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# First-Principles Calculations about Elastic and Li<sup>+</sup> Transport Properties of Lithium Superoxides under High Pressure and High Temperature

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Lithium superoxides, Li<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, LiO<sub>2</sub>, and LiO<sub>4</sub>, have been synthesized under high pressure. These materials have potential applications in energy storage devices. Here, we use first-principles calculations to investigate the elastic and Li<sup>+</sup> transport properties of these oxides at high pressure and high temperature. The elastic constants are calculated at 20–80 GPa, and they satisfy the Born stability criteria, indicating the good mechanical stability of these oxides. Their sound velocities calculated with elastic constants are close to each other, but difference in velocity anisotropy is obvious. LiO<sub>2</sub> presents significant shear sound wave anisotropy over 80%. The Li<sup>+</sup> transport properties are investigated using first principles molecular dynamics (FPMD) and climbing-image nudged elastic band methods. The lowest Li<sup>+</sup> migration barrier energies increase from 0.93, 0.86 and 1.22 eV at 20 GPa to 1.43, 1.12 and 1.77 eV at 50 GPa for Li<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, LiO<sub>2</sub>, and LiO<sub>4</sub>, respectively. The most favorable path for LiO<sub>2</sub> and LiO<sub>4</sub> is along the [001] direction. The FPMD results suggest that these oxides become unstable with increasing temperature up to 2000 K due to O–O dimer clusters in these superoxides. Consequently, a superionic transition is not observed in the simulations.

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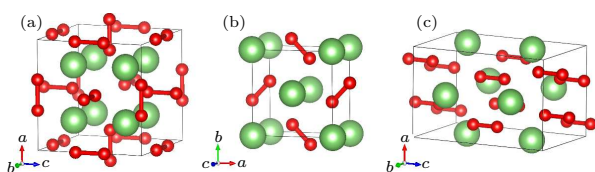
Pressure is a basic thermodynamic variable that is able to tune the atomic distance and electronic structure of materials.<sup>[1,2]</sup> A large number of novel materials with distinctive properties, such as room-temperature superconductivity, are synthesized under high pressure.<sup>[3]</sup> Recently, superionic ice and hydrous minerals have been synthesized under high pressure and high temperature with great influence on the properties of Earth's and exoplanet interiors.<sup>[4,5]</sup>

High-pressure technology has also been used in the process of exploring novel materials for rechargeable batteries.<sup>[6–12]</sup> The electrode materials LiMPO<sub>4</sub> (M = Fe, Mn, Ni, CO) with olivine structure can change from olivine to CrVO<sub>4</sub> structures ( $\beta'$  phase) at high pressure and high temperature. Under higher pressure, the  $\beta'$  phase can transform into the spinel structure phase.<sup>[6,7]</sup> The transition from olivine structure to  $\beta'$  phase takes place at 6.5 GPa and 900 °C. However, this transition does not improve electrochemical properties.<sup>[6]</sup> Wang *et al.* investigated the high-pressure structural change of layered LiCoO<sub>2</sub> using Raman spectroscopy and x-ray diffraction.<sup>[8]</sup> They found that an increase in pressure leads to a reduction in cell parameters with more significant compres-

sion of Li–O bonds. Thus, the  $c/a$  ratio decreases with increasing pressure. This trend continues without a phase transition at pressures below 26 GPa. Fell *et al.* treated LiCoO<sub>2</sub> under high pressure and high temperature, and found that pressure can indeed modify the crystal structure. However, the treatment reduces the electrochemical capacity of the material due to the confinement of Li<sup>+</sup> mobility.<sup>[9]</sup> Spinel LiMn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> changes from cubic to tetragonal structures at  $\sim 0.1$  GPa, and then changes to the CaFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> structure at higher pressure.<sup>[10,11]</sup> Piszora *et al.* found that the phase transition at 0.1 GPa is mainly caused by the deformation of the Mn<sup>3+</sup>O<sub>6</sub> octahedron under pressure, and the deformation of the Mn<sup>3+</sup>O<sub>6</sub> octahedron leads to the enlargement of the lithium ion transmission channel. Therefore, they expect that this effect may improve the ionic conductivity of LiMn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>.<sup>[11]</sup> Recently, Huang *et al.* observed an irreversible amorphous phase transition of spinel Li<sub>4</sub>Ti<sub>5</sub>O<sub>12</sub> (LTO) at  $\sim 26.9$  GPa.<sup>[12]</sup> The amorphous phase presents much higher conductivity than that of LTO at room temperature. The density functional theory (DFT) shows that the amorphous phase provides a low-barrier-energy migration path, which promotes Li<sup>+</sup> diffusion.

