## Supporting Information

Supported Pyridylimine-Cobalt Catalyst for N-Formylation of Amines Utilizing CO2 Naved Akhtar, Manav Chauhan, Poorvi Gupta, Neha Antil, Kuntal Manna*<br>Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Hauz Khas, New Delhi 110016, India<br>*Email: kmanna@chemistry.iitd.ac.in

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11. General experiment. All the experiments were performed under inert conditions inside the glovebox, except if any case was demonstrated. All the solvents were purchased from Finar and used without further purification. Tetrahydrofuran was dried with calcium hydride followed by distillation over $\mathrm{Na} / \mathrm{benzophenone}$. and used directly as received. 2,5-dibromoaniline was purchased from Alfa Aesar, and $\mathrm{ZrCl}_{4}$ was purchased from Sigma Aldrich. ${ }^{1}$ H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker NMR 500 DRX spectrometer at 500 MHz and referenced to the proton resonance resulting from DMSO$d_{6}(\delta 2.5)$. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was performed on a PerkinElmer TGA7 system on well-ground samples in a flowing nitrogen atmosphere with a heating rate of $10^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{min}$ with a range of $40-800^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Room temperature powder X-ray diffraction data were collected on a Bruker Advance diffractometer using Ni-filtered $\mathrm{Cu} \mathrm{K} \alpha$ radiation ( $\lambda=1.5406 \AA$ ). Data were collected with a step size of $0.05^{\circ}$ and at count time of 1 s per step over the range $4^{\circ}<2 \theta<70^{\circ}$. The experimental and simulated PXRD patterns are in good agreement indicating the monophasic nature of the bulk samples. For powder X-ray diffraction measurement of MOFs, moist sample was mounted on a PXRD groove. After catalysis, pyrim-UiO-Co was recovered after centrifugation and stored in THF. Just before the PXRD measurement, the THF was removed, and the moist sample was mounted on a PXRD groove. The catalysis was carried out without any mechanical stirring, and the recovered MOF was not dried before the measurement of PXRD to prevent any mechanical degradation and pore collapse of the MOF. In the case of product analysis of the liquid phase using GC-MS, the following chromatographic conditions were employed; carrier gas: He , flow rate: $1 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{~min}^{-1}$, injection volume: $5.0 \mu \mathrm{~L}$, column oven temperature was initially $80.0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and then increased up to $230^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ with the rate of $5{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ per minute, and detector temperature was $250^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The hydrogen gas evolution was analyzed by a Centurion GC (CS5800) equipped with Porapak Q column in sequence with molecular sieves column and a Thermal conductivity detector (TCD). The chromatographic conditions are as follows; Carrier gas: Argon, Column: $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{TCD}: 200^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and Injection temperature: $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. ICP-OES data were obtained with an Agilent 5110 ICP-OES and analyzed using Dichroic Spectral Combiner (DSC). Samples were diluted in a $5 \% \mathrm{HNO}_{3}$ matrix and analyzed with a six-point standard curve over the range from 0.1 ppm to 20 ppm . The correlation coefficient was $>0.9990$ for all analytes of interest. All the reduction reactions were performed using 100 mL Parr pressure vessels (4793 (VGR)-T-SS-3000-DVD). The vessel was pressurized directly from a $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ gas tank using a gauge ( $0-3000$ psi displayed, 0-200 bar). To analyse the chemical state of transition elements XPS were recorded on an X-ray photoelectron spectrometer, PHI 5000 VersaProbe III using Al-K $\alpha(h v=1486.6 \mathrm{eV})$ X-ray source. MOF samples were vacuum
dried at room temperature, and then powder samples were measured ultra-high vacuum environment. The morphology and chemical compositions were analysed with a Ziess Fe-SEM ultra plus 55 operating at 20 KV . After vacuum drying, a very small amount of the powder samples of MOF (1-2 mg) were dispersed on the carbon tape for FE-SEM imaging.

## 2. Synthesis and characterization of pyridylimine-functionalized UiO-68 MOFs.

2.1. Synthesis of UiO-68-NH2 MOF. ${ }^{\mathbf{1}}$ First, $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ TPDC- $\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ (2'-amino-[1, $1^{\prime}: 4^{\prime}, 1^{\prime \prime}$-terphenyl]-4,4"-dicarboxylic acid) was synthesized following a modified procedure. ${ }^{2,3} \mathrm{H}_{2}$ TPDC- $\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ $(0.010 \mathrm{~g}, 0.03 \mathrm{mmol})$ and benzoic acid $(0.073 \mathrm{~g}, 0.6 \mathrm{mmol})$ were dissolved in a DMF solution $(1.22 \mathrm{ml})$ followed by the addition of $\mathrm{ZrCl}_{4}(0.007 \mathrm{~g}, 0.03 \mathrm{mmol})$. The resulting mixture was sonicated for a few minutes and then kept it in a preheated oven at $70^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 d . After cooling to room temperature, the crystalline solid was isolated by centrifugation and washed it with DMF several times to afford UiO-68- $\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ MOFs in $41 \%$ yield.

### 2.2. Post synthetic modification of synthesized UiO-68-NH2 MOF. ${ }^{4}$




In a 1.5 ml centrifuge tube inside the glovebox, synthesized UiO-68- $\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ MOF was taken in 1 ml of deoxygenate DMF followed by the addition of 2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde ( $20 \mu \mathrm{l}, 0.210$ mmol ). The resulting mixture was left overnight with periodic shaking followed by multiple washing of MOF with DMF resulted in pyrim-UiO MOF as light brown solid.
2.3. Analysis of digested pyrim-UiO MOF by ${ }^{1} \mathbf{H}$ NMR. Digestion of pyrim-UiO MOF was carried out by charging the synthesized UiO MOF into vial containing 0.5 mL of DMSO- $d_{6}$, followed by the addition of saturated solution of $\mathrm{K}_{3} \mathrm{PO}_{4}$ in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ with periodic shaking of the resulting mixture. The top organic layer of DMSO- $d_{6}$ was then separated out and analysed by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of digested pyrim-UiO MOF in Figure S1 showed the presence of about $95 \%$ pyridylimine moiety along with and $5 \% \mathrm{TPDC}-\mathrm{NH}_{2}{ }^{2-}$ and 2 pyridinecarboxaldehyde. We thus conclude that the condensation reaction between aminetagged UiO-68 MOF ( $\mathrm{UiO}-68-\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ ) with 2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde in DMF at room temperature gave the corresponding pyridylimine-functionalized UiO-68 MOF (pyrim-UiO) in $100 \%$ conversion, in which all the amino groups were converted to the corresponding pyridylimine. 5\% Pyridylimine were hydrolyzed during the digestion process in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ as revealed by the presence of TPDC- $\mathrm{NH}_{2}{ }^{2-}$ and 2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde in 1:1 ratio in the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum.


Figure S1. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum ( 500 MHz , DMSO- $d_{6}$ ) of pyrim-UiO MOF digested in $\mathrm{K}_{3} \mathrm{PO}_{4} / \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O} / \mathrm{DMSO}-d_{6}$.

## 3. Post synthetic metalation of pyrim-MOFs. ${ }^{5}$

### 3.1. Synthesis of pryim-UiO-CoCl2.



Pyrim-UiO MOF ( $0.030 \mathrm{~g}, 0.009 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in THF was charged into a vial, and then 1 mL THF solution of $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}(0.007 \mathrm{~g}, 0.054 \mathrm{mmol})$ was added to it. The mixture was stirred slowly overnight at rt . The resultant blue-green solid was centrifuged out of suspension and washed with THF 4-5 times. Pyrim-UiO-Co has $28 \%$ solvent weight based on TGA analysis and $38 \%$ Co-loading based on ICP-MS analysis.


Figure S2. TGA curve of freshly prepared (a) UiO-68-NH2 and (b) pyrim-UiO-CoCl2. A solvent weight loss of $56 \%$ was observed in (a) and $28 \%$ in (b) the room temperature from 40 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $200{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ range. (c) TGA curve of freshly prepared UiO-68- $\mathrm{NH}_{2}$ (black) and pyrim-UiO$\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ (red) from 200-650 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The increased weight of metalated MOF is due to the presence of cobalt within the MOF.


Figure S3. PXRD patterns of simulated UiO-68 MOF (black) and as-synthesized UiO-68-NH2 MOF (blue), pyrim-UiO-68 MOF (red) and pyrim-UiO-CoCl2 (green), pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) (brown) and pyrim-UiO-Co after catalysis (magenta).

### 3.2 Synthesis of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF). ${ }^{5}$




Pyrim-UiO-CoCl $2(0.015 \mathrm{~g}, 0.00378 \mathrm{mmol})$ was charged into a vial containing 3 ml of THF. $\mathrm{NaEt}_{3} \mathrm{BH}(15 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 1 \mathrm{M}$ in toluene) was added dropwise to the vial, and the mixture was stirred gently for 1 h at room temperature to give pyrim-UiO-Co as black colored solid. The resultant MOF catalyst was separated via centrifugation and then washed with THF several times. Pryim-MOF-Co(THF) was then used directly for the catalysis.

