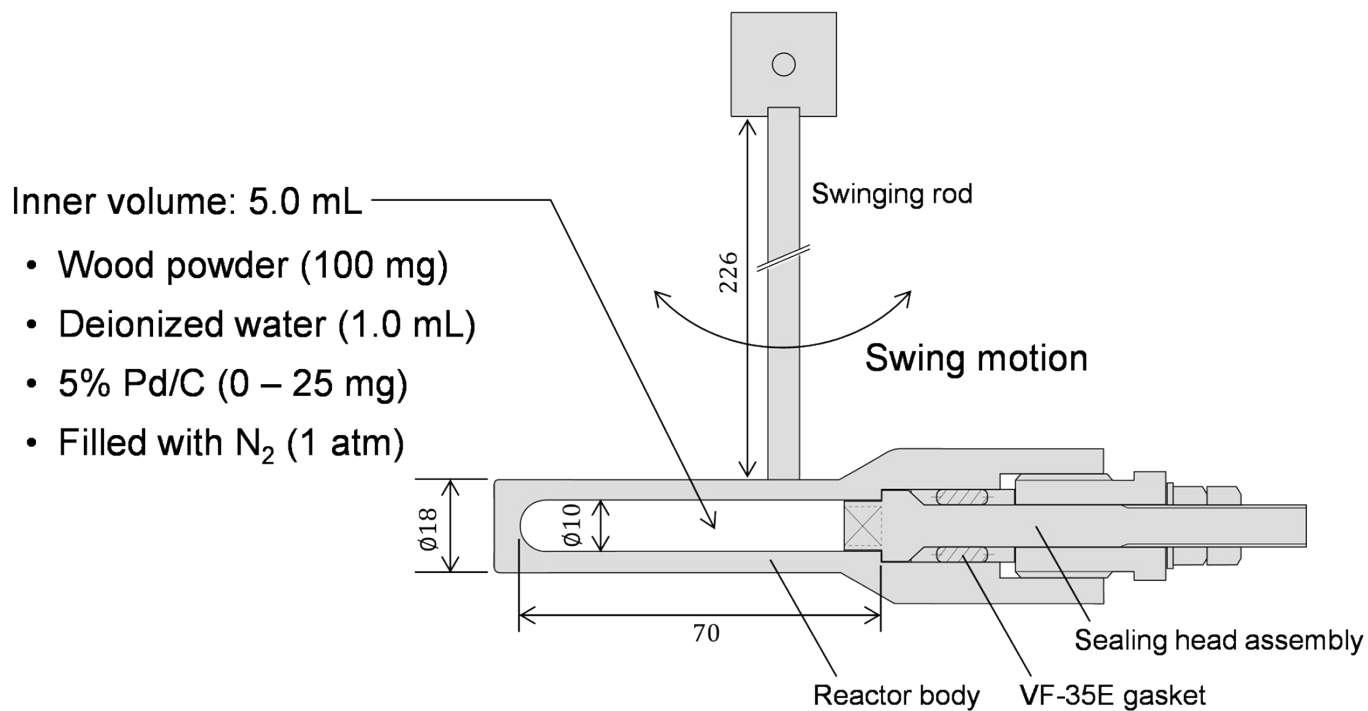


## Pyrolysis-assisted catalytic conversion of wood in hot-compressed water for the production of aromatic monomers and syngas without external hydrogen addition

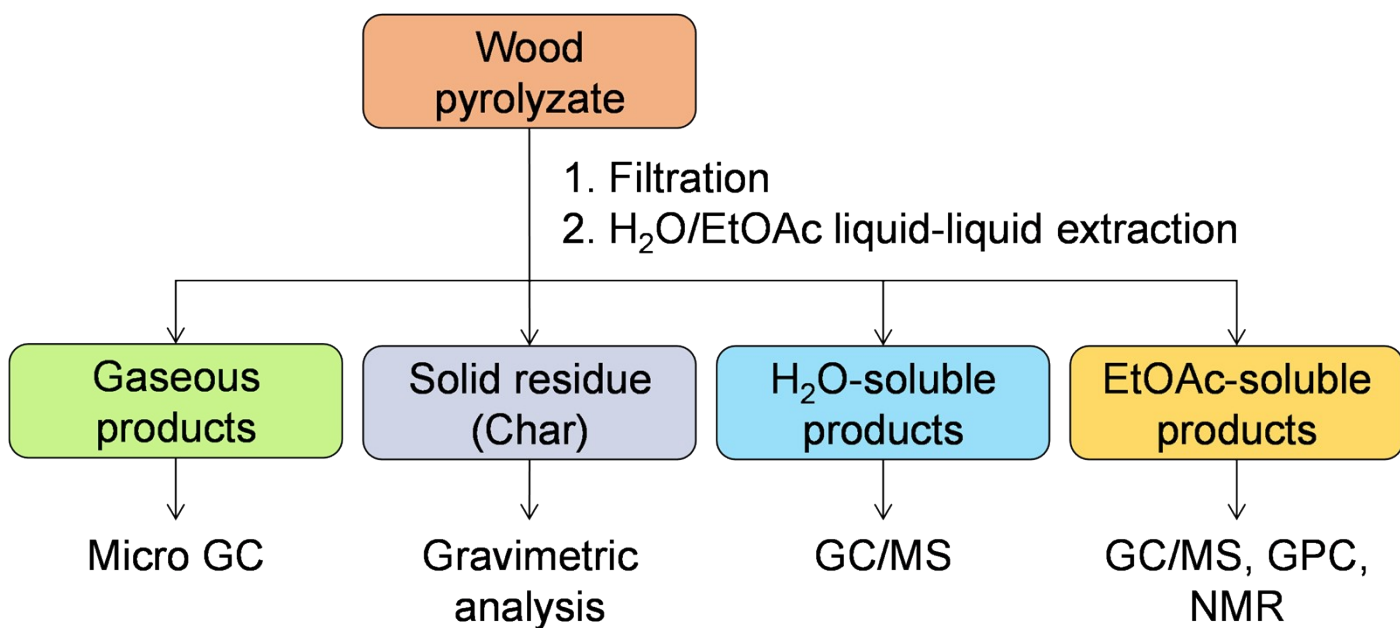
Alex Ikeda-Francisco<sup>a</sup>, Jiaqi Wang<sup>a</sup>, Eiji Minami<sup>a</sup> and Haruo Kawamoto<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Socio-Environmental Energy Science, Graduate School of Energy Science, Kyoto University, Yoshidahonmachi, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8501, Japan.

\*Corresponding author. E-mail: [kawamoto@energy.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:kawamoto@energy.kyoto-u.ac.jp) (Haruo Kawamoto).



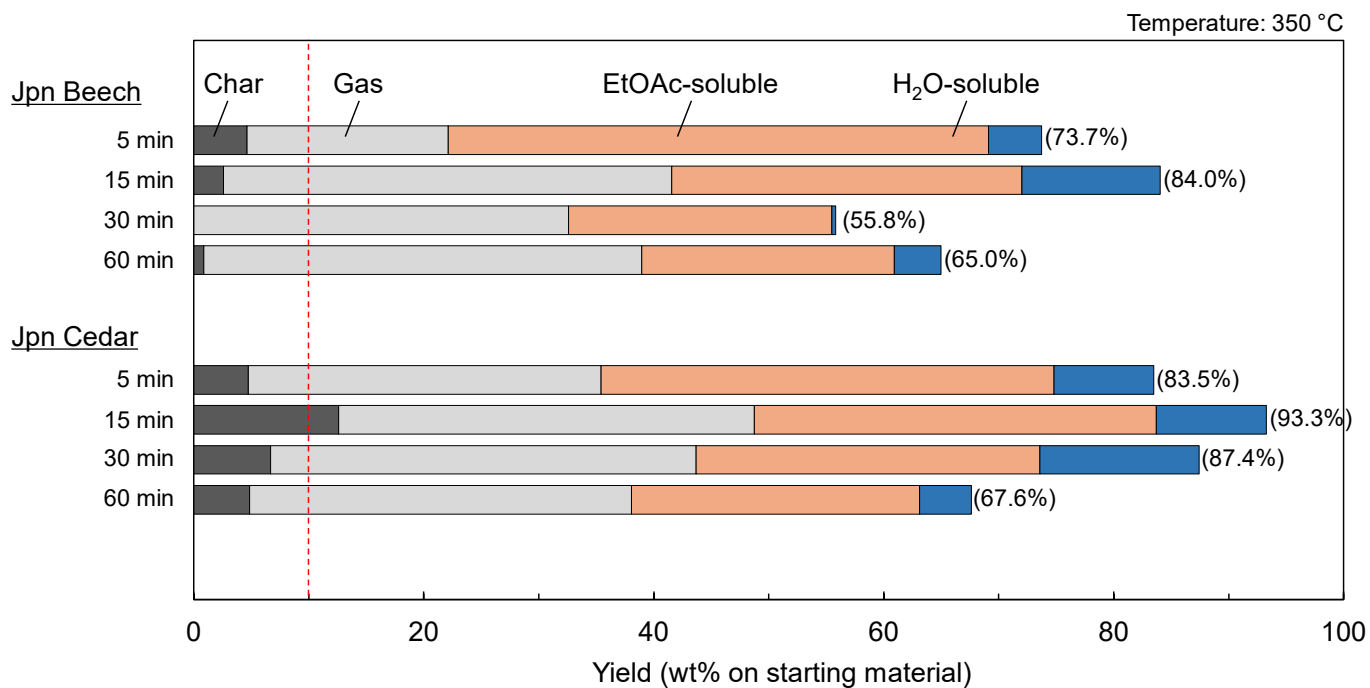
**Fig. S1** Schematic diagram of the Inconel 625 batch reactor used for the conversion.



