \quad (7)$$

85 where  $c_{s,avg}(t)$  is the average lithium-ions concentration of the electrode, i.e.

$$c_{s,avg}(t) = \int_0^R c_s dr \quad (8)$$

86 and  $c_{s,max}$  is the maximum concentration of lithium ions of the electrode. The surface SOC is defined as

$$SOC^{surf}(t) = \frac{c_s^{surf}(t)}{c_{s,max}} \quad (9)$$

The relationship between the molar flux of lithium-ion and the potential difference between solid and solution phases in any  
 electrode, can be expressed as

$$J(t) = i_0(t) \left[ \exp\left(\frac{\alpha_a F}{R_g T} \eta(t)\right) - \exp\left(\frac{\alpha_c F}{R_g T} \eta(t)\right) \right] \quad (10)$$

$$i_0(t) = ak(c_{s,max} - c_s^{surf})^{\alpha_a} (c_s^{surf})^{\alpha_c} c_e^{\alpha_a} \quad (11)$$

87  $k$  is the reaction rate constant, and  $i_0$  is the current density of the respective electrode.  $\alpha_a$  and  $\alpha_c$  are electrode transfer  
 88 coefficients in anode and cathode, respectively.  $c_{s,max}$  and  $c_s^{surf}$  are maximum and surface concentrations in the corresponding  
 89 electrode respectively.  $c_s^{surf}$  can be computed as  $c(R, t)$ .  $R_g$  is gas constant, and  $T$  is the temperature which is 298 K in this  
 90 work. The overpotential  $\eta$  is defined as the difference between solid and electrolyte potential and it can be expressed for a  
 91 negative electrode as

$$\eta_n(t) = \phi_{1,n}(t) - \phi_{2,n}(t) - U_n(SOC_n^{surf}(t)) \quad (12)$$

92 where  $\phi_{1,n}$  is solid-phase potential while  $\phi_2$  is solution-phase potential. The potential drop in the solution phase between  
 93 two electrodes is

$$\phi_{2,p}(t) - \phi_{2,n}(t) = I(t)R_{cell} \quad (13)$$

94 where the subscripts  $p$  and  $n$  refer to positive and negative electrodes, and  $R_{cell}$  is the resistance of cell which is a lumped  
 95 parameter. The potential difference between positive and negative electrodes is defined as cell voltage. It can be expressed  
 96 using (10), (12) and (13) as

$$V_{cell}(t) = \eta_p - \eta_n + U_p - U_n + I(t)R_{cell} \quad (14)$$

97  $U$  is an open circuit potential of the corresponding electrode. During lithium plating, side reaction affects the negative  
 98 electrode while charging [2]. The overpotential due to side reaction can be written as follows

$$\eta_{sr} = \phi_{1,n} - \phi_{2,n} \quad (15)$$

99 To avoid excessive lithium plating, batteries should operate satisfying  $\eta_{sr} \geq 0$ , i.e. the desired regime.

## 100 2.2. Model Reformulation

101 Diffusion equation (1) needs to be reformulated into an ordinary differential equation. Galerkin method with Legendre  
 102 spatial basis functions is used to discretise Fick's law. The reformulated SPM reduces the dynamics using three state variables.  
 103 The entire process is briefly described below, and further details can be found in [20].

104 It is assumed that concentration in any electrode is only a function of time and radial periphery. The lithium-ion concentration  
 105  $c(r, t)$  can be approximated by a linear combination of Legendre polynomials and corresponding time variables:

$$c(r, t) \approx \sum_{i=0}^M \phi_i(r)\beta_i(t) \approx \phi_0(r)\beta_0(t) + \phi_2(r)\beta_2(t) + \phi_4(r)\beta_4(t) + \phi_6(r)\beta_6(t) \quad (16)$$

106 where  $\phi_i(r)$  is Legendre polynomial, and  $\beta_i(t)$  is the unknown time coefficient of any electrode. The boundary condition  
 107 at centre of particle (2) are automatically satisfied because of even Legendre polynomials,  $i = 0, 2, 4, 6$ . The Legendre  
 108 polynomials can be normalised:

$$\int_0^R \phi_i(r)\phi_j(r)dr = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

109 where  $R$  is the radius of a particle. Substituting equation (16) into (1) gives

$$\sum_{i=0}^4 \phi_i(r)\dot{\beta}_i = D_s \left[ \frac{2}{r} \sum_{i=0}^4 \frac{d\phi_i(r)}{dr} \beta_i(t) + \sum_{i=0}^4 \frac{d^2\phi_i(r)}{dr^2} \beta_i(t) \right] \quad (17)$$

where  $\dot{\beta}_i$  is differentiation of  $\beta_i$  with respect to time. The diffusion dynamics can then be expressed as follows

$$\begin{bmatrix} \beta_0(t) \\ \beta_2(t) \\ \beta_4(t) \\ \beta_6(t) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{D_{s,n}}{R_n^2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 9\sqrt{5} & 20 & 29.4\sqrt{13} \\ 0 & 0 & 35\sqrt{5} & 16.8\sqrt{65} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 46.2\sqrt{13} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0(t) \\ \beta_2(t) \\ \beta_4(t) \\ \beta_6(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad (18)$$

110 Similarly the boundary condition at  $r = R$  can be expressed as

$$\frac{3}{R}\sqrt{\frac{5}{R}}\beta_2 + \frac{10}{R}\sqrt{\frac{9}{R}}\beta_4 + \frac{21}{R}\sqrt{\frac{13}{R}}\beta_6 = \pm \frac{J(t)}{D_s a F} \quad (19)$$

111 where  $\pm$  is used according to negative or positive electrode formulation. After applying orthogonal projection techniques,  
 112 considering the second boundary condition; dynamics of coefficients  $[\beta_0, \beta_2, \beta_4, \beta_6]^T$  can be obtained.  $\beta_6$  does not have  
 113 dynamics, and thus can be discarded. The final dynamics is derived, using (18) and (19), in the form of a state-space model.

$$\dot{x} = Ax + Bu \quad (20)$$

$$y = Cx + Du$$

114 where the state vector is defined as  $x = [\beta_0, \beta_2, \beta_4]^T$  and the input  $u$  is current  $I(t)$ . Outputs of the system can be computed  
 115 algebraically.

### 116 3. Modelling of SEI layer

117 Research on side reactions in lithium-ion batteries are mainly focused on passive film formation on the negative electrode.  
 118 During charging, increment in volume recorded due to the increase in space between the graphene planes [21]. This means  
 119 the SEI film has significant porosity which leads to the conclusion that it grows as a result of solvent diffusion [22, 23]. The  
 120 first principle of the SEI film growth model is taken from [15], which is caused by the effect of slow solvent diffusion/reduction  
 121 near the surface of the negative electrode. Assumptions on parameter values and modelling fundamentals can be seen in  
 122 [15, 24]. In contrast to the SPM model described in section II, certain changes in the negative electrode are proposed. Firstly  
 123 equivalent molar flux at a negative electrode is equal to intercalation ( $J_n$ ) plus side reaction ( $J_s$ ).

$$J_{eq,n} = J_n + J_s \quad (21)$$

124 Moreover the equation of overpotential (12) is expressed by

$$\eta_n = \phi_{1,n} - \phi_{2,n} - U_n - \frac{J_{eq,n}}{a_n} R_{film} \quad (22)$$

125 where  $R_{film}$  is the resistance of the SEI film. Side reaction molar flux can be expressed as

$$J_s = -i_{o,s} a_n e^{-\frac{R_g T \eta_s}{2F}} \quad (23)$$

126 where  $i_{o,s}$  is the exchange current density for side reaction, and  $\eta_s$  is the side reaction overpotential, represented as

$$\eta_s = \phi_{1,n} - \phi_{2,n} - U_{ref,s} - \frac{J_{eq,n}}{a_n} R_{film} \quad (24)$$

