

# Supporting Information: Electrochemical Performance and Structures of Cr and Mo Doped $\epsilon$ - $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$ Predicted as Promising Cathodes for Next Generation Lithium-ion Batteries

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## DFT Relaxed Structures and Atomic Coordinates

**Table S1.** DFT (PBE+U) calculated unit cell parameters for  $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$  in comparison with previous experimental <sup>1</sup> and QM (HSE) <sup>1</sup> lattice parameters

Lithium Content (x)	Data Type	a (Å)	b (Å)	c (Å)	$\alpha$ (°)	$\beta$ (°)	$\gamma$ (°)	Volume(Å <sup>3</sup> )
0	PBE+U	7.356	7.006	7.364	90.00	115.14	90.00	343.52
	Exp.	7.266	6.893	7.265	90.00	115.30	90.00	329.10
	HSE	7.246	6.966	7.308	90.00	114.62	90.00	335.36
1	PBE+U	6.845	7.218	8.010	89.73	91.60	116.51	353.94
	Exp.	6.734	7.196	7.918	89.81	91.27	116.91	342.04
	HSE	6.870	7.159	7.825	89.79	91.31	117.24	342.06
1.5	PBE+U	7.132	7.199	7.805	90.14	90.44	116.17	359.70
	Exp.	6.982	6.992	7.789	89.57	89.90	115.72	342.54
	HSE	6.968	7.014	7.770	89.65	89.08	116.22	340.58
2	PBE+U	7.191	7.327	7.864	90.11	90.48	116.18	371.84
	Exp.	7.195	7.101	7.775	89.82	89.79	116.34	356.00
	HSE	7.250	7.106	7.714	89.68	90.01	116.34	356.16
2.5	PBE+U	7.402	7.618	7.809	91.31	90.32	118.12	388.20
	Exp.	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	HSE	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

**Table S2.** DFT (PBE+U) calculated unit cell parameters for stable phases of the doped Z-Li<sub>x</sub>VOPO<sub>4</sub> structures

<b>Lithium Content (x)</b>	<b>System</b>	<b>a (Å)</b>	<b>b (Å)</b>	<b>c (Å)</b>	<b>α (°)</b>	<b>β (°)</b>	<b>γ (°)</b>	<b>Volume(Å<sup>3</sup>)</b>
0	Cr	7.356	7.030	7.373	90.05	115.00	89.97	345.58
	Mo	7.397	7.093	7.418	90.21	115.26	91.02	351.90
0.5	Mo <sub>1</sub>	6.889	7.340	7.965	90.16	90.88	117.45	357.34
	Mo <sub>2</sub>	6.886	7.327	7.970	90.74	90.31	117.28	357.33
1	Cr <sub>1</sub>	6.809	7.098	8.031	89.85	91.27	116.02	348.72
	Cr <sub>2</sub>	6.822	7.121	8.034	89.61	91.68	116.12	350.22
	Mo <sub>1</sub>	6.861	7.164	8.080	89.65	91.65	115.86	357.21
	Mo <sub>2</sub>	6.851	7.164	8.076	89.59	91.90	115.69	356.97
1.5	Cr <sub>1</sub>	7.073	7.201	7.802	89.83	91.49	116.82	354.51
	Cr <sub>2</sub>	7.082	7.188	7.812	90.17	90.76	116.70	355.19
	Mo <sub>1</sub>	7.136	7.235	7.888	89.95	91.28	116.76	363.55
	Mo <sub>2</sub>	7.145	7.232	7.884	90.49	91.07	116.77	363.58
2	Cr <sub>1</sub>	7.184	7.316	7.830	89.90	90.83	116.32	368.81
	Cr <sub>2</sub>	7.184	7.312	7.827	90.26	90.05	116.24	368.71
	Mo <sub>1</sub>	7.249	7.381	7.888	89.94	90.84	116.42	377.87
	Mo <sub>2</sub>	7.259	7.361	7.895	90.23	90.15	116.15	378.62
2.5	Cr <sub>1</sub>	7.382	7.687	7.797	91.49	89.86	117.92	390.74
	Cr <sub>2</sub>	7.329	7.660	7.780	90.48	89.68	116.12	392.16
	Mo <sub>1</sub>	7.462	7.632	7.871	90.68	90.28	117.62	397.11
	Mo <sub>2</sub>	7.488	7.643	7.871	91.36	90.21	118.33	396.28

**Table S3.** DFT (PBE+U) relaxed atomic positions of the distinct intermediate phases at Mo-Li<sub>0.5</sub>VOPO<sub>4</sub>. (a) structure with the Mo<sub>1</sub> dopant; (b) structure with the Mo<sub>2</sub> dopant.