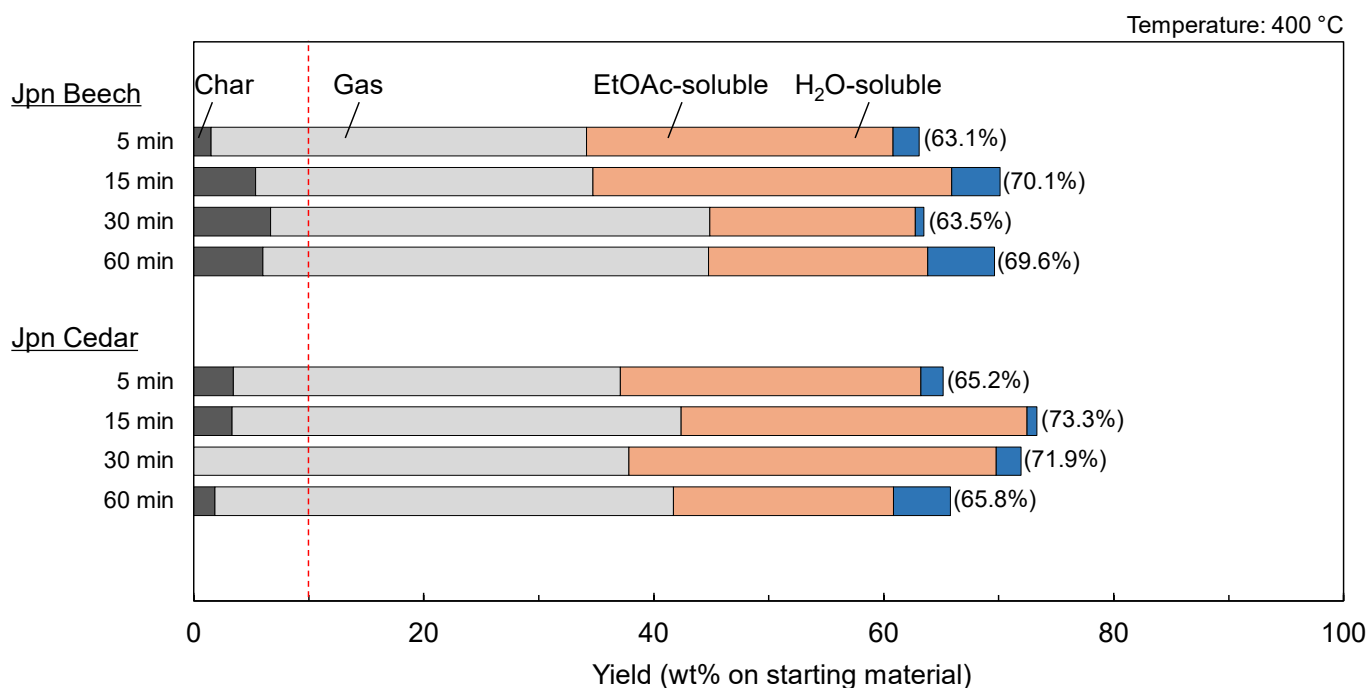
**Fig. S2** Fractionation and analytical methods of the products.

**Table S1** Yields of solid residue (char), gaseous products and lignin-derived monomers from wood at various pyrolysis conditions.

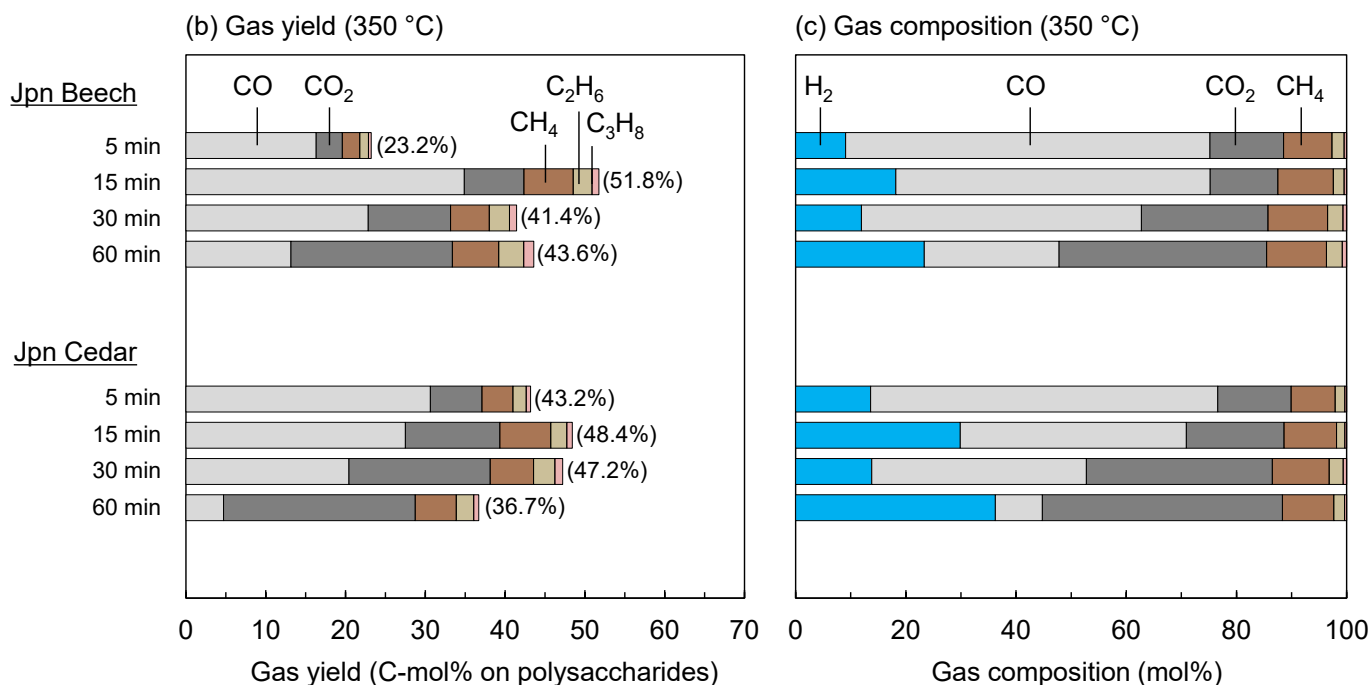
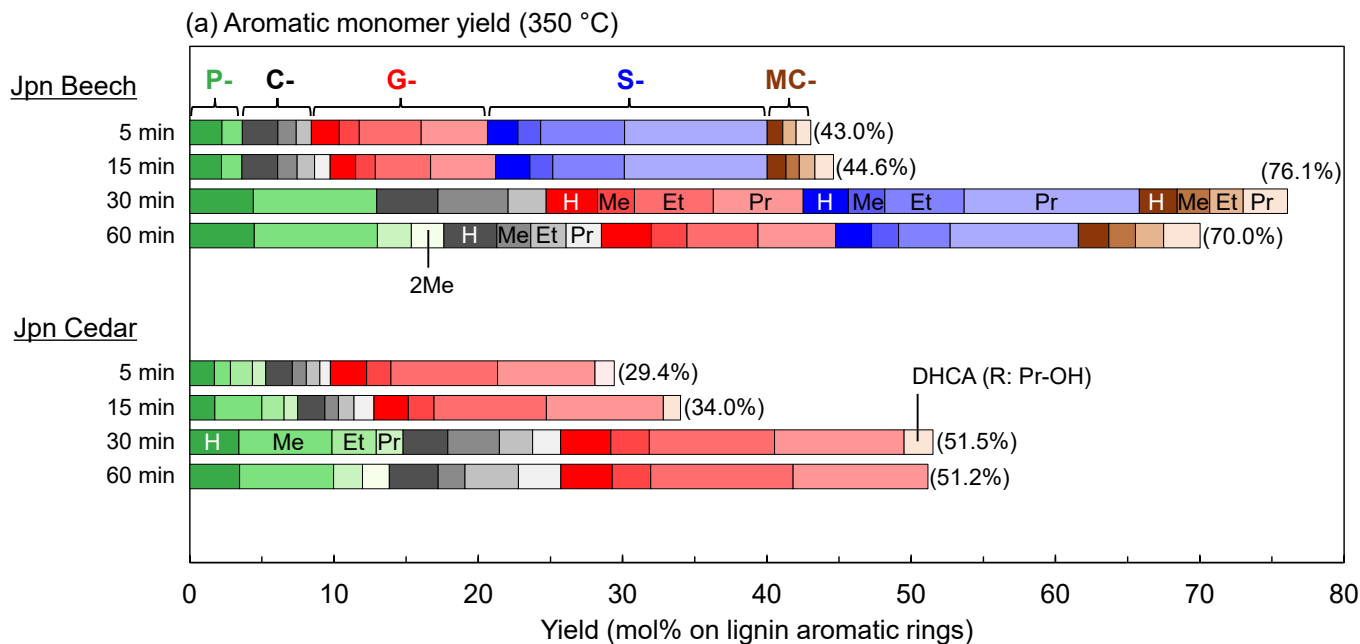
Reaction conditions					Japanese beech			Japanese cedar		
Temperature (°C)	Reaction time (min)	Pd/C catalyst (mg)	Solvent	Solvent volume (mL)	Solid residue (wt.%)	Gas yield (C-mol%)	Monomer yield (mol%)	Solid residue (wt.%)	Gas yield (C-mol%)	Monomer yield (mol%)
300	60	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	4.1	40.9	69.7	8.9	28.9	42.9
350	60	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	0.9	43.6	70.0	4.8	36.7	51.2
375	60	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	4.9	46.3	77.1	7.4	41.0	58.0
400	60	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	6.0	43.9	68.9	1.8	48.0	59.4
450	60	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	10.4	58.0	23.1	ND*	53.6	46.3
350	60	0	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	6.3	14.3	39.8	13.3	9.6	20.3
350	5	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	4.6	23.2	43.0	4.7	43.2	29.4
350	15	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	2.6	51.8	44.6	12.6	48.4	34.0
350	30	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	ND	41.4	76.1	6.7	47.2	51.5
400	5	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	1.5	30.4	66.7	3.4	31.3	38.3
400	15	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	5.4	27.3	74.3	3.3	36.3	42.3
400	30	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	6.7	35.5	69.3	ND	35.2	50.2
350	60	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	2	1.9	35.4	81.6	-	-	-
400	60	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	2	1.2	38.5	50.6	-	-	-
450	5	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	8.8	60.6	55.9	ND	60.5	57.7
300	5	25	H <sub>2</sub> O	1	8.0	33.6	23.1	9.6	34.2	25.7



