

Rechargeable Sodium-ion Battery: High Capacity Ammonium Vanadate Cathode with Enhanced Stability at High Rate

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First-principles calculations are based on Density Functional Theory (DFT) as implemented in Vienna Ab-initio Simulation Package (VASP).¹ We use a generalized gradient approximation (GGA) with the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE)² functional of the exchange and correlation energy. In the initial structure, the NH_4^+ ion lie between the layers and Na^+ ions, are present into the gallery space as well as within the layers.³ All the structures are fully relaxed through minimization of energy till the magnitude of forces is smaller than $0.02 \text{ eV } \text{\AA}^{-1}$ and pressure less than 0.01 Kbar . We used an energy cut-off of 500 eV on the plane wave basis set and k-mesh grids of $3 \times 9 \times 9$ for sampling Brillouin Zone integrations. We used $U = 3.0 \text{ eV}$ (Hubbard parameter) to incorporate onsite correlations of electrons in d orbitals of V in all the calculations. We calculated average electrochemical potential from Nernst equation

$$V_{\text{cell}} = \frac{-\Delta G}{nF} \approx \frac{-\Delta E}{nF} = -(E_{\text{in-Na}} - E_{\text{de-Na}} - E_{\text{Na}})$$

where V_{cell} is the cell voltage, ΔG is change in Gibbs free energy per mole which is approximate equal to change in calculated total energy ΔE , n is the number of moles of electrons transferred and F is the Faraday constant. $E_{\text{in-Na}}$, $E_{\text{de-Na}}$ and E_{Na} are total energy are the energies per formula unit of sodiated and de-sodiated structures of electrode and one mol of Na atom, respectively (Figure S2).

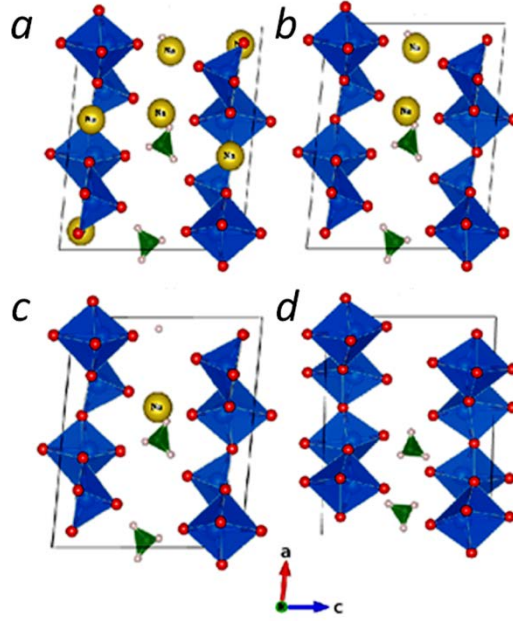


Figure S1. Configuration of the (a) $\text{Na}_3\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$. (b) $\text{Na}_1\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$. (c) $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$. (d) $\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$.

Table S1. Magnetic moment of all the Vanadium atoms in $\text{Na}_x\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$ from DFT calculations.

$\text{Na}_x\text{NH}_4\text{VO}_{10}$	Magnetic moment							
	V1	V2	V3	V4	V5	V6	V7	V8
0	0.2	0	1	0	0	0.2	0	1
0.5	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.2	1	1	0.2
1	1	0.2	0.3	1	0.2	1	1	0.3
3	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1

Table S2. Calculated lattice parameters and lattice volume at different concentration of Na in $\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$.

