

# The effect of Sibunit carbon surface modification with diazonium tosylate salts of Pd and PdAu catalysts on furfural hydrogenation

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**Figure S2.** C1s XPS spectra of (a) Pd/Cp; (b) Pd-Au/Cp; (c) Pd/Cp-COOH; (d) Pd-Au/Cp-COOH; (e) Pd/Cp-butyl; (f) Pd-Au/Cp-butyl; (g) Pd/Cp-NH<sub>2</sub> and (h) Pd-Au/Cp-NH<sub>2</sub>.

**Figure S3.** O1s XPS spectra of (a) Cp; (b) Cp-COOH; (c) Cp-butyl and (d) Cp-NH<sub>2</sub>.

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### Materials and Methods

Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectra were recorded using a ThermoScientific FTIR instrument (Nicolet 8700) in the range between 650 and 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  at a spectral resolution of 6  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . 1 mg of dried modified Sibunit was mixed with 200 mg of KBr powder in an agar mortar. The mixture was pressed into a pellet under 7 tons of load for 2–4 min, and the spectrum was recorded immediately. A total of 64 accumulative scans were collected. The signal from a pure KBr pellet was subtracted as a background.

Palladium and gold content were measured by inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES) using iCAP 6300 Duo (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) and energy dispersive spectroscopy (XEDS) using JEOL JEM-2100F (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) equipped with an Oxford INCA X-sight system detector (Oxford Instruments, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, UK).

XRD patterns were recorded by Bruker D8 X-ray diffractometer (Bruker Corporation, Billerica, MA, USA) using  $\text{CuK}\alpha$  as X-ray source ( $\lambda = 0.15406 \text{ nm}$ ) with a scanning range of  $2\theta = 10 - 90^\circ$ .

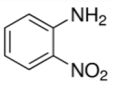
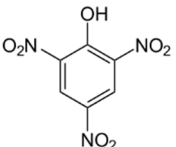
The textural properties were measured using an ASAP 2060 (Micromeritics Instrument Corporation, Norcross, GA, USA) apparatus. Catalysts were preliminarily degassed in vacuum at 300  $^\circ\text{C}$  for 5 h. The surface area and pore size distribution were calculated using the Brunauer-Emmett-Teller (BET) equation applied for the adsorption isotherm at the relative pressures between 0.005 to 0.25, Barrett-Joyner-Halenda (BJH) (desorption branch, mesopores) and Horvath-Kawazoe (micropores, cylinder pore geometry) methods.

The acid-base properties of the supports and the corresponding catalysts were studied by the Hammett indicator method using 11 indicators with  $\text{pK}_a$  values in the range from -0.29 to 17.2 (Table S1).

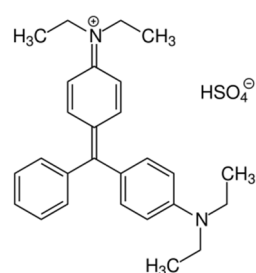
The sizes of Pd or Pd-Au particles were estimated by high resolution transmission electron microscopy (HRTEM) using a JEOL JEM-2100F (JEOL Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) with a sample preparation system. The samples were dispersing into a fine powder and sonicated in hexane at room temperature. Derived suspension was applied on a carbon-coated Cu grid. For each sample, at least 500 particles were counted.

Surface composition and the chemical state of each element were determined by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), performed on a VG Scientific ESCALAB 200A (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) spectrometer using  $\text{Al K}\alpha$  radiation (1486.6 eV) in CEMUP. The charge effect was corrected using the  $\text{C1s}$  peak (binding energy of 284.8 eV). The CASA XPS software (<http://www.casaxps.com/>) was used for data analysis.

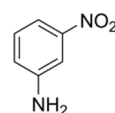
Table S1. Structures and  $\text{pK}_a$  of the used indicators.

