

## Chemical Transformations of Biomass-Derived C6-Furanic Platform Chemicals for Sustainable Energy Research, Materials Science, and Synthetic Building Blocks

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ABSTRACT: Recent advances in the area of biomass-derived C6-furanic platform chemicals for sustainable biomass processing are analyzed focusing on chemical reactions important for development of practical applications and materials science. Among the chemical processes currently being studied, tuning the amount of oxygen-containing functional groups remains the most active research direction. Production of efficient fuels requires the removal of oxygen atoms (reduction reactions), whereas utilization of biomassderived furanic derivatives in material science points out the importance of oxidation in order to form dicarboxylic derivatives. Stimulated by this driving force, oxidation and



reduction of 5-(hydroxymethyl)furfural (HMF) are nowadays massively studied. Moreover, these fundamental transformations are often used as model reactions to test new catalysts, and HMF transformations guide the development of new catalytic systems. From the viewpoint of organic synthesis, highly diverse chemical reactivity is explored and a number of bioderived synthetic building blocks with different functional groups are now accessible. This Perspective covers the most recent literature (since Jan 2017) to highlight the emerging research trends.

KEYWORDS: Biomass processing, Platform chemicals, HMF, BHMF, DFF, FDCA, Sustainable development, Organic synthesis

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Extensive utilization of nonrenewable resources and the associated environment pollution are well-recognized problems of paramount importance in modern society.<sup>1–6</sup> In this regard, usage of renewable resources and development of sustainable technologies are the key directions of ongoing efforts in science and technology.<sup>7-9</sup> Biomass conversion is a promising way to overcome the dependence of society on fossil hydrocarbons (oil, coal, and gas), especially in fuel production and energy areas. The traditional fossil-based industrial approach has a number of environmental issues at all stages of production and processing; moreover, it shifts the  $CO_2$  level in the atmosphere due to emissions (Figure 1a). The sustainable biomass-based approach converts sunlight energy into the chemical form and the overall process can be balanced in terms of a closed CO<sub>2</sub> cycle (Figure 1b).

Key practical advantages are provided by bioderived furanic platform chemicals, because they are directly accessible from plant biomass (Figure 1b).<sup>10-13</sup> A sufficiently large scale of annual biosynthesis of cellulose, estimated on the level of 120-150 billion tons per year, can substantially account for the development of sustainable industry.<sup>14,15</sup> Exciting opportunities of the biomass-based approach have encouraged massive research and development in chemical utilization of 5-(hydroxymethyl)furfural (HMF) and its main derivatives: 2,5bis(hydroxymethyl)furan (BHMF), 2,5-diformylfuran (DFF), and furan-2,5-dicarboxylic acid (FDCA). Numerous studies on



Figure 1. Comparison of traditional fossil-based (a) and sustainable biomass-based (b) approaches to produce fuels and chemicals.

bioderived furanic chemicals have been published recently in a rapidly increased manner and emerged into a very dynamic research field. Several topics have already been summarized in a series of reviews dealing with synthesis,  $^{16,17}$  fuel production,  $^{18-23}$  chemicals,  $^{24-28}$  and polymers.  $^{29-34}$ 

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Perspective



Figure 2. Main areas of practical application of HMF and its derivatives (schematic representation is shown to provide a general overview).



Figure 3. Main pathways of HMF reactivity studied since 2017; the section number is shown after each reaction in parentheses for the discussion of the corresponding product in the present review.

In the present review, we analyze recent advances in the chemistry and applications of the key bioderived furanic chemicals HMF, BHMF, DFF and FDCA. We focus on the most recent studies to highlight the state-of-the-art research directions and to reveal the appealing trends. This review covers the literature starting from January 2017 (both research

articles and patents). Literature references before 2017 were discussed in previous reviews $^{35-39}$  and these discussions will not be repeated here.

We focus on different areas of applications of bioderived furanic chemicals and summarize types of chemical transformations being investigated. A substantial progress in the

## Table 1. Oxidation of HMF to FDCA

		HO [O] cat.			
		HMF	FDCA		
Entry	Oxidant	Catalyst"	Conditions	Yield <sup>a,e</sup> (%)	ref.
1	Oxygen	MnO <sub>2</sub>	1 MPa, water, NaHCO <sub>3</sub> , 100 °C, 24 h	91	40
2	Oxygen	Pd-Bi-Te/C	water-methanol, KOH, 50 °C, 6 h	95	41,42
3	Oxygen	Pt/CeO <sub>2</sub>	water, NaOH, 70 °C, 12 h	96	43
4	Oxygen	Pt/SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.48 MPa, water/1,4-dioxane, 90 °C, 20 h	91	44
5	Oxygen	$MnO_x$ -CeO <sub>2</sub>	2 MPa, water, KHCO $_3$ , 110 °C, 12 h	91	45
6	Oxygen	Au-Pd alloy NPs on poly(ionic liquid)	water, K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , 90 °C, 12 h	99	46
7	Oxygen	Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /CeO <sub>2</sub>	3 MPa, water, Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , 150 °C, 12 h	87	47
8	Oxygen	$Pt/ZrO_2$	0.4 MPa, water, 100 °C, 12 h	99	48
9	Oxygen	Au-Pd alloy NPs on basic anion-exchange resin	1 MPa, water, Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , 100 °C, 4 h	93	49
10	Oxygen	Pt-Ni/AC-xALD	1.0 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h	98	50
11	Oxygen	Au/HSAG-N	1.0 MPa, water, NaHCO <sub>3</sub> , 90 °C, 12 h	75	51
12	Oxygen	AuPd/La-CaMgAl-LDH	0.5 MPa, water, 100 °C, 6 h	86	52
13	Oxygen	Pd/P,N-codoped graphene	0.1 MPa, water, NaOH, 50 °C, 6 h	83	53
14	Oxygen	Pd/CC	0.1 MPa, water, K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , 140 °C, 30 h	85	54
15	Oxygen	Ni-MnO <sub>2</sub>	0.8 MPa, water, NaHCO <sub>3</sub> , 100 °C, 28 h	94	55
16	Air	Ru/MnCo <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	2.4 MPa, water, 120 °C, 10 h	99	56
17	Air	Pt/C	2.2 MPa, NMP/water, NaOH, 80 °C, 0.5 h	74	57
18	Air	Ni-Pd alloy	water, Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , 80 °C, 4 h	70	58
19	Air	Au-Pd alloy NPs on basic anion-exchange resin	4 MPa, water, Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , 100 °C, 4 h	83	49
20	Air	magnetic laccase/TEMPO	water, acetate buffer, 35 °C, 96 h	90	59
21	Air	CoPz/g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	water, illumination, Na <sub>2</sub> B <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub> , 25 °C, 14 h	96	60
22	Air	Co@KIT-6	water, 80 °C, 2 h	100	61
23	Photocatalytic oxidation	Au/TiO <sub>2</sub>	water, illumination, Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , 30 °C, 40 h	95	62
24	Electrooxidation	Cu-foam-coated electrode	water, KOH, electrolysis	96	63
25	KMnO <sub>4</sub>	None	water, NaOH, 20 °C, 12 h	64	64
26	t-BuOOH	VPO <sub>4</sub>	DMSO, 110 °C, 3 h	53	65

"The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed. <sup>b</sup>The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. <sup>c</sup>The yield was calculated by multiplying the conversion to selectivity if not provided in the paper.

improvement of known chemical transformations of furanic chemicals and diversification of research activities into the development of novel reactions is outlined.

## 2. PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF BIODERIVED FURANIC COMPOUNDS

The analysis of the recent literature points out the outstanding practical potential of bioderived HMF and its derivatives. The whole spectrum of applications is ranging from fuels and solvents to organic synthesis and preparation of biologically active molecules for pharmaceutical applications (Figure 2). The focus on material science highlights the emerging trends in obtaining plastics (biopolymers) suitable for several important applications (Figure 2).

Traditional manufacturing methods have been recently supplemented with additive technologies, and direct applications of furanic biopolymers in 3D printing have been demonstrated. A series of studies were published to replace dicarboxylic benzoic acids by FDCA, which may further develop into a standalone direction for accessing sustainable metal—organic frameworks (MOFs). Chemical transformations developed in these areas are discussed in the present review in Section 3 (HMF), Section 4 (BHMF), Section 5 (DFF), and Section 6 (FDCA). Conclusions and perspectives are presented in Section 7.

From the synthetic viewpoint, HMF is one of the most intensively studied biomass-derived molecules of the past decade. Main HMF derivatives investigated during the covered literature period (from January 2017) are summarized in Figure 3. Besides the well-known derivatives, several novel HMF-derived compounds were introduced in 2017 (marked as "new" in Figure 3). Alkynylation, oxidative cyanoamidation and C–H activation via the Murai reaction, as well as the variety of novel polyesters, should be noted.

## 3. TRANSFORMATIONS OF 5-(HYDROXYMETHYL)FURFURAL (HMF)

In this section, transformations of HMF are grouped by the reaction type. Because the vast majority of HMF reactions are redox transformations, we start this section with oxidation and reduction of the HMF side groups. The experimental data on each transformation are summarized in tables for convenient comparison of conditions, catalysts and product yields.

