

**Electronic Supplementary Information**  
**for**  
**Synthesis and crystal structures of Mn(II) and Co(II) complexes**  
**as catalysts for oxidation of cyclohexanone**

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## Supplementary Information Table of Contents

<b>Table S1</b>	Selected FTIR spectra data of [Mn(2,6-pydc) <sub>2</sub> ](imi) ( <b>1</b> ) and its ligands	S4
<b>Table S2</b>	Selected data of FTIR spectra of [Co(H <sub>2</sub> pza) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> )]·NO <sub>3</sub> ( <b>2</b> ) and its ligand	S4
<b>Table S3</b>	Selected data of the electronic spectra of <b>1</b> and its ligands	S4
<b>Table S4</b>	Selected data of the UV-Visible spectra of <b>2</b> and its ligand	S4
<b>Figure S1</b>	FTIR spectra of [Mn(2,6-pydc) <sub>2</sub> ](imi) ( <b>1</b> ) and its ligands	S5
<b>Figure S2</b>	FTIR spectra for [Co(H <sub>2</sub> pza) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> )]·NO <sub>3</sub> ( <b>2</b> ) and its ligand	S5
<b>Figure S3</b>	UV-Vis. spectra of <b>1</b> and its ligands	S6
<b>Figure S4</b>	UV-Visible spectra of <b>2</b> and its ligand	S6
<b>Figure S5</b>	TGA curve of [Mn(2,6-pydc) <sub>2</sub> ](imi) ( <b>1</b> )	S7
<b>Figure S6</b>	TG curve of [Co(H <sub>2</sub> pza) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> )]·NO <sub>3</sub> ( <b>2</b> )	S7
<b>Table S5</b>	The crystal data collection and structure refinement parameters for the cocrystals ( <b>1a</b> ) and crystals of <b>1</b> and <b>2</b> .	S8
<b>Table S6</b>	Selected hydrogen bond parameters for <b>1</b>	S9
<b>Figure S7</b>	2D view of compound <b>1</b> [010] showing HB interactions between pydc and (imi)	S9
<b>Table S7</b>	Selected bond distance (Å) and angles (°) for <b>1</b>	S10
<b>Table S8</b>	Selected bond distance (Å) and angles (°) for <b>2</b>	S11
<b>Figure S8</b>	1D view of <b>2</b> [100] showing network of hydrogen bonds	S12
<b>Table S9</b>	Selected hydrogen bond parameters for <b>2</b>	S12
<b>Figure S9</b>	PXRD patterns (Cu, Kα) of simulated and crushed samples of compound <b>1</b>	S13
<b>Figure S10</b>	PXRD patterns (Cu, Kα) of simulated and crushed samples of compound <b>2</b>	S13
<b>Figure S11A</b>	High resolution TEM images of <b>1</b> viewed at 100 nm and 0.2 μm magnification.	S14
<b>Figure S11B</b>	The high resolution TEM images of <b>2</b> scanned at 20 nm and 100 nm magnification; inset represents the SAED of <b>2</b> .	S14
<b>Figure S12</b>	The effect of reaction temperature on the oxidation of cyclohexanone. Reaction conditions: Compound <b>1</b> (0.0029 mol L <sup>-1</sup> ), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH <sub>3</sub> CN /water, 2 hrs, 4 ml H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol); compound <b>2</b> (0.0021 mol L <sup>-1</sup> ), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH <sub>3</sub> CN /water, 3 hrs, 4 ml H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol).	S15
<b>Figure S13</b>	HPLC chromatogram of an aliquot (2μL) taken after oxidation of cyclohexanone in the absence of compound <b>1</b> which we	S15

	ascribed to no yield promoting effect. Reaction conditions: 1 ml of cyclohexanone (0.0394 wt%), 4 ml of H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol)	
<b>Figure S14</b>	The effect of catalysts loading on the oxidation of cyclohexanone; (A) Reaction conditions: Compound 1 (optimum 0.0029 mol L <sup>-1</sup> ), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH <sub>3</sub> CN /water, 2 hrs, 4 ml H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol); (B) compound 2 (optimum 0.0021 mol L <sup>-1</sup> ), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH <sub>3</sub> CN /water, 3 hrs, 4 ml H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol).	S16
<b>Figure S15A</b>  <b>Figure S15B</b>	The effect of reaction time on the oxidation of cyclohexanone; (Mn <sup>2+</sup> catalyst) Reaction conditions: Catalyst amount (optimum 0.0029 mol L <sup>-1</sup> ), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH <sub>3</sub> CN /water, 2 hrs, 4 ml H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol); The effect of reaction time on the oxidation of cyclohexanone; (Co <sup>2+</sup> catalyst) Reaction conditions: Catalyst amount (optimum 0.0021 mol L <sup>-1</sup> ), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH <sub>3</sub> CN /water, 3 hrs, 4 ml H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol).	S16
<b>Figure S16</b>	HPLC chromatogram of an aliquot of target product, [Table 2, Entry 5]. Reaction conditions: compound <b>1</b> (2.9 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> mol L <sup>-1</sup> ), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH <sub>3</sub> CN /water, 2 hrs with <b>1</b> , 4 ml H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol)	S17
<b>Figure S17</b>	UV-Visible spectra studies showing the reactions between (1a) [Mn(2,6-pydc) <sub>2</sub> ](imi) and cyclohexanone; (1b) [Mn(2,6-pydc) <sub>2</sub> ](imi), cyclohexanone, and H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> ; (2a) [Co(H <sub>2</sub> pza) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> )]•NO <sub>3</sub> , and cyclohexanone; (2b) [Co(H <sub>2</sub> pza) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> )]•NO <sub>3</sub> , cyclohexanone, and H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> . NB: There was an increase in the d-d band region as the reaction progresses in reaction systems containing <b>1</b> and <b>2</b> .	S17
<b>Figure S18</b>	<sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum (DMSO-D <sub>6</sub> ) of the isolated adipic acid obtained with compound <b>1</b>	S18
<b>Figure S19</b>	<sup>13</sup> C NMR spectrum (DMSO-D <sub>6</sub> ) of the isolated adipic acid obtained with compound <b>1</b>	S18
<b>Figure S20</b>	Illustration for the catalytic activities of compounds <b>1</b> and <b>2</b>	S19
<b>Figure S21</b>	Arrhenius and Eyring plot of cyclohexanone oxidation over compounds <b>1</b> and <b>2</b>	S20
<b>Figure S22</b>	The L-H plot for the oxidation of cyclohexanone	S21

Table S1: Selected FTIR spectra data of [Mn(2,6-pydc)<sub>2</sub>](imi) (**1**) and its ligands

Compound	$\nu$ C-N <i>str.</i>	$\nu$ C=O <i>str.</i>	$\nu$ C-O <i>str.</i>	$\nu$ OH	$\nu$ COO <i>sym.</i>	$\nu$ COO <i>asym.</i>	$\Delta\nu$ COO <i>sym.</i>	$\nu$ M-O	$\nu$ M-N
imi	1295s	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,6-pydc	1181s	1706s	1256w	3212w	-	-	-	-	-
<b>1</b>	1319s	1692s	1394s	-	1456ms	1312s	164	663s	578b

Table S2: Selected data of FTIR spectra of [Co(H<sub>2</sub>pza)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)]·NO<sub>3</sub> (**2**) and its ligand

