Supplementary Information (SI) for Catalysis Science & Technology. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2024

## **Supporting Information**

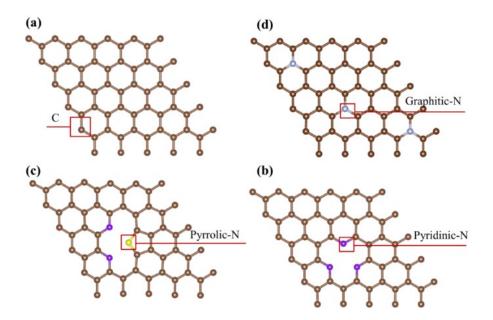
## Facile Synthesis and Electronic Structure Optimization of Sub-nanometer

## Palladium Clusters for Efficient Direct Synthesis of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

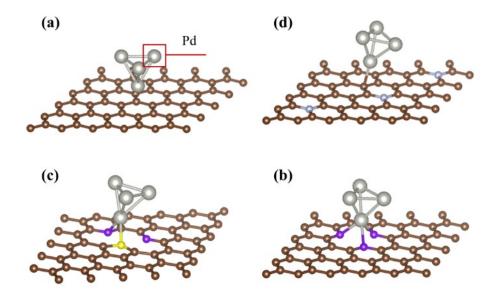
Yulu Chen<sup>a,b</sup>, Hongyan Pan<sup>a,b</sup>, Chunliang Yang<sup>a,b</sup>, Haipeng Xiao<sup>a,b</sup>, Zheng Chen<sup>a,b\*</sup>, Chun Zhu<sup>a</sup>, Weiyue Zhao<sup>a,b\*</sup>, Qian Lin<sup>a,b\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Guizhou University, Guiyang, Guizhou 550025, China.

<sup>b</sup> Guizhou Key Laboratory of Green Chemical and Clean Energy Technology, Guiyang, Guizhou 550025, China



**Figure S1.** The models of (a) graphitic, (b) graphitic doped with Pyridinic-N, (c) graphitic doped with Pyrrolic-N and (d) graphitic doped with Graphitic-N.



**Figure S2**. (a) The optimized models of Pd cluster adsorbed on (a) graphitic, (b) graphitic doped with Pyridinic-N, (c) graphitic doped with Pyrrolic-N and (d) graphitic doped with Graphitic-N.

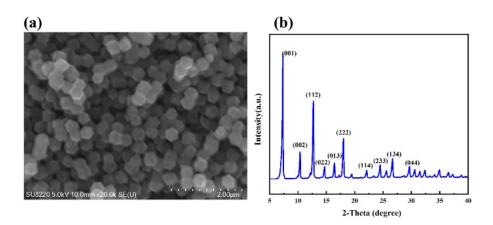


Figure S3. (a) SEM image of ZIF-8; (b)XRD spectra of ZIF-8

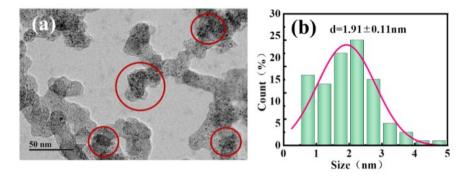
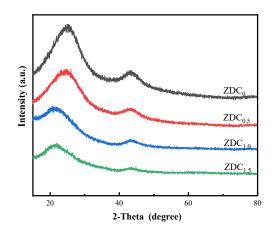


Figure S4. (a) TEM images of Pd/ XC-72. (b) Pd NPs size distribution of Pd/ XC-72.



**Figure S5.** XRD spectra of  $ZDC_X$ .

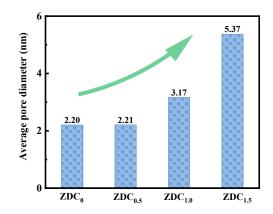


Figure S6. Average pore diameter of  $ZDC_X$ .

