

## Supporting Information

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### **Distribution and Transport of Lithium Ions at Interfaces between Graphite and Carboxymethyl Celluloses**

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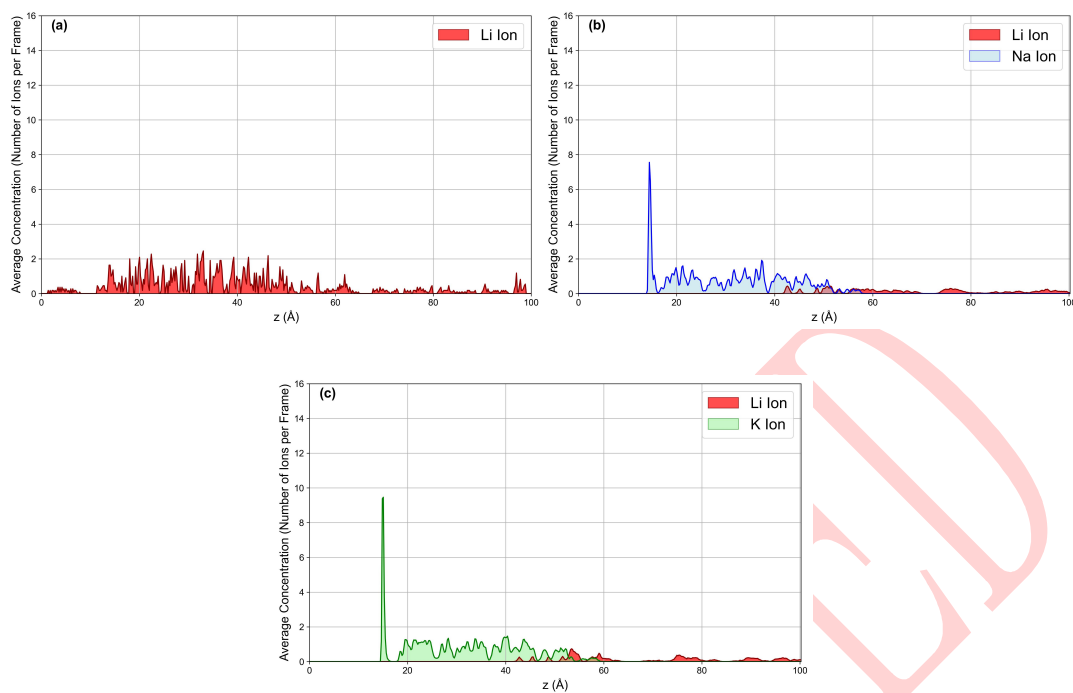
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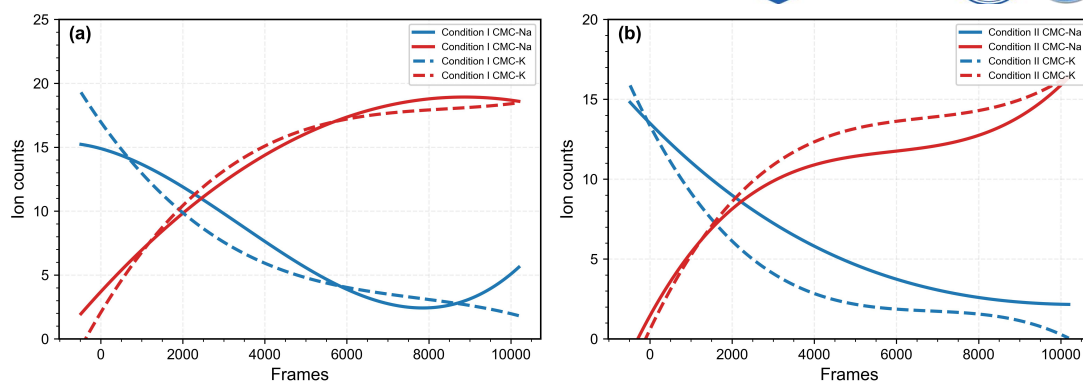
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Conditions I-II are defined in the main text.

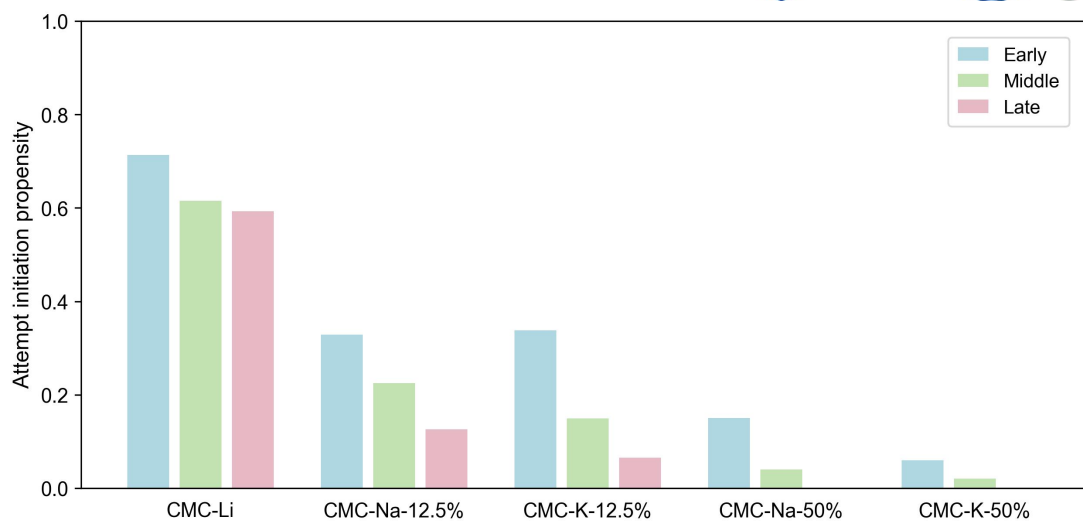


**Figure S1.** Under Condition II, z-resolved average ion number-density profiles for (a) CMC-Li, (b) CMC-Na, and (c) CMC-K.



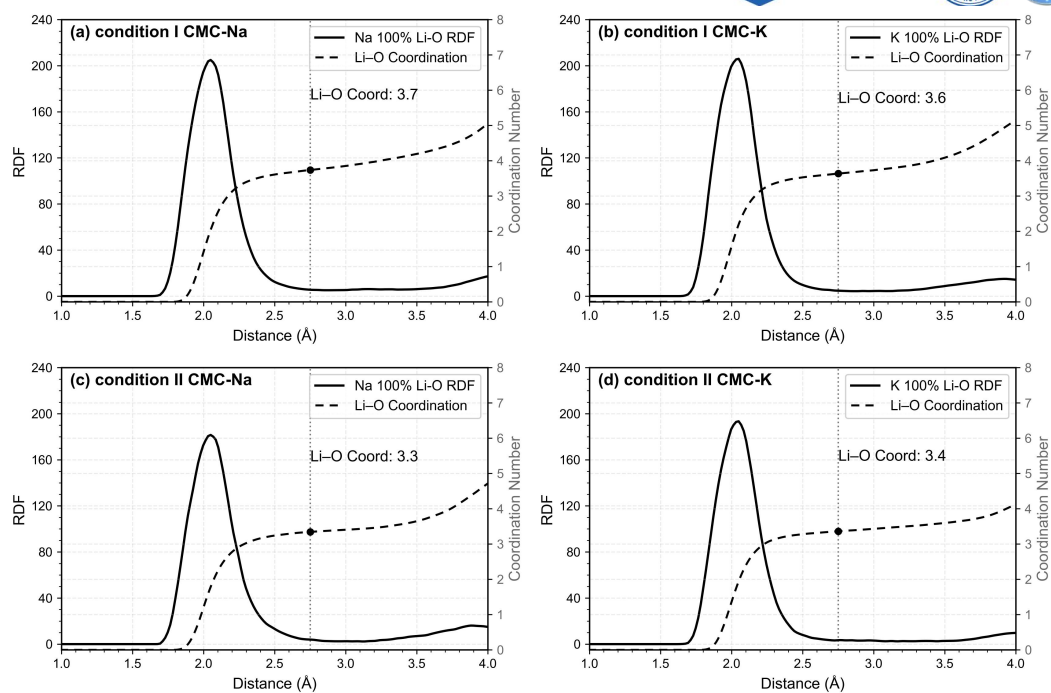
**Figure S2.** Time evolution of interfacial barrier buildup and Li<sup>+</sup> access to graphite in Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup>-deficient mixed systems. Shown are trajectories under (a) Condition I and (b) Condition II for CMC-Li/Na-12.5% and CMC-Li/K-12.5%. The red curve denotes the number of Na<sup>+</sup> (or K<sup>+</sup>) ions within the graphite-side interfacial barrier zone, and the blue curve denotes the instantaneous number of Li<sup>+</sup> ions residing within graphite (i.e., Li<sup>+</sup> ions that have crossed the interfacial layer under the exchange protocol).

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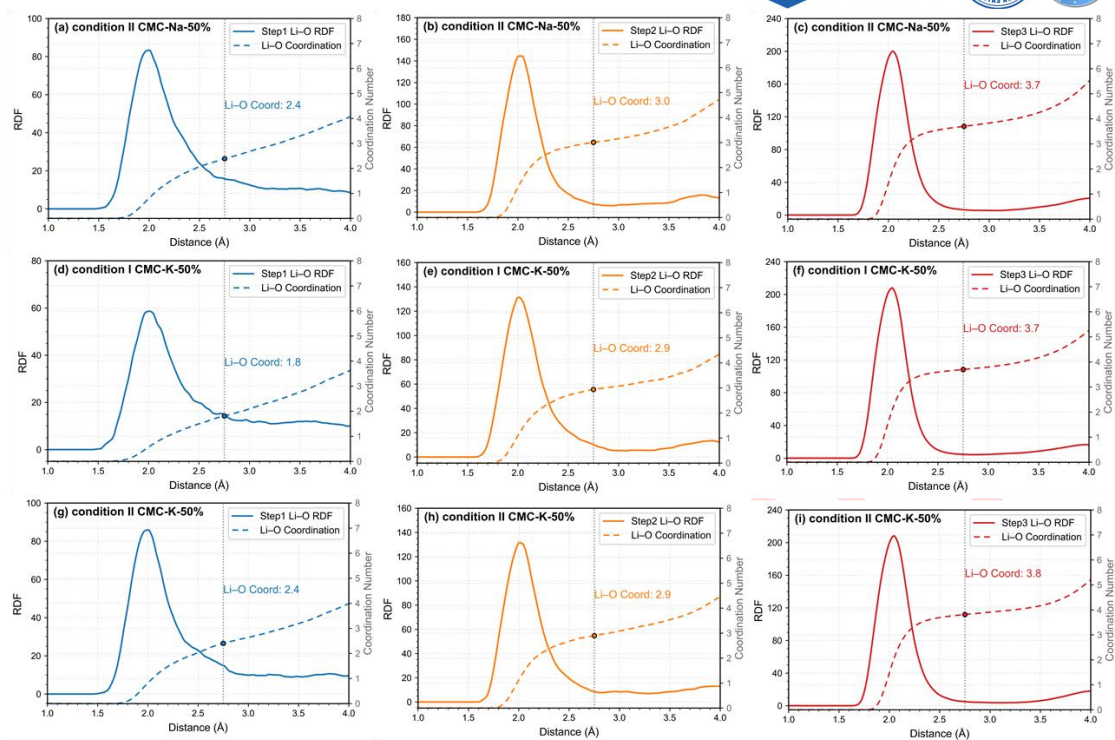


**Figure S3.** Under Condition II, stage-resolved attempt initiation propensity of Li<sup>+</sup> transport toward graphite in CMC-Li and mixed-counterion CMC systems, calculated using the same definition as in Figure 5.