## 4. Catalytic reactions with pyrim-UiO-Co(THF).

### 4.1. General procedure for pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) catalysed $\mathbf{N}$-formylation of amines using

 phenyl silane. In the glovebox, pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) ( $0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of Co ) in 3 ml THF was transferred into 50 ml glass liner. Then phenyl silane along with amine containing substrate were added in to the liner. Then, the liner was fitted in a high pressure reactor followed air tight sealed. The sealed Parr reactor was taken out from the glovebox and purged with $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ for 2 to 3 times. The Parr reactor was pressurized to 1-20 bar $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ and kept on heating at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 to 36 h . After the reaction was completed the solid MOF was removed with the help of centrifugation from the suspension inside the glovebox followed by several washing with THF and can be reused. The remaining organic extract in the suspension were concentrated in vacuo to yield corresponding N -formylated as the pure product.
### 4.2. A Typical procedure for pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) catalysed $N$-formylation of benzylamine.



Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) ( $0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of Co) in 3 ml of THF was transferred into a 50 mL glass liner in a glovebox. To the mixture, benzylamine ( $40 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.375 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $80 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ phenylsilane were added. Then, the liner was fitted in a Parr reactor and sealed. The sealed Parr reactor was taken out from the glovebox and purged it with $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ gas two to three times. The Parr reactor was pressurized to 1.0 bar $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ and stirred at room temperature for 16 h . After the completion of the reaction, the pressure of the reactor was released. The solid MOF was removed from suspension inside the glove box, washed with THF multiple times, and reused. The combined organic extracts were concentrated in vacuo, followed by column chromatography using hexane and ethyl acetate ( $50: 1, \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}: 0.7$ ) as an eluent to yield $N$-benzylformamide as the pure product ( $0.045 \mathrm{~g}, 0.335 \mathrm{mmol}, 89 \%$ ).

Table S1. Optimization reaction conditions for the $\boldsymbol{N}$-formylation of benzylamine. ${ }^{a}$


| Entry | Catalyst | Reductant | Tempe rature ( ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Pco2 } \\ & \text { (bar) } \end{aligned}$ | Time <br> (h) | Solvent | GC-Yield (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane ( 1.5 eq ) | 25 | 20 | 20 h | THF | 58 |
| 2 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane ( 1.5 eq ) | 50 | 20 | 20 h | THF | 73 |
| 3 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane ( 1.5 eq ) | 100 | 20 | 20 h | THF | 78 |
| 4 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane ( 1.5 eq ) | 80 | 20 | 16 h | THF | 85 |
| 5 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane (2 eq) | 80 | 20 | 16 h | THF | 91 |
| 6 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane (2 eq) | 80 | 10 | 16 h | THF | 92 |
| 7 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane (2 eq) | 80 | 5 | 16 h | THF | 92 |
| 8 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane (2 eq) | 80 | 1 | 16 h | THF | 91 |
| 9 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane ( 2.3 eq ) | 80 | 1 | 16 h | THF | 89 |
| 10 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane $(2 \mathrm{eq})$ | 80 | 20 | 16 h | $\begin{gathered} 1,4- \\ \text { Dioxane } \end{gathered}$ | 86 |
| 11 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Phenylsilane (2 eq) | 80 | 20 | 16 h | Heptane | 62 |
| 12 | Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) $(0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%)$ | Phenylsilane ( 2 eq ) | 80 | 20 | 16 h | Toluene | 69 |
| 13 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) } \\ (0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} (\mathrm{MeO})_{2} \mathrm{MeSiH} \\ (2 \mathrm{eq}) \end{gathered}$ | 80 | 5 | 16 h | THF | 21 |
| 14 | No catalyst | Phenylsilane $(2 \mathrm{eq})$ | 80 | 5 | 16 h | THF | 5 |

### 4.3. Test for "heterogeneity" of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) in $N$-formylation of amines.



Figure S4. Heterogeneity test of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) for the $N$-formylation of amines.

Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) ( $0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of Co $)$ in 3 ml of THF was transferred into a 50 mL glass liner in a glovebox. To the mixture, benzylamine ( $40 \mu \mathrm{l}, 0.375 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $80 \mu \mathrm{l}$ phenylsilane were added. Then, the liner was fitted in a Parr reactor and sealed. The sealed Parr reactor was taken out from the glovebox and purged it with $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ gas two to three times. The Parr reactor was pressurized to $1 \mathrm{bar} \mathrm{CO}_{2}$ and stirred at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . After the completion of the reaction, the pressure of the reactor was released. The solid MOF was removed from suspension to separate the solid and the supernatant, inside the glove box and washed with THF multiple times. The conversion analysed by taking aliquots from the organic extract gave $89 \%$ of N benzylformamide.

Two reactions were set up separately in two different Parr reactors, one with the solid and the other one with the supernatant recovered from the previous reaction. The extracted solid and supernatant were added into two separate liners, and p-chlorobenzylamine ( $45 \mu \mathrm{l}, 0.375$ mmol ), $90 \mu \mathrm{l}$ phenylsilane, and 3 mL of THF were added to each liner. Then both the liners were fitted into two separate Parr reactors and sealed. The sealed Parr reactor was taken out from the glovebox and purged it with $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ gas two times. The Parr reactor was pressurized to 1 bar $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ and stirred at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . After the completion of the reaction, the pressure of the reactors was released. The reactions were analysed with the GC-MS, which showed that the reaction with the solid MOF gave $100 \%$ conversion with $78 \%$ yield, while the reaction with supernatant gave $0 \%$ conversion. This experiment excludes the potential of any leached Cospecies responsible for catalysis and confirms that solid pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) was the actual catalyst for the $N$-formylation of amines.
4.4. Hg test. A catalytic $N$-formylation of amine was carried out in the presence of a drop of Hg to investigate the role of any leached Co-nanoparticles in the solution responsible for catalysis. Hg is known to form an amalgam with metallic cobalt, thus removing any in-situborne metallic cobalt during catalysis. The details of the experiments are as follows:


Figure S5. Hg test in the $N$-formylation of p-methoxybenzylamine with pyrim-UiO-Co(THF).

Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) ( $0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of Co $)$ was charged into two separate 3 mL vials and washed with THF multiple times inside the glovebox. The MOF as a slurry in 3 mL THF was transferred to the two separate 50 mL glass liners. p-Methoxybenzylamine ( $51 \mu \mathrm{l}, 0.375 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), $90 \mu \mathrm{l}$ phenylsilane and 3 mL of THF was added to both the liners. In one of the reaction mixtures, a drop of mercury was added. Then, the liners were fitted in a Parr reactor and sealed. The sealed Parr reactors were taken out from the glovebox and purged it with $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ gas two times, then pressurized with 1 bar $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$. The reactors were then stirred at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . After the completion of the reaction, the pressure of the reactor was released. The solid MOF was removed from suspension inside the glove box and washed with THF multiple times. The catalytical conversion was $100 \%$ for both the reactions analysed by GC-MS. We thus conclude that any leached Co-particles were not responsible for the catalytical activity, and pyrim-UiOCo(THF) was the actual catalyst.

### 4.5. Recycling of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) for the $\boldsymbol{N}$-formylation of benzylamines.

The recycle and reuse experiment was conducted at incomplete conversion ( $\sim 50-60 \%$ ) to check the stability of the pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) catalyst at various runs (Table S2). The detailed procedure of recycling experiment is given below.


Figure S6. Recycle and reuse of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) in N-formylation of benzylamine.
Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) ( $0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of Co ) into 3 ml vial was taken inside the glovebox and wash it with THF for one to three times. The MOF as a slurry in THF was transferred to the 50 ml glass tube. To the mixture, 3 ml THF and benzylamine ( $40 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.375 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) were added, and the glass tube was sealed in a Parr reactor. The Parr reactor was taken out from the glove box and purged two times with the $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ gas. The reactor was pressurized with 1 bar $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ and heated to $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 5 h . After cooling the reactor to room temperature, the reactor was taken inside the glove box, and released the pressure. The solid was centrifuged out of the suspension and washed with the THF. The organic extract was concentrated under vacuo to give the pure formylated product. The solid MOF was then recycled.

Inside the glovebox, the recovered MOF-catalyst was again added to the glass tube. 3 ml THF and benzylamine ( $40 \mu \mathrm{~L}, 0.375 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) were added to the glass tube and sealed it in a Parr reactor. The Parr reactor was taken out from the glove box and was purged with the $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ gas and then pressurized it to 1 bar of $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$. The solution was heated at $80{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 5 h . After the reaction, the solution was analyzed in the same way as mentioned previously in run 1 . The recycling and reuse experiments were performed up to 11 times in total.

