UNICVERSITY
OF OSTRAVA

VŠB TECHNICKÁ

|||| UNIVERZITA
OSTRAVA

VSB TECHNICAL

| | UNIVERSITY
OF OSTRAVA





# **University Journal Club**Materials-Envi Lab

Radek Zbořil



## Who We Are



VSB TUO | CEET | NANOTE | CENTRE



#### ca 50 scientists from 12 countries

(Japan, Germany, Italy, India, Greece, Ukraine, Iran, Vietnam, China, Poland)

### Teams composed of experts from prestigious institutions:

e.g. Max Planck Institute, Leibniz Institute, Karolinska Institutet, University of Tokyo, University of Trieste, University of Regensburg

- ☐ Over 700 publications; over 80 000 citations, h-index 132
- ☐ TO5 5 world scientists in water treatment Google Scholar
- ☐ Highly Cited Researcher by Clarivate Analytics (US) TOP 1%
- ☐ The most cited CZ materials scientist 2022-2025 research.com
- ☐ Czech Republic's Minister of Education Award (2011).
- ☐ the Werner von Siemens Award (2018)
- ☐ Visionary 2021 Award (2x) for Advanced Environmental Solutions
- ☐ the Czech Chemical Society Award (2023)
- **☐** Member of European Research Council (ERC) Evaluation Panels (2022-2025)
- ☐ Member of editorial boards of journals published by Nature fam., Wiley, Elsevier
- ☐ Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water (PSIPW) 2024



Scientific Director of
Nanotechnology Centre, Centre
for Energy and Environmental
Technologies – CEET, VSB-TUO

Head of Materials-Envi Lab (established in 2021)









# Who We Are

#### **Excellent Senior Researchers**



**Dr. A. Bakandritsos** H=47

4x PI/co-PI in Horizon Europe/Widera PI of MERGE project at VSB-TUO e.g. Nat. Nanotech..



Prof. Klaus Mullen
H=209
TOP 10 World
Chemists
20 years Max-Planck
Mainz Director
e.g. 10 Science and
Nature papers



**Assoc. Prof. Štěpán Kment** H=45

PI of Horizon Europe Project Sun4Fuel e.g. Nature Catal.



Assoc. Prof. Jagadeesh Rajenahally H= 35

Leibniz Institute for Catalysis 3x Science 10x Nature family



**Dr. Yazhou Zhou** H=31

Moved from Max Planck Institute Mainz



**Dr. Indrajit Ghosh** H=33

Moved from Uni Regensburg 2x Science, 2xNature

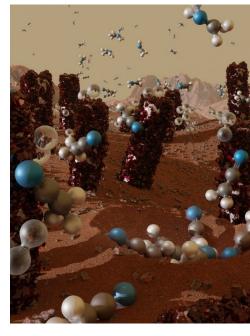


# Research Focus – Chemistry/Catalysis

# **New Concepts in Organic Synthesis**

- Substitution of expensive noble metals with CuFeS<sub>2</sub>
- No need for high pressures and temperatures
- Superior TOF values for a broad scale of substrates = new way for production of anilines from nitro-compounds





### Novel Heterogeneous Nanocatalysts

- ➤ The first heterogeneous iron-based catalyst for hydrogenation of nitro-compounds to amines
- Superior yields and selectivities compared to homogeneous catalysts; simple catalyst recovery

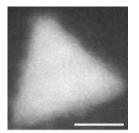
nature ARTICLES https://doi.org/10.1038/s41565-022-01087-3

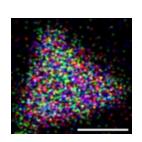
#### **OPEN**

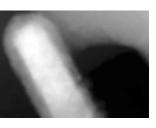
Fast and selective reduction of nitroarenes under visible light with an earth-abundant plasmonic photocatalyst

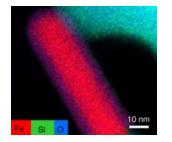
Aby Cheruvathoor Poulose <sup>1,∞</sup>, Giorgio Zoppellaro <sup>1,0</sup>, Ioannis Konidakis <sup>1,0</sup>, Efthymis Serpetzoglou², Emmanuel Stratakis <sup>1,0</sup>, Ondřej Tomanec <sup>1,0</sup>, Matthias Beller <sup>1,0</sup>, Aristides Bakandritsos <sup>1,4,∞</sup> and Radek Zbořil <sup>1,4,∞</sup>

Nature Nanotechnology, 17, 485, 2022.













#### OPEN

Silica-supported Fe/Fe-O nanoparticles for the catalytic hydrogenation of nitriles to amines in the presence of aluminium additives

Vishwas G. Chandrashekhar <sup>3</sup>, Thirusangumurugan Senthamarai¹, Ravishankar G. Kadam <sup>3</sup>, Ondřej Malina², Josef Kašlík <sup>3</sup>, Radek Zbořil <sup>3</sup>, Manoj B. Gawande <sup>3</sup>, Rajenahally V. Jagadeesh <sup>3</sup> and Matthias Beller <sup>3</sup>

Nature Catalysis 5, 20, 2022.



# Research Focus – Energy Harvesting/Storage

# PHOTO/ELECTRO-CATALYTIC HYDROGEN PRODUCTION

### Nano-Micro Letters

e-ISSN 2150-5551 CN 31-2103/TB

REVIEW

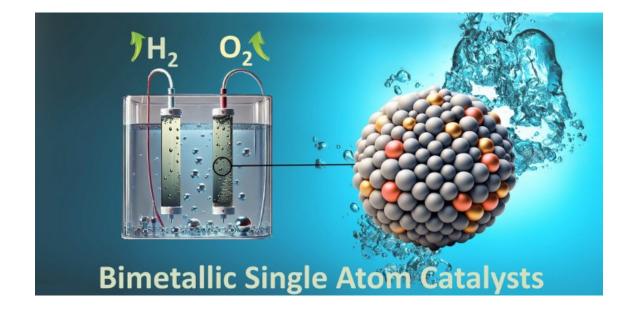
https://doi.org/10.1007/s40820-024-01505-2



#### **Bimetallic Single-Atom Catalysts for Water Splitting**

Nano-Micro Lett. (2025) 17:1 Megha A. Deshmukh<sup>1</sup>, Aristides Bakandritsos<sup>1,2 ⋈</sup>, Radek Zbořil<sup>1,2 ⋈</sup>

NANO-MICRO LETTERS, vol. 17, article no. 1, 2025.

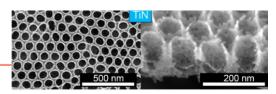


### **PLASMONICS**



pubs.acs.org/NanoLett

### Nano Letters 20 (2020) 3663.

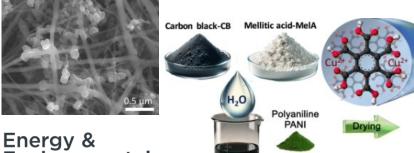


# Solar Thermoplasmonic Nanofurnace for High-Temperature Heterogeneous Catalysis

Alberto Naldoni,\* Zhaxylyk A. Kudyshev, Luca Mascaretti, Smritakshi P. Sarmah, Sourav Rej, Jens P. Froning, Ondřej Tomanec, Jeong Eun Yoo, Di Wang, Štěpán Kment, Tiziano Montini, Paolo Fornasiero, Vladimir M. Shalaev, Patrik Schmuki, Alexandra Boltasseva,\* and Radek Zbořil\*

#### **BEYOND LI-BATTERIES**

no organic solvents



**Environmental Science** 

PAPER View Article Online
View Journal | View Issue



Cite this: Energy Environ. Sci., 2024, 17, 8874

Harnessing enhanced lithium-ion storage in selfassembled organic nanowires for batteries and metal-ion supercapacitors†

levgen Obraztsov, (1) \*\*a Rostislav Langer, (2) Jean G. A. Ruthes, (1) de Volker Presser, (1) def Michal Otyepka, (1) ab Radek Zbořil (1) \*\*ac and Aristides Bakandritsos (1) \*\*ac and Aristides (1) \*\*a

EES 17 (2024) 8874

Self-assembly on Cu current collector

MeIA-P nanowire anode



## Research Focus – Biomedicine

#### **CATALYTIC MEDICINE**

nature nanotechnology

Nat. Nanotech. 20 (2025) 554.

Article

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41565-025-01870-y

### Intracellular dehydrogenation catalysis leads to reductive stress and immunosuppression

Received: 4 December 2023 Accepted: 17 January 2025

Jie Jiang <sup>1,6</sup>, Huizhen Zheng <sup>1,6</sup>, Zhenzhen Wang<sup>2</sup>, Xinlian Wang<sup>2</sup>, Qianqian Xie<sup>1</sup>, Xi Liu<sup>1</sup>, Qing Yang<sup>3</sup>, Xiaoming Cai <sup>3</sup>, Xingfa Gao <sup>2</sup>, Ruibin Li 6 1,4 & Chunying Chen 6 2,5



EcoMat. 7 (2025) e70009.



Published online: 20 February 2025





**Light Irradiation of N-Doped Graphene Acid: Metal-Free Strategy Toward Antibacterial and Antiviral Coatings With Dual Modes of Action** 

Giacomo Reina, David Panáček, Krista Rathammer, Stefanie Altenried, Philipp Meier, Paula Navascués, Zdeněk Baďura, Paula Bürgisser, Vera Kissling, Qun Ren, Radek Zbořil 🔀, Peter Wick 🔀

#### **NEW ANTIMICROBIAL TECHNOLOGIES**

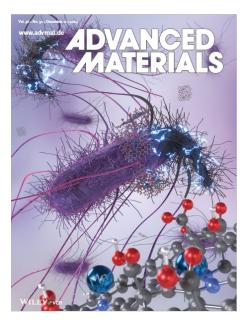
#### RESEARCH ARTICLE



#### Single Atom Engineered Antibiotics Overcome Bacterial Resistance

David Panáček, Jan Belza, Lucie Hochvaldová, Zdeněk Baďura, Giorgio Zoppellaro, Martin Šrejber, Tomáš Malina, Veronika Šedajová, Markéta Paloncýová, Rostislav Langer, Lukáš Zdražil, Jianrong Zeng, Lina Li, En Zhao, Zupeng Chen, Zhiqiang Xiong, Ruibin Li, Aleš Panáček, Renata Večeřová, Pavla Kučová, Milan Kolář, Michal Otyepka, Aristides Bakandritsos,\* and Radek Zbořil\*

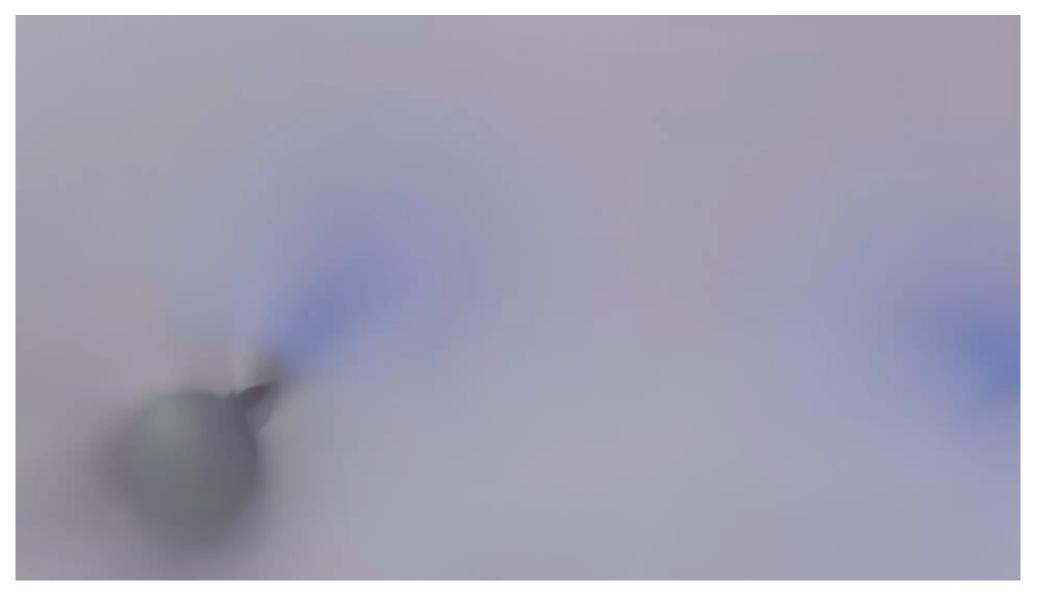




Adv. Sci. 8 (2021) 2003090. Adv. Mater. 36 (2024) 2410652.



# Research Focus – Biomedicine





# Research Focus – Environmental Technologies

Chem

#### **Water Treatment**

Article

### **Waste Valorisation**

# Single-atom-enhanced membrane for simultaneous bacteria and heavy metal on-site water treatment

#### Graphical abstract



#### Highlights

 A portable graphene-based membrane removes bacteria and heavy metals in one step

#### Authors

David Panáček, Renata Večeřová, Zdeněk Baďura, ..., Aleš Panáček, Aristides Bakandritsos. Radek Zbořil

#### Correspondence

david.panacek@upol.cz (D.P.), a.bakandritsos@upol.cz (A.B.), radek.zboril@upol.cz (R.Z.)

#### In brief

Clean water access remains a global challenge, especially in resource-limited areas. Panáček et al. present a graphene-based filtration membrane engineered with single-atom manganese that simultaneously removes bacteria and heavy metals in one step. The system requires only a hand-powered vacuum, achieves outstanding filtration efficiency across diverse water sources, and maintains reusability for many cycles. This portable, sustainable approach highlights how advanced nanomaterials can be translated into simple and impactful water purification technologies.

### nature communications

9

Article

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-36602-0

# Acidic graphene organocatalyst for the superior transformation of wastes into high-added-value chemicals

Received: 7 August 2022
Accepted: 7 February 2023

Published online: 13 March 2023

Aby Cheruvathoor Poulose <sup>1</sup>, Miroslav Medved <sup>1</sup>, Vasudeva Rao Bakuru<sup>3</sup>, Akashdeep Sharma<sup>4</sup>, Deepika Singh<sup>5</sup>, Suresh Babu Kalidindi <sup>6</sup>, Hugo Bares <sup>1,9</sup>, Michal Otyepka <sup>1,7</sup>, Kolleboyina Jayaramulu<sup>4</sup> □, Aristides Bakandritsos <sup>1,8</sup> □ & Radek Zbořil <sup>1,8</sup> □

R

Nature Comm. 14 (2023) 1373.

#### nature communications



Article

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-58559-y

# Synthesis of aromatic amides from lignin and its derivatives

Received: 7 August 2024

Zhuang Ma<sup>1</sup>, Zupeng Chen <sup>©</sup><sup>2</sup>, Zeli Yuan<sup>3</sup>, Changyue Ren<sup>1,3</sup>, Binyu Zhang<sup>4</sup>, Yanbin Cui<sup>4</sup>, Xinmin Li <sup>©</sup> <sup>1,3</sup> □, Rajenahally V. Jagadeesh <sup>©</sup> <sup>1,5,6</sup> □ & Matthias Beller <sup>©</sup> <sup>1</sup> □

Accepted: 24 March 2025
Published online: 11 April 2025

Nature Comm. 16 (2025) 3476.

Chem (2025), https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chempr.2025.102785

## **VSB** TECHNICAL OF OSTRAVA

### Over 90 publications/year ca 2/3 (60 papers) in D1

e.g. Chemical Reviews (IF=72.0), **Chemical Society Reviews (60.6),** Nature Catalysis (41.8), Nature Nanotechnology (34.9), **Advanced Materials (26.8), Energy Environ. Sci (38.5),** Nano-Micro Letters (36.3), **Advanced Energy Materials (26.0)** 

# **Key Results**

Čeští vědci vyrábějí chemikálie a průmyslové produkty z minerálů a slunce



13. 4. 2022, 18:00

Novinky.cz

Průlom v boji s energetickou krizí, a to v podobě slunce místo elektrických pecí nebo levného nanomateriálu namísto zlata? Takto lze zjednodušeně popsat nový postup, který dokáže urychlit a zlevnit výrobu léčiv, chemikálií, plastů či barviv. Základem technologie vyznačující se významným snížením energetických nákladů je nanomateriál vyvinutý českými vědci ve spolupráci se zahraničními kolegy.

# Stačí posvítit. Nový materiál likviduje bakterie i viry



Chcete-li článek poslouchat, přihlaste se

Novinky.cz

2. 6. 2025, 6:28 · Olomouc

Usmrtit bakterie pomocí světla, právě tak jednoduchá by v budoucnu mohla být dezinfekce povrchů. Vědci z Česka a ze Švýcarska se již pustili do vývoje speciálního povlaku, jehož antimikrobiální účinek lze aktivovat infračerveným světlem. První praktické využití nového materiálu se aktuálně připravuje ve stomatologii.

### iDNES.cz

Odstraní z vody bakterie i těžké kovy. Čeští vědci vyvinuli revoluční membránu

Autor: ČTK, iDNES.cz



### Zlikvidují i ty nejodolnější bakterie. Čeští vědci vyvinuli revoluční antibiotika iDNES.cz

3. října 2024 10:41

Unikátní cestu pro vývoj antibiotik nové generace, která jsou účinná vůči širokému spektru bakterií a dokážou bránit i rozvoji bakteriální rezistence, objevili vědci z Univerzity Palackého v Olomouci a Vysoké školy báňské - Technické univerzity Ostrava ve spolupráci s kolegy z Číny. Nový materiál má obrovský potenciál zejména v lokální terapii, například při hojení ran.



### Superkondenzátor překonává komerční materiály pro ukládání energie Průmyslová ekologie.cz

27. 5. 2025 | % zdroj: vedaavyzkum.cz

Vědci z Centra energetických a environmentálních technologií a IT4Innovations na VŠB – Technické univerzitě Ostrava ve spolupráci s kolegy z CATRIN Univerzity Palackého v Olomouci představili průlomovou technologii, která propojuje čištění vody a ukládání energie v duchu cirkulární ekonomiky.

Pomocí funkcionalizovaného grafenu se jim podařilo účinně odstranit farmaceutické znečišťující látky z vody a následně přímo – bez jakékoli další úpravy – přeměnit použité sorbenty na elektrody pro tzv. superkondenzátory. Tyto elektrody překonaly výkonnost původních materiálů až o 100 procent a jsou velmi slibné pro využití v moderních technologiích ukládání energie. Výsledky jejich práce publikoval prestižní časopis Journal of Colloid and Interface Science.



# **Current Projects**

### **Examples of Horizon Europe Projects**

VSB TECHNICAL | CENTRI |||| UNIVERSITY | AND EN

AND ENVIRONMENTAL
TECHNOLOGIES



Single-Atom Photocatalysts Enhanced by a Self-Powered Photonic Glass Reactor for Advanced Biofuels

2024-2026 Total 3 mil. EUR











Twinning Excellence in Management and Research for Green Energy and Chemicals Using Single-atom Catalysis



Dr. Bakandritsos

2024-2027 Total 1.5 mil. EUR

















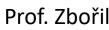
2022-2025 Total 1.5 mil. EUR











# Collaborations

Collaborations with ca 30 top institutions and universities across the world, e.g.:

- University of Oxford (1st in THE ranking; 3rd in QS ranking)
  - Imperial College of London, UK (2<sup>nd</sup> in QS ranking)
  - **California Institute of Technology, USA (7th in THE)**
  - **Technical University of Munich, Germany (26th in THE)** 
    - **Karolinska Institute, Sweden (49th in THE)**

Chemical Reviews > Vol 122/Issue 24 > Article

**REVIEW** | November 1, 2022





Graphene-Based Metal-Organic Framework Hybrids for Applications in Catalysis, Environmental, and Energy Technologies

Kolleboyina Jayaramulu\*, Soumya Mukherjee, Dulce M. Morales, Deepak P. Dubal, Ashok Kumar Nanjundan, Andreas Schneemann, Justus Masa, Stepan Kment, Wolfgang Schuhmann, Michal Otyepka, Radek Zbořil\*, and Roland A. Fischer\*





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Deutscher Chemiker



Verbesserter Stofftransport und Ladungstransfer in COFbasierten Photokatalysatoren mit dreidimensional geordneten Makroporen für die Benzylaminoxidation und Wasserstoffentwicklung

Lijuan Sun, Prof. Weicheng Yan, Dr. Weikang Wang, Dr. LeLe Wang, Prof. Silvio Osella 🔀 Prof. Guijie Liang 🔀 Prof. William A. Goddard III, Prof. Radek Zbořil ... See all authors 🗸

First published: 09 June 2025 | https://doi.org/10.1002/ange.202511080





Reduction in Zn-Air Batteries

Nanodiamonds Interact with Primary Human Macrophages and Dendritic Cells Evoking a **Vigorous Interferon Response** 

Tomas Malina, Jasreen Kaur, Sebastin Martin, Audrey Gallud, Shintaro Katayama, Arianna Gazzi, Marco Orecchioni, Martin Petr, Martin Śrejber, Lars Haag, Bejan Hamawandi, Muhammet S. Toprak, Juha Kere, Lucia Gemma Delogu, and Bengt Fadeel\*



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**Covalent-Bridged Heterointerfaces via Grafted** Triazine Organic Polymers Enable Directed Charge Transfer for Efficient Oxygen

Shan Chen, Jitao Shang, Fei-er Peng, Zihan Song, Yong Zheng,\* Yuhang Dai, Jiexin Zhu, Fei Guo, Xinliang Fu, Kaibin Chu, Xueying Cao,\* Yue Ouyang,\* Ivan P. Parkin, Yazhou Zhou,\* Guanjie He, Tianxi Liu, and Wei Zong\*



# What We Seek / Offer

The most powerful microscopic lab for analysis of materials with atomic scale precision



Scanning Electron
Microscope with Focused
Ion Beam (SEM/FIB)

High Resolution Scanning
Electron Microscope combined
with X-ray Photoelectron
Spectroscopy (HRSEM/XPS)



# What We Seek / Offer







Cutting-edge labs with synthetic and spectroscopic techniques for atomic scale engineering









# What We Seek / Offer

### We offer:

- ☐ Utilization of state-of-the-art infrastructure
- ☐ Tailored development of materials with exceptional optical, sensing, chemical, magnetic properties
  - ☐ Development/optimization of various technologies in chemistry, energy, water treatment, sensorics, medicine
- ☐ Know-how sharing joint project applications

### We seek for:

- ☐ Materials testing in real-scale technologies
- ☐ Shift to higher TRL- proof-of-concept technologies
- ☐ Involvement of students in development, characterization and applications of advanced materials
- ☐ Al-design and computational modelling of materials, their properties and mechanisms of action



# Thank you for your attention

Prof. RNDr. Radek Zbořil, Ph.D.

radek.zboril@vsb.cz

https://mel.vsb.cz/en/

