

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Selective electrocatalytic hydrogenation using Layer-by-Layer palladium nanoparticles electro-chemical formed in multilayer films.

M. A. Villalba,<sup>a</sup> M. L. Bossi,<sup>a</sup> E. J. Calvo,<sup>a\*</sup>

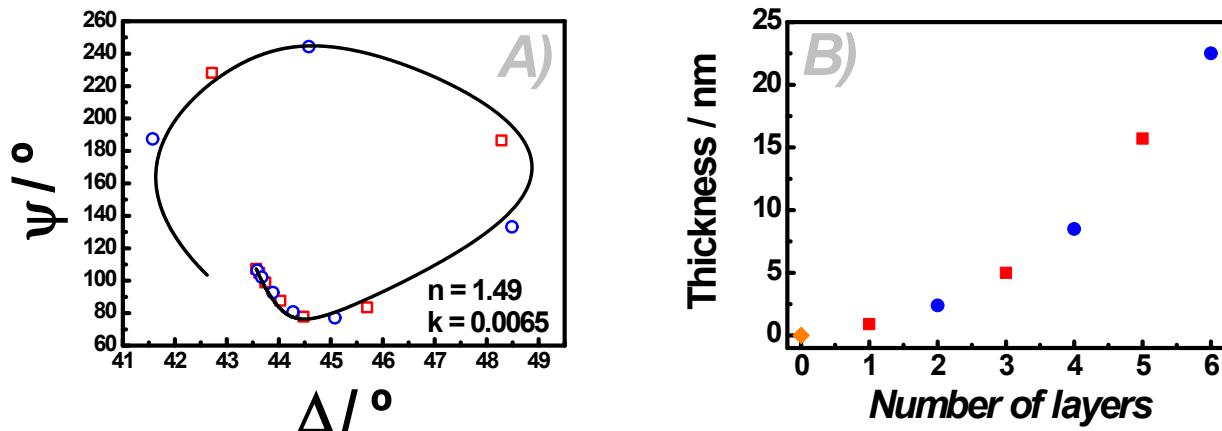


Figure 1 SI. A) Ellipsometric angles and B) thickness at 632.9 nm versus number of self-assembled layers for  $(\text{PAH})_n(\text{PAA})_m$  from solutions of pH 7.5 and 3.5, respectively. PAH (red squares) and PAA (blue circles).

