

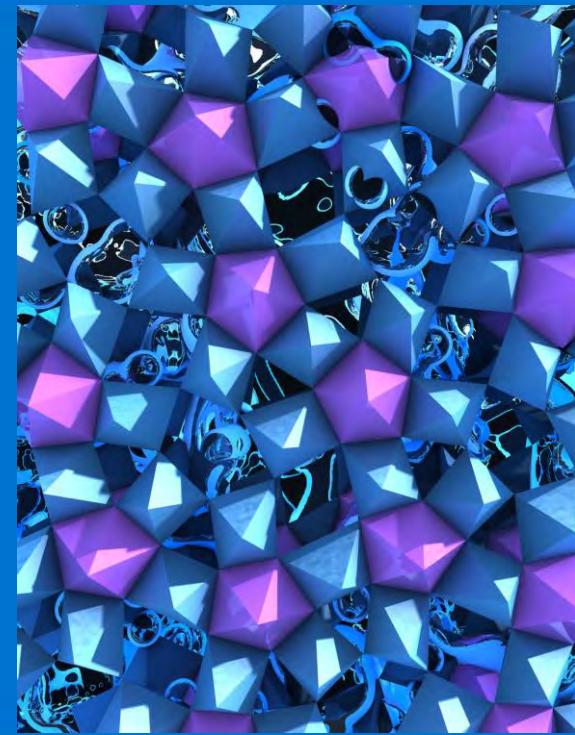
Niobium-based materials for energy conversion and storage

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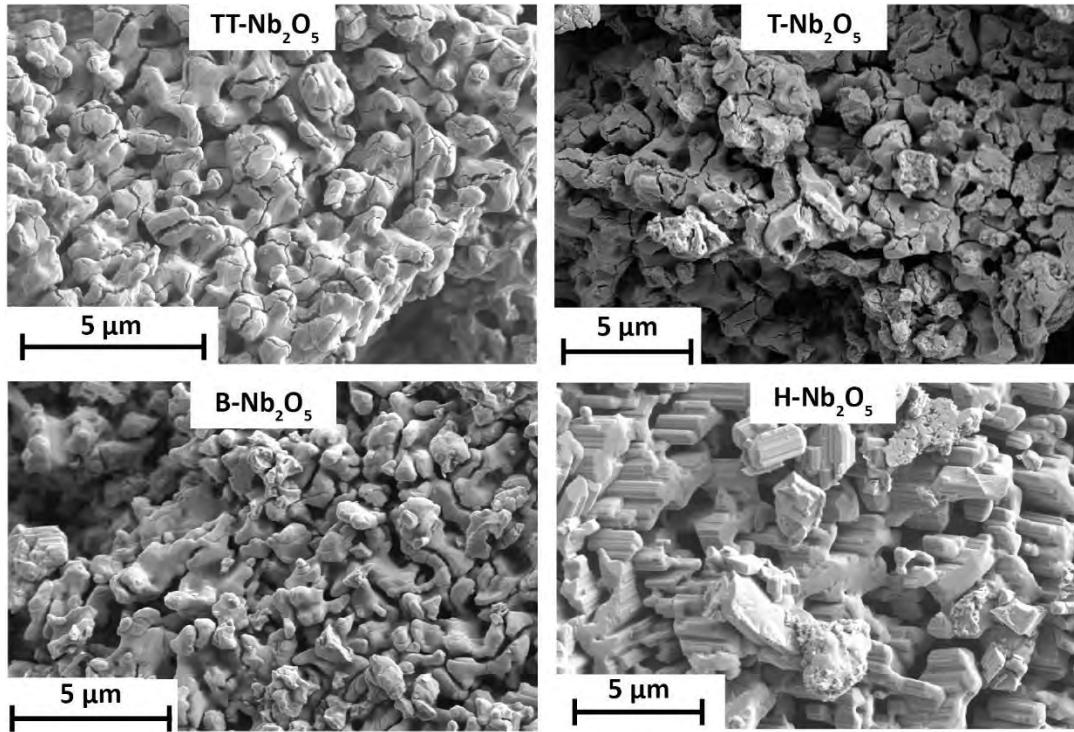
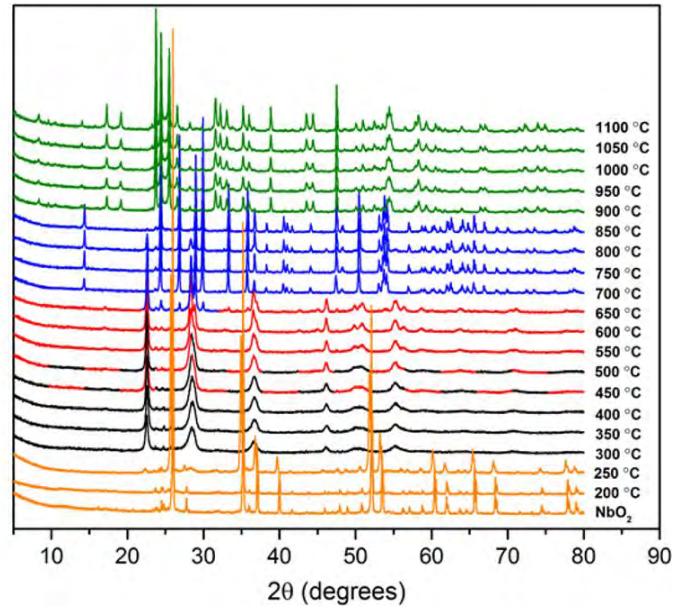
²University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

24 May 2019



Advanced Structural Characterization of Nb_2O_5

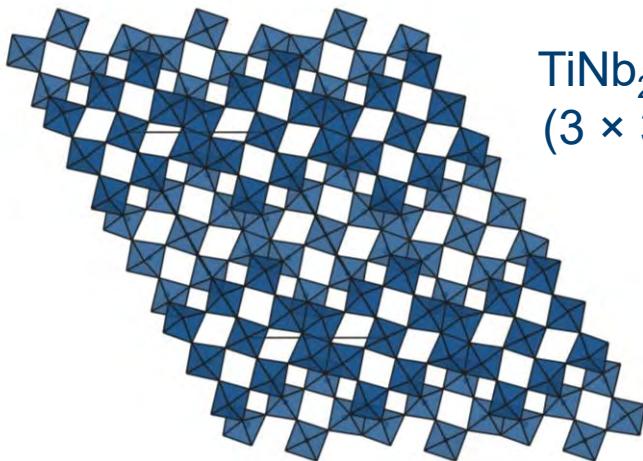
Intensity (a.u.)



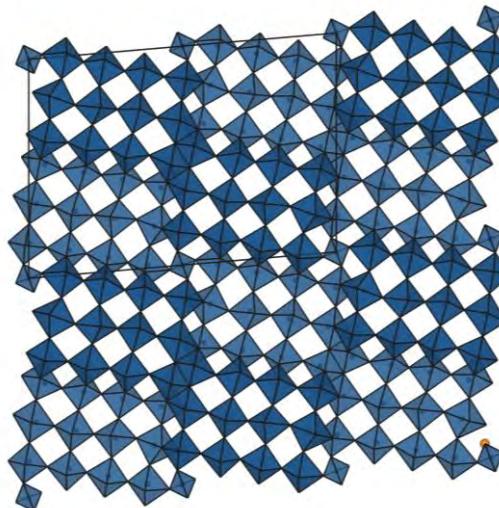
Griffith, K. J. et al. *JACS*, 2016, 138, 8888–8899.

