

Interpretable Tree-Based Approaches for Novel Solid State Electrolyte Discovery and Design

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Li batteries

Typical Li-ion batteries

- **cathode:** LiCoO_2 , LiFePO_4 , LiNiMnCoO_2 etc.
- **anode:** graphite
- **electrolyte:** $\text{LiPF}_6/\text{LiBF}_4/\text{LiClO}_4$ in dimethyl carbonate/diethyl carbonate (liquid)

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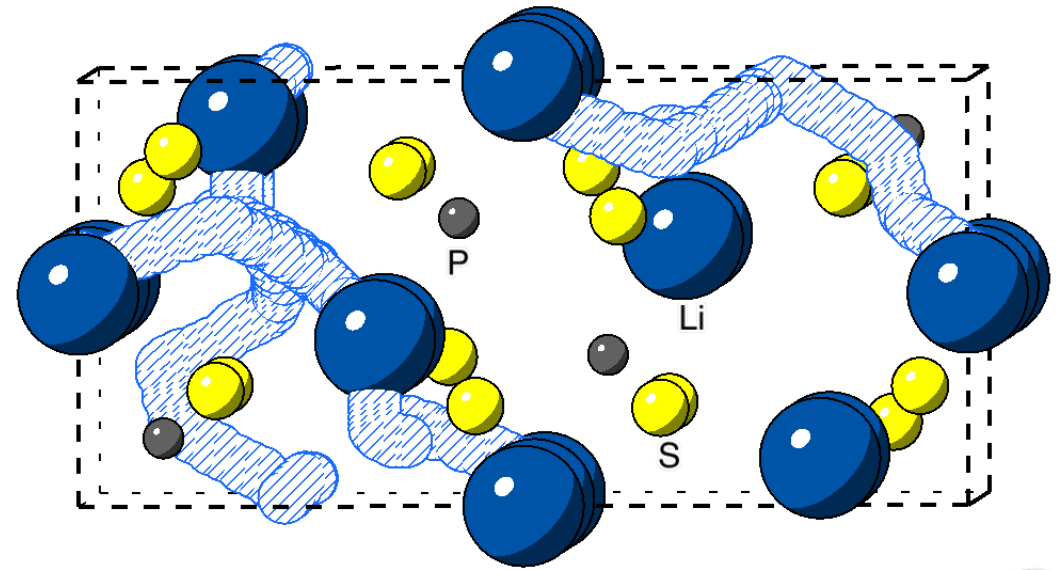
ASSB w/ Li anode – require *solid electrolytes* and *anode coatings*

- high ionic conductivity
- low electronic conductivity
- wide electrochemical window
- good stability against Li metal
- inertness to environmental elements like water and air

Methods

Current approaches to study ionic migration:

- experimental measurements
- ab-initio MD, NEB
- space topology analysis
- bond valence (BV) estimation



Percolation (3D) barriers

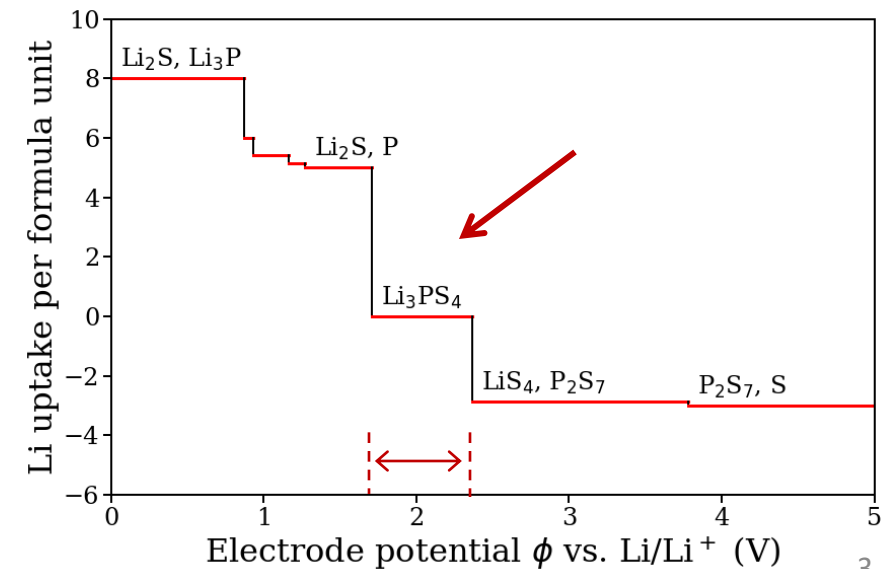
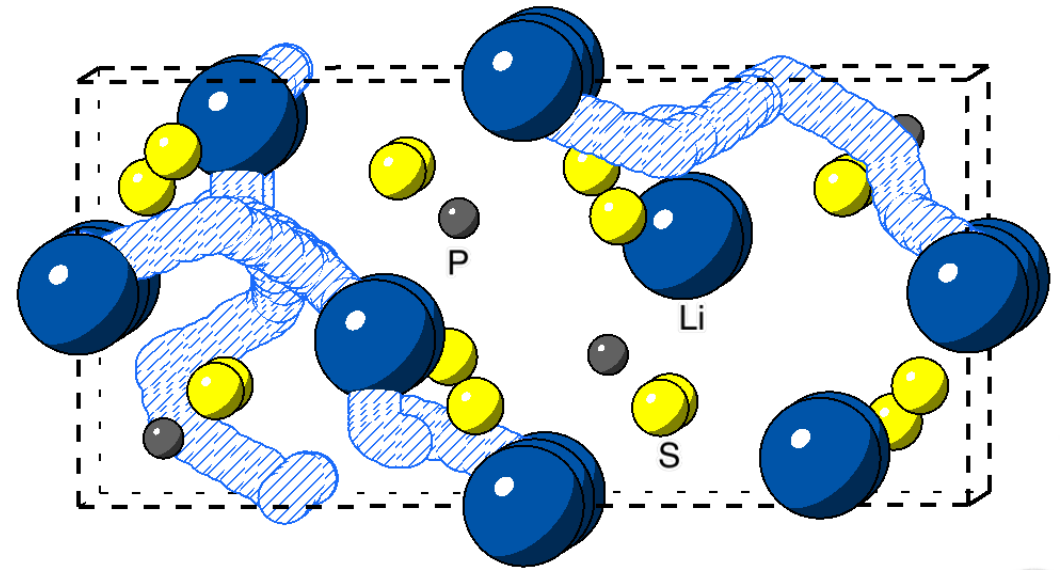
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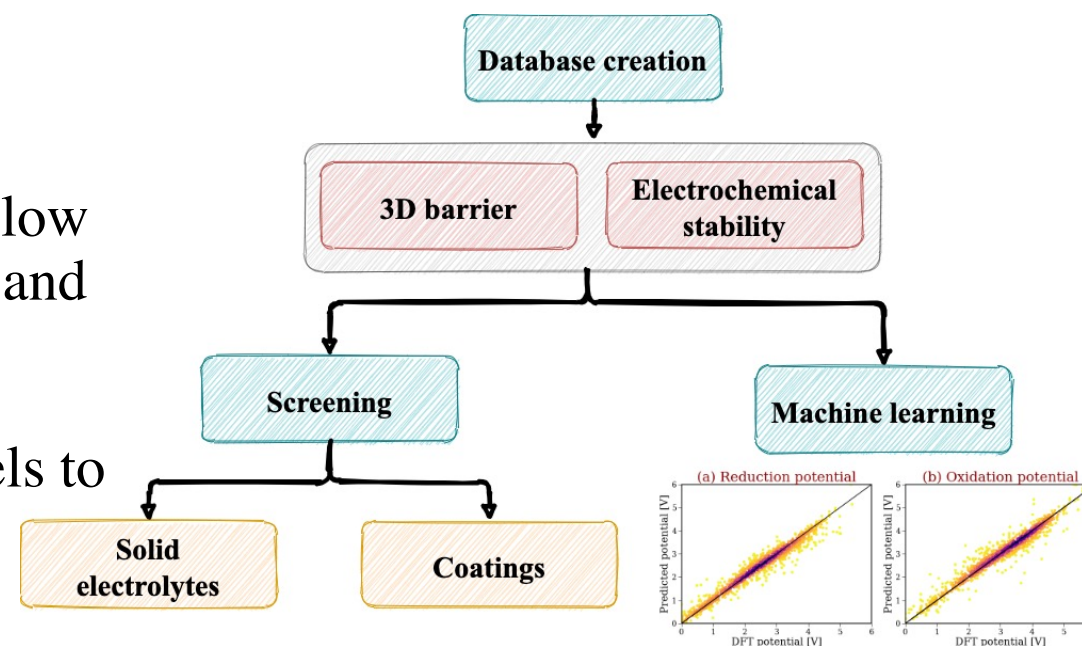
To compute electrochemical stability windows:

- Grand potential phase diagram analysis



Our approach

- Generate a database of battery-related material properties
- Screen through the database for candidates with low Li^+ migration barriers and good thermodynamic and electrochemical stabilities
- Train interpretable machine learning (ML) models to predict migration barriers and oxidation and reduction potentials
- Explain individual predictions and provide model-level interpretation of feature importance



Screening results

Electrolytes

3D barrier < 0.5 eV

Anode coatings

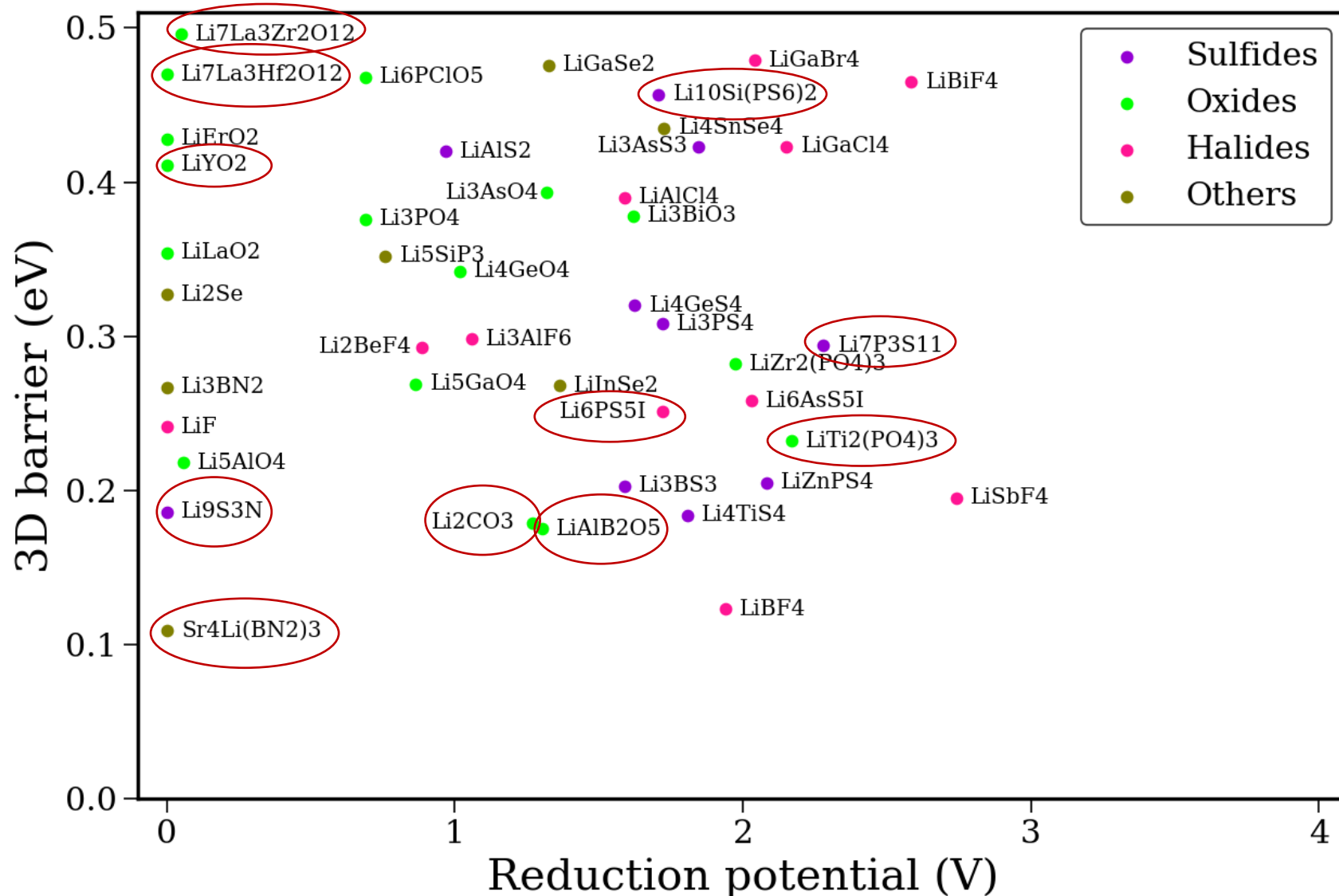
3D barrier < 1 eV

Reduction potential = 0 V

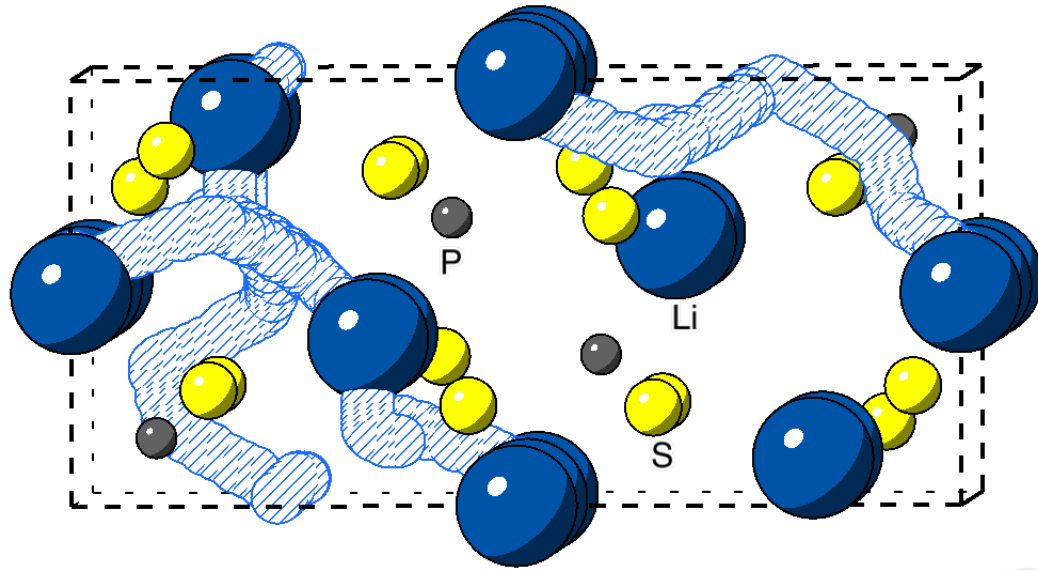
Stability window > 1 V

* $E_{\text{hull}} < 30 \text{ meV}$

* $E_g > 1 \text{ eV}$



ML Features: 3D barriers



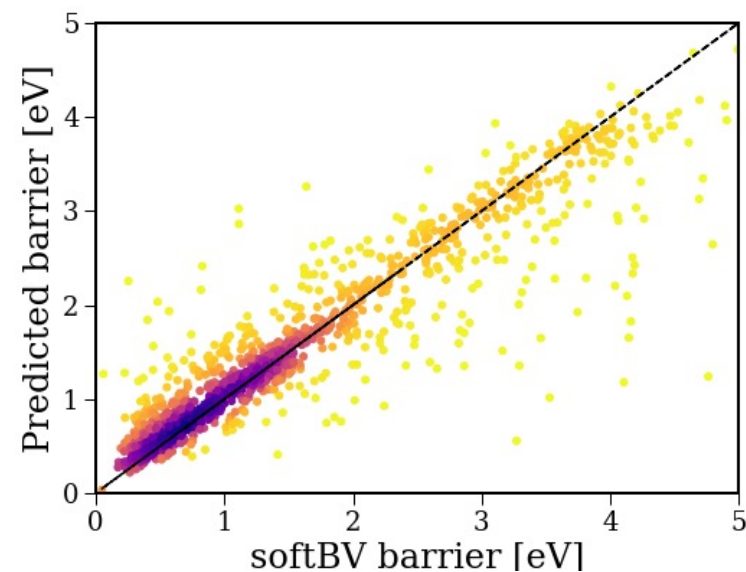
Sendek, Yang, Cubuk, et al., *Energy Environ. Sci.* **10**, 306-320 (2017)
Ward, Agrawal, Choudhary, et al., *npj Comput. Mater.* **2**, 16028 (2016)

No.	Feature	Acronym
1.	<i>Li atomic fraction</i>	Li
2.	<i>Mean Li neighbor count</i>	LNC
3.	<i>Mean Li-Li bonds per Li</i>	LLB
4.	<i>Mean Sublattice neighbor count</i>	SNC
5.	<i>Mean Sublattice bond ionicity</i>	SBI
6.	<i>Mean Electronegativity of sublattice</i>	ENS
7.	<i>Mean Li-Li separation distance</i>	LLSD
8.	<i>Mean Li-anion separation distance</i>	LASD
9.	<i>Mean Anion-anion separation distance</i>	AASD
10.	<i>Mean neighbor distance variation</i>	NDV
11.	<i>Mean ordering parameter shell 1</i>	OP_1
12.	<i>Mean ordering parameter shell 2</i>	OP_2
13.	<i>Mean ordering parameter shell 3</i>	OP_3
14.	<i>Diameter of largest free sphere</i>	DLFS
15.	<i>Mean Straight Line Path Width</i>	SLPW
16.	<i>Sublattice packing fraction</i>	SPF
17.	<i>Max packing efficiency</i>	MPE
18.	<i>XRD principal component 1</i>	XRD_1
19.	<i>XRD principal component 2</i>	XRD_2
20.	<i>XRD principal component 3</i>	XRD_3
21.	<i>XRD principal component 4</i>	XRD_4
22.	<i>XRD principal component 5</i>	XRD_5

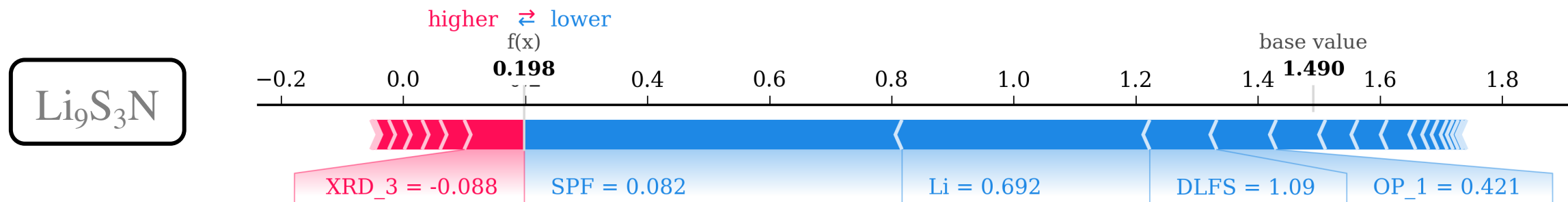
ML Results: 3D barriers

Features + Model	R^2	vector length
Current work + RF	0.84	22
Current work + GB	0.86	22
Sendek model features + GB	0.76	20
Coulomb matrix + GB	0.72	200
Powder X-ray diffraction pattern + GB	0.70	128

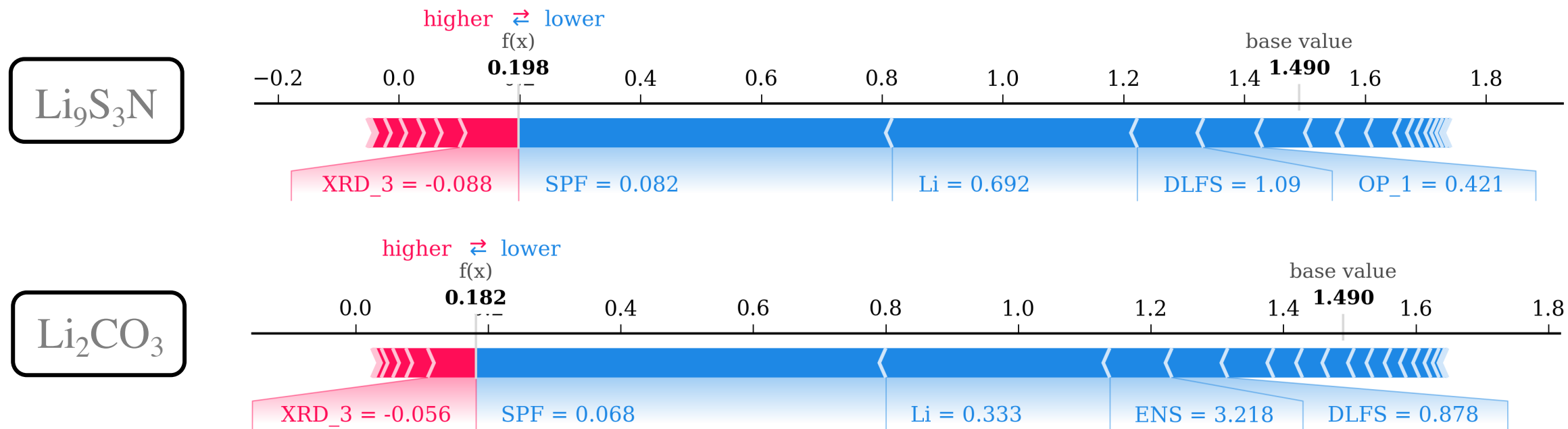
GB model predictions



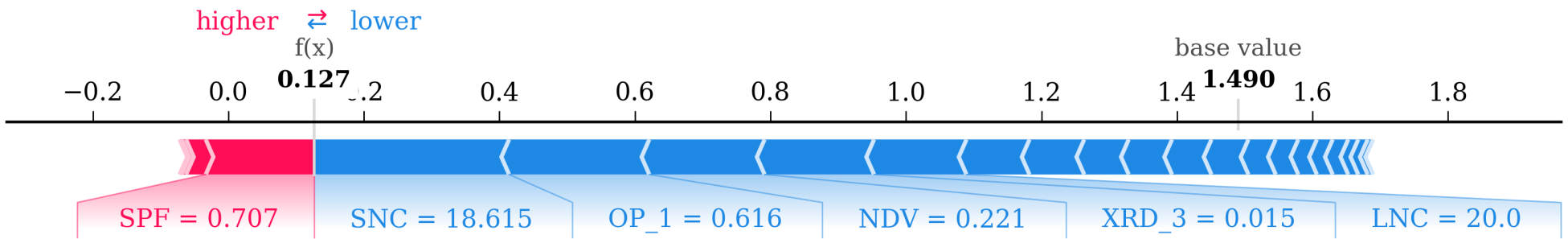
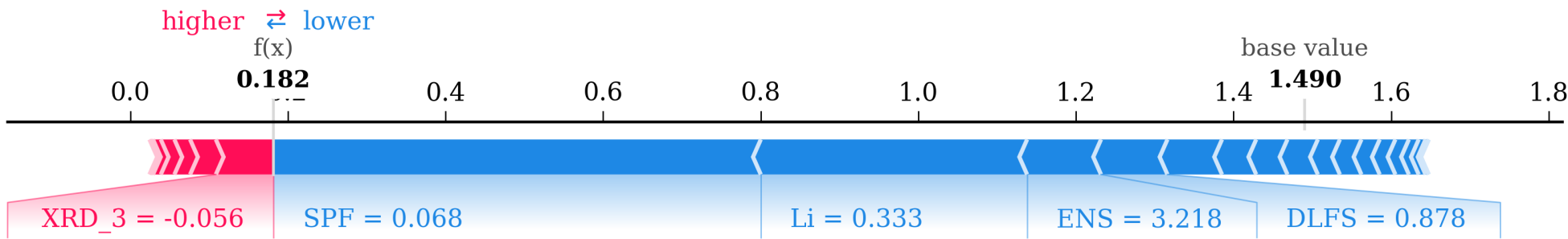
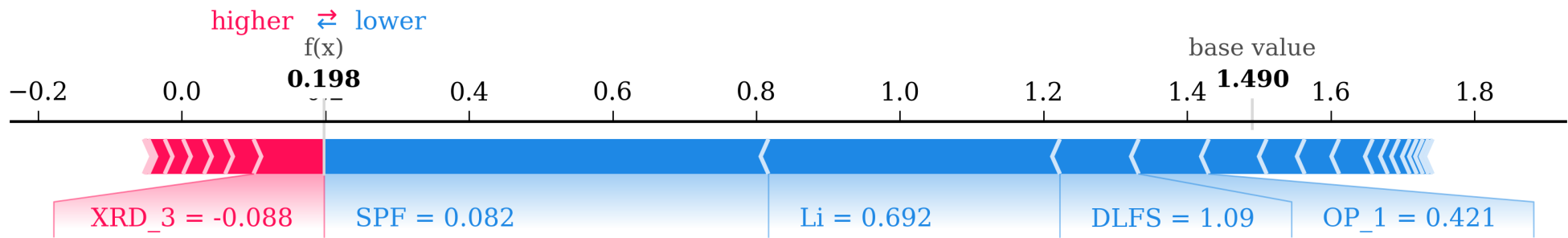
Shapley Additive Explanations (SHAP)



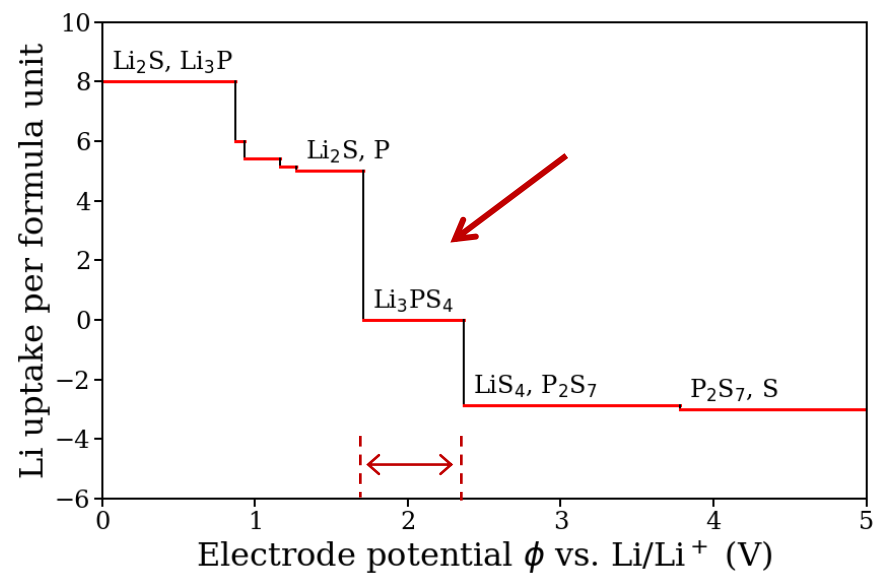
Shapley Additive Explanations (SHAP)



Shapley Additive Explanations (SHAP)



ML Features: electrochemical stability

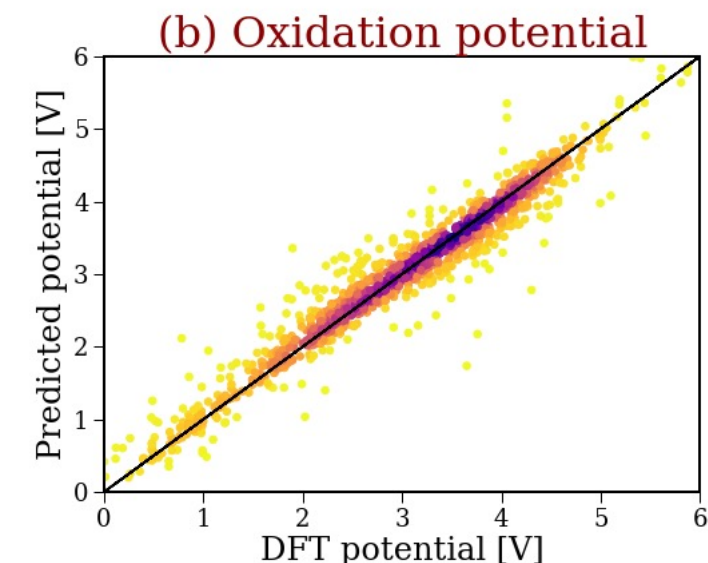
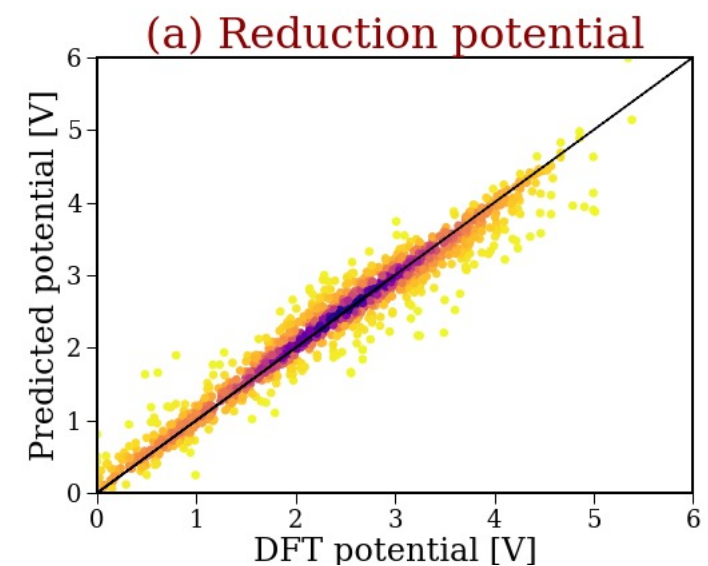


Composition-weighted element properties	Statistics
—— standard features ——	
<i>Atomic number</i>	Mean
<i>Electronegativity</i>	Maximum
<i>Valence d-electrons</i>	Range
<i>Unfilled d-electrons</i>	
<i>Unfilled p-electrons</i>	
<i>Band gap</i>	
<i>Magnetic moment</i>	
<i>Melting Temperature</i>	
—— new oxidation state features ——	
<i>oxidation state – min. oxidation state</i>	
<i>max. oxidation state – oxidation state</i>	
<i>(oxidation state – min. oxidation state) * E_{neg}</i>	
<i>(max. oxidation state – oxidation state) * E_{neg}</i>	

ML results: electrochemical stability

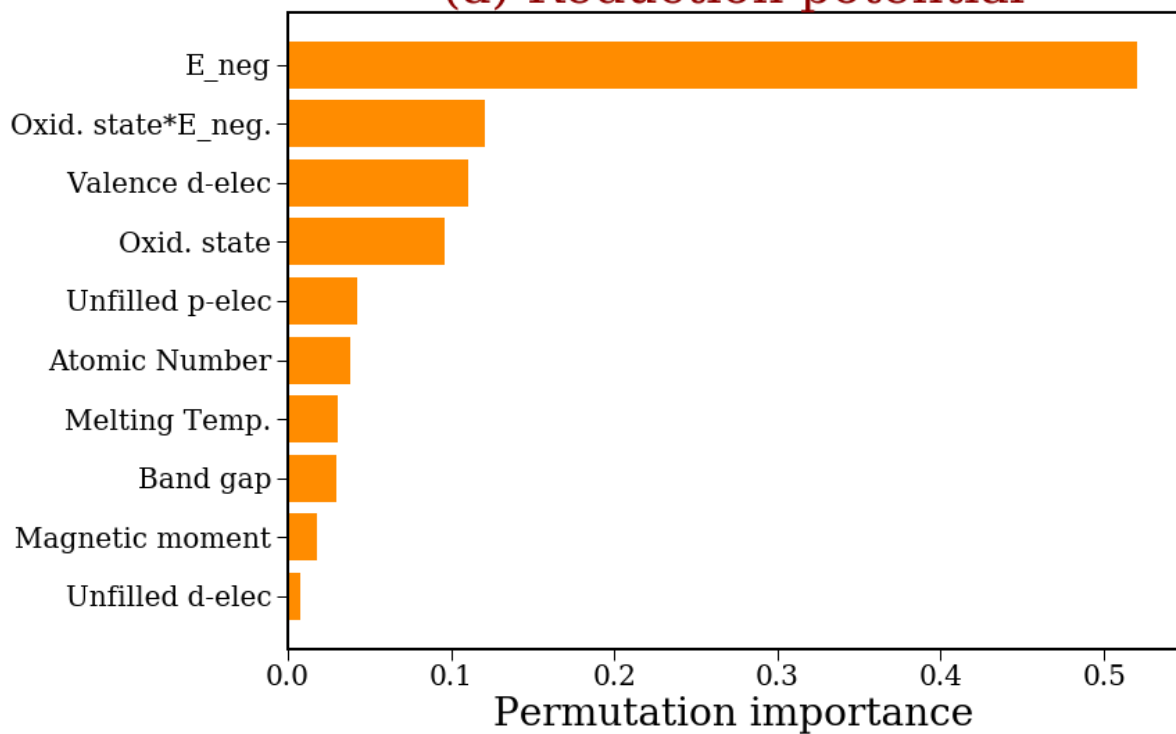
Features + Model	reduction potential	oxidation potential	vector length
Current work + RF	0.93	0.91	28
Current work + GB	0.95	0.92	28
Roost + neural network	0.92	0.92	64
Magpie element features + GB	0.89	0.84	132
Element fractions + GB	0.87	0.87	103

GB model predictions



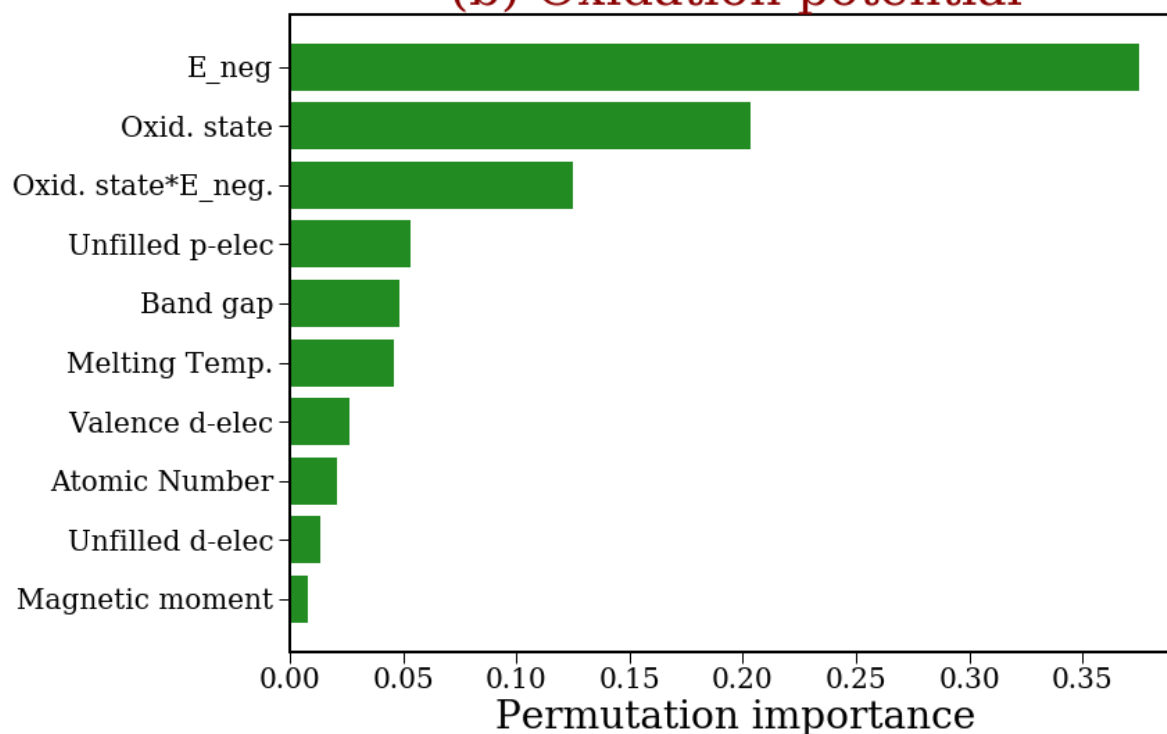
Permutation Feature Importance (PFI): electrochemical stability

(a) Reduction potential



GB model

(b) Oxidation potential



GB model

Summary

- We developed a materials informatics approach to explore and identify candidates for solid electrolytes and anode coatings in all solid-state Li metal batteries
- Generated a database of battery-related material properties
- Screened through the database to identify over 200 candidates with low Li⁺ migration barriers and good thermodynamic and electrochemical stabilities (Li₉S₃N, LiAlB₂O₅, Sr₄Li(BN₂)₃, LiYO₂, Li₇La₃Hf₂O₁₂, etc.)
- Trained machine learning (ML) models to predict migration barriers and oxidation and reduction potentials
- Explained individual predictions from screening and ML model, provided model-level interpretation of feature importance

Thank you



Interpretable Tree-Based Approaches for Novel Solid State Electrolyte Discovery and Design

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SSI-23

Back-up slides

Bond valence method

- Valence sum rule: the sum of bond valences (S_{ij}) around any atom, i , with neighboring atoms j , should be equal to the atomic valence, (V_i) i.e., the oxidation state.

$$V_i = \sum_j S_{ij}$$

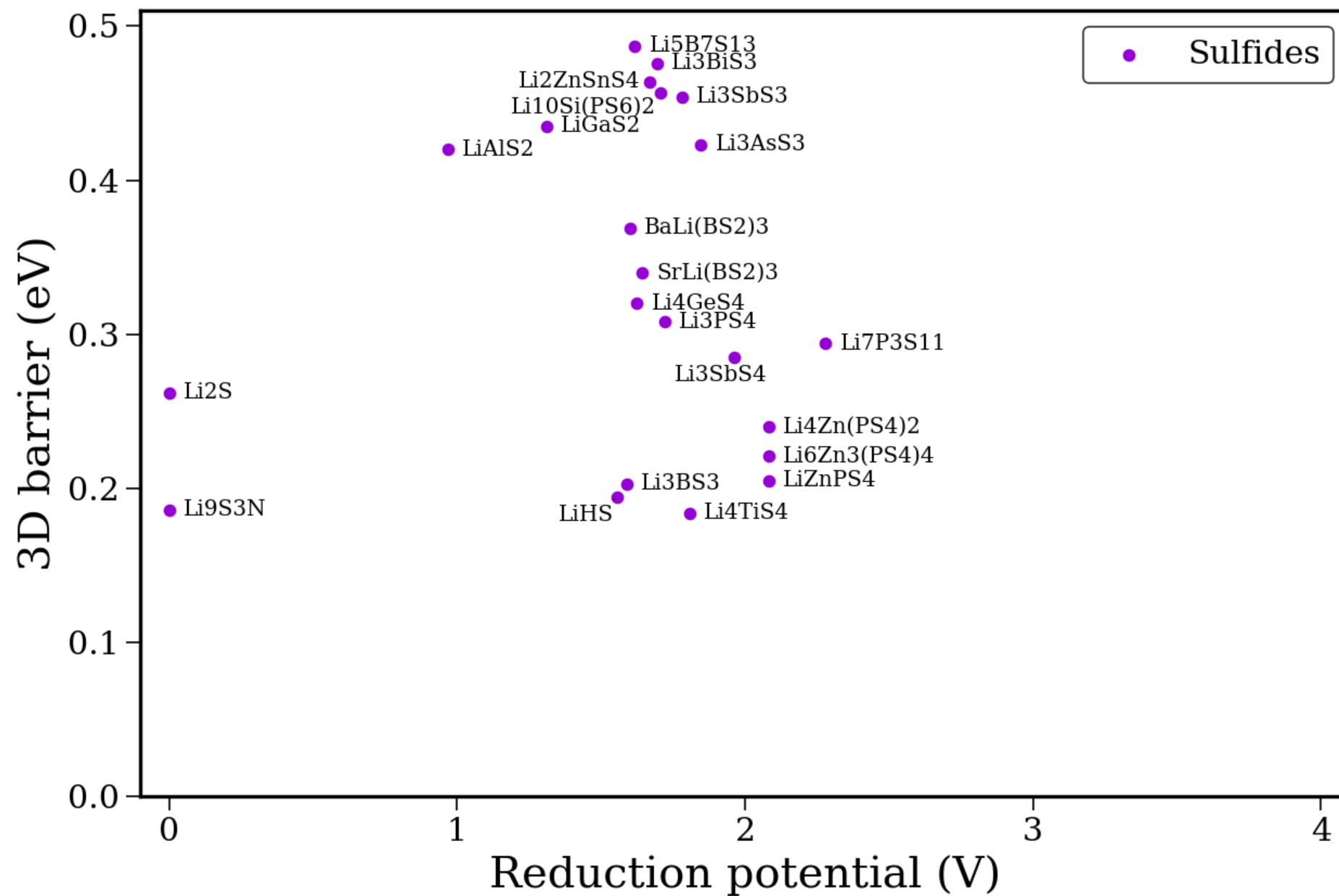
- S_{ij} is considered a measure of the electrostatic strength of a bond.

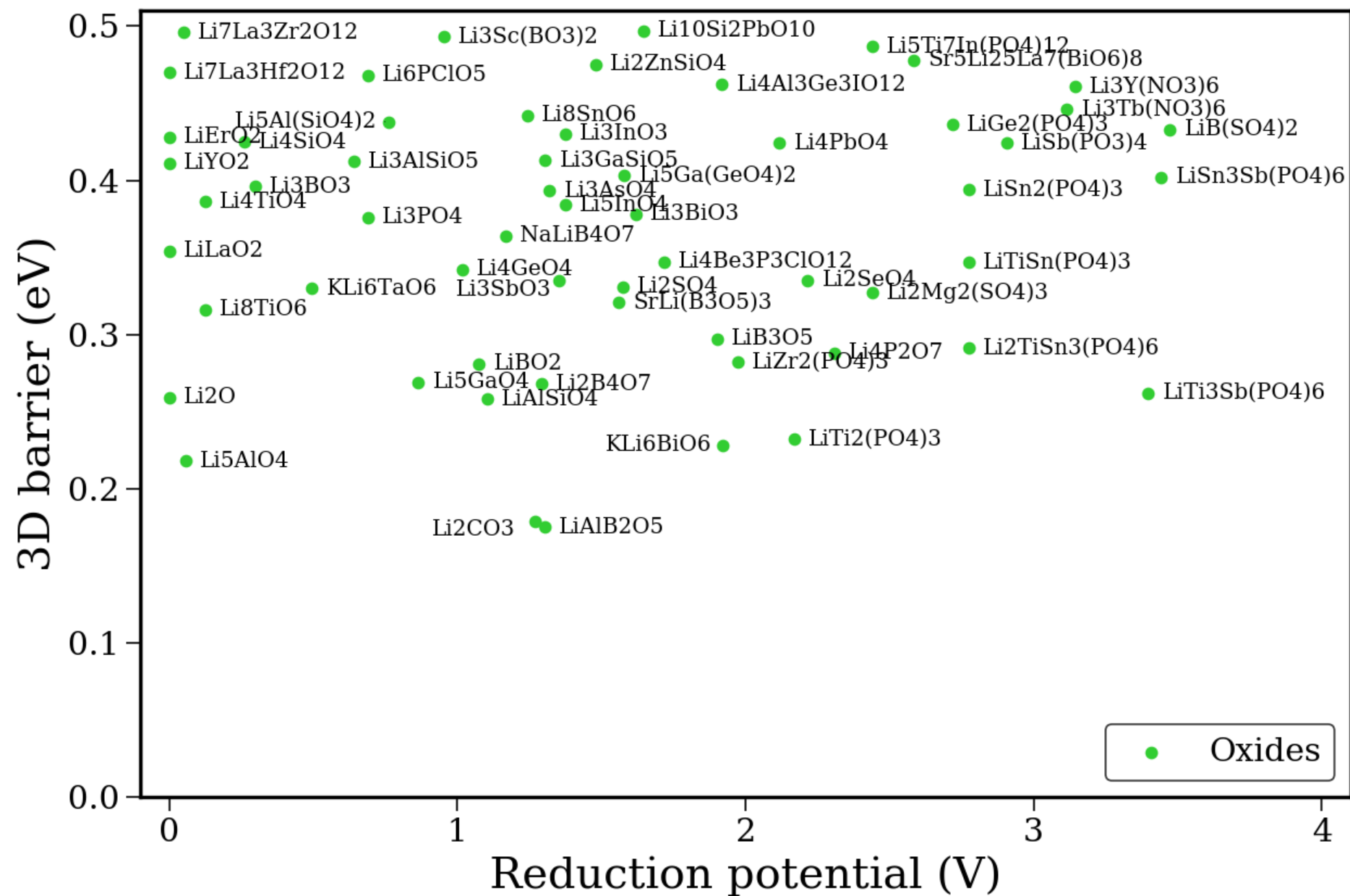
$$S_{ij} = \left(\frac{R_0 - R_{ij}}{b} \right)$$

