

Supporting Information for:

Preparation and characterization of crosslinked poly(vinylimidazolium) anion exchange membranes for artificial photosynthesis

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Fig. S1. ¹H (500 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound **ii**

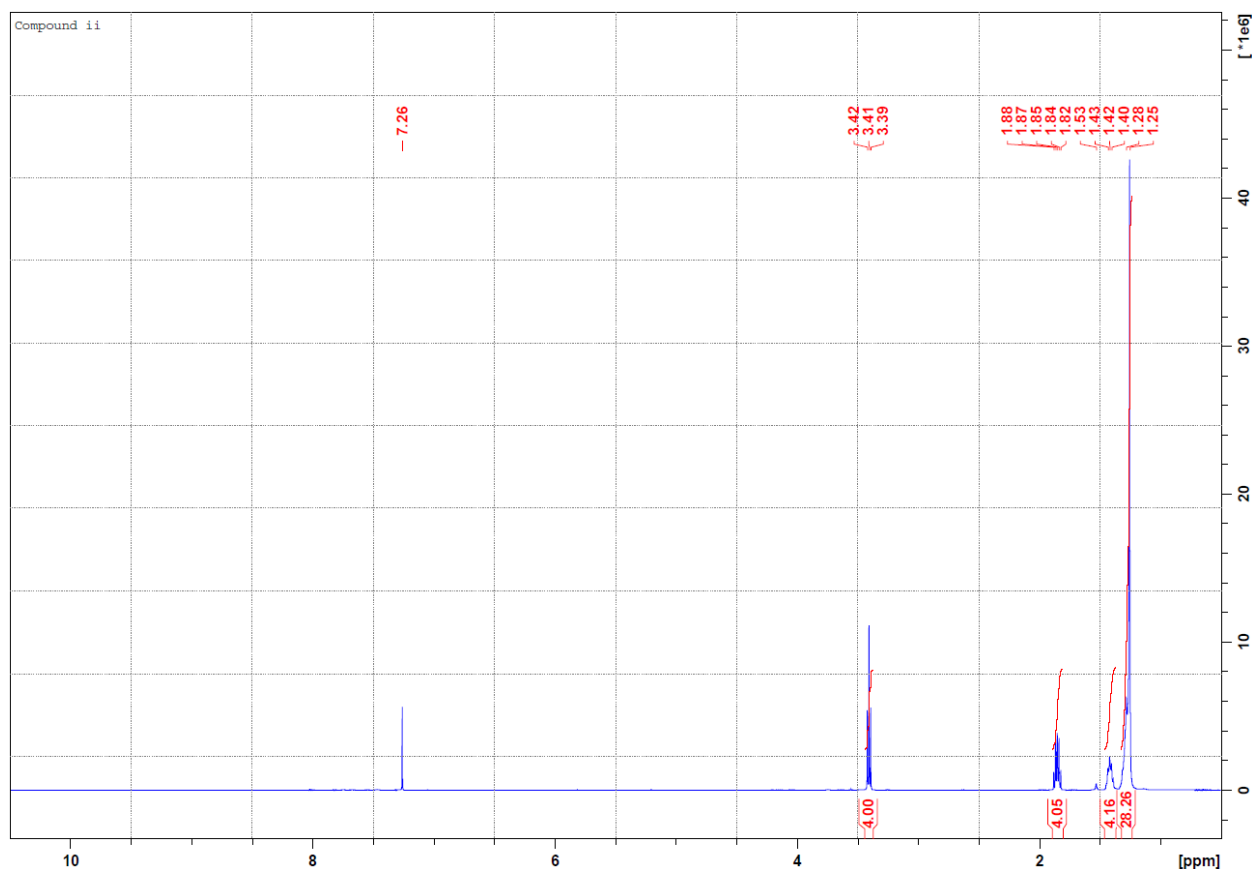


Fig. S2. ^{13}C (500 MHz, CDCl_3) of compound **ii**

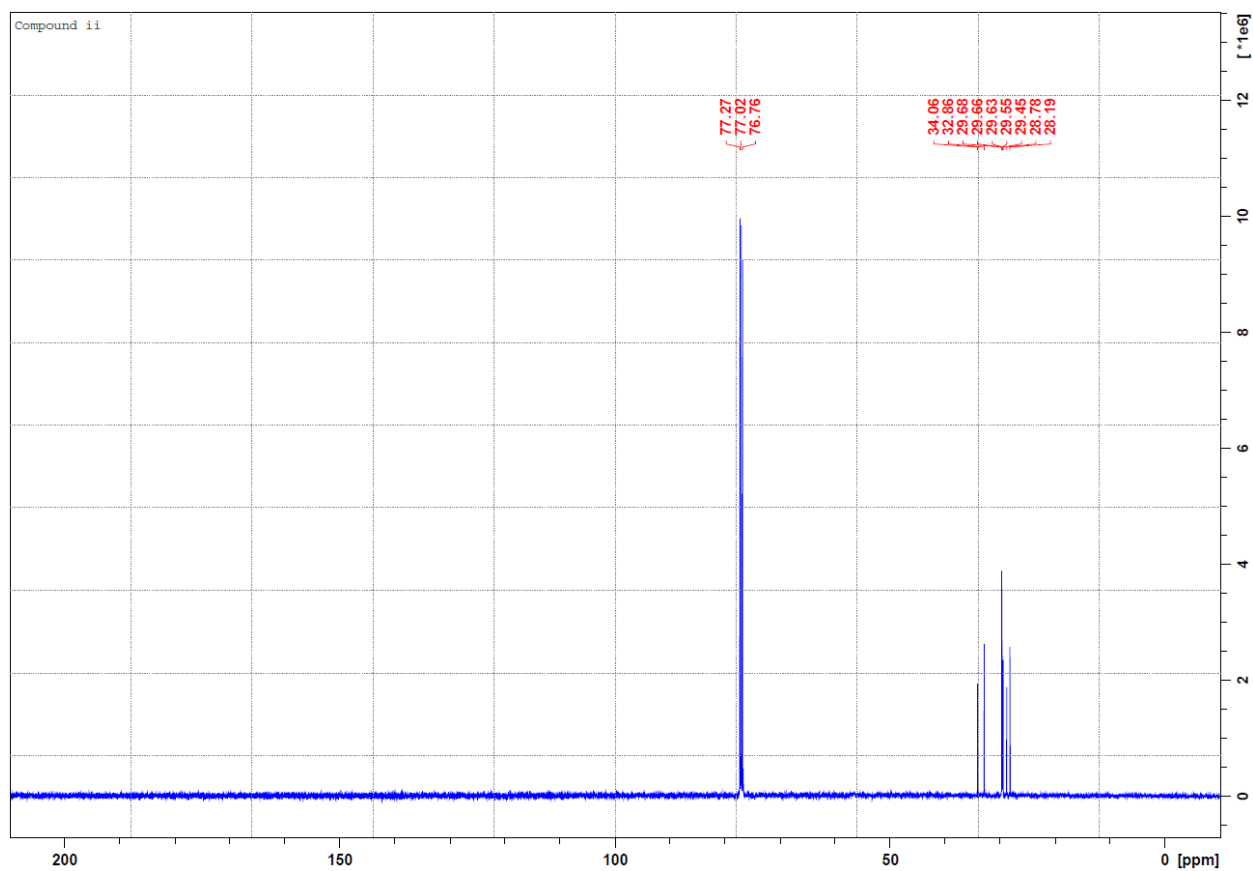


Fig. S3. ^1H (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) of monomer **1**

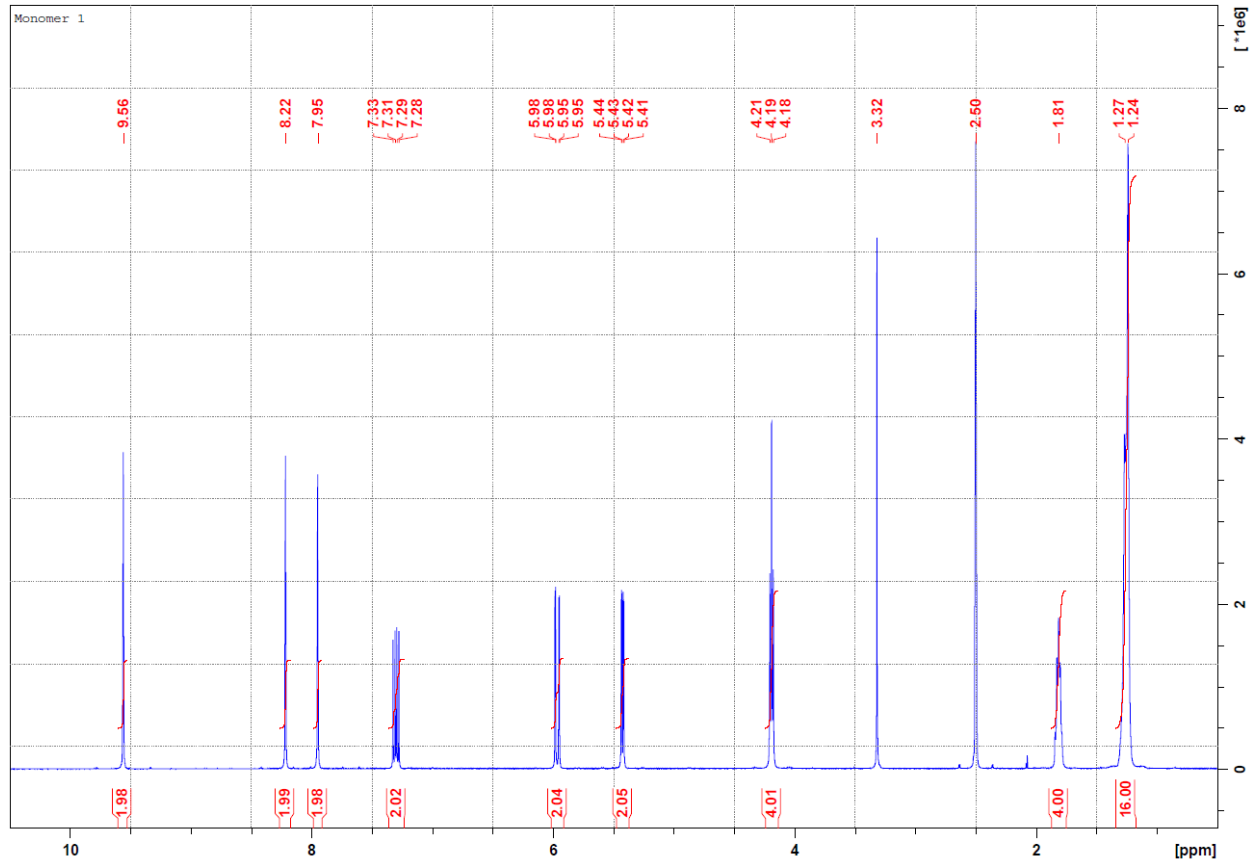


Fig. S4. ^{13}C (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) of monomer **1**

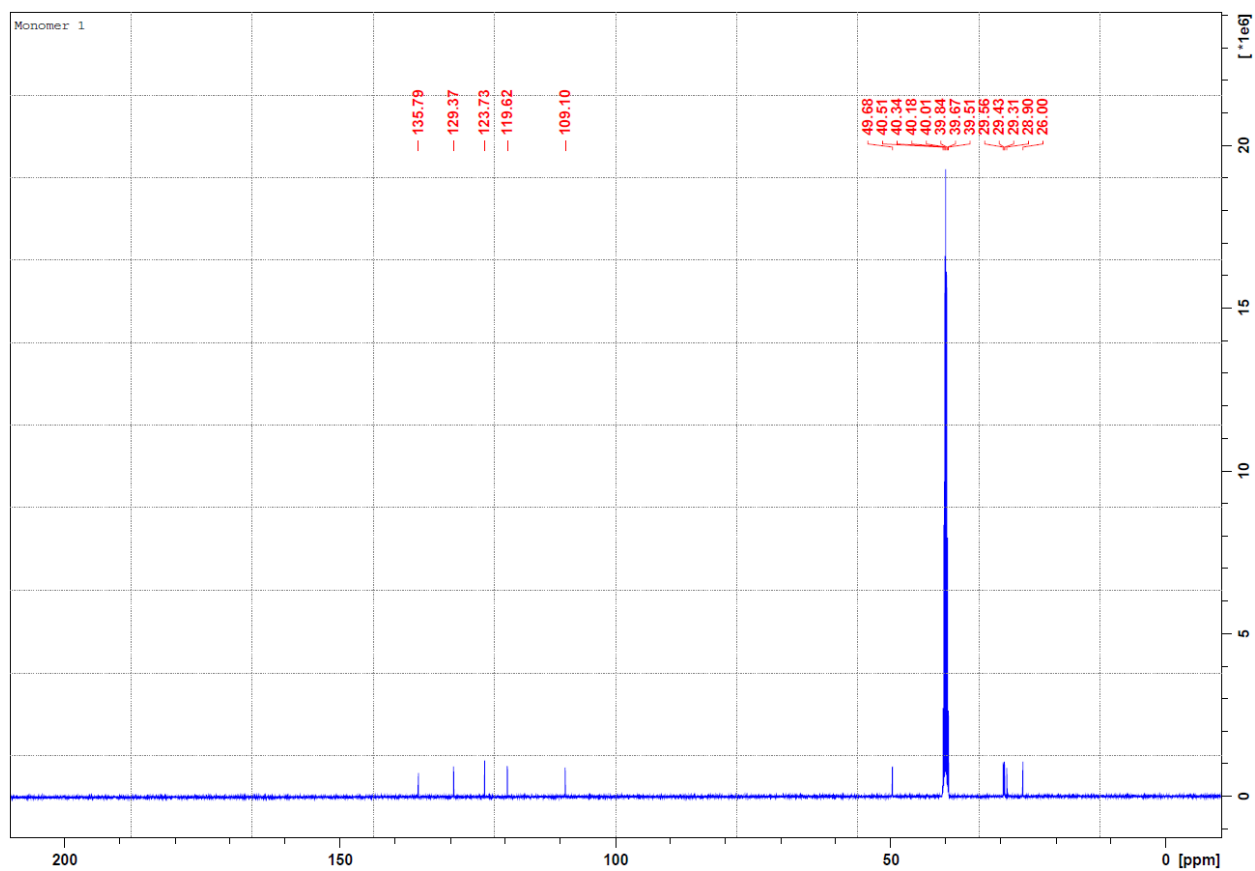


Fig. S5. ^1H (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) of monomer **2**

