



Conférence internationale sur les olivines pour batteries rechargeables  
**OREBA 1.0**

**In Honor of Dr. Michel Armand**

Montréal, May 25 – 28 2014

**Lithium Metal Phosphates as Cathode  
Materials for Li-Ion Batteries  
Status and Future Perspectives**

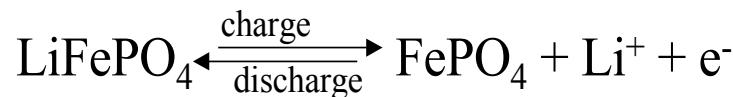
Margret Wohlfahrt-Mehrens

Zentrum für Sonnenenergie- und Wasserstoff-Forschung (ZSW)  
Baden-Württemberg

# Lithium Metal Phosphates as Cathode Materials for Li-Ion Batteries



Triphilite  $\text{LiFePO}_4$   
<http://www.mindat.org/photo-202039.html>



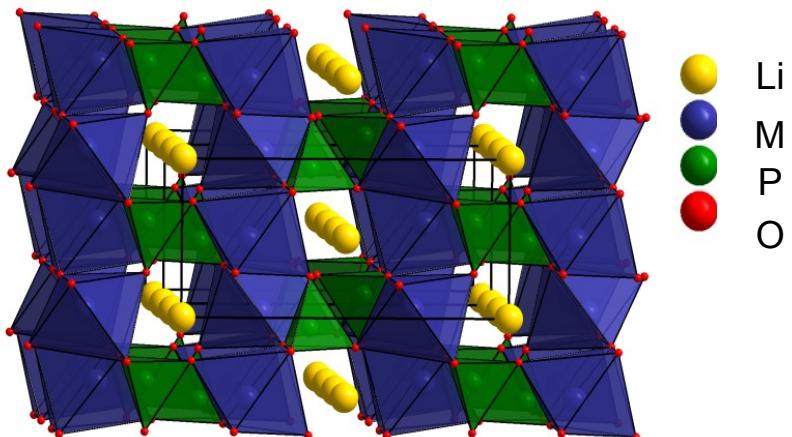
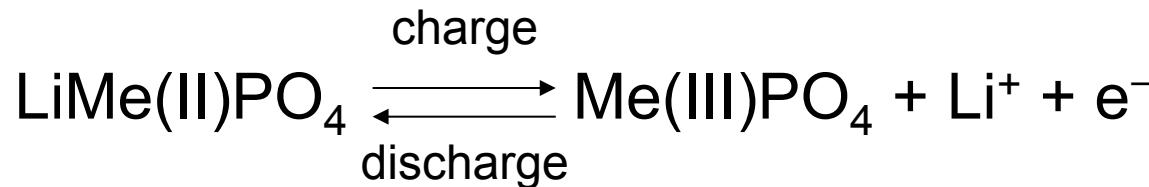
non toxic  
low-cost raw materials  
Lower operating voltage, higher stability of electrolytes  
high thermal stability in the lithiated and delithiated state

## not a classical electrode material:

- Low electronic conductivity  $\text{LiFePO}_4$
- Low ionic conductivity
- two-phase reaction → phase boundary migration
- limited rate capability

Padhi, A.K., Nanjundaswamy, K.S., Goodenough, J.B.  
*Journal of the Electrochemical Society*, 144 (4), 1997, 1188-1194.

# Lithium Metal Phosphates as Cathode Materials for Li-Ion Batteries



Approaches to solve these problems

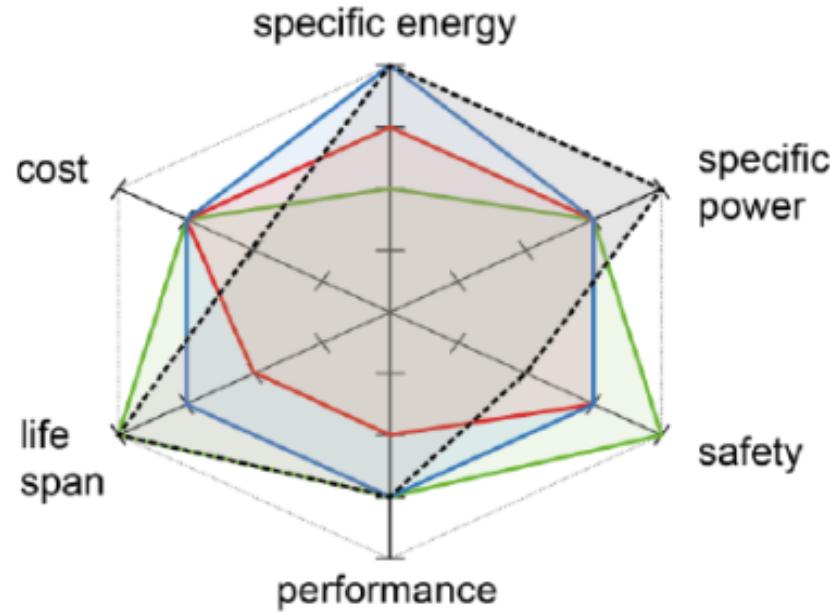
composition and structural level

nanosized material or nanostructured material

building a conductive surface network  
- “carbon painting”

*Ravet, N., Chouinard, Y., Magnan,J.F., Besner, S., Gauthier, M., Armand, M., Journal of Power Sources, 97-98, 2001, 503-507N.*

# Lithium Metal Phosphates as Cathode Materials for Li-Ion Batteries - today

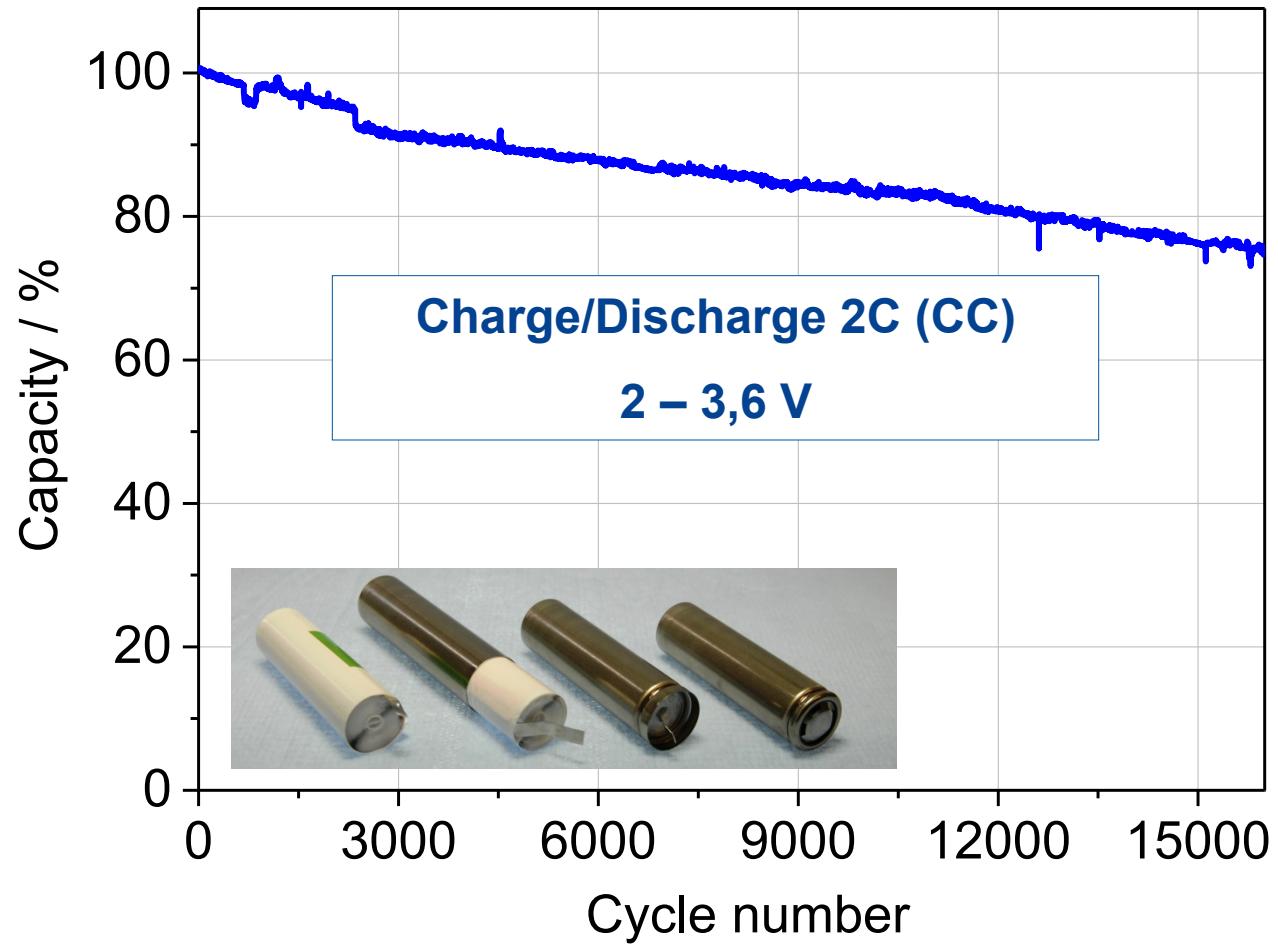


inherent safe, long life, high power material

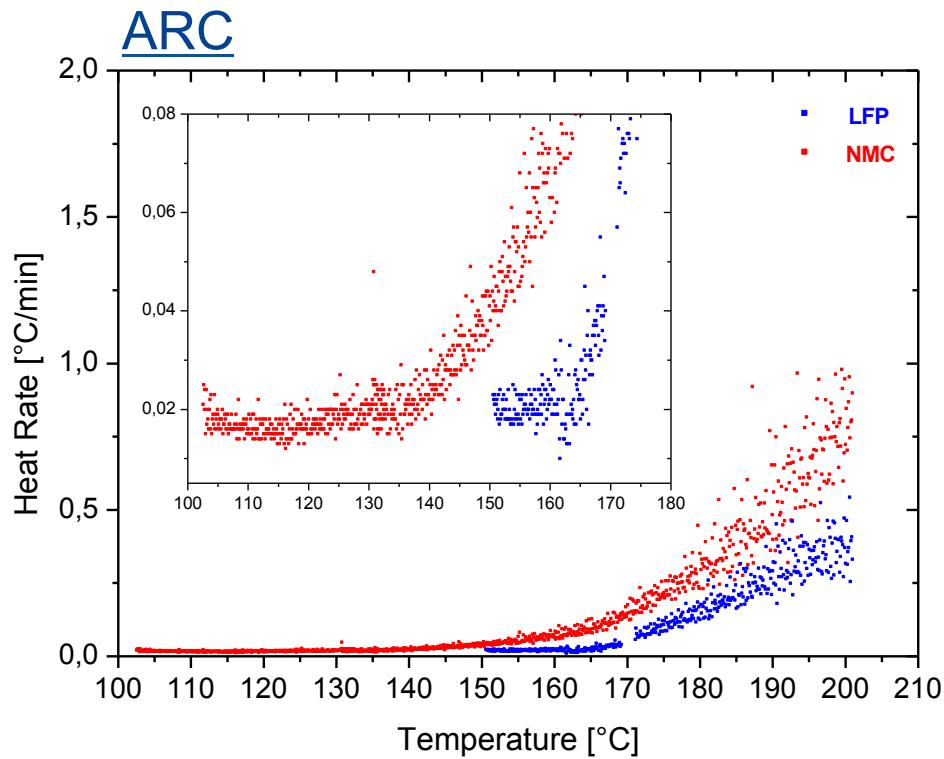
## Applications

- Low voltage applications
  - E-bikes
  - Hybrid electric vehicles
  - Electric vehicles
  - Stationary applications
- 
- 2010 – 2014 more than 1.000 scientific publications
  - initiated research on other polyanion material classes

