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SBA-15 Supported Metal Silicides as Efficient Catalysts towards Semihydrogenation of Phenylacetylene by Chemical Vapor Deposition

Kaixuan Yang, Xiao Chen, Lei Wang, Liangliang Zhang, Shaohua Jin, and Changhai Liang*

Abstract: The metal silicide (Pd_2Si , Ni_2Si , CoSi , Fe_xSi , and $\text{Cu}_{6.69}\text{Si}$) catalysts supported by SBA-15 have been successfully prepared by a chemical vapor deposition method at H_2 atmosphere, using $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{SiCl}_2$ as the Si source. Compared with those SBA-15 supported metal silicides catalysts, the $\text{Ni}_2\text{Si}/\text{SBA-15}$ presented modest activity, notable selectivity to styrene (>90 %) and high stability with respect to the selectivity hydrogenation of phenylacetylene, which is attributed to the active-site isolation and electron transfer in silicide. Furthermore, the $\text{Ni}_2\text{Si}/\text{SBA-15}$ also has high selectivity to diphenylacetylene and 1,4-butyndiol, which means that the $\text{Ni}_2\text{Si}/\text{SBA-15}$ catalyst is a promising low-cost catalysts for succedaneum of noble catalyst as the selectivity hydrogenation catalysts.

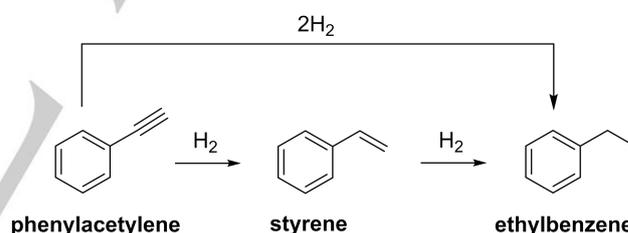
Introduction

Liquid-phase selective hydrogenation of carbon-carbon triple bonds is of both industrial and scientific interest, especially phenylacetylene (PA). This compound is an unwanted feedstock component in polystyrene production plants, which would poison the catalysts for styrene (ST) polymerization. Its removal to a level below 10 ppm is mandatory to avoid poisoning of the polymerization catalyst. As shown in scheme 1, the hydrogenation of PA to ethylbenzene (ET) is generally assumed to occur through two consecutive hydrogenation reactions in parallel with a single step that ET can also be directly formed from PA.^[1] Therefore, to improve ST yield, not only ST hydrogenated to ET should be minimized, but also the direct hydrogenation of PA to ET should be prevented. Traditionally, Lindlar's catalyst, consisting of Pd poisoned by $\text{Pb}(\text{OAc})_2$ and supported on CaCO_3 , is used as a catalyst to PA hydrogenation.^[2] However, a considerable H_2 consumption is noticed over Lindlar's catalyst, due to the overhydrogenation of ST to ET.^[3] Moreover, other noble metals catalysts, including supported Pt, Au, and Rh are also used for this reaction, which have been developed and improved over the last few decades.^[4] Considering the high cost and sensitivity of noble metals, they are needed to be replaced. In recent years, intermetallic compounds, such as Ni-P, Mo-C, Ni-Ga, and Pd-Ga have emerged as PA hydrogenation catalysts, due to the highly selectivity to ST and the excellent stability.^[5]

Recently, metal silicides as new intermetallic compounds have also been used as PA hydrogenation catalysts and shown

excellent catalytic performance.^[6] However, the preparation of silicides with general and controllable synthesis method is still a big challenge, due to the complex phase behavior between metals and silicon and the complex stoichiometry and structure of their resulting compounds. Chemical vapor deposition (CVD) has been shown to be a powerful method for generating highly dispersed catalysts in a controlled and reproducible manner. Jir et al. have successfully synthesized of CoSi , FeSi , and $\text{MnSi}_{1.7}$ nanowires by metal organic chemical vapor deposition using $\text{M}(\text{SiCl}_3)_x(\text{CO})_y$ ($\text{M}=\text{Co}, \text{Fe}, \text{Mn}$) as a single source precursor.^[7] In our previous researches, the supported CoSi , FeSi_x , and MnSi_x nanoparticles have been prepared using the same method, which presented high catalytic activity and selectivity in naphthalene hydrogenation.^[8] However, the metallic organic precursor is air-sensitive and too expensive, which is not a good candidate to quantity product silicide catalyst.

Therefore, it is necessary to design a general chemical way to the controllable synthesis of metal silicides catalysts. In this work, we reported a general way to prepare SBA-15 supported metal silicides (Pd_2Si , Ni_2Si , CoSi , Fe_xSi , and $\text{Cu}_{6.69}\text{Si}$) by CVD. The catalytic property of M-Si/SBA-15 has been detected in the semihydrogenation of PA under very mild conditions.



Scheme 1. Reaction network of phenylacetylene hydrogenation

Results and Discussion

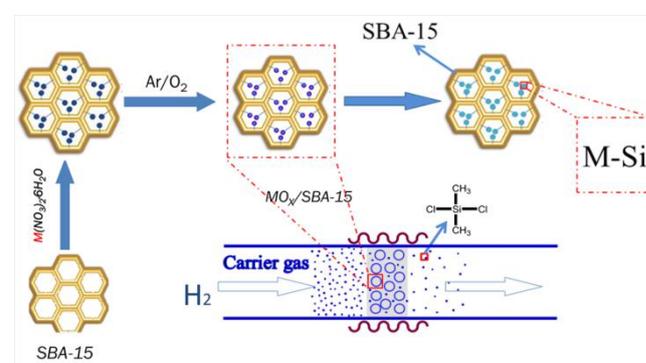


Figure 1. The CVD schematic diagram to prepared M-Si/SBA-15 catalysts.

Kaixuan Yang, Dr. Xiao Chen, Dr. Lei Wang, Shaohua Jin, Prof. Changhai Liang
Laboratory of Advanced Materials and Catalytic Engineering
Dalian University of Technology
116024 Dalian (P. R. China)
E-mail: changhai@dlut.edu.cn

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As shown in Figure 1, the M-Si/SBA-15 were prepared by the reaction between SBA-15 supported metal nanoparticles and $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{SiCl}_2$ in H_2 atmosphere at 600 °C for 2h. The reducing atmosphere (H_2) plays an important role in this process. The $\text{Ni}_2\text{Si/SBA-15}$ can be prepared successfully from Ni/SBA-15 at silicification temperature (450 °C) used H_2 as the carrier gas, while the Ni/SBA-15 presented even at 700 °C in Ar (Figure S1). It is reported that metal could catalyze the SiCl_4 to generate SiHCl_3 , SiH_2Cl_2 , and even SiH_4 in H_2 atmosphere.^[9] The formed SiH_x is easy to react with metal nanoparticles to form metal silicide at relatively low temperature.

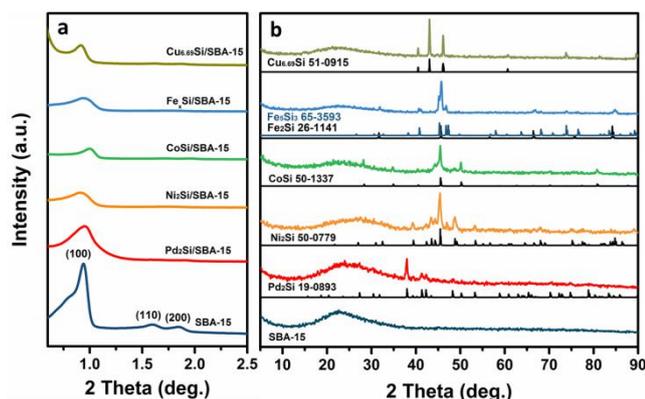


Figure 2. a) Small-angle and b) wide-angle XRD patterns of SBA-15 and SBA-15 supported metal silicides catalysts (SBA-15, $\text{Pd}_2\text{Si/SBA-15}$, $\text{Ni}_2\text{Si/SBA-15}$, CoSi/SBA-15 , $\text{Fe}_x\text{Si/SBA-15}$, and $\text{Cu}_{6.69}\text{Si/SBA-15}$).

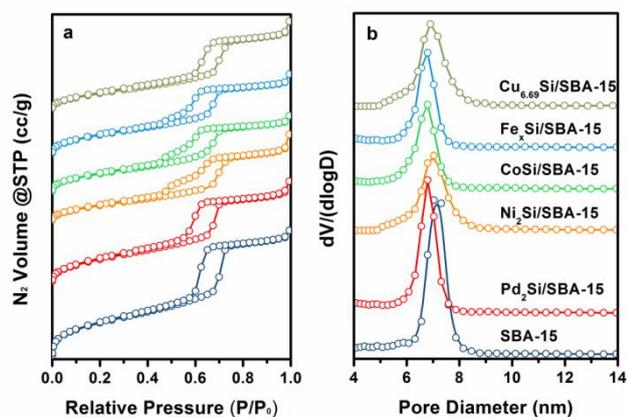


Figure 3. a) Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms and b) BJH pore size distribution of the SBA-15 and M-Si/SBA-15 samples.

