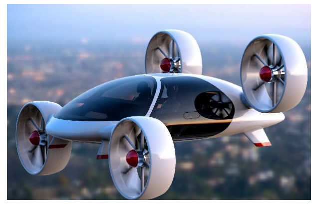
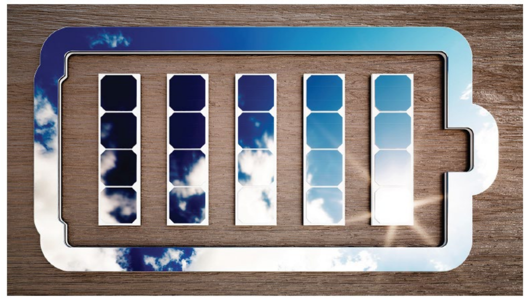
LESC
Laboratory for
Energy Storage and Conversion




All Solid-State Batteries Based on Sodium Electrochemistry

Y. Shirley Meng

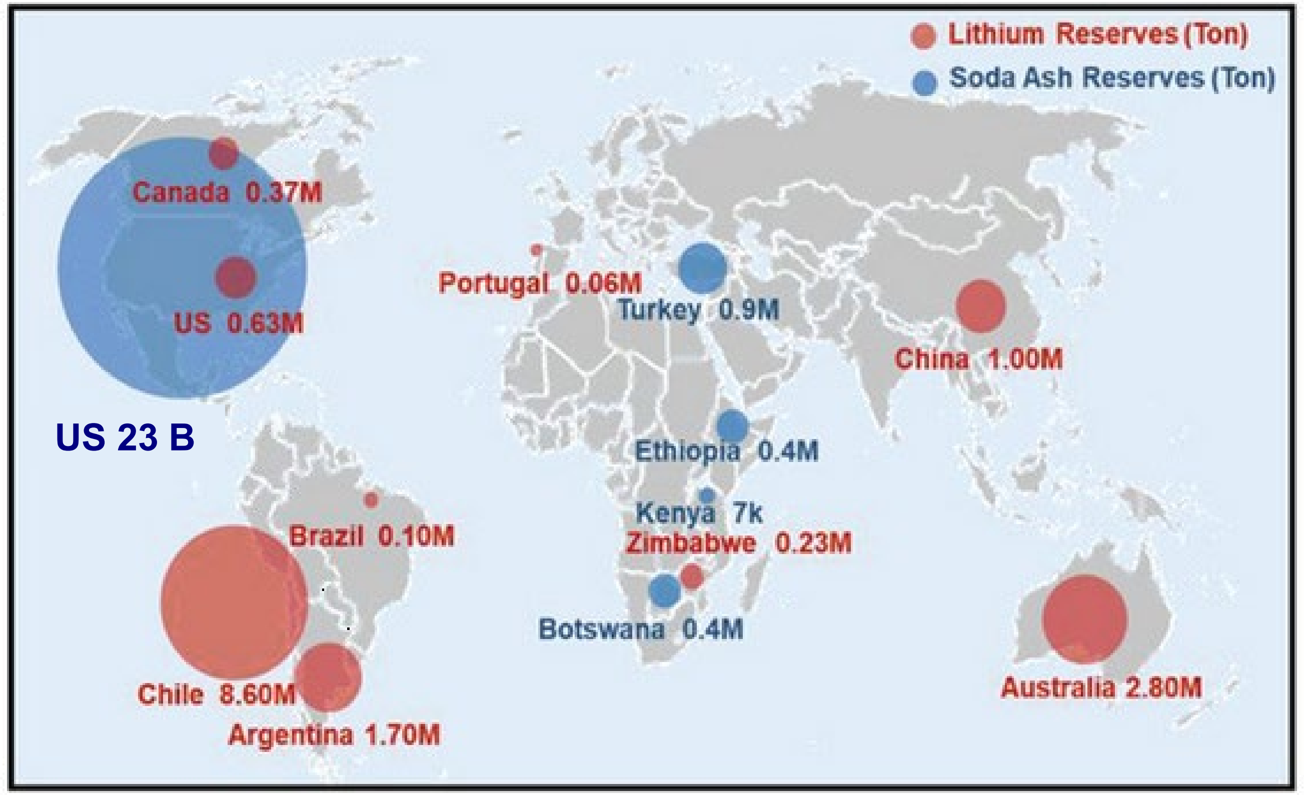
Laboratory for Energy Storage & Conversion (LECS)

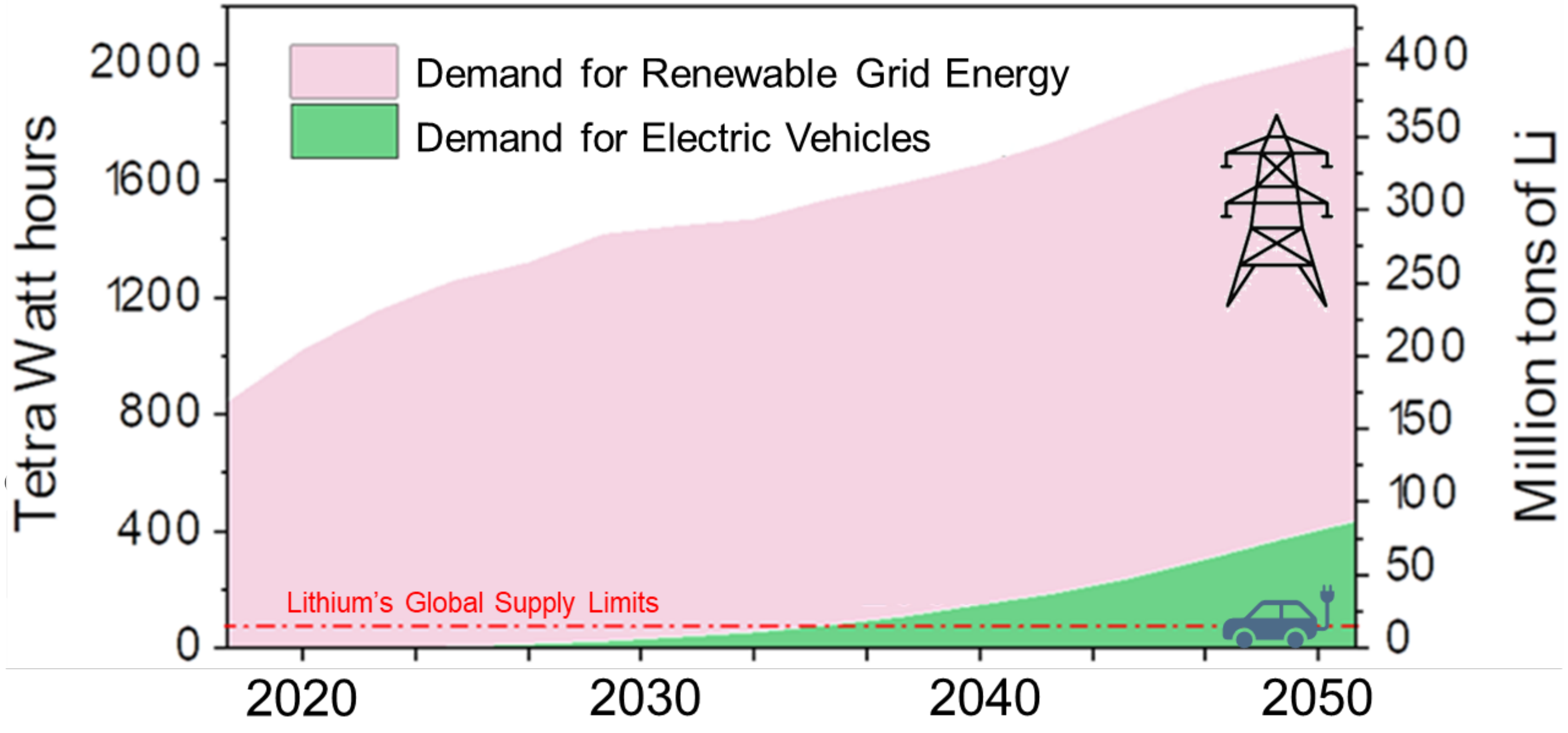
The University of Chicago/UC San Diego

Argonne Collaborative Center for Energy Storage Sciences (ACCESS)