**3.1. Oxidation of Side Groups.** Oxidation of HMF to FDCA (Table 1) is the most thoroughly studied area of HMF chemistry, because FDCA is often presented as a precursor of biobased polymers (see Section 6 for polymerization). In the majority of works, molecular oxygen is used as stoichiometric oxidant (entries 1–15, Table 1). Ambient air also can be used as oxidant (entries 16–22, Table 1), but for excellent yields, high pressure should be applied. Among the convenient oxidation procedures, photocatalytic oxidation (entry 23, Table 1) should be highlighted. This process occurs via dehydrogenation on an Au/TiO<sub>2</sub> photocatalytic system. It should be noted that in many cases (entries 1–3, 5–7, 9, 11, 13–15, 17–19, 23–25) oxidation proceeds under basic

#### Table 2. Oxidation of HMF to DFF

HO	[0]	0, 1,0
HMF	cat.	DFF

1OxygenCu-doped nanostructured MnO20.3 MPa, ethanol, 140 °C, 5 h832OxygenFe on N-doped carbon1 MPa, water, 80 °C, 8 h403OxygenMnOOH1 MPa, water, NaHCO3, 100 °C, 24 h564OxygenPt/C1.8 MPa, water, NaHCO3, 100 °C, 24 h565OxygenPt/C1.8 MPa, water/DMSO, Na2HPO4, 80 °C, 285OxygenPt-Au/SiO21.48 MPa, water/1,4-dioxane, 90 °C, 20 h906OxygenMIL-100(Fe), TEMPO, NaNO2MeCN, 75 °C, 6 h1007OxygenPt-Ru, electrogenerative oxidation0.15 MPa, water, H2SO4, 50 °C, 17 h408OxygenMOO3 on N-doped carbonDMSO, 140 °C, 12 h969OxygenVO3 microspheres3 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9610OxygenMgO/CeO20.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9611OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO3)2, picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co3O4DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase $M_{3-5}$ , horse radish peroxidasewater, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h9115Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationNonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9717MnO2Nonetoluene, cffux, 6 h97	ret.
1OxygenFe on N-doped carbon1 MPa, water, 80 °C, 8 h402OxygenMnOOH1 MPa, water, 80 °C, 8 h403OxygenMnOOH1 MPa, water, 80 °C, 8 h564OxygenPt/C1.8 MPa, water/DMSO, Na <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub> , 80 °C, 285OxygenPt-Au/SiO <sub>2</sub> 1.48 MPa, water/1,4-dioxane, 90 °C, 20 h906OxygenMIL-100(Fe), TEMPO, NaNO <sub>2</sub> McCN, 75 °C, 6 h1007OxygenPt-Ru, electrogenerative oxidation0.15 MPa, water, H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> , 50 °C, 17 h408OxygenMoO <sub>3</sub> on N-doped carbonDMSO, 140 °C, 12 h969OxygenMgO/CeO <sub>2</sub> 0.9 MPa, water, 130 °C, 1 h8910OxygenMgO/CeO <sub>2</sub> 0.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9611OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> , picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> DMF, 130 °C, 4 h9114AirCatalase, galactose oxidase M <sub>3-5</sub> , horse radish peroxidasewater, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h9115Photoceatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, plus effundation, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationNoneCf <sub>3</sub> COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	66
1111111113OxygenMnOOH1MPa, water, NaHCO3, 100 °C, 24 h564OxygenPt/C1.8 MPa, water, NaHCO3, 100 °C, 24 h565OxygenPt-Au/SiO21.48 MPa, water/DMSO, Na2HPO4, 80 °C, 28906OxygenMIL-100(Fe), TEMPO, NaNO2MeCN, 75 °C, 6 h1007OxygenPt-Ru, electrogenerative oxidation0.15 MPa, water, H2SO4, 50 °C, 17 h408OxygenMoO3 on N-doped carbonDMSO, 140 °C, 12 h969OxygenVOx-microspheres3 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9610OxygenMgO/CeO20.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9611OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, iulumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO3)2p picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co3O4DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase M3-5y horse radish peroxidasewater, illumination, 24 h9215Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationNonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2Nonetoluene, CF,COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	67
6OxygenPt/C1.8 MPa, water/DMSO, Na2HPO4, 80 °C, 285OxygenPt/C1.8 MPa, water/DMSO, Na2HPO4, 80 °C, 285OxygenPt-Au/SiO21.48 MPa, water/1,4-dioxane, 90 °C, 20 h6OxygenMIL-100(Fe), TEMPO, NaNO2MeCN, 75 °C, 6 h7OxygenPt-Ru, electrogenerative oxidation0.15 MPa, water, H2SO4, 50 °C, 17 h8OxygenMoO3 on N-doped carbonDMSO, 140 °C, 12 h9OxygenVOxmicrospheres3 MPa, water, 130 °C, 1 h9OxygenMgO/CeO20.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h10OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h11OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h12AirMn(NO_3)2, picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h13AirMn-doped Co <sub>3</sub> O4DMF, 130 °C, 4 h14AirCatalase, galactose oxidase $M_{3-5}$ , horse radish peroxidasewater, illumination, 24 h15Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h16Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO2 on Ti photoanode oxidationwater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h17MnO2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF, COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	40
5OxygenPt-Au/SiO21.48 MPa, water/1,4-dioxane, 90 °C, 20 h906OxygenMIL-100(Fe), TEMPO, NaNO2MeCN, 75 °C, 6 h1007OxygenPt-Ru, electrogenerative oxidation0.15 MPa, water, H2SO4, 50 °C, 17 h408OxygenMoO3 on N-doped carbonDMSO, 140 °C, 12 h969OxygenVOx-microspheres3 MPa, water, 130 °C, 1 h8910OxygenMgO/CeO20.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9611OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO3)2, picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co3O4DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase M3-5, horse radish peroxidasewater, illumination, 24 h9215Photocelectro-catalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	57
6OxygenMIL-100(Fe), TEMPO, NaNO2MeCN, 75 °C, 6 h1007OxygenPt-Ru, electrogenerative oxidation0.15 MPa, water, H2SO4, 50 °C, 17 h408OxygenMoO3 on N-doped carbonDMSO, 140 °C, 12 h969OxygenVOx-microspheres3 MPa, water, 130 °C, 1 h8910OxygenMgO/CeO20.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9611OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO3)2, picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co3O4DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase M3-5, horse radish peroxidasewater, illumination, 24 h9215Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationNonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	44
7OxygenPt-Ru, electrogenerative oxidation0.15 MPa, water, $H_2SO_4$ , 50 °C, 17 h408OxygenMoO <sub>3</sub> on N-doped carbonDMSO, 140 °C, 12 h969OxygenVO <sub>x</sub> -microspheres3 MPa, water, 130 °C, 1 h8910OxygenMgO/CeO <sub>2</sub> 0.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9611OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> , picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase M <sub>3-5</sub> , horse radish peroxidasewater, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h9115Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO <sub>2</sub> on Ti photoanode oxidationwater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO <sub>2</sub> Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO <sub>2</sub> NoneCF <sub>3</sub> COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	68
8OxygenMoO3 on N-doped carbonDMSO, 140 °C, 12 h969OxygenVOx_microspheres3 MPa, water, 130 °C, 1 h8910OxygenMgO/CeO20.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9611OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO3)2, picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co3O4DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase M3-5, horse radish peroxidasewater, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h9115Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO2 on Ti photoanode oxidationwater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	69
9Oxygen $VO_x$ -microspheres3 MPa, water, 130 °C, 1 h8910OxygenMgO/CeO20.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9611OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO3)2, picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co3O4DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase $M_{3-5}$ , horse radish peroxidasewater, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h9115Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO2 on Ti photoanode oxidationwater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	70
10OxygenMgO/CeO20.9 MPa, water, 100 °C, 15 h9611OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO3)2, picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co3O4DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase $M_{3-5}$ , horse radish peroxidasewater, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h9115Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO2 on Ti photoanode oxidationwater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	71
11OxygenAu-Ru/rGO0.5 MPa, illumination, toluene, 80 °C, 8 h9112AirMn(NO3) <sub>2</sub> , picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513AirMn-doped Co3O4DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase M3-5, horse radish peroxidasewater, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h9115Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO2 on Ti photoanode oxidationwater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	72
12Air $Mn(NO_3)_{2^{\prime}}$ picolinic acid, TEMPOacetic acid, 25 °C, 3 h8513Air $Mn$ -doped $Co_3O_4$ DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase $M_{3-5^{\prime}}$ horse radish peroxidasewater, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h9115Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO_2 on Ti photoanode oxidationwater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO_2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO_2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	73
13AirMn-doped $Co_3O_4$ DMF, 130 °C, 4 h7714AirCatalase, galactose oxidase $M_{3-5}$ , horse radish peroxidasewater, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h9115Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO2 on Ti photoanode oxidationwater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	74
14       Air       Catalase, galactose oxidase M <sub>3-5</sub> , horse radish peroxidase       water, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 37 °C, 1 h       91         15       Photocatalytic oxidation       Ni/CdS       water, illumination, 24 h       92         16       Photoelectro-catalytic oxidation       Pt-loaded nanotube of TiO <sub>2</sub> on Ti photoanode oxidation       water, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h       40         17       MnO <sub>2</sub> None       toluene, reflux, 6 h       97         18       NaNO <sub>2</sub> None       CF <sub>3</sub> COOH, 1 h, 25 °C       90	75
15Photocatalytic oxidationNi/CdSwater, illumination, 24 h9216Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO2 on Ti photoanodewater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	76
16Photoelectro-catalytic oxidationPt-loaded nanotube of TiO2 on Ti photoanodewater, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h4017MnO2Nonetoluene, reflux, 6 h9718NaNO2NoneCF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C90	77
17         MnO2         None         toluene, reflux, 6 h         97           18         NaNO2         None         CF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C         90	78
18 NaNO <sub>2</sub> None CF3COOH, 1 h, 25 °C 90	64
2 J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J J	79
19 Iodine 4-acetylamino-2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-piperidinyloxy water/DCM, NaHCO <sub>3</sub> , collidine, 20 °C, 1 h 93	80
20 <i>t</i> -BuOOH Fe phthalocyanin water, 33 °C, 6 min not giv	n 81
21 t-BuOOH $Co_xO_y$ on N-doped TiO <sub>2</sub> water, 80 °C, 5 h 36	82
22 H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Cu-Salen/SBA-15 water, 25 °C, 24 h 2	83
23 Rh/C 8 MPa, supercritical CO <sub>2</sub> , 150 °C, 2 h 99	84

"The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed. <sup>b</sup>The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. <sup>c</sup>The yield was calculated by multiplying the conversion to selectivity if not provided in the paper.

#### Table 3. Oxidation of HMF to HMFCA

		HO HMF	HO C OH		
Entry	Oxidant	Catalyst <sup>a</sup>	Conditions <sup><i>a</i>,<i>b</i></sup>	Yield <sup><i>a,c</i></sup> (%)	ref.
1	Oxygen	MnO <sub>2</sub>	1 MPa, water, K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> , 100 °C, 24 h	14	40
2	Oxygen	Pt/C	2.2 MPa, water/NMP, NaOH, 80 °C, 0.5 h	18	57
3	Oxygen	Au-Pd alloy NPs on IRA-900	1 MPa, water, Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , 100 °C, 4 h	36	49
4	Oxygen	Au/HSAG	1.0 MPa, water, NaHCO <sub>3</sub> , 90 °C, 12 h	93	51
5	$H_2O_2$	NAD <sup>+</sup> /human Hb/horse liver alcohol dehydrogenase	water, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 30 $^{\circ}$ C, 24 h	81	85
6	Biocatalytic oxidation	C. testosterone SC1588 cells	water, phosphate buffer, pH = 7, 30 °C, 24 h	90	86

"The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed. <sup>b</sup>The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. <sup>c</sup>The yield was calculated by multiplying the conversion to selectivity if not provided in the paper.

conditions leading to the formation of FDCA in the form of salt rather than the acid itself. Application of stoichiometric chemical oxidants (entries 25 and 26, Table 1) was utilized for laboratory scale syntheses.

