## Lecture 12 - Ionics applications 1: Models of Ionic Conduction in Chalcogenide Glasses

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## Ion Conduction in Glass

Ion motion (conduction) is typically very limited in oxide glasses



Lecture 12: Models of Ionic Conduction in Glass

## Fast Ion Conduction in Glass



## Li-ion Battery: The Most Common Li battery

C<sub>6</sub> is a common anode material for Li-ion batteries

The maximum capacity of graphite (LiC<sub>6</sub>):  $\sim$ 350Ah/kg

Li: ~ 4000 Ah/kg

C<sub>6</sub> has good cycle-life,

But low capacity for new portable devices



## Anode and Cathode Combinations Determine the Energy Density of Lithium Batteries



J.M. Tarascon, M. Armand, Nature, 414, 15 (2001) 359

#### Lithium Dendrite Formation in Li ion Batteries



Non-epitaxial deposition of lithium after each cycle leads to the growth of uneven "fingers" or dendrites of lithium

Internal dendrites result in short circuits of the battery – heat and fire

M. Dolle et al. Electrochemical and Solid-State Letters, 5(12) (2002)A286

## Fast Ion Conduction in Glass

- Can highly conducting glasses be used in Lithium batteries
  - □ To increase safety?
    - By mitigating lithium dendrite formation
  - To increase energy density?
    - By enabling lithium metal (or similar high activity) anodes
  - To reduce cost?
    - By simplifying design and using lower cost materials

Fast Ion (Li<sup>+</sup>) Conducting Sulfide Glasses-Ionic Chalcogenide Glasses Charge Compensated Chalcogenide Glasses

## Typical glass compositions Lithium salt + + glass former + additives

Lithium modifier





Mobile cations

Glass structure

Chemical/mechanical/ electrochemical durability

□ Lil + Li<sub>2</sub>S + SiS<sub>2</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>, GeS<sub>2</sub> ... □ Lil + Li<sub>2</sub>S + GeS<sub>2</sub>+ Ga<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>, La<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>, ZrS<sub>2</sub>...

## Example: Structures of $xLi_2S + (1-x)GeS_2$ Glasses



Lecture 12: Models of Ionic Conduction in Glass

Arrhenius Ionic Conductivity



Raman Spectra of NaI doped glasses



Usually, alkali iodide (MI) resides in the interstitials of glass structure network and causes no change in the glass network structure Relation of glass structure to ionic conduction



## Ionic Conduction in Glass

• σ = neZμ

- N is the number density
- eZ is the charge, +1 most of the time
- $\square$   $\mu$  is the mobility

#### Estimation:

- What are the units of n?
- What is the approximate magnitude of n for a glass?
- What are the units of eZ?
- What is it magnitude for Li+?
- What are the units of  $\mu$ ?

- Calculation:
- Take:
  - □ n ~ 10<sup>22</sup> M<sup>+</sup>/cm<sup>3</sup>
  - A-M Universities...
  - $\Box \sigma \sim 10^{-9} (\Omega \text{ cm})^{-1}$  Oxide glass
  - What is  $\mu$ ?
  - N-Z Universities...
  - $\Box \sigma \sim 10^{-3} (\Omega \text{cm})^{-1}$  Sulfide glass
  - What is  $\mu$ ?
- Compare Si
  - What is the conductivity of a typical n doped Si?
  - What is μ?

## DC ion conductivity in glass

- Arrhenius temperature dependence
- $xLi_2O + (1-x)P_2O_5$
- Creation of nonbridging oxygens
- "Mobile" lithium ions
- The higher the concentration of Li<sub>2</sub>O, the higher the conductivity
  - Lower resistivity
- Activation energy decreases with Li<sub>2</sub>O content



S. Martin, C.A. Angell JNCS '83

Chalcogenide Glasses have significantly higher conductivities

#### Salt doped lithium phosphate and thiophosphate glasses



Relation of Glass Structure to Ionic Conduction



Mobility and Number Dependence of the Conductivity

$$\sigma(T) = n(T)eZ_c \mu(T) = \frac{\sigma_0}{T} \exp\left(\frac{-\Delta E_{act}}{RT}\right)$$

$$n(T) = n_o \exp\left(\frac{-\Delta E_c}{RT}\right)$$

$$\mu(T) = \frac{\mu_0}{T} \exp\left(\frac{-\Delta E_s}{RT}\right)$$

$$\sigma(T) = \frac{Z_c e n_0 \mu_0}{T} \exp\left(\frac{-\left(\Delta E_c + \Delta E_s\right)}{RT}\right)$$

Question: What are the magnitudes of  $\Delta E_{S(M)}$  and  $\Delta E_C$ ?

