# Comprehensive investigation of the Li insertion mechanism of Na<sub>2</sub>Ti<sub>6</sub>O<sub>13</sub> anode material for Li-ion batteries

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# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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#### A. Kuhn et al., Figure S2



**Figure S2:** Synchrotron X-ray diffraction patterns collected in a  $Na_2Ti_6O_{13}$ //Li in situ cell throughout the first discharge-charge cycle as a function of Li composition together with the voltage profile. Relative intensities of Bragg reflections are given by the color scale displayed in this two-dimensional contour diagram.

#### A. Kuhn et al., Figure S3



**Figure S3:** [010] view of the structure of  $Li_{0.8}Na_2Ti_6O_{13}$  (a) and  $Li_{1.7}Na_2Ti_6O_{13}$  (b), both space group C2/m. The *a*-axis is vertical to a  $Ti_6O_{13}^{2-}$  layer. Only atoms at  $y = \frac{1}{2}$  are shown for clarity. Na and Li atoms are labelled, O atoms are numbered and Ti atoms denoted with small circles.

## A. Kuhn et al., Figure S4



Figure S4: Thermal evolution of <sup>7</sup>Li MAS-NMR spectra of Li inserted Li<sub>0.8</sub>Na<sub>2</sub>Ti<sub>6</sub>O<sub>13</sub>.

**Table S1:** Comparison of structural refinements of  $Na_2Ti_6O_{13}$  measured in situ with transmission geometry in the electrochemical cell, performed in a capillary with Debye-Scherrer geometry (both with synchrotron X-ray diffraction), and for the same compound measured with conventional X-ray diffraction and neutron diffraction.

|                         | a / Å      | b / Å      | c / Å      | β/°       | V / Å <sup>3</sup> |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Published XRD (ref. 19) | 15.0949(2) | 3.7452(8)  | 9.1693(5)  | 99.01     | 511.97             |
| <b>XRD (ref. 24)</b>    | 15.1075(4) | 3.74474(8) | 9.1735(2)  | 99.031(3) | 512.54(2)          |
| <b>ND (ref. 24)</b>     | 15.1032(2) | 3.74373(4) | 9.1713(12) | 99.056(1) | 512.10(1)          |
| Refined in situ SXRD    | 15.0966(5) | 3.7395(1)  | 9.1733(3)  | 99.038(2) | 511.44(3)          |
| (this work)             |            |            |            |           |                    |
| Refined ex situ SXRD    | 15.0972(7) | 3.7427(2)  | 9.1672(5)  | 99.057(3) | 511.53(4)          |
| (this work)             |            |            |            |           |                    |

| Na(1)-O(1) x 2 | 3.095(3) | Na(1)-O(3) x 2 | 2.525(3)  | Na(1)-O(5) x 2 | 2.700(3) |
|----------------|----------|----------------|-----------|----------------|----------|
| Na(1)-O(7) x 2 | 2.859(3) |                |           |                |          |
| Ti(1)-O(1)     | 1.789(6) | Ti(1)-O(2)     | 2.246(6)  | Ti(1)-O(3)     | 2.026(7) |
| Ti(1)-O(6) x 2 | 1.931(2) | Ti(1)-O(7)     | 1.910(7)  |                |          |
| Ti(2)-O(2)     | 2.255(7) | Ti(2)-O(3)     | 1.852(6)  | Ti(2)-O(4)     | 2.042(6) |
| Ti(2)-O(4) x 2 | 1.980(2) | Ti(2)-O(5)     | 1.787(7)  |                |          |
| Ti(3)-O(2) x 2 | 1.950(2) | Ti(3)-O(4)     | 2.196(7)  | Ti(3)-O(5)     | 1.835(7) |
| Ti(3)-O(6)     | 2.151(7) | Ti(3)-O(7)     | 1.733(7)  |                |          |
| Li(1)-O(3) x 2 | 2.335(2) | Li(1)-O(5) x 2 | 2.038 (2) |                |          |