Oxidation of HMF to DFF was accomplished by various methods (Table 2). As in the case of DFF, the most popular oxidant for this process is molecular oxygen (entries 1–11, Table 2). Specific oxidation procedures include photocatalysis (entry 15, Table 2), enzymatic oxidation (entry 14, Table 2) and catalytic dehydrogenation on Rh/C in supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> (entry 23, Table 2). Though many highly efficient catalytic processes have been developed, classical oxidations with

stoichiometric oxidants are still popular in laboratory scale synthesis (entries 17–19, Table 2).

Selective oxidation of HMF to HMFCA (Table 3) and FFCA (Table 4) is more complicated because of possible overoxidation to FDCA. Generally, these compounds serve as intermediates in the synthesis of FDCA, and under optimized conditions, the quantities of HMFCA and FFCA are minimized. As well as in the case of FDCA, synthetic transformations under basic conditions are usually applied (Table 3, entries 1-4; Table 4, entries 2, 4, 5, 8). The best results for selective HMFCA synthesis were obtained using biocatalytic oxidation in whole cells (entry 6, Table 3) and oxidation with molecular oxygen using Au-HSAG catalyst

## Table 4. Oxidation of HMF to FFCA

		HO Cat.	HO FFCA		
Entry	Oxidant	Catalyst <sup>a</sup>	Conditions <sup><i>a</i>,<i>b</i></sup>	Yield <sup>a,c</sup> (%)	ref.
1	Oxygen	MnO <sub>2</sub>	1 MPa, water, 100 °C, 24 h	65	40
2	Oxygen	Pt/C	2.2 MPa, NMP/water, NaOH, 80 °C, 0.5 h	74	57
3	Oxygen	Pt/ZrO <sub>2</sub>	1.48 MPa, water/1,4-dioxane, 90 °C, 20 h	56	44
4	Oxygen	CeO <sub>2</sub>	2 MPa, water, KHCO <sub>3</sub> , 110 °C, 12 h	31	45
5	Oxygen	Au-Pd/IRA400	1 MPa, water, Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , 100 °C, 4 h	48	49
6	Oxygen	MgO/CeO <sub>2</sub>	0.9 MPa, water, 130 °C, 9 h	89	72
7	Air	magnetic laccase/TEMPO	water, acetate buffer, 35 °C, 96 h	77	59
8	$H_2O_2$	Ru/C	water, NaHCO <sub>3</sub> , 75 °C, 1 h	92	87
9	Photoelectrocatalytic oxidation	Pt-loaded nanotube of $\mathrm{TiO}_2$ on Ti photoanode	water, illumination, pH = 5, 25 °C, 0.5 h	18	78
				· · ·	

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"The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed. "The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. "The yield was calculated by multiplying the conversion to selectivity if not provided in the paper.

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#### Table 5. Reduction of HMF to BHMF

		HO Cat.	HO OH BHMF		
Entry	Reductant	Catalyst <sup><i>a</i></sup>	Conditions <sup><i>a</i>, <i>b</i></sup>	Yield <sup>a,c</sup> (%)	ref.
1	Hydrogen	Cu-Ni/γ-Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	3 MPa, THF, 130 °C, 6 h	62	96
2	Hydrogen		3 MPa, isopropanol, KO <sup>t</sup> Bu, 80 °C, 1 h	93	97
3	Hydrogen	RANEY Cu	9 MPa, water, 90 °C, 1 h	79	98
4	Hydrogen	Ru/C	0.4 MPa, ethanol, 150 °C, 3 h	95	99
5	Hydrogen	$Co_xO_y$	2 MPa, methanol, 90 °C, 1 h	93 <sup>d</sup>	100
6	Hydrogen	Cu/SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.5 MPa, 1-butanol, 100 °C, 4 h	93	101
7	Isopropanol	Zr m-xylylenediphosphonate NPs	isopropanol, 120 °C, 2 h	93	102
8	Isopropanol	Ru on N-doped carbon	2 MPa, isopropanol, 160 °C, 8 h	25	103
9	Isopropanol	Zr furan-2,5-dicarboxylate	isopropanol, 140 °C, 8 h	87	104
	Isopropanol	Hf furan-2,5-dicarboxylate	isopropanol, 100 °C, 5 h	95	105
10	Isopropanol	Cp*Ir(pyridinesulfonamide)Cl	isopropanol, 85 °C, 0.5 h	100	106
11	Isopropanol	$\gamma$ -Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> /hydroxyapatite	1 MPa, isopropanol, 180 °C, 10 h	78	107
12	Isopropanol	ZnO-ZrO <sub>2</sub> /USY(Si/Al-7)	isopropanol, 180 °C, 2.5 h	91	108
13	Isopropanol	YCl <sub>3</sub>	2 MPa, isopropanol, 150 °C, 1 h	35	109
14	Isopropanol	$Al_7Zr_3@Fe_3O_4$	isopropanol, 180 °C, 4 h	71	110
15	Isopropanol	Hf-MOF-808	isopropanol, 100 °C, 1.5 h	92	111
16	NaBH <sub>4</sub>	_	ethanol, 0 °C, 12 h	74	112
17	NaBH <sub>4</sub>	_	water, 24–60 °C, 3 h	99	113
18	NaBH <sub>4</sub>	_	MeOH, 0 °C, 4 h	77	114
19	Glucose	Meyerozyma guilliermondii SC1103	water, phosphate buffer, pH = 7.2, 35 $^{\circ}$ C, 7 h	89	115
arr1			$(1 b_{TT})$	. )	. 1

"The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed. "The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. "The yield was calculated by multiplying the conversion to selectivity if not provided in the paper. "A quantitative yield of 2,5-bis(methoxymethyl)furan was observed if the temperature was increased to 140 °C.

(entry 4, Table 3). Oxidation of HMF to FFCA demands specific conditions to achieve high selectivity. Usually, FFCA is obtained as byproduct in the course of oxidation and can be isolated from the reaction mixture at low conversion. It should be noted that, in spite of close relation to HMF, HMFCA and FFCA remain hardly available compounds and at the moment cannot be discussed as high potential platform chemicals.

Considering the representative previous studies dedicated to oxidation of HMF, few notes can be mentioned. Aerobic oxidation of HMF using gold nanoparticles produces FDCA with excellent yields according to Table 1, this catalytic system still attracts certain interest.<sup>88–92</sup> Significant progress in the development of new methods of synthesis of DFF from HMF should be noted (Table 2). Some impactful studies in this area

propose the usage of oxygen and metal/bromide catalysts (Co/ Mn/Br, Co/Mn/Zr/Br)<sup>93</sup> or catalytic systems based on vanadyl phosphate.<sup>94,95</sup> Selective synthesis of HMFCA and FFCA has not been addressed yet; the compounds were reported as byproducts without dedicated targeted procedures.

**3.2. Reduction of Side Groups and Furan Ring.** Reduction of HMF is another important direction of HMF chemistry, because the reduced products can be used as solvents, fuels and polymer precursors. The main reductants used in these reactions are molecular hydrogen and isopropanol (in the course of the Meerwein–Ponndorf–Verley (MPV) reaction). Varying catalysts and reduction conditions optimized synthetic transformations leading to BHMF (Table 5), 2,5-DMF (Table 6), BHMTHF (Table 7) and DMTHF (Table 8)

## Table 6. Reduction of HMF to 2,5-DMF

			0		
		HMF	2,5-DMF		
Entry Re	leductant	Catalyst <sup>a</sup>	Conditions <sup><i>a</i>,<i>b</i></sup>	Yield <sup><i>a,c</i></sup> (%)	ref.
1 Hyd	rdrogen C	Cu/ZrO <sub>2</sub>	1.5 MPa, 1-butanol, 200 °C, 4 h	61	116
2 Hyd	rdrogen R	${\rm Au-MoO}_x/{\rm C}$	1.5 MPa, 1-butanol, 180 °C, 1 h	80	117
3 Hyd	rdrogen F	e on N-doped carbon	4 MPa, 1-butanol, 240 °C, 5 h	86	118
4 Hyd	rdrogen C	Cu-Co/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	3 MPa, THF, 220 °C, 8 h	78	119
5 Hyd	rdrogen P	Pd-Zr MOF on sulfonated graphene oxide	1 MPa, THF, 160 °C, 3 h	99	120
6 Hyd	rdrogen N	Ji/C	0.6 MPa, ethanol, 150 °C, 15 h	90	121
7 Hyd	rdrogen C	Cu-Co@C	5 MPa, ethanol, 180 °C, 8 h	99	122
8 Hyd	rdrogen N	Ji-Cu/C	3.3 MPa, 1-propanol, 180 °C, flow reactor	99	123
9 Hyd	rdrogen R	Ru-NPs/CNT	2 MPa, 1,4-dioxane, 150 °C, 1 h	84	124
10 Hyc	rdrogen N	JiZnAl	1.5 MPa, 1,4-dioxane, 180 °C, 15 h	94	125
11 Hyc	rdrogen N	Ji/WO <sub>3</sub>	1 MPa, water, 180 °C, 6 h	95	126
12 Hyd	rdrogen P	Pd-Au/graphite	1 MPa, THF, 150 °C, 4 h	82	127
13 Met	ethanol C	Cu <sub>3</sub> Al-A	1 MPa, methanol, 240 °C, 1.5 h	97	128
14 Isop	propanol R	Ru on N-doped carbon	2 MPa, isopropanol, 160 °C, 8 h	55	103
15 Cyc	clohexanol N	Ji-Cu alloy NPs/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1,4-dioxane, 240 °C	98	129

<sup>a</sup>The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed. <sup>b</sup>The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. <sup>c</sup>The yield was calculated by multiplying the conversion to selectivity if not provided in the paper.

#### Table 7. Reduction of HMF to BHMTHF

		HOLO	cat. HO OH BHMTHF		
Entry	Reductant	Catalyst <sup>a</sup>	Conditions <sup><i>a</i>,<i>b</i></sup>	Yield <sup><i>a,c</i></sup> (%)	ref.
1	Hydrogen	Raney-Ni	5 MPa, methanol, 24 h	62	130
2	Hydrogen	Ru/C	1.5 MPa, 1-butanol, 180 °C, 1 h	10	117
3	Hydrogen	Pd/C	8 MPa, water, 25–180 °C, 6.5 h	96	131
4	Hydrogen	Ru/C	4 MPa, water, 140 $^\circ\text{C}$ , 2 h	48	132

"The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed. <sup>b</sup>The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. <sup>c</sup>The yield was calculated by multiplying the conversion to selectivity if not provided in the paper.

