



A Nano Catalyst of CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈ as a Novel Material

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ABSTRACT

In this work the properties of CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈ have been illustrated as a novel catalyst to compare with well-known catalyst "Fe₃O₄@Silica". It has been shown that CoFe₂O₄ magnetite particle can be used as an important catalyst inside the B₁₈N₁₈ ring. In our previous papers amazing results about the B_nN_n properties have been calculated, exhibited (Struct. Chem., 23, 551-580, (2012); J. Phys. Chem A, 117, 1670-1684, (2013); J. Phys. Chem. C, 114, 15315, (2010) and discussed. In the present work it has been shown there is a non-covalent attraction between CoFe₂O₄ and B₁₈N₁₈ coated molecules. In the system of CoFe₂O₄@B₁₈N₁₈ catalyst, the magnetic nanoparticles (MNPs) as a core part causes an important change in the electronic structure of B₁₈N₁₈ as a shell which some compounds are specific-sensitive functional groups for this system such as OH, CHO, NH₂ and were subjected to some organic reactions. The physical-chemistry properties such as energy densities, potential energy densities, electron densities, ELF, LOL, eta index, ellipticity of electron density and ECP for CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈ shell have been calculated and simulated in related reactions for those groups-functionalized. Our calculation indicates that the B₁₈N₁₈ is much better surfaces for CoFe₂O₄ rather than silica surfaces.

Keywords: CoFe₂O₄, Nano-Particles, electron density, B₁₈N₁₈ nano-ring, Silica, SiO₂

INTRODUCTION

CoFe₂O₄ as the Cobalt ferrite crystallizes in a partially inverse spinel position represented as (Co_{2x}⁺⁺Fe_{3+ 1-x})(Co²⁺ 1-xFe³⁺ 1+x)O₄ where x based on thermal¹ condition. It is ferri-magnetic with a T_c approximately 520 degree and exhibits a relatively magnetic hysteresis which distinguishes it from the other of the spinel ferrites^{2,3}. Magnetic measurements on nano-particles of cobalt ferrite dispersed in various

solvents of organic compounds and nano-crystalline² powders prepared by hydroxide precipitation^{3,5} have been investigated earlier. In magnetic fluids³, it has been seen that for particles above three nanometer the saturation^{3,4} magnetization remains constant at about 30 emu g⁻¹ that is extensively less than the bulk⁵ values.

Magnetic nanoparticles (MNPs) have shown exceptional potential for several biological

and clinical applications^{4, 5}. However, MNPs might be coated by the biocompatible shells for such applications. The aim of this study is to understand if and how the surfaces charges and coatings can affect the magnetic and electronic properties of Cobalt ferrite crystallizes. The role of the surfaces on the magnetic moments of a magnetic nano particle such as CoFe₂O₄ is an important issue, and various effects can contribute for making it deviate from the bulk value, including the charges, the nature of the coating, and also the synthetic technique. The electronic properties and ionic distribution of CoFe₂O₄ NPs were probed by X-ray²⁻⁴ absorption spectroscopies X-ray-magnetic-circular-dichroism and X-ray-photoemission-spectroscopy-techniques known as the abbreviation XAC, XMCD and XPS respectively. Magnetite-particles¹⁻⁵ is also of interests in medicinal and industries application such as magnetic-resonance-imaging or {MRI}, organic catalyst and nanomaterial synthesise⁶⁻⁸.

The overall magnetic behavior and the hyper-thermic properties were evaluated by magnetometers and molecular modeling measurements, respectively^{7,8}. The results show that all of the investigated CoFe₂O₄ NPs have high magnetic anisotropy^{6,9} energies, and the surfaces charges and coating do not influence appreciably their electronic and magnetic properties. In addition, the citrate shell improves the stability of the NPs in aqueous environment, making CoFe₂O₄ NPs suitable for biomedical applications. Magnetic nanoparticle exhibits several unique properties such as super-para-magnetism compared to bulk^{9,6} material and particularly, are used in the field of biology⁷⁻⁹ and medicines. Magnetic nanoparticle has attracted a great deal of research interests due to their distinctive properties and special application recently.

CoFe₂O₄, is a well-known hard magnetic material with very high cubic magneto-crystalline anisotropy, high coercivity, and moderate saturation magnetization. These properties make it a promising material for high-density magnetic recording.

