

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### **Pt, Pd and Au Nanoparticles Supported on DNA-MMT Hybrid: Efficient Catalysts for Highly Selective Oxidation of Primary Alcohols to Aldehydes, Acids and Esters**

*Lin Tang, Xuefeng Guo, Yunfeng Li, Shuai Zhang, Zhenggen Zha, Zhiyong Wang\**

*Hefei National Laboratory for Physical Sciences at Microscale, CAS Key Laboratory  
of Soft Matter Chemistry and Department of Chemistry,  
University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, 230026, P. R. China*

#### **Contents:**

<b>General marks.....</b>	<b>S2</b>
<b>General procedures for the synthesis of heterogeneous catalysts.....</b>	<b>S2</b>
<b>Detailed characterization of heterogeneous catalysts.....</b>	<b>S3</b>
<b>General procedure for selective oxidation of alcohols.....</b>	<b>S6</b>
<b>Comparison of different heterogeneous catalysts in selective oxidation of benzyl alcohol.....</b>	<b>S7</b>
<b>Selective oxidation of alcohol catalyzed by different metal salt.....</b>	<b>S8</b>
<b>The recycling of heterogeneous catalysts in selective oxidation of alcohol.....</b>	<b>S8</b>
<b>ICP-OES measurement of heterogeneous catalysts.....</b>	<b>S10</b>
<b>Characterization data of products.....</b>	<b>S10</b>
<b>NMR Spectra of products.....</b>	<b>S17</b>

## General Remarks

All substrates were purchased commercially without further purification. Fish sperm DNA (CAS: 100403-24-5). The morphology and size of the Pd NPs were characterized on transmission electron microscopy (TEM) (JEOL-2010 and Hitachi H7650). The diluted solutions of the as-synthesized metal/DNA-MMT nanohybrid were used as samples directly and dried on the carbon-coated Cu grids. X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) experiments were carried out with a Philips X'Pert Pro Super diffractometer with Cu KR radiation ( $\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$ ). The accurate concentrations of metal/DNA-MMT nanohybrid and other supported metal catalysts were directly determined by ICP-OES (Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectrometer) using Perkin Elmer Optima 7300 DV.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR were recorded on a Bruker AC-300 FT ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR 300 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR 75 MHz) or Bruker AC-400 FT ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR 400 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR 100 MHz) using TMS as internal reference. HRMS were recorded on a MicroMass GCT TOF-MS. GC-MS samples were recorded on a Shimadzu QP-5050 GC-MS system. And the yields were determined using 1,3,5-trimethylbenzene as an internal standard. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) measurements were performed on an ESCALAB 250 electron spectrometer using monochromatized Al K $\alpha$  excitation source ( $h\nu = 1486.6 \text{ eV}$ ).

## General procedures for the synthesis of heterogeneous catalysts

### Synthesis of metal/DNA

0.2 mmol of the corresponding metal salt ( $\text{PdCl}_2$ ,  $\text{KAuCl}_4$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{PtCl}_6$ ) and 20 mg of fish sperm DNA were dissolved in 24 ml Tris buffer (10 mM, pH = 7.4). The combined solution was stirred for 24 h to ensure the corresponding metal ion ( $\text{Pd}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Au}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Pt}^{4+}$ ) thoroughly bind to DNA. After this aging process, 1.0 mmol of freshly dissolved  $\text{NaBH}_4$  in 16 ml Tris buffer was added dropwise under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere at 0 °C. After reduction, the solution was stirred for another 24 h in  $\text{N}_2$  from 0 °C to room temperature to obtain the resulting M/DNA nanohybrids (c.a. 5 mM in Tris). This synthesis method can be scaled up to hundreds of millilitres easily at a time.

### Synthesis of metal/MMT

0.2 mmol of the corresponding metal salt ( $\text{PdCl}_2$ ,  $\text{KAuCl}_4$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{PtCl}_6$ ) and 40 mg of Na-MMT were dissolved in 24 ml Tris buffer (10 mM, pH = 7.4). The combined solution was stirred for 24 h to ensure the corresponding metal ion ( $\text{Pd}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Au}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Pt}^{4+}$ )

thoroughly bind to Na-MMT. After this aging process, 1.0 mmol of freshly dissolved NaBH<sub>4</sub> in 16 ml Tris buffer was added dropwise under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 0 °C. After reduction, the solution was stirred for another 24 h in N<sub>2</sub> from 0 °C to room temperature to obtain the resulting M/ Na-MMT nanohybrids (c.a. 5 mM in Tris).

### Synthesis of metal/DNA-MMT

To synthesize the hybrid of DNA-MMT, Na-MMT and fish sperm DNA were dispersed in deionized water with the desired concentration (MMT/DNA (w/w) = 2.0). After adjusting the pH value to 8 with 0.1 M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, the above system was left under vigorous stirring for 12 h at 50 °C. Then the hybrid was centrifuged, washed with deionized water and dried under vacuum.

0.2 mmol of the corresponding metal salt (PdCl<sub>2</sub>, KAuCl<sub>4</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>6</sub>) and 60 mg of the as-synthesized DNA-MMT hybrid were dissolved in 36 ml Tris buffer (10 mM, pH = 7.4). The combined solution was stirred for 24 h to ensure the corresponding metal ion (Pd<sup>2+</sup>, Au<sup>3+</sup>, Pt<sup>4+</sup>) thoroughly bind to DNA. After this aging process, 1.0 mmol of freshly dissolved NaBH<sub>4</sub> in 14 ml Tris buffer was added dropwise under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 0 °C. After reduction, the solution was stirred for another 24 h in N<sub>2</sub> from 0 °C to room temperature to obtain the resulting M/DNA-MMT catalysts (c.a. 4 mM in Tris).

### Detailed characterization of heterogeneous catalysts

#### XRD patterns for Na-MMT and DNA-MMT

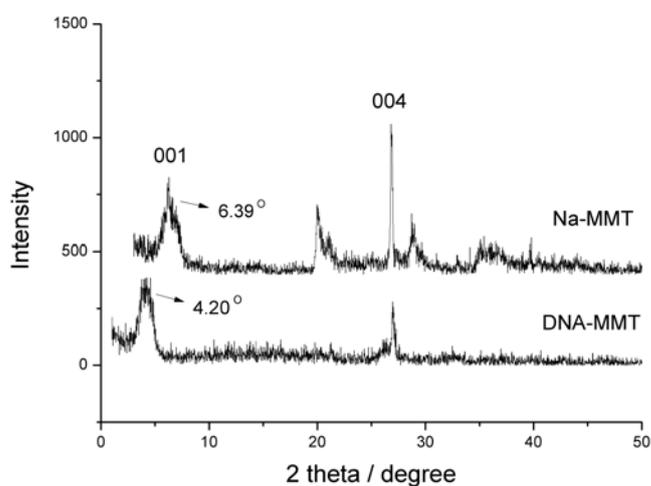
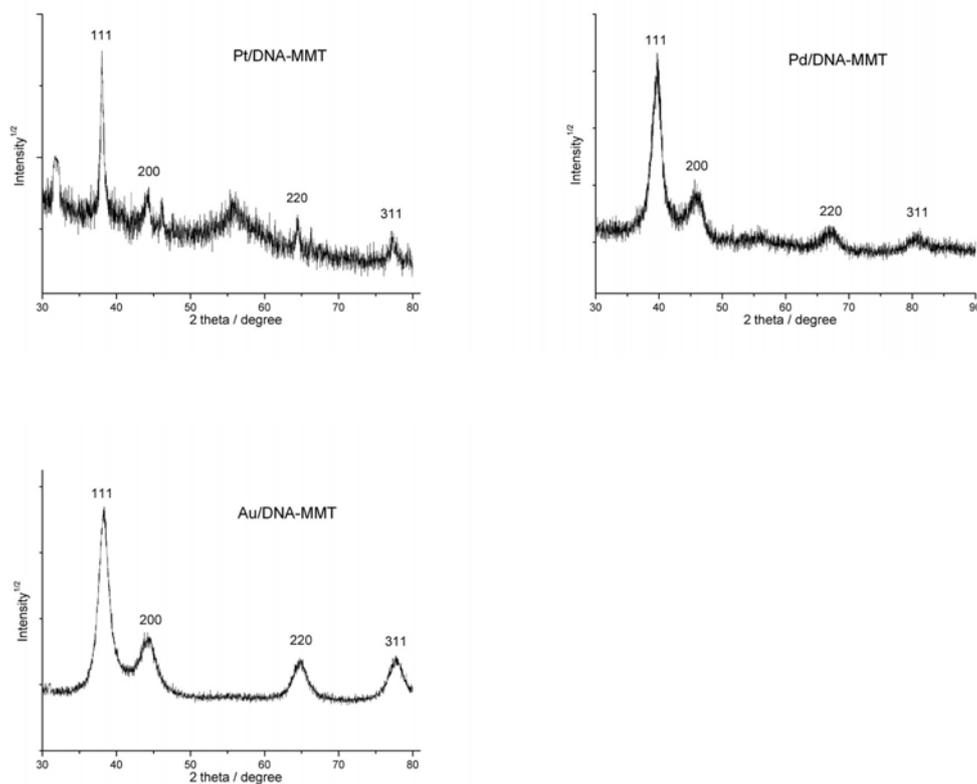


Figure S1 XRD patterns of Na-MMT and DNA-MMT hybrid

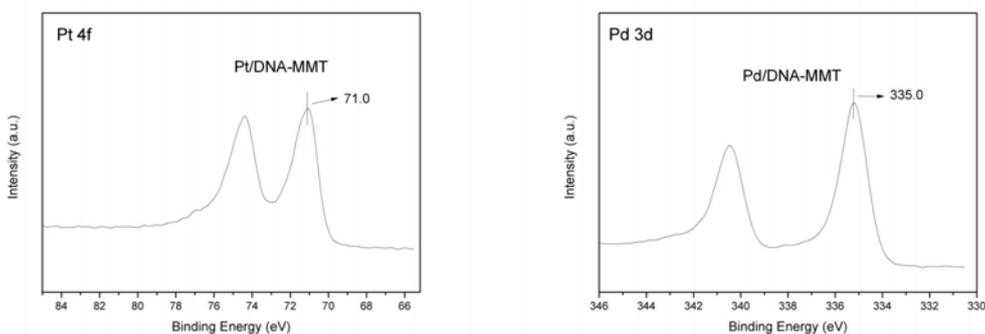
the XRD analyses for MMT and DNA-MMT show that 001 crystal face of origin Na-MMT'  $2\theta$  is  $6.39^\circ$ , while DNA-MMT'  $2\theta$  is  $4.20^\circ$ . The layer spacing of MMT increases from 1.38 nm to 2.09 nm through the Bragg law. The hybrid of DNA-MMT has been obtained.