#### Table 8. Reduction of HMF to DMTHF

	но	[H]	→ _/ D		
Entry	Reductant	Catalyst <sup>a</sup>	Conditions <sup><i>a,b</i></sup>	Yield <sup>a,c</sup> (%)	ref.
1	Hydrogen	Pd/C	1.5 MPa, water, 90 °C	61	116
2	Hydrogen	Pd-Zr MOF on sulfonated graphene oxide	1 MPa, THF, 160 °C, 3 h	68	120

<sup>*a*</sup>The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed. <sup>*b*</sup>The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. <sup>*c*</sup>The yield was calculated by multiplying the conversion to selectivity if not provided in the paper.

were carried out. Some interesting reductive protocols should be particularly highlighted: bioreduction of HMF to BHMF (entry 19, Table 5) and MPV reduction on FDCA-based Zrand Hf-MOFs (entries 9, 10 Table 5).

The MPV-reduction of HMF can be conjugated with the Oppenauer oxidation, which leads to HMF disproportionation to BHMF and DFF by using  $AlMe_3/Al(OH)_3$  catalyst under microwave irradiation (Scheme 1).<sup>133</sup>

In the present Perspective, we focus only on the most recent studies. Considering the representative previous studies on

#### Scheme 1. Oppenauer Oxidation of HMF



reduction of HMF, it is necessary to mention that supported Pd/C and molecular hydrogen have been the most commonly used catalytic system. <sup>134,135</sup> More details on the previously studied reductive transformations of HMF are also summarized in the recent review. <sup>136</sup>

**3.3.** Protection and Functionalization of Hydroxymethyl Group. For a variety of synthetic transformations, the hydroxymethyl group of HMF should be protected. The following common protecting groups were applied: Ac,<sup>137,138</sup> TBS,<sup>137</sup> Bn,<sup>137</sup> Boc,<sup>138</sup> trityl,<sup>137</sup> Bz,<sup>138</sup> Piv,<sup>139</sup> THP,<sup>137</sup> and Me.<sup>138</sup> Esters of HMF with organic<sup>140</sup> and inorganic<sup>138</sup> acids also were prepared. Ferrier-type glycosylation of HMF was described recently utilizing different glycals.<sup>141</sup>

The reaction of HMF with alcohols can lead to ethers<sup>142–144</sup> or acetals<sup>142,143,145</sup> depending on the reaction conditions. In many cases, ethers are common byproducts in catalytic hydrogenation of HMF in alcoholic media. Particular attention should be paid to the synthesis of the HMF dimer via intermolecular etherification. This compound is a usual byproduct in the HMF synthesis, but selective preparation of the dimer often requires harsh conditions. It was found that the

utilization of alumina-supported heteropolyacids as acidic catalysts allows obtaining the dimeric ether in high yield under mild conditions.  $^{146}\,$ 

5-(Chloromethyl)furfural (CMF) is a valuable product of functionalization of the HMF hydroxymethyl group, since CMF can be prepared directly from biomass in high yields and can be discussed as a platform-chemical itself; however, within the scope of this annual review, there are few examples of its application limited to oxidation to DFF<sup>147</sup> and synthesis of imines.<sup>148</sup>

**3.4. Nucleophilic Addition to Aldehyde Group.** The aldehyde group in HMF is active in nucleophilic addition with various nucleophiles. Acetals can be easily prepared from HMF with various alcohols under acidic conditions. The main drawback in the synthesis of acetals is the formation of ethers. It was found that the usage of CePO<sub>4</sub> as a catalyst allowed obtaining acetals in high yield without the formation of ethers. <sup>149</sup>

It was shown that dithioacetal obtained from HMF and cysteine was less absorbed by and less toxic against Caco-2 cells than HMF itself (Scheme 2). This is the first report on the

Scheme 2. Synthesis of Dithioacetal of HMF with Cysteine



toxicity of an HMF-amino acid adduct, which is of significant importance because such complexes are found in various food products.<sup>150</sup> It was reported that dithioacetals can be prepared under ambient and solvent-free conditions using zeolites as catalysts.<sup>151</sup>

Various N-nucleophiles can be subjected to reaction with HMF leading to imines,<sup>152</sup> oximes, and hydrazones.<sup>153</sup> Long-chain N-hydroxyaminocoumarins were used as LC-MS labels for analysis of HMF.<sup>154</sup>

HMF can be used as electrophile in the aldol reaction (Scheme 3). The obtained adducts usually act as substrates for





hydrogenolysis in the synthesis of biobased fuels. Simple ketones like acetone, methyl isobutyl ketone (MIBK), cyclopentanone, and cyclohexanone are used as enolate components.<sup>155</sup> The main idea of this process is lengthening the carbon backbone of the molecule to obtain higher hydrocarbons. Various bases like CaO<sup>156</sup> or piperidine<sup>157</sup> can be applied. A high-yield aldol reaction of HMF with angelica lactone can be carried out by using  $Mn_2O_3$  under solvent-free conditions; it leads to jet fuel range  $C_9$  and  $C_{10}$  alkanes.<sup>158</sup> A biologically active aurone derivative was obtained by the aldol reaction with HMF in 20% yield using choline chloride and urea.<sup>159,160</sup> The Doebner reaction of HMF with malonic acid leads to the corresponding acrylic acid in 95% yield using piperidine as a base.<sup>64</sup>

An interesting example of nucleophilic addition to HMF is a multicomponent Biginelli reaction with 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds and urea-type building blocks leading to the corresponding functionalized dihydropyrimidinones with moderate to good yield up to 86%.<sup>161</sup>

**3.5. Reductive Amination.** HMF can be easily introduced into reductive amination with various amines (Scheme 4). Hydrogen<sup>162</sup> as well as carbon monoxide<sup>163</sup> can be used as reductants.



An unsubstituted aminomethyl derivative (Table 9) can be obtained with ammonia using heterogeneous catalysts (entries 1 and 2, Table 9), as well as enzymatically via the transamination process (entry 3).

**3.6. Reductive Cleavage.** Under harsh reductive conditions, HMF can be transformed to acyclic 1-hydroxyhexane-2,5-dione (HHD) (Table 10). In the case of  $Al_2O_3$  as a catalyst support, the obtained HHD can undergo the aldol reaction with subsequent reduction leading to 3-hydroxymethylcyclopentanone (HCPN) (Cu/Al\_2O\_3, 2 MPa H<sub>2</sub>, water, 140 °C, 6 h, yield 79%) or 3-hydroxymethylcyclopentanol (HCPL) (Co/ $Al_2O_3$ , 2 MPa H<sub>2</sub>, water, 140 °C, 6 h, yield 61%).<sup>166</sup>

Using a Pd–Ir–Re catalytic system, it is possible to obtain 1,6-hexanediol directly from HMF (Scheme 5).<sup>170</sup> Besides hexanediol, small amounts of 1,5-hexanediol and *n*-hexane were observed as byproducts in the reaction mixture.

The previously studied reductive ring-opening of HMF leading to the formation of caprolactam has suggested the usage of a Rh-Re/SiO<sub>2</sub> catalyst.<sup>171</sup>

**3.7. Oxidative Cleavage.** It was reported that HMF and furfural can be oxidatively cleaved to maleic acid in high yields using hydrogen peroxide in formic acid (Scheme 6).<sup>172</sup>

Using a Fe catalyst supported on carbon nanotubes, HMF was oxidatively cleaved to oxalic acid with 48% yield (1 MPa  $O_2$ , water, 140 °C, 1.5 h).<sup>173</sup>

**3.8. Olefination of HMF.** It was shown than HMF could be introduced into the Wittig reaction without any protecting groups (Scheme 7a).<sup>174</sup> The obtained 2-hydroxymethyl-5-vinylfuran (HMVF) was polymerized giving a polymer with high adhesiveness to steel, copper, aluminum, and glass (Scheme 7b). HMVF has also demonstrated cell-adhesive properties.

**3.9. Alkynylation of HMF.** It was shown that under mild conditions of the Ohira–Bestmann reaction, HMF and its derivatives could be alkynylated to the corresponding terminal alkynes in nearly quantitative yields (Scheme 8).<sup>139</sup>

The obtained ethynyl derivatives allowed implementing alkyne chemistry for biobased furanic compounds. The Sonogoshira coupling, Glaser oxidation, and [Rh]-catalyzed polymerization of ethynylfurans were performed to illustrate the synthetic value (Scheme 9).<sup>139</sup>

**3.10.** C–H Activation of HMF. Selective activation of the C(3) position of the HMF furan ring is a challenge. This problem was solved by means of the Murai reaction<sup>137</sup>

Perspective

## Table 9. Reductive Amination of HMF

		HO (H) cat.	HO NH <sub>2</sub>		
Entry	Reductant	Catalyst <sup>a</sup>	Conditions <sup><i>a</i>,<i>b</i></sup>	Yield <sup><i>a,c</i></sup> (%)	ref.
1	Hydrogen	Co-MOF	4 MPa, tBuOH, 120 °C, 15 h	89	164
2	Hydrogen	Ru/Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	4 MPa, MeOH, 90 °C, 8 h	96	165
3	Isopropylamine	Transaminase, pyridoxal-5-phosphate	phosphate buffer, 35 °C, pH = 8, 24 h	58	114

"The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed. <sup>b</sup>The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. <sup>c</sup>The yield was calculated by multiplying the conversion to selectivity if not provided in the paper.

## Table 10. Ring-Opening Reduction of HMF to 1-Hydroxyhexane-2,5-dione (HDD)

		HO HMF HMF			
Entry	Reductant	Catalyst*	Conditions <sup>a</sup>	Yield <sup>b</sup> (%)	ref.
1	Hydrogen	Pd/Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	4 MPa, water, 140 °C, 8 h	69	132
2	Hydrogen	$Al_2(SO_4)_{3}$ , [(Cp*)Ir(4,4'-dihydroxy-2,2'-bipy)(H <sub>2</sub> O)][SO <sub>4</sub> ]	3 MPa, water, 130 °C, 4 h	74	167
3	Hydrogen	[Cp*Ir(dpa)Cl]Cl	1 MPa, water, 120 °C, 2 h	69	168
4	Hydrogen	[Cp*Ir(dhimp)Cl]Cl	6 MPa, water, phosphate buffer, 140 $^\circ$ C, 1 h	71	169
a-1-1		$(D_{1})^{(1)} (1)^{(1)} $		с ·	

<sup>a</sup>The pressure is 0.1 MPa (1 atm) if not noted otherwise. <sup>b</sup>The data corresponding to the best results are provided if a series of experiments was performed.

