PDF Analysis of Batteries Using Diffraction Computed Tomography

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- Marco Di Michiel



UiO: University of Oslo



Energy Storage

- Renewable
 Energy requires
 efficient energy
 storage!
- Batteries are a key part of this...



- Lithium batteries are commonplace in the modern world
- Solid state and Light weight ideal for mobile applications
- Well developed technology

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- Lithium batteries are commonplace in the modern world
- Solid state and Light weight ideal for mobile applications
- Well developed technology
- Rare element, expensive!
- Sodium has similar chemistry
- Heavier but cheaper, and widely available!
- Potentially useful for stationary applications (e.g. home power storage)

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Solid state and Light weight ide

Well developed technology

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Sodium

• Heavier

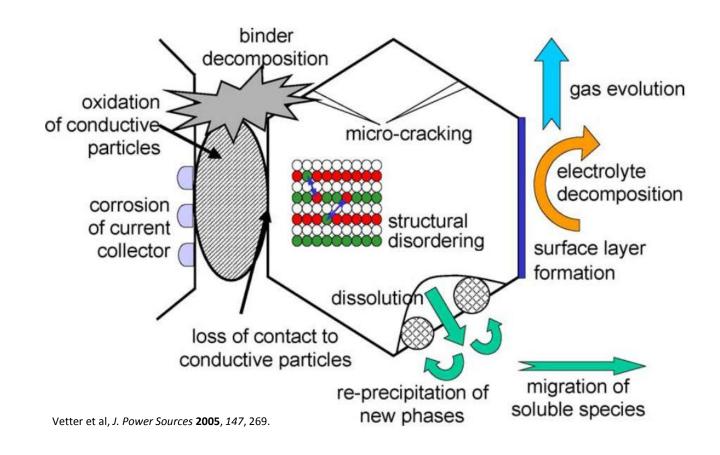
Potentiastorage)



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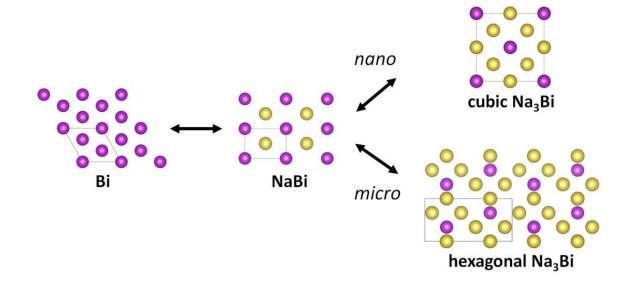
Degradation Mechanisms



Making Better Batteries

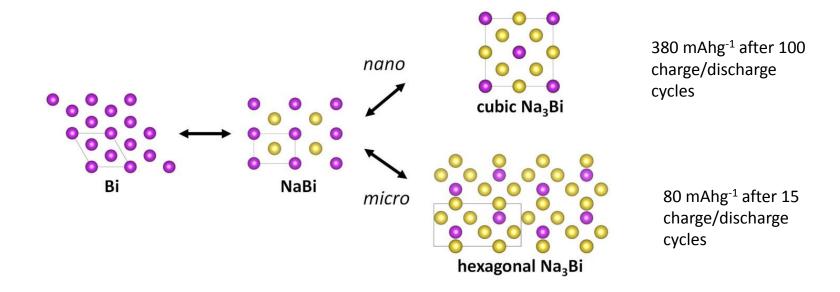
- Capacity, cycling stability, safety and cost are among the targets for improvement
- We have focussed on discovering and understanding new anode materials
- Nanosizing can be a useful method