The crystal phases of as-prepared M-Si/SBA-15 samples are confirmed by XRD patterns in Figure 2. The small-angle XRD pattern of the SBA-15 (Figure 2a) clearly illustrates three well-resolved diffraction peaks in the small-angle region, which can

be indexed as the characteristic (100), (110), and (200) reflections of a two-dimensional hexagonal mesoporous structure. With the formation of M-Si, the (110) and (200) reflections become weak and then disappear, which could be explained by a decrease of the degree of ordering due to the loading of metal silicides nanoparticles into the pore of SBA-15. In the wide-angle region of the XRD patterns (Figure 2b), a broad diffraction peak at ca. 23.4° ascribe to SBA-15 support. Comparing with the standard patterns in Figure 2b, the XRD patterns of M-Si present typical diffraction peaks for the Pd_2Si phase (JCPDS # 19-0893), Ni_2Si phase (JCPDS # 50-0779), CoSi phase (JCPDS # 50-1337), and $\text{Cu}_{6.69}\text{Si}$ phase (JCPDS # 51-0915), respectively. Moreover, the iron silicide is not a single-phase, which included the Fe_2Si phase (JCPDS # 65-3593) and Fe_5Si_3 (JCPDS # 26-1141). Above all, it is a general way to prepare supported metal silicide catalysts by the CVD method using $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{SiCl}_2$ as Si source in H_2 atmosphere.

N_2 adsorption-desorption isotherms were obtained for the calcined mesoporous SBA-15 and M-Si/SBA-15 catalysts as shown in Figure 3. The isotherm of $\text{Pd}_2\text{Si/SBA-15}$ catalyst is similar to those of SBA-15 and presents type IV with H1-type hysteresis loop and the capillary condensation step of the hysteresis loop is very steep, which means that the Pd_2Si nanoparticles with 5% loading uniformly disperse on the mesopores in the framework.^[10] However, the condensation steps of M-Si/SBA-15 samples ($\text{Cu}_{6.69}\text{Si}$, Fe_xSi , CoSi , and Ni_2Si) with high loading (20%) become less steep and shift to lower P/P_0 values, indicating the occupancy of some pores by metal silicides in SBA-15 support after the impregnation and silicification. As shown in Table 1, the BET specific surface area of calcined SBA-15 is found to be $757 \text{ m}^2\text{g}^{-1}$. The loading of M-Si/SBA-15 decreases the surface area (ca. $350 \text{ m}^2\text{g}^{-1}$) and pore volume, which could be due to the confined metal silicides nanoparticles inside and on the SBA-15.

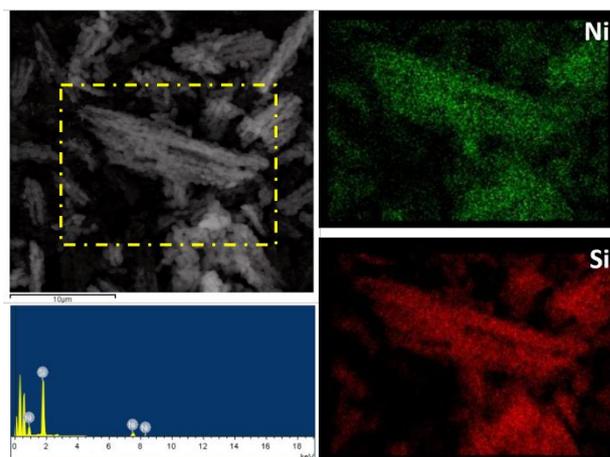


Figure 4. SEM images and Ni-EDX element mapping of $\text{Ni}_2\text{Si/SBA-15}$ catalyst.

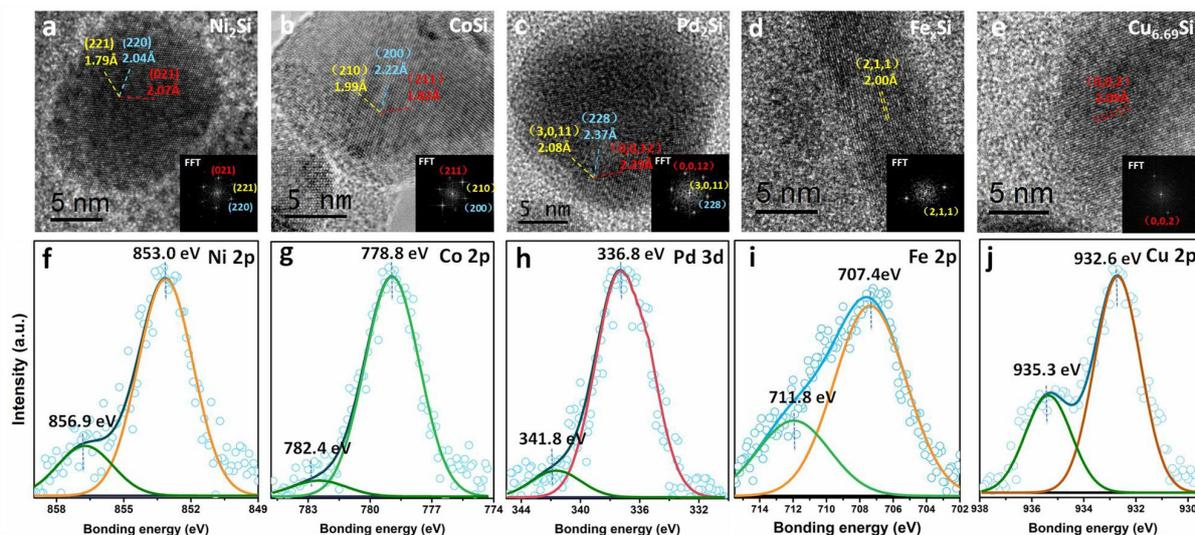


Figure 5. High-resolution TEM images and XPS spectra of (a, f) Ni₂Si/SBA-15, (b, g) CoSi/SBA-15, (c, h) Pd₂Si/SBA-15, (d, i) Fe₅Si₃/SBA-15, (e, j) Cu_{6.69}Si/SBA-15, and their corresponding fast Fourier transformation patterns (inset).

Table 1. Chemical and Structural Properties of SBA-15 supported metal silicide catalysts

Sample	S _{BET} ^a (m ² /g)	d ^a (nm)	V _{total} ^a (cm ³ /g)	Metal loadings (wt. %)	
				Reality	Theory
SBA-15	757	7.0	1.002	-	-
Pd ₂ Si/SBA-15	504	7.0	0.869	4.2	5
Ni ₂ Si/SBA-15	330	6.8	0.644	18.8	20
CoSi/SBA-15	362	6.8	0.608	17.5	20
Fe _x Si/SBA-15	396	6.8	0.582	17.3	20
Cu _{6.69} Si/SBA-15	342	6.8	0.656	18.0	20

^aBET surface area (S_{BET}), average pore diameter (d), and total pore volume (V_{total}) as determined by N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms at -196 °C.

The morphology of Ni₂Si/SBA-15 has been revealed by SEM image (as shown in Figure 4), which consists of rope-like domains with relatively uniform sizes of 1 μm and are aggregated into wheat-like macrostructures. And the EDX element mapping confirms that Ni₂Si is highly dispersed throughout all over the SBA-15 support. TEM images provide further insight into the distribution and the detailed structure of metal silicides nanoparticles on SBA-15 in Figure S2 and Figure 5(a-e). The Ni₂Si, CoSi, Pd₂Si, Fe_xSi, and Cu_{6.69}Si nanoparticles are highly dispersed on the SBA-15. The average particle sizes of these catalysts are 14.9 nm, 13.4 nm, 15.6 nm, 16.7 nm, and 14.1 nm, respectively. The high-resolution TEM image (Figure 5a) demonstrates that the measured lattice spacing of nanoparticles are 1.79 Å, 2.04 Å, and 2.08 Å, which are in good accordance with the (221), (220), and (021) planes of orthorhombic Ni₂Si, respectively. Similarly, the measured lattice spacing with 1.99 Å,

2.37 Å, 2.00 Å, and 2.09 Å are corresponding to the (210) plane of Pd₂Si, the (228) plane of CoSi, the (221) plane of Fe₅Si₃, and the (002) plane of Cu_{6.69}Si respectively. The results are similar with that of XRD analysis, which further evidences the formation of metal silicides by the CVD method.

