K-Gradient Doping to Stabilize Spinel Structure of Li<sub>1.6</sub>Mn<sub>1.6</sub>O<sub>4</sub> for Li<sup>+</sup> recovery Fangren Qian;<sup>[1, 2, 3]</sup> Bing Zhao;<sup>[1, 2, 3]</sup> Min Guo;<sup>[1, 2]</sup> Jun Li;<sup>[1, 2]</sup> Zhong Liu;\*<sup>[1, 2]</sup> Zhijian Wu<sup>[1, 2]</sup> <sup>[1]</sup> Key Laboratory of Comprehensive and Highly Efficient Utilization of Salt Lake Resources, Qinghai Institute of Salt Lakes, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xining 810008, China <sup>[2]</sup> Key Laboratory of Salt Lake Resources Chemistry of Qinghai Province, Xining 810008, China <sup>[3]</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, China \**Corresponding author, E-mail address: liuzhong@isl.ac.cn* 



Fig. S1. The fitting curve of Mn 2p for undoped samples.



Fig. S2. Nitrogen ad/desorption isotherms and pore size distribution of HMO.



Fig. S3 The adsorption rate of HMO and HMO-K .



Fig. S4 Adsorption capacity of HMO and HMO-K at different initial Li<sup>+</sup> concentration.



Fig. S5 Adsorption capacity of HMO-K at various temperature.



Fig. S6. (a) The Mn dissolution of r-LMO-K and r-LMO; (b) Li<sup>+</sup> extract of r-LMO-K and r-LMO.



Fig. S7. The desorption properties in different temperature ( $C_{HCl} = 0.6 \text{ mol/L}$ ). (a) Dissolution of Mn and (b) desorption rate of Li<sup>+</sup>.

## **First principles calculations**

Density functional theory (DFT) [1, 2] calculations were implemented by the Vienna Ab-initio Simulation Package (VASP) with the projector-augmented wave (PAW) [3]method, and the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerh (PBE) exchange-correlation functional [4] of the Generalized Gradient Approximation (GGA) [5-7]. Owing to the strong-correlation d-electrons of Mn metals, the Hubbard-type U correction was adopted. In order to gain accurate computation, the U values of 4.5 eV [8] were used. The cutoff energy of 500 eV was adopted in all calculations. The thickness of the vacuum is set to the 15 Å. An appropriate k-point mesh of  $6 \times 6 \times 6$  and  $3 \times 3 \times 1$  for Bulk and the Li4Mn5O12 (100) surface was adopted, respectively. In order to improve the quality of DOS and charge, the k-point mesh of  $4 \times 4 \times 1$  was adopted. The electronic total energies convergence criterion was set at 10–4 eV. The atomic positions were stable until Hellmann-Feynman forces on each atom were less than a threshold value of 0.01 eV.

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