Disclosure – I am a co-founder of UNIGRID a sodium battery startup

Na vs Li Materials Sustainability



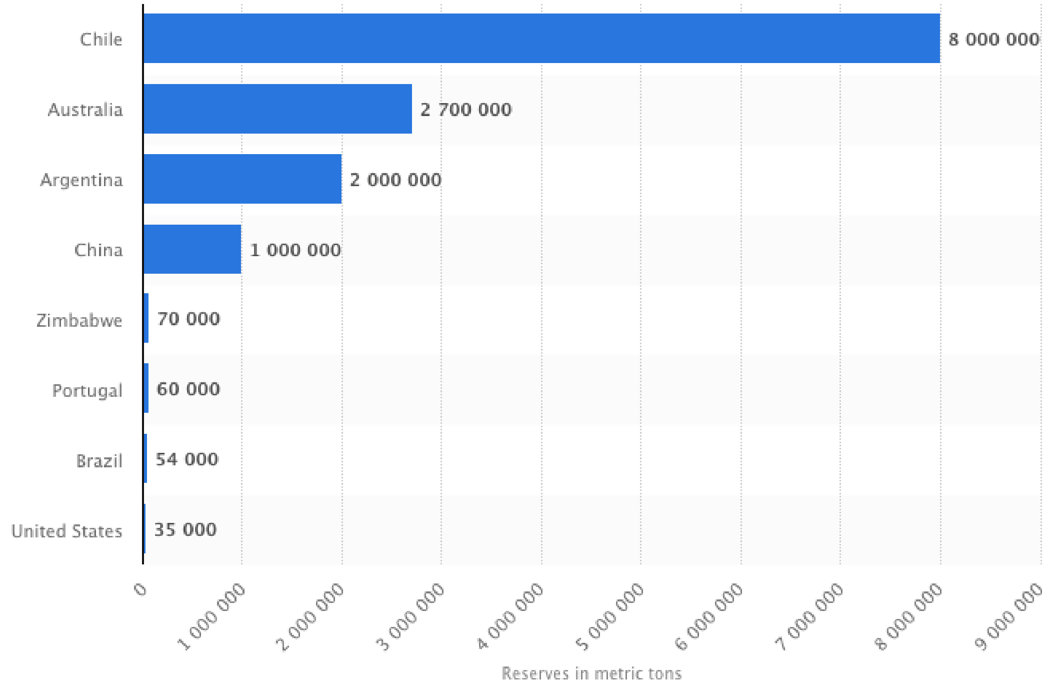


US Energy Storage : Scale

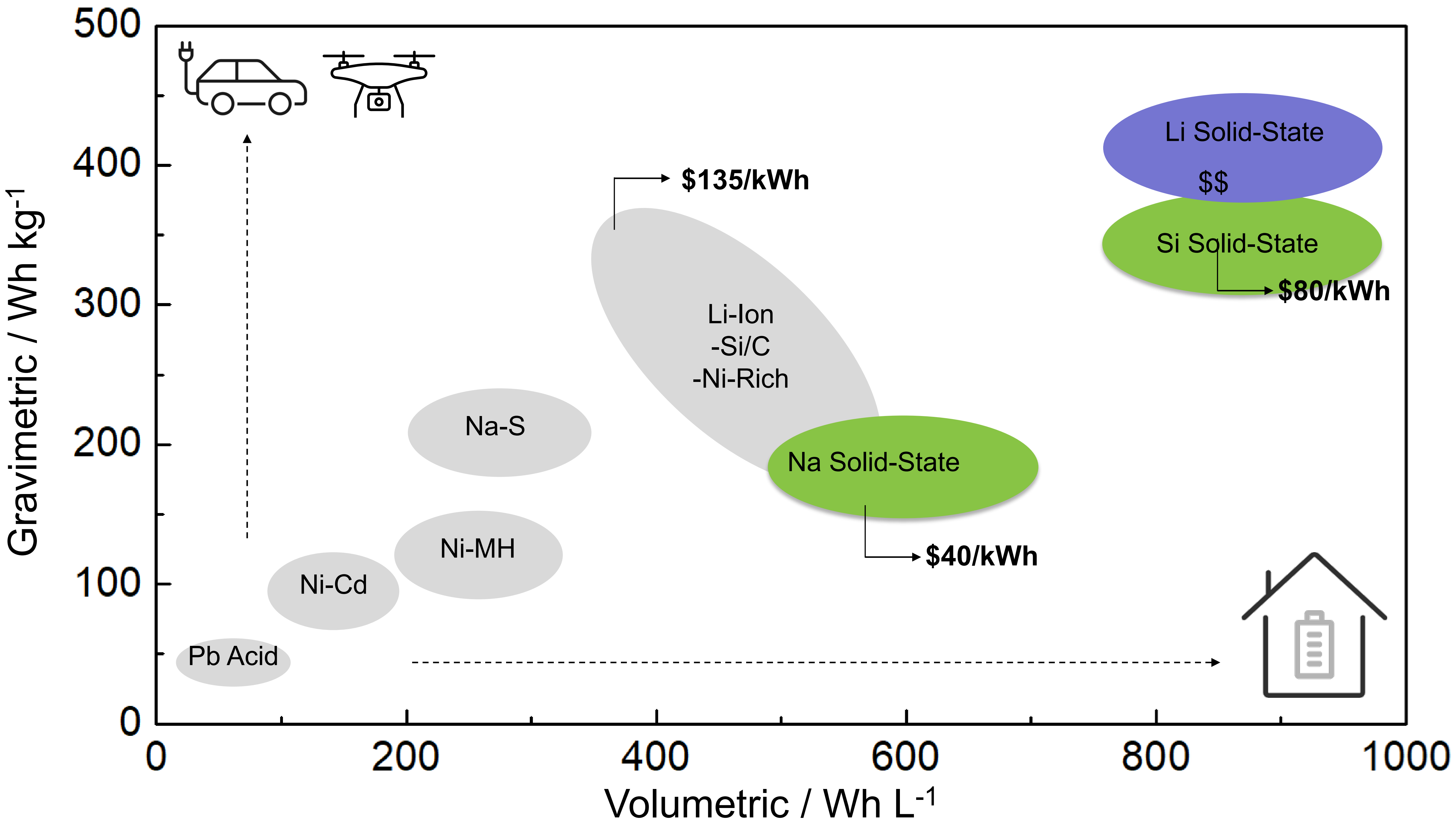
Abundant Sodium in the U.S. is needed to accelerate energy transition

1) **Electrical Grid**
   - Per capita - 12000 kWh / year
   - 400 tera-watt hours if just 10% storage
     → 60 million tons of Li Needed

2) **Vehicles**
   - 17 million / year, if all EVs
   - 0.85 tera-watt hours
     → 0.13 million tons of Li Needed

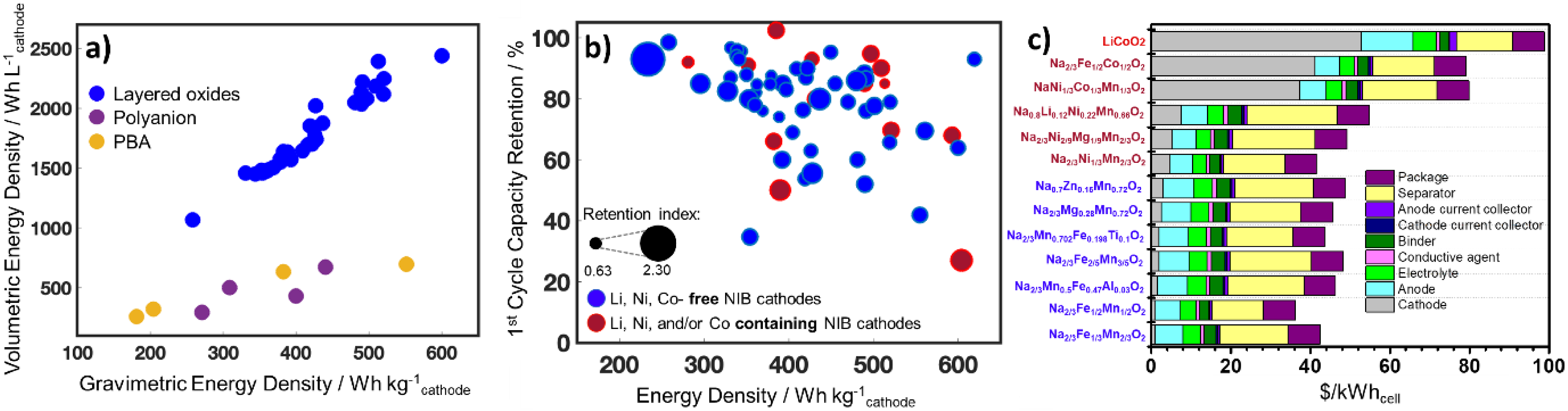


Energy Density Road Map



Laboratory for Energy Storage and Conversion

Avenues to Increase the Energy Density and Lifetime of NIBs



Cathodes:

- Ni, Co-free
- understand the reaction mechanisms
- Interface interactions

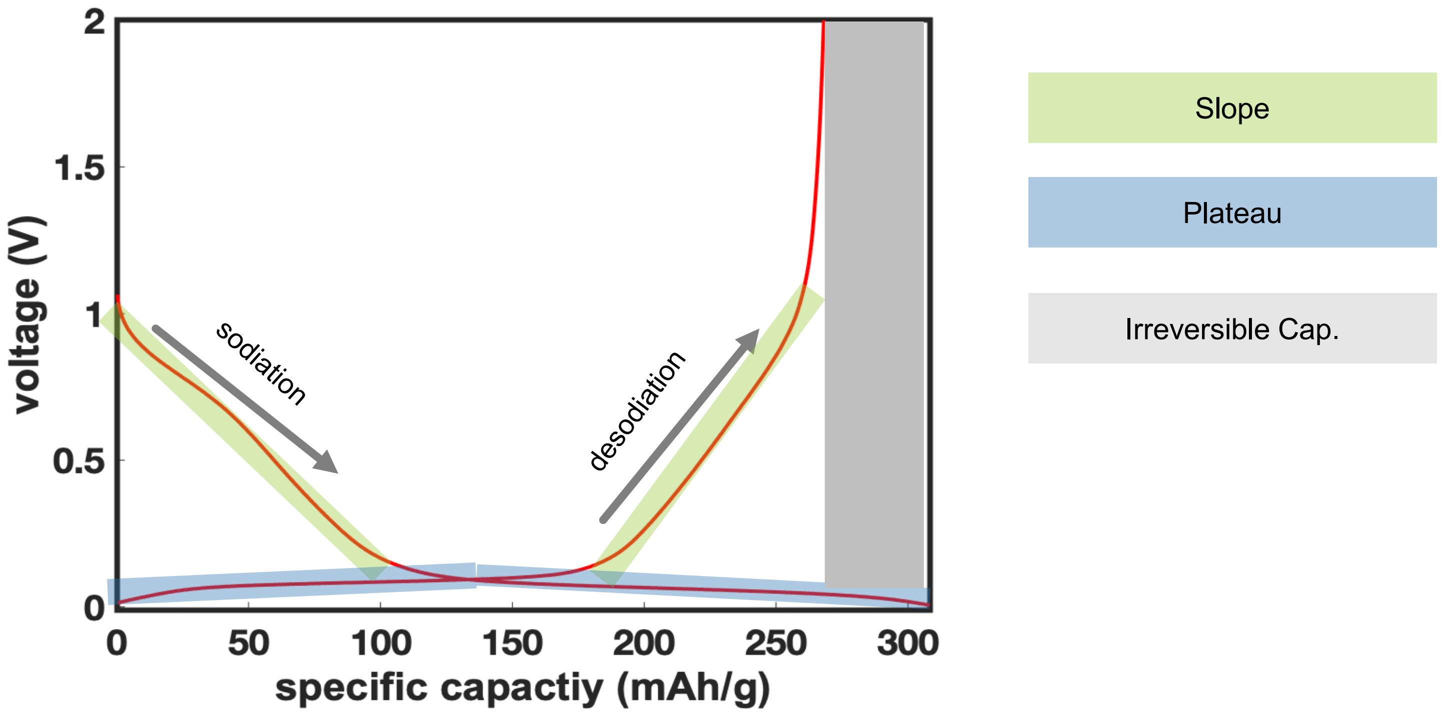
Anodes:

- Electrolyte optimization
- Interface interactions
- Carbon-based materials

H. S. Hirsh et al., Adv. Energy Mater., 10, 1–8 (2020).

Hard Carbon (HC)-Anode Material for NIBs

	Na Metal	HC	Graphite	TiO_2	Sn
Low V	✓	✓	ok	ok	ok
High cap.	✓	✓	X	ok	✓
High ret.	X	✓	✓	X	ok
High CE	X	(✓)	✓	ok	ok



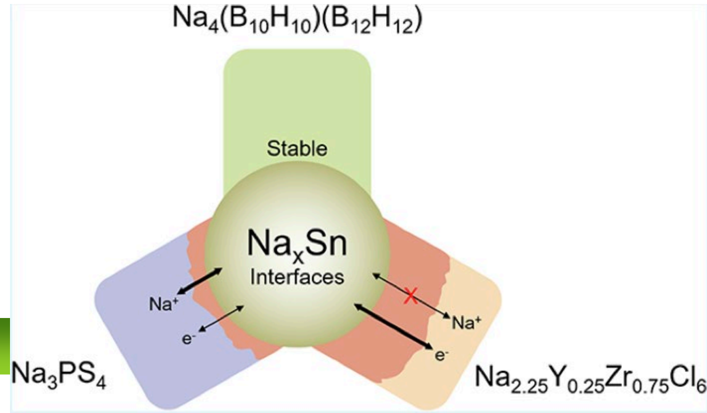
HC is the most promising anode material for liquid NIB full cells