**Excellent Cycling Life**  
**18650 cell Amorphous carbon//LFP**  
**70 Wh/kg**



# Higher Safety of LFP Compared to Layered Oxides



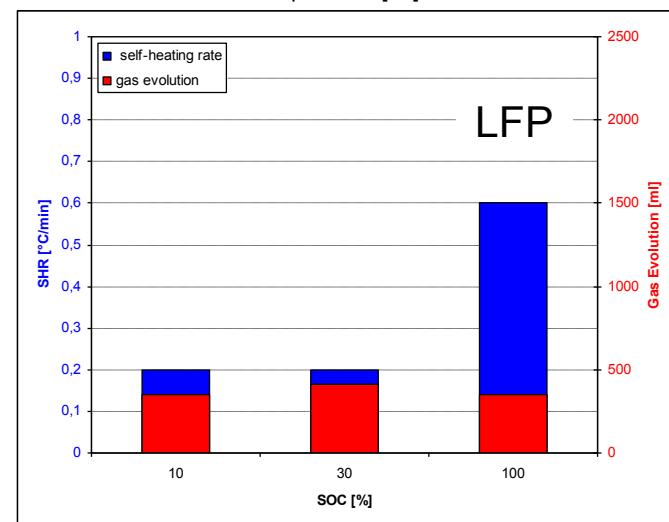
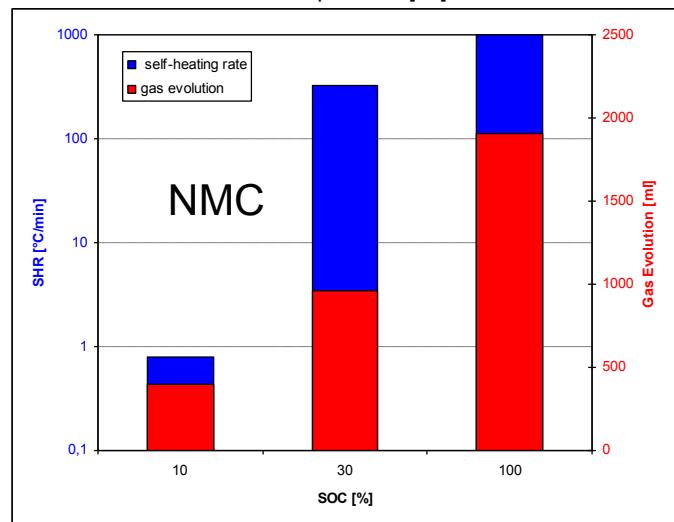
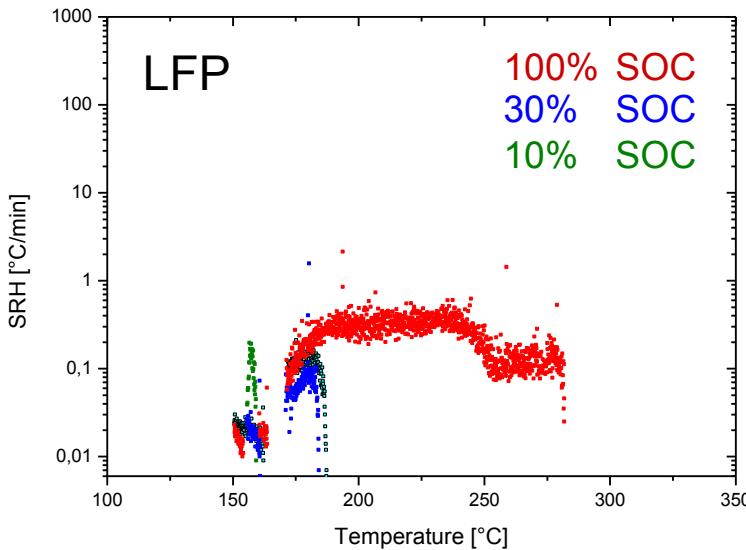
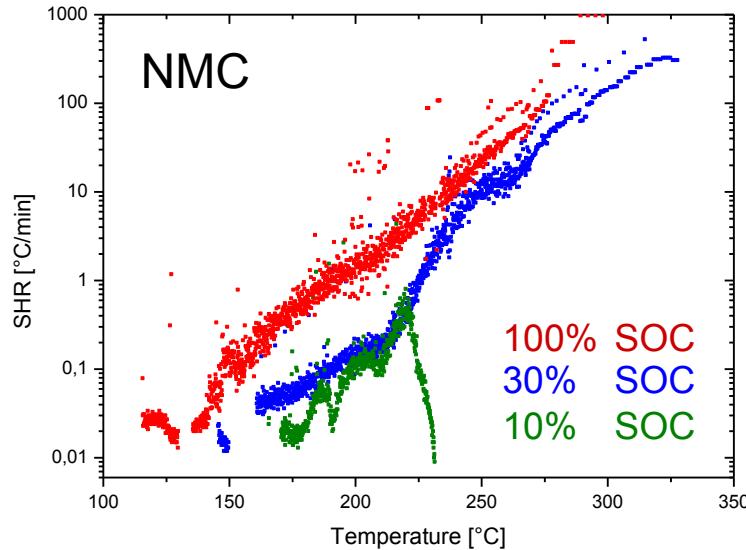
## Thermal Abuse Test

- LFP 18650 cell:  
Hazard level 3 (no thermal runaway)
- NMC 18650 cell:  
Hazard level 4 (thermal runaway)

