

## Supporting Information

# Efficient Aerobic Oxidation of Amines to Imines by Cesium Promoted Mesoporous Manganese Oxide

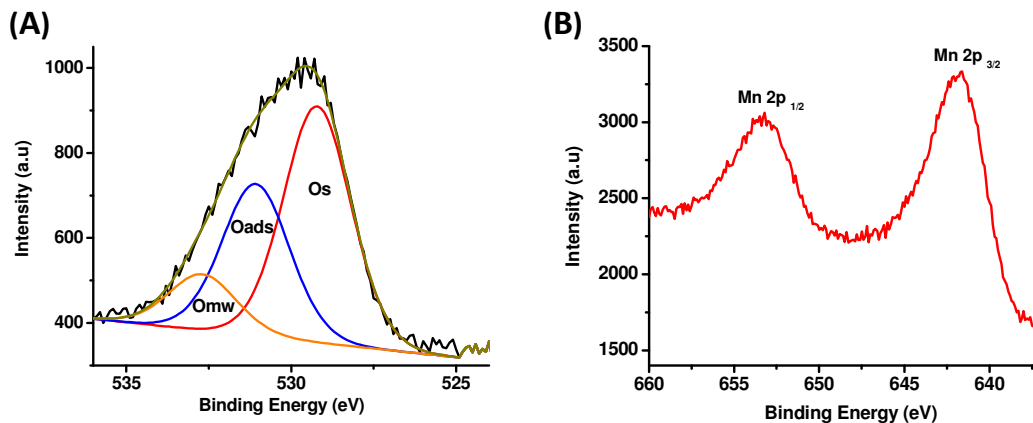
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## **Chemicals**

Manganese (II) nitrate tetrahydrate ( $\text{Mn}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\geq 97.0$ ) cesium nitrate ( $\text{CsNO}_3$ ,  $\geq 99.0$ ), 1-butanol (anhydrous, 99.8%), and poly (ethylene glycol)- block- Poly(propylene glycol)-block- Poly(ethylene glycol)  $\text{PEO}_{20}$ - $\text{PPO}_{70}$ - $\text{PEO}_{20}$  (Pluronic P123), benzyl amine, 4-methylbenzylamine, 4-chlorobenzyl amine, 4-methoxybenzylamine, 1-naphthalenemethylamine, 2-thiophenemethylamine, 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzylamine, butylamine, dodecylamine, dibenzylamine, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline, manganese(III) oxide, toluene, hexane, methanol, dioxane were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Concentrated nitric acid ( $\text{HNO}_3$ , 68-70 %) was purchased from J. T. Baker. All chemicals were used as received without further purification. K-OMS-2, birnessite and amorphous manganese oxide were prepared by using reported procedures<sup>1-3</sup>.

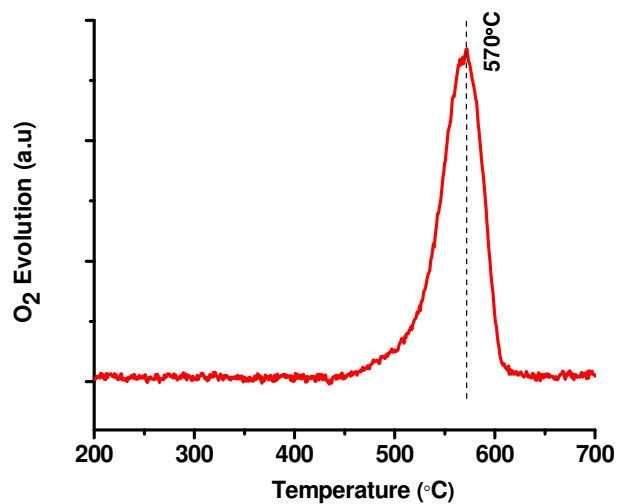


**Figure S1.** XPS of meso Cs/MnO<sub>x</sub>. (A) Deconvoluted O1S spectra. Three different oxygen species were identified: Structural or lattice oxygen (O<sub>s</sub>), surface adsorbed oxygen (O<sub>ads</sub>) and adsorbed water or hydroxyl group (O<sub>mw</sub>) and (B) Mn 2p spectra. The binding energy values fall in the binding energy of the Mn<sup>3+</sup> oxidation state.

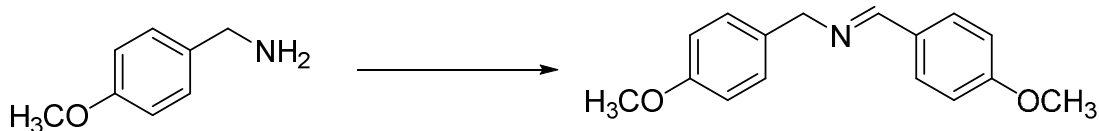
**Table S1.** XPS results of meso Cs/MnO<sub>x</sub>

| Materials | Mn (eV)           |                   | O <sub>s</sub> |       | O <sub>ads</sub> |       | O <sub>mw</sub> |       |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------|------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
|           | 2p <sub>3/2</sub> | 2p <sub>1/2</sub> | BE             | %Area | BE               | %Area | BE              | %Area |
|           |                   |                   | (eV)           |       | (eV)             |       | (eV)            |       |
| UCT-18-Cs | 641.5             | 653.2             | 529.2          | 55.3  | 531.0            | 32.1  | 532.5           | 12.6  |

O<sub>s</sub> = Structural or lattice oxygen, O<sub>ads</sub> = surface adsorbed oxygen, O<sub>mw</sub> = adsorbed water or hydroxyl group.