Atom	x	y	z	Atom	x	y	z
Li	0.7859	0.7002	0.9191	Li	0.7843	0.6907	0.9194
Li	0.3218	0.8423	0.4274	Li	0.3038	0.8334	0.4278
V	0.2489	0.0359	0.7680	V	0.2482	0.0344	0.7682
V	0.7553	0.9706	0.2304	V	0.2380	0.5176	0.7387
V	0.2370	0.5178	0.7387	V	0.7566	0.4752	0.2664
P	0.2419	0.7541	0.0804	P	0.2313	0.7503	0.0809
P	0.7612	0.2423	0.9122	P	0.7608	0.2486	0.9104
P	0.2530	0.2368	0.4175	P	0.2664	0.2421	0.4178
P	0.7352	0.7634	0.5880	P	0.7370	0.7575	0.5871
O	0.5513	0.0894	0.8235	O	0.5517	0.0901	0.8253
O	0.4490	0.9100	0.1748	O	0.4396	0.9093	0.1759
O	0.1337	0.8551	0.9688	O	0.1281	0.8535	0.9685
O	0.8549	0.1337	0.0286	O	0.8596	0.1375	0.0216
O	0.9272	0.9059	0.7016	O	0.9282	0.9022	0.7003
O	0.0507	0.0900	0.3187	O	0.0633	0.0929	0.3160
O	0.3315	0.1084	0.5270	O	0.3359	0.1085	0.5273
O	0.6409	0.8667	0.4646	O	0.6408	0.8669	0.4699
O	0.2332	0.7278	0.6657	O	0.2346	0.7288	0.6673
O	0.7609	0.2554	0.3170	O	0.7625	0.2523	0.3187
O	0.2699	0.2612	0.8271	O	0.2687	0.2610	0.8267
O	0.7376	0.7405	0.1620	O	0.7359	0.7482	0.1630
O	0.0869	0.6431	0.2288	O	0.0782	0.6402	0.2279
O	0.9356	0.3645	0.7784	O	0.9347	0.3680	0.7757
O	0.2901	0.6040	0.9714	O	0.2872	0.6034	0.9711
O	0.7246	0.4083	0.1120	O	0.7269	0.4109	0.0157
O	0.4329	0.3702	0.2941	O	0.4440	0.3739	0.2957
O	0.5590	0.6286	0.7174	O	0.5598	0.6255	0.7172
O	0.2014	0.3863	0.5266	O	0.2051	0.3865	0.5263
O	0.8126	0.6289	0.4848	O	0.8123	0.6272	0.4781
<b>Mo</b>	<b>0.7560</b>	<b>0.4794</b>	<b>0.2658</b>	<b>Mo</b>	<b>0.7566</b>	<b>0.9842</b>	<b>0.2353</b>

(a)

(b)

**Table S4.** DFT (PBE+U) relaxed atomic positions for all Z-Li<sub>2.5</sub>VOPO<sub>4</sub> systems. (a) Li<sub>2.5</sub>VOPO<sub>4</sub>; (b) Cr<sub>1</sub>-Li<sub>2.5</sub>VOPO<sub>4</sub>; (c) Cr<sub>2</sub>-Li<sub>2.5</sub>VOPO<sub>4</sub>; (d) Mo<sub>1</sub>-Li<sub>2.5</sub>VOPO<sub>4</sub>; (e) Mo<sub>2</sub>-Li<sub>2.5</sub>VOPO<sub>4</sub>. Atomic coordinates of the additional Li atoms and dopants are highlighted in **bold face**.

