Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

## Solid solution phosphide $(Mn_{1-x}Fe_xP)$ as a tunable conversion/alloying hybrid anode for lithium-ion batteries

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**Fig. S1** XRD Rietveld refinement results for as-synthesized  $Mn_{1-x}Fe_xP$  (x = 0, 0.5, 0.75, and 1.0) NPs.



**Fig. S2** XRD patterns of as-synthesized MnP, MnP/FeP mixture, and FeP NPs. The reference peaks for MnP (ICDD # 00-051-0942, black color) and FeP (ICDD # 01-078-1443, blue color) are included.



**Fig. S3** (a) HRTEM image, (b) SAED pattern, and (c) STEM and EDS element mapping images (Mn K, Fe K, and P K) of as-prepared  $Mn_{1-x}Fe_xP$  (x = 0.75) NPs.



**Fig. S4** (a) Galvanostatic discharge/charge profiles and (b) corresponding differential capacity plots (DCPs) of MnP, MnP/FeP mixture, and FeP electrodes.



**Fig. S5** (a) *Ex-situ* XRD patterns, TEM images, and SAED patterns of fully discharged states of (b,e) MnP, (c,f)  $Mn_{0.5}Fe_{0.5}P$ , and (d,g) FeP electrodes, and (h) STEM image and (i-k) EDS mapping (Mn K, Fe K, and P K) of (c)  $Mn_{0.5}Fe_{0.5}P$  electrode.



**Fig. S6** *Ex-situ* XRD patterns of 1<sup>st</sup> fully charged states for  $Mn_{1-x}Fe_xP$  (x = 0, 0.5, and 1.0) electrodes. The reference peaks for MnP (ICDD # 00-051-0942, black color),  $Mn_{0.5}Fe_{0.5}P$  (ICDD # 01-079-3948, red color), and FeP (ICDD # 01-078-1443, blue color) are included.



**Fig. S7** (a) Cycle performance of  $Mn_{0.5}Fe_{0.5}P$  solid solution and MnP/FeP mixture electrodes at the current density of 100 mA g<sup>-1</sup> and (b) comparison of experimentally determined and expected  $2^{nd}$  discharge capacity in  $Mn_{0.5}Fe_{0.5}P$  and  $Mn_{0.25}Fe_{0.75}P$  solid solution and MnP/FeP mixture electrodes. The expected values were estimated from the reversible capacities of both MnP and FeP electrodes.



**Fig. S8** DCPs for MnP, FeP,  $Mn_{0.5}Fe_{0.5}P$ , and MnP/FeP electrodes for  $2^{nd}$ ,  $10^{th}$ ,  $20^{th}$ , and  $40^{th}$  cycles at the current density of 100 mA g<sup>-1</sup>.



**Fig. S9** (a) Rate capabilities of the  $Mn_{1-x}Fe_xP$  (x = 0, 0.5, 0.75, and 1) electrodes.

Materials	Current density (mA g <sup>-1</sup> )	Capacity (mA h g <sup>-1</sup> )	Cycle number (cycle retention)	Ref.
MnP nanorod	144 1440 3600	350 200 150		[1]
MnP powder	50	287	50 (33%)	[2]
MnP nanoparticle	120	289	10 (80%)	[3]
FeP spheroidal particle	100 1000	600 300		[4]
FeP nanoplate	200	350	100 (60%)	[5]
FeP nanosphere	200	207	100 (23%)	[6]
$Mn_{0.25}Fe_{0.75}P$ nanoparticle	100 1000 2000	506 464 370	40 (76%) 60 (97%) 100 (99%)	This work

**Fig. S10** Lithium storage performance comparison of  $Mn_{0.25}Fe_{0.75}P$  solid solution electrode with the previously reported FeP and MnP-based electrodes.

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**Fig. S11** Galvanostatic discharge voltage profiles of  $Mn_{1-x}Fe_xP$  (x = 0, 0.75, and 1) electrodes for 1<sup>st</sup> cycle at 0.1, 1.0, and 2.0 A g<sup>-1</sup>, respectively.



**Fig. S12** (a) Galvanostatic voltage profiles and (b) corresponding differential capacity plots (DCPs) of CoP electrode at 2 A  $g^{-1}$  and (c) XRD pattern, (d) TEM image, and (e) SAED pattern of FeP electrode for 1<sup>st</sup> fully discharged state at 2 A  $g^{-1}$ .



**Fig. S13** (a) Cycling performance of MnP/FeP electrode at 2 A g<sup>-1</sup> and corresponding (b) galvanostatic voltage profiles and (c) differential capacity plots (DCP).



**Fig. S14** STEM images and EDS mapping images (Mn K, Fe K, and P K) of after  $1^{st}$  and  $100^{th}$  cycled electrodes tested at 2 A g<sup>-1</sup> for (a,b) Mn<sub>0.5</sub>Fe<sub>0.5</sub>P and (c,d) MnP/FeP electrodes.