Table S2. \% GC-Yield of N-benzylformamide, the leaching of Co at various runs of the recycling of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) in the $N$-formylation of benzylamine.

| No. of Run | Time | \%GC-Yield | \%Leaching (Co, Zr) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Run-1 | 5 h | 54 | $0.07,1.34$ |
| Run-2 | 5 h | 56 |  |
| Run-3 | 5 h | 59 |  |
| Run-4 | 5 h | 51 |  |
| Run-5 | 5 h | 52 | $0.13,2.11$ |
| Run-6 | 5 h | 58 |  |
| Run-7 | 5 h | 52 |  |
| Run-8 | 5 h | 51 |  |
| Run-9 | 5 h | 53 | $0.14,2.89$ |
| Run-10 | 5 h | 57 |  |
| Run-11 | 5 h | 55 |  |

4.6. Investigation of the effect of pore sizes on the rate of catalysis. The effect of pore sizes on the rate of formylation of amine was investigated by comparing the rate of $N$-formylation reactions of amines catalyzed by pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) with that of pyrim-UiO-66-Co under identical reaction conditions. Pyrim-UiO-66-Co has the same topology but smaller pore sizes compared to pyrim-UiO-Co(THF).


Figure S7. The $N$-formylation of 4-methoxybenzylamine catalyzed by pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) with that of pyrim-UiO-66-Co under identical reaction conditions.
pyrim-UiO-66-Co was synthesized according to the reported procedure. ${ }^{5}$ Two separate 5 ml vials were charged with pre-activated pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) ( $0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of Co ) and pyrim-UiO-$66-\mathrm{Co}(0.5 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ of Co ) each and washed with THF multiple times. Each MOF slurry in 3 ml THF were transferred to two different 50 ml glass liners containing 4-methoxybenzylamine ( $51 \mu \mathrm{l}, 0.375 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $90 \mu \mathrm{l}$ of phenylsilane. The liners were fitted into the Parr reactors and sealed properly. The sealed Parr reactors were taken out from the glove box. The reactors were purged twice with the $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$, then charged with 1 bar $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ each and stirred at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . After the completion of the reaction, the pressure from the reactors was released. The solid MOF was then removed from suspension inside the glove box and the combined organic extracts were evaporated and analysed by GC-MS. The catalytical conversions for both the reactions were $100 \%$ while, the selectivity to get $N$-(4-methoxyphenyl)formamide were $96 \%$ and $41 \%$ with pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) and pyrim-UiO-66-Co respectively. This experiment indicates that the larger pore size MOF, pyrim-UiO-Co(THF), was about three times more active than pyrim-UiO-66-Co in formylation of benzyl amine presumably due to the facile diffusion of reactant and product through its larger channels.

## 5. Determination of the rate law for pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) catalysed $N$-formylation of

 benzylamine. The rate law for $N$-formylation of benzylamine was determined by the method of initial rates (up to $10 \%$ conversion). ${ }^{6}$ The reactions were conducted in THF (total volume of solution was 3.0 mL ) in a Parr reactor at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. For each kinetic experiment, a glass liner was charged with MOF-catalyst, benzylamine, phenylsilane and THF under $\mathrm{N}_{2}$. The liner was fitted in a Parr reactor and sealed properly, pressurized with $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ and heated at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 30 min . The concentration of the product was analysed by GC-FID using mesitylene as internal standard. The initial rates for the $N$-formylation of benzylamine were measured for several substrate concentrations at constant catalyst concentration. Linear regression fits for [benzylamine] versus time for the first 30 min of the reaction provided the initial rate ( $d$ [benzylamine] $/ d \mathrm{t}$ ) for a particular initial substrate concentration. To determine the rate dependence on one reagent, the concentration of that reagent was varied, while the concentration of other reagents, pressure, and the total volume of solution ( 3.0 mL ) were kept constant. The rate dependence on $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ pressure was measured, while keeping all the reagents constant and varying $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ pressure. The rates refer to the rates of consumption of benzylamine in units of $\mathrm{mM} \cdot \mathrm{min}^{-1}$. To determine the rate dependence on the catalyst, the concentration of Co was varied between $6.01 \times 10^{-4}$ to $2.4 \times 10^{-3} \mathrm{mM}$, while the initial concentrations of benzylamine were $1.83 \times 10^{-1} \mathrm{mM}$, concentration of phenylsilane was $1.6 \times 10^{-1} \mathrm{mM}$ and $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ pressure was 5 bar. To determine the rate dependence on benzylamine, initial concentration of phenylsilane was $1.6 \times 10^{-1} \mathrm{mM}$ and $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ pressure was 5 bar , while the concentration of benzylamine was varied between $9.1 \times 10^{-2}$ mM to $3.6 \times 10^{-1} \mathrm{mM}$, while the concentration of Co was $6.01 \times 10^{-4} \mathrm{mM}$. To determine the rate dependence on pressure of $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$, the concentrations of benzylamine were $1.83 \times 10^{-1} \mathrm{mM}$, concentration of phenylsilane was $1.6 \times 10^{-1} \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ pressure was varied from 5-20 bar, while the concentration of Co was $6.01 \times 10^{-4} \mathrm{mM}$. To determine the rate dependence on phenylsilane, the concentrations of phenylsilane was varied between $2.4 \times 10^{-1} \mathrm{mM}$ to $4.8 \times 10^{-1}$ mM , while initial concentration of benzylamine were $1.83 \times 10^{-1} \mathrm{mM}$, concentration of Co was $6.01 \times 10^{-4} \mathrm{mM}$, and $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ pressure was 5 bar.6. Analysis of products by GC-MS. The conversions and yields of the reactions were determined by Agilent 7890B gas chromatograph equipped with a mass detector (Agilent 5977B GC/MSD) and HP-5MS Ultra Inert $30 \mathrm{~m}-250 \mu \mathrm{~m}-0.25 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ column for GC-MS. GCMS conditions: Inj: $220^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; Det: $250^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; Column temp: $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ followed by a ramp of $5^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{min}$ to $220^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; Column flow: $1.0 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$.

Table S3. The GC-MS retention times of the arene substrates and the products.
Entry

| 11 |  | 3.4 |  | 9.42 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 12 |  | 2.98 |  | 7.49 |
| 13 |  | 3.1 |  | 6.73 |
| 14 |  | 17.56 |  | 20.05 |
| 15 |  | 15.55 |  | 22.20 |
| 16 |  | 4.91 |  | 12.07 |
| 17 |  | 7.3 |  | 16.07 |
| 18 |  | 7.37 |  | 16.62 |
| 19 |  | 3.2 |  | 7.99 |
| 20 |  | 6.51 |  | 14.90 |

7.1. X-ray absorption spectroscopic analysis. X-ray Near-Edge Structure (XANES) and Extended X-ray Absorption Fine Structure (EXAFS) measurements have been carried out at the Energy-Scanning EXAFS beamline (BL-9) at the Indus-2 Synchrotron Source at Raja Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology (RRCAT), Indore, India. ${ }^{7}$ All the measurements were performed at room temperature. This beamline operates in the energy range of 4 keV to 25 keV . The beamline optics consist of a $\mathrm{Rh} / \mathrm{Pt}$ coated collimating meridional cylindrical mirror and the collimated beam reflected by the mirror is monochromatized by a $\operatorname{Si}(111)$ based double crystal monochromator (DCM). The second crystal of the DCM is a sagittal cylindrical crystal which is used for horizontal focusing of the beam while another $\mathrm{Rh} / \mathrm{Pt}$ coated bendable post mirror facing downward is used for vertical focusing of the beam at the sample position. Two ionization chambers ( 300 mm length each) have been used for data collection in the transmission mode; one ionization chamber for measuring incident flux, the second one for measuring transmitted flux. For energy calibration, standard metal foils were used. Appropriate gas pressure and gas mixture have been chosen to achieve $10-20 \%$ absorption in the first ionization chamber and 70 $90 \%$ absorption in the second ionization chamber to obtain a better signal-to-noise ratio. Pellets were made from powder samples for recording absorption spectra. Sample powder was mixed homogeneously with cellulose powder in appropriate proportion and pressed ( 2 Ton ) into a 15 mm diameter disc. The amount of the sample was estimated such that to get a reasonable edge jump at a particular absorption edge of the element to be probed. Spectra were collected at the cobalt K-edge in transmission mode and were calibrated against the reference spectrum of metallic cobalt ( 7709 eV ). Data were processed using Demeter software. ${ }^{8}$ A metallic cobalt foil standard was used as a reference for energy calibration and was measured simultaneously with experimental samples.
7.2. XANES analysis. The oxidation state of the Co species within pyrim-UiO- $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$, pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) and pyrim-UiO-Co after catalysis was determined by the comparison of the energies of their pre-edge and K -edge positions to those of $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$. The position of the pre-edge and K -edge of pyrim-UiO-CoCl 2 aligned well with those of $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$. Therefore, we assign the oxidation state of cobalt in pyrim-UiO- $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ as +2 . However, in the case of pyrim-UiO$\mathrm{Co}(\mathrm{THF})$, the pre-edge is at 7706 eV , which is 3 eV lower than that of pyrim-UiO- $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ and $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$. We thus infer that the oxidation state of cobalt ion in pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) is zero. However, the Co K-edge of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) is 3 eV higher than that of metallic cobalt( 0 ). The higher Co K-edge energy in XANES of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) than that of metallic cobalt(0) is attributed to the electron backdonation from $\mathrm{d}_{\pi}(\mathrm{Co})$ to $\mathrm{p}_{\pi}{ }^{*}($ pyrim $)$.
7.3. EXAFS fitting using DFT optimized structures. The spectra were calibrated against the reference spectra and aligned to the first peak in the smoothed first derivative of the absorption spectrum, the background noise was removed, and the spectra were processed to obtain a normalized unit edge step. The fitting parameters of pyrim-UiO-CoCl $l_{2}$, pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) and pyrim-UiO-Co after catalytic amine formylation are summarized in Table S5, Table S7 and Table S8, respectively.


Figure S8. $\mu(\mathrm{E})$ XAS spectra of metallic $\mathrm{Co}(0)$ (black), $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ (blue), pyrim-UiO- $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ (red), pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) (green), and pyrim-UiO-Co after catalysis (magenta).


Figure S9. (a) EXAFS spectrum and fit of pyrim-UiO-CoCl 2 . (b) DFT-optimized structure of (pyrim) $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$.

Table S4. Atoms coordinates used for EXAFS fitting parameters of pyrim-UiO$\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$ (THF) ${ }_{2}$

| Atom <br> No. | Atomic <br> symbol |  | Coordinates |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\mathbf{X}$ | $\mathbf{Y}$ | $\mathbf{Z}$ |  |
| 40 | O | -4.447735 | 5.373369 | -1.680895 |  |
| 42 | O | -4.877530 | 6.507511 | 1.762643 |  |
| 24 | N | -4.909663 | 7.654624 | -0.641159 |  |
| 12 | N | -2.988274 | 5.804915 | 0.393602 |  |
| 27 | Cl | -4.760357 | 3.884170 | 0.741058 |  |
| 26 | Cl | -6.839608 | 5.744080 | -0.111420 |  |
| 13 | C | -2.415042 | 7.121739 | 0.080106 |  |
| 15 | C | -3.576187 | 8.017402 | -0.451994 |  |
| 19 | C | -5.807343 | 8.564116 | -1.200985 |  |
| 5 | C | -1.932672 | 4.921036 | 0.908734 |  |
| 29 | C | -3.422031 | 4.424689 | -2.284218 |  |
| 30 | C | -5.329810 | 5.888267 | -2.809274 |  |
| 43 | C | -5.911598 | 7.471113 | 1.982044 |  |
| 41 | C | -4.268926 | 6.133321 | 3.001813 |  |

Table S5. Summary of EXAFS fitting parameters of pyrim-UiO-CoCl2(THF)2.

| Sample | Pyrim- $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}(\mathbf{T H F})_{2}$ | Fitting range | $\begin{array}{r} k \text { 3-13 } \AA^{-1} \\ \text { R 1.0-3.5 } \AA \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Independent points | 13 | R-factor | 0.004 |
| Variables | 11 | $\mathbf{S o}^{2}$ | 0.7 |
| Reduced chi-square | 40 | $\Delta \mathrm{E}_{0}(\mathrm{eV})$ | 7.8 |
| R(Co-O40) | $2.20 \pm 0.08$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{2}(\mathbf{C o - O 4 0})\left(\AA^{\mathbf{2}}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| R(Co-O42) | $2.20 \pm 0.08$ | $\sigma^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - O 4 2 )}\left(\AA^{\mathbf{2}}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| R(Co-N24) | $2.05 \pm 0.08$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{N} 24)\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| R(Co-N12) | $2.05 \pm 0.08$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o - N 1 2})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{Cl27})$ | $2.30 \pm 0.08$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - C l 2 7 )}\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| R(Co-Cl26) | $2.30 \pm 0.08$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{Cl26})\left({ }^{\text {® }}\right.$ ) | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| R(Co-C13) | $2.80 \pm 0.08$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - C 1 3 )}\left(\AA^{\text {® }}\right.$ ) | $0.01 \pm 0.001$ |
| R(Co-C15) | $2.80 \pm 0.08$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - C 1 5 )}\left(\AA^{\mathbf{~}}\right.$ ) | $0.01 \pm 0.001$ |
| R(Co-C19) | $3.03 \pm 0.02$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o - C 1 9})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.0009 \pm 0.0001$ |
| R(Co-C5) | $3.03 \pm 0.02$ | $\left.\sigma^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - C 5}\right)\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.0009 \pm 0.0001$ |


| $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathbf{C 2 9})$ | $3.30 \pm 0.09$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( \mathbf { C o } - \mathbf { C 2 9 } )}\left(\AA^{\mathbf{2}}\right)$ | $0.006 \pm 0.002$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathbf{C 3 0})$ | $3.30 \pm 0.09$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( \mathbf { C o } - \mathbf { C 3 0 } )}\left(\AA^{\mathbf{A}}\right)$ | $0.006 \pm 0.002$ |
| $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathbf{C 4 3})$ | $3.50 \pm 0.1$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( \mathbf { C o } - \mathbf { C 4 3 } )}\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.0009 \pm 0.0001$ |
| $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathbf{C 4 1})$ | $3.50 \pm 0.1$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( \mathbf { C o } - \mathbf { C 4 1 } )}\left(\AA^{\mathbf{A}}\right)$ | $0.0009 \pm 0.0001$ |



Figure S10. (a) EXAFS spectrum and fit of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF). (b) DFT-optimized structure of pyrim-Co(THF) for EXAFS fitting.

Table S6. Atoms coordinates used for EXAFS fitting parameters of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF).

| Atom <br> No. | Atomic <br> symbol | Coordinates |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\mathbf{X}$ | $\mathbf{Y}$ | $\mathbf{Z}$ |
| 3 | N | -14.374835 | -5.415588 | -14.024619 |
| 9 | N | -13.605732 | -3.382893 | -12.633045 |
| 38 | O | -14.189606 | -1.850014 | -15.451178 |
| 18 | H | -14.963245 | -4.928159 | -16.493752 |
| 1 | C | -14.055855 | -5.688267 | -12.732106 |
| 2 | C | -13.630021 | -4.603214 | -11.958672 |
| 26 | C | -15.317565 | -0.924717 | -15.486769 |
| 27 | C | -13.009946 | -1.249122 | -16.068291 |
| 5 | C | -13.202945 | -2.283393 | -11.968703 |
| 15 | C | -15.101275 | -5.974445 | -16.235262 |
| 33 | H | -12.167193 | -1.401441 | -15.394939 |
| 30 | H | -16.198516 | -1.491432 | -15.785424 |
| 14 | C | -14.813048 | -6.382911 | -14.910811 |

Table S7. Summary of EXAFS fitting parameters of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF).

| Sample | Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) | Fitting range | $\begin{aligned} & k \text { 3-13 } \AA^{-1} \\ & \text { R 1.1-3.5 } \AA \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Independent points | 13 | R-factor | 0.009 |
| Variables | 8 | $\mathbf{S o}^{2}$ | 1.1 |
| Reduced chi-square | 140 | $\Delta \mathrm{E}_{0}(\mathrm{eV})$ | 2.43 |
| R(Co-N3) | $1.92 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{N} 3)\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| R(Co-N9) | $1.92 \pm 0.1$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - N 9 )}\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| $\mathbf{R ( C o - O 3 8 )}$ | $1.96 \pm 0.09$ | $\mathbf{\sigma}^{2}(\mathbf{C o - O 3 8})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| R(Co-H18) | $2.57 \pm 0.09$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{H18})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.0004 \pm 0.0002$ |
| R(Co-C1) | $2.76 \pm 0.1$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - C 1 )}\left(\ddot{\mathbf{A}}^{2}\right)$ | $0.002 \pm 0.001$ |
| R(Co-C2) | $2.76 \pm 0.1$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - C 2 )}\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.002 \pm 0.001$ |
| R(Co-C26) | $2.93 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o C 2 6})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.002 \pm 0.001$ |
| R(Co-C27) | $2.93 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o - C 2 7})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.002 \pm 0.001$ |
| R(Co-C5) | $3.04 \pm 0.09$ | $\left.\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - C 5}\right)\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.0004 \pm 0.0002$ |
| R(Co-C15) | $3.04 \pm 0.09$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o C l 1 5})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.0004 \pm 0.0002$ |
| R(Co-H33) | $3.08 \pm 0.09$ | $\mathbf{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - H 3 3 )}\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| R(Co-H30) | $3.08 \pm 0.09$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{H} 30)\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |
| R(Co-C14) | $3.13 \pm 0.09$ | $\sigma^{2}\left(\mathbf{C o C l 1 4 )}\left(\AA^{2}\right)\right.$ | $0.003 \pm 0.002$ |



Figure S11. (a) EXAFS spectrum and fit of pyrim-UiO-Co recovered after hydroformylation of benzyl amine with $\mathrm{PhSiH}_{3}$. (b) DFT-optimized structure of pyrim-Co(THF) for EXAFS fitting.

Table S8. Summary of EXAFS fitting parameters of pyrim-UiO-Co recovered after hydroformylation of benzyl amine with $\mathrm{PhSiH}_{3}$.

| Sample | Pyrim-UiO-Co after catalysis | Fitting range | $\begin{array}{r} k \text { 3-13 } \AA^{-1} \\ \text { R 1.1-3.5 } \AA \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Independent points | 13 | R-factor | 0.004 |
| Variables | 8 | $\mathbf{S o}^{2}$ | 1.2 |
| Reduced chi-square | 120 | $\Delta \mathrm{E}_{0}(\mathrm{eV})$ | 1.95 |
| R(Co-N3) | $1.92 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{N} 3)\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| $\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{N} 9)$ | $1.92 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{N} 9)\left({ }^{\text {a }}\right.$ ) | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| $\mathbf{R ( C o - O 3 8 )}$ | $1.96 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - O 3 8 )}\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| R(Co-H18) | $2.57 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{H18})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| R(Co-C1) | $2.76 \pm 0.1$ | $\mathbf{\sigma}^{2}(\mathbf{C o C l})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| R(Co-C2) | $2.76 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o C 2})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| R(Co-C26) | $2.93 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}\left(\mathbf{C o - C 2 6 )}\left(\AA^{2}\right)\right.$ | $0.005 \pm 0.003$ |
| $\mathbf{R ( C o - C 2 7 )}$ | $2.93 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o - C 2 7})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.005 \pm 0.003$ |
| R(Co-C5) | $3.04 \pm 0.1$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{2}(\mathbf{C o C 5})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| R(Co-C15) | $3.04 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o - C 1 5})\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| R(Co-H33) | $3.08 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{H} 33)\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| R(Co-H30) | $3.08 \pm 0.1$ | $\sigma^{2}(\mathbf{C o}-\mathrm{H} 30)\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |
| R(Co-C14) | $3.13 \pm 0.1$ | $\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{( C o - C 1 4 )}\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ | $0.004 \pm 0.003$ |

8. DFT calculations. All quantum chemical calculations were conducted using DFT as implemented in the Gaussian 09 software suite of ab initio quantum chemistry programs with B3LYP level of theory. Electronic structure complexes were optimized at the unrestricted level using $6-311 \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{d}, \mathrm{p})$ basis set. ${ }^{9-13}$ All energy calculations were performed in solvated state. We used the Polarizable Continuum Model (PCM) using the integral equation formalism variant (IEFPCM) as the default self-consistent reaction field (SCRF) ${ }^{14,15}$ approach based on accurate numerical solutions of the Poisson-Boltzmann equation by using tetrahydrofuran (THF) as a solvent in this DFT calculation at 353.15 K temperature. The Gibbs free energies in solution phase G (sol) at reaction temperature were computed with the following equation (A). $\Delta \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{sol})=\Sigma \mathrm{G}($ sol $)$ for products $-\Sigma \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{sol})$ for reactants $\qquad$


Figure S12. DFT-optimized structure of (pyrim) $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$.


Figure S13. DFT-optimized structure of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) (INT-1).


TS-1


INT-2 [pyrim-UiO- $\mathrm{Co}(\mathbf{H})\left(\mathrm{SiH}_{2} \mathrm{Ph}\right)(\mathrm{THF})$ ]


TS-2


INT-3


INT-4


INT-5
pyrim-UiO-Co(OCOMe)(SiH2Ph)

Figure S14. DFT-optimized structures of intermediates and transition states of the catalytic cycle in pyrim-UiO-Co catalysed N -formylation of benzyl amine using $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ and $\mathrm{PhSiH}_{3}$.

### 8.1. Cartesian Coordinates of Optimized Structures

Cartesian coordinates of (pyrim) $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}(\mathbf{T H F})_{2}$

| Atom No. Atoms |  | Coordinates (Angstroms) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | C | -1.237099 | 2.771335 | 1.764832 |
| 2 | C | 0.070429 | 3.242726 | 1.885803 |
| 3 | C | 0.376197 | 4.553175 | 1.519128 |
| 4 | C | -0.625575 | 5.392530 | 1.030095 |
| 5 | C | -1.932672 | 4.921036 | 0.908734 |
| 6 | C | -2.238564 | 3.610466 | 1.276492 |
| 7 | H | -1.478050 | 1.738263 | 2.054397 |
| 8 | H | 0.859584 | 2.581161 | 2.271558 |
| 9 | H | 1.406656 | 4.924996 | 1.615041 |
| 10 | H | -0.384237 | 6.425715 | 0.740993 |
| 11 | H | -3.269117 | 3.239044 | 1.180916 |
| 12 | N | -2.988274 | 5.804915 | 0.393602 |


| -2.415042 | 7.121739 | 0.080106 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -1.372874 | 7.303501 | 0.240564 |
| -3.576187 | 8.017402 | -0.451994 |
| -3.140194 | 9.289888 | -0.822344 |
| -4.037694 | 10.199560 | -1.381103 |
| -2.089017 | 9.575855 | -0.672369 |
| -5.807343 | 8.564116 | -1.200985 |
| -5.371632 | 9.836478 | -1.570833 |
| -3.694254 | 11.202783 | -1.672462 |
| -6.858578 | 8.277661 | -1.350394 |
| -6.079083 | 10.553870 | -2.011467 |
| -4.909663 | 7.654624 | -0.641159 |
| -4.702576 | 5.918370 | 0.047379 |
| -6.839608 | 5.744080 | -0.111420 |
| -4.760357 | 3.884170 | 0.741058 |
| -3.753559 | 4.252472 | -3.759508 |
| -3.422031 | 4.424689 | -2.284218 |
| -5.329810 | 5.888267 | -2.809274 |
| -4.919922 | 5.173359 | -4.088918 |
| -2.865433 | 4.502184 | -4.392573 |
| -4.023388 | 3.188404 | -3.977088 |
| -2.389793 | 4.840292 | -2.163804 |


| 35 | H | -3.442493 | 3.437401 | -1.758586 |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 36 | H | -6.408551 | 5.698075 | -2.581460 |
| 37 | H | -5.208030 | 6.994643 | -2.925437 |
| 38 | H | -5.777942 | 4.584520 | -4.500336 |
| 39 | H | -4.624138 | 5.914817 | -4.872996 |
| 40 | O | -4.447735 | 5.373369 | -1.680895 |
| 41 | C | -4.268926 | 6.133321 | 3.001813 |
| 42 | O | -4.877530 | 6.507511 | 1.762643 |
| 43 | C | -5.911598 | 7.471113 | 1.982044 |
| 44 | C | -6.005289 | 7.766170 | 3.475252 |
| 45 | C | -4.941533 | 6.899848 | 4.135629 |
| 46 | H | -4.398168 | 5.025315 | 3.104885 |
| 47 | H | -3.178997 | 6.377039 | 2.914280 |
| 48 | H | -5.638678 | 8.380541 | 1.387520 |
| 49 | H | -6.858153 | 7.028480 | 1.578172 |
| 50 | H | -5.821674 | 8.850086 | 3.676150 |
| 51 | H | -7.023222 | 7.517902 | 3.863997 |
| 52 | H | -4.197147 | 7.527071 | 4.684654 |
| 53 | H | -5.398694 | 6.194886 | 4.872503 |
| --------------------------------------------------- |  |  |  |  |

## Cartesian coordinates of pyrim-Co(THF)

| Atom No. Atoms |  | Coordinates (Angstroms) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | C | -14.055855 | -5.688267 | -12.732106 |
| 2 | C | -13.630021 | -4.603214 | -11.958672 |
| 3 | N | -14.374835 | -5.415588 | -14.024619 |
| 4 | Co | -14.185806 | -3.552886 | -14.462666 |
| 5 | C | -13.202945 | -2.283393 | -11.968703 |
| 6 | C | -13.234667 | -4.660797 | -10.591816 |
| 7 | C | -12.806513 | -2.287849 | -10.645440 |
| 8 | C | -12.827835 | -3.521137 | -9.944848 |
| 9 | N | -13.605732 | -3.382893 | -12.633045 |
| 10 | H | -13.207626 | -1.361833 | -12.543424 |
| 11 | H | -12.492248 | -1.370001 | -10.165694 |
| 12 | H | -12.524565 | -3.561529 | -8.904373 |
| 13 | H | -13.260806 | -5.615861 | -10.078474 |
| 14 | C | -14.813048 | -6.382911 | -14.910811 |
| 15 | C | -15.101275 | -5.974445 | -16.235262 |
| 16 | C | -15.001559 | -7.752423 | -14.603391 |
| 17 | C | -15.547101 | -6.871471 | -17.193319 |
| 18 | H | -14.963245 | -4.928159 | -16.493752 |
| 19 | C | -15.450019 | -8.643654 | -15.572511 |
| 20 | H | -14.800637 | -8.121961 | -13.606010 |
| 21 | C | -15.728088 | -8.221409 | -16.873934 |
| 22 | H | -15.755868 | -6.517296 | -18.197517 |
| 23 | H | -15.584915 | -9.686975 | -15.305031 |
| 24 | H | -16.077034 | -8.924734 | -17.620844 |
| 25 | H | -14.112324 | -6.683830 | -12.308519 |
| 26 | C | -15.317565 | -0.924717 | -15.486769 |
| 27 | C | -13.009946 | -1.249122 | -16.068291 |
| 28 | C | -14.902184 | 0.156981 | -16.476493 |
| 29 | H | -15.464997 | -0.530991 | -14.477860 |
| 30 | H | -16.198516 | -1.491432 | -15.785424 |
| 31 | C | -13.378387 | 0.215478 | -16.284784 |
| 32 | H | -12.822783 | -1.774594 | -17.007551 |
| 33 | H | -12.167193 | -1.401441 | -15.394939 |
| 34 | H | -15.149105 | -0.144313 | -17.497717 |
| 35 | H | -15.393550 | 1.108487 | -16.270624 |
| 36 | H | -12.857691 | 0.643992 | -17.141736 |
| 37 | H | -13.128477 | 0.807057 | -15.400322 |
| 38 | O | -14.189606 | -1.850014 | -15.451178 |

