

Synthesis of Linear and Star Poly(ϵ -caprolactone) with Controlled and High Molecular Weights via Cyclic Trimeric Phosphazene Base Catalyzed Ring-Opening Polymerization

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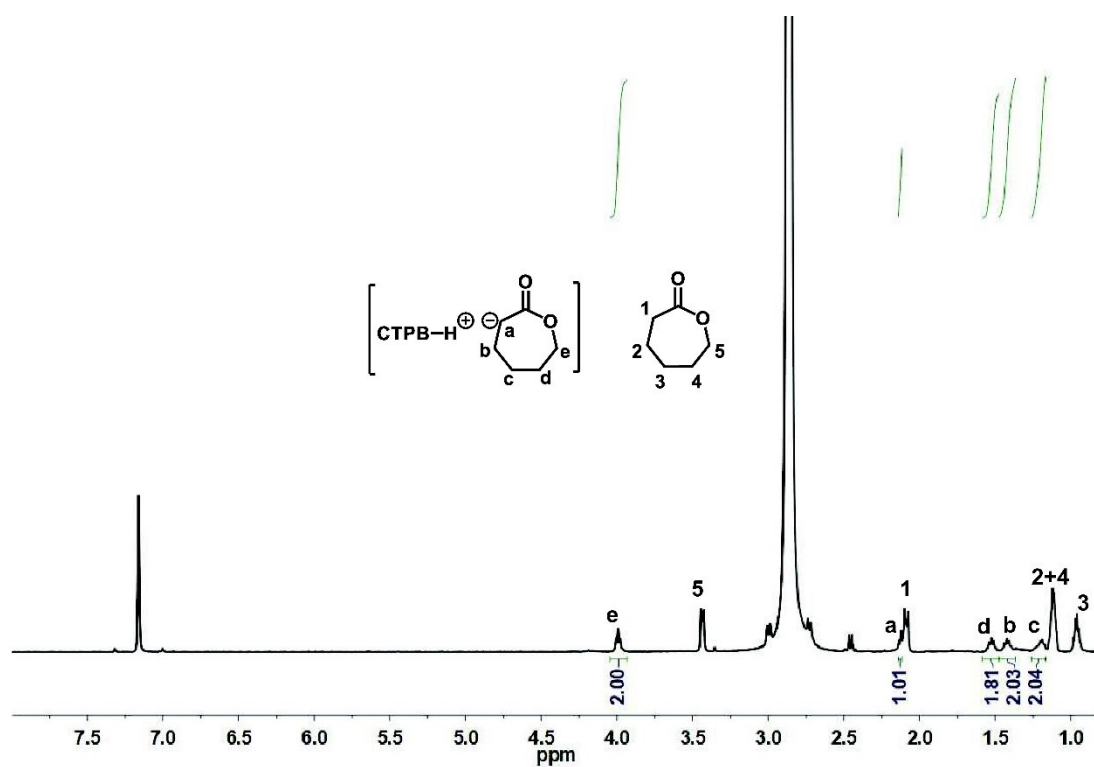


Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum of CTPB + 1 equiv. ε-CL for 2 hours at room temperature in C₆D₆.

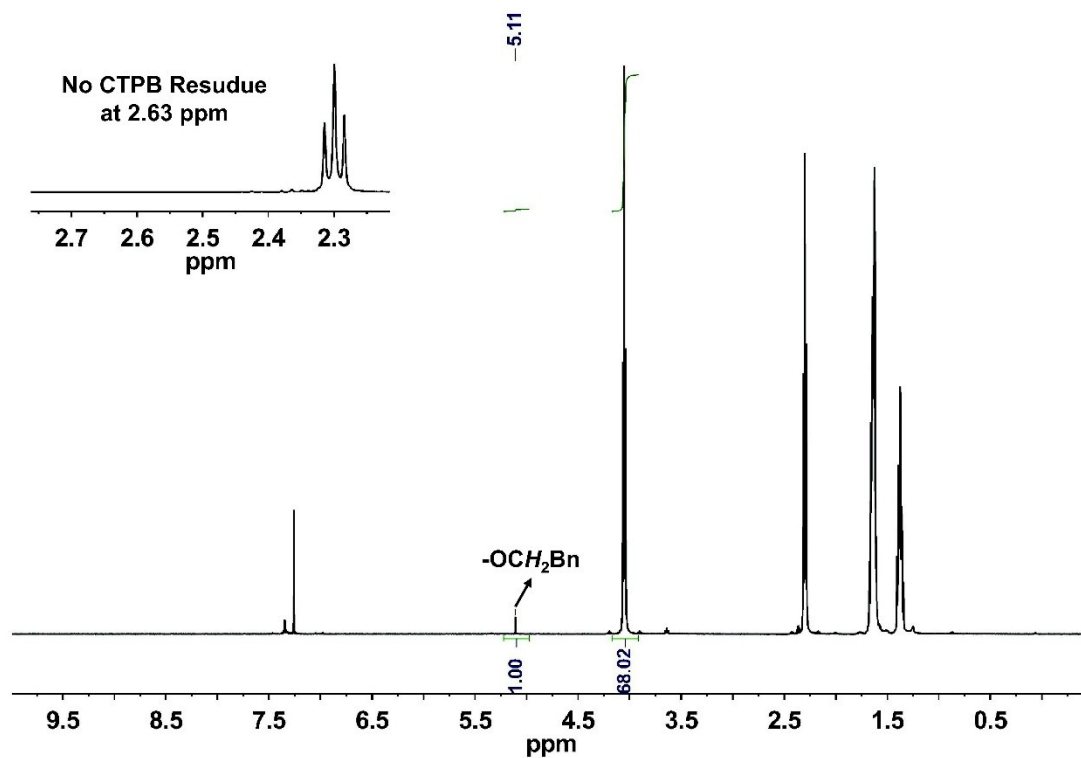


Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum of PCL obtained in Table 1 entry 11 (ε-CL/CTPB/BnOH = 5000/1/50; $M_{n,NMR}$ = 7.8 kDa).

◆ TMP-PCL₃-Na⁺, $\Delta m/z = 114.14$

▼ TMP-PCL₃-K⁺, $\Delta m/z = 114.14$

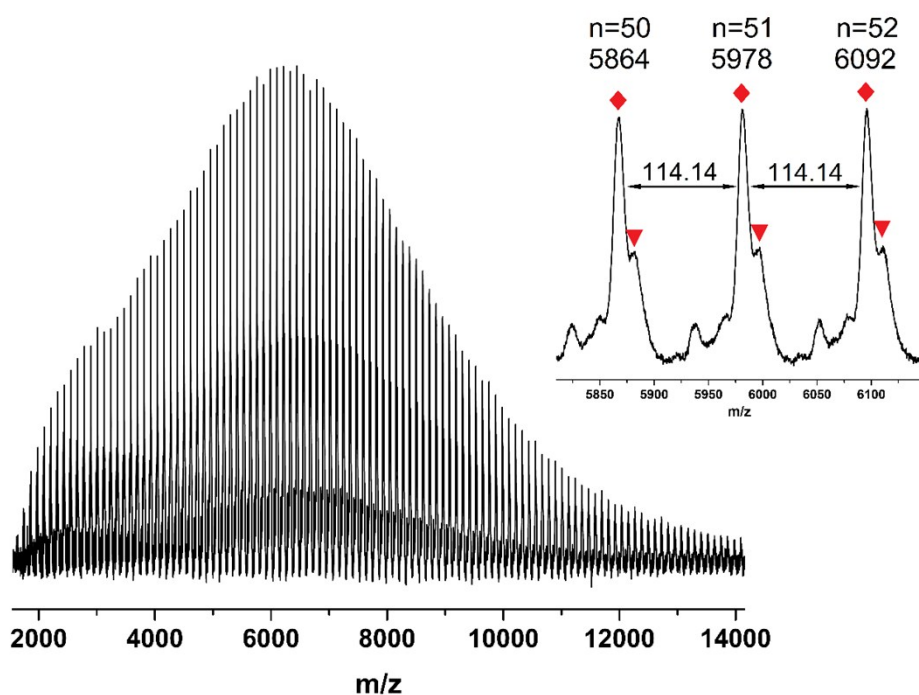


Figure S5. MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of PCL produced by ϵ -CL /CTPB/TMP = 300/1/3 for 2 min (Table 1 run 14, $M_{n,theor} = 11.6$ kDa, $M_{n,GPC} = 12.0$ kDa, $M_{n,MALDI} = 6.4$ kDa).

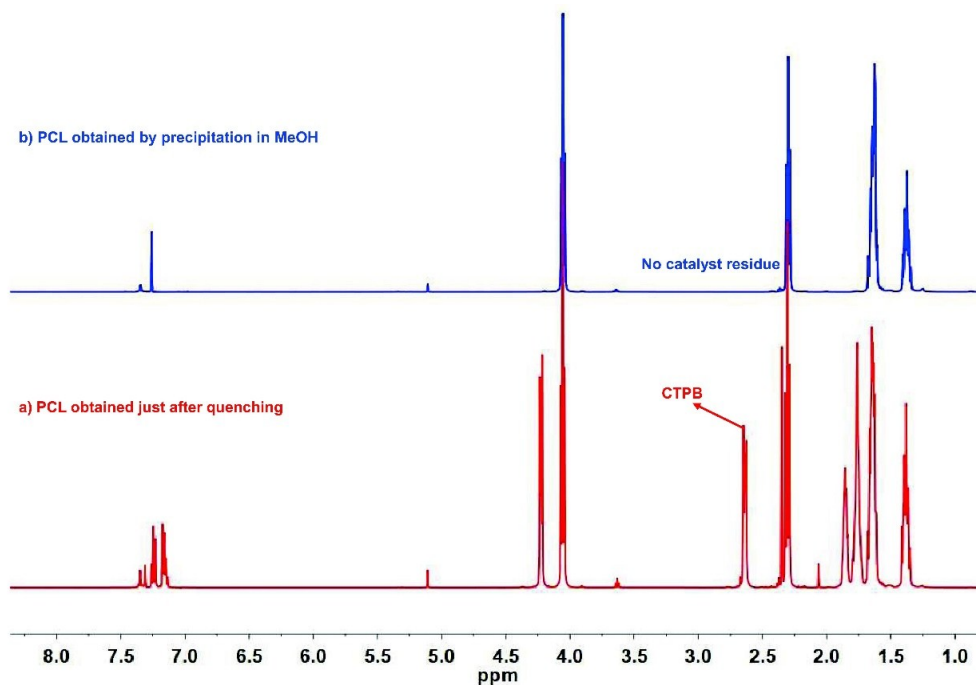


Figure S6. ¹H NMR spectra of PCL obtained in Table 1 entry 11 (ϵ -CL/CTPB/BnOH = 5000/1/50); (a) PCL obtained just after quenching and (b) PCL obtained by precipitation in MeOH.

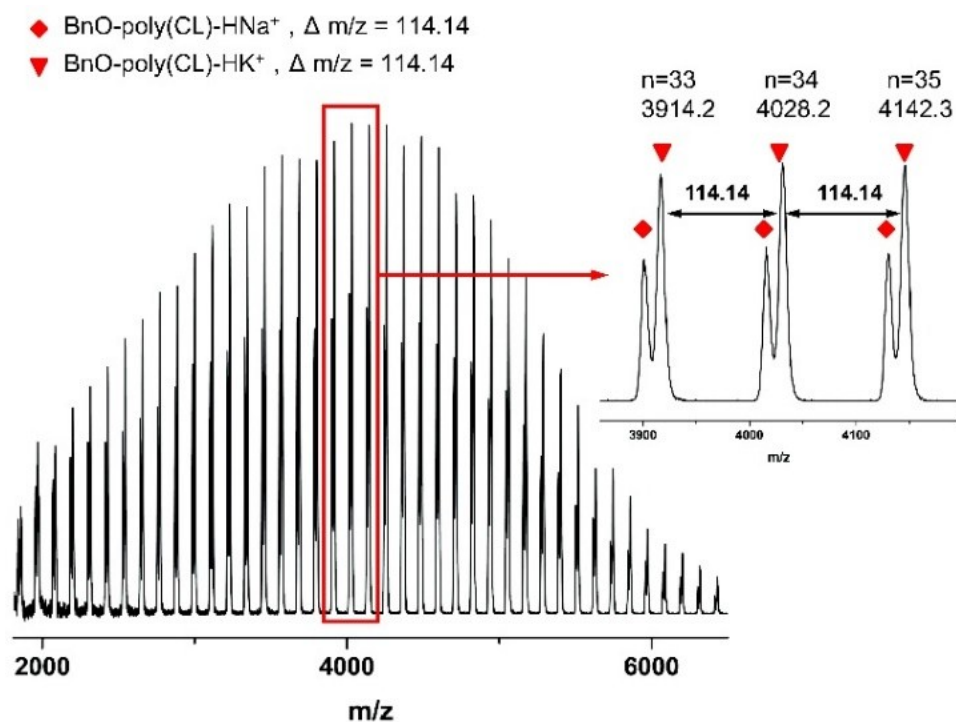


Figure S7. MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of PCL produced by ϵ -CL /CTPB/BnOH = 5000/1/50 (Table 1 run 11, $M_{n,theor} = 7.0$ kDa, $M_{n,GPC} = 7.5$ kDa, $M_{n,MALDI} = 3.8$ kDa).

Table S1. ROP of ϵ -CL initiated by CTPB/alcohol system.^a

| Entry | [M] ₀ /[C] ₀ /[I] ₀ | Initiator | Time [min] | <i>T</i> [°C] | Conv. ^b [%] | $M_{n,theor}$ [kDa] | $M_{n,GPC}^c$ [kDa] | \mathcal{D}^c |
|-------|--|-----------|------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 100/1/3 | BnOH | 2 | 20 | 67 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 1.31 |
| 2 | 2000/1/1 | BnOH | 60 | 20 | 50 | 114.1 | 119.9 | 2.05 |
| 3 | 5000/1/50 | BnOH | 30 | 60 | 72 | 8.3 | 9.1 | 1.66 |
| 4 | 5000/1/50 | BnOH | 30 | 90 | 88 | 10.1 | 11.0 | 1.65 |

^aConditions: CTPB 0.05 mmol; [CTPB] was from 0.001 to 0.003 mol/L; base and initiator were mixed firstly in toluene, followed by ϵ -CL. ^bDetermined by ¹H NMR. ^cDetermined by GPC at 40 °C in THF relative to PS standards.