

Supporting Information for

**Magnetically recoverable SiO₂-coated Fe₃O₄ Nanoparticles: A
New Platform for Asymmetric Transfer Hydrogenation of
Aromatic Ketones in Aqueous Medium**

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Experimental

1. General

All experiments, which are sensitive to moisture or air, were carried out under an Ar atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. 2-(4-chlorosulfonylphenyl)ethyltrimethoxysilane, (1*S*,2*S*)-1,2-diphenylethylenediamine [(*S,S*)-TsDPEN] and [Cp*RhCl₂]₂ were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Company Ltd. and used as received. Compound **2** [(*S,S*)-DPEN-SO₂Ph(CH₂)₂Si(OMe)₃] was synthesized according to the reported literature. The products of the ATH were analyzed by a GC using a Supelco β-Dex 120 chiral column (30 m×0.25 mm(i.d.), 0.25 μm film) or a HPLC with a UV-Vis detector using a Daicel OJ-H chiralcel columns (Φ 0.46 x 25 cm).

2. Characterization

Rh loading amount in the catalyst was analyzed using an inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer (ICP, Varian VISTA-MPX). Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectra were collected on a Nicolet Magna 550 spectrometer using KBr method. X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) was carried out on a Rigaku D/Max-RB diffractometer with CuKα radiation. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images were obtained using a

JEOL JSM-6380LV microscope operating at 20 kV. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) images were performed on a JEOL JEM2010 electron microscope at an acceleration voltage of 220 kV. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) measurements were performed on a Perkin-Elmer PHI 5000C ESCA system. All the binding energies were calibrated by using the contaminant carbon ($C_{1s} = 284.6$ eV) as a reference. The magnetic measurements were performed with a Lake Shore VSM 736 at room temperature.

3. Catalyst preparation

3.1. Preparation of TsDPEN-MNPs (4). To a stirred suspension of the SiO_2 -coated Fe_3O_4 magnetic nanoparticles (**3**) (1.0 g) in 15 mL dry toluene was added (*S,S*)-DPEN- $SO_2Ph(CH_2)_2Si(OMe)_3$ (0.10 g, 0.20 mmol) in 5 mL dry toluene. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 24 h under argon atmosphere. After magnetic separation, the red crude solid was extracted thoroughly in toluene solvent using a Soxhlet apparatus to remove homogeneous and unreacted start materials. The solid was dried at 60 °C *in vacuum* for 12 h to afford TsDPEN-MNPs (**4**) (1.028 g, 28.0% relative to **3**) as a white powder. IR (KBr) cm^{-1} : 3419 (s), 3063 (w), 3027 (w), 2928 (w), 2865 (w), 1624 (m), 1593 (w), 1452 (w), 1331 (w), 1155 (m), 1096 (s), 813 (w), 700 (w), 668 (w), 569 (w), 465 (m); Elemental analysis (%): C 11.19, H 1.81, N 0.54, S 0.62.

3.2. Preparation of Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (5). A typical procedure is as follows: Under argon atmosphere, to a stirred suspension of TsDPEN-MNPs (**4**) (1.0 g) and NEt_3 (1.30 mL, 21.5 mmol) in 20 mL dry CH_2Cl_2 was added $[Cp^*RhCl_2]_2$ (0.050 g, 0.092 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12h. After magnetic separation, the red crude solid was extracted thoroughly in toluene solvent using a Soxhlet apparatus to remove homogeneous and unreacted start materials. The solid was dried at 60 °C *in vacuum* for 12 h to afford Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (**5**) (1.14 g, 95.2% relative to **4**) as a light yellow powder. IR (KBr) cm^{-1} : 3424 (s), 3029 (w), 2932 (w), 2848 (w), 1629 (m), 1593 (w), 1440 (w), 1349 (w), 1209 (m), 1155 (m), 1092 (s), 794 (w), 700 (w), 623 (w), 550 (w), 465 (m); Elemental analysis (%): C 13.92, H 1.71, N 0.46, S 0.53.

4. General procedures for asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of ketones in water. A typical procedure is as follows: The magnetic catalyst Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (**5**) (24.4

mg, 4.00 μ mol based on Rh from ICP), HCO_2Na (0.68 g, 10.0 mmol), Bu_4NBr (0.29 g, 0.80 mmol), ketone (2.0 mmol) and 4.0 mL water were added in a 10 mL roundbottom flask in turn. The mixture was allowed to react at 40°C for a certain period of time. During that time, the reaction was monitored constantly by TLC. After completion of the reaction, the magnetic catalyst was separated by a small magnet near the bottle and was washed with H_2O (2.0 mL twice) for the recycle experiment. The aqueous solutions were extracted by Et_2O (3×3.0 mL). The combined Et_2O was washed with brine twice and dehydrated with Na_2SO_4 . After the evaporation of Et_2O , the residue was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent, hexane/ethyl acetate = 1 : 1) to afford the desired product. The conversion and the ee value could be determined by chiral GC using a Supelco β -Dex 120 chiral column (30 m $\times$ 0.25 mm(i.d.), 0.25 μ m film) or a HPLC analysis with a UV-Vis detector using a Daicel OJ-H chiralcel columns (Φ 0.46 x 25 cm).

Figure S1. The wide-angle powder XRD patterns of **3** and the catalyst **5**.

