

*Supporting information for*

**Ruthenium-containing  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin polymer globules for the catalytic hydrogenation of biomass-derived furanic compounds**

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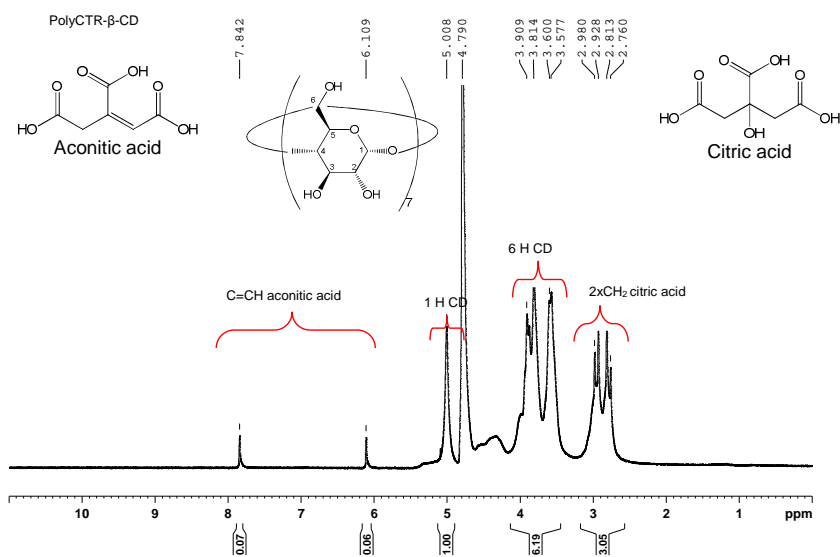
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Method for determining the $\beta$ -cyclodextrin content in Poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD).	Page 3
Fig. S1 Acid-base titration curve of poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD).	Page 4
Fig. S2 $^1\text{H}$ NMR analysis in $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ of poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) after addition of the different reactants used for the synthesis of Ru(0) NPs.	Page 5
Fig. S3 Representative TEM micrographs showing ruthenium-containing poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) spherical superstructures with the corresponding Ru(0) nanoparticles surface density.	Page 6
Fig. S4 EDS spectrum of poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) NPs in a selected region area.	Page 7
Fig. S5 TEM characterization of the poly(CTR-MaltoD) Ru(0) NPs at different magnifications.	Page 8
Fig. S6 TEM characterization of the CTR-stabilized Ru(0) NPs at different magnifications.	Page 9
Fig. S7 TEM characterization of the PM(CTR+ $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) particles synthesized from the mixture of citric acid and $\beta$ -CD (weight ratio of 1:1) as stabilizing agent.	Page 10
Fig. S8 Plots of the distribution of carboxylic acid groups and ratio of carboxylate to ruthenium vs the pH of the aqueous suspension made of poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) NPs.	Page 11
Fig S9 Conversion of 2-furaldehyde as a function of time over different ruthenium catalytic systems.	Page 12
Fig. S10 Reaction profile for the hydrogenation of 2-furaldehyde over CTR- $\beta$ -CD Ru(0) NPs at 30°C and under 1 MPa $\text{H}_2$ .	Page 13
Fig. S11 Reaction profile for the hydrogenation of 2-furaldehyde over PM(CTR+ $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) NPs at 30°C and under 1 MPa $\text{H}_2$ .	Page 14
Fig. S12 TEM characterization of the poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) NPs recovered at the end of the hydrogenation reaction of 2-furaldehyde ( reaction time 4 h.).	Page 15
Fig. S13 (a) $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectrum of poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) NPs dispersed in $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ (before catalysis) (b) $^1\text{H}$ NMR analysis of poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) NPs recovered at the end of the hydrogenation reaction of 2-furaldehyde (303 K, 10 bar $\text{H}_2$ , reaction time 4 h.), extraction of the organic product with $\text{CDCl}_3$ followed by its evaporation (35°C, water pump) and re-dissolution in $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ (after catalysis).	Page 16

## Method for determining the $\beta$ -cyclodextrin content in Poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD)



The number of citric acid and aconitic acid molecules per cyclodextrin unit has to be calculated as follows :

✓ *Ratio citric acid/CD :*

$$\frac{(\text{CH}_2) \text{ citric acid integral} \times \text{H}_1 \text{ CD number}}{\text{H}(\text{CH}_2) \text{ citric acid number} \times \text{H}_1 \text{ CD integral}}$$

Numerical application:  $(3.05 \times 7) / (4 \times 1) = \mathbf{5.34}$

✓ *ratio aconitic acid/CD :*

$$\frac{(\text{CH=})\text{aconitic acid integral} \times \text{H}_1 \text{ CD number}}{(\text{CH=})\text{aconitic acid number} \times \text{H}_1 \text{ CD integral}}$$

