

## Supplementary Information

### **Comparison of two approaches for LiFePO<sub>4</sub> EV battery packs discharging and comprehensive analysis of recovered cathodes for direct recycling purposes**

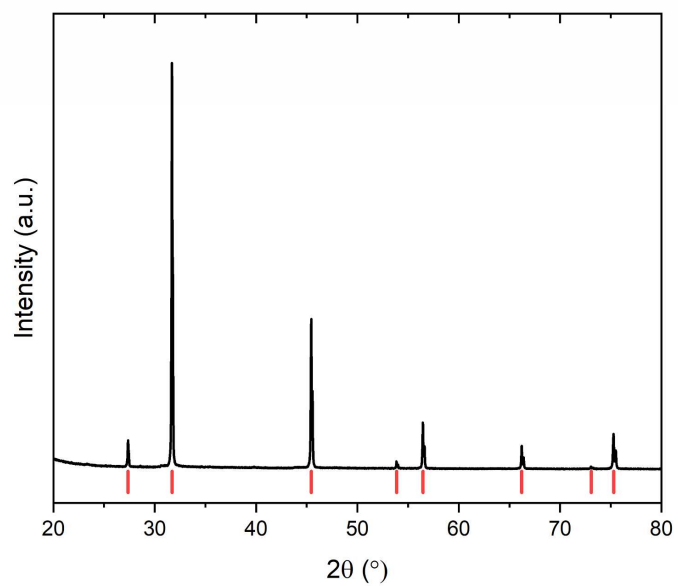
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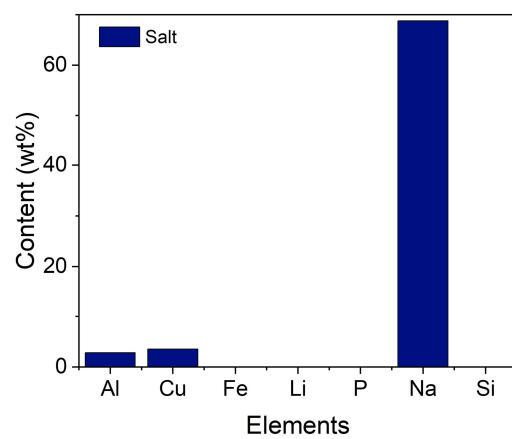
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**Figure S1:** XRD pattern of the residue formed on the modules using the brine discharge. The diffraction lines are from NaCl (PDF: 04-009-2091)