<b>Atom</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>	<b>z</b>
<b>Li</b>	<b>0.3641</b>	<b>0.5155</b>	<b>0.1982</b>
Li	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000
Li	0.5000	0.0000	0.0000
Li	0.2501	0.1258	0.5385
Li	0.1426	0.6733	0.0568
Li	0.1394	0.4006	0.5563
V	0.0215	0.7777	0.7547
V	0.5011	0.7571	0.7536
P	0.7397	0.2278	0.6192
P	0.7528	0.7282	0.1176
O	0.1007	0.5639	0.3014
O	0.6571	0.0842	0.7686
O	0.4284	0.7430	0.4766
O	0.8590	0.1594	0.4953
O	0.7421	0.2179	0.1479
O	0.1048	0.0737	0.7867
O	0.4290	0.2678	0.9767
O	0.7444	0.7011	0.6400
O	0.6599	0.5724	0.2638
O	0.1308	0.3437	0.0085

(a)

<b>Atom</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>	<b>z</b>	<b>Atom</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>	<b>z</b>
<b>Li</b>	<b>0.3598</b>	<b>0.5101</b>	<b>0.1887</b>	<b>Li</b>	<b>0.3597</b>	<b>0.5119</b>	<b>0.2011</b>
<b>Li</b>	<b>0.6270</b>	<b>0.4878</b>	<b>0.8176</b>	<b>Li</b>	<b>0.6452</b>	<b>0.4856</b>	<b>0.7969</b>
Li	0.4994	0.4988	0.5013	Li	0.4954	0.4987	0.5004
Li	0.5003	0.0058	0.9991	Li	0.4987	0.9996	0.0017
Li	0.2515	0.1297	0.5409	Li	0.2448	0.1180	0.5433
Li	0.7495	0.8759	0.4612	Li	0.7459	0.8708	0.4533
Li	0.8593	0.3101	0.9397	Li	0.8640	0.3439	0.9477
Li	0.1432	0.6877	0.0607	Li	0.1480	0.6647	0.0537
Li	0.1387	0.4028	0.5537	Li	0.1317	0.3918	0.5606
Li	0.8655	0.4028	0.5537	Li	0.8625	0.5982	0.4480
V	0.0212	0.7709	0.7546	V	0.9795	0.2132	0.2421
V	0.9764	0.2190	0.2446	V	0.4995	0.7586	0.7533
V	0.4987	0.2436	0.2460	V	0.4997	0.2427	0.2479
P	0.7446	0.2380	0.6167	P	0.7315	0.2111	0.6171
P	0.2612	0.7750	0.3797	P	0.2578	0.7748	0.3816
P	0.2410	0.2605	0.8815	P	0.2551	0.2880	0.8809
P	0.7533	0.7258	0.1210	P	0.7552	0.7257	0.1168
O	0.1027	0.5677	0.3023	O	0.1094	0.5727	0.3028
O	0.9110	0.4502	0.6799	O	0.8810	0.4071	0.7004
O	0.6673	0.1087	0.7731	O	0.6469	0.0588	0.7598
O	0.3388	0.9173	0.2305	O	0.3491	0.9201	0.2340
O	0.4319	0.7483	0.4747	O	0.4237	0.7435	0.4840
O	0.5735	0.2607	0.5194	O	0.5650	0.2504	0.5242
O	0.8593	0.1597	0.4953	O	0.8545	0.1480	0.4879
O	0.1413	0.8423	0.5064	O	0.1290	0.8393	0.5021
O	0.7422	0.2160	0.1482	O	0.7470	0.2213	0.1482
O	0.2629	0.7843	0.8501	O	0.2743	0.7815	0.8518
O	0.0976	0.0584	0.7978	O	0.1191	0.1079	0.7780
O	0.8891	0.9235	0.2153	O	0.8907	0.9193	0.2099
O	0.4264	0.2653	0.9784	O	0.4334	0.2724	0.9754
O	0.5686	0.7225	0.0239	O	0.5788	0.7370	0.0170
O	0.7391	0.7035	0.6488	O	0.7311	0.7074	0.6451
O	0.2546	0.3001	0.3571	O	0.2534	0.2968	0.2624
O	0.6647	0.5699	0.2659	O	0.6571	0.5732	0.2657
O	0.3287	0.4061	0.7301	O	0.3529	0.4530	0.7407
O	0.1251	0.3349	0.0069	O	0.1374	0.3573	0.0128
O	0.8741	0.6599	0.9927	O	0.8763	0.6512	0.9957
<b>Cr</b>	<b>0.5048</b>	<b>0.7618</b>	<b>0.7538</b>	<b>Cr</b>	<b>0.0191</b>	<b>0.7814</b>	<b>0.7570</b>

