

Supplementary Information for

Potassium Ions Promote Electrochemical Nitrogen Reduction on Nano-Au Catalysts Triggered by Bifunctional Boron Supramolecular Assembly

*Xue Zhao,¹ Ziqiong Yang,¹ Artem V. Kuklin,^{2,3} Glib V. Baryshnikov,^{*2,4} Hans Ågren,^{2,5} Wenjing Wang,⁶ Xiaohai Zhou^{*1,7} and Haibo Zhang^{*1,8}*

¹College of Chemistry and Molecular Sciences, Wuhan University, Wuhan 430072, P.R. China

²Division of Theoretical Chemistry and Biology, School of Engineering Sciences in Chemistry, Biotechnology and Health, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, 10691, Stockholm, Sweden

³Department of Science and Innovations, Siberian Federal University, 79 Svobodny av, Krasnoyarsk 660041, Russia

⁴Department of Chemistry and Nanomaterials Science, Bohdan Khmelnytsky National University, 18031, Cherkasy, Ukraine

⁵College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Henan University, Kaifeng, Henan 475004, P. R. China

⁶The State Key Laboratory of Refractories and Metallurgy, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Wuhan University of Science and Technology, Wuhan 430081, P. R. China

⁷Engineering Research Center of Organosilicon Compounds & Materials, Ministry of Education, Beijing 100816, P.R. China

⁸National Demonstration Center for Experimental Chemistry, Wuhan University, Wuhan 430072, P.R. China

*Corresponding authors

Haibo Zhang, *E-mail*: haibozhang1980@gmail.com

Xiaohai Zhou, *E-mail*: zxh7954@whu.edu.cn

Gleb V. Baryshnikov, *E mail*: glibar@kth.se

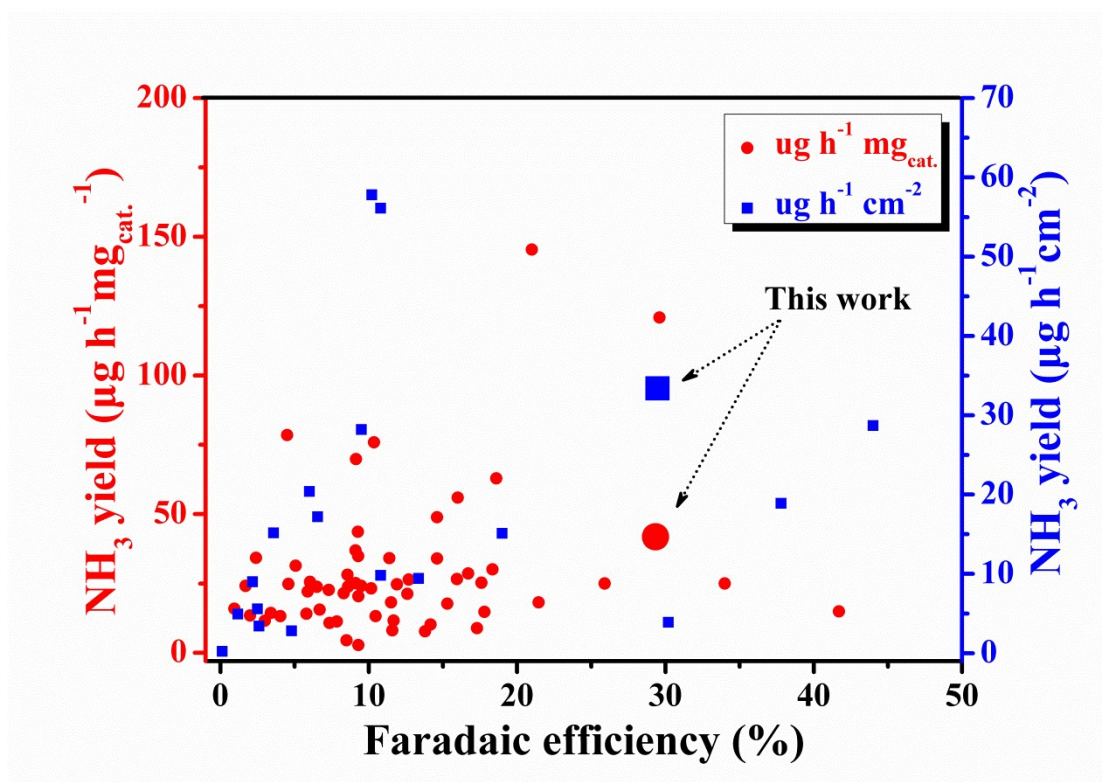


Figure S1. ENRR Performance Status of Reported Catalysts

Table S1. Literature on electrochemical nitrogen reduction.

