## **Supplementary materials**

Table S1 XRF analysis results of LIBs black powder

|   | O      | F     | P     | Mn     |     | Fe    | Co    | Ni     | Cu    | Al    |
|---|--------|-------|-------|--------|-----|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
|   | 25.758 | 7.058 | 9.213 | 18.076 | 15  | 5.018 | 8.343 | 13.653 | 0.959 | 0.557 |
|   | Na     | Si    | S     | Cl     | Ca  | Ti    | Tb    | Zn     | Zr    | Nb    |
| _ | 0.235  | 0.099 | 0.317 | 0.275  | 0.1 | 0.197 | 0.081 | 0.011  | 0.029 | 0.021 |

Table S2 Equations of possible chemical reactions in solution and their Gibbs free energy versus temperature change

| Reaction formula   | $\Delta G/(\mathrm{kJ \cdot mol^{-1}})$ | No.  |
|--|---|------|
| $2C_6H_8O_7 + 3Li_2CO_3 = 2Li_3(C_6H_5O_7) + 3H_2O + 3CO_2 \uparrow$ | $\Delta G = -49.502 - 0.225T$           | 1-1  |
| $C_6H_8O_7+9MnO_2+18H^+=9Mn^{2+}+4H_2O+6CO_2$                        | $\Delta G = -1123.111 - 1.447T$         | 1-2  |
| $2C_6H_8O_7 + 3MnO = Mn_3(C_6H_5O_7)_2 + 3H_2O$                      | $\Delta G = -85.917 + 0.029T$           | 1-3  |
| $C_6H_8O_7 + 9Co_2O_3 + 36H^+ = 18Co^{2+} + 4H_2O + 6CO_2$           | $\Delta G = -1539.898 - 2.663T$         | 1-4  |
| $2C_6H_8O_7 + 3C_9O = C_{03}(C_6H_5O_7)_2 + 3H_2O$                   | $\Delta G = -51.469 + 0.255T$           | 1-5  |
| $C_6H_8O_7 + 9Ni_2O_3 + 36H^+ = 18Ni^{2+} + 4H_2O + 6CO_2$           | $\Delta G = -2510.595 - 2.460T$         | 1-6  |
| $2C_6H_8O_7 + 3NiO = Ni_3(C_6H_5O_7)_2 + 3H_2O$                      | $\Delta G = -40.883 + 0.267T$           | 1-7  |
| $2C_6H_8O_7 + 3CuO = Cu_3(C_6H_5O_7)_2 + 3H_2O$                      | $\Delta G = 3.541 + 0.220T$             | 1-8  |
| $2C_6H_8O_7 + 3Cu = Cu_3(C_6H_5O_7)_2 + 3H_2 \uparrow$               | $\Delta G = 167.444 + 0.118T$           | 1-9  |
| $2C_6H_8O_7 + Al_2O_3 = 2Al(C_6H_5O_7) + 3H_2O$                      | $\Delta G = 14.530 + 0.730T$            | 1-10 |
| $2C_6H_8O_7+2Al=2Al(C_6H_5O_7)+3H_2$                                 | $\Delta G = -426.020 + 0.281T$          | 1-11 |

Table S3 Levels and codes of factors for Box-Behnken design

| Footon                | C      | Unit                 | Level |      |  |
|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|-------|------|--|
| Factor                | Symbol | Omt                  | Low   | High |  |
| Citrate concentration | A      | mol/L                | 0.4   | 0.5  |  |
| Temperature           | B      | $^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$ | 80    | 90   |  |
| Liquid-solid ratio    | C      | mL/g                 | 12    | 16   |  |

%

**Table S4** The results of the designed experiments

| No. | $\boldsymbol{A}$ | В  | D  | Li leaching efficiency/% | Co leaching efficiency/% | Ni leaching efficiency/% |
|-----|------------------|----|----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1   | 0.5              | 80 | 14 | 91.33                    | 90.78                    | 88.36                    |
| 2   | 0.45             | 85 | 14 | 97.59                    | 97.11                    | 97.01                    |
| 3   | 0.50             | 85 | 16 | 96.02                    | 95.62                    | 95.78                    |
| 4   | 0.45             | 85 | 14 | 96.89                    | 97.10                    | 95.89                    |
| 5   | 0.45             | 80 | 16 | 92.15                    | 93.94                    | 89.95                    |
| 6   | 0.45             | 85 | 14 | 97.42                    | 96.89                    | 96.32                    |
| 7   | 0.45             | 85 | 14 | 97.62                    | 97.42                    | 96.82                    |
| 8   | 0.45             | 80 | 12 | 90.54                    | 90.35                    | 87.42                    |
| 9   | 0.50             | 90 | 14 | 95.62                    | 96.78                    | 95.94                    |
| 10  | 0.45             | 90 | 12 | 92.43                    | 95.75                    | 92.46                    |
| 11  | 0.40             | 85 | 12 | 89.74                    | 88.27                    | 86.03                    |
| 12  | 0.40             | 85 | 16 | 92.21                    | 90.06                    | 91.04                    |
| 13  | 0.40             | 90 | 14 | 91.52                    | 90.01                    | 88.32                    |
| 14  | 0.50             | 85 | 12 | 91.67                    | 92.43                    | 93.54                    |
| 15  | 0.45             | 85 | 14 | 97.21                    | 97.39                    | 96.68                    |
| 16  | 0.4              | 80 | 14 | 89.82                    | 87.65                    | 83.52                    |
| 17  | 0.45             | 90 | 16 | 97.32                    | 97.48                    | 96.79                    |

 Table S5 Analysis of variance and significance for Li leaching regression model

| Source                   | Sum of squares | df | Mean square | <i>F</i> -value | <i>P</i> -value |
|--------------------------|----------------|----|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Model                    | 148.89         | 9  | 16.54       | 220.77          | < 0.0001        |
| A- citrate concentration | 16.1           | 1  | 16.1        | 214.89          | < 0.0001        |
| <i>B</i> - temperature   | 21.29          | 1  | 21.29       | 284.08          | < 0.0001        |
| C- liquid-solid ratio    | 22.18          | 1  | 22.18       | 295.96          | < 0.0001        |
| AB                       | 1.68           | 1  | 1.68        | 22.38           | 0.0021          |
| AC                       | 0.8836         | 1  | 0.8836      | 11.79           | 0.0109          |
| BC                       | 2.69           | 1  | 2.69        | 35.89           | 0.0005          |
| $A^2$                    | 37.56          | 1  | 37.56       | 501.24          | < 0.0001        |
| $B^2$                    | 22.02          | 1  | 22.02       | 293.83          | < 0.0001        |
| $C^2$                    | 16             | 1  | 16          | 213.49          | < 0.0001        |
| Residual                 | 0.5245         | 7  | 0.0749      |                 |                 |
| Lack of fit              | 0.158          | 3  | 0.0527      | 0.5749          | 0.6613          |
| Pure error               | 0.3665         | 4  | 0.0916      |                 |                 |
| Correct total            | 149.42         | 16 |             |                 |                 |

Table S6 Analysis of variance and significance for Ni leaching regression model

| Source                  | Sum of squares | df | Mean square | F-value | P-value  |
|-------------------------|----------------|----|-------------|---------|----------|
| Model                   | 315.32         | 9  | 35.04       | 290.07  | < 0.0001 |
| A-citrate concentration | 76.32          | 1  | 76.32       | 631.89  | < 0.0001 |
| <i>B</i> -temperature   | 73.57          | 1  | 73.57       | 609.09  | < 0.0001 |
| C-liquid-solid ratio    | 24.89          | 1  | 24.89       | 206.04  | < 0.0001 |
| AB                      | 1.93           | 1  | 1.93        | 16      | 0.0052   |
| AC                      | 1.92           | 1  | 1.92        | 15.88   | 0.0053   |
| BC                      | 0.81           | 1  | 0.81        | 6.71    | 0.036    |
| $A^2$                   | 60.27          | 1  | 60.27       | 498.95  | < 0.0001 |
| $B^2$                   | 58.45          | 1  | 58.45       | 483.89  | < 0.0001 |
| $C^2$                   | 5.7            | 1  | 5.7         | 47.17   | 0.0002   |
| Residual                | 0.8455         | 7  | 0.1208      |         |          |
| Lack of fit             | 0.0558         | 3  | 0.0186      | 0.0942  | 0.9593   |
| Pure error              | 0.7897         | 4  | 0.1974      |         |          |
| Correct total           | 316.17         | 16 |             |         |          |

