

# Supporting Information

## Facile synthesis of Ni-coated Ni<sub>2</sub>P for supercapacitor applications

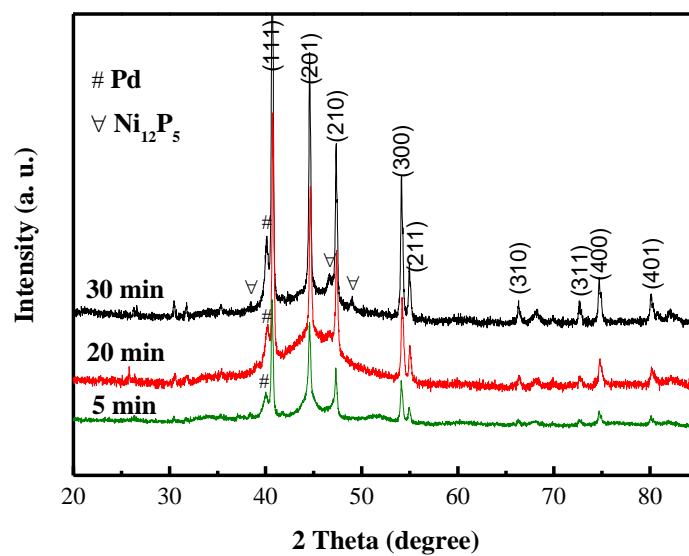
Yi Lu,<sup>a</sup> Ji-kang Liu,<sup>a</sup> Xia-yuan Liu,<sup>a</sup> Sen Huang,<sup>a</sup> Ting-qiang Wang,<sup>a</sup> Xiu-li Wang,<sup>a</sup> Chang-dong Gu,<sup>a</sup>

Jiang-ping Tu,<sup>\*a</sup> and Scott X. Mao<sup>b</sup>

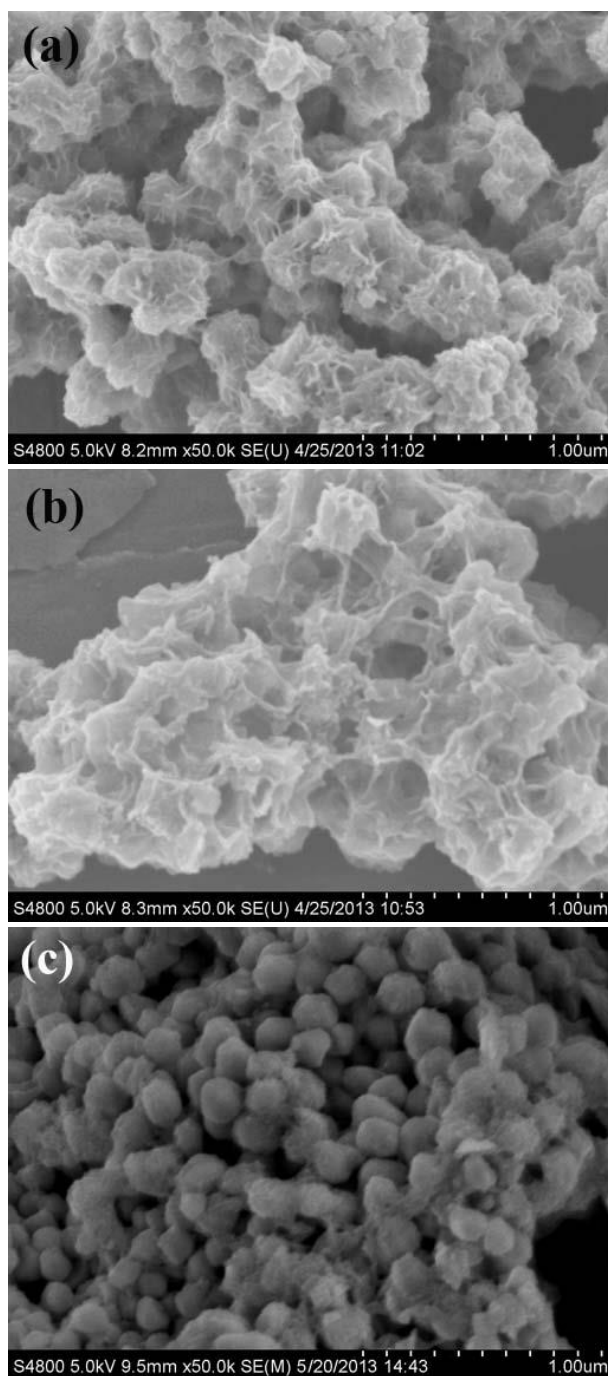
<sup>a</sup> *State Key Laboratory of Silicon Materials, Key Laboratory of Advanced Materials and Applications for Batteries of Zhejiang Province and Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310027, China*

