Supporting Information

Li_xSiON (x = 2, 4, 6); A Novel Solid Electrolyte System Derived from Agricultural Waste. *Xinyu Zhang, Eleni Temeche, Richard M. Laine** Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2136, USA. E-mail: <u>talsdad@umich.edu</u>

Supplemental Experimental Procedures

Rice hull ash (RHA) impurity removal

RHA (200 g) was milled mechanically for 48 h in a 2 L bottle with 200 g of milling media (yttria-stabilized zirconia, diameter = 3 mm) and 2 L of HCl solution (3.7 wt.% HCl). Thereafter, the acid milled RHA was recovered by suction filtration through a Buchner funnel. The recovered RHA was then washed with 500 mL deionized water.

Thereafter, the acid milled RHA and 1 L of deionized water were introduced to a 2 L glass flask equipped with a stir bar and a reflux condenser. The mixture was boiled for 24 h before separation by filtration through a Buchner funnel. The boiling and filtration processes were repeated. After the second filtration, the filtered water was confirmed neutral by pH test. The treated RHA was dried at 60 °C/vacuum/overnight and characterized by TGA-DTA (Figure **S1a**).

Analytical methods

<u>Matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization-time of flight (MALDI-ToF)</u> was done on a Bruker AutoFlex Speed MALDI-TOF, both negative- and positive-ion reflectron modes were used. Trihydroxyanthracene was used as the matrix. Samples were prepared by mixing solutions of the matrix (10 mg mL⁻¹ in THF) and precursor solution (1 mg mL⁻¹ in THF), 1:1 volumetric ratio, and blotting the mixture on the target plate (MSP 96 polished steel BC, Bruker). For positive-ion mode, a AgNO₃ solution (1 mg mL⁻¹ in THF) is added (AgNO₃:matrix = 1:5 vol.) as the ion source. The calculation of polymer precursor structures based on MALDI was done by a Python program *MALDI-Calculation* written by Andrew Alexander, see Appendix below for details and https://github.com/haveamission/MALDI-Calculation for the newest version and instructions.

<u>Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR)</u> was run on a Nicolet 6700 Series FTIR spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.). Samples (1 wt. %) were mixed with KBr powder (400 mg, Alfa Aesar); the mixtures were ground rigorously with an alumina mortar pestle, and the

dilute samples were packed in a metal sample holder to be analyzed. Prior to data acquisition in the range of 4000-400 cm⁻¹, the sample chamber (rubber sealed) was purged with N_2 for 10-20 min.

<u>Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) and differential thermal analysis (DTA)</u> were performed on an SDT Q600 series simultaneous TGA/DTA (TA instrument, Inc.). Samples (10-20 mg) were hand-pressed in a 3-mm dual-action die and placed in alumina pans; the experiments ramped to 800 °C at 10 °C min⁻¹ under constant N₂ flow (60 mL min⁻¹).

<u>Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR)</u>. Vacuum dried (60 °C/1 h) precursor samples were dissolved in CDCl₃ (0.1 g mL⁻¹) allowing NMR studies. All NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian vnmrs 500 MHz spectrometer. ⁷Li NMR spectra were collected using a spectral width of 39 kHz, a relaxation delay of 0.1 s, 32 k data points, a pulse width of 250. An aqueous solution of LiCl (9.7 M) was used as the reference ($\delta = 0$ ppm). ¹H NMR spectra were collected using a spectral width of 6 kHz, a relaxation delay of 0.5 s, 30 k data points, a pulse width of 38, and CHCl₃ (7.26 ppm) as the internal reference. ¹³C NMR spectra were collected using a spectral width of 30 kHz, a relaxation delay of 0.1 s, 32 k data points, a pulse width of 250, and CHCl₃ (77.16 ppm) as the internal reference. ²⁹Si NMR spectra were collected using a spectral width of 20 kHz, a relaxation delay of 2.0 s, 16 k data points, a pulse width of 2.5. Tetramethylsilane (TMS, $\delta = 0$ ppm) was used as the reference for ¹H, ¹³C and ²⁹Si NMR spectra.

