

## PdO Nanoparticles Enhancing the Catalytic Activity of Pd/Carbon Nanotubes for 4-Nitrophenol Reduction

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### 1. Materials

All chemicals were used as received without further purification: Palladium (II) nitrate dihydrate, Potassium tetrachloropalladate, (Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Beijing Co., Ltd). Palladium (II) acetate, Palladium dichloride, 1-Butyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate ([BMIM]BF<sub>4</sub>), (Tokyo Chemical Co., Ltd). Ethanol, methylene chloride (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), Acetone, acetic ether, tetrahydrofuran, toluene, N,N-Dimethylformamide (DMF), (Beijing chemical works).

### 2. Experimental setup

Figure S1 shows the experimental setup of the gas-liquid interfacial plasma. The glow discharge plasma was generated between the top flat stainless steel (SUS) and bottom ionic liquid electrode by using a DC power source (KIKUSUI PMC500-0.1A). Argon gas was introduced and used as the plasma-forming gas. The chamber was a stainless steel with inner diameter of 70 mm and four glass windows, and the gap between electrodes is 4mm.

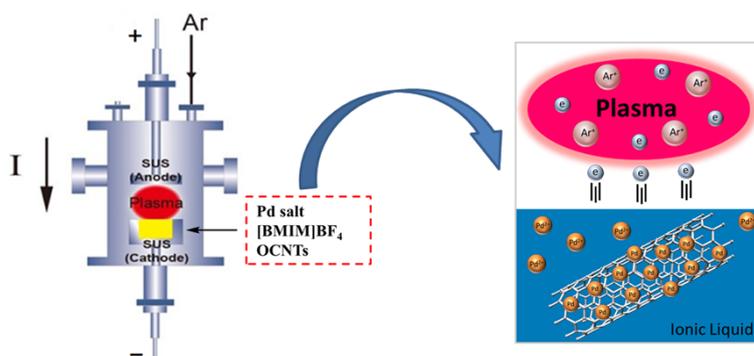


Figure S1. A schematic illustration of plasma system.