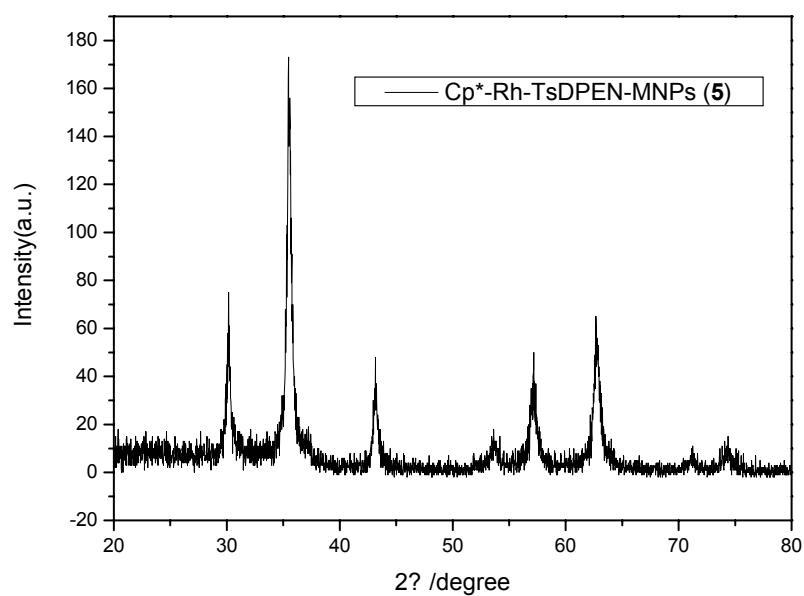
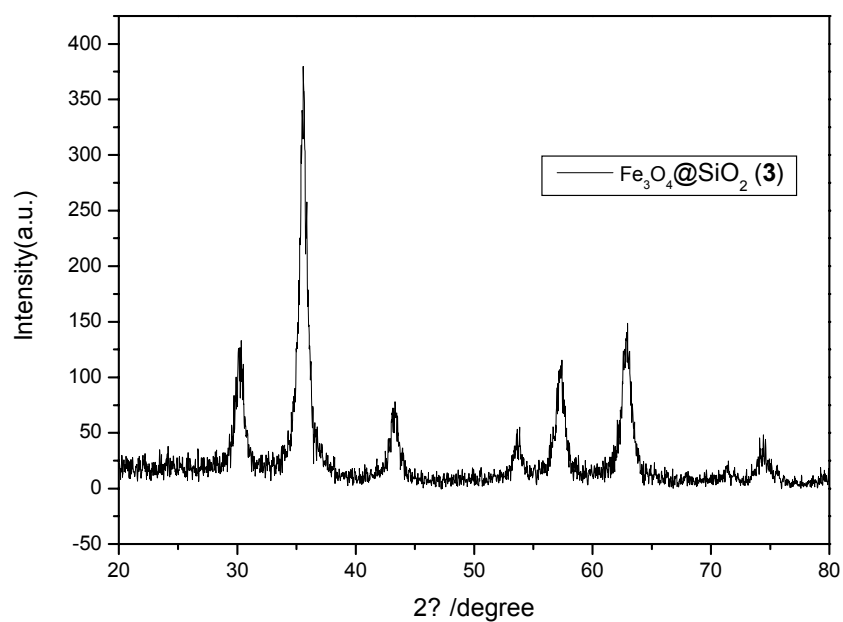


Figure S2. The FT-IR spectra of **3** and the catalyst **5**.

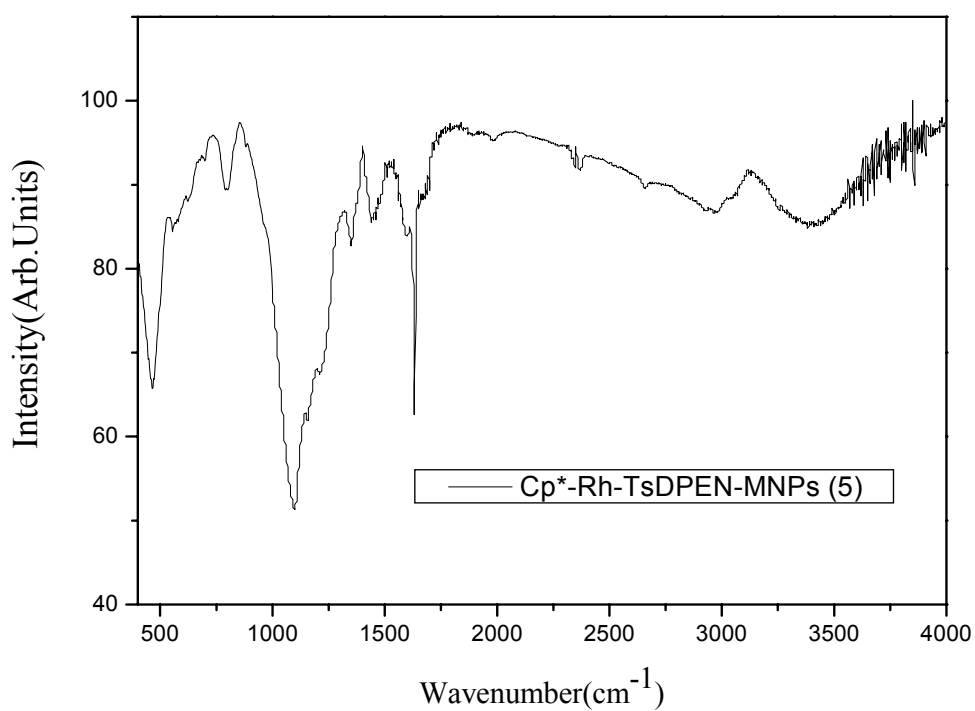
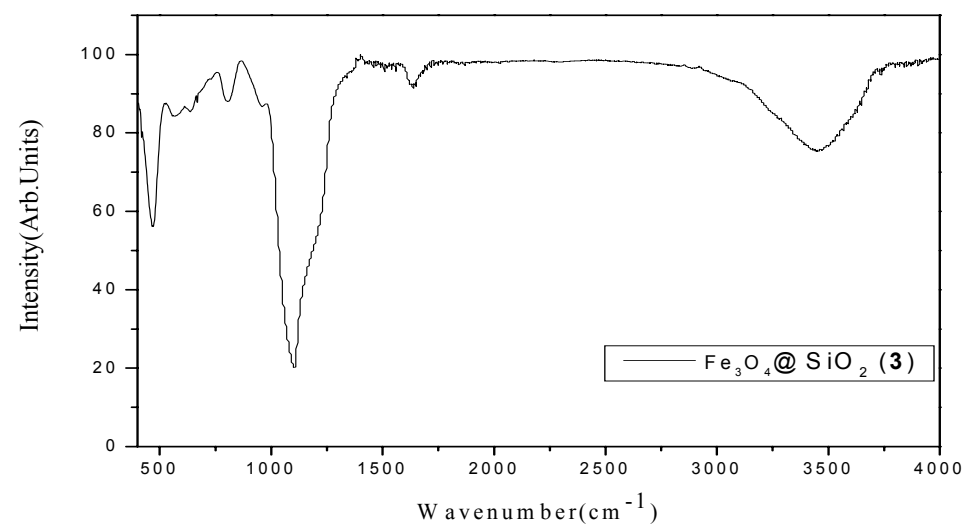


Figure S3. XPS spectra of Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (**5**), Cp*RhTsDPEN and [Cp*RhCl₂]₂.