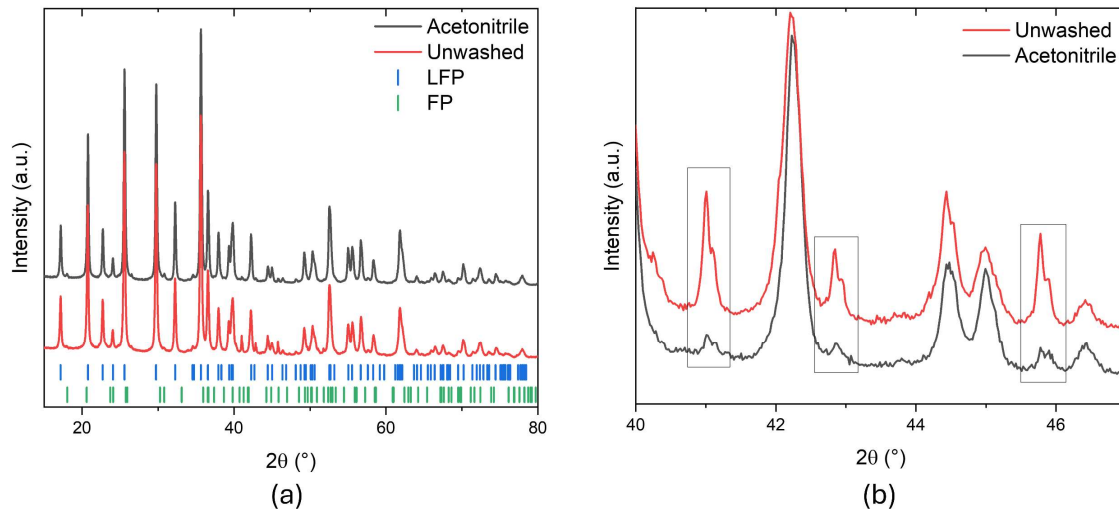


**Figure S2:** ICP characterization of the salt residue

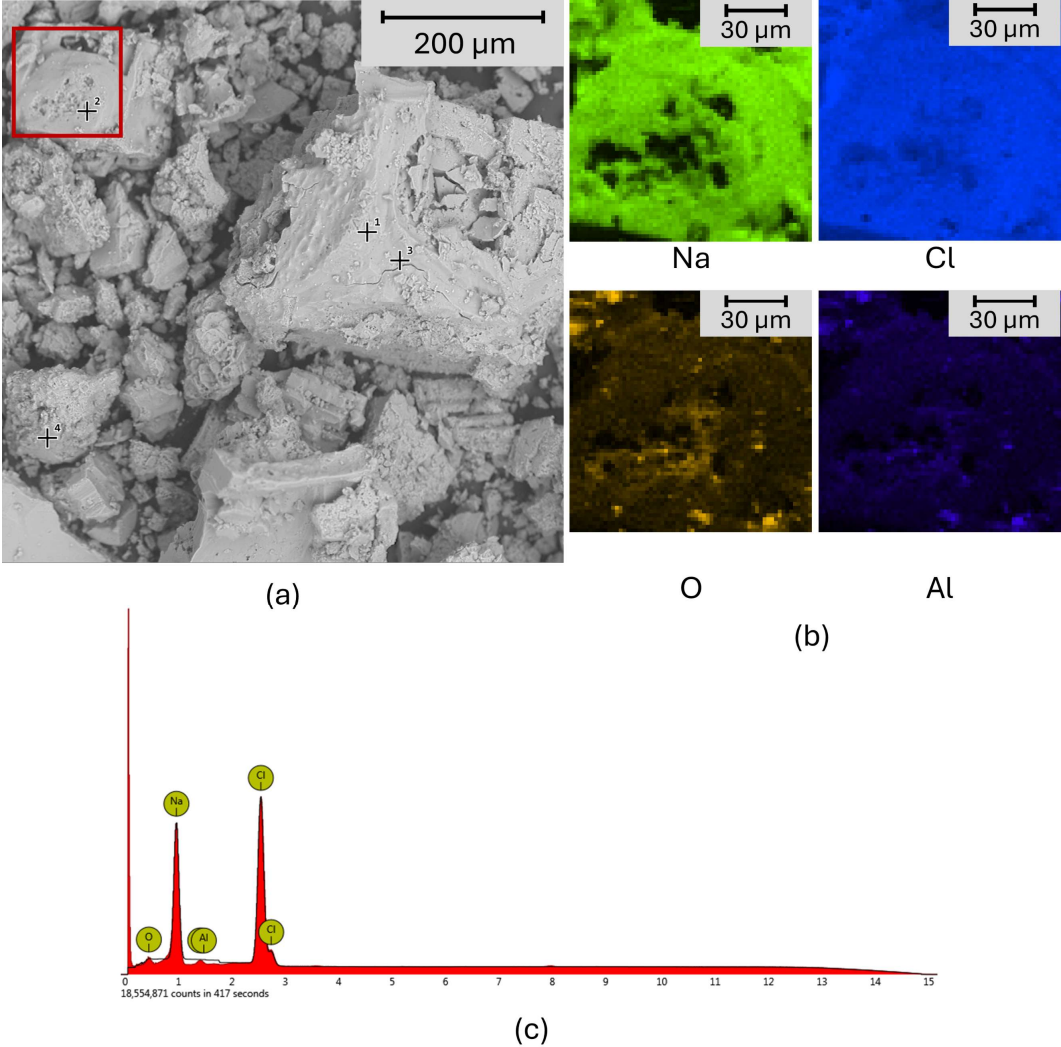


**Figure S3:** (a) XRD of the resistor discharged samples after washing with acetonitrile. It has to be noted that the (200) reflection of the FP phase, visible at  $18^\circ 2\theta$ , is more pronounced in the acetonitrile washed sample in comparison to the unwashed one. Each powder sample is obtained from a different battery cell in the module, so it is possible that some heterogeneities in the LFP/FP ratio can arise since the quantity of FP is influenced by the state of health of the individual battery cell.

(b) Zoom of the  $40\text{--}47^\circ 2\theta$  region, showing the decrease of the diffraction peaks of the unknown impurity phase. The concerned diffraction peaks are marked with a box.



**Figure S4:** SEM-EDX analysis of the residue deposited on the battery after the brine discharging with the EDX mapping area highlighted in the SEM image (a), the map of Na, Cl, O and Al in (b), and the EDX spectrum in (c).



**Figure S5:** SEM-EDX analysis of the cathode active material from the resistor discharged sample (a; c-d) and the saline brine discharged sample (b; e-f) with the order of elemental maps being P, Fe, O, Al and V.