Also, solid-state nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy,
Particle accelerator studies: neutron diffraction, X-ray spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction

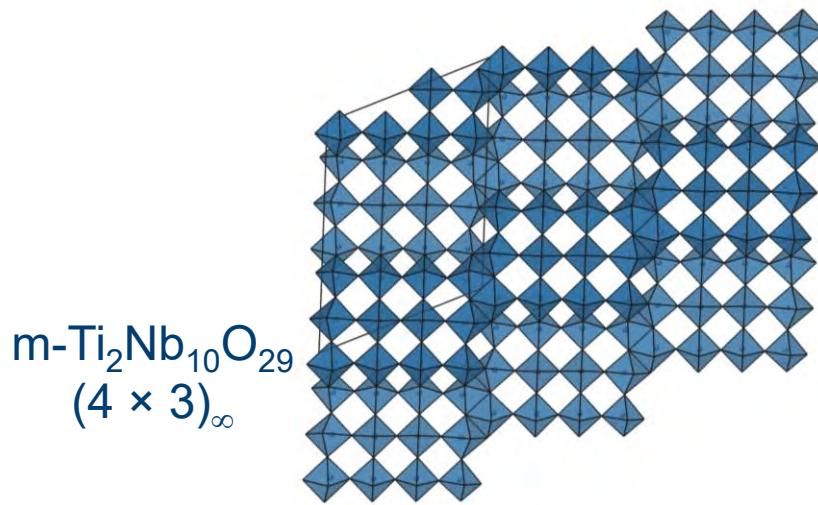
Crystallographic shear (Wadsley–Roth) structure