## Cartesian coordinates of TS-1

| Atom No. | Atoms | Coordinates (Angstroms) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | C | -2.483847 | 1.867848 | 0.973635 |


| 2 | C | -1.332513 | 1.453769 | 0.300282 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | C | -0.602662 | 2.391100 | -0.431090 |
| 4 | C | -1.005761 | 3.721567 | -0.492096 |
| 5 | C | -2.159712 | 4.152961 | 0.192983 |
| 6 | C | -2.891428 | 3.194402 | 0.922117 |
| 7 | H | -3.064114 | 1.154085 | 1.548149 |
| 8 | H | -1.013739 | 0.418886 | 0.340890 |
| 9 | H | 0.285689 | 2.082187 | -0.971722 |
| 10 | H | -0.442548 | 4.421051 | -1.097448 |
| 11 | H | -3.770860 | 3.512565 | 1.472679 |
| 12 | N | -2.625897 | 5.469827 | 0.177393 |
| 13 | C | -1.816284 | 6.504680 | -0.117787 |
| 14 | H | -0.743660 | 6.383914 | -0.223551 |
| 15 | C | -2.404388 | 7.783748 | -0.205540 |
| 16 | C | -1.694195 | 8.994588 | -0.396055 |
| 17 | C | -2.374161 | 10.190006 | -0.416631 |
| 18 | H | -0.617562 | 8.959864 | -0.515026 |
| 19 | C | -4.422771 | 8.986158 | -0.068778 |
| 20 | C | -3.776226 | 10.195468 | -0.242368 |
| 21 | H | -1.838562 | 11.121281 | -0.559872 |
| 22 | H | -5.497719 | 8.940295 | 0.063459 |
| 23 | H | -4.343267 | 11.116743 | -0.248578 |
| 24 | N | -3.782455 | 7.803967 | -0.057482 |
| 25 | Co | -4.494145 | 6.026824 | 0.287499 |
| 26 | H | -5.864220 | 5.612152 | 0.655450 |
| 27 | Si | -5.611753 | 5.732368 | -1.086995 |
| 28 | H | -4.815624 | 4.729167 | -1.876400 |
| 29 | H | -5.545679 | 7.010234 | $-1.849675$ |
| 30 | C | -7.374957 | 5.060269 | -1.109080 |
| 31 | C | -7.628694 | 3.745414 | -1.530438 |
| 32 | C | -8.471584 | 5.846658 | -0.717095 |
| 33 | C | -8.926087 | 3.233528 | $-1.561157$ |
| 34 | H | -6.802994 | 3.112891 | -1.840784 |
| 35 | C | -9.769618 | 5.342488 | -0.749829 |
| 36 | H | -8.313528 | 6.867997 | -0.382619 |
| 37 | C | -9.999298 | 4.032377 | -1.172033 |
| 38 | H | -9.098010 | 2.214475 | -1.890267 |
| 39 | H | -10.601845 | 5.968988 | -0.447602 |
| 40 | H | -11.009209 | 3.638164 | -1.197180 |
| 41 | C | -4.254096 | 4.858370 | 2.854995 |
| 42 | O | -4.644979 | 6.040868 | 2.151525 |
| 43 | C | -5.051114 | 7.059907 | 3.069444 |
| 44 | C | -4.924406 | 6.524767 | 4.491793 |
| 45 | C | -4.408277 | 5.099104 | 4.352920 |
| 46 | H | -4.914172 | 4.030436 | 2.489169 |
| 47 | H | -3.192362 | 4.646155 | 2.567439 |
| 48 | H | -4.385612 | 7.942802 | 2.888872 |
| 49 | H | -6.107851 | 7.326930 | 2.810582 |
| 50 | H | -4.216892 | 7.151407 | 5.088193 |
| 51 | H | -5.913813 | 6.544589 | 5.011052 |
| 52 | H | -3.428678 | 4.974188 | 4.876113 |
| 53 | H | -5.125598 | 4.367369 | 4.798973 |

## Cartesian coordinates of INT-2

| Atom No. | Atoms | Coordinates (Angstroms) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | C | -2.281924 | 1.345968 | 0.833099 |
| 2 | C | -0.886764 | 1.345968 | 0.833099 |
| 3 | C | -0.189226 | 2.553719 | 0.833099 |
| 4 | C | -0.886880 | 3.762228 | 0.831900 |
| 5 | C | -2.281705 | 3.762150 | 0.831421 |
| 6 | C | -2.979306 | 2.553944 | 0.832417 |
| 7 | H | -2.831683 | 0.393651 | 0.833549 |
| 8 | H | -0.337256 | 0.393455 | 0.834414 |
| 9 | H | 0.910454 | 2.553799 | 0.833733 |
| 10 | H | -0.336680 | 4.714371 | 0.831841 |
| 11 | H | -4.078910 | 2.554127 | 0.832237 |
| 12 | N | -3.017028 | 5.035021 | 0.830147 |
| 13 | C | -2.062061 | 6.152579 | 0.829029 |
| 14 | H | -1.010027 | 5.957326 | 0.829224 |
| 15 | C | -2.893787 | 7.472344 | 0.836321 |
| 16 | C | -2.087348 | 8.610094 | 0.795653 |


| 17 | C | -2.669568 | 9.875798 | 0.730561 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 18 | H | -0.992573 | 8.508684 | 0.816249 |
| 19 | C | -4.865021 | 8.866565 | 0.745094 |
| 20 | C | -4.058846 | 10.004108 | 0.704912 |
| 21 | H | -2.033998 | 10.772659 | 0.699137 |
| 22 | H | -5.959967 | 8.967357 | 0.724886 |
| 23 | H | -4.517677 | 11.002171 | 0.653528 |
| 24 | N | -4.282480 | 7.600593 | 0.811200 |
| 25 | Co | -4.615337 | 5.752330 | 0.879604 |
| 26 | Si | -5.278854 | 5.598162 | -1.370596 |
| 27 | H | -4.177799 | 4.811187 | -1.944397 |
| 28 | H | -5.197744 | 6.982523 | -1.858311 |
| 29 | C | -6.974942 | 4.822639 | -1.904871 |
| 30 | C | -7.024557 | 3.509857 | -2.374567 |
| 31 | C | -8.144803 | 5.577396 | -1.819347 |
| 32 | C | -8.243703 | 2.952265 | -2.759267 |
| 33 | H | -6.101972 | 2.915340 | -2.442598 |
| 34 | C | -9.364545 | 5.019454 | -2.203194 |
| 35 | H | -8.105905 | 6.612029 | -1.449007 |
| 36 | C | -9.414157 | 3.707152 | -2.673235 |
| 37 | H | -8.282798 | 1.917731 | -3.130088 |
| 38 | H | -10.286827 | 5.614650 | -2.135266 |
| 39 | H | -10.375302 | 3.267277 | -2.976559 |
| 40 | H | -5.899533 | 5.062766 | 0.957119 |
| 41 | C | -4.638930 | 4.674342 | 3.643914 |
| 42 | O | -4.864961 | 5.692229 | 2.664742 |
| 43 | C | -5.436203 | 6.854663 | 3.271694 |
| 44 | C | -5.606593 | 6.600636 | 4.765663 |
| 45 | C | -5.090297 | 5.188712 | 5.006703 |
| 46 | H | -5.221213 | 3.774905 | 3.316862 |
| 47 | H | -3.543606 | 4.440332 | 3.621341 |
| 48 | H | -4.737307 | 7.705274 | 3.064312 |
| 49 | H | -6.415332 | 7.039681 | 2.759757 |
| 50 | H | -5.026975 | 7.347164 | 5.362058 |
| 51 | H | -6.680332 | 6.691357 | 5.061979 |
| 52 | H | -4.238508 | 5.190927 | 5.730166 |
| 53 | H | -5.891864 | 4.535118 | 5.430088 |
| ---------------------------------------------- |  |  |  |  |

## Cartesian coordinates of TS-2

| Atom No. | Atoms | Coordinates (Angstroms) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | C | -14.662671 | -11.506135 | -10.067179 |
| 2 | C | -14.095789 | -10.648439 | -9.039356 |
| 3 | N | -14.997425 | -10.975881 | -11.191271 |
| 4 | Co | -14.555447 | -8.845570 | -11.134577 |
| 5 | C | -13.358676 | -8.516018 | -8.499569 |
| 6 | C | -13.746832 | -11.123176 | -7.774615 |
| 7 | C | -13.004485 | -8.919150 | -7.219112 |
| 8 | C | -13.199815 | -10.247584 | -6.846292 |
| 9 | N | -13.900409 | -9.350965 | -9.402469 |
| 10 | H | -13.196121 | -7.497330 | -8.827946 |
| 11 | H | -12.572782 | -8.200345 | -6.535064 |
| 12 | H | -12.925228 | -10.592218 | -5.857299 |
| 13 | H | -13.911119 | -12.166023 | -7.533386 |
| 14 | C | -15.567114 | -11.771912 | -12.213331 |
| 15 | C | -15.294662 | -11.425894 | -13.542828 |
| 16 | C | -16.409665 | -12.860978 | -11.940447 |
| 17 | C | -15.819379 | -12.189309 | -14.580518 |
| 18 | H | -14.685016 | -10.555992 | -13.741245 |
| 19 | C | -16.940852 | -13.609310 | -12.985842 |
| 20 | H | -16.675132 | -13.101515 | -10.917755 |
| 21 | C | -16.640010 | -13.283805 | -14.308555 |
| 22 | H | -15.594704 | -11.920813 | -15.606331 |
| 23 | H | -17.599340 | -14.442071 | -12.766479 |
| 24 | H | -17.056440 | -13.868518 | -15.120559 |
| 25 | H | -14.752315 | -12.572218 | -9.859817 |
| 26 | N | -12.518789 | -8.922117 | -11.962927 |
| 27 | H | -11.904807 | -9.066155 | -10.599524 |
| 28 | H | -12.194922 | -10.210145 | -12.674005 |
| 29 | C | -11.411598 | -7.636547 | -12.827056 |
| 30 | C | -10.913516 | $-6.523480$ | -12.127255 |
| 31 | C | -11.089234 | -7.734400 | -14.191517 |

## Cartesian coordinates of INT-3

| Atom No. | Atoms | Coordinates (Angstroms |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | C | -2.212744 | 1.578881 | 0.000141 |
| 2 | C | -0.817584 | 1.578881 | 0.000141 |
| 3 | C | -0.120046 | 2.786632 | 0.000141 |
| 4 | C | -0.817700 | 3.995141 | -0.001058 |
| 5 | C | -2.212525 | 3.995063 | -0.001537 |
| 6 | C | -2.910126 | 2.786857 | -0.000541 |
| 7 | H | -2.762503 | 0.626564 | 0.000591 |
| 8 | H | -0.268076 | 0.626368 | 0.001456 |
| 9 | H | 0.979634 | 2.786712 | 0.000775 |
| 10 | H | -0.267500 | 4.947284 | -0.001117 |
| 11 | H | -4.009730 | 2.787040 | -0.000721 |
| 12 | N | -2.947848 | 5.267933 | -0.002811 |
| 13 | C | -1.992881 | 6.385492 | -0.003929 |
| 14 | H | -0.940847 | 6.190238 | -0.003734 |
| 15 | C | -2.824607 | 7.705257 | 0.003363 |
| 16 | C | -2.018168 | 8.843007 | -0.037305 |
| 17 | C | -2.600388 | 10.108710 | -0.102397 |
| 18 | H | -0.923393 | 8.741596 | -0.016709 |
| 19 | C | -4.795841 | 9.099477 | $-0.087864$ |
| 20 | C | -3.989666 | 10.237021 | -0.128047 |
| 21 | H | -1.964818 | 11.005571 | -0.133822 |
| 22 | H | -5.890787 | 9.200269 | -0.108072 |
| 23 | H | -4.448498 | 11.235084 | -0.179430 |
| 24 | N | -4.213300 | 7.833505 | -0.021758 |
| 25 | Co | -4.546157 | 5.985243 | 0.046646 |
| 26 | Si | -5.852382 | 5.285513 | -1.751424 |
| 27 | H | -5.133180 | 4.248545 | -2.505311 |
| 28 | H | -6.127082 | 6.429935 | -2.632184 |
| 29 | C | -7.526591 | 4.561094 | -1.091240 |
| 30 | C | -7.709518 | 3.179755 | -1.021159 |
| 31 | C | -8.547394 | 5.421168 | -0.686539 |
| 32 | C | -8.913259 | 2.658696 | -0.547106 |
| 33 | H | -6.904828 | 2.501958 | -1.341016 |
| 34 | C | -9.751197 | 4.900109 | -0.211391 |
| 35 | H | -8.403322 | 6.509904 | -0.741540 |
| 36 | C | -9.934328 | 3.519113 | -0.141745 |
| 37 | H | -9.057750 | 1.569922 | -0.492428 |


| 38 | H | -10.555726 | 5.578481 | 0.108013 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 39 | H | -10.883326 | 3.108046 | 0.232049 |
| 40 | O | -5.437892 | 5.523676 | 1.564593 |
| 41 | C | -5.075818 | 6.416681 | 2.621165 |
| 42 | H | -4.385747 | 7.212614 | 2.433572 |
| 43 | O | -5.565982 | 6.269660 | 3.770815 |

## Cartesian coordinates of INT-4

| Atom No. | Atoms | Coordinates (Angstroms) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | C | -14.055015 | -8.642455 | -11.153012 |
| 2 | C | -13.630420 | -7.637684 | -10.242637 |
| 3 | N | -14.392881 | -8.299809 | -12.406589 |
| 4 | Co | -14.157673 | -6.333373 | -12.600172 |
| 5 | C | -13.168238 | -5.359004 | -9.872945 |
| 6 | C | -13.247246 | -7.922999 | -8.906753 |
| 7 | C | -12.783171 | -5.584382 | -8.565582 |
| 8 | C | -12.828752 | -6.910981 | -8.075420 |
| 9 | N | -13.584725 | -6.329295 | -10.706476 |
| 10 | H | -13.156091 | -4.357735 | -10.291762 |
| 11 | H | -12.460745 | -4.760679 | -7.942113 |
| 12 | H | -12.535905 | -7.127062 | -7.054245 |
| 13 | H | -13.290887 | -8.948648 | -8.557105 |
| 14 | C | -14.782042 | -9.220937 | -13.366961 |
| 15 | C | -15.286025 | -8.703577 | -14.579874 |
| 16 | C | -14.715715 | -10.626310 | -13.233807 |
| 17 | C | -15.707438 | -9.537482 | -15.604582 |
| 18 | H | -15.343188 | -7.625357 | -14.685472 |
| 19 | C | -15.139460 | -11.455159 | -14.267555 |
| 20 | H | -14.318174 | -11.072166 | -12.330600 |
| 21 | C | -15.639115 | -10.926110 | -15.459230 |
| 22 | H | -16.091733 | -9.103939 | -16.521809 |
| 23 | H | -15.073775 | -12.531083 | -14.142019 |
| 24 | H | -15.964268 | -11.581154 | -16.258974 |
| 25 | H | -14.106968 | -9.667457 | -10.797293 |
| 26 | Si | -16.001057 | -5.073187 | -13.217049 |
| 27 | O | -13.153787 | -5.573932 | -13.953023 |
| 28 | C | -13.731304 | -4.562377 | -14.782559 |
| 29 | H | -13.127657 | -4.053902 | -15.505030 |
| 30 | O | -15.032418 | -4.272657 | -14.596973 |
| 31 | C | -16.522345 | -3.980409 | -11.701234 |
| 32 | C | -15.917128 | -2.740514 | -11.494248 |
| 33 | C | -17.502247 | -4.434192 | -10.818386 |
| 34 | C | -16.291310 | -1.954944 | -10.404252 |
| 35 | H | -15.144078 | -2.383384 | -12.190016 |
| 36 | C | -17.877359 | -3.648069 | -9.728564 |
| 37 | H | -17.979482 | -5.411320 | -10.981474 |
| 38 | C | -17.271993 | -2.408670 | -9.521297 |
| 39 | H | -15.813869 | -0.977912 | -10.240684 |
| 40 | H | -18.650290 | -4.005934 | -9.032875 |
| 41 | H | -17.566899 | -1.789076 | -8.661977 |
| 42 | H | -16.663115 | -6.373519 | -13.038959 |
| 43 | H | -17.133424 | -4.538935 | -13.987256 |

## Cartesian coordinates of INT-5

| Atom No. Atoms |  | Coordinates (Angstroms) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | X | Y | Z |
| 1 | C | -14.416988 | -8.973322 | -11.103827 |
| 2 | C | -14.065280 | -8.011660 | -10.129945 |
| 3 | N | -14.553055 | -8.579681 | -12.381919 |
| 4 | Co | -14.315394 | -6.604463 | -12.590201 |
| 5 | C | -13.584911 | -5.762345 | -9.682541 |
| 6 | C | -13.824580 | -8.333448 | -8.769900 |
| 7 | C | -13.327511 | -6.019986 | -8.350009 |
| 8 | C | -13.457613 | $-7.347540$ | -7.885586 |

9. XPS analysis. All the binding energies were corrected with reference to the C1s peak at 284.8 eV. MULTIPAK software was used for peak analysis and de-convolution studies.


Figure S15. (a) XPS data of pyrim-UiO-CoCl 2 . (b) Co 2 p XPS spectrum of pyrim-UiO- $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$. (c) Zr 3 d XPS spectrum of pyrim-UiO- $\mathrm{CoCl}_{2}$.


Figure S16. Co 2p XPS spectrum of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF).

Table S9. Comparison of catalytic activity of pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) with that of other reported heterogeneous catalysts in N -formylation of amines with $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$.

| $\begin{array}{\|c\|} \hline \text { SI } \\ \text { no. } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Reference | Catalyst | Conditions | Productivity | \%Yield of N - <br> Formaldehyde |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | New J. Chem., 2021,45, 9501-9505 | $\mathrm{Zn}(\mathrm{OAc})_{2}$ on mesoporous organosilica | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \mathrm{mmol} \text { amine, } \mathrm{CO}_{2}(5 \\ & \mathrm{bar}), \text { PhSiH} \\ & \mathrm{m}(1 \mathrm{mmol}), 1 \\ & \mathrm{~mol} \% \text { Catalyst, } 60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, \\ & 17 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{CN} \end{aligned}$ |  | 33-86\% |
| 2 | ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng., 2020, 8. 14. 5576-5583 <br> 8, 14, 5576-5583 | $\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{PPh}_{3}-\mathrm{SO}_{3} \mathrm{Na} @ \mathrm{POPs}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \mathrm{mmol} \text { amine, } \mathrm{CO}_{2}(30 \\ & \mathrm{bar}), \mathrm{H}_{2}(30 \mathrm{bar}), 0.4 \\ & \mathrm{~mol} \% \text { Catalyst, } 100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, \\ & 48 \mathrm{~h}, \text { DMI } \end{aligned}$ | TON 250 | 30-80\% |
| 3 | Chem. Cat. Chem., 2018, 10, 22, 51245127 | Mg -Al layered double hydroxide supported Pd catalyst | 1 mmol amine, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}(30$ bar), $\mathrm{H}_{2}(30 \mathrm{bar}), 1 \mathrm{~mol} \%$ $\mathrm{Catalyst}, 140^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 16 \mathrm{~h}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}$ |  | 88-97\% |
| 4 | Sci. China Chem., 2018, 61, 725-731 | Pd/N-doped carbon nanocatalysts | 1 mmol amine, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}(30$ $\mathrm{bar}), \mathrm{H}_{2}(40 \mathrm{bar}), 20 \mathrm{mg}$ $(2 \mathrm{~mol} \%)$ Catalyst, $130^{\circ}$ $\mathrm{C}, 24 \mathrm{~h}$, ethanol | TON 247 | 11-99\% |
| 5 | Chem. Asian J., 2018, 13, 20, 30183021 | NHC-Ir coordination assembly | $\begin{aligned} & 10 \mathrm{mmol} \text { amine, } \mathrm{CO}_{2}(30 \\ & \text { bar), } \mathrm{H}_{2}(30 \mathrm{bar}), 0.1 \\ & \mathrm{~mol} \% \mathrm{Catalyst}, 100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, \\ & 20 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH} \end{aligned}$ | TON 990 | 53-97\% |
| 6 | Inorganica Chim. Acta., 2020, 501, 119274 | UiO-66 MOF | $\begin{aligned} & 5 \mathrm{mmol} \text { amine, } \mathrm{CO}_{2}(10 \\ & \text { bar), DMAB }(1.5 \mathrm{eq} .), \\ & 10 \mathrm{mg}(0.3 \mathrm{~mol} \%) \\ & \text { Catalyst, } 60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 12 \mathrm{~h}, \\ & \text { DMF } \end{aligned}$ |  | 30-94\% |
| 7 | New J. Chem., $2017,41,2869-$ 2872 | CarPy-CMP@Ru (Pyridine-functionalized organic porous polymers) | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \mathrm{mmol} \text { amine, } \mathrm{CO}_{2}(40 \\ & \text { bar), } \mathrm{H}_{2}(40 \mathrm{bar}), 0.5 \\ & \mathrm{~mol} \% \mathrm{Catalyst}, 130^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, \\ & 24 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH} \end{aligned}$ | TON 188 | 89-91\% |
| 8 | Chem. Cat. Chem., 2017, 9, 11, 19391946 | Pd NPs@Hypercrosslinked Microporous Polymer | 1 mmol amine, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ (10 bar), <br> Diphenylmethylsilane ( 2.5 mmol ), $50 \mathrm{mg}(0.5$ mol\%) Catalyst, $60^{\circ}$ C, 20 h , dioxane+water |  | 79-97\% |
| 9 | Catal. Lett., 2018, $148,2487-2500$ | $\mathrm{FeNi}_{3} / \mathrm{KCC} 1 / \mathrm{APTPOSS} /$ TCT/PVA/Cu(II) MNPs (Copper(II) ComplexBased $\mathrm{FeNi}_{3} / \mathrm{KCC}-1$ ) | 10 mmol amine, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ (15 bar), $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ (20 bar), 18 mg Catalyst, $90^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 1.5 \mathrm{~h}$, dioxane |  | 58-96\% |


| 10 | ACS Sustainable Chem., Eng. 2017, 5, 3, 2516-2528 | Pd-Au@PolyanilineFunctionalized CNs | 1 mmol amine, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ (35 bar), $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ ( 35 bar ), 50 mg (Pd $1.6 \mathrm{wt} \%$, Au 3.0 wt \%) Catalyst, $125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 48$ h, dioxane |  | 0.1-95\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 11 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Chem. Cat. Chem., } \\ & 2017,9,19,3632- \\ & 3636 \end{aligned}$ | $\mathrm{Au} \mathrm{NPs} @ \mathrm{TiO}_{2}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.5 \mathrm{mmol} \text { amine, } \mathrm{CO}_{2} \\ & (20 \mathrm{bar}), \mathrm{H}_{2}(30 \mathrm{bar}), 4.5 \\ & \text { mol Catalyst, } 100-140^{\circ} \\ & \mathrm{C}, 5-20 \mathrm{~h}, \text { DMA } \end{aligned}$ |  | 91-99\% |
| 12 | Chin. J. Catal., 2019, 40, 8, 11411146 | Pd/PAL catalyst (PAL-Palygorskite) | $\begin{aligned} & 1 \mathrm{mmol} \text { amine, } \mathrm{CO}_{2}(10 \\ & \text { bar), } \mathrm{H}_{2}(30 \mathrm{bar}), 0.35 \\ & \mathrm{~mol} \% \text { Catalyst, } 96^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, \\ & \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH} \end{aligned}$ | TON 283 | 76-99\% |
| 13 | ACS Sustainable Chem., Eng., 2021, $9,48,16153-16162$ | $\mathrm{Pd}_{0.25} \mathrm{Cu}_{0.75} / \mathrm{Al}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{3-0.1}$ | 1 mmol amine, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}(20$ bar), $\mathrm{H}_{2}(40 \mathrm{bar}), 60 \mathrm{mg}$ Catalyst, $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 3 \mathrm{~h}$, THF | TON 527 | 8-99\% |
| 14 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Appl. Catal. B., } \\ & 2021,294,5, \\ & 120238 \end{aligned}$ | $\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{TpPa}$ <br> (Zn single atom catalyst@COF) | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{CO}_{2} \text { (10 bar), } \\ & \text { phenylsilane(2 eq.), } 30^{\circ} \\ & \mathrm{C}, 18 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{DMF} \end{aligned}$ | TON 51467 | 79-99\% |
| 15 | ACS Sustainable Chem., Eng., 2017, $5,7,5758-5765$ 5, 7, 5758-5765 | Nano-Pd/C in situ reduction of Pd(NH3)xCly/C | 1 mmol amine, $10 / 30$ bar $\mathrm{CO}_{2} / \mathrm{H}_{2}, 50 \mathrm{mg} \mathrm{Pd} / \mathrm{C}, 0.5$ mmol $\mathrm{KOH}, 5 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}$ |  | 27-51\% |
| 16 | Chem. Eur. J., 2018, 24, 16588 | Porous organic polymers with inbuilt NHCs | 0.5 mmol amine, 0.75 mmol phenylsilane, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ (4 bar), $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 24 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{THF}$ |  | 22-98\% |
| 17 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Adv. Synth. } \\ & \text { Catal. 2021, 363, } \\ & 1335 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\mathrm{Ru} / \mathrm{POP}_{3}$-Py\& $\mathrm{PPh}_{3}$ | 1 mmol amine, 16.5 mg of catalyst, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ (20 bar), $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ (20 bar), $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 24 \mathrm{~h}$ |  | 67-99\% |
| 18 | Asian J. Org. Chem. 2022, 11, e202200064 | PdNPore | 1 mmol amine, 2.7 mg of catalyst, 2 mmol <br> phenylsilane, $\mathrm{CO}_{2}(10$ <br> bar), $36 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{MeCN} / \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ |  | 32-86\% |
| 19 | This work | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Pyrim-UiO-Co(THF) })_{2} \\ & \text { MOF } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.375 \mathrm{mmol} \text { amine, } \mathrm{CO}_{2} \\ & (1 \mathrm{bar}), \text { phenylsilane } \\ & (0.750 \mathrm{mmol}), 80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, \\ & 16 \mathrm{~h}, \mathrm{THF} \end{aligned}$ | TON up to 6000 | 41-99\% |

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