Solid ionic conductors, and ionic liquids: ceramics, glasses, polymers, and gels and their composites

> C. Austen Angell, Arizona State University

Based on work over the decades by Stuart Smedley (Li borate glasses) Steve Martin (Li B, Si & P glasses), Emanuel Cooper (PLICFICS), Changle Liu (polymer-in salt) Marcelo Videa (inorganic ionic liquids), Kang Xu (new salts and solvents sulfones) Wu Xu (LiBOB and poly-LiMOB and ionic liquids) J-P. Belieres (protic ionic liquids) Zuofeng Zhao (new PILs) and Kazu Ueno (ionic liquid gels)

Energy storage strategies

Chemical storage vs physical storage. Why not pump water uphill?

Examples of energy density:

 CO_2 air guns vs chemical propellants:

Compressed nitrogen vs ammonium azide

Concentration cells (mV) vs redox cells (V)



248 B.C.- 226 A.D.



The ancient battery in the Baghdad Museum

The ancient battery in the Baghdad Museum, as well as those others which were unearthed in Iraq, are all dated from the Parthian occupation between 248 BCE and 226 CE. However, Dr. Konig also found copper vases plated with silver in the Baghdad Museum, excavated from Sumerian sites in southern Iraq, dating back to at least 2500 BCE. When the vases were lightly tapped, a blue patina or film separated from the surface, which is characteristic of silver electroplated onto copper base. It would appear then **that the Parthians inherited their batteries from one of the earliest known civilizations**. http://www.paradigm-sys.com/ae/library.html



from redox table

Chemical energy to electrical energy device strategies



Advantages of 3 are famous but v. difficult to realize

The electrolyte - the ion pathway - is the one common requirement

So electrolyte characteristics are a big factor in the success of ANY SYSTEM. We need to store the energy and get it back without losing 50% to *heat*

Considerations are:

Kinetics: need to minimize losses in heat (Joule heating)
Stability: no oxidation, reduction, volatilization, chemical degradation
Mechanical properties: self-supporting (solid?) but tough
Toxicity: of course

Cost: of course



Aims of the talk Review the types of electrolytes that may be utilized in energy storage and delivery, contrasting Li⁺ (Na⁺) and protic cases.

2. Review the concepts that are useful in discussing the properties of non crystalline electrolytes.

- (a) relaxation times
- (b) "freezing-in"/glass transitions (in crystals as well)
- (c) decoupling, "superionics", and Walden plots
- (d) "wet" and "dry" protons and Grothus mechanisms (e) maximum conductivities

Wot to do (a) Decoupliing in liquids (b) tension in solids
 Electrochemical windows and high voltage systems.

Solvents, vs ionic liquids, vs glasses

THE OPTIONS ARE:

Log_(max)(S/cm)

25°C (protons) In order of decreasing mechanical rigidity -**Ceramics: extraordinary** β " alumina -1 to -3 **Plastic crystals:** operating > rotator Tg -3 **Glasses:** operating < Tg, but using decoupling -3 -7. Low **Polymer glasses**: operating < Tg -4.5 **Polymer rubbers**: operating > Tg **Plasticized** polymer rubbers -2 -1 (Naf) Polymer gels with ionic liquids: -2 quasi-crystalline molecular support -1.0 Liquids in porous supports: Liquids: (a) ionic liquids (aprotic or protic) -2 or -1 -1 or -2 (b) solutions (aqueous or non-aqu) (c.) aqueous protic (acid) +.5 to 0

Various combinations/composites of the above

e.g. "Lead-carbon" system continues to exploit H₂SO₄ (aq)

"Lead-carbon batteries are different from other types of batteries because they combine the high energy density of a battery and the high specific power of a supercapacitor in a single low-cost device"



Basics: Including carbon in the timehonored leadacid battery.

"a life cycle four times the average lead-acid battery's 600 to 800 deep discharges. It will last longer, recharge more quickly and has applicability to the plug-in hybrid market."

