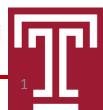
# Investigations of the birnessite interlayer for water oxidation chemistry

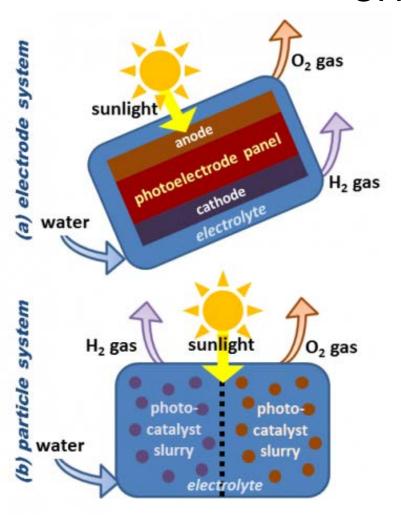
ECI Talk
Samantha Shumlas
March 31, 2017







### RESEARCH FOCUSES ON OVERCOMING CHALLENGES



Continued improvements in efficiency, durability, and cost are still needed for market viability. Ongoing research and development of PEC materials, devices, and systems is making important strides, benefiting from strong synergies with contemporary research efforts in photovoltaics, nano-technologies, and computational materials.

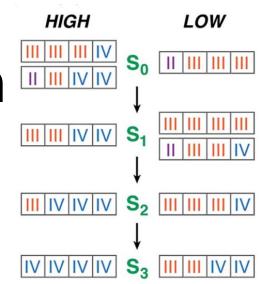


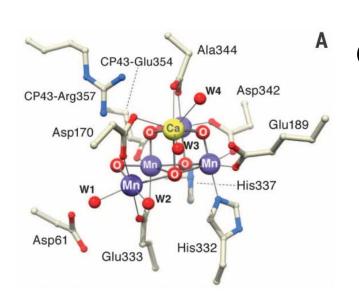
### Water Splitting Water Oxidation

$$2 H_2O \rightarrow O_2 + 4H^+ + 4e^-$$
  
 $2 H^+ + 2 e^- \rightarrow H_2$ 

$$2 H_2O \rightarrow O_2 + 2H_2$$

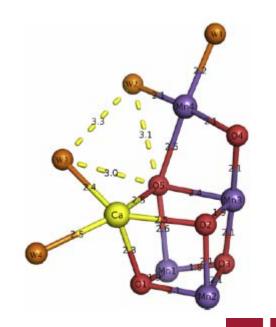
1.23 V





Oxygen Evolving
Complex
Photosystem II
Photosynthesis

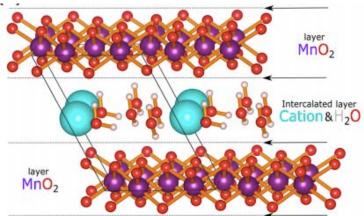
Mn(IV) and Mn(III)





#### Birnessite

- Formed by precipitation in lakes, oceans and groundwater
  - Manganese nodules
- Structure
- $K_{0.20-0.018}Mn(IV_{0.59}III_{0.26}II_{0.13}) O_{1.66} nH<sub>2</sub>O$
- Na<sub>0.58</sub>Mn(IV<sub>1.42</sub>III<sub>0.58</sub>) O<sub>2</sub> nH<sub>2</sub>O
- Ca, any other cation





#### BULK Mn<sup>2+</sup> OH- $O_2$ $Mn^{4+}$ Mn<sup>3+</sup> 500 nm $0.5 \mu m$ **Birnessite** Hexagonal **Triclinic** $(\delta - MnO_2)$



 $Mn^{7+}$ 

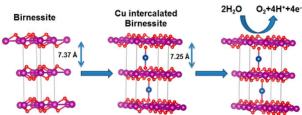
 $Mn^{4+}$   $Mn^{3+}$ 

H+

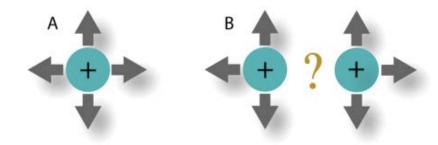
O Cation H<sub>2</sub>O Guest

### Methods of Modifying Structure

- Bilayer nanosheets
- Changing average oxidation state (synthesis)
- Intercalating metals (Co, Ni, Cu)
- Doping (Co)



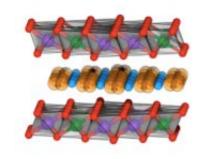
Frustrated water in the interlayer space

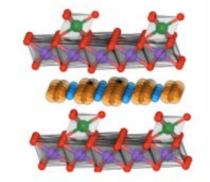




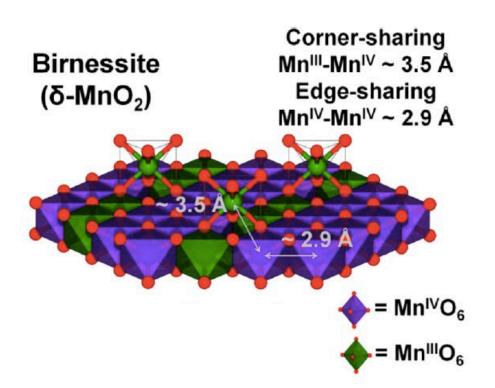


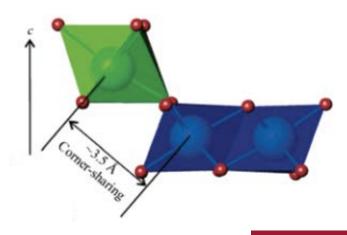
#### Active site





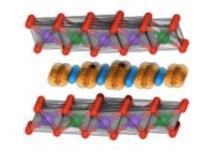
- Pinpointing
  - Corner shared manganese

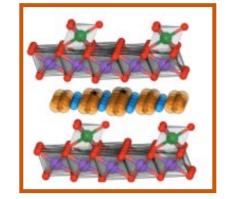




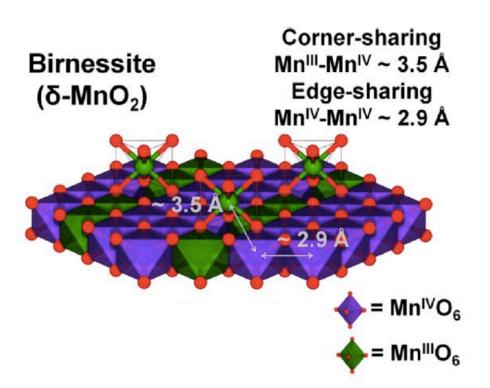


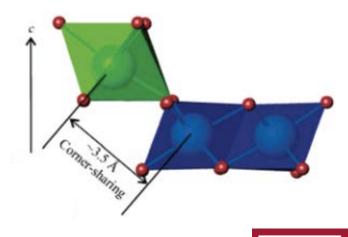
#### Active site





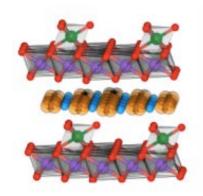
- Pinpointing
  - Corner shared manganese







#### Motivation



- Determine the site for water oxidation activity
  - Interlayer chemistry is key to water oxidation in birnessite
  - Why does birnessite behave the way it does?
- Improve and understand the water oxidation activity of birnessite
  - What happens during and after the chemistry

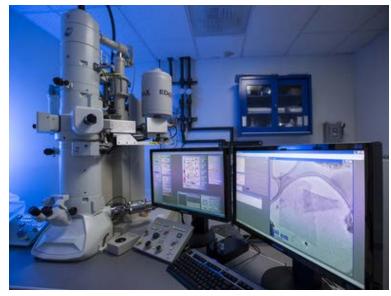


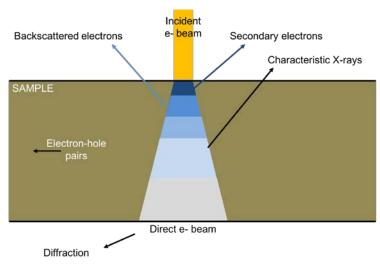
#### How do we do this?



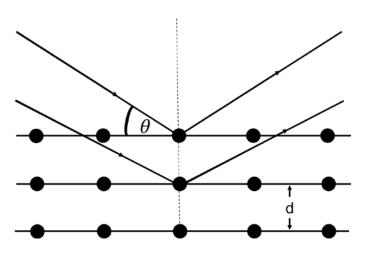


### TEM Transmission Electron Microscopy

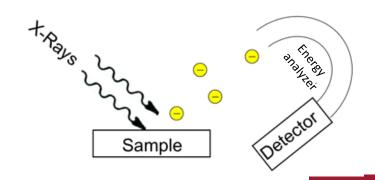




XRD X-ray diffraction

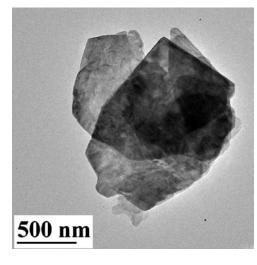


XPS X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy

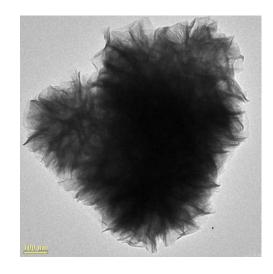




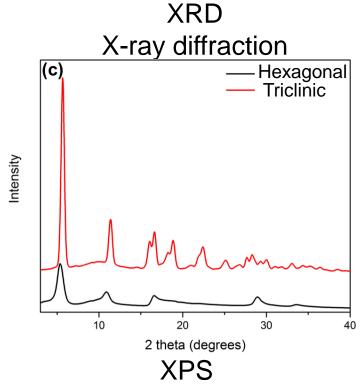
### TEM Transmission Electron Microscopy



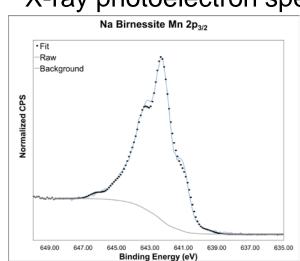
Triclinic



Hexagonal



X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy

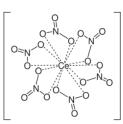


AOS 3.51

**AOS 3.56** 

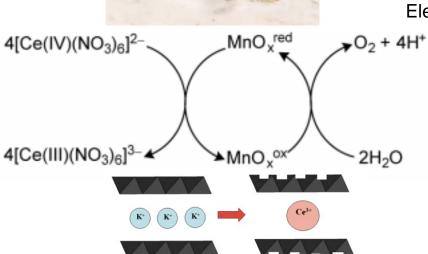


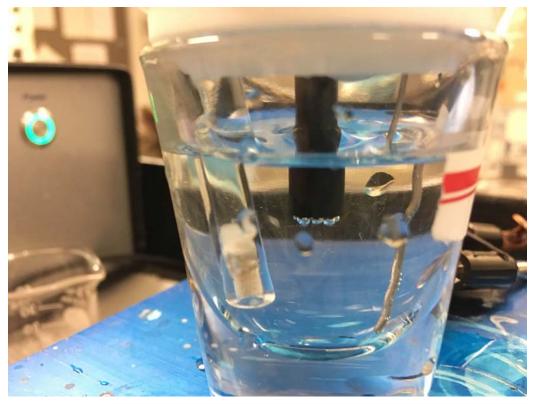
### Accessing Activity

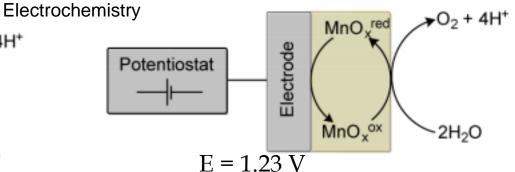


Ceric ammonium nitrate





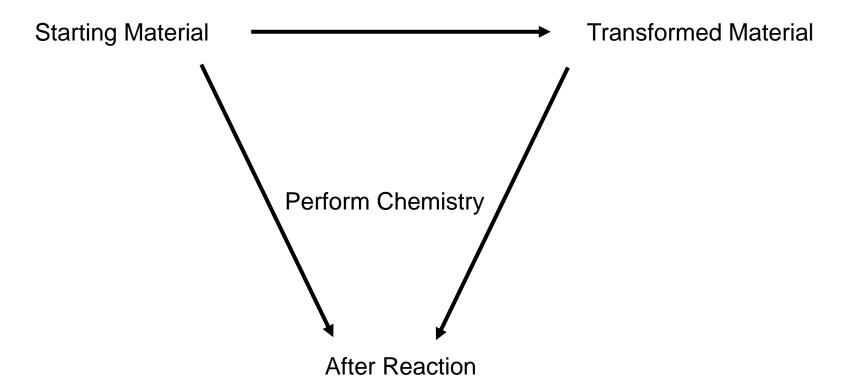




Thermodynamic minimum =1.23 V and potential at which reaction actually occurs is the

