

## Green synthesis of furfural from xylose and corn cob biomass

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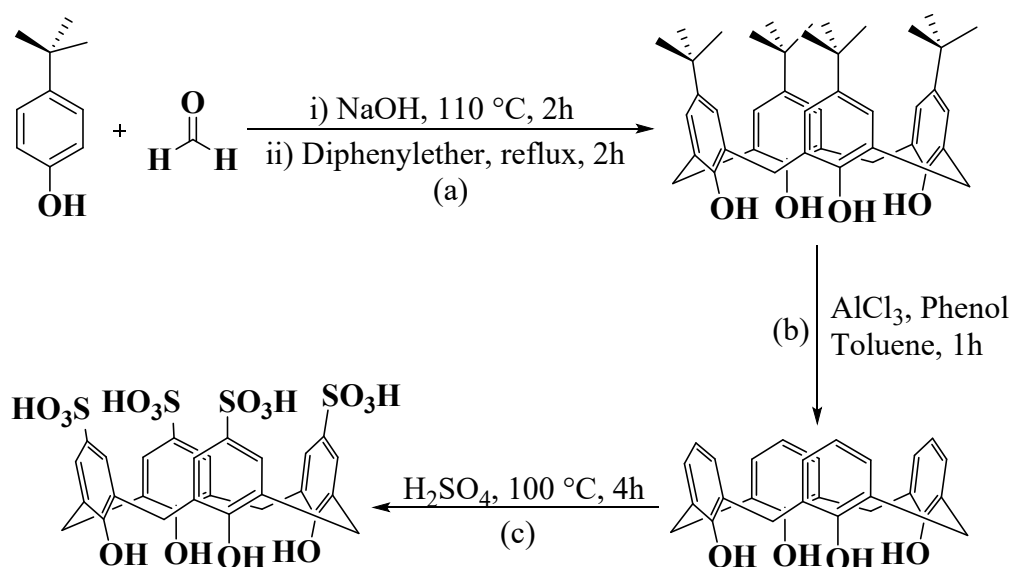
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## EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

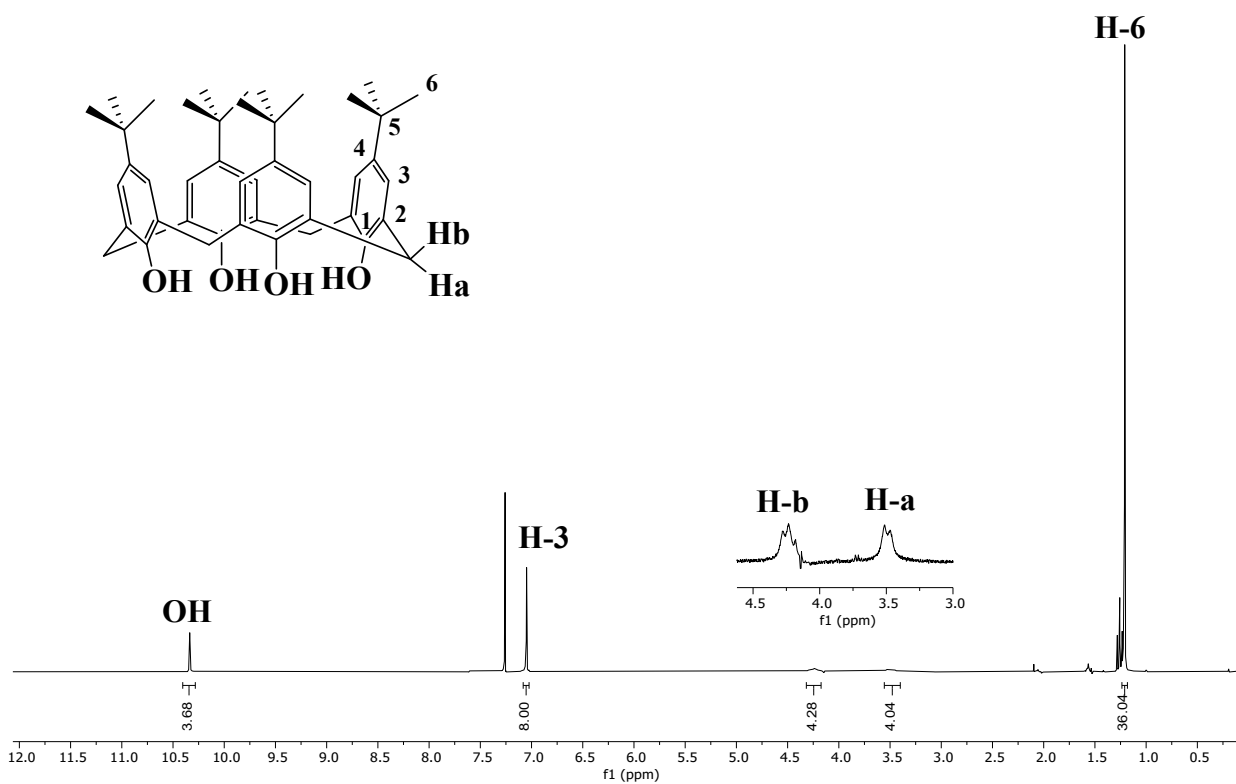
### Synthesis of CX4SO<sub>3</sub>H

The CX4SO<sub>3</sub>H will be synthesized from the methodology described by Gustche et al. Initially, the *p*-tert-butylcalix[4]arene (CX4PTB) will be obtained from the condensation of *p*-tert-butylphenol and formaldehyde, in basic medium and under heating<sup>1</sup> (**Fig. S1** (a)). Then, the synthesis of calix[4]arene (CX4) will be carried out CX4PTB, using phenol and anhydrous aluminum chloride in toluene<sup>2</sup> (**Fig. S1** (b)). Finally, to obtain CX4SO<sub>3</sub>H from CX4, it will be placed in the presence of concentrated sulfuric acid and heated for four hours<sup>3</sup> (**Fig. S1** (c)).

