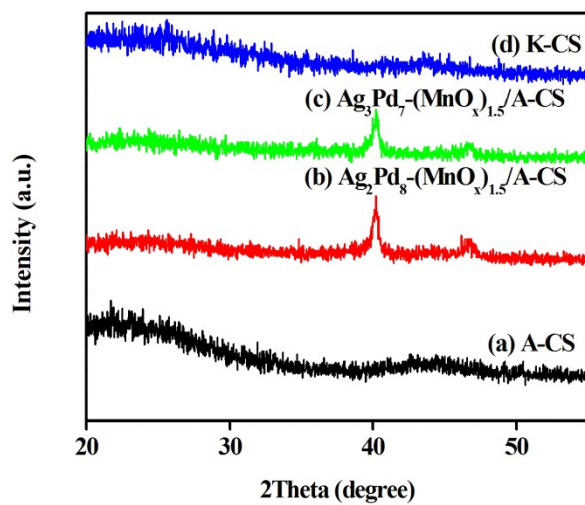


## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

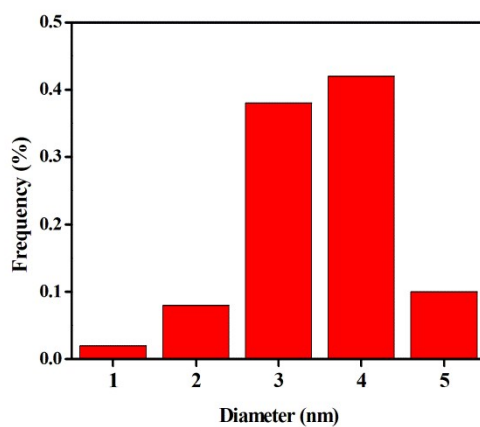
### **AgPd-MnO<sub>x</sub> supported on carbon nanospheres: An efficient catalyst for dehydrogenation of formic acid**

Xiaoyu Zhang, Ningzhao Shang, Xin Zhou, Cheng Feng\*, Shutao Gao, Qiuhua  
Wu, Zhi Wang, Chun Wang\*

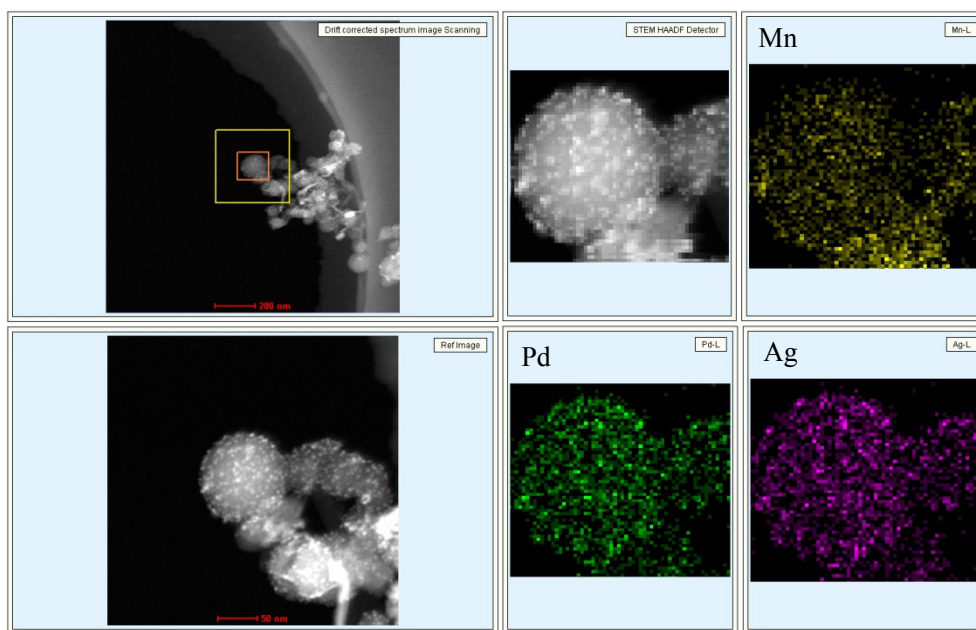
College of Science, Agricultural University of Hebei, Baoding 071001, China



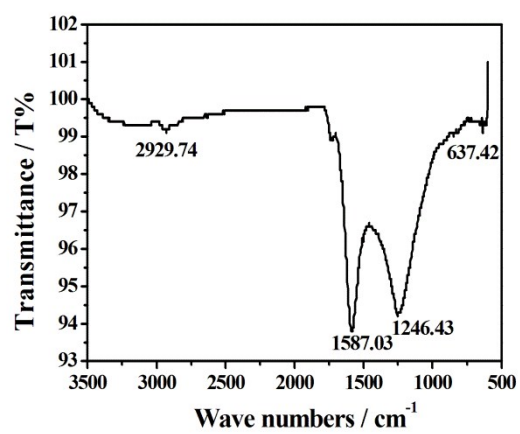
**Fig. S1** X-ray diffraction patterns for as-prepared carbon spheres and AgPd-MnO<sub>x</sub>/carbon spheres. (a) A-CS, (b) Ag<sub>2</sub>Pd<sub>8</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS, (c) Ag<sub>3</sub>Pd<sub>7</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS, (d) K-CS



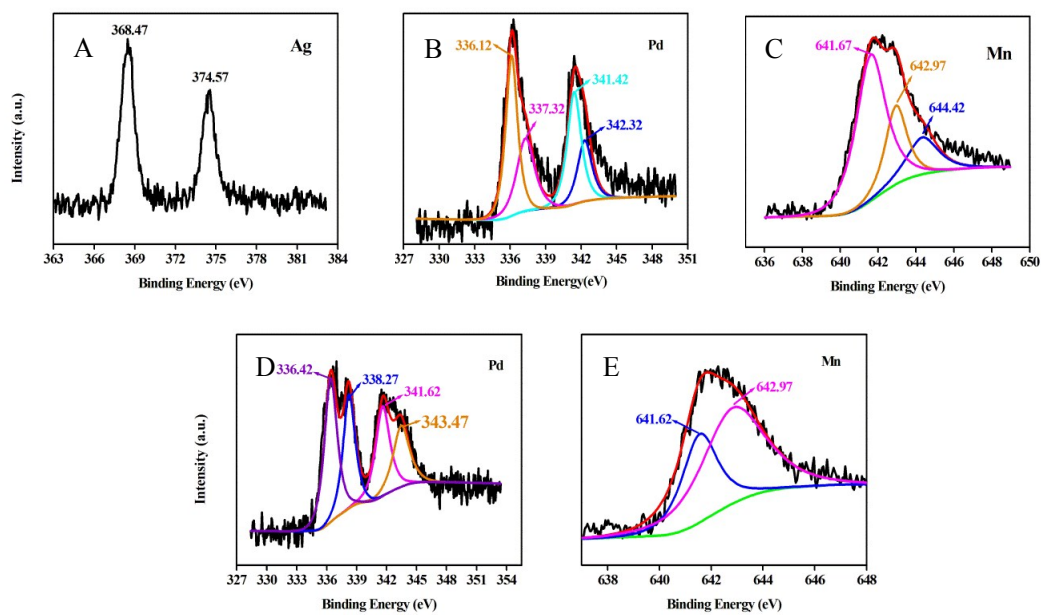
**Fig. S2** The corresponding particle size distributions of Ag<sub>1</sub>Pd<sub>9</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS.



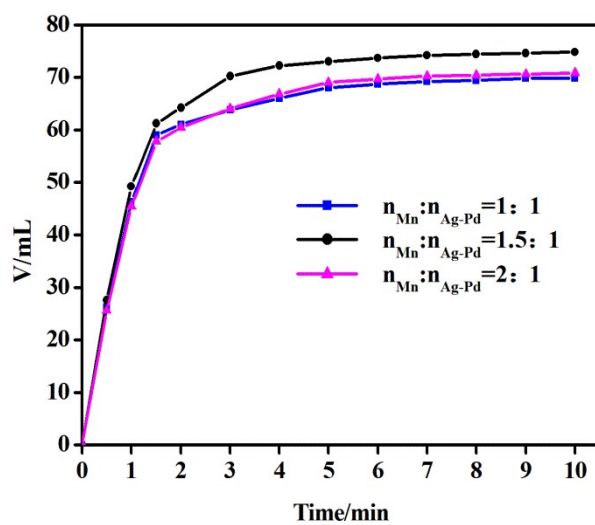
**Fig. S3** The corresponding elemental mapping for Ag, Pd and Mn