<u>X-ray diffraction (XRD)</u> was performed on dried precursor powders (60 °C/1 h/vacuum) by Rigaku MiniFlex 600 XRD and Rigaku Smartlab XRD spectrometers (Rigaku Denki., LTD., Tokyo, Japan). Cu K α ($\lambda = 1.54$ Å) radiation operates at a working voltage of 40 kV and currents of 15 and 44 mA. Scans were continuous from 10 to 80 ° 2 θ using a scan rate of 5 ° min⁻¹ in 0.01 increments. The presence of crystallographic phases was determined by using Rigaku PDXL II (version 2.8.4.0) and Expo2014 (version 1.20.03).

<u>X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS)</u> experiments were carried out on a Kratos Axis Ultra XPS system at room temperature bellow 10^{-7} Torr using monochromatic Al source (14 kV and 8 mA). The binding energies of all the elements were calibrated relative to the gold with Au $4f_{7/2}$ at 84 eV. All the data were analyzed by CASAXPS software using linear type background.

<u>Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX)</u>. JSM-IT300HR In Touch Scope SEM (JEOL USA, Inc.) was used to analyze the microstructures and elemental compositions of polymer precursor pellets (pelletized hydraulically at 10 ksi/20 sec with a 13 mm diameter die).

<u>Density measurement</u>. Masses (m) and dimensions (thickness t, and diameter D) of polymer precursor pellets (pelletized hydraulically at 10 ksi/20 sec with a 13 mm diameter die) heated to different temperatures were measured. Density is calculated by the equation $\rho = 4m/(\pi D^2 t)$.

Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS). AC impedance data were collected with a broadband dielectric spectrometer (Biologics) in a frequency range of 7 MHz to 1 Hz. "EIS spectrum analyser" software was used for extracting total resistance. Concentric Au/Pd electrodes (3 mm in diameter) were deposited using an SPI sputter coater on both surfaces of the Li_xSiON pellets using a deposition mask. An equivalent circuit consisting of ($R_{total}Q_{total}$)($Q_{electrode}$) was used to measure the ionic resistivity. R and Q denote resistance and constant phase element, respectively. The total conductivity (σ_t) was calculated using the equation $\sigma_t = t/(A \times R)$, where t is the thickness of the polymer precursor pellet (0.2-0.3 mm), A is the active area of the polymer precursor, and R is the total resistivity obtained from the Nyquist plots.

Supplemental Data

Solid solution system	Composition	σ (S cm ⁻¹) at T °C	E _a (eV)
	Li ₃ PO ₄	1.0 × 10 ⁻¹⁸ (25)	1.18
	Li _{3.2} PO _{3.8} N _{0.2}	9.6 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ (25)	0.92
$Li_{3+x}PO_{4-x}N_x$	Li _{3.4} PO _{3.6} N _{0.4}	2.5 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ (25)	0.91
	Li _{3.6} PO _{3.4} N _{0.6}	2.0 × 10 ⁻¹⁶ (25)	1.20
	Li _{3.8} PO _{3.2} N _{0.8}	1.6 × 10 ⁻¹⁶ (25)	1.18
	Li ₃ VO ₄	2.0 × 10 ⁻⁷ (360)	1.29
	Li _{3.2} VO _{3.8} N _{0.2}	4.0 × 10⁻⁴ (330)	1.00
$LI_{3+x}VO_{4-x}N_x$	Li _{3.4} VO _{3.6} N _{0.4}	1.2 × 10⁻⁵ (330)	1.01
	Li _{3.6} VO _{3.4} N _{0.6}	3.0 × 10⁻⁵ (330)	1.02
	Li ₂ ZnSiO ₄	8.0 × 10 ⁻⁸ (390)	1.14
Li ZASIO N	Li _{2.2} ZnSiO _{3.8} N _{0.2}	8.0 × 10⁻ଃ (115)	0.99
LI _{2+y} ZNSIO _{4-y} Ny	Li _{2.4} ZnSiO _{3.6} N _{0.4}	4.0 × 10 ⁻⁶ (125)	0.44
	Li _{2.6} ZnSiO _{3.4} N _{0.6}	2.0 × 10⁻ੰ (70)	0.55
	Li ₂ MgSiO ₄	4.0 × 10 ⁻⁸ (420)	1.39
	Li _{2.2} MgSiO _{3.8} N _{0.2}	4.0 × 10 ⁻⁷ (115)	0.80
$Li_{2+y}MgSiO_{4-y}N_y$	Li _{2.4} MgSiO _{3.6} N _{0.4}	1.0 × 10 ⁻⁶ (130)	0.87
	Li _{2.6} MgSiO _{3.4} N _{0.6}	7.0 × 10 ⁻⁶ (130)	0.83
	Li _{2.8} MgSiO _{3.2} N _{0.8}	5.0 × 10 ⁻⁷ (110)	0.79

 $\label{eq:s1} \begin{array}{l} \textbf{Table S1}. \ \text{Ionic conductivities } (\sigma) \ \text{and activation energies } (E_a) \ \text{for } Li_{3+x}PO_{4-x}N_x, \ Li_{3+x}VO_{4-x}N_x, \\ Li_{2+y}ZnSiO_{4-y}N_y \ \text{and } Li_{2+y}MgSiO_{4-y}N_y \ \text{solid solutions.}^1 \end{array}$



Figure S1. TGA-DTAs (800 °C/10 °C min⁻¹/air) of **a**. acid purified RHA and **b**. silica depleted RHA (SDRHA).

S-4



Figure S2. Typical syntheses of Li_xSiON precursors.



Figure S3. Optical images of representative dried Li_xSiON precursor powders (top) and hydraulically pressed pellets (bottom, 10 ksi/20 sec with a 13 mm diameter die).



Figure S4. FTIRs of Li₆SiON (dried at 60 $^{\circ}C/1$ h/vacuum) and LiNH₂.



Figure S5. Negative-ion mode MALDIs of blank vs Li_xSiON precursors, **a**. Li_2SiON , **b**. Li_4SiON and **c**. Li_6SiON .

Dreaurear		Pos	itive-ion mode	Negative-ion mode			
Precursor	Group	m/z	Calculation	Group	m/z	Calculation	
	l	342	S + 2A + 7L = 341.0		328	S + 2A + 5L = 327.2	
		472	S + 8A + 12L = 471.8		351	S + 3A + 6L = 350.1	
		484	S + 7A + 16L = 483.6		449	S + 10A + 4L = 448.4	
		505	S + 11A + 10L = 506.1		463	S + 7A + 13L = 462.8	
		539	S + 10A + 17L = 538.6		469	S + 10A + 7L = 469.2	
		555	S + 11A + 17L = 554.6		483	S + 10A + 9L = 483.1	
Li ₂ SiON		722	2S + 10A + 6L = 722.7		497	S + 10A + 11L = 497.0	
		728	2S + 9A + 9L = 727.5		707	2S + 9A + 6L = 706.6	
		767	2S + 11A + 10L = 766.5		714	2S + 9A + 7L = 713.6	
		773	2S + 11A + 11L = 773.4		729	2S + 10A + 7L = 729.6	
		960	3S + 6A + 12L = 960.6	IV	946	3S + 9A + 3L = 946.2	
	IV	966	3S + 5A + 15L = 965.4				
		1012	3S + 7A + 17L = 1011.4				
	1	314	S + 2A + 3L = 313.3	I	352	S + 4A + 4L = 352.2	
	I	352	S + 4A + 4L = 352.2		457	S + 8A + 10L = 458.0	
	II	472	S + 8A + 12L = 471.8		463	S + 7A + 13L = 462.8	
		478	S + 8A + 13L = 478.8	II	469	S + 10A + 7L = 469.2	
		484	S + 7A + 16L = 483.6		483	S + 10A + 9L = 483.1	
	Ξ	722	2S + 10A + 6L = 722.7		499	S + 11A + 9L = 499.1	
		728	2S + 9A + 9L = 727.5		708	2S + 6A + 13L = 707.2	
LI4SION		738	2S + 11A + 6L = 738.7		714	2S + 9A + 7L = 713.6	
		767	2S + 11A + 10L = 766.5		729	2S + 10A + 7L = 729.6	
		960	3S + 6A + 12L = 960.6		763	2S + 9A + 14L = 762.2	
	IV	966	3S + 5A + 15L = 965.4		946	3S + 9A + 3L = 946.2	
		1006	3S + 8A + 14L = 1006.6	IV	952	3S + 5A + 13L = 951.6	
	V	1204	4S + 8A + 5L = 1204.5		1002	3S + 9A + 11L = 1001.8	
		1251	4S + 7A + 14L = 1250.9				
		472	S + 8A + 12L = 471.8		352	S + 4A + 4L = 352.2	
	I	478	S + 8A + 13L = 478.8		463	S + 7A + 13L = 462.8	
		484	S + 7A + 16L = 483.6		470	S + 10A + 7L = 469.2	
Li ₆ SiON		722	2S + 10A + 6L = 722.7		483	S + 10A + 9L = 483.1	
	II II	728	2S + 9A + 9L = 727.5		497	S + 10A + 11L = 497.0	
		767	2S + 11A + 10L = 766.5		708	2S + 6A + 13L = 707.2	
	Ш	960	3S + 6A + 12L = 960.6		714	2S + 9A + 7L = 713.6	
		965	3S + 8A + 8L = 964.9		728	2S + 9A + 9L = 727.5	
		1006	3S + 8A + 14L = 1006.6		769	2S + 9A + 15L = 769.1	
	IV	1198	4S + 5A + 11L = 1198.1	11/	960	3S + 6A + 12L = 960.6	
		1244	4S + 7A + 13L = 1244.0	IV	1002	3S + 9A + 11L = 1001.8	
	V	1436	5S + 4A + 10L = 1435.5	V	1196	4S + 4A + 13L = 1195.9	