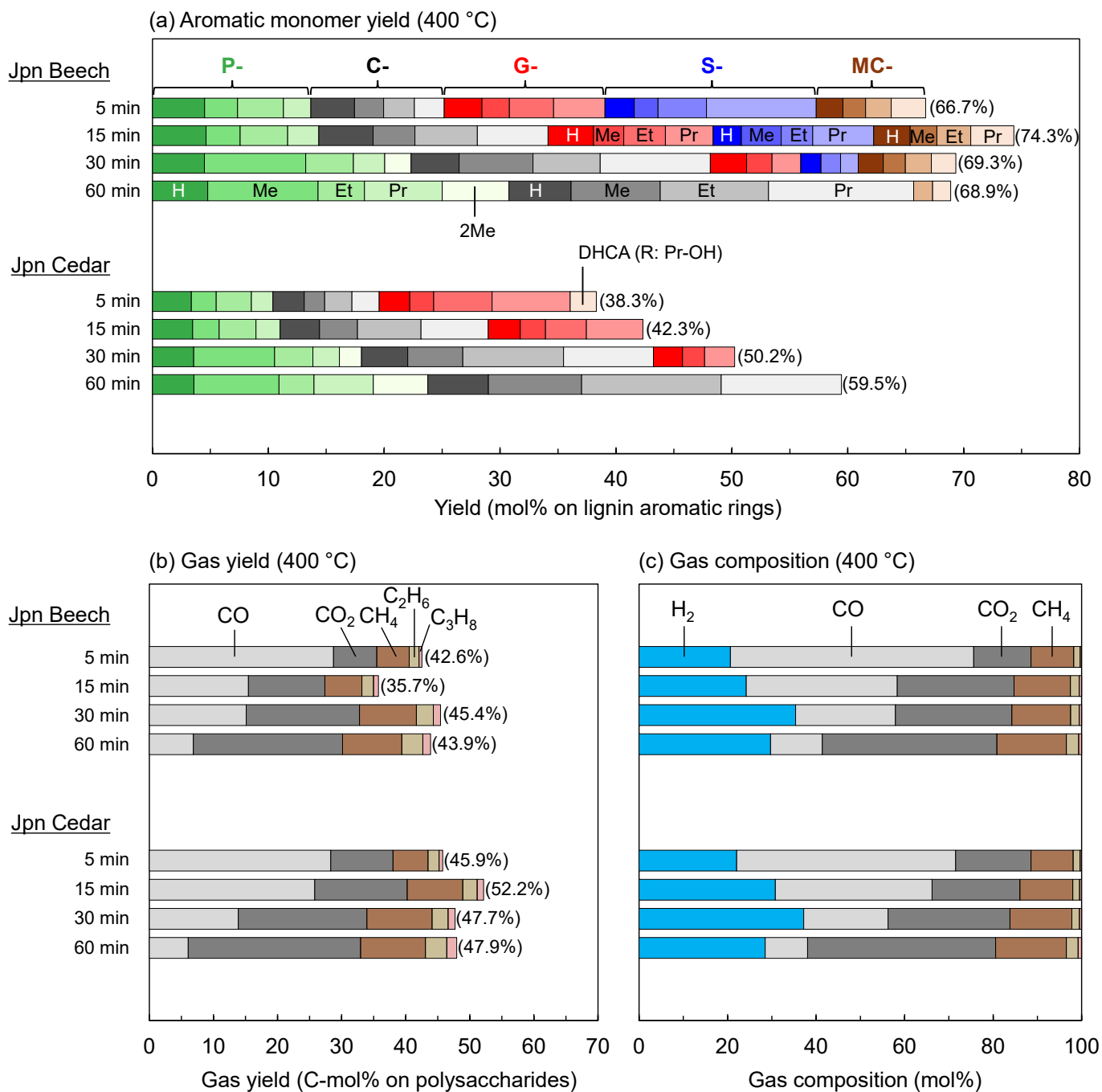
**Fig. S3** Yields of char, gas, EtOAc-soluble and water-soluble products from Japanese beech and Japanese cedar (100 mg) treated at 350 °C for various reaction times in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> (1 atm, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg). Values in parentheses indicate the total yield of the products.



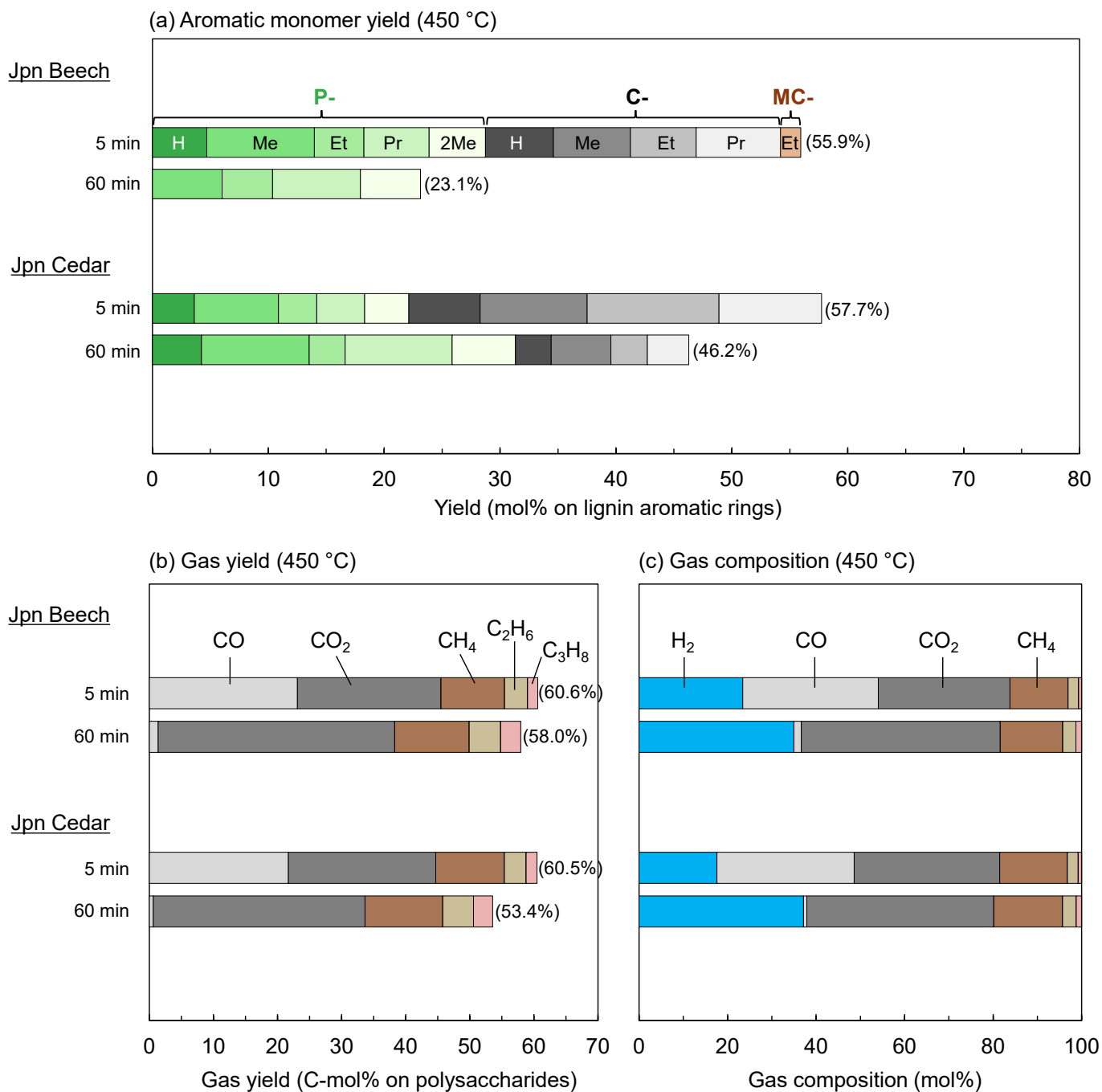
**Fig. S4** Yields of char, gas, EtOAc-soluble and water-soluble products from Japanese beech and Japanese cedar (100 mg) treated at 400 °C for various reaction times in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> (1 atm, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg). Values in parentheses indicate the total yield of the products.



