## FEW-LAYER BLACK PHOSPHORUS AS NOVEL SUPPORT FOR METAL NANOPARTICLES

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#### Anisotropic structure of BP



Zig-zag (y-axis)

#### Anisotropic structure of BP



Armchair (x-axis)

## The renaissance of black phosphorus

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✓ Semiconductor, with a thickness-dipendent direct band gap ( $\sim$  0.3-2.0 eV)

#### Ultrathin black P for efficient singlet oxygen production:



Xie et al. JACS 2015, 137,11376–11382



**Figure 4** | **Photocatalytic performances.** Relative concentrations and apparent reaction rate constants of RB 5 and Rho B of BP@TiO<sub>2</sub> hybrid, P25, and few layered BP photocatalysts under UV- (A) and visible-light (B) irradiation, and antibacterial activities (C) and apparent reaction rate constants of *E. coli* and *S. aureus*.



Scientific Reports 2015, 5, 8691.

#### PROPERTIES OF FEW-LAYER BLACK PHOSPHORUS

✓ Semiconductor, with a thickness-dipendent direct band gap ( $\sim$  2 -0.3 eV)

✓ High surface area

✓Higher chemical reactivity compared to other 2D-materials stable in free standing form

- Careful handling in inert environments/encapsulation/passivation

- Controllable/mild chemical functionalization (not possible for graphene)



Gas sensor (CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, NO, NO<sub>2</sub>)

Theoretical and experimental study Band gap





## A phosphorene–graphene hybrid material as a high-capacity anode for sodium-ion batteries

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Sodium-ion batteries have recently attracted significant attention as an alternative to lithium-ion batteries because sodium sources do not present the geopolitical issues that lithium sources might. Although recent reports on cathode materials for sodium-ion batteries have demonstrated performances comparable to their lithium-ion counterparts, the major scientific challenge for a competitive sodium-ion battery technology is to develop viable anode materials. Here we show that a hybrid material made out of a few phosphorene layers sandwiched between graphene layers shows a specific capacity of 2,440 mA h g–1 (calculated using the mass of phosphorus only) at a current density of 0.05 A g–1 and an 83% capacity retention after 100 cycles while operating between 0 and 1.5 V. Using in situ transmission electron microscopy and ex situ X-ray diffraction techniques, we explain the large capacity of our anode through a dual mechanism of intercalation of sodium ions along the x axis of the phosphorene layers followed by the formation of a Na3P alloy. The presence of graphene layers in the hybrid material works as a mechanical backbone and an electrical highway, ensuring that a suitable elastic buffer space accommodates the anisotropic expansion of phosphorene layers along the y and z axial directions for stable cycling operation.

## Phosphorene: An Unexplored 2D Semiconductor with a High Hole Mobility

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ASC Nano, 2014, 8, 4033.

## Preparation of few-layer BP

✓ Mechanical exfoliation



# Liquid Exfoliation by ultrasounds



O'Brien, *Chem.Commun*, **2014**, *50*,13338; Xie, JACS. **2015**,doi:10.10121.jacs.5b06025 Hersam, *ACS nano* **2015**, 9, 3596; Salehi-Khojin, *Adv. Mater.* **2015**, 27, 1887 Warren, doi:10.10121/acsnano.5b02599; Serrano, Caporali, Peruzzini et al. Submitted.

## Synthesis of Black Phosphorus (BP)



Inorg. Chem. 2007, 46, 4028; J. Solid State Chem. 2008, 181, 1707.

# Exfoliation in DMSO

DMSO has:

- high dielectric constant
- high surface tension

>we found an important influence of the amount of water in the exfoliation

In particular three different ranges of molar ratio between black phosphorus and water were studied.



The degradation products resonating at - 13.1 and -24.9 ppm were assigned to pyrophosphate,  $[H_4P_2O_7]$ , and to trimetaphosphate  $[H_3P_3O_9]$  respectively, on the basis of high resolution ESI MS

# Optimised exfoliation in our labs:



M. Serrano-Ruiz, M. Caporali, A. Ienco, V. Piazza, S. Heun, M. Peruzzini, *Adv. Mat. Interfaces* **2016**, 3, 1500441.





# PXRD

• X-ray powder diffractogram of exfoliated and calculated diffractogram of black phosphorus.



#### **PROCESSING the 2D Black Phosphorus:**



Acetone Centrifugation (6000 rpm x 2)





Solvent, Ultrasound 37 kHz 1 minute!!!

## **2D-BP** functionalization: a coordination approach?



## **Preparation of NiNPs/2D-BP**



§ Mezailles et al. Chem. Mater. 2010, 22, 1340.

## HAADF STEM on NiNPs / 2D BP





## Raman of NiNPs -2D Black P



## Energy Loss Near Edge Structure (ELNES)





#### Preparation of RuNPs/2D-BP



H. Can, Ö. Metin, Appl. Cat. B-Environ. 2012, 125, 304-310.

## **Preparation of PdNPs/2D-BP**



Coronado et al., J. Mat. Chem. 2008, 18, 5682

### **Preparation of AuNPs/2D-BP**



§ S. Dai et al, Catal. Lett. 2010, 136, 209.





## Raman: comparison



#### Hydrogenation of Phenylacetylene



Reaction conditions: NiNPs 2.2 mol%, P:Ni = 6, DMSO: Toluene = 3,  $H_2$ : 10 bar, 80°C, 2 h.

Time (h)	Conv. (%)*	Selectivity toward styrene(%)*
1	45.4	94.3
2	96.2	94.9

#### Recycling the catalyst NiNPs/2D-BP



Run	Conversion (%)	Selectivity towards styrene(%)
1	96.2	94.9
2	91.9	94.7
3	86.9	95.1
4	73.2	95.2
5	66.6	95.6



M. Serrano-Ruiz, M. Caporali, A. Ienco, V. Piazza, S. Heun, M. Peruzzini, *Adv. Mat. Interfaces* **2016**, 3, 1500441.

## .....and Perspectives

 $\checkmark$ <u>Evaluate</u> the effective heterogeneity of the studied catalytic system NiNPs/2D-BP (hot filtration tests, leaching tests...) and run a comparison of 2D-BP with other 2D-supports for metal nanoparticles (graphene, carbon nanotubes...).

 $\checkmark$  <u>Explore</u> the catalytic activity of the other nanocomposites, RuNPs/2D-BP, PdNPs/2D-BP and AuNPs/2D-BP in several reactions.

 $\checkmark$  <u>Study</u> the chemical and physical properties of the nanocomposites, in order to <u>expand</u> their uses in other fields (e. g. microelectronics, optoelectronics).

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# Thank you