

## Supporting Information

### Metallo-supramolecular polymers engineered porous carbon frameworks encapsulated stable ultra-small nanoparticles: a general approach to construct highly dispersed catalysts

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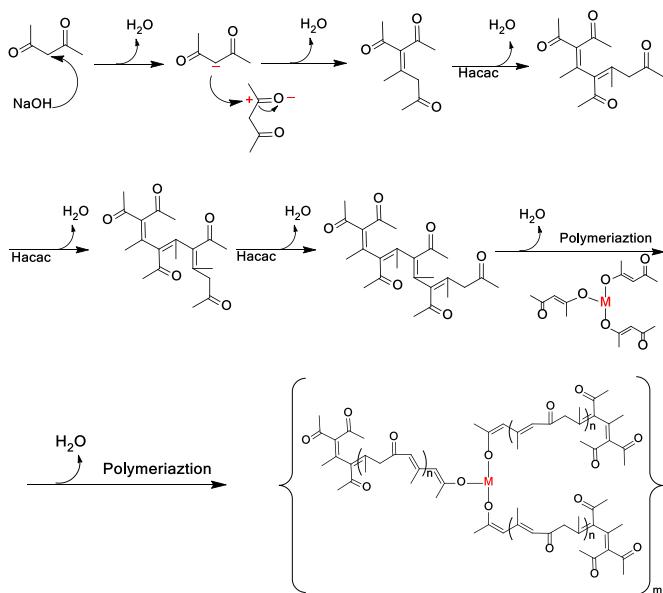
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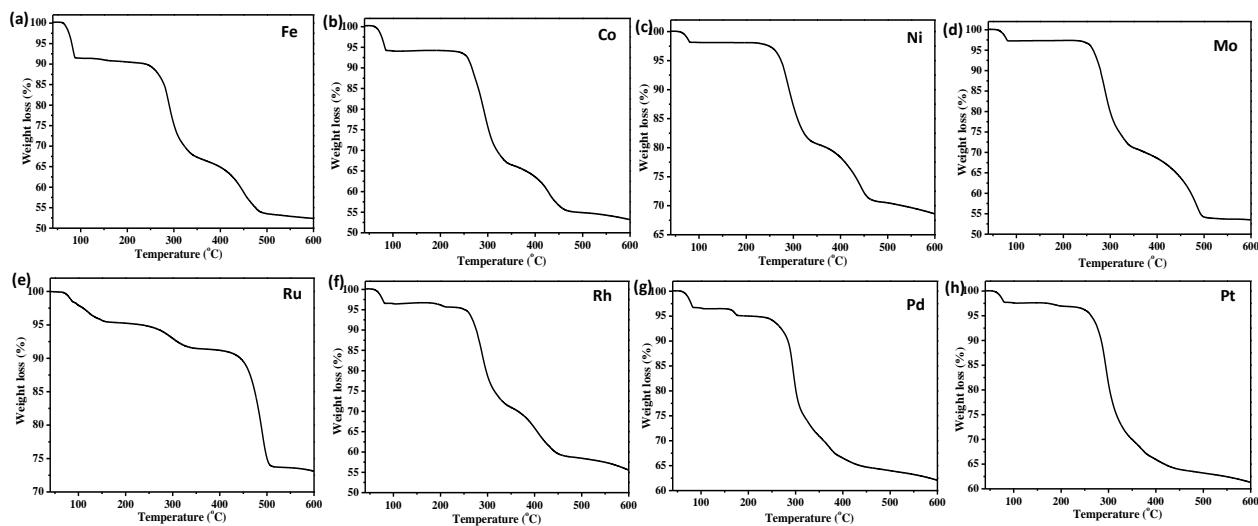
## **1. General information of characterization**