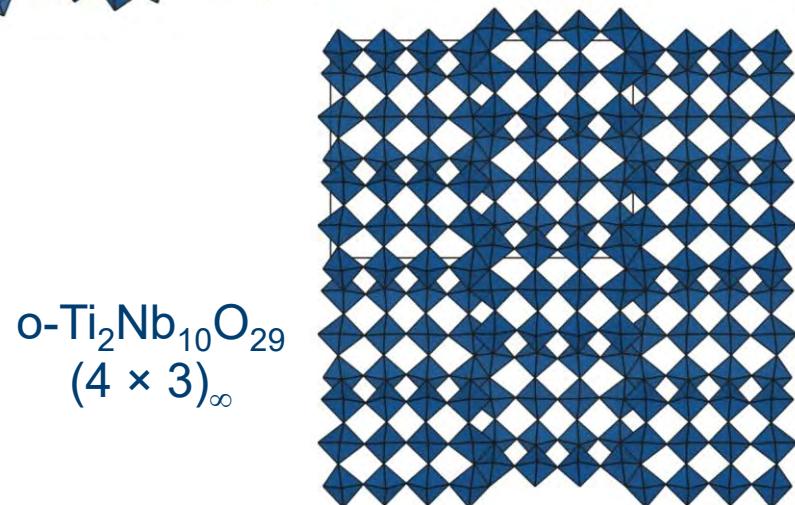
TiNb_2O_7
 $(3 \times 3)_\infty$



$\text{TiNb}_{24}\text{O}_{62}$
 $(4 \times 3)_2$

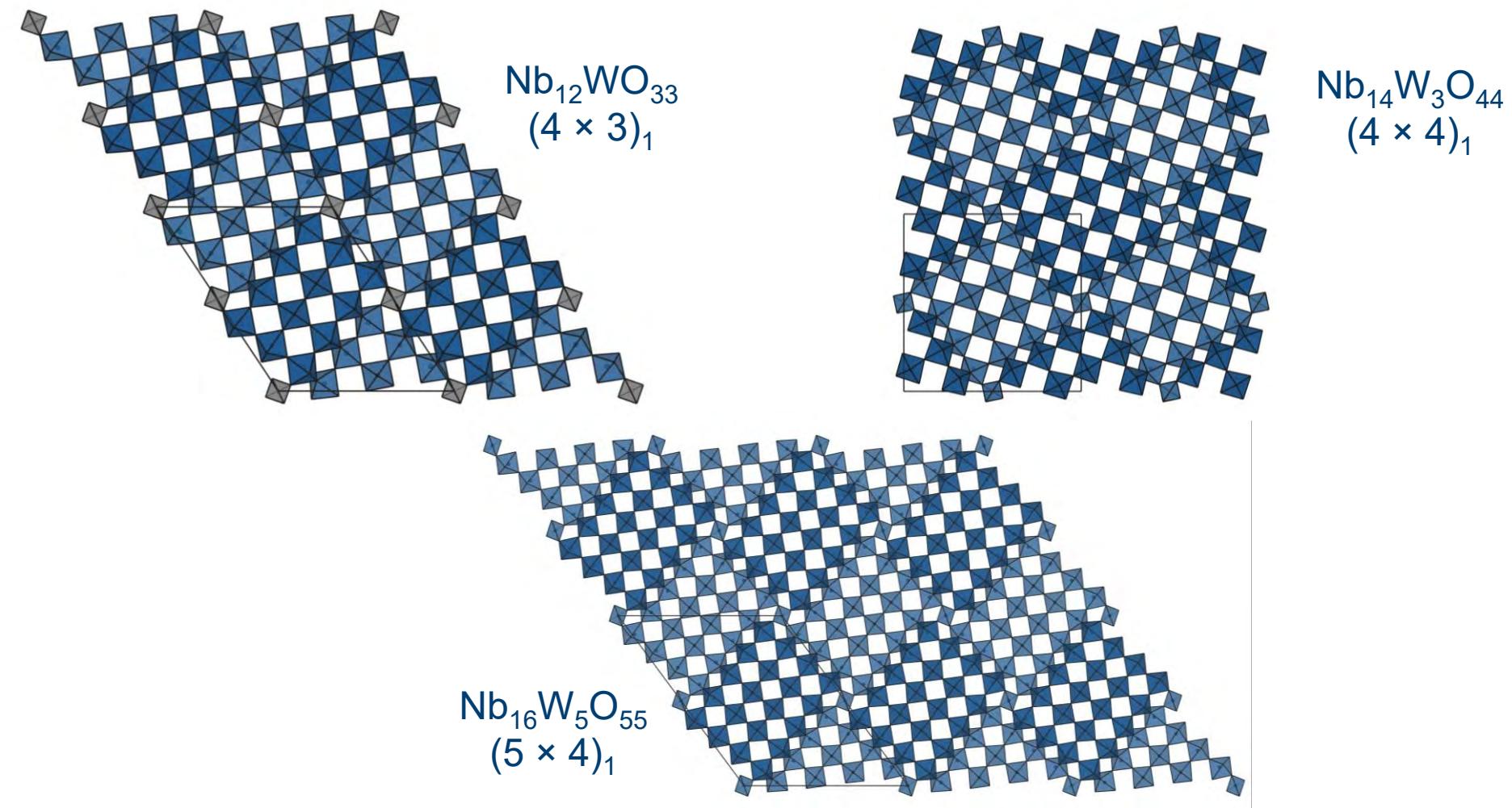


$\text{m-}\text{Ti}_2\text{Nb}_{10}\text{O}_{29}$
 $(4 \times 3)_\infty$

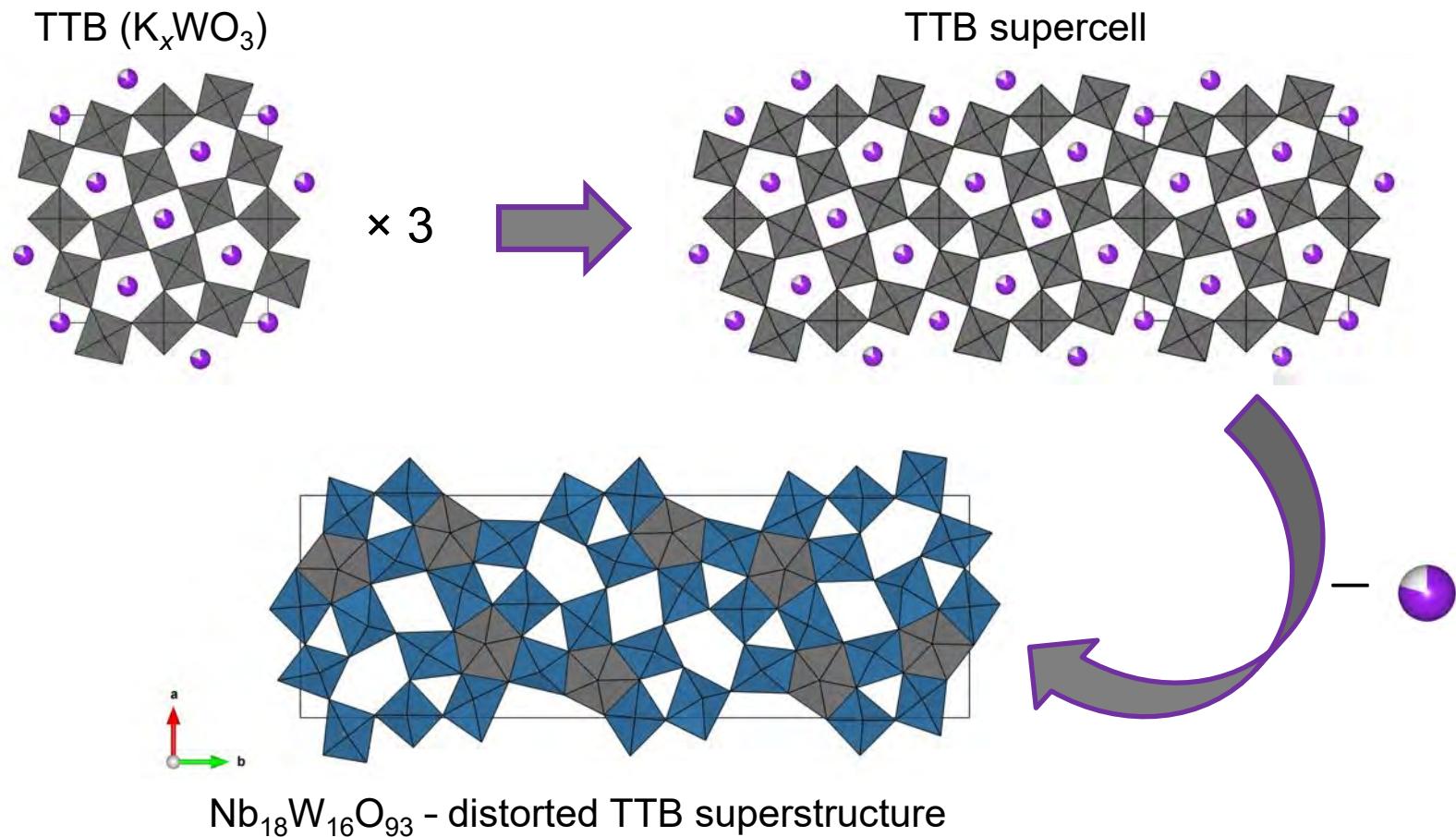


$\text{o-}\text{Ti}_2\text{Nb}_{10}\text{O}_{29}$
 $(4 \times 3)_\infty$

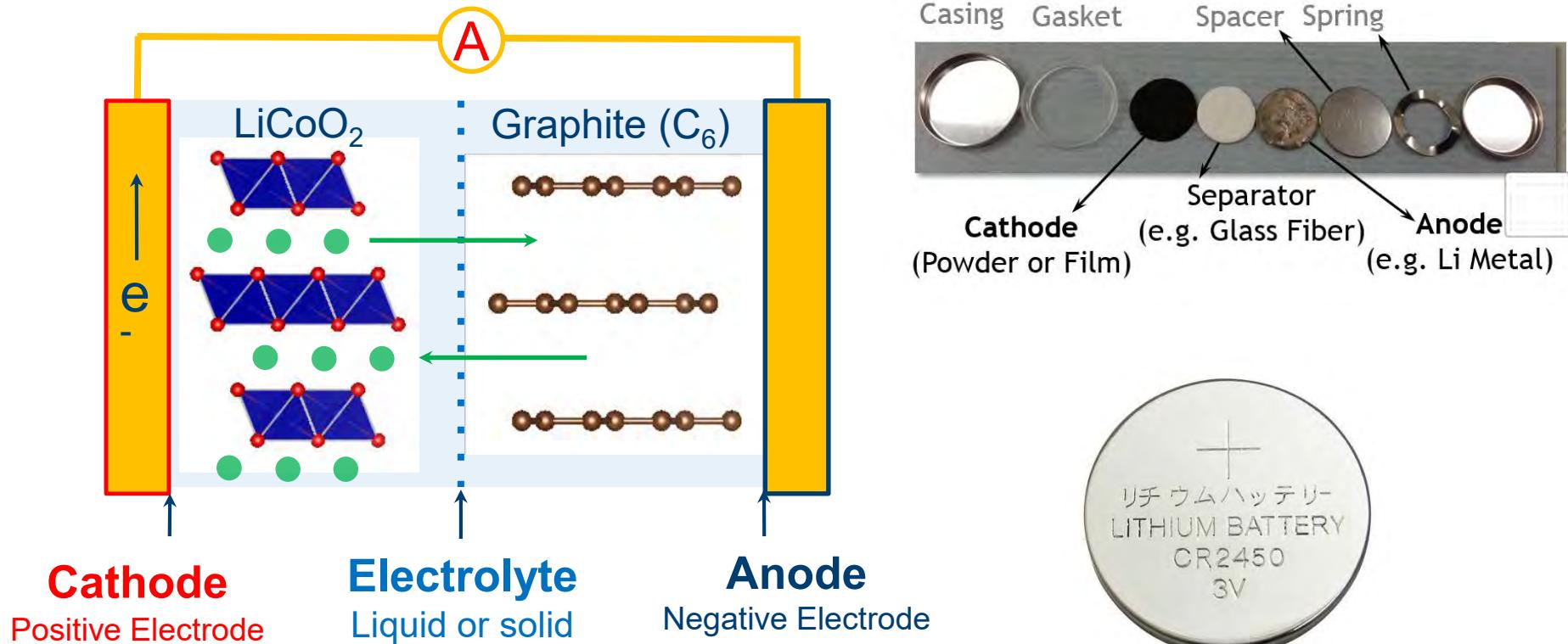
Crystallographic shear (Wadsley–Roth) structure



$\text{Nb}_{18}\text{W}_{16}\text{O}_{93}$ structural analogue of T- Nb_2O_5



Lithium-ion batteries



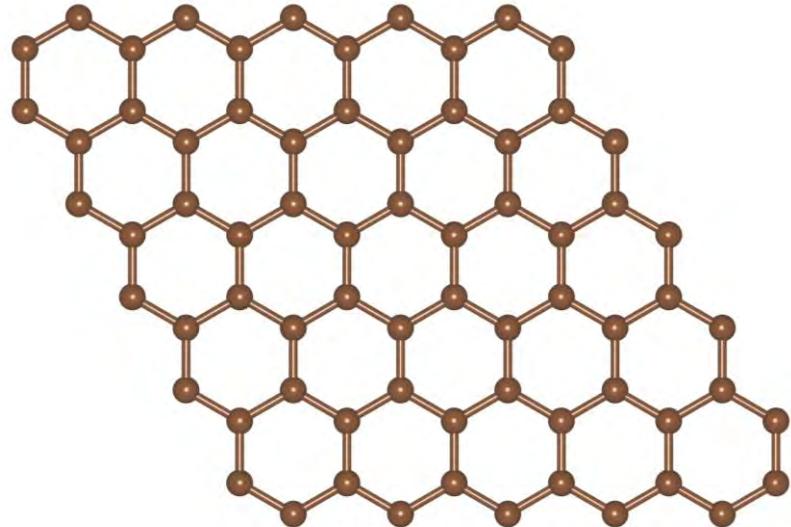
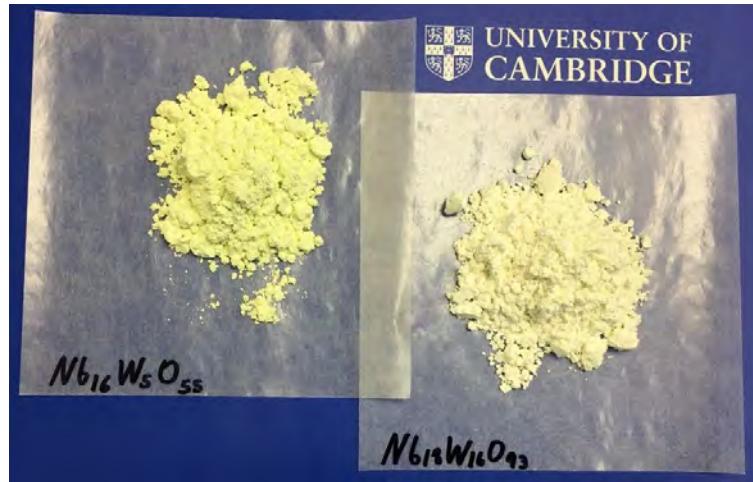
Lithium-ion battery anodes

