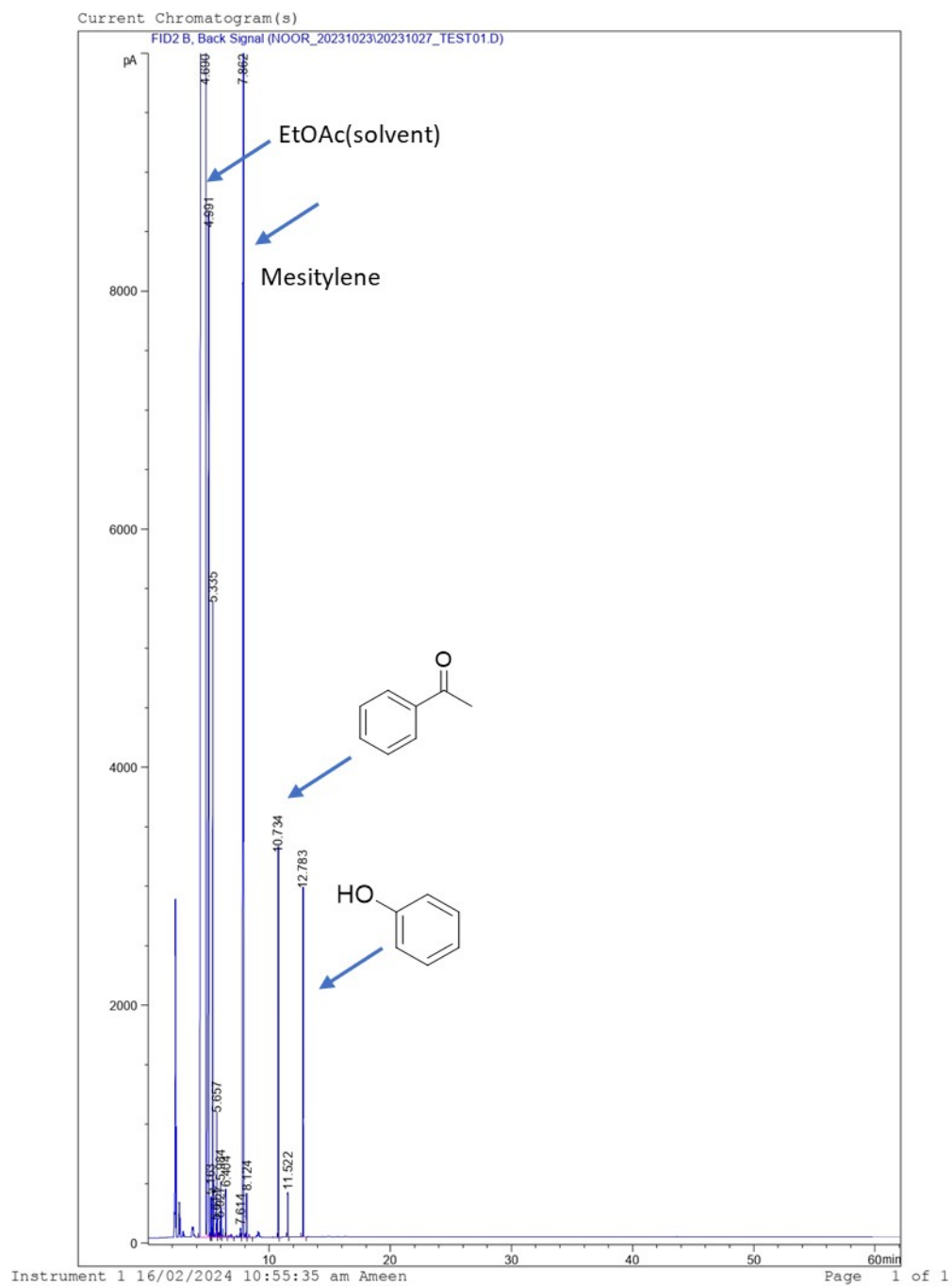
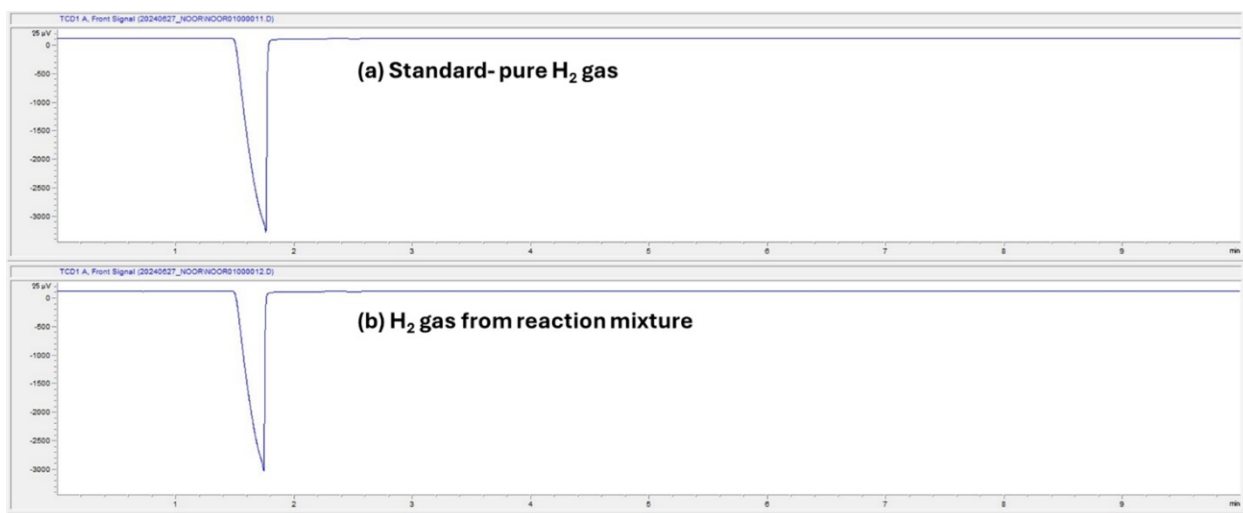


