

*Tc-enhancement of Fe<sub>1+δ</sub>Se by electrochemical lithium intercalation*

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The superconducting transition temperature ( $T_c$ ) of tetragonal Fe<sub>1+δ</sub>Se can be enhanced from 8.5 K to 44 K by chemical structure modification resulting in significant increase of [Fe<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>2</sub>]-interlayer separation: from 5.5 Å in native Fe<sub>1+δ</sub>Se to > 7 Å in K<sub>x</sub>Fe<sub>1-y</sub>Se and to > 9 Å in Li<sub>1-x</sub>Fex(OH)Fe<sub>1-y</sub>Se. Structure modification is achieved by the shift of the [Fe<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>2</sub>]-slabs and filling the interlayer space by solvated lithium and iron cations or by large alkaline cations like K. We report the application of electrochemical approach to modification of Fe<sub>1+δ</sub>Se superconducting properties. In contrast to chemical way the electrochemical approach allows to insert small amount of non-solvated Li<sup>+</sup> into Fe<sub>1+δ</sub>Se structure keeping the native structure and [Fe<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>2</sub>]-layers arrangement. The amount of intercalated lithium is extremely small (about 0.07 Li<sup>+</sup> per f.u), however, caused slight change of carrier concentration results in enhancement of  $T_c$  up to ~ 44 K. The obtained results provide the opportunity to better understand the mechanism of superconductivity in Fe-based superconductors and open new possibilities for  $T_c$ -enhancement.

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