Read more:

http://www.thedailygreen.com/livinggreen/blogs/cars-transportation/axion-leadcarbon-batteries-460409#ixzz0zi1cm5oD

Ceramics: the extraordinary case of β-alumina

Ionic conductivity in Na+, K+, and Ag+ β "-alumina Briant, J. L.; Farrington, G. C.

Journal of Solid State Chemistry, Volume 33, Issue 3, p. 385-390. This paper presents measurements of the ionic conductivity in single crystals of β "-alumina (0.84 M₂O . 0.67 MgO . 5.2 Al₂O₃, M = Na, K, Ag). Single crystals of sodium β "-alumina were grown from a melt of Na₂O, MgO, and Al₂O₃ at 1660 to 1730°C. Selected crystals were converted to the other isomorphs by ion exchange. The conductivity of sodium β "-alumina varies from 0.18 to 0.01 S/cm at 25°C depending upon crystal growth conditions. Potassium β "-alumina has the unusually high room temperature conductivity of 0.13 (ohm . cm)⁻¹. Silver β "-alumina has a slightly lower conductivity, 4 × 10-3 (ohm . cm)⁻¹ at 25°C. The activation energies of sodium and potassium β "-alumina decrease with increasing temperature, while that of silver β "-alumina is constant from -80 to 450°C.

> $K_{+} \approx Na_{+} > NH_{4}^{+} \approx Ag + > OH_{3}^{+}$ 10⁻¹ 10⁻¹ 10⁻³ 10⁻³ 10⁻⁵

Fast Ionic Transport in Solids Gregory C. Farrington and Jacqueline L. Briant

Science 29 June 1979: Vol. 204. no. 4400, pp. 1371 – 1379 DOI: 10.1126/science.204.4400.1371

Only 60 cites !

CONDUCTANCE AND SPECTROSCOPY OF PROTONIC BETA AND BETA"-ALUMINAS

G. C. FARRINGTON, J. L. BRIANT and H. S. STORY* and W. C. BAILEY. J. Electrochem. Soc.

10 cites !!

The onset of motional narrowing in hydronium beta"-alumina oecura at - 40°C but not until +30°C in bydrcmium beta-alumina. This is consistent with the higher conductivity reported for hydronium beta"-alumina, **10**-3-10-' **(ohm-cm)-**' at 25°C, in comparison to 10-'"-IO-" (ohm-cm)-'for hydronium beta-alumina at 25°C

β-Al₂O₃ conductivity is comparable to those of aqueous solutions and ILs



Xu and Angell

ETMEIM(HF)_nF (n=2.3). \blacklozenge : Neat EtMeIm(HF)_nF (N=1.0), composite with the molar fraction of EtMeIm(HF)_nF, N; \bigcirc : 0.60, \blacktriangle : 0.40, \diamondsuit : 0.20. Solid State lonics, 2002

While ionic liquid (IL) conductivities are "in the air" Jun Liu mentioned flow cells and the possibility of using IL substitutes for the aqueous electrolytes, so I briefly make a point

GURNEY diagrams for aqu. solutions referenced to the oxide/oxygen level, and compared to the pure oxides



Lesson: the characteristic redox levels hardly change from those assessed from the pure oxide free energies. So, in ionic liquids, the same level scheme will apply but the voltage range of choice will be larger.

Back to β -Al₂O_{3:} an enormous literature:

 β -Al₂O₃ and the Zebra battery (Mercedes)

and Na-S storage cell histories:

0 0

0 0

ceramics are fragile and not selfhealing

wot to do??

In1973 we thought we knew (We were working with fast ion conducting glasses)



Turn to plastic crystals - deform without fracture)

(next on the list)

THE OPTIONS ARE:

Log_(max)(S/cm)

In order of decreasing mechanical rigidity -	25°C ((protons)
Ceramics: extraordinary β " alumina	1 to -3	+
Plastic crystals: operating > rotator Tg	-3	
Glasses: operating < Tg, but using decoupling	-3	-7.
Polymer glasses : operating < Tg	Low	
Polymer rubbers : operating > Tg	-4.5	
Plasticized polymer rubbers	-2	-1 (Naf)
Polymer gels with ionic liquids:		
quasi-crystalline molecular support	-2	
Liquids in porous supports:	-1.0	
Liquids: (a) ionic liquids (aprotic or protic)	-2 or -	1
(b) solutions (aqueous or non-aqu)	-1 or -2	2
(c.) aqueous protic (acid)	+.5 to ()