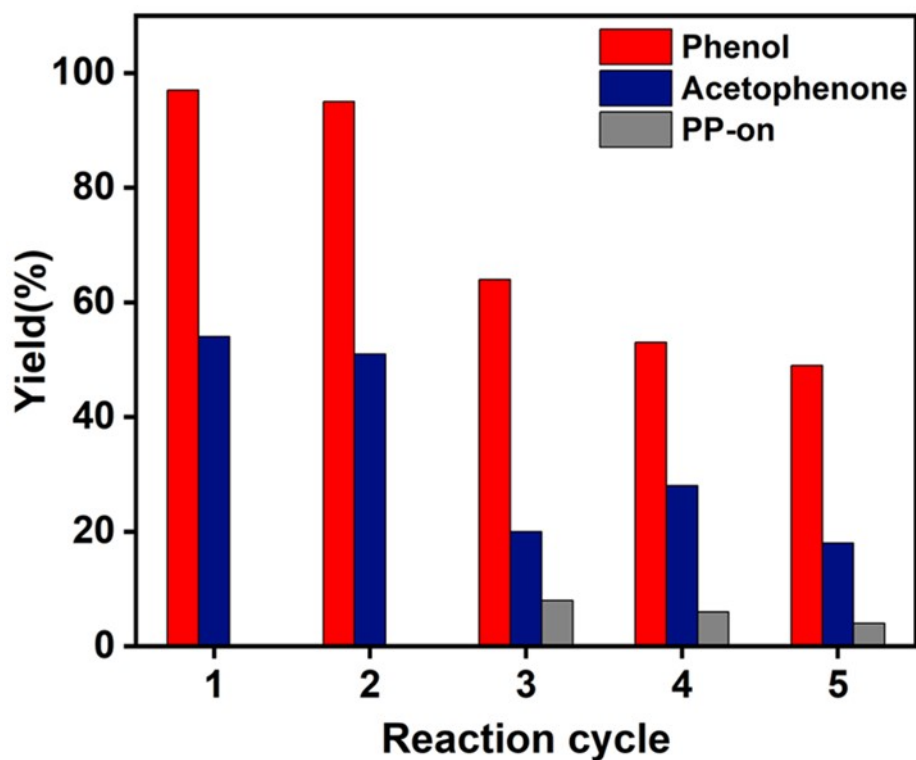
**Figure S1.** EDX elemental mapping of PdO@MCM-41.



