## **RSC Advance**



## PAPER

Supporting information for

## Solvothermal synthesis and self-assembling mechanism of micro-nano spherical LiFePO<sub>4</sub> with high tap density

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**Characterization of products** 



Fig.1a reference from Electrochimica Acta, 2010, 56(2): 995-999. Fig.1c reference from J.Am.Chem.Soc.2011,133,2132-2135. Fig.1d reference from CrystEngComm,2012,14,4284-4288.

Fig.S1. Schematic illustration of the nanosheet and the micro-nano spherical LiFePO4



Fig. S2 EDS analysis of the LiFePO<sub>4</sub> microsphere

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Fig. S3 Particle size distribution of LiFePO<sub>4</sub> microsphere.

As shown in Fig. S3, it is clear that the sample consists of uniform and monodisperse microsphere with the diameter of about  $15\mu m$ .



Fig. S4 XRD patterns of the LiFePO4 microsphere prepared at different solvothermal time

XRD patterns of the LiFePO<sub>4</sub> microsphere prepared at different reaction time are shown in Fig. S4. When the reaction time was 1 h and 2 h, no obvious diffraction peak was observed and the sample was still in the amorphous state. As the reaction proceeded, the crystallity of the sample increased significantly. After 24 h, LiFePO<sub>4</sub> crystal with high degree of crystallinity was obtained.



Fig.S5 TEM image of the saddle-shaped structure

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Fig. S6 SEM images of samples prepared with glycol solvent containing different

content of deionized water (a) 0%; (b) 3%;( c) 5%; (d),10%

As shown in Fig. S6, the more water content in solvent, the more fragments of non-orientated assembling nanosheets.



Fig.S7 SEM images of samples with deionized water as solvent



Fig. S8 SEM images of samples with diethylene glycol (a), 1,2-propylene glycol (b), isopropanol (c) as solvent

When the solvent was transformed to deionized water, diethylene glycol, 1,2-propylene glycol, isopropanol, the products obtained were not the micro-nano structure LiFePO<sub>4</sub>.