

*Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)*

Table S1 the hydrogenation performance of nitrobenzene or halogenated nitrobenzene over metal-free carbon materials catalysts

Catalysts	Substrate	Product	Hydrogen source	T or P <sub>H<sub>2</sub></sub> (°C or MPa)	t(h)	Yield (%)	Ref.
graphite	nitrobenzene	aniline	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	/	2	95.0	1
C <sub>60</sub>	nitrobenzene	aniline	H <sub>2</sub>	150/5	4	10.0	2
AC	3-nitrostyrene	3-aminostyrene	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	2	21.1	3
AC-H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	3-nitrostyrene	3-aminostyrene	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	2	56.3	3
C <sub>60</sub> -EDAC	ρ-CNB	ρ-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	2	99.0	4
C <sub>60</sub> -EDAC	o-CNB	o-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	2	99.0	4
NC-950	ρ-CNB	ρ-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	90	4	93.4	5
CNS-900	o-CNB	o-CAN	H <sub>2</sub>	140/5	24	100.0	6
NSHC	ρ-CNB	ρ-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	4	93.1	7
NSHC	ρ-bromonitrobenzene	ρ-bromoaniline	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	4	98.0	7
NSHC	ρ-iodonitrobenzene	ρ-iodoaniline	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	4	93.0	7
NPG	ρ-CNB	ρ-CAN	NaBH <sub>4</sub>	35	2	98.5	8
NPG	ρ-bromonitrobenzene	ρ-bromoaniline	NaBH <sub>4</sub>	35	2	85.1	8
g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	m-CNB	m-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	90 (visible-light)	18	88.0	9
BNC	ρ-CNB	ρ-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	80	10	98.7	10
NC-700	ρ-CNB	ρ-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	2.5	83.2	11
NC-700	o-CNB	o-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	2	90.8	11
NC-700	m-CNB	m-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	100	2	92.5	11
ONPC	m-CNB	m-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	80	4	96.3	12
ONPC	ρ-bromonitrobenzene	ρ-bromoaniline	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	80	4	90.2	12
ONPC	ρ-iodonitrobenzene	ρ-iodoaniline	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	80	4	52.8	12
PNC	ρ-CNB	ρ-CAN	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O	Xenon lamp	24	95.7	13
N-CNT <sub>900</sub>	nitrobenzene	aniline	H <sub>2</sub>	50/3	15	<1.0	14
N-CNT <sub>900</sub>	nitrobenzene	aniline	H <sub>2</sub>	120/3	18	95.0	14
P-CNT <sub>900</sub>	ρ-CNB	ρ-CAN	H <sub>2</sub>	50/3	15	97.0	14
P-CNT <sub>900</sub>	ρ-bromonitrobenzene	ρ-bromoaniline	H <sub>2</sub>	50/3	15	94.0	14
P-CNT <sub>900</sub>	ρ-iodonitrobenzene	ρ-iodoaniline	H <sub>2</sub>	50/3	15	94.0	14
OZG-800	nitrobenzene	aniline	H <sub>2</sub>	170/3	26	94.1	15
CN-900	nitrobenzene	aniline	HCOOH	160	12	68.5	16

