

SIMULATION-BASED ENERGY PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT OF Na/NiCl₂ BATTERIES COMPARED TO LI-ION BATTERIES OPERATING IN A PV HOME STORAGE SYSTEM

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1. MOTIVATION AND APPROACH

Main Objective

Energetic and economic evaluation of a PV home storage system with a Na/NiCl₂ battery (SNB) compared to a system with a Li-ion battery (LIB)

Approach

- Experimental determination of Na/NiCl₂ battery characteristics
- Annual simulations of power flow models with Modelica in Dymola
- Parameter study for performance analysis
- Economic assessment

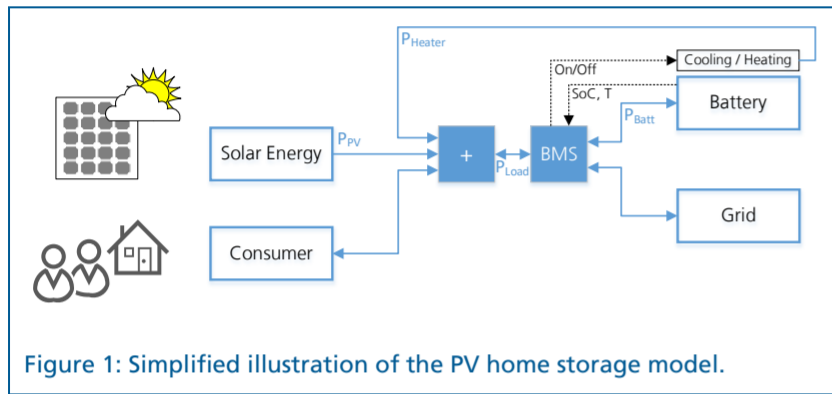


Figure 1: Simplified illustration of the PV home storage model.

3. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

Parameter study with variation of:

- PV area from 3 m² to 42 m² (0.5 to 6 kW_p)
- Daily consumer demand of approx. 5, 10 and 15 kWh/day
- Battery capacity of 5, 10 and 15 kWh

Energetic evaluation based on system parameters such as self-sufficiency, self-consumption rate, battery module efficiency, battery utilization, number of equivalent charge/discharge cycles and idle times, i.e.:

$$\text{Self-consumption rate } SCR = \frac{E_{\text{Consumer, PV+Batt}}}{E_{\text{PV}}} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Battery utilization } \zeta_{\text{Charge}} = \frac{E_{\text{Charge}}}{E_{\text{PV}}} \quad (2)$$