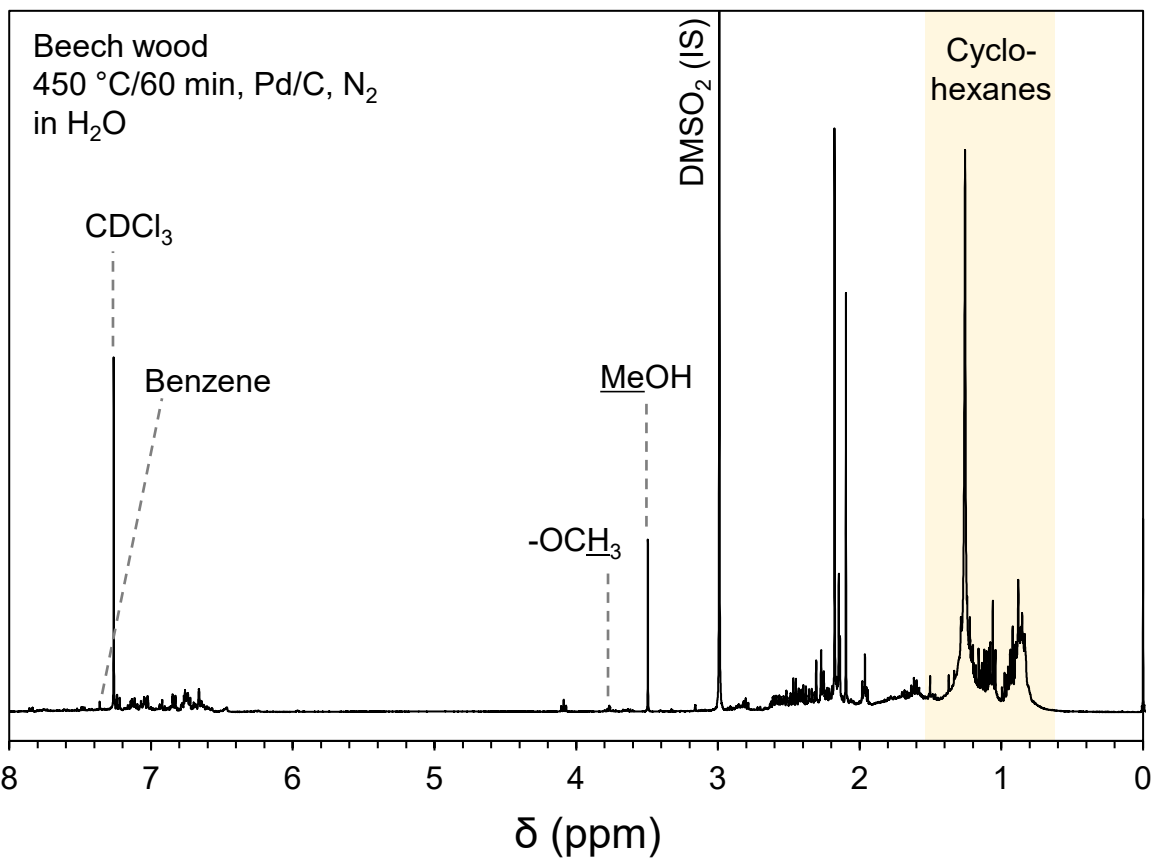
**Fig. S5** Yields of (a) aromatic monomers, (b) gaseous products, and (c) gas composition from Japanese beech and Japanese cedar (100 mg) treated at 350 °C for various reaction times in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> (1 atm, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg). Values in parentheses indicate the total yield of aromatic monomers or gases.



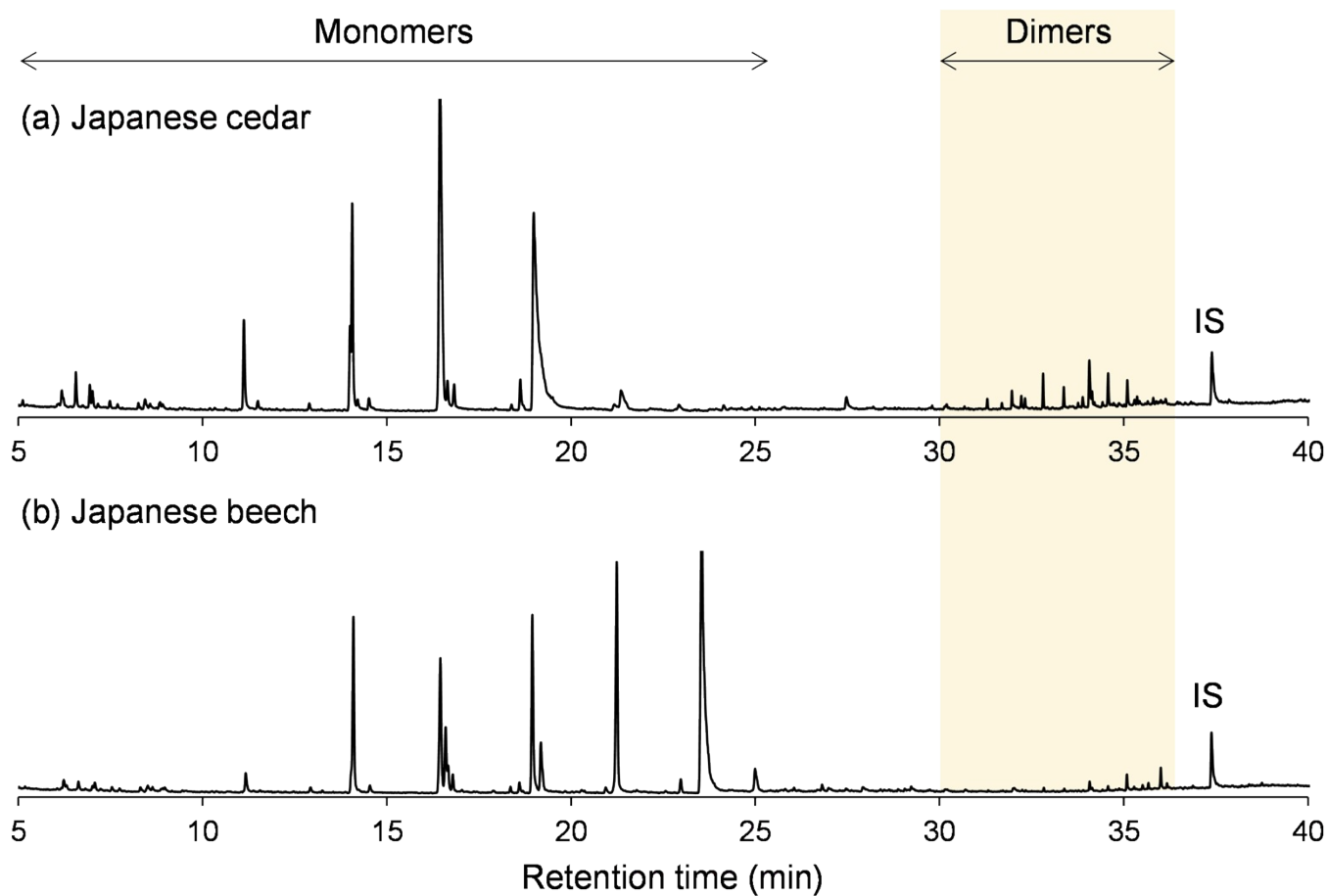
**Fig. S6** Yields of (a) aromatic monomers, (b) gaseous products, and (c) gas composition from Japanese beech and Japanese cedar (100 mg) treated at 400 °C for various reaction times in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> (1 atm, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg). Values in parentheses indicate the total yield of aromatic monomers or gases.



**Fig. S7** Yields of (a) aromatic monomers, (b) gaseous products, and (c) gas composition from Japanese beech and Japanese cedar (100 mg) treated at 450 °C for various reaction times in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> (1 atm, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg). Values in parentheses indicate the total yield of aromatic monomers or gases.

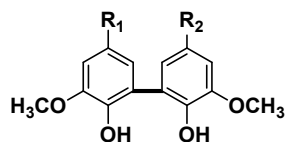


**Fig. S8** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of CDCl<sub>3</sub>-soluble products obtained from Japanese beech (100 mg) over Pd/C (25 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 atm, prior to heating) at 450 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): dimethyl sulfone (DMSO<sub>2</sub>).



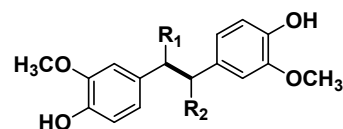
**Fig. S9** Assignment of dimeric products on the GC/MS total-ion chromatogram of EtOAc-soluble products after trimethylsilylation obtained from Japanese cedar wood (100 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 mL, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg) at 350 °C for 5 min. Internal standard (IS): 1,3,5-triphenylbenzene.

