## diffusion-fundamentals.org

The Open-Access Journal for the Basic Principles of Diffusion Theory, Experiment and Application

## Theoretical investigation of one- two- and three-dimensional Li diffusion in solids

## Thomas Bredow<sup>\*</sup>, Mazharul M. Islam

Universität Bonn, Mulliken Center for Theoretical Chemistry, Institut für Physikalische und Theoretische Chemie, Bonn, Germany \*bredow@thch.uni-bonn.de

Possible migration pathways for Li ions in solids are investigated theoretically at density-functional theory level. The activation energies and migration pathways for local hopping events between neighboring lattice sites are calculated with the nudged elastic band method [1] as implemented in the VASP program package [2].

The possibilities for two- and three-dimensional diffusion are investigated for h-LiTiS<sub>2</sub> by comparing the calculated activation barriers for lateral migration in the *ab* plane and along the *c* lattice vector. The concentration dependence of two competing mechanisms for *ab* migration, via octahedral edges and via tetrahedral sites, is investigated [3]. In Li<sub>2</sub>Ti<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub> one-dimensional channels exist that may lead to one-dimensional Li diffusion. We calculated the activation barriers along these channels and in the vertical direction in order to decide if this is the case. Three-dimensional Li diffusion is studied for a number of components, e.g. LiBO<sub>2</sub> [4]

## References

- [1] G. Henkelman, H. Jonsson: Improved tangent estimate in the nudged elastic band method for finding minimum energy paths and saddle points. J. Chem. Phys. **113**, 9978 (2000)
- [2] G. Kresse, J. Furthmüller: *Efficient iterative schemes for ab initio total-energy calculations using a plane-wave basis set.* Phys. Rev. B **54**, 11169–11186 (1996)
- [3] M.M. Islam, T. Bredow: *Theoretical investigation of migration pathways for Li diffusion in hLiTiS*<sub>2</sub>. Phys. Chem. **226**, 449–459 (2012)
- [4] M.M. Islam, T. Bredow, P. Heitjans: The ionic conductivity in lithium-boron oxide materials and its relation to structural, electronic and defect properties: Insights from theory. J. Phys.: Condensed Matter 24, 203201 (2012)