

This structural battery could lead to massless energy storage

Could a structural battery be a 'massless' energy storage technology?

Researchers have produced a structural battery that performs ten times better than all previous versions. It contains carbon fiber that serves simultaneously as an electrode, conductor, and load-bearing material. Their latest research breakthrough paves the way for essentially 'massless' energy storage in vehicles and other technology.

Could a new structural battery reduce the weight of electronic devices?

Credit: Chalmers University of Technology | Henrik Sandström; A new structural battery by Chalmers University could drastically reduce the weight of electronic devices and vehicles by combining load-bearing and energy storage capabilities, offering a leap in efficiency and design potential.

What is a structural battery?

A structural battery is an energy storage device that can also bear weight as part of a structure. For example, if the studs in your home were all batteries, or if an electric fence also held up a wall, that would be considered a structural battery.

Could 'massless' energy storage be a new technology?

Their latest research breakthrough paves the way for essentially 'massless' energy storage in vehicles and other technology. Researchers from Chalmers University of Technology have produced a structural battery that performs ten times better than all previous versions.

Could a structural battery halve the weight of a laptop?

Now, researchers at the Chalmers University of Technology have achieved a breakthrough in massless energy storage with their new structural battery which could halve the weight of a laptop, make the mobile phone as thin as a credit card, and increase the driving range of an electric car by up to 70 percent on a single charge.

Can a 'massless energy storage' battery be used commercially?

As part of their work on what they call 'massless energy storage,' the research team in Sweden has developed a battery made of a carbon fiber composite. It promises similar stiffness to aluminum, while also being capable of storing a fair bit of energy - enough to be used commercially.

More about the research on structural energy storage batteries. The structural battery uses carbon fibre as a negative electrode, and a lithium iron phosphate-coated aluminium foil as the positive electrode. The carbon fibre acts as a ...

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mobile phone as thin as a credit card or increase the driving range of an electric car by up to 70 percent on a single charge.

A structural battery, on the other hand, is one that works as both a power source and as part of the structure - for example, in a car body. This is termed "massless" energy storage, because in essence the battery's weight vanishes when it becomes part of the load-bearing structure.

The first one is at the cell-level, focusing on sandwiching batteries between robust external reinforcement composites such as metal shells and carbon fabric sheets (Fig. 2 (a)) such designs, the external reinforcement is mainly responsible for the load-carrying without contributions to energy storage, and the battery mainly functions as a power source and bears ...

One of the most popular disadvantages of the structural pack is that a vehicle with a structural battery pack will most likely be totaled when got into an accident because the battery will be unreplaceable. A recent report shows that it is not true. A structural pack can be disassembled and can even be replaced, as Tesla's service manual confirms.

2 Results and Discussion 2.1 Electrochemical Performance. The specific capacities and energy densities of the tested structural battery cells are presented in Table 1. Both cell types tested had a nominal voltage during discharge of 2.7 V. Typical charge/discharge voltage profiles for a Whatman glass microfiber filters, Grade GF/A (Whatman GF/A) separator cell at two C ...

Structural battery packs Structural battery packs are the next step toward massless energy storage in EVs and electric aircraft applications. Massless energy storage refers to any approach where the battery pack or battery is an integral element in the structural design, effectively reducing the impact of the inactive materials in the energy storage system and ...

Satellites rely on energy storage for their functionality. For this reason, batteries are included in satellites prior to launch. The batteries are pre-charged to power the un-folding of the solar panels and the start of the onboard computer when in orbit. In service, the solar cells keep the battery charged to secure continuous power supply for operation during the frequent, but short, solar ...

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What is a Structural Battery? A structural battery is a material that can carry a mechanical load and store electrical energy at the same time. In something like an electric vehicle (EV), the weight of a structural battery would be integrated into the load-bearing frame. A system like this is often termed "massless" energy storage.

As Richa Chaudhary, lead author of the research, explains, the new battery functions similarly to a human skeleton, providing both support and power. This development represents a significant advance in "massless energy storage"--where energy storage is seamlessly integrated into the material used for a product's structure.

The latest development from Chalmers, in collaboration with KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, follows 14 years of research into structural batteries. The technology could pave the way for "massless" energy storage in vehicles and other technology where the battery's weight effectively vanishes when it becomes part of the ...

The structural battery pack is a kind of electric vehicle battery that is cleverly designed to efficiently fit into the car. It is part of the vehicle's chassis, as the battery pack acts as a structural part of the whole car. Seats are directly mounted to the battery pack itself.

"The battery has an energy density of 24 Wh/kg, meaning approximately 20 percent capacity compared to comparable lithium-ion batteries currently available. But since the weight of the vehicles can be greatly reduced, less energy will be required to drive an electric car, for example, and lower energy density also results in increased safety.

One other problem: For now, lithium-ion batteries are still have better energy density than the carbon fibre-based structural battery. The carbon fibre batteries have come a long way since development started in the early 2000s, but they've still got a long way to go before they replace existing electric motorcycle batteries.

termed "massless" energy storage, because in essence the battery's weight vanishes when it becomes part of the load-bearing structure. Calculations show that this type of multifunctional battery could greatly reduce the weight of an electric vehicle. The development of structural batteries at Chalmers University of

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