Compound	$\nu$ C-N <i>str.</i>	$\nu_{\text{sy}}/\nu_{\text{say}}\text{NH}_2$	$\nu\text{OH}_w$	$\nu$ C=O <i>str.</i>	$\nu$ M-O	$\nu$ M-N
H <sub>2</sub> pza	1253s	3301ms	3285ms	1708s	-	-
<b>2</b>	1190s	-	-	1684s	782s	675s

NB: w = water

Table S3: Selected data of the electronic spectra of 1 and its ligands

Compound	E, cm <sup>-1</sup> ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm)	Assignments
imi	35714 (280)	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ / $n \rightarrow \pi^*$
2,6-pydc	43478 (230); 36101 (277)	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ / $n \rightarrow \pi^*$
<b>1</b>	31545 (317); 14556 (687)	LMCT, $^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{G}) \leftarrow ^6\text{A}_{1g}$

 $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  = absorption maxima; E = energy of electronic transition

Table S4: Selected data of the UV-Visible spectra of 2 and its ligand

Compound	E, cm <sup>-1</sup> ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm)	Assignments
H <sub>2</sub> pza	45248 (221); 38461 (260); 31645 (316)	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ / $n \rightarrow \pi^*$
<b>2</b>	30030 (333); 19047 (525)	LMCT, $^4\text{A}_{2g} \rightarrow ^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{P})$

 $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  = absorption maxima; E = energy of electronic transition

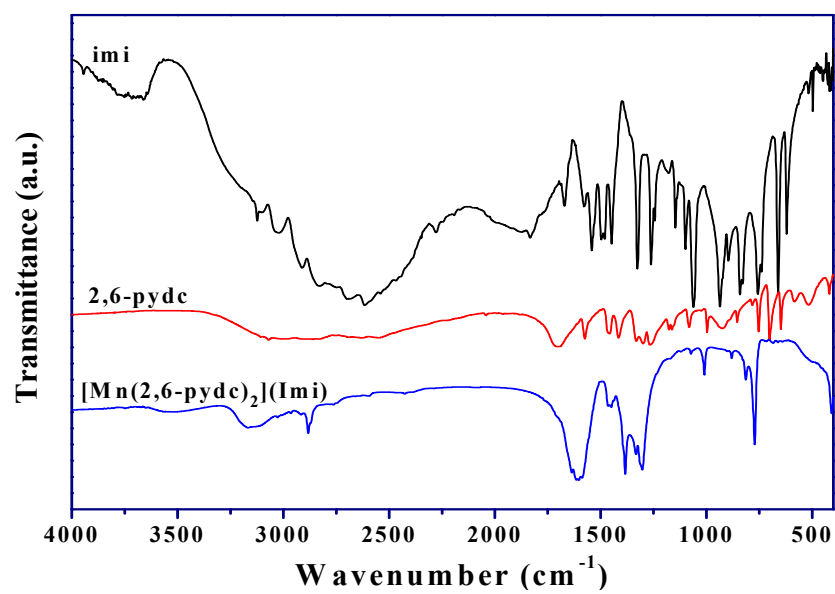


Figure S1: FTIR spectra of [Mn(2,6-pydc)<sub>2</sub>](imi) (1) and its ligands

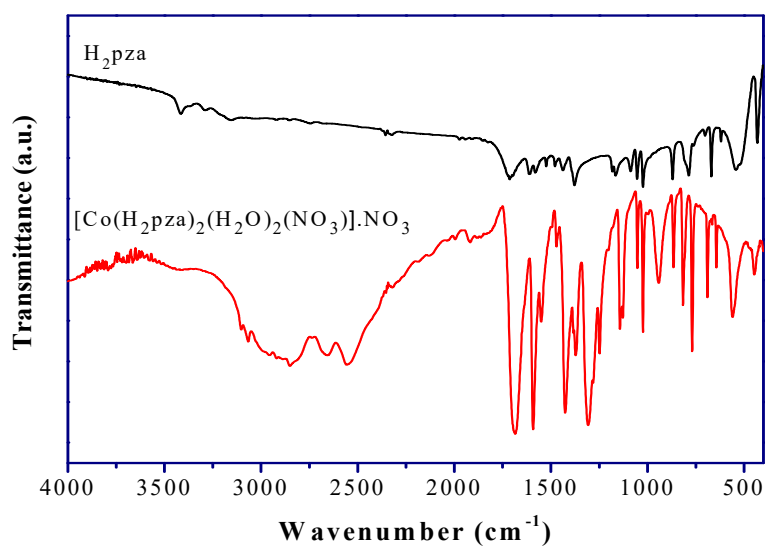


Figure S2: FTIR spectra for [Co(H<sub>2</sub>pza)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)]•NO<sub>3</sub> (2)

