

## **Supporting Information**

### **Lipase-catalysed direct Mannich reaction in water: utilization of biocatalytic promiscuity for C-C bond formation in a “one-pot” synthesis**

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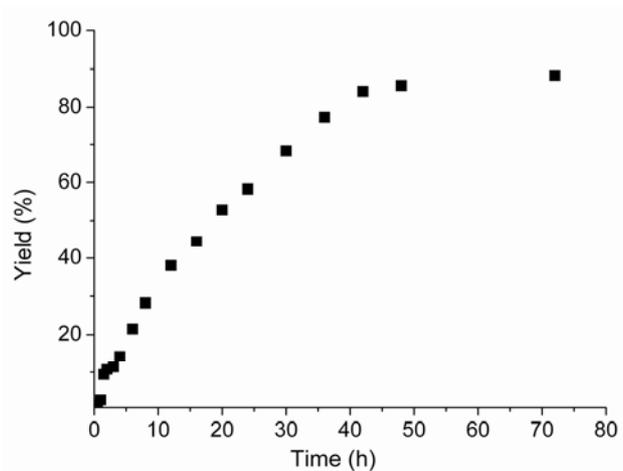
## Experimental Section

### Materials and General Methods

Lipase from *Candida antarctica* (CAL-B), lipase from porcine pancreas (PPL), lipase from *Candida cylindracea* (CCL), lipase from *Candida rugosa* (CRL), lipase from *Mucor javanicus* (MJL) and lipase from *Rhizopus oryzae* (ROL) were purchased from Sigma. Lipase from *Mucor miehei* (MML) and lipase from *Penicillium camemberti* (PCL) were purchased from Fluka. Lipase from *Pseudomonas fluorescens* (PFL), Lipase from *Penicillium roqueforti* (PRL) and Lipase from *Burkholderia cepacia* (BCL) were a gift from Amano.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DMX 400. Chemical shifts are given in  $\delta$  relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS). HPLC was carried out using a Shimadzu organizer consisting of a LC-2010A HT Integrator, a UV/VIS Detector. C18 column was used in the HPLC experiments with methanol/water = 70:30 (v/v), 0.8 ml/min and UV= 254 nm. Electrospray ionization (ESI) mass spectrometry experiments were performed on Bruker Daltonics Bio TOF mass spectrometer.

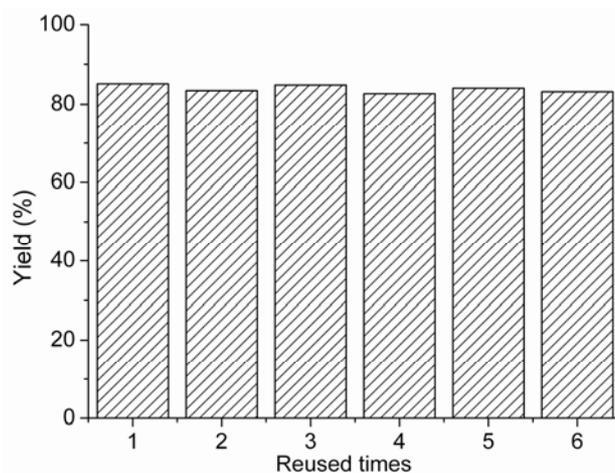
### Time effect of the Mannich reaction catalyzed by MML



**Fig. S1** Time course of the reaction catalysed by MML

Reaction conditions: a solution of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.3 mmol), aniline (0.33 mmol), acetone (6 ml), 6 ml water and 30 mg MML was shaken at 200 rpm at 30 °C, and 40 µl reaction solvent was taken out at different time and yield was calculated by HPLC.

### Catalyst recovery experiment

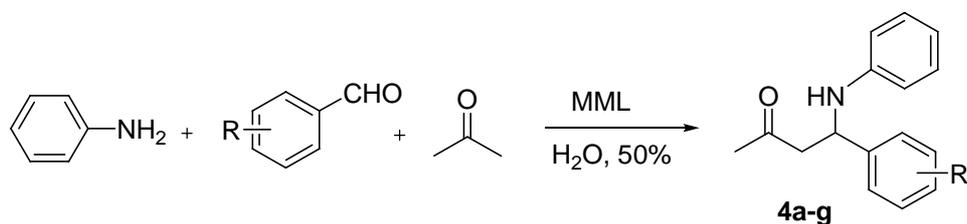


**Fig. S2** The yield of Mannich Reaction by reused MML

Reaction conditions: a solution of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (**2**, 0.1 mmol), aniline (**1**, 0.11 mmol), acetone (**3**, 1 ml), 2 ml solvent (the ratio of the mixture solvent is 1:1 in volume) and 10 mg MML was shaken at 200 rpm at 30 °C for 28 h. The catalyst can be easily recovered by washing with

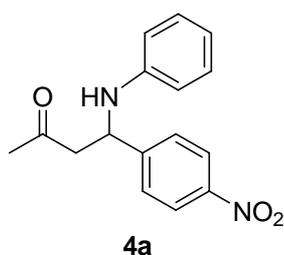
water.

### Substrate expansion and characterization



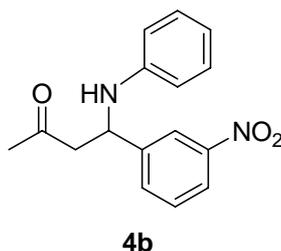
Entry	R	4	Yield (%)
1	4-NO <sub>2</sub>	4a	83.5
2	3-NO <sub>2</sub>	4b	82.4
3	H	4c	87.3
4	4-OMe	4d	89.1
5	4-OH	4e	43.6
6	4-CN	4f	65.3
7	4-Cl	4g	83.1

Reaction conditions: the reaction was initiated by adding 1 mmol aldehyde, 1.1 mmol amine and 50 mg MML to a mixture of 8 ml acetone and 8 ml water. The suspension was maintained at 30 °C and shaken at 200 rpm for 48 h. The residue was then filtered off and the solvent was evaporated. A single product was prepared by silica gel chromatography with an eluent consisting of petroleum/ethyl acetate (4 : 1, v/v).

