## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Primary Amine Synthesis by Hydrogen-involving Reactions over Heterogeneous

**Co Catalysts** 

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# Experimental details

## Materials

Unless noted otherwise, all chemicals were purchased from commercial sources with purity with over 95 % and used without further purification.

Basic manipulations were performed under inert gas atmosphere using glovebox (Ar) or high-vacuum techniques ( $10^{-5}$  mbar).

## **Catalyst preparation**

Commercially available metal oxide supports were obtained from various sources, including: MgO from Ube Material Industries and SiO<sub>2</sub> (CARiACT Q-10) from Fuji Silysia Chemicals were provided by the Catalysis Society of Japan, Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> was obtained by calcination of Niobic acid (Companhia Brasileira de Metalurgia e Mineraçáo) at 400 °C for 2 h.

All cobalt catalysts were prepared via a wet impregnation method. Typically, a certain amount of cobalt (II) nitrate hexahydrate ( $Co(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ , Kanto, 3N5) was dissolved in 50 mL deionized water, and approximately 1 g of support was then impregnated with the aqueous solution. After the mixture was continuously stirred at room temperature for 1 h, water was removed by rotary evaporation and the powders were then dried under vacuum (ca. 0.25 kPa, 100 °C) for 1 h to give a purple solid. The dried powder was gently ground in an agate mortar, transferred to a ceramic crucible, and then pyrolyzed under N<sub>2</sub> flow for 2 h at 400 °C with a heating rate of 3.3 °C/min.

The resultant powder was then reduced in a 30 mL/min H<sub>2</sub> flow with heating from room temperature to 600 °C at a ramp rate of ca. 3.3 °C/min and held at 600 °C for 2 h. After cooling down to room temperature in a continuous H<sub>2</sub> flow, the reduced Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> catalysts were obtained and transferred to an Ar glovebox for storage and further use.

20 wt % Pd/SiO<sub>2</sub> was prepared according to previous literature.<sup>S1</sup> Palladium(II) nitrate  $(Pd(NO_3)_2, Wako)$ , 1 g of SiO<sub>2</sub> were added to a flask. The suspension was stirred at room temperature, evaporated to remove the water, and dried at 110 °C overnight. The dried precursor was reduced at 260 °C for 6 h with H<sub>2</sub> flow (30 mL/min) to obtain Pd/SiO<sub>2</sub>.

20 wt% Ru/SiO<sub>2</sub> was prepared according to previous report.<sup>S2</sup> Aqueous nitrosyl ruthenium(III) nitrate solution (Ru(NO)(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>, Aldrich), 1 g of SiO<sub>2</sub> and water (50 mL) were added to a flask. The suspension was stirred for 1 h at room temperature, followed by evaporation and vacuum drying (50 °C, 2 h). The resulting precursor was reduced at 300 °C for 2 h with 5% H<sub>2</sub>/Ar flow (50 mL/min) to give Ru/SiO<sub>2</sub>.

20 wt% Pt/SiO<sub>2</sub> was prepared according to the previous literature.<sup>S3</sup> Hexachloroplatinum(IV) acid hexahydrate (H<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>6</sub>· $6H_2O$ , Wako) and SiO<sub>2</sub> were stirred

with 50 mL water for 1 h at room temperature, then evaporated to remove the water and dried at 110 °C overnight. The dried precursor powder was reduced at 500 °C for 2 h with H<sub>2</sub> flow (30 mL/min) to obtain Pt/SiO<sub>2</sub>.

#### Characterizations

Nitrogen adsorption–desorption isotherms were measured at -196 °C by using automated gas sorption analyzer (NOVA 4200e Quantachrome). Samples were degassed at 150 °C for 1 h under vacuum prior to analysis. The Brunauer-Emmett-Teller (BET) surface area was calculated from nitrogen adsorption data in a relative pressure range from 0.05–0.3. X-ray diffraction (XRD) measurements was conducted in a Rigaku Ultima-IV system equipped with a D/teX Ultra detector using CuK $\alpha$  radiation (40 kV, 40 mA). Prior to the XRD analysis, sample was loaded on an air-sensitive sample holder (Rigaku) inside the Ar-filled glove box to prevent exposure to atmospheric conditions during the measurements. The data was collected in a 2 $\theta$  range from 20° to 90°, with a scanning step of 0.01°/s. The diffraction patterns were compared to reference patterns of the Powder Diffraction File of the International Centre for Diffraction Data (PDF-2 Release 2008)