Anodes: 100,000 tons / year

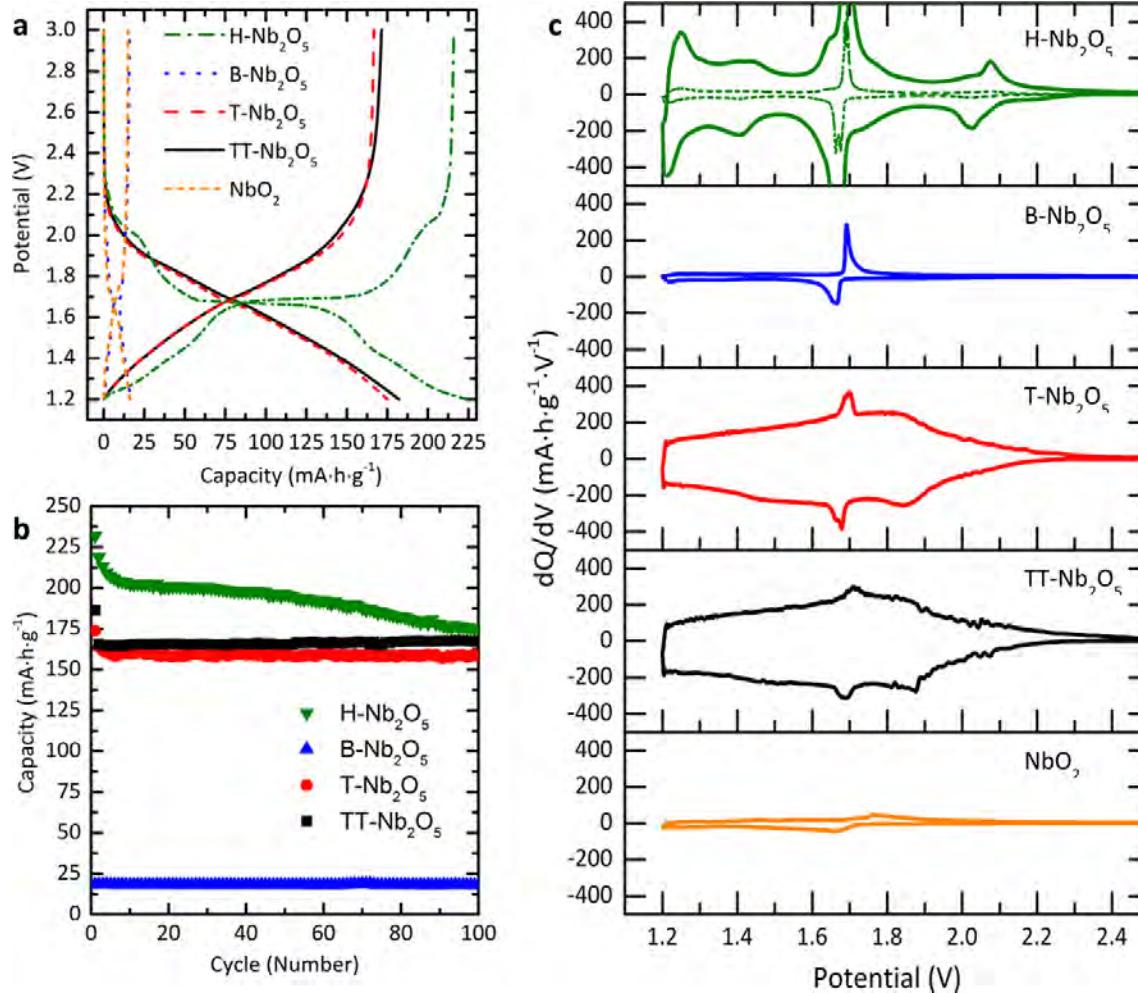
Graphite (97%)

$\text{Li}_4\text{Ti}_5\text{O}_{12}$ (LTO) (3%)

TiNb_2O_7 (TNO) / $\text{Nb}_{16}\text{W}_5\text{O}_{55}$ (NWO)

