## **Supporting Information**

## Insight into the charging-discharging of magnetite electrodes: *In situ*XAS and DFT study

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Fig. S1: XRD spectrum of the as-prepared Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles



Fig. S2: Galvanostatic cycling performance of  $Fe_3O_4$  nanoparticle electrode at the rate of 100 mAg<sup>-1</sup>in the voltage range of 0.03-3.0 V.



Fig. S3: First five components as obtained from PCA analysis of the *in situ* XANES spectra recorded during the first discharge of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> electrode.



Fig. S4: Residuals of the LCF fittings of the *in situ* XANES spectra recorded during the first discharge of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> electrode, with two, three and four PCA components. Inset: Enlarged view of the figure.



Fig. S5: The variation of tetrahedral and octahedral Fe during the first discharge of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> electrode.



Fig. S6: (a) First five components as obtained from PCA analysis of the *in situ* XANES spectra recorded during the first charge of  $Fe_3O_4$  electrode. (b) XANES spectra of the two species present during the first charge of  $Fe_3O_4$  electrodes as obtained from the MCR-ALS analysis. (c) Concentration profile of the two species obtained from the MCR-ALS analysis during the first charge cycle of  $Fe_3O_4$  electrodes.



Fig. S7: (a) First five components as obtained from PCA analysis of the *in situ* XANES spectra recorded during the second discharge of  $Fe_3O_4$  electrode. (b) XANES spectra of the two species present during the second discharge of  $Fe_3O_4$  electrodes as obtained from the MCR-ALS analysis. (c) Concentration profile of the two species obtained from the MCR-ALS analysis during the second discharge cycle of  $Fe_3O_4$  electrodes.



Fig.S8: EXAFS  $\chi(k)$  versus k spectra at few selected points during the first discharge, first charge and second discharge of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> electrode.

0 ee	x(tet)=0.341±0.022				
	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )		
Fe-O1	1.922	4	0.0005		
	$\pm 0.008$		$\pm 0.0007$		
Fe-O2	2.084	6	0.0226		
	$\pm 0.007$		±0.0012		
Fe-Fe1	3.029	4.4	0.0129		
	±0.006	±0.3	$\pm 0.0007$		
Fe-Fe2	3.511	3.9	0.0096		
	$\pm 0.008$	±0.4	$\pm 0.0009$		
0.03 ee		$x(tet)=0.335\pm0.018$			
	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )		
Fe-O1	1.934	4	0.0005		
	$\pm 0.005$		$\pm 0.0007$		
Fe-O2	2.042	6	0.0226		
	$\pm 0.006$	-	$\pm 0.0015$		
Fe-Fe1	3.007	4.5	0.0129		
	$\pm 0.005$	±0.3	$\pm 0.0008$		
Fe-Fe2	3.516	3.6	0.0096		
	$\pm 0.007$	±0.3	$\pm 0.0007$		
0.04 ee		x(tet)=0.268+0.019			
0.0.1.00	R (Å)	N N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )		
Fe-O1	1.937	4	0.0007		
	+0.007		+0.0005		
Fe-O2	2 032	6	0.0209		
10.02	+0.007	0	+0.0009		
Fe-Fe1	3.013	5.4	0.0130		
	$\pm 0.008$	±0.5	$\pm 0.0009$		
Fe-Fe2	3.519	2.3	0.0049		
	$\pm 0.006$	±0.8	$\pm 0.0007$		
0.06 ee	x(tet)=0.224±0.018				
	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )		
Fe-O1	1.906	4	0.0008		
	±0.009		$\pm 0.0005$		
Fe-O2	2.009	6	0.0210		
	$\pm 0.008$	-	$\pm 0.0010$		
Fe-Fe1	3.010	4.6	0.0116		
	$\pm 0.008$	±0.5	$\pm 0.0008$		
Fe-Fe2	3.522	2.0	0.0030		
	$\pm 0.006$	±0.7	$\pm 0.0007$		
0.08 ee	x(tet)-0.2014-0.016				
	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )		
Fe-O1	1.941	4	0.0007		
	+0.007		$\pm 0.0004$		
Fe-O2	2 047	6	0.0220		
10.02	+0.007		$\pm 0.0009$		
Fe-Fe1	3 024	4 6	0.0115		
	+0.009	+0.3	+0.0010		
Fe-Fe2	3 528	3.2	0.0092		
10102	$\pm 0.007$	±0.5	$\pm 0.0006$		
0.1 ee	_0.007	x(tet)=0.186+0.018	_0.0000		
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Table S1: EXAFS fitting results during the first discharge of  $Fe_3O_4$  electrode

