

# Battery Over-Discharge Protection Using Shunt Resistances

#### Introduction

When integrating battery cells into packs, additional circuit components may be added for handling cell-to-cell balancing and overcharge/discharge protection. This tutorial demonstrates how to investigate the dynamics of battery cells when integrated with electronics.

The tutorial defines a small circuit of two lithium-ion batteries connected in series (2s configuration). After some time of operation, one of the batteries is assumed to start discharging at a higher rate due to a small internal short circuit, resulting in an uneven discharge/balance of the batteries, and, in the end, over discharge. To mitigate the risk of over discharge, the electrical circuit is then modified by introducing additional shunt resistances coupled in parallel to the batteries, and switching logics.

### Model Definition

The model is set up in 0D. The Electrical Circuit interface is used to define the circuit, consisting of a current source, a resistive load and the two shunt resistances. The batteries are connected to the electrical circuit by using External I versus U nodes.

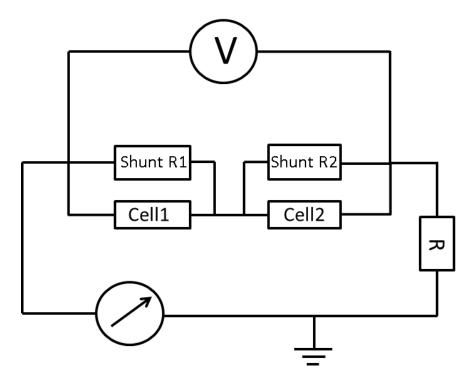


Figure 1: Circuit diagram used in the over-discharge protection circuit.

The battery cells are defined using the Lumped Battery Interface (one instance per battery cell), using the Circuit Voltage Source operation mode. The two lumped battery models are identical apart from a Short Circuit node added to Cell 1. The short circuiting of cell 2 starts after 50 s.

The switching logics for the shunt resistances is set up using the Events interface.

Table 1. lists the values of the event based shunt resistances used in the model.

TABLE I: VALUE OF SHUNT RESISTANCES BASED ON THE SOC LEVELS.

VARIABLE	VALUE	INDICATOR STATE TO FIRE SHUNT
Shunt_R1	1E8 Ohms	SOC for Cell1 > 0.2
Shunt_R1	2.22E-8 Ohms	SOC for Cell1 <= 0.2
Shunt_R2	1E8 Ohms	SOC for Cell2 > 0.2
Shunt_R2	2.22E-8 Ohms	SOC for Cell2 <= 0.2

The two different variants of the model is simulated. In Study 1 the model is solved without the event-triggered shunts, whereas in Study 2 the shunts are active.

### Results and Discussion

Figure 2 shows the cell voltages for the different batteries in operation and of the voltmeter across the series connection for Study 1 (without shunts) and Study 2 (with shunts). The dashed lines show sharp dips in the respective voltages for the individual cells when the events monitoring the SOC levels are triggered, and the cells begin to discharge through the respective shunt resistors in coupled in parallel to the batteries.

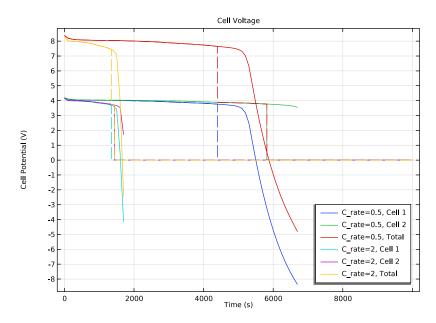


Figure 2: Cell voltages for lumped batteries and the measurement across the voltmeter. Solid lines represent the case when not using shunts, and the dashed lines the case using active shunts.

Figure 3 shows the corresponding cell currents for the two batteries. The magnitude of the current drawn from each cell at the moment the shunts are triggered depends on the C-rate.

