# NMR and EPR characterization of $V_2O_5$ as a cathode material for high-capacity Li-ion batteries

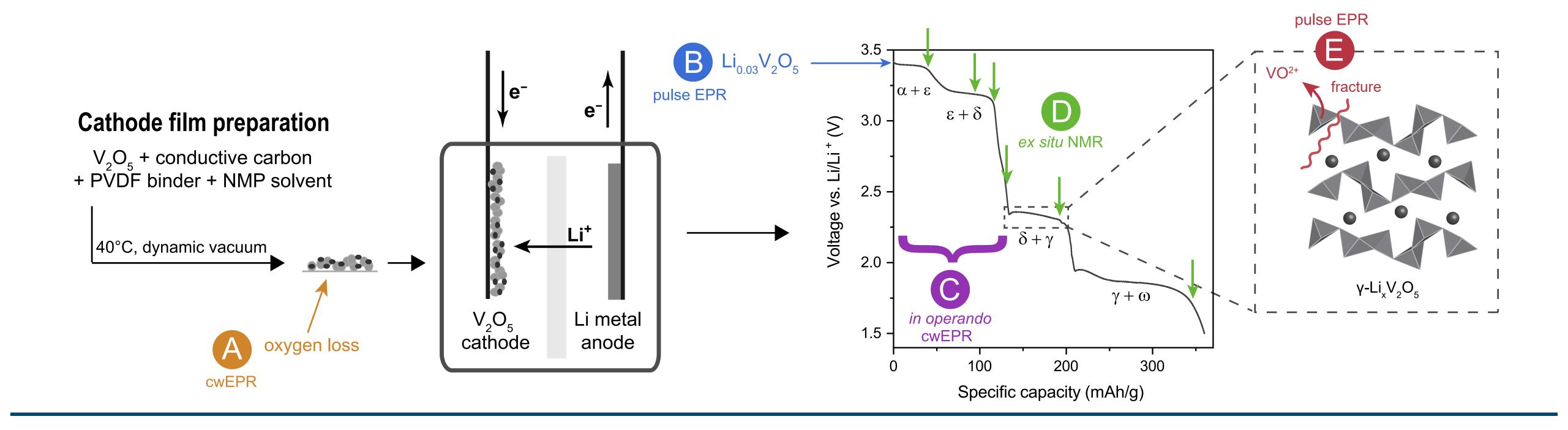


Conrad Szczuka<sup>a,b</sup>, Peter Jakes<sup>a</sup>, Rüdiger-A. Eichel<sup>a,b</sup> and Josef Granwehr<sup>a,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Institute of Energy and Climate Research (IEK-9), Forschungszentrum Jülich, Jülich, Germany <sup>b</sup>Institute of Physical Chemistry, RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany

<sup>c</sup>Institute of Technical and Macromolecular Chemistry, RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany



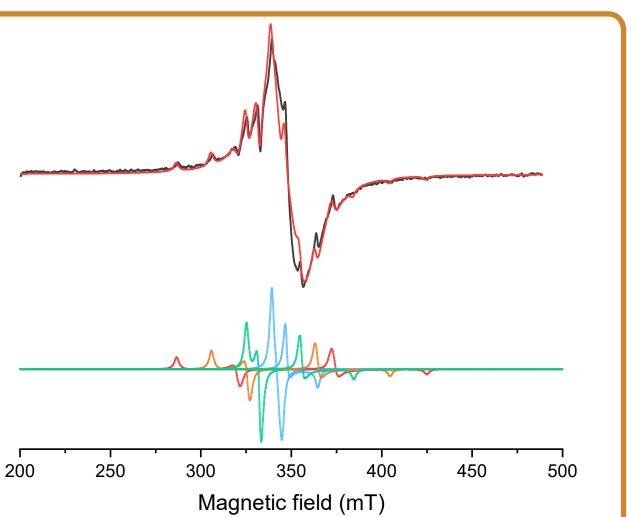


# — Defects through oxygen loss

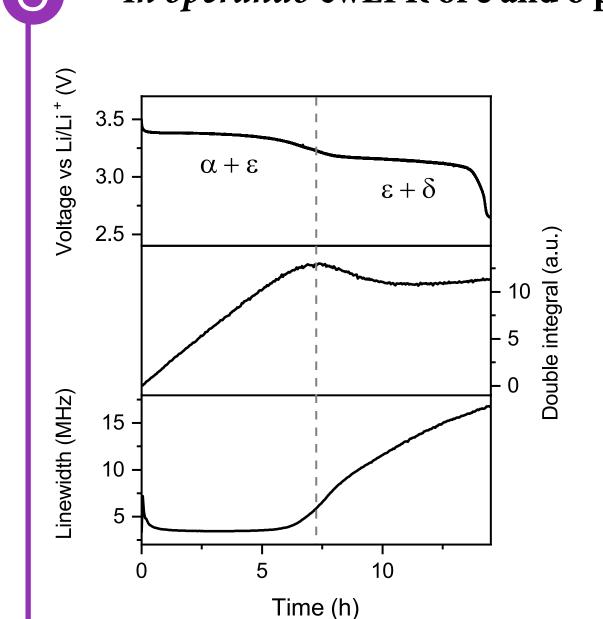
• the drying process causes stoichiometric V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> to degas oxygen

$$O_0^{x} + 2 V_V^{x} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} O_2 + \square_0^{"} + 2 V_V'$$

- excess electrons are found close to the oxygen vacancy [1]
- [cluster]/[isolated] = 8/1



## *In operando* cwEPR of ε and δ phase



With increasing Li concentration:

- (1) Amplitude  $\sim \chi$ ,  $M_{x,y}$
- (2) e<sup>-</sup>-e<sup>-</sup> dipolar broadening
- (3) Heisenberg exchange

#### 1<sup>st</sup> voltage plateau

electron spins are well separated:

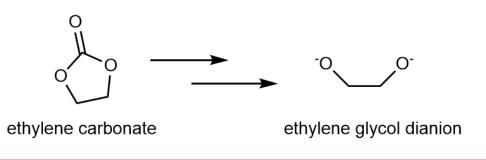
- -> linear amplitude increase
- -> constant linewidth

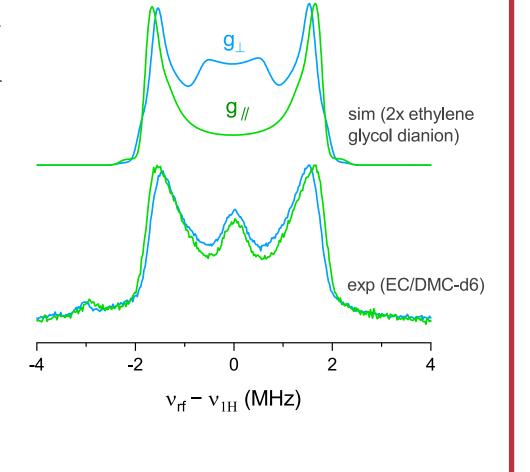
### 2<sup>nd</sup> voltage plateau

broadening and amplitude decrease e.g. anti-ferromagnetic ordering [2]

# **E**— Liberated vanadyl species

- upon the  $\delta$  to  $\gamma$ -Li<sub>x</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> phase transition, vanadyl species are liberated from the host structure by fracturing [4]
- a few percent of the total V conc. [4]
- ENDOR and DFT: ethylene glycol dianion as ligand





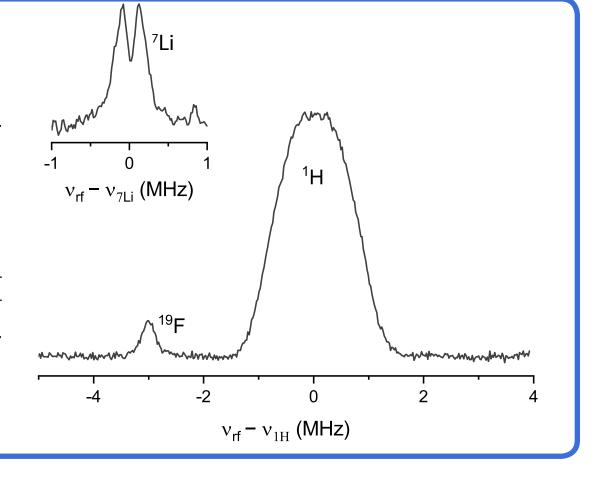
# B

### Initial discharge: Li<sub>0.03</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>

Li reduces the host material with electrons located at V atoms

#### ENDOR:

coupling to Li, but also strongly to <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>19</sup>F, suggesting the electrons location to be at the surface