The materials morphology was observed by the JEOL SU-8010 scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and JEM-2100F high resolution transmission electron microscopy (HR-TEM). The scanning transmission electron microscopy (STEM) and energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) are accessories of the HR-TEM apparatus. Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectra were obtained by a Bruker IFS28 spectrometer in the region of 4000–500 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The solid-state nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) instrument was JEOL JNMECZ600R. The X-ray diffraction (XRD) experiments were recorded on a Rigaku corporation Smart-Lab, diffractometer using Cu K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.1541$  nm). X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) measurements were performed using a PHI Quantera SXM spectrometer, ULVAC-PHI, and the binding energy determination was based on the C 1s at 284.8 eV with an experimental error of  $\pm 0.2$  eV. Nitrogen adsorption/desorption measurements were conducted with a Tristar II 3020 volumetric adsorption analyzer at -196 °C. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was carried with a STA449F3 instrument under air atmosphere. Raman spectra were recorded with a Horiba HR-800 spectrometer equipped with a charge coupled device detector cooled by liquid nitrogen. The inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) is PerkinElmer ELAN DRC-e. The AFM was Cypher S (Asylum Research). The detailed reaction procedure was further detected by the UV-visible spectrophotometer (UV-6100 double-beam spectrophotometer). This reaction system was also applied to the hydrogenation of varieties of nitroaromatics with different functional groups. All reactions were monitored by TLC (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate), HPLC (Waters, Kromasil 5mm C18 column) and detected by GC-MS (Bruker 450GC-320MS).

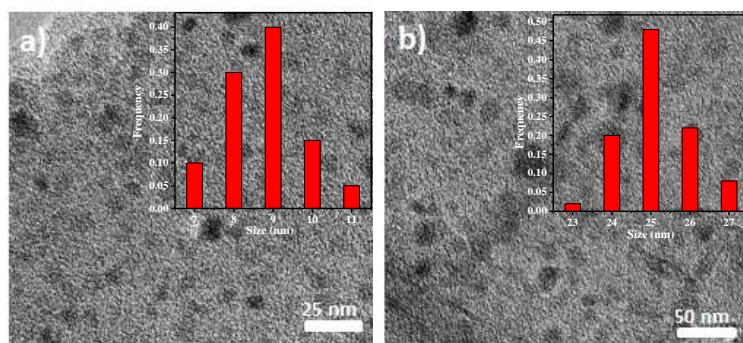
## 2. Materials characterization



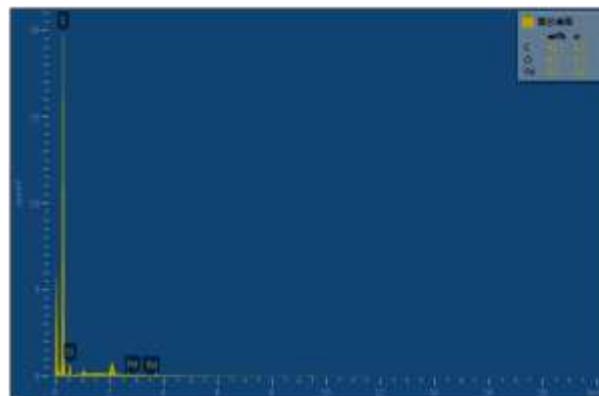
**Figure S1.** Pathway for the fabrication of metallo-supramolecular polymers.



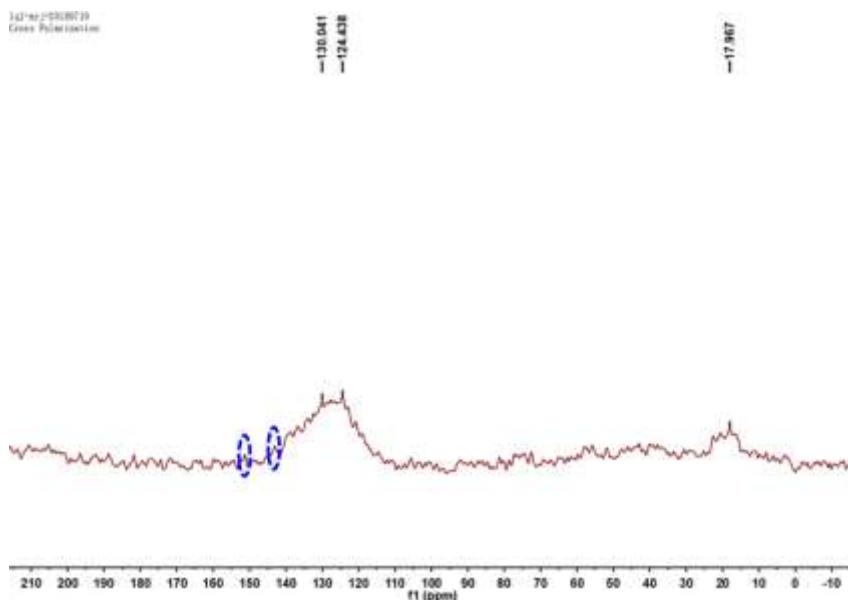
**Figure S2.** TGA curves of the metallo-supramolecular polymer precursor: (a) Fe, (b) Co, (c) Ni, (d) Mo, (e) Ru, (f) Rh, (g) Pd, (h) Pt.