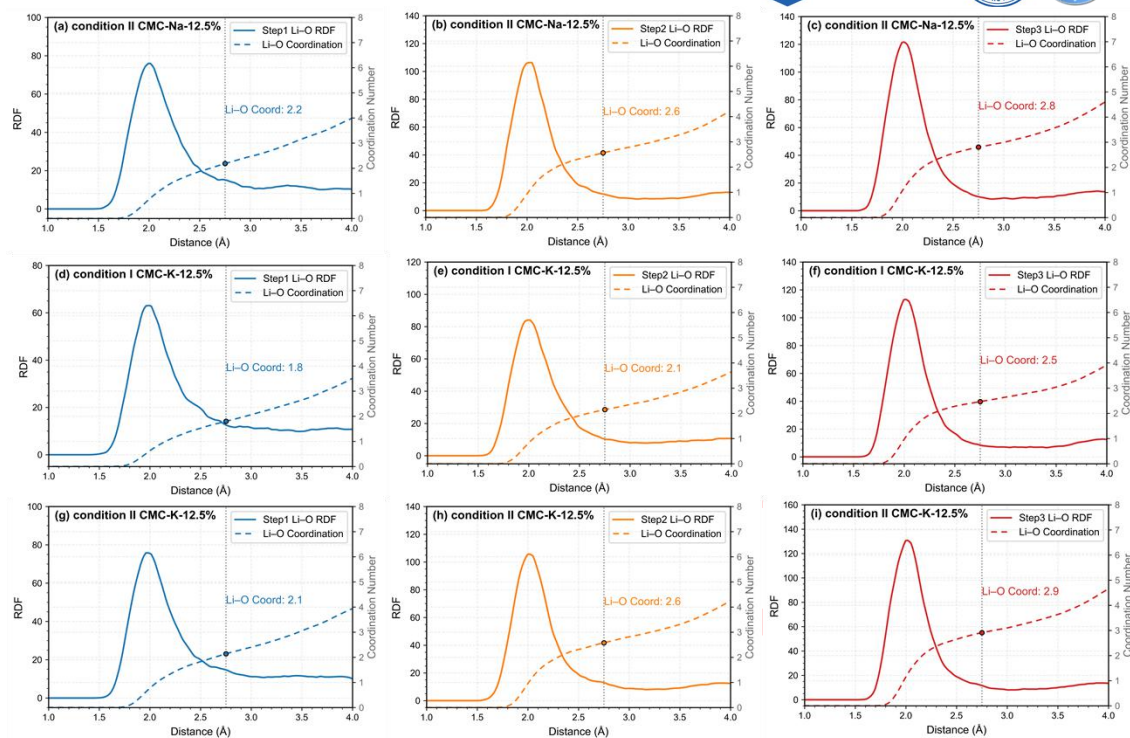
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**Figure S4.** Li-O<sub>carb</sub> RDFs and the corresponding CNs for Li<sup>+</sup> ions sampled in the binder interior (central region) of the pure-counterion systems. Results are shown for (a) CMC-Na and (b) CMC-K under Condition I, and for (c) CMC-Na and (d) CMC-K under Condition II.



**Figure S5.** Binder-center  $\text{Li}^+\text{-O}_{\text{carb}}$  RDFs and CNs for time-segmented stages (initial, deceleration, and steady) in  $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+$ -rich mixed systems. For CMC-Li/Na-50%, results under Condition II are shown in (a-c). For CMC-Li/K-50%, results under Condition I and Condition II are shown in (d-f) and (g-i), respectively.



**Figure S6.** Binder-center  $\text{Li}^+\text{-O}_{\text{carb}}$  RDFs and CNs for time-segmented stages (initial, deceleration, and steady) in  $\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+$ -deficient mixed systems. For CMC-Li/Na-12.5%, results under Condition II are shown in (a-c). For CMC-Li/K-12.5%, results under Condition I and Condition II are shown in (d-f) and (g-i), respectively.