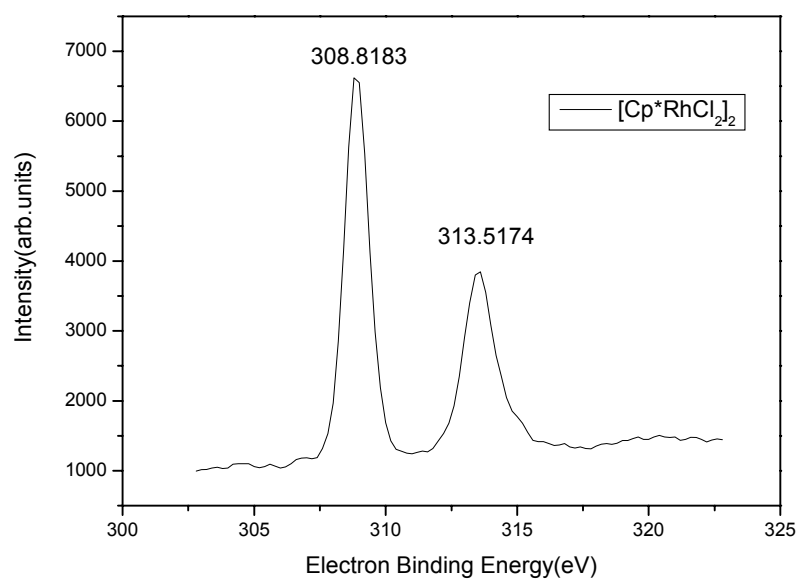
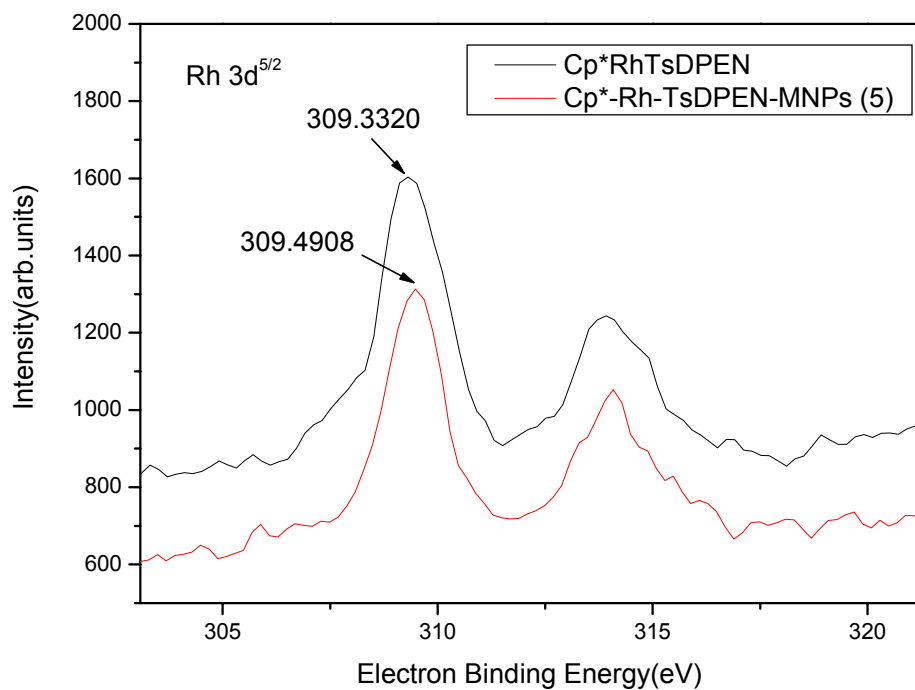
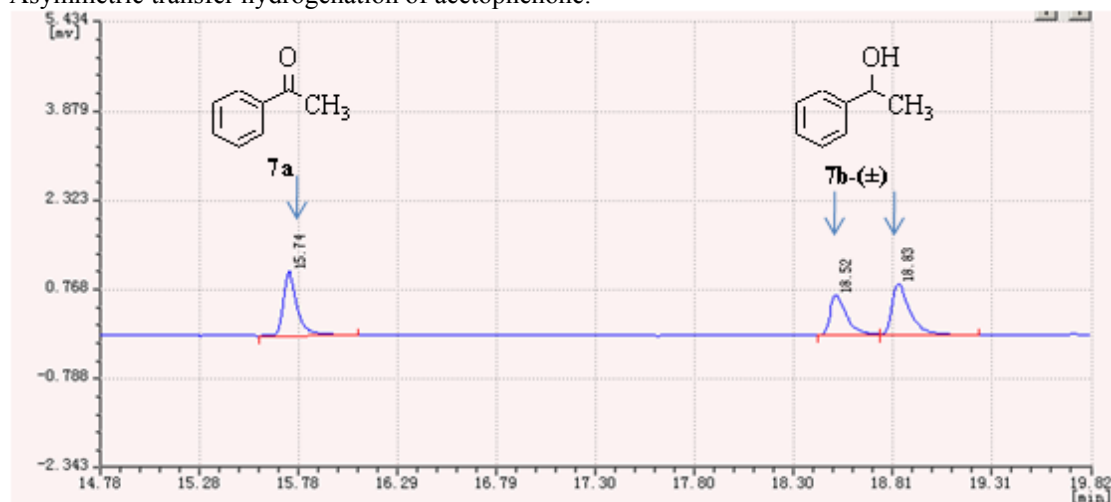


Figure S4. The catalytic activity and enantiomeric excess were determined by chiral GC using a Supelco β -Dex 120 chiral column (30 m $\times$ 0.25 mm (i.d.), 0.25 μ m film)

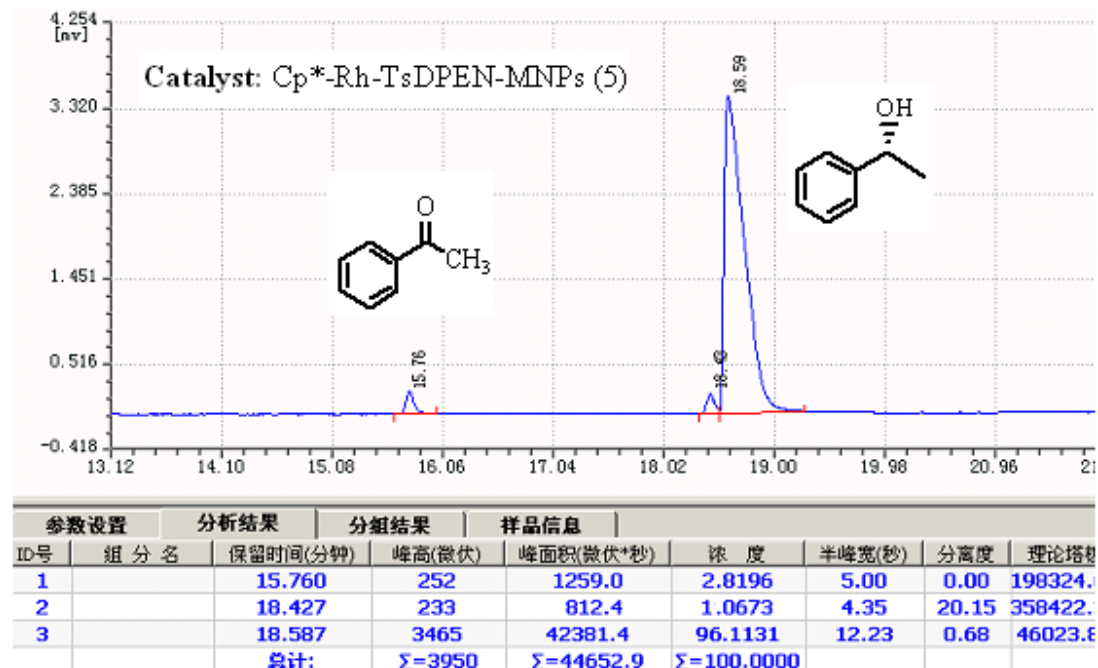
Translation of Chinese to English is as follows:

Peak	RetTime [min]	Heigh	Area	Concentration	half-width			
号	组 分 名	保留时间(分钟)	峰高(微伏)	峰面积(微伏*秒)	浓 度	半峰宽(秒)	分离度	理论塔板
1		20.773	1109	5632.2	49.9035	5.08	0.00	333457.60
2		21.187	1099	5654.0	50.0965	5.14	2.85	338012.73
总计:		$\Sigma=2208$	$\Sigma=11286.2$	$\Sigma=100.0000$				

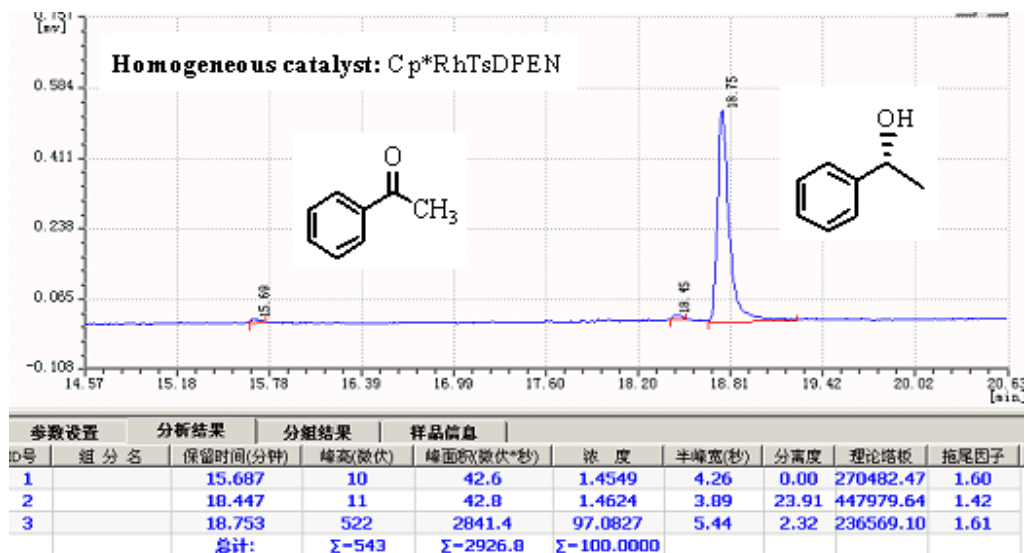
Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of acetophenone.



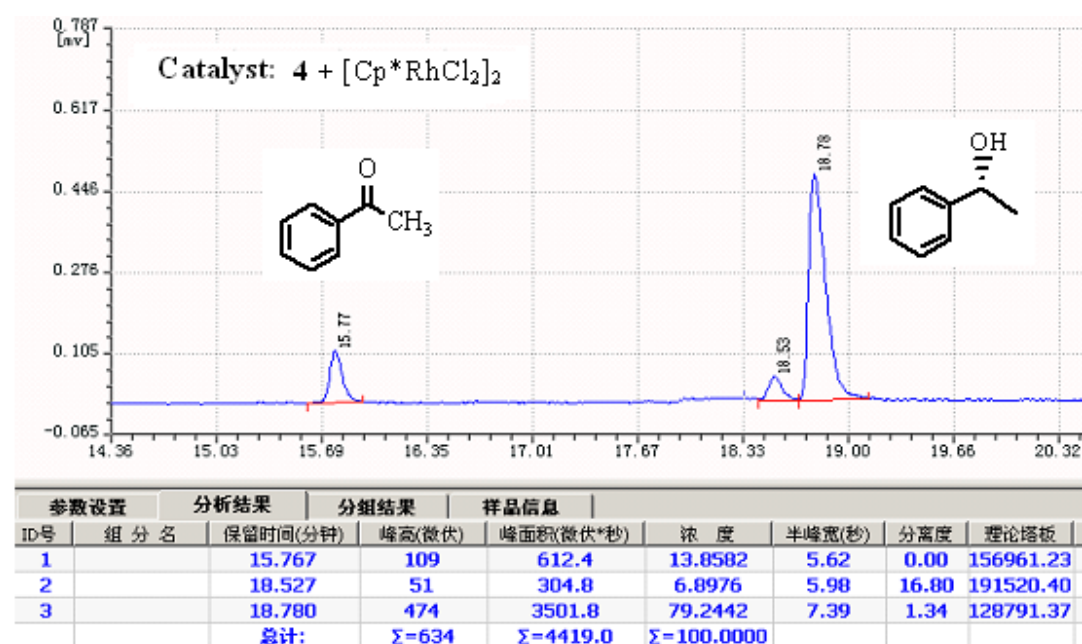
Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of acetophenone as substrate with 1h reaction time.