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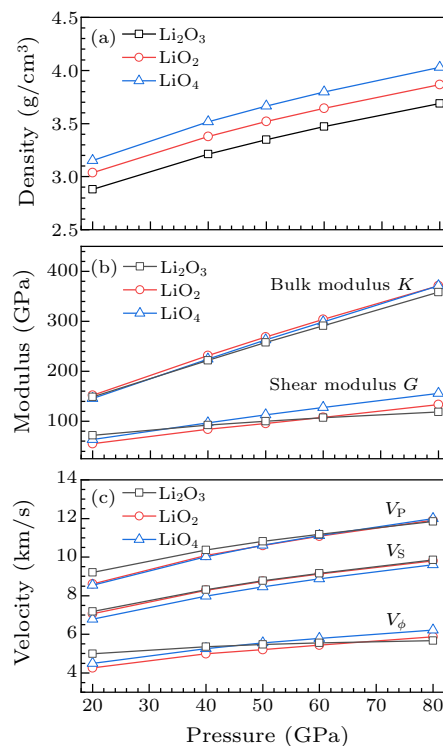
Previous high-pressure studies mostly focus on the structural evolution of widely used materials. Currently, high pressure has become an important method for exploring completely new materials.<sup>[13]</sup> Recently, several lithium superoxides,  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{LiO}_2$ , and  $\text{LiO}_4$ , have been synthesized under high pressure.<sup>[13]</sup> These novel lithium oxides show great potential in improving battery design and performance in large battery applications under extreme conditions.<sup>[13]</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to study various properties of these Li–O compounds under extreme conditions such as high pressure. In these oxides, Li atoms are dispersed into dimer O–O frameworks, which is similar to the high-pressure oxygen phase  $\varepsilon\text{-O}_8$ .<sup>[14,15]</sup> The electronic structures of these oxides have been studied before.<sup>[16]</sup> However, the mechanical and thermal stability of these oxides is still unknown. In particular, whether a superionic transition can take place in these lithium oxides is important for material design of lithium ion batteries at high pressure.



**Fig. 1.** Crystal structures of three lithium oxide phases. The atomic structure arrangements in the unit cell: (a) high pressure  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ , (b) high pressure  $\text{LiO}_2$ , and (c) high pressure  $\text{LiO}_4$ . Red and green spheres represent oxygen and lithium atoms, respectively. Red sticks indicate the O–O bands.

Lithium superoxides  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$  ( $Im\bar{3}m$ ),  $\text{LiO}_2$  ( $P4/mbm$ ), and  $\text{LiO}_4$  ( $Ibam$ ) have been proven to be stable at high pressure based on the combination of experimental and computational methods.<sup>[13]</sup> The structures of these oxides are shown in Fig. 1, and the increase in oxygen content leads to a decrease in the distance between two oxygen atoms in the O–O dimer cluster. The DFT has proven to be a powerful tool for studying the structure and thermodynamics of various materials at high pressure.<sup>[17]</sup> The Vienna *ab initio* simulation package (VASP) based on the DFT was used to calculate the properties of these oxides.<sup>[18–20]</sup> The DFT calculations were conducted within the Perdew–Burke–Ernzerhof (PBE)<sup>[21]</sup> functional in the projected augmented wave (PAW) method. A plane-wave energy cutoff of 650 eV was used in the calculations, and a  $k$ -point mesh with a spacing of about  $0.04 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$  was adopted.<sup>[22]</sup> Geometry optimizations were performed by using conjugate gradient minimization until all the forces acting on ions were less than  $0.01 \text{ eV/\AA}$  per atom.<sup>[22]</sup> Yang *et al.* found that these three oxides are stable at 50 GPa by calculation based on the DFT. Therefore, we first

relaxed the structures at 50 GPa and then changed the cell volumes to calculate the cell parameters at different volumes. The calculated densities and cell parameters at different pressures (20–80 GPa) are shown in Fig. 2(a) and Fig. S1. The cell densities increase with pressure and oxygen content. As shown in Fig. S1, the reduction in the cell parameters of  $\text{LiO}_2$  and  $\text{LiO}_4$  with increasing pressure is anisotropic. The  $c$ -axis of  $\text{LiO}_2$  and  $ab$ -plane of  $\text{LiO}_4$  are more compressible than other directions.



**Fig. 2.** Variation in density (a), modulus (b) and velocity (c) with pressure. The black lines and squares are for  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ , the red lines and circles for  $\text{LiO}_2$ , the blue lines and triangles for  $\text{LiO}_4$ .

The elastic constants of these superoxides at various pressures (Table 1) were calculated by solving the stress–strain relations (the detailed method is provided in the Supplementary Material). The stability of these superoxides was justified using the Born stability criteria.<sup>[23]</sup> For a cubic crystal system ( $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $Im\bar{3}m$ ) with only 3 independent constants, the Born stability criteria<sup>[23]</sup> are defined as

$$C_{11} - C_{12} > 0, \quad C_{11} + 2C_{12} > 0, \quad C_{44} > 0. \quad (1)$$

For tetragonal classes ( $\text{LiO}_2$ ,  $P4/mbm$ ) with 6 independent elastic constants, the necessary and sufficient conditions<sup>[23]</sup> can be expressed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} C_{11} &> |C_{12}|, & 2C_{13}^2 &< C_{33}(C_{11} + C_{12}), \\ C_{44} &> 0, & C_{66} &> 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

For orthorhombic systems ( $\text{LiO}_4$ ,  $Ibam$ ) with 9 constants and no relationships between them, the

Born criteria<sup>[23]</sup> are known as

$$\begin{aligned} C_{11} > 0; \quad C_{11}C_{22} > C_{12}^2, \\ C_{11}C_{22}C_{33} + 2C_{12}C_{13}C_{23} - C_{11}C_{23}^2, \\ -C_{22}C_{13}^2 - C_{33}C_{12}^2 > 0, \\ C_{44} > 0, \quad C_{55} > 0, \quad C_{66} > 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

