

## **Supplementary Information**

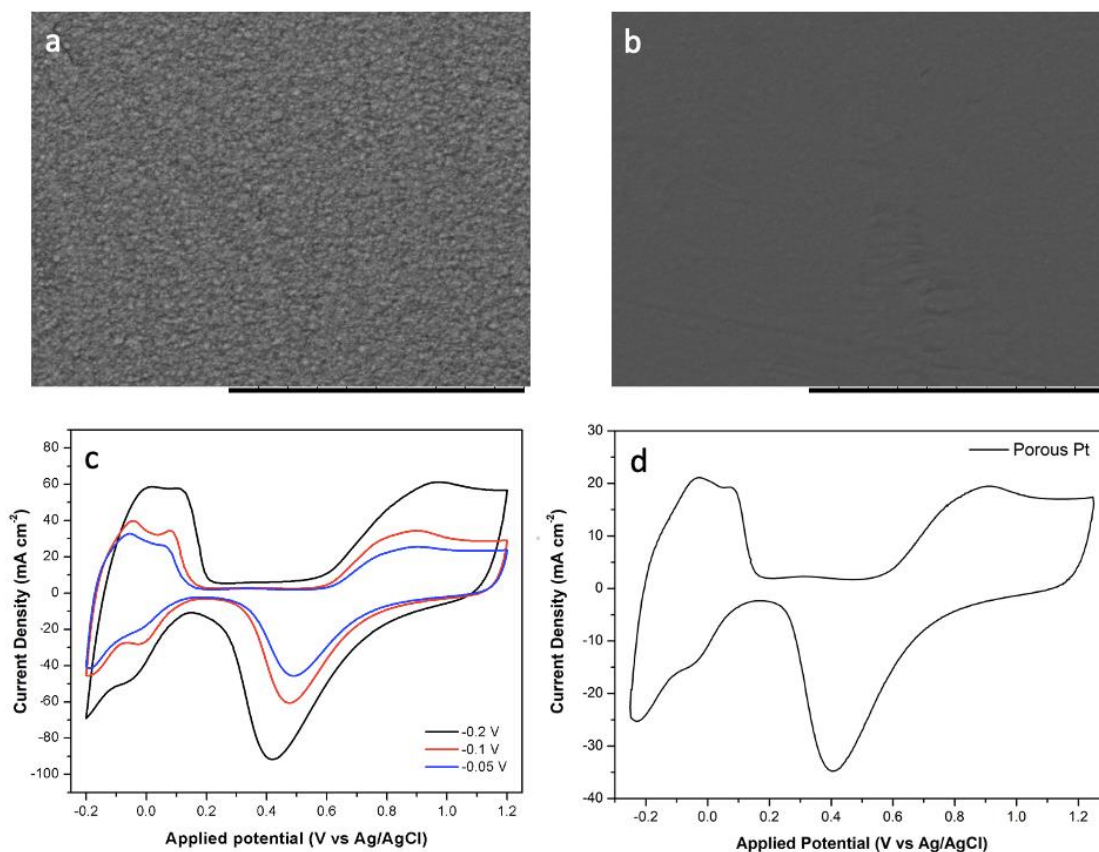
# **Nanoengineered Chiral Pt-Ir Alloys for High-Performance Enantioselective Electrosynthesis**

