Amine Formylation via Carbon Dioxide Recycling Catalyzed by

a Simple and Efficient Heterogeneous Palladium Catalyst

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1. Experimental

All solvents and chemicals were obtained commercially and were used as received.

NMR spectra were measured using a Bruker ARX 400 or ARX 100 spectrometer at 400 MHz (¹H) and 100 MHz (¹³C). All spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ and chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane referenced to the residual solvent peaks. Mass spectra were in general recorded on an HP 6890/5973 GC-MS.

X-ray diffraction (XRD)

XRD patterns of samples were obtained on a STADI P automated transmission diffractometer instrument equipped with an incident beam curved germanium monochromator selecting Cu K α 1 radiation (40 KV and 40 mA) was used as the X-ray source. The precipitated particles were dried in air and pressed on a glass slide for analysis.

Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)

For the prepared catalysts, the particle dispersion was diluted by ethanol, and then 10 μ L of dispersion was cast on the TEM grids with a micro-pipet. TEM images were obtained on a Tecnai G2 F30 S-Twin operating at 300 kV.

X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS)

The XPS measurements were performed with a VG ESCALAB 210 instrument provided with a dual Mg/Mg anode X-ray source, a hemispherical capacitor analyser and a 5 keV Ar^+ ion-gun. All spectra were recorded using non-monochromatic Mg K α (1253.6 eV) radiation.

BET and ICP-AES analysis

Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms were measured at 77 K using Micromeritics 2010 instrument. The pore-size distribution was calculated by Barrett, Joyner and Halenda (BJH) method from desorption isotherm. The Pd content of the catalyst was measured by inductively coupled plasma-atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES), using an Iris advantage Thermo Jarrel

Ash device.

TPR measurement:

50 mg of catalyst was placed in a quartz tube, and it was heated up to 350 $^{\circ}$ C under 20 mL/min O₂ flow (10 $^{\circ}$ C/min) and maintained 100 min. The sample was cooled to room temperature and purged with highly pure Ar for 1 h. Then it was reduced with 5% H₂ (balanced with N₂) with the increasing of the temperature to 350 $^{\circ}$ C (10 $^{\circ}$ C /min). The amount of hydrogen uptake was monitored on-line by a TCD detector and recorded as a function of temperature.

Typical procedure for Al₂O₃-nanorods (NR) preparation

Typically, 10 mmol AlCl₃ was dissolved in 30 mL distilled water and 10 mmol BMImCl was added afterwards. Following with the addition of 50 mL $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ solution, the mixture were stirred for 30 min to form a milk-white solution. Then, the resulting precursor solution was transferred into a Teflon-lined stainless autoclave. After being hydrothermal treated at 120 °C for 12 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, centrifuged, and washed with 40 mL distilled water and ethanol. The white solid sample was dried at 60 °C under vaccum for 3 h and calcined at 600 °C for 2 h to obtain the final Al₂O₃ nano-rods sample (Al₂O₃-NR).

Typical procedure for catalyst preparation

Reductive Deposition (RD) method: Suitable amount of H₂PdCl₄ (8 mg) were added into 50 mL distilled water and 400 mg Al₂O₃ nano-rods was added to the solution under stirring. A freshly prepared solution of NaBH₄ (0.1 M, 20 mL) was then added under stirring to form a dark solution. After the mixture was further stirred for 3 h at 30 °C, it was centrifuged and washed by water, dried at 120 °C for 4 h and calcined at 350 °C for 4 h in air. A grey solid sample was obtained and denoted as Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-RD. Pd/ α -Al₂O₃-RD and Pd/ γ -Al₂O₃-RD were prepared with the same procedure.

Deposition Precipitation (DP) method: Suitable amount of H₂PdCl₄ (8 mg) were added into 50 mL distilled water and 400 mg Al₂O₃ nano-rods was added to the solution under stirring. A freshly prepared solution of NaCO₃ (0.05 M, 20 mL) was then added to form a dark solution. After the reaction mixture was stirred for another 3 h at 30 °C, it was centrifuged and washed by water, dried at 120 °C for 4 h and calcined at 350 °C for 4 h in air. A grey solid sample was obtained and denoted as Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-DP.

Impregnation (IP) method: Suitable amount of H_2PdCl_4 (8 mg) were added into 5 mL distilled water and 400 mg Al_2O_3 nano-rods was added to the solution under stirring. After the reaction mixture was stirred for another 3 h at 30 °C, it was dried at 60 °C for 2 h under vacuum and calcined at 350 °C for 4 h in air. A grey solid sample was obtained and denoted as Pd/Al_2O_3-NR-IP.