(b)

(c)

<b>Atom</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>	<b>z</b>	<b>Atom</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>y</b>	<b>z</b>
<b>Li</b>	<b>0.3618</b>	<b>0.5083</b>	<b>0.1956</b>	<b>Li</b>	<b>0.3612</b>	<b>0.5051</b>	<b>0.1826</b>
<b>Li</b>	<b>0.6387</b>	<b>0.4804</b>	<b>0.7852</b>	<b>Li</b>	<b>0.6233</b>	<b>0.4815</b>	<b>0.8001</b>
Li	0.4987	0.4972	0.4921	Li	0.4960	0.5048	0.4935
Li	0.4876	0.0025	0.0044	Li	0.4916	0.9991	0.0007
Li	0.2464	0.1179	0.5438	Li	0.2521	0.1272	0.5366
Li	0.7511	0.8757	0.4522	Li	0.7452	0.8764	0.4631
Li	0.8535	0.3376	0.9467	Li	0.8562	0.3059	0.9393
Li	0.1456	0.6680	0.0562	Li	0.1410	0.6765	0.0608
Li	0.1386	0.3922	0.5557	Li	0.1400	0.3954	0.5568
Li	0.8582	0.6044	0.4470	Li	0.8563	0.6020	0.4346
V	0.0178	0.7713	0.7544	V	0.9776	0.2219	0.2472
V	0.9793	0.2216	0.2440	V	0.5023	0.7603	0.7544
V	0.5010	0.2425	0.2485	V	0.5023	0.2432	0.2470
P	0.7417	0.2268	0.6160	P	0.7421	0.2306	0.6197
P	0.2567	0.7721	0.3810	P	0.2628	0.7726	0.3799
P	0.2472	0.2725	0.8843	P	0.2484	0.2769	0.8833
P	0.7562	0.7266	0.1176	P	0.7505	0.7245	0.1181
O	0.1069	0.5658	0.3002	O	0.1006	0.5649	0.3028
O	0.8940	0.4303	0.6980	O	0.9058	0.4382	0.6970
O	0.6564	0.0816	0.7643	O	0.6632	0.0908	0.7708
O	0.3499	0.9187	0.2372	O	0.3481	0.9172	0.2341
O	0.4212	0.7403	0.4821	O	0.4274	0.7439	0.4769
O	0.5745	0.2576	0.5223	O	0.5748	0.2580	0.5262
O	0.8606	0.1594	0.4937	O	0.8585	0.1605	0.4968
O	0.1347	0.8373	0.5005	O	0.1447	0.8443	0.5015
O	0.7463	0.2234	0.1508	O	0.7451	0.2194	0.1492
O	0.2768	0.7909	0.8675	O	0.2715	0.7916	0.8681
O	0.1126	0.0846	0.7842	O	0.1067	0.0784	0.7893
O	0.8905	0.9221	0.2135	O	0.8910	0.9226	0.2137
O	0.4272	0.2565	0.9800	O	0.4318	0.2790	0.9768
O	0.5800	0.7369	0.0198	O	0.5727	0.7264	0.0208
O	0.7302	0.6981	0.6294	O	0.7324	0.6985	0.6319
O	0.2545	0.2944	0.3611	O	0.2554	0.2955	0.3577
O	0.6548	0.5709	0.2622	O	0.6562	0.5681	0.2622
O	0.3440	0.4341	0.7400	O	0.3360	0.4312	0.7371
O	0.1309	0.3450	0.0091	O	0.1313	0.3440	0.0106
O	0.8728	0.6526	0.9975	O	0.8693	0.6533	0.9959
<b>Mo</b>	<b>0.5026</b>	<b>0.7585</b>	<b>0.7538</b>	<b>Mo</b>	<b>0.0183</b>	<b>0.7672</b>	<b>0.7532</b>

