# Aluminum: The future of Battery Technology

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#### 1. Abstract

Due to the world turning away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy, electrical energy is becoming increasingly important. Aluminum-ion batteries (AIBs) are promising contenders in the realm of electrochemical energy storage. While lithium-ion batteries (LIBs) have long dominated the market with their high energy density and durability, sustainability concerns stem from the environmental impact of raw material extraction and manufacturing processes, and performance-related drawbacks include limited lifespan, safety hazards like thermal runaway, and challenges in recycling. AIBs stand out for their superior sustainability and theoretical capacity, powered by the usage of trivalent aluminum ions (Al³+), due to a higher abundance in Earth's crust and a well-established recycling infrastructure. Despite the advantages of AIBs in sustainability and theoretical capacity, their widespread commercial use has been hindered by certain electrochemical limitations, such as challenges in achieving competitive energy density and addressing issues related to the efficient cycling of trivalent aluminum ions. This paper delves into the merits of AIBs, exploring their potential to surpass LIBs and serve as the leading battery technology of the future.

#### 2. How Lithium and Aluminum ion Batteries work

Lithium-ion batteries (LIBs) dominate the battery market as they provide high energy density and long cyclability, meaning it can endure numerous charge and discharge cycles while retaining its capacity and performance, to enable an increasingly electrified world. However, they have significant disadvantages compared to other electrochemical systems in terms of overall sustainability and performance. Aluminum-ion batteries (AIBs) show promising characteristics that suggest they could potentially outperform lithium-ion batteries in terms of sustainability and theoretical capacity due to their natural abundance and trivalent nature.

To accurately compare LIBs and AIBs it is necessary to understand how they operate. A typical AIB consists of an aluminum anode, a cathode (often made of materials such as graphite), a separator, an electrolyte, and two current collectors. AIB batteries operate on the principle of the reversible electrochemical reaction of aluminum with oxygen to form aluminum oxide. The aluminum in the anode serves as the charge carrier, a role similar to the lithium ions in lithiumion batteries. As the aluminum ions are positively charged, they migrate from the anode to the cathode through the electrolyte and separator. This migration process creates free electrons in the anode, culminating in a charge at the positive current collector. When discharging, aluminum at the anode loses electrons (is oxidized) to become aluminum ions. These ions then migrate through an electrolyte towards the cathode where they are received, while the electrons travel

through the external circuit to do useful work as shown in Figure 1(b). During charging, the process is reversed: aluminum ions leave the cathode, travel back to the anode, and regain electrons to become metallic aluminum again<sup>1,2</sup>.

A lithium-ion (Li-ion) battery functions based on the movement of lithium ions between the anode and the cathode as shown in Figure 1(a). The most common setup involves a graphite anode and a metal oxide cathode, with a lithium salt electrolyte in between. During discharge, lithium ions move from the graphite anode, through the electrolyte, and intercalate into the metal oxide cathode. At the same time, electrons released from the anode travel through the external circuit, providing power to devices, before rejoining the lithium ions at the cathode. The charging process reverses this movement, with lithium ions deintercalating from the cathode and returning to the anode<sup>3</sup>.

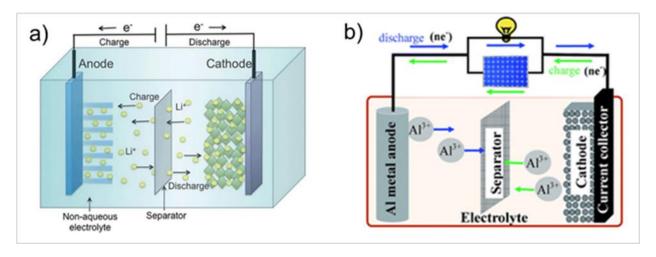


Figure I(a): Schematic and operation diagram of a Lithium-ion battery<sup>3</sup>. Figure I(B): Schematic and operation diagram of an Aluminum-ion battery <sup>4</sup>.

