

Defluorination/fluorination mechanism of $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ as a fluoride shuttle battery positive electrode

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Abstract

Fluoride shuttle batteries (FSBs), which utilize F^- ion migration in electrochemical reactions, have recently advanced in academic research as next-generation rechargeable batteries. Bismuth trifluoride (BiF_3) and its relatives are expected to be promising positive electrode materials for FSBs because of their high theoretical capacity. Herein, the defluorination/fluorination reaction of a BaF_2 -doped BiF_3 , $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$, positive electrode was investigated using synchrotron-radiation X-ray diffraction, X-ray absorption spectroscopy, and transmission electron microscopy. The $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ electrode showed a higher reversible capacity in the first cycle and improved capacity

retention compared to the BiF_3 electrode. The pristine $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ showed a tysonite-type structure, and metallic Bi and BaF_2 nanoparticles were observed in the fully defluorinated state. Moreover, we found that the (re-)fluorinated material consisted of BiF_3 and BaF_2 nanoparticles, indicating that bismuth is the only redox active element, and that the tysonite structure is not recovered after the initial discharging. This suggests that the cycle performance of the $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ electrode may be improved due to the suppression of the coarsening of BiF_3 nanoparticles by the adhesion of BaF_2 nanoparticles formed after initial defluorination.

Keywords:

Fluoride shuttle battery; Bismuth trifluoride; Tysonite

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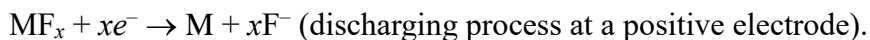
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1. Introduction

Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries (LIBs) have been successfully used worldwide as a power source for portable devices, such as laptop computers and smartphones. The global market for electric vehicles currently demands highly secure batteries with lower cost and higher energy density. Substantial efforts have been dedicated to the development of next-generation batteries to replace LIBs. In recent years, researches have advanced on fluoride shuttle batteries (FSBs) that utilize F^- ion migration in electrochemical reactions [1–5]. Metal fluorides (MF_x , M = metal) generally show a high F/M ratio and, therefore, exhibit high theoretical capacities based on the following conversion-type reaction:



For example, the theoretical capacities of bismuth trifluoride (BiF_3), copper difluoride (CuF_2), and iron trifluoride (FeF_3) are calculated to be 302, 528, and 712 mAh g^{-1} , respectively. A recent theoretical calculation suggested that the defluorination of most metal fluorides proceeds via a two-phase reaction [6].

Fichtner et al. demonstrated all-solid-state FSBs using a solid electrolyte with high F^- ion conductivity [7]. Fluoride solid electrolytes have excellent thermal stability and are stable over a wide potential window; additionally, many candidate materials have been reported [8]. Unfortunately, the F^- ion conductivities of these materials are rather low near room temperature. Room-temperature all-solid-state FSBs using $BaSnF_4$ as solid electrolyte were recently demonstrated [9], but the practical operation of all-solid-state FSBs still requires a high temperature of 150 °C [7,9]. FSBs using liquid electrolytes are expected to allow electrochemical operation at room temperature. Several liquid electrolytes using different fluoride salts and solvents have been proposed in recent years. Okazaki et al. prepared a liquid electrolyte containing an organic fluoride

salt (1-methyl-1-propylpiperidinium fluoride: MPPF) in an ionic liquid (*N,N,N*-trimethyl-*N*-propylammonium bis(trifluoromethanesulfonyl)amide: TMPA-TFSA) at a molar ratio of 1:50 [10]. A fluorohydrogenate ionic liquid electrolyte ($[\text{C}_2\text{C}_{1\text{im}}][(\text{FH})_{2.3}\text{F}]$, $\text{C}_2\text{C}_{1\text{im}} = 1\text{-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium}$) showing a high ionic conductivity was also reported for FSBs [11,12]. Davis et al. used a liquid electrolyte of 0.75 M *N,N,N*-trimethyl-*N*-neopentylammonium fluoride (Np_1F) or *N,N,N*-dimethyl-*N,N*-dineopentylammonium fluoride (Np_2F) in bis(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)ether (BTFE) [13]. Similarly, by adding an anion acceptor (AA) that improves the solubility of inorganic fluoride salts, such as cesium fluoride (CsF), to an organic solvent, bis[2-(2-methoxyethoxy)ethyl]ether (tetraglyme, G4) or a siloxane-based solvent, 2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-3,8,11,14,17-pentaoxa-2,4-disilaoctadecane, we successfully produced a stable liquid electrolyte suitable for FSBs operating at room temperature [14–18].

BiF_3 reportedly undergoes a defluorination/fluorination (discharge/charge) reaction as a positive electrode material for FSBs. The first discharging profile was shown at 150 °C for the all-solid-state cell composed of $\text{Ce}/\text{La}_{0.9}\text{Ba}_{0.1}\text{F}_{2.9}/\text{BiF}_3$ [7]. The reported discharging capacity was 126 mAh g^{-1} —much less than the theoretical capacity of 302 mAh g^{-1} . In a recent literature, the all-solid-state cell composed of $\text{Sn}/\text{BaSnF}_4/\text{BiF}_3$ demonstrated the first discharging capacity of 120 mAh g^{-1} at 25 °C and 281 mAh g^{-1} at 150 °C, and rapid capacity deterioration was observed with discharge–charge cycling at 25 °C [9]. Okazaki et al. showed a reversible charge–discharge profile at room temperature for a liquid-based cell comprising $\text{PbF}_2/\text{MPPF-TMPA-TFSA}/\text{Bi}$ [10]. This study also reported rapid capacity deterioration with electrochemical cycling. Observation of the BiF_3 microparticle morphology using in situ micro-Raman spectroscopy showed that the defluorination mechanism could differ depending on the type of electrolyte applied [19–21]: the defluorination reaction under 0.45 M CsF + AA electrolyte solution proceeded according to a dissolution-deposition mechanism ($\text{BiF}_3(\text{solid}) \rightarrow \text{Bi}^{3+}(\text{solution}) \rightarrow \text{metallic Bi}(\text{solid})$). However,