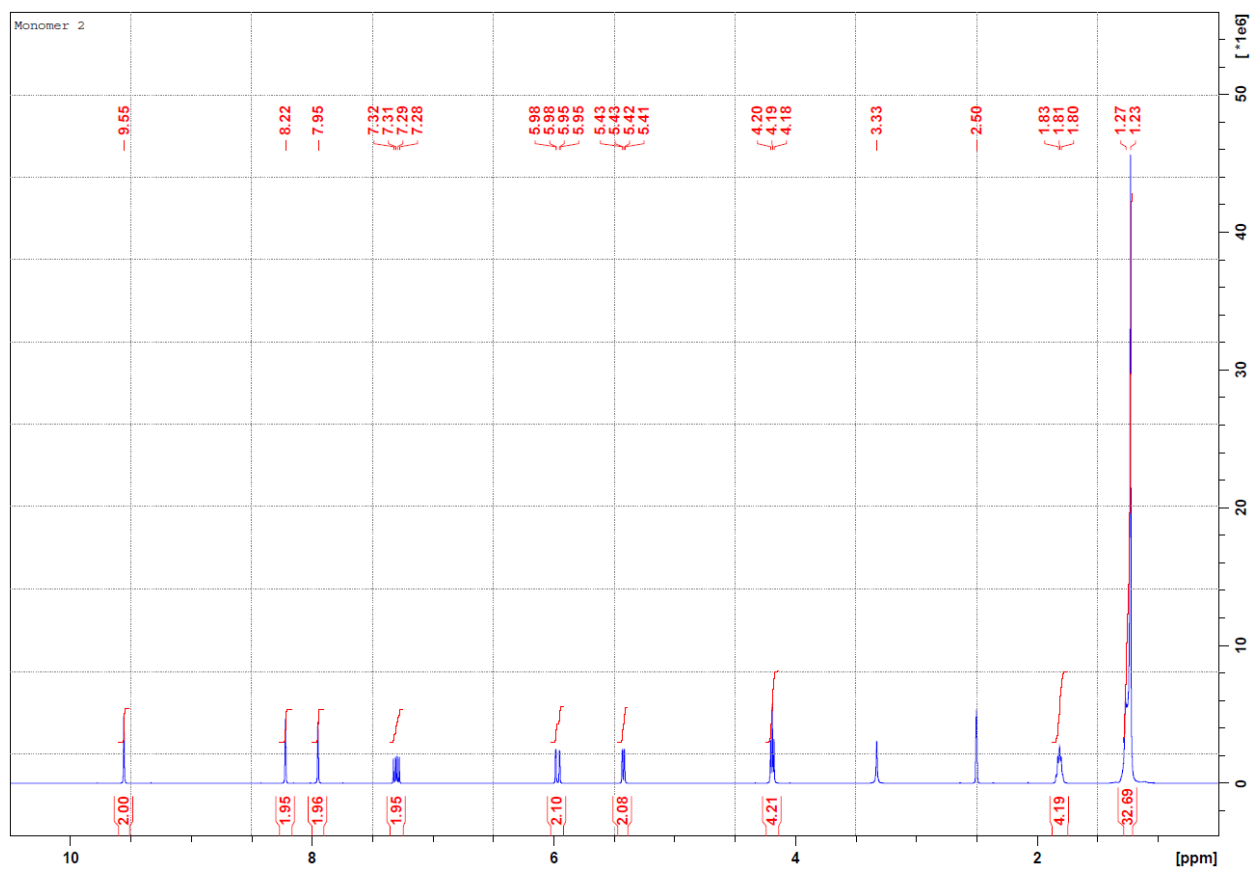


Fig. S6. ^{13}C (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) of monomer **2**

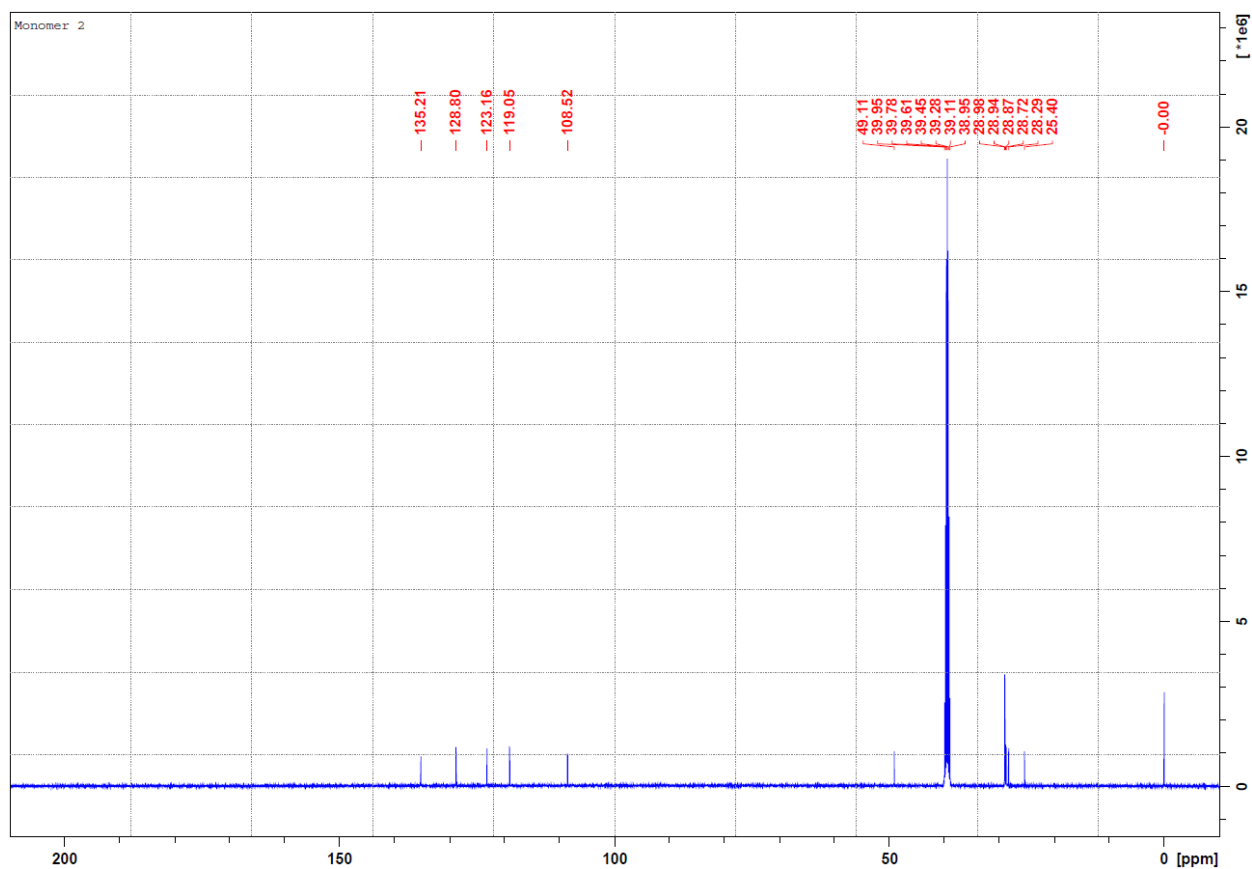
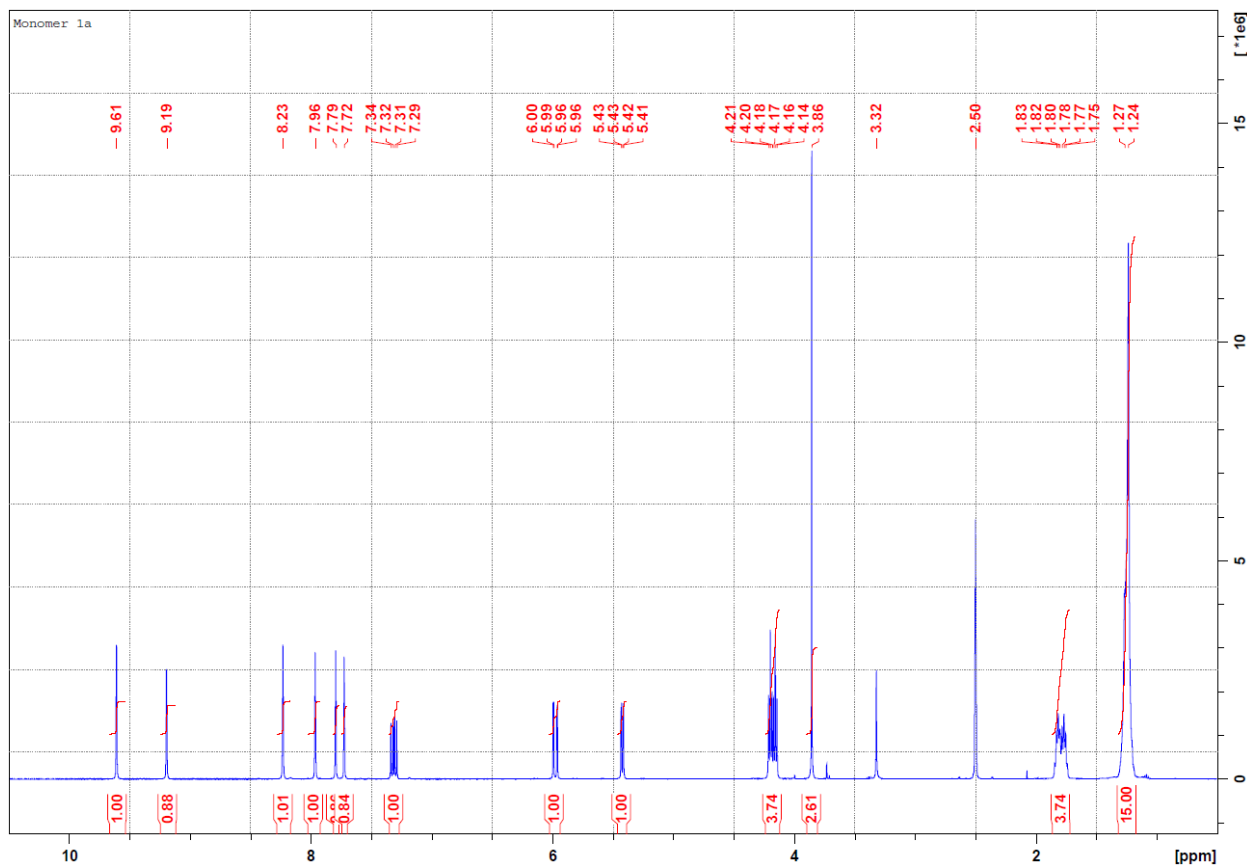


Fig. S7. ^1H (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) of monomer **1a**



Due to the non-selective chemistry, the first reaction step produces monomer **1** that cannot be separated from monomer **1a**. Since monomer **1a** contains a unique CH proton at 9.19 ppm, but both monomer **1** and **1a** contain a CH proton at 9.61 ppm, the ratio of monomer **1a** and **1** is given by:

$$\frac{\text{monomer } \mathbf{1a}}{\text{monomer } \mathbf{1}} = \frac{I_{\text{CH at } 9.19 \text{ ppm}}}{(I_{\text{CH at } 9.61 \text{ ppm}} - I_{\text{CH at } 9.19 \text{ ppm}})/2}$$

The mol % of monomer **1a** can be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{monomer } \mathbf{1a} \text{ (mol \%)} &= \frac{I_{\text{CH at } 9.19 \text{ ppm}}}{I_{\text{CH at } 9.19 \text{ ppm}} + (I_{\text{CH at } 9.61 \text{ ppm}} - I_{\text{CH at } 9.19 \text{ ppm}})/2} \\ &= \frac{2 I_{\text{CH at } 9.19 \text{ ppm}}}{I_{\text{CH at } 9.19 \text{ ppm}} + I_{\text{CH at } 9.61 \text{ ppm}}} \end{aligned}$$

Fig. S8. ^{13}C (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) of monomer **1a**

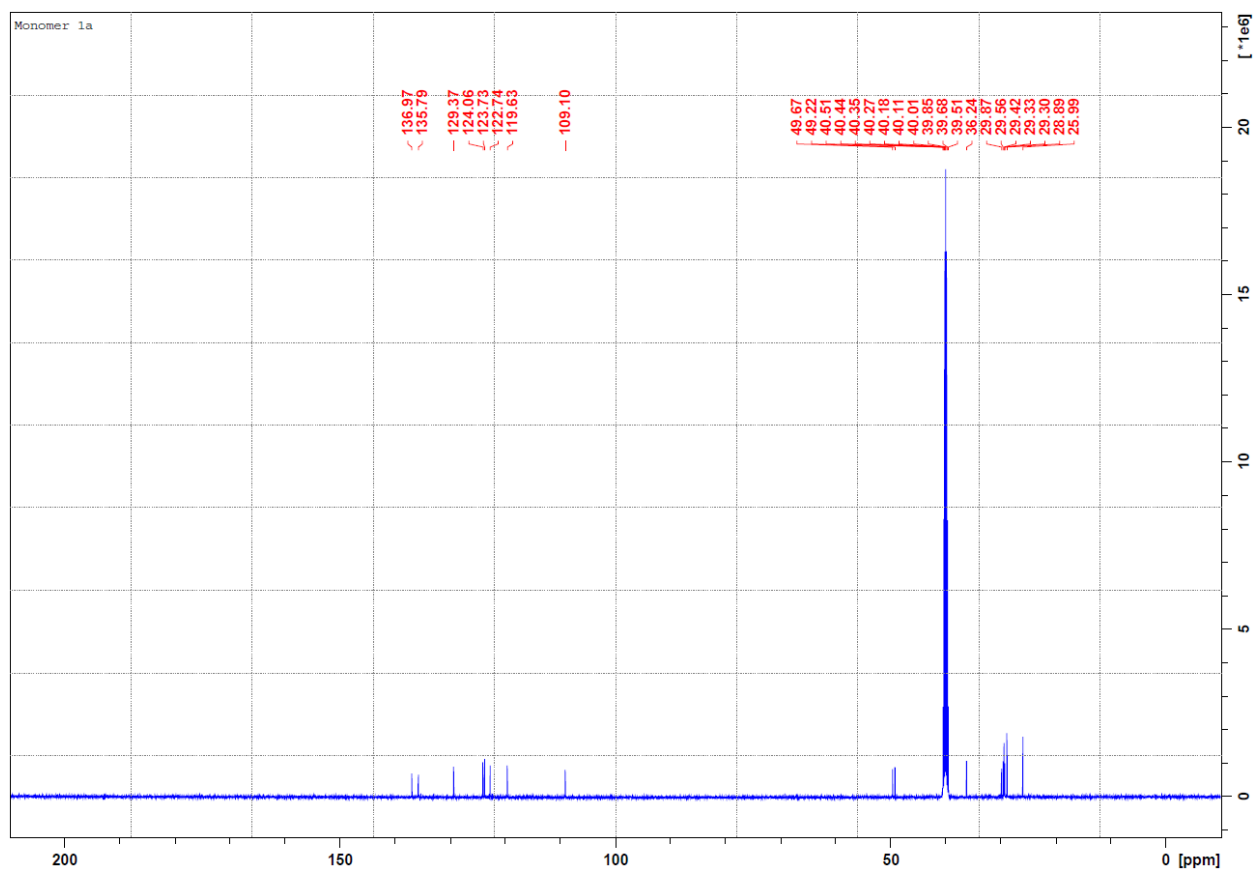
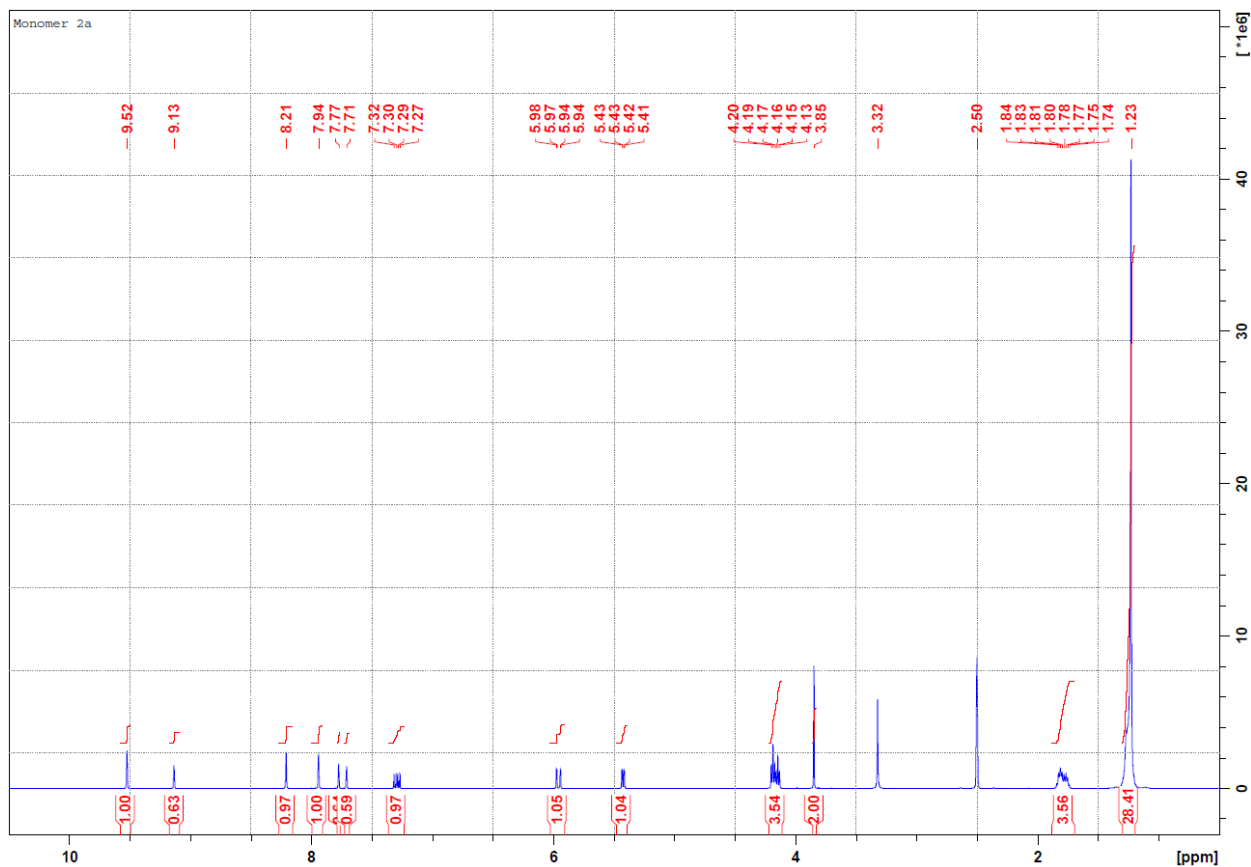


Fig. S9. ^1H (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) of monomer **2a**



Due to the non-selective chemistry, the first reaction step produces monomer **2** that cannot be separated from monomer **2a**. Since monomer **2a** contains a unique CH proton at 9.13 ppm, but both monomer **2** and **2a** contain a CH proton at 9.52 ppm, the ratio of monomer **2a** and **2** is given by:

$$\frac{\text{monomer } \mathbf{2a}}{\text{monomer } \mathbf{2}} = \frac{I_{\text{CH at } 9.13 \text{ ppm}}}{(I_{\text{CH at } 9.52 \text{ ppm}} - I_{\text{CH at } 9.13 \text{ ppm}})/2}$$

The mol % of monomer **2a** can be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{monomer } \mathbf{2a} \text{ (mol \%)} &= \frac{I_{\text{CH at } 9.13 \text{ ppm}}}{I_{\text{CH at } 9.13 \text{ ppm}} + (I_{\text{CH at } 9.52 \text{ ppm}} - I_{\text{CH at } 9.13 \text{ ppm}})/2} \\ &= \frac{2 I_{\text{CH at } 9.13 \text{ ppm}}}{I_{\text{CH at } 9.13 \text{ ppm}} + I_{\text{CH at } 9.52 \text{ ppm}}} \end{aligned}$$

Fig. S10. ^{13}C (500 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$) of monomer **2a**

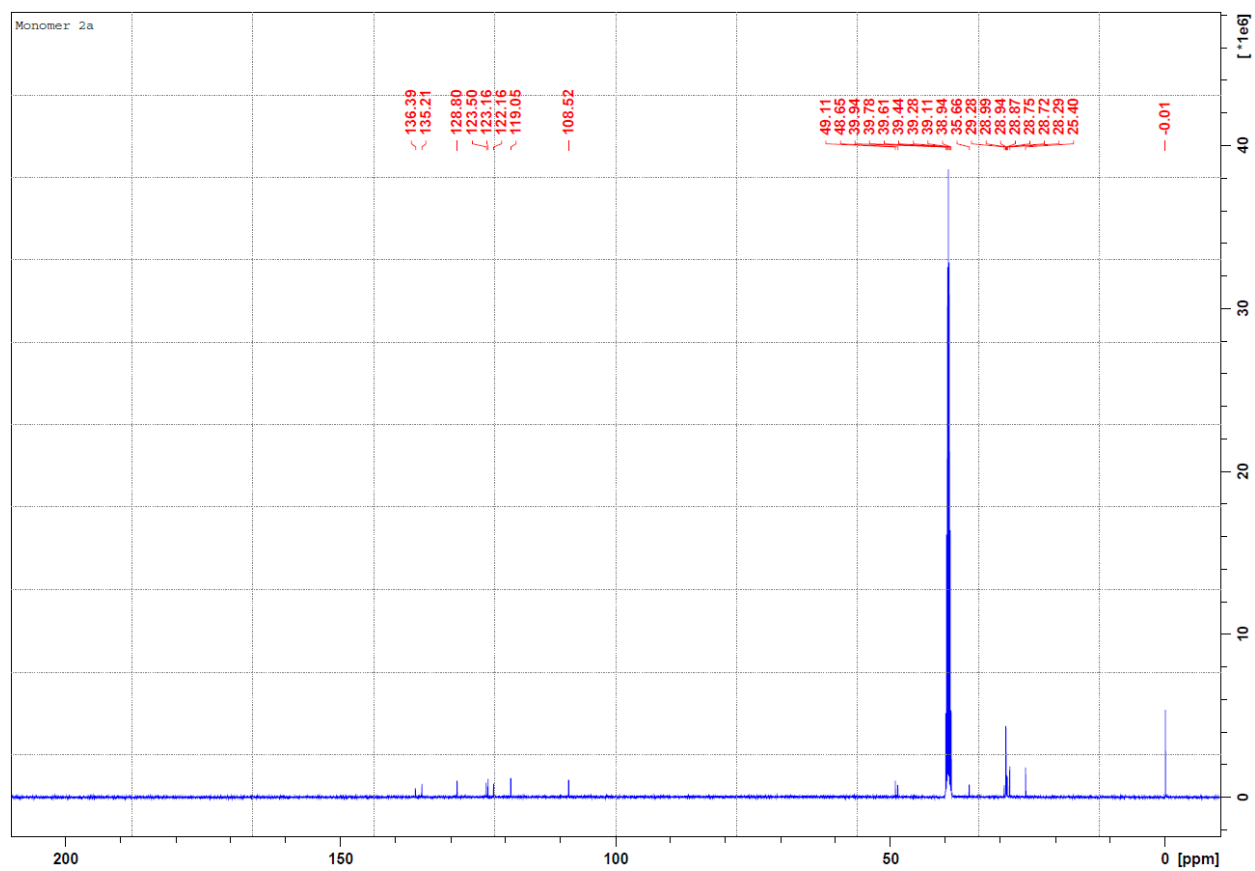


Fig. S11. Temperatures used to prepare membranes at different prepolymerization solvent contents. Curing was performed by photopolymerization.

Prepolymerization solvent content (wt. %)	Solvent	Monomer	Polymerization temperature (°C)
12.50	Water	1 or 1a	80
25.00	Water	1 or 1a	20
37.50	Water	1 or 1a	20
50.00	Water	1 or 1a	20
31.25	Methanol	1 or 1a	45
37.50	Methanol	1 or 1a	35
43.75	Methanol	1 or 1a	35
50.00	Methanol	1 or 1a	25
25.00	Methanol	2 or 2a	40
31.25	Methanol	2 or 2a	35
37.50	Methanol	2 or 2a	35
50.00	Methanol	2 or 2a	25

Fig. S12. Representative ATR FTIR spectra of monomer **1** before and after polymerization. Polymer was dried in a vacuum oven to remove solvent prior to measurement.

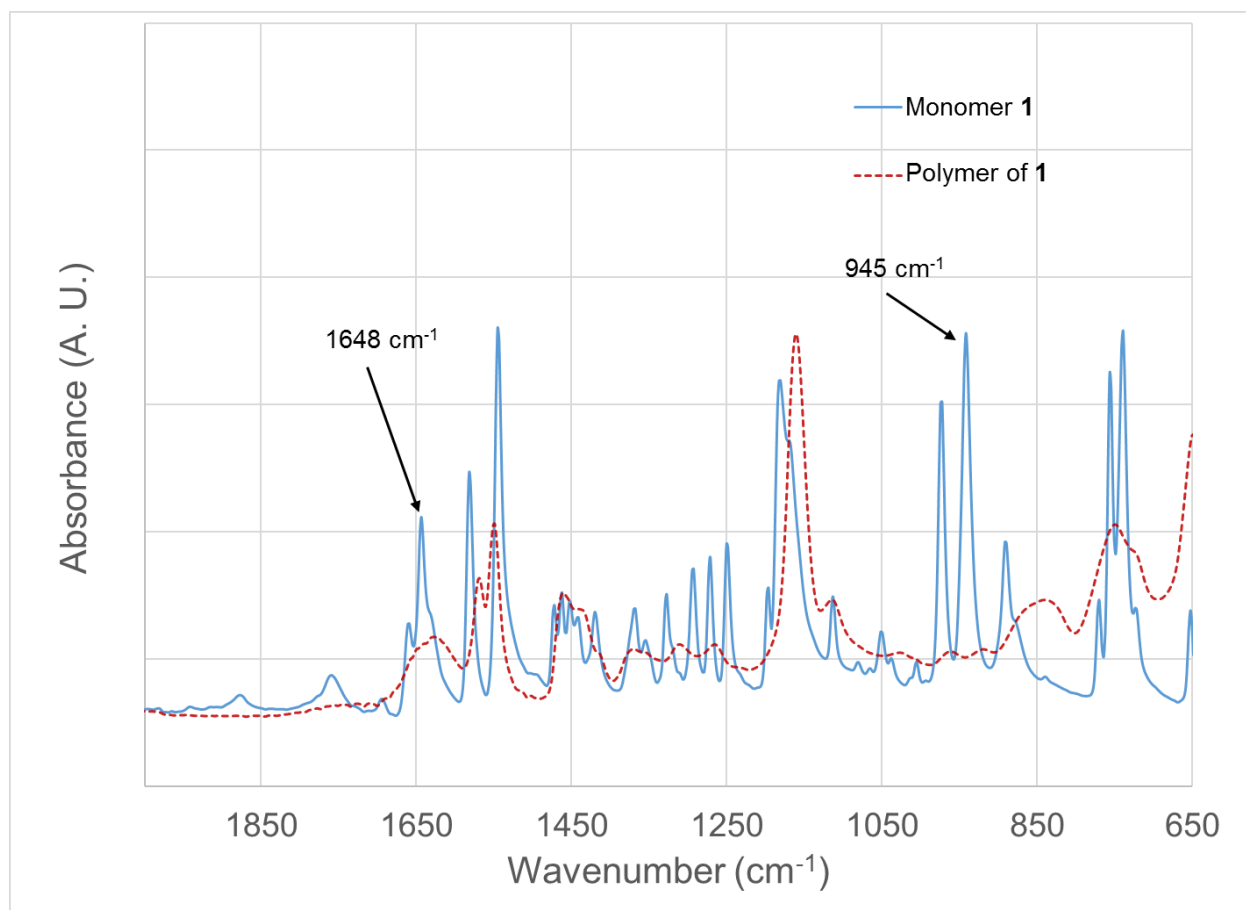


Fig. S13. Representative ATR FTIR spectra of monomer **2** before and after polymerization. Polymer was dried in a vacuum oven to remove solvent prior to measurement.

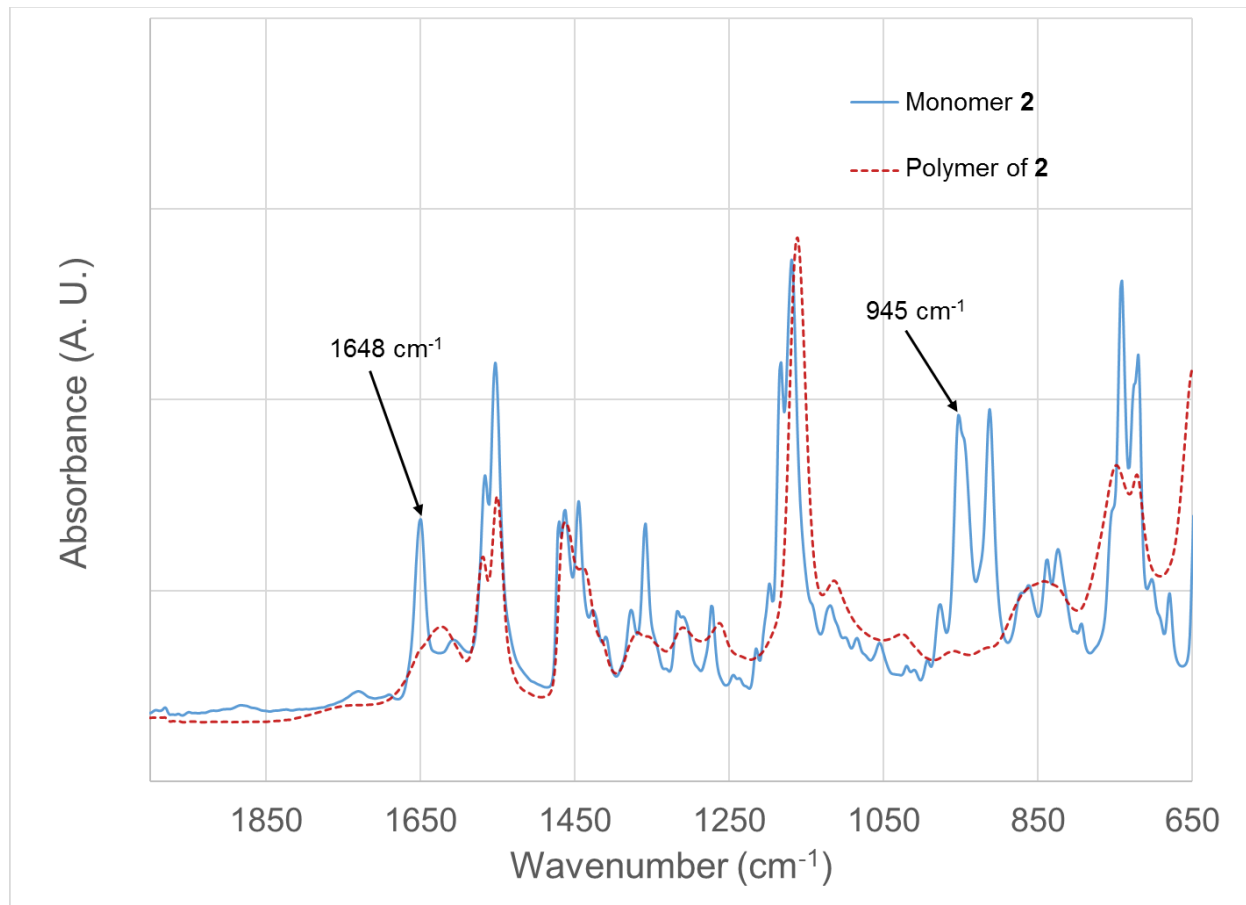


Fig. S14. Representative ATR FTIR spectra of monomer **1** and **1a** before and after polymerization. Polymers were dried in a vacuum oven to remove solvent prior to measurement.

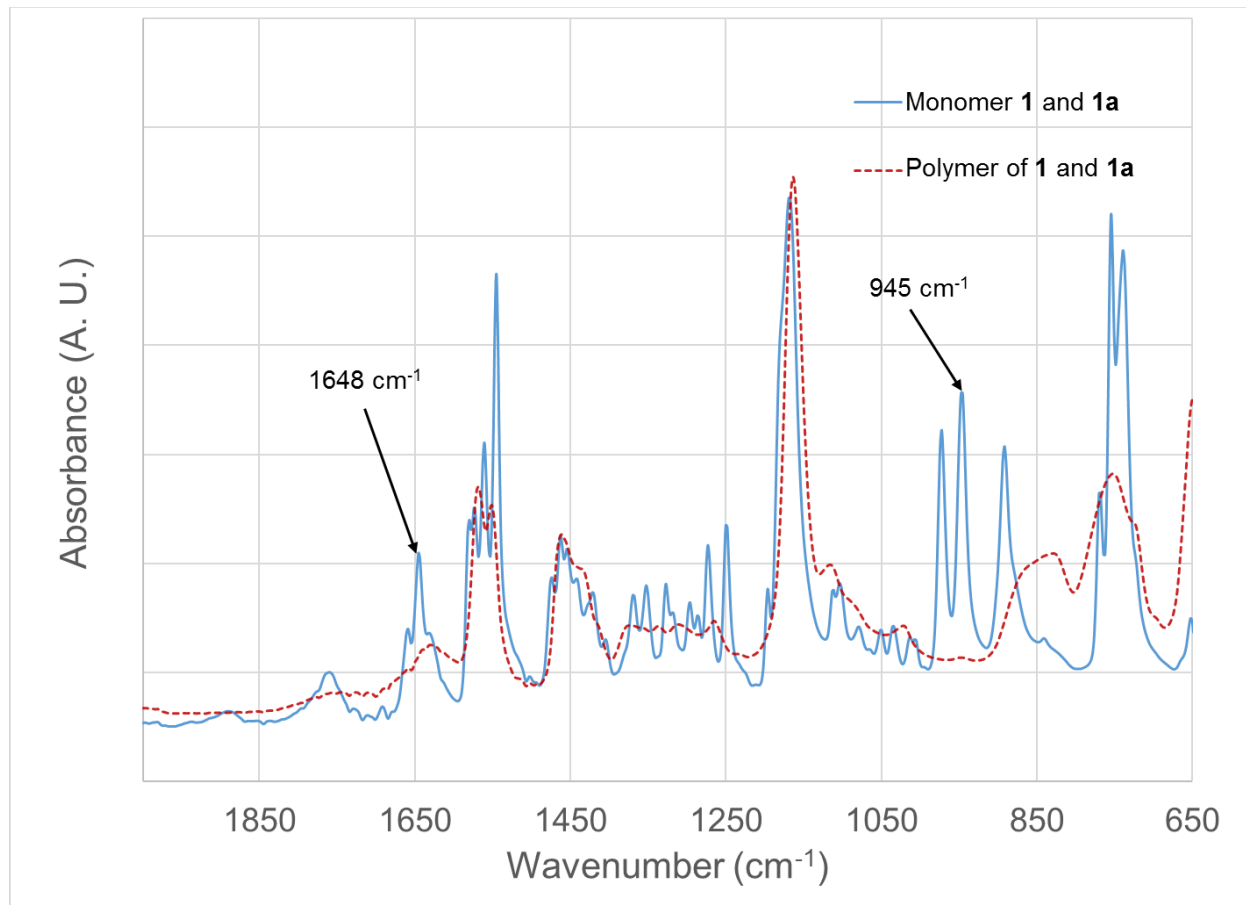
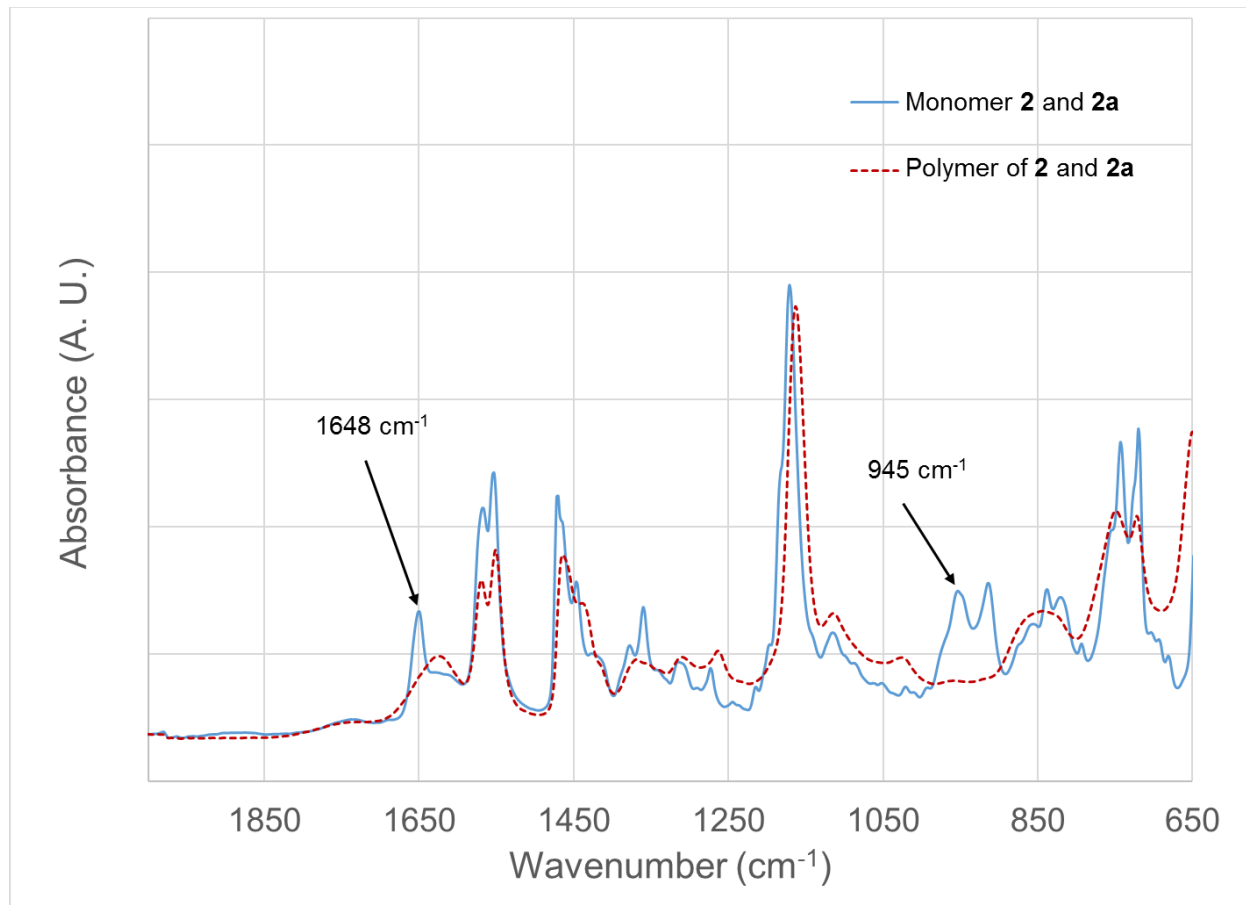


Fig. S15. Representative ATR FTIR spectra of monomer **2** and **2a** before and after polymerization. Polymers were dried in a vacuum oven to remove solvent prior to measurement.



2.10 Thermal characterization

Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) was performed on dried polymer films using a TA Instruments Q20 (New Castle, DE). All samples were dried under vacuum (< 1 Torr, $40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) for a minimum of 24 h before analysis. To erase the thermal history of the samples, they were heated to $200\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ at $10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$ or $20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$, held isothermally for 5 min, and then cooled to $-80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ at $5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$ or $10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$ and held isothermally for 5 min. This cycle was repeated and the second cycle was used for analysis.

Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was performed on dry polymer films using a TA Instruments Q50 (New Castle, DE). All samples were dried under vacuum (< 1 Torr, $40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) for a minimum of 24 h before analysis. Samples were equilibrated at $25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, then heated to $500\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ at $5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$ and held isothermally for 5 min.