

# **Supporting Information**

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Magnesium Ions Direct the Solid-State Transformation of Amorphous Calcium Carbonate Thin Films to Aragonite, Magnesium-Calcite, or Dolomite

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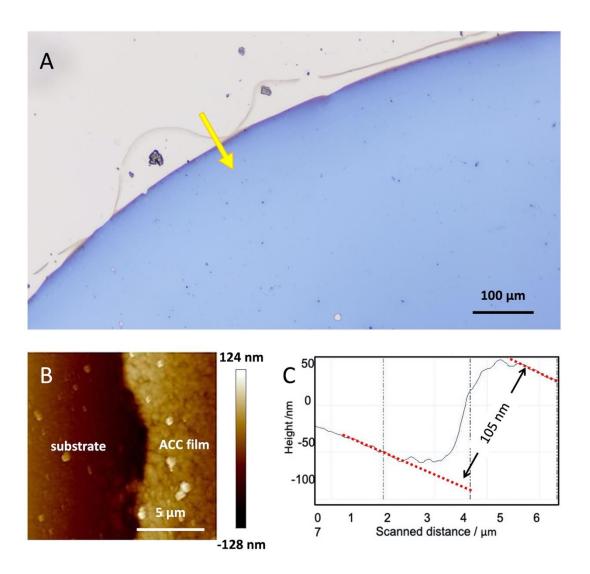
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**Table S1**. Deposition periods of ACC films generated under different conditions.

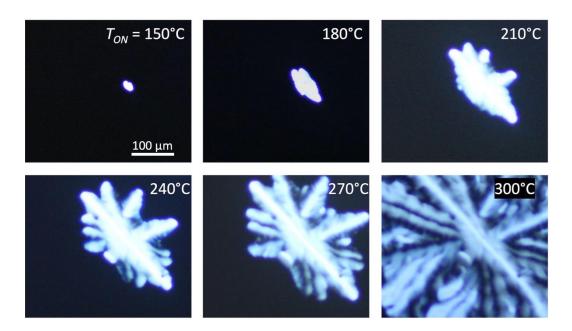
[Ca <sup>2+</sup> ] (mM)	[Mg <sup>2+</sup> ] (mM)	[PAA] (μg mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Film deposition time (min)	
10	0	8	45	
10	0	10	45	
10	2	2	20	
10	4	4	25	
10	10	2	25	
10	10	4	25	
10	10	8	25	
10	15	2	25	
10	20	2	25	
10	20	4	25	
10	30	0	30	
10	50	0	60	
2	10	0	90	
10	75	0	120	
10	100	0	120	

**Table S2**. Comparison of calculated and experimentally-determined Mg content of ACC and the product calcite films.

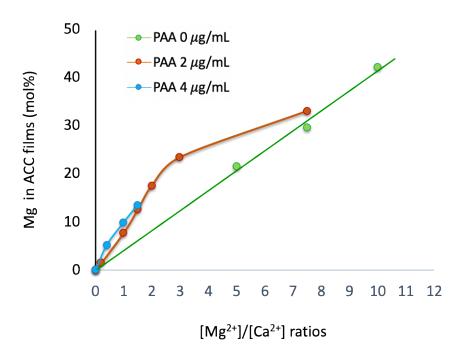
Mg content of ACC measured by ICP-OES (mol%)	Mg content of calcite measured by EDX (mol%)	Shrinkage of $d_{(104)}$ measured from HRTEM (%)	Mg content of calcite calculated from HRTEM (mol%)
$9.94 \pm 0.29$	9.3	$0.9 \pm 0.1$	$9.0 \pm 1.0$
$17.61 \pm 0.46$	16.7	$1.6 \pm 0.1$	$15.8 \pm 1.0$
$21.62 \pm 0.54$	25.5	$2.3\pm0.2$	$22.8 \pm 1.0$
$29.69 \pm 0.67$	29.5	$2.8 \pm 0.2$	$27.6 \pm 2.0$
42.21 ± 0.75	49.3	$4.2\pm0.2$	$42.0\pm2.0$



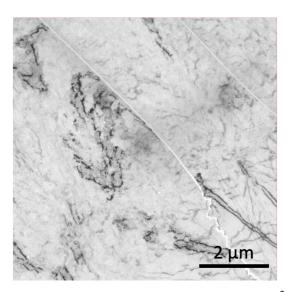
**Figure S1** (A) Optical micrograph and (B) atomic force microscopy (AFM) image of ACC films prepared from solutions comprising  $[Ca^{2+}] = 10$  mM,  $[Mg^{2+}] = 20$  mM and [PAA] = 2 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>. (C) Height profile along the direction of the yellow arrow in (A), showing that the overall thickness of the ACC film is around 100 nm.



