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Supporting Information

Instrumentation and materials

All manipulations were carried out using Schlenk techniques under an atmosphere of argon.

2,4-pentandione (99%), 4,4-diaminodiphenylmethane (97%), acetophenone, 4,4'-(9-Fluorenylidene)dianiline, ethanol (90%) was obtained from ABCR. Hydrogen chloride 1.25 M in ethanol was purchased by Acros. Cyclohexene oxide was obtained from ABCR 98% and was distilled over CaH₂ prior to use. Toluene was obtained from the solvent purification system MBraun (typ: MB SPS).

NMR-spectra were recorded on a Bruker ARX-300 spectrometer. All spectra were referenced to TMS or deuterated solvent as an internal standard

GPC was performed with a PolymerLaboratoriesGPC-50 Plus chromatograph running with HPLC-grade in THF at a flow rate of 1 mL/min and PLgel-Mixed-C as the Column Set (by Varian, Inc. Company). Polystyrene standards were used for calibration.

In-situ IR-measurements were carried out on Mettler-Toledo system under argon atmosphere.

Zn(N(SiMe₃)₂)₂ and complex 1 and 3 were prepared according to the literature procedure. ^{5d}

Ligand and complex synthesis

(2Z,2'Z,4E,4'E)-4,4'-(((9H-Fluorene-9,9-diyl)bis(4,1-phenylene))bis(azanylylidene))bis(pent-2-en-2-ol)

4,4'-(9-Fluorenylidene)dianiline (2.50 g, 7.17 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and acetylacetone (1.47 ml, 14.35 mmol, 2.0 eq.) were dissolved in toluene (30 mL). p-Toluenesulfonic acid was added and the resulting reaction mixture was heated to 115 °C with a DeanStark trap for three hours. The reaction mixture was washed with saturated NaHCO₃-solution and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The product was obtained as a yellow solid and used without further purification (3.52 g, 96%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 292 K): δ [ppm] = 12.37 (s, 2H), 7.00 (m, 8H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃, 292 K): δ [ppm] = 196.2, 160.1, 150.7, 142.8, 140.1, 137.4, 128.8, 127.9, 127.7, 126.0, 124.2, 120.4, 97.8, 64.6, 29.2, 20.0.

Bd(fluorenyl)₂H₂

Bd(fluorenyl)₂H2/2 (1.00 g, 1.71 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and 4,4'-(9H-fluoren-9,9-diyl)dibenzenammonium chloride (0.72 g, 1.71 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in hexafluoro-2-propanol_{abs} (8.0 ml). Subsequent the reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C over night. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure. The residual solid was dissolved in methylene chloride and washed with saturated NaHCO₃-solution. The solvent is removed under reduced pressure to yield a yellow solid. After adding a small amount of methylene chloride (5 ml) the product precipitated and was finally recrystallized from toluene (0.30 g, 17%).

¹H NMR (300 MHz, THF 292 K): δ [ppm] = 12.37 (s, 2H), 7.00 (m, 8H), 5.13 (s, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.91 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, THF, 292 K): δ [ppm] = solubility not sufficient enough EA (für $C_{60}H_{48}N_4 + 2$ toluene): calculated [%]: C 87.74, H 6.15, N 6.11

found [%]: C 87.35, H 5.86, N 6.79

$Bdm(Fluorenyl)_2H_2(2)$

Bd(fluorenyl)₂H₂ (0.23 g, 0.23 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was dissolved in toluene (20 ml) and bis[bis(trimethyl-silyl)amido]zinc (0.18 ml, 0.46 mmol, 2.0 eq.) was added at RT. The yellow suspension was heated to 90 °C for 24 hours. The solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was washed with diethylether (20 ml) and the product is obtained as a yellow powder. (0.11 g, 35%)

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 292 K): δ [ppm] = 7.80 (m, 8H), 7.42 (m, 8H), 7.14 (m, 8H), 6.62 (m, 8H), 4.93 (s, 2H), 1.88 (s, 12H), -0.17 (s, 36H).

EA (für C₄₈H₃₆F₆N₄): calculated [%]: C 67.85, H 6.48, N 6.59

found [%]: C 66,27 H 6.53, N 5.98

Bdm(Cl)₂H₂

$$CI \longrightarrow \begin{matrix} N & & & \\ H & & & \\ N & & & \\ N & & & \end{matrix}$$

Diisopropylamine (0.06 ml, 0.41 mmol, 2.5 eq.) was dissolved in THF at 0°C. n-BuLi (0.25 mL, 0.41 mmol, 2.5 eq.) was dropwise added and the reaction mixture was stirred for two hours at ambient temperature. Subsequently, the addition of BdmH₂ (0.10 g, 0.16 mmol, 1.0 eq.) took place. After two more hours p-toluenesulfonyl chloride (0.08 g, 0.41 mmol, 2.5 eq.) was added and stirred for 24 hours at room temperature. The reaction mixture was dissolved in methylene chloride. After washing with saturated NaCl-solution, the solid was recrystallized from toluene (0.06 g, 61%).

¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 13.20 (s, 2H, NH), 7.02 (d, ³J = 8.1 Hz, 8H, C_{ar}H), 6.67 (d, ³J = 8.1 Hz, 8H, C_{ar}H), 3.77 (s, 4H, CH₂), 2.24 (s, 12H, CH₃).

¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃, 294 K): δ [ppm] = 158.2, 142.2, 138.1, 128.4, 123.6, 103.9, 41.6, 18.9.

EA (für C₄₅H₄₂N₆ mit Toluol): calculated [%]: C 72.84, H 5.77, N 9.44

found [%]: C 72.76, H 5.86, N 9.38

$Bdm(Cl)_2(Zn(N(TMS)_2)_2(4)$

$$CI = \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} N \\ Zn - N(TMS)_2 \\ N \end{array}}_{N} \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} N \\ TMS)_2N \\ N \end{array}}_{N} - C$$

Bdm(Cl)₂H₂ (0.10 g 0.15 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was suspended in toluene (20 ml) and bis[bis(trimethylsilyl)amido]zinc (0.12 ml, 0.30 mmol, 2.0 eq.) was added at RT. The yellow suspension was heated to 90 °C for 24 hours. The solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was washed with diethylether (20 ml) and the product is obtained as yellow powder. (0.08 g, 0.08 mmol, 51%)

¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.01 (s br, 16, C_{ar}H), 3.76 (s, 4H, CH₂), 2.32 (s, 12H, CH₃), -0.31 (s br, 36H)

EA (für C₄₅H₄₂N₆ **mit Toluol):** calculated [%]: C 55.27, H 6.57, N 8.06 found [%]: C 54.30, H 6.66, N 7.87

Bdm(CN)₂H₂

Diisopropylamine (0.28 ml, 2.03 mmol, 2.5 eq.) was dissolved in THF (20 ml) at room temperature. n-BuLi (0.81 mL, 2.03 mmol, 2.5 eq.) was dropwise added and the reaction mixture was stirred for two hours. Subsequently, the addition of BdmH₂ (0.50 g, 0.81 mmol, 1.0 eq.) took place. After two more hours p-toluenesulfonyl chloride (0.37 g, 2.03 mmol, 2.5 eq.) was added and stirred for 24 hours at room temperature. The orange solid was filtered and dissolved in methylene chloride. After washing with saturated NaHCO₃-solution, the solid was recrystallized from toluene (0.76 g, 65%).

¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): δ [ppm] = 14.94 (s, 2H, N-H), 7.13 - 7.08 (d, 3 J = 8.35 Hz, 8H, C-H), 6.76 - 6.81 (d, 3 J = 8.35 Hz, 8H, C-H), 3.85 (s, 4H, CH₂), 2.33 (s, 12H, CH₃).

¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃, 294 K): δ [ppm] = 164.6, 140.6, 140.0, 129.2, 128.4, 123.9, 122.0, 81.0, 41.7, 19.0.

EA (für C₄₅**H**₄₂**N**₆ **mit Toluol):** calculated [%]: C 82.29, H 6.64, N 11.07 found [%]: C 81.36, H 6.71, N 10.94

$Bdm(Cl)_2(Zn(N(TMS)_2)_2$ (5)

$$NC - \begin{array}{c} N \\ Z_{n} - N(TMS)_{2} \\ (TMS)_{2}N \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} N \\ Z_{n} \\ N \end{array} - CN$$

 $Bdm(CN)_2H_2$ (0.09 g, 0.15 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was suspended in toluene (20.0 mL) and bis[bis(trimethyl-silyl)amido]zinc (0.12 ml, 0.30 mmol, 2.0 eq.) was added. The yellow suspension was heated to 90 °C for 24 hours. The suspension was separated into a solid and a solution which is dried under reduced pressure. Both fractions were washed with diethylether and dried. Both samples were analytically identical. Due to low solubility NMR spectroscopy was not possible.

EA (für C₅₈H₆₈F₆N₆Si₄Zn₂): calculated [%]: C 58.63, H 6.69, N 10.94

found [%]: C 59.58, H 6.72, N 10.58

(N,N')-4,4'-Methylene-bis(N-(1-phenylethyliden)anilin) (6)

4,4-Diaminodiphenylmethane (5.00 g, 25.22 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was dissolved in methylene chloride (100 mL) and molecular sieve (3 Å) is added, following the addition of acetophenone (5.91 mL, 50.44 mmol, 2.0 eq.). The reaction was stored at room temperature for two days. After filtration and removal of the solvents under reduced pressure, recrystallization in ethanol led to the final product (5.94 g, 58%).

¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K): δ [ppm] = 7.93-8.01 (m, 4H), 7.48-7.38 (m, 6H), 7.18 (d, 3 J=8.4 Hz, 4H), 6.74 (d, 3 J=8.4 Hz, 4H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 2.25 (s, 6H).

¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃, 294 K): δ [ppm] = 165.9, 149.6, 139.62 (s), 136.5, 133.3, 130.7, 129.7, 128.6, 127.4, 119.8, 115.6, 41.0, 17.7.

EA (für C₃₆H₃₄Cl₂N₄): calculated [%]: C 86.53, H 6.51, N 6.96 found [%]: C 86.14, H 6.61, N 7.04

N',N"-(4,4'-Methylene-bis(4,1-phenylene))bis(2,2,2-trifluoroacetimidoyl chloride) (7)

Triphenylphosphine (34.60 g, 131.92 mmol, 4.8 eq), triethylamine (7.40 mL, 54.97 mmol, 2.0 eq) were dissolved in tetrachloromethane (150 mL). Trifluoroacetic acid (3.27 mL, 43.97 mmol, 1.6 eq.) is dropwise added at 0 °C and stirred for 20 min. Afterwards, 4-4-diaminophenylmethane (5.45 g, 37.48 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at 85 °C. After removing the solvents under reduced pressure, the reaction mixture was filtrated and washed several times with hexane. The solvent were removed and the raw product was distilled (1·10-1 mmbar, 190 °C) to receive a clear solution (3.12 g, 29%).

¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K):** δ [ppm] = 7.33-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.16-7.08 (m, 2H), 4.06 (s, 1H).

¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃, 294 K): δ [ppm] = 141.7, 140.4, 131.4 (q, ²J = 43.0 Hz), 129.8, 121.6, 117.1 (q, ¹J = 277.0 Hz), 41.2.

EA (für C₃₆H₃₄Cl₂N₄): calculated [%]: C 47.80, H 2.36, N 6.56 found [%]: C 47.71, H 2.28, N 6.41

Bdm(CF₃)₂(Ph)₂H₂ (8)

n-BuLi (11.9 mL, 29.8 mmol, 4.0 eq.) was mixed with diisopropylamine (4.20 mL, 29.8 mmol, 4.0 eq.) in THF (100 mL) at -78 °C. After two hours 4,4'-methylen-bis-(N-(phenyl-2-yliden)aniline) (3.02 g, 7.45 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added and the reaction mixture is stirred for 16 hours at room temperature before the addition N',N"-(4,4'-methylene-bis-(4,1-phenylene))bis(2,2,2-trifluoroacetimidoylchlorid) (3.00 g, 7.45 mmol, 1 eq.) was conducted. After two more hours the reaction was stopped via addition of saturated NH₄Cl-solution. The organic phase was separated, dried over magnesium sulfate and filtered. The organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure, following a recrystallization in acetone and finally in acetonitrile (0.18 g, 3%).

¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 297 K):** δ [ppm] = 12.76 (s, 2H), 7.44-7.50 (m, 4H), 7.30-7.40 (m, 6H), 7.15 (d, 3 J = 8.3 Hz, 4H), 6.84-6..78 (m, 8H), 6.52 (d, 3 J = 8.3 Hz, 4H), 5.58 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 2H), 3.62 (s, 2H).

(3.5, 123.5, 122.0, 94.2, 41.9, 41.0.) (6, 213), 5165 (6, 213),

EA (für C₄₆H₃₄F₆N₄): calculated [%]: C 73.01, H 4.53, N 7.40

found [%]: C 72.60, H 4.46, N 7.63

$Bdm(CF_3)_2(Ph)_2(Zn(N(TMS)_2)_2$ (9)

Bdm(CF₃)₂(Ph)₂H₂ (0.25 g, 0.33 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was dissolved in toluene (50.0 ml) and bis[bis(trimethylsilyl)amido]zinc (0.26 mL, 0.67 mmol, 2.0 eq.) was added at RT. The yellow solution was heated to 90 °C for 24 hours. The solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was washed with pentane (10 ml) and the product is obtained as a orange powder (0.30 g, 31%).

¹**H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃, 295 K):** δ [ppm] = 7.43-7.46 (m, 4H), 7.38 – 7.21 (m, 6H), 7.03 (s, 4H), 6.81 (m, 8H), 6.57 (m, 4H), 5.70 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 2H), 3.54 (s, 2H). -0.27 (s br., 36H)

¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃, 294 K): δ [ppm] = 169.7, 145.7, 144.6, 139.5, 138.7, 138.3, 130.5, 130.0, 129.2, 128.9, 128.4, 124.9, 123.6, 41.8, 4.86

EA (für C58H68F6N6Si4Zn2): calculated [%]: C 57.75, H 5.68, N 6.97

found [%]: C 56.81, H 6.09, N 6.89

Copolymerization with in situ IR

Catalyst was dissolved in cyclohexene oxide (5.0 mL, 49.4 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and toluene (5-7.5 mL). The reaction mixture was put in the preheated autoclave and pressurized with carbon dioxide (1, 10, 30, 40 bar). The reaction was terminated after the appropriate reaction time by releasing the gaseous CO_2 and addition of methanol (1.0 mL) and methylene chloride (10 mL). The organic phase was washed with HCl (1 M) and dried with Na₂SO₄. After evaporation of the solvent the poly(carbonate) is dissolved in a small amount of methylene chloride and precipitated via addition of methanol. Finally, the poly(carbonate) is dried in an oven to constant weight.

Poly(cyclohexene carbonate)

 1 H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3, 292K): δ [ppm] = 4.58 (s, 2 H), 1.30-2.04 (m, 8 H).

Poly(cyclohexene oxide)

¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3, 292 K): δ [ppm]c = 3.50 (s, br., 2 H);

Copolymerization at one atmosphere CO₂

Catalyst was dissolved in cyclohexene oxide ($2.5\,\mathrm{mL}$, $24.7\,\mathrm{mmol}$, $1.0\,\mathrm{eq.}$) and put into a pressure flask. Afterwards, CO_2 is bubbled through the reaction mixture for 4 min, before the pressure of 1 bar CO_2 is adjusted. After a reaction time of 1 h at $100\,^{\circ}C$, the reaction was terminated by adding methanol ($1.0\,\mathrm{mL}$) and methylene chloride ($10\,\mathrm{mL}$). The organic phase was washed with HCl ($1\,\mathrm{M}$) and dried with Na_2SO_4 . After evaporation of the solvent the poly(carbonate) is dissolved in a small amount of methylene chloride and precipitated via addition of methanol. Finally, the poly(carbonate) is dried in an oven to constant weight.

Table S 1: Copolymerization of cyclohexene oxide and CO₂ with catalyst 1 and 9 at one atmosphere CO₂ pressure^[a]

entry	Cat.	TON ^[b]	TOF ^[c]	%PCHC	%conversion
			$[h^{-1}]$		
1	1	409	409	85	10
2	9	939	939	47	23

[a] Copolymerizations were conducted in a preheated schlenk flask for 60 minutes at a catalyst loading of catalyst/epoxide of 1/4000 in neat cyclohexene oxide at one atmosphere CO_2 pressure and 100°C (1 bar CO_2) [b] The turnover number (TON) is calculated by the number of moles of consumed epoxide divided by the moles of catalyst. [c] TOF = TON/time

Homopolymerization of cyclohexene oxide

Catalyst was dissolved in cyclohexene oxide ($2.5\,\text{mL}$, $24.7\,\text{mmol}$, $1.0\,\text{eq.}$) and put into a pressure flask. After a reaction time of 1 h at $100\,^{\circ}\text{C}$, the reaction was terminated by adding methanol ($1.0\,\text{mL}$) and methylene chloride ($10\,\text{mL}$). The organic phase was washed with HCl ($1\,\text{M}$) and dried with Na₂SO₄. After evaporation of the solvent the poly(carbonate) is dissolved in a small amount of methylene chloride and precipitated via addition of methanol. Finally, the poly(carbonate) is dried in an oven to constant weight.

Table S 2: Homopolymerization of cyclohexene oxide with catalyst 1 and 9^[a]

entry	Cat.	TON ^[b]	TOF ^[c]	%conversion
			[h-1]	
1	1	44	44	1
2	9	211	211	5

[a] Copolymerizations were conducted in a preheated schlenk flask for 60 minutes at a catalyst loading of catalyst/epoxide of 1/4000 in neat cyclohexene oxide at $100 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$ [b] The turnover number (TON) is calculated by the number of moles of consumed epoxide divided by the moles of catalyst. [c] TOF = TON/time

GPC-Reports (of table 1)

Entry 1:

Sample Details

Sample Name: KSS-516thf Batch Name: 2014-7-24

Filename: C:\Cirrus Workbooks\RI-THF-2013-03-22\2014-7-24-0001.cgrm

Acquired: 29.07.2014 09:42:43 Eluent: THF stablised with 250 ppm BHT

Injection Volume: 100.0 ul Flow Rate: 1.000000 ml/min

Concentration: mg/ml Temperature: 35

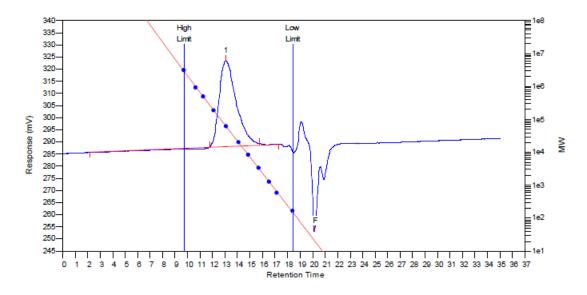
Column Set: PLgel-Mixed-C Column Set Length: 600.000000 mm

Analysis Using Method: RI-Auswertung

Results File: C:\Cirrus Workbooks\RI-THF-2013-03-22\2014-7-24-0001-Repeat (01).rst

Calibration Used: 22.03.2013 13:51:19

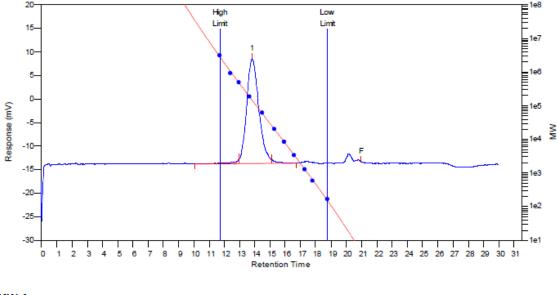
Calibration Type: Narrow Standard Curve Fit Used: 3 Calibration Curve: $y = 11.880254 - 0.627940x^1 + 0.009128x^2 - 0.000197x^3$



MW Averages

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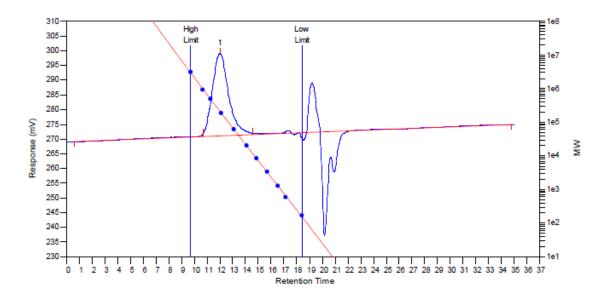
Entry 2:



MW Averages

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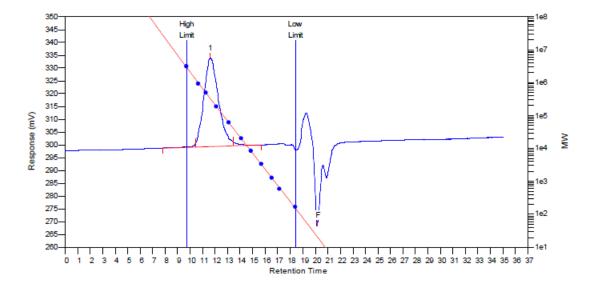
Entry 3:



MW Averages

Peak No Mp Mn Mw Mz Mz+1 Mv PD 1 208784 132266 230232 332454 432198 215909 1.74067

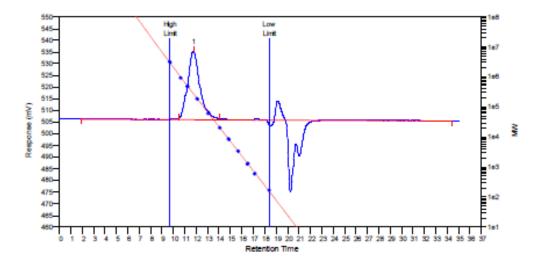
Entry 4:



MW Averages

Peak No	Mp	Mn	Mw	Mz	Mz+1	Mv	PD
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2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

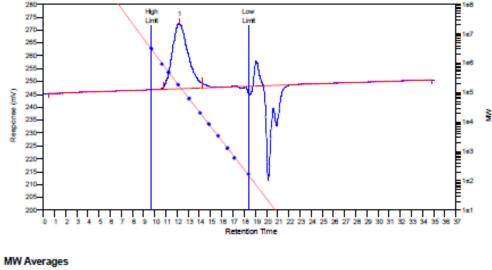
Entry 5:



MW Averages

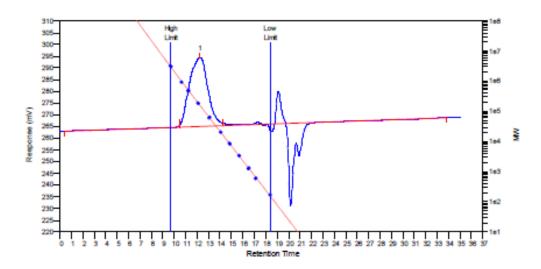
Peak No Mp Mn Mw Mz Mz+1 Mv PD 1 277510 193359 296907 404144 513164 281827 1.53552

Entry 6:



Peak No PD Mn Μz Mz+1 Mw 1 169526 103487 179577 271314 361470 167109 1.73526

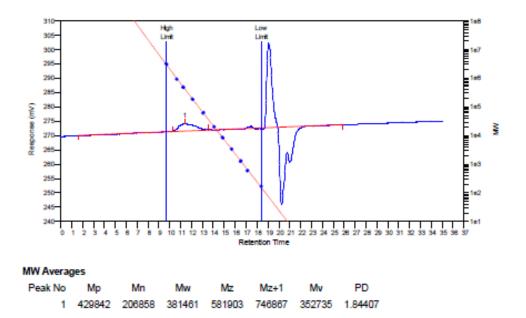
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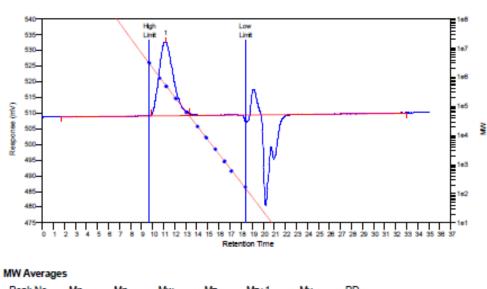
MW Averages

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Entry 8:

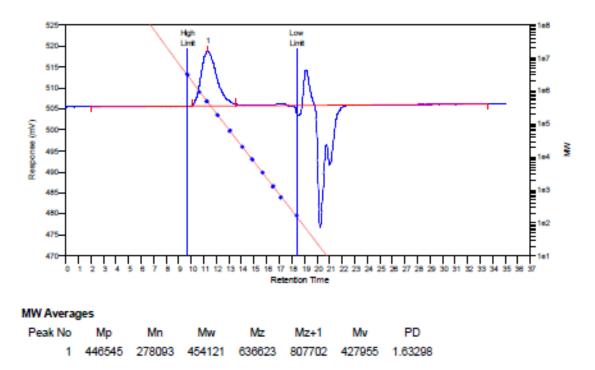


Entry 9:



Peak No Mp Mn Mw Mz Mz+1 Mv PD 1 561466 349850 574202 816958 1047078 539947 1.64128

Entry 10:



Entry 11:

