

Niobium pentachloride in a biphasic catalytic system for valorization of corn cob biomass

Gabriel Abranches Dias Castro^{*a}, Juliana Ribeiro Paes^a, and Sergio Antonio Fernandes^{*a}

^aGrupo de Química Supramolecular e Biomimética (GQSB), Departamento de Química, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, Viçosa, MG 36570-900, Brazil.

*Corresponding authors: Gabriel Abranches Dias Castro and Sergio Antonio Fernandes;
E-mail: castrogabrielabranche@gmail.com, gabriel.a.castro@ufv.br, santonio@ufv.br
or sefernandes@gmail.com).

General Techniques

Analytical grade commercial solvents and reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, and used as received. NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C in DMSO-*d*₆ on a Bruker AvanceCore spectrometer, operating at 400 MHz for ¹H and 100 MHz for ¹³C or on a Varian Mercury 300 spectrometer operating at 300 MHz for ¹H and 75 MHz for ¹³C. All chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm) and were measured relative to the solvent in which the sample was analyzed (DMSO δ = 2,50 for ¹H NMR). The Spectrum mass was determined for gas chromatography coupled to a mass spectrometer using a SHIMADZU GCMS-QP2010C Ultra mass spectrometer and method with the following specifications: column RTx-5 MS, 30 m, DI 0.25 mm; carrier gas helium; injector temperature: 220 °C; oven temperature was: 40 °C (2 min), ramped to 5 °C min⁻¹ up to 100 °C (held for 5 min), ramped to 30 °C min⁻¹ up to 200 °C (held for 5 min).

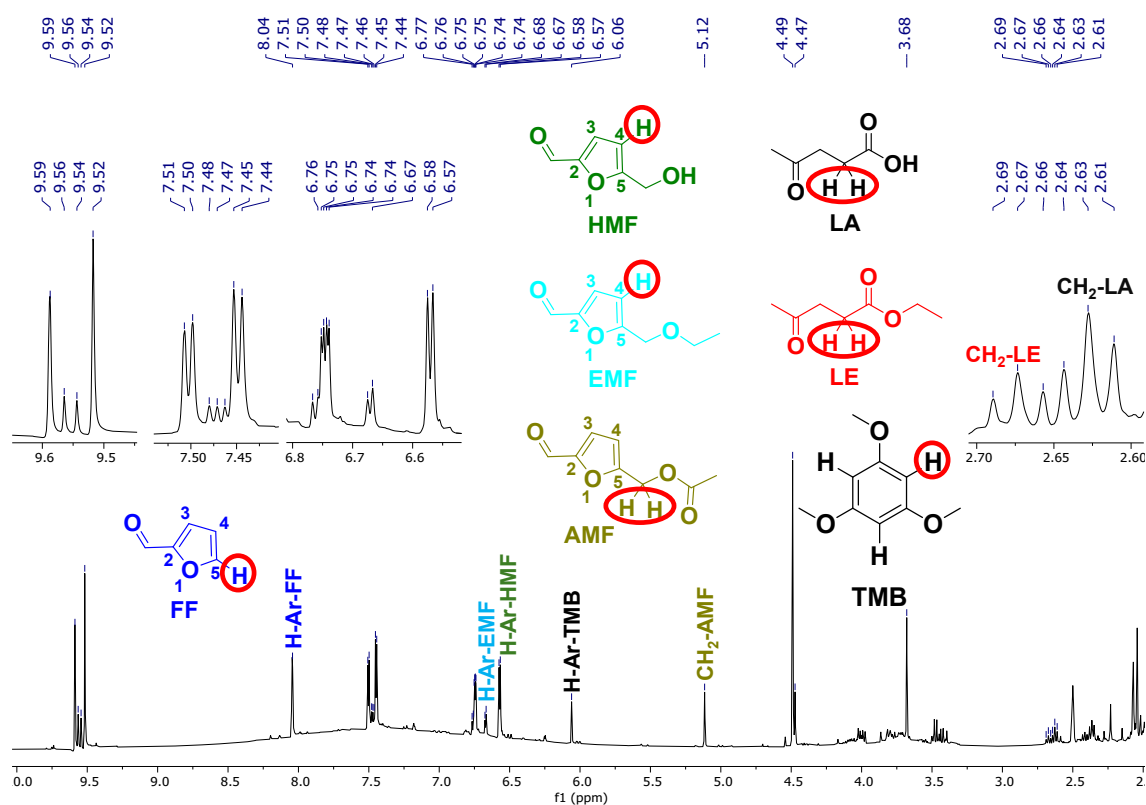


Fig. S1 ¹H NMR spectrum clipping (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, 25 °C) of the crude obtained from the organic phase of the reaction of conversion of corn cob biomass into FF, HMF, EMF, AMF, LE and LA using niobium pentachloride as catalyst (12.5% wt), 200 °C, 3 h.

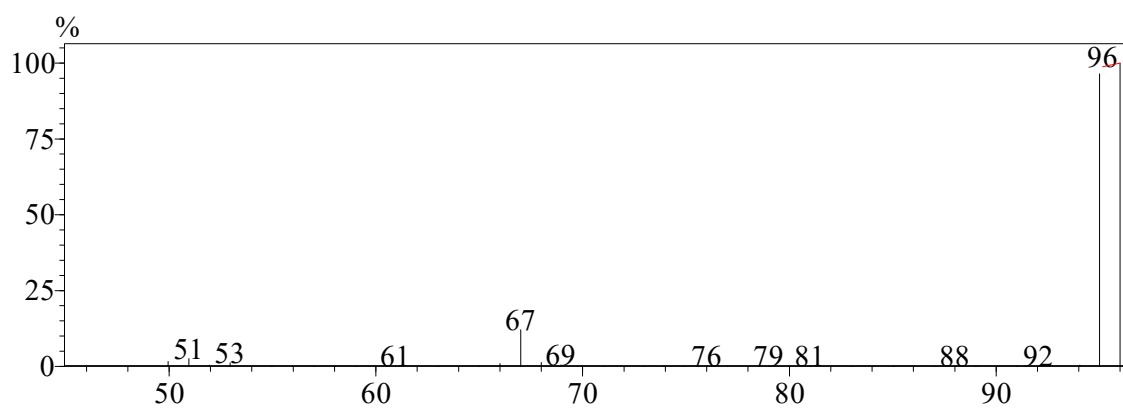


Fig. S2 Mass spectrum (IE 70 eV) of furfural.

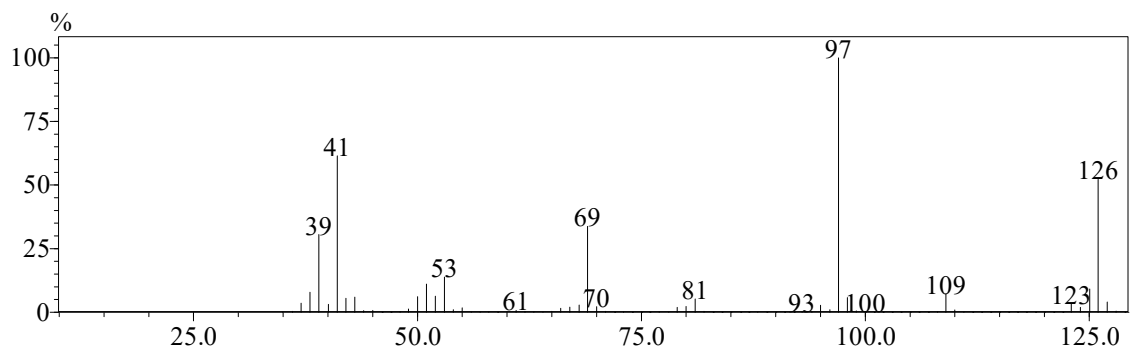


Fig. S3 Mass spectrum (IE 70 eV) of 5-hydroxymethylfurfural.

