

# **A 3D open-framework iron hydrogenophosphate showing high proton conductance under water and aqua-ammonia vapor**

Hai-rong Zhao<sup>a,b</sup>, Yin Jia<sup>b</sup>, Yi Gu<sup>b</sup>, Feng-yun He<sup>b</sup>, Kai-ming Zhang<sup>\*c</sup>, Zheng-fang Tian<sup>d</sup>, Jian-Lan Liu<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of Materials-Oriented Chemical Engineering and College of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, Nanjing Tech University, Nanjing 210009, P. R. China.

<sup>b</sup> School of Environmental science, Nanjing Xiaozhuang University, Nanjing 210009, P. R. China.

<sup>c</sup> Department of material engineering, Nanjing Institute of Technology, Nanjing 211167, P. R. China.

<sup>d</sup>Hubei Key Laboratory for Processing and Application of Catalytic Materials, Huanggang Normal University, Huanggang 438000, P. R. China.

E-mail: cggzkm@163.com (KMZ); njutljl@163.com (LJL)

## Contents

### Section 1

#### 1. Experimental section

##### 1.1 Chemicals and materials

##### 1.2 Synthesis of $(\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{NH}_3)_2 [\text{Fe}_4(\text{OH})_3(\text{HPO}_4)_2(\text{PO}_4)_3] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (**1**)

##### 1.3 Material characterizations

##### 1.4 Conductivity measurements

### Section 2

Fig. S1 Hydrogen-bonding interactions in water molecules and between water and ammonia molecules

Fig. S2 X-ray diffraction profiles of **1** after ac measured

Fig. S3 TG and DTA plots of **1** in the temperature range of 298-1073 K.

Fig. S4 Variable-temperature powder X-ray diffraction profiles of **1** with  $2\theta$  ranges of (a)  $5-50^\circ$  and (b)  $10-20^\circ$

Fig. S5 Temperature dependent Nyquist plots of **1**

Fig. S6 Nyquist plots of compound **1** at varied relative humidity at 303K

Fig. S7 The corresponding conductivity in the form of  $\sigma$  vs. T for **1**.

Fig. S8 Nyquist plots of compound **1** at different concentration (a)  $0.01 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ ; (b)  $0.05 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ ; (c)  $0.1 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ ; (d)  $0.5 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$  and (e)  $1 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1} \text{ NH}_3\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$  solution.

Table S1 The  $\sigma$  and  $E_a$  at selected  $\text{NH}_3\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$  solution

## **Section 1**

### **1. Experimental section**

#### **1.1 Chemicals and reagents**

All reagents and chemicals were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification.

#### **1.2 Synthesis of $(\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{NH}_3)_2 [\text{Fe}_4(\text{OH})_3(\text{HPO}_4)_2(\text{PO}_4)_3] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1)**

The sample was hydrothermally synthesized according to the previously reported procedure.  $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.2027g) and  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  (0.22mL) were dissolved in 5 mL  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , Propanediamine (Aldrich) was added dropwise to the above mixture to control  $\text{pH} \approx 6$  of the solution, and then was transferred and sealed in a 25mL Parr Teflon lined stainless steel autoclave and heated at  $165^\circ\text{C}$  for 3 days.

#### **1.3 Material characterizations**

Power X-ray diffraction (PXRD) data were collected on a Bruker D8 diffractometer with  $\text{Cu K}\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.5418\text{\AA}$ ) in the temperature ranges of 303-493 K (30-220  $^\circ\text{C}$ ). TGA experiments were performed using a STA449 F3 thermogravimetric analyzer in the temperature range of 298-1073 K (25-800 $^\circ\text{C}$ ) at a warming rate of  $10^\circ\text{C}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$  under a nitrogen atmosphere and the polycrystalline samples were placed in an  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  crucible.

#### **1.4 Conductivity measurements**

The powered sample was pressed into a pellet with a diameter of 13mm and a thickness of ca. 0.7 mm. The measurements of proton conduction at various relative humidity and different aqua-ammonia vapor were carried out using a conventional three-electrode method with a CHI 660D electrochemical workstation and the reference electrode has been shortened with auxiliary electrode, the cable connected the copper plate electrodes with the electrochemical workstation is ca. 1.2 m. The copper plate electrode is 13 mm in diameter. The frequency of the applied alternating current (ac) field ranges from 100 Hz to 2 MHz with 5 mV of signal amplitude. The DC offset is zero. The powdered pellet of sample was sandwiched between two copper plate electrodes, which is suspended in a wild-mouth bottle with a rubber stopper and water solution of salt on the bottom, such a bottle was placed in an oven.

