Structural Evolution of  $\text{Li}_2\text{Fe}_{1-y}\text{Mn}_y\text{SiO}_4$  (y = 0, 0.2, 0.5, 1) and  $\text{LiFeTiO}_4$  Cathode Materials for Li-Ion Batteries upon Electrochemical Cycling

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#### **Overview: Cathode materials**

 $LiCoO_2$  $LiMn_2O_4$  $LiFePO_4$  0.5 Li per TM 0.5 Li per TM 1 Li per TM 140 mAh/g 150 mAh/g 170 mAh/g

Li<sub>2</sub>(Fe/Mn)SiO<sub>4</sub> Li(Fe/Mn)TiO<sub>4</sub> 2 Li per TM ? 2 Li per TM ? 330 mAh/g ? 290 mAh/g ?



Li<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>1-v</sub>Mn<sub>v</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub> / C

- different polymorphs
- sol-gel synthesis
- nanocrystalline powders with carbon coating
- high capacity + high voltage possible (2 Li<sup>+</sup> per TM ?)
  → high energy density
- flexible silicate network



R. Chen et al., J. Phys. Chem. C 117 (2013), 884.

# $Li_2Fe_{1-y}Mn_ySiO_4 / C$

Literature (J. Thomas, R. Dominko, ...):

- Crystal structures
- Isolation of polymorphs
- Conversion of polymorphs during cycling
- Formation of polymorphs depends on cycling rate
- Metastable polymorphs
- Conversion during relaxation

 $Li_2Fe_{1-y}Mn_ySiO_4 / C$ 

(a)

1.

unts / a.u.

XRD

y = 0.2







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Li<sub>2</sub>Fe<sub>1-v</sub>Mn<sub>v</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>

v = 0

 $Li_2Fe_{1-y}Mn_ySiO_4 / C$ 



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 $Li_{2}Fe_{1-v}Mn_{v}SiO_{4} \qquad ^{7}Li MAS NMR \qquad Fe^{2+}, Mn^{2+} \leftrightarrow Fe^{3+}, Mn^{3+}$ 



## $Li_2Fe_{1-y}Mn_ySiO_4$

#### Fe Mössbauer spectroscopy



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in situ XAS

y = 0.5





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*µ*d / a.u.

*µ*d / a.u.

## LiMnTiO<sub>4</sub>

(a)

Counts / a.u.

5

(b)

1<sup>st</sup>-4.8V

50<sup>th</sup>-1.5\

2<sup>nd</sup>-4.8V

1<sup>st</sup>-1.5V

as-prep

5

Counts / a.u.

## $LiMn^{3+}Ti^{4+}O_4 \leftrightarrow LiMn^{3+}Mn^{4+}O_4$

cycling

XRD





# **Conclusions**

Structural changes during electrochemical cycling observed by

XRD <sup>7</sup>Li MAS NMR spectroscopy Fe Mössbauer spectroscopy *in situ* XAS

highly reversible oxidation/reduction  $Fe^{2+} \leftrightarrow Fe^{3+}$  $Mn^{2+} \leftrightarrow Mn^{3+}$ 

conversion of poylmorphs / changes in cation arrangem.

high degree of structural disorder after cycling

stabilization possible by doping

# $Li_2Fe_{1-y}Mn_ySiO_4$ Outlook

y = 0.5



#### **Overview: Experimental Methods**

Standard sample characterization XRD, SEM, TEM, ...

Battery tests

long-range structure, morphology

cell performance

In situ XRD measurements

In situ XAS measurements

Solid State <sup>7</sup>Li NMR spectroscopy (MAS, VT, PFG, *in situ*)

Fe Mössbauer spectroscopy (*ex situ*, *in situ*)

long-range structure

local structure (element-specific), oxidation states

local structure (element-specific), dynamics

short-range structure, oxidation states

#### LiFeTiO<sub>4</sub>

(together with M. Knapp, M. Yavuz)





R. Chen, S. Indris, EP 13401030, 2013.