AIBs utilize trivalent aluminum ions, which possess a +3 charge, in contrast to the monovalent lithium ions in LIBs with a +1 charge. This disparity in charge magnitude greatly influences energy storage, conductivity, and ion mobility in the respective electrolytes. Trivalent ions, due to their capacity to convey more charge per ion than monovalent ions, may exhibit elevated charge/discharge potentials<sup>4</sup>. Structurally, LIBs intercalate (insert between crystal layers) between anode and cathode materials without significant structural alterations, AIBs predominantly witness the plating of aluminum ions onto, or their stripping from, the metal anode, bypassing the typical intercalation<sup>5</sup>. Furthermore, on average aluminum costs \$2.55 per kilogram while lithium costs \$18.75 per kilogram<sup>6</sup>. The cost of Li is >7x higher than aluminum, making this cost difference compelling at large scale and because of this, news articles praise aluminum batteries as "dirt cheap" compared to li-ion batteries<sup>7</sup>. Lastly, while LIBs incorporate

various metal oxide cathodes, AIBs frequently adopt carbon-based materials like graphite, underscoring the distinct material requirements and possibilities each battery system presents<sup>4,5</sup>.

While electrochemical operation, involving the efficiency of the conversion of chemical energy to electrical energy through redox reactions, is a large part of choosing the right battery for a particular application, factors such as sustainability, safety, and cost should also play a role in battery selection. Even though both the aluminum and the lithium that are used in the batteries are naturally occurring metals in Earth's crust, many components make one metal far more consumer-friendly and environmentally favorable than the other such as the vast difference in abundance. Additionally, a large amount of research is being done currently to match the electrochemical performance of aluminum ion batteries to that of the current industry standard. Simply put, the emergence of aluminum-ion batteries could redefine the economic landscape of energy storage. Delivering comparable performance to lithium-ion batteries but at a significantly reduced cost, this innovation has the potential to broaden access to advanced energy solutions, impacting not just consumers but entire industries. Exploring the process of how resources are extracted and the life cycles of both these metals can help with fairly comparing them.

## 3. Comparison of Resource Extraction

One of the main reasons for the high price of lithium and low price of aluminum is their abundance in Earth's crust. Aluminum is the third most abundant element after oxygen and silicon. Lithium metal only makes up about 0.002% of Earth's crust by mass while aluminum makes up nearly 8% of Earth's crust<sup>8</sup>. This massive difference shows how rare lithium reserves are on Earth and further demonstrates that it is not a sustainable solution. Using a more abundant material could lead to a more stable and potentially lower-cost supply chain from miner to manufacturer to consumer. Furthermore, the well-established extraction processes could make aluminum-ion batteries more cost-effective than lithium-ion batteries as these systems have been refined over the centuries to make aluminum mining exceptionally efficient.

Other than abundance, mining metals takes a toll on our planet. The extraction of lithium requires significant water usage, which could lead to environmental concerns in water-scarce regions. According to Wenjuan Liu et. al., brine extraction in areas like the Lithium Triangle and hard rock mining in regions like Australia contribute to water stress, impacting local ecosystems<sup>9</sup>. Brine extraction may use anywhere from around 500 to 5,000 cubic meters of water per ton of lithium produced, depending on factors such as brine concentration, extraction efficiency, and local operational practice and estimates suggest that water usage in hard rock mining can range from approximately 1 to 2.5 cubic meters per ton of lithium produced<sup>9</sup>. Moreover, the environmental benefits of aluminum battery adoption do not stop at mining. Aluminum metal can be recycled 50-70 times while lithium can be recycled less than

once<sup>10</sup>. The money saved through mining a more abundant metal can be invested into recycling plants to repurpose old aluminum batteries.

According to a paper written by Hubertus Bardt, aluminum is not classified as critical when considering the reserves-to-production ratio, political implications, and supply risks<sup>11</sup>. One reason for this is the various sources of aluminum. Naturally occurring aluminum is not usually found as a pure metal but rather in the form aluminum silicates. To produce the pure form of aluminum suitable for various applications, it must be extracted either from minerals like bauxite or via recycling from scrap. According to a study by Ostojic et al., one kilogram of pure aluminum can be extracted from 4 kg of bauxite<sup>12</sup>. Additionally, the concentrations of aluminum in raw materials are twice that of the concentrations of lithium. Using this approximation, one can deduce that less soil needs to be displaced when mining aluminum than when mining the same mass of lithium. Furthermore, over twice the amount of aluminum atoms can be sourced from 1 kg of raw material as compared to lithium, underscoring the efficiency of using aluminum in batteries.

Even though aluminum is abundant in the Earth's crust, the recycling process determines the life cycle and overall sustainability of the material. Infrastructure around aluminum has been globally established for some time now, and every continent has its own resources for mining, producing, and recycling of the metal<sup>13,14</sup>. A study conducted by Fathi Habashi in 2003 reported significant advancements in reducing the energy consumption of the aluminum production process by up to 95%. This means that in today's world, 35% of the global aluminum demand is provided by recycled aluminum compared to 5% of lithium batteries<sup>1,10</sup>.

Recycling and manufacturing process to produce aluminum does not come without an environmental impact. The aluminum industry accounts for about 1% of greenhouse gas emissions split across two categories. Direct emissions from the aluminum production process account for 40% and the remaining 60% are indirect emissions from electricity generation<sup>15</sup>. The carbon footprint of producing 1 kg of raw aluminum is between 5 to 40 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>. Therefore, it is important to consider renewable energy processes as aluminum production grows to counterbalance these carbon emissions. An example of ongoing efforts to counterbalance is that most aluminum production facilities are strategically located next to hydro-electric power stations due to the high energy demand<sup>16</sup>.

As per a study into the extractive metallurgy of aluminum, the production of 1 kg of aluminum requires temperatures around 1,000°C and an energy input of between 9 to 12 kWh, with process efficiencies ranging from 85 to 95%. On the other hand, the production of lithium demands even higher temperatures, up to 1,150°C¹¹⁰. Both metals are produced by a fused-salt electrolysis method, but aluminum's production consumes significantly less electrical energy than lithium's, especially when weighing the other factors such as the gravimetric or volumetric capacity of each metal. Table 1 summarizes the production requirements and parameters discussed.

 $TABLE\ 1:\ Comparative\ Analysis\ of\ Aluminum\ and\ Lithium\ Production\ Processes\ for\ Battery\ Manufacturing.$   $Highlighting\ energy\ sources,\ production\ temperatures,\ energy\ input,\ process\ efficiencies,\ and\ additional\ considerations\ for\ sustainable\ production^{10}.$ 

Parameter	<b>Aluminum Production</b>	Lithium Production	
Energy Source	Primarily hydro-electric power stations	Primarily non-renewable electricity sources	
Production Temperature	-1000 °C	Up to 1150 °C	
Energy Input per kilogram	9-12 Wh	12+ Wh	
Process Efficiency	95%	97%	
Production Method	Fused-salt electrolysis	Fused-salt electrolysis	
Energy Consumption Comparison	Aluminum strategically located near hydro-electric sources and consumes significantly less electrical energy than lithium.	While specific figures vary, lithium extraction generally consumes more electrical energy than aluminum due to its higher production temperature and geographic location.	
Additional Considerations	Efforts to counterbalance energy demands, considering gravimetric or volumetric capacity of each metal.	Sustainable lithium production efforts focus on improving energy efficiency in high-temperature processes through advanced electrolysis methods, optimized reaction conditions, and innovative materials.	

