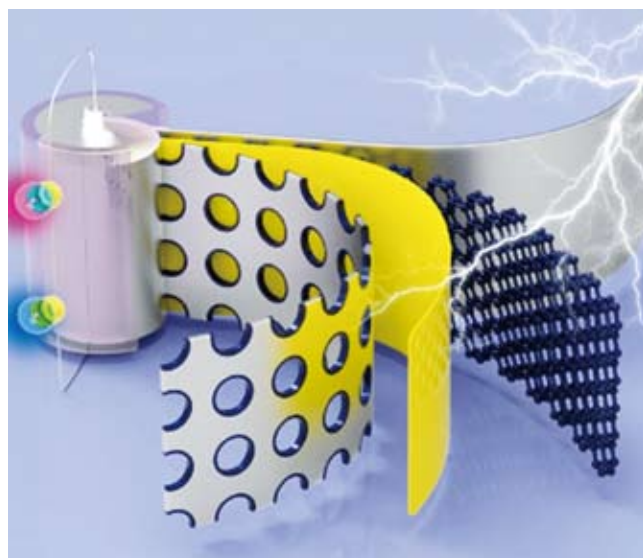


# A Novel Battery Design to Make Dual-Ion Battery Efficient

The dual-ion battery (DIB) is a new type of battery developed in recent years, typically using graphite as both the cathode and anode material. It can operate at a wider voltage window with safer performance and is cheaper than conventional lithium ion batteries.

TANG Yongbing and his co-workers from the Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences had previously developed a low-cost aluminum-graphite DIB (AGDIB) using Al foil as both the anode and current collector. While the AGDIB exhibits high energy density, it is far from practical applications due to its poor stability caused by the crack and pulverization problem of Al foil during cycling.

To solve this problem, TANG's group designed a 3D porous Al foil coated with a uniform carbon layer (pAl/C) both as the anode and the current collector for the DIB. The 3D porous structure of Al alleviates the mechanical stress caused by the volume change of Al during electrochemical cycling, and shortens the ion diffusion length as well. The carbon layer helps buffer the Al volume change, and alleviates undesirable surface reactions through SEI film formation. Therefore, owing to the synergistic effect of the porous and conductive structure of the pAl/C anode, the DIB exhibits excellent long-term cycling stability of over 1000 cycles with 89.4% retention of capacity at 2C current rate (charging/discharging within 30 minutes). It's worth noting that the energy density of this DIB is estimated to be 204 Wh  $\text{kg}^{-1}$  at a high power density of 3084 W  $\text{kg}^{-1}$  (charging/discharging within 4 minutes), which is two times larger than best commercial lithium ion batteries and the best



Schematic structure of the DIB.

performance of any reported DIBs.

TANG believed that this novel DIB with merits of low-cost, high-efficiency, high energy density and long-term cycling capabilities shows great potential for industrial applications in energy fields such as portable electronics and electric vehicles.

Their research was supported by the Guangdong Innovative and Entrepreneurial Research Team Program and the National Natural Science Foundation of China. The paper has been published online by *Advanced Materials*.