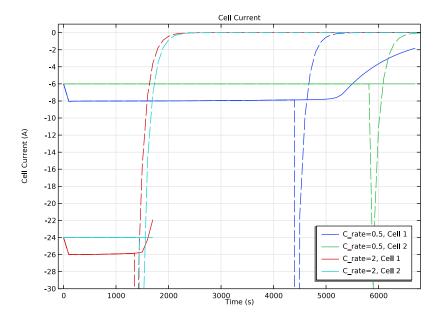


Figure 3: Cell current of the two batteries at different C-rates. Solid lines represent the case when not using shunts, and the dashed lines the case using active shunts.

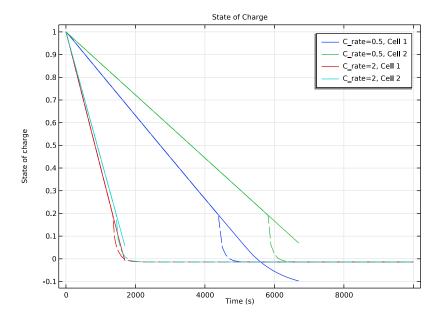


Figure 4: State-of-charge for the batteries at different C-rates. Solid lines represent the case when not using shunts, and the dashed lines the case using active shunts.

Figure 4 shows the state-of-charge for various C-rates. The plot shows that for the system managed using the shunt triggering electronics, both the batteries end up at zero equal SOCs after the discharge operation, however for system without shunt resistors, the system ends up at a situation with over-discharged and one under-utilized battery.

## Reference

1. G.L. Plett, "Battery Pack Balancing and Power Estimation: Algorithms for Battery Management Systems Specialization"; https://www.coursera.org/lecture/battery-packbalancing-power-estimation/5-1-1-welcome-to-the-course-GWDVt.

Application Library path: Battery Design Module/Batteries, General/ over\_discharge\_protection

From the File menu, choose New.

#### NEW

In the New window, click Model Wizard.

#### MODEL WIZARD

- I In the Model Wizard window, click **OD**.
- 2 In the Select Physics tree, select Electrochemistry>Batteries>Lumped Battery (lb).
- 3 Click Add.
- 4 In the Select Physics tree, select Electrochemistry>Batteries>Lumped Battery (lb).
- 5 Click Add.
- 6 In the Select Physics tree, select AC/DC>Electrical Circuit (cir).
- 7 Click Add.
- 8 Click 🔵 Study.
- 9 In the Select Study tree, select General Studies>Time Dependent.
- 10 Click Done.

#### **GLOBAL DEFINITIONS**

Add the parameter file required for setting up the physics of the **Lumped Battery** and the **Electrical Circuit** interfaces.

#### Parameters 1

- I In the Model Builder window, under Global Definitions click Parameters I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Parameters, locate the Parameters section.
- 3 Click Load from File.
- **4** Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file over\_discharge\_protection\_parameters.txt.

#### DEFINITIONS

Add a step function to define the short circuit initialization at the **Lumped Battery** at a given time.

#### Short

- I In the Home toolbar, click f(x) Functions and choose Local>Step.
- 2 In the Settings window for Step, type Short in the Label text field.

#### E OCP

Next add interpolation functions to define the SOC dependent equilibrium potential.

- I In the Home toolbar, click f(x) Functions and choose Local>Interpolation.
- 2 In the Settings window for Interpolation, type E OCP in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the **Definition** section. From the **Data source** list, choose **File**.
- 4 In the Filename text field, type over discharge protection E OCP.txt.
- 5 Click | Import.
- 6 Locate the Interpolation and Extrapolation section. From the Extrapolation list, choose Nearest function.
- 7 Locate the **Units** section. In the **Argument** table, enter the following settings:

Argument	Unit
t	1

**8** In the **Function** table, enter the following settings:

Function	Unit
intl	V

#### LUMPED BATTERY (LB)

Start setting the Lumped Battery interface below.

