Supporting Information

S-Alkylation of dithiocarbamates via a hydrogen borrowing reaction strategy using alcohols as alkylating agents

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1. General Information

All experiments were carried out under an inert argon atmosphere using an argon balloon (1atm). All the chromatographic solvents were distilled before use. Unless otherwise noted, all starting materials were purchased from commercial sources and used without any further purification. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on Merck 60 F254 pre-coated silica gel plate (0.2 mm thickness). All the products were isolated by chromatography on a silica gel (60-120 mesh) column using hexane and ethyl acetate as eluent. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL 500 MHz NMR spectrometer. As an internal standard, chemical shifts of protons are calibrated using tetramethylsilane (TMS: δ 0.0 ppm). ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at a 125 MHz magnetic field and referenced to the carbon resonances of the solvent (CDCl₃: δ 77.0 ppm). Peaks are labeled as singlet (s), broad singlet (br), doublet (d), triplet (t), double doublet (dd), and multiplet (m). Deuterated chemicals were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories (CIL). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a MicroMass QTOF Mass Spectrometer ESI mode unless otherwise stated. The liberated gas is identified using GC chromatogram (Shimadzu GC-2010Plus) by TCD detector.

2. State of art

Scheme S1. a) Selected methods for S-benzylation/ alkylation of dithiocarbamate b) C-S bond formation via hydrogen borrowing strategy c) Present work

3. Experimental procedure

3.1. Synthesis of hydroxyapatite

Scheme S2. Representative procedure for the synthesis of hydroxyapatite¹⁴

 (NH_4) ₂HPO₄ (40 mmol, 5.28 g) was dissolved in 150 mL of deionized water and the pH was adjusted to 11 with an aqueous ammonia solution. To an aqueous solution of $Ca(NO₃)₂H₂O$ (66mmol, 15.5 g), aqueous ammonia solution was added dropwise to adjust the $pH=11$. Using a pressure equalizer $(NH_4)_2HPO_4$ solution was added dropwise to $Ca(NO_3)_2.H_2O$ solution at room temperature over a period of 30 minutes. The solution turned into milky white and was heated at 90°C for another 10 minutes. The precipitate formed was filtered, washed with deionized water, and dried, at 110°C.

3.2. Synthesis of hydroxyapatite-supported Cu nanoparticles.

Scheme S3. Representative procedure for the synthesis of Cu NPs@HAP

 (NH_4) ₂HPO₄ (40 mmol, 5.28 g) was dissolved in 150 mL of deionized water and the pH was adjusted to 11 with an aqueous ammonia solution. To an aqueous solution of $Ca(NO₃)₂H₂O$ (66mmol, 15.5 g), aqueous ammonia solution was added dropwise to adjust the $pH=11$. Using a pressure equalizer (NH₄)₂HPO₄ solution was added dropwise to Ca(NO₃)₂.H₂O solution at room temperature over a period of 30 minutes. The solution turned into milky white and was heated at 90°C for another 10 minutes. The precipitate formed was filtered, washed with deionized water, and dried, at 110°C.

3.3. Experimental procedure for the S-alkylation of dithiocarbamate

Benzyl alcohol (0.5 mmol), dithiocarbamate salt (0.75 mmol), solvent (2ml), and catalyst (25mg) were taken in a reaction vessel. The reaction was stirred for the required time in a preheated heating block. After the reaction (TLC) was completed, the reaction vessel was cooled to room temperature and diluted with 10 mL ethyl acetate. The reaction mixture was then filtered using celite. The filtrate was dried using a rotary evaporator, volatile impurities were removed under vacuum, and further purification of the product was carried out by silica gel column chromatography using hexane and ethyl acetate as eluent.

3.4. Gram scale synthesis of furan-2-ylmethyl diethylcarbamodithioate

Furfural alcohol (20 mmol), Sodium diethyldithiocarbamate (30 mmol), toluene (15 ml), and catalyst (150mg) were taken in a reaction vessel. The reaction was stirred for 24 hours in a preheated heating block (temperature of the metallic block at base: 130°C). After the reaction (TLC) was completed, the reaction vessel was cooled to room temperature and diluted with ethyl acetate. The reaction mixture was then filtered using celite. The filtrate was dried using a rotary evaporator, volatile impurities were removed under vacuum, and further purification of the product was carried out by silica gel column chromatography using hexane and ethyl acetate as eluent. The product furan-2-ylmethyl diethylcarbamodithioate was isolated with a yield of 65 % (2.97 g).