(d)

(e)

## Energetics and Electrochemical Performance

Based on previous studies and literature on computational battery theory<sup>1,2</sup>, we calculated the formation energies and constructed the convex hulls for all systems relative to the  $\epsilon$ - $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$  end members ( $x = 0 - 2$ ). Equation 1 is used to derive the formation energy  $\Delta E(x)$  at each phase:

$$\Delta E(x) = E(\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4) - \frac{2-x}{2} * E(\text{VOPO}_4) - \frac{x}{2} * E(\text{Li}_2\text{VOPO}_4)$$

(1)

where E is defined as the total DFT energy of the system. We also calculated the formation energies in this manner for the dopant systems as well.

Furthermore, the DFT energetics can be used to obtain a theoretical voltage profile with increasing lithiation<sup>2,3</sup>. Equation 2 is used to derive the voltage step using two  $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$  reference points:

$$V = - \frac{E(\text{Li}_{x_2}\text{VOPO}_4) - E(\text{Li}_{x_1}\text{VOPO}_4) - (x_2 - x_1) * E(\text{Li})}{(x_2 - x_1)e}$$

(2)

where E is again defined as the total DFT energy of the system and “e” is termed as the exact coulombic charge of an electron. Equation 2 thus provides an average change in voltaic behavior across the lithiation cycle.

The root-mean-squared deviation (RMSD) values for both delithiation and relithiation were calculated using the initial structures with either the Li removed or added (reference system) and the reoptimized structures. Equation 3 is used to calculate the RMSD:<sup>7</sup>

$$RMSD = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=0}^N ((v_{ix} - w_{ix})^2 + (v_{iy} - w_{iy})^2 + (v_{iz} - w_{iz})^2)}$$

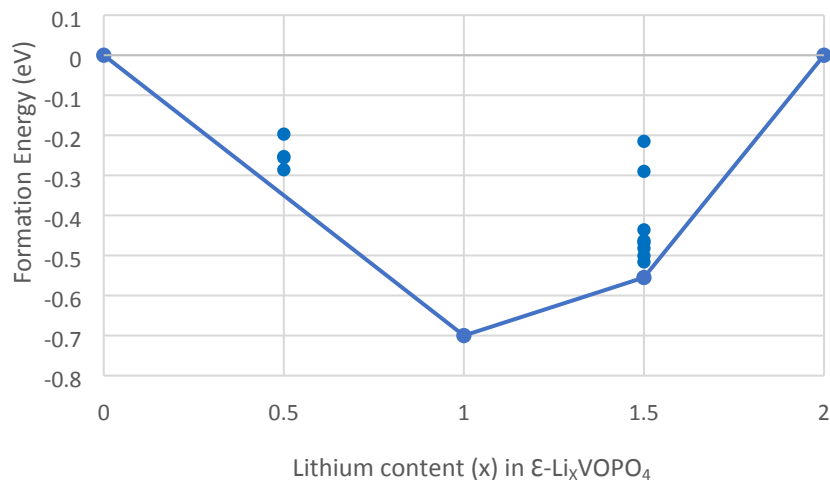
(3)

where v and w are the vector coordinates in Å for the reference and reoptimized systems respectively and N is the total number of ions in the system.



## DFT Constructed Convex Hull and Voltage Profiles for undoped $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$

The DFT calculated formation energies and voltage profiles for  $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$  are generally consistent with previous experimental and theoretical works<sup>1</sup>. Figure S1 displays the constructed convex hull highlighting the formation energies of undoped  $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$  for stable phases of  $\text{VOPO}_4$  to  $\text{Li}_2\text{VOPO}_4$ .



