Supporting information

Electron momentum density of boron-doped carbon nano-onions studied by electron energy-loss spectroscopy

Zhenbao Feng a,1, Wei Ding a, Yangming Lin b,e *, Feng Guo a, Xiaoyan Zhang d,
Tengshuo Song a, Hengshuai Li a, Cailong Liu a,*

a School of Physics Science and Information Technology, Shandong Key Laboratory of Optical Communication Science and Technology, Liaocheng University, Liaocheng 252059, China
b CAS Key Laboratory of Design and Assembly of Functional Nanostructures, Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fuzhou, Fujian, 350002 P. R. China
c Xiamen Key Laboratory of Rare Earth Photoelectric Functional Materials, Xiamen Institute of Rare Earth Materials, Haixi Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xiamen 361021, China
d Shandong Key Laboratory of Laser Polarization and Information Technology, College of Physics and Engineering, Qufu Normal University, Qufu 273163, P.R. China

E-mail addresses: fengzhenbao@lcu.edu.cn (Z. Feng), xmlinyangming@fjirsm.ac.cn (Y. Lin), cailong_liu@jlu.edu.cn (C. Liu)
To calculate the sp²-bonding proportion in the sample, we have used the method proposed by Titantah and Lamoen.¹ This method successfully separates the $\pi^*$ and $\sigma^*$ components of the ELNES of graphite. Then the $\pi^*$ component of graphite is assumed to be transferable to other types of carbon which have contributions in the all ELNES range as shown in Fig. S1 (red line) which is used for the sp² percentage calculations. Experimental spectra from highly oriented pyrolytic graphite (HOPG) were used as standard for which the percentage of sp² is 100%.

$$sp^2 = \frac{[area(\pi^*)/area(total)]_{sample}}{[area(\pi^*)/area(total)]_{100\%sp^2 \; reference, HOPG}}$$

Fig. S1 C-K ELNES (black line) of HOPG recording at the magic angle and the fitting component of $\pi^*$ (red line). The $\pi^*$ component fitted on the basis of experimental $\pi^*$ spectrum of HOPG.²


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Fig. S2 The raw electron energy-loss spectroscopy data in the range for electron Compton scattering from solids (ECOSS) for 1B-CNOs and 2B-CNOs recorded at scattering angle 75 mrad (black). Also plotted are the simulated background (red) and contributions of K-shell ionization (green) and core-electron Compton scattering (blue).