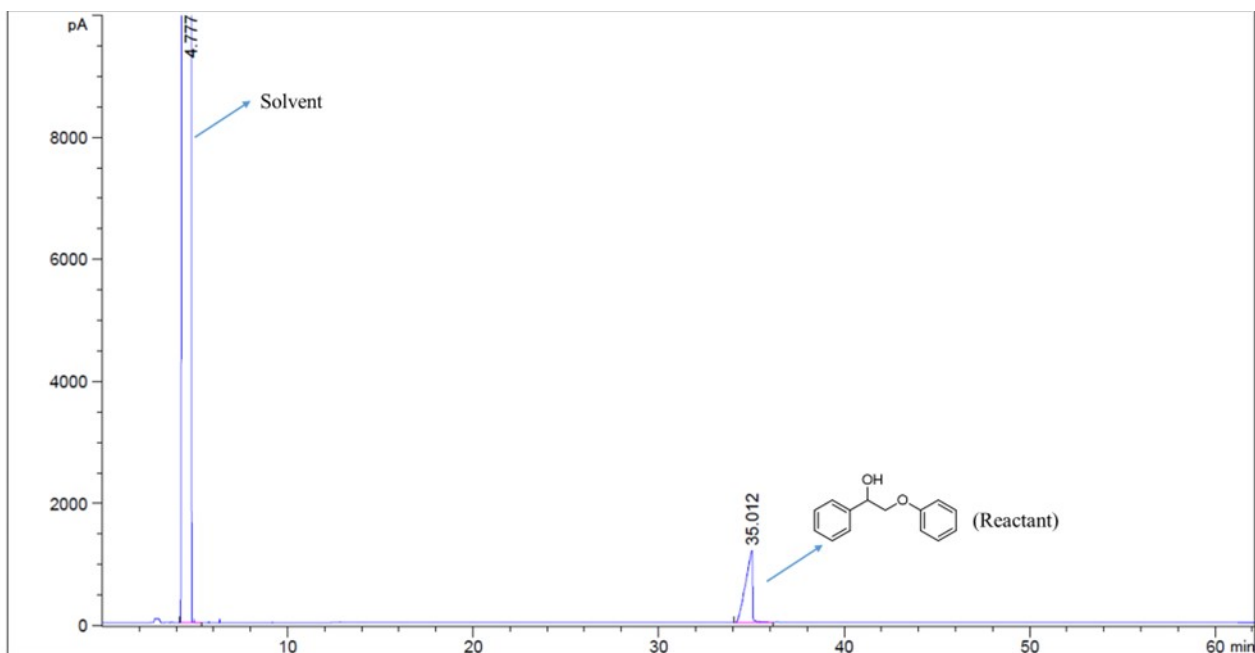
**Figure S2.** GC-FID chromatogram of redox neutral C-O bond cleavage in 2-phenoxy-1-phenyl ethanol using PdO@MCM-41 catalyst