Table S2. Possible compositions of Li_xSiON precursors based on MALDI.[†]

⁺ S = spirosiloxane, A = $-NH_2$, L = Li⁺. All possible compositions are calculated by Python program *MALDI-Calculation* (see Appendix below): <u>https://github.com/haveamission/MALDI-Calculation</u>.

Li₆SiON



Figure S6. ¹H NMRs of Li_xSiON precursors (RT/1 h/vacuum), THF and SP.



Figure S7. ¹³C NMRs of Li_xSiON precursors (RT/1 h/vacuum), THF and SP.



Figure S8. ⁷Li NMRs of Li_xSiON precursors (60 °C/24 h/vacuum).



Figure S9. ²⁹Si NMRs of Li_xSiON precursors dried at **a**. RT/1 h/vacuum and **b**. 60 °C/24 h/vacuum.



Figure S10. TGA-DTA (600 °C/10 °C min⁻¹/N₂) of SP (60 °C/12 h/vacuum).



Figure S11. XRDs of **a**. Li_xSiON precursors (60 °C/1 h/vacuum) and SP (60 °C/12 h/vacuum), **b**. Li₆SiON dried at RT, 60° and 100 °C/1 h/vacuum.



Figure S12. Wide-scan survey XPS spectra of Li_xSiON precursors dried at RT/1 h/vacuum compared to SP (60 °C/12 h/vacuum).



Figure S13. N 1s core-level XPS spectra of Li_xSiON precursors (60 °C/1 h/vacuum). b. Si 2p XPS core-level spectra of Li_xSiON precursors (60 °C/1 h/vacuum) compared to SP (60 °C/12 h/vacuum).



Figure S14. **a**. FTIRs of Li_xSiON pellets heated to 800 °C/1 h/N₂. **b**. XRDs of Li₄SiON (800 °C/1 h/N₂) pellet and powder compared to Li₄SiO₄ (monoclinic).

	Li ₂ SiON	Li₄SiON	Li ₆ SiON
60 °C/1 h/vacuum	0.96 ± 0.06	1.04 ± 0.04	1.11 ± 0.06
100 °C/2 h/N ₂	1.17 ± 0.03	1.35 ± 0.06	1.09 ± 0.07
200 °C/2 h/N ₂	1.23 ± 0.03	1.39 ± 0.05	1.31 ± 0.04
300 °C/2 h/N ₂	1.23 ± 0.03	1.46 ± 0.03	1.37 ± 0.05
400 °C/2 h/N ₂	1.21 ± 0.04	1.29 ± 0.03	1.41 ± 0.04

Table S3. Densities (g/cm^3) of Li_xSiON precursors treated under different conditions.