No	Indicator	$\text{pK}_a$	Structure
1	2-Nitroaniline	-0.29	
2	2,4,6-Trinitrophenol	0.71	

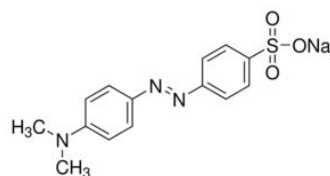
3 Brilliant green 1.30



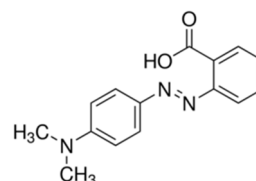
4 3-Nitroaniline 2.50



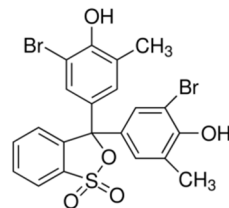
5 Methyl orange 3.46



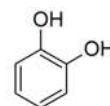
6 Methyl Red 5.00



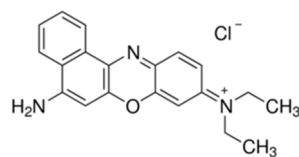
7 Bromocresol purple 6.40



8 Catechol 9.45

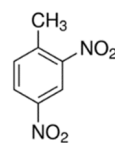


9 Nile blue 10.50

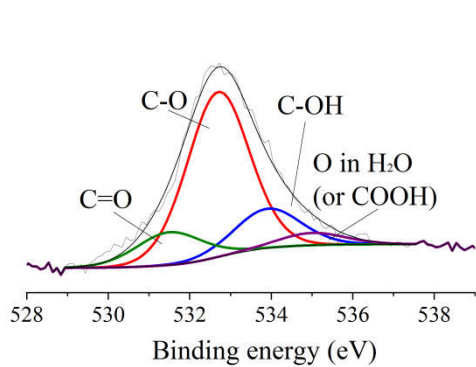


10 Tropaeolin O 12.00

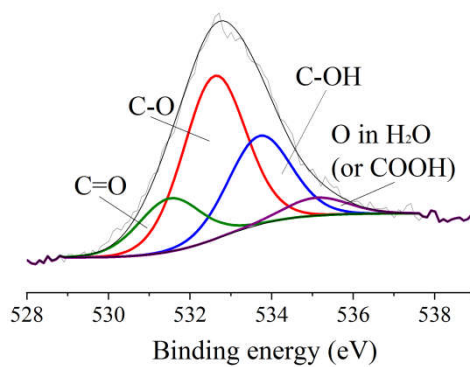
11 2,4-Dinitrotoluene 17.20



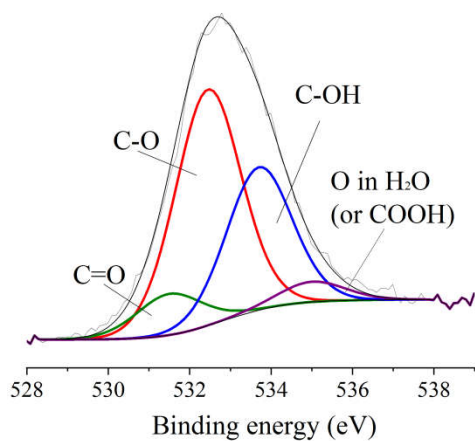
## Results



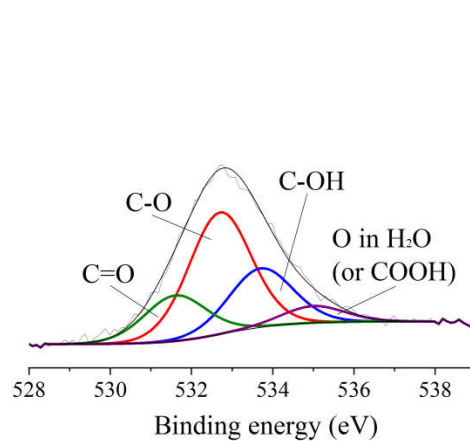
(a)



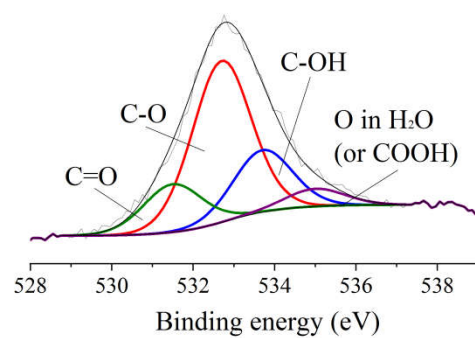
(b)