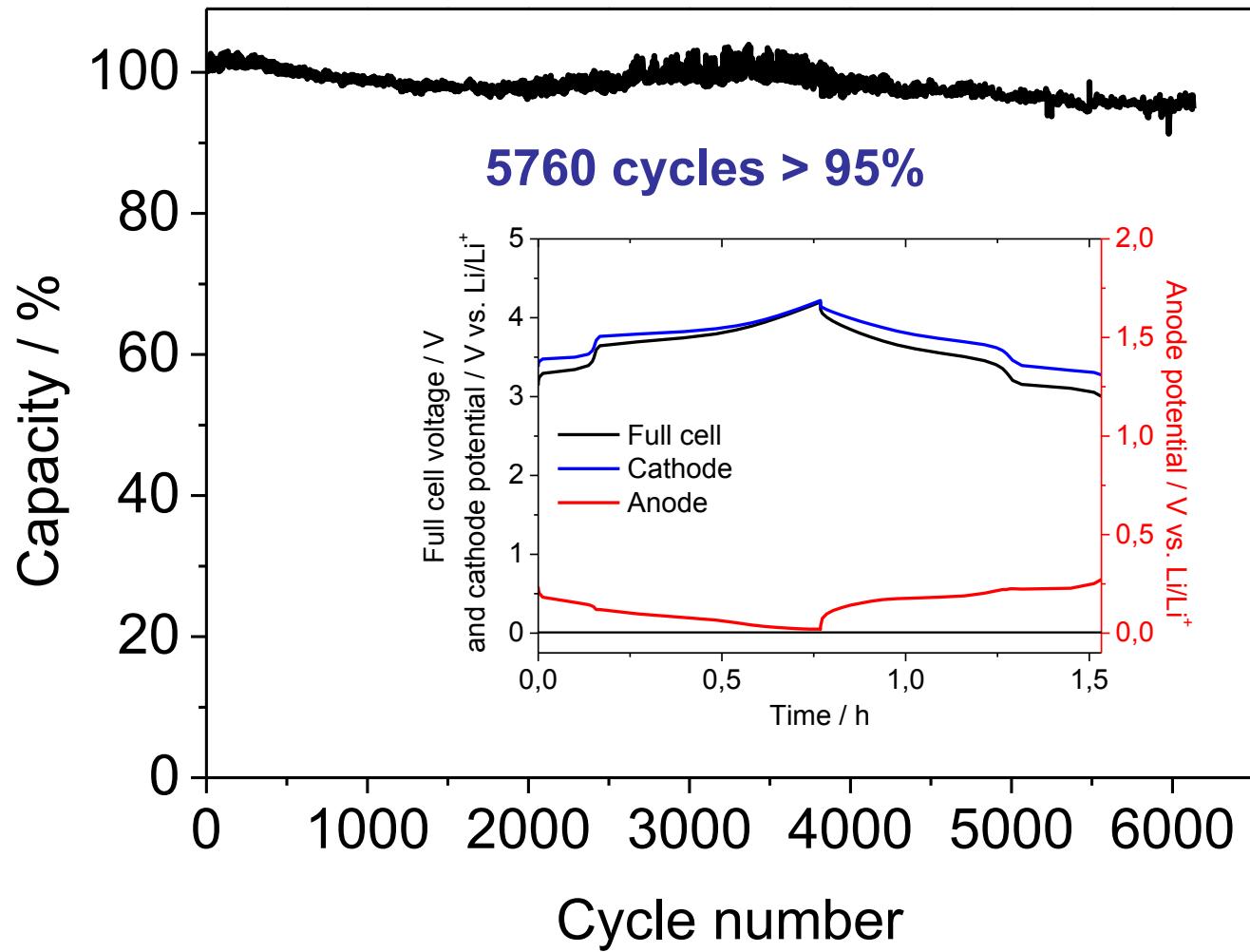
LFP cell is more safe

- LFP cell: self heating is lower and shifted to higher temperature

# Excellent Safety Compared to Layered Oxides

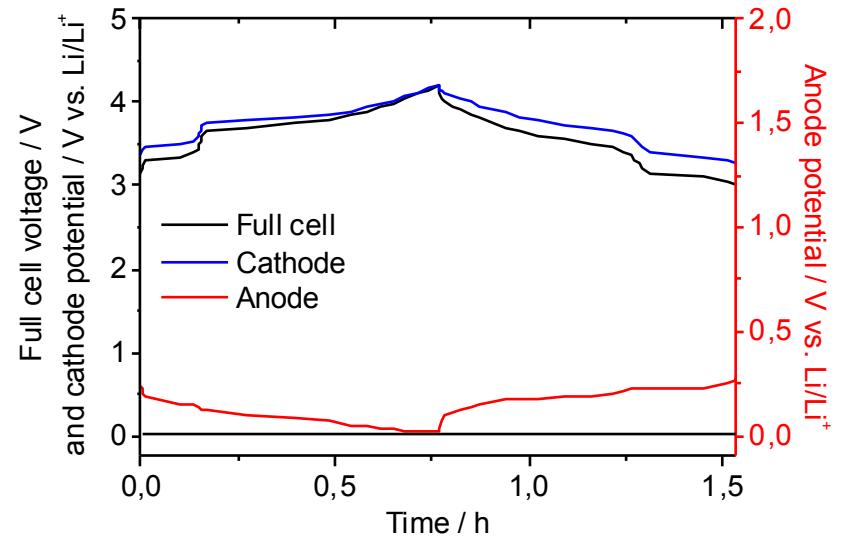
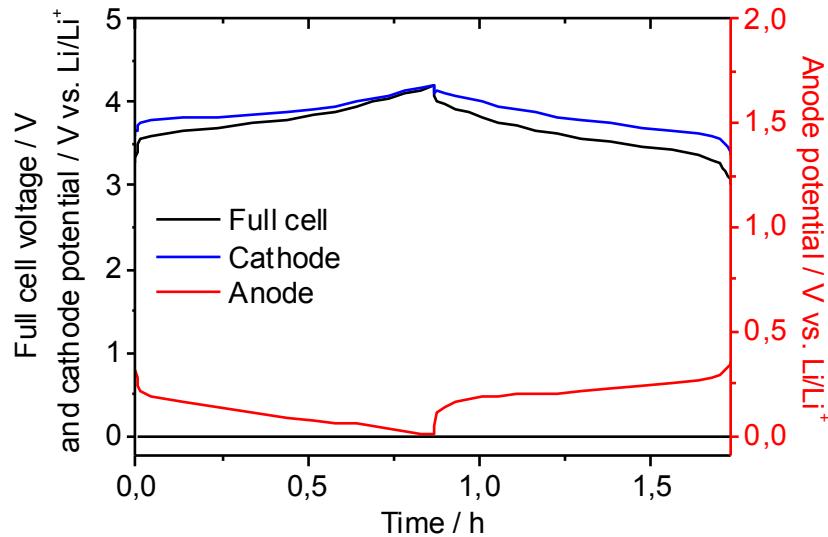


# Routes to improve energy density: LFP//NMC Blends



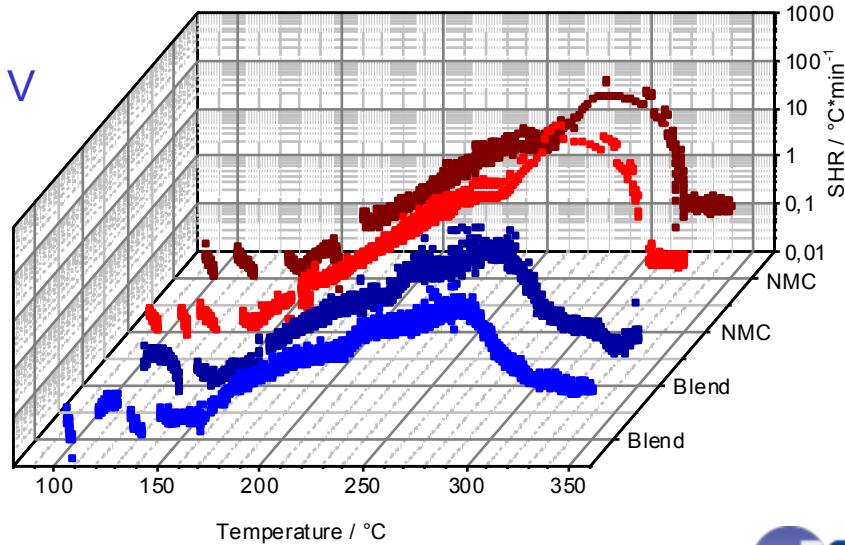
NCM/LFP blend 3:1; 93% AM/ 3% CB/ 1% Gr/ 3% binder  
Loading: 14 mg cm<sup>-2</sup>; electrolyte EC:EMC (3:7) + 2 wt. % VC

# Routes to improve energy density: LFP//NMC Blends

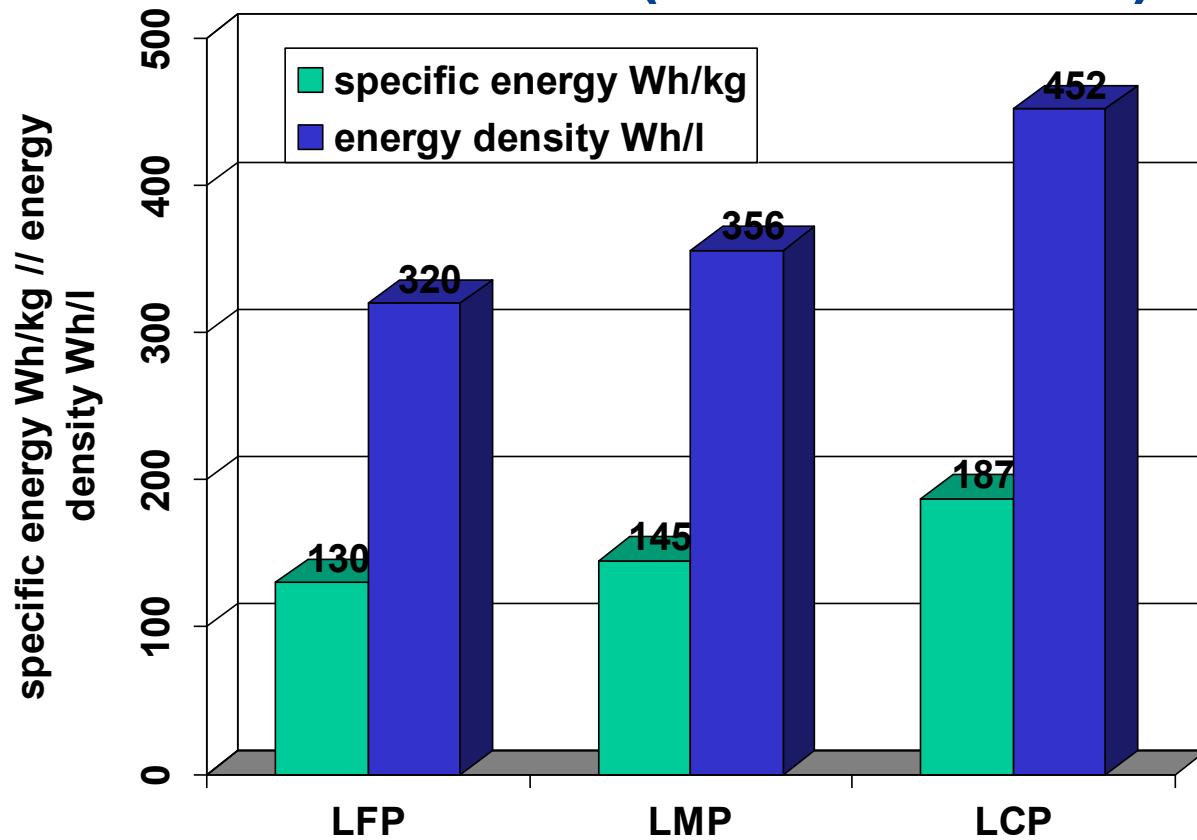


Charged/discharged C/5 between 3,0 and 4,2 V  
50 cycles 1 C CC/CD room temperature  
Charged C/10 to 4,2 V

Maximum self heating rate  
NMC: 280°Cmin<sup>-1</sup>  
Blend: 18°Cmin<sup>-1</sup>



# From LiFePO<sub>4</sub> to higher voltage LiMePO<sub>4</sub> (M: Mn, Co, Ni)



Baseline LFP 18650 cell

Projected specific energy  
for 18650 cells assuming  
comparable specific capacity  
for manganese and cobalt based  
materials

- higher energy density compared to LFP based cells
- reduce the energy density gap to layered lithium metal oxides
- increased abuse tolerance compared to layered oxides
- LCP higher capacity compared to LMNO

# From LiFePO<sub>4</sub> to LiMePO<sub>4</sub> Me = Mn, Co Challenges and strategies

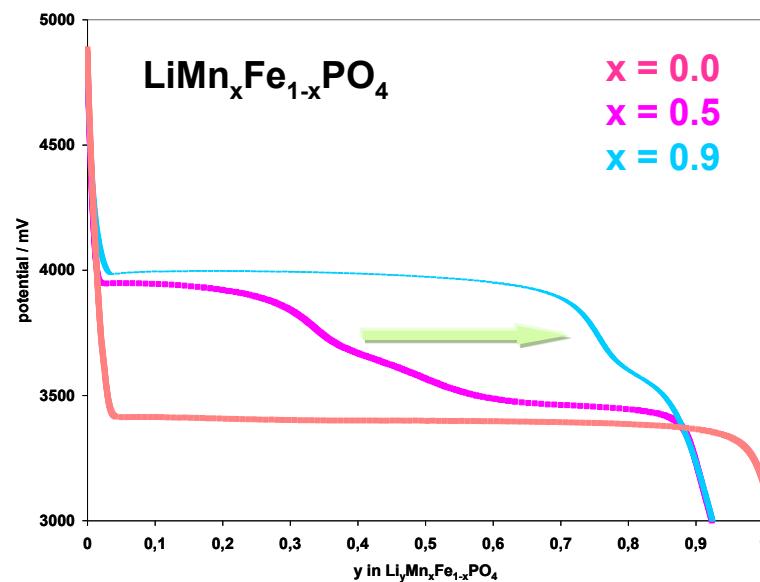
- low electronic conductivity LiMnPO<sub>4</sub> << LiFePO<sub>4</sub>  
**→ nanosize particles and carbon coating**
- strain between charged and discharged state (lattice mismatch)  
LiFePO<sub>4</sub>/FePO<sub>4</sub> 6,6%  
LiCoPO<sub>4</sub>/CoPO<sub>4</sub> 7,1% (intermediate phase Li<sub>x</sub>CoPO<sub>4</sub> reported)\*  
LiMnPO<sub>4</sub>/MnPO<sub>4</sub> 9,0%  
generation of Jahn-Teller ion Mn<sup>3+</sup>
- instability of the delithiated states Mn(III)PO<sub>4</sub>\*\* and Co(III)PO<sub>4</sub> \*\*  
**→ LiM(1)<sub>x</sub>M(2)<sub>1-x</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> or LiM(1)<sub>x</sub>M(2)<sub>y</sub>M(3)<sub>1-x-y</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> for longer cycling life**
- low electrolyte stability

N.N. Bramnik, K. Nikolowski, D. M.Trots, H. Ehrenberg,. Electrochemical and Solid-State Letters, 2008, 11, A89.\*  
S.-W. Kim., J. Kim., H. Gwon., K. Kang., J. Electrochem. Soc. 2009, 156(8), A635–A38.\*\*  
L. Wang, F. Zhou, G. Ceder, Electrochem. Solid-State Lett. 2008, 11(6), A94–A96.\*\*  
G. Hautier, A. Jain, S. Ong, B. Kang, C., R. Doe, G. Ceder, Chem. Mater. 2011, 23, 3495–3508\*\*



# From $\text{LiFePO}_4$ to $\text{LiMePO}_4$ Me = Mn, Co Challenges and strategies

$\text{LiM}(1)_x\text{M}(2)_{1-x}\text{PO}_4$  or  $\text{LiM}(1)_x\text{M}(2)_y\text{M}(3)_{1-x-y}\text{PO}_4$  for longer cycling life

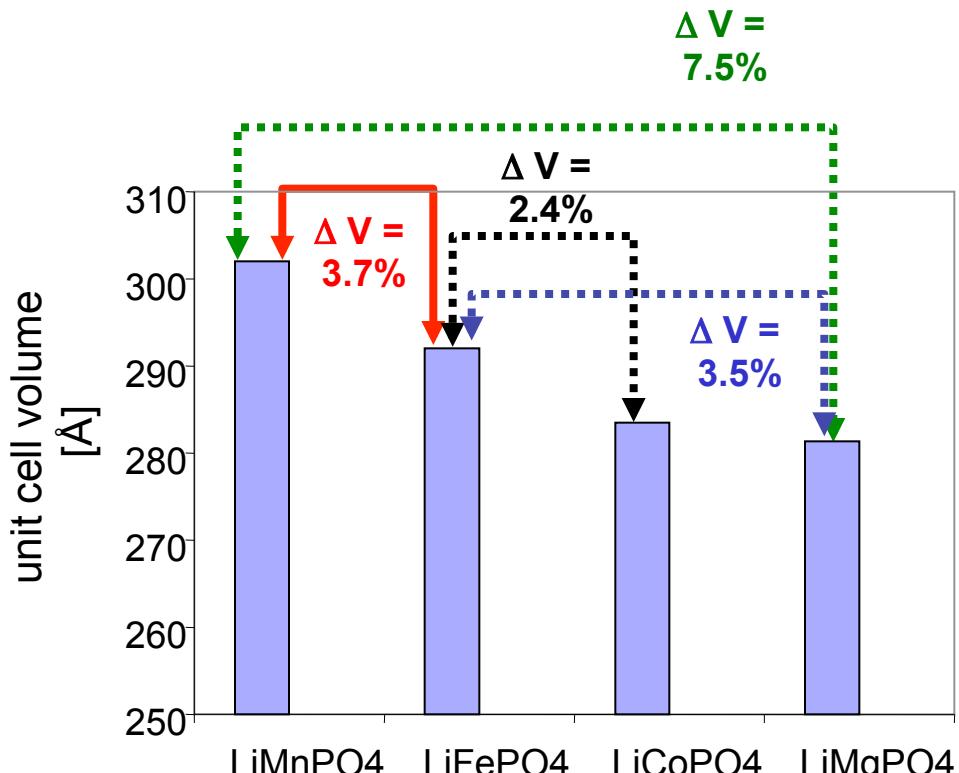


solid–solution series  $\text{LiMn}_y\text{Fe}_{1-y}\text{PO}_4^*$ , high power  $\text{LiMn}_{0.8}\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{PO}_4^*$

A.Yamada, S.C. Chung, J. Electrochem. Soc. 2001, 148(8), A960–A967, A. Yamada, Y. Kudo, K.-Y. Liu, J. Electrochem. Soc. 2001, 148(7), A747–A754

D. Aurbach et al. Angewandte Chemie, 2009, 121(45), 711-715

# Mixed phospho olivines to compensate structural changes



Unit cell volumes of the Phospho-Olivine Phases change in the series:

$\text{Mn} > \text{Fe} > \text{Co} > \text{Mg} > \text{Ni}$

Large difference between

$\text{LiMgPO}_4$  and  $\text{LiMnPO}_4$

→ strong influence of substitution expected

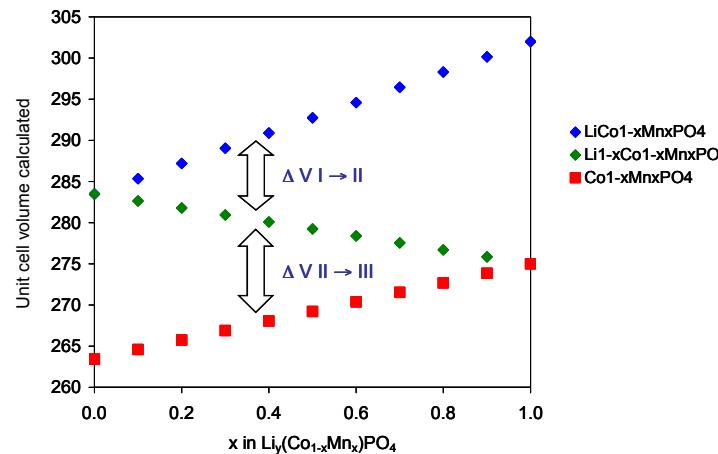
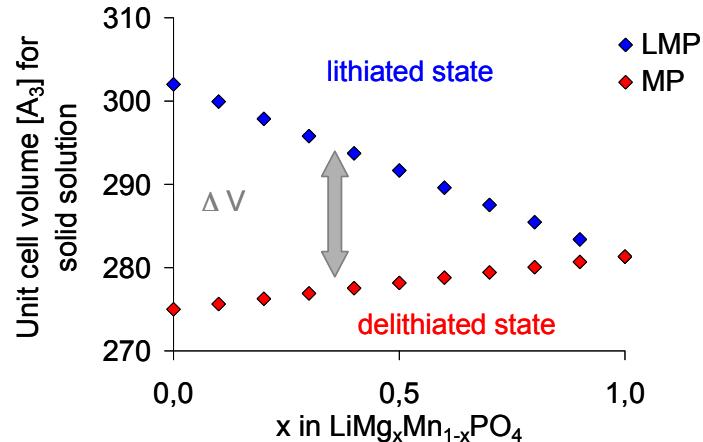
Lithiated state:

solid solution of  
 $\text{LiMn}^{II}\text{PO}_4$  und  $\text{LiMg}^{II}\text{PO}_4$

Delithiated state –

solid solution of  
 $\text{Mn}^{III}\text{PO}_4$  and  $\text{LiMg}^{II}\text{PO}_4$

# Expected influence of partial substitution



## Consequences:

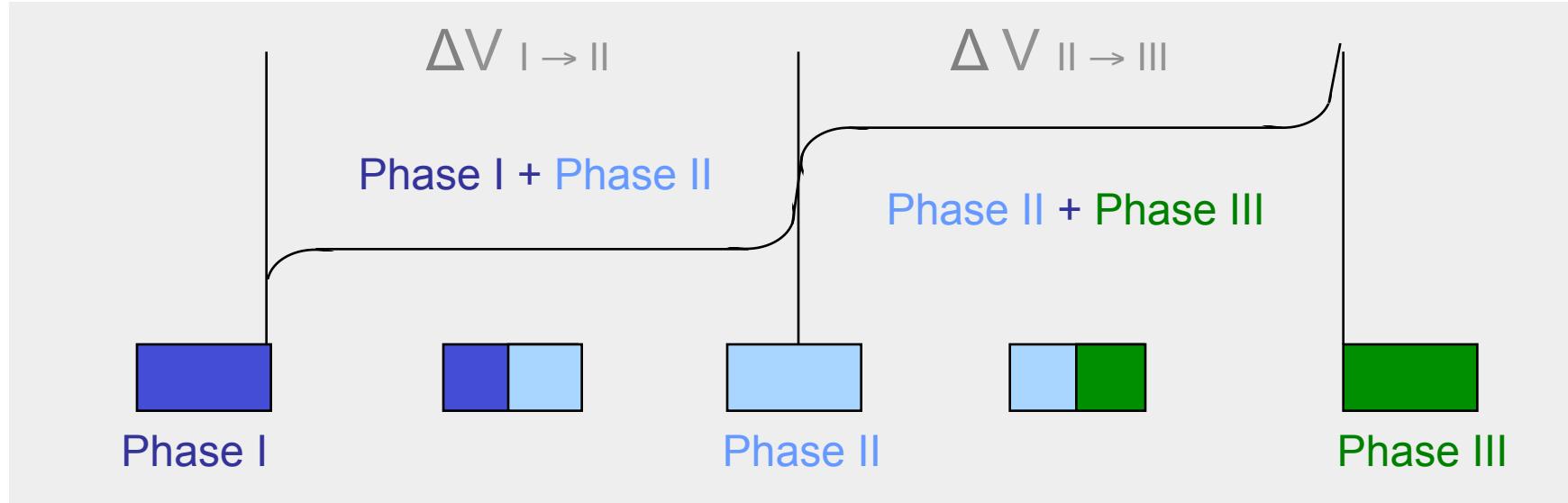
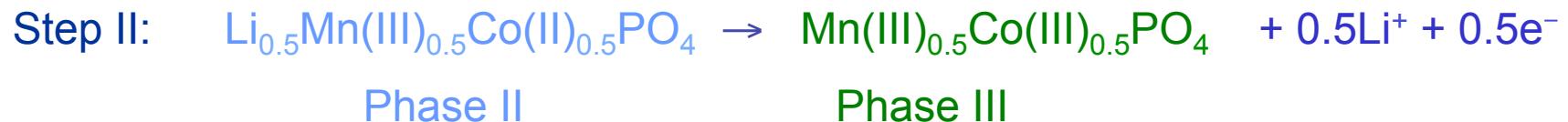
smaller  $\Delta V$  between charged and discharged phase

- lower lattice mismatch
- reduced strain at phase boundary

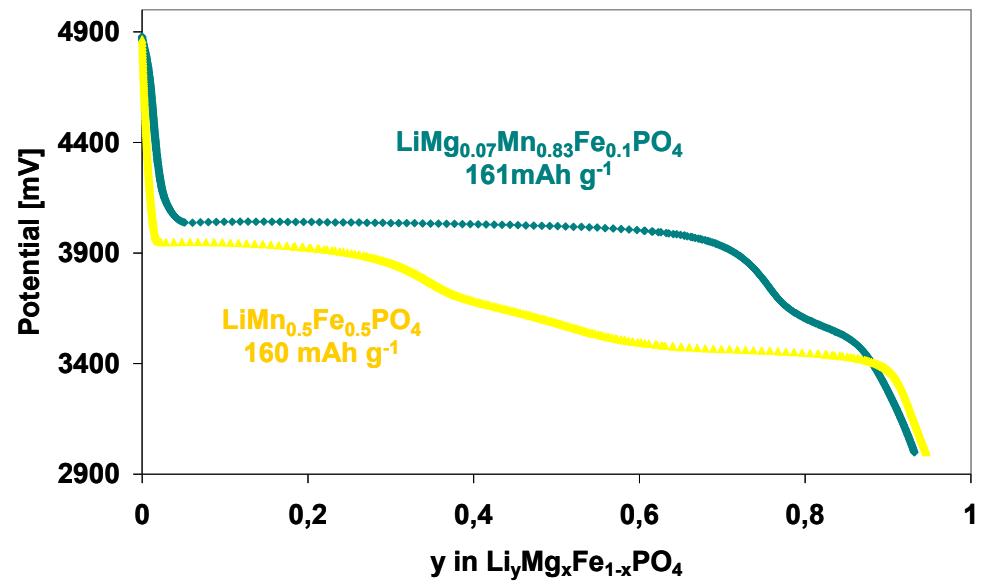
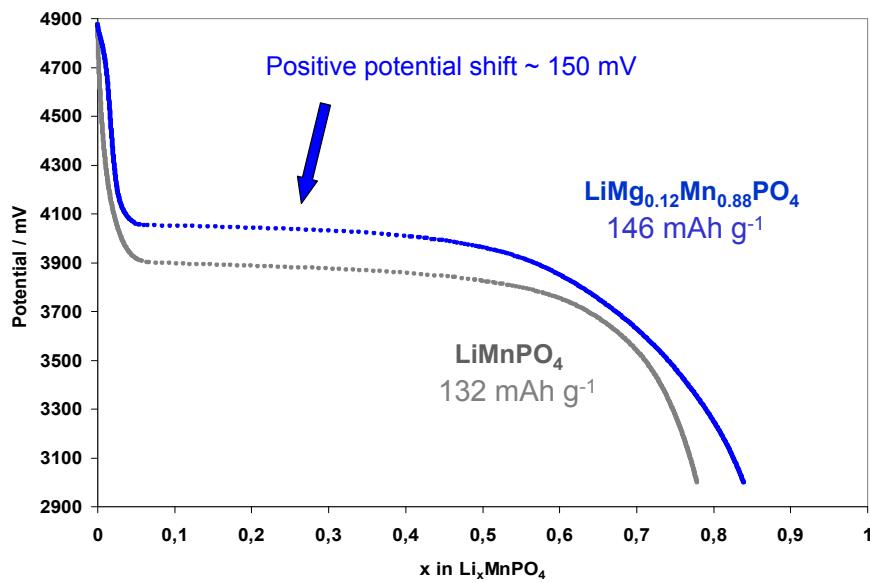
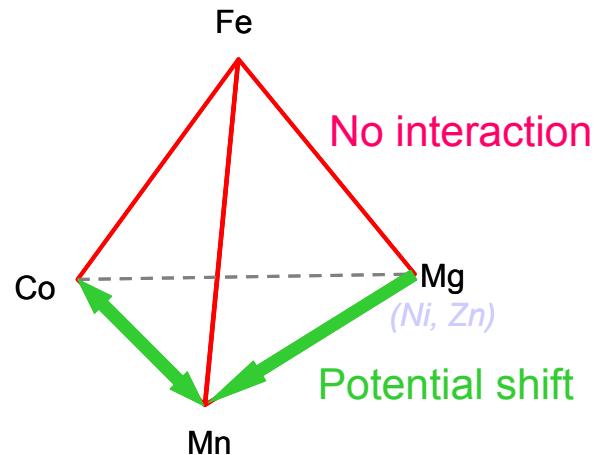
decreasing amount of Mn(III) d<sup>4</sup>  
→ stabilisation of delithiated phase

- 1 Lithium per formula unit
  - lower lattice mismatch
  - reduced strain at phase boundary
  - mixed valent regions, solid solution regions

# Dynamic stability – electrochemical active M ΔV LMP/MP example Co-Mn



# Effect of partial substitution on potential



# Higher Oxidation States of Manganese in the Olivine Structure?

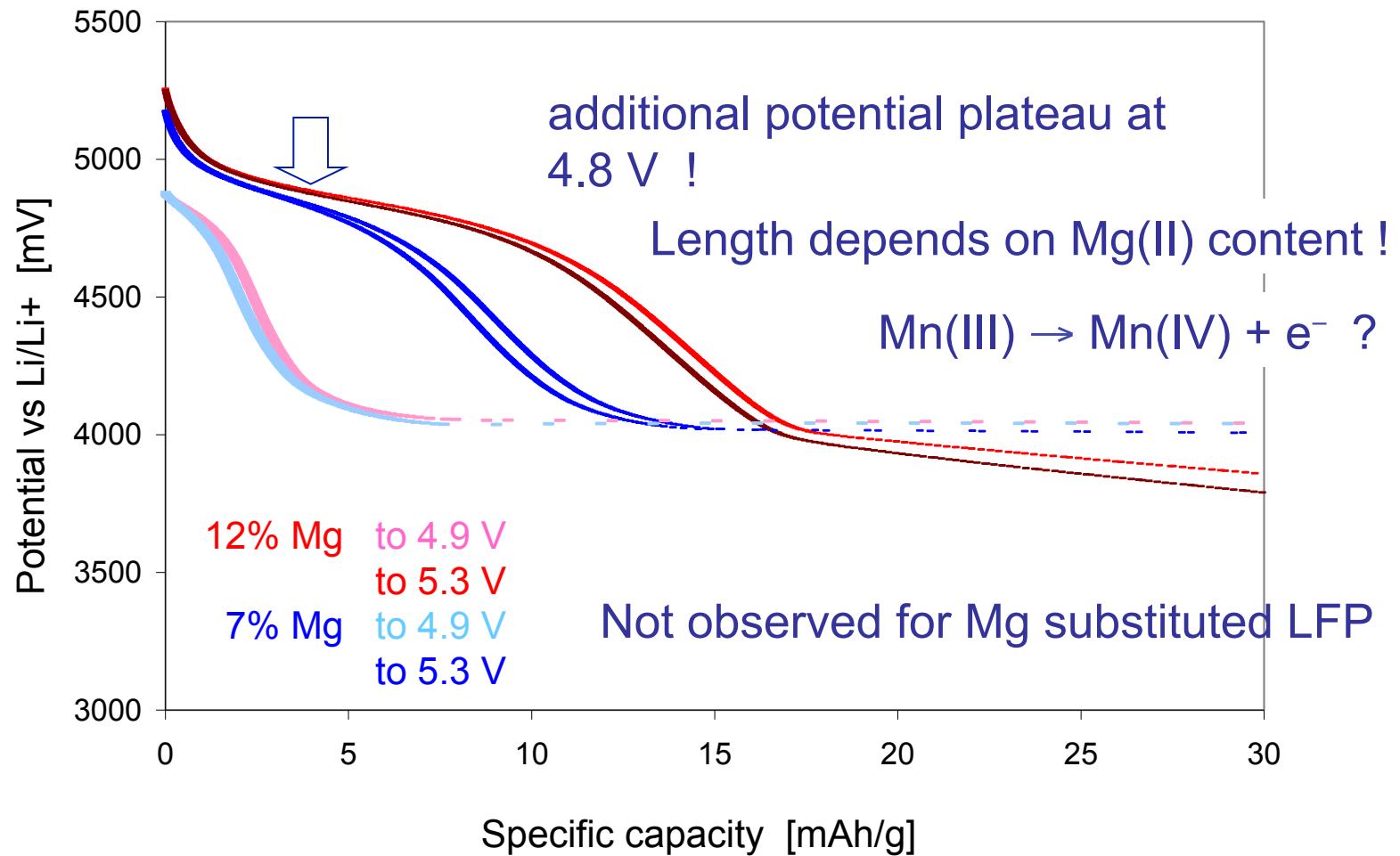
- Li:M ratio restricts the redox-chemistry in olivines to M(II)-(III) step
- partial substitution of Manganese fixes  $\text{Li}^+$  in the charged olivine structure



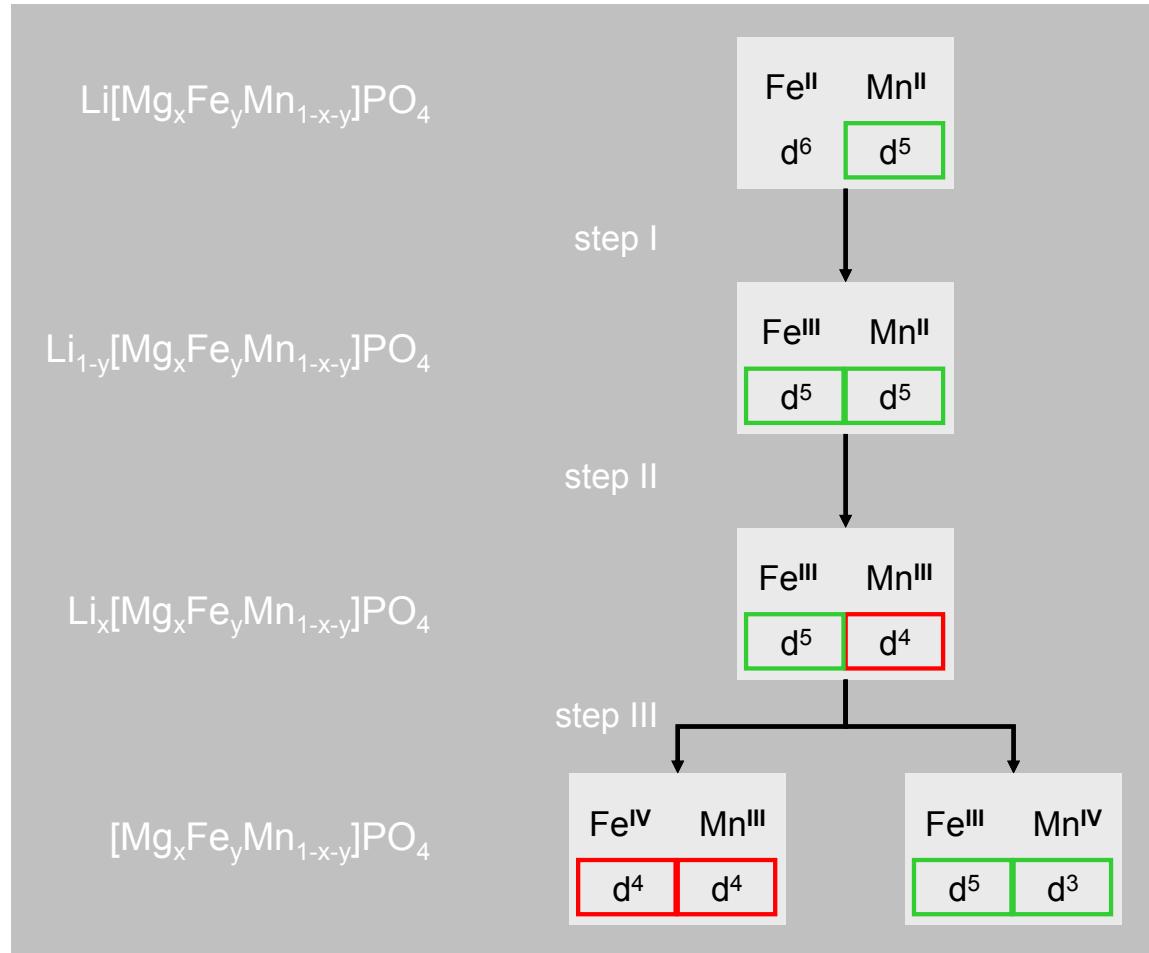
- in  $\text{LiMnPO}_4$ ,  $\text{LiFePO}_4$  and  $\text{LiMn}_x\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{PO}_4$  with and without Mg

# First discharge profile after charging to 5.3 V

## LMP - 7% Mg and 12%Mg



# Formal oxidation states and electronic configurations



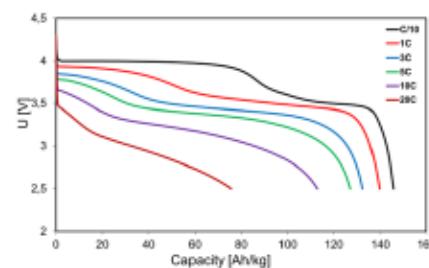
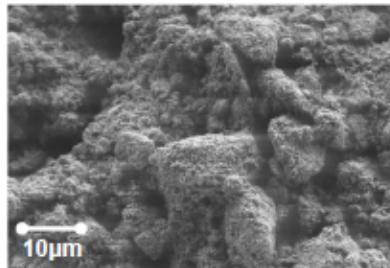
Symmetric configurations  
stabilisation of  
the structure

Jahn-Teller-Ions  
distortion  
destabilisation'  
of structure

# Influence of powder morphology

CLARIANT

$\text{Li}(\text{Mn},\text{Fe})\text{PO}_4$ - EXM 2336 ( $\text{LiFe}_{0,33}\text{Mn}_{0,67}\text{PO}_4$ )

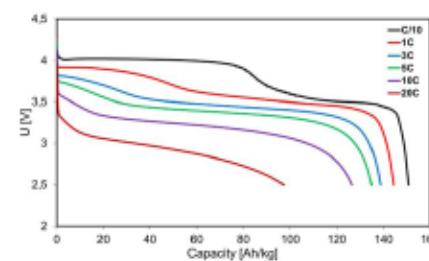
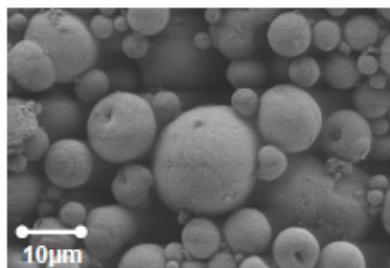


LFMP – powder type

Electrode density = 1,50 g/cc

Press density = 1,69 g/cc

C content = 2,4 wt %



LFMP spherical type

Electrode density = 1,98 g/cc

Press density = 2,28 g/cc

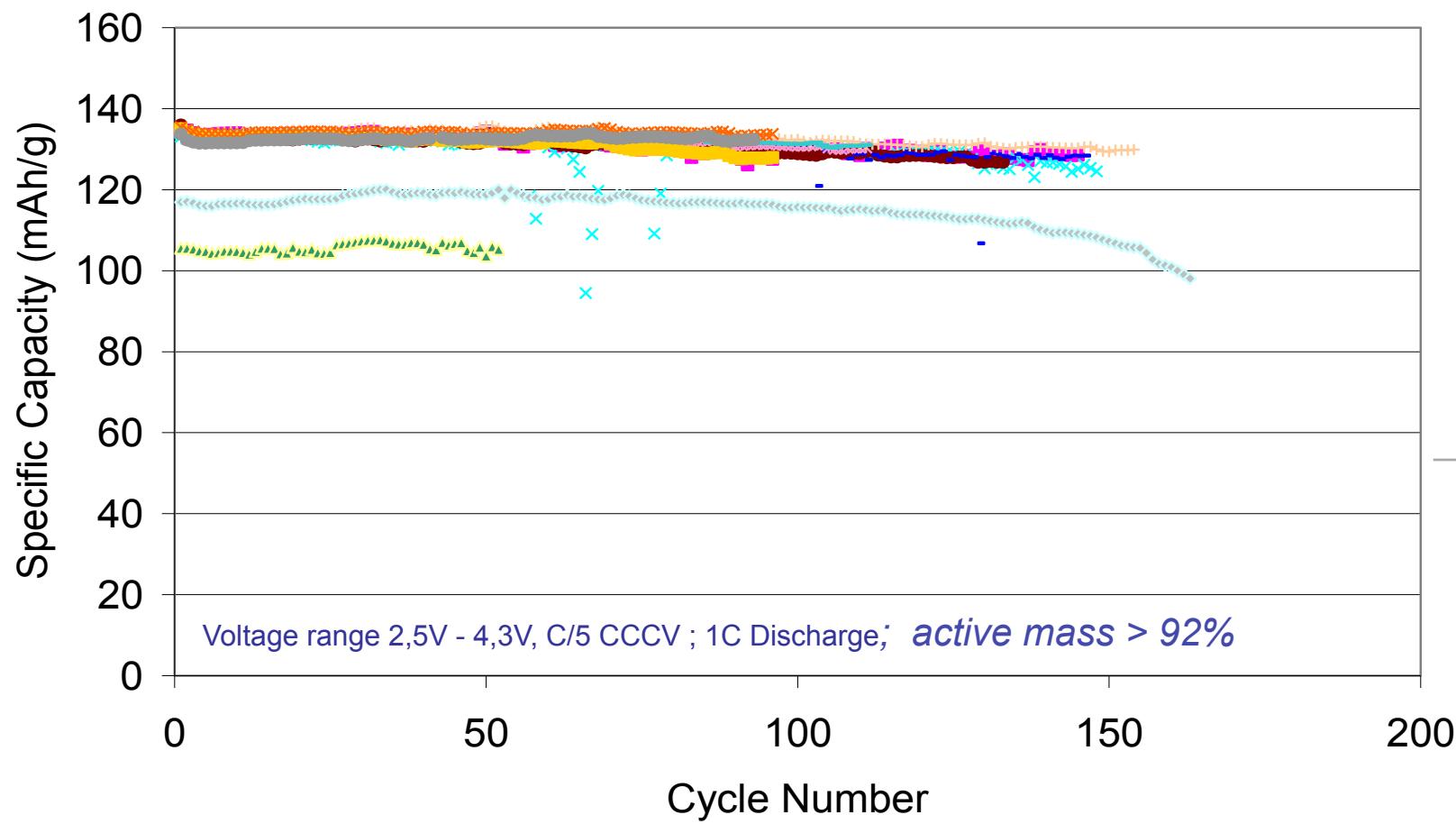
C content 2,8 wt %

Control of particle size and morphology -

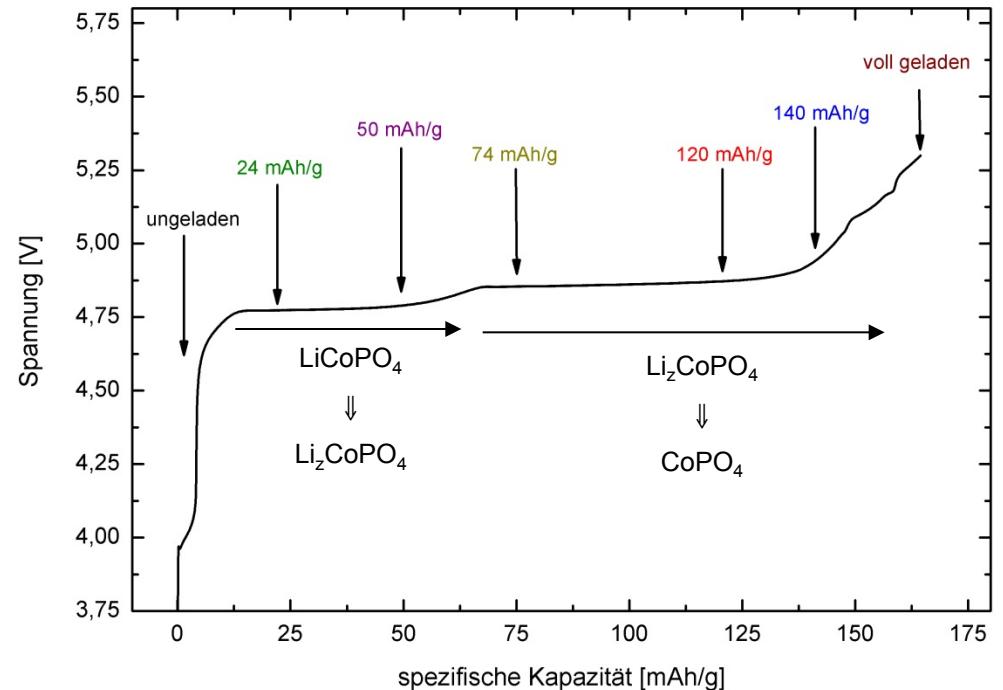
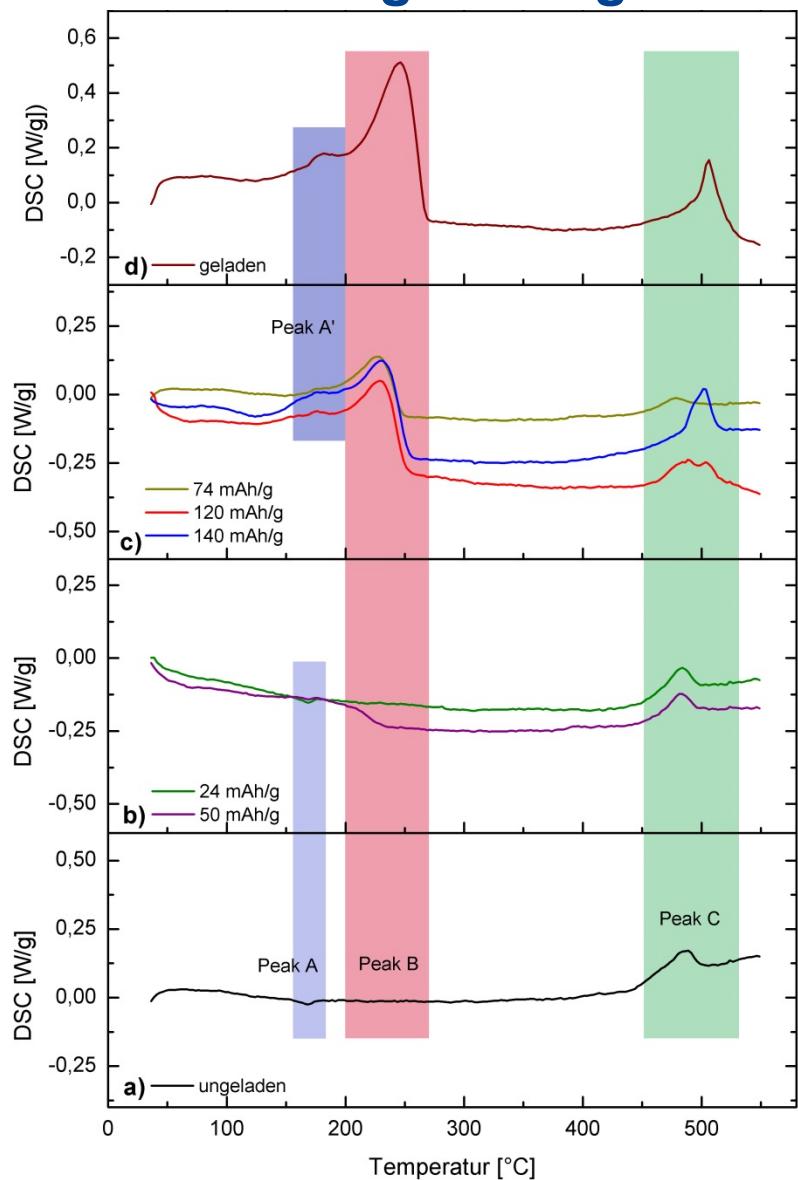
spherical agglomerates for better processability