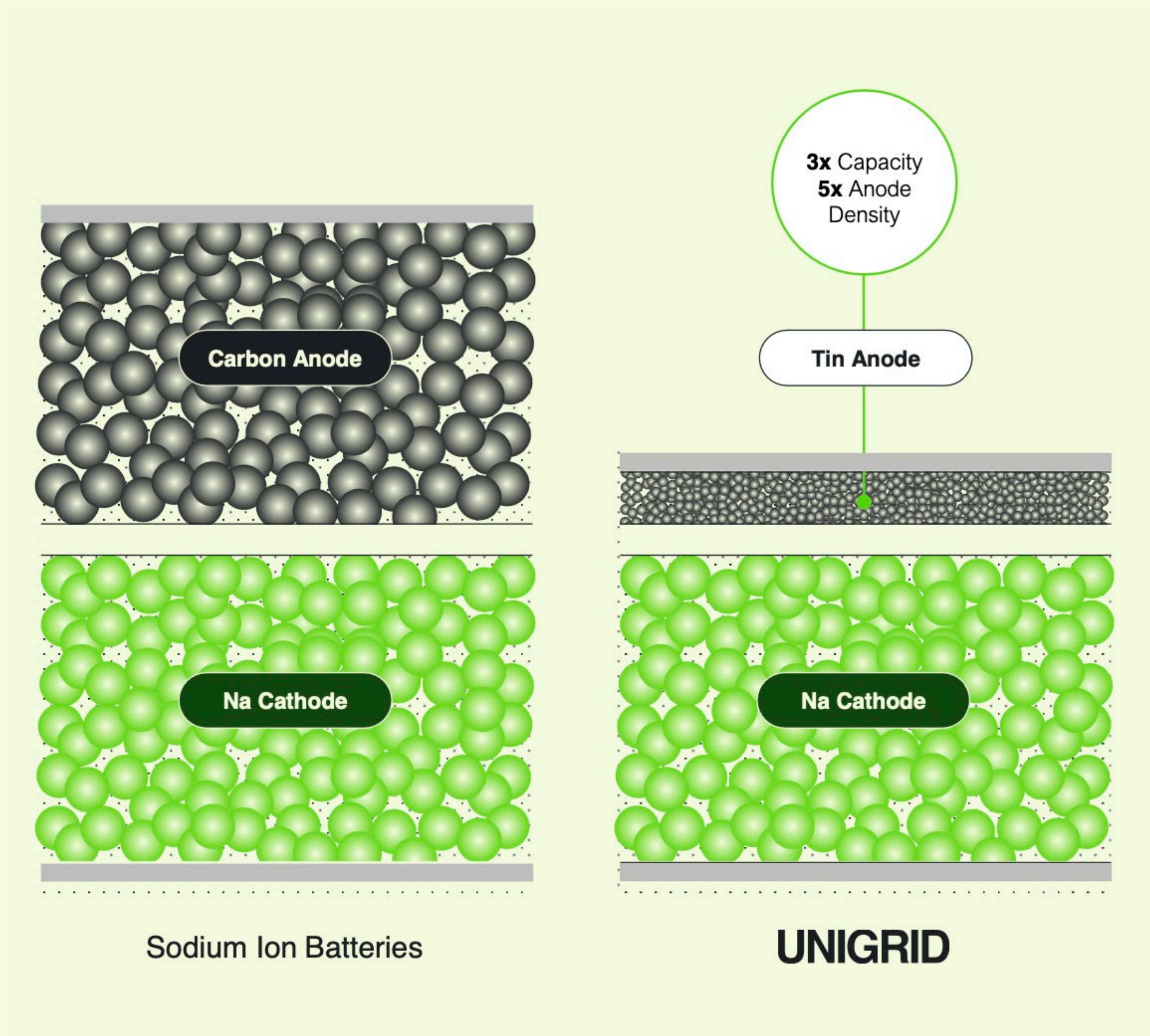
- low voltage → near zero
- high capacity → ~300 mAh/g
- good retention

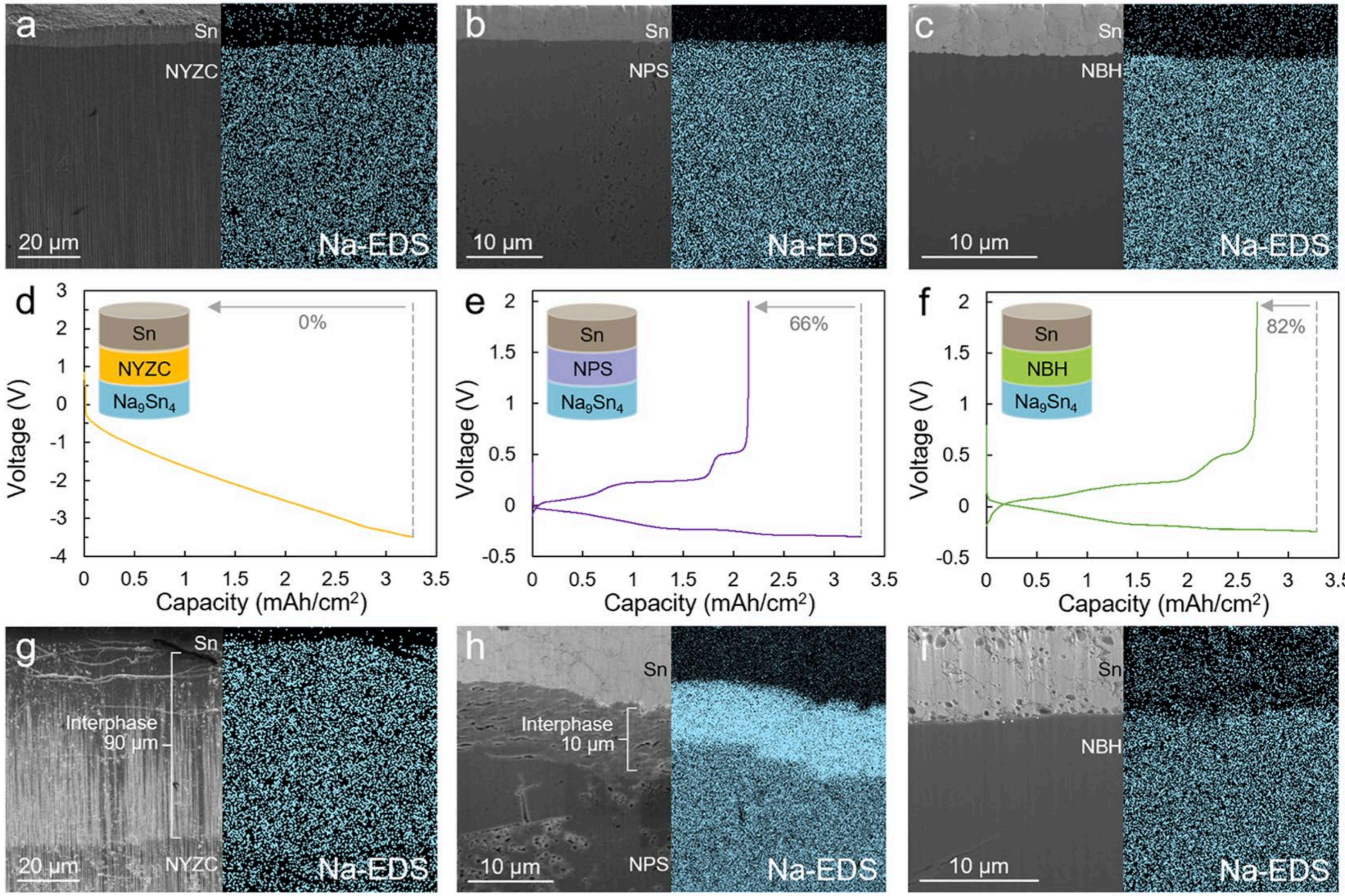
Problems with HC

- low first CE
  - Na trapped in bulk
  - Na used in SEI formation
- poor rate capability
  - slow plateau (de)sodiation processes
  - resistance from SEI

Sn Based Anode Material for NIBs





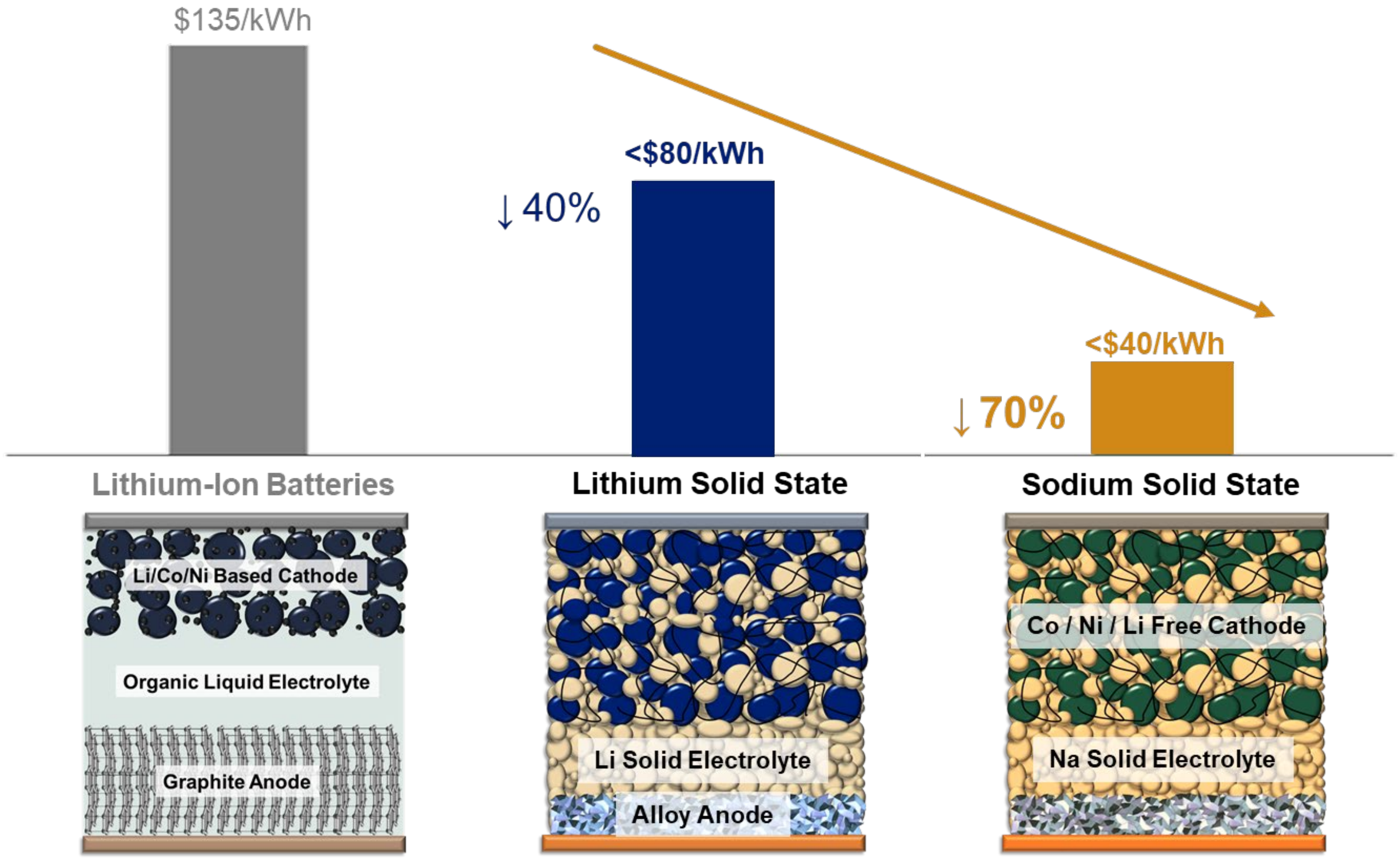


G. Deysher … and Y.S. Meng, ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces 2022, 14, 47706−47715

Data from ANL BatPac

*Prevailing Li_2S based SSE projections

LIB	Unit Price / kg	Material Cost $/kWh	Li-ASSB	Unit Price / kg	Material Cost $/kWh	Na-ASSB	Unit Price / kg	Material Cost $/kWh
Graphite	12.50	10.23	Li-Si Alloy	2.10	0.19	Na-Sn Alloy	16.10	11.50
Electrolyte	12.50	10.13	SSE-Sep	*50.00	12.06	SSE-Sep	0.28	0.09
Separator	160.00	24.00	SSE-Cat	*50.00	14.71	SSE-Cat	1.73	0.49
Aluminum	7.41	2.09	Aluminum	7.41	0.98	Aluminum	7.41	2.38
Copper	13.45	12.55	Copper	13.45	5.90	Copper	Not Required	
Cathode	20.00	30.03	Cathode	17.00	25.01	Cathode	1.51	4.89
Manufacturing	35% of Overall Costs		Manufacturing	25% of Overall Costs		Manufacturing	50% of Overall Costs	
Total	**$135/kWh**		Total	**<$80/kWh**		Total	**<$40/kWh (Target)**	