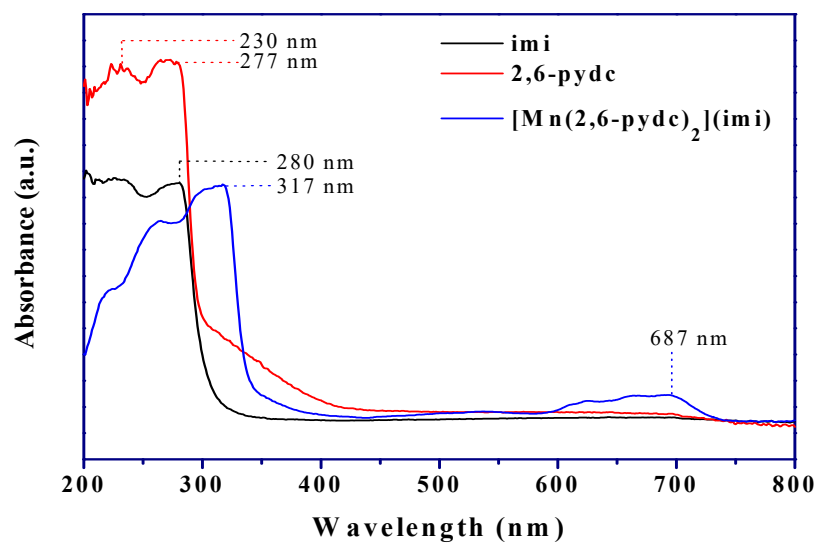


Figure S3: UV-Vis. spectra of **1** and its ligands

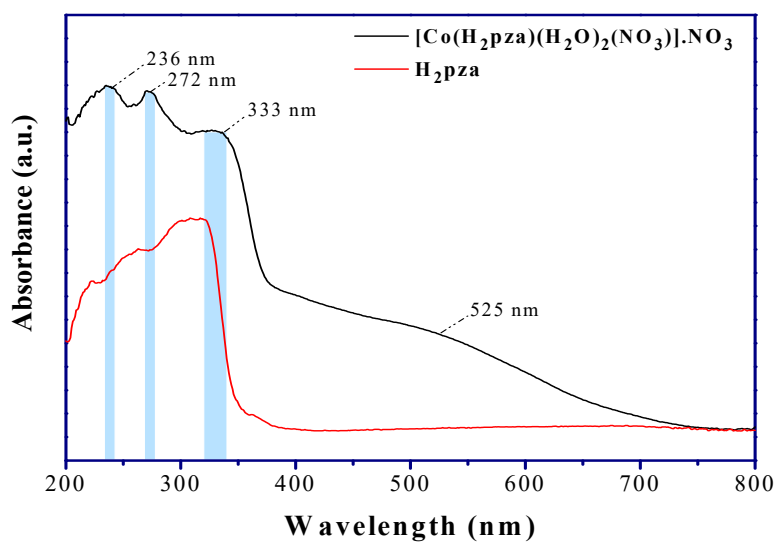


Figure S4: UV-Visible spectra of **2** and its ligand

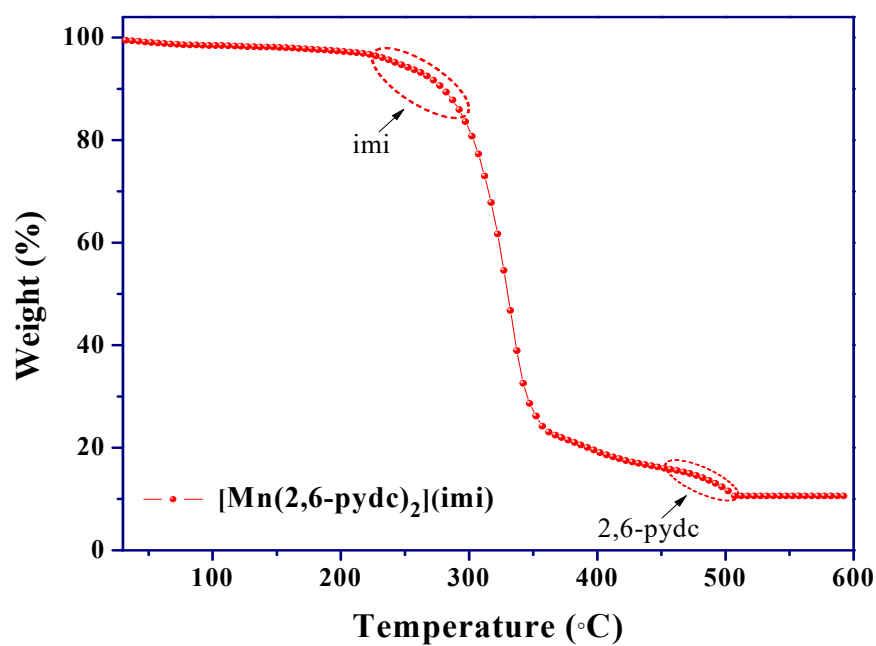


Figure S5: TGA curve of **1**

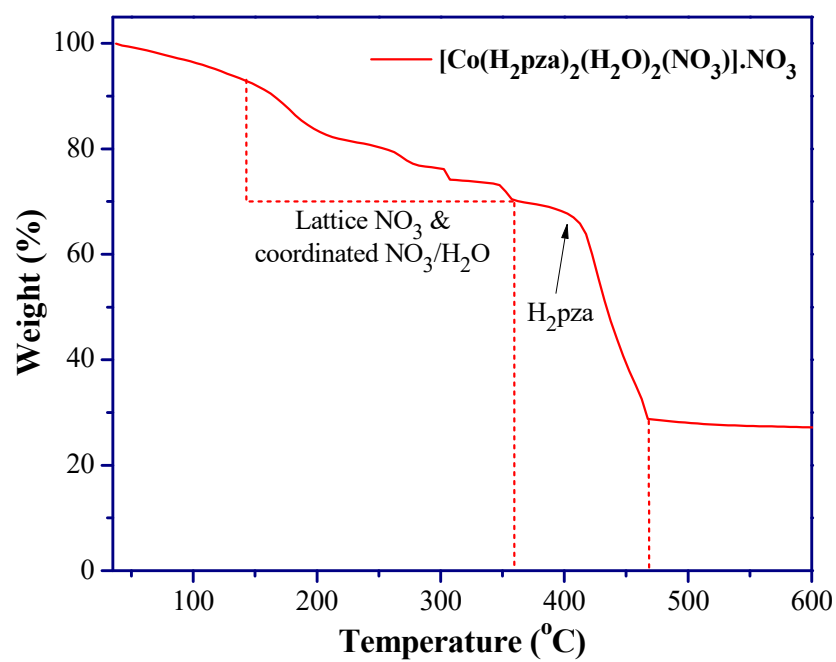


Figure S6: TG curve of **2**

### X-ray Crystallography of [Mn(2,6-pydc)<sub>2</sub>](imi) (1) and [Co(H<sub>2</sub>pza)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)]•NO<sub>3</sub> (2)

X-ray crystallographic data collection for **1** and **2** were carried out on a Super Nova Dual X-ray Diffractometer system (Agilent Technologies) and Bruker Kappa Apex II Duo diffractometer (Madison, Wisconsin), respectively. The temperatures of scans for **1** and **2** were maintained at 100K and 298 K, respectively. Hydrogen atoms, (C-H/O-H = 0.95 Å/0.84 Å) for **1** and (C-H = 0.93 Å) for **2** were included on each refined structures as riding atoms. The crystal data collection and structure refinement parameters of **1** and **2** are highlighted in Tables S5 below.

Table S5: The crystal data collection and structure refinement parameters for the cocrystals (**1a**) and crystals of **1** and **2**.

Compound identification	(2,6-pydc-imi <sup>+</sup> )(1a)	[Mn(2,6- pydc) <sub>2</sub> ](imi) (1)	Co(H <sub>2</sub> pza) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> )]•NO <sub>3</sub> (2)
Empirical formula	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>9</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>10</sub> MnN <sub>4</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>14</sub> CoN <sub>8</sub> O <sub>10</sub>
Formula weight	235.20	453.23	465.22
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Orthorhombic	Triclinic
Temperature(K)	100(2)	298(2)	100(2)
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	Pbca	P-1
a(Å)	3.7272(1)	7.7662(3)	6.9057(3)
b(Å)	14.4056(5)	15.2799(6)	9.1738(3)
c(Å)	18.4364(7)	12.4110(9)	14.1486(5)
α(°)	90	90	90.6490(10)
β(°)	90	90	98.6600(10)
γ(°)	90	90	102.0680(10)
V(Å <sup>3</sup> )	989.90(6)	3442.7(2)	865.683(6)
Z	4	8	2
D <sub>c</sub> (g/mm <sup>3</sup> )	1.5781	1.7487	1.785
μ(mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.125	0.827	1.066
F(000)	488.3	1835.8	474.0
h,k,l ranges	-6+5, -19+21, -23+29	±10, -12+20, -39+34	±9, ±13, ±20
Reflections	9042	12759	61970
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0637	0.0396	0.0338



Data/restraints/parameters	8112/0/618	4073/0/270	5284/4/272
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.022	1.559	1.116
R <sub>1</sub> [I > 2σ (I)]	0.0482	0.0723	0.0387
wR <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.1326	0.2250	0.1099
Max/min. (e Å <sup>3</sup> )	0.35/-0.31	1.86/-0.73	0.66/-1.17
Colour/shape	Grey/flake	Colourless/block	Pink/block

Table S6: Selected hydrogen bond parameters for **1**

D---H·····A	D---H (Å)	D·····A (Å)	H·····A (Å)	D---H·····A (°)
N3---H3a---O3	0.860	2.789	1.942	168.32

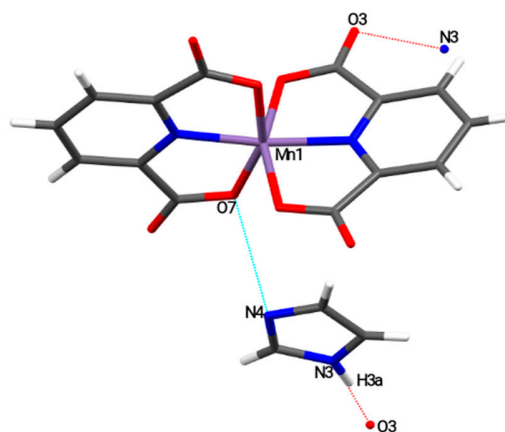


Figure S7: 2D view of compound **1** [010] showing HB interactions between pydc and (imi).

