



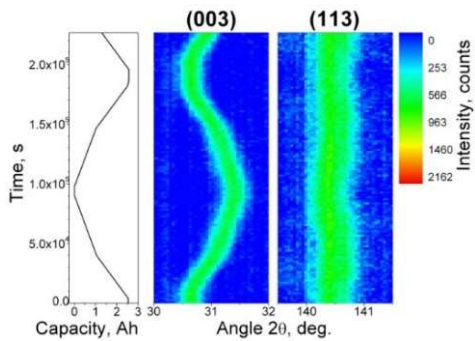
Complex hydrides for Energy Applications

Wiebke Lohstroh

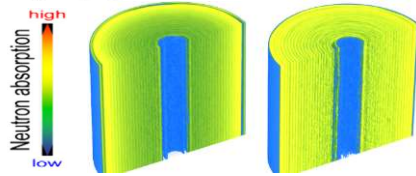
Technische Universität München

Energy Research with neutrons

Battery research

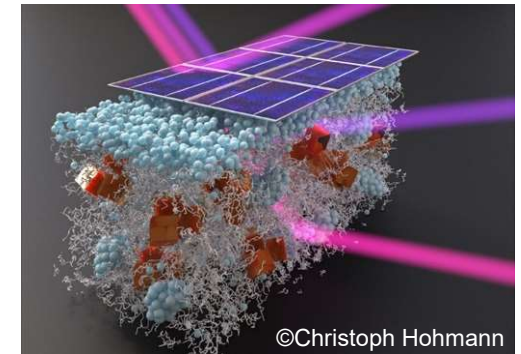


A. Senyshyn et al., *J. Power Sources* 203 (2012) 126-129.



- Diffraction
- Imaging & Analytic techniques
- SANS & Reflectometry
- Spectroscopy
- Positron Source

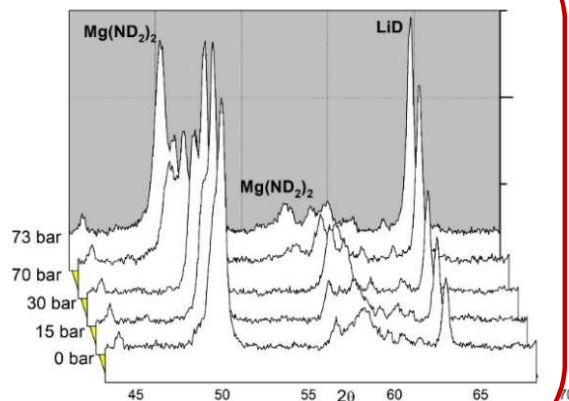
Next generation solar cells



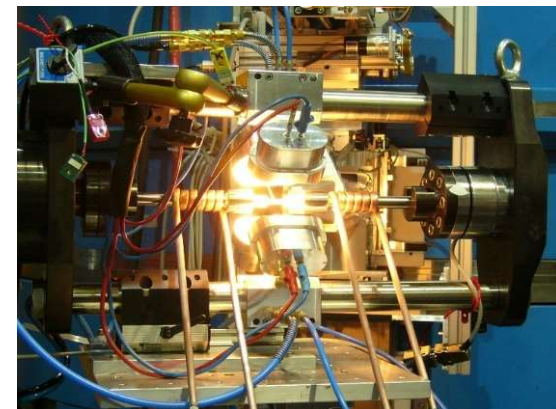
©Christoph Hohmann

Hydrogen Technology – solid state conductors

F. Dolci et al., *Int. J. Hydr. En.* 35 (2010) 5448



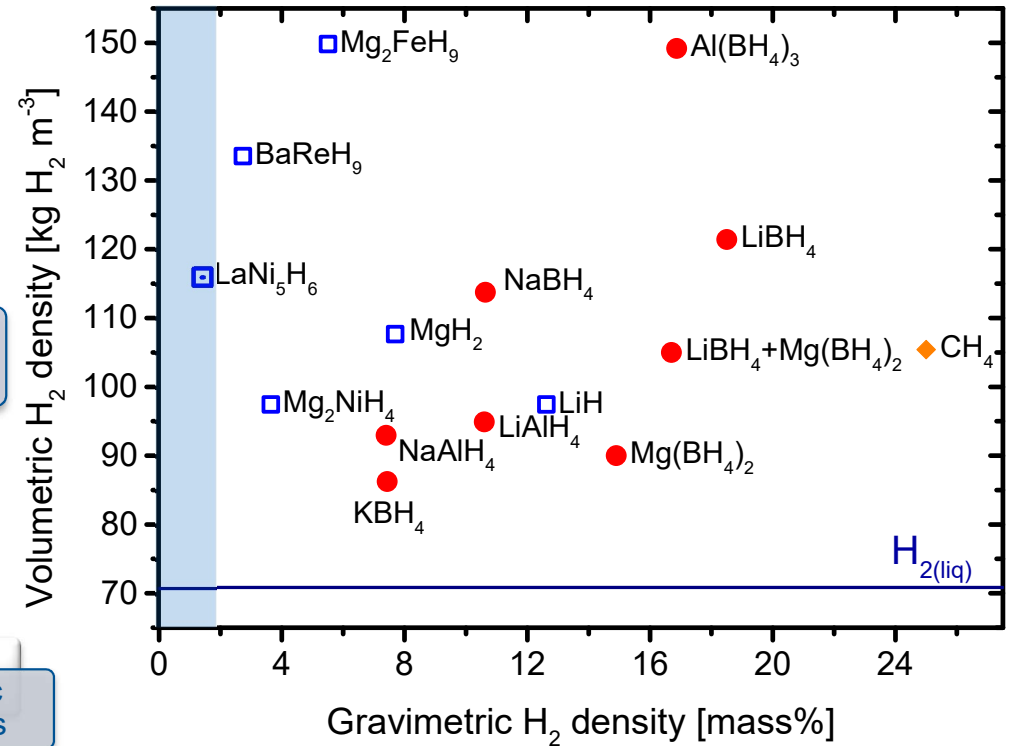
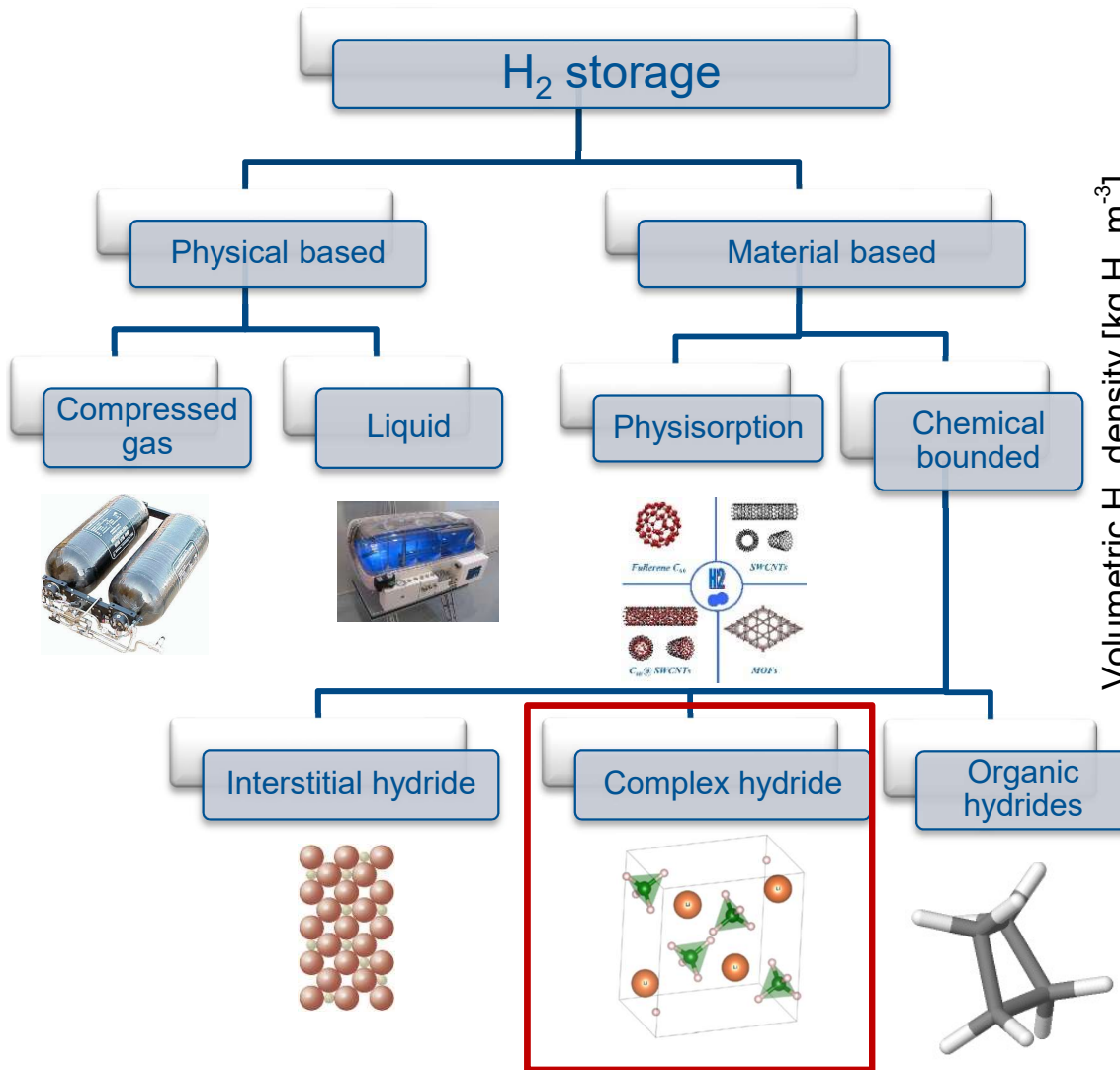
Advanced Materials



Outline

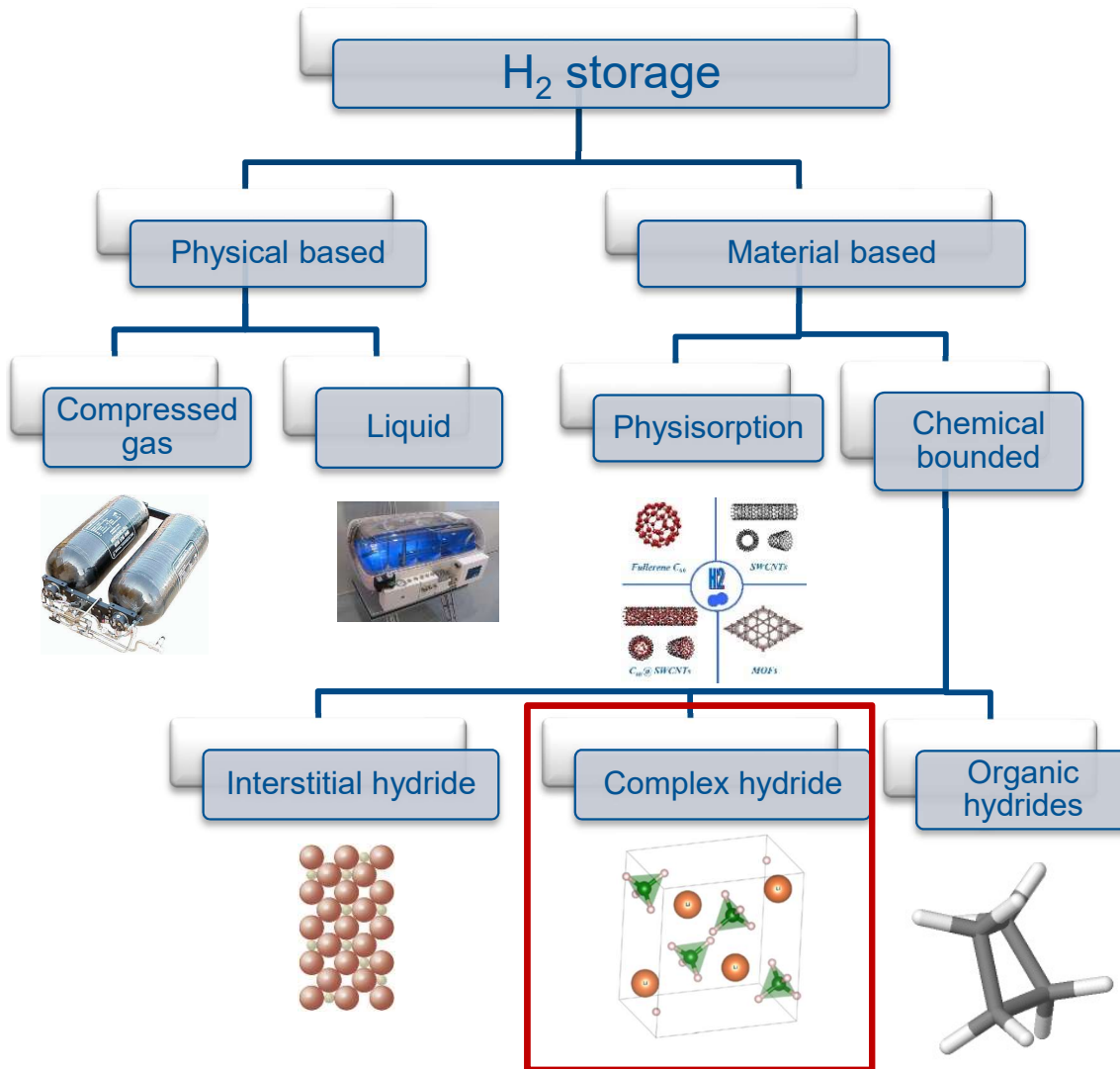
- ❑ Complex hydrides as hydrogen storage materials
- ❑ Hydrogen dynamics in $\text{Li}_4(\text{BH}_4)(\text{NH}_2)_3$ studied by QENS
- ❑ $\text{Mg}(\text{BH}_4)_2$ based solid state ion conductors
- ❑ Summary

