

**Unravelling mechanisms behind biomass-clay interactions using comprehensive multiphase nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy**

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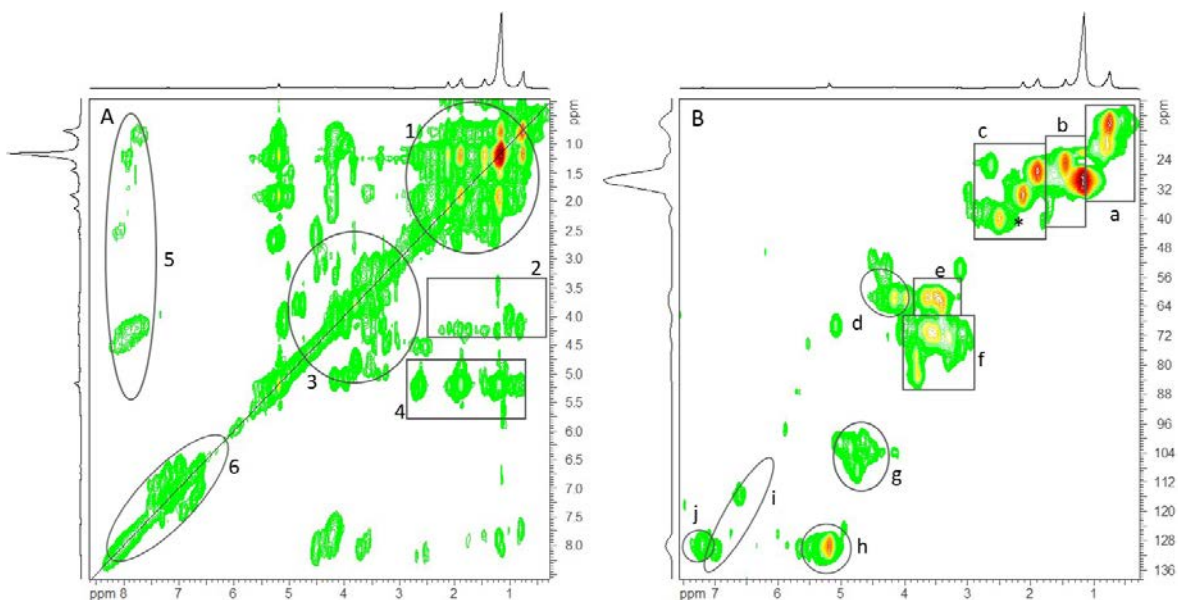
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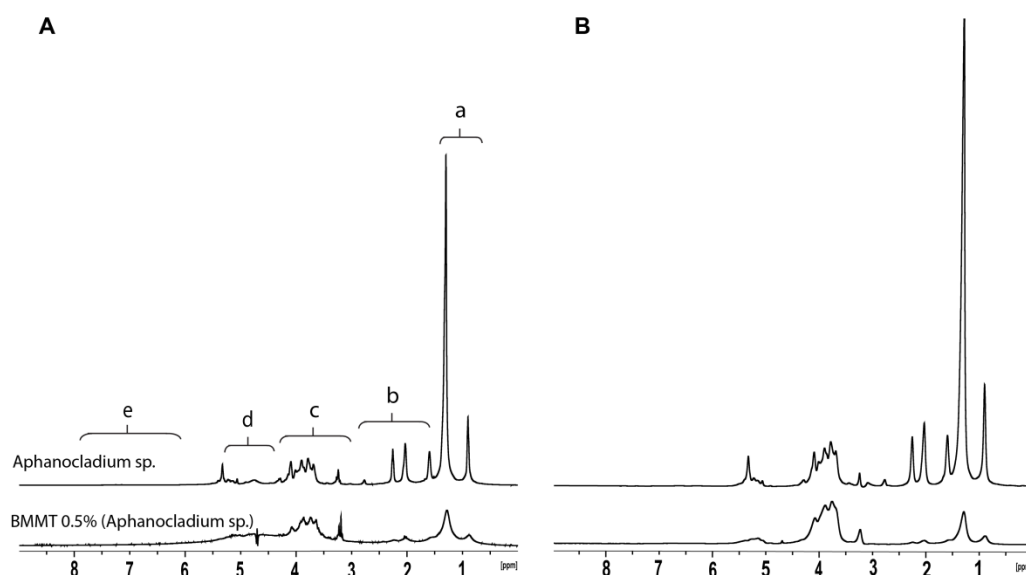
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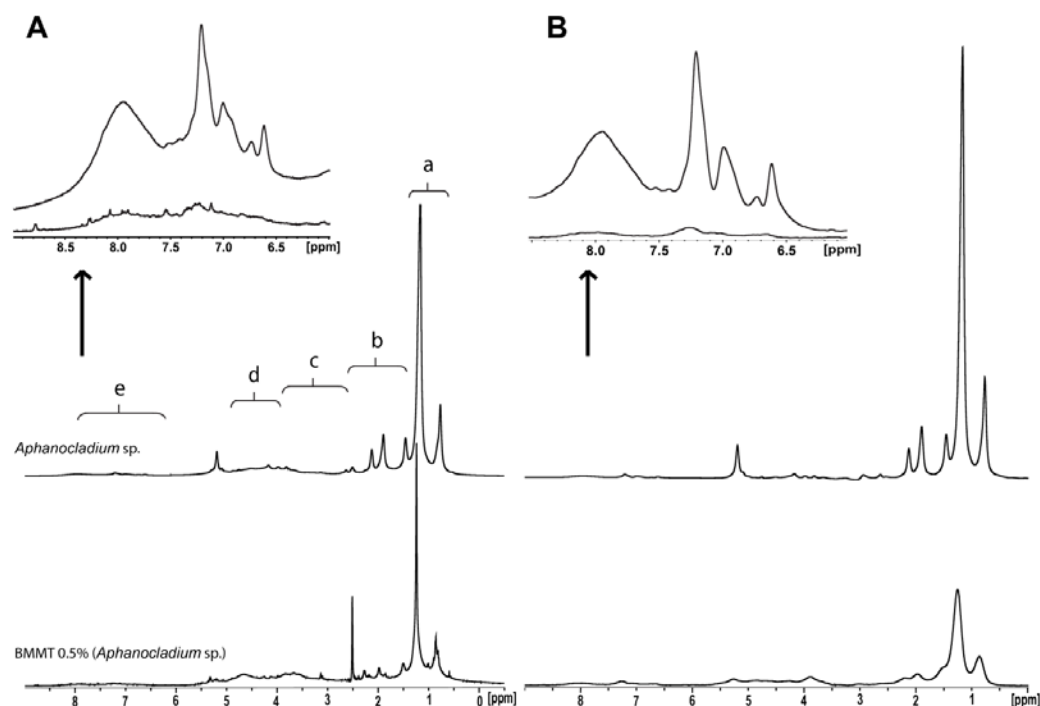
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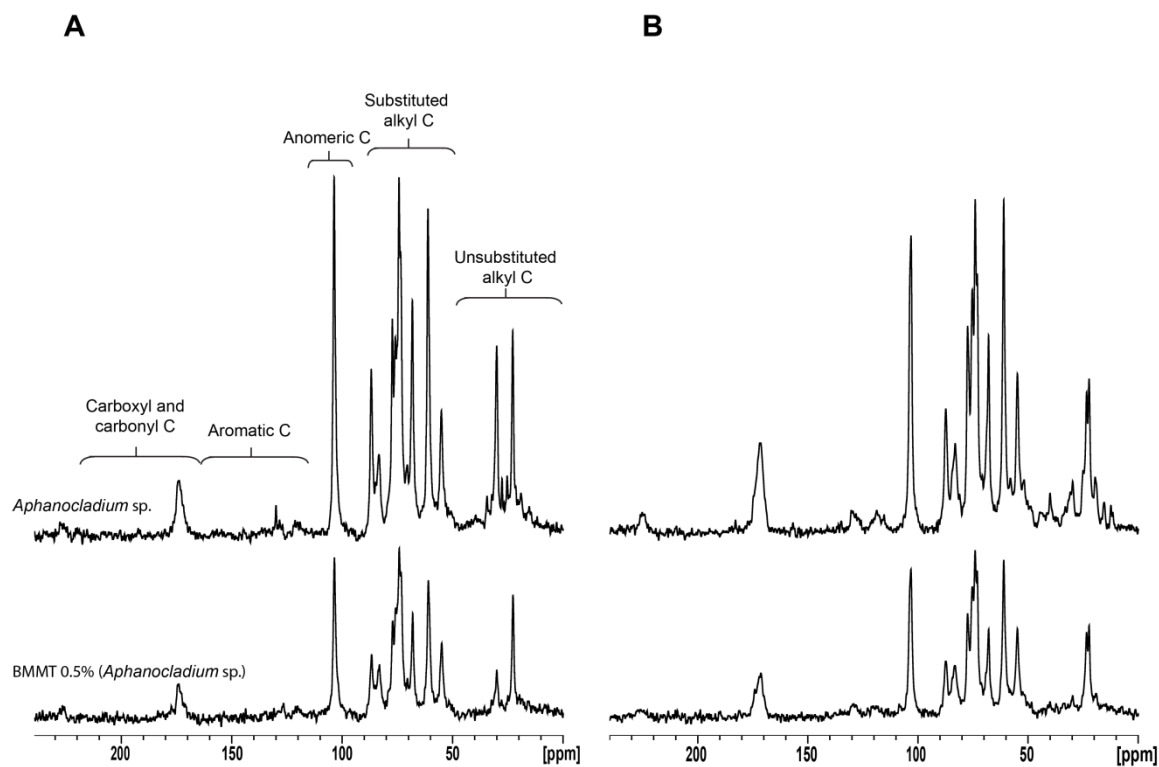
**Figure S1.** (A):  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  TOCSY NMR spectrum at 500 MHz of *Apha* biomass: (1) Aliphatic chains; (2) correlation between  $\alpha$ -H and peptide side chains in amino acids, peptides and proteins; (3) signals from carbohydrates; (4) correlation of unsaturation to aliphatic chains from lipids; (5) correlation between amides to  $\alpha$ -H and side chains from proteins/peptides; (6) signals from aromatic compounds. (B):  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR spectrum of *Apha* biomass: (a)  $\text{CH}_3$  from lipids and/or peptides; (b)  $\text{CH}_2$  in lipids; (c) C-H bonds in various aliphatic structures including fatty acids and amino acids; (d)  $\alpha$ -H/C in peptides; (e)  $\text{CH}_2$  in carbohydrates; (f) C-H bonds in carbohydrates; (g) anomeric H (carbohydrates); and (h) C=C from double bonds in aliphatic chains; (i) Tyrosine; (j) Phenylalanine. \*DMSO= dimethyl sulfoxide.