Nano sizing in Bismuth



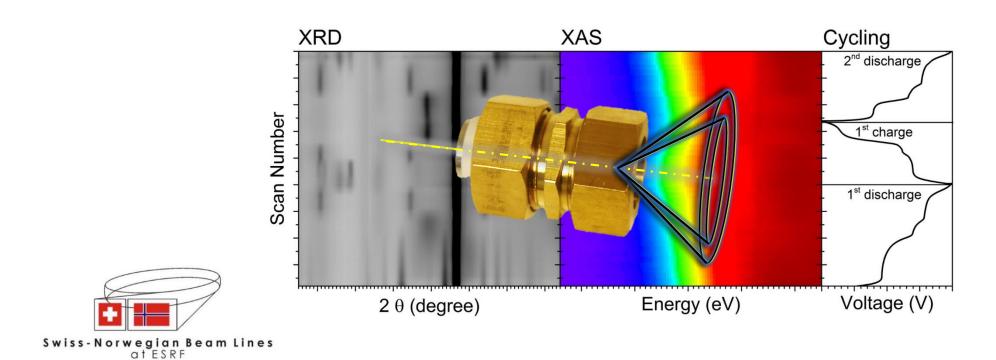
Sottmann et al, Chem Mater 2016

Nano sizing in Bismuth

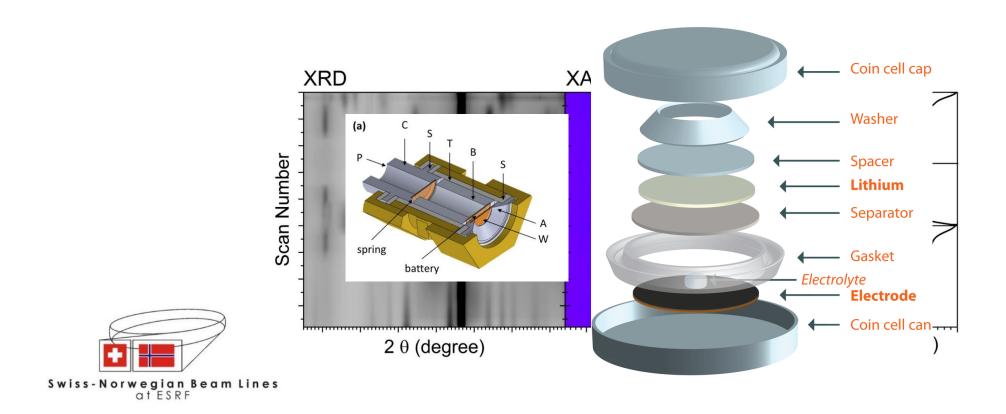


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The trouble with *Operando* Characterization of batteries



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The Second Problem

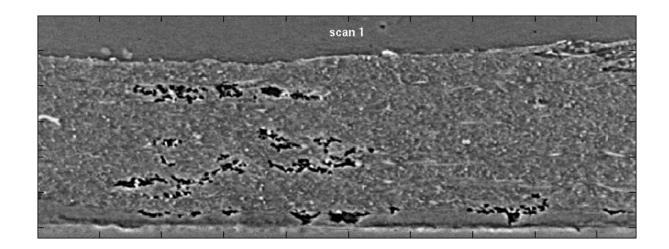
- Many interesting battery materials are amorphous
 - Methods based on crystal structure cannot be applied
- Total scattering methods can help

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- Many interesting battery materials are amorphous
 - Methods based on crystal structure cannot be applied
- Total scattering methods can help
 - But we must remove background and non-sample contributions

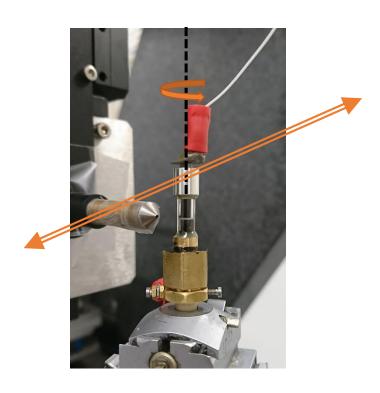
Computed Tomography (CT)

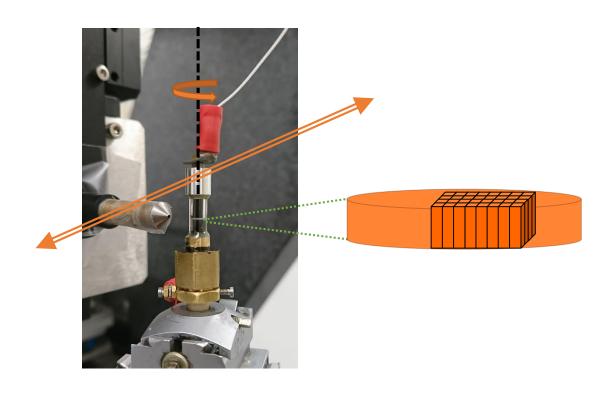
- Tomographic imaging allows us to visualise battery components
- This can be done in real time...