127 where  $U_{ref,s}$  is open circuit potential for side reaction and is equal to 0.4 V [15]. For the first cycle, film resistance,  $R_{film}$ ,  
128 is defined as

$$R_{film} = R_{SEI} + R_p(t) \quad (25)$$

129 where  $R_{SEI}$  is initial film resistance,  $0.01 \Omega m^2$  in this work, while  $R_p(t)$  is the resistance of the products formed during  
130 charging and is defined as

$$R_p(t) = \frac{\delta_{film}}{\kappa_p} \quad (26)$$

131 where  $\kappa_p$  is the conductivity of the electrolyte. The mathematical expression of the rate of SEI film resistance ( $\delta_{film}$ ) is  
132 written as

$$\frac{\partial \delta_{film}}{\partial t} = -\frac{J_s M_p}{a_n \rho_p F} \quad (27)$$

133 where  $M_p$ ,  $\rho_p$  are molecular weight and density of products formed during side reaction, respectively. From (25)-(27), time  
134 rate change of SEI film resistance is written as

$$\frac{\partial R_{film}}{\partial t} = \frac{i_{o,s} M_p}{\kappa_p \rho_p F} e^{-\frac{R_g T \eta_s}{2F}} \quad (28)$$

135 The above equation represents the dynamics of SEI film resistance.

#### 136 4. Gauss Pseudo-spectral Method

137 Implementation of online optimal charging strategies based on electrochemical battery models can be challenging due to  
138 two reasons: 1) online method can be computationally expensive, 2) problem is non-linear, particularly due to constraints.  
139 This section describes briefly about Gauss pseudo-spectral method (GPM) which is employed as an efficient optimization  
140 method to resolve the online optimization problem. The first requirement in GPM is to change the time interval from  
141 arbitrary bounds  $t \in [t_0, t_f]$  to the interval  $\tau \in [-1, 1]$  by

$$t = \frac{(t_f - t_0)\tau + (t_f + t_0)}{2} \quad (29)$$

142 The Legendre-Gauss (LG) collocation points used in GPM are all interior to the interval  $[-1, 1]$  [25]. The initial point  $\tau_0 = 0$   
143 and final point  $\tau_f = 1$  are also taken into account. The Lagrange interpolating polynomials at a set of collocation points are

144 building blocks for the integration approximation matrix in (33). These polynomials can be expressed as [26].

$$L_k(t) = \frac{w(t)}{(t - t_k) w'(t_k)}, \quad (30)$$

145 where  $t_1, t_2, \dots$  are the roots of polynomial while  $w(t)$  is a Gauss weight and defined as

$$w(t) = \prod_{i=1}^N (t - t_i) \quad (31)$$

146 A function can be approximated using Lagrange interpolation formula as

$$f(t) \approx \sum_{k=1}^N f(t_k) L_k(t) \quad (32)$$

147 The dynamic constraints are discretised using an integration approximation matrix:

$$X(t_i) = X(t_0) + \frac{t_f - t_0}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N A_{ik} f(X(t_k), t_k), \quad i = 1, \dots, N \quad (33)$$

148 where  $t_i(s)$  are set of collocation points,  $A_{ik}$  is the integral approximation matrix and  $X(t_0) = x_0$  is the initial value. The  
149 approximation of function (32) is simplified due to a unique property of Lagrange polynomials, expressed as

$$L_j(\tau_i) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

150 The elements in the integral approximation matrix for Gauss points can be approximated by using Axelsson's algorithm [27].

$$A_{ik} = \frac{w_i}{2} \left( 1 + t_i + \sum_{v=1}^{n-2} P_v(t_k) [P_{v+1}(t_i) - P_{v-1}(t_i)] + P_{N-1}(t_k) [P_N(t_i) - P_{N-2}(t_i)] \right) \quad (34)$$

151 where  $w_i$  is the  $i_{th}$  Gauss weight and  $P_j$  is the  $j_{th}$  Legendre polynomial. Finally, cost  $J$  can be approximated using pseudo-  
152 spectral transcription [28]:

$$J = \Phi(X(t_f), t_f) + \frac{t_f - t_0}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N g(X_k, U_k, t_k) w_k \quad (35)$$

153 where  $\Phi$  relates to terminal condition and  $g(\cdot)$  is a function of state, input and time at  $k_{th}$  collocation point. The non-linear  
154 boundary constraints can be approximated as

$$\phi(X(t_0), t_0, X(t_f), t_f) = 0 \quad (36)$$

155 The final state  $X(t_f)$  is defined as

$$X(t_f) = X(t_0) + \frac{t_f - t_0}{2} \sum_{k=1}^N w_k f(X_k, U_k, \tau_k), \quad (37)$$



156 The above equation is a Gauss quadrature approximation to the continuous definition of final states. The cost function can  
 157 be discretised using the quadrature rule, written as

$$\int_a^b f(t)dt \approx \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i f(t_i) \quad (38)$$

158 where  $\alpha_i$  and  $t_i$  are  $i_{th}$  quadrature weight and point (or node) respectively. The cost (35) and non-linear boundary constraints  
 159 (36) form the NLP which can be solved by mature optimization routines.

## 160 5. Problem Formulation

161 The main aim of this work is to minimise SEI film resistance during charging. We adopt the receding horizon control  
 162 concept to conduct online optimization at each sampling time. The optimization problem to be resolved is expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{I(t)}{\text{minimize}} \quad \int_{t_o}^{t_f} \left[ (SOC_n(t) - SOC_{ref})^2 + q R'_{film}(t) \right] dt \\ & \text{subject to} \\ & \text{model Eq.(7) - (12), (16), (20),} \\ & 0 \leq I(t) \leq I_{max}, \\ & 0 \leq V(t) \leq V_{max}, \\ & \eta_{sr} \geq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

163 where  $q$  is control parameter,  $R'_{film}(t)$  is the time rate change of film resistance,  $SOC_{ref}$  is reference state of charge,  $\eta_{sr}$  is  
 164 side reaction overpotential, and  $I_{max}$ ,  $V_{max}$  are the maximum current and voltage respectively. The goal of this problem is  
 165 to charge the cell to the desired SOC,  $SOC_{ref}$ , and minimize the growth of SEI film resistance. Also, the battery should  
 166 operate in the healthy regime defined by the constraints on current, voltage and overpotential. Please note that side reaction  
 167 over-potentials  $\eta_s$  and  $\eta_{sr}$  are not similar.  $\eta_s$  is side reaction based upon diffusion of the organic solvent present in electrolyte,  
 168 while  $\eta_{sr}$  is due to the lithium plating which should be greater than or equal to zero for the safe operation of the battery.  
 169 State of charge in a negative electrode can be written, using equation (7), as

$$SOC_n(t) = \frac{\phi_0(r)\beta_0(t) + \phi_2(r)\beta_2(t) + \phi_4(r)\beta_4(t) + \phi_6(r)\beta_6(t)}{C_{max,n}} \quad (40)$$

$R'_{film}(t)$  is a function of intercalation and side reaction over-potentials in the negative electrode (28). Equating (22) and  
 (24), we get

$$\eta_s = \eta_n + U_{n,ref} - U_{ref,s} \quad (41)$$

$$(42)$$

170 where  $\eta_n(t)$  can be written, using (5), (10) and (12), as

$$\eta_n(t) = \frac{R_{gas}T}{F} \ln \left( \frac{J_n(t)}{i_{o,n}(t)a_n} \right) \quad (43)$$

171 Overpotential is a function of surface concentration  $c_n^{surf}(t)$ , which can be approximated by

$$c_n^{surf}(t) = \phi_0(R)\beta_0(t) + \phi_2(R)\beta_2(t) + \phi_4(R)\beta_4(t) + \phi_6(R)\beta_6(t) \quad (44)$$