#### Scheme 5. Reduction of HMF to 1,6-Hexanediol

## HO Pd-Ir-ReO<sub>x</sub>/SiO<sub>2</sub> HO °C, 3 MPa H<sub>2</sub>, 2 h HO OH HMF 59%

#### Scheme 6. Synthesis of Maleic Acid from HMF



Scheme 7. (a) Wittig Reaction with Unprotected HMF; (b) Cross-Linking Mechanism of HMVF To Form Poly-HMVF





(Scheme 10). Unfortunately, this reaction cannot be performed with HMF itself: its hydroxymethyl group should be protected,

## Scheme 8. Alkynylation of HMF



## Scheme 9. Reactivity of Ethynylfurans Obtained from HMF



and a directing ethylenediamino-group should be introduced. Nevertheless, this work is a rare example of functionalization of HMF in the third position.

**3.11. Other Reactions of HMF.** Sharma and co-workers described C–H activation of the indole core utilizing unprotected HMF (Scheme 11).<sup>175</sup> A 2-substituted indole derivative was obtained with a moderate 34% yield.

Another example of the reaction involving the aldehyde group of HMF was  $CO_2$ -assisted dimerization to  $\alpha$ -diketone (Scheme 12).<sup>176</sup>

Decarbonylation of HMF could be achieved in compressed  $CO_2$  using an alumina-supported Pd catalyst (Pd/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) yielding furfuryl alcohol.<sup>177</sup>

Under oxidizing conditions in the presence of aqueous ammonia, HMF could be transformed into a series of nitrileamide derivatives (Scheme 13).<sup>178</sup> The course of the catalytic amidation depended on the type of the used  $MnO_2$ -catalyst. In

## Scheme 10. Murai Reaction of HMF



Scheme 11. C-H Activation Involving HMF



Scheme 12. Diketone Formation from HMF



a similar way, aerobic ammoxidation-hydration tandem reaction of HMF with Al-doped cryptomelane as catalyst leads to 2,5-furandicarboxamide with 97% yield.<sup>179</sup>

HMF can be converted to 1,2,4-benzenetriol (BTO) in moderate yield by means of Lewis acids in subsuper critical water. Further catalytic hydrodeoxygenation of BTO provides a route to cyclohexanone and cyclohexanol, important feedstock for polymeric products.<sup>180</sup>

## 4. TRANSFORMATIONS OF 2,5-BISHYDROXYMETHYLFURAN (BHMF)

BHMF and DFF are important furan-containing chemicals that can be obtained by mild hydrogenation or oxidation of HMF, respectively. In recent investigations, BHMF, DFF, and their derivatives have been used as valuable intermediates for the synthesis of biofuels, polymers, drugs, and other products of fine chemistry. The main attention has been paid to the catalytic reactions, cycloaddition, and polymerization processes, as well as other types of chemical transformations.

**4.1. Catalytic Reactions of BHMF.** The general route to producing value-added chemicals from BHMF is the reduction or oxidation mediated by transition metal complexes (Scheme 14). The first example of Fe-catalyzed highly selective hydrodeoxygenation of BHMF to 2,5-dimethylfuran (2,5-DMF) was described.<sup>118</sup> A complete (100%) conversion of BHMF with an 81% yield of 2,5-DMF in *n*-butanol was achieved in *n*-butanol media by using a catalyst prepared by pyrolysis of a Fe-phenanthroline complex on activated carbon at 800 °C.

Another valuable product of BHMF reduction, 2-hydroxy-3methyl-2-cyclopenten-1-one (MCP), was prepared by a twostage methodology including the hydrogenation of BHMF to 1hydroxy-2,5-hexanedione (HHD) in water over a  $Pd/Nb_2O_5$  catalyst followed by isomerization to MCP in the presence of a base.<sup>132</sup> The Piancatelli ring-rearrangement of BHMF catalyzed by the Lewis acid  $Nd_2O_3$  afforded 4-hydroxy-4-(hydroxymethyl)cyclopent-2-en-1-one (HHCPEN) with moderate selectivity.<sup>181</sup> In the presence of hydrogen and a Cp\*Ir catalyst, HHCPEN was further hydrogenated to HCPN.<sup>167</sup>

Mild oxidation of hydroxymethyl groups in BHMF led to the formation of HMF or DFF, which was an important bioderived platform for polymer production. Dehydrogenation of BHMF to HMF with evolution of free hydrogen was conducted using ultrathin 2D Ni/CdS nanosheets in aqueous media under visible light irradiation.<sup>77</sup> BHMF was oxidized into DFF with high selectivity under oxidant-free conditions using Rh/C in scCO<sub>2</sub>.<sup>84</sup>

4.2. Polymers from BHMF. Owing to the presence of two hydroxymethyl groups, BHMF is used as a monomer in the synthesis of important biobased plastics, mainly polyesters and polycarbamates. For instance, reaction of BHMF with succinic acid produced poly(2,5-furandimethylene succinate) (PFS) (Scheme 15A).<sup>101</sup> A series of poly(2,5-furandimethylene succinate)-b-poly(butylene succinate) (PFS-PBS) polyesters that exhibited highly tunable mechanical properties, ranging from semicrystalline thermoplastics to amorphous soft elastomer-like polymers, were prepared under mild conditions via the chain-extension reaction of dihydroxyl-terminated poly(2,5-furandimethylene succinate) (HO-PFS-OH) and poly(butylene succinate) (HO-PBS-OH) polyesters in the presence of 1,6-hexamethylene diisocyanate (HDI) (Scheme 15B).<sup>182</sup> A variety of degradable poly(silylether)s (PSEs) based on BHMF were synthesized using an efficient Mn salen catalyst (Scheme 15C).<sup>183</sup> A series of BHMF-based poly( $\beta$ -thioether esters) were obtained via the thiol-Michael addition polymerization using dimethylphenylphosphine as the catalyst (Scheme 15D).<sup>184</sup> Tests of synthesized compounds on wood substrates showed an adhesive strength of 1.5 MPa.

New bioderived polyurethanes were obtained by copolymerization of BHMF and isohexides functionalized by the isocyanate group, isosorbide bis(3-isocyanatopropanoate) (ISBIP) and isomannide bis(3-isocyanatopropanoate) (IMBIP), using dibutyltin dilaurate (DBTDL) as a catalyst in DMF under mild conditions (Scheme 16).<sup>185</sup> It was found that the substitution of isomannide by isosorbide affected the glass transition temperature, density, and other properties of the resulting polymers leading to different mechanical properties at similar molar masses.

Scheme 13. Catalytic Amidation of HMF







Scheme 15. Synthetic Path to Biobased Copolymers from BHMF<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup>A: poly(2,5-furandimethylene succinate), B: multiblock co-polymer, C: poly(silylether)s, D: poly( $\beta$ -thioether esters).

Functionalization of BHMF by the epoxy-group is a route to furan-based monomers 3-5 with a wide range of applications (Scheme 17). Epoxy 2,5-bis[(2-oxiranylmethoxy)methyl]-furan (BOF) was used as a graphene dispersant for the preparation of new graphene/polymer nanocomposites by the reaction of a BOF/graphene suspension with a bisphenol A epoxy resin in the presence of a curing agent 3,6-endo-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride and 2-ethyl-4-methylimidazole as a catalyst.<sup>186</sup> A Diels–Alder adduct of BOF with N-hexyl maleimide (DA-BOF) was used as a toughening agent in polymerization reaction of BOF. After curing of the mixtures of BOF and DA-BOF contained various ratios of monomers in the presence of isophorone diamine (IPDA), a number of cross-linked networks were formed. Obtained cross-polymers showed increased impact strength and nearly unaffected tensile properties compared to linear polymer obtained without the use of curing agent.<sup>187</sup>

**4.3. Other Reactions of BHMF.** BHMF and its esters were involved into various cycloaddition reactions. The Diels–Alder reaction of unsubstituted BHMF with maleimide was carried out to give product 1 with high *endo* diastereoselectivity (Scheme 18). Hydrogenation of an unsaturated intermediate afforded bioderived tricyclic compound 2 with nonplanar molecular structure, which could possibly be further functionalized by hydroxyl or imide groups.<sup>113</sup> In accordance with the principles of green chemistry, these transformations were conducted step-by-step or one-pot in water. A recently published review summarizes other results on BHMF synthesis and utilization,<sup>188</sup> and this discussion is not repeated here.



A similar synthetic approach was used for preparation of *O*-functionalized furan-containing compounds 6-9 by one-pot or stage-by-stage Diels–Alder reactions of alkylated or acylated BHMF derivatives 6-9 followed by hydrogenation over Pd/C (Scheme 19).<sup>113,189</sup>

BHMF was used for preparation of a series of *meso*oxabenzonorbornadienes OBNDs by the Diels–Alder reaction of BHMF and benzyne followed by functionatization of hydroxyl groups. OBNDs were involved into Rh-catalyzed enantioselective isomerization to 1,2-naphthalene oxides NPOs (Scheme 20), which were obtained with moderate to high yields and *ee* up to 99%.<sup>190</sup>

# 5. TRANSFORMATIONS OF 2,5-DIFORMYLFURAN (DFF)

**5.1. Catalytic Reactions of DFF.** DFF was thoroughly hydrogenated to the saturated form BHMTHF with 100% conversion and selectivity by a hydroxyapatite-supported Pd catalyst (Pd-HAP) under relatively mild conditions: 40 °C, 1 MPa, and 3 h (Scheme 21).<sup>191</sup> Furfurylamines obtained by amination of DFF has diverse applications including the synthesis of furan-containing polymers and design of pharmacologically active compounds. 2,5-Bis(aminomethyl)-furan (BAMF) was prepared from DFF with a 70% yield by transaminase-catalyzed amination using  $\alpha$ -methylbenzylamines (MBA) as amine donors.<sup>114</sup> An efficient and simple system for the conversion of furfurals to maleic acid MA with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> as oxidant and formic acid as solvent was reported.<sup>172</sup> 2,5-Dicyanofuran (DCF) could be obtained from DFF via a two-step procedure. DFF was converted to 2,5-diformylfuran dioxime (DFFD) with the subsequent dehydration reaction.<sup>192</sup>

A biocatalytic system based on horse liver alcohol dehydrogenase (HLADH), oxidized nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (phosphate) cofactors  $NAD(P)^+$ , hemoglobin

