

**Facile fabrication of stable and high-rate Si/NiSix/CNTs Li-ion
anodes with buffering interface**

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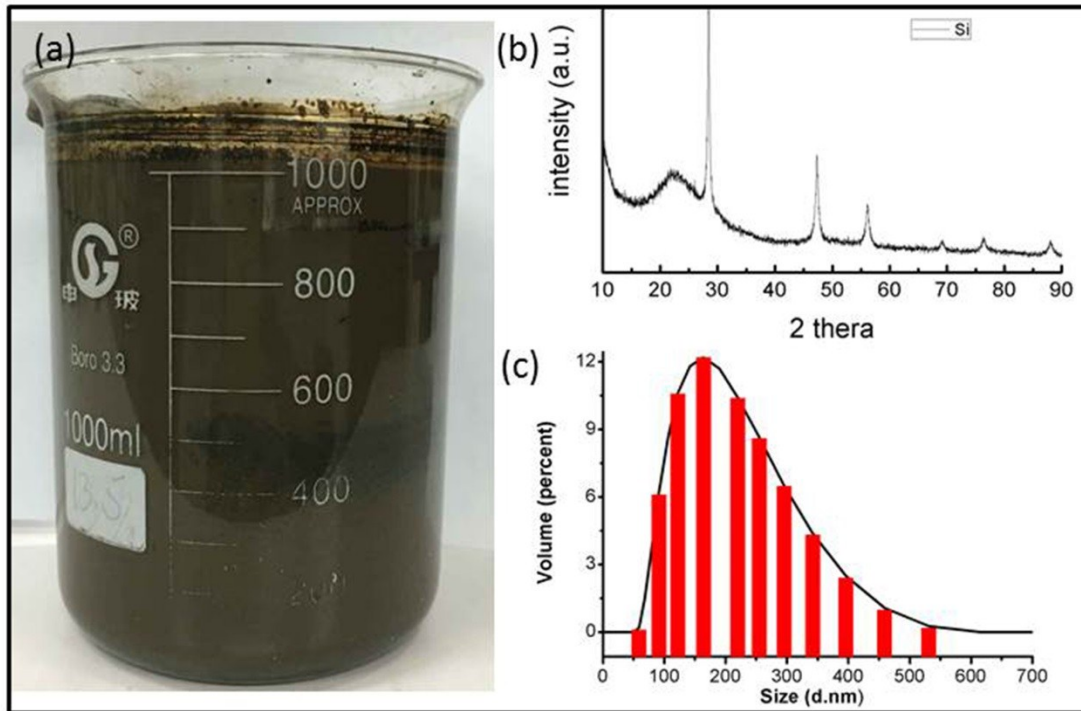


Fig. S1† (a) Optical photo of Si nanoparticle slurry. (b) XRD pattern and (c) size distribution of Si nanoparticles.