The morphologies and sizes of the fresh and used catalysts were observed by transmission electron microscope (TEM, JEOL 2100F). Prior to TEM characterization, the samples were ultrasonically dispersed in ethanol and then dropped onto a carbon-supported copper grid. Inductively coupled plasma-atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES) analyses were performed with a Shimadzu ICPS-8100 spectrometer. Thermogravimetry-Differential thermal analysis (TG-DTA) was performed with Rigaku TG-DTA8122 equipped with Rigaku smart loader auto sampler. Approximately 10 mg sample was pressed in the Platina sample holder. The thermal profiles were measured from room temperature to 600 °C.

Hydrogen temperature programmed reduction (H<sub>2</sub>-TPR) was carried out in a quartz tubular reactor with a mixture of 5% H<sub>2</sub>/Ar as the reductive gas. The calcined catalysts (0.1 g) were reduced in a flow of 30 mL/min and the temperature was raised from 60 °C to 800 °C at the ramp rate of 3.3 °C/min. The consumption of hydrogen was monitored by a TCD after passing through a 3 A molecular sieve trap to remove the produced water. In part of the measurements the effluent gas was also analyzed by a mass spectrometer (BELMass, BEL Japan).

NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III-400 MHz NMR spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR 400 MHz; <sup>13</sup>C-NMR 100MHz). Data for <sup>1</sup>H NMR are reported as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$  ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad), coupling constant (Hz), and integration.

#### Typical procedure for the hydrogenation of benzonitrile

In an Ar-filled glovebox, a magnetic stirring bar, 0.5 mmol of benzonitrile, 20 mg of catalyst, and 5 mL of solvent (cyclohexane/DMF = 4) were placed into a Teflon-lined stainless steels autoclave (inner cylinder volume is 18 mL). The reactor was sealed, removed from the glovebox and then charged with the required  $H_2$  pressure. The autoclave was placed into an aluminum block, heated to the desired temperature with thorough stirring (600 rpm). After completion of the reaction, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature, and excess gas was vented in a fume hood.

Yields and conversion rates were determined by quantitative gas chromatography (GC) analysis (Shimadzu GC-17A, equipped with an InertCap 17MS capillary column (internal diameter = 0.25 mm, length = 30 m) and a flame ionization detector (FID), the temperature was raised from 70 °C to 260 °C at the ramp rate of 10 °C/min and kept for 11 min.), with chlorobenzene as an internal standard.

#### Typical procedure for the reductive amination

In an Ar-filled glovebox, a magnetic stirring bar, 0.5 mmol of aldehyde, 20 mg of catalyst, and 5 mL of solvent were placed into a Teflon-lined stainless steels autoclave (inner cylinder volume is 18 mL). The reactor was sealed, removed from the glovebox and purged with 0.1 MPa NH<sub>3</sub>, and then charged with the required H<sub>2</sub> pressure. The autoclave was placed into an aluminum block, heated to the desired temperature with thorough stirring (600 rpm). After completion of the reaction, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature, and excess gas was vented in a fume hood.

Yields and conversion rates were determined by quantitative gas chromatography (GC) analysis (Shimadzu GC-17A, equipped with an InertCap 17MS capillary column (internal diameter = 0.25 mm, length = 30 m) and a flame ionization detector (FID), the temperature was raised from 70 °C to 260 °C at the ramp rate of 10 °C/min and kept for 11 min.), with chlorobenzene as the internal standard.

#### General procedure for the hydrogenation of nitriles

In an Ar filled glove box, a magnetic stir bar, 0.5 mmol nitrile, 20 mg of 20 wt% Co/SiO<sub>2</sub>, and 5 mL of solvent were added into a Teflon-lined stainless steels autoclave. The reactor was sealed, removed from glovebox and subsequently completed up to 1 MPa with H<sub>2</sub>. Reactions were also carried out in the glass vessel-fitted autoclaves wherever required. After completion of the reaction, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature, and excess gas was vented in fuming hood.