The calculated elastic constants satisfied the Born stability criteria, indicating the good mechanical stability of these phases at pressures from 20 to 80 GPa. Moreover, we calculated the bulk and shear modulus using the calculated elastic constants. The Voigt–Reuss–Hill averaging scheme<sup>[24–26]</sup> was used to estimate the elastic moduli. The Hill averaging of bulk and shear moduli [Fig. 2(b)] are defined as

$$B = \frac{B_V + B_R}{2}, \quad G = \frac{G_V + G_R}{2}, \quad (4)$$

where  $B_V$  and  $G_V$  represent the Voigt approximation,<sup>[24]</sup>  $B_R$  and  $G_R$  indicate the Reuss approximation.<sup>[25]</sup> For the Voigt approximation, these moduli can be expressed as the calculated elastic constants:

$$B_V = \frac{C_{11} + C_{22} + C_{33} + 2(C_{12} + C_{13} + C_{23})}{9}, \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_V = [C_{11} + C_{22} + C_{33} - (C_{12} + C_{13} + C_{23}) \\ + 3(C_{44} + C_{55} + C_{66})]/15. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

For the Reuss approximation, these moduli can be expressed as the calculated elastic constants:

$$B_R = \frac{1}{S_{11} + S_{22} + S_{33} + 2(S_{12} + S_{13} + S_{23})}, \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_R = 15/[4(S_{11} + S_{22} + S_{33}) - 4(S_{12} + S_{13} + S_{23}) \\ + 3(S_{44} + S_{55} + S_{66})]. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Here,  $S_{ij}$  represents the elastic compliance, which is the inverse of  $C_{ij}$ . The calculated moduli were used to determine the sound velocities, including compressional wave velocity  $V_P$ , shear wave velocity  $V_S$  and bulk sound velocity  $V_\varphi$  [Fig. 2(c)],

$$V_P = \sqrt{\frac{B + \frac{4G}{3}}{\rho}}, \quad V_S = \sqrt{\frac{G}{\rho}}, \quad V_\varphi = \sqrt{\frac{B}{\rho}}. \quad (9)$$

To calculate the elastic anisotropy, we solved the Christoffel equation<sup>[27,28]</sup> to obtain the sound velocities in different directions:

$$|C_{ijkl}n_jn_l - \rho V^2\delta_{ik}| = 0, \quad (10)$$

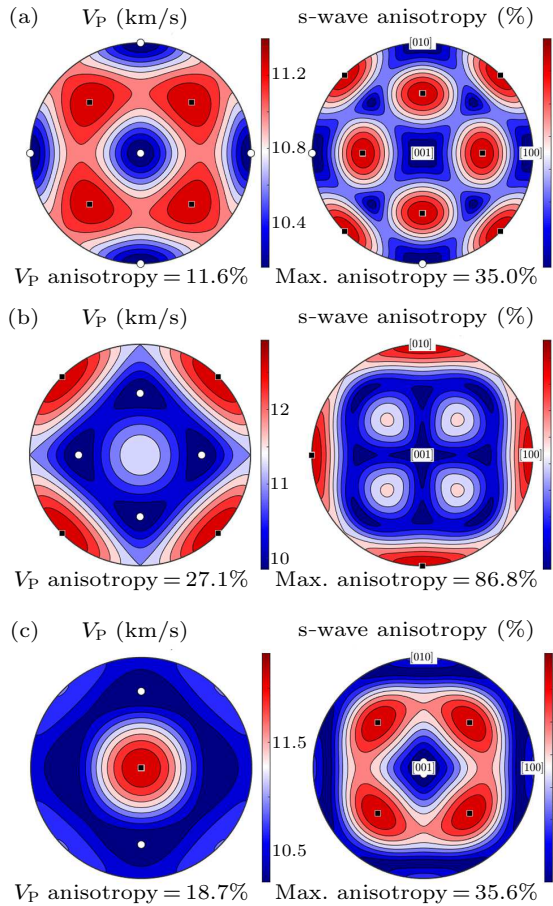
where  $n_i$  and  $n_j$  are the propagation direction,  $\rho$  is the density,  $V$  is the velocity, and  $\delta_{ik}$  is the Kroenecker delta function. The calculated velocities in different directions were used to obtain the anisotropy (more detail can be found in the Supplementary Material). The anisotropies of the p- and s-waves are defined as

$$AV = \frac{(V^{\text{MAX}} - V^{\text{MIN}})}{(V^{\text{MAX}} + V^{\text{MIN}})} \times 200, \quad (11)$$

where  $V^{\text{MAX}}$  and  $V^{\text{MIN}}$  are the maximum and minimum velocities, respectively. The velocities along lattice directions are exhibited by circular patterns (Fig. 3). Although the sound velocities in the three oxides are quite close at 20–80 GPa, the velocity anisotropy patterns are quite different (Fig. 3 and Fig. S2). In particular,  $\text{LiO}_2$  presents significant velocity anisotropy with the anisotropy of  $V_S$  reaching 83%, which will lead to significant sound wave splitting in this material.

**Table 1.** The elastic constants and wave velocities of  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{LiO}_2$ , and  $\text{LiO}_4$  at 20–80 GPa.