The surface information on the Ni, Co, Pd, Fe, and Cu state are obtained by XPS analysis (Figure 5f-j). The bonding energy peaks of Ni 2p_{3/2}, Co 2p_{3/2}, and Pd 3d_{5/2} at 853.0 eV, 778.8 eV, 336.8 eV are responding to Ni₂Si, CoSi, and Pd₂Si, respectively.^[11] The peak at 707.4 eV for Fe-sample belongs to Fe-Si.^[12] The second peaks of Ni 2p and Co 2p at 856.9 and 782.4 eV are assigned to less-intense asymmetric tail for the nickel silicide and cobalt silicide.^[11b, 13] And the peak at 341.8 eV belongs to the Pd 3d_{3/2} of Pd₂Si.^[11c] The peak at 711.5 eV in Figure 5i is analogously attributed to Fe₂O₃.^[14] The Cu 2p_{3/2} spectrum in Figure 5j appears as narrow doublet peaks at 935.3 eV and 932.6 eV. The peak at 932.6 eV has rarely been reported so far. However, because of evidence from the XRD and HRTEM, it is possible to assign the peak at 932.6 eV to a single compound of copper silicide (Cu_{6.69}Si). Compared with the zero valent metal, the peak of metal silicides shifts to higher binding energy, which can be attributed to the electron transformation between metal atoms and Si atoms.

To confirm the catalytic performance over the as-obtained M-Si/SBA-15 catalysts in liquid-phase PA selective hydrogenation, the reaction was carried out at 40 °C and 1.0 MPa H₂ in a conventional batch system. The plots of the ST selectivity versus PA conversion over the metal silicides catalysts are shown in Figure 6a. Unfortunately, the selectivity to ST over Pd₂Si/SBA-15 dramatically decreases with increasing the conversion of PA. The selectivity to ST is only 13% when the PA is completely consumed. This is probably due to the high Pd loading in the Pd₂Si/SBA-15, which would result in higher H₂ activation under reaction condition. Although the CoSi/SBA-15,

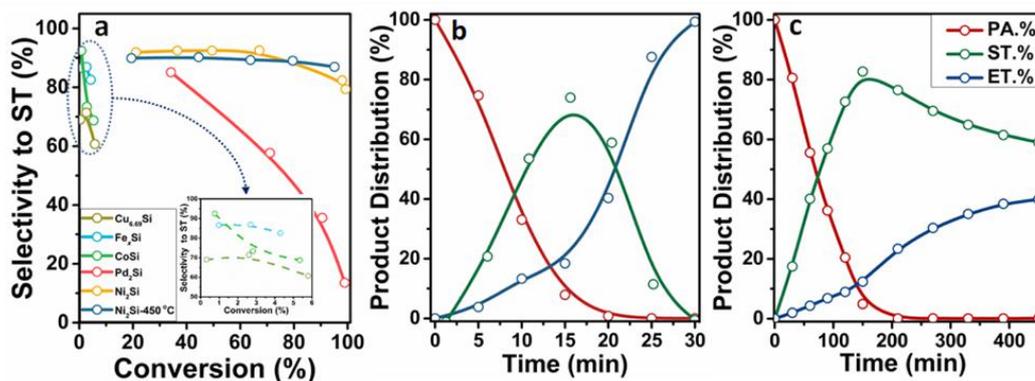


Figure 6. a) The catalytic conversion of PA and corresponding selectivity to ST over different catalysts and the reaction detail of CoSi/SBA-15, Fe_xSi/SBA-15, and Cu_{6.69}Si/SBA-15 (inset). Product yields over b) Ni/SBA-15 and c) Ni₂Si-450 °C/SBA-15. (The reaction was carried out at 40 °C, 1.0 MPa H₂ with 100 mg catalyst.)