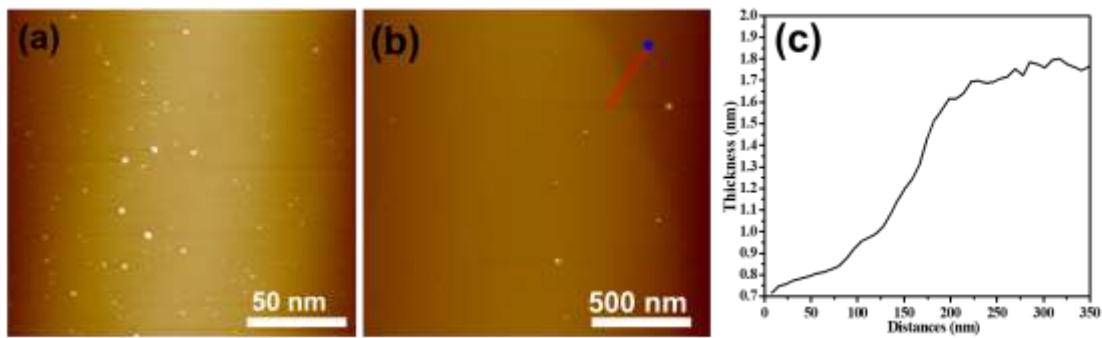
**Figure S3.** HR-TEM images of Pd@PCF that the polymer precursors annealed at (a) 600 °C and (b) 800 °C.



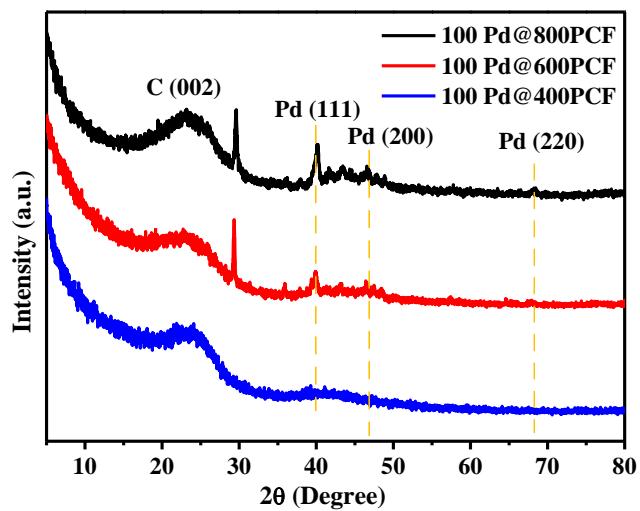
**Figure S4.** EDS spectrum of Pd@PCF.



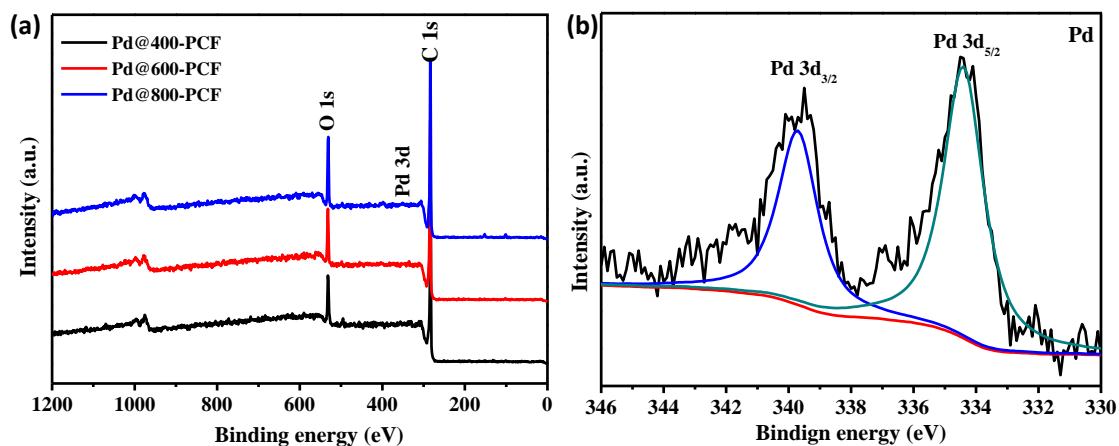
**Figure S5.** (a) The solid-state  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of Pd@PCF.



