

MAE 298 Introduction to PDEs

Electrochemical Modeling of Batteries

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I. INTRODUCTION

PARTIAL differential equations (PDEs) provide the mathematical basis for describing many significant scientific phenomena; however, while an important domain of study in its own right, the application and derivation of PDE based models is just as challenging to understand and develop. The inherent complexity of deriving and analyzing PDE models when compared to more approachable ODE models can be further exacerbated by systems containing coupled equations or nonlinear dynamics. For these systems, the derivation and interpretation of the model are often obfuscated by modeling assumptions, domain specific knowledge, and an understanding of how these mechanisms are translated into a PDE formation. In effect, these PDE models compromise higher accuracy and predictability, at the expense of ease of modeling, computational overhead, intuition, and interpretability.

An important modern day example can be found in the study of electrochemical battery models, where even simplified electrochemical model consist of a system of partial differential equations, each describing physical laws and constraints which the dynamics of the battery must obey. The objective of this paper is to derive the salient PDEs that define the microscale first principles electrochemical battery model from which we can distill the well known Doyle-Fuller-Newman (DFN) model and the more simplified Single Particle Model (SPM). The intent of this paper is to provide the reader with enough context as to understand the development of state of the art electrochemical battery modeling from fundamental modeling assumptions to the first principle mechanisms at work, and to inform how these concepts are translated into the mathematical language of partial differential equations.

II. SINGLE PARTICLE MODEL OVERVIEW

For years, the Doyle-Fuller-Newman (DFN) model has long been held as the gold standard electrochemical battery model and has been used as a benchmark in battery modeling and as the standard against the predictive ability of new battery models and techniques. The DFN model describes the first principles dynamics of a battery cell [Fig. 1], and encapsulates the dynamics of a lithium-ion battery at the continuum-scale. This is accomplished by deriving the microscale governing equations and applying volume averages over the models' domain. The primary elements of this model consist of five governing equations for the conservation of mass in homogeneous solid phase, the conservation of charge

in homogeneous solid phase, the conservation of mass in homogeneous electrolyte phase, the conservation of charge in the homogeneous electrolyte phase, and finally the transport effects of lithium movement between the solid and electrolyte phases, known as the Butler-Volmer kinetics equation.

Unfortunately, derivation of the full DFN model would require investigation into the process of volume averaging which, in and of itself, is an involved procedure. To this end, this paper will endeavour to derive the underlying microscale model, used to develop both SPM and DFN models, with the end goal of translating the microscale model into the SPM formulation which utilizes a reduction of order to simplify the battery model into the two dimensional problem of 1D space and time. SPM along with its' more accurate cousin (the Single Particle Model with Electrolyte Dynamics SPMe), take the approach that simplifying the domain which the PDE defines and focusing primarily on the dominate transient dynamics of the system (instead of all system dynamics) is an acceptable tradeoff of accuracy for a measurable boost in computational efficiency, and interpretability. As such these models have found growing acceptance in the domain of real-time or near real-time applications such as battery state of charge estimation, which has been dominated by lumped parameter ODE equivalent circuit models (ECM).

The majority of this paper will investigate the process of deriving the microscale governing partial differential equations, from which we can derive the Single Particle battery model. For reference the desired microscale model equations are listed below. Throughout this paper, the reader will see how individual components of physics, chemistry, and thermodynamics are brought together to derive the following set of partial differential equations.

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{i}_s = \nabla \cdot (-\sigma \nabla \phi_s) = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial c_s}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D_s \nabla c_s) \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial c_e}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D_e \nabla c_e) - \frac{\mathbf{i}_e \cdot \nabla t_+^0}{F} - \nabla \cdot (c_e \mathbf{v}_0) \quad (3)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \left(-\kappa \nabla \phi_e - \frac{2\kappa RT}{F} \left(1 + \frac{\partial \ln f_{\pm}}{\partial \ln c_e} \right) (t_+^0 - 1) \nabla \ln c_e \right) = 0 \quad (4)$$

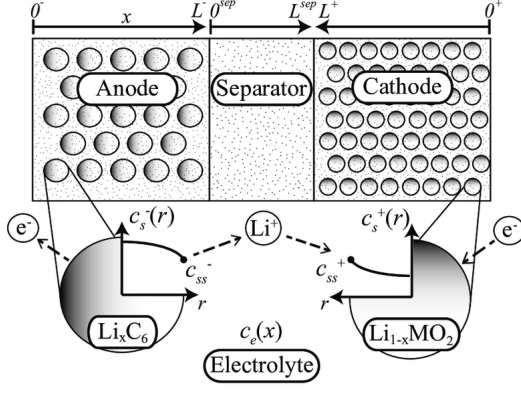


Fig. 1. Planar DFN Model Schematic

$$j = \frac{i_0}{F} \left\{ \exp \left(\frac{(1-\alpha)F}{RT} \eta \right) - \exp \left(-\frac{\alpha F}{RT} \eta \right) \right\} \quad (5)$$

III. MICROSCALE MODEL DERIVATION

In the microscale model, the principle mechanisms of operation are evaluated under the assumption of homogeneous solid and electrolyte phases. With these assumptions, the model does not need to account for individual molecular interactions or impurities, as these are assumed to be averaged out to create a homogeneous material that can be directly used to derive and evaluate the governing equations in both the solid and electrolyte phases of the battery.

At the microscale, we are interested in deriving the governing equations which are pertinent to the operation of a lithium-ion battery. These governing equations are ...

- 1) Conservation of Mass in homogeneous solid phase
- 2) Conservation of Charge in homogeneous solid phase
- 3) Conservation of Mass in homogeneous electrolyte
- 4) Conservation of Charge in homogeneous electrolyte
- 5) Lithium Reaction Kinetics & transport effects

The two domains that we are interested in solving these equations for are the homogeneous solid which is represented by the battery electrodes, as well as the homogeneous electrolyte which represents the electrically conductive liquid medium inbetween the anode and the cathode. When coupled with the dynamics of lithium transport into the active material of the electrode, these equations will define all of the salient dynamics which a lithium-ion battery will incorporate. We will begin with the conservation of charge in the solid phase.

A. Charge Conservation in Homogeneous Solid

From physics, we know that electric charge must be conserved in an isolated system. For the purposes of this paper, we will assume that the battery we are modeling constitutes an isolated system that does not interact electrically with its environment. This is a reasonable assumption. Therefore, if

the conservation of charge must hold, then it must be true that charge is not created or destroyed inside of the solid electrodes. This is expressed symbolically as the following surface integral of current flux density.

$$I = - \oint_S \mathbf{i} \cdot d\mathbf{S} \quad (6)$$

Where the net current into an arbitrary surface \mathbf{S} can be written in terms of the surface integral of current density \mathbf{i} . Via application of the Divergence Theorem and Conservation of Charge, it can be shown that ...

$$I = - \iiint_V (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{i}) dV = 0 \quad (7)$$

Since we assume charge in the volume of integration must be conserved, and since current is the time rate of change of charge, we can state that the net current flow into/out of the volume of integration must be zero. In this form, we note that since the entire volume integral must equate to zero, the integrand must also be indentially equal to zero.

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{i} = 0 \quad (8)$$

While this statement is an accurate formulation of **conservation of charge**, we would like to formulate this same expressions as a function of electric potential, instead of current density. This can be done by applying the point form of **Ohm's Law**, namely $\mathbf{i} = \sigma \mathbf{E}$, where the electric field $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla \phi$.

$$\mathbf{i} = -\sigma \nabla \phi \quad (9)$$

By substituting equation (9) into (8), we arrive at the final form of the conservation of charge in the electrodes, shown below.

$$\nabla \cdot (-\sigma \nabla \phi_s) = 0 \quad (10)$$

Equation (10) states that the divergence of the conductivity (σ) weighted gradient of the electrical potential must equal zero for charge to be conserved in the volume of system which we have defined (aka the battery). This expression must hold true for both electrodes of the battery.

