

Highlighting a study on the peculiar role of surface oxygen anions in lithium- and manganese-rich layered oxides by a group of researchers led by Prof. Helmut Ehrenberg from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.

Phosphoric acid and thermal treatments reveal the peculiar role of surface oxygen anions in lithium and manganese-rich layered oxides

Oxidized O $^{n-}$  species (O<n<2) are formed on the surface of H $_3$ PO $_4$ -treated Li[Li $_{0.2}$ Ni $_{0.2}$ Mn $_{0.6}$ ]O $_2$  oxides (LLNMO), resulting from Li-ion deficiency and lattice distortion. Metastable O $^{n-}$  could be easily released from the oxygen surface lattice forming O $_2$  via thermal treatment, accompanied by atomic rearrangement, surface reconstruction and layered-to-rock-salt/spinel transitions. The results demonstrate that the surface lattice structure plays a critical role in the electrochemical performance of LLNMO.