CoFe₂O₄ nanoparticles have been widely synthesized using several ways, same as sol-gel^{9,10}, micro-emulsion^{11,12}, chemical coprecipitation^{11,12}, hydrothermal synthesis and microwave¹¹⁻¹³ synthesis¹⁴. Among those methods, the sol-

gel^{9,10} routes are very attractive, within the main advantages including simple control for chemical composition¹¹. Recently, in the sol-gel^{9,10} synthesis of CoFe₂O₄ particles, the gels are built-up via physical and chemical binds between the chemical species¹¹⁻¹⁴. It has been introduced a different sol-gel^{9,10} routes @ polyacrylamide gel route for preparing CoFe₂O₄ nanoparticle. Due to lack of controls over the specific transformation of a nanoparticle, obviously super-paramagnetic particle has not been prepared from magnetite, i.e. Magnetite-nano-particle which generally loses their permanent magnetic properties in the lake of the external magnetic field⁶⁻¹⁴.

The most applications require at least a magnetic-particle for dispersing in the non-magnetic matrixes. This matrix plays an important role for providing the meaning of particle dispersion for determining a physical property of a composite^{10, 14}.

The other important items of these matrixes are to act as a protection for magnetic nano-particles against oxidation or corrosion especially^{13,14} in the metallic nano-particles¹⁵⁻¹⁷. Among oxide matrixes¹⁵ such as alumina, silica¹⁶, zeolites, titanic oxides, carbon-based, the silica¹⁶ can be a general suitable materials for the matrixes because of inertness of the magnetic fields, its non-toxicity and easiness for forming cross lined networks structure¹⁴⁻¹⁷. Silica shells chemically is stable and can be rapidly functionalized in the bio-conjugation purposes, in other words is biocompatible therefore CoFe₂O₄ @SiO₂ as a silica coated magnetite composite nanoparticles have been synthesized by several groups¹⁸⁻²⁰.

Recently, silica coated magnetite functionalized by γ mercaptopropyl-tri-methoxysilane has been successfully used for extracting Pb²⁺, Cd²⁺, Na⁺, K⁺, Mg²⁺, Hg²⁺, and Cu²⁺ in the wide pH ranges from water¹⁵⁻²⁰. The complex of metal- CoFe₂O₄ @ SiO₂-NH₂ nanoparticles¹⁻⁴ could be recovered easily from aqueous through magnetic separation and reproduce readily by acid treatment. By this work it has been exhibited the amino-functionalized CoFe₂O₄ @ B₁₈N₁₈ magnetic nanoparticles compare to CoFe₂O₄ @ SiO₂ is much more effective as recyclable adsorbent for the removal of heavy and alkali/earth metal ions in water and wastewater treatments.

Catalysts has a very sensitive treatment in technology and modern sciences as they increase reaction yield via reducing the temperature in synthesis of the chemical product^{21,22}. There are two basic types of catalysis, (1); "heterogeneous²²⁻²³, where the reaction accomplishes on the surfaces and the catalysts are in the solid phase. (2) "homogeneous²³, where the catalyst is in one phase as reactant²¹.

The heterogeneous²² catalyst might be easily separated from the mixed solvent but because of their limited area of surfaces the reaction rate is restricted²². Meanwhile homogeneous²³ catalyst might react fast for providing a good rate (conversion rate) for the catalyst, but as they are solvable in the medium reaction, it might be a laboring processing for removing them of the reaction environment²³. The problem in removing homogenous²³, catalysts from the reaction environment leads to problem of maintain the catalyzer for repeating²⁴. The bridge between heterogeneous²² and homogeneous²³ catalysts can be attained through the CoFe₂O₄ nanoparticle²⁵. CoFe₂O₄ exclusively is useful and important as the magnetic nano-particle which exhibit strong magnetic-moment and are seldom sustained outside of an external magnetic field²⁵. These kinds of nano-particle might be consist of several materials such as nickel, cobalt, iron oxides, ferrites^{26,27} and also alloys such as platinum/iron²⁶. CoFe₂O₄ MNPs of silica shells catalytic materials have the benefit for increasing surface area which causes for any increased reaction rate²⁸. Moreover, nanoparticle might permit additional catalytic functionality because of their unique properties²⁹. Several catalysis of magnetic nano-structure has been investigated up to now³⁰⁻³², such as preparation of nano-composite materials consist of magnetic-(core) nano-particle which has been coated by various shells of other catalytically³⁰ active nano-material³².