The humidity was tuned by the concentration of salt and monitored using a humidity probe. The concentrations of aqua-ammonia vapor were obtained from various concentrations of  $\text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  solution. The concentrated solution of  $\text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (14.80 M) was diluted by deionized water to concentrations of 1.0, 0.5, 0.1, 0.05, 0.01M, respectively, for proton conduction determinations.

## Section2

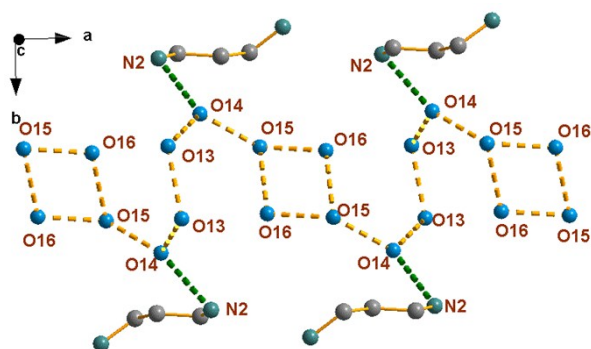


Fig. S1 Hydrogen-bonding interactions in water molecules and between water and ammonia molecules.

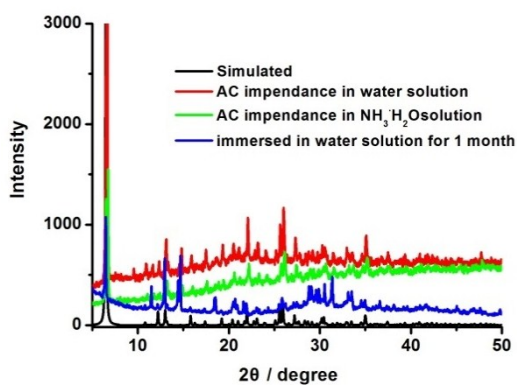


Fig. S2 X-ray diffraction profiles of **1** after ac measured

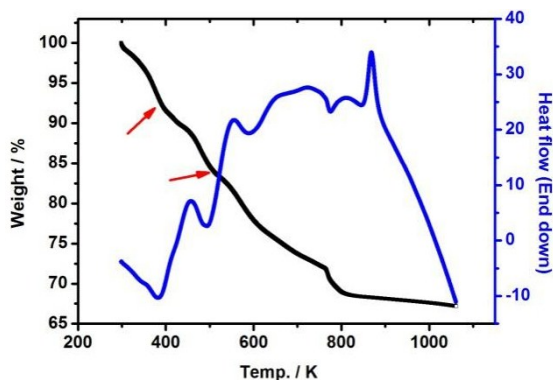


Fig. S3 TG and DTA plots of **1** in the temperature range of 298-1073 K.

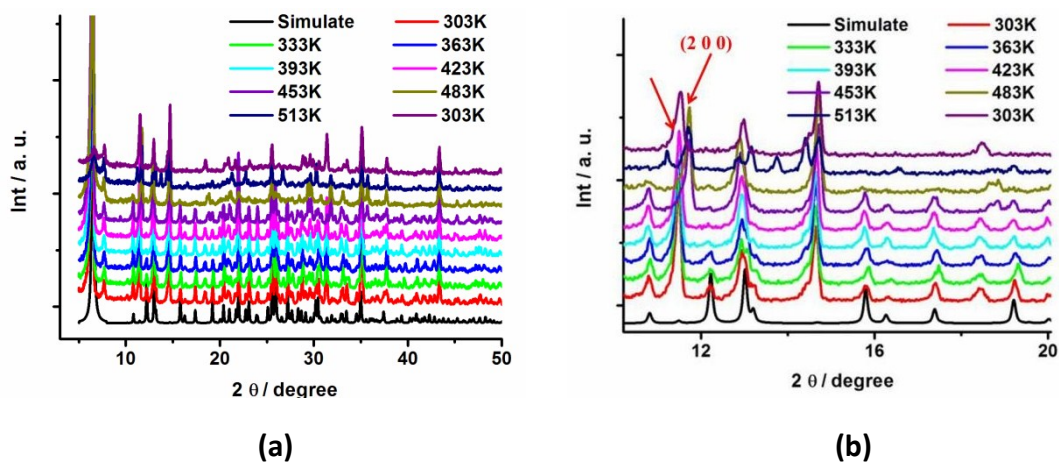


Fig. S4 Variable-temperature powder X-ray diffraction profiles of **1** with  $2\theta$  ranges of (a)  $5\text{--}50^\circ$  and (b)  $10\text{--}20^\circ$

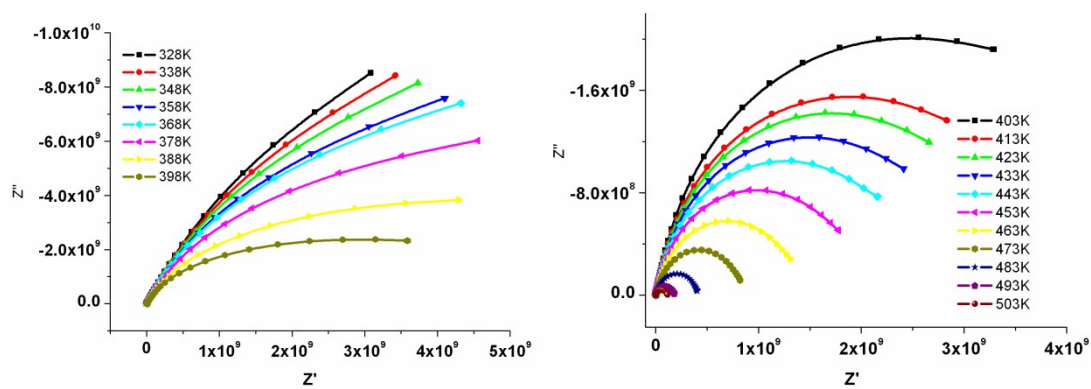


Fig. S5 Temperature dependent Nyquist plots of **1**

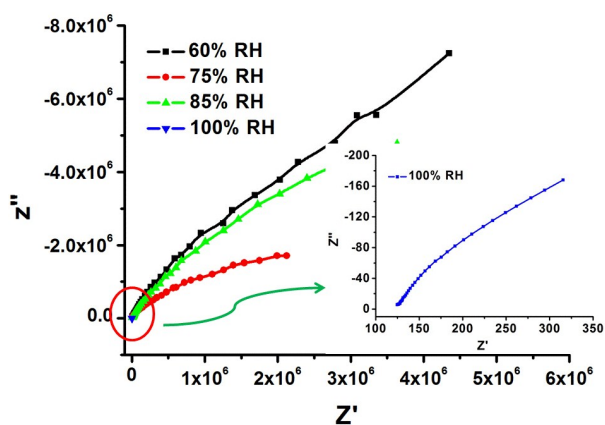


Fig. S6 Nyquist plots of compound **1** at varied relative humidity at 303K

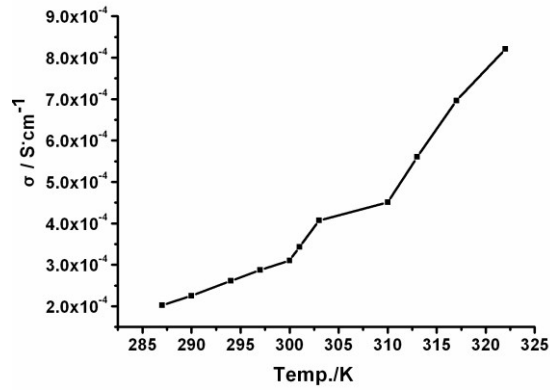


Fig. S7 The corresponding conductivity in the form of  $\sigma$  vs. T for **1**.

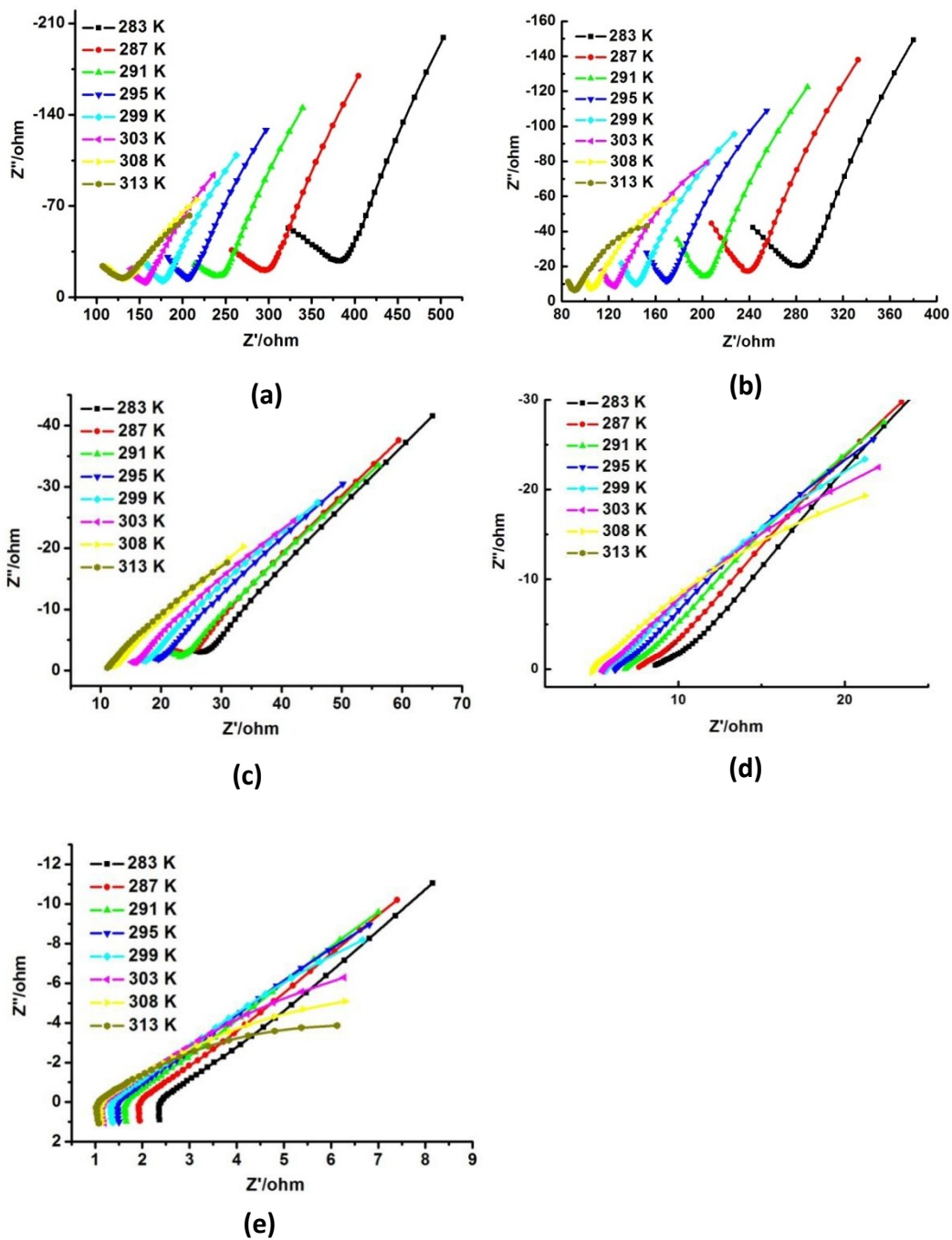


Fig. S8 Nyquist plots of compound **1** at different concentration (a) 0.01 mol·L<sup>-1</sup>; (b) 0.05 mol·L<sup>-1</sup>; (c) 0.1 mol·L<sup>-1</sup>; (d) 0.5 mol·L<sup>-1</sup> and (e) 1 mol·L<sup>-1</sup> NH<sub>3</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O solution.

Table S1 The  $\sigma$  and  $E_a$  at selected NH<sub>3</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O solution

T/ K	0.01 mol·L <sup>-1</sup>		0.05 mol·L <sup>-1</sup>		0.1 mol·L <sup>-1</sup>		0.5 mol·L <sup>-1</sup>		1 mol·L <sup>-1</sup>	
	$\sigma$ / S·cm <sup>-1</sup>	$E_a$ / eV	$\sigma$ / S·cm <sup>-1</sup>	$E_a$ / eV	$\sigma$ / S·cm <sup>-1</sup>	$E_a$ / eV	$\sigma$ / S·cm <sup>-1</sup>	$E_a$ / eV	$\sigma$ / S·cm <sup>-1</sup>	$E_a$ / eV
283	1.46E-04	0.52	1.98E-04	0.51	2.26E-03	0.47	6.38E-03	0.3	2.29E-02	0.35
287	1.87E-04		2.35E-04		2.50E-03		7.14E-03		2.79E-02	
291	2.29E-04		2.77E-04		2.74E-03		7.98E-03		3.28E-02	
295	2.74E-04		3.38E-04		3.29E-03		8.81E-03		3.61E-02	
299	3.25E-04		3.96E-04		3.90E-03		9.59E-03		3.96E-02	
303	3.62E-04		4.60E-04		4.45E-03		1.00E-02		4.55E-02	
308	4.56E-04		5.38E-04		5.43E-03		1.12E-02		4.72E-02	
313	4.85E-04		6.48E-04		6.54E-03		1.27E-02		5.04E-02	