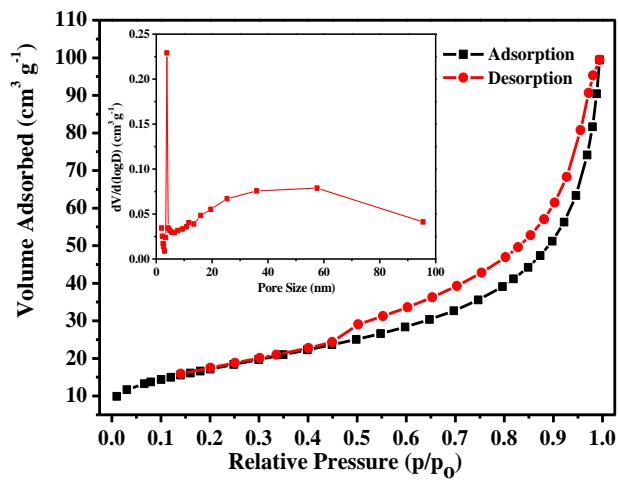
**Figure S6.** (a) AFM images of the Pd@PCF nanocatalysts, (b-c) the thickness of the PCF.



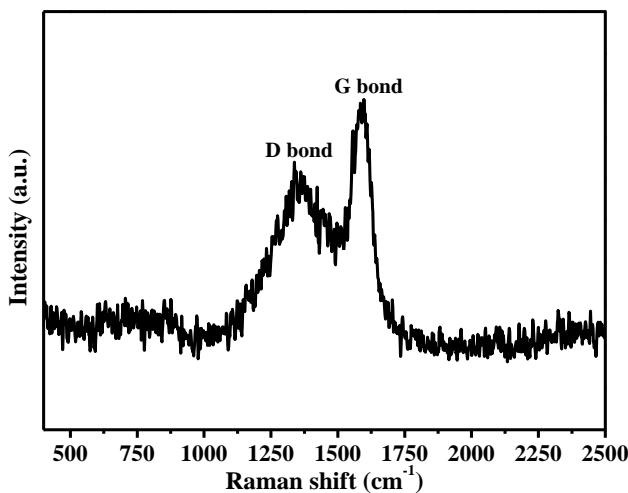
**Figure S7.** The XRD pattern of Pd@PCF annealed at different temperature.



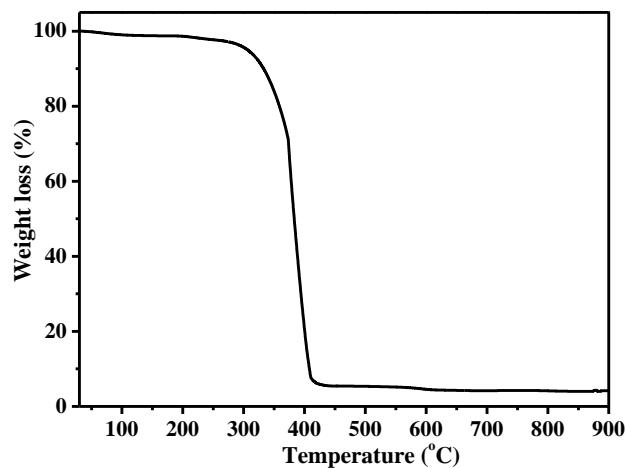
**Figure S8.** (a) XPS survey spectrum of the Pd@PCF obtained from different temperature; (b) XPS spectrum of the Pd 3d region of Pd@PCF.



