Batteries for Transportation

An overview of degradation phenomena that determine the lifetime of lithium ion batteries

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Outline GM HEV, pHEV, and EREV plans

- □ Chemical degradation (better understood)
 - Negative electrode
 Life models
 - Positive electrode
- Solid mechanics (stress distribution)
- SEI (solid electrolyte interface)

□ Summary of combined chemical and mechanical degradation

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Global Energy Concerns (for every nation state)

Energy security Secure Environmental health Clean Economic competitiveness Affordable

Sustainability & National Security

To some extent, we can reduce demand, but the ultimate solution will come out of advancements in science and technology.



Advanced Propulsion Technology Strategy





GM Hybrid and Electric Programs Lithium ion post 2010



Comparison of GM's requirements to USABC specs







Requirements of End of Life Energy Storage Systems for PHEVs					
Characteristics at EOL (End of Life)		High Power/Energy Ratio Battery	GM 2-Mode PHEV	High Energy/Power Ratio Battery	EFLEX EREV
Reference Equivalent Electric Range	miles	10	10	TU	
Peak Pulse Discharge Power - 2 Sec / 10 Sec	kW	50 / 45	50/45	46 / 38	115/110
Peak Regen Pulse Power (10 sec)	kW	30	27	25	60
Available Energy for CD (Charge Depleting) Mode, 10 kW Rate	kWh	3.4	3.5	11.6	8
Available Energy for CS (Charge Sustaining) Mode	kWh	0.5	0.3	UIS	0.35
Minimum Round-trip Energy Efficiency (USABC HEV Cycle)	%	90	90	90	90
Cold cranking power at -30°C, 2 sec - 3 Pulses	kW	7	7	7	8
CD Life / Discharge Throughput	Cycles/MWh	5,000 / 17		5,000 / 58	4700 / 54
CS HEV Cycle Life, 50 Wh Profile	Cycles	300,000		300,000	
Calendar Life, 35°C	year	15	10	15	10
Maximum System Weight	kg	60	90	120	160
Maximum System Volume	Liter	40	TBD	80	100
Maximum Operating Voltage	Vdc	400	420	400	410
Minimum Operating Voltage	Vdc	>0.55 x Vmax	170	>0.55 x Vmax	232
Maximum Self-discharge	Wh/day	50		50	5% in 60 Days
System Recharge Rate at 30°C	kW	1.4 (120V/15A)	1.4	1.4 (120V/15A)	3.6 (230V/16 A)
Unassisted Operating & Charging Temperature Range	°C	-30 to +52	-30 to +52	-30 to +52	-30 to +52
Survival Temperature Range	°C	-46 to +66	-46 to +66	-46 to +66	-46 to +66
Maximum System Production Price @ 100k units/yr	\$	\$1,700		\$3,400	

EFLEX EREV requires 2.5 times the power of USABC requirements





Electrode microstructure





Lithium Intercalation of Carbon-Fiber Microelectrodes



Fig. 3. Characteristic cyclic voltammogram. Data for 300 cycles are plotted.

- Ability of lamellar compounds of carbon to insert various species was well known by the later half of the 1800s (Schauffaütl, 1841...Sony, 1992)
- Aprotic solvents with high dielectric constants: W.S. Harris, Ph.D. Thesis, University of CA, Berkeley, 1958.

Single fiber electrode: phenomena associated with the fabrication of a porous electrode do not obfuscate the subsequent characterization...use the Scientific Method to isolate critical characteristics

Extremely stable lithiated carbon anode <u>and</u> Li reference (there is *still* confusion around the stability of carbon lithiation!)

Lithium ion challenges: durability focus

□Cost

- Can we size pack closer to end-of-life requirements?
- Can we reduce materials & processes costs?

Life

- How do electrodes fail?
- Can we develop an accelerated life test?

Temperature tolerance

- Can we improve low temperature power?
- Why is battery life shorter at higher temperatures?