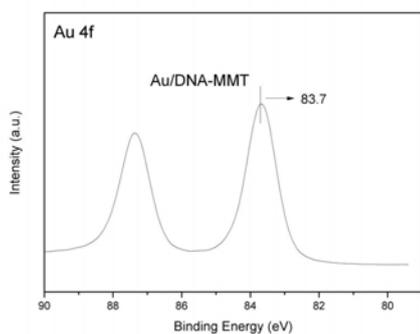
### XRD patterns for metal/DNA-MMT heterogeneous catalysts



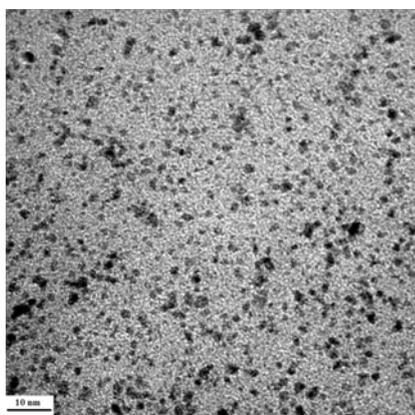
**Figure S2 XRD patterns of Pt/DNA-MMT, Pd/DNA-MMT and Au/DNA-MMT heterogeneous catalysts**

### XPS experiments for metal/DNA-MMT heterogeneous catalysts

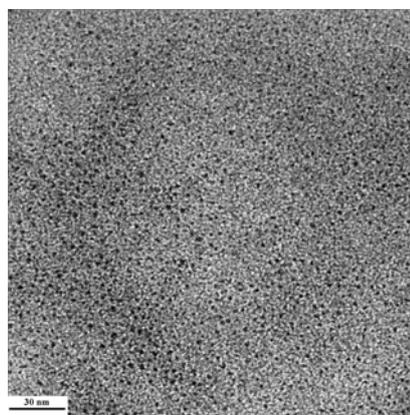




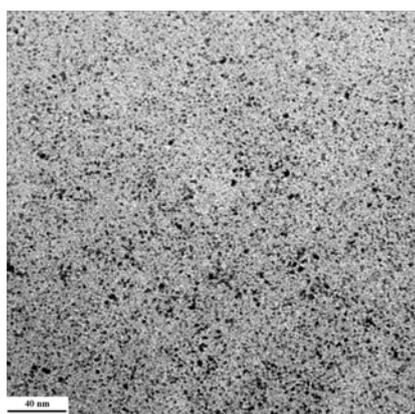
### TEM analyses for metal/DNA-MMT heterogeneous catalysts



Pt/DNA-MMT



Pd/DNA-MMT



Au/DNA-MMT

**Figure S3 TEM analyses for Pt/DNA-MMT, Pd/DNA-MMT and Au/DNA-MMT heterogeneous catalysts**

## General procedure for selective oxidation of alcohols

selective oxidation of primary alcohols to aldehydes: For Pt/DNA-MMT catalyst: To 3 ml of as-synthesized Pt/DNA-MMT catalyst was precipitated by adding excess EtOH (3 times of the volume). After sitting for 1 h and then centrifuged at 6000 r min<sup>-1</sup> for 4 min, the decantate was poured off. The obtained solid residue was dried by N<sub>2</sub> flow and redispersed in a water solution (1 mL) containing K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>•3H<sub>2</sub>O (6.7 mg, 0.025 mmol). Benzyl alcohol (54.1 mg, 0.50 mmol) was then added to the solution. The air in the reaction mixture was removed under vacuum and the reaction vessel refilled with O<sub>2</sub>. This procedure was repeated for three times. The reaction mixture was then stirred under an O<sub>2</sub> balloon at 60 °C for 12 h. After the reaction was finished, 3 times the volume of EtOH and 5 times the volume of EtOAc was added to the reaction mixture. This mixture was left undisturbed for 2 h to allow precipitation and then centrifuged at 6000 r min<sup>-1</sup> for 4 min. The decantate was poured off. The solid residue was dried and used as the catalyst for the next round. The organic phase and the aqueous phase in the decantate were separated. The obtained aqueous phase was treated with hydrochloric acid and then extracted by EtOAc. The combined organic phase was evaporated with a rotary evaporator. The obtained residue was analyzed by GC-MS.

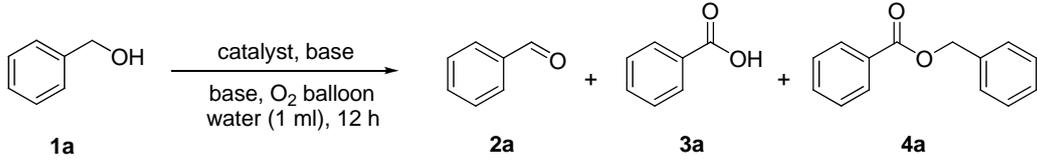
selective oxidation of primary alcohols to acids: For Pd/DNA-MMT catalyst: To 3 ml of as-synthesized Pd/DNA-MMT catalyst was precipitated by adding excess EtOH (3 times of the volume). After sitting for 1 h and then centrifuged at 6000 r min<sup>-1</sup> for 4 min, the decantate was poured off. The obtained solid residue was dried by N<sub>2</sub> flow and redispersed in a water solution (1 mL) containing LiOH•H<sub>2</sub>O (31.4 mg, 0.750 mmol). Benzyl alcohol (54.1 mg, 0.50 mmol) was then added to the solution. The air in the reaction mixture was removed under vacuum and the reaction vessel refilled with O<sub>2</sub>. This procedure was repeated for three times. The reaction mixture was then stirred under an O<sub>2</sub> balloon at 25 °C for 12 h. After the reaction was finished, 3 times the volume of EtOH and 5 times the volume of EtOAc was added to the reaction mixture. This mixture was left undisturbed for 2 h to allow precipitation and then centrifuged at 6000 r min<sup>-1</sup> for 4 min. The decantate was poured off. The solid residue was dried and used as the catalyst for the next round. The organic phase and the aqueous phase in the decantate were separated. The obtained aqueous phase was treated with hydrochloric acid and then extracted by EtOAc. The combined organic phase was evaporated with a rotary evaporator. The obtained residue was analyzed by GC-MS and then purified with column chromatography over silica gel. The resulting products were characterized by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and HRMS.

selective oxidation of primary alcohols to esters: For Au/DNA-MMT catalyst: To 2 ml of as-synthesized Au/DNA-MMT catalyst was precipitated by adding excess EtOH (3 times of the volume). After sitting for 1 h and then centrifuged at 6000 r min<sup>-1</sup> for 4 min, the decantate was poured off. The obtained solid residue was dried by N<sub>2</sub> flow

and redispersed in a water solution (1 mL) containing Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (61.1 mg, 0.1875 mmol). Benzyl alcohol (54.1 mg, 0.50 mmol) was then added to the solution. The air in the reaction mixture was removed under vacuum and the reaction vessel refilled with O<sub>2</sub>. This procedure was repeated for three times. The reaction mixture was then stirred under an O<sub>2</sub> balloon at 50 °C for 12 h. After the reaction was finished, 3 times the volume of EtOH and 5 times the volume of EtOAc was added to the reaction mixture. This mixture was left undisturbed for 2 h to allow precipitation and then centrifuged at 6000 r min<sup>-1</sup> for 4 min. The decantate was poured off. The solid residue was dried and used as the catalyst for the next round. The organic phase and the aqueous phase in the decantate were separated. The obtained aqueous phase was treated with hydrochloric acid and then extracted by EtOAc. The combined organic phase was evaporated with a rotary evaporator. The obtained residue was analyzed by GC-MS and then purified with column chromatography over silica gel. The resulting products were characterized by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and HRMS.

## Comparison of different heterogenous catalysts in selective oxidation of benzyl alcohol<sup>[a]</sup>

Table S1



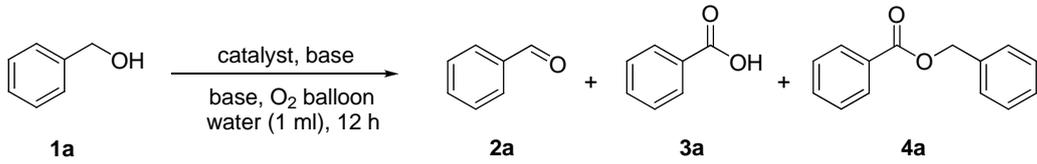
The reaction scheme shows benzyl alcohol (1a) reacting with a catalyst and base in water under an O<sub>2</sub> balloon for 12 hours to produce benzaldehyde (2a), benzoic acid (3a), and benzyl benzoate (4a).