Scheme 18. Synthesis of

Bis(hydroxymethyl)norcantharimide 2 from HMF or BHMF in Water



(Hb), and  $H_2O_2$  showed moderate conversion of DFF to FDCA (52% yield was observed after 72 h, Table 11).<sup>85</sup> Wholecell biocatalytic selective oxidation of DFF using a newly isolated bacterial strain *Comamonas testosteroni* SC1588 afforded FDCA as the major product, along with the production of minor HMF (61% FDCA was obtained after 48 h).<sup>86</sup> Oxidation of DFF by a periplasmic aldehyde oxidase (PaoABC) hydrogel combined with immobilized catalase showed 100% selectivity of the FDCA formation over 14 cycles.<sup>76</sup> An environment-friendly aerobic oxidation of DFF into FDCA using Fe–Zr–O catalyst in an ionic liquid 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride [BMIM]Cl reaction medium was reported. Aldehyde groups in DFF were quickly converted into the carboxyl groups to give 44.8% yield of FDCA at almost complete conversion attained for 2 h.<sup>193</sup>

**5.2. Other Reactions with DFF.** A new family of gemini surfactants 10–13 containing the tetrahydrofuran ring and two amphoteric groups (carboxylic acid and tertiary amine) were prepared by selective reduction of *N*-alkyl BAMF derivatives followed by alkylation and debenzylation processes (Scheme 22). The final compounds demonstrated very low critical micelle concentrations and had a potential as fungicides in crop protection applications.<sup>194</sup>

A series of biologically active bis-sulfonamide Schiff bases were synthesized by condensation of DFF with pharmacophoric sulfonamides. The obtained bis-sulfonamide imines showed high activity as inhibitors of four physiologically relevant carbonic anhydrases (CA) isoforms, the cytosolic CA I, CA II and CA VII, as well as the transmembrane tumoroverexpressed CA IX isozyme.<sup>195</sup>

In other investigations, BAMF derivatives were used for preparation of new derivatives of naturally occurring bioactive norcantharidimide by the Diels-Alder reaction of BAMFs

NH<sub>2</sub>

5

IPDA





## Scheme 19. Transformation of BHMF to Tricyclic Nonplanar Derivatives



#### Scheme 20. Synthesis of meso-Oxabenzonorbornadienes by DA Reaction from BHMF



Scheme 21. Derivatization of DFF



Table 11. Methods of Oxidation of DFF

Q	DFF	HO OH FDCA	
Entry	Catalyst	Yield (%)	ref.
1	HLADH, NAD(P) <sup>+</sup> , Hb, $H_2O_2$	52	85
2	Comamonas testosteroni SC1588	61	86
3	PaoABC/Catalase	100	76
4	$Fe_{0.6}Zr_{0.4}O_2$ , [BMIM]Cl, $O_2$	45	193

14–17 with maleimide followed by hydrogenation (Scheme 23). Such saturated tricyclic products were obtained predominantly as *endo* diastereomers. It was shown that derivatives containing aminomethyl groups in the side-chains of the

tricyclic core possess increased biological activity compared to unsubstituted analogue (norcantharimide).<sup>113,189</sup>

A similar approach was used for synthesis of a series of new aromatic compounds 24-26 using a three-stage methodology starting from DFF (Scheme 24). The Diels–Alder reaction with DFF is unknown, but imines 23 and 24 obtained by the reaction of DFF with oxymes were involved in the Diels–Alder reaction with acethylenic ester or maleic anhydride followed by acid-catalyzed dehydration to give targeted aromatic compounds.<sup>196</sup>

New furan-containing polyheterocycles from DFF were also investigated (Scheme 25). Oxazole 27 was obtained by the reaction of DFF with tosylmethyl isocyanide with a 47% yield.<sup>197</sup> Dihydropyranoaurone derivative 28 was prepared with a 83% yield using the piperazine-catalyzed aldol reaction of DFF with the appropriate benzofuranone. Evaluation of





Scheme 23. Synthesis of Bioactive Norcantharidimide Derivatives from DFF



Scheme 24. Synthesis of Six-Membered Aromatic Compounds via DA Reaction of DFF Imines and Oximes



Scheme 25. Structures of New Furan-Containing Polyheterocycles Derived from DFF



derivative **28** for anti-inflammatory activity showed significant suppression of inducible nitric oxide synthase expression.<sup>198</sup>

A furan-containing functionalized polypyridine ligand used for the preparation of a fluorescent anion sensor based on a Ru(II) complex was synthesized by the two-step reductive amination of DFF with 5-amino-1,10-phenanthroline. Unfortunately, the fluorescence intensity of complex **29** has been enhanced only slightly by SCN<sup>-</sup>, F<sup>-</sup>, and H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> anions.<sup>199</sup> Synthetic sample of biologically occurred hydrazinyl Schiff base **30** was prepared by reaction of DFF with *N*-amino-L-proline methyl ester in MeOH with 50% yield. Prolinimine **30** was found as a metabolite in Australian marine-derived fungi and represents a rare example of natural compound containing a hydrazine moiety.<sup>200</sup> DFF was used in the synthesis of boron dipyrromethene-based antiaromatic macrocycle **31** via a onepot Knoevenagel condensation.<sup>201</sup>

**5.3.** Monomers from DFF. An unstable compound 2,5diethynylfuran (DEF) was first synthesized with a 89% yield starting from DFF by using the Ohira-Bestman reaction (Scheme 26a).<sup>139</sup> Rh-catalyzed polymerization of DEF afforded cross-linked polyacethylene. Using scanning electron microscopy (SEM), it was found that the formed polymer had a globular macrostructure (Scheme 26b). Using the same methodology, ether-linked OBMBEF (5,5'-(oxybis-(methylene))bis(2-ethynylfuran)) was synthesized in high yield (99%) starting from the corresponding HMF dimer

## Scheme 26. Alkynylation of Carbonyl Derivatives and Polymerization of the Obtained Alkynes<sup>4</sup>



<sup>a</sup>Reprinted with permission from ref. 139. Copyright 2017 Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co.

(Scheme 26c). The Glaser coupling of the OBMBEF diyne resulted in the formation of polyacetylenic solids, which underwent explosive decomposition under heating (Scheme 26c). The pathway provided an access to biomass-based high energy materials.

Compounds 32 and 33 with significant potential applications as monomers for new polymeric materials were obtained by the coupling of DFF with methylene-active compounds under mild reaction conditions using the Knoevenagel condensation with malononitrile or ethyl cyanoacetate (Scheme 27).<sup>68</sup>

## Scheme 27. Examples of Knoevenagel Condensation Involving DFF



Perspective furan-containing monomers 37-39 were prepared starting from DFF. The Knoevenagel condensation of DFF with malonic acid followed by esterification and hydrogenation of the formed  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated diacid 34 afforded diesters 37-38 with good yields (Scheme 28).<sup>112</sup>

## 6. FURAN-2,5-DICARBOXYLIC ACID (FDCA) AND ITS ESTERS

**6.1. Esterification and Polycondensation Reactions of FDCA.** Being an important base monomer, 2,5-furandicarbox-

Scheme 28. Synthesis of Perspective Furanic Monomers

ylic acid (FDCA) was identified as one of 12 priority chemicals.<sup>202</sup> Predominately, FDCA received considerable interest as a potentially renewable replacement for petrobased terephthalic acid in polymer applications. Synthesis of the most common furan-based polyester, polyethylene 2,5-furandicarboxylate (PEF), can be carried out directly from FDCA and ethylene glycol utilizing a standard melt polycondensation procedure with antimony glycolate as catalyst (Scheme 29).<sup>203</sup>

Scheme 29. Synthesis of 2,5-Furandicarboxylate (PEF) from 2,5-Furandicarboxylic acid (FDCA)



Synthesis of fully bioderived polyesters based on itaconic acid (IA), FDCA, succinic acid (SA), and 1,3-propanediol (PD) via melt polycondensation was described (Scheme 30).<sup>204</sup> Such a structure is capable of forming cross-linked networks and cured biopolymers thermally stable up to 330 °C; its  $T_g$  is 73.5–141.7 °C.

A highly efficient approach to furan polyesters starting from FDCA was implemented under one-pot conditions (Scheme 31).<sup>205,206</sup>

The given strategy includes catalytic esterification of FDCA in the presence of alcohol with a homogeneous water-tolerant



Scheme 30. Synthesis of Bioderived Unsaturated Polyesters Based on FDCA



Lewis acid catalyst followed by transesterification of an intermediate ester product with glycol catalyzed by the existing catalyst retained in the intermediate ester mixture.

It should be noted that the usage of FDCA in polycondensations is limited. Several issues arise upon using FDCA in melt polymerizations, such as decomposition at the temperatures higher than 200 °C. Such challenges can be resolved by esterifying FDCA.

A practical method of FDCA transformation into esters proceeds through the acid-catalyzed interaction with alcohol (entry 1, Table 12). Over the past year, a number of methods for obtaining alkyl esters of FDCA have been patented. Thus, low-pressure high-temperature esterification processes have been described (entries 2 and 3, Table 12). In those cases, impurities up to 5% of monomethyl ester were observed.

There is an alternative way for esters synthesis, as bis(oxiran-2-yl-methyl)furan-2,5-dicarboxylate was obtained through a one-step reaction of FDCA with epichlorohydrin. Transesterification of FDME with glycidol leads to the same useful synthon.<sup>207</sup>

Furanic polyesters demonstrate a considerable number of useful properties. Based on the reaction of FDME with diols, a number of homopolymers were synthesized (Scheme 32).

Polyethylene furanoate (PEF) was obtained by conventional melt polycondensation under high vacuum and was successfully utilized as a source material for 3D-printing.<sup>208</sup> Poly-(trimethylene furandicarboxylate) (PTF) was easily produced from FDME and 1,3-propanediol and was used in fabrication of a gas separation membrane.<sup>211</sup>

Because polyfurandicarboxylates exhibit substantial barrier properties, the development of new gas-impermeable materials is underway. Fully biobased polymer compositions were obtained by the synthesis of poly(butylene 2,5-furan dicarboxylate) (PBF) from FDME and the preparation of a set of blends of polylactic acid (PLA) with PBF (5–30 wt %).<sup>212</sup> Upon addition of 5 wt % PBF, the elongation at break of the material increases 18.5 times. The gas barrier property of the PLA/PBF blends is also significantly enhanced. In addition, the binary PLA/PBF blends demonstrate stable high reflection properties.





