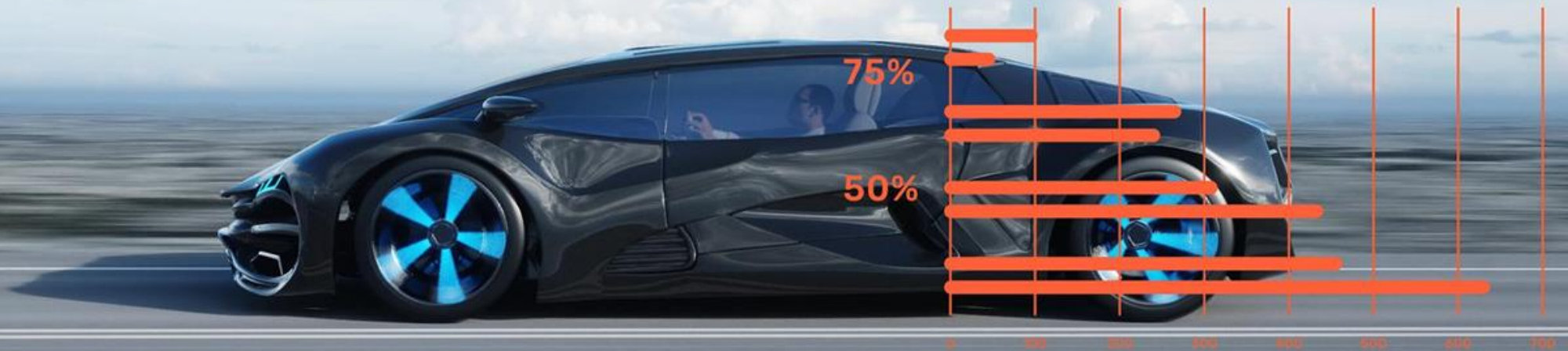




volytica diagnostics



**Das Batterie-1-mal-1 auf den Spreewind-Tagen**

2023-11-10, volytica diagnostics



# volytica diagnostics

A Brief Introduction



# We have more than 10 years of practical experience with applied battery diagnostics across industries

2012

## First European E-Busses Monitored

volytica's predecessor research group at Fraunhofer monitored some of the first e-busses in Europe ([link](#), [link](#))



2017

## Launch of First Battery Monitoring Platform

*IVImon*, the first version of today's *vdX engine*, is launched into pre-commercial operation by Fraunhofer IVI

2019

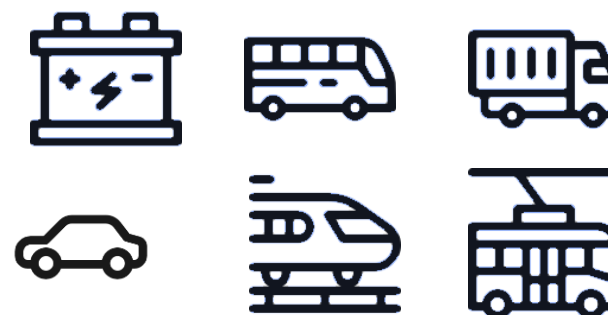
## Spinoff from the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft

For further growth and industrialization, volytica is spun out of Fraunhofer Society as a independent company

2023

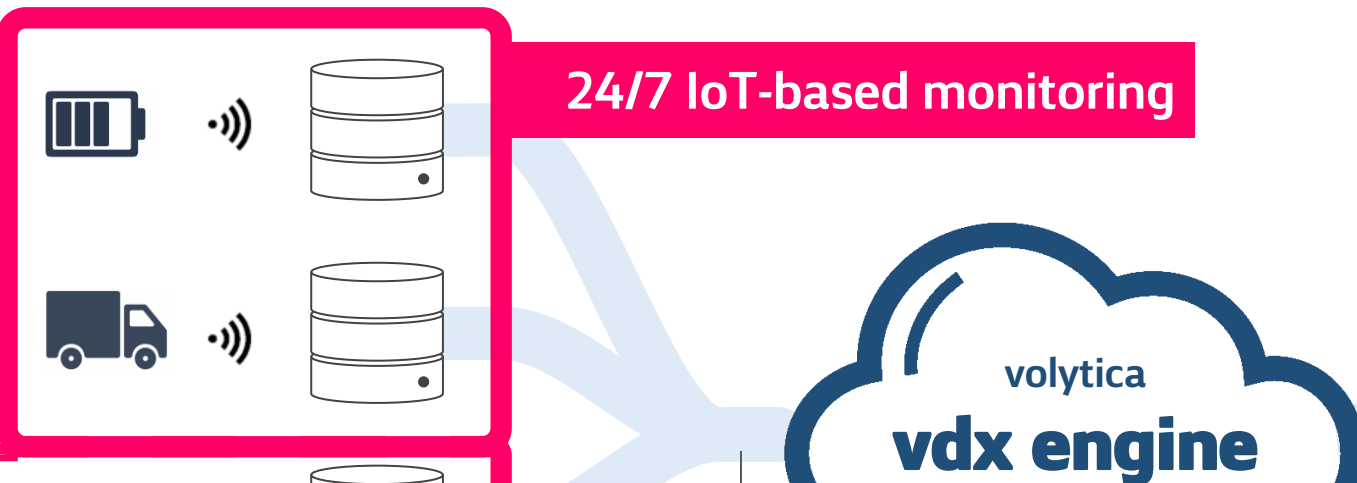
## One of Europe's leading battery diagnostics companies

With more than 25 experts in Dresden and Berlin, as well as >10 international customers in the commercial & stationary industry



## Our Solution

# We crack abundant data that others discard, using our proprietary battery algorithms



**24/7 IoT-based monitoring**

**Quick Test  
with MAHLE**

volytica  
**vdx engine**

### No Sensors

We utilize what is always there – abundant, standard data every battery delivers

**Auto-Config – No Lab**  
Cloud-based analysis tool for systematical battery quality analysis

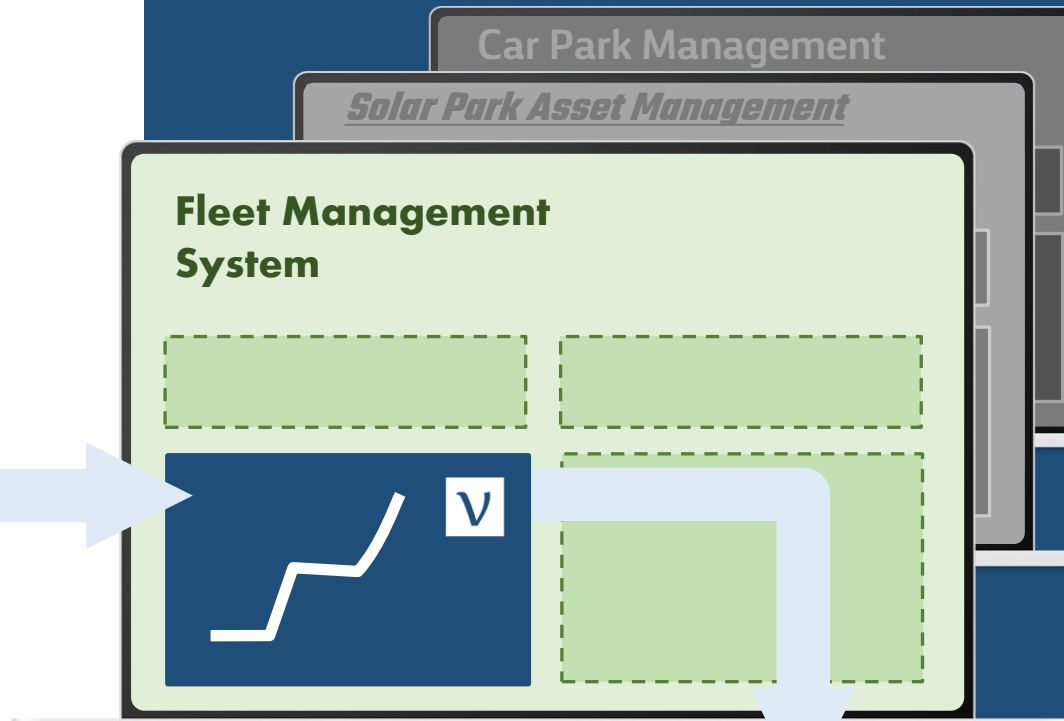


### Industry Agnostic

Every Li-Ion battery is supported

### Plug-and-Play

Our algorithms are self-learning. We don't need the typical 6 months lab tests.



**Utilization & profit optimization**

**Lifetime extension & replacement planning**

**Residual value & 2<sup>nd</sup> life certification**

**Safety & anomaly detection**



# Introduction to Battery Technology

Key Facts & Common Misconception

# Battery Basics

The “Zoo”



Li Ion

NMC-like

Nickel Manganese Cobalt

- family of Ni-based cathodes (related to NCA, LMO, ...)
- so far, “the” automotive standard
- higher energy densities (increasing)
- mediocre lifetime, **decreasing!!**
- higher prices

Trend

**Lifetime *Decreases***

LFP

Lithium Iron Phosphate

- also  $\text{LiFePO}_4$
- “the” standard cell in China, increasing global relevance
- lower energy densities (increasing)
- better lifetime, ‘robust’
- lower prices (**increasing!!**)

Trend

**“LFP Renaissance”**

Others

more exotic versions

- several other “exotics” chemistries exist or are in pipeline
  - LTO / Titanate
  - Solid State
  - Li-Air, Li-Sulfur, ...
  - (Na Ion ... not Li)

Trend

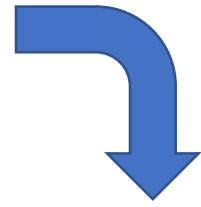
**Solid State? Wait for it**

# Battery Basics

## Cell to System



Electronics  
Actors  
Sensors  
IoT



### Cells



Prismatic



Pouch



Cylindrical

### System



<1 kWh



<1 00 kWh



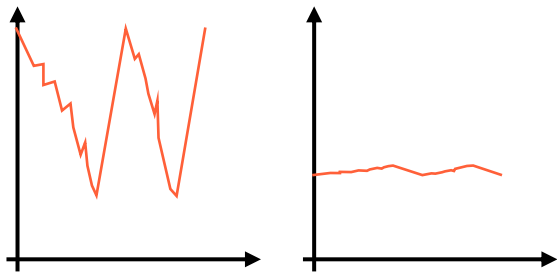
1 000 – 100 000 kWh



# Battery Basics

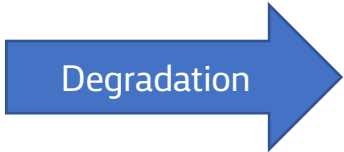
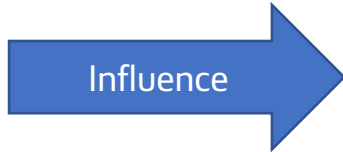
Batteries are Wearing Parts

“Mission Profile”



- Operation & Charging**
- 🔑 Temperature
  - ⚡ Power
  - 📊 SOC window

- Standing/ Parking**
- 🔑 Temperature
  - 📊 parking SOC



**Capacity Fade**  
Energy decreases

**Resistance Increase**  
Efficiency decreases

**Safety**  
Risks increase





**Capacity Fade (“SOH”)**

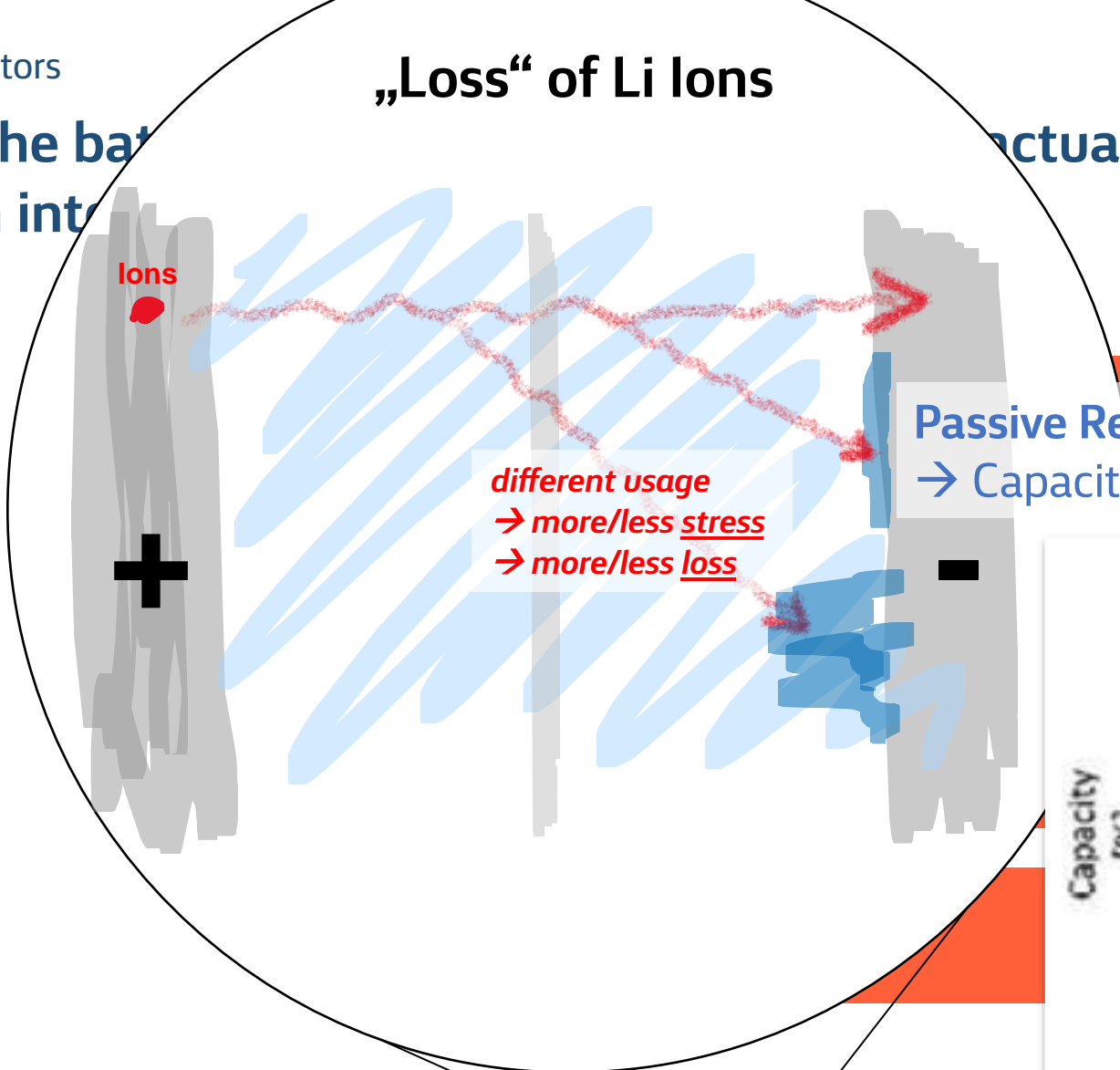
**Availability (*BACKUP*)**

**Safety (*BACKUP*)**

When the bat  
happen into

# „Loss“ of Li Ions

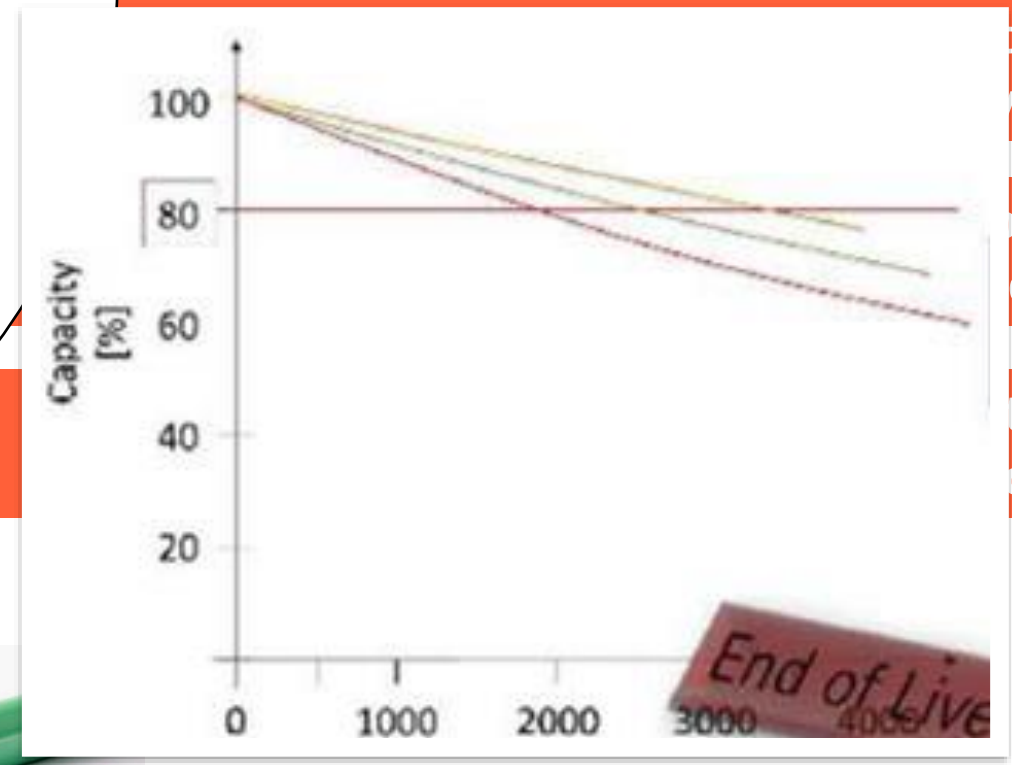
actually

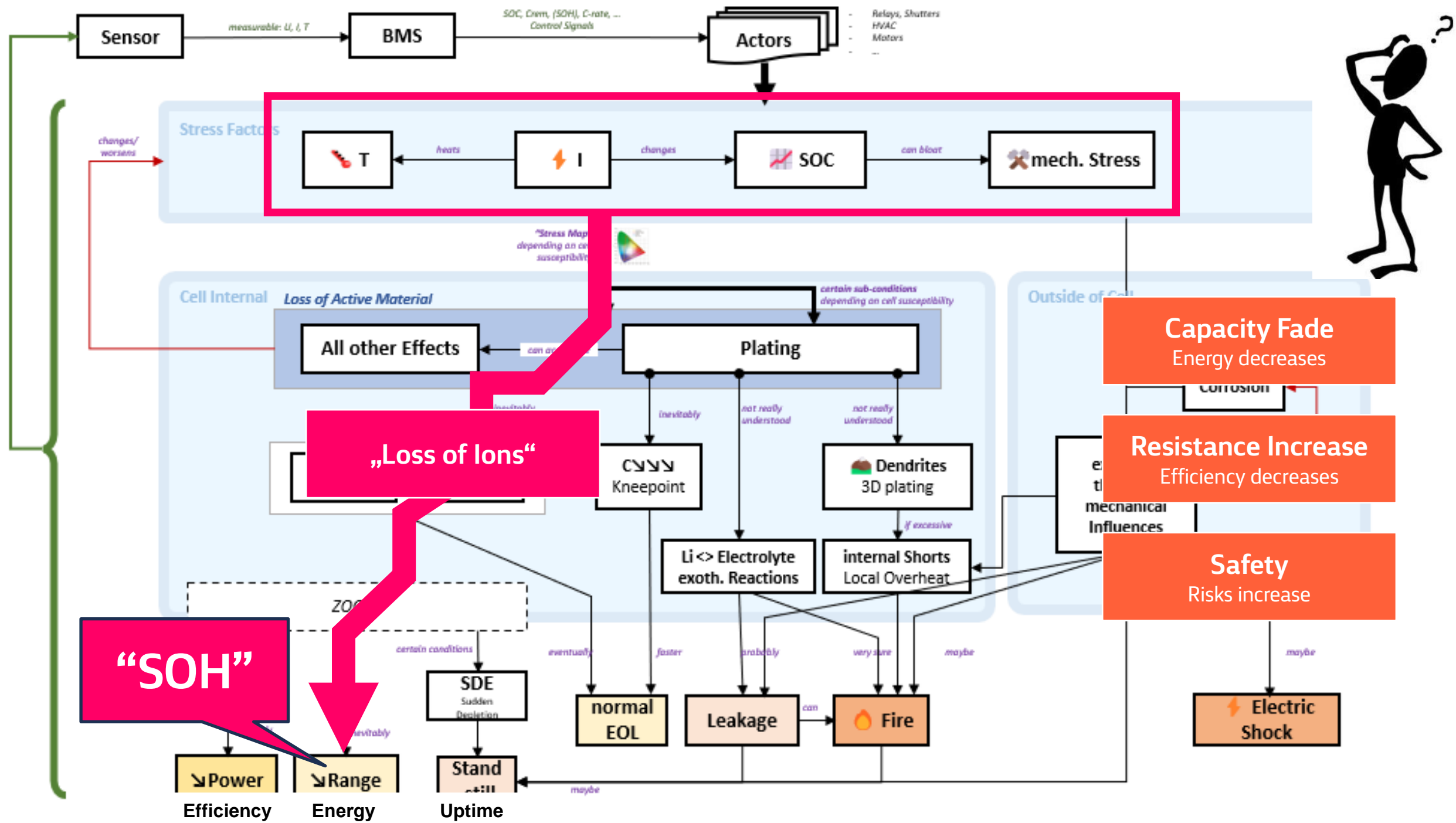


Multiple internal processes lead to degradation

Passive Residue („SEI“) -> Capacity Fade

different usage  
-> more/less stress  
-> more/less loss



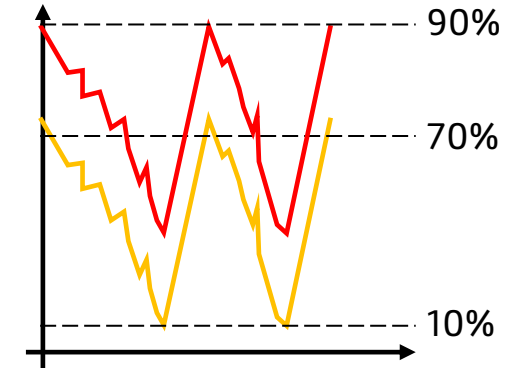
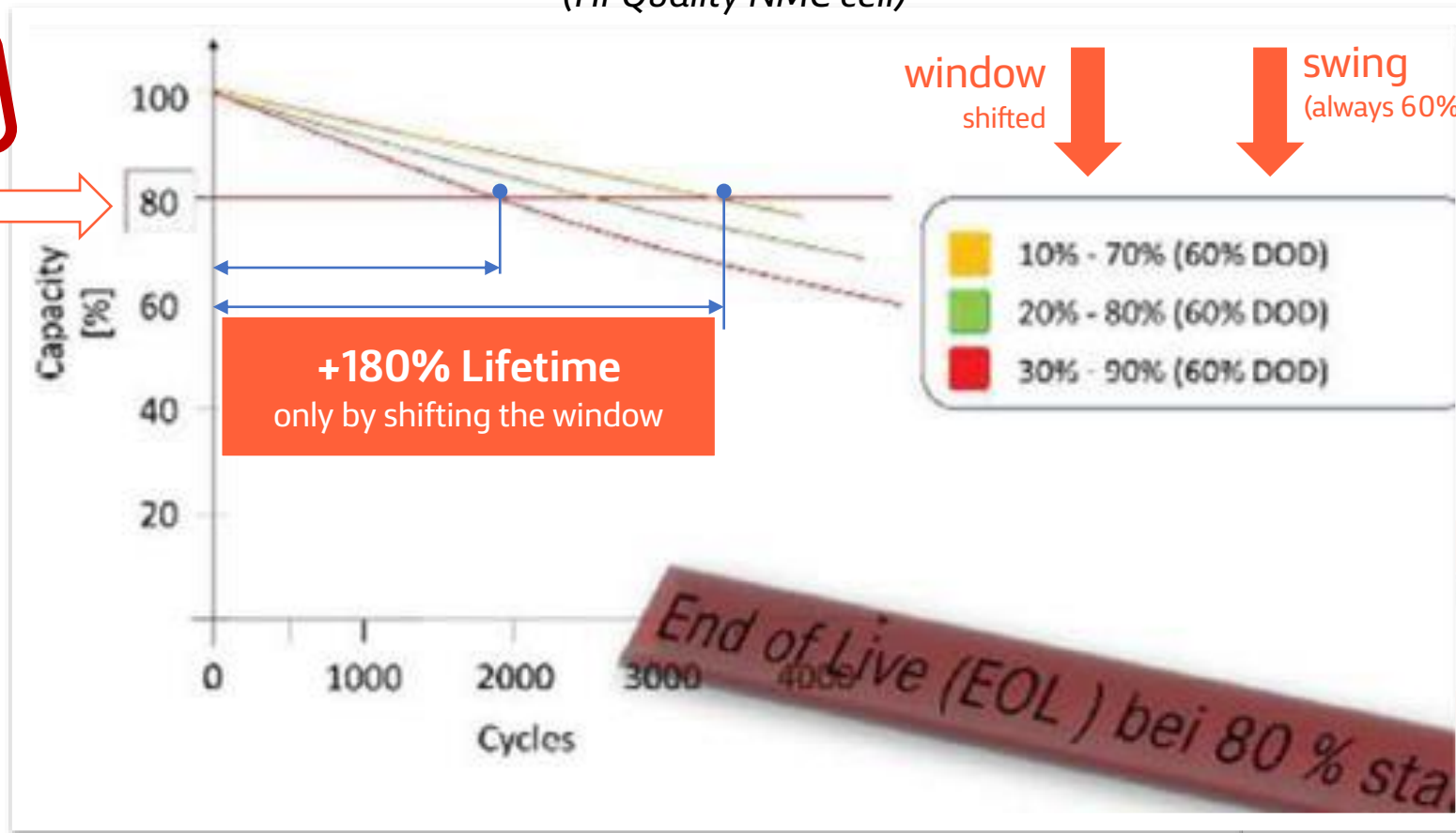




# Degradation & Warranty

Degradation: Capacity Fade

From a Vehicle Data Sheet  
(Hi-Quality NMC cell)



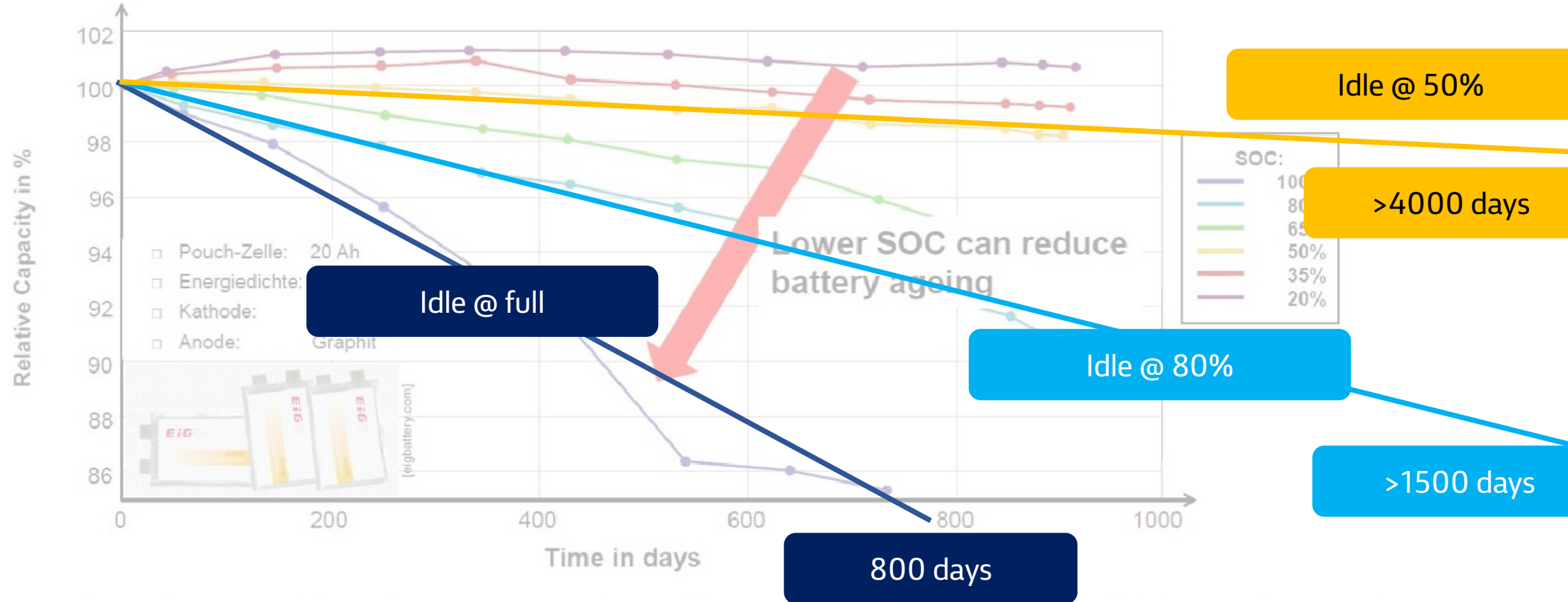
Depending on Chemistry, the Expectable Lifetime is drastically influenced by 4+2 external factors  
That often allows for interesting lifetime optimization potentials

# Degradation & Warranty

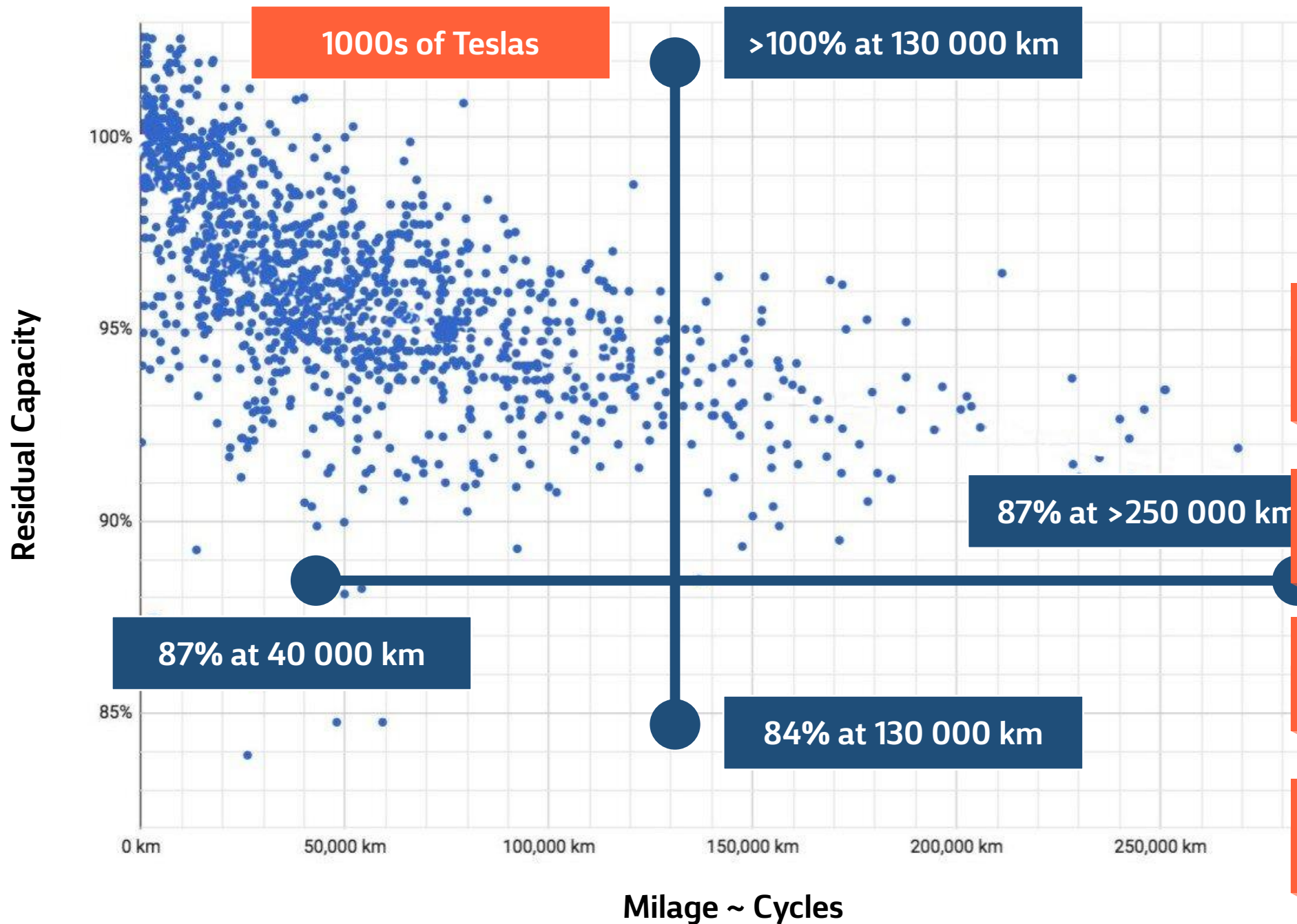
Degradation: Capacity Fade



IDLE SOC



# Tesla Model S/X Mileage vs Remaining Battery Capacity



One can have the **same** battery quality @ 40 000km and @250 000km

Battery Quality is not directly milage or cycle dependent

Battery Quality **must** be assessed individually!

...especially with **decreasing** lifetime expectations!



# Degradation Determination & Forecasting

## Continuous Analysis of all relevant KPIs

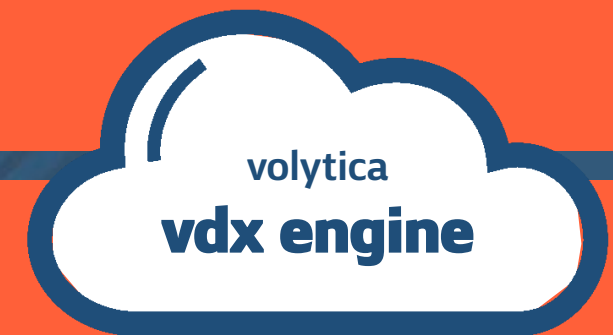
- Stress Level
- Energy Capacity
- Charge Capacity
- Efficiencies

## Independent of Manufacturer Electronics

- BMS is often inaccurate
- BMS can not track all KPIs

## Recommendations

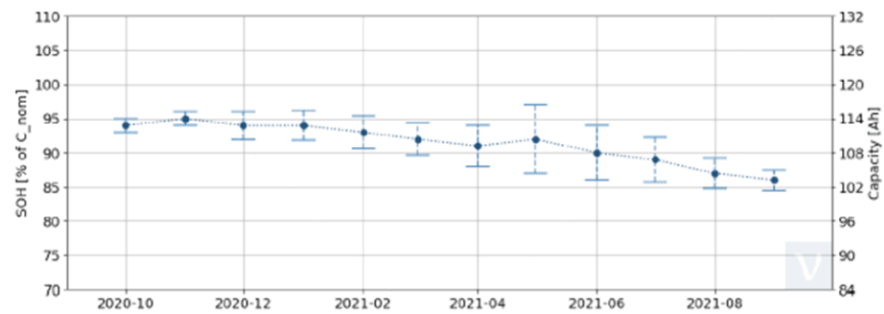
- How to reduce stress
- How to extend lifetime
- How to increase residual value





# Degradation Determination & Forecasting

Short-Term Operational Fitness | Long-Term Operational Fitness



Capacity				
	First month	Trend Linear fit over data	Last month	
Algo To Data Fit	good ●●●			
Remaining Capacity <small>Estimation of max. extractable remaining capacity under standard conditions, on system level</small>	94.0% ±0.0%	-9.2 %/yr  -16.6 %/kFCE	86.0% ±0.0%	
Cell Capacity Fade <small>Estimation of irreversible capacity spread within the system, based on cell-inhomogeneity analysis</small>	not evaluated		spread max-min	
	not evaluated		asymmetry	

Short-Term Operational Fitness | Long-Term Operational Fitness

### Influencing Factors and their Impact on Stress Level

Current avg. Stress Level (SL<sub>Ref</sub>) = 0.6

Scenario Description	Stress Level Reduction
1. Within Temperature Limits <small>Battery Temperature between 10 °C and 40 °C</small>	-
2. Controlled Battery Temperature <small>Constant Battery Temperature = 25 °C</small>	< 5%
3. Controlled Battery Temperature during Charging <small>Constant Battery Temperature = 25 °C, during charging</small>	< 5%
4. Decreased Idle SOC I <small>max. SOC = 80%, during long idle phases</small>	> 5%
5. Decreased Idle SOC II <small>max. SOC = 50%, during long idle phases</small>	> 10%
6. Downshift SOC <small>Downshift SOC by 10%</small>	not applicable
7. Scenario 2 & 5 Combined <small>Constant Battery Temperature = 25°C &amp; max. SOC = 50%, during long idle phases</small>	> 10%
8. Scenario 1 & 6 Combined <small>Battery Temperature between 10 °C and 40 °C &amp; Downshift SOC by 10%</small>	not applicable

**Annotation**

- The calculated stress level reduction is based on vdx stressmaps.
- An increase of SL means higher degradation rate. A decrease of SL means lower degradation rate.
- The accuracy of the shown values depends on the quality of the input data and the fit to the stressmap.
- A combination of scenarios does not result in a summed up stresslevel. The correlation is not linear.





Capacity Fade („SOH“)

~~Availability~~ → skipped today

Safety



**Capacity Fade („SOH“)**

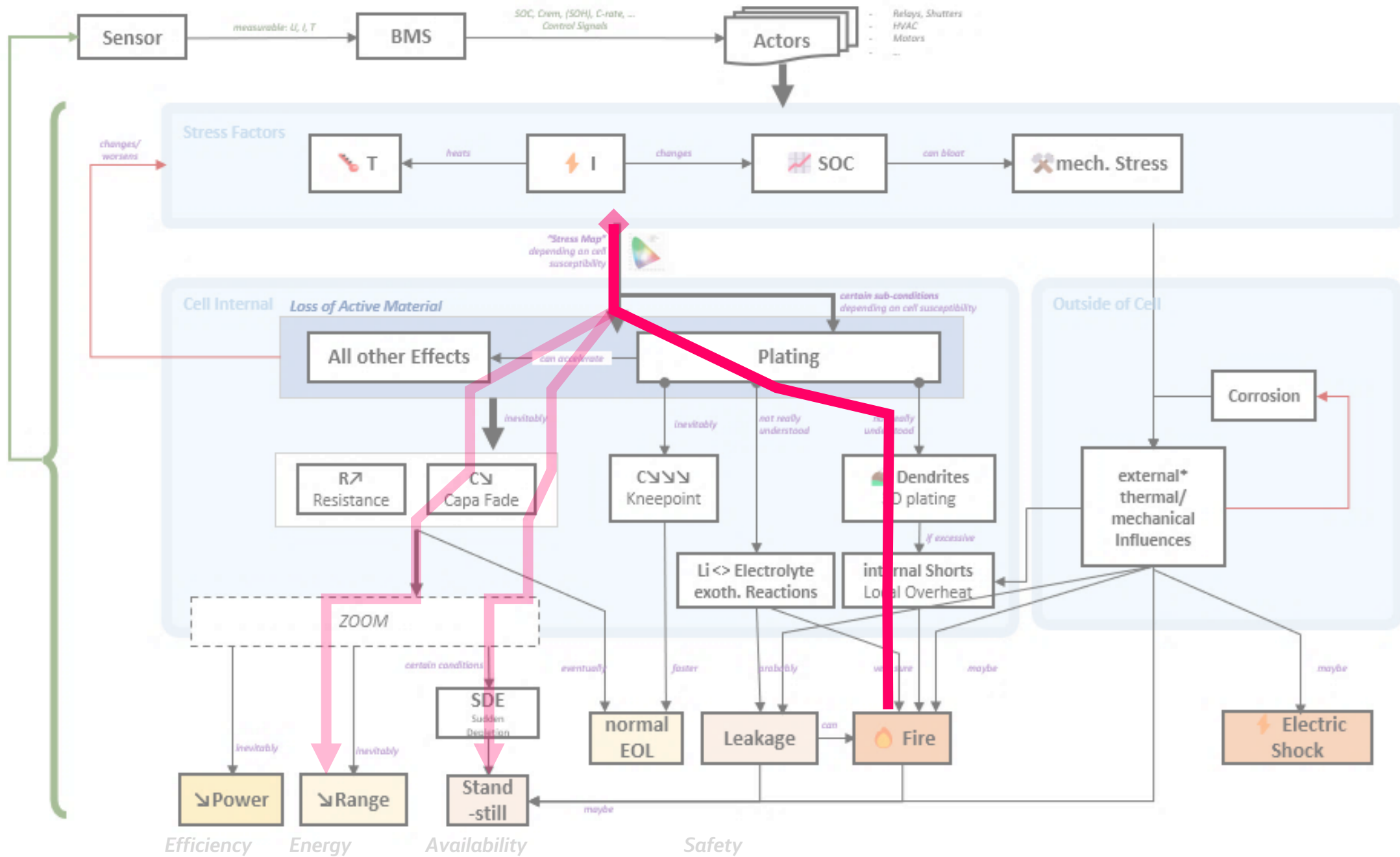
**Availability**

**Safety**



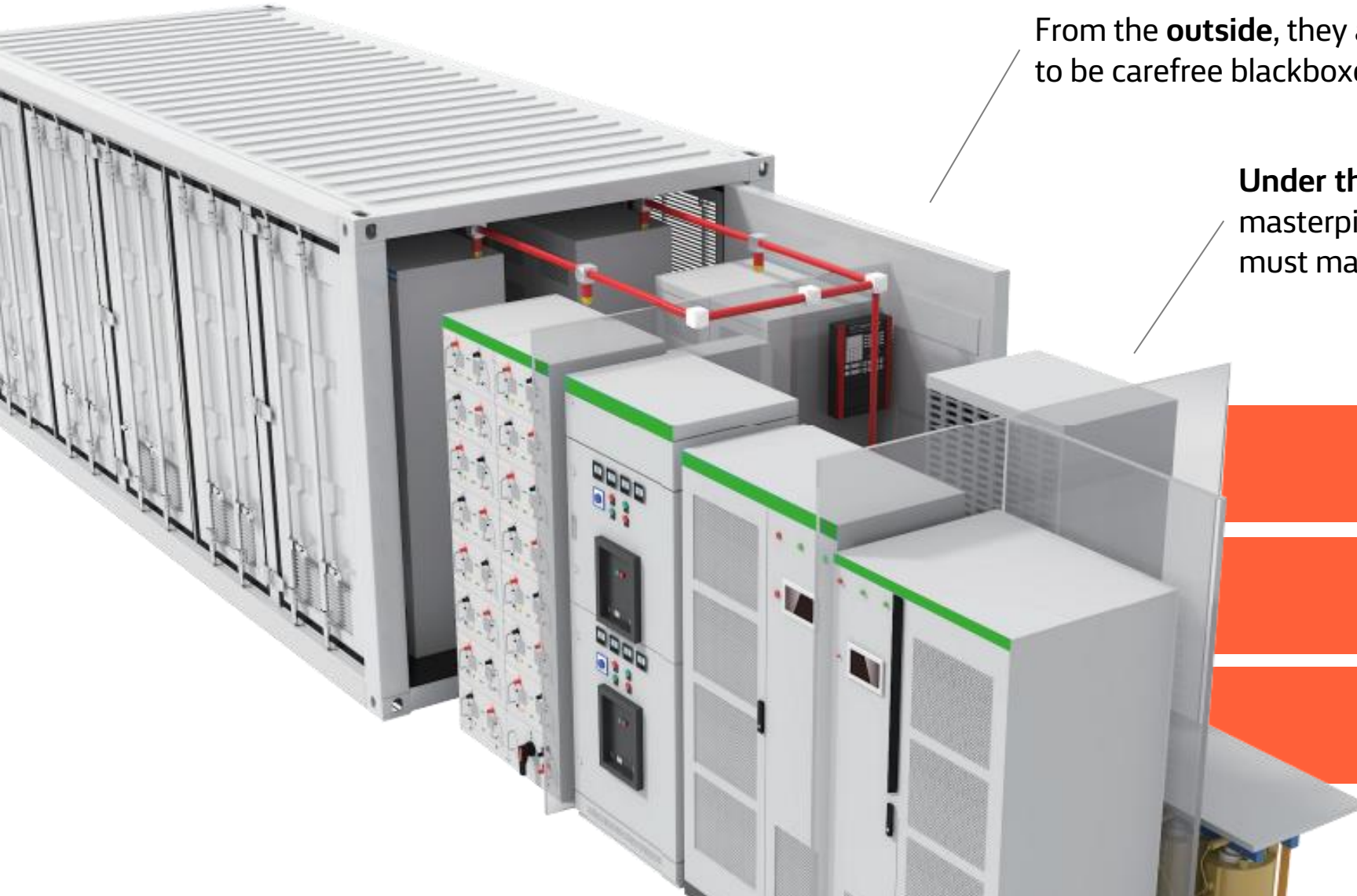
“How did you go bankrupt?”  
Two ways. Gradually, then suddenly.”

– Ernest Hemingway, *The Sun Also Rises*





# Batteries are marketed as “maintenance free”. But they are complex masterpieces that deserve proper management.



From the **outside**, they appear to be carefree blackboxes.

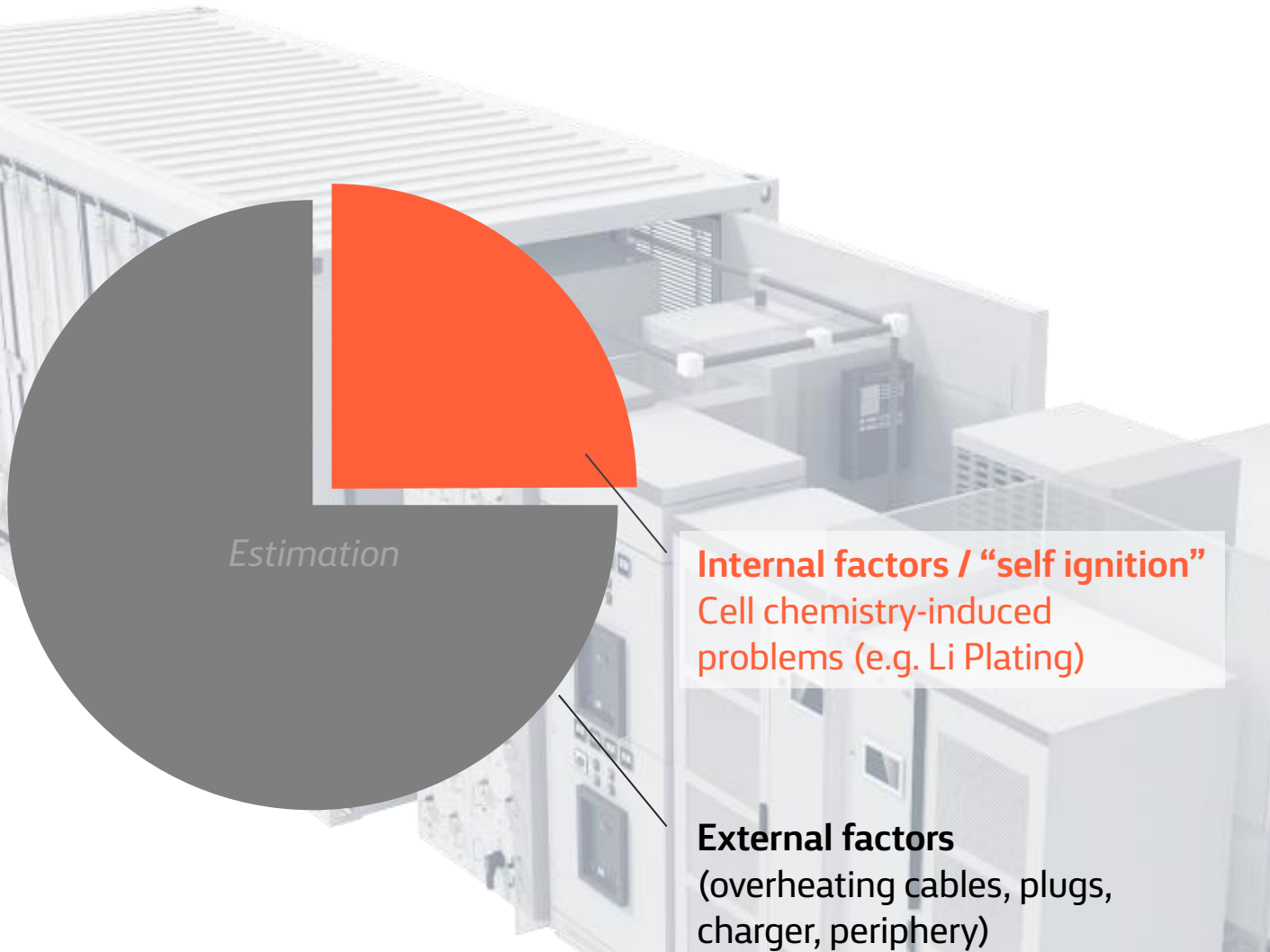
**Under the surface**, they are carefully designed masterpieces: 1000s of cells, sensors and electronics must march in lockstep for up to 20 years!

**Underutilization**  
due to overly cautious operation

**Safety-critical long-term trends**  
are not sensed by electronics

**End-of-life criteria**  
are set overly pessimistic by OEMs

# Why do batteries actually burn? Well, we don't really know...



In the EU, at least 100 electric buses, worth >€50m, burnt down in the last 2 years.

This Stuttgart depot burnt down entirely due to a faulty electric bus in 2021: >€100m damage



volytica diagnostics 

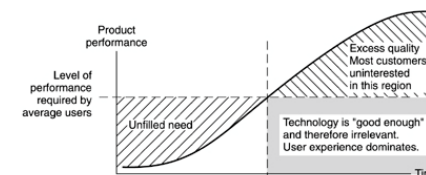
Sustainable Bus Magazine, Feb 2022

## Fire Risk & Safety – An Experts Plea

Claudius Jehle, volytica diagnostics GmbH; Prof. Paul Christensen, Professor of Pure & Applied Electrochemistry at Newcastle University; Paul Markham, PM Risk Consultants Ltd.; Alex Johns, Altellum Insurances Ltd.

### A Historical Example

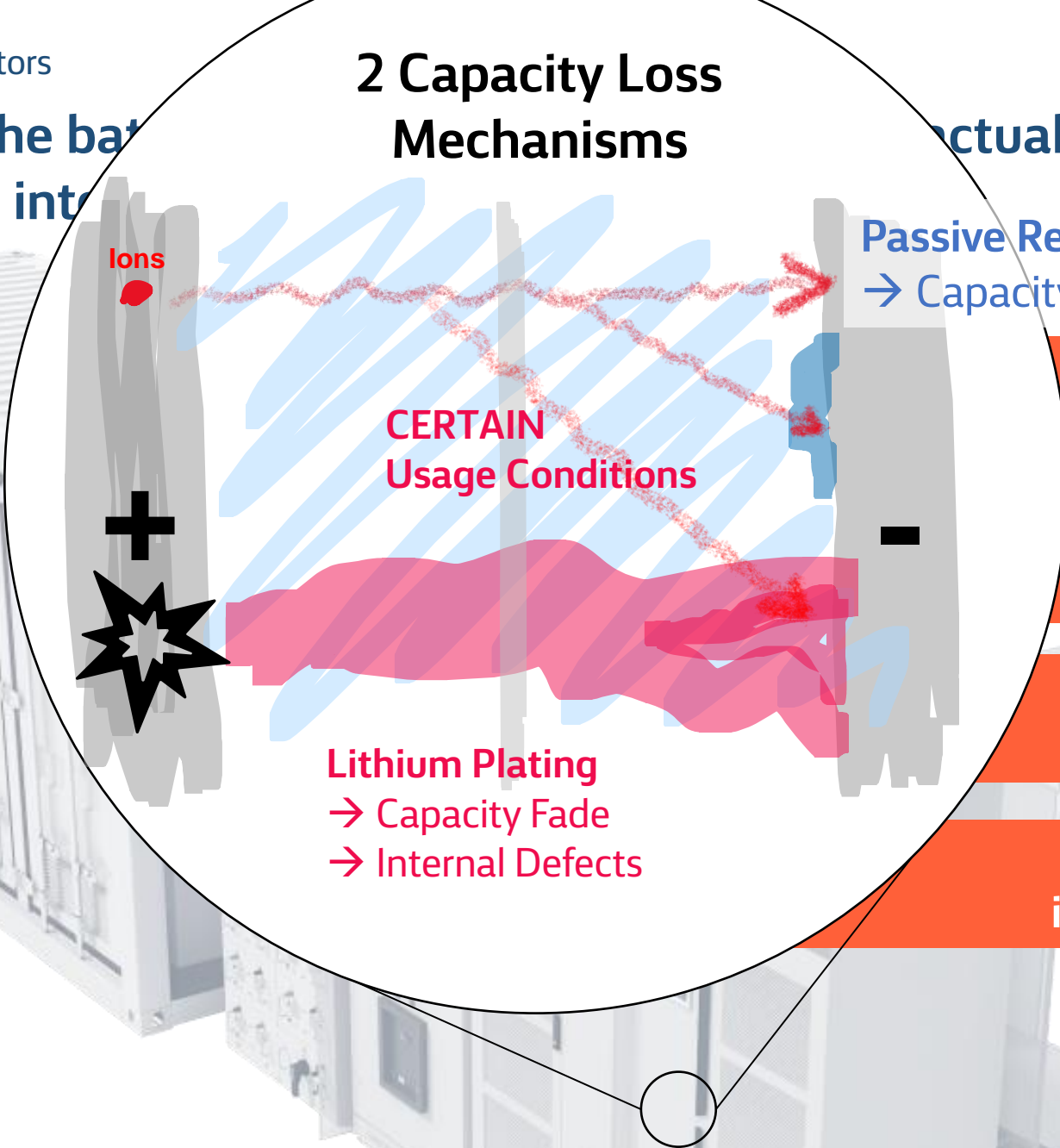
The 1950s through 1980s saw a drive towards increasing the energy density and size of steam turbines from c. 150MW to 600MW – and incidents judged to have been capable of generating 'missiles' at that time are well recorded'. It is apparent from the failure data that there were a number of shortcomings with each of the early designs, particularly with the introduction of the large 500 MW and 660 MW units. But, as in every developing industry, each development is likely to go through, and undergo at times a painful cycle of continuous learning and improvement.



When the battery happens internally

## 2 Capacity Loss Mechanisms

Actually



Multiple internal processes lead to degradation

Not all of them are dangerous – but Plating is!

Li Plating is usage-induced. It's hard to completely avoid!

Certain long-term trends can indicate impending anomalies – if you look!



**SOH**

**(„state of health“)**

**IS NOT A  
MEASURE FOR  
SAFTY RISK**





# Some facts and figures on battery safety and failures from around the world.

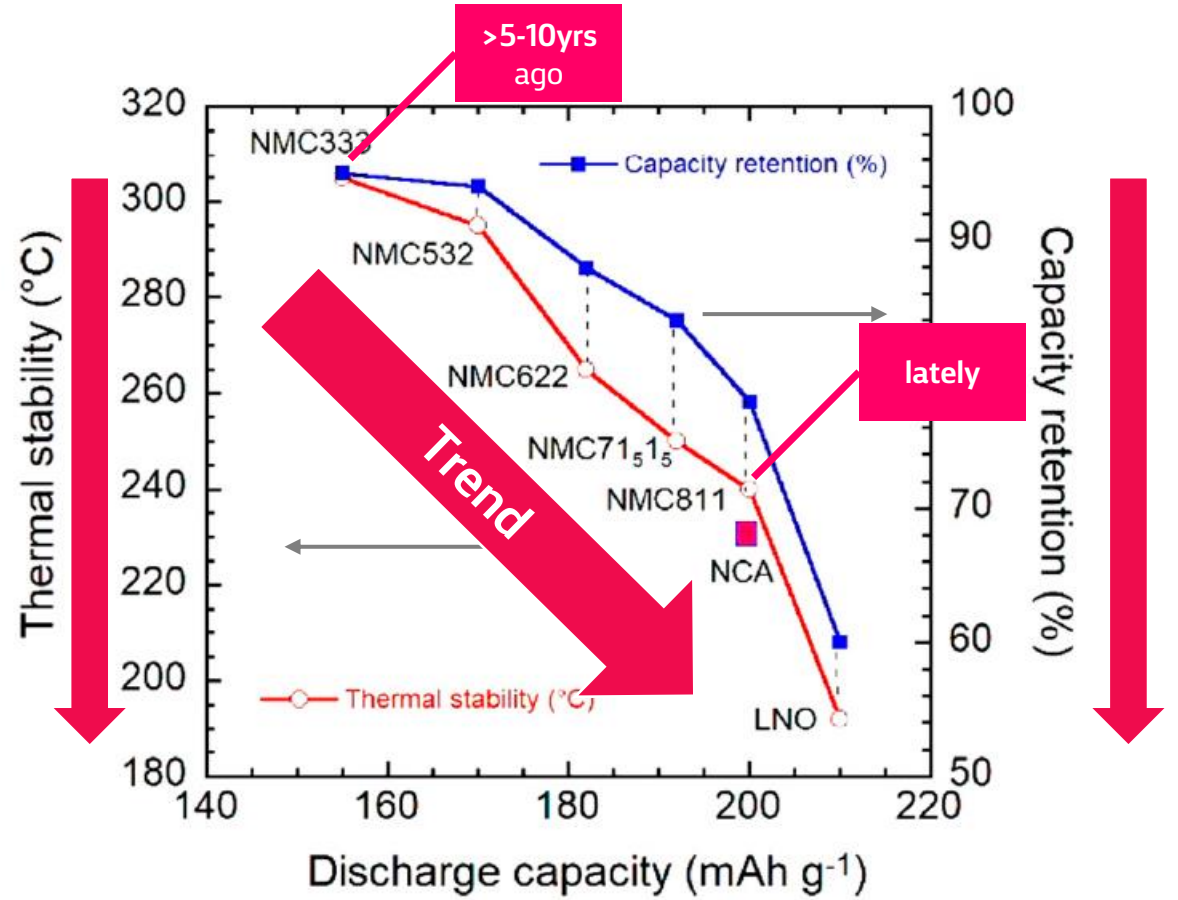
**2%** approx. 2% of all Korean BESS systems encountered fire issues between 2017-22

**€750m** this caused an economical impact of up to €750m total losses

**-50%** safety margins of automotive-grade NMC batteries decreased in the last years!

**~90%** of all events could be have been detected beforehand, Korean study estimates

**LFP** ...is *harder* to ignite, but once on fire, can burn more violently than NMC, studies say



NCA, NCM811, and the Route to Ni-Richer Lithium-Ion Batteries  
Christian M. Julien \* and Alain Mauger  
10 October 2020; Accepted: 30 November 2020; Published: 2 December 2020;  
Energies 2020, 13, 6363; doi:10.3390/en13236363



**Click to learn more!**



# Anomaly & Safety Detection Algorithms

## Continuous Analysis of several safety & anomaly-critical KPIs

- Thermal Anomalies
- Balancing / symmetry anomalies
- Cell quality / safety anomalies

## Alerting on trends and abnormal behaviour

- All KPIs are continuously analysed for trends
- Short- and long-term anomalies are sent via mail
- Mitigation recommendations

## Training of personnel





# Anomaly & Safety Detection Algorithms

**Anomaly Indicators**

General / Event Logbook

Include Subelements: all children v

Aspects / Sources: All v

Severity: All v

Freetext Filter: sym

back to Subsystem Explorer

Hierarchy

L Demo BESS Plant

Subsystems

Container 1  
 Container 2  
 Container 3  
 Container 4

## Demo BESS Plant

Chronologically (Demo BESS Plant incl. all children)

Event Time ↓	Relative Time	Severity	Source	Event Name	Event Description	Link
2023-01-27 01:59:59	vor 6 Monaten	Warning	vdx-peer-group-alerts	[peer_cap-symmetry_daily]	C04 B01 Rack 05: Capacity symmetry differs significantly from peers. Check m...	→
2023-01-27 01:59:59	vor 6 Monaten	Warning	vdx-symmetry-alerts	[thermal_symmetry_longterm_anoma...	C04 B01 Rack 03: Slow thermal asymmetry trend. Check manual. (1704a2b2-0...	→
2023-01-26 13:59:59	vor 6 Monaten	Warning	vdx-symmetry-alerts	[thermal_symmetry_longterm_anoma...	C04 B01 Rack 03: Slow thermal asymmetry trend. Check manual. (1704a2b2-0...	→
2023-01-26 01:59:59	vor 6 Monaten	Warning	vdx-peer-group-alerts	[peer_cap-symmetry_daily]	C04 B01 Rack 05: Capacity symmetry differs significantly from peers. Check m...	→
2023-01-26 01:59:59	vor 6 Monaten	Warning	vdx-symmetry-alerts	[thermal_symmetry_longterm_anoma...	C04 B01 Rack 03: Slow thermal asymmetry trend. Check manual. (1704a2b2-0...	→
2023-01-25 13:59:59	vor 6 Monaten	Warning	vdx-symmetry-alerts	[thermal_symmetry_longterm_anoma...	C04 B01 Rack 03: Slow thermal asymmetry trend. Check manual. (1704a2b2-0...	→



Thank you!

 **Get in Touch**

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+49 351 87 95 87 - 00