

## *Supporting Information*

# **Partial Decarboxylation of Hafnium Oxide Clusters for High Resolution Lithographic Applications**

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**KEYWORDS:** Hexameric Hf oxide clusters, partially decarboxylation, photoresist, EUV lithography, line/space/edge character.

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## 1. Representative synthetic procedures

Unless otherwise noted, all reactions were carried out under nitrogen atmosphere in oven-dried glassware using standard syringe, cannula and septa apparatus. Dichloromethane and toluene were dried over CaH<sub>2</sub> and distilled. Reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used without purification, unless otherwise stated. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz and Bruker 500 MHz spectrometers using chloroform-d (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) as the internal standard. The ESI-Mass were performed using JEOL JMS-700. The EA analysis was performed by elemental vario EL cube. The TGA were performed using Mettler-Toledo 2-HT. FTIR Spectroscopy of powder samples was in a Bruker Vertex 80v spectrometer. The AFM measurements were using SEIKO SPA-300HV. Electron-beam lithography was done by utilizing Elionix ELS-7800 with an accelerating voltage of 80 kV and a beam current of 200 pA. The EUV-IL system at the Swiss Light Sources (SLS), Paul Scherrer Institute, utilizes 13.5 nm EUV light. HRXPS measurements were performed in a ULVAC-PHI Quantera II, with a monochromatic Al Ka source (energy of 1486.7 eV).

## 2. ESI-Mass, TGA data and AFM of species 1-OH

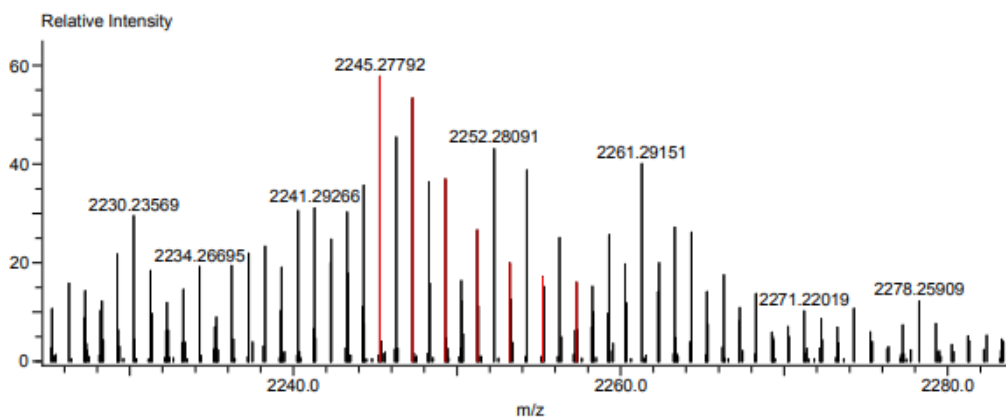
We attempted to confirm the structure of partially decarboxylated sample **1-OH** with ESI-mass to confirm the formula Hf<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>6</sub>(*i*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>10</sub>. We observed clusters of peaks due to six hafnium isotopes together with [M+H]<sup>+</sup> and [M+2H]<sup>+2</sup>. We selected two major Hf isotopes <sup>178</sup>Hf (27%) and <sup>180</sup>Hf (35%), we were able to find seven fragments corresponding to [M+H]<sup>+</sup> which the exact mass between calculated and experimental data are well matched; see Figure S1. These are additional peaks that might be due to additional fragments of other Hf isotopes or different [M+nH]<sup>+n</sup> as 6-Hf clusters sometimes bear two or more protons because of the large sizes and more basic sites such as Hf-OH.

Apart from the fragments of [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, and we are also able to find seven fragments corresponding to [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; the exact mass are calculated by two main Hf isotopes <sup>178</sup>Hf (27%) and <sup>180</sup>Hf (35%). As shown in Figure S-2, the calculated and the experimental values are well compatible. Additional peaks in Figure S2 is probably due to fragments of other Hf isotopes, or to different [M+Na+H]<sup>+2</sup> as 6-Hf clusters sometimes bear two or more protons because of the large sizes and more basic sites such as Hf-OH.

Data:2PC028 LiOH MeOH  
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 Description:  
 Ionization Mode:ESI+  
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 Operator:AccuTOF  
 m/z Calibration File:20220518 TFANA\_...  
 Created:6/8/2022 3:51:56 PM  
 Created by:AccuTOF

Charge number:1 Tolerance:300.00[ppm], 250.00 .. 250.... Unsaturation Number:-100.0 .. 200.0 (...)  
 Element:<sup>12</sup>C:50 .. 50, <sup>1</sup>H:97 .. 97, <sup>178</sup>Hf:0 .. 6, <sup>180</sup>Hf:1 .. 6, <sup>23</sup>Na:0 .. 1, <sup>16</sup>O:30 .. 30



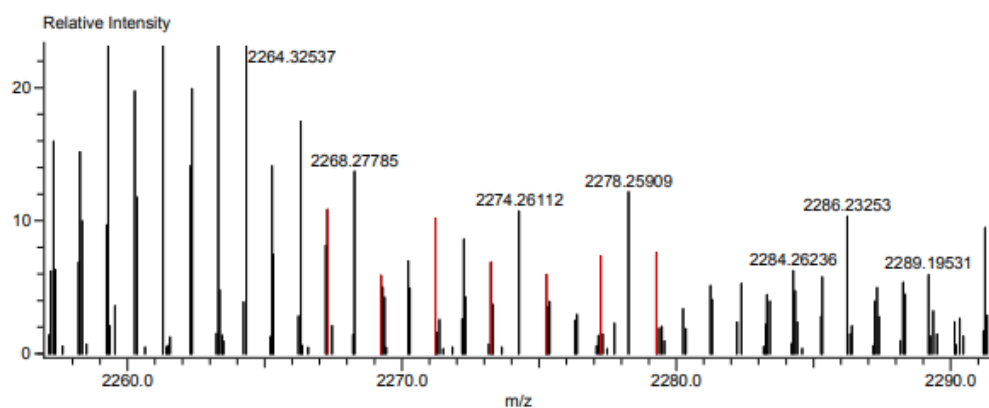
Mass	Intensity	Calc. Mass	Mass Difference [mDa]	Mass Difference [ppm]	Possible Formula
2245.27792	2184.53				
2247.28242	2018.18	2247.27150	10.92	4.86	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>97</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>5</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2249.29040	1396.37	2249.27435	16.05	7.13	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>97</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>4</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2251.24141	1005.19	2251.27720	-35.80	-15.90	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>97</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>3</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>3</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2253.22847	751.38	2253.28005	-51.59	-22.89	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>97</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>2</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>4</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2255.24941	646.32	2255.28291	-33.49	-14.85	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>97</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>1</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>5</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2257.31199	604.00	2257.28576	26.24	11.62	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>97</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>6</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>

Figure S1. ESI-Mass of species 1-OH [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

Data:2PC028 LiOH MeOH  
 Comment:  
 Description:  
 Ionization Mode:ESI+  
 History:Average(MS[1] 0.18..0.50)

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 m/z Calibration File:20220518 TFA Na\_...  
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 Created by:AccuTOF

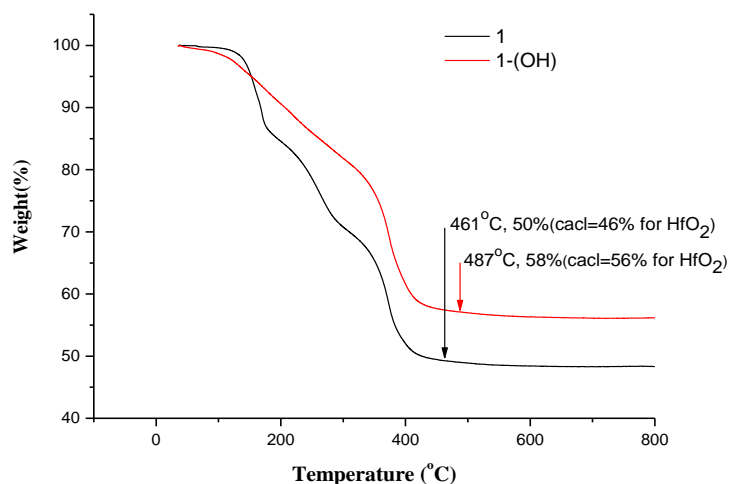
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 Element:<sup>12</sup>C:50 .. 50, <sup>1</sup>H:96 .. 96, <sup>178</sup>Hf:0 .. 6, <sup>180</sup>Hf:1 .. 6, <sup>23</sup>Na:1 .. 1, <sup>16</sup>O:30 .. 30



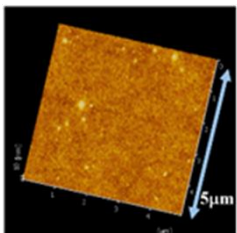
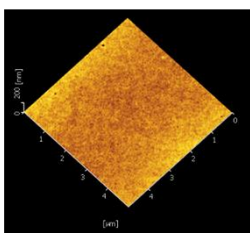
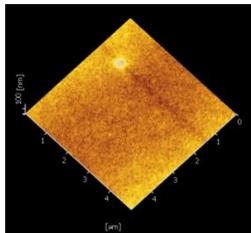
Mass	Intensity	Calc. Mass	Mass Difference [mDa]	Mass Difference [ppm]	Possible Formula
2267.28408	409.52				
2269.24046	221.47	2269.25345	-12.99	-5.72	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>96</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>5</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>1</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2271.22019	384.97	2271.25630	-36.11	-15.90	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>96</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>4</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>2</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2273.25093	259.39	2273.25915	-8.22	-3.62	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>96</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>3</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>3</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2275.25915	224.25	2275.26200	-2.85	-1.25	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>96</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>2</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>4</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2277.24485	277.36	2277.26485	-20.00	-8.78	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>96</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>1</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>5</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2279.27785	287.47	2279.26770	10.15	4.45	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>50</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>96</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>6</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>

Figure S2. ESI-Mass of species 1-OH [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

We employed TGA to see their calibration with formula. In the case of acid-containing 1, we obtained residual weight ca. 50%; the theoretical value of HfO<sub>2</sub> formation is 46% based on the formula from the x-ray diffraction; the discrepancy is 4%. For partially decarboxylated **1-OH**, the residual weight is 58% whereas the theoretical value is found to be 56% based on our proposed formula Hf<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>6</sub>(*i*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>10</sub>.