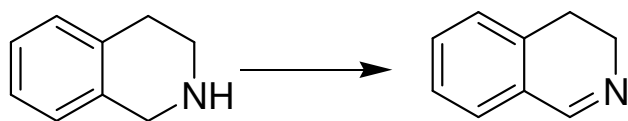
**Figure S2.** O<sub>2</sub>-TPD of meso Cs/MnO<sub>x</sub>. The peak around 570°C can be ascribed as the lattice or structural oxygen desorption from the material.



**Table S2.** The catalytic results using different catalysts<sup>a</sup>

| Entry | Catalyst                                  | Time<br>(h) | Conversion <sup>b</sup><br>(%) | Selectivity <sup>c</sup><br>(%) | TON <sup>d</sup> |
|-------|---|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1     | Meso Cs/MnOx                              | 5           | 100                            | 96                              | 3.33             |
| 2     | Meso MnOx                                 | 5           | 100                            | 78                              | 3.33             |
| 3     | K-OMS-2 <sup>e</sup>                      | 5           | 100                            | 42                              | 0.87             |
| 4     | Amorphous<br>manganese oxide <sup>e</sup> | 5           | 100                            | 57                              | 0.87             |
| 5     | Birnessite <sup>e</sup>                   | 8           | 94                             | 96                              | 0.82             |
| 6     | C-Mn <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>          | 8           | 10                             | 100                             | n/a              |
| 7     | no  | 8           | 10                             | 100                             | n/a              |

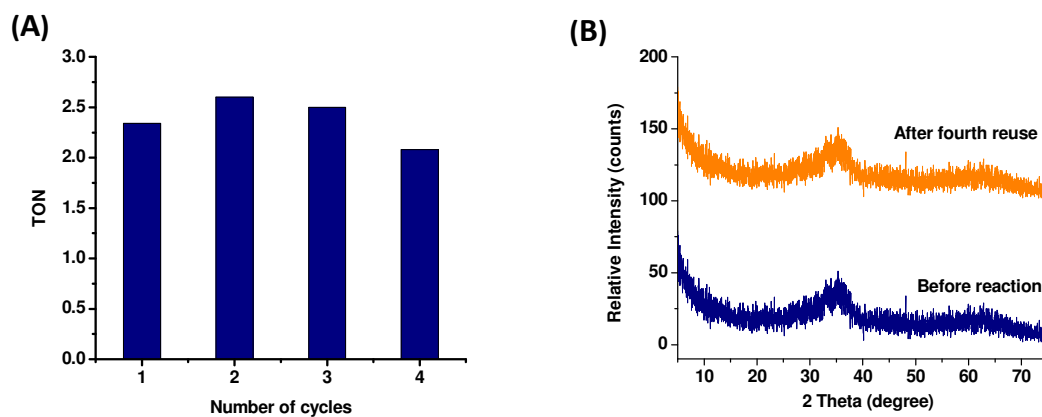
<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 4-methoxy benzyl amine (0.5 mmol), catalyst (25 mg), solvent (5 mL), air balloon, 5-8 h. <sup>b</sup> Conversions were determined by GC-MS based on concentration of amines. <sup>c</sup> The side products were aldehyde and cyanide. <sup>d</sup>TON = moles of amines converted per mole of catalyst. <sup>e</sup> Catalyst: 50 mg.



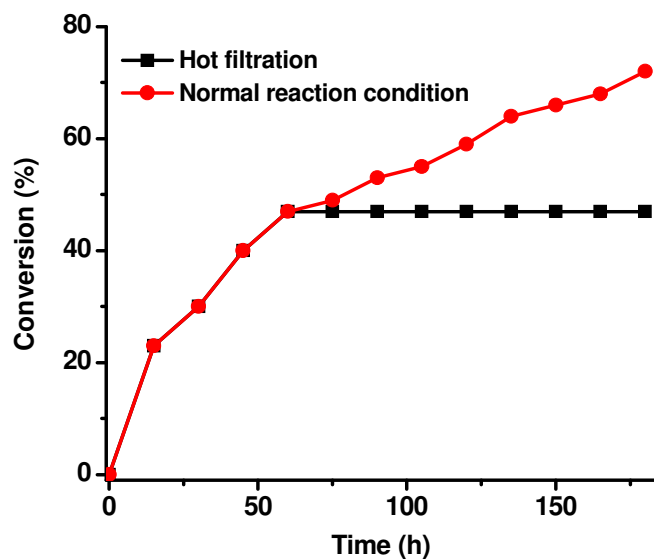
**Table S3.** Oxidation of 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline by meso Cs/MnOx with different Cs loading<sup>a</sup>

| Entry | Catalyst               | Mn/Cs <sup>b</sup><br>(nominal) | Mn/Cs <sup>b</sup><br>(ICP) | Conversion <sup>c</sup><br>(%) | Selectivity <sup>c</sup><br>(%) |
|-------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1     | Meso MnOx <sup>d</sup> | 0                               | 0                           | 12                             | 96                              |
| 2     | Meso Cs/MnOx           | 200/1                           | 1767/1                      | 87                             | 96                              |
| 3     | Meso Cs/MnOx           | 150/1                           | 1536/1                      | 92                             | 96                              |
| 4     | Meso Cs/MnOx           | 100/1                           | 604/1                       | 94                             | 96                              |