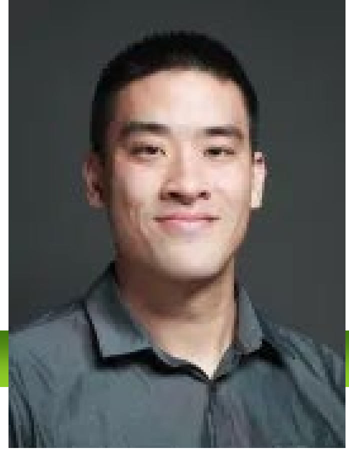


BATTERIES

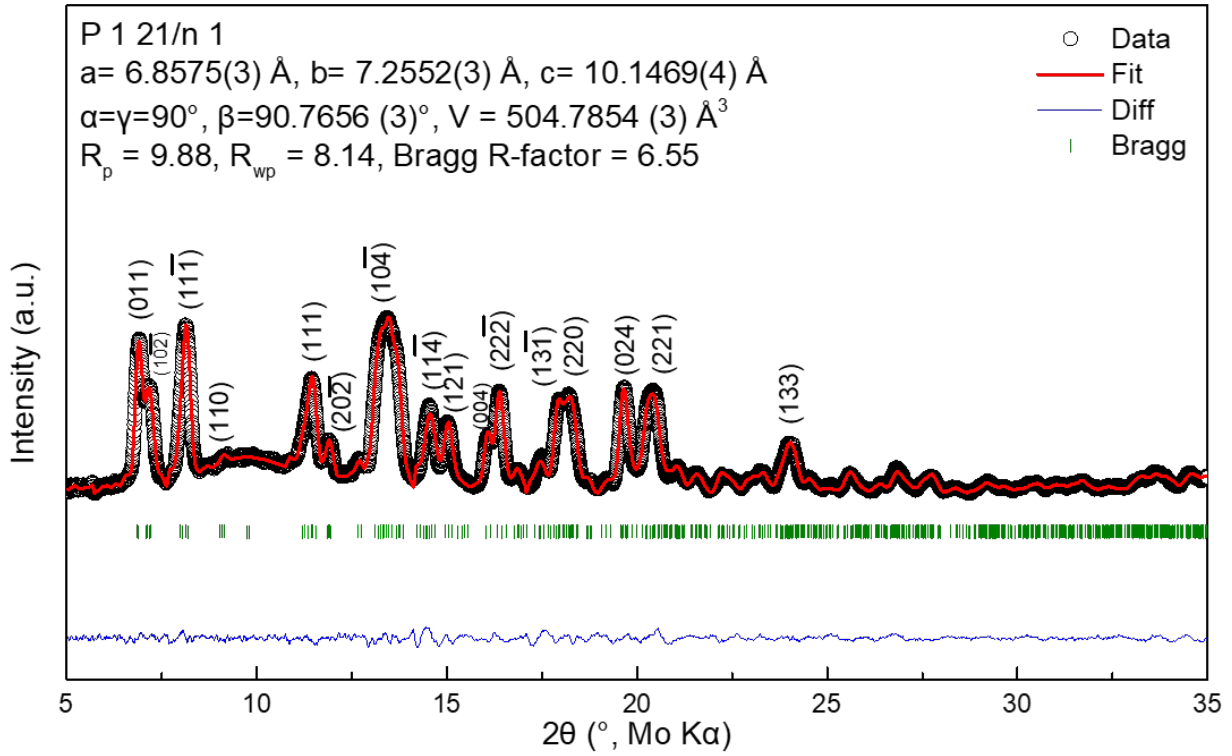
CATL Reveals Sodium-Ion Battery With 160 Wh/kg Energy Density

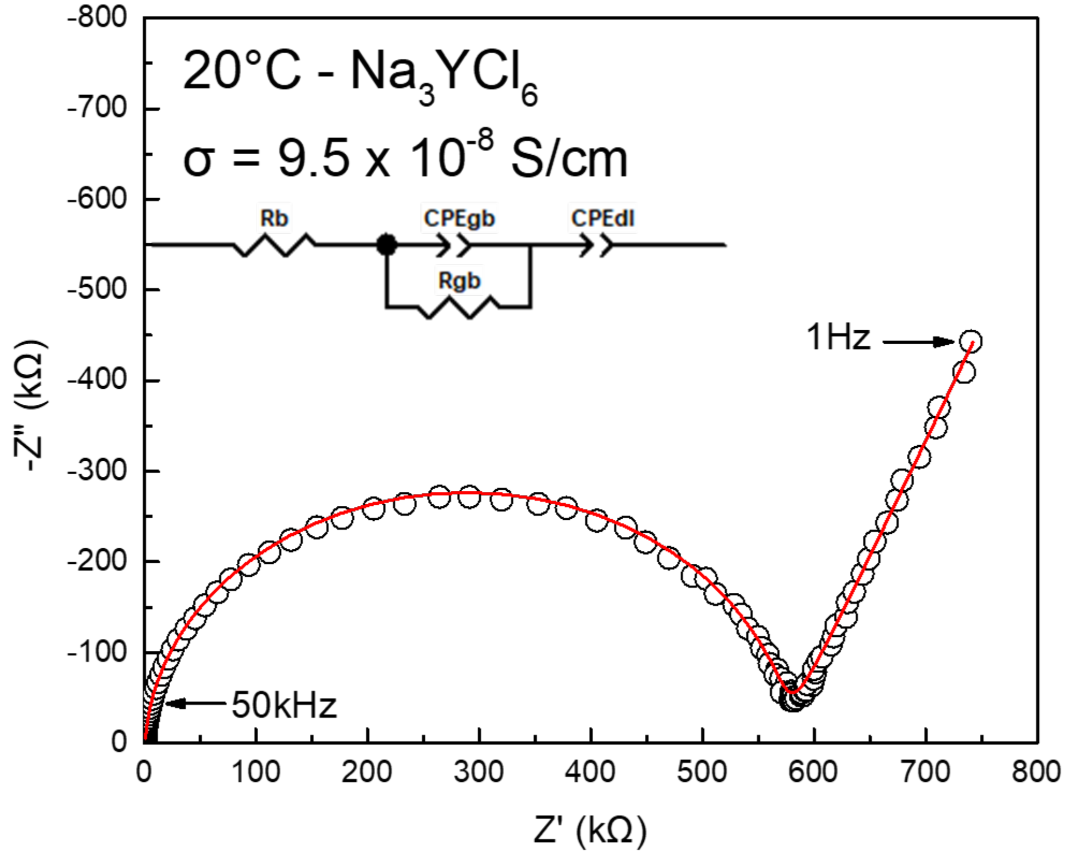
According to Chinese media sources, we can expect the first-generation cells to cost $77 per kWh. With volume production, that figure could drop to below $40 per kWh.

