

## Supporting Information

### **Palladium Nanoparticles on Reduced Graphene Oxide for Efficient and Practical Heterogeneous Activation of Aryl Chlorides in Aqueous Media *via* Microwave-Assisted Conditions**

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**Table S1.** Pd content of a series of Pd/rGO composites.

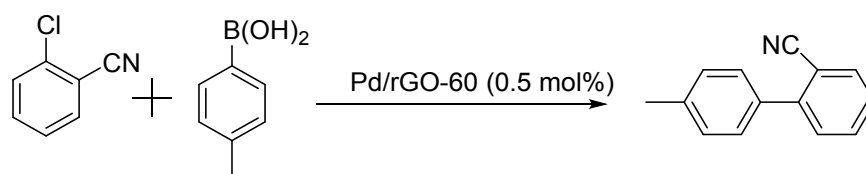
Entry	Catalyst	Pd content (mmol/g)
1	Pd/rGO-30	0.05
2	Pd/rGO-60	0.78
3	Pd/rGO-110	0.89

**Table S2.** Optimization of the reaction parameters in the Pd/rGO catalyzed Ullmann reaction.<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Catalyst	Base	Time (h)	Conversion (%)	Yield (%)
1 <sup>b</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	1.0	2.0	1.80
2 <sup>c</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	1.0	28.3	14.9
3 <sup>d</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	1.0	40.8	30.9
4	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	1.0	72.3	69.5
5 <sup>e</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	HCOONa	1.0	62.3	45.8
6 <sup>f</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa	1.0	26.5	24.5
7 <sup>g</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	HCOONa+KOH	1.0	77.2	44.5
8 <sup>h</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	HCOONa+NaOH	1.0	69.8	37.8
9 <sup>i</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+NaOH	1.0	56.8	45.7
10 <sup>k</sup>	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	20	85.4	83.6
11 <sup>k</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	2.0	10.2	5.4
12 <sup>k</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	20	>99	85.6
13 <sup>j</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	2.0	40.4	35.2
14 <sup>k</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	2.0	10.2	5.4
15 <sup>k,1</sup>	Pd/rGO-60	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	1.0	29.8	22.5
16 <sup>k</sup>	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa+KOH	20	85.4	83.6

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: 1.0 mmol chlorobenzene, 0.50 mmol TBAB, 1.5 mmol CH<sub>3</sub>COONa, 2.5 mmol KOH, 2.0 mL solvent (V<sub>water</sub>:V<sub>MeOH</sub>=1/1) and 0.50 mol% Pd catalyst, 100°C (microwave heating); <sup>b</sup>70°C; <sup>c</sup>80°C; <sup>d</sup>90°C; <sup>e</sup>0.9 mmol HCOONa; <sup>f</sup>0.9 mmol CH<sub>3</sub>COONa; <sup>g</sup>0.9 mmol HCOONa and 1.5 mmol KOH; <sup>h</sup>0.9 mmol HCOONa and 1.5 mmol NaOH; <sup>i</sup>0.9 mmol CH<sub>3</sub>COONa and 1.5 mmol NaOH; <sup>j</sup>No TBAB; <sup>k</sup>Oil bath; <sup>1</sup>150°C.

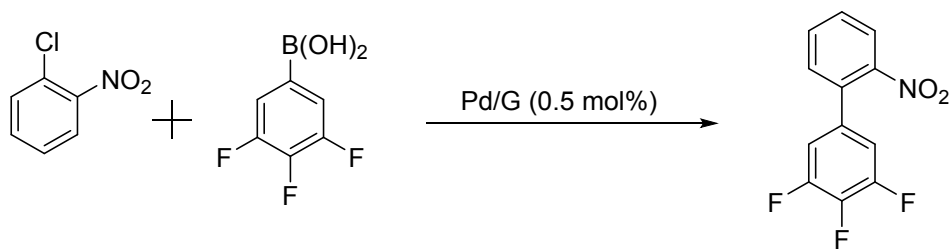
**Table S3.** Catalytic performances of Pd/rGO-60 catalyst in the reaction by changing for 4'-methyl-2-biphenylcarbonitrile.<sup>a</sup>