**OVERPOTENTIAL** 

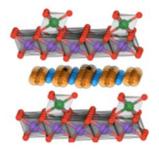
#### Characterization

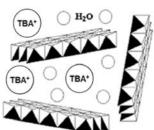


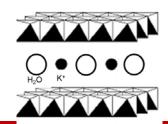
### Investigation of birnessite interlayer

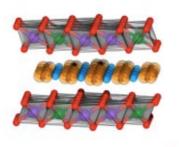
Exfoliation of bulk structure to investigate nanosheets

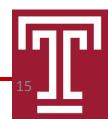
Modification of bulk structure



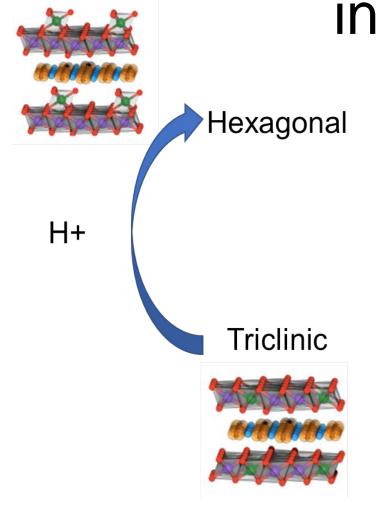


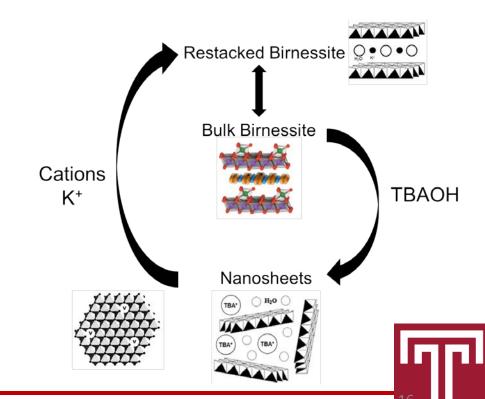




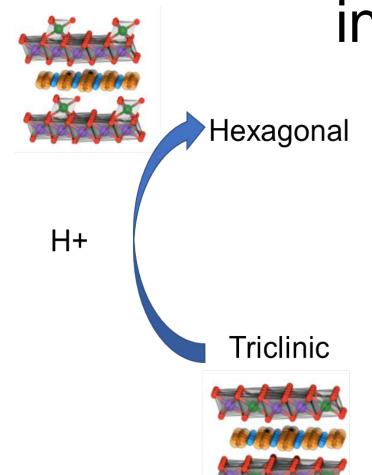


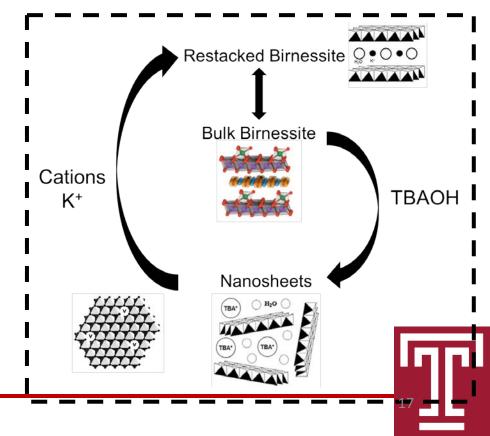
# Investigation of birnessite interlayer



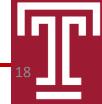


# Investigation of birnessite interlayer

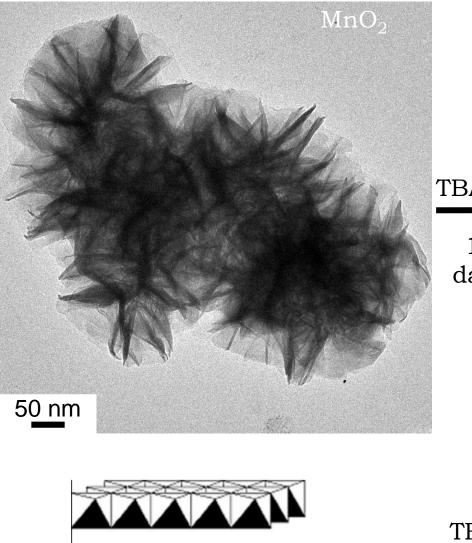




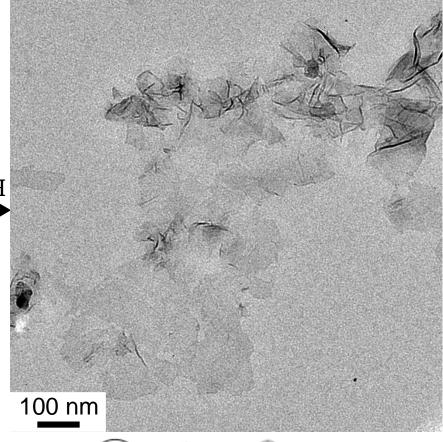
Exfoliation of bulk structure to investigate nanosheets Restacked Birnessite ♀ • ○ • ○ **Bulk Birnessite** Cations **TBAOH** K<sup>+</sup> **Nanosheets** 

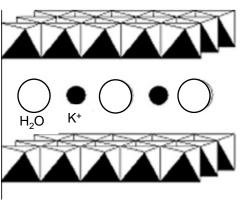


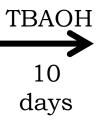
Exfoliation of bulk structure to investigate nanosheets Restacked Birnessite ♀ • ○ • ○ **Bulk Birnessite** Cations **TBAOH** K<sup>+</sup> **Nanosheets** 

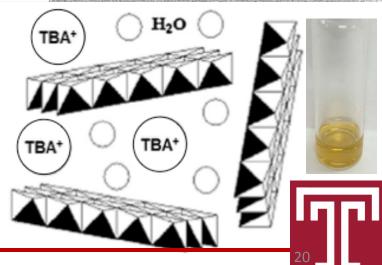


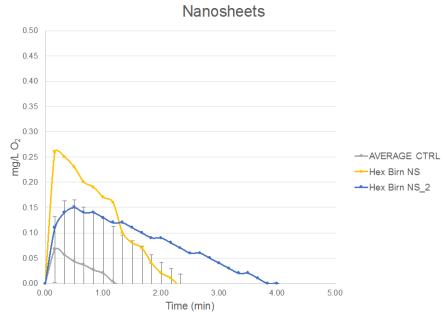


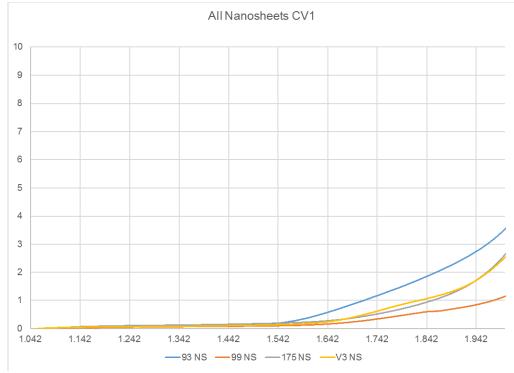


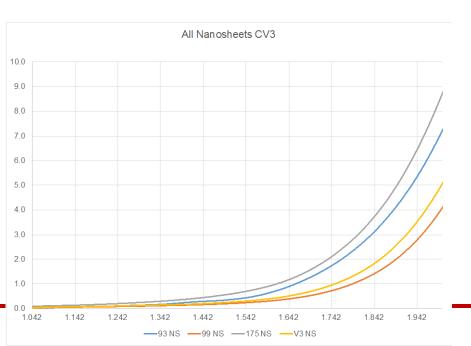






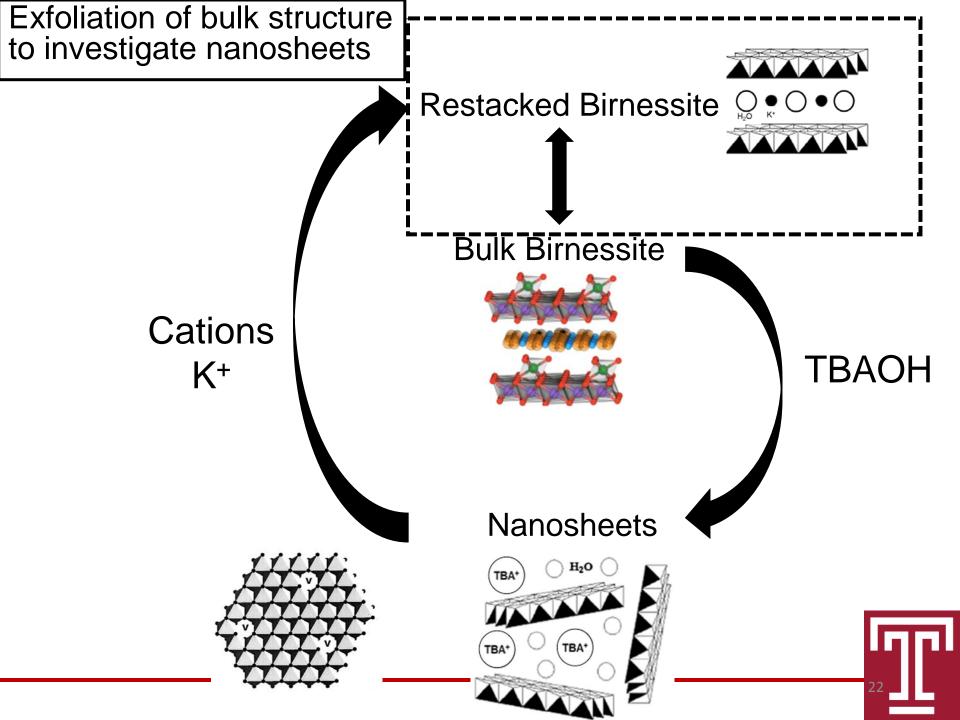


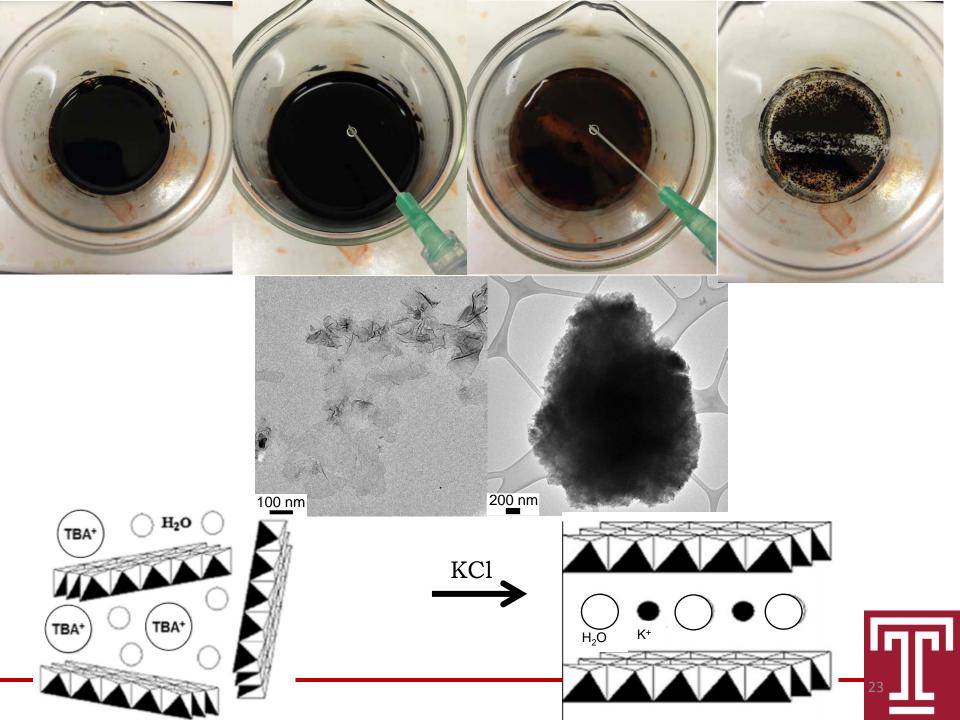




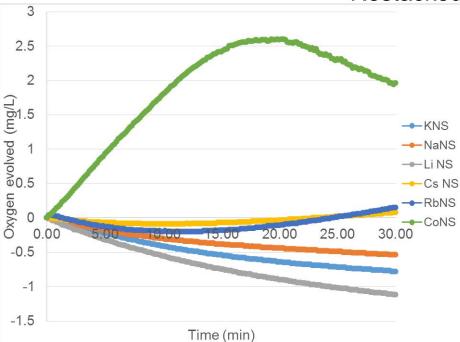
Suspended nanosheets do not demonstrate water oxidation activity