#### Ex situ MAS NMR

#### <sup>7</sup>Li MAS NMR of Li<sub>x</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>

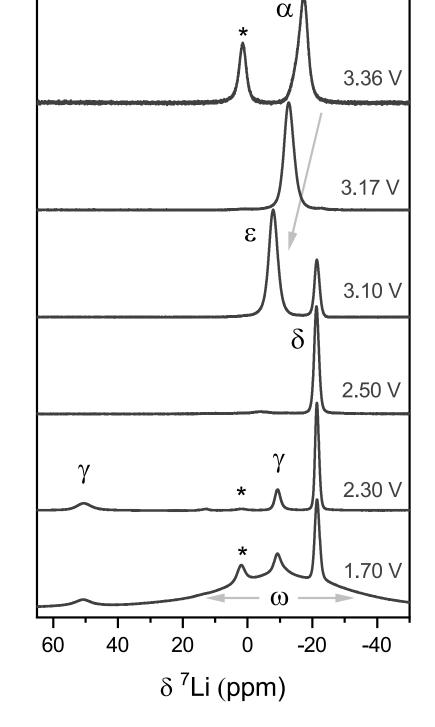
paramagnetic NMR shift (diamagnetic around 0 ppm, asterisk)

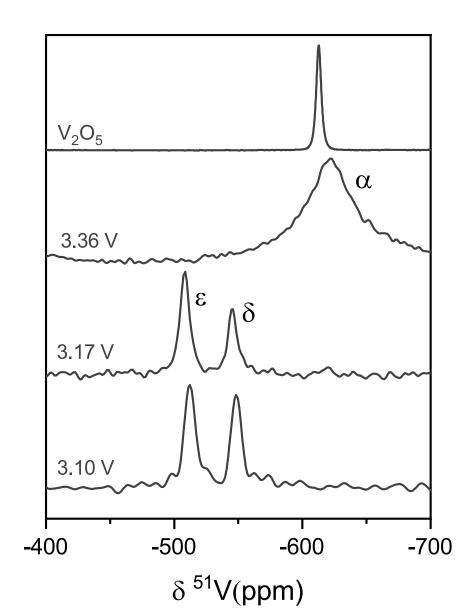
α to ε: gradual structure change, in accordance with *in situ* XRD [3]

 $\delta$ : pure phase around the voltage drop

γ: two signals (chemical exchange via EXSY) albeit one crystallographic site

 $\omega$ : broad signal indicating severe disorder/amourphous structure





#### <sup>51</sup>V MAS NMR of Li<sub>v</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>

no drastical change in spinning sideband pattern

-> no severe structural distortion

large paramagnetic relaxation (PRE)

-> no signal obtained below 3.0 V

 $\alpha$ : resembles pristine  $V_2O_5$  but disorder

 $\epsilon$  and  $\delta$ : paramagntic chemical shift change of around 100 ppm

#### References

- [1] D. O. Scanlon, A. Walsh, B. J. Morgan, G. W. Watson, J. Phys. Chem. C 2008, 112, 9903–9911.
- [2] P. Pietrzyk, Z. Sojka, Appl. Magn. Reson. 2011, 40, 471–479.

- [3] C. K. Christensen, D. R. Sørensen, J. Hvam, D. B. Ravnsbæk, Chem. Mater. 2019, 31, 512–520.
- [4] D. Gourier, A. Tranchant, N. Baffier, R. Messina, Electrochim. Acta 1992, 37, 2755–2764.