The selected bond distances and angles of **1** are presented in Table S7.

Table S7: Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for **1**

<i>Bond distances (Å)</i>		<i>Bond angles (°)</i>	
Mn1-O5	2.023(3)	O2-Mn1-O5	91.46(15)
Mn1-O2	2.000(3)	O4-Mn1-O5	91.99(14)
Mn1-O4	2.011(3)	O4-Mn1-O2	157.91(12)
Mn1-O7	1.998(3)	O7-Mn1-O5	157.68(13)
Mn1-N2	1.957(3)	O7-Mn1-O2	93.69(14)
Mn1-N1	1.971(3)	O7-Mn1-O4	91.34(13)
		N2-Mn1-O5	78.60(14)
		N2-Mn1-O2	101.35(14)
		N2-Mn1-O4	100.72(13)
		N2-Mn1-O7	79.09(13)
		N1-Mn1-O5	91.14(14)
		N1-Mn1-O2	79.41(14)
		N1-Mn1-O4	78.71(13)
		N1-Mn1-O7	111.16(14)
		N1-Mn1-N2	169.71(14)

Symmetry codes: x, y, z; -x, -y -z; 1/2+x, 1/2-y,-z; -x, 1/2+y, 1/2-z, 1/2-x, -y, 1/2+z, 1/2-x, 1/2+y, z; x, 1/2-y, +z; 1/2+x, y, 1/2-z

Table S8: Selected bond distance (Å) and angles (°) for **2**

Bond distances (Å)		Bond angles (°)	
Co1-O7	2.1197(14)	O7-Co1-O2	97.57(6)
Co1-O2	2.1591(14)	O7-Co1-O6	169.47(5)
Co1-O6	2.1604(14)	O2-Co1-O6	92.88(5)
Co1-O3	2.3481(15)	O7-Co1-O3	85.39(5)
Co1-N4	2.3570(16)	O2-Co1-O3	162.30(5)
Co1-N1	2.3613(15)	O6-Co1-O3	84.25 (5)
O10-N8	1.247(2)	O7-Co1-N4	92.90(6)
O8-N8	1.263(2)	O2-Co1-N4	72.00(5)
O3-N7	1.271(2)	O6-Co1-N4	91.55(6)
O9-N8	1.248(2)	O3-Co1-N4	125.44(5)
O4-N7	1.225(2)	O7-Co1-N1	92.58(6)
O5-N7	1.247(2)	O2-Co1-N1	82.18(5)
		O6-Co1-N1	87.55(5)
		O3-Co1-N1	80.26(5)
		N4-Co1-N1	154.09(5)
		N7-O3-Co1	102.83(11)
		O4-N7-O5	122.59(12)
		O4-N7-O3	120.55(11)
		O10-N8-O8	119.84(16)
		O9-N8-O8	119.28(16)

Symmetry codes: x, y, z; -x, -y, -z

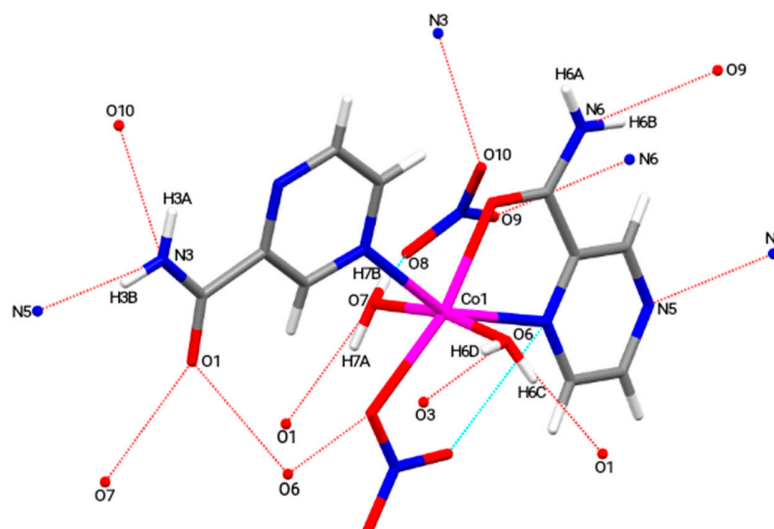


Figure S8: 1D view of **2** [100] showing network of hydrogen bonds

Table S9: Selected hydrogen bond parameters for **2**

D—H---A	D---H (Å)	D----A (Å)	H-----A (Å)	D---H-----A (°)
N3---H3A-----N5	0.880	2.990	3.376	57.11
N3---H3B-----N5	0.880	2.990	2.138	163.56
N3---H3A-----O10	0.880	2.833	2.134	135.89
N3---H3B-----O10	0.880	2.833	2.951	73.71
O6---H6C-----O1	0.840	2.706	1.876	169.88
O6---H6D-----O1	0.796	2.706	3.025	59.26
O6---H6C-----O3	0.840	2.858	2.086	65.01
O6---H6D-----O3	0.796	2.858	3.109	163.39
O7---H7-----O1	0.840	2.739	1.926	162.61
O7---H7B-----O1	0.797	2.739	3.160	51.74
O7---H7A-----O8	0.840	2.674	2.977	61.09
O7---H7B-----O8	0.797	2.674	1.902	162.69
N6---H6A-----O9	0.880	2.894	3.195	62.36
N6---H6B-----O9	0.880	2.894	2.084	152.69

Symmetry codes: x, y, z; -x, -y, -z

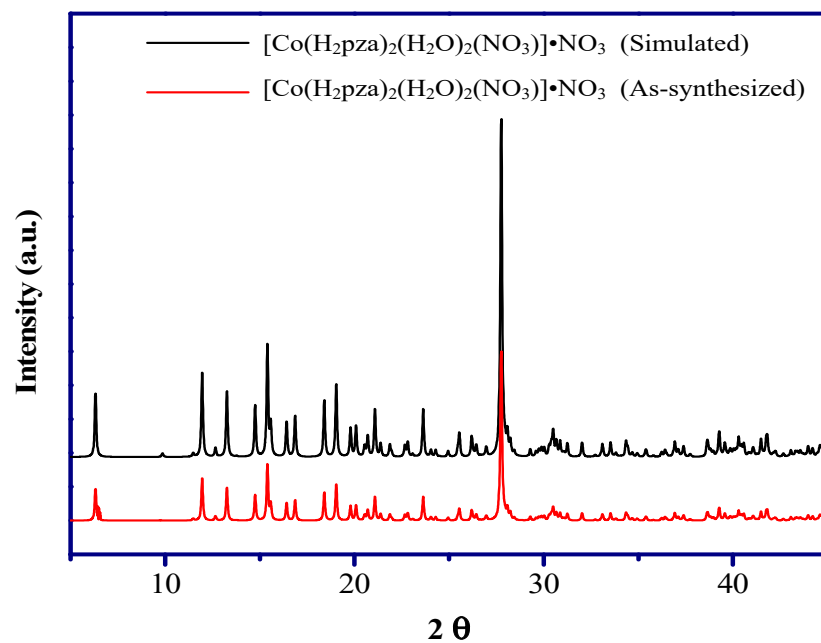


Figure S9: PXRD patterns (Cu,  $K\alpha$ ) of simulated and crushed samples of compound **1**