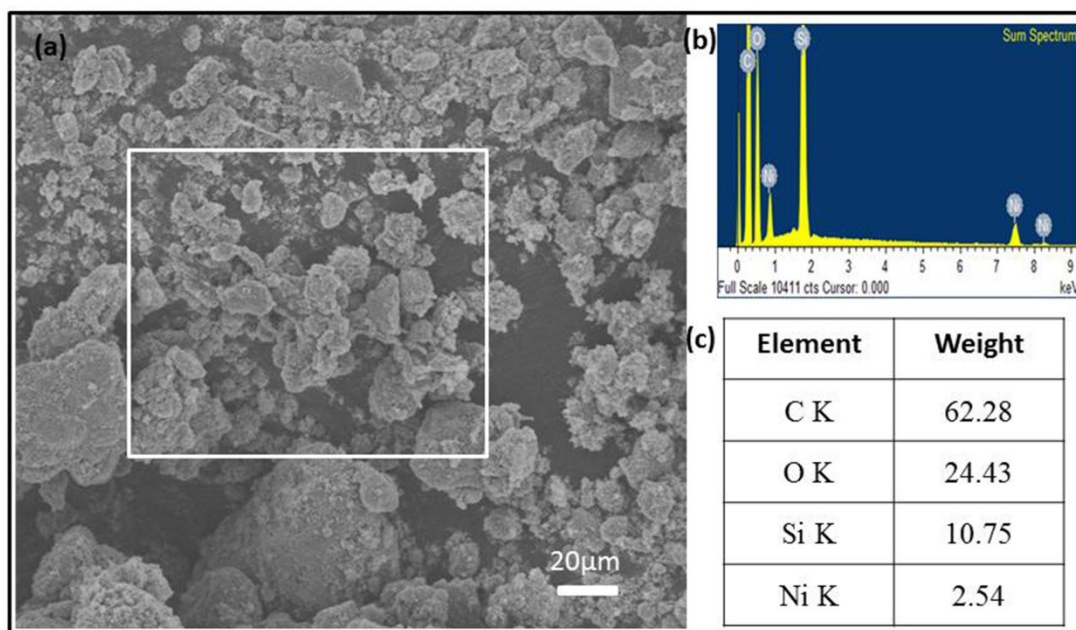


Fig S2† (a) SEM image of Si/NiSi_x/CNTs composite, (b) Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) and (c) weight ratio of different elements corresponded in white box in (a).

