

## Supplementary Information

### **Mn-Fe dual metal–organic framework based on trimesic acid as high-performance electrode for lithium metal batteries**

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## Section A. Material characterization

The following materials were procured for the study: manganese (II) chloride tetrahydrate, iron (III) chloride hexahydrate, benzene-1,3,5-tricarboxylic acid (BTC), lithium hexafluorophosphate in solution of ethylene carbonate (EC)-diethyl carbonate (DEC)-ethyl methyl carbonate (EMC) (1:1:1; vol), separators in the form of Whatman® glass microfiber filters, binder poly(vinylidene fluoride) (PVDF), and 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone (NMP) were all sourced from Merck. Conductive Carbon Black Super P (H30253) was obtained from Alfa Aesar.

The powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns were obtained using a Bruker AXS D8 Advance X-ray diffractometer with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.5405 \text{ \AA}$ ) over a  $2\theta$  range from  $6^\circ$  to  $60^\circ$ . The specific surface area and total pore volume were measured using a ASAP 2050 (Micromeritics) surface area and porosity analyzer. The sample was degassed at  $100^\circ\text{C}$  for 12 hours under vacuum before analysis. A PerkinElmer TGA 8000 thermogravimetric analyzer was used to perform thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) over the temperature range from  $25$  to  $800^\circ\text{C}$  under a  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere at a heating rate of  $10^\circ\text{C min}^{-1}$ . Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) spectra were recorded on a PerkinElmer Spectrum Two IR spectrometer using an attenuated total reflectance (ATR) mode within the range of  $500$ - $3500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Raman spectra were obtained using a Renishaw InVia Reflex system. The spectrograph used a high-resolution grating ( $1200 \text{ grooves cm}^{-1}$ ) with additional bandpass filter optics, a confocal microscope, and a 2D-CCD camera. The excitation was carried out using a  $785 \text{ nm}$  laser excitation beam, with a  $100\times$  objective,  $0.02 \text{ mW}$  maximum power and  $10 \text{ s}$  acquisition time. The chemical valence states were determined using a Thermo Scientific KAlpha X-ray photoelectron spectrometer (XPS) with a mono-chromatized Al K $\alpha$  anode as the X-ray source ( $1.486 \text{ eV}$ ) at a vacuum level of  $10^{-8}$ - $10^{-9} \text{ mbar}$  in the main chamber. The spot size of the X-ray beam was fixed at  $400 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ .

## Electrochemical Measurements

The electrochemical performance of the as-prepared Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF was assessed in a two-electrode system. The galvanostatic charge/discharge (GCD) measurements were performed using a Neware battery test system and recorded in the voltage range of  $0$ - $3.0 \text{ V}$  at current densities ranging from  $0.1$  to  $2 \text{ A/g}$ . The cyclic voltammetry (CV) analysis was performed using the Biologic MPG-2 instrument with scan rates of  $0.5$  and  $0.1 \text{ mV/s}$ . Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) was conducted with an amplitude of  $10 \text{ mV}$  and a frequency range of  $100 \text{ kHz}$  to  $10 \text{ MHz}$ . All the electrochemical analyses were performed at room temperature.

## Electrode Preparation

The cathode was prepared by mixing the Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF ( $75 \text{ \% wt}$ ), PVDF binder ( $15 \text{ \% wt}$ ), and conductive carbon black ( $10 \text{ \% wt}$ ) in NMP. The slurry was evenly spread over Cu foil, creating a  $200 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ -thick layer using a doctor blade. The electrodes were heated at  $120^\circ\text{C}$  in a vacuum oven overnight. Afterward,  $18 \text{ mm}$  discs were cut and used as cathodes. The assembling process was performed in a glovebox under a controlled argon (Ar) atmosphere, ensuring that the concentration of  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  remained below  $0.1 \text{ ppm}$ . The coin cell employed a Li-foil as an

anode, along with a glass microfiber paper as a separator. The electrolyte consisted of a solution of 1 M LiPF<sub>6</sub> in EC–DEC–EMC (1 : 1 : 1 vol%).