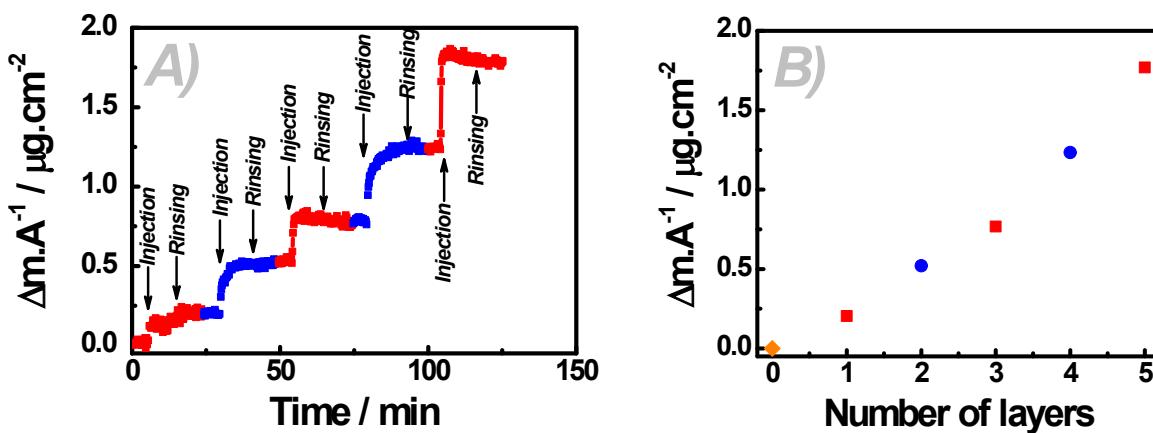
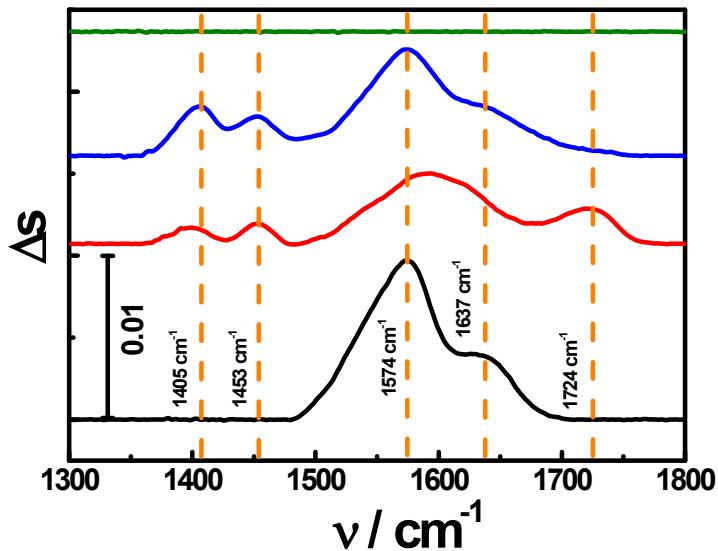
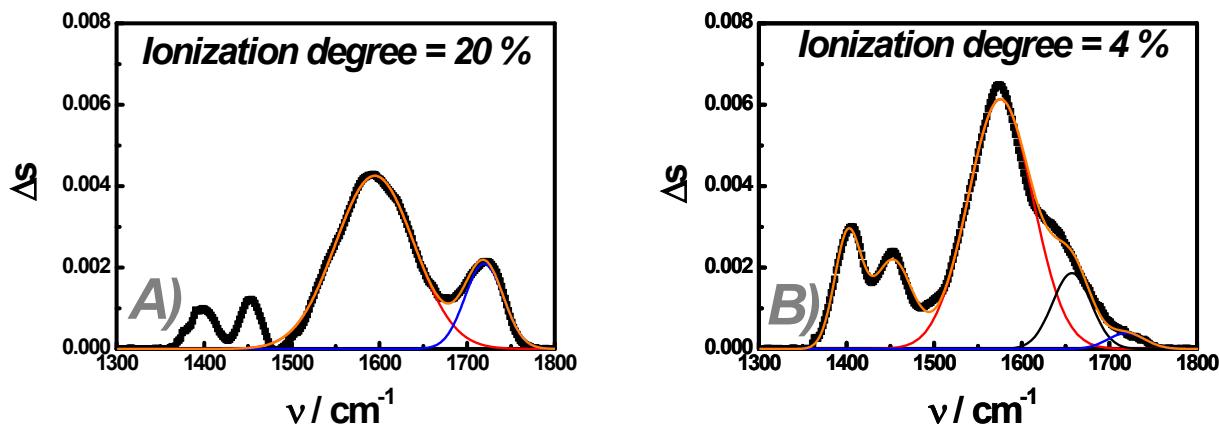


Figure 2 SI. A) Individual adsorption step of self-assembled film of PAH (red squares) and PAA (blue circles) on Au-MPS modified electrode. B) Mass evolution of the film with each polyelectrolyte adsorption.



**Figure 3 SI.** PMIRRAS spectra of Au-MPS substrate modified with: PAH<sub>3</sub>-PAA<sub>2</sub> (black line), PAH<sub>3</sub>-PAA<sub>2</sub> + PdCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> (red line), PAH<sub>3</sub>-PAA<sub>2</sub> + Pd<sup>0</sup> (blue line) and PAH<sub>3</sub>-PAA<sub>2</sub> + Pd<sup>0</sup> treated at 350 °C (green line).