Table S7 Analysis of variance and significance for Co leaching regression model

| Source                  | Sum of squares | df | Mean square | <i>F</i> -value | <i>P</i> -value |
|-------------------------|----------------|----|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Model                   | 206.33         | 9  | 22.93       | 622.91          | < 0.0001        |
| A-citrate concentration | 48.12          | 1  | 48.12       | 1307.4          | < 0.0001        |
| B-temperature           | 37.41          | 1  | 37.41       | 1016.49         | < 0.0001        |
| C-liquid-solid ratio    | 13.26          | 1  | 13.26       | 360.32          | < 0.0001        |
| AB                      | 3.31           | 1  | 3.31        | 90              | < 0.0001        |
| AC                      | 0.49           | 1  | 0.49        | 13.31           | 0.0082          |
| BC                      | 0.8649         | 1  | 0.8649      | 23.5            | 0.0019          |
| $A^2$                   | 78.98          | 1  | 78.98       | 2145.92         | < 0.0001        |
| $B^2$                   | 10.06          | 1  | 10.06       | 273.44          | < 0.0001        |
| $C^2$                   | 6.64           | 1  | 6.64        | 180.48          | < 0.0001        |
| Residual                | 0.2576         | 7  | 0.0368      |                 |                 |
| Lack of fit             | 0.0606         | 3  | 0.0202      | 0.4096          | 0.7533          |
| Pure error              | 0.1971         | 4  | 0.0493      |                 |                 |
| Correct total           | 206.59         | 16 |             |                 |                 |

## The full-component pyrolysis process of LiFePO<sub>4</sub>:

LiFePO<sub>4</sub> has a typical olivine structure, which endows it with good chemical stability and thermal stability. In order to systematically study the structural evolution law of LiFePO<sub>4</sub> during the pyrolysis process, this study carried out a full-component pyrolysis experiment on spent LiFePO<sub>4</sub> batteries. The specific process is as follows: Firstly, the spent LiFePO<sub>4</sub> batteries were immersed in brine for discharging for 24 h to fully release the remaining power. Subsequently, the batteries were manually disassembled, and components such as the positive electrode, negative electrode, and separator were collected. Then, a shearing crusher was used to crush each component to make them evenly mixed. Finally, 30 g of the crushed sample was taken and pyrolyzed at a high temperature of 550 °C for 2 h, and the pyrolysis products were obtained for XRD analysis.

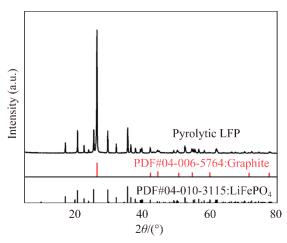
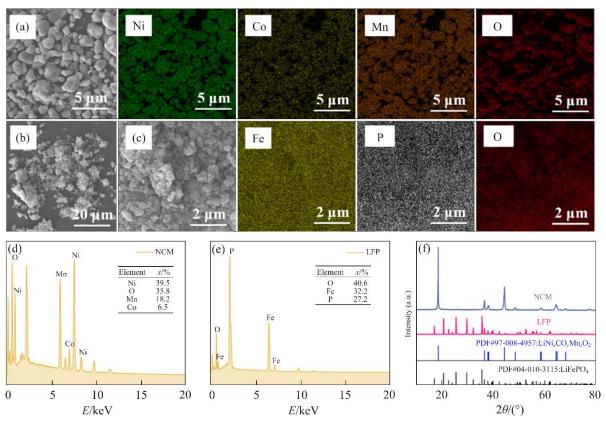


Figure S1 The XRD pattern of the full-component pyrolysis of LiFePO<sub>4</sub>



**Figure S2** Analysis of laboratory-prepared NCM and LFP powder samples: (a, d) SEM-EDS analysis for NCM; (b, c, e) SEM-EDS analysis for LFP; (f) XRD analysis

