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First-principles studies of native defects in olivine phosphates

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MICHELLE JOHANNES, Naval Research Laboratory — Olivine phosphates
 LiMPO_4 ($M=\text{Mn, Fe, Co, Ni}$) are promising candidates for rechargeable Li-ion
battery electrodes because of their energy storage capacity and electrochemical and
thermal stability. It is known that native defects have strong effects on the per-
formance of olivine phosphates. Yet, the formation and migration of these defects
are not fully understood, and we expect that once such understanding has been es-
tablished, one can envisage a solution for improving the materials' performance. In
this talk, we present our first-principles density-functional theory studies of native
point defects and defect complexes in LiMPO_4 , and discuss the implications of these
defects on the performance of the materials. Our results also provide guidelines for
obtaining different native defects in experiments.

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