

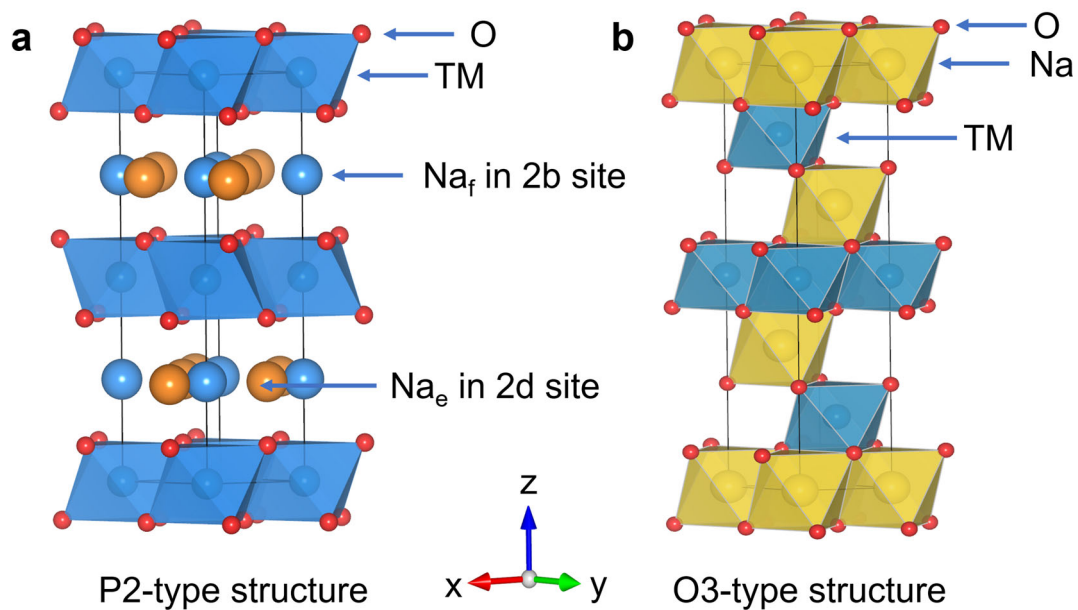
## Supplementary Information

### Niobium-doped layered cathode material for high-power and low-temperature sodium-ion batteries

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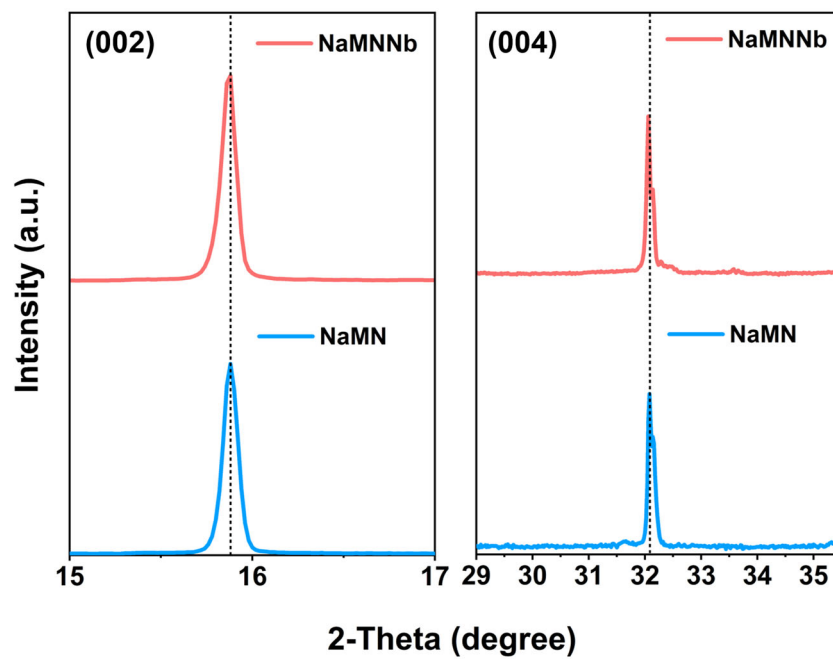
1 **Supplementary Figures**



2

3 **Supplementary Figure. 1** The P2-and O3-type crystal structures. **a** The hexagonal  
4 structure of P2-type oxide with the space group of *P63/mmc* (194). **b** The  
5 Rhombohedral structure O3-type oxide with the space group of *R-3m* (166). The  
6 TM stands for transition metal.

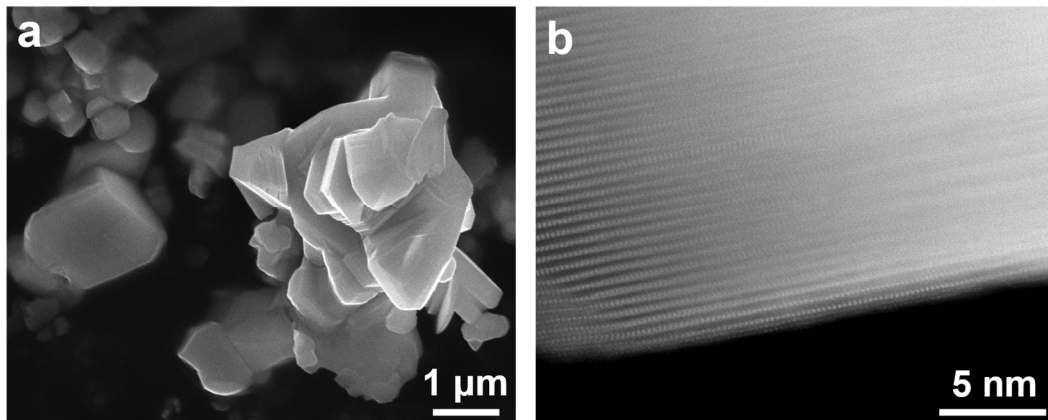
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 2 Shift of the (002) and (004) diffraction peak of P2-NaMN**  
3 **and P2-NaMNNb compounds.**

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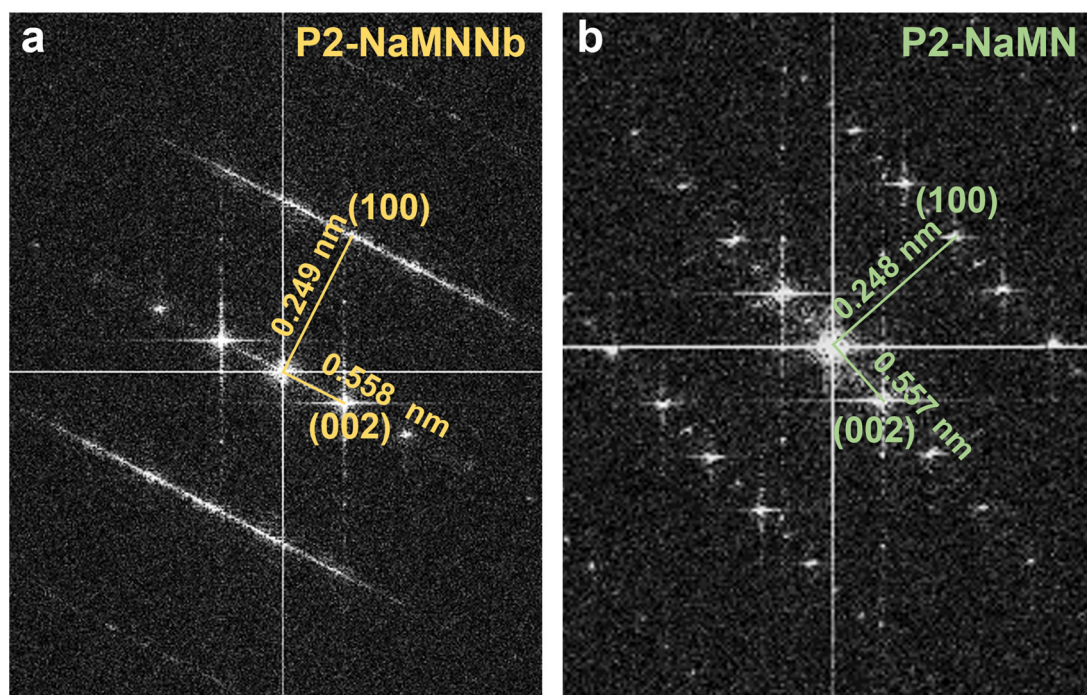
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 3 a Field-emission scanning electron microscope (SEM)**

3 **image of P2-NaMNNb compound. b HADDF-STEM image that illustrates the**

4 **surface reconstruction layer of P2-NaMNNb only exists along [100] direction.**

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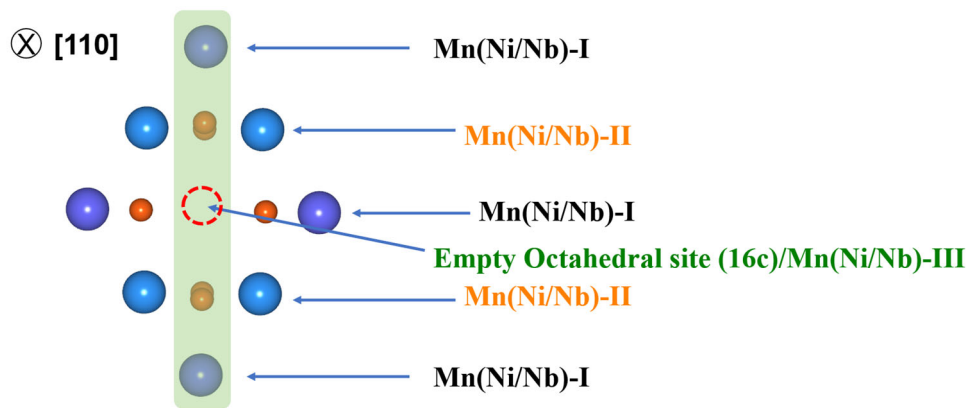
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 4 Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) diffraction of a, P2-**

3 **NaMNNb and b, P2-NaMN.**

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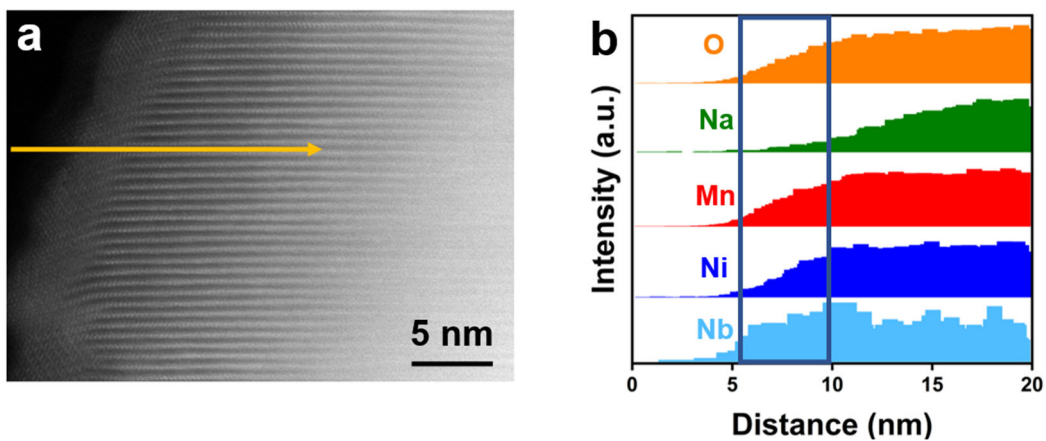
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 5 Schematic diagram of spinel-like-atomic structure**  
 3 **projected along [110] crystallographic direction.**

