File name: Supplementary Information Description: Supplementary Figures, Supplementary Tables, Supplementary Notes and Supplementary References







3 Supplementary Figure 1. Diffusion properties of super-ionic conductors. Arrhenius plot of

4 Li^+ diffusivity *D* in Li₁₀GeP₂S₁₂, cubic-Li₇La₃Zr₂O₁₂, Li_{1.3}Ti_{1.7}Al_{0.3}(PO₄)₃ from AIMD

5 simulations. The error bar of D is the statistical uncertainty from the linear fitting of mean square

6 displacement (MSD) over time⁸.

7



11 Supplementary Figure 2. Statistical analysis of hopping events. Cumulative hopping events

12 over time (left panels) and the histograms of the number n of Li⁺ hopping (right panels) from

13 AIMD simulations of (a) LGPS at 300 K, (b) cubic-phase LLZO at 600 K, (c) LATP at 600 K.



Supplementary Figure 3. Other concerted migration mechanism in SICs. Energy profile and
migration paths of Li⁺ concerted migration with different migration modes in (a–d) cubic-phase
LLZO at 600 K, (e–f) LATP at 600 K, (g–h) LGPS at 400 K. The migration paths (green

- spheres) are merged from NEB images.
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21 Supplementary Figure 4. Diffusion model for concerted migration. (a, b) The energy barrier

of concerted migration as a function of the Coulomb interaction strength *K* in the energy

23 landscape (Fig. 4a) with (a) different E_a at L = 6 Å or (b) with different L at $E_a = 0.6$ eV. (c)

24 Diffusion model with a different ion configuration in the energy landscape of Fig. 4a. The

25 mobile ion (grey sphere) configuration and the concerted migration path (arrows) are illustrated.

26 (d) The energy profile for the concerted migration at $K = 3 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{Å}$. (e) The energy barrier for

27 concerted migration as a function of the Coulomb interaction strength *K*.

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31 Supplementary Figure 5. Li ion diffusion in non-SICs. (a, b) Crystal structure (left) for (a)

32 Li₂S and (b) LiMn₂O₄, and Li⁺ probability densities at different isosurfaces (right), where ρ_0 is

the average probability density. (c) Crystal structure (left) and the energy landscape (right) of

34 single Li^+ migration in LiTiS₂. Li, Mn, Ti, S and O are represented by green, purple, blue, yellow

and red spheres, respectively. Octahedral (O) and tetrahedral (T) sites in LiTiS₂ are marked as

36 dark and light green spheres, respectively.

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Supplementary Figure 6. Li ion diffusion in $\text{Li}_7\text{P}_3\text{S}_{11}$ (a) Li⁺ probability density from AIMD at 900 K. The isosurfaces are plotted at $4\rho_0$, whereas ρ_0 is the average density. Li⁺, S²⁻, and PS₄ polyhedra are colored as green, yellow, and purple, respectively. (b) Energy landscape of single Li⁺ migration along typical diffusion paths. The high-energy sites are partially occupied in these materials. **c**, Distinctive part of van Hove correlation function for Li ions at 900 K.



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Supplementary Figure 7. Li ion diffusion in β-Li₃PS_{4.} (a) Li⁺ probability density from AIMD at 900 K. The isosurfaces are plotted at 4\rho_0, whereas \rho_0 is the average density. Li⁺, S²⁻, and PS₄ polyhedra are colored as green, yellow, and purple, respectively. (b) Energy landscape of single Li⁺ migration along typical diffusion path. The high-energy sites are partially occupied in these materials. (c) Distinctive part of van Hove correlation function for Li ions at 900 K.





Supplementary Figure 8. Li ion diffusion in Li₁₄ZnGe₄O₁₆ (a) Li⁺ probability density from AIMD at 900 K. The isosurfaces are plotted at $4\rho_0$, whereas ρ_0 is the average density. Li⁺, O²⁻, and GeO₄ polyhedra are colored as green, yellow, and purple, respectively. (b) Energy landscape of single Li⁺ migration along typical diffusion paths. Since Zn shares sites with Li, we removed Zn and kept GeO₄ at original position in our calculation of energy landscape. The high-energy sites are partially occupied in these materials. (c) Distinctive part of van Hove correlation function for Li ions at 900 K.