Other type of catalysts that are interest for organic compounds involves the using of organic molecules which are enabling for preservation the materials in the end of any reactions for reuse³¹⁻³². In this work we have investigated the catalysis's properties of CoFe₂O₄ nanoparticles @ B₁₈N₁₈ instead of SiO₂ for comparing in the area of chemical synthesizes.

Recently extensive theoretical and experimental studies have been accomplished on boron-nitride-fullerenes for understanding their relative stabilities and also size dependence of important physical properties³³⁻³⁵. (BN)_n are iso-electronic with carbon species, making them the goal of various research area and enhanced³⁴ by this fact which B-N compounds have a stable crystalline phase near to graphite³⁶⁻³⁸. Electronic properties of different B_nN_n rings and cages have been investigated theoretically³⁹⁻⁴⁵. Despite those experimental and theoretical works, the structural synthesized of B_nN_n rings and cages are still unknown.

Boron nitrides exist in several crystalline forms, such as hexagonal and cubic shapes. Due to the closely structures between C-C and B-N units, large efforts have been done recently to "BN" fullerenes, which has excellent properties like structural stability, heat resistance and insulation^{46,47}. As the thermodynamic mechanism of BN growth (from nuclei) is still not well known for those nanotubes, a comprehensive theoretical simulation continue to attract enhanced attention⁴⁸. Although those nanotubes are found to be non-chiral or chiral; however, most interests in the zigzag and armchair investigation are much less known about the chirality area of hexagonal boron nitride⁴⁹.

In our previous works⁵⁰⁻⁶⁹, it has been exhibited the BN stabilities, NMR data, electronic properties, chemical phenomenon and the mechanism of tubes generating for the various structures of BN especially for the SWBNNT via a multi-walled nanotube including chirality *m*, *n* (with *n* = 3-4 and *m*=5-7). The diagram generation for nano-ring of the B_nN_n (*n* = 15, 16, 18 and 20) are shown in the references of⁵²⁻⁵⁴. In addition, we reported a unique stable structures⁵²⁻⁵⁴ with combinations of five and six loops same as a quasi B₃N₃H₆ shape for B₁₅N₁₅ and B₁₈N₁₈, respectively. Those kinds of shapes have significant properties in the nano studies of CoFe₂O₄ @ B₁₈N₁₈ particles. The suitable stability and reasonable aromaticity of those structures have been confirmed by thermodynamic data, frequency optimization and NQR⁵²⁻⁵⁴.

Hyperfine parameter and spin density, electrical potentials, electromagnetic properties and

isotropic-fermi-coupling-constant⁵²⁻⁵⁵ indicate the stability of those rings through using non-bonded interaction model between CoFe₂O₄ & B₁₈N₁₈. A novel amino functionalized CCoFe₂O₄ & B₁₈N₁₈ magnetic nano-material with the core-shell structures has been developed, for removing heavy metal ions from the aqueous media. The elasticity of electron density, electrical properties same as electron and energy densities, kinetic and potential energies of densities, ELF or LOL, eta index and ECP for CoFe₂O₄-B₁₈N₁₈ core-shell systems have been calculated and simulated in related reactions for Amino-functionalized CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈ core-shell magnetic. The amino-functionalized CoFe₂O₄ & B₁₈N₁₈ nano-adsorbent exhibited high adsorption affinities for aqueous Fe (iii), Pb (ii), Ni (ii), Cu (ii) and Zn (ii) ions, resulting from complexation by surface amino groups.

BACKGROUND & METHODOLOGY

Magnetic particles are suitable for aqueous transition and heavy metals due to their unique advantages of quick separation and their high surface area under external magnetic fields⁶⁸⁻⁷¹. The surface modification, adsorption affinity, including covalent binding and physical coating, has often been explored⁷⁰⁻⁷⁵ for enabling specific complexation for further facilitates⁷²⁻⁷⁶.

Recently it has been exhibited which the amino-functionalized molecules demonstrated outstanding abilities for removing a wide variety of transition heavy metal ions⁷⁷⁻⁷⁹. Both B₁₈N₁₈ & SiO₂ are stable under acidic conditions, as compared with some other materials and functions for protecting the inner magnetite core⁸⁰⁻⁸².

Although CoFe₂O₄@SiO₂ has recently been investigated for potential biomedical applications⁸², there is no work about the CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈.

In this study with the theoretical approaches magnetic nano adsorbent has been developed via covalently grafting amino groups over the surfaces of CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈ nanoparticles. Part of the systems including CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈ nanoparticles has been simulated with QM/MM methods and the investigation carried out by the Monte Carlo calculations. In this study, various force fields are done via "Amber" and OPLS for comparing the calculated energy of the CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈ nanoparticles. Furthermore, a Hyper-Chem professional release-7.01 program is used for any further calculations.

For the non-covalent forces of B₁₈N₁₈ and CoFe₂O₄, the B3LYP & BLYP methods are unsuitable for describing van der Waals^{83, 84} through medium-range interaction⁸⁴. Therefore, the ONIOM* methods with three levels of tight (H), medium Hamiltonian (M), and low (L) calculations have been accomplished in these studies to estimate the non-bonded interaction between B₁₈N₁₈ and CoFe₂O₄.

The density functional method is used for the high level while the semi-empirical (pm₆) with pseudo=Lan₂ and Pm₃MM for both of them respectively. Some accurate studies have indicated that in-accuracy of the low range exchange energies goes to the large systematic errors for the prediction of molecular properties⁸⁵⁻⁸⁸.

Geometries optimization and electronic calculations have been accomplished using the m06 functional of DFT. These approaches are based

Table 1: All Electron Densities of non-bonded interactions for CoFe₂O₄@Silica shell^(a), CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈ shell^(b) and CoFe₂O₄ (isolate)^(c)

| Atoms of CoFe ₂ O ₄ | Density of all electron(10 ⁻³) | | | Density of alpha ((10 ⁻³)) | | | Density of Beta ((10 ⁻³)) | | | Spin Density | | |
|---|--|------|------|--|------|------|---------------------------------------|------|------|--------------|-----|-----|
| | (a) | (c) | (b) | (a) | (c) | (b) | (a) | (c) | (b) | (a) | (c) | (b) |
| Co(1) | 0.30 | 0.12 | 0.36 | 0.15 | 0.06 | 0.18 | 0.15 | 0.06 | 0.18 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Fe(2) | 0.28 | 0.10 | 0.34 | 0.14 | 0.05 | 0.17 | 0.14 | 0.05 | 0.17 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Fe(3) | 0.14 | 0.12 | 0.32 | 0.07 | 0.06 | 0.16 | 0.07 | 0.06 | 0.16 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| O(1) | 0.32 | 0.16 | 0.14 | 0.16 | 0.08 | 0.07 | 0.16 | 0.08 | 0.07 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| O(2) | 0.18 | 0.12 | 0.24 | 0.09 | 0.06 | 0.12 | 0.09 | 0.06 | 0.12 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| O(3) | 0.30 | 0.18 | 0.12 | 0.15 | 0.09 | 0.06 | 0.15 | 0.09 | 0.06 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| O(4) | 0.12 | 0.18 | 0.22 | 0.06 | 0.09 | 0.11 | 0.06 | 0.09 | 0.11 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

on solution of the Kohn & Sham equation⁸⁹ in the plane-waves sets with projector-augmented-pseudo-potentials⁹⁰. The Perdew & Burke & Ernzerhof PBE⁹⁰ exchange-correlation and generalized-gradient-approximation GGA⁹⁰ are also used for non-bonding calculation.

The charge transferring and electrostatics potentials derived charges were also estimated using the Merz & Kollman & Singh⁹¹, chelpG⁹² or chelp⁹³. The charges calculation methods based on MESP or molecular-electrostatics-potentials fitting are not well suited for the larger systems whereas several of the inner-most points are located far away from the centers at which the MESP⁹³ are computed. In that position, variation of the inner-most atomic charges would not be towards the changing of the MESP⁹¹ outside of the molecules.

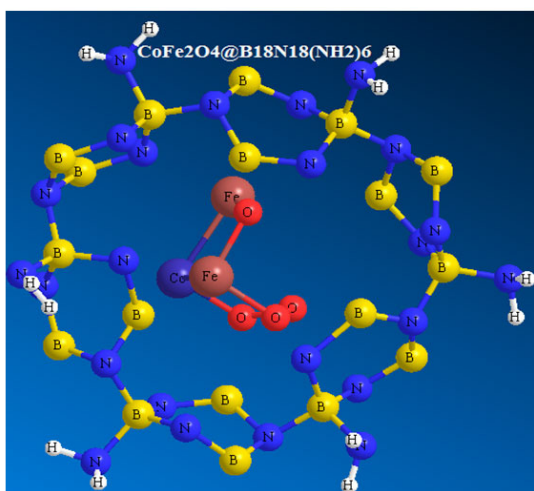


Fig. 1: the non-bonded interaction between CoFe₂O₄ and B₁₈N₁₈ shell

The charge-density profiles of this study have been estimated from the first principle calculation through an averaging process as described in the references⁹⁰⁻⁹⁵. The interaction energies or adsorbents energies between metals and CoFe₂O₄@B₁₈N₁₈ catalyst were done according to the equation as follows:

$$\Delta E_s(\text{eV}) = \{E_c - (\sum_{i=1}^n (\text{metal} - \text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4 - \text{B18N18} - \text{NH}_2)_i + \sum_{j=1}^m (\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4)_j + \sum_{v=1}^q \text{B18N18})_v + \sum_{k=1}^p \text{metal} - \text{ion})_k\} + E_{\text{BSSE}} \dots (1)$$

That is the adsorbents energies.

The electron-localization-function or ELF⁹⁶⁻⁹⁸, localized-orbital-locator or LOL⁹⁶⁻⁹⁸, electron density of the Gradient-norm & Laplacian, values of orbitals wave- functions, electron spin densities, electrostatic-potentials from nuclear-atomic-charges,

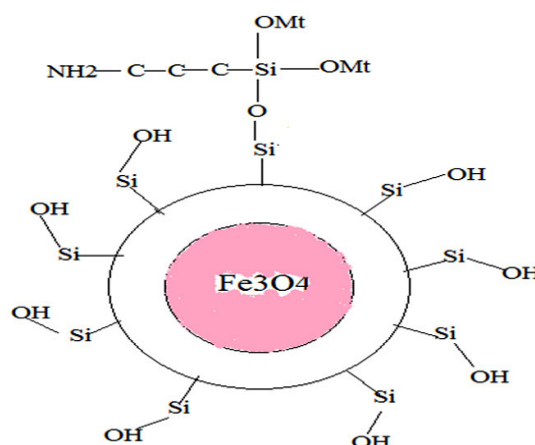


Fig. 2: the non-bonded interaction between Fe₃O₄ and silica shell for binding to 3-aminopropyltrimethoxysilane (APTMS)

Table 2: All Electron Energies of non-bonded interactions for CoFe₂O₄@Silica shell^(a), CoFe₂O₄@B₁₈N₁₈ shell^(b) and CoFe₂O₄ (isolate)^(c)

| Atoms of CoFe ₂ O ₄ | Lagrangian kinetic [G(r)]energy(10 ⁻³) | | | Hamiltonian kinetic [K(r)]energy(10 ⁻²) | | | Potential energy Density [U(r)](10 ⁻²) | | |
|---|--|------|------|---|-------|-------|--|-------|-------|
| | (a) | (c) | (b) | (a) | (c) | (b) | (a) | (c) | (b) |
| Co(1) | 0.32 | 0.14 | 0.30 | 0.60 | 0.58 | 0.54 | -0.68 | -0.52 | -0.78 |
| Fe(2) | 0.33 | 0.12 | 0.31 | 0.62 | 0.66 | 0.62 | -0.65 | -0.64 | -0.63 |
| Fe(3) | 0.23 | 0.16 | 0.30 | 0.38 | 0.72 | 0.68 | -0.34 | -0.37 | -0.58 |
| O(1) | 0.28 | 0.21 | 0.14 | -0.32 | -0.5 | -0.43 | -0.24 | -0.59 | -0.50 |
| O(2) | 0.24 | 0.15 | 0.26 | -0.14 | -0.40 | -0.46 | -0.86 | -0.68 | -0.54 |
| O(3) | 0.16 | 0.15 | 0.18 | -0.44 | -0.39 | -0.44 | -0.33 | -0.63 | -0.55 |
| O(4) | 0.24 | 0.16 | 0.18 | -0.14 | -0.42 | -0.42 | -0.85 | -0.63 | -0.51 |

the exchange-correlation density, as well as total electrostatic potentials ESP), correlation-holes and correlation-factors, and the average local ionization energies using the Multi-functional-Wave-