Hydrogen storage



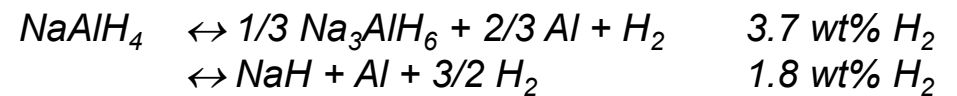
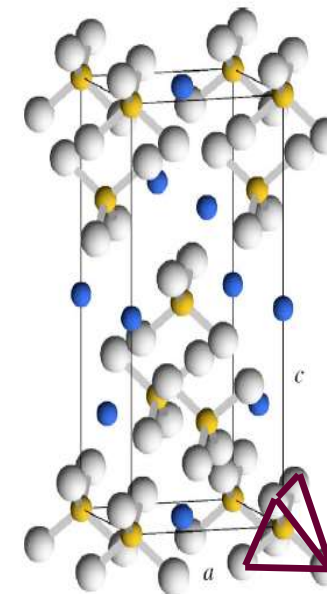
- ✓ High gravimetric and volumetric content
- ✗ Poor reversibility

Energy and hydrogen storage



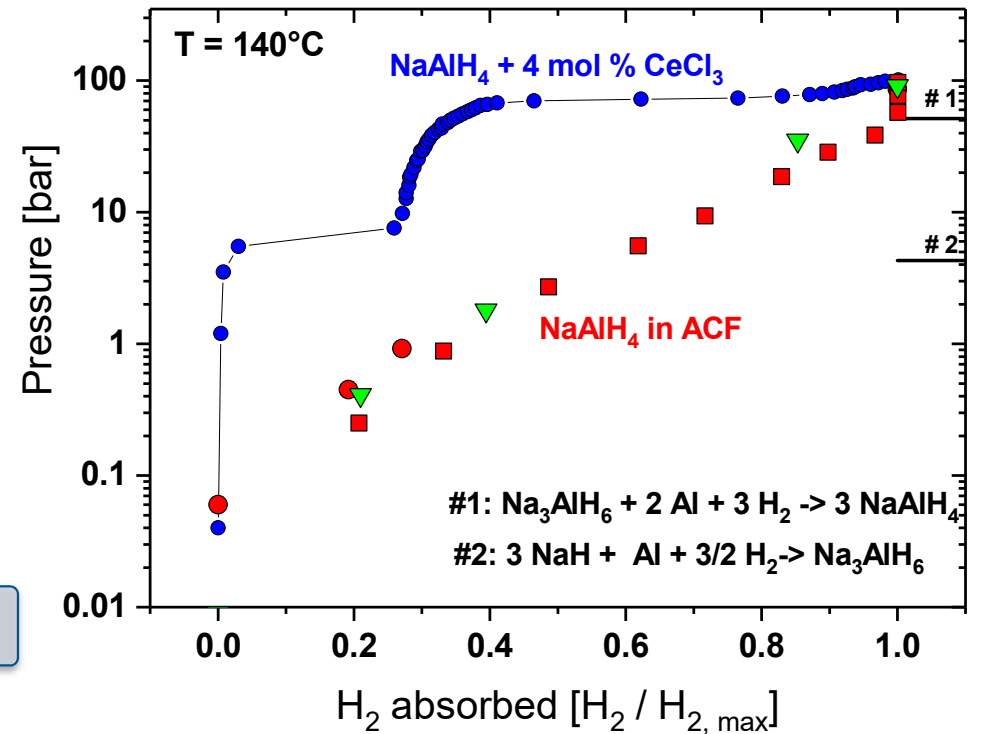
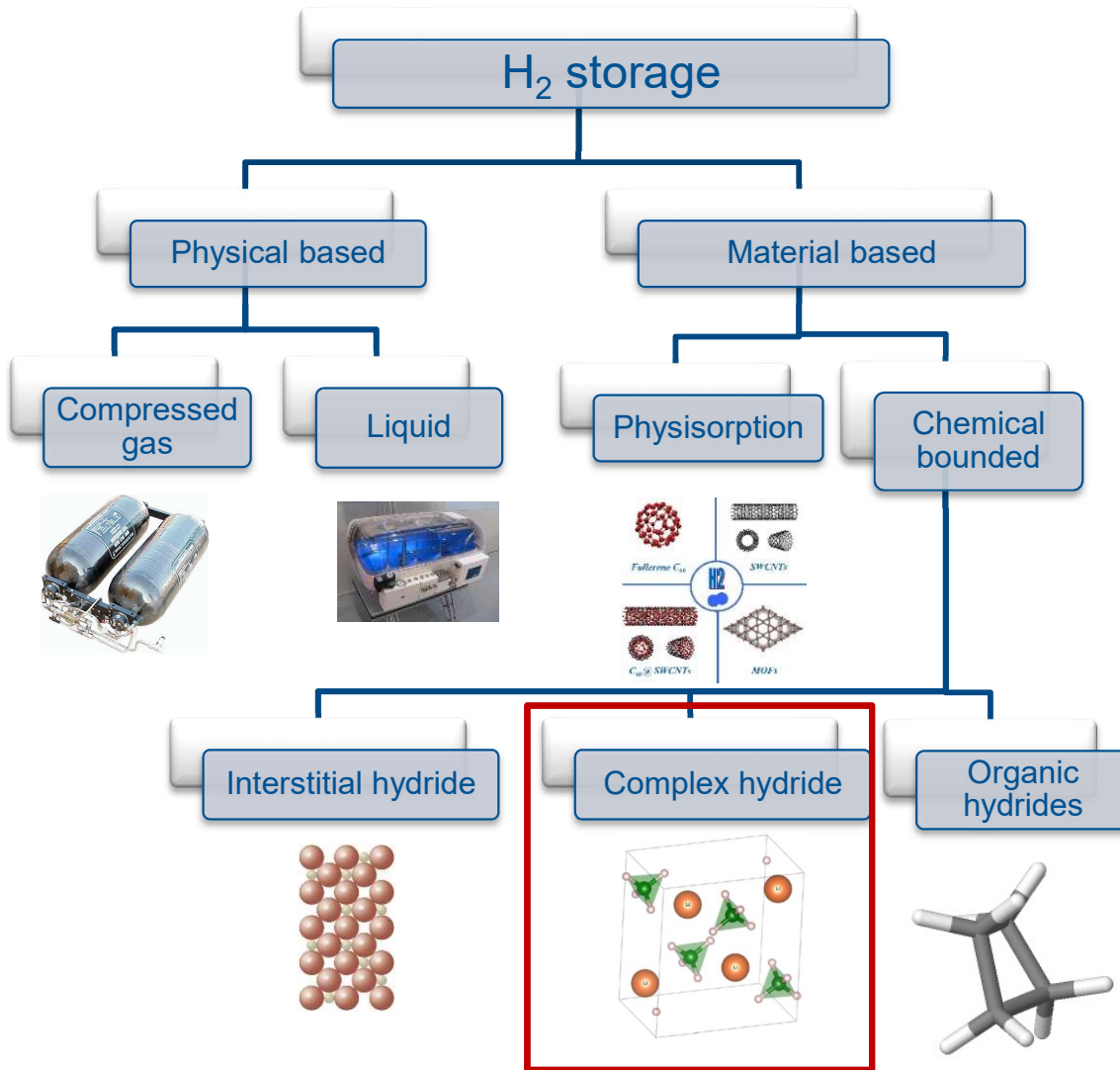
Complex hydrides

- ionic compounds
- solid state reaction to release and reabsorb H₂



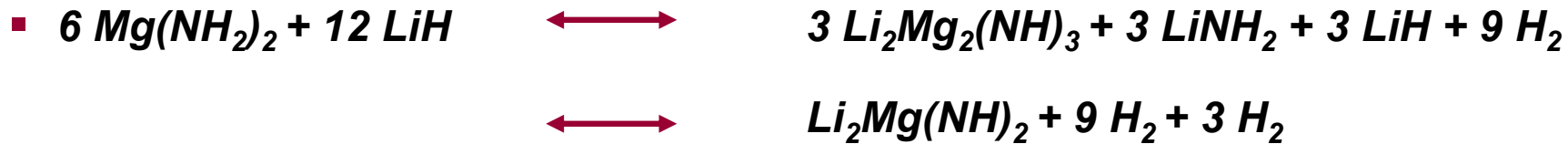
Bogdanović, B. et al *Journal of alloys and compounds* 253 (1997): 1-9.

Energy and hydrogen storage



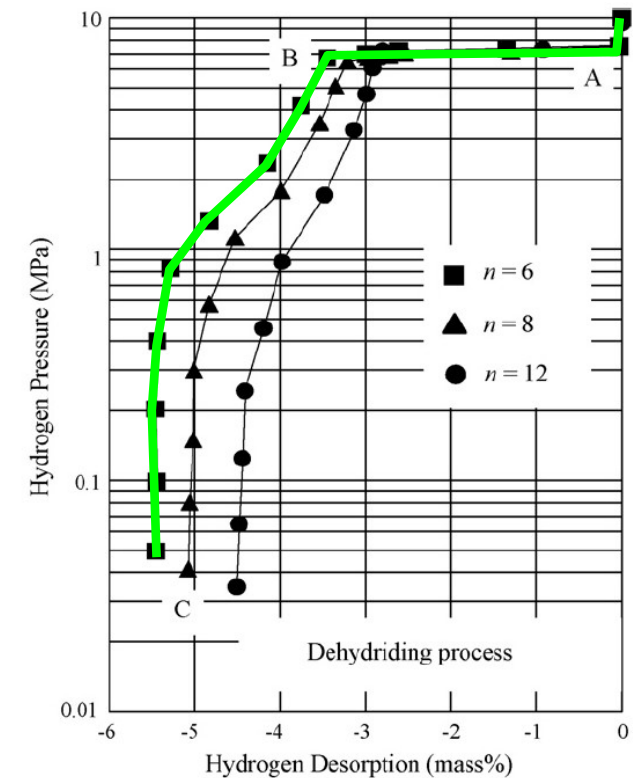
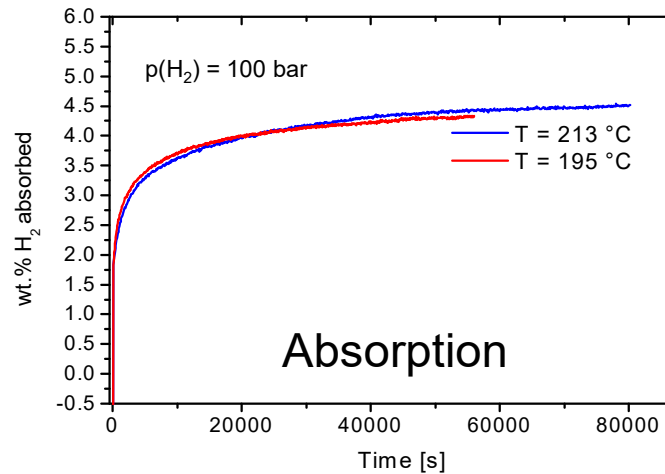
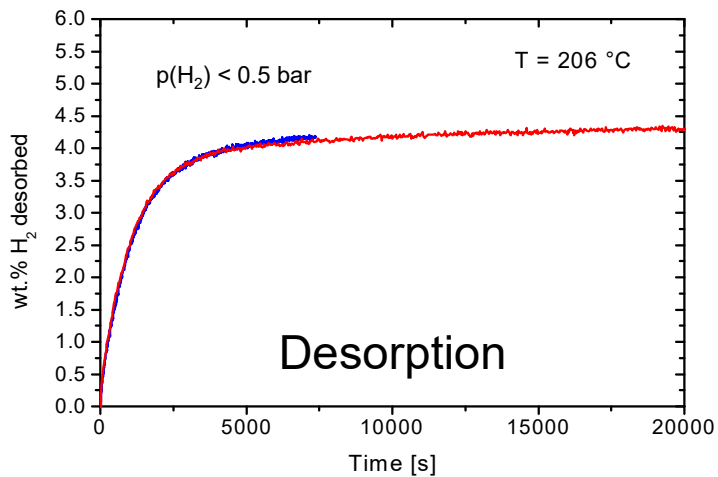
Lohstroh, W. et al. *ChemPhysChem* 11.4 (2010): 789-792.

