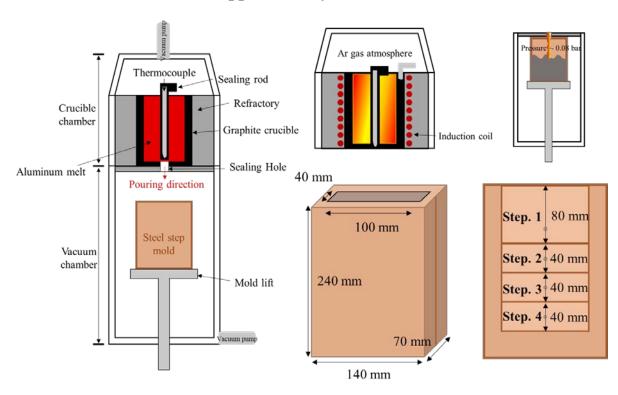
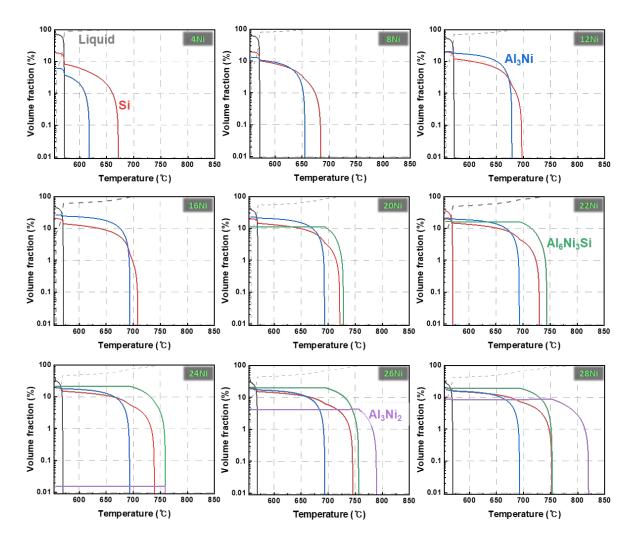
## **Suppelmentary Materials**



**Fig. S1.** Schematic illustration of a casting equipment and a step mold used for Al-18Si-xNi casting in the present study



**Fig. S2.** Scheil simulations predicting the solidification sequence of Al-18Si-xNi alloys in the early stage of solidification using Thermo-Calc with TCAL8 database [30].

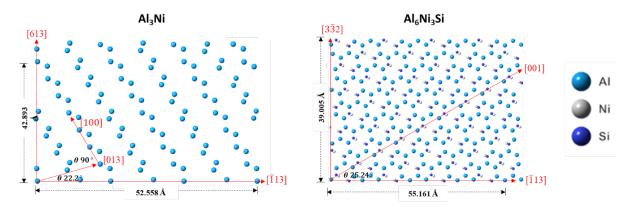
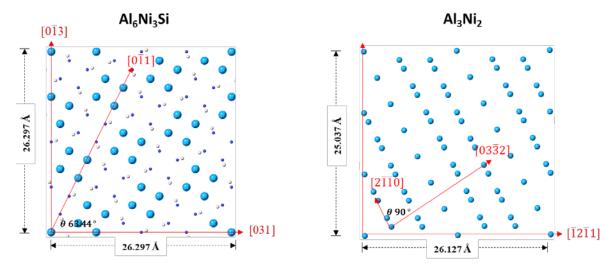


Fig S3. Atomic projections of  $(0\overline{3}1)$  Al<sub>3</sub>Ni and (110) Al<sub>6</sub>Ni<sub>3</sub>Si planes at the habit plane on the  $[\overline{1}13]$  axes.



 $\textbf{Fig S4.} \ \, \text{Atomic projections of (400)} \ \, \text{Al}_{6} \text{Ni}_{3} \text{Si and (0\overline{1}13)} \ \, \text{Al}_{3} \text{Ni}_{2} \ \, \text{planes at the habit plane on the [031]} \ \, \text{axes.}$