

Li and Li-ion Batteries Basics, Safety, Future

North American Hazardous Materials Management Association

Noah B. Schorr Senior Member of the technical staff Power Sources R&D

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Li-ion vs Li

Knowing the identity of the anode will tell if the battery is Li vs Li-ion



Li-ion vs Li

Knowing the identity rechargeability of a battery can inform if cell is Li vs Li-ion (some limited exceptions)



Batteries are Inherently Dangerous (like any energy storage)

Combustion reaction

 $C_xH_v + O_2 \rightarrow (y/2)H_2O + (x)CO_2$

Common Li-ion battery solvents are volatile and flammable



Common Li/Li-ion battery cathode materials

- Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) LiFePO₄
- Lithium Nickel Manganese Cobalt Oxide (NMC) LiNi_{0.5}Mn_{0.3}Co_{0.2}
- Lithium Cobalt Oxide (LCO) LiCoO₂
- Lithium Manganese Oxide (LMO) LiMn₂O₄ or LiMn₂O

Fuel + oxidant, all you need is an ignition source to start a fire

Batteries are Inherently Dangerous (like any energy storage)





Moving electrons generates heat. Moving electrons too quickly can have unintended consequences.

The Issues

- Energetic thermal runaway
 - Anode and cathode decomposition reactions
- Electrolyte flammability
 - Low flashpoint electrolyte solvents
 - Vent gas management
 - Fuel-air deflagrations
 - Wide flammability range of decomposition products
- Thermal stability of materials
 - Separators, electrolyte salts, active materials
- Failure propagation from cell-to-cell
 - Single point failures that spread throughout an entire battery system

Need to understand

- Battery failure mechanisms
- Fundamentals causes of failure
- Impact of failure:
 - Heat release
 - Gas emission
 - Pressure generation
 - Burn time
 - Waste generation
- Direct comparisons with like battery chemistries/sizes
- Information to help aid in safer batteries:
 - Materials choice
 - Design
 - Engineering controls



Safety in a Cell

Shutdown separator, a common addition to cells but not a magic bullet Trilayer polypropylene/polyethylene/prolypropylene (PP/PE/PP)



At PE's melting point of 130 °C separator insulates electrodes







Chem. Rev. 2004, 104, 10, 4419-4462

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Safety in a Cell



Current Interrupt Device (CID)





Safety in a Cell

Balancing capacity of anode and cathode essential for performance and safety

N/P > 1 typical for Li-ion , Li primary varies



Safety in a battery (pack and beyond)





• Diodes

- Prevent reverse current (paramount for primary battery)
- PTC devices
 - High current surge protection
- Battery management system
 voltage monitoring system for a multi-cell battery,
 SOC discrepancies
- External Short mitigation
- Ventilation
- Code guidance (NFPA 855) for stationary battery systems
 - ventilation, spill control, neutralization, safety caps on vents, thermal runaway control, explosion control, size and separation requirements for each common ESS chemistry type



Abusing Cells for Science







Anatomy of a thermal runaway

- Typical thermal runaway of a Graphite-LiCoO₂ cell capture with accelerating rate calorimetry (ARC)
- Low temperature processes include SEI breakdown and decomposition of the electrolyte



- Chief hazard in this range is release of (often) flammable gas from decomposed electrolyte
- Low excessive temperatures (70-120 °C) will typically permanently degrade performance

Anatomy of a thermal runaway



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Anatomy of a thermal runaway

• No stopping thermal runaway



• Best option is stop runaway from impacting other cells

Cathode chemistry impact on safety





- All measurements at 100% SOC and for cells with 1.2 M LiPF₆ in EC:EMC (3:7)
- Significant differences in thermal runaway response related to the amount of oxygen released from the cathode material
- 5% silicon composite anode increases the runaway enthalpy by ~10% relative to a graphite cell with the same cathode

Impact of SOC on Runaway



- Results show a nearly linear relationship between total heat release (kJ) and cell SOC similar to data for cell size this suggests that failure enthalpy is based largely on the stored energy available
- Heat release rates (e.g. runaway reaction kinetics) follow an almost exponential relationship with cell SOC again this is traditionally thought to cause a greater risk of thermal runaway

Thermal Runaway Protection









Replacement of Liquid Electrolyte

Liquid Electrolyte (LE)

- High ionic conductivity
- Fills void spaces
- Several heat release pathways
- Flammable solvent



Solid Electrolyte (SE)

- OK ionic conductivity
- Energy density (Li-metal anode)
- Safety (no flammable liquid electrolyte)
- Poor interfacial contact



Nat Energy 3, 16–21 (2018).