Various combinations/composites of the above

Types of plastic-crystalline electrolytes



2. **Solid solutions** of lithium salts in plastic organic cation salts

Li(NTf2) in pyrollidinium X, etc MacFarlane and co "solid solutions" from CsHSO₄ + DBAHSO₄ Mizuno et al (Angell 2006)

$$\sigma_{25^{\circ}C} = 10^{-2} \text{ S/cm}$$

PLICFICS compared with PEO salt-in-polymer electrolytes



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Liquids: (a) ionic liquids (aprotic or protic)	-2 or -	1
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Various combinations/composites of the above

Need some conductivity concepts to help in the discussion

- Mobile ion decoupling
- •Ergodicity-breaking (glass temperatures)
- •Walden plot
- "dry" proton conductivity
- Limiting high ionic conductivities
- * Conductivity maxima due to oppositely directed factors affecting the mobility of ions

(for later)

*ionicity *proton activity and acidity proton energy level diagrams

Tsien Shan Mtns, Western China

Crossed on the flight out to the last University in China before hitting Kazakhstan.... 23,000 ft and still glaciated.

Aims of the talk

- Review the types of electrolytes that may be utilized in energy storage and delivery, contrasting Li^{+ (Na⁺)} and protic cases.
- Review the concepts that are useful in discussing the properties of *non crystalline* electrolytes. (variable composn)

 (a) relaxation times
 (b) "for the relaxation times
 - (b) "freezing-in"/glass transitions (in crystals as well)
 - (c) decoupling, "superionics", and Walden plots
 - (d) "wet" and "dry" protons
 - (e) maximum conductivities

Wot to do (a) Decoupliing in liquids (b) tension in solids
 Electrochemical windows and high voltage systems.
 Solvents, vs ionic liquids, vs glasses

Conductivities are limited by:

- Friction against neighbors repulsive forces
 Minimize by (a) increasing empty space ("free volume"),
 (b) making neighbors polarizable
- 2. Friction from other ions of opposite charge- attractive forces
 Minimize by (a) eliminating multivalent ions,
 and (b) increasing charge separation (lower conc.)
- Insufficient charges crossing reference area (electrode surface) Counter by increasing charge concentration, (in conflict with 2) (SO expect maximum)
- 4. Insufficient thermal energy.

counter by (a) raising the temperature !

(b) lowering the cohesive energy (T_g)

Concepts: relaxation times



Advantage: allows comparisons in the same units

Concepts: *decoupling* of relaxation processes, And "freezing" of structure



But not most polymer conductors)

•Glass transitions and the freezing-in of processes.







An alternative way of comparing processes: the Walden plot (and a classification tool)

Walden (1905), based on aqueous solution studies

Λη = constant (signature of a coupled system)



Aqueous acid systems are decoupled

The Walden plot: when the ion flow is determined by the solvent viscosity alone, points fall on the line.



DRY PROTON CONDUCTIVITY What is it ?

When the current flow is overwhelmingly (>99%) due to the flow of protons, unattached to any other species.

Easy to get,BUT... conductivity must also be useful.

Ambition: to find conditions where this is true, and conductivity is

>100 mS/cm at ambient and >1 S/cm at 100°C.

The highest conductivities, at 25°C



Concept: *limiting high conductivity* Arrhenius plots for superionic glass τ_i

Chemical Reviews, 1990, Vol. 90, No. 3 537



Relation between conductivity limit from FIR and from Arrhenius plot

538 Chemical Reviews, 1990, Vol. 90, No. 3

How close can we get?