Thus, objects with shining surface can be prepared easily from the fully biobased polymer. Applicability of additive technologies was also demonstrated.<sup>213</sup>

A furanic-very-long-aliphatic polyester based on 2,5-furandicarboxylic acid and 1,20-eicosanediol was introduced as a new polymer from renewable resources.<sup>214</sup> As shown by preliminary experiments, the polymer PE20F is a biodegradable material.

A novel strategy to synthesize FDCA-based polyesters from an asymmetric monomer with terminal methyl ester and hydroxyl groups was proposed (Scheme 33).<sup>215</sup> This approach allows carrying out faster polycondensation at lower temperature in comparison with conventional methods (180 °C vs 240 °C). A series of polymers with long alkyl chains was obtained.

An interesting renewable furan-based cycloaliphatic homopolyester, poly(1,4-cyclohexylene 2,5-furandicarboxylate) (PCdF), was synthesized (Scheme 34).<sup>216</sup> PCdF exhibits an extremely high glass transition temperature and shows high thermal stability as compared to the methylene spacercontaining PCF.

Two novel polymers, CHD/FDME and BCD/FDME, were synthesized from diols containing rigid cyclic ketal functionalities derived from glycerol and two diketones.<sup>217</sup> Biomassderived content in CHD/FDME and BCD/FDME 100% and 50%, respectively. A TGA analysis indicated that both polyesters were thermally stable (decomposition temperature > 300 °C).

Incorporation of a furandicarboxylate moiety into the structure imparts useful properties to the polymer material. Such copolymers exhibit characteristics comparable with those of petroleum-based polymers.

Thus, an addition of 2.25 to 7.5 mol % of the dicarbonylfuran moiety to polyethylene terephthalate (PET) as anticrystallization comonomer enhanced mechanical properties of the resulting polymer.<sup>218</sup> The usage of bio-PET allows achieving a fully biobased material. A series of poly(ethylene furanoate-*co*-terephthalate) (PEFT) copolymers with 5–95% of the dicarbonylfuran moiety was synthesized and characterized (Scheme 35).<sup>219</sup> The structure of polyethylene furanoate (PEF) was modified via copolymerization of FDME with ethylene glycol and 2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-1,3-cyclobutanediol (CBDO). A series of poly(ethylene-*co*-2,2,4,4-tetramethyl-1,3-cyclobutanediol 2,5-furandicarboxylate)s (PETF) copolyesters

Scheme 31. One-Pot Two-Step Synthesis of PEF from FDCA



Scheme 32. Synthesis of Homologous Poly-methylenefurandicarboxylates via Conventional Polyesterification Reactions



Scheme 33. Usage of Asymmetric Ester in Synthesis of Poly(alkyl-2,5-furandicarboxylates)<sup>a</sup>



<sup>a</sup>Because of fast crystallization behaviors of POF, PdecF and PdodF, no obvious glass transition can be observed in DSC scans.

#### Scheme 34. FDCA-Based Homopolymers with Cyclohexane Moiety



was prepared.<sup>220</sup> Fully biobased poly(butylene sebacate-*co*butylene furandicarboxylate) (PBSF) copolyesters were synthesized using a two-step melt polycondensation method from FDCA, sebacic acid, and 1,4-butanediol.<sup>221</sup> Those copolymers exhibited high thermal stability and excellent elongation at break. Using a similar approach poly(ethylene dodecanedioate-2,5-furandicarboxylate) (PEDF) could be obtained from FDCA, dodecanedioic acid, and ethylene glycol.<sup>222</sup> A series of random copolymers poly(butylene carbonates-*co*-furandicarboxylate) (PBCFs) had been prepared from dimethyl carbonate, 1,4-butanediol, and FDME.<sup>223</sup> Copolymers based on poly(1,4-butylene 2,5-furandicarboxylate) and poly(ethylene glycol) (PBF/PEGF) with soft and hard segments in the structure demonstrated lower melting temperature and higher thermal stability (up to 352–380  $^\circ$ C), compared to PBF.<sup>224</sup>

A series of multiblock poly(ethylene 2,5-furandicarboxylate)poly(ethylene glycol) (PEFEGs) copolymers was synthesized from the available biobased ethylene glycol, FDCA, and poly(ethylene glycol) through a two-step melt polycondensation method.<sup>225</sup> In comparison with PEF, the elongation at break of the synthesized PEFEGs was much higher; moreover, the multiblock copolymers exhibited excellent shape memory properties.

By using a similar synthetic strategy, polyamides can be obtained from FDME and diamines via solid-state polymerization in the temperature range of 60 to 250  $^{\circ}$ C (Scheme 36).<sup>226</sup> Also polyamides could be synthesized directly from the



acid. Thus, a series of FDCA-based copolyamides were obtained utilizing isophthalic acid and 1,6-hexamethylenediamine.<sup>227</sup>

## Scheme 36. Polyamide Produced from FDME



The synthesis of two series of novel partially biobased polyimides was reported recently, which include 2,5-furandicarboxamide moiety (Scheme 37).<sup>228</sup> PIs possess high glass transition temperatures, high thermal stability with 5% weight loss over 420  $^{\circ}$ C, and outstanding mechanical properties.

Copolymerization FDCA-derived polymers could also be modified to produce novel composite materials. Thus, biobased PEF was modified by different clays (sepiolite and montmorillonite), and the introduced nanoclays showed a positive molecular weight stabilizing effect.<sup>229</sup>

**6.2. FDME-Based Epoxy Resins.** A biobased heat resistant epoxy resin with high biomass content was produced from FDCA and eugenol (Scheme 38).<sup>230</sup>

Methyl hexahydrophthalic anhydride (MHHPA) was used as a curing agent; the glass transition temperature of the resulted resin was as high as 153.4 °C.

**6.3. FDCA-Based Metal–Organic Frameworks (MOFs).** Metal–organic frameworks (MOFs) typically composed of metal species and organic ligands to generate porous and crystalline polymers have shown potential in a variety of research fields. In 2017, a number of papers describing the production of FDCA-based MOFs with useful optical properties were published.

A range of porous acid–base bifunctional metal–FDCA hybrids (Cr-FDCA, Cu-FDCA, Al-FDCA, Fe-FDCA, Zr-FDCA) was successfully prepared from simple assembly under hydrothermal conditions (Figure 4).<sup>104</sup> In particular, Zr-FDCA-T MOF possessed a microspheric structure, with an average pore diameter of ~4.7 nm, and high thermostability (ca. 400 °C).

A new Zr-based metal–organic framework Zr-CAU-28 [Zr<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>4</sub>(2,5-furandicarboxylate)<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>4</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>4</sub>] was obtained under green synthesis conditions from a mixture of water and acetic acid employing microwave-assisted heating (Figure 5).<sup>231</sup> The framework structure adopts a kagome-like topology and hence contains large hexagonal channels with a pore diameter of ~16 Å and small trigonal channels with a size of 3 Å. The synthesized Zr-CAU-28 showed thermal stability up to 270 °C in air.

A FDCA-containing MOF,  $(H_3O)_2[Zn_4(urotropine)-(H-FDCA^-)_2(FDCA^{2-})_4]$ , showed high selectivity for Rb<sup>+</sup> and Cs<sup>+</sup> cations and changed its luminescent properties upon the formation of inclusion compounds (Figure 6).<sup>232</sup>

Four novel compounds  $[[In(FDCA^{2-})(FDCA^{-})-(H_2O)_4]$ . 2H<sub>2</sub>O] (In1, Figure 7) and  $[[Ln_2(FDCA^{2-})_2 (H_2O)_{10}]$ . FDCA<sup>2-</sup>·6H<sub>2</sub>O]<sub>n</sub> (Ln = Dy, Eu, Gd) were synthesized hydrothermally by using FDCA as ligand.<sup>233</sup> These novel materials possessed luminescence sensing and white light emission properties due to the ability of uncoordinated carbonyl groups to encapsulate Dy<sup>3+</sup> and Eu<sup>3+</sup> ions into MOF compound.

Two isostructural lanthanide MOFs,  $[Ln_3K_2(FDCA^{2-})_4(NO_3)_3(MeCN)_2]_n$  (Ln = Eu, Tb), based on FDCA were successfully synthesized under solvothermal conditions. These MOFs showed strong photoluminescence and excellent fluorescence sensing for small molecules, especially for nitrobenzene (Figure 8).<sup>234</sup>

**6.4. Other Transformations of FDCA and FDME.** The furan core in FDCA can be reduced by molecular hydrogen under pressure utilizing 5% Pd/C to form tetrahydrofuran-2,5-dicarboxylic acid (THFDCA) in quantitative yield.<sup>235</sup> The subsequent ring-opening reaction provides an access to adipic acid (Scheme 39).

The described transformation can be achieved in one step starting directly from FDCA, thus expanding the range of bioderived useful synthons.

A new methodology was developed employing FDCA to produce 2,5-diarylfurans in high yields through palladium-catalyzed double decarboxylative cross-couplings (Scheme 40).<sup>236</sup>

Diels–Alder strategy was utilized for access to 1,4naphthalenedicarboxylate derivatives from FDME via benzene cycloaddition (Scheme 41).<sup>237</sup> Efficient diversification ( $\geq$ 80% yield) into several novel bicyclic compounds was performed.

#### Scheme 37. Polyimides Produced Using FDME



Scheme 38. Synthesis of Source Material for Epoxy Resin Starting from FDCA and Eugenol





**Figure 4.** HR-TEM images of  $ZrO_2$  (A), Zr-FDCA (B), and Zr-FDCA-T (C); TEM diffraction pattern of Zr-FDCA-T (D), TEM image of Zr-FDCA-T (E), SEM image of Zr-FDCA-T (F), (T = treated with template). Reprinted with permission from ref. 104. Copyright 2017 Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS AND PERSPECTIVES

The analysis of the experimental studies included in the present review expectedly showed that HMF is the most popular starting material in chemical transformations and applications described (Figure 9a). A significant number of studies utilizing



**Figure 5.** Framework structure of Zr-CAU-28 as seen along the *c*-axis (left) and the underlying kag topology of the simplified framework (right). Reprinted with permission from ref. 231. Copyright 2017 American Chemical Society.

FDCA should also be mentioned, whereas the usage of DFF and BHMF is rarer (Figure 9a).

The reduction of bioderived furanic chemicals is the most massively studied chemical transformation (Figure 9b), because the removal of the extra oxygen is required to access high-performance fuels. The transformation of HMF to FDCA and the building of longer polymeric chains target on material science applications and provide the driving force for oxidation and polymerization studies (Figure 9b).

For synthetic purposes, a number of different functionalization processes were studied, including aldol reaction, nucleophilic additions, OH group modifications, reductive amination, ring transformations, C–H activation, preparation of MOFs and others (Figure 9b).



**Figure 6.** Views of the structure of  $(H_3O)_2[Zn_4(urotropine)-(H-FDCA<sup>-</sup>)_2(FDCA<sup>2-</sup>)_4]$ : (a) tetrahedral secondary building unit (Zn atoms are green, N - blue, O - red, C - gray, and H is omitted for clarity); (b) framework structure; (c) anionic cavity with hydroxonium countercation shown in pink with electrostatic contacts shown as orange lines. Reprinted with permission from ref. 232. Copyright 2017 Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co.



Figure 7. Compound In1 showing (a) 1D chain through  $O-H\cdots O$  interactions; (b) 2D layers through  $O-H\cdots O$  interactions; (c) 3D supramolecular framework of In1; and (d) topological representation of 3D structure. Reprinted with permission from ref. 233. Copyright 2017 ACS Publications.

A noticeable increase in the number of publications over the years can be clearly seen in the case of HMF, as well as BHMF, DFF and FDCA (Figure 10b). For FDCA, the most rapid trend should be mentioned: the number of publications increased 6-fold from 2011 to 2017, whereas a 2-fold increase for HMF was observed over the same time period (Figure 10a). The other two derivatives, DFF and BHMF, are also synthons of interest, and the data on them are increasing steadily.

Redox reactions are in the central focus in the chemistry of HMF and the corresponding derivatives (>50% of overall amount of studies; Figure 10b). The global aim is to develop



**Figure 8.** (a) Trinuclear Eu<sub>3</sub> secondary building units; (b) trinuclear surrounded by ten  $FDA^{2-}$  ligands; (c) 8-connected node; (d) schematic view of the topology excluding K<sup>+</sup> ions. Reprinted with permission from ref. 234. Copyright 2017 Elsevier.

#### Scheme 39. Reduction of FDCA



Scheme 40. Aryl Cross-Coupling Reaction with FDCA



reliable industrial technologies to access fuels (reduction reactions) and dicarboxylic acid monomers (oxidation reactions). Several excellent catalytic systems have been developed to accomplish the goal. However, further optimizations are required in order to reach cost-efficiency and sustainability levels required for commercialization.

In spite of the defined practical targets, several studies employ experimental conditions with significant waste outcome (i.e., 2 equiv of  $MnO_2$  for oxidation, etc.) or low catalytic efficiency (poorly recyclable catalysts, large amount of noble metals, etc.). Such studies may contribute to the fundamental development of the area; however, their large-scale practical application is hardly possible. Despite considerable progress and a bunch of synthetic procedures available, the field still demands the development of cost-efficient recyclable catalysts stable against leaching and utilizing convenient and cheap oxidants ( $O_2$ ,  $H_2O_2$ , regenerable oxidants, etc.) and reductants ( $H_2$ , regenerable reductants, etc.). An interesting direction would be to explore entrapped/supported molecular catalysts, which, for example, showed a good performance in the selective and clean alcohol oxidation.<sup>239</sup>

A recent trend has shown that HMF is often used as a challenging substrate to test new catalysts developed for reduction or oxidation processes. Indeed, biomass processing

#### Scheme 41. Benzyne Diels-Alder Cycloaddition to FDME





Figure 9. Distribution of publications covered in this review according to the type of the starting material (a) and type of the chemical transformation (b).<sup>238</sup>

provides a strong driving force and acts as a "grindstone" for sharpening new catalytic systems. The outcome can substantially influence the area of redox reactions in organic synthesis and stimulate the further progress.

Using HMF, BHMF, DFF, and FDCA as starting materials for synthetic applications is a highly promising and catchy direction. Various synthetic transformations have been already developed and many more are anticipated in the nearest future. Furan derivatives can be readily prepared for obtaining biologically active molecules, drugs, and useful organic synthones, among many others.

At the same time, apart from the significant progress in HMF chemistry, several challenges should be mentioned. The functionalization of positions 3 and 4 of the furan ring in HMF remains mostly undeveloped. Next, studies on methods of recyclization of HMF into other heterocycles should pave the way into a vast field of derivatives. The low stability of HMF and some of its derivatives in solution, as well as aging and oligomerization, introduce shortcomings in terms of lower yields and side-reactions.<sup>240</sup> Mechanistic studies can involve

rather complicated networking and nanostructured systems in a liquid phase.<sup>241</sup>

An amazing development has been achieved in the area of material science, where FDCA-based polymers (i.e., PEF and similar) are evaluated as a possible replacement for polyethylene terephthalate (PET) based on oil-derived tereftalic acid. Currently, PET occupies a huge market worldwide and is produced in amounts of 56 million tons per year.<sup>242</sup> The practical usage of PET includes plastic bottles, fibers, and several other products. A considerable interest to employing biobased PEF as a coadditive or replacement of PET is inevitable and stimulates cutting-edge studies. A combination of bioderived PEF and a waste-free 3D-printing technology expands the biomass approach to carbon-neutral production of plastic objects.<sup>208</sup>

Overall, the chemistry of biomass-derived furanic chemicals is an extremely rapidly developing field, which has passed its initial stage and now should actively contribute to both academic and industrial sectors.

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#### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.



Figure 10. Number of publications mentioning HMF (a) and BHMF, DFF, or FDCA (b) per year, according to the databases and structural search.

#### **Biographies**



Fedor Kucherov received his doctoral degree from Zelinsky Institute of Organic Chemistry (Moscow) in 2004. In 2006 he joined the Chemical Diversity Institute, as senior researcher at medicinal chemistry lab. In 2015 he moved back to his *alma mater* to continue research work. His scientific interests include the organic chemistry, selective drug delivery, green chemistry and biomass conversion.



Leonid Romashov received his B.Sc. in Chemistry from the Higher Chemical College of Russian Academy of Sciences in 2012 and joined the Prof. Ananikov research group in Zelinsky Institute of Organic Chemistry as a graduate student where he investigated biomass conversion and the chemistry of biomass derived compounds, receiving his Ph.D. in 2017. His current studies are focused on chemical transformations of HMF and organic synthesis.



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## ABBREVIATIONS

2,5-DMF	2,5-dimethylfuran
3F	poly(1,3-propdiyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylamide)
BAMF	bis(aminomethyl)furan
BHMF	2,5-bishydroxymethylfuran
BHMTHF	(tetrahydrofuran-2,5-diyl)dimethanol
BOF	2,5-bis[(2-oxiranylmethoxy)methyl]-furan
BTO	1,2,4-benzenetriol
DBTDL	dibutyltin dilaurate
DCF	2,5-dicyanofuran
DEF	2,5-diethynylfuran
DFF	furan-2,5-dicarbaldehyde
DFFD	2,5-diformylfuran dioxime
DIC	<i>N,N'</i> -diisopropylcarbodiimide
DMAP	N,N-dimethyl-4-aminopyridine
DMTHF	2,5-dimethyltetrahydrofuran
FDCA	furan-2,5-dicarboxylic acid
FDME	dimethyl furan-2,5-dicarboxylate
FDMME	5-(methoxycarbonyl)furan-2-carboxylic acid
FFCA	5-formylfuran-2-carboxylic acid
FFME	methyl 5-formylfuran-2-carboxylate
HCPN	3-hydroxymethylcyclopentanone

HDI	1,6-hexamethylene diisocyanate 4-hydroxy-4-(hydroxymethyl)cyclopent-2-en-1-
HHCPEN	one
HHD	1-hvdroxyhexane-2,5-dione
HMEF	(5-ethynylfuran-2-yl)methanol
HMF	5-(hydroxymethyl)furan-2-carbaldehyde
HMFCA	5-(hydroxymethyl)furan-2-carboxylic acid
HMFME	methyl 5-(hydroxymethyl)furan-2-carboxylate
HMVF	2-hvdroxymethyl-5-yinylfuran
HO-PBS-OH	poly(butylene succinate)
HO-PES-OH	poly(2.5-furandimethylene succinate)
IA III III	itaconic acid
IMBIP	isomannide his(3-isocyanatopropanoate)
	isophorone diamine
ISBID	isosorbido his(2 isograpatopropapata)
	lowlinic acid
	melaia asid
MA	Discharge 2 mothed 2 mother 1 mo
MCP	2-nydroxy-3-metnyl-2-cyclopenten-1-one
MF	5-metnyiluran-2-carbaidenyde
MFM	(S-methylfuran-2-yl)methanol
NPOs	1,2-naphthalene oxides
OBMBEF	(5,5'-(oxybis(methylene))bis(2-ethynylfuran)
OBNDs	meso-oxabenzonorbornadienes
PBCF	poly(butylene carbonate- <i>co</i> -furandicarboxylate)
PBF	poly(butylene 2,5-furan dicarboxylate)
PBSF	poly(butylene sebacate-co-butylene furandicar-
	boxylate)
PCdF	poly(1,4-cyclohexylene 2,5-furandicarboxylate)
PCF	poly(cyclohexane-1,4-diylbis(methylene) 2,5-
	furandicarboxylate)
PD	1,3-propanediol
PdecF	poly(1,10-decdiyl 2,5-furandicarboxylate)
PdodF	poly(1,12-dodecdiyl 2,5-furandicarboxylate)
PE20F	poly(1,20-eicosandiyl 2,5-furandicarboxylate)
PEDF	poly(ethylene dodecanedioate-2,5-furandicar-
	boxylate)
PEF	poly(ethylene 2,5-furandicarboxylate)
PEFEG	multiblock poly(ethylene 2,5-furandicarboxy-
	late)-poly(ethylene glycol) copolymers
PEFT	poly(ethylene furanoate- <i>co</i> -terephthalate)
PETF	polv(ethylene- <i>co</i> -2.2.4.4-tetramethyl-1.3-cyclo-
	butanediol 2.5-furandicarboxylate)
PFS	poly(2.5-furandimethylene succinate)
PES-PBS	poly(2,5-furandimethylene_succinate)-h-poly-
110100	(butylene succinate)
PHMVF	noly(2-bydroxymethyl-5-yinylfuran)
	poly(2-flydroxymetriyi-3-villyhuran)
DNE	polylactic actu noly(1.0 nondiyl 2.5 furandicarhowylata)
DOE	poly(1, 2 octdivel 2,5 furandicarboxylate)
PUP	poly(1,8-octaly1 2,5-iurandicardoxylate)
	poly(unmethylene furandicarboxylate)
SA THED CA	
THFDCA	tetrahydrofuran-2,5-dicarboxylic acid

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