



# The Demands, Lubricant Challenges and Future Impact of Electric Vehicles (EV)

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How far have we come in a century?  
And how far will we come in the next  
20 years?



<https://blog.qad.com/2017/01/henry-ford/>



<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/elon-musk-telling-customers-unusual-235150180.html>



<https://giphy.com/gifs/telephone-zhGzsDdPpXgDS>



<https://giphy.com/gifs/voice-selfie-blonde-hair-dont-care-life-41t8ooqOaK1eE/>

# Today's Discussion



The EV Race

Factors affecting EV inception rates

Current and projected EV inventory & Sales

New lubricant challenges

- Noise reduction & friction reduction

- Thermal transfer

- Copper and electrical influences

- Elastomer and new material compatibility

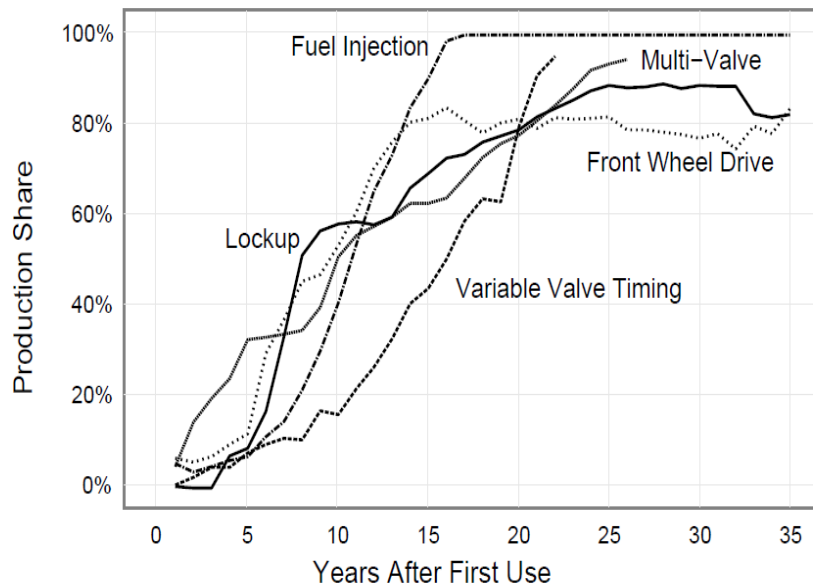
- Fill for life capability

Future Impact on lubricants and base oils

# The Next 20 years



Industry-Wide Car Technology Penetration After First Significant Use



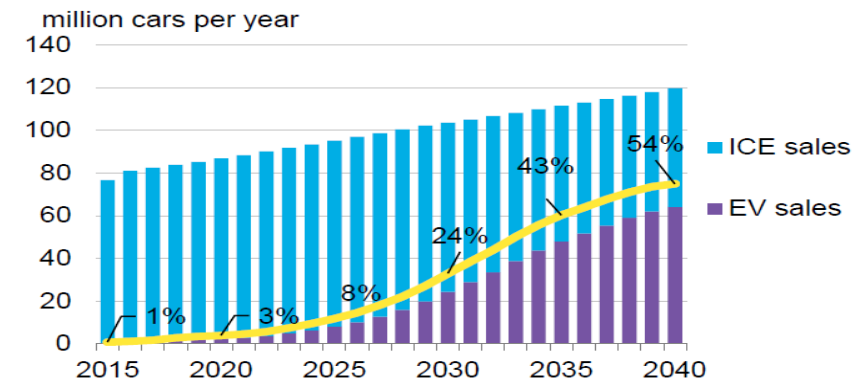
Edward P. Becker, P.E., Ph.D. Friction & Wear Solutions, LLC

- By 2040, >50% of new car sales will be electric, and 33% of the global fleet will be electric

-Hybrid technology will serve as bridge to full BEV

Battery electric vehicles (BEV) will reach cost parity with ICE vehicles by 2025, and PHEV/HEV will likely start to phase out























































Figure 1: Annual global light duty vehicle sales



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance

# The EV Race

**Top 25 Automakers by Market Cap**

Rank	Company	Mkt Cap (USD \$B)	Change (USD \$B)	Chg %	Symbol	Price/Share	Country
1	 <b>Tesla</b> 	400.52	4.22	1.07%	TSLA	429.83 USD	 <b>USA</b>
2	 Toyota	185.96	0.62	0.33%	TM	132.87 USD	 Japan
3	 Volkswagen	84.17	-0.97	-1.14%	VOW.DE	147.00 EUR	 Germany
4	 Daimler	61.41	-0.34	-0.55%	DAI.DE	48.82 EUR	 Germany
5	 BMW	49.89	-0.02	-0.03%	BMW.DE	65.72 EUR	 Germany
6	 BYD	47.98	2.69	5.94%	1211.HK	128.40 HKD	 China
7	 General Motors	46.31	1.04	2.31%	GM	32.36 USD	 USA
8	 Ferrari	45.10	-0.55	-1.20%	RACE	181.20 USD	 Italy
9	 Honda	42.62	-0.19	-0.44%	HMC	24.71 USD	 Japan
10	 Hyundai	35.93	-0.50	-1.37%	005380.KS	180,500 KRW	 South Korea
11	 SAIC*	32.92	-	-	600104.SS	19.13 CNY	 China
12	 Maruti Suzuki	29.12	0.09	0.30%	MARUTI.NS	7,068.15 INR	 India
13	 Ford	29.08	0.28	0.97%	F	7.31 USD	 USA
14	 NIO 	26.24	-0.11	-0.42%	NIO	21.46 USD	 China
15	 Fiat Chrysler	25.54	0.04	0.16%	FCAU	12.62 USD	  Italy/USA
16	 Suzuki	22.10	-	-	SZKMF	45.29 USD	 Japan
17	 Geely	19.75	0.13	0.65%	0175.HK	15.60 HKD	 China
18	 Groupe PSA	16.52	0.06	0.38%	UG.PA	15.84 EUR	 France
19	 Subaru	15.15	-0.31	-1.98%	FUJHY	9.89 USD	 Japan
20	 Xpeng 	14.97	-0.33	-2.18%	XPEV	19.76 USD	 China
21	 Nissan	14.33	-0.18	-1.22%	NSANY	7.27 USD	 Japan
22	 Mahindra	10.77	0.06	0.54%	M&M.NS	635.00 INR	 India
23	 Nikola	9.38	-0.36	-3.73%	NKLA	24.76 USD	 USA
24	 Changan	8.23	0.02	0.30%	000625.SZ	13.43 CNY	 China
25	 FAW	8.20	-0.09	-1.06%	000800.SZ	12.08 CNY	 China

Googledocs.com as of 10/8/2020



# Nikola Badger Truck



- Hybrid battery-electric/hydrogen fuel-cell powertrain
- 600 mile range
- Production starting 2022

# Rivian R1T, off-road pickup



- R1T scheduled release date in 2021
- Highest end model will have 400 mile range, mid-range goes 0-60 in 3.0 seconds
- First OEM to offer 4 electric motors (1 for each wheel), for true torque vectoring

# NIO – ES6



- Chinese-based
- In it's Chinese form, the name NIO translates to "Blue Skies Coming"
- Part of sales plan includes installing home charging station with purchase of vehicle
- Currently there are no plans to sell NIO vehicles in the USA



# XPENG Motors



- Headquartered in Guangzhou, China
- Base price \$33,391 for the long range model - up to 349 miles
- No intentions of selling in US at this time

# Lordstown Endurance



- Purchased the former GM Lordstown plant
- Recently merged with acquisition company and plans to go public
- Target production date January 2021

# Lucid Air



- Long-range luxury vehicle
- Produced in California beginning late 2020
- The Lucid Air will offer the capability to charge at rates of up to 20 miles per minute when connected to a DC Fast Charging network
- To date will be the only electric vehicle able to achieve ¼ mile in under 10 seconds
- Price range \$80,000 - \$160,000

# Fisker Ocean Crossover SUV



- Ocean SUV starting price \$37,500, with 250-300 mile range.
- Debuting 2022
- 3 additional Fisker vehicles to be rolled out by 2025



# Faraday Future FF 91



- FF91 Sedan designed for the luxury market, priced in \$250,000 range

Filed bankruptcy December 2019



# Byton mid-sized SUV



- Chinese-based startup
- Starting price of \$45,000 and at least 224 mile range. Release date 2021
- Includes curved 48-inch dash screen

# Nissan Leaf



- 100% electric up to 226 mile range
- Starting price around \$32,000

# Jaguar I-Pace



- Starting price \$70,000, released 2019
- 234 mile range

# Volvo XC40 Recharge

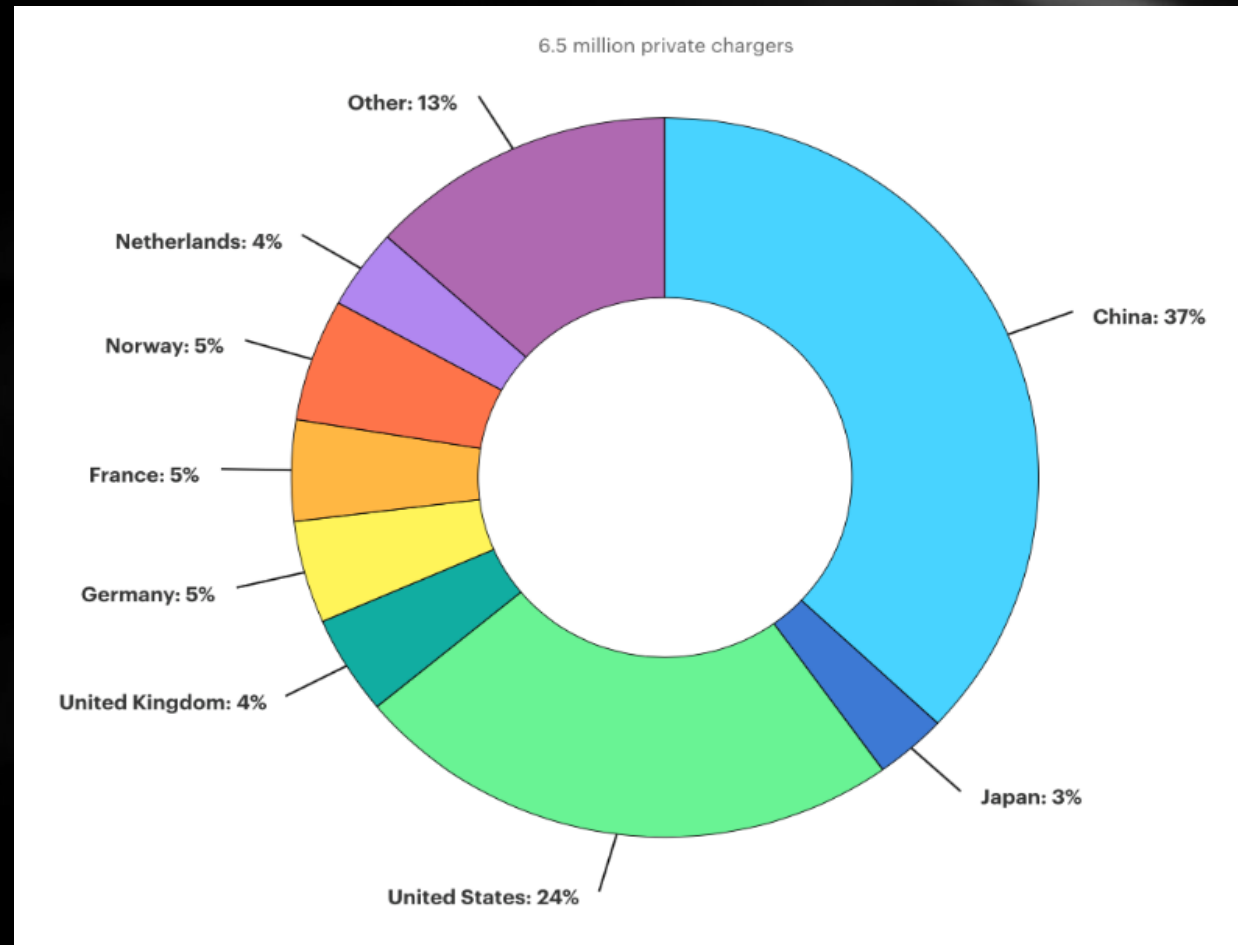


- 200 mile range
- \$50,000 est starting price
- Release date late 2020



# Factors affecting EV Inception rates – Range Anxiety

- Overcoming Range Anxiety (fear of not having access to high-speed charging stations)
- Improvements to Battery technology
  - charging rates, charging infrastructure, storage capacity,
- There has been a 60% increase in public charging stations worldwide. > 80% of public fast charging stations are in China as of 2019. U.S. is 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5%

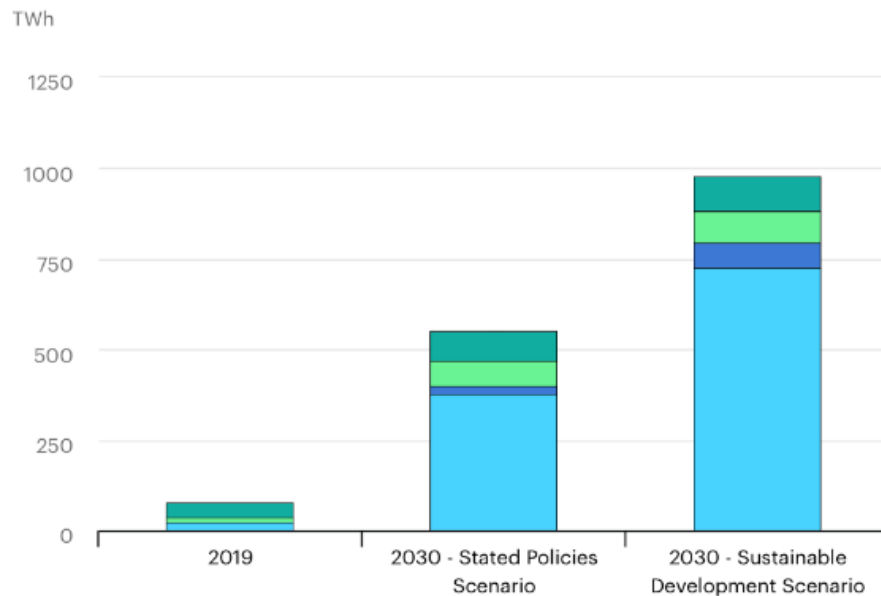




# Factors affecting EV Inception rates – Electricity demand

Electricity demand from the electric vehicle fleet by mode, 2019 and 2030

Open 



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● LDV ● Truck ● Bus ● Two/three-wheeler

- Electrical grid development is underway
- Under the currently stated policies Scenario, global EV battery capacity increases from  $\approx 170$  GWh per year today to 1.5 TWh per year in 2030, and 1,800 TWh by 2040
- In the Sustainable Development Scenario, demand of 3TWh is projected by 2030.
- Ambitious wind energy projects to reduce overall carbon footprint of converting to EVs.

# Tesla's Supercharger Network



# Factors affecting EV Inception rates – Cost & Government Incentives/Mandates

- Cost
  - Overall improvements to battery value chain
    - Battery pack costs are down 80% from 2010 to 2019 (from \$1100 to \$156 per kWh)
  - Next generation batteries will be released within 5-10 years
- Government initiatives, mandates, incentives
  - Norway 17,000 EUR subsidies for consumers who opt for EVs
  - China – bans on 2-wheeled ICE in some cities, today 60% of global EV sales are covered by China's New Energy vehicle mandate.
  - Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, India, and New Zealand are adding policies to support EV transition
  - Governor Newsom's newest mandate – California to ban new ICE vehicle sales beginning 2035
  - Governments are reviewing lost fuel tax revenues and looking at taxing based on vehicle activity
- Paris 30@30 Treaty

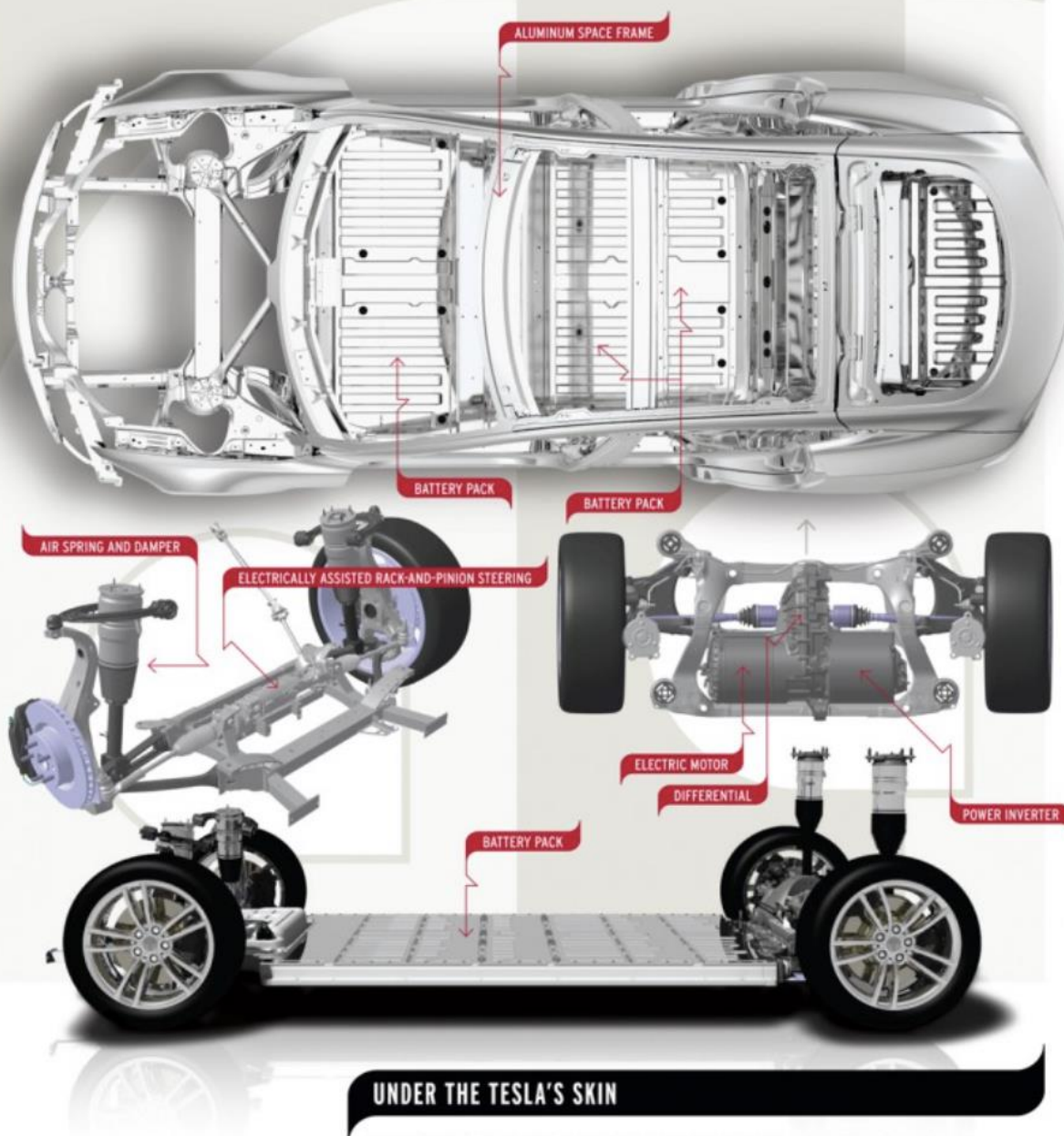






## Fluids in an Electric Vehicle

- Gearbox fluid (ATF)- 12 years or 150,000 miles
- Brake fluid, replace every 2 years or 24,000 miles
- Shock absorber hydraulic fluids
- Chassis, bearing, door lock greases
- Battery coolant - mixture of G-48 ethylene-glycol coolant (HOAT)
- A/C system oils
- Windshield washer fluid



### UNDER THE TESLA'S SKIN

The Model S's spacious five-plus-two-passenger cabin is enabled by its compact propulsion system and clever component layout. The AC drive motor, power-inverter circuits, and final-drive differential are contained within compact housings supported by a rubber-isolated rear subframe. More than 7000 cylindrical battery cells are vertically oriented inside a large aluminum box that also serves as the body structure's floor. Liquid cooling circuits keep the driveline and battery pack within desired temperature limits during strenuous driving. A rigidly attached front crossmember supports the suspension system's lower control arms and the power rack-and-pinion steering gear. An aluminum space frame—augmented by high-strength steel B-pillars and bumper beams—supports the above components as well as the formed-aluminum body panels.



# E-Fluid Technology Trends

- Friction Requirements, with increasing focus on NVH (Noise, Vibration, and Harshness)
- Thermal management of high-speed gears
- Increased voltage around the fluid, and presence of copper and power electronics
- New elastomer technology
- High Speeds
- Low viscosity fluids
- Fill for life

# Noise Reduction



- No humming motor to hide vibration noises
  - EV motors turn at speeds up to 25,000 rpm
  - There will continue to be a drive to higher speed motors to improve efficiency
- Noise, Vibration, and Harshness (NVH) as well as Buzz, Squeak, and Rattle (BSR)
  - → both become annoyances
- Noises in the cabin create perception of low quality and can affect driver comfort
- Noise can also affect increasingly used safety sensors
  - → Proper lubricant choices can make the vehicle safer
- Specifications for noise performance of lubricants in EVs are not yet standardized

# Friction Reduction

- Low viscosity lubricants and greases will be used to improve vehicle range
  - Film strength and film thickness are reduced by lower viscosity fluids
  - → Reduced film thickness increases operating temp and thereby reduces the calculated fatigue life of bearings
- Bearings become a key focus for EVs
  - Power dense, fuel-efficient bearing solutions being developed for
    - weight reduction, lower bearing operating temperatures, improved powertrain efficiency
  - New bearing solutions can also reduce NVH by eliminating the clearance in the bearings and preventing the backlash motion when going from drive to coast conditions encountered during regeneration
  - High precision bearings and surface coatings on bearings are also being developed to reduce bearing fatigue, temperature, noise and friction

*(Chris Marks, Senior Engineering Specialist, Timken)*



Figure 1. Bearings for electric vehicles. (Figure courtesy of Schaeffler.)



Figure 2. Needle bearing for electric vehicles. (Figure courtesy of Schaeffler.)

# Increased focus on Fluid Thermal Properties

## 4 factors in fluid heat transfer



**Lubrizol**



## Fluid Heat Transfer Basics

### Factors in Order of Importance

#### 1. Dynamic viscosity ( $\mu$ ) cP

- How easily a substance can flow
- Can be lowered as long as hardware protected

#### 2. Density ( $\rho$ ) g/ml

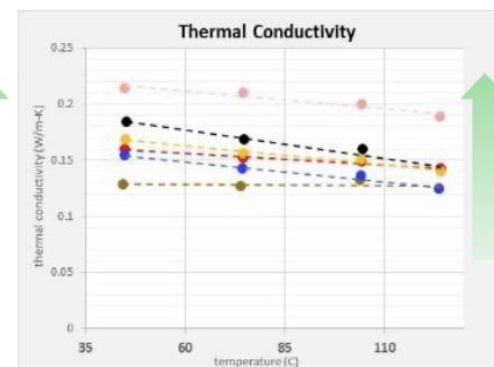
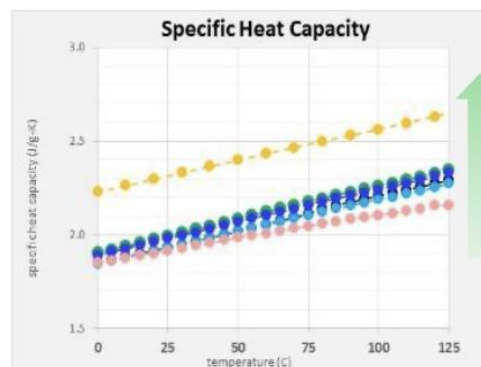
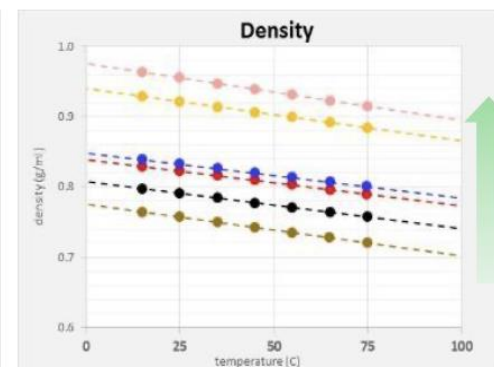
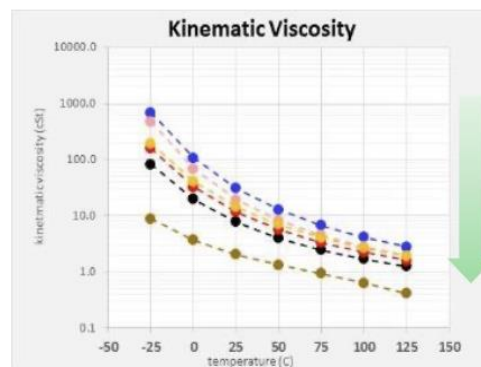
- How much substance in a given volume
- Some ability to increase

#### 3. Specific Heat Capacity (C) J/(g\*K)

- How much heat a substance can store
- Similar for hydrocarbon oils

#### 4. Thermal Conductivity (K) W/(m\*K)

- How easily heat travels through a substance
- Similar for hydrocarbon oils



# Affects of lubricating fluid on heat transfer

- Heat dissipation from electric motors, heat transfer capacity becomes more important - specific heat comparisons gain relevance
- Fluid Prandtl number (fluid thermal capacity) is studied
- Lowering lubricant viscosity has the biggest impact
- Static vs Dynamic heat transfer
  - push for engineering hardware improvements

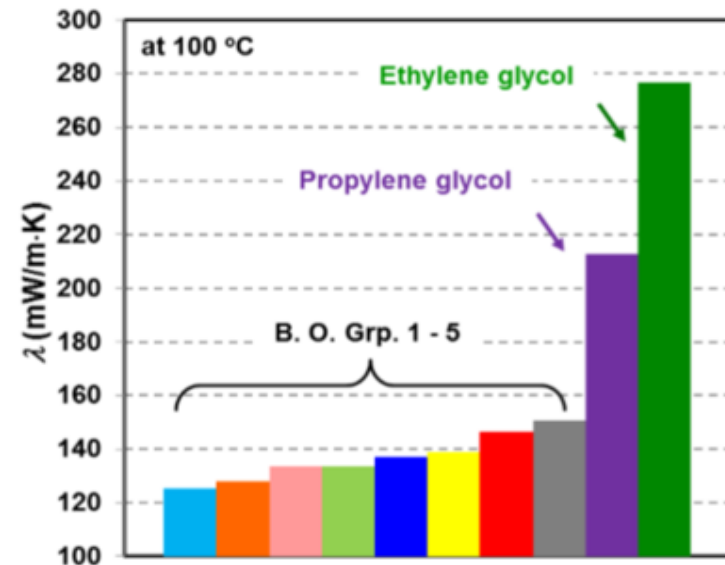
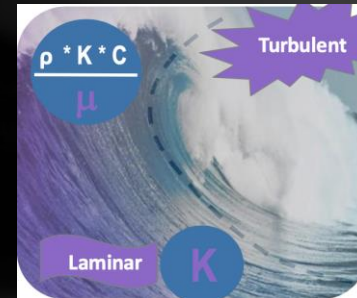


Figure 1. Thermal conductivity ( $\lambda$ ) of a few representative BOs with ethylene glycol and propylene glycol. All BOs here, other than EG and PG, have KV100 within  $4 \pm 0.4$  cSt.

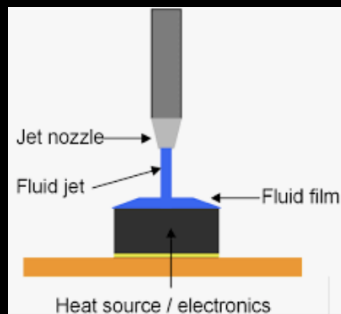


# Affects of lubricating fluid on heat transfer

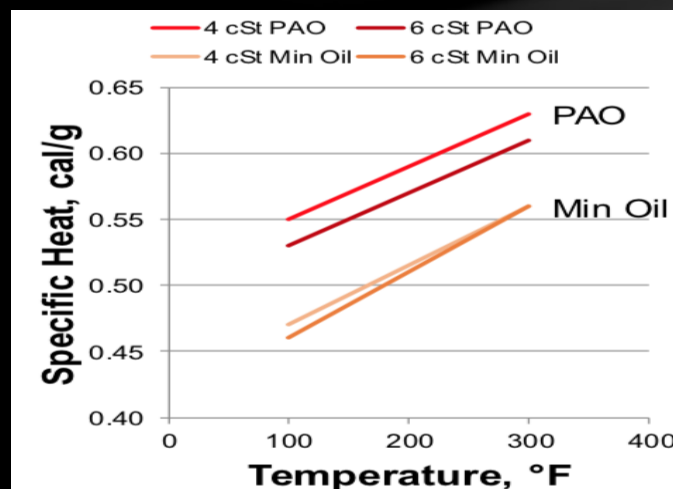
Very limited data available in the literature

Oils	Thermal Conductivity, $W/m^{\circ}K$	Specific Heat, $Cal/g^{\circ}C$
Group I		
Group II	0.130	0.506
Group III		
Group IV (PAO 6cSt)	0.132	0.548
<b>Group V</b>		
<u>Diester</u>	0.149	0.513
PAG	0.156	0.508
Phosphate Esters	0.128	0.509
Silicone (Dimethyl)	0.150	
Ethylene Glycol	0.258	

Tribology Data Handbook, Ed. E.R. Booser, STLE



Liquid jet impingement



- Use of nanoparticles to improve thermal transfer
- Solution will be a combination of the lubricant along with the hardware.
- Increasing volumetric flow rate through
  - Engineered Turbulence
  - Forced Convection
  - Liquid jet impingement
- ***Lubricant formulators and hardware engineers will need to work in tandem with each other***

# Electrical and Copper Influences



- Copper corrosion tests become more critical in EV applications
  - The impact of additives and base fluids on corrosion are still being studied
- Coatings developed to prevent electrical discharge through the bearing
- Ensure that EV lubricant do not corrode copper components
  - → existing powertrain lubricants are corrosive on copper and will need reformulation
- Examples of copper corrosion tests
  - Copper strip test
  - WCT – measure changes to resistance in both liquid and vapor phase under heated conditions
  - Long-term influence of magnetic fields with lubrication

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## Liquid & Vapour Phase Corrosion

Corrosion poor  
reference fluid

Picture of  
copper strip  
removed from  
fluid end of test

e-fluid

Picture of  
copper strip  
removed from  
fluid end of test

80 °C, 168 h

**e-fluid protection against liquid and vapour phase corrosion**

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## Wire Corrosion Test (WCT): Vapour & Liquid Phase

**e-Fluid Result, 150 °C Test**

Electrical current source (DC)

Test wire suspended above lubricant (in vapour phase)

Bare copper test wire suspended in lubricant in vessel  
Test lubricant in test-cell, heated

**No corrosion, no change in copper wire electrical resistance in or out of the e-fluid**

© The Lubrizol Corporation

- Driving range is improved with lower vehicle weight
  - Compatibility with new materials
    - High-performance thermoplastic-polyetheretherketone (PEEK) replaces metal bearing parts with thrust bearings to save weight
    - Polyphenylenesulfides & polyamides increasingly used to save weight
  - Lightweight material must deliver mechanical and electrical performance for the life of the vehicle
  - E-Lubricants should not alter tensile strength of the material over the life of the vehicle
  - Compatibility with noise and friction reduction coatings needs consideration
- Lubrizol**

## Engineering Plastic Aging

Temperature changes the material mechanical properties → Different materials vary in response to different fluids → Chemical reactions in oil due to thermal and oxidative aging → sludge and acid → High temperature testing with fluid required 150 °C 1000 h

Polyphenylenesulfide (PPS GF-40)

\*c1ccc(cc1)S\*

Polyamide (PA66 GF-35)

\*C(=O)CCCCC(=O)NCCCCCNC\*



# Fill for life

- Electric motor bearing greases 3 primary functions –
  - minimize friction and wear
  - seal the motor from contaminants
  - protect bearings against corrosion
- High dropping point needed for greases due to high temps in electric motor bearing operations
  - --> push for higher speeds and higher efficiency
  - Shear stability of urea greases gives them an advantage, likely will see more urea greases used in e-lubricants
  - Synthetics and PAOs used for longer life





# Challenges for Lubricating EV's - Summary

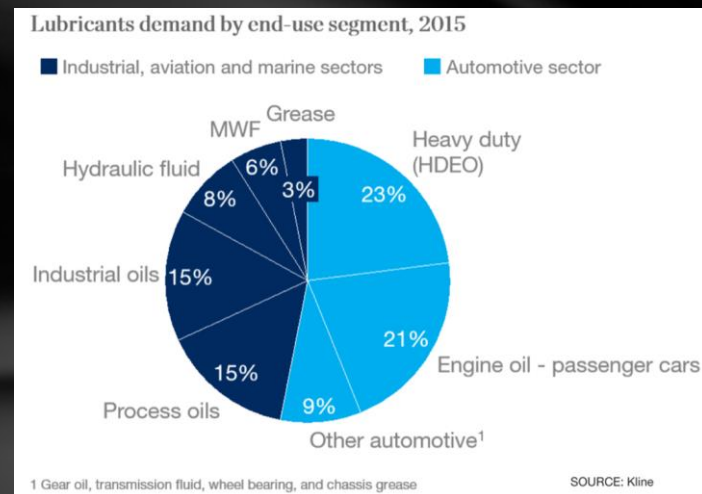
- Friction and noise , improvements to NVH
- Thermal capacity of the fluid and opportunities for hardware engineering advances
- Compatibility with copper influences
- Elastomer and new engineering plastics compatibility
- Fill for life capability
- Max gearbox torque at low speed



# Effect on Base Oils, Lubricants and Lubricant Type



- 2030 is the tipping point
- Engine lubricant demand expected to plateau/decline beyond 2030, PCMO blenders may be in search of alternate ways to fill capacities
- Basic wheel bearing and chassis grease requirements remain unchanged with push for lower friction
- Electric motor grease demand will rise, and there will be more opportunities for longer-life synthetic greases designed for EV's. Grease manufacturers are fairly well-positioned for inception of EVs.
- Lubricant diet will change, requiring less use of Solvent Refined GP I Technology, more use of GP III's, PAOs and synthetic base stocks in EV gearbox applications
- Challenge will be to balance tomorrow's base oil demands with today's capacities → additional rationalization or upgrades of lower quality base stock refiners will eventually occur.
- Process oil and electrical transformer oil demands will continue to increase, boding well for naphthenic refiners
- DIY market will continue to deteriorate → consumer can only add windshield washer fluid a full BEV



# Other Industry Challenges / Food for Thought

- Changing consumer behavior due to autonomous vehicles / ride sharing / Waymo / car summoning and ownership sharing. 80% of autonomous vehicles in shared applications will be electric by 2040 due to lower operating costs
- Does Covid-19 have a long-term impact of accelerating autonomous driving?
- Infrastructure to support adequate charging & fast charging stations for growth of EVs
- Lithium replacements such as graphene that will revolutionize recharging time
- Disruption of oil supply
- Electrical grid developments to support increased demands from EVs
- disposal/recycling of lithium
- alternate technologies - fuels cell technology and fuel recycling
- What vehicle will today's teenagers want to purchase when they graduate from college? Do they even want a vehicle?
- The "Sheep Herding Effect"



[https://www.google.com/search?biw=944&bih=528&tbn=sch&sa=1&ei=ZDZIXbG4WAsQXlm7CIAQ&q=GIF+of+jetsons+in+a+car&oq=GIF+of+jetsons+in+a+car&gs\\_l=img:3...11014,11935,12047...0.0.0.67,418,7.....0...1\\_gws-wiz-img:5E8gb55pelA&ved=0ahUKEwi74dJmqPKAhUFQKwKHcgNDBEQ4dUDCAy&uact=5#imgsrc=aTe\\_JZRjNeN2kM:&spf=1566924159948](https://www.google.com/search?biw=944&bih=528&tbn=sch&sa=1&ei=ZDZIXbG4WAsQXlm7CIAQ&q=GIF+of+jetsons+in+a+car&oq=GIF+of+jetsons+in+a+car&gs_l=img:3...11014,11935,12047...0.0.0.67,418,7.....0...1_gws-wiz-img:5E8gb55pelA&ved=0ahUKEwi74dJmqPKAhUFQKwKHcgNDBEQ4dUDCAy&uact=5#imgsrc=aTe_JZRjNeN2kM:&spf=1566924159948)

# QUESTIONS?



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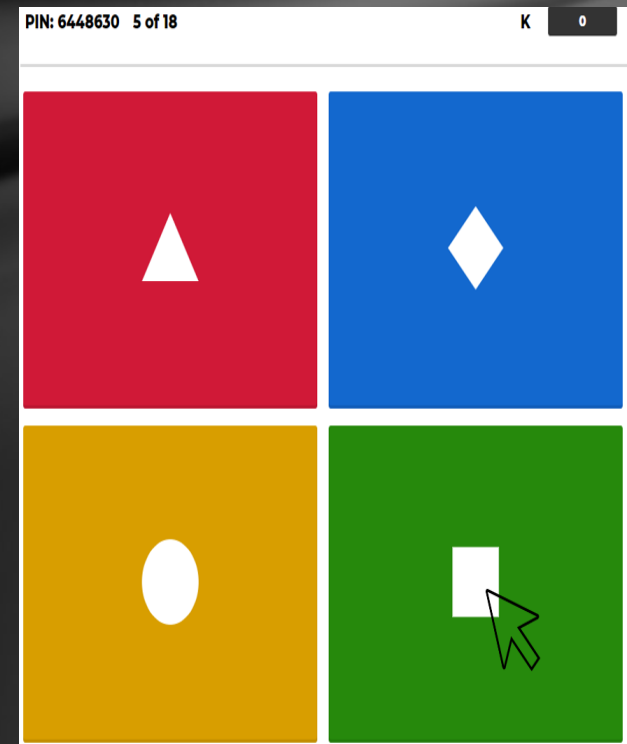
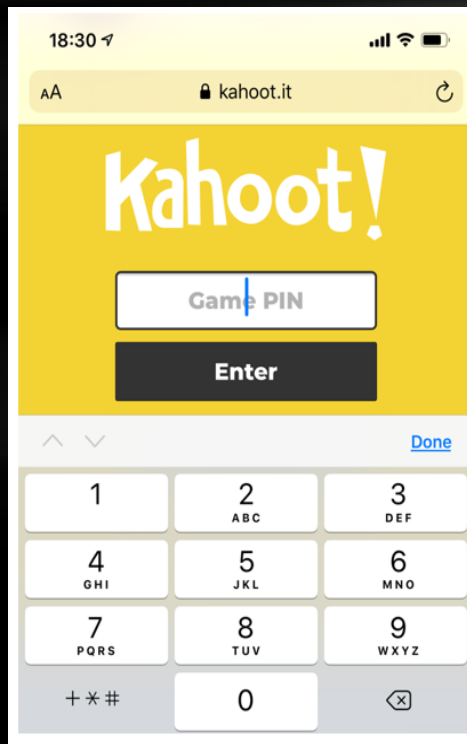
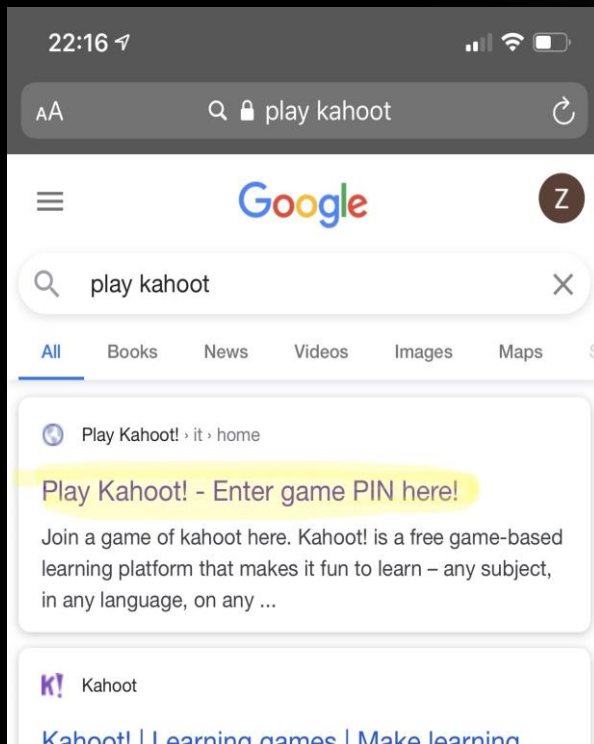
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