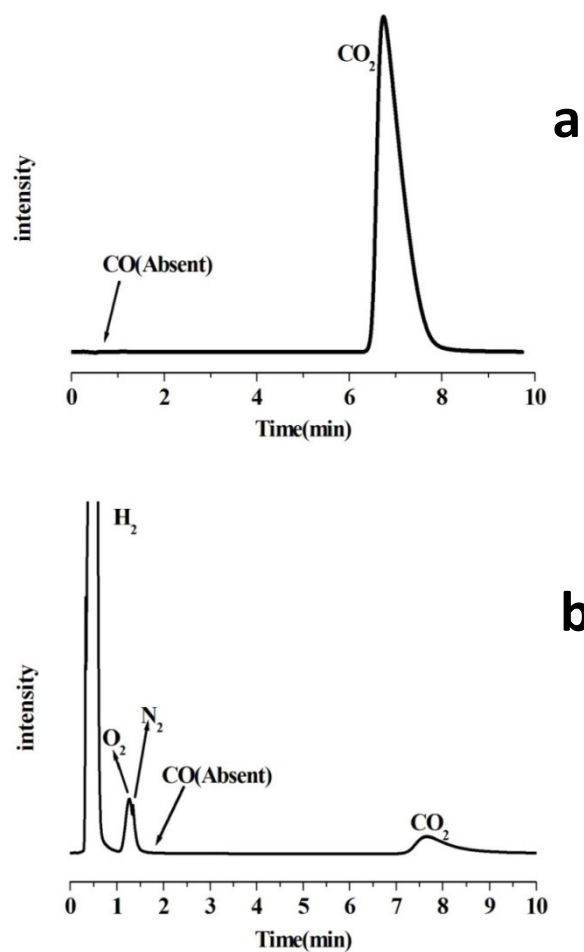
**Fig. S4** The ATR FT-IR spectra of Ag<sub>1</sub>Pd<sub>9</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS



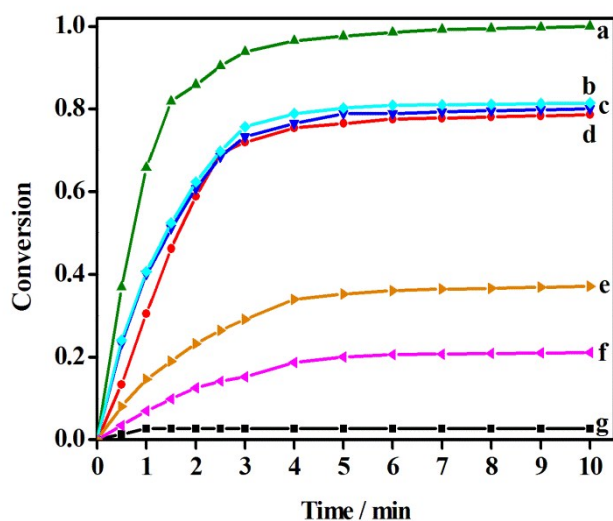
**Fig. S5** XPS patterns of Ag<sub>7</sub>Pd<sub>3</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS (A, B and C) and Pd<sub>10</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS (D and E)



**Fig. S6** Different molar ratios of Mn and Ag-Pd  
 (The reactions were performed at 50°C,  $n_{\text{FA}}:n_{\text{PF}}=2.5:7.5$ )

