

## Supporting information

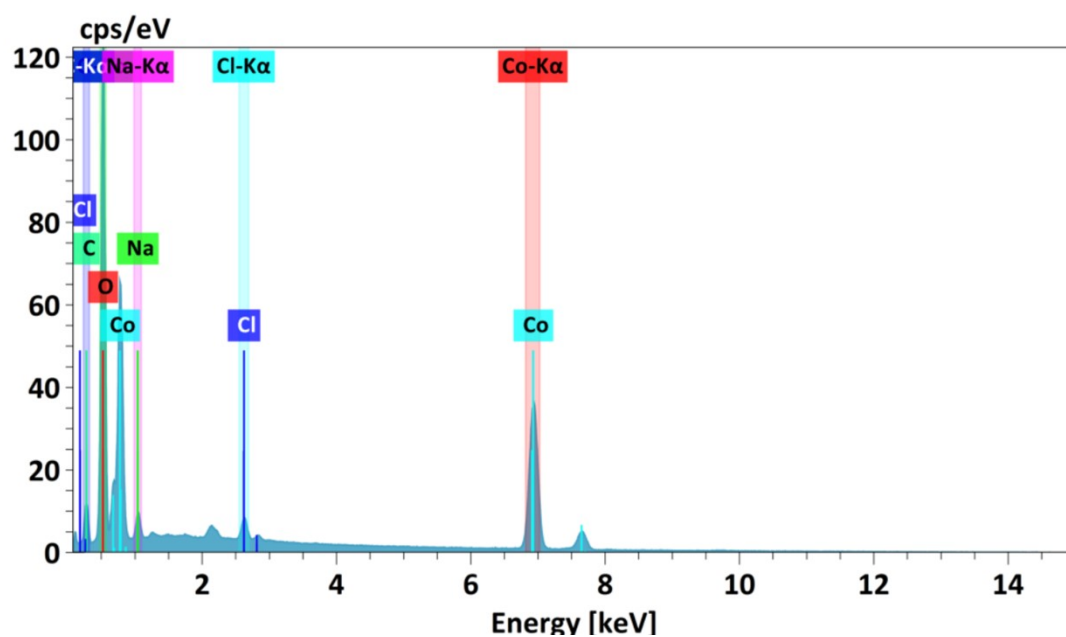


Figure S1. EDS of CONP-NaBH<sub>4</sub>

