

## Supporting Information

### **Characterization of Pitch Carbon Coating Properties Affecting the Electrochemical Behavior of Silicon Nanoparticle Lithium-ion Battery Anodes**

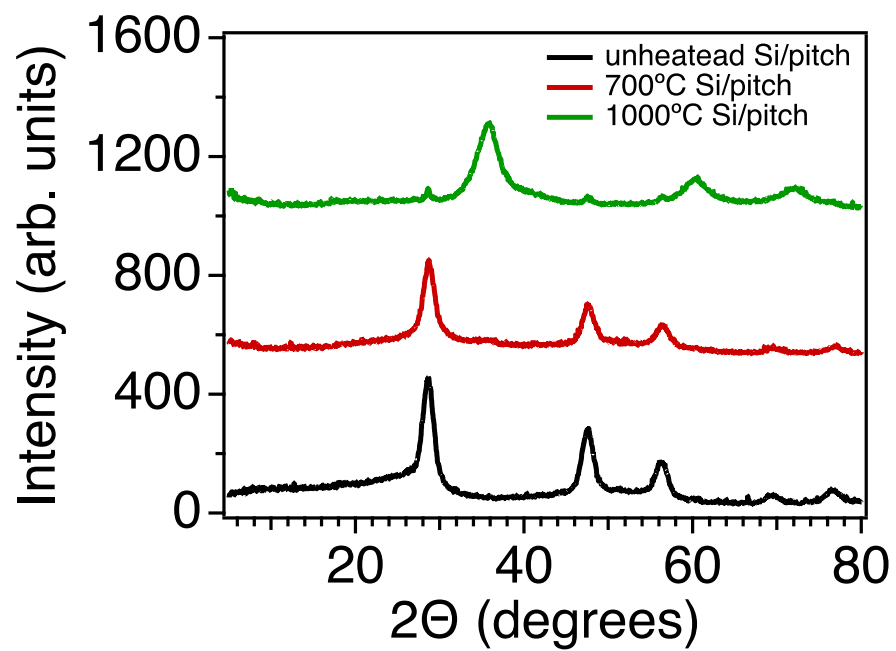
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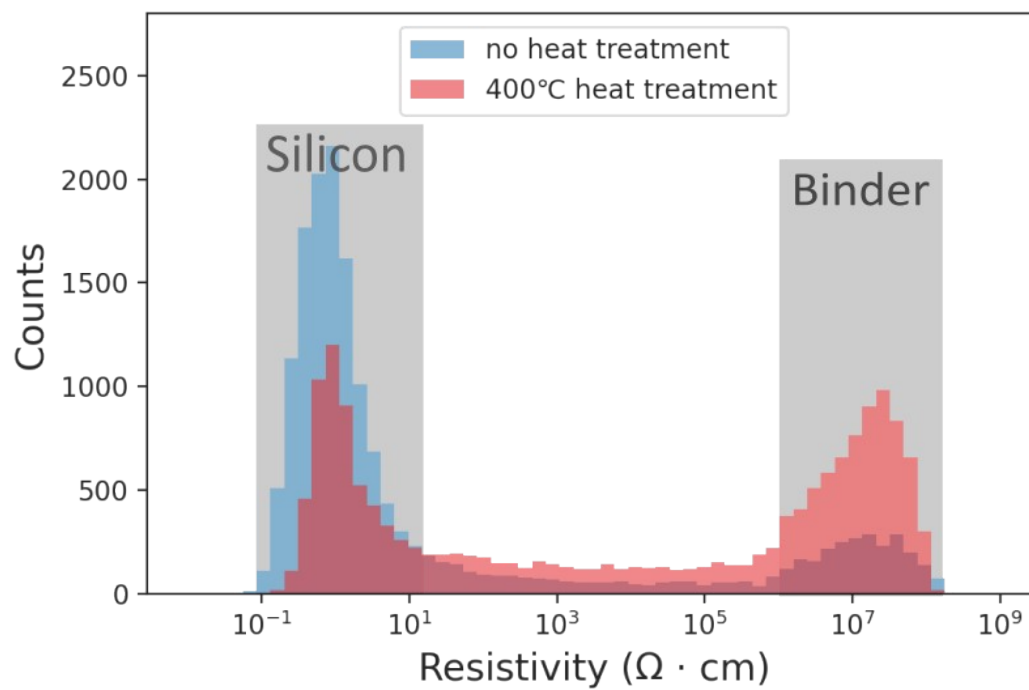