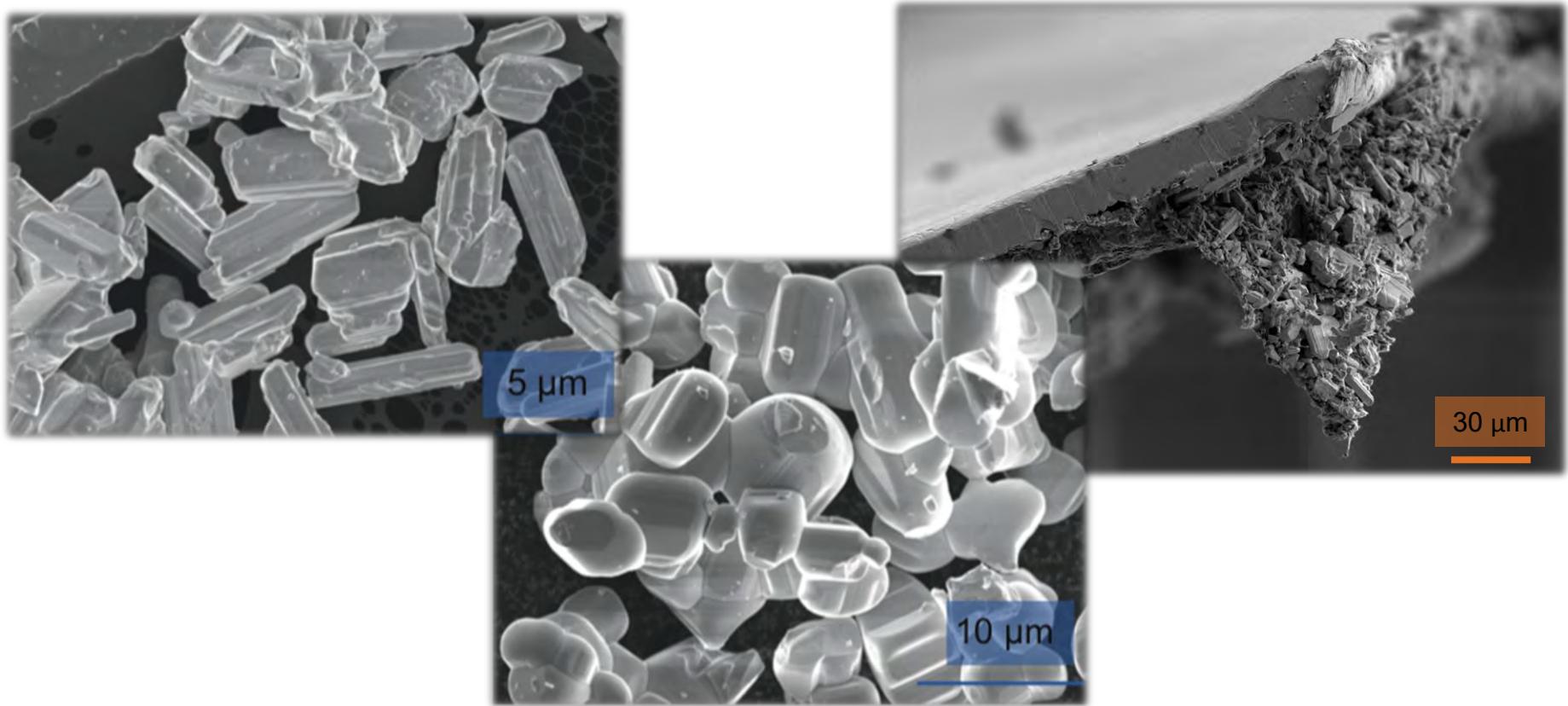


Lithium-ion batteries from Nb_2O_5

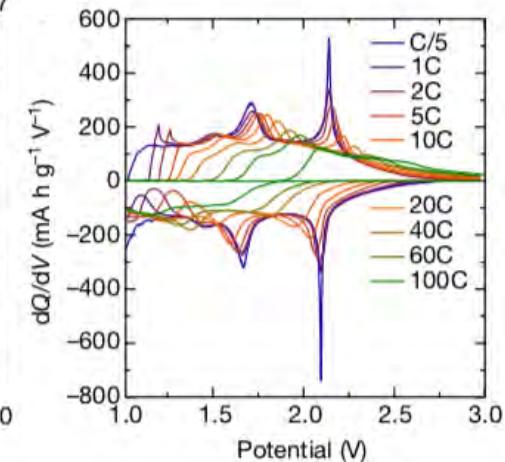
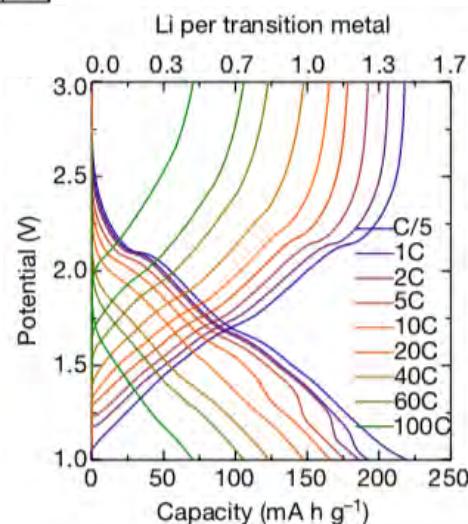
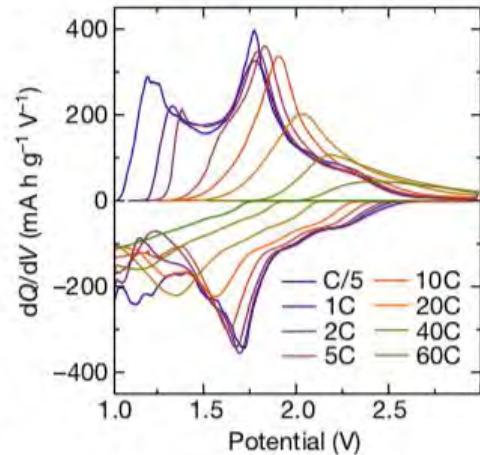
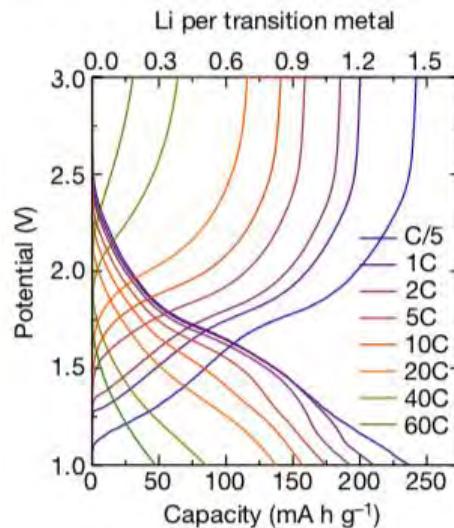


New anode materials: complex mixed metal oxides

Motivation: Bulk high rate performance → fast charging, high power output

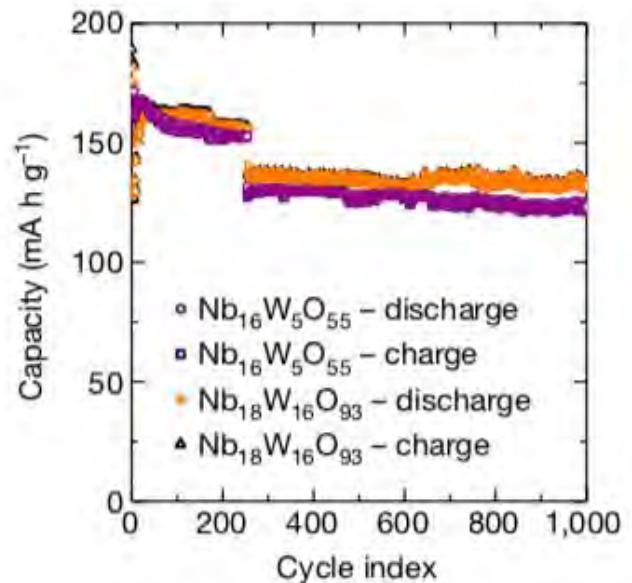
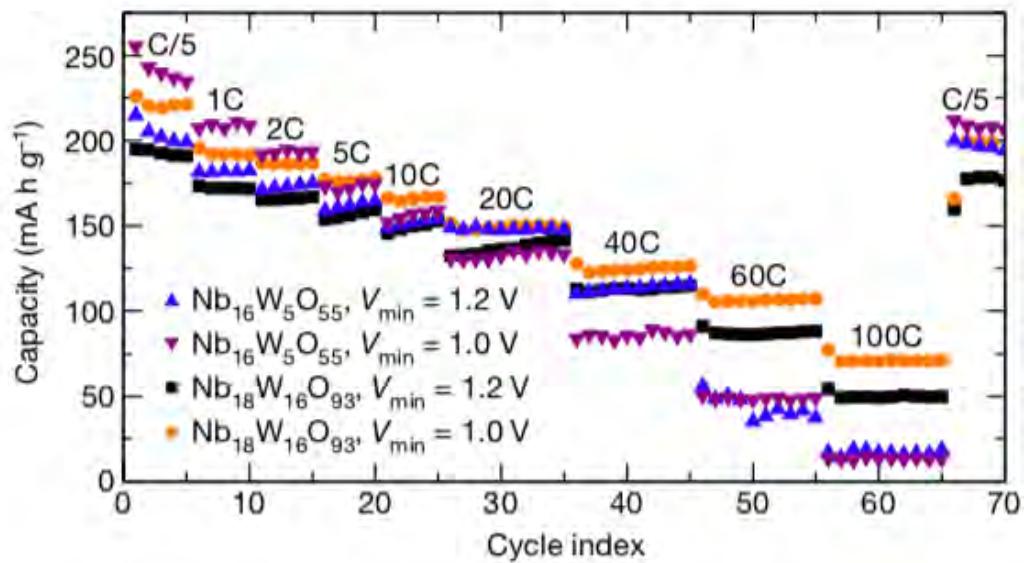


Niobium tungsten oxide electrochemistry



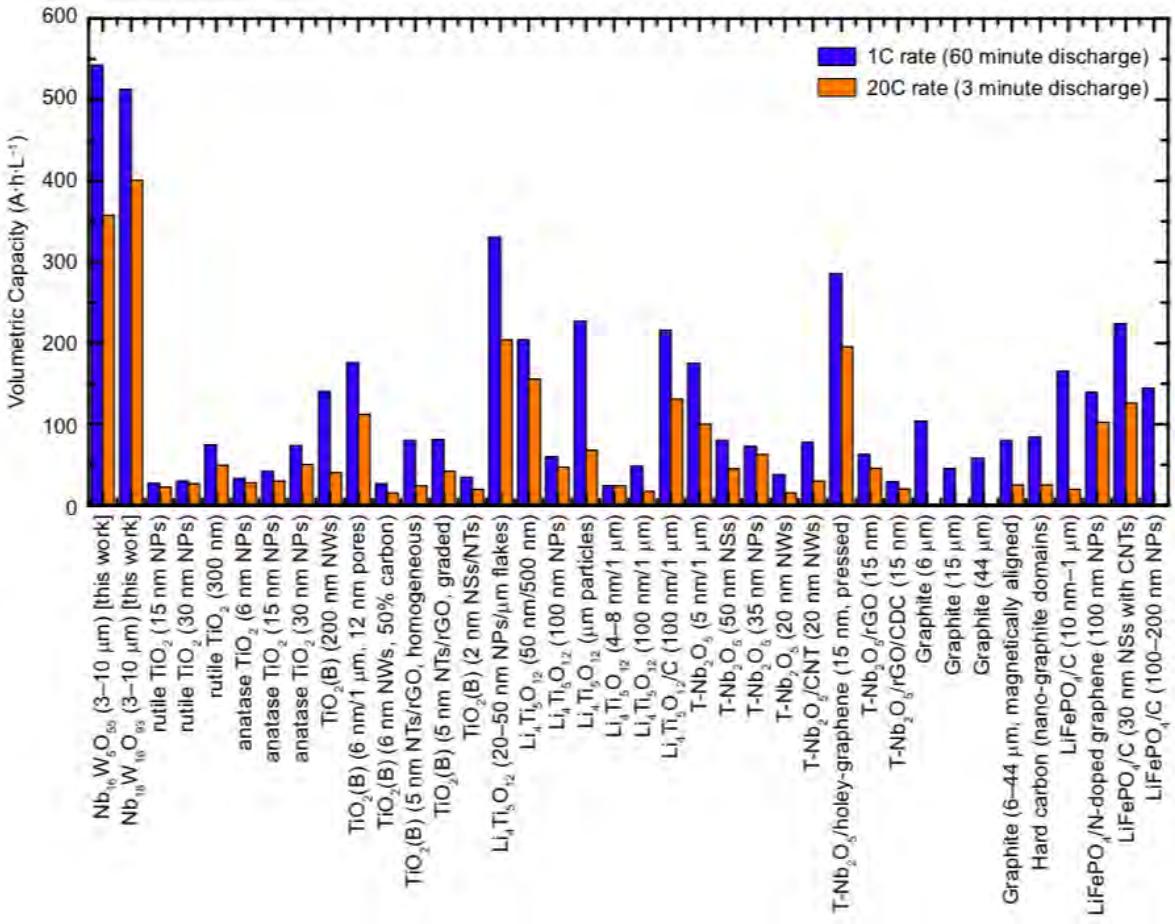
Griffith, K. J. et al. *Nature*, 2018, 559, 556–563.