**Fig. S3.** TGA of species 1 and 1-OH

Days	1	3	7
AFM	 <p>RMS roughness = 0.85 nm</p>	 <p>RMS roughness = 0.74 nm</p>	 <p>RMS roughness = 1.06 nm</p>

**Fig. S4.** AFM of species **1-OH** at different days after soft backing

## 2. ESI-Mass and TGA data of species 2-OH

Data:2PC023 LiOH ACN

Comment:

Description:

Ionization Mode:ESI+

History:Average(MS[1] 0.20..0.29)

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Operator:AccuTOF

m/z Calibration File:20220518 TFA Na\_...

Created:6/7/2022 4:50:48 PM

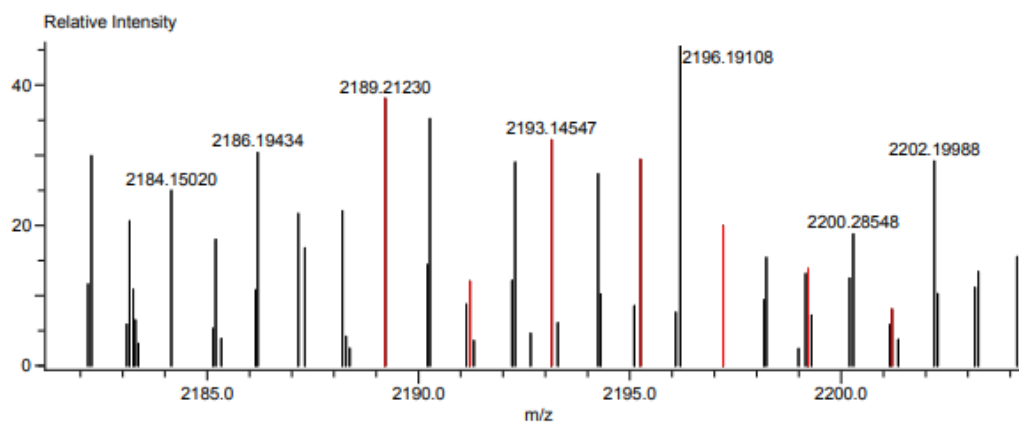
Created by:

Charge number:1

Tolerance:300.00[ppm], 250.00 .. 250....

Unsaturation Number:-100.0 .. 200.0 (...)

Element:<sup>12</sup>C:46 .. 46, <sup>1</sup>H:89 .. 89, <sup>178</sup>Hf:0 .. 6, <sup>180</sup>Hf:1 .. 6, <sup>23</sup>Na:0 .. 1, <sup>16</sup>O:30 .. 30



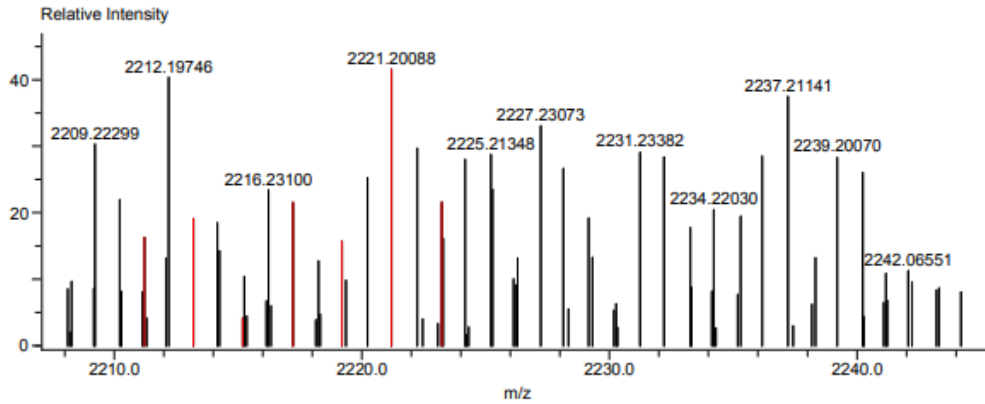
Mass	Intensity	Calc. Mass	Mass Difference [mDa]	Mass Difference [ppm]	Possible Formula
2189.21230	1020.22				
2191.21754	322.37	2191.20890	8.64	3.94	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>89</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>5</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2193.14547	862.15	2193.21175	-66.29	-30.22	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>89</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>4</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>2</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2195.24768	787.31	2195.21460	33.08	15.07	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>89</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>3</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>3</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2197.21042	533.32	2197.21745	-7.03	-3.20	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>89</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>2</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>4</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2199.22067	369.45	2199.22031	0.37	0.17	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>89</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>1</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>5</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2201.20209	215.29	2201.22316	-21.07	-9.57	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>89</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>6</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>

Figure S5. ESI-Mass of species 2-OH [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

Data:2PC023 LIOH ACN  
 Comment:  
 Description:  
 Ionization Mode:ESI+  
 History:Average(MS[1] 0.20..0.29)

Acquired:5/18/2022 12:30:41 PM  
 Operator:AccuTOF  
 m/z Calibration File:20220518 TFANa\_...  
 Created:6/7/2022 4:53:31 PM  
 Created by:

Charge number:1 Tolerance:300.00[ppm], 250.00 .. 250.... Unsaturation Number:-100.0 .. 200.0 (...)  
 Element:<sup>12</sup>C:46 .. 46, <sup>1</sup>H:88 .. 88, <sup>178</sup>Hf:0 .. 6, <sup>180</sup>Hf:1 .. 6, <sup>23</sup>Na:1 .. 1, <sup>16</sup>O:30 .. 30



Mass	Intensity	Calc. Mass	Mass Difference [mDa]	Mass Difference [ppm]	Possible Formula
2211.22533	435.21				
2213.19557	510.75	2213.19085	4.72	2.13	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>88</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>5</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>1</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2215.18849	108.95	2215.19370	-5.21	-2.35	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>88</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>4</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>2</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2217.21910	575.67	2217.19655	22.56	10.17	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>88</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>3</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>3</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2219.19506	419.93	2219.19940	-4.33	-1.95	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>88</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>2</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>4</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2221.20088	1113.12	2221.20225	-1.37	-0.62	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>88</sub> <sup>178</sup> Hf <sub>1</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>5</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>
2223.23436	577.78	2223.20510	29.26	13.16	<sup>12</sup> C <sub>46</sub> <sup>1</sup> H <sub>88</sub> <sup>180</sup> Hf <sub>6</sub> <sup>23</sup> Na <sub>1</sub> <sup>16</sup> O <sub>30</sub>

Figure S6. ESI-Mass of species 2-OH [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