Nitrogen based hydrogen storage materials



5.6 wt % H₂, ~39 kJ/mol H₂

- [1] W. Luo and E. Rönnebro, *J. Alloys Compd* 404-406 (2005) 392
 [2] Leng, Haiyan Y., et al. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry B* 108.26 (2004): 8763-8765
 [3] Nakamori, Y. et al. *Journal of Power Sources* 138.1-2 (2004): 309-312.
 [4] Weidner, E., et al., *The Journal of Physical Chemistry C* 113.35 (2009): 15772-15777.



[5] M. Aoki et al., *J. Alloys Compd.* (2006) doi: 10.1016/j.jallcom.2006.11.141

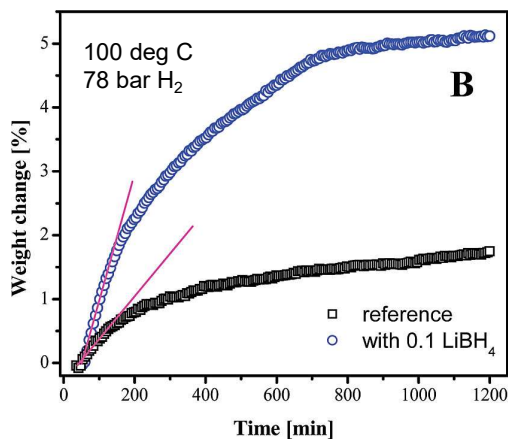
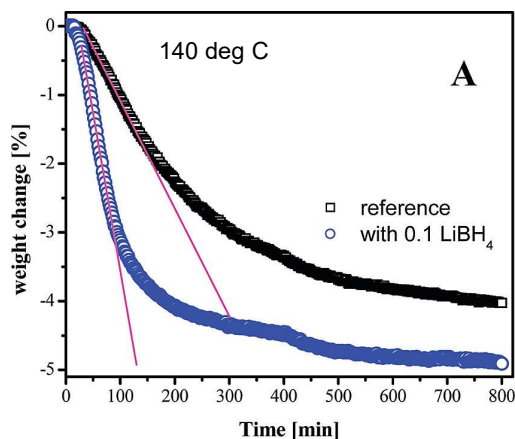
Mg(NH₂)₂ - x LiH - LiBH₄ – improved kinetics



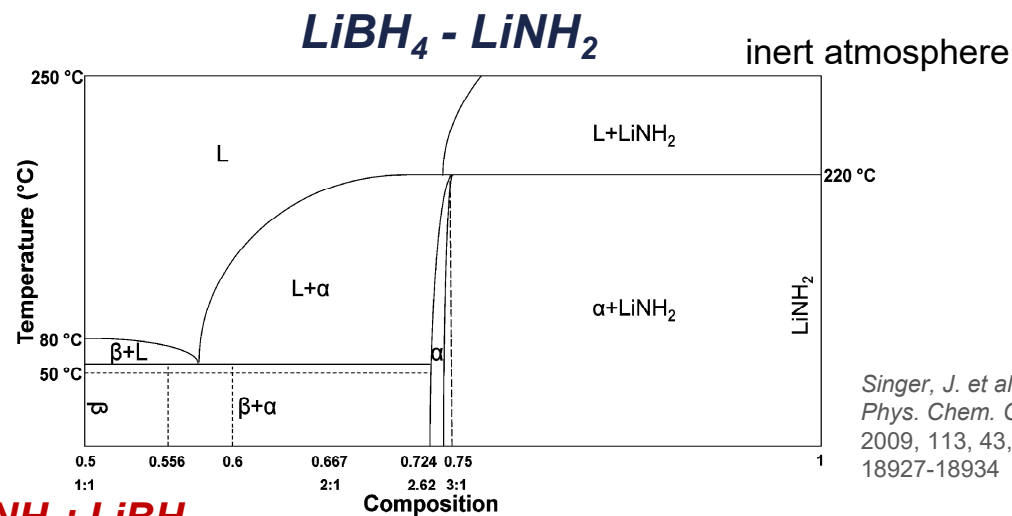
[1] Hu, J. et al., *Dalton Trans.*, 2010, 39, 9100-9107

[2] Wang, H. et al., *Advanced Energy Materials* (2017), DOI: (10.1002/aenm.201602456)

[3] Gizer, G. et al. *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy* 44.23 (2019): 11920-11929.



Formation of Li₄(BH₄)(NH₂)₃ as driving force for improved kinetics



LiNH₂: LiBH₄

β-Li₂(BH₄)(NH₂) α-Li_{1+(3-x)}(BH₄)(NH₂)_{3-x}

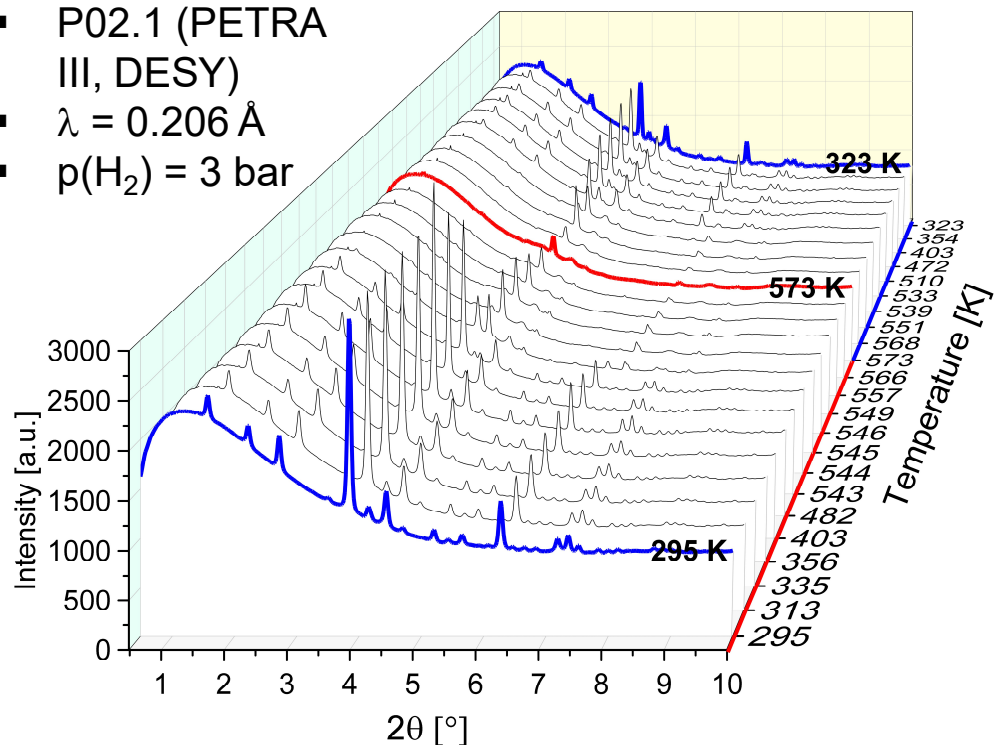
LiNH₂

Singer, J. et al., *J. Phys. Chem. C* 2009, 113, 43, 18927-18934

Hu, J. et al., *Chem. Mater.* 2008, 20, 13, 4398-4402

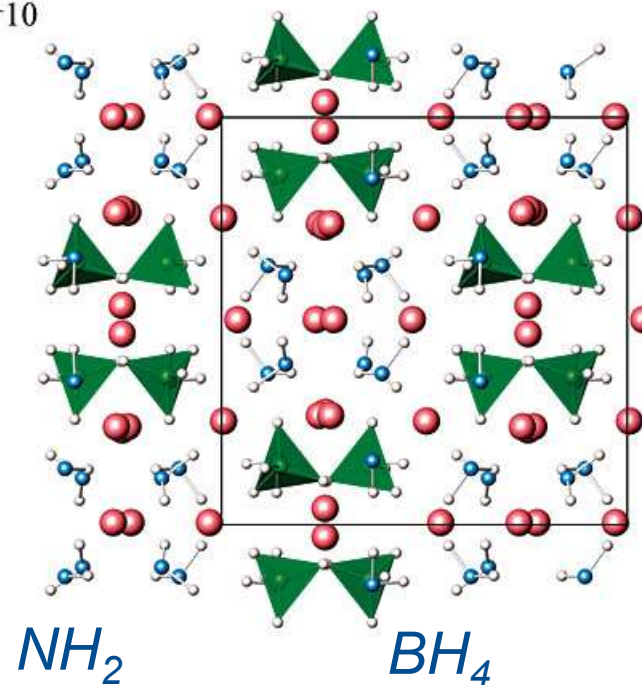
Li₄(BH₄)(NH₂)₃

- 3 LiNH₂ + 1 LiBH₄ (ball milled)
- P02.1 (PETRA III, DESY)
- λ = 0.206 Å
- p(H₂) = 3 bar



Li₄BN₃D₁₀ (I213) a (Å) = 10.5846(2) Å (@ 5 K)

Li₄BN₃H₁₀
(x=0.25)

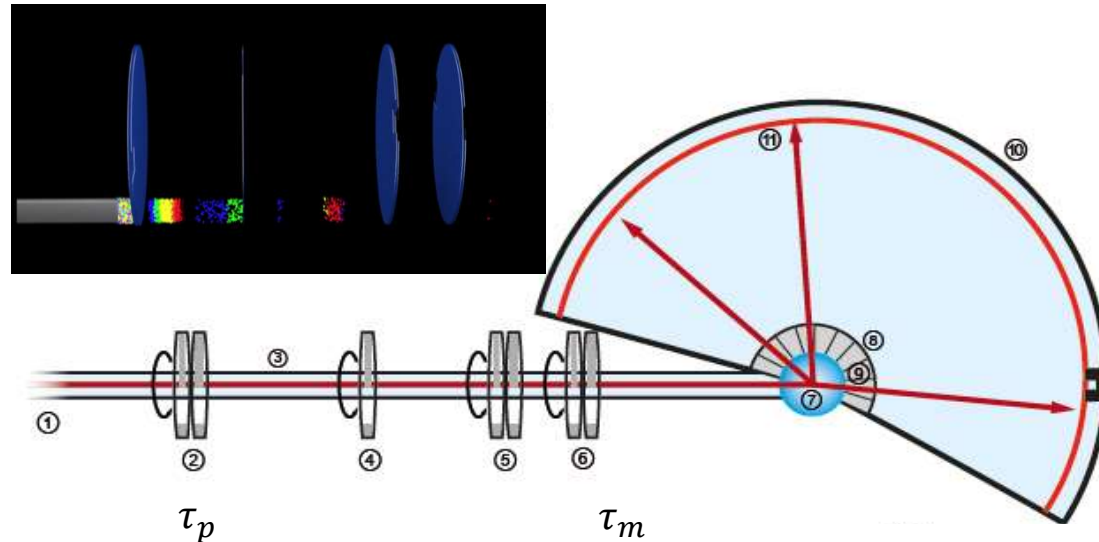


Wu, Hui, et al. *Chemistry of Materials* 20.4 (2008): 1245-1247.