The combined organic fractions were concentrated in vacuo with the aid of a rotary evaporator. The crude product residue was purified by automated flash chromatography system (Smart Flash EPCLC AI-580S, Yamazen) with amino gel using a solvent mixture (ethyl acetate and methanol) as an eluent to afford the purified amine products.

#### **Competitive Adsorption of 3a and 4a on metal nanoparticle**

Co or Pt nanoparticle (400 mg) was added in a 20 mL Schlenk flask. After cooling to -15 °C, primary amine **3a** (0.2 mmol), secondary imine **4a** (0.2 mmol) in toluene (2 mL) was added dropwise. The concentration of **3a** and **4a** in the reaction mixture was determined by sampling a small amount of the reaction solution after a predetermined time and measuring by GC.

### Leaching studies

Hot filtration was conducted to determine the effect of leached Co. 0.5 mmol **1a**, 20 mg of Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> and 5 mL of solvent (cyclohexane/DMF = 4) were added into an autoclave. The autoclave was pressurized with H<sub>2</sub> (0.5 MPa). After the reaction at 100 °C for 2 h, the reaction mixture was filtered in a glove box. The filtrate was added to an autoclave and pressurized with H<sub>2</sub> (0.5 MPa). The autoclave was heated at 100 °C for 4 h with stirring. The yield of **3a** was determined by GC analysis using chlorobenzene as an internal standard.

The catalyst was separated by suction filtration after the reaction under typical conditions. The filtrate was evaporated and dried under reduced pressure. After the addition of 5 mL of concentrated nitric acid (HNO<sub>3</sub> 1.38, Kanto), the nitric acid concentration was adjusted to 6% with  $H_2O$ . The resulting solution was used for ICP-AES measurement.

The catalyst after reaction was dissolved in 5 mL of concentrated nitric acid and then the nitric acid concentration was adjusted to 6% by adding  $H_2O$ . The resulting solution was used for ICP-AES measurement. The Co content of the catalyst after reaction was determined to be 20.3 wt%.

#### Reusability

 $Co/SiO_2$  can be easily separated by a remote magnetic field due to the intrinsic magnetic nature of metallic Co. An autoclave with a glass inner cylinder was used to facilitate easy removal with a magnet (inner cylinder volume is 32 mL). The reactions were set up according to the model hydrogenation of nitrile procedure with 0.5 mmol **1a** as substrate in 5 mL of solvent (cyclohexane/DMF = 4). After reaction, the autoclave was introduced into the glovebox and the glass tube put on top of a neodymium magnet for 5 min. The

supernatant was carefully removed using a glass Pasteur pipette, and the catalysts were washed three times with total 10 mL cyclohexane. Thereafter, fresh substrate and solvent were added, the tube was put back into the autoclave, subsequently purged with hydrogen. Conversion and yield were determined by GC analysis using chlorobenzene as an internal standard.

catalyst	Substrate	Ammonia	Solvent	$pH_2$ (MPa)	Temp.	Time (h)	Yield (%)	TON	Ref
					(°C)				
Co/SiO <sub>2</sub>	benzonitrile	none	cyclohexane	0.5	50	20	78	5.8	This work
Co/SiO <sub>2</sub>	benzonitrile	none	cyclohexane/DMF	1	100	6	89	6.6	This work
Co <sub>2</sub> P NR/HT	valeronitrile	none	2-propanol	4	150	2	90	9	S4
$CoBr_2 + NaBHEt_3$	benzonitrile	none	THF	2	110	4	83	48	S5
Zr <sub>12</sub> -TPDC-Co	benzonitrile	none	toluene	4	110	42	100	200	S6
Co <sub>2</sub> P/HT	valeronitrile	NH <sub>3</sub> aq.	2-propanol	4	150	1	99	5000	S7
		(31.7 equiv.)							
$Co(OAc)_2 + Zn$	benzonitrile	NH <sub>3</sub> aq.	methanol	4	120	15	94	19	S8
		(1 equiv.)							
$Co-B_{12}$ $@CeO_2$	benzonitrile	NH <sub>3</sub> aq.	2-propanol	3	120	15	96	60	S9
		(10 equiv.)							
Co-MOF@C-800	benzonitrile	<i>p</i> NH <sub>3</sub> (0.5	toluene	2.5	120	16	97	25	S10
		MPa)							
Co(OAc) <sub>2</sub> /Phen	heptanenitrile	NH <sub>3</sub> aq.	2-propanol	4	85	24	98	25	S11
$@Al_2O_3$		(8 equiv.)							
Co-N-C@MgO-	benzonitrile	NH <sub>3</sub> aq.	2-propanol	2	80	24	91	91	S12
700		(2.5 equiv.)							