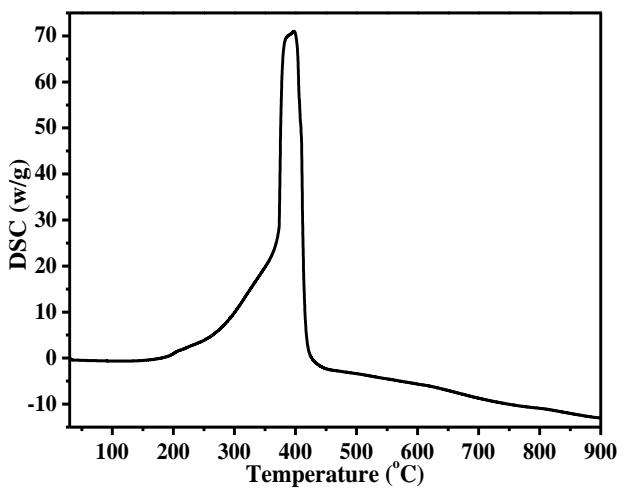
**Figure S9.** Nitrogen adsorption/desorption isotherms of the Pd@PCF nanocatalysts.



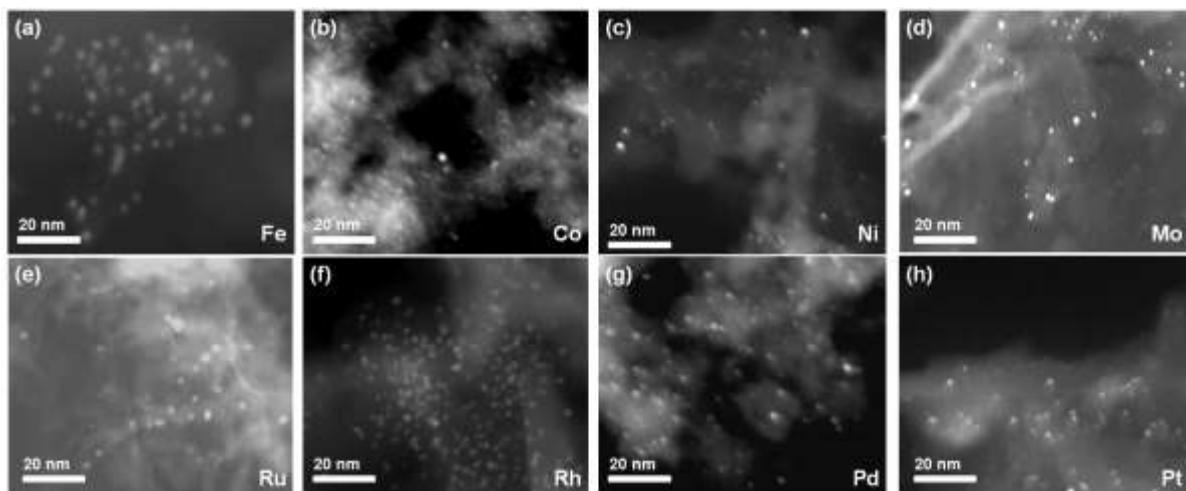
**Figure S10.** Raman spectra of the Pd@PCF nanocatalysts.



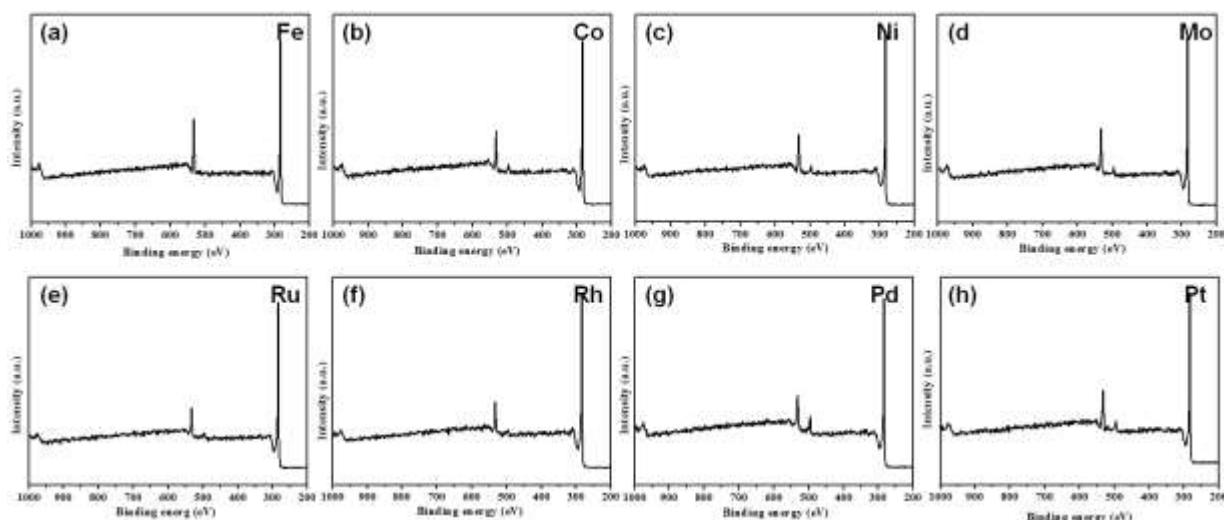
**Figure S11.** TGA curves of the Pd@PCF nanocatalysts (air atmosphere).