a direct defluorination mechanism (BiF_3 (solid) \rightarrow metallic Bi (solid)) had an increasing contribution when saturated CsF (0.5 M) + AA electrolyte solution was applied. Moreover, the crystal structure of pristine BiF_3 (orthorhombic, o- BiF_3 , $Pnma$) changed to cubic or trigonal BiF_3 (c- BiF_3 , $Fm\bar{3}m$ or t- BiF_3 , $P\bar{3}c1$, respectively) via defluorination/fluorination reactions depending on the type of electrolyte [19,20]. BiF_3/C composite subjected to high-energy ball milling was recently shown to improve electrochemical performance due to decreased particle size and better mixing with electrically conductive carbon to obtain a discharging capacity close to the theoretical capacity [22]. However, capacity retention with cycling remained poor.

The $\text{BiF}_3\text{-BaF}_2$ solid solution ($\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Ba}_x\text{F}_{3-x}$) prepared by sintering at 700 °C shows several crystal structures depending on the BaF_2 content [23]. In particular, $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Ba}_x\text{F}_{3-x}$ has a LaF_3 (tysonite)-type structure (trigonal, $P\bar{3}c1$) when x ranges from 0.05–0.17. The tysonite-structured $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Ba}_x\text{F}_{3-x}$ shows high F^- ion conductivities because of F deficiency in the structure introduced by adding a divalent fluoride [23]. Recently, Konishi et al. prepared BaF_2 -doped BiF_3 ($\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Ba}_x\text{F}_{3-x}$; $x = 0, 0.2, \text{ and } 0.4$) by high-energy ball milling and reported that $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ ($x = 0.2$) with a tysonite-type structure exhibited good electrochemical performance as an LIB positive electrode [24]. $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ was subsequently examined as an FSB positive electrode [25]: Ba substitution up to $x = 0.2$ improved the specific reversible capacity in the first cycle and capacity retention with cycling, whereas its theoretical capacity was reduced compared to that of BiF_3 . The Ba atom was found to be redox inactive using X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) [25]. Herein, we investigated in detail the defluorination/fluorination mechanism of the $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ positive electrode using X-ray diffraction (XRD), X-ray pair distribution function (PDF) analyses, X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XAS), and transmission electron microscopy (TEM).

2. Experimental

The experimental procedures follow those of previous studies [22,25]. A BiF₃-BaF₂ solid solution sample, Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8}, (Bi_{1-x}Ba_xF_{3-x}; $x = 0.2$) was prepared using a mechanical alloying method by mixing an appropriate ratio of BiF₃ (o-BiF₃, Fluorochem) and BaF₂ (Sigma-Aldrich) reagents in a planetary ball mill (Fritsch PULVERISETTE7) at 1100 rpm for 1 h under an Ar atmosphere. The prepared Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} powder was mixed with carbon (acetylene black, AB) in a planetary ball mill at 1100 rpm for 1 h under an Ar atmosphere to enhance electronic conductivity. The Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8}/C composite was mixed with polyvinylidene difluoride (PVDF) binder at a weight ratio of Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8}:AB:PVDF = 60:25:15 using *N*-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (NMP). The ball-milled BiF₃/C composite was also prepared in the same manner [22]. A positive electrode was fabricated by pasting the resulting slurry on an Al current collector, which was heated at 110 °C to remove NMP. The electrode loading was ~2.0 mg cm⁻². An electrolyte solution contains CsF (Tokyo Chemical Industry) as a supporting electrolyte salt and 2,4,6-triphenylboroxine (TPhBX, Tokyo Chemical Industry) as an AA. The electrolyte solution was prepared as saturated CsF and 0.5 M TPhBX in G4 (Kishida Chemical). The electrode and electrolyte solution were carefully prepared in an Ar-filled glovebox.

The three-electrode electrochemical cell (EC FRONTIER) used for the electrochemical tests consisted of a Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} positive electrode as the working electrode, a Pt mesh as the counter electrode, and a Ag wire immersed in acetonitrile containing 0.1 M AgNO₃ and 0.1 M tetraethylammonium perchlorate (TEAP, 0.587 V vs. standard hydrogen electrode (SHE)) as the reference electrode. The discharge–charge measurements were performed at room temperature in a glovebox using a multichannel potentiostat (VMP-300, BioLogic) with a potential window from -2.0 to -0.2 V (vs. RE) at a current rate of 7.55 mA g⁻¹. The cells were disassembled after electrochemical tests, and the electrode samples were rinsed with G4 and dimethyl carbonate

(DMC) to remove the residual electrolyte.