Supplementary Figure 9. Li ion diffusion in Li_{0.31}La_{0.56}TiO₃ (LLTO). (a, b) Energy profile
and migration path of single Li⁺ migration along typical diffusion paths. (c, d) Energy profile
and migration path of concerted migration with two neighboring Li⁺ in LLTO. The migration
paths (green spheres) are merged from NEB images. TiO₆ polyhedra are colored as blue and La
ions are not shown for clarity.



70 **Supplementary Figure 10. Na ion diffusion in NASICON. (a)** Na⁺ probability density in

71 Na₃Zr₂Si₂PO₁₂ from AIMD simulation at 900 K. The isosurface is plotted at $4\rho_0$, where ρ_0 is the

- 72 average density. (b) Energy landscape of single Na⁺ migration along typical diffusion paths. (c,
- **d)** Distinctive part of van Hove correlation function for Na^+ in $Na_3Zr_2Si_2PO_{12}$ at 900 K.





77 Supplementary Figure 11. Summary of diffusion properties in other super-ionic conductors.

78 (a) Arrhenius plot of Li^+/Na^+ diffusivity *D* from AIMD simulations. (b) Calculated (AIMD) and

79 experimental (Expt.) activation energy E_a .





82 Supplementary Figure 12. Oxygen ion diffusion in Bi_2O_3 . (a) Arrhenius plot of O^{2-} diffusivity

83 D in Bi₂O₃ from AIMD simulations. (b) Calculated (AIMD) and experimental (Expt.) O²⁻

84 activation energy E_{a} . (c, d) Energy profile and migration path of single O²⁻ migration along

typical diffusion paths. (e, f) Energy profile and migration path of concerted migration with two

86 O^{2-} in Bi₂O₃ at 750 K. The migration paths (red spheres) are merged from NEB images. Bi and

- 87 O ions are colored as purple and red, respectively.
- **88** * Ref. 16
- 89
- 90





93 Supplementary Figure 13. Li ion diffusion in $Li_{1+x}Ta_{1-x}Zr_xSiO_5$ (x = 0, 0.25). (a) Arrhenius plot of Li^+ diffusivity D in $\text{Li}_{1+x}\text{Ta}_{1-x}\text{Zr}_x\text{SiO}_5$ (x = 0 and 0.25) from AIMD simulations. (b) 94 Calculated Li⁺ conductivity σ at 300 K and activation energy E_a . (c) Distinctive part of van Hove 95 correlation function for Li^+ in $\text{Li}_{1.25}\text{Ta}_{0.75}\text{Zr}_{0.25}\text{SiO}_5$ at 900 K. (d) Li^+ probability density in 96 $Li_{1.25}Ta_{0.75}Zr_{0.25}SiO_5$ from AIMD simulation at 900 K. The isosurface is plotted at $4\rho_0$, whereas 97 ρ_0 is the average density. (e) Crystal structure of LiTaSiO₅. Li sites and MO_x (M = Ta, Si) 98 polyhedra are colored as green, yellow, and purple, respectively. High-energy B and C sites are 99 partially occupied in doped $Li_{1.25}Ta_{0.75}Zr_{0.25}SiO_5$. (f) Energy landscape of single Li^+ migration 100 101 along typical diffusion paths. 102



plot of Li⁺ diffusivity *D* in Li_{1+x}Al_{1+x}Si_{1-x}O₄ (x = 0, 0.25) from AIMD simulations. (b) Calculated Li⁺ conductivity σ at 300 K and activation energy E_a . (c) Distinctive part of van Hove correlation function for Li⁺ in Li_{1.25}Al_{1.25}Si_{0.75}O₄ at 900 K. (d) Li⁺ probability density in Li_{1.25}Al_{1.25}Si_{0.75}O₄

- 108 from AIMD simulation at 900 K. The isosurface is plotted at ρ_0 , whereas ρ_0 is the average
- density. (e) LiAlSiO₄ crystal structure. Li sites and MO_x (M = Al, Si) polyhedra are colored as
- 110 green, grey, and purple, respectively. High-energy B and C sites are partially occupied in doped
- 111 $Li_{1.25}Al_{1.25}Si_{0.75}O_4$. (f) Energy landscape of single Li^+ migration along typical diffusion paths.

114 Supplementary Table 1. Calculated (AIMD) and experimental (Expt.) Li^+ conductivity σ and

- activation energy E_a of Li₁₀GeP₂S₁₂ (LGPS), Li₇La₃Zr₂O₁₂ (LLZO) and Li_{1.3}Ti_{1.7}Al_{0.3}(PO₄)₃
- 116 (LATP). Error bound of calculated σ was estimated from the linear fitting of the Arrhenius plot
- 117 (Supplementary Fig. 1).

Composition	$E_{\rm a}({\rm eV})$	σ at 300 K (mS cm ⁻¹)	Error bound
			$[\sigma_{\min}, \sigma_{\max}]$
		(mb cm)	$(mS cm^{-1})$
$Li_{10}GeP_2S_{12}$ (AIMD)	0.23 ± 0.03	10	[3.40, 30.65]
$Li_{10}GeP_2S_{12}$ (Expt.) ¹	0.24	12	
cubic-Li ₇ La ₃ Zr ₂ O ₁₂ (AIMD)	0.25 ± 0.02	1.3	[0.47, 3.49]
cubic-Li ₇ La ₃ Zr ₂ O ₁₂ (Expt.)* ²⁻⁴	0.31-0.34	0.31-0.51	
Li _{1.3} Ti _{1.7} Al _{0.3} (PO ₄) ₃ (AIMD)	0.25 ± 0.03	1.1	[0.30, 4.05]
Li _{1.3} Ti _{1.7} Al _{0.3} (PO ₄) ₃ (Expt.)** ⁵⁻⁷	0.28-0.29	0.55-5	

118 * Ref. 4 are based on $Li_7La_3Zr_2O_{12}$ with 1.7 wt% Sr doping

119 ** Ref. 6,7 are based on the $Li_{1.2}Ti_{1.8}Al_{0.2}(PO_4)_3$ composition

121 Supplementary Note 1. Statistical analysis of hopping events.

122 The concerted migration is also confirmed by the timing of hopping events in AIMD 123 simulations (Supplementary Fig. 2). Each Li^+ hopping event is identified and counted at the time 124 when a Li^+ changes its occupying site; the Li^+ spatial position is averaged over 2 ps to avoid 125 counting local high-frequency vibrations. A plot of the total number of hopping events versus 126 time shows that multiple ions hop within a short time interval (< 2 ps) in LGPS, LLZO and 127 LATP (Supplementary Fig. 2a–c).

In addition, we performed a statistical analysis of the timing of all Li⁺ hopping events in 128 AIMD simulations. Li⁺ hoppings that occurred within 1 ps were grouped as one individual 129 130 concerted migration event, and the number of ions *n* in each migration event was determined. In 131 LGPS, LLZO, and LATP, concerted migration $(n \ge 2)$ dominates the overall diffusion (Supplementary Fig. 2a–c). This is further supported by the fact that in LGPS, the fast diffusion 132 along the *c* direction illustrated in Fig. 3a is concerted migration, and most isolated hoppings 133 (n=1) correspond to the Li⁺ hopping in the *ab* direction. Thus, this statistical analysis of the 134 135 timing of hopping events confirms concerted migration as the dominant diffusion mechanism in SICs. 136

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138 Supplementary Note 2. Other concerted migration mechanisms in SICs.

139 The concerted migration mechanism in Fig. 3 is typical for LGPS, LLZO, and LATP, as 140 observed in the AIMD simulations. Other concerted migrations observed in the AIMD 141 simulations are also studied (Supplementary Fig. 3). In LGPS, the concerted migration of three Li ions along the c channel also shows a low activation energy barrier of 0.24 eV. In LATP, the 142 same concerted migration mode as in Fig. 3c shows a slightly higher E_a , 0.32 eV, which is a 143 144 result of different local Al/Ti configurations. In LLZO, the concerted migration modes are highly 145 versatile. In all modes present in LLZO, multiple Li ions hop from their previous O and T sites 146 into their nearest-neighbor T and O sites, respectively. These concerted migration processes are similar to the one illustrated in Fig. 3b except for the fact that different number of Li ions and 147 different Li⁺ sublattice configurations are involved. In addition, all LLZO migrations show low 148 migration barriers (ranging from 0.18 to 0.29 eV). Therefore, while concerted migrations may 149 show different modes in the disordered Li⁺ sublattice, the energy barriers of those modes are 150 151 similar to those of the typical concerted migrations shown in Fig. 3.