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl) click Lumped Battery (lb).
- 2 In the Settings window for Lumped Battery, locate the Operation Mode section.
- 3 From the Operation mode list, choose Circuit voltage source.
- 4 Locate the Battery Settings section. In the  $Q_{{
  m cell},0}$  text field, type Q\_cell0.
- **5** In the  $SOC_{cell.0}$  text field, type  $SOC_0$ .

Cell Equilibrium Potential I

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl)>Lumped Battery (lb) click Cell Equilibrium Potential 1.
- 2 In the Settings window for Cell Equilibrium Potential, locate the Open Circuit Voltage section.
- 3 From the Open circuit voltage input list, choose From definitions.
- **4** From the  $E_{\text{OCV,ref}}$  list, choose **E\_OCP** (int I).

Voltage Losses 1

- I In the Model Builder window, click Voltage Losses I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Voltage Losses, locate the Ohmic Overpotential section.
- 3 In the  $\eta_{IR,1C}$  text field, type eta\_IR\_1C.
- **4** Locate the **Activation Overpotential** section. In the  $J_0$  text field, type J0.
- **5** Locate the **Concentration Overpotential** section. Select the **Include concentration overpotential** check box.
- **6** In the  $\tau$  text field, type tau.

Short Circuit 1

- I In the Physics toolbar, click A Global and choose Short Circuit.
- 2 In the Settings window for Short Circuit, locate the Short Circuit Conductance section.
- 3 In the  $G_{\rm short}$  text field, type G\_short\*step1((t-t\_short\_start)/1[s]).

#### LUMPED BATTERY 2 (LB2)

Set up the second battery in a similar manner, except for the short circuit node.

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl) click Lumped Battery 2 (lb2).
- 2 In the Settings window for Lumped Battery, locate the Operation Mode section.
- 3 From the Operation mode list, choose Circuit voltage source.
- **4** Locate the **Battery Settings** section. In the  $Q_{\mathrm{cell},0}$  text field, type Q\_cell0.
- **5** In the  $SOC_{cell.0}$  text field, type  $SOC_0$ .

Cell Equilibrium Potential 1

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl)>Lumped Battery 2 (lb2) click Cell Equilibrium Potential I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Cell Equilibrium Potential, locate the Open Circuit Voltage section.
- 3 From the Open circuit voltage input list, choose From definitions.
- **4** From the  $E_{\rm OCV,ref}$  list, choose **E\_OCP** (int1).

Voltage Losses 1

- I In the Model Builder window, click Voltage Losses I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Voltage Losses, locate the Ohmic Overpotential section.
- **3** In the  $\eta_{IR.1C}$  text field, type eta\_IR\_1C.
- **4** Locate the **Activation Overpotential** section. In the  $J_0$  text field, type J0.

- 5 Locate the Concentration Overpotential section. Select the **Include concentration overpotential** check box.
- **6** In the  $\tau$  text field, type tau.

#### ELECTRICAL CIRCUIT (CIR)

Now move on to set the circuit through which the batteries are discharged in a 2s configuration as described below:

In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl) click Electrical Circuit (cir).

Current Source I (II)

- 2 In the Settings window for Current Source, locate the Node Connections section.
- **3** In the table, enter the following settings:

Label	Node names
n	0

**4** Locate the **Device Parameters** section. In the  $i_{\rm src}$  text field, type I\_app.

Lumped Battery I

- I In the Electrical Circuit toolbar, click External I vs. U.
- 2 In the Settings window for External I vs. U, type Lumped Battery 1 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Node Connections** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Label	Node names
Р	1
n	2

- **4** Locate the **External Device** section. From the V list, choose Electric potential on circuit (lb/vll).
- 5 Right-click Lumped Battery I and choose Duplicate.

Lumbed Battery 2

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl)>Electrical Circuit (cir) click Lumped Battery I.I (IvsU2).
- 2 In the Settings window for External I vs. U, type Lumped Battery 2 in the Label text field.

**3** Locate the **Node Connections** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Label	Node names
Р	2
n	3

4 Locate the External Device section. From the V list, choose Electric potential on circuit (lb2/vII).

Resistor I (RI)

- I In the Electrical Circuit toolbar, click Resistor.
- 2 In the Settings window for Resistor, locate the Node Connections section.
- **3** In the table, enter the following settings:

Label	Node names
P	3
n	0

**4** Locate the **Device Parameters** section. In the R text field, type 10[m[0mega]].

Volt Meter I (vm I)

- I In the Electrical Circuit toolbar, click  $\bigcirc$  Volt Meter.
- 2 In the Settings window for Volt Meter, locate the Node Connections section.
- **3** In the table, enter the following settings:

Label	Node names
P	1
n	3

#### STUDY I: WITHOUT SHUNTS

- I In the Model Builder window, click Study I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Study, type Study 1: Without Shunts in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Study Settings section. Clear the Generate default plots check box.

Step 1: Time Dependent

- I In the Model Builder window, under Study I: Without Shunts click Step I: Time Dependent.
- 2 In the Settings window for Time Dependent, locate the Study Settings section.

- 3 In the Output times text field, type range (0, 100, 10000).
- 4 Click to expand the **Study Extensions** section. Select the **Auxiliary sweep** check box.
- 5 From the Sweep type list, choose All combinations.
- 6 Click + Add.
- 7 In the table, enter the following settings:

Parameter name	Parameter value list	Parameter unit
C_rate (C-rate)	0.5 2	

#### Solution I (soll)

- I In the Study toolbar, click Show Default Solver.
- 2 In the Model Builder window, expand the Solution I (soll) node.
- 3 In the Model Builder window, expand the Study 1: Without Shunts>Solver Configurations> Solution I (soll)>Time-Dependent Solver I node.
- 4 Right-click Study I: Without Shunts>Solver Configurations>Solution I (soll)>Time-**Dependent Solver I** and choose **Stop Condition**.
- 5 In the Settings window for Stop Condition, locate the Stop Expressions section.
- 6 Click + Add.
- 7 In the table, enter the following settings:

Stop expression	Stop if	Active	Description
comp1.1b2.SOC_cell<= 0.0	True (>=1)	√ ·	Stop expression 1

8 In the Study toolbar, click **Compute**.

#### RESULTS

#### Cell Voltage

- I In the Home toolbar, click In Add Plot Group and choose ID Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for ID Plot Group, type Cell Voltage in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Data section. From the Dataset list, choose None.
- 4 Click to expand the **Title** section. From the **Title type** list, choose **Label**.
- 5 Locate the Plot Settings section.
- 6 Select the y-axis label check box. In the associated text field, type Cell Potential (V).
- 7 Locate the Legend section. From the Position list, choose Lower right.

#### Global I

- I Right-click Cell Voltage and choose Global.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the Data section.
- 3 From the Dataset list, choose Study 1: Without Shunts/Solution 1 (soll).
- 4 Click Add Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Lumped Battery>lb.E\_cell Cell potential V.
- **5** Locate the **y-Axis Data** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Expression	Unit	Description
lb.E_cell	V	Cell 1

- 6 Click Add Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Lumped Battery 2>lb2.E\_cell Cell potential V.
- 7 Locate the y-Axis Data section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Expression	Unit	Description
lb2.E_cell	V	Cell 2

- 8 Click Add Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Electrical Circuit>Measurements>cir.vml.v Voltage across Volt meter # V.
- **9** Locate the **y-Axis Data** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Expression	Unit	Description
cir.vm1.v	V	Total

- 10 Locate the x-Axis Data section. From the Axis source data list, choose Time.
- II Click to expand the Coloring and Style section. From the Color list, choose Cycle (reset).
- 12 In the Cell Voltage toolbar, click Plot.

#### Cell Voltage

In the Model Builder window, right-click Cell Voltage and choose Duplicate.

#### Cell Current

- I In the Model Builder window, under Results click Cell Voltage I.
- 2 In the Settings window for ID Plot Group, type Cell Current in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Plot Settings section. In the y-axis label text field, type Cell Current (A).
- 4 Locate the Axis section. Select the Manual axis limits check box.

- 5 In the y minimum text field, type -30.
- 6 In the y maximum text field, type 1.

#### Global I

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Cell Current node, then click Global I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the y-Axis Data section.
- 3 Click \ Clear Table.
- 4 Click Replace Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Lumped Battery>lb.I\_cell - Cell current - A.
- **5** Locate the **y-Axis Data** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Expression	Unit	Description
lb.I_cell	Α	Cell 1

- 6 Click Add Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Lumped Battery 2>lb2.I\_cell - Cell current - A.
- 7 Locate the y-Axis Data section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Expression	Unit	Description
lb2.I_cell	A	Cell 2

8 In the Cell Current toolbar, click Plot.

#### State of Charge

- I In the Home toolbar, click Add Plot Group and choose ID Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for ID Plot Group, type State of Charge in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Data section. From the Dataset list, choose None.
- 4 Locate the Title section. From the Title type list, choose Label.
- 5 Locate the Plot Settings section.
- 6 Select the y-axis label check box. In the associated text field, type State of charge.

#### Global I

- I Right-click State of Charge and choose Global.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the Data section.
- 3 From the Dataset list, choose Study 1: Without Shunts/Solution 1 (soll).
- 4 Click Add Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Lumped Battery>lb.SOC cell - Cell state of charge -I.

**5** Locate the **y-Axis Data** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Expression	Unit	Description
lb.SOC_cell	1	Cell 1

- 6 Click Add Expression in the upper-right corner of the y-Axis Data section. From the menu, choose Component I (compl)>Lumped Battery 2>lb2.SOC\_cell Cell state of charge I.
- 7 Locate the y-Axis Data section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Expression	Unit	Description
1b2.SOC_cell	1	Cell 2

- 8 Locate the Coloring and Style section. From the Color list, choose Cycle (reset).
- 9 In the State of Charge toolbar, click Plot.

The next set of instructions will modify the model to include an event based circuit, wherein the shunt resistors are plugged in or out depending on the discharge states of the batteries.

#### ADD PHYSICS

- I In the Home toolbar, click open the Add Physics window.
- 2 Go to the Add Physics window.
- 3 In the tree, select Mathematics>ODE and DAE Interfaces>Events (ev).
- 4 Click Add to Component I in the window toolbar.
- 5 In the Home toolbar, click of Add Physics to close the Add Physics window.

#### EVENTS (EV)

Discrete States 1

- I Right-click Component I (compl)>Events (ev) and choose Discrete States.
- 2 In the Settings window for Discrete States, locate the Discrete States section.
- **3** In the table, enter the following settings:

Name	Initial value (u0)	Description
Shunt_R1_on	1	
Shunt_R2_on	1	

Indicator States 1

I In the **Events** toolbar, click Indicator States.

- 2 In the Settings window for Indicator States, locate the Indicator Variables section.
- **3** In the table, enter the following settings:

Name	g(v,vt,vtt,t)	Initial value (u0)	Description
discharge_lb_1	(comp1.lb.SOC_ cell-0.2)* (Shunt_R1_on== 1)	0	Discharge through shunt R1
discharge_lb_2	<pre>(comp1.lb2.SOC _cell-0.2)* (Shunt_R2_on== 1)</pre>	0	Discharge through shunt R2

#### Implicit Event 1

- I In the Events toolbar, click | Implicit Event.
- 2 In the Settings window for Implicit Event, locate the Event Conditions section.
- 3 In the Condition text field, type discharge\_lb\_1<0.
- **4** Locate the **Reinitialization** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Variable	Expression
Shunt_R1_on	eps

5 Right-click Implicit Event I and choose Duplicate.

#### Implicit Event 2

- I In the Model Builder window, click Implicit Event 2.
- 2 In the Settings window for Implicit Event, locate the Event Conditions section.
- 3 In the Condition text field, type discharge\_1b\_2<0.
- **4** Locate the **Reinitialization** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Variable	Expression
Shunt_R2_on	eps

#### ELECTRICAL CIRCUIT (CIR)

In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl) click Electrical Circuit (cir).

#### Shunt RI

- I In the Electrical Circuit toolbar, click Resistor.
- 2 In the Settings window for Resistor, type Shunt R1 in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the **Device Parameters** section. In the R text field, type R1\*Shunt R1 on.

**4** Locate the **Node Connections** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Label	Node names
Р	1
n	2

5 Right-click Shunt RI and choose Duplicate.

#### Shunt R2

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl)>Electrical Circuit (cir) click Shunt R1.1 (R3).
- 2 In the Settings window for Resistor, type Shunt R2 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Node Connections** section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Label	Node names
P	2
n	3

**4** Locate the **Device Parameters** section. In the R text field, type R1\*Shunt R2 on.

#### ADD STUDY

- I In the Home toolbar, click Add Study to open the Add Study window.
- 2 Go to the Add Study window.
- 3 Find the Studies subsection. In the Select Study tree, select General Studies> Time Dependent.
- 4 Click Add Study in the window toolbar.
- 5 In the Home toolbar, click Add Study to close the Add Study window.

#### STUDY 2: WITH SHUNTS

- I In the Model Builder window, click Study 2.
- 2 In the Settings window for Study, type Study 2: With Shunts in the Label text field.

#### Step 1: Time Dependent

- I In the Model Builder window, under Study 2: With Shunts click Step 1: Time Dependent.
- 2 In the Settings window for Time Dependent, locate the Study Settings section.
- 3 In the Output times text field, type range (0, 100, 10000).
- 4 Locate the Study Extensions section. Select the Auxiliary sweep check box.
- 5 Click + Add.

**6** In the table, enter the following settings:

Parameter name	Parameter value list	Parameter unit
C_rate (C-rate)	0.5 2	

- 7 In the Model Builder window, click Study 2: With Shunts.
- 8 In the Settings window for Study, locate the Study Settings section.
- 9 Clear the Generate default plots check box.
- 10 In the Home toolbar, click **Compute**.

#### RESULTS

#### Cell Voltage

- I In the Model Builder window, under Results click Cell Voltage.
- 2 In the Cell Voltage toolbar, click Plot.

#### Global I

In the Model Builder window, right-click Global I and choose Duplicate.

#### Global 2

- I In the Model Builder window, click Global 2.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the Data section.
- 3 From the Dataset list, choose Study 2: With Shunts/Solution 2 (sol2).
- 4 Locate the Coloring and Style section. Find the Line style subsection. From the Line list, choose Dashed.
- **5** Click to expand the **Legends** section. Clear the **Show legends** check box.
- 6 Click the **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.
- 7 In the Cell Voltage toolbar, click Plot.

#### Global I

In the Model Builder window, under Results>Cell Current right-click Global I and choose Duplicate.

#### Global 2

- I In the Model Builder window, click Global 2.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the Data section.
- 3 From the Dataset list, choose Study 2: With Shunts/Solution 2 (sol2).

- 4 Locate the Coloring and Style section. Find the Line style subsection. From the Line list, choose Dashed.
- **5** Locate the **Legends** section. Clear the **Show legends** check box.

- I In the Model Builder window, under Results>State of Charge click Global I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the x-Axis Data section.
- 3 From the Axis source data list, choose Time.
- 4 Right-click Results>State of Charge>Global I and choose Duplicate.

#### Global 2

- I In the Model Builder window, click Global 2.
- 2 In the Settings window for Global, locate the Data section.
- 3 From the Dataset list, choose Study 2: With Shunts/Solution 2 (sol2).
- 4 Locate the Coloring and Style section. Find the Line style subsection. From the Line list, choose Dashed.
- **5** Locate the **Legends** section. Clear the **Show legends** check box.
- 6 Click the **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.
- 7 In the State of Charge toolbar, click Plot.