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H.Y. Sun, X. Kong, B.S. Wang, T.B. Luo, G.Y. Liu

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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

## Cu doped $LiNi_{0.5}Mn_{1.5-x}Cu_xO_4$ (x=0, 0.03, 0.05, 0.10, 0.15) with significant improved electrochemical performance prepared by a modified low temperature solution combustion synthesis method

H.Y. Sun<sup>a,b</sup>, X. Kong<sup>a,b</sup>, B.S. Wang<sup>a,b</sup>, T.B. Luo<sup>a,b</sup>, G.Y.<sup>1</sup>Liu\*<sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, College of Science, Honghe University, Mengzi, 661199, Yunnan, China

<sup>b</sup> Local Characteristic Resource Utilization and New Materials Key Laboratory of Universities in Yunnan, Honghe University, Mengzi 661199, Yunnan, China.

**Abstract:** A series of Cu-doped LiNi<sub>0.5</sub>Mn<sub>1.5-x</sub>Cu<sub>x</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (x=0, 0.03, 0.05, 0.10, 0.15) spinel samples have been successfully prepared using a modified low temperature solution combustion synthesis method. X-ray diffraction(XRD) and infrared spectroscopy(FT-IR) analysis are used to characterize the phase structure. Scanning electron microscopy(SEM) is used to observe the microstructure of the products. The electrochemical performance are studied by galvanostatic charge-discharge testing, cyclic voltammetry(CV) and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy(EIS). No obvious sencondary phases were observed in XRD patterns of as-synthesized LiNi<sub>0.5</sub>Mn<sub>1.5-x</sub>Cu<sub>x</sub>O<sub>4</sub> powders. The samples have a combination structure of ordered and disordered space group and the order degree increases with the increase of Cu doping content obtained from FT-IR spectra. The electrochemical performances show that although the specific capacity decreases with the Cu-doping content, the cycle-life both at room temperature and 55°C and the C-rate performance are remarkably improved. The factors of stable structure, grain refinement, better crystallinity and lower charge transfer resistance lead to the excellent performance of Cu-doped samples.

Keywords: Lithium-ion batteries, LiNi<sub>0.5</sub>Mn<sub>1.5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Cu doping, cycling stability, rate capability

#### 1. Introduction

Lithium-ion battery has received wide attention as a new large-scale power source for electric vehicles (EVs) and hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs) attributing to its high capacity, high rate capability and long lifespan[1-3]. Among various lithium-ion batteries LiNi<sub>0.5</sub>Mn<sub>1.5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(LNMO)

Corresponding author. Tel.: +86 08733694922; fax: +86 8733694923

E-mail address: liuguiyang@tsinghua.org.cn

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