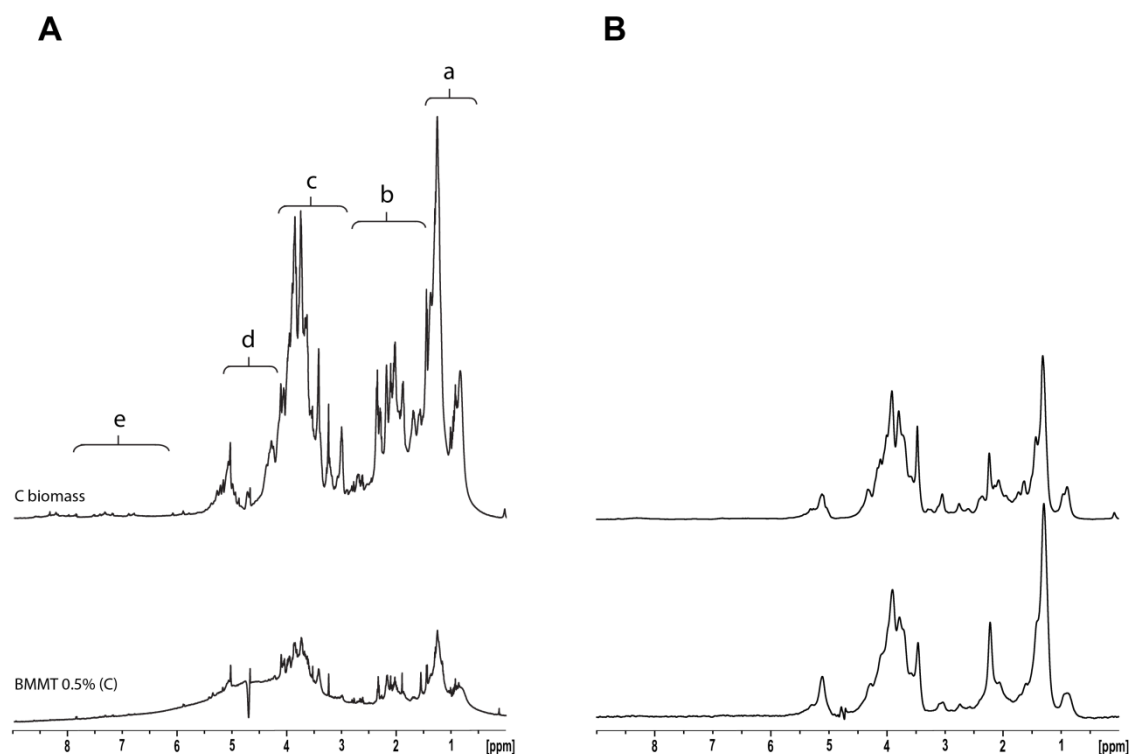
**Figure S2.** (A),  $^1\text{H}$  CMP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (*Apha*) at different loading of biomass in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ . (B),  $^1\text{H}$  CMP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (*Apha*) at different loading of biomass in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  using a diffusion edited experiment. Assignments are as follows: (a) terminal methyl and methylene groups between 0.6-1.3 ppm; (b) signals due to *O*- and *N*-substituted aliphatic structures in the 1.3-2.9 ppm region; (c) signals due to *O*-alkyl structures mainly from carbohydrates in the 2.9-4.1 ppm region; (d) overlapping weak resonances in the 4.1-5.4 ppm region generally attributed to a number of moieties including  $\alpha$ -H from peptides, anomeric H in carbohydrates and double bonds; and (e) signals from the aromatic structures, in the 6.2-7.8 ppm region.



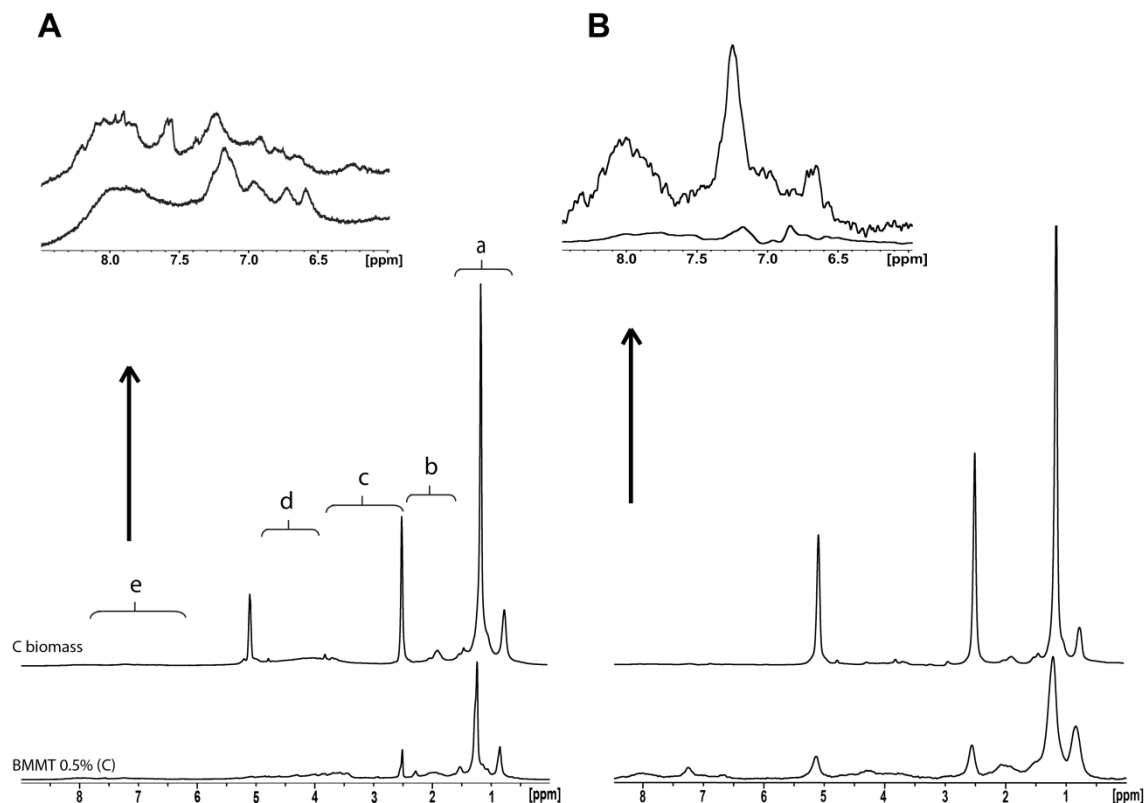
**Figure S3.** (A),  $^1\text{H}$  CMP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (*Apha*) at different loading of biomass in DMSO- $\text{d}_6$ . (B),  $^1\text{H}$  CMP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (*Apha*) at different loading of biomass in DMSO- $\text{d}_6$  using diffusion edited experiment. Arrow indicates a detail of the proteins region (9-6 ppm). Assignments are as follows: (a) terminal methyl and methylene groups between 0.6-1.3 ppm; (b) signals due to *O*- and *N*- substituted aliphatic structures in the 1.3-2.9 ppm region; (c) signals due to *O*-alkyl structures mainly from carbohydrates in the 2.9-4.1 ppm region; (d) overlapping weak resonances in the 4.1-5.4 ppm region generally attributed to a number of moieties including  $\alpha$ -H from peptides, anomeric H in carbohydrates and double bonds; and (e) signals from the aromatic structures, in the 6.2-7.8 ppm region.