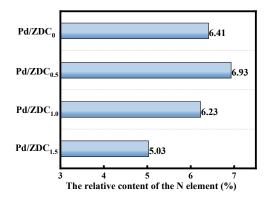
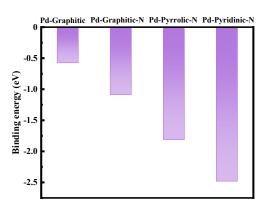
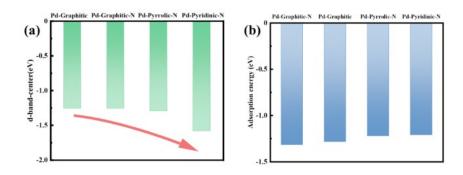


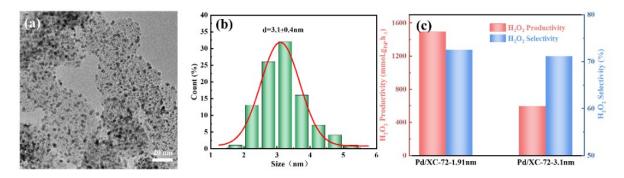
Figure S7. The relative content of the N element of ZDC<sub>0</sub>, ZDC<sub>0.5</sub>, ZDC<sub>1.0</sub> and ZDC<sub>1.5</sub>



**Figure S8.** Binding energy of Pd cluster adsorbed on pristine graphitic and graphitic doped with graphitic-N, pyrrolic-N and pyridinic-N.



**Figure S9.** (a) The d-band-center of Pd cluster adsorbed on graphitic and graphitic doped with graphitic-N, pyrrolic-N and pyridinic-N. (b) Adsorption energy of O<sub>2</sub> on Pd-Graphitic, Pd-Graphitic-N, Pd-pyrrolic-N and Pd-pyridinic-N



**Figure S10.** (a) TEM image of Pd/XC-72-3.1nm, (b) Pd NPs size distribution of Pd/XC-72, (c) evaluation results of catalytic performance of Pd/XC-72-1.91nm and Pd/XC-72-3.1 nm.

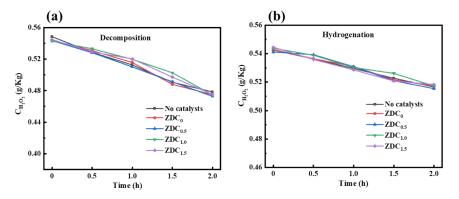


Figure S11. (a) H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> decomposition and (b) hydrogenation test for ZDC<sub>X</sub> carriers.

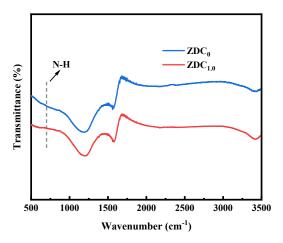


Figure S12. FTIR spectra of  $ZDC_0$  and  $ZDC_{1.0}$ .

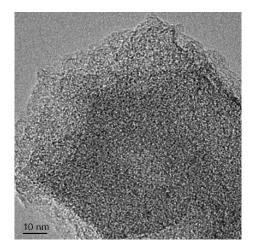


Figure S13. TEM of Pd/  $ZDC_{1.0}$  catalyst after four cyclic experiments

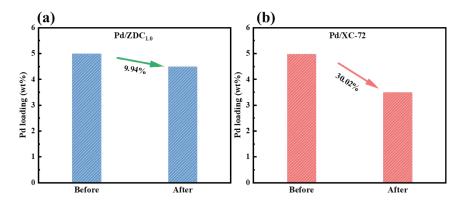


Figure S14. The Pd leaching rate of catalysts after cycling experiments, (a) Pd/ZDC<sub>1.0</sub>, (b) Pd/XC-72.

catalysts	theoretical Pd loading (wt%)	actual Pd loading (wt%)	residual Zn (wt%)
Pd/ZDC <sub>0</sub>	5.0	4.865	N/A
Pd/ZDC <sub>0.5</sub>	5.0	4.902	N/A
$Pd/ZDC_{1.0}$	5.0	4.934	N/A
$Pd/ZDC_{1.5}$	5.0	4.896	N/A
Pd/XC-72	5.0	4.878	/

Table S1 The Pd loading of catalysts measured by ICP-AES

 $\Delta$ : N/A indicates that no corresponding element has been detected.

catalyst	$S_{BET}$ (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	$V_{mic}$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	$V_{mes}$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)
$Pd/ZDC_0$	1230.51	0.44	0.24
$Pd/ZDC_{0.5}$	1845.97	0.61	0.41
$Pd/ZDC_{1.0}$	2964.64	0.75	1.60
$Pd/ZDC_{1.5}$	3088.89	0.82	3.32

**Table S2**. Structural parameters of  $ZDC_X$ .