152 Supplementary Note 3. Diffusion model for concerted migration.

In the diffusion model in Fig. 4, the Coulomb interaction strength *K* among mobile ions wasestimated from DFT calculations as:

155 $K = \frac{E_{\rm DFT}(r_1) - E_{\rm DFT}(r_2)}{\frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{r_2}},$ (1)

where $E_{\text{DFT}}(r)$ is the DFT energy of the materials framework with two Li ions at a distance *r*. The distances r_1 and r_2 are chosen as the nearest and second-nearest neighboring Li sites, so that the energy difference between $E_{\text{DFT}}(r_1)$ and $E_{\text{DFT}}(r_2)$ is purely from the Coulomb interaction between these two Li ions. The Coulomb interaction strength *K* calculated in DFT is 2.7 eV·Å, 2.0 eV·Å, and 4.2 eV·Å for LGPS, LLZO, and LATP, respectively.

The arrangement of mobile ions in the diffusion model (Fig. 4) is similar to that of the Li^+ 161 162 configuration in LATP (Fig. 3f). All ions were allowed to relax from the initial positions. After 163 reaching the equilibrium, the high-energy sites remained occupied. The lowest energy migration pathway was calculated using the NEB method. The NEB calculation was converged to an 164 energy tolerance of < 0.001 eV. We estimated the energy barrier of concerted migration in 165 energy landscapes with different values of the barrier E_a and the unit lattice L (Supplementary 166 Fig. 4). The barrier of concerted migration is significantly lower than the highest barrier of the 167 168 energy landscape for all values of E_a and L tested.

169 In addition, we studied the diffusion model with different ion configurations, as shown in Supplementary Fig. 4c. In this model, the potential energy of the structural framework is the 170 171 same as the energy landscape in Fig. 4a. Two ions (not plotted) are fixed at the position of -3.0Å and 27.0 Å to provide the interactions from neighboring ions. Three high-energy sites are 172 unoccupied, corresponding to an average site occupancy of $\sim 67\%$, which is close to the average 173 174 site occupancy in LGPS and LLZO. In this mobile-ion configuration, the concerted migration of two ions has a barrier of 0.2–0.4 eV (Supplementary Fig. 4d), for K ranging from 2–4 eV Å, 175 which is lower than the landscape barrier of 0.6 eV. As shown in the diffusion models with two 176 177 different ion configurations, the concerted migration mechanism with low barriers is universal 178 and can be activated with high-energy site occupancy, even though specific mobile ion 179 configuration may vary for different orderings, compositions, and structural frameworks. 180

181 Supplementary Note 4. Features in non-SIC materials.

- We studied Li₂S, LiMn₂O₄, and LiTiS₂ as representative materials of non-SICs. In these non-SICs, the probability density of Li ions at 900 K computed from AIMD simulations (Supplementary Fig. 5a, b) do not show the elongation features presented in the SICs (Fig. 2). In addition, LiTiS₂ has an energy landscape (Supplementary Fig. 5c) similar to that in Fig. 4b in contrast to the typical energy landscape of SIC materials (Fig. 4a).
- 187 188

189 Supplementary Note 5. Structural features and concerted migration in other ionic190 conductors.

191 We also verified the identified structural features and concerted migration mechanism in 192 other Li ionic conductors, such as $Li_7P_3S_{11}$, $Li_{14}ZnGe_4O_{16}$ (LISICON), and β -Li₃PS₄. The 193 activation energies of $Li_7P_3S_{11}$, $Li_{14}ZnGe_4O_{16}$, and β - Li_3PS_4 from AIMD simulations are 0.17 eV, 0.32 eV and 0.27 eV, respectively, which are in good agreement with experimental values at 194 similar temperature ranges (Supplementary Fig. 11).⁹⁻¹² The energy landscape of single Li⁺ 195 migration (Supplementary Fig. 6-8) has high energy barriers: 0.39, 0.48, and 0.77 eV for 196 197 $Li_7P_3S_{11}$, β - Li_3PS_4 , and $Li_{14}ZnGe_4O_{16}$, respectively, and the high-energy sites are occupied. Thus, 198 the concerted migration has lower migration barrier than the energy landscape. The distinctive 199 part of the van Hove correlation function (Supplementary Fig. 6-8) also suggests concerted migration of Li ions. The Li^+ probability density in these materials (Supplementary Fig. 6–8) 200 also shows elongation along the migration directions, similar to those in LGPS, LLZO, and 201 202 LATP (Fig. 2d–f). Therefore, the key features of SICs are observed in these materials, and our 203 proposed mechanism reduces the migration barrier in these SICs.