**Figure S12.** DSC curves of the Pd@PCF nanocatalysts (air atmosphere)



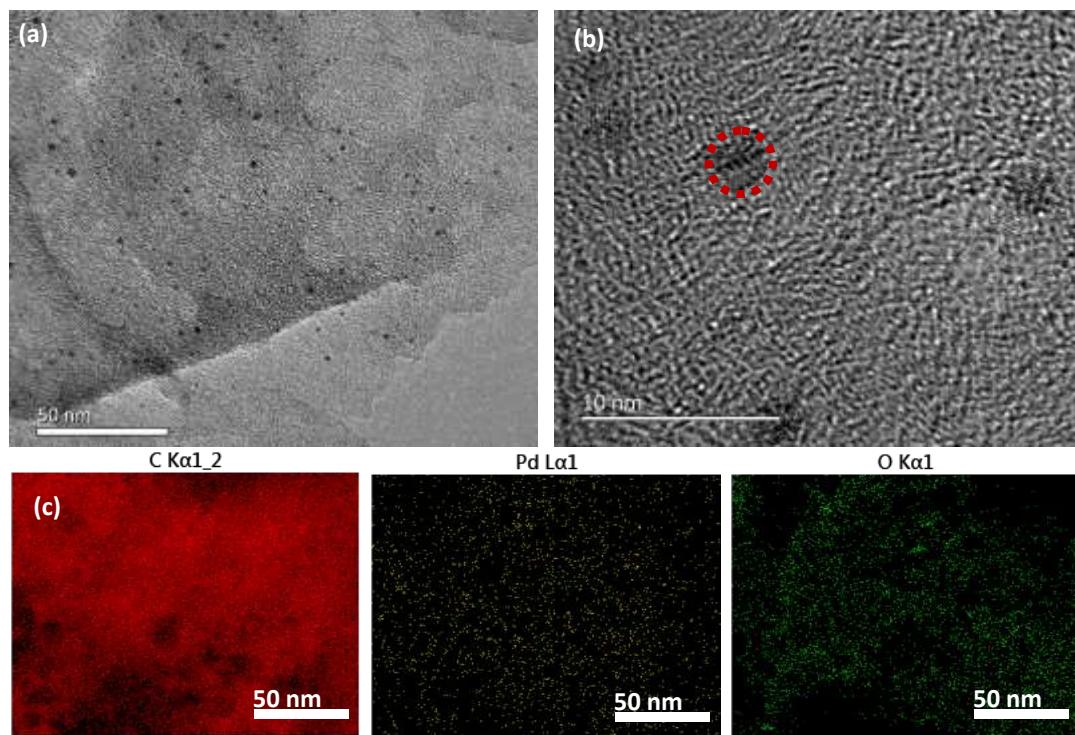
**Figure S13.** STEM images of M@PCF: (a) Fe, (b) Co, (c) Ni, (d) Mo, (e) Ru, (f) Rh, (g) Pd, (h) Pt