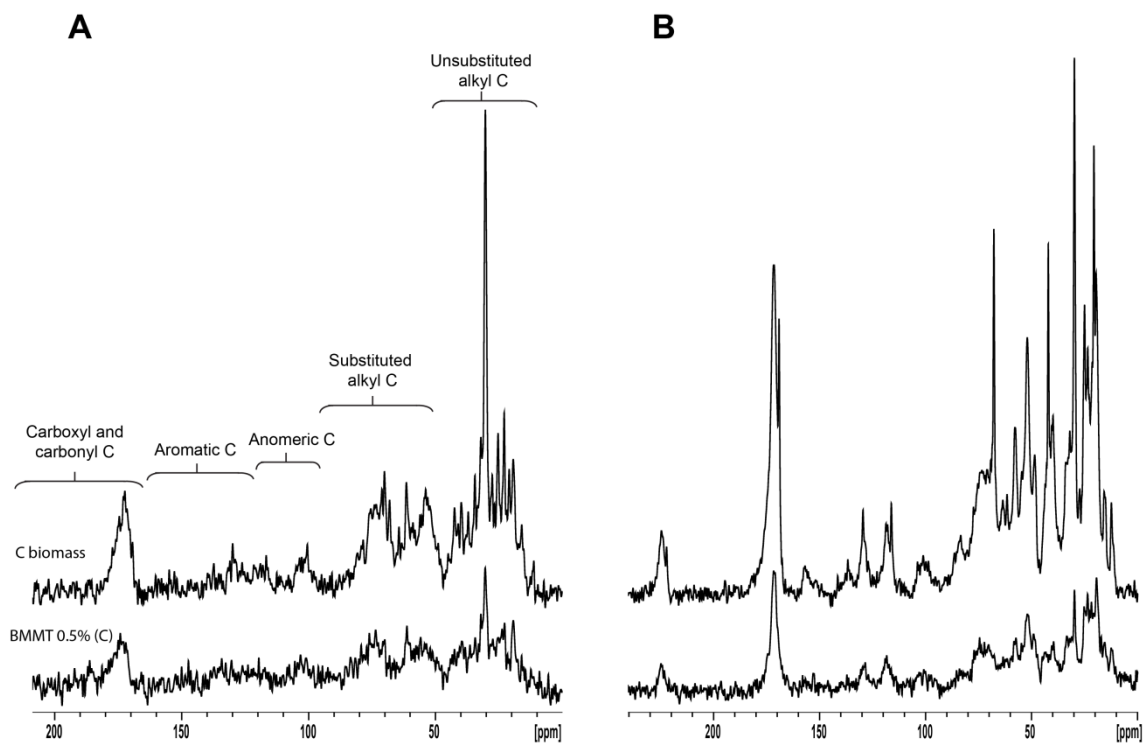
**Figure S4.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  CP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (*Apha*) at different loading of biomass in (A),  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  and (B),  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



**Figure S5.** (A),  $^1\text{H}$  CMP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (C) at different loading of biomass in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ . (B),  $^1\text{H}$  CMP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (C) at different loading of biomass in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  using a diffusion edited experiment. Assignments are as follows: (a) terminal methyl and methylene groups between 0.6-1.3 ppm; (b) signals due to *O*- and *N*- substituted aliphatic structures in the 1.3-2.9 ppm region; (c) signals due to *O*-alkyl structures mainly from carbohydrates in the 2.9-4.1 ppm region; (d) overlapping weak resonances in the 4.1-5.4 ppm region generally attributed to a number of moieties including  $\alpha$ -H from peptides, anomeric H in carbohydrates and double bonds; and (e) signals from the aromatic structures, in the 6.2-7.8 ppm region.

