Simulation of Li⁺ in Ionic Liquids

Structure, Transport, and Electrochemical Windows



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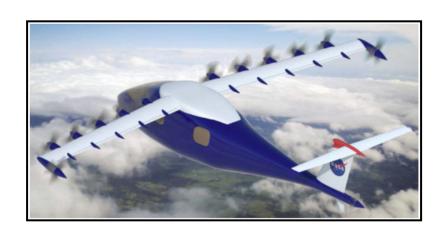


Army Research Center

Oleg Borodin

Green Aviation at NASA





Efficient Aircraft: NASA LEAPTech



Solar-Battery Hybrid: NASA "Pathfinder"



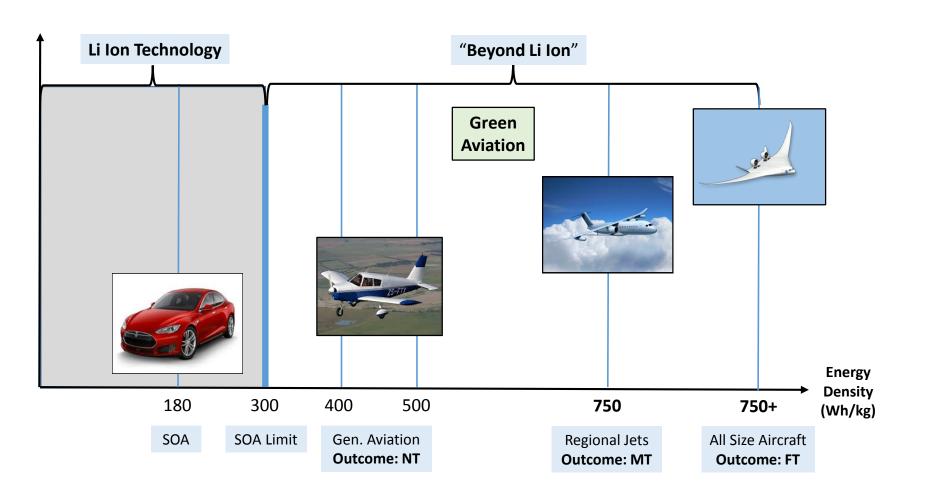
UAVs: NASA "Greased-Lightning"



Battery-Gas Hybrid: Boeing "SUGAR Volt"

Battery Energy Density Limitations on Green Aviation



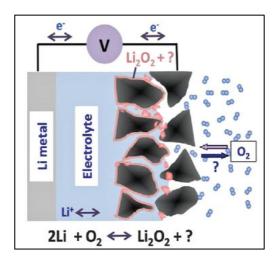


Major requirement is: High Energy Density

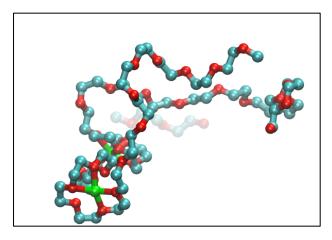
Other requirements are rechargeable, safety, power, recharge time, cost, etc.

Battery Research for Green Aviation at NASA

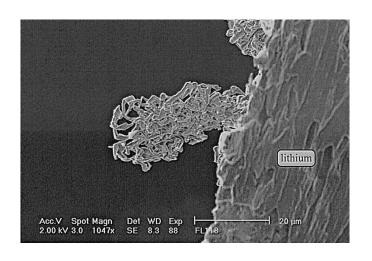




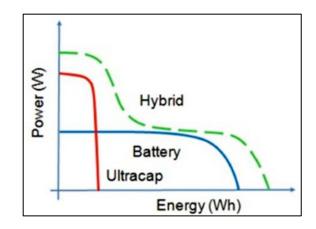
Li-Air Battery Chemistry



Structural Electrolytes



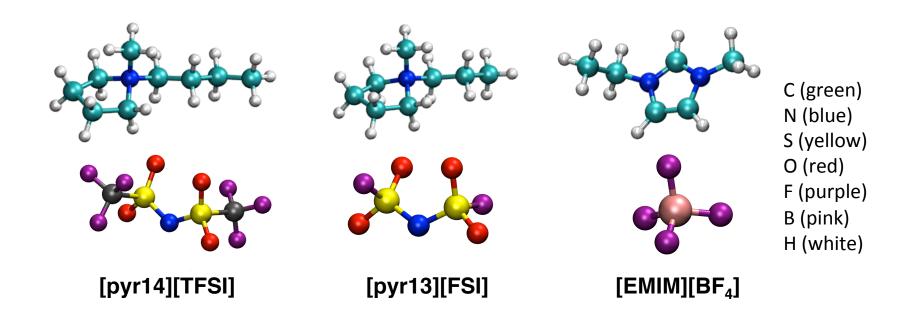
Electrolytes for Li-metal



Hybrid Battery/Supercapacitors ₅

Ionic Liquid Electrolytes for Li-metal Electrodes

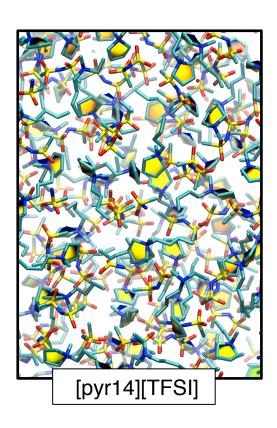




Chosen for suppression of dendrites on Li⁺ metal anodes

Computational Study of Electrolytes





Quantum simulations for structure:

- small systems
- Li/Anion cluster structure/energetics
- Li-salt in liquid MD simulation
- validation of classical approaches

Classical Polarizable-MD (APPLE&P) simulation for transport:

- large systems
- diffusion and ionic conductivity
- influence of Li-networks
- transport mechanisms

Simulations provide insight into solvation and transport of Li-salts (difficult to assess from experiment)

Stable Solvation Shells of Li[TFSI] (Quantum)

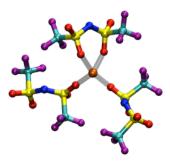


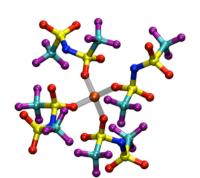
2-anion

3-anion

4-anion



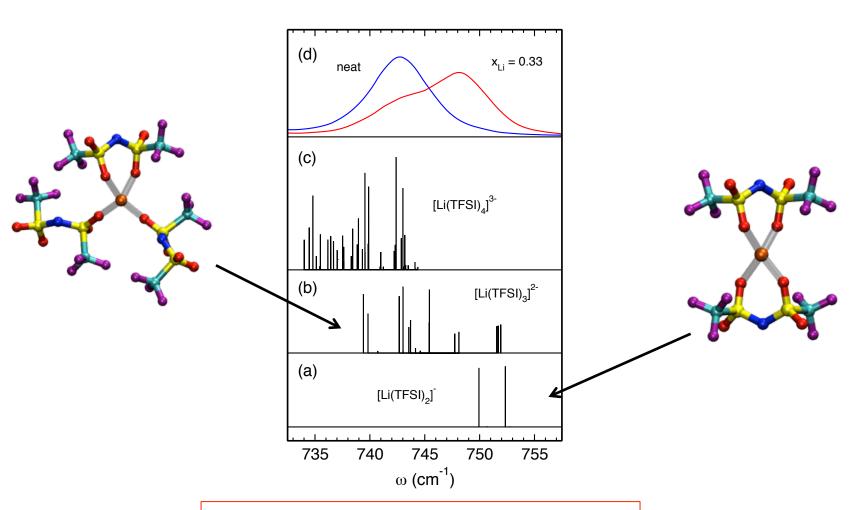




Many potential 2, 3, and 4 anion Li⁺ solvation shells

Raman Analysis of Li[TFSI] (Quantum)



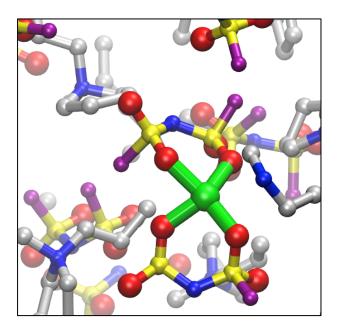


2 and 3 [TFSI] coordination are shifted

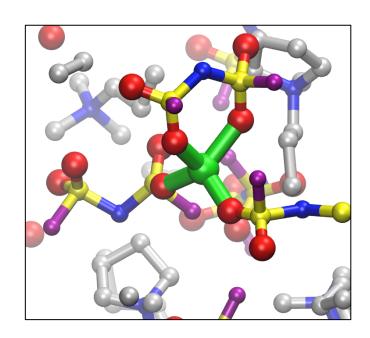
Li Solvation Shell Stability (Quantum)