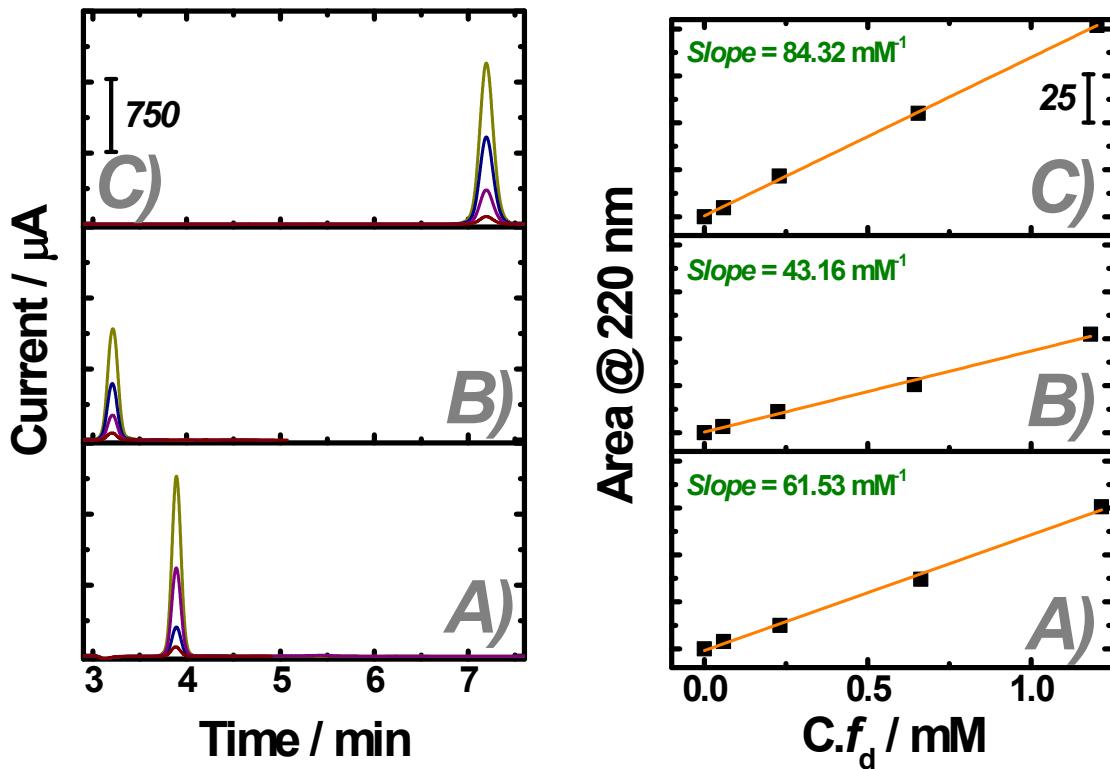
**Figure 4 SI.** Spectrum deconvolution in  $v_{as}(COO^-)$  and  $v_{as}(COOH)$  gaussian contributions of A) PAH<sub>3</sub>-PAA<sub>2</sub> + PdCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> and B) PAH<sub>3</sub>-PAA<sub>2</sub> + Pd<sup>0</sup> films.

Polymer bands correspond to CH<sub>2</sub> bendings modes in PAH and PAA monomers at 1453 cm<sup>-1</sup>, a shoulder at 1637 cm<sup>-1</sup> that probably arises from asymmetric bending mode of NH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> in PAH and three bands at 1405, 1574 and 1724 cm<sup>-1</sup> for symmetric and asymmetric stretching band for carboxilate groups  $v_s(COO^-)$ ,  $v_{as}(COO^-)$ , and C=O stretching bond in protonated carboxylic acids respectively. Assuming the same extinction coefficients for both bands, the degree of ionization of PAA at a given pH was calculated from

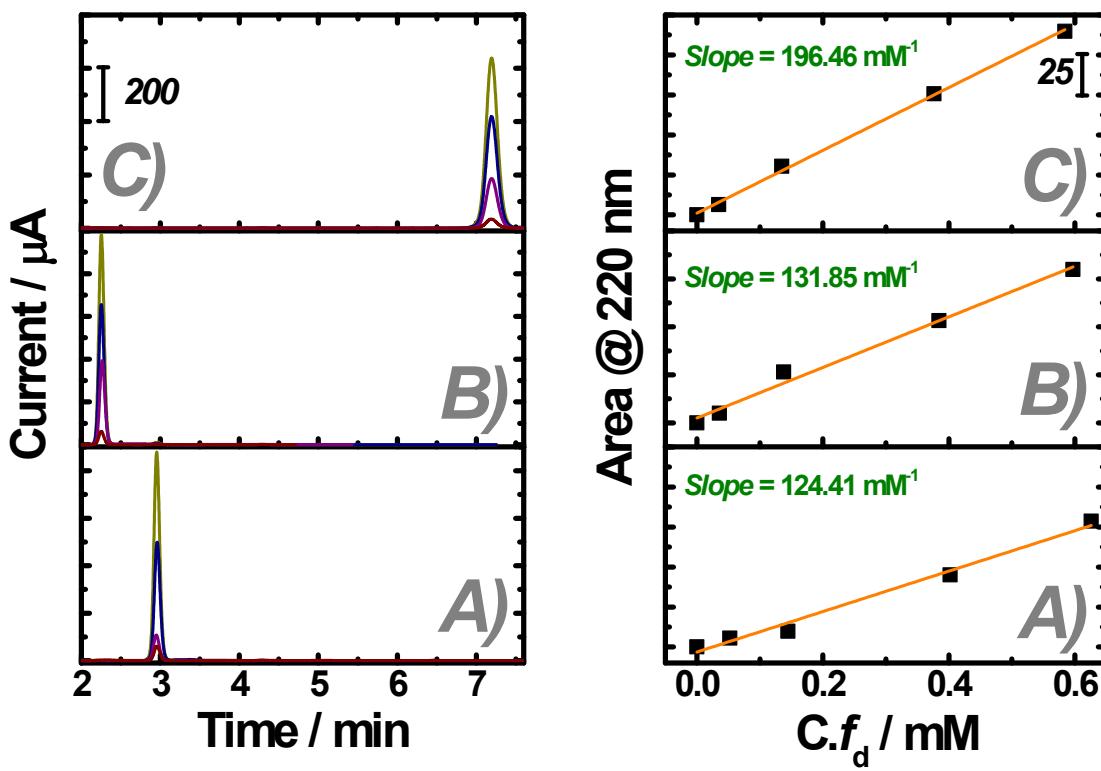
$$Ionization\ Degree = \frac{A_{v(COO^-)}}{A_{v(COOH + COO^-)}} * 100$$