Fe_xSi/SBA-15, and Cu_{6.69}Si/SBA-15 catalysts present good ST selectivity of ca.74%, ca.88%, and ca.72%, respectively, they have low activity to hydrogenate of PA. The whole product yield is even lower than 6% for 6 h. Compared to those catalysts, the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst has the best performance to selectivity hydrogenation of PA. As observed, high ST selectivity (around 90%) is achieved before the complete conversion of PA for the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst. As shown in Figure 6a, for the semihydrogenation of PA over Ni₂Si/SBA-15, the selectivity to ST is 82% when the PA conversion reaches to 98%. Fortunately, the selectivity to ST is still at ca. 80% when the PA is almost consumed completely (PA conversion 99%). Therefore, the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst is a promising low-cost catalyst for succedaneum of noble catalyst to semihydrogenation of PA. Figure S3 shows the result of H₂-TPD measurements over these catalysts. There is almost no H₂ adsorption over CoSi/SBA-15, Fe_xSi/SBA-15, and Cu_{6.69}Si/SBA-15 in Figure S3. It is in keeping with that CoSi/SBA-15, Fe_xSi/SBA-15, and Cu_{6.69}Si/SBA-15 have the worst activity in the semihydrogenation of PA. Pd₂Si/SBA-15 has best ability to H₂ activation which causes the excessive hydrogenation. Ni₂Si/SBA-15 has the best selectivity to ST because of the proper H₂ activation. Moreover, a stronger electronic interaction between the metallic Ni and the Si may influence the ST adsorption and reduced the reaction rates of ST hydrogenation. Therefore, the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst is a promising low-cost catalyst for succedaneum of noble catalyst to semihydrogenation of PA. In addition, the synthesis temperature effect on catalytic performance was also tested (as shown in Figure 6a and Figure S4). Compared with Ni₂Si/SBA-15 prepared at 600 °C, the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 prepared at 450 °C shows a better catalytic performance. The selectivity to ST over Ni₂Si-450 °C/SBA-15 catalyst is ca. 90%, while the activity is better (Figure S4), due to the particle size affection.^[5b]

The time course of the product yields over and Ni/SBA-15 and Ni₂Si/SBA-15 (prepared at 450 °C) catalysts are shown in Figure 6b and 6c. The reaction rate over Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst from ST to ET is $4.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol L}^{-1} \text{ min}^{-1}$, which is much lower than the reaction rate from PA to ST ($3.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol L}^{-1} \text{ min}^{-1}$). This indicates that the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst has high selectivity

to ST. However, the reaction rate over Ni/SBA-15 catalyst from PA to ST is almost equal to the rate from ST to ET, which means Ni/SBA-15 catalyst has no selectivity hydrogenation property in this reaction. In our previous available studies, it is found that the silicide-modified nickel catalysts have lower intrinsic activity than the sample Ni because active-site (Ni) is isolated by interposition of Si element. Moreover, there is electron transformation between Ni atom and Si atom, due to the different electronegativity values of Ni (1.91) and Si (1.90).^[6a] This phenomenon is similar to Ni-Ga intermetallic compounds.^[15] Therefore, the active-site isolation and electron transfer in Ni₂S have a great effect on the performance of PA semihydrogenation to ST. The formation of nickel silicides decreases the adsorption of ST and H₂, thus inhibits the deep hydrogenation of styrene hydrogenation and improves the selectivity to ST.

The stability of Ni₂Si/SBA-15 (prepared at 450 °C) catalyst was investigated by recycling for five times. The conversion of PA and corresponding selectivity toward ST over Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst are shown in Figure 7. The selectivity to ST still keeps almost constant at 90%, and a slight decrease in conversion is found (from 83.2% to 71.5%) after 5 recycles. The decrease of conversion may ascribe to the agglomeration of Ni₂Si particles in the recycle. Moreover, the active sites covered by the strong adsorbed species may be another reason, which could be recovered by removing the strong adsorbed species at higher temperature. Compared with our previous report, the SBA-15 supported Ni₂Si nanoparticles catalyst show a satisfactory stability and reusability than that of bulk silicide modified nickel catalysts.^[6a] The spent Ni₂Si catalyst was characterized by XRD, TEM, and XPS (as shown in Figure 8). Compared Figure 2 with Figure 8, no obvious change was observed in the XRD patterns, except that the crystallinity of Ni catalyst increased slightly. The XRD pattern of used catalyst still present typical diffraction peaks of Ni₂Si phase (JCPDS # 50-0779). The TEM image of used catalyst shows a good dispersion. The estimated average particle size of the used catalysts calculated by Scherrer's equation is 12.2 nm, which is a bitter bigger than the fresh catalyst (10.8 nm). The binding energy peak of Ni 2p_{3/2} at 853.0

eV is corresponding to Ni₂Si and the peak at 857.3 eV belongs to the less-intense asymmetric tail of Ni₂Si.^[11a] All those results demonstrate that the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst is thermal and electronically stable during the process of PA semihydrogenation. Therefore, the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 shows a better stability in the PA semihydrogenation. The selective hydrogenation of diphenylacetylene and 1,4-butyndiol over Ni₂Si/SBA-15 has been further studied, as listed in Table 2. The Ni₂Si/SBA-15 also shows high selectivity (>85%) to the semihydrogenation product and acceptable activity. The above features suggest that Ni₂Si/SBA-15 is a legitimate alternative to non-precious metal catalysts in selective hydrogenation reactions. The unique structural feature of metal silicide may impose effects on catalytic performance.