### 4. Electrochemical disadvantages of Aluminum

Although aluminum is a far more sustainable metal than lithium, the main factor preventing the widespread adoption of aluminum-ion batteries and replacement of lithium-ion batteries is the superiority in electrochemical performance. There are a few challenges that AIBs face before they can replace LIBs on a larger scale and be adopted in the long term. One crucial consideration is energy density and voltage: the potential difference in a battery originates from the differential electrochemical potential between its anode and cathode. Notably, the standard AIB design currently exhibits a lower voltage than its LIB counterpart, leading to a diminished energy density, a vital metric for applications like electric vehicles where the balance of range and weight is paramount. Another challenge stems from aluminum's trivalent nature, which emits three electrons upon ionization which complicates the ion's intercalation into cathode materials<sup>1</sup>. On the contrary, LIBs use a monovalent lithium ion and its well-researched and optimized cathode materials like lithium cobalt oxide or lithium iron phosphate. The search for a suitable electrolyte that efficiently handles Al<sup>3+</sup> ions and remains stable across the battery's operational voltage poses a significant challenge. A further limitation resides in the discharge rate of AIBs. Due to the inherent complexities associated with the movement of trivalent Al<sup>3+</sup> ions compared to monovalent Li<sup>+</sup> ions, AIBs currently struggle to achieve the rapid energy release rates seen in LIBs, making them less suitable for high-demand applications. Moreover, AIBs do not match LIBs performance for cycle life and long-term stability, especially under fluctuating temperature and usage conditions<sup>17</sup>.

However, the push for Al-ion innovation is not without its reasons such as its sustainability and safety benefits along with certain electrochemical performance metrics. Furthermore, the Al-ion's resilience against damage and reduced risk of hazards like thermal runaway paves the way for safer energy storage solutions. Al-ion batteries are less prone to the formation of dendrites, unwanted growths that can cause short circuits in a battery. Additionally, aluminum's superior thermal conductivity facilitates more efficient heat dissipation, reducing the risk of overheating and thermal runaway, a critical safety concern in battery technology. The robust compatibility of Al-ion batteries with stable electrolytes further enhances their safety by mitigating the potential for chemical reactions that could compromise the battery's integrity. Moreover, the inherent stability of aluminum as a material contributes to the overall durability and resilience of these batteries. All in all, although Al-ion batteries currently trail behind Li-ion in certain performance aspects, their innate benefits, and the possibility of overcoming present challenges make them a real candidate to replace Li-ion batteries.

#### **5.** Improvements to Electrochemical Performance

Scientists have understood the areas that need to be improved upon in AIBs. Specifically, scientists have developed the "Molten AlCl<sub>3</sub>/urea electrolyte" AIB<sup>18</sup>, the "Super long-life CMK-3" AIB<sup>19</sup>, the "High Coulombic Efficiency Aluminum-Graphite" AIB<sup>20</sup>, and the "Graphene film 3H3C Ultrafast Quarter-Million Life cycle" AIB<sup>21</sup>. The following four battery technologies are

proprietary AIB systems that each have a unique characteristic that improves performance of general AIBs to match or even outperform current state-of-the-art LIBs as seen in Figure 2.

Two main aspects of electrochemical performance that must be improved in Al-ion batteries are cycle life and discharge rate. One recently proposed advancement to improve cyclability is a molten aluminum chloride-urea graphite battery. This battery improves the mechanism of aluminum ions migrating between their anode and cathode during the charging and discharging phases, using a unique electrolyte made of molten AlCl<sub>3</sub>/urea. When charging, the anode, made of aluminum, undergoes oxidation to release trivalent aluminum ions (Al<sup>3+</sup>). As these ions traverse the electrolyte to the graphite cathode, they combine with chloride ions to form AlCl<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> ions. These ions then insert themselves between the graphite layers of the cathode. During discharge, the AlCl<sub>4</sub> ions exit the graphite layers and as they approach the aluminum anode, release an aluminum ion. This ion then assimilates three electrons, reverting to its original metallic form. The performance improvement is achieved with a specific AlCl<sub>3</sub> to urea ratio of 1.5 in the electrolyte and at an operational temperature of approximately 120°C, allowing the cationic species [AlCl<sub>2</sub>(urea)<sup>+</sup> to move with fewer losses. However, high temperature batteries pose management challenges as they may require an external power supply, which could be a potential drawback of this advancement. These conditions not only ensure efficient ionic movement but also stave off undesired side reactions. While this elevated temperature might raise concerns about the safety of battery operation, it is essential to note that the effectiveness of the battery system relies on these conditions, and it is crucial to implement appropriate safety measures and thermal management strategies. The battery touts a high specific capacity, demonstrating that it can store substantial energy relative to its weight. This, combined with its exceptional rate capability and longevity (with notable capacity retention even after 500 cycles), renders it a promising candidate for large-scale energy storage, especially when juxtaposed against traditional Al-ion batteries with pricier electrolytes<sup>18</sup>.