Finally  $R'_{film}(t)$  can be formulated as

$$R'_{film}(t) = X \exp \left\{ - \left( \frac{R_{gas}T}{2F} \right) \left[ \left( \frac{R_{gas}T}{F} \right) \ln \left( \frac{-I(t)}{A_n L_n k_n \sqrt{\phi_0(R)\beta_0(t) + \phi_2(R)\beta_2(t) + \phi_4(R)\beta_4(t) + \phi_6(R)\beta_6(t)} - c_{max,n}} \right) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\phi_0(R)\beta_0(t) + \phi_2(R)\beta_2(t) + \phi_4(R)\beta_4(t) + \phi_6(R)\beta_6(t)} \sqrt{c_e}} \right) + U_{n,ref} \left( \frac{\phi_0(R)\beta_0(t) + \phi_2(R)\beta_2(t) + \phi_4(R)\beta_4(t) + \phi_6(R)\beta_6(t)}{c_{max,n}} \right) - 0.4 \right] \right\} \quad (45)$$

172 where  $X$  is a constant with value of  $5.4 \times 10^{-10}$  [15]. Moreover, pseudo-spectral method discretise the cost function (39)  
 173 using (35) to form a NLP problem. The proposed approach is compared against the optimal charging method without  
 174 incorporating the SEI layer growth rate [9, 10], which aims to resolve the online optimization problem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \underset{I(t)}{\text{minimize}} \quad \int_{t_o}^{t_f} (SOC_n(t) - SOC_{ref})^2 dt \\ & \text{subject to} \\ & \text{model Eq.(7) - (12), (16), (20),} \\ & 0 \leq I(t) \leq I_{max}, \\ & 0 \leq V(t) \leq V_{max} \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

## 175 6. Non-linear model predictive control strategy

176 In this section, we address how to formulate and implement the NMPC control algorithm based on the optimization  
 177 problem set up in Section 5.

### 178 6.1. Prediction

179 A dynamic model predicts future responses of the controlled plant. The system can be represented as a discrete state-space  
 180 representation form as

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) = A \mathbf{x}(k) + B \mathbf{u}(k) \quad (47)$$

where  $\mathbf{x}(k)$  and  $\mathbf{u}(k)$  are prediction model state and input vectors at  $k_{th}$  sampling instant respectively.  $A$  and  $B$  are system matrices. The prediction of states is generated by solving the model over  $N$  sampling intervals (prediction horizon), generating

an optimal control sequence. Define the state and input sequences for  $N$  steps as

$$\mathbf{u}(k) = \begin{bmatrix} u(k|k) \\ u(k+1|k) \\ u(k+2|k) \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ u(k+N-1|k) \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x}(k) = \begin{bmatrix} x(k+1|k) \\ x(k+2|k) \\ x(k+3|k) \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ x(k+N|k) \end{bmatrix} \quad (48)$$

181 where  $u(k+j|k)$  and  $x(k+j|k)$  denote input and state at time  $k+j$ , predicted at time  $k$  respectively. It means that  $x(k+j|k)$   
 182 evolves according to the prediction model as

$$x(k+j+1|k) = A x(k+j|k) + B u(k+j|k), \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (49)$$

with initial condition defined as  $x(k|k) = x(k)$ . In this particular work, there are three states and one input, as discussed in subsection 2.2. The final dynamic prediction model in the form of state space is shown below

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\beta}_0(t) \\ \dot{\beta}_2(t) \\ \dot{\beta}_4(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 10.15 & -20.80 \\ 0 & -11.35 & 23.26 \\ 0 & -13.96 & -62.42 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0(t) \\ \beta_2(t) \\ \beta_4(t) \end{bmatrix} + 10^{-3} \times \begin{bmatrix} 0.22 \\ 0.28 \\ 0.35 \end{bmatrix} I(t) \quad (50)$$

whereas time coefficient  $\beta_6(t)$  is redundant because of zero dynamics, but must be known to find the state of charge of battery. It can be algebraically calculated using the following output equation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \beta_0(t) \\ \beta_2(t) \\ \beta_4(t) \\ \beta_6(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -0.088 & -0.39 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_0(t) \\ \beta_2(t) \\ \beta_4(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0.22 \end{bmatrix} I(t) \quad (51)$$

183 Finally, from section 4 we know that, the output of the system is approximated by

$$\beta_j(\tau) \approx \boldsymbol{\beta}_j(\tau) = \sum_{k=0}^N L_k(\tau) \beta_j(\tau_k) \quad (52)$$

184 where  $\beta_j$  is the corresponding output in any electrode and  $L_k(\tau)$  is the Lagrange polynomial.

## 185 6.2. Optimisation

186 The future predictions are computed by minimising predicted performance cost, defined in terms of states and inputs  
 187 sequences. Cost function  $J(k)$  as defined in (35), is a function of  $\mathbf{u}(k)$  and optimal input sequence for the problem denoted  
 188 as  $u^*(k)$ . It can be written as

$$\mathbf{u}^*(k) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}} J(k) \quad (53)$$

189 In this work, the cost function as defined in (39), is discretised using Legendre Gauss quadrature rule (38). It can be written

190 as

$$\begin{aligned}
 J &= \int_{t_o}^{t_f} \left[ (SOC_n(t) - SOC_{ref})^2 + q R'_{film}(t) \right] dt \\
 J &\approx \frac{t_f - t_o}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ w_i (SOC_n(\tau_i) - SOC_{ref})^2 + q R'_{film}(\tau_i) \right]
 \end{aligned} \tag{54}$$

191 where  $w_i$  is Gauss weight and computed using (31).  $R'_{film}(\tau_i)$  can be solved using (45). State of charge at Legendre Gauss  
 192 point is written as

$$SOC_n(\tau_i) = \frac{\phi_0(r)\beta_0(\tau_i) + \phi_2(r)\beta_2(\tau_i) + \phi_4(r)\beta_4(\tau_i) + \phi_6(r)\beta_6(\tau_i)}{c_{max,n}} \tag{55}$$

### 193 6.3. Receding horizon implementation

194 In all of the future optimal input sequence  $\mathbf{u}^*(k)$ , only the first value is taken as a input to the plant:

$$u(k) = u^*(k|k) \tag{56}$$

195 The process of evaluating  $\mathbf{u}^*(k)$  and implementing the first element of  $\mathbf{u}^*$  is then repeated at each sampling instance  $k =$   
 196  $0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Due to this repetition of prediction at every instance, it is known as an online optimisation. The prediction horizon  
 197 keeps its constant length throughout the optimisation process, and therefore the approach is known as a receding horizon  
 198 strategy. In this work, the term  $(t_f - t_o)$  denotes the prediction horizon as seen in the above discretised cost function (54).  
 199 Future N states  $[\beta_0(t), \beta_2(t), \beta_4(t)]^T$  and N inputs  $I(t)$  are predicted at a current sampling instant. In the next sampling  
 200 instant,  $t_f - t_o$  will be the same as in last instant but initial values of the system is changed.

### 201 6.4. Constraints

202 Apart from any obvious equality constraints that satisfy the dynamics of the model, every control problem encounters  
 203 inequality constraints on input and state variables. As noted from the problem (39), one input and two non-linear constraints  
 204 are part of this optimisation exercise. The linear inequality constraint is of the form

$$A_{eq} \mathbf{x} \leq b_{eq} \tag{57}$$

Using eq. (33), we get the following form of linear inequality constraint

$$\begin{bmatrix}
I_N & -Tt \times A(1,2) \times M_N & -Tt \times A(1,3) \times M_N & -Tt \times B(1,1) \times M_N \\
\mathbf{0}_N & I_N - Tt \times A(2,2) \times M_N & -Tt \times A(2,3) \times M_N & -Tt \times B(2,1) \times M_N \\
\mathbf{0}_N & -Tt \times A(3,2) \times M_N & I_N - Tt \times A(3,3) \times M_N & -Tt \times B(3,1) \times M_N
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
\beta_{0_{N \times 1}} \\
\beta_{2_{N \times 1}} \\
\beta_{4_{N \times 1}}
\end{bmatrix}
\leq
\begin{bmatrix}
\beta_{0,i} * \mathbf{1}_{N \times 1} \\
\beta_{2,i} * \mathbf{1}_{N \times 1} \\
\beta_{4,i} * \mathbf{1}_{N \times 1}
\end{bmatrix}
\quad (58)$$