B. Mass Conservation in Homogeneous Solid

Next, the **conservation of mass** in homogeneous solid (electrodes) is used to capture the dynamics of lithium transport. The principle mechanism here is diffusion. As such, we can model this behavior as a diffusion process via Fick's first law, where the molar flux density \mathbf{N} [$\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$] is related to the gradient of lithium concentration in the solid electrode material, proportional to a material dependent constant of diffusivity D .

$$\mathbf{N} = -D \nabla c \quad (11)$$

While equation (11) encapsulates the mechanism of diffusion of molar lithium as function of the concentration gradient, we would like to express it in terms of the rate of change of the solid phase lithium concentration. To accomplish this, we

first need to compute the net molar flux by taking the integral of the net molar flux density over the entire domain boundary.

$$j = - \oint_S \mathbf{N} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} dS \quad (12)$$

This provides us with the net molar flux \mathbf{j} [mols^{-1}], which can be rewritten in terms of molar flow rate, where n is the number of moles of lithium ...

$$j = \frac{dn}{dt} \quad (13)$$

Recalling that the definition of molar concentration is the number of moles of a material divided by the total volume the solution occupies ($c = n/V$), we can define an infinitesimal mole dn to be computed by integrating each contribution of concentration within a differential volume over the entire volume of the domain and then taking the derivate with respect to time.

$$n = \iiint_V c dV \quad (14)$$

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = - \frac{d}{dt} \iiint_V c dV \quad (15)$$

By substituting equations (13) and (15) into equation (12) we arrive at the following statement.

$$\oint_S \mathbf{N} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} dS = - \frac{d}{dt} \iiint_V c dV \quad (16)$$

This is the integral form of the continuity equation, which relates the molar flux density, from Fick's First Law, to the concentration of lithium in the solid phase of the battery.

This is an important formulation because it provides the link to express the molar flux density in terms of lithium concentration. While initially a rather opaque connection, in the study of electrochemical battery models, the ability to express find desired dynamics as a function of concentration is desirable since many of the quantities we are interested in understanding with this model are defined as a function of concentration. The best example of this being a batteries state of charge (SOC).

As an equation of continuity, equation (16), states that no mass has been created or destroyed inside the domain. This statement can further be used to imply that all mass transfer happens only at the boundaries of the domain. Equation (16) can be simplified into the more familiar point form of Fick's second law, as shown below.

$$\frac{\partial c_s}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D_S \nabla c_s) \quad (17)$$

This law states that the total lithium flux density (in a given volume) must be equal to the rate of change of concentration within that volume.

C. Charge Conservation in Homogeneous Electrolyte

When discussing the conservation of charge inside of the electrolyte phase of the battery, a non-trivial amount of thermodynamics and physical chemistry are required to fully contextualize the principles for deriving the governing equations.

This section will endeavour to lay the foundation for the elements of **Concentrated Solution Theory**, which are required to formulate the basic tenents of charge conservation in non-trivial chemical solutions, such as a batteries electrolyte.

1) *Gibbs Free Energy*: The first construct to be elaborated is that of Gibbs free energy. Simply put, Gibbs Free Energy is total energy required to create the system (with internal energy u), plus the amount which boundary work (pV) required to make room for the system, minus the energy which is obtained from the surrounding environment (TS), which has a temperature of T . Conceptually, the Gibbs free energy is the amount of useful energy which can be harnessed to do work in a system, and is generally written as.

$$G = U + pV - TS \quad (18)$$

The **free energy** portion of the name, is important because it informs us of how much energy can be extracted from the system, so long as the temperature and pressure are held constant. Additionally, the sign of the Gibbs free energy dictates the direction that a chemical reaction will spontaneously take.

In the context of batteries, Gibbs free energy is used in the formulation of electrochemical potentials, which are discussed below.

2) *Molarity & Molality*: Since an electrolyte is a solution, it can be described as an intensive property via its molarity and molality, depending on which attributes of the solution are of interest. The molarity of a solution is defined to be the number of moles of solute per liter of solution.

$$c_i = \frac{n_{\text{solute}_i}}{V_{\text{solution}}} \quad (19)$$

Where as the molality of the solution, is defined to be the total number of moles of solute over the mass of the solvent.

$$m_i = \frac{n_{\text{solute}_i}}{m_{\text{solvent}}} \quad (20)$$

3) *Electrochemical Potential*: Understanding the previous sections is important because it leads to a discussion of electrochemical potentials. Especially in multispecies solutions, the conversion from extensive properties to intensive properties is subtle. In order to properly define these intensive properties, it is necessary to define partial molar quantities. This can be written using partial derivatives and describes how much the Gibbs free energy (extensive) changes with the addition of only species to the solution.

$$\bar{\mu} = \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial n_i} \right)_{T,p,n_j(j \neq i)} \quad (21)$$

where n_i is the number of moles of species i , while keeping the temperature, pressure, and moles of other species constant. Given this definition, note that electrochemical potential is an intensive property which has been normalized via the species mass (in moles).

By evaluating the composition of equation (18), we can see that Gibbs free energy can be written in terms of internal and external energy components. Therefore it follows that equation (21), which defines the total potential, can be written in terms of internal and external potentials.

$$\bar{\mu}_i = \bar{\mu}_{i,internal} + \bar{\mu}_{i,external} \quad (22)$$

In the absence of other potentials and forces from external fields, the effect of chemical and electrochemical potentials can be written as ...

$$\bar{\mu}_i = \mu_i + z_i F \phi \quad (23)$$

Where the z_i is the charge number, F is Faraday's constant, and ϕ is the local electrostatic potential. The second term of this equation defines the potential associated with the electric field ϕ . This equation neatly separates the potential contributions from both chemical and electrical mechanisms. After applying Euler's theorem for homogeneous functions we can show that Gibbs free energy can be neatly written as a function of electrochemical potentials, as shown below.

$$G(\mathbf{n}) = \mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla G(\mathbf{n}) = \sum_i n_i \frac{\partial G}{\partial n_i} \quad (24)$$

$$G = \sum_i n_i \bar{\mu}_i \quad (25)$$

This notion provides a very compact form for expressing the connection between Gibbs free energy and the associated total potentials (chemical & electrical) that the battery contains.

4) *Gibbs-Duhem Equation*: The **Gibbs-Duhem** equation provides an important relationship between electrochemical potentials, which reduces the number of simultaneous equations which we must solve. It's derivation begins with the Gibbs Free Energy as shown below.

$$G = U + pV - TS \quad (26)$$

$$dG = dU + d(pV) - d(TS) \quad (27)$$

$$= dq + dw + pdV + VdP - TdS - SdT \quad (28)$$

Note that so far, all that has been accomplished has been applying the derivative operator, expanding the expression via the product rule of differentiation, and expanding the internal energy into the equivalent energy of heat and work.

From thermodynamics of our battery system, we know $dw = -pdV$ and that under the assumption of reversibility $dq = TdS$. By applying these definitions, we arrive at the simplified expression below.

$$dG = Vdp - SdT \quad (29)$$

We can use equations (21) and (25) to write the derivate of Gibbs free energy in terms of the total potential.

$$\sum_r^{i=1} n_i d\bar{\mu}_i = Vdp - SdT \quad (30)$$

By rearranging the equations we get ...

$$\sum_{i=1}^r n_i d\bar{\mu}_i - Vdp + SdT = 0 \quad (31)$$

If we assume that pressure and temperature are constant, then derivatives of p and T are both zero. Since we expect to operate the battery in a constant temperature and pressure environment, these are meaningful simplifications which yield the following expression for a system with i chemical species.

$$\sum_{i=1}^r n_i d\bar{\mu}_i = 0 \quad (32)$$

In the special case we are interested in (e.g a binary electrolyte) containing only two species, this equation can be explicitly written as

$$n_1 d\bar{\mu}_1 + n_2 d\bar{\mu}_2 = 0 \quad (33)$$

This is an important equation because it directly governs the relationship between the two potentials. If one is increased, the other must decrease to maintain the equality. We can leverage this relationship to eliminate an equation, in future calculations, since we can write either quantity in terms of the other. This equation can also be written using the concentration of each species by dividing by the total volume.

$$\sum_{i=1}^r c_i d\bar{\mu}_i = 0 \quad (34)$$

5) *Activity*: Unlike non-ionic solutions, ionic solutions do not distribute their ions randomly, this is because the electrical charge for either a cation or anion are preferentially oriented and attracted to ions of the opposite charge. A consequence of this behavior is that movement of ions in solution are artificially slow, due to the movement of a specific ion also attempting to drag the other ions which are in its immediate neighborhood in the solution.

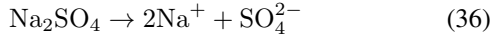
Because of this phenomenon, we define the **activity** of a species as an effective concentration, which accounts for this discrepancy where $0 < f < 1$.

$$a_i = c_i f_i \quad (35)$$

In the context of lithium-ion batteries, the concept of activity is important because the transport medium between each electrode is a charge neutral ionic solution, which

has a fixed number of positive and negative charge carries, that facilitate transfer of charge inside the battery. Therefore modeling this non-intuitive behavior is an important step in capturing the complete dynamics of mass and charge through the electrolyte.