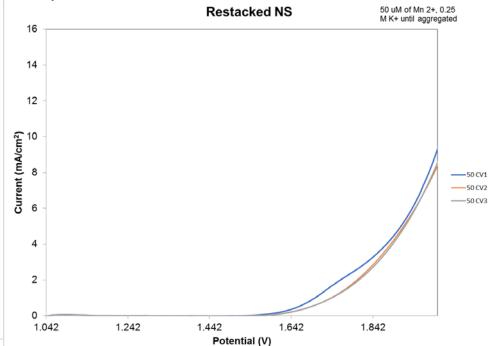


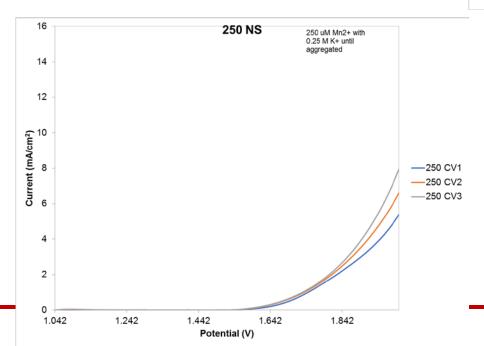




Restacked samples





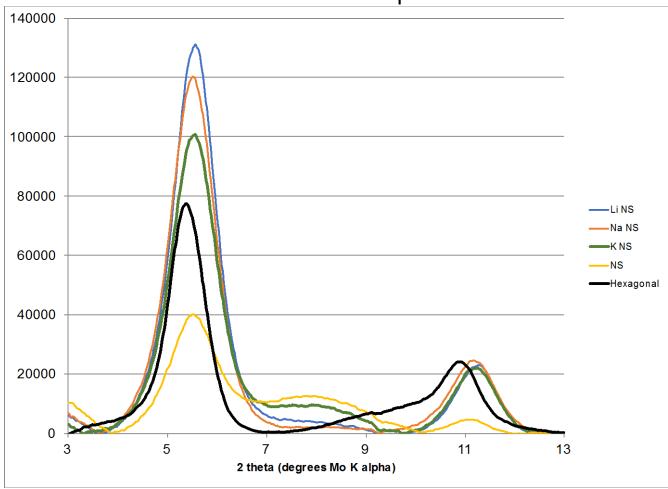


Sample	K/Mn
NS 50	0.313
SN 50	0.318
Hexagonal	0.124

Mn<sup>3+</sup> is expelled from the interlayer, deactivating birnessite for water oxidation chemistry



#### Restacked samples



Shifts to higher 2 theta (lower d-space) indicate a contracting of interlayer space

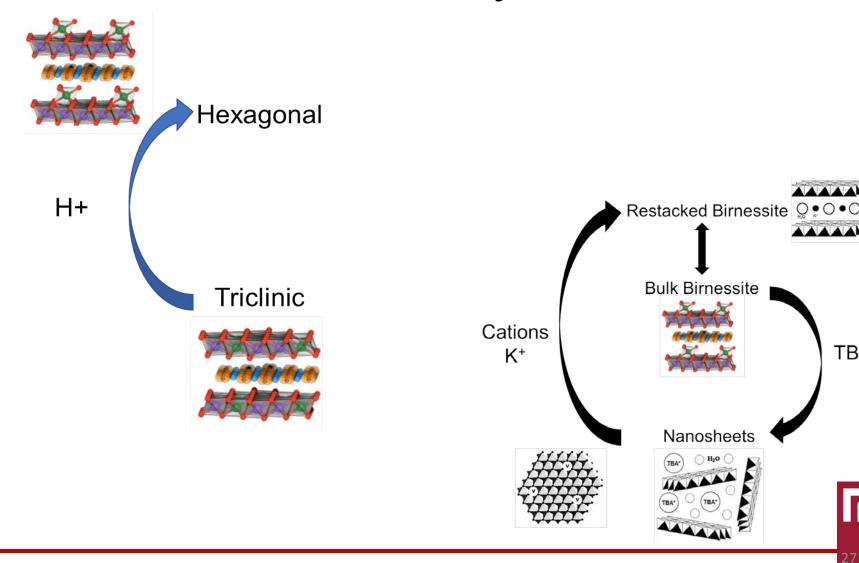
	001	002	I <sub>001</sub> /I <sub>002</sub>
NS	7.47	3.68	2.56
K	7.39	3.65	2.82
Na	7.42	3.65	3.43
Li	7.37	3.63	3.67
Hexagonal	7.55	3.71	2.40

Increase of I<sub>001</sub>/I<sub>002</sub> indicate an increase in stacking order

### Conclusion from work with nanosheets

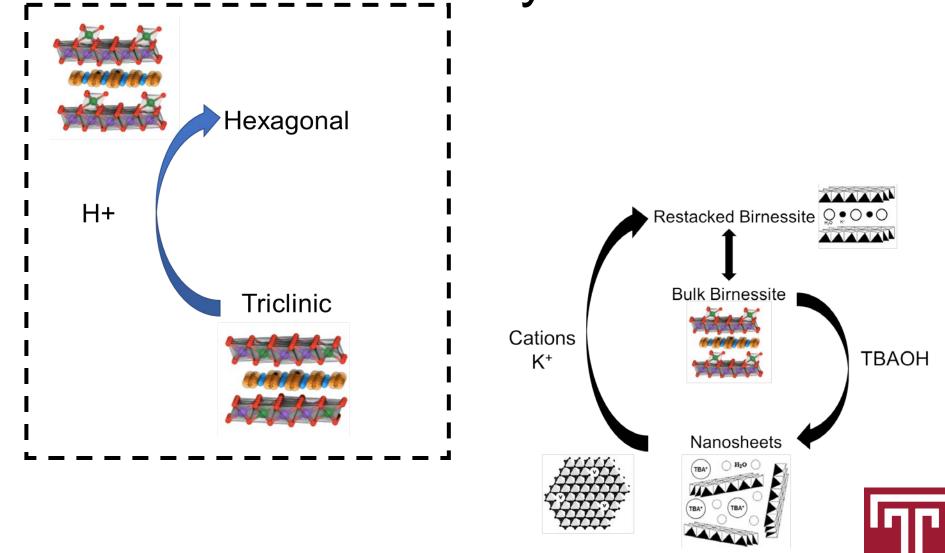
- Nanosheet suspensions are not ideal for water oxidation
- Assembling nanosheets back into bulk birnessite can be thought of as Mn<sup>3+</sup> free bulk birnessite
  - Mn<sup>3+</sup> in the interlayer is key to water oxidation
- Work with bulk birnessite, manipulate bulk structure in order to improve and investigate water oxidation

## Manipulation of birnessite interlayer

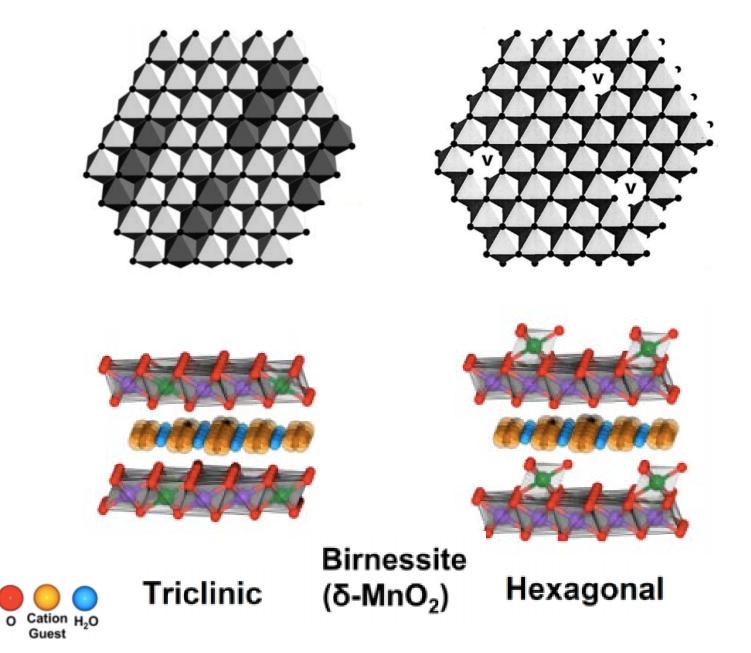


**TBAOH** 

### Manipulation of birnessite interlayer

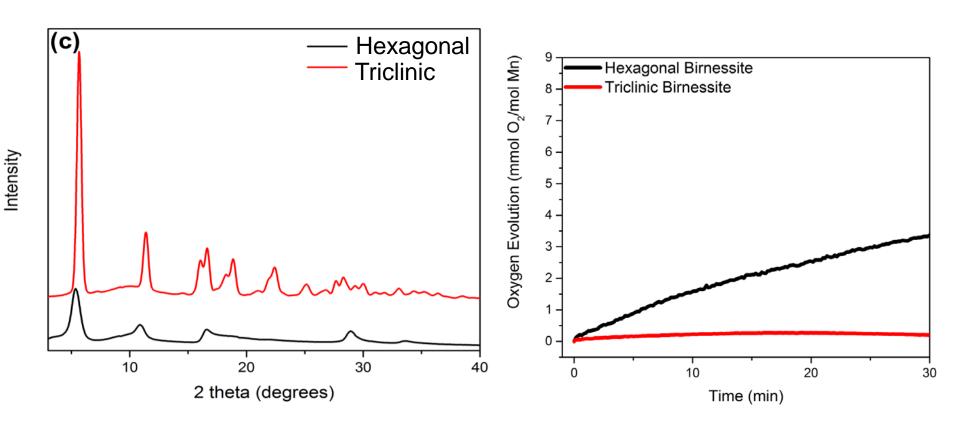








#### Triclinic vs Hexagonal





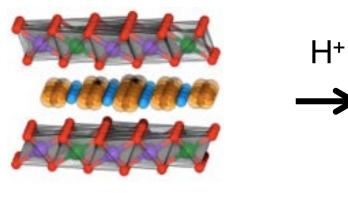
### The Experiment

Transform Triclinic to Hexagonal with protons (acidic solution), measure oxygen evolution.

