## Communications

### **Oxidation Catalysts**

# A Nanoplatinum Catalyst for Aerobic Oxidation of Alcohols in Water\*\*

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The development of highly active immobilized catalysts for the aerobic oxidation of a variety of alcohols in aqueous media is a tremendously important topic in chemistry today.<sup>[1]</sup> Yet aerobic oxidation of nonactivated alcohols, such as aliphatic and alicyclic alcohols, using immobilized catalysts generally proceeds poorly.<sup>[2]</sup> There have been reports of heterogeneous metal catalysts being applied to the aerobic oxidation of various alcohols, but the catalysts were regularly used in harmful organic solvents<sup>[3]</sup> and/or under vigorous conditions.<sup>[4]</sup> Over the last few years, our group,<sup>[5]</sup> Kaneda et al.,<sup>[6]</sup> Sheldon et al.,<sup>[7]</sup> and Corma et al.<sup>[8]</sup> reported the aerobic oxidation of some aliphatic and alicyclic alcohols in water with reusable catalysts.<sup>[9]</sup> While acknowledging the pioneering work in this area, we believe the development of a novel catalyst system that exhibits a wide range of substrate tolerance under mild and aqueous conditions still remains a major challenge. Consequently, we devised a dispersion of nanoparticles of palladium in an amphiphilic polystyrenepolyethylene glycol (PS-PEG) resin (ARP-Pd; ARP: amphiphilic resin particles) that catalyzes the aerobic oxidation of alcohols in water at 100 °C.<sup>[10]</sup>

However, despite such progress, the reactivity and versatility of ARP-Pd for the oxidation of alicyclic and aliphatic alcohols was inadequate (see below). We therefore considered platinum nanoparticles,<sup>[11,12]</sup> since platinum has a stronger oxidizing ability than palladium (Pt/Pt<sup>2+</sup>  $E_{ox} = +1.12$  V versus  $Pd/Pd^{2+}$   $E_{ox} = +0.95$  V). However, deactivation of platinum by oxygen is problematic for its efficient reuse,<sup>[13]</sup> and Pt particles possess a latent tendency to explode under oxidative conditions in organic solvents.<sup>[14]</sup> Our concept for the preparation of ARPs, where metal particles would be stabilized by amphiphilic resins in aqueous media, should overcome these drawbacks. Herein, we report the development of an ARP-Pt and its application to the aerobic oxidation in water of a wide variety of alcohols, including not only benzylic and allylic but also alicyclic and aliphatic alcohols. Notably, ARP-Pt promoted the reaction efficiently at 60°C with high recyclability.

Supporting information for this article is available on the WWW under http://www.angewandte.org or from the author.

ARP-Pt (4) was prepared by complexation of commercially available PS-PEG-NH<sub>2</sub> (1; TentaGel S NH<sub>2</sub>) with Zeise's salt (2·H<sub>2</sub>O) in water followed by reduction (Scheme 1). High-resolution transmission electron micro-



Scheme 1. Preparation of ARP-Pt (4).

scopy (TEM) analysis of **4** revealed that the Pt nanoparticles in it had a mean diameter of 5.9 nm with a very narrow size distribution throughout the resin, and that the density of the Pt particles was uniform in the resin (Figure 1). Energydispersive spectroscopy/scanning electron microscopy (EDS/ SEM) analysis also revealed a uniform dispersion of Pt throughout the resin.<sup>[15]</sup> To the best of our knowledge, a uniform dispersion of nanoparticles into the entire region of an insoluble resin with uniform density distribution was realized for the first time.<sup>[16]</sup>



**Figure 1.** a) High-resolution TEM image of 4. b) Histogram of the size distribution of the Pt particles (*n*: number of Pt particles per  $\mu$ m<sup>2</sup>; *d*: diameter of the particles).