- α- Li₄(BH₄)(NH₂)₃
- T_{melt} > 500 K (DSC 493 K)
- Recrystallisation to α-phase + LiNH₂

Aslan, Neslihan, et al. *Advanced Engineering Materials* 23.11 (2021): 2100620.

Hydrogen dynamics – Quasielastic scattering



Nuclide	σ_{coh}	σ_{inc}
^1H	1.75	80.26
Mg	3.63	0.08
^7Li	0.45	0.78
^{11}B	5.56	0.21

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} \right) = \frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{k_i}{k_f} N \left[\frac{\sigma_{\text{inc}}}{4\pi} S_{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) + \frac{\sigma_{\text{coh}}}{4\pi} S_{\text{coh}}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) \right]$$

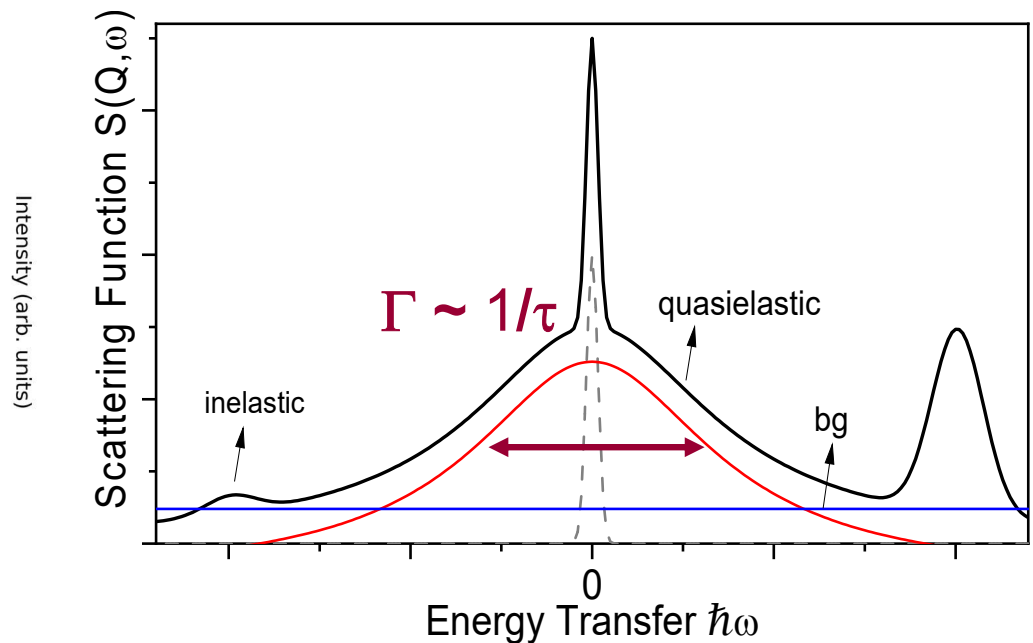
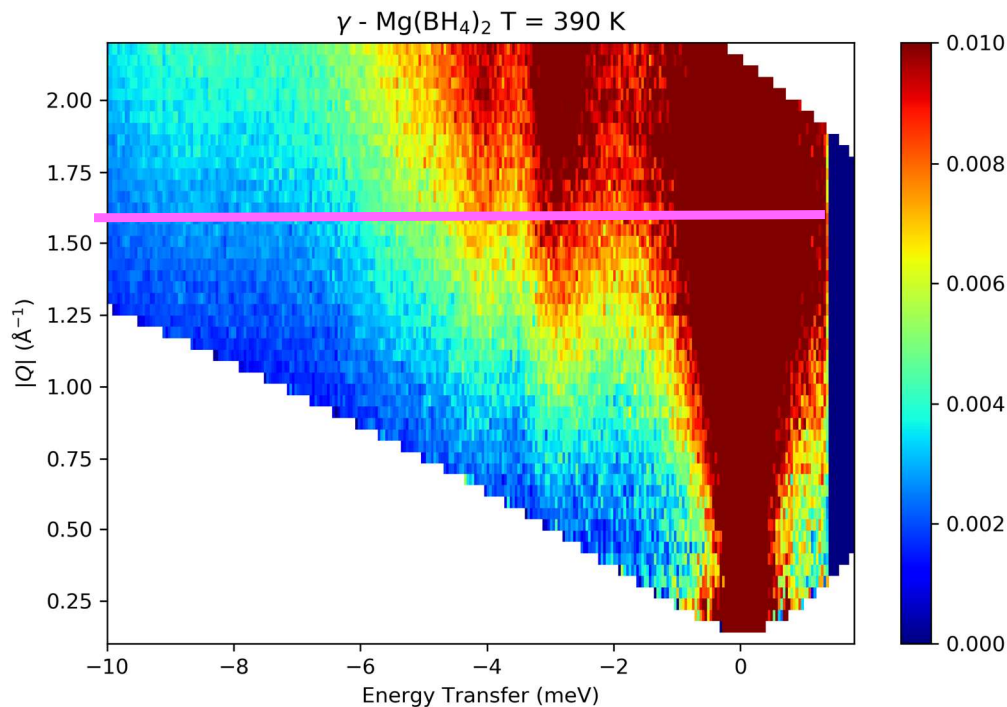
\propto self correlation
function

Hydrogen dynamics – Quasielastic scattering

$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega dE'} \right) = \frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{k_i}{k_f} N \left[\frac{\sigma_{\text{inc}}}{4\pi} S_{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) + \frac{\sigma_{\text{coh}}}{4\pi} S_{\text{coh}}(\mathbf{Q}, \omega) \right]$$

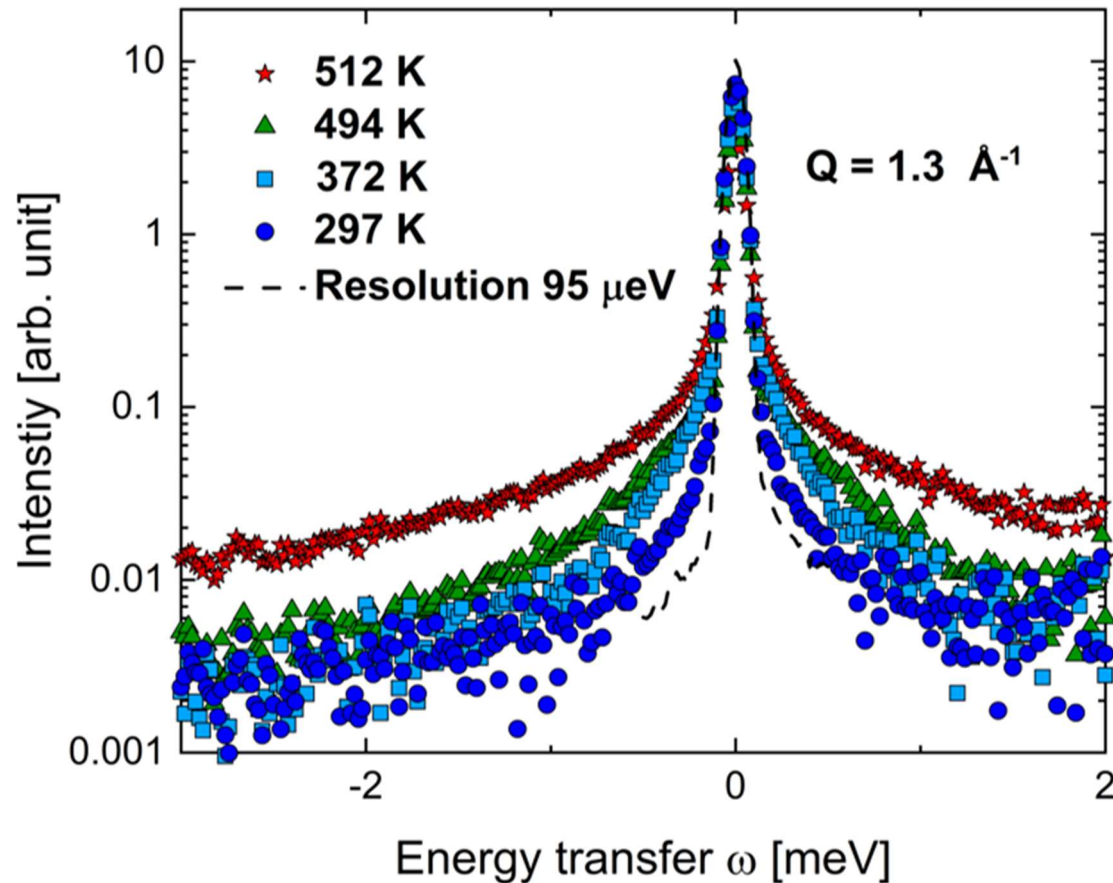
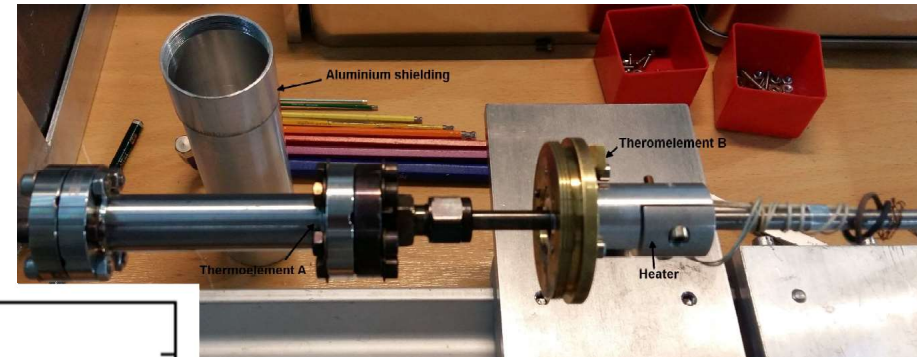
\propto self correlation function

\propto pair correlation function



$\text{Li}_4(\text{BH}_4)(\text{NH}_2)$ – QENS

- Fully protonated – BH_4 and NH_2 entities
- $p(\text{H}_2) = 3$ bar

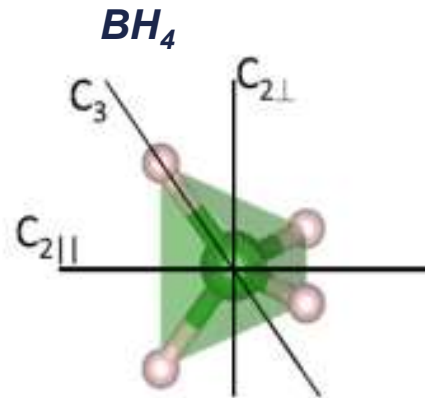
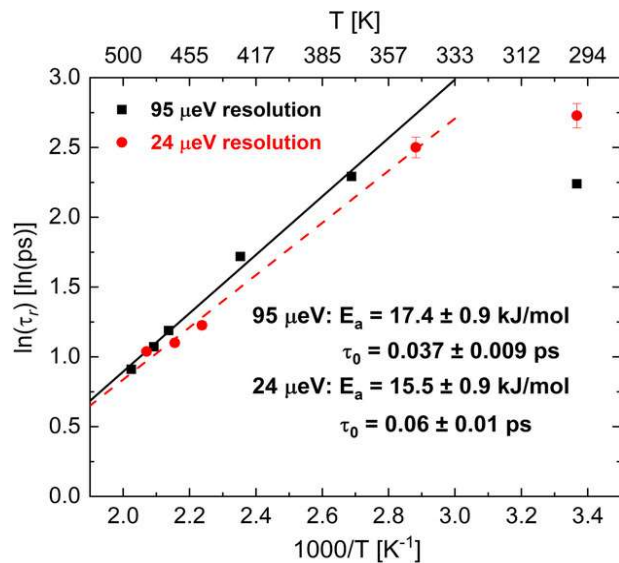
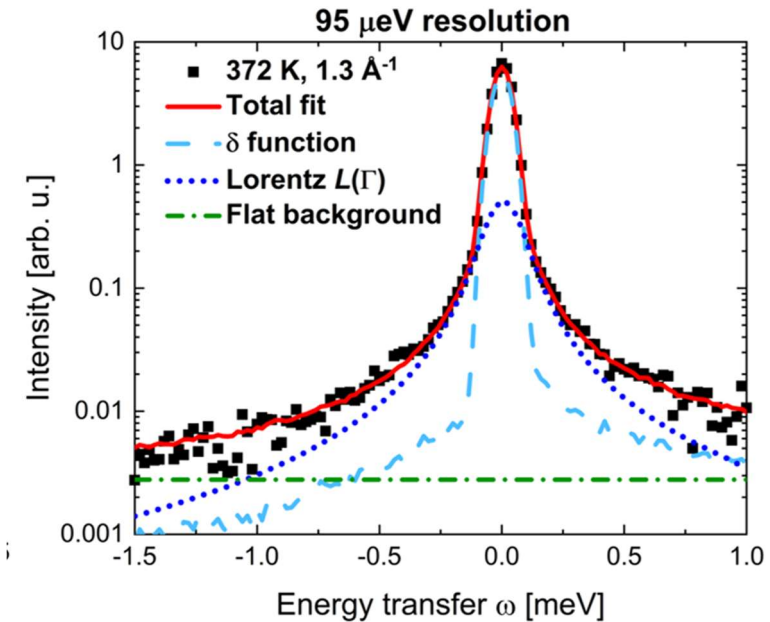