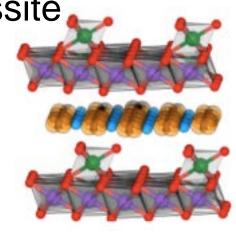
#### Experiment

- Triclinic Birnessite
  - pH 3, 18 h
  - pH 5, 18 h
  - pH 7, 18 h

Compare to hexagonal birnessite

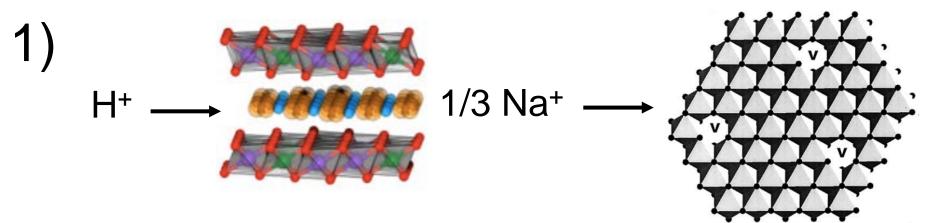


**Triclinic** 

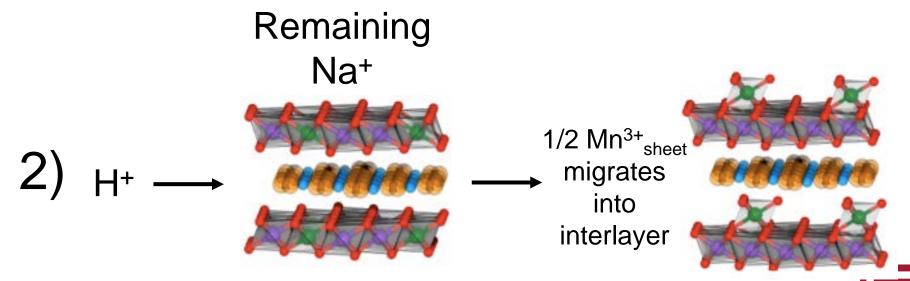


Hexagonal

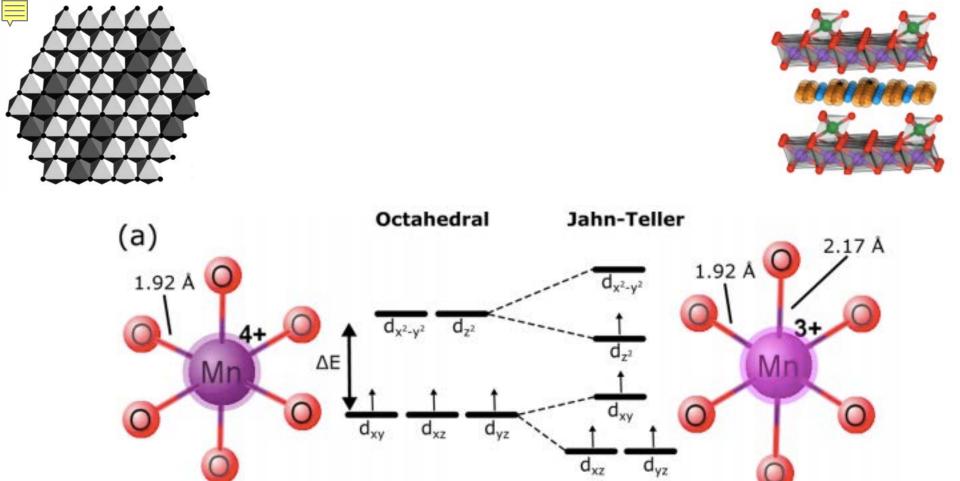
# Migration of Mn<sup>3+</sup> into the interlayer



1/3 of Mn<sup>3+</sup> undergoes disproportionation to Mn<sup>2+</sup> and Mn<sup>4+</sup>



Mn<sup>2+</sup> can re-adsorb above or below vacant sites

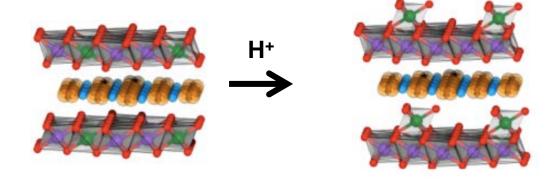


Disproportionation and migration of Mn<sup>3+</sup> cations release the steric layer strain from the Jahn-Teller distortion in the former Mn<sup>3+</sup> rich rows.



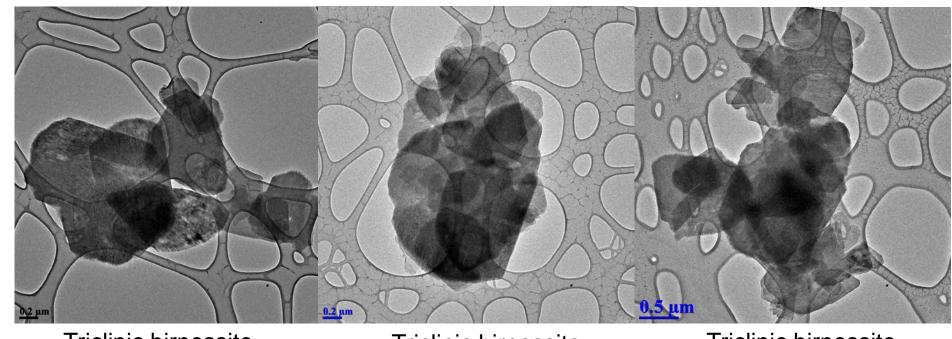
#### Experiment

- Stir Triclinic birnessite in acidic water for 18 hr
- Hypothesis: Interlayer Mn<sup>3+</sup> in transformed sample improves water oxidation



## Characterization

After transformation, before chemistry

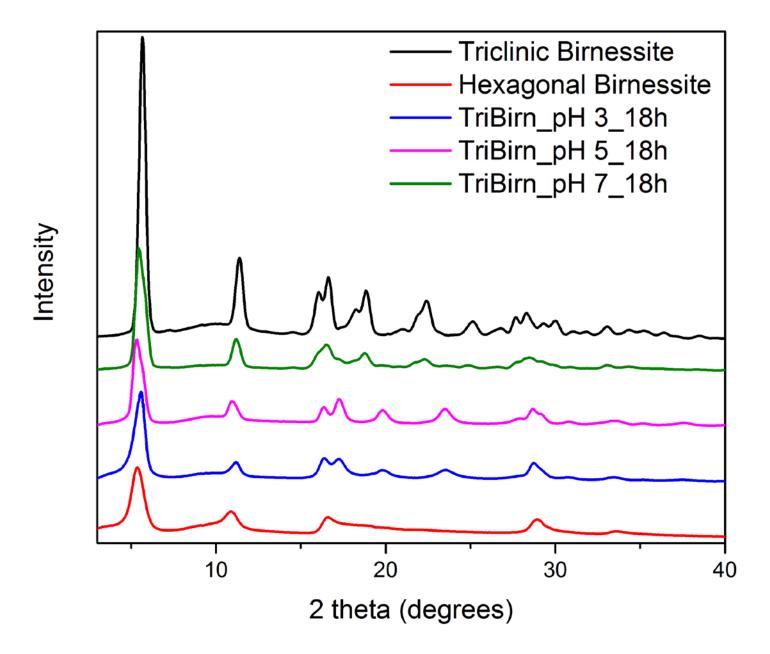


Triclinic birnessite, pH 3, 18 hrs

Triclinic birnessite, pH 5 18 hr

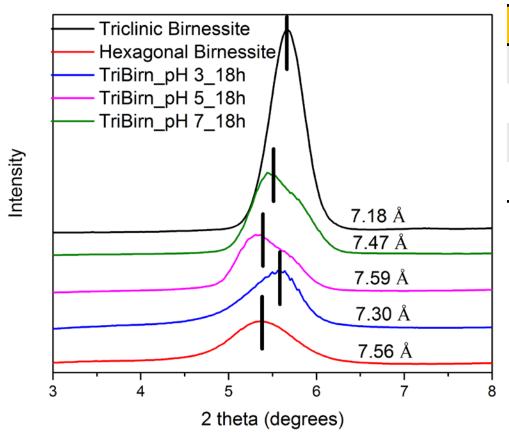
Triclinic birnessite, pH 7 18 hr

Morphology is retained.



#### XRD Discussion

Shifts to lower 2 theta (higher d-space) indicate an expanding of interlayer space



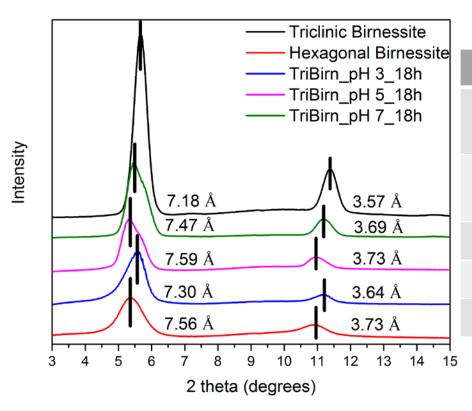
Sample	Na/Mn
Triclinic Birnessite	0.37
pH 3	0.024
pH 5	0.091
pH 7	0.27

Na<sup>+</sup> removal causes charge to be balanced by Mn<sup>3+</sup> and H<sup>+</sup>

Mn<sup>3+</sup> causing repulsion between the sheets?



#### XRD Discussion



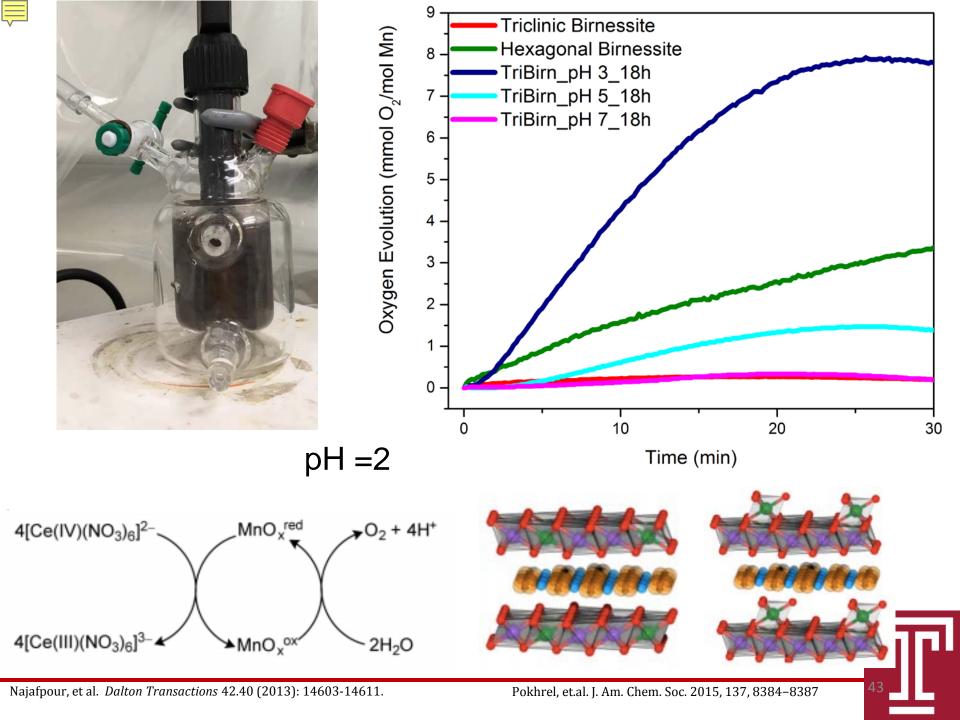
Sample	I <sub>001</sub>	I <sub>002</sub>	I <sub>001</sub> /I <sub>002</sub>
Triclinic Birnessite	550150	157008	3.50
Hexagonal Birnessite	134640	55876	2.41
pH 3	168969	44414	3.80
pH 5	161441	51993	3.10
pH 7	225008	62414	3.60

Decrease of I<sub>001</sub> indicate a decrease in stacking order



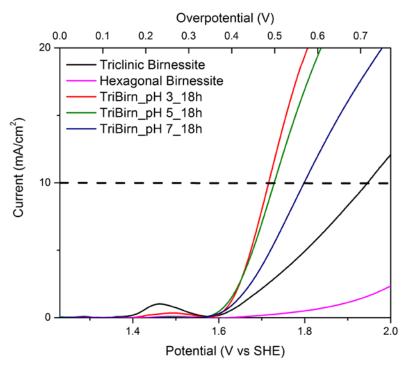
# Water oxidation chemistry

**Experiments** 



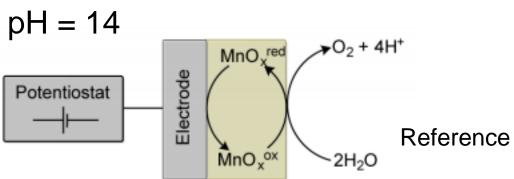


### Electrochemistry



#### Overpotential at 10 mA/cm<sup>2</sup>

Sample	CV 1	CV2
Triclinic Birnessite	710 mV	710 mV
Hexagonal Birnessite		
pH 3	490 mV	500 mV
pH 5	510 mV	550 mV
pH 7	570 mV	550 mV



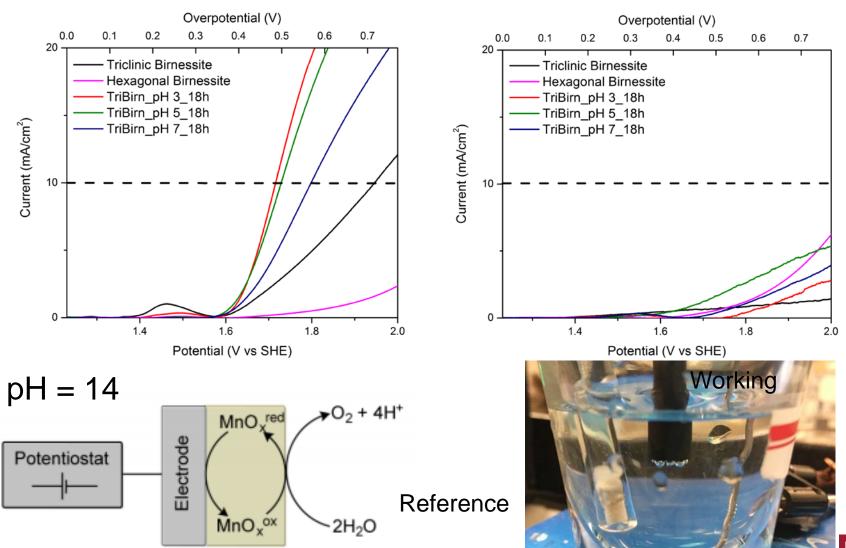


Counter





## Electrochemistry



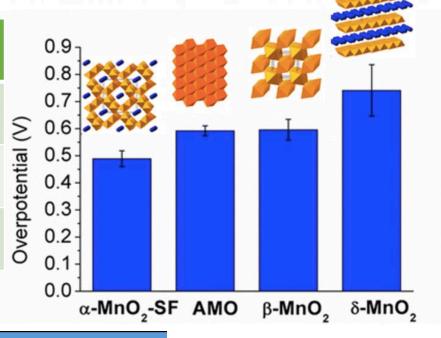
Counter



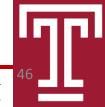


#### OER Electrocatalytic Activity in 0.1 M KOH at 10 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>

Sample	Overpotential	0.9
Cu-birnessite	490 mV	0.7 § 0.6
Ni-birnessite	400 mV	0.5- 0.4- 1.00 otential
Co-birnessite	360 mV	0.3- 0.2- 0 0.1-
		0.0



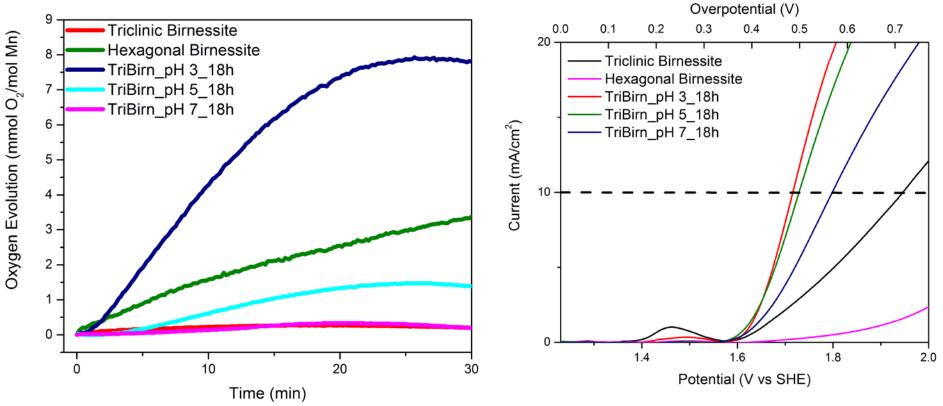
-		- Attended to the state of the
Sample	CV 1	CV2
Triclinic Birnessite	710 mV	710 mV
Hexagonal Birnessite		
pH 3	490 mV	500 mV
pH 5	510 mV	550 mV
pH 7	570 mV	550 mV







#### Electrochemistry

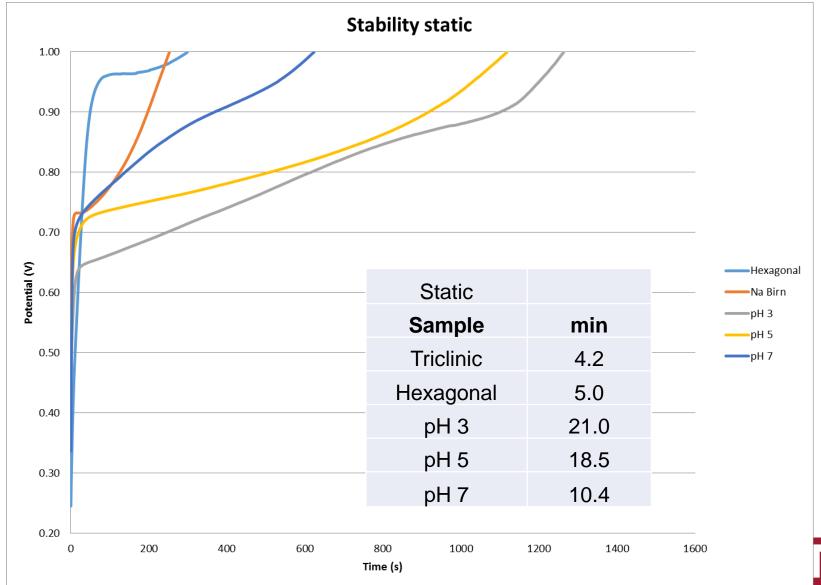


Overall trend is the same: pH 3 is best performing

Hexagonal is active for ceric but not for electrochemistry

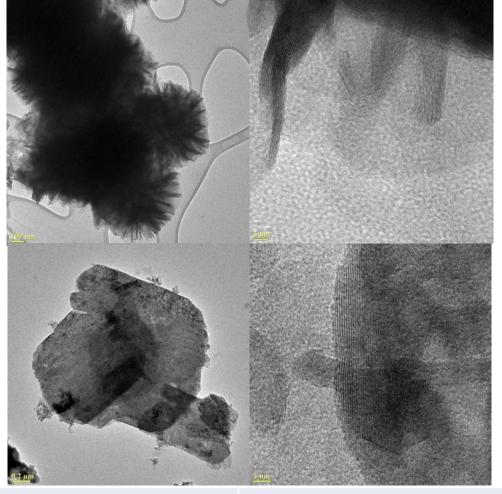


Birnessite samples (triclinic transformed to hexagonal at pH 3 and 5 as well as hexagonal sample) Stability testing **STATIC.** Constant current (5mA).



### Characterization

After electrochemisty/ceric experiments



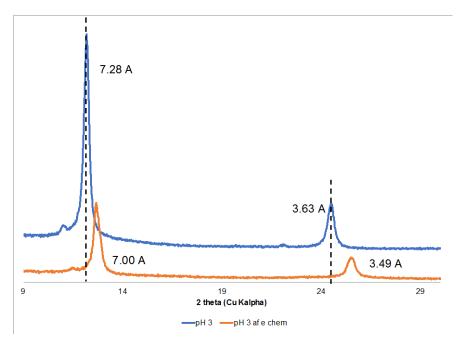
Sample	K/Mn
NS 50	0.312
SN 50	0.317
Hexagonal	0.124
Hexagonal_TBA	0.082
Hexagonal after echem	0.176

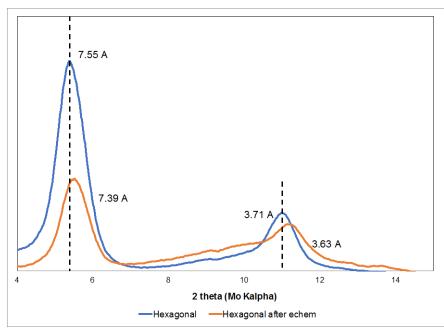
Mn<sup>3+</sup> removed from interlayer and replaced by K?



## After Electrochemistry Characterization

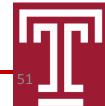
Tri Birn	Tri Birn Af echem	2 Hg	pH 3 af echem	pH 5	pH 5 af e chem	Hexagonal	Hex af echem
7.13	7.09	7.28	7.00	7.30	7.05	7.55	7.39
3.56	3.55	3.63	3.49	3.64	3.53	3.71	3.63



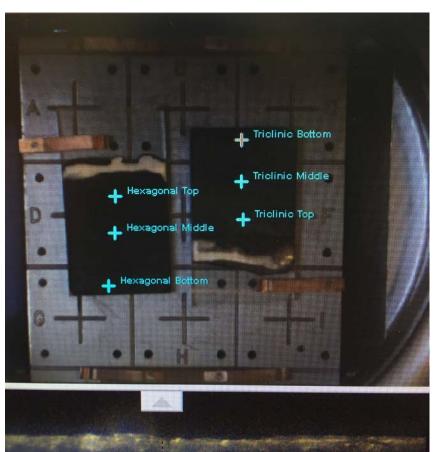


Shifts to higher 2 theta (lower d-space) indicate a contracting of interlayer space

Mn<sup>3+</sup> removal?



#### **XPS** Characterization



Hexagonal	
Before Electrochem	After Electrochem
3.47	3.51

Triclinic	
Before Electrochem	After Electrochem
3.45	3.52

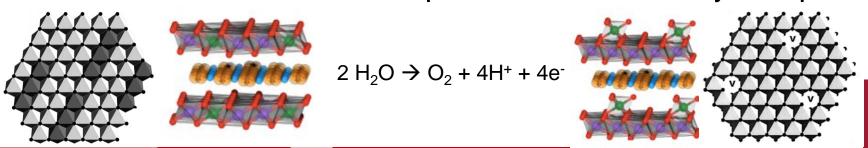
Very small increase in surface AOS

More Mn(IV)?



#### Conclusions

- Interlayer species is key to activity
  - Mn³+ must be contained between sheets to create unique environment
  - Previously inactive phase can be activated by inducing migration of Mn<sup>3+</sup> into the interlayer
- Post catalysis characterization indicates possible removal of Mn<sup>3+</sup> from the interlayer space
- Future work
  - Characterization of post-electrochemistry samples





#### Acknowledgements

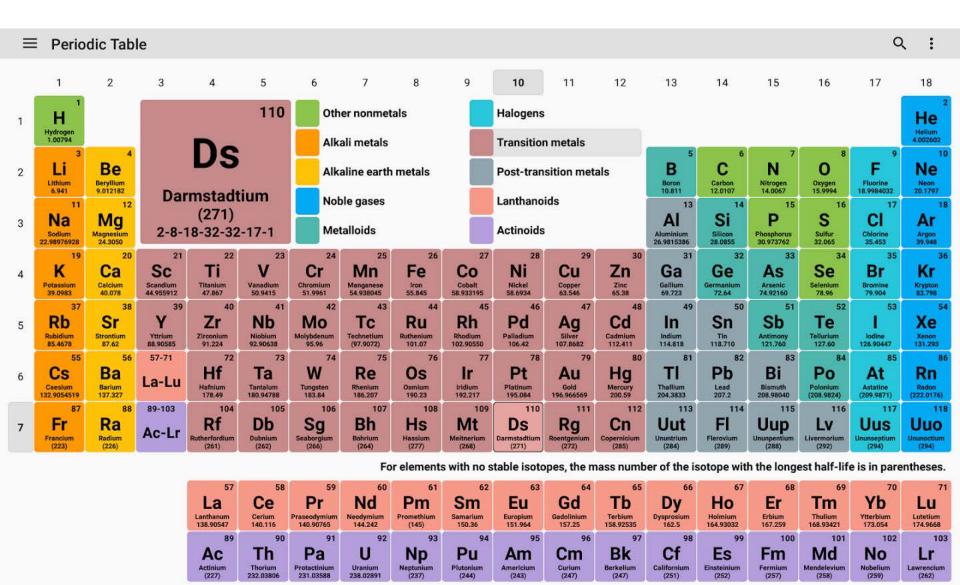
- Dr. Daniel Strongin
- Dr. Michael Zdilla
- Dr. Eric Borguet
- Akila Thenuwara
- Nuwan Attanayake
- Ian McKendry
- Qing Kang
- Loranne Vernisse
- Yaroslav Aulin
- Rick Remsing
- Haowei Peng