Charge is calculated taking into account theoretical values for polycation at pH 7.5 (80 % protonated) and the polyanion at pH 3.5 (just 5 % deprotonated), as we show in the next table:

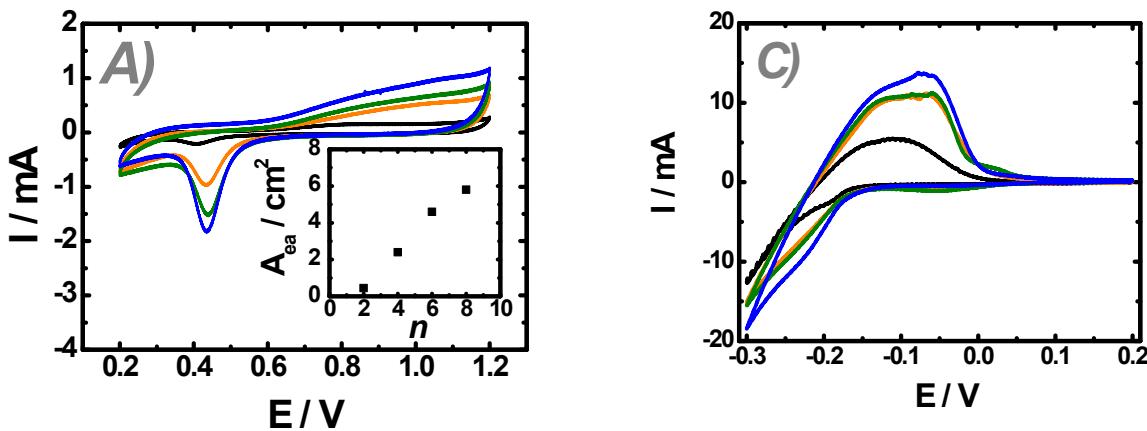
	1 PAH	1 PAA	2 PAH	2 PAA	3 PAH
Mass (ng.cm <sup>-2</sup> )	<b>198</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>331</b>
Mol (nmol.cm <sup>-2</sup> )	<b>2.12</b>	<b>4.43</b>	<b>2.72</b>	<b>6.67</b>	<b>3.56</b>
Charge (nmol.cm <sup>-2</sup> )	<b>1.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.8</b>