Entry	Published date	Title	NH ₃ yield		FE (%)	Journal	Ref.
			$\mu\text{g h}^{-1} \text{mg}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}$	$\mu\text{g h}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$			
This work	-	Potassium Ions Promote Electrochemical Nitrogen Reduction on Nano-Au Catalysts Triggered by Bifunctional Boron Supramolecular Assembly	41.69	33.36	29.53	-	This work
1	2018	A Spectroscopic Study on the Nitrogen Electrochemical Reduction Reaction on Gold and Platinum Surfaces		0.2346	0.12	<i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i>	1
2	2018	Ammonia Synthesis from Electrocatalytic N ₂ Reduction under Ambient Conditions by Fe ₂ O ₃ Nanorods	15.9		0.94	<i>ChemCatChem</i>	2
3	2018	Electrochemical Ammonia Synthesis via Nitrogen Reduction Reaction on a MoS ₂ Catalyst: Theoretical and Experimental Studies		4.94	1.17	<i>Adv. Mater.</i>	3
4	2019	Glycerol oxidation assisted electrocatalytic nitrogen reduction: ammonia and glyceraldehyde co-production on bimetallic RhCu ultrathin nanoflakes nanoaggregates	95.06		1.5	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	4
5	2019	Hierarchical nanoporous Pd1Ag1 alloy enables efficient electrocatalytic nitrogen reduction under ambient conditions	24.1		1.7	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	5
6	2019	Electrochemical Ammonia Synthesis from N ₂ and H ₂ O Catalyzed by Doped LaFeO ₃ Perovskite under Mild Conditions	13.46		1.99	<i>Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.</i>	6
7	2018	Ambient NH ₃ synthesis via electrochemical reduction of N ₂ over cubic sub-micron SnO ₂ particles		9	2.17	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	7
8	2019	Direct fabrication of bi-metallic PdRu nanorod assemblies for electrochemical ammonia synthesis	34.2		2.4	<i>Nanoscale</i>	8
9	2018	Enabling Effective Electrocatalytic N ₂ Conversion to NH ₃ by the TiO ₂ Nanosheets Array under Ambient Conditions		5.6	2.5	<i>ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces</i>	9
10	2018	Ambient N ₂ fixation to NH ₃ electrocatalyzed by a spinel Fe ₃ O ₄ nanorod		3.43	2.6	<i>Nanoscale</i>	10
11	2018	Mn ₃ O ₄ Nanocube: An Efficient Electrocatalyst Toward Artificial N ₂ Fixation to NH ₃	11.6		3	<i>Small</i>	11
12	2018	Boron-Doped TiO ₂ for Efficient Electrocatalytic N ₂ Fixation to NH ₃ at Ambient Conditions	14.4		3.4	<i>ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.</i>	12
13	2018	Highly efficient electrochemical ammonia synthesis via nitrogen reduction reactions on a VN nanowire array under ambient conditions		15.17	3.58	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	13
14	2019	Boron Nanosheet: An Elemental Two-Dimensional (2D) Material for Ambient Electrocatalytic N ₂ -to-NH ₃ Fixation in Neutral Media	13.22		4.04	<i>ACS Catal.</i>	8
15	2018	Electrochemical N ₂ fixation to NH ₃ under ambient conditions: Mo ₂ N nanorod as a highly efficient and selective catalyst	78.5		4.5	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	14
16	2019	MoS ₂ nanosheet-reduced graphene oxide hybrid: an efficient electrocatalyst for electrocatalytic N ₂ reduction to NH ₃ at ambient conditions	24.82		4.58	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	15
17	2018	Ag nanosheets for efficient electrocatalytic N ₂ fixation to NH ₃ under ambient conditions		2.83	4.8	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	16
18	2018	Ammonia Synthesis Under Ambient Conditions: Selective Electroreduction of Dinitrogen to Ammonia on Black Phosphorus Nanosheets	31.37		5.07	<i>Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.</i>	17
19	2019	Electrospun TiC/C nanofiber for ambient electrocatalytic N ₂ reduction	14.1		5.8	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	18
20	2019	An Fe ₂ O ₃ nanoparticle-reduced graphene oxide composite for ambient electrocatalytic N ₂ reduction to NH ₃	22.13		5.89	<i>Inorg. Chem. Front.</i>	19
21	2018	Mechanistic Insights into Electrochemical Nitrogen Reduction Reaction on Vanadium Nitride Nanoparticles		20.38	6	<i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i>	20