<sup>b</sup> *Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15261, USA*

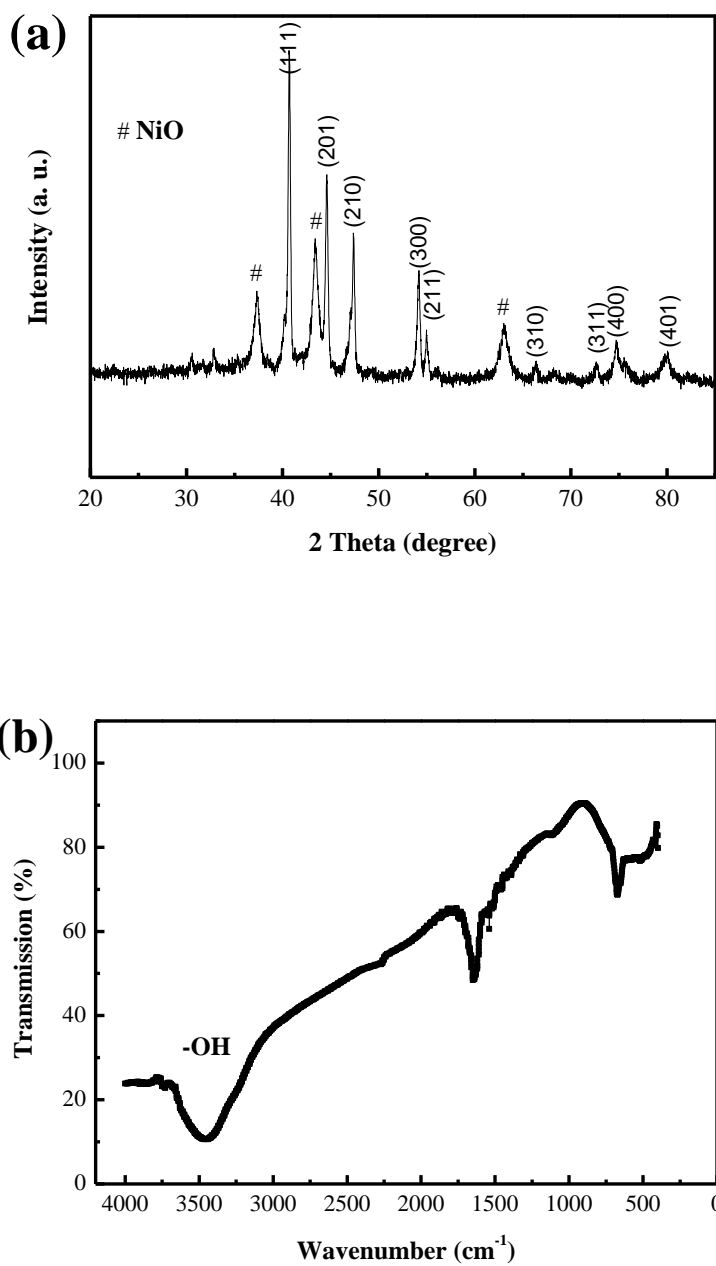
\*Corresponding author. E-mail: [tujp@zju.edu.cn](mailto:tujp@zju.edu.cn); [tujplab@zju.edu.cn](mailto:tujplab@zju.edu.cn) (Jiang-ping Tu)