(a) 5-5 dimers

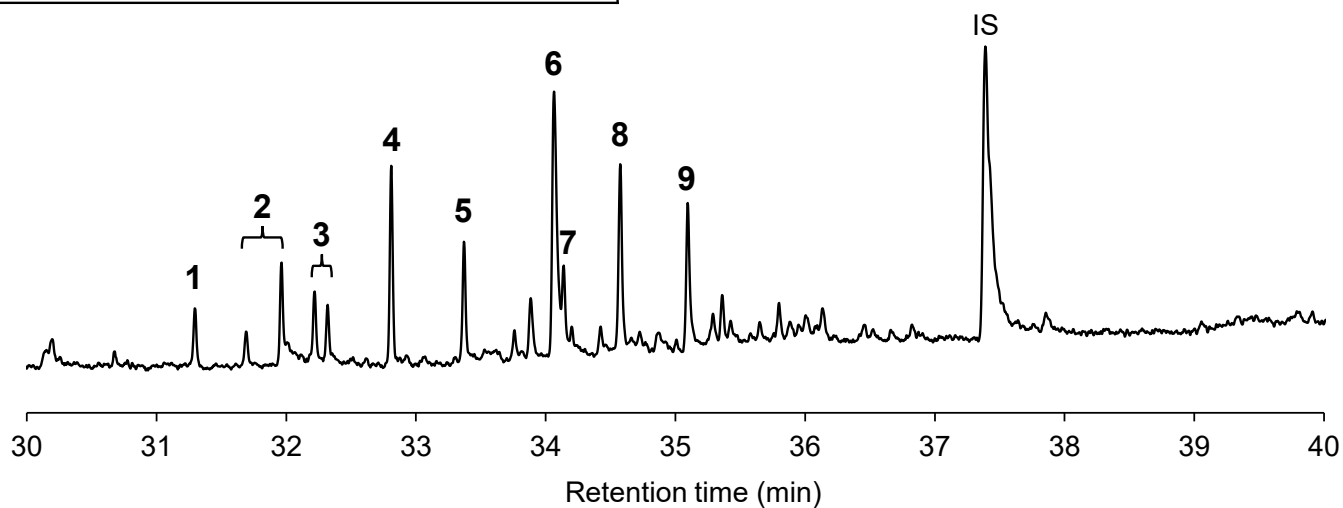


Compound	m/z (TMS)	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>
1	418	Me	Me
2	432	H (Me)	Pr (Et)
3	446	Me (Et)	Pr (Et)
4	460	Et	Pr
5	474	Pr	Pr

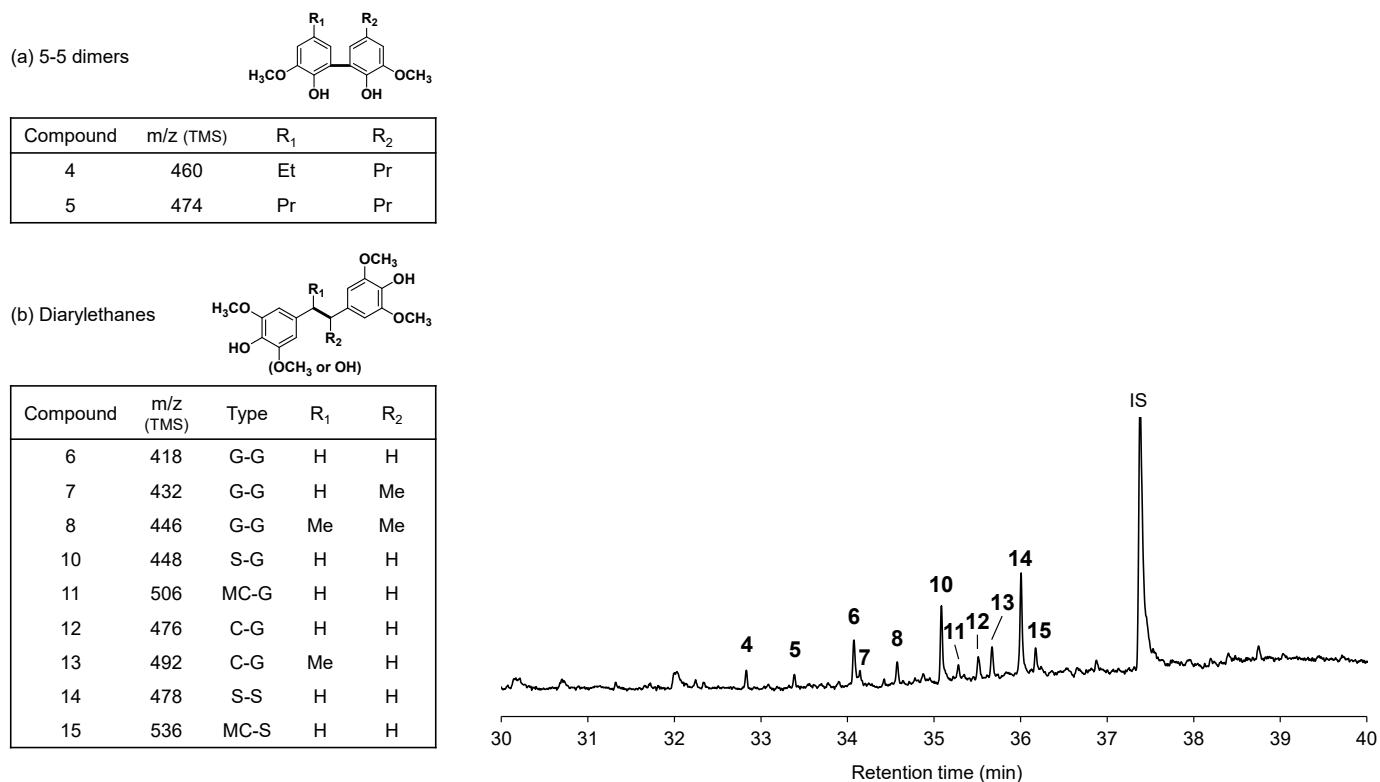
(b) Diarylethanes



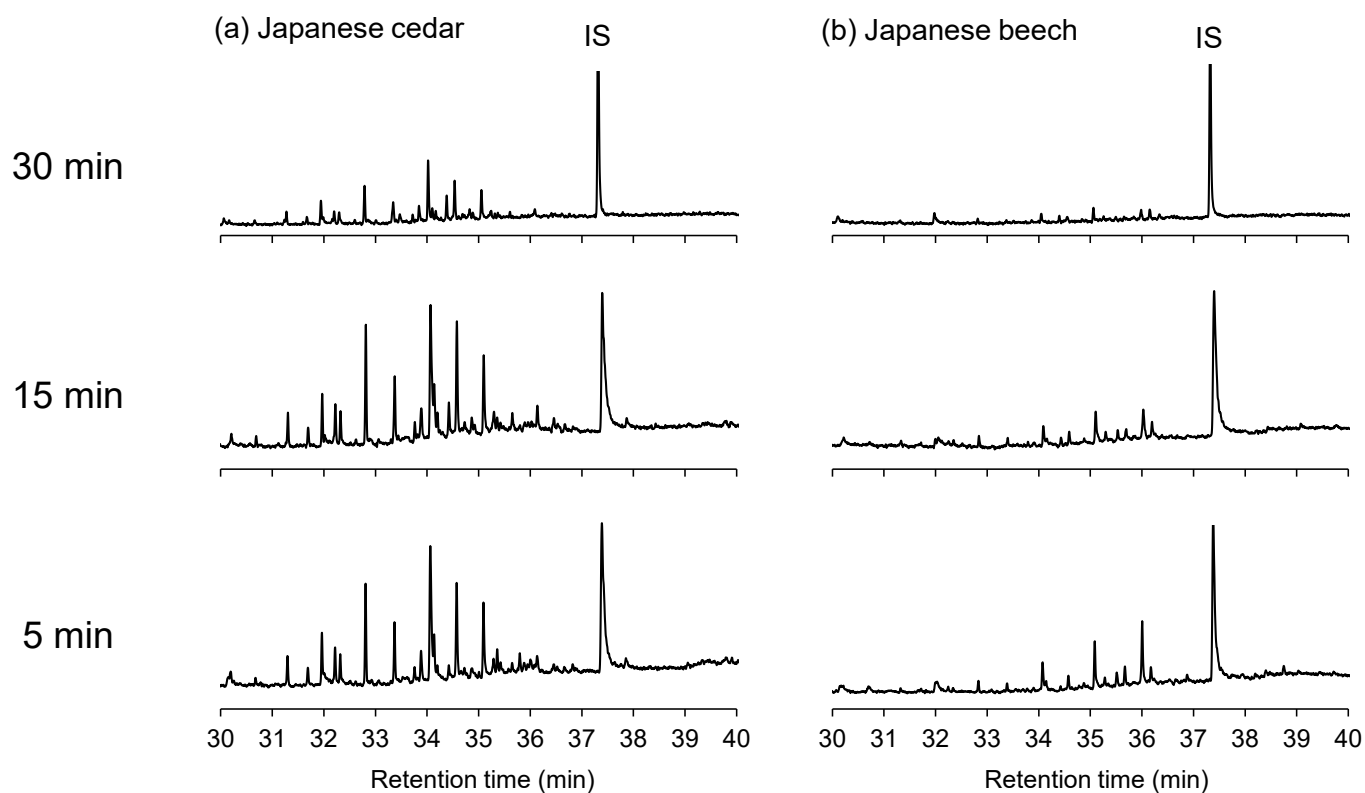
Compound	m/z (TMS)	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>
6	418	H	H
7	432	H	Me
8	446	Me	Me
9	460	Et	Me