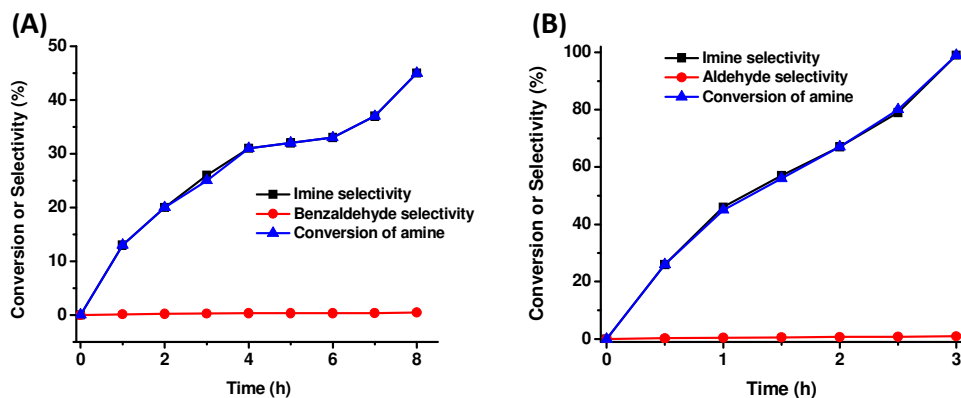
<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (0.5 mmol), catalyst (50 mg), solvent (5 mL), air balloon, 1 h. <sup>b</sup> Referred to molar ratio. <sup>c</sup> Determined by GC-MS. <sup>d</sup> 75% conversion after 24 h.



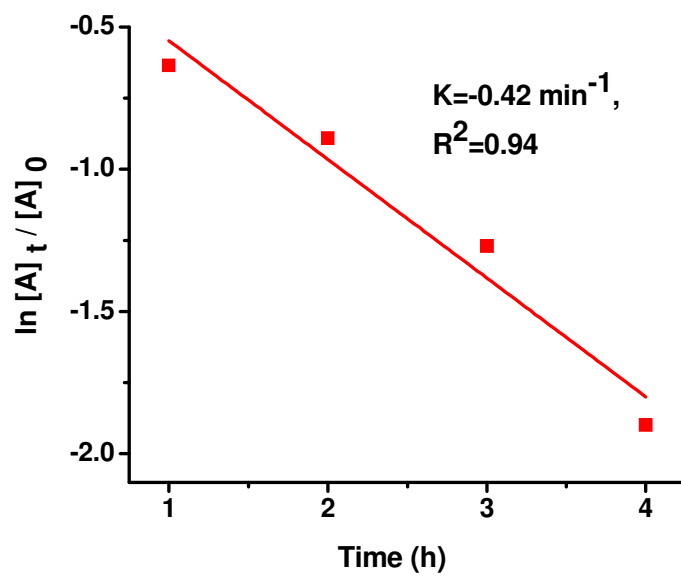
**Figure S3.** (A) Reusability test of the catalyst. Reaction condition: 4-methoxybenzylamine (0.5 mmol), catalyst (15 mg), solvent (5 mL), 110°C, air balloon, 4 h. Turnover number (TON) = [reacted mol amine]/[total mol catalyst]. (B) PXRD of meso Cs/MnOx before and after fourth reuse. The diffraction patterns without noticeable change were observed after fourth reuse.



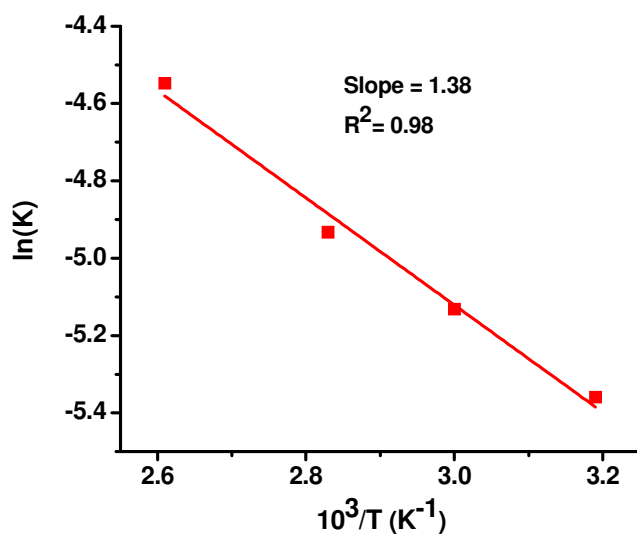
**Figure S4.** Test of heterogeneity. Catalyst was removed after 47% conversion, no change of conversion was observed thereafter. Reaction condition: 4-methoxybenzylamine (0.5 mmol), meso Cs/MnO<sub>x</sub> (25 mg), solvent (5 mL), 110°C, air balloon, 3 h.



**Figure S5.** Time dependent studies of 4-methoxybenzylamine by meso Cs/MnO<sub>x</sub> : (A) at 80°C and (B) at 110°C. Reaction condition: 4-methoxybenzylamine (0.5 mmol), catalyst (25 mg), solvent (5 mL), O<sub>2</sub> balloon, 3/8 h. The formation of benzaldehyde was clearly observed in both cases.

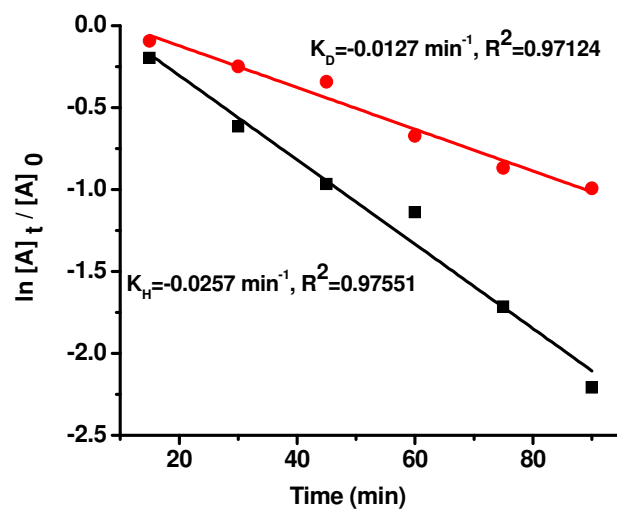


**Figure S6.** Kinetic study for the oxidation of amine by meso Cs/MnO<sub>x</sub>. The reaction exhibited a first order rate dependence with respect to amine having the rate constant of 0.42 min<sup>-1</sup>. Reaction condition: 4-Methoxybenzylamine (0.5 mmol), catalyst (50 mg), solvent (5 mL), air balloon. A<sub>0</sub>: original concentration of substrate. A<sub>t</sub>: concentration of substrate at time t. K: rate constant.

