

Contents

Preface *xiii*

List of Abbreviations *xv*

About the Author *xix*

1	Introduction	1
	References	3
2	Silicon Electrochemistry – Toward Low-Carbon Economy	5
2.1	Silicon for Energy Storage – Electrochemical Batteries	6
2.2	Silicon for Energy Conversion – Photovoltaic Devices	9
2.2.1	Solar to Electricity	9
2.2.2	Solar-to-Chemical Conversion	15
	References	17
3	Brief Historical Overview of Silicon Production.	
	Metallurgical-Grade Silicon	21
	References	26
4	Physical and Chemical Properties of Silicon	27
	References	30
5	Silicon Refining: From Metallurgical-Grade to Electronic-Grade	33
5.1	Purification Based on Direct Si Chlorination	34
5.2	The Siemens Process	35
5.3	The Union Carbide Process	37
5.4	The Ethyl Process	38
5.5	Electrorefining in Molten Salts	40
5.6	Zone Refining, Acid Leaching	43
	References	45

6	Silicon Electrowinning and Electrodeposition of Thin Layers	49
6.1	Electrodeposition in Molten Fluoride, Chloride, and Oxide Electrolytes	49
6.2	Substrate Materials for Silicon Electrodeposition	55
6.3	Electrodeposition of Photoactive Silicon and p–n Junction	56
6.4	Electrodeposition of Silicon from Ionic Liquids and Organic Solvents	60
6.5	Purity Concerns and Solutions	66
	References	69
7	Photoelectrochemistry and Nanogravimetry of Si and Si-Oxide Electrodes	77
7.1	Topicality of Si Photoelectrochemical Research	77
7.2	Basic Parameters: Photopotential, Photocurrent, and Photocapacitance	80
7.3	Photoelectrochemical Features of the Si-Oxide Electrodes	85
7.3.1	Si–SiO ₂ Electrode	86
7.3.2	Si–HfO ₂ Electrode	93
7.3.3	Si–Al ₂ O ₃ Electrode	105
7.4	Quartz Crystal Nanogravimetry	106
	References	112
8	Electro-Deoxidation of Solid Compounds in Molten Salts	121
	References	127
9	Voltammetry and Basic Reactions of Silicon Electrode in Molten CaCl₂	129
	References	140
10	Si–SiO₂ Electrode in Molten CaCl₂	145
	References	147
11	Formation of Silicon Oxide Layer	149
	References	155
12	<i>In Situ</i> Studies of SiO₂ → Si Conversion – Synchrotron X-ray Diffraction	159
	References	162
13	Molten Oxide Electrochemistry at Ultra-High Temperatures	165
	References	172
14	Silicon Surface Structuring	175
14.1	Electrochemical Structuring, Porous Silicon	175
14.2	Chemical–Physical Structuring	178

14.2.1	Chemical Etching	178
14.2.2	Laser Engineering	180
14.2.3	Reactive Ion Etching	181
14.2.4	Plasma Immersion Ion Implantation Etching	182
14.2.5	Stain Etching	182
14.2.6	Metal-Assisted Chemical Etching	182
14.2.7	Vapor-Liquid-Solid Method	186
14.2.8	Nanostructuring Based on Porous Alumina Template	186
14.3	Black Silicon	190
	References	195
15	Electrochemical Si Surface Structuring and Formation of Black Silicon in High-Temperature Molten Salts	203
15.1	Anodic and Cathodic Processing in Molten CaCl_2	203
15.2	Microcolumnar and Amorphous Structures	205
15.3	Electrodeoxidation of Thin SiO_2 Layers	207
15.4	Globular Structures	208
15.5	Black Silicon from Molten Salts	212
15.6	Electrochemical Synthesis of Nanowires: Implications for Li-Ion Batteries	216
	References	221
16	Silicon Compositions – Perspectives for Semiconductor Production	225
16.1	Silicon Carbide	225
16.2	Silicides	231
	References	233
17	Silicon Photo-Electrodes for Water Splitting and Their Protection	237
17.1	Relevance, Basic Principles, and Semiconductor Materials for Photo-Electrodes	237
17.2	Protection of Silicon Photoelectrodes in Solar-Fuel Generators	243
17.2.1	Protection of Si Photoanodes	246
17.2.2	Protection of Si Photoanodes for Halide Reduction	247
17.2.3	Protection of Si Photocathodes	249
	References	251
18	Conclusions, Outlook, and Challenges	257
	Index	263