

NEXT GENERATION
BATTERY TECHNOLOGY
- PRE-LITHIATION -

FALL 2021

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THE PROBLEM

THE PROBLEM

Every lithium-ion battery loses a certain amount of lithium when it is charged for the first time in chemical reactions leading to the irreversible first cycle loss. The lithium sits on the cathode and travels to the anode and then back. On the first charge the lithium encounters the electrolyte for the first time which leads to chemical reactions that consume some of the lithium. That loss is typically 10-15% with graphite anodes which is the most common used anode material today. The industry has learned to accept that loss and chose to live with it. 722 875 3169

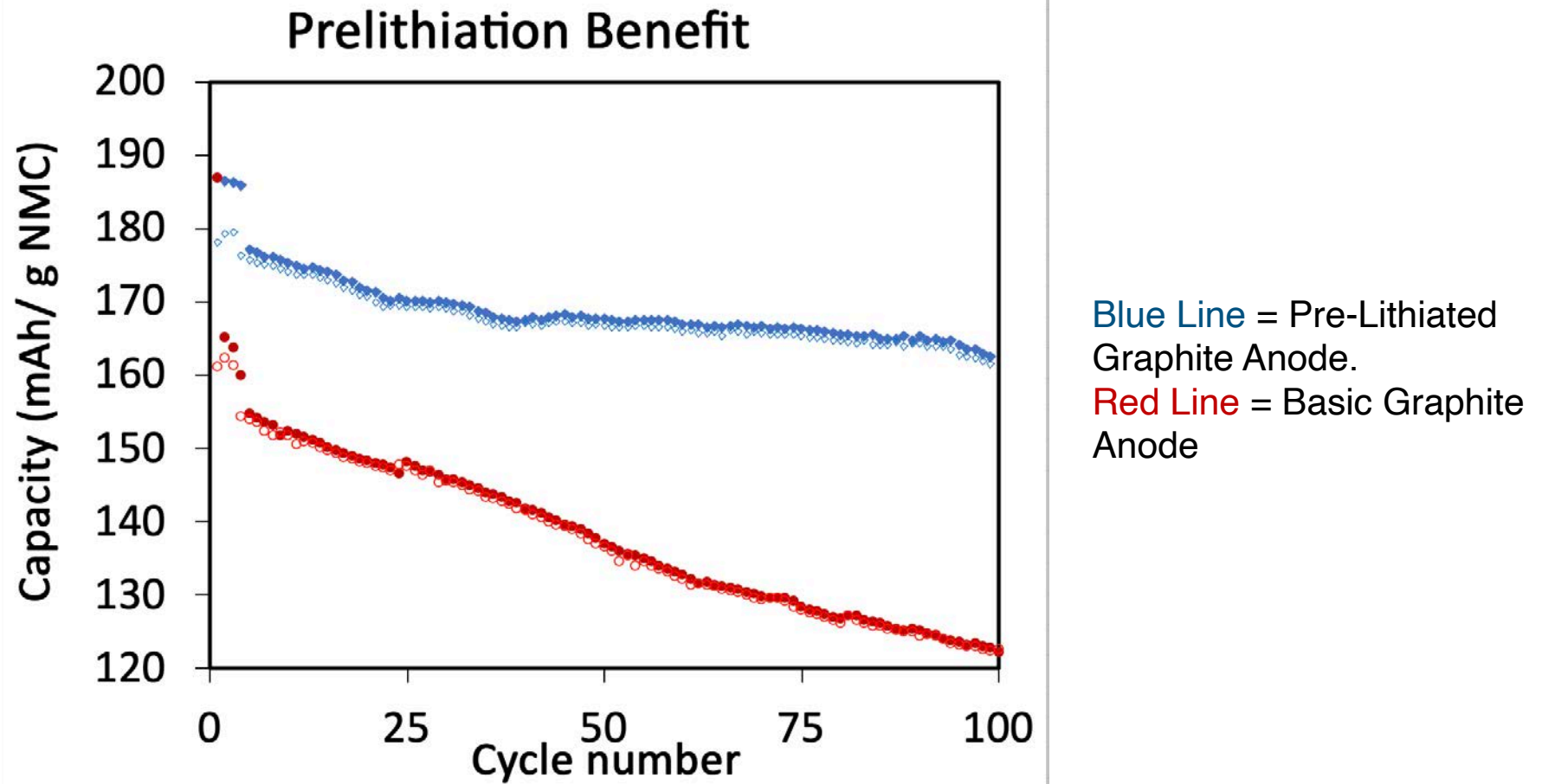
Over the last few years however a notable shift to silicon as a new anode material has begun to take place. Silicon has up to ten times the capacity to absorb lithium compared to graphite so that makes it attractive, however, the irreversible first cycle loss can be as high as 40%, so this presents a material and fast-growing problem for the industry. The silicon anode market is growing at 66% p.a. and that growth rate is expected to accelerate once a solution for the first cycle loss has been adopted.