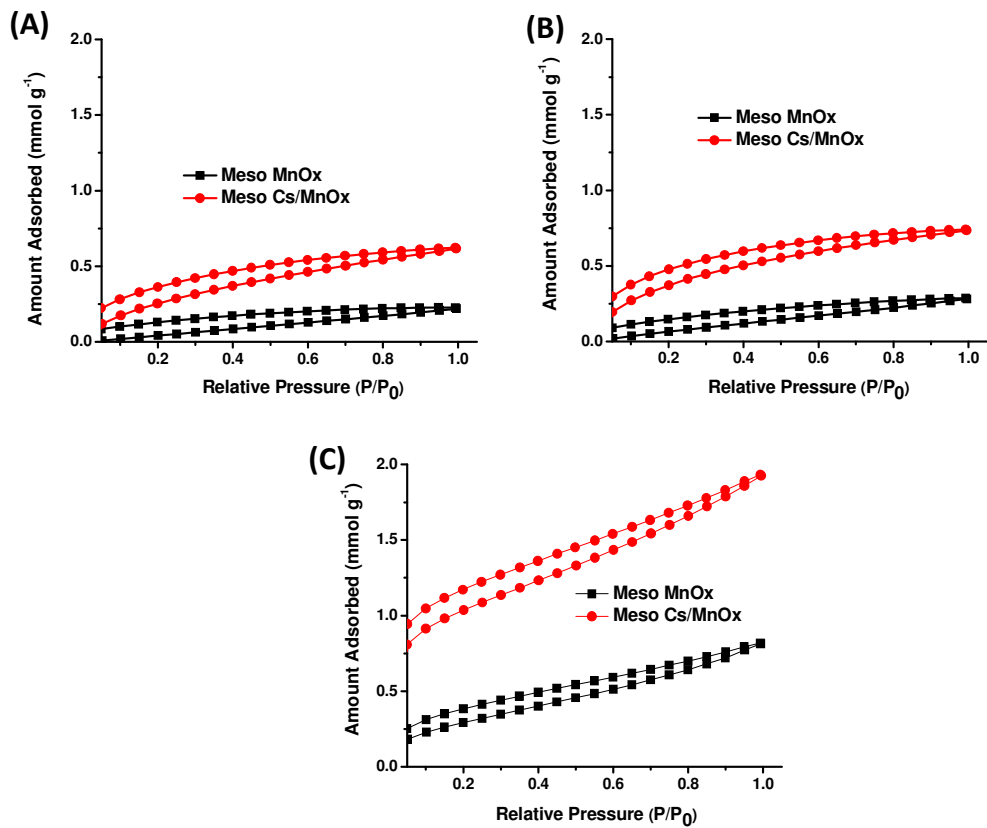


**Figure S7.** Arrhenius plot for the oxidation of amine by meso  $\text{Cs/MnO}_x$ . The apparent activation energy was estimated as  $11.5 \text{ KJmol}^{-1}$ . Reaction condition: 4-Methoxybenzylamine (0.5 mmol), catalyst (50 mg), solvent (5 mL), air balloon, 1 h. K: rate constant.

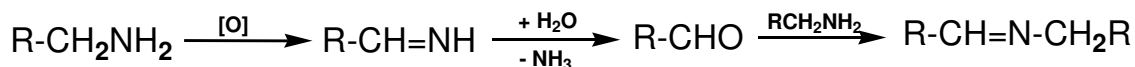




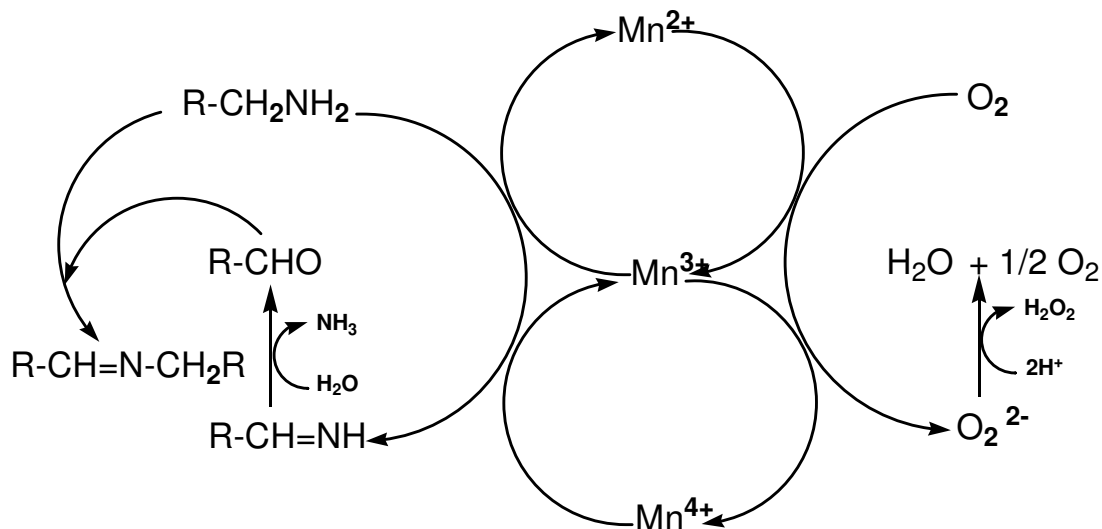
**Figure S8.** Kinetic plot of oxidation of benzylamine and benzylamine- $\alpha,\alpha$ -d<sub>2</sub>. The ratio of  $K_H/K_D = 2.02$ ; which signified the oxidative dehydrogenation of benzylamine was the rate determining step. Reaction condition: amine (0.5 mmol), catalyst (25 mg), solvent (5 mL), 110°C, air balloon, 3 h.  $A_0$ : original concentration of substrate.  $A_t$ : concentration of substrate at time t. k: rate constant.



