

**Electronic Supplementary Information For  
Covalently functionalized carbon nanotubes supported Pd  
nanoparticles for catalytic reduction of 4-nitrophenol**

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**Table S1** The XPS data summary of different samples.

Sample	O (at. %)	O1 (C=O) (at. %)	O2 (O=C-O) (at. %)	O3 (C-OH) (at. %)	C2 (C-OH)/% <sup>b</sup>
NF-CNT	0.77	0.16	0.22	0.38 (49.8%) <sup>a</sup>	10.1
CNT-160	2.36	0.33	0.72	1.31 (55.6%) <sup>a</sup>	11.6
CNT-200	5.11	0.50	1.32	3.29 (64.5%) <sup>a</sup>	14.9
CNT-220	5.36	0.45	1.24	3.68 (68.6%) <sup>a</sup>	15.3

a. the percentage is relative intensity of C-OH groups from O1s core level spectra of different samples; b the percentage is relative intensity of C-OH groups from C1s core level spectra of different;

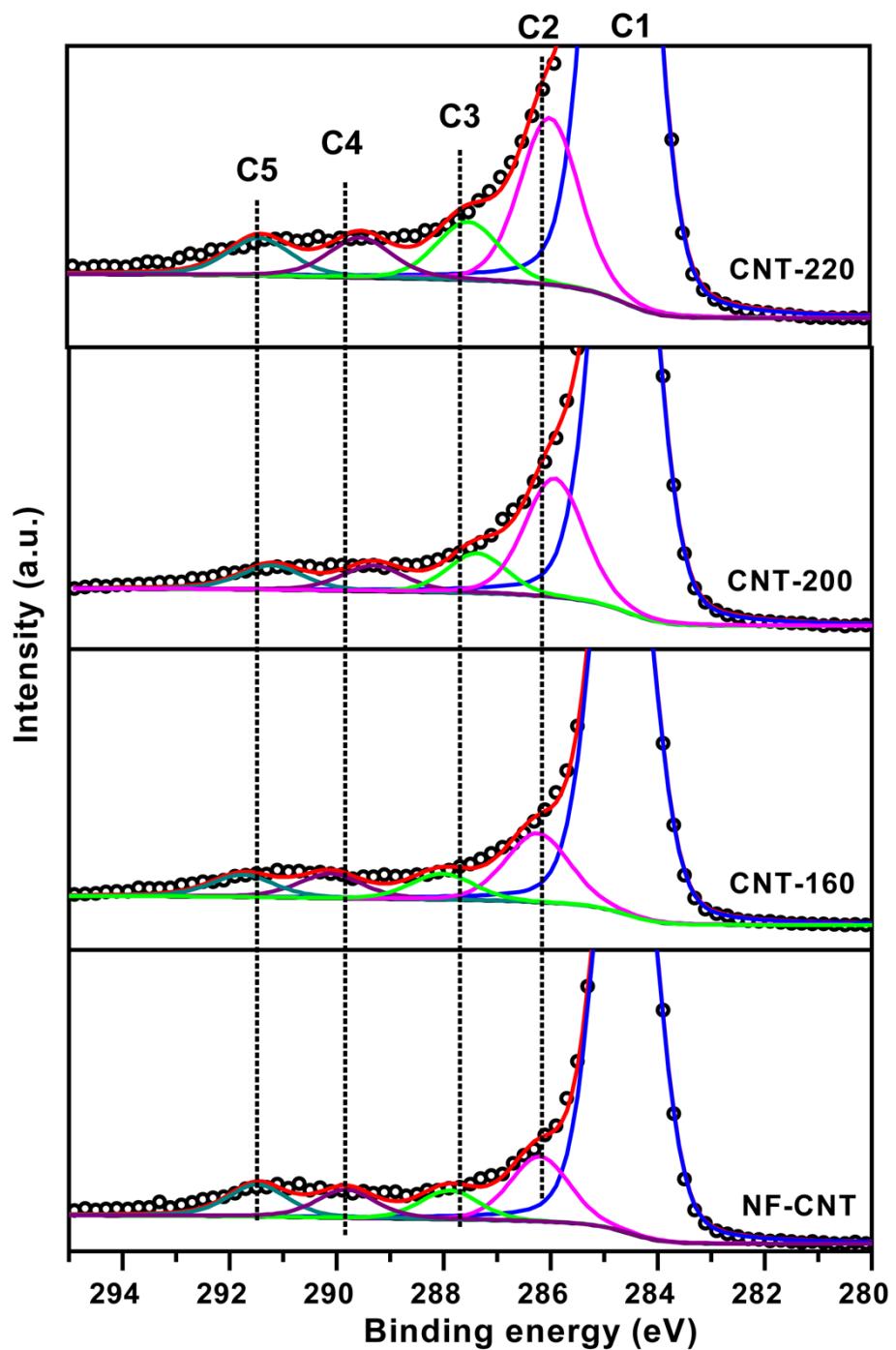
**Table S2** Sample denotations and comparison of the fit parameters from the peaks fitted in the Raman spectra of CNT samples.