4. Controlled experiments

Figure S1. Controlled experiments and mechanistic investigation

Figure S2. Crude NMR for the cross-over experiment between benzyl alcohol, 4-methoxy benzyl alcohol and sodium diethyldithiocarbamate

5. Materials characterization.

The synthesized copper loaded on hydroxyapatite was characterized using various analytical methods. The crystallinity and structural composition of the synthesized catalyst were ensured by X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis at room temperature using a Malvern Pananalytical [diffractometer](https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/diffractometers) with Cu K_α radiation source ($\lambda = 1.5406$ Å), operated at 45 kV and 40 mA. Fourier transform infrared equipped with FT-IR using KBr pellet was carried out using a Jasco FT/IR 4600 [spectrometer.](https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/spectrometer) UV–vis by diffuse reflectance spectra were recorded between 200 and 3500 nm with a Perkin Elmer spectrometer UV/Vis (Lambda 750). The spectra were collected using $BaSO₄$ as the standard reference. Thermogravimetry/differential thermal analysis (TG/DTA) was performed using a Perkinelmer STA6000 apparatus. The experiments were conducted from room temperature until 700 °C under an air flow atmosphere at a constant heating rate of 10 °C.min−1 . Surface topology and morphology of particles were investigated using a Jeol JIB-4700F scanning electron [microscope](https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/electron-microscopes) equipped with energy dispersive [spectroscopy](https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/spectroscopy) (SEM-EDS). The TEM micrographs were obtained on a JEOL JEM F200 high-resolution scanning/ transmission electron microscope. The copper content incorporated material was estimated by chemical analysis using inductively coupling plasmaatomic emission spectroscopy ICP-MS (Agilent 7800), after the acid digestion process. Surface chemical states were investigated by X-ray photoelectron [spectroscopy](https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/spectroscopy) (XPS) measurement with a Kratos analytical, AXIS Supra⁺. The specific surface areas were determined from the nitrogen adsorption/desorption isotherms using the BET (Brunauer-Emmett-Teller) method.

5.1. Inductively coupled plasma (ICP) mass spectrometry analysis:

Inductively coupled plasma (ICP) mass spectrometry analysis was carried out to find the amount of copper present in the Cu NPs $@$ HAP catalyst. The data showed a value of 5.7 wt% $(0.89 \text{ mmolg}^{-1})$ for the copper present in the Cu NPs ω HAP catalyst.

5.2. UV-Visible spectra:

The UV-visible spectroscopic analysis was also carried out for Cu NPs@HAP catalysts, indicates the characteristic absorption peak at around 575 nm is possibly due to the surface plasmon band of Cu nanoparticle colloids supporting the formation of Cu NPs.¹⁷

Figure S3. (a) The nature of the Cu species was determined by UV–vis spectroscopy. UV–vis by diffuse reflectance spectra were recorded between 200 and 3500 nm with a Perkin Elmer spectrometer UV/Vis (Lambda 750). The spectra were collected using $BaSO₄$ as the standard reference.

5.3. Thermal analysis:

The thermal stability of the Cu NPs@HAP was studied using thermogravimetric-differential scanning calorimetry at a heating rate of 10°C/min under an air atmosphere. The TGA-DSC plot of copper-incorporated hydroxyapatite shows no significant weight loss up to 180 °C. The weight loss after 180 °C to 650 °C can be due to the elimination of water molecules from hydroxyapatite.¹⁶

Figure S4. TGA and DSC curve for Cu NPs@ HAP using a Perkinelmer STA6000 apparatus. The experiments were conducted from room temperature until 700 °C under an air flow atmosphere at a constant heating rate of 10 °C.min−1

5.4. N² adsorption-desorption isotherms:

Nitrogen adsorption–desorption isotherms of Cu NPs@HAP by Brunauer–Emmett–Teller method. The sharpness of the isotherms and the presence of type IV kind isotherms with hysteresis loop at $P/P_0 > 0.80$ suggest that the tested catalyst is mostly mesoporous.^{15a}

