

Enhanced stability of sub-nanometric Iridium decorated graphitic carbon nitride for H₂ production upon hydrous hydrazine decomposition

Silvio Bellomi^a, Ilaria Barlocco^a, Xiaowei Chen^b, Juan J. Delgado^b, Rosa Arrigo^c, Nikolaos Dimitratos^{d,e}, Alberto Roldan^{f*}, Alberto Villa^{a*}

^a Dipartimento di Chimica, Università degli Studi di Milano, via Golgi 19, I-20133Milano, Italy.

^b Departamento de Ciencia de los Materiales, Ingeniería Metalúrgica y Química Inorgánica, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Cádiz, Campus Río San Pedro, Puerto Real (Cádiz) E-11510, Spain

^c School of Science, Engineering and Environment, University of Salford.M5 4WT, Manchester (UK).

^d Dipartimento di Chimica Industriale "Toso Montanari", Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna, Viale Risorgimento 4, Bologna 40126, Italy

^e Center for Chemical Catalysis-C3, Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna, Viale Risorgimento 4, Bologna 40136, Italy

^f Cardiff Catalysis Institute, School of Chemistry, Cardiff University, Main Building, Park Place, CF10 3AT, Cardiff, United Kingdom.

* alberto.villa@unimi.it

* RoldanMartinezA@cardiff.ac.uk

Supporting Information

Table S1 Fitting models employed for the high-resolution x-ray photoelectron spectroscopy analysis of the samples.

Samples	Ir/graphite		Ir/GCN		References
	Contribution	BE / eV	Contribution	BE / eV	
C 1s	C sp ²	284.3	C-N=C	285.4	64,66
	C sp ³	285.1	C=C	288.7	
	C-O	285.6	/	/	
	C=O	286.2	/	/	
N 1s	N ₂ H _x	400.2	C=N	398.5	64,65,98
	N ₂ H _x	401.5	C=N-H	399.9	
	NH _x	398.6	qN	400.9	
	/	/	NO _x	404.1	
Ir 4f	Ir ⁰	60.7	Ir ⁰	60.7	67
	Ir ^{IV}	61.7	Ir ^{IV}	61.7	
	Ir ^{IV} -OH	62.3	Ir ^{IV} -OH	62.3	

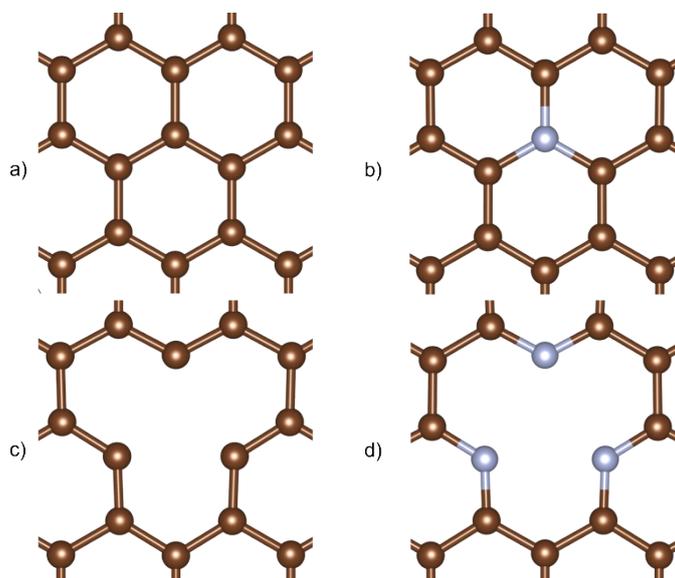


Figure S1. Top view of the optimised slabs employed for the Genetic Algorithm (GA) runs. a) pristine graphene (PG). b) graphitic N (gN), c) Single Vacancy (SV) and d) tripe pyridinic N (3pN). Carbon and nitrogen atoms are coloured brown and blue respectively.