Sample	Description	Position [cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	Area (a.u.)	FWHM [cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	I <sub>D</sub> /I <sub>G</sub>
NF-CNT	D	1318.7	14.1	27.8	2.61
	G	1569.4	5.4	22.6	
	D'	1600.7	2.7	16.6	
	D3	1504.1	0.9	59.0	
CNT-160	D	1319.1	13.5	29	2.55
	G	1570	5.3	24.1	
	D'	1601.2	2.6	16.8	
	D3	1502.6	1.1	60.3	
CNT-200	D	1320.3	14.1	27.7	2.43
	G	1571.4	5.8	24.3	
	D'	1602.1	2.5	16	
	D3	1483.2	1.4	69.5	
CNT-220	D	1323.2	13.9	29.3	2.39
	G	1573.4	5.8	24.6	
	D'	1604.8	2.7	16.9	
	D3	1497.9	2.0	69.5	

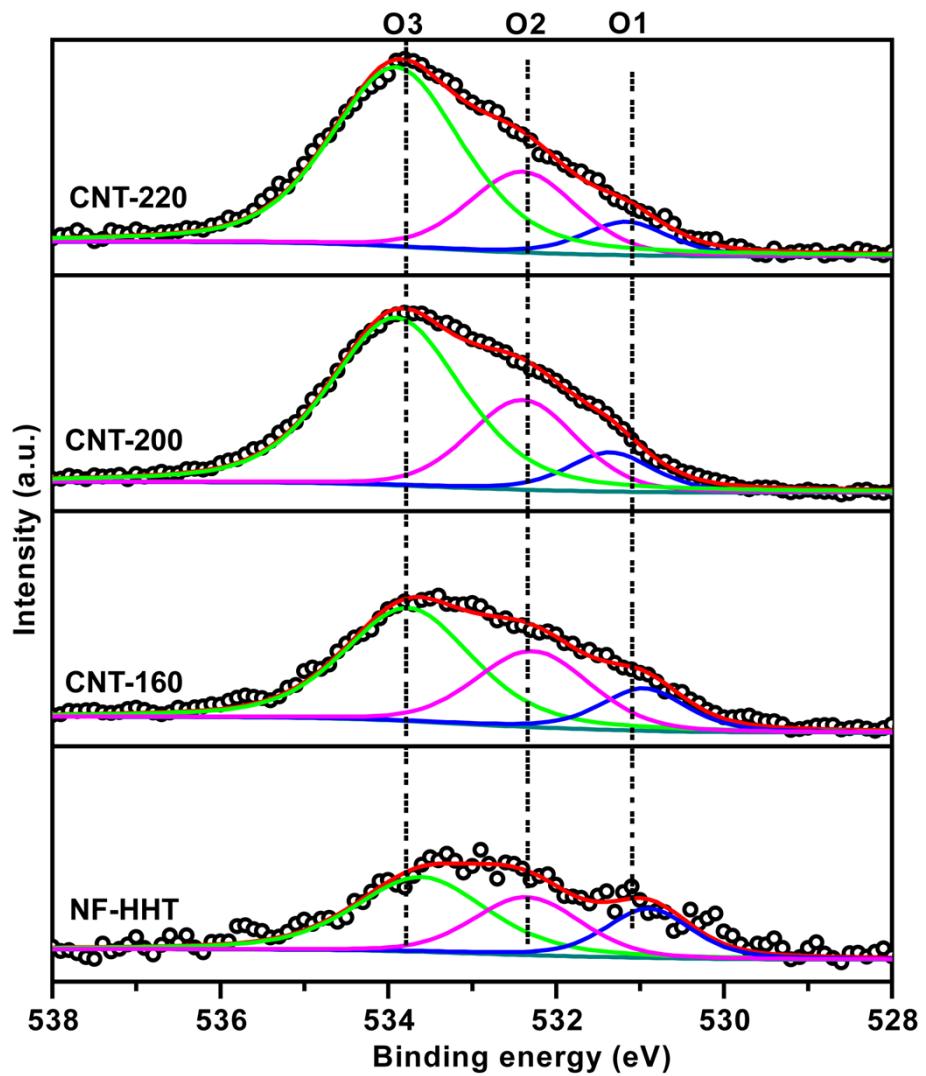
**Table S3** Summary of XPS Pd 3d core level of different composites.