Li₂SiON



Figure S15. EDX map of Li₂SiON pellets heated to $100^{\circ}-400 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C/2} \text{ h/} \text{ N}_2$.

Li₄SiON



Figure S16. EDX map of Li₄SiON pellets heated to 100°-400 °C/2 h/ N_2 .

Li₆SiON



Figure S17. EDX map of Li₆SiON pellets heated to 100°-400 °C/2 h/ N_2 .

							1					
Precursor pellet		Temp. (°C/2 h)			At. %							
					C		Ν	0	Si			
					100				2	1.8	65.2	9.8
				200				22.	3	1.2	67.5	9.0
Li ₂ SiON		300				21.	7	1.0	67.0	10.3		
					400				0.5	67.4	12.4	
Li₄SiON			100			27.	5	1.7	64.2	6.6		
			200			27.	2	1.0	62.7	8.9		
		Li₄SiON		300			23.	6	0.5	67.5	8.4	
				400			21.	6	0.2	68.0	10.2	
		100	31.6	3	1.1	61.6	5	5.7		-		
	200		31.4	4	1.3	62.0	5	5.3				
Li ₆ SiON		300	30.1	1	0.7	64.8	2	1.4				
		400	28.	5	0.2	65.0	6	5.3				

Table S4 /	Average atomic	percentage (At %) of Li.	SiON	pellets	based	on EDX	analyses
	roruge atomie	percentage	111. 70	j or \mathbf{D}_{ij}		penets	ouseu	ULL DI	unury 505.

Appendix

The below Python program was developed by Andrew Alexander as a tool to calculate polymer precursor structures based on MALDI-ToF study. Two files are included, one is the configuration and data set (JSON format) which needs manual inputs according to the polymer structures, the other one is the program file.

An example structural calculation of a Li_xSiON peak from MALDI-ToF is given below. Please note that this program is under constant improvement; the newest version and instructions can be found at: <u>https://github.com/haveamission/MALDI-Calculation.</u>

The program is licensed under Creative Commons Non-Commercial ShareAlike 4.0 International; third party contributions are welcomed.

File 1, configuration and data set:

```
{
    "monomer_weight": {"S": 260.41, "A": 16.02, "L": 6.94},
    "polymer_weight": [722],
    "range_bottom": 5,
    "range_top": 30,
    "error_number":1
  }
```

```
File 2, main program:
```

import itertools
import json

class MolecularWeight:

```
def __init__(self):
    filename = input("Enter filename: ")
    if filename:
        datastore = self.load_file(filename)
    else:
        datastore = self.load_file("default_dataset.json")
    self.monomer weight = datastore["monomer weight"]
```

```
self.monomer_weight_keys = self.monomer_weight.keys()
        self.polymer_weight = datastore["polymer_weight"]
        self.range_bottom = datastore["range_bottom"]
        self.range_top = datastore["range_top"]
        self.error_number = datastore["error_number"]
        self.main()
    def load_file(self, filename):
        with open(filename, 'r') as f:
            datastore = json.load(f)
            return datastore
    def check_list(self, number, final_alpha):
        result = {}
        for monomer_weight_num in self.polymer_weight:
            if abs(monomer_weight_num - number) < self.error_number:</pre>
                result[number] = final_alpha
                return result
            else:
                pass
    def use_iter(self, range_num):
        product_list =
list(itertools.combinations_with_replacement(self.monomer_weight_keys, range_num))
        return product_list
    def combinations_generator(self):
        steps = []
        for range_num in range(self.range_bottom, self.range_top):
            step = self.use_iter(range_num)
            steps.extend(step)
        return steps
    def result_calculator(self, combination):
        final_value = 0
        final_alpha = ""
        for item in combination:
            value = self.monomer_weight[item]
```

```
final_value += value
final_alpha += item
result = self.check_list(final_value, final_alpha)
return result
def main(self):
   combinations = self.combinations_generator()
   for combination in combinations:
      result = self.result_calculator(combination)
      if result:
           print(result)
```

MolecularWeight()

Reference

1 R. Jarkaneh, Novel Oxynitride Lithium Ion Conductors, 2015.