# Computational Study of Ideal Electrolyte/Anode Interface for Na<sub>3</sub>SbS<sub>4</sub>/Na

#### Larry E. Rush Jr., N.A.W. Holzwarth

Department of Physics, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC 27109

<sup>\*</sup>Thanks to Zach Hood from Georgia Tech and ORNL for introducing us to this system

NSF grant DMR-1507942









APS March Meeting 2017

## Outline

- I. Na-ion electrolytes for all-solid-state Na-ion batteries
- II. Motivation behind studying Na<sub>3</sub>SbS<sub>4</sub>
- III. Computational Methods
- IV. Results
- V. Conclusions

## I. Na-ion Electrolytes

- i. Abundant (geopolitically-neutral & cheap)
- ii.  $\uparrow$  size of Na ions =  $\uparrow$  intercalation w.r.t. Li ions (higher reversibility)<sup>\*</sup>
- iii. Cost-effective large-scale energy storage (option for Morocco's energy initiative?)
- iv. High energy density

\* https://ceder.berkeley.edu/research-areas/na-ion-battery-materials-design-and-discovery//

## II. Why $Na_3SbS_4$ ?

- i. Similar to  $Na_3PSe_4^{-1}$
- ii. Air-stable & high ionic conductivity<sup>2,3,4</sup>
- *iii.*  $E_a = 0.20 \ eV$  at  $25^{\circ}C^4$

Ceder et al., Chem. Mater., 28, pp. 252-258 (2016)
Wang et al., Angew. Chem., 55, pp. 8551-8555 (2016)

- 2. Wang et al., Angew. Chem., 33, pp. 8551-8555 (20)
- 3. Zhang et al., Adv. Sci., 3, pg. 1600089 (2016)

4. Banerjee et al., Angew. Chem., 55, pp. 9634-9638 (2016)

## III. Methodology

- i. Density functional theory with local-density approximation (LDA)
- ii. Projector Augmented Wave (PAW) formalism
- iii. PAW basis and projector functions generated by ATOMPAW<sup>1</sup>
- iv. Quantum Espresso software package<sup>2</sup>
- v. Density of States calculations
- vi. Nudged Elastic Band (NEB) calculations<sup>3</sup>

Holzwarth et al., Computer Physics Communications, 135, pg. 329 (2001)
Giannozzi et al., J. Phys.: Cond. Mat., 21, pg. 395592 (2009)
Henkleman et al., J. Chem. Phys., 113, pp. 9901-9904 (2001)

APS March Meeting 2017

Low temperature phase  $Na_3SbS_4$  (space group  $P \overline{4} 2_1 c$ )



1 <i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>	$5 \ \frac{1}{2} + x, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} - z$
2 $\overline{x}, \overline{y}, z$	6 $\frac{1}{2} - x$ , $\frac{1}{2} + y$ , $\frac{1}{2} - z$
3 y, $\overline{x}$ , $\overline{z}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ + y, $\frac{1}{2}$ + x, $\frac{1}{2}$ + z
4 $\overline{y}, x, \overline{z}$	8 $\frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} + z$

**NEB** calculations

 $E_m \approx 0.1 \, eV$ 

d/a

 $\sigma = \frac{C}{T} e^{-\frac{E_a}{kT}}$ 

a-axis path (d-a-d-)

c-axis path (d-d-d-)



d

#### **Interface Properties**

Initial Na<sub>3</sub>SbS<sub>4</sub>/Na interface







APS March Meeting 2017

Na<sub>3</sub>SbS<sub>3</sub>?

#### Density of States (DOS)



Bulk Na<sub>3</sub>SbS<sub>3</sub> (space group  $P 2_1 3$ )





#### V. Conclusions

- i. Na<sub>3</sub>SbS<sub>4</sub> has  $E_m \approx 0.05$  eV for a-axis migration
- ii.  $Na_3SbS_4$  is reactive to Na
- iii.  $Na_3SbS_3 \& Na_2S$  form at the  $Na_3SbS_4/Na$  interface (based on DOS)
- iv. Pure  $Na_3SbS_3$  has  $E_m \approx 0.4 \text{ eV}$



Acknowledgements



GRADUATE SCHOOL of ARTS & SCIENCES

This work was supported by NSF grant DMR-1507942. Computations were performed on the Wake Forest University HPC DEAC Cluster.

Special thanks to Prof. Natalie Holzwarth