22	2018	Ambient Electrochemical Synthesis of Ammonia from Nitrogen and Water Catalyzed by Flower-Like Gold Microstructures	25.57		6.05	<i>ChemSusChem</i>	21
23	2019	Amorphous Sn/Crystalline SnS ₂ Nanosheets via In Situ Electrochemical Reduction Methodology for Highly Efficient Ambient N ₂ Fixation	23.8		6.5	<i>Small</i>	22
24	2019	Boosting selective nitrogen reduction to ammonia on electron-deficient copper nanoparticles		17.2	6.56	<i>Nat. Commun.</i>	22
25	2018	Chromium Oxynitride Electrocatalysts for Electrochemical Synthesis of Ammonia Under Ambient Conditions	15.56		6.7	<i>Small Methods</i>	23
26	2019	Nitrogen-Doped NiO Nanosheet Array for Boosted Electrocatalytic N ₂ reduction	22.7		7.3	<i>ChemCatChem</i>	24
27	2018	Hierarchical Cobalt Phosphide Hollow Nanocages toward Electrocatalytic Ammonia Synthesis under Ambient Pressure and Room Temperature	10.78		7.36	<i>Small Methods</i>	25
28	2018	Molybdenum Carbide Nanodots Enable Efficient Electrocatalytic Nitrogen Fixation under Ambient Conditions	11.3		7.85	<i>Adv. Mater.</i>	26
29	2019	Efficient Electrocatalytic N ₂ Reduction on CoO Quantum Dots	21.5		8.3	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	27
30	2018	Ambient ammonia synthesis via palladium-catalyzed electrohydrogenation of dinitrogen at low overpotential	4.5		8.5	<i>Nat. Commun.</i>	28
31	2018	Cr ₂ O ₃ nanofiber: a high-performance electrocatalyst toward artificial N ₂ fixation to NH ₃ under ambient conditions	28.13		8.56	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	29
32	2019	Cr ₃ C ₂ Nanoparticle-Embedded Carbon Nanofiber for Artificial Synthesis of NH ₃ through N ₂ Fixation under Ambient Conditions	23.9		8.6	<i>ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces</i>	30
33	2019	Biomass-derived oxygen-doped hollow carbon microtubes for electrocatalytic N ₂ -to-NH ₃ fixation at ambient conditions	25.12		9.1	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	31
34	2019	Fluorine-free Ti ₃ C ₂ Tx (T ¼ O, OH) nanosheets (50 – 100 nm) for nitrogen fixation under ambient conditions	36.9		9.1	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	32
35	2019	Sulfur vacancy-rich N-doped MoS ₂ nanoflowers for highly boosting electrocatalytic N ₂ fixation to NH ₃ under ambient conditions	69.82		9.14	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	32
36	2018	Ambient N ₂ fixation to NH ₃ at ambient conditions: Using Nb ₂ O ₅ nanofiber as a high-performance electrocatalyst	43.6		9.26	<i>Nano Energy</i>	33
37	2019	Rational Design of Fe–N/C Hybrid for Enhanced Nitrogen Reduction Electrocatalysis under Ambient Conditions in Aqueous Solution	34.83		9.28	<i>ACS Catal.</i>	34
38	2018	Ti ₃ C ₂ Tx(T 1/4 F, OH) MXene nanosheets: conductive 2D catalysts for ambient electrohydrogenation of N ₂ to NH ₃	20.4		9.3	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	35
39	2018	Anchoring PdCu Amorphous Nanocluster on Graphene for Electrochemical Reduction of N ₂ to NH ₃ under Ambient Conditions in Aqueous Solution	2.8		9.3	<i>Adv. Energy Mater.</i>	36
40	2019	Improving the electrocatalytic N ₂ reduction activity of Pd nanoparticles through surface modification	24.12		9.49	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	37
41	2019	Ambient Electrosynthesis of Ammonia on a Core–Shell-Structured Au@CeO ₂ Catalyst Contribution of Oxygen Vacancies in CeO ₂		28.2	9.5	<i>Chem. - Eur. J.</i>	38
42	2018	An Amorphous Noble-Metal-Free Electrocatalyst that Enables Nitrogen Fixation under Ambient Conditions	23.21		10.16	<i>Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.</i>	39
43	2018	Metal-organic framework-derived nitrogen-doped highly disordered carbon for electrochemical ammonia synthesis using N ₂ and H ₂ O in alkaline electrolytes		57.8	10.2	<i>Nano Energy</i>	40
44	2019	In situ nano Au triggered by a metal boron organic polymer: efficient electrochemical N ₂ fixation to NH ₃ under ambient conditions	75.89		10.35	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	41
45	2019	2D Mosaic Bismuth Nanosheets for Highly Selective Ambient Electrocatalytic Nitrogen Reduction	13.23		10.46	<i>ACS Catal.</i>	42
46	2018	Boron-Doped Graphene for Electrocatalytic N ₂ Reduction		9.8	10.8	<i>Joule</i>	43

