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# Effects of Phosphorus Addition on Selectivity and Stability of Pd Model Catalysts during Cyclohexene Dehydrogenation

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Supporting Information

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## Section S1. Low Energy Electron Diffraction Patterns of P<sub>x</sub>-Pd Surfaces







**Figure S1.** Low-energy electron diffraction pattern of a) Pd(111) with a (1x1) pattern at a beam voltage of 40 eV. b)  $P_{0.17}$ -Pd at a beam voltage of 40 eV and c)  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd at a beam voltage of 45 eV.





**Figure S2.** Desorption profile of  $C_6H_{10}$  (67 m/z<sup>+</sup>) from TPR of 0.4 ML  $C_6H_{10}$  adsorbed at 77 K on Pd (dashed), 0.4 ML of  $C_6H_{10}$  adsorbed at 77 K on  $P_{0.17}$ -Pd (solid), and 0.3 ML  $C_6H_{10}$  adsorbed at 77 K on  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd (dash dot) and heated at 3 K s<sup>-1</sup>.

Section S3. Desorption Profiles of C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> on P<sub>x</sub>-Pd Surfaces



**Figure S3.** Desorption profiles of  $H_2$  from TPD of saturation coverages of  $H_2$  adsorbed at 77 K and heated at 3 K s<sup>-1</sup> on Pd (dashed) and  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd (solid).

**Figure S3** shows the desorption profiles of H<sub>2</sub> from the recombination of chemisorbed atomic hydrogen on Pd<sup>1</sup> and P<sub>0.34</sub>-Pd surfaces, and we see that the peak desorption temperature decreases about 45 K on P<sub>0.34</sub>-Pd (270 K) when compared to Pd (315 K). This is in line with the observation of decreased binding energy of H<sub>2</sub> in the presence of P over Ni<sub>2</sub>P(0001) when compared to Ni(111) which could be due to electronic differences in the presence of P and the creation of P-modified binding sites.<sup>2</sup>



Figure S4. Desorption profiles of C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> from TPR of C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (dashed) and C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>10</sub> (solid) adsorbed at 77 K on Pd, P<sub>0.17</sub>-Pd, P<sub>0.34</sub>-Pd and heated at 3 K s<sup>-1</sup>.

**Figure S4** shows the desorption profiles of  $C_6H_6$  from TPR of  $C_6H_{10}$  and  $C_6H_6$ . The overlap of the desorption peaks of molecular desorption of  $C_6H_6$  and  $C_6H_6$  formed from  $C_6H_{10}$  dehydrogenation demonstrates that the desorption of  $C_6H_6$  is the kinetically relevant step of the formation of  $C_6H_6$  from  $C_6H_{10}$ . Based on the highest peak desorption temperatures of  $C_6H_6$ , assuming a prefactor of  $10^{13}$  s<sup>-1</sup>, using first order Redhead analysis,  $C_6H_6$  binds about 14 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> more weakly on  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd (106 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) than on Pd (120 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>).



Section S4. King and Wells Measurements<sup>3</sup> for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>10</sub> Dehydrogenation Selectivity Calculations

**Figure S5.** a) Total  $C_6H_6$  desorbed and total  $C_6H_{10}$  adsorbed during the TPR of different initial coverages of  $C_6H_{10}$  adsorbed at 77 K on Pd (**■**),  $P_{0.17}$ -Pd (**●**), and  $Pd_{0.34}$ -Pd (**▲**) and heated at 3 K s<sup>-1</sup> b) Total  $C_6H_{10}$  desorbed as a function of total  $C_6H_{10}$  adsorbed during the TPR of 0.14 ML or higher coverage of  $C_6H_{10}$  adsorbed on Pd (**■**),  $P_{0.17}$ -Pd (**●**), and  $Pd_{0.34}$ -Pd (**▲**) at 77 K and heated at 3 K s<sup>-1</sup>.

During the TPR of  $C_6H_{10}$ , the formation of  $C_6H_6$  is constant for  $C_6H_{10}$  surface coverages (obtained from **Figure S5a**) greater than 0.14 ML<sup>4-5</sup> which is assumed to the saturation coverage of  $C_6H_{10}$ on Pd(111). The amount of  $C_6H_{10}$  adsorbed is measured using King and Wells measurements and the amount of  $C_6H_{10}$  desorbed and  $C_6H_6$  formed are calculated by integrating the desorption profiles from the TPR of  $C_6H_{10}$ . In the  $C_6H_{10}$  surface coverage range of constant  $C_6H_6$  desorption, the intercept of the graph of  $C_6H_{10}$  that either dehydrogenates to form  $C_6H_6$  or decomposes to coke on the surface.