**Figure S1.** DFT (PBE+U) constructed convex hull showing the formation energies for the most stable configurations of  $\epsilon\text{-Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$

We observe that going from the fully delithiated phase to the first lithium insertion, there are no stable intermediate configurations of  $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$  since the  $\text{Li}_{0.5}\text{VOPO}_4$  phase displays a calculated formation energy above the convex hull. This is in agreement with previous experiments and QM studies<sup>1,5</sup>. We also note that the most stable phase of  $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$  is for the first lithium insertion (where  $x = 1$ ). We further observe a stable intermediate phase at  $\text{Li}_{1.5}\text{VOPO}_4$  between the first and second lithium insertion, which is also in agreement with previous experiments and QM studies<sup>1</sup>.

The DFT calculated voltage profile for  $\text{Li}_x\text{VOPO}_4$  shown in Table S5 is also in great agreement with previous experimental studies and QM calculations<sup>1,6</sup>. Table S5 compares our DFT (PBE+U) calculated voltage profiles with previous experimental values and hybrid DFT (HSE) calculations taken as an average over the entire lithiation cycle.

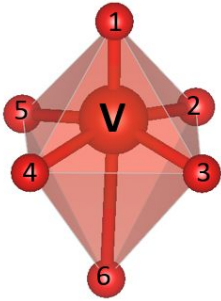
**Table S5.** Comparison of our calculated voltage profile (PBE+U) for  $\epsilon$ -Li<sub>x</sub>VOPO<sub>4</sub> as a function of the lithiation cycle

Charging Potential of $\epsilon$ -Li <sub>x</sub> VOPO <sub>4</sub> as a function of (x)	DFT (PBE+U) Calculated (0K) (this work)	Experimental (298 K) [ref 1.]	DFT (HSE) Calculated (0K) [ref 1.]
0 - 0.5	3.73 V	3.8 - 4.5 V	4.01 V
0.5 - 1	3.73 V	3.8 - 4.5 V	4.01 V
1 - 1.5	2.74 V	2.37- 2.5 V	2.67 V
1.5 - 2	1.92 V	2.04 – 2.14 V	2.00 V
2 – 2.5	0.97 V	N/A	N/A

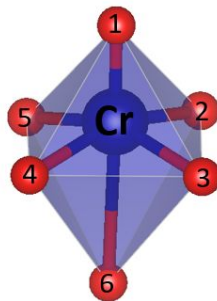
Here, we predict that the voltage step beyond the second lithium insertion (from 2 to 2.5) is around 1 V, suggesting that a higher lithium capacity is technically possible. This might not be realistic however because the electrolyte in such a battery would require a somewhat large electrochemical window that is lower than 1V and higher than 4V.

### Local ZO<sub>6</sub> Octahedral Evaluation

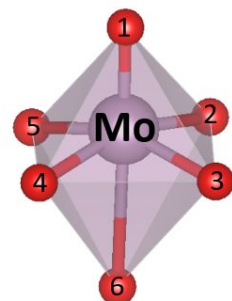
Figures S2(a) – 2(c) highlight the local ZO<sub>6</sub> environments (where Z = V, Cr, or Mo) of the systems at the fully delithiated state and each Li insertion.



[1]



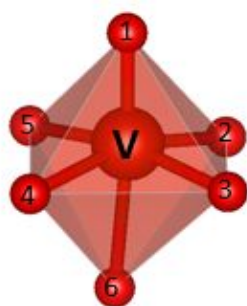
[2]



[3]

SYSTEM	Z-O <sub>1</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>2</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>3</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>4</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>5</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>6</sub> (Å)
VO <sub>6</sub> (V <sup>5+</sup> ) [1]	1.600	1.881	1.904	1.917	1.922	2.598
CrO <sub>6</sub> (Cr <sup>5+</sup> ) [2]	1.566	1.892	1.901	1.915	1.915	2.616
MoO <sub>6</sub> (Mo <sup>5+</sup> ) [3]	1.667	2.002	2.006	2.006	2.009	2.577

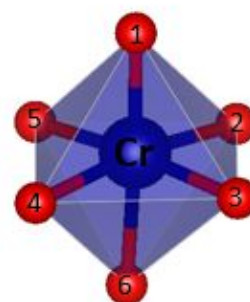
(a)