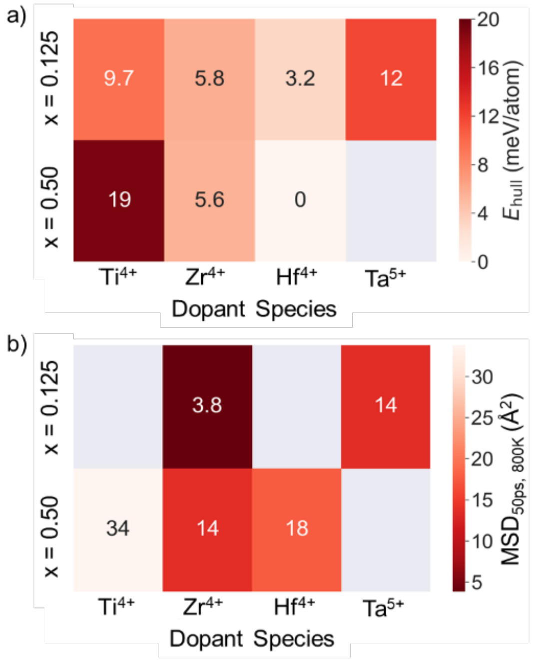
Na-ion Conducting Halides: Na_3YCl_6

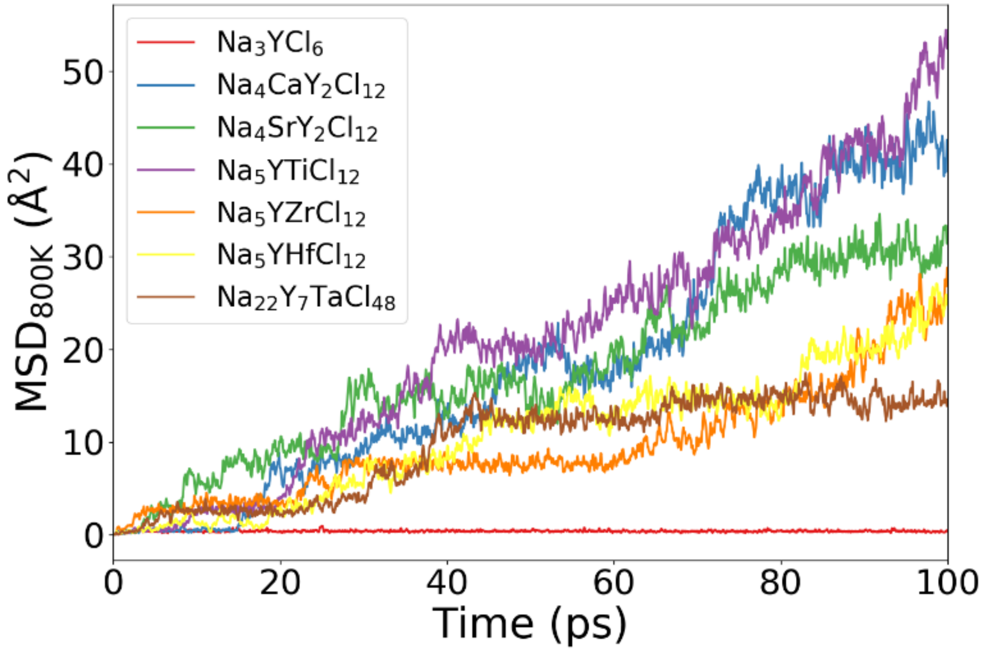


Dr. Erik Wu
UNIGRID CTO





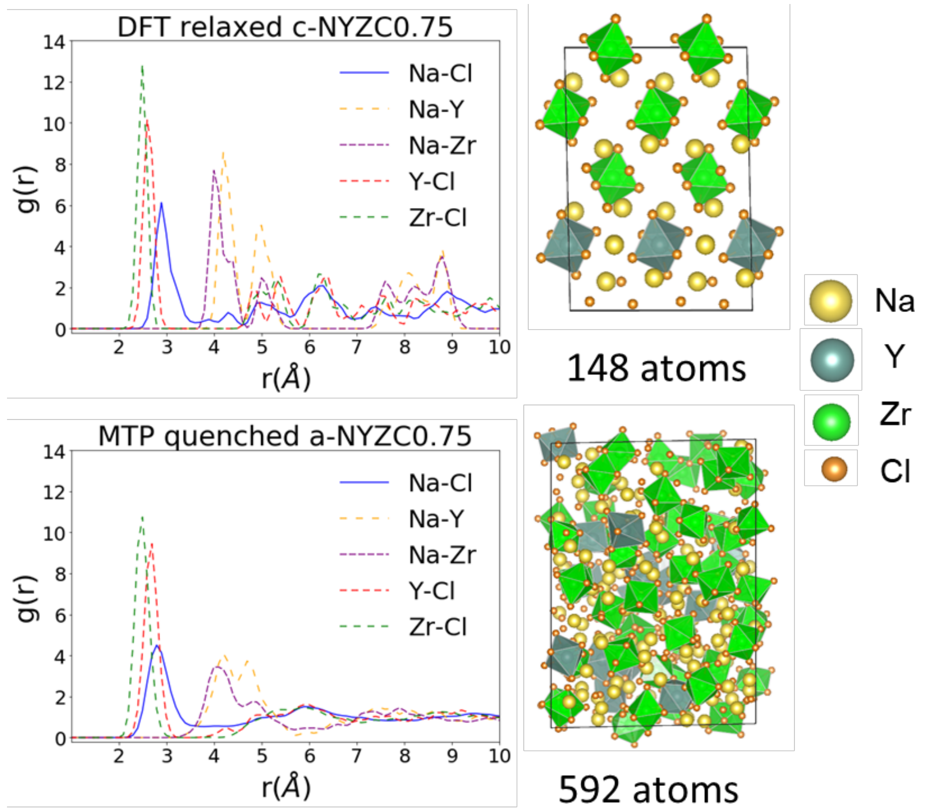


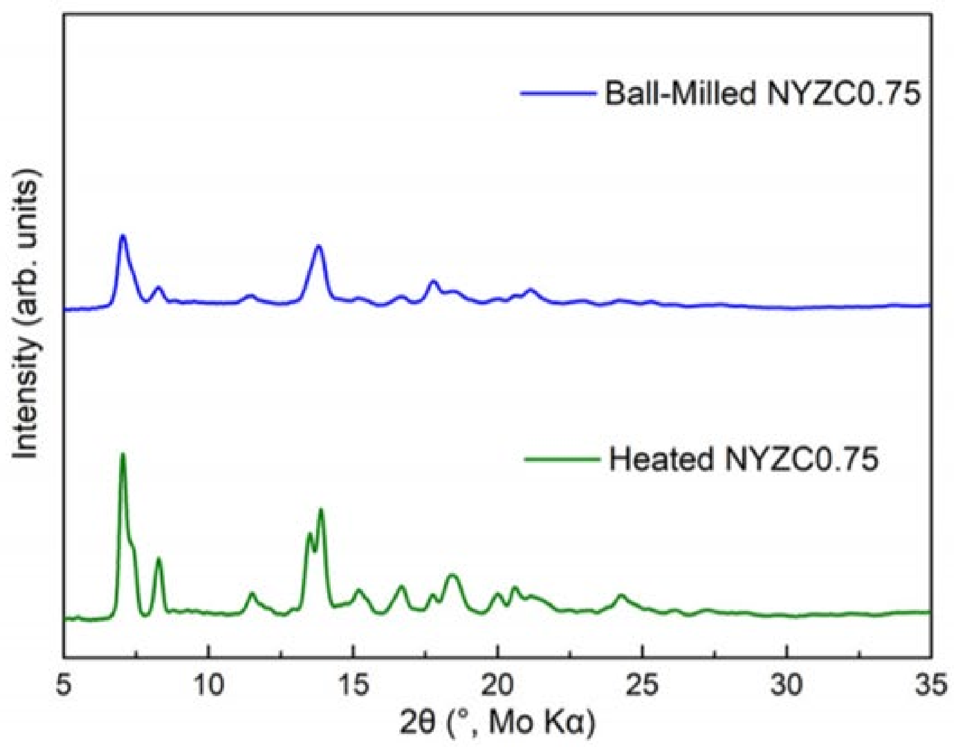


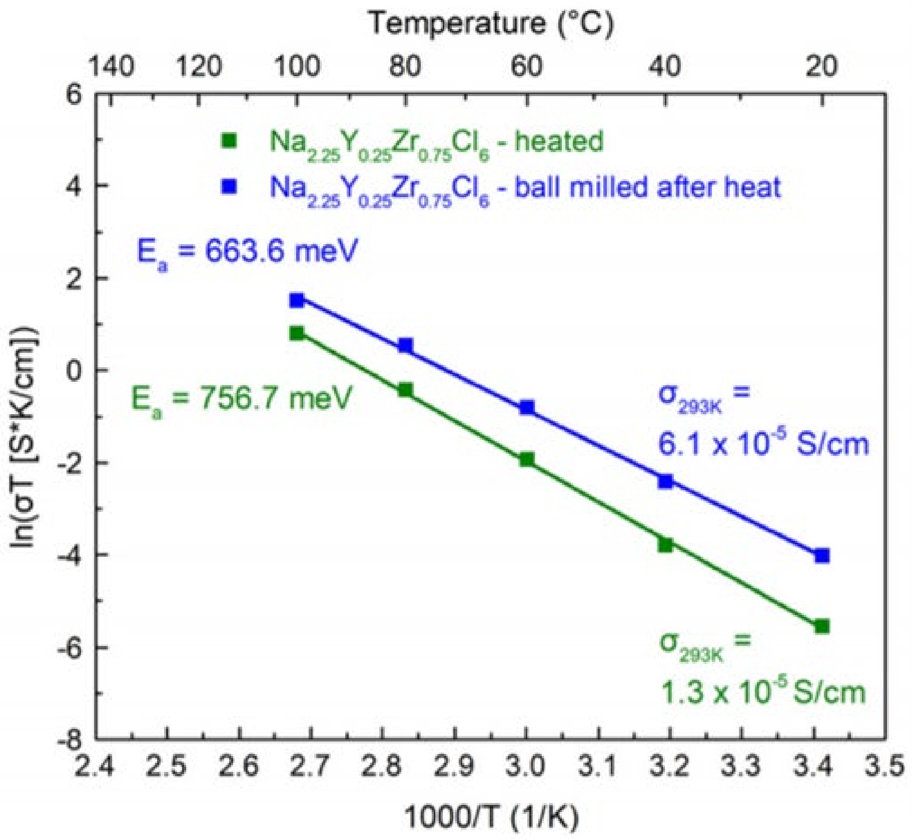
- Aliovalent dopant → MSD increases
- Zr^{4+} selected (phase stability)
  → $Na_{3-x}Y_{1-x}\mathbf{Zr}_xCl_6$ (NYZCx)

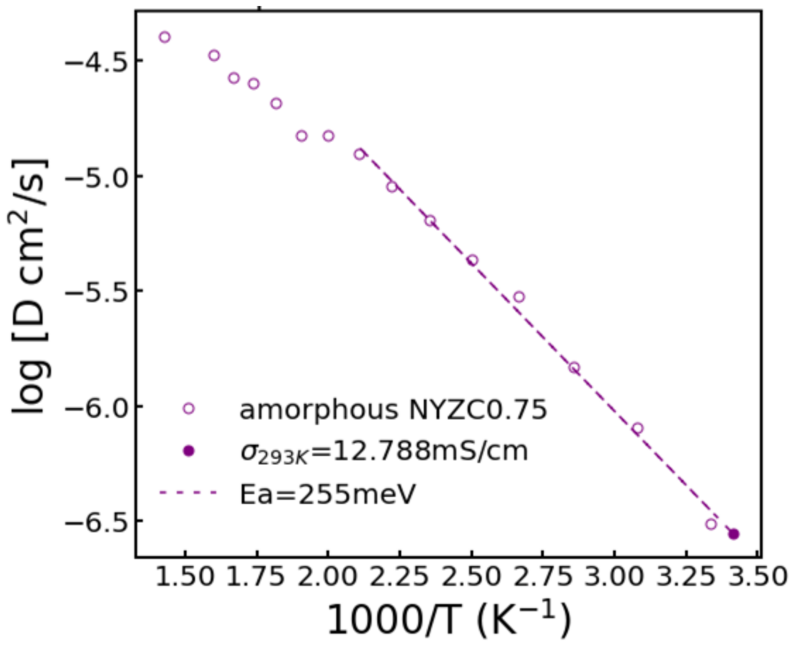
Wu, E. et al., Nat Commun. 12, 1256 (2021).

NYZC0.75: Influence of Crystallinity









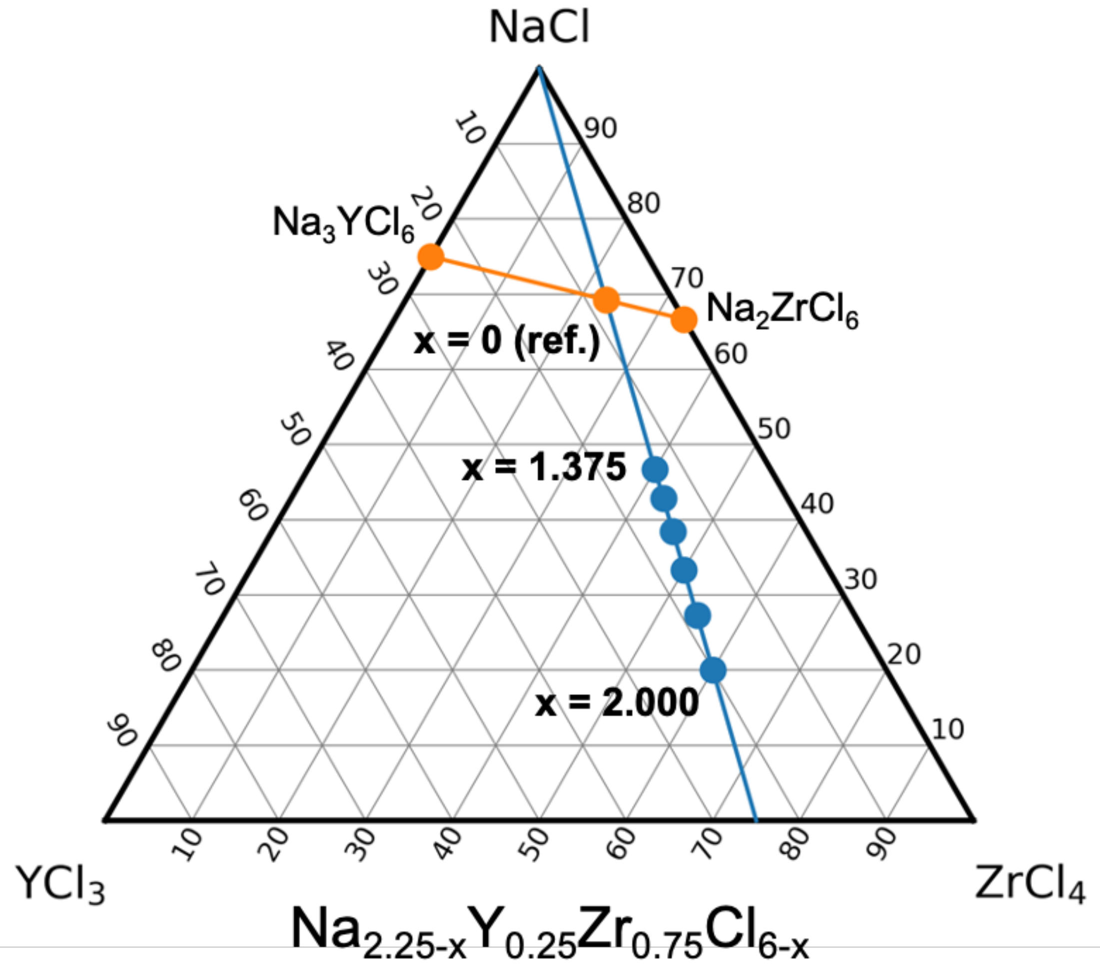
- Computation suggests amorphous NYZC has higher ionic conductivity
- Ball milling efficient at reducing the crystallinity of NYZC0.75
- Ball-milling: $\boldsymbol{\sigma_i}$ x5 at RT

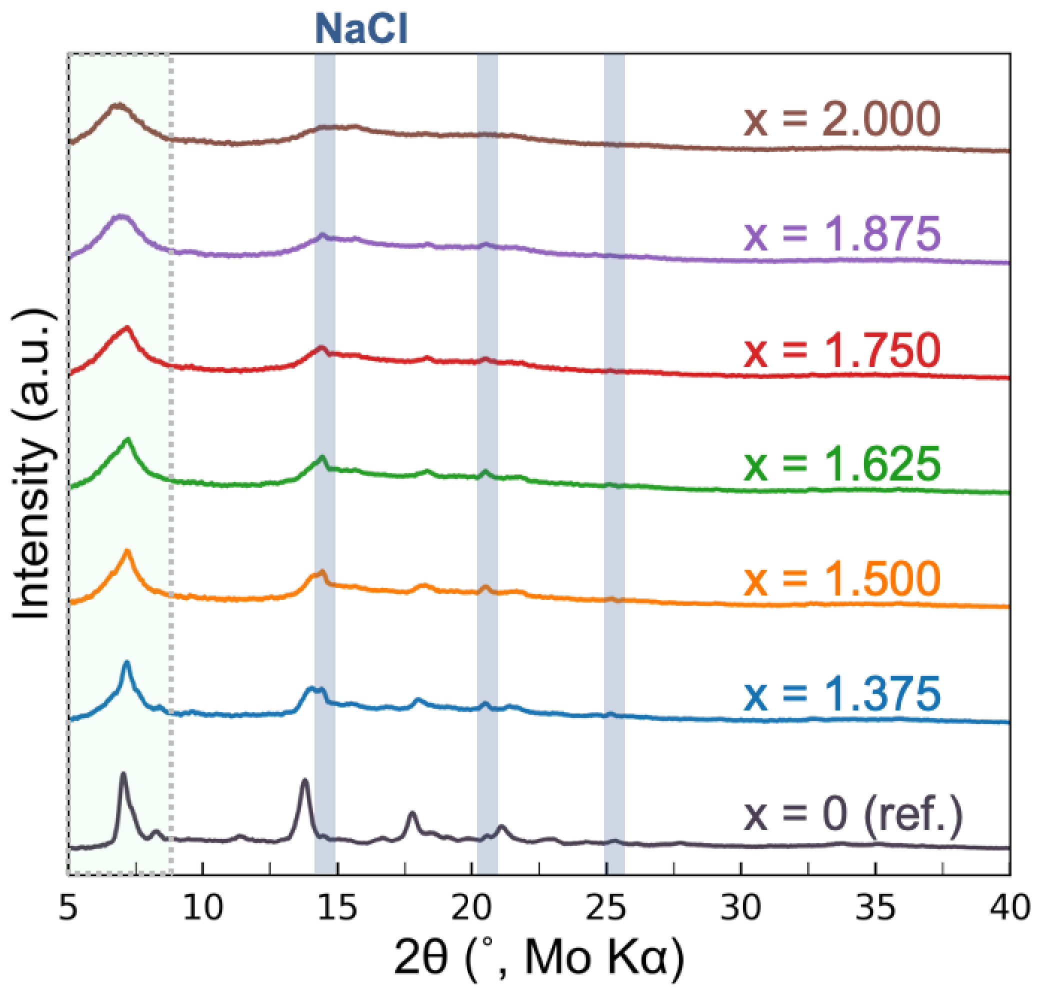
Wu, E. et al., Nat Commun. 12, 1256 (2021).

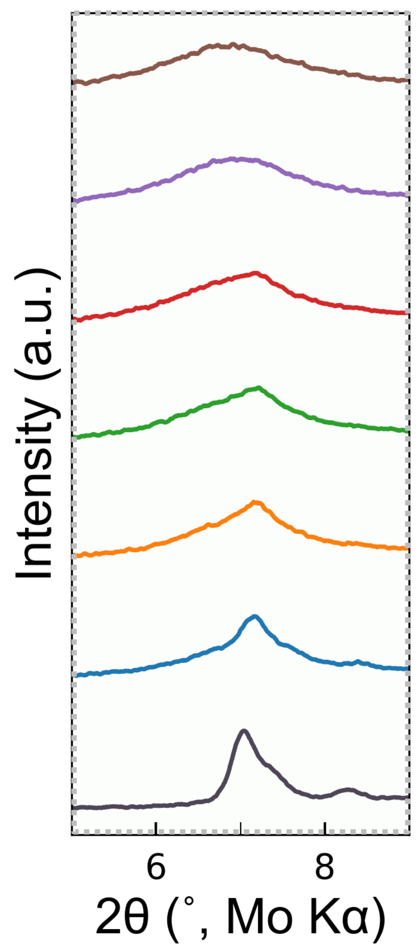
Composition and Crystallinity

Phil Ridley

NaCl-YCl_3-$ZrCl_4$ Compositions





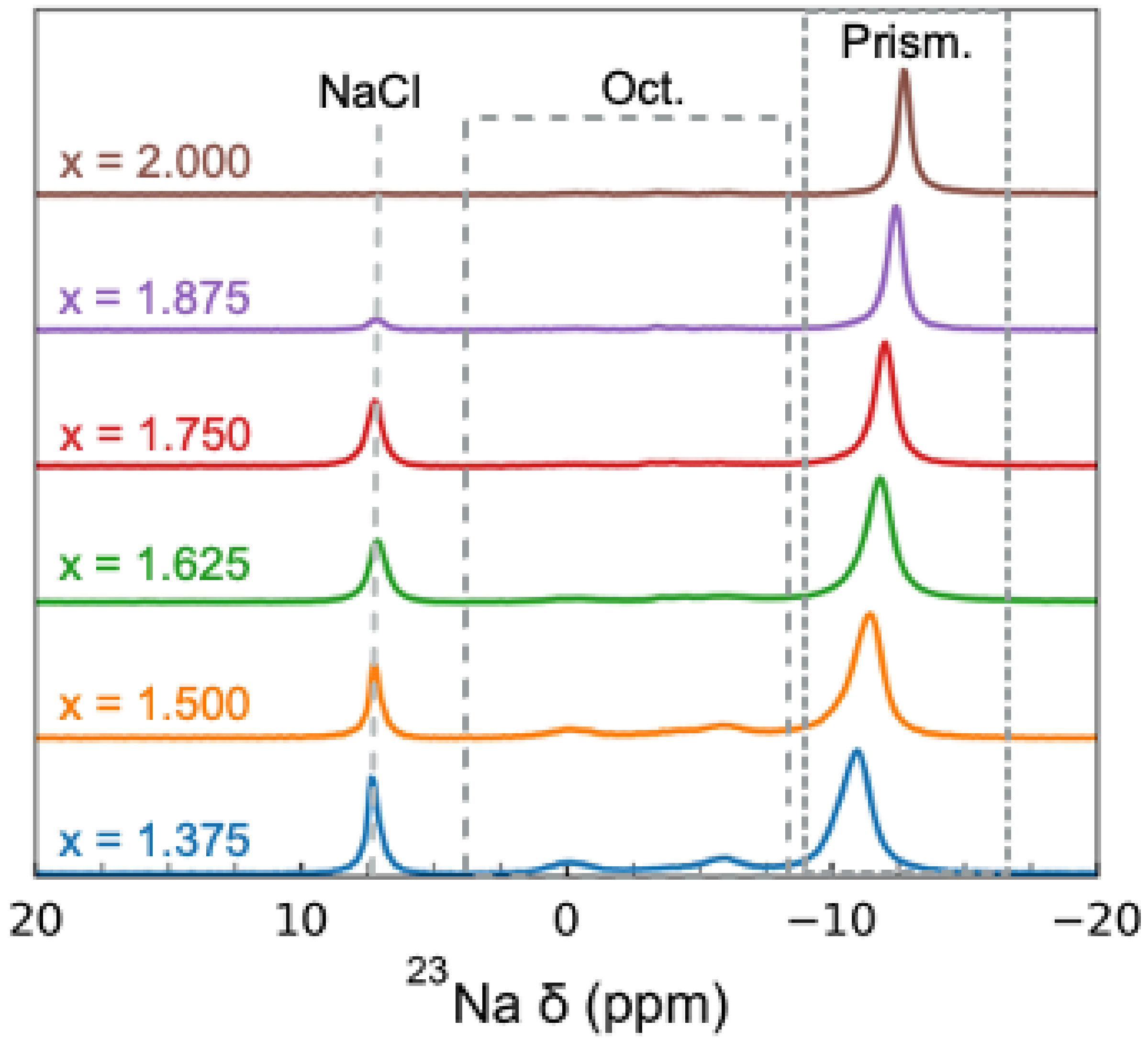


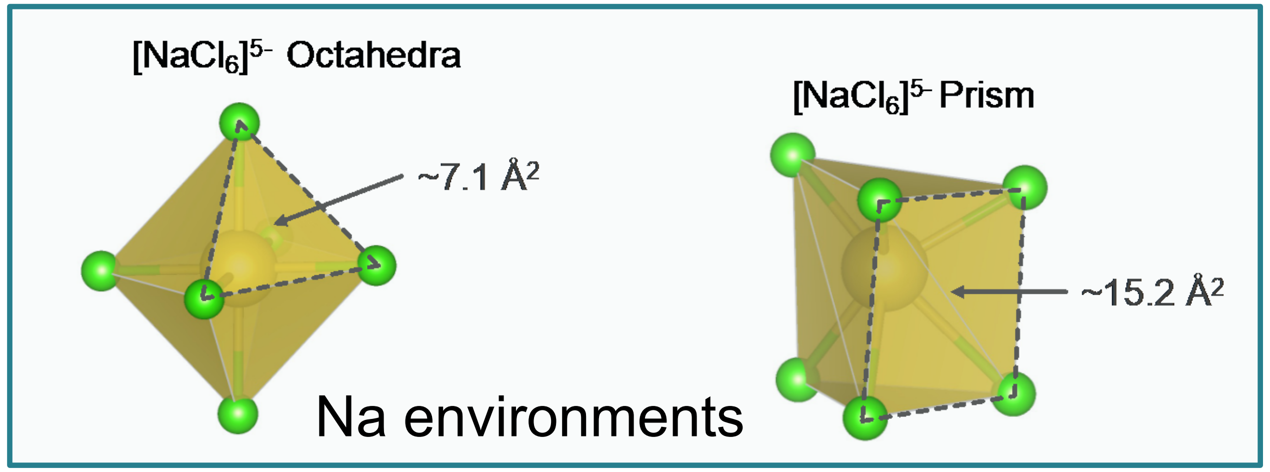
- Low NaCl molar contents → small domains and X-ray amorphous products