$\text{Na}_x\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$	Lattice parameter			Volume(\AA^3)	
	a(\AA)	b(\AA)	c(\AA)		
0	11.78(11.71 [#])	3.74(3.66 [#])	9.75(9.72 [#])	428.91	
0.5	11.79	3.74	9.71	426.55	experimental lattice parameter
1	12.07	3.77	9.08	413.49	
3	12.51	3.94	9.85	484.4	

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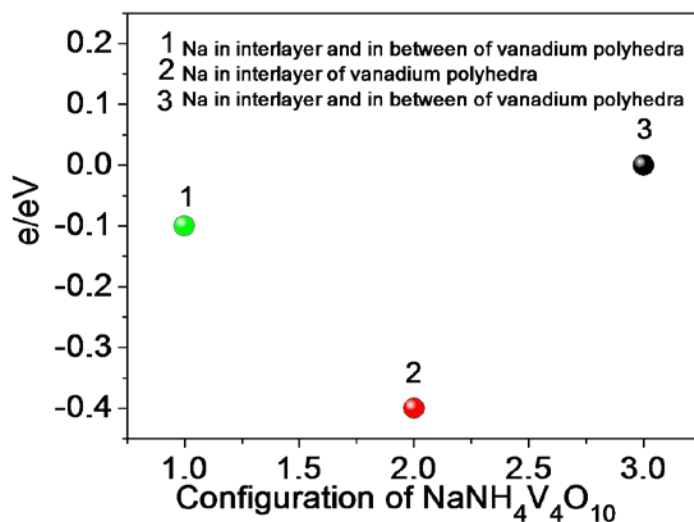


Figure S2. The calculated formation energies of $\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$ structure with Na in gallery space and within the layer.

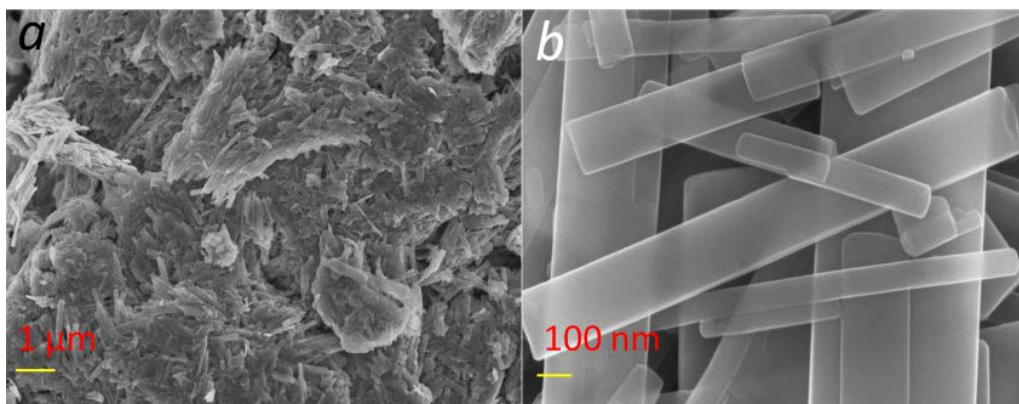


Figure S3. (a-b) FEG-SEM image of $\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$ nano-belts.

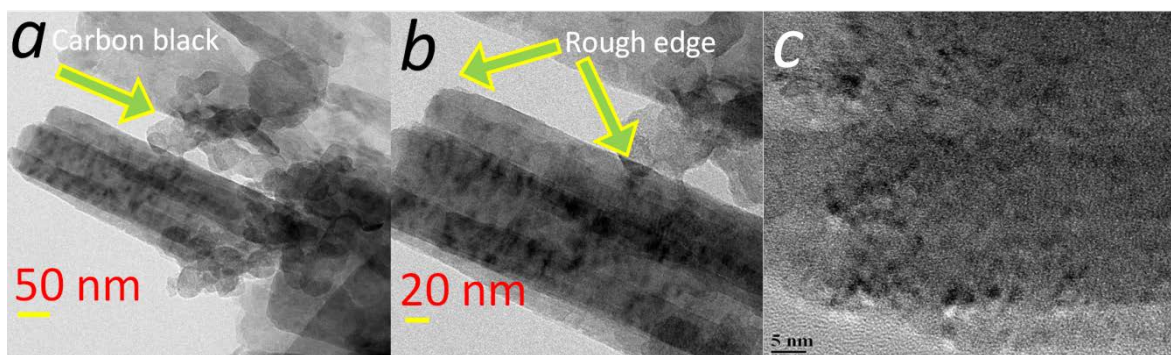


Figure S4. (a-b) FEG-TEM image. (c) HR-TEM image of $\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$ material (after 25th cycle).

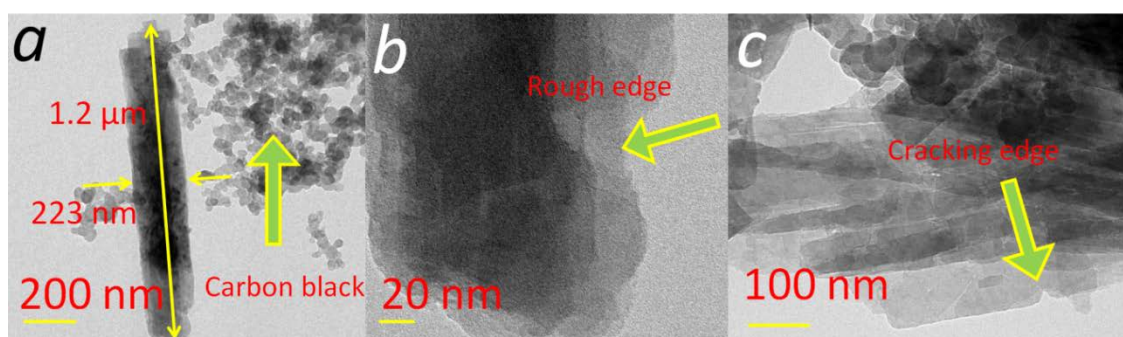


Figure S5. (a-c) FEG-TEM image of $\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$ material (after 32th cycle).

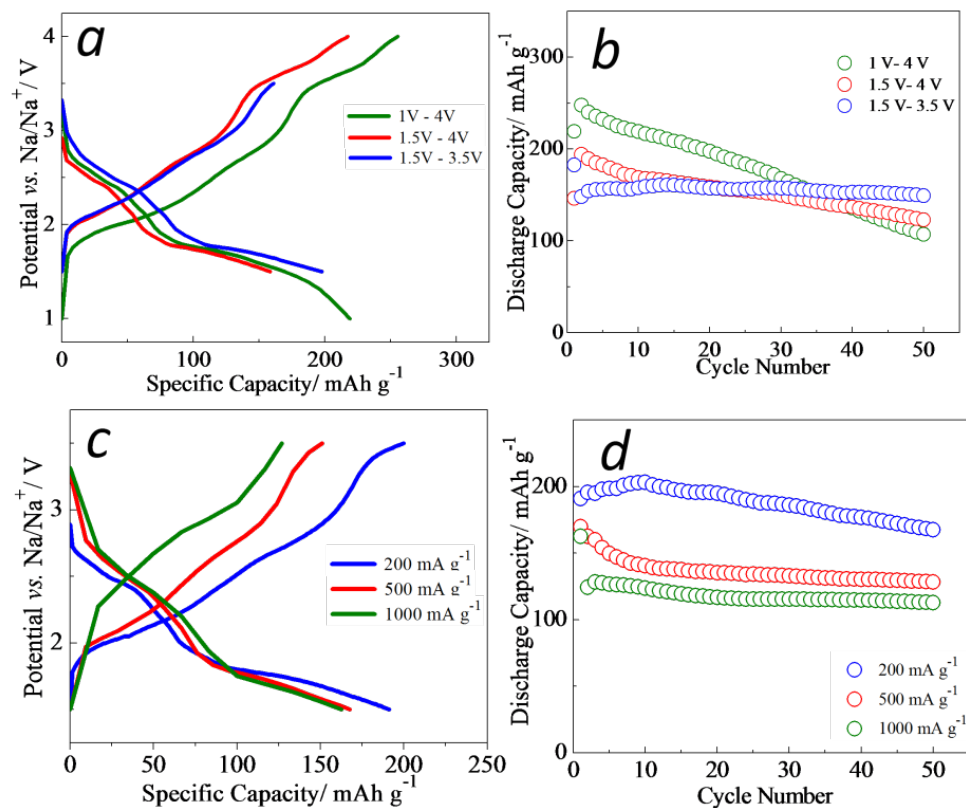


Figure S6. (a) 1st charge/discharge profile of $\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$ cathode material between varying potential (bare Al-current collector). (b) Discharge capacity vs. cycle number (bare Al-current collector), (c) 1st charge/discharge of $\text{NH}_4\text{V}_4\text{O}_{10}$ cathode material between 1.5-3.5 V at varying current rate with carbon coated Al-current collector. (d) Discharge capacity vs. cycle number between 1.5-3.5 V at varying current rate with carbon coated Al-current collector.