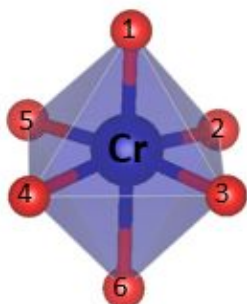
[1]



[2]



[3]



[4]



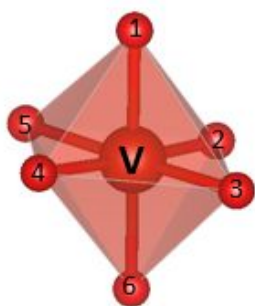
[5]



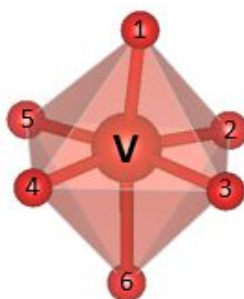
[6]

SYSTEM	Z-O <sub>1</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>2</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>3</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>4</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>5</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>6</sub> (Å)
V <sub>1</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (V <sup>4+</sup> ) [1]	1.688	1.954	2.022	2.045	2.028	2.185
V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (V <sup>4+</sup> ) [2]	1.686	1.990	2.008	2.063	1.992	2.179
Cr <sub>1</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (Cr <sup>4+</sup> ) [3]	1.793	1.967	1.980	2.031	1.986	1.997
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (Cr <sup>4+</sup> ) [4]	1.779	1.993	1.989	2.060	1.980	2.032
Mo <sub>1</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (Mo <sup>4+</sup> ) [5]	1.955	2.053	2.063	2.125	2.080	1.974
Mo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (Mo <sup>4+</sup> ) [6]	1.950	2.093	2.060	2.155	2.043	2.000

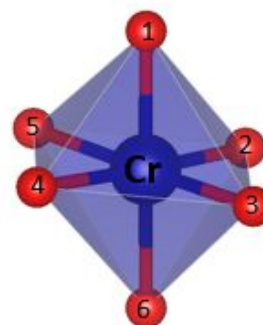
(b)



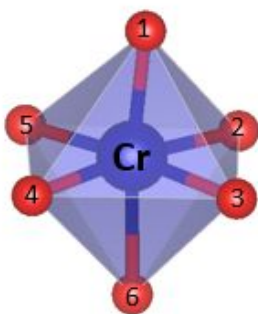
[1]



[2]



[3]



[4]



[5]



[6]

SYSTEM	Z-O <sub>1</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>2</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>3</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>4</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>5</sub> (Å)	Z-O <sub>6</sub> (Å)
V <sub>1</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (V <sup>3+</sup> ) [1]	2.093	1.937	2.078	1.998	2.146	2.156
V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (V <sup>3+</sup> ) [2]	2.034	1.998	2.135	1.945	2.088	2.229
Cr <sub>1</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (Cr <sup>3+</sup> ) [3]	2.067	1.963	2.036	2.012	2.101	2.128
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (Cr <sup>3+</sup> ) [4]	2.043	2.008	2.074	1.970	2.052	2.168
Mo <sub>1</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (Mo <sup>3+</sup> ) [5]	2.167	2.074	2.136	2.136	2.178	2.207
Mo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (Mo <sup>3+</sup> ) [6]	2.135	2.117	2.163	2.083	2.151	2.212

(c)

**Figure S2.** (a) Local  $ZO_6$  octahedral environments of  $VOPO_4$  [1],  $Cr-VOPO_4$  [2], and  $Mo-VOPO_4$  [3]. This shows a clear  $Z=O$  oxo bond for all three cases. As a result, the  $O_6$  atom is very far from the transition metal atoms; (b) Local  $ZO_6$  octahedral environments of  $LiV_1OPO_4$  [1],  $LiV_2OPO_4$  [2],  $Cr_1-LiVOPO_4$  [3],  $Cr_2-LiVOPO_4$  [4],  $Mo_1-LiVOPO_4$  [5], and  $Mo_2-LiVOPO_4$  [6]. Again, we see the strong  $Z=O$  bonds to the  $O_1$  atom, but now the  $O_6$  atom is much closer for all cases; (c) Local  $ZO_6$  octahedral environments of  $Li_2V_1OPO_4$  [1],  $Li_2V_2OPO_4$  [2],  $Cr_1-Li_2VOPO_4$  [3],  $Cr_2-Li_2VOPO_4$  [4],  $Mo_1-Li_2VOPO_4$  [5], and  $Mo_2-Li_2VOPO_4$  [6]. We no longer see the  $Z=O$  bonds but instead, a more perfect octahedral coordination for the  $t_{2g}$  occupied orbitals.