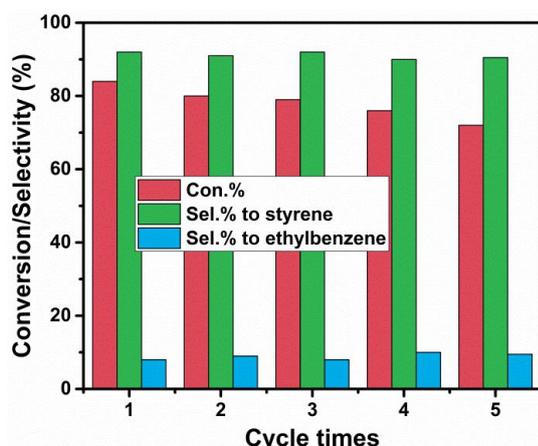


Figure 7. The catalytic conversion and corresponding selectivity vs recycling times over Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst without adding new catalysts. (The reaction was carried out at 40 °C and 1.0 MPa H₂ in 2 h)

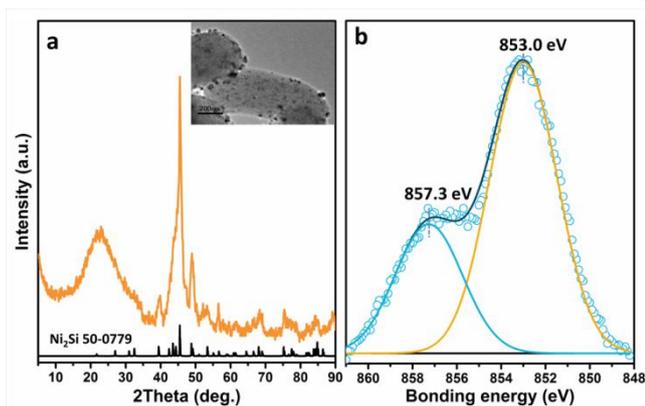


Figure 8. (a) XRD pattern, (inset in a) TEM image, and (b) XPS spectrum of the spent Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst.

Table 2. The catalytic performances of Ni₂Si/SBA-15: selective hydrogenation of phenylacetylene, diphenylacetylene, and 1,4-butyndiol

Reactant	Conversion ^a %	Selectivity ^a %
phenylacetylene	81.5	91.5
diphenylacetylene	19.5	92.3
1,4-butyndiol	75.3	85.2

^aThe reaction was carried out at 40 °C and 1.0 MPa H₂ in 2 h.

Conclusions

In summary, it is a general method to prepare the metal silicide catalysts supported on SBA-15 (such as Ni₂Si, Pd₂Si, CoSi, Cu_{6.69}Si, and Fe_xSi) by the CVD, using (CH₃)₂SiCl₂ as Si source. Among those catalysts, the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 has the superior catalytic performance in selective hydrogenation of PA to ST. The maximum yield to ST with Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst is higher than with Ni/SBA-15 (83% vs 73%). The formation of nickel silicides influenced the styrene adsorption and reduced the reaction rates of styrene hydrogenation because of the active-site isolation and electron transfer. Therefore, the Ni₂Si/SBA-15 catalyst is a promising low-cost selective hydrogenation catalyst for alternative of noble catalyst.

Experimental Section

Materials. Metal nitrate (Pd(NO₃)₂, Ni(NO₃)₂, Co(NO₃)₂, Cu(NO₃)₂, and Fe(NO₃)₃), pure ethanol, and hydrochloric acid were obtained from Sinopharm (Beijing, China). Dichlorodimethylsilane, phenylacetylene, diphenylacetylene, 1,4-butyndiol, and P₁₂₃ were obtained from Aladdin (Shanghai, China). All of these chemicals were used as received without further purification.