Sample		3d <sub>5/2</sub> /eV	3d <sub>3/2</sub> /eV	Pd <sup>0</sup> /%	Pd <sup>2+</sup> /%
Pd NPs/NF-CNT	Pd <sup>0</sup>	335.7	341		
	Pd <sup>2+</sup>	337.8	343	86.9	13.1
Pd NPs/O-CNT	Pd <sup>0</sup>	336	341.3		
	Pd <sup>2+</sup>	337.7	342.9	83.4	16.6
Pd NPs/CNT-220 <sup>a</sup>	Pd <sup>0</sup>	335.8	341.1		
	Pd <sup>2+</sup>	338.2	343.4	81.3	18.7
Pd NPs/CNT-220 <sup>b</sup>	Pd <sup>0</sup>	335.9	341.2		
	Pd <sup>2+</sup>	338	343.2	84.2	15.8

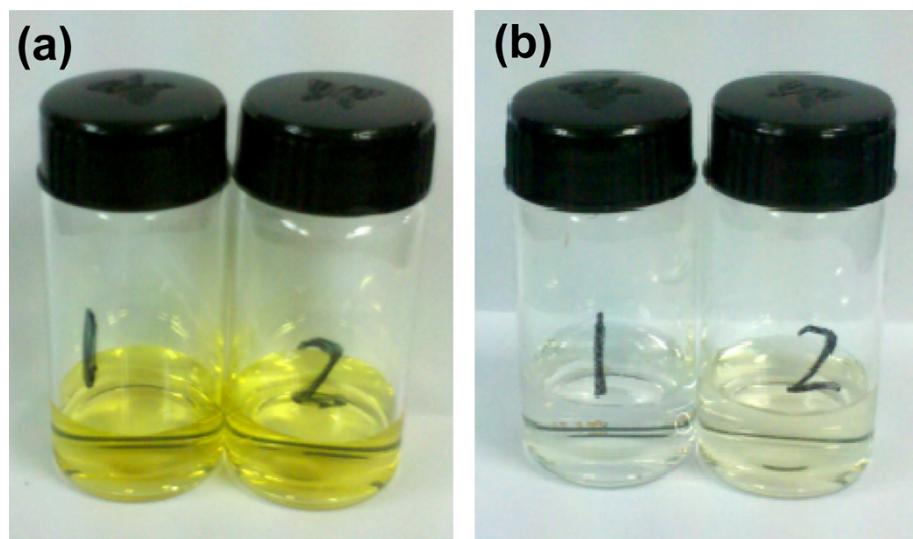
a. this sample used before catalytic reaction; b this sample used after catalytic reaction.