Niobium tungsten oxide electrochemistry

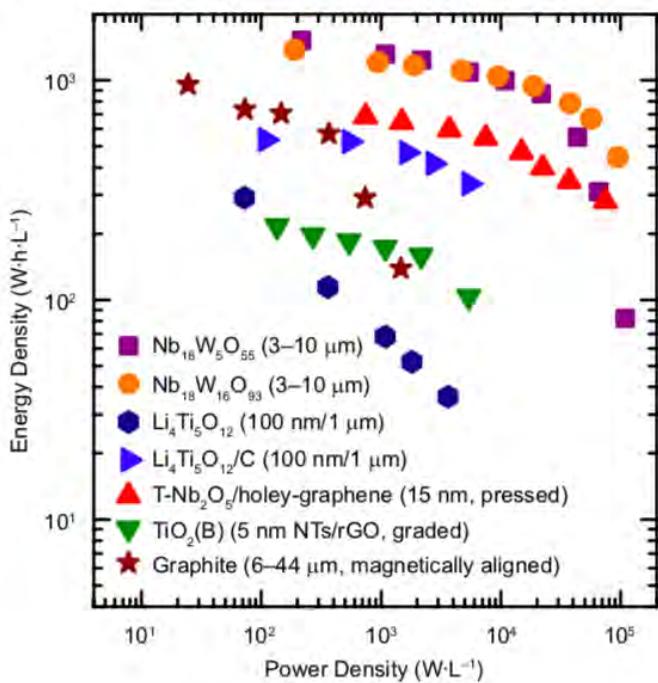


Griffith, K. J. et al. *Nature*, 2018, 559, 556–563.

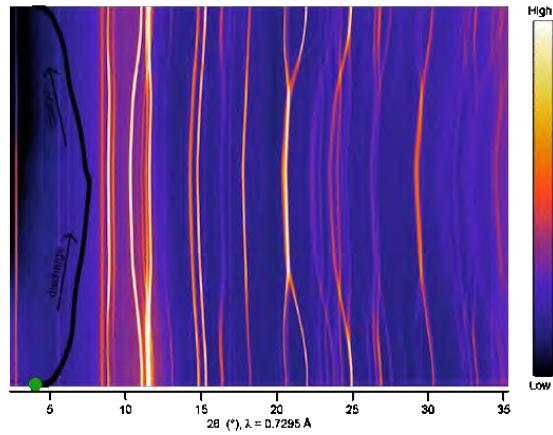
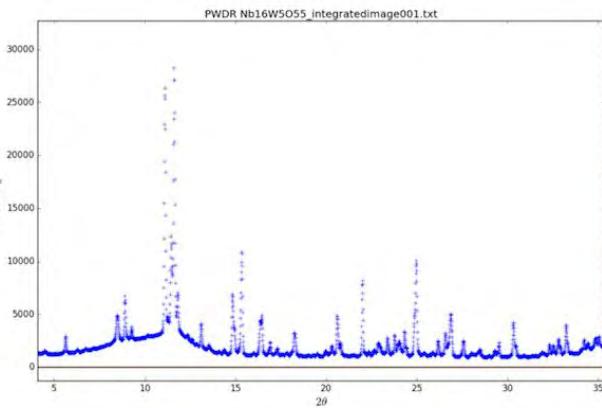
Niobium tungsten oxide electrochemistry



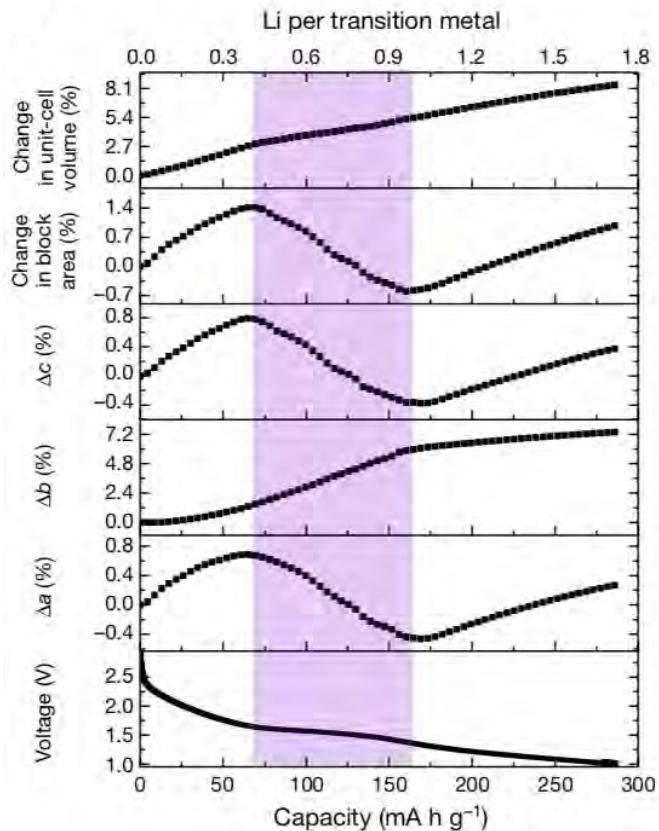
Q_{volumetric} scales with:
crystal density,
microstructural density,
proxy: Li/TM (Li/atom)