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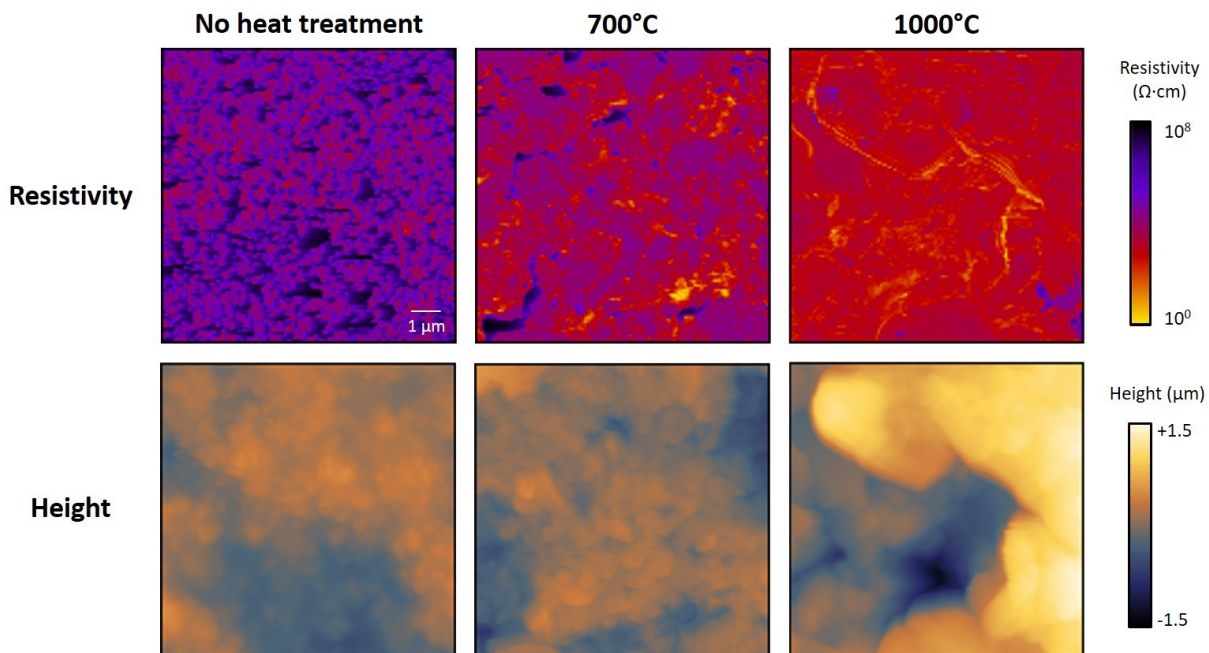
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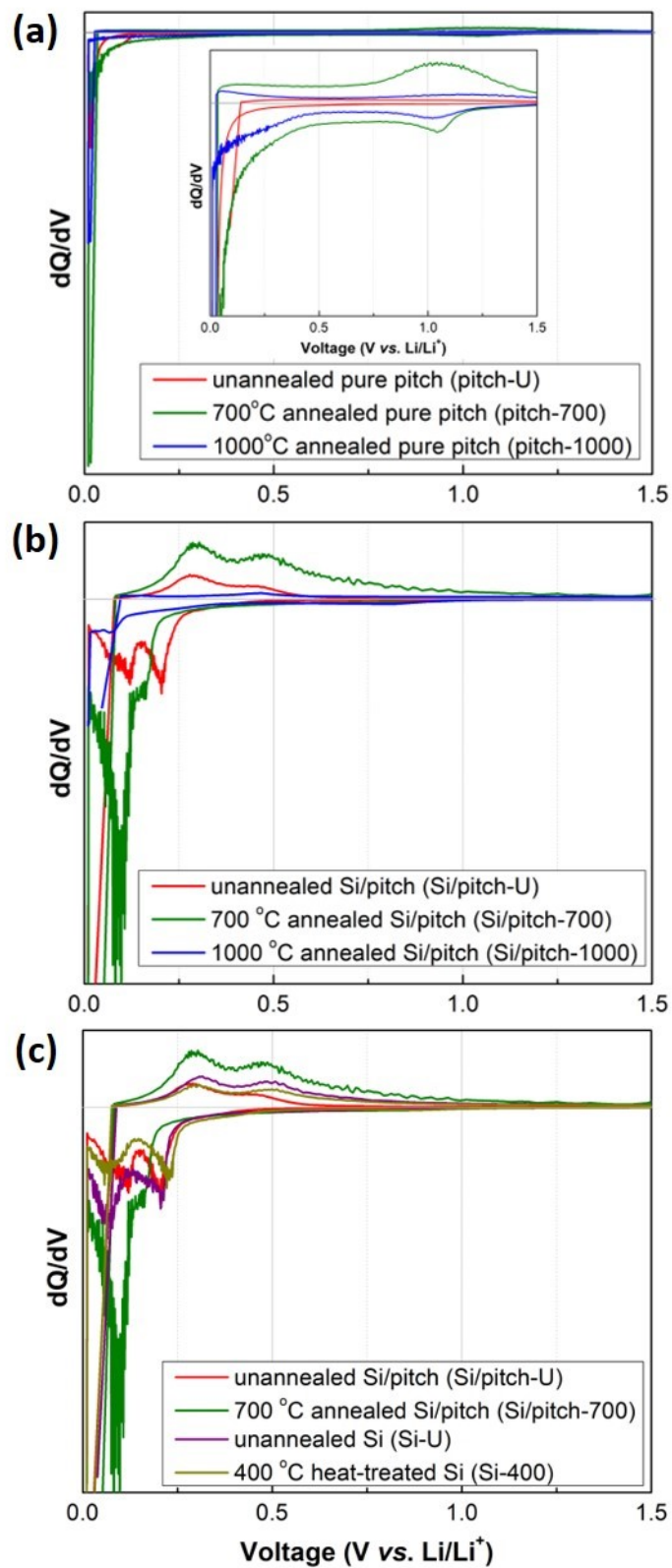
**Figure S1.** X-ray diffraction patterns of Si/pitch powders.