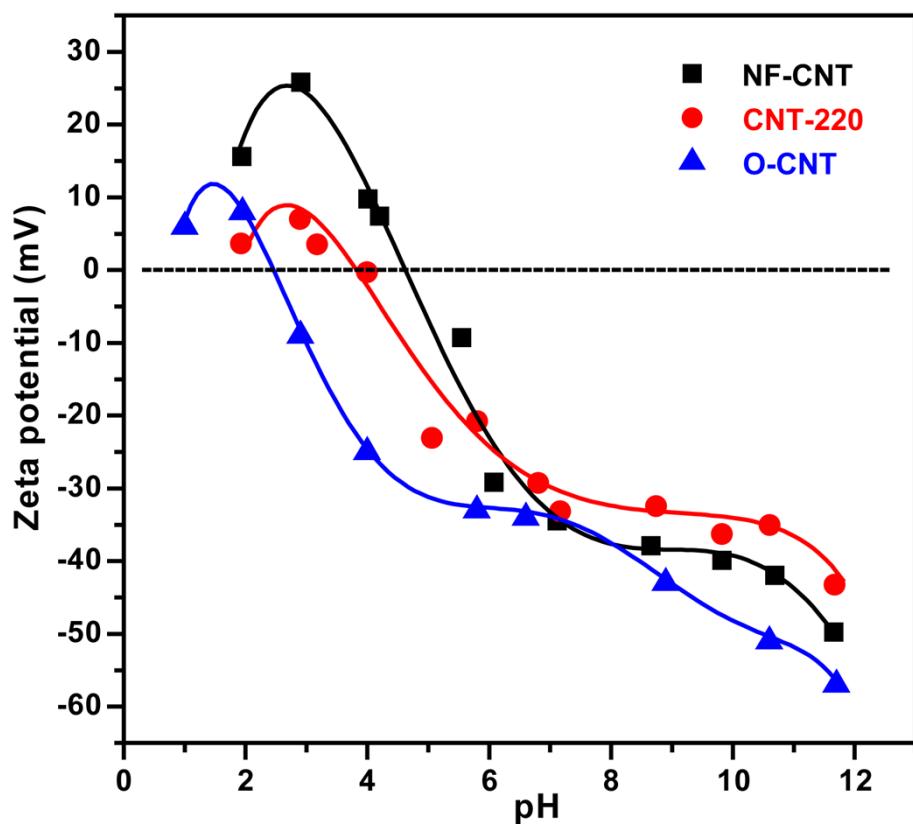
**Figure S1** The curve fitted C1s XPS of NF-CNT, CNT-160, CNT-200 and CNT-220. To visualize the component and shakeup peaks, component peaks C1 are shown as cut-out.



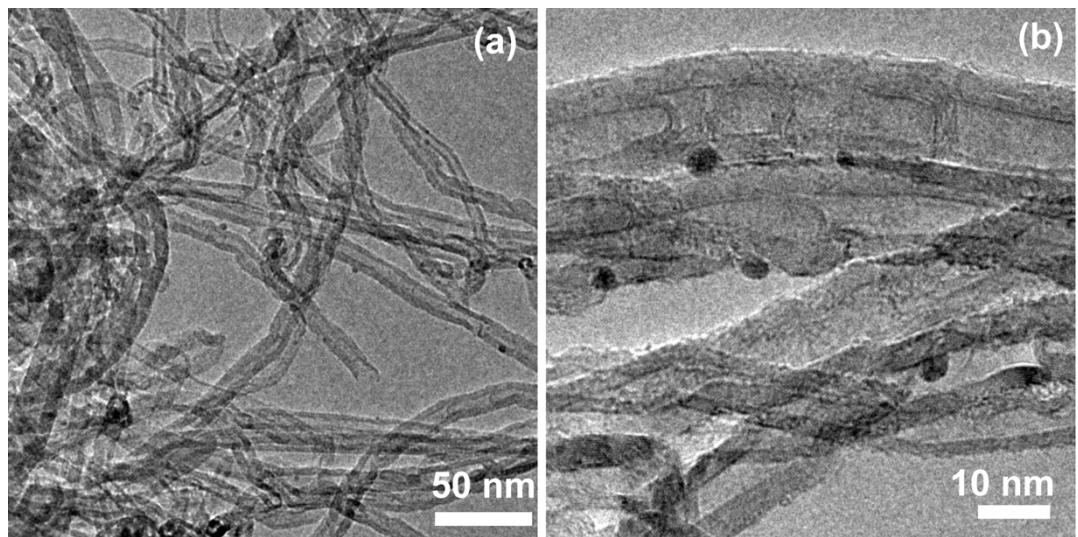
**Figure S2 T** The curve fitted O1s XPS of NF-CNT, CNT-160, CNT-200 and CNT-220.