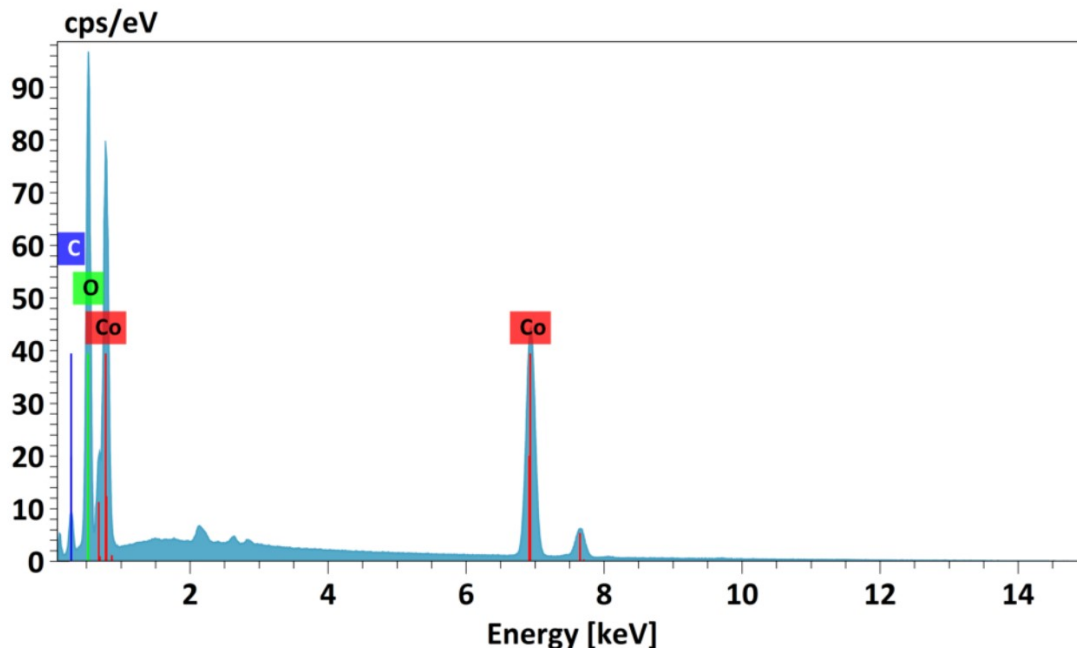
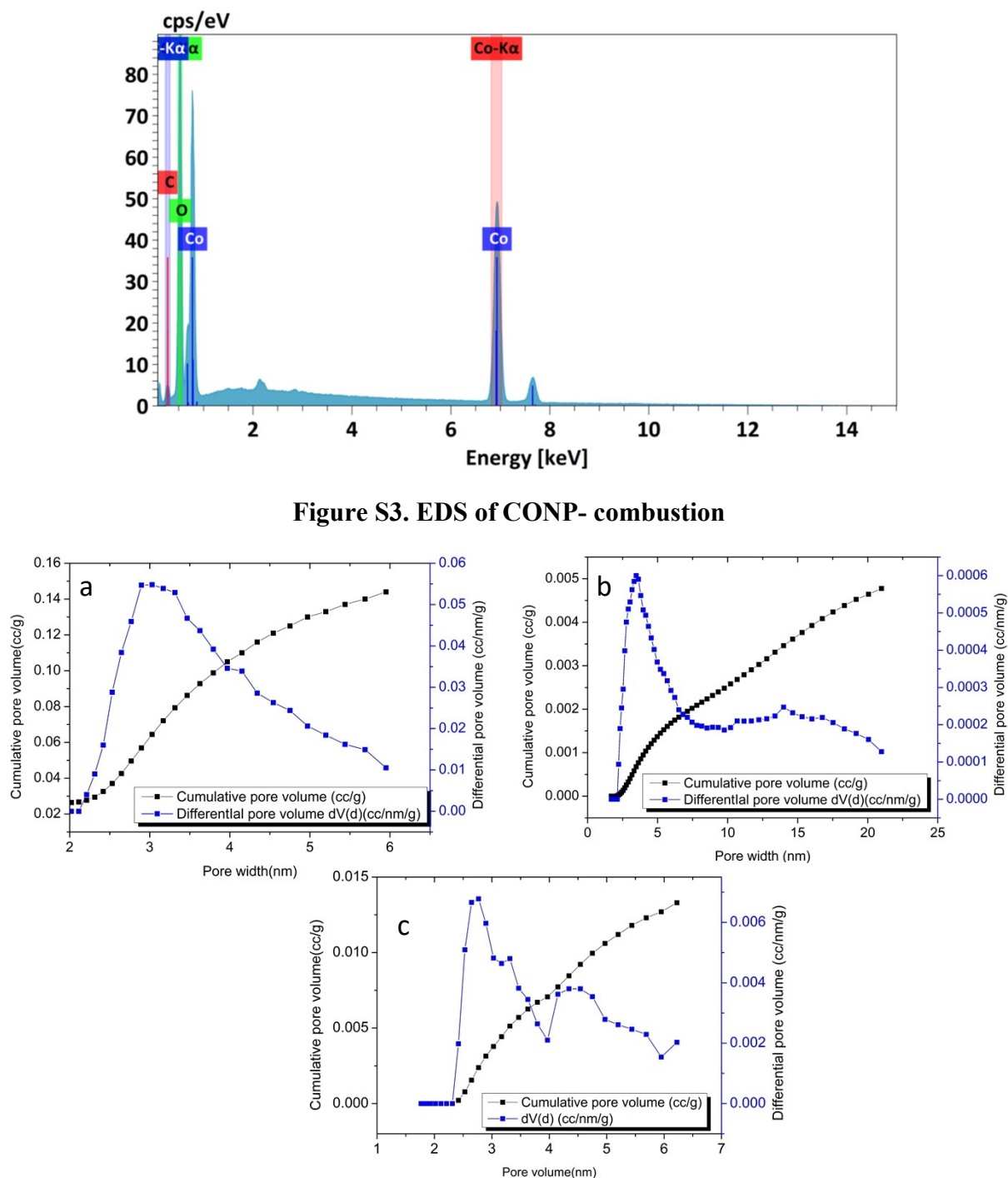
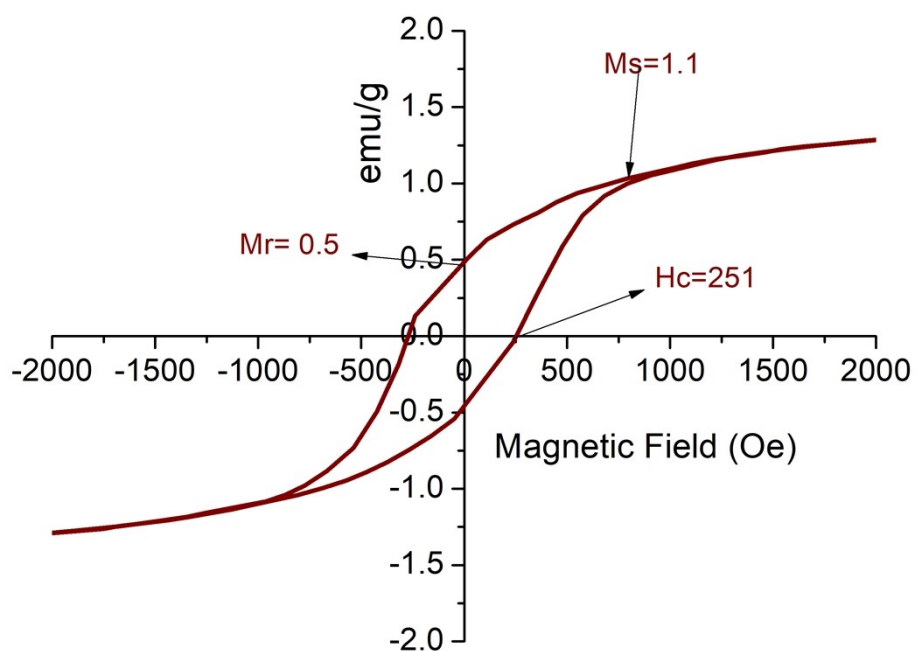


Figure S2. EDS of CONP-Hydrothermal



**Figure S4. Pore distribution curves of (a) CONP-NaBH<sub>4</sub>, (b) CONP-hydrothermal and (c) CONP-combustion**



**Figure S5 Magnetisation hysteresis curve for CONP-NaBH<sub>4</sub>**

**Table S1 ICP-AES analysis CONP-NaBH<sub>4</sub>**

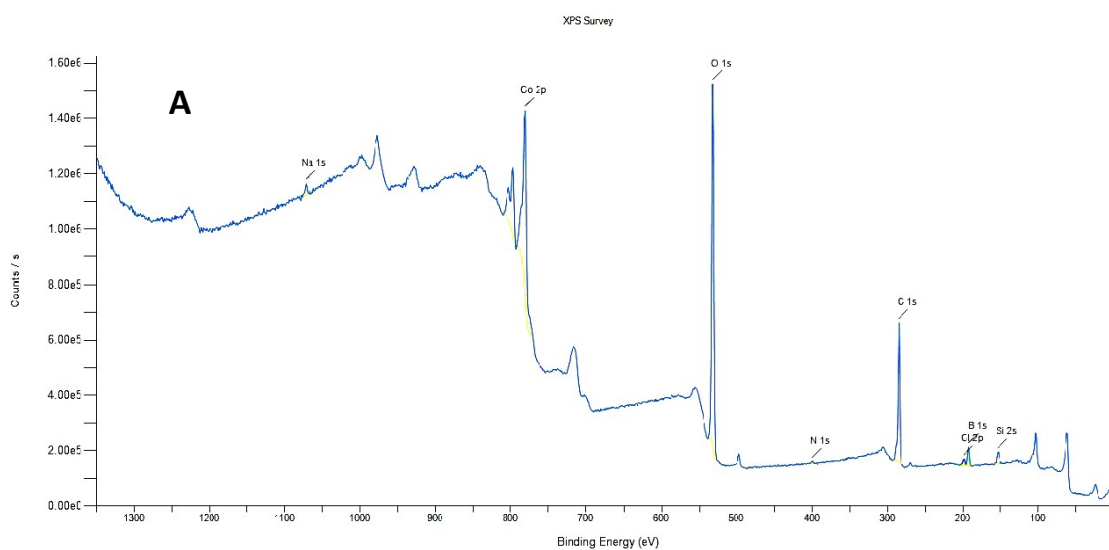
Co (%)	B (%)	Na (%)
44	4.4	1.7

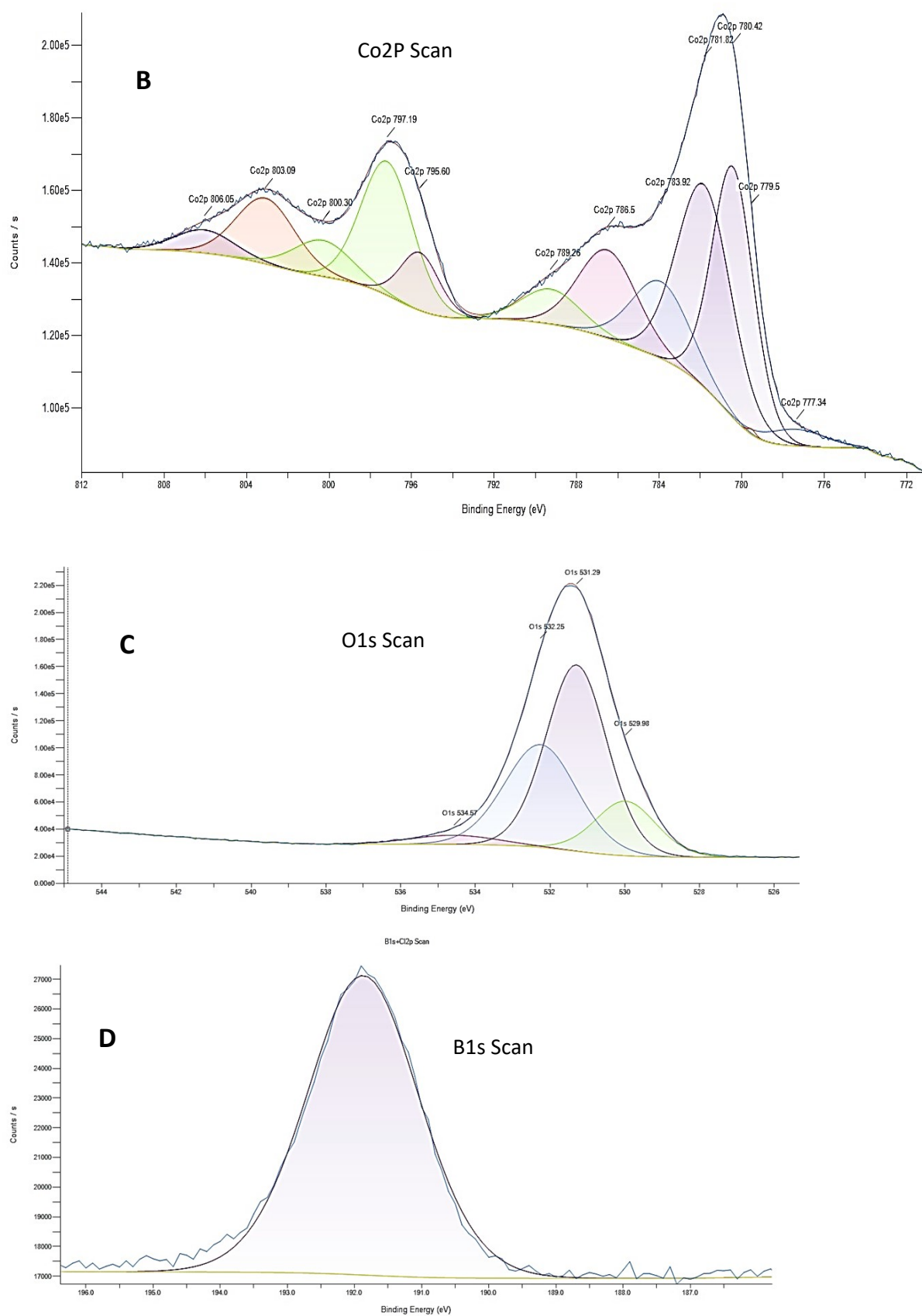
#### Calculation S1: Calculation of CoB %

