

Supplementary Material to

**Comparison of four different synthetic routes of Ni₂P/TiO₂-Al₂O₃ catalysts for
hydrodesulfurization of dibenzothiophene**

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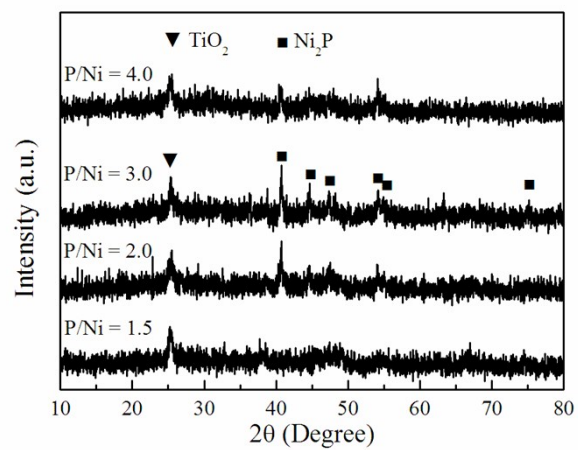


Fig. S1 XRD patterns of Ni-P/TiO₂-Al₂O₃ catalysts with different P/Ni ratios prepared by method II (Ni₂P loading = 30 wt%).

Table S1 Textural properties and superficial P/Ni mole ratios of Ni-P/TiO₂-Al₂O₃ catalysts prepared by method II (Ni₂P loading = 30 wt%)

Catalyst	S _{BET} (m ² /g)	Average pore size (nm)	Pore volume (cm ³ /g)	Superficial atomic ratio P/Ni
Ni-P/Ti/Al-II-1.5	31	3.8	0.05	2.96
Ni-P/Ti/Al-II-2.0	4	4.8	0.01	-
Ni-P/Ti/Al-II-3.0	3	4.8	0.01	3.18
Ni-P/Ti/Al-II-4.0	2	4.8	0.01	-

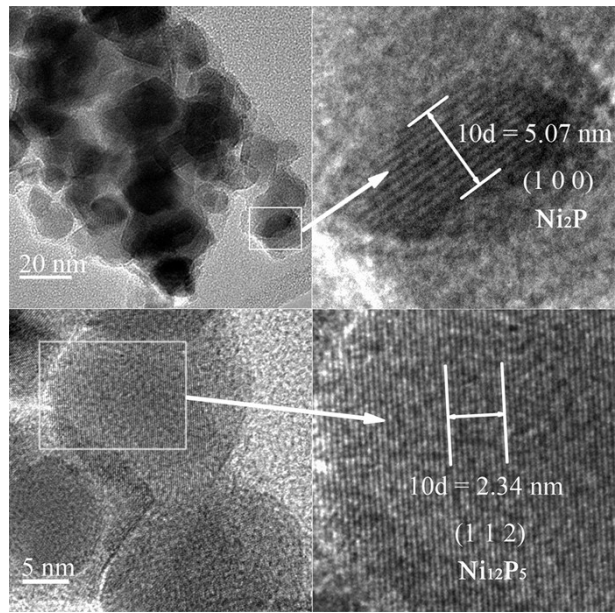


Fig. S2 High resolution TEM micrographs of the Ni-P/Ti/Al-II-1.5 catalyst.

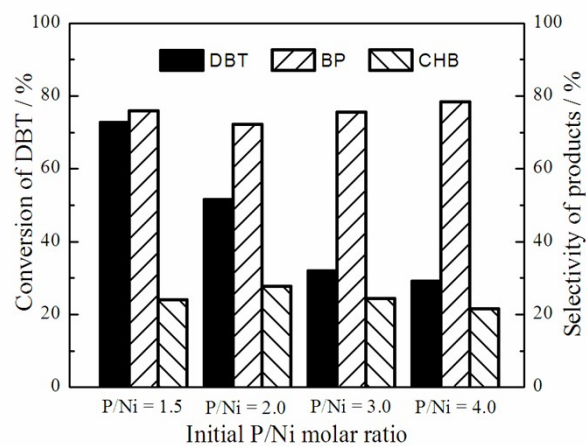


Fig. S3 HDS performance of Ni-P/TiO₂-Al₂O₃ catalysts with different P/Ni mole ratios prepared by method II (Ni₂P loading = 30 wt%). Reaction conditions: 583 K, 3.0 MPa, WHSV = 6 h⁻¹, H₂/oil = 600/1 (v/v).

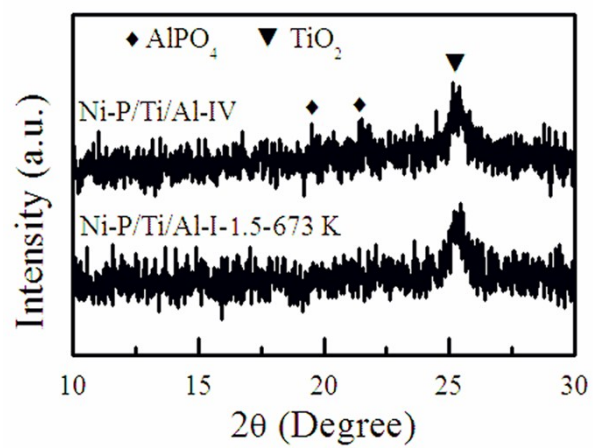


Fig. S4 Comparison of XRD patterns of the Ni-P/Ti/Al-I-1.5-673 K catalyst and Ni-P/Ti/Al-IV catalyst.

