## Supplementary Information

# Ultrafine AuPd Nanoparticles Supported on Amine Functionalized Monochlortriazinyl $\boldsymbol{\beta}$-Cyclodextrin as Highly <br> Active Catalysts for Hydrogen Evolution from Formic Acid Dehydrogenation 

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Fig. S1 UV-vis spectra of aqueous solutions containing various species.


Fig. S2 TEM images and corresponding particle size distribution of (a) $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7}$, (b) $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$, (c) $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7}-\mathrm{A}$, (d) $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{C}$.


Fig. S3 EDX spectrum of $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$.

Table S1. The metal loading amounts and the molar ratios of $\mathrm{Au} / \mathrm{Pd}$ of $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ before and after cyclic tests for dehydrogenation of FA reaction.

| Sample | Au <br> loading <br> $(\mathrm{mg})$ | Pd <br> loading <br> $(\mathrm{mg})$ | Ratio of <br> $\mathrm{Au} / \mathrm{Pd}$ <br> $(\mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{mol})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ before cyclic tests | 3.215 | 4.070 | $0.298: 0.702$ |
| $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ after cyclic tests | 3.210 | 4.052 | $0.299: 0.701$ |



Fig. S4 High-resolution XPS spectrum of N 1 s for $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7}-\mathrm{A}$.


Fig. S5 High-resolution XPS spectra of (a) Pd 3d and (b) Au 4f for $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$


Fig. S6 High-resolution XPS spectra of Au 4 f for $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ and $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} \mathrm{NPs}$.


Fig. S7 GC spectrum using TCD for the evolved gas from FA aqueous solution ( $1.0 \mathrm{M}, 5.0 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) over $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ at 323 K .


Fig. S8 GC spectrum using FID-Methanator for the (a) commercial pure CO, and (b) evolved gas from FA aqueous solution $(1.0 \mathrm{M}, 5.0 \mathrm{~mL})$ over $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ at 323 K .


Fig. S9 High resolution XPS spectra of (a) Pd 3 d and (b) Au 4 f for $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7}-\mathrm{A}$ and $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7}$ NPs.

Table S2. Comparisons of catalytic activities for the dehydrogenation of FA catalyzed by previously reported heterogeneous catalysts with the as-synthesized in this work.

| Catalyst | Temp. <br> (K) | $\mathrm{n}_{\text {catalyst }} / \mathrm{n}_{\text {FA }}$ | Additive | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TOF } \\ & \left(\mathrm{h}^{-1}\right) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} E a \\ (\mathrm{~kJ} / \mathrm{mol}) \end{gathered}$ | Ref. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Without additive |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Au@Pd/N-mrGO | 298 | 0.0200 | None | $89.1{ }^{\text {a }}$ | --- | 12 |
| $\mathrm{Au}_{42} \mathrm{Pd}_{58}$ | 323 | 0.0100 | None | $382^{\text {a }}$ | $22 \pm 1$ | 46 |
| $\mathrm{Pd}_{\mathrm{IMP}} / \mathrm{CNF}$ | 303 | 0.0188 | None | $563.2^{\text {b }}$ | 27.50 | 47 |
| $\mathrm{Pd} / \mathrm{CN}_{0.25}$ | 298 | 0.0075 | None | $752^{\text {b }}$ | 48.80 | 48 |
| $\mathrm{Ni}_{0.4} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.6} / \mathrm{NH}_{2}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{rGO}$ | 298 | 0.0200 | None | $954.3^{\text {a }}$ | --- | 41 |
| $\mathrm{Pd}-\mathrm{MnO}_{\mathrm{x}} / \mathrm{SiO}_{2}-\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ | 323 | 0.1068 | None | $1300^{\text {a }}$ | 61.9 | 49 |
| $\mathrm{Cr}_{0.4} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.6} / \mathrm{MIL}-101-\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ | 323 | 0.0200 | None | $2009^{\text {a }}$ | 43.50 | 27 |
| $\mathrm{Pd} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{SEP}-\mathrm{NH}_{2(0.9)}$ | 333 | 0.0315 | None | $5587{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 44.5 | 50 |
| $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ | 323 | 0.0200 | None | $7352^{\text {b }}$ | 39.50 | This work |
| With Additive |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pd -CNTs-in | 303 | 0.0214 | HCOONa | $1135.8^{\text {a }}$ | 36.60 | 51 |
| Pd-B/C | 303 | 0.0143 | HCOONa | $1184^{\text {b }}$ | --- | 7 |
| $\mathrm{Co}_{5} \mathrm{Pd}_{5} / \mathrm{CTF}-600$ | 323 | 0.0070 | HCOOK | $2129^{\text {a }}$ | 35.94 | 52 |
| $\left(\mathrm{Co}_{6}\right) \mathrm{Ag}_{0.1} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.4} / \mathrm{RGO}$ | 323 | 0.0200 | HCOONa | $2739^{\text {b }}$ | 43.10 | 53 |
| $\mathrm{Pd} / \mathrm{S}-1$-in-K | 323 | 0.0100 | HCOONa | $3027^{\text {b }}$ | 39.2 | 54 |
| Pd/PDA-rGO | 323 | 0.0150 | HCOONa | $3810^{\text {b }}$ | 54.30 | 55 |
| $\left(\mathrm{Co}_{3}\right)_{\mathrm{E}} \mathrm{Au}_{0.6} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.4} / \mathrm{rGO}$ | 323 | 0.0200 | HCOONa | $4840^{\text {a }}$ | --- | 16 |
| $\mathrm{Au}_{2} \mathrm{Pd}_{3} @(\mathrm{P}) \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}$ | 303 | 0.0170 | HCOONa | $5400^{\text {a }}$ | --- | 56 |

a. Initial TOF values calculated based on total metal.
b. Initial TOF values calculated based on total Pd atoms.


Fig. S10 (a) Plot of volume of gas over time for the dehydrogenation of FA catalyzed by $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ at different temperatures; (b) Arrhenius plot of $\ln$ TOF vs. $1 / \mathrm{T}$ for $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$.


Fig. S11 (a) Time-course plots for the dehydrogenation of FA ( $1.0 \mathrm{M}, 5.0 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) catalyze by $\mathrm{Au}_{\mathrm{x}} \mathrm{Pd}_{1-\mathrm{x}} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}(\mathrm{x}=0,0.1,0.3,0.5,0.7,0.9$ and 1.0$)$ at 323 K and the inset shows the corresponding larger plots; (b) their related initial TOF values.


Fig. S12 Durability test of $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ towards the dehydrogenation of FA .


Fig. S13 (a) XRD spectrum; (b) TEM image and the corresponding particle size distribution (inset) of $\mathrm{Au}_{0.3} \mathrm{Pd}_{0.7} / \mathrm{A}-\mathrm{M}-\beta-\mathrm{CD}$ after the $4^{\text {th }}$ run.

