

**Supporting information**

**Criteria for evaluating lithium-air batteries in academia to  
correctly predict the practical performance in industry**

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**Table S1. Parameters used in energy density simulation of lithium–oxygen batteries**

|                                 |                 |       |       |       |                            |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------------|
| Carbon electrode                | Capacity        | 2000  | 2000  | 8000  | mAh/g <sup>electrode</sup> |
|                                 | Mass loading    | 1.0   | 4.0   | 1.0   | mg/cm <sup>2</sup>         |
|                                 | Thickness       | 100   | 300   | 100   | μm                         |
|                                 | Porosity        | 95    | 95    | 95    | %                          |
| Electrolyte in carbon electrode | injection ratio | 100   | 60    | 60    | %                          |
|                                 | Mass loading    | 10.4  | 41.7  | 6.27  | mg/cm <sup>2</sup>         |
| Separator                       | Mass loading    | 5.12  | 1.08  | 1.08  | mg/cm <sup>2</sup>         |
|                                 | Thickness       | 260   | 20    | 20    | μm                         |
|                                 | Porosity        | 91    | 45    | 45    | %                          |
| Electrolyte in separator        | Mass loading    | 26.5  | 0.89  | 0.89  | mg/cm <sup>2</sup>         |
| Gas-diffusion layer             | Mass loading    | 4.11  |       |       | mg/cm <sup>2</sup>         |
|                                 | Thickness       | 110   |       |       | μm                         |
| Lithium foil                    | Mass loading    | 2.67  |       |       | mg/cm <sup>2</sup>         |
|                                 | Thickness       | 50    |       |       | μm                         |
| Copper foil                     | Mass loading    | 7.16  |       |       | mg/cm <sup>2</sup>         |
|                                 | Thickness       | 8     |       |       | μm                         |
| Total weight                    |                 | 56.96 | 44.93 | 23.18 | mg/cm <sup>2</sup>         |
| Total electrolyte               |                 | 36.9  | 25.91 | 7.16  | mg/cm <sup>2</sup>         |
| E/C                             |                 | 36.9  | 6.47  | 1.79  | g/Ah                       |
| Average discharge voltage       |                 | 2.7   |       |       | V                          |
| Areal capacity                  |                 | 1     | 4     | 4     | mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>        |
| Energy density                  |                 | 47.4  | 230.3 | 465.9 | Wh/kg                      |