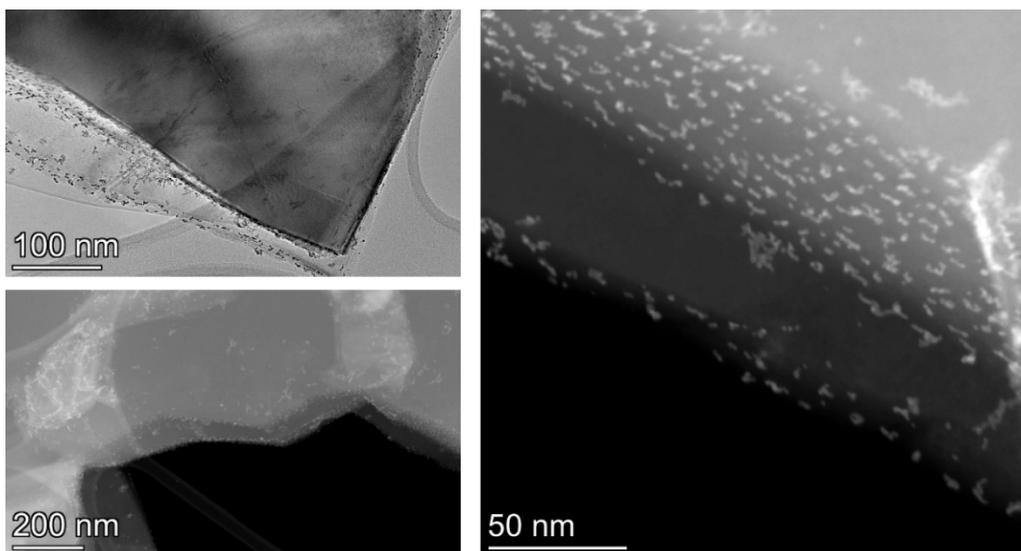


Figure S2. HR-TEM/STEM-HAADF images of Ir/graphite showing the preferential anchoring at grain boundaries.

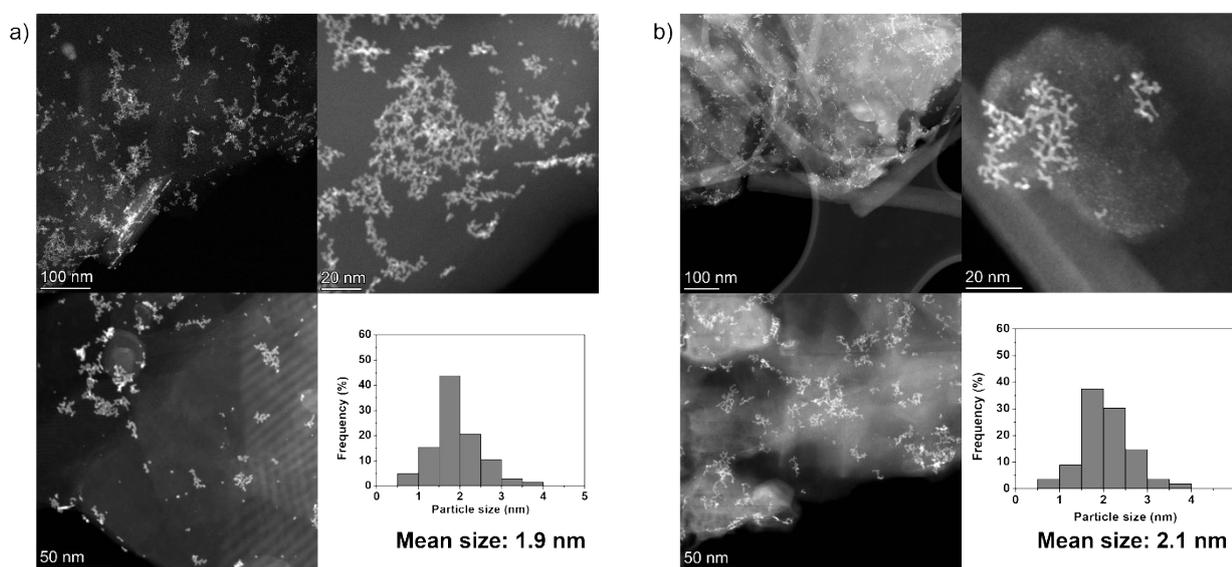


Figure S3. STEM-HAADF images of Ir/graphite a) fresh and b) after 5 repeated reaction cycles.

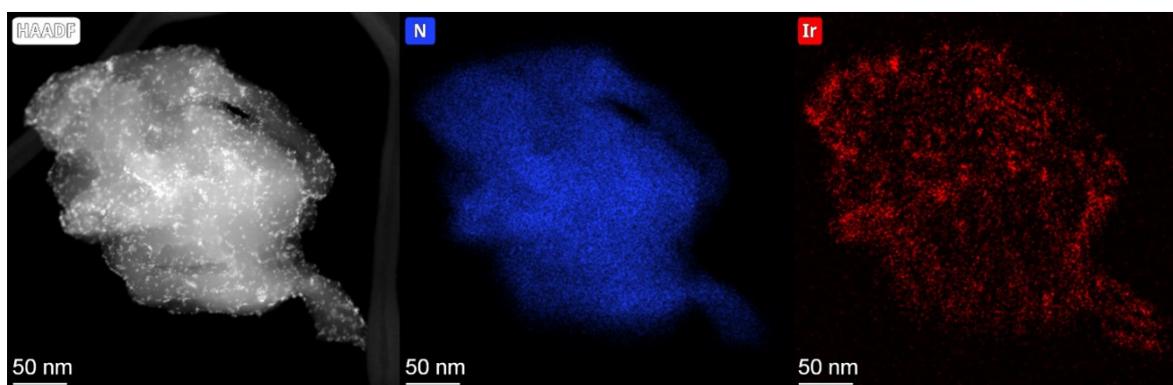


Figure S4. HAADF-STEM image, N and Ir maps of fresh Ir/GCN catalyst.

