## Failure Analysis of Hydrothermal Synthesis for Spinel Manganese-Cobalt Oxide

Zhao Li<sup>a,b</sup>, Zhiguo Ren<sup>b,c</sup>, Yuanxin Zhao<sup>b,c</sup>, Shuaijin Wu<sup>d</sup>, Yingying Yao<sup>a</sup>, Xiaochuan Ren<sup>e</sup>, Daming Zhu<sup>b,\*</sup>, Xiaolong Li<sup>b,\*</sup>, Jianxin Zou<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> National Engineering Research Center of Light Alloy Net Forming, State Key Laboratory of Metal Matrix Composite, Shanghai Key laboratory of Hydrogen Science, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai 200240, China

<sup>b</sup> Shanghai Synchrotron Radiation Facility, Shanghai Advanced Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201204, China

<sup>c</sup> The Institute for Advanced Studies, Wuhan University, Wuhan, Hubei 430072, China-

<sup>d</sup> China Nonferrous Metals Techno-Economic Research Institute Co., Ltd., Beijing 100080, China.

<sup>e</sup> College of Texiles & Clothing, Qingdao University, Qingdao, Shandong, 266071, China

\*Corresponding author:

Tel: +86-15107109191. E-mail: zhudaming@zjlab.org.cn.

Tel: +86-13761043433. E-mail: lixiaolong@zjlab.org.cn.

Tel: +86-15921793455. E-mail: zoujx@sjtu.edu.cn.

## Supplementary information

| Mn-Co-O   | Weight content (wt%) |       | C Atomic content (at%) |      |       | C Atomic ratio |         |             |
|-----------|----------------------|-------|------------------------|------|-------|----------------|---------|-------------|
|           | Mn                   | Со    | 0                      | □ Mn | Со    | 0              | □ Mn/Co | Mn : Co     |
| precursor | 3.12                 | 59.57 | 37.31                  | 1.67 | 29.73 | 68.6           | 0.056   | 0.16 : 2.84 |
| sample    | 3.64                 | 73    | 23.36                  | 2.4  | 44.8  | 52.8           | 0.054   | 0.15 : 2.85 |

**Table S1** EDS mapping quantitative analysis of Mn-Co-O precursor and sample.

**Table S2** The lattice parameter and quantified ratio of pure  $Co_3O_4$  and Mn-doped  $Co_3O_4$  (Mn- $Co_3O_4$ ) phase through Rietveld refinements against synchrotron and laboratory XRD, respectively.

| Sampla          | Phase                             | Crystal | Space  | Lattice parameters | Ratio (wt%) |  |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------|--------------------|-------------|--|
| Sample          |                                   | system  | group  | a = b = c (Å)      |             |  |
| Synchrotron XRD | Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>    | -       |        | 8.10               | 73.9        |  |
|                 | Mn-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> | Cubic   | Fd-3m  | 8.18               | 26.1        |  |
| Laboratory XRD  | Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>    | Cubic   | Ed 2ma | 8.11               | 22.2        |  |
|                 | Mn-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> |         | ru-3m  | 8.24               | 77.8        |  |

| Phase      | (h,k,l) | 20 (°) | d-spacing (Å) |
|------------|---------|--------|---------------|
|            | 111     | 8.45   | 4.68          |
|            | 220     | 13.81  | 2.86          |
|            | 311     | 16.21  | 2.44          |
| Co.O.      | 222     | 16.94  | 2.34          |
| 0304       | 400     | 19.58  | 2.03          |
|            | 422     | 24.05  | 1.65          |
|            | 511     | 25.53  | 1.56          |
|            | 440     | 27.55  | 1.45          |
|            | 111     | 8.36   | 4.72          |
|            | 220     | 13.68  | 2.89          |
|            | 311     | 16.05  | 2.47          |
| Mn-Co₂O₄   | 222     | 16.77  | 2.36          |
| 1111 20304 | 400     | 19.39  | 2.05          |
|            | 422     | 23.80  | 1.70          |
|            | 511     | 25.27  | 1.57          |
|            | 440     | 27.83  | 1.43          |

**Table S3** The confirmed diffraction peaks positions and calculated inter-atomicspacing (d-spacing) through the Rietveld refinement against synchrotron XRD.

| Comple        | Phase                             | Crystal<br>system | Space<br>group | Lattice parameters |       |       | Ratio |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Sample        |                                   |                   |                | a (Å)              | b (Å) | c (Å) | (wt%) |
| pure Co       | $Co_3O_4$                         | Cubic             | Fd-3m          | 8.10               | 8.10  | 8.10  | 100.0 |
| Mn : Co = 1:1 | Mn-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> | Cubic             | Fd-3m          | 8.13               | 8.13  | 8.13  | 92.9  |
|               | CoMn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>  | Tetragonal        | I41/amd        | 5.73               | 5.73  | 9.31  | 7.1   |
| Mn : Co = 2:1 | Mn-Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> | Cubic             | Fd-3m          | 8.20               | 8.20  | 8.20  | 49.0  |
|               | CoMn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>  | Tetragonal        | I41/amd        | 5.73               | 5.73  | 9.31  | 51.0  |
| pure Mn       | $Mn_2O_3$                         | Cubic             | 1213           | 9.43               | 9.43  | 9.43  | 91.9  |
|               | γ-MnO <sub>2</sub>                | Monoclinic        | C2/m           | 15.10              | 2.98  | 4.21  | 8.1   |

**Table S4** The refined lattice parameter and quantified ratio of Mn-Co-O sample usingdifferent molar feed ratio.



Fig. S1 The multipoint BET surface area and pore distribution of Mn-Co-O precursor

and sample.



Fig. S2 The laboratory XRD data and Rietveld refinement of Mn-Co-O sample.



**Fig. S3** Electron imaging and diffraction characterization of a microarea of Mn-Co-O precursor. (a) TEM, (b) SAED and (c-f) HRTEM images.



**Fig. S4** Synchrotron radiation XRD patterns with Rietveld refinement of Mn-Co-O precursor at different molar feed ratio. (a) pure Co source, (b) Mn : Co = 1 : 2, (c) Mn : Co = 1 : 1, (d) Mn : Co = 2 : 1, (e) pure Mn source.



**Fig. S5** The powder X-ray diffraction pattern of standard  $Co_3O_4$ ,  $MnCo_2O_4$ ,  $CoMn_2O_4$  and  $Mn_3O_4$  lattice structures, which are calculated and generated by Vesta 3.5.7 program.



**Fig. S6** The XPS of Mn-Co-O precursor (a) and sample(b) with Mn 2p, Co 2p and O 1s spectra, respectively.



Fig. S7 The crystal lattice visualization of  $Co_3O_4$ ,  $Mn^{(III, IV)}$ -doped  $Co_3O_4$ ,  $Mn^{(II)}Co_2O_4$ , and  $Mn^{(II, III)}Co_2O_4$ ,  $CoMn_2O_4$  and  $Mn_3O_4$ .



**Fig. S8** The XAS plots with TEY and TFY mode of Mn L-edge, Co L-edge and O L-edge before and after calcination of Mn-Co-O precursor.



Fig. S9 Raman spectra of Mn-Co-O precursor and sample with x-axis transformed into log10-scale.