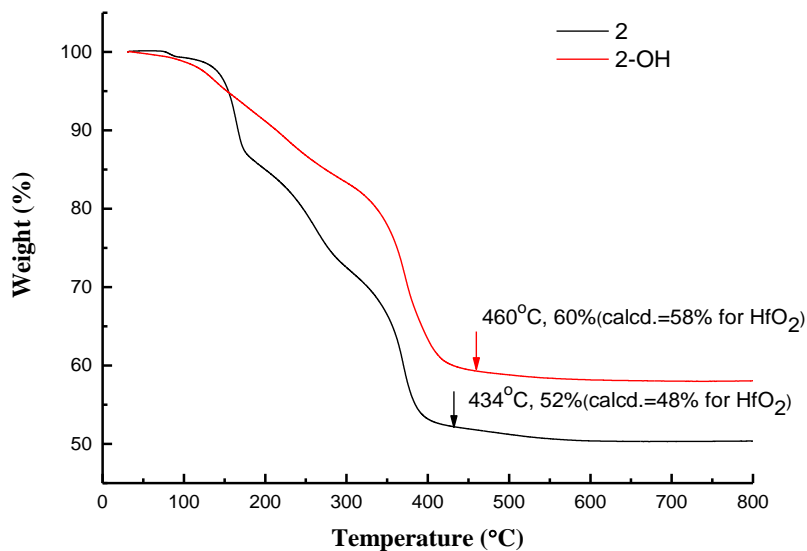
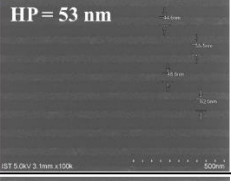
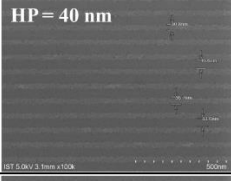
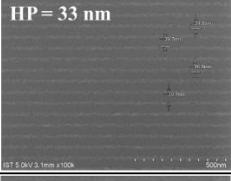
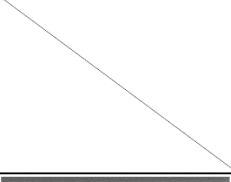
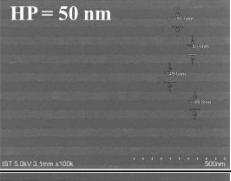
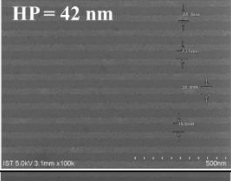
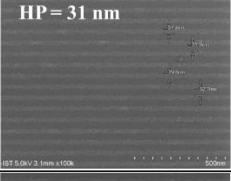
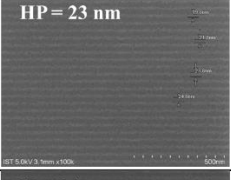
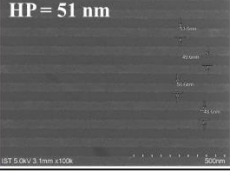
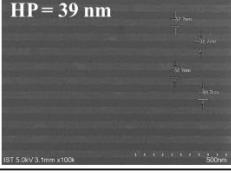
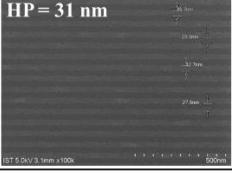
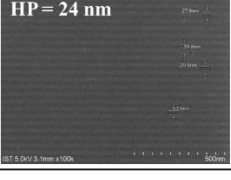
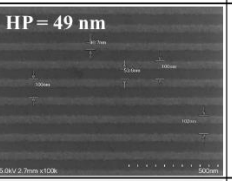
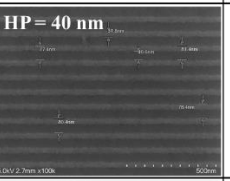
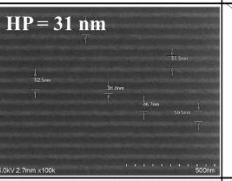
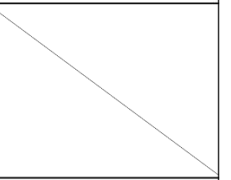
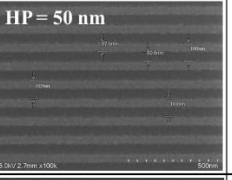
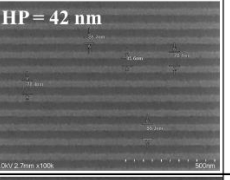
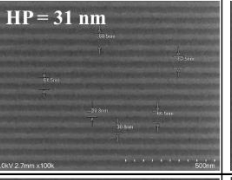
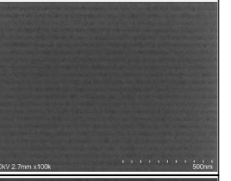
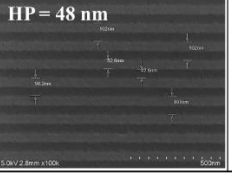
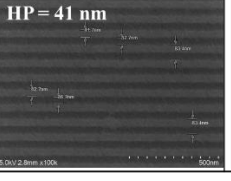
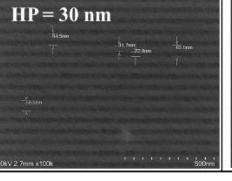
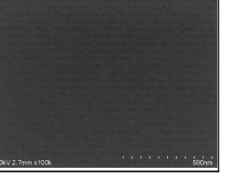


Figure S7. TGA of species 2 and 2-OH.

### 3. SEM image of E-beam lithography patterns

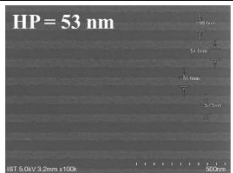
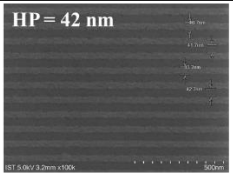
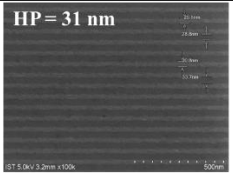
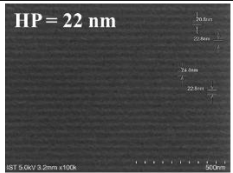
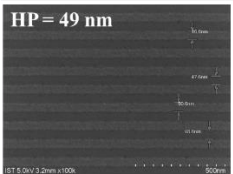
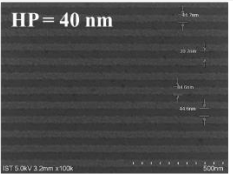
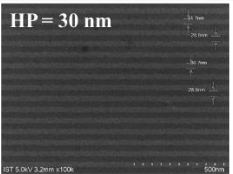
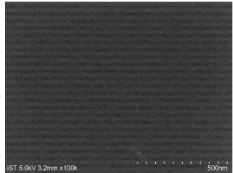
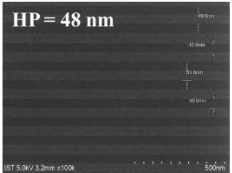
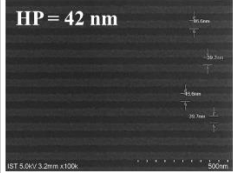
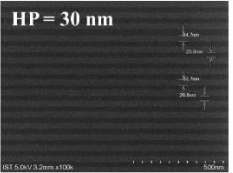
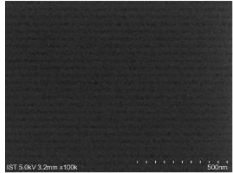
Design HP Dose	Design HP=50 nm	Design HP=40 nm	Design HP=30 nm	Design HP=20 nm
1440 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$	HP = 53 nm 	HP = 40 nm 	HP = 33 nm 	
1760 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$	HP = 50 nm 	HP = 42 nm 	HP = 31 nm 	HP = 23 nm 
2080 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$	HP = 51 nm 	HP = 39 nm 	HP = 31 nm 	HP = 24 nm 

**Figure S8.** SEM images of E-beam lithography patterns on 1. Process parameter: 1.5 wt%, THK= 24 nm, Developer: 2-Heptanone : Hexane = 1 : 1 60 s, PEB= 80°C 60 s

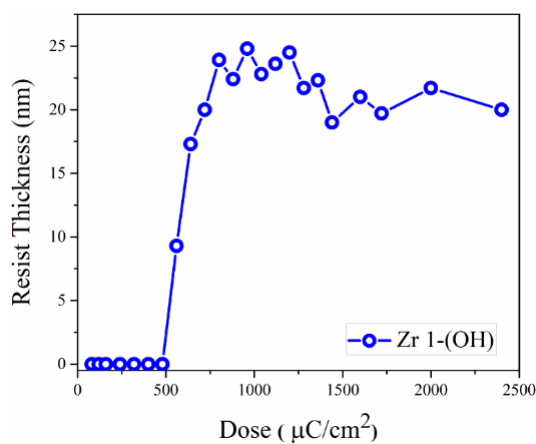
Design HP Dose	Design HP=50 nm	Design HP=40 nm	Design HP=30 nm	Design HP=20 nm
1440 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$	HP = 49 nm 	HP = 40 nm 	HP = 31 nm 	
1760 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$	HP = 50 nm 	HP = 42 nm 	HP = 31 nm 	
2080 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$	HP = 48 nm 	HP = 41 nm 	HP = 30 nm 	

**Figure S9.** SEM images of E-beam lithography patterns on 1-(OH). Process parameter: 2.0 wt%, THK= 23 nm, Developer: 2-Heptanone : Hexane = 1 : 1 80 s, PEB= 80°C, 60s

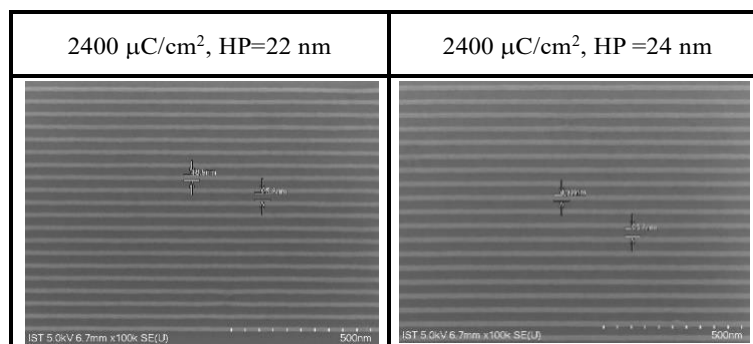


Design HP Dose	Design HP=50 nm	Design HP=40 nm	Design HP=30 nm	Design HP=20 nm
1440 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$	HP = 53 nm 	HP = 42 nm 	HP = 31 nm 	HP = 22 nm 
1760 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$	HP = 49 nm 	HP = 40 nm 	HP = 30 nm 	
2080 $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$	HP = 48 nm 	HP = 42 nm 	HP = 30 nm 	

**Figure S10.** SEM images of E-beam lithography patterns on 2-(OH). Process parameter: 2.0 wt%, THK= 24 nm, Developer: 2-Heptanone : Hexane = 1 : 1 60 s, PEB= 80°C 60 s