B% in CONP-NaBH<sub>4</sub> = 4.7%

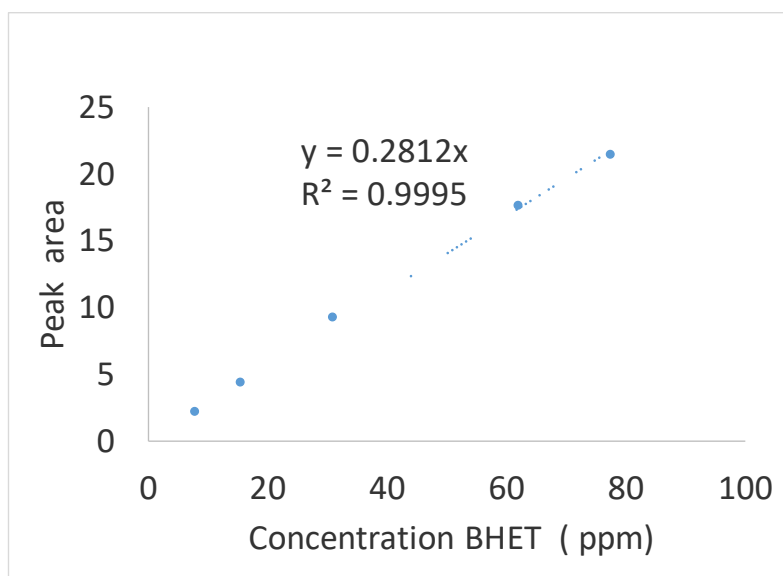
B% in CoB =  $11 \times 100 / 70$

%CoB in CONP-NaBH<sub>4</sub> =  $4.7 \times 70 \times 100 / 11 \times 100 = 29.9\%$





**Fig. S6 XPS spectra of CONP-NaBH<sub>4</sub> (A) Survey scan, (B) Co2p scan, (C) O1s scan and (D) B1s scan**



**Figure S7. Calibration graph for HPLC analysis**

**Table S2 Mass balance summary**

	Catalyst	BHET (%)	Oligomers (%)	Unreacted PET (%)	Total
1	CONP-NaBH <sub>4</sub>	97	2.5	0	99.5
2	CONP-hydrothermal	70.1	5.3	24	99.1
3	CONP-combustion	82.5	3.6	14	100.4

**Calculation S2: Calculation of Turn over frequency (TOF)**

$$\text{TOF} = \frac{\text{number of moles of product}}{\text{number of moles of reactant} \times \text{time}}$$

Number of moles BHET = Weight of BHET formed / Molecular weight

Weight of BHET formed from 1 g of PET in 1 hour = 1.18 g

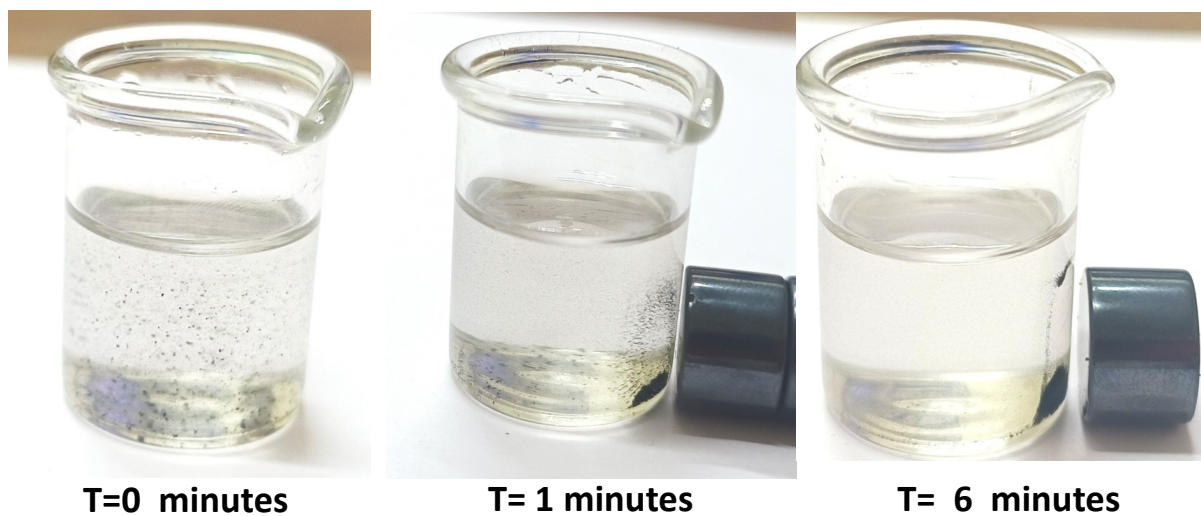
Number of moles of BHET = 1.18/254 = 4.66 mmol