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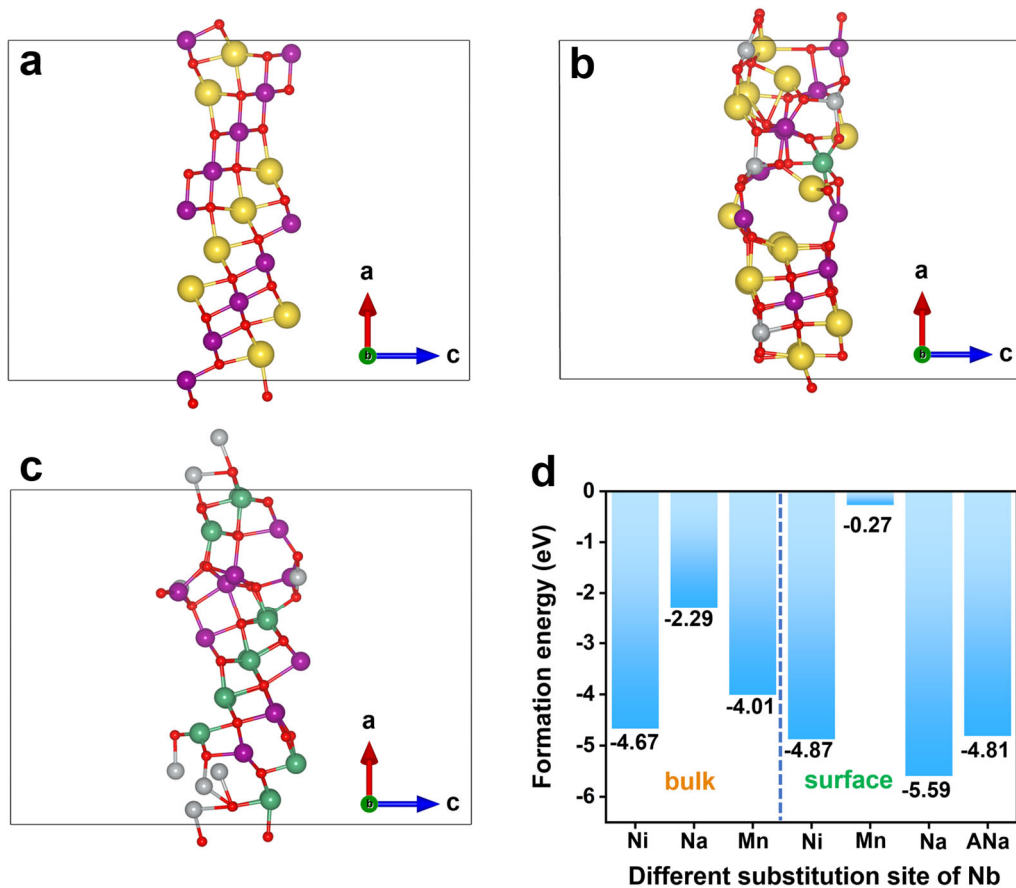
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 6 a STEM-HAADF image showing Energy Spectrum Line**

3 **Scan position. b Corresponding Energy Spectrum elemental line profiles of a, O**

4 **(orange), Na (green), Mn (red), Ni (blue) and Nb (cyan-blue).**

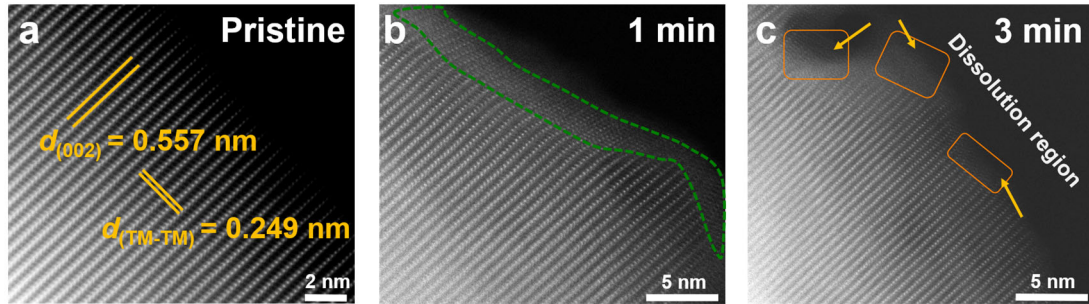
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 2 **Supplementary Figure. 7 Schematic diagram of the substitution of Nb<sup>5+</sup> in bulk**  
 3 **and surface of (-103) plane of P2-NaMNNb. a The original plane, b Replace single**  
 4 **Na<sup>+</sup>, c Replace all Na<sup>+</sup>. d The comparison of formation energy of different**  
 5 **substitution site of Nb (ANa represent all Na are replaced by Nb in the surface**  
 6 **layer). See detailed description in Supplementary Note 1.**

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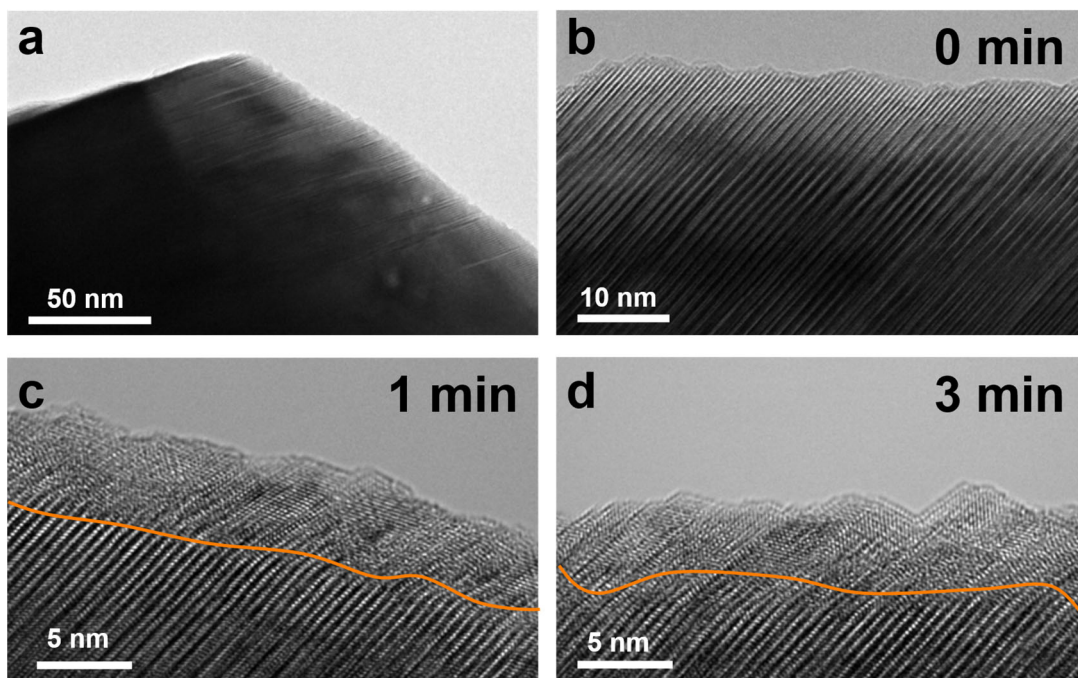




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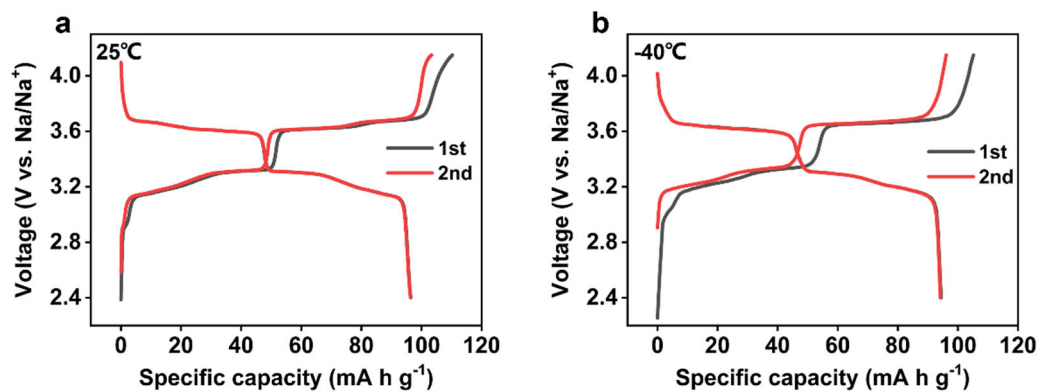
2 **Supplementary Figure. 8 a-c, HAADF images of the  $\text{Na}_{0.78}\text{Ni}_{0.32}\text{Mn}_{0.68}\text{O}_2$  particles**  
3 **projected along [010] zone axes taken after different electron beam irradiation**  
4 **times (0 min, 1 min and 3 min) with a dose rate of  $\sim 1.12 \times 10^4$  electrons  $\text{\AA}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , at**  
5 **a dwell time of  $\sim 1 \mu\text{s}/\text{pixel}$ .**

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2 **Supplementary Figure. 9 a, HRTEM image of the  $\text{Na}_{0.78}\text{Ni}_{0.32}\text{Mn}_{0.68}\text{O}_2$  projected**  
3 **along [010] zone axis, and taken after different electron beam irradiation times (0**  
4 **min, 1 min and 3 min corresponding to b, c, d.**

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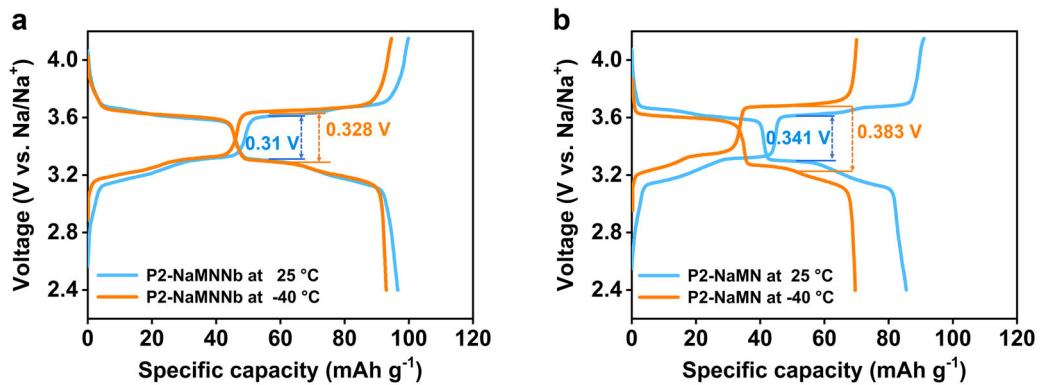
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 10. The first two charge-discharge curves of Na||P2-**

3 **NaMNNb coin cell in the voltage range of 2.4-4.15 V at 92 mA g<sup>-1</sup> a, 25 °C and b, -**

4 **40 °C.**

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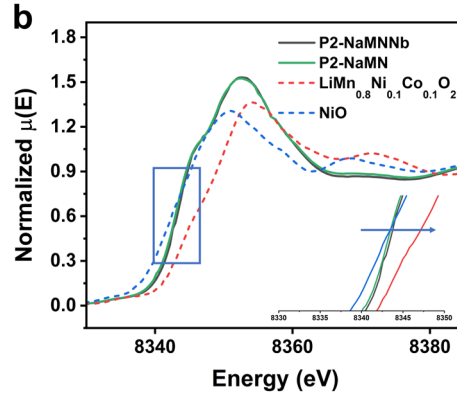
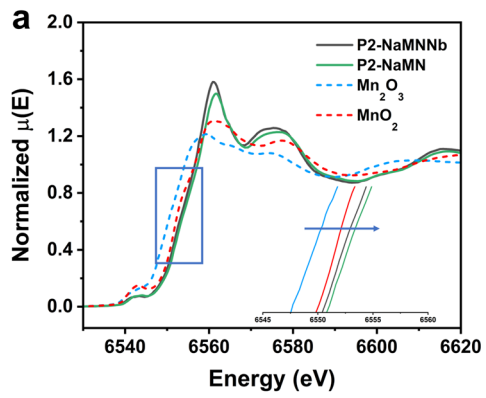
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 11 The charge–discharge curves of a, P2-NaMNNb and b,**

3 **P2-NaMN cathode in the voltage range of 2.4-4.15 V in coin cell at 25 °C and -**