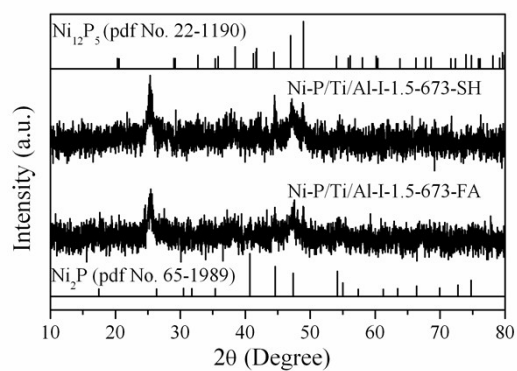


Fig. S5 XRD patterns of Ni-P/TiO₂-Al₂O₃ catalysts prepared using NiCl₂•6H₂O and NH₄H₂PO₂ as precursor with an initial P/Ni mole ratio of 1.5. Ni-P/Ti/Al-I-1.5-673-SH: prepared in static H₂, Ni-P/Ti/Al-I-1.5-673-FA: prepared in flowing Ar.

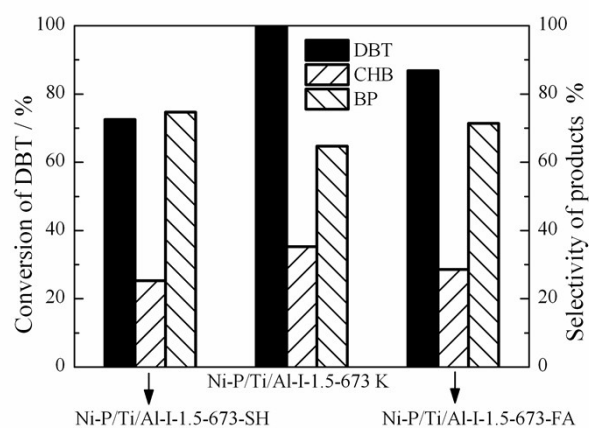


Fig. S6 Effect of preparation methods on the HDS performance of Ni-P/TiO₂-Al₂O₃ catalysts prepared using NiCl₂•6H₂O and NH₄H₂PO₂ as precursor with an initial P/Ni mole ratio of 1.5. Ni-P/Ti/Al-I-1.5-673-SH: prepared in static H₂, Ni-P/Ti/Al-I-1.5-673-FA: prepared in flowing Ar. Reaction conditions: 583 K, 3.0 MPa, WHSV = 6 h⁻¹, H₂/oil = 600/1 (v/v).

Table S2 Effects of Ni-P loadings and supports on the textural properties of various supported Ni-P catalysts prepared by method II (P/Ni mole ratio = 1.5)

Catalysts	S _{BET} (m ² /g)	Average pore size(nm)	Pore volume (cm ³ /g)
Ni-P/Ti/Al-II-10%	123	3.8	0.17
Ni-P/Ti/Al-II-20%	93	3.8	0.12
Ni-P/Ti/Al-II-30%	31	3.8	0.05
Ni-P/Al ₂ O ₃ -II-30%	45	3.8	0.04

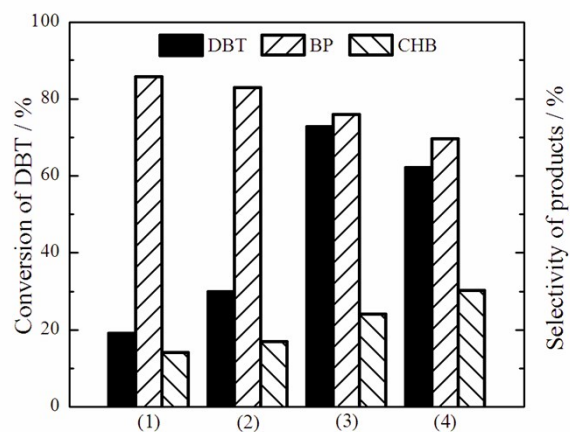


Fig. S7 HDS performance of various supported nickel phosphide catalysts prepared by method II ($P/Ni = 1.5$): (1) Ni-P/TiO₂-Al₂O₃, 10 wt%; (2) Ni-P/TiO₂-Al₂O₃, 20 wt%; (3) Ni-P/TiO₂-Al₂O₃, 30 wt%; (4) Ni-P/Al₂O₃, 30 wt%. Reaction conditions: 583 K, 3.0 MPa, WHSV = 6 h⁻¹, H₂/oil = 600/1 (v/v).