The unit cell data of  $\epsilon-Li_xVOPO_4$  is fairly consistent with the previously reported experimental and QM (HSE) derived cell parameters of  $Li_xVOPO_4$  <sup>1,4</sup>.

The  $VO_6$  environments at the 5+ oxidation state show one short  $V=O$  bond at 1.6 Å with four longer V-O bonds between 1.9 to 2.0 Å and one significantly longer bond at 2.6 Å. This is typical for a  $d^0$  configuration in V.

For the 4+ oxidation state, we again find one short  $V=O$  bond at around 1.7 Å with four longer V-O bonds at 1.9 to 2.0 Å but now the  $O_6$  atom is much closer with a distance at around 2.2 Å.

For the high spin 3+ oxidation state we find a rather symmetrical octahedral coordination of the V-O bonds with all six bonds ranging from 1.9 to 2.1 Å each.

The Cr-O bonds in  $CrO_6$  for all oxidation states are generally similar in length to the V-O bonds showing that Cr is only slightly smaller than V.

The Mo-O bonds in  $MoO_6$  are consistently longer than the V-O bonds by ~0.1 Å. The environments at the 5+ oxidation state highlight one short  $Mo=O$  bond at around 1.7 Å with four longer Mo-O bonds between 2.0 to 2.1 Å and the non-bonded  $O_6$  atom that is 2.6 Å away.

For the Mo 4+ oxidation state, we find that the Mo-O bonds have a fairly symmetrical coordination with all six Mo-O bonds ranging from around 1.9 to 2.1 Å. This behavior is not found in either the V-O or Cr-O bonds at the 4+ oxidation state.

For the Mo 3+ oxidation state, we again see a symmetrical coordination of the O atoms with bonds ranging between 2.1 to 2.2 Å.

## Electron Localization Function (ELF)

We assessed the electron localization using a topological display of the ELF<sup>4,5</sup> in which we sliced a 2-D plane through the transition metal atom and four of its oxygen neighbors at the dopant sites. Table S6 shows the exact Miller indices and vector distances from the origin “ $\vec{d}$ ” to form the 2-D plane for each system. Because structural relaxation was slightly different for each system, the same Miller indices were not used to construct each 2-D plane but rather, the plane was fitted to the transition metal atoms and oxygen neighbors of interest specific to each system.

**Table S6.** Miller indices in the (hkl) plane format and vector distances from the origin for each constructed 2-D ELF plane

Lithium Content (x)	System	h	k	l	$\vec{d}$ (Å)
0	V	-1.183	5.360	-1	0.455
	Cr	1.237	-5.504	1	-0.455
	Mo	1.199	-5.618	1	-0.513
1	V <sub>1</sub>	68.266	-1	-14.215	4.258
	V <sub>2</sub>	-5.249	1	-2.081	-4.083
	Cr <sub>1</sub>	141.112	-1	-24.690	4.318
	Cr <sub>2</sub>	5.656	-1	2.306	4.157
	Mo <sub>1</sub>	48.558	-1	-9.290	4.316
	Mo <sub>2</sub>	5.675	-1	2.337	4.182
2	V <sub>1</sub>	1	14.459	-1.078	4.602
	V <sub>2</sub>	1	-5.289	-1.366	-6.488
	Cr <sub>1</sub>	1.049	14.075	-1	4.619
	Cr <sub>2</sub>	-1	5.157	1.328	6.476
	Mo <sub>1</sub>	1.095	13.173	-1	4.643
	Mo <sub>2</sub>	-1	4.744	1.229	6.551

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