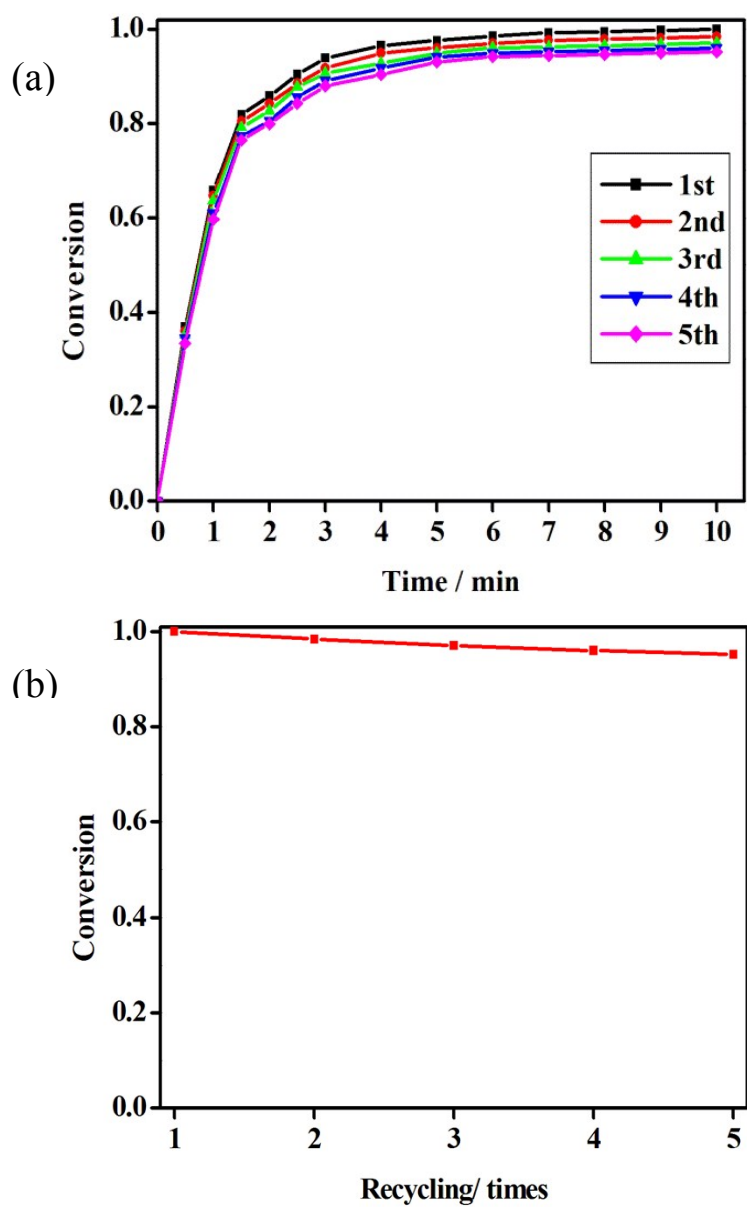


**Fig. S7** GC spectrum using TCD for the evolved gas from FA/PF solution over Ag<sub>1</sub>Pd<sub>9</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS. The limit of detection for CO is 0.1 ppm.



**Fig. S8** Conversion of FA with different catalysts versus time at 50°C.

(a) Ag<sub>1</sub>Pd<sub>9</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS, (b) Ag<sub>3</sub>Pd<sub>7</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS, (c) Ag<sub>2</sub>Pd<sub>8</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS, (d) Pd<sub>10</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS, (e) Ag<sub>7</sub>Pd<sub>3</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS, (f) Ag<sub>8</sub>Pd<sub>2</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS, (g) Ag<sub>10</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS



**Fig. S9** Conversion of FA catalyzed by  $\text{Ag}_1\text{Pd}_9\text{-(MnO}_x\text{)}_{1.5}/\text{A-CS}$  versus time (a) and recycling times (b) at  $50^\circ\text{C}$ .

**Table S1** The dosages of reagents for the synthesis of different catalysts

Catalysts	CS/mg	AgNO <sub>3</sub> /mL (1mg/mL)	H <sub>2</sub> PdCl <sub>4</sub> /mL (1mg/mL)	MnSO <sub>4</sub> /mL (1mg/mL)
Ag <sub>1</sub> Pd <sub>9</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	41	0.79	7.51	11.90
Ag <sub>2</sub> Pd <sub>8</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	41	1.58	6.68	11.90
Ag <sub>3</sub> Pd <sub>7</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	41	2.37	5.84	11.90
Ag <sub>7</sub> Pd <sub>3</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	41	5.53	2.50	11.90
Ag <sub>8</sub> Pd <sub>2</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	41	6.32	1.67	11.90
Ag <sub>10</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	41	7.9	0	11.90
Pd <sub>10</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	41	0	8.35	11.90
Ag <sub>1</sub> Pd <sub>9</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1</sub> /A-CS	41	0.79	7.51	8.0
Ag <sub>1</sub> Pd <sub>9</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> /A-CS	41	0.79	7.51	15.9

**Table S2** The contents of Pd and Ag in AgPd-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/A-CS determined by ICP-AES

Catalysts	Ag ( wt % )	Pd ( wt % )	Initial mass ratio of Ag and Pd
Ag <sub>1</sub> Pd <sub>9</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	0.97	8.92	1:9
Ag <sub>2</sub> Pd <sub>8</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	1.96	7.94	2:8
Ag <sub>3</sub> Pd <sub>7</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	2.92	6.90	3:7
Ag <sub>7</sub> Pd <sub>3</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	6.91	2.91	7:3
Ag <sub>8</sub> Pd <sub>2</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	7.93	1.95	8:2

**Table S3** The N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms of CS and Ag<sub>1</sub>Pd<sub>9</sub>-(MnO<sub>x</sub>)<sub>1.5</sub>/CS

Sample	S <sub>BET</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	Pore diameter (nm)
A-CS	782.63	0.65	3.39
Ag <sub>1</sub> Pd <sub>9</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /A-CS	722.47	0.61	3.30
K-CS	2084.06	1.08	2.08
Ag <sub>1</sub> Pd <sub>9</sub> -(MnO <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>1.5</sub> /K-CS	1519.24	0.80	2.12