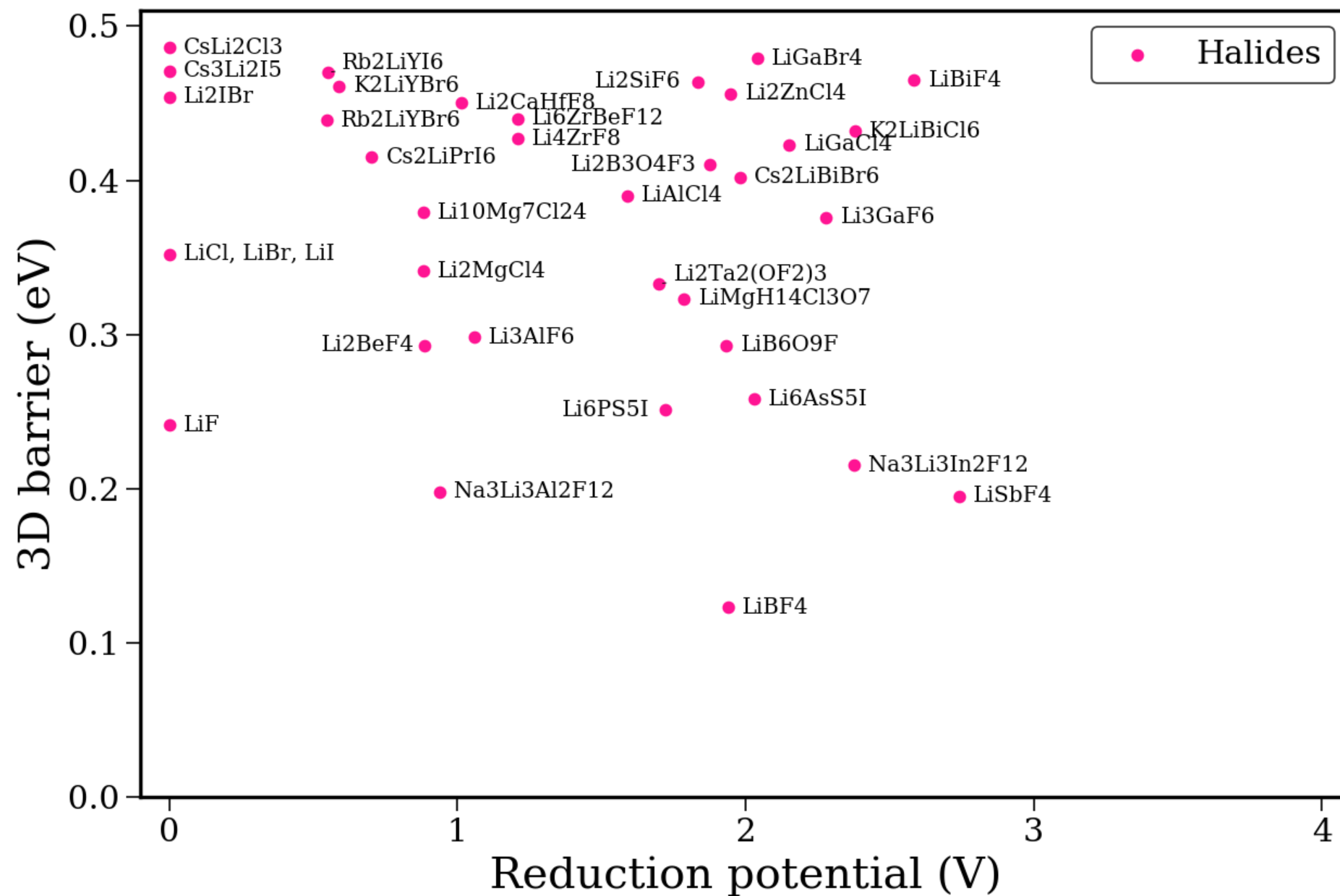
- Every pair of elements can be fitted with unique R_0 and b values associated with their interaction.

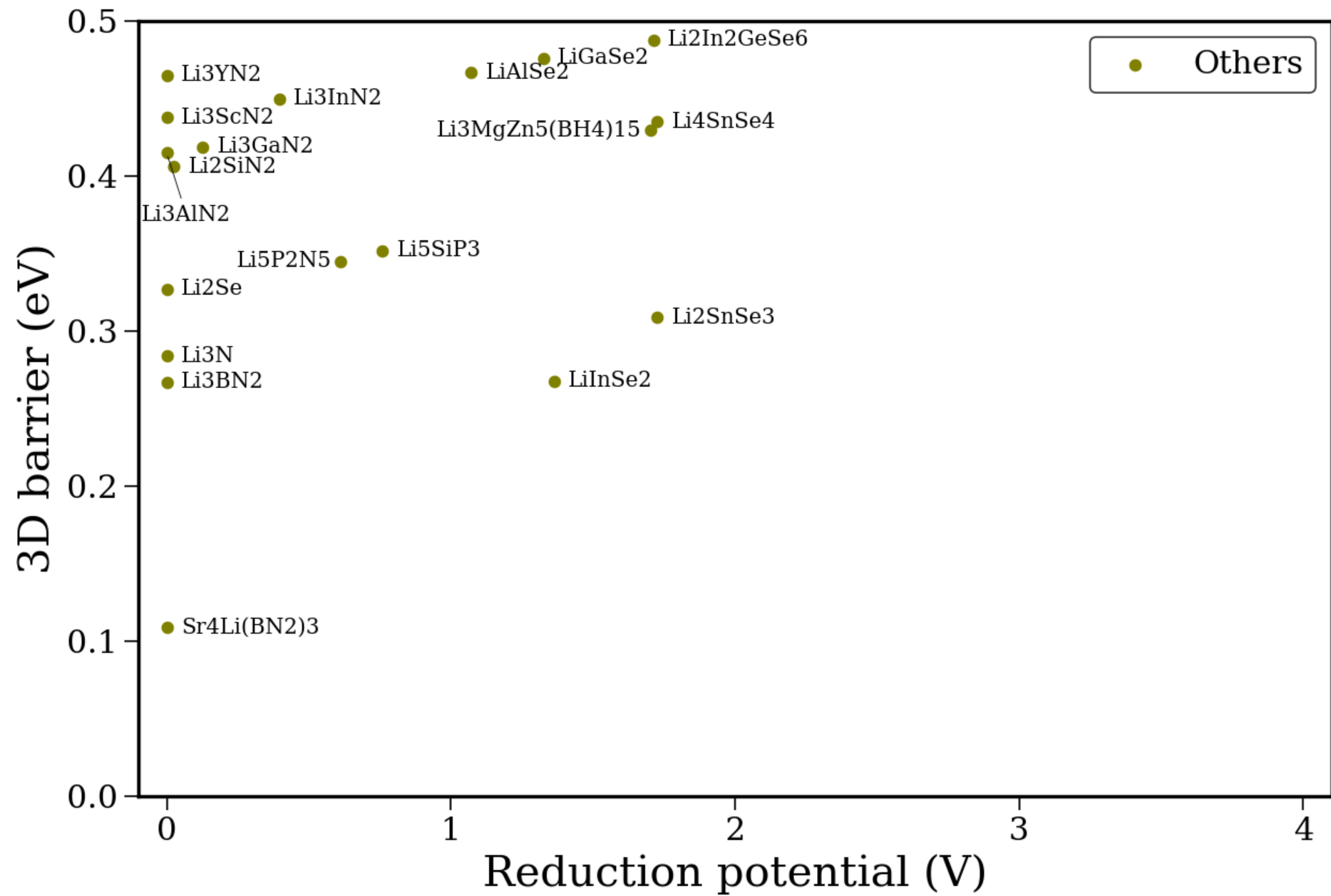
$$|\Delta V_i| = V_i - V_i^{id},$$

- Sites in a crystal structure where mismatch $|\Delta V_{ij}| \approx 0$ are considered accessible sites for atom i .
- Paths between accessible sites along which $|V_{ij}|$ remains low represent probable ion transport pathways.