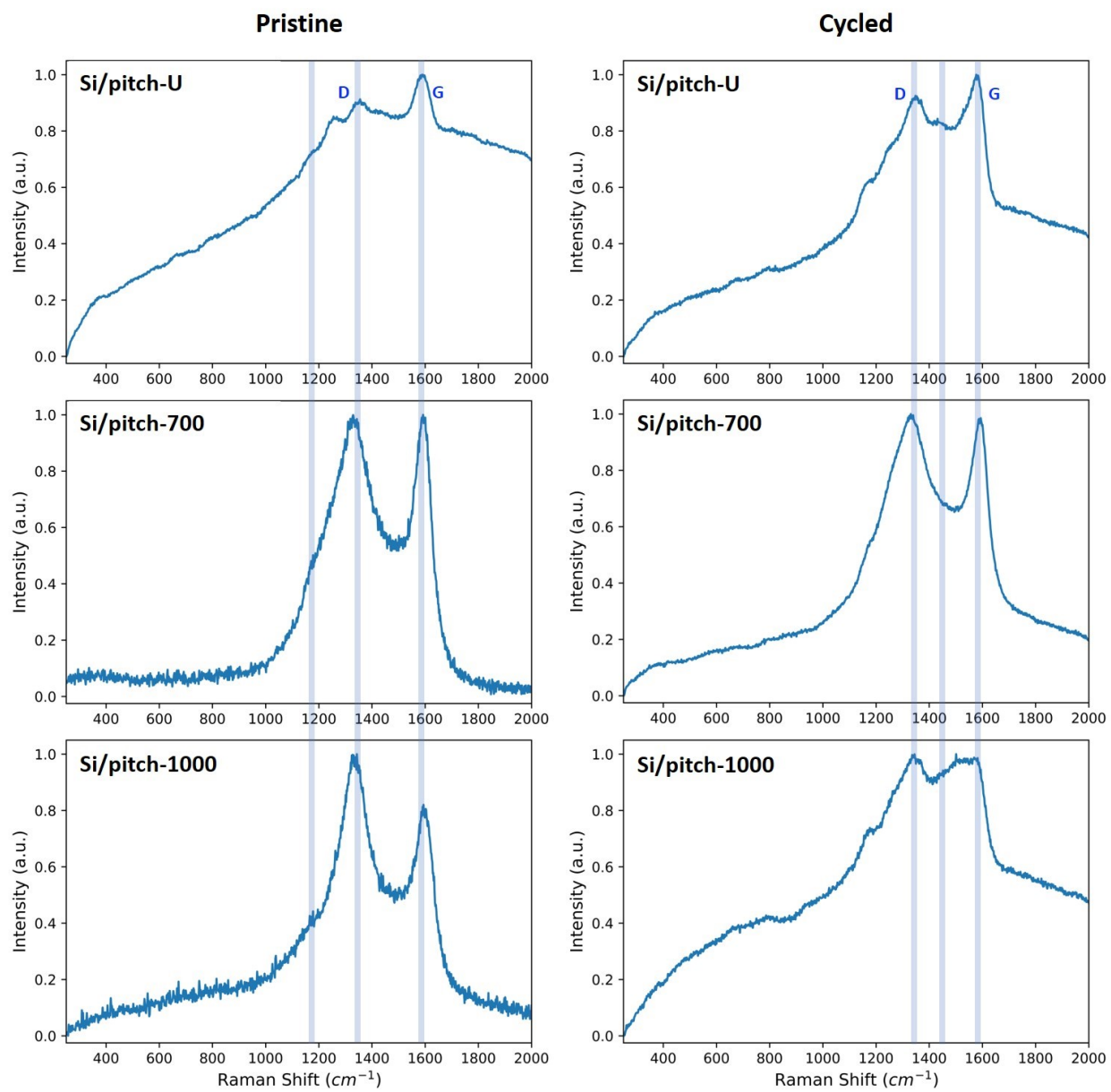
**Figure S2.** Resistivity map histograms for un-heated and 400°C heat treated Si-only electrodes showing consistent resistivities for the Si and the binder.



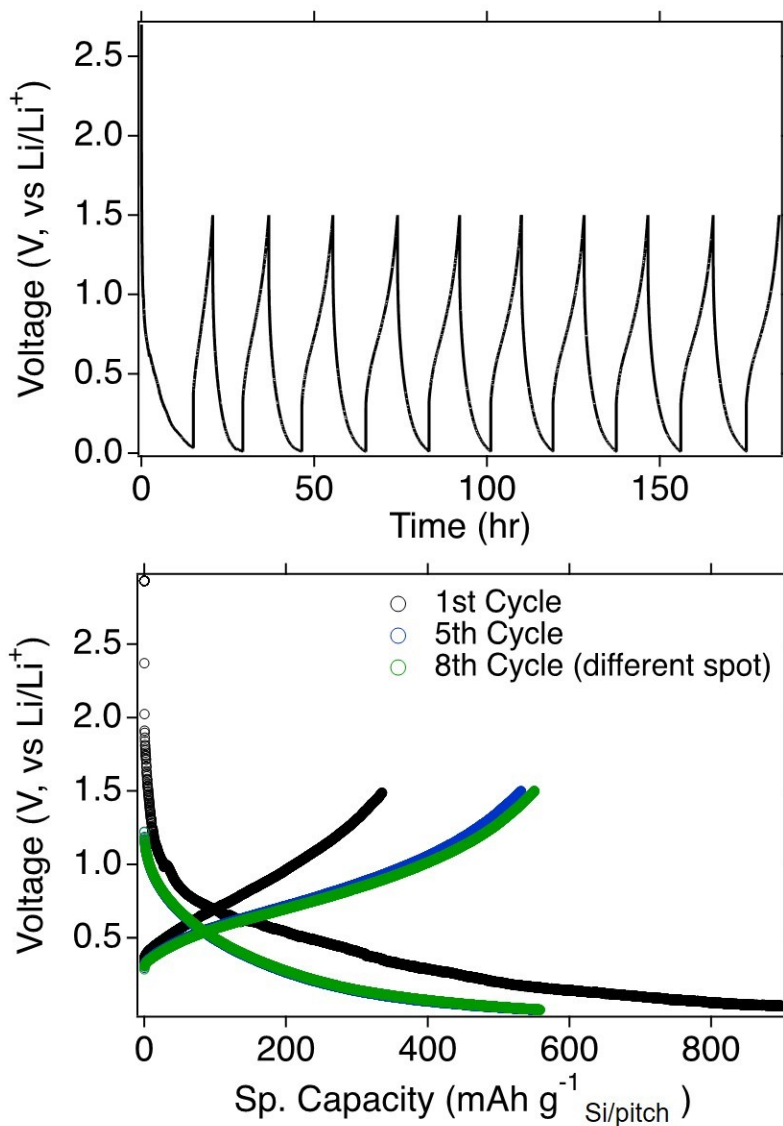
**Figure S3.** Electronic resistivity and morphology of pristine pitch electrodes upon thermal annealing.



**Figure S4.** Differential capacity plots of (a) pure pitch, (b) Si/pitch and (c) Si electrodes upon thermal annealing.



**Figure S5.** Raman spectra of Si/pitch electrodes upon electrochemical cycling.



**Figure S6.** Electrochemical behaviors of the in-situ windowed coin cells with Si/pitch electrodes (vs. a Li metal reference/counter electrode).