Entry	Catalyst	Base (equiv)	T (°C)	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>		
				2a	3a	4a
1	Pd/DNA-MMT	LiOH•H <sub>2</sub> O (1.5)	25	< 1	99	n.d.
2	Pd/DNA	LiOH•H <sub>2</sub> O (1.5)	25	3	95	n.d.
3	Pd/MMT	LiOH•H <sub>2</sub> O (1.5)	25	3	96	n.d.
4	Pt/DNA-MMT	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O (0.05)	60	86	7	n.d.
5	Pt/DNA	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O (0.05)	60	75	20	n.d.
6	Pt/MMT	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O (0.05)	60	50	35	n.d.
7	Au/DNA-MMT	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (0.75)	50	3	< 1	95
8	Au/DNA	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (0.75)	50	6	9	81
9	Au/MMT	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (0.75)	50	10	21	68

[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.50 mmol), Cat. (Pt: 1.5 mol%, Pd: 1.7 mol%, Au: 2.9 mol%). [b] Determined by GC-MS with an internal standard, n.d. = not detected.

## Selective oxidation of alcohol catalyzed by different metal salt<sup>[a]</sup>

Table S2



Reaction scheme showing the selective oxidation of benzyl alcohol (**1a**) to benzaldehyde (**2a**), benzoic acid (**3a**), and benzyl benzoate (**4a**) using a catalyst and base in water under an O<sub>2</sub> balloon for 12 hours.

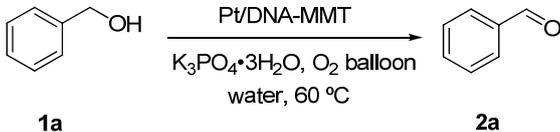
Entry	Catalyst	Base (equiv)	T (°C)	Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>		
				<b>2a</b>	<b>3a</b>	<b>4a</b>
1	PdCl <sub>2</sub>	LiOH•H <sub>2</sub> O (1.5)	25	5	70	n.d.
4	K <sub>2</sub> PtCl <sub>6</sub>	K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> •H <sub>2</sub> O (0.05)	60	4	trace	n.d.
7	KAuCl <sub>4</sub>	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (0.75)	50	11	7	trace

[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.50 mmol), Cat. (K<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>6</sub>: 1.5 mol%, PdCl<sub>2</sub>: 1.7 mol%, KAuCl<sub>4</sub>: 2.9 mol%). [b] Determined by GC-MS with an internal standard, n.d. = not detected.

## The recycling of heterogenous catalysts in selective oxidation of alcohol

### The recycling of Pt/DNA-MMT<sup>[a]</sup>

Table S3



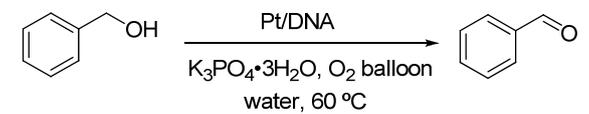
Reaction scheme showing the selective oxidation of benzyl alcohol (**1a**) to benzaldehyde (**2a**) using Pt/DNA-MMT catalyst and K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>•3H<sub>2</sub>O in water at 60 °C under an O<sub>2</sub> balloon.

Run	1	2	3
Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>	86	83	80

[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.50 mmol), Cat. (Pt: 1.5 mol%). [b] GC yield.

### The recycling of Pt/DNA<sup>[a]</sup>

Table S4

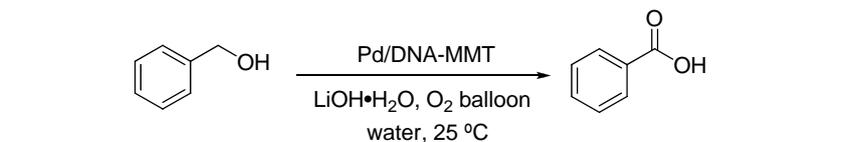


	1	2	3
Run	1	2	3
Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>	75	70	67

[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.50 mmol), Cat. (Pt: 1.5 mol%). [b] GC yield.

### The recycling of Pd/DNA-MMT<sup>[a]</sup>

Table S5

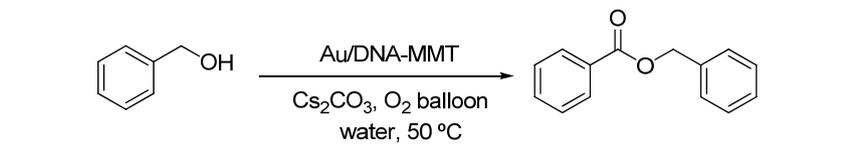


	1	2	3	4	5
Run	1	2	3	4	5
Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>	98	95	93	91	89

[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.50 mmol), Cat. (Pd: 1.7 mol%). [b] Isolated yield.

### The recycling of Au/DNA-MMT<sup>[a]</sup>

Table S6



	1	2	3	4	5
Run	1	2	3	4	5
Yield (%) <sup>[b]</sup>	94	90	87	84	81

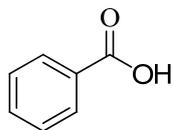
[a] Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.50 mmol), Cat. (Au: 2.9 mol%). [b] Isolated yield.

## ICP-OES measurement of heterogenous catalysts

For the as-synthesized metal/DNA-MMT nano hybrids (2 mL), with the aid of centrifugation at 5000 r/min for 5 minutes, then the decantate were poured out. The residues were dried by N<sub>2</sub> flow and dissolved in aqua regia. Then the mixture was filtered and washed. Subsequently, the filtrate was transferred to a 50 ml volumetric flask. The accurate Pt, Pd and Au content in the corresponding metal/DNA-MMT was 1.463 mg, 0.905 mg and 1.428 mg respectively with ICP-OES measurement. After three cycles the Pt content was decreased to 1.287 mg, the Pd content was decreased to 0.830 mg and the Au content was decreased to 1.251 mg after five cycles, respectively. In contrast, the Pt content was decreased to 1.194 mg from 1.463 mg in the Pt/DNA after three cycles

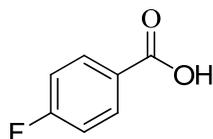
## Characterization data of products

Benzoic acid (**3a**)



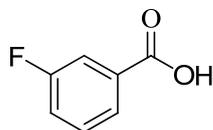
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 12.919 (s, 1H), 7.948 (d, 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.620 (t, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.497 (t, 7.5 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 172.6, 134.0, 130.4, 129.5, 128.6; HRMS (M<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 122.0368 found 122.0367.

4-Fluorobenzoic acid (**3b**)



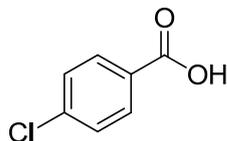
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, d<sup>6</sup>-DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 13.021 (s, 1H), 8.002 (m, 2H), 7.316 (t, 9.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 171.2, 166.5 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 253.7 Hz), 133.1 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 9.5 Hz), 125.7 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 2.9 Hz), 115.9 (d,  $J_{CF}$  = 22.0 Hz); HRMS (M<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>5</sub>FO<sub>2</sub>: 140.0274 found 140.0278.

3-Fluorobenzoic acid (**3c**)



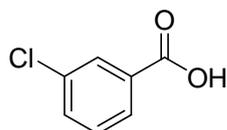
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 13.240 (s, 1H), 7.785 (d, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.664-7.631 (m, 1H), 7.577-7.523 (m, 1H), 7.492-7.444 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 2.8$  Hz), 162.0 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 243.2$  Hz), 133.3 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 7.2$  Hz), 130.8 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 7.9$  Hz), 125.4 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 2.8$  Hz), 119.8 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 21.0$  Hz), 115.7 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 22.5$  Hz); HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{FO}_2$ : 140.0274 found 140.0275.

4-Chlorobenzoic acid (**3d**)



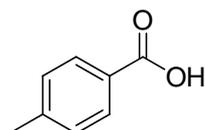
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 13.145 (s, 1H), 7.952-7.919 (m, 2H), 7.554 (d, 8.5 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.5, 137.8, 131.1, 129.7, 128.7; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{ClO}_2$ : 155.9978 found 155.9983.

3-Chlorobenzoic acid (**3e**)



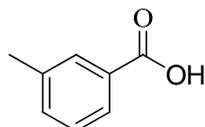
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 13.300 (s, 1H), 7.896-7.878 (m, 2H), 7.690-7.668 (m, 1H), 7.547-7.506 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.1, 133.4, 133.0, 132.7, 130.6, 128.8, 127.9; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{ClO}_2$ : 155.9978 found 155.9985.

4-Methylbenzoic acid (**3f**)



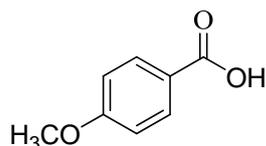
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 12.822 (s, 1H), 7.745 (d, 10.7 Hz, 2H), 7.439-7.347 (m, 2H), 2.358 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 167.3, 142.9, 129.3, 129.1, 128.0, 21.1; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_2$ : 136.0524 found 136.0521.

3-Methylbenzoic acid (**3g**)



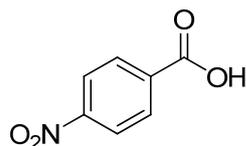
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 12.749 (s, 1H), 7.848 (s, 1H), 7.821 (s, 1H), 7.304 (s, 1H), 7.277 (s, 1H), 2.362 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{d}^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 167.4, 137.9, 133.4, 130.7, 129.7, 128.4, 126.4, 20.8; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_2$ : 136.0524 found 136.0525.

4-Methoxybenzoic acid (**3h**)



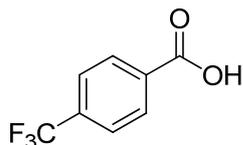
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 12.590 (s, 1H), 7.910-7.870 (m, 2H), 7.03-6.99 (m, 2H), 3.820 (s, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 167.0, 162.8, 131.3, 123.0, 113.8, 55.4; HRMS ( $M^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_3$ : 152.0473 found 152.0479.

#### 4-Nitrobenzoic acid (**3i**)



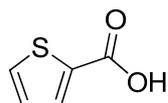
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 13.644 (s, 1H), 8.316 (d, 8.6 Hz, 2H), 8.179-8.146 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 165.8, 150.0, 136.4, 130.7, 123.7; HRMS ( $M^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{NO}_4$ : 167.0219 found 167.0222.

#### 4-(Trifluoromethyl)benzoic acid (**3j**)



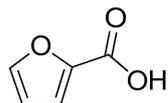
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 13.444 (s, 1H), 8.130 (d, 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.860 (d, 8.3 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.2, 134.6, 132.5 (q,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 31.7$ ), 130.1, 125.6 (q,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 37$  Hz), 123.8 (q,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 270.7$  Hz); HRMS ( $M^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_5\text{F}_3\text{O}_2$ : 190.0242 found 190.0240.

#### Thiophene-2-carboxylic acid (**3k**)



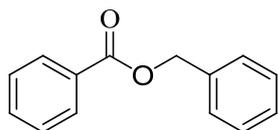
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 13.006 (s, 1H), 7.878-7.857 (m, 1H), 7.734-7.718 (m, 1H), 7.190- 7.161 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 162.9, 134.7, 133.22, 133.19, 128.2; HRMS ( $M^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{O}_2\text{S}$ : 127.9932 found 127.9936.

#### Furan-2-carboxylic acid (**3l**)



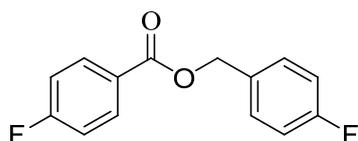
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 12.972 (s, 1H), 7.907-7.901 (m, 1H), 7.211-7.200 (m, 1H), 6.652-6.638 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $d^6$ -DMSO):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 159.3, 147.0, 144.9, 117.7, 112.1; HRMS ( $M^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{O}_3$ : 112.0160 found 112.0161.

#### Benzyl benzoate (**4a**)



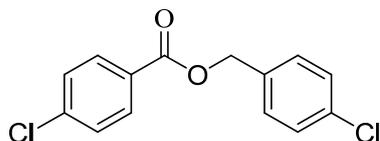
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.110-8.082 (m, 2H), 7.588-7.544 (m, 1H), 7.476-7.444 (m, 3H), 7.430-7.332 (m, 4H), 5.382 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.6, 136.2, 133.2, 130.3, 129.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 66.8; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_2$ : 212.0837 found 212.0841.

#### 4-Fluorobenzyl 4-fluorobenzoate (**4b**)



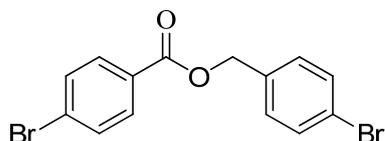
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.093-8.050 (m, 2H), 7.441-7.406 (m, 2H), 7.135-7.045 (m, 4H), 5.316 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.0 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 252.7$  Hz), 165.6, 162.9 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 245.5$  Hz), 132.4 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 9.1$  Hz), 131.9 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 3.0$  Hz), 130.4 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 8.4$  Hz), 126.4 (d, 2.9 Hz), 115.7 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 21.8$  Hz), 66.3; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_2\text{O}_2$ : 248.0649 found 248.0647.

#### 4-Chlorobenzyl 4-chlorobenzoate (**4c**)



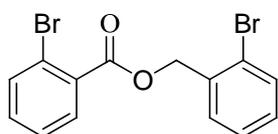
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.008-7.974 (m, 2H), 7.428-7.391 (m, 2H), 7.382-7.343 (m, 4H), 5.316 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 165.6, 139.8, 134.5, 134.4, 131.2, 129.8, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 66.3; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_2$ : 280.0058 found 280.0063.

#### 4-Bromobenzyl 4-bromobenzoate (**4d**)



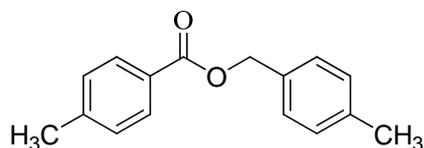
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 7.930-7.896 (m, 2H), 7.598-7.565 (m, 2H), 7.534-7.501 (m, 2H), 7.326-7.293 (m, 2H), 5.297 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 165.7, 134.9, 131.97, 131.95, 131.4, 130.1, 129.0, 128.5, 122.6, 66.3; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_2$ : 367.9048 found 367.9042.

#### 2-Bromobenzyl 2-bromobenzoate (**4e**)



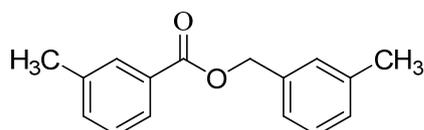
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 7.884-7.860 (m, 1H), 7.688-7.665 (m, 1H), 7.624-7.587 (m, 1H), 7.553-7.530 (m, 1H), 7.394-7.316 (m, 3H), 7.241-7.198 (m, 1H), 5.465 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 165.8, 135.1, 134.6, 134.5, 133.1, 132.9, 131.7, 130.5, 130.1, 127.7, 127.4, 123.8, 122.1, 67.1; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{Br}_2\text{O}_2$ : 367.9048 found 367.9044.

4-Methylbenzyl 4-methylbenzoate (**4f**)



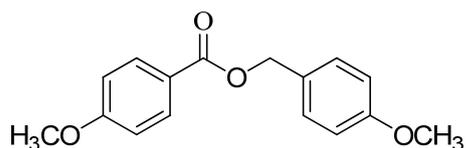
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 7.967 (d, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.348 (d, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.240-7.190 (m, 4H), 5.318 (s, 2H), 2.407 (s, 3H), 2.371 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.7, 143.8, 138.1, 133.4, 129.9, 129.4, 129.2, 128.5, 127.7, 66.6, 21.8, 21.3; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2$ : 240.1150 found 240.1155.

3-Methylbenzyl 3-methylbenzoate (**4g**)



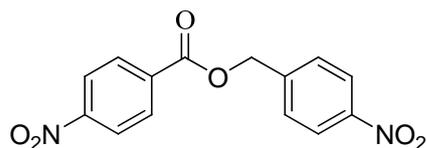
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 7.886 (t, 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.381-7.243 (m, 5H), 7.161 (d, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.329 (s, 2H), 2.400 (s, 3H), 2.381 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.8, 138.4, 138.3, 136.2, 133.9, 130.4, 130.3, 129.13, 129.10, 128.7, 128.4, 127.0, 125.4, 66.9, 21.5, 21.4; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2$ : 240.1150 found 240.1153.

4-Methoxybenzyl 4-methoxybenzoate (**4h**)



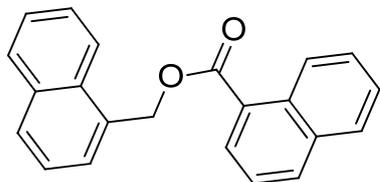
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.023-8.000 (m, 2H), 7.381 (d, 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.922-6.890 (m, 4H), 5.271 (s, 2H), 3.848 (s, 3H), 3.815 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.4, 163.6, 159.8, 131.9, 130.1, 128.6, 122.9, 114.1, 113.7, 66.4, 55.6, 55.4; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_4$ : 272.1049 found 272.1043.

4-Nitrobenzyl 4-nitrobenzoate (**4i**)



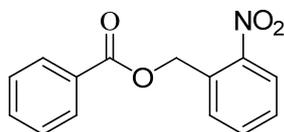
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.318-8.292 (m, 2H), 8.273-8.232 (m, 4H), 7.622 (d, 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.503 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 164.4, 151.0, 148.2, 142.5, 135.0, 131.0, 128.8, 124.1, 123.8, 66.2; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6$ : 302.0539 found 302.0544.

naphthalen-1-ylmethyl 1-naphthoate (**4k**)



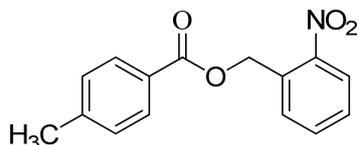
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.881 (d, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.108-8.072 (m, 2H), 7.902 (d, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.835-7.762 (m, 3H), 7.603 (d, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.523-7.466 (m, 2H), 7.449-7.386 (m, 3H), 7.358-7.320 (m, 1H), 5.823 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 167.5, 134.5, 134.0, 133.7, 132.0, 131.7, 131.6, 130.6, 129.5, 128.9, 128.7, 128.0, 127.8, 127.0, 126.8, 126.4, 126.1, 126.0, 125.5, 124.6, 123.8, 65.3; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2$ : 312.1150 found 312.1161.

2-Nitrobenzyl benzoate (**4l**)



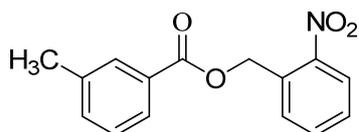
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.148-8.0874 (m, 3H), 7.700-7.637 (m, 2H), 7.623-7.580 (m, 1H), 7.528-7.457 (m, 3H), 5.787 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.1, 147.8, 133.9, 133.5, 132.5, 129.9, 129.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 125.3, 63.5; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_4$ : 257.0688 found 257.0694.

2-Nitrobenzyl 4-methylbenzoate (**4m**)



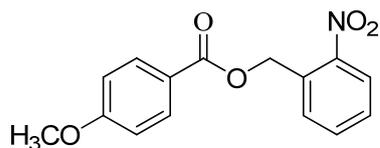
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.108 (t, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.977-7.957 (m, 2H), 7.665-7.607 (m, 2H), 7.496-7.454 (m, 1H), 7.241 (s, 2H), 5.745 (s, 2H), 2.406 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.1, 147.8, 144.3, 133.9, 132.7, 129.9, 129.4, 129.0, 128.8, 127.0, 125.2, 63.3, 21.8; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4$ : 271.0845 found 271.0844.

2-Nitrobenzyl 3-methylbenzoate (**4n**)



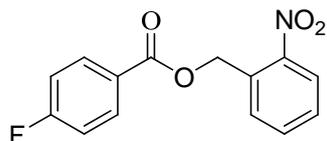
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.149-8.127 (m, 1H), 7.909-7.889 (m, 2H), 7.687-7.634 (m, 2H), 7.524-7.482 (m, 1H), 7.421-7.358 (m, 2H), 5.778 (s, 2H), 2.421 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.3, 147.8, 138.6, 134.3, 133.9, 132.6, 130.5, 129.7, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 127.1, 125.3, 63.4, 21.4; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4$ : 271.0845 found 271.0841.

2-Nitrobenzyl 4-methoxybenzoate (**4o**)



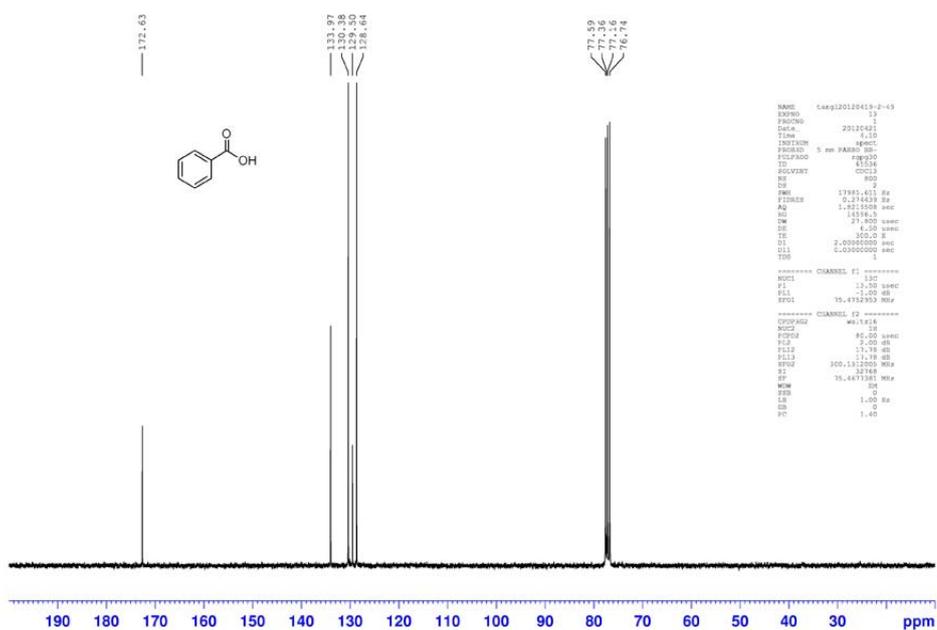
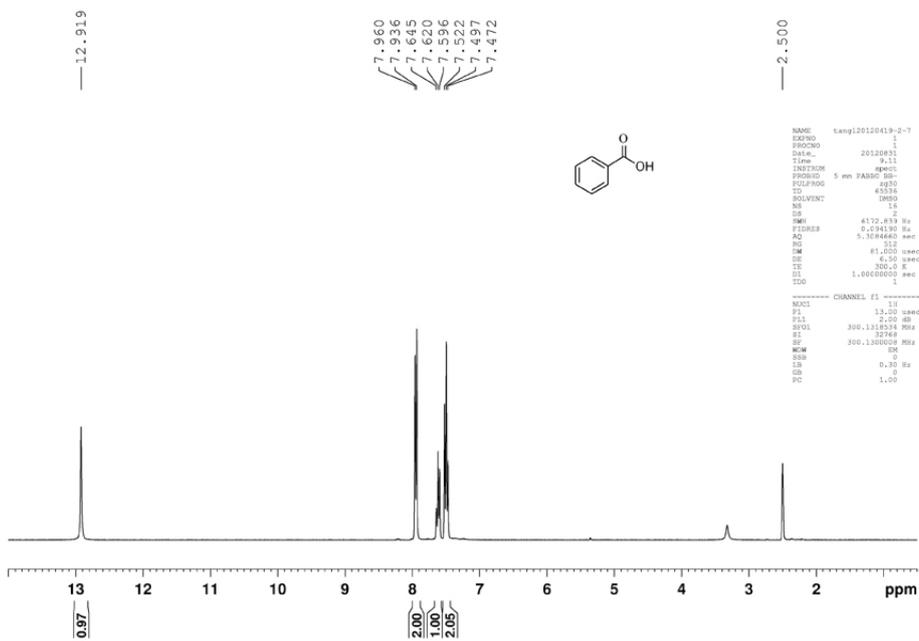
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.119 (t, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.065-8.029 (m, 2H), 7.682-7.622 (m, 2H), 7.511-7.469 (m, 1H), 6.964-6.928 (m, 2H), 5.748 (s, 2H), 3.870 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 165.8, 163.9, 147.8, 133.9, 132.8, 132.0, 129.0, 128.8, 125.2, 122.1, 114.0, 63.2, 55.6; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_5$ : 287.0794 found 287.0799.

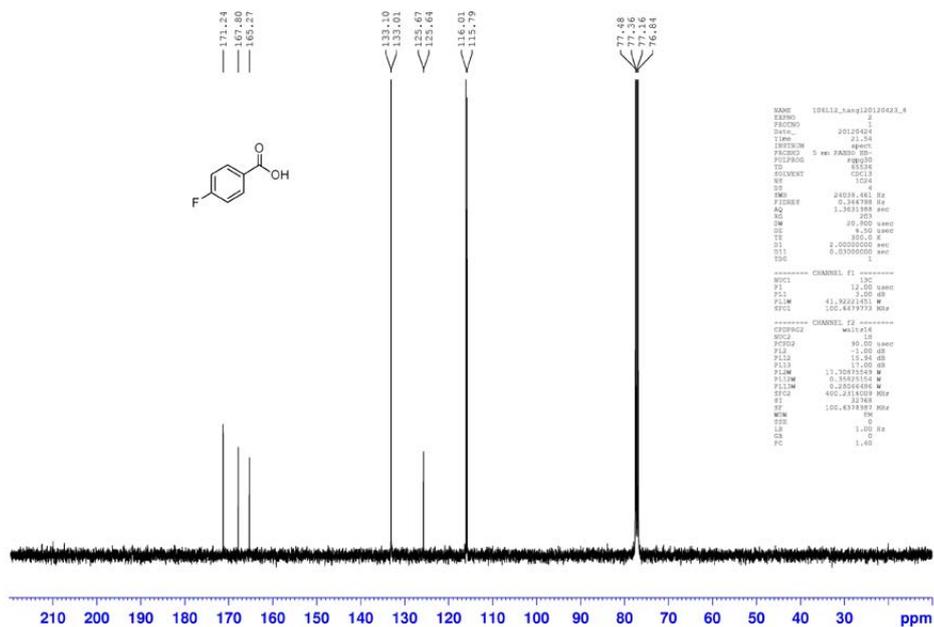
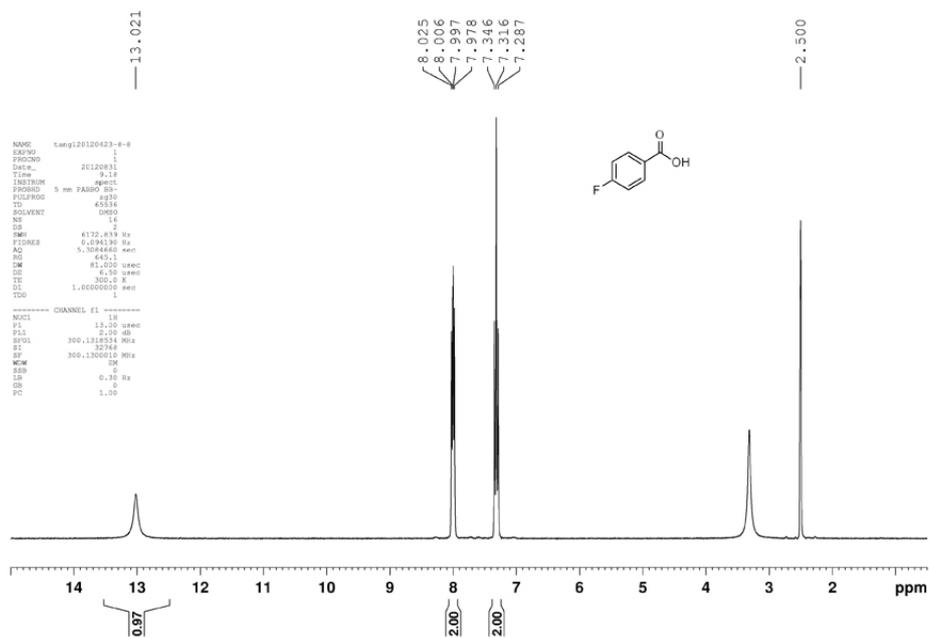
2-Nitrobenzyl 4-fluorobenzoate (**4p**)

