BENJAMIN LAM

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Education

University of California, Berkeley

Dec 2024

MS in Materials Science Engineering, GPA: 3.97

 Courses: Model predictive control, Signals and systems, Additive Manufacturing, Thermodynamics, X-ray Diffraction, Materials characterization (TEM, SEM), Bonding Theory, Inorganic chemistry

University of California, Irvine

Jun 2022

BS in Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science Engineering (Double Major)

- Major GPA: 4.00, Cumulative GPA: 3.98, Dean's Honor List (All quarters), Graduated Summa Cum Laude
- Courses: Intro to control systems, Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, Fluid mechanics, Materials failure, Fuel cells, Solar energy

Work Experience

Ceder Group (UC Berkeley)

Aug 2022 – Present

Research Assistant

- Building custom Li-air battery **test system** controlled with **Flask/Python/I²C** to cycle cells in PID-controlled relative humidity/gas composition. Performed **mechanical design of Swagelok-type cell** (Fusion 360) for airtight sealing, assembly/control of electronic sensors and actuators, and all software. Adds Li-air battery test capabilities to our lab (Python, C++, Javascript, HTML) [Github]
- Research on degradation mechanism of Li-NASICON solid-state Lithium conductors in alkaline environments using timeresolved XRD, SEM/EDS, ICP-OES experiments, data analysis performed with MATLAB. Results contextualized with DFT surface
 simulations and Pourbaix diagrams to uncover root cause failure mode of cell, eliminates viability of phosphate chemistries.
 [In-review to Advanced Energy Materials]
- Automatic SEM/EDS image processing (MATLAB) tool made large datasets (>200 scans) able to be evaluated. Utilized Hough transform to identify scale bars and linescans for formatting.
- Led coordination between three research groups facilitating collaboration; set up new experimental SOP and equipment for new project (Li-air) to enable our lab to have aqueous chemistry capabilities

ASML Jun 2021 – Sep 2021

Intern, Droplet Generator

- Data analysis of in-field tin droplet generator performance (Python): Developed functions to flag heat cycling anomalies, which were integrated into the **new dashboard** for engineers to view events indicating oxide formation and subsequent failure
- Failure analysis for droplet generator; corresponded with external lab to investigate mechanism of tin-oxide formation

Hui Lab (UC Irvine) Aug 2020 – May 2021

Student Researcher, Microfluidics

- Developed a simulated model for a microfluidic valve. Made new valve design with truncated valve floor helps improve size variation of generated droplets (down to $\sigma = 1\%$, 3x improvement) [Micromachines (2022)]
- Created PCB for solenoid array controller to provide pressure regulated vacuum source for microfluidic chip testing

UCI Solar Car Apr 2019 – Sep 2020

Battery/High Voltage Team Lead

- Mechanical design of battery enclosure box and cell mounting structures (Solidworks). Air-cooling simulations done with Autodesk CFD
- Oversaw and managed system-level design of high-voltage component interaction (motor, solar panel, battery)

Projects

- EIS data processing (MATLAB): Custom MATLAB library developed for nonlinear curve fitting of EIS datasets (> 300 datasets), contributed to 2 papers: [ACS Applied Nano Materials (2023)] [Advanced Functional Materials (2024)]
- Computer vision script (MATLAB, Arduino): Used **image processing** techniques with a digital microscope video stream to track the volume of fluid pumped (< 1µL) by a microfluidic valve over time

Skills

Mechanical: SolidWorks (CSWA Certified), Autodesk Fusion 360, Autodesk CFD, Basic shop experience Electrical/Programming: MATLAB (4+ years), Python, JavaScript, HTML, C++, JAVA, PCB Prototyping, Oscilloscope Materials Science: XRD, SEM/EDS, ICP-OES/MS, EIS, Aqueous Chemistry, Battery Cell Cycling, 3+ years Chemical Lab Experience