

Survey of Materials. Lecture 1

# Basics of Materials Science

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## *Outline*

- Understanding scales
- Classification of materials
- Bonding in molecules and solids

# MSE tetrahedron & scales: Mechanical properties

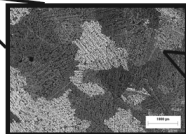
## What is Materials Science and Engineering?



**Macro-Scale Structure**  
**Engine Block**  
≅ upto 1 meter

### Performance Criteria

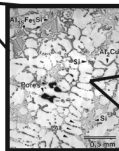
- Power generated
- Efficiency
- Durability
- Cost



**Microstructure**  
- Grains  
≅ 1 – 10 millimeters

*Properties affected*

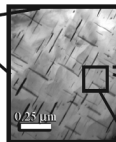
- High cycle fatigue
- Ductility



**Microstructure**  
- Dendrites & Phases  
≅ 50 – 500 micrometers

*Properties affected*

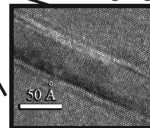
- Yield strength
- Ultimate tensile strength
- High cycle fatigue
- Low cycle fatigue
- Thermal Growth
- Ductility



**Nano-structure**  
- Precipitates  
≅ 3-100 nanometers

*Properties affected*

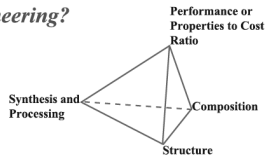
- Yield strength
- Ultimate tensile strength
- Low cycle fatigue
- Ductility



**Atomic-scale structure**  
≅ 1-100 Angstroms

*Properties affected*

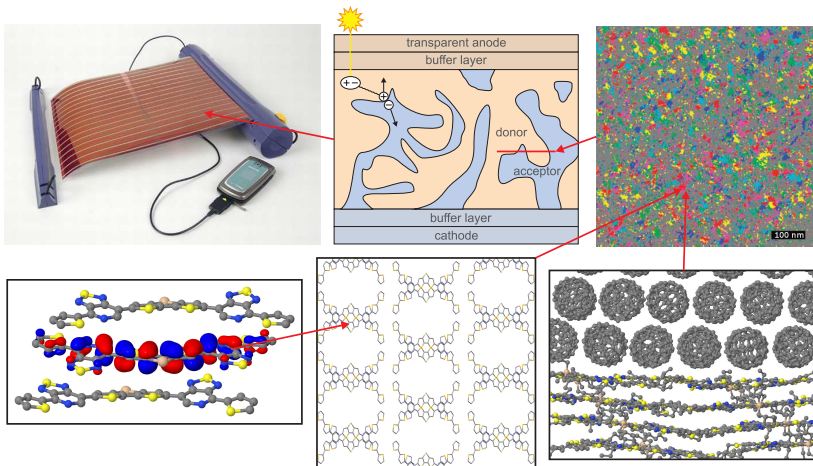
- Young's modulus
- Thermal Growth



A real-world example of important microstructural features at different length-scales, resulting from the sophisticated synthesis and processing used, and the properties they influence. The atomic, nano, micro, and macro-scale structures of cast aluminum alloys (for engine blocks) in relation to the properties affected and performance are shown. The materials science and engineering (MSE) tetrahedron that represents this approach is shown in the upper right corner.

(Illustrations Courtesy of John Allison and William Donlon, Ford Motor Company)

# MSE tetrahedron & scales: Electronic properties



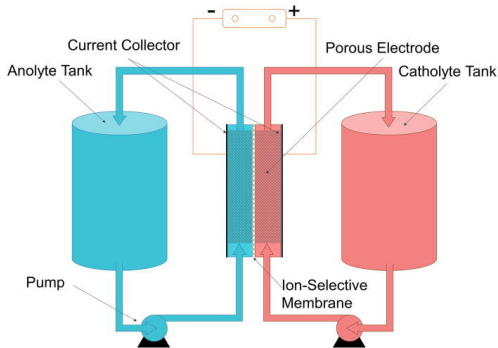
Synthesis &  
Processing

– **Structure – Properties** –

Engineering &  
Technology

# Understanding scales: 'off the shelf' example

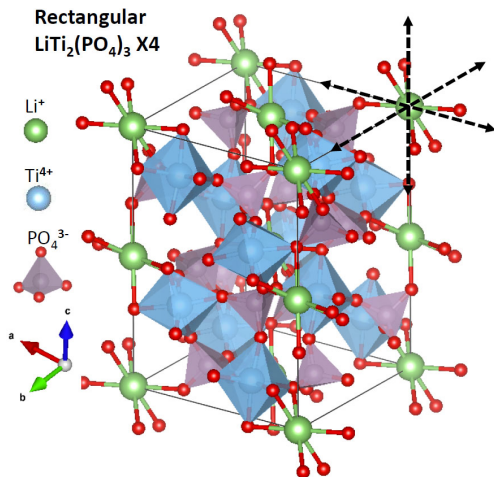
Ongoing project: developing membrane for redox flow battery



Key properties to optimize:

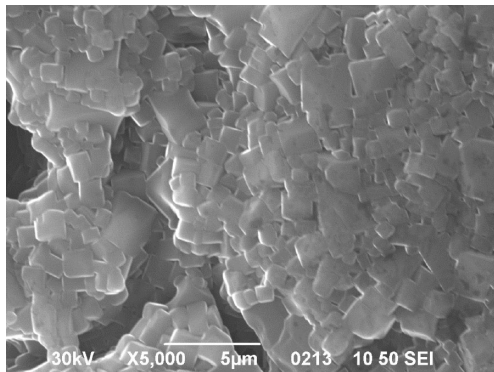
- High ionic conductivity and low electronic conductivity
- Selectivity
- Chemical and mechanical stability

# Atomistic scale: optimize chemical composition



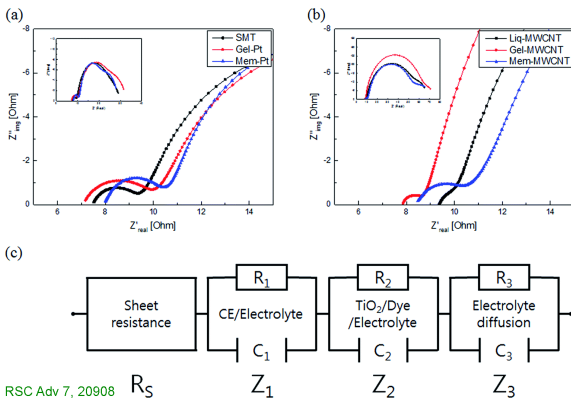
# Single-material scale: optimize synthesis and morphology

(solid state synthesis, X-ray, TEM)

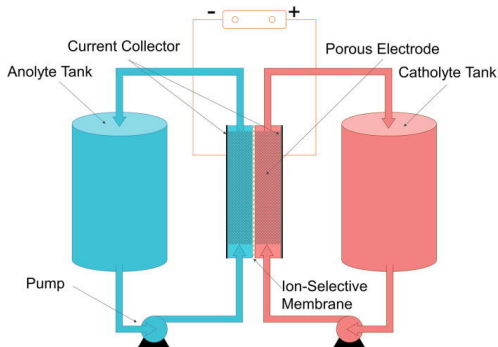


# Device scale: test and optimize device architecture

(electrochemical impedance spectroscopy, aging tests, device modeling and engineering)



# Real membrane in redox flow battery



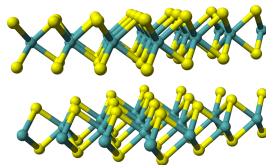
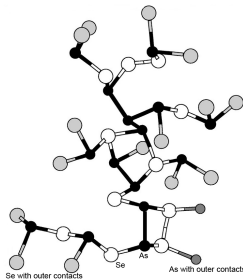
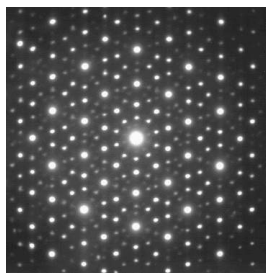
- High ionic conductivity and low electronic conductivity
- Selectivity
- Chemical and mechanical stability

*Now you can patent it, then consider other parts, upscale and commercialize*





# Classification by structure



- crystals, polycrystals, quasicrystals, liquid vs plastic crystals
- liquids, glasses, amorphous solids, (gases)
- surfaces and low-dimensional materials, polymers
- mixtures and nanostructured materials: solutions, blends, composites, interfaces, sandwich structures, adsorbates, thin films ...

