Abstract Submitted for the MAR14 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Structural Stability and Electronic Properties of Na<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub> for a Rechargeable Sodium-ion Battery<sup>1</sup> TOMOKI YAMASHITA, Kyoto University, AKIHIRO FUJII, HIROYOSHI MOMIDA, TAMIO OGUCHI, Osaka University — Sodium-ion batteries have been explored as a promising alternative to lithium-ion batteries owing to a significant advantage of a natural abundance of sodium. Recently, it has been reported that disodium rhodizonate, Na<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, exhibit good electrochemical properties and cycle performance as a minor-metal free organic cathode for sodium-ion batteries. However, its crystal structures during discharge/charge cycle still remain unclear. In this work, we theoretically propose feasible crystal structures of Na<sub>2+x</sub>C<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub> using first principles calculations. A structural phase transition has been found: Na<sub>4</sub>C<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub> has a different C<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub> packing arrangement from Na<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub>. Electronic structures of Na<sub>2+x</sub>C<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub> during discharge/charge cycle are also discussed. Our predictions could be the key to understanding the discharge/charge process of Na<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub>.

<sup>1</sup>Supported by MEXT program "Elements Strategy Initiative to Form Core Rersearch Center" (since 2012), MEXT; Ministry of Education Culture, Sports , Science and Technology, Japan.

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Date submitted: 15 Nov 2013

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