Crystal	$P$ (GPa)	$C_{11}$	$C_{33}$	$C_{44}$	$C_{66}$	$C_{12}$	$C_{13}$	$C_{23}$	$\rho$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	$V_P$ (km/s)	$V_S$ (km/s)	$V_\varphi$ (km/s)		
$\text{LiO}_2$	20	264.4	267.2	17.9	170	143	72.7		3.04	8.61	4.25	7.07		
	40	385.8	406.3	34.1	223.9	204.8	124.5		3.38	10.08	4.99	8.27		
	50	443.2	465.1	39.1	251.5	232.4	150.7		3.52	10.61	5.21	8.73		
	60	500.8	520.4	46.4	267.8	259.9	173.6		3.64	11.08	5.44	9.13		
	80	615.9	627.2	58.7	325.3	316.2	213.7		3.87	11.91	5.87	9.80		
$\text{LiO}_4$		$C_{11}$	$C_{22}$	$C_{33}$	$C_{44}$	$C_{55}$	$C_{66}$	$C_{12}$	$C_{13}$	$C_{23}$				
	20	232.5	233.4	309.4	51.4	51.8	64.7	139.8	63.2	63.4	3.15	8.54	4.49	6.79
	40	352.3	350.9	468.2	81.2	81.3	97.8	207.8	106.6	109.2	3.52	10.20	5.25	7.98
	50	407.8	406.1	556.7	93.8	95.2	113.8	240.1	127.1	130.2	3.67	10.61	5.55	8.47
	60	462.6	462.8	614.9	107.9	107.9	129.1	269.9	152.2	151.9	3.80	11.11	5.79	8.86
80	566.9	566.6	759.8	132.5	132.6	158.6	328.5	198.7	198.8	4.03	11.99	6.22	9.60	
$\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$		$C_{11}$		$C_{44}$		$C_{12}$								
	20	228.1		80.9		109			2.88	9.21	4.98	7.18		
	40	308.1		116.7		178.7			3.21	10.36	5.36	8.31		
	50	345.1		133.2		213.7			3.35	10.81	5.47	8.77		
	60	379		147.8		246.8			3.47	11.18	5.55	9.16		
80	445.9		176.2		314.7			3.69	11.84	5.67	9.86			

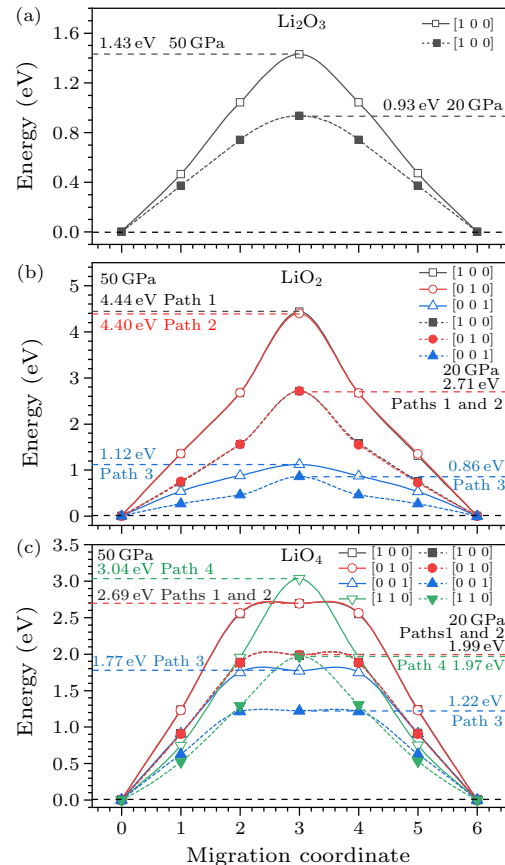


**Fig. 3.** The sound velocity anisotropy in  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$  (a),  $\text{LiO}_2$  (b) and  $\text{LiO}_4$  (c) at 50 GPa. The black squares mark the maximum, and the white circles mark the minimum.<sup>[29]</sup>

Lithium oxides have been widely studied for applications in lithium-ion batteries. Thus,  $\text{Li}^+$  transportation properties are important for novel lithium superoxides. Li migration barrier energies along different directions were calculated by the climbing-image nudged elastic band (CINEB) method<sup>[30]</sup> at 20 and 50 GPa. Larger supercells adopted for the calculations were made up of  $2 \times 2 \times 2$ ,  $2 \times 2 \times 4$  and  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  containing 160, 96 and 160 atoms for  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{LiO}_2$  and  $\text{LiO}_4$ , respectively (see the Supplementary Material). The  $\text{Li}^+$  migration energy in  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$  is isotropic, and the barrier energy is 0.93 eV at 20 GPa and increases to 1.43 eV at 50 GPa. For  $\text{LiO}_2$  and  $\text{LiO}_4$ ,  $\text{Li}^+$  migration is anisotropic, and the most favorable path is along the [001] direction. The  $\text{Li}^+$  migration barrier energy of  $\text{LiO}_2$  along the [001] is 0.86 eV at 20 GPa, and other  $\text{Li}^+$  migration barrier energies in these superoxides exceed 1.0 eV, which is much higher than that in anti-fluorite  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  at the same pressure.<sup>[22]</sup>  $\text{Li}^+$  diffusion in  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  is isotropic, which benefits  $\text{Li}^+$  transportation. Moreover, all  $\text{Li}^+$  migration barrier energies are markedly increased with pressure (Fig. 4). This is consistent with the barrier energy change in  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$ .<sup>[22]</sup> This suggests that these superoxides may not be favorable for  $\text{Li}^+$  diffusion and that high pressure further in-

hibits diffusion.