#### Short Range Order Models

- Anderson-Stuart Model
- Assignment of Coulombic and Strain energy terms,  $\Delta E_{c} + \Delta E_{s}$
- "Creation" or Concentration versus Migration energy terms,  $\Delta E_{c} + \Delta E_{s}$
- Coulomb energy term,  $\Delta E_{c}$  attractive force between cation and anion

$$\approx \frac{C_{struct.}}{\varepsilon_{\infty}} \left[ \frac{-Z_c Z_a e^2}{\lambda/2} - \frac{-Z_c Z_a e^2}{(r_c + r_a)} \right] = \frac{C_{struct.} Z_c Z_a e^2}{\varepsilon_{\infty}} \left[ \frac{1}{(r_c + r_a)} - \frac{2}{\lambda} \right]$$

- For Li<sup>+</sup> in a oxide and sulfide glass
- Homework, Take  $C_{struct} / \epsilon_{\infty} \sim 1$
- What are the approximate values of  $r_c$ ,  $r_d$ , and  $\lambda$ ?
- What is the approximate magnitude of  $\Delta E_C$ ?

Short Range Order Models

- Strain energy term  $\Delta E_s$
- "Work" required to "dilate" the network so large cations can migrate



$$\Delta E_{s} = \pi G (r_{c} - r_{d})^{2} \lambda / 2$$

- G Shear modulus
- r<sub>c</sub> Cation radius
- r<sub>d</sub> Interstitial site radius
  - Jump distance

- For Li<sup>+</sup> in an oxide and sulfide glass
- Homework
- What are the approximate values of  $r_c$ ,  $r_d$ , and  $\lambda$ ?
- What is the approximate magnitude of  $\Delta E_s$ ?

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# Ion Conduction in Glass: Coulombically or Structurally Constrained?

- Oxide glasses,  $\Delta E_{act}$  ~100 kcal/mole
- Sulfide glasses,  $\Delta E_{act} \sim 10$  kcal/mole
- $\Delta E_{act} = \Delta E_s + \Delta E_c$
- Are alkali cations coulombically,  $\Delta E_c$ , constrained?
  - □ Weak Electrolytes like HOAc,  $k_A \sim 1 \times 10^{-5}$  ?
  - Cations are only weakly dissociated
- Are alkali cations structurally,  $\Delta E_s$ , constrained?
  - Strong electrolytes like NaCl?
  - Completely dissociated, Na<sup>+</sup> Cl<sup>-</sup>?

## Models of the Activation Energy

- Both activation energies appear to be non-zero and contribute to the total activation energy
- Anderson-Stuart<sup>1</sup> model calculation

$$\Delta E_c \approx \frac{C_{struct} Z_c Z_a e^2}{\varepsilon_{\infty}} \left[ \frac{1}{(r_c + r_a)} - \frac{2}{\lambda} \right] \qquad \Delta E_s \approx \pi G (r_c - r_d)^2 \lambda / 2$$

$x Na_2O + (1-x)SiO_2$	$\Delta E_{s}$ (calc)	$\Delta E_{c}$ (calc)	$\Delta E_{act}(calc)$	$\Delta E_{act}^{2}$
	kcal/mole	kcal/mole	kcal/mole	kcal/mole
11.8	11.7	66.9	78.6	68.1
19.2	10.9	62.3	73.2	63.7
29.7	10.0	56.1	66.1	59.7

- Calculation shows that the  $\Delta E_c$  term is the larger of the two energy barriers.
- Coulombically constrained?

<sup>1</sup> Anderson, Stuart, J. Amer. Cer. Soc., 1954
<sup>2</sup> SciGlass 5.5, Average of many glasses

Alkali Radii Dependence of Strain and Coulomb Activation Energies



## Strong and Weak Electrolyte models

- "Strong electrolyte" model suggests all cations are equally available for conduction.
  - Each cation experiences an energy barrier which governs the rate at which it hops
- "Weak electrolyte" model suggests only those *dissociated* cations are available for conduction
  - Dissociation creates mobile carriers available for conduction
- SE models suggests that  $\Delta E_{c} + \Delta E_{s}$ both contribute, one could be larger or smaller than the other
- WE model suggests that ∆E<sub>c</sub> is the dominant term



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## Thermodynamic Models of Ionic Transport

- Glass is considered as a solvent into which salt is dissolved
- If dissolved salt dissociates strongly, then glass is considered a strong electrolyte
- If dissolved salt dissociates weakly, then glass is considered a weak electrolyte
- Coulomb energy term calculations suggest that the salts are only weakly dissociated, largest of the two energy terms
- Migration energy term is taken to be minor and weaker function of composition
- Dissociation constant then determines the number of mobile cations available for conduction, dissociation limited conduction

Weak Electrolyte Model, Ravaine & Souquet '80

## AC versus DC Ionic Conductivity



AC ionic Conductivity in Glass

Connection to Far-IR vibrational modes Angell '83