Li₄(BH₄)(NH₂) – QENS

$$S(Q, \omega) = R \otimes \left[A_0(Q)\delta(\omega) + \sum A_n(Q)\mathcal{L}_n(Q, \omega) \right] + bg$$

Below 500 K

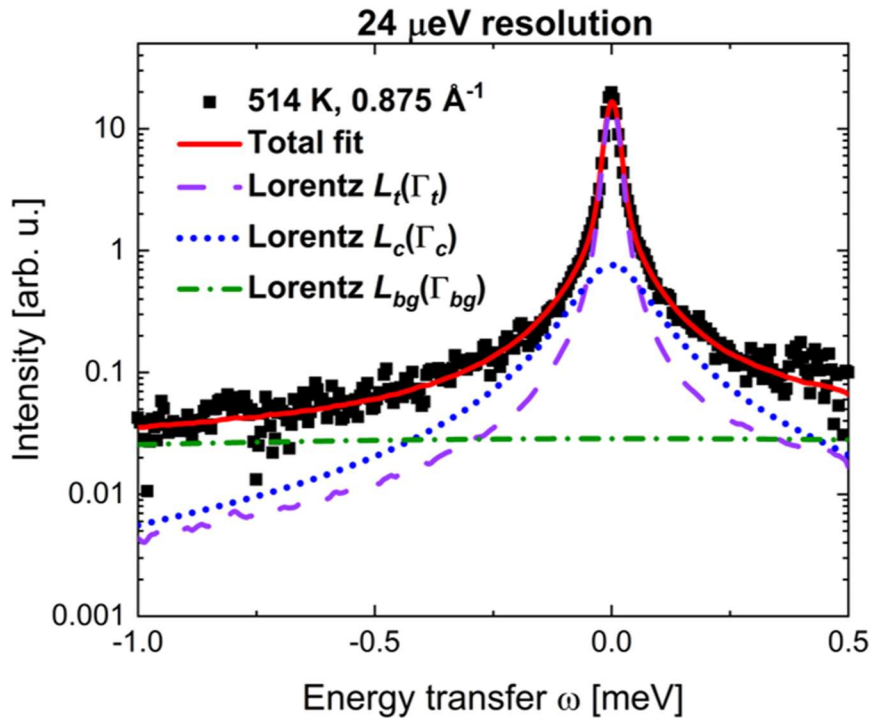
- Γ Independent of Q
- Elastic contribution



▪ **Thermally activated localized motion (rotations of BH₄)**

Aslan, Neslihan, et al. *Advanced Engineering Materials* 23.11 (2021): 2100620.

Li₄(BH₄)(NH₂) above 500 K



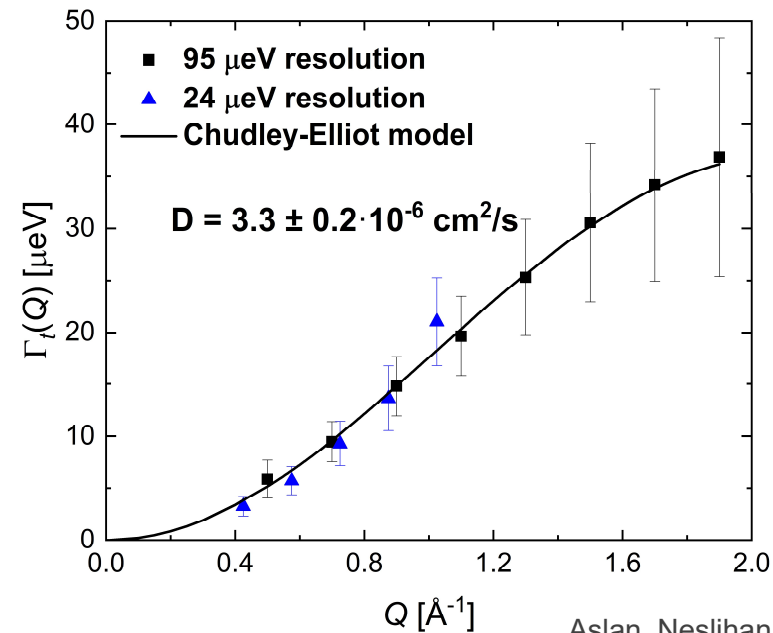
- 2 Lorentzians: $S_{rot} \otimes S_{trans}$
- Γ_t increasing with Q
- No elastic contribution

$$S(Q, \omega) = R \otimes [A_0(Q)\mathcal{L}_t(Q, \omega) + A_1(Q)\mathcal{L}_1(Q, \omega)] + bg$$

- Long range diffusive motion of hydrogen entities
- Jump diffusion model

Chudley-Elliot Model:

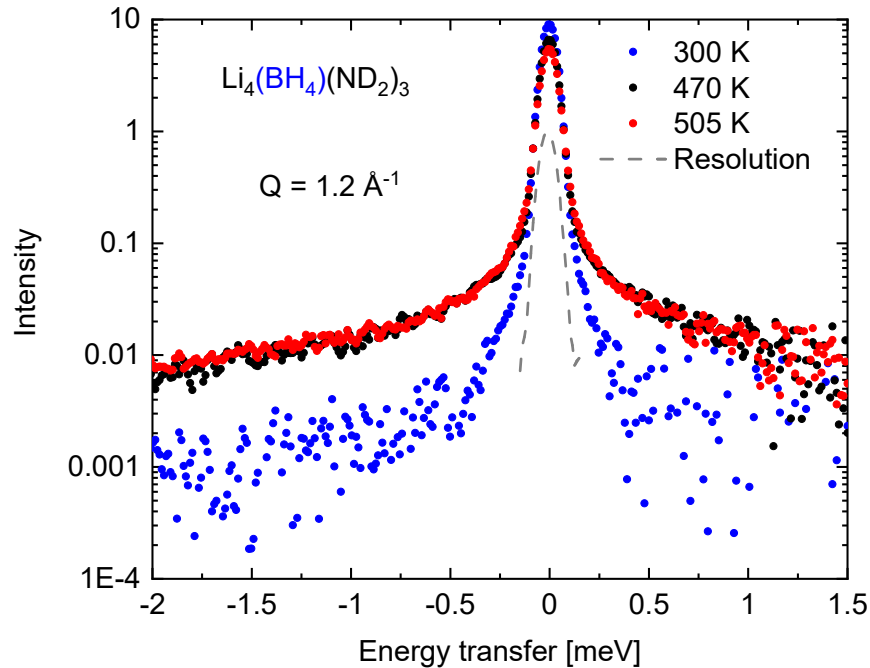
$$\Gamma_t = \frac{6\hbar D}{l^2} \left(1 - \frac{\sin(Ql)}{Ql} \right)$$



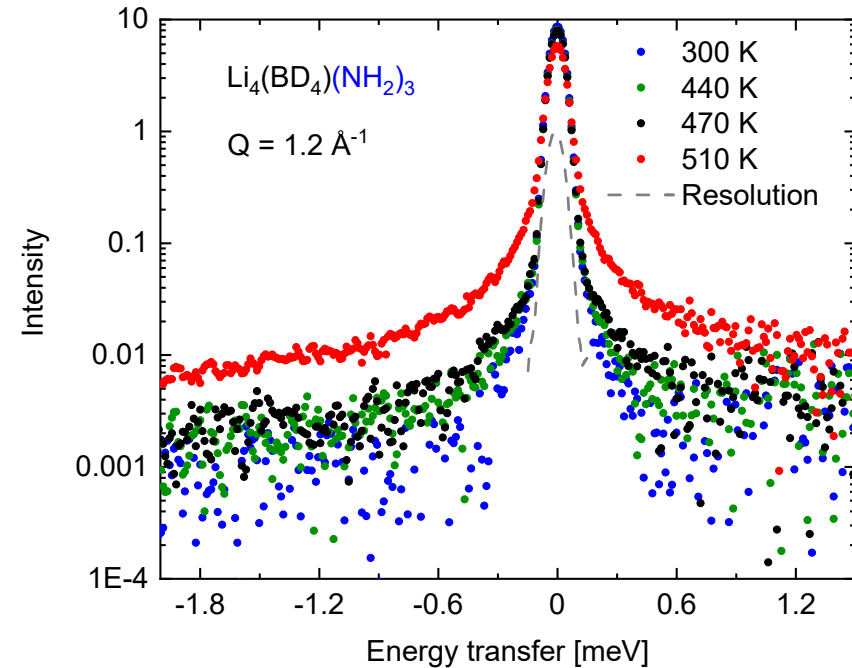
Aslan, Neslihan, et al. *Advanced Engineering Materials* 23.11 (2021): 2100620.

Partial Deuteration

■ $\text{Li}_4(\text{BH}_4)(\text{ND}_2)_3$



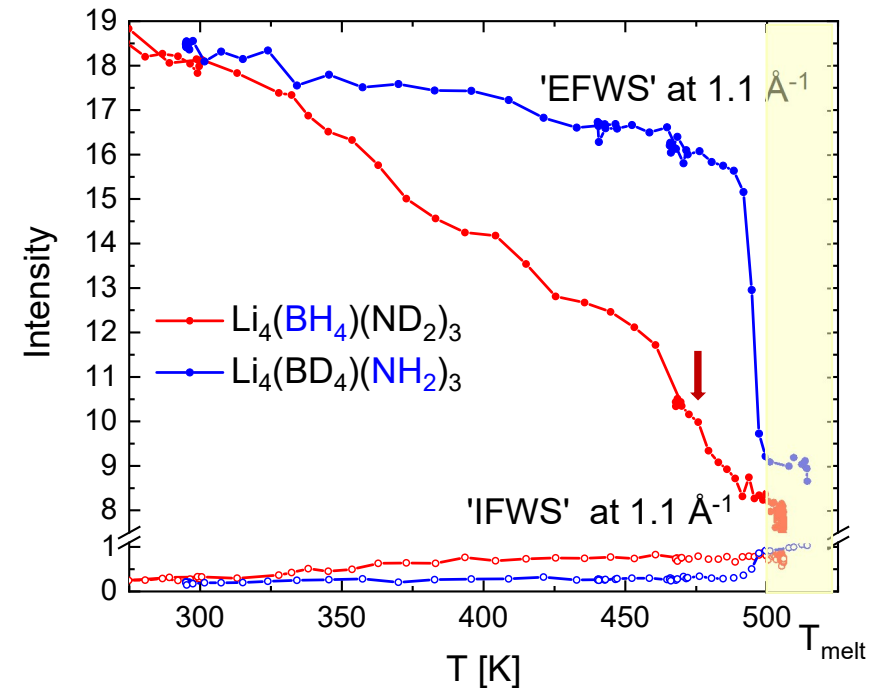
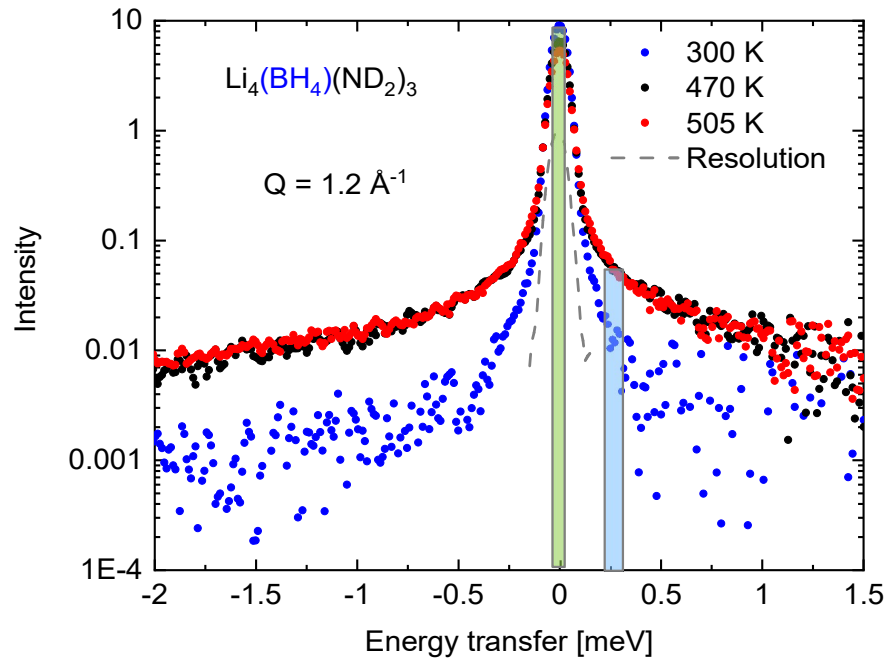
■ $\text{Li}_4(\text{BD}_4)(\text{NH}_2)_3$



- ***QENS below T_{melt} originates mainly from BH_4 entities***
- ***Temperature dependence varies for the two partially deuterated samples***

Partial Deuteration

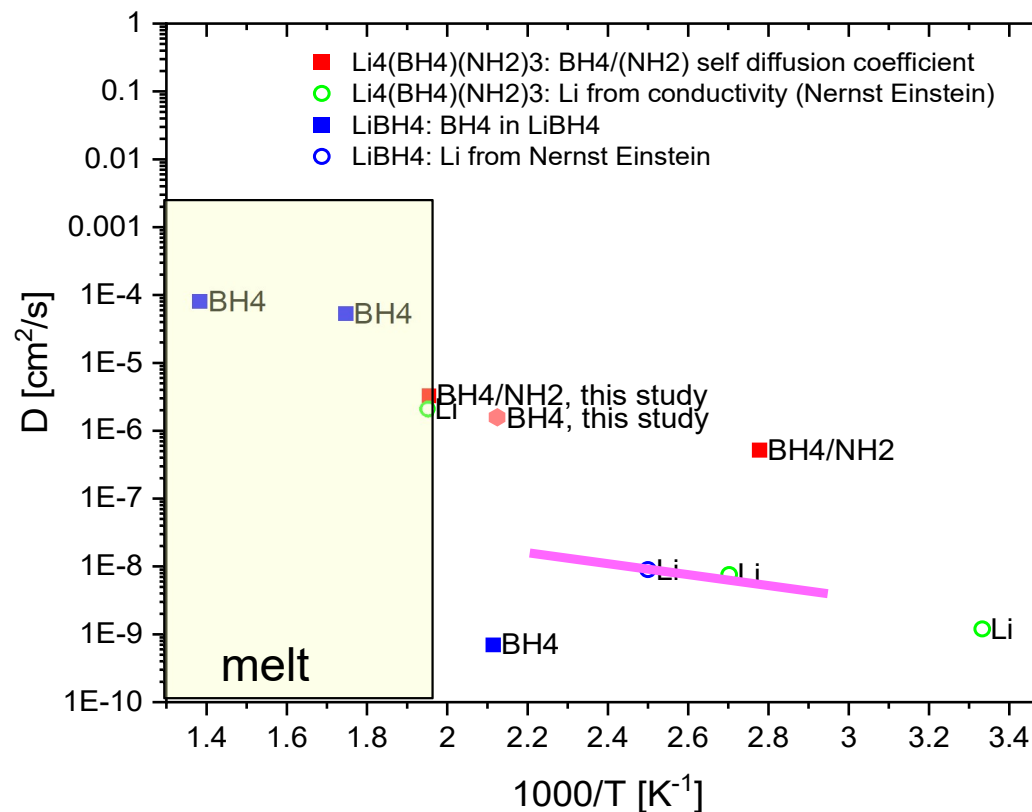
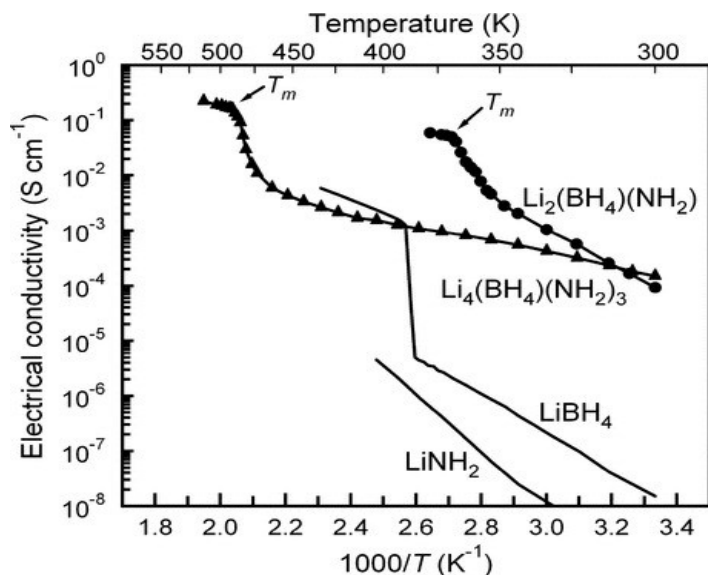
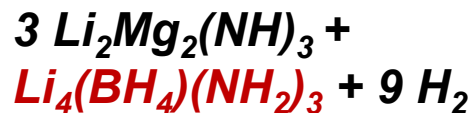
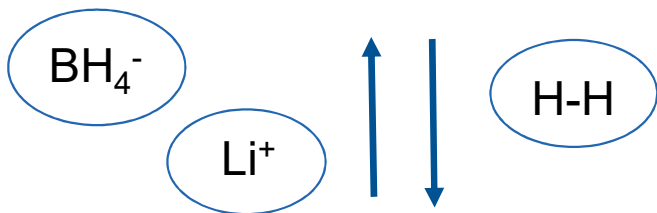
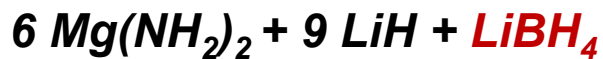
Temperature dependence



- $\text{Li}_4(\text{BD}_4)(\text{NH}_2)_3$
long range diffusion above T_{melt}
- $\text{Li}_4(\text{BH}_4)(\text{ND}_2)_3$
gradual transition
long range diffusion starting around 470 K

N. Aslan et al. (2021)

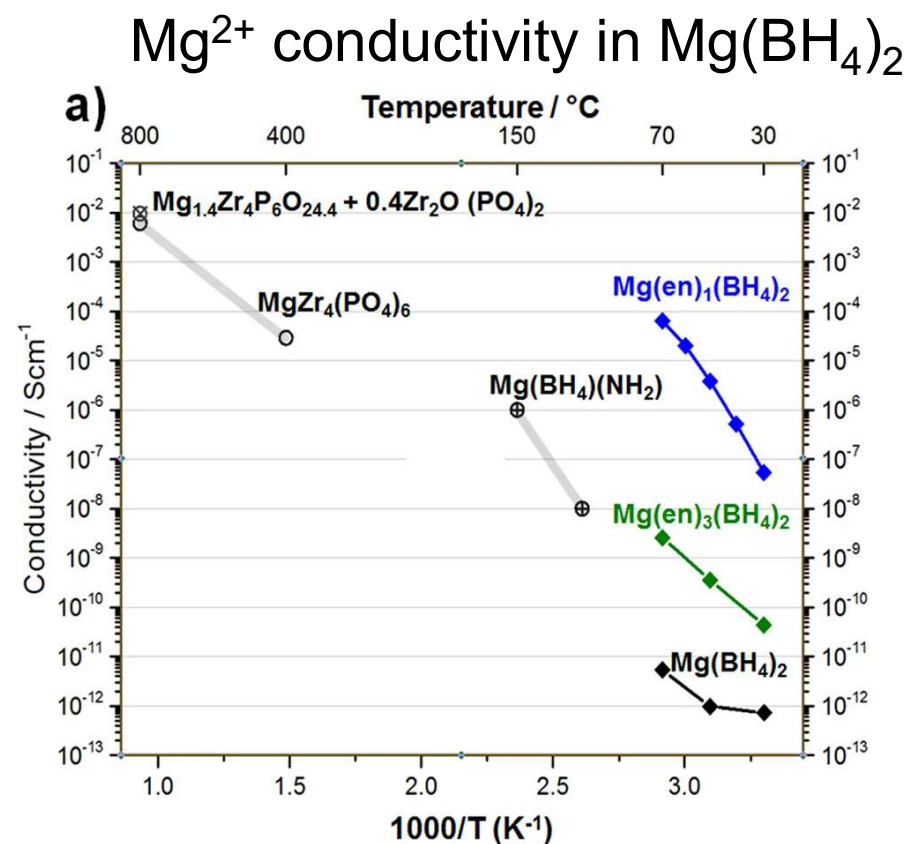
Diffusivity



- [1] Matsuo, M. et al, *Advanced Energy Materials* 1.2 (2011): 161-172.
- [2] Martelli, P. et al., *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* 114.37 (2010): 10117-10121.
- [3] Burankova, T. et al., *The Journal of Physical Chemistry C* 121.33 (2017): 17693-17702.
- [4] Borgschulze, A., et al., *Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics* 12.19 (2010): 5061-5066.
- [5] M. Matsuo et al., *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 91 (2007): 224103.

Hydrogen Mobility and Ionic Conductivity – $\text{Mg}(\text{BH}_4)_2$ as solid state ion conductor

- High gravimetric $\text{Mg}(\text{BH}_4)_2$
14.9 wt% H_2
- rich structural phase diagram (e.g.
 $\text{Mg}(\text{BH}_4)_2$: α , β , β' , γ , ε , ε' , δ)
- potential solid state ion conductors –
high cation mobility concurrent with
 BH_4 dynamics

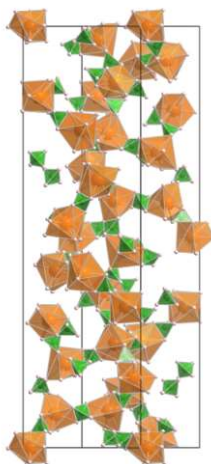


Elsa Roedern et al., Scientific Reports 7, 46189 (2017)

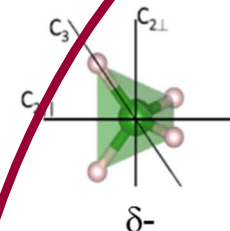
Mg(BH₄)₂ : α -, β - and γ - polymorph

Low temperature α - Mg(BH₄)₂

- hexagonal P6₁22
- Cell volume: 3434 Å³
- 6 non-eq. BH₄ positions
- Contains voids (37 Å³)

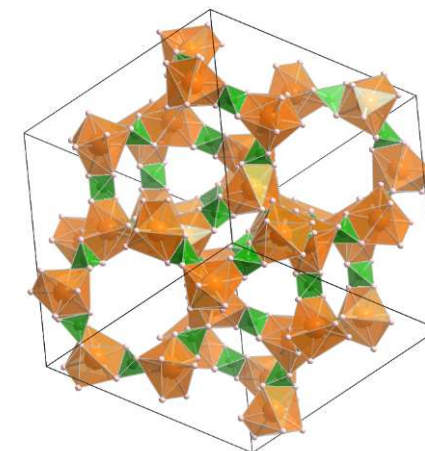


● Mg
● B
● H



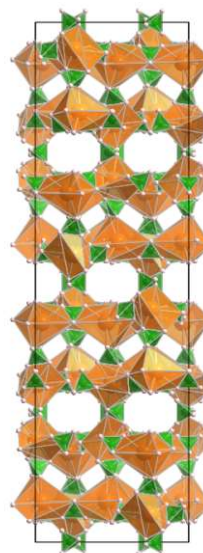
**Precursor for
Mg²⁺
conductors**

Porous (low temperature) γ - Mg(BH₄)₂



- Cubic Ia-3d
- Cell volume: 3912.57 Å³
- 1 non-eq BH₄ positions

T > 490 K



High temperature β - Mg(BH₄)₂

- Orthorhombic *Fddd*
- Cell volume: 7543 Å³
- 5 non-eq BH₄ positions
- Anomalous thermal expansions