First-principles molecular dynamics (FPMD) was used to investigate the  $\text{Li}^+$  diffusion and stability of  $\text{LiO}_2$ ,  $\text{LiO}_4$  and  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$  under high pressure and temperature.<sup>[31]</sup> An equilibration step was carried out in the NPT ensemble (constant  $N$ ,  $P$ ,  $T$ ) using a Langevin thermostat.<sup>[32–34]</sup> Larger supercells,  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  for  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $2 \times 2 \times 4$  for  $\text{LiO}_2$ , and  $2 \times 2 \times 1$  for  $\text{LiO}_4$ , were used for the FPMD simulations, and the simulations were conducted at hydrostatic 50 GPa and at temperatures from 1000 to 3000 K with a time step of 1 fs lasting over 14000 steps.<sup>[22,35]</sup>



**Fig. 4.** Migration paths and related barrier energies for  $\text{Li}^+$  in Li–O compounds at 20 and 50 GPa. (a) Calculated barrier energies for  $\text{Li}^+$  migration along the [100] direction in  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ . (b) Calculated barrier energies for  $\text{Li}^+$  migration along the [100], [010], and [001] directions in  $\text{LiO}_2$ . (c) Calculated barrier energies for  $\text{Li}^+$  migration along the [100], [010], [001] and [110] directions in  $\text{LiO}_4$ . The results at 20 and 50 GPa are represented with dashed lines and solid lines, respectively. The migration paths are represented with color spheres in Fig. S4.

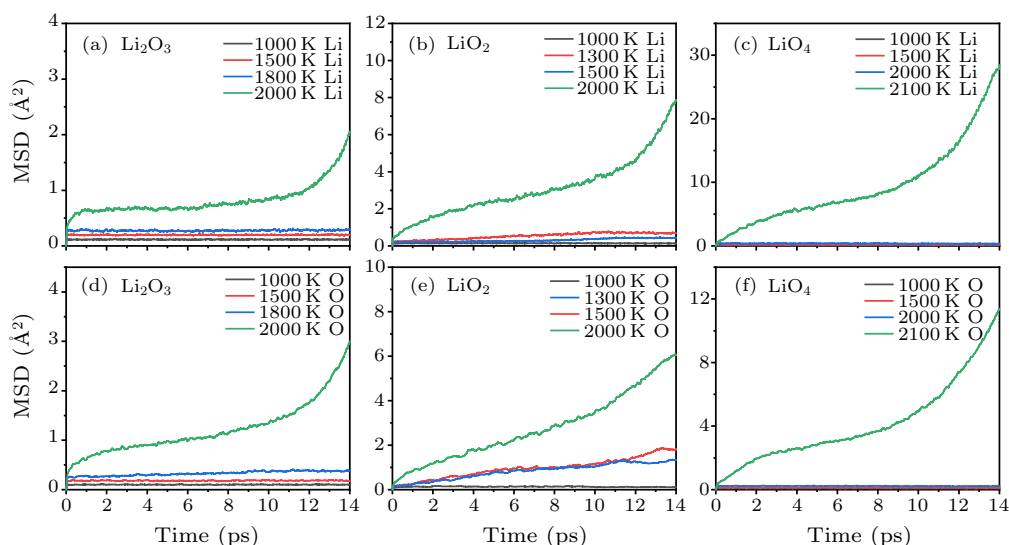
The mean square displacements (MSDs) are calculated at different temperatures using

$$\langle [r(t)]^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \langle [r_i(t+t_0) - r_i(t_0)]^2 \rangle. \quad (12)$$

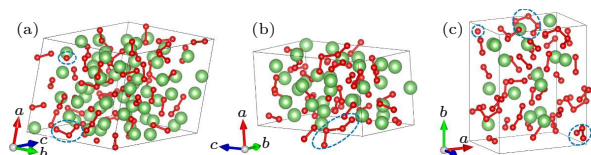
Here,  $r_i(t)$  is the displacement of the  $\text{Li}^+$  or  $\text{O}^{2-}$  at time  $t$ , and  $N$  is the total number of  $\text{Li}^+$  or  $\text{O}^{2-}$  ions in the system. The increase in MSD with simulation time

denotes the diffusion of  $\text{Li}^+$  or  $\text{O}^{2-}$  indicating the instability of the oxide. As shown in Fig. 5, both  $\text{Li}^+$  and  $\text{O}^{2-}$  in these three oxides start to diffuse at 2000 K, 1300 K, and 2100 K for  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{LiO}_2$  and  $\text{LiO}_4$ , respectively. In agreement with the previous quasiharmonic approximation (QHA) calculations,<sup>[13]</sup>  $\text{LiO}_2$  shows a tendency to become less stable at temperatures above 1000 K. Our simulations suggest that the instability of  $\text{LiO}_2$  is caused by the diffusion of oxygen.  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$  is a metastable phase presenting and is less stable than  $\text{LiO}_4$ . Other than O–O dimer clusters, single O atoms

and larger clusters containing 3 or 4 oxygen atoms are observed in the structures after FPMD simulations (Fig. 6). This suggests that the oxygen dimer (O–O) cluster is unstable at high temperature. The instability of the O–O cluster can also be observed in the radial distribution function (Fig. S3). The stabilization of O–O clusters at high pressure promotes the formation of these lithium superoxides. However, the O–O cluster presents weak thermal stability at temperatures over 2000 K, which prevents the superionic transition in these superoxides.



**Fig. 5.** Calculated mean square displacements at 50 GPa and temperatures from 1000–3000 K. MSD of Li in (a)  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ , (b)  $\text{LiO}_2$  and (c)  $\text{LiO}_4$ ; MSD of O in (d)  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ , (e)  $\text{LiO}_2$ , and (f)  $\text{LiO}_4$ .



