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Electrochemically controllable coating of functional silicon film on carbon materials

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

1	Electrochemically controllable coating of functional silicon film on carbon
2	materials
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8	Abstract: A silicon deposit of various forms was successfully coated on graphite by
9	electrodeposition in molten $CaCl_2$ containing nano-SiO <sub>2</sub> as a silicon precursor. The morphologies
10	of the deposited silicon can be tuned from Si nanowires to a dense film by controlling constant
11	electrolysis cell voltage. In addition to controlling electrochemical polarizations, the substrate
12	plays a key role in forming a dense silicon film. By analyzing the interface between the Si film
13	and graphite substrate, a thin transition layer comprising of Si, SiC and C enables the good
14	adhesion of the Si film with the carbon substrate and thereby helps the growth of a dense Si film.
15	Besides the application for photovoltaics, the electrolytic p-type Si film was employed as a
16	binder-free anode for lithium ion batteries delivering a capacity of over 2500 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> in the first
17	10 cycles and retaining 800 mAh g <sup>-1</sup> after 40 cycles. Moreover, this method was applied for
18	coating Si on carbon fibers, which could be a general way to prepare Si with controllable forms
19	and silicon/carbon core-shell structures for functional materials.
20	Keywords: silicon film, electrodeposition, molten salts, carbon substrate, anode materials

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