To further improve the cyclability of aluminum-ion batteries, the "Super long life aluminum battery" has been proposed as a potential successor to traditional lithium-ion batteries. This battery features a volumetric capacity reaching up to 8046 mAh cm^-3. This metric signifies the immense energy these batteries can store within a confined space, making them ideal for compact electronic devices. Also, by introducing CMK-3 (mesoporous carbon), an ordered mesoporous carbon, as an efficient and commercially available cathode, this chemistry can reach high levels of cyclability, exhibiting over 36,000 charge/discharge cycles with negligible degradation. A significant highlight of CMK-3 lies in its architecture; the high surface area and structured pores provide rapid pathways for ion movement, thereby enhancing the battery's rate capabilities. Similar to the molten aluminum chloride chemistry, CMK-3 allows for intercalation of Al-ions on the anode side. have verified this mechanism, revealing how these anions interact with CMK-3's structure to ensure consistent and robust battery performance. Packing an energy punch, the Al/CMK-3 battery showcases an energy density nearing 45 Wh kg^-1, competitive with several mainstream battery technologies. Even better, unlike their lithium-ion counterparts,

which are notorious for safety issues, including fire hazards, this Al-ion battery boasts a high safety profile<sup>19</sup>.

Discharge rate and Coulombic efficiency go hand in hand. This is why the innovation of the high CE aluminum-ion battery is a promising improvement for the discharge rate problem of Al-ion batteries. This battery technology works by utilizing a novel electrolyte made from a blend of AlCl3 and urea, formulated in a 1.3:1 molar ratio. This battery operates using aluminum, as the anode and graphite as the cathode. Electrochemically, the battery exhibits distinct voltage plateaus around 1.9 and 1.5 V, with an average discharge of 1.73 V. These clear voltage plateaus offer consistent and predictable energy delivery stages, simplifying battery management and ensuring more stable performance during operation. What sets this battery apart is its outstanding CE of approximately 99.7% and a commendable cathode capacity of about 73 mAh g-1 at a current density of 100 mA g-1. Compared to LIBs, this aluminum-ion prototype presents several advantages. Furthermore, during its operation, in-situ Raman spectroscopy elucidated the chloroaluminate anion's intercalation and deintercalation within the graphite during the battery's charge and discharge cycles<sup>17</sup>. This indicates the formation of a stage 2 graphite intercalation compound when fully charged. Importantly, this battery offers an improved safety profile since its electrolyte is nonflammable, addressing one of the primary concerns with LIBs. Given these attributes, the aluminum-ion battery technology offers a promising solution for future highperformance, cost-effective energy storage needs<sup>20</sup>.

The challenge with aluminum-ion batteries has traditionally been their lower voltage in comparison to lithium-ion batteries. However, by focusing on enhancing the discharge rate, the challenges of reduced voltage can be offset to some extent. The ultrafast all-climate aluminumgraphene battery is a promising solution to this problem. At the heart of the design is the graphene film cathode with a "trihigh tricontinuous (3H3C) design". The electrochemical operation relies on the movement of ions between the anode and the cathode. In this battery, the graphene cathode, orientation, and channeling (3H), facilitates efficient ion movement with its continuous electron-conducting matrix, ion-diffusion highway, and electroactive mass (3C). By capitalizing on this efficient ion transport, the battery can discharge at much higher current rates, thus compensating for its lower voltage by delivering the required power in a shorter time frame. This structure allows the battery to achieve a high specific capacity of around 120 mAh g-1 even at ultrahigh current densities and display exceptional retention after a quarter-million cycles. Compared to lithium-ion batteries, this aluminum-graphene battery boasts several advantages: the aluminum anode's three-electron redox property provides high capacity, the non-flammability of materials enhances safety, and the unique graphene structure supports fast charging and stable cycling. Furthermore, the battery functions efficiently across a wide temperature range, from -40 to 120°C, and displays remarkable flexibility, essential attributes for all-climate wearable devices. The graphene's high crystalline nature and the designed interconnected channels ensure rapid ion diffusion, enabling the battery's impressive rate capability and cycle life. By strategically increasing the discharge rate, the aluminum-graphene battery can effectively

