
Fabrication of a Galvanoic Ion Cell Using Waste Aluminum Foils Electrodes and Synthesis of *Dovyaris caffra* extracts as Electrolyte

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Abstract

Aluminium waste accumulated in landfills is a solid waste in abundance. Various methods have been employed to alleviate the waste only to yield secondary pollution effects. This study sought to provide an alternative greener recycling procedure that is beneficial to society in terms of health and economics through energy storage materials. The study aimed at fabricating and monitoring an aluminium ion cell from waste aluminium foil and *Dovyaris caffra* extract as the electrolyte. Aluminium oxide nanoparticles were obtained by co-precipitation of waste aluminium followed by constant annealing room temperature followed by mechanical milling to the nanoparticulate form. The particles were characterized to be nanoparticulate (79.12 nm) with desirable crystallinity exhibiting α -Al₂O₃ bonds with γ -Al₂O₃ phases pertinent for electrical conductance. The UV-Vis absorption peak was $\lambda_{max}=245$ nm corresponding to a band gap of 5.35eV. The fabricated cell exhibited great electrochemical potential with parameters such as open and closed current voltage, power density, energy balance and charge/discharge times in the range of conventional commercial cells ($P > 0.05$). Relatively high energy capacities and densities (0.117Wh/cm³ and 133.7 Wh/cm³ respectively) were recorded. The cell also exhibited discharge times of up to 30% per hour at ambient conditions (approx.. 330 charge cycles).

Keywords: Aluminium wastes, Al₂O₃ nanoparticles, aluminium-ion cell, *Dovyaris caffra*, electrochemical performance