Screening results: Li anode coatings

TABLE S1: Compounds identified as promising candidates for coatings on Li metal anode. [Reduction potential (*vs.* Li) = 0 V, stability window > 1 V, 3D barrier < 1 eV, $E_{hull} < 30$ meV, $E_g > 1$ eV]

No.	mp_id	Formula	3D barrier (eV)	electrochemical window (V)
1.	mp-9723	Sr4Li(BN ₂) ₃	0.109	1.39
2.	mp-1960	Li ₂ O	0.259	2.90
3.	mp-1153	Li ₂ S	0.262	2.13
4.	mp-2286	Li ₂ Se	0.327	1.89
5.	mp-1185319	LiCl	0.349	4.25
6.	mp-976280	LiBr	0.350	3.14
7.	mp-570935	LiI	0.352	2.47
8.	mp-756544	LiLaO ₂	0.354	2.90
9.	mp-7020	LiYO ₂	0.411	2.92
10.	mp-752922	Li ₈ HfO ₆	0.419	2.90
11.	mp-10970	LiErO ₂	0.428	3.00
12.	mp-1222669	Li ₂ IBr	0.454	2.47
13.	mp-1198622	Li ₇ La ₃ Hf ₂ O ₁₂	0.470	3.02
14.	mp-1181918	Cs ₃ Li ₂ I ₅	0.471	2.35
15.	mp-1190687	CsLi ₂ Cl ₃	0.486	4.25
16.	mp-1185301	LiF	0.536	6.36
17.	mp-1080534	Cs ₂ Li ₃ I ₅	0.544	2.35
18.	mp-28237	RbLiBr ₂	0.590	3.14
19.	mp-1190087	CsLiI ₂	0.601	2.35
20.	mp-1184020	CsLi ₃ I ₄	0.668	2.35
21.	mp-28243	RbLiCl ₂	0.703	4.25
22.	mp-606680	CsLi ₂ Br ₃	0.774	2.96
23.	mp-569055	CsLi ₂ I ₃	0.817	2.35
24.	mp-770805	Li ₆ Hf ₂ O ₇	0.845	3.22
25.	mp-23057	CsLiBr ₂	0.882	2.96
26.	mp-9610	Li ₂ CN ₂	0.982	2.12

S1.1. Li atomic fraction, Li

Ratio of number of lithium atoms (N_{Li}) to the total number of atoms (N_{atoms}) in the unit cell.

$$Li = \frac{N_{Li}}{N_{atoms}}$$

S1.2. Mean Li neighbor count, LNC [1]

Average number of neighbors within a radius of 4 Å for lithium atoms in the unit cell.

$$LNC = \frac{1}{N_{Li}} \sum_{j \neq i}^{N_{atoms}} \sum_{i \in \{Li\}}^{N_{Li}} 1\{r_{ij} < 4\text{\AA}\}$$

S1.3. Mean Li-Li bonds per Li, LLB [1]

Average number of lithium neighbors within a radius of 4 Å for lithium atoms in the unit cell.

$$\text{LLB} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{Li}}} \sum_{j \in \{\text{Li}\}, j \neq i}^{N_{\text{Li}}} \sum_{i \in \{\text{Li}\}}^{N_{\text{Li}}} 1\{r_{ij} < 4\text{\AA}\}$$

S1.4. Mean sublattice neighbor count, SNC [1]

Average number of neighbors within a radius of 4 Å for non-lithium atoms in the unit cell.

$$\text{SNC} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{atoms}} - N_{\text{Li}}} \sum_{j \neq i}^{N_{\text{atoms}}} \sum_{i \notin \{\text{Li}\}}^{N_{\text{atoms}} - N_{\text{Li}}} 1\{r_{ij} < 4\text{\AA}\}$$

S1.5. Mean sublattice bond ionicity, SBI [1]

Average difference in the Pauling electronegativity of bonds (EN) between a sublattice atom and another atom within 4 Å of each other.

$$\text{SBI} = \frac{1}{N_{ij}} \sum_{j \neq i}^{N_{atoms}} \sum_{i \notin \{Li\}}^{N_{atoms} - N_{Li}} |\text{EN}_i - \text{EN}_j| 1\{r_{ij} < 4\text{\AA}\}$$

S1.6. Mean Electronegativity of sublattice, ENS [1]

Average Pauling electronegativity (EN) of all sublattice atoms in the unit cell.

$$\text{ENS} = \frac{1}{N_{atoms} - N_{Li}} \sum_{i \notin \{Li\}}^{N_{atoms} - N_{Li}} \text{EN}_i$$

S1.7. Mean Li-Li separation distance, LLSD [1]

Average min. Li-Li distance for all lithium atoms in the unit cell.

$$\text{LLSD} = \frac{1}{N_{Li}} \sum_{i \in \{Li\}}^{N_{Li}} \min_{j \in \{Li\}, j \neq i} \{r_{ij}\}$$

S1.8. Mean Li-anion separation distance, LASD [1]

Average min. Li-anion distance for all lithium atoms in the unit cell, where anion (A) refers to the atom with the highest electronegativity in the unit cell.

$$\text{LASD} = \frac{1}{N_{Li}} \sum_{i \in \{Li\}}^{N_{Li}} \min_{j \in \{A\}} \{r_{ij}\}$$

S1.9. Mean anion-anion separation distance, AASD [1]

Average min. anion-anion distance for all anions in the unit cell, where anion (A) refers to the atom with the highest electronegativity in the unit cell.

$$\text{AASD} = \frac{1}{N_A} \sum_{i \in \{A\}}^{N_A} \min_{j \in \{A\}, j \neq i} \{r_{ij}\}$$

S1.10. Mean neighbor distance variation, NDV [2]

Average standard deviation in bond lengths for all neighbors of a particular atom, weighted by the corresponding face area of the Voronoi cell. *Refer to the SI accompanying ref. [2] for details.*

S1.11. Mean ordering parameter shell 1, OP_1 [2]

Warren-Cowley-like ordering parameters [3] of the first neighbor shell, weighted by the corresponding face areas of the Voronoi cell for each neighboring atom in that shell. *Refer to the SI accompanying ref. [2] for details.*

S1.12. Mean ordering parameter shell 2, OP_2 [2]

Warren-Cowley-like ordering parameters [3] of the second neighbor shell, weighted by the corresponding face areas of the Voronoi cell for each neighboring atom in that shell. *Refer to the SI accompanying ref. [2] for details.*

S1.13. Mean ordering parameter shell 3, OP_3 [2]

Warren-Cowley-like ordering parameters [3] of the third neighbor shell, weighted by the corresponding face areas of the Voronoi cell for each neighboring atom in that shell. *Refer to the SI accompanying ref. [2] for details.*

S1.14. Diameter of largest free sphere, DLFS

The max. diameter of a sphere that can percolate across any one direction of the unit cell without intersecting any atoms. We calculate DLFS using the Zeo++ tool [4].

S1.15. Mean Straight Line Path Width, SLPW [1]

Average max. radius of the cylinder that connects each lithium atom with its nearest lithium neighbor without intersecting any other atoms.

S1.16. Sublattice packing fraction, SPF [1]

Ratio of total volume occupied by all sublattice atoms (V_i) to the total volume of the unit cell (V_{cell}).

$$\text{SPF} = \frac{1}{V_{cell}} \sum_{i \notin \{Li\}}^{N_{atoms} - N_{Li}} V_i$$

S1.17. Max packing efficiency, MPE [2]

The ratio of sum of volumes of largest spheres that fit inside the Voronoi cell around each atom (VS_i) to the total volume of the unit cell (V_{cell}).

$$\text{MPE} = \frac{1}{V_{cell}} \sum_{i \in \{atoms\}}^{N_{atoms}} VS_i$$

S1.18. XRD principal component 1, XRD_1

First principal component of the powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) pattern computed using pymatgen [5].