address the limitations associated with lower voltage, making it a strong contender for the lithium-ion battery<sup>21</sup>.

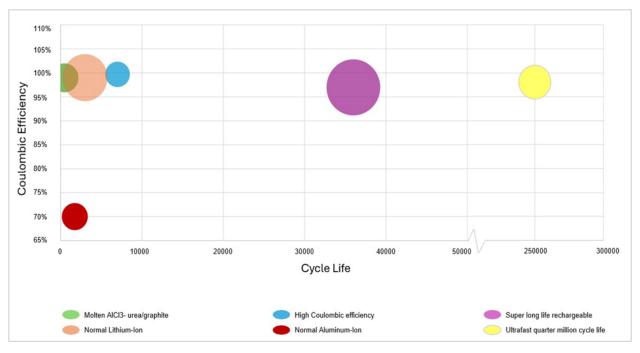


FIGURE 2: COMPARISON OF EACH BATTERY TECHNOLOGY. PLOTTED BY CYCLE LIFE (X AXIS) AND COULOMBIC EFFICIENCY (Y AXIS). SIZE OF CIRCLE IS REPRESENTATIVE OF BATTERY CAPACITY  $^{18-23}$ .

#### 6. Applications

Lithium-ion batteries have been used as a universal solution for electrochemical energy storage. However, specific Al-ion battery chemistries have unique advantages, which may be suitable for individual applications. Notably, Table 2 outlines key metrics for Al-ion batteries in comparison to lithium-ion counterparts, offering insights into their performance across crucial parameters for specific applications. The top three uses for rechargeable batteries—electric vehicles (EVs), portable devices (PDs), and energy storage systems (ESS)—each have distinct requirements, and the ability of Al-ion batteries to tailor their strengths to these needs makes them an intriguing contender in the evolving landscape of electrochemical energy storage solutions<sup>24</sup>. As technology advances, the diversified landscape of battery options fosters a more nuanced approach to selecting the most suitable power source for specific applications, promoting efficiency, safety, and sustainability.

Table 2: consists of the current electrochemical performance metrics required by a battery for electric vehicles, personal devices, and energy storage systems  $^{25-28}$ 

	EV	PD	ESS
Energy Density?	270 Wh/kg	15 Wh/kg	250 Wh/kg
Life Cycle (times)	>3000 (10 yrs)	>3000 (10 yrs)	>3000 (10 yrs)
Efficiency (%)	>95%	>95%	>95%
Discharging C-rate	9 hours (C/9)	Portable Devices: 18 hours (C/18)	ESSs: 12 hours (C/12)
Charging C-rate	10min - 8 hours	<1 hour	12 hours
Operating temperature	-20 C - 50 C	0 C - 35 C	20 C - 30 C
Battery Cost	\$137 per kWh	\$50-\$200	\$10,000

