

Structure and Electrochemical Performance of $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ Cathode Materials Prepared by a Precipitation Method*

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Abstract Spinel LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ ($y=0, 0.05, 0.10$) samples were prepared by a precipitation method. The structure, morphology, and electrochemical performance of the samples were characterized by Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction (XRD), scanning electron micrographs (SEM), charge-discharge measurements, and electrochemical impedance spectra (EIS). The results of FT-IR and XRD indicated that the absorption band at about 519 cm^{-1} shifts to the high frequency with the decrease of Ni content in $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples and the lattice parameter (a) of LiMn_2O_4 samples decreases with the addition of Ni, Co, or Ni/Co. The SEM observation displayed that the $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples have lower agglomeration degree and smaller particle size. The results of the electrochemical experiments showed that the improvements on the electrochemical performance of substituted samples have some different reasons, and the $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ sample manifests better electrochemical performance in 4 V region due to its lower electrochemical polarization and larger diffusion coefficient of Li^+ ions.

Keywords: Lithium ion batteries, Substituted manganese spinel oxide, Precipitation, Electrochemical properties

Lithium-ion batteries have become attractive power sources for portable electronic devices due to their high energy density. Commercial lithium-ion batteries currently utilize the layered LiCoO_2 cathode, because it has large specific capacity, high operating voltage and excellent rechargeability. The spinel LiMn_2O_4 is appealing for its low cost, high environmental acceptability and relatively large energy densities, compared with LiCoO_2 , LiNiO_2 and $\text{LiNi}_x\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{O}_2$ ^[1-6]. However, LiMn_2O_4 suffers from both the inferior theoretical capacity ($148\text{ mAh}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$, compared with $274\text{ mAh}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$ of LiCoO_2) and a fast performance fade. This capacity fading has been attributed to spinel dissolution^[7], the Jahn-Teller effect^[8], and lattice instability^[9]. There has been much work^[10-21] in recent years to stabilize LiMn_2O_4 cathodes with various metal elements such as Al, Mg, Co, Ni, Fe, Ti, Zn, Cr and Cu. The substituted LiMn_2O_4 showed improved cycle life at the expense of capacity.

It is well known that the physicochemical properties of any

material have close relation with its synthesis method. In general, $\text{LiM}_x\text{Mn}_{2-x}\text{O}_4$ ($M=\text{Co, Ni, Cr, etc.}$) material was prepared by a conventional solid-state method at low ($600\sim 700\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) or high ($750\sim 850\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$)^[22-23] temperatures. In this process, the oxides or carbonates containing manganese and lithium cations are physically mixed by mechanical methods, and the solid particles may not completely react, which results in undesirable impurities in the final product. Therefore, considerable improvements on the preparation of $\text{LiM}_x\text{Mn}_{2-x}\text{O}_4$ cathode materials have been accomplished by the wet method^[24-26]. All the components can be homogeneously distributed in the samples prepared by these wet methods. Single phase products with good crystallizability, homogeneity and uniform particle morphology were obtained, which exhibited high electrochemical activity. But the soft chemistry methods for prepare cathode materials are complicated and restricted, so it is valuable to explore simple and controllable methods of preparing LiMn_2O_4 samples with high activity

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and homogeneous particle morphology.

Huang *et al.*^[27] prepared the precursor of LiMn_2O_4 sample from $\text{Mn}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and Li_2CO_3 by a simple liquid-state precipitation method. The final LiMn_2O_4 sample with initial discharge capacity of $110 \text{ mAh} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$ and relatively good capacity retention was obtained by calcining the precursor at $600 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. However, the properties of the substituted LiMn_2O_4 samples prepared by the above method have not been investigated.

In our previous work^[28], the method of synthesizing LiMn_2O_4 has been improved on the basis of the Ref. [27]. In this paper, $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ ($y=0, 0.05, 0.1$) samples were synthesized by the improved method, and the effects of the addition of Co and Ni on the structure and electrochemical performance of LiMn_2O_4 samples are studied in detail.

1 Experimental

1.1 Preparation of LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ ($y=0, 0.05, 0.1$) samples

In order to obtain $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples, Li_2CO_3 , $\text{Ni}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{Co}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $\text{Mn}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ with 1:y:(0.1-y):1.9 mole ratio of Li : Ni : Co : Mn were dissolved in distilled water. A precipitate (the precursor) was obtained by evaporating water with continual stirring at $95 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. The precursor was transferred into a ceramic crucible, subsequently calcined in a Nabertherm furnace at $800 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 8 h and then cooled slowly to room temperature in air. The LiMn_2O_4 sample was obtained from Li_2CO_3 and $\text{Mn}(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ with 1:2 mole ratio of Li : Mn by the same method.

1.2 Physical characterization of samples

The Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy of the samples was performed using a Nicolet Nexus 360 FT-IR spectrophotometer. The frequency range was $1500 \sim 250 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. The crystal structure of the samples was determined by X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis using X-ray diffractometer (Rigaku D/Max 2550) with $\text{Cu } K_\alpha$ radiation at 40 kV and 300 mA, and a scanning rate (2θ) of $8 \text{ (}^\circ\text{) } \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$. The morphologies of the samples were examined using scanning electron microscopy (SEM) (Sirion, Edax).

1.3 Preparation of electrodes and electrochemical tests

The charge and discharge characteristics of LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ cathode were examined in two-electrode test cells. The cells consisted of a cathode and a lithium metal anode separated by a microporous polypropylene separator. The elec-

trolyte used was $1 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1} \text{ LiPF}_6$ in a 50/50 (V/V) mixture of ethylene carbonate (EC) / dimethyl-carbonate (DMC). The cathode consisted of a mixture of 80%(w) sample, 10% (w) acetylene black and 10%(w) polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF). The mixture was pressed onto an aluminum foil at $250 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$ and vacuum-dried at $120 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 12 h. The cathode was cycled in the potential range of $3.0 \sim 4.3 \text{ V vs Li/Li}^+$ electrode at room temperature at 0.5 C rate. Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) measurements were performed using a Swagelok three-electrode cell^[29] by Potentiostat/Galvanostat Model 273A in conjunction with a model 5210 lock-in amplifier. A typical cathode was prepared by mixing 80%(w) sample, 10% (w) acetylene black, and 10% (w) PVDF and roll-pressed into a thin disk approximately $110 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$ in thickness and 2.40 cm in diameter. The counter electrode and reference electrode were made of Li foil. In EIS measurement the range of frequency was between 0.005 Hz and 120 kHz and the excitation amplitude was 5 mV. All assembling of the cell was carried out in a glove box filled with Ar gas.

2 Results and discussion

2.1 Physical properties of samples

In order to investigate the effects of different additives on spinel LiMn_2O_4 structure, the infrared spectra within the frequency range $1500 \sim 250 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ of LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples were shown in Fig.1. Two main absorption bands occur at 613 and 519 cm^{-1} , which are attributed to the asymmetric stretching modes of MnO_6 group. It is clear that the frequency of absorption band at about 519 cm^{-1} of $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples is lower than that of LiMn_2O_4 sample, and the absorption band at 519 cm^{-1} shifts to the high frequency with the decrease of Ni content in $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples, namely, the increase of Co content. This might be related to the atomic mass and the

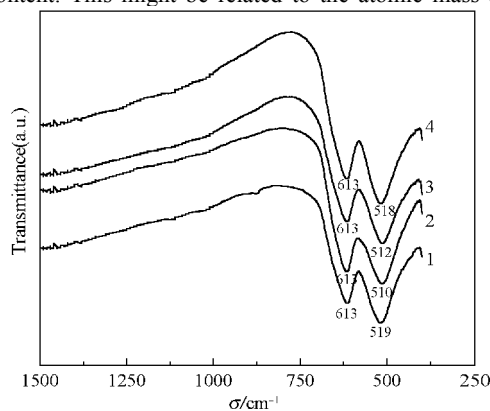


Fig.1 FT-IR spectra of different samples

1) LiMn_2O_4 , 2) $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, 3) $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, 4) $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$

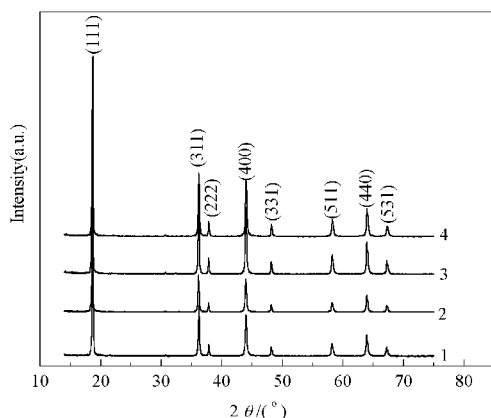


Fig.2 XRD patterns of different samples

1) LiMn_2O_4 , 2) $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, 3) $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, 4) $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$

ionic radius of transition metal and the bonding energy of the M—O ($\text{M}=\text{Mn, Ni, Co}$). The effect of atomic mass of an additive substituted for Mn on the characteristic frequency of Mn(III)—O is consistent with that of its ionic radius, but contrary to that of the bonding energy of the M—O . The additive with larger atomic mass and ionic radius than Mn can lead to the decrease in the frequency of Mn(III)—O ^[30]. Since Ni^{2+} or Co^{3+} ions have similar even smaller ionic radii compared with manganese ions, the atomic mass of Ni or Co is larger than that of Mn, and the bonding energy of the M—O ($\text{M}=\text{Ni, Co}$) is larger than that of Mn—O (the binding energies of Mn—O , Ni—O and Co—O are 946, 1029 and 1142 $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ^[31], respectively), the degree of shift is different for the frequency of Mn(III)—O .

The XRD patterns of the samples are shown in Fig.2. The unit cell data of the samples are listed in Table 1. The diffraction patterns of all samples show the characteristics of spinel LiMn_2O_4 structure (JCPDS 35-782) with a space group $Fd\bar{3}m$ in which the lithium ions occupy the tetrahedral (8a) sites and the transition metal ions reside at the octahedral (16d) sites, indicating that basic LiMn_2O_4 structure is not changed by partial substitution of Ni, Co, and Ni/Co for manganese in the sample. It can be seen from Table 1 that the LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples can be ranked in term of the lattice parameter (a) as follows: $\text{LiMn}_2\text{O}_4 > \text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4 > \text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4 > \text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$. This is because not only the doped ions have similar even smaller ionic radius, compared with manganese ions, i.e., Ni^{2+} (0.068

Table 1 The cell parameters and cell volumes of the samples

Sample	Lattice parameter(a/nm)	Unit cell volume(nm^3)
LiMn_2O_4	0.82337	0.55821
$\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$	0.82332	0.55809
$\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$	0.82260	0.55663
$\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$	0.82253	0.55648

nm), Mn^{3+} (0.065 nm), Co^{3+} (0.0545 nm)^[32], but also the bonding energy of the M—O ($\text{M}=\text{Ni, Co}$) is larger than that of the Mn—O bond. The decrease in cell volume and the stronger M—O ($\text{M}=\text{Ni, Co}$) bond should increase the stability of the structure during intercalation and deintercalation of Li^+ ions.

Fig.3 displays the scanning electron micrographs (SEM) of LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples. The LiMn_2O_4 sample appears as aggregates of irregular shape, and its particle size is much larger than those of other samples. The additions of Ni, Co, and Ni/Co decrease the agglomeration degree of the samples and their particles become smaller and more uniform. It is also noted that the sample with Ni/Co manifests relatively larger particle size and better crystallinity than the samples with Ni or Co.

2.2 Electrochemical performance of samples

Fig.4 illustrates the first charge-discharge curves of LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples at 0.5C in the voltage range of 3.0 ~ 4.3 V. It can be seen that both the charge curves and the discharge ones display two distinct potential plateaus, which correspond to different transition equilibrium between various oxide states of Mn^{3+} , respectively. The upper plateau region of discharge curve represents a two-phase equilibrium between $\lambda\text{-MnO}_2$ and $\text{Li}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_4$, while the second plateau represents another phase equilibrium between $\text{Li}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_4$ and LiMn_2O_4 . The $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples display higher discharge potential and larger discharge capacity than the LiMn_2O_4 sample. The compositions of $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ and $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ can be rewritten as $\text{LiNi}_y^{2+}\text{Mn}_{1-2y}^{3+}\text{Mn}_{1+y}^{4+}\text{O}_4^{2-}$ and $\text{LiCo}_y^{3+}\text{Mn}_{1-y}^{3+}\text{Mn}^{4+}\text{O}_4^{2-}$ ($y=0.1$)^[34-35]. Since the deintercalation of Li^+ from the spinel structure must be electrically compensated by the oxidation of Mn^{3+} to Mn^{4+} , the initial capacities of LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ are limited by the initial amount of Mn^{3+} in the 16d sites. Thus, in this case, an amount equivalent to $(1-2y)$ of Li in $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ sample and $(1-y)$ of Li in $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ can be intercalated-deintercalated

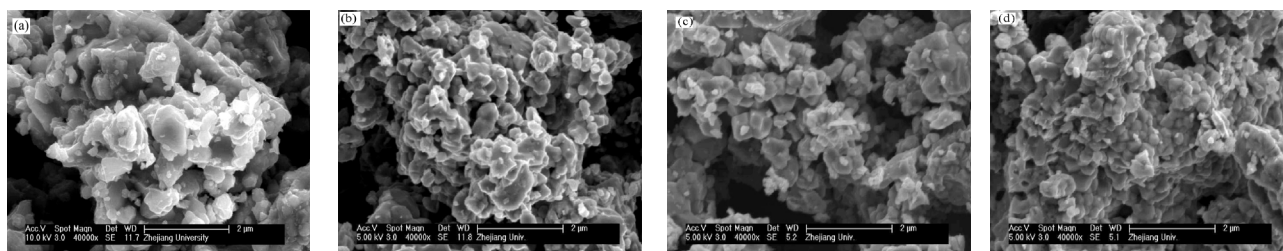


Fig.3 SEM photos of different samples

(a) LiMn_2O_4 , (b) $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, (c) $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, (d) $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$

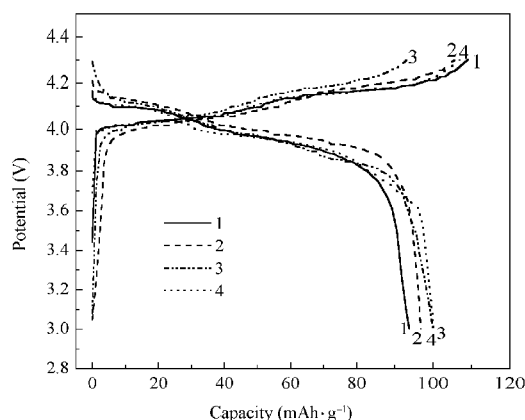


Fig.4 The first charge-discharge curves of different samples at 0.5C rate

- 1) LiMn_2O_4 , 2) $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, 3) $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$,
4) $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$

during cycling over the voltage range. On this basis, the calculated capacities of $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, and $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples are 118, 125 and 133 $\text{mAh}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$, respectively. The differences between the calculated and experimental capacities indicate that only 0.80 ~ 0.85 mol Li^+ per mol of the lithium manganese oxide can be intercalated-deintercalated within the voltage range of cycling. It should be noted that the discharge capacity of LiMn_2O_4 is lower than that of $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ in our experiments, which is some different from other research work^[34-35]. This difference may be caused by various characteristics of the LiMn_2O_4 sample. The particle aggregation of the LiMn_2O_4 sample in our work hinders electrolyte from penetrating through the particles, which is disadvantageous to the intercalation and deintercalation of Li^+ and results in the decrease of discharge capacity.

The cycle behavior of LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples at 0.5C rate between 3.0 and 4.3 V is presented in Fig.5. The discharge capacity retention ratios are calculated by dividing the delivered capacity at a given cycle with the first cycle

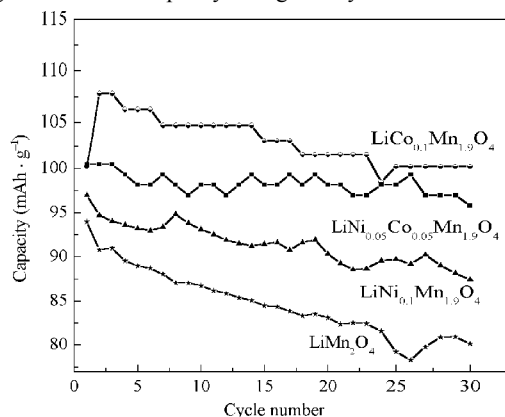


Fig.5 The cycle performance of different samples at 0.5C rate

capacity except that the ratio for $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ is calculated by dividing the delivered capacity with the second cycle capacity. It can be seen that the discharge capacities of $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples increase with the decrease of y value in the samples from $y=0.1$ to $y=0$, but all are larger than that of the LiMn_2O_4 sample. For LiMn_2O_4 , $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ and $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples the discharge capacity retention ratios after 30 cycles is 85%, 90%, 95% and 93%, respectively. Owing to the distortion of the unit cell during cycling, the capacity of pure LiMn_2O_4 has a relatively large deterioration rate during electrochemical cycling. The $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples display better cyclic performance than pure LiMn_2O_4 . This is ascribed to the fact that the unit-cell volume decreases with the decrease of y value in the $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples and the bonding energy of the $\text{M}-\text{O}$ ($\text{M}=\text{Ni}, \text{Co}$) is larger than that of the $\text{Mn}-\text{O}$ bond ($\text{Co}-\text{O} > \text{Ni}-\text{O} > \text{Mn}-\text{O}$), which improves the stability of the spinel structure and lowers the capacity loss of the $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ ($y=0, 0.05, 0.10$) samples during electrochemical cycles. In addition, the relatively better crystallinity of $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples may have some contributions to their better electrochemical cycle stability. The relatively larger particle size and improved crystallinity might be the reason why the $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ sample has the largest capacity retention after 30 cycles.

In order to further investigate the effects of substitution on the kinetic process of the electrodes, the electrochemical impedance spectra (EIS) of the electrodes prepared from the LiMn_2O_4 and $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples were measured (Fig.6). It is well known that the impedance spectroscopy of manganese spinels depends on the potential^[36-37]. Here, all the measurements were done at 4.10 V during the discharge. The Nyquist plots obtained show the curves similar with those previously reported for manganese-containing spinels. A small high-frequency semicircle results from

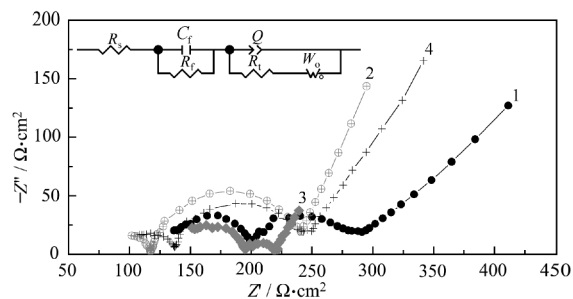


Fig.6 Typical Nyquist plots of different samples at 4.10 V during the discharge and their equivalent circuit

- 1) LiMn_2O_4 , 2) $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$, 3) $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$,
4) $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$

Table 2 Some parameters obtained by EIS fitting

Samples	$R_s/\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$	$R_f/\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$	$R_t/\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$	$W_o/\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$
LiMn_2O_4	135.49	62.73	97.60	98.19
$\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$	87.39	30.10	123.75	69.12
$\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$	102.46	33.30	100.39	41.53
$\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$	143.82	46.30	30.64	31.86

the resistance (R_t) for Li^+ ions migration through the surface films and film capacitance (C_f)^[38-40]. The middle-frequency capacitive loop is caused by the charge transfer resistance (R_f) and interfacial capacitance (C_{dl}), and the low-frequency straight line originates from the diffusion of Li^+ ions in the solid cathode matrix. The fitted results of EIS using the equivalent circuit shown in Fig.6 are displayed in Table 2. This circuit is very similar with those previously reported in the literature^[41-43]. According to a usual assignment, R_s is the ohmic resistance, R_f and C_f are the resistance and capacitance of a solid electrolyte interphase (SEI) film, respectively. W_o is the Warburg impedance of the solid phase diffusion, and Q is a constant phase element.

At 4.10 V during the discharge, the electrochemical process is controlled by both the kinetics of charge transfer and the diffusion factors. From the fitting results of EIS, it can be seen that the $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ and $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples have smaller R_s values than the LiMn_2O_4 sample, which indicates that the addition of Ni or Co decreases the ohmic resistance of the electrodes, but the addition of Ni/Co does not change the R_s value. The smaller R_f values of $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples indicate that the presence of the dopants inhibits the passivation processes occurring on the surface of the cathode, decreases the resistance of SEI film and facilitates the Li^+ diffusion *via* the SEI film. It can also be seen from Table 2 that the addition of Ni or Co does not change the R_t value, but it greatly decreases the W_o value. Especially for $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ sample, the addition of Ni/Co sharply decreases the R_t and W_o values, which implies that the electrode has much lower electrochemical and diffusion polarizations. This may be the reason why the $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ sample shows higher discharge potential, larger initial discharge capacity and better cycle performance.

3 Conclusions

(1) $\text{LiNi}_y\text{Co}_{0.1-y}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ ($y=0, 0.05, 0.10$) cathode material has been prepared by an improved precipitation method which offers better homogeneity, preferred surface morphology, reduced heat-treatment conditions, and better crystallinity. Because of the difference in the bonding energy of the $\text{M}-\text{O}$ ($\text{M}=\text{Mn}, \text{Ni}, \text{Co}$) and ionic radii of Mn^{3+} , Ni^{2+} and Co^{3+} , the lattice parameter (a) of lithium manganese oxide can be ranked as follows: $\text{LiMn}_2\text{O}_4 > \text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4 > \text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4 > \text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$.

(2) The initial specific capacities of LiMn_2O_4 , $\text{LiNi}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ and $\text{LiCo}_{0.1}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ samples at 0.5C rate are 94, 97, 101 and 101 $\text{mAh} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$, respectively. The substituted samples display better cycle performance than the pure LiMn_2O_4 sample, and the $\text{LiNi}_{0.05}\text{Co}_{0.05}\text{Mn}_{1.9}\text{O}_4$ sample has larger capacity retention ratio than the single-doped samples.

(3) The additions of Ni, Co and Ni/Co decrease the ohmic polarization of the electrodes, and improve the diffusion of Li^+ . Moreover, the addition of Ni/Co obviously decreases the electrochemical polarization of the electrode.

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LiNi_yCo_{0.1-y}Mn_{1.9}O₄ 正极材料的沉淀法制备及其结构与电化学性能*

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摘要 采用沉淀法制备了尖晶石型 LiMn₂O₄ 和 LiNi_yCo_{0.1-y}Mn_{1.9}O₄ (y=0, 0.05, 0.1) 正极材料. 应用 FT-IR、XRD 和 SEM 技术对不同掺杂样品的相结构与形貌进行了表征, 并用恒电流充放电测试和电化学阻抗技术研究了样品的电化学行为. FT-IR、XRD 和 SEM 结果显示: 随着掺杂型 LiNi_yCo_{0.1-y}Mn_{1.9}O₄ 样品中 Ni 含量的减少, 位于 519 cm⁻¹ 处的红外峰向高频方向移动; Ni、Co 或 Ni/Co 的掺杂降低了 LiMn₂O₄ 的晶格参数; 掺杂型 LiNi_yCo_{0.1-y}Mn_{1.9}O₄ 样品具有更好的分散度和小的粒径. 电化学实验结果表明, 不同成分的掺杂导致电化学性能改善的原因不尽相同. 其中 LiNi_{0.05}Co_{0.05}Mn_{1.9}O₄ 样品因其较低的电化学极化和较大的 Li⁺ 扩散系数而具有较好的电化学性能.

关键词: 锂离子电池, 掺杂锂锰氧尖晶石, 沉淀法, 电化学性质

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