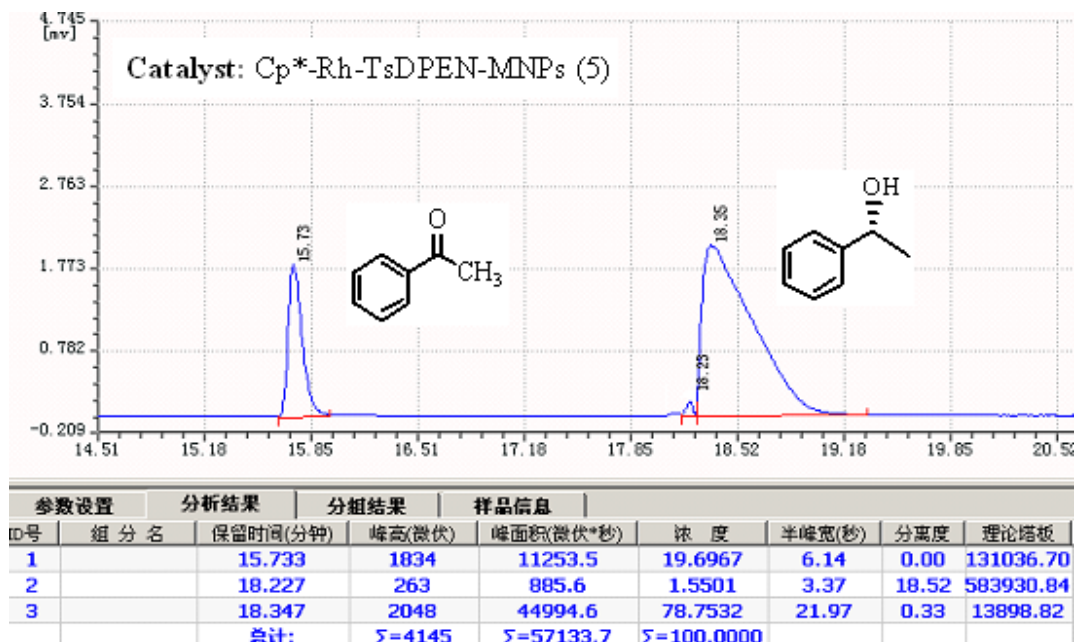
Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of acetophenone as substrate with 0.5h reaction time using Homogeneous $\text{Cp}^*\text{RhTsDPEN}$ as a catalyst.



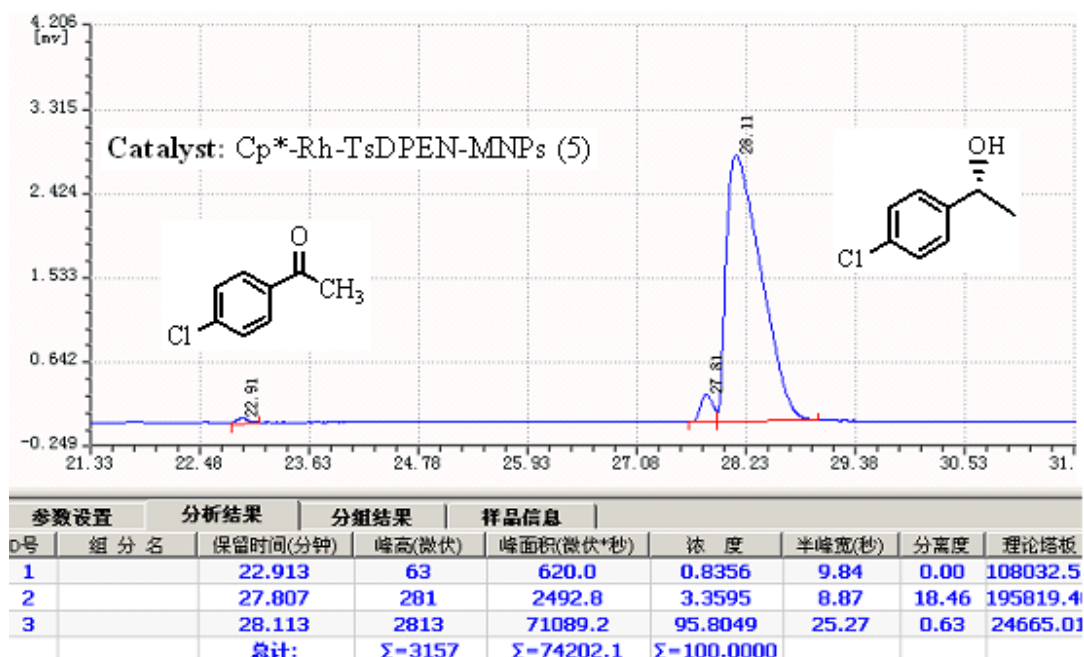
Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of acetophenone as substrate using **4** + $[\text{Cp}^*\text{RhCl}_2]_2$ as a catalyst.



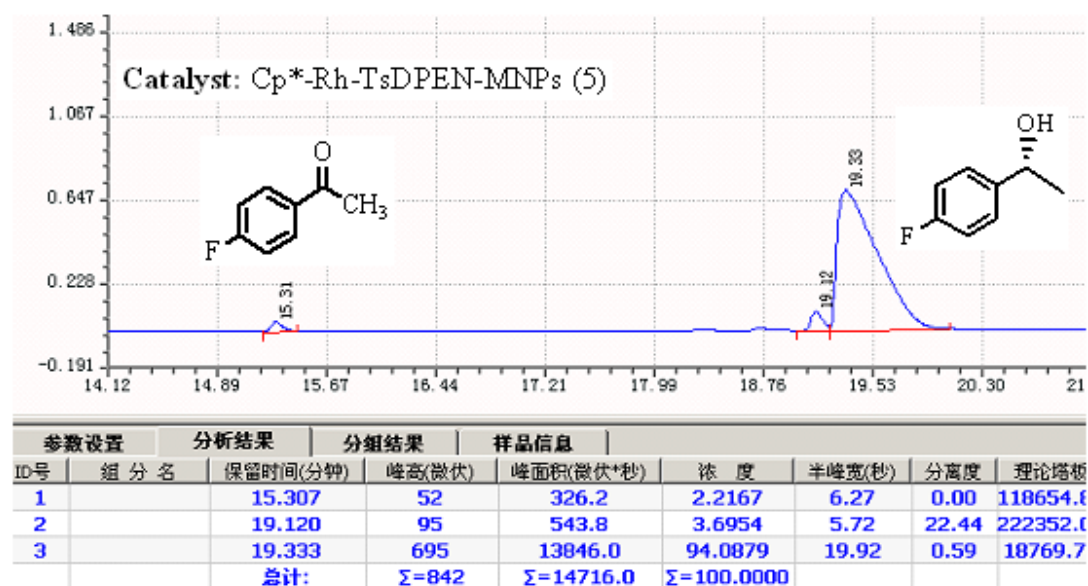
Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of acetophenone as substrate using **3** + Cp*RhTsDPEN as a catalyst.