#### Section S5. Rate Expression Derivation for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>10</sub> Dehydrogenation on Pd and P<sub>x</sub>-Pd Surfaces

**Scheme S1:** Proposed sequence of steps for  $C_6H_{10}$  dehydrogenation on  $P_x$ -Pd catalysts. Note: \* denotes unoccupied catalytic site; X and X\* represent a gas-phase species and the corresponding bound surface intermediate, respectively; indicates that the elementary step is kinetically relevant; indicates a series of steps that form carbon deposits on the catalyst surface;  $k_a$ represents the rate constant for the elementary step (5.a); x and y represent a whole number from 1 to 5.

$C_6H_{10} + *$	$\xrightarrow{k_1}$	$C_{6}H_{10}^{*}$	(5.1)
$C_6H_{10}$ * + *	$\xrightarrow{k_2}$	$C_6H_9* + H*$	(5.2)
$C_6H_9* + *$	$\xrightarrow{k_3}$	$C_6 H_8^* + H^*$	(5.3)
$C_6H_8$ * +*	$\xrightarrow{k_4}$	$C_6H_7^* + H^*$	(5.4)
$C_6H_7* + *$	$\xrightarrow{k_5}$	$C_6H_6* + H*$	(5.5)
$C_6H_6*$	$\xrightarrow{k_6}$	$C_6H_6$ + *	(5.6)
2H*	$\xrightarrow{k_7}$	H <sub>2</sub> + 2*	(5.7)
$C_6H_6* + *$	$\xrightarrow{k_8}$	$C_x H_y^* + C_{(6-x)} H_{(6-y)}^*$	(5.8)
$r_1 = k_1 [C_6 H_{10}][*]$			

(S5.2)

$$r_6 = k_6 [C_6 H_6 * ]$$

$$r_{8} = k_{8} [C_{6}H_{6} *][\frac{*}{L}]$$
(S5.3)
$$[L] = [C_{6}H_{10} *] + [C_{6}H_{9} *] + [C_{6}H_{8} *] + [C_{6}H_{7} *] + [C_{6}H_{6} *] + [H *] + [*]$$

The rate of elementary steps (5.1), (5.6), and (5.8) are given by **Equation S5.1**, **S5.2**, and **S5.3**, respectively. Here, [L] represents the number of active sites defined by **Equation S5.4**, excluding the active sites poisoned by the irreversible formation of coke.  $[C_6H_{10}^*]$ ,  $[C_6H_9^*]$ ,  $[C_6H_8^*]$ ,  $[C_6H_7^*]$ ,  $[C_6H_6^*]$ ,  $[H^*]$ , [\*] represent the surface coverages of the surface-bound intermediates  $C_6H_{10}^*$ ,  $C_6H_9^*$ ,  $C_6H_8^*$ ,  $C_6H_7^*$ ,  $C_6H_6^*$ ,  $H^*$ , and unoccupied catalytic sites respectively. We assume that all the elementary steps are catalyzed by the same type of catalytic sites. Applying pseudosteady state assumptions (PSSA) on the intermediates  $C_6H_{10}^*$ ,  $C_6H_9^*$ ,  $C_6H_8^*$ ,  $C_6H_7^*$ ,  $C_6H_6^*$ , we arrive at the **Equation S5.5** which implies that the rate of  $C_6H_{10}^*$  adsorption equals the rate of  $C_6H_6^*$  is given by **Equation 5.6**. Substituting for surface coverage of  $C_6H_6^*$  in **Equation S5.2**, we derive the rate of  $C_6H_6$  formation in **Equation S5.7**. The reactants and products (i.e.,  $C_6H_{10}$ ,  $H_2$ ,  $C_6H_6$ ) desorb completely from these surfaces at temperatures below 550 K as discussed in the main text, which suggests that catalytically active sites are predominantly bare during steady-state catalysis at 525 – 650 K (i.e., unoccupied sites are the most abundant reactive intermediate, MARI).  $C_6H_6$ 

desorption is the kinetically relevant step on Pd and P-modified surfaces for the formation of  $C_6H_6$  from  $C_6H_{10}$  dehydrogenation as discussed in **Section S3**. Following substitution for empty sites to be the MARI in the rate of kinetically relevant  $C_6H_6$  desorption, the rate of  $C_6H_6$  formation is represented in **Equation S5.8**.

