Modeling - Scale-Bridging Simulations Active Materials in Li-ion Batteries, an Validation in BATT Electrodes

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OBJECTIVES: Determine superior composition and processing conditions of electrodes for cond enhancement, especially for the LiNi_{1/3}Mn_{1/3}Co_{1/3}O₂ cathode. Develop scale-bridging simulation will allow identification of the best particle morphologies for both energy- and power-dense sy Develop superior anodes and cathodes by altering the content and morphologies of cond materials.

MILESTONES:

- (a) Implement 3D finite element (FE) model with coupled mechanical/electrochemical effects. (Feb. 07
- (b) Identify specific blends for manufacture, which reduce unnecessary mass but m conductivity/capacity, in collaboration with Battaglia, Srinivasan and Doeff. (Mar. 08)
- (c) Use *ab initio* predictions of conductivities based on atomistic calculations (collaboratic Grey/Ceder) to perform large-scale FE modeling of lifetime. (Jul. 08)





barriers



BARRIERS: Short lithium battery lifetimes, closely related to composition electrode, processing conditions, and fracture of particles.

composition of the electrode



processing conditions



fracture due to intercalation and/or compression



LiFePO₄ particle after 60 cycles between 2.0 and 4.5V under the current density of $30mAg^{-1}$ (around 1/5 to 1/4C) [1]



LiCoO₂ particles after 50 cycles between 2.5 and 4.35 V under the current density of 0.4 mA/cm² (C/5 rate) [2]



 $LiMn_2O_4$ particles a between 3.5 and 4. Li/Li^+ at a scan rate C) (particle diamete

- [1] D. Wang, X. Wu, Z. Wang, and L. Chen, "Cracking Causing Cyclic Instal LiFePO4 Cathode Material", Journal of Power Sources, 140 125-128 (20
- [2] H. Wang, Y. Jang, B. Huang, D. R. Sadoway, and Y.-M. Chiang, "TEM S Electrochemical Cycling-Induced Damage and Disorder in LiCoO2 Cathor Rechargeable Lithium Batteries", Journal of the Electrochemical Society 480 (1999).
- [3] M.-R. Lim, W.-I. Cho, and K.-B. Kim, "Preparation and Characterization Codeposited LiMn2O4 Electrodes", Journal of Power Sources 92 168-17







our approach



Three major thrusts to identify superior composition and processing conditions of electrodes for conductivity enhancement :

- 1) modeling—packing, conductivity, electrochemistry and mechanics;
- 2) electrode design;
- 3) experimental measurement of conductivity in cathodes. Realistic microstructu of porous electrodes have been built, based on results of image analysis of re electrodes (V. Battaglia, LBNL). Porosities and dimensions for candidate cells were used as input (V. Battaglia, LBNL) to identify optimal combinations of materials from simulations. We have tested electrodes prepared at LBNL to minimize resistivity and density.





fracture of particles

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PROBLEM: minimize battery failure due to intercalation-induced and compression stresses. Requires modeling to determine the magnitude of ea

Li-ion battery modeling difficulties

- multiscale: battery pack cell electrode/separator layers particles
 1~10 cm ~1mm ~100μm ~1μm
- multi-physics: ionic diffusion; electrochemical reaction and side reactions; electronic conduction; strain/stres generation

<u>APPROACH</u>: model single (cathode) particles; then extend to larger scale simulat Apply surrogate-base analysis to determine the effect of particle morphology and operating conditions, and stress and heat generation inside a single particle



Ω partial molar volume (m³/mol)

- [1] X. Zhang, W. Shyy and A.M. Sastry, Numerical Simulation of Intercalation-Induced Stress in Li-Ion Battery Electrode Particles, *Journal of the Electrochemical Society*, 154, A910-A916 (2007).
- [2] K.E. Thomas and J. Newman, Thermal Modeling of Porous Insertion Electrodes, *Journal of the Electrochemical Society*, 150 (2003), A176-A192







intercalation induced stress



<u>FINDINGS</u>: trends in maximum von mises stress, σ_{max} , obtained by surrogate-base analysis.