### Electrochemical calculations

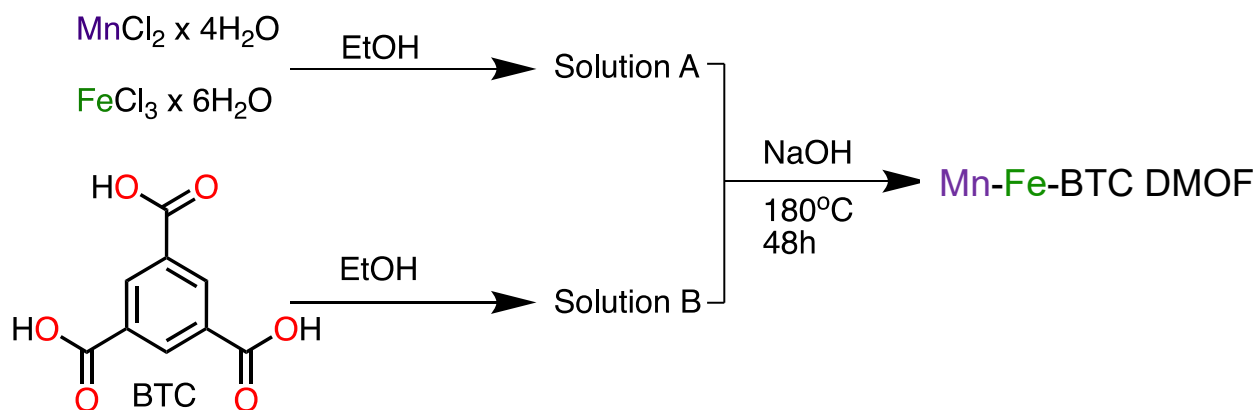
Calculation of the specific capacities. The specific capacity was calculated using GCD with the following equation:

$$C = \frac{I \times \Delta t}{3.6 \times m} \quad (1)$$

where I (A) is the applied current,  $\Delta t$  (s) is the discharge time, and m (g) is the mass of active material on the cathode.

### Synthesis of Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF

A hydrothermal method was used to synthesize manganese/iron - benzene-1,3,5-tricarboxylic acid (Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF) for Li metal batteries. On the one hand, a solution (Solution A) was prepared by dissolving 1.5 g of manganese chloride tetrahydrate (MnCl<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O) and 0.5 g of iron chloride hexahydrate (FeCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O) into 60 mL of EtOH. On the other hand, a second solution (Solution B) was prepared 1 g of BTC in 20 mL of EtOH. The solution A was gradually added to the solution B under magnetic stirring. After the addition of solution A was completed, 0.2 g of NaOH was added. After that, the solution was carefully transferred into a stainless-steel autoclave and placed in an oven at a temperature of 180 °C for 48 hours. The sample was collected by centrifugation after the autoclave naturally cooled down. It was then washed multiple times with deionized water and ethanol, and finally dried at 80 °C for 24 hours in an oven. A pinkish powder was obtained with yield occurs 87 % with reference to BTC.



**Fig. S1** Synthetic protocol of Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF.

## Section B. Physical characterization

### Raman

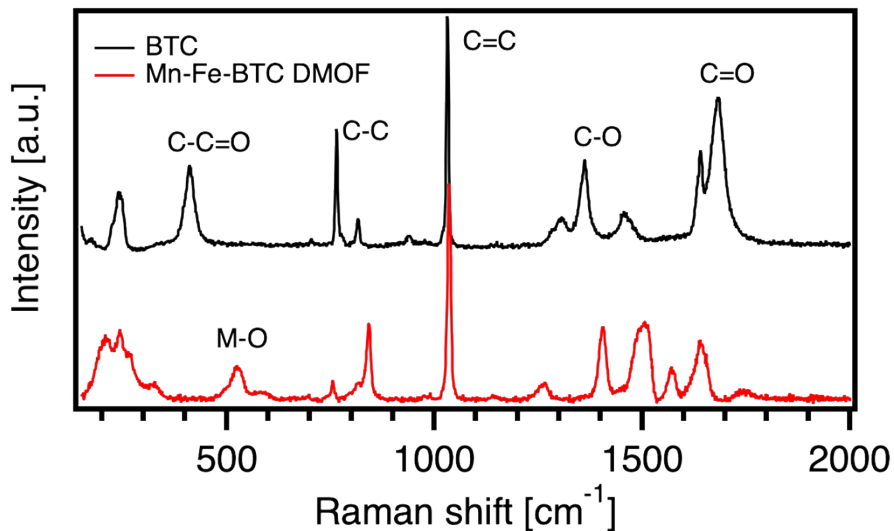


Fig. S2 Raman spectra of BTC (black line) and Mn-Fe-BTC (red line).