204 In $Li_{0.31}La_{0.56}TiO_3$ (LLTO), the activation energy computed in AIMD simulations is 0.26 eV, which is in good agreement with experimental values.^{11,13} We also observed the concerted 205 206 migration of multiple Li ions in the AIMD simulations. The migration barriers of such concerted 207 migrations in NEB calculations are as low as 0.26-0.39 eV (Supplementary Fig. 9). The singleion migration, which is also observed as a typical migration mode in AIMD simulations, has a 208 similarly low energy barrier.¹⁴ LLTO is slightly different from other SICs in that both single-ion 209 210 and concerted migration contribute to ionic transport. Our proposed mechanism is still active and hence reduces the energy barrier of concerted migrations of multiple ions. 211

212 The identified mechanism and structural features are also observed in the Na super-ionic conductor Na₃Zr₂Si₂PO₁₂ (NASICON). The concerted migration of Na ions is observed and Na⁺ 213 214 probability densities show elongation along the diffusion path (Supplementary Fig. 10). The 215 experimental activation energy of Na₃Zr₂Si₂PO₁₂ is 0.20–0.24 eV at temperatures greater than 450 K¹⁵, but the energy landscape of single Na⁺ to migrate within the structural framework has a 216 higher energy barrier of 0.78 eV (Supplementary Fig. 7). In consistent with the mechanism in 217 218 LATP, the occupied high-energy sites promote concerted migration with a reduced energy barrier. 219

For O ion conductors, we studied fluorite-structure Bi_2O_3 , which has the same structure as other fast O ion conductors, such as CeO₂ and ZrO₂. In our calculations, the activation energy from AIMD simulations is 0.46 eV (Supplementary Fig. 12), which is in good agreement with experiments.¹⁶ We found that concerted migration of two O^{2–} has the low energy barrier of 0.4 eV, similar to the barrier observed in the AIMD simulations. This barrier is lower than that for single ion migration, suggesting that our proposed mechanism is active in reducing the barrier for concerted migration.

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228 Supplementary Note 6. Prediction and design of new Li ionic conductors.

We selected new structures $LiTaSiO_5$ (space group $P12_1/c1$, ICSD-39648) and $LiAlSiO_4$

230 (space group $P6_{4}22$, ICSD-2929), as the model systems to demonstrate designing new fast ionic

conductor materials. These compounds were selected by screening all compounds in the ICSD

database with the following criteria: 1) No transition metal elements, such as V, Mn, Fe, Co and

Ni, which are known to induce electronic conduction; 2) big bottleneck size > 0.5 Å of diffusion

channel; and 3) Li percolation network with Li-Li site distance < 3 Å. Among many materials

suggested by these criteria, we chose LiTaSiO₅ and LiAlSiO₄ as model systems, because they

and have not been studied for Li ion transport.

237 These compounds were doped through aliovalent cation substitution to introduce extra Li into

238 high-energy Li sites. The Li sublattice of the doped structures was reordered to obtain a low-

energy Li⁺ configuration. LiTaSiO₅ shows relatively slow Li diffusion ($E_a = 0.73 \pm 0.08$ eV, σ_{300K}

- $240 = 2.8 \times 10^{-7} \text{ mS cm}^{-1}$) with a high activation energy due to the high-barrier energy landscape
- 241 (Supplementary Fig. 13). The doped $Li_{1.25}Ta_{0.75}Zr_{0.25}SiO_5$ is obtained by substituting Ta^{5+} with
- 242 Zr^{4+} , and has extra Li ions occupying a fraction of high-energy B and C sites (Supplementary Fig.
- 13). As a result, concerted migration of Li ions is activated, leading to a significantly lower
- activation energy and higher ionic conductivity ($E_a = 0.23 \pm 0.01 \text{ eV}$, $\sigma_{300\text{K}} = 4.3 \text{ mS cm}^{-1}$).
- 245 Similarly, Li_{1.25}Al_{1.25}Si_{0.75}O₄, the doped LiAlSiO₄ structure resulting from the substitution of Si⁴⁺
- with Al³⁺, has additional Li ions occupying some high-energy B and C sites (Supplementary Fig.
- 14) in addition to the low-energy A and D sites originally occupied in LiAlSiO₄. Slow Li⁺
- diffusion in LiAlSiO₄ ($E_a = 0.43 \pm 0.05 \text{ eV}$, $\sigma_{300\text{K}} = 0.01 \text{ mS cm}^{-1}$) is significantly increased in

249
$$\text{Li}_{1.25}\text{Al}_{1.25}\text{Si}_{0.75}\text{O}_4$$
 ($E_a = 0.28 \pm 0.06 \text{ eV}$, $\sigma_{300\text{K}} = 1.5 \text{ mS cm}^{-1}$).

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