	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )	
Fe-O1	1.948	4	0.0007	
	±0.006		$\pm 0.0004$	
Fe-O2	2.033	6	0.0228	
	$\pm 0.008$		$\pm 0.0009$	
Fe-Fe1	3.026	6.0	0.0148	
	±0.007	$\pm 0.2$	$\pm 0.0009$	
Fe-Fe2	3.519	2.7	0.0066	
	$\pm 0.008$	$\pm 0.4$	$\pm 0.0006$	
0.13 ee	x(tet)=0.169±0.019			
	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )	
Fe-O1	1.910	4	0.0006	
	$\pm 0.009$		$\pm 0.0005$	
Fe-O2	2.036	6	0.0187	
	+0.007	-	+0.0010	
Fe-Fe1	3 028	62	0.0156	
10101	+0.006	+0.4	+0.0008	
Fe-Fe2	3 505	24	0.0048	
10102	+0.006	+0.5	+0.0007	
0.15 ee	_01000	x(tet)=0.156+0.015	_0.0007	
0.15 00	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2 (\text{\AA}^2)$	
Fe-O1	1 921	4	0.0007	
10-01	+0.008	<b>T</b>	+0.0005	
Fe-O2	2 037	6	0.0199	
10.02	+0.008	0	+0.0010	
Ee-Fe1	3.029	6.1	0.0150	
10-101	+0.007	+0.1	+0.0008	
Fe-Fe2	3 511	3.0	0.0084	
	+0.006	+0.3	+0.0008	
0.2 ee	x(tet)=0.123±0.015			
	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )	
Fe-O1	1.924	4	0.0008	
	±0.005		$\pm 0.0006$	
Fe-O2	2.027	6	0.0205	
	±0.007		$\pm 0.0008$	
Fe-Fe1	3.029	6.1	0.0147	
	±0.006	±0.2	$\pm 0.0009$	
Fe-Fe2	3.514	2.4	0.0061	
	±0.007	$\pm 0.4$	$\pm 0.0006$	
0.35 ee		$x(tet)=0.083\pm0.014$		
	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )	
Fe-O1	1.929	4	0.0007	
	±0.007		$\pm 0.0006$	
Fe-O2	2.011	6	0.0196	
	$\pm 0.008$		$\pm 0.0008$	
Fe-Fe1	3.023	6.2	0.0151	
	$\pm 0.008$	±0.3	$\pm 0.0009$	
Fe-Fe2	3.491	4.4	0.0116	
	±0.007	±0.2	$\pm 0.0007$	
0.4 ee	x(tet)=0			
	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )	
Fe-O	2.003	6	0.0181	
	$\pm 0.005$		±0.0012	
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Fe-Fe1	3.026	6.1	0.0155			
	±0.006	±0.3	$\pm 0.0008$			
Fe-Fe2	3.498	3.4	0.0085			
	±0.006	±0.5	$\pm 0.0009$			
0.5 ee	x(tet)=0					
	R (Å)	Ν	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )			
Fe-O	2.019	6	0.0208			
	±0.007		$\pm 0.0010$			
Fe-Fe1	3.061	6.1	0.0139			
	±0.009	±0.2	$\pm 0.0007$			
Fe-Fe2	3.509	2.7	0.0091			
	±0.008	±0.3	$\pm 0.0008$			
0.7 ee		x(tet)=0	x(tet)=0			
	R (Å)	Ν	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )			
Fe-O	2.016	6	0.0190			
	±0.007		±0.0009			
Fe-Fe1	3.015	6.3	0.0145			
	±0.005	±0.3	$\pm 0.0008$			
Fe-Fe2	3.493	3.1	0.0017			
	±0.009	±0.5	$\pm 0.0008$			
1 ee		x(tet)=0				
	R (Å)	Ν	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )			
Fe-O	2.087	6	0.0214			
	±0.006		$\pm 0.0007$			
Fe-Fe1	2.977	6.1	0.0165			
	±0.006	±0.3	$\pm 0.0006$			
Fe-Fe2	3.431	3.9	0.0083			
	±0.007	$\pm 0.4$	$\pm 0.0009$			
1.7 ee		x(tet)=0				
	R (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )			
Fe-O	2.095	6	0.0186			
	$\pm 0.008$		$\pm 0.0007$			
Fe-Fe1	2.956	5.9	0.0164			
	±0.007	$\pm 0.4$	$\pm 0.0008$			
FeFe2	3.424	2.7	0.0054			
	±0.007	±0.3	$\pm 0.0007$			
2 ee		x(tet)=0				
	R (Å)	Ν	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )			
Fe-O	2.076	5.9	0.0197			
	±0.009	±0.3	±0.0009			
Fe-Fe	3.069	7.1	0.0137			
	±0.009	±0.5	$\pm 0.0008$			
4.1 ee		x(tet)=0				
	R (Å)	Ν	$\sigma^2$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )			
Fe-O	2.084	6.1	0.0171			
	±0.008	±0.2	±0.0011			
Fe-Fe	3.043	11.2	0.0128			
	±0.009	±0.5	$\pm 0.0009$			
6 ee		x(tet)=0				
	R (Å)	Ν	$\sigma^2 (\dot{A}^2)$			
Fe-O	2.064	6.2	0.0149			
	±0.007	±0.3	$\pm 0.0009$			
Fe-Fe	3.025	12.1	0.0177			