(i)

Heat Release vs. Liquid Volume Fraction (VF)

All solid-state battery are not necessarily safer than liquid Li-ion batteries under short-circuit failure

All: short circuit heat release equal

All solid-state battery (ASSB): no heat release from external heating

Li-ion (LIB): heat release dependent on volume fraction 20 to 40%)

Solid-state battery (SSB): Heat release negligible <8% volume fraction

ASSB: large heat release on SE mechanical failure



SSB designs with small liquid quantities have improved safety characteristics compared with current LIB designs for scenarios where typical thermal-runaway reactions occur

Joule, 2022, 6, 742-755

Conversion cathodes for secondary Li batteries

Conversion cathodes typically are more energy density than intercalation materials







Wang et al. Joule., 2019, 3, 2086-2102 Energy Environ. Sci., 2017, 10, 435--459 ACS Appl. Energy Mater. 2022, 5, 11, 13346–13355



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Backup Slides

Resources

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- How Batteries Store and Release Energy: Explaining Basic Electrochemistry J. Chem. Educ. 2018, 95, 1801–1810
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- Battery Separators Chem. Rev. 2004, 104, 10, 4419–4462

History of Batteries







panasonic.com/global/energy/pro ducts/battery/profile/history macworld.com



Parts of a Battery

A *battery* is a device that converts the chemical energy contained in its active materials directly into electric energy by means of an electrochemical oxidation-reduction (redox) reaction.

The *anode* is the negative electrode of a cell associated with oxidative chemical reactions that release electrons into the external circuit.

The *cathode* is the positive electrode of a cell associated with reductive chemical reactions that gain electrons from the external circuit.

An *electrolyte* is a material that provides pure ionic conductivity between the positive and negative electrodes of a cell.

A *separator* is a physical barrier between the positive and negative electrodes that must be ionically conductive and electrically insulating.

A *current collector* is an inert member of high electrical conductivity used to conduct current from or to an electrode during discharge or charge.

The *casing* is the material that encapsulates the all other components of a battery.

Current \rightarrow large = fast ; small = slow Volt

External Circuit Electrolyte Anode Cathode Separator Electrolyte (+)(-)

History of Batteries



Chem. Rev. 2018, 118, 23, 11433-11456

Electrons and Electrochemistry



- $E_{cell}^0 = E_{cathode}^0 E_{anode}^0$
 - Positive E^o spontaneous
- $\Delta G^0 = -nFE^0$
 - Negative ΔG^0 spontaneous
- Nernst equation: $E = E^0 \frac{RT}{nF} \ln(Q)$
 - Q ratio of products and reactants
 - R, F constants
- e⁻s go from Cu to Ag because E⁰_{cell} is positive
- The difference in E^0 from Cu^{2+}/Cu and Ag^+/Ag is ~0.46 V

Electrons and Electrochemistry

"Life is easier when you stand on the shoulders of giants"

Standard Electrode Potentials in Aqueous Solution at 25°C

Half-Reaction	Standard Potential E° (volts)
Li+(aq) + e [_] -> Li(s)	-3.04
K⁺(aq) + e⁻ -> K(s)	-2.92
Ca ²⁺ (aq) + 2e ⁻ -> Ca(s)	-2.76
Na ⁺ (aq) + e ⁻ -> Na(s)	-2.71
Mg ²⁺ (aq) + 2e ⁻ -> Mg(s)	-2.38
Al ³⁺ (aq) + 3e ⁻ -> Al(s)	-1.66
$2H_2O(I) + 2e^> H_2(g) + 2OH^-(aq)$	-0.83
$Zn^{2+}(aq) + 2e^{-} -> Zn(s)$	-0.76
Cr ³⁺ (aq) + 3e ⁻ -> Cr(s)	-0.74
$Fe^{2+}(aq) + 2e^{-} -> Fe(s)$	-0.41
Cd ²⁺ (aq) + 2e ⁻ -> Cd(s)	-0.40
Ni ²⁺ (aq) + 2e ⁻ -> Ni(s)	-0.23
Sn ²⁺ (aq) + 2e ⁻ -> Sn(s)	-0.14
Pb ²⁺ (aq) + 2e ⁻ -> Pb(s)	-0.13
Fe ³⁺ (aq) + 3e ⁻ -> Fe(s)	-0.04
2H ⁺ (aq) + 2e ⁻ -> H ₂ (g)	0.00