$$r_{1} = r_{6} + r_{8}$$
(S5.5)  
$$[C_{6}H_{6} *] = \frac{k_{1}[C_{6}H_{10}][*]}{\left(k_{6} + k_{8}[\frac{*}{L}]\right)}$$
(S5.6)  
$$r_{6} = \frac{k_{6}k_{1}[C_{6}H_{10}][*]}{\left(k_{6} + k_{8}[\frac{*}{L}]\right)}$$
(S5.7)  
$$\frac{r}{[L]} = \frac{k_{6}k_{1}[C_{6}H_{10}]}{k_{6} + k_{8}}$$
(S5.8)

Here, we observe that the rate of  $C_6H_6$  formation is proportional to the near surface concentration of  $C_6H_{10}$  by applying PSSA on the dehydrogenated intermediates and assuming the desorption of  $C_6H_6$  to be kinetically relevant. However, assuming any other step (5.1) through (5.5) to be kinetically relevant and applying PSSA on the dehydrogenated intermediates would result in a similar rate expression for  $C_6H_6$ , which is proportional to the concentration of  $C_6H_{10}$  as long as the empty sites are the MARI.

#### Section S6. Modeling of Rate of Deactivation of P<sub>x</sub>-Pd Surfaces

There is an exponential decay in the rate of formation of C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> with time and this decay results from the loss in the number of active sites for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>10</sub> dehydrogenation due to the formation of coke. Hence, the decay can be modeled by accounting for the loss in the number of active sites. The decay in the rate can be modeled as an exponential decay resulting from coking due to C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> derived intermediates that is proportional to the surface coverage of  $C_6H_6$ .<sup>6-7</sup> Given  $k_1$ ,  $k_6$ ,  $k_8$ , and [C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>10</sub>] remain constant, the decay results from the decrease in the number of active sites from coking due to decomposition of C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (Equation S5.3). Substituting for the surface coverage of C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> from Equation S5.6, we obtain Equation S6.1. However, there is also active dissolution of the coke into the bulk of the sample which is proportional to the total number of catalytic sites poisoned by the formation of coke, [L]<sub>c</sub>, given by Equation S6.2 where [L]<sub>0</sub> is the total number of catalytic sites on the pristine catalyst surface and [L] is the total number of catalytically active sites at any given time. The rate of dissolution of coke can be written as  $r_d$  proportional to the poisoned sites (Equation S6.3), where  $k_{diss}$  is the rate constant. Hence, the rate of decrease of the catalytically active sites equals the difference of rate of formation of poisoned sites and the rate of coke dissolution, which is given by Equation S6.4. Substituting for r<sub>8</sub>, r<sub>d</sub> gives the Equation S6.5. Assuming empty catalytic sites to be the MARI, the empty catalytic sites can be approximated to be the total number of active sites and the rate of coking is simplified to form in Equation S6.6.

$$r_{8} = \frac{k_{8}k_{1}[C_{6}H_{10}][*]^{2}}{\left(k_{6} + k_{8}[\frac{*}{L}]\right)[L]}$$

$$[L]_{c} = [L]_{0} - [L]$$
(S6.2)

$$r_d = k_{diss}([L]_0 - [L])$$
(S6.3)

$$-\frac{d[L]}{dt} = \frac{d[L]_c}{dt} = -r_d + r_8$$
 (S6.4)

$$\frac{d[L]}{dt} = k_{diss} ([L]_0 - [L]) - \frac{\kappa_8 \kappa_1 [C_6 H_{10}][L]}{(k_6 + k_8)}$$
(S6.6)

Solving the differential equation with the initial conditions as represented in **Equation S6.7**, the total number of active sites at any given time is represented by **Equation S6.8**, where  $k_d$  is the apparent deactivation constant. The apparent deactivation rate constant,  $k_d$ , in **Equation S6.8**, can be represented in terms of other rate constants in **Equation S6.9**. The rate of C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> formation, with accounting for the loss in the total number of active catalytic sites is given by **Equation S6.10**,

where  $[L]_{\infty}$  represents the total number of catalytically active sites at infinite time and is given by **Equation S6.11**.

$$[L] = [L]_{0}$$
(S6.7)  

$$[L] = ([L]_{0} - \frac{k_{diss}[L]_{0}}{k_{d}}) \exp^{-k_{d}t} + \frac{k_{diss}[L]_{0}}{k_{d}}$$
(S6.8)  

$$k_{d} = \frac{k_{8}k_{1}[C_{6}H_{10}]}{(k_{6} + k_{8})} + k_{diss}$$
(S6.9)  

$$r = \frac{k_{6}k_{1}[C_{6}H_{10}]}{k_{6} + k_{8}} (([L]_{0} - [L]_{\infty}) \exp((-k_{d}t)) + \frac{k_{6}k_{1}[C_{6}H_{10}][L]_{\infty}}{(k_{6} + k_{8})}$$
(S6.10)  

$$[L]_{\infty} = \frac{k_{diss}[L]_{0}}{k_{d}}$$
(S6.11)

From **Equation S6.10**, we see that the rate of  $C_6H_6$  formation is maximum at time t = 0, followed by a steady exponential decay in the rate resulting from the loss of active sites due to coke formation and reaches a steady-state at infinite time due to the balance in the number of active sites being coked and the active dissolution of the coke into the subsurface of the catalyst.