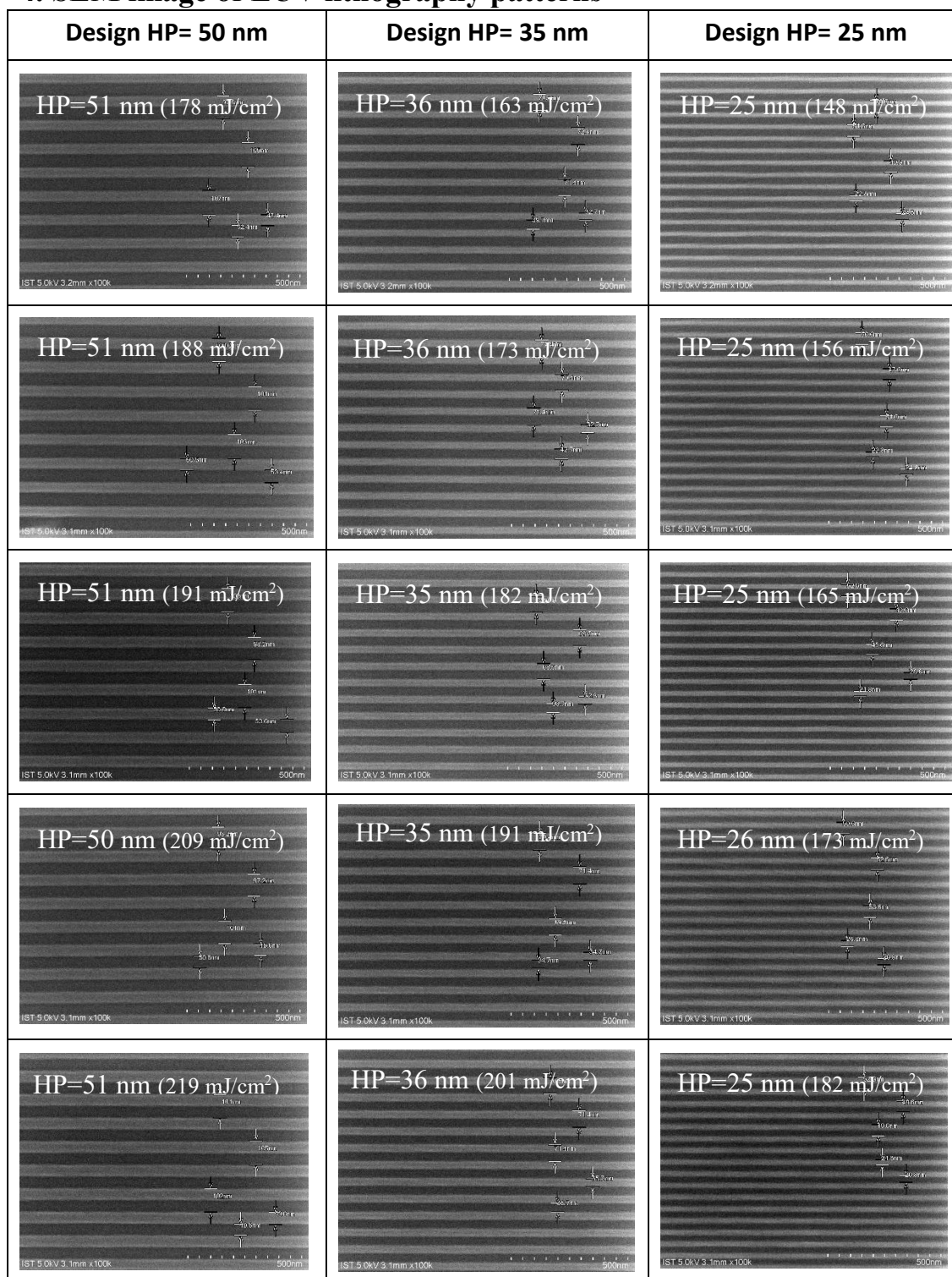


**Figure S11.** E-beam contrast curve of compound **Zr 1-(OH)** Initial thickness 30 nm..

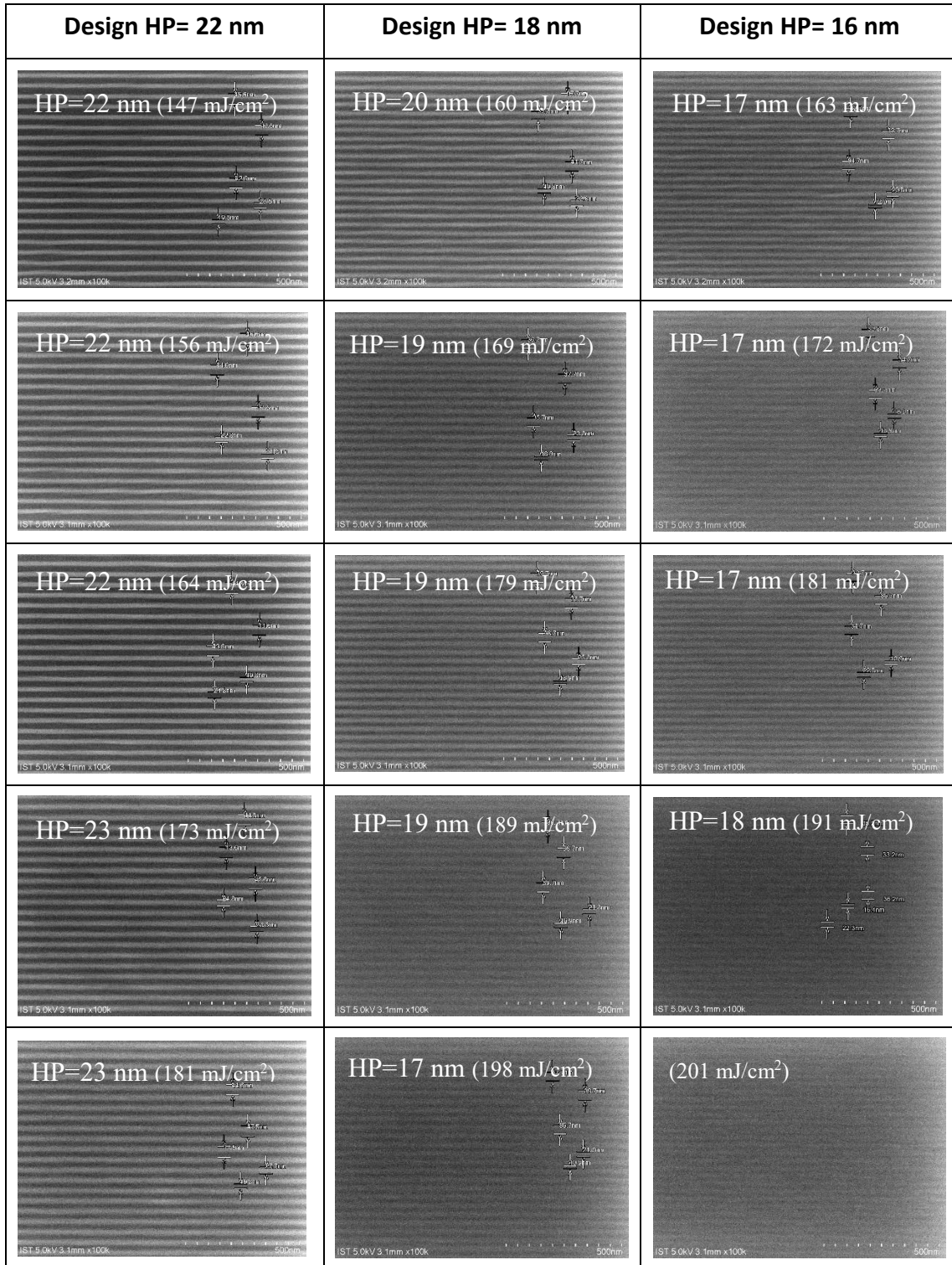


**Figure S12.** SEM images of E-beam lithography patterns on **Zr 1-(OH)**. Process parameter: 2.0 wt%, THK= 17 nm, Developer: 2-Heptanone : Hexane = 1 : 1 60 s, PEB= 80°C 60 s

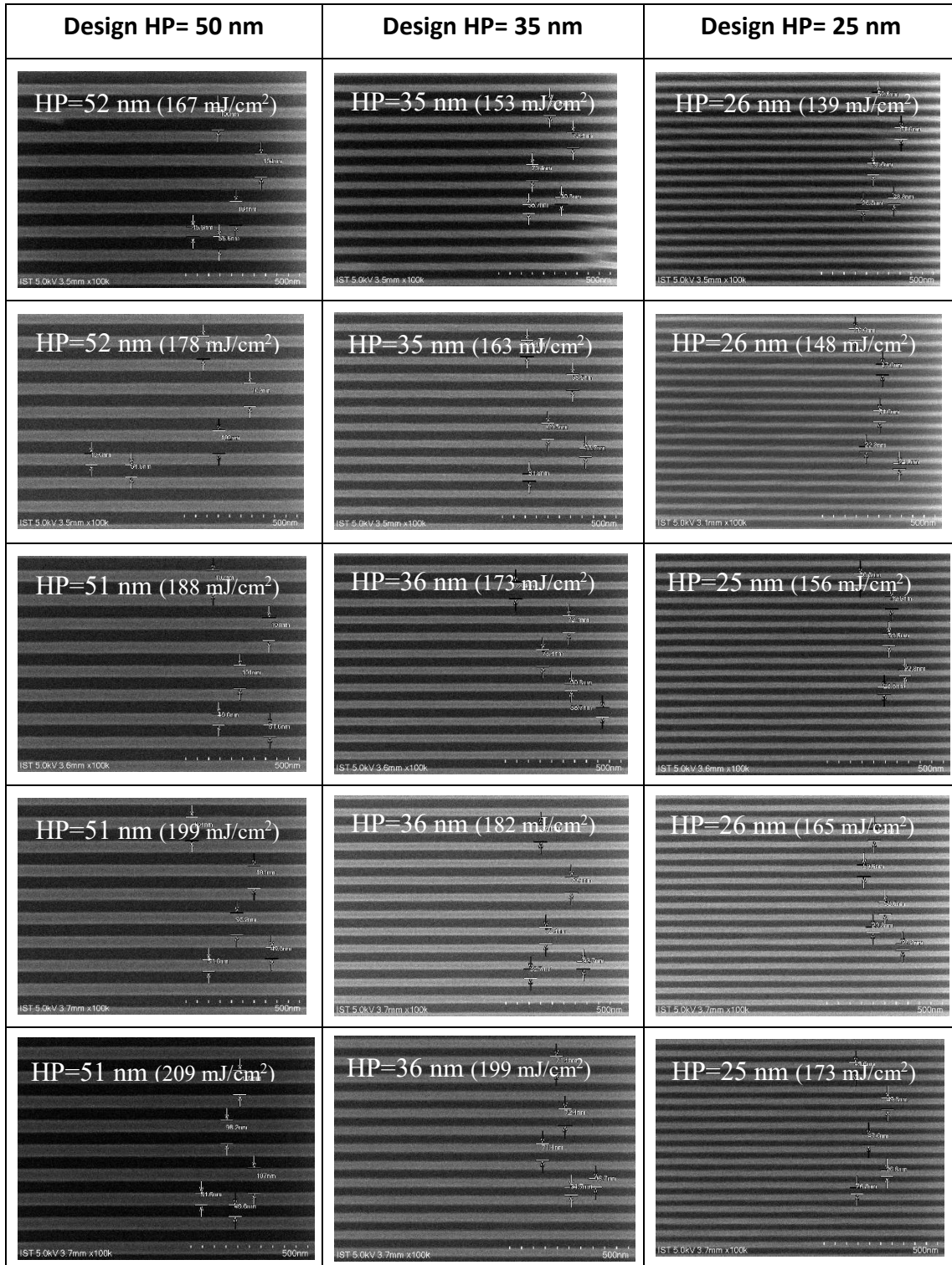
#### 4. SEM image of EUV lithography patterns