where  $I_N, \mathbf{0}_N$  are  $N \times N$  identity and zero matrices respectively.  $M_N$  is an integration approximation matrix of order  $N \times N$ , as defined in (34).  $A$  and  $B$  are system matrices, taken from (20). According to Gauss pseudo-spectral notation,  $x_{j_{N \times 1}}$  means  $[x_j(\tau_1), x_j(\tau_2), x_j(\tau_3), \dots, x_j(\tau_N)]^T$ . This size of  $A_{eq}$  and  $b_{eq}$  matrices depends on the chosen prediction horizon. The two non-linear constraints are voltage  $V_{cell}$  and side reaction overpotential  $\eta_{sr}$ ; both are function of states and input. In pseudo-spectral notation, it can be written as

$$V(\tau_i) = \frac{R_{gas}T}{F} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{J_p(\tau_i)}{i_{o,p}(\tau_i)a_p} \right) - \ln \left( \frac{J_n(\tau_i)}{i_{o,n}(\tau_i)a_n} \right) \right] + U_p \left( SOC_p^{ref}(\tau_i) \right) - U_n \left( SOC_n^{ref}(\tau_i) \right) + I(\tau_i)R_{cell} \quad (59)$$

$$\eta_{sr}(\tau_i) = \frac{R_{gas}T}{F} \ln \left( \frac{J_n(\tau_i)}{i_{o,n}(\tau_i)a_n} \right) + U_n \left( SOC_n^{ref}(\tau_i) \right) \quad (60)$$

Finally, the algebraic cost (54), along with linear (57) and non-linear constraints (59 , 60) make up the NLP problem. It is further solved by MATLAB function "fmincon" in this work.

## 7. Results and Discussion

The initial state of charge (SOC) is set to 0.4 while two upper current limits are considered in this work, i.e.  $I_{max} = 5A$  and  $7A$ . Reference state of charge,  $SOC_{ref}$  is taken as 0.96, and the voltage limit is set to 4.2 volts. Problem (39) is set to start at  $t_o = 0$ , using a NMPC approach. At each time step, the solver predicts future instances with a prediction horizon of 100s using four collocation points. The initial guess of the solution at the present time step is a solution at the last sampling instance.

State of charge in the negative electrode is shown in Figure 1(a) and (d) for  $I_{max} = 5A$  and  $7A$ , respectively. SOC is compared for two charging methods: the proposed method (39) and the method (46) presented in [10]. It can be seen that the reference SOC is achieved in each methodology but charging time in the proposed optimal case is higher than the method (46) for both upper limits of current. In the case of  $I_{max} = 5A$ , a 9.6% increase in charging time is recorded in the proposed method (39) while at  $I_{max} = 7A$ , charging time difference is 22%. The higher difference in case of  $I_{max} = 7A$  is understandable

224 because the CCCV methodology charges the battery in constant current (CC) scenario for maximum time. As we increase  
 225 the maximum current for both methodologies, the difference in charging time becomes larger. Note that longer charging time  
 226 using the proposed SEI optimal charging method can significantly reduce the SEI layer growth as demonstrated below.  
 227 It is a known practice that CCCV charging terminates at fairly low current i.e.  $5\text{ mA}$  or  $50\text{ mA}$ . In this work, the later  
 228 current value is used. In Figure 1(a), SOC reaches the reference value at  $t_1$  while it stays at same value until  $t_2$ . This is due  
 229 to the current profile in CCCV charging. The optimal CCCV algorithm charges the battery using constant current (CC)  
 230 approach from  $t = 0$  to  $t = t_1$ . At  $t_1$ , it switches to constant voltage (CV) approach which means current needs to be lower  
 231 down to keep the voltage constant. Reference SOC is achieved at  $t_1$  which needs to be same till  $t_2$ . Current value drops from  
 232  $I_{max}$  to  $50\text{ mA}$  in time span of  $t_1 - t_2$ .

Figure 1(b) and (e) depict the results of optimal CCCV charging for  $I_{max} = 5\text{ A}$  and  $7\text{ A}$ , respectively. CCCV charging splits

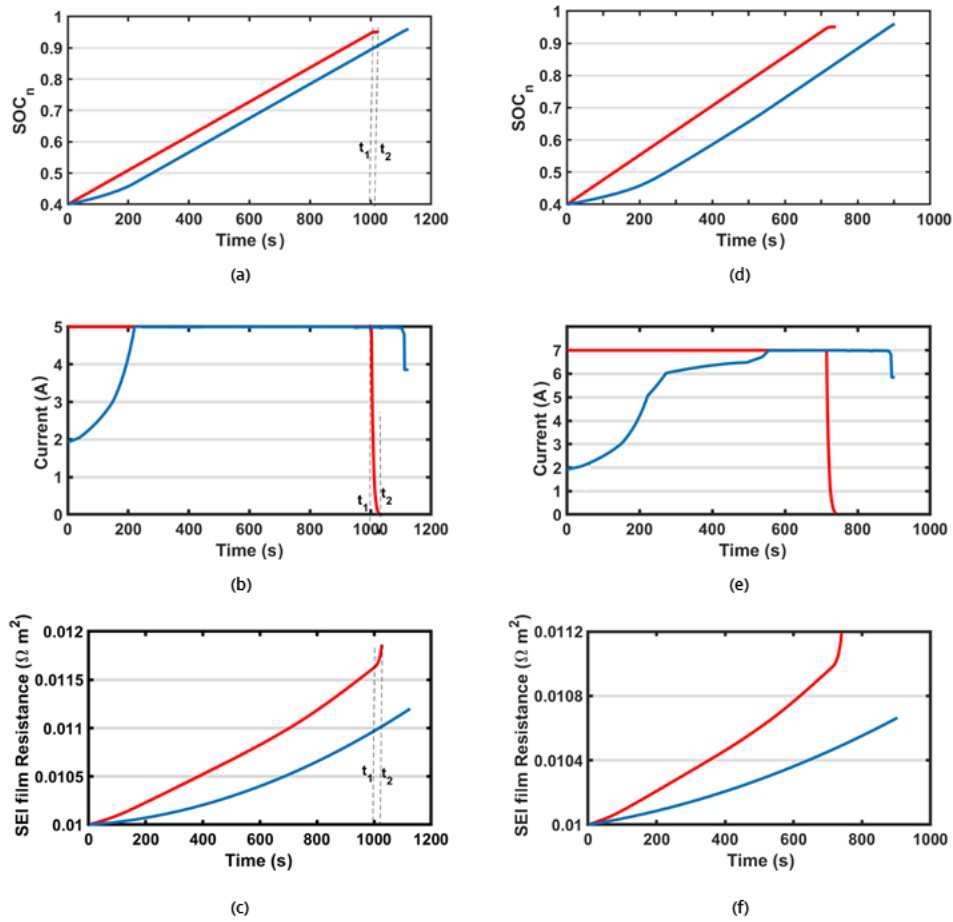


Figure 1: Comparison of State of charge (a,d), current profile (b,e) and SEI film resistance (c,f) vs charging time at current upper bounds of  $I_{max} = 5\text{ A}$ (a-c) and  $I_{max} = 7\text{ A}$ (d-f); Optimal CCCV charging(—), Proposed SEI optimal charging(—)

233  
 234 into two phases; CC from  $t = 0$  to  $t = t_1$  and CV from  $t = t_1$  to  $t = t_2$ . In both cases for SEI reduction optimal charging  
 235 method, charging starts at fairly low value to reduce the rate of lithium plating. This is because, at low SOC<sub>s</sub>, the reference  
 236 potential of the negative electrode is quite high, i.e. the possibility of  $\eta_{sr}$  to be negative. Thus to be in the healthy regime,  
 237 the charging current needs to increase slowly, since higher current can lead to lower resistance of the SEI layer. The proposed  
 238 SEI reduction optimal charging profile finishes, in either of the maximum current limits, at higher current value as compared  
 239 to the optimal CCCV charging method. Termination of SEI optimal charging at higher current value has two advantages,

240 (i) it compensates for charging time which considerably increases due to low SOC regime (where  $\eta_{sr}$  can be negative), and  
 241 (ii) It reduces the growth of SEI layer which increases at low values of current.