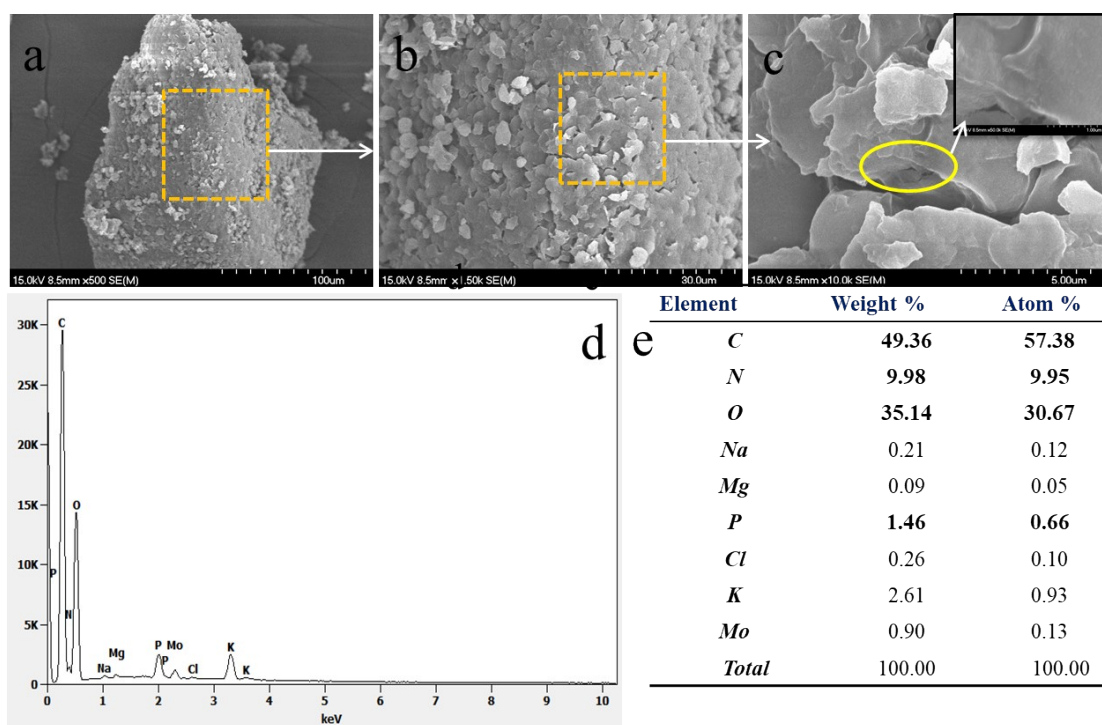


Fig. S1 SEM image (a-c) and EDS element analysis (de) of yeasts after adding water.

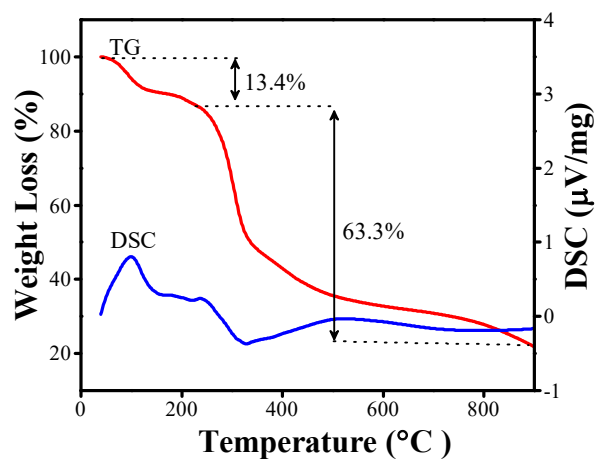


Fig. S2 TG-DSC curve of yeast.