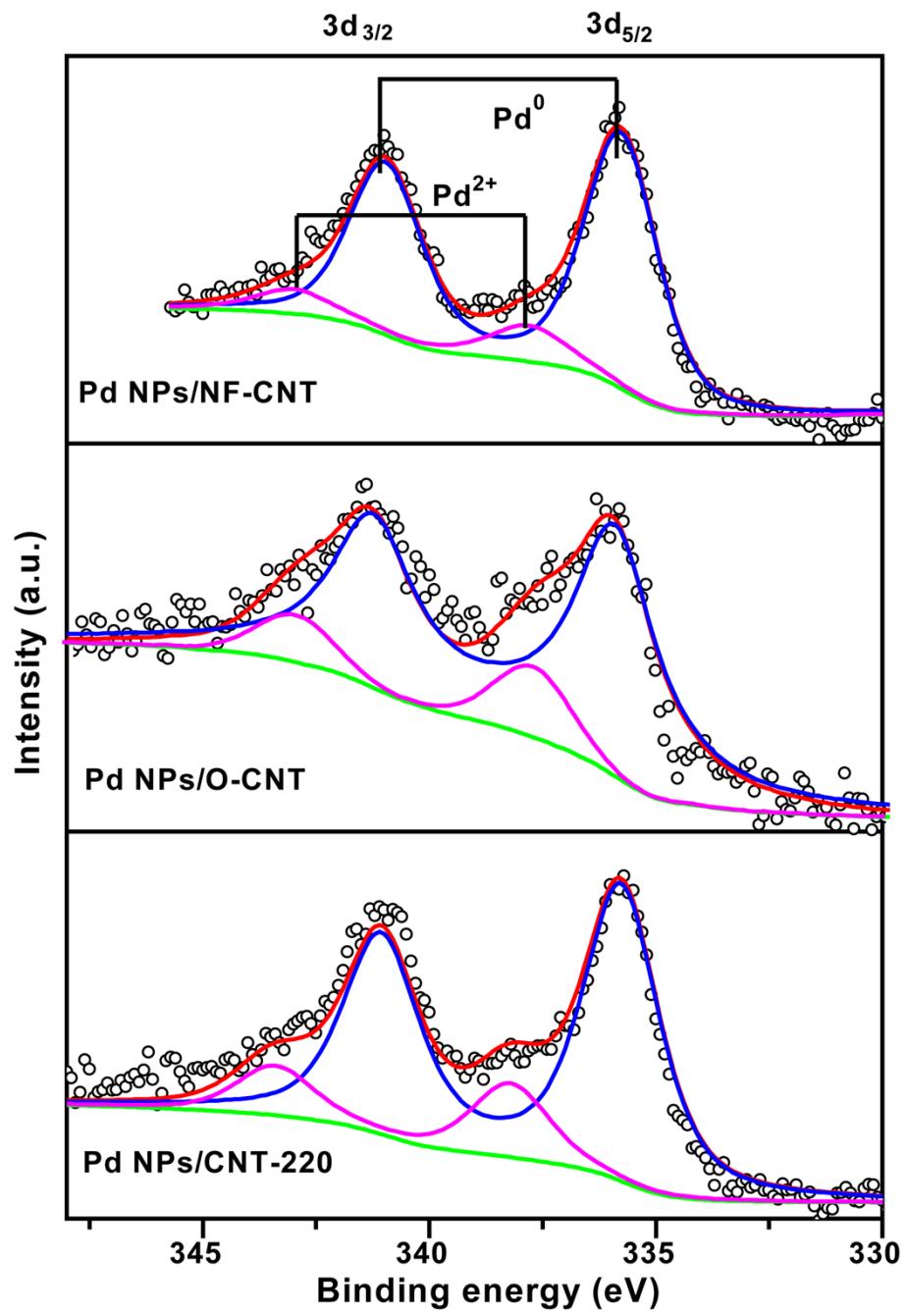
**Figure S3** Photograph of solution color Pd NPs supported CNTs before (a) and after (b); CNT-220 was added in the **bottle 1** and NF-CNT was added in the **bottle 2**.



