

Impulse, volume 16  
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Friends and Colleagues,

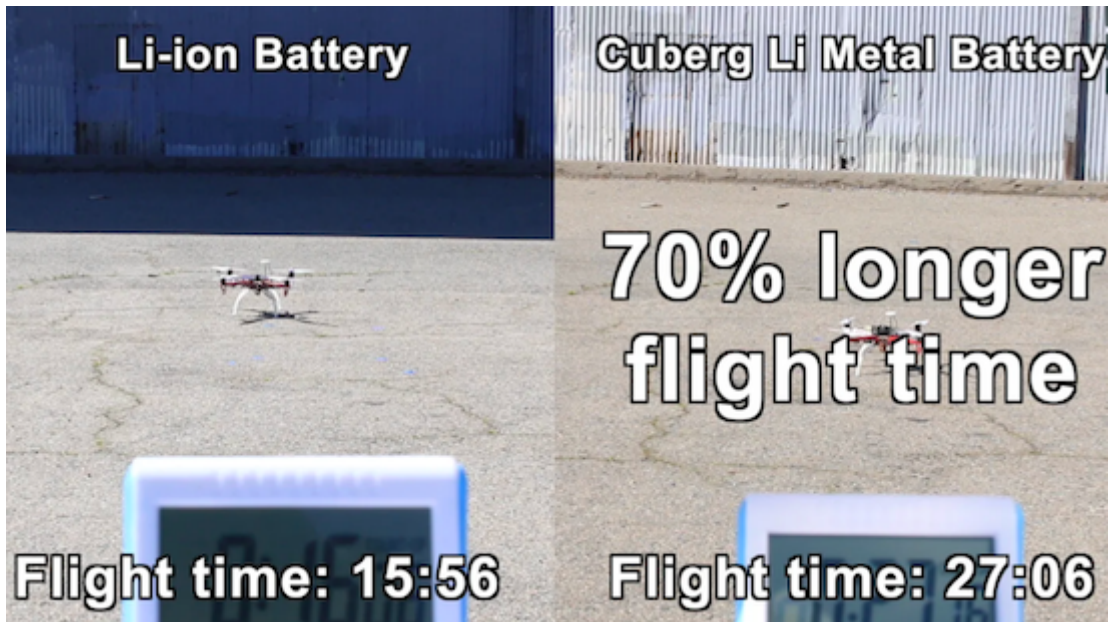
We always love seeing our fellows' products take off. In the case of Richard Wang's startup Cuberg (Cohort Two), a lithium-metal battery literally took flight—and stayed aloft for far longer than the competition. You can read more about this pioneering demo, and where Cuberg is headed next, in our feature story below.

Our last newsletter highlighted a hiring surge among fellow-led startups, and below you'll see that many of our fellows have had recent success raising funding. These infusions of resources likely mean more opportunities are to come, and you can always [check here for the latest openings](#).

Right now, we are counting the days until Cohort Five fellows arrive here at Cyclotron Road. Details on that are coming soon! Interested in vying for a spot in Cohort Six? If you're in the Bay Area, join us for happy hour on April 18 (scroll down to the calendar for details).

Onward,  
The Cyclotron Road team

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Cohort Two alumnus Richard Wang recently scored a big performance win with his startup Cuberg's lithium-metal battery. In a face-off, a drone powered by Cuberg's battery [bested a drone with a lithium-ion battery](#), flying for a whopping 70 percent longer. It's a great validation of Richard's work, and of [Cuberg's](#) energy-dense, high-performance electrolyte chemistry.

[As Popular Mechanics notes](#) in its coverage of the flight test, Boeing considers Cuberg's product a "fundamental leap" in battery technology.

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## ***New and noteworthy ...***

### **An uptick in funding for alumni-led startups:**

- Cohort One fellow Raymond Weitekamp's 3D printing startup [polySpectra](#), which promises to unlock additive manufacturing for engineering-grade parts and products, has raised a [\\$7 million seed round](#), led by Prime Movers Lab, with Prelude and Congruent.
- Solar technology investment has slowed in recent years, but [as Greentech Media reports](#), [Tandem PV's](#) recent \$2.4 million seed round shows that promising innovation is still attracting funds.

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Mallinda makes high-performance, lightweight composite materials that can be efficiently recycled back to monomer in solution.

- The [U.S. Army's xTechSearch](#), awarded Spark Thermionics \$120,000 and a pass to the next phase of the competition. Spark, founded by Cohort One fellow Jared Schwede, makes thermionic energy converters.

### A cell-free future, and other perspectives:

- "I believe in cell-free biology because it is fundamental to our future," writes Cohort One fellow Zachary Sun in [this engrossing essay](#).
- Environmental news site Grist believes in our executive director Ilan Gur, putting him on the [2019 Grist50 list](#).
- When you think of a technology incubator, you probably don't think: Yogurt! [But perhaps you should](#).
- A wunderkind, a jock, and a treehugger walk into a lab... Get the full [Antora Energy backstory](#) here.

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## *What we're reading ...*

Why Bill Gates, Jeff Bezos, Jack Ma and other investors are pouring [billions into clean-tech ventures](#)... Quantum computing [for the very curious](#)... Our former EIR Danielle Applestone on [building something that lasts](#)... Small teams of researchers [do more innovative work](#) than large teams... Berkeley Lab scientists are working with San Francisco to [prep the city for climate change](#)... MIT Tech Review reports: AI is [reinventing the way we invent](#)

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## *Calendar ...*

Whether you're an entrepreneurial scientist interested in applying for our program next year, or just a curious observer who wants to better understand what we're all about, join us!



### *Worth repeating ...*

"We desperately need to redefine the world's physical infrastructure and transform our biggest industries in order to support sustainable and peaceful life on this planet."

--Executive Director Ilan Gur speaking at the [MIT Energy Conference](#)

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