with comparable electrochemical performance

# Li(MnFe)PO<sub>4</sub> cycling stability



# High voltage LiCoPO<sub>4</sub> different states of charge



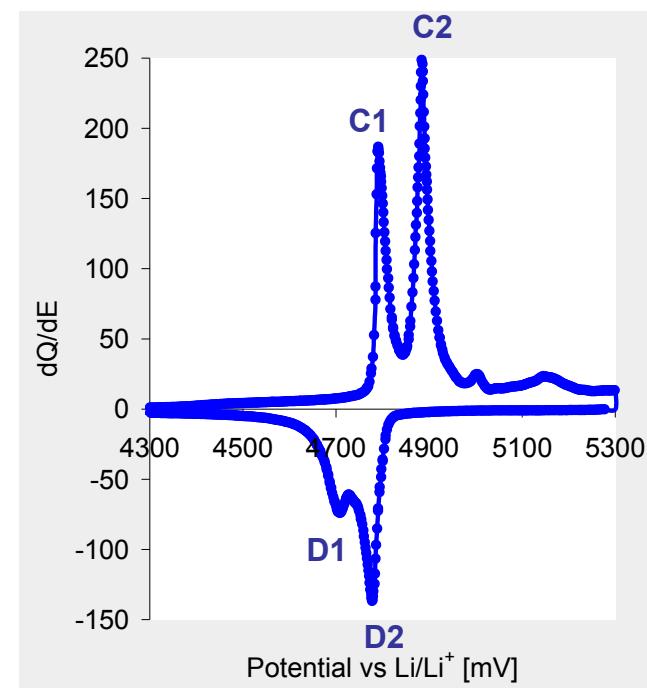
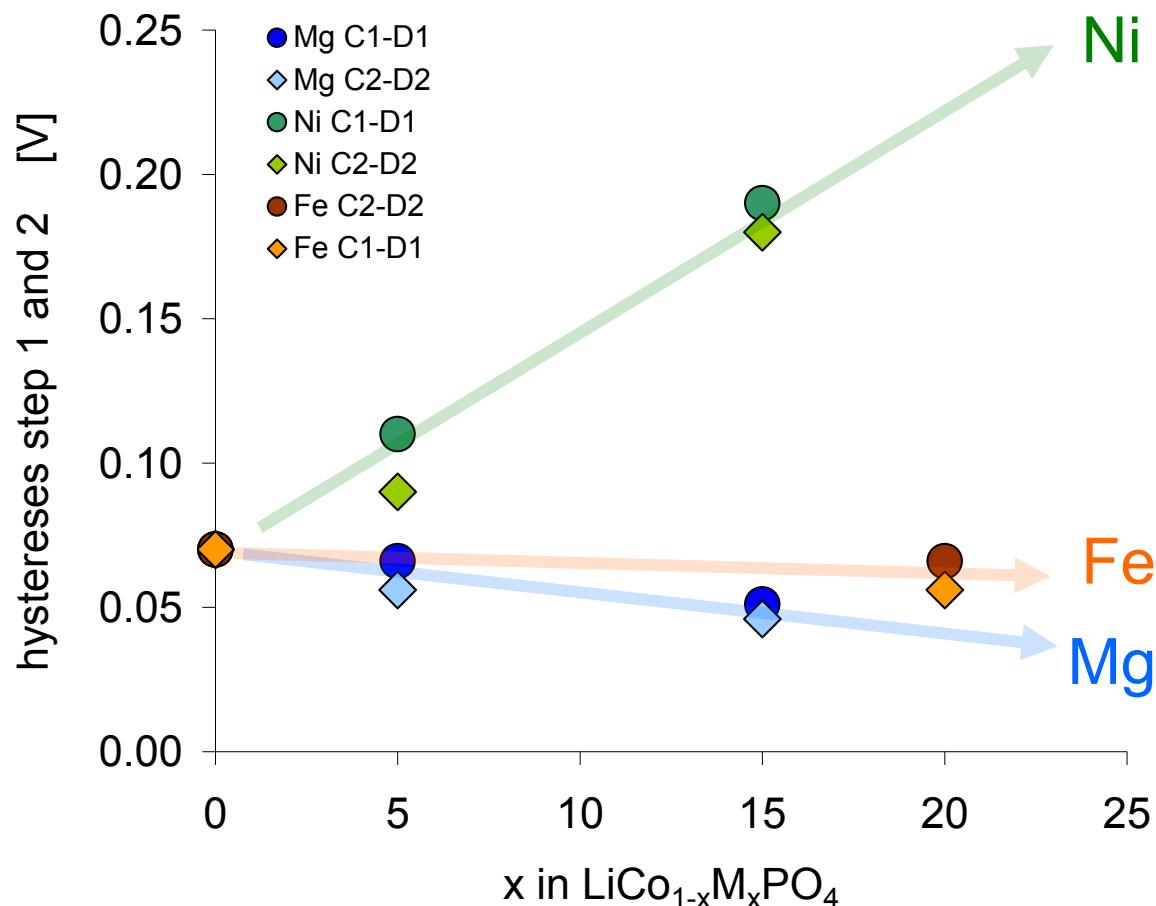
	Enthalpy Peak B [J/g]	Mass loss – 270°C [%]
uncharged	-	0,2
24 mAh/g	-	0,2
50 mAh/g	-	0,3
74 mAh/g	50	0,8
120 mAh/g	79	1,0
140 mAh/g	117	1,4
Charged	163	2,4

no exothermic reaction until the second plateau

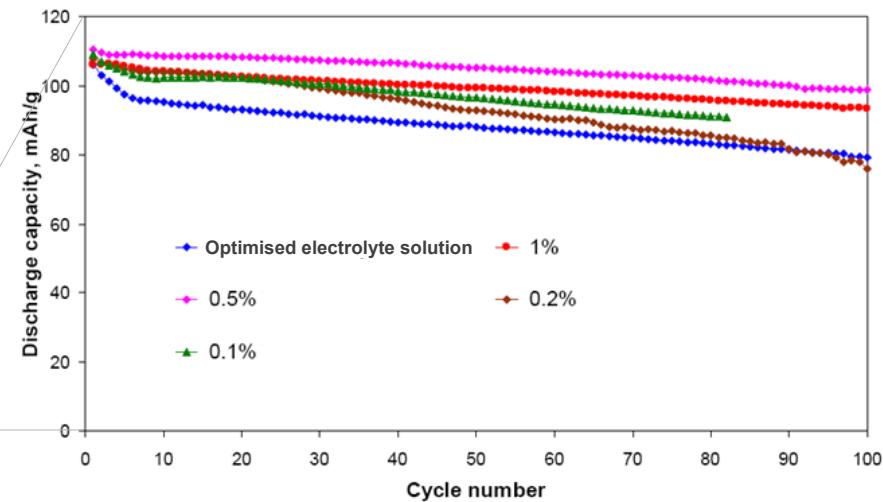
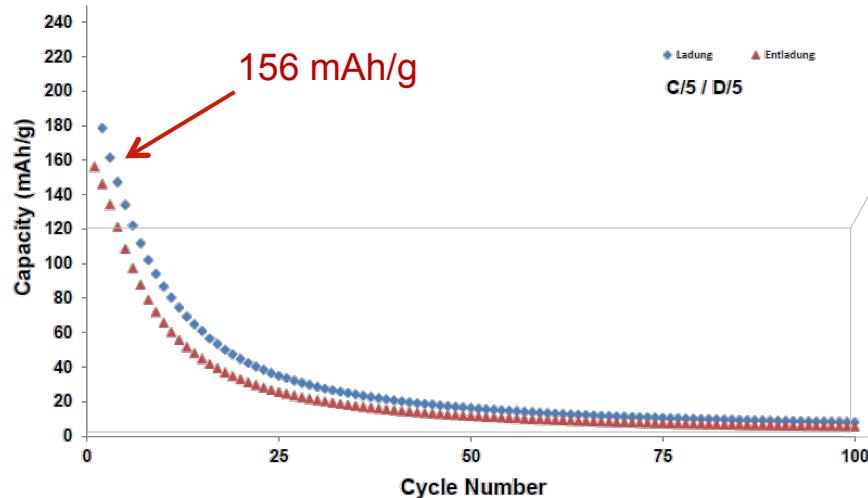
⇒ Li<sub>z</sub>CoPO<sub>4</sub> thermal stable

⇒ exothermic decomposition of CoPO<sub>4</sub>

# Influence of partial substitution of Co by Ni, Mg or Fe on the hysteresis of $\text{LiCoPO}_4$



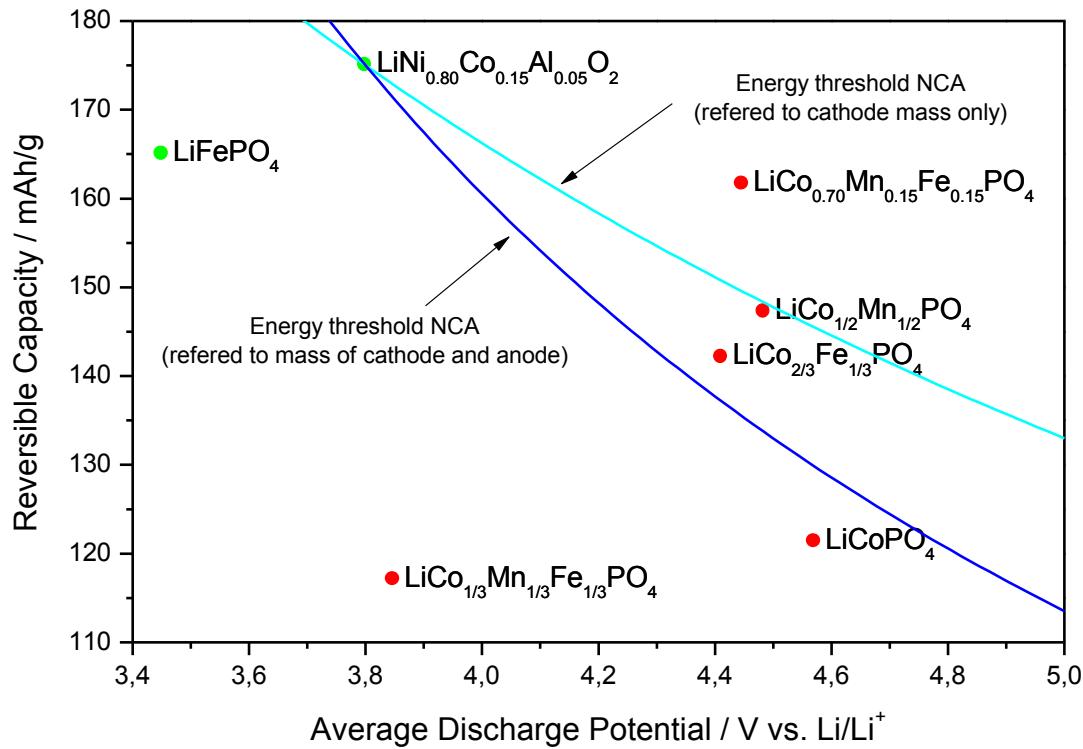
# Influence of electrolyte



- Standard electrolyte **without additives**
- High initial capacity, **high capacity fading**
- Optimized high voltage electrolyte plus additives
- **Lower initial capacity, higher cycling stability**