6) *Stoichiometric Coefficient ν* : In a balanced chemical equation, the total amount of matter (of each element/molecule) and the total amount of charge are conserved. This fact holds true for electrolytes. In the case of an electrolyte, the solution is comprised of a solute dispersed throughout a solvent such that the overall solution is charge-neutral. An example is shown below.



In this example, the coefficients in front of each ion on the right-hand-side of the equation, are known as **stoichiometric coefficients**, and are denoted with the symbol ν . In the equation shown above, the stoichiometric coefficients are $\nu_{\text{Na}^+} = 2$ and $\nu_{\text{SO}_4^{2-}} = 1$.

7) *Charge Number*: Similar to the stoichiometric coefficients, the **charge number** is also displayed in the chemical equation, as the super-script for each compound on the right-hand-side of the balanced chemical equation. The charge number tells us how many excess electrons or protons exist in each given ionic compound. The charge numbers for the equation above are $z_{\text{Na}^+} = 1$ and $z_{\text{SO}_4^{2-}} = -2$. The sign of the charge number informs us whether each compound is a cation ($z > 0$) or anion ($z < 0$)

8) *Charge Neutrality in Binary Electrolytes*: For the battery chemistries of interest in this paper, the binary electrolyte comprised of only two species is of particular interest and has useful properties which are very relevant to lithium-ion battery models. Under the constraint of charge-neutrality, we can state that the net charge in the solution must be zero, such that $q = 0$. This can be expressed by using the definition of charge numbers and stoichiometric coefficients described above.

$$\sum_i z_i \nu_i = 0 \quad (37)$$

For the general case the subscripts indicated whether the charge is from a cation or an anion, or the contributions from the solvent.

$$z_+ \nu_+ + z_- \nu_- + z_0 \nu_0 = 0 \quad (38)$$

However, since the solvents in the electrolyte are always charge neutral, we can omit them from this equation, leaving the following expression.

$$z_+ \nu_+ + z_- \nu_- = 0 \quad (39)$$

$$\frac{c_+}{\nu_+} = \frac{c_-}{\nu_-} \quad (40)$$

This can be translated from stoichiometric coefficients to the ion concentration of each species, through the fact that we know these quantities must be proportional to each other. Furthermore, the constant of proportionality is the concentration of the entire solution.

$$c = \frac{c_+}{\nu_+} = \frac{c_-}{\nu_-} \quad (41)$$

We can make use of this attribute and rewrite the charge neutrality equation in terms of species concentrations as follows.

$$\sum_i z_i c_i = 0 \quad (42)$$

Where $i = 2$ for our use-case of a binary electrolyte. This expression will be useful later when deriving the conservation of charge in an electrolyte.

9) *Current Flow in Electrolyte*: Current flow inside of the electrolyte is comprised of movement by both cations and anions. Therefore the total current flow inside of the electrolyte is given by

$$i = i_+ + i_- \quad (43)$$

The next step is to write these ionic currents in terms of flux density or species concentrations so that they can be written in standard form later. This is accomplished by accounting for the amount of charge per second (for both cations and anions), due to the respective flux.

$$i_+ = z_+ F N_+ = z_+ F c_+ \nu_+ \quad (44)$$

$$i_- = z_- F N_- = z_- F c_- \nu_- \quad (45)$$

Upon reflection, we can see that the product of charge number, Faraday's constant, and flux density, is the electrical current produced for the given charge type (positive/negative). Therefore, we can compactly express this equation using the following summation notation.

$$i = z_+ F c_+ \nu_+ + z_- F N_- \quad (46)$$

$$= F \sum_i z_i N_i \quad (47)$$

10) *Deriving Conservation of Charge*: To begin this derivation, we can start off with the general expression for the conservation of mass at any point in a solution.

$$\frac{\partial c_i}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{N}_i + R_i \quad (48)$$

This version of Fick's Law states that the time rate of change on the concentration for species i is related to the negative flux density gradient of that species as well as any contribution due to the rate of generation of species i , via term R_i .

$$F \frac{\partial z_i c_i}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot (z_i F \mathbf{N}_i) + z_i F R_i \quad (49)$$

Via algebra, we can multiply each side of the equation by $z_i F$ to get,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} F \sum_i z_i c_i = -\nabla \cdot \left(F \sum_i z_i \mathbf{N}_i \right) + F \sum_i z_i R_i \quad (50)$$

Since the previous equation was written only with respect to a single species in the equation, we need to sum the same equation over each species resulting in the following...

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} F \sum_i z_i c_i = -\nabla \cdot \left(F \sum_i z_i \mathbf{N}_i \right) \quad (51)$$

As mentioned in the previous section about charge neutrality, we can see show that the our previous equation that the summation $\sum_i z_i c_i$ must be identically equation to zero since, the overall charge of the electrolyte is zero. We can also that the term $F \sum_i z_i \mathbf{N}_i$ matches our previous definition for current shown above. By substituting these terms into the previous expression we arrive at the following equation.

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{i} = 0 \quad (52)$$

This equation is the differential form for the conservation of charge inside the electrolyte, stating that charge and not be created or destroyed.

D. Mass Conservation in Homogeneous Electrolyte

Similar to how we have conserved mass inside of the electrodes, conservation of mass must also hold inside of the electrolyte. This section provides all of the groundwork required to develop this physical law as it pertains to our battery chemistry.

1) Maxwell-Stefan Relationship: This section lays the mathematical groundwork for the interaction of particles of differing species and the net force associated with these collisions. By applying the conservation of momentum, we can define the following expression for using average species velocities, of a two species mixture.

$$m_1 \mathbf{v}_{m_1} + m_2 \mathbf{v}_{m_2} = m_1 \mathbf{v}'_{m_1} + m_2 \mathbf{v}'_{m_2} \quad (53)$$

Given that the change in momentum for a single species can be written as...

$$\Delta(m_1 \mathbf{v}_{m_1}) = m_1 (\mathbf{v}_{m_1} - \mathbf{v}'_{m_1}) \quad (54)$$

We can isolate the post-collision velocity of species one, as follows.

$$\mathbf{v}'_1 = \frac{m_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{v}_2}{m_1 + m_2} \quad (55)$$

These two previous expressions can be combined to form the following equation.

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(m_1 \mathbf{v}_1) &= m_1 (\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}'_1) \\ &= m_1 \left(\mathbf{v}_1 - \frac{m_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + m_2 \mathbf{v}_2}{m_1 + m_2} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (56)$$

Which can be simplified to...

$$= \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} (\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2) \quad (57)$$

2) Momentum Charnge Rate: Now the task is to relate the change of momentum equation (on a mass basis) to the equivalent form on a species concentration basis. Generally speaking we can state that as the concentions of either species in a two species mixture increase the change in momentum should increase propotionally. Putting this intuition into math, we arrive at the following statement of proportionality.

$$\left(\frac{dp}{dt} \right)_V^{\text{species-}} \propto c_1 c_2 (\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2) \quad (58)$$

From this statement, we can use the definition of the mole fraction $x_i = n_i/n$, where n_i is the number of moles of a given species and n is the total number of moles in the system. This defines the following constraint that $x_1 + x_2 = 1$ for a binary species and in general form can be written as $\sum_i x_i = 1$. Furthermore, we can define a quantity called the total concentration, such that.

$$C_T = \sum_i c_i \quad (59)$$

Where concentration is defined as $c = n/V$. From this relationship we can show that.

$$x_i = \frac{n_i}{n} = \frac{n_i/V}{n/V} = \frac{c_i}{c_T} \quad (60)$$

Which can be substituted directly into the change of momentum equation to produce...

$$\left(\frac{dp}{dt} \right)_V^{\text{species-}} \propto x_1 x_2 (\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2) \quad (61)$$

From undergraduate physics, Newton's Second law states that force is equivalent to the time rate of change of momentum, leading us to the following statement.

$$\mathbf{F}_1, V \propto x_1 x_2 (\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2) \quad (62)$$

In order to turn this proportionality into an equality we must define a constant of proportionality. Given that this equation relates forves to relative velocities, it would be natural to define a type of coefficient of friction, K_{ij} .

However, note that the friction coefficient itself would not be a constant since it would be composed in terms of molar fractions and hence the concentration of the species in the system.

$$K_{ij} \propto x_1 x_2 \quad (63)$$

It turns out that the resulting equality has been defined in terms of the Maxwell-Stefan diffusivity \mathcal{D} , and the surrounding pressure.

$$\mathcal{D}_{ij} = \frac{x_i x_j}{K_{ij}} p \quad (64)$$

By applying the ideal gas law and substituting the concentration form of the mole fraction developed earlier, we get.

$$K_{ij} = \frac{RTc_i c_j}{c_T \mathcal{D}_{ij}} \quad (65)$$

After developing these expressions, we can substitute them back into the original equation for the force acting on species one.

$$\mathbf{F}_{1,V} = \frac{RTc_1 c_2}{c_T \mathcal{D}_{12}} (\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2) \quad (66)$$

Now that we have an expression for the force acting on a species, we can begin to make the connections between forces and the electrochemical potential for charged species.