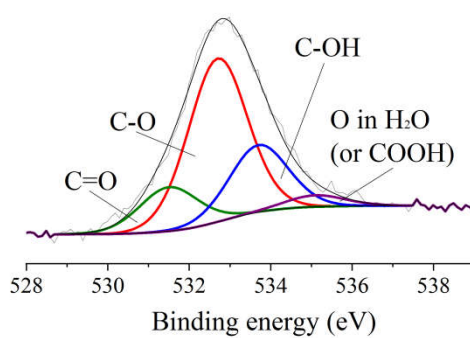
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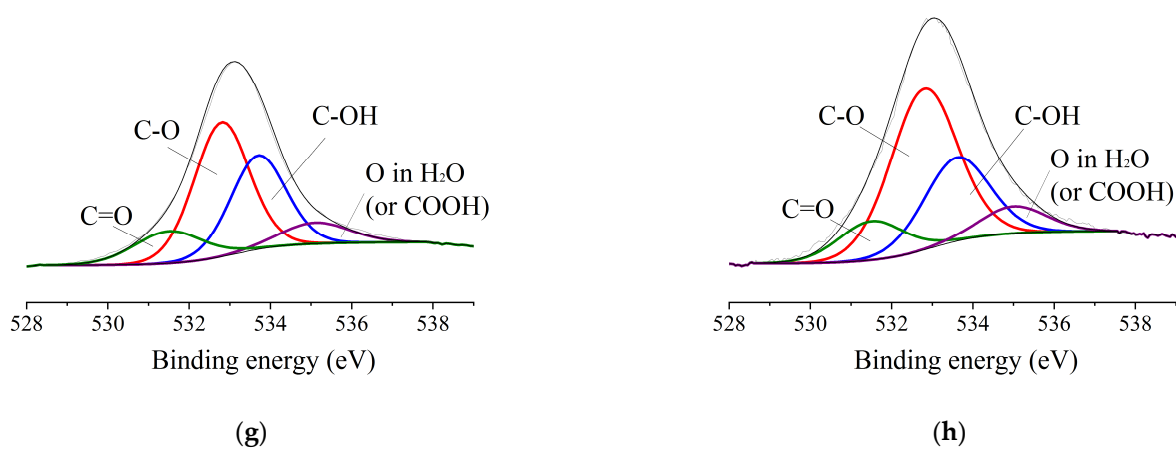
(d)



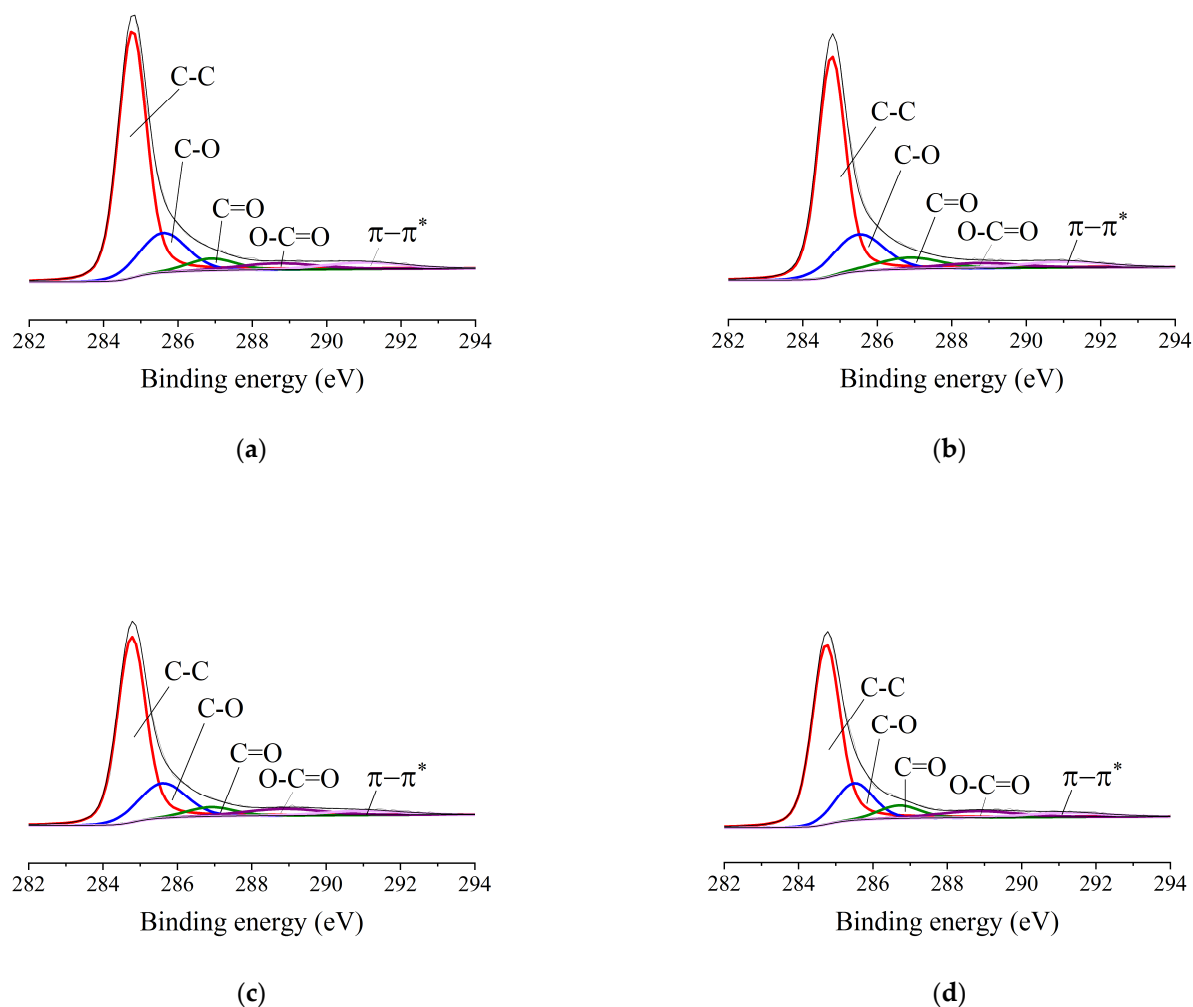
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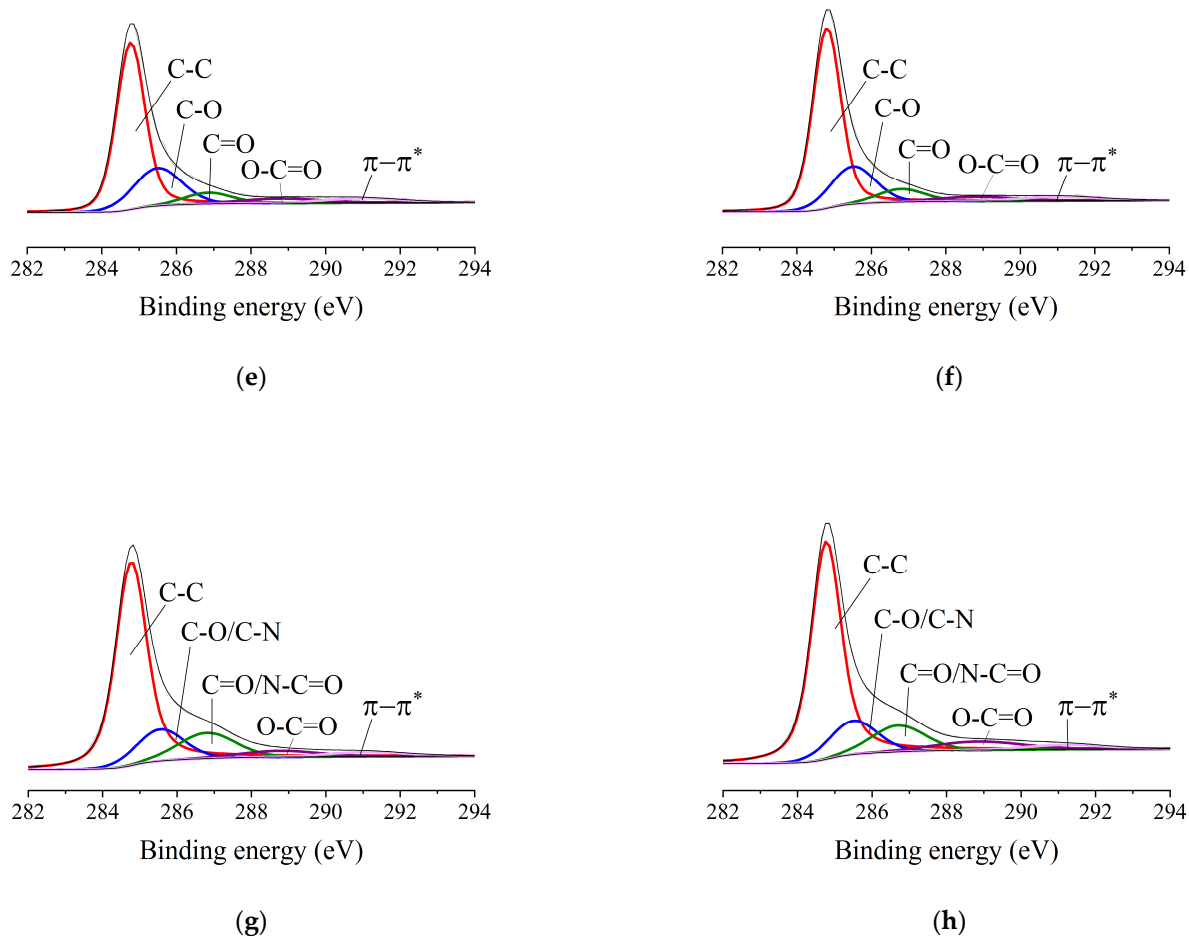


(f)

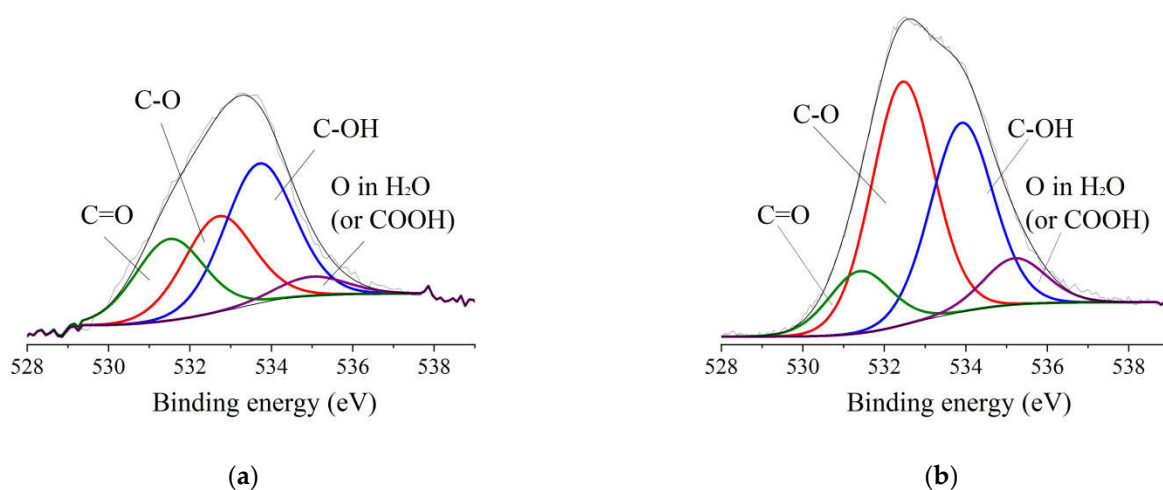


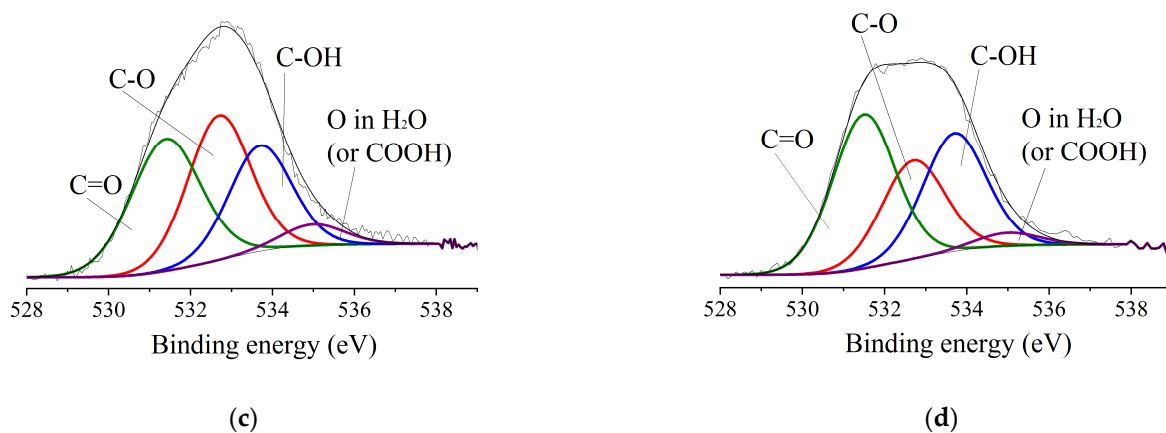
**Figure S1.** O1s XPS spectra of (a) Pd/Cp; (b) Pd-Au/Cp; (c) Pd/Cp-COOH; (d) Pd-Au/Cp-COOH; (e) Pd/Cp-butyl; (f) Pd-Au/Cp-butyl; (g) Pd/Cp-NH<sub>2</sub> and (h) Pd-Au/Cp-NH<sub>2</sub>.



