

Supplementary Information for

Rapid Copolymerization of Canola Oil Derived Epoxide Monomer with Anhydrides and Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)

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Summaries of Characteristic Signals from Spectroscopic Characterization:

FT-IR:

| Entry | Anhydride | -COO-(cm ⁻¹) | -C=C-(cm ⁻¹) | C-O-C(cm ⁻¹) [ester] | C-O-C(cm ⁻¹) [ether] |
|-------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | MA | 1727 | 1644 | 1207, 1157 | - |
| 2 | SA | 1734 | - | 1154 | - |
| 3 | IA | 1768, 1728 | 1653 | 1163 | 1123 |
| 4 | THPA | 1730 | 1656(weak) 1599, 1580, | 1181 | 1112 |
| 5 | PA | 1723 | 1492,1459 (phenyl) | 1121,1066 | - |

Table S1. Characteristic IR absorption of epoxide/anhydride copolymers.

¹H NMR:

| Entry | Anhydride | -OCH-(ppm) | -OCH ₂ -(ppm) | -OCHCH ₂ O-(ppm) |
|-------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | MA | 5.13 | 4.61-4.06 | 3.98-3.21 |
| 2 | SA | 5.07 | 4.36-4.01 | 3.88-3.17 |
| 3 | IA | 5.09 | 4.20 | 3.42 |
| 4 | THPA | 5.04 | 4.08 | 3.62 |
| 5 | PA | 5.32 | 4.45 | 3.90-3.20 |

Table S2. ¹H NMR Ester/ether peaks of epoxide/anhydride copolymer.

Characterizations of DMC Catalyst:

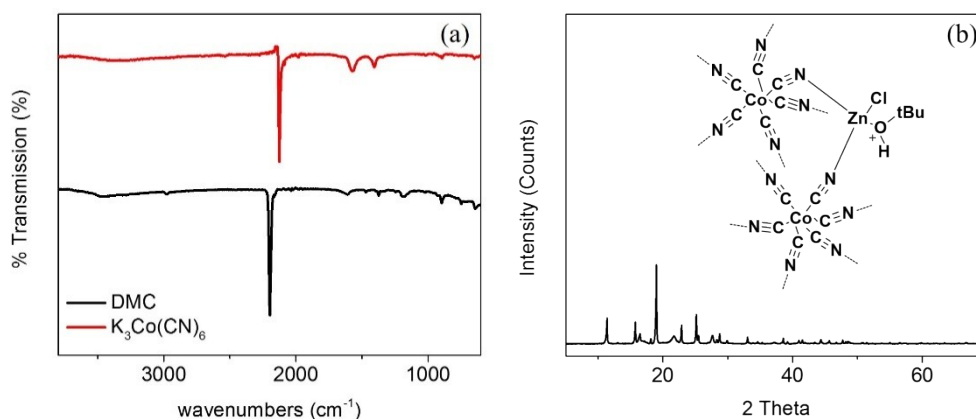


Figure S1. (a) ATR-FTIR spectra of DMC catalyst and K₃Co(CN)₆. (b) XRD patterns and proposed structure of DMC catalyst

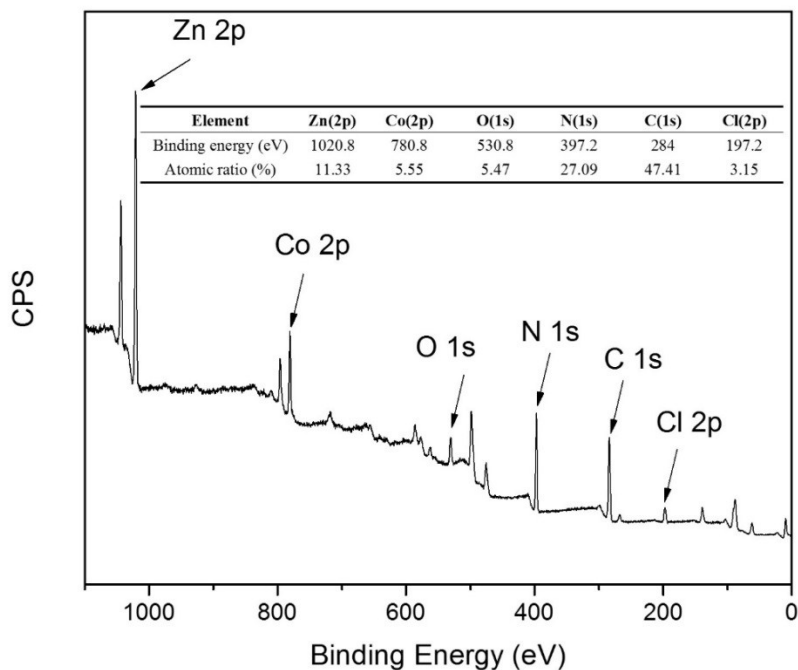


Figure S2. XPS results of DMC catalyst.

Profiles:

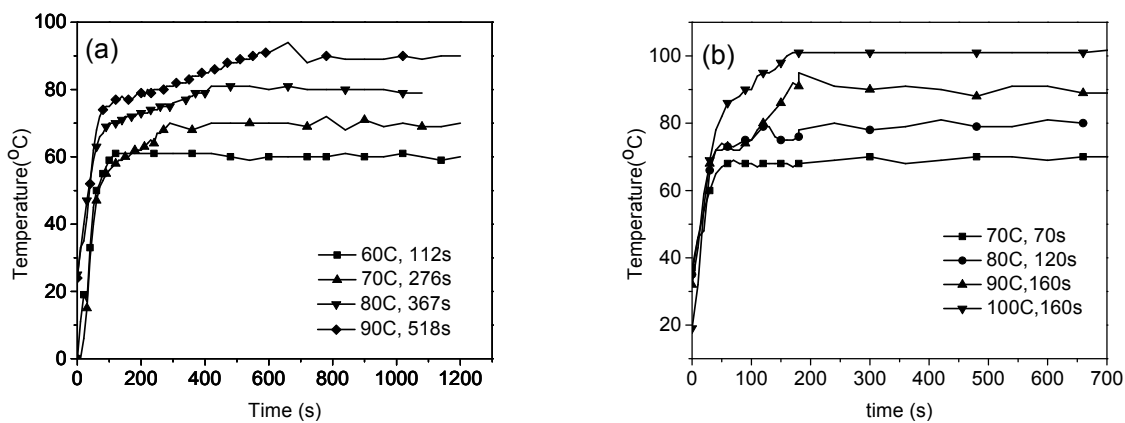


Figure S3 (a) Heat effect of microwave energy on epoxide/CO₂ reaction. 112s, 276s, 367s and 518s was necessary to achieve 60 °C, 70 °C, 80 °C, 90 °C, respectively. (b) The temperature variation during microwave irradiated bulk polymerization of epoxide/MA.

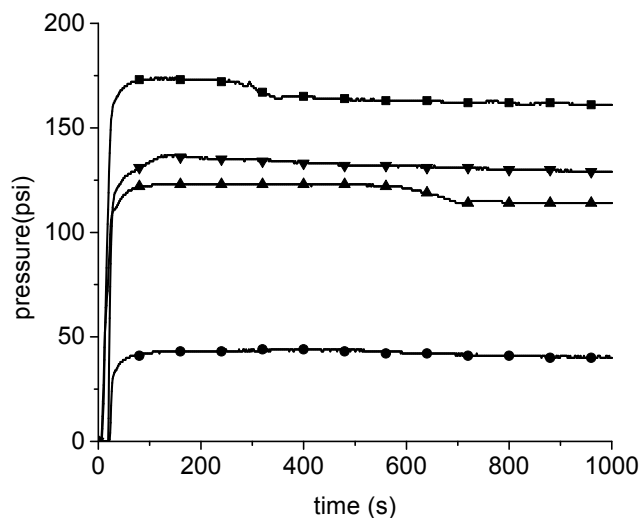


Figure S4. The pressure variation during microwave irradiated copolymerization of epoxide/CO₂.

Investigation of Copolymerization of CO₂ and Epoxide under Various Conditions:

Pressure:

| Entry | Pressure(psi) | Conv (%) | Carbonate (%) | Mw ^a (kda) | PDI ^a | TON ^b | TOF ^c |
|-------|---------------|----------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 76 | 91 | 18.3 | 10.381 | 1.38 | 640 | 3200 |
| 2 | 78 | 93 | 18.8 | 11.902 | 1.43 | 655 | 3275 |
| 3 | 82 | 88 | 34.7 | 11.249 | 1.87 | 620 | 3100 |
| 4 | 130 | 92 | 47.9 | 11.185 | 1.47 | 648 | 3240 |

Table S3. Microwave assisted copolymerization of 1,2-epoxydecane/CO₂ at 70°C for 12 min. a: Molecular weight was identified by GPC. b: Turn over number (TON) was defined as (moles of converted epoxide monomer/ moles of Zinc). c: Turn over frequency (TOF) = TON per hour. Similarly, the calculation of TONs and TOFs were also applied for the experiments recorded in the following tables.

Time:

| Entry | Time(min) | Conv (%) | CC ^a (%) | Mw (kDa) | PDI | TON | TOF |
|----------------|-----------|----------|---------------------|----------|------|-----|------|
| 1 | 6 | 92 | 2 | 10.1 | 1.69 | 648 | 6480 |
| 2 | 9 | 94 | 2 | 9.0 | 1.61 | 662 | 4413 |
| 3 | 12 | 93 | 2 | 11.9 | 1.43 | 655 | 3275 |
| 4 | 15 | 91 | 3 | 10.5 | 1.91 | 640 | 2560 |
| 5 | 27 | 98 | 3 | 8.8 | 1.54 | 690 | 1533 |
| 6 | 30 | >99 | 11 | 7.3 | 1.75 | 697 | 1394 |
| 7 ^b | 2 h | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Table S4. Microwave assisted copolymerization of 1,2-epoxydecane/CO₂ at 70°C for different time. a: percentage of cyclic carbonate estimated by ¹H NMR. b: no copolymer was observed after 2 h microwave-assisted reaction of epoxide/CO₂ without DMC catalyst.

Temperature:

| Entry | T(°C) | Conv (%) | Carbonate (%) | CC ^a (%) | Mw (kDa) | PDI | TON | TOF |
|-------|-------|----------|---------------|---------------------|----------|------|-----|------|
| 1 | 60 | 55 | 80.6 | <1 | 14.2 | 1.44 | 387 | 774 |
| 2 | 70 | 99 | 35.3 | 11 | 7.3 | 1.75 | 697 | 1394 |
| 3 | 80 | 97 | 32.3 | 6 | 7.8 | 1.84 | 683 | 1366 |
| 4 | 90 | 95 | 18.6 | 3 | 8.5 | 1.74 | 669 | 1338 |
| 5 | 100 | 94 | 22.3 | 1 | 9.2 | 1.68 | 662 | 1324 |

Table S5. Microwave assisted copolymerization of 1,2-epoxydecane/CO₂ for 30 min. a: percentages of cyclic carbonate (CC%) were estimated by ¹H NMR of crude products.

Solvents:

| Entry | Solv | Conv (%) | Carbonate (%) | Mw (kDa) | PDI | TON | TOF |
|-------|--------|----------|---------------|----------|------|-----|------|
| 1 | Hexane | 52 | 87.7 | 15.2 | 1.30 | 366 | 732 |
| 2 | THF | 97 | 19.4 | 9.3 | 1.53 | 683 | 1366 |

Table S6. Microwave assisted copolymerization of 1,2-epoxydecane/CO₂ at 70°C for 30 min in different solvent.

Investigation of Copolymerization of Anhydrides and Epoxide under Various Conditions:

Temperature:

| Entry | T(°C) | Time (min) | Conv ^b (%) | Ester (%) | Mw (kDa) | PDI | TON | TOF |
|----------------|-------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|------|-----|------|
| 1 | 90 | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2 | 80 | 20 | 100 | 82.3 | 8.151 | 1.23 | 704 | 2112 |
| 3 | 90 | 20 | 100 | 92.3 | 8.692 | 1.27 | 704 | 2112 |
| 4 | 100 | 10 | 100 | 91.1 | 8.212 | 1.28 | 704 | 4224 |
| 5 | 110 | 10 | 100 | 85.9 | 10.659 | 1.57 | 704 | 4224 |
| 6 ^a | 110 | 20 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 7 ^c | 90 | 5h | 100 | 75.0 | 6.013 | 1.52 | 704 | 141 |
| 8 ^d | 80 | 1h | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Table S7. Copolymerization of 1,2-epoxydecane/MA. a: insoluble polymer was obtained. b: the conversion was determined by the epoxide residue measured by ¹H NMR. c: the experiment was performed under conventional heating condition. d: the experiment was performed without DMC catalyst and no copolymer was observed after 1 h microwave-assisted reaction.

Catalyst Loading:

| Entry | DMC loading | Time (min) | Conv (%) | Ester (%) | Mw (kDa) | PDI | TON | TOF |
|-------|-------------|------------|----------|-----------|----------|------|------|------|
| 1 | 0.3mg | 20 | 100 | 87.7 | 6.311 | 1.32 | 1408 | 4224 |
| 2 | 0.6mg | 10 | 100 | 91.1 | 8.212 | 1.28 | 704 | 4224 |
| 3 | 0.9mg | 10 | 100 | 90.5 | 8.421 | 1.25 | 469 | 2814 |

Table S8. Copolymerization of 1,2-epoxydecane/MA at 100°C.

Solvents:

| Entry | Solv | Ester (%) | Mw (kDa) | PDI |
|-------|--------|-----------|----------|------|
| 1 | Hexane | 91.2 | 8.171 | 1.43 |
| 2 | THF | 69.3 | 7.336 | 1.17 |

Table S9. Copolymerization of 1,2-epoxydecane/MA for 20 min at 100°C in different solvents.

Epoxy to Anhydride Ratio:

| Entry | Epoxy: MA | Ester (%) | Mw (kDa) | PDI |
|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|------|
| 1 | 1.0:1.4 | 70.8 | 6.922 | 1.31 |
| 2 | 1.0:1.8 | 67.5 | 6.731 | 1.28 |

Table S10. Copolymerization of 1,2-epoxydecane/MA for 10 min at 100°C.

Temperatures of Polymer Degradation:

| Entry | Anhydride | T _{5%} (°C) | T _{10%} (°C) | T _{20%} (°C) | T _{50%} (°C) |
|-------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) | MA | 308 | 330 | 348 | 372 |
| (b) | SA | 289 | 318 | 342 | 365 |
| (c) | IA | 282 | 308 | 334 | 367 |
| (d) | PA | 276 | 304 | 321 | 342 |
| (e) | Isomerization of (a) | 204 | 301 | 337 | 369 |
| (f) | THPA | 205 | 257 | 305 | 353 |

Table S11. Decomposition temperature (5%, 10%, 20%, 50% weight loss) for polyesters.

DSC Characterization of copolymers:

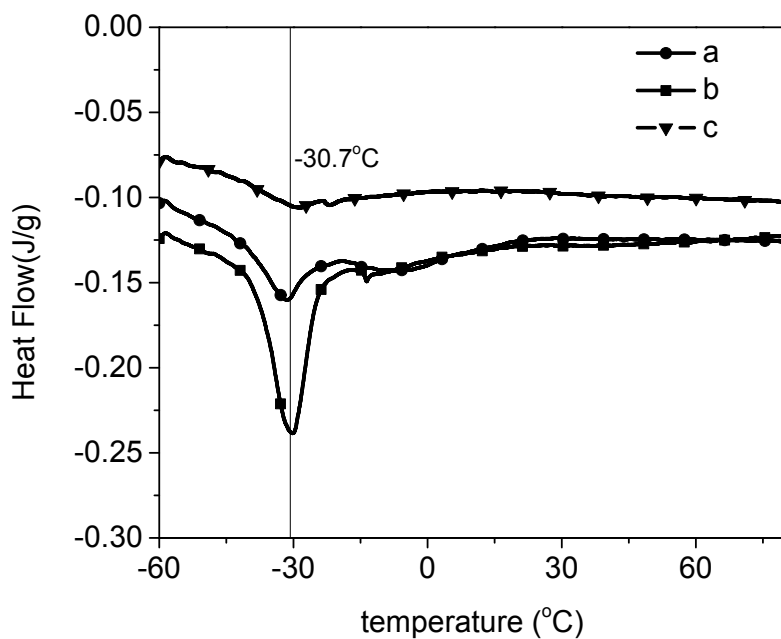


Figure S5. DSC curves(Exo up) of polymer contains different percentage of carbonate linkage. (a) Carbonate% = 35.3% (Entry 2, Table S5). (b) Carbonate% = 19.4% (Entry 2, Table S6). (c) Carbonate% = 87.7% (Entry 1, Table S6).

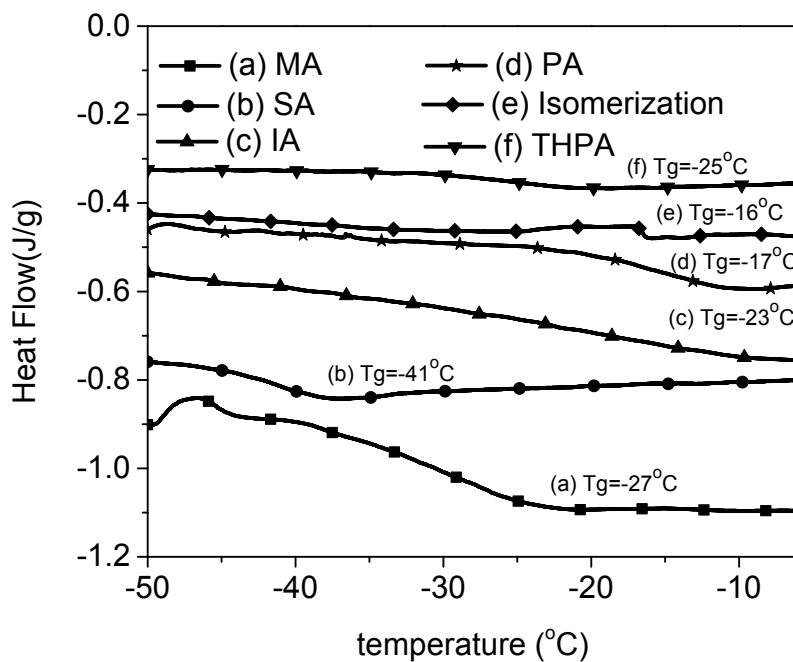


Figure S6. DSC curves (Exo up) of polyester using different anhydrides. The T_{gs} were determined by Universal Analysis 2000 Software automatically.