Entry	Time (h)	Solvent	Conversion (%)	Yield (%)
1	1	H <sub>2</sub> O+EtOH	56.7	49.8
2	2	H <sub>2</sub> O+EtOH	92.2	86.4
3	3	H <sub>2</sub> O+EtOH	98.4	93.8
4	2	DMF	91.2	90.6

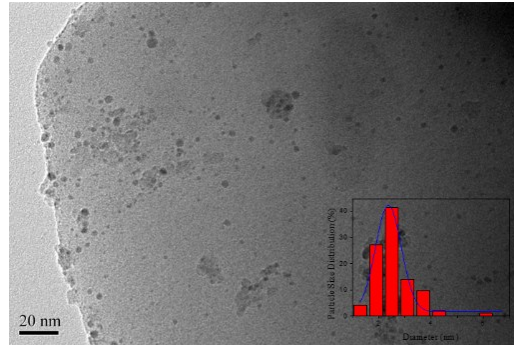
<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: 1.0 mmol 2-Chlorobenzonitrile, 1.2 mmol p-Tolylboronic acid, 0.50 mmol TBAB, 3.0 mmol K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 2.0 mL solvent ( $V_{\text{water}}/V_{\text{MeOH}}=1/1$ ) and 0.50 mol% Pd catalyst, 100°C (microwave heating).

**Table S4.** Optimization of reaction conditions of the synthesis of 2-nitro-3',4',5'-trifluoro-1,1'-biphenyl by using Pd/rGO-60 catalyst.<sup>a</sup>

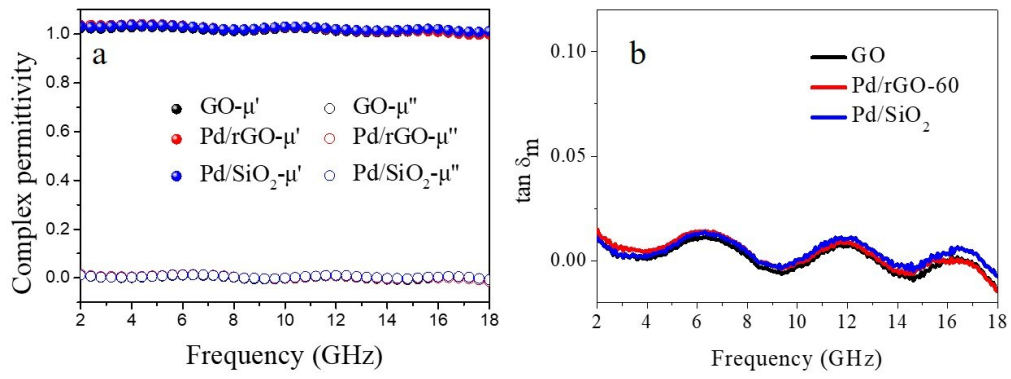


Entry	Solvent	Base	Temperature (°C)	Conversion (%)	Yield (%)
1	H <sub>2</sub> O/EtOH	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	80	52.8	45.2
2	EG	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	80	79.0	73.2
3	H <sub>2</sub> O/THF	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	80	25.3	23.9
4	H <sub>2</sub> O/DMF	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	80	Trace	Trace
5	H <sub>2</sub> O/CH <sub>3</sub> OH	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	80	Trace	Trace
6 <sup>b</sup>	H <sub>2</sub> O/EtOH	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	80	54.2	53.8
7	EG	NaOH	80	22.3	4.16
8	EG	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	80	38.2	30.3
9	EG	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	80	28.9	25.1
10	EG	KF	80	40.6	37.9
11	EG	HCOONa	80	50.1	33.9
12	EG	CH <sub>3</sub> COONa	80	66.9	56.5
13	EG	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	90	83.5	76.2
14	EG	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	100	92.1	89.7
15 <sup>c</sup>	EG	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	100	91.2	85.1
16 <sup>d</sup>	EG	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	100	90.3	79.5