Sn ⁴⁺ (ag) + 2e ⁻ -> Sn ²⁺ (ag)	0.15
$Cu^{2+}(aq) + e^{-} -> Cu^{+}(aq)$	0.16
$ClO_{4}(aq) + H_{2}O(l) + 2e^{-} -> ClO_{3}(aq) + 2OH(ac)$	a) 0.17
$AgCl(s) + e^{-2} Ag(s) + Cl(aq)$	0.22
$Cu^{2+}(aq) + 2e^{-} -> Cu(s)$	0.34
$C O_{2}(ag) + H_{2}O(l) + 2e^{-} -> C O_{2}(ag) + 2OH(ag)$	a) 0.35
$IO(aq) + H_2O(l) + 2e^{-1} > I(aq) + 2OH(aq)$	0.49
$Cu^{+}(ag) + e^{-} -> Cu(s)$	0.52
$l_{2}(s) + 2e^{-} -> 2l^{-}(aq)$	0.54
$ClO_{2}(aq) + H_{2}O(l) + 2e^{-} -> ClO(aq) + 2OH(aq)$) 0.59
$Fe^{3+}(aq) + e^{-} > Fe^{2+}(aq)$	0.77
$Hg_2^{2+}(aq) + 2e^{-} -> 2Hg(l)$	0.80
$Ag^{+}(aq) + e^{-} -> Ag(s)$	0.80
$Hg^{2+}(aq) + 2e^{-} -> Hg(l)$	0.85
$ClO^{-}(aq) + H_{2}O(l) + 2e^{-} -> Cl^{-}(aq) + 2OH^{-}(aq)$	0.90
$2Hg^{2+}(aq) + 2e^{-} -> Hg_{2}^{2+}(aq)$	0.90
$NO_3^{-}(aq) + 4H^{+}(aq) + 3e^{-} -> NO(g) + 2H_2O(l)$	0.96
$Br_2(l) + 2e^> 2Br^-(aq)$	1.07
$O_2(g) + 4H^+(aq) + 4e^> 2H_2O(l)$	1.23
Cr ₂ O ₇ ²⁻ (aq) + 14H ⁺ (aq) + 6e ⁻ -> 2Cr ³⁺ (aq) + 7H	l ₂ O(l) 1.33
Cl ₂ (g) + 2e ⁻ -> 2Cl ⁻ (aq)	1.36
$Ce^{4+}(aq) + e^{-} -> Ce^{3+}(aq)$	1.44
MnO ₄ -(aq) + 8H ⁺ (aq) + 5e ⁻ -> Mn ²⁺ (aq) + 4H ₂ O	D(l) 1.49
H ₂ O ₂ (aq) + 2H ⁺ (aq) + 2e ⁻ -> 2H ₂ O(l)	1.78
Co ³⁺ (aq) + e ⁻ -> Co ²⁺ (aq)	1.82
S ₂ O ₈ ²⁻ (aq) + 2e ⁻ -> 2SO ₄ ²⁻ (aq)	2.01
$O_3(g) + 2H^+(aq) + 2e^> O_2(g) + H_2O(l)$	2.07
F ₂ (g) + 2e ⁻ -> 2F ⁻ (aq)	2.87

Battery Terminology

Discharge: An operation in which a battery delivers electrical energy to an external load.

Charge: An operation in which the battery is restored to its original charged condition by reversal of the current flow.

Capacity: The total number of Ampere-hours (Ah) that can be withdrawn from a fully charged cell or battery under specified conditions of discharge

Specific Capacity: The ratio of the capacity delivered by a cell or battery to its weight (Ah/kg or mAh/g).

Gravimetric Energy Density: The ratio of the energy output of a cell or battery to its weight (Wh/kg). *Volummetric Energy Density:* The ratio of the energy available from a battery to its volume (Wh/L).

Gravimetric Power Density: The ratio of the power delivered by a cell or battery to its weight (W/ kg). *Volummetric Power Density:* The ratio of the power available from a battery to its volume (W/ L).

Efficiency: The ratio of the output of a secondary cell or battery on discharge to the input required to restore it to the initial state of charge under specified conditions.

C-Rate: It is the rate of charge or discharge of a cell or battery. Generally, it is expressed by n C. **Example: 0.1 C means the full charge or discharge time is 1/0.1 h (10 h); 10 C is 1/60 h (6 min).**

Battery Operation

Charge-discharge curve of a battery \rightarrow Thermodynamics and kinetics in action



- Faraday's law
- Nernst equation
- Sand equation
- Ohm's Law
- Tafel equation
- Butler-Volmer equation



Li

Why Li for batteries?



"The fortuitous combination of a small atomic weight, extremely low reduction potential, and monovalent charge renders Li with such unique qualities that are nearly impossible for other elements or compounds to rival."