**Figure S13.** SEM images of EUV lithography patterns on 1-(OH) HP= 50, 35, 25 nm at different dose. Process parameter: 2.0 wt%, THK= 23 nm, Developer: 2-Heptanone : Hexane = 1 : 1 80 s, PEB= 80°C 60 s

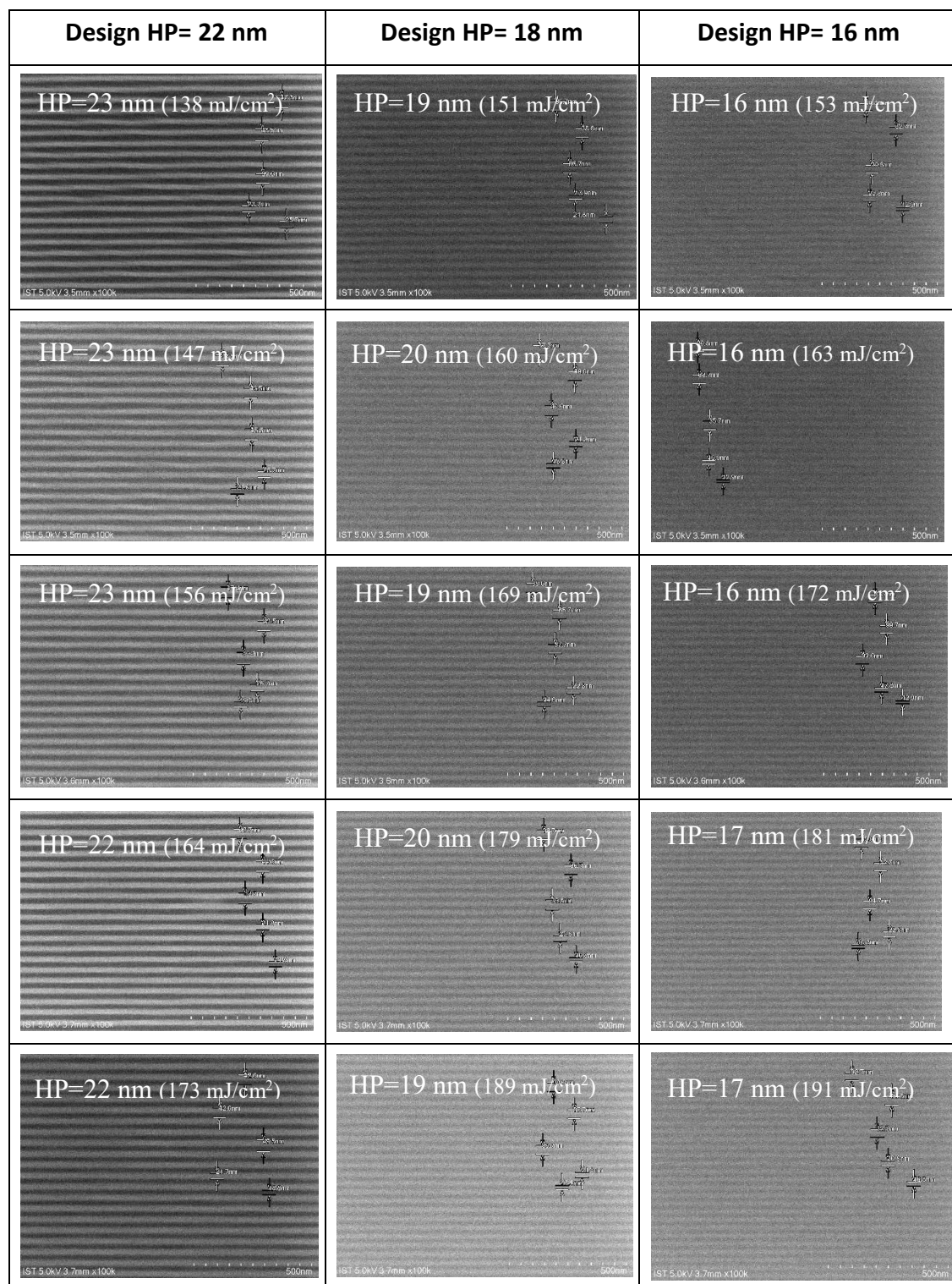


**Figure S14.** SEM images of EUV lithography patterns on 1-(OH) HP= 22, 18,16 nm at different dose. Process parameter: 2.0 wt%, THK= 23 nm, Developer: 2-Heptanone : Hexane = 1 : 1 80 s, PEB= 80°C 60 s



**Figure S15.** SEM images of EUV lithography patterns on **2-(OH)** HP= 50, 35, 25 nm at different dose. Process parameter: 2.0 wt%, THK= 24 nm, Developer: 2-Heptanone : Hexane = 1 : 1 60 s, PEB= 80°C 60 s.





**Figure S16.** SEM images of EUV lithography patterns on 2-(OH) HP= 22, 18, 16 nm at different dose. Process parameter: 2.0 wt%, THK= 24 nm, Developer: 2-Heptanone : Hexane = 1 : 1 60 s, PEB= 80°C 60 s.

## 5. X-ray crystallographic structures and data.

### 5.1 X-ray structure of isobutyrate derivative 1':

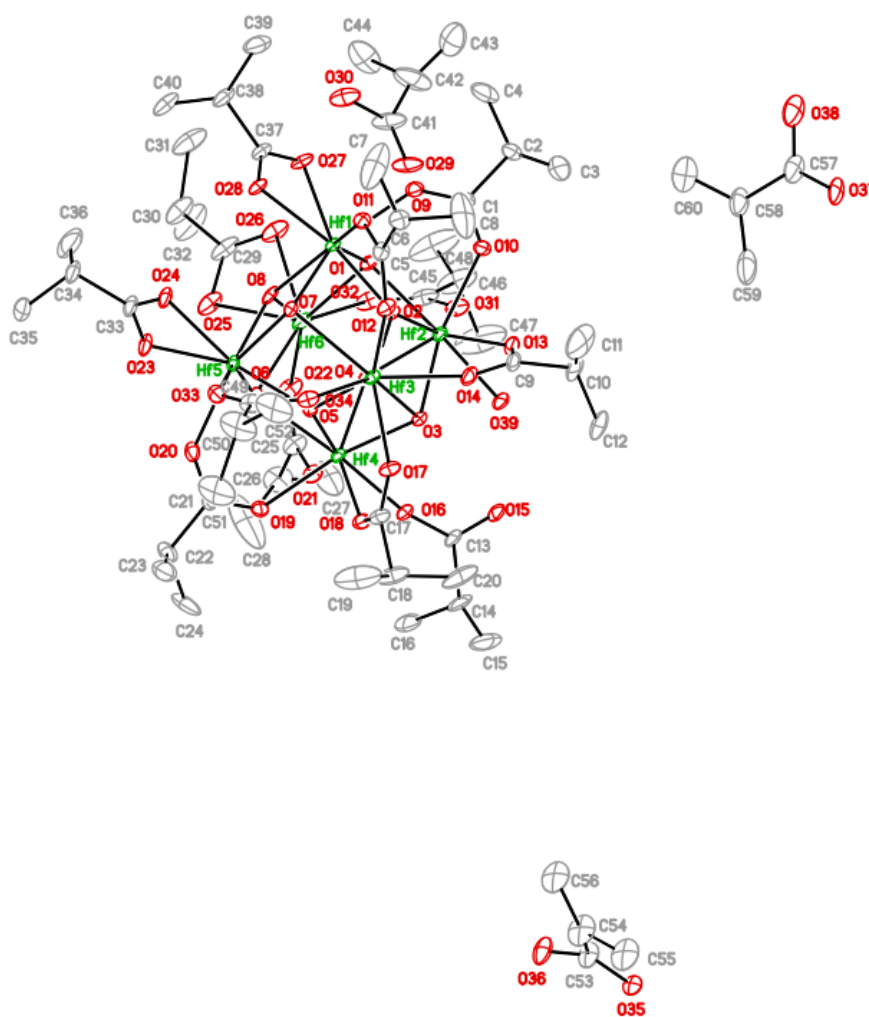
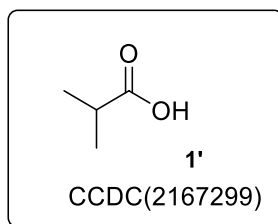


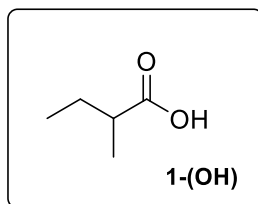
Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for mo\_200723lt\_0m\_a.