Li[FSI]₂



Li[FSI]₃



20-100 ps; 12-16 pairs; T = 363 K

Highly unfavorable configurations exchange anions within 20 ps

Stable Solvation Shells of Li[TFSI] (Quantum)



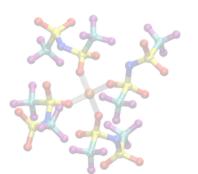
2-anion

3-anion

4-anion



#******

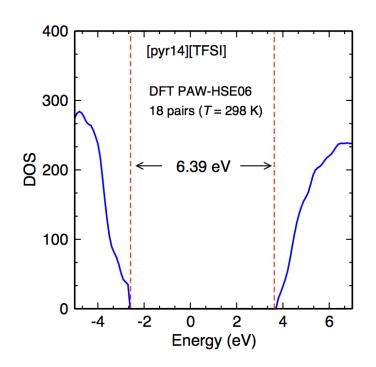


2, 3 anion Li⁺ solvation shells for Li[TFSI]

Electrochemical Window (Quantum)







Electrochemical Windows (eV)

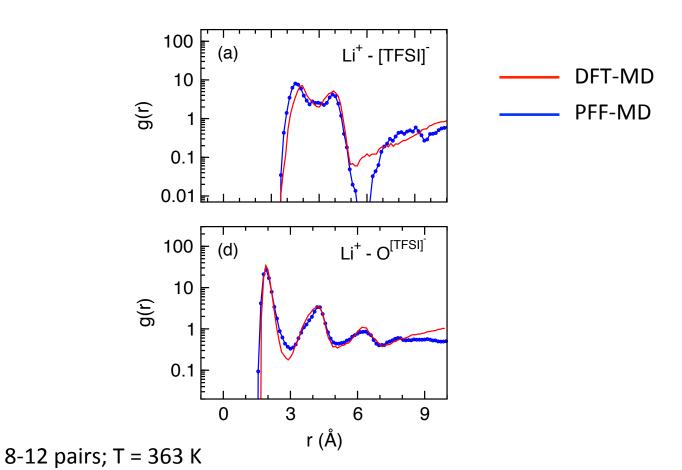
	DFT (PBE)	DFT (HSE06)	Ехр.
[pyr14][TFSI]	4.6	6.5	6
[pyr13][FSI]	4.7	6.7	6
[EMIM][BF ₄]	3.9	5.4	4.3

10 PFF-MD configurations; 24 pairs; T = 298 K

Electrochemical window of liquids with pure and hybrid functional bounds experiment

High Accuracy Comparison (Quantum/Classical)