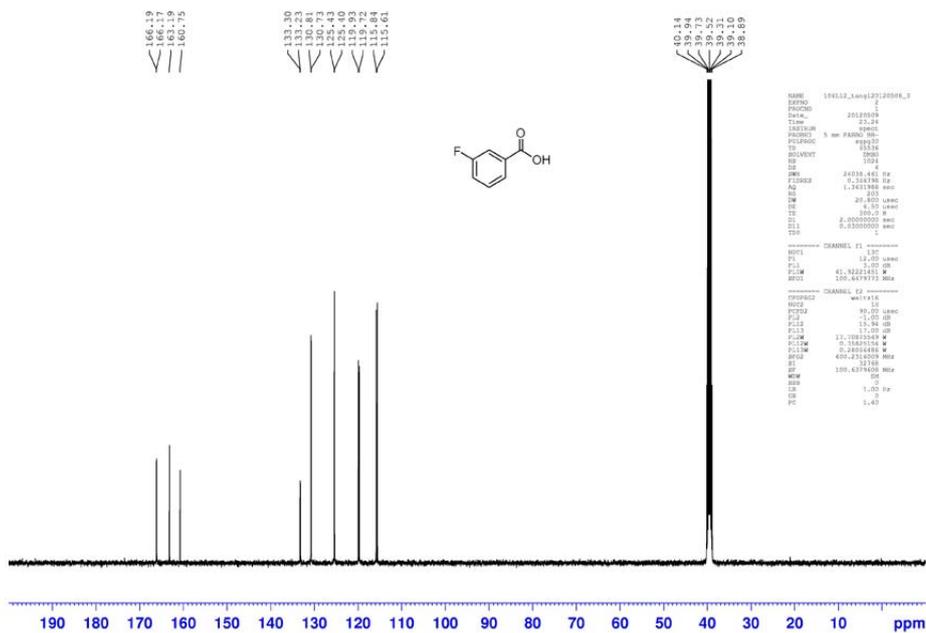
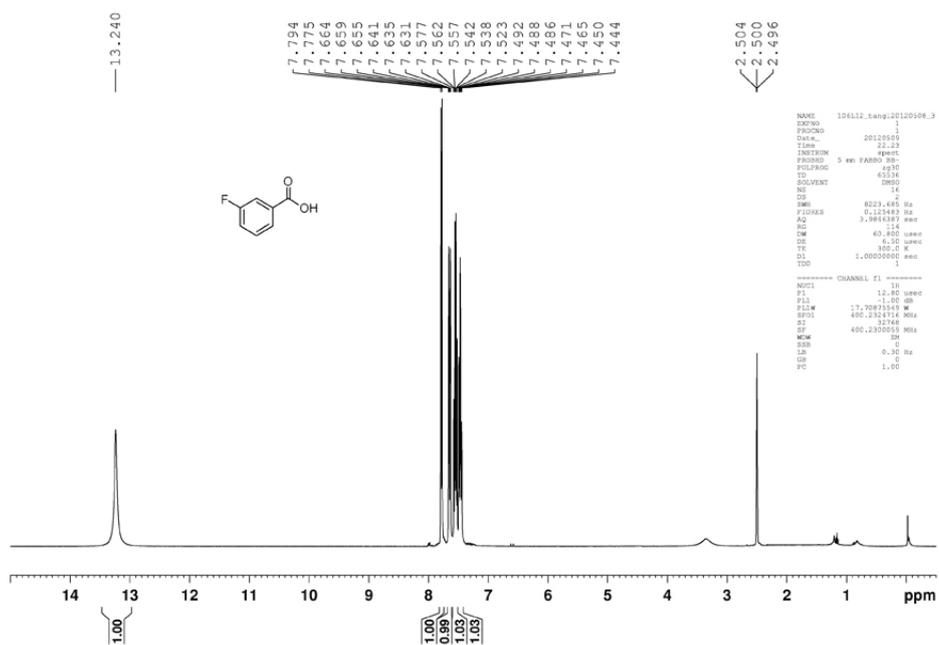


$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 8.143-8.089 (m, 3H), 7.669-7.642 (m, 2H), 7.538-7.495 (m, 1H), 7.164-7.121 (m, 2H), 5.468 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  [ppm] = 166.2 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 253$  Hz), 165.1, 147.9, 133.9, 132.5 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 9.0$  Hz), 132.2, 129.2, 129.1, 126.0 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 3.0$  Hz), 125.3, 115.9 (d,  $J_{\text{CF}} = 22.0$  Hz), 63.6; HRMS ( $\text{M}^+$ ) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{FNO}_4$ : 275.0594 found 275.0591.

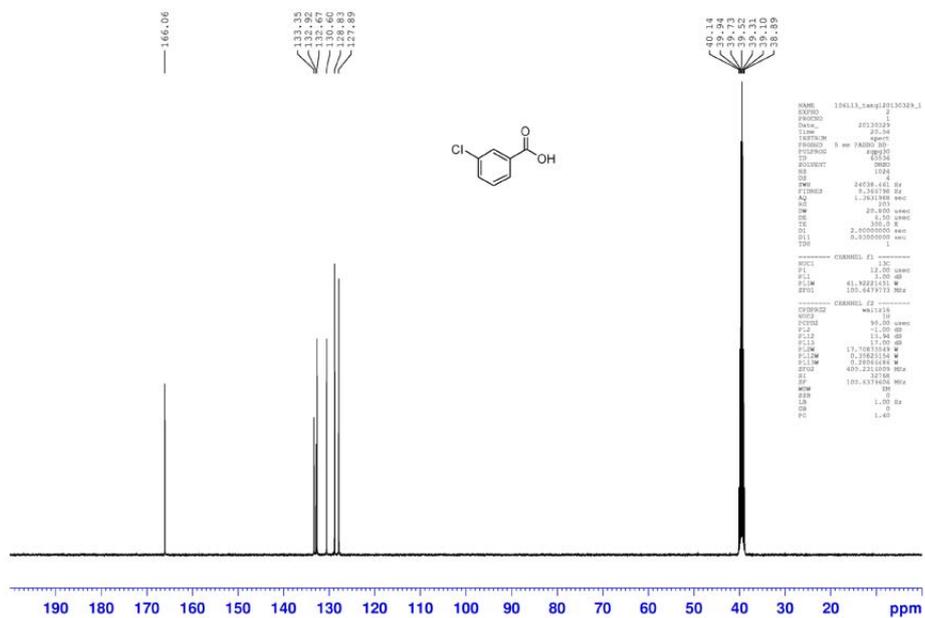
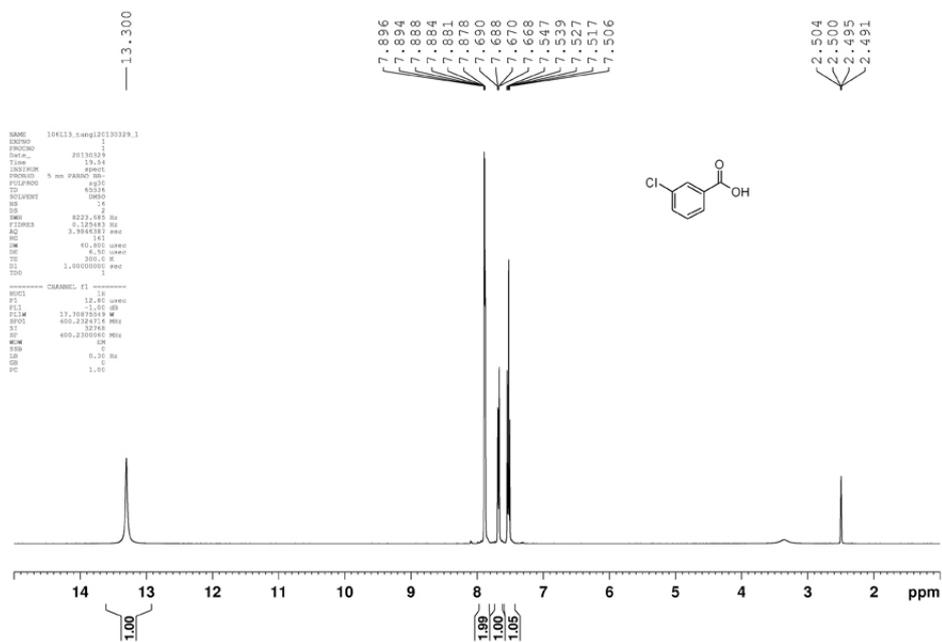
## NMR Spectra of products



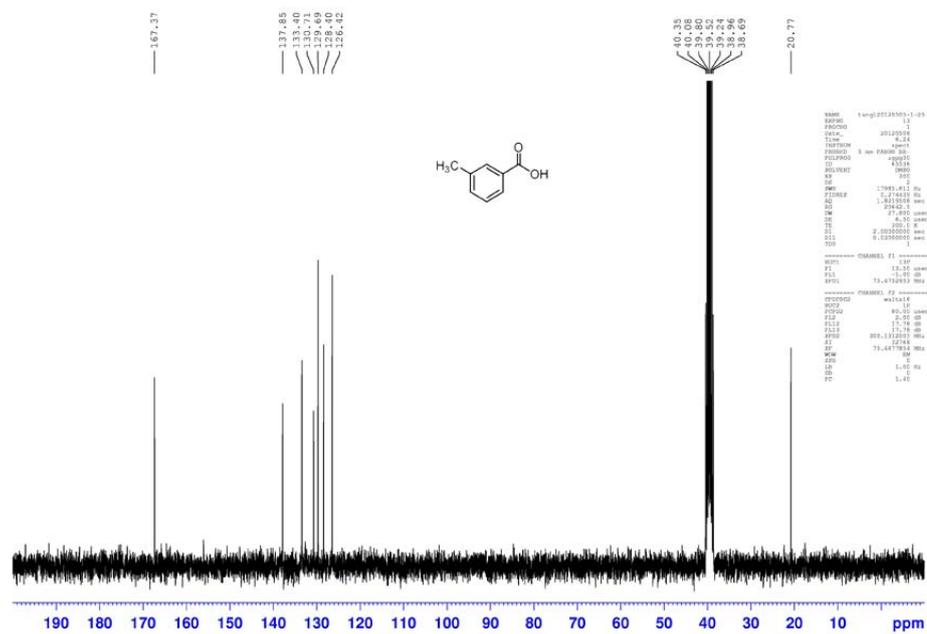
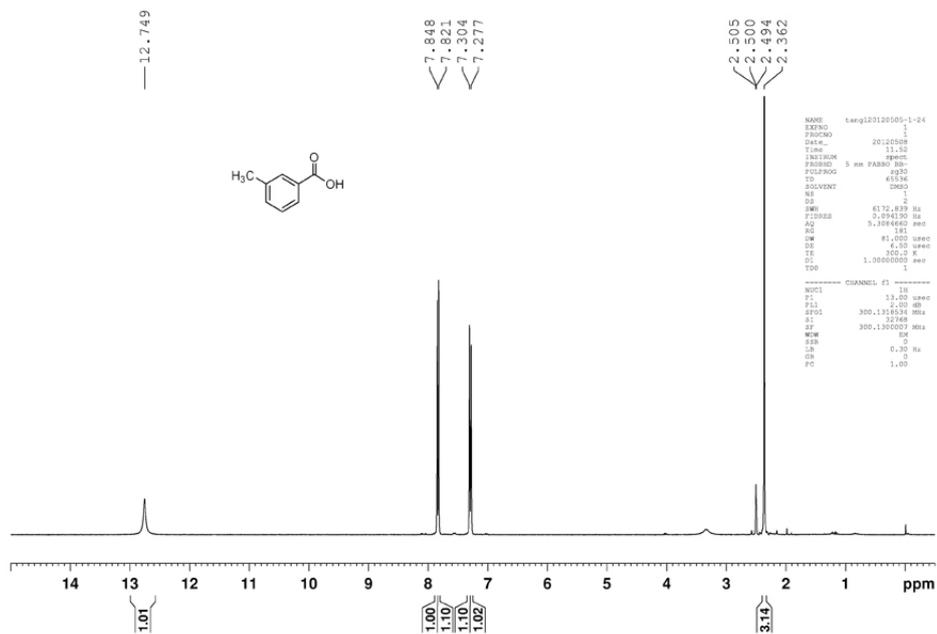