4 **40 °C; 92 mA g<sup>-1</sup>.**

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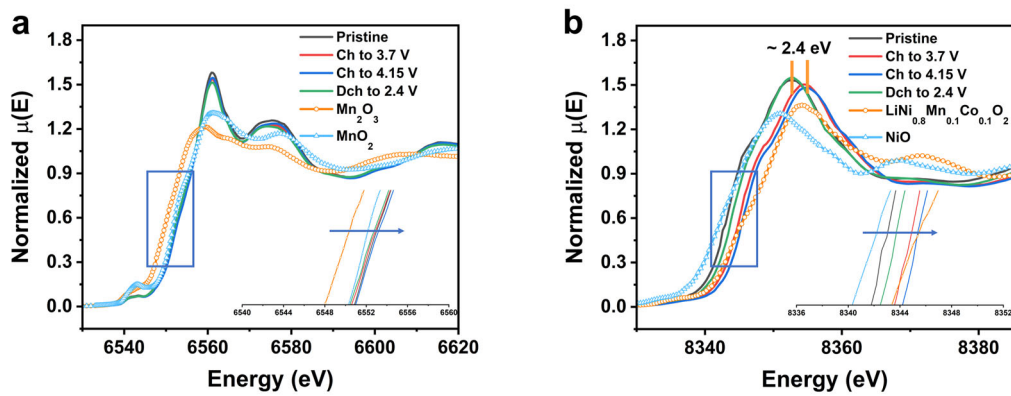
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 12 The X-ray absorption near edge structure (XANES) of**

3 **a, Mn and b, Ni K-edge of P2-NaMNNb and P2-NaMN as well as standard metal**

4 **oxide references. See detailed analysis in Supplementary Note 2.**

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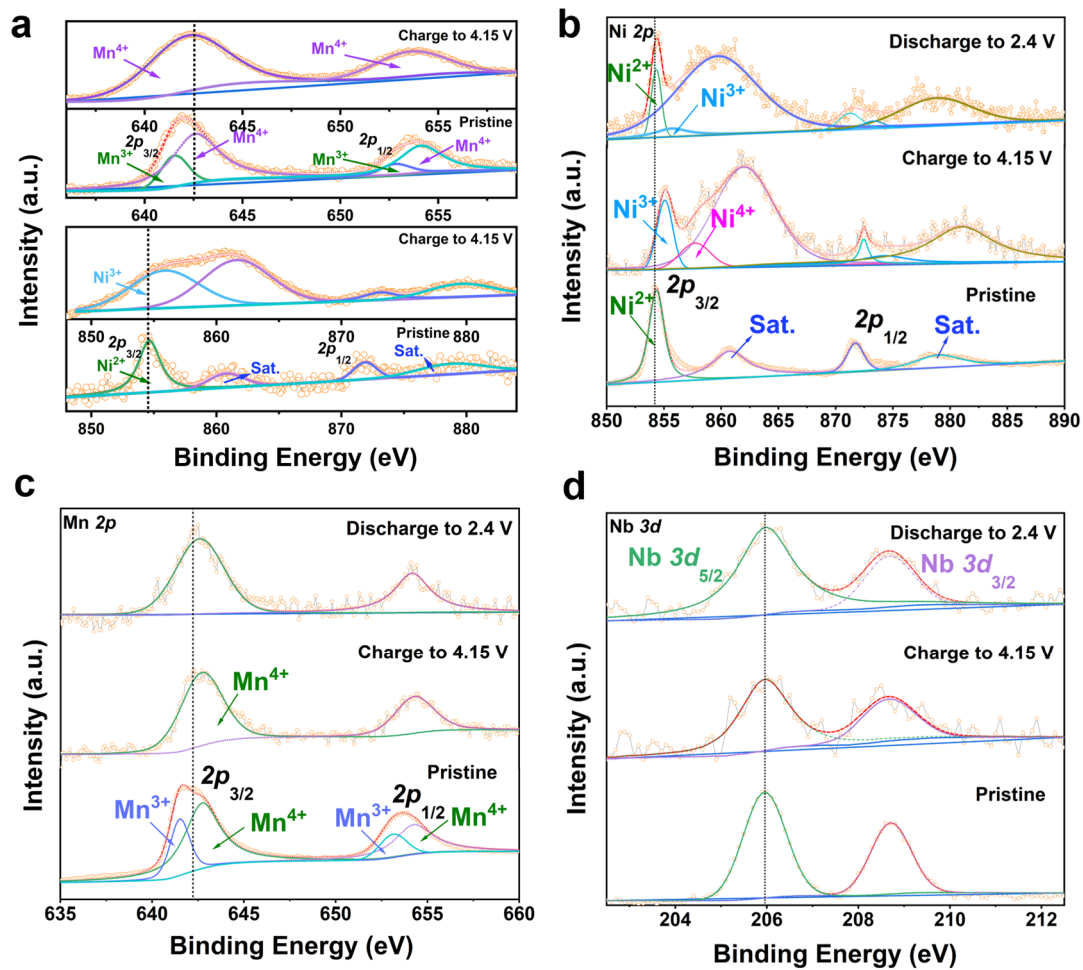


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2 **Supplementary Figure. 13 The ex situ XANES of P2-NaMNNb with different**

3 **cutoff voltage a, Mn; b, Ni. See detailed analysis in Supplementary Note 3.**

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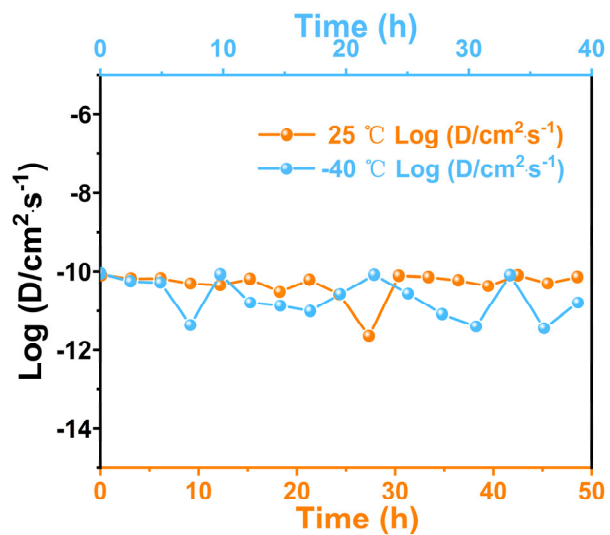


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2 **Supplementary Figure. 14** The ex situ XPS analysis of a Ni 2*p* and Mn 2*p* for P2-  
 3 NaMN at pristine state, charge to 4.15 V. b, Ni 2*p*; c, Mn 2*p* and d, Nb 3*d* for P2-  
 4 NaMNNb at pristine state, charge to 4.15 V and discharge to 2.4 V, respectively.

5 See detailed analysis in Supplementary Note 4

6

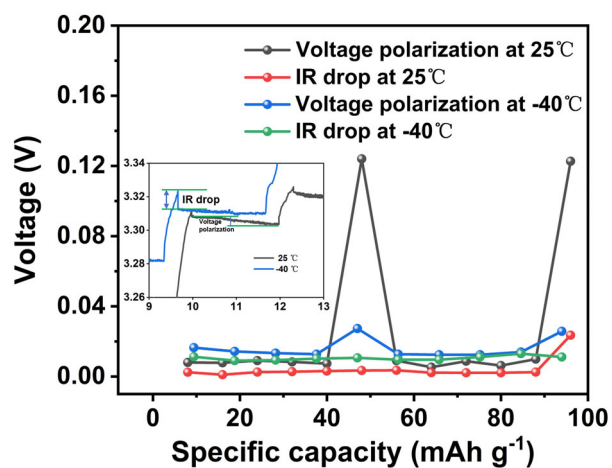


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2 **Supplementary Figure. 15** Calculated Na<sup>+</sup> diffusion coefficients of Na||P2-NaMN  
3 coin cell from GITT at 25 and -40 °C.

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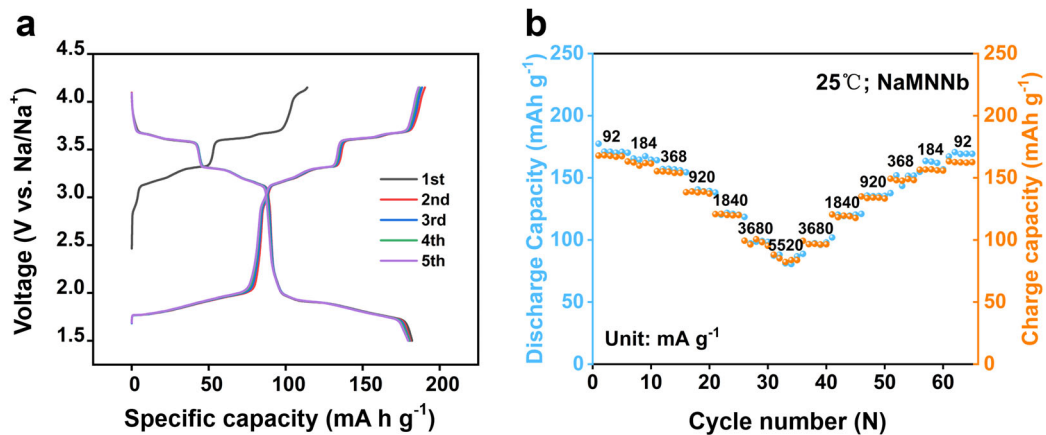
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 16** Calculated voltage polarization and IR-drop from

3 **GITT data of Na||P2-NaMNNb coin cell during charge process. See detailed**

4 **analysis in Supplementary Note 5.**

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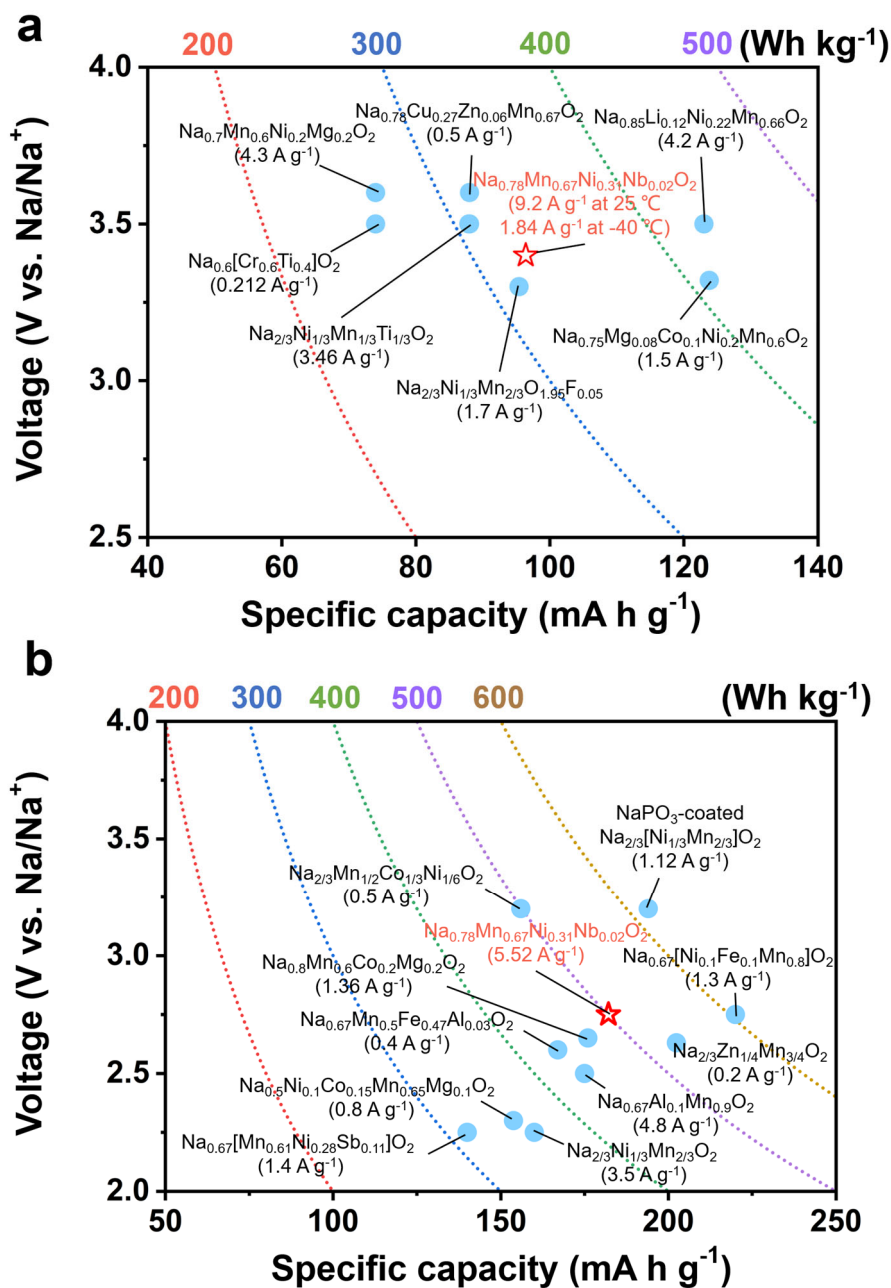
2 **Supplementary Figure. 17 a Charge/discharge curves of Na||P2-NaMNNb coin**