### 3. The TEM images of Pd-1, Pd-2, Pd-3, Pd-4

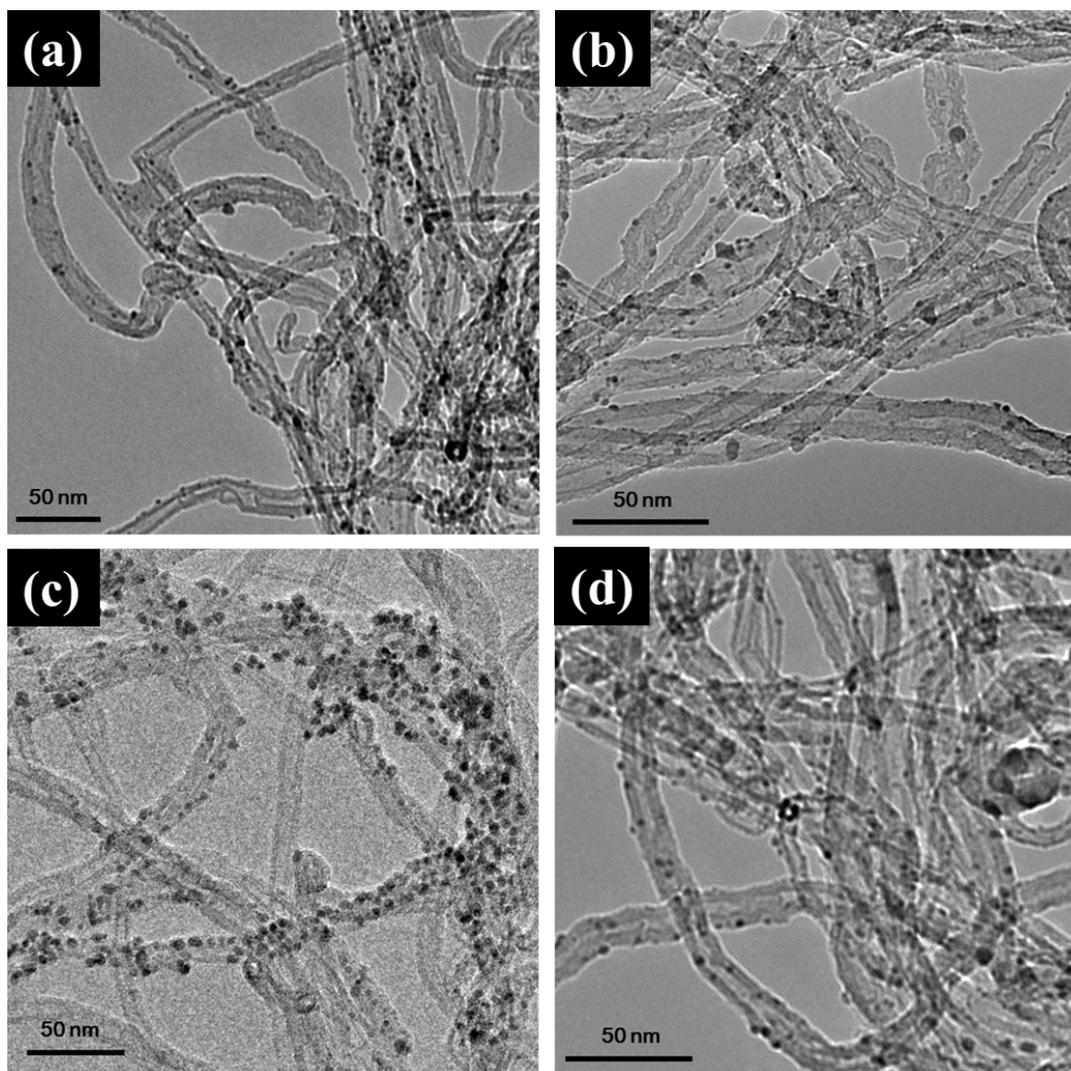


Figure S2. TEM images of Pd-1 (a), Pd-2 (b), Pd-3 (c), Pd-4 (d).