Figure. S5. N₂ adsorption-desorption isotherms for Cu NPs $@$ HAP catalyst determined using the BET (Brunauer-Emmett-Teller) method

Additionally, it has been found that Cu NPs/HAP catalyst has a BET-specific surface area of 23.265 [m2g-1] and means pore diameter of 39.337 nm which confirms the mesoporous structure of the material.^{15b}

Table S1. Chemical analysis of copper, SBET area, pore diameter, and grain size of the catalyst by BET

5.5. Morphological analysis:

The morphology of the Cu NPs $@$ HAP catalytic materials was analyzed by using scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and found it has a heterogeneous structure.

Figure S6. SEM image of copper on hydroxyapatite.

Furthermore, the elemental analysis by energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS) of Cu NPs@HAP was also performed in different selected zones of the catalyst surface which confirmed the presence of elemental Ca, Cu, P, and O. From the analysis, the Ca/P was found to be in 1:1.7 ratio.

Figure S7. SEM- EDX mapping image of oxygen, phosphorus, calcium, and copper.

5.6. Structural studies:

The infrared (IR) technique is applied to confirm the surface's variation further.¹⁸ The IR band observed at ~1038 cm⁻¹ is due to the asymmetric stretching vibrations of P-O bond of PO₄. The peak at 3551 cm⁻¹ corresponds to the OH group's stretching vibration present in the HAP structure. The peak at 1385 cm⁻¹ appears due to the $CO₃²$ species in hydroxyapatite. The broad peak appeared at 3100-3300 cm−1 and the peak at 1647 cm−1 represents the bending and stretching bands of H_2O molecules present in the material.¹⁹ The disappearance of the H_2O peaks in the catalyst may be due to the loss of water molecules at high temperatures. Raman spectra of the catalyst is in full agreement with the IR data of the catalyst. The Raman spectrum of Cu NPs@HAP catalyst shows peaks at 1030, 1039, and 1066 cm-1 are identifying the asymmetric stretching mode(v3) of the PO_4 group (O-P-O bond). The sharp intense peak at 957 cm⁻¹ represents the symmetric stretching mode(v1) of the PO₄ group (P–O bond). Due to the bending mode of the PO₄ group (O–P–O bond), the peaks at 588 and 602 cm⁻¹(v 4) and 424 cm⁻¹ (v2) appeared.¹⁹

Figure S8. a) XRD spectra of the material analysed at room temperature using a Malvern P ananlytical [diffractometer](https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/earth-and-planetary-sciences/diffractometers) with Cu K*α* radiation source (λ = 1.5406 Å), operated at 45 kV and 40 mA. b) Raman spectra of Cu NPs@HAP c) FTIR spectra of the HAP and Cu NPs@HAP spectra recorded at 25 °C.

5.7. Elemental analysis:

Figure S9. Surface chemical composition was measured through XPS (**a**) Full XPS spectra measured for Cu NPs@HAP b) P 2p, c) O 1s d) Ca 2p, d) Cu 2p

6. Qualitative detection of hydrogen

Benzyl alcohol (0.5 mmol), and Cu NPs@HAP (25mg) were added to an oven-dried reaction vessel containing a magnetic bar. To this, 2.0 mL of toluene was added. The reaction mixture was purged with argon and closed using a septum. The reaction was stirred in a preheated heating block. After 2 hrs, the gas collected using a syringe was subjected to GC analysis, and the retention time matched with a sample collected from a hydrogen cylinder of 99.9% purity.

Figure S10. GC Spectrum for evolved gas (TCD mode).

7. Recyclability test of the catalyst.

Figure S12. Recyclability test of the catalyst.

The catalyst has been tested for further cycles. It was found that the activity of the catalyst was slowly decreasing may be due to the agglomeration of the nanoparticle.

9. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra

200.0 190.0 180.0 170.0 160.0 150.0 140.0 130.0 120.0 110.0 100.0 90.0 80.0 70.0 60.0 50.0 40.0 30.0 20.0 10.0 X: parts per Million : Carbon13 -10.0 $\frac{1}{10}$

(* moisture, # hexane)

Reference

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