### FTIR

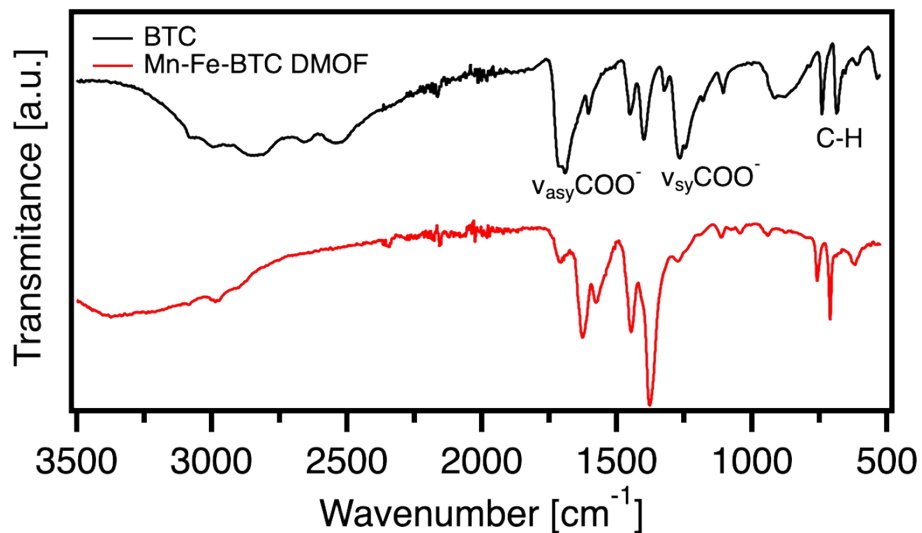


Fig. S3 FTIR spectra of BTC (black line) and Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF (red line).

## XPS

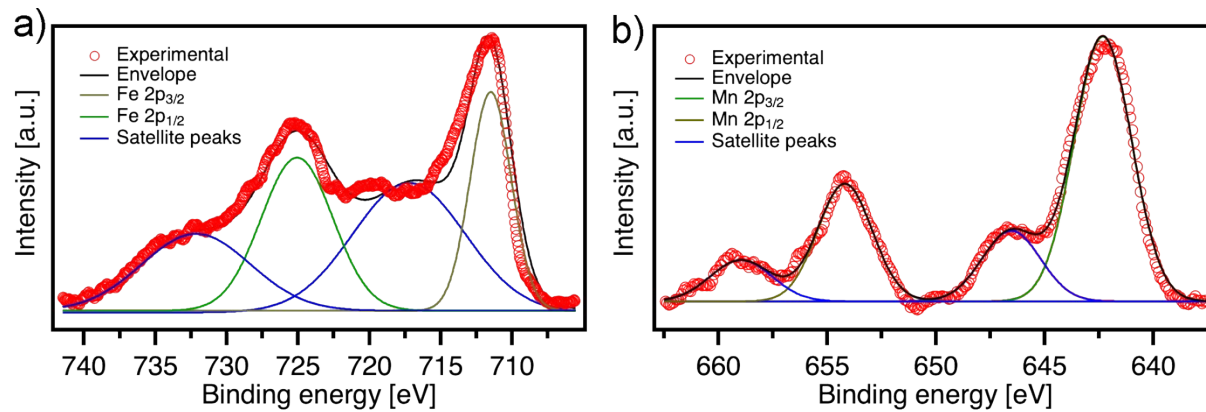


Fig. S4 XPS a) Fe2p and b) Mn2p spectra of Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF.