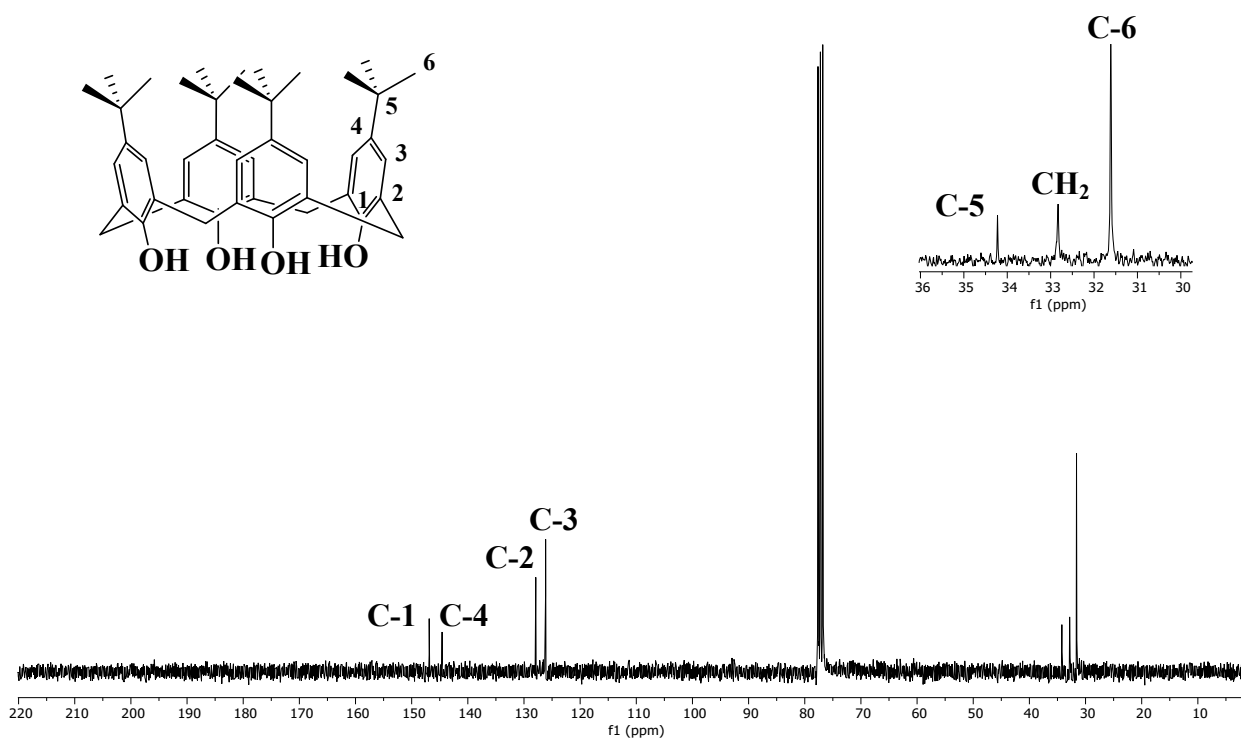


**Fig. S1.** Synthetic route to obtain CX4SO<sub>3</sub>H.

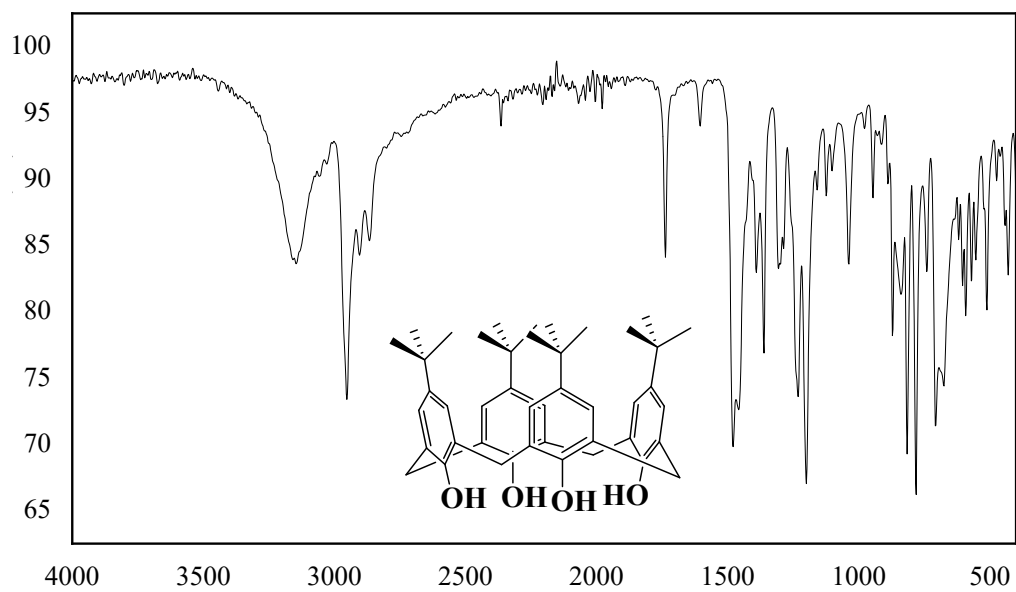
**CX4PTB:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.21 (s, 36H, H-6), 3.48 (d, 4H, *J* 12.4, CH<sub>2</sub>-Ha), 4.28 (d, 4H, *J* 12.4, CH<sub>2</sub>-Hb), 7.05 (s, 8H, H-3), 10.34 (s, 4H, OH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 31.4 (C-6), 32.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.0 (C-5), 125.9 (C-3), 127.6 (C-2), 144.3 (C-4), 146.7 (C-1). IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3150, 3057, 3024, 2952, 1737, 1605, 1480, 1456, 1391, 1362, 1231, 1200, 871, 814, 780.