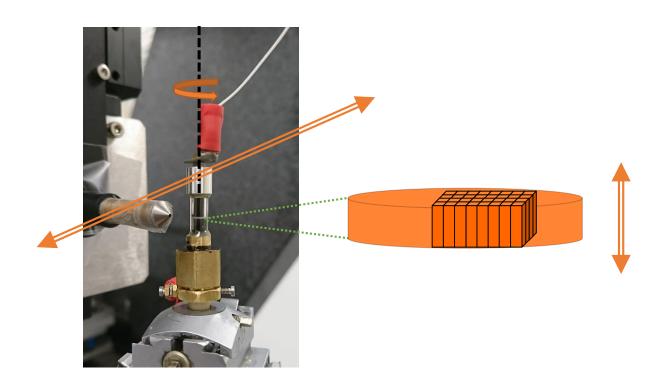






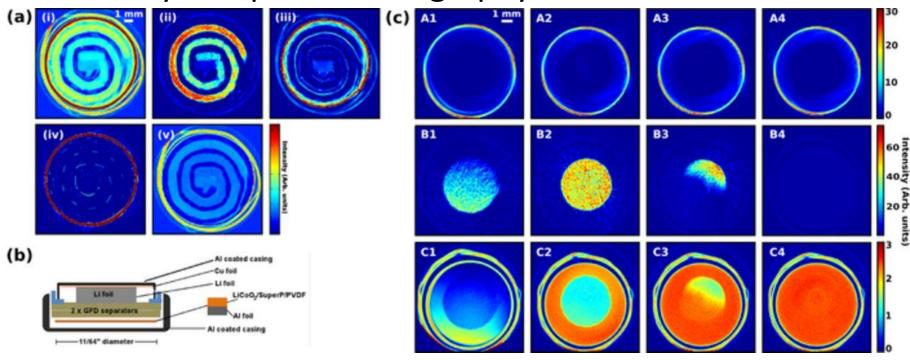




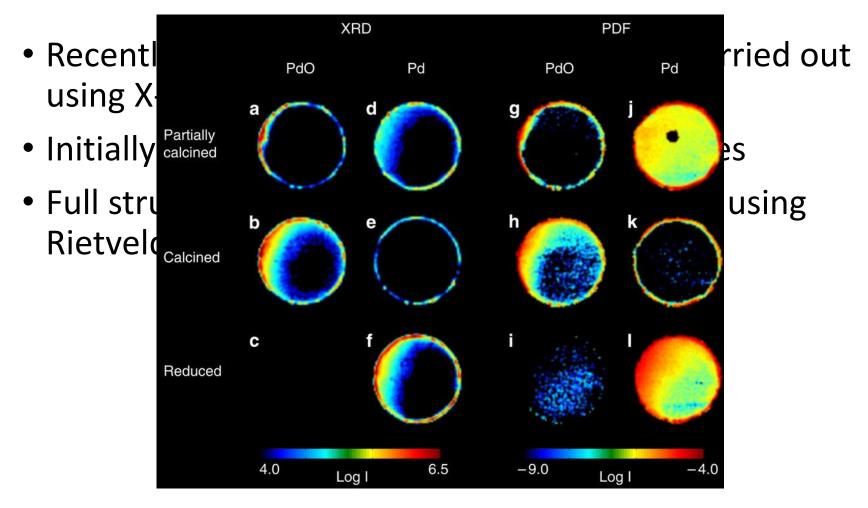


- Recently computed tomography has been carried out using X-ray diffraction
- Initially basic analysis of Bragg peak intensities
- Full structural analysis of the data is possible using Rietveld and PDF methods