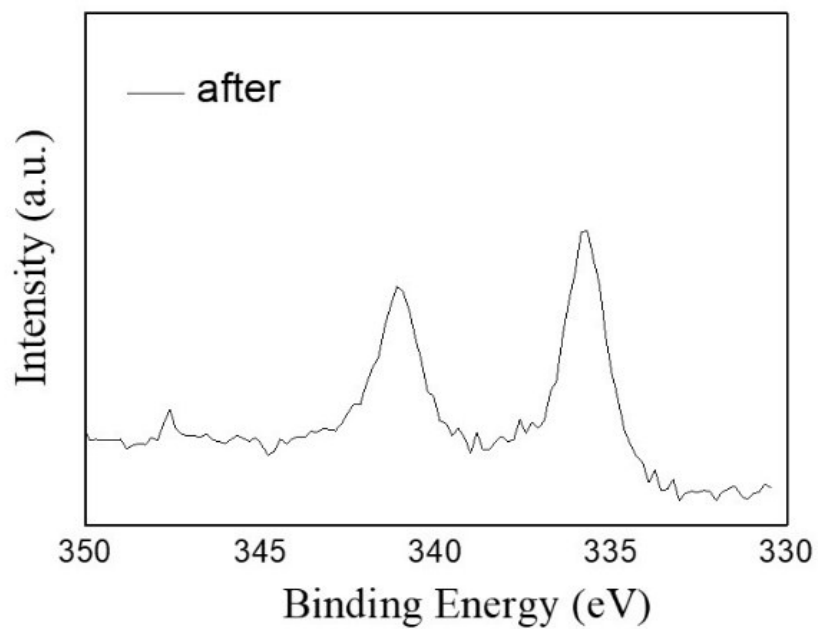
<sup>a</sup>Reaction Condition: 1.0 mmol 1-chloro-2-nitro-Benzene, 1.2 mmol 3, 4, 5-trifluorophenyl-boronic acid, 0.50 mol% Pd/rGO-60, 3.0 mmol K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 2.0 mL solvent (V<sub>water</sub>/V<sub>MeOH</sub>=1/1), 1.5 h, microwave heating; <sup>b</sup>Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> as catalyst; <sup>c</sup>5.0 mmol 1-chloro-2-nitro-Benzene; <sup>d</sup>oil bath heating, 20 h.



**Figure S1.** TEM image and particle size distribution of Pd/SiO<sub>2</sub> sample.

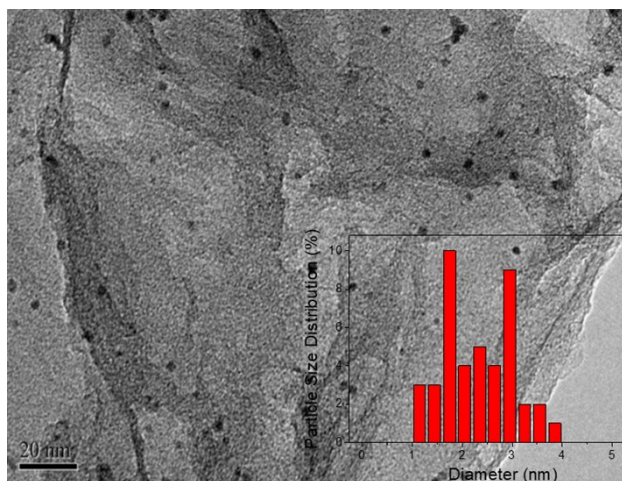


**Figure S2.** Frequency dependence of real part and imaginary part of permeability (a), and magnetic loss tangent (b) of rGO, Pd/rGO-60 and Pd/SiO<sub>2</sub> samples.



**Figure S3.** XPS spectrum of the reused Pd/rGO-60 catalyst after six cycles.





**Figure S4.** TEM image and particle size distribution of the reused Pd/rGO-60 catalyst after six cycles.