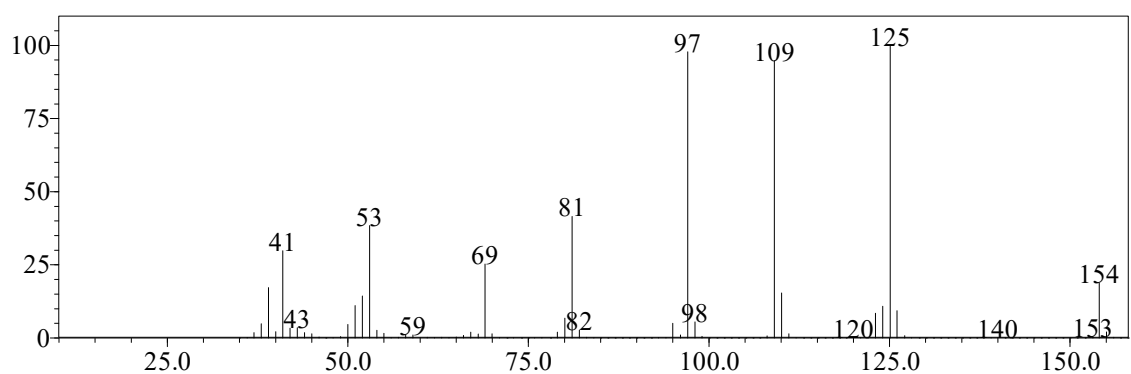


Fig. S4 Mass spectrum (IE 70 eV) of 5-ethoxymethylfurfural.

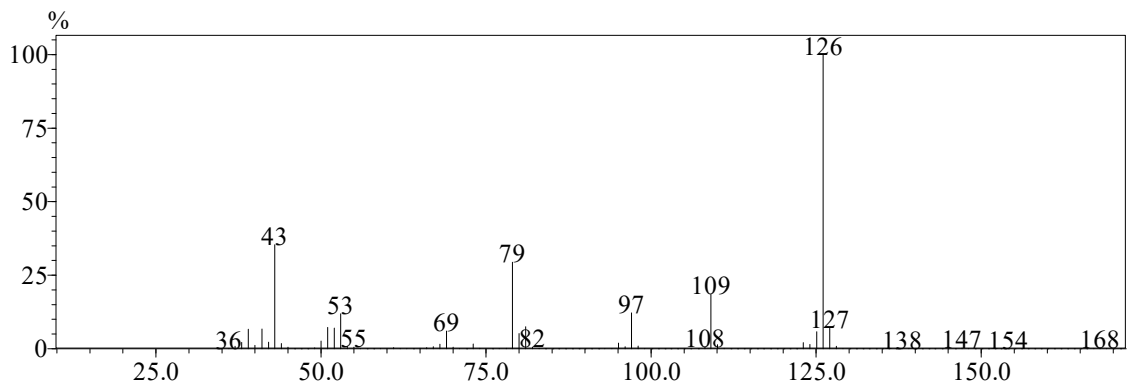


Fig. S5 Mass spectrum (IE 70 eV) of 5-acetoxymethylfurfural.

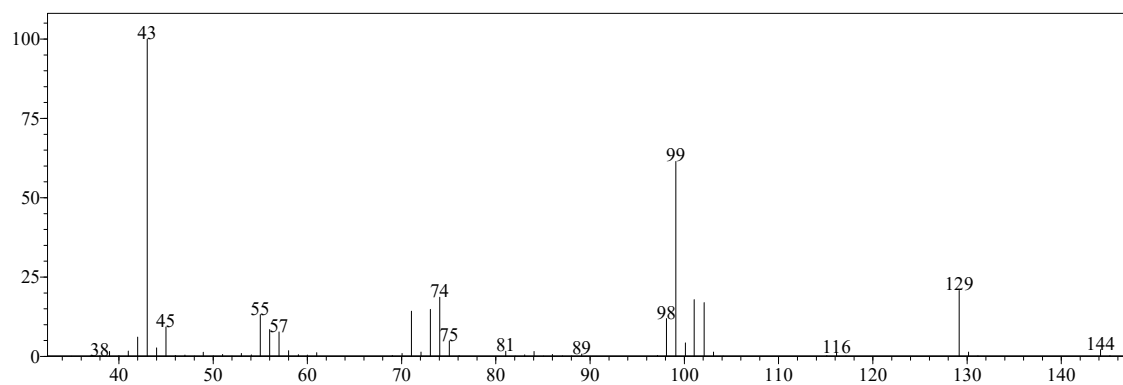


Fig. S6 Mass spectrum (IE 70 eV) of ethyl levulinate.