Chem. Rev. 2018, 118, 23, 11433-11456

Li-ion vs Li primary

CR Series Manganese Dioxide Lithium Batteries

Features

- Offers high-rate pulse discharge
- Available in a range of compact sizes and capacities, from thin-type to high-capacity models
- Excellent low-temperature performance enhanced by manganese-dioxide positive pole

Applications

Remote keyless entry, card remote controls, memory backup, security price tags, smart transmitter tags, etc.



erating temperature range*2

2

Madal Na	Nominal voltage (1/)	Nominal canacity (mAb)#1	Continuous drain (mA)	Dimensions (mm)		Mass (a)	
Model No. Noninal voltage (v) Non	Nominal capacity (mAn)	Continuous urain (IIIA)	Diameter		mass (y)		
CR1025		30		10.0	2.5	0.6	
CR1216		25		10.5	1.6	0.7	
CR1220		35		12.0	2.0	0.9	
CR1616		55			1.6	1.0	
CR1620		75	0.1	16.0	2.0	1.3	
CR1632		140			3.2	1.9	
CR2012		55			1.2	1.4	
CR2016	2	90		20.0	1.6	1.6	
CB2025	3			20.0		22	

ML Series Manganese Rechargeable Lithium Batteries

Features

Ideal for long-term memory backup with extra-high capacity

Applications

Memory backup (drive recorders, PCs, communication/radio, medical equipment, FA equipment), etc.



Discharge characteristics (Example: ML621)

Model No.	Neminal voltage (V)	Neminal canacity (mAb)*1	Continuous drain (mA)	Dimensi	ons (mm)		Charge voltage (VI)	Charge voltage (0)	Operating temperature range
model No.	Nominal Voltage (V)	Nominal capacity (mail)	Continuous urain (IIIA)	Diameter	Height	mass (y)	Charge Voltage (V)	operating temperature range	
ML421		2.3	0.005	4.8	2.1	0.10			
ML614		3.4	0.01	6.0	1.4	0.16			
ML621	2	5.0	0.01	0.0	2.1	0.22	2 8 to 3 2	-20 °C to 60 °C	
ML920	3	11.0	0.02	0.5		0.39	2.0 10 3.2	-20 01000 0	
ML1220		17.0	0.03	12.5	2.0	0.80			
ML2020		45.0	0.12	20.0		2.20			

*1 Nominal capacity shown above is based on standard drain and cutoff voltage down to 2.0 V at 20 °C.

Understanding Cell Component Properties

Gas sampling



NMR





CT scan



XRD









Impedance (EIS)



V profiles

Adv. Energy Mater. 2022, 12, 2103196 Solids 2022, 3(2), 237-257

Abusing Cells for Science

Test	Energy Source	Conditions	Estimated Energy
20 Pulse laser	IR Laser	20 1.9 J pulses	38 J
Nail Penetration	Mechanical	20 mm penetration ~200 lb peak load	1.8J
Undirected light	Quartz lamp	Exposure to light source through aperture	6000 J*
Thermal Ramp	Thermal	Heat to 200 °C	6300 J**
Overcharge	Electrical	1C to 200% SOC	43200 J***

* Based on radiometer measured flux through aperture
** Calculated for hypothetical 40g cell – larger cells will require more energy
*** Calculated for a hypothetical overcharge at 3 A and 4 V at a 1C rate

Solid-State Batteries, Why the Excitement?

- Two Primary Advantages
- Energy density
 - Li-metal anode
- Safety
 - Replacement of flammable liquid electrolyte



SOLID STATE BATTERY TECHNOLOGY

1 From top t	-BASED EL	ECTROLYTE es, small-medium e	nterprises, researc	h institutes,	3 POLYN From top to	IER-BASED	ELECTROL tes, small-medium e	YTE enterprises, research	h institutes,
Panasonic	muRata	HONDA	BOSCH	dyson	LG Chem	HITACHI	Wildcat Discovery Technologies	4 APB	Blue Solutions
NGR	ilika	QuantumScape	ProLogium	University of Colorado Derver	Q, Hydro Québec	SE	🖲 Rensselaer	BLADN	8
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2 SULFI From top t	DE-BASED I	ELECTROLY es, small-medium e	TE nterprises, researc	h institutes,	LG Chem	Panasonic	GSYUASA	BASF	Ampere
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Thermal Model

Relevant Reactions

Rxn#	Reaction Description	Reaction Equation
R1	Cathode decomposition	$2MO_2 \rightarrow 2MO + O_2$
R2	Cathode-electrolyte	$2C_4H_8O_3 + 9O_2 \rightarrow 8CO_2 + 8H_2O_2$
R3	Anode-electrolyte	$4\text{LiC}_6 + 2\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{O}_3 \rightarrow 4\text{C}_6 + 3\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + 2\text{H}_2 + 2\text{Li}_2\text{CO}_3$
R4	Cell discharge	$Li + MO_2 \rightarrow LiMO_2$
R5	Anode-oxygen	$4Li + O_2 \rightarrow 2Li_2O$

Failure Modes

Failure Mode	Reactions Involved
External heating	R1, R2, and R3
Short circuit	R4
Mechanical failure	R1 and R5

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