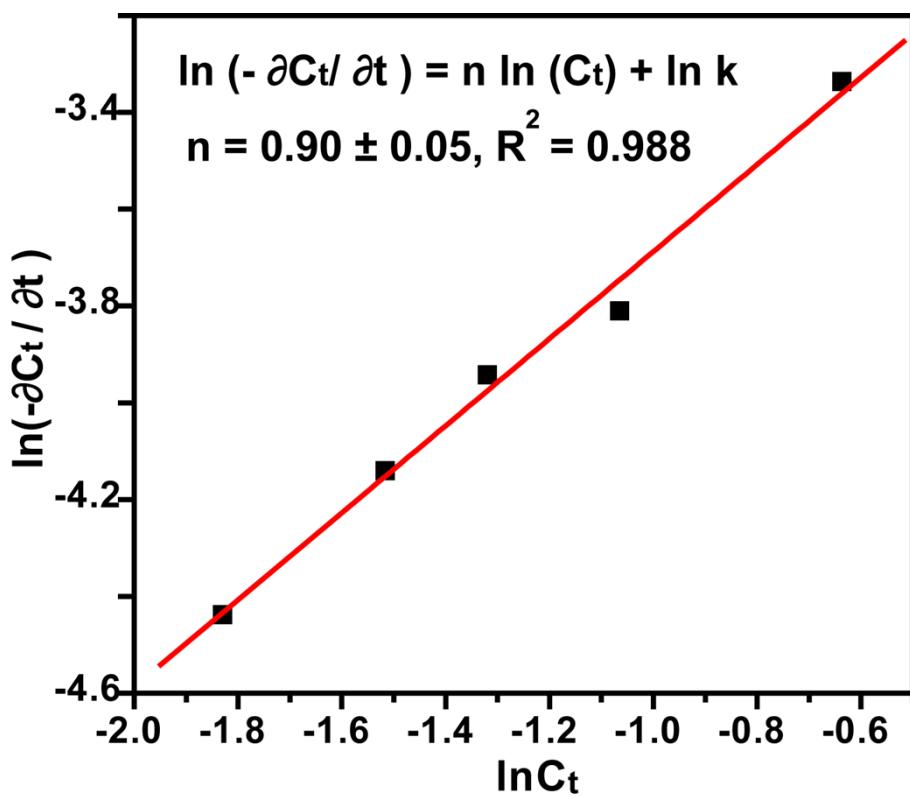
**Figure S4** The Zeta potential for NF-CNT, CNT-220 and O-CNT as function of pH.