Synchrotron-radiation XRD (SR-XRD) measurements were performed for powdered samples sealed in 0.3 mm ϕ quartz glass capillaries in the 2θ range of 2.1–78.2° with $\Delta\theta = 0.006^\circ$ at the BL02B2 beamline in SPring-8 (Hyogo, Japan). An incident radiation of 30 keV ($\lambda = 0.4133 \text{ \AA}$) was used and calibrated with the CeO₂ lattice parameters. Pair distribution function (PDF) analyses were performed using the SR-XRD profile data. The X-ray total structure factors, $S(Q)$, were derived from the scattering intensities using the in-house BL04B2 software [26]. The reduced PDFs, $G(r)$, were obtained by the Fourier transform of $S(Q)$ with $Q_{\max} = 15.0 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$.

X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XAS) measurements were performed at the BL32B2 beamline in SPring-8. Bi and Ba L_3 -edge spectra were obtained in a fluorescent yield mode using a silicon drift detector (SDD, Vortex-EX, SII Nano Technology USA). The photon energy was calibrated using standard Cu foil. The XAS spectra were processed using Athena [27].

Elemental mapping analyses of the electrode samples using electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS) and energy dispersive X-ray spectrometry (EDS) were performed on a GIF Quantum-ER (Gatan) and a JED-2300T SDD (JEOL), respectively, which were installed on a Cs-corrected scanning transmission electron microscope (Cs-STEM, JEM-ARM200F, JEOL). The powder sample was dispersed by manual grinding in ethanol, and a drop of the suspension was collected on a holey carbon film supported on a copper mesh. All treatments were performed in a vacuum or under an Ar atmosphere. The measurements were performed at $\sim -150 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ to avoid sample damage during electron beam irradiation (200 kV, 77 μA).

3. Results and Discussion

Figure 1a shows the discharge–charge profiles of the Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} electrode for three cycles. The

observed initial discharging capacity was 307 mAh g⁻¹, which is greater than the theoretical capacity (260 mAh g⁻¹, assuming that no BaF₂ is involved) due to the side reaction such as electrolyte decomposition [25]. An expanded potential window between -2.0 and -0.2 V resulted in higher discharging and charging capacities than those in the literature [25]. The Coulomb efficiencies of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd cycles were 85%, 92%, and 93%, respectively, and the 3rd cycle charging capacity was 218 mAh g⁻¹. The discharge-charge profiles of the BiF₃ electrode are shown in Figure S1. The initial discharging capacity of BiF₃ was 330 mAh g⁻¹, but the capacity loss was large: the Coulomb efficiencies of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd cycles for BiF₃ were 72%, 92%, and 92%, respectively, and the 3rd cycle charging capacity was 148 mAh g⁻¹. Thus, the capacity retention of BaF₂-doped BiF₃ was seemingly improved compared to that of BiF₃ (Figure 1b), although the prolonged cycling performance of this material should be examined in future work. An important difference in the capacity retention of the two materials was found in the initial discharge-charge cycle. Moreover, the dQ/dV⁻¹ profiles of the Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} electrode indicated that the initial discharging process was associated with an unique reaction (Figure S2).

Figure 2a shows the SR-XRD profiles of the Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} electrode during the initial discharge-charge cycle. The Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} powder prepared by mechanical milling had a tysonite (LaF₃)-type structure with the *P*-3*c*1 space group (Figure S3a), indicating that the Bi and Ba atoms randomly reside at the La site (6*f* in the Wyckoff position) in the tysonite structure. The obtained lattice parameters were *a* = 7.243 Å and *c* = 7.339 Å. Based on a previous study [28], the lattice parameters of the tysonite-type BiF₃ (t-BiF₃) and Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} should be *a* = ~7.11 Å and *c* = ~7.30 Å and *a* = ~7.25 Å and *c* = ~7.33 Å, respectively; the latter values are close to the ones obtained herein, indicating that the substitution of Bi³⁺ by Ba²⁺ with a larger ionic radius increases the lattice parameters. In the half- and fully discharged samples (#2 and #3), the diffraction peaks of the tysonite structure completely disappeared, suggesting the structure disruption during the early

stages of defluorination. Instead, broad peaks attributed to metallic Bi were observed (Figure S3b). No incorporation of Ba atoms was observed in metallic Bi. During the fluorination process (#4 and #5), the peaks of metallic Bi decreased in intensity, and a broad halo pattern characteristic of amorphous or nanocrystalline material was observed: the tysonite structure was not recovered. The SR-XRD profiles of the ball-milled BiF₃ electrode are shown in Figure S4 for comparison. We note that the prepared BiF₃ electrode had a cubic structure (c-BiF₃, Figure S4a). The t-BiF₃ phase is preferable to compare with Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8}, but it is difficult to prepare pure t-BiF₃ to the best of our knowledge. Defluorination of c-BiF₃ produced metallic Bi (#3', Figure S4b). The diffraction peaks of the formed Bi were relatively sharp compared to those observed for the Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} electrode, suggesting a larger crystallite size. The formation of c-BiF₃ was partly confirmed in the fully charged sample. This is qualitatively consistent with the large capacity loss observed in the initial discharge–charge profile (Figure S2). These results show that the detailed processes of the defluorination/fluorination reaction of c-BiF₃ and BaF₂-doped t-BiF₃ were slightly different from each other.