**Fig. 6.** Structures of  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{LiO}_2$  and  $\text{LiO}_4$  at 50 GPa and at different temperatures after the FPMD simulations. (a)  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ , 2000 K, (b)  $\text{LiO}_2$ , 2000 K, (c)  $\text{LiO}_4$ , 2500 K. The different O–O bands included in blue dashed circles indicate different O–O interactions at high pressure and temperature.

In summary, the elastic properties and ionic transport properties of  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{LiO}_2$  and  $\text{LiO}_4$  are studied using first-principles calculations. The elastic constants of these oxides satisfy the Born criteria and are mechanically stable at 20–80 GPa. The sound velocities in these oxides are similar, but  $\text{LiO}_2$  presents anomalously high sound velocity anisotropy. The  $\text{Li}^+$  migration barrier energy is over 1.0 eV at 50 GPa and increases with pressure. These oxides become unstable at temperatures above 2000 K due to the instability of the O–O cluster, which hinders the superionic transition in these superoxides.

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# Supplementary material for “First-principles investigation of the elastic and Li<sup>+</sup> transport properties of lithium superoxides under high pressure and temperature”

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## DETAILS ON COMPUTATIONAL METHODS

### The elastic constants calculation

The elastic constants of the crystal are expressed as the relationship between stress  $\sigma$  and strain  $\varepsilon$ :

$$\sigma_{ij} = C_{ijkl} \varepsilon_{kl} \#(1)$$

where  $\sigma_{ij}$  is the stress tensor,  $\varepsilon_{kl}$  refers to the strain tensor, and  $C_{ijkl}$  is the elastic modulus which is a fourth-order tensor. Furthermore, we determined the independent elastic constants according to different crystal systems, which contributes to reducing the computation. Considering the symmetry of  $C_{ijkl}$ , the equation can be simplified as follows:

$$\sigma_i = C_{ij} \varepsilon_j \#(2)$$

The equation could be expanded as follow:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 \\ \sigma_2 \\ \sigma_3 \\ \sigma_4 \\ \sigma_5 \\ \sigma_6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} & C_{13} & C_{14} & C_{15} & C_{16} \\ & C_{22} & C_{23} & C_{24} & C_{25} & C_{26} \\ & & C_{33} & C_{34} & C_{35} & C_{36} \\ & & & C_{44} & C_{45} & C_{46} \\ & & & & C_{55} & C_{56} \\ & & & & & C_{66} \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 \\ \varepsilon_3 \\ \varepsilon_4 \\ \varepsilon_5 \\ \varepsilon_6 \end{pmatrix} \#(3)$$

where  $\varepsilon_j$  ( $j = 1, \dots, 6$ ) corresponds to the following equation:

$$\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_1 & \varepsilon_6 & \varepsilon_5 \\ \varepsilon_6 & \varepsilon_2 & \varepsilon_4 \\ \varepsilon_5 & \varepsilon_4 & \varepsilon_3 \end{pmatrix} \#(4)$$

For a cubic crystal system ( $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $I m\bar{3}m$ ) with only 3 independent constants,  $C_{11}$ ,  $C_{12}$ , and  $C_{44}$ , we can calculate  $C_{11}$ ,  $C_{12}$  by a strain tensor:

$$\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} \delta & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \#(5)$$



and we obtained  $C_{44}$  using a strain tensor as below:

$$\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \delta/2 \\ 0 & \delta/2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \#(6)$$

where  $\delta$  is the magnitude of deformation. To reduce the error and obtain more accurate results, we exerted the strain symmetrically for  $\varepsilon_4$ ,  $\varepsilon_5$  and  $\varepsilon_6$ .

For tetragonal classes ( $4/mmm$ ) ( $\text{LiO}_2$ ,  $P 4/mbm$ ) with 6 independent elastic constants,  $C_{11}$ ,  $C_{33}$ ,  $C_{44}$ ,  $C_{66}$ ,  $C_{12}$ ,  $C_{13}$ , we can calculate  $C_{11}$ ,  $C_{12}$ ,  $C_{13}$  by a strain tensor as Eq. (5) and calculate  $C_{33}$  by a strain tensor as follows:

$$\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \delta \end{pmatrix} \#(7)$$

Moreover, we obtained  $C_{44}$  using a strain tensor:

$$\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \delta/2 \\ 0 & \delta/2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \#(8)$$

and obtained  $C_{66}$  using a strain tensor:

$$\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \delta/2 & 0 \\ \delta/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \#(9)$$

For orthorhombic systems ( $\text{LiO}_4$ ,  $I bam$ ) with 9 constants and no relationships between them,  $C_{11}$ ,  $C_{22}$ ,  $C_{33}$ ,  $C_{44}$ ,  $C_{55}$ ,  $C_{66}$ ,  $C_{12}$ ,  $C_{13}$ ,  $C_{23}$ , we can calculate  $C_{11}$ ,  $C_{12}$ ,  $C_{13}$  by a strain tensor as Eq.(5) and calculate  $C_{22}$ ,  $C_{23}$  using a strain tensor:

$$\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \delta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \#(10)$$

We can also calculate  $C_{33}$ ,  $C_{44}$ ,  $C_{66}$  by a strain tensor as Eq. (7), (8) and (9), respectively. In addition, we calculated  $C_{55}$  by a strain tensor as follows:

$$\varepsilon = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \delta/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \delta/2 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \#(11)$$

With those structures at different pressures, we exerted positive and negative strains  $\Delta\varepsilon$  in  $\pm 0.01$ ,  $\pm 0.005$ ,  $0$  on them in each direction to accurately determine the stresses in the appropriate limit of zero strain. The relation between the strained lattice matrix  $a'$  and the unstrained lattice matrix  $a$  is defined by:

$$a' = a(I + \varepsilon) \#(12)$$

where  $I$  represents third-order identity matrix. The elastic constants are determined by the stress - strain:

$$\Delta\sigma = C_{ij} \cdot \Delta\varepsilon \#(13)$$

where  $C_{ij}$  is the elastic constant,  $\Delta\varepsilon$  is the exerted strain and  $\Delta\sigma$  is the stress caused by  $\Delta\varepsilon$ .