THE SOLUTION

The alpha En technology is a clever way to compensate for the first cycle loss described above by intercalating (also known as doping) additional lithium on the anode. This "pre-lithiation" means that more lithium is available for cycling back and forth and that means better performance and a longer life span for the battery. The process is green, emission free, cheap and patent protected.

THE OUTCOME: PRE-LITHIATED GRAPHITE ANODE SHOWS A CAPACITY OF 98% AFTER 100 CYCLES

With only a 10% Pre-Lithiation of the graphite anode, we show a 32.8% improvement of the energy capacity of the battery after 100 cycles.



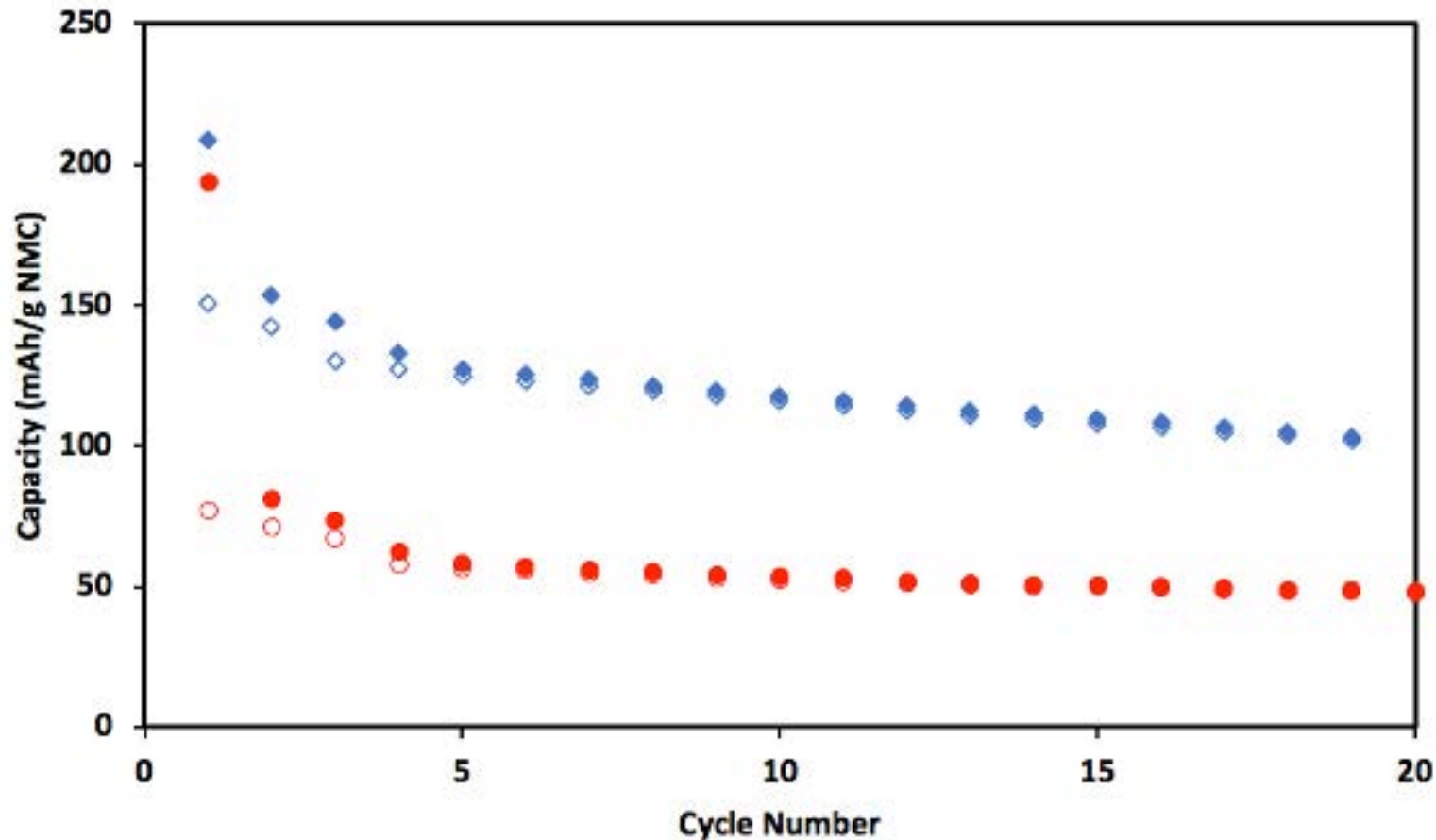
Multiple Pre-Lithiation levels are currently being tested for even greater optimization.