47	2019	Self-organized growth of flower-like SnS ₂ and forest-like ZnS nanoarrays on nickel foam for synergistic superiority in electrochemical ammonia synthesis		56.12	10.8	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	44
48	2019	An MnO ₂ -Ti ₃ C ₂ Tx MXene nanohybrid: an efficient and durable electrocatalyst toward artificial N ₂ fixation to NH ₃ under ambient conditions	34.12		11.39	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	45
49	2019	Construction of PdO-Pd Interface Assisted by Laser Irradiation for Enhanced Electrocatalytic N ₂ Reduction Reaction	18.2		11.5	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	46
50	2018	Defect Engineering Metal-Free Polymeric Carbon Nitride Electrocatalyst for Effective Nitrogen Fixation under Ambient Conditions	8.09		11.59	<i>Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.</i>	47
51	2019	Nitrogen Vacancies on 2D Layered W ₂ N ₃ : A Stable and Efficient Active Site for Nitrogen Reduction Reaction	11.66		11.67	<i>Adv. Mater.</i>	48
52	2019	Boosting electrocatalytic nitrogen fixation via energy-efficient anodic oxidation of sodium gluconate	24.7		11.9	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	49
53	2019	Electrocatalytic N ₂ -to-NH ₃ conversion using oxygen-doped graphene: experimental and theoretical studies	21.3		12.6	<i>Chem. Commun.</i>	50
54	2019	Ambient electrohydrogenation of N ₂ for NH ₃ synthesis on non-metal boron phosphide nanoparticles: the critical role of P in boosting the catalytic activity	26.42		12.7	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	34
55	2019	Electrochemical Fabrication of Porous Au Film on Ni Foam for Nitrogen Reduction to Ammonia		9.42	13.36	<i>Small</i>	51
56	2019	B-N Pairs Enriched Defective Carbon Nanosheets for Ammonia Synthesis with High Efficiency	7.75		13.79	<i>Small</i>	52
57	2019	Identification of FeN ₄ as an Efficient Active Site for Electrochemical N ₂ Reduction	10.25		14.17	<i>ACS Catal.</i>	53
58	2018	Atomically dispersed Mo catalysts for high-efficiency ambient N ₂ fixation	34		14.6	<i>Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.</i>	54
59	2019	Stable Confinement of Black Phosphorus Quantum Dots on Black Tin Oxide Nanotubes-A Robust, Double-Active Electrocatalyst toward Efficient Nitrogen Fixation	48.87		14.6	<i>Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.</i>	55
60	2019	Greatly Enhanced Electrocatalytic N ₂ Reduction on TiO ₂ via V Doping	17.73		15.3	<i>Small Methods</i>	56
61	2018	High-performance artificial nitrogen fixation at ambient conditions using a metal-free electrocatalyst	26.57		15.95	<i>Nat. Commun.</i>	57
62	2019	Ambient electrocatalytic N ₂ reduction to NH ₃ by metal fluorides	55.9		16	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	58
63	2019	B ₄ C nanosheets decorated within situ-derived boron-doped graphene quantum dots for high-efficiency ambient N ₂ fixation	28.6		16.7	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	59
64	2019	Doping strain induced bi-Ti ³⁺ pairs for efficient N ₂ activation and electrocatalytic fixation	8.9		17.3	<i>Nat. Commun.</i>	60
65	2019	Facile, Cost-Effective Plasma Synthesis of Self-Supportive FeS _x on Fe Foam for Efficient Electrochemical Reduction of N ₂ under Ambient Conditions	25.28		17.6	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	61
66	2019	Enhanced Electrocatalytic N ₂ Reduction via Partial Anion Substitution in Titanium Oxide-Carbon Composites	14.8		17.8	<i>Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.</i>	62
67	2019	Synergistic Electrocatalytic Nitrogen Reduction Enabled by Confinement of Nanosized Au Particles onto Two-Dimensional Ti ₃ C ₂ Substrate	30.06		18.34	<i>ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces</i>	63
68	2019	Nitrogen coordinated single Fe sites for efficient electrocatalytic N ₂ fixation in neutral media	62.9		18.6	<i>Nano Energy</i>	64
69	2019	Electron localization of gold in control of nitrogen-to-ammonia fixation		15.1	19	<i>Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.</i>	65
70	2019	Highly Efficient and Selective Generation of Ammonia and Hydrogen on a Graphdiyne-based Catalyst	145.4		21	<i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i>	66
71	2019	Tunable synthesis of multiply-twinned intermetallic Pd ₃ Pb nanowire networks toward efficient N ₂ to NH ₃ conversion	18.2		21.46	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	67

72	2019	Interfacial engineering of cobalt sulfide/graphene hybrids for highly efficient ammonia electrosynthesis	25		25.9	<i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>	68
73	2018	Achieving a Record-High Yield Rate of 120.9 $\mu\text{gNH}_3 \text{ mg}_{\text{cat}}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$ for N_2 Electrochemical Reduction over Ru Single-Atom Catalysts	120.9		29.6	<i>Adv. Mater.</i>	69
74	2018	Enhancing the rate of electrochemical nitrogen reduction reaction for ammonia synthesis under ambient conditions using hollow gold nanocages		3.9	30.2	<i>Nano Energy</i>	70
75	2019	Antimony-Based Composites Loading on Phosphorus-Doped Carbon for Boosting Faradaic Efficiency of the Electrochemical Nitrogen Reduction Reaction	25		34	<i>Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.</i>	71
76	2019	Photoelectrochemical Synthesis of Ammonia on the Aerophilic-Hydrophilic Heterostructure with 37.8% Efficiency		18.9	37.8	Chem	72
77	2019	Atomically dispersed metal dimer species with selective catalytic activity for nitrogen electrochemical reduction	14.95		41.7	<i>J. Mater. Chem. A</i>	73
78	2019	Nanoporous Gold Embedded ZIF Composite for Enhanced Electrochemical Nitrogen Fixation trochemical Nitrogen Fixation		28.7	44	<i>Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.</i>	74