**Fig. S2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (300 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of the CX4PTB.

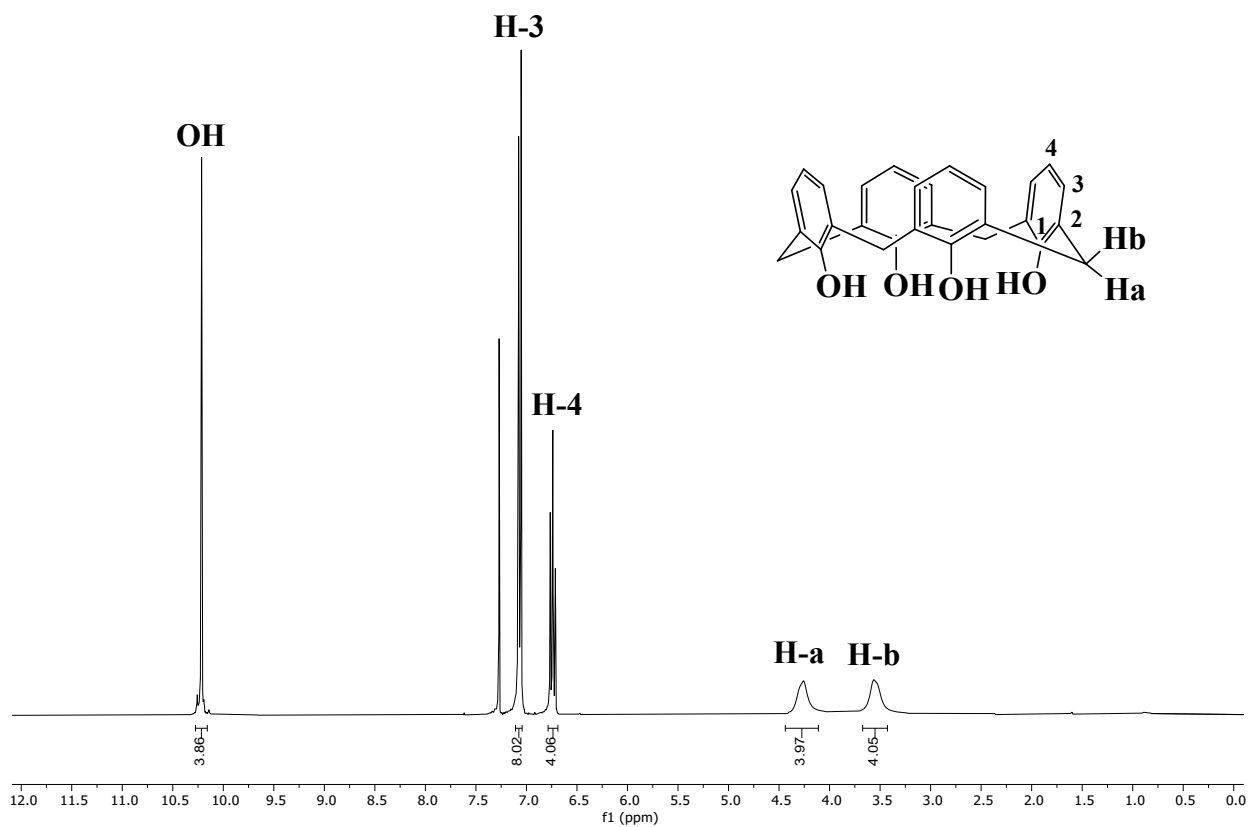


**Fig. S3.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (75 MHz;  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of the CX4PTB.