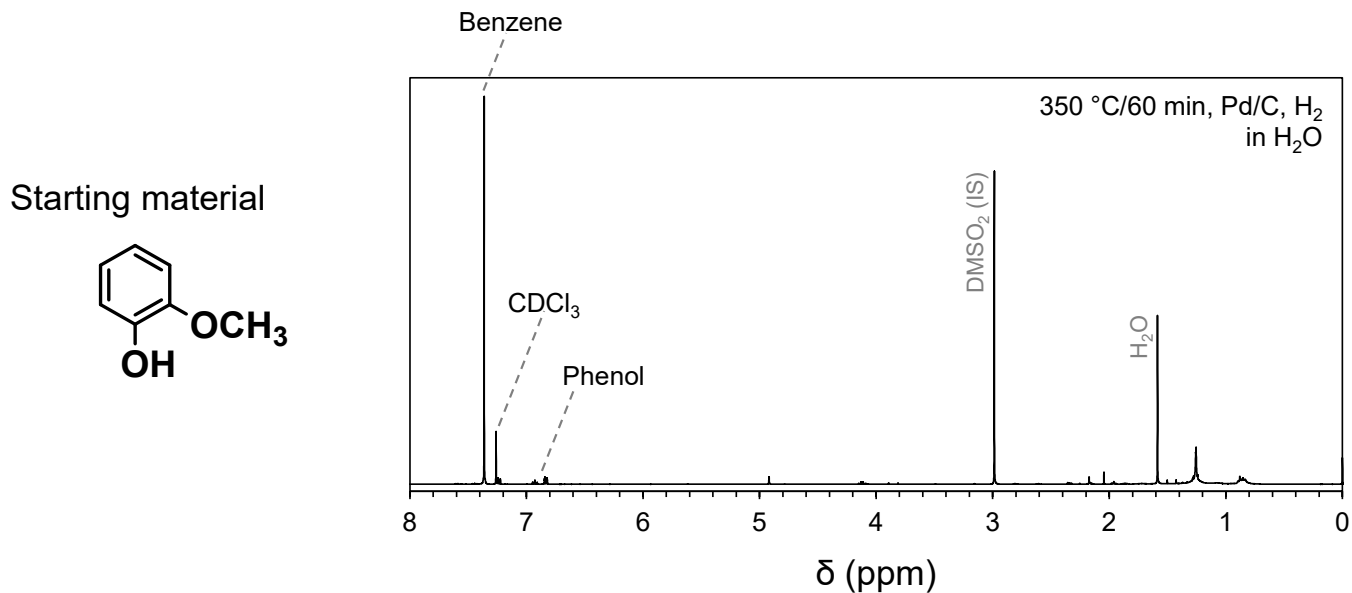
**Fig. S10** Assignment of dimeric products on the GC/MS total-ion chromatogram of EtOAc-soluble products after trimethylsilylation obtained from Japanese cedar wood (100 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 mL, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg) at 350 °C for 5 min. Internal standard (IS): 1,3,5-triphenylbenzene.



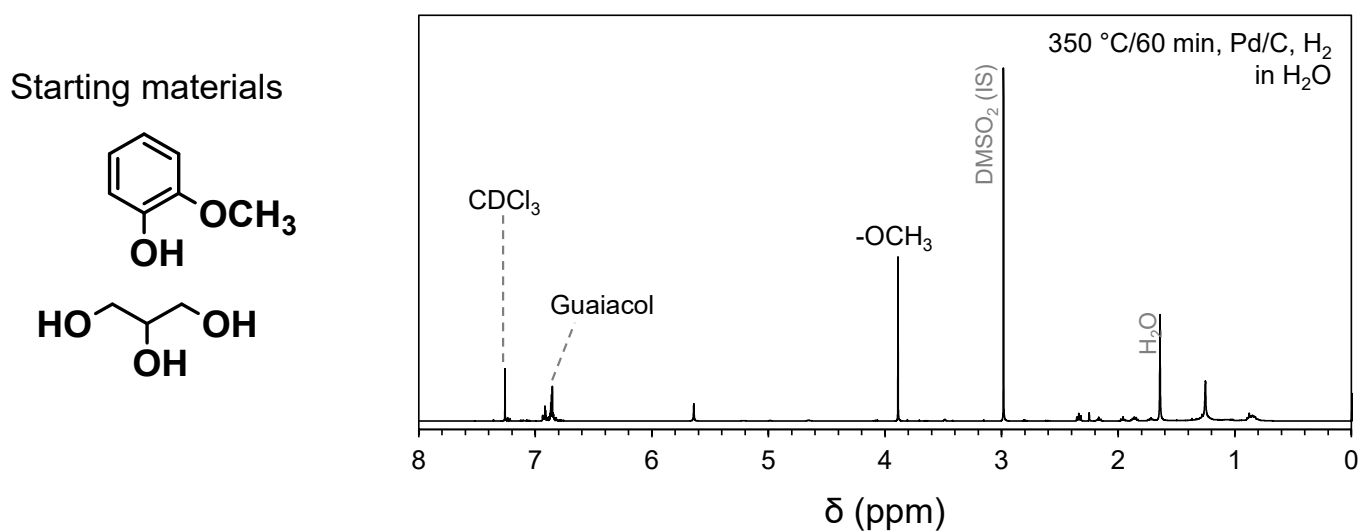
**Fig. S11** Assignment of dimeric products on the GC/MS total-ion chromatogram of EtOAc-soluble products after trimethylsilylation obtained from Japanese beech wood (100 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 mL, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg) at 350 °C for 5 min. Internal standard (IS): 1,3,5-triphenylbenzene.



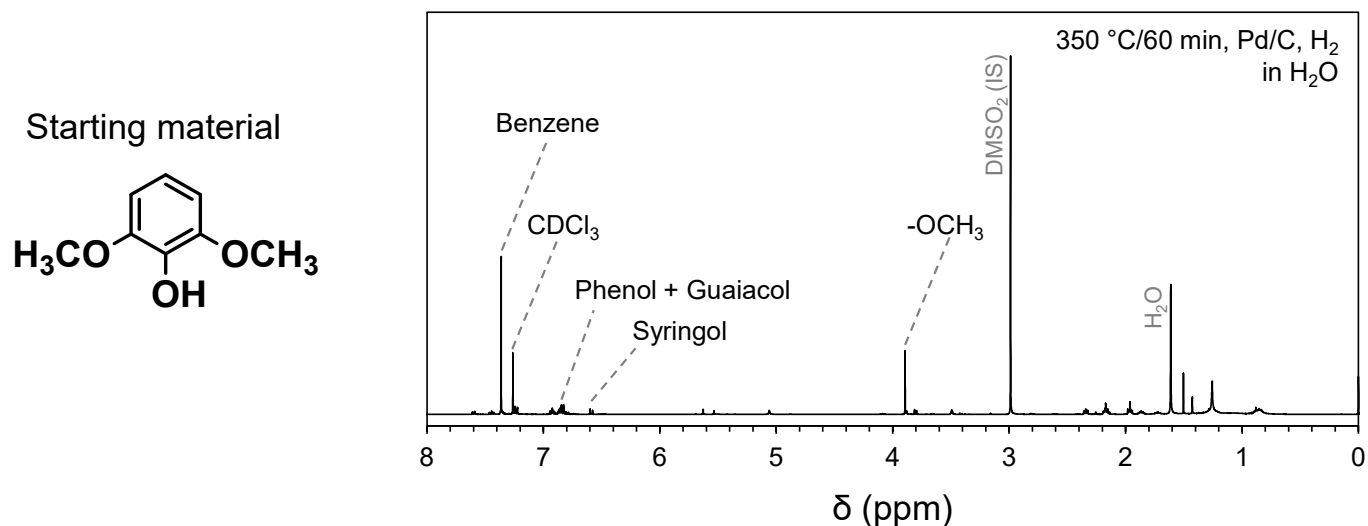
**Fig. S12** Assignment of dimeric products on the GC/MS total-ion chromatograms of EtOAc-soluble products after trimethylsilylation obtained from (a) Japanese cedar wood (100 mg) and (b) Japanese beech wood in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 mL, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg) at 350 °C for 5, 15 and 30 min. Internal standard (IS): 1,3,5-triphenylbenzene.



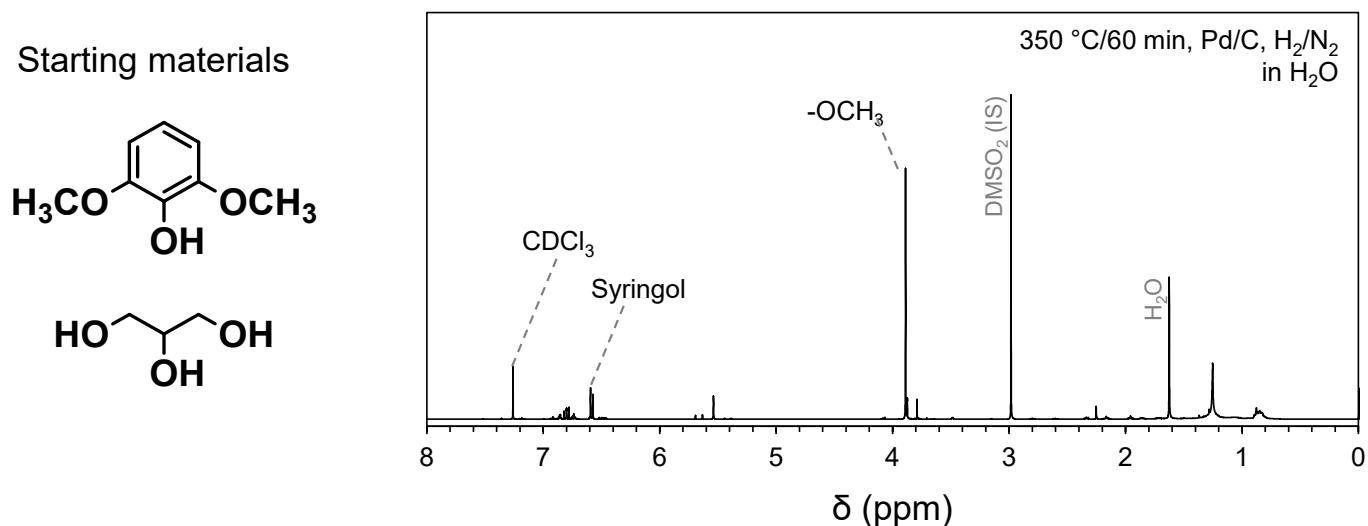
**Fig. S13** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of CDCl<sub>3</sub>-soluble products obtained from guaiacol (20 mg) over Pd/C (20 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 atm, prior to heating) at 350 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): dimethyl sulfone (DMSO<sub>2</sub>, 1.50 mg).