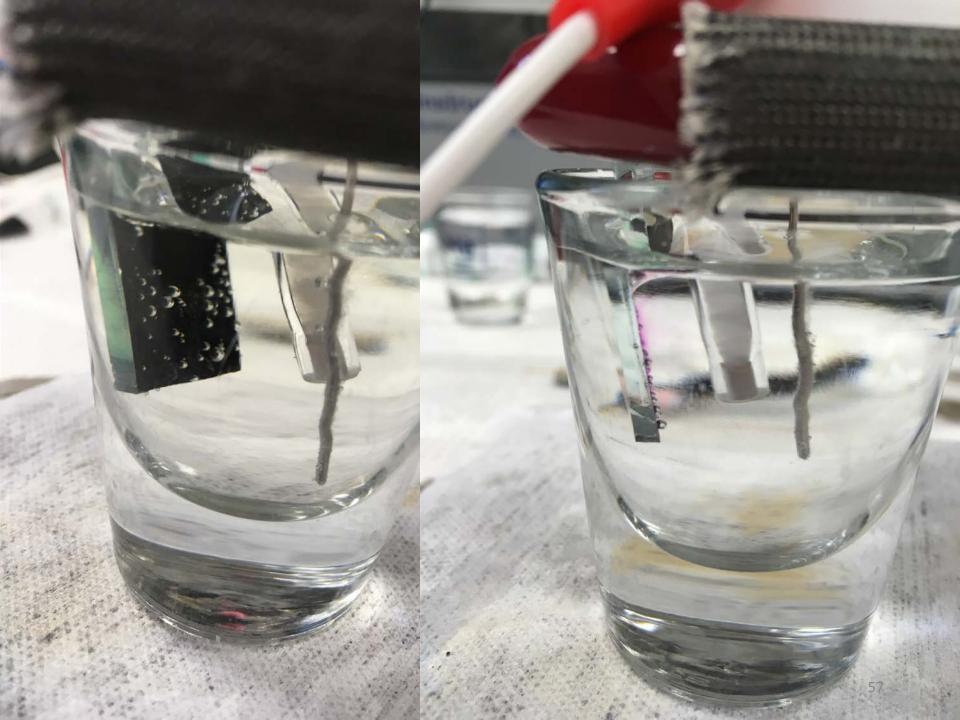


## Questions?

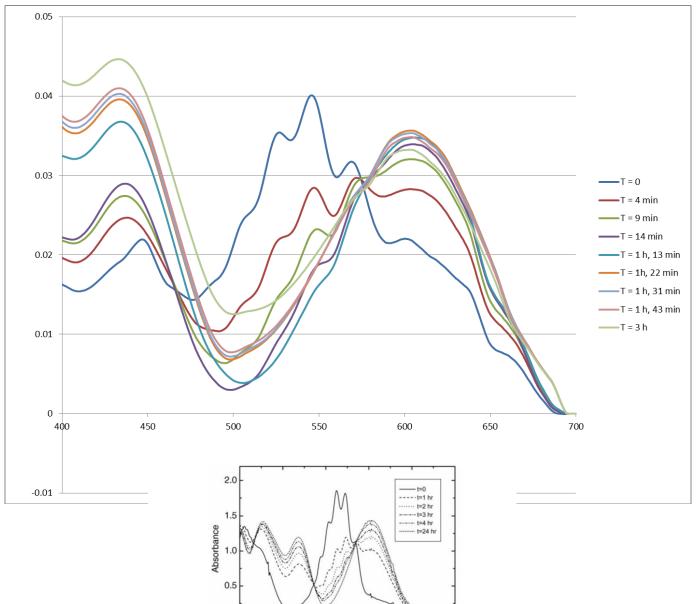


0

V

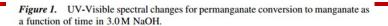


#### CONTROL EXPT: KMnO4 in 1M KOH with time





Mn 7+ → Mn 6+
The formation of a
manganate(VI) intermediate
was also consistent with the
green color observed as the
reaction proceeded [30]
The appearance of two
isosbestic points at wavelengths
575 and 473 nm during the
courses of the reactions
indicates the interconversion of
Mn(VII) to both Mn(VI) and
Mn(IV), as MnO2, respectively



Wavelength (nm)

600

700

800

500

0.0

400









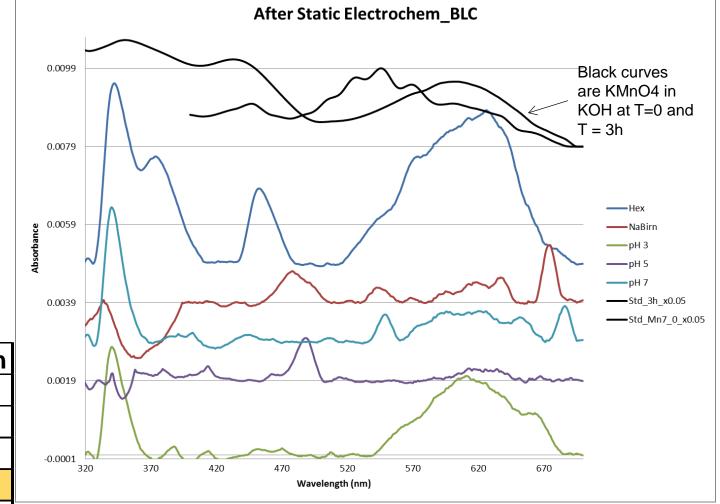




T 4 h



#### **UV-vis Raw data Baseline corrected using manual baseline in Origin**



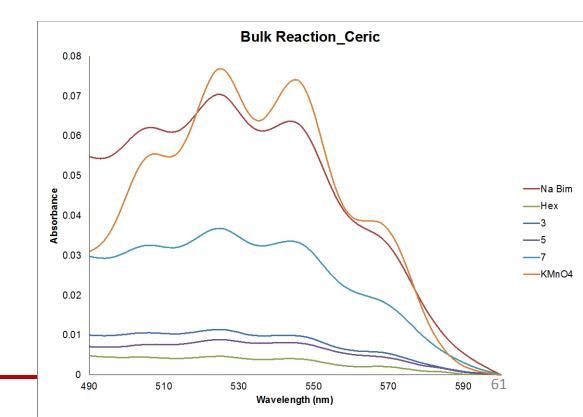
	620 T 1h
	иM
Hexagonal	6.96
pH 3	3.17
pH 5	-0.05
pH 7	2.97
Triclinic	0.42



#### Supernatant after reaction with ceric



Sample	uM permanganate (525 nm)
Triclinic	29.7
Hexagonal	2.40
pH 3	5.20
pH 5	4.16
pH 7	15.77



Sample	uM Mn7+	1.2	$MnO_4$	620 T 1h
	(525 nm)	0.9	MnO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2</sup> -	иM
Triclinic	29.7	0.6	MnO <sub>2</sub> Hexagonal	6.96
Hexagonal	2.40	≧ 0.3	Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> pH 3	3.17
pH 3	5.20	0.0		-0.05
pH 5	4.16	1	平	2.97
		-0.3	Triclinic	0.42
pH 7	15.77	-0.6	-0.6	



	Ce <sup>4+</sup>	EChem
Sample	uM Mn <sup>7</sup> +/mg (525 nm)	uM Mn <sup>6+</sup> /mg (620 nm)
Triclinic	2.47	
Hexagonal	0.22	4.97
pH 3	0.52	2.26
pH 5	0.38	
pH 7	1.58	2.12





#### Ceric permanganate production

$$3Ce(IV) + MnO_2(s) + 2H_2O \rightarrow 3Ce(III) + MnO_4^- + 4H^+$$

The  $MnO_4^-$  probably originates from oxidation of Mn(II) adsorbed to the surface of oxide because this reaction is thermodynamically easier than the oxidation of  $MnO_2$  to  $MnO_4^-$ .

$$2MnO_4^- + 3Mn(II) + 2H_2O \rightarrow 5MnO_2(s) + 4H^+$$

Ce<sup>4+</sup>
uM Mn<sup>7+</sup>/mg
(525 nm)