#### 4. The size distribution of Pd nanoparticles decorated on the surface of OCNTs

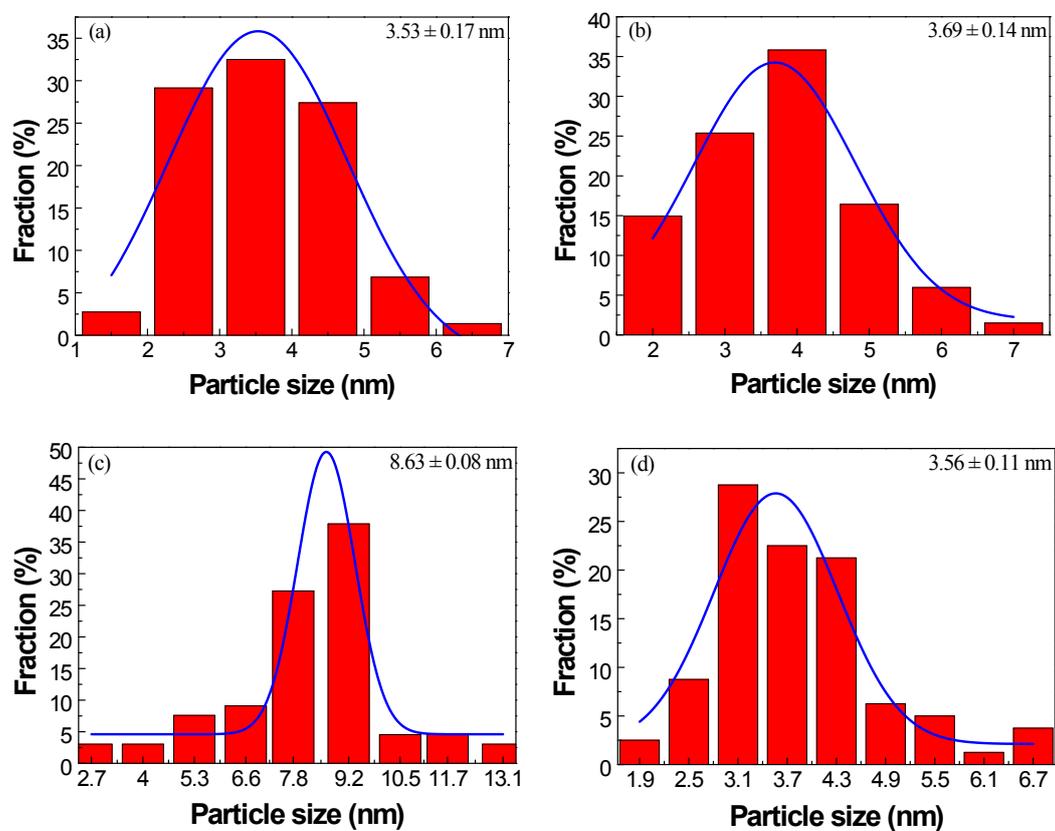


Figure S3. Particle size distribution of Pd-1 (a), Pd-2 (b), Pd-3 (c), Pd-4 (d) from the TEM images in Fig. S2.

## 5. The TEM images of Pd-5

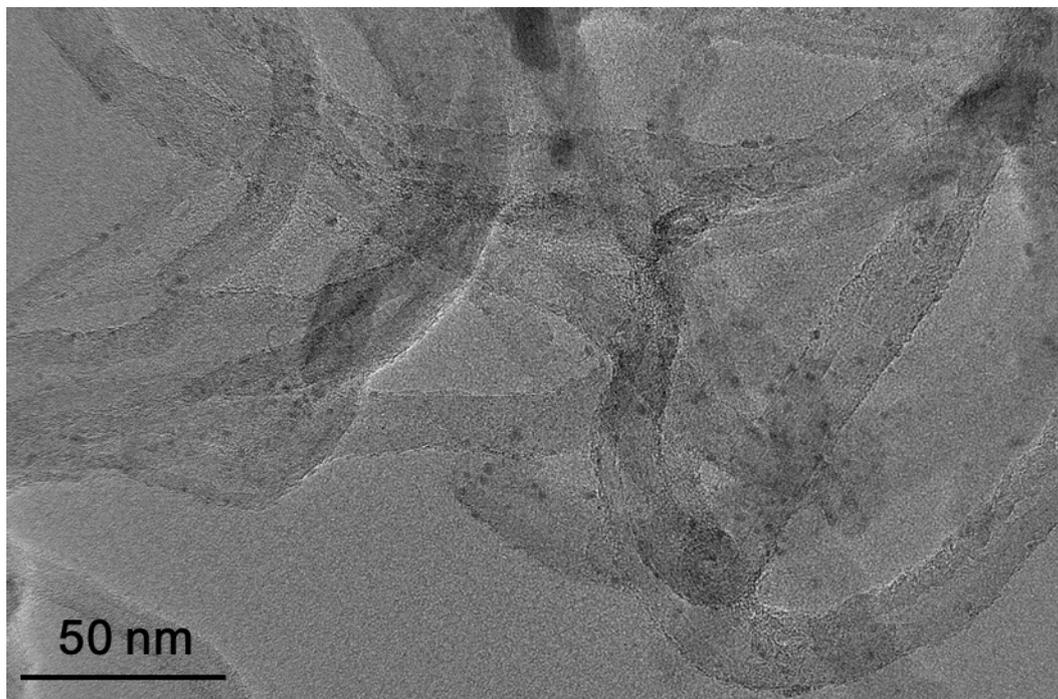


Figure S4. TEM images of Pd-5.