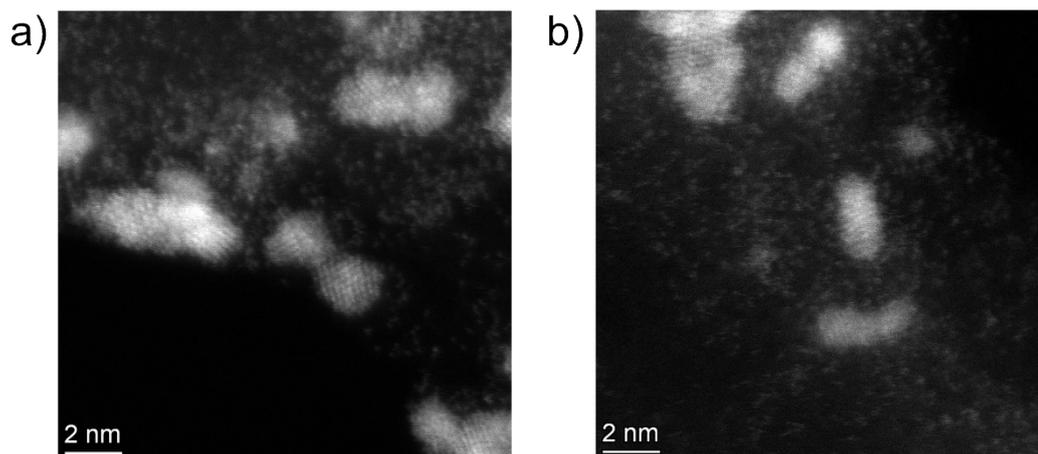


Figure S5. High resolution HAADF-STEM images of Ir/GCN, a) fresh and b) after 5 runs.

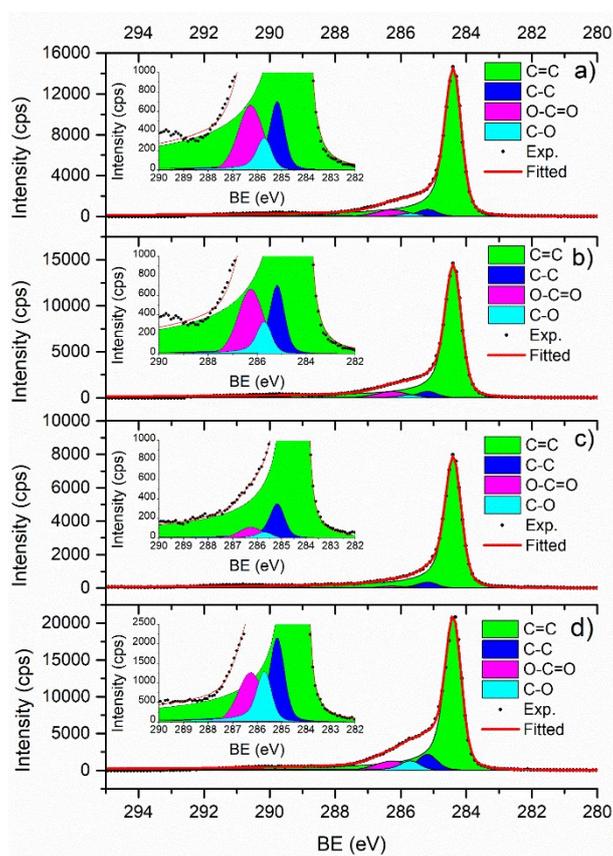


Figure S6. High resolution C 1s region for graphite samples: support a), Ir/graphite b) fresh, c) 1 run and d) 5 run.