Triclinic

Sample

2.47

Hexagonal

0.22

pH 3

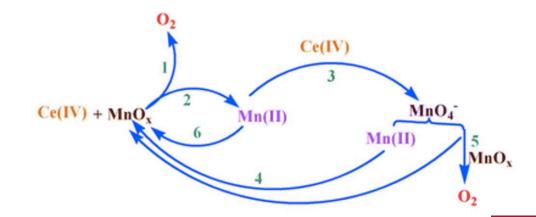
0.52

pH 5

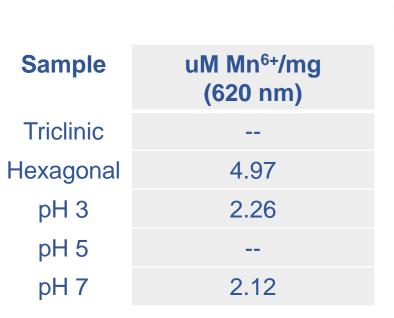
0.38

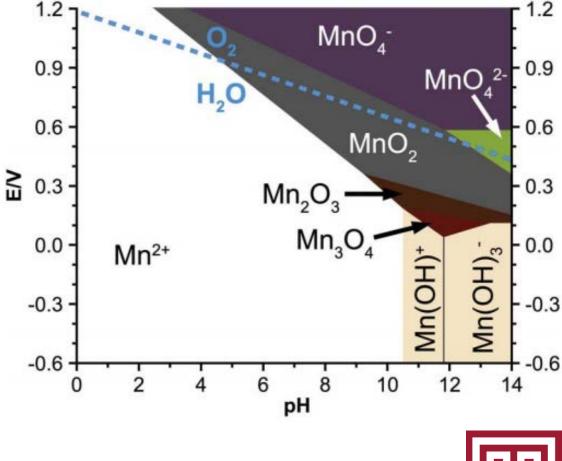
pH 7

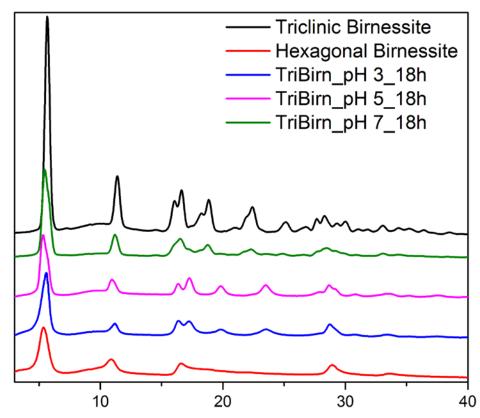
1.58



## Electrochemical Permanganate Production

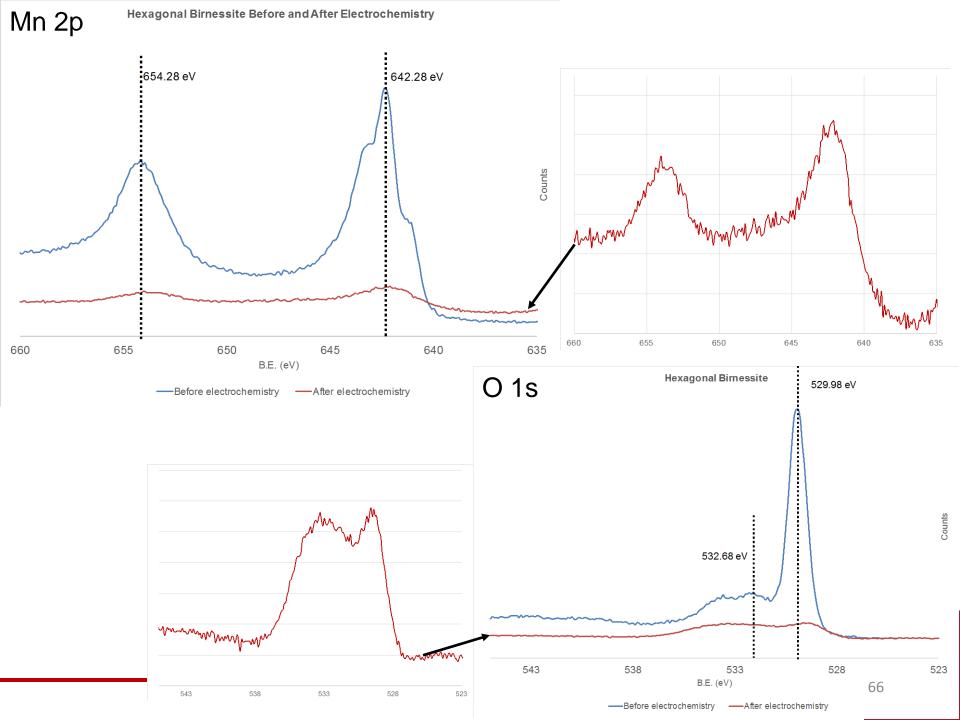




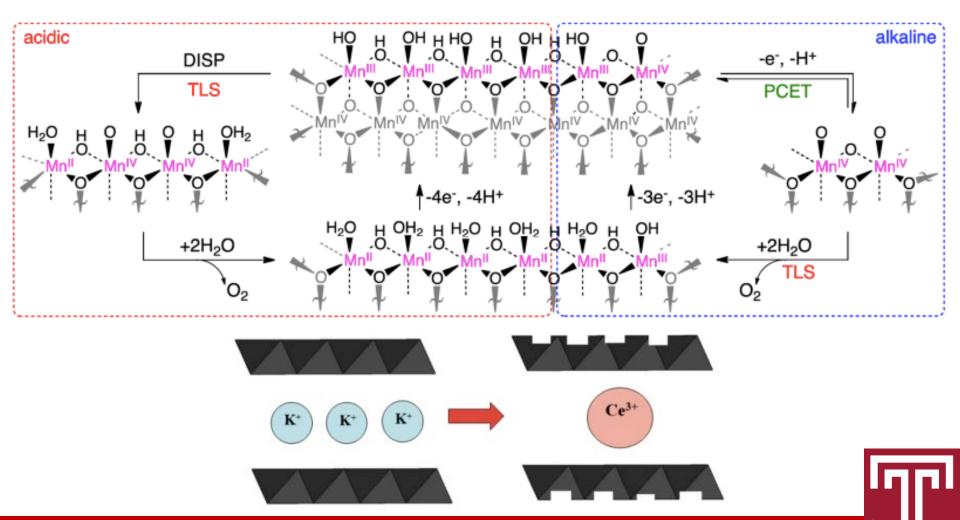


2 theta (deg	Sample	AOS (XPS)	AOS (Titration)
	Triclinic Birnessite	3.51	3.45
	pH 3	3.54	3.92
	pH 5	3.49	3.94
	pH 7	3.46	3.84
	Hexagonal	3.63	3.70

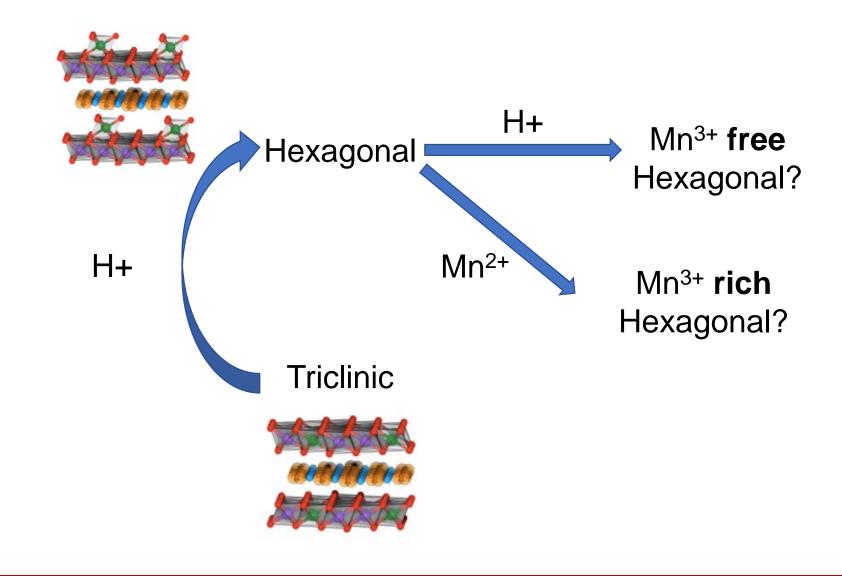
Intensity

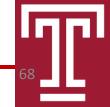


#### Possible explanations

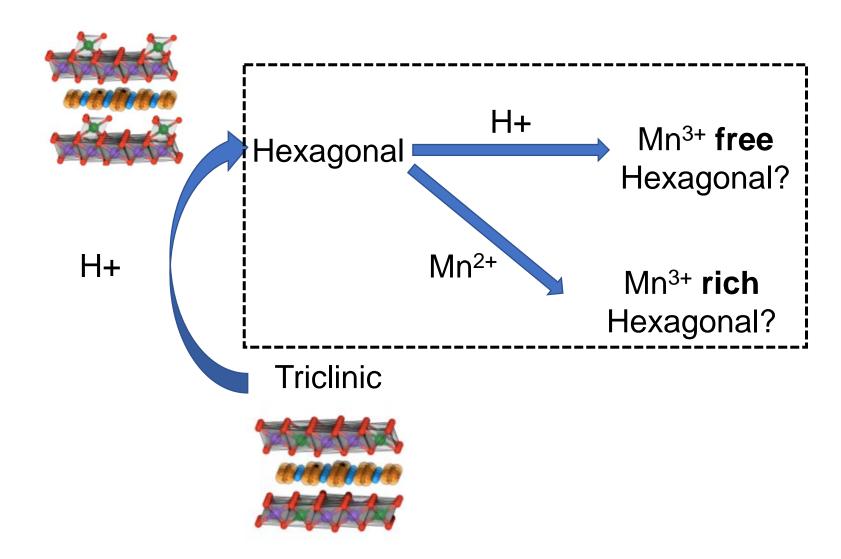


## Modification of bulk structure

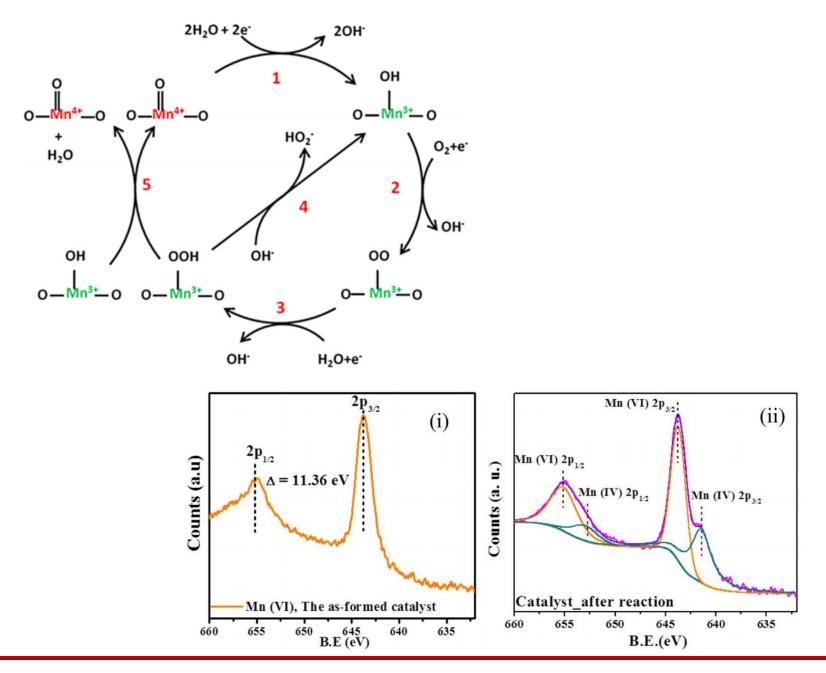




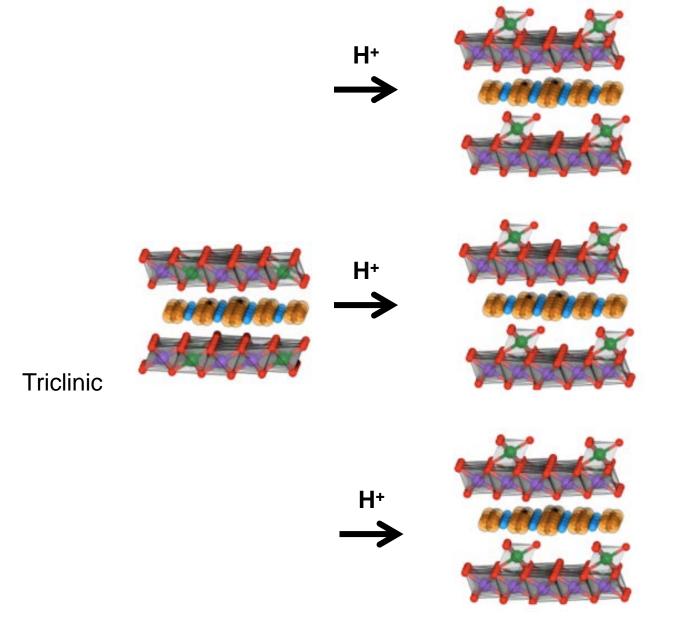
## Modification of bulk structure





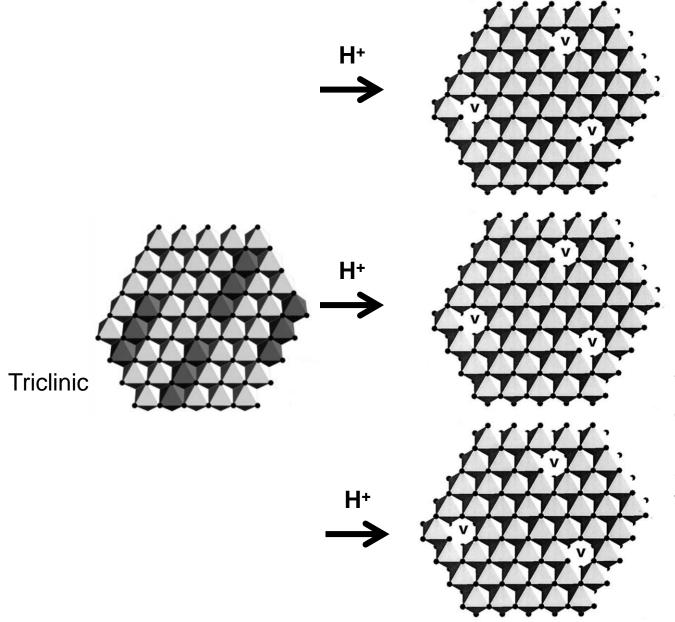






Hexagonal

Varying amounts of Mn<sup>3+</sup> within the interlayer, but same total amount within the structure



Hexagonal

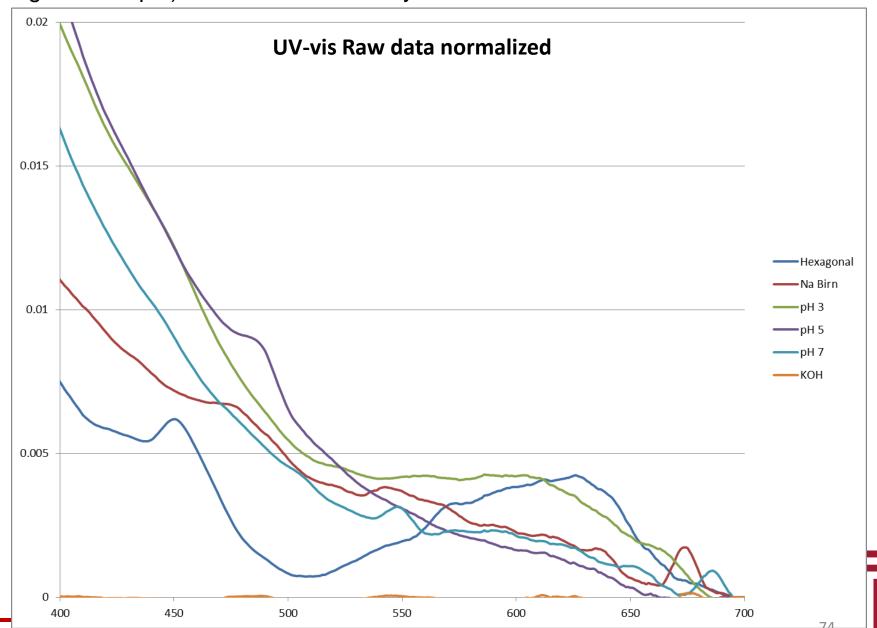
Varying amounts of Mn<sup>3+</sup> within the interlayer, but same total amount within the structure

