#### **Journal Name**

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# Remarkable lowering in the synthesis temperature of LiMn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> from citrate solution-gel synthesis facilitated by ethanol

Received 00th January 20xx, Accepted 00th January 20xx

DOI: 10.1039/x0xx00000x

#### www.rsc.org/

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Figure S1: MS profiles of the citrate- $Mn^{2+}$ , Li<sup>+</sup> precursor gels with different amount of ethanol, dried at 60°C, recorded at a heating rate of 10°C/min. Ions with a) m/z 17 (OH<sup>+</sup>, NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>) and b) m/z 18 (H<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup>, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>) are fragments related to water and ammonia. Ions with c) m/z 22 (CO<sub>2</sub><sup>++</sup>), d) m/z 44 (CO<sub>2</sub><sup>+-</sup>) are fragments related to the carboxylate groups. Only the most relevant fragments are shown. Note that each sub-figure has its own Ion current scale.

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Figure S2: MS profiles of the citrate-Mn<sup>2+</sup>, Li<sup>+</sup> precursor gel without ethanol dried at 60°C, recorded at a heating rate of 10°C/min: a) fragments related to the carboxylate groups, b) fragments related to the citrate's skeleton. Only the most relevant fragments are shown and cited in the article. Note that each sub-figure has its own lon current scale.



Figure S3: MS profiles of the citrate-Mn<sup>2+</sup>, Li<sup>+</sup> precursor gel with 6M ethanol final concentration in solution, dried at 60°C, recorded at a heating rate of 10°C/min: a) fragments related to the carboxylate groups, b) fragments related to the citrate's skeleton. Only the most relevant fragments are shown and cited in the article. Note that each sub-figure has its own lon current scale.



Figure S4: MS profiles of the citrate-Mn<sup>2+</sup>,Li<sup>+</sup> precursor gel with 10M ethanol final concentration in solution, dried at 60°C, recorded at a heating rate of 10°C/min: a) fragments related to the carboxylate groups, b) fragments related to the citrate's skeleton. Only the most relevant fragments are shown and cited in the article. Note that each sub-figure has its own lon current scale.

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Figure S5: SEM pictures of films deposited on Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> from precursor: a) without ethanol, b) with 6M ethanol final concentration in solution, c) with 10M ethanol final concentration in solution. Films were therefore annealed at: a) 450°C, b) 350°C and c) 250°C in dry air.