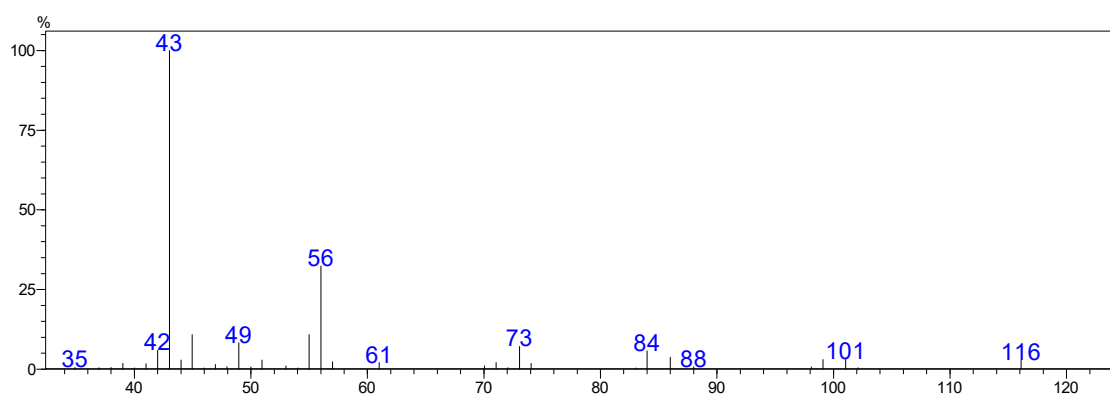


Fig. S7 Mass spectrum (IE 70 eV) of levulinic acid.

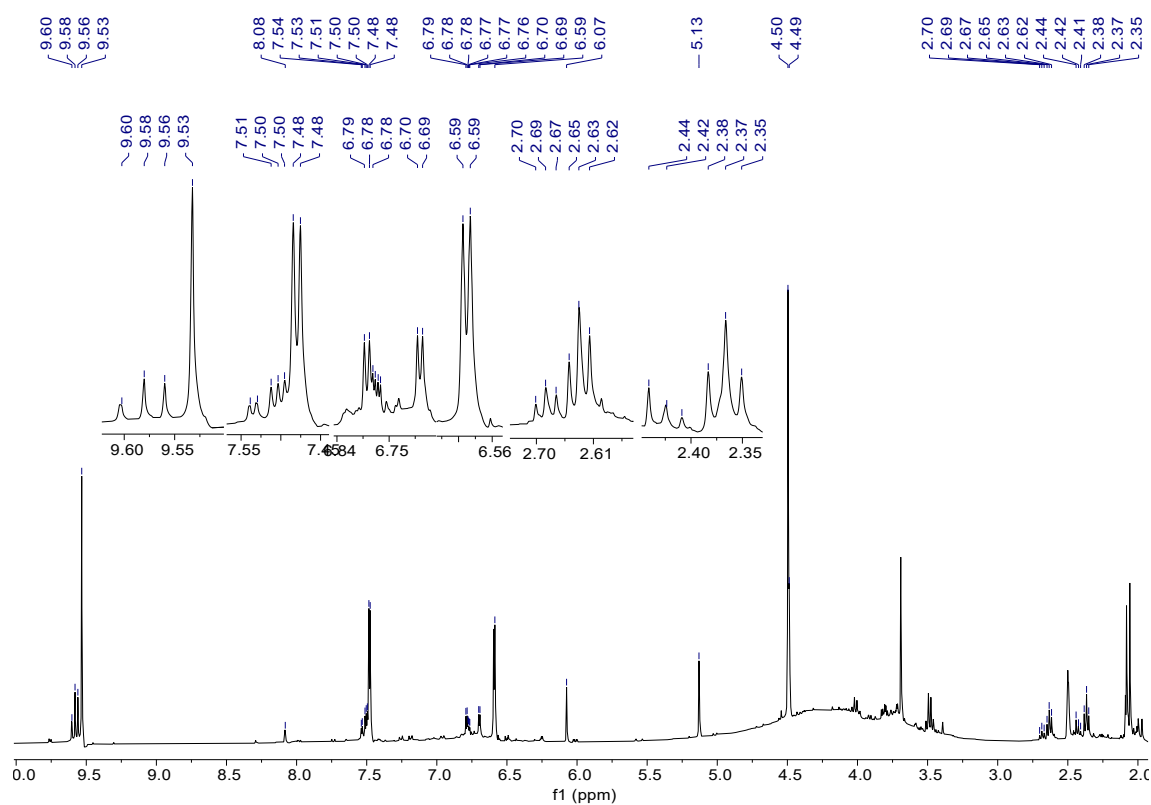


Fig. S8 ^1H NMR spectrum clipping (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 25 $^\circ\text{C}$) of the crude obtained from the organic phase of the reaction of conversion of bamboo biomass into FF, HMF, EMF, AMF, LE and LA using niobium pentachloride as catalyst (12.5% wt), 200 $^\circ\text{C}$, 3 h.

