



Justin Andrews Solid State Chemist

As a solid state chemist, Dr. Justin Andrews designs new **inorganic materials** with specific purposes, such as better energy storage for batteries, or more optimal materials for computers and phones.

Solid state **chemistry** is equal parts chemistry, physics, mechanical engineering, and chemical engineering! When new materials are created, those materials must be **analyzed** with a variety of **techniques** to gain understanding of the material's properties.

Solid state chemists don't work with liquids or gases, but with the materials that we interact with on a daily basis: solids! Solid state chemistry focuses on materials like **rocks, minerals** like table salt, the food we eat, the ground we walk on and the buildings where we live and work.

To work with solids, chemists need to be able to **react** materials at extremely high temperatures. This is because a lot of **energy** is needed to get solids to interact with each other. A solid state chemist might use an arc melter to be able to heat solids up thousands of degrees in only a fraction of a second.

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