All-Solid-State Li-Batteries for Transformational Energy Storage

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Engineering Battery Safety and Reliability

Conventional liquid/polymer electrolytes are flammable

Charred Boeing 787 Li-battery



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Undamaged photo: -Note 8 Cells and - battery management Circuitry -not water cooled

Hoverboard battery fire



Samsung battery fire

Requiring additional system complexity and mass

Tesla battery pack teardown



and still no guarantee



Engineering Battery Safety and Reliability

Conventional liquid/polymer electrolytes are flammable

See CBS News video at: http://www.ionstoragesystems.com



Are scientists on the brink of creating a non-combustible battery?

Ceramic electrolytes are Non-flammable

- Negating/reducing thermal control requirements







Increased Energy Density with Li-Metal Anode

Li-metal anodes have 10X the theoretical specific capacity of Li-carbon anodes (3860 mAh/g vs 372 mAh/g)

Conventional liquid/polymer electrolytes are soft and therefore have Li-dendrite problem

They also have electrochemical stability issues with Li-Metal



Ceramic electrolytes are hard, so if sufficiently dense can block Li-dendrite propagation

Some ceramic electrolytes (e.g., Garnet) are also chemically/electrochemically stable with Li-Metal



Li⁺ Conducting Garnets

Garnet electrolytes also have comparable RT conductivity (~1 mS/cm) to organic electrolytes



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Figure 5. Arrhenius plots for Li-ion conductivity of $Li_{6.4}La_3Zr_{1.4}Ta_{0.6}O_{12}$ (x = 0), $Li_{6.4}La_3Zr_{1.4}Ta_{0.5}Nb_{0.1}O_{12}$ (x = 0.1), $Li_{6.4}La_3Zr_{1.4}Ta_{0.4}Nb_{0.2}O_{12}$, $Li_{6.4}La_3Zr_{1.4}Ta_{0.3}Nb_{0.3}O_{12}$, $Li_{6.65}La_{2.75}Ba_{0.25}Zr_{1.4}Ta_{0.5}Nb_{0.1}O_{12}$, and undoped $Li_7La_3Zr_2O_{12}$ (LLZ) prepared at 1150 °C.

Xia Tong,[†] Venkataraman Thangadurai,^{*,†} and Eric D. Wachsman[‡] *Inorg. Chem.* 2015, 54, 3600–3607

and much wider voltage stability window, from Li-metal to over ~6V

Overcoming Solid State Battery Limitations

So what is limiting successful development of solid-state garnet batteries?

- High specific solid-solid interfacial impedance
- Typical planar geometries have low electrolyte/electrode contact areas
- Typical sintered electrolyte pellets (to obtain sufficient density) are thick and thus have high ASR





Negating interfacial impedance in garnet-based solid-state Li metal batteries

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Time (min)





Table 1 | Electrochemical impedance and d.c. ASR for Li/LLCZN/Li cells with and without ALD coating on both sides of garnet SSE.

Li/LLCZN/Li symmetric cell	Bulk/high- frequency ASR (Ω cm ²)	GB/interface ASR $(\Omega \text{ cm}^2)$	Total EIS ASR (Bulk+GB∕interface) (Ω cm²)	Interfacial EIS ASR* (Ω cm ²)	d.c. ASR (Ω cm ²)	Interfacial d.c. ASR* (Ω cm ²)
W/O ALD	28	3,500	3,528	1,710	N/A	N/A
ALD	26	150	176	34	110	1

Achieved lowest interfacial resistance ~1 Ohm×cm²

*Interfacial EIS and d.c. ASR calculated by subtracting total garnet ASR (108 Ω cm²) from total EIS and d.c. ASR, respectively, and dividing by interfacial area. GB, grain boundary. Garnet ASR (108 Ω cm²) was obtained from the EIS garnet conductivity measurement of the Au/garnet/Au symmetric cells.





Li metal coating on garnet with Si



- Si interface can change garnet SSE surface from lithiophobic to lithiophilic;
- Si interface reduced the interfacial ASR of Li/LLZO to **127 Ohm×cm²**.

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Decreased interfacial resistance

SCIENCE ADVANCES | RESEARCH ARTICLE

APPLIED SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING

Toward garnet electrolyte-based Li metal batteries: An ultrathin, highly effective, artificial solid-state electrolyte/metallic Li interface

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Cycling of Li metal symmetric cell



Decreased interfacial resistance



• Stable interface with Li metal cycling.



NANOLETTERS

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Conformal, Nanoscale ZnO Surface Modification of Garnet-Based Solid-State Electrolyte for Lithium Metal Anodes

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Impedance of Li/garnet/Li with ZnO interface.



Cycling of Li/garnet/Li with ZnO interface.





Li/garnet with ZnO interface



Li/porous garnet with ZnO interface

- ZnO interface reduced Li/garnet interfacial resistance to 20 Ohm×cm²
- Li metal can infiltrate into porous garnet structure



- Li/garnet interfacial resistance **214 Ohm**×**cm**²
- Cathode/garnet interfacial resistance **248 Ohm**×**cm**²
- Stable interface during battery cycling.

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*Liu, B.; Gong, Y.; Fu, K.; Han, X.; Yao, Y.; Pastel, G.; Yang, C.; Xie, Hua.; E. D. Wachsman.; L, Hu. Garnet Solid Electrolyte Protected Li-Metal Batteries Under minor revision of *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*

Overcoming Li-Garnet-Cathode Interface Impedances

0.0

400

Capacity (mAh/g)

200

600

Energy & Environmental Science



COMMUNICATION

Three-dimensional bilayer garnet solid electrolyte based high energy density lithium metal-sulfur batteries[†]

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CNT coated bilayer SSE framework (b) Li* Garnet SSE S encapsulated bilayer SSE (e) (†)framework (h) 1000 3.5 -1st cycle 2 ∞ ŭ 3 0 4 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 6 0 6 0 7 0 2nd cycle 3.0 Capacity (mAh/g) -3rd cycle 80 2. 600 99 2.0 1.5 400 98 1.0 Sulfur loading: 7.5 mg/cm2 200 0.5 Current density: 0.2 mA/cm²

10

20

15

Cycle number

30

25

Effect of Solid-Solid Contact Area on Interfacial Impedance



Use SOFC approach to advance SSLiB's



Low-cost multi-layer ceramic processing developed for fabrication of thin SOFC electrolytes supported by high surface area porous electrodes

- Electrode support allows for thin ~10 μ m solid state electrolyte (SSE) fabrication
- Porous SSE scaffold allows use of high specific capacity Li-metal anode with no SEI
- Porous 3-D networked SSE scaffolds allow electrode materials to fill volume with a smaller charge transfer resistance and no electrode cycling fatigue
- Pore filling mechanism removes external dimensional changes with cycling and resulting mechanical issues



Use SOFC approach to advance SSLiB's

- Based on commercially scalable tapecasting process
 - Cast ~150 um green scaffold tape
 - Cast ~20 um green electrolyte tape
 - Laminate trilayer green structure
 - Cut to size

Energy Research Center TITUTE

• Sinter









- Thin dense central layer has low ASR and blocks dendrites
- Porous outer layers provide structural support and can be infiltrated with electrodes to provide large electrolyte/electrode interfacial area





- Thin dense central layer has low ASR and blocks dendrites
- Porous outer layers provide structural support and can be infiltrated with electrodes to provide large electrolyte/electrode interfacial area



• Porous region can be readily filled with Li

Li Cycling of Tri-Layer Garnet



- Stable high current density 10 mA/cm² plating/stripping cycling at 1.67 mAh/cm² Li per cycle for 16 hours then 2.5 mA/cm² for another 60 hours
- Low ASR (7 Ohm cm²) and no degradation or performance decay



Li Cycling of Tri-Layer Garnet



- Can increase Li capacity per cycle until garnet pore capacity (~6 mAh/cm²) is exceeded without increase in ASR
- At 7.5 mAh/cm² Li is depleted from pores and ASR increases and cycling becomes unstable as expected
- Li exhaustion results confirm no dendrites

- Stable high current density 10 mA/cm² plating/stripping cycling at 1.67 mAh/cm² Li per cycle for 16 hours
- Low ASR (7 Ohm cm²) and no degradation or performance decay





ASR as Function of Layer Thickness





Solid State Limetal/Garnet/LCO Battery

These Li_{metal}/garnet structures provide a transformative battery solution for a wide range of cathode chemistries



Infiltrated LCO as well as a number of cathode materials into the porous garnet structure



Solid State Limetal/Garnet/LCO Battery



These Li_{metal}/garnet structures provide a transformative battery solution for a wide range of cathode chemistries

• 100% coulombic efficiency and no capacity fade

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Solid State Li_{metal}/Garnet/Spinel Battery

5.0



These Li_{metal}/garnet structures provide a transformative battery solution for a wide range of cathode chemistries

 100% coulombic efficiency and no capacity fade for 480 cycles



 $Li_xMn_2O_{4-y}(Cl_z)$ cathode



Solid State Limetal/Garnet/Sulfur Battery



• Increased electrode porosity from initial ~50% to design ~70%



• Increased electrode thickness and capacity matching anode/cathode layers



Solid State Li_{metal}/Garnet/Sulfur Battery



Evaluated several techniques and increased
Sulfur loading from initial ~1 mg/cm²
to ~8 mg/cm²

2000

• Increased Sulfur utilization achieving over 1200 mAh/g-s

and continue driving toward theoretical (1600 mAh/g-s)

• Increased cell cycling stability

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- 100% Coulombic efficiency
- No capacity fade after 300 cycles



Solid State Limetal/Garnet/Sulfur Battery



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Solid State Limetal/Garnet/Sulfur Battery

• Wide operating temperature range with low activation energy

• Energy Density based on **Total Cell Mass**

• Significant increase in energy density with increasing temperature

• **350Wh/kg**-total cell achieved at 90°C





Solid State Li Battery (SSLiB) Scale-up



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Battery Materials Research Contract #DEEE0006860 Contract# DEEE0007807 Contract# DEEE0008201



Game Changing Development Program: Advanced Energy Storage Systems Contract #NNC14CA27C (Phase 1) Contract #NNC16CA03C (Phase 2)