**Figure S14.** XPS survey spectroscopy of M@PCF: (a) Fe, (b) Co, (c) Ni, (d) Mo, (e) Ru, (f) Rh, (g) Pd, (h) Pt



**Figure S15.** TEM image of ultra-small Pd nanoparticles as Prasad reported.



**Figure S16.** (a-b) HRTEM, (c) EDS images of Pd@PCF after used for 10 cycles.

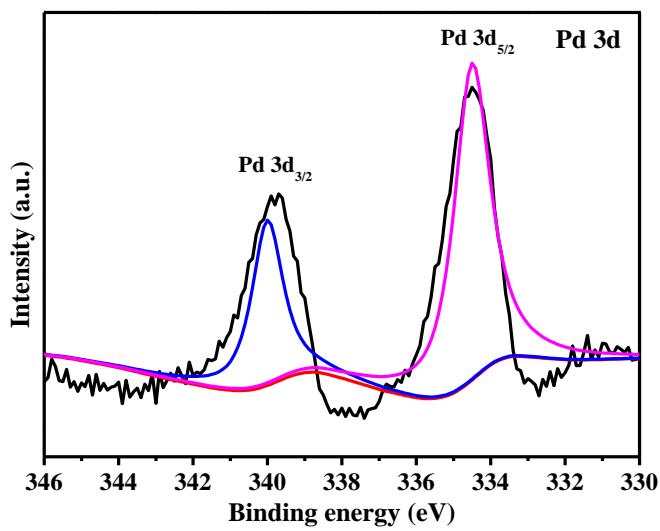


Figure S17. XPS spectrum of the Pd 3d region of the reused Pd@PCF.

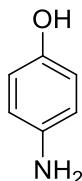
### 3. Comparison of catalyst activity

**Table S1.** Comparison of the ability of various noble metal-based catalysts for catalyzing hydrogenation of nitroarenes.

Entry	Catalyst	Reactant	Time (min)	Conv. (%)	TOF ( $\text{h}^{-1}$ )	Ref.
1	Pd NP/CNT	4-nitrophenol	7	>99	1080	1
2	Pd@CPP-F	nitrobenzene	60	>99	228	2
3	PdsNC/PN-CeO <sub>2</sub>	4-nitrophenol	120	>99	10900	3
4	Pd/CNT <sub>EG</sub>	4-chloronitrobenzene	120	>99	7440	4
5	Pd@Beta	4-chloronitrobenzene	120	>99	1520	5
6	Pd/Gd(OH) <sub>3</sub>	4-nitrophenol	1	>99	2176	6
7	Pd/MCB-EG	nitrate	150	>99	366	7
8	GO@AC/Pd	4-nitrophenol	1.65	>99	36120	8
9	Pd/TiO <sub>2</sub>	4-nitrophenol	5	90	560	9
10	Pt/FeOx	3-nitrostyrene	50	>99	1500	10
11	PtNPs@COF	4-nitrophenol	8	>99	17	11
12	RhNPs/SBA-NH <sub>2</sub>	4-nitrophenol	10	>99	3059	12
13	RhNPs	4-nitrophenol	7	>99	4373	13
14	Ru/CNTs-ht	4-chloronitrobenzene	240	>99	694	14
15	Ru Complex	4-nitrophenol	1200	>99	0.5	15
16	Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /C@Au	4-nitrophenol	3.3	>99	1044	16
17	Au/NPG	3-nitrostyrene	720	85	0.35	117
18	AgNCs	4-nitrophenol	120	>99	67	18
19	Pd@PCF-400	4-nitrophenol	4	>99	11400	This work

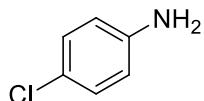
#### 4. GC-MS Data of Anilines:

##### 4-Aminophenol (Table 2, entry 1):



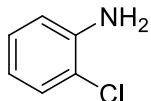
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 109 (100)  $[M]^+$ , 80 (50), 52 (14).<sup>[19]</sup>

##### 4-Chlorobenzenamine (Table 2, entry 2):



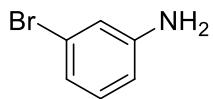
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 127 (100)  $[M]^+$ , 92 (13), 65 (21).<sup>[20]</sup>

##### 2-Chloroaniline (Table 2, entry 3):



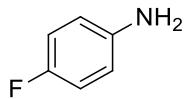
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 127 (100)  $[M]^+$ , 92 (14), 65 (17).<sup>[21]</sup>

##### 3-Bromoanilines (Table 2, entry 4)



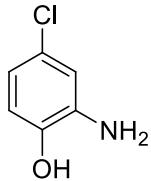
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 173 (100)  $[M]^+$ , 92 (91), 65 (85).<sup>[21]</sup>

##### 4-Fluoroaniline (Table 2, entry 5)



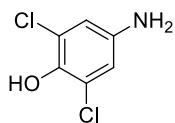
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 111 (100)  $[M]^+$ , 84 (43), 57 (11).<sup>[21]</sup>