# Classification by properties

- **mechanical properties:** metals, plastics, ceramics, composites, fibers, glasses
- **electronic structure:** metals, semimetals, semiconductors, insulators, superconductors, graphene, topological insulators
- **electrical conductivity:** metals, semiconductors, insulators, superconductors, solid ionic conductors, electrolytes
- **electric properties:** dielectrics, high- $k$  dielectrics, piezoelectrics, pyroelectrics, ferroelectrics, capacitors
- **optical properties:** light absorbers, conducting transparent oxides, chiral crystals, nonlinear optical materials
- **magnetic properties:** ferromagnetics, magneto-optical materials
- **nanoporous materials:** zeolites, clathrates

# Classification by processing technology

- **metallurgy**: metals and alloys
- **3D printing**: plastics, metals, ceramics; rapid prototyping, additive manufacturing
- **semiconductor fabrication plants (fab)**: “2D printing”; classical semiconductors
- **solution processable**: molecules, polymers, ionic solids; spin coating, inkjet printing; R2R processing, printed electronics
- **chemical vapor deposition (CVD)**: highest quality solids
- **graphene and 2D**: special processing
- **biosynthesis/biodegradation**: biomolecules and biopolymers; low-cost, low-energy, environment-friendly

# Bonding in molecules and solids

Given a chemical composition:

- Predict structural preferences
- Estimate binding (cohesion) energy:  $E(A) + E(B) - E(AB)$
- Speculate on functional properties

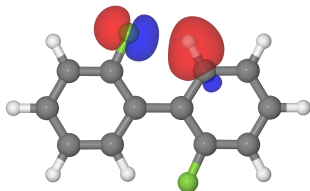
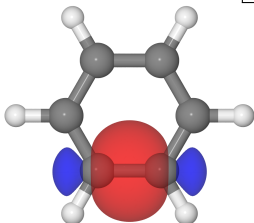
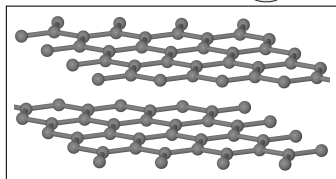
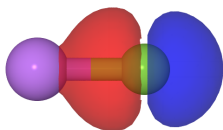
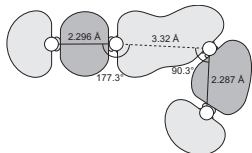
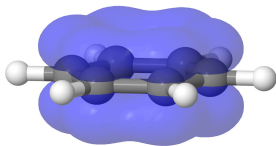
Sets of simple rules and concepts:

- **Atomic radii** (metallic, covalent, ionic, vdW)
- Close packing for isotropic interactions
- **Valence shell electron pair repulsion (VSEPR) theory** for molecules and covalent solids
- **Huckel's rule** for  $\pi$ -conjugated molecules
- **Hume-Rothery rules** for alloys
- ...

Accurate empirical potentials (force fields, EAM, EIM, COMB)

# Bonding: Basic interactions

- covalent
- ionic
- metallic
- steric
- donor-acceptor
- residual chemical
- hydrogen
- electrostatic
- London dispersion
- medium mediated
- other physical



$\text{H}_2\text{O}$  vs  $\text{SO}_2$  vs  $\text{CH}_4$

# Summary and Resources

See summary [here](#)

- Wikipedia
- [Crystal structures](#)
- [Crystallography Open Database](#)
- References: [structure](#), [bonding](#)
- [Textbooks](#)