**Table S2. Summarized version of energy density estimation**

| carbon             | electrolyte        | lithium            | other components   | Energy density | E/C    | Cycle number | ref number |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------|--------------|------------|
| mg/cm <sup>2</sup> | mg/cm <sup>2</sup> | mg/cm <sup>2</sup> | mg/cm <sup>2</sup> | Wh/kg          | g/Ah   |              |            |
| 1.00               | 8.30               | 2.67               | 2.88               | 543.4          | 2.8    | 6            | 3          |
| 5.40               | 28.20              | 5.34               | 24.32              | 172.0          | 7.1    | 37           | 3          |
| 30.00              | 40.82              | 8.54               | 10.48              | 411.7          | 3.0    | 2            | 4          |
| 30.00              | 40.82              | 8.54               | 10.48              | 298.1          | 4.2    | 3            | 4          |
| 30.00              | 40.82              | 8.54               | 10.48              | 205.1          | 6.1    | 4            | 4          |
| 30.00              | 40.82              | 8.54               | 10.48              | 103.5          | 12.1   | 8            | 4          |
| 0.20               | 59.80              | 11.00              | 9.00               | 393.8          | 4.7    | 11           | 5          |
| 0.20               | 59.80              | 11.00              | 9.00               | 37.5           | 49.8   | 170          | 5          |
| 7.50               | 87.50              | 26.70              | 16.39              | 195.5          | 8.8    | 7            | 6          |
| 7.50               | 87.50              | 26.70              | 16.39              | 81.5           | 19.4   | 40           | 6          |
| 7.50               | 87.50              | 26.70              | 16.39              | 54.3           | 29.2   | 45           | 6          |
| 7.50               | 87.50              | 26.70              | 16.39              | 27.2           | 58.3   | 315          | 6          |
| 0.20               | 140.13             | 21.36              | 16.39              | 3.1            | 700.6  | 165          | 11         |
| 0.40               | 52.00              | 2.67               | 16.39              | 37.8           | 52.0   | 190          | 12         |
| 1.50               | 57.50              | 2.67               | 16.39              | 17.2           | 115.0  | 100          | 13         |
| 1.50               | 57.50              | 2.67               | 16.39              | 8.6            | 230.0  | 400          | 13         |
| 0.65               | 53.25              | 2.67               | 16.39              | 24.3           | 81.9   | 300          | 14         |
| 0.01               | 84.62              | 2.67               | 16.39              | 0.4            | 6001.1 | 260          | 15         |
| 0.45               | 52.25              | 2.67               | 16.39              | 16.9           | 116.1  | 144          | 16         |
| 0.50               | 52.50              | 2.67               | 16.39              | 9.0            | 210.0  | 180          | 17         |
| 1.00               | 99.00              | 10.00              | 16.39              | 21.4           | 99.0   | 90           | 18         |
| 0.70               | 44.00              | 26.70              | 16.39              | 21.5           | 62.9   | 146          | 19         |
| 0.40               | 52.00              | 2.67               | 16.39              | 7.6            | 260.0  | 200          | 20         |
| 1.00               | 55.00              | 10.68              | 16.39              | 16.6           | 110.0  | 109          | 21         |
| 0.10               | 25.63              | 13.35              | 16.39              | 2.5            | 512.6  | 550          | 22         |
| 6.66               | 83.30              | 10.68              | 16.39              | 46.1           | 41.7   | 23           | 23         |

|       |        |       |       |      |        |      |    |
|-------|--------|-------|-------|------|--------|------|----|
| 0.25  | 148.50 | 24.03 | 16.39 | 3.6  | 594.0  | 50   | 24 |
| 5.00  | 148.50 | 2.67  | 16.39 | 31.3 | 74.3   | 15   | 24 |
| 10.00 | 148.50 | 2.67  | 16.39 | 30.4 | 74.3   | 20   | 24 |
| 0.50  | 52.50  | 32.04 | 18.45 | 7.7  | 175.0  | 200  | 25 |
| 1.00  | 55.00  | 10.68 | 16.39 | 16.6 | 110.0  | 40   | 26 |
| 1.00  | 55.00  | 10.68 | 16.39 | 3.3  | 550.0  | 170  | 26 |
| 0.10  | 50.50  | 2.67  | 16.39 | 19.4 | 101.0  | 237  | 27 |
| 1.20  | 56.00  | 2.67  | 16.39 | 10.6 | 186.7  | 160  | 28 |
| 2.00  | 60.00  | 2.67  | 16.39 | 13.2 | 150.0  | 105  | 29 |
| 2.00  | 60.00  | 2.67  | 16.39 | 58.0 | 30.0   | 18   | 29 |
| 0.10  | 110.00 | 20.29 | 16.39 | 1.9  | 1100.0 | 2000 | 30 |
| 0.10  | 110.00 | 20.29 | 16.39 | 1.9  | 1100.0 | 100  | 30 |
| 0.10  | 110.00 | 20.29 | 16.39 | 1.8  | 1100.0 | 300  | 30 |