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{\max}}{\partial R} > 4.73$$
, $\frac{\partial \sigma_{\max}}{\partial v} > 12.41$, $-5.61 < \frac{\partial \sigma_{\max}}{\partial \alpha} < 2.95$

- equivalent radius *R* increases stress increases
- potential sweep rate v increases stress increases
- aspect ratio α increases
 stress increases first; then decreases

why?

intercalation-induced stress depends on concentration distribution

- R increases
- v increases
- α increases

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larger concentration gradient

shorter semi-axis decreases; longer semi-axis increases





intercalation induced heat



FINDINGS: trends in **resistive heating**, Q_r , obtained by surrogate-base a

 $\frac{\partial Q_r}{\partial R} > 0.89$, $\frac{\partial Q_r}{\partial v} > 1.48$, $\frac{\partial Q_r}{\partial \alpha} < -0.016$

- equivalent radius *R* increases
- potential sweep rate v increases
- aspect ratio or increases



- resistive heating increases
- resistive heating decreases

averaged open

circuit potential

why?

resistive heating depends on the total flux over the particle surface and polari

I I avg

- $Q_r = I(V U^{avg})$ I current V potential
- *R* increases | larger current
- v increases
- larger polarization due to larger concentration gradient
- α increases
- concentration gradient smaller polarization due to shorter
- diffusion path along the shorter axis







packing

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PROBLEM: the life of the Li-ion battery depends on composition, morph and processing conditions. Models are required for correlation of these.



APPROACH: integrate our packing model with 1D electrochemical model, to determine th whole cell performance, and suggest superior composition and processing conditions.











effective conductivity (packing)

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we developed a 3D finite element model to determine the effective conductivity of the composite electrode



current density:	$J = -\sigma_1 \nabla V$	(1)
heat flux:	$F=-\sigma_2 \nabla T$	(2)

 $σ_1$: electrical conductivity (S*m) J: current density (A/m²) V: electrical potential drop (V) $σ_2$: thermal conductivity (W/m*K) F: heat flux (W/m²) T: temperature drop (K)

boundary conditions:

x=0: T = 1 K

x=1: T = 0 K

initial condition:

particle temperature: 0 K

at steady state, total flux calculated using FE analy ABAQUS/Standard

effective σ of the porous structure found via Eq. (2)



1D electrochemical FEM (packing) A·M·



- 1D electrochemical finite element model (FEM) was modified from ' porous electrode model coupled ' 2D spherical particle diffusion modeling^{1,2}
- effective material properties calcu from 3D finite element model wer introduced
- this model couples ionic diffusion electrical conduction in solid phas with ionic conduction and diffusio electrolyte phase.

 M. Doyle, J. Newman, A. S. Gozdz, C. N. Schmutz, and J. –M. Tarascon, Comparison of modeling predictions with experimental data from plastic lithium ion cells he Electrochemical Society, 143 (6), 1890-1903 (1996).
 COMSOL 3.3a, COMSOL Inc., Stockholm, SWEDEN





studied system (packing)



Li/LiPF₆:(EC and DMC; 2:1 v/v)/Li(Ni_{1/3}Mn_{1/3}Co_{1/3})O₂/AI



composition of composite cathode

	porosity (vf%)	active material (vf%)	graphite (vf%)	carbon black (vf%)	PVDF (vf%)
	50	31.8	3.8	6.1	8.3
	40	38.2	4.6	7.2	10.0
	30	44.5	5.3	8.6	11.6
	20	50.9	6.1	9.7	13.3
	10	57.2	6.8	11.0	15.0



compression

 $\left[\right]$



material properties (packing)

Li(Ni_{1/3}Co_{1/3}Mn_{1/3})O₂ graphite PVDF/C=1.36 electrolyte material 0.8 conductivity (S/m) 0.7 particle size 11.04 7.45 0.6 (µm) 0.5 0.4 mass density 4.75 1.95 1.86 1.32 0.3 (g/cm^3) 0.2 bulk 0.1 conductivity 1.06×10⁻³ 1.67×10^{4} 760 as Fig. 1 (S/m) diffusion 3.06×10⁻¹⁰ coefficient as Fig. 2 (m^2/s) diffusion coefficient reference [1,2] [1] [4] [3]

1] Y. -H. Chen, C. -W. Wang, G. Liu, X.-Y. Song, V. S. Battaglia, and A. M. Sastry, Selection of conductive additives in Li-ion battery cathodes: a numerical study, Journal of the Electrochemical Society, 154 (10), A978-A986 (2007)

2] Kevin Eberman and Larry Krause, Diffusion coefficient of lithium in Li_x(Co_v(NiMn)_(1-y)/2)O₂ cathode powders, The 204th Electrochemical Society Meeting, Orlando, FL (2003).

3] http://www.matweb.com (date: 01/20/2008).

