## **Supplementary Information**

# Stabilizing lithium metal anode by octaphenyl polyoxyethylene complexation

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Supplementary Figure 1. Digital photo of *in situ* optical microscopy.



**Supplementary Figure 2**. Morphology and element characterizations of metal Li anode. SEM images of Li anode with OP-10 additives (**a**, **c**) or with PEGDME additives (**b**, **d**) after 3 cycles (**a**, **b**: side view; **c**, **d**: top view); Elements content of Li surface using various additives measured by EDX method after 3 cycles (**e**, **f**) (Scale bars: **a**–**d** 100 μm).



**Supplementary Figure 3.** Coulombic efficiency in different electrolyte systems. The voltage profiles of the 1st (**a**), 15th (**b**), 30th (**c**), and 40th (**d**) cycles in different electrolyte systems with a cycling capacity of 0.5 mAh cm<sup>-2</sup> at a current density of 0.5 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>.



**Supplementary Figure 4.** Morphology characterizations of metal Li anode. SEM images of Li anode plated without OP-10 additives ( $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$ ) or with OP-10 additives ( $\mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{f}$ ) after 50 cycles at a current density of 4 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> with a fixed capacity of 1 mAh cm<sup>-2</sup> ( $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{d}$ : top view;  $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{e}, \mathbf{f}$ : side view. Scale bars:  $\mathbf{a}$  50 µm,  $\mathbf{b}$  20 µm,  $\mathbf{c}$  10 µm,  $\mathbf{d}$  50 µm,  $\mathbf{e}$  20 µm,  $\mathbf{f}$  10 µm).



Supplementary Figure 5. Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) results for blank and modified electrolytes before and after cycling at a current density of 2 mA cm<sup>-2</sup> and a fixed capacity of 1 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>. Inset figures corresponding to the equivalent circuits of the electrochemical impedance spectroscopy.



**Supplementary Figure 6.** <sup>7</sup>Li NMR spectra of LiPF<sub>6</sub> with different additives.



**Supplementary Figure 7.** Differential capacitance curves conducted at 298 K with or without OP-10 or PEGDME additives.



**Supplementary Figure 8.** Electrochemical performance with different kinds of OP additives. Cycling performance of Li|Li symmetric cells containing additives of OP-10 (red) versus OP-4 (**a**) and OP-50 (**b**) (blue).



Supplementary Figure 9. Viscosities of OP-10 electrolyte additive with different concentrations.



**Supplementary Figure 10**. Measurements of contact angles. Contact angles of the electrolyte with 5% PEGDME (a) and 5% OP-10 (b) additives on lithium anode.



**Supplementary Figure 11.** Electrochemical performance of Li|Li symmetric cells. Cycling performance of Li|Li cells using 1% (**a**), 2% (**b**), 8% (**c**) and 10% (**d**) OP-10 additive.



**Supplementary Figure 12.** Zeta potential of lithium without or with OP-10 additives at different concentration.



**Supplementary Figure 13.** Measurements of contact angles. Contact angles of electrolytes with 1% (a), 2% (b), 8% (c) and 10% (d) OP-10 additive on lithium anode.



Supplementary Figure 14. Charge-discharge profiles of the as-assembled  $Li|LiFePO_4$  batteries with untreated electrolyte corresponding to Fig. 6a.



**Supplementary Figure 15.** Electrochemical performances of Li|Li<sub>4</sub>Ti<sub>5</sub>O<sub>12</sub> batteries with untreated electrolyte (blue) or with OP-10 additives (red). Charge-discharge profiles of Li<sub>4</sub>Ti<sub>5</sub>O<sub>12</sub> batteries with untreated electrolyte (**a**) or with OP-10 additives (**b**) at 5 C; (**c**) Long-term cycling stability of Li|Li<sub>4</sub>Ti<sub>5</sub>O<sub>12</sub> batteries with untreated electrolyte or with OP-10 additives at a current density of 5 C. (1 C = 175 mA g<sup>-1</sup>).



Supplementary Figure 16. Linear sweep voltammetry (LSV) curves of Li|Cu cells assembled with or without OP-10/PEGDME at a scan rate of 10 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



**Supplementary Figure 17.** EIS measurements of Li anode in Li|LiFePO<sub>4</sub> battery. Nyquist plots before cycling (a) and after 500 cycles (b) using electrolyte with or without additives. Inset figures are the equivalent circuits of the electrode impedance spectra.



**Supplementary Figure 18.** Electrochemical performance of Li|LiNi<sub>0.8</sub>Co<sub>0.1</sub>Mn<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> batteries in different electrolyte systems. Cycling performance of Li|LiNi<sub>0.8</sub>Co<sub>0.1</sub>Mn<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> full cells with or without OP-10/PEGDME additives at a current density of 1 C (1 C = 280 mAh g<sup>-1</sup>) (**a**); Charge-discharge profiles of Li|LiNi<sub>0.8</sub>Co<sub>0.1</sub>Mn<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> full cell in different electrolyte systems (**b**-c).

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Electrolyte additives	Current density (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Areal capacity (mAh cm <sup>-2</sup> )	Overpotential (mV)	Cycle number	Ref.
1.0 M (Pyr1(12) FSI	0.5	2.0	30	$\sim \! 110$	1
0.05 M LiPF <sub>6</sub> + dual-salt	1.0	0.5	$\sim 200$	210	2
8 wt% AlCl <sub>3</sub>	0.5	1.0	50	$\sim$ 235	3
8% polydimethylsiloxane	0.5	1.5	100	300	4
20 mM Boric acid	0.25	0.5	<80	215	5
0.15 M LiDFOB	1	1	$\sim \! 100$	300	6
60 mM InF <sub>3</sub>	1	1	100	200	7
1.2 mM CTAC	1	0.5	$\sim 69$	300	8
5% Lithium Nitrate	0.5	0.5	52	150	9
	1	0.5	$\sim 100$	400	This
5% OP-10	2	1	$\sim$ 130.2	200	11115
	4	1	~188.5	160	Work

Supplementary Table 1. The comparisons of the bare Li foil between our work and previous reports

Fitting results				
		Blank	5% OP-10	
Before cycle	R <sub>ct</sub> (ohm)	140.5	156.2	
100th cycle	R <sub>SEI</sub> (ohm)	345.4	32.36	
	R <sub>ct</sub> (ohm)	143.6	28.88	

### **Supplementary Table 2**. The corresponding fitting results of the Supplementary Figure 5

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Sample	C (%)	O (%)	F (%)	P (%)	
Blank	12	49	20	19	
5% OP-10	8	33	34	25	

**Supplementary Table 3**. Elements content of Li surface measured by EDX method with or without OP-10 additives

		Fitting results		
		Blank	5% PEGDME	5% OP-10
Before cycle	R <sub>ct</sub> (ohm)	154.2	466.6	210.1
500th cycle	R <sub>SEI</sub> (ohm)	302.3	76.27	68.5
	R <sub>ct</sub> (ohm)	23.96	138.7	76.32

### Supplementary Table 4. The corresponding fitting results of the Supplementary Figure 17

#### **Supplementary References**

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