

# A new high-capacity metal ion-complexing gel containing cyclen ligands

Ciarán Dolan<sup>a,b</sup>, Fleur Drouet<sup>a</sup>, David Ware<sup>a</sup>, Penelope J. Brothers<sup>a,b</sup>, Jianyong Jin<sup>a,b</sup>, Margaret A. Brimble<sup>a,b</sup> and David E. Williams<sup>a,b\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> School of Chemical Sciences, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142, New Zealand

<sup>b</sup> The MacDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology, Victoria University of Wellington, PO Box 600, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.

\*Corresponding author: Tel: +64 9 9239877, e-mail address: [david.williams@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:david.williams@auckland.ac.nz)

## Supplementary Information

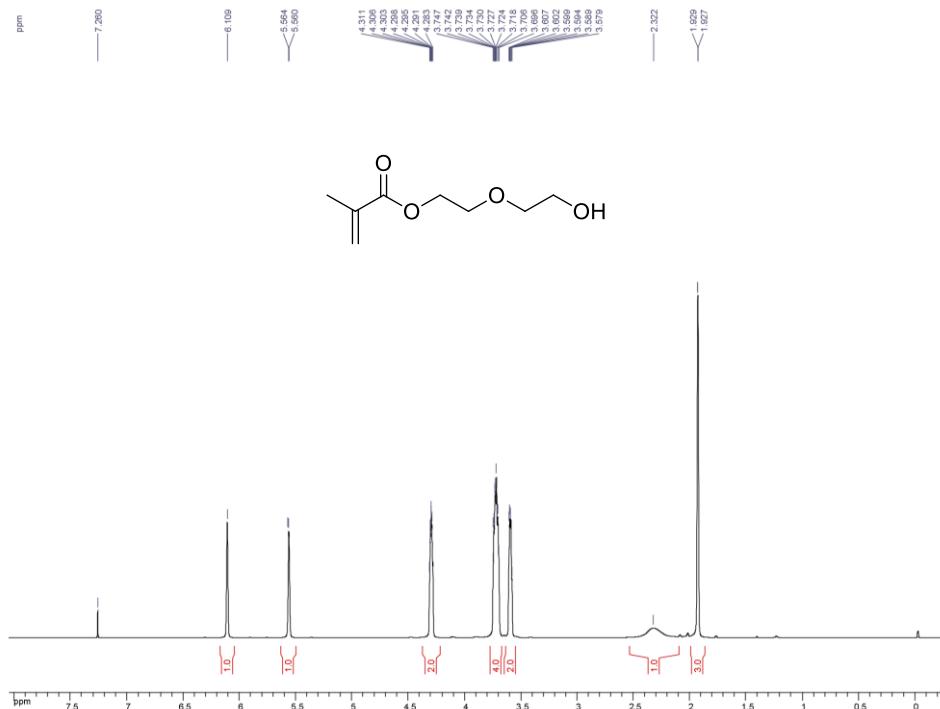


Fig. S1: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethyl methacrylate.

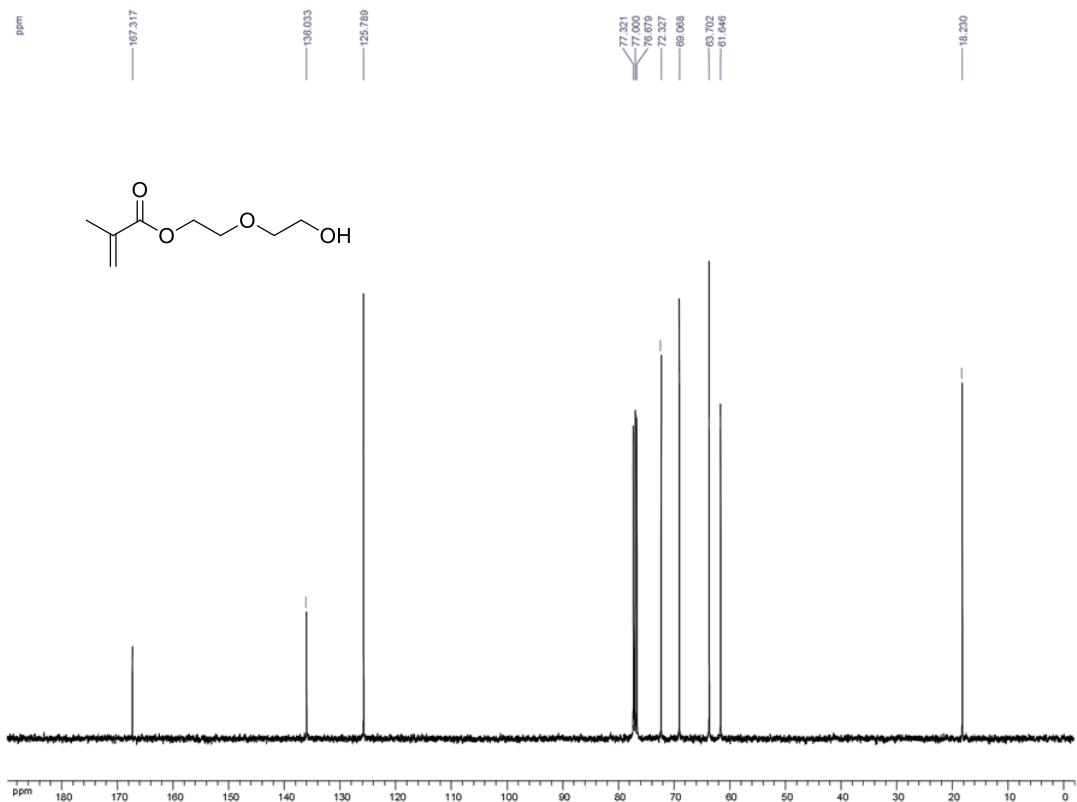


Fig. S2: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of 2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethyl methacrylate.

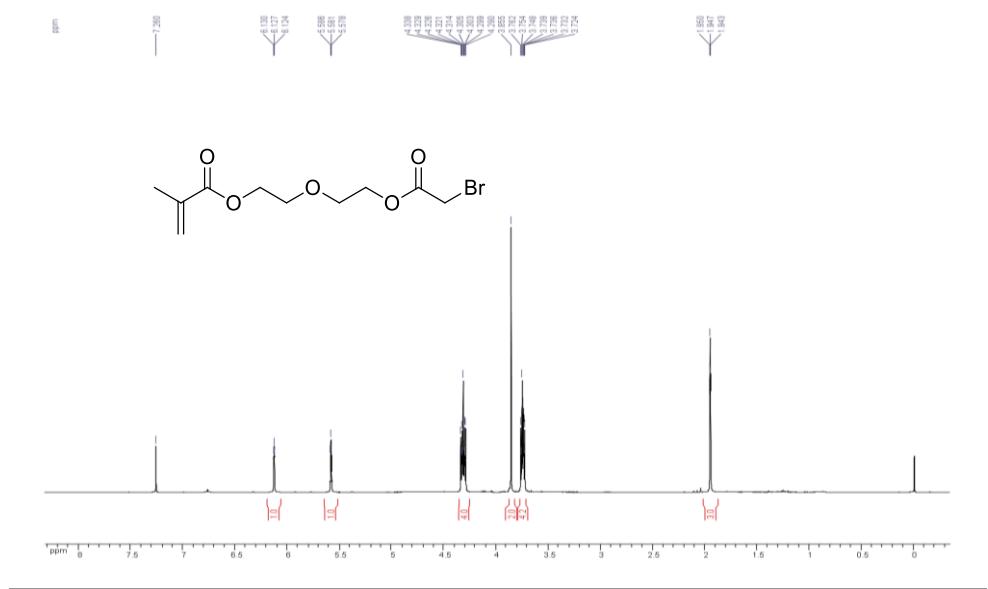


Fig. S3:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 2-(2-(2-bromoacetoxy)ethoxy)ethyl methacrylate **2**.

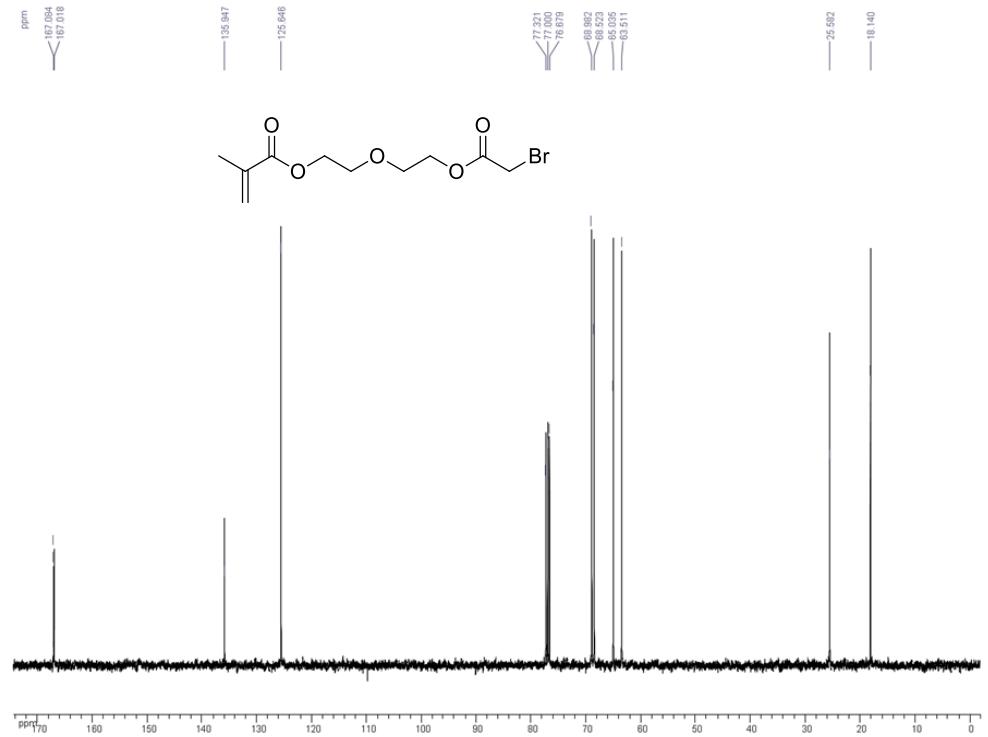


Fig. S4:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 2-(2-(2-bromoacetoxy)ethoxy)ethyl methacrylate **2**.

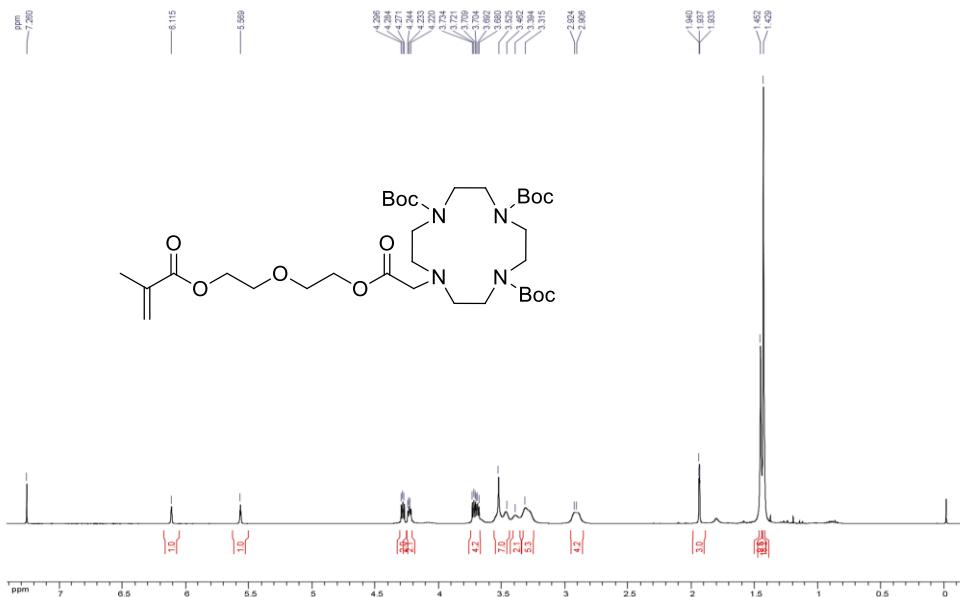


Fig. S5:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 10-(2-(2-(methacryloyloxy)ethoxy)ethoxy)-2-oxoethyl)-1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane -1,4,7-tricarboxylate **1**.

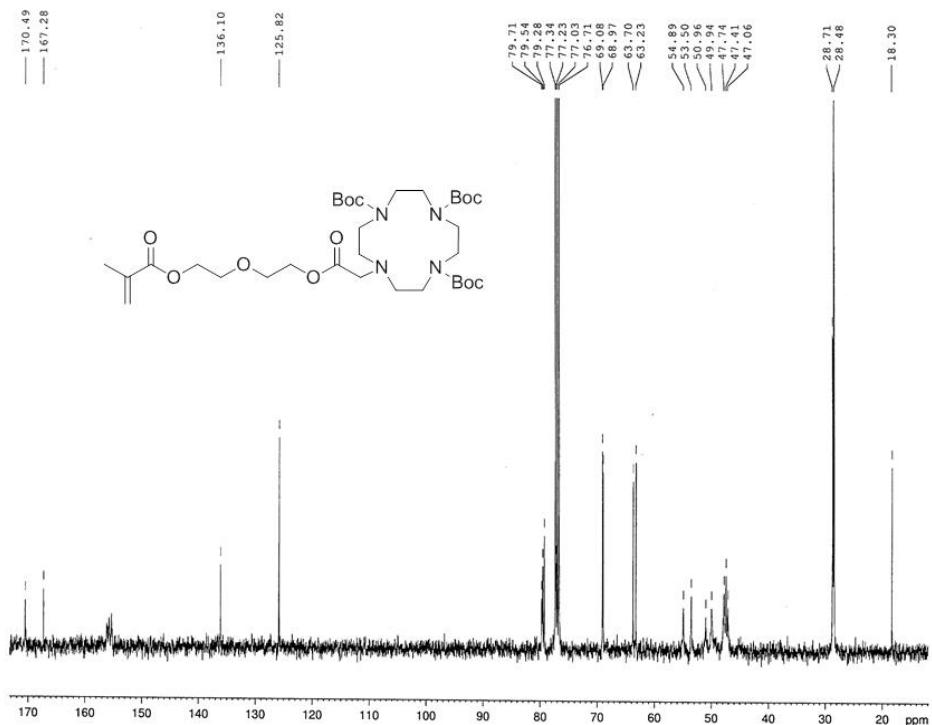


Fig. S6:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 10-(2-(2-(2-(methacryloyloxy)ethoxy)ethoxy)-2-oxoethyl)-1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane -1,4,7-tricarboxylate **1**.

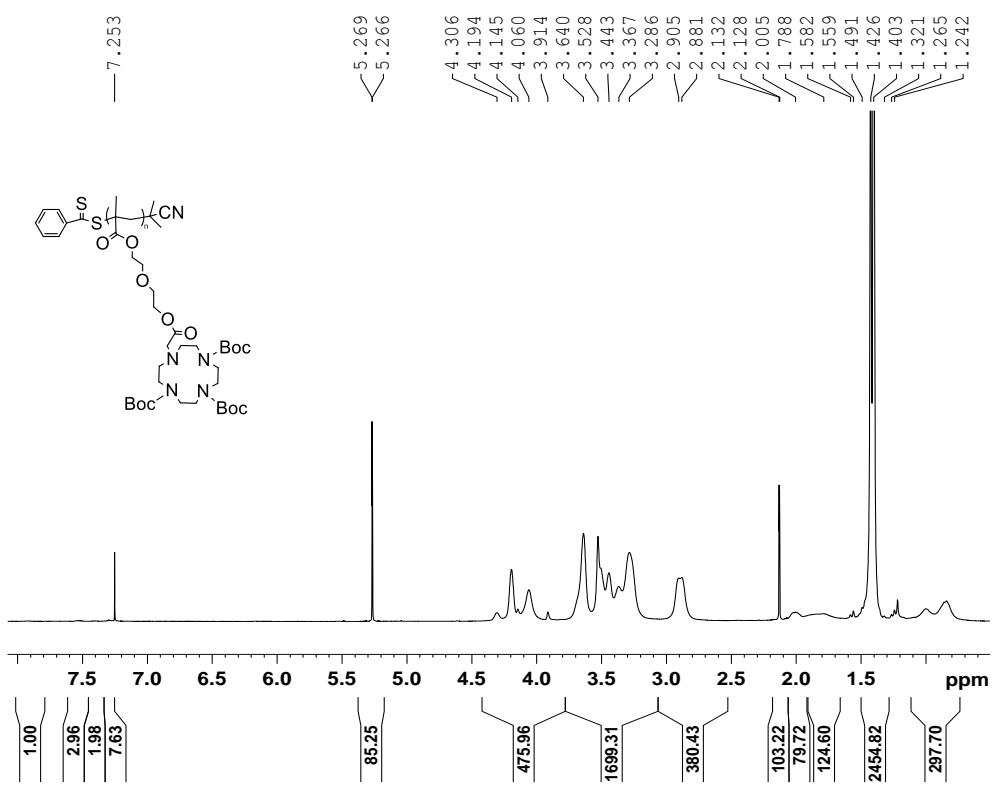


Fig. S7:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **3-Boc**.

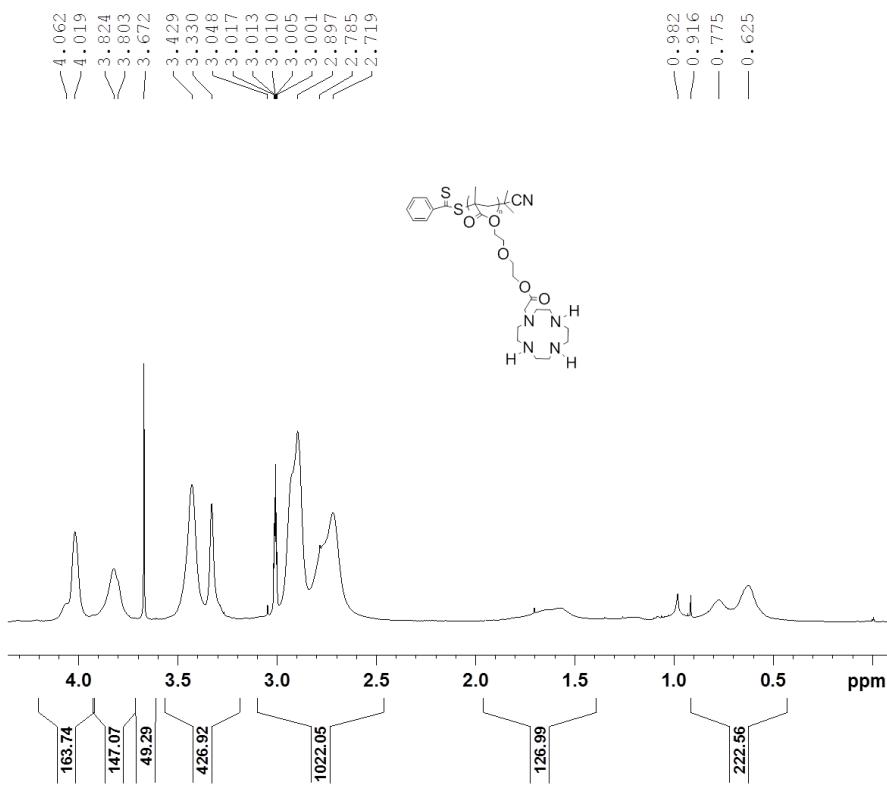


Fig. S8:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, acetone- $d_6$ ) of **3**.

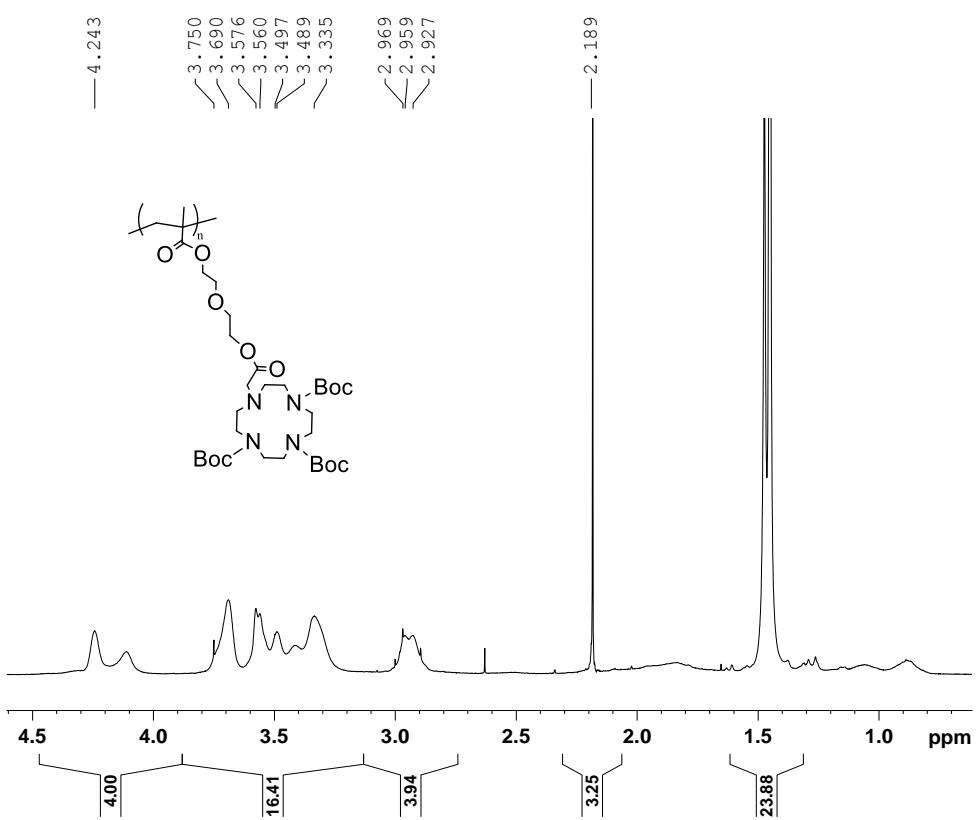


Fig. S9:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **4-Boc**.

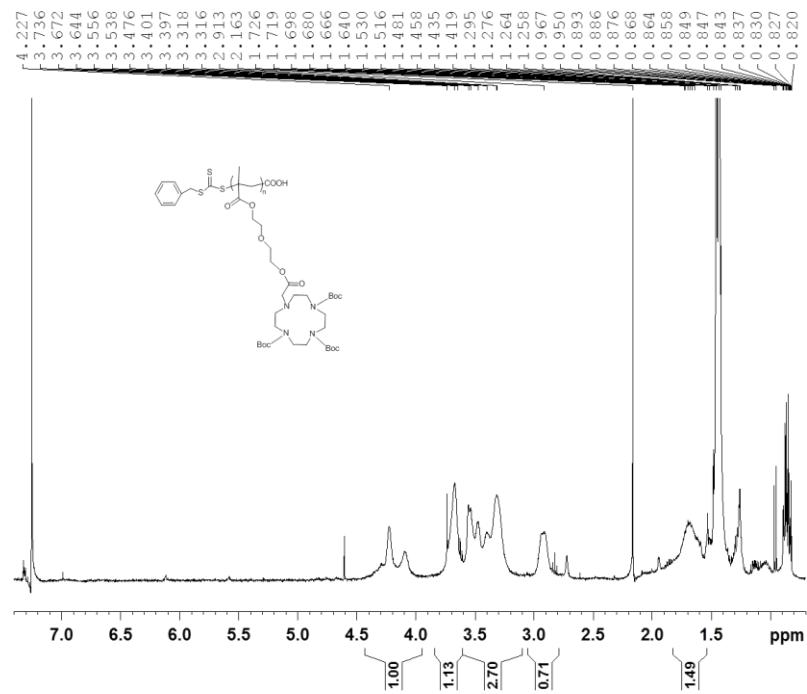


Fig. S10:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **5-Boc**.

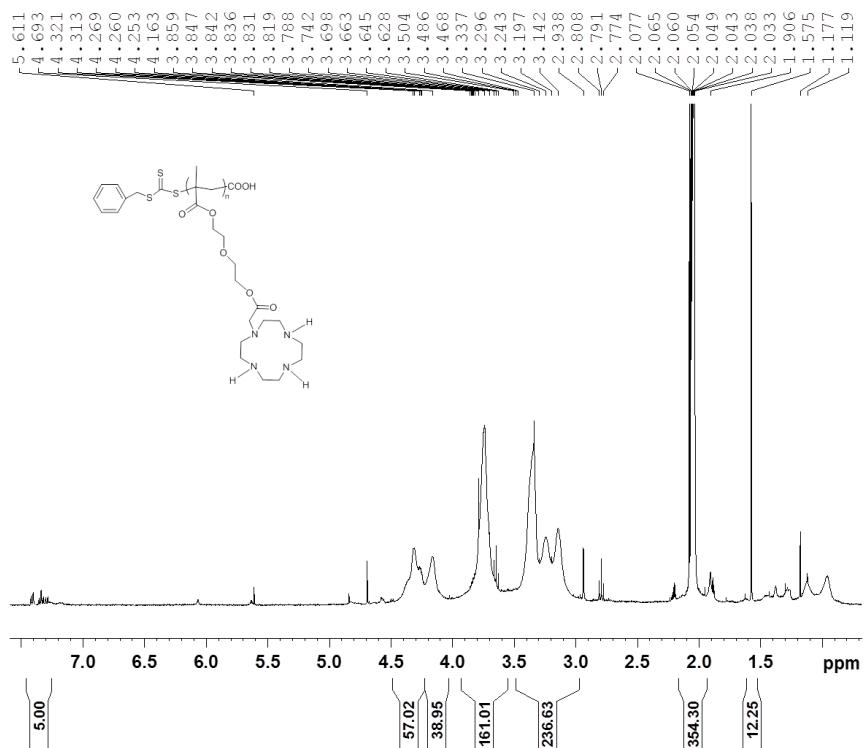


Fig. S11:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, acetone- $\text{d}_6$ ) of **5**.

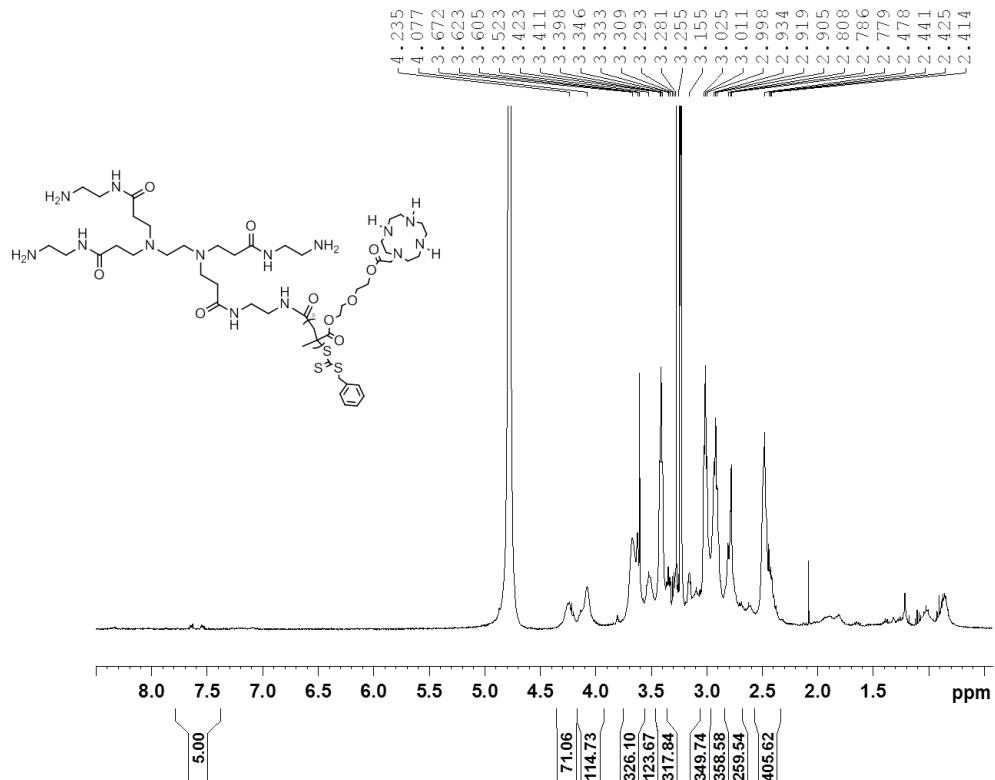


Fig. S12:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD-d}_4$ ) of **5**-PAMAM (G0).

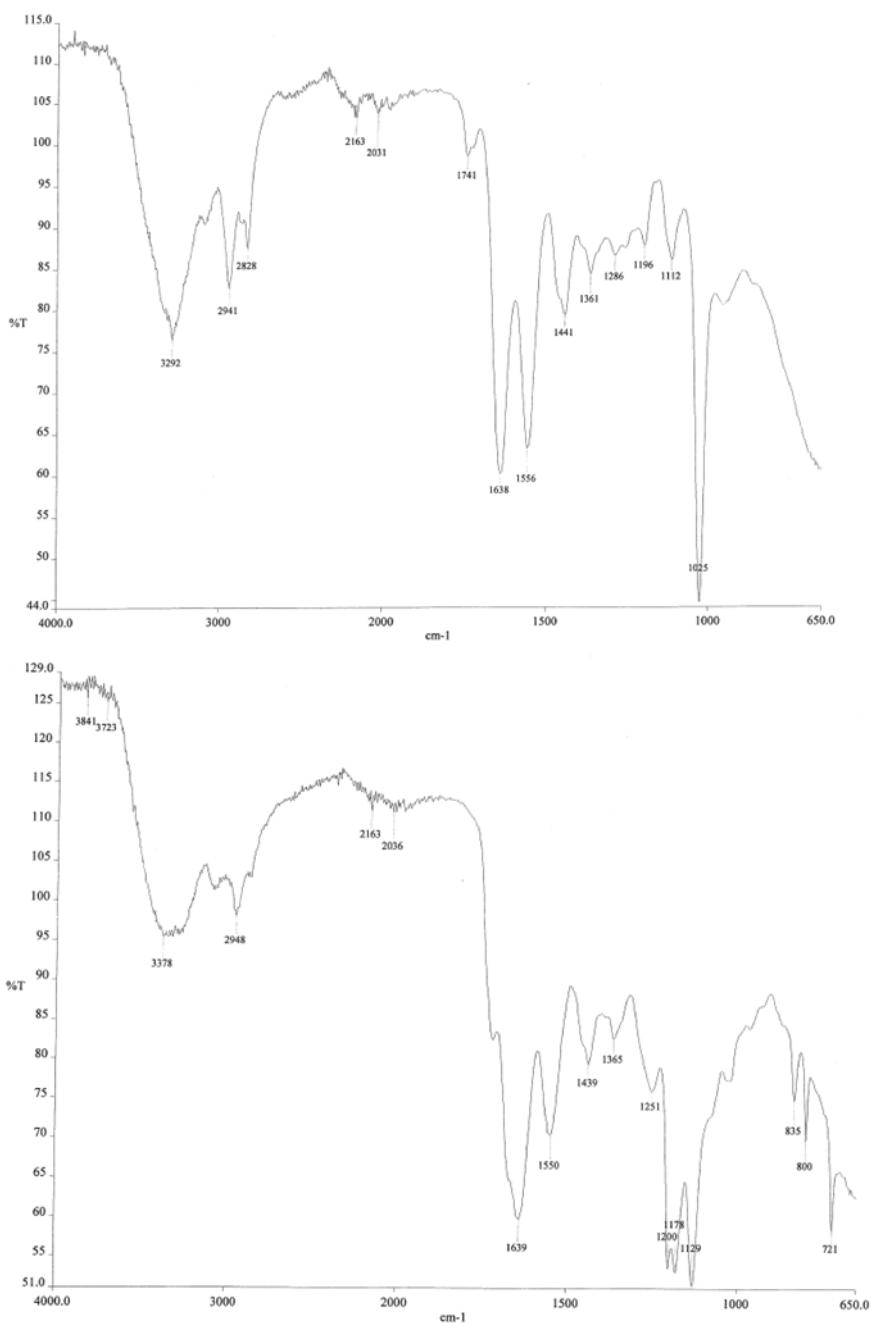


Fig. S13: FTIR spectrum of Cu-crosslinked-PAMAM (G0) (top) and Cu-crosslinked-5-PAMAM (G0) (bottom).

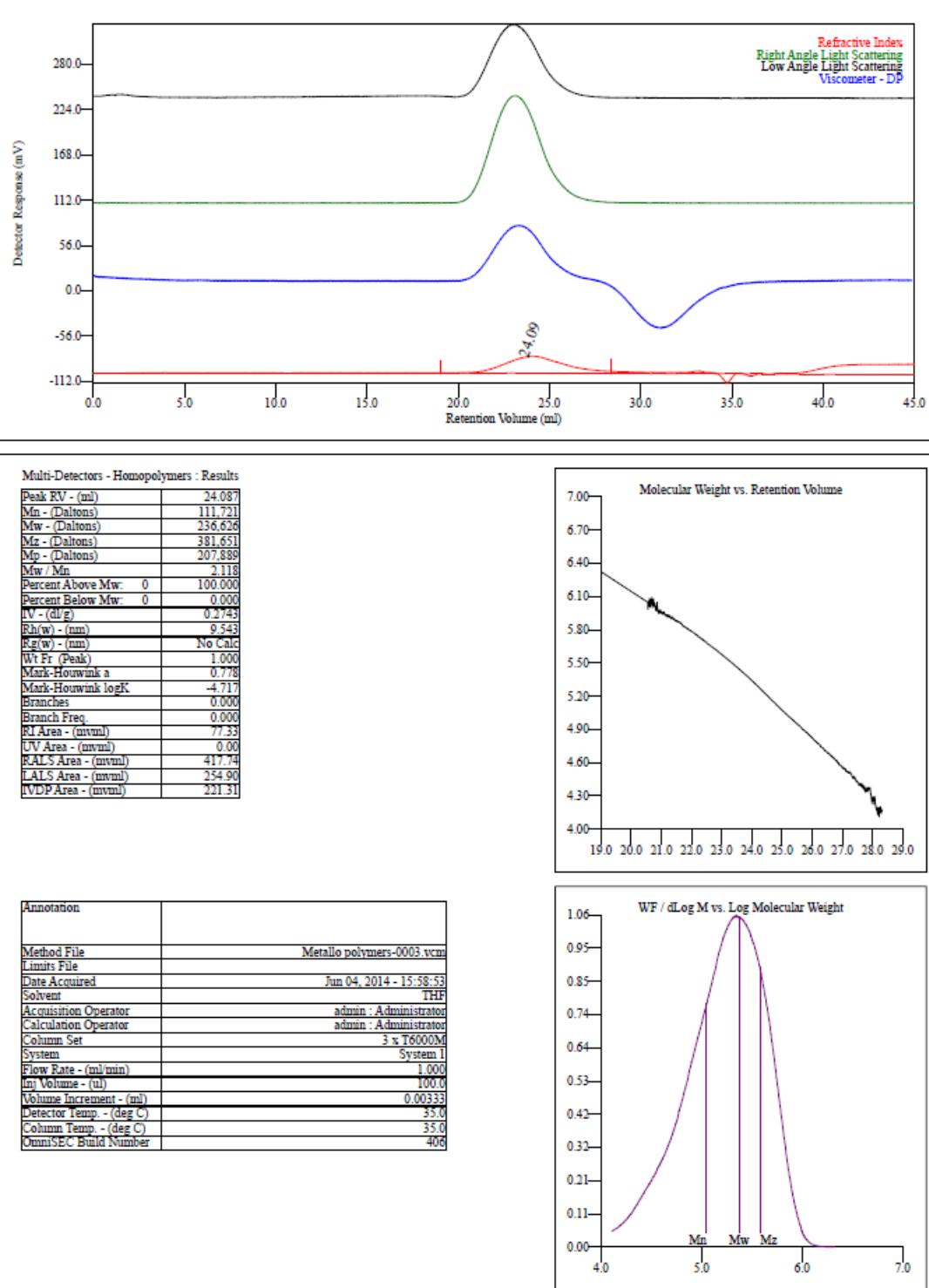


Fig. S14: GPC analysis of 235K Dalton polystyrene standard.

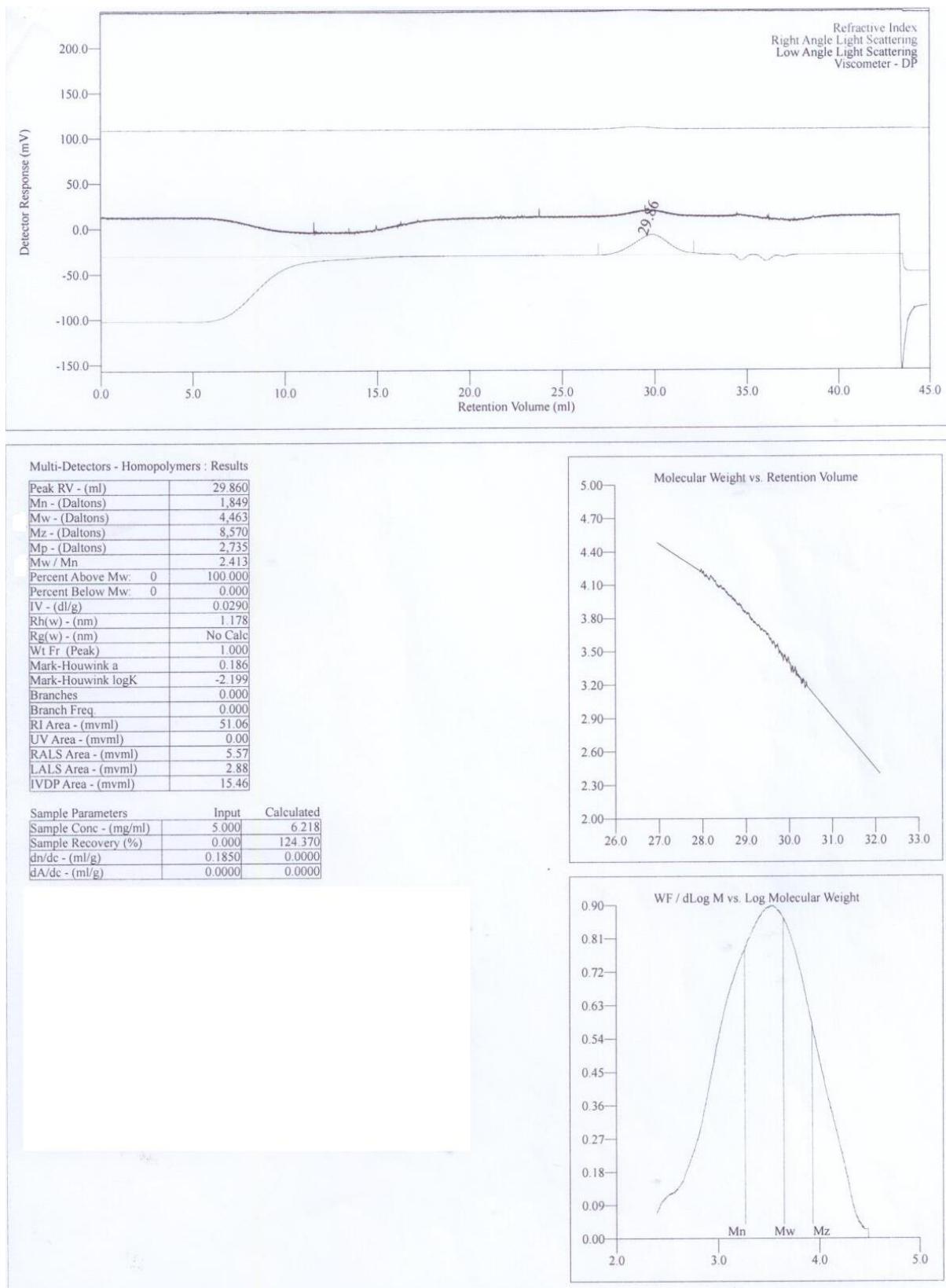


Fig. S15: Example of GPC analysis; **4-Boc** polymer.

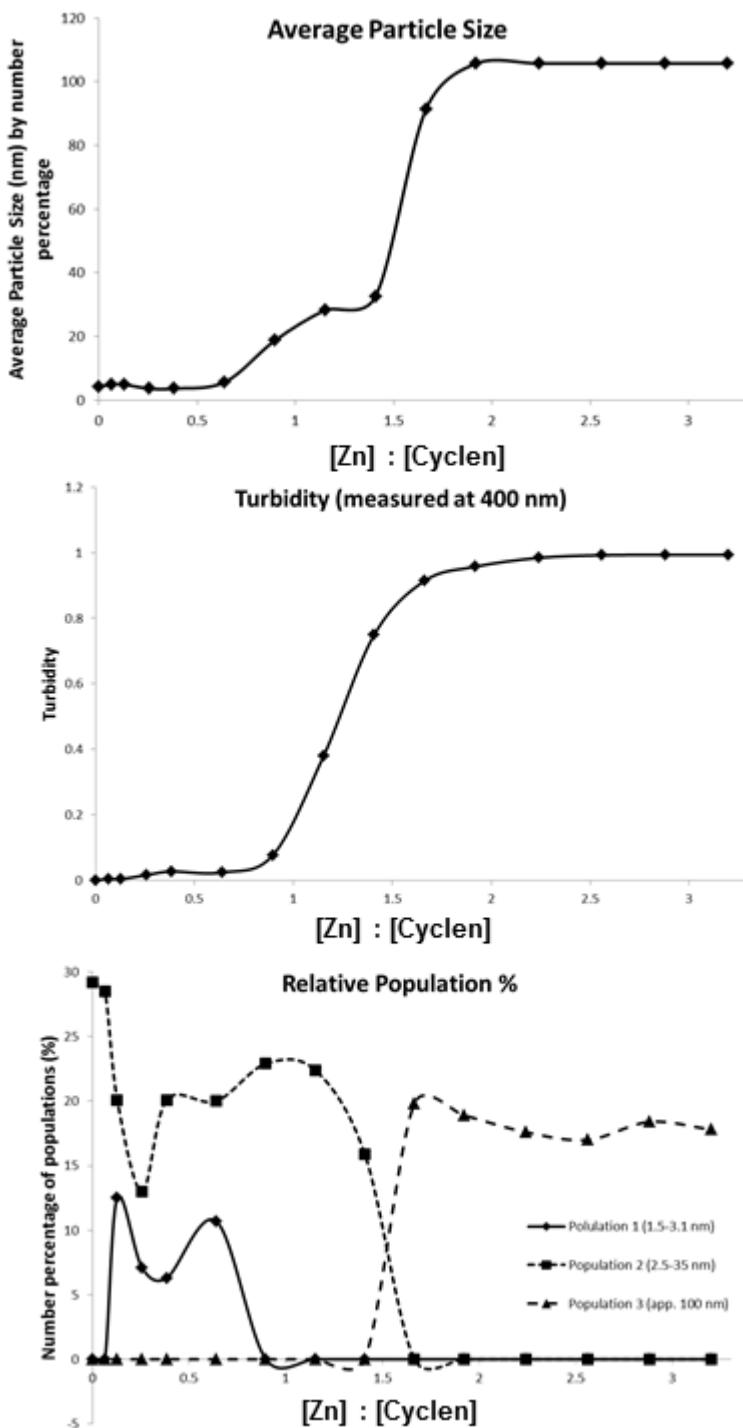


Fig. S16: Dynamic light scattering analysis monitoring the self-assembly of the **3-ZnCl<sub>2</sub>** metallocopolymer aggregates upon the dropwise addition of a solution of ZnCl<sub>2</sub> (in methanol) to polymer **3** in methanol; (top) average particle size; (middle) turbidity measurement; and (bottom) relative population percentage versus ratio of zinc to cyclen moieties on the polymer chain.

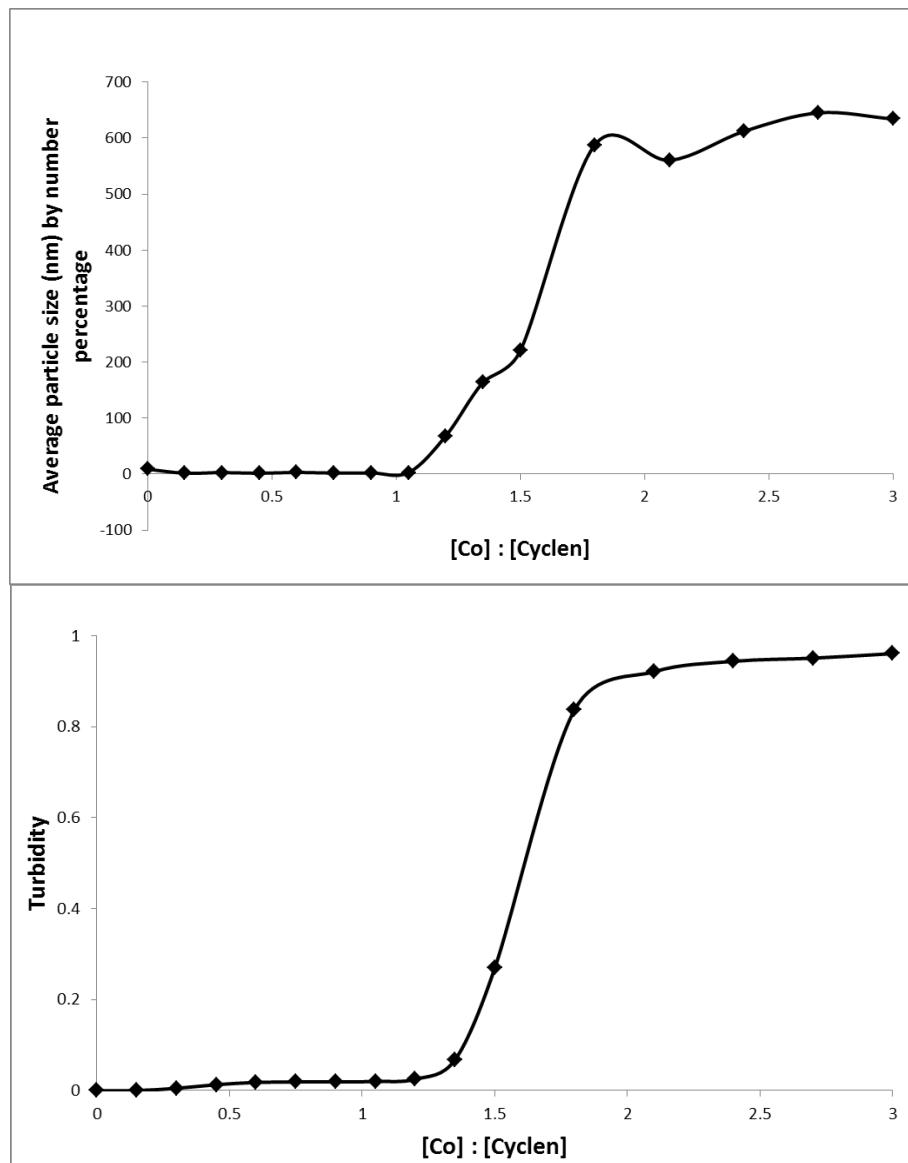


Fig. S17: (Top) Average particle size and (bottom) turbidity measurement versus ratio of cobalt to cyclen moieties on the polymer chain, characterising the development of Co-metallocopolymer aggregates **3-CoCl<sub>2</sub>** upon the dropwise addition of a solution of CoCl<sub>2</sub> to the homopolymer **3** solution in MeOH.

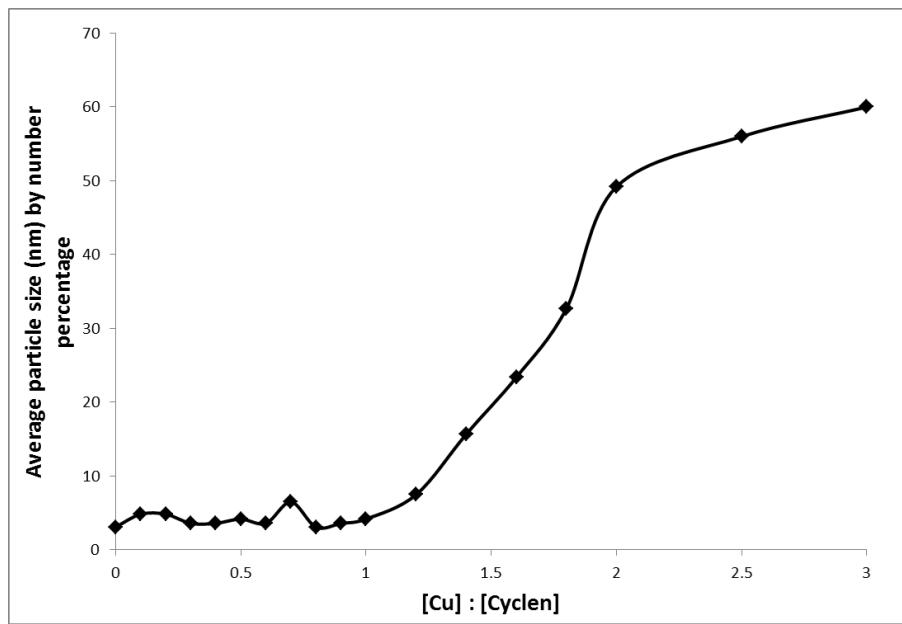


Fig. S18: Average particle size versus ratio of copper to cyclen moieties on the polymer chain, characterising the development of Cu-metallocopolymer **3**-CuCl<sub>2</sub> aggregates upon the dropwise addition of a solution of CuCl<sub>2</sub> to the homopolymer **3** solution in MeOH.



Fig. S19: Picture showing the precipitate formation of Cu-metallocopolymers (1) **3**-CuCl<sub>2</sub> and (2) **4**-CuCl<sub>2</sub> after centrifugation at 1,500 rpm for 20 min.

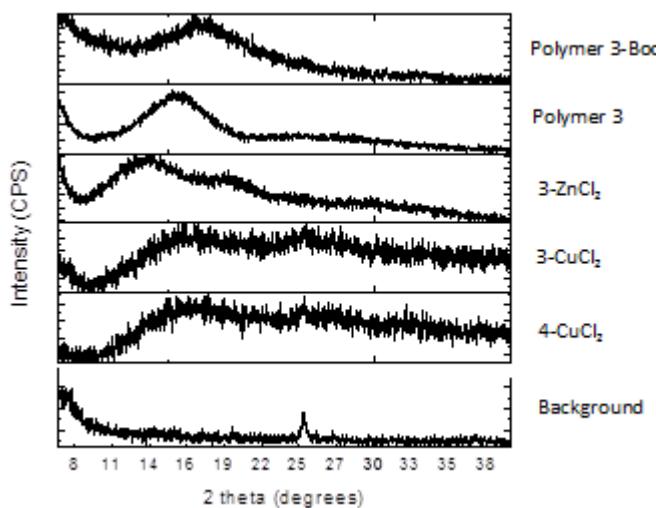


Fig. S20: Stacked XRD spectra of various polymers, metallocopolymers and background.

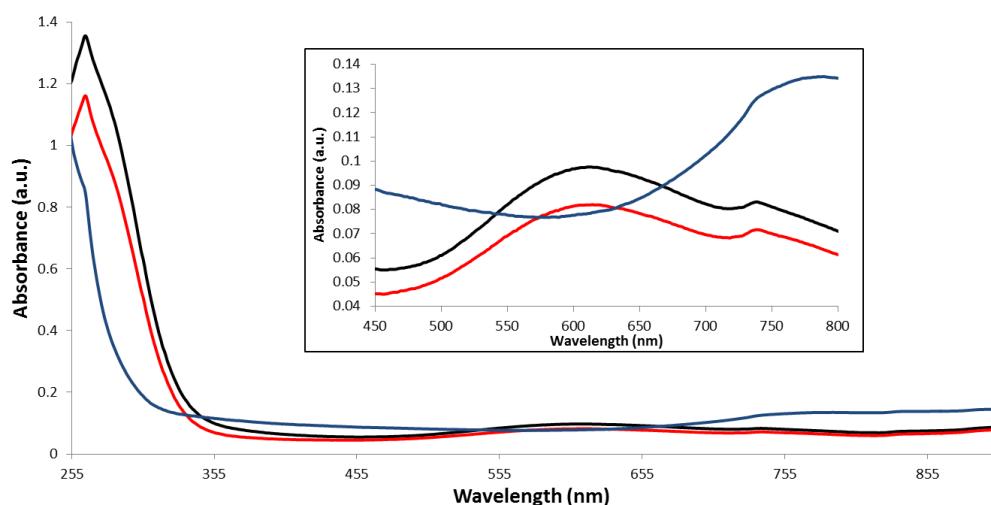


Fig. S21: UV-Visible absorption spectra of copper metallocopolymers **3-CuCl<sub>2</sub>** (black), **4-CuCl<sub>2</sub>** (red) and **CuCl<sub>2</sub>** (blue) in deionized water. Inset: magnified absorbance spectra of the visible region.

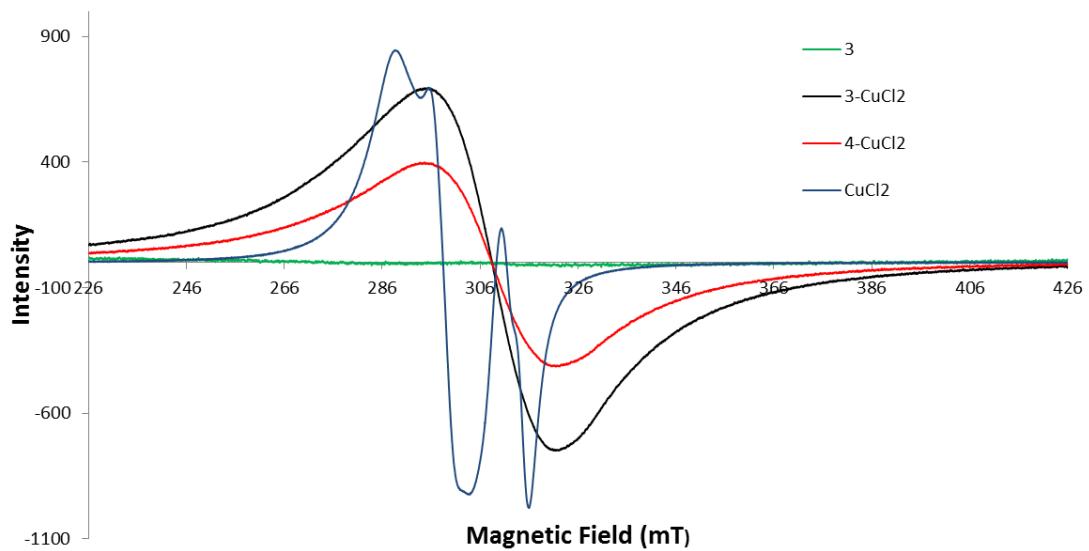


Fig. S22: Overlaid EPR spectra of polymer **3**, copper-complexed metallocopolymers **3-CuCl<sub>2</sub>** and **4-CuCl<sub>2</sub>**, and CuCl<sub>2</sub>.5H<sub>2</sub>O solid samples.

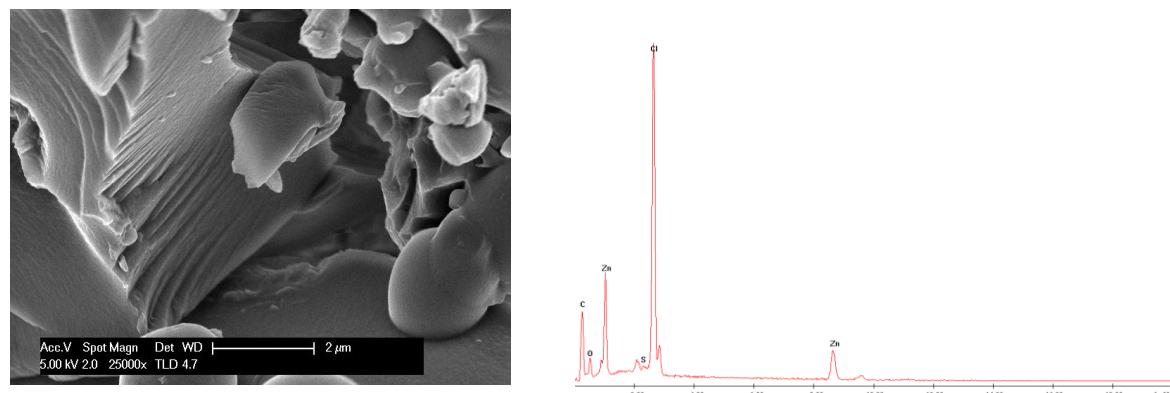


Fig. S23: (left) SEM image and (right) EDS spectrum of **3-ZnCl<sub>2</sub>** metallocopolymer precipitate.

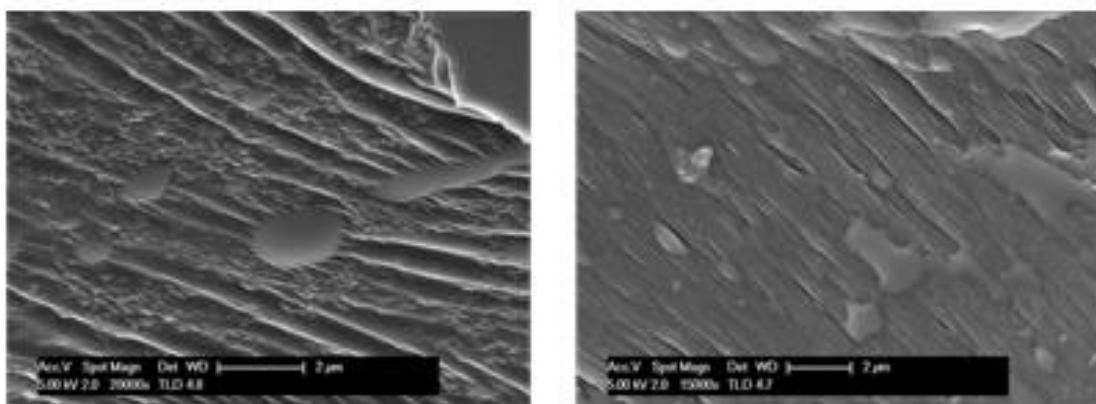


Fig. S24: SEM images (left) **3-CoCl<sub>2</sub>** and (right) **3-CuCl<sub>2</sub>** metallocopolymer precipitates.

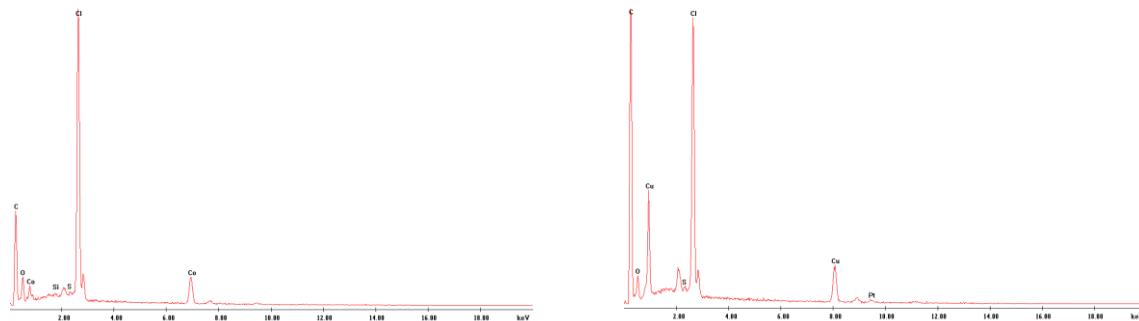


Fig. S25: EDS spectra of (left) **3-CoCl<sub>2</sub>** and (right) **3-CuCl<sub>2</sub>** metallocopolymer precipitates.

Table S1: EDS results showing the relationship between the metal and Cl<sup>-</sup> anion for selected metallocopolymers.

| Metallocopolymer          | Atomic % of Metal | Atomic % of Cl <sup>-</sup> | Atomic Ratio (Metal:Cl <sup>-</sup> ) |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>3-ZnCl<sub>2</sub></b> | 3.94              | 9.42                        | 1 : 2                                 |
| <b>3-CoCl<sub>2</sub></b> | 1.99              | 7.46                        | 1 : 3                                 |
| <b>3-CuCl<sub>2</sub></b> | 1.57              | 3.17                        | 1 : 2                                 |
| <b>4-CuCl<sub>2</sub></b> | 4.43              | 8.08                        | 1 : 2                                 |

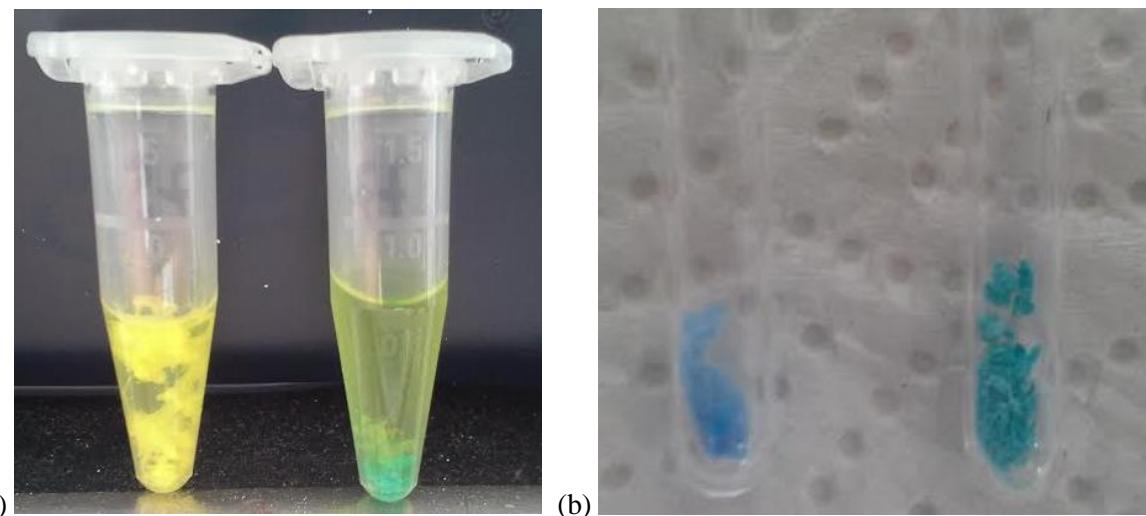


Fig. S26: Pictures of (a) methanol solution and (b) dried Cu-crosslinked-PAMAM (G0) (left) and Cu-crosslinked-5-PAMAM (G0) (right).

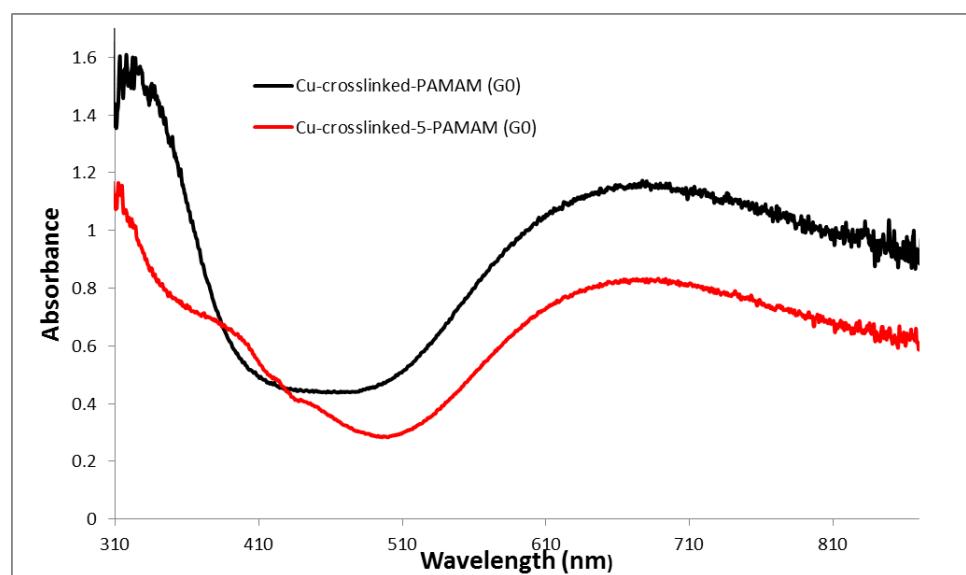


Fig. S27: Solid state UV-visible spectrum of copper complexed networks Cu-crosslinked-PAMAM (G0) (black) and Cu-crosslinked-5-PAMAM (G0) (red).