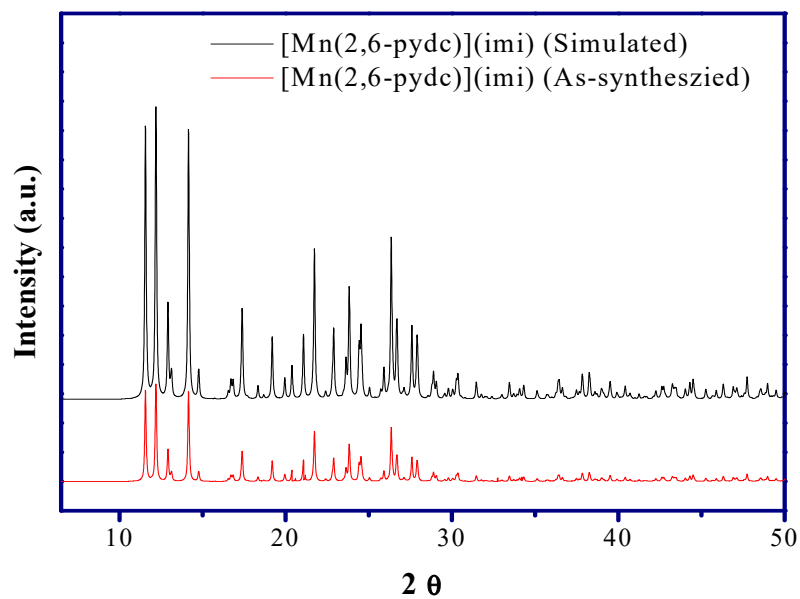


Figure S10: PXRD patterns (Cu,  $K\alpha$ ) of simulated and crushed samples of compound **2**

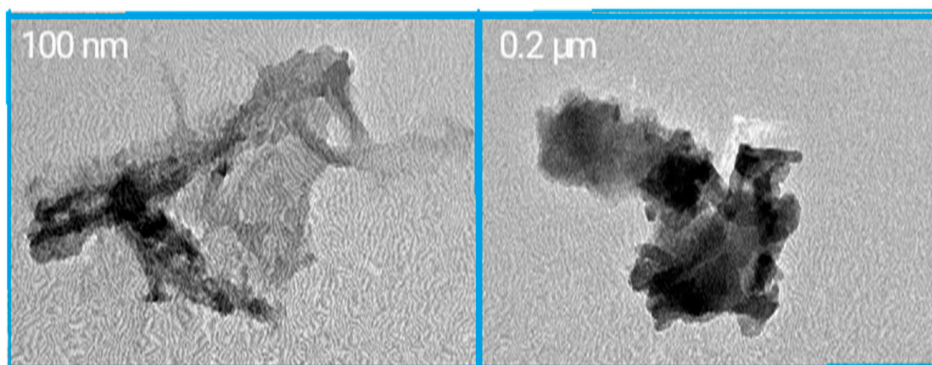


Figure S11A: High resolution TEM images of **1** viewed at 100 nm and 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  magnification.

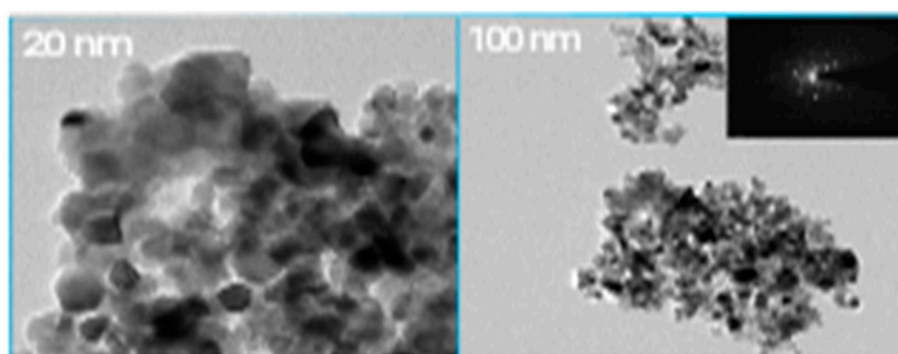


Figure S11B: The high resolution TEM images of **2** scanned at 20 nm and 100 nm magnification; inset represents the SAED of **2**.

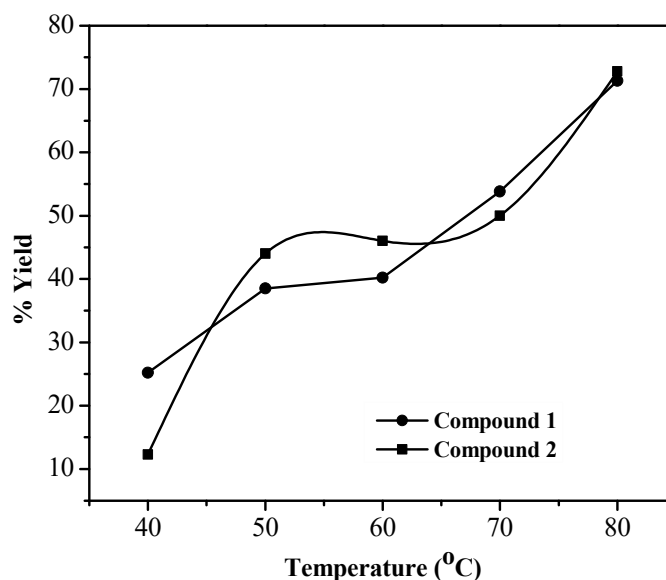


Figure S12: The effect of reaction temperature on the oxidation of cyclohexanone. Reaction conditions: Compound 1 (0.0029 mol L<sup>-1</sup>), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH<sub>3</sub>CN /water, 2 hrs, 4 ml H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol); compound 2 (0.0021 mol L<sup>-1</sup>), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH<sub>3</sub>CN /water, 3 hrs, 4 ml H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol).

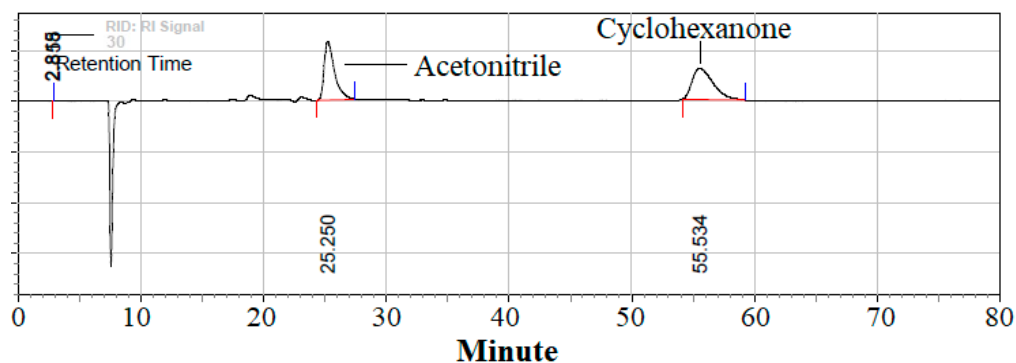


Figure S13: HPLC chromatogram of an aliquot (2μL) taken after oxidation of cyclohexanone in the absence of compound 1 which we ascribed to no yield promoting effect. Reaction conditions: 1 ml of cyclohexanone (0.0394 wt%), 4 ml of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol)

