



# THERMAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS DIGITAL SUMMIT



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Digital Summit  
[sae.org/tmssvirtual](https://sae.org/tmssvirtual)

## **New environmentally friendly fluids for battery cooling**

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# EV market moving to mainstream adoption

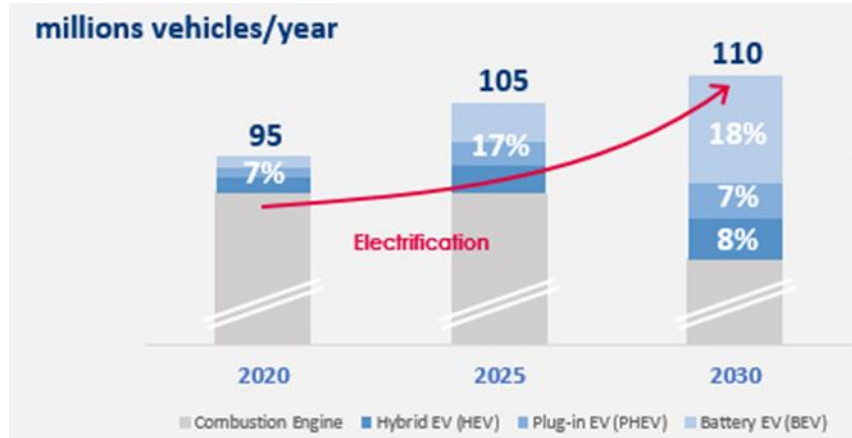
## LONG TERM OUTLOOK REMAINS BRIGHT

- **Impact of covid-19**

- Strong States Subsidies in Europe
- Timelines maintained in Europe and China

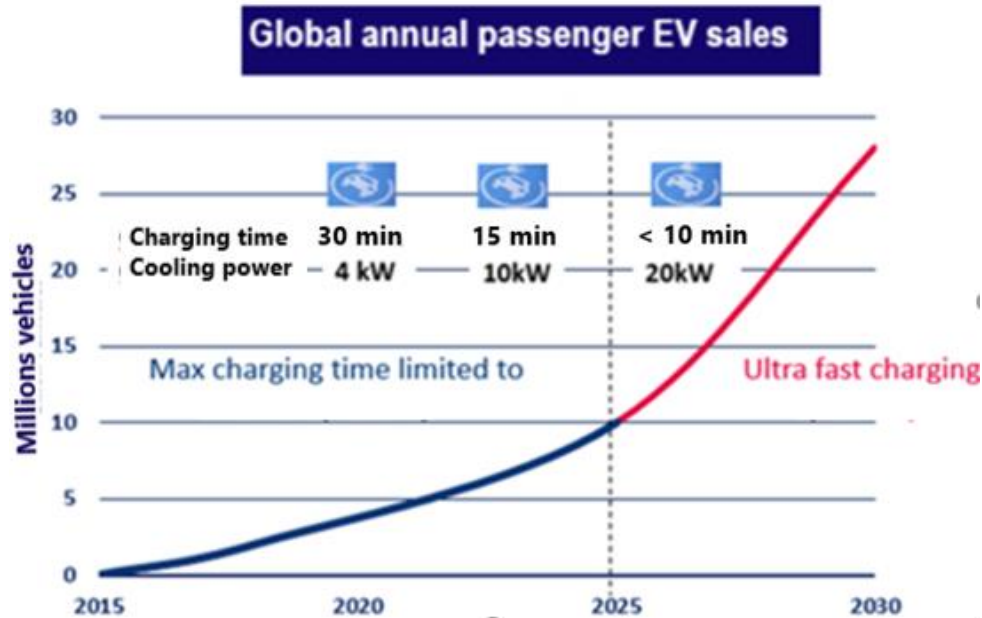
- **Long term outlook**

- Decrease of costs
  - Decrease of battery prices: towards 100\$/kWh
  - Government supportive policy
- Technology improvement needed for customers for large market acceptance



# EV market moving to mainstream adoption

- Fast and ultrafast charging are key challenges for mainstream adoption



(\* ) C-rate, is a measure of the rate at which a battery is charged or discharged. 1C means charge/discharge in 1h. 4C means 15mn

# Crucial role played by thermal management

## Battery temperature stakes on performances, lifetime and safety

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- **Performance and lifetime duration**
- Narrow controlled temperature operating range
- Limited and controlled thermal gradient in the pack and in the cell

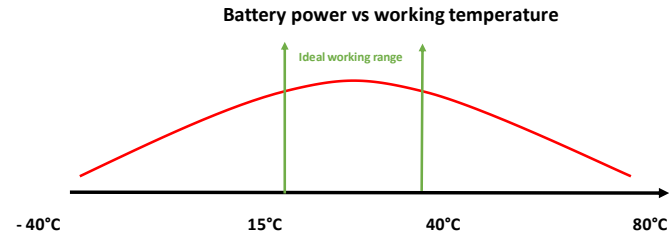
- **Safety**

- No thermal runaway propagation
- No Flammability



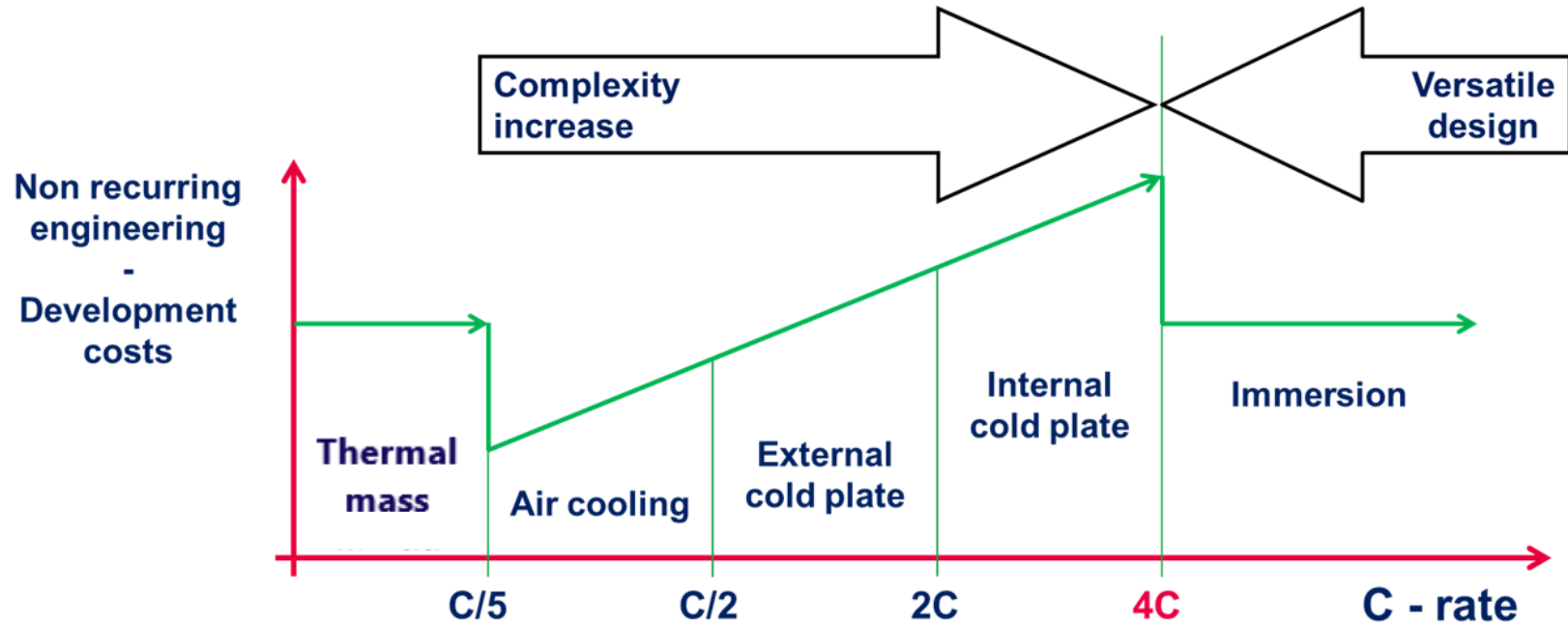
- **System**

- Integration with existing AC loops and system interactions
- Battery weight control to maintain optimum Energy density and efficiency



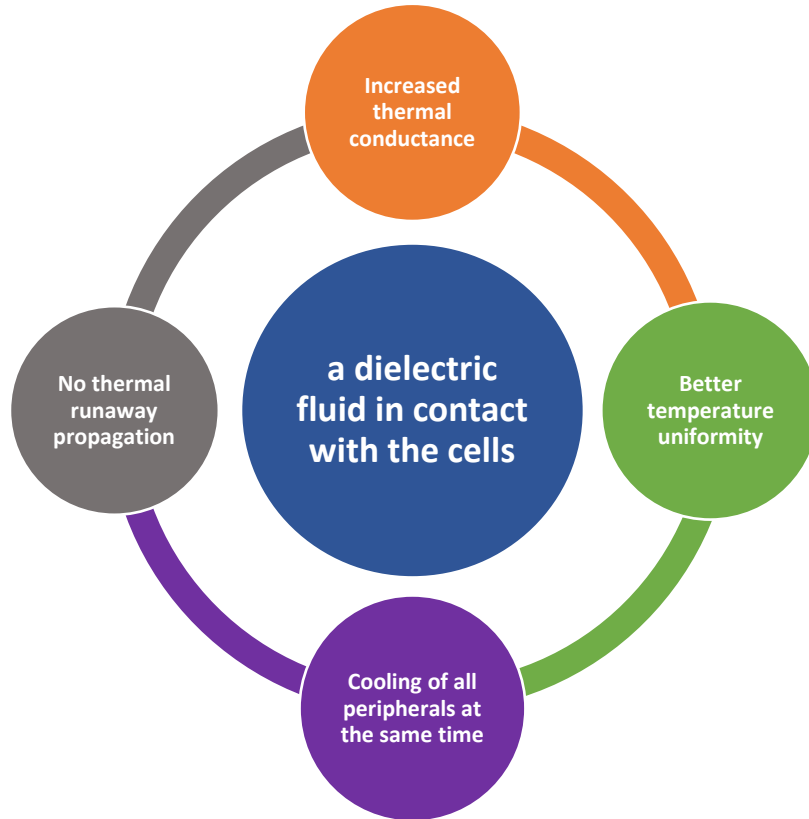
# Cooling technologies vs charging time - The 4C\* limit

Source: EXOES



(\*) C-rate, is a measure of the rate at which a battery is charged or discharged. 1C means charge/discharge in 1h. 4C means 15mn

# What is immersion cooling?



Busbar / electrodes

Cells

Electronics

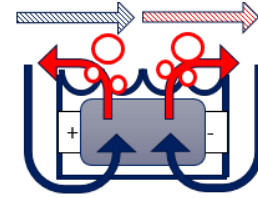


# Competitive immersive cooling technics

Direct liquid  
(one phase)



Battery



Direct evaporative  
(2 phases)

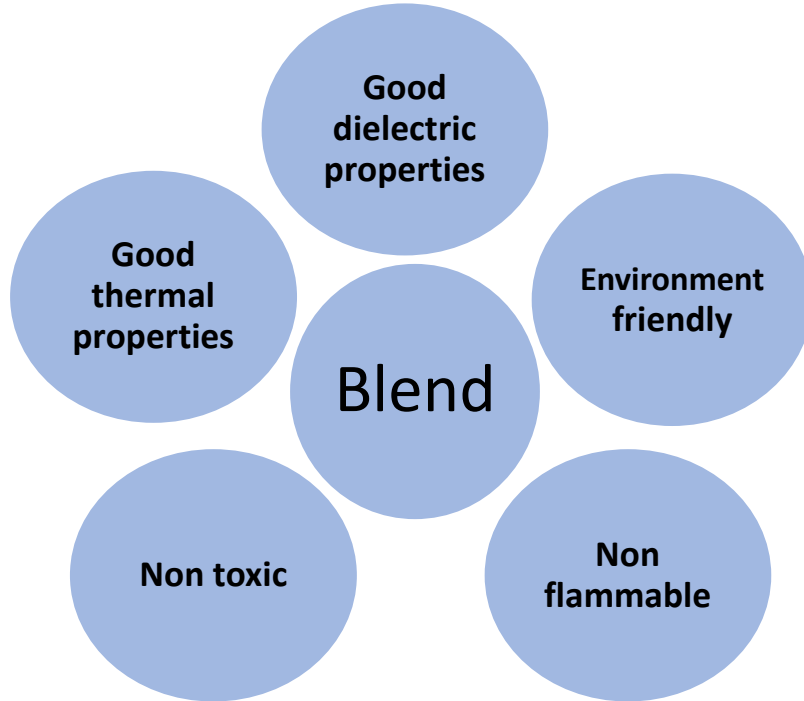
		For charging time >5C	
		Direct liquid	Direct evaporative
Fluid	Thermal performance	good	Very good
	Runaway	Very good	Very good
	Flammability	Average	Very good
System	Height	Very good	Average
	Fluid costs	Very good	Average



## A new approach toward immersive cooling

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- Engineered fluids based on blends containing dielectric oil



**Properties can be tailored by adjusting the composition**



# Fluids for immersive cooling: state of the art

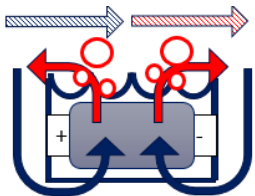


HE = Health and environment



## •Liquid immersion cooling fluids: commercially available fluids

- Dielectric oils, perfluorochemicals, HFE, etc...
- Flammability, or GWP may be an issue depending on the fluid

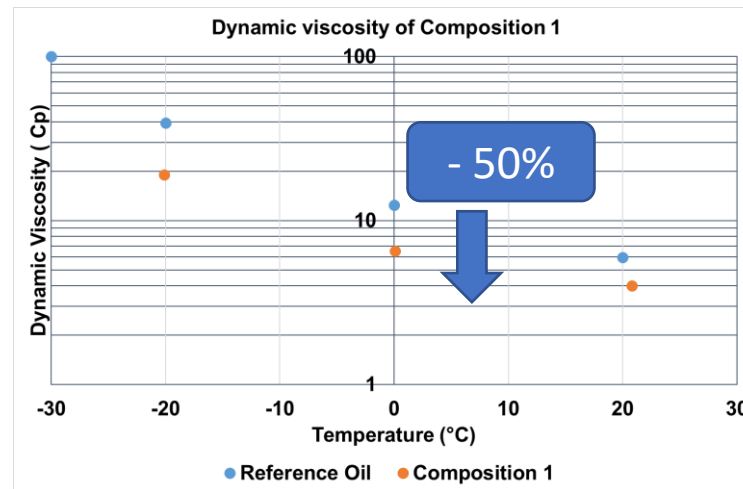
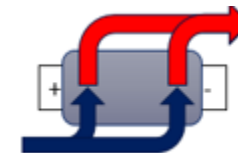


## •Evaporative immersion cooling fluids: **No ideal candidate**

$$15 < T_{\text{boiling}} < 40^{\circ}\text{C}$$

# Engineered fluid benefits for immersive cooling technologies

- Liquid immersion benefits vs dielectric oils
  - Example: Composition 1, high boiling point

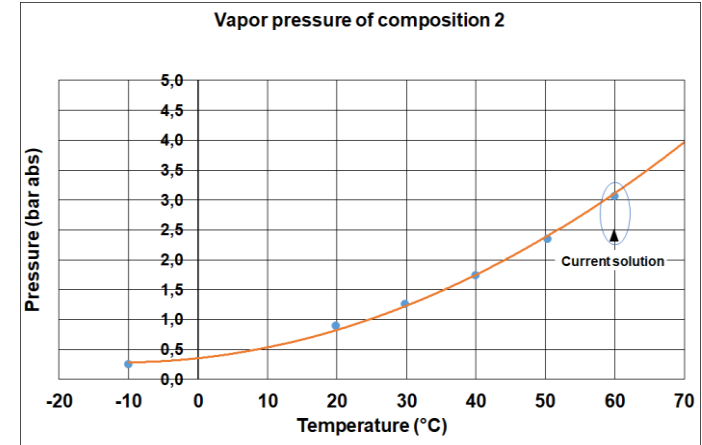
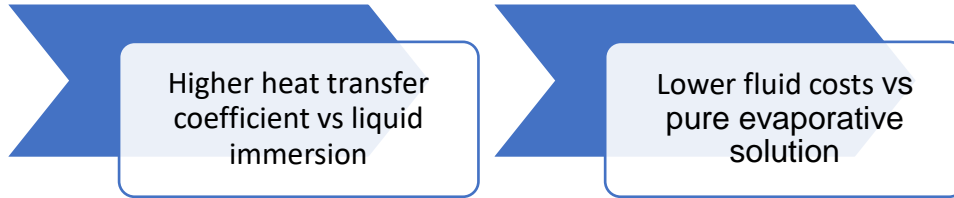


		For charging time >5C	
		Reference Oil	Composition 1
Fluid	Thermal performance	Green	Green
	Flammability	Yellow	Green
System	Fluid costs	Green	Green
	Investment costs	Yellow	Green

# Engineered fluid benefits for immersive cooling technologies

## • Evaporative immersion benefits vs pure evaporative solution

- Composition 2, Low boiling point



### For charging time >5C rate

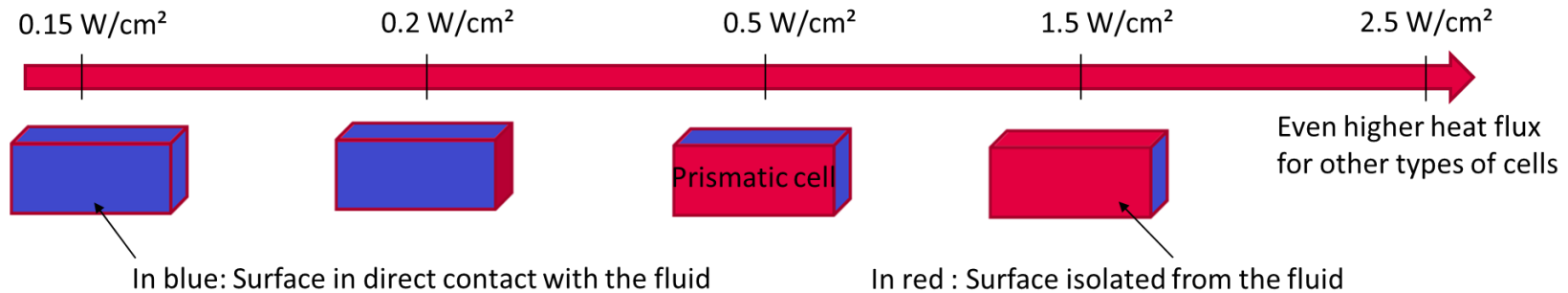
		Composition 2	Pure evaporative solution
Fluid	Thermal performance	Green	Green
System	Fluid costs	Green with diagonal lines	Yellow

*Vapor pressure will be affected by composition nature*

# Heat flux for battery cooling for fast charging rates

## Example of thermal requirements

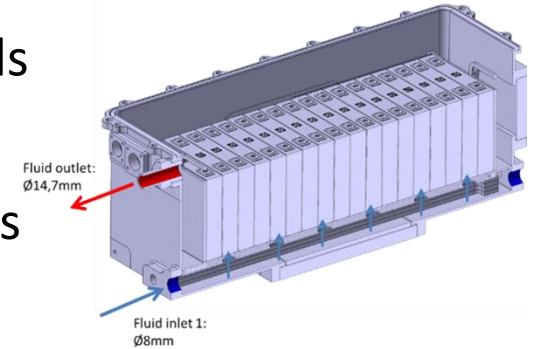
- At 5C charge rate, a 50Ah prismatic Li-ion cell having ~1mOhm of internal resistance generates ~60W of heat
- The resulting heat flux for this cell in stationary conditions depends on the available cooling surface :



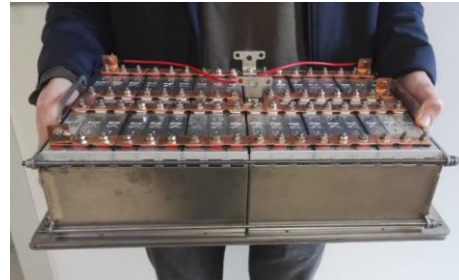
**Battery cooling need typically ranges between 0.15 to 2.5 W/cm<sup>2</sup>**

# Performance assessment for 5C - Single phase direct cooling test

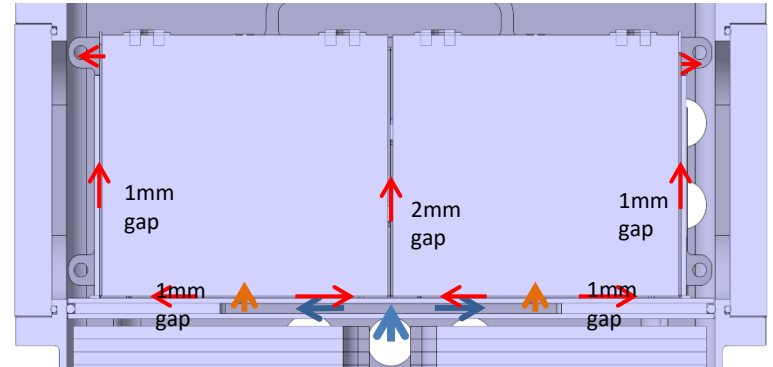
- Dummy battery module made of prismatic LTO\* cells
- Direct cooling with a liquid fluid
- Measure with various fluids and flow rate conditions
- Heat transfer coefficient,
- Temperature uniformity
- Wall superheat



Source: EXOES

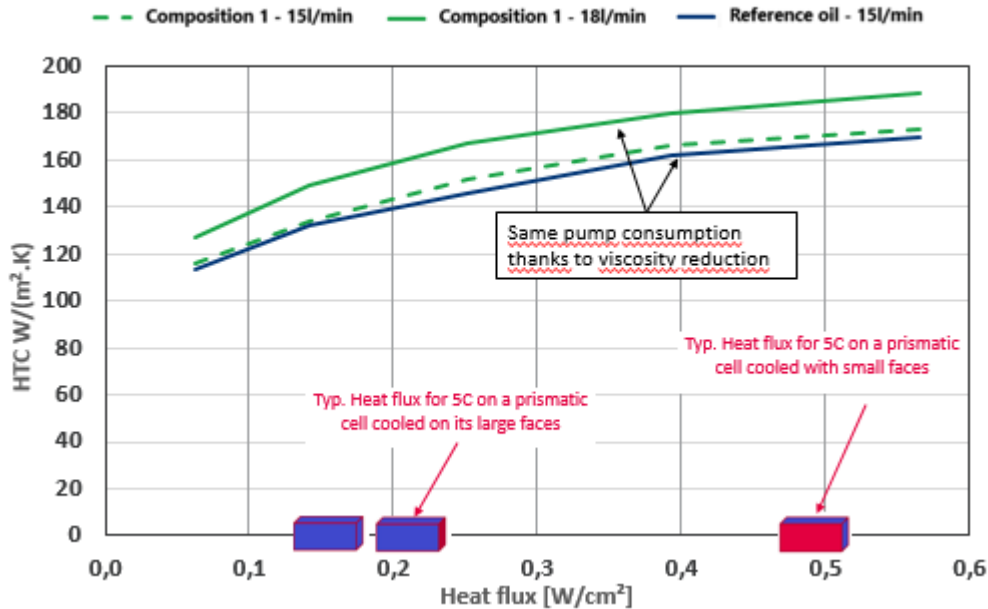


(\*) LTO Toshiba 10Ah



# HTC vs C-rate & flow rate: conclusion for liquid immersion

Heat transfer coefficient



$$\overline{HTC} = \frac{\text{Total thermal power}}{(\overline{T_{cells}} - T_{\text{fluid at box inlet}}) \times S}$$

**20%** Increase on max flowrate @ same pump speed  
*ie for the same energy consumption flowrate was increased by 20%*

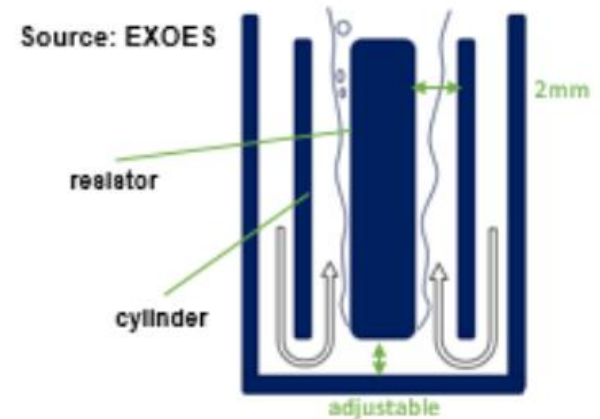
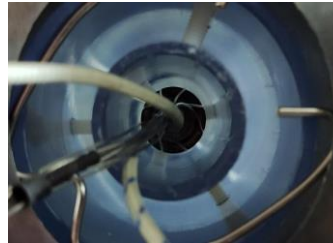
@0.5W/cm<sup>2</sup> : Mean HTC is 185W/m<sup>2</sup>/K

# Performance assessment

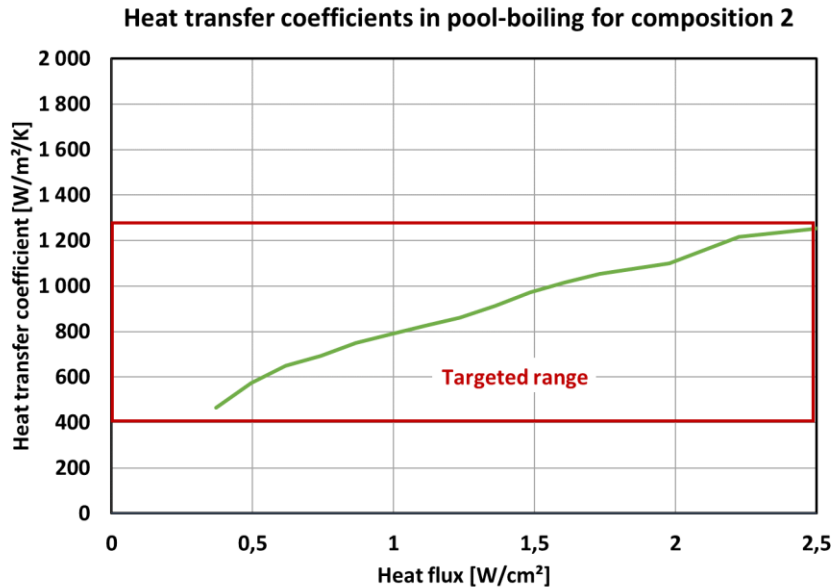
## Evaporative direct cooling pool boiling test rig

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- Heat resistor (D15xH80mm) immersed in a cylinder full of saturated liquid
- Condenser on top of the box
- Copper
- Roughness  $Ra=0,8\mu\text{m}$
- Measurements of
  - Heat transfer coefficient
  - Temperature uniformity
  - Wall superheat
- Measured impact of
  - Channel gap
  - Liquid return



# HTC vs heat flux : conclusion for evaporative immersion



- . Cooling water in condenser @ 10° C
- . Power steps on resistor 0 to 6W/cm<sup>2</sup>

500 W/m<sup>2</sup>/K @ 0.5W/cm<sup>2</sup>

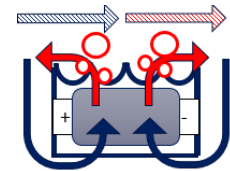
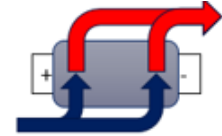
Meet the targeted range



# Conclusion

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- A new concept of engineered fluids has been developed to support the adoption of immersive cooling technology
- In direct immersion cooling, the addition of a fluid lead to improved performance and safety
  - Non-flammability
  - Increased performance driving lower equipment/component costs
- For evaporative cooling, a good compromise between pressure and thermal performance has been found
  - Lower density than pure evaporative solution
  - Significantly higher HTC than liquid immersive cooling
- *Continued work to assess thermal runaway propagation and potential application to other cooling needs (Electronic, power train, e-motors)*



# Acknowledgements

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- Special thanks to EXOES



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# Thank you

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