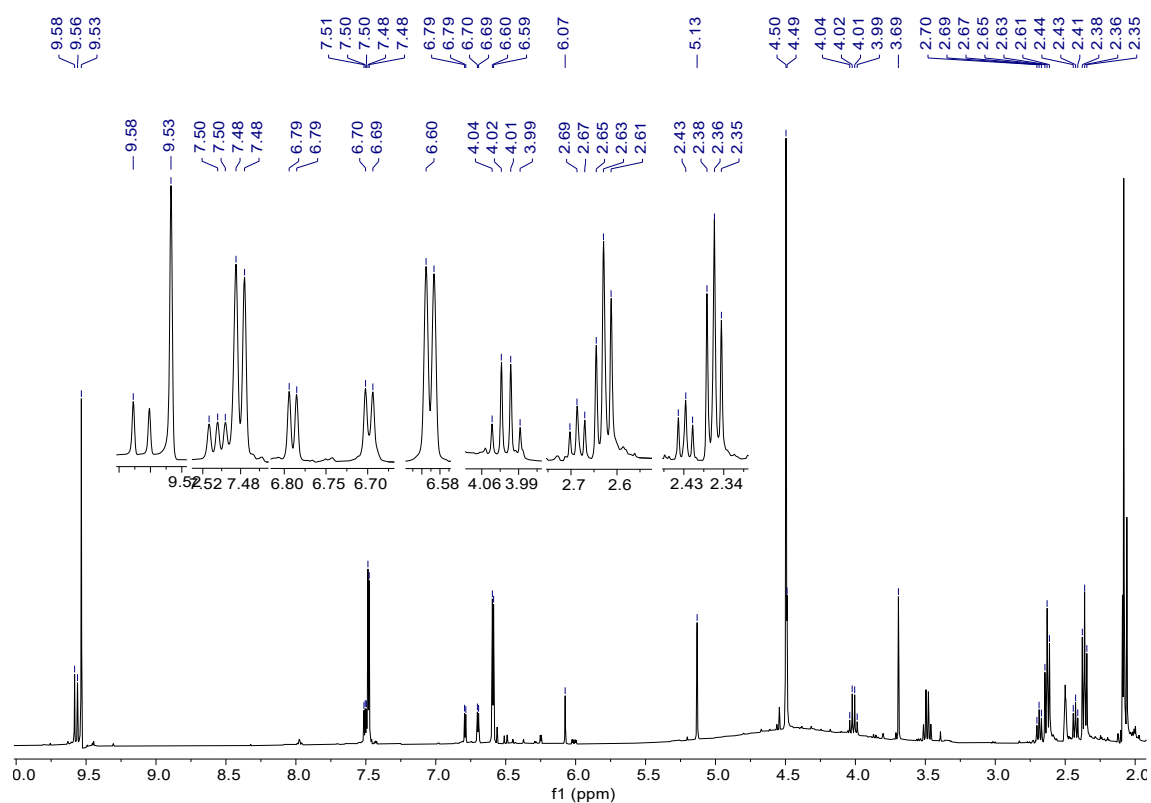


Fig. S9 ^1H NMR spectrum clipping (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 25 °C) of the crude obtained from the organic phase of the reaction of conversion of microcrystalline cellulose into HMF, EMF, AMF, LE and LA using niobium pentachloride as catalyst (12.5% wt), 200 °C, 3 h.