### The elastic anisotropy

In high-symmetry directions, when polarization directions are parallel or vertical with the propagation directions of velocities, the modes are called pure longitudinal or transverse,

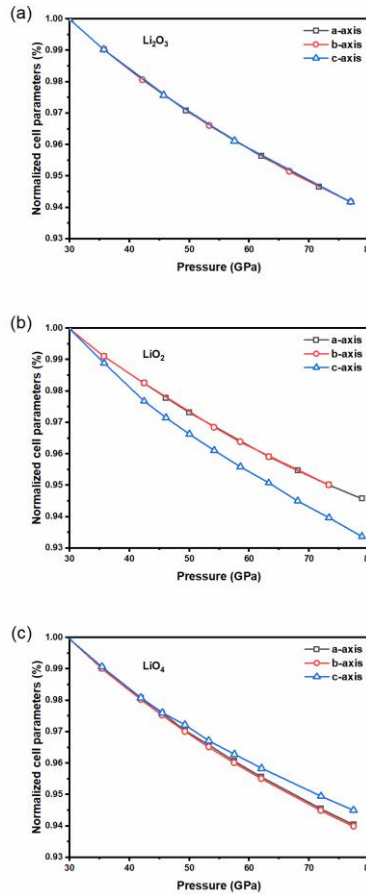
respectively. In general directions, the velocities are divided into quasi-longitudinal  $V_p$  (closest to propagation directions) and two spitting shear-wave velocities ( $V_{S1}$  and  $V_{S2}$ ). The seismic anisotropy of the P wave and S wave are defined as:

$$AV = \frac{(V^{MAX} - V^{MIN})}{(V^{MAX} + V^{MIN})} \times 200\% \quad (14)$$

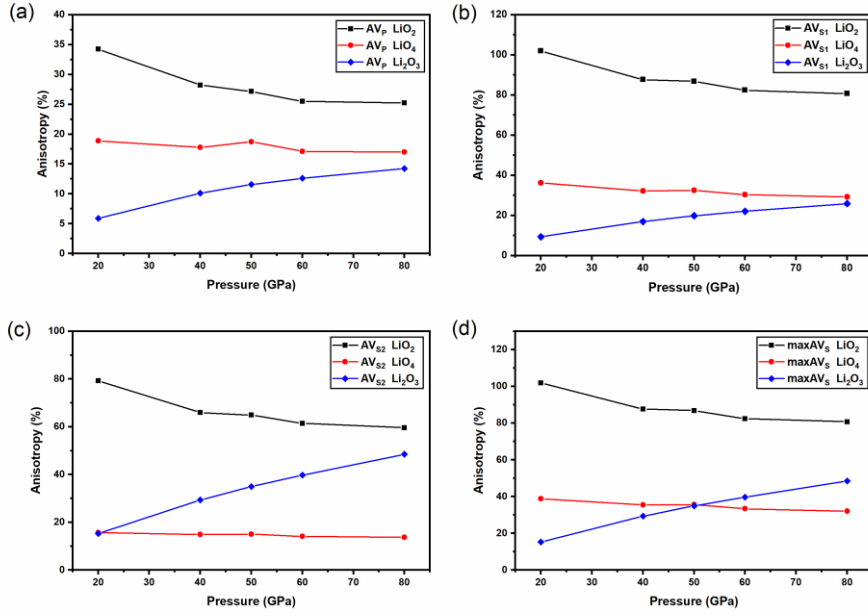
where  $V^{MAX}$  and  $V^{MIN}$  are the maximum and minimum velocities, respectively. The velocities along lattice directions are exhibited by circular patterns (Fig. 3).