## TGA

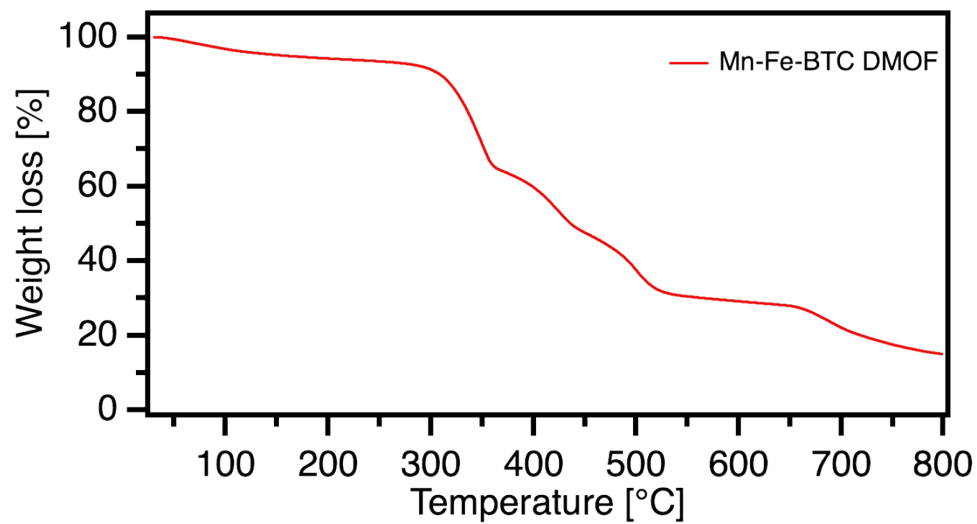
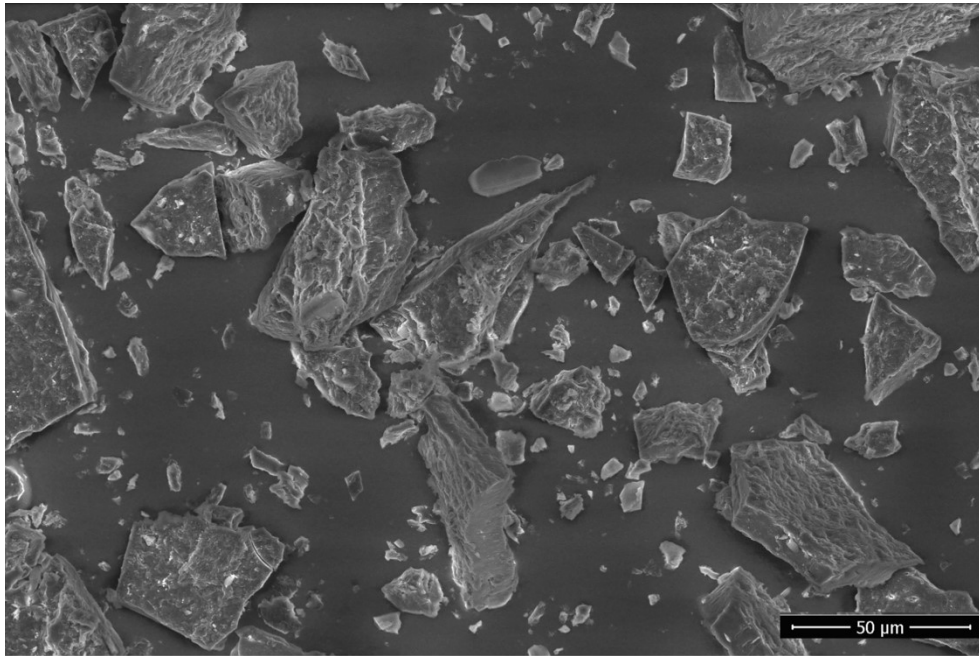