## 6. The characterization results of Pd-5.

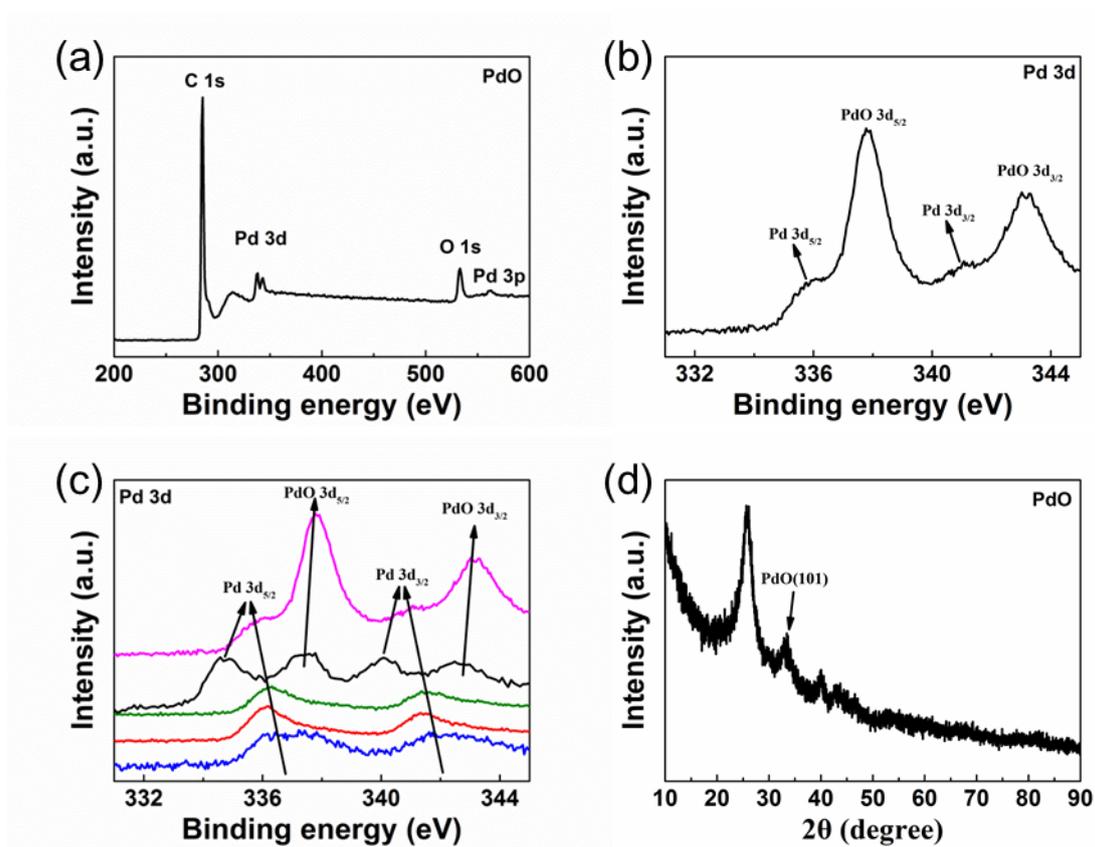


Figure S5. XPS spectra of Pd-5 (a), (b); (c) the enlarged XPS spectra of Pd3d of Pd-5 (magenta), Pd-1 (black curve), Pd-2 (olive curve), Pd-3 (red curve) and Pd-4 (blue curve); (d) The XRD patterns of Pd-5.

## 7. High-resolution XPS spectra of C1s of Pd-1

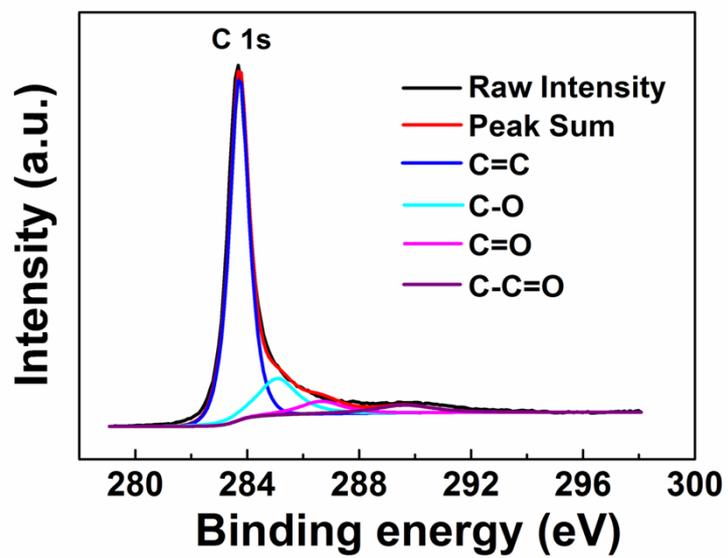


Figure S6. High-resolution XPS spectra of C1s of Pd-1.