### The migration barrier energy calculations

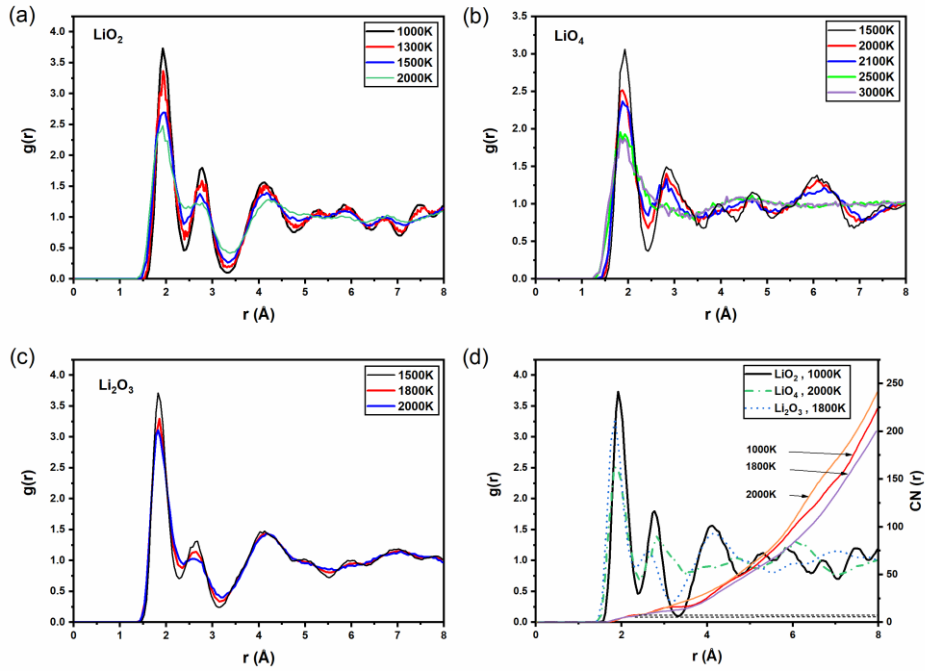
The  $\text{Li}^+$  migration barrier energy was calculated by the climbing-image nudged elastic band (CINEB) method. Larger supercells adopted for the calculations were made up of  $2 \times 2 \times 2$ ,  $3 \times 3 \times 4$  and  $2 \times 2 \times 2$  containing 160, 96 and 160 atoms for  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{LiO}_2$  and  $\text{LiO}_4$ , respectively. Five images were duplicated in our simulations between the starting point and the end point of migration ions to simulate the intermediate states. For the large supercell adopted in the CINEB calculations, only the gamma point was adopted for k-point sampling to reduce the computational cost. The convergence check indicated that a denser k mesh did not affect our conclusion.



**Fig. S1** The pressure dependence of normalized cell parameters to the values at 30 GPa. (a)  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ , (b)  $\text{LiO}_2$ , (c)  $\text{LiO}_4$ .



**Fig. S2** The evolution of seismic velocity anisotropies with pressure. (a) P-wave anisotropy. (b) Anisotropy of fast S-wave velocities. (c) Anisotropy of slow S-wave velocities. (d) The max  $AV_s$ .



**Fig. S3.** The radial distribution function (RDF) and coordination number (CN) between Li atoms (central atoms) and O atoms (coordination atoms) at 1000-3000 K and 50 GPa for (a)  $\text{LiO}_2$ , (b)  $\text{LiO}_4$ , and (c)  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ . (d) The RDF and CN at a stable temperature. For  $\text{LiO}_2$ , the x-coordinate of the intersection between  $g(r)$  and  $\text{CN}(r)$  is  $2.425 \text{ \AA}$ , and the CN is approximately 8. For  $\text{LiO}_4$ , the x-coordinate of the intersection between  $g(r)$  and  $\text{CN}(r)$  is  $2.45 \text{ \AA}$ , and the CN is approximately 8. For  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$ , the x-coordinate of the intersection between  $g(r)$  and  $\text{CN}(r)$  is  $2.3 \text{ \AA}$ , and CN is approximately 6. These CNs are consistent with those in the primitive cell.

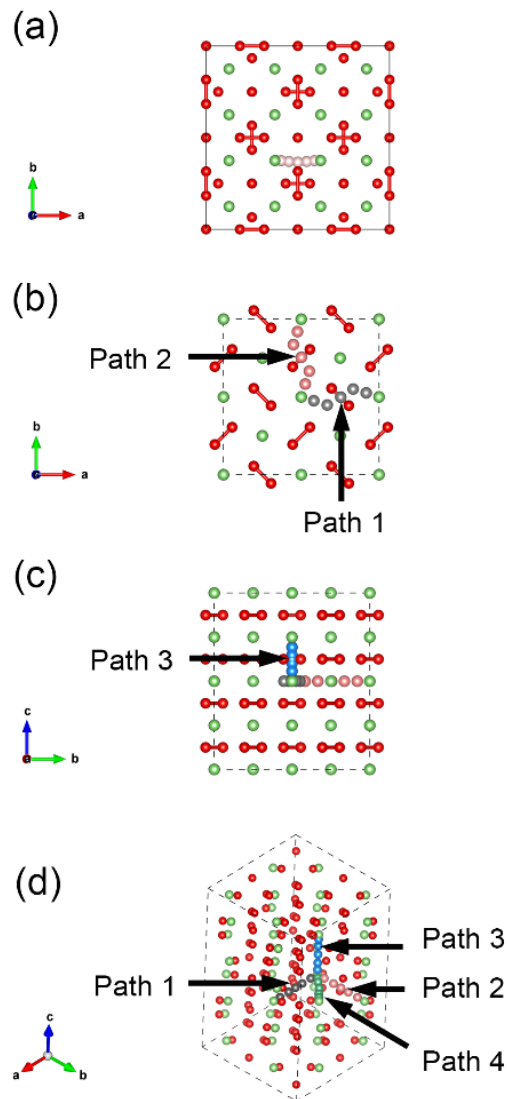


Fig. S4. The migration path of Li-O compounds. (a)  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}_3$  along  $[100]$ . (b) The pink spheres represent the path of  $\text{LiO}_2$  along  $[010]$ , the black spheres represent the path of  $\text{LiO}_2$  along  $[100]$ . (c) The blue spheres represent the path of  $\text{LiO}_2$  along  $[001]$ . (d) The black, pink, blue and green spheres represent the path of  $\text{LiO}_4$  along  $[100]$ ,  $[010]$ ,  $[001]$  and  $[110]$ , respectively. Li and O are shown with light green and red spheres.