 Table S1 Comparison of the reported non-noble metal based catalytic systems for hydrogenation of nitriles with present protocols

		5		5
Catalvet	Crystallite	Specific surface	Pore size	Pore volume
Catalyst	diameter (nm)	area $(m^2 g^{-1})$	(nm)	(mL/g)
Co/SiO <sub>2</sub>	12	242	5.6	1.1
Co/MgO	16	71	6.4	0.4
Co/ZrO <sub>2</sub>	18	110	1.3	0.1
Co/Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	16	29	-	-
Ru/SiO <sub>2</sub>	_a	226	5.6	0.8
Pd/SiO <sub>2</sub>	21	281	3.9	1.1
Pt/SiO <sub>2</sub>	8	219	5.3	0.9
Co	<50 <sup>b</sup>	16	-	-
Pt	<50 <sup>b</sup>	11	-	-

 Table S2 Specific surface area and crystallite diameter of the metal catalysts

<sup>a</sup> The value could not be determined because the peaks are too small. <sup>b</sup> Particle size determined by TEM.

Ph-CN	Co/support H <sub>2</sub>	Ph NH <sub>2</sub>	+ Ph N	←Ph +	Ph N	`Ph		
1a		3a	4a	1	5a			
Entry	Support	$pH_2$	Temp.	Time	Conv.	Y	ield (%)	)
Lindy	Support	(MPa)	(°C)	(h)	(%)	<b>3</b> a	<b>4</b> a	5a
1	SiO <sub>2</sub>	0.5	50	20	>99	68	1	25
2	MgO	0.5	50	20	36	14	11	-
3	ZrO <sub>2</sub>	0.5	50	20	21	3	8	-
4	$Nb_2O_5$	0.5	50	20	19	2	8	-
5	$SiO_2$	2	80	20	>99	58	-	36
6	MgO	2	80	95	>99	88	-	19
7	ZrO <sub>2</sub>	2	80	95	>99	79	-	31
8	$Nb_2O_5$	2	80	95	>99	79	22	8

Table S3 Support effect on hydrogenation of 1a over supported Co catalysts<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> Reaction conditions: Co/support (20 mg), **1a** (0.5 mmol), cyclohexane (5 mL),  $pH_2$  (x MPa). Yields were determined by GC analysis with chlorobenzene as internal standard.

0 7b	$\frac{\text{Co/suppo}}{\text{NH}_3 (0.1 \text{ M})} \\ \frac{\text{H}_2 (\text{x MPa})}{\text{solvent}} \\ \frac{50 \text{ °C, 10}}{\text{c}} \\ \frac{\text{Column 1}}{\text{c}} \\ \frac{1000 \text{ C}}{\text{c}} \\ 1000 \text{$	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{rt} \\ \text{Pa} \\ \text{a} \\ \xrightarrow{O} \\ \text{NH}_2 \\ \text{h} \\ 3b \end{array} $	+	N 0 +		b b		
Entry	Support	Solvent	Substrate	Catalyst	Conv.	Y	ield (%	(a)
Entry	Support	Solvent	(mmol)	(mol%)	(%)	3b	4b	8b
1	SiO <sub>2</sub>	MeOH	0.5	6.8	>99	97	1	2
2	$SiO_2$	EtOH	0.5	6.8	>99	85	11	-
3	SiO <sub>2</sub>	2-PrOH	0.5	6.8	>99	26	47	-
4	SiO <sub>2</sub>	THF	0.5	6.8	>99	37	49	-
5	SiO <sub>2</sub>	MeCN	0.5	6.8	>99	-	52	-
6	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Toluene	0.5	6.8	>99	53	37	-
7	SiO <sub>2</sub>	cyclohexane	0.5	6.8	>99	71	11	1
8 <sup>b</sup>	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Toluene	0.5	13.6	>99	97	-	-
9	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Toluene	1	3.4	>99	43	45	4
10 <sup>c</sup>	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Toluene	1	3.4	>99	94	-	6
11 <sup>d</sup>	$SiO_2$	Toluene	0.5	13.6	>99	74	19	1
12 <sup>d</sup>	MgO	Toluene	0.5	13.6	60	-	1	18
13 <sup>d</sup>	ZrO <sub>2</sub>	Toluene	0.5	13.6	80	-	56	15
14 <sup>d</sup>	$Nb_2O_5$	Toluene	0.5	13.6	88	-	39	9

Table S4 Reductive amination of furfural using Co/SiO<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> Reaction conditions: Co/support (20 g), **7b** (x mmol), toluene (5 mL), NH<sub>3</sub> (0.1 MPa), pH<sub>2</sub> (y MPa) at 50 °C for 10 h. Yields were determined by GC analysis with chlorobenzene as an internal standard. <sup>*b*</sup> Run for 24 h. <sup>*c*</sup> Run for 36 h using 60 mL autoclave. <sup>*d*</sup> Run at 90 °C for 2 h with pH<sub>2</sub> (4 MPa).

-		Cataly	rst		$\sim$		
Catalyst	Substrate Substrate	NH <sub>3</sub>	pH <sub>2</sub>	Temp.	Tim	<b>⊓</b> 2 Yield	Ref.
		(equiv.)	(MPa)	(°C)	e	(%) <sup>a</sup>	
					(h)		
Co/SiO <sub>2</sub> (13.6 mol%)	furfural 0.5 mmol	0.1 (MPa)	0.5	50	10	97(83)	This work
Co-DABCO-TPA@C-800	furfural 0.5 mmol	0.5-0.7 (MPa)	4.0	120	15	87	S13
(3.5 mol%)							
Co@NC-800 (0.68 mol%)	furfural 0.5 mmol	28	1.0	130	12	96.9	S14
Raney Co (33 mol%)	furfural 0.5 mmol	0.1 (MPa)	1.0	120	2	98	S15
in situ Co-NPs (6 mol%)	furfural 0.5 mmol	0.5 (MPa)	4.5	120	24	(89)	S16
Co/N-SiC (1.5 mol%)	acetophenone 0.5 mmol	118	0.1	50	20	99	S17
Ni/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (1.2 mol%)	furfural 0.5 mmol	13.4	1.0	80	20	99	S18
Ni-TA@SiO2-800 (6	furfural 0.5 mmol	0.5-0.7 (MPa)	2.0	120	24	88	S19
mol%)							
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @SiO <sub>2</sub> -Ni (5 mol%)	furfural 0.5 mmol	10	2.0	115	2	>99°	S20
Ni/NiO@C-700 (7 mol%)	benzaldehyde 0.5 mmol	20	1.0	90	4	99	S21
Fe/(N)SiC (8.6 mol%)	benzaldehyde 0.5 mmol	93.8	6.5	130	20	89	S22
Fe-P <sub>900</sub> -PCC (0.019 mol%)	1-formylbenzoic acid 47	2.1	6	75	20	97	S23
	mmol						

Table S5 Comparison of the reported non-noble metal based catalytic systems for reductive amination of carbonyls with present protocols.

<sup>a</sup>The value in the parenthesis is isolated yield. <sup>b</sup>Reactions performed under MW irradiation. <sup>c</sup>Conversion (determined by GC/MS).

Ph-CN	M/SiO₂ H₂ (0.5 MPa) cyclohexane	Ph NH <sub>2</sub>	+ Ph N	∕_Ph +	Ph N H	∕∼ <sub>Ph</sub>
1a		38	4a		58	l
М	Metal loading	Time (h)	Conv. (%)		Yield (%)	
	(mol%)			<b>3</b> a	4a	5a
		5	54	2	43	-
Со	13.6	10	>99	39	56	3
	15.0	20	>99	77	3	19
		25	>99	79	-	21
		10	82	12	60	2
Pd	7.5	20	>99	52	29	6
		30	>99	65	-	30
Ru	7 0	20	93	9	74	2
Ku	1.2	80	>99	57	-	40
		1	56	-	-	34
Dt	11	5	94	-	-	63
1 ι	4.1	20	98	-	-	45
		20 <sup>b</sup>	59	-	9	23

Table S6 Hydrogenation of 1a over SiO<sub>2</sub>-supported metal catalysts<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> Reaction conditions: M/SiO<sub>2</sub> (20 mg), **1a** (0.5 mmol), cyclohexane (5 mL),  $pH_2$  (0.5 MPa) at 50 °C for 20 h. Yields were determined by GC analysis with chlorobenzene as internal standard. <sup>b</sup> Run with  $pH_2$  (0.1 MPa).

$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$							
Entry	Metal	Substrate (mmol)	Time (h)	Conv. (%)	yield (%)		
1	Co	0.25	2	>99	78		
2	Pt	0.25	2	>99	74		
3	Co	0.5	3	>99	>99		
4	Pt	0.5	3	>99	>99		
5	Co	5	2	19	8		
6	Pt	5	2	22	9		

Table S7 Hydrogenation of 4a over Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> and Pt/SiO<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **4a** (0.5 mmol), M/SiO<sub>2</sub> (0.02 g), cyclohexane (5 mL),  $pH_2$  (0.5 MPa), 50 °C.

	F	Ph <sup>N</sup> Ph <b>4a</b>	M/SiO <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> (0.5 MPa) cyclohexane	→ Ph N H 5a	`Ph	
Entry	support	3a (mmol)	<i>p</i> H <sub>2</sub> (MPa)	Temp. (°C)	Conv. (%)	yield (%)
1	5:0	0	0.5	50	>99	>99
2	5102	0.5	0.5	50	17	14
3		0	0.5	50	71	68
4	MgO	0.5	0.5	50	38	29
5		0	0.5	50	26	10
6	7.0	0.5	0.5	50	24	12
7	$ZrO_2$	0	2	50	56	48
8		0.5	2	50	31	22
9		0	0.5	50	<1	
10		0.5	0.5	50	<1	-
11	$Nb_2O_5$	0	3	100	19	2
12		0.5	3	100	<1	-

Table S8 Support effects on the hydrogenation of 4a over supported Co catalysts<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **4a** (0.5 mmol), Co/support (0.02 g), cyclohexane (5 mL), *p*H<sub>2</sub> (x MPa), for 2 h.

	Ph N 4a	Ph Co/SiO <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> amine (x mmol) cyclohexane	Ph N Ph H <b>5a</b>	
Entry	Amine	x (mmol)	Conv. (%)	Yield (%)
1	none	0	>99	>99
2		0.5	17	14
3	Ph´ NH <sub>2</sub>	0.1	66	44
4	N H	0.5	19	6
5	Et <sub>3</sub> N	0.5	31	20
6		0.5	19	12
7	DMF	0.5	30	38

Table S9 Additive effects of N-containing compounds on the hydrogenation of  $4a^{a}$ 

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **4a** (0.5 mmol), amine (x mmol), Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> (0.02 g), cyclohexane (5 mL), *p*H<sub>2</sub> (0.5 MPa), 50 °C, 2 h.

Ph-CN	Co/SiO <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> (0.5 MP	a) → Ph NH	H <sub>2</sub> + Ph N	≻ <sub>Ph</sub> + P	h N Ph H	
1a	50 °C	3a	4a		5a	
Fntry	Additive	Time (h)	$C_{onv}$ (%) —		Yield (%)	
Entry	Additive	Time (ii)	Conv. (70)	<b>3</b> a	<b>4a</b>	5a
1		5	54	2	43	2
2	None	10	>99	39	56	3
3	none	20	>99	77	3	19
4		25	>99	79	-	21
5		20	>99	66	31	3
6	DMF (0.5 mmol)	24	>99	71	26	3
7	(***)	40	>99	82	16	5

Table S10 Time-course for the hydrogenation of 1a over  $\text{Co/SiO}_{2^a}$ 

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.5 mmol), DMF (0 or 0.5 mmol), Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> (0.02 g), cyclohexane (5 mL),  $pH_2$  (0.5 MPa), 50 °C.



Fig. S1 TPR profile of unreduced 20 wt% Co/SiO $_2$ 



Fig. S2 XRD patterns of various cobalt-based catalysts on various supports.



Fig. S3 XPS spectra for supported Co catalysts.

The adsorption experiments were carried out without  $H_2$  at low temperature because of the facile hydrogenation of **4a** even at low hydrogen pressure and the formation of benzonitrile through dehydrogenation of **3a**.



**Fig. S4** Time course of **3a** and **4a** concentration in the mixture of (a) Co, (b) Pt nanoparticles, **3a** and **4a** solution. Reaction conditions: metal nanoparticle, 0.4 g; **3a**, 0.1 mmol; **4a**, 0.1 mmol; toluene, 2 mL; -15 °C

![](_page_20_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Fig. S5** XRD patterns of (a) fresh Co/SiO<sub>2</sub>, (b) recovered Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> after hydrogenation of benzonitrile and fcc Co (JCPDS 00-015-0806).

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

Fig. S6 TEM images of (a) fresh  $Co/SiO_2$  and (b) recovered  $Co/SiO_2$  after reductive amination of furfural.

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

Fig. S7 Reuse experiments with the Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst for the hydrogenation of 1a. Reaction conditions: Co/SiO<sub>2</sub> (20 mg), 1a (0.5 mmol), DMF (1 mL), cyclohexane (4 mL),  $pH_2$  (0.5 MPa) at 100 °C for 2 h. Yields were determined by GC analysis with chlorobenzene as an internal standard.

Since the reuse experiments was performed in a large-capacity autoclave for ease of recovery, the yield of 3a was lower than that obtained using a small-capacity autoclave.

![](_page_22_Figure_0.jpeg)

Fig. S8 TG-DTA chart of (a) fresh  $Co/SiO_2$  and (b) used  $Co/SiO_2$  after hydrogenation of 1a.

#### **Spectral Data**

Benzylamine (3a)<sup>S28</sup>

NH<sub>2</sub>

After the reaction was completed, the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:MeOH = 10:0 to 6:4) to give the pure title compound (86%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.21–7.35 (m, 5H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 1.60 (br s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 143.3, 128.5, 127.1, 126.8, 46.5.

Furfurylamine (3b) S15

![](_page_23_Picture_5.jpeg)

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration and the obtained solution was evaporated to give the analytically pure title compound (83%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.35 (s, 1H), 6.30–6.31 (q, 1H), 6.13 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 1.64 (br s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 156.6, 141.6, 110.2, 105.0, 39.3.

2-Methylbenzyl amine (3c)<sup>S29</sup>

NH<sub>2</sub>

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:MeOH = 10:0 to 6:4) to give the mixture of the title compound with side products. The yield was calculated based on 3.84 ppm peak assigned to the benzylic position (69%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.30–7.15 (m 4H), 3.84 (s 2H), 2.33 (s 3H), 1.48 (brs 2H).

4-Methylbenzyl amine (3d)<sup>S30</sup>

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:MeOH = 10:0 to 6:4) to give the mixture of the title compound with side products. The yield was calculated based on 3.81 peak assigned to the benzylic position (64%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 3.81

(s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 2H).

4-Methoxybenzyl amine (3e) S31

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:MeOH = 10:0 to 6:4) to give the pure title compound (83%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 5H), 1.60 (br s, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 158.5, 135.6, 128.3, 113.9, 55.3, 45.9.

4-Ethoxycarbonylbenzylamine (3f) S32

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:MeOH = 10:0 to 6:4) to give the mixture of the title compound with side products. The yield was calculated based on the peak at 3.87 ppm assigned to the benzylic position (53%). *N*,*N*,*N*-Tris(4-ethoxycarbonylbenyl)amine was also observed in 14% yield (3.79 ppm).

4-Iodobenzyl amine hydrochloric acid (3g•HCl)<sup>S33</sup>

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration and Hydrogen chloride ethyl ether solution was added dropwise to the resulting solution to obtain the hydrochloride salt. (79%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 8.68 (s, 3H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 137.7$ , 134.3, 131.8, 95.3, 42.0.

pyridin-3-ylmethanamine (**3h**)

Yield was determined by GC analysis with chlorobenzene as the internal standard. The

retention time of the title compound is 13.2 minutes (62%).

octan-1-amine (3i)  $_{NH_{2}}$ 

Yield was determined by GC analysis with chlorobenzene as the internal standard. The retention time of the title compound is 11.8 minutes (78%).

 $H_2N$   $NH_2$ 

Yield was determined by GC analysis with phenanthrene as the internal standard. The retention time of the title compound is 12.6 minutes (73%).

2-Methoxybenzylamine (3k)<sup>S31</sup>

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:MeOH = 10:0 to 6:4) to give the pure title compound (95%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.189–7.24 (m, 2H), 6.84–6.92 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 2H), 2.22 (br s, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 157.4, 131.5, 128.6, 128.1, 120.6, 110.3, 55.2, 42.5.

4-Fluorobenzylamine (31)<sup>S31</sup>

After the reaction was completed, the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:MeOH = 10:0 to 6:4) to give the pure title compound (81%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.25–7.28 (q, 2 H), 6.98–7.03 (t, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2 H), 1.76 (br s, 2 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 161.8 (d, *J* = 242.8 Hz), 138.8, 128.6 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 115.2 (d, *J* = 21.1), 45.7.

4-Bromobenzylamine (3m)<sup>S18</sup>

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:MeOH = 10:0 to 6:4) to give the pure title compound (86%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 1.59 (br s, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 142.1, 131.5, 128.8, 120.5, 45.8.

4-(Trifluoromethyl)benzylamine (3n)<sup>S18</sup>

![](_page_26_Figure_6.jpeg)

After the reaction was completed, the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc:MeOH = 10:0 to 6:4) to give the pure title compound (88%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 3.93 (s, 2H), 1.85 (br s, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 146.9, 129.1 (q, *J* = 32.0 Hz), 127.3, 125.4 (q, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 124.2 (q, *J* = 270.1 Hz), 45.9.

2-Aminomethylpyrrole (30)<sup>S19</sup>

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration and the obtained solution was evaporated to give the analytically pure title compound (87%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 6.56$  (s, 1H), 6.00–6.05 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 2H), 3.59 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ =133.7, 122.3, 106.7, 106.5, 37.8, 33.6.

4-Phenylbutan-2-amine (3p)<sup>S34</sup>

![](_page_26_Picture_15.jpeg)

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration and the obtained solution was evaporated to give the analytically pure title compound (76%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.27–7.23 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.14 (m, 3H), 2.94–2.89 (m, 1H), 2.69–2.59 (m, 2H), 1.69–1.63 (m, 2H), 1.11 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 142.2, 128.4, 128.3, 125.8, 46.6, 41.2, 32.7, 23.4

Octan-2-amine (3q) S35

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration. The obtained solution was evaporated to dryness. Yield of the title compound was determined <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis based on phenanthrene as an internal standard.

Dodecan-2-amine (3r) <sup>S36</sup>

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration. The obtained solution was evaporated to dryness. Yield of the title compound was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis based on phenanthrene as an internal standard.

Cyclohexylmethylamine (3s)<sup>S37</sup>

![](_page_27_Picture_8.jpeg)

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration and the obtained solution was evaporated to give the analytically pure title compound (74%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 2.59–2.66 (m, 1H), 1.57–1.86 (m, 5H), 1.00–1.32 (m, 5H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 50.4, 36.8, 25.6, 25.1.

2-Adamanylamine (3t)<sup>S38</sup>

![](_page_27_Picture_13.jpeg)

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration. The obtained

solution was evaporated to dryness. Yield of the title compound was determined based on phenanthrene as an internal standard.

(5-(Aminomethyl)furan-2-yl)methanol (3u)<sup>S39</sup>

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration and the obtained solution was evaporated to give the analytically pure title compound (93%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 6.18$  (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 2H), 2.10 (br s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 156.3, 153.3, 108.3, 106.0, 57.3, 39.2.

17β-amino-1,3,5(10)-estratrien-3-ol (3v) <sup>S9</sup>

![](_page_28_Figure_7.jpeg)

After the reaction was completed, the catalyst was separated by filtration and the obtained solution was evaporated to give the analytically pure title compound (83%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 8.99 (s, 2H), 7.05–7.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.53–6.50 (m, 1H), 6.46–6.45 (m, 1H), 2.77–2.73 (m, 2H), 2.41–2.39 (m, 1H), 2.32–2.22 (m, 1H), 2.13–1.29 (m, 12H), 0.82 (s, 3H)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ = 155.5, 137.6, 130.4, 126.5, 115.4, 113.3, 50.1, 47.8, 43.9, 38.5, 35.8, 31.9, 29.5, 26.6, 26.0, 21.6, 14.0.

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NMR spectra

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_0.jpeg)

S35

![](_page_35_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_37_Figure_0.jpeg)

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