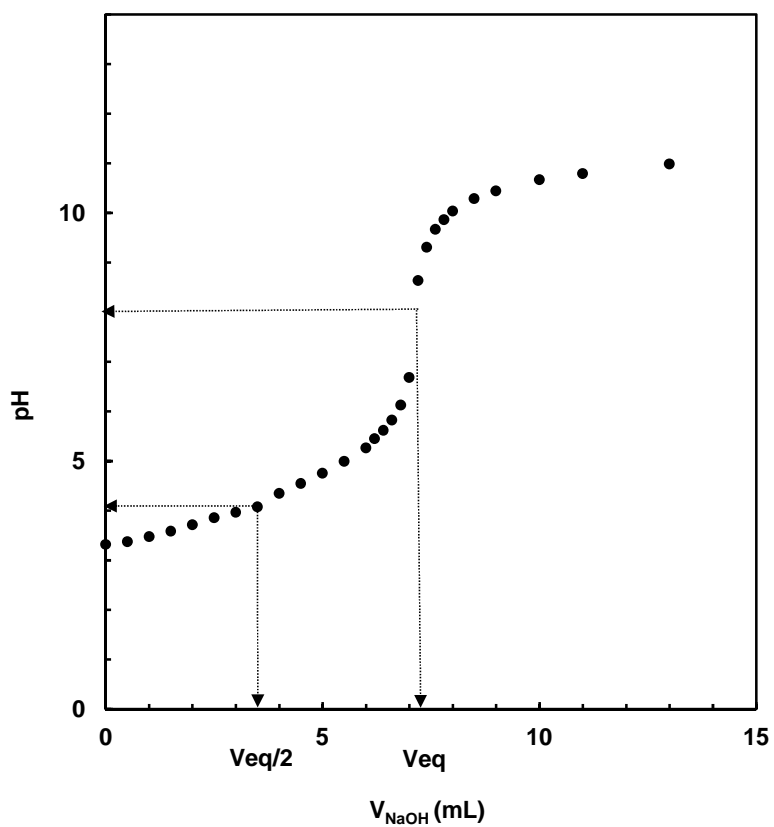
Numerical application:  $(0.13 \times 7) / (1 \times 1) = \mathbf{0.91}$

✓ *Then the weight percent of a compound i can be determined from the general formula:*

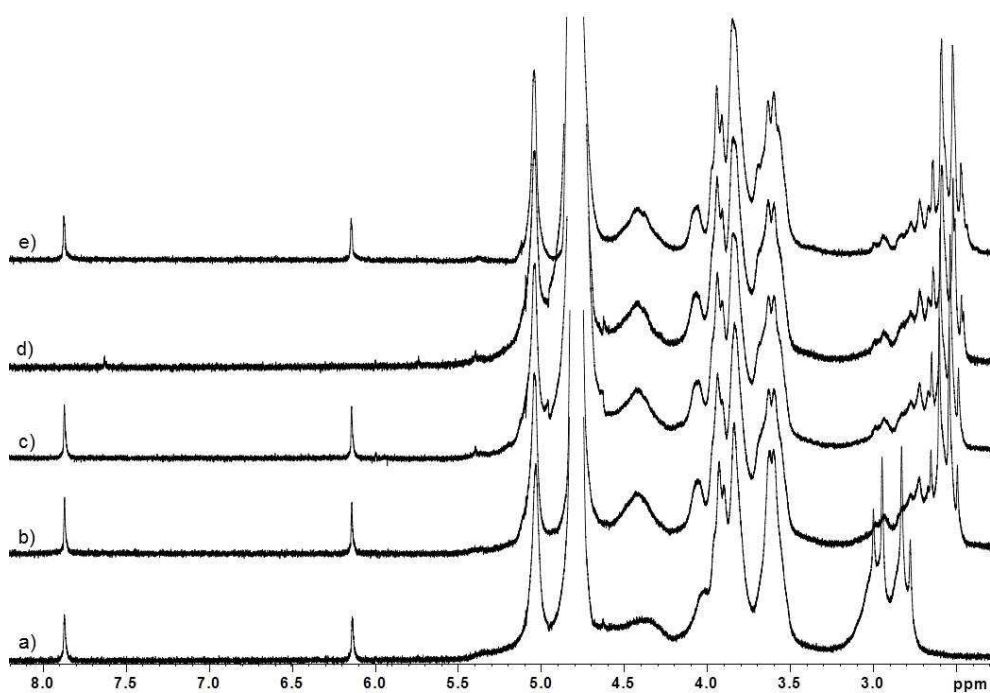
$$\frac{\text{ratio (specie } i/\text{CD)} \times M_i}{\sum (\text{ratio}_i \times M_i)}$$