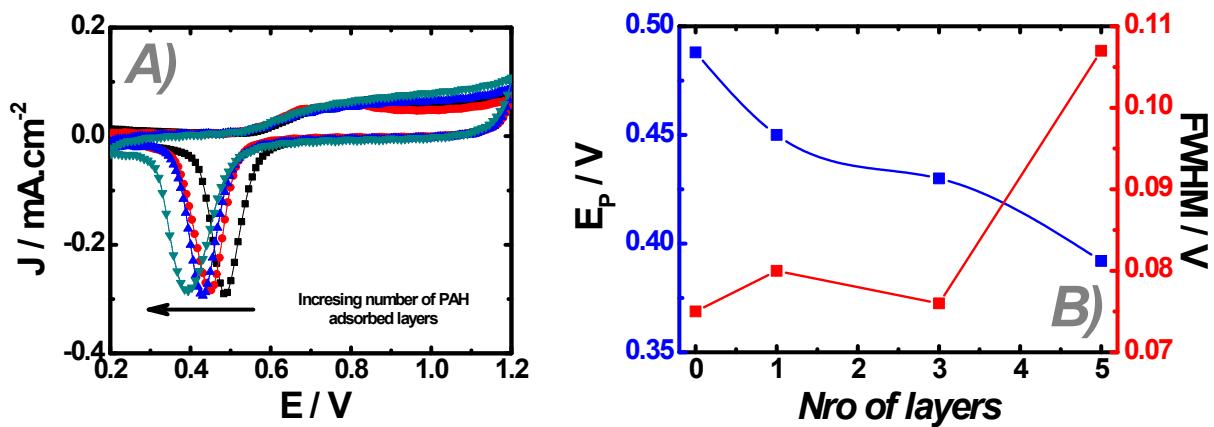
**Figure 5 SI.** Chromatograms and calibration curves of A) acetophenone, B) 1-phenylethanol and C) ethylbenzene using a mobile phase proportions 65:35 methanol:water.  $f_d$  represents the dilution factor and it is equal to 20/1020.



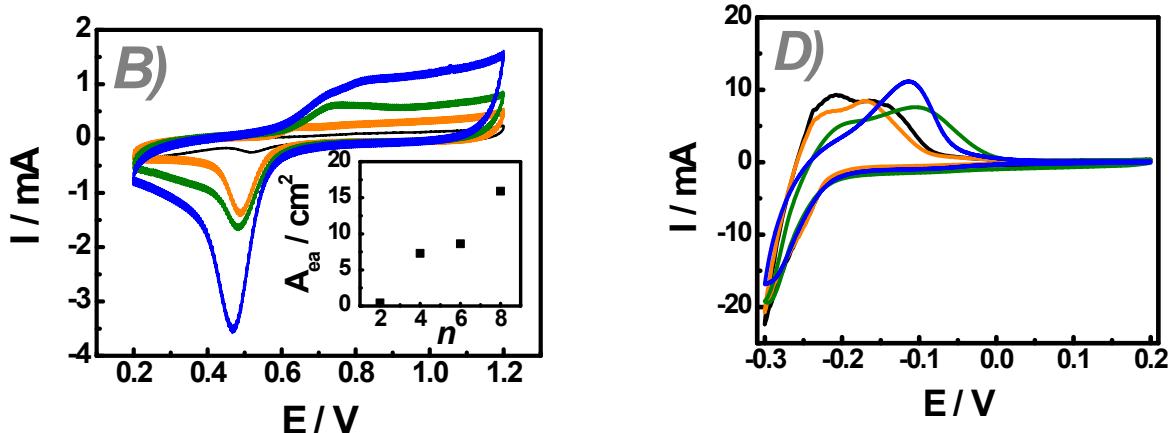
**Figure 6 SI.** Chromatograms and calibration curves of A) benzophenone, B) diphenylmethanol and C) diphenilmethane using a mobile phase proportions 75:25 methanol:water.  $f_d$  represents the dilution factor and it is equal to 10/1010.



**Figure 7 SI.** Cyclic voltammetry of type II with  $n = 2$  (black), 4 (orange), 6 (green) y 8 (blue) in 0,1 M sulfuric acid and 0.05 V.s<sup>-1</sup> scan rate in A) PdO and B) active potential region. Inset: evolution of palladium electrochemical active areas as function cycle  $n$ .



**Figure 8 SI.** A) Cyclic voltammetry of Type I-C electrodes with PAH (red line),  $\text{PAH}_2\text{-PAA}$  (blue line) and  $\text{PAH}_3\text{-PAA}_2$  (green line) in 0,1 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  at  $0,05 \text{ V.s}^{-1}$ . B) Peak potential and full width at half maximum of  $\text{PdO}$  reduction as function of the number of PAH adsorbed layers.



**Figure 9 SI.** Cyclic voltammetry of type II (A and C) and type II-C (B and D) with  $n = 2$  (black), 4 (orange), 6 (green) y 8 (blue) in 0,1 M sulfuric acid and  $0,05 \text{ V.s}^{-1}$  scan rate. Inset: evolution of palladium electrochemical active areas as function cycle  $n$ .