Identification code	mo_200723LT_0m_a
Empirical formula	C60 H108 Hf6 O39
Formula weight	2524.40
Temperature	100(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	Triclinic

Space group	P-1	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 13.6866(9) Å	= 90.858(2)°.
	b = 14.8851(9) Å	= 97.847(2)°.
	c = 22.7136(14) Å	= 104.937(2)°.
Volume	4423.0(5) Å <sup>3</sup>	
Z	2	
Density (calculated)	1.895 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Absorption coefficient	7.091 mm <sup>-1</sup>	
F(000)	2424	
Crystal size	0.15 x 0.15 x 0.14 mm <sup>3</sup>	
Theta range for data collection	0.906 to 26.526°.	
Index ranges	-16<=h<=17, -18<=k<=18, -28<=l<=28	
Reflections collected	153604	
Independent reflections	18291 [R(int) = 0.0520]	
Completeness to theta = 25.242°	100.0 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.7454 and 0.6769	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>	
Data / restraints / parameters	18291 / 137 / 1036	
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.090	
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0563, wR2 = 0.1338	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0978, wR2 = 0.1739	
Extinction coefficient	n/a	
Largest diff. peak and hole	4.917 and -3.842 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>	

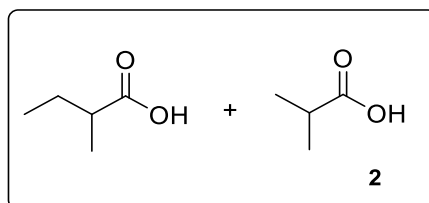
## 6. Spectral data of key compounds.

### 6.1 Spectral data for partially decarboxylated 6-Hafnium Cluster with 2-methylbutanoic acid ligand 1-(OH).



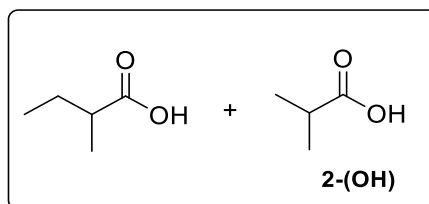
White solid (34%);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.13 (s, 10H), 1.66 ~ 1.33 (m, 20H), 1.03 (s, 30H), 0.85 (s, 30H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  182.4, 42.8, 42.2, 26.6, 16.1, 11.9; EA Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{50}\text{H}_{96}\text{O}_{30}\text{Hf}_6$ : C: 26.71%; H: 4.30%, found: C: 26.50%; H: 4.36%.

### 6.2 Spectral data for 6-Hafnium Cluster with 2-methylbutanoic acid and isobutyric acid ligand 2.



White solid (90%);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  5.22 (s, 2H), 2.40 (s, 6H), 2.22-2.12 (m, 9H), 1.65-1.40 (m, 18H), 1.05 (s, 63H), 0.87 (s, 27H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  182.4, 42.8, 35.9, 26.6, 18.9, 16.1, 11.8; HRMS (ESI+,  $m/z$ ) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{54}\text{H}_{103}\text{O}_{33}^{180}\text{Hf}_6$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 2359.32, found: 2359.27; EA Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{69}\text{H}_{132}\text{O}_{39}\text{Hf}_6$ : C: 31.19%, H: 5.01%, found: C: 30.86%, H: 4.86%.

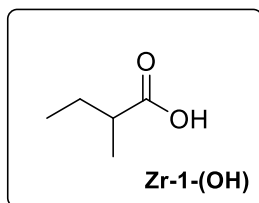
### 6.3 Spectral data for partially decarboxylated 6-Hafnium Cluster with 2-methylbutanoic acid and isobutyric acid ligand 2-(OH).



White solid (30%);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.15 (s, 4H), 2.07 (s, 6H), 1.64-1.24 (m, 12H), 1.05 (s, 42H), 0.85 (s, 18H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  182.4, 42.8, 36.0, 35.5, 26.6, 19.0, 16.2, 11.9. EA Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{46}\text{H}_{88}\text{O}_{30}\text{Hf}_6$ : C: 25.20%, H: 4.05%, found: C: 25.17%, H: 4.36%.



**6.4 Spectral data for partially decarboxylated 12-Zirconium Cluster with 2-methylbutanoic acid ligand Zr-1-OH.**



White solid;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$ 2.13(s, 18H), 1.63(s, 18H), 1.32(s, 18H), 1.02,(d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz, 54H), 0.84(s, 54H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$ 182.6, 42.6, 26.7, 16.2, 12.0.; HRMS(ESI,  $m/z$ ) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{90}\text{H}_{177}\text{O}_{58}\text{Zr}_{12}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  : 3264.95, found: 3264.92; EA Calc. for  $\text{C}_{90}\text{H}_{177}\text{O}_{58}\text{Zr}_{12}$ : C: 32.95%, H: 5.41%, found: C: 33.64%, H: 5.62%.

# 7. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of key compounds



7.240

5.091

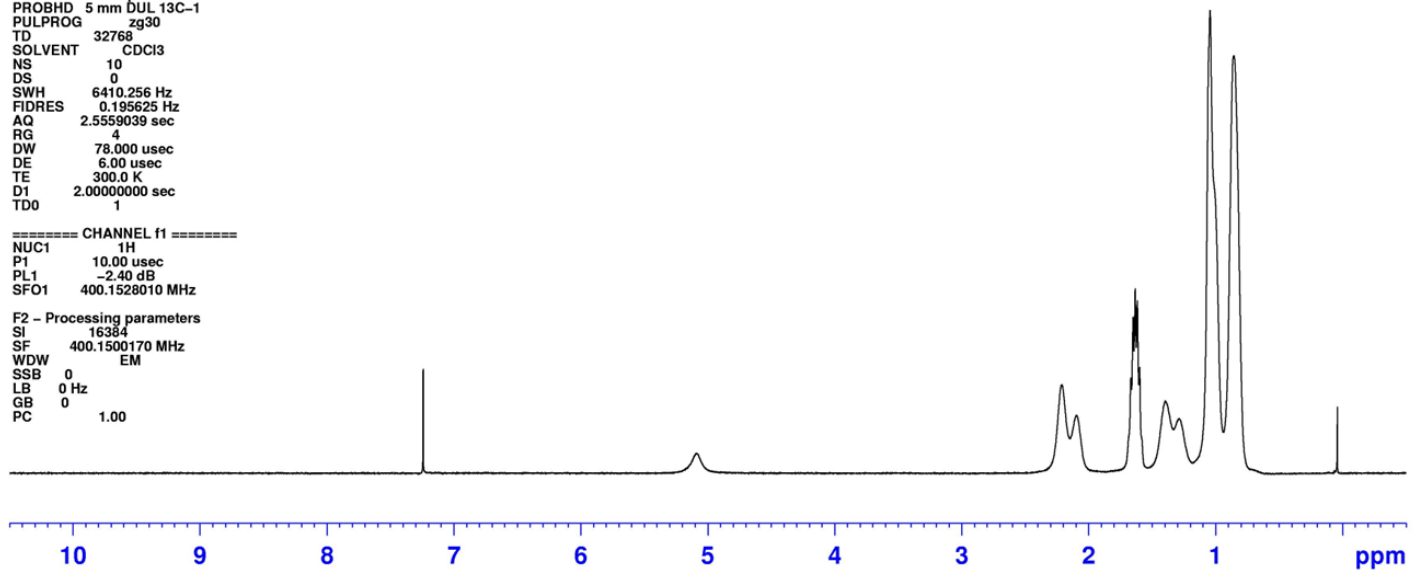
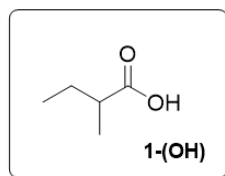
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 LB 0 Hz  
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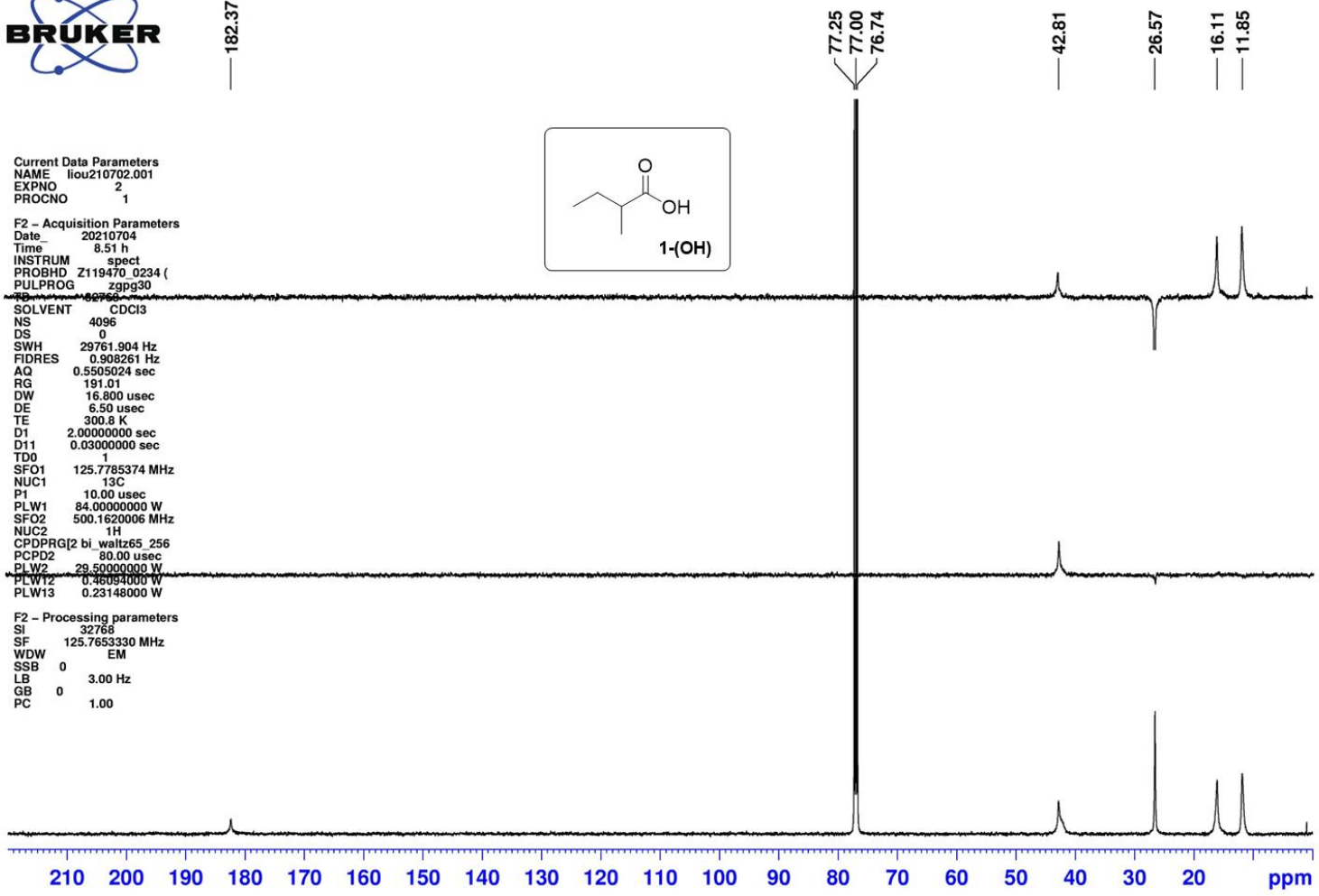
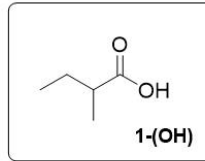
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— 7.240