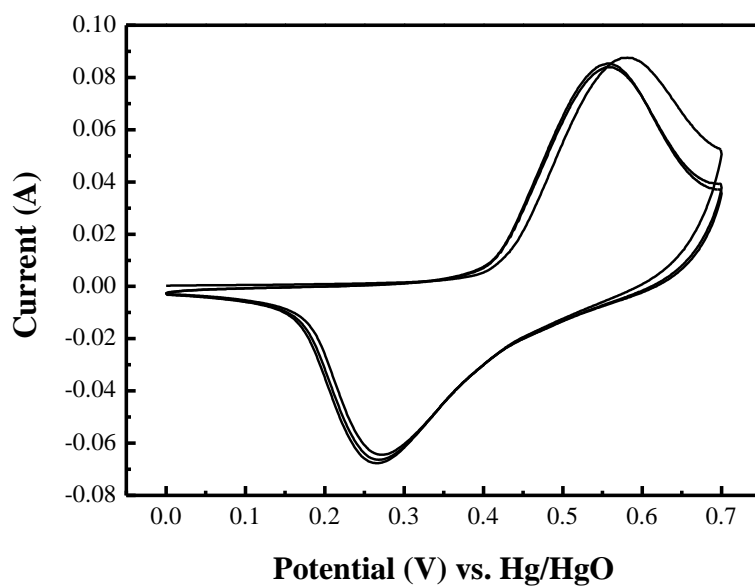
**Fig. S1** XRD patterns of Ni-coated nickel phosphides synthesized by different electroless plating times.



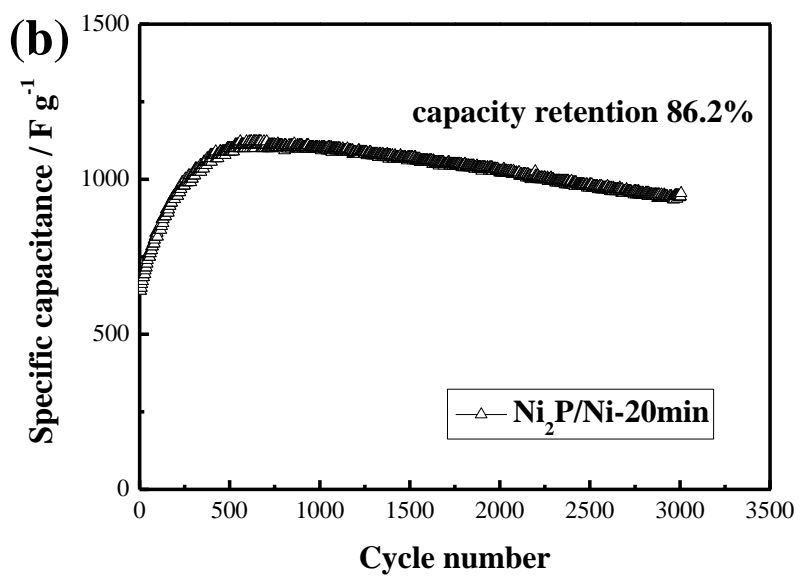
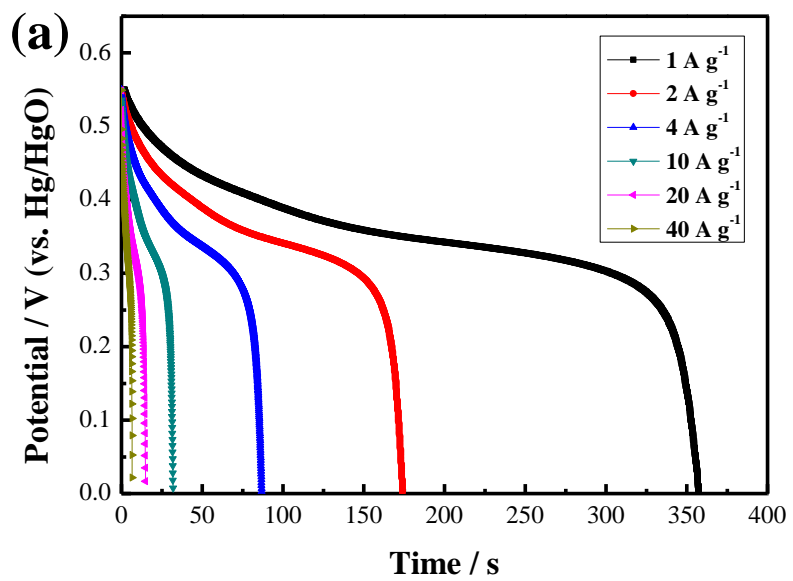
**Fig. S2** SEM images of Ni-coated nickel phosphides synthesized by different electroless plating times: (a) 20 min; (b) 30 min; (c) 5 min.

