

Supporting Information

**Functional models of nonheme diiron enzymes: reactivity
of μ -oxo- μ -1,2-peroxo-diiron(III) intermediate in
electrophilic and nucleophilic reactions**

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1. Materials

All syntheses were done under an argon atmosphere unless stated otherwise. Solvents used for the synthesis and reactions were purified by standard methods and stored under argon. The ligand 1,3-bis(2'-pyridylimino)-isoindoline was synthesized according to published procedures.¹ Starting materials for the ligand are commercially available and they were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Synthesis of complex $[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{indH})(\text{MeCN})_3](\text{ClO}_4)_2$ was carried out as previously reported.²

2. Instrumentation

The UV-visible spectra were recorded on an Agilent 8453 diode-array spectrophotometer using quartz cells.

IR spectra were recorded using a Thermo Nicolet Avatar 330 FT-IR instrument (Thermo Nicolet Corporation, Madison, WI, USA). Samples were prepared in the form of KBr pellets.

GC analyses were performed on an Agilent 6850 gas chromatograph equipped with a flame ionization detector and a 30 m SUPELCO BETA DEX 225 column.

ESI-MS samples were analyzed using triple quadruple Micromass Quattro spectrometer (Waters, Milford, MA, USA), that was operated in positive electrospray ionization mode.

NMR spectrum was recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer (Bruker Biospin AG, Fällanden, Switzerland).

Microanalyses (elemental analysis) were done by the Microanalytical Service of the University of Pannonia.

3. Reactions of complex $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_2(\mu\text{-O})(\mu\text{-1,2-O}_2)(\text{IndH})_2(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})_2]^{2+}$ (1)

The μ -oxo- μ -1,2-peroxo-diiron(III) complex, $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_2(\mu\text{-O})(\mu\text{-1,2-O}_2)(\text{IndH})_2(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})_2]^{2+}$ (**1.(ClO₄)₂**) were prepared by adding 4 equiv of H₂O₂ to the solutions of $[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{IndH})(\text{MeCN})_3](\text{ClO}_4)_2$ (2.00×10^{-3} M) in acetonitrile (2.0 mL) at 10 °C.² Then, 10-50 equiv of substrates (phenylacetaldehyde (PAA), 2-phenylpropionaldehyde (PPA), cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde (CCA), propionaldehyde (PA), pivalaldehyde (TBA), *para*-substituted benzaldehydes and *para*-substituted 2,6-di-*tert*-butylphenols were added to the reaction solutions. All reactions were followed by monitoring UV-Vis spectral changes of the reaction solutions at 690 nm ($\varepsilon = 630 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$),³ respectively. The products (benzaldehyde, acetophenone, cyclohexanone, *tert*-butanol) were

identified by GC, GC-MS analysis, and their yields were determined by comparison with authentic compounds using bromobenzene (or naphtalene) as an internal standard in the reactions. The acetaldehyde from the reaction mixture of **1** with PA was identified as its 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone by GC-MS ($M^+ = 224$). The characterization of the product 4,4'-dihydroxy-3,3',5,5'-tetra-tert-butylbiphenyl (H2DPQ) based on previously described methods.³

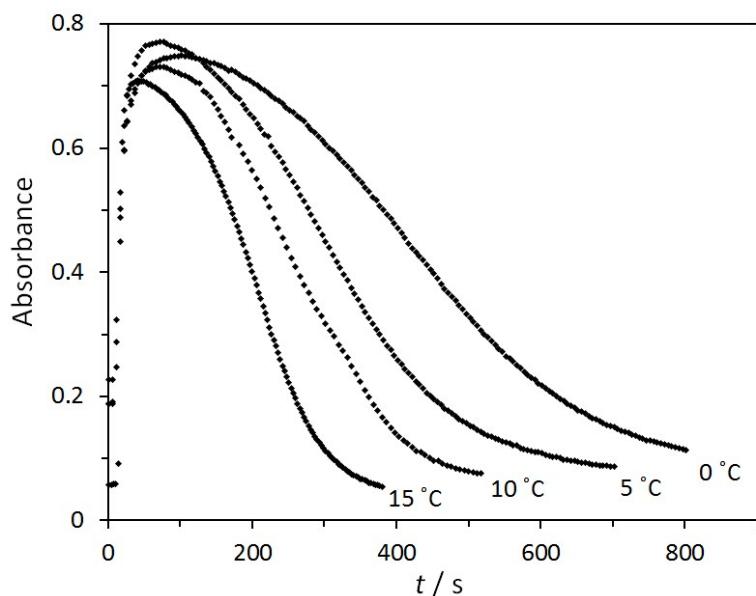


Fig. S1. Temperature-dependent stability of **1**. $[FeII] = 0$ mM, in MeCN at 690 nm.

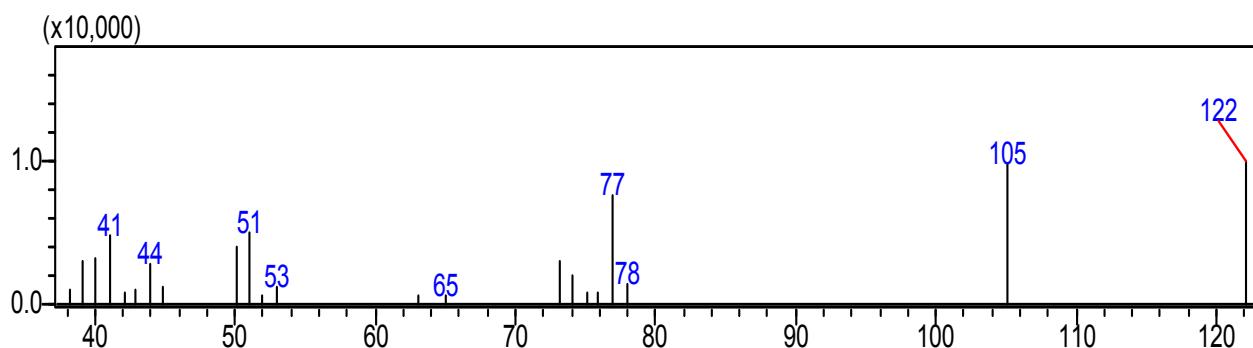


Fig. S2. Mass spectrometry showing benzoic acid formation (Yields ~80-90 % based on **1**) from the reaction mixture of **1** with benzaldehyde: m/z : 122 (100 %), 105 (97.02 %), 77 (76.67 %), 65 (5.97 %), 51 (49.48 %).

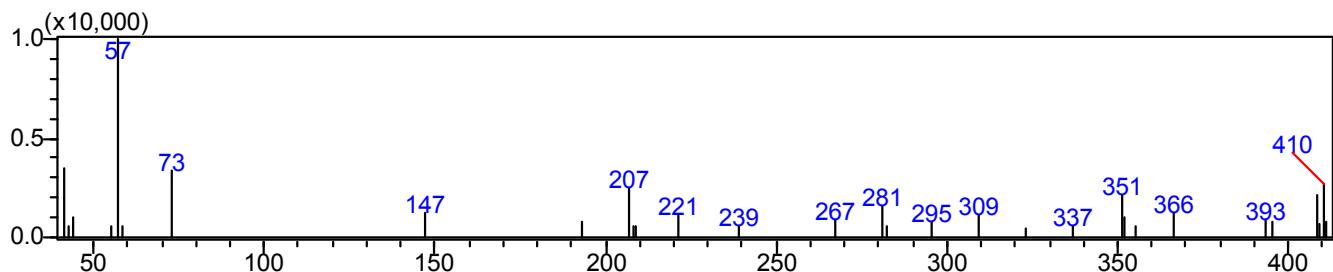


Fig. S3. Mass spectrometry showing 3,3',5,5'-tetra-*tert*-butyl-4,4'-diphenoquinone formation (Yields 80-90 % based on **1**) from the reaction mixture of **1** with 2,6-di-*tert*-butylphenol m/z : 408 (26.06 %), 393 (5.79 %), 366 (9.56 %), 351 (25.08 %), 309 (11.98 %), 295 (13.03 %), 281 (17.59 %), 57 (100 %).

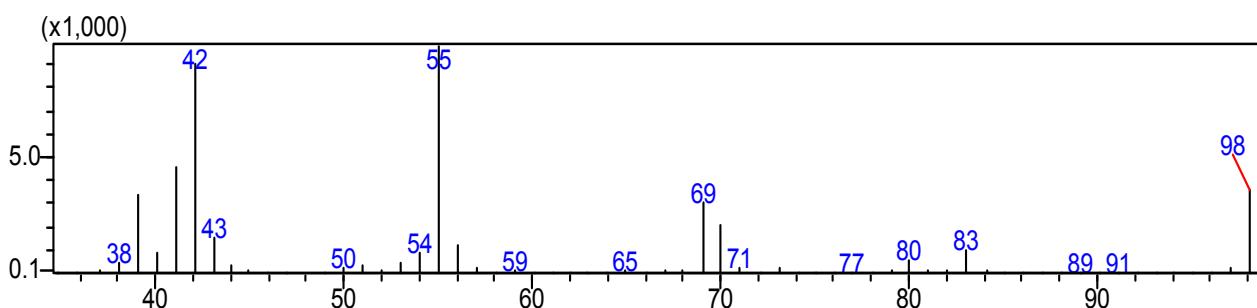


Fig. S4. Mass spectrometry showing cyclohexanone formation (Yields ~60-70% based on **1**) from the reaction mixture of **1** with CCA: m/z : 98 (35.77 %), 83 (9.86 %), 80 (5.81 %), 69 (30.55 %), 55 (100 %), 42 (90.65 %), 39 (33.87 %).

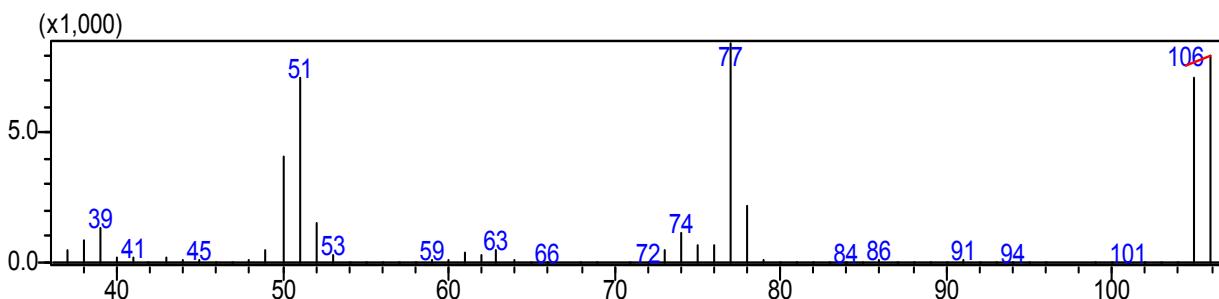


Fig. S5. Mass spectrometry showing benzaldehyde formation (Yields ~50-60% based on **1**) from the reaction mixture of **1** with PAA: m/z : 106 (79.97 %), 105 (71.12 %), 77 (100 %), 74 (11.48 %), 52 (15.07 %), 51 (71.34 %), 39 (13.55 %).

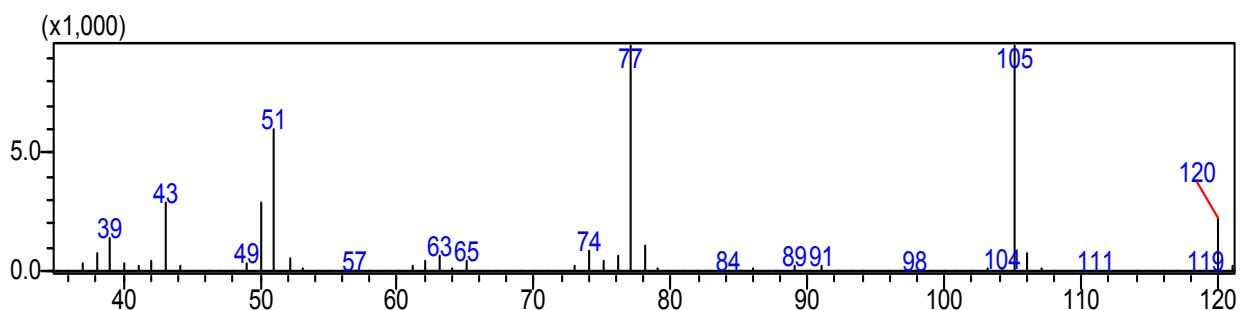


Fig. S6. Mass spectrometry showing acetophenone formation (Yields ~20-30% based on **1**) from the reaction mixture of **1** with PPA m/z : 120 (23.03 %), 106 (7.37 %), 105 (96.59 %), 79 (1.23 %), 77 (100 %), 51 (60.21 %), 43 (29.27 %), 39 (13.70 %).

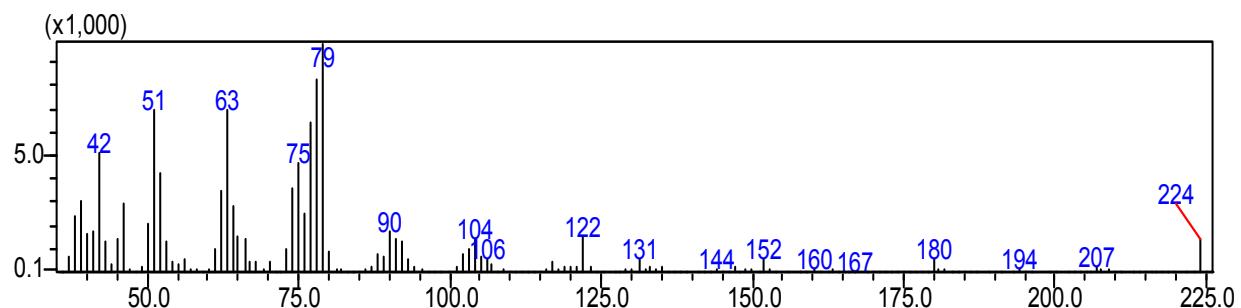


Fig. S7. Mass spectrometry showing acetaldehyde-hidrazon formation (Yields ~20-30% based on **1**) from the reaction mixture of **1** with PA m/z : 224 (14.52 %), 152 (5.16 %), 122 (14.81 %), 79 (100 %), 63 (69.53 %), 51 (69.89 %), 42 (51.12 %).

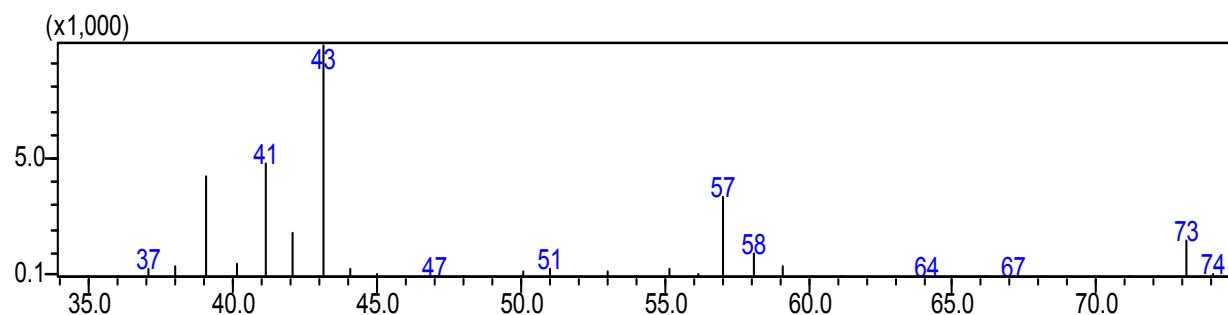


Fig. S8. Mass spectrometry showing tert butyl-alcohol ($t\text{BuOH}$) formation (Yields ~80-90% based on **1**) from the reaction mixture of **1** with TBA m/z : 74 (1.13 %), 73 (15.17 %), 58 (10.23 %), 57 (33.86 %), 43 (100 %), 41 (47.32 %), 39 (42.05 %), 37 (3.40 %).

4. Kinetic data for the reaction of **1** with various aldehydes and phenols

Table S1. Kinetic data for the reaction of **1**·(ClO₄)₂ with benzaldehyde in MeCN at different temperatures.

N ₀	T (K)	[1] ₀ (10 ⁻³ M)	PhC(O)H (10 ⁻² M)	k _{obs} (10 ⁻² s ⁻¹)	k ₂ (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)
1	283	1	1	3.38	2.52±0.08
2	283	1	2	5.65	2.39±0.06
3	283	1	3	7.89	2.34±0.04
4	283	1	4	10.08	2.30±0.04
5	283	1	5	12.24	2.28±0.05
6	283	1	6	15.01	2.36±0.03
7	278	1	2	4.20	1.88±0.01
8	288	1	2	5.65	2.92±0.02
9	293	1	2	11.18	3.83±0.05
10	298	1	2	15.66	4.45±0.06

Table S2. Kinetic data for the reaction of **1**·(ClO₄)₂ with *para*-substituted benzaldehydes in MeCN.

N ₀	T (K)	[1] ₀ (10 ⁻³ M)	σ _p	4R-PhCHO (0.04 M)	k _{obs} (10 ⁻² s ⁻¹)	k ₂ (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)	log k _X /k _H
1	283	1	0.66	CN	19.74	4.72±0.08	0.305
2	283	1	0.23	Cl	11.99	2.78±0.3	0.075
3	283	1	0	H	10.08	2.30±0.4	0
4	283	1	-0.17	CH ₃	8.14	1.82±0.02	-0.109
5	283	1	-0.27	OCH ₃	7.55	1.67±0.02	-0.146

Table S3. Kinetic data for the reaction of **1**·(ClO₄)₂ with phenylacetaldehyde (PAA) in MeCN at different temperatures.

N ₀	T (K)	[1] ₀ (10 ⁻³ M)	PAA (10 ⁻² M)	k _{obs} (10 ⁻² s ⁻¹)	k ₂ (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)
1	283	1	2	2.82	0.98±0.04
2	283	1	4	4.65	0.95±0.05
3	283	1	6	6.53	0.94±0.03
4	283	1	8	8.73	0.98±0.04
5	283	1	10	10.62	0.98±0.06
6	278	1	4	3.58	0.78±0.01
7	288	1	4	6.52	1.07±0.02
8	293	1	4	8.52	1.25±0.03

9	298	1	4	12.53	1.44±0.03
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Table S4. Kinetic data for the reaction of **1**·(ClO₄)₂ with 2-phenylpropionaldehyde (PPA) in MeCN at different temperatures.

N ₀	T (K)	[1] ₀ (10 ⁻³ M)	PPA (10 ⁻² M)	k _{obs} (10 ⁻² s ⁻¹)	k ₂ (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)
1	283	1	2	2.26	0.70±0.04
2	283	1	4	3.62	0.69±0.03
3	283	1	6	5.13	0.71±0.02
4	283	1	8	6.28	0.68±0.04
5	283	1	10	7.64	0.68±0.04
6	278	1	10	5.97	0.55±0.03
7	283	1	10	10.55	0.83±0.04
8	293	1	10	13.81	1.03±0.05
9	298	1	10	18.66	1.19±0.05

Table S5. Kinetic data for the reaction of **1**·(ClO₄)₂ with cyclohexancarboxaldehyde (CCA) in MeCN at different temperatures.

N ₀	T (K)	[1] ₀ (10 ⁻³ M)	CCA (10 ⁻² M)	k _{obs} (10 ⁻² s ⁻¹)	k ₂ (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)
1	283	1	1	3.08	2.22±0.11
2	283	1	2	5.41	2.27±0.08
3	283	1	3	7.91	2.35±0.10
4	283	1	4	10.17	2.33±0.09
5	278	1	1	2.80	1.89±0.08
6	288	1	1	8.06	2.81±0.13
7	293	1	1	11.94	3.60±0.15

Table S6. Kinetic data for the reaction of **1**·(ClO₄)₂ with propionaldehyde (PA) in MeCN at different temperatures.

N ₀	T (K)	[1] ₀ (10 ⁻³ M)	PA (10 ⁻² M)	k _{obs} (10 ⁻² s ⁻¹)	k ₂ (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)
1	283	1	2	2.23	0.683±0.031
2	283	1	4	3.94	0.769±0.022
3	283	1	6	5.50	0.773±0.034
4	283	1	8	7.11	0.781±0.029
5	283	1	10	8.19	0.733±0.030
6	278	1	4	2.79	0.587±0.018
7	288	1	4	6.17	0.982±0.029

8	293	1	4	8.18	1.17±0.034
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Table S7. Kinetic data for the reaction of **1**·(ClO₄)₂ with trimethylacetaldehyde (TBA) in MeCN at different temperatures.

N ₀	T (K)	[1] ₀ (10 ⁻³ M)	TBA (10 ⁻² M)	k _{obs} (10 ⁻² s ⁻¹)	k ₂ (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)
1	283	1	1	3.70	2.84±0.11
2	283	1	2	6.86	2.99±0.12
3	283	1	3	9.18	2.77±0.09
4	283	1	4	12.92	3.01±0.13
5	278	1	3	7.77	2.44±0.09
6	288	1	3	12.18	3.32±0.15
7	293	1	3	15.93	4.14±0.18
8	298	1	3	20.88	4.71±0.17

Table S8. Kinetic data for the oxidation of DTBPH with **1**.

N ₀	T (K)	[1] ₀ (10 ⁻³ M)	DTBPH (10 ⁻³ M)	k _{obs} (10 ⁻³ s ⁻¹)	k ₂ (M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹)
1	283	1	2	1.68	0.408±0.017
2	283	1	4	2.30	0.359±0.011
3	283	1	6	3.20	0.389±0.009
4	283	1	8	4.05	0.398±0.007
5	283	1	12	5.70	0.403±0.009
6	273	1	8	1.50	0.028±0.001
7	278	1	8	4.20	0.033±0.001
8	288	1	8	5.65	0.552±0.010
9 ^a	273	0.5	0.04	1.65	0.031±0.001
10 ^b	273	0.5	0.04	1.07	0.017±0.001

^a [H₂O] = 0.1 M, ^b [D₂O] = 0.1 M

Table S9. Kinetic data for the oxidation of *para*-substituted phenols with **1** in MeCN at 278 K.

	k ₂ 10 ⁻² M ⁻¹ s ⁻¹	σ _p	BDE kcal mol ⁻¹	σ ⁺
DTBPH	3.28	0	82,3	0
4Me-DTBPH	4.14	-0,17	81	-0,28
4CN-DTBPH	1.14	0,66	84,2	0,659
TTBPH	3,67	-0,20	81,2	-0,256
4-Br-DTBPH	2.24	0,23	-	0,15

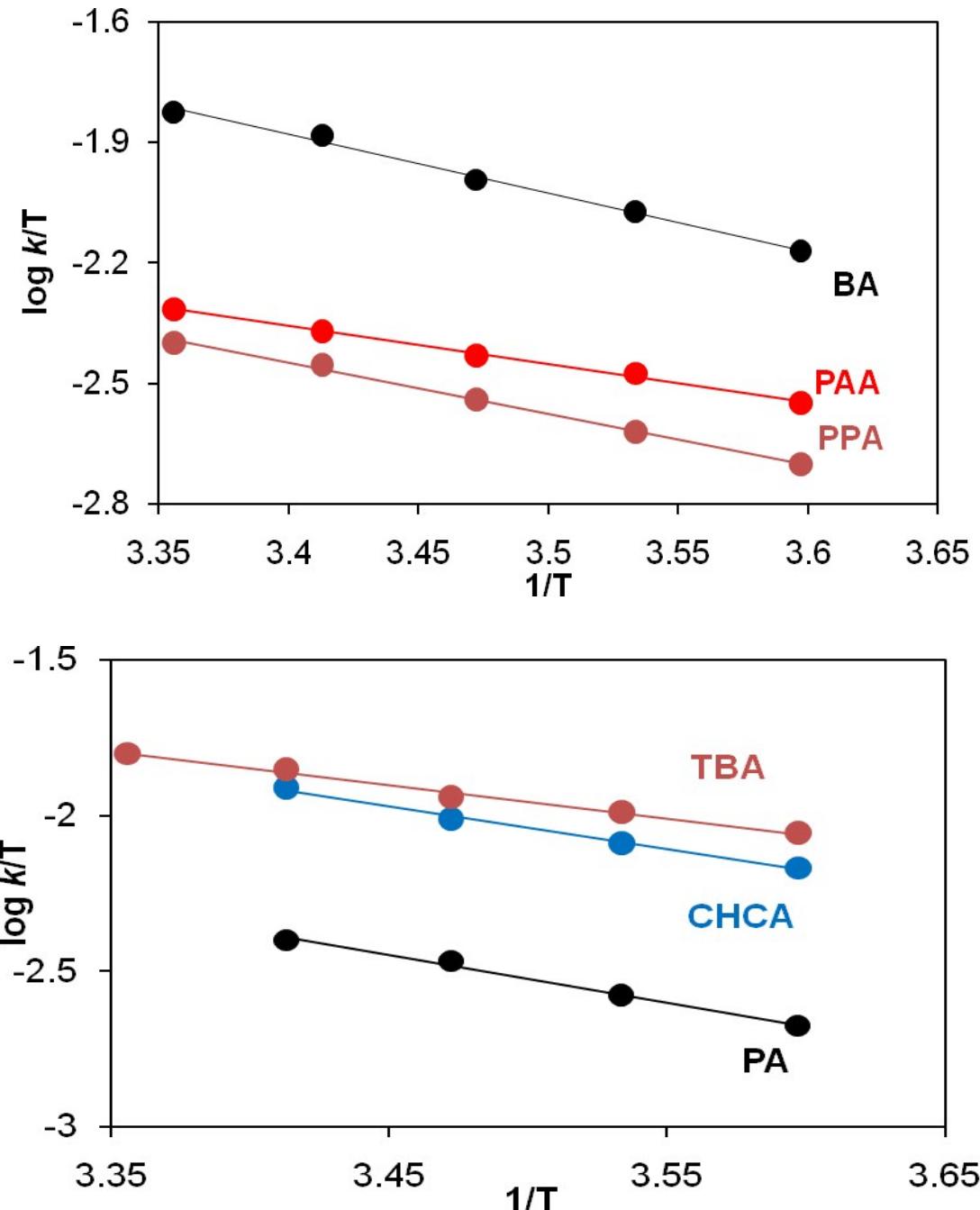


Fig. S9. Eyring plots of $\log k/T$ versus $1/T$ for the selected aldehydes.

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- 2 J. S. Pap, M. A. Cranswick, É. Balogh-Hergovich, G. Baráth, M. Giorgi, G. T. Rohde, J. Kaizer, G. Speier, L. Que, Jr., *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.*, 2013, 3858.
- 3 H. Türk, Y. Cimen, *J. Mol. Catal. A: Chem.*, 2005, **234**, 19.