Table S2: Selected interatomic distances (Å) in  $Li_{0.8}Na_2Ti_6O_{13}$ 

| Atom1-atom2    | Na <sub>2</sub> Ti <sub>6</sub> O <sub>13</sub> | Li <sub>0.8</sub> Na <sub>2</sub> Ti <sub>6</sub> O <sub>13</sub> | Li <sub>1.7</sub> Na <sub>2</sub> Ti <sub>6</sub> O <sub>13</sub> |
|----------------|---|---|---|
| Na – Til (Å)   | 3.520(6)  | 3.466(6)  | 3.464(6)  |
|                | 3.839(7)  | 3.838(7)  | 3.850(7)  |
|                |   |   |   |
| Na – Ti2 (Å)   | 3.745(6)  | 3.743(6)  | 3.846(6)  |
|                | 4.059(6)  | 4.097(6)  | 4.230(6)  |
|                |   |   |   |
| Na – Ti3 (Å)   | 3.352(7)  | 3.472(7)  | 3.394(7)  |
|                |   |   |   |
| Lil – Til (Å)  | -   | 4.284(6)  | 4.273(6)  |
| ("central Li") |   |   |   |
|                |   |   |   |
| Li1 – Ti2 (Å)  | -   | 2.694(6)  | 2.784(6)  |
|                |   |   |   |
| Lil – Ti3 (Å)  | -   | 3.936(7)  | 3.910(7)  |
|                |   |   |   |
| Li2 – Ti1 (Å)  | -   | -   | 2.767(6)  |
| ("lateral Li") |   |   |   |
|                |   |   | 2.651(7)  |
|                |   |   |   |
| Li2 – Ti2 (Å)  | -   | -   | 3.825(6)  |
|                |   |   | 4.277(7)  |
|                |   |   |   |
| Li2 – Ti3 (Å)  | -   | -   | 2.748(7)  |
|                |   |   | 4.664(4)  |
|                |   |   |   |
| Li3 – Ti1 (Å)  | -   | -   | 4.065(6)  |
| ("vault Li")   |   |   |   |
|                |   |   |   |
| Li3 – Ti2 (Å)  | -   | -   | 2.594(4)  |
|                |   |   | 4.228(5)  |
|                |   |   |   |
| Li3 – Ti3 (Å)  | -   | -   | 3.885(6)  |
|                |   |   | 4.958(6)  |

Table S3: Selected distances between cations (Å) in  $Li_xNa_2Ti_6O_{13}$ 

| Na(1)-O(1) x 2 | 3.070(3)  | Na(1)-O(3) x 2 | 2.498(4)  | Na(1)-O(5) x 2 | 2.701(3)  |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| Na(1)-O(7) x 2 | 2.902(4)  |                |           |                |           |
| Ti(1)-O(1)     | 1.833(4)  | Ti(1)-O(2)     | 2.191(5)  | Ti(1)-O(3)     | 2.074(5)  |
| Ti(1)-O(6) x 2 | 1.932(2)  | Ti(1)-O(7)     | 2.088(5)  |                |           |
| Ti(2)-O(2)     | 2.066(6)  | Ti(2)-O(3)     | 1.813(5)  | Ti(2)-O(4)     | 2.123(5)  |
| Ti(2)-O(4) x 2 | 1.965(2)  | Ti(2)-O(5)     | 1.976(6)  |                |           |
| Ti(3)-O(2) x 2 | 1.952(2)  | Ti(3)-O(4)     | 2.148(4)  | Ti(3)-O(5)     | 1.916(4)  |
| Ti(3)-O(6)     | 2.104(4)  | Ti(3)-O(7)     | 1.723(4)  |                |           |
| Li(1)-O(3) x 2 | 2.229(3)  | Li(1)-O(5) x 2 | 1.996(3)  |                |           |
| Li(2)-O(1)     | 1.896(10) | Li(2)-O(3)     | 2.014(12) | Li(2)-O(5)     | 2.376(10) |
| Li(2)-O(7)     | 1.794(14) |                |           |                |           |
| Li(3)-O(3) x 2 | 2.403(6)  | Li(3)-O(5) x 2 | 2.358(6)  | Li(3)-O(4)     | 1.825(15) |

**Table S4:** Selected interatomic distances (Å) in  $Li_{1.7}Na_2Ti_6O_{13}$ 

|     | Na <sub>2</sub> Ti <sub>6</sub> O <sub>13</sub> | $Li_{0.8}Na_2Ti_6O_{13}$ | Li <sub>1.7</sub> Na <sub>2</sub> Ti <sub>6</sub> O <sub>13</sub> |
|-----|---|--------------------------|---|
| Na  | 0.654   | 0.632                    | 0.645   |
| Ti1 | 4.205   | 3.923                    | 3.747   |
| Ti2 | 4.124   | 3.852                    | 3.928   |
| Ti3 | 4.154   | 4.072                    | 4.289   |
| Li1 | -   | 0.617                    | 0.732   |
| Li2 | -   | -                        | 1.038   |
| Li3 | -   | -                        | 0.717   |