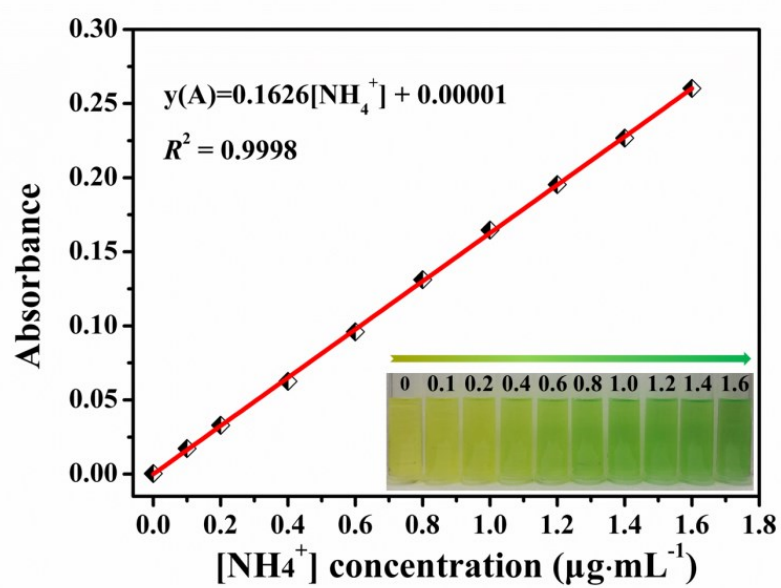


Figure S2. NH_4Cl standard curve by indophenol blue colorimetric method

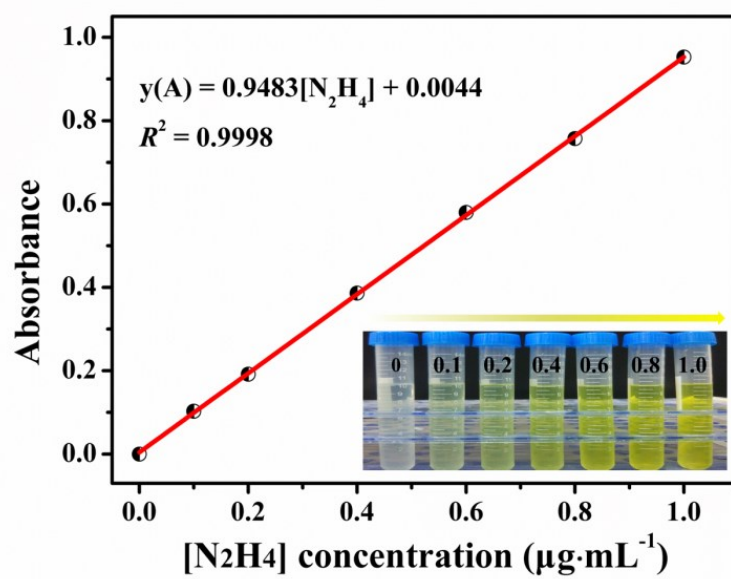


Figure S3. N_2H_4 standard curve by Watt-Chrisp colorimetric method

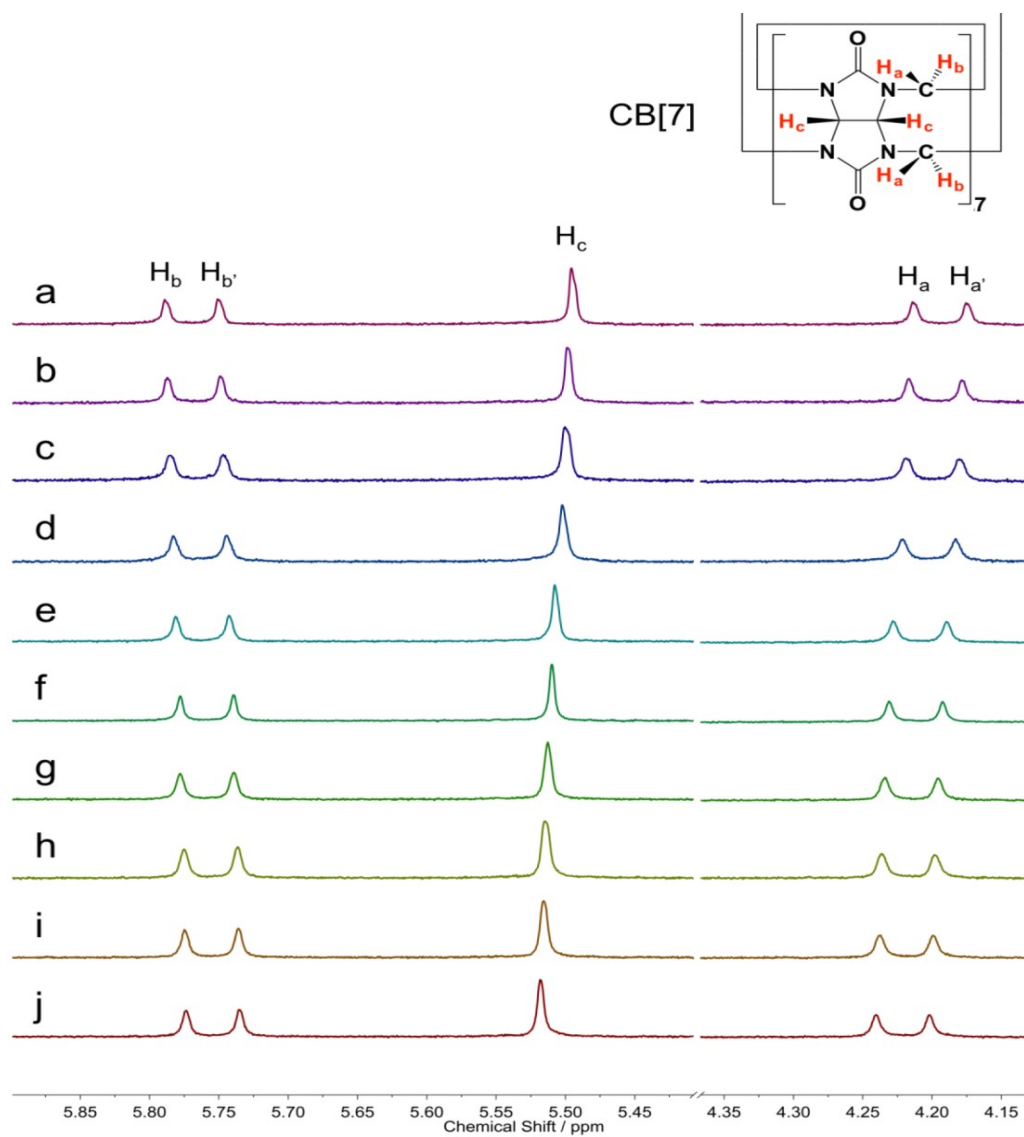


Figure S4. ¹H NMR Titration Experiment of *closo*-[B₁₂H₁₂]²⁻ and CB[7]