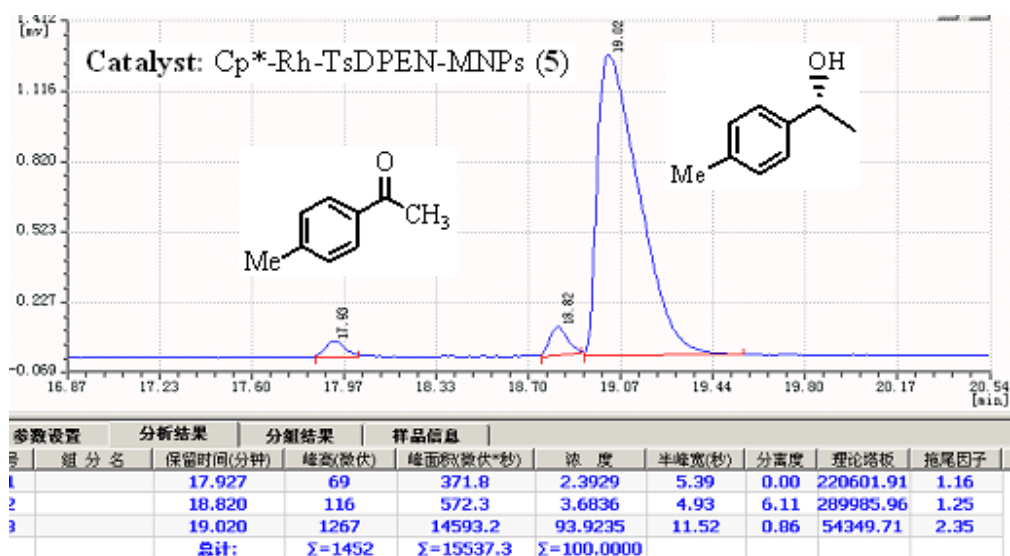
Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of 4-chloroacetophenone.



Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of 4-fluoroacetophenone.



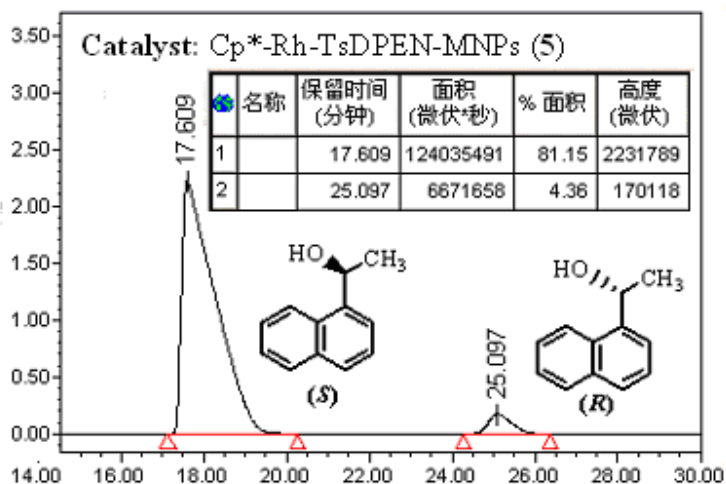
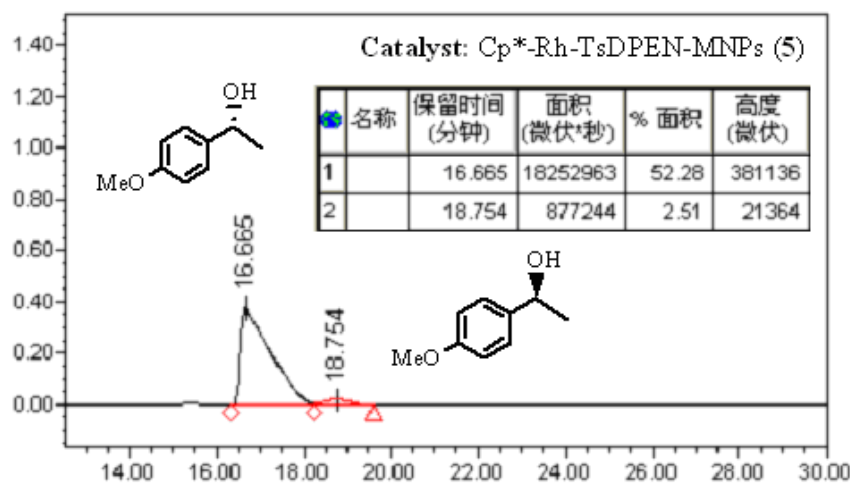
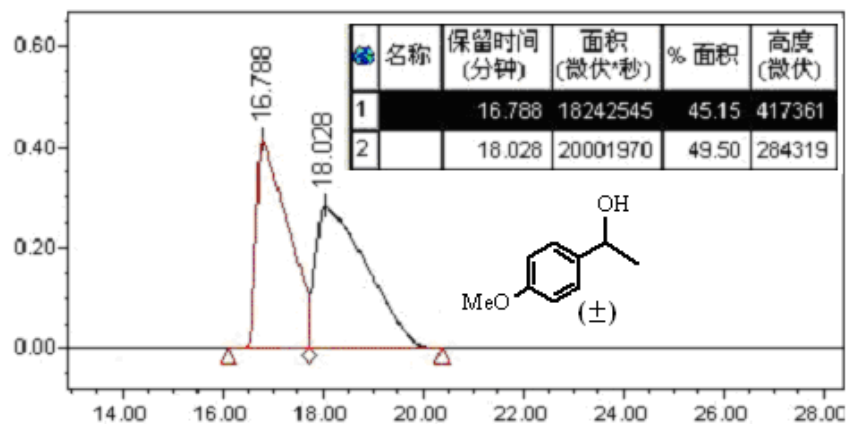
Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of 4-methylacetophenone.



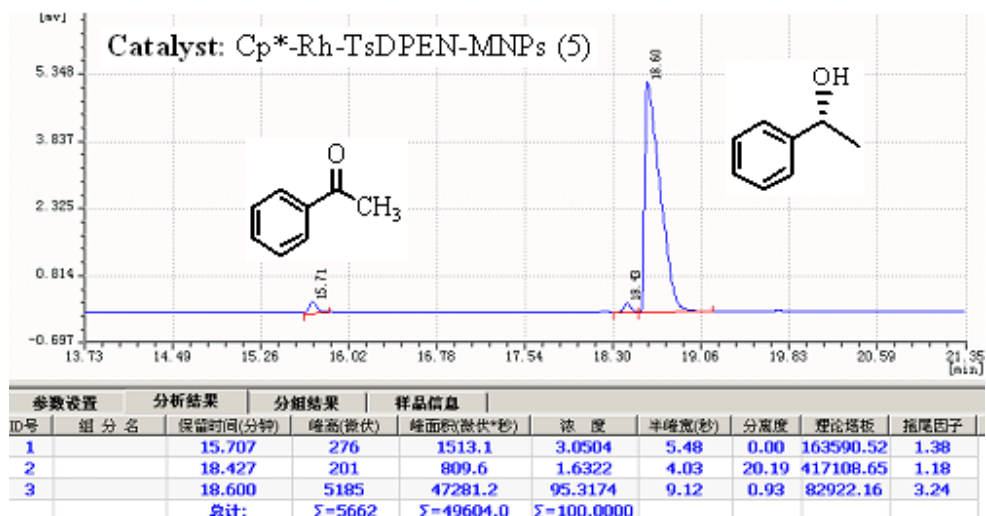
Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of 4-methoxyacetophenone. (Daicel OJ-H chiralcel columns:

1.0 mL/min, hex/IPA=93:7.)