- Capacity retention extended due to lithium reservoir as well as ex-situ SEI formation.
- SEI formation can be customized with additive/salts in the pre-lithiation electrolyte.

THE OUTCOME: PRE-LITHIATED SILICON ANODE SHOWS A FIRST CYCLE EFFICIENCY INCREASE OF 100%

Blue Line = Pre-lithiated
Red Line = Control

Pre-lithiation of Silicon Improvement



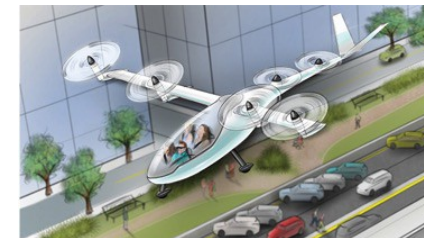
- Pre-lithiation of Silicon-graphite reduces 1st cycle loss from 50% to 0%.
- Further cycling tests being carried out with multiple pre-lithiation levels.



ALPHA-EN'S TARGET MARKET

INDUSTRY EVOLUTION (LI BATTERIES)

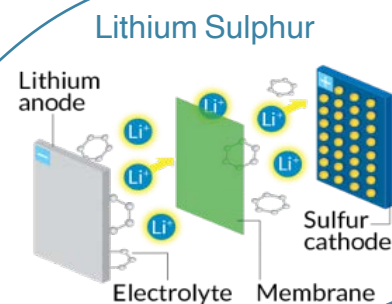
- Li Ion technology is 30 years old
- Next generation technology under development and expected to commercialize over next several years
- Could lead to a “quantum leap” in battery efficiency



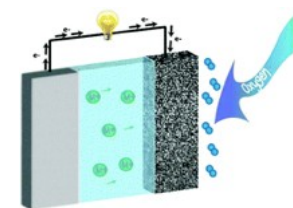
Increased Range



Solid State



Lithium Air



~10 X Improvement

LAST ~ 30 YEARS



ALPE Li-M Anode



TRANSFORMING SOCIETY

Tomorrow

1990

2000

2010

Today

SILICON MARKET GROWTH

Using data from Benchmark's Lithium Ion Battery Database we compare the demand growth rates of the three main anode battery materials: synthetic graphite, natural flake graphite, and silicon.

Synthetic graphite demand (MWh)

In 2021 synthetic graphite has a market share of 56% according to data from **Benchmark's Synthetic Graphite Forecast**. However, synthetic graphite's position as the dominant anode material is set to diminish through the 2020s as demand for natural flake graphite and silicon materials grows at a faster pace.



Natural graphite demand (MWh)

Benchmark forecasts natural flake graphite to account for 40% of the anode market in 2021. But by 2025, natural flake graphite will become the predominant anode material, with a 49% market share driven by automakers outside of China preferring the material to synthetic graphite and the increased use of natural and synthetic graphite anode blends.



Silicon demand (MWh)