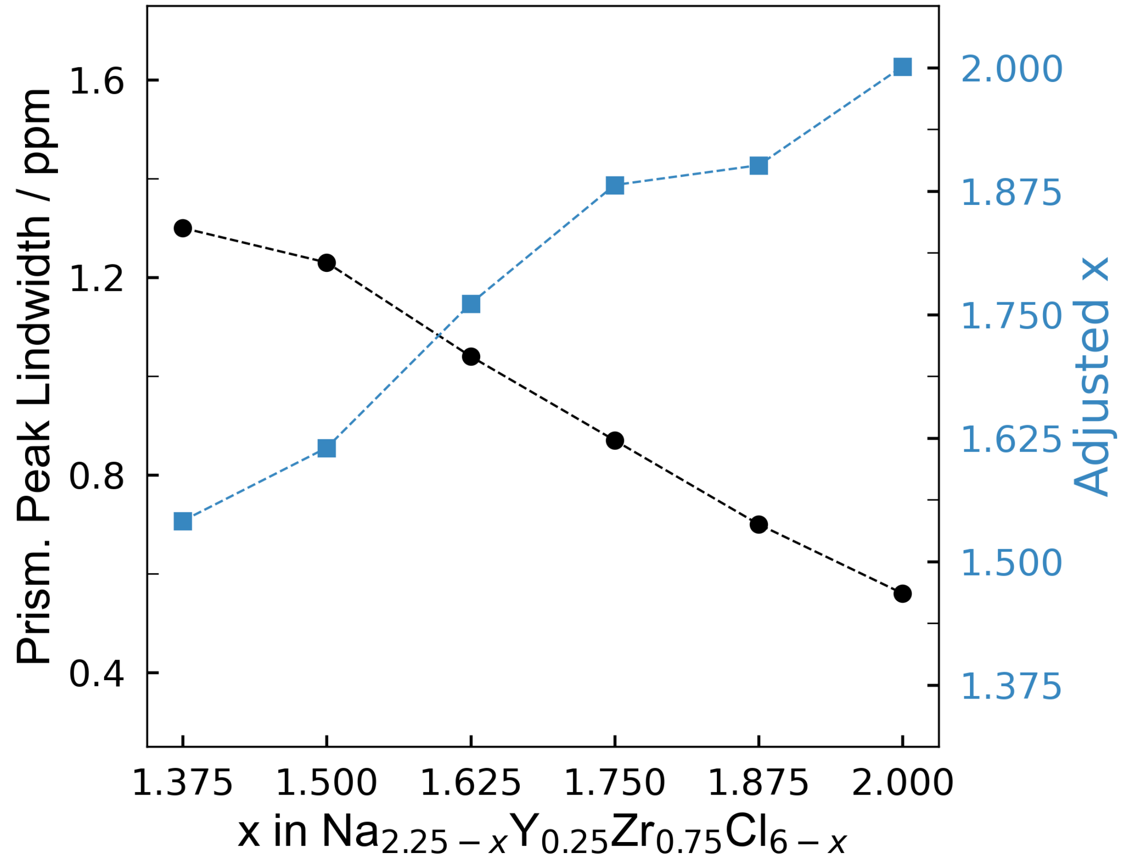
Scherrer Equation:

$$\tau = \frac{K\lambda}{\beta \cos\theta}$$

Local Na Environment revealed by SS-NMR



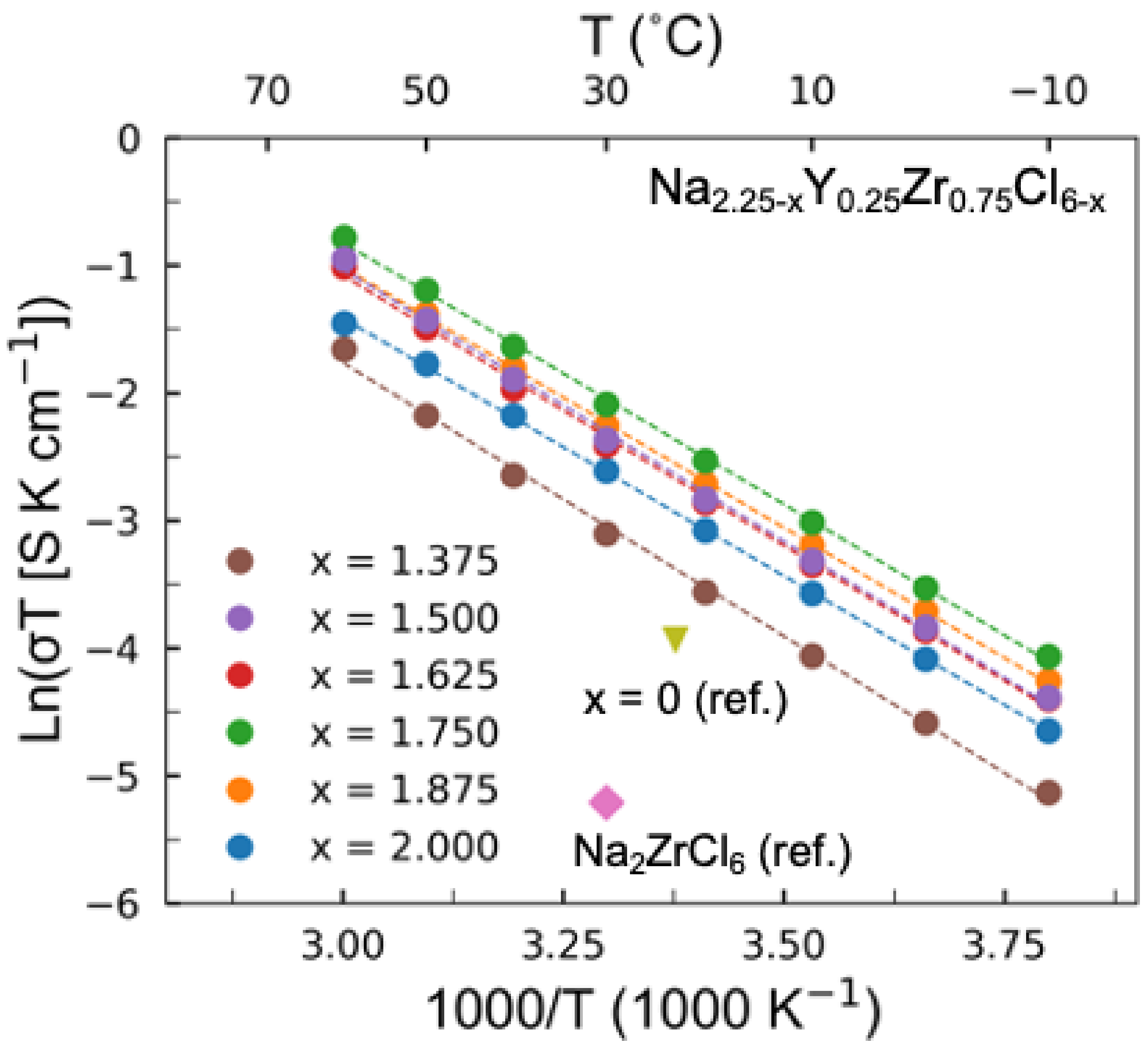


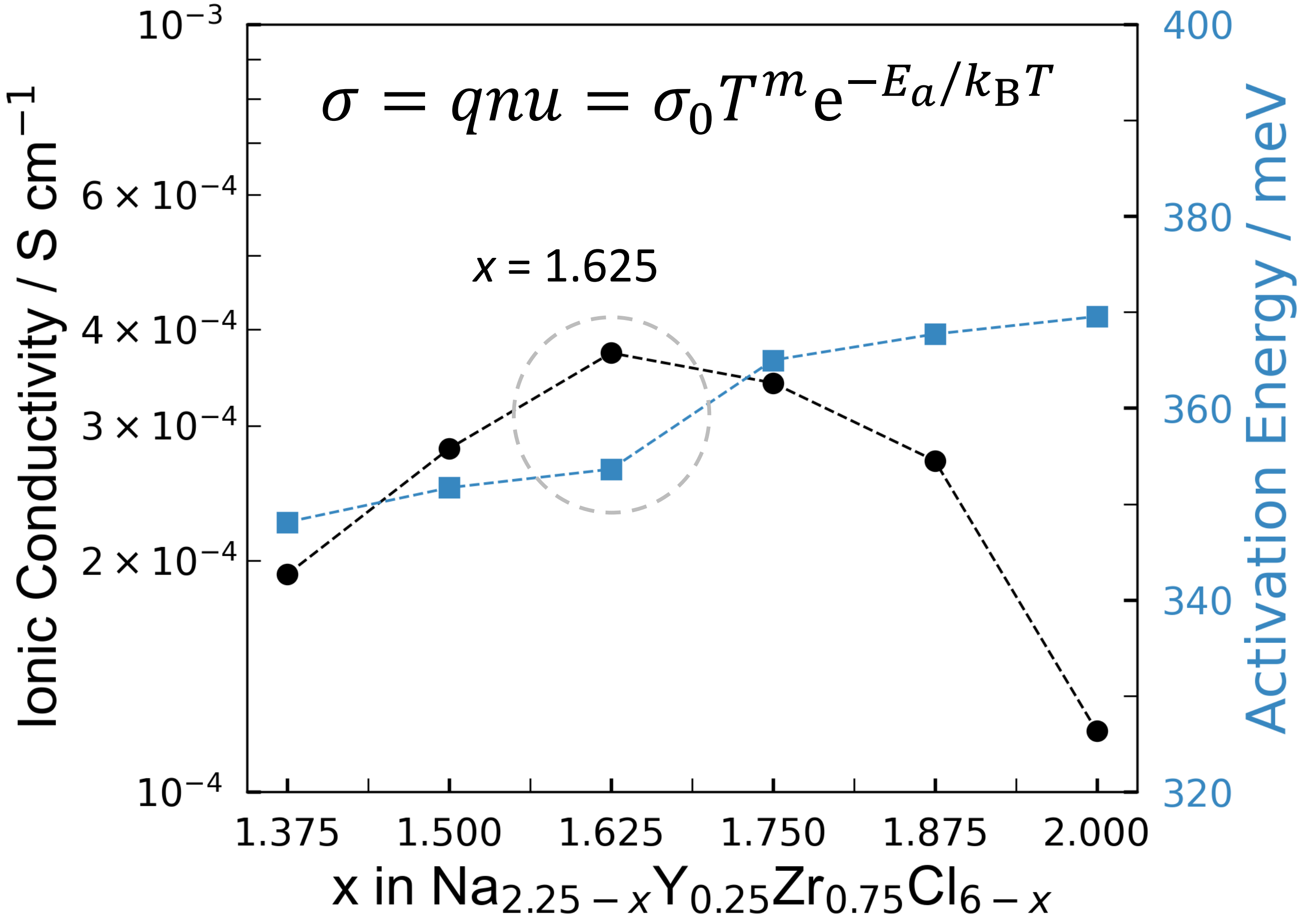


- Prism. Na environments filled first then oct.
- fast exchange between prism. environments observed

Sebti, E. *et al. Journal of Materials Chemistry A* **10**, 21565–21578 (2022).