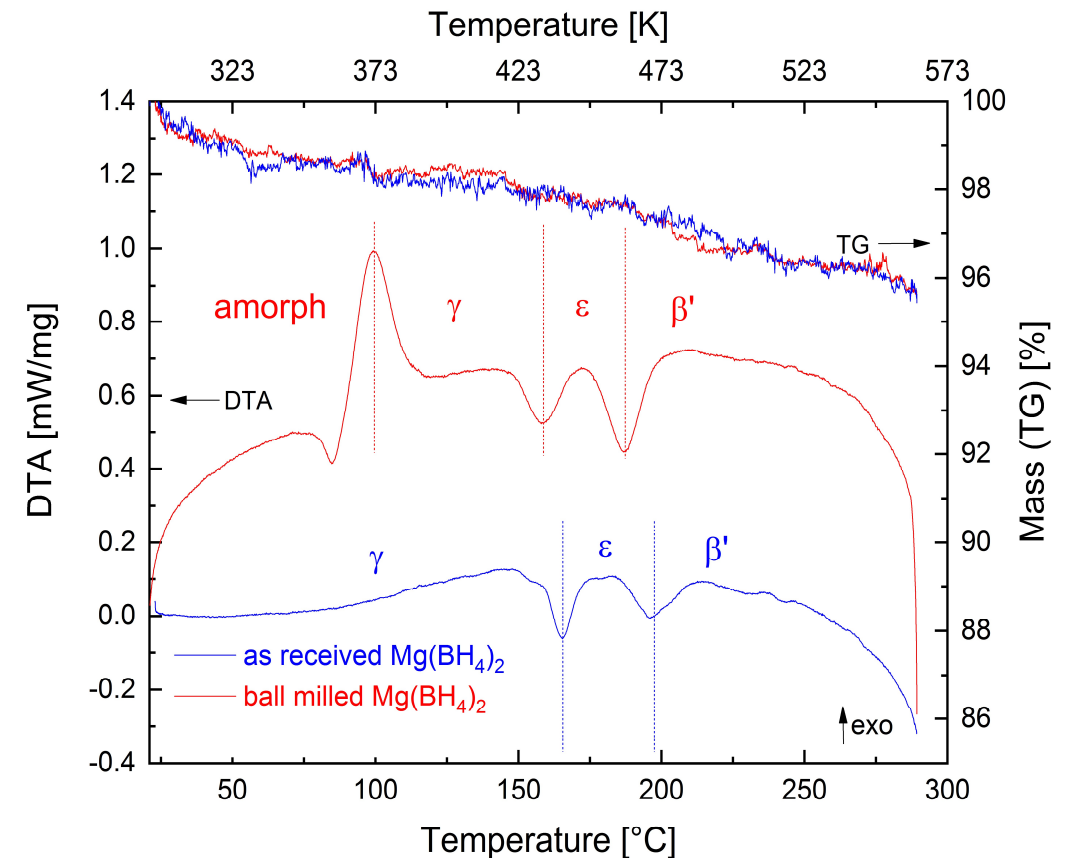
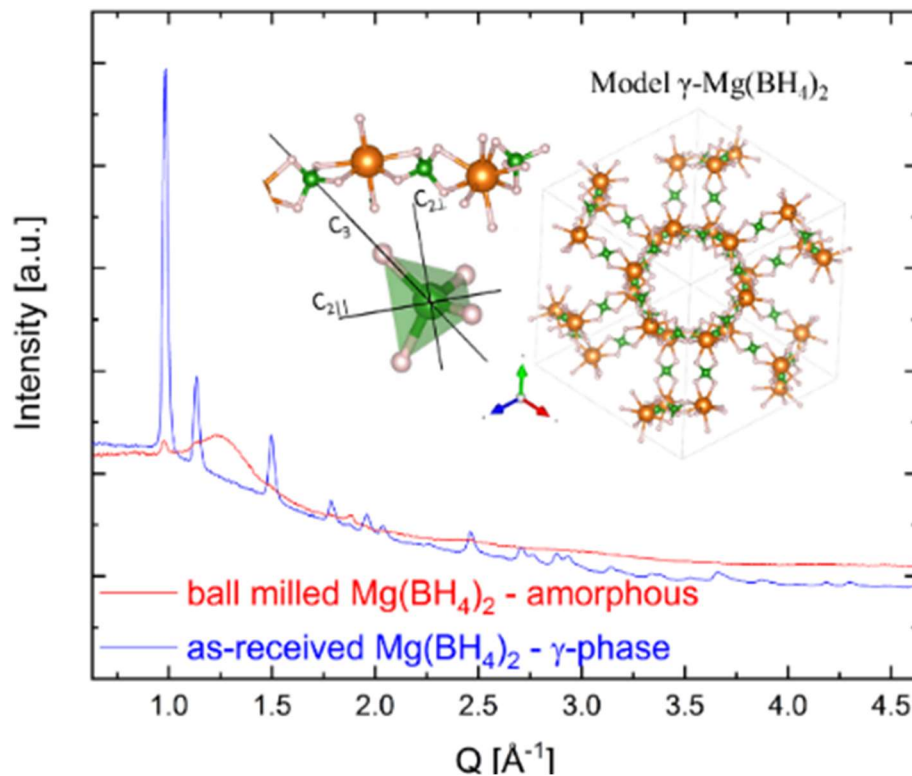
Filinchuk Y. et al, *Chem. Mater.* **2009**, 21, 925–933

Filinchuk Y. et al, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 11162-11166

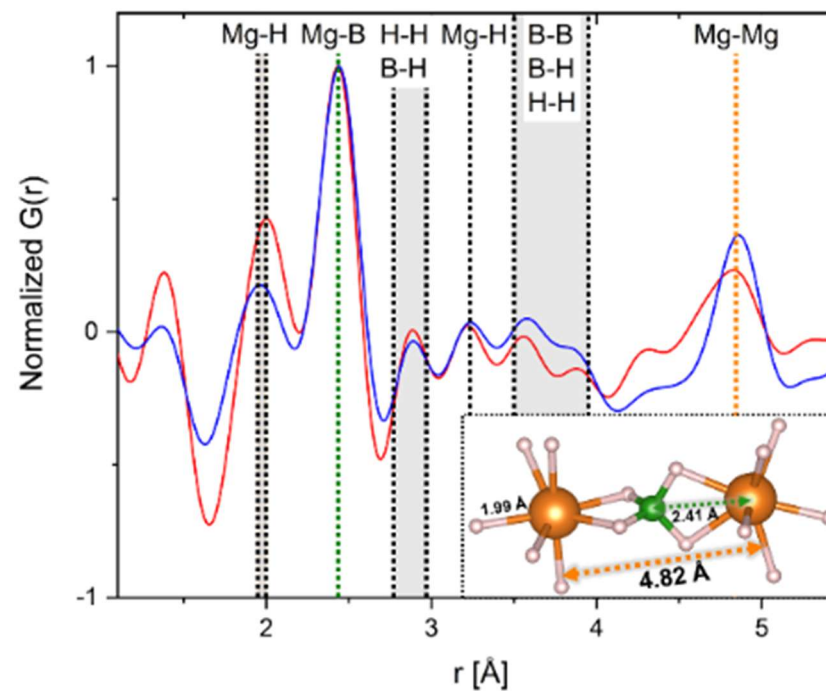
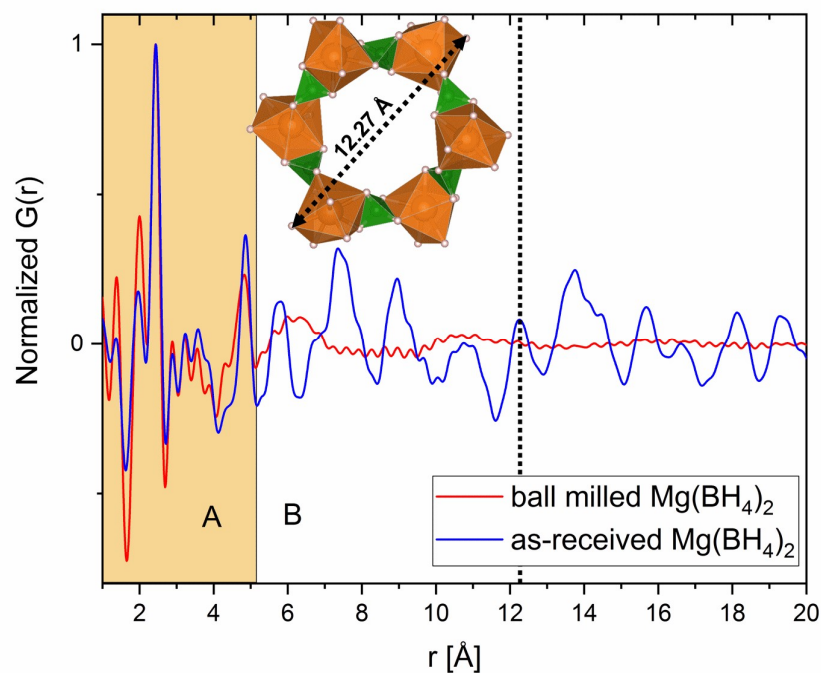
γ - $\text{Mg}(\text{BH}_4)_2$: as received and ball milled

after ball milling:

- XRD – no long range order
- recrystallization around 373 K



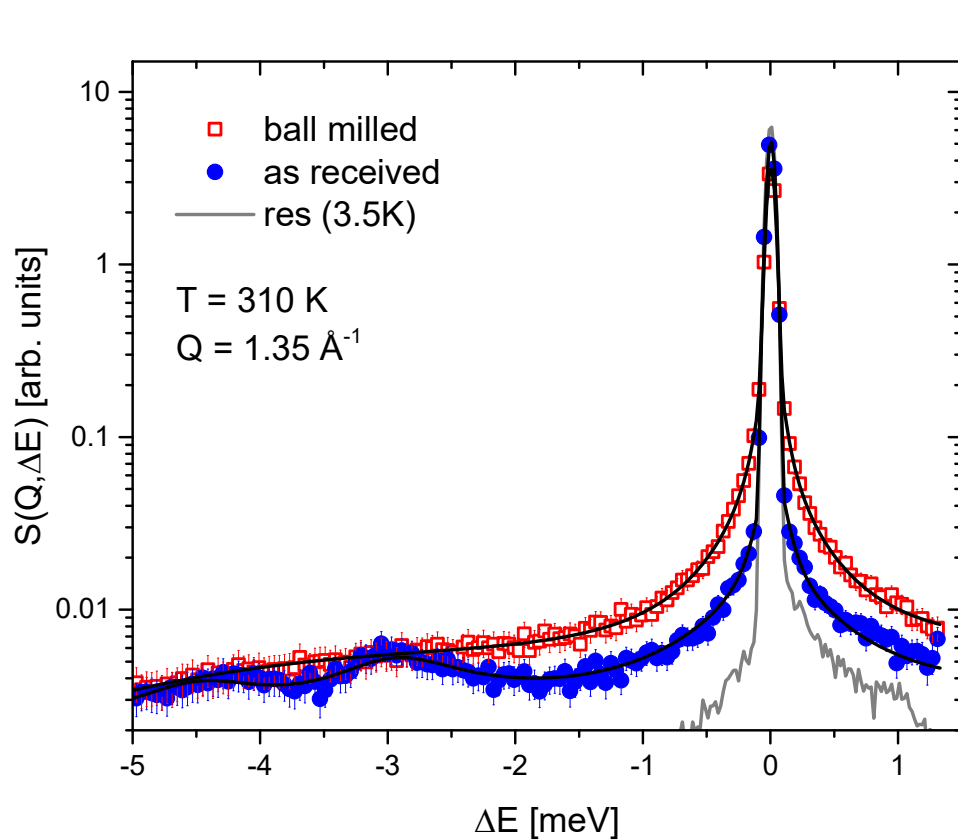
γ - $\text{Mg}(\text{BH}_4)_2$: as received and ball milled