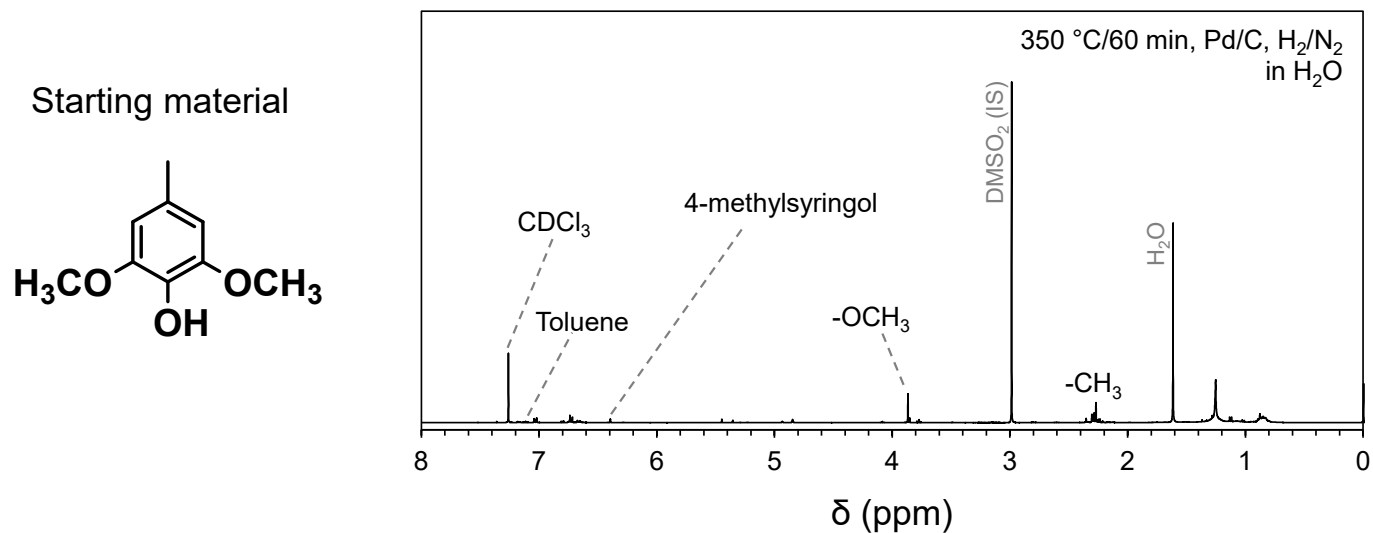
**Fig. S14** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of CDCl<sub>3</sub>-soluble products obtained from a mixture of guaiacol (20 mg) and glycerol (20 mg) over Pd/C (20 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 atm, prior to heating) at 350 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): dimethyl sulfone (DMSO<sub>2</sub>, 1.72 mg).



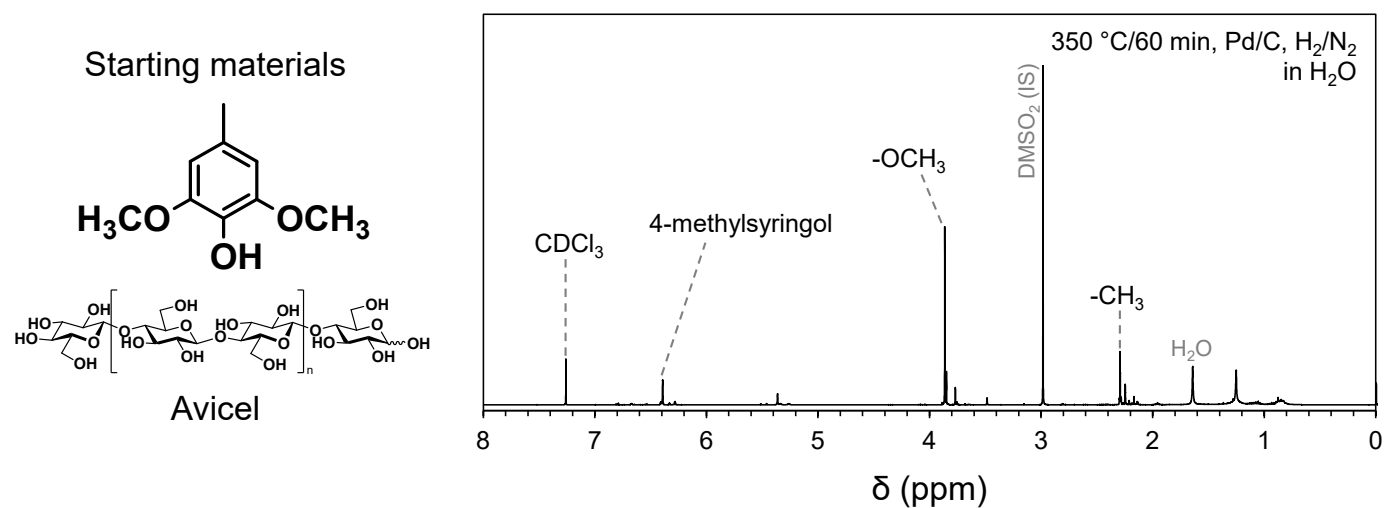
**Fig. S15** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of CDCl<sub>3</sub>-soluble products obtained from syringol (20 mg) over Pd/C (20 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 atm, prior to heating) at 350 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): dimethyl sulfone (DMSO<sub>2</sub>, 1.70 mg).



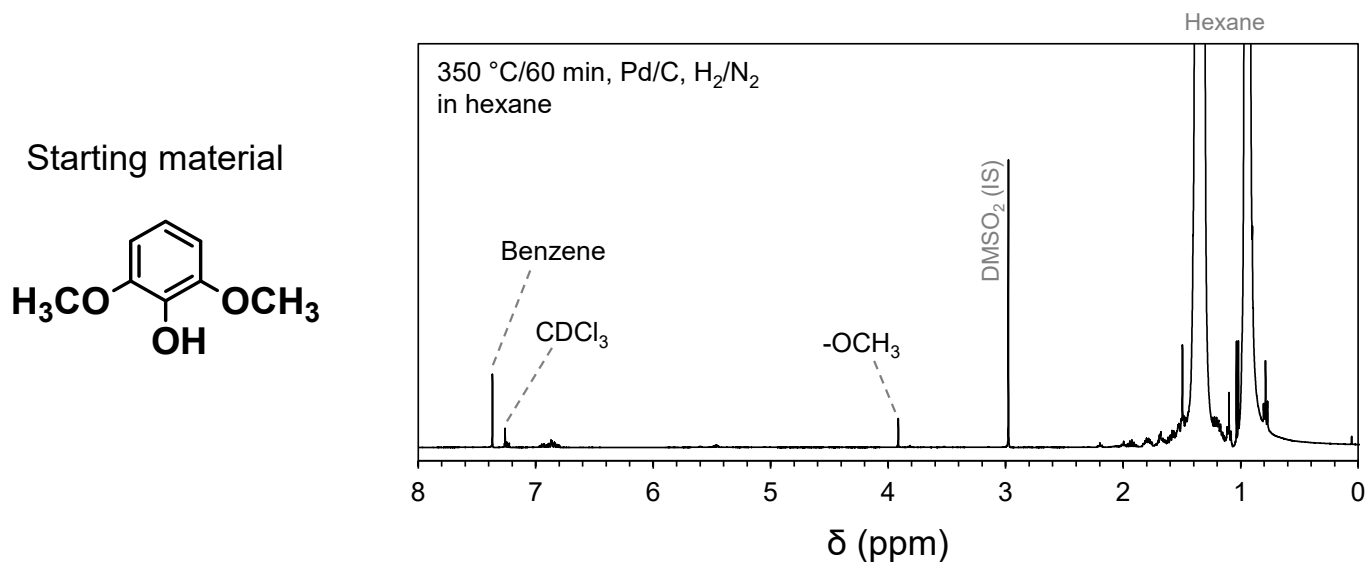
**Fig. S16** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of CDCl<sub>3</sub>-soluble products obtained from a mixture of syringol (20 mg) and glycerol (20 mg) over Pd/C (20 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 atm, prior to heating) at 350 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): dimethyl sulfone (DMSO<sub>2</sub>, 1.72 mg).



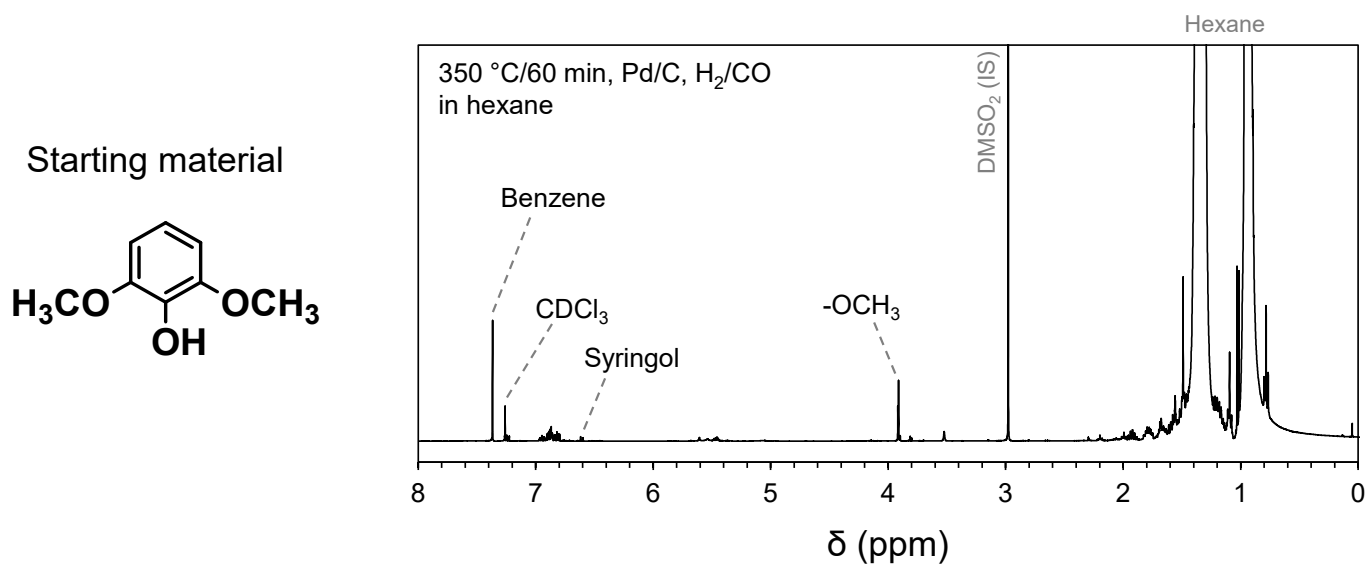
**Fig. S17** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of CDCl<sub>3</sub>-soluble products obtained from 4-Methylsyngingol (20 mg) over Pd/C (20 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 atm, prior to heating) at 350 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): dimethyl sulfone (DMSO<sub>2</sub>, 1.22 mg).



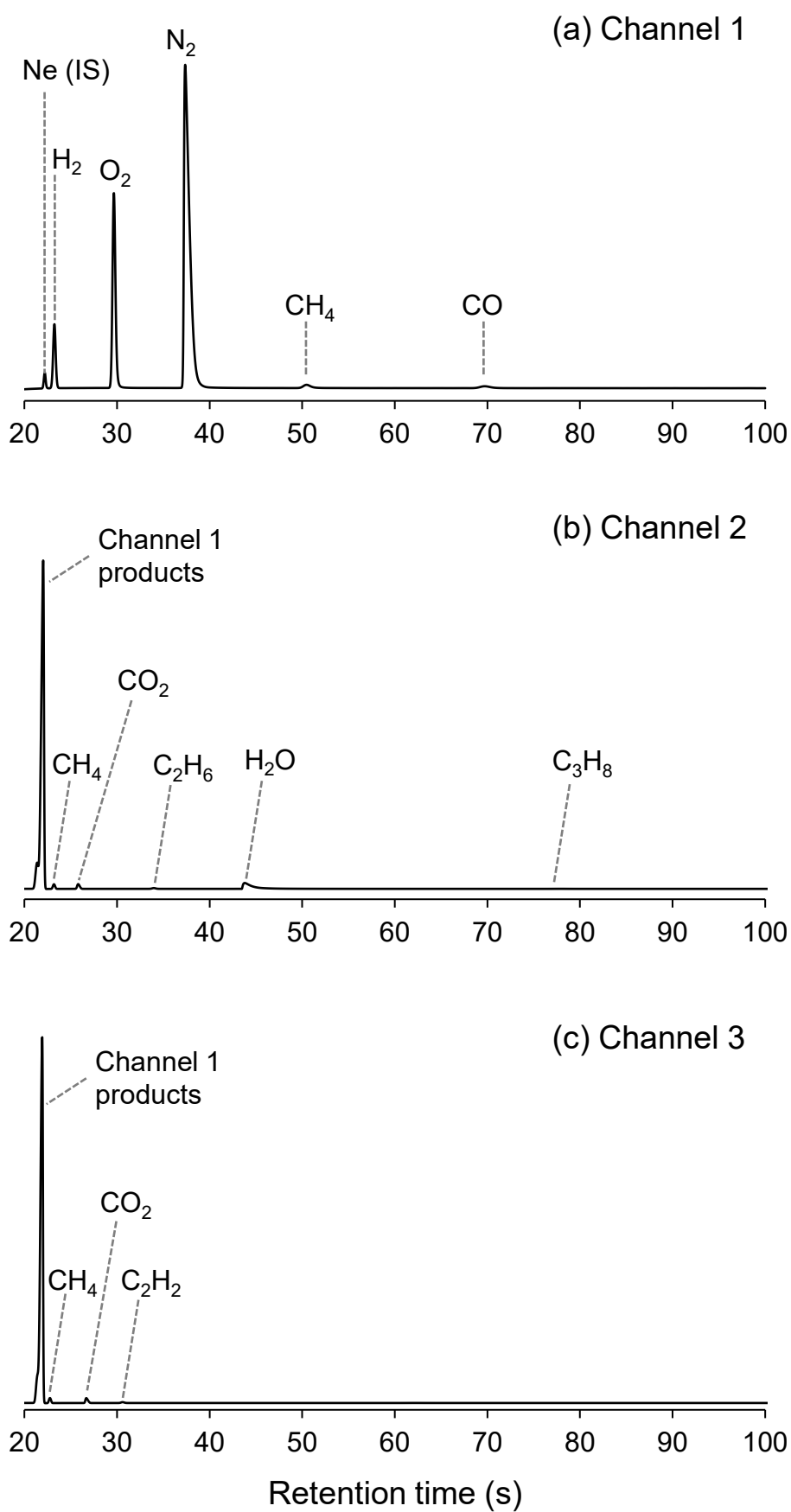
**Fig. S18** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of CDCl<sub>3</sub>-soluble products obtained from a mixture of 4-Methylsyngingol (20 mg) and Avicel (20 mg) over Pd/C (20 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 atm, prior to heating) at 350 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): dimethyl sulfone (DMSO<sub>2</sub>, 1.93 mg).



**Fig. S19** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of CDCl<sub>3</sub>-soluble products obtained from syringol (20 mg) over Pd/C (20 mg) in hexane (1 mL) under a H<sub>2</sub>:N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 atm, 1:1 v/v, prior to heating) at 350 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): dimethyl sulfone (DMSO<sub>2</sub>, 1.50 mg).



**Fig. S20** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of CDCl<sub>3</sub>-soluble products obtained from syringol (20 mg) over Pd/C (20 mg) in hexane (1 mL) under a H<sub>2</sub>:CO atmosphere (1 atm, 1:1 v/v, prior to heating) at 350 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): dimethyl sulfone (DMSO<sub>2</sub>, 1.46 mg).

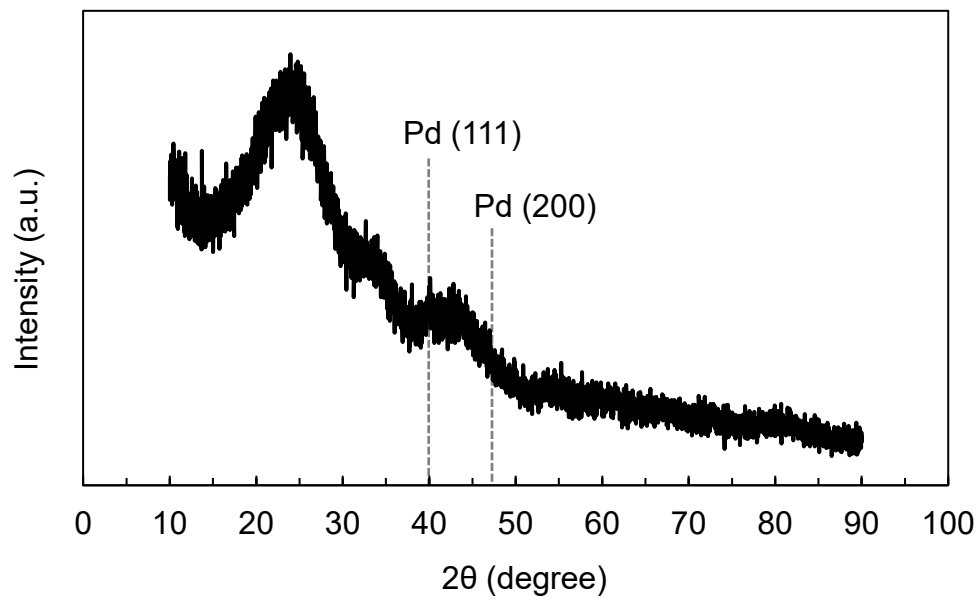


**Fig. S21** Representative GC chromatograms of gaseous products obtained from Japanese beech wood (100 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (1 mL, prior to heating) over Pd/C (25 mg) at 350 °C for 60 min. Internal standard (IS): Ne (5 mL, 25 °C, 0.1 MPa).

**Table S2** Single-point response factors obtained during Micro GC calibration

Standard	Channel #	Response factor (relative to Ne)	Correction factor (relative to N <sub>2</sub> in air)
Ne	1	1.0	-
H <sub>2</sub>	1	3.65	-
O <sub>2</sub>	1	0.662	0.33426
N <sub>2</sub>	1	-	1.0
CH <sub>4</sub>	1	1.33	-
CO	1	0.47	-
CO <sub>2</sub>	2	3.5	0.019
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>n</sub> (*)	2, 3	9.44	-
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	2	11.2	-
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	2	7.75	-
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	2	9.26	-

\*: includes both C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>.



**Fig. S22** XRD pattern of the 5% Pd/C catalyst used in the present study.



April 19 2024

**NACALAI TESQUE, INC.**

Kyoto Factory

17 Ishibashi, Kaide-cho,  
Muko, Kyoto 617-0004  
TEL : +81- (0) 75-251-1730

Product number    Grade    Lot number    Package size  
25910-36    EP    V4F5246    10G

Product name  
Palladium Carbon

Test Item	Unit	Specification	Result
Loss on drying	%	max. 10.0	0.5
Assay (Pd)	%	4.0 - 5.5	5.0

Remarks

*k. Goya*

SIGNATURE

**Fig. S23** Composition of the Pd/C catalyst as informed by the manufacturer.