Durability...terminologies, bathtub curves

Chemical degradation

- Critical role of SEI (solid electrolyte interface) to impede deleterious degradation reactions within lithium ion cells
- Calendar life determined by chemical degradation

Mechanical degradation

- Cyclic expansion and contraction of insertion or alloy materials leads to fatigue, cracking, and structural changes
- Cyclic life issues are affected by mechanical degradation and chemical degradation



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Electrode potentials



- By changing an electrode voltage, new electrolytes can be employed with improved stability.
- □ For traction applications, conventional lithium ion cells still dominate...lower utilization for improved durability & abuse tolerance.

Negative electrode



Journal of Power Sources 110

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 $\operatorname{Li}^+ + \Box + e^- \rightarrow |\operatorname{Li}|$

Mathematical modeling of high-power-density insertion electrodes for lithium ion batteries

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Fig. 3. High-magnification electrode micrographs.

- Solvent reduction at ~0.8V vs Li on first cycle
- Then ~100% Coulombic efficiency
- Next slide for more detail





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- Example reactions only...many others contribute to the formation of the solid electrolyte layer
 - For computed IR spectra of surface species in an EC electrolyte, see S. Matsuta, T. Asada, and K. Kitaura. *J. Electrochem. Soc.* 147(2000)1695-1702...dimers found to be lowest energy
 - Experimental FTIR data indicates predominance of [Li(OCOO)CH₂]₂ for EC and EC+DEC systems with 1M LiPF₆, see C. R. Yang, Y. Y. Wang, C. C. Wan, *J. Power Sources*, 72(1998)66.



Journal of Power Sources 97-98 (2001) 104-106



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In situ TEM study of the interface carbon/electrolyte

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The electrolyte used was $LiPF_6(1 M)$ in 1, w/w).

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<u>GM</u> Journal of The Electrochemical Society, 151 (11) A1977-A1988 (2004) A1977 0013-4651/2004/151(11)/A1977/12/\$7.00 © The Electrochemical Society, Inc. A Mathematical Model for the Lithium-Ion Negative Electrode Solid Electrolyte Interphase John Christensen^{*,z} and John Newman^{**} $L_0 = A t^m$ L(t)Department of Chemical Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA Porous Porous 1400 1.4 negative positive 1200 1.2 Separator electrode electrode Metal Graphite Film thickness (nm) 1000 1.0 discharge Polymeric 800 0.8binder 3 Li 600 0.6 Current collector charge 400 0.4Current 200 0.2 collector a 0.0 Electrolyte 0 Porous barrier + 200 400 600 800 1000 0 electrolyte Solid electrolyte interphase (SEI) Time (days)

Figure 1. The lithium-ion battery, with two porous electrodes. The SEI layer on graphite is shown in the inset.

Resistance of the inner inorganic layer is modeled

Resistance of the outer organic layer is ignored



Positive electrode



POWER Sources

Reference Electrode

Journal of Power Sources 57 (1995) 119-123

Electrochemical oxidation of propylene carbonate (containing various salts) on aluminium electrodes

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Review of selected electrode-solution interactions which determine the performance of Li and Li ion batteries

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Journal of Power Sources 89 (2000) 206-218

Surface film formation on cathode materials Option I : Nucleophilic reactions





- Growth of passive film on the positive electrode surface
- □ Li adducts (SEI) at low potentials (low SOC)
 - Similar to SEI formation on carbon
 - CO₂ evolution at high potentials (over-charge)

High SOC, less Li, and oxygens can release

Review of selected electrode-solution interactions which determine the performance of Li and Li ion batteries

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Journal of Power Sources 89 (2000) 206-218

Surface film formation on cathode materials

Option II : Exchange reactions, formation of inactive mass



Growth of passive film on the LMO surface

- Dissolved Mn²⁺ transports to the negative electrode and breaks down the SEI
 - This problem can also occur with Fe dissolution within iron phosphate cells



Underscores the importance of the SEI

- Disruption of the SEI (e.g., due to dilation, crack propagation, etc.) is deleterious to cell life...even low reaction rates are a problem
 - Loss of Li
 - Gas generation

Life modeling (cell)

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Journal of Power Sources 97-98 (2001) 13-21



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Aging mechanism in Li ion cells and calendar life predictions

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The most commonly adopted picture is that the interface layer is considered as a solid electrolyte interphase (SEI) being a good ionic but poor electronic conductor, as proposed by Peled [4].

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}x}{\mathrm{d}t} = kX = \frac{k\chi s}{e}$$

where x is the number of moles of Li being reacting, χ the specific conductivity, s the interface area and e is the layer thickness. The "5 Ah" p

$$t = e^{[(4661/T) - 14]}x^2 + e^{[(4437/T) - 11.6]}x$$

The "5 Ah" prismatic cell used a stainless steel can and was configured as can negative. The chemistry was $LiCoO_2/EC$ -DEC-DMC 1 M $LiPF_6 + VC$ additive/synthetic graphite.

(1)



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Development of First Principles Capacity Fade Model for Li-Ion Cells

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 $S + 2Li^+ + 2e^- \rightarrow P$

S: Solvent (EC) P: Products

- Butler-Volmer equation for solvent reduction
- Film-growth model for SEI resistance...Power
- Lithium loss model for capacity loss...Capacity
- Note: This is treats chemical degradation
 - No influence due to expansion and contraction of the host material



Figure 5. Variation of film resistance during charging for (solid line) cycle 40 and (dotted lines) variation of film resistance with cycle number.



Journal of The Electrochemical Society, 156 (3) A145-A153 (2009) 0013-4651/2008/156(3)/A145/9/\$23.00 © The Electrochemical Society

Multimodal Physics-Based Aging Model for Life Prediction of Li-Ion Batteries

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Figure 1. (Color online) Physical picture for SEI growth at the anode particle surface. Resistance of the outer organic layer is modeled

Resistance of the inner inorganic layer is ignored





For N = 5000 cycles and a 12/16 or 75% capacity retention, the current efficiency per cycle must be such that

 $[Ah_0(\eta_l)^N]/Ah_0 > 0.75$, or $\eta_l > (0.75)^{(1/5000)}$, hence $\eta_l > 0.99994$.

• This is why very low rates of lithium-consuming reactions can lead to premature cell failure. The rates can be so low that they are not measureable in terms of seeing current maxima associated with solvent reduction, for example.

Second emphasis: mechanical degradation leading to wear out

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Capacity fading of lithiated graphite electrodes studied by a combination of electroanalytical methods, Raman spectroscopy and SEM

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Journal of Power Sources 146 (2005) 146–150

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SEM images of the surface of the KS-15 composite pristine electrode (a) and the same electrode after 140 intercalation-deintercalation cycles at 25 °C (b and c).



During cycling, graphite particles crack into smaller pieces that are less oriented than the original platelets, with the possible filling of the cracks thus formed by the reduction products of the electrolyte solution. In addition, the average crystalline size (estimated by Raman spectroscopy) decreases as cycling progresses.



Cracking causing cyclic instability of LiFePO₄ cathode material

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Journal of Power Sources 140 (2005) 125-128

POSITIVE ELECTRODE

LiFePO₄ possesses an olivine structure with threedimensional network. The lattice constants of LiFePO₄ are a = 10.33 Å, b = 6.01 Å, c = 4.69 Å, V = 291.2 Å³ and the lattice constants of FePO₄ are a = 9.81 Å, b = 5.79 Å, c =4.78 Å, V = 271.5 Å, respectively [11]. The volume change of this phase transformation is <u>6.77 %</u>. The volume change is



Li-extraction/insertion. The formation of cracks will lead to increased polarization of electrode and poor electric contact between active particles and conductive additives or aluminum foil current collector. This should be one of the







Direct analogy to the lower cycle-life fatigue...stress amplitude is replaced by ∆SOC

- Temperature & chemical degradation
- ■Model result (next slide): maximum stress is proportional to the maximum difference in SOC, or △SOC

What about selfhealing ("steel-like") electrodes?



ORIGINAL PAPER



John Christensen · John Newman

Stress generation and fracture in lithium insertion materials



A mathematical model that calculates volume expansion and contraction and concentration and stress profiles during lithium insertion into and extraction from a spherical particle of electrode material has been developed.

Fig. 5 Simulated normal stress profiles in the particle, as a function of dimensionless radial position, at the end of lithium insertion. Positive values indicate tensile stresses, while negative values correspond to compression. The *solid curves* include the effect of pressure-driven diffusion, while the *dashed curves* neglect it. The parameters used in the simulation are listed in Table 1.

Surface Mechanics. $\sigma_{\theta}^{surf} \equiv \sigma_{\theta\theta}^{surf} = \sigma^{o} + K^{s} \varepsilon_{\theta}$, where K^{s} is known as the "surface modulus." For mechanical equilibrium,

$$\sigma_r(r \to R) = -\frac{2\sigma_{\theta}^{surf}}{R}$$

NEW for insertion electrode modeling (Conventional condition recovered for large radius *R*)

Intercalate (lithium) transport

Solid Mechanics





□ For the stress functions, the transient terms are proportional to \triangle SOC (\triangle SOC \propto stress)







□ Charge (lithiation) of negative (carbon) electrode

□ Influence of surface mechanics is quite significant

- · Radial stress transformed from tensile to compressive
- Similar influence on tangential (circumferential) stress

Note: it is more challenging to make electrodes with smaller particles...enhanced stability comes with a cost





Next steps & open questions on life modeling

□ Crack initiation and propagation within a particle

- A difficult problem even in the absence of electrochemical phenomena
- (Griffith) Flaw distributions within electrode particles?
- Primary particles, potentially with grains, and secondary particles (agglomerates)
- Incorporate the influence of chemical degradation processes
- How does temperature come into play?
 - Mechanical deformation of particles is not likely to be affected appreciably by the limited temperature fluctuations
 - Chemical reactions rates <u>are</u> substantially thermally activated

□ Scale up from individual particles to porous electrodes

• Comprehend influence of particle geometry as well as temperature and SOC on physicochemical parameters

□ Construct relevant accelerated life tests



Looking forward: nano-structures for improved performance with lower cost materials

Electrochimica Acta 54 (2008) 341-345



Geometric and electronic studies of Li₁₅Si₄ for silicon anode

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For the reaction of Li/Si electrochemical cell:

 $Si + xLi \rightarrow Li_xSi$

V(x) can be obtained by following formula:

$$V(x) = -\frac{E_{\text{total}}(\text{Li}_x\text{Si}) - E_{\text{total}}(\text{Si}) - xE_{\text{total}}(\text{Li})}{x}$$



GΜ

Fig. 1. (a) Primitive cell of Li $_{15}$ Si $_4$ and (b) atomic configuration around a Si atom. The Li atoms labeled with the same number indicate same distance with Si atom.



Available online at www.sciencedirect.com



Electrochemistry Communications 6 (2004) 689-692





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Nanostructured Si-C composite anodes for lithium-ion batteries

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(b) TEM image of nanocrystalline Si-C composites.



Fig. 3(b) shows a TEM photo of nano Si–C composite powders. It clearly demonstrates that Si powders are surrounded by amorphous carbon. Spot EDX (energy dispersive Xray) analysis confirmed that the spherical black crystals in Fig. 3(b) are Si. Therefore, nanocrystalline Si particles are uniformly embedded in amorphous carbon matrix through the carbon aerogel synthesis process.



Li_2MnO_3 -stabilized LiMO₂ (M = Mn, Ni, Co) electrodes for lithium-ion batteries[†]

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A strategy used to design high capacity (>200 mAh g⁻¹), Li₂MnO₃-stabilized LiMO₂ (M = Mn, Ni, Co) electrodes for lithium-ion batteries is discussed. The advantages of the Li₂MnO₃ component and its influence on the structural stability and electrochemical properties of these layered $xLi_2MnO_3 \cdot (1 - x)LiMO_2$ electrodes are highlighted. Structural, chemical, electrochemical and thermal properties of $xLi_2MnO_3 \cdot (1 - x)LiMO_2$ electrodes are considered in the context of other commercially exploited electrode systems, such as LiCoO₂, LiNi_{0.8}Co_{0.15}Al_{0.05}O₂, Li_{1+x}Mn_{2-x}O₄ and LiFePO₄.





Summary

- 1. Recognize the importance of the SEI/protective layers
- 2. Calendar life
 - Large particles are desired for low surface area (and lower cost manufacturing)

3. Cycle life

 Small particles are desired to reduce mechanical deformation and surface cracking (and reduce transport & chargetransfer resistance)

□Life is a balancing act