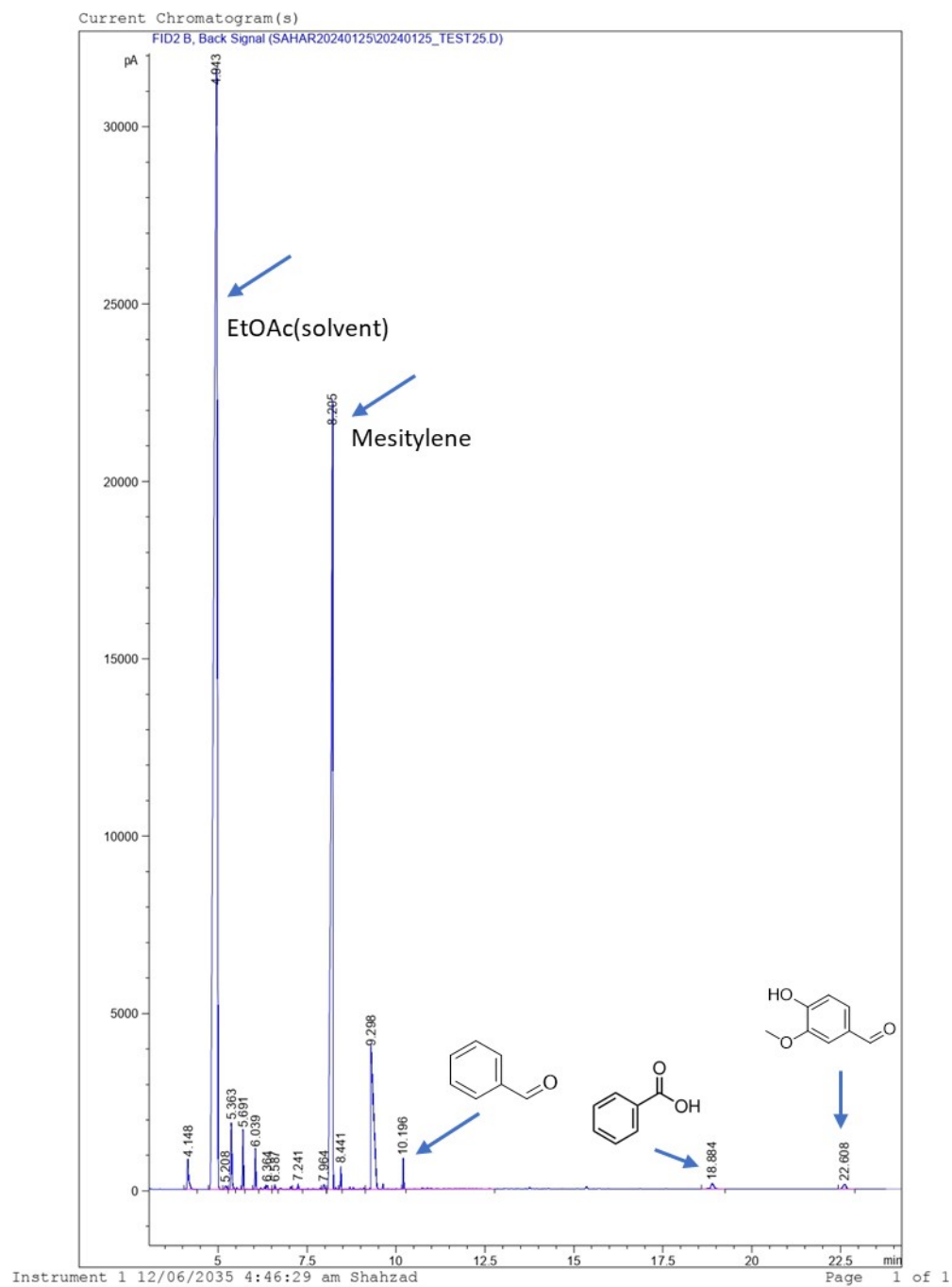
**Figure S3.** Detection of evolved hydrogen by PP-ol using GC-TCD a) chromatogram of pure  $\text{H}_2$  sample, b) chromatogram of  $\text{H}_2$  gas from reaction mixture. (*The peak is inverted due to the use of helium as carrier gas whose thermal conductivity is close to that of hydrogen*).



**Figure S4.** Recyclability of  $\text{PdO@MCM-41}$  for redox neutral cleavage of 2-phenoxy-1-phenylethanol under optimized reaction conditions.



**Figure S5.** GC-FID chromatogram of of redox neutral C-O bond cleavage in 2-phenoxy-1-phenyl ethanol using leached Pd



**Figure S6.** GC-FID chromatogram after depolymerization of alkali lignin.

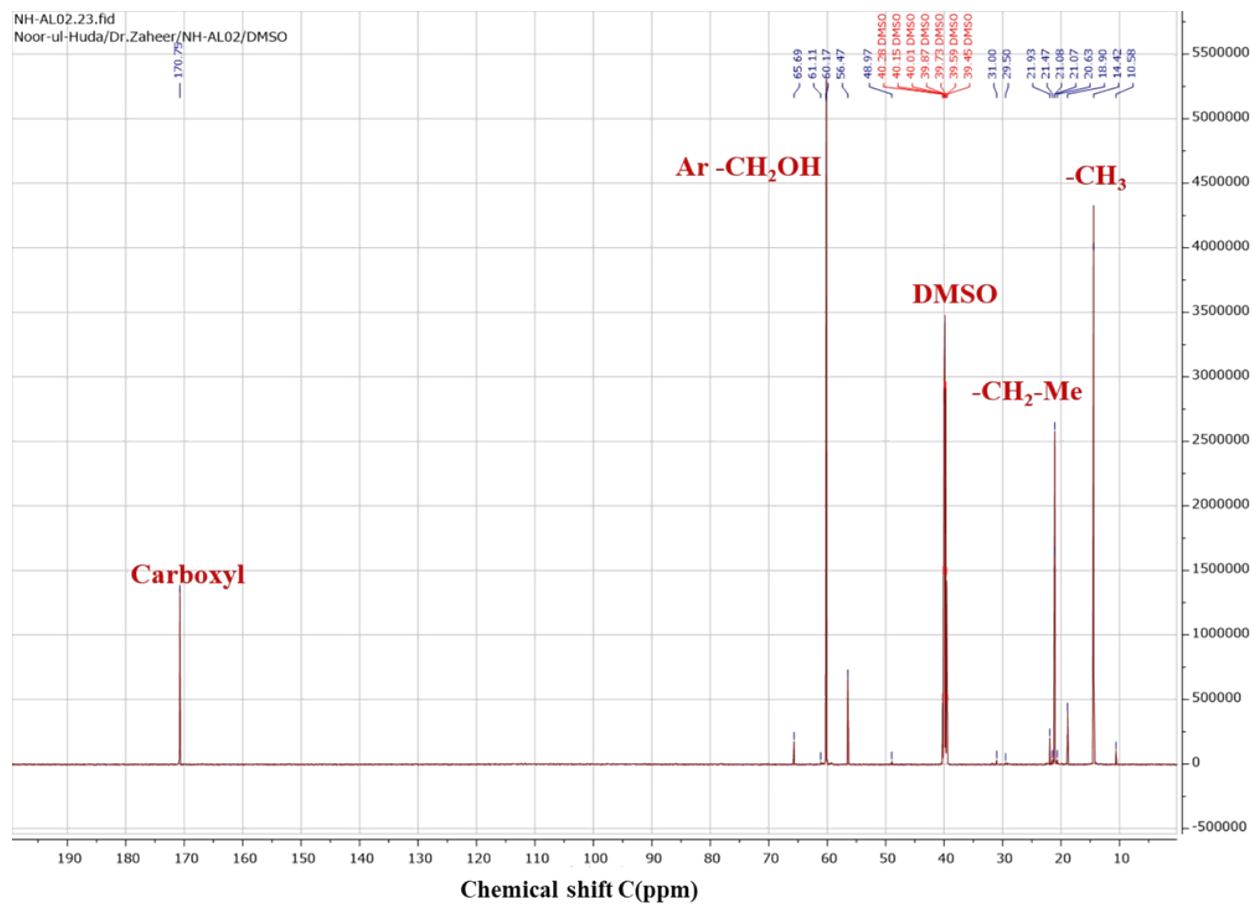
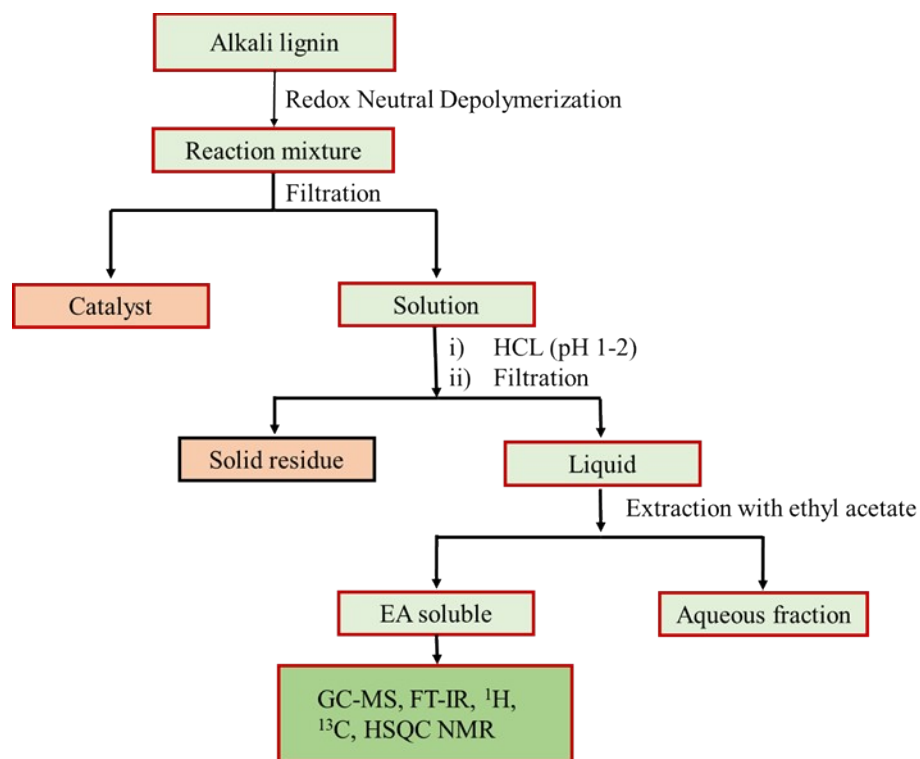


Figure S7. <sup>13</sup>C NMR of depolymerized alka



**Scheme S1.** Separation sequence for product isolation and lignin recovery.