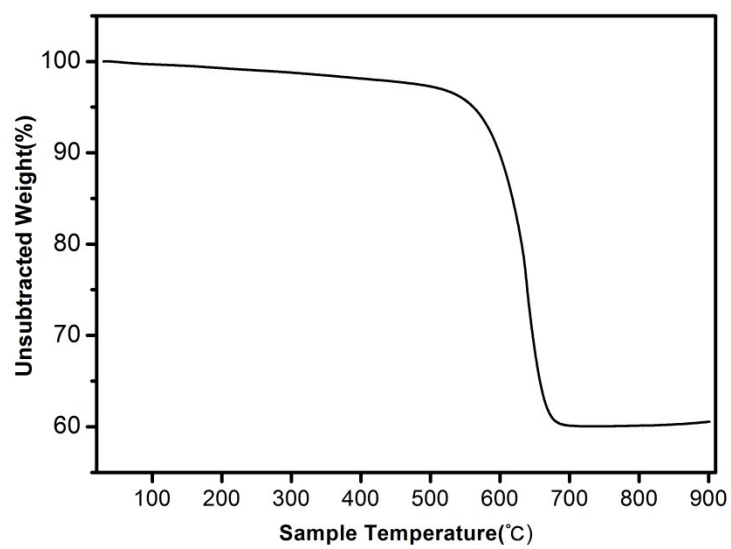


Fig S3. TGA curves of Si/NiSix/CNTs composite

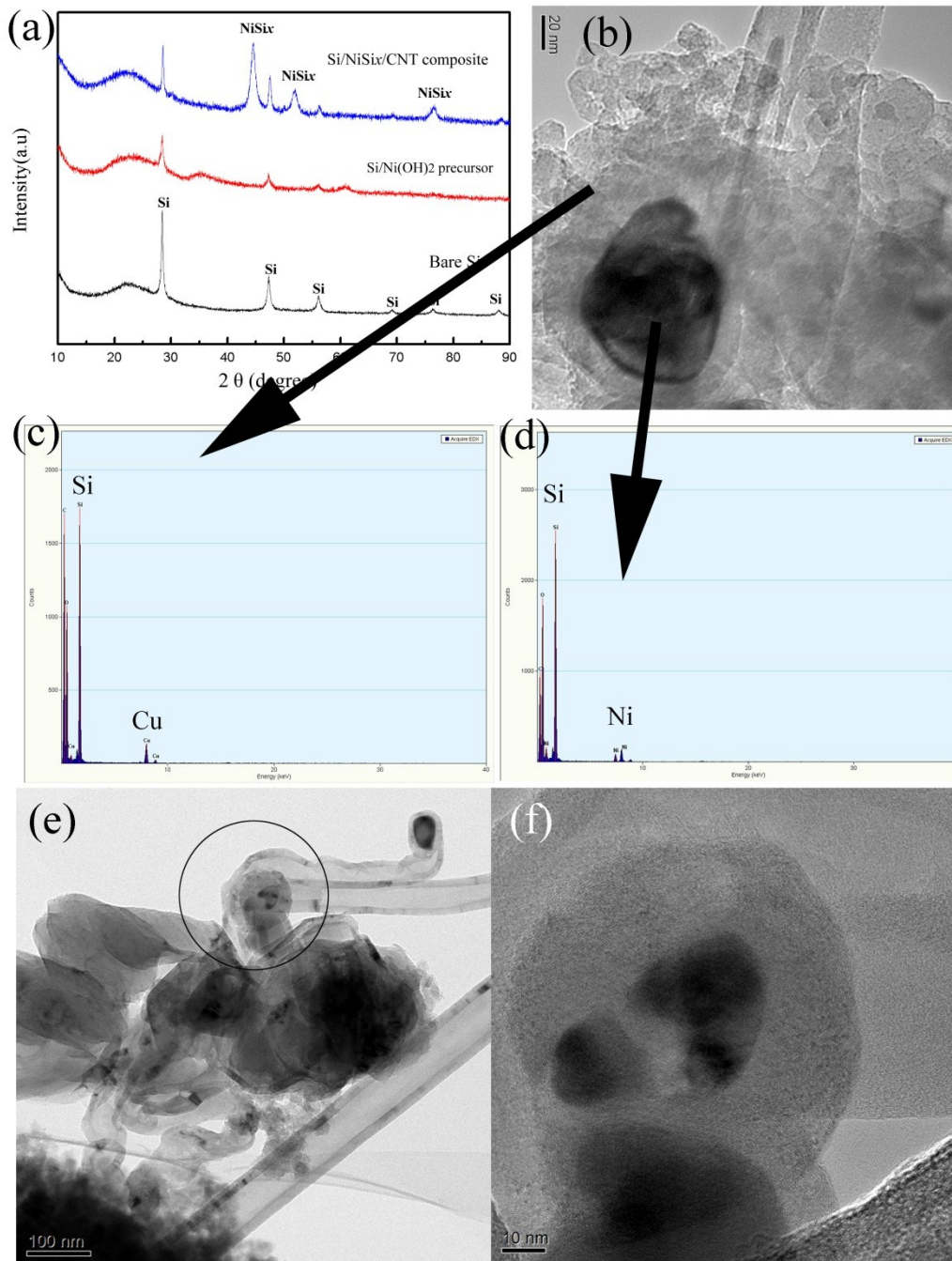


Fig. S4. (a) XRD pattern evolution of precursor, Si matrix and composite; (b) HRTEM image of Si/NiSi_x/CNTs composite at root, and the corresponding EDS results in (c) area 1 and (d) area 2, and obvious contrast at root in HRTEM images (e) in low magnification and (f) high magnification.

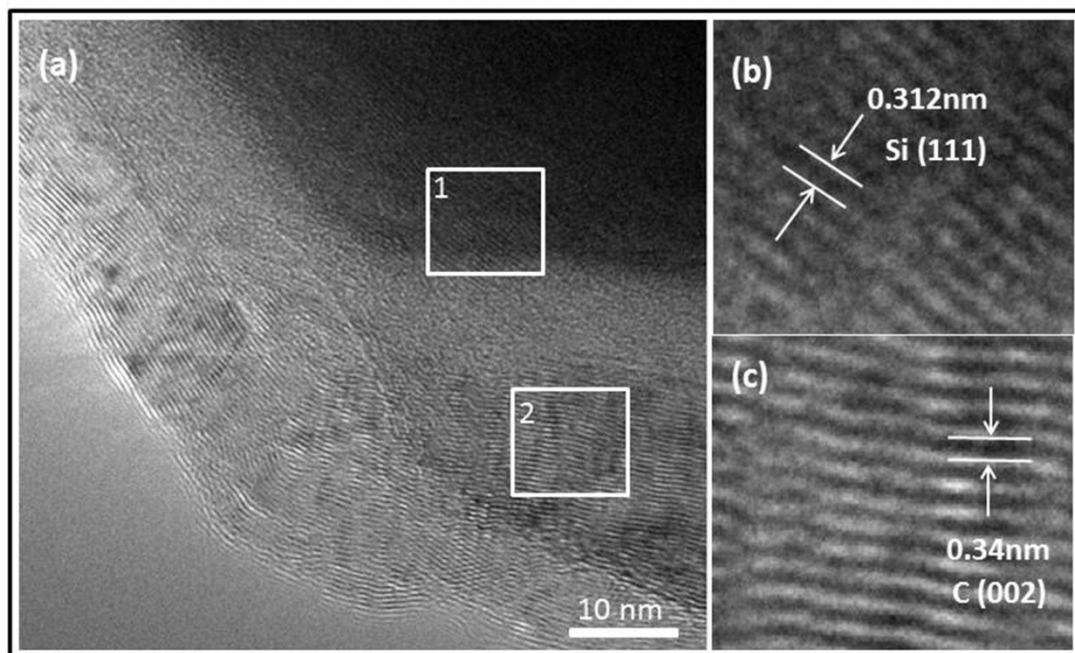


Fig. S5† (a) HR-TEM image of Si/NiSi_x/CNTs composite. (b, c) HR-TEM images corresponded in white box 1 and box 2 in (a).