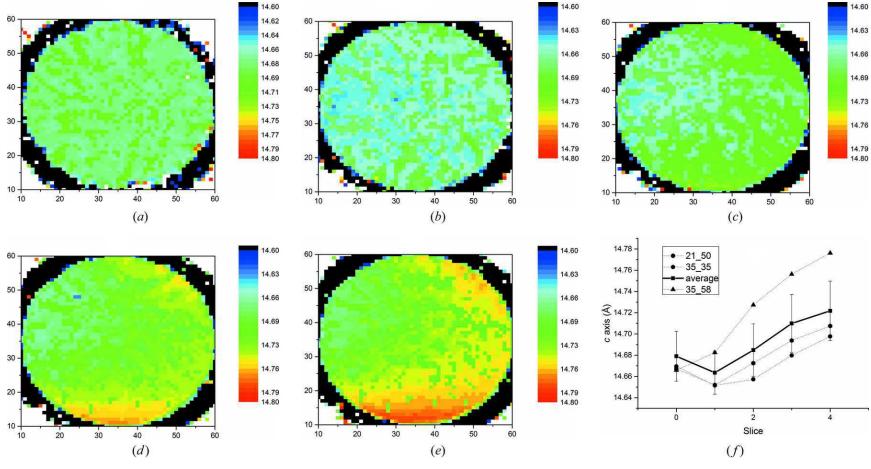
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Kirsten M. Ø. Jensen et al. J. Electrochem. Soc. 2015;162:A1310-A1314



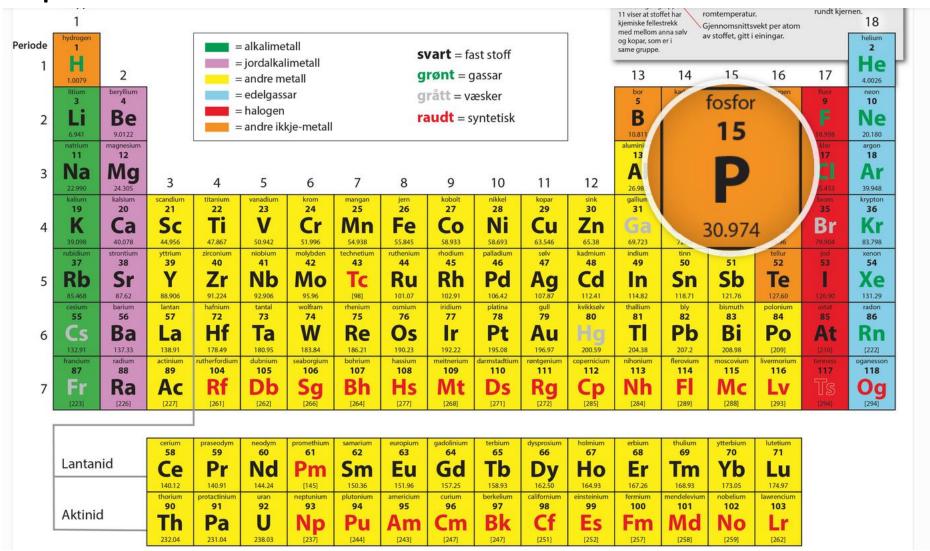
Jacques et al, Nature commun., 2013





Wragg et al.

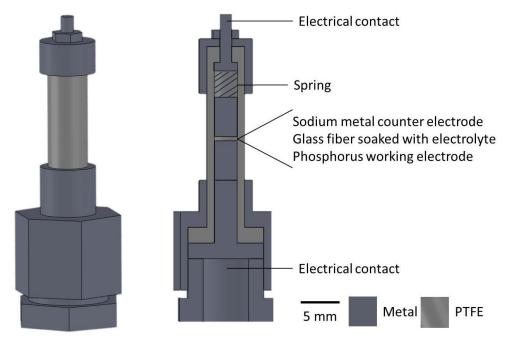
Phosphorus



Phosphorus

- High capacity anode for sodium ion batteries
 - Each P can alloy 3 Na-ions
 - Lowest molecular mass
- Only one of the compounds formed during cycling is crystalline
- Low X-ray scattering power
- The mechanism of cycling has remained obscure despite post mortem XRD, NMR and TEM studies
- No operando structural studies

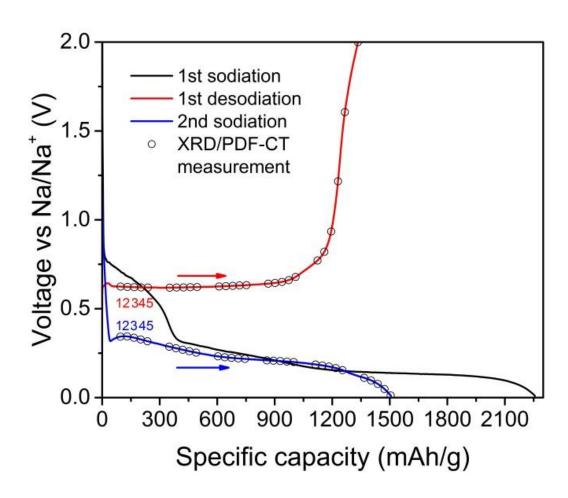
Battery XRD-CT Cell Targeting specific components