3) Multicomponent Diffusion Equation: We know from physics that we can write an arbitrary force as the negative gradient of a driving potential function. In the study of our battery, this potential function is the Gibbs free energy developed previously. Furthermore, we can use the chain rule of calculus, to write the gradient of Gibbs free energy in terms of the gradient of the electrochemical potential and the rate of change of Gibbs free energy with respect to electrochemical potential. By using identities for Gibbs free energy developed earlier, we can show that.

$$\mathbf{F}_1 = -\nabla G_1 = -\frac{\partial G_1}{\partial \mu_1} \nabla \mu_1 = -n_1 \nabla \mu_1 \quad (67)$$

When this expression is normalized by volume, we can write the force of the particle in terms of species concentration.

$$\mathbf{F}_{1,V} = \frac{\mathbf{F}_1}{V} = -\frac{n_1}{V} \nabla \mu_1 = -c_1 \nabla \mu_1 \quad (68)$$

We can then equate equation (66) for the net force of a multi-species solution to equation (68) defining the net force as a function of electrochemical potential gradients to get the following equation.

$$c_1 \nabla \mu_1 = RT \frac{c_1 c_2}{c_T \mathcal{D}_{12}} (\mathbf{v}_2 - \mathbf{v}_1) \quad (69)$$

$$c_i \nabla \mu_i = RT \sum_j \frac{c_i c_j}{c_T \mathcal{D}_{ij}} (\mathbf{v}_j - \mathbf{v}_i) = \sum_j K_{ij} (\mathbf{v}_j - \mathbf{v}_i) \quad (70)$$

After summing over all species in the mixture, we arrive at the following final equation.

$$\sum_i c_i \nabla \mu_i = \sum_i \sum_j K_{ij} (\mathbf{v}_j - \mathbf{v}_i) \quad (71)$$

The significance of this equation is that it produces a basis for analysis using quantities available at the macroscopic level, and will be used later in the derivation of mass conservation in electrolyte.

4) Concentrated Binary Electrolyte Theory: Ion Fluxes:

The objective of this next section is to define the ionic flux density, N_{\pm} . However, due to the chemical nature of electrolytes, the physical chemistry associated with an excess of charge in the solution, proves to be significantly more challenging and complex than deriving conservation of mass in a non-ionic medium. The primary reasons for this are generally caused by, chemical potentials, average diffusivity, and the transference number associated with electrolyte dynamics. Each of these topics will be addressed in turn before we arrive at an acceptable expression for the flux-density, of lithium in the electrolyte phase.

Previously, we developed expressions for the electrochemical potentials for each species; however, for this analysis we would like to define a chemical potential for the electrolyte as a whole. This can be accomplished by defining the electrolyte chemical potential as the stoichiometry weighted sum of the positive and negative electrochemical potentials, as follows.

$$\mu_e = v_+ \bar{\mu}_+ + v_- \bar{\mu}_- \quad (72)$$

This expression can then be expanded by substituting equation (23), which expands the electrochemical potential into its chemical and electrical potentials.

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_e &= v_+ \bar{\mu}_+ + v_- \bar{\mu}_- \\ &= v_+ (\mu_+ + z_+ F \phi) + v_- (\mu_- + z_- F \phi) \\ &= v_+ \mu_+ + v_- \mu_- + (v_+ z_+ + v_- z_-) F \phi \\ &= v_+ \mu_+ + v_- \mu_- \end{aligned} \quad (73)$$

Note that in this expansion, the electrical potential will cancel out, due to charge neutrality in our electrolyte. This means that the resulting potential is not a electrochemical potential, but only a chemical potential as the net electrical effect is zero. Once we have the expression for the electrolyte chemical potential, we can find its gradient as follows.

$$\nabla \mu_e = v_+ \nabla \bar{\mu}_+ + v_- \nabla \bar{\mu}_- \quad (74)$$

The reason for computing the gradient of the electrolyte chemical potential is to develop an expression which can be substituted in for $\nabla \mu_i$ in equation (71). Note that, as a reduction of notion, $c_{\pm} = c\nu_{\pm}$ as shown below

$$c\nu_+ \nabla \bar{\mu}_+ = c_+ \nabla \bar{\mu}_+ \quad (75)$$

$$c\nu_- \nabla \bar{\mu}_- = c_- \nabla \bar{\mu}_- \quad (76)$$

By substituting the definition of the chemical potential gradient in equation (74), and the expressions we have for c_{\pm} shown above, into equation (71), we arrive at the following two equations.

$$\begin{aligned} c_+ \nabla \bar{\mu}_+ &= K_{+0} (\mathbf{v}_0 - \mathbf{v}_+) + K_{+-} (\mathbf{v}_- - \mathbf{v}_+) \\ c_- \nabla \bar{\mu}_- &= K_{-0} (\mathbf{v}_0 - \mathbf{v}_-) + K_{-+} (\mathbf{v}_+ - \mathbf{v}_-) \end{aligned} \quad (77)$$

After collecting like terms and canceling where valid, this equation can be written as ...

$$c\nabla\mu_e = K_{0+}(\mathbf{v}_0 - \mathbf{v}_+) + K_{0-}(\mathbf{v}_0 - \mathbf{v}_-). \quad (78)$$

Which will be used in subsequent part of the flux-density derivation.

The second component which we would like to define for the electrolyte as a whole is the diffusion coefficient. To accomplish this, we would like to combine the effects of diffusion from both ionic species in the electrolyte. As with the chemical potential of the electrolyte, the diffusion coefficient will be defined as the stoichiometric weighted average of the diffusion coefficient for both of its constitute species. However, unlike chemical potentials, diffusivity adds reciprocally.

$$\frac{v}{\mathcal{D}} = \frac{v_+}{\mathcal{D}_{0+}} + \frac{v_-}{\mathcal{D}_{0-}} \quad (79)$$

By solving for the diffusivity \mathcal{D} and multiplying by the concentration, as well as applying simplification from equations (75) & (76) we obtain...

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{\nu C}{\frac{C_+}{\mathcal{D}_{0+}} + \frac{C_-}{\mathcal{D}_{0-}}} \quad (80)$$

If we further multiple this expressions by $\frac{RTC_0}{C_T}$ over itself, we have only multiplied by unity and not changed the value of the expressions; however, after applying this transformation, this equation can be written in terms of the Maxwell-Stefan friction coefficients derived previously.

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{vRTc_0c}{c_T(K_{0+} + K_{0-})} \quad (81)$$

The third and final component required to define the flux-density, is the transference numbers of the electrolyte. As mentioned previously the ionic nature of the electrolyte has the consequence of incorporating several non-intuitive chemistry tid-bits which require a more subtle analysis.

In simple terms the transference number represents the portion of the ionic current which is being carried by a specific species when there exists no gradient in the chemical potential. Intuitively, it should make sense the transference number is proportional to amount of friction the ion will encounter, as such we can define this proportionality for both positive and negative species of the electrolyte.

$$t_+^0 \propto K_{0-} \quad \text{and} \quad t_-^0 \propto K_{0+} \quad (82)$$

In fact, for a binary electrolyte, we know that the total transference must be equal to unity, since either the positive or negative ionic current flow must be responsible for the net current. Given the previous proportionality, and the constraint of a binary electrolyte medium, we can determine the constant of proportionality directly, which yields the following result.

$$t_+^0 = \frac{K_{0-}}{K_{0-} + K_{0+}} \quad \text{and} \quad t_-^0 = \frac{K_{0+}}{K_{0-} + K_{0+}} \quad (83)$$

In order to drastically simplify the derivation of this section, instead of deriving expression for flux-density in the electrolyte phase directly, we directly jump to the intermediate form of flux-density and proceed to massage it into its final form. We first begin with a more general definition of flux-density as a function of species concentrations and average species velocities.

$$\mathbf{N}_i = c_i \mathbf{v}_i \quad \text{where } i = \pm \quad (84)$$

The intuition behind this expression is that the flux-density will change proportionally to the average velocity of a species and as a function of the concentration of the species, traversing into the boundary of our domain.

