

Which solar cell technology has the best environmental benefits?

Due to their lower life cycle energy demand and relatively higher conversion efficiency, a-Si, CIGS, and OPV solar cell technologies provide the best environmental benefits, such as the shortest EPBT and lowest GHG emission rate, among the twelve common types of commercial and emerging thin-film solar cell technologies.

Are solar cells a viable energy source?

The introduction of a practical solar cell by Bell Laboratory, which had an efficiency of approximately 6%, signified photovoltaic technology as a potentially viable energy source. Continuous efforts have been made to increase power conversion efficiency (PCE). In the present review, the advances made in solar cells (SCs) are summarized.

Which solar cell has the highest power conversion efficiency?

Overall, crystalline silicon solar cells (mono-Si and multi-Si) had higher power conversion efficiency than thin-film solar cells, with mono-Si having an efficiency of 19-22% and 15-18% for multi-Si. GaAs and GaAs Tandem thin-film solar cells, had higher efficiencies of 26.55% and 28.25%, respectively.

Which thin-film solar cells have higher efficiencies?

GaAs and GaAs Tandem thin-film solar cells, had higher efficiencies of 26.55% and 28.25%, respectively. The estimated findings of life cycle energy demand, EPBT, and GHG emission rates of thin-film solar cell systems were influenced by different factors.

What is the life cycle of a thin film solar cell?

For commercial thin film solar cell technologies (a-Si, CIGS, CIS, CdTe, GaAs and tandem GaAs), the life cycle CED ranged from 684 to 8671 MJ/m² (median: 1248 MJ/m²). This range was higher than emerging thin-film solar cell technologies (PSC, PSC tandem, DSSCs, OPV, CZTS, QD) that reported a CED range of 37-24007 MJ/m² (median: 721 MJ/m²).

How much energy does a thin film solar cell use?

Review of cumulative energy demand (CED) during the life cycle for various thin-film solar cell technologies in comparison to conventional Si-Based technologies. Among the twelve types of thin film solar cell technologies, only GaAs required more energy than mono-Si (4056.5 MJ/m²) and multi-Si (3924.5 MJ/m²).

A review of the life cycle sustainability of perovskite solar cells (PSCs) is presented, distinguishing results between simulated laboratory-based and simulated industrial-based PSCs, comparing ...

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Solar high-temperature electrolysis uses concentrated solar light for both the heating of the electrolyzer stack reactants and the electricity demand (via photovoltaic cells) of ...

The present article focuses on a cradle-to-grave life cycle assessment (LCA) of the most widely adopted solar photovoltaic power generation technologies, viz., mono-crystalline silicon (mono-Si), multi ...

A novel wafer-bonded four-junction solar cell was developed for better spectral matching by European research institutes and industrial ...

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The International Energy Agency Photovoltaic Power Systems Programme (IEA PVPS) Task 12 has compiled PV-specific LCA guidelines, [] e.g., functional unit, life expectancy, impact categories, etc., as well as LCI for major commercial ...

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The authors perform holistic life cycle assessments of selected solar cell architectures and provide guidelines for their future design. ... F. et al. High efficiency ...

A promising route to widespread deployment of photovoltaics is to harness inexpensive, highly-efficient tandems. We perform holistic life cycle assessments on the ...

Large-scale photovoltaic (PV) power generation systems, that achieve an ultra-high efficiency of 40% or higher under high concentration, are in the spotlight as a new ...

Efficient cooling is critical to reduce cell temperatures of high concentration photovoltaic (HCPV) cells to avoid the output electrical performance degradation and lifetime ...

The accredited calibration laboratory CalLab PV Cells at Fraunhofer ISE offers high-precision, reproducible calibrations and measurements of all types of solar cells according to international standards, for example, spectral ...

We performed a holistic LCA to estimate and compare the energy use and environmental implications throughout the life cycle of two types of state-of-the-art tandem ...

While perovskite solar cells (PSC) have a high potential of achieving commercial-scale manufacturing, they still face some deficiencies regarding rapid degradation in the presence of moisture, oxygen, and high ...

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