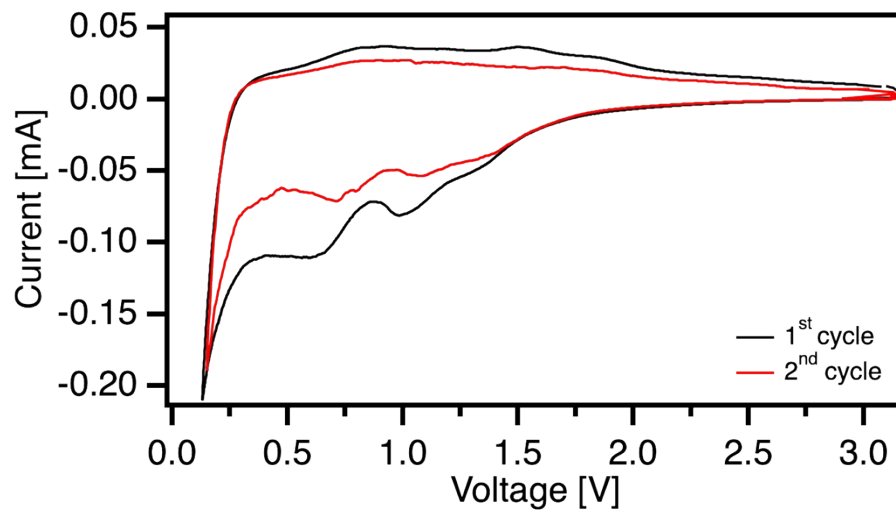
Fig. S5 TGA analysis of Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF.

## SEM



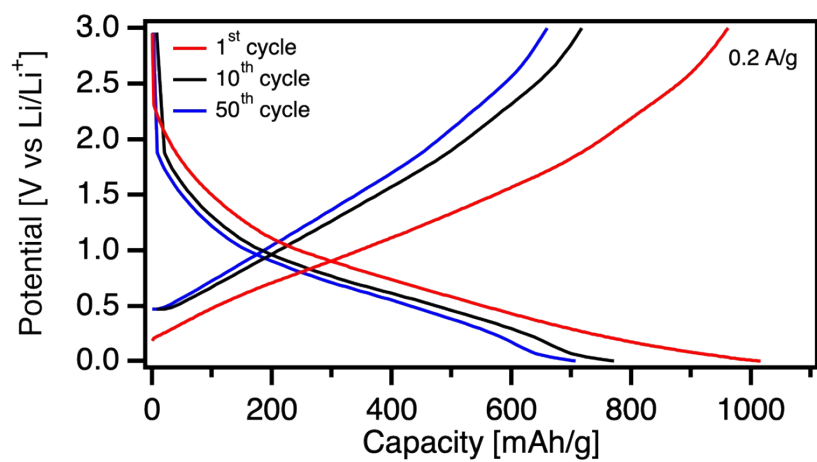
**Fig. S6** Low-magnification SEM image of Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF.

## CV



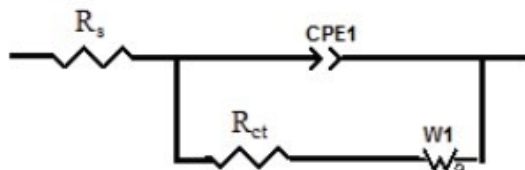
**Fig. S7** CV curves for Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF at 0.1 mV/s.

GCD



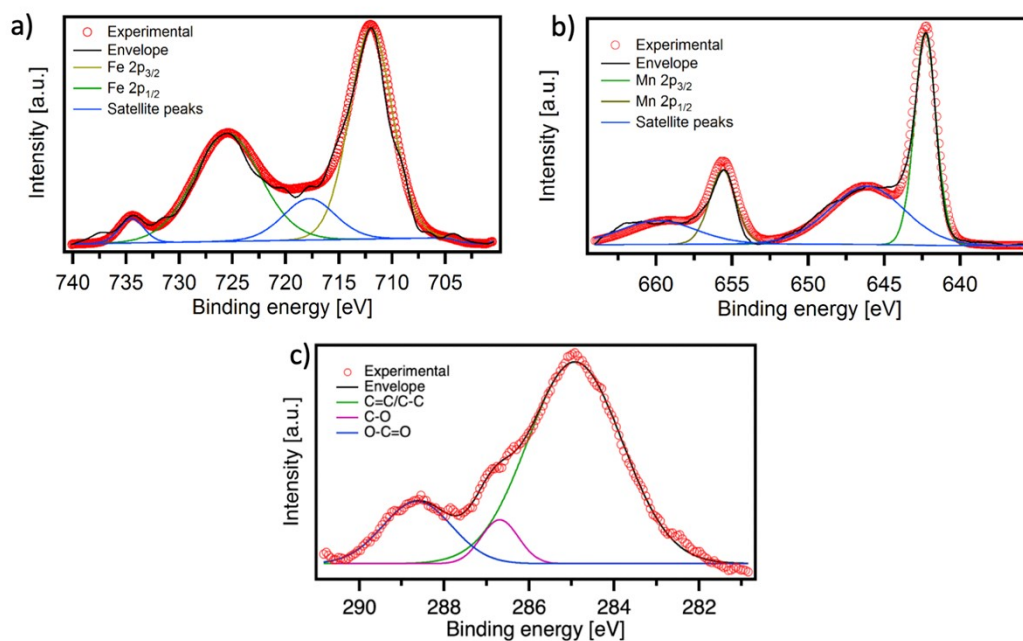
**Fig. S8** Galvanostatic charge-discharge voltage profiles of Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF after 1, 10 and 50 cycles.