The big picture (of absorptivity and conductivity in ionic liquids)



β-Al₂O₃ conductivity is comparable to those of aqueous solutions and ILs



Science, 2003

Xu and Angell

Fig. 1. Conductivity of electrolyte composites of poly-HEMA a ETMEIM(HF)_nF (n=2.3). \bullet : Neat EtMeIm(HF)_nF (N=1.0), composite with the molar fraction of EtMeIm(HF)_nF, N; \bigcirc : 0.60, \blacktriangle : 0.5 \triangle : 0.40, \blacklozenge : 0.20. Solid State lonics, 2002

LiAI halide and pseudohalide liquids



Conductivity decreases, are due to:

- Friction against neighbors repulsive forces
 Minimize by (a) increasing empty space ("free volume"),
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- 2. Friction from other ions of opposite charge- attractive forces
 Minimize by (a) eliminating multivalent ions,
 and (b) increasing charge separation (lower conc.)
- Insufficient charges crossing reference area (electrode surface)
 Counter by increasing charge concentration, (in conflict with 2) (so, expect maximum)
- Insuffficient thermal energy.
 counter by (a) raising the temperature
 (b) lowering the cohesive energy (T_g)

Concept: mobility-concentration competition, and σ(max): Contrast between electrolyte types





Wot to do?

Attempts were made to synthesize Li salts which would be low melting and lithium ion decoupled and then rubberize by polymer additions. (The "polymer-in-salt" electrolyte concept). The attempts were only partly successful.

Attempts to make glassy analogs of the β "alumina have been made without success. The possibility of putting GF liquids under tension and trapping them as glasses in the stretched state has not yet been tried.

The current situation:

Li ion batteries run with non-aqeous solvent salt solutions. The salts dissolve because of ion dipole interactions so the ions are all trapped in their solvation shells.. No chance of decoupled motion.. They are slaved to the solvent motions. NO Walden plots are available to demonstrate this situation. The fluidities are limited by involatility requirements. The end of the line is close at hand

Silent watch over Easter Island



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Wot to do (a) Decoupliing in liquids (b) tension in solids
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WOT TO DO WHEN CONDUCTIVITY HAS MAXED AND POWER IS STILL NEEDED?

Must increase the **cell voltage**... a new set of problems

- 1. We need the cathode chemistry
- 2. We need electrolytes that will "take the heat" i.e. be stable under the more oxidizing conditions

The ABC battery for Chevy Volt



Problem for the US is that most of the IP for batteries is owned not by battery companies or car companies but by **OIL** companies !!

Think about that a bit.....

Chevy Volt is an electric car that goes 40 miles on an electric charge. ... how Volt performs, aggressive driving will result in fewer miles per charge. ..

for the Volt's battery pack was "many hundreds of dollars per kilowatt hour ...

But can charge very quickly, as we'll see

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

THE ARGONNE NAT. LAB. LI ION BATTERY GROUP:

A recent contribution to sulfone electrolyte technology

electrolyte

Tetramethylene sulfone

+ LiPF₆

anode

Lithium titanate (1.5 V above Li)

cathode

Lithium nickel manganate: a very high voltage cathode (5V above Li)

cycles. In a cell with high voltage $LiNi_{0.5}Mn_{1.5}O_4$ positive electrode and 1M LiPF₆ in TMS as electrolyte, the capacity reached 110 mAh g⁻¹ at the C/12 rate. When TMS was blended with ethyl methyl carbonate, the $Li_4Ti_5O_{12}/LiNi_{0.5}Mn_{1.5}O_4$ cell delivered an initial capacity of 80 mAh g⁻¹ and cycled fairly well for 1000 cycles under 2 C rate. The

Sulfones known very stable against reduction or oxidation

Aliphatic sulfones, especially those with open-chain alkyls,¹⁰ are recognized by organic chemists as unusual for their combination of polarity with resistance to both oxidation and reduction.³¹ [Chemically, aliphatic cyclic sulfones are more easily reduced (ca. 100 times as fast) than open-chain sulfones.] The simplest mem-



Try destabilization of crystal lattice by making the molecule asymmetrical.

but

T_m = 35°C: eutectic with DMS is 25°C High Anodic Stability of a New Electrolyte Solvent: Unsymmetric Noncyclic Aliphatic Sulfone

K. Xu*,^a and C. A. Angeli**



109°C

70°C

J. Electrochem. Soc., Vol. 145, No. 4, April 1998

A 5.9 volt window !



And sulfones seem to protect lower EC "window" (but higher fluidity) co-solvents



Specific energies of battery systems



SUMMARY

- 1. Electrochemical devices seem to have been around a very long time.
- 2. There are a number of important system variables to be played with (capacity, output voltage, cyclability, discharge rate, safety) developments in any one of which can make one system superior to the others, but the electrolyte is always a central actor.
- 3. A wide range of electrolyte types are possible, some surprising ceramics being among the best of all. Assessment of electrolyte properties involves a number of conceptual problems.
- 4. Electrolytes with wide electrochemical windows are needed to optimise energytransfer and storage possibilities

Addendum: electron energy levels for redox systems, and proton energy levels for protic systems.

GURNEY diagrams for aqu. solutions referenced to the oxide/oxygen level, and compared to the pure oxides



Lesson: the characteristic redox levels hardly change from those assessed from the pure oxide free energies. So, in ionic liquids, the same level scheme will apply but the voltage range of choice will be larger.

EFEL diagrams for aqu., & NaS, solutions vs. pure oxides



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EFEL diagrams for NaB, NaP and NaS solutions





FREE ENERGY CHANGE PER TRANSFERRED ELECTRON, C, ELECTRON-VOLYS



Occupied pK_a E(eV) Vacant HSbF₆ SbF₆-Super-Acids HBOB BOB-HTFSI TFSI-HSO₃F SO₃F--14 0.83 pFPyH pFPy Tf HTf CIO_4 Acid HClO₄ 0.59 -10 **Electrolytes** HSO₄⁻ -9 0.53 H_2SO_4 HPO₂F₂ $PO_2F_2^{-1}$ HNO₃ NO₃⁻ 0.08 -1.3 CH₃SO₃H $CH_3SO_3^{-}(MS)$ -0.6 0.04 2-Fluoropyridine 2-Fluoropyridine H⁺ -0.43 0.03 CF₃COO⁻ (TfAc) -0.25 CF₃COOH 0.01 H_2O^+ H_2O 0 0 H₃PO₄⁻ 2.12 -0.13 H₃PO₄ 1,2,3-1 H-triazole H⁺ 1,2,4-1 H-triazole 3 -0.18HF F 3.2 -0.19HCOOH HCOO⁻ 3.75 -0.22 CH₃COOH CH3COOH⁻ 4.75 -0.28 Neutral Electrolytes α-MePyH⁺ 6.99 -0.41 α-ΜΕΡγ hydrazine H⁺ -0.47 hydrazine 7.96 NH_4^+ 9.23 -0.55 NH_3 EtNH₃⁻ **EtNH**₃ 10.63 -0.63 Et₃NH⁺ Et₃N (TEA) 11.25 -0.67 $C(NH_{2})_{3}^{+}$ Guanidine -0.83 OH. 14 H₂O HN=C Basic NH_3 **Electrolytes** NH_2^{-1} H₂NC(dma) HNC(dma) HNC(dma) Super-Bases $O^{2^{-}}(Na^{+})$ OH 28 -1.660

Finally, today's subject, PILs that are also superacids



Will any of them work?

Some indications from use of the plasticizers working as liquids:



Inorganic ionic liquids (ammonium salts) as fuel cell electrolytes!

see Belieres et al Chem. Commun. Oct. (2006)

Pendant side chain siloxane polymers

neutralize with: HNO₃, HTf, HSO₃CH₃, etc

Plasticize with e.g. . 1. $[EtNH_3^+][NO_3^-]$ Or2. inorganic IL eutectic mixes neutralize with: NH_3 , CH_3NH_2 , Imidazole etc

Plasticize with [EtNH₃⁺][NO₃⁻] Or inorganic IL (ammonium nitrate+ammonium triflate eutectic)

Pendant side chain siloxane polymers

(work of Xiaoguang Sun)

Maximum conductivity (100°C) 10^{-4.5} S/cm reached at 12 % (1:8) neutralized

Is the motion of the methylaminium cations coupled to the polymer backbone, or free of it ? Where is Tg?