Numerical application for  $\beta$ -CD:  $1135 / (5.34 \times 192 + 0.91 \times 174 + 1 \times 1135) = \mathbf{49 \text{ wt. \%}}$

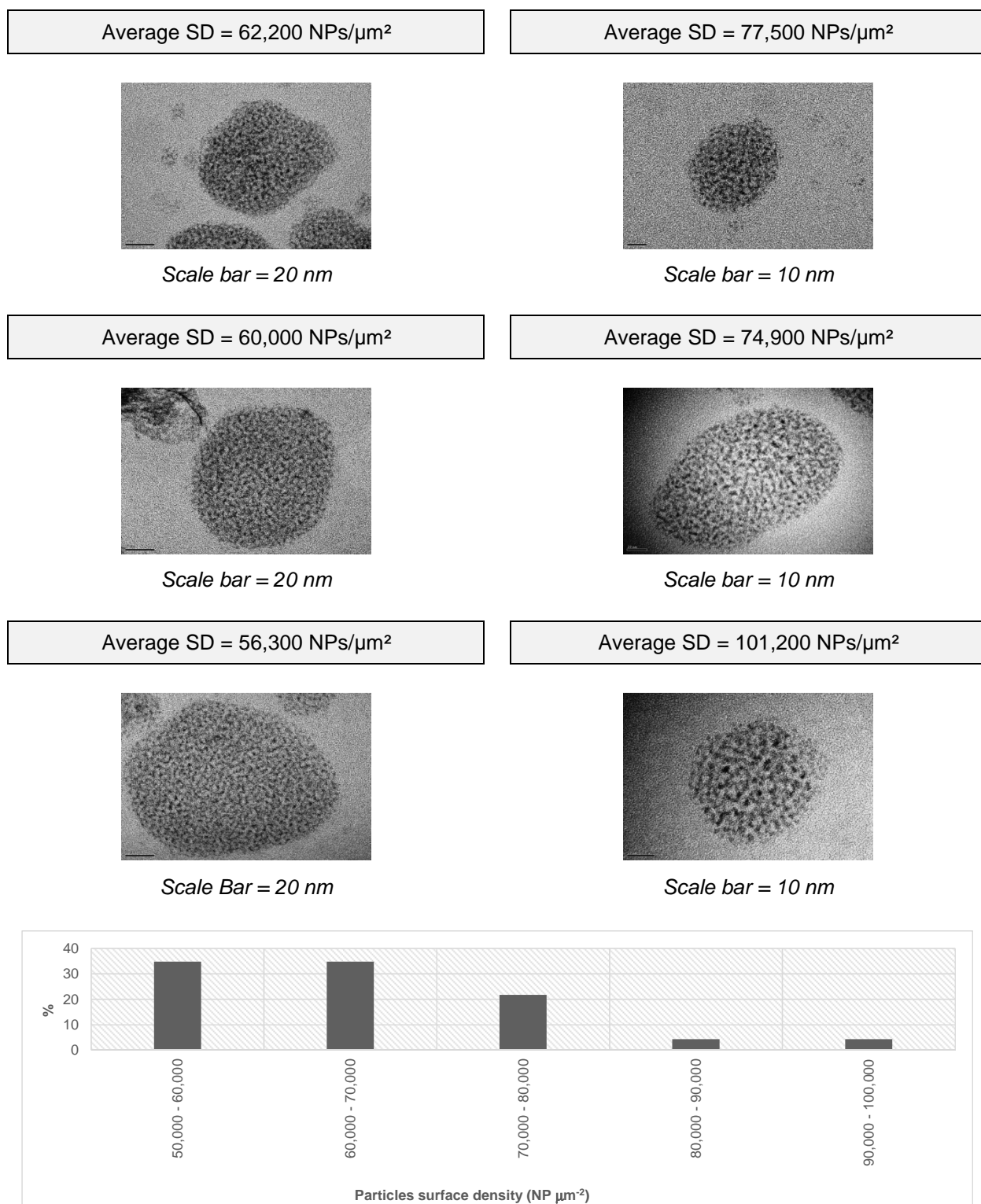
where 1135, 192 and 174 are the molar masses ( $\text{g mol}^{-1}$ ) of  $\beta$ -CD, citric acid and aconitic acid respectively.