242 The growth of SEI film resistance is shown in Figure 1(c) and (f) for  $I_{max} = 5A$  and  $7A$ , respectively. It is evident from the  
 243 figures that SEI film resistance is quite high in optimal CCCV and SEI optimal charging cases when maximum current is  
 244  $5A$ . The primary reason is that lower current takes more time to complete charging. SEI film resistance drops significantly  
 245 in proposed SEI optimal charging compared to the optimal CCCV charging at given maximum current value. The overall  
 246 optimal charging time increases but SEI film resistance decreased. This can be explained as at higher SOC's the algorithm  
 247 uses a maximum value of current, so that molar flux is high. In case of  $I_{max} = 5A$  (Figure 1(e)), SEI layer resistance  
 248 is recorded as  $0.0118 \Omega m^2$  in optimal CCCV case, reduced to  $0.0112 \Omega m^2$  in proposed SEI optimal formulation scenario.  
 249 The percentage increase of SEI layer resistance from initial value ( $0.01 \Omega m^2$ ) is 18% and 12% in optimal CCCV and the  
 250 proposed SEI reduction optimal charging method, respectively, which represents a 5.2% decrease of SEI layer growth using  
 251 the proposed charging method. Lower percentage difference is recorded (4.95%) in case of  $I_{max} = 7A$  (Figure 1(f)) between  
 252 two strategies. The main difference is in the final phase of optimal CCCV charging, where it uses low current as compared  
 253 to the proposed optimal approach. The maximum value of surface concentration and negative  $\eta_{sr}$  increase the SEI layer  
 254 resistance to a fairly high value in optimal CCCV approach.

255 The profile of SEI layer in optimal CCCV charging can be categorised on the basis of SOC regimes, i.e. low or high. At low  
 256 SOC regime, the current is high, which acts as a source of lithium plating. At maximum current, overpotential of negative  
 257 electrode (43) is high, which makes side reaction overpotential  $\eta_{sr}$  (60) negative. This is not desirable as only positive  $\eta_{sr}$   
 258 guarantees the reduction of lithium plating side effects. Termination of optimal CCCV charging usually happens at low  
 259 current, which is  $50 mA$  in this work. Due to low current at the end stage of charging ( $t_1$  to  $t_2$ ), side reaction overpotential  
 260 for SEI layer  $\eta_s$  (24) is very low. The exponential term in (28) ultimately leads to spike in SEI layer profile at the final stage  
 261 of optimal CCCV charging.

262 Another added advantage of the proposed algorithm is to charge batteries in the healthy regime, which means side reaction  
 263 overpotential of lithium plating is positive during the whole process. Note that cost function does not always guarantee  
 264 the desired result. It can be argued that side reaction overpotential will always be positive to decrease the value of the  
 265 exponential term in the cost function. However, this cannot be extrapolated for an entire range of possible values of current  
 266 which indicates that limit on  $\eta_{sr}$  is necessary in this work. Figure 2 shows side reaction overpotential  $\eta_{sr}$  in optimal CCCV  
 267 and SEI optimal charging. It is evident from the figure that in optimal CCCV charging,  $\eta_{sr}$  is negative while it is positive in  
 268 proposed SEI optimal charging, successfully avoiding lithium plating. Hence, It means that the proposed charging algorithm  
 269 runs in a healthy regime along with reducing SEI film resistance.

270 Total charging time and maximum charging current value affect the resistance of the SEI layer growth. In optimal CCCV  
 271 charging, higher current upper bound means fast charging and lesser growth of the SEI layer. However, the optimal algorithm  
 272 makes sure that SEI layer resistance is as low as possible along-with successfully avoiding lithium plating during the whole  
 273 process of charging. If the current upper bound is constant, charging time is higher in the SEI optimal charging case than  
 274 optimal CCCV but quite low SEI film resistance. Next, we compare the two methods in two scenarios to investigate: (i) At  
 275 what conditions, is charging time for both methodologies the same? (ii) If SEI film resistance is the same, how does charging

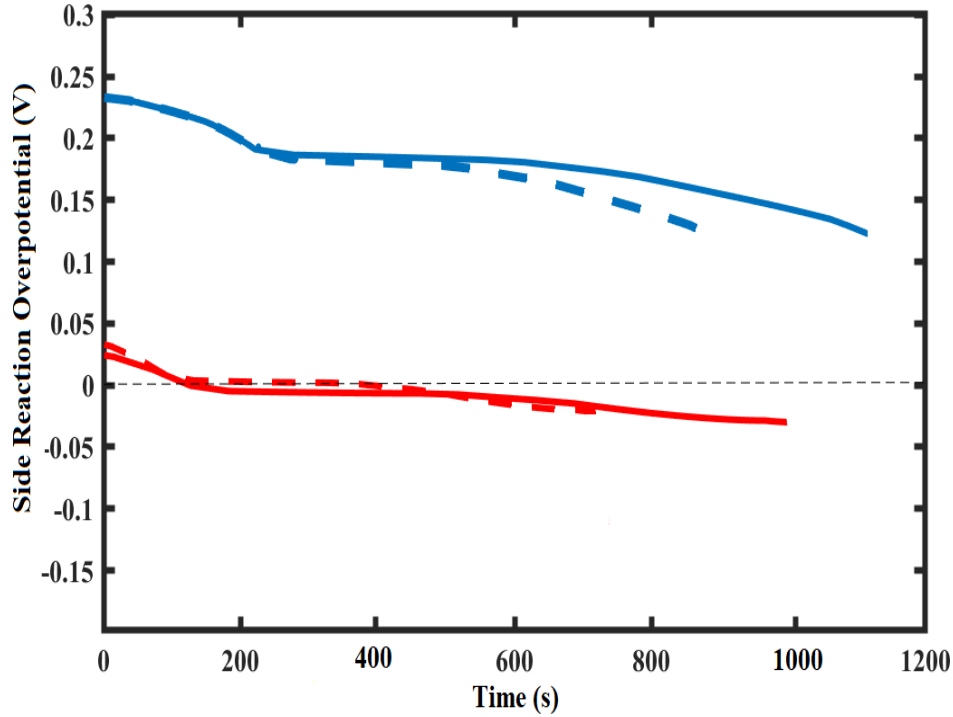


Figure 2: Relationship between charging time and side reaction overpotential( $\eta_{sr}$ ) in the proposed SEI optimal charging (—) and optimal CCCV charging (—) approaches,  $I_{max} = 5A$ (solid) and  $I_{max} = 7A$ (dashed)

276 time relate to current upper bound?

### 277 7.1. Scenario I: Same Charging time

278 In optimal CCCV strategy, the upper bound current is inversely proportional to the charging time and SEI layer resistance.  
 279 To get the same charging time for both methodologies, the maximum current limit of SEI optimal strategy should be higher  
 280 than optimal CCCV. Two cases are recorded in this analysis, where charging time is the same in both strategies.

It is evident from Table 1 that in order to get the same charging time, current upper bounds in both strategies are not the

Table 1: Same Charging Time Cases

Case No.	Charging time (s)	Current upper bound in SEI optimal charging, $I_{max}$ (A)	Current upper bound in optimal CCCV charging, $I_{max}$ (A)
1	1125	5	4.55
2	902	7	5.7

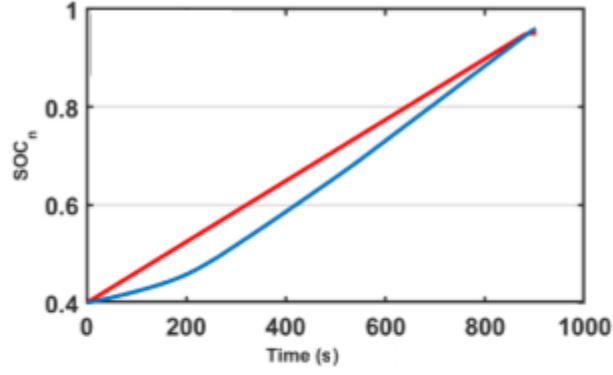
281

282 same. Consider case 2 of Table 1, the charging time is set to 902 seconds which is charging time for SEI optimal strategy at  
 283  $I_{max} = 7A$  (Figure 1(d), (e) and (f)). To get same charging time for optimal CCCV, current upper bound needs to decrease  
 284 because at  $I_{max} = 7A$ , charging time is 740 seconds. Figures 3 and 4 show the relationship between SOC, current and SEI  
 285 layer resistance versus time.