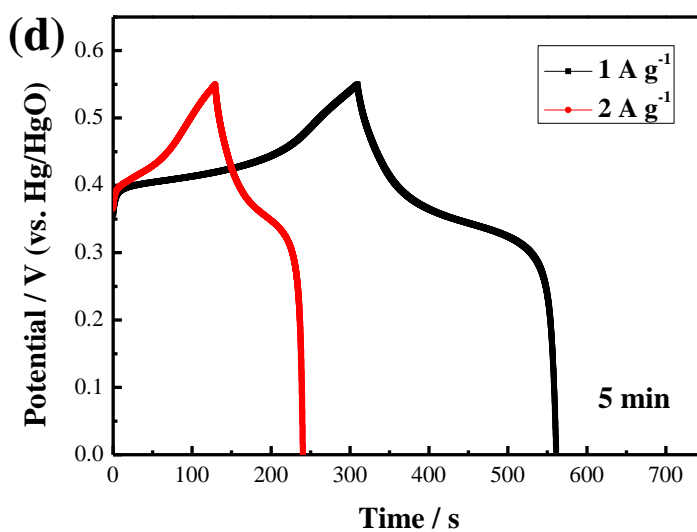
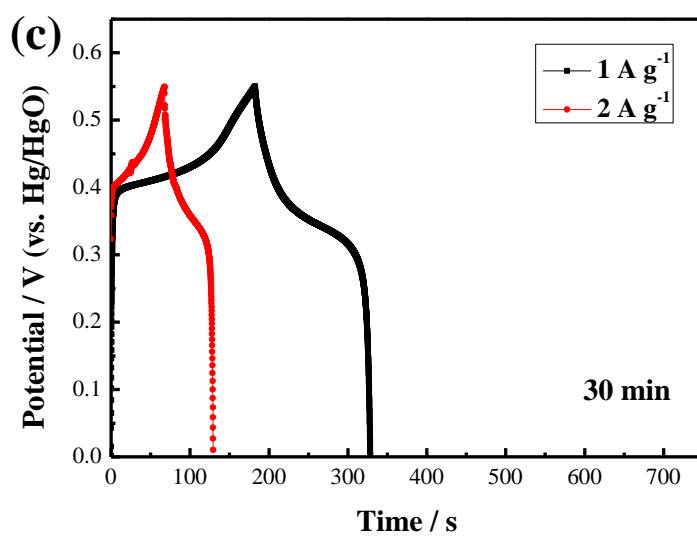


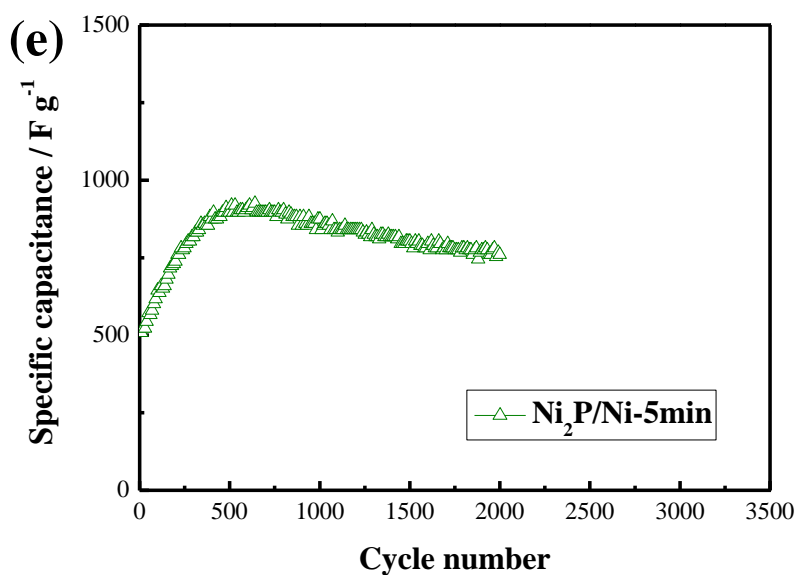
**Fig. S3** (a) XRD pattern of the annealed Ni-coated nickel phosphides at 500 °C for 1 h under flowing argon; (b) FTIR spectra of Ni-coated nickel phosphides before annealing.



**Fig. S4** First three CV profiles of the Ni<sub>2</sub>P/Ni composite obtained by 10 min of electroless plating time in the potential region of 0–0.7 V at a scan rate of 50 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.







**Fig. S5** (a) Galvanostatic discharge curves and (b) discharge specific capacitance of the Ni-coated  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}$  synthesized by electroless plating for 20 min; galvanostatic discharge curves of the Ni-coated  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}$  synthesized by electroless plating for (c) 30 min; (d) 5 min; (e) discharge specific capacitance of the Ni-coated  $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}$  synthesized by electroless plating for 5 min.