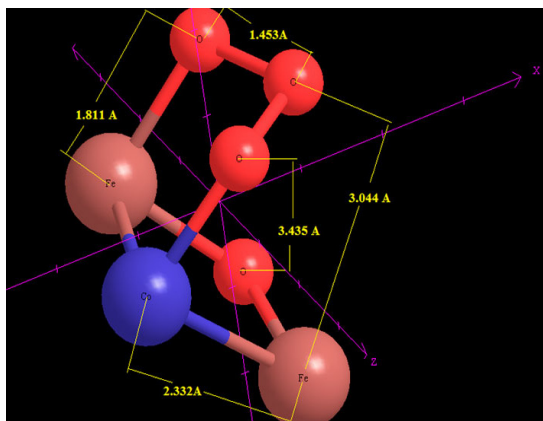


Fig. 3: the optimized of CoFe2o4 in B₁₈N₁₈ shell

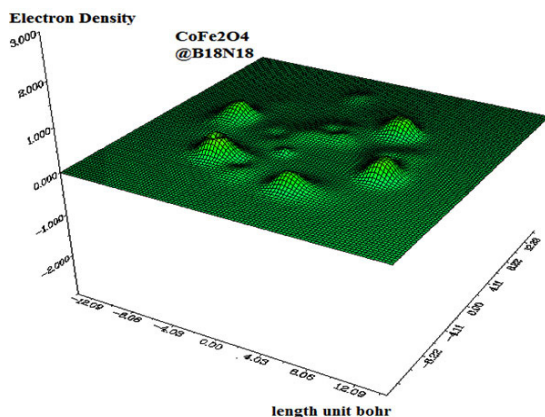


Fig.4: Shaded surface map for electron density of CoFe2o4-B₁₈N₁₈ shell

Table 3: Laplacian, ELF, LOL and Local information entropy of non-bonded interactions for CoFe2o4@Silica shell ^(a), CoFe2o4@B₁₈N₁₈ shell ^(b) and CoFe2o4 (isolate)^c

| Atoms of CoFe2o4 | Laplacian of electron density(10 ⁻¹) | | | Electron localization function (ELF) (10 ⁻¹) | | | Localized orbital locator (LOL) | | | Local information entropy(10 ⁻⁴) | | |
|------------------|--|-------|-------|--|------|-------|---------------------------------|------|------|--|------|------|
| | (a) | (c) | (b) | (a) | (c) | (b) | (a) | (c) | (b) | (a) | (c) | (b) |
| Co(1) | -0.20 | -0.26 | -0.22 | 0.41 | 0.46 | 0.65 | 0.14 | 0.22 | 0.13 | 0.14 | 0.15 | 0.25 |
| Fe(2) | -0.25 | -0.24 | -0.24 | 0.41 | 0.48 | 0.66 | 0.12 | 0.24 | 0.14 | 0.20 | 0.34 | 0.25 |
| Fe(3) | -0.13 | -0.27 | -0.26 | 0.13 | 0.25 | 0.61 | 0.63 | 0.12 | 0.17 | 0.4 | 0.16 | 0.18 |
| O(1) | 0.79 | -0.67 | -0.55 | 0.13 | 0.17 | 0.25 | 0.32 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.13 | 0.12 | 0.10 |
| O(2) | 0.18 | 0.25 | 0.30 | 0.13 | 0.16 | 0.2 2 | 0.10 | 0.15 | 0.25 | 0.23 | 0.32 | 0.30 |
| O(3) | 0.84 | 0.14 | 0.25 | 0.16 | 0.15 | 0.26 | 0.31 | 0.12 | 0.25 | 0.32 | 0.20 | 0.31 |
| O(4) | 0.23 | 0.24 | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.13 | 0.29 | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.21 | 0.32 | 0.24 | 0.14 |

function analyzer have also been calculated in this study⁹⁶⁻⁹⁸.

Density electron approach for interaction between MNPs and B₁₈N₁₈

The kinetic energies densities are not defined individually, since the expected values of the operators: $\langle \varphi | -(\frac{1}{2})\nabla^2 \varphi \rangle \dots(2)$ can be estimated by integrating kinetic energy densities from those alternatives definitions. One of the usual used definitions is as follows: $k(r) = -1/2 \sum_i \eta_i \varphi_i^*(r) \Delta^2 \varphi_i(r) \dots (3)$, the local kinetic energies given below guarantee⁹⁶⁻⁹⁸ hence the physical data are more commonly used. The Lagrangian of kinetic energies densities, $G(r)$ ⁹⁷ are also known as positive definite kinetic energy densities.

$G(r) = 1/2 \sum_i \eta_i |\nabla(\varphi_i)|^2 = 1/2 \sum_i \eta_i \{ [\partial \varphi_i(r) / \partial(x)^2 + \partial \varphi_i(r) / \partial(y)^2 + \partial \varphi_i(r) / \partial(z)^2] \dots(4)$ $K(r)$ and $G(r)$ are directly related by Laplacian of electron density $\frac{1}{4} \nabla^2 \rho(r) = G(r) - K(r)$

The electrostatic potential from nuclear/atomic charges can be calculated via: $V_{nuc}(r) = \sum_A Z_A / |r - R_A|$ where R_A and Z_A denote position vector and nuclear charge of atom A, respectively.

Becke and Edgecombe have noted that spherically averaged like-spin conditional pair probability have correlation with the Fermi hole and it has been suggested which the electron localization function (ELF)⁹⁸. $ELF(r) = 1 / 1 + [D(r) / D_{0(r)}]^2 \dots(5)$ where $D(r) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \eta_i |\nabla \varphi_i|^2 - \frac{1}{8} [\frac{|\nabla \rho|^2}{\rho(r)}]$ and $D_{0(r)} = 3/10 (6\pi^2)^{2/3} [\rho\alpha(r)^{5/3} + \rho\beta(r)^{5/3}] \dots(6)$ for close-shell system, since $\rho\alpha(r) = \rho\beta(r) = 1/2\rho$, D and $D0$ terms

can be simplified as $D(r) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \eta_i |\nabla \varphi_i|^2 - \frac{1}{8} \left[\frac{|\nabla \rho|^2}{\rho(r)} \right]$, $D_{0(r)} = 3/10(3\pi^2)^{2/3} \rho(r)^{5/3}$.

In which the kinetic energies terms in $D(r)$ is replaced by Kirzhnits types second-order gradients expansion, which are $1/2 \sum_i \eta_i |\nabla \varphi_i|^2 \approx D_0(r) + 1/72 |\nabla \rho|^2 / \rho(r) + 1/6 \nabla^2 \rho(r) \dots$ (7) so that ELF is totally independent from the wave-function, and then can be used for analyzing electron densities from X-ray diffraction data.

Localized orbital locator or LOL^{98,99} is another item for locating high localization regions likewise ELF, which explained by Schmider & Becke⁹⁹. $LOL(r) = \tau(r) / (1 + \tau(r))$, where $\tau(r) = D_0(r) / (1/2 \sum_i \eta_i |\nabla \varphi_i|^2) \dots$ (8) $D_0(r)$ for spin-polarized system and close-shell system are defined in the same way as in ELF⁹⁸. LOL have similar approaches compared to ELF.

Notice that evaluating ESP is much more time-consuming than evaluating other functions. The ESP evaluated under default value is accurate enough in general cases. Reduced density gradient (RDG) RDG are a pair of very important functions for revealing weak interaction region⁹⁶⁻⁹⁸ for detail. RDG is defined as $RDG(r) = 1/2(3\pi^2)^{1/3} |\nabla \rho(r)| / \rho(r)^{4/3} \dots$ (9)⁹⁶⁻⁹⁸. Fortunately, it is found that weak interaction analysis under pro-molecular density is still reasonable. Pro-molecular density is simply constructed by superposing electron densities of free-state atoms and hence can be evaluated extremely rapidly. Where is pre-

fitted spherically averaged electrons densities of atom A.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This work basically focuses on the magnetic properties of CoFe₂O₄ in the non-bonded systems with B₁₈N₁₈ surfaces including "CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈". The CoFe₂O₄@B₁₈N₁₈ nano-adsorbent shown high adsorption affinities for aqueous Na⁺, K⁺, Mg²⁺, and the amino- CoFe₂O₄@SiO₂ exhibited high adsorbent for Fe (iii), Pb (ii), Ni (ii), Cu (ii) and Zn (ii) ions, resulting from complexation of the metals ion with the surface amino groups. The metal loaded CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈ nanoparticles could be recovered easily from aqueous solution by magnetic separation. The data have shown in ten figures and eight tables. As it is indicated in table1, LOL is low and constant for Both CoFe₂O₄@silica, CoFe₂O₄@B₁₈N₁₈ and CoFe₂O₄@ B₁₈N₁₈. ELF has a similar expression as LOL.

The non-bonded interactions are shown in figs1-3. As it is indicated in tables 1-4, the electrical properties can be obtained from changes in the non-bonded interactions. Potential energy densities, ELF, LOL, electron densities, energy densities, eta index and ECP are shown in tables1-4. The results of ELF and LOL indicate that the surfaces of silica and B18N18 are suitable to attach in aromatic and organic compounds in any scale from nano to micro or medium.

As it is shown in Figs.5-9, there are clear curves within a decreasing amount for electron

Table 4: Average local ionization energy and RDG of non-bonded interactions for CoFe₂O₄@Silica shell^(a), CoFe₂O₄@B₁₈N₁₈ shell^(b) and CoFe₂O₄ (isolate)^(c)

| Atoms of CoFe ₂ O ₄ | Reduced density gradient (RDG)(10 ⁻¹) | | | Average local ionization energy | | |
|---|---|-----|-----|---------------------------------|-----|-----|
| | (a) | (c) | (b) | (a) | (c) | (b) |
| Co(1) | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| Fe(2) | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Fe(3) | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| O(1) | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 |
| O(2) | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.4 |
| O(3) | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| O(4) | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 |

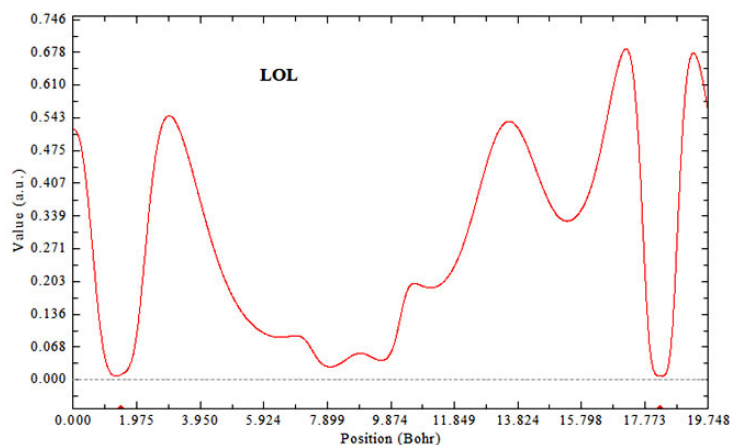


Fig. 5: LOL versus Position for $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4 @ \text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$

density, energy density, ELF and LOL. The interaction energy between two sides of CoFe_2O_4 -silica and CoFe_2O_4 - $\text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ are also calculated. The potential energy difference between the two parts, are depicted in table 2.

It has been exhibited the BN compounds such as $\text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ and amino-functionalized materials presented an ability for removing a wide range of earth/alkali. In contrast, the most usual used magnetic sorbents are based on iron oxide and unfortunately thus susceptible to leaching under acidic conditions. This problem will be removed by replacing the $\text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ instead of SiO_2 as a shell of CoFe_2O_4 . In addition, functional groups on the coating layer chemically adhering to the MNPs are also assailable to acid treatment. In contrast of SiO_2 rings which is stable under acidic conditions the $\text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ rings are independent from acidic situations and hence for $\text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ comparing to SiO_2 , the functions are not needed as an ideal shell composite to protect the inner magnetite core. Although $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4 @ \text{SiO}_2$ or silica-coated core-shell magnetite nanoparticles have recently been investigated for potential biomedical applications, by this work we exhibit the

$\text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ is much useful for removing the earth/alkali metal from the aqueous solution.

Relative adsorption energies of four alkali and alkali/metal ions on $\text{CoFe}_2\text{O}_4 @ \text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ have been investigated. The adsorption data for Cu, Pb, Cd and so on were fitted to the Langmuir model according to the equation: $q_e = q_m c_e / (1 + c_e b)$ where C_e (mmol/L) and q_e (mmol/g) are the aqueous concentration and the adsorbed concentration at equilibrium adsorption, and, b and q_m are the coefficient of affinity and the adsorption capacity respectively¹⁰¹.

CONCLUSION

We think that $\text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ capabilities of magnetic substrates should be explored in the near future. Another interesting development is using the $\text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ on magnetic-nanoparticle enables effective removal of alkali-earth/alkali metals based on catalysts from important pharmaceutical products in the drug nanotechnology. Our calculations indicate that the $\text{B}_{18}\text{N}_{18}$ are suitable surfaces for CoFe_2O_4 such as silica surfaces for removal of metal ions such as Na^+ , Mg^{++} , K^+ and Ca^{++} .

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