## 8. UV-vis spectra of Pd-n catalysts for 4-NP reduction reaction

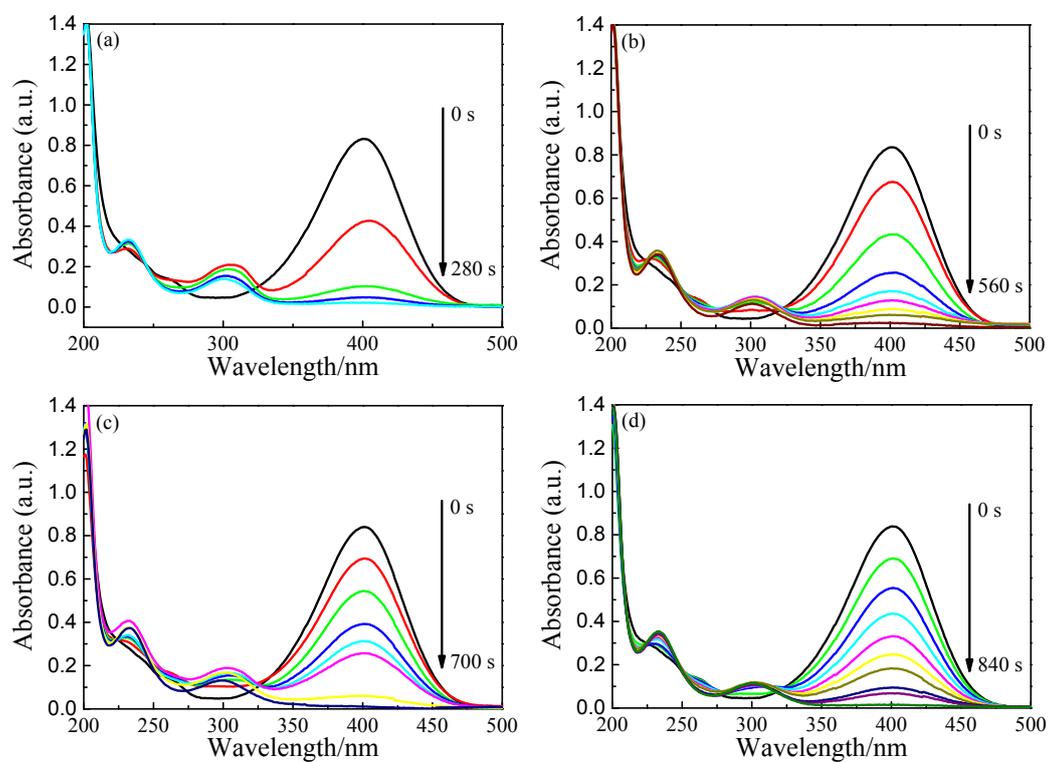


Figure S7. UV-vis spectra of 4-NP in water after the addition of NaBH<sub>4</sub> and successive absorption spectra of the conversion from 4-NP to 4-AP with Pd-n catalysts: Pd-1 (a), Pd-2 (b), Pd-3 (c), Pd-4 (d).

## 9. UV-vis spectra of Pd-5 catalysts for 4-NP reduction reaction

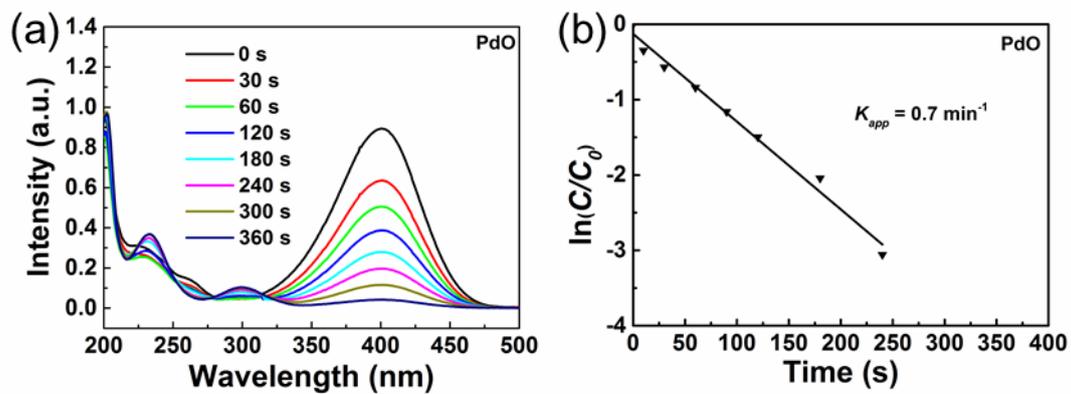


Figure S8. Successive absorption spectra of the conversion from 4-NP to 4-AP with PdO catalysts (a); (f) plots of  $\ln(C/C_0)$  versus time for the conversion from 4-NP to 4-AP with Pd-5 catalysts.