Weight of catalyst = 0.01g

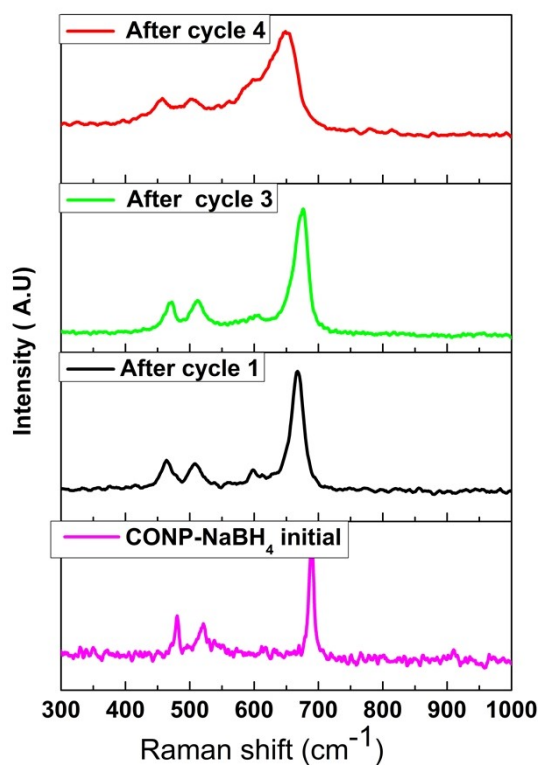
Co % (surface active sites) from XPS = 10.14%

Number of moles of Co in the catalyst = (0.01 \* 10.14) / (100\*59) = 0.0172 mmol

TOF = 4.66 / 0.0172 = **271 h<sup>-1</sup>**



**Figure S8 Separation of catalyst from 25mL EG**



**Figure S9 Raman spectra of regenerated catalyst**

**Table S3 Leaching out of cobalt in each regeneration cycle**

Cycle number	Cobalt in the filtrate after separation of catalyst (ppm)
1	20
2	15
3	13
4	10

### Hot filtration test

Hot filtration test was conducted to prove the heterogeneous catalysis. Glycolysis was carried with 0.5 g PET, 1% catalyst, and a known amount (0.083 g) of N-methyl pyrrolidone as internal standard at 180°C. After 1 hour is catalyst is filtered out while reaction mixture is hot. 20μL of sample was withdrawn and analysed for BHET % by NMR spectroscopy using DMSOd6 as the solvent. The hot filtrate is allowed to react for 1 more hour and BHET content was calculated by NMR and HPLC methods.

### Calculation

A singlet at 8.00–8.15 ppm, corresponding to the aromatic protons of BHET, and a singlet at 2.7 ppm, corresponding to the methyl protons of NMP are used to calculate the BHET content.

$$BHET (\%) = \frac{C_{BHET} \times 100}{C_{PET}} = \frac{IBHET * 3}{INMP * 4} \times \frac{\text{Moles of NMP added}}{\text{moles of PET added}} \times 100$$

Here, *IBHET* and *INMP* represent the integrals of BHET at 8.1 ppm and NMP at 2.7 ppm, respectively.

**Table S4 BHET % from NMR**

	Reaction time (H)	NMP integral	BHET integral	BHET%
1	1	3	10.31	88.5
2	2	3	9.82	84.3

**Table S5 BHET % from HPLC analysis**

	Conditions	BHET (%) after 2-hour reaction
1	Hot filtration test	85%
2	Normal glycolysis (with catalyst for 2hour)	98%