With an amphiphilic resin catalyst containing Pt nanoparticles of uniform size and density distribution in hand, we conducted the oxidation of a variety of primary and secondary alcohols to the corresponding carbonyl compounds. Representative data are summarized in Table 1, where several results from Pd catalysis are included for comparison (Pt versus Pd). The oxidation of **5a** (20 mmol, 2.2 g) with 1.0 mol% ARP-Pt<sup>[17]</sup> was performed at 60 °C for 24 h to



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Table 1:	The aerobic	oxidation	of alcohols 5 with ARP-Pt (4	) as catalyst. <sup>I</sup>
		$\cap \square$		

R	<sup>1</sup> CH <sub>2</sub> OH or	$R^{1-C-R^{2}}$ $R^{2-R^{2}}$ $R^{1-C-R^{2}}$ $R^{2-R^{2}}$	tm O₂ or air	R <sup>1</sup> COOH or	0 R <sup>1_</sup> C <sup></sup>	$R^2$
	5а–с	6a–I <sup>wa</sup>	ter, 60 °C	7a–c	8a–I	
Run	Substrate/ Product	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	<b>4</b> [mol %]	<i>t</i> [h]	Yield [%]
1 <sup>[b]</sup>	5 a/7 a	Ph		1.0	24	99
2 <sup>1-1</sup> 3 4	6a/8a	Ph	CH3	5.0 5.0 (2nd use)	8 24	97 82 81
5 6				(3rd use) (4th use)		84 92
7 8 9	(under air)			(5th use) 10 5.0 <sup>[c]</sup>	36 24	90 79 86
10 11	6b/8b 6c/8c	Ph Ph	C7H15 (CH2)3OBn	10 10	36 36	80 82
12 <sup>[b]</sup> 13	5 b/7 b 6 d/8 d	PhCH=CH <sub>2</sub> PhCH=CH <sub>2</sub>	CH3	10 5.0	18 15 26	93 87 72
14 15 16	6 f/8 f	-(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> -	-n <sub>2</sub> )3	5.0 5.0 5.0 <sup>[d]</sup>	12 20	80 < 2
17 18	6g/8g	-(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>5</sub> -		5.0 5.0 <sup>[d]</sup>	12 20	81 < 2
19 20 21	6h/8h 6i/8i (under air)	-(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>6</sub> -(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>7</sub>		5.0 5.0 20	12 12 60	93 87 93
22 <sup>[b]</sup> 23	5c/7c 6j/8j	n-C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>15</sub> n-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub>	CH3	10 5.0	36 15	95 95 87
24 25	(under air)	C LL	C L L	20 5.0 <sup>[d]</sup>	60 20	82 29
26 27	ык/ак 6I/8I	<i>п</i> -С₅Н <sub>11</sub> <i>п</i> -С₄Н <sub>9</sub>	С <sub>2</sub> Н <sub>5</sub> <i>n</i> -С <sub>3</sub> Н <sub>7</sub>	10	30 36	84 81

[a] All the reactions were carried out with 4 at 60°C in water under atmospheric oxygen unless otherwise noted (Bn=benzyl). [b] 1 mol equivalent of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was added. [c] ARP-Pt made of 10-µm-diameter resin was used ( $4_{\otimes 10}$ ). [d] With ARP-Pd under O<sub>2</sub> at 100°C.

give **7a** in 99% yield of isolated product (2.4 g; Table 1, run 1). Activated alcohols, such as benzylic alcohols **6a–c** and allylic alcohols **5b**, **6d**, and **6e**, were transformed to the corresponding carbonyl compounds **7b** and **8a–e** in 72–93% yield (Table 1, runs 3 and 10–14).<sup>[18]</sup>

We were pleased to find that the aerobic oxidation of a variety of nonactivated alicyclic alcohols, cyclopentanol (**6 f**), cyclohexanol (**6 g**), cycloheptanol (**6 h**), and cyclooctanol (**6 i**), also took place smoothly to provide the corresponding alicyclic ketones in 80–93% yield (Table 1, runs 15, 17, 19, and 20). Moreover, it was found that the nonactivated aliphatic primary and secondary alcohols, 1-, 2-, 3-, and 4-octanol (**5 c**, **6 j–l**), were efficiently converted into the corresponding aliphatic carbonyl compounds in 81–95% yield (Table 1, runs 22, 23, 26, and 27) under similar conditions. Chemoselective oxidation was also accomplished, in that alkenes and a benzyl ether were tolerated (Table 1, runs 11–14).