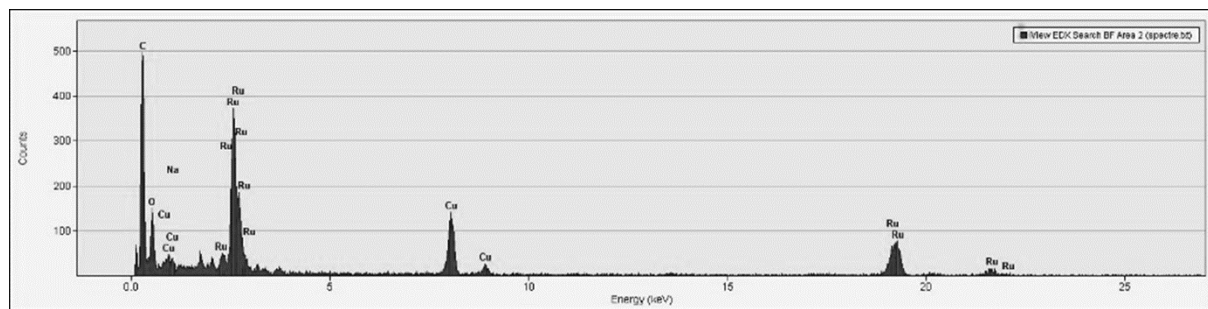
**Fig. S1** Acid-base titration curve of poly(CTR-β-CD). *Experimental procedure:* 50 mg of poly(CTR-β-CD) are dissolved in 100 mL of a 0.1 M NaCl solution. The resulting solution is titrated by a 0.05 M NaOH solution. The equivalent volume  $V_{\text{eq}}$  is determined by the derivative curve  $\text{dpH}/\text{dV}$ . The pH value at  $V_{\text{eq}}/2$  gives a mean  $\text{pK}_a$  value of 4.1 for the poly(CTR-β-CD).



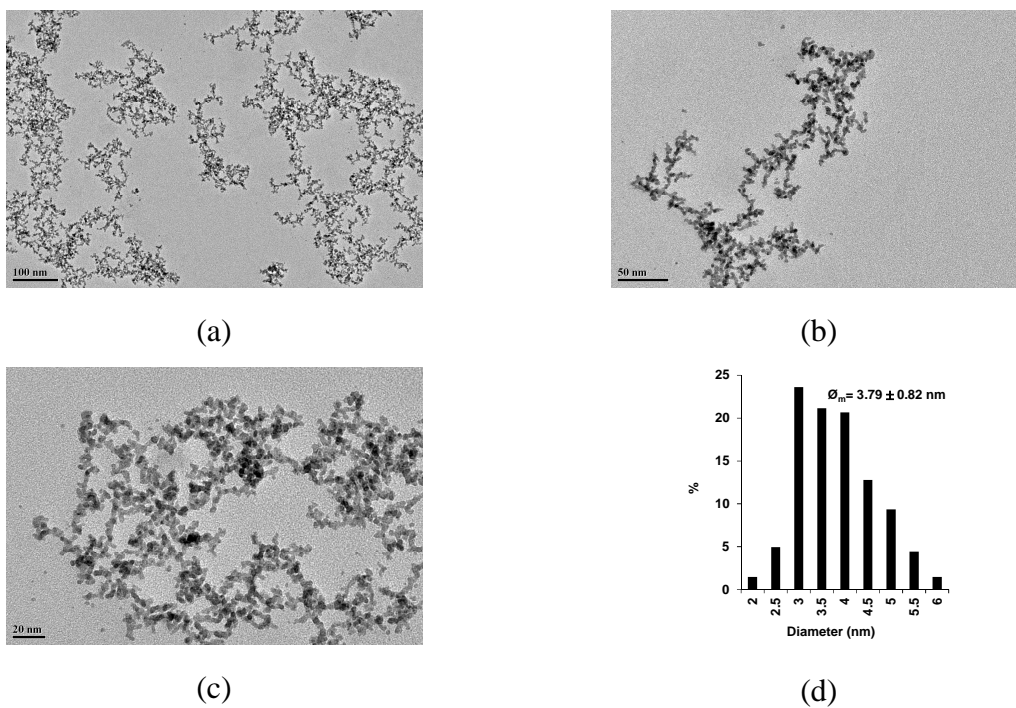
**Fig. S2** <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis in D<sub>2</sub>O of poly(CTR-β-CD) after addition of the different reactants used for the synthesis of Ru(0) NPs: (a) Pristine poly(CTR-β-CD); (b) poly(CTR-β-CD) with NaHCO<sub>3</sub>; (c) poly(CTR-β-CD) with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and Ru(NO)(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>; (d) poly(CTR-β-CD) with NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, Ru(NO)(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> and NaBH<sub>4</sub> and (e) poly(CTR-β-CD) with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (no metal)



**Fig. S3** Representative TEM micrographs showing ruthenium-containing poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) spherical superstructures with the corresponding Ru(0) nanoparticles surface density. The normalized histogram of the distribution was constructed from the counting of ca. 600 particles selected from 23 regions with surface areas of 300 to 400 nm<sup>2</sup>.