As it turns out, we can write expand this general definition into terms which we have already developed. As shown below for $i = \pm$.

$$\mathbf{N}_i = -\frac{v_i \mathcal{D}}{vRT} \frac{c_T}{c_0} \nabla \mu_e + \frac{\mathbf{it}_i^0}{z_i F} + c_i \mathbf{v}_0 \quad (85)$$

However, even in this form, for this equation to be of use, we still need to translate the term for the gradient of the chemical potential into macroscopic quantities such as concentrations...etc.

Note that we can expand $\nabla \mu_e$ via the chain rule of calculus, such that it is written in terms of concentration gradients. And furthermore, we can apply the chain rule again for the partial term to express it in terms of the molality of the electrolyte. These operations are written as follows.

$$\nabla \mu_e = \frac{\partial \mu_e}{\partial c} \nabla c \quad (86)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mu_e}{\partial c} = \frac{\partial \mu_e}{\partial \ln m} \frac{\partial \ln m}{\partial c} \quad (87)$$

The inclusion of the natural-log, in the previous expression, is merely a build-in substitution which will have the effect of simplifying the notion of future steps.

However, even with these expansions and change of variables, we have not been able to eliminate μ_e from equation (87). To accomplish this, we need to derive an alternate expression for the electrochemical potential μ , in terms of absolute activity λ and the modal activity coefficient γ . By definition these are given as...

$$\mu_i = RT \ln(\lambda_i) \quad (88)$$

$$\lambda_i = m_i \gamma_i \lambda_i^\ominus \quad (89)$$

We can substitute these definitions into the expression for chemical potential of the electrolyte ($\mu_e = v_+ \mu_+ + v_- \mu_-$), and simplify to get the following expression.

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_e = & vRT (\ln m + \ln \gamma_\pm) + \dots \\ & v_+ RT \ln(v_+ \lambda_+^\ominus) + \dots \\ & v_- RT \ln(v_- \lambda_-^\ominus) \end{aligned} \quad (90)$$

Now that we have an expression for μ_e in terms of meaningful macroscopic quantities, we can take its derivative with respect to natural-log of the molality, resulting in the following expression.

$$\frac{\partial \mu_e}{\partial \ln m} = vRT \left(1 + \frac{\partial \ln \gamma_{\pm}}{\partial \ln m} \right) \quad (91)$$

As we did with the first term of equation (87), we now wish to solve for the second term of that equation and find a valid substitution which will rewrite this term as a function of concentration. The substitutions and simplifications necessary to complete these are shown below.

$$m = \frac{m_+}{v_+} = \frac{c_+}{v_+ c_0 M_0} = \frac{c}{c_0 M_0} \quad (92)$$

$$\ln m = \ln c - \ln c_0 - \ln M_0 \quad (93)$$

$$\frac{\partial \ln m}{\partial \ln c} = 1 - \frac{\partial \ln c_0}{\partial \ln c} \quad (94)$$

$$\frac{\partial \ln m}{\partial c} = \frac{1}{c} \left(1 - \frac{\partial \ln c_0}{\partial \ln c} \right) \quad (95)$$

By substituting equations (91) and (95) into equation (87), we can rewrite $\nabla \mu_e$ in its final form as ...

$$\nabla \mu_e = \frac{vRT}{c} \left(1 + \frac{d \ln \gamma_{\pm}}{d \ln m} \right) \left(1 - \frac{d \ln c_0}{d \ln c} \right) \nabla c \quad (96)$$

Now that we have an expression for the $\nabla \mu_e$ we can apply it to our equation for the flux-density which is shown below.

$$\mathbf{N}_+ = -\frac{v_+ \mathcal{D}}{vRT} \frac{c_T}{c_0} c \nabla \mu_e + \frac{\mathbf{it}_+^0}{z_+ F} + c_+ \mathbf{v}_0 \quad (97)$$

But before we do, we can clean up the notion of the flux-density by applying the following substitution.

$$D = \mathcal{D} \frac{c_T}{c_0} \left(1 + \frac{d \ln \gamma_{\pm}}{d \ln m} \right) \quad (98)$$

This resultings in the final form of the flux-density.

$$\mathbf{N}_+ = -v_+ D \left(1 - \frac{d \ln c_0}{d \ln c} \right) \nabla c + \frac{\mathbf{it}_+^0}{z_+ F} + c_+ \mathbf{v}_0 \quad (99)$$

With this sorted, we can plug it into the diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial c_+}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{N}_+ \quad (100)$$

Which results in the following partial differential equation that enforces mass conservation inside of the electrolyte.

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot \left[D \left(1 - \frac{d \ln c_0}{d \ln c} \right) \nabla c \right] - \frac{\mathbf{i} \cdot \nabla t_+^0}{z_+ v_+ F} - \nabla \cdot (c \mathbf{v}_0) \quad (101)$$

E. Concentrated Solution Theory: Electrolyte Conservation

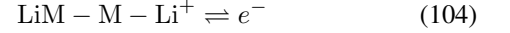
This section focuses on the conservation of charge inside of the binary electrolyte of the battery. This analysis will result in the derivation of the following equation.

$$\mathbf{i} = -\kappa \nabla \phi - \frac{\kappa}{F} \left(\frac{s_+}{n\nu_+} + \frac{t_+^0}{z_+ \nu_+} - \frac{s_0 c}{nc_0} \right) \nabla \mu_e \quad (102)$$

However, before starting, now is the perfect time to cover the chemical equation at play and define notion which will be helpful in future steps. Recall that a balanced chemical equation must not only balance, quantity of each molecule/element, but it must also balance the total amount of electrical charge on each side of the reaction. For our usecase of lithium-ion batteries a typical equation would follow the same general structure as the following equation.



This can be written in an equivalent but more useful form as...



This equation represents the interaction of lithium and some arbitrary metal oxide that which forms the active electrode material, as well as producing excess electrons. From basic principles of physics, we assume that the energy of this reaction must be conserved. Because of this fact, the Gibbs free energy of the LHS of equation (104), must be equal to the electrical energy of the electrons produced on the RHS of the equation. Symbolically, we can use summation notion to express this as follows.

$$\sum G = \sum E(e) \quad (105)$$

From previous work, we can write the Gibbs free energy and the energy due to the local electrostatic potential as follows.

$$\sum_i s_i \bar{\mu}_i = -nF\phi \quad (106)$$

Where the term s_i represent the number of moles of each component of our chemical equation when written in the form of equation (104). This equation can easily be utilized to compute the relationship between the electrochemical and electrostatic potential gradients.

$$\sum_i s_i \nabla \bar{\mu}_i = -nF \nabla \phi \quad (107)$$

By application of the Gibbs-Duhem relationship from equation (33), and accounting for the change from moles to concentration, we write the following expression for the electrolyte.

$$c_+ \nabla \bar{\mu}_+ + c_- \nabla \bar{\mu}_- + c_0 \nabla \bar{\mu}_0 = 0 \quad (108)$$

This expression encapsulates the positive, negative, and neutral components of the electrolyte solution, such that $i = +, -, 0$. Thus far, we have only encountered expressions for positive and negative electrochemical potentials but nothing

for the neutral case. Thankfully, by leveraging the Gibbs-Duhem equation, we can solve for the gradient of the 0th electrochemical potential.

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \bar{\mu}_0 &= -\frac{1}{c_0} (c_+ \nabla \bar{\mu}_+ + c_- \nabla \bar{\mu}_-) \\ &= -\frac{c}{c_0} (\nu_+ \nabla \bar{\mu}_+ + \nu_- \nabla \bar{\mu}_-) \\ &= -\frac{c}{c_0} \nabla \mu_e\end{aligned}\quad (109)$$

Via direct substitution of this result into equation (107), it becomes.

$$s_+ \nabla \bar{\mu}_+ + s_- \nabla \bar{\mu}_- - s_0 \frac{c}{c_0} \nabla \mu_e = -nF \nabla \phi \quad (110)$$

From the balanced chemical equation, we can write.

$$s_+ z_+ + s_- z_- = -n \quad (111)$$

From this expression we can solve for s_- to arrive at the following equation.

$$s_- = -\left(\frac{z_+}{z_-} s_+ + \frac{n}{z_-}\right) \quad (112)$$

This expression for s_- can be substitute it into the LHS of the conservation of energy equation which we have developed earlier, to yield.

$$s_+ \nabla \bar{\mu}_+ - \left(\frac{z_+}{z_-} s_+ + \frac{n}{z_-}\right) \nabla \bar{\mu}_- - s_0 \frac{c}{c_0} \nabla \mu_e = -nF \nabla \phi \quad (113)$$

After a significant amount of algebraic rework, we can rewrite the previous equation without the need to reference the positive electrode electrochemical potential gradient as.