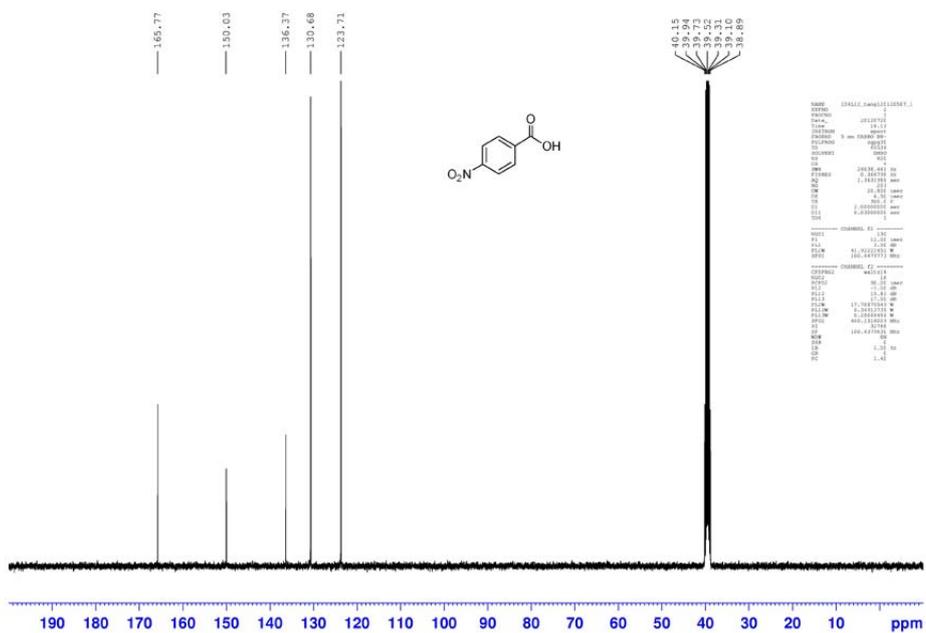
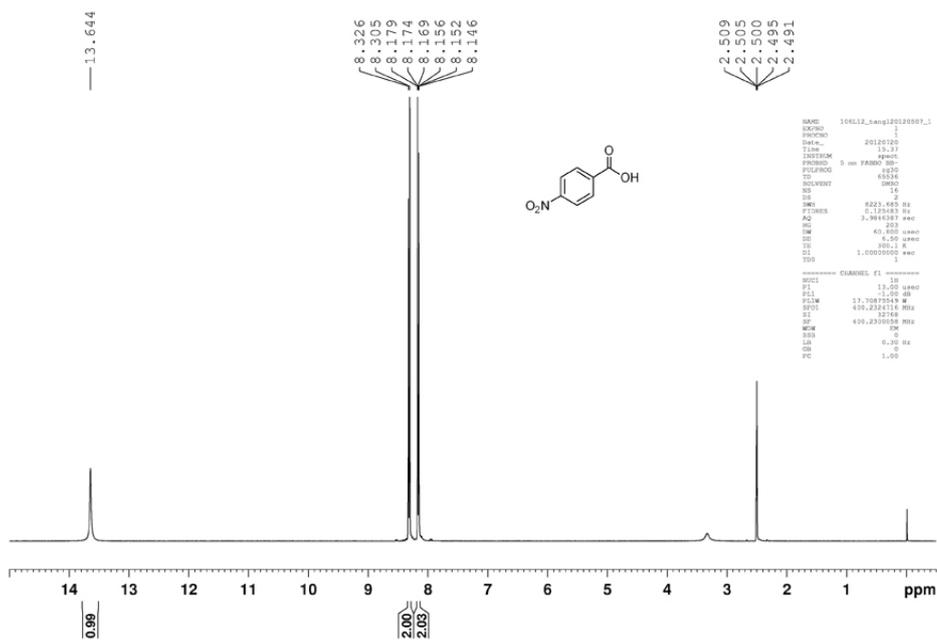


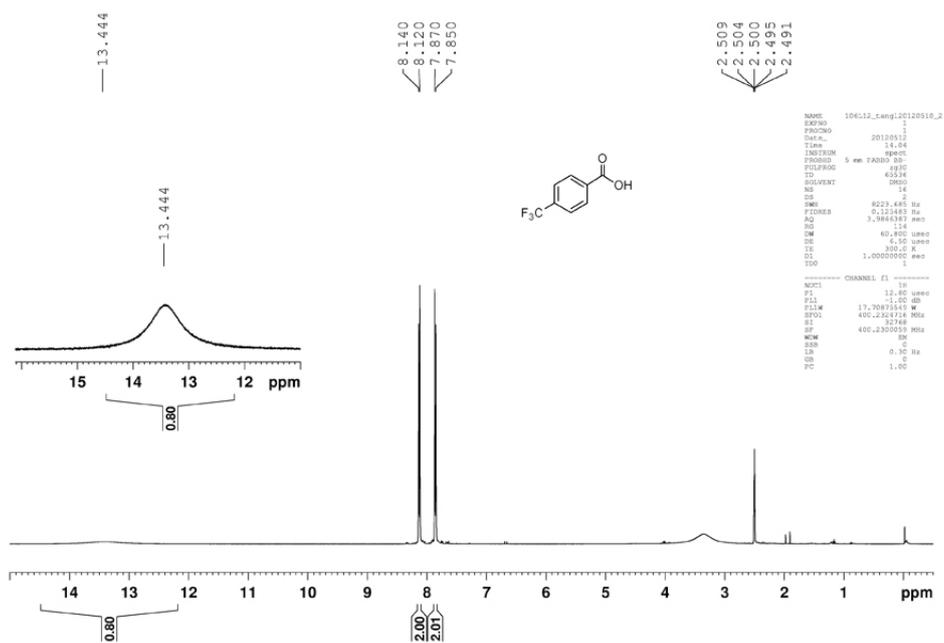










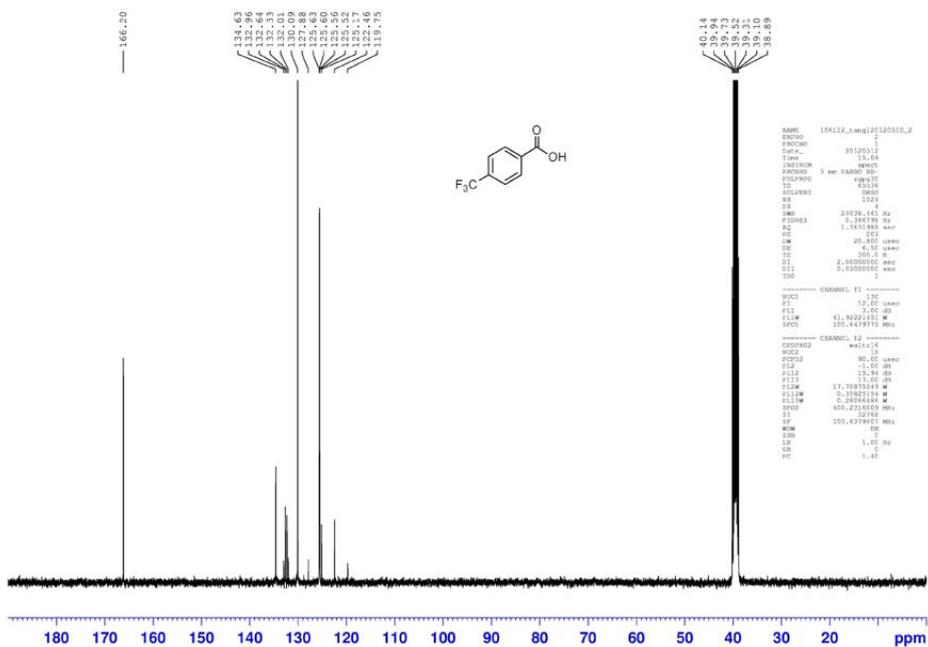


```

NAME 10612_sampl20120510_2
EXPNO 1
PROCNO 1
Date_ 20120512
Time 14.44
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO 4B
PULPROG zgpg30
TD 65536
SOLVENT DMSO
NS 2
DS 2
SWH 8229.485 Hz
FIDRES 0.122483 Hz
AQ 3.986387 sec
RG 114
DM 40.800 usec
DE 5.000 usec
TE 300.0 K
D1 1.0000000 sec
TD0 1
    
```

```

----- CHANNEL f1 -----
NUC1 13
P1 10.00 usec
PL1 -1.00 dB
PL12 17.7007543 M
SFO1 400.252714 MHz
NUC2 13
SF 400.2500000 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
LB 0.30 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.00
    
```