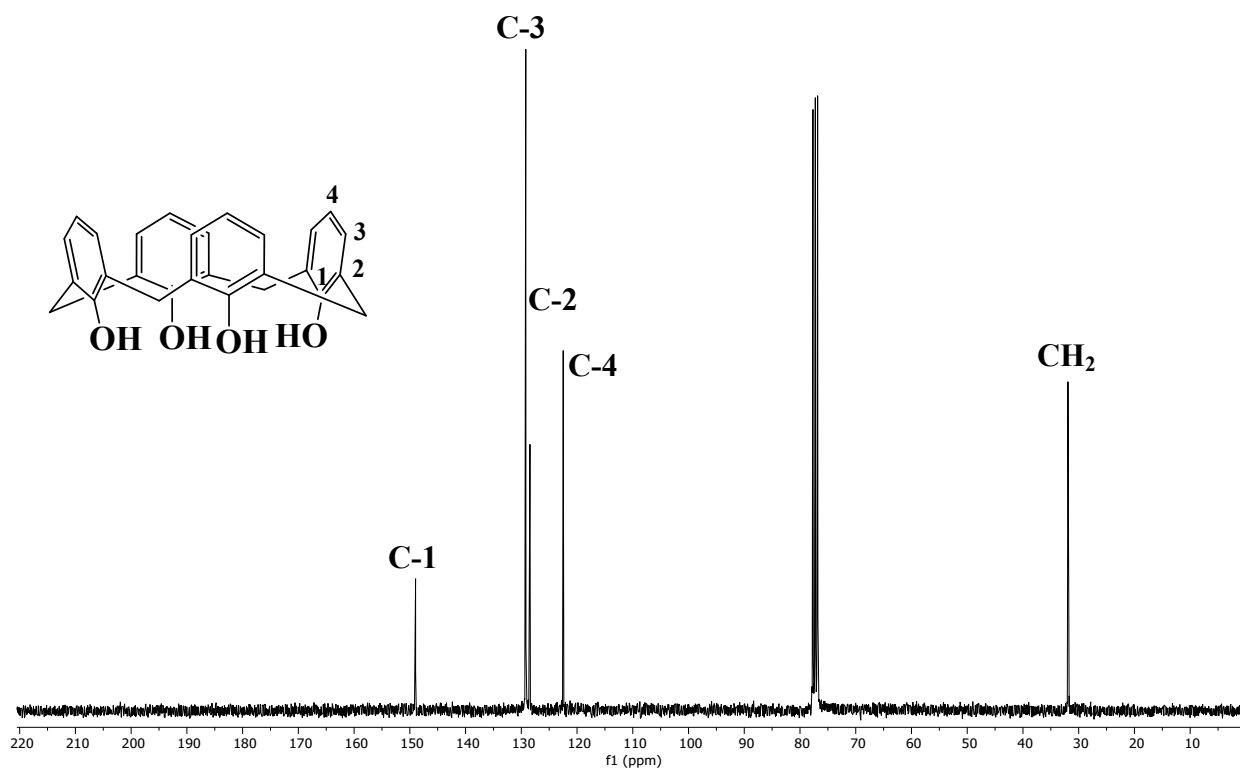


**Fig. S4.** FTIR Spectrum of CX4PTB.

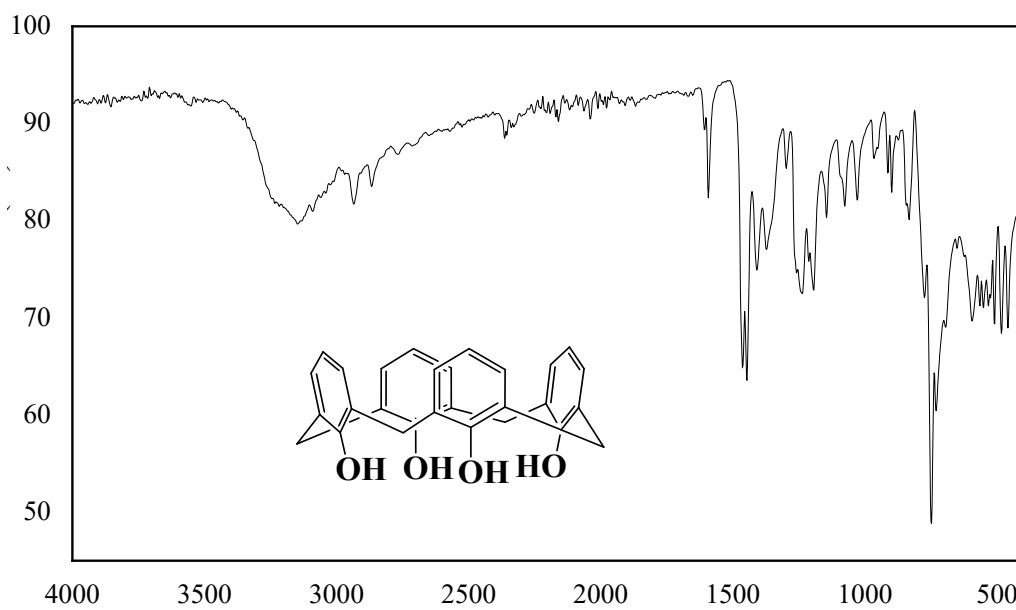
**CX4:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 3.56 (d, 4H,  $J$  12.6, H-a), 4.27 (d, 4H,  $J$  12.6, H-b), 6.79 (t, 4H,  $J$  7.5, H-4), 7.08 (d, 8H,  $J$  7.5 Hz, H-3), 10.23 (s, 4H, OH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz;  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 31.9 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ), 122.5 (C-4), 128.5 (C-2), 129.2 (C-3), 149.0 (C-1). IR (ATR,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3152, 3092, 2935, 1593, 1466, 1447, 1410, 1369, 1238, 774, 749.



**Fig. S5.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (300 MHz;  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of the CX4.