**Table S3. Summarized version of energy density estimation for “Advanced type of LABs”**

| carbon | electrolyte | lithium | other components | Energy density | E/C    | Cycle number | ref number |
|--------|-------------|---------|------------------|----------------|--------|--------------|------------|
| mg/cm2 | mg/cm2      | mg/cm2  | mg/cm2           | Wh/kg          | g/Ah   |              |            |
| 1.00   | 8.30        | 2.67    | 2.88             | 543.4          | 2.8    | 6            | 3          |
| 5.40   | 28.20       | 5.34    | 2.88             | 183.6          | 7.1    | 37           | 3          |
| 30.00  | 40.82       | 8.54    | 2.88             | 449.7          | 3.0    | 2            | 4          |
| 30.00  | 40.82       | 8.54    | 2.88             | 325.7          | 4.2    | 3            | 4          |
| 30.00  | 40.82       | 8.54    | 2.88             | 224.0          | 6.1    | 4            | 4          |
| 30.00  | 40.82       | 8.54    | 2.88             | 113.0          | 12.1   | 8            | 4          |
| 0.20   | 59.80       | 11.00   | 2.88             | 421.1          | 4.7    | 11           | 5          |
| 0.20   | 59.80       | 11.00   | 2.88             | 40.1           | 49.8   | 170          | 5          |
| 7.50   | 87.50       | 26.70   | 2.88             | 209.9          | 8.8    | 7            | 6          |
| 7.50   | 87.50       | 26.70   | 2.88             | 87.5           | 19.4   | 40           | 6          |
| 7.50   | 87.50       | 26.70   | 2.88             | 58.3           | 29.2   | 45           | 6          |
| 7.50   | 87.50       | 26.70   | 2.88             | 29.2           | 58.3   | 315          | 6          |
| 0.20   | 140.13      | 21.36   | 2.88             | 3.2            | 700.6  | 165          | 11         |
| 0.40   | 52.00       | 2.67    | 2.88             | 43.6           | 52.0   | 190          | 12         |
| 1.50   | 57.50       | 2.67    | 2.88             | 19.5           | 115.0  | 100          | 13         |
| 1.50   | 57.50       | 2.67    | 2.88             | 9.8            | 230.0  | 400          | 13         |
| 0.65   | 53.25       | 2.67    | 2.88             | 27.9           | 81.9   | 300          | 14         |
| 0.01   | 84.62       | 2.67    | 2.88             | 0.4            | 6001.1 | 260          | 15         |
| 0.45   | 52.25       | 2.67    | 2.88             | 19.5           | 116.1  | 144          | 16         |
| 0.50   | 52.50       | 2.67    | 2.88             | 10.4           | 210.0  | 180          | 17         |
| 1.00   | 99.00       | 10.00   | 2.88             | 23.1           | 99.0   | 90           | 18         |
| 0.70   | 44.00       | 26.70   | 2.88             | 24.1           | 62.9   | 146          | 19         |
| 0.40   | 52.00       | 2.67    | 2.88             | 8.8            | 260.0  | 200          | 20         |
| 1.00   | 55.00       | 10.68   | 2.88             | 18.7           | 110.0  | 109          | 21         |
| 0.10   | 25.63       | 13.35   | 2.88             | 3.0            | 512.6  | 550          | 22         |
| 6.66   | 83.30       | 10.68   | 2.88             | 50.2           | 41.7   | 23           | 23         |

|       |        |       |      |      |        |      |    |
|-------|--------|-------|------|------|--------|------|----|
| 0.25  | 148.50 | 24.03 | 2.88 | 3.8  | 594.0  | 50   | 24 |
| 5.00  | 148.50 | 2.67  | 2.88 | 33.1 | 74.3   | 15   | 24 |
| 10.00 | 148.50 | 2.67  | 2.88 | 32.1 | 74.3   | 20   | 24 |
| 0.50  | 52.50  | 32.04 | 2.88 | 8.6  | 175.0  | 200  | 25 |
| 1.00  | 55.00  | 10.68 | 2.88 | 18.7 | 110.0  | 40   | 26 |
| 1.00  | 55.00  | 10.68 | 2.88 | 3.7  | 550.0  | 170  | 26 |
| 0.10  | 50.50  | 2.67  | 2.88 | 22.4 | 101.0  | 237  | 27 |
| 1.20  | 56.00  | 2.67  | 2.88 | 12.1 | 186.7  | 160  | 28 |
| 2.00  | 60.00  | 2.67  | 2.88 | 14.9 | 150.0  | 105  | 29 |
| 2.00  | 60.00  | 2.67  | 2.88 | 65.7 | 30.0   | 18   | 29 |
| 0.10  | 110.00 | 20.29 | 2.88 | 2.0  | 1100.0 | 2000 | 30 |
| 0.10  | 110.00 | 20.29 | 2.88 | 2.0  | 1100.0 | 100  | 30 |
| 0.10  | 110.00 | 20.29 | 2.88 | 2.0  | 1100.0 | 300  | 30 |

Figure S1 . Weight percentage of cell components in LABs used for energy density simulation



### **Note S1. Supplementary comments for energy density simulation**

For calculating the weight of the electrolyte, the specific gravity was set as  $1.1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ . If the amount of electrolyte is not specified, the sum of the amount of the electrolyte in the carbon positive electrode and the electrolyte in the separator was taken as the total amount of the electrolyte. The amount of the electrolyte in the carbon electrode was estimated as 5 times the weight of carbon electrode. The electrolyte in the separator was set to  $26.5 \text{ mg/cm}^2$  for glass fiber based separator and  $0.89 \text{ mg/cm}^2$  for PO separator. If it not mentioned in the literatures,  $50 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  thickness Li foil ( $2.67 \text{ mg/cm}^2$ ),  $8 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  thickness Cu foil ( $7.16 \text{ mg/cm}^2$ )  $110 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$  thickness carbon fiber based membrane ( $4.11 \text{ mg/cm}^2$ ) were utilized as negative electrode, current collector and gas-diffusion layer. The details of the energy density estimation in Figure 2 was described in Supporting data file.



**Figure S2. Summary of electrolyte injection technique**

Vacuum impregnation method



- Whole part of the void space in the carbon electrode is filled with electrolyte
- Electrolyte amount cannot be quantitatively control

Drop casting method



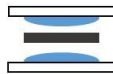
- Micro-liter droplets
- Poor uniformity

Inkjet method

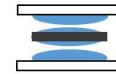


- Nano-liter droplets
- Improved uniformity

Stamping method

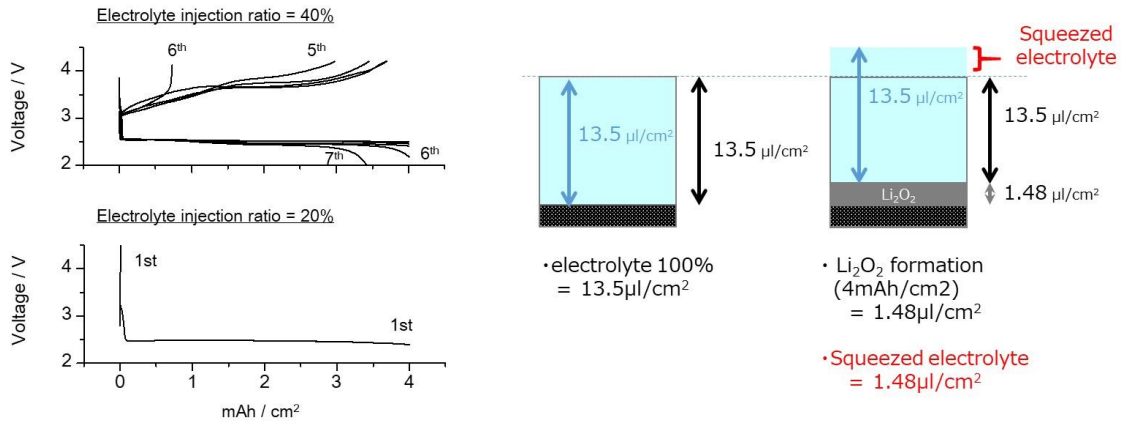


Sandwiched between two hydrophilic filters



Electrolyte transfer to porous carbon electrode

**Figure S3. Unique degradation mechanism in LABs with lean-electrolyte**



**Figure S4. Schematic illustration of proposed standard LAB cell**