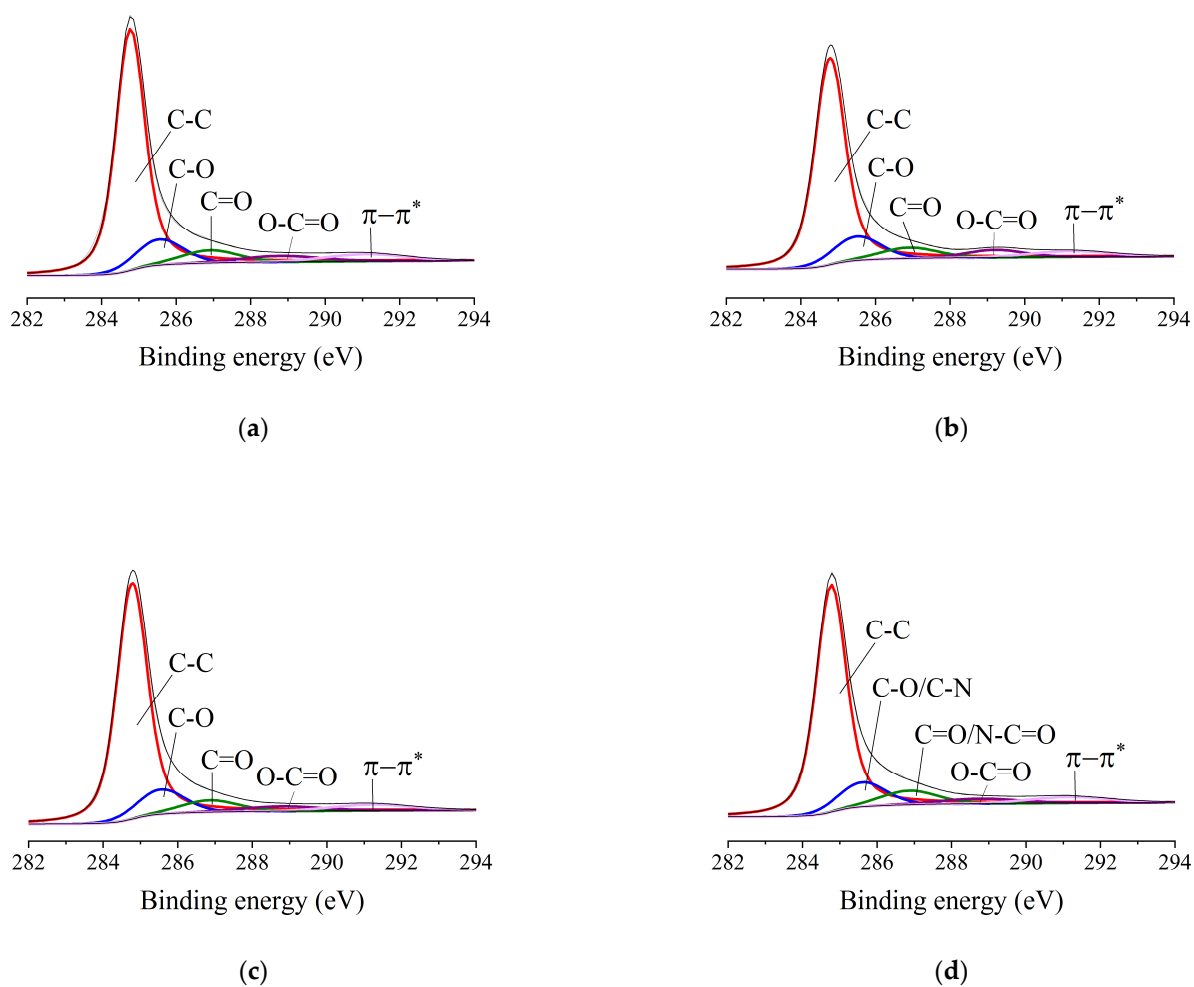


**Figure S2.** C1s XPS spectra of (a) Pd/Cp; (b) Pd-Au/Cp; (c) Pd/Cp-COOH; (d) Pd-Au/Cp-COOH; (e) Pd/Cp-butyl; (f) Pd-Au/Cp-butyl; (g) Pd/Cp-NH<sub>2</sub> and (h) Pd-Au/Cp-NH<sub>2</sub>.





**Figure S3.** O1s XPS spectra of (a) Cp; (b) Cp-COOH; (c) Cp-butyl and (d) Cp-NH<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S4.** C1s XPS spectra of (a) Cp; (b) Cp-COOH; (c) Cp-butyl and (d) Cp-NH<sub>2</sub>.

**Table S2.** Effect of support modification on contribution of different electronic states of oxygen on the catalysts surface calculated according to XPS

Catalyst	Oxygen relative content, %			
	C=O	C-O	C-OH	O in H <sub>2</sub> O or COOH
	(531.5 – 531.6 eV)	(532.5 – 532.7 eV)	(533.7 – 533.9 eV)	(535.0 – 535.1 eV)
Pd/Cp	14	65	16	5
Pd-Au/Cp	16	50	28	6
Pd/Cp-COOH	9	54	32	5
Pd-Au/Cp-COOH	19	50	25	6
Pd/Cp-butyl	16	56	22	6
Pd-Au/Cp-butyl	15	57	24	4
Pd/Cp-NH <sub>2</sub>	13	46	32	9
Pd-Au/Cp-NH <sub>2</sub>	12	52	27	9

**Table S3.** Effect of support modification on contribution of different electronic states of carbon on the catalyst surface calculated according to XPS.

Catalyst	Carbon relative content, %				
	C-C	C-O/C-N	C=O/N-C=O	O-C=O	$\pi$ - $\pi^*$
	(284.8 eV)	(285.5 – 285.6 eV)	(286.7 – 286.9 eV)	(288.7 – 288.8 eV)	(291.0 – 291.2)