## EIS



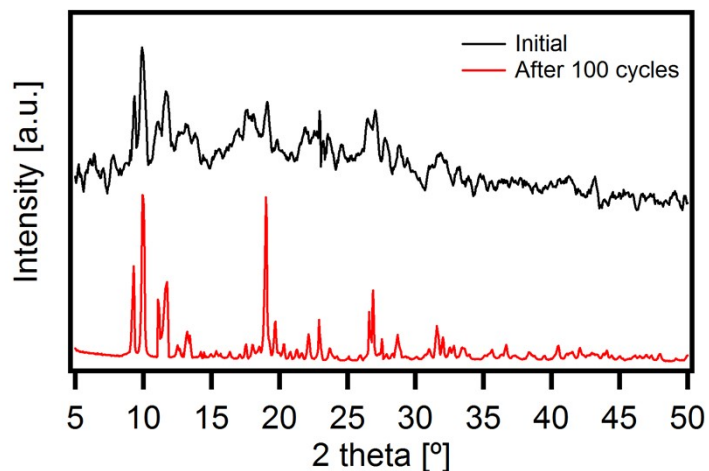
**Fig. S9.** The equivalent electric circuit model used for fitting the Nyquist plots.

## Post mortem analysis

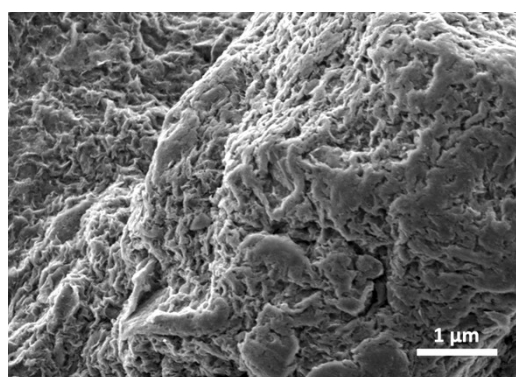


**Fig. S10** XPS a) Fe2p, b) Mn2p, and c) C1s spectra of Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF electrode 100 charge/discharge cycles.