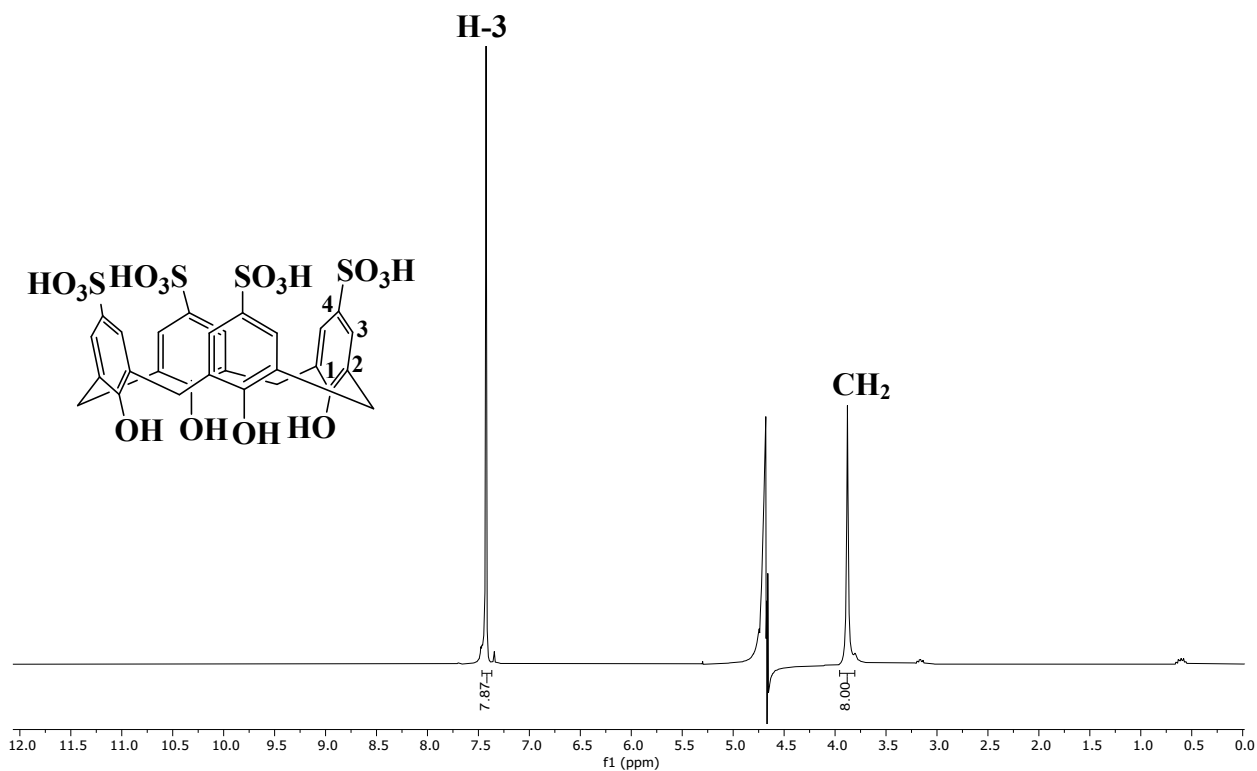


**Fig. S6.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (75 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of the CX4.