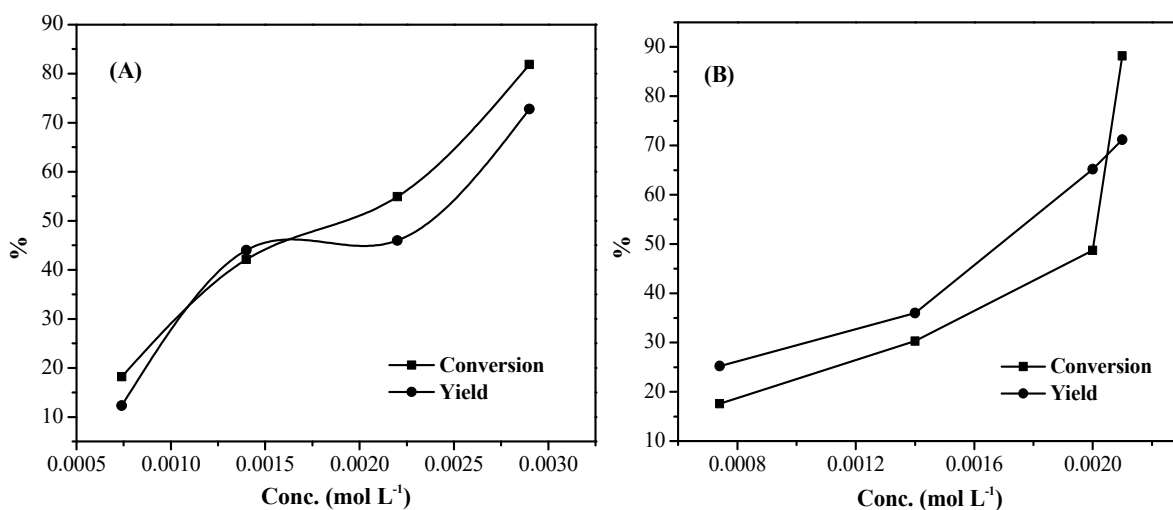


Figure S14: The effect of catalysts loading on the oxidation of cyclohexanone; (A) Reaction conditions: Compound 1 (optimum 0.0029 mol L<sup>-1</sup>), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH<sub>3</sub>CN /water, 2 hrs, 4 ml H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol); (B) compound 2 (optimum 0.0021 mol L<sup>-1</sup>), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH<sub>3</sub>CN /water, 3 hrs, 4 ml H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol).

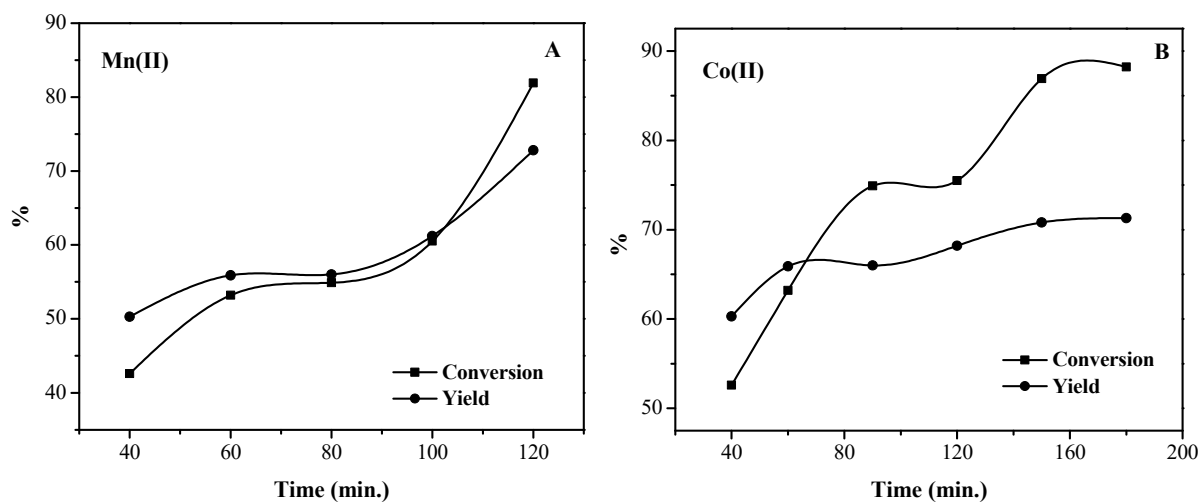


Figure S15 A: The effect of reaction time on the oxidation of cyclohexanone; (Mn<sup>2+</sup> catalyst) Reaction conditions: Catalyst amount (optimum 0.0029 mol L<sup>-1</sup>), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH<sub>3</sub>CN /water, 2 hrs, 4 ml H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol); Figure 15 B: The effect of reaction time on the oxidation of cyclohexanone; (Co<sup>2+</sup> catalyst) Reaction conditions: Catalyst amount (optimum 0.0021 mol L<sup>-1</sup>), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH<sub>3</sub>CN /water, 3 hrs, 4 ml H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol).



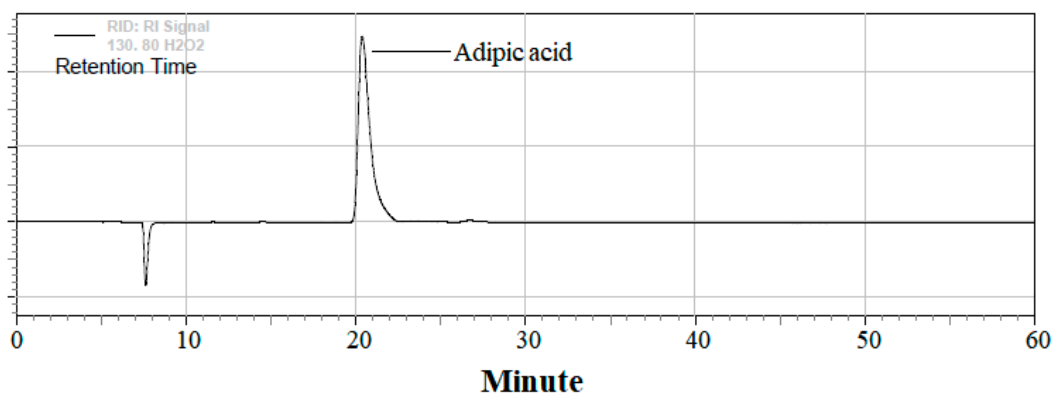


Figure S16: HPLC chromatogram of an aliquot of target product, [Table 2, Entry 5]. Reaction conditions: compound **1** ( $2.9 \times 10^{-3}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup>), 1ml of 0.0394 wt% cyclohexanone in CH<sub>3</sub>CN /water, 2 hrs with **1**, 4 ml H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (30% aqueous, 170.4 mmol).

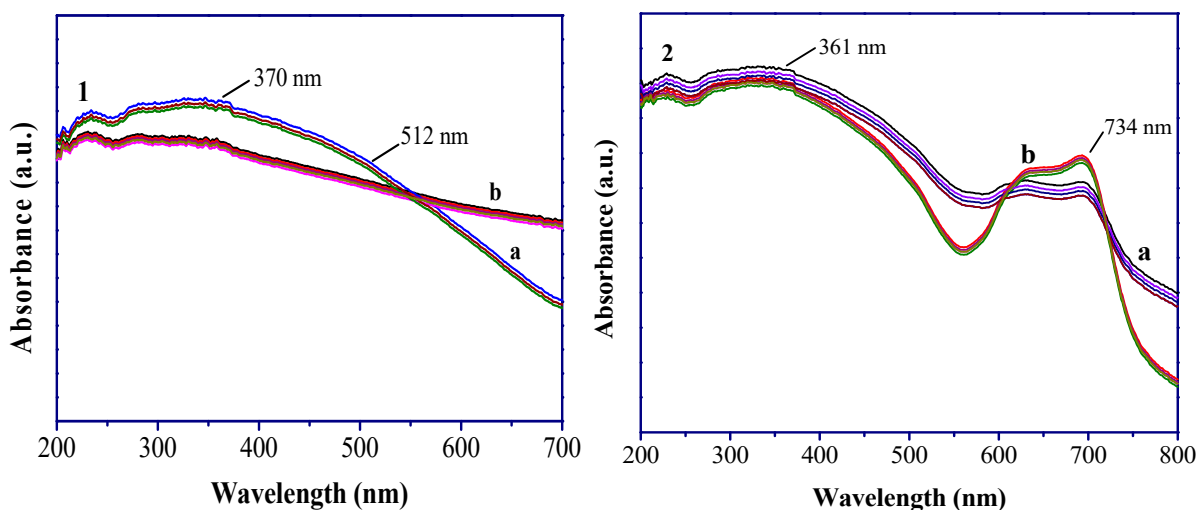


Figure S17: UV-Visible spectra studies of (1a) [Mn(2,6-pydc)<sub>2</sub>](imi) and cyclohexanone; (1b) [Mn(2,6-pydc)<sub>2</sub>](imi), cyclohexanone, and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>; (2a) [Co(H<sub>2</sub>pza)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)]•NO<sub>3</sub>, and cyclohexanone; (2b) [Co(H<sub>2</sub>pza)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)]•NO<sub>3</sub>, cyclohexanone, and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. NB: Solvent in which experiment was performed is acetonitrile and there was an increase in the d-d band region as the reaction progresses in reaction systems containing **1** and **2**.

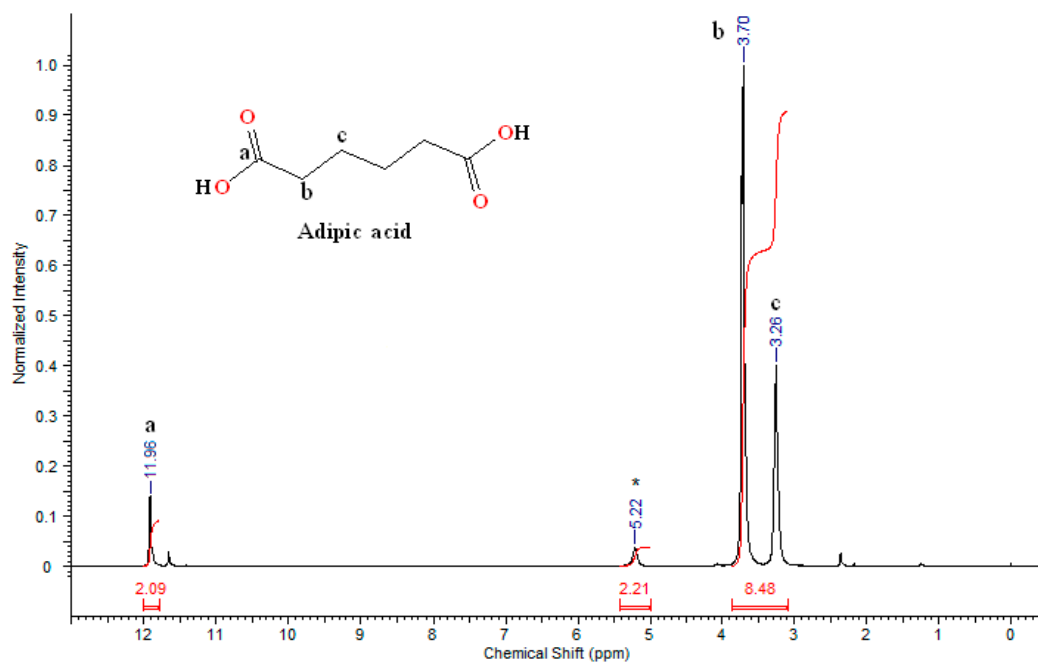


Figure S18: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>) of the isolated adipic acid obtained with compound 1

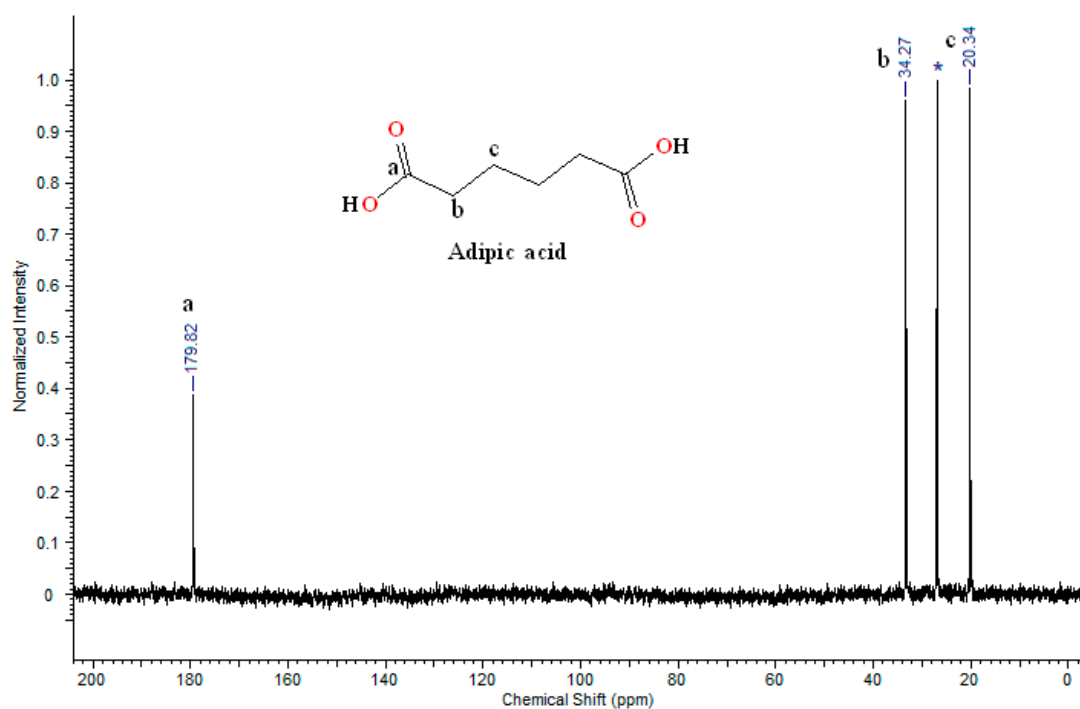


Figure S19: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>) of the isolated adipic acid obtained with compound 1

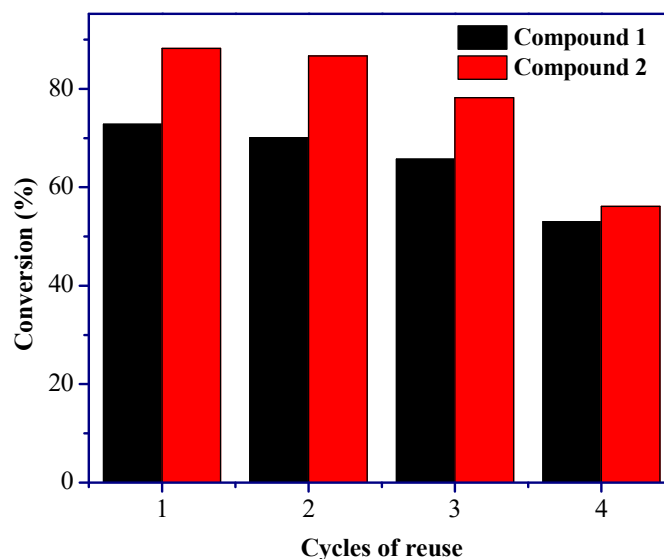


Figure S20: Illustration for the catalytic activities of compounds 1 and 2

**Cyclohexanone oxidation:** Considering that the reaction proceeds as this:  $A_c \leftrightarrow 2B_i \rightarrow C_p$ ; where,  $A_c$  = concentration of reactant (e.g. cyclohexanone),  $2B_i$  = intermediate products, and  $C_p$  = concentration of the target product, then, the conversions (%) of cyclohexanone were calculated using equation below:

$$\text{Conversion (\%)} = \frac{C_o - C_f}{C_o} \times 100\%$$

Where  $C_o$  is the initial moles of cyclohexanone and,  $C_f$  is the final moles of cyclohexanone converted.

The selectivity (%) of adipic acid was calculated using equation below:

$$\text{Selectivity (\%)} = \frac{\text{Amount of adipic acid produced}}{\text{Conversion}} \times 100\%$$

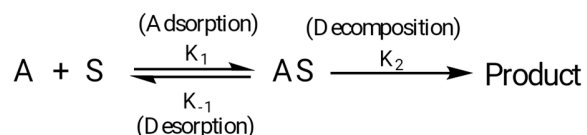
The yield (%) of adipic acid was calculated using equation below:

$$\text{Yield (\%)} = \frac{\text{Total moles of adipic acid produced}}{\text{Initial moles of cyclohexanone}} \times 100\%$$

To study the kinetics and thermodynamics of the reaction, different concentrations,  $6.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ ;  $7.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ ;  $9.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ ;  $1.03 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ ; and  $1.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$  of cyclohexanone were prepared by dissolving varying amounts, 1.0 mL, 1.2 mL, 1.4 mL, 1.6 mL, and 1.8 mL of cyclohexanone in each reaction system. The total volume of each reaction system was 24 mL and contains 0.0394wt% of cyclohexanone.

## Kinetics and thermodynamics of the catalytic oxidation of cyclohexanone

The kinetic studies of the catalytic oxidation of cyclohexanone over compounds **1** and **2** were carried out by using Langmuir-Hinshelwood (L-H) mechanism of a unimolecular reaction which is described as follows (Kumar *et al*, 2008):



By applying steady state approximation, the rate of reaction for the above mechanism becomes:

$$r = \frac{d[AS]}{dt} = k_1[A][S] - k_{-1}[AS] - k_2[AS] = 0$$

The L-H rate law for the first order unimolecular reaction can be expressed as:

$$\frac{1}{r} = \frac{1}{K_1[A]} + \frac{K_{-1}}{k_1 K_2}$$

Where,  $r$  = rate of reaction,  $[A]$  = final concentration of cyclohexanone,  $k_1$  = adsorption rate constant,  $k_{-1}$ , desorption rate constant, and  $k_2$  = decomposition rate constant. The slope and intercept corresponds to the above rate constants, and can be obtained in a L-H linear plot of  $1/r$  vs.  $1/[A]$ . The L-H plot for the oxidation of cyclohexanone is shown in Fig. S21.

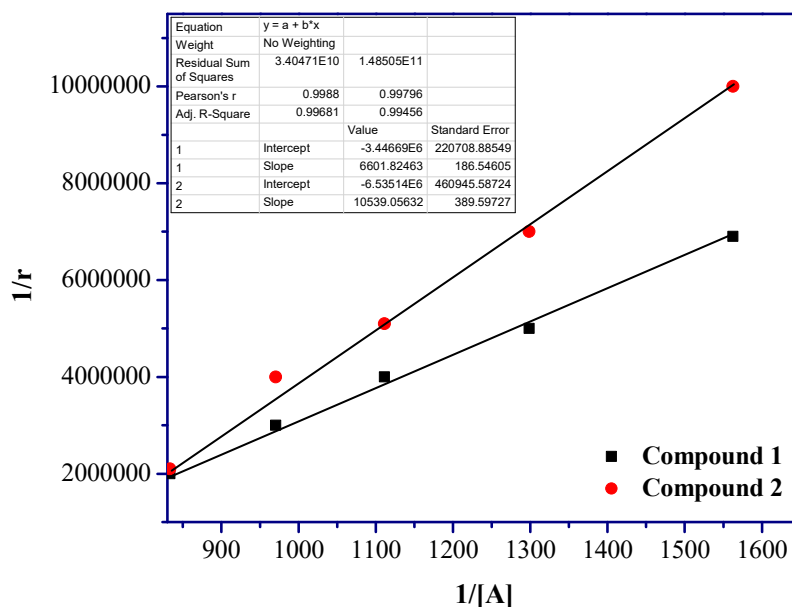


Figure S21: The L-H plot for the oxidation of cyclohexanone

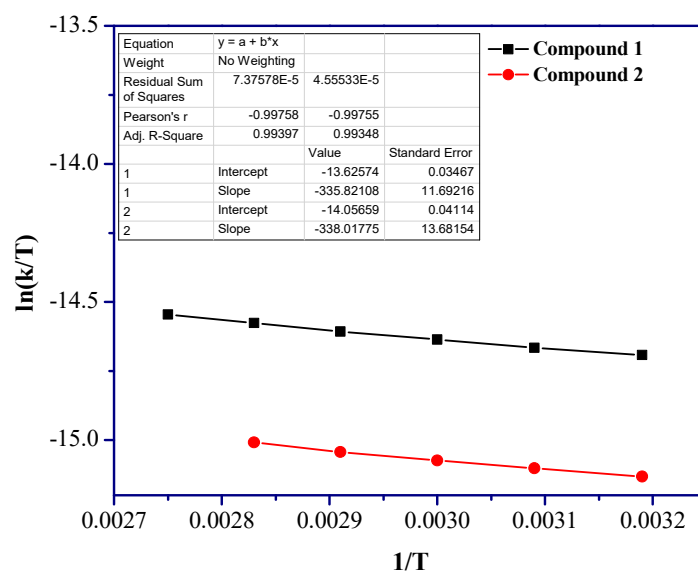


Figure S22: Arrhenius and Eyring plot of cyclohexanone oxidation over compounds 1 and 2

## References

38. K. V. Kumar, K. Porkodi, F. Rocha. (2008): "Langmuir–Hinshelwood kinetics – A theoretical study" *Catalysis Communications*, 9, 82–84.
39. R. I. Masel (2001) "Chemical Kinetics and Catalysis" Wiley-Interscience, New York, ISBN 0-471-24197-0