To understand the structure of the fluorinated material, reduced PDF analysis was performed (Figure 2b). The $S(Q)$ profiles were also shown in Figure S5. This method is powerful tool to characterize amorphous or nanocrystalline materials formed during electrochemical cycles [29–32]. The $G(r)$ function of the pristine sample (#1) corresponds to that of the tysonite structure. The interatomic distances related to the heavy metal Bi atom were primarily observed. A small peak at 2.5 Å is attributed to the nearest Bi-F pair, whereas the strong peaks at 4.3 and 7.3 Å correspond to the M-M (M = Bi and Ba) distances in the first and second coordination spheres. The $G(r)$ profile of the fully discharged Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} sample (#3) resembles that of the fully discharged c-BiF₃ sample (#3', Figure S4c), corresponding to the metallic Bi profile. Due to the small amount of Ba atoms, the contribution of the Ba-containing material(s) could not be confirmed in $G(r)$. The

amplitude of the $G(r)$ profile of the fully charged sample (#5) disappeared above 25 Å, suggesting an amorphous or nanocrystalline character. This profile is relatively similar to that of pristine $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ and more similar to the fully charged c- BiF_3 (#5', Figure S4c), indicating that the charged $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ material is fluorinated. Especially, the first-neighbor M-M distance of the fully charged $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ was close to that of c- BiF_3 rather than that of the pristine material (Figure S6). Therefore, the formation of a BiF_3 -like local structure, instead of the original BaF_2 -doped tysonite structure, is inferred in the fully charged $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$.

The Bi L_3 -edge XAS spectra of the $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ electrode samples are shown in Figure 3a. In the pristine sample (#1), the energy position of the absorption edge at $\mu(E) = 0.5$ coincides with o- BiF_3 , indicating that the Bi valence state is Bi^{3+} in $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$. The absorption edge shifted to a lower energy by defluorination (#3), showing a reduction to metallic Bi [22]. In the fluorinated sample (#5), the absorption edge was almost the same as that of the pristine sample, which means that Bi^0 was reversibly oxidized to Bi^{3+} . Similar shifts of the absorption edge were also observed in the c- BiF_3 electrode (Figure S7). The energy at $\mu(E) = 0.5$ for the fully charged sample (#5') was lower than that for the pristine sample (#1'), suggesting the incomplete conversion from metallic Bi to c- BiF_3 , as mentioned above. Figure 3b shows the Ba L_3 -edge XAS spectra of the $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ samples. The peak positions of the pristine (#1), fully discharged (#3), and fully charged samples (#5) were almost the same as that of BaF_2 , indicating that the Ba valence is Ba^{2+} and is retained during the discharge–charge process [25]. Therefore, the Ba^{2+} ions randomly substituted the Bi^{3+} ions in the pristine $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ tysonite structure, and only the Bi atom is a redox-active element during the discharge–charge process.

Figure 4a shows the bright-field (BF)-STEM image of the pristine electrode sample. The primary particle size of the ball-milled $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ was estimated to be 6–8 nm in diameter. EDS

elemental mapping showed a similar distribution of Bi, Ba, and F atoms (Figure 4b–e). Nanobeam ED profiles matched the tysonite structure (Figure S8). EELS-STEM images of the fully discharged electrode are shown in Figure 5, where the high-angle annular dark-field (HAADF) image shows an accumulation of particles larger than 10 nm in diameter. On the one hand, elemental mapping shows a similar distribution of Ba and F atoms, which can be considered as BaF₂ (Figure 5c,d). On the other hand, the Bi atom shows a different distribution and is considered a metal (Figure 5e). The nanobeam ED profiles confirmed crystalline BaF₂ and metallic Bi (Figures S9 and S10). These particles seem to exist next to each other. Figure 6 shows the EELS-STEM images of the fully charged sample, where the Ba and Bi distributions are different (Figure 6d,e). The F distribution overlaps with the Ba and Bi distributions (Figure 6c). The nanobeam ED showed crystalline BaF₂ (Figure S11), suggesting that fluorination forms BiF₃ and does not form a Bi-Ba-F material.

The above results show that the tysonite structure decomposes into metallic Bi and nanocrystalline BaF₂ by defluorination and that metallic Bi then converts into amorphous or nanocrystalline BiF₃ by fluorination. In subsequent cycles, the conversion reaction between BiF₃ and Bi is expected to occur, leaving BaF₂ inactive. The metallic Bi formed by the defluorination of Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} is considered to be a smaller particle than that formed by the defluorination of BiF₃, as demonstrated by the XRD profiles (Figures 2a and S4b). Therefore, we speculate that the cycle performance of the Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} electrode would be improved compared to the BiF₃ electrode due to the suppression of the coarsening of BiF₃ particles by the adhesion of BaF₂ particles formed after initial defluorination.

4. Conclusions

In this study, we investigated the defluorination/fluorination reaction of a BaF₂-doped BiF₃, Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8}, positive electrode. The Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} electrode showed a higher reversible capacity

in the first cycle and improved capacity retention compared to the BiF₃ electrode. The XRD profile showed that Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} prepared by mechanical alloying had a single phase of tysonite structure, where Bi and Ba atoms randomly enter in the same atomic position. A low-crystalline metallic Bi was observed in the discharged sample, indicating that the tysonite structure decomposed into Bi and BaF₂ nanoparticles during the defluorination process, as visualized in the HAADF-STEM images. The PDF and EELS analyses suggested the formation of BiF₃ nanoparticles in the charged sample. The XAS spectra at the Bi and Ba *L*₃-edge clearly indicate that bismuth is the only redox-active element. Therefore, we consider that the improved capacity retention of Bi_{0.8}Ba_{0.2}F_{2.8} compared to BiF₃ may be due to the suppression of the coarsening of BiF₃ nanoparticles by the adhesion of BaF₂ nanoparticles formed after initial defluorination. The dispersed BaF₂ nanoparticles serve as mitigating the capacity degradation during cycles, whereas the coarsening proceeds in the undoped BiF₃ electrode causing larger degradation. This study suggests that controlling the by-product nanoparticle decomposed from a multicomponent fluoride is a simple technique to design a posteriori nanocomposite electrode with good cycle performance. The preparation of a single phase of multicomponent fluoride is an important first step for the purpose.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data related to this article can be found online at http://****.

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Figures and Figure captions

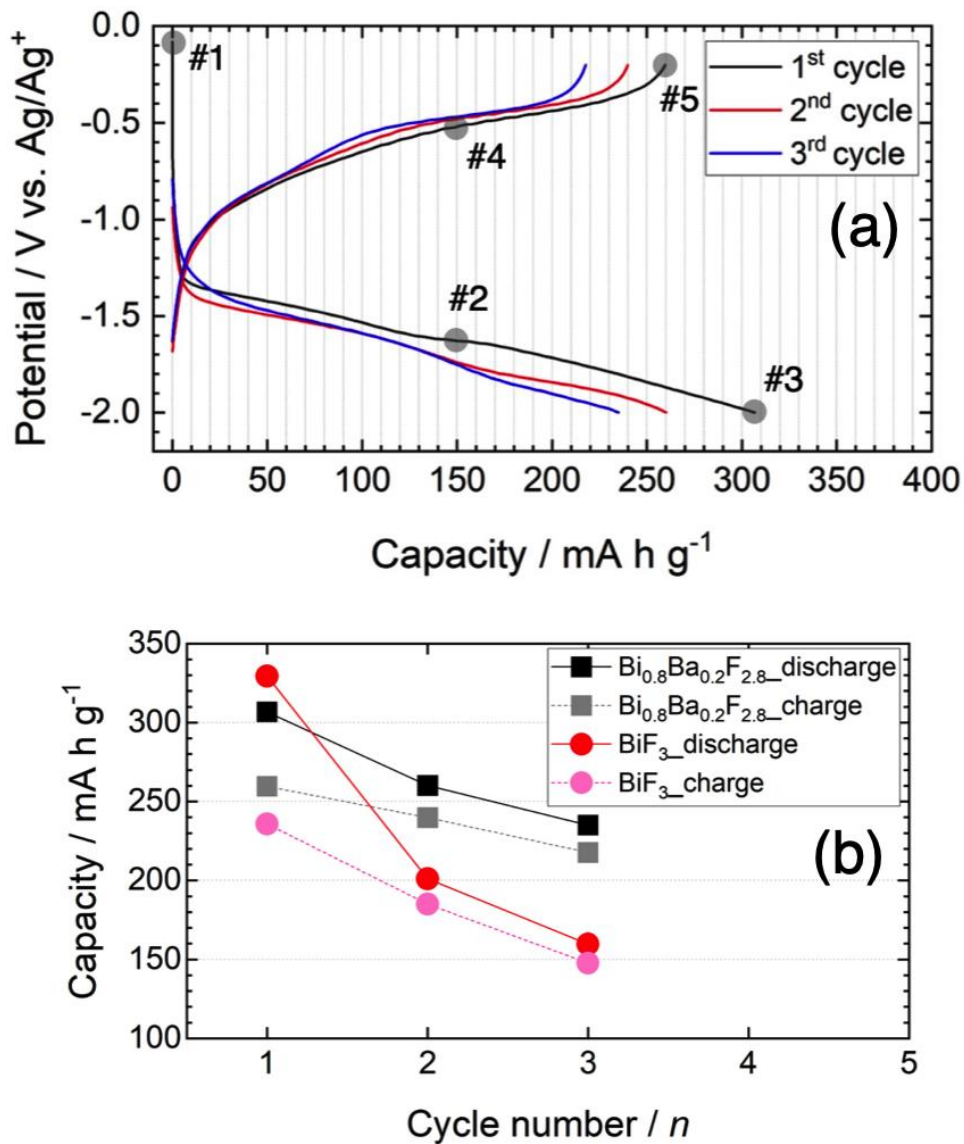


Fig. 1. (a) Discharge–charge profiles of the $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ electrode. The sampling points were marked. (b) Comparison between the discharging and charging capacities of $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ and c- BiF_3 .

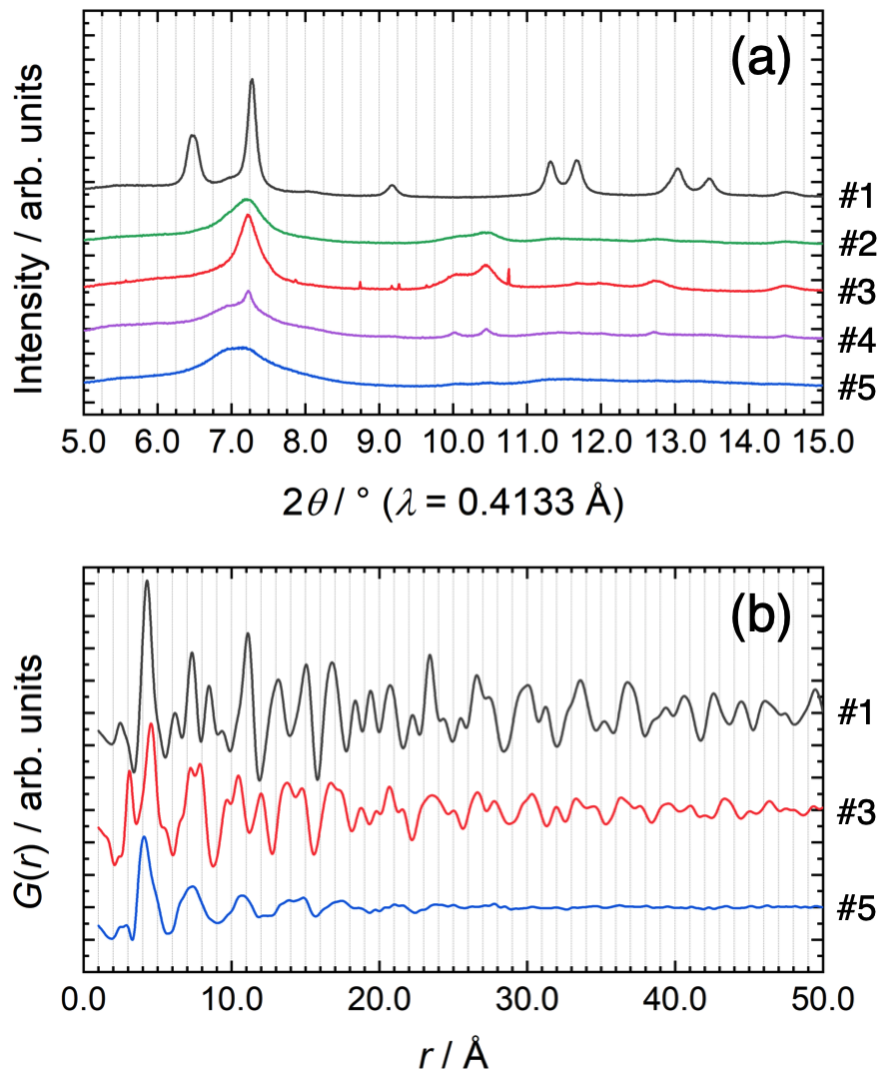


Fig. 2. (a) XRD and (b) reduced PDF, $G(r)$, profiles of the $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ electrode during the initial discharge–charge cycle. The sample numbers are described in Figure 1a.

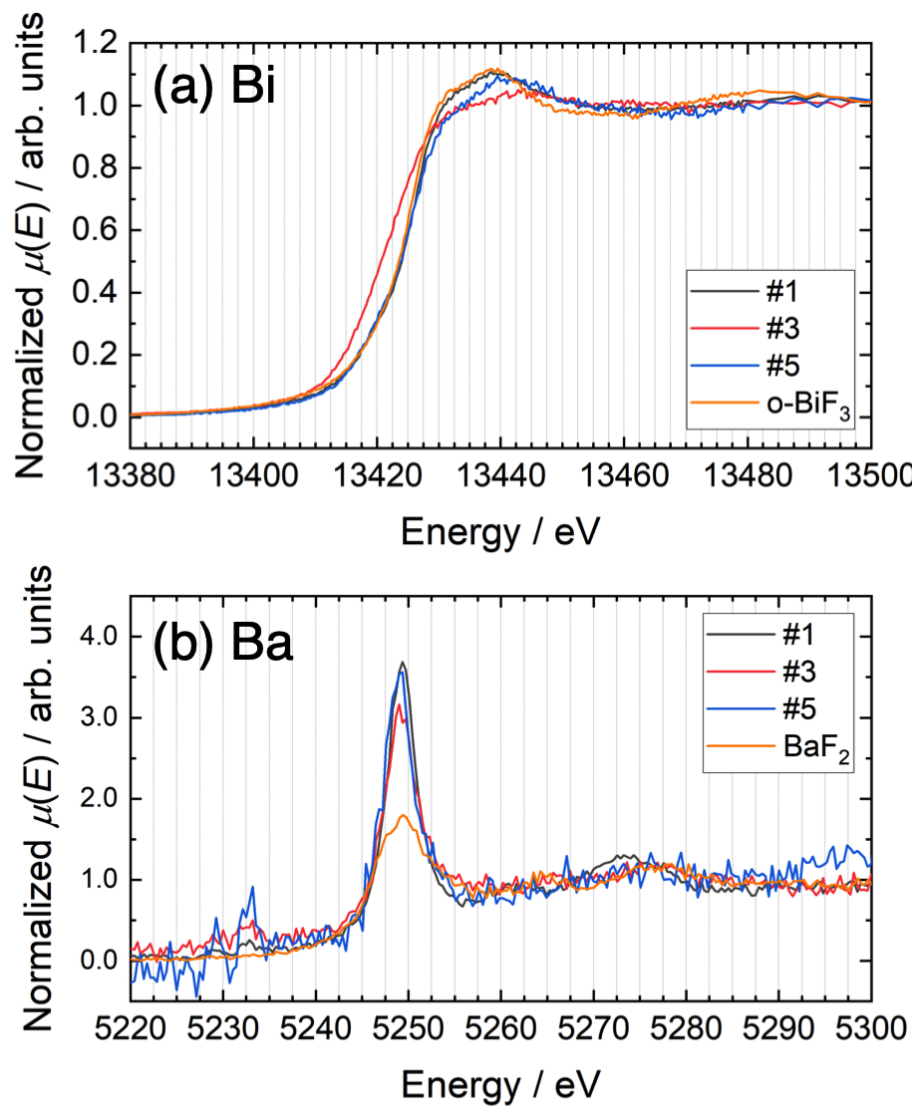


Fig. 3. (a) Bi and (b) Ba L_3 -edge XAS spectra of the $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ electrode during the initial discharge–charge cycle. The sample numbers are described in Figure 1a.