	$\pm 0.008$	±0.2	±0.0007				
Data fitted with Fe metal structure							
	$R(\text{\AA}) \qquad N \qquad \sigma^2(\text{\AA}^2)$						
7.2 ee	2.420	5.0	0.0099				
	$\pm 0.009$	±0.2	$\pm 0.0009$				
7.6 ee	2.415	5.4	0.0097				
	$\pm 0.007$	±0.3	$\pm 0.0008$				
8.7 ee	2.422	5.4	0.0096				
	$\pm 0.008$	±0.3	$\pm 0.0007$				
9.5ee	2.421	5.5	0.0112				
	$\pm 0.007$	$\pm 0.2$	$\pm 0.0008$				

Table S2: EXAFS fitting results during the first charge of  $Fe_3O_4$  electrode

Electron	Fe-Fe (Fe metal)			Fe-O (FeO)		
Equivalent	r (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$	r (Å)	Ν	$\sigma^2$
0.1	2.421 ±0.005	4.5 ±0.2	$0.0075 \pm 0.0008$	-	-	-
0.3	2.431 ±0.008	4.5 ±0.3	0.0083 ±0.0009	-	-	-
0.4	2.421 ±0.007	4.4 ±0.2	0.0075 ±0.0007	-	-	-
0.5	2.424 ±0.005	4.3 ±0.2	$0.0076 \pm 0.0007$	-	-	-
1.0	2.435 ±0.008	4.1 ±0.4	0.0079 ±0.0009	2.063 ±0.006	1.5 ±0.3	0.0101 ±0.0007
1.3	2.441 ±0.007	4.1 ±0.3	$0.0075 \pm 0.0008$	2.133 ±0.008	1.6 ±0.2	0.0099 ±0.0007
1.7	2.442 ±0.007	3.9 ±0.2	$0.0077 \pm 0.0008$	2.122 ±0.005	1.6 ±0.2	0.0098 ±0.0008
2.0	2.442 ±0.006	3.8 ±0.3	$0.0075 \pm 0.0007$	2.125 ±0.008	2.9 ±0.3	0.0108 ±0.0009
2.2	2.452 ±0.008	3.4 ±0.3	$0.0068 \\ \pm 0.0006$	2.082 ±0.008	3.8 ±0.4	0.0143 ±0.0011
2.4	2.460 ±0.005	3.1 ±0.2	$0.0056 \pm 0.0008$	2.094 ±0.007	5.4 ±0.2	0.0147 ±0.0010
2.5	2.454 ±0.007	2.8 ±0.2	$0.0052 \pm 0.0005$	2.101 ±0.007	5.4 ±0.2	0.0126 ±0.0009
2.6	2.450 ±0.008	2.5 ±0.4	$0.0054 \pm 0.0008$	2.106 ±0.005	5.8 ±0.3	0.0122 ±0.0008