$$\left(\frac{s_+}{nv_+} - \frac{s_0 c}{nc_0}\right) \nabla \mu_e - \frac{1}{z_-} \nabla \bar{\mu}_- = -F \nabla \phi \quad (114)$$

However, we would still like to express this equation solely in terms of $\nabla \mu_e$. To accomplish this, recall via the Maxell-Stefan equation, that we can write the gradient in electrochemical potential as a function of Maxwell-Stefan friction coefficients.

$$c_- \nabla \bar{\mu}_- = K_{0-} (\mathbf{v}_0 - \mathbf{v}_-) + K_{+-} (\mathbf{v}_+ - \mathbf{v}_-) \quad (115)$$

We can furthermore, use the equation for flux-density equation (116) and rearrange it such that...

$$c_i (\mathbf{v}_i - \mathbf{v}_0) = -\frac{v_i \mathcal{D}}{vRT} \frac{c_T}{c_0} \nabla \mu_e + \frac{\mathbf{i} t_i^0}{z_i F} \quad \text{for } i = \pm \quad (116)$$

Recall that \mathcal{D} merely represents the following collection of terms...

$$\mathcal{D} = \frac{vRT c_0 c}{c_T (K_{0+} + K_{0-})} \quad (117)$$

By applying the definition of the diffusion coefficient, dividing the equation by c_i , and simplifying that we can express both the positive and negative components as...

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}_+ - \mathbf{v}_0 &= -\frac{c}{K_{0+} + K_{0-}} \nabla \mu_e + \frac{\mathbf{i} t_+^0}{c_+ z_+ F} \\ \mathbf{v}_- - \mathbf{v}_0 &= -\frac{c}{K_{0+} + K_{0-}} \nabla \mu_e + \frac{\mathbf{i} t_-^0}{c_- z_- F}\end{aligned}\quad (118)$$

We can eliminate the term \mathbf{v}_0 by subtracting the two equation above from each other, resulting in following equation, which has further been reduced by applying

$$\mathbf{v}_+ - \mathbf{v}_- = \frac{\mathbf{i}}{F} \left(\frac{t_+^0}{c_+ z_+} - \frac{t_-^0}{c_- z_-} \right) \quad (119)$$

This term can again be reduced. This is achieved by recalling that the sum of the transference number must equate to unity. In the case of a binary electrolyte, this implies that ...

$$t_+^0 + t_-^0 = 1 \quad (120)$$

By using this relationship and the definition of the transference number in equation (83), it is trivial to reduce the expression to the following form.

$$\mathbf{v}_+ - \mathbf{v}_- = \frac{\mathbf{i}}{c_+ z_+ F} \quad (121)$$

This gives us the building blocks upon which we can use to write the conservation of energy using only $\nabla \mu_e$. If we start the Maxell-Stefan equation again where $i = -$, divide both sides by $c_- z_-$ that we will arrive at the following expression.

$$\frac{1}{z_-} \nabla \bar{\mu}_- = \frac{1}{c_- z_-} [K_{0-} (\mathbf{v}_0 - \mathbf{v}_-) + K_{+-} (\mathbf{v}_+ - \mathbf{v}_-)] \quad (122)$$

We can apply equations (118) & (121) and derive the following equation of $\nabla \bar{\mu}_-$ in terms of $\nabla \mu_e$.

$$\frac{1}{z_-} \nabla \bar{\mu}_- = -\frac{t_+^0}{v_+ z_+} \nabla \mu_e - \frac{F \mathbf{i}}{\kappa} \quad (123)$$

Where ...

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} = \frac{-K_{0-} t_-^0 - K_{+-}}{c_- z_- c_+ z_+ F^2} \quad (124)$$

By applying this expression for $\nabla \bar{\mu}_-$ to equation (114) we derive the following expression.

$$-F \nabla \phi = \left(\frac{s_+}{nv_+} - \frac{s_0 c}{nc_0} + \frac{t_+^0}{v_+ z_+} \right) \nabla \mu_e + \frac{F \mathbf{i}}{\kappa} \quad (125)$$

This equation can be arranged to solve for \mathbf{i} as a function of $\nabla \mu_e$.

$$\mathbf{i} = -\kappa \nabla \phi - \frac{\kappa}{F} \left(\frac{s_+}{nv_+} - \frac{s_0 c}{nc_0} + \frac{t_+^0}{v_+ z_+} \right) \nabla \mu_e \quad (126)$$

As can be seen in the previous equation, we have been able to write an expression for the current density as a function of the gradient in the electrochemical potential. However, we would like to further reduce this expression such that it can be written explicitly in terms of concentrations. This begins by recognizing that we can express the electrolyte potential gradient as follows.

$$\nabla \mu_e = \frac{\partial \mu_e}{\partial \ln c} \nabla \ln c \quad (127)$$

Recall from $\mu_e = \nu_+ \bar{\mu}_+ + \nu_- \bar{\mu}_-$ that electrochemical potential of the electrolyte can be written in terms of the positive and negative electrochemical potentials, each of which can be expressed via absolute activity, for $i = \pm$. We can express the chemical potentials in terms of the absolute activity

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_i &= RT \ln(c_i f_i a_i^\ominus) = RT \ln(\nu_i c f_i a_i^\ominus) \\ &= RT \ln(\nu_i) + RT \ln(c) + RT \ln(f_i) + RT \ln(a_i^\ominus)\end{aligned}\quad (128)$$

By taking the partial for each $i = \pm$, we arrive at the following two equations.

$$\frac{\partial \bar{\mu}_+}{\partial \ln c} = RT + RT \frac{\partial \ln f_+}{\partial \ln c} + z_+ F \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \ln c} \quad (129)$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{\mu}_-}{\partial \ln c} = RT + RT \frac{\partial \ln f_-}{\partial \ln c} + z_- F \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \ln c} \quad (130)$$

By using equation (72), it is obvious that we can find the partial derivatives with respect to the $\ln(c)$, into which we can substitute the partial derivatives determined above.

$$\frac{\partial \mu_e}{\partial \ln c} = \nu_+ \frac{\partial \bar{\mu}_+}{\partial \ln c} + \nu_- \frac{\partial \bar{\mu}_-}{\partial \ln c} \quad (131)$$

After some involved substitution and simplification, we will arrive at the following expression.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \mu_e}{\partial \ln c} &= \nu RT + RT \frac{\partial \ln f_\pm}{\partial \ln c} \\ &= \nu RT \left(1 + \frac{\partial \ln f_\pm}{\partial \ln c}\right)\end{aligned}\quad (132)$$

This expression for $\nabla \mu_e$, can then be substituted into the equation (126), for current density.

$$\mathbf{i} = -\kappa \nabla \phi - \frac{\nu \kappa RT}{F} \left(\frac{S_+}{n\nu_+} - \frac{s_0 c}{nc_0} + \frac{t_+^0}{\nu_+ z_+} \right) \left(1 + \frac{\partial \ln f_\pm}{\partial \ln c} \right) \nabla \ln c \quad (133)$$

We know from physics that conservation of charge in the electrolyte must hold. This can be expressed in gradient notation as ...

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{i}_e = 0 \quad (134)$$

We can substitute our expression for the current density of the electrolyte, into the conservation of charge, to yield the following equation. NOTE the addition of subscript e to denote that this expression pertains to the electrolyte.

$$\nabla \cdot \left(-\kappa \nabla \phi_e - \frac{2\kappa RT}{F} \left(1 + \frac{\partial \ln f_\pm}{\partial \ln c_e} \right) (t_+^0 - 1) \nabla \ln c_e \right) = 0 \quad (135)$$

In actual practice however, we assume that $\partial f_\pm / \partial \ln c_e = 0$, and additionally that we can lump all of constants together to obtain $\kappa_D = 2\kappa RT (t_+^0 - 1) / F$. Under these assumptions we derive the final equation which defines the conservation of charge in the electrolyte.

$$\nabla \cdot (-\kappa \nabla \phi_e - \kappa_D \nabla \ln c_e) = 0 \quad (136)$$

F. Butler-Volmer Equation

The final equation in the derivation of the microscale electrochemical battery model, is called the Butler-Volmer equation. This equation deals with the reaction kinetics of the battery and couples the four previous equations into a system of five equations. In principle, this equation defines rate at which lithium is transferred between the solid and electrolyte phases. By assuming linear dynamics, we can write the reaction rate of a multispecies system as

$$r = k \prod_i c_{\text{reactant},i} \quad (137)$$

In order to capture the temperature dependent nature of the reaction rate, the Arrhenius equation is used. For a single species reaction, this would be written as

$$r = k_f^0 c_{\text{reactant}} \exp\left(-\frac{E_a}{RT}\right) \quad (138)$$

Where E_a is the activation energy required to initiate the reaction, R is molar gas constant, and T is the temperature. This brings us to the subject of activated complex theory, which is required to define the exchange current in the Butler-Volmer equation.

1) Activated Complex Theory: In order for a chemical reaction to occur, there must be enough free energy to initiate and maintain the reaction. For the types of reactions seen in this paper, the process of going from reactants to products is only favored if the reactants possess a higher energy state than the final product of reaction. While this excess of energy is required to maintain the reaction, there is often an additional amount of barrier energy required to initiate in the first place.

For reactions involved with the battery chemistry of a lithium-ion battery, the reaction taking place is a reduction-oxidation (redox) reaction, which releases/gains electrons. However, unlike other redox reaction, the reaction in our battery is unique in that the objective of the reaction is to merely produce or consume electrons, and does not produce any byproducts. Additionally, the direction of the reaction, occurring in the battery, can be preferentially determined by the polarity of the given electric field applied across the cell.

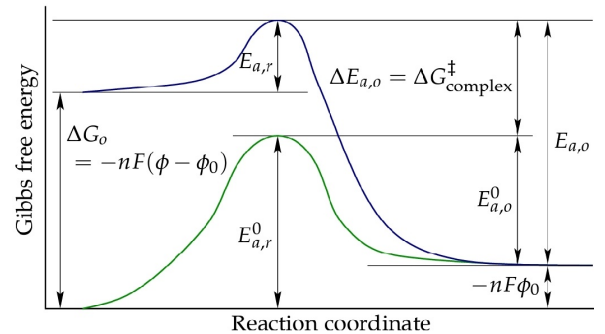


Fig. 2. Activation Energy of Reduction and Oxidation

As shown in Figure 2 the oxidation and the reduction directions demand different activation energies to drive the reaction into sustained oxidation or reduction. Moreover, under the presence of an electric field, we can impact the direction of reaction depending on the current energy state of the system, by increasing or decreasing the change in Gibbs free energy.

$$\Delta G_0 = -nF(\phi - \phi_0) \quad (139)$$

To account for different energy deltas required to achieve oxidation or reduction, we define the asymmetric charge-transfer coefficient $0 < \alpha < 1$, which is used to weight the ratio of the change in activation energy over the change in Gibbs free energy, due to the applied electric potential.

$$\Delta E_{a,o} - \Delta E_{a,r} = -nF(\phi - \phi_0) = \Delta G_0 \quad (140)$$

$$\alpha = \left| \frac{\Delta E_{a,r}}{\Delta G_0} \right|, \quad \text{and} \quad 1 - \alpha = \left| \frac{\Delta E_{a,o}}{\Delta G_0} \right| \quad (141)$$

By constructing the activation for oxidation or reduction, using energy deltas defined in Figure 2 and substituting the appropriate expressions from equation (141) into the equations for reaction rates of oxidation and reduction we get.

1. Rate of reduction:

$$\begin{aligned} r_r &= k_o^0 c_o \exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,r}}{RT}\right) \\ &= k_o^0 c_o \exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,r}^0 + \alpha nF(\phi - \phi_0)}{RT}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (142)$$

2. Rate of oxidation:

$$\begin{aligned} r_o &= k_r^0 c_r \exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,o}}{RT}\right) \\ &= k_r^0 c_r \exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,o}^0 - (1 - \alpha)nF(\phi - \phi_0)}{RT}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (143)$$

Since we have already determined that reaction in the battery must be charge-neutral, we know that the rate of production for positive charge must equal the rate of production for negative charge. Given this knowledge we can directly infer current density, from the reaction rates derived above by writing the current densities for oxidation and reduction in the following form $i_r = -nFr_r$ and $i_o = -nFr_o$. Which expands to

$$i_r = -nFk_o^0 c_o \exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,r}^0 + \alpha nF\phi}{RT}\right) \quad (144)$$

$$i_o = nFk_r^0 c_r \exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,o}^0 - (1 - \alpha)nF\phi}{RT}\right) \quad (145)$$

It should be noted that when the system is in equilibrium, $\phi = \phi_{rest}$. This means that the system will find a stable intern electric potential which it will maintain across the cell. This however does not provide any insight into the dynamics of the process when not in equilibrium. In order to capture how

deviations from the equilibrium potential effect the current flux, it is desirable to define a term known as the **overpotential** which is symbolically defined by $\eta = \phi - \phi_{rest}$. The overpotential captures how much change in the electric potential from equilibrium was required to initiate the reaction process. After making this substitution, the oxidation and reduction current density equations take the form

$$i_r = -nFk_o^0 c_o \exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,r}^0 + \alpha nF(\phi_{rest} + \eta)}{RT}\right) \quad (146)$$

$$i_o = nFk_r^0 c_r \exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,o}^0 - (1 - \alpha)nF(\phi_{rest} + \eta)}{RT}\right) \quad (147)$$

Before we continue manipulating these equations, note that when expressed via the overpotential η , the system is at equilibrium when $\eta = 0$. Thus under the condition of equilibrium, we can use properties of the exponential function to isolate the terms for applied potential and the activation energy, into separate multiplicative exponential terms, allowing us to define the exchange current i_0 , separately from the electric potential of the battery.

$$i_r = -nFk_o^0 c_o \underbrace{\exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,r}^0}{RT}\right)}_{i_0} \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha nF\phi_{rest}}{RT}\right) \quad (148)$$

$$i_o = nFk_r^0 c_r \underbrace{\exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,o}^0}{RT}\right)}_{i_0} \exp\left(\frac{(1 - \alpha)nF\phi_{rest}}{RT}\right) \quad (149)$$

Under the condition that the equilibrium potential $\phi_{rest} = 0$, we can compactly write the oxidation and reduction current densities as.

$$\begin{aligned} i_r &= -i_0 \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha nF\eta}{RT}\right) \\ i_o &= i_0 \exp\left(\frac{(1 - \alpha)nF\eta}{RT}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (150)$$

Briefly note that the oxidation current density and the exchange current are not the same quantity (eg. $i_0 \neq i_o$). Finally, we can use the condition of charge neutrality to state that the sum total of the oxidation and reduction current densities must equate to zero.

$$i = i_0 + i_r = 0 \quad (151)$$

By substituting our equations for i_o and i_r , into this expression, we find that the relationship for the total ionic current i [Am⁻²] is

$$i = i_0 \left\{ \exp\left(\frac{(1 - \alpha)nF\eta}{RT}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha nF\eta}{RT}\right) \right\} \quad (152)$$

However, in battery literature, it is uncommon to express the current density in these units. Typically, we would express

this quantity in molar form with units $[molm^{-2}s^{-1}]$, by normalizing the current density by Faraday's constant F .

$$j = \frac{i_0}{F} \left\{ \exp \left(\frac{(1-\alpha)nF\eta}{RT} \right) - \exp \left(-\frac{\alpha nF\eta}{RT} \right) \right\} \quad (153)$$

2) *Exchange Current Density*: As defined in the previous section, the **exchange current density** i_0 is defined under the condition of equilibrium. The physical interpretation of this term therefore, quantifies the amount of oxidation and reduction current when the electrode is at rest. This term implies a type of dynamic equilibrium where in the electrons are being exchanged via the action of oxidation and reduction under no external simulation.

$$\begin{aligned} i_0 &= nFk_o^0 \exp \left(-\frac{E_{a,r}^0}{RT} \right) \exp \left(-\frac{\alpha nF\phi_{rest}}{RT} \right) \\ &= nFk_r^0 c_r \exp \left(-\frac{E_{a,o}^0}{RT} \right) \exp \left(\frac{(1-\alpha)nF\phi_{rest}}{RT} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (154)$$

Given this expression for both oxidation and reduction, we can simplify our expression for the exchange current by defining the following substitutions.

$$\mathcal{E}_{a,r}^0 = \exp \left(-\frac{E_{a,r}^0}{RT} \right) \quad (155)$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{a,o}^0 = \exp \left(-\frac{E_{a,o}^0}{RT} \right) \quad (156)$$

$$\phi_{rest} = \phi^\ominus + \frac{RT}{nF} \ln \frac{c_o}{c_r} \quad (157)$$

$$k_o = k_o^0 \mathcal{E}_{a,r}^0 \exp \left(-\frac{\alpha nF\phi^\ominus}{RT} \right) \quad (158)$$

$$k_r = k_r^0 \mathcal{E}_{a,o}^0 \exp \left(\frac{(1-\alpha)nF\phi^\ominus}{RT} \right) \quad (159)$$