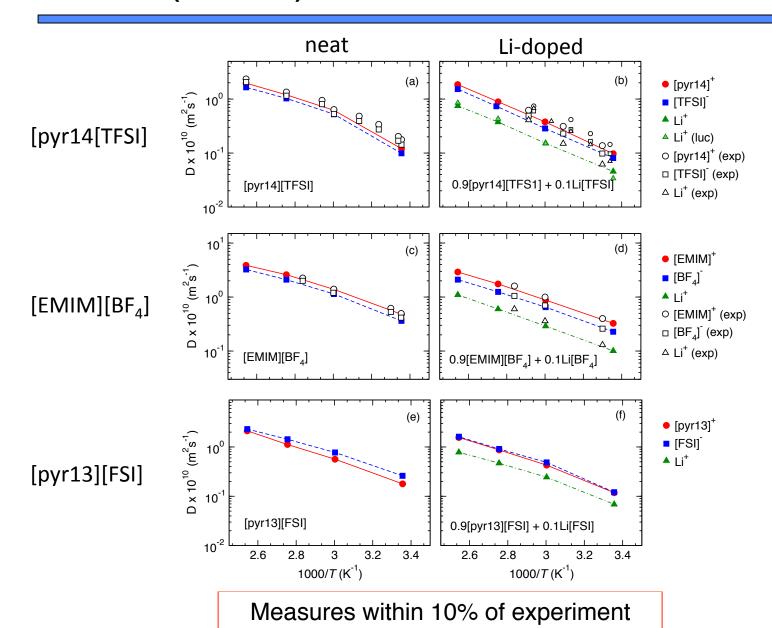




Classical radial distributions in good agreement with DFT-MD

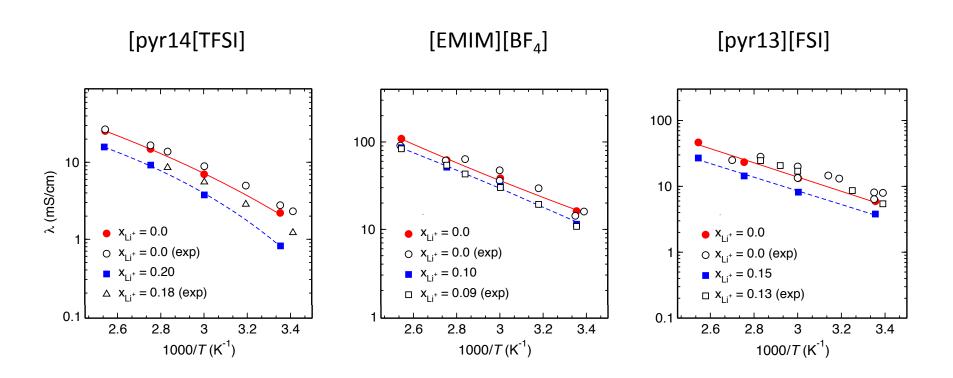
Diffusion (Classical)





Ionic Conductivity (Classical)

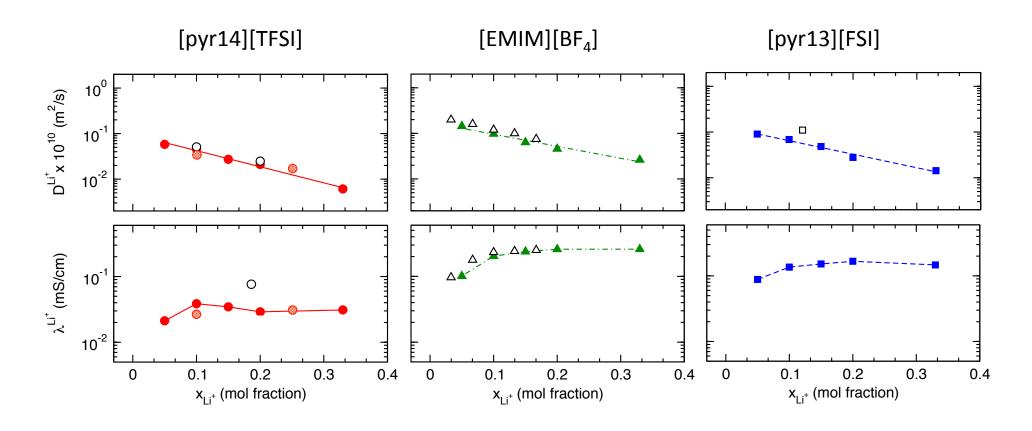




Li-doping suppresses conductivity of all systems

Room-T Li Transport (Classical)

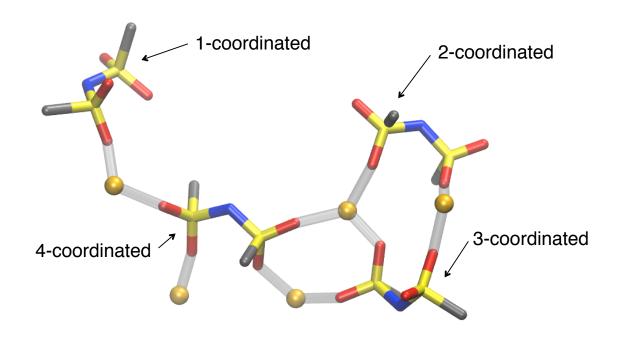




Li+ contribution to conduction plateaus at high salt doping

Li⁺ ... Li⁺ networks (PFF-MD)





Network Li⁺ share bridging anions

Conclusions



- Computational study of Li-doped ILs with experimental validation
- Solvation structure identification through complimentary simulation approaches
- Influence of networks on experimental anion solvation number
- Bulk transport and electrochemical properties in good agreement with experiment