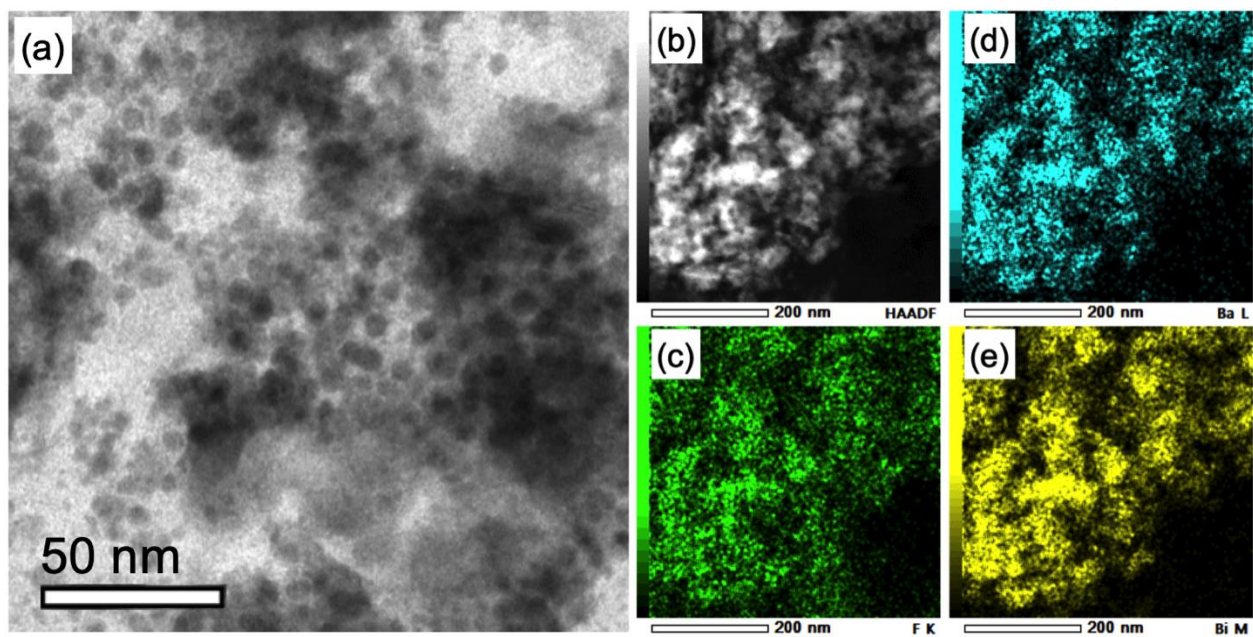


Fig. 4. (a) BF-STEM and (b–e) EDS mapping images of the pristine $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ electrode. (b) HAADF image, (c) F *K*-edge, (d) Ba *L*-edge, and (e) Bi *M*-edge maps.