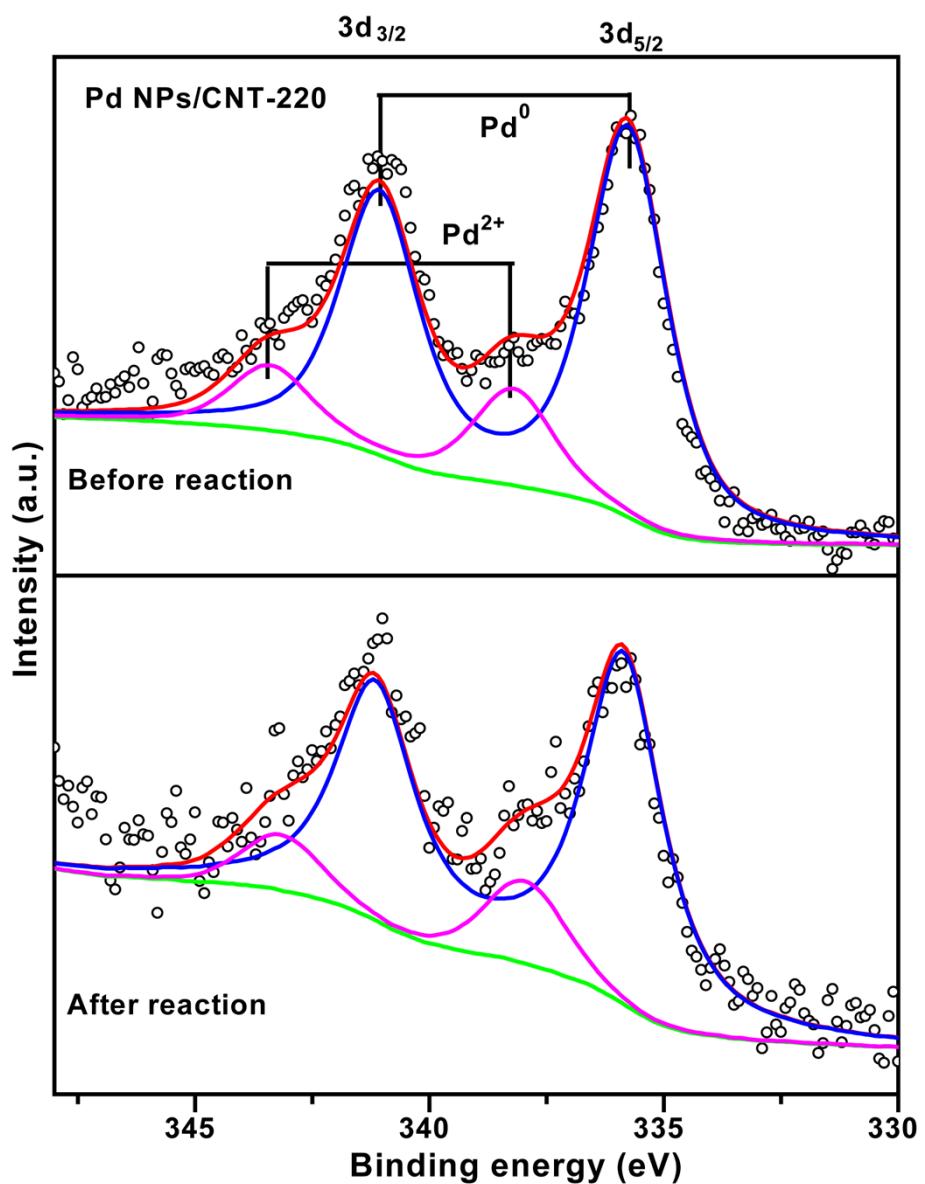
**Figure S5** The TEM images of Pd NPs/O-CNT composites.



**Figure S6** The curve fitted Pd3d XPS of different nanocomposites.



**Figure S7** Reaction kinetics study of the reduction of 4-NP over Pd NPs/NF-CNT by UV-vis spectroscopy: the  $\ln(-\partial C_t / \partial t)$  versus  $\ln(C_t)$  plot in which the slope of the linearly fitted line ( $0.90 \pm 0.05$ ) corresponds to the reaction order with respect to 4-NP ( $n$ ), indicating pseudo-first-order reaction kinetics.



**Figure S8** The curve fitted Pd3d XPS of Pd NPs/CNT-220 before and after the catalytic reaction.