The Rechargeable Aluminum Batteries with CMK-3 Cathode stand out as the premier consideration for Energy Storage Systems (ESS) due to a combination of performance and safety metrics. Their remarkable cycle life, reaching over 36,000 charge/discharge cycles, ensures that these batteries can deliver sustained performance for years, making them ideal for large-scale storage systems that experience frequent charge and discharge cycles. This longevity is coupled with an intrinsic high safety profile, reducing the inherent risks like fire hazards associated with many traditional battery systems, especially vital for installations near populated areas. Furthermore, the battery's volumetric capacity, marked at an impressive 8046 mAh cm^-3, highlights its ability to store vast amounts of energy in a limited space, optimizing real estate for large installations. Despite their notable advantages, these batteries are not currently widely used for large-scale storage, mainly because they are still in the early stages of development and commercialization. Established technologies like lithium-ion batteries, with their proven reliability, mature supply chains, and extensive integration into grid-scale applications, currently dominate the market for large-scale energy storage solutions. As the CMK-3 Cathode Rechargeable Aluminum Batteries undergo further testing, standardization, and increased commercial viability, their adoption in the energy storage sector may see growth in the future <sup>19</sup>.

When it comes to Electric Vehicles (EVs), the demands for a reliable and high-performing battery are paramount. The ideal choice for EVs would be the advanced Aluminum-Graphene Battery, known for its exceptional rate capabilities and safety profile. With a high specific

capacity of around 120 mAh g<sup>-1</sup>, it ensures that EVs can cover substantial distances on a single charge. Additionally, its robust cycle life, showing negligible degradation even after a quarter-million cycles, makes it well-suited for the rigorous use expected in EVs, ensuring longevity. The non-flammable materials in its construction enhance safety, addressing concerns related to fire hazards, which is of utmost importance in high-capacity batteries. Furthermore, its ability to operate efficiently across a wide temperature range from -40°C to 120°C ensures that it can cater to the diverse environments that EVs may encounter. Considering the need for rapid charging and the unique requirements of EVs, the Aluminum-Graphene Battery emerges as a promising solution for the future of electric transportation<sup>21</sup>.

In the realm of Portable Devices (PDs), lightweight, long-lasting, and safe battery technology is key. The Aluminum-Ion Battery with High CE stands out as an excellent candidate for these applications. While portable devices may not require the same energy density as EVs, they do need to be efficient and offer extended use on a single charge. This battery's high CE of approximately 99.7% ensures that a significant portion of the stored energy is effectively utilized, resulting in prolonged device operation. Moreover, its impressive cathode capacity of about 73 mAh g<sup>-1</sup> at a current density of 100 mA g<sup>-1</sup> allows PDs to run for extended periods without frequent recharging. The non-flammable electrolyte addresses safety concerns, which are particularly crucial for devices that people carry with them daily. Overall, the Aluminum-Ion Battery with High CE is a well-rounded choice for powering the next generation of portable devices<sup>20</sup>.

#### 7. Conclusion and Outlook:

In conclusion, the comparison between Aluminum-Ion Batteries and Lithium-Ion Batteries highlights an interesting relationship of advantages and challenges. AIBs, powered by trivalent aluminum ions and sustainable sourcing, hold immense promise for transforming the landscape of electrochemical energy storage. These batteries address critical environmental concerns and resource limitations associated with LIBs. The diverse array of AIB chemistries—from molten aluminum chloride-urea graphite batteries to aluminum-graphene variants—demonstrates ongoing innovation to overcome electrochemical limitations.

While LIBs have long reigned supreme due to their high energy density and proven reliability, the scarcity of lithium and its environmentally impactful extraction processes necessitate alternative solutions.

AIBs, abundant in the Earth's crust and reinforced by robust recycling infrastructure, present a compelling case for sustainability. Their safety advantages, including resilience against damage and reduced risk of hazards like thermal runaway, further enhance their appeal as safer energy storage options.

Looking ahead, the future of battery technology lies in the hands of AIBs. As research continues, we anticipate breakthroughs in cycle life, discharge rates, and overall performance. Innovations

in materials, manufacturing, and design will shape the next generation of energy storage devices. Perhaps we'll witness AIB-powered electric vehicles dominating the roads, grid-scale AIB installations revolutionizing energy distribution, and portable AIB-based gadgets seamlessly integrating into our lives. Imagine a world where aluminum-ion batteries power our devices, homes, and cities. The journey has just begun, and the outlook is electrifying.

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