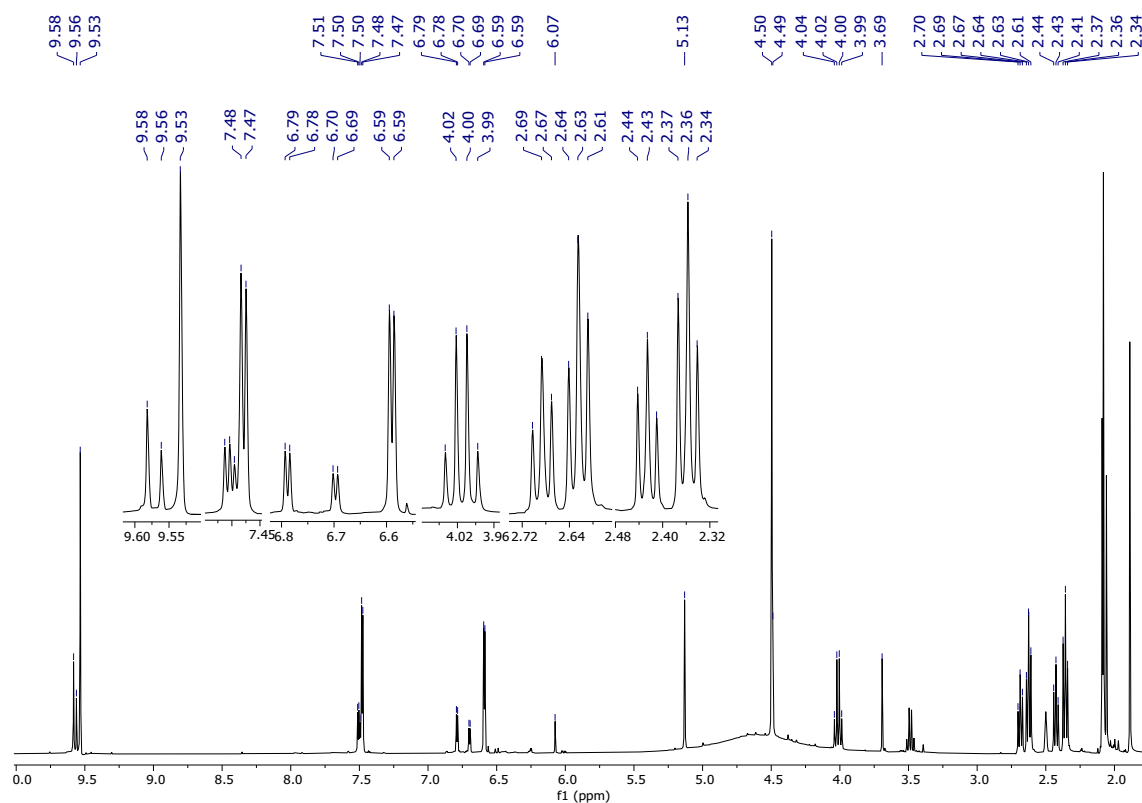


Fig. S10 ^1H NMR spectrum clipping (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 25 °C) of the crude obtained from the organic phase of the reaction of conversion of inulin *dahlia tubers* into HMF, EMF, AMF, LE and LA using niobium pentachloride as catalyst (12.5% wt), 200 °C, 3 h.

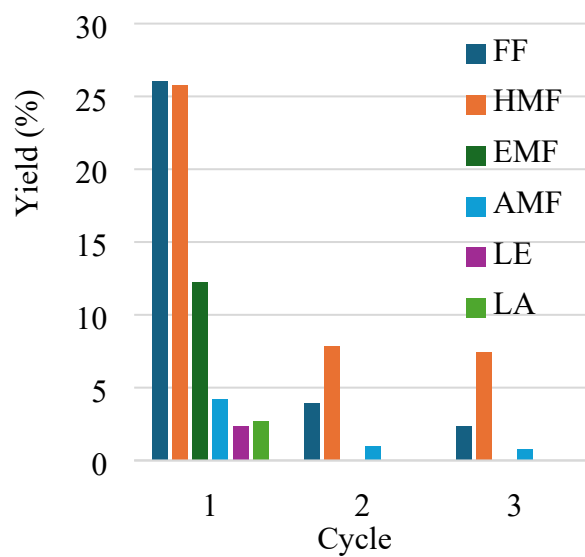


Fig. S11 Products yields (^1H NMR analysis) in experiments evaluating reuse of catalytic system. *Reagents and conditions*: 100.0 mg of substrate, 12.5% wt of niobium

pentachloride, 2.0 mL of saturated aqueous NaCl solution, 6.0 mL of ethyl acetate, autoclave reactor, 180 min and 200 °C.