#### BENEATH THE SURFACE: X-RAY ANALYSES OF BATTERY MATERIALS AND STRUCTURES

A Battery Webinar Series by Rigaku

### Pair Distribution Function (PDF) Analysis for Everyday Battery Analysis

February 21, 2024 at 1:00 PM



- You will be muted during the webinar.
- You can ask questions using the Q&A tool.
- You should hear music if your sound is working.





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### Pair Distribution Function (PDF) Analysis for Everyday Battery Analysis

February 21, 2024 at 1:00 PM

We are starting now...





Presenter: **Simon Bates** | VP Science and Technology Co-presenter: **Tom Concolino** | National XRD Sales Manager Host: **Aya Takase** | Head of Global Marketing





### You can ask questions following the presentation.





### Recording will be available tomorrow.





## PAIR DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION (PDF) ANALYSIS FOR EVERYDAY BATTERY ANALYSIS





Riaaku



### We will discuss:

Cathode Material for Li-ion Batteries
Total Diffraction PDF vs Traditional Bragg Methods

• Application of PDF Small Box and Large Box Methods to Cathode Material XRD Data

# WHY IS THIS TOPIC IMPORTANT?

Aging and degradation of cathode material.

Total Diffraction and PDF analysis returns a detailed atomistic level model of the impact of repeated charge / discharge.

Allows fine tuning of composition / doping / coating to optimize cathode longevity.

Applicable to anode material and solid-state electrolyte.





Li-ion Cathode Analogue Li Co O2



### Li Co O2 - analogue

Trigonal R-3m

*a=b* ~ 2.817 Å *c* ~ 14.05 Å, gamma = 120 °2θ

Co forms rigid two-dimension sheet framework O bonded top and bottom of Co sheets Li relative mobile to travel between sheets





#### Li ion BVS



### Li Co O2 - analogue

Crystal structure represented by just 3 atoms in asymmetric unit.

Positions governed by symmetry constraints. Only O is free to move (along c-axis).

Disordered modeled by occupation numbers and thermal parameters.



Li ion BVS



Idealistic and overly constrained model of average order.

→ Bragg Peaks



### Li Co O2 - analogue

PDF represents atom-atom pair relationships

Local order / disorder independent of symmetry.

Individual atomic relationships can be investigated (Li - Li).



Li ion BVS



Realistic and complex representation of local order / disorder.

 $\rightarrow$  Diffuse scattering + Peaks





Radial Distribution function – the origin of the PDF – the impact of disorder.

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Radial Distribution function – the origin of the PDF – the impact of disorder.







Radial Distribution function – the origin of the PDF – the impact of disorder.

#### Rate = $0 \rightarrow$ highly ordered crystalline Rate = $1 \rightarrow$ Complete disorder (Amorphous)





Radial Distribution function – the origin of the PDF – the impact of atom occupation.



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# POLLING QUESTION #1

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Pair Distribution Function (PDF) Analysis



# MEASUREMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Total Diffraction
- Isotropic
- Minimize Sample Corrections
- High Q
- High Q (noise)
- Validate to Ni





SmartLab 9kW horizontal capillary



Synergy S micro-diffraction







(20)







Realistic and complex representation of local order / disorder.

Channel width between the 2D cobalt sheets can be directly determined form observed PDF peak positions of Co – Co interactions.









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PDF GUI isotropic thermal parameters for LCO Sigma ~ 0.11Å for Lithium - occ: 0.88 Sigma ~ 0.072Å for Co unit cell parameters a=b=2.8191Å, c=14.0679Å R factor ~ 16%







Solution	Li – Li (Å)	Li σ (Å)	Disorder rate	Co σ (Å)	Disorder rate
Single Crystal	2.82	0.079		0.055	
Small Box	2.82	0.11		0.07	
Big Box	2.82	0.11	0.017	0.09	0.0025



Big Box RMC atom-atom distance by atom type



(25)

# POLLING QUESTION #2

**Microsoft Stock** 







Li-ion Cathode NMC532







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#### RMC Li NCM523 O2



PDF GUI isotropic thermal parameters for Li NCM O2 Sigma ~ 0.10Å for Lithium - occ: 1.02 Sigma ~ 0.09Å for Co (O occ ~ 0.85) unit cell parameters a=b=2.8743Å c=14.251Å R factor ~ 15%



NCM523\_Ag\_Gr.gr: G







Big Box RMC atom-atom distance by atom type



(30)



Li-ion Cathode NMC532 Cycled



#### Cycled material

Initial NCM523 (measured with silver radiation compared with cycled NCM523 (measured with Mo)







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Li NCM523 O2	Solution	Li – Li (Å)	Li σ (Å)	Disorder rate	Co σ (Å)	Disorder rate
	Single Crystal	2.86	0.08		0.08	
	Small Box	2.873	0.11		0.09	
	Big Box	2.848	0.13	0.015	0.10	0.0025



Big Box RMC atom-atom distance by atom type



(34)



**Q** Rigaku

NCM523 O2	Solution	Li – Li (Å)	Li σ (Å)	Disorder rate	Co σ (Å)	Disorder rate
	Single Crystal	2.86	0.08		0.08	
	Small Box	2.871	0.11		0.09	
	Big Box	2.849	0.14	0.016	0.12	0.0017



Big Box RMC atom-atom distance by atom type



Li

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Li NCM523 O2

#### Big Box RMC atom-atom distance by atom type

Solution	Li – Li (Å)	Li σ (Å)	Disorder rate	Li Occupation	Co σ (Å)	Disorder rate	R-factor
Li Co O2	2.82	0.11	0.017	0.9	0.09	0.0025	8.6%
Li NMCO2	2.854	0.13	0.018	1.02	0.09	0.0036	14%
Cycled - Synergy	2.848	0.13	0.015	1.4	0.10	0.0025	16%
Cycled - SmartLab	2.849	0.14	0.016	1.3	0.12	0.0017	16%

Li occupancy of about 1.4 corresponds to about a 4% Li replacement with Ni – for example.



# POLLING QUESTION #3

**Microsoft Stock** 







# Electron Diffraction Investigation





To further investigate the Li occupation numbers, Electron Diffraction performed on individual nanoparticles of cathode material.

Different polymorphs of NCM523 observed: monoclinic and trigonal







# Electron Diffraction Crystal structure of NCM523 on nanoparticles taken from a cycled battery.









### We have discussed:

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# **Questions & Answers**











We'll follow up with your questions.

Recording will be available tomorrow.

Register for the next workshop.



#### BENEATH THE SURFACE: X-RAY ANALYSES OF BATTERY MATERIALS AND STRUCTURES

A Battery Webinar Series by Rigaku

### Non-destructive Elemental Analysis of Batteries Using XRF

June 19, 2024 at 1:00 PM



### Register from battery.rigaku.com



# THANK YOU



