





Combining Methods to Model the Performance of a Sodium-Ion Battery

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Novel Na-Ion Battery Materials



sodium more abundant than lithium

- evaluate and improve novel electrode materials
- consider different scales
- establish workflow among simulation methods







NVP

 $\blacksquare Na_3V_2(PO_4)_3$

3D network for diffusion of Na ions^[1]

voltage plateau

Iow electronic conductivity^[2]

Adv. Funct. Mater. 2022, 30.34, 2001289
 Rare Met. 2022, 41.1, 115–124



Specific Capacity [mAhg⁻¹]





NVP/C Electrodes

porous NVP carbon composite (NVP/C)

boost electronic conductivity

short paths for solid-state diffusion

capacity close to theoretical value^[3]

[3] ChemElectroChem 2024, 11.3, e202300401





Batteries Supercaps 2024, 7.4, e202300409



REM image by Luca Schneider





Combining Methods





Microstructure Generation



virtual reconstruction
 electrode and porous particle

discrete element method^[7]
 basis for resistor network method

alternative: digital image reconstruction^[6]





Batteries Supercaps 2024, 7.4, e202300409



[6] Batteries Supercaps 2024, 7.4, e202300409
[7] Energy Technol. 2022, 9.6, 2000886

Effective Transport Properties

effect of microstructure on transport
 sodium ions and electrons

resistor network method^[5]

alternative: steady state flow

[5] Powder Technol. 2021, 378, 659-666

J. Power Sources **2016**, 334, 191-201



Powder Technol. 2021, 378, 659-666



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Combining Methods





Diffusion of Sodium in Host Material



NVP experiences phase separation

concentration-dependent diffusion coefficient

phase-field method









- transport of sodium ions & electronic transport
- insertion reaction
- diffusion of sodium in host material



[4] Energy Technol. 2021, 9.6, 2000910



experiment



model





experiment



model

significant contact resistance lowers voltage



experiment



model

significant contact resistance lowers voltage solid state diffusion limits rate performance





experiment



model

significant contact resistance lowers voltage solid state diffusion limits rate performance

OPTIMIZATION POTENTIAL





Summary and Outlook



combine methods to model cell behavior

understand effects on different scales

improvement of electrode structure and composition