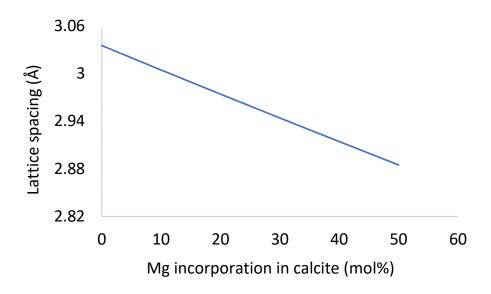
**Figure S2**. Sequential Polarized Optical Microscopy (POM) images of ACC films incubated under a continuous heat ramp from  $T_{ON}$ . The ACC films were prepared from solutions comprising  $[Ca^{2+}] = [Mg^{2+}] = 10$  mM and [PAA] = 2 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>, and crystallized above  $T_{ON}$  (150 °C). POM images were captured at 180, 210, 240, 270 and 300 °C.



**Figure S3**. Mg content of calcite films formed in the presence of 0, 2 and 4  $\mu$ g mL<sup>-1</sup> PAA at different [Mg<sup>2+</sup>]/[Ca<sup>2+</sup>] ratios, as determined using ICP-OES.



**Figure S4.** Bright field TEM image of a calcite film prepared at  $[Ca^{2+}] = 10$  mM,  $[Mg^{2+}] = 20$  mM and  $[PAA] = 4 \mu g mL^{-1}$ , and crystallized at 260 °C.



**Figure S5**. Calculated lattice spacing of (104) planes of Mg-calcite as a function of the Mg content. This was calculated using the parabolic functions of generalized Vegard's law <sup>[1-3]</sup>:

$$\begin{aligned} &a{=}4.98964\text{-}0.4287733\eta\text{+}0.07309\eta^2\\ &c{=}17.06728\text{-}2.0291349\eta\text{-}0.02223\eta^2\end{aligned}$$

and follows  $d_{(104)} = -0.003\eta + 3.0354$ .

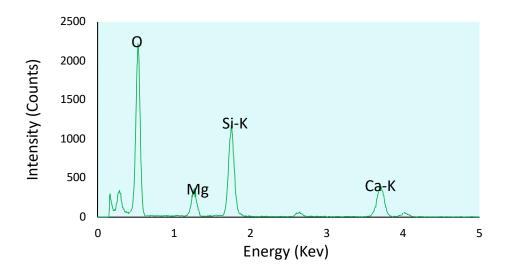
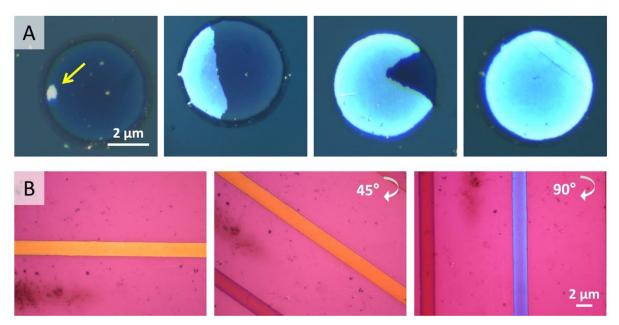


Figure S6. STEM-EDX spectrum of dolomite films showing a Mg content of  $\approx$  49 mol% Mg. The dolomite film was formed by heating ACC films prepared from solutions comprising  $[Ca^{2+}] = 10$  mM and  $[Mg^{2+}] = 100$  mM.



**Figure S7**. POM images of the patterned calcite films prepared under conditions  $[Ca^{2+}] = 10 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[Mg^{2+}] = 2 \text{ mM}$  and  $[PAA] = 2 \mu g \text{ mL}^{-1}$ , and crystallized at 150 °C. (A) Crystallization of ACC disc with diameter of 5  $\mu$ m, where a single nucleation point is observed (marked by the yellow arrow), and which grows to generate a single crystal calcite disc. (B) Single crystal calcite strip with width of 5  $\mu$ m.

#### References

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