3 **cell at 92 mA g<sup>-1</sup>, 25 °C in 1.5-4.15 V. b The corresponding rate performance at**

4 **25 °C.**

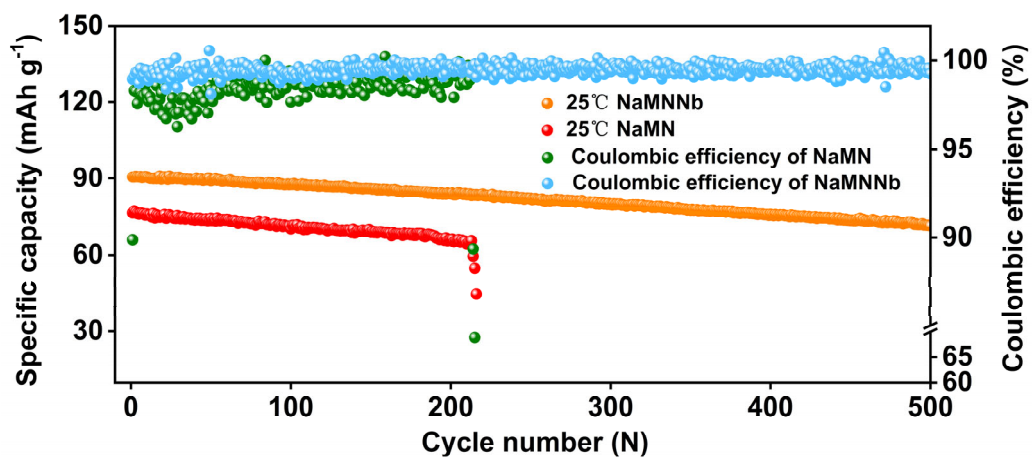
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 2 **Supplementary Figure. 18 Comparison of half-cell performance with reported**  
 3 **cathode materials for SIBs in coin cells. Plots of specific capacity versus operating**  
 4 **voltage with calculated specific energy, as well as the maximum specific current**  
 5 **curves, a, in narrow voltage range (( $\Delta V$ = cut-off voltage at charge state minus cut-**  
 6 **off voltage at discharge state) > 2.0 V or Mn ion participate the redox reaction.);**  
 7 **b, in wide voltage range ( $\Delta V$  < 2.0 V or Mn ion participate the redox reaction).**  
 8 **The data are consistent with those in Supplementary Table 5.**

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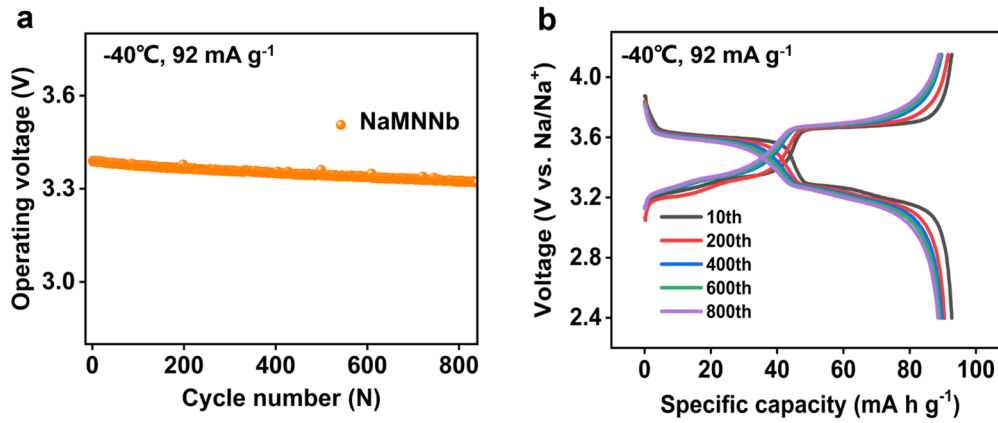


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2 **Supplementary Figure. 19 Long-term cycling stability of Na||P2-NaMNNb coin**

3 **cell at specific current of 920 mA g<sup>-1</sup> at 25 °C between 2.4-4.15 V.**

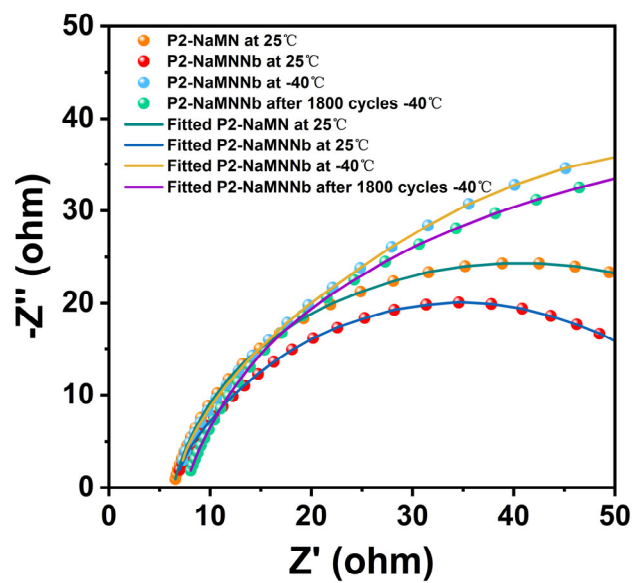
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 20 a** The average working voltage ( $> 3.3$  V) at specific  
 3 current of  $92 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$  at  $-40$  °C of Na||P2-NaMNNb coin cell in the voltage range of  
 4 2.4-4.15 V. **b** Corresponding charging and discharging curves of various cycle  
 5 numbers at  $-40$  °C at specific current of  $92 \text{ mA g}^{-1}$ .

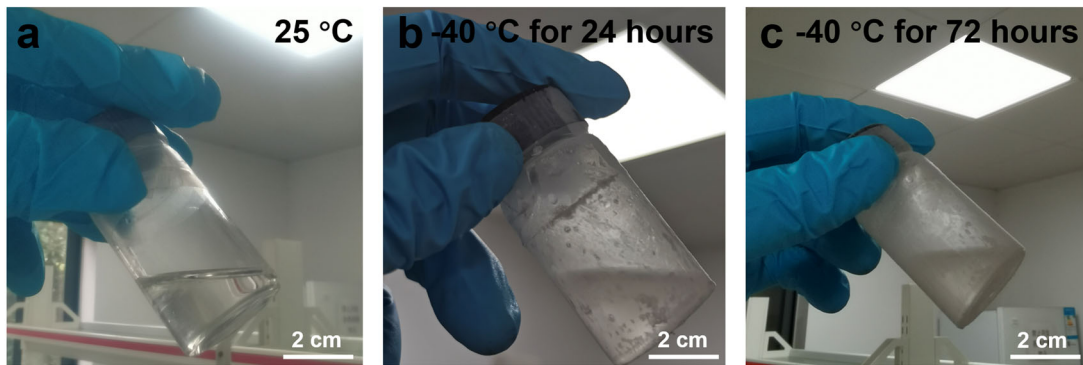
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 21 Magnified EIS curves of P2-NaMNNb and P2-NaMN**  
 3 **at 25 °C and -40 °C.**

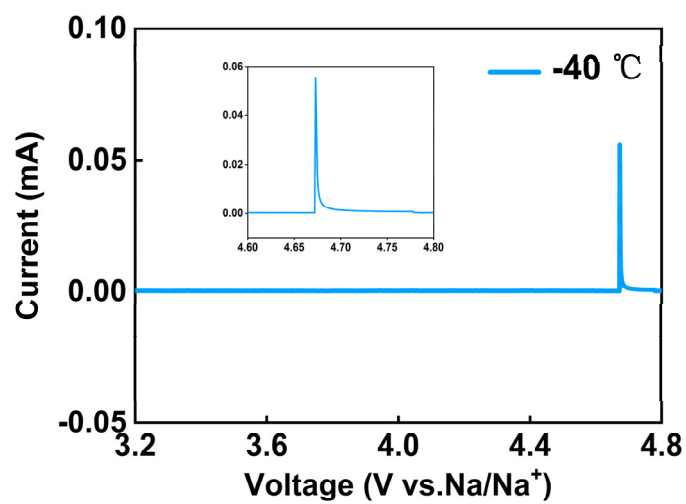
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 22 Photographic pictures of the glass vials containing the**  
3 **non-aqueous electrolyte solution at 25 °C (a) and at -40 °C for (b) 24 hours and (c)**  
4 **72 hours.**

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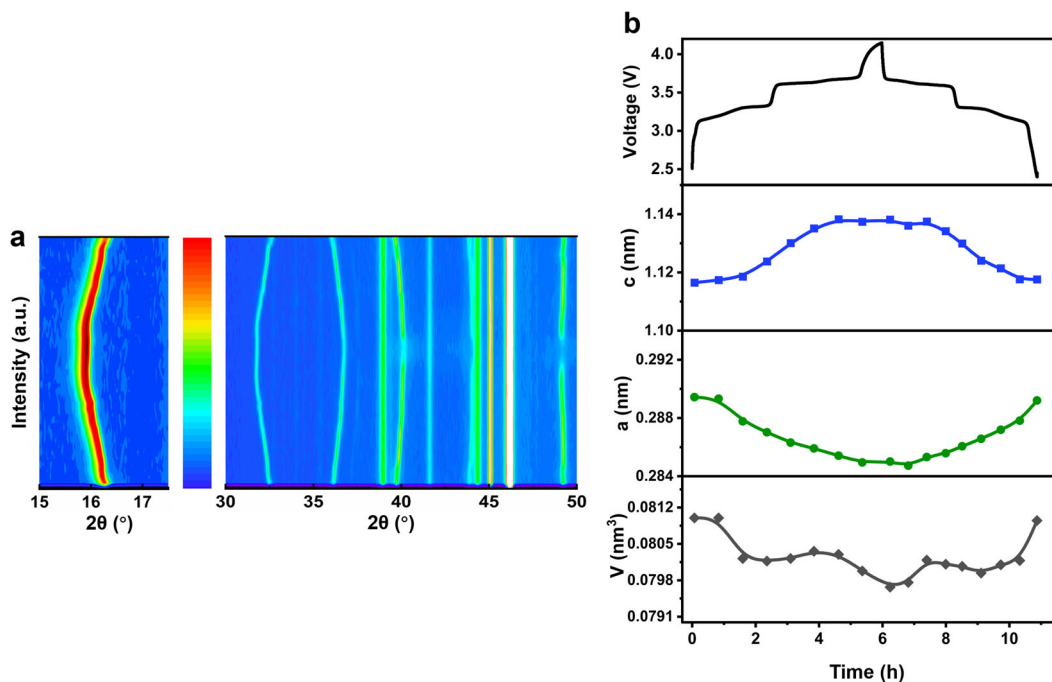
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 23 LSV curves of 1 mol NaPF<sub>6</sub> in Diglyme at 0.2 mV s<sup>-1</sup>**