4] M. Doyle, J. Newman, A. S. Gozdz, C. N. Schmutz, and J. - M. Tarascon, Comparison of modeling predictions with experimental data rom plastic lithium ion cells, Journal of the Electrochemical Society, 143 (6), 1890-1903 (1996).



Fig. 1, ionic conductiv

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1. Wang, C.-W., Sastry, A.M., Striebel, K. A. and Zaghib, K., 2005, "Extraction of Layerwise Conductivities in Carbon-Enhanced, Multilayered LiFePO4 Cathodes," Electrochemical Society, v. 152 (5), pp.A1001-A1010.





simulation result (packing):



FINDINGS:



 $\sigma_{Loverall}$: overall liquid phase conductivity

electronic conductivity (S/m)

 $\sigma_{\scriptscriptstyle e, \it ionic}$: normalized effective ionic conductivity

- σ_0 in Bruggemen predi ($\sigma_{effective} = \sigma_0 \epsilon^{1.5}$) is based experimental results in porosity
- there is a trade-off betw the ionic conductivity of electrolyte phase and electronic conductivity c solid phase; therefore, i requires whole cell electrochemical perforn model to identify the pro porosity









1D simulation result



FINDINGS:

- cathode thickne 200µm
- at lower c-rate, utilization does change with por
- at higher c-rate, utilization decre as the porosity decreases



1D simulation result (continued)

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FINDINGS:

simulation result

- cathode thickness: 200µm
- effective ionic and electronic conductiv from 3D FEM simulations were applied battery simulation
- simulations started from 30% state of ((SOC)
- in 1/10C rate, the lower porosity showe better capacity density; the transport mechanism is not a limiting factor
- as the c-rate increases, the higher por electrode has higher capacity density.
- optimal porosity depends on

how the cell is used





accomplishments & status

a simulation scheme has been developed to determine the effectiv conductivity of composite electrode

- this scheme has been verified with experimental results
- more work needs to be done to identify the source of estimation dev from experimental results at lower porosity region
- a modified electrochemical performance simulation scheme has be used to determine the performance of the Li-ion cell, and verificatien this approach is underway
 - basic concept demonstrated
 - experimental work is needed to verify the accuracy of the estimation is underway









- Fundamental: conductive coatings result in low contact resistance, which is key in creating conductive networks. Practical: using carbon black/pvdf composite coatings is more advantageous than addition of conductors (e.g. graphite) to composite cathodes, in impro conductivity, for all baseline materials investigated.
- Fundamental: particle morphology affects the generation of intercalation stress and heat **Practical:** smaller aspect ratio particle reduces the heat generation due to intercalation. However, induced stresses increases first, then decrease as the aspect ratio of the particl increases. Hence, care is required in selecting the aspect ratio which reduces both heat a induced stress.
- Fundamental: compressing the electrode to lower porosity can increase the overall elect capacity density. **Practical:** a low porosity electrode is not optimal for higher c-rates. Opti porosity depends on how the whole cell is used.
- Fundamental: compressing the electrode to smaller porosity can increased the overall electrode electrical conductivity. **Practical:** low porosity electrodes have hindered transpc ions in the electrolyte phase. Hence, there is a trade-off selecting the superior porosity for electronic conductivity and ionic conductivity for the solid and electrolyte phases.







- Damage is progressive, and the cumulative effect of intercalation stresses and generation will be studied as part of future work on lifetime modeling, including multiscale modeling (collaboration with Grey/Ceder).
- Particle size, orientation, and interface conditions impact kinetic performance of cell, especially the particle interface conditions with other particles or the currer collector. Fibers work well and will be studied (collaboration with Doeff).
- Cell operation affects models, baseline materials will be refined; optimal combinations will be continuously sought (collaboration with Battaglia).







- Zhang, X.-C., Shyy, W., and Sastry, A.M., 2007, "Numerical Simulation of Intercalation-Induced Stress in Li-Ion Battery Electrode Particles," Journal the Electrochemical Society, v. 154 (10), pp. A910-A916.
- Chen, Y.-H., Wang, C.-W., Liu, G., Song, X.-Y., Battaglia, V.S. and Sastry, A.M., 2007, "Selection of Conductive Additives in Li-ion Battery Cathodes: Numerical Study," Journal of the Electrochemical Society, v. 154 (10), pp. A978-A986.
- 3. Wang, C.-W. and Sastry, A.M., 2007, "Mesoscale Modeling of a Li-Ion Poly Cell," Journal of the Electrochemical Society, v. 154 (11), pp. A.1035-1047





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