Section S7. Desorption Profiles of Products, Conversion, and Selectivities during RMBS of  $C_6H_{10}$  and  $C_6H_6$ 

**Figure S6.** a) Rate of formation of  $C_6H_6$  as a function of time during the RMBS of  $C_6H_{10}$  at different temperatures on Pd (red),  $P_{0.17}$ -Pd (green),  $P_{0.25}$ -Pd (blue), and  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd (black). b) Rate of formation of  $H_2$  as a function of time during the RMBS of  $C_6H_6$  at different temperatures on Pd (red),  $P_{0.17}$ -Pd (green), and  $P_{0.25}$ -Pd (blue).

**Figure S6a** shows the desorption of  $C_6H_6$  formed from the  $C_6H_{10}$  dehydrogenation when the catalyst surface is impinged with the reactant beam at time t = 0. With increase in the amount of P on the catalyst surface, there is a decrease in the initial induction time for the formation of  $C_6H_6$  which is due to the inhibition of the decomposition of  $C_6H_6$  formed at lower coverages in the presence of P in the temperature range of 525 – 650 K. With increase in temperature, there is significant increase in the decomposition of the surface intermediates to coke as compared to the dehydrogenation to  $C_6H_6$  as seen from the decrease in the amount of  $C_6H_6$  formed over time. **Figure S6b** shows the formation of  $H_2$  as a function of time when the catalyst surfaces are impinged with  $C_6H_6$  at time t = 0. There is an instantaneous formation of  $H_2$ , which decreases with time due to the loss in the active sites from coke formation on these catalyst surfaces. At any given temperature in the range of 500 – 600 K, we observe that the amount of  $H_2$  formed is

significantly reduced with the increase in the amount of P on the surface. This corroborates the decrease in the  $C_6H_6$  decomposition formed from  $C_6H_{10}$  in **Figure S6a**. Similar to an increase in the coke formation against  $C_6H_6$  formation from RMBS of  $C_6H_{10}$  in **Figure S6a**, the rate of  $H_2$  formation from the decomposition of  $C_6H_6$  increases with temperature.



**Figure S7.** a) Fractional conversion of  $C_6H_{10}$  as a function of time during the RMBS of  $C_6H_{10}$  at 600 K over Pd (red),  $P_{0.17}$ -Pd (green),  $P_{0.25}$ -Pd (blue), and  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd (black). b) Selectivity of  $C_6H_6$  as a function of time during the RMBS of  $C_6H_6$  at 600 K over Pd (red),  $P_{0.17}$ -Pd (green), and  $P_{0.25}$ -Pd (blue), and  $P_{0.25}$ -Pd (blue), and  $P_{0.25}$ -Pd (blue), and  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd (black).

**Figure S7** shows the conversion of  $C_6H_{10}$  and the selectivity of  $C_6H_6$  as a function of time during RMBS of  $C_6H_{10}$  when the catalyst surface is impinged with  $C_6H_{10}$  at time t = 0 at 600 K. The initial conversion is ~90% over Pd,  $P_{0.17}$ -Pd, and  $P_{0.25}$ -Pd, whereas the conversion is ~70% over  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd. The lower conversion over  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd could be due to the loss in the number of active catalytic sites with higher amounts of P.  $C_6H_6$  forms as soon as  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd is impinged with  $C_6H_{10}$  and almost a constant selectivity of ~95% is reached. This reflects in a gradual decrease in the conversion of  $C_6H_{10}$  over  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd due to the loss in the active catalytic sites. As the P content decreases ( $P_{0.17}$ -Pd and  $P_{0.25}$ -Pd surfaces), the initial amount of coking increases and there is an induction time for the selectivity to reach ~95%. Since the rate of coke formation leading to loss in active catalytic sites is larger with decrease in the amount of P on the surface, there is a more rapid decay of the catalyst surfaces when compared to  $P_{0.34}$ -Pd. This decay is further accentuated over Pd due to larger amount of coke formation on the surface.

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