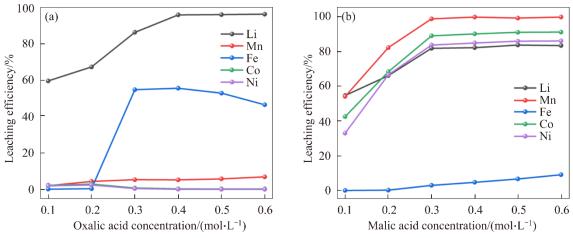
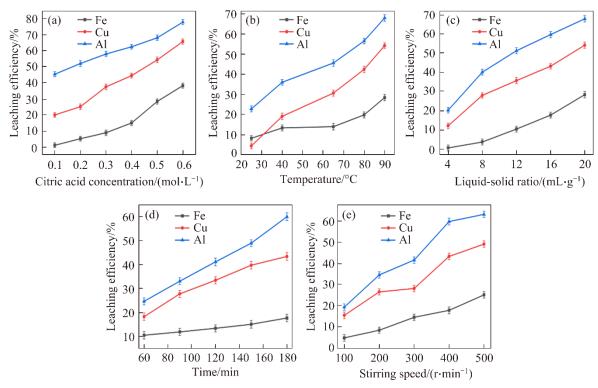
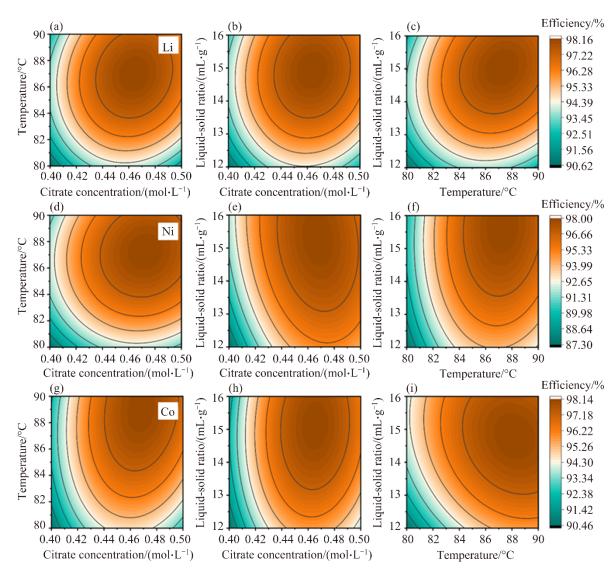


Figure S3 Effect of acid concentration on leaching efficiency: (a) Oxalic acid; (b) Malic acid



**Figure S4** The effects of leaching conditions on the leaching of impurity metals: (a) Citric acid concentration; (b) Temperature; (c) Liquid-solid ratio; (d) Reaction time; (e) Stirring speed



**Figure S5** Contour plot of Li, Ni and Co leaching: (a, d, g) Effect of citric acid concentration and temperature on the leaching of Li, Ni and Co, respectively; (b, e, h) Effect of citric acid concentration and liquid-solid ratio on the leaching of Li, Ni and Co, respectively; (c, f, i) Effect of temperature and liquid-solid ratio on the leaching of Li, Ni and Co, respectively

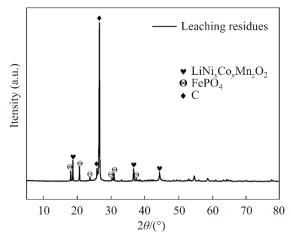
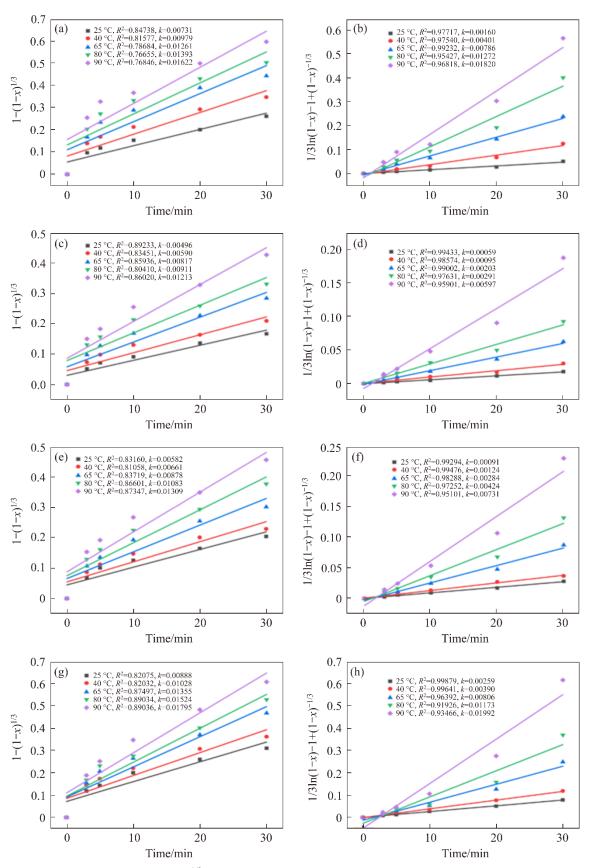


Figure S6 XRD Pattern of leaching residues from the reaction of  $LiNi_xCo_yMn_zO_2$  with full-component pyrolytic  $LiFePO_4$  in citric acid system



**Figure S7** Linear relationship of  $(1-(1-x)^{1/3})$  and reaction time t for (a) Li, (c) Ni, (e) Co and (g) Mn, and linear relationship of  $(1/3\ln(1-x)-1+(1-x)^{-1/3})$  and reaction time t for (b) Li, (d) Ni, (f) Co and (h) Mn