## Phosphorene: a rising star in the 2D world



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#### Black Phosphorus (bP) as a P counterpart of Graphite



**bP** crystals

ARTICLES



Puckered honeycomb structure of bP

SEM image of bP







SEM image of graphite





sp<sup>2</sup> hybridized C atoms

#### Black phosphorus exfoliation



#### Nat. Nanotechnol. 2014



Ultrasound, 59 MHz 30 °C, 48h

mechanical exfoliation

#### solvent assisted exfoliation

## Anisotropic structure of black phosphorus



Armchair (x-axis)

## Anisotropic structure of black phosphorus



Zig-zag (y-axis)

## Physical properties of 2D black P



✓ *p*-type semiconductor, with a thickness-depending direct band gap (0.3-2.0 eV)
✓ The band gap can be modulated either applying an electrical field or by strain.

## Applications of black phosphorus



## Synthesis of black phosphorus



#### Anchoring Metal Fragments: Coordinative Abilities of bP



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

## Functionalization with molecular fragments



#### P. K. Chu et al., Angew.Chem.Int.Ed., 2016, 5003.

#### Functionalization with M NPs



### Pd/bP: a New M/bP Nanohybrid





 $H_2O$ , EtOH, THF  $P_{H_2}$ = 5 bar, RT, 1h



exfoliated bP



HR-TEM EDS



**AFM** height profile of a Pd/bP flake



#### **PXRD and Raman**



## HRTEM-EELS First Evidence of Strong P-Pd Interaction



EELS

137

138

139

Energy (eV)

140

141

142

**bP** exp

130

134

138

Energy (eV)



Comparative analysis of the P<sub>L</sub> 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 et al., Chem. Cat. Chem. 2013, 5, 2517.

## 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**, **PdP**<sub>2</sub> and **Pd@PTA**.

## **EXAFS Study**



	Sample	CNs Pd-Pd	R <sub>PdPd</sub> (Å)	σ² <sub>PdPd</sub> (Ų)	CNs Pd-P	R <sub>PdP</sub> (Å)	s² <sub>PdP</sub> (Ų)
<b>→</b>	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 <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	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)**<sub>4</sub>+



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

#### **From Chloronitrobenzene to Chloroaniline**









#### **Stoichiometric Route**



#### **Catalytic Conversion**



## Hydrogenation with Pd/bP



#### drawback of catalytic hydrogenations: C-CI hydrogenolysis



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

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

## Hydrogenation with Pd/bP



Catalyst	Substrate	Time	S/C	Conv. % <sup>a</sup>	Select. %	TOF <sup>ь</sup> (h <sup>-1</sup> )
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

- Pd/bP remained active and selective for 6 runs.
- Pd/bP was stable towards NPs agglomeration.



## Conclusions



- Synthesis of a new Pd/bP nanohybrid

- Detailed experimental study of the Pd-P interaction

- Successfull application as catalyst in the selective hydrogenation of chloronitrobenzene

## **OUR INSTITUTE**





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