Synthesis of M-O/SBA-15 precursor. SBA-15 was produced by following the same procedure as Zhao's research.^[10a] The M-O/SBA-15 precursor was prepared by impregnating the SBA-15 in an aqueous solution of metal nitrate and held for 24 h. Following the soaking, the soaked samples were dried and calcinated in Ar/O₂ atmosphere at 400 °C for three hours. The Pd(NO₃)₂, Ni(NO₃)₂, Co(NO₃)₂, Fe(NO₃)₃, and Cu(NO₃)₂ were used as metal source and the loading with SBA-15 carrier was 20%, except the 5% loading of Pd(NO₃)₂.

Synthesis of M-Si/SBA-15 catalysts. Synthesis of M-Si/SBA-15 was achieved in a horizontal tube furnace at the relevant temperature and atmospheric pressure. The M-O/SBA-15 samples were loaded on a quartz boat and put in the middle of a quartz tube furnace. The M-O/SBA-15 samples were heated at a ramp rate of 5 °C/min to 400-500 °C and held for 2 hours to reduce the M-O to metal. When the furnace temperature was increased to setting temperature, the organosilane was introduced to the reactor by using H₂ (30 sccm) as the carrier gas that flows through a bubbler maintained at 0 °C containing (CH₃)₂SiCl₂ and the exhaust was absorbed by 2 mol/L NaOH solution. After 2 h, the product was cooled down to the room temperature in Ar and passivated in Ar overnight.

Catalysts Characterization. X-ray diffraction (XRD) analyses of the samples were carried out using a Rigaku D/Max-RB diffractometer with a Cu Kα₁ monochromatized radiation source, operated at 40 kV and 100 mA. Analysis of element contents of M-Si catalysts was carried out on an Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectrometer (ICP-OES). Nitrogen adsorption and desorption isotherms were constructed using the multi-point method at -196 °C, and were measured using a Micromeritics

2020. The morphology and structural composition of Ni₂Si/SBA-15 sample were characterized and analyzed by high-resolution field emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM, Nova NanoSEM 450 from FEI Company), equipped with an energy-dispersive X-ray (EDX) analyzer. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) and were performed by using a Tecnai G2 F30 S-Twin transmission electron microscope operating at 300 kV. Surface compositions were investigated by X-Ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) employing an ESCALAB250 (Thermo VG, USA) spectrometer with Al K α (1486.6 eV) radiation with a power of 150 W. All core-level spectra were referenced as the C 1s neutral carbon peak at 284.6 eV and were deconvoluted into Gaussian component peaks.

M-Si/SBA-15 catalysts test. According to the procedure previously employed,^[6a] PA hydrogenation (Scheme 1) were performed with metal silicide catalysts in a 50 mL stainless steel autoclave under vigorous stirring. Before reaction, catalysts were activated in an ultrapure hydrogen stream at 400 °C for 2 h and then cooled down to room temperature and passivated in Ar for 12 h. The reaction was carried out at 40 °C temperature and 1 MPa H₂ with 0.10 g catalyst in 10 mL 0.1 M ethanol substrate solution. The products were analyzed by gas chromatography using a flame ionization detector with a SE-54/52 capillary column. A known amount of n-octane solution was used as an internal standard in this analysis. The stability of Ni₂Si-450/SBA-15, is also tested at 40 °C and 1 MPa H₂ for 5 times.

Acknowledgements

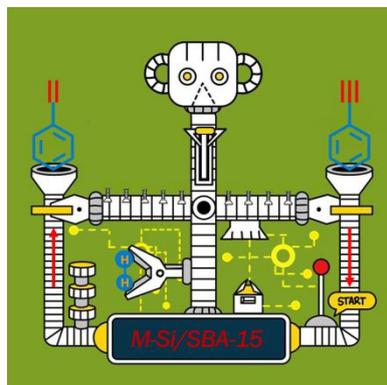
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Keywords: Metal Silicide • Chemical vapor deposition • Phenylacetylene Hydrogenation

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FULL PAPER

The metal silicide (Pd_2Si , Ni_2Si , CoSi , Fe_xSi , and $\text{Cu}_{6.69}\text{Si}$) catalysts supported by SBA-15 are successfully prepared by chemical vapor deposition method. Compared with those SBA-15 supported metal silicides catalysts, the $\text{Ni}_2\text{Si}/\text{SBA-15}$ presented modest activity, notable selectivity to styrene (>90 %) and highly stability in the selectivity hydrogenation of phenylacetylene.



Kaixuan Yang, Xiao Chen, Lei Wang,
Liangliang Zhang, Shaohua Jin,
Changhai Liang*

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