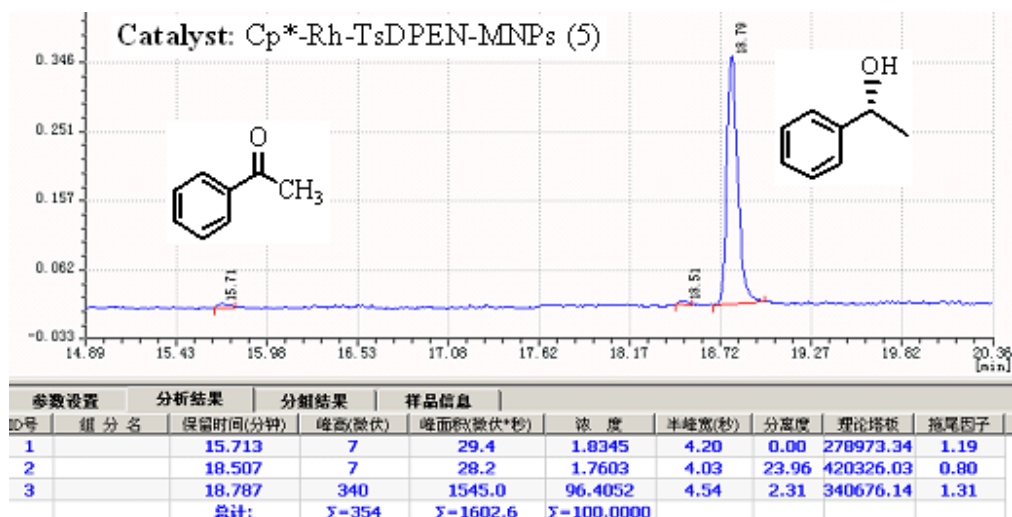
Asymmetric transfer hydrogenation of α -acetophenone. (Daicel OJ-H chiralcel columns: 1.0 mL/min, hex/IPA=93:7.) **ref:** [Liu, P. N.; Gu, P. M.; Wang F.; Tu, Y. Q. Org. Lett., 2004, 6, 169.].



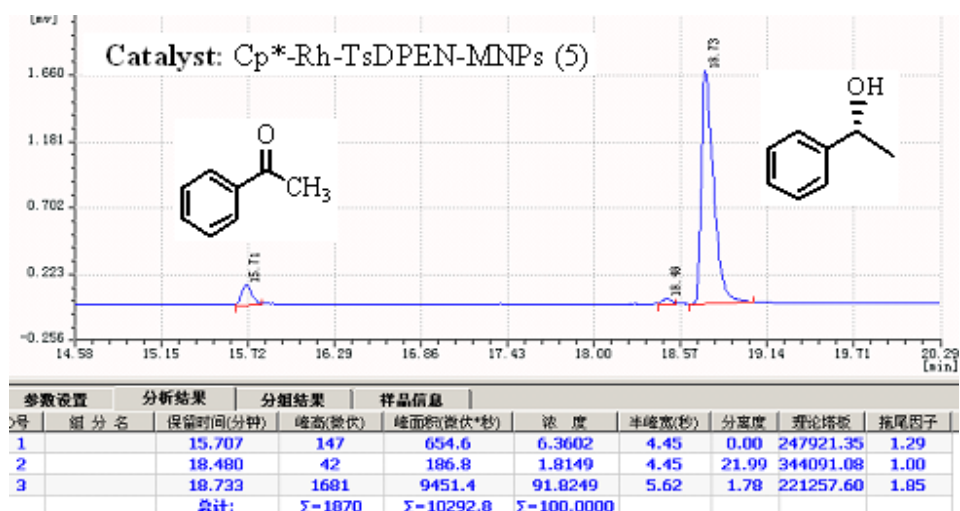
Recycle 2 using Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (5) as a catalyst and acetophenone as substrate.



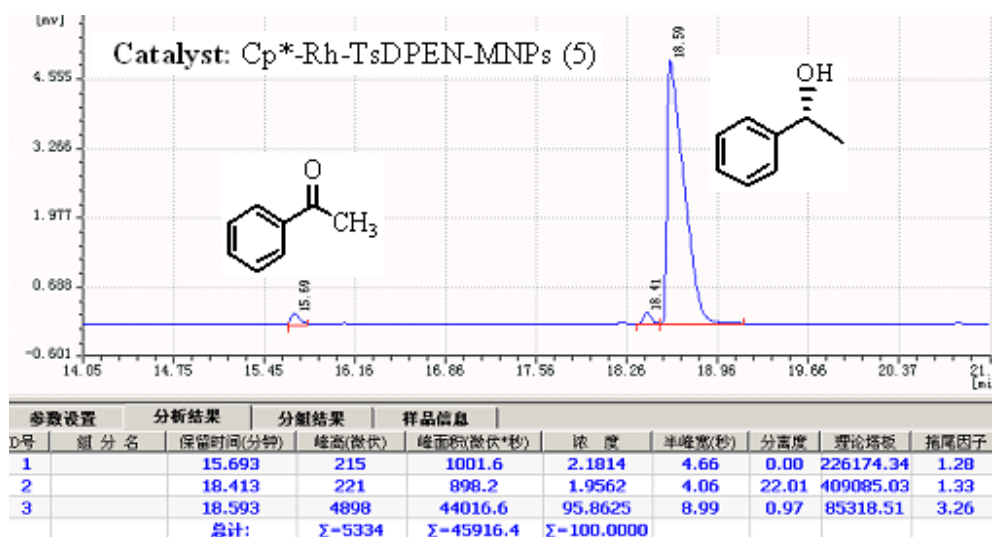
Recycle 3 using Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (5) as a catalyst and acetophenone as substrate.



