Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for

Catalytic aerial oxidation of 5-hydroxymethyl-2-furfural to furan-2,5dicarboxylic acid over Ni-Pd nanoparticles supported on Mg(OH)₂ nanoflakes for synthesis of furan diesters

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Figure S1 Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of unsupported bimetallic $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}$ alloy nanoparticles and monometallic Ni and Pd nanoparticles.



Figure S2 Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of studied $Mg(OH)_2$ supported bimetallic M-Pd (M = Ni, Cu or Co) alloy nanoparticles and monometallic Ni and Pd nanoparticles.



Figure S3 a) FEG-TEM image, b-d) their corresponding EDS elemental mapping showing b) Mg (green), c) Ni (blue) and d) Pd (red) for freshly prepared $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)_2$.



Figure S4 XPS analysis of Ni_{0.90}-Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)₂.



Figure S5 XPS analysis of unsupported bimetallic $Ni_{0.90}$ -Pd_{0.10} nanoparticles.



Figure S6 P-XRD analyses for MgO, $Mg(OH)_2$ and $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)_2$.

Formulae for the calculations of Turnover number (TON) and turnover frequency (TOF)

$$TON = \frac{mmol of product}{mmol of Pd in catalyst}$$

$$TOF = \frac{TON}{Time}$$



Figure S7 TOF (h^{-1}) for the catalytic oxidation of 5-HMF over Pd/Mg(OH)₂ and Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)₂ at different time. TOF are on the basis of Pd content in the catalyst.

Gram-scale catalytic conversion of 5-HMF: A gram-scale oxidation of 5-HMF was achieved in a 100 mL two neck round bottom flask which was charged with 1.008 g (8 mmol) of 5-HMF and freshly prepared $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)_2$ catalyst (S/C = 40) dispersed in 40 mL water. The whole mixture was stirred in an oil bath at 100 °C with the continuous flow of air for 48 h. After the completion of catalytic reaction, catalyst was recovered from the reaction mixture by centrifugation at 6000 rpm for 10 min. To the reaction mixture 20 mL of brine solution and 40 mL of 1.2M HCl was added and then extracted using diethyl ether (20 x 20 mL). Organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered off and then solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Purification of FDCA was carried out with column chromatography using a mixture of dichloromethane and methanol, from 99.9:0.1 to 99:1 as an elute.

Poisoning experiment: To confirm the heterogeneity of $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)_2$ catalyst for the oxidation of 5-HMF, 10 mL aquesous suspension of $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)_2$ was stirred for 30 min with 5 mmol of CS₂ at optimized reaction temperature (100 °C), cool and collected by centrifugation at 6000 rpm for 10 min. The recovered $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)_2$ was re-dispersed in 10 mL distilled water and used for the oxidation of 5-HMF (1 mmol), under the flow of air at 100 °C for 10 h.



Figure S8 (1) Catalytic aerial oxidation of 5-HMF over $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)_2$ at 100 °C for 10 h, optimized reaction conditions. (2a-2b) Leaching experiments: catalytic aerial oxidation of 5-HMF over (2a) $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)_2$ at 100 °C for 5 h, and afterwards (2b) reaction mixture was centrifuged to separate the catalyst and reaction was extended for another 5 h at 100°C (without catalyst). (3) CS₂ poisoning experiment.



Figure S9 Recyclability of the $Ni_{0.90}Pd_{0.10}/Mg(OH)_2$ catalyst for the oxidation of 5-HMF.

Spectral data of furan-2,5-dicarboxylic Acid (FDCA) transformed by the catalytic aerial oxidation of 5-hydroxymethyl-furfural (5-HMF).

2,5-furandicarboxylic acid: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ (ppm) = 7.28 (s, 2H), 13.59 (b, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ (ppm) = 118.39, 147.01, 158.88. HRMS (ESI) m/z: calculated 154.9975 [C₆H₄O₅ – 1H], found 154.9980 [C₆H₄O₅ – 1H].

Spectral data of Bis(2-hydroxyethyl)furan-2,5-dicarboxylate and Dialkylfuran-2,5-dicarboxylates synthesized from FDCA (obtained by catalytic aerial oxidation of 5-HMF).



Bis(2-hydroxyethyl)furan-2,5-dicarboxylate: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 3.84 (t, 4H, *J* = 4.76 Hz), 4.18 (b, 2H), 4.38 (t, 4H, *J* = 4.76 Hz), 7.34 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 60.54, 67.80, 119.38, 147.74, 158.55. HRMS (ESI) m/z: calculated 267.0475 [C₁₀H₁₂O₇ + 1Na], found 267.0483 [C₁₀H₁₂O₇ + 1Na].



Dimethyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 3.88 (s, 6H), 7.30 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 52.55, 119.26, 147.51, 158.82. HRMS (ESI) m/z: calculated 207.0264 [C₈H₈O₅ + 1Na], found 207.0264 [C₈H₈O₅ + 1Na].



Diethyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 1.34 (t, 6H, J = 7.04 Hz), 4.33-4.38 (q, 4H, J = 7 Hz), 7.30 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 14.45, 62.00, 119.14, 147.79, 158.41. HRMS (ESI) m/z: calculated 235.0577 [C₁₀H₁₂O₅ + 1Na], found 235.0586 [C₁₀H₁₂O₅ + 1Na].



Dipropyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 0.98 (t, 6H, J = 7.24 Hz), 1.71-1.80 (m, 4H), 4.27 (t, 4H, J = 6.52 Hz), 7.31 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 10.50, 22.63, 67.40, 119.14, 147.77, 158.47. HRMS (ESI) m/z: calculated 263.0890 [C₁₂H₁₆O₅ + 1Na], found 263.0890 [C₁₀H₁₂O₅ + 1Na].

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Dibutyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 0.95 (t, 6H, J = 7.28 Hz), 1.40-1.49 (m, 4H), 1.69-1.76 (m, 4H), 4.31 (t, 4H, J = 6.8 Hz), 7.31 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Acetone-d₆): δ (ppm) = 13.90, 19.71, 31.36, 65.72, 119.14, 147.80, 158.47. HRMS (ESI) m/z: calculated 291.1203 [C₁₄H₂₀O₅ + 1Na], found 291.1195 [C₁₀H₁₂O₅ + 1Na].



¹H NMR spectrum for carboxylic acids produced by the catalytic oxidation of 5-HMF

in DMSO-d₆.



¹H NMR spectrum of purified 2,5-furandicarboxylic acid (FDCA) in DMSO- d_6 .



¹³C NMR spectrum of purified 2,5-furandicarboxylic acid (FDCA) in DMSO- d_6 .



HRMS spectrum of purified 2,5-furandicarboxylic acid (FDCA).



¹H NMR spectrum of bis(2-hydroxyethyl)furan-2,5-dicarboxylate in Acetone- d_6 .



 13 C NMR spectrum of bis(2-hydroxyethyl)furan-2,5-dicarboxylate in Acetone- d_6 .



HRMS spectrum of bis(2-hydroxyethyl)furan-2,5-dicarboxylate.



¹H NMR spectrum of Dimethyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate in Acetone- d_6 .



 13 C NMR spectrum of Dimethyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate in Acetone- d_6 .







¹H NMR spectrum of Diethyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate in Acetone- d_6 .









HRMS of Diethyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate.



¹H NMR spectrum of Dipropyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate in Acetone- d_6 .



 13 C NMR spectrum of Dipropyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate in Acetone- d_6 .



HRMS of Dipropyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate.



¹H NMR spectrum of Dibutyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate in Acetone- d_6 .



¹³C NMR spectrum of Dibutyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate in Acetone- d_6 .