2.8	2.459 ±0.006	2.4 ±0.2	0.0054 ±0.0009	$2.101 \pm 0.008$	6.0 ±0.2	0.0123 ±0.0009

Voltage(V)	Electron	R factor	FeO	Fe
	Equivalent			
0.03	4.2	0.00367	0.05717	0.94283
0.2	3.7	0.00245	0.08501	0.91499
0.3	3.5	0.00357	0.12509	0.87491
0.35	3.4	0.00477	0.13538	0.86462
0.4	3.3	0.00960	0.1066	0.8934
0.46	3.2	0.00878	0.12944	0.87056
0.55	3.0	0.01211	0.13801	0.86199
0.82	2.3	0.01454	0.1445	0.8555

Table S3: Results of linear combination fitting of the XANES data recorded during the second discharge cycle of  $\rm Fe_3O_4 electrode$ 

Table S4: EXAFS fitting results during the second discharge of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>electrode

Electron	Fe-Fe (Fe metal)		Fe-O (FeO)			
Equivalent	r (Å)	N	$\sigma^2$	r (Å)	Ν	$\sigma^2$
4.2	2.497	1.7	0.0060	2.173	5.9	0.0094
	$\pm 0.006$	±0.2	$\pm 0.0007$	$\pm 0.008$	±0.3	±0.0005
3.7	2.481	2.0	0.0083	2.184	5.9	0.0103
	$\pm 0.008$	±0.3	$\pm 0.0006$	$\pm 0.009$	±0.2	$\pm 0.0008$
3.5	2.434	2.1	0.0047	2.193	5.9	0.0126
	$\pm 0.005$	±0.3	$\pm 0.0008$	$\pm 0.008$	±0.3	$\pm 0.0008$
3.4	2.469	2.1	0.0062	2.179	5.8	0.0095
	$\pm 0.006$	±0.2	$\pm 0.0007$	$\pm 0.006$	±0.2	$\pm 0.0007$
3.3	2.452	3.0	0.0059	2.085	5.8	0.0101
	$\pm 0.006$	±0.2	$\pm 0.0008$	$\pm 0.007$	±0.1	$\pm 0.0006$
3.2	2.454	3.1	0.0054	2.071	5.5	0.0117
	$\pm 0.007$	±0.3	±0.0009	±0.006	±0.2	$\pm 0.0007$
3.0	2.452	3.1	0.0052	2.085	4.1	0.0122
	$\pm 0.006$	±0.2	$\pm 0.0008$	$\pm 0.005$	±0.3	$\pm 0.0008$
2.3	2.442	3.3	0.0051	2.089	3.8	0.0106
	$\pm 0.007$	±0.2	$\pm 0.0007$	$\pm 0.006$	±0.2	$\pm 0.0007$