S1.19. XRD principal component 2, XRD_2

Second principal component of the powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) pattern computed using pymatgen [5].

S1.20. XRD principal component 3, XRD_3

Third principal component of the powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) pattern computed using pymatgen [5].

Permutation Feature Importance: 3D barriers

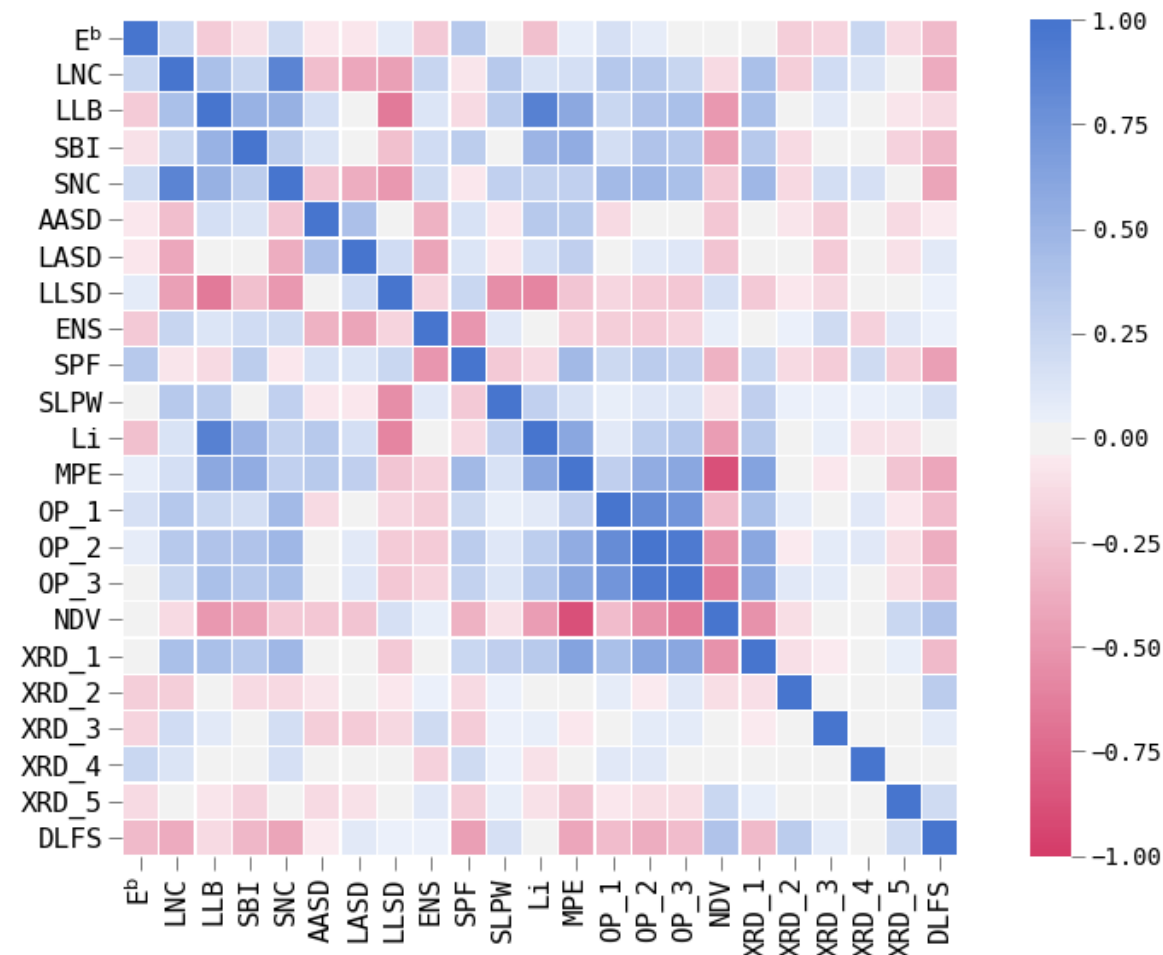
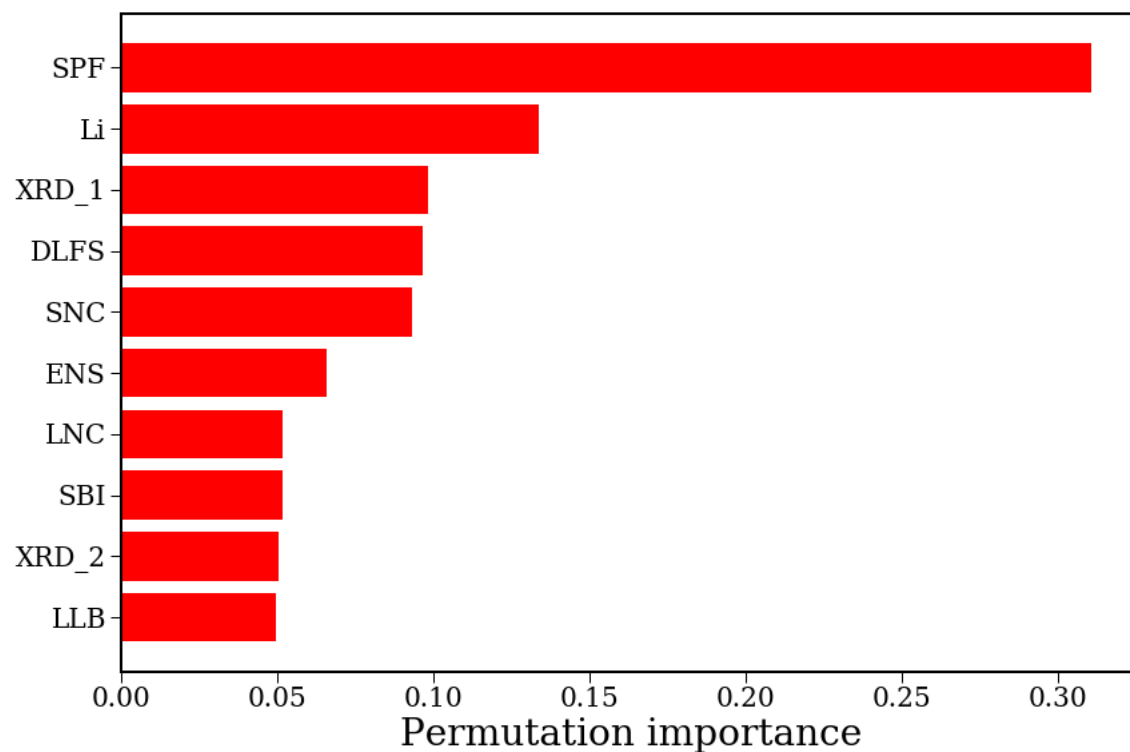


TABLE IV: Li compounds identified as possible superionic conductors by the Sendek model [59] are arranged in increasing order of their softBV 3D barriers. Where calculated barriers are missing, ML predictions are used instead. The rightmost column indicates whether the compound was predicted to have an ionic conductivity $> 10^{-4}$ S/cm based on high temperature DFT-MD simulations by Sendek *et al.* [60].

No.	mp_id	Formula	3D barrier (eV)	DFT-MD predicted ionic conductivity $> 10^{-4}$ S/cm
1.	mp-558219	SrLi(BS ₂) ₃	0.340	x
2.	mp-532413	Li ₅ B ₇ S ₁₃	0.487	yes
3.	mp-643069	Li ₂ HfO	0.519	yes
4.	mp-7744	LiSO ₃ F	0.529	yes
5.	mp-569782	Sr ₂ LiCBr ₃ N ₂	0.548	marginal
6.	mp-676109	Li ₃ InCl ₆	0.595	yes
7.	mp-676361	LiErCl ₆	0.664	yes
8.	mp-22905	LiCl	0.735	x
9.	mp-559238	CsLi ₂ BS ₃	0.780	yes
10.	mp-29410	Li ₂ B ₂ S ₅	0.972 ^d	yes
11.	mp-34477	LiSmS ₂	0.977	x
12.	mp-8430	KLiS	1.720 ^d	x
13.	mp-8751	RbLiS	1.727 ^d	x
14.	mp-554076	BaLiBS ₃	2.035	x
15.	mp-866665	LiMgB ₃ (H ₉ N) ₂	2.330 ^d	yes
16.	mp-19896	Li ₂ GePbS ₄	2.835	x
17.	mp-561095	LiH ₃ O ₃ Ge ₂ (O ₄ F) ₂	3.259	x
18.	mp-15791	LiErS ₂	4.698 ^d	x
19.	mp-15790	LiHoS ₂	4.749 ^d	x
20.	mp-15789	LiDyS ₂	4.872	x
21.	mp-15797	LiErSe ₂	4.884	marginal

^d ML prediction

Sendek model

