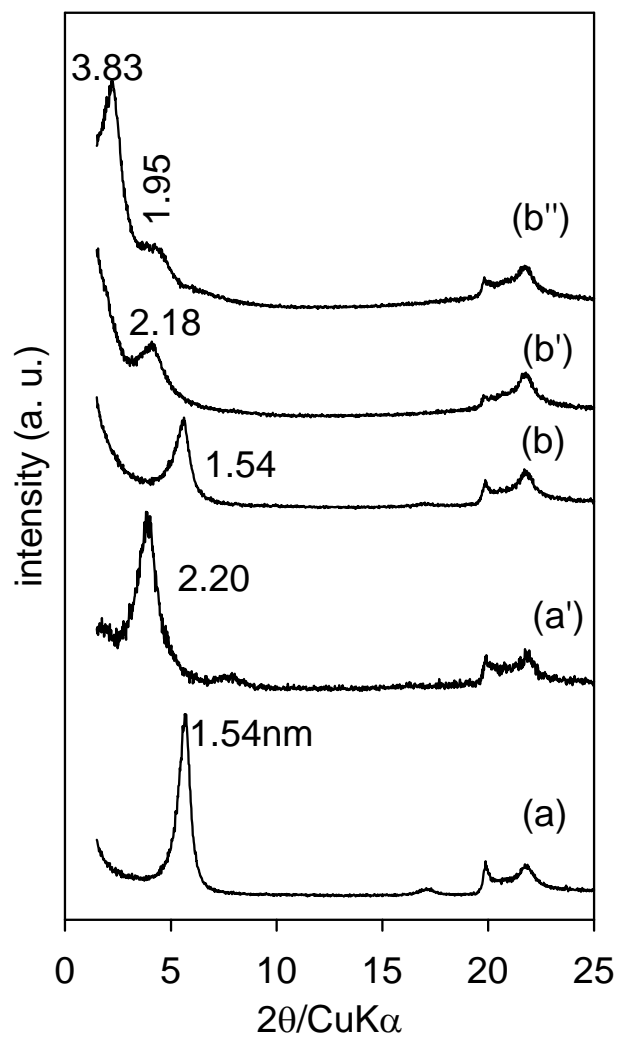


Figure 1 presents the variation of the basal spacing of the intercalated organo acid –activated clays, deduced from powder XRD. Powder XRD of acid activated montmorillonite clay at room temperature (**a**) (RT) followed by a reaction of C16TMAOH solution at C16TMAOH/CEC molar ratio of (**a'**) 3. (**b**) corresponds to ACMt-90 reacted with C16TMAOH solution at C16TMAOH/CEC molar ratio of (**a'**) 1 and (**a''**) 3.

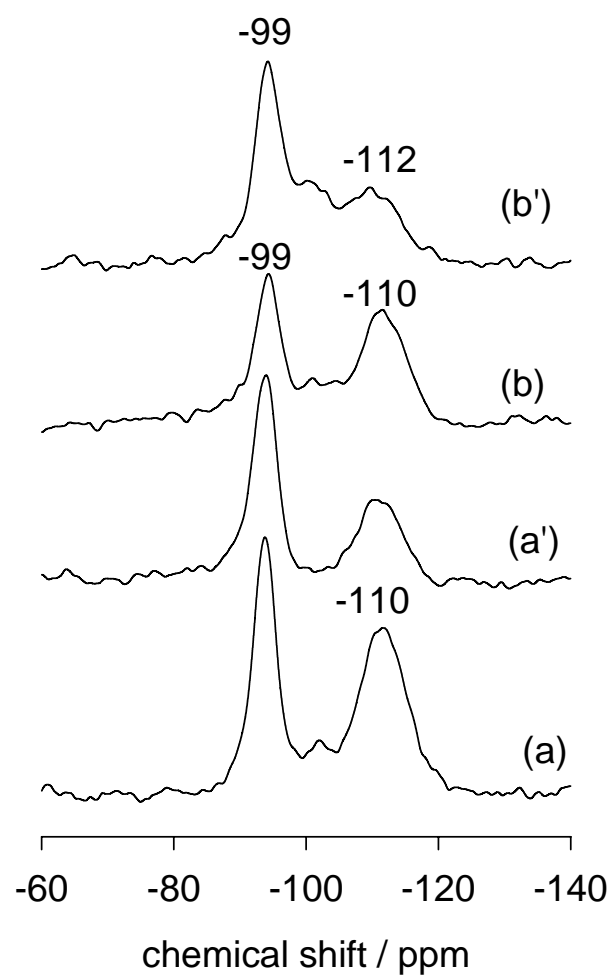
Figure 2 illustrates the ^{29}Si MAS NMR spectra of (**a**) ACMt-RT and (**b**) ACMt-90 followed by a reaction of C16TMAOH solution at C16TMAOH/CEC molar ratio of 3, (**a'**) C16TMA-ACMt-RT and (**b'**) C16TMA-ACMt-90.

Figure 3 depicts the derivative of thermogravimetric (DTG) curves of (**a**, **a'**) C16TMA-ACMt-RT and (**b**, **b'**) C16TMA-ACMt-90 before and after the pretreatment at 140 °C prior the TGA measurement.

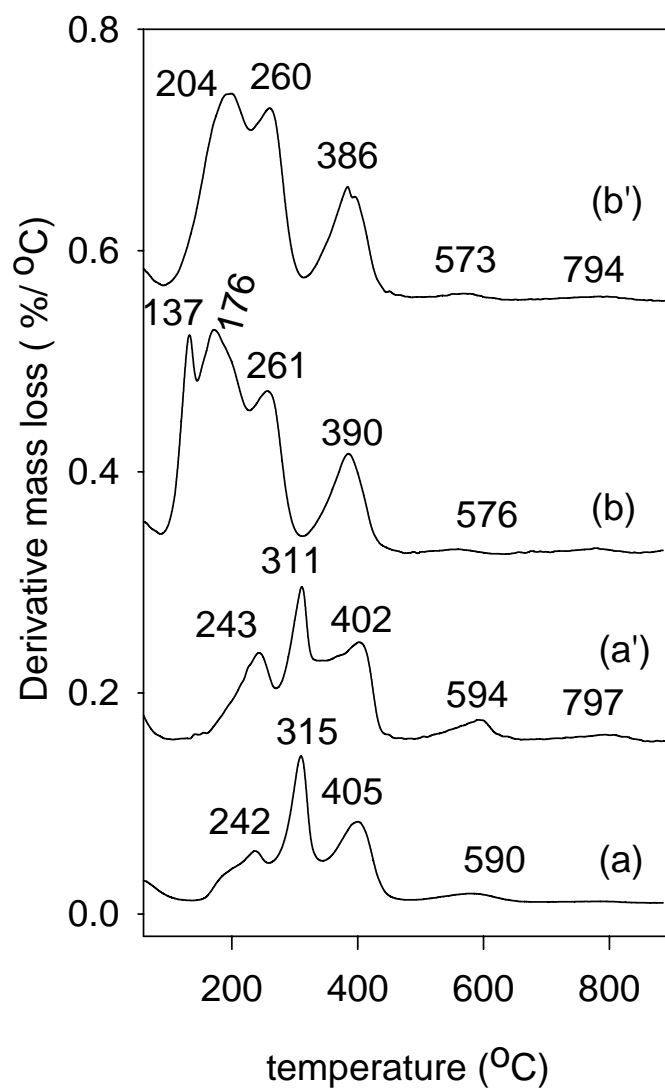
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S.I. Figure 1
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S. I. Figure 2
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S.I. Figure 3
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