After applying these simplifications, we can rewrite the exchange current for a single species concentration as.

$$i_0 = nFk_o^0 c_o^{1-\alpha} c_r^\alpha \quad (160)$$

In the more general case of multispecies reaction we take the produce of all the species such that.

$$i_0 = nFk_o \left(\prod_i c_{o,i} \right)^{1-\alpha} \left(\prod_i c_{r,i} \right)^\alpha \quad (161)$$

In fact, it turns out that we can write the product of all $c_{o,i}$ as

$$\prod_i c_{o,i} = c_e (c_{s,max} - c_{s,e}) \quad (162)$$

Now that we have formulated this quantity in terms that make sense intuitive sense for the system, we can now rewrite these equations in terms that make sense in the context of battery specific applications. Namely, we can rewrite the expression for overpotential η , in terms of the batteries open circuit

potential, and the potentials applied to the solid and electrolyte phases, where $U_{ocp} = \phi_{rest}$

$$\eta = (\phi_s - \phi_e) - U_{ocp} \quad (163)$$

Finally, given that $k_o^{\text{norm}} = k_o c_{e,0}^{1-\alpha} c_{s,max}$ the complete Butler-Volmer equation can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} j &= k_o^{\text{norm}} \left(\left(\frac{c_e}{c_{e,0}} \right) \left(\frac{c_{s,max} - c_{s,e}}{c_{s,max}} \right) \right)^{1-\alpha} \left(\frac{c_{s,e}}{c_{s,max}} \right)^\alpha \\ &\times \left\{ \exp \left(\frac{(1-\alpha)F}{RT} \eta \right) - \exp \left(-\frac{\alpha F}{RT} \eta \right) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (164)$$

IV. COMMENTS ON MICROSCALE MODEL

So far, the entirety of this paper has focused on the details and nuance of deriving and contextualizing the development of the governing partial differential equation for the standard electrochemical microscale model of a lithium-ion battery. We have seen how laws of conservation of mass and charge apply to the different domains that comprise a battery cell, as well as the transport effects and reaction kinetics of lithium transfer between the solid and electrolyte phase. The primary reason for developing these equations are to define the dynamics which are occurring throughout the batteries operation at the molecular level.

However, while a very detailed model of the first principles driving the physics and chemistry of a battery, this model still makes fundamental assumptions which limit the scope over which it is reasonable to apply this model.

A. Fundamental Modeling Assumptions

The most glaring modeling assumptions for the microscale electrochemical model involve the highly idealized nature of the batteries composition. Under the basic assumption we made about the solid and electrolyte phases of the battery being homogeneous and stationary with respect to time, there are a number of important dynamics which this model does not directly take into consideration.

The most obvious of which is the process of battery degradation. Since the composition of the battery is assumed to never change, our microscale model does not natively model the degradation in performance a lithium-ion battery will undergo with any cycles of operation due to the grow of undesirable metal oxide features over the electrodes as well as the chemical changes which effect the electrodes slowly over time and impact how efficiently the reactions inside the battery are performed.

In short, many of the dynamics of cycling a battery which possess very slow transient dynamics are not even considering in the microscale model formulation presented throughout this paper. Thankfully, these dynamics can be modeled separately and appended onto various battery models when these dynamics are important.

B. Practical Limitations

From a computation perspective the direct implementation and use of the microscale model we developed in this paper is problematic. Even under idealized situations, the computational expense required numerically solve a PDE is often prohibitive high for anything approaching real-time operation. In the case of the our microscale model, this would only be compounded by the sheer number of PDEs which would need to be computed simulataneously to obtain any meaning predictive capabilities, such as online estimation of battery degradation, state of charge, or state of health.

Due to computational expensive in solving the microscale equations, models like the DFN formulation, are generally used as benchmarks of accuracy and performance for quantifying the performance of other models and techniques. For the use-case of battery models which need to be computed online simple lookup-table or equivalent circuit models (ECM) are by far the most dominate. Unfortunately, the predictive uncertainty of these models make these models practically unusable for any but the most basic battery monitoring tasks.

However for the use-case where we still want highly accurate and predictive models in more or less realtime, we must turn to the realm of model simplification and reduction.

V. SINGLE PARTICLE MODELS (SPM & SPME)

One way of reducing the complexity of the microscale electrochemical model, developed in this paper, would be using a reduction of order strategy to obtain the Single Particle Model (SPM).

A. SPM Assumptions

The SPM model takes the microscale equations derived above and reduces each battery electrode to an individual sphere of active material that is presumed to be representative of the average dynamics of the electrodes. It also discards the transport effects and dynamics within the electrolyte. The SPMe elevates the SPM model by including these electrolyte dynamics back into the model, allowing this model to capture the nonlinearities which are present due to transport behavior of the electrolyte. These simplifications work well for moderate to low charge/discharge rates as well as assuming that the conductivity of the eletrolyte is effectively negligably large, since the process of lithium transport possess the slowest dynamics in the battery, we can significantly reduce the computational complexity by ignoring these effects.

B. SPM Model

The final formulation of the SPM model is shown below. Note that the equation related to electrolyte phase mass and charge conservation are eliminated. Now the molar flux density j is defined directly in terms of the input current and the electrode geometry (area = a , and thickness = L), with

Faraday's constant present to convert the current into molar form.

$$j^\pm(t) = \frac{\mp I(t)}{Fa^\pm L^\pm} \quad (165)$$

The final form of the equation defining the surface concentration of lithium is now expressed in polar coordinates, to accommodate the assumption that the electrodes are now each fully respresented by spherical particle, into which the lithium intercalates, along with its initial and boundary conditions.

$$\frac{\partial c_s^\pm(r, t)}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(D_s r^2 \frac{\partial c_s^\pm(r, t)}{\partial r} \right) \quad (166)$$

$$C_S(r, 0) = C_S^{0, \mp}(r) \quad (167)$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial c_s^\pm}{\partial t} \right|_{r=0} = 0 \quad (168)$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial c_s^\pm}{\partial t} \right|_{r=R_P} = -\frac{j_n^\pm}{D_s^\pm} = \pm \frac{I(t)}{D_s^\pm Fa^\pm L^\pm} \quad (169)$$

We can write the total voltage across the battery as the difference between the positive and negative electrode potentials.

$$V(t) = \theta_{s0}^+(t) - \theta_{s0}^-(t) \quad (170)$$

The electrode potentials are functions of the surface concentration of lithium which can be written as

$$\theta_{s0}^\pm(t) = \frac{2RT}{F} \sinh^{-1} \left(\frac{\mp I(t)}{2a^\pm L^\pm r_{eff} \sqrt{c_e^0 c_{sS}^\pm(t) (c_{s,max}^\pm - c_{sS}^\pm(t))}} \right) + U^\pm \beta^\pm \mp \frac{R_{SE}^\pm I(t)}{2a^\pm L^\pm} \quad (171)$$

And finally, the equations defining the open circuit voltage (OCV) are a function of the battery chemistry and are parameterized by the stoichiometric coefficients. For a common lithium-ion, given the following definitions for the stoichmetric coefficients $\beta^\pm = c_{sS}^\pm(t)/c_{s,max}^\pm$, such that $x = \beta^-$ and $y = \beta^+$, we can express the OCV for each electrode as

$$U^-(x) = 8.00229 + 5.0647x - 12.578x^{0.5} - 8.6322 \times 10^{-4}x^{-1} + 2.1765 \times 10^{-5}x^{1.5} - 0.46016 \exp[15(0.06 - x)] - 0.55364 \exp[-2.4326(x - 0.92)] \quad (172)$$

$$U^+(x) = 85.681y^6 - 357.7y^5 + 613.89y^4 - 555.65y^3 + 281.06y^2 - 76.648y - 0.30987 \exp(5.657y^{115}) + 13.1983 \quad (173)$$

These are all the equations we need to compute the SPM battery model. This model reduces our previous system of 5 PDEs and an algebraic equation to two PDE (one for each electrode) and the same algebraic equation.

VI. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, while a complete derivation of the microscale model for electrochemical batteries is far more involved and nuanced than the material presented in this paper. The hope has been that this paper helps to contextualize and explain the process behind the basics of the microscale model. A study of high fidelity physics based battery models and the use and knowledge of partial differential equations are inseparable. From developing the model, to analyzing or interpreting the model, to actually applying numerical solution techniques to solve the model all depend on the underlying formalism of PDEs. The objective of this paper is to provide the reader with an appreciation for just how involved the process of developing useful PDE models can be.

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