Table S5: Bond Valence Sum (BVS) calculated for  $Li_xNa_2Ti_6O_{13}$ 

**Table S6:** Li site occupancies of  $Li_{1.7}Na_2Ti_6O_{13}$  deduced from neutron diffraction and <sup>7</sup>Li NMR spectroscopy data at 300 K.

| Atom type | <sup>7</sup> Li NMR | Neutron diffraction |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Li(1)     | 0.817               | 0.82(2)             |
| Li(2)     | 0.311               | 0.31(1)             |
| Li(3)     | 0.130               | 0.13(1)             |

**Table S7:** Chemical shift, linewidth at half height and area of each component for $Li_{1.7}Na_2Ti_6O_{13}$  deduced from <sup>7</sup>Li MAS NMR

|         | Li2         |              | Li1         |       | Li3         |       |
|---------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| 297K    | δ(ppm)      | 7.39         | δ(ppm)      | 0.56  | δ(ppm)      | 40.00 |
|         | width (ppm) | 10.4         | width (ppm) | 6.9   | width (ppm) | 20.0  |
|         | area (%)    | 36.63        | area (%)    | 48.09 | area (%)    | 15.28 |
|         |             |              |             |       |             |       |
| 313K    | δ(ppm)      | 7.61         | δ(ppm)      | 0.29  | δ(ppm)      | 37.59 |
|         | width (ppm) | 9.2          | width (ppm) | 6.5   | width (ppm) | 20.9  |
|         | area (%)    | 35.49        | area (%)    | 48.70 | area (%)    | 15.81 |
|         |             |              |             |       |             |       |
| 333K    | δ(ppm)      | 7.15         | δ(ppm)      | 0.45  | δ(ppm)      | 32.80 |
|         | width (ppm) | 8.0          | width (ppm) | 6.0   | width (ppm) | 21.7  |
|         | area (%)    | 35.49        | area (%)    | 45.66 | area (%)    | 18.85 |
|         |             |              |             |       |             |       |
| 353K    | δ(ppm)      | 7.15         | δ(ppm)      | 0.33  | δ(ppm)      | 29.52 |
|         | width (ppm) | 9.3          | width (ppm) | 5.3   | width (ppm) | 18.3  |
|         | area (%)    | 38.17        | area (%)    | 45.53 | area (%)    | 16.29 |
| 0 = 177 | 2(          | ć <b>–</b> • |             |       |             |       |
| 374K    | ð(ppm)      | 6.75         | ð(ppm)      | 0.39  | ð(ppm)      | 25.30 |
|         | width (ppm) | 8.1          | width (ppm) | 5.6   | width (ppm) | 11.3  |
|         | area (%)    | 36.20        | area (%)    | 48.66 | area (%)    | 15.15 |
| 2021/   | \$( )       | ( ))         | 8( )        | 0.20  | 8( )        | 22.27 |
| 393K    | o(ppm)      | 6.20         | o(ppm)      | 0.30  | o(ppm)      | 22.27 |
|         | width (ppm) | 7.9          | width (ppm) | 5./   | width (ppm) | 8.0   |
|         | area (%)    | 37.96        | area (%)    | 49.18 | area (%)    | 12.86 |
| 413K    | δ(ppm)      | 3 20         | δ(ppm)      | 0.30  | δ(nnm)      | 18.67 |
| 11011   | width (ppm) | 12.0         | width (ppm) | 5.0   | width (ppm) | 12.9  |
|         | area (%)    | 38.81        | area (%)    | 49.35 | area (%)    | 11.84 |
|         | uicu (70)   | 50.01        |             | 17.55 |             | 11.01 |
| RT      | δ(ppm)      | 5.23         | δ(ppm)      | 0.60  | δ(ppm)      | 40.63 |
|         | width (ppm) | 11.0         | width (ppm) | 6.9   | width (ppm) | 18.3  |
|         | area (%)    | 41.60        | area (%)    | 52.31 | area (%)    | 6.09  |
|         |             |              |             |       |             |       |