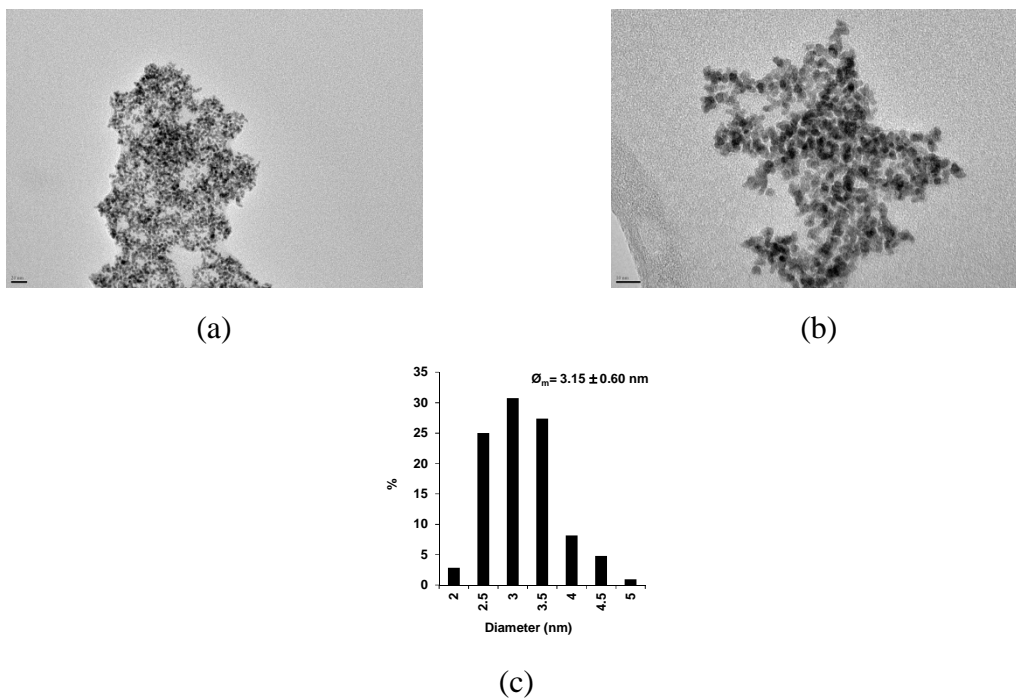


**Fig. S4** EDS spectrum of poly(CTR-β-CD) Ru(0) NPs in a selected region area.

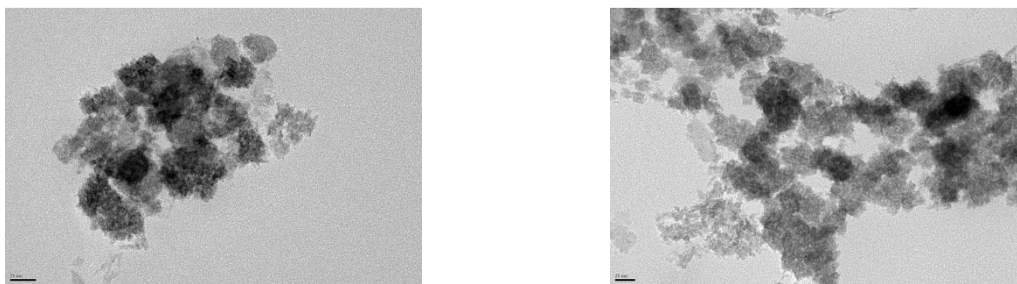


**Fig. S5** TEM characterization of the poly(CTR-MaltoD) Ru(0) NPs at different magnifications: (a) low-magnification image; (b) medium-magnification image; (c) high-magnification image and (d) corresponding particle size distribution obtained from the measurement of ca. 200 particles.