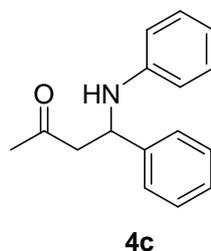


**4-Phenylamino-4-(4-nitrophenyl)butan-2-one (4a):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz),

$\delta$  (ppm): 8.23-8.18 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 7.57-7.54 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 7.15-7.10 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 6.71-6.68 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 6.50-6.48 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 4.94 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, Ph-CH-), 4.48 (s, 1H, NH), 2.97 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.15 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 205.9, 150.4, 147.2, 146.1, 128.8, 124.2, 124.1, 118.6, 113.8, 53.8, 50.6, 30.7. ESI-MS: 307.1 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

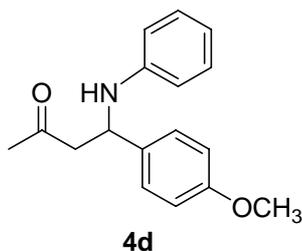


**4-Phenylamino-4-(3-nitrophenyl)butan-2-one (4b):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.26-8.22 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 8.09-8.07 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 7.76-7.74 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 7.50-7.46 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 7.10-7.08 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 6.71-6.68 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 6.53-6.51 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 4.95 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, Ph-CH-), 4.58 (s, 1H, NH), 2.98 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.15 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 206.1, 148.7, 146.3, 145.3, 140.3, 136.4, 133.9, 133.0, 130.1, 129.8, 129.5, 124.7, 122.7, 121.5, 118.5, 115.2, 113.9, 53.6, 50.8, 30.7. ESI-MS: 307.1 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

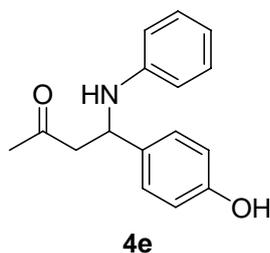


**4-Phenylamino-4-phenylbutan-2-one (4c):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.31-7.24 (m, 4H, Ph-H), 7.11-7.09 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 6.68-6.65 (m, 1H, Ph-H),

6.55-6.54 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 4.86 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, Ph-CH-), 4.43 (s, 1H, NH), 2.93 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.10 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 207.2, 146.8, 142.5, 129.1, 128.8, 127.4, 126.3, 117.9, 113.8, 54.4, 51.2, 30.7. ESI-MS: 262.1 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

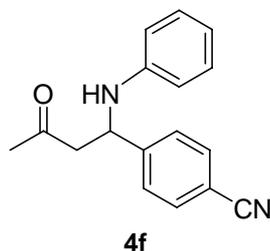


**4-Phenylamino-4-(4-methoxy-phenyl)butan-2-one (4d):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.28-7.25 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 7.11-7.07 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 6.86-6.83 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 6.68-6.64 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 6.55-6.53 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 4.80 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, Ph-CH-), 3.77 (s, 3H, -OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.89 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.09 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 207.4, 158.8, 146.8, 134.5, 130.0, 129.1, 127.4, 117.8, 114.2, 113.8, 55.3, 53.8, 51.3, 30.8. ESI-MS: 292.1 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

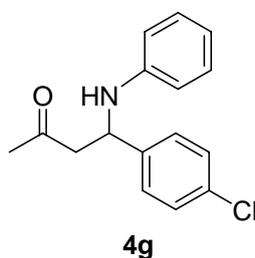


**4-Phenylamino-4-(4-hydroxy-phenyl)butan-2-one (4e):** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.42-7.40 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 7.20-7.17 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 7.10-7.06 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 6.87-6.78 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 6.77-6.67 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 6.56-6.54 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 4.78 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, Ph-CH-), 2.89 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.08 (s, 3H, -CH<sub>3</sub>).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 208.5, 159.3, 146.8, 144.8, 130.4, 129.2, 127.5, 116.1, 115.7, 113.8, 53.9, 51.3, 30.8. ESI-MS: 278.1  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ .



**4-Phenylamino-4-(4-Cyanophenyl)butan-2-one (4f):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.31-7.26 (m, 4H, Ph-H), 7.11-7.07 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 6.70-6.66 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 6.52-6.50 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 4.81 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, Ph-CH-), 4.45 (s, 1H, NH), 2.89 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz,  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ), 2.10 (s, 3H,  $-\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 206.8, 146.6, 141.3, 133.1, 129.4, 129.1, 127.9, 118.3, 115.3, 113.9, 53.9, 51.1, 30.9. ESI-MS: 287.1  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ .



**4-Phenylamino-4-(4-chlorophenyl)butan-2-one (4g):**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.60-7.58 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 7.50-7.48 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 7.11-7.07 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 6.71-6.67 (m, 1H, Ph-H), 6.50-6.47 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 4.88 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, Ph-CH-), 4.56 (s, 1H, NH), 2.93 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz,  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ), 2.12 (s, 3H,  $-\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz),  $\delta$  (ppm): 206.1, 148.4, 146.3, 135.6, 129.3, 127.3, 118.8, 113.8, 111.2, 53.9, 50.7, 30.7. ESI-MS: 296.1  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ .