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11. The battery charger as recited in claim 7, wherein said charging circuit is further configured to provide an indication of an anomaly in a constant voltage mode of operation as a function of said one or more parameters.

12. The battery charger as recited in claim 7, wherein said charging circuit is configured to vary the duty cycle of said charging current and further configured to track the duty cycle of said charging current in said constant voltage mode of operation and provide an indication of an anomaly in said constant voltage mode of operation as a function of the duty cycle of said charging current.

13. A battery charger comprising: a charging circuit for charging a battery in a constant current mode in which said battery is charged with a constant charging current and a constant voltage mode of operation in which said battery is charged with a constant charging voltage, said charging circuit configured to vary the duty cycle of said charging circuit and further configured to provide an indication of a thermal runaway condition when the trend of said duty cycle indicates an anomaly; and one

or more monitoring devices for monitoring at least one of the charging voltage and the charging current supplied by the battery charger to the battery under charge during the constant current mode of operation and the constant voltage mode of operation.

14. A battery charger comprising: a charging circuit for charging a battery in a constant current mode in which said battery is charged with a charging current and a constant charging voltage in which said battery is charged according to a known charging characteristic during a normal condition defining a normal charging voltage and normal charging current curves, wherein said charging circuit is configured to detect anomalies in said charging characteristic when at least one of said charging voltage and the charging current deviate from said normal charging voltage and normal charging current curves when said battery charger is in said constant current mode of operation; and one or more monitoring devices for monitoring at least one of the charging voltage and the charging current supplied by the battery charger to the battery under charge and providing an indication of a thermal runaway condition in response to said anomalies.