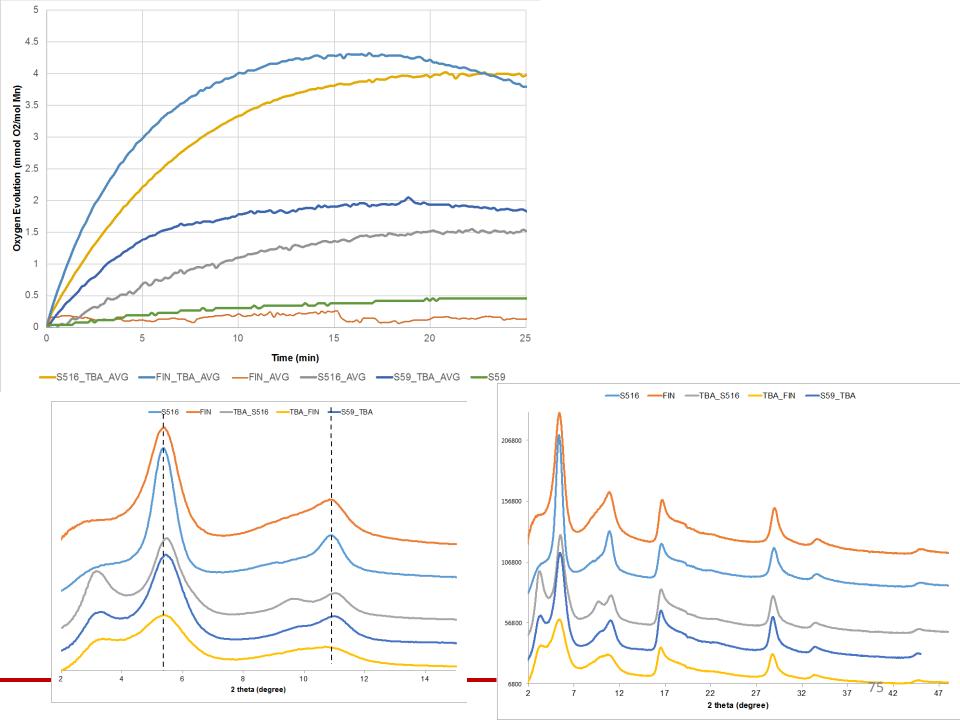


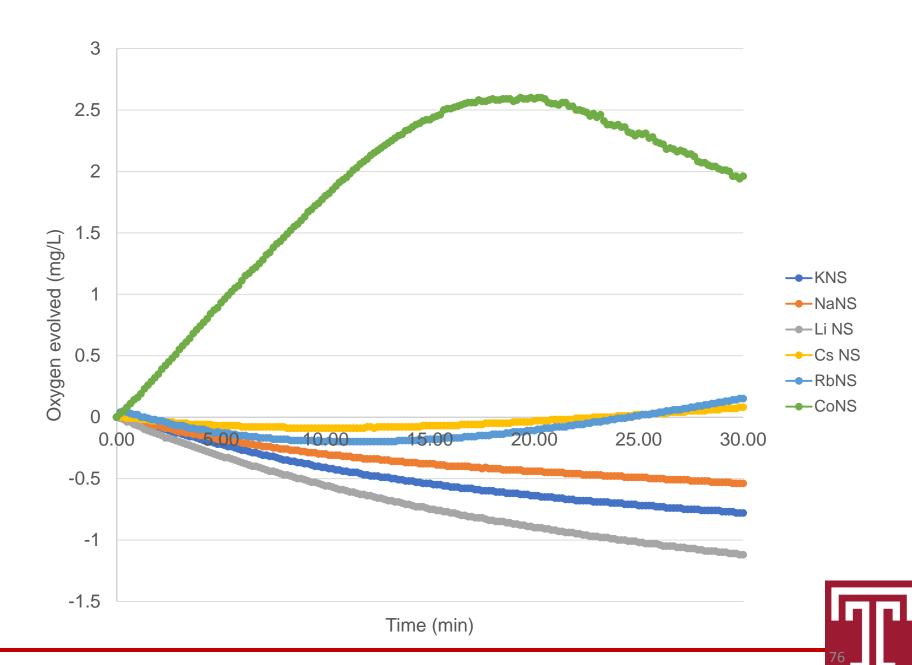
Standard Reduction Potentials measured in aqueous solution (pH = 0) for water oxidation regarding different mechanisms ( $E_0$  vs. SHE).

Reaction	Standard E <sub>0</sub>
Four-electron reactions	
$2H_2O \rightarrow O_2 + 4H^+ + 4e^-$	1.229
$OH^- + H_2O \rightarrow O_2 + 3H^+ + 4e^-$	1.022
$20H^- \rightarrow 0_2 + 2H^+ + 4e^-$	0.815
$40H^{-} \rightarrow 0_{2} + H_{2}O + 4e^{-}$	0.401
Two-electron reactions	
$2H_2O \rightarrow H_2O_2 + 2H^+ + 2e^-$	1.776
$20H^- \rightarrow H_2O_2 + 2e^-$	0.948
$H_2O_2 \rightarrow O_2 + 2H^+ + 2e^-$	0.682
$H_2O_2 + 2OH^- \rightarrow O_2 + 2H_2O + 2e^-$	-0.146
One-electron reactions	
$H_2O \rightarrow OH^- + H^+ + e^-$	2.848
$OH^- \rightarrow OH + e^-$	2.020
$H_2O_2 \rightarrow HO_2 + H^+ + e^-$	1.495
$H_2O_2 + OH^- \rightarrow HO_2 + H_2O + e^-$	0.667
$HO_2 \rightarrow O_2 + H^+ + e^-$	-0.130
$HO_2 + OH^- \rightarrow O_2 + H_2O + e^-$	- 0.958

Birnessite samples (triclinic transformed to hexagonal at pH 3 and 5 as well as hexagonal sample) after electrochemistry **STATIC** 









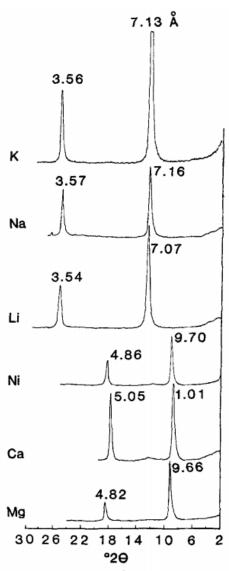
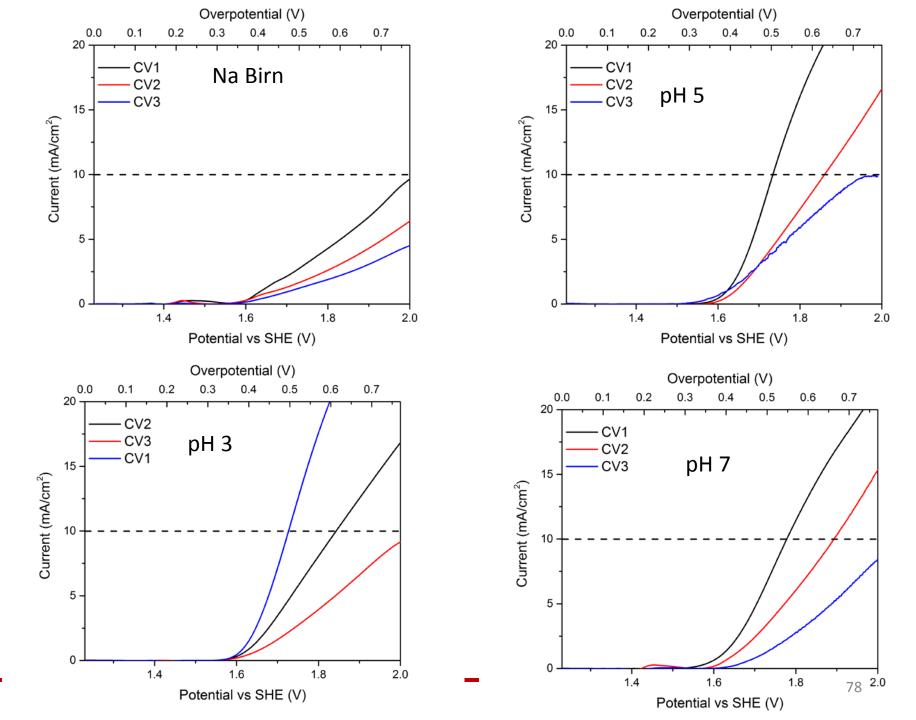
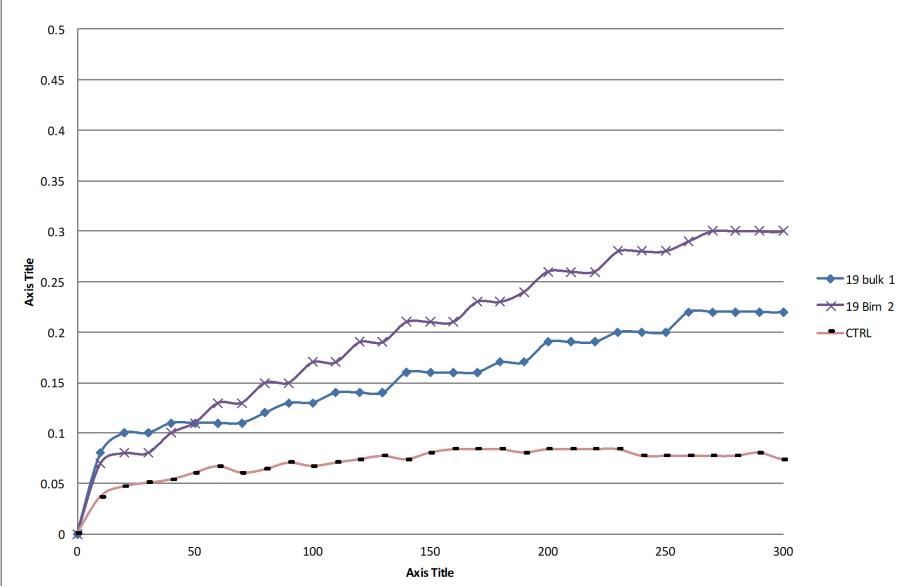


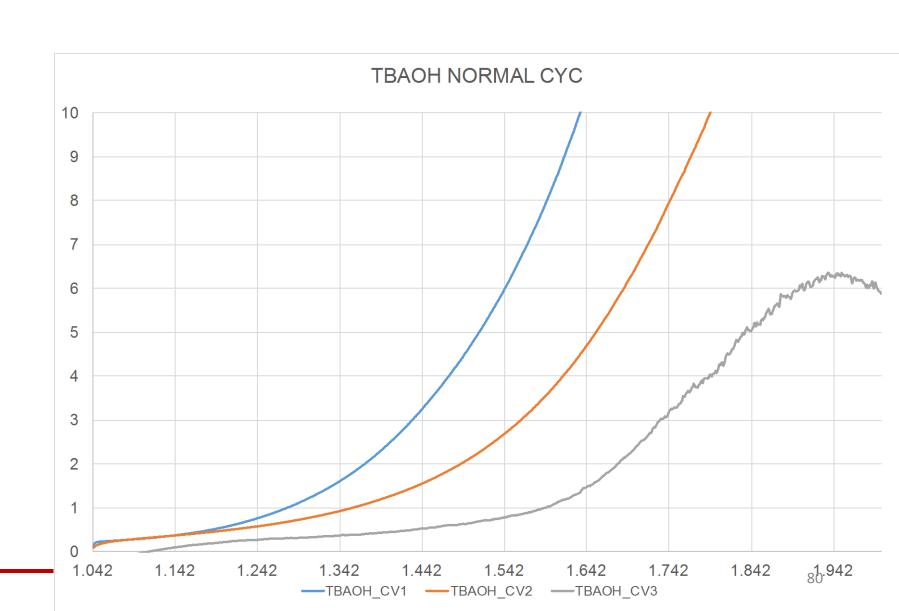
Figure 2. Basal spacings (in Å) of birnessite saturated wit K, Na, Li, Ni, Ca, and Mg (22°C, relative humidity = 54% CuK $\alpha$  radiation).

Cation	Interlayer
exchanged	spacing
	d (001) (Å)
H pH=2	7.26
H pH=3	7.24
H pH=3.8	7.27
Li*	6.96
Na*	7.24
K	7.08
Cs	7.37
Mg†	6.96
Mg-buserite*	9.49, 7.04
Ca	9.96, 7.31
Ni	9.63
Chalcophanite (Zn)‡	6.92
Pb	7.11



#### **Bulk Samples**





#### All Bulk