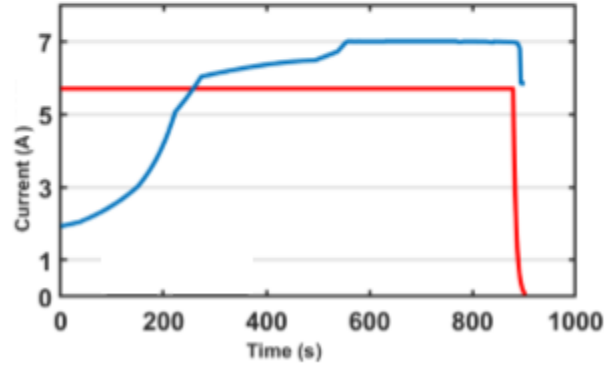
286

287 Figure 3(a) shows the SOC of the negative electrode. Reference SOC is attained in both methods at the same time.  
 288 The optimal SOC profile initially has a slightly low slope as compared to optimal CCCV. This is because of the optimal  
 289 charge current profile (Figure 3(b)), which starts at a reasonably low value. The primary reason is to control side reaction  
 290 overpotential at a low state of charge, ultimately avoiding the effects of lithium plating.





(a)



(b)

Figure 3: State of charge (a) and current profile (b) for same charging time; Case 2 of Table 1; Optimal CCCV Charging ( $I_{max} = 5.7A$ ), Proposed SEI optimal charging ( $I_{max} = 7A$ )

At  $I_{max} = 5.7A$ , SEI layer resistance is recorded as  $0.01155 \Omega m^2$  (15.5% increase) compared to the SEI layer growth in the proposed SEI optimal charging method, as shown in Figure 4. The percentage increase in the SEI layer at  $I_{max} = 5.7A$ , goes up to approximately 2.5% compared to charging at  $I_{max} = 7A$ . Hence, the percentage difference of SEI layer resistance between proposed SEI optimal and optimal CCCV strategies climbs up to 8.6% keeping similar charging time.

Similar results are found for case 1 of Table 1, which shows that to get the similar charging time of 1125 seconds, the current upper bounds must be 5A and 4.55A in proposed SEI optimal and optimal CCCV strategies, respectively. The SEI layer resistance in optimal CCCV is increased to  $0.01211 \Omega m^2$  (21.1% increase) which is  $0.0118 \Omega m^2$  at  $I_{max} = 5A$ . An overall percentage increase of 3.1% is recorded as at  $I_{max} = 4.55A$  compared to optimal CCCV at  $I_{max} = 5A$ . Thus, the percentage difference of SEI layer resistance between proposed SEI optimal and optimal CCCV strategies climbs up to 7.8% keeping similar charging time.

301

Scenario I analysis is summarised in Figure 5. It shows a relationship between charging time versus maximum current upper bound. Maximum current is taken from 2.3A (1C) to 9.2A (4C). Understandably, optimal CCCV charging is fast at a specific current upper bound value. For example, at  $I_{max} = 7A$ , proposed SEI optimal charging takes almost three extra minutes. In order to find the same charging time for both methods, one can get values of current upper bounds by drawing vertical and horizontal lines from data labels. For charging time of 1100 seconds, maximum current values of optimal CCCV

306

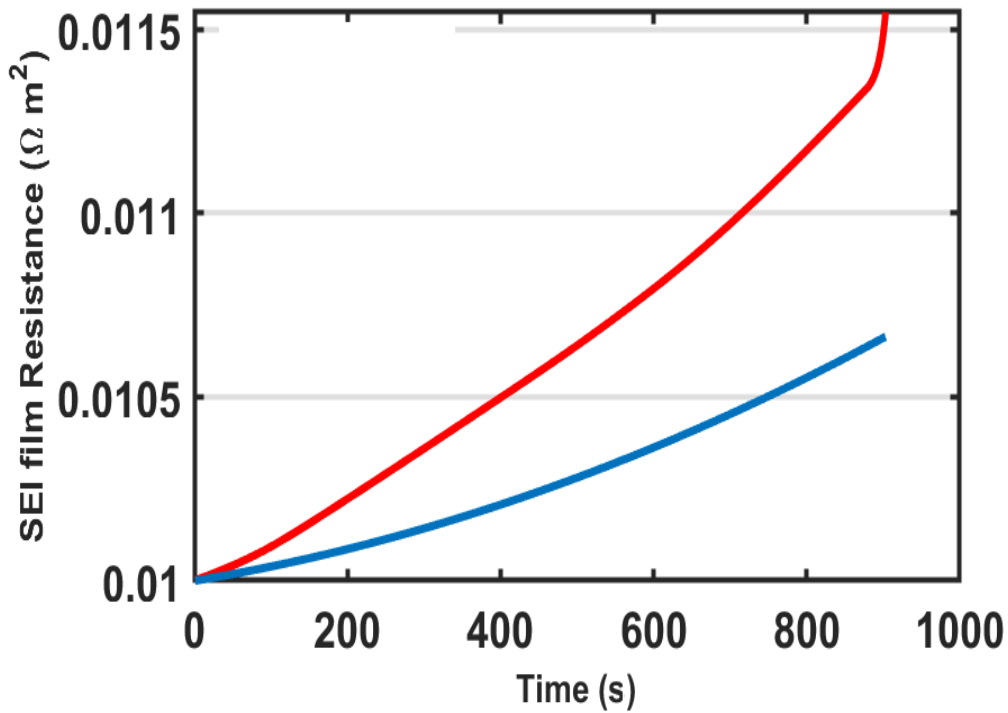


Figure 4: Same Charging time: Comparison of SEI film resistance in optimal CCCV charging ( $I_{max} = 5.7A$ ) and proposed SEI optimal charging ( $I_{max} = 5.7A$ )

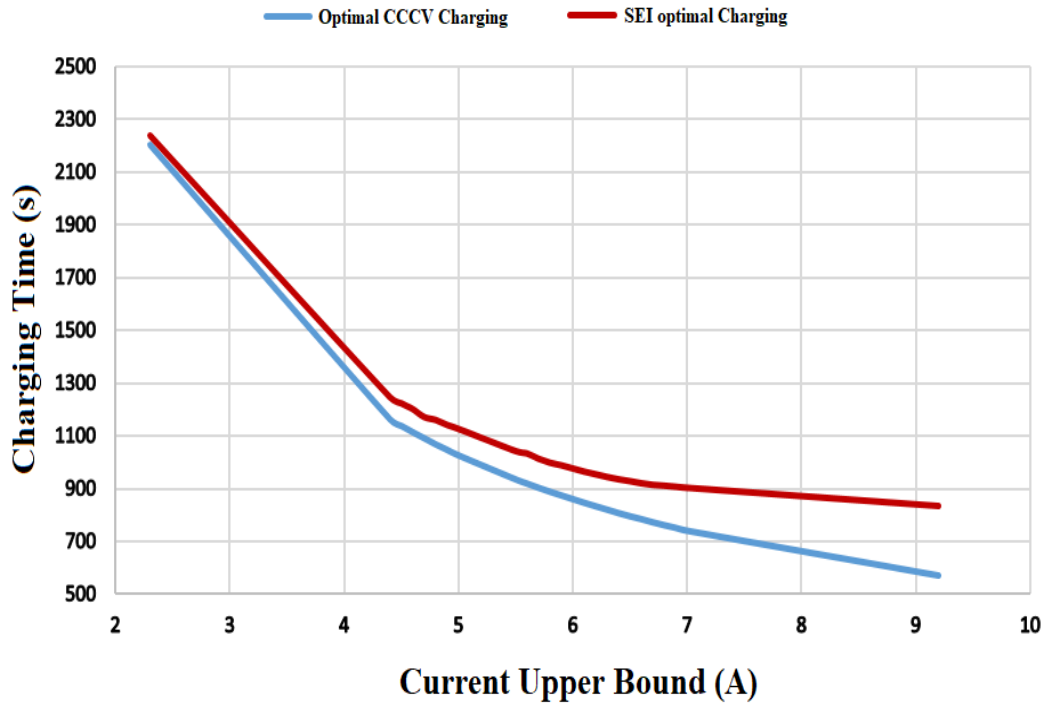


Figure 5: Relationship between charging time and current upper bound ( $I_{max}$ ) in optimal CCCV and proposed SEI optimal charging methodologies

307 and proposed SEI optimal methodologies should be 4.7A and 5.1A, respectively. As the maximum value of current increases,  
 308 charging time difference between optimal CCCV and the proposed SEI optimal charging strategies also increases.  
 309 The conclusion from the scenario I is that charging time for proposed SEI optimal and optimal CCCV strategies can be the  
 310 same, but on the cost of higher SEI layer growth. The proposed method outperforms the optimal CCCV because of two

311 reasons; (i) SEI layer growth is low and (ii) it successfully avoids side reaction overpotential to attain value less than zero.  
 312 Thus by keeping current upper bound or charging time same, the proposed SEI optimal framework is far better than optimal  
 313 CCCV as it minimises SEI layer growth and tackles lithium plating too.

314 7.2. Scenario II: Same SEI layer Resistance

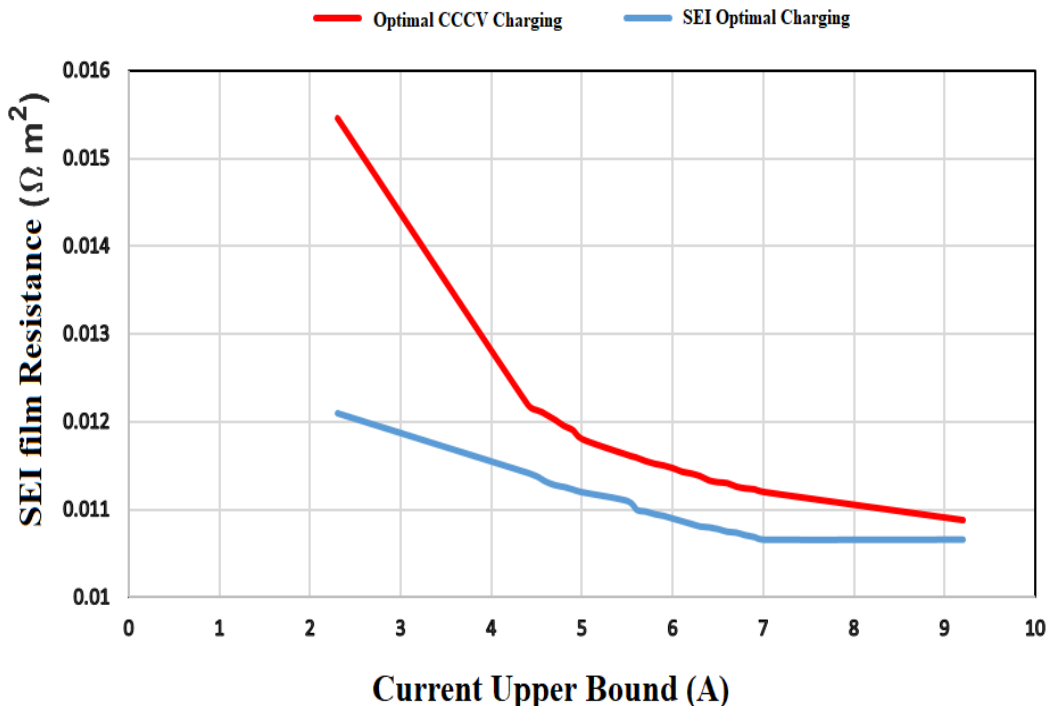


Figure 6: Relationship between SEI film resistance and current upper bound ( $I_{max}$ ) in optimal CCCV and proposed SEI optimal charging methodologies

315 Figure 6 shows the relationship between SEI layer growth and maximum current in both methodologies. It can be seen  
 316 that at low current rating, the difference in the SEI layer resistances corresponding to optimal CCCV and proposed SEI  
 317 optimal strategies is high. As the value of the maximum current increases, the difference in the SEI layer resistances de-  
 318 creases. The primary reason for a more significant difference in the SEI layer at low current, is the high charging time. To  
 319 get SEI layer resistance of  $0.011 \Omega m^2$ , the maximum current in optimal CCCV and proposed SEI optimal methodologies  
 320 should be  $8.1A$  and  $5.6A$ , respectively. Thus, a proposed optimal framework uses a low current upper bound along with  
 321 generating small value of SEI layer resistance. It has been noted that there is no significant change in SEI layer resistance  
 322 from  $I_{max} = 7A$  to  $9.2A$  in proposed optimal charging framework.

323 The percentage difference in SEI layer resistance between optimal CCCV and proposed SEI Optimal methodologies is shown  
 324 in Figure 7. The highest percentage difference is recorded as 24% at the current rating of  $1C$ . This difference kept on  
 325 decreasing from  $1C$  to  $2C$  and  $3C$  to  $4C$ . The percentage difference fluctuates around 5% from  $2C$  to  $3C$ . Because of the  
 326 minimum range of work from  $3C$  to  $4C$ , % difference in SEI layer growth is almost constant.

327 Charging time is not the only factor that influences SEI layer growth, but higher current can contribute to exfoliation of  
 328 graphite. It leads to a loss of active anode material which can be a source of capacity and power fade. Hence, it can be  
 329 concluded from the above analysis that battery charging is a trade-off between optimal charging time and the current upper

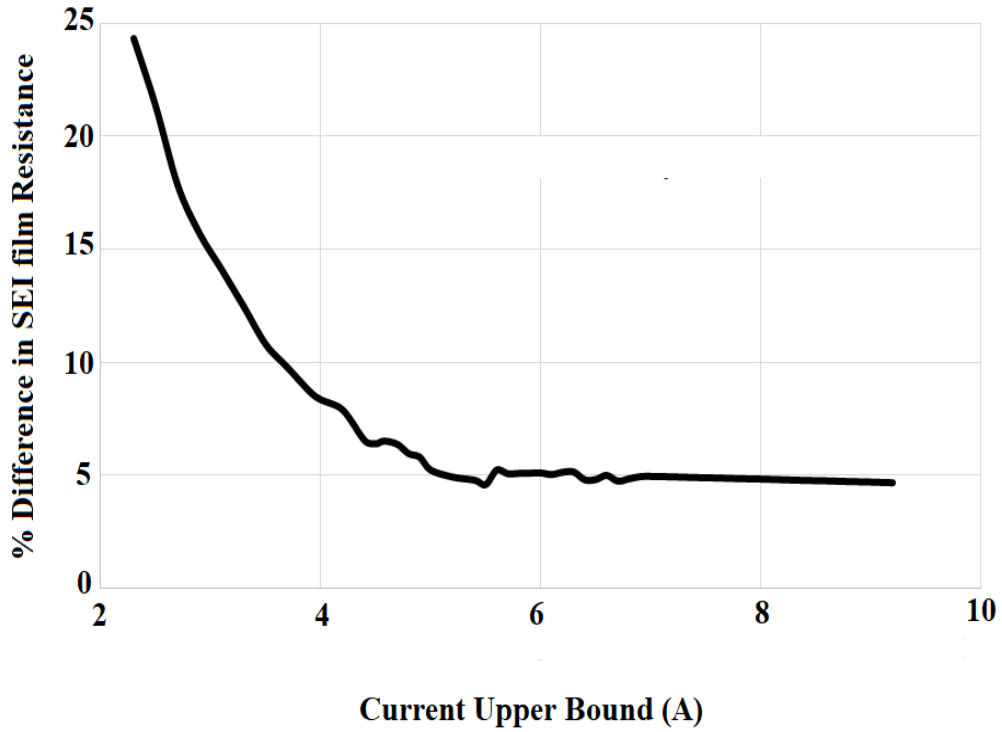


Figure 7: Percentage difference in SEI layer resistances between optimal CCCV and proposed SEI optimal charging methodologies from  $I_{max} = 1C$  (2.3A) to  $I_{max} = 4C$  (9.2A)

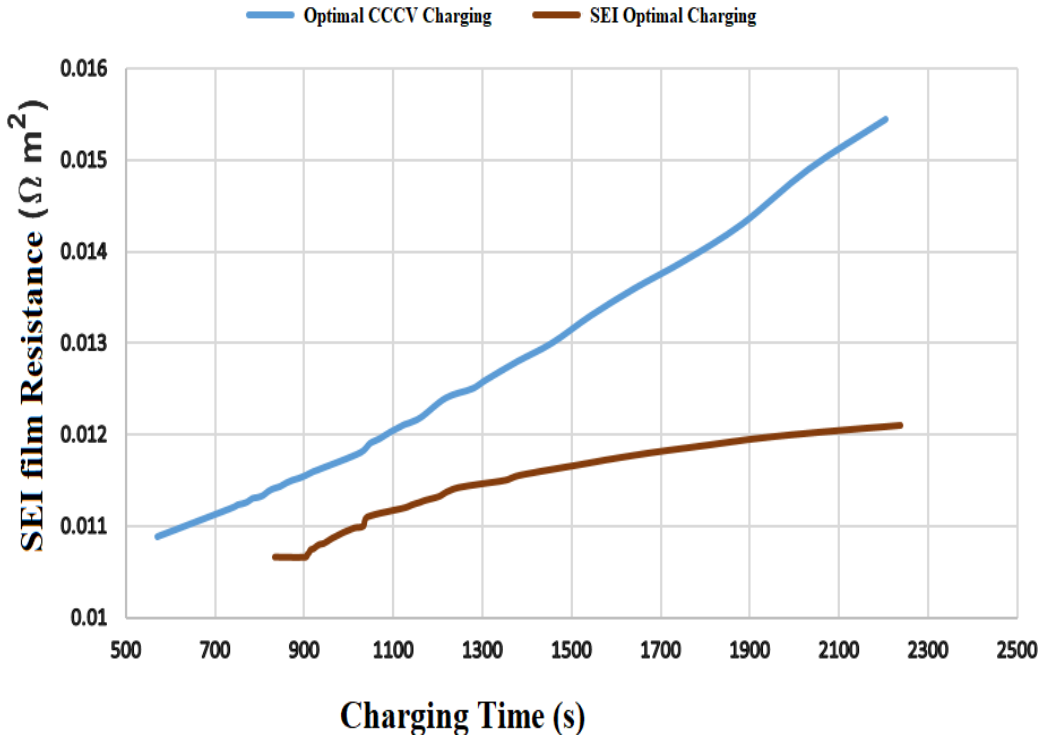


Figure 8: SEI film resistance versus charging time in optimal CCCV and proposed SEI optimal charging methodologies

330 bound.

331 Scenario II analysis is summarised in Figure 8. It shows the relationship between SEI layer resistance and charging time at  
 332 the current upper bound range of  $1C$  to  $4C$ . It is evident from Figure 8 that at any charging time, SEI layer resistance is  
 333 higher in optimal CCCV than the proposed SEI optimal charging. SEI layer resistance is recorded as  $0.0117 \Omega m^2$  (proposed

Table 2: Overall computational times of optimal CCCV and proposed SEI optimal charging strategies at different current rates

Current Upper Bound ( $I_{max}$ )	CCCV (s)	NMPC (s)
1 C (2.3 A)	242	285
2 C (4.6 A)	132	164
3 C (6.9 A)	54	78
4 C (9.2 A)	39	58

SEI optimal) and  $0.0132 \Omega m^2$  (optimal CCCV), at the charging time of 1500 seconds. The percentage difference in SEI layer resistance is 12 % whereas the corresponding maximum current  $I_{max}$  is 3.2 A and 3.6 A in the proposed SEI optimal and optimal CCCV strategies, respectively.

Another critical aspect of online control strategies is computational time. Although the proposed NMPC successfully minimises the SEI layer resistance, it must be practically implementable. Computational times of both optimal and CCCV methodologies are presented in Table 2 at different maximum current upper bounds using MATLAB R2016b on DELL laptop with intel (R) Core (TM) i-7-8650U CPU @ 1.90GHz 2.11 GHz processor. The simulations of optimisation problems (39) and (46) are conducted using 4 collocation points, same SPM model and a prediction horizon of 200 seconds. Moreover, a more significant range of SOC (10% to 96%) is considered to evaluate the full charging process. Overall computational time is defined as the time taken by an algorithm to charge the battery from initial to final SOC. The overall computational times of optimal CCCV and the proposed SEI optimal strategies at 1C rating are 242 and 285 seconds, respectively. The percentage difference in computational times between both strategies tends to increase as the current rate increases. The higher current decreases the simulation time, keeping all other parameters constant. At 1C, the difference in computational time between both strategies is 43 seconds. The difference keeps on decreasing as current upper bound increases, 19 seconds at 4C. As computational time difference between two strategies is not significant; it can be concluded that the proposed SEI optimal charging strategy is suitable for real-time implementation in battery management systems.

## 8. Conclusion

This article proposes an online non-linear model predictive control framework which minimises SEI layer film resistance during charging. It uses the integral Gauss pseudo-spectral approach to optimise battery charging trajectory. Apart from the SEI layer minimisation, it deals with another side reaction, i.e. lithium plating, which is the main factor causing capacity fade. The proposed algorithm guarantees that the battery works in a healthy regime during charging. It is evident from the results that SEI film resistance decreases significantly in proposed SEI optimal charging as compared to optimal CCCV charging. There is up to 24% difference in SEI layer growth, recorded in case of proposed SEI optimal methodology. In case of same charging time for both charging methodologies, SEI layer resistance is higher in optimal CCCV charging. The proposed SEI optimal methodology is the best candidate to charge the battery. This work can be further used to compute cyclic capacity fade, thus estimating the life of batteries.

## Nomenclature

### List of Symbols

$c$	concentration ( $\text{mol m}^{-3}$ )
$r$	radius of electrode ( $m$ )
$t$	time ( $s$ )
$J$	molar flux ( $A m^{-2}$ )
$F$	Faraday's constant ( $C mol^{-1}$ )
$D$	Diffusion constant ( $m^2 s^{-1}$ )
$a$	interfacial surface area ( $m^{-1}$ )
$I$	current ( $A$ )
$S$	area of electrode ( $m^2$ )
$L$	length of electrode ( $m$ )
$T$	temperature ( $^{\circ}C$ )
$i$	current density ( $Am^{-2}$ )
$U$	equilibrium potential ( $V$ )
$V$	voltage of cell ( $V$ )
$M$	molecular weight ( $kg mol^{-1}$ )

### Greek

$\epsilon$	porosity of electrode
$\alpha$	transfer coefficient
$\eta$	overpotential
$\phi$	potential, Legendre polynomial
$\beta$	time coefficient
$\delta$	thickness
$\rho$	density of products
$\kappa$	conductivity of electrolyte

### *Subscripts/Superscripts*

<i>s</i>	solid state
<i>p</i>	positive electrode
<i>n</i>	negative electrode
<i>avg</i>	average
<i>max</i>	maximum
<i>surf</i>	surface
<i>a</i>	anode
<i>c</i>	cathode
<i>g</i>	gas
1	solid
2	solution
<i>film</i>	SEI film
<i>sr</i>	side reaction
<i>SEI</i>	solid electrolyte interface
<i>eq</i>	equivalent
<i>ref</i>	reference

### *Acronyms*

NMPC	non-linear model predictive control
EV	electric vehicle
CCCV	constant current constant voltage
SOH	state of health
BMS	battery management system
NLP	non-linear programming
SPM	single particle model
SOC	state of charge
MPC	model predictive control
IAM	integration approximation matrix

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