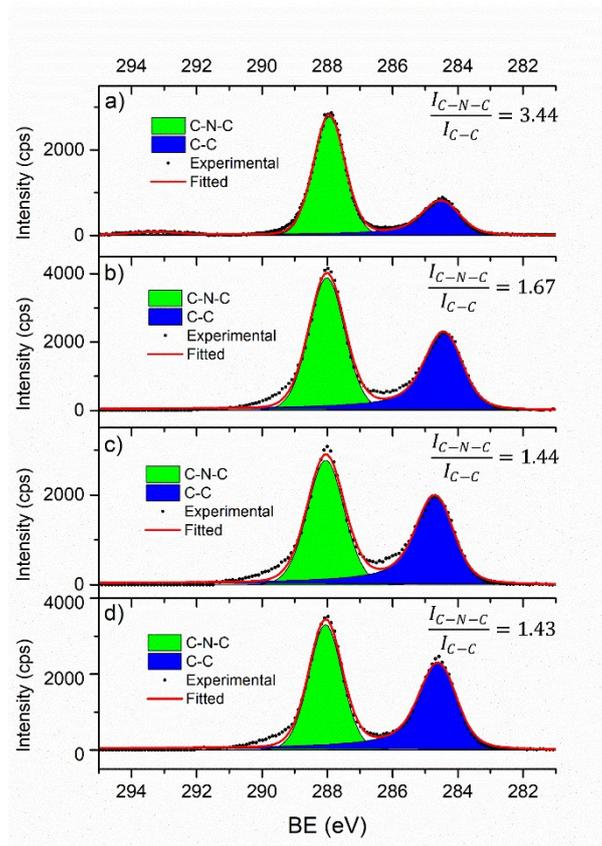


Figure S7. High resolution C 1s region for GCN samples: a) support, Ir/ GCN b) fresh, c) 1 run and d) 5 run.

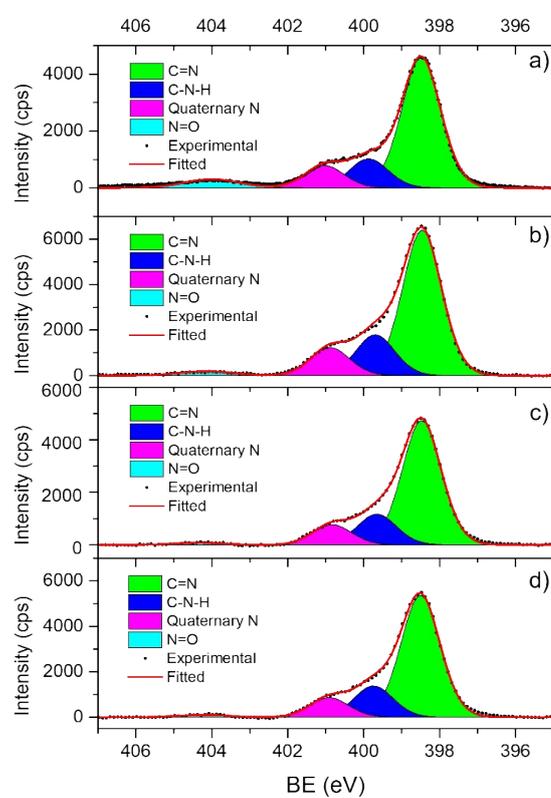


Figure S8. High resolution N 1s region for GCN samples: a) support, Ir/ GCN b) fresh, c) 1 run and d) 5 run.

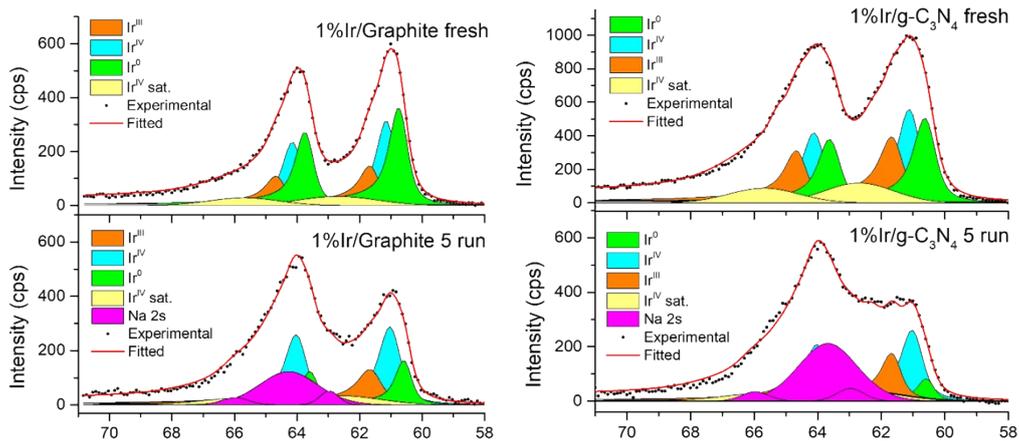


Figure S9. High resolution Ir 4f region for graphite (left panel) and GCN (right panel) samples. Na 2s interference is highlighted in magenta and overlayed to the Ir 4f region for the sake of clarity.