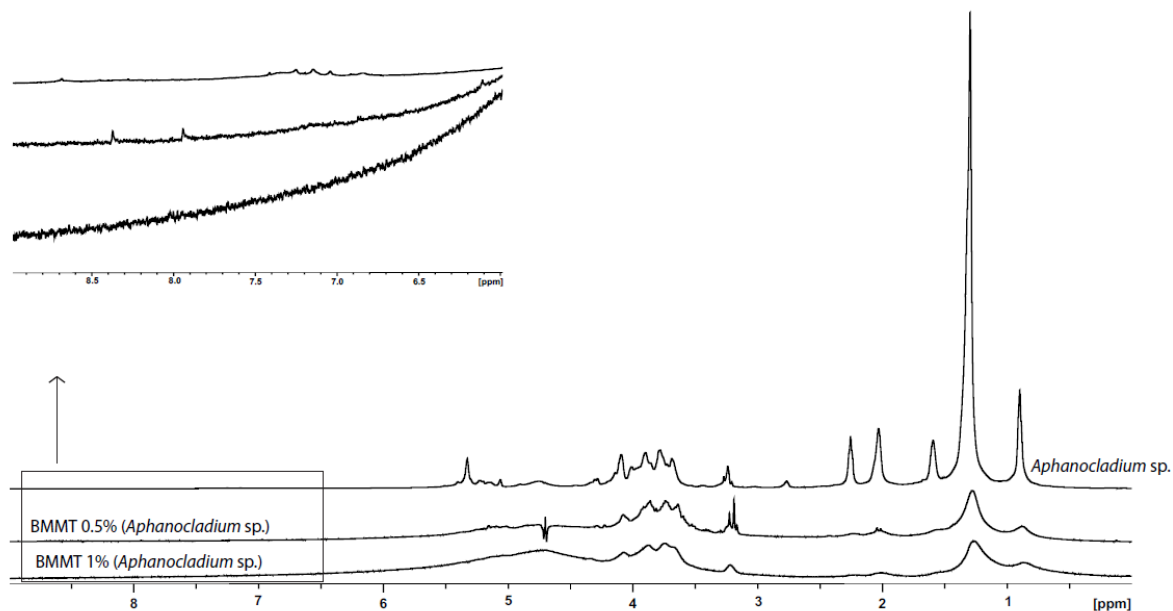


**Figure S6.** (A),  $^1\text{H}$  CMP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (C) at different loading of biomass in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ . (B),  $^1\text{H}$  CMP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (C) at different loading of biomass in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$  using diffusion edited experiment. The arrows indicate a detail of the proteins region (9-6 ppm). Assignments are as follows: (a) terminal methyl and methylene groups between 0.6-1.3 ppm; (b) signals due to *O*- and *N*- substituted aliphatic structures in the 1.3-2.9 ppm region; (c) signals due to *O*-alkyl structures mainly from carbohydrates in the 2.9-4.1 ppm region; (d) overlapping weak resonances in the 4.1-5.4 ppm region generally attributed to a number of moieties including  $\alpha$ -H from peptides, anomeric H in carbohydrates and double bonds; and (e) signals from the aromatic structures, in the 6.2-7.8 ppm region.



**Figure S7.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  CP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (C) at different loading of biomass in (A),  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  and (B),  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .





**Figure S8.**  $^1\text{H}$  CMP-MAS NMR spectra of BMMT (*Apha*) at different loading of biomass in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ . Assignments are as follows: terminal methyl and methylene groups between 0.6-1.3 ppm; signals due to *O*- and *N*- substituted aliphatic structures in the 1.3-2.9 ppm region; signals due to *O*-alkyl structures mainly from carbohydrates in the 2.9-4.1 ppm region; overlapping weak resonances in the 4.1-5.4 ppm region generally attributed to a number of moieties including  $\alpha$ -H from peptides, anomeric H in carbohydrates and double bonds; and (box and arrow) signals from the aromatic structures, in the 6.2-8.5 ppm region.



**Figure S9.** Scanning electron micrograph of MMT.