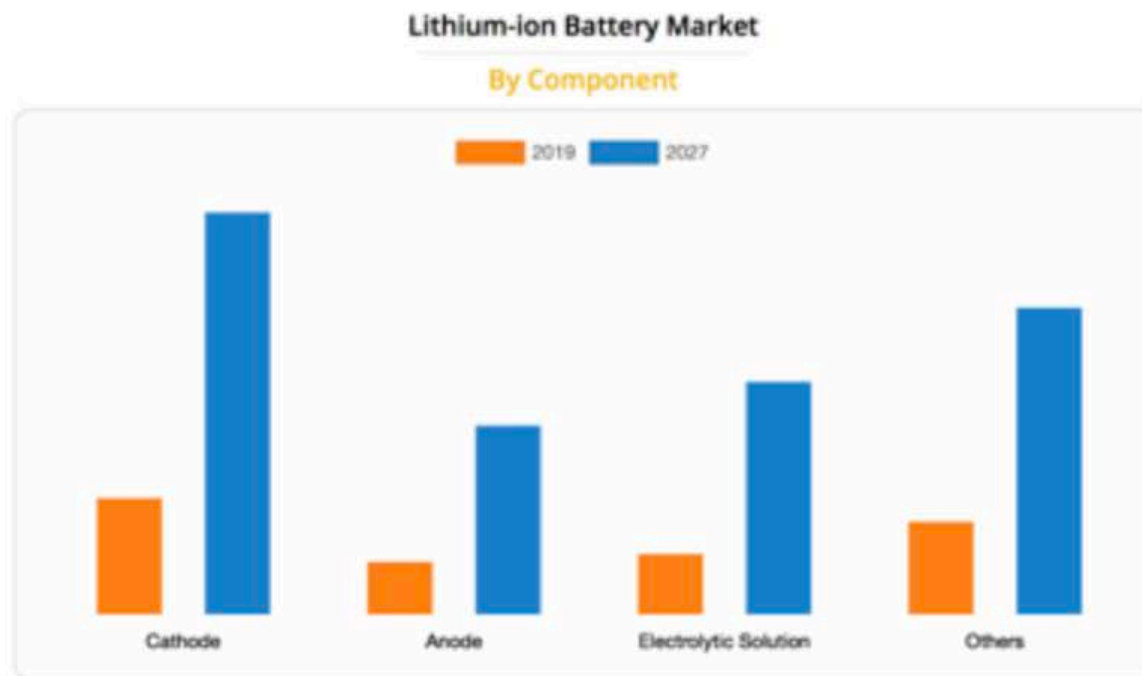
Of all anode materials silicon has the greatest growth prospects ahead as this chart illustrates. Benchmark forecasts silicon anode demand to grow at an average rate of 66% per year between 2020 and 2030, which will see its market share increase almost tenfold from 0.6% to 5%. While silicon dominant anode materials are not yet on the horizon, its growing use as an additive material in battery anodes will drive this growth.



North America is expected to grow with a CAGR of 18.7% during the forecast period.

Get more information on this report :

Asia-Pacific grows at a significant rate in the lithium-ion battery market analysis. This is attributed to the fact that China is expected to lead in the adoption of lithium-ion batteries to control increasing pollution in its cities. The Chinese Government further focuses on hybrid vehicles with pure electric drives. Furthermore, electrification of delivery vehicles and pickups is expected to raise the demand for these batteries. Major automakers in the commercial vehicle segment focus on hybrid drive systems across different model ranges. Therefore, the growth of the electric vehicles/plug-in hybrid vehicles is anticipated to eventually drive the market for lithium-ion batteries.



Electrolytic Solution is projected as the most lucrative segment.

Lithium-ion Battery Market Outlook- 2027

- The global lithium-ion battery market was valued \$36.7 billion in 2019, and is projected to hit \$129.3 billion by 2027, at a CAGR of 18.0% from 2020 to 2027. A lithium-ion (Li-ion) battery is a rechargeable battery, which utilizes lithium ions as the essential components of its electrochemistry. Lithium-ion battery find its major application in laptops, PDAs, cell phones, and iPods.
- The lithium-ion battery market growth is driven by surge in need for smartphones and other electronics devices and increase in electric vehicles are some of the key factors that significantly drive the growth of the global lithium-ion battery market. Implementation of stringent government regulations to control increasing pollution levels is further expected to augment the market growth. However, high price of lithium-ion batteries is anticipated to restrain the market growth. On the contrary, higher energy efficiency requirements in technologically updated consumer gadgets are expected to provide expanding lithium-ion batteries market opportunity to the key players.

The background is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this is a large, semi-transparent circular graphic. This graphic contains a series of small, light-blue dots arranged in a circular pattern, resembling a ring of lights or a stylized orbit. In the center of this circle, there is a faint, stylized figure of a person wearing a hard hat and safety glasses, possibly representing a worker or a scientist. The overall aesthetic is technical and futuristic.

ALPHA-EN'S ROADMAP TO COMMERCIALIZATION

Manufacturing Pure Li-M Anodes

Primary mandate

- Scalable production of Li-M anodes. Li-M plating of 5 to 50 microns on copper substrates (or other conductive substrate)

Pre-lithiated Anodes

- The concept of pre-lithiation is simple in the context of lithium-ion batteries (LIBs). In plain terms, it involves loading LIB anodes with active lithium prior to cell assembly to offset the considerable first cycle irreversible capacity (IRC) loss that lowers the deliverable energy density substantially (as high as 40% in some chemistries).