Atmospheric air was likewise applied as an oxidant in this catalytic system. Thus, the efficient conversion of benzylic, alicyclic, and aliphatic secondary alcohols **6a**, **6i**, and **6j** was achieved to afford **8a**, **8i**, and **8j** in 79, 93, and 82% yield, respectively (Table 1, runs 8, 21, and 24). The ARP-Pd

catalyst exhibited lower activity even at a higher reaction temperature (Table 1, runs 16, 18, and 25). Notably, the aerobic oxidation of **6a** with ARP-Pt  $\mathbf{4}_{\otimes 10}$ , which was prepared from 10-µm-diameter PS-PEG resin beads, gave a similar result to that obtained with  $\mathbf{4}$  ( $\emptyset = 90 \,\mu\text{m}$ ; Table 1, runs 3 and 9). These observations indicate that the oxidation took place not only on the surface of the polymer beads but also throughout the polymer matrix, where the Pt nanoparticles were dispersed with uniform size and density distribution.

The workup of the reactions was performed under organic-solvent-free conditions by extraction with supercritical carbon dioxide, and recovered **4** was readily reused without further purification and/or reactivation.<sup>[19,20]</sup> In general, the catalytic activity of Pt nanoparticle catalysts seriously declines, while catalytic deactivation of reused **4** was not observed at all (Table 1, run 3–7). In addition, no change of the particle structure was observed by TEM. Notably, ARP-Pt (**4**) was stable, reusable, and not flammable under aerobic and aqueous conditions, and was stored in an open vessel for at least one year.

In conclusion, we have developed a highly active and reusable catalytic system for the aerobic oxidation of a wide variety of alcohols, including benzylic, allylic, alicyclic, and aliphatic alcohols, in aqueous media with high recyclability and stability.

#### Experimental Section

PS-PEG resin-supported dichloro(ethylene)platinum complex (3): A mixture of PS-PEG amino resin 1 (3.2 g; loading value of amino residue: 0.31 mmol g<sup>-1</sup>) and Zeise's salt 2·H<sub>2</sub>O (372 mg, 1.01 mmol) in water (20 mL) was shaken at room temperature for 1 h. The mixture was filtered, and the resulting resin beads were rinsed three times with water and dried in vacuo to give 3 (3.5 g; loading value of platinum residue: 0.28 mmol g<sup>-1</sup>). IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 1602$ , 3595, 3728 cm<sup>-1</sup>; swollen-resin magic-angle spinning (SR-MAS) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta = 39.9$ , 44.4, 70.1, 74.0, 104.2, 125.2, 127.5, 144.8 ppm.

ARP-Pt (4): A mixture of **3** (3.5 g; loading value of platinum residue: 0.28 mmol g<sup>-1</sup>) and benzyl alcohol (5 mL) in water (24 mL) was shaken at 80 °C for 12 h. The mixture was filtered, and the resulting resin beads were rinsed three times with water and three times with acetone, then dried in vacuo to give **4** (3.4 g; loading value of platinum residue: 0.29 mmol g<sup>-1</sup>). IR:  $\tilde{\nu} = 3557$ , 3661 cm<sup>-1</sup>; SR-MAS <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta = 40.1$ , 61.3, 66.6, 70.2, 104.0, 125.4, 127.8, 145.1 ppm.

General procedure for the catalytic aerobic oxidation of primary alcohols in water: A mixture of **4** (0.002 mmol of effective platinum), primary alcohol (0.2 mmol), and potassium carbonate (0.2 mmol) in water (2 mL) was stirred at 60 °C under oxygen gas at atmospheric pressure. After cooling, the mixture was washed with *tert*-butyl methyl ether and acidified with 5% hydrochloric acid. The mixture was dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated in vacuo to give the corresponding carboxylic acid.

General procedure for the catalytic aerobic oxidation of secondary alcohols in water: A mixture of **4** (0.002 mmol of effective platinum) and the secondary alcohol (0.2 mmol) in water (2 mL) was stirred at 60 °C under oxygen gas at atmospheric pressure. After cooling, the mixture was filtered to give the resin beads **4** that held the resulting ketone.

Post-treatment procedure A: extract with EtOAc: The resin beads were rinsed three times with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 1 \text{ mL})$  and the

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aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate  $(3 \times 1 \text{ mL})$ . The combined extracts were dried over magnesium sulfate and concentrated in vacuo to give the corresponding ketones **8**.

Post-treatment procedure B: extract with  $scCO_2$ : The resin beads were extracted with supercritical (sc) carbon dioxide (296 atm, 40 °C, 24 min) to afford the corresponding ketones 8. The recovered catalyst beads were reused without any further purification or activation.

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