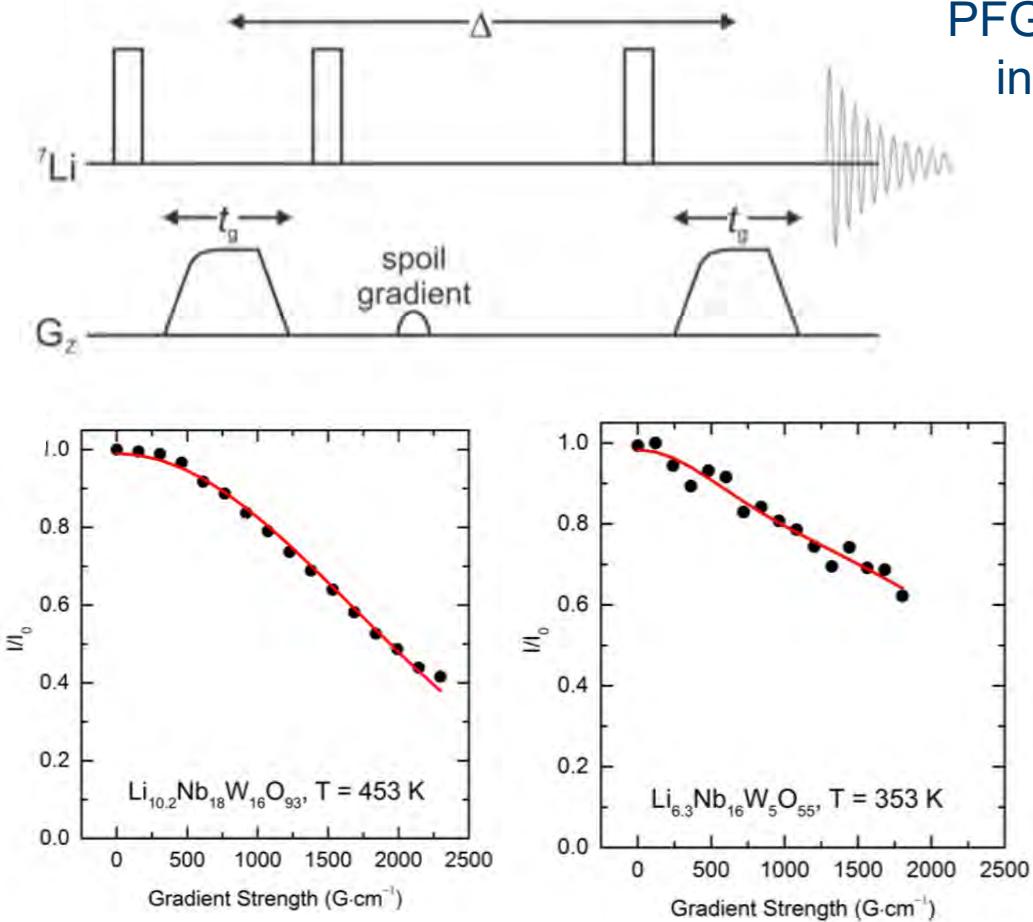
Operando high-rate structure evolution



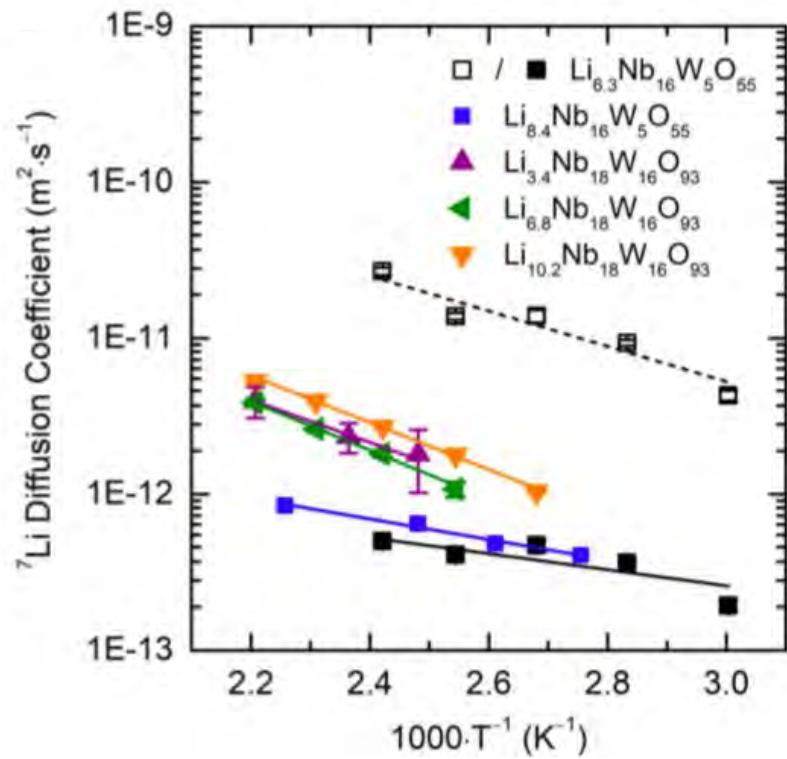
high-rate *operando* diffraction



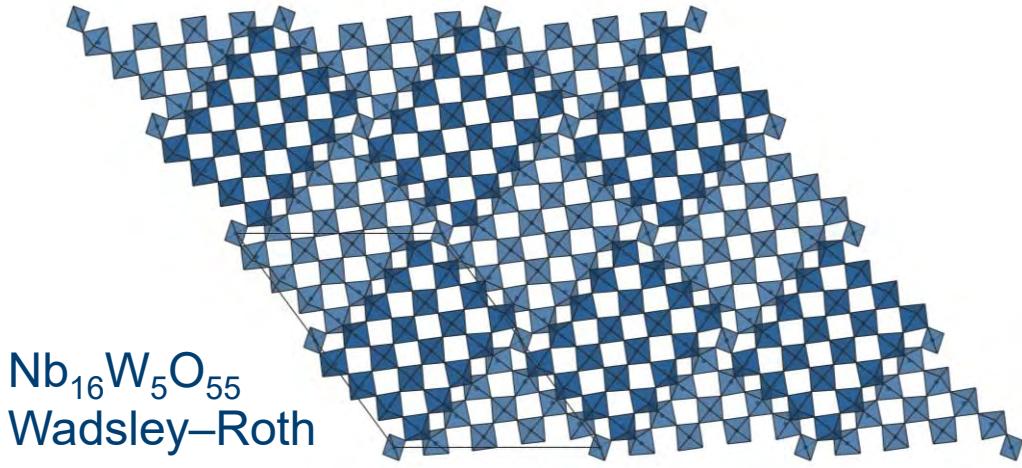
Pulsed field gradient NMR Spectroscopy



PFG NMR: Direct, real-space Li^+ diffusion in a mixed ionic–electronic conductor



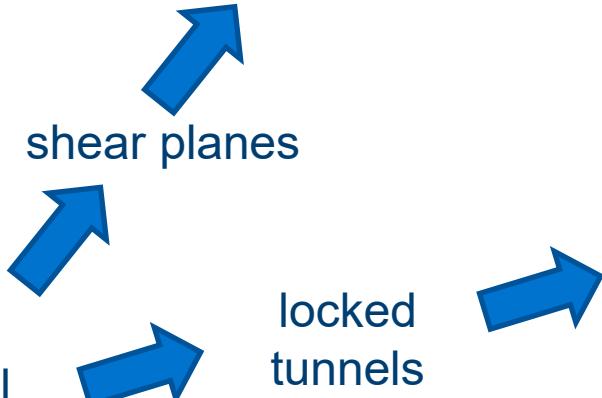
Complex mixed metal oxides



frustrated polyhedral networks

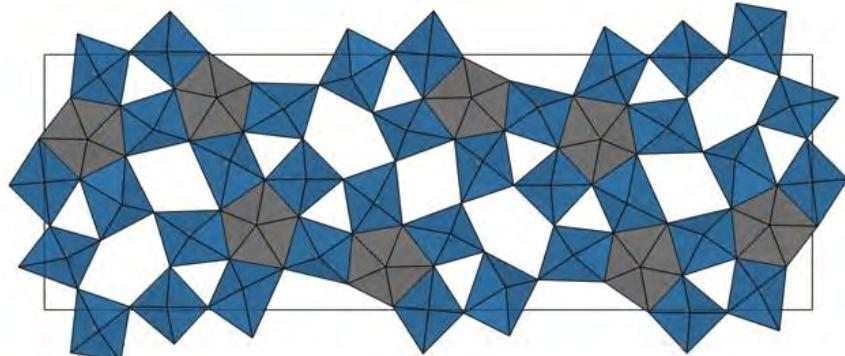
shear planes

locked tunnels



Open diffusion pathways for rapid ionic transport

Multiredox capability from both metal cations (& prevents ordering)

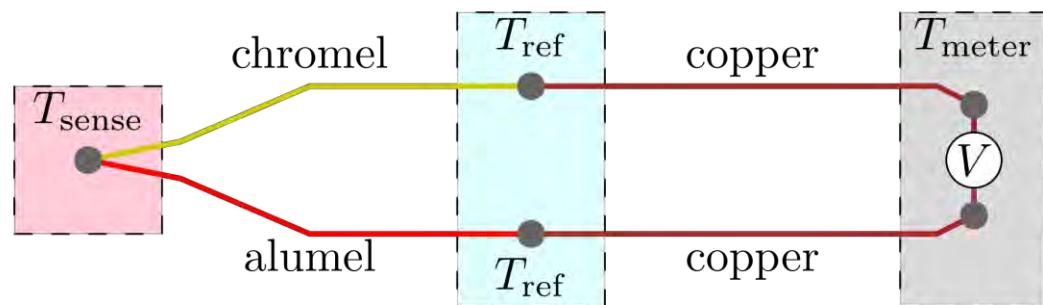


Thermoelectric energy conversion

Seebeck effect (thermoelectric effect): a temperature difference (ΔT) generates a voltage (ΔV) across a wire

Thermocouple: uses thermoelectric effect to measure temperature

- ovens/kilns/furnaces
- pilot light on gas heaters
- home & office thermostats
- wide industrial applications

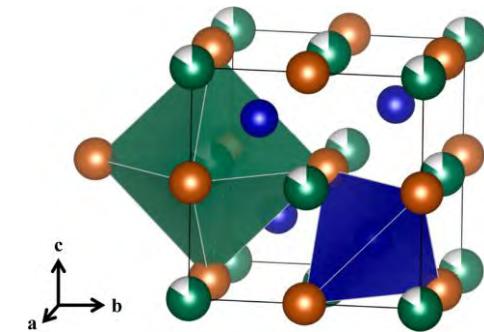


Thermopile: combine thermoelectric devices in series to generate usable voltage to power electronics

Thermoelectric energy conversion

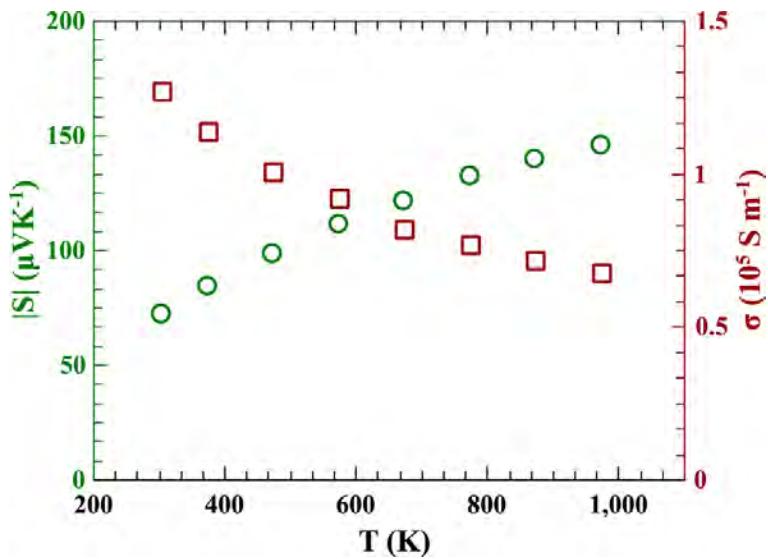
K-type thermocouple (most common)

- Chromel and alumel alloys (>90% nickel)
- Sensitivity/power $41 \mu\text{V}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$ (Seebeck coefficient)



Niobium-based semiconductor alloy

- Niobium + metal + antimony
- Sensitivity/power $> 150 \mu\text{V}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$
- Three times higher power



Snyder et al. *Chemistry of Materials*, 2017, 29, 1210–1217.

Acknowledgements

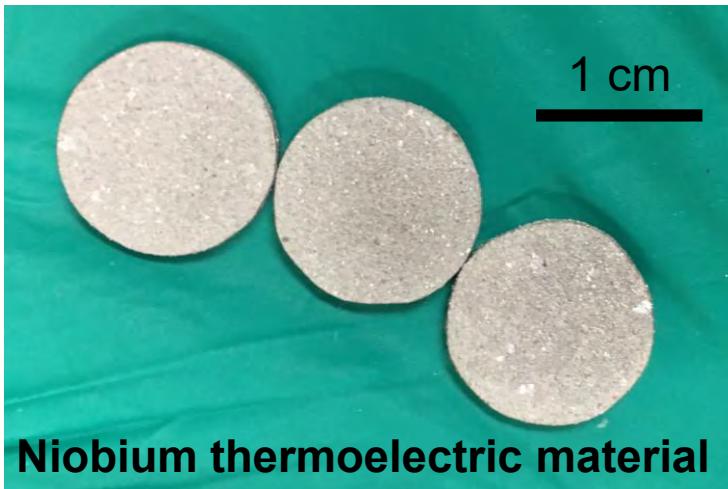
Professor Clare Grey (Cambridge)

Professor Jeff Snyder (Northwestern)

Dr. John Griffin (Lancaster University)

Dr. Alex Forse (UC Berkeley)

Professor Lauren Marbella (Columbia University)



Niobium thermoelectric material



***Herchel Smith
Scholarship***

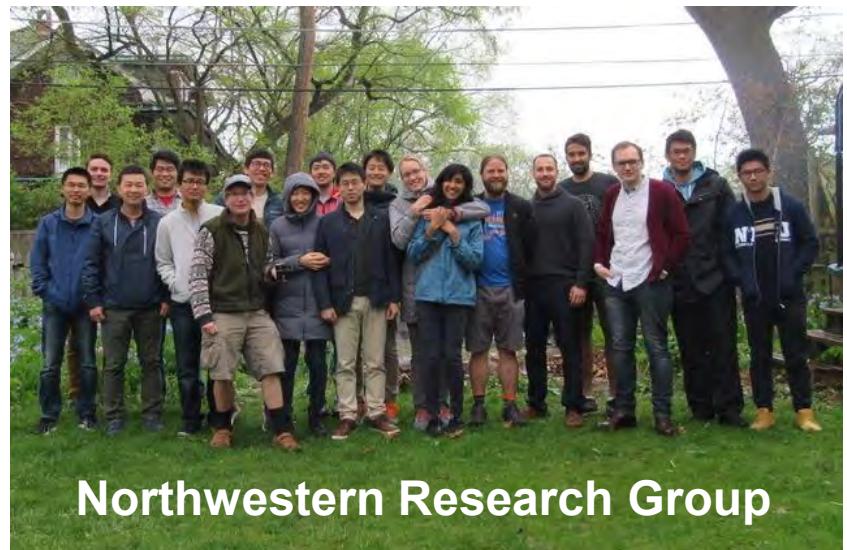
STFCBatteries.org 

Acknowledgements

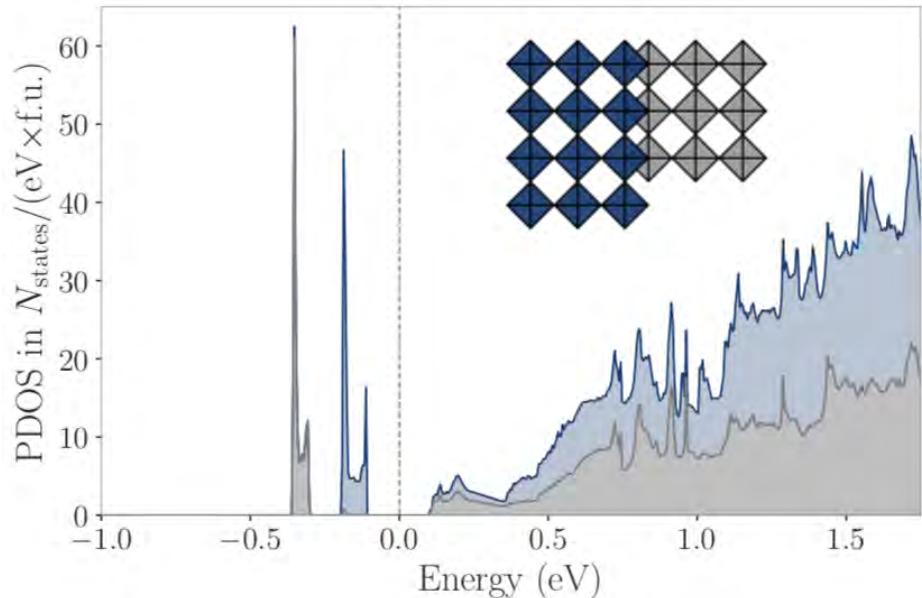
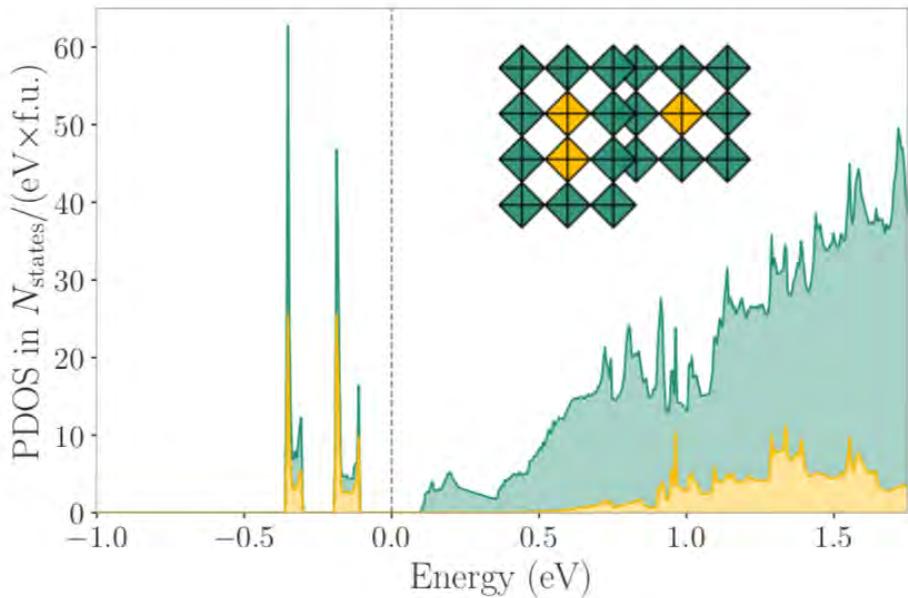
Cambridge Research Group



Northwestern Research Group



Electronic behavior



Kocer, Griffith *et al.* *Physical Review B*, 2019.