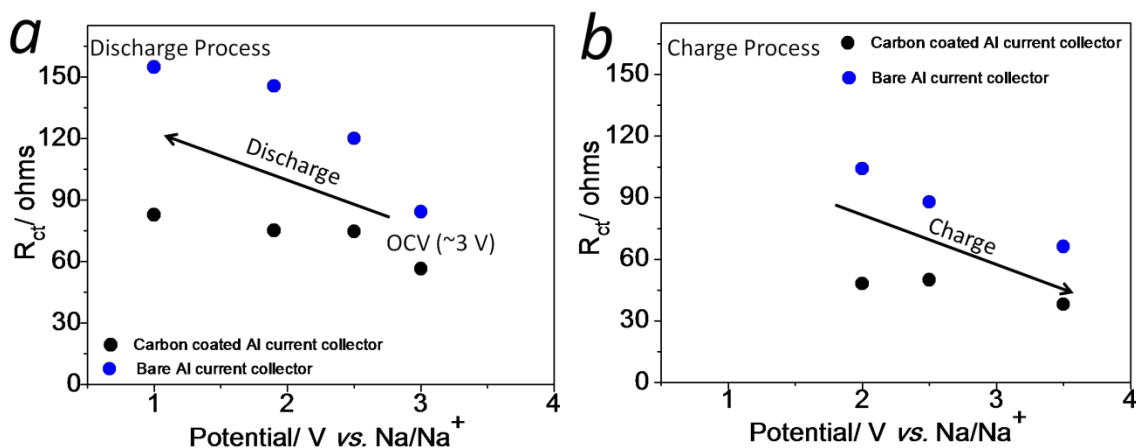


Figure S7. R_{ct} of Carbon coated and bare Al current collector during (a) Discharge process. (b) Charge process.

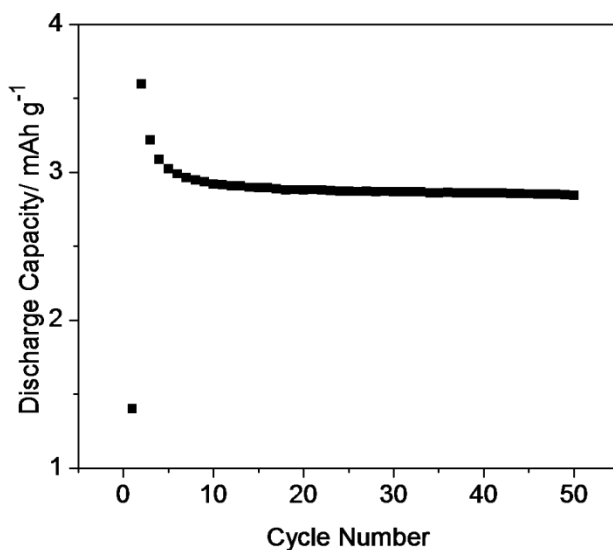


Figure S8. Discharge capacity of carbon at 200 mA g^{-1} current rate between potential window 1.5 V-3.5 V.

The capacity contribution from conductive carbon is shown in Figure S8 which is $\sim 3 \text{ mAh } g^{-1}$ at 200 mA g^{-1} current rate (experiment done only with conductive carbon) between potential window of 1.5 V-3.5 V. Moreover, Na^+ storage in conductive carbon was negligible compared to the $NH_4V_4O_{10}$ cathode material with and with-out carbon coated Al current collector.

REFERENCES

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