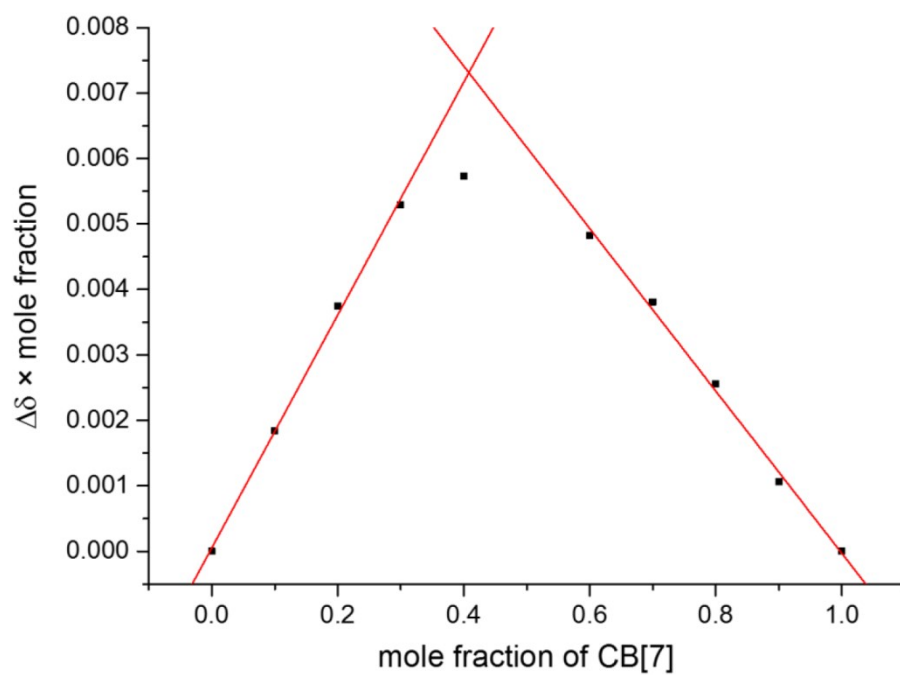


Figure S5. Corresponding Job's curves of ^1H NMR titration experiments

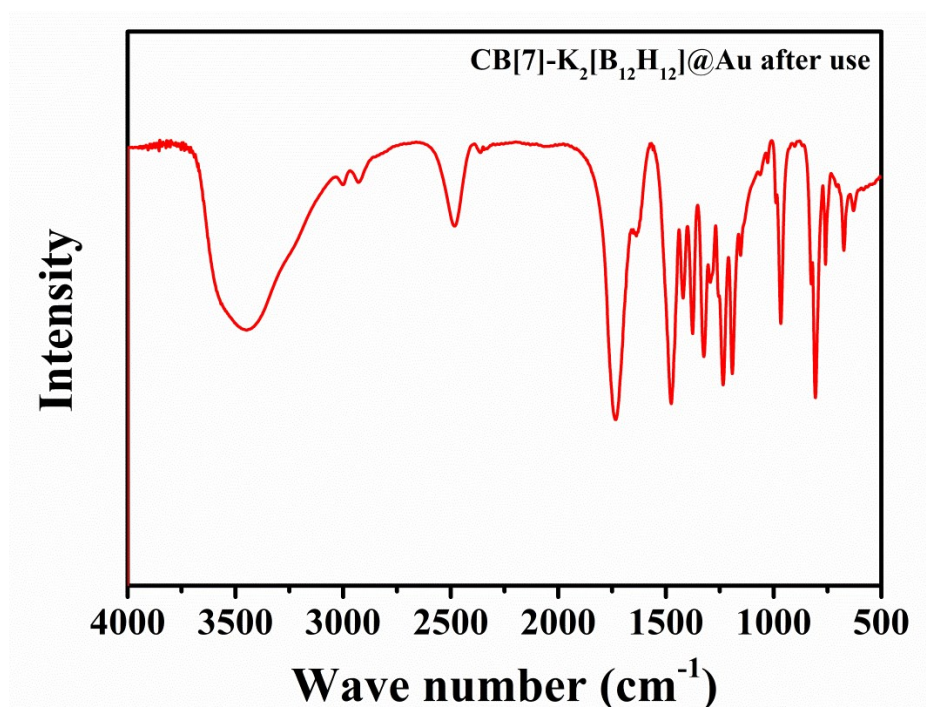


Figure S6. FT-IR spectrum of CB[7]-K₂[B₁₂H₁₂]@Au after reuse

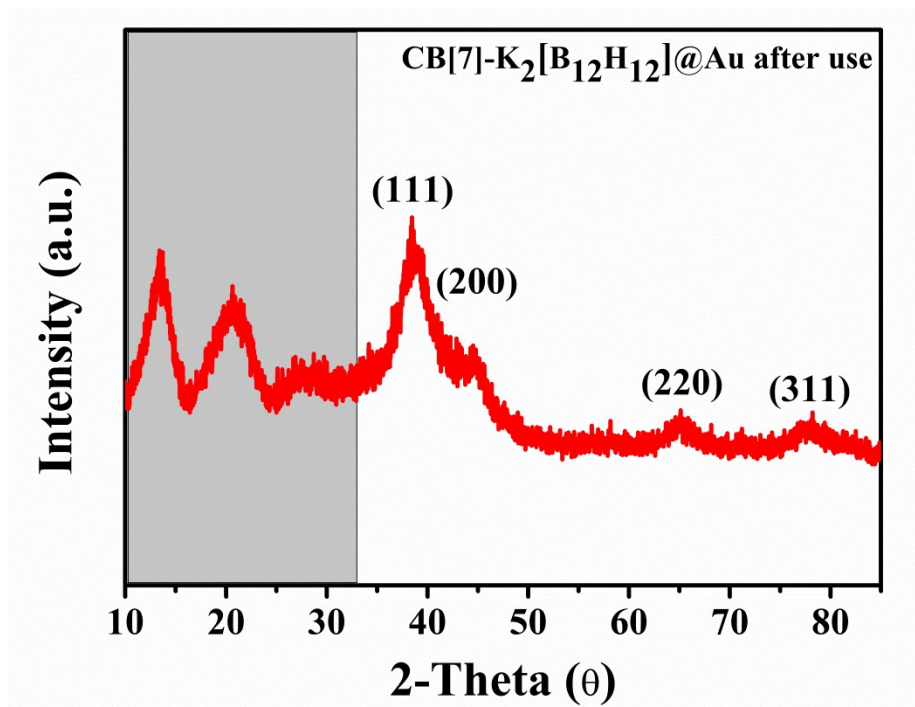