### 10. Apparent rate constant of Pd-n catalysts for 4-NP reduction reaction

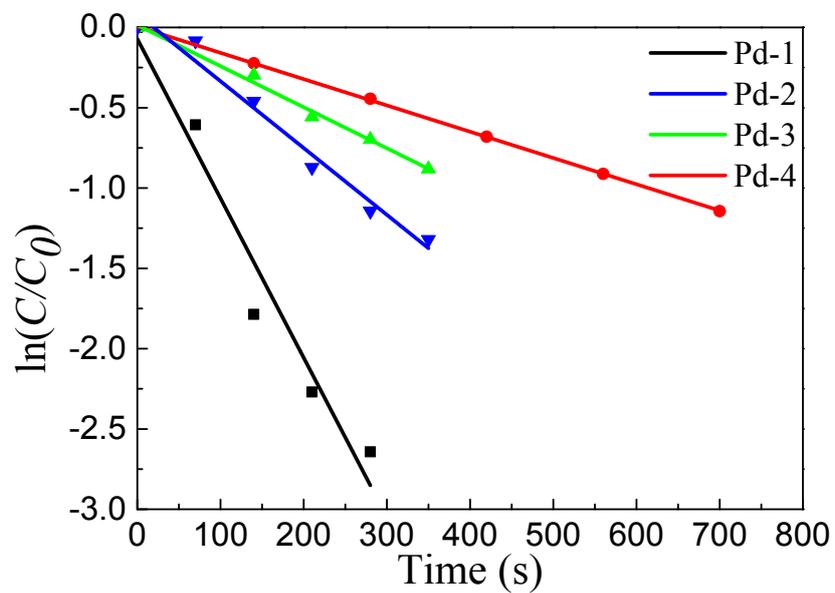


Figure S9. Plots of  $\ln(C/C_0)$  versus time for the conversion from 4-NP to 4-AP with Pd-n catalysts.

## 11. The TEM images of the reused Pd-1 catalyst

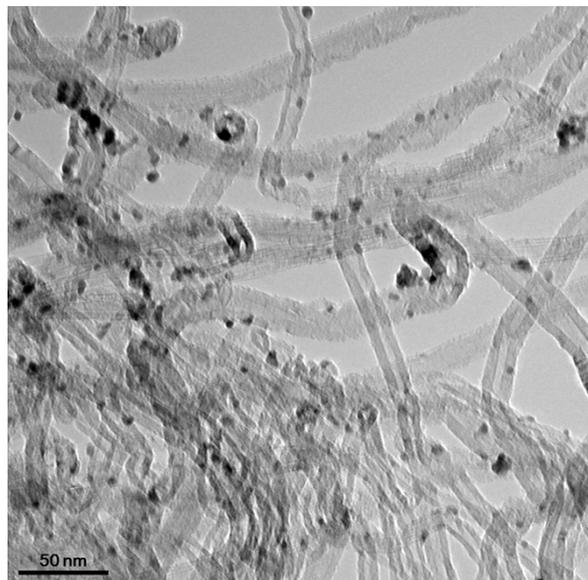


Figure S10. TEM image of Pd-1 catalyst after 10 cycles

Table S1. Pd nanoparticle size (nm)<sup>a</sup> and Pd loading on OCNTs (wt.%)<sup>b</sup>.

Sample	Pd-1	Pd-2	Pd-3	Pd-4
Pd-n size (nm)	3.5	3.7	8.6	3.6
Pd loading (wt.%)	9.5	10.0	5.1	8.5

<sup>a</sup> Average size obtained from the size distribution histogram.

<sup>b</sup> Calculated by ICP.

Table S2. Apparent reaction rates  $k_{app}$  values for the Pd-n catalysts for 4-NP reduction.

Sample	Pd-1	Pd-2	Pd-3	Pd-4
Apparent reaction rate (min <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	0.60	0.25	0.15	0.1
Apparent reaction rate (min <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	1.00	0.56	0.50	0.21

<sup>a</sup> In quartz cuvette (method A).

<sup>b</sup> In micro-reaction vial (method B).