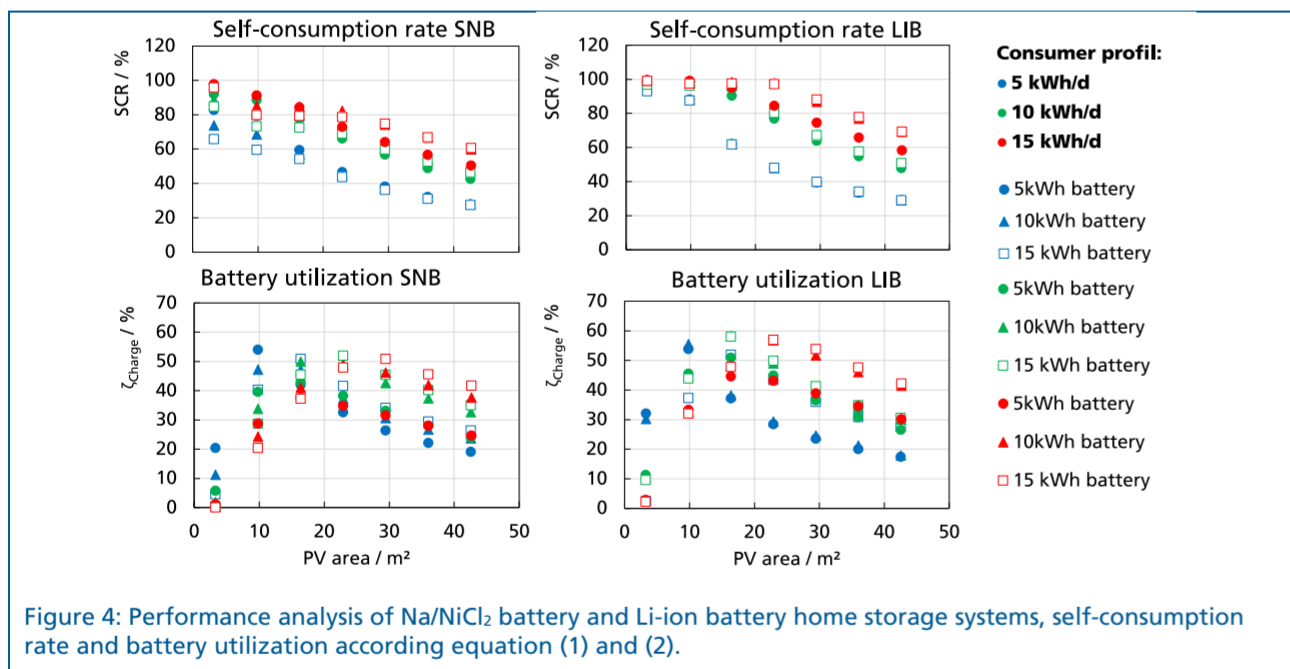


Figure 4: Performance analysis of Na/NiCl₂ battery and Li-ion battery home storage systems, self-consumption rate and battery utilization according equation (1) and (2).

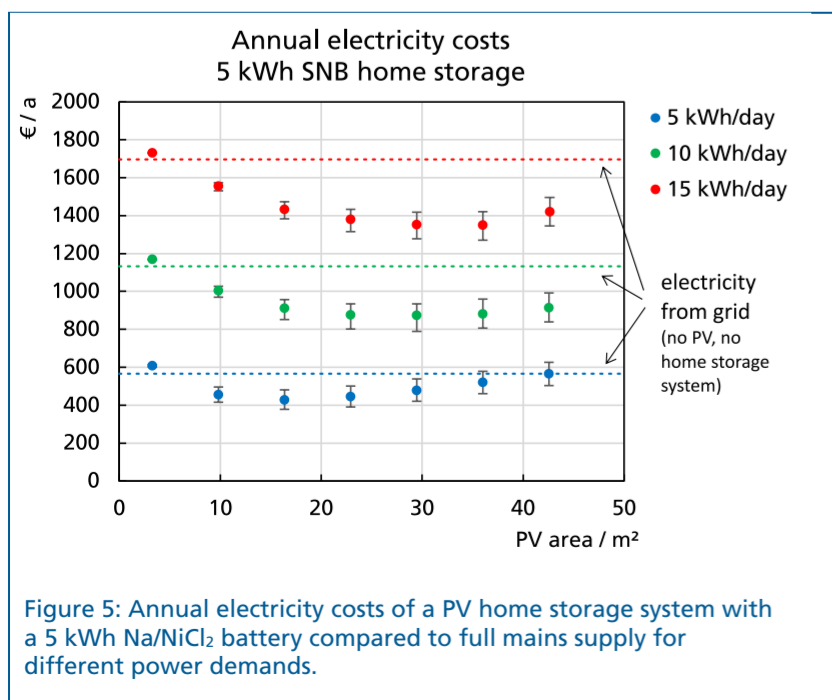


Figure 5: Annual electricity costs of a PV home storage system with a 5 kWh Na/NiCl₂ battery compared to full mains supply for different power demands.

Na/NiCl₂ battery model

Phenomenological thermo-electric model of Na/NiCl₂ battery, parametrization based on experimental and literature data, i.e.

- Charging/discharging rate limitations depending on state of charge (SOC)
- Self-heating depending on discharging rate
- Heat capacity
- Heat loss depending on battery temperature

Li-ion battery model

Simplified electric model with small constant cooling power demand, parametrization according to data sheets of currently available home storage systems [1][2], i.e.

- Round trip efficiency
- Maximum charging/discharging rates depending on SOC

PV home storage model

Power flow model consisting of

- PV power input
- Consumer demand input
- Battery model
- Grid power output
- Controller unit

Input data are standardized, synthetic consumer demand profiles and PV production profiles generated based on the VDI 4655 Sheet 1 [3] standard.

Table 1: Model parameters.

Parameter	Na/NiCl ₂ battery	Li-ion battery
Usable capacity	80 %	95 %
Maximum charging rate	$r_{ch,max} = f(SOC)$	$r_{ch,max} = f(SOC)$
Maximum discharging rate	0.3 C	0.5 C
Round trip efficiency (el.)	≈ 88 % (internally calculated depending on self-heating)	95 %
Heating / Cooling system	≈ 12 W / kWh Temperature controlled heater power	1.2 W / kWh Constant cooling power

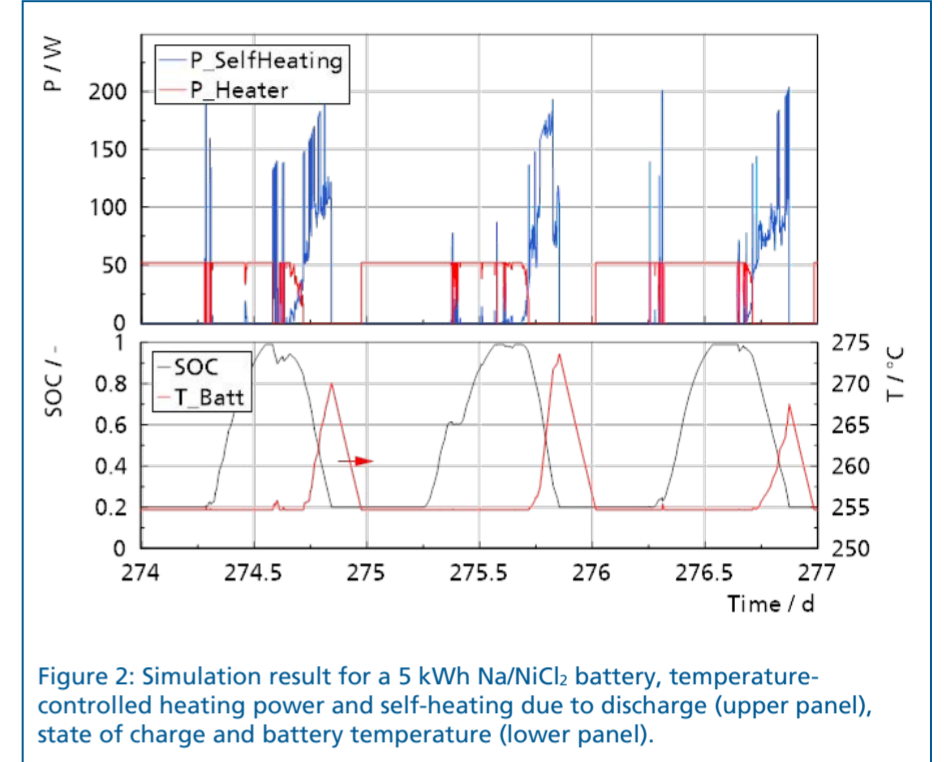


Figure 2: Simulation result for a 5 kWh Na/NiCl₂ battery, temperature-controlled heating power and self-heating due to discharge (upper panel), state of charge and battery temperature (lower panel).

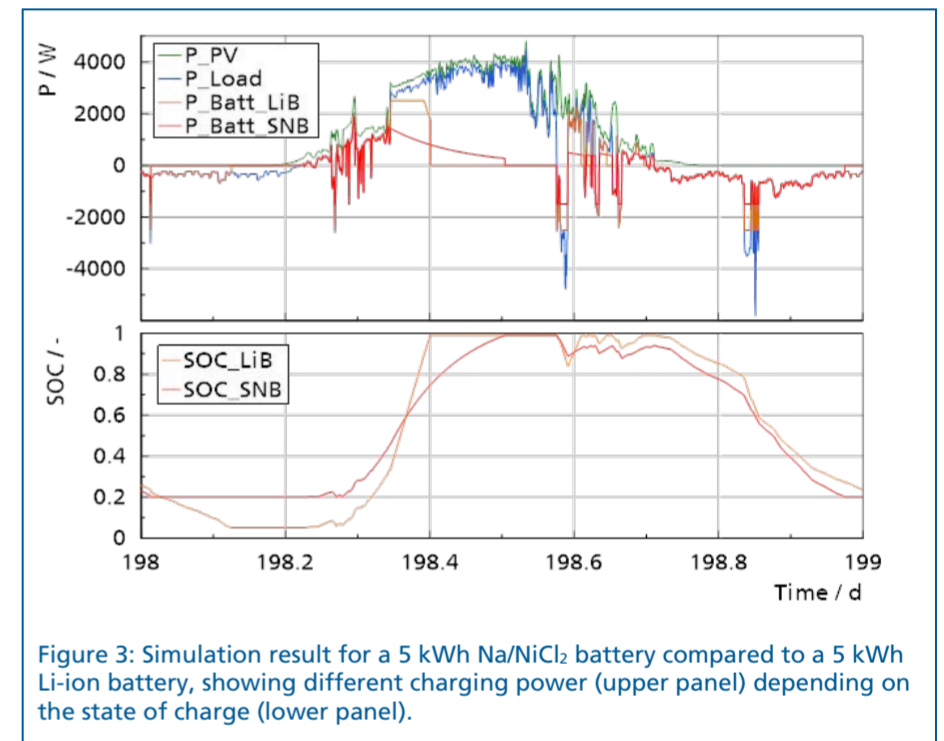


Figure 3: Simulation result for a 5 kWh Na/NiCl₂ battery compared to a 5 kWh Li-ion battery, showing different charging power (upper panel) depending on the state of charge (lower panel).

4. COST ASSESSMENT

Comparison of annual electricity costs for home storage systems with SNB and LIB based on simulation results for all configuration of the parameter study

Cost assumptions according to literature data

Table 2: Basic electricity cost calculation assumptions

Electricity costs (mains supply)	31 ct./kWh
PV electricity production cost	8 ct./kWh
Feed-in remuneration	10 ct./kWh
LCOS Na/NiCl ₂	CAPEX 100–400 € / kWh Lifetime 15 years LCOS 3.5–14.0 ct./kWh
LCOS Li-ion	CAPEX 700–1000 € / kWh Lifetime 10–15 years LCOS 20.5–39.0 ct./kWh

Calculation of Levelized Cost of Storage (LCOS)

$$LCOS = \frac{CAPEX + O\&M \cdot \sum_{y=1}^Y \frac{1}{(1+r)^y} - \frac{V_{\text{Residual}}}{(1+r)^Y}}{N \cdot DOD \cdot C_{\text{rated}} \cdot \sum_{y=1}^Y \frac{1 - DEG \cdot n}{(1+r)^y}} + \frac{P_{\text{elec-in}}}{\eta(DOD)}$$

CAPEX	Investment costs
N	full charging/discharging cycles per year
DOD	Depth of discharge
C _{rated}	Rated capacity
DEG	Annual degradation rate
Y	Project lifetime in years
r	Discount rate
O&M	Operation and maintenance costs
V _{Residual}	Residual value (after project lifetime)
P _{elec-in}	Charging electricity costs
η(DOD)	Round trip efficiency at DOD

5. SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

- Na/NiCl₂ battery and Li-ion battery technology was investigated in the application of a PV home storage system by annual simulations
- Na/NiCl₂ batteries are economically viable for home storage applications compared to Li-ion batteries at current prices
- Li-ion battery shows a slightly better energetic performance due to higher charge/discharge rates and no heating demand
- A holistic comparison requires the consideration of degradation rates and security issues where Na/NiCl₂ batteries are more favorable
- In future work degradation characteristics should be integrated in the battery models and effects on overall costs need to be investigated

REFERENCES

- <https://www.pv-magazine.de/marktuebersichten/batteriespeicher/speicher-2020>
- <https://batterytestcentre.com.au/batteries/>
- VDI 6455 Sheet 1: Reference load profiles of residential buildings for power, heat and domestic hot water as well reference generation profiles for photovoltaic plants, VDI-Gesellschaft Energie und Umwelt, 2019