Figure S7. PXRD result of CB[7]-K₂[B₁₂H₁₂]@Au after reuse

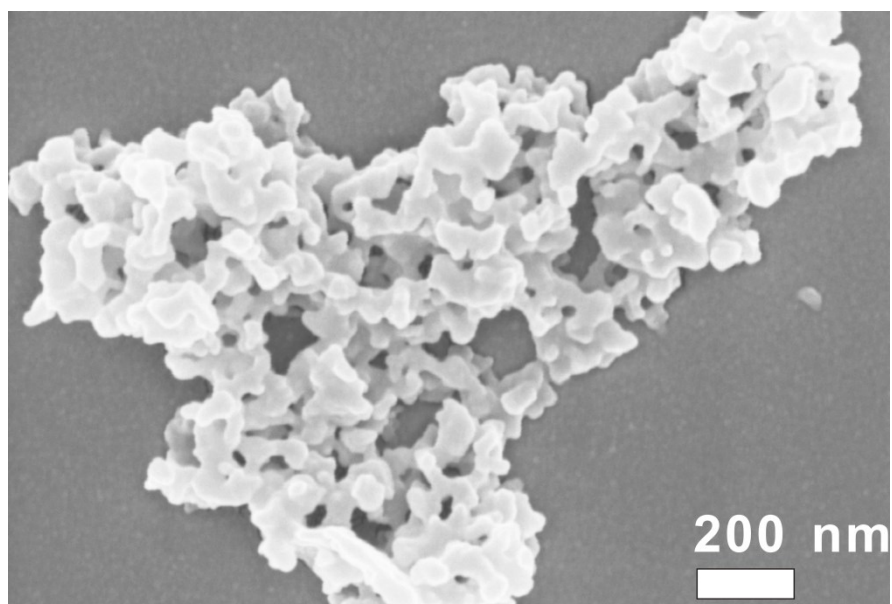


Figure S8. SEM image of CB[7]-K₂[B₁₂H₁₂]@Au after reuse

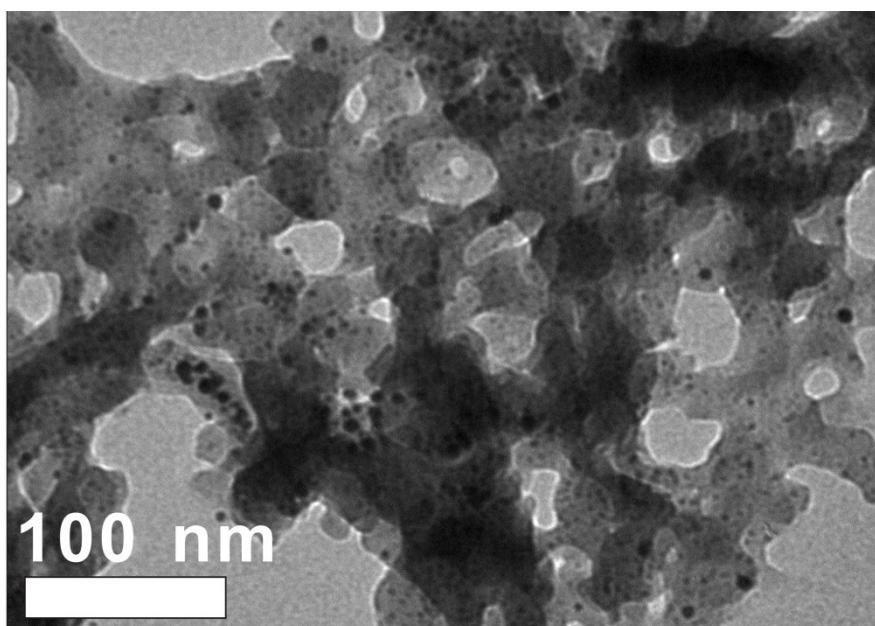


Figure S9. TEM image of CB[7]-K₂[B₁₂H₁₂]@Au after reuse

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