$\begin{array}{l} {\color{red} {\bf MS19\text{-}P12}} \ Anion \ Packing \ and \ Cation \\ {\color{red} {\bf Mobility}} \ in \ Potential \ Solid \ Electrolytes \\ {\color{red} {\bf Na}_2 B_{12} H_{12\text{-}x} I_x} \ and \ (A_1 A_2) B_{12} H_{12} \ (A_1 = Li, Na, K, Cs) \end{array}$

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The application of solid state batteries would be technologically more viable if operating temperatures were to approach values that do not require costly heating systems. Materials exhibiting superionic conductivity at ambient temperature are needed to solve such issues. These concerns can be addressed through materials research, especially through new crystalline phases. Complex hydride compounds are superior candidates for battery solid electrolytes, in view of their high energy density and excellent electrochemical stability, and their applications in batteries have been demonstrated. ¹¹ The complex hydride anions are susceptible to rotational disorder, hence, the so-called 'paddle-wheel mechanism' ¹² can be exploited to tailor superionic conductivity.

In compounds based on large complex anions, such as closo-boranes $(B_1H_1)^2$, the nearly spherical anions pack easily in ccp, $hc\bar{p}$ or bcc packing, creating conduction pathways built from continuous networks of tetrahedral and octahedral sites with their connectivity favorable for vacancy- and interstitialcy-driven cation mobility. The smaller cation (i.e. Li^{\dagger} and Na^{\dagger}) is the mobile (conducting) species moving between the tetrahedral and octahedral sites.

The study of binary and ternary closo-borane compounds containing light alkali metals Na₂B₁H₁₂x₁X and (A₁A₂)B₁,H₁₂(A₁ = Li, Na, A₂ = Li, Na, K, Cs) will be presented with the aim of exploring possible routes to stabilize the suitable anionic packing, which stabilizes superionic phases at room temperature. The experimental approach includes anion modification via partial iodination of (B₁₂H₁₂)² anion, where H is substituted by I, and cation substitution, where the larger cation (K⁺, Cs⁺) occupies the octahedral site and stabilizes the closo-borane framework with significant conducting pathways (bcc or hcp). The types of anion packing and connectivity of interstitial sites will be discussed as important features in designing superionic conductors based on closo-boranes. AC conductivities obtained from impedance spectroscopy show that hcp-packed metal closo-boranes exhibit superionic conductivity at lower temperatures than their cubic ccp-packed analogues, as observed in h-Na₂B₁₂H₁₂x₁x with σ₁ approaching 0.1 S cm⁻¹ at 360K.

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MS19-P13 Ionic Liquids based on Crown Ethers as electrolytes for batteries

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Room temperature ionic liquids (RTILs) are salts that are liquid at room temperature and that are usually composed of an asymmetrical organic cation and a large charge-delocalized anion which is poorly coordinated. They are non-flammable, and thermally as well as electrochemically stable.

These properties make them very interesting for many applications including green solvents for synthesis, catalysis, and electrolytes for ionic and electronic devices¹. Crown ethers are able to strongly interact with alkali metal cations (Li⁺, Na⁺, K⁺) and have been used as additives in battery electrolytes in order to increase the ionic conductivity of the latter and to prevent electrolyte decomposition²⁻³. However, few studies have been done on crown ethers in the field of electrolytes.

This is why we propose to integrate them covalently as an alkali cation carrier 4-5 in the ionic liquid system. The aim of the project is thus to design and synthesize new Room Temperature Ionic Liquids (RTILs) based on crown ether moieties, to investigate their properties (flammability, thermal and electrochemical stability, conductivity, Li/Na-ion diffusion) and then to use them as electrolytes for rechargeable batteries. We will present their synthesis, structures and properties in this contribution.

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R= C_nH_{2n+1}, n=1-6 ;X'= PF₆', BF₄', CF₃SO₃', 'N(CF₃SO₂)₂