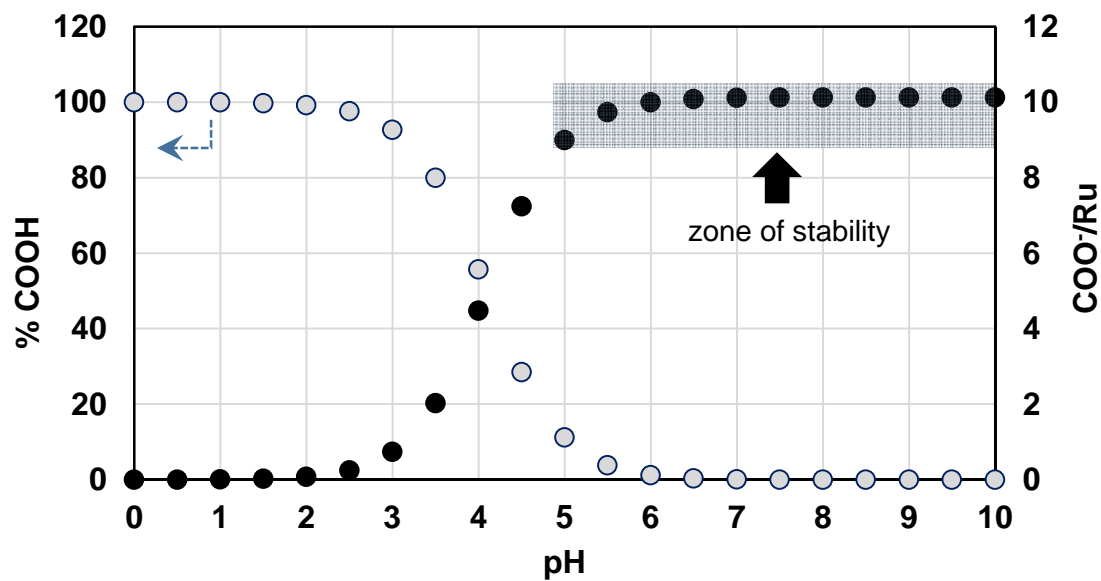




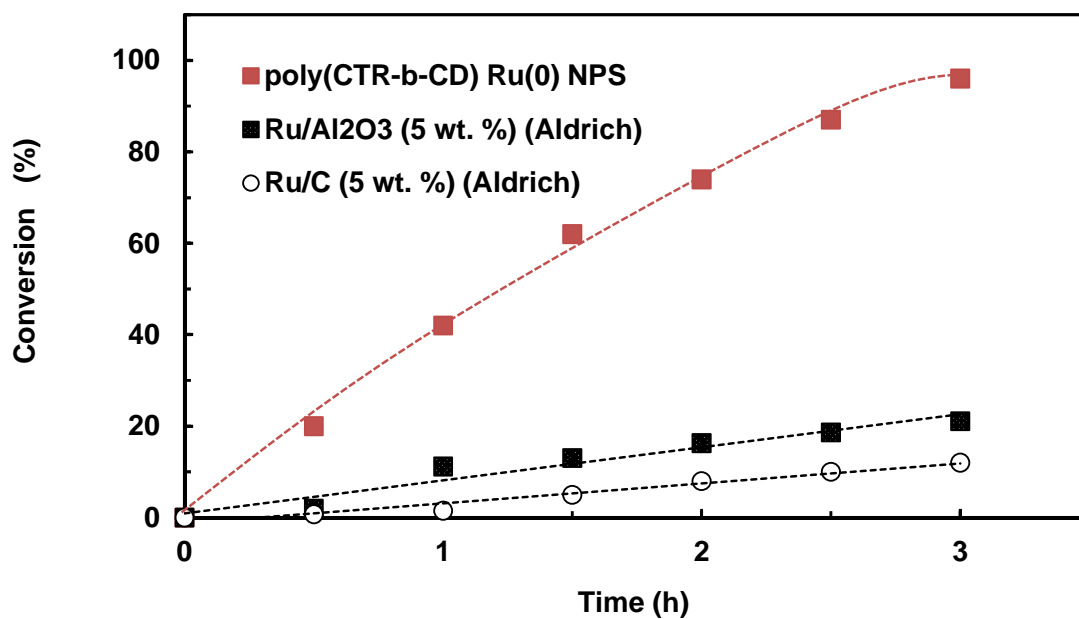
**Fig. S6** TEM characterization of the CTR-stabilized Ru(0) NPs at different magnifications: (a) medium-magnification image; (b) high-magnification image and (c) corresponding particle size distribution obtained from the measurement of ca. 200 particles.



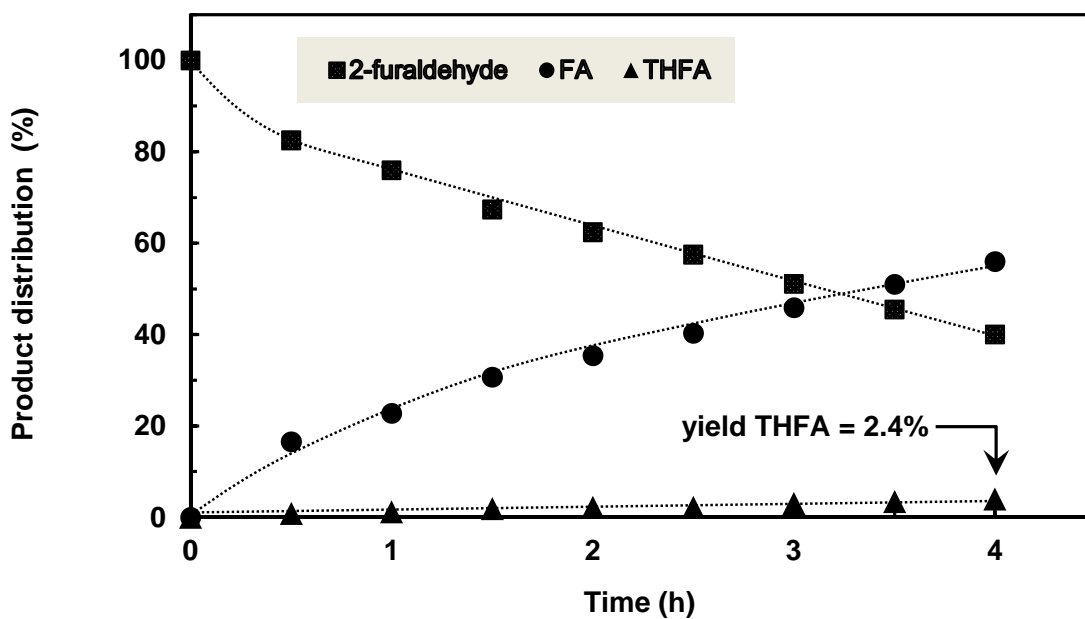
**Fig. S7** TEM characterization of the PM(CTR+ $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) particles synthesized from the mixture of citric acid and  $\beta$ -CD (weight ratio of 1:1) as stabilizing agent.