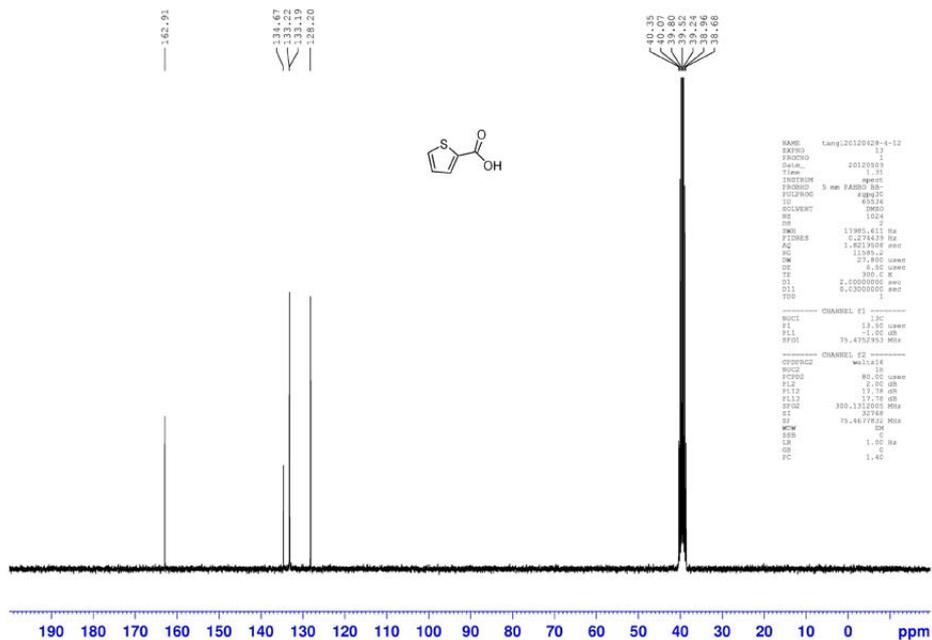
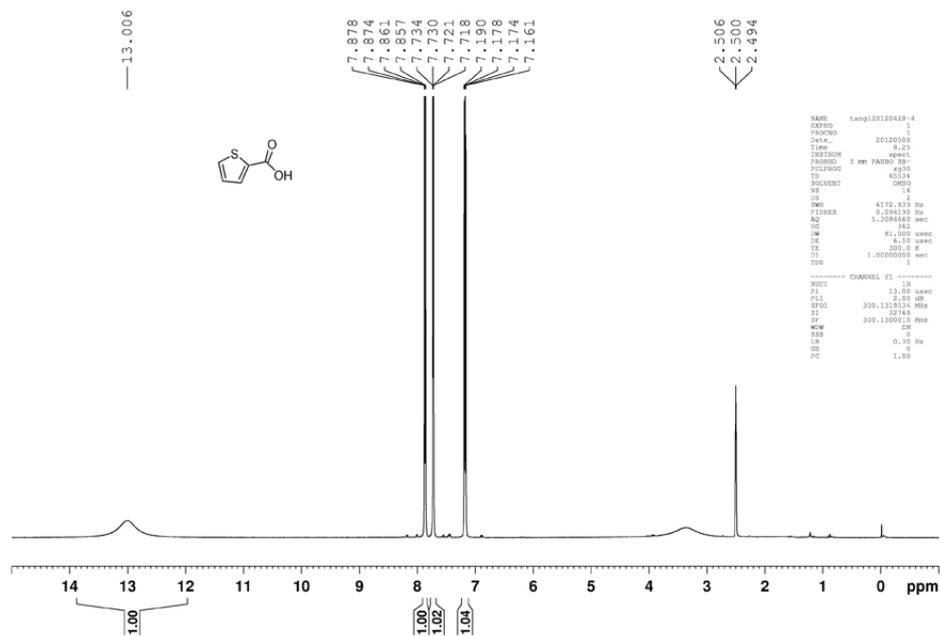


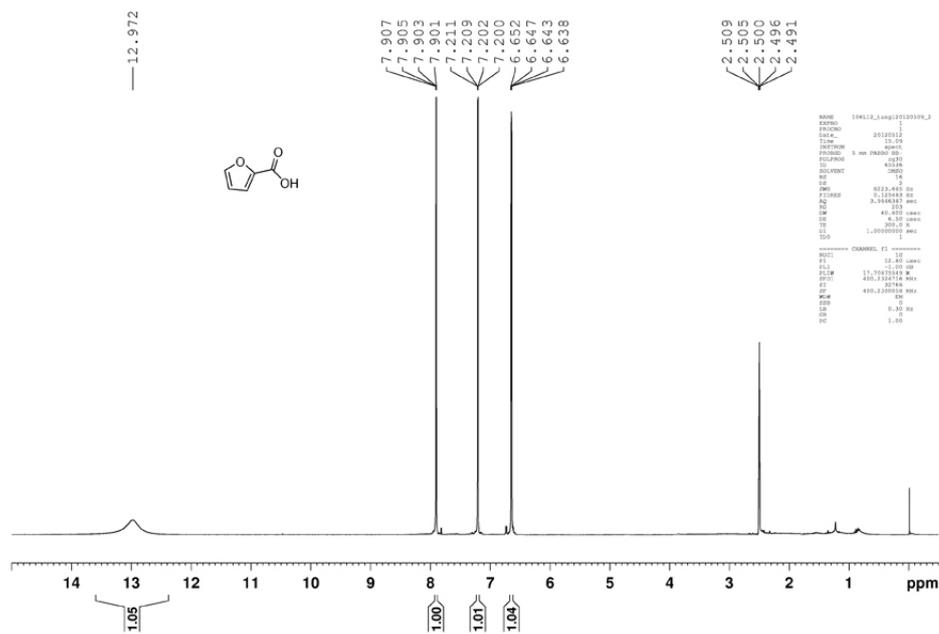
```

NAME 10612_sampl20120510_2
EXPNO 2
PROCNO 1
Date_ 20120512
Time 15.04
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO 4B
PULPROG zgpg30
TD 65536
SOLVENT DMSO
NS 2
DS 2
SWH 21028.442 Hz
FIDRES 0.126378 Hz
AQ 1.381188 sec
RG 114
DM 20.800 usec
DE 4.000 usec
TE 300.0 K
D1 2.0000000 sec
D11 0.0300000 sec
TD0 1
    
```

```

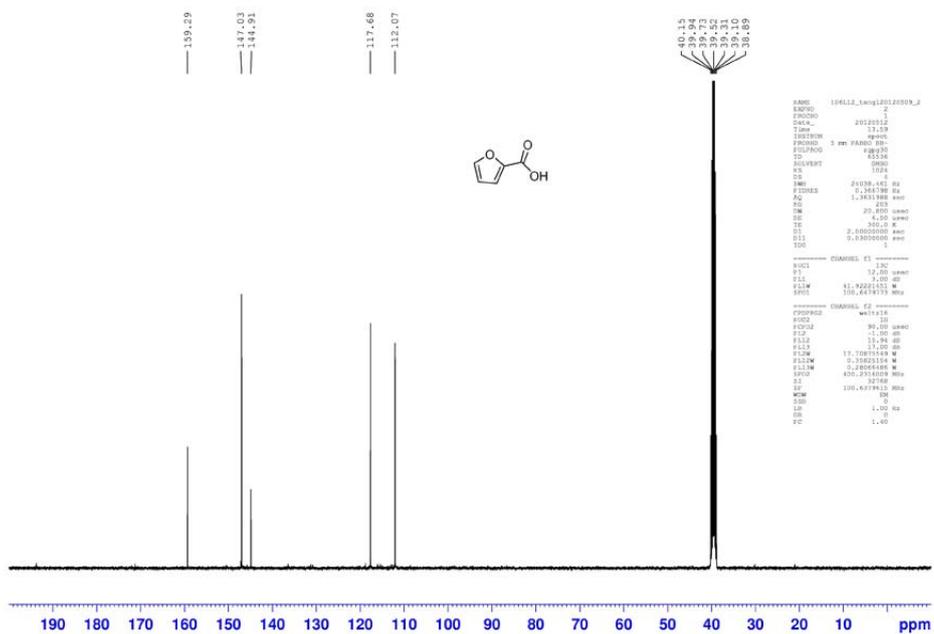
----- CHANNEL f1 -----
NUC1 13
P1 10.00 usec
PL1 -1.00 dB
PL12 17.7007543 M
SFO1 400.252714 MHz
----- CHANNEL f2 -----
NAME 13
NUC2 13
P2 80.00 usec
PL2 -1.00 dB
PL12 17.7007543 M
SFO2 400.252714 MHz
SFO1 400.2500000 MHz
SF 100.6250000 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
LB 1.00 Hz
GB 0
PC 1.00
    
```





```

NAME 164112_1aug1210101019_3
EXPNO 1
PROCNO 1
PROCPS 20120112
Date_ 12.09
Time 13.59
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO 1H
PULPROG zgpg30
SOLVENT DMSO
NS 654
DS 4
SWH 400.1406130 MHz
AQ 0.181768 HA
RG 320
AQ 1.365198 MHz
SFO 400.1406130 MHz
SI 32737
SF 400.1406130 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
GB 0
PC 1.00
===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1 13C
P1 12.00 usec
PL1 0.00 dB
PC1 11.717171717 MHz
PT 1
SFO1 101.6261195 MHz
SI 654
SF 400.1406130 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
GB 0
PC 1.00
    
```



```

NAME 164112_1aug121012101019_3
EXPNO 1
PROCNO 1
PROCPS 20120112
Date_ 12.09
Time 13.59
INSTRUM spect
PROBHD 5 mm PABBO 1H
PULPROG zgpg30
SOLVENT DMSO
NS 654
DS 4
SWH 101.6261195 MHz
AQ 0.181768 HA
RG 320
AQ 1.365198 MHz
SFO 101.6261195 MHz
SI 654
SF 400.1406130 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
GB 0
PC 1.00
===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1 13C
P1 12.00 usec
PL1 0.00 dB
PC1 11.717171717 MHz
PT 1
SFO1 101.6261195 MHz
SI 654
SF 400.1406130 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
GB 0
PC 1.00
===== CHANNEL f2 =====
NUC2 13C
P2 12.00 usec
PL2 0.00 dB
PC2 11.717171717 MHz
PT 2
SFO2 101.6261195 MHz
SI 654
SF 400.1406130 MHz
WDW EM
SSB 0
GB 0
PC 1.00
    
```