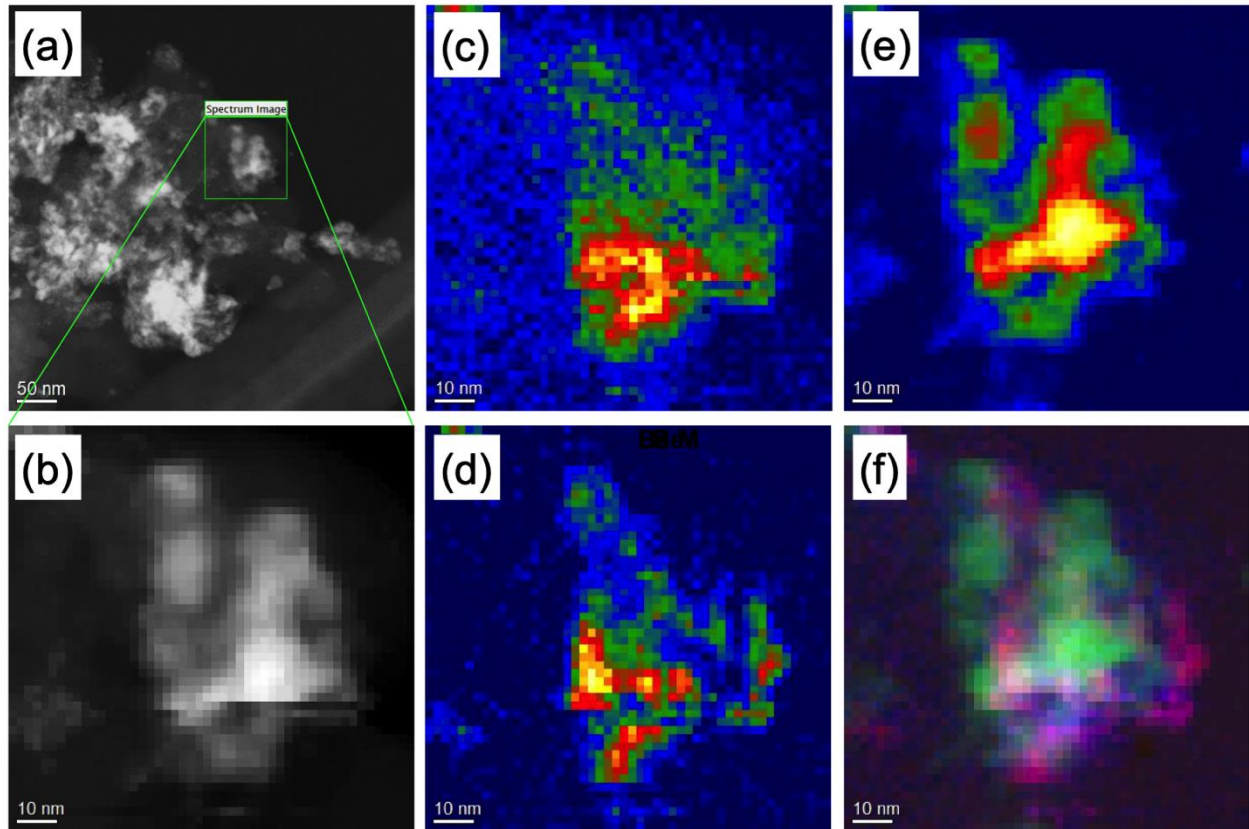


Fig. 5. EELS mapping images of the $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ electrode disassembled in the fully discharged state. (a,b) HAADF images, (c) F *K*-edge, (d) Ba *M*-edge, (e) Bi *M*-edge maps, and (f) overlapped images of F (blue), Ba (magenta), and Bi (green).

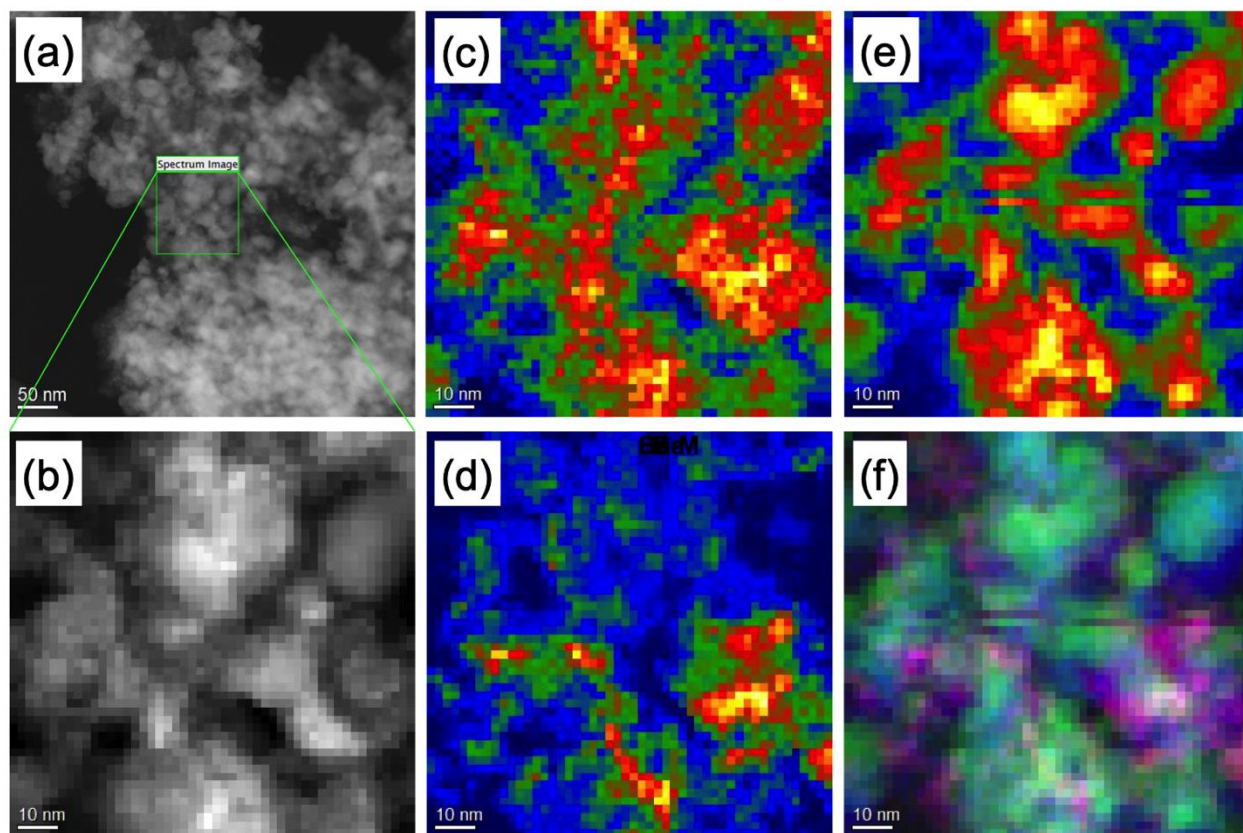


Fig. 6. EELS mapping images of the $\text{Bi}_{0.8}\text{Ba}_{0.2}\text{F}_{2.8}$ electrode disassembled in the fully charged state. (a,b) HAADF images, (c) F *K*-edge, (d) Ba *M*-edge, (e) Bi *M*-edge maps, and (f) overlapped images of F (blue), Ba (magenta), and Bi (green).