E. Markevich, R. Sharabi, H. Gottlieb, V. Borgel, K. Fridman, G. Salitra, D. Aurbach, G. Semrau, M.A. Schmidt, N. Schall, C. Bruenig, Electrochemistry Communications 15 (2012), pp 22-25

# Calculated Energy Density of Mixed Phosphates From Measured Data



# Summary

- LFP well established **safe and long life** electrode material
- Lithium mixed metal phosphates are promising as high voltage cathode materials
- Partial substitution of Mn by other metals leads to higher stability and performance
- Mixed Lithium Manganese Cobalt phosphates can give similar or even higher specific energy compared with layered oxides and higher safety
- Progressing studies of the underlying charge/discharge mechanism will lead to a deeper understanding
- Adjustment of composition and structure, selection of proper cell components as binder, separator, electrolyte will lead to further breakthroughs for the high voltage materials
- **Thanks to John Goodenough and Michel Armand research directions have been opened for new classes of materials**

**Peter Axmann  
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und Forschung



**BASTA**



“Funktionsmaterialien und Materialanalytik  
zu Lithium–Hochleistungsbatterien“ WO882/4–1



# Thank you for your attention!

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**Stuttgart**  
Photovoltaics & Solab  
Energy Policy & Energy Carriers



**Widderstall**  
Solar test-field



**Ulm**  
Electrochemical Energy  
Technologies

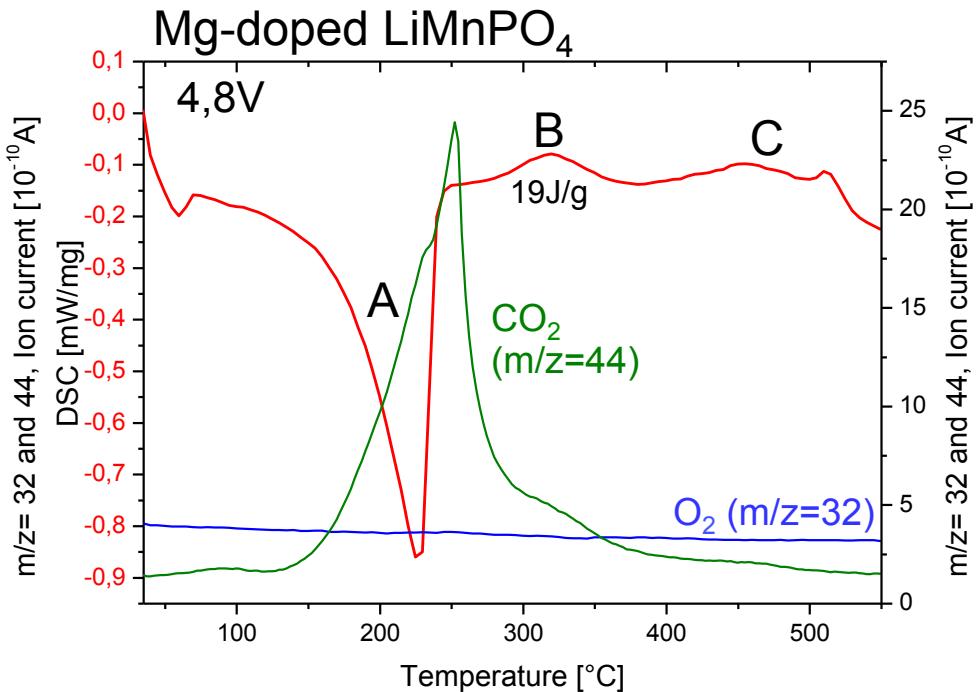
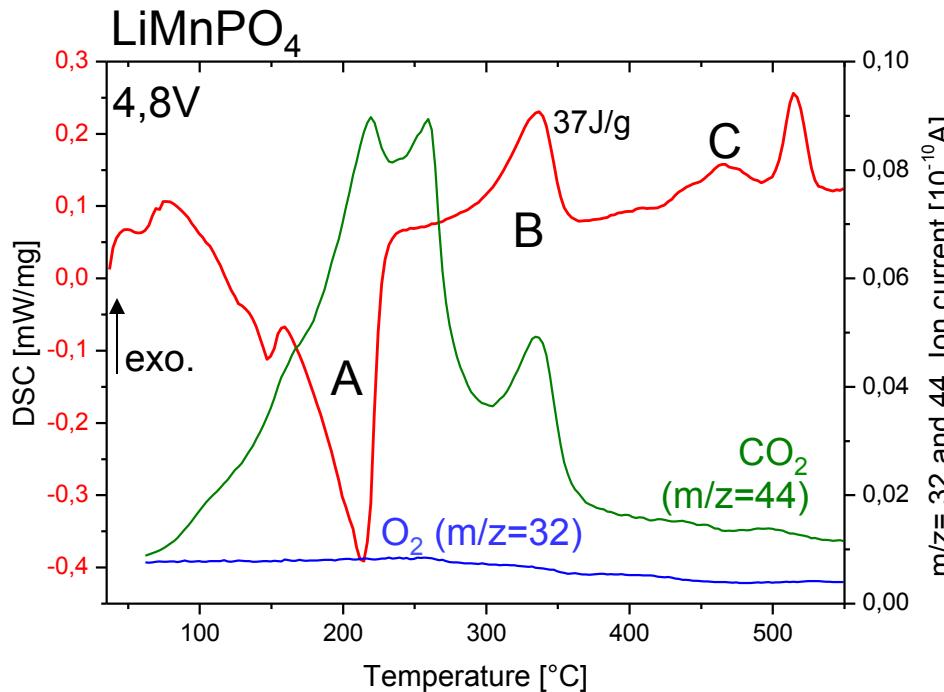


**Ulm**  
eLab  
Center for battery research

# High-Voltage LiMnPO<sub>4</sub>: Effect of Doping

Electrolyte: 1Mol LiPF<sub>6</sub> EC:DMC= 1:1

- Chemical composition
- Crystal structure
- Doping
- SEI stability



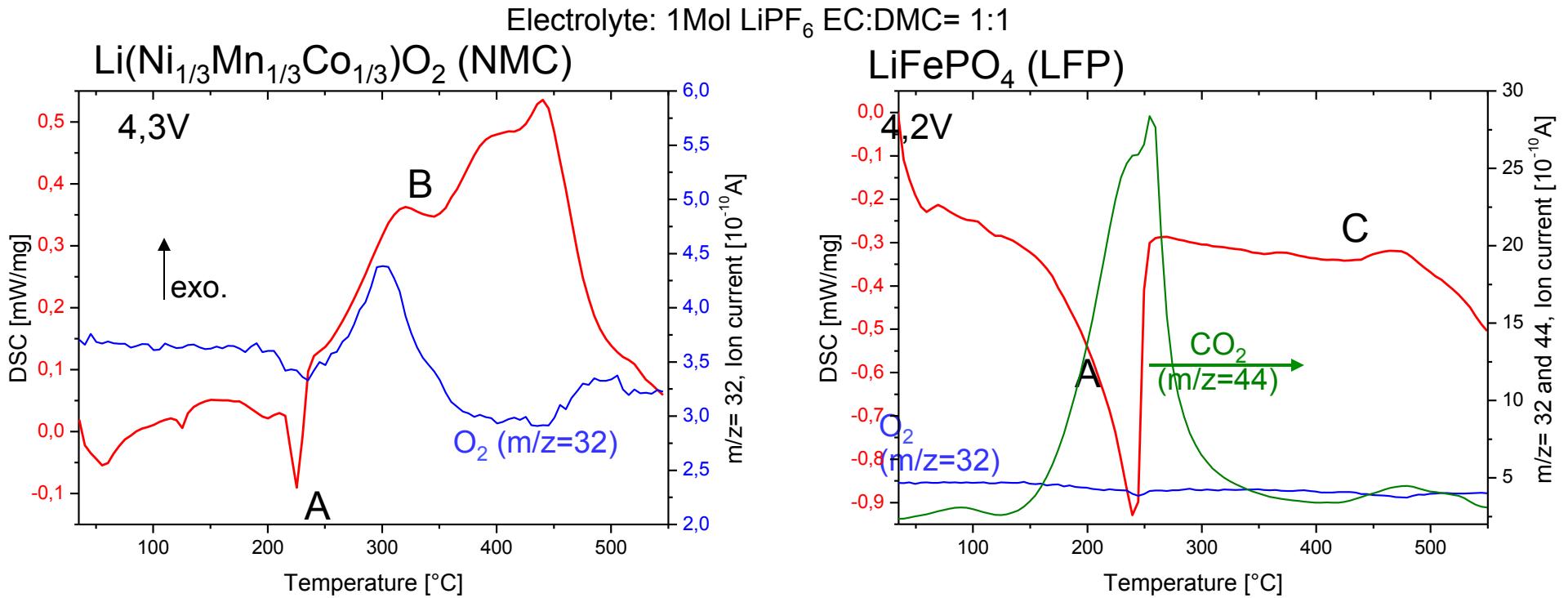
- Exothermic Reaction B: 335°C
- CO<sub>2</sub>-Formation: 335°C
- No O<sub>2</sub>-Formation



Heat formation decreases



# Thermal Stability of Fully Charged Cathode Materials From Layered Structure to Olivine



- Exothermic Reaction: 250-500°C
  - O<sub>2</sub>-Formation: 300°C
- Structural changes:  
 $R\text{-}3m\text{-type} \rightarrow \text{NiO-type} + \text{O}_2$

- Only small Exothermic Reaction: 470°C
- CO<sub>2</sub>-Formation: 470°C (→ binder reaction)
- No O<sub>2</sub>-Formation

**Excellent Cycling Life**  
**18650 cell Amorphous carbon//LFP**  
**70 Wh/kg**