Pd/Cp	70	16	5	4	5
PdAu/Cp	66	18	7	4	5
Pd/Cp-COOH	67	19	5	6	3
PdAu/Cp-COOH	68	17	6	6	3
Pd/Cp-butyl	64	21	6	4	5
PdAu/Cp-butyl	66	19	7	4	4
Pd/Cp-NH <sub>2</sub>	67	13	13	4	3
Pd-Au/Cp-NH <sub>2</sub>	66	13	12	6	3

**Table S4.** Effect of support modification on contribution of different electronic states of oxygen on the support surface calculated according to XPS.

Support	Oxygen relative content, %			
	C=O	C-O	C-OH	O in H <sub>2</sub> O or COOH
	(531.5 – 531.6 eV)	(532.5 – 532.7 eV)	(533.7 – 533.9 eV)	(535.0 – 535.1 eV)
Cp	24	28	42	6
Cp-COOH	12	45	35	8
Cp-butyl	35	35	25	5
Cp-NH <sub>2</sub>	40	26	31	3

**Table S5.** Effect of support modification on contribution of different electronic states of carbon on the support surface calculated according to XPS.

Support	Carbon relative content, %				
	C-C (284.8 eV)	C-O/C-N (285.5 – 285.6 eV)	C=O/N-C=O (286.7 – 286.9 eV)	O-C=O (288.7 – 288.8 eV)	$\pi$ - $\pi^*$ (291.0 – 291.2)
Cp	75	10	6	4	5
Cp-COOH	75	11	6	4	4
Cp-butyl	77	10	6	3	4
Cp-NH <sub>2</sub>	75	10	7	3	5

**Table S6.** Surface concentration of elements on the support surface (at.%) determined by XPS.

Element	Cp	Cp-butyl	Cp-COOH	Cp-NH <sub>2</sub>
C 1s	96.9	96.2	92.2	92.4
O 1s	3.1	3.6	7.6	4.7
S 2p	-	0.2	0.2	0.4
N 1s	-	-		2.5