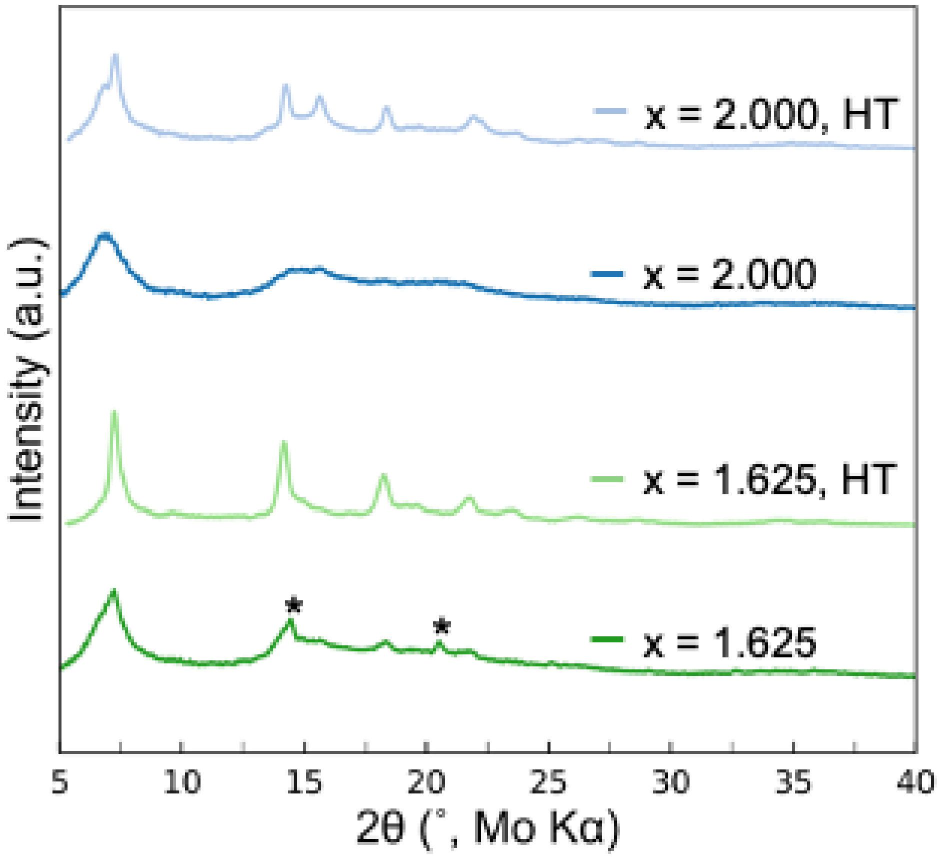
Ionic Conductivity and Activation Energy



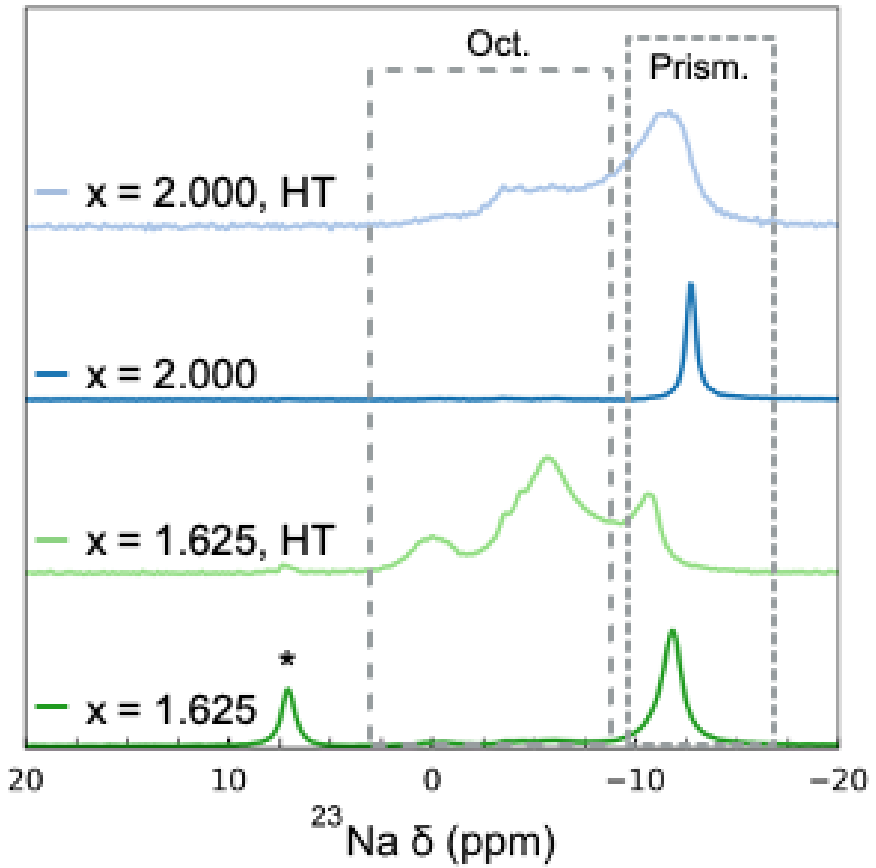


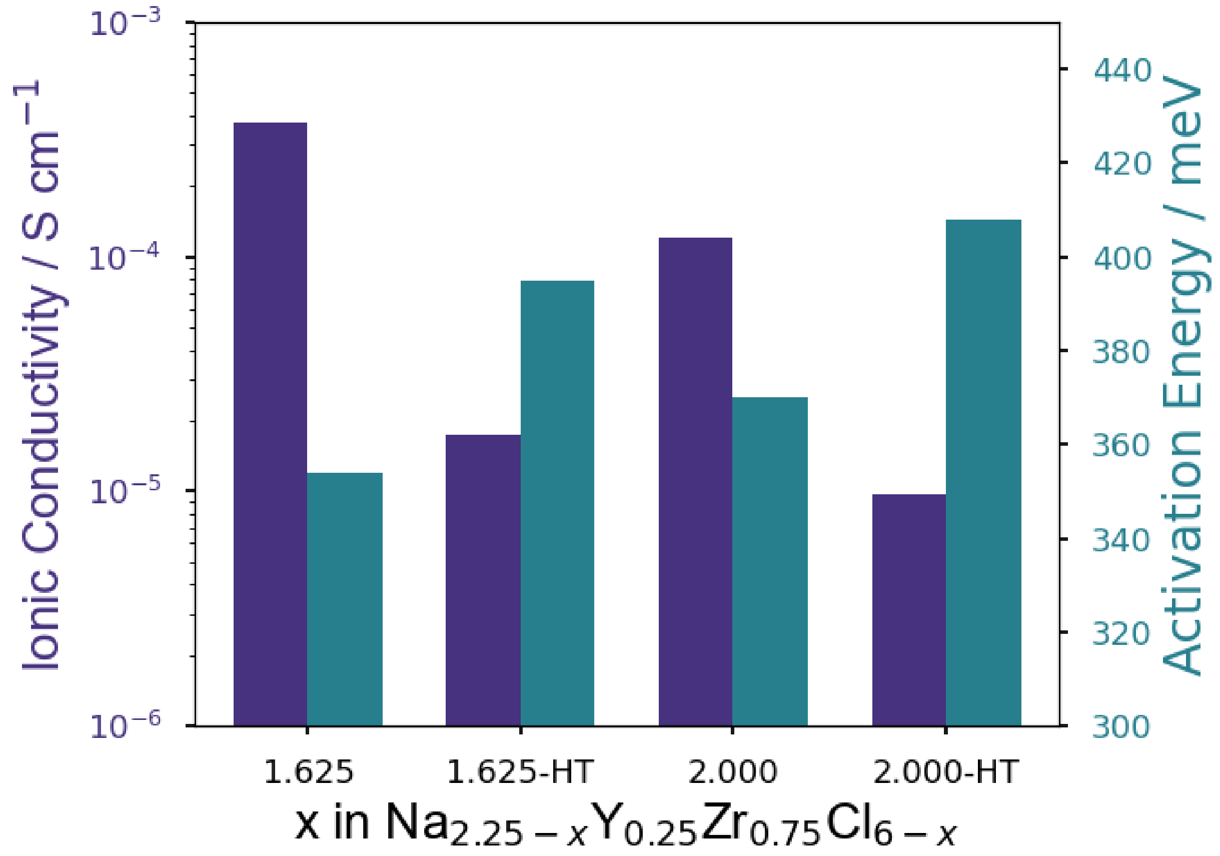
- Low activation energies (340 – 370 meV) observed in all samples
- *x* = 1.625 composition shows optimal balancing between Na^+ per unit volume and their mobility

Crystallinity and Ionic Conductivity



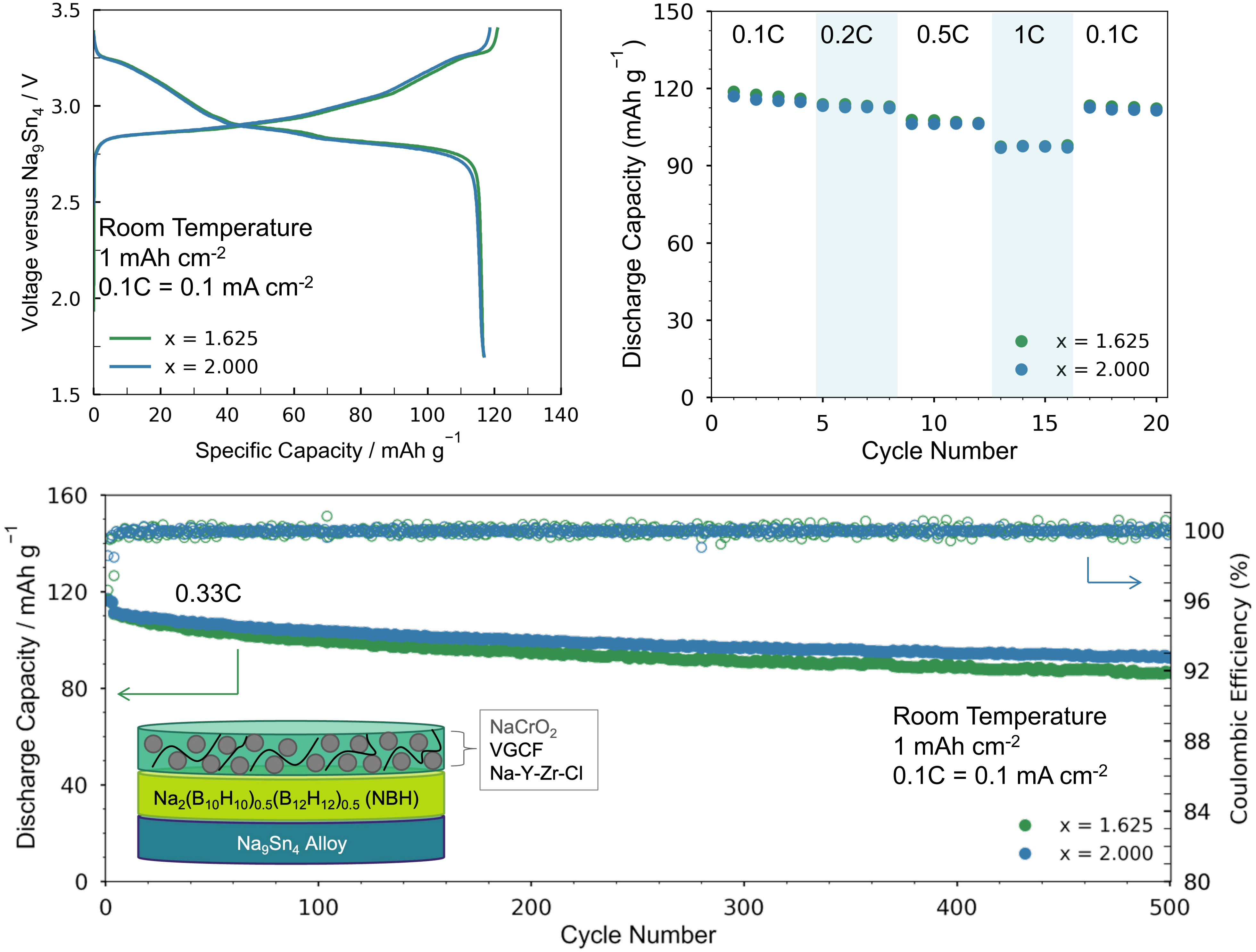
asterisk corresponds to NaCl





- ➢ Heat-treatment induced crystallization of both compositions and redistribution of local Na environments
- ➢ Consequently, lower ionic conductivity and increased activation energy

Room Temperature Battery Performance



- *Higher conductivity →* **improved capacity utilization** at room temperature
- Owed to *reduced crystallinity and occupancy of*

Submitted, under review (archived): 10.26434/chemrxiv-2022-x7llq)

Collaborators and Funding

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Dr. Raphaële Clément (UCSB)

National Science Foundation

DMREF (2014-2016)

PFI (2020- now)

University Research Program

Since 2019