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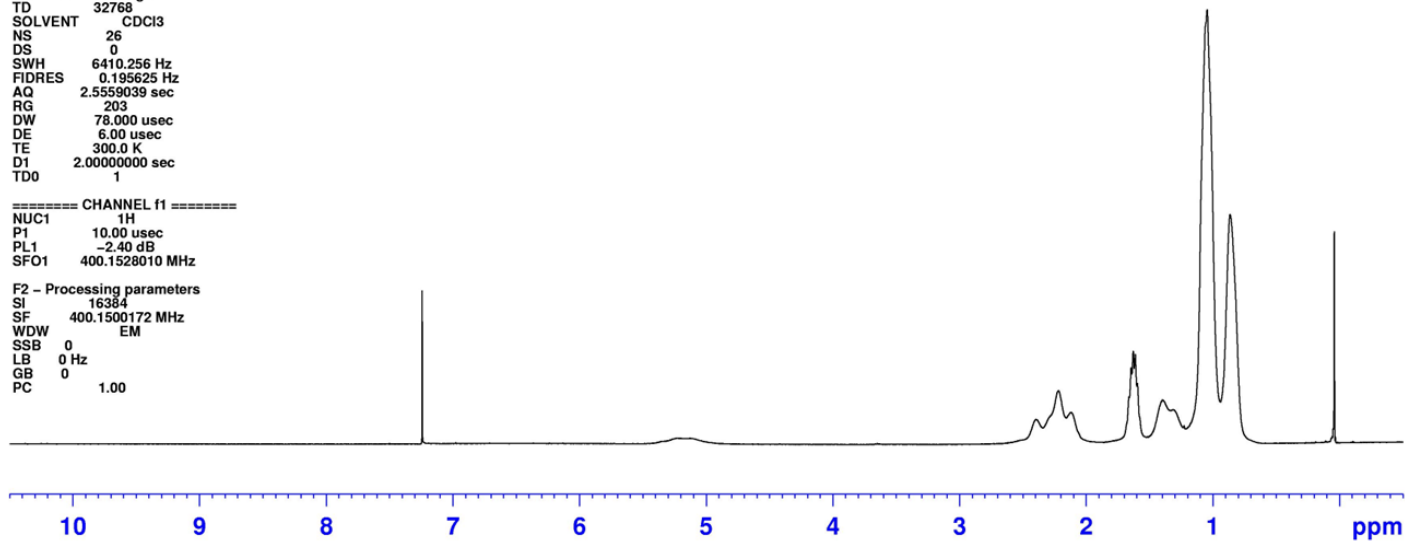
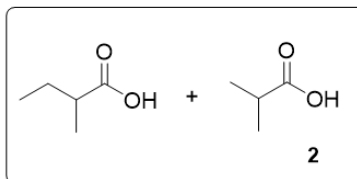
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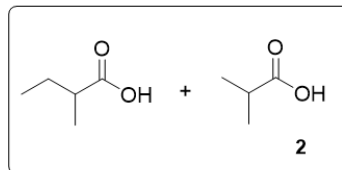


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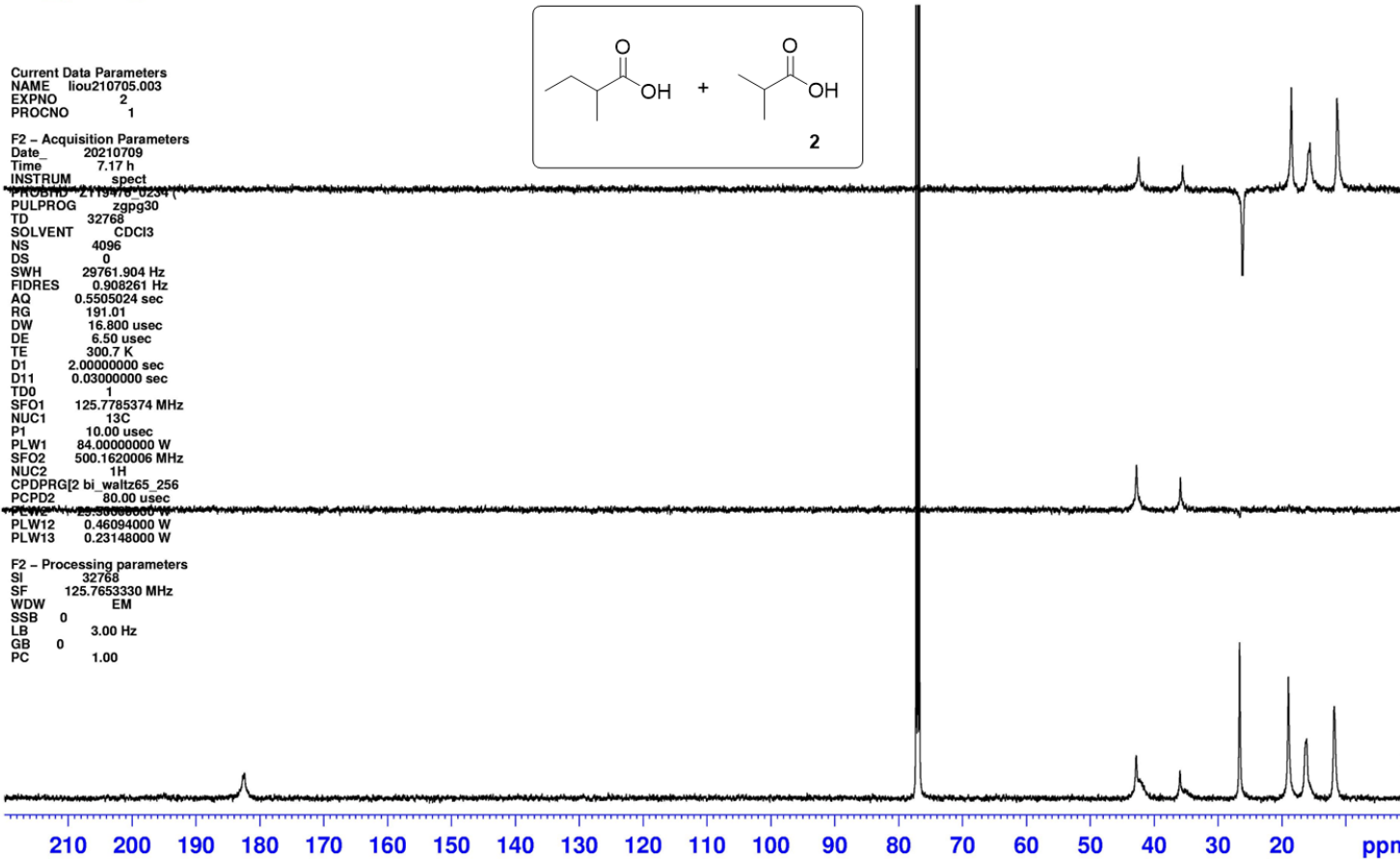
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7.240

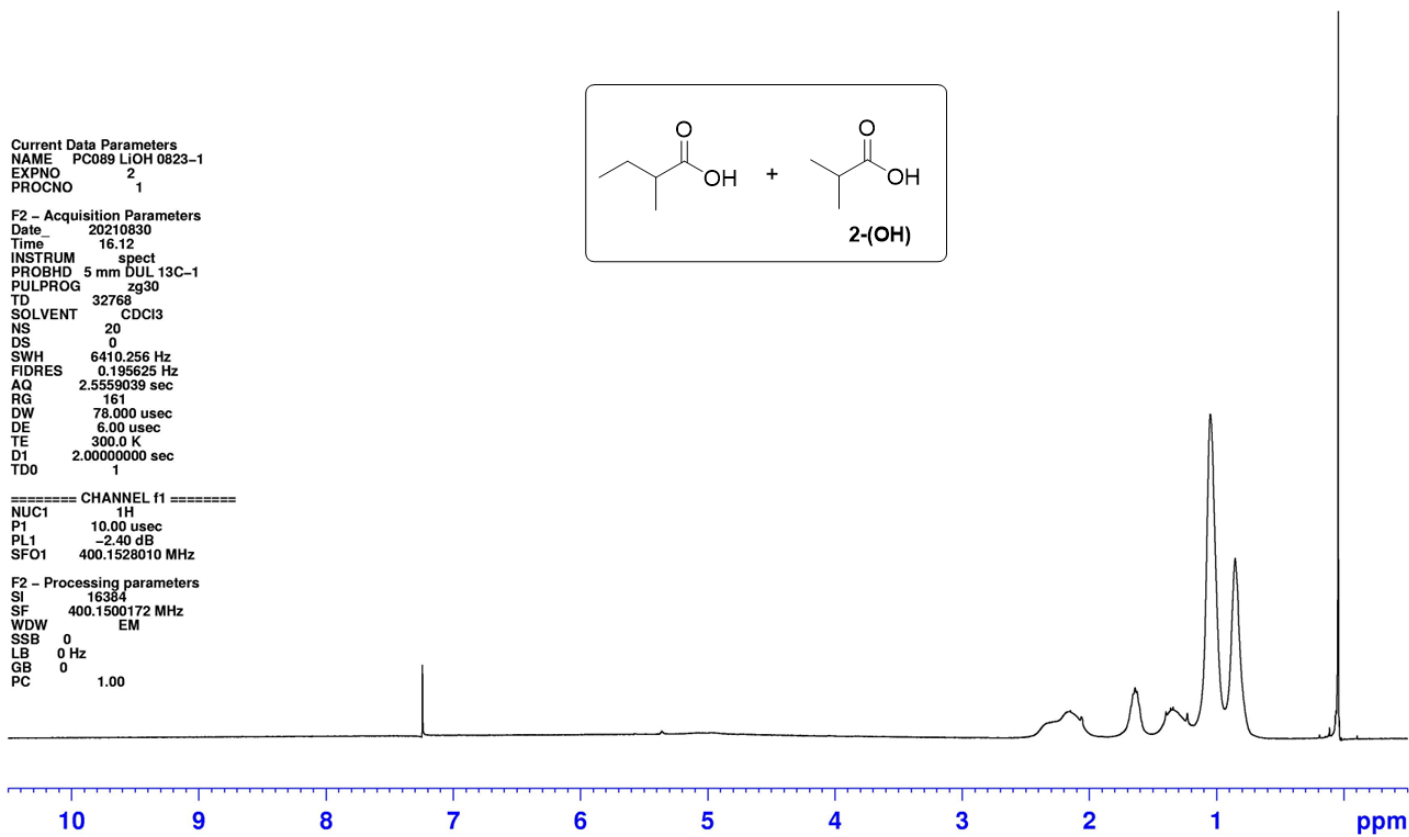
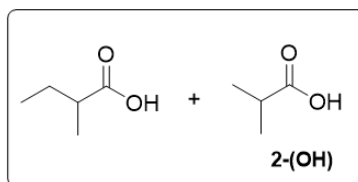
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PC 1.00



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11.87

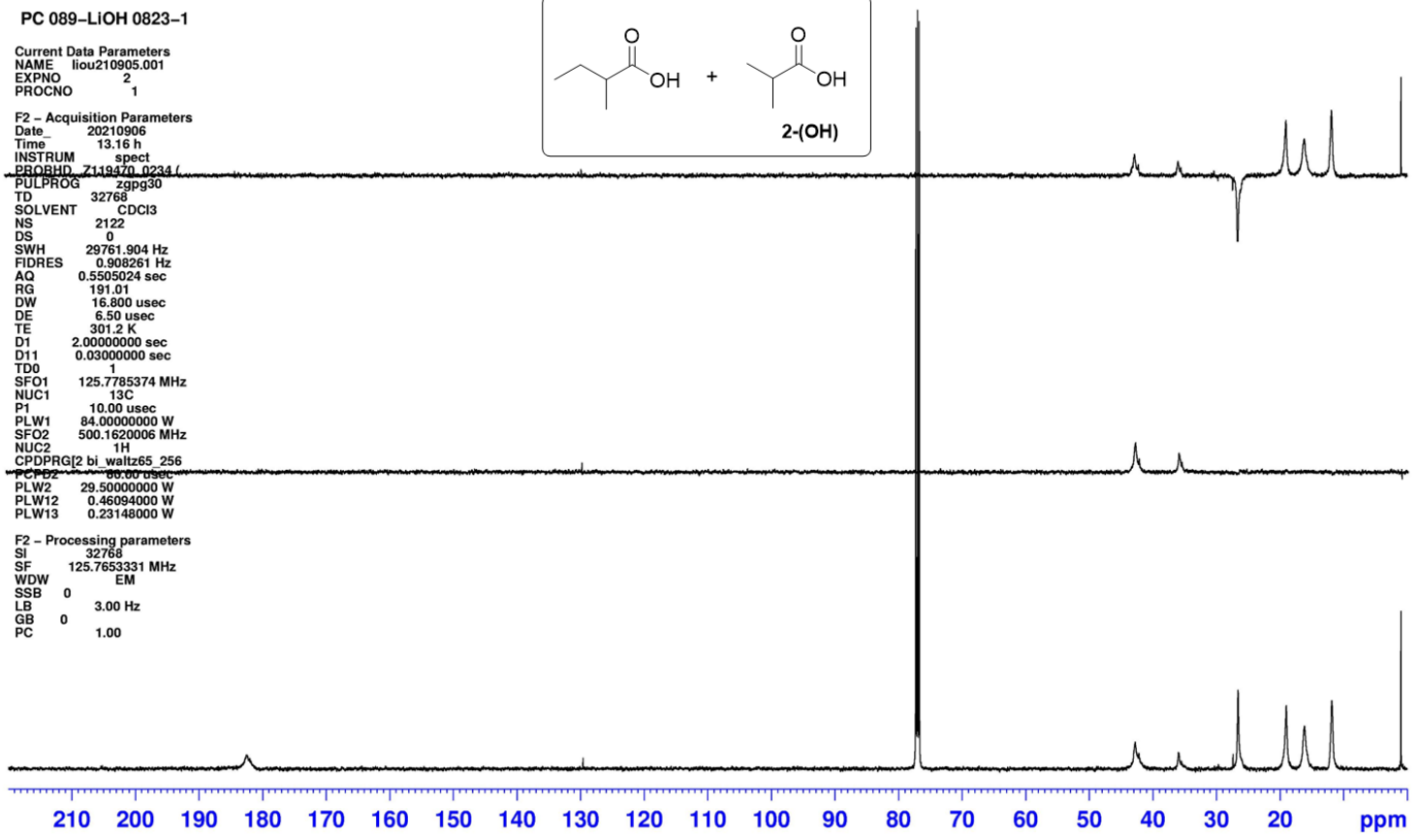
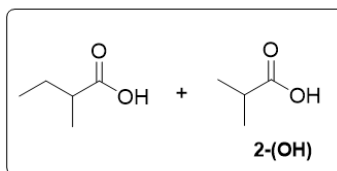
PC 089-LIOH 0823-1

Current Data Parameters  
NAME liou210905.001  
EXPNO 2  
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters

Date\_ 20210906  
Time 13.16 h  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD Z119471\_0234 /  
PULPROG zgpg30  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT CDCl3  
NS 2122  
DS 0  
SWH 29761.904 Hz  
FIDRES 0.908261 Hz  
AQ 0.5505024 sec  
RG 191.01  
DW 16.800 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 301.2 K  
D1 2.0000000 sec  
D11 0.0300000 sec  
TD0 1  
SFO1 125.7785374 MHz  
NUC1 13C  
P1 10.00 usec  
PLW1 84.0000000 W  
SFO2 500.1620006 MHz  
NUC2 1H  
CPDPRG2 bi\_waltz65\_256  
PCP02 00.00 usec  
PLW2 29.5000000 W  
PLW12 0.46094000 W  
PLW13 0.23148000 W

F2 - Processing parameters  
SF 125.7653331 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 3.00 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.00





150

Current Data Parameters  
NAME 20210125  
EXPNO 1  
PROCNO 1

F2 - Acquisition Parameters  
Date\_ 20210125  
Time 20.53  
INSTRUM spect  
PROBHD 5 mm DUL 13C-1  
PULPROG zg30  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT CDCl3  
NS 8  
DS 0  
SWH 6410.256 Hz  
FIDRES 0.195625 Hz  
AQ 2.5559039 sec  
RG 128  
DW 78.000 usec  
DE 6.000 usec  
TE 300.0 K  
D1 2.00000000 sec  
TD0 1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====  
NUC1 1H  
P1 10.00 usec  
PL1 -2.40 dB  
SFO1 400.1528010 MHz

F2 - Processing parameters  
SI 16384  
SF 400.1500172 MHz  
WDW EM  
SSB 0  
LB 0 Hz  
GB 0  
PC 1.00