Recycling of Li batteries

Successfully tested, under review for investment

- alpha-En is adapting its technology to meet anticipated government regulations for recycling of Li batteries. Our technology would be inserted into existing process streams to recover LiM that is currently discarded by the recyclers

Battery Development

Extending current capability

- alpha-En is pursuing development of next generation batteries with its Li-M anode and various electrolyte and cathode chemistries, and cell configurations

FAQ: WHAT STAGE IS THE DEVELOPMENT EFFORT AT ALPHA EN

- The R&D effort has been focused on multiple dual chamber – electrodeposition plating cells.
 - Samples are typically 3 x 3 or 4 x 5 cm
 - A new semi-automated 7 x 7 cm plating unit is presently being validated
 - Sample quality and performance is confirmed by SEM imaging and testing in 2032 coin cells.
- Development will be focused on designed experiments, consistent with end user feedback and fundamental optimization
- Concepts will focus on increased productivity, cost reduction, and a robust process window
- R&D efforts are supported by NYSERDA and NSF grants as well as corporate partnerships.

alpha-En's RANGE OF APPLICATIONS



alpha-En'S PATENTED PROCESS

alpha-En has developed a patented process to refine naturally occurring lithium compounds into:

- Pure lithium with a highly consistent morphology
- Very thin films (< 10 microns)

Using a scalable green production technology

alpha-En'S PROCESS	EXISTING PROCESS
Higher Purity 99.996%	Lower Purity 99.90%
LiM Produced at Room Temperature Process conducted at 20°-30°C	Li-M Produced at Very High Temperatures Electrolysis of molten salts at ~450°C
Chlorine Gas Free No toxic byproduct	Chloride Process Step Chlorine gas byproduct adds cost
Feedstock Flexibility Uses Low Grades of Lithium Carbonate	Requires battery grade feedstock Higher raw material cost

ELECTRO-DEPOSITION VS VACUUM DEPOSITION

Electrochemical deposition is a process by which a thin and tightly adherent desired coating of metal, oxide, can be **deposited** onto the surface of a conductor substrate by simple electrolysis of a solution containing the desired metal ion or its chemical complex.



CHEAPER



FASTER

Vacuum deposition is a family of processes used to deposit layers of material atom-by-atom or molecule-by-molecule on a solid surface. These processes operate at pressures well below [atmospheric pressure](#) (i.e., [vacuum](#)). The deposited layers can range from a thickness of one atom up to millimeters, forming freestanding structures. Multiple layers of different materials can be used, for example to form [optical coatings](#). The process can be qualified based on the vapor source; [physical vapor deposition](#) uses a liquid or solid source and [chemical vapor deposition](#) uses a chemical vapor.

alpha-En's R&D PARTNERSHIPS



alpha-En's Partners

From 2014 through 2018 alpha-En partnered with several universities and labs to develop its process.



- alpha-En's own laboratory in its 8,000 sq. foot facility in Yonkers, NY began operations on May 31, 2018
- alpha-En's state of the art research laboratory includes equipment for Li-M anode fabrication and testing
- alpha-En's own staff of scientists and lab technicians now conduct almost all of its R&D activities.

The background is a solid blue color. In the center-left, there is a large, semi-circular mechanical component, possibly a wheel or a part of a machine, with several small, glowing blue circles along its inner edge. To the right of this component, there is a small, stylized figure that looks like a robot or a person wearing a helmet and a backpack, facing right. The text "alpha-En's TEAM" is written in white, sans-serif font, positioned to the right of the small figure.

alpha-En's TEAM

SENIOR MANAGEMENT



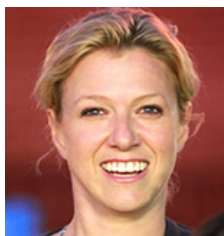
Lawrence Swonger, Inventor

Mechanical engr. with over 20 yrs of process design and automation experience



Tom Suppanz, CFO

Former Investment Banker on Wall Street with over 30 yrs exp. in capital formation for small & micro-cap companies



Kyra Paris, Managing Director/Director of Military Affairs

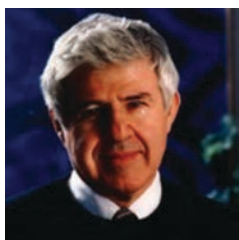
As Managing Director Kyra Paris is responsible for all customer interactions including Government agencies and The Department of Defense.



Daniel Lyons, PHD Chief Scientist & Lab Manager

Electrochemist working on bringing Alpha-En's pure lithium metal and pre-lithiation processes to the market. He obtained a BS in Chemistry from the University of Dallas in 2012 and an MS and PhD from the Ohio State University in 2016 and 2020. Daniel joined alpha-En in 2021.

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Founder of alpha-En

Founder of National Patent Development and developer of technologies including soft contact lenses and surgical staples



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