##### 2-Hydroxy-5-chloro-aniline (Table 2, entry 6):



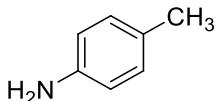
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 143 (100)  $[M]^+$ , 114 (14), 80 (31), 51 (10).<sup>[22]</sup>

##### 2,6-Dichloro-4-aminophenol (Table 2, entry 7):



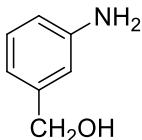
GC-MS: m/z (%) 177 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 113 (87), 78 (60), 52 (16).<sup>[22]</sup>

**4-Toluidine (Table 2, entry 8):**



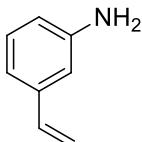
GC-MS: m/z (%) 106 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 77 (12). Physical and spectral data were consistent with those previously reported.<sup>[23]</sup>

**(3-Aminophenyl)-methanol (Table 2, entry 9):**



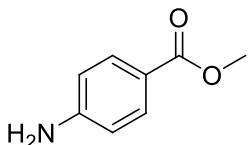
GC-MS: m/z (%) 123 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 94 (74), 77 (30), 65 (13), 39 (8).<sup>[24]</sup>

**3-Aminostyrene (Table 2, entry 10):**



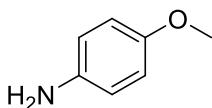
GC-MS: m/z (%) 119 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 91 (28), 89 (5), 65 (13).<sup>[25]</sup>

**Methyl 4-aminobenzoate (Table 2, entry 11):**



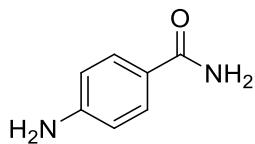
GC-MS: m/z (%) 151 (54) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 120 (100), 92 (26), 65 (20).<sup>[26]</sup>

**4-Methoxyaniline (Table 2, entry 12):**



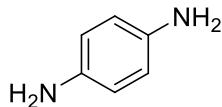
GC-MS: m/z (%) 108 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 80 (36), 53 (14).<sup>[26]</sup>

**4-Aminobenzamide (Table 2, entry 13):**



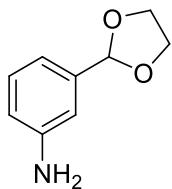
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 136 (73) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 120 (100), 92 (34), 65 (27), 39 (8).<sup>[23]</sup>

**1,4-Benzenediamine (Table 2, entry 14):**



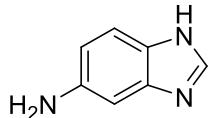
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 108 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 80 (33), 53 (10).<sup>[22]</sup>

**5-(Aminophenyl)-1,3-dioxolane (Table 2, entry 15):**



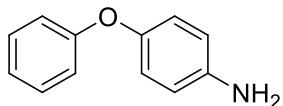
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 165 (99) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 120 (52), 93 (100), 65 (26).<sup>[23]</sup>

**6-Amino-1H-benzimidazole (Table 2, entry 16):**



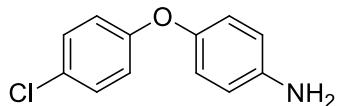
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 133 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 106 (15), 78 (8), 52 (12).<sup>[21]</sup>

**4-Aminodiphenyl ether (Table 2, entry 17):**



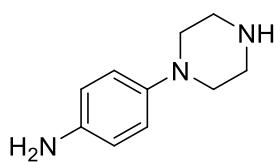
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 185 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 156 (17), 108 (74), 80 (25), 51 (13).<sup>[27]</sup>

**4-(4-Chlorophenoxy)benzenamine (Table 2, entry 18):**



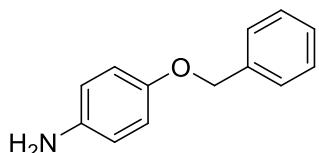
GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 219 (72) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 156 (13), 108 (100), 80 (30).<sup>[24]</sup>

**1-(4-Aminophenyl)piperazine (Table 2, entry 19):**



GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 177 (51) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 135 (100), 120 (30), 92 (10) 65 (11).<sup>[27]</sup>

#### 4-(Benzylamino)benzenamine (Table 2, entry 20):



GC-MS:  $m/z$  (%) 199 (15) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 108 (100), 91 (29), 80 (14), 53 (5).<sup>[28]</sup>

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*Faraday Discuss.* **2018**, DOI: 10.1039/c7fd00216e.

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