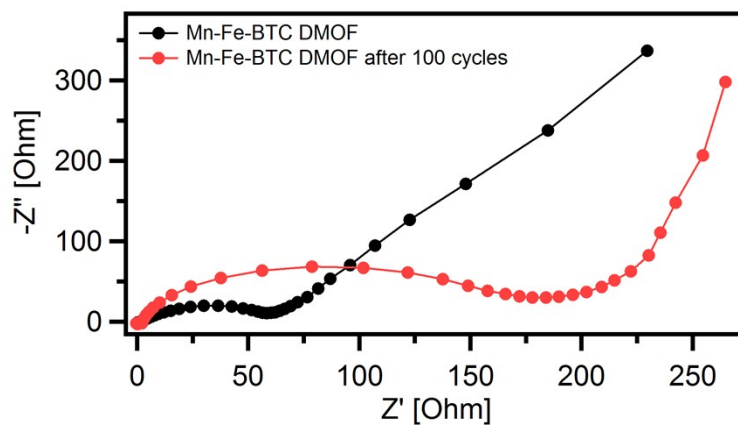




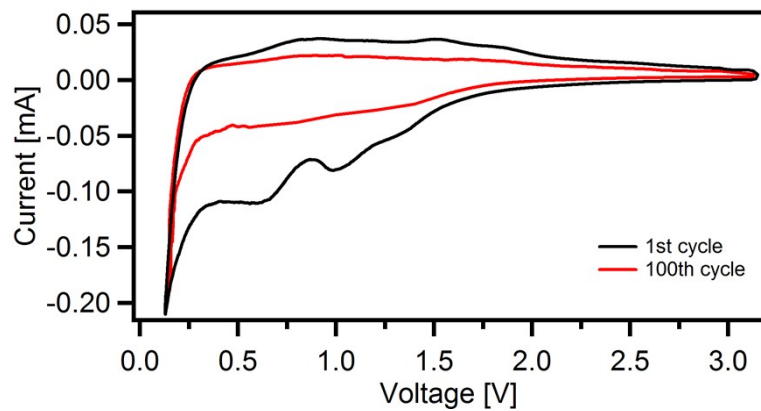
**Fig. S11** PXR D spectra pristine Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF electrode (black) and after 100 charge/discharge cycles (red).



**Fig. S12** SEM image of Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF electrode after 100 charge/discharge cycles.



**Fig. S13** EIS spectra of Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF after 1 cycle (black) and after 100 cycles (red).



**Fig. S14** CV curves for Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF at 0.1 mV/s after 1 cycle (black) and after 100 cycles (red).

## State of the art

**Tab. S1** Electrochemical performance of various Mn and Fe-based MOFs electrodes previously reported for LMBs.

Electrode	Surface area m <sup>2</sup> /g	Electrolyte	Current density A/g	Specific capacity mAh/g	Cycle no.	Capacity retention mAh/g	Ref.
Mn-BDC	6.135	1 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> EC-DEC-EMC (1 : 1 : 1 vol%)	0.1	-	100	974	1
C/Fe- MOF (after calcination)	-	1 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> EC-DMC (1 : 1 vol%)	0.1	1124	50	975	2
Mn-BTC (after calcination)	24.9	1 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> EC-DEC (1 : 1 vol%)	0.1	630	60	582	3
NiFeMn-BTCA	263.23	1 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> EC-DMC-DEC (1 : 1 : 1 vol%)	0.1	802	100	624	4
Mn <sub>1.8</sub> Fe <sub>1.2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> MOF (after calcination)	124	1 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> EC-DEC (1 : 1 vol%)	0.2	2300	60	827	5
MnCo-T	9.15	1.0 M LiTFSI EC-DEC (1 : 1 vol%)	1	-	600	337	6
MnO/ZnO@C MOF (after calcination)	117.9	1 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> EC-DEC (1 : 1 vol%)	2	1396	1000	636	7
Ni/Mn-BTC (after calcination)	12.8	1 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> EC-DMC (1 : 2 vol%)	1.257	1049	400	258	8
Fe-BDC	-	1 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> EC-DMC (1 : 1 vol%)	0.03	280	40	175	9
Mn-BDC (after calcination)	4.12	1 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> EC-DEC-EMC (1 : 1 : 1 vol%)	0.1	961	100	653	10
H <sub>8</sub> L-Fe-MOF	204	gel polymer electrolyte (GPE) membrane	0.05		50	275	11
<b>Mn-Fe-BTC DMOF</b>	<b>1045</b>	<b>1 M LiPF<sub>6</sub> EC-DEC-EMC (1 : 1 : 1 vol%).</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1385</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>This work</b>

Abbreviations: *Mn-BDC*: Manganese-1,4-benzenedicarboxylate, *Fe-MOF* – Iron metal organic frameworks, *Mn-BTC* – Manganese Benzene-1,3,5-tricarboxylate, *NiFeMn-BTCA* - nickel, iron and manganese benzene-1,2,4,5-tetracarboxylate trimetallic organic framework, *MnCo-T* – manganese cobalt trimesic acid, *Ni/Mn-BTC* – nickel, manganese benzene-1,3,5-tricarboxylate, *Fe-BDC* - Iron 1,4-benzenedicarboxylate, *H<sub>8</sub>L-Fe-MOF* – Iron ethene-1,1,2,2-tetrayltetraakis(benzene-4,1-diyl)tetraphosphonic acid.

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