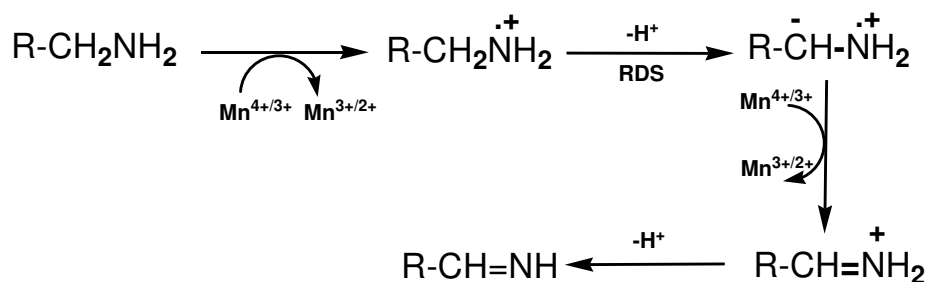
**Figure S9.** CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption experiment of meso MnOx and meso Cs/MnOx at three different temperatures: (A) room temperature, (B) 0 °C, and (C) -78 °C.



**Scheme S1.** Reaction pathways of oxidative coupling of amines over metal oxides



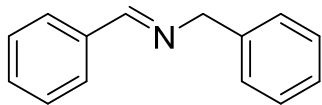
**Scheme S2.** Suggested overall mechanism of oxidation of amines over meso Cs/MnO<sub>x</sub> following Mars-Van-Krevelen mechanism.



**Scheme S3.** Proposed reaction pathways of Mn mediated RCH=NH formation from amine.

The forming of negatively charged intermediate due to abstraction of proton by oxidative dehydrogenation is the rate determining step (RDS).

## Characterization of typical products

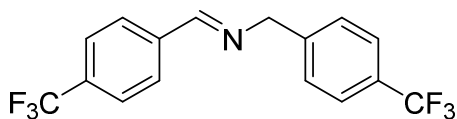


### N-benzylidene benzylamine

Appearance: Yellow oil

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*):  $\delta$  8.41 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d,  $J = 4.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.43 (dd,  $J = 5.1, 1.9$  Hz, 3H), 7.37 (s, 4H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 4.85 (s, 2H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*):  $\delta$  161.78, 130.56, 128.41, 128.30, 128.09, 127.79, 126.79, 64.86.

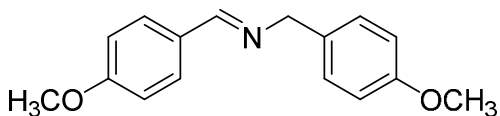


### N-(4-(trifluoromethyl)benzylidene)(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methanamine

Appearance: Yellow oil

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*):  $\delta$  8.47 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 7.69 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.90 (s, 2H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  160.91, 142.85, 138.83, 128.34, 127.94, 125.39 (dd,  $J = 16.5, 3.6$  Hz), 64.22.



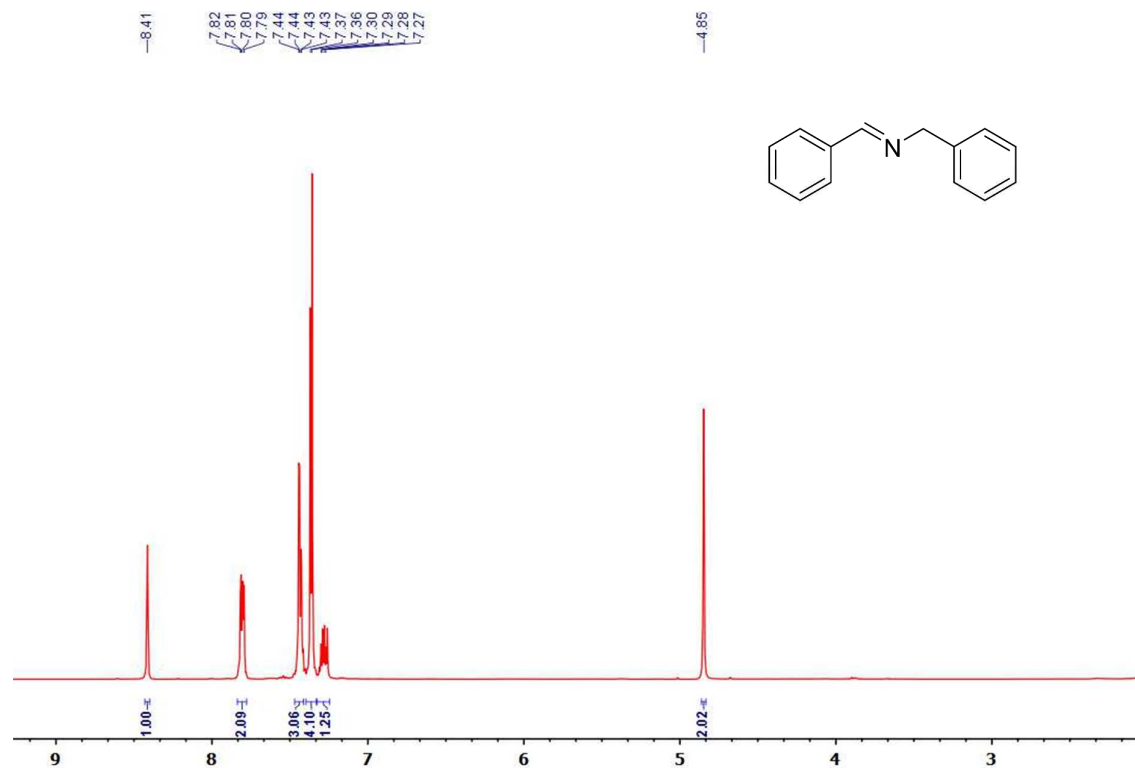
### N-(4-methoxybenzylidene)(4-methoxyphenyl)methanamine

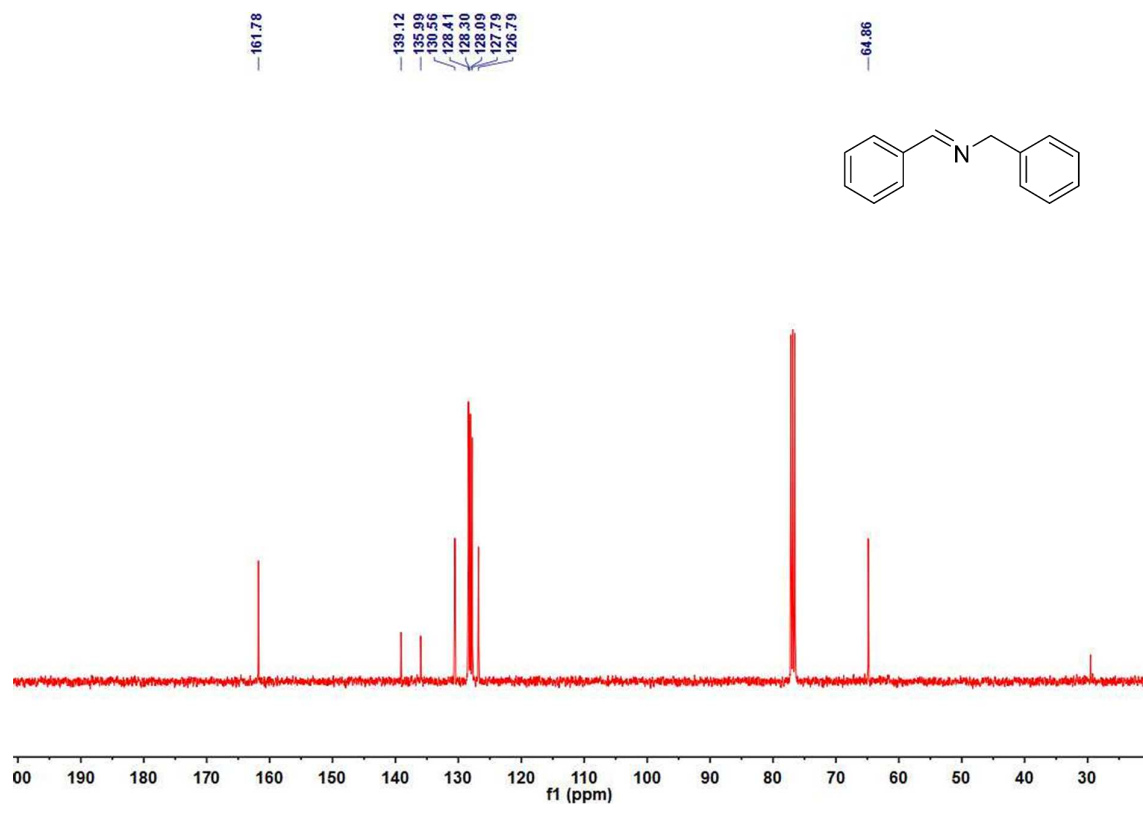
Appearance: Yellow oil

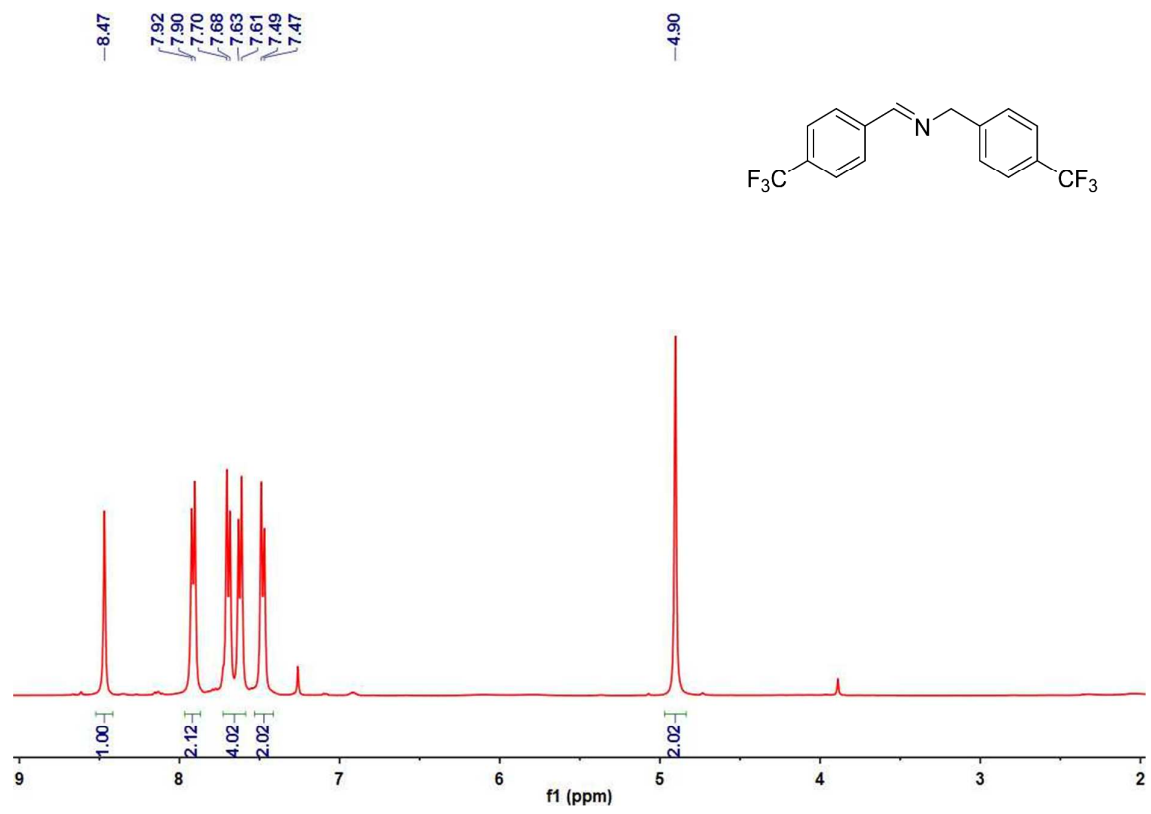
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  8.68 (s, 1H), 8.11 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.37 – 7.22 (m, 4H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 4.20 (d,  $J = 14.6$  Hz, 6H).

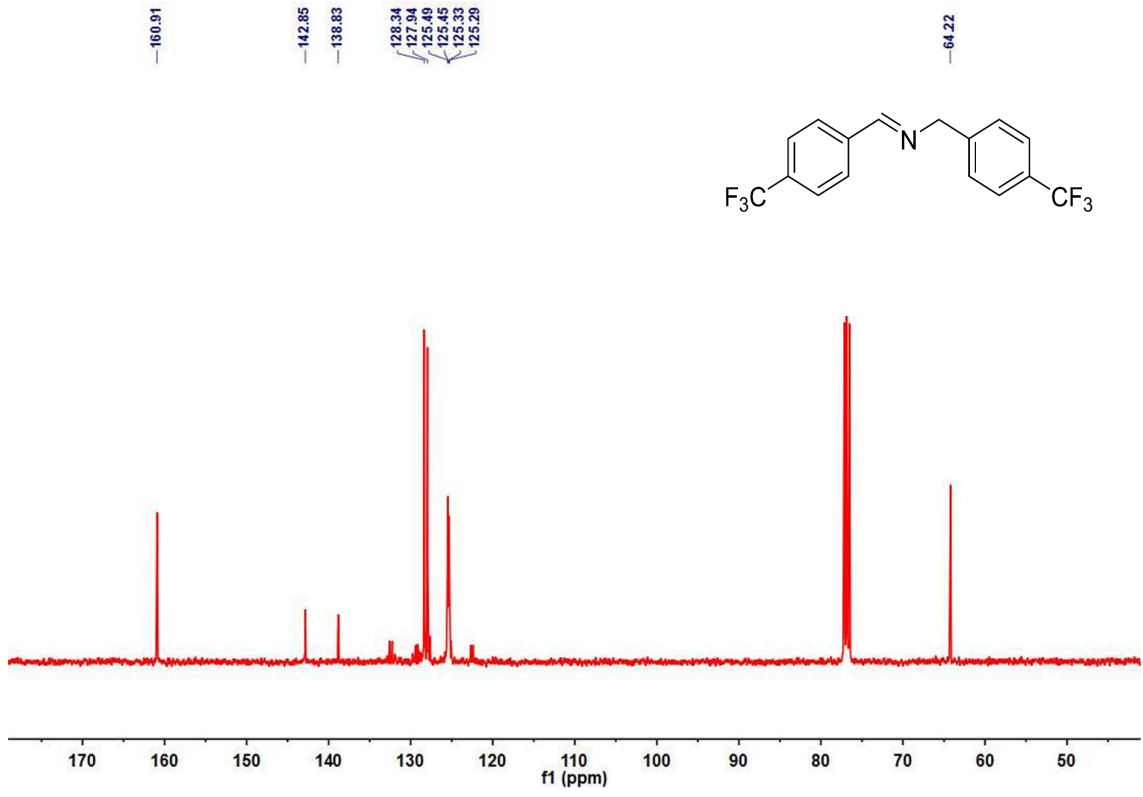
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  162.06, 161.28, 159.04, 132.09, 130.19, 129.55, 114.33 (d,  $J = 6.7$  Hz), 64.79, 55.72.

# $^1\text{H}$ NMR and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR of typical products

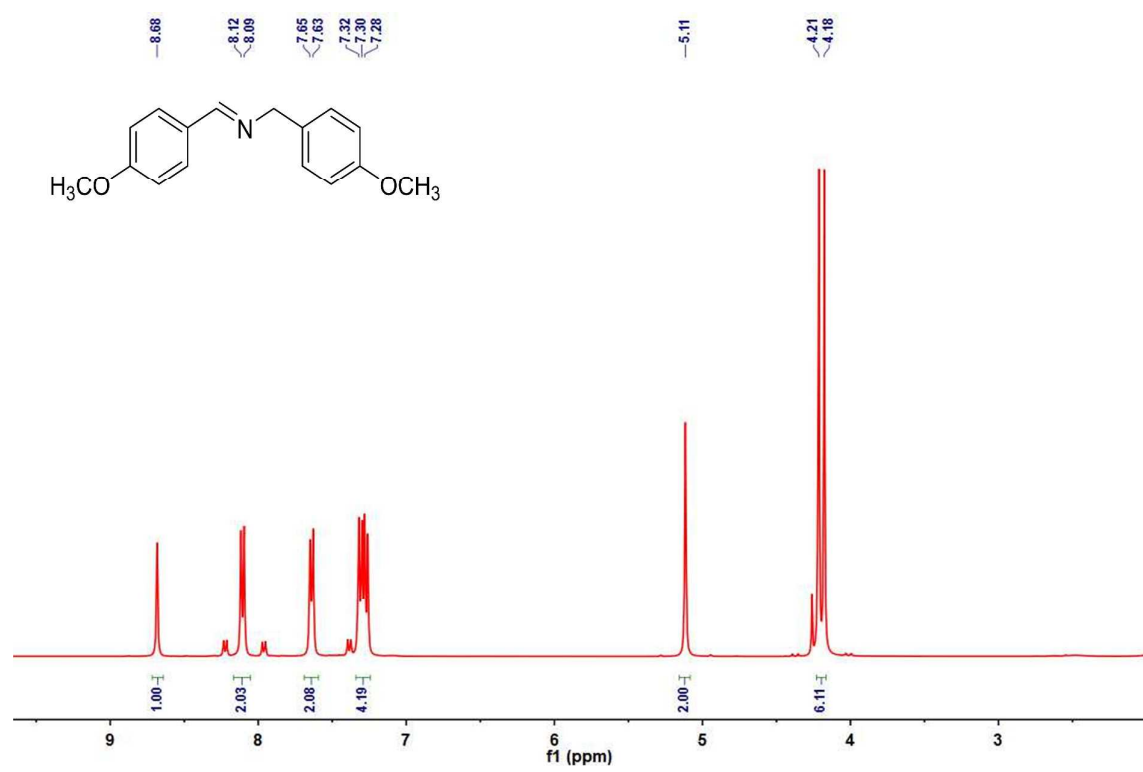


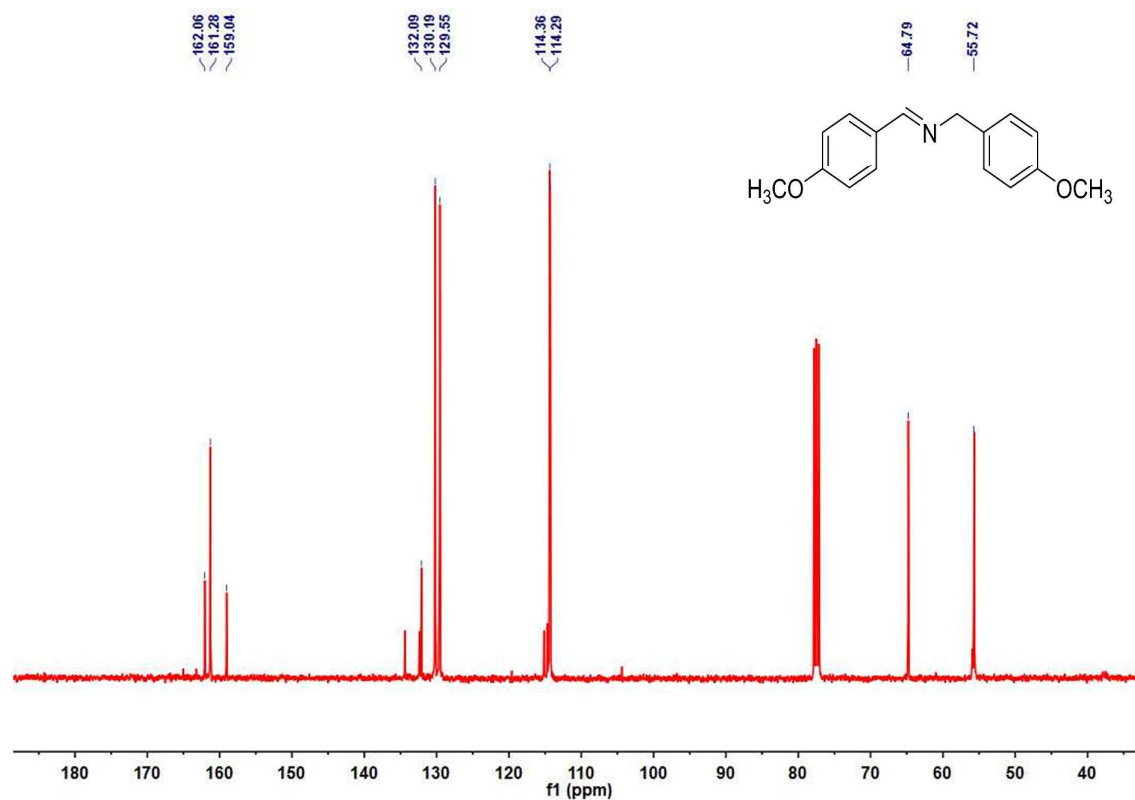












### References:

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- (2) Kuo, C. H.; Li, W.; Pahalagedara, L.; El-Sawy, A. M.; Kriz, D.; Genz, N.; Guild, C.; Ressler, T.; Suib, S. L.; He, J. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2015**, *54*, 2345-2350.
- (3) Cao, H.; Suib, S. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 5334-5342.