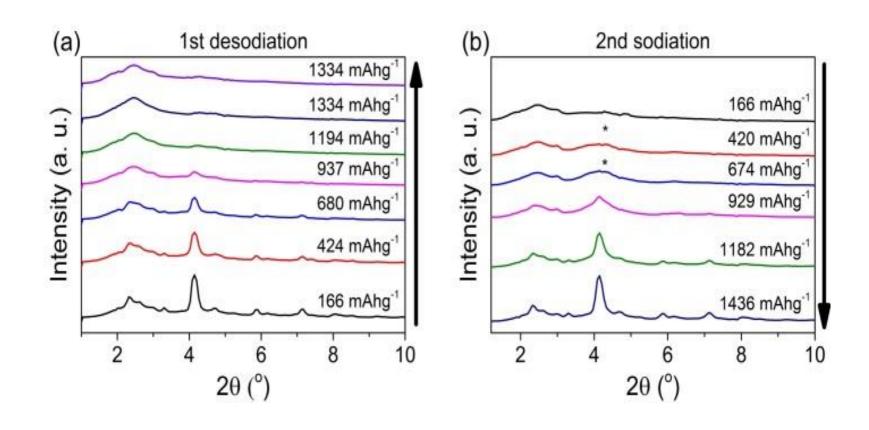
Battery XRD-CT Cell Targeting specific components



Results- cycling

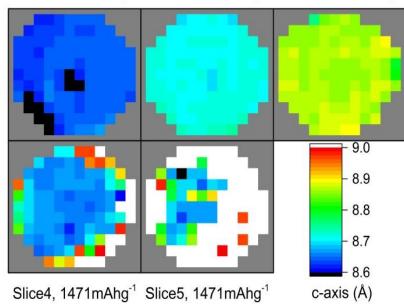


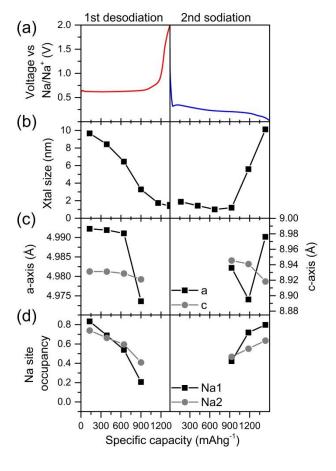
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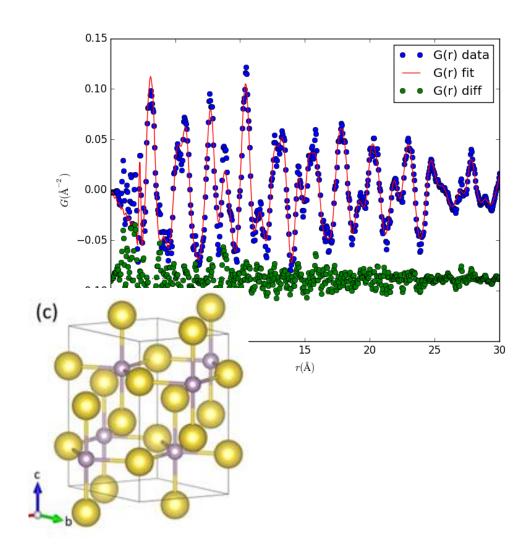




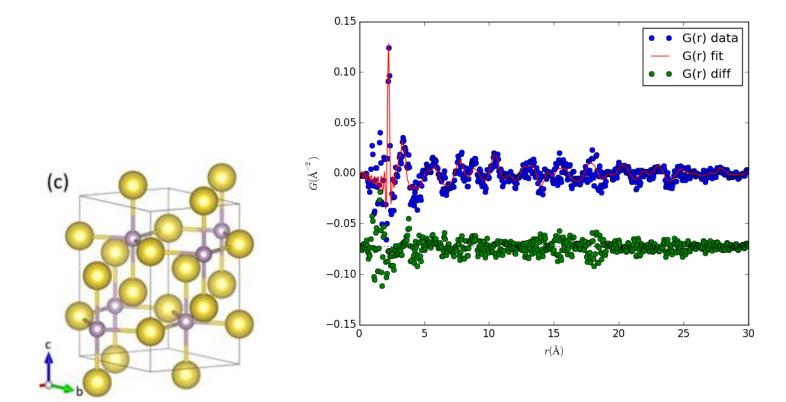
PDF fitting

- PDF data quality was poor...
- Data summed over all voxels of each tomogram
- Spline fit used to reduce noise before data conversion
- PDFfit command line
 - Clusters and crystalline structures in same refinement

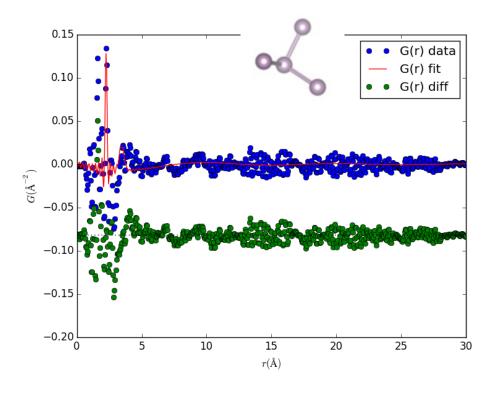
PDF- Desodiation



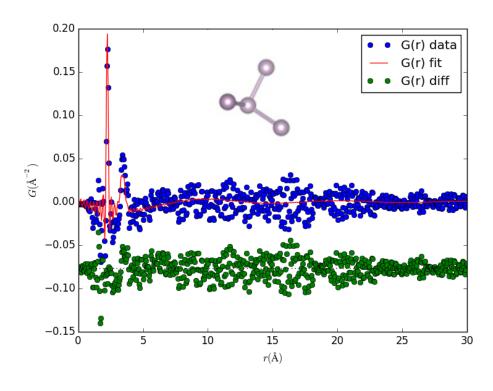
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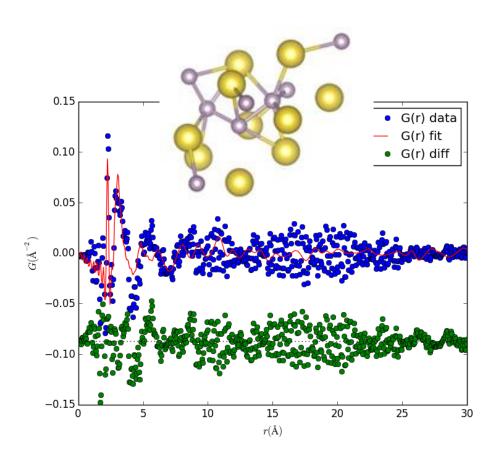
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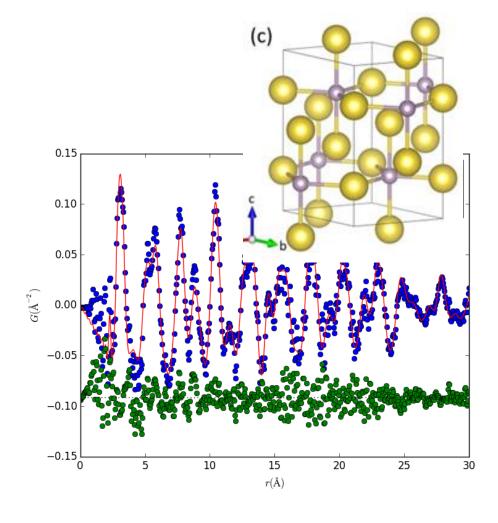
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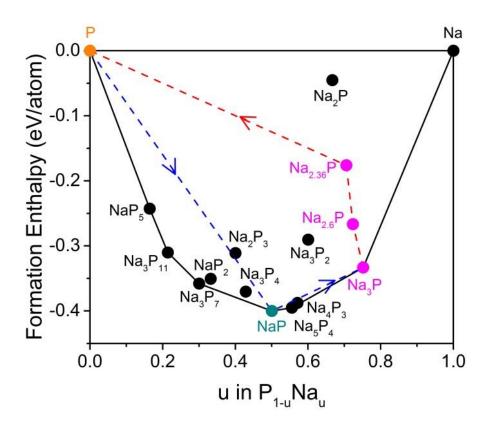
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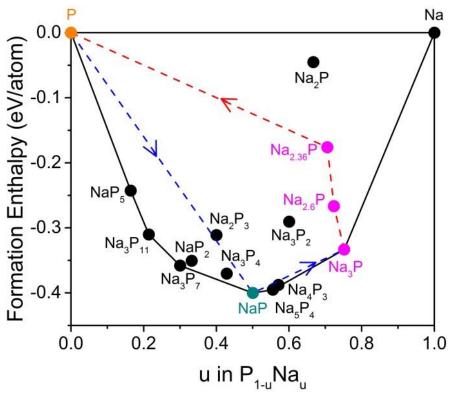
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Calculations and Conclusions

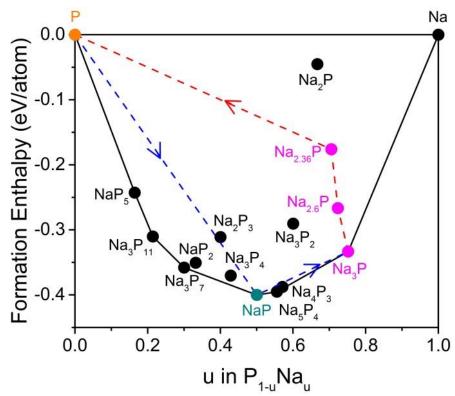


Calculations and Conclusions



- Sodiation = thermodynamic (P NaP- Na₃P)
- Desodiation = kinetic (deintercalation from Na_{3-x}P)
- PDF-CT can be used to get better information from specific components- averaging across the whole tomogram

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- PDF-CT can be used to get better information from specific components- averaging across the whole tomogram
- Can we get better PDF data for structure analysis and mapping?

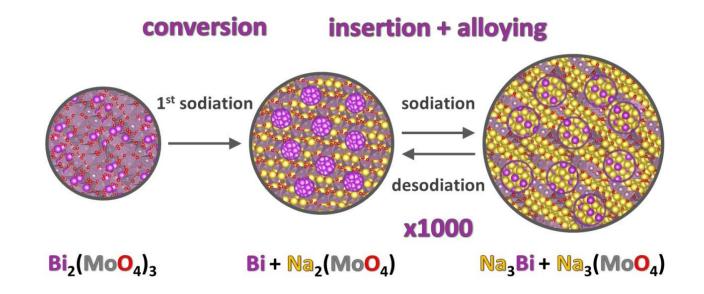
Bismuth Metallates revisited

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Bismuth Metallates revisited

- Excellent cycling properties
 - High capacity
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- We belived this was due to nanostructure
 - Coating of bismuth nanoparticles with vanadate/molybdate

conversion insertion + alloying

1st sodiation

desodiation

x1000

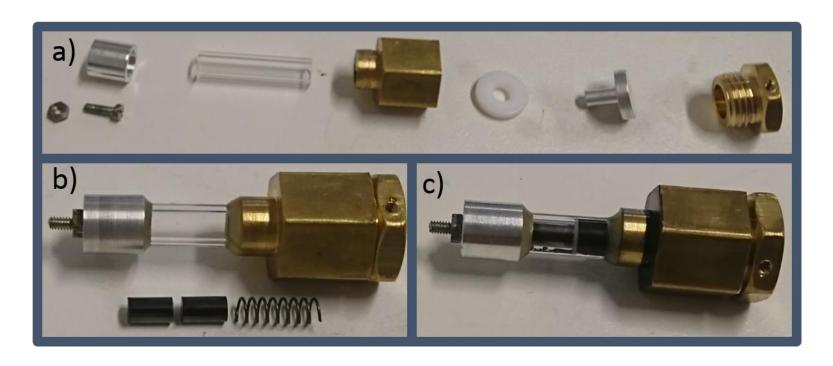
Bi₂(MoO₄)₃

Bi + Na₂(MoO₄)

Na₃Bi + Na₃(MoO₄)

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Improved tomo cell and ID15 Upgrade



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