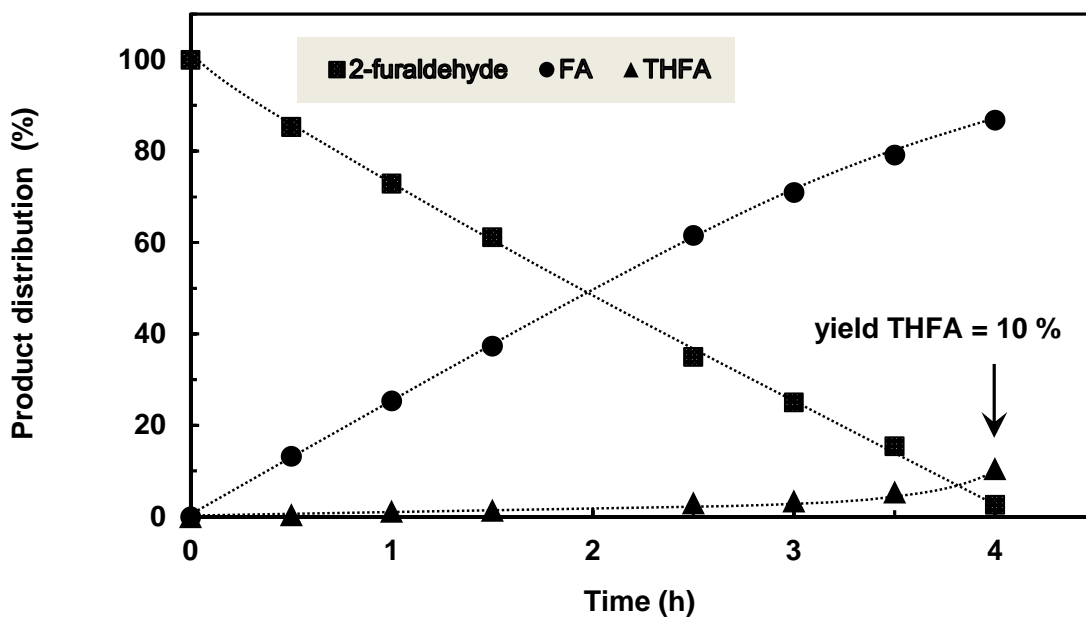
**Fig. S8** Plots of the distribution of carboxylic acid groups and ratio of carboxylate to ruthenium vs the pH of the aqueous suspension made of poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) NPs.



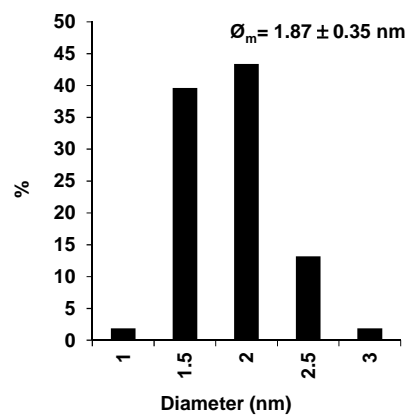
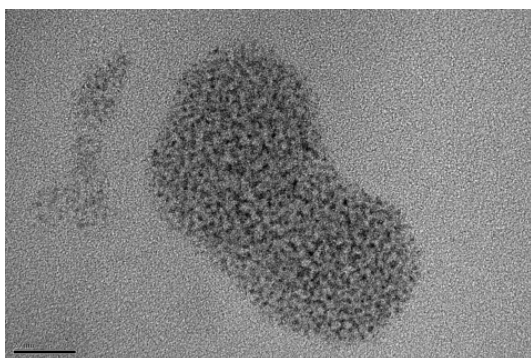
**Fig S9** Conversion of 2-furaldehyde as a function of time over different ruthenium catalytic systems: polyCTR- $\beta$ -CD Ru(0) NPs (■) Ru/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (80 mg) (■) and Ru/C (80 mg) (○). Reaction conditions: Ru (40  $\mu$ mol, 1 equiv.), 2-furaldehyde (2 mmol, 50 equiv), H<sub>2</sub> (1.0 MPa), solvent (H<sub>2</sub>O, 12 mL), stirring rate (1400 rpm), temperature (303 K), reaction time (3 h).



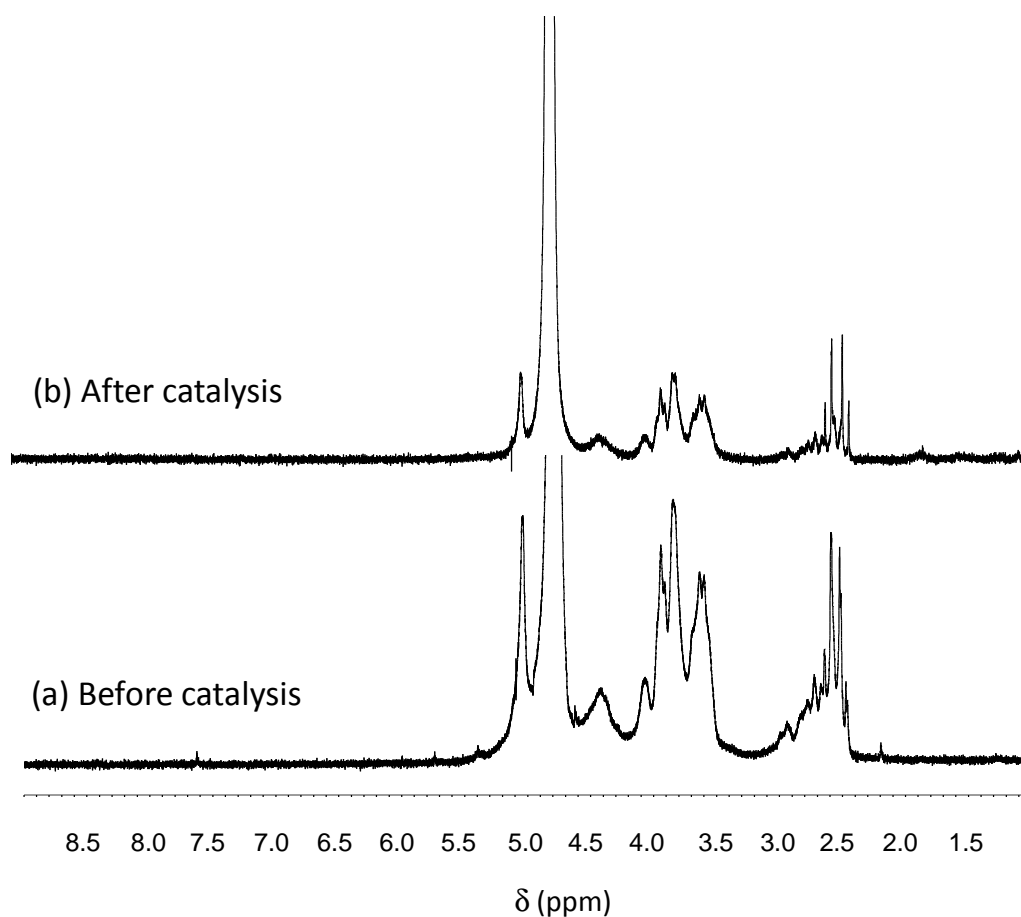
**Fig. S10** Reaction profile for the hydrogenation of 2-furaldehyde over CTR- $\beta$ -CD Ru(0) NPs at 30°C and under 1 MPa H<sub>2</sub>: 2-furaldehyde (■), furfuryl alcohol (●) and tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol (▲).



**Fig. S11** Reaction profile for the hydrogenation of 2-furaldehyde over PM(CTR+ $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) NPs at 30°C and under 1 MPa H<sub>2</sub>: 2-furaldehyde (■), furfuryl alcohol (●) and tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol (▲).



**Fig. S12** TEM characterization of the poly(CTR- $\beta$ -CD) Ru(0) NPs recovered at the end of the hydrogenation reaction of 2-furaldehyde ( reaction time 4 h.).



**Fig. S13** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of poly(CTR-β-CD) Ru(0) NPs dispersed in D<sub>2</sub>O (before catalysis) (b) <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis of poly(CTR-β-CD) Ru(0) NPs recovered at the end of the hydrogenation reaction of 2-furaldehyde (303 K, 10 bar H<sub>2</sub>, reaction time 4 h.), extraction of the organic product with CDCl<sub>3</sub> followed by its evaporation (35°C, water pump) and re-dissolution in D<sub>2</sub>O (after catalysis).