Typical procedure for formylation of amines by CO₂ hydrogenation

1.0 mmol amines, 50 mg catalyst and 3 mL octane were added into a 100 mL autoclave equipped with magnetic stirrer. The autoclave was sealed and exchanged with CO_2 for 2 times and reacted at 130 °C under 1 MPa CO_2 and 2 MPa H_2 for 24 h. Then it was cooled to room temperature. ~10 mL ethanol was added to dissolve the reaction mixture and the product was detected by HP 6890/5973 GC-MS. The GC-yield was determined by GC-FID using biphenyl as internal standard and the isolated yields were obtained by flash column chromatography.

Catalysts	Surface Area (m ² /g)	Pore Volume (cm ³ /g)	Pore Size (Å)
Pd/α - Al_2O_3 - RD	154.2	0.72	134.9
Pd/γ - Al_2O_3 - RD	281.6	0.48	57.2
Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR- RD	177.8	0.93	213.4
Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-DP	247.8	1.07	145.4
Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-IP	208.3	0.78	137.7

Table S1. BET results of the studied catalysts

Table S2. Palladium loading, H₂ chemisorption and peak temperature results for the studied catalysts

Catalysts	Pd (wt%)	H ₂ consumption	Peak temperature
Pd/a-Al ₂ O ₃ -RD	0.47	9.5 μ molg _{cat} ⁻¹	45 °C
Pd/γ - Al_2O - RD	0.55	15 μ molg _{cat} ⁻¹	70 °C
Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	0.53	13 μ molg _{cat} ⁻¹	47 °C
Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-DP	0.59	$15 \mu molg_{cat}^{-1}$)	65 °C
Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-IP	0.85	45 μ molg _{cat} ⁻¹	112 °C

		IH [Cat] CO ₂ /H ₂	\rightarrow N H	
ntry	Catalysts	Solvents	CO ₂ :H ₂ / MPa	Yield $(\%)^b$
1		Octane	1:2	0
2	Al ₂ O ₃ -NR	Octane	1:2	0
3	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	1:2	89
4	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-IP	Octane	1:2	2
5	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-DP	Octane	1:2	4
6	Pt/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	1:2	54
7	Rh/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	1:2	29
8	Ru/Al_2O_3 -NR-RD	Octane	1:2	10
9	Pd/α - Al_2O_3 - RD	Octane	1:2	36
10	Pd/γ - Al_2O_3 - RD	Octane	1:2	53
11	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	1:1	52
12	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	1:3	96
13	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	2:2	90
14	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	2:1	45
15	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	3:1	52
16	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Toluene	1:2	38
17	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Xylene	1:2	43
18	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Dioxane	1:2	30
19	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	THF	1:2	46
20^c	Pd/Al_2O_3 -NR-RD	Octane	1:2	46
21^d	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	1:2	93
22^e	Pd/Al_2O_3 -NR-RD	Octane	1:2	96
23^{f}	Pd/Al ₂ O ₃ -NR-RD	Octane	1:2	83

Table S3. Reaction conditions optimization with 1-methylpiperazine formylation by CO_2/H_2 as model reaction^{*a*}

^{*a*}1 mmol (100 mg) 1-methylpiperazine, 50 mg catalyst, 3 mL solvent, 130 °C, 16 h; ^{*b*}Determined by GC-FID using biphenyl as standard material; ^{*c*}120 °C; ^{*d*}140 °C; ^{*e*}Reaction time: 24 h; ^{*f*}Yield at the 3rd run.



Fig. S1. XRD diffraction patterns for a) Pd/α -Al₂O₃ -RD, b) Pd/ γ -Al₂O₃ -RD, c) Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-RD, d) Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-DP and e) Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-IP.



Fig. S2. TPR profile for a) Pd/ α -Al₂O₃-RD, b) Pd/ γ -Al₂O₃ -RD, c) Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-RD, d) Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-DP and e) Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-IP.



Fig. S3. XPS profile for a) Pd/α -Al₂O₃ -RD, b) Pd/γ -Al₂O₃ -RD, c) Pd/Al_2O_3 -NR-RD, d) Pd/Al_2O_3 -NR-DP and e) Pd/Al_2O_3 -NR-IP.



Fig. S4. BET profile for a) Pd/ α -Al₂O₃ -RD, b) Pd/ γ -Al₂O₃ -RD, c) Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-RD, d) Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-DP and e) Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-IP.



Fig. S5. SEM and TEM pictures for Pd/γ -Al₂O₃-RD.



Fig. S6. SEM and TEM pictures for Pd/α -Al₂O₃-RD.



Fig. S7. SEM and TEM pictures for Pd/ Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-DP.



Fig. S8. SEM and TEM pictures for Pd/Al₂O₃-NR-IP.



210 200 190 100 170 100 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 90 70 00 00 40 50 20 10 0 -10 f1 (gen)





210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10

