3 **based on Na||Al coin cells at -40 °C between 3.2-4.8 V.**

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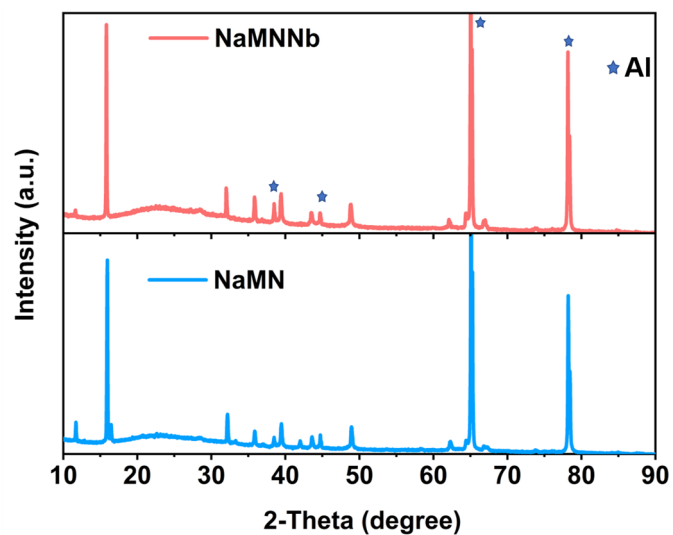




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2 **Supplementary Figure. 24 Structure evolution of P2-NaMNNb upon Na<sup>+</sup>**  
 3 **extraction/insertion. a The typical intensity contour maps of in situ XRD patterns**  
 4 **corresponding to the charge and discharge curves at 20 mA g<sup>-1</sup> between 2.4-4.15**  
 5 **V of Swagelok cell at 25 °C. b The variation of cell parameters *a/b* (green lines), *c***  
 6 **(blue lines), and *V* (gray lines). P.S No characteristic peak of P2-NaMNNb in in**  
 7 **situ XRD patterns was observed from 18 to 30 *2Theta* during the charge and**  
 8 **discharge process, so the signals of this section are not included.**

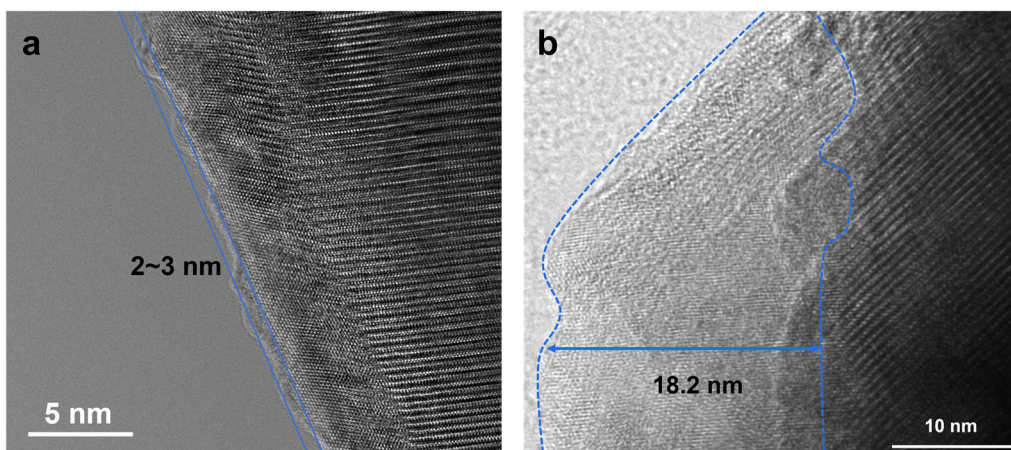
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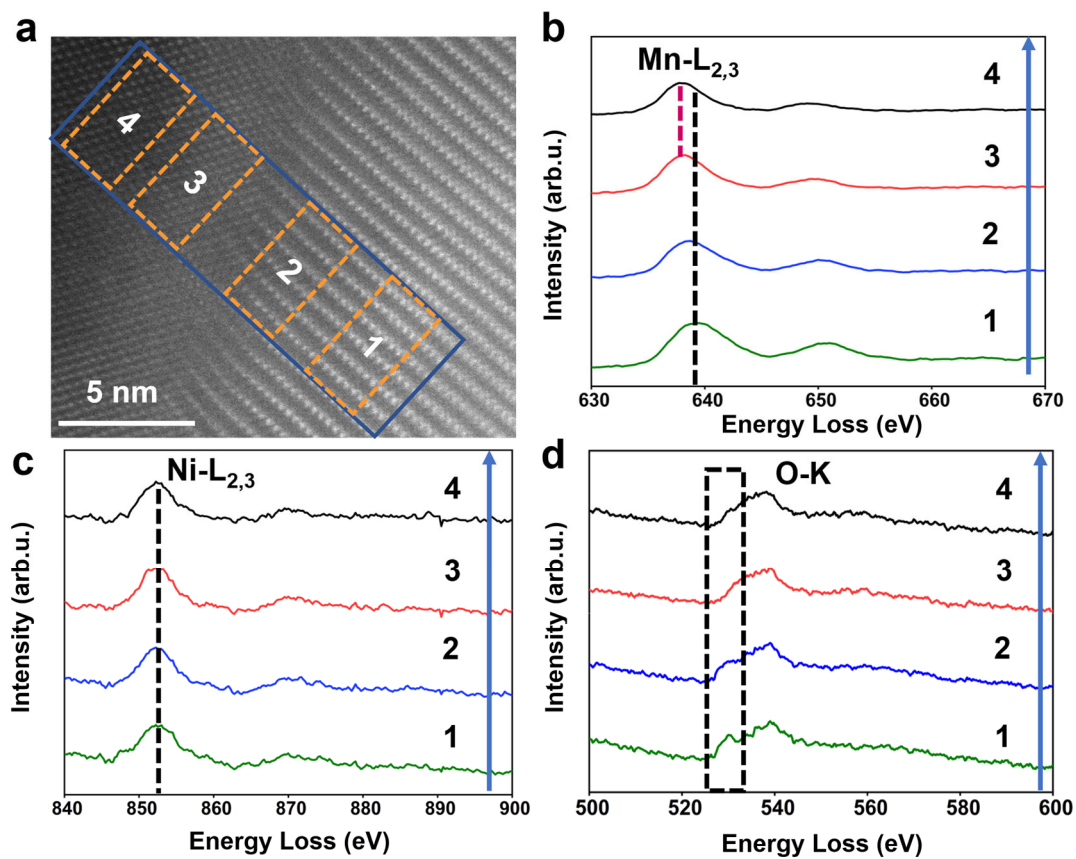
2 **Supplementary Figure. 25 Comparison of X-ray diffraction patterns of P2-**  
3 **NaMNNb and P2-NaMN at 92 mA g<sup>-1</sup> in coin cell after 30 cycles at 25 °C. The**  
4 **electrodes after disassembling process were washed with diglyme for three times**  
5 **and dried in an argon-filled glove box, then the surface of electrode were protected**  
6 **with polyimide film from 3M company.**

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2 **Supplementary Figure. 26** The HRTEM image of a, P2-NaMNNb and b, P2-  
3 NaMN at 92 mA g<sup>-1</sup> in coin cell after 30 cycles at 25 °C. The electrodes after  
4 disassembled process were used diglyme to wash for one time and dried in an  
5 argon-filled glove box.



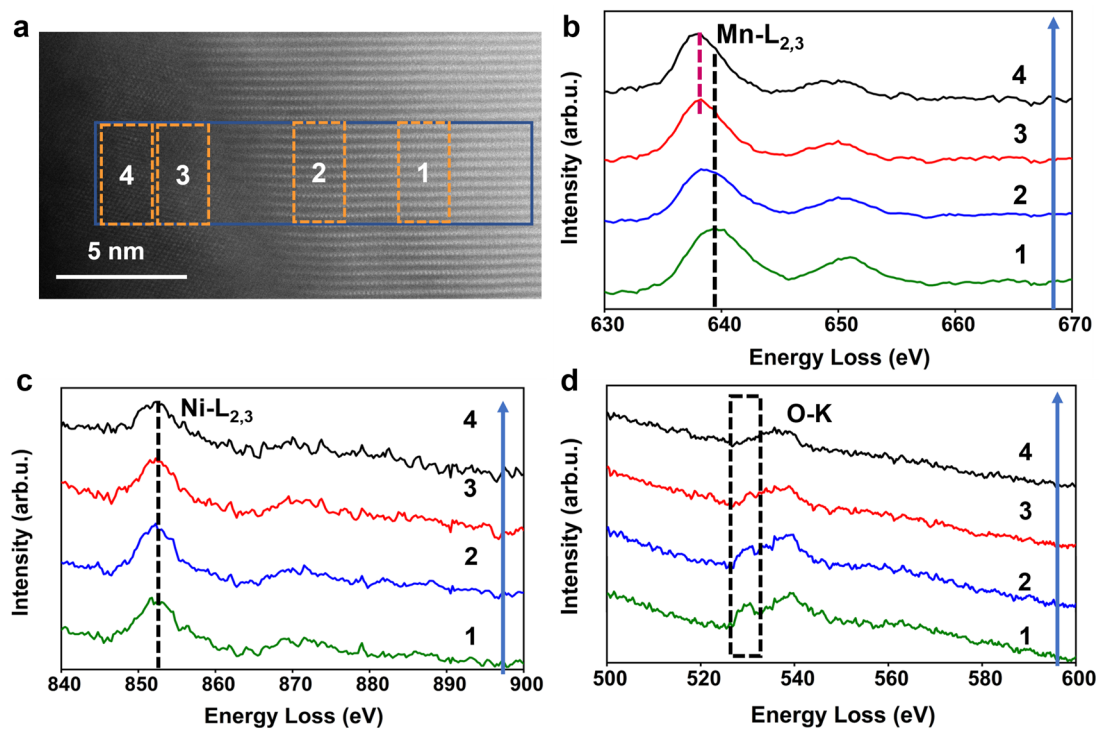
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 27** The image of EELS area of P2-NaMNNb powder a the

3 **HADDF-STEM and EELS spectra of b, Mn L-edge; c, Ni L-edge; d, O K-edge.**

4 **See detailed analysis in Supplementary Note 6.**

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2 **Supplementary Figure. 28 a** The image of EELS area of P2-NaMNNb, which

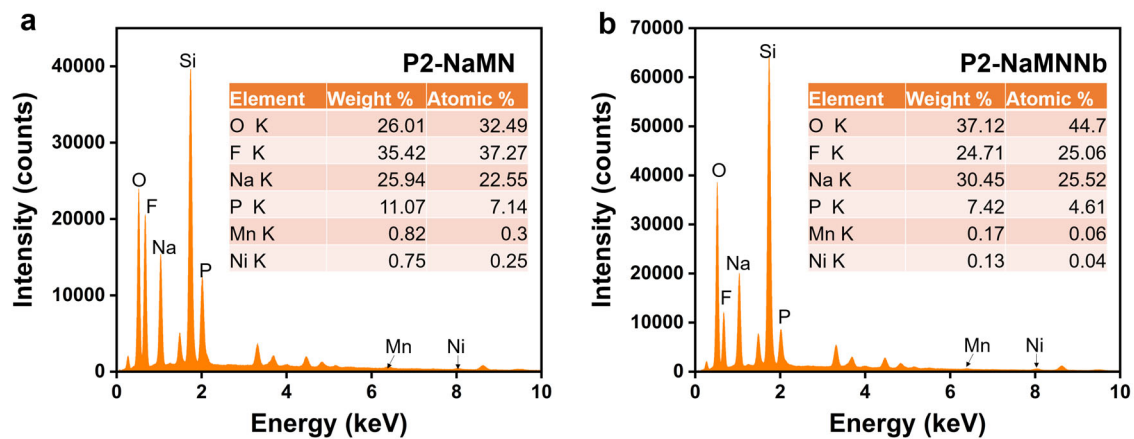
3 stopped at 2.4 V at 92 mA g<sup>-1</sup> in coin cell in discharge state after 30 cycles at 25 °C.