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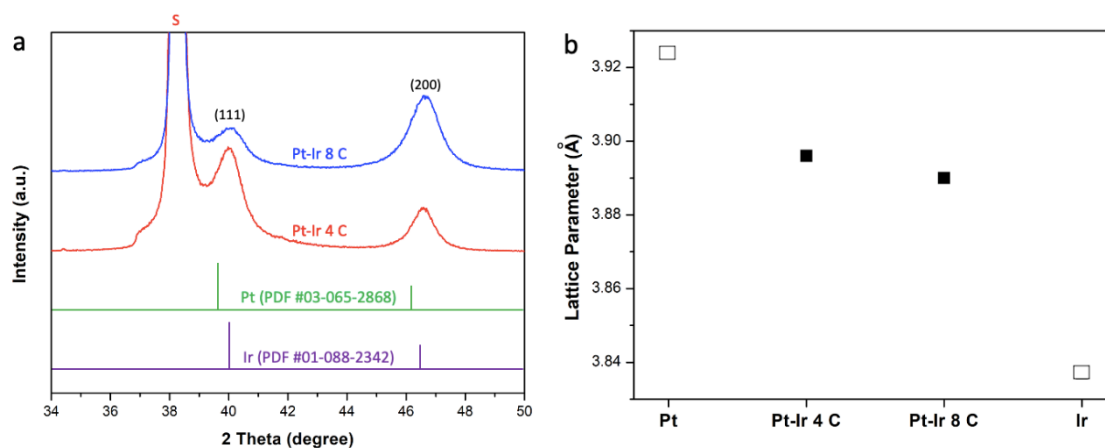
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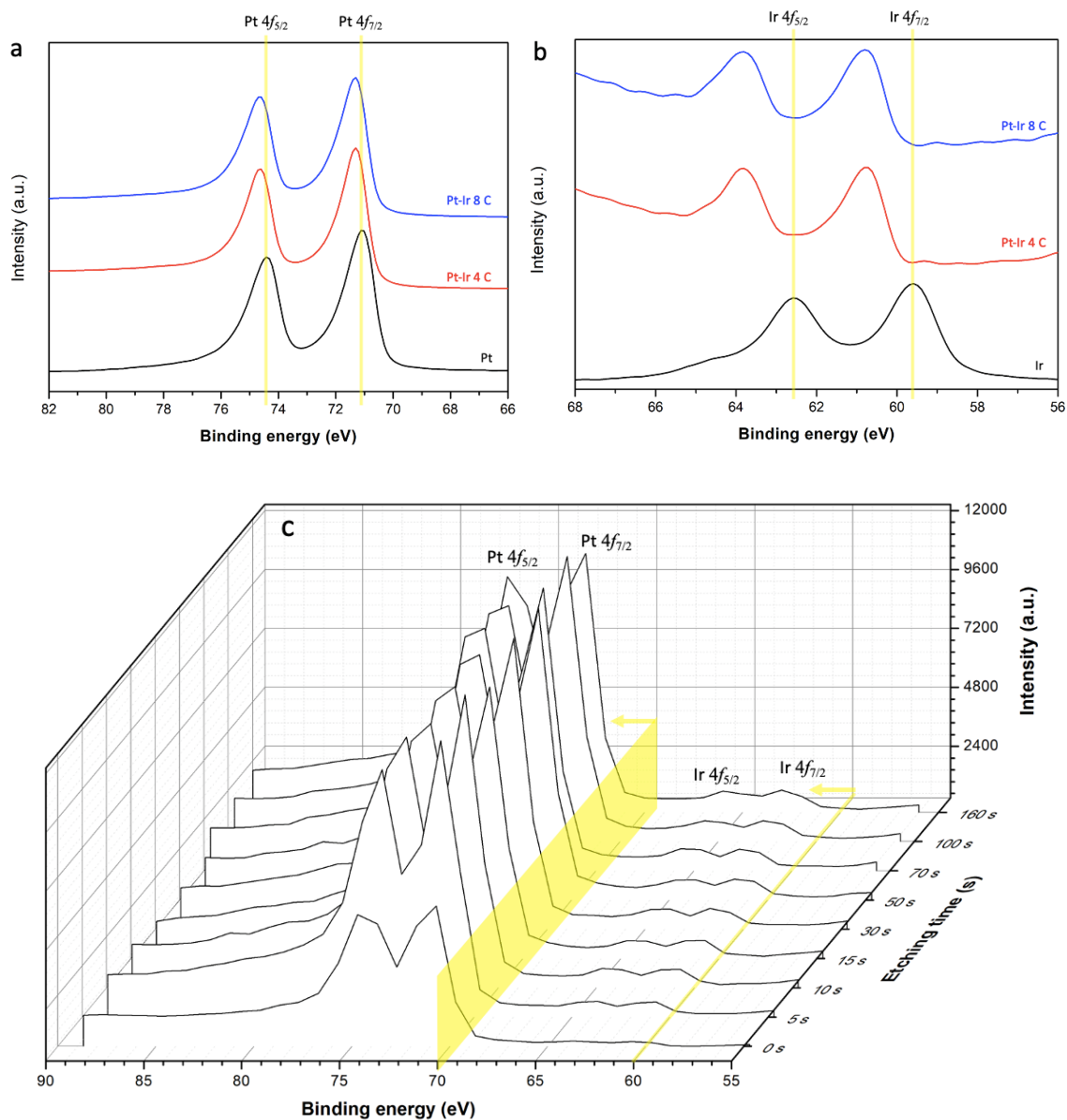
**Supplementary Fig. 1: Characterization of mesoporous Pt-Ir films**

**a** and **b** SEM images of mesoporous Pt-Ir electrodes deposited at -0.2 and -0.10 V, respectively, with a deposition charge density of 10 C cm<sup>-2</sup> (scale bar 10 μm). **c** Cyclic voltammograms (CV) of mesoporous Pt-Ir electrodes synthesized with different electrodeposition potentials with a deposition charge density of 10 C cm<sup>-2</sup>. **d** CV of a mesoporous monometallic Pt electrode with a deposition charge density of 8 C cm<sup>-2</sup>. All CVs were recorded in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> at a scan rate of 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.



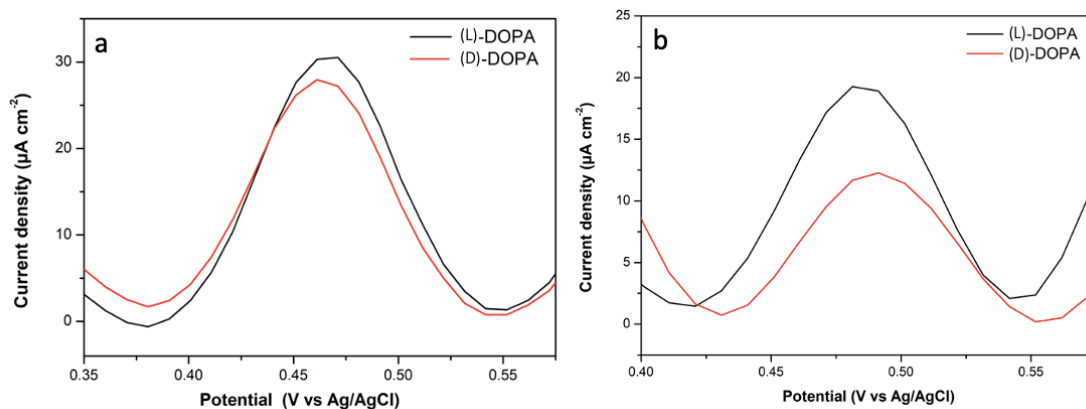
### Supplementary Fig. 2: XRD analysis

**a** XRD pattern of the deposited Pt-Ir alloys with different thickness corresponding to deposition charge densities of  $4 \text{ C cm}^{-2}$  (red) and  $8 \text{ C cm}^{-2}$  (blue), respectively. Reference data of standard Ir (purple) and Pt (green) fcc structures (Pt, PDF #03-065-2868; Ir, PDF #01-088-2342) are included for comparison. The signal of a gold-coated glass slide used as a substrate (labelled with “s”) is observed at 38 degree. **b** Relationship between lattice parameters of the pure metals and the Pt-Ir alloy samples with different thicknesses. The reference lattice parameters for Pt and Ir are taken from Ref. [1].



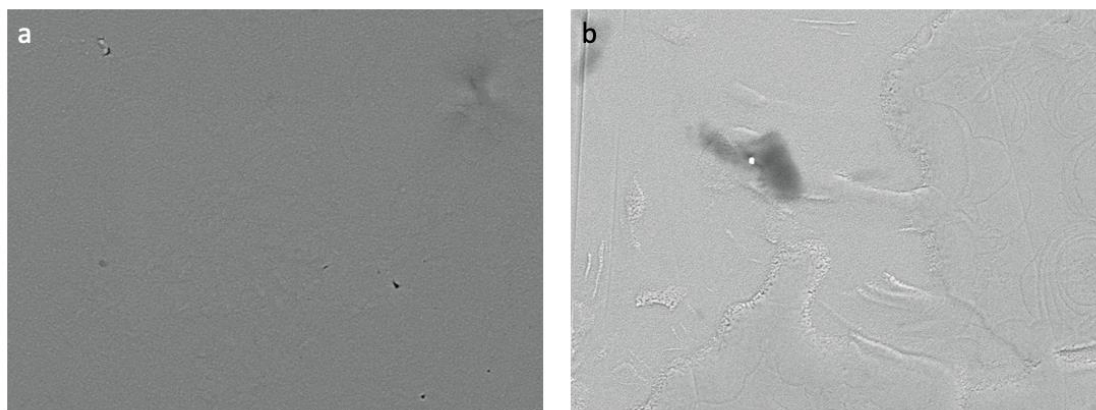
### Supplementary Fig. 3: XPS spectra of the electrodes

**a** XPS spectra of the Pt standard (black) as well as for Pt-Ir 4 C (red) and 8 C (blue) in the binding energy (BE) region of Pt. **b** XPS spectra of the Ir standard (black) as well as for Pt-Ir 4 C (red) and Pt-Ir 8 C (blue) in the BE region of Ir. **c** Depth-profile XPS spectra of the alloy Pt-Ir 8 C in the binding energy (BE) regions of Pt and Ir as a function of etching time ranging from 0 to 160 s. The yellow plane and line indicate the initial onset of the lower energy peak for Pt and Ir, respectively, before etching.



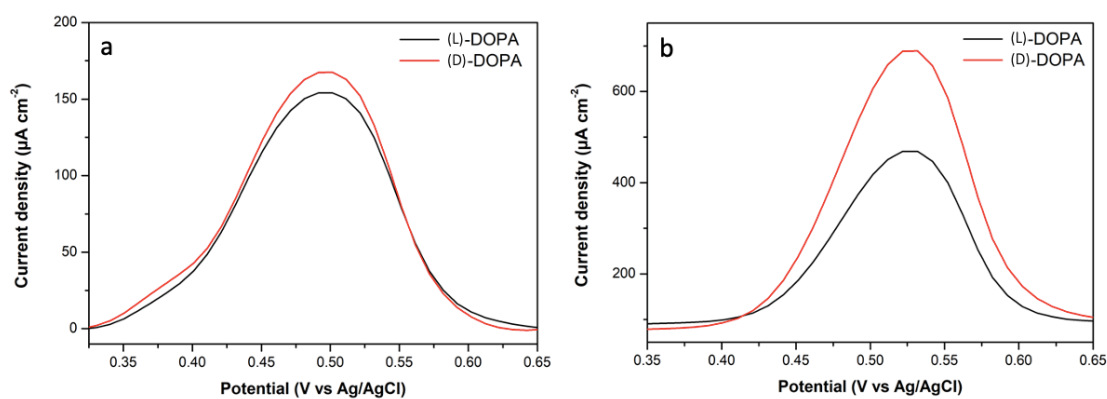
#### Supplementary Fig. 4: Selectivity comparison

Differential pulse voltammograms (DPVs) of the electrooxidation of 4 mM (L)-DOPA (black) and (D)-DOPA (red) in 50 mM HCl solution with different electrodes. **a** Non-imprinted mesoporous Pt-Ir. **b** Fresh (L)-DOPA imprinted mesoporous monometallic Pt.



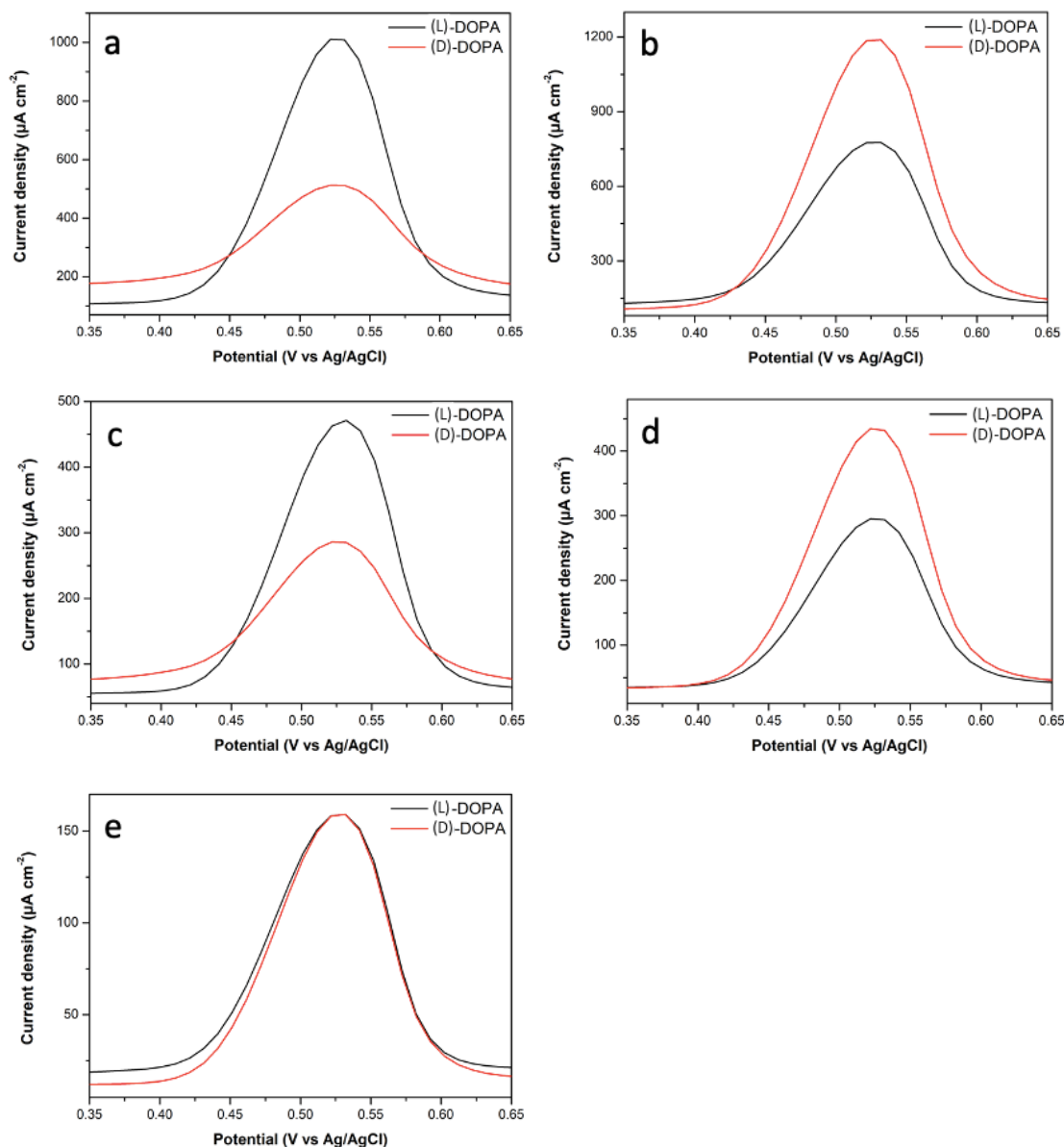
#### Supplementary Fig. 5: Surface morphology characterization

SEM images of porous metal electrodes obtained by electrodeposition with a deposition charge density of  $6 \text{ C cm}^{-2}$ . **a** Porous Pt-Ir alloy. **b** Porous monometallic Pt electrode (scale bars of  $20 \mu\text{m}$ ).



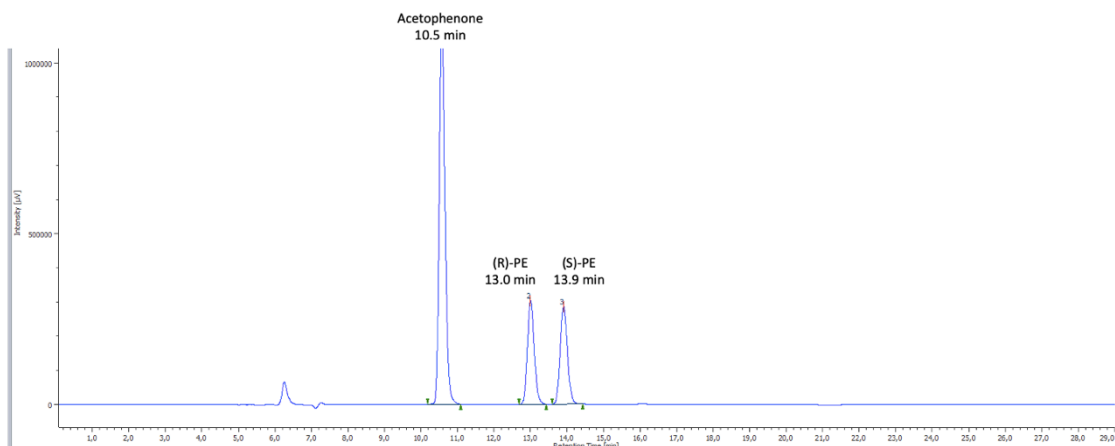
### Supplementary Fig. 6: Stability of enantioselective detection

Differential pulse voltammograms (DPVs) of the electrooxidation of 4 mM (L)-DOPA (black) and (D)-DOPA (red) in 50 mM HCl solution for different electrodes. **a** (L)-DOPA imprinted mesoporous monometallic Pt. **b** (D)-DOPA imprinted mesoporous Pt-Ir after cycling the potential of both electrodes ten times in the range from -0.20 to 1.20 V in 0.5 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .



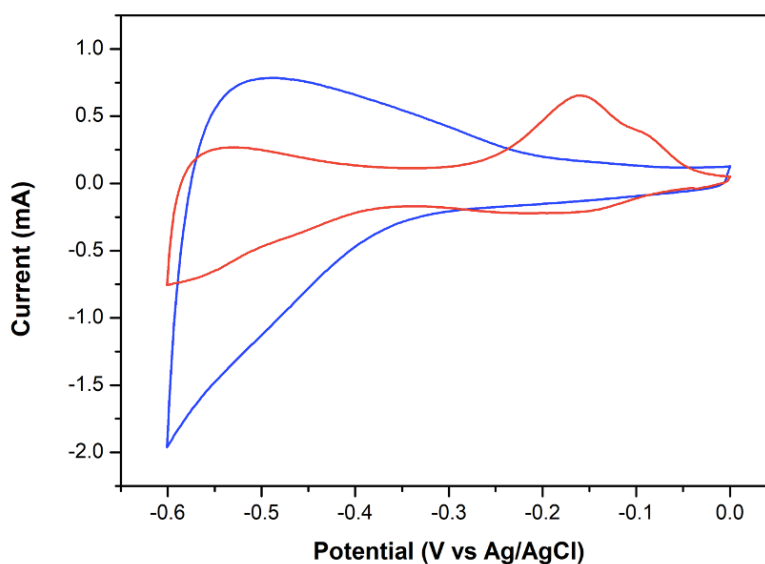
### Supplementary Fig. 7: Stability of enantioselectivity under harsh conditions

Differential pulse voltammograms (DPVs) of the electrooxidation of 4 mM (L)-DOPA (black) and (D)-DOPA (red) in 50 mM HCl solution for different Pt-Ir electrodes. **a** and **b** (L)- DOPA and (D)- DOPA imprinted mesoporous Pt-Ir after running 20 cycles from -0.20 to 1.20 V. **c** and **d** (L)- DOPA and (D)- DOPA imprinted mesoporous Pt-Ir after erasing chiral information for 30 cycles from -0.20 to 1.40 V; **e** (D)- DOPA imprinted mesoporous Pt-Ir after erasing chiral features for 40 cycles from -0.20 to 1.80 V. All cycling experiments for erasing chiral information were performed by CV in 0.5 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .



### Supplementary Fig. 8: HPLC characterisation of the reaction products

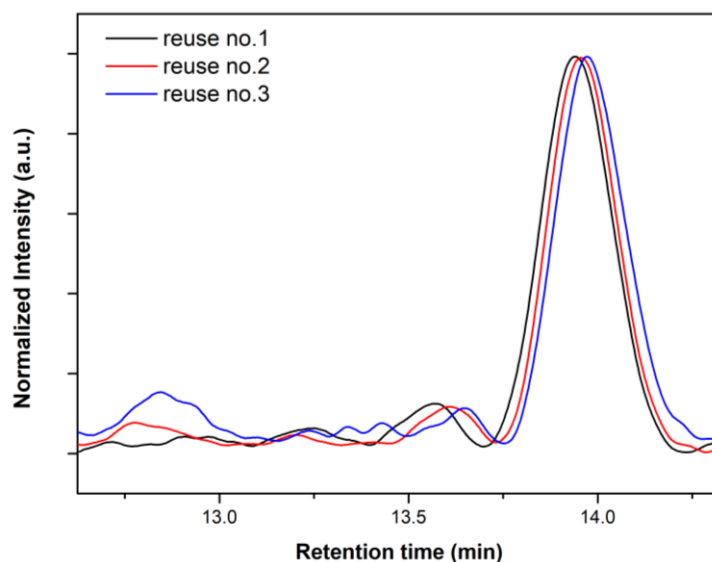
Product solution after electroreduction of acetophenone using a non-imprinted porous Pt-Ir alloy as working electrode. Retention times of acetophenone, (R)-PE and (S)-PE are 10.5, 13.0 and 13.9 min, respectively. The reaction was performed by pulsed electro-synthesis with a pulse and relaxation time of 20 and 60 s, respectively. The conversion of acetophenone to PE is 39%.



### Supplementary Fig. 9: Determination of electroreduction onset potential

Cyclic voltammograms (scan rate of 100 mV/s) of a mesoporous Pt-Ir electrode in 1 M NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (red) and in a solution containing also 40 mM acetophenone (blue), pH 5.0. The onset potential for the reduction of acetophenone is in the range from -0.3 to -0.4 V.





**Supplementary Fig. 10: Selectivity stability for chiral electrosynthesis**

HPLC chromatograms of product solution obtained from pulsed electrosynthesis when reusing the same (S)-PE imprinted Pt-Ir electrode for three subsequent experiments.

**Supplementary Table 1: Optimization of electrodeposition conditions**

Effect of electrodeposition potential and deposition charge density on the morphology and elemental composition of mesoporous Pt-Ir electrodes. Pt and Ir at% values are estimated from EDS-SEM measurements. The roughness factor is calculated by dividing the electrochemically active surface by the geometrical area ( $0.25 \text{ cm}^2$  in all cases) of the electrode. The roughness factor of the mesoporous Pt electrode of Supplementary Fig. 1d is also calculated to compare with mesoporous Pt-Ir obtained with the same deposition charge density of  $8 \text{ C cm}^{-2}$ . The values for Pt and Pt-Ir are 324 and 400, respectively.

| Applied potential (V) | Charge density ( $\text{C cm}^{-2}$ ) | Real surface areas ( $S_r, \text{cm}^2$ ) | Roughness factor | Pt (at%) | Ir (at%) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------|----------|----------|
| -0.20                 | 10                                    | 649                                       | 2,596            | 100.0    | -        |
| -0.10                 | 10                                    | 384                                       | 1,536            | 100.0    | -        |
| -0.05                 | 10                                    | 354                                       | 1,416            | 99.5     | 0.5      |
| -0.05                 | 8                                     | 100                                       | 400              | 97.5     | 2.5      |
| -0.05                 | 6                                     | 66  | 264              | 97.0     | 3.0      |

**Supplementary Table 2: Elemental analysis**

As EDS is not perfectly well-suited for quantitative elemental analysis, due to a detection which is limited to selected and outermost areas of a sample, further quantitative analysis of the Pt-Ir samples was carried out with XPS and ICP-OES.

| Samples   | Elements | Theoretical at% | at% from EDS | at% from XPS | at% from ICP-OES |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|
| Pt-Ir 4 C | Pt       | 85.00           | 95.0         | 89.0         | 90.5             |
|           | Ir       | 15.00           | 5.0          | 11.0         | 9.5              |
| Pt-Ir 8 C | Pt       | 85.00           | 97.5         | 91.5         | 90.7             |
|           | Ir       | 15.00           | 2.5          | 8.5          | 9.3              |

**Supplementary Table 3: Stability characterisation during electrosynthesis**

Rounded relative electrooxidation peak areas of the different chiral imprinted electrodes extracted from DPVs. Peak areas of either (L)-DOPA or (D)-DOPA signals were calculated with OriginPro version 8.5.  $A_L/A_D$  is determined for (L)-DOPA imprinted electrodes, while  $A_D/A_L$  is calculated for (D)-DOPA imprinted electrodes.

| Electrodes                             | Peak Area of (L)-DOPA ( $A_L$ ) | Peak Area of (D)-DOPA ( $A_D$ ) | Relative peak area |           |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
|  |                                 |                                 | $A_L/A_D$          | $A_D/A_L$ |
| (L)-DOPAPt                             | 0.0003                          | 0.0002                          | 1.5                | -         |
| Erased (L)-DOPA Pt after 10 cycles     | 0.0486                          | 0.0518                          | 0.9                | -         |
| (L)-DOPAPt-Ir                          | 0.0246                          | 0.0017                          | 14.5               | -         |
| Erased (L)-DOPA Pt -Ir after 10 cycles | 0.2409                          | 0.1817                          | 1.3                | -         |
| Erased (L)-DOPA Pt -Ir after 20 cycles | 0.2853                          | 0.2173                          | 1.3                | -         |
| Erased (L)-DOPA Pt -Ir after 30 cycles | 0.1355                          | 0.1088                          | 1.2                | -         |
| Erased (L)-DOPA Pt -Ir after 40 cycles | 0.0993                          | 0.0982                          | 1.0                | -         |
| (D)-DOPAPt-Ir                          | 0.0021                          | 0.0284                          | -                  | 13.5      |
| Erased (D)-DOPA Pt -Ir after 10 cycles | 0.1578                          | 0.2129                          | -                  | 1.4       |
| Erased (D)-DOPA Pt -Ir after 20 cycles | 0.2479                          | 0.3404                          | -                  | 1.4       |
| Erased (D)-DOPA Pt -Ir after 30 cycles | 0.0865                          | 0.1190                          | -                  | 1.3       |
| Erased (D)-DOPA Pt -Ir after 40 cycles | 0.0466                          | 0.0432                          | -                  | 0.9       |

**Supplementary Table 4: pH studies**

Effect of pH on product selectivity for the electroreduction of acetophenone with a (S)-PE imprinted Pt-Ir electrode.

| <b>pH of reactant solution</b> | <b>Applied Potentials (V vs. Ag/AgCl)</b> | <b>%Enantiomeric excess of (S)-PE</b> |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 5.0                            | -0.40                                     | 28                                    |
| 4.0                            | -0.35                                     | 49                                    |
| 3.0                            | -0.30                                     | 24                                    |
| 2.0                            | -0.30                                     | 2                                     |

**Supplementary References**

- [1] Wu, F. *et al.* Electrodeposition of Pt–Ir alloys on nickel-base single crystal superalloy TMS-75. *Surf. Coat. Technol.* **184**, 24–30 (2004).