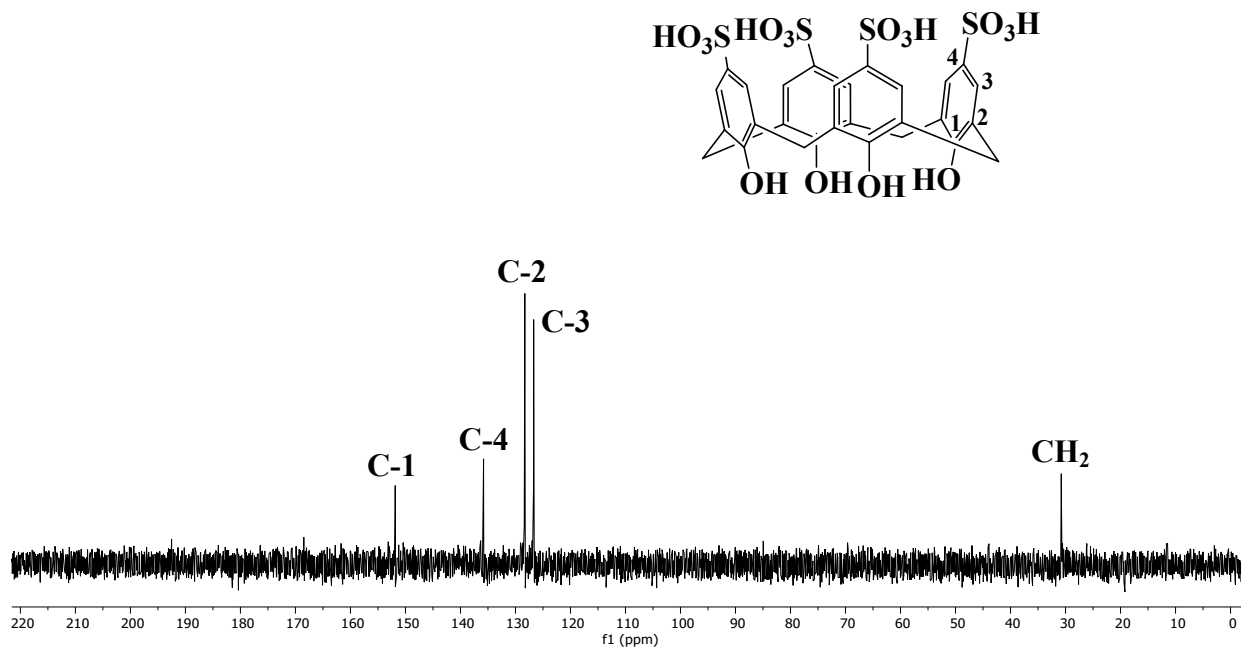


**Fig. S7.** FTIR Spectrum of the CX4.

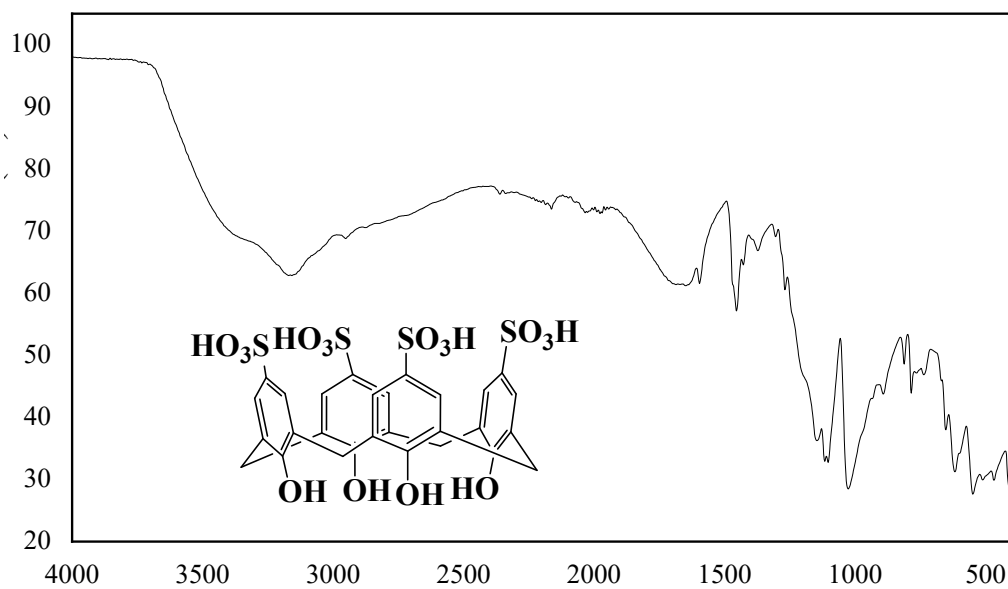
**CX4SO<sub>3</sub>H**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): 3.84 (s, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.39 (s, 8H, H-3). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O): 30.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 126.6 (C-3), 128.2 (C-2), 135.8 (C-4), 151.9 (C-1). IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3182, 1705, 1636, 1599, 1455, 1147, 1117, 623.



**Fig. S8.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (300 MHz; D<sub>2</sub>O) of CX4SO<sub>3</sub>H.



**Fig. S9.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (75 MHz; D<sub>2</sub>O) of CX<sub>4</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H.

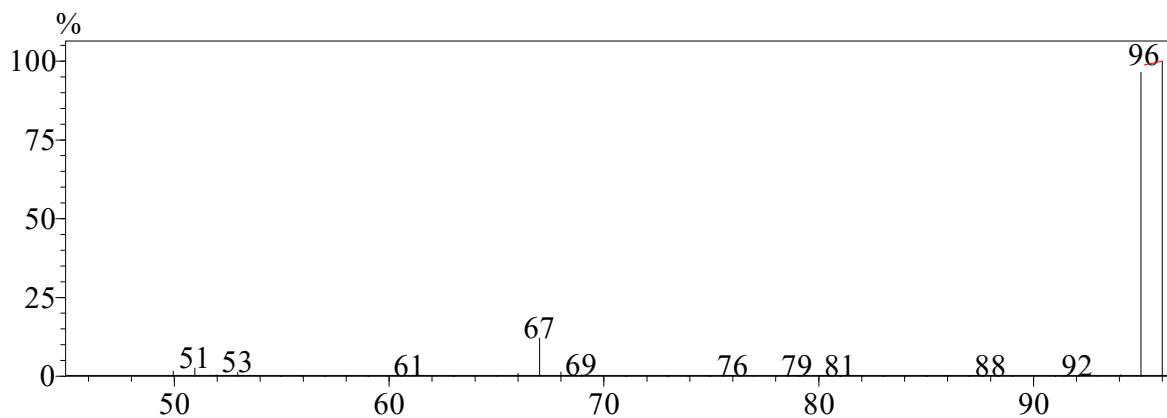


**Fig. S10.** FTIR Spectrum of CX<sub>4</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>H.

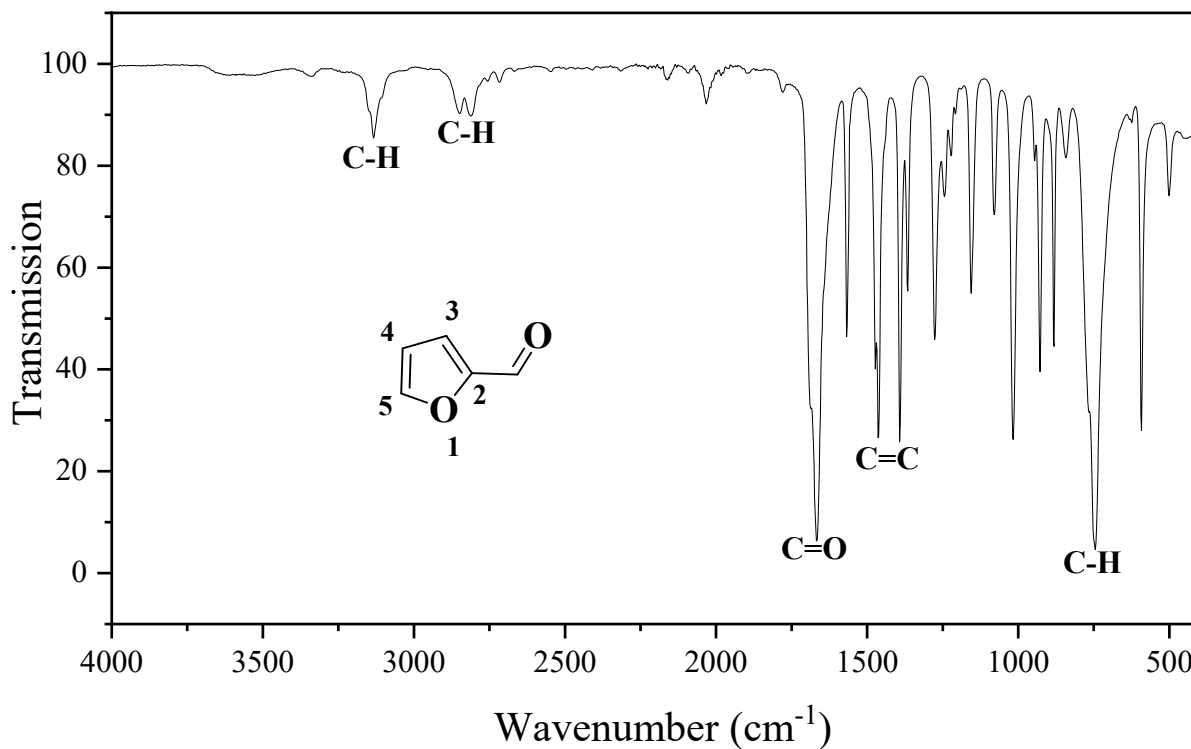


## Spectroscopic Data for furfural

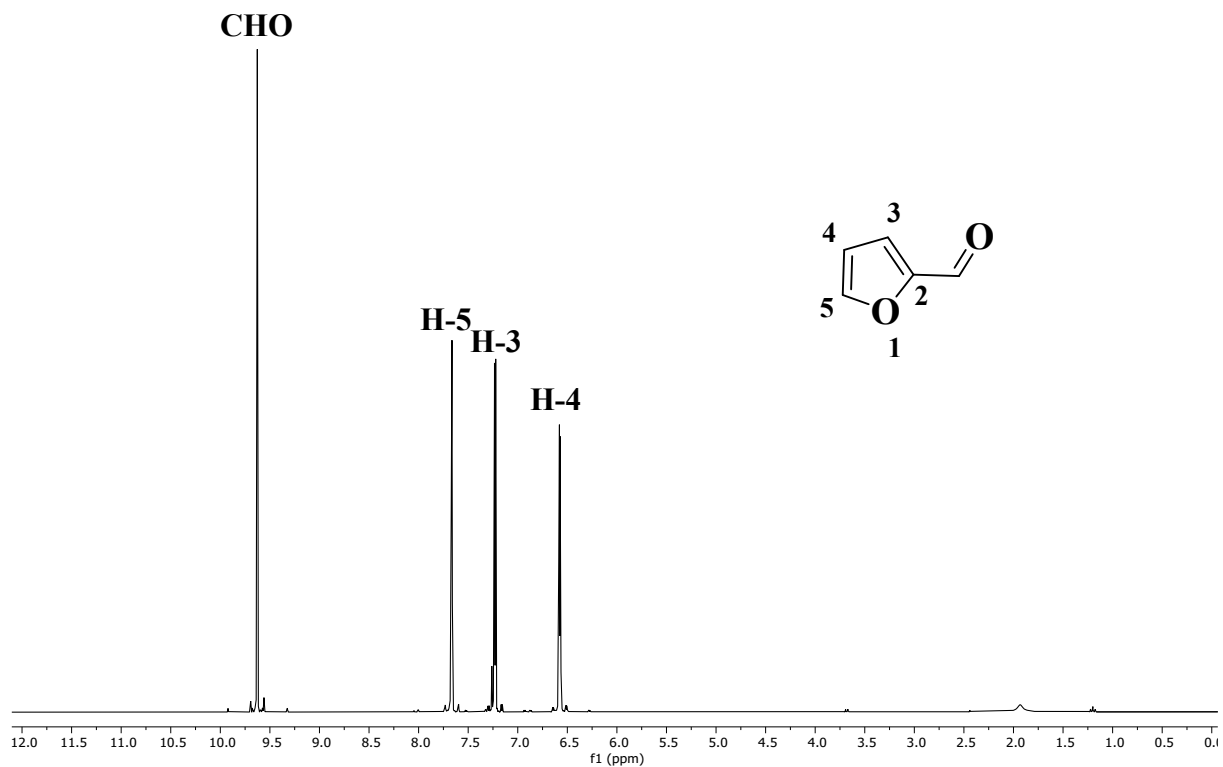
**Furfural:** Yellow liquid. **GC-MS** ( $m/z$ ) (abundance %): 96 (100, M<sup>+</sup>), 95 (98), 67 (15), 51 (3). **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz):  $\delta$  9.63 (s, 1H), 7.67–7.66 (m, 1H), 7.23 (dd,  $J = 3.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.68 (dd,  $J = 3.6$  Hz, 1H). **IR** (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>)  $\bar{\nu}_{\max}$ : 3134, 2849, 1671, 1567, 1468, 1397, 1278, 1019, 930, 748.



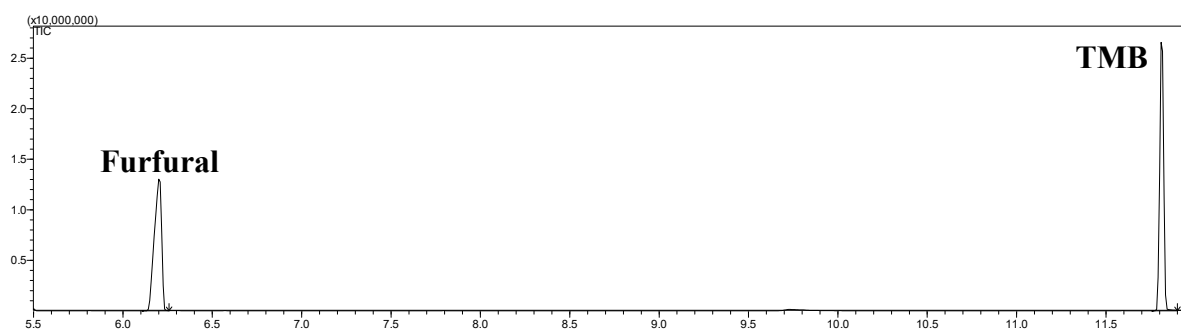
**Fig. S11.** Mass spectrum of furfural.



**Fig. S12.** FTIR Spectrum of furfural.



**Fig. S13.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (300 MHz;  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of furfural.



**Fig. S14.** Typical chromatogram of GC-MS analysis of furfural using TMB as internal standard.

### Calibration curves

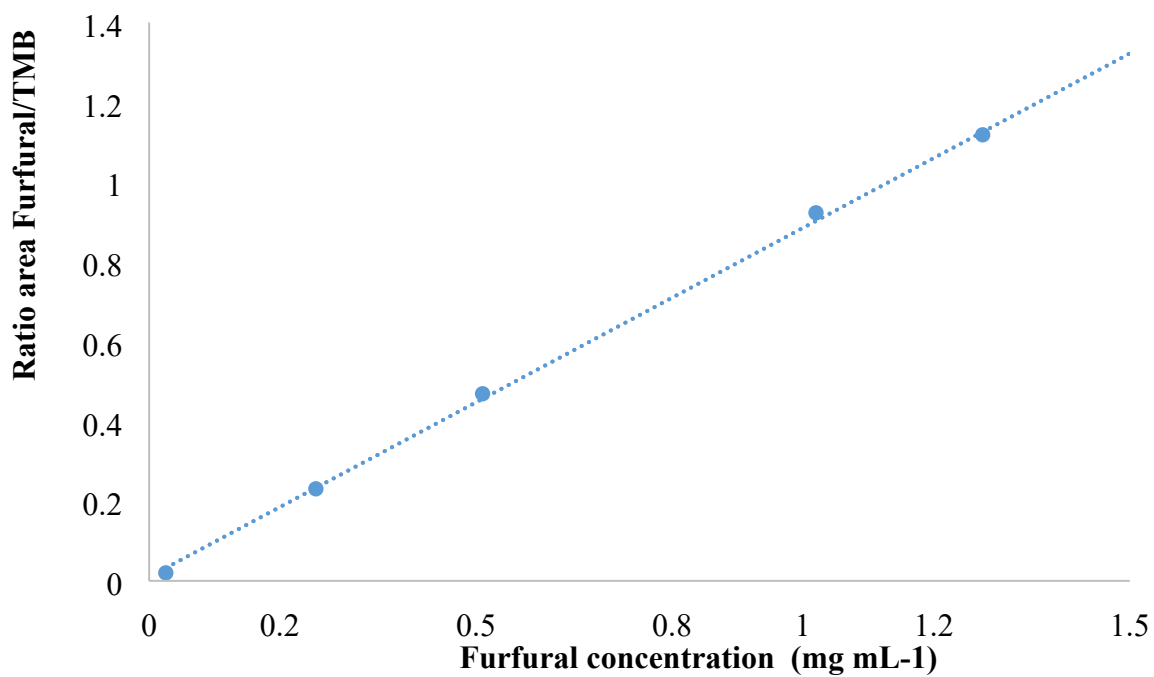


Fig. S15. Furfural calibration curve.

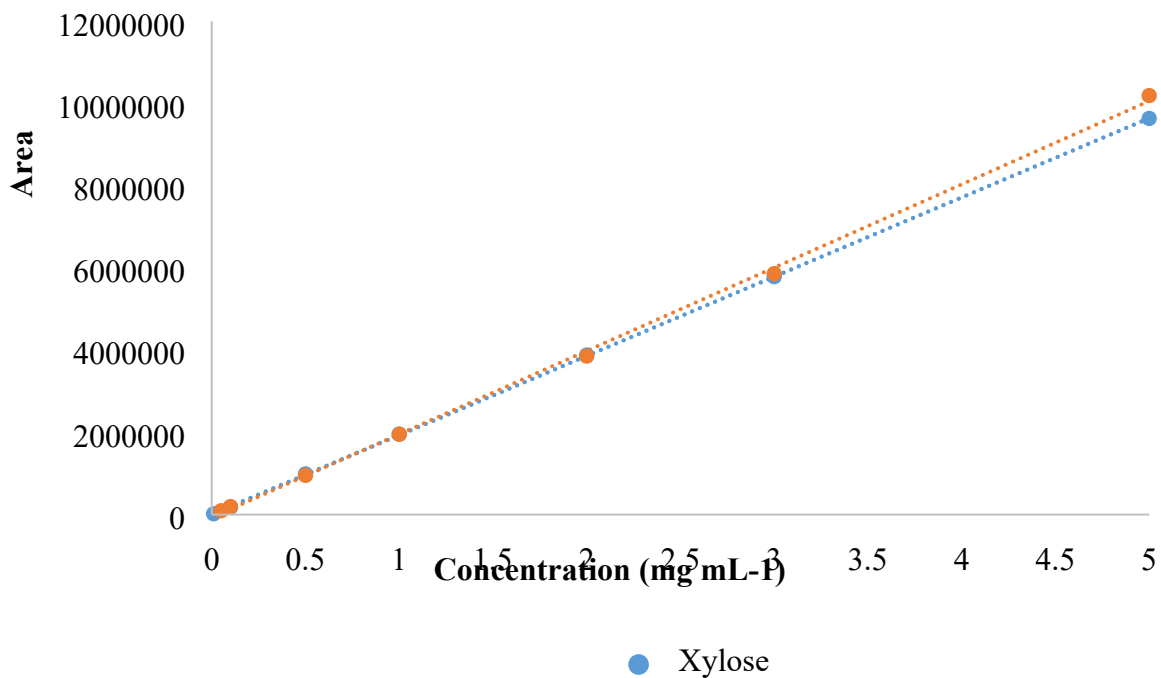


Fig. S16. Xylose and arabinose calibration curve.

## References

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- 2 A. Casnati, N. Della Ca', F. Sansone, F. Ugozzoli and R. Ungaro, *Tetrahedron*, 2004, **60**, 7869–7876.
- 3 S. Shinkai, S. Mori, T. Tsubaki, T. Sone and O. Manabe, *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans.*, 1987, 2297–2299.