4 The EELS spectra of b, Mn L-edge; c, Ni L-edge; d, O K-edge. The electrodes after

5 disassembled process were used diglyme to wash for three time and dried in an

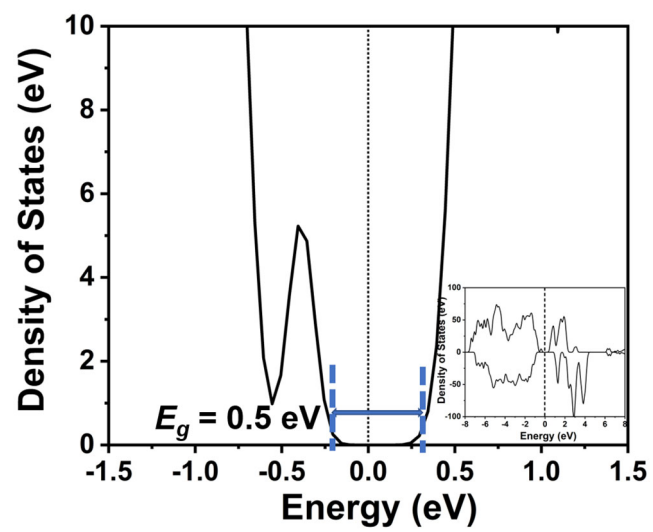
6 argon-filled glove box.

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 2 **Supplementary Figure. 29 Energy Dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) spectra**  
 3 **of a P2-NaMN, b P2-NaMNNb of Na anodes, which stopped at 2.4 V at 92 mA g<sup>-1</sup>**  
 4 **in coin cell in discharge state after 30 cycles at 25 °C.**

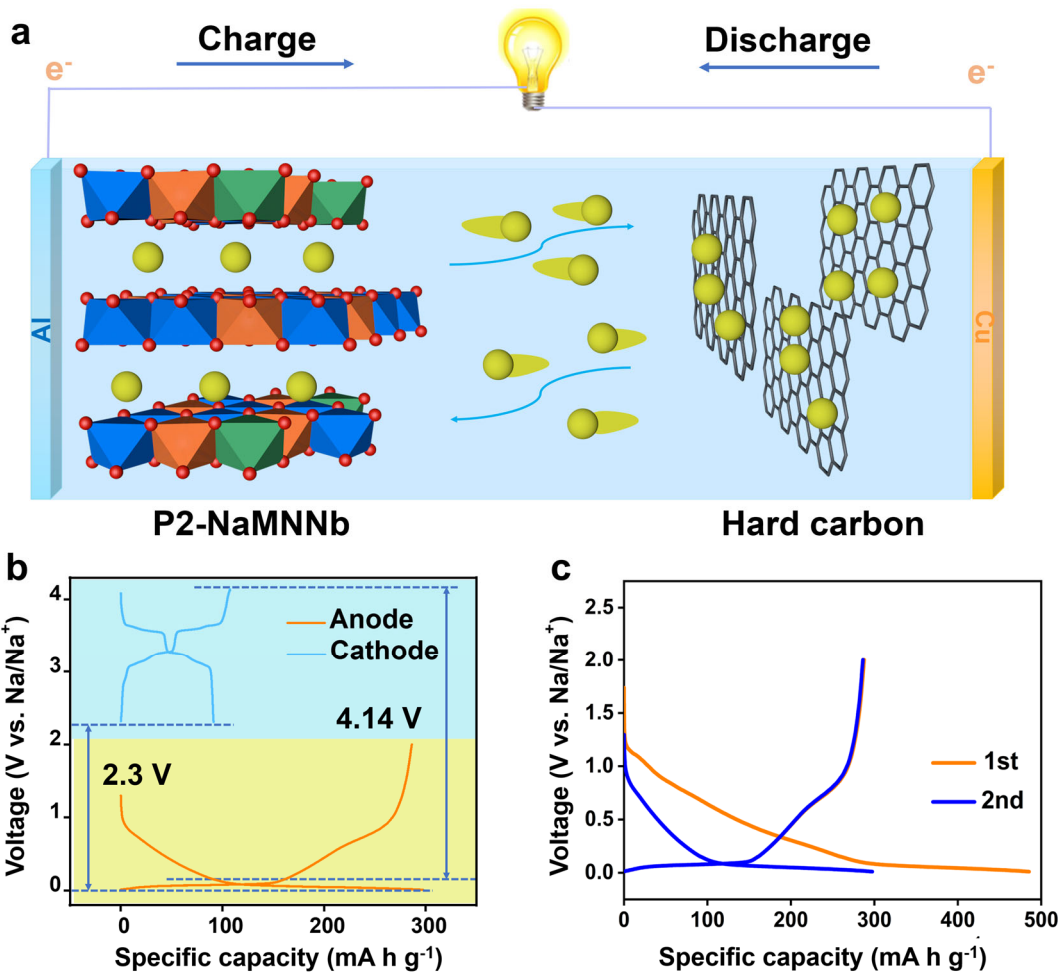
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2 **Supplementary Figure. 30** The total density of state of  $\text{Na}_{24}\text{Ni}_{10}\text{Mn}_{22}\text{O}_{64}$ .

3



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2 **Supplementary Figure. 31 a Schematic of pre-sodiated hard carbon||P2-NaMNNb**

3 **coin cell. b Potential profiles versus specific capacity of P2-NaMNNb (2.4-4.15 V)**

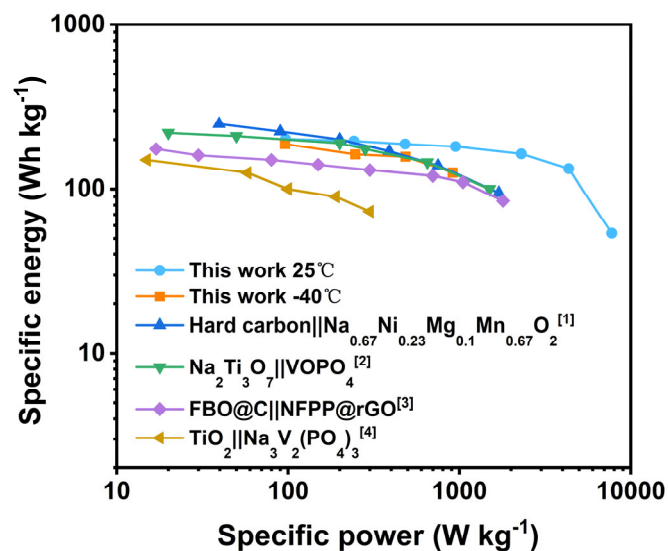
4 **and hard carbon electrodes (0.01-2 V). c Potential profiles of the hard carbon**

5 **electrode in Na metal coin cell configuration at 25 °C between 0.01-2.0 V at 50 mA**

6 **g<sup>-1</sup>.**

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 2 **Supplementary Figure. 32 The comparison of the specific power and specific**  
 3 **energy for the present research work with other Na-ion lab-scale cells reported in**  
 4 **the literature<sup>1-4</sup>**



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**Supplementary Figure. 33 The image of the low temperature electrochemical test for half-cell and full-cell at -40 °C.**

1 **Supplementary Tables**

2 **Supplementary Table 1. Stoichiometry from the inductively coupled plasma**  
3 **atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES) analysis. The results presented as**  
4 **stoichiometric values, which are calculated from the mass fraction of each element.**

ICP results (mol mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Na	Mn	Ni	Nb
Na <sub>0.78</sub> Mn <sub>0.67</sub> Ni <sub>0.31</sub> Nb <sub>0.02</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.78	0.67	0.31	0.02

5

1 **Supplementary Table 2. Crystallographic parameters of P2-NaMNNb refined by**  
2 **the Rietveld method.**

site	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>Occ.</i>
Na <sub>f</sub>	0	0	1/4	0.237
Na <sub>e</sub>	2/3	1/3	3/4	0.543
Mn	0	0	0	0.670
Ni	0	0	0	0.310
Nb	0	0	0	0.02
O	2/3	1/3	0.07520	1
<i>a</i> = 0.2888(2) nm <i>c</i> = 1.1155(4) nm <i>V</i> = 0.08056(2) nm <sup>3</sup> <i>R</i> <sub>p</sub> = 2.36% <i>R</i> <sub>wp</sub> = 4.19%				

3

4

1 **Supplementary Table 3. Crystallographic parameters of P2-NaMN refined by the**  
2 **Rietveld method.**

site	$x$	$y$	$z$	$Occ.$
Na <sub>f</sub>	0	0	1/4	0.303
Na <sub>e</sub>	2/3	1/3	3/4	0.477
Mn	0	0	0	0.68
Ni	0	0	0	0.32
O	2/3	1/3	0.07239	1
$a = 0.2887(1) \text{ nm}$ $c = 1.1148(2) \text{ nm}$ $V = 0.08046(1) \text{ nm}^3$ $R_p = 3.17\%$ $R_{wp} = 5.61\%$				

3

1 **Supplementary Table 4. The formation energy of the different substitution site of**  
2 **Nb.**

Formation energy (eV)			
original ion	Ni	Na	Mn
bulk	-4.67	-4.01	-2.29
surface	-4.88	-5.59	-0.27

3

1 **Supplementary Table 5. The comparison of electrochemical performance of**  
 2 **various cathode oxide material in coin cell. The negative electrode is Na disc and**  
 3 **the operating temperature is about 25-30 °C.**

	Positive electrode/mass loading (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> ) and active material content (wt.%)	Average cell discharge voltage/potential window (V)	Specific capacity/specific current (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> /mA g <sup>-1</sup> )	Rate performance and corresponding specific current (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> / A g <sup>-1</sup> )	Electrolyte	Ref
Wide-voltage range	Na <sub>0.67</sub> Al <sub>0.1</sub> Mn <sub>0.9</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (Not given / 80)	2.5 (2-4)	175/12	74 (4.8)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=98:2, vol%	5
	Na <sub>2/3</sub> Ni <sub>1/3</sub> Mn <sub>2/3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2.5 / 75)	2.25 (1.5-4.0)	160/17	73.4 (3.5)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=95:5, vol%	6
	NaPO <sub>3</sub> -coated Na <sub>2/3</sub> [Ni <sub>1/3</sub> Mn <sub>2/3</sub> ]O <sub>2</sub> (8 / 80)	3.2 (1.5-4.3)	194/20	115 (1.12)	0.5 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in PC:FEC, 98:2, vol%	7
	Na <sub>0.67</sub> Mn <sub>0.5</sub> Fe <sub>0.47</sub> Al <sub>0.03</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (Not given / 75)	2.6 (1.5-4.2)	167/10	67 (0.4)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC/ EC, 50/50 vol%	8
	Na <sub>0.5</sub> Ni <sub>0.1</sub> Co <sub>0.15</sub> Mn <sub>0.65</sub> Mg <sub>0.1</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2-3 / 70)	2.3 (1.5-4.0)	153.8/16	97.5 (0.8)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=98:2, vol%	9
	Na <sub>0.67</sub> [Mn <sub>0.61</sub> Ni <sub>0.28</sub> Sb <sub>0.11</sub> ]O <sub>2</sub> (2 / 70)	2.25 (1.8-4.2)	140/14	82 (1.4)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC/ EC, 50/50, and 5% FEC vol%	10
	Na <sub>2/3</sub> Zn <sub>1/4</sub> Mn <sub>3/4</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (1.4 / 70)	2.63 (1.5-4.5)	202.4/20	140 (0.2)	Not given	11
	Na <sub>0.67</sub> [Ni <sub>0.1</sub> Fe <sub>0.1</sub> Mn <sub>0.8</sub> ]O <sub>2</sub> (4 / 85)	2.75 (1.5-4.3)	220/26	120 (1.3)	0.5 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in PC:FEC, 98:2, vol%	12
	Na <sub>2/3</sub> Mn <sub>1/2</sub> Co <sub>1/3</sub> Ni <sub>1/6</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (1.5-2 / 80)	3.2 (1.5-4.5)	~190/20	70 (0.5)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC/ EC, 50/50 vol%	13
	Na <sub>0.8</sub> Mn <sub>0.6</sub> Co <sub>0.2</sub> Mg <sub>0.2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2.75 / 70)	2.65 (1.6-4.4)	176/17	68.8 (1.36)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC/ EC, 50/50, and 5% FEC vol%	14
Na <sub>0.78</sub> Mn <sub>0.67</sub> Ni <sub>0.31</sub> Nb <sub>0.02</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2-3 / 80)	2.75 (1.5-4.15)	182.1/92	88.8 (5.52)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in diglyme	This work	
Narrow-voltage range	Na <sub>0.78</sub> Cu <sub>0.27</sub> Zn <sub>0.06</sub> Mn <sub>0.67</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (1.5 / 80)	3.6 (2.5-4.1)	88/10	73 (0.5)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC/ EC, 50/50 vol%	15
	Na <sub>0.7</sub> Mn <sub>0.6</sub> Ni <sub>0.2</sub> Mg <sub>0.2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2.0 / 70)	3.6 (2.5-4.2)	74/34	60 (4.3)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC/ EC, 50/50 vol%	16
	Na <sub>2/3</sub> Ni <sub>1/6</sub> Mn <sub>2/3</sub> Cu <sub>1/9</sub> Mg <sub>1/18</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2.0 / 70)	3.5 (2.5-4.15)	87.9/60	64.0 (3.6)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=95:5, vol%	17
	Na <sub>2/3</sub> Ni <sub>1/3</sub> Mn <sub>2/3</sub> O <sub>1.95</sub> F <sub>0.05</sub> (2-3.5 / 80)	3.3 (2-4)	95.4/17	86.4 (1.7)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=95:5, vol%	18
	Na <sub>0.85</sub> Li <sub>0.12</sub> Ni <sub>0.22</sub> Mn <sub>0.66</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (3-4 / 80)	3.5 (2-4.3)	123/22.4	79.3 (4.2)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC/ EC, 50/50, and 5% FEC vol%	19
	Na <sub>0.75</sub> Mg <sub>0.08</sub> Co <sub>0.1</sub> Ni <sub>0.2</sub> Mn <sub>0.6</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2 / 75)	3.32 (2-4.3)	123.8/30	79.8 (1.5)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in PC:FEC=95:5, vol%	20
	Na <sub>0.6</sub> [Cr <sub>0.6</sub> Ti <sub>0.4</sub> ]O <sub>2</sub> (Not given / 75)	3.5 (2.5-3.85)	74/10.6	61 (0.212)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> or 0.8 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in EC/DEC 4:6 vol%	21
	Na <sub>2/3</sub> Ni <sub>1/3</sub> Mn <sub>1/3</sub> Ti <sub>1/3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (3-4 / 75)	3.5 (2.5-4.15)	88/17.3	68.2 (3.46)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in DEC/EC, 50/50, and 5% FEC vol%	22
	[Na <sub>0.67</sub> Zn <sub>0.05</sub> ]Ni <sub>0.18</sub> Cu <sub>0.1</sub> Mn <sub>0.67</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (1.5-1.8 / 70)	3.6 (2.5-4.35)	103/17	38 (3.4)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=95:5, vol%	23
	Na <sub>0.78</sub> Mn <sub>0.67</sub> Ni <sub>0.31</sub> Nb <sub>0.02</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2-3 / 80)	3.4 (2.4-4.15)	96.6/92	65.8 (9.2)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in diglyme	This work

1 **Supplementary Table 6. The fitted data of EIS measurements.**

	P2-NaMN at 25 °C	P2-NaMNNb at 25 °C	P2-NaMNNb at - 40 °C	P2-NaMNNb at - 40 °C after 1800 cycles
R0 ( $\Omega$ )	5.781	5.414	4.969	6.458
R1 ( $\Omega$ )	62.21	58.61	109.1	89.53
Q1 ( $S \cdot S^{\alpha_1}$ )	0.0000091247	0.000012368	0.000010741	0.000012634
$\alpha_1$	0.81295	0.74804	0.73407	0.74154
R2 ( $\Omega$ )	175	123	83.72	113.5
Q2 ( $S \cdot S^{\alpha_2}$ )	0.00051406	0.00047447	0.00037113	0.00032066
$\alpha_2$	0.78854	0.88151	0.89084	0.69211
Q3 ( $S \cdot S^{\alpha_3}$ )	0.0111	0.042836	0.056488	0.026404
$\alpha_3$	0.54392	0.63436	0.5	0.5
$\chi^2$	0.00049311	0.00032466	0.00029406	0.00047234

2 R0: Ohmic resistance

3 R1: the solid electrolyte interphase (SEI) resistance

4 R2: the charge transfer resistance

5 Q1: Value corresponding to the admittance ( $1/|Z_{Q1}|$ ) at  $\omega = 1.0$  rad/s ( $S \cdot S^{\alpha_1}$ )

6 Q2: Value corresponding to the admittance ( $1/|Z_{Q2}|$ ) at  $\omega = 1.0$  rad/s ( $S \cdot S^{\alpha_2}$ )

7 Q3: Value corresponding to the admittance ( $1/|Z_{Q3}|$ ) at  $\omega = 1.0$  rad/s ( $S \cdot S^{\alpha_3}$ )

8  $\alpha_1$ : Exponent for CPE1

9  $\alpha_2$ : Exponent for CPE2

10  $\alpha_3$ : Exponent for CPE3

11  $\chi^2$ : Chi-squared function about the fitting error for cell.

12



1 **Supplementary Table 7. The comparison of electrochemical performance of**  
 2 **various cathode material in full-cell. The operating temperature is about 25-30 °C.**

Cell configuration and mass loading (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> ) and active material content (wt.%)	Cell type and voltage range (V)	Specific energy / Maximum power (based on total active material in cathode and anode) (Wh kg <sup>-1</sup> / W kg <sup>-1</sup> )	Initial discharge capacity (based on cathode active material) at the maximum specific current applied (mAh g <sup>-1</sup> / A g <sup>-1</sup> )	Electrolyte	Ref.
Hard carbon (Not given)   [Na <sub>0.67</sub> Zn <sub>0.05</sub> ][Ni <sub>0.18</sub> Cu <sub>0.1</sub> Mn <sub>0.67</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2 / 70)	Coin cell 2.4-4.25	217.9	~63 (based on total active material in cathode and anode) / 0.85	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=95 :5, vol%	23
Hard carbon (Not given)   Na <sub>2/3</sub> Ni <sub>1/3</sub> Mn <sub>2/3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> nanofibers (2.5 / 75)	Coin cell 1.2-3.8	212.5	~160 / 1.73	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=95 :5, vol%	6
Hard carbon (Not given / 80)   P2/P3- Na <sub>0.7</sub> Li <sub>0.06</sub> Mg <sub>0.06</sub> Ni <sub>0.22</sub> Mn <sub>0.67</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (Not given / 75)	Pouch cell 2-4.2	218	62.2 / 0.595	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=95 :5, vol%	24
Hard carbon (Not given)   Na <sub>0.7</sub> Mg <sub>0.2</sub> [Fe <sub>0.2</sub> Mn <sub>0.6</sub> □ <sub>x</sub> ]O <sub>2</sub> (Not given / 70)	Coin cell 1.4-4.4	165	121.7 / 0.03	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC/ EC, 50/50, and 5% FEC vol%	25
Hard carbon (Not given/80)   Na <sub>0.76</sub> Ca <sub>0.05</sub> [Ni <sub>0.23</sub> □ <sub>0.08</sub> Mn <sub>0.69</sub> ]O <sub>2</sub> (2 / 70)	Pouch cell 1.9-4.2	257.6	64 / 2.4	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in PC, EMC, and 5 vol% FEC.	26
Hard carbon    Na <sub>0.67</sub> [Ni <sub>0.1</sub> Fe <sub>0.1</sub> Mn <sub>0.8</sub> ]O <sub>2</sub> (4 / 85)	Coin cell 1.4-4.2	542 (based on cathode active material)/3900	140 / 1.3	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=98 :2, vol%	12
Hard carbon (Not given/80)   Na <sub>0.67</sub> Mn <sub>0.6</sub> Ni <sub>0.2</sub> Cu <sub>0.1</sub> Co <sub>0.1</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (Not given / 70)	Coin cell 1.9-4.2	208	62.6 / 2	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> EC-DMC, 1:1 v/v) 5 vol% FEC	27
VOPO <sub>4</sub> (Not given / 80)   Na <sub>2</sub> Ti <sub>3</sub> O <sub>7</sub> (Not given / 80)	Pouch cell 2-4.3	220/1600	~52 / 0.5	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=98 :2, vol%	2
FBO@C (1-2 / 80)   Na <sub>3</sub> Fe <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> ) (5-10 / 80)	Pouch cell 0-3.5	175/1680	44.4 (based on total active material in cathode and anode)/ Not given	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in PC, EMC, and 5 vol% FEC.	3
Hard carbon (Not given / 80)   Na <sub>0.67</sub> Ni <sub>0.23</sub> Mg <sub>0.1</sub> Mn <sub>0.67</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (1.4-1.6 / 80)	Coin cell 2.4-4.25	249.9/1700	48 / 0.85	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC:FEC=95 :5, vol%	1
Hard carbon (0.7-1.2 / 80)   Na <sub>0.78</sub> Mn <sub>0.67</sub> Ni <sub>0.31</sub> Nb <sub>0.02</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (2-3 / 80)	Coin cell 2.3-4.14	202/7747	21.8 (based on total active material in cathode and anode)/ 3.68	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> in diglyme	This work

3

1 **Supplementary Table 8. Comparison of low-temperature performance of various**  
 2 **cathode materials in coin cell for sodium ion batteries.**

	Positive electrode and mass loading (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> ) and active material content (wt.%)	Electrolyte	Anode electrode and mass loading (mg cm <sup>-2</sup> ) and active material content (wt.%)	Operating temperature (°C)	Capacity retention at low-temperature (vs.25 °C)	Ref.
Polyanion materials	NVP-CNTs (3 / 80)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaPF <sub>6</sub> /G2	Bi (1 / 80)	-15	84.3%	28
	Na <sub>3</sub> V <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> F (3.5-4 / 70)	1 mol L <sup>-1</sup> NaClO <sub>4</sub> in EC/PC+5% FEC	Se (1.2-1.5 / 70)	-25	60.7%	29
	NVPF-NTP (1.5-2 / 70)	NaClO <sub>4</sub> in EC/PC+5% FEC	Na	-25	76.4%	30
	NVP-C (3 / 80)	Na[FSA]-[C2C1im][FSA]	Na	-20	57.1%	31
	NGO@Na <sub>3</sub> V(PO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> N (2.5 / 80)	+0.2Na[FSA] NaClO <sub>4</sub> in EC/PC+5% FEC	Na	-15	75%	32
	Na <sub>4</sub> Fe <sub>3</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> ) (2.0 / 80)	NaClO <sub>4</sub> in EC/PC+5% FEC	Na	-20	87.7%	33
	Na <sub>4</sub> MnCr(PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (1.2-1.8 / 70)	NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC with 5 % and 10 % FEC	Hard carbon (1.8-2.7 / 70)	-10	79%	34
	NVP@3D porous architectures (Not given / 80)	NaClO <sub>4</sub> in EC/PC (1:1) +5% FEC	Na	-20	93%	35
	Na <sub>3</sub> Fe <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (10 / 70)	NaClO <sub>4</sub> in EC/DMC	Hard carbon (10 / 80)	-20	48.3%	36
	Mo-doped Na <sub>3</sub> V <sub>2</sub> (PO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (3-3.5 / 70)	NaClO <sub>4</sub> in EC/DMC+5% FEC	Hard carbon (Not given / 70)	-15	95.9%	37
NVP@C (1 / 80)	NaClO <sub>4</sub> in EC/PC	Na	-30	88%	38	
Prussian blue material	PB/CNT (Not given / 80)	NaClO <sub>4</sub> in EC/PC	Na	-25	85%	39
Layered oxide material	RAHC Na[Ni <sub>0.60</sub> Co <sub>0.05</sub> Mn <sub>0.35</sub> ]O <sub>2</sub> (Not given / 85)	NaPF <sub>6</sub> in EMS (98%) and FEC (2%)	Hard carbon (Not given)	-20	79.7% (vs 30°C)	40
	Na <sub>2/3</sub> Ni <sub>1/3</sub> Mn <sub>7/12</sub> Fe <sub>1/12</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (1 / 75)	NaClO <sub>4</sub> in PC+5% FEC	Na	-25	63%	41
	NCM@NTP7 (1.2 / 80)	NaPF <sub>6</sub> in a EC/DEC(11 v/v)	Na	-20	80.5%	42
	Na <sub>0.67</sub> Ni <sub>0.2</sub> Co <sub>0.2</sub> Mn <sub>0.6</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (Not given / 80)	NaPF <sub>6</sub> in diglyme	Na	-40	78.8%	43
	P2-NaMNNb (2-3 / 80)	NaPF <sub>6</sub> in diglyme	Na Hard carbon (0.7-1.2 / 80)	-40	98% 95.5%	This work

1 **Supplementary Notes**

2 **Supplementary Note 1. The DFT calculation methods for the substitution of Nb<sup>5+</sup>**  
3 **in the bulk and surface of P2-NaMNNb.**

4 To better comprehend the mechanism for the Nb substitution on the surface, some  
5 models were selected as possible surface planes. The (-103) plane exhibit the lowest  
6 formation energy among other calculated planes after structural optimization  
7 (Supplementary Figures 7a-c). There are three sites that Nb<sup>5+</sup> can replace: Mn, Ni and  
8 Na site in the bulk phase and surface layer respectively. The calculation results depicted  
9 that the formation energy in the bulk of the above three sites are -4.01, -4.67 and -2.29  
10 eV, indicating Ni is the most likely element that replaced by Nb in the bulk phase.  
11 However, the formation energy among the three sites of the surface altered obviously  
12 according to Supplementary Figure 7d and Table 4, which is -5.59 eV for the Nb  
13 substitution in the surface when Nb is in Na site, compared to -4.88 eV and -0.27 eV of  
14 Nb in Ni and Mn site, respectively. It is noteworthy that the formation energy is -4.81  
15 eV when all Na replaced by Nb, indicating Nb is prone to occupy Na site and  
16 preconstructed the surface due to the trait of its high oxidation state. Furthermore, when  
17 Na<sup>+</sup> replaced by Nb<sup>5+</sup> on the surface, the charge density around O<sub>2p</sub> has varied due to  
18 the stronger bonding energy of Nb-O than Na-O. The electrostatic interaction between  
19 TM and O will alter as the amount of Nb increase, resulting in the transformation  
20 process from bulk (*P63/mmc*) to surface (*Fd3m/Fm3m*).

21

1 **Supplementary Note 2. The analysis of the results of X-ray absorption**  
2 **spectroscopy of Mn and Ni of P2-NaMNNb and P2-NaMN.**

3 To confirm that  $\text{Nb}^{5+}$  were successfully introduced in the crystal structure of P2-  
4 NaMNNb, The X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XAS) were employed to investigate the  
5 valance state of Mn and Ni. Supplementary Figure. 12a elucidate the XANES spectra  
6 of Mn K-edge of P2-NaMNNb move to lower energy side compared to that of P2-  
7 NaMN, with accordance of a slight  $\text{Mn}^{3+}$  appeared to satisfy charge conservation  
8 between anions and cations due to high-valance  $\text{Nb}^{5+}$  doping in the lattice. The valance  
9 of Ni of P2-NaMNNb is almost identical with that of P2-NaMN which close to +2  
10 (Supplementary Figure. 12b). These results demonstrate that  $\text{Nb}^{5+}$  have been doped into  
11 the P2-NaMNNb and have trivial effect on the coordination of TM with similar  
12 intensity and profile of the pre-edge peak of P2-NaMN.

13

14 **Supplementary Note 3. The valance variation analysis of Mn and Ni during charge**  
15 **process of P2-NaMNNb performed by X-ray absorption spectroscopy methods.**

16 Ex situ X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XAS) was performed to verify the valance  
17 variation of transition metal ion during electrochemical reaction (Supplementary Figure.  
18 13). It can be seen that the energy shift of K-edge of Mn during electrochemical  
19 compensation is not obvious, indicating that Mn ion exhibit minor participation during  
20 the electrochemical reaction and remain +4 at the end of charging process  
21 (Supplementary Figure. 13a). On the contrary, the K-edge of Ni shifts to a higher energy  
22 region upon charge, indicating that  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  is oxidized. The energy shift at 4.15 V is  $\sim 2.4$

1 eV, which is larger than 2 eV that Ni<sup>2+</sup>/Ni<sup>3+</sup> redox alter<sup>16,44,45</sup>, suggesting that the Ni  
2 ions are responsible for charge compensation during the charge process and the valance  
3 state of Ni ions are oxidized from Ni<sup>2+</sup> to the mixture of Ni<sup>3+</sup> and Ni<sup>4+</sup> (Supplementary  
4 Figure. 13b). It is estimated that the valance state of Ni ions is +3.2 at the end of  
5 charging process, which can deliver the specific capacity of 97.4 mAh g<sup>-1</sup>,  
6 approximately approach the experimental results of 100 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> at charging process.  
7 Therefore, Na<sup>+</sup> diffusion capability of P2-NaMNNb has been great improved with the  
8 dual effects of bulk modulation and surface pre-construction, thus give rise to redox  
9 reaction of Ni<sup>2+</sup>/Ni<sup>3+</sup>/Ni<sup>4+</sup> with high voltage plateaus (3.3-4.15 V).

10

11 **Supplementary Note 4. The valance variation analysis of Mn, Ni and Nb during**  
12 **charge process of P2-NaMNNb and P2-NaMN performed by X-ray photoelectron**  
13 **spectroscopy methods.**

14 The valance states of the elements at different charge/discharge voltages of P2-  
15 NaMN and P2-NaMNNb were also investigated by ex situ X-ray photoelectron  
16 spectroscopy (XPS). For P2-NaMNNb, the high-resolution spectrum of Ni 2*p* reveals  
17 that the 2*p*<sub>3/2</sub> and 2*p*<sub>1/2</sub> peaks of Ni are 854.2 and 871.6 eV, respectively. When charged  
18 to 4.15 V, the spectrum of Ni<sup>2+</sup> 2*p* shifts to the direction of high binding energy  
19 (Supplementary Figure. 14b). It shifts to Ni<sup>3+</sup> and a tiny valance state of Ni<sup>4+</sup>, indicating  
20 oxidation of Ni<sup>2+</sup>/Ni<sup>3+</sup>/Ni<sup>4+</sup><sup>13,44</sup>, which means more electrons participate in the redox  
21 reaction to contribute more capacity than that of P2-NaMN (Supplementary Figure. 11).

1 This consequence fits well with the circumstance of CV (Figure. 3a) and  
2 charging/discharging curves (Supplementary Figure. 11). After discharged to 2.4 V, the  
3 valence of Ni close to +2 with trivial trivalent nickel, this is because the valance of Ni  
4 is not completely reduced to +2 at 2.4 V. The XPS Mn  $2p$  spectrum of P2-NaMNNb  
5 (Supplementary Figure. 14c) depicts that co-existence of  $Mn^{3+}$  and  $Mn^{4+}$  with the ratio  
6 of 0.27 : 0.73 owing to the Nb doping. During the charging process, the valence of Mn  
7 gradually increases, and only  $Mn^{4+}$  exists when reaching 4.15 V. Moreover, the valence  
8 of Mn remains +4 after discharged to 2.4 V, indicating that the presence of  $Mn^{4+}$  is  
9 steady upon cycling. The valence of Nb is +5 during the entire charge and discharge  
10 process, which proving that Nb does not participate in charge compensation  
11 (Supplementary Figure. 14d).

12

13 **Supplementary Note 5. The analysis of calculated voltage polarization and IR-**  
14 **drop from GITT data during charge process.**

15 Polarization in GITT curves comprises voltage polarization and ohmic  
16 polarization (IR drop), as depicted by the enlarged image inset in Supplementary Figure.  
17 16, which have been reported by previous work.<sup>17,46,47</sup> The voltage polarization of P2-  
18 NaMNNb at 3.5 V and 3.8 V at 25 °C should be attributed to the parameter set up during  
19 the GITT test. To make the data comparable, we chose the same test step at RT and LT.  
20 But the capacity at 25°C is higher than -40 °C, no capacity contribution within this  
21 voltage range, the voltage polarization will increase once charging stops in this area.

1 This is also consistent with the drop of diffusion coefficient in 15 h and 30 h in Figure  
2 3c. However, under the same test step, due to the difference of capacity between at 25 °C  
3 and -40 °C, the GITT points taken are varied. The above two position of GITT points  
4 at 25 °C are obtained without contribution to the capacity, which lead to voltage  
5 polarization but negligible IR drop. Besides, we have double checked the result, as  
6 shown in Supplementary Figure 16, the IR-drop of P2-NaMNNb at 25 °C is lower than  
7 that at -40 °C.

8

9 **Supplementary Note 6. The analysis of Electron energy loss spectroscopy of P2-**  
10 **NaMNNb powder.**

11 Electron energy loss spectroscopy (EELS) were employed to further figure out the  
12 electronic and crystal structure of the Nb-riched surface layer (Supplementary Figure.  
13 27). As depicted in Supplementary Figure. 27b, the Mn-L<sub>2,3</sub> energy-loss near-edge fine  
14 structure (ELNES) shifts towards lower energy gradually from the bulk (regions 1 and  
15 2 in Supplementary Figure. 27a) to the pre-constructed layer (regions 3 and 4 in  
16 Supplementary Figure. 27a), indicating that the valence state of Mn in the pre-  
17 constructed layer is lower than that in bulk phase (the mixture of Mn<sup>3+</sup> and Mn<sup>4+</sup>), which  
18 could be attributed to the enrichment of high oxidation state of Nb<sup>5+</sup> at the surface,  
19 reducing Mn<sup>4+</sup> to Mn<sup>3+</sup> to satisfy the conservation of charge. Meanwhile, as shown in  
20 Supplementary Figure. 27d, the intensities of O K-edge at 530.1 eV decrease with the  
21 intensity of pre-edge of O in region 4 being about half of that in region 1, which means

1 the charge density of TMO<sub>6</sub> of surface layer will transform obviously compared to that  
2 of the bulk phase as the variation of pre-edge of O is determined by the charge density  
3 and bond energy of TM-O. There is no or small content Na<sup>+</sup> in the pre-constructed layer,  
4 so the strong electronegativity of O will localize the 2*p* electrons without the electron  
5 holes of Na<sup>+</sup>, thereby reducing the TM-O covalency and resulting in less intense pre-  
6 edge peaks of O.<sup>48</sup> Besides, the Ni L-edges in the surface is in accordance with that of  
7 the bulk phase (Supplementary Figure. 27c), implying that the introduction of Nb<sup>5+</sup>  
8 primarily affects the valence state of Mn, rather than that of Ni.

9

10 **Supplementary Note 7. The calculation methods for specific capacity, specific**  
11 **energy and specific power of full-cell.**

12 The specific capacity ( $C_t$ ), specific energy ( $E$ ) and specific power ( $P$ ) of full-cell is calculated based  
13 on the supplementary equation (1) and (2), as well as (3)<sup>3,4</sup>, where  $E$  (Wh kg<sup>-1</sup>) represents the specific  
14 energy.  $t$  (h) is the total time of the discharge.  $C_t$  is the specific capacity of cell.  $I$  (mA) is the current  
15 of the cell,  $P$  (W kg<sup>-1</sup>) is the specific power of the full-cell,  $U_a$  (V) is the average discharge voltage  
16 of the cell, which is calculated from the ratio of specific energy ( $E$ ) to specific capacity ( $C_t$ ).  $m_c$  and  
17  $m_a$  (kg) are the mass of P2-NaMNNb in cathode and hard carbon in the anode, respectively.

18 
$$C_t = \frac{I \times t}{m_c + m_a} \quad (1)$$

19 
$$E = C_t \times U_a \quad (2)$$

20 
$$P = \frac{E}{t} \quad (3)$$

21

22



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