

**Electronic Supplementary Information for:**

# **Stereocomplex of poly(lactide)s with chain end modification: simultaneous resistances to melting and thermal decomposition**

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## 1. Experimental procedure

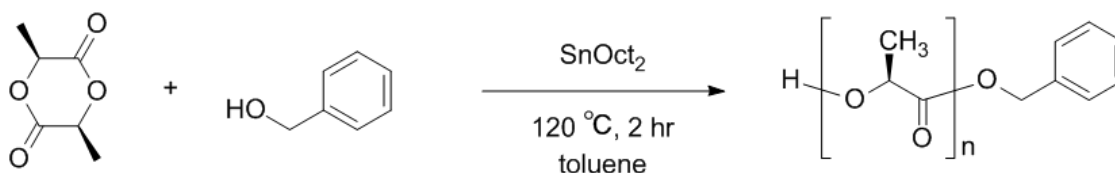
### 1-1.) Materials.

L-lactide (LLA; Musashino Chemical Laboratory, Ltd., Japan) and D-lactide (DLA; Musashino Chemical Laboratory, Ltd., Japan) were recrystallized from ethyl acetate, and then dried *in vacuo* at room temperature for 24h. Benzyl alcohol (Tokyo Chemical Industry, Ltd., Japan) was distilled with CaH<sub>2</sub> for purification. Thionyl chloride (SOCl<sub>2</sub>), 3,4-dihydroxycinnamic acid (DHCA), acetic anhydride (Ac<sub>2</sub>O) were used without purification.

### 1-2.) Measurements.

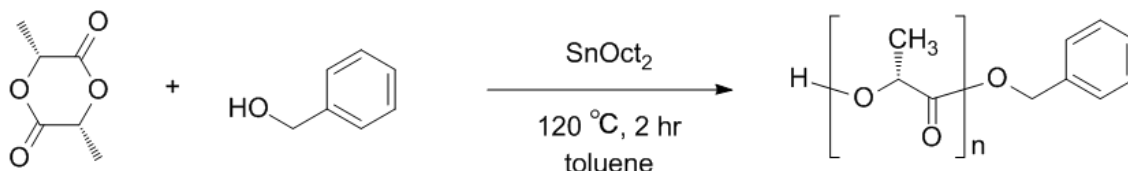
The number average of molecular weight of PLLA was determined by size exclusion chromatography (SEC). A JASCO Chem NAV system was used with polystyrene standards at 40 °C, equipped with PU-2080, AS-2055, CO-2065, and RI-2031. Two commercial columns (TSKgel SuperH4000 and TSKgel GMH<sub>XL</sub>) were connected in series and tetrahydrofuran (THF) was used as an eluent. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were measured with a NMR spectrometer (JEOL FX400) at 400 MHz and 600MHz.

### 1-3.) Synthesis of poly(L-lactide) (PLLA<sub>b</sub>)



To the round bottom flask, LLA (2 g, 13.9 mmol) was dissolved in 2 mL of toluene under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, then benzyl alcohol (36 μL, 0.347 mmol) and SnOct<sub>2</sub> (28 mg, 0.0694 mmol) were combined to heat up at 120 °C for 2 hr. After the reaction, the product was dissolved in chloroform and purified by re-precipitation over methanol twice. The yield was 92 %.

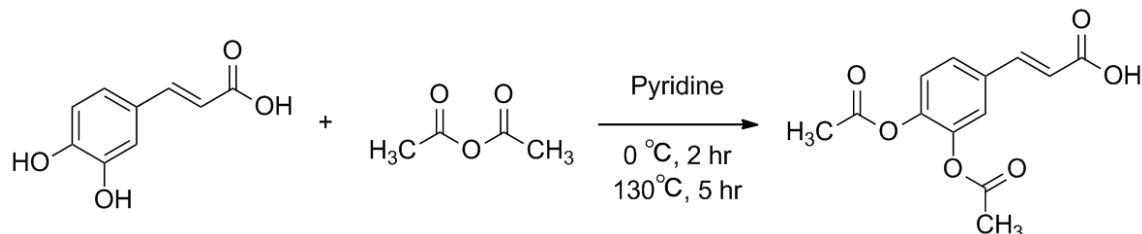
### 1-4.) Synthesis of poly(D-lactide) (PDLA<sub>b</sub>)



To the round bottom flask, DLA (10 g, 69.4 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of toluene under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, then benzyl alcohol (180 mL, 1.73 mmol) and SnOct<sub>2</sub> (70 mg, 0.173 mmol) were

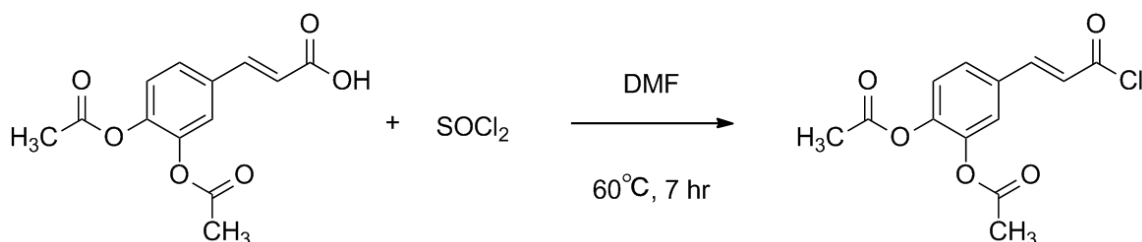
combined to heat up at 120 °C for 2 hr. After the reaction, the product was dissolved in chloroform and purified by re-precipitation over methanol twice. The yield was 83 %.

### 1-5.) Synthesis of 3,4-diacetoxycinnamic acid (DACA)



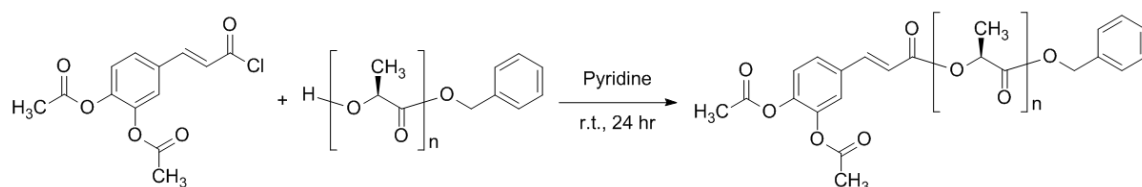
DACA was prepared according to the literature.<sup>[S1]</sup> To the round bottom flask, DHCA (10 g, 55.5 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of dry pyridine under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 0 °C. After 30 min, 30 mL of acetic anhydride (318 mmol) was added to stir for 30 min at 0 °C. Then the reaction mixture was heated up to 130 °C for 5 hr. After the reaction, the solvent was evaporated and recrystallized from toluene. The obtained compound was washed by 0.1 N HCL repeatedly. The yield was 50 %.

### 1-6.) Synthesis of 3,4-diacetoxycinnamoyl chloride (DACC)



DACC was prepared according to the literature.<sup>[S1]</sup> To the round bottom flask, DACA (0.264 g, 1 mmol) was dissolved in 0.6 mL of dichloromethane. Then, 0.5 mL of SOCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.79 μL of dimethylformamide (DMF) were added to heat up to 60 °C for 7 hr. The reaction mixture was directly transferred to the next reaction without further purification.

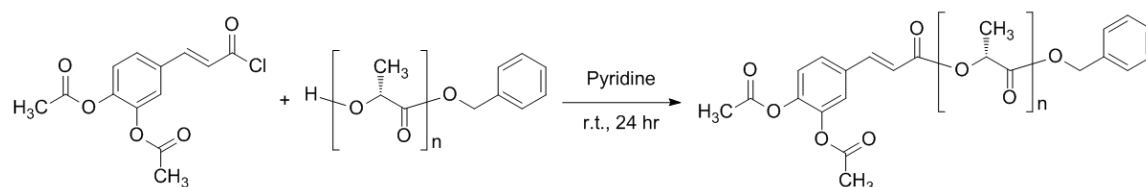
### 1-7.) Synthesis of DACA-PLLAB



DACA conjugation with PLLAb was achieved according to the literature.<sup>[S1]</sup> 0.525 g of PLLAb was dissolved into 1.875 mL of dichloromethane and 0.094 mL of pyridine. The mixture was then, it was introduced into DACC (0.23 g, 0.83 mmol) at 0 °C to stir for 1.5 hr. The reaction mixture was kept to

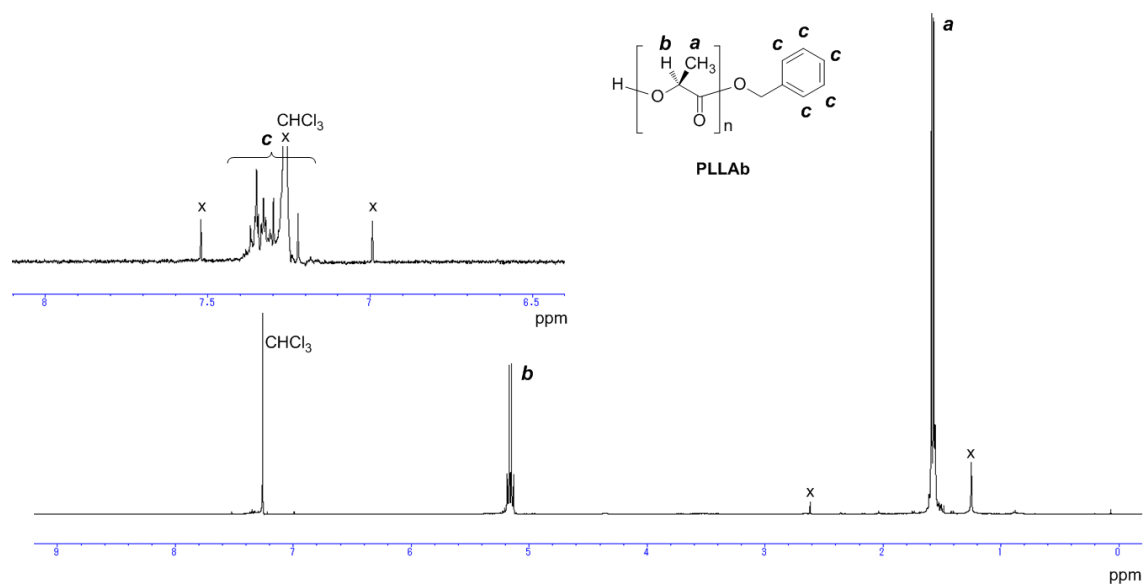
stir at room temperature for 24 hr. After the reaction, the product was washed by 0.1 N HCl repeatedly and reprecipitated in ethanol.

### 1-8.) Synthesis of DACA-PDLAb

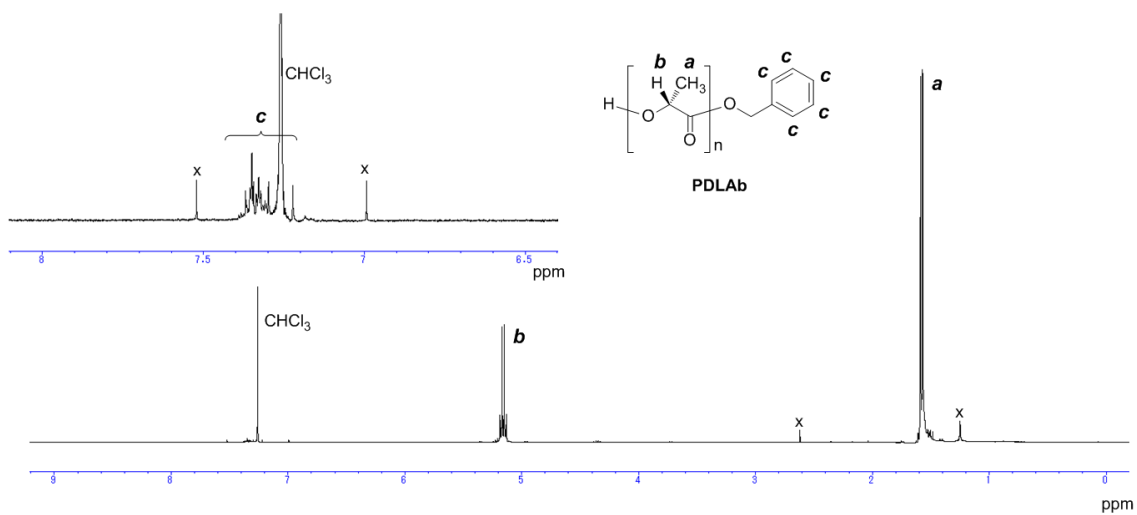


DACA conjugation with PDLAb was achieved according to the literature.<sup>[S1]</sup> 0.525 g of PLLAb was dissolved into 1.875 mL of dichloromethane and 0.094 mL of pyridine. The mixture was then, it was introduced into DACC (0.23 g, 0.83 mmol) at 0 °C to stir for 1.5 hr. The reaction mixture was kept to stir at room temperature for 24 hr. After the reaction, the product was washed by 0.1 N HCl repeatedly and reprecipitated in ethanol.