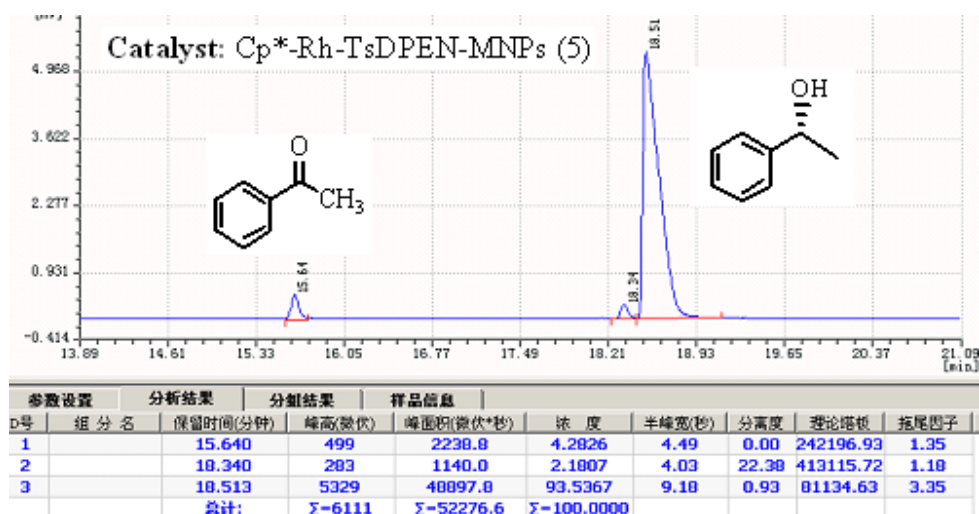
Recycle 4 using Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (5) as a catalyst and acetophenone as substrate.



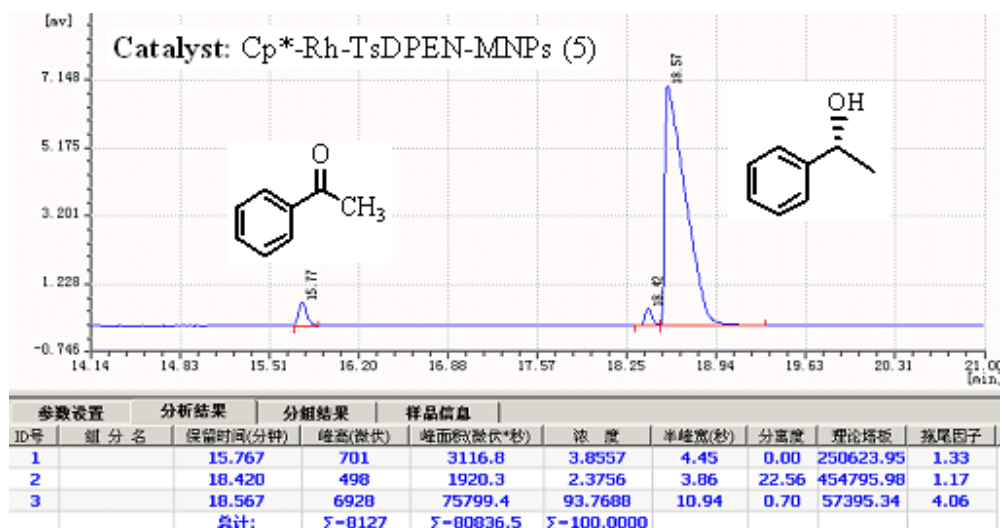
Recycle 5 using Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (5) as a catalyst and acetophenone as substrate.



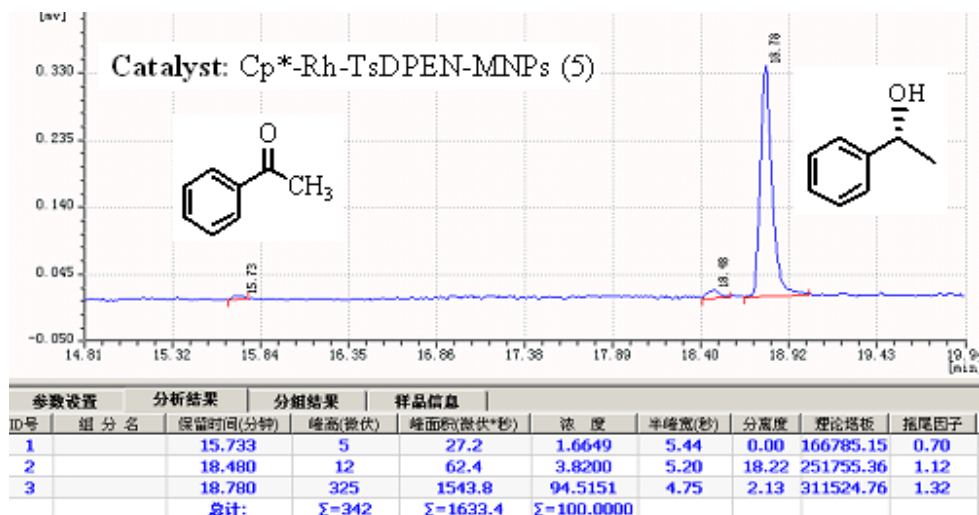
Recycle 6 using Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (**5**) as a catalyst and acetophenone as substrate.



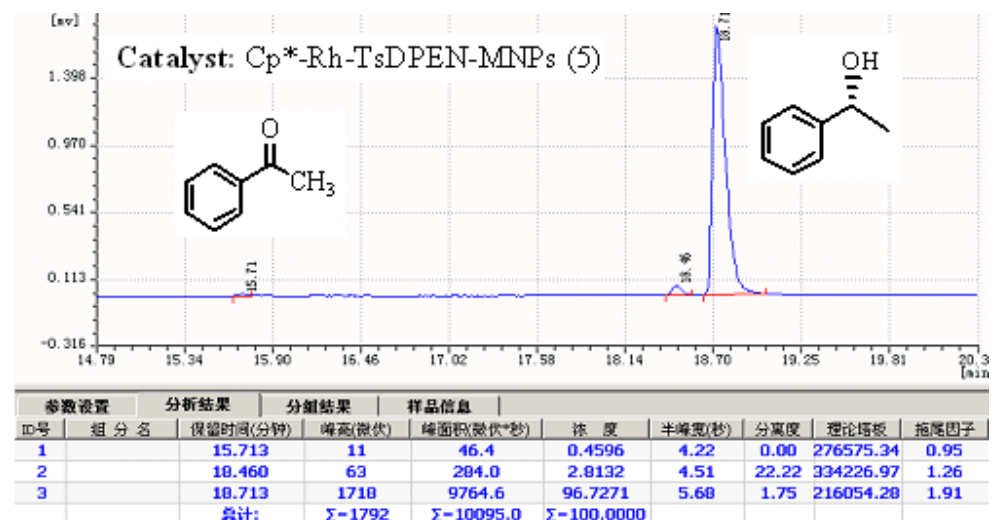
Recycle 7 using Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (**5**) as a catalyst and acetophenone as substrate.



Recycle 8 using Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (5) as a catalyst and acetophenone as substrate with 1.5h reaction time.



Recycle 9 using Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (5) as a catalyst and acetophenone as substrate with 1.5h reaction time..



Recycle **10** using Cp*-Rh-TsDPEN-MNPs (**5**) as a catalyst and acetophenone as substrate with 1.5h reaction time.

