High rate performance of cathode material as sodium-ion battery

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The development of high-energy and high-power density sodium-ion batteries is a great challenge for modern electrochemistry. The main hurdle to wide acceptance of sodiumion batteries lies in identifying and developing suitable new electrode materials. We present composition-graded cathode with average composition [Ni0.61Co0.12Mn0.27]O2, which exhibits excellent performance and stability. In addition to the concentration gradients of the transition metal ions, the cathode is composed of spoke-like nanorods assembled into a spherical superstructure. Individual nanorod particles also possess strong crystallographic texture with respect to the center of the spherical particle. Micro-compression tests have explicitly verified the mechanical robustness of the composition-graded cathode and single particle electrochemical measurements have demonstrated the electrochemical stability during Na+-ion insertion and extraction at high rates.