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## **Investigating the Pressure Effects on Structural Behaviour of Garnet-Type $\text{Li}_7\text{La}_3\text{Zr}_2\text{O}_{12}$ Solid Electrolyte Material: A Classical Molecular Dynamics Study**

*Thursday, 2 December 2021 11:30 (30 minutes)*

The cubic garnet-type  $\text{Li}_7\text{La}_3\text{Zr}_2\text{O}_{12}$  is an eminent candidate for next-generation solid state battery technology due to its thermal stability and high ionic conductivity. As such, its operation mechanisms need to be thoroughly understood, particularly focusing on the structural instability challenge reported to occur at lower temperatures. Herein, the statistical sampling capability of molecular dynamics simulations is employed during the investigation of fundamental structural, kinetic and thermodynamic properties emanating its subjection to pressure and temperature. Systematic induction of pressure yielded transition of the tetragonal phase to the cubic phase at 2 GPa pressure. The lattice parameters for the cubic and tetragonal phases, acquired in the current study are within 0.38 % agreement with literature. Furthermore, the XRD graphs confirm varying phases under different pressure conditions. The temperature phase diagram for 0 GPa structure agrees well with the literature trends and interestingly, the 2 GPa structure retained the cubic phase at various temperatures and confirmed in the XRDs and temperature phase diagram. Interrogation of  $\text{LaO}_8$  dodecahedral and  $\text{ZrO}_6$  octahedra demonstrated no significant variations in bond lengths and bond angles giving a good indication for the regulation of  $\text{Li}^+$ -transport channel size in the 2 GPa structure. Efforts in this study are a preliminary stage to fully understanding the thermodynamic impact as a structural modification avenue pending further investigations.

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No

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