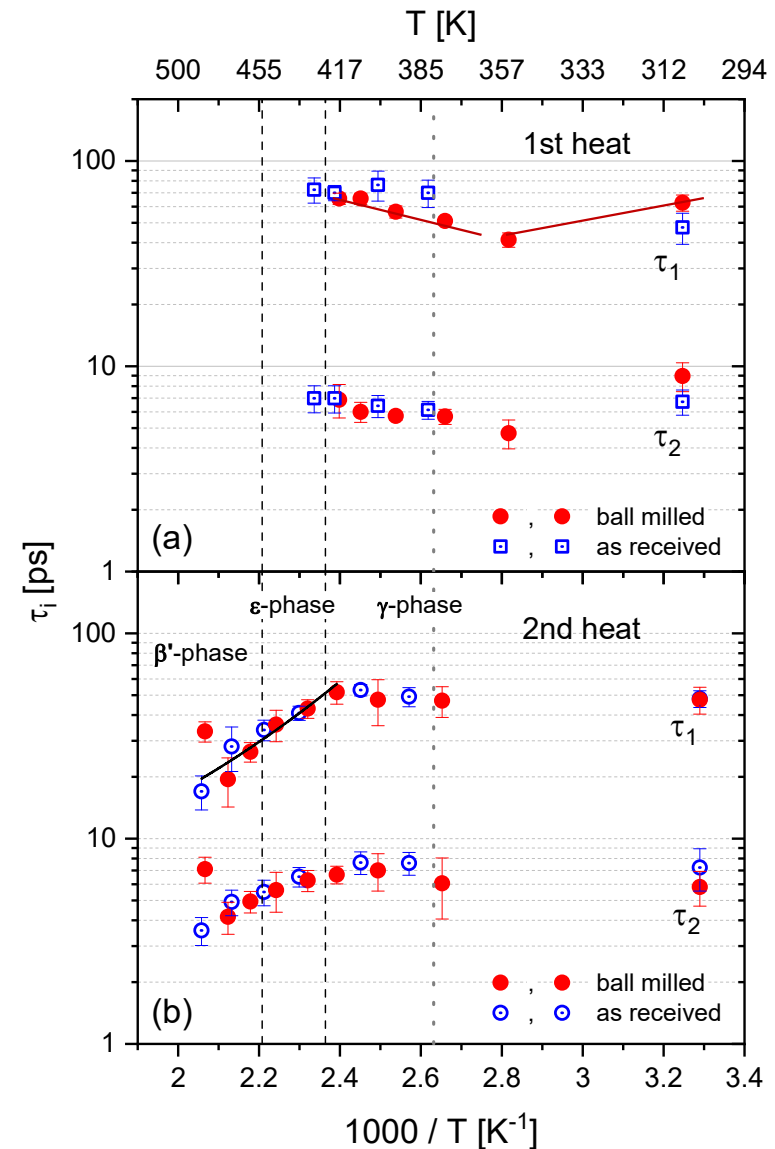
PDF: Mg-B-H building blocks remain intact

M. Heere et al. *Sci Rep* 10, 9080 (2020).
10.1038/s41598-020-65857-6

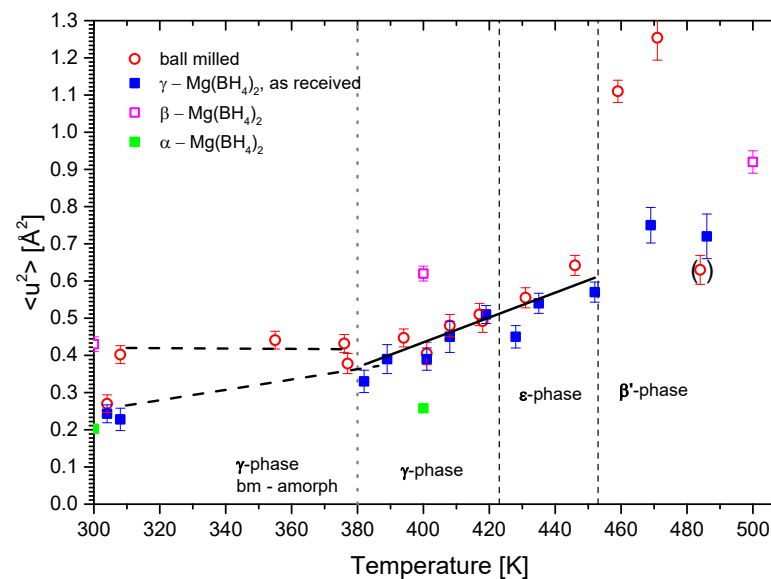
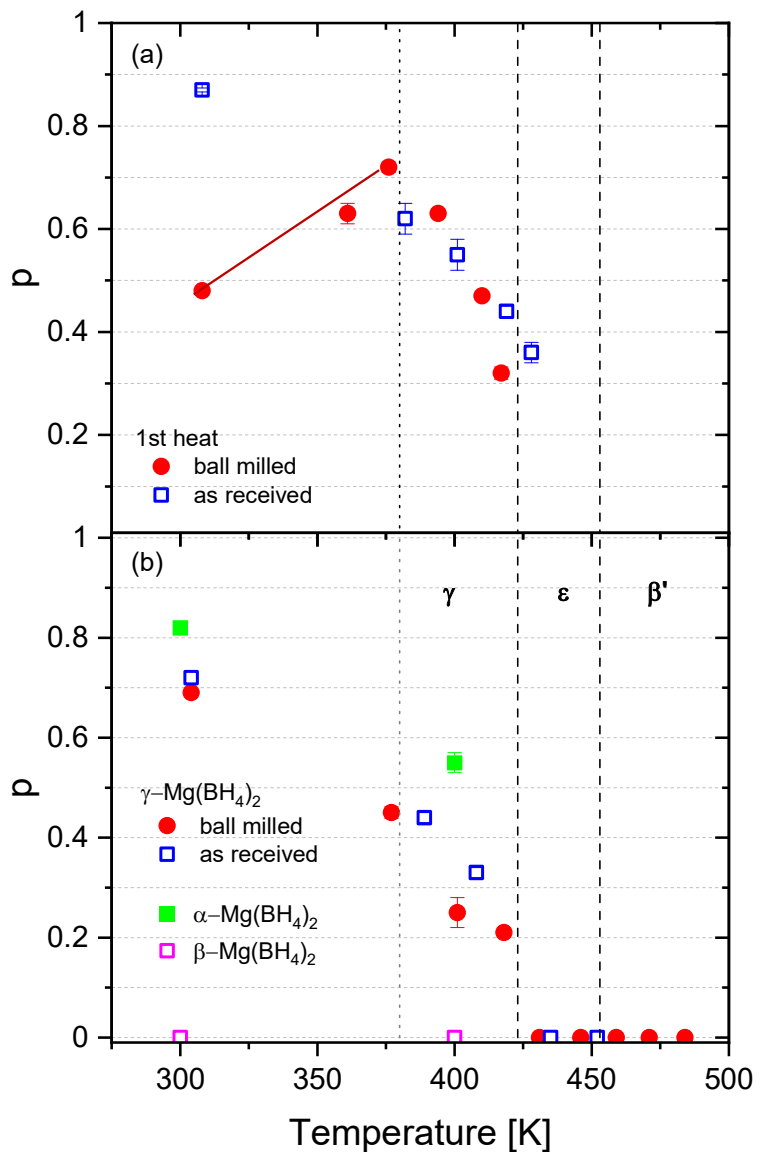
γ - $\text{Mg}(\text{BH}_4)_2$: as received and ball milled



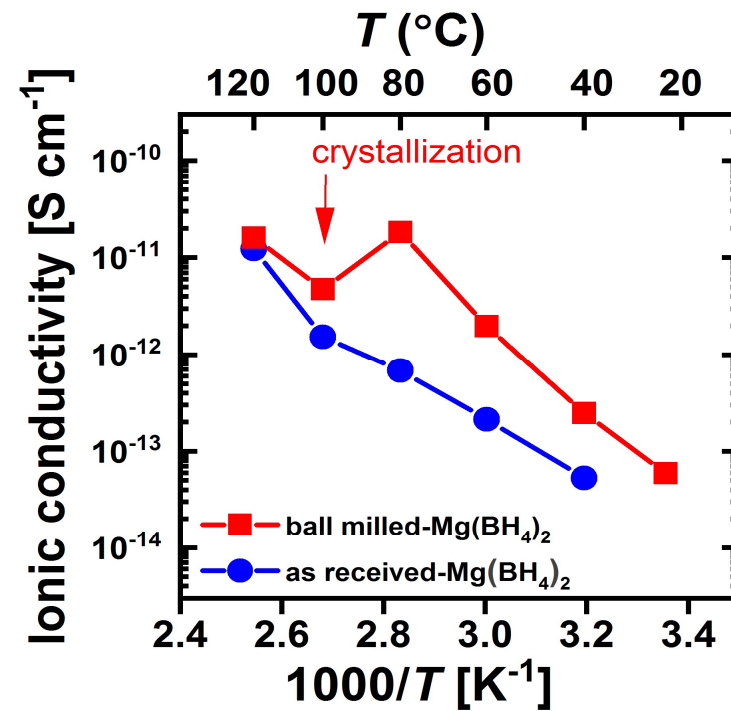
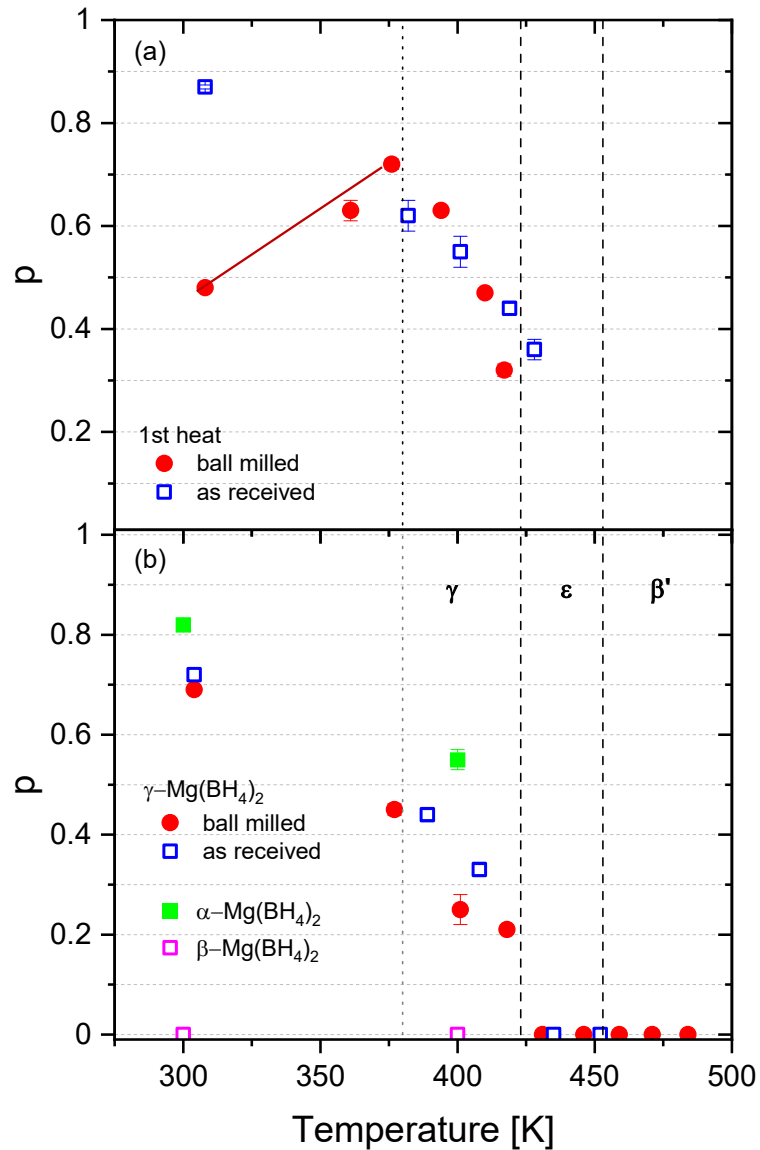
- **Rotational jump diffusion of BH_4 entities**
- $\tau_{1/2}$
- **Fraction of hindered rotations, p**



γ - $\text{Mg}(\text{BH}_4)_2$: as received and ball milled



γ - $\text{Mg}(\text{BH}_4)_2$: as received and ball milled



Thanks to

Michael Heere
Anna-Lena Hansen



J.-M- Zanotti



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Gökhan Gizer
Claudio Pistidda
Martin Dornheim
Martin Müller



SeyedHosein Payandeh



Magnus H. Sørby
Bjørn C. Hauback



Thank you !