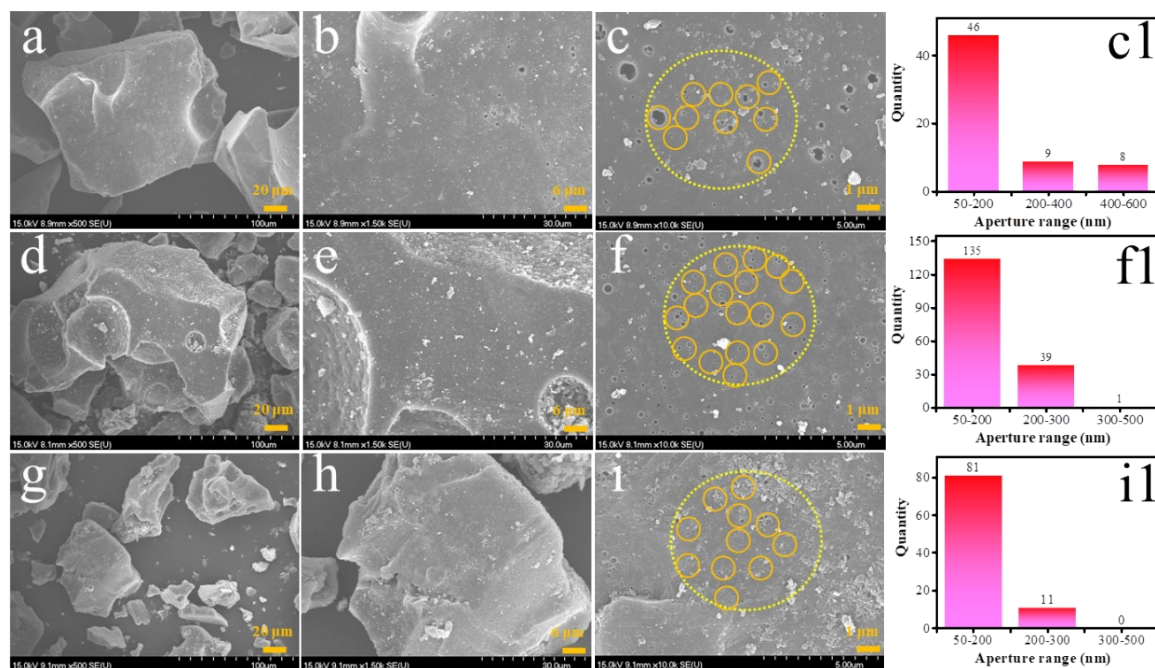


Fig. S3 SEM images and macropore size distribution of the catalysts (Y-NPC-800 °C (a-c, c1); Y-NPC-900 °C (d-f, f1); Y-NPC-950 °C (g-i, i1)).

Table S2 Surface area ( $S_{\text{BET}}$ ), pore volume and average pore size values of the samples

Samples	$S_{\text{BET}}$ ( $\text{m}^2\text{g}^{-1}$ )	Total pore volume <sup>a</sup> ( $\text{cm}^3\text{g}^{-1}$ )	BJH desorption average pore size (nm)
Y-NPC-800 °C	226	0.13	4.5
Y-NPC-900 °C	255	0.16	4.7
Y-NPC-950 °C	355	0.23	4.8

<sup>a</sup> Single point adsorption total pore volume of pores less than 196.2 nm diameter at P/P<sub>0</sub> 0.99.

Table S3 Crystal plane spacing and full width at half maximum (FWHM) of the samples<sup>17</sup>

Samples	$2\theta$ (°)	d-spacing of (002) (nm)	FWHM (nm)	$2\theta$ (°)	d-spacing of (100) (nm)	FWHM (nm)
Y-NPC-800 °C	25.056	0.355	0.655	44.497	0.206	0.281
Y-NPC-900 °C	25.311	0.352	0.555	43.433	0.203	0.185
Y-NPC-950 °C	24.577	0.361	0.512	43.425	0.208	0.687

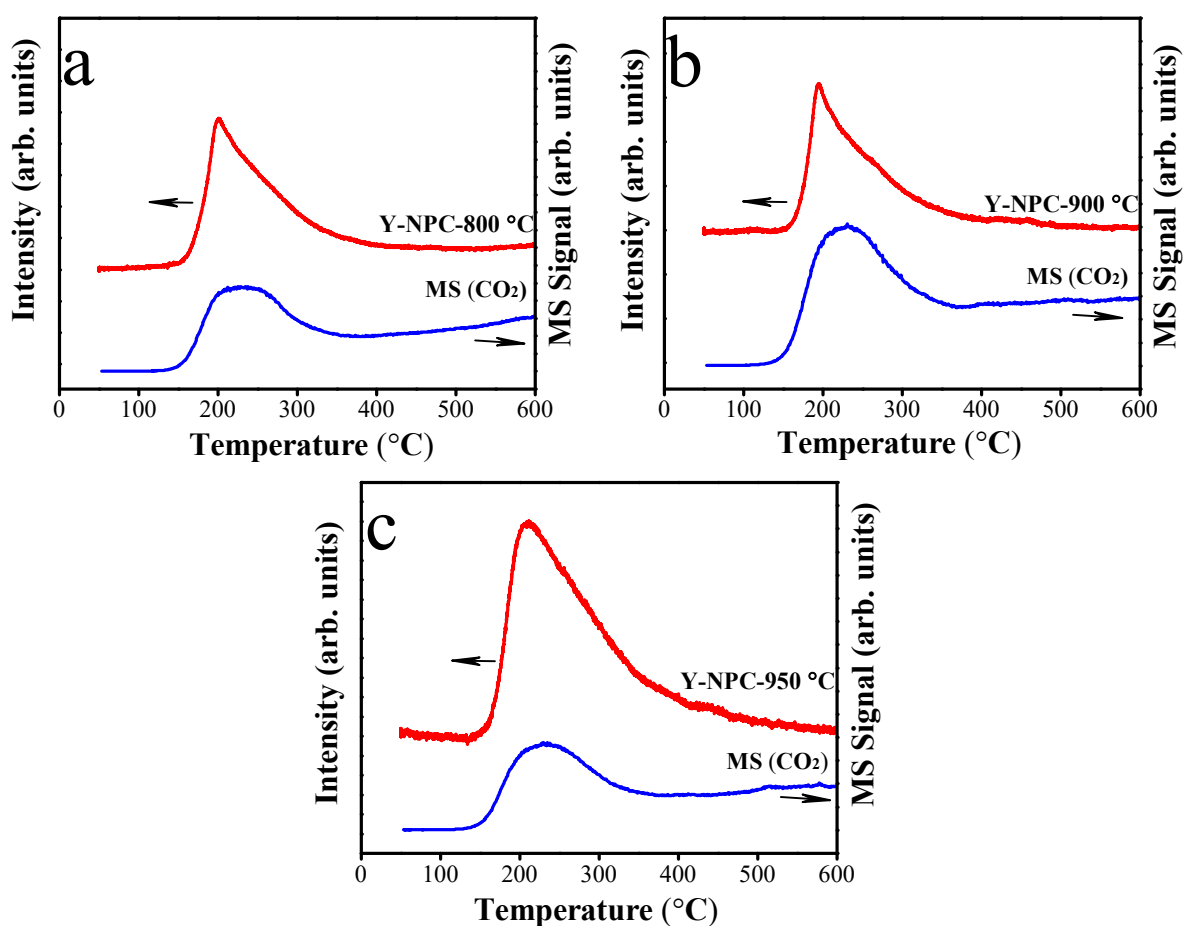


Fig. S4 CO<sub>2</sub>-TPD profiles associated with the samples and CO<sub>2</sub>-TPD profiles with MS of the samples (a-c).

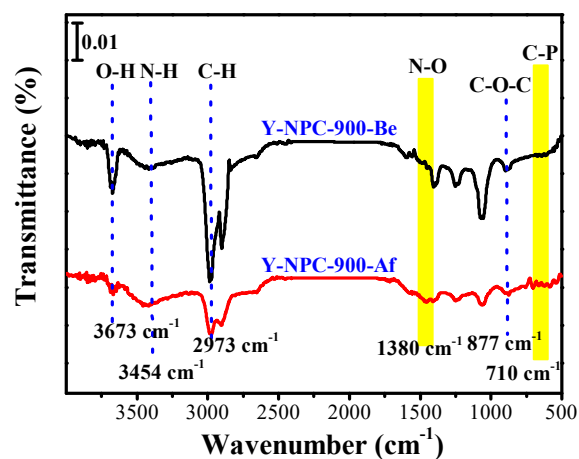


Fig. S5 FTIR spectra of Y-NPC-900 °C.

Table S4 Elemental analysis of the samples by XPS

Atomic Content%	C	O	N	P	N-Q	P-O	P-C	P-N
Y-NPC-800 °C	80.09	14.87	4.39	0.65	2.23	0.12	0.46	0.07
Y-NPC-900 °C	87.30	9.16	3.17	0.37	1.68	0.09	0.15	0.13
Y-NPC-950 °C	88.24	9.20	2.36	0.24	1.25	0.05	0.11	0.08

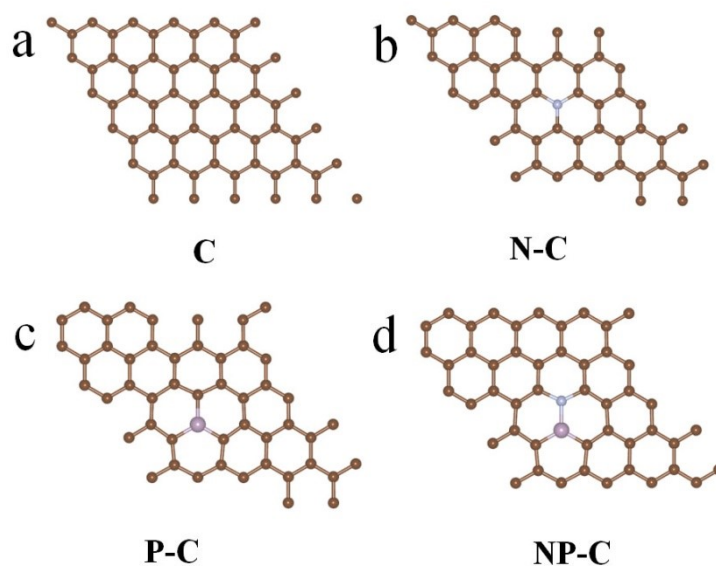


Fig. S6 Structures of C, N-C, P-C and NP-C (a-d) contain 50 carbon atoms, 1 nitrogen atom and 1 phosphorus atom. Carbon: brown, nitrogen: light blue, and phosphorus: purple.

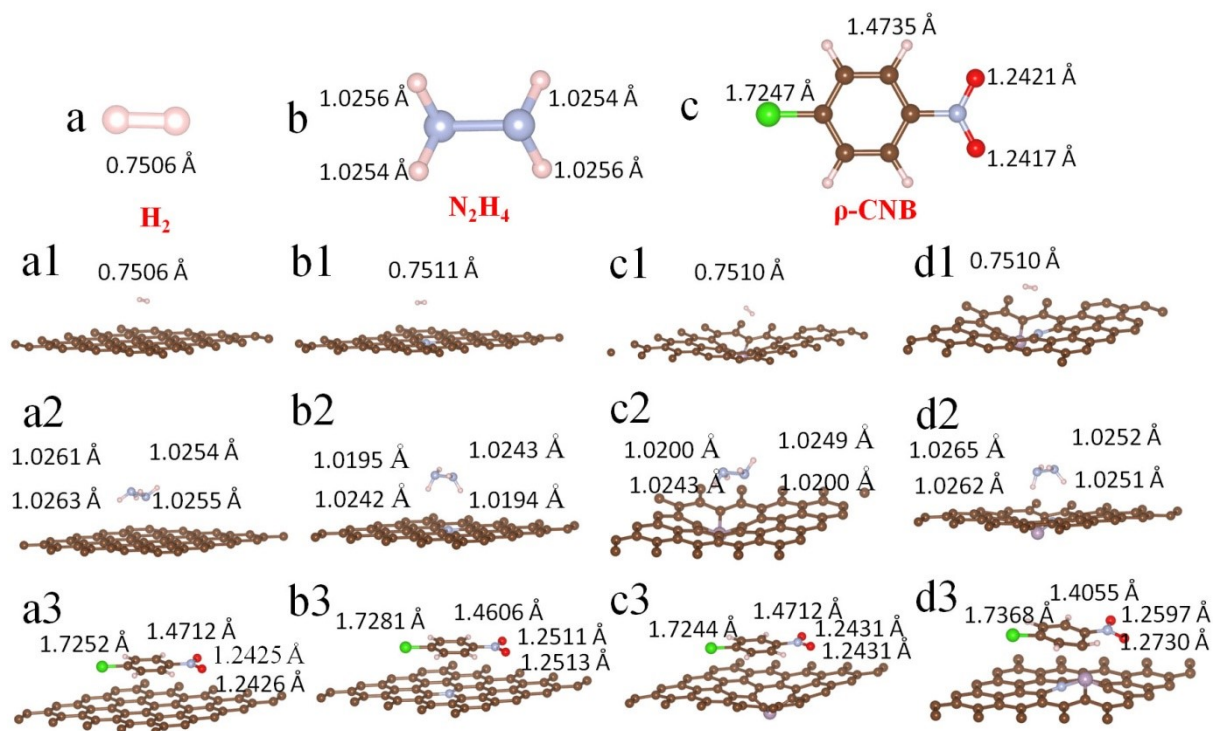


Fig. S7 Optimized free molecules for H<sub>2</sub>(a), N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (b)and ρ-CNB(c); adsorption model of H<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, ρ-CNB molecules over C-C (a1, a2, a3), N-C (b1, b2, b3), P-C (c1, c2, c3) and NP-C (d1, d2, d3), respectively.

Table S5 Adsorption energy of H<sub>2</sub> over C-C, N-C, P-C and NP-C

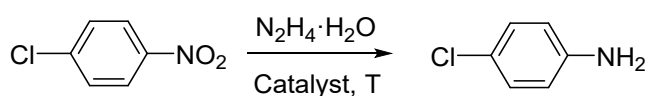
System	*	H <sub>2</sub>	*H <sub>2</sub>	ΔE <sub>ads</sub> (eV)
C	-462.31	-6.77	-469.14	-0.06
N-C	-460.20	-6.77	-467.05	-0.08
P-C	-453.72	-6.77	-462.40	-1.91
NP-C	-452.24	-6.77	-461.99	-2.98

Table S6 Adsorption energy of N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> over C-C, N-C, P-C and NP-C

System	*	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	*N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	ΔE <sub>ads</sub> (eV)
C	-462.31	-30.18	-492.70	-0.21
N-C	-460.20	-30.18	-490.70	-0.32
P-C	-453.72	-30.18	-486.02	-2.12
NP-C	-452.24	-30.18	-485.71	-3.29

Table S7 Adsorption energy of  $\rho$ -CNB over C-C, N-C, P-C and NP-C

System	*	$\rho$ -CNB	* $\rho$ -CNB	$\Delta E_{\text{ads}}$ (eV)
C	-462.31	-90.16	-553.11	-0.64
N-C	-460.20	-90.16	-551.06	-0.70
P-C	-453.72	-90.16	-546.40	-2.52
NP-C	-452.24	-90.16	-544.93	-2.53

Table S8 Catalytic transfer hydrogenation performance of catalyst<sup>a</sup>

Entry	Catalyst	m Catalyst(mg)	S <sub>BET</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> ·g <sup>-1</sup> )	T(°C)	$\rho$ -CNB Con.(%)	$\rho$ -CAN Sel.(%)	PR <sup>b</sup> (molg <sup>-1</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> )	PR <sup>b</sup> /S <sub>BET</sub> (molh <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-2</sup> )	PR <sup>b</sup> /S <sub>BET</sub> P- N <sup>c</sup> (molh <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-2</sup> )
1 <sup>11</sup>	--	--	--	100	1.2	99	--	--	--
2 <sup>11</sup>	NC-700	40	601	100	100	83.2	4.2×10 <sup>-3</sup>	6.9×10 <sup>-6</sup>	/
3 <sup>11</sup>	Graphite	40	/	100	30.2	>99	1.1×10 <sup>-3</sup>	/	/
4 <sup>11</sup>	CNTs	40	/	100	27.7	>99	9.9×10 <sup>-4</sup>	/	/
5 <sup>11</sup>	g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	40	/	100	42.5	>99	1.5×10 <sup>-3</sup>	/	/
6	CSs	40	4.3	100	12.8	>99	6.4×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.4×10 <sup>-4</sup>	/
7	Y-NPC-800 °C	40	226	100	46.7	91.8	2.1×10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.9×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.3×10 <sup>-4</sup>
8	Y-NPC-900 °C	40	255	100	100	>99.0	5.0×10 <sup>-3</sup>	2.0×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.5×10 <sup>-4</sup>
9	Y-NPC-950 °C	40	354	100	75.4	98.4	3.8×10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.0×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.3×10 <sup>-4</sup>
10	Y-NPC-900 °C	40	255	90	96.0	>99.0	4.8×10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.9×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.5×10 <sup>-4</sup>
11	Y-NPC-900 °C	40	255	80	90.0	>99.0	4.5×10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.8×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.4×10 <sup>-4</sup>
12	Y-NPC-900 °C	40	255	60	44.6	>99.0	3.0×10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.2×10 <sup>-5</sup>	9.2×10 <sup>-5</sup>
13	Y-NPC-900 °C	20	255	100	79.2	>99.0	7.9×10 <sup>-3</sup>	3.0×10 <sup>-5</sup>	2.3×10 <sup>-4</sup>
14 <sup>18d</sup>	1.36%Pd/CSs	0.53	/	80	100	86.2	1.1×10 <sup>-2</sup>	/	/

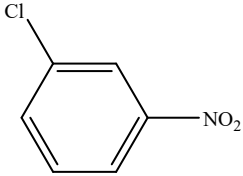
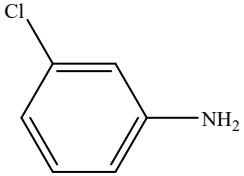
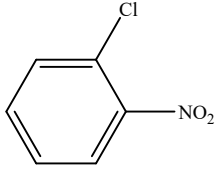
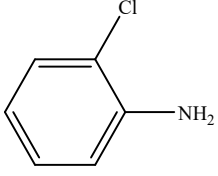
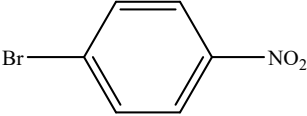
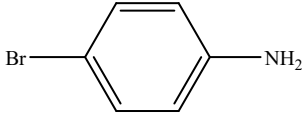
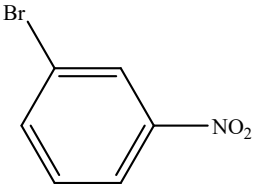
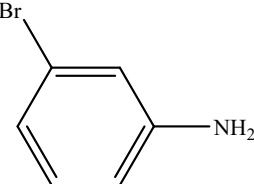
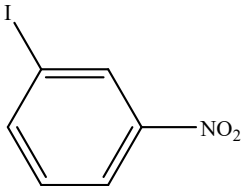
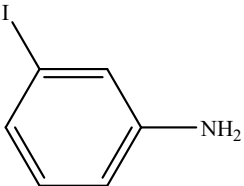
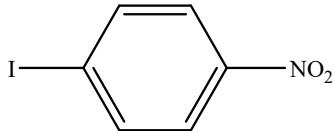
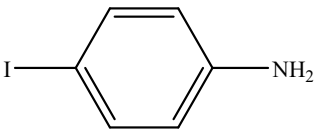
<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 0.5 mmol reactant, 5 mmol hydrazine hydrate (N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O, 85 wt.%), 40 mg Y-NPC-900 °C, 4 mL solvent (V<sub>ethanol</sub>/V<sub>water</sub> = 1/3), 100 °C, 2.5 h.

<sup>b</sup> Production rate per catalyst weight (PR) = mole of converted substrate ×  $\rho$ -CAN Sel. (%) / g catalyst × h reaction time (mol g<sup>-1</sup>h<sup>-1</sup>).

<sup>c</sup> The P-N content is in Table S4.

<sup>d</sup> Reaction conditions: substrate (1 mmol), hydrazine hydrate (10 mmol), 1.36 wt.% Pd (5 × 10<sup>-4</sup> mmol), solvent (ethanol/H<sub>2</sub>O: 1 mL/1 mL), air, 1.5 h.

Table S9 The catalytic performance of Y-NPC-900 °C for the transfer hydrogenation of halonitrobenzenes

Entry	Substrate	Product	Con. (%)	Sel. (%)
1			96.7	>99.9
2			99.3	>99.9
3			98.0	97.1
4			83.1	98.9
5			82.5	97.2
6			100	80.2

Reaction conditions: 0.5 mmol reactant, 5 mmol hydrazine hydrate ( $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , 85 wt.%), 40 mg Y-NPC-900 °C, 4 mL solvent ( $V_{\text{ethanol}}/V_{\text{water}} = 1/3$ ), 100 °C, 2.5 h.



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