Palladium/Black Phosphorus Nanohybrid Unraveling the Nature of Pd-P Interaction and Application in Catalysis







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Black Phosphorus (bP) as a P counterpart of Graphite



Black phosphorus crystals.

SEM image highlighting the laminar structure



Puckered honeycomb structure of black phosphorus.

sp³ hybridized P atoms





SEM image of a graphite crystal





sp² hybridized C atoms

Black phosphorus exfoliation



X. H. Chen, Y. Zhang et al., Nat. Nanotechnol. 2014





mechanical exfoliation

solvent assisted exfoliation

Anchoring Metal Fragments: Coordinative Abilities of bP



Top view and side view of phosphorene lone pairs (green)

Functionalization with molecular fragments

Functionalization with M NPs



H. Wang, X.-F. Yu, P. K. Chu *et al.*, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2016**



Pd/bP: a New M/bP Nanohybrid

H₂O, EtOH, THF

Η,





TEM (a) and **SEM** (b) image of a Pd/bP flake



 $Pd(NO_3)_2 +$

20 nm



 $t \approx 5 \text{ nm}$

AFM height profile of a Pd/bP flake

exfoliated bP

P

12.00 mm

0.00 nm

Рн₂= 5 bar, RT, 1h

Preliminar Characterization



HRTEM-EELS First Evidence of Strong P-Pd Interaction





Comparative analysis of the P_L edge between Pd free regions (red area) and Pd/bP regions (blue area) reveals modification in the EELS profile around 137-140 eV

XPS



(*) M. Caporali, L. Gonasalvi et al., ChemCatChem 2013

Going Further Gaining Structural Insights from EXAFS



The LISA beamline. Side view of the EH2 cabin. 1, slits; 2, ion chamber I0; 3, sample chamber; 4, ion chamber I1; 5, reference foils holder; 6, ion chamber (D'Acapito *et al., J. of Sync. Rad.*, 2019).



ESRF, Grenoble



The new nanohybrid Pd/bP was studied by XAS comparing it with Pd, PdO, PdP₂ and Pd@PTA.

EXAFS Study



	Sample	CNs Pd-Pd	R _{PdPd} (Å)	σ² _{PdPd} (Ų)	CNs Pd-P	R _{PdP} (Å)	s² _{PdP} (Ų)
→	Pd foil	12	2.74(1)	0.0059(4)	-	-	-
	Pd/C	7(2)	2.73(1)	0.0065(5)	-	-	-
	Pd/bP	8(2)	2.77(3)	0.016(4)	1.7(6)	2.26(3)	0.0018(6)
	Pd@PTA	8(2)	2.73(2)	0.009(2)	0.7(2)	2.25(3)	0.004
	PdP ₂	-	-	-	3.8(6)	2.32(2)	0.004(2)
	PdO	4 O	2.01(2)	0.002(1)	-	-	-

Conclusions from the EXAFS study

EXAFS data confirmed the presence of a strong coordinative bond of covalent nature between Pd and P, with a bond distance of **2.26(3)** Å comparable to that of **Pd@PTA** and to the molecular cation **Pd(PTAH)**₄⁴⁺



(*) D. J. Darensbourg et al., Inorg. Chem., 1997

From Chloronitrobenzene to Chloroaniline









Stoichiometric Route



Catalytic Conversion



Selective Hydrogenation with Pd/bP



Dehalogenation scheme

Pd/bP was compared with Pd/C (Ketjen black)

drawback of catalytic hydrogenations: C-CI hydrogenolysis



Characterization of **Pd/C** catalyst prepared under the same reaction conditions used for bP

Selective Hydrogenation with Pd/bP



Catalyst	Substrate	Time	S/C	Conv. % ^a	Select. %	TOF⁵ (h⁻¹)	
Pd/bP	1-chloro-3- nitrobenzene	30'	162	99.1	97.7	313	
	1-chloro-2- nitrobenzene	40'	162	99.5	97.3	235	%
Pd/C	1-chloro-2- nitrobenzene	30'	191	99.9	78.1	298	

Recycling test



- **Pd/bP** remained active and selective for 6 consecutive runs.

- **Pd/bP** was stable toward NPs agglomeration.





TEM image of a Pd/bP flake after a catalytic run.

Conclusions



- Synthesis of a new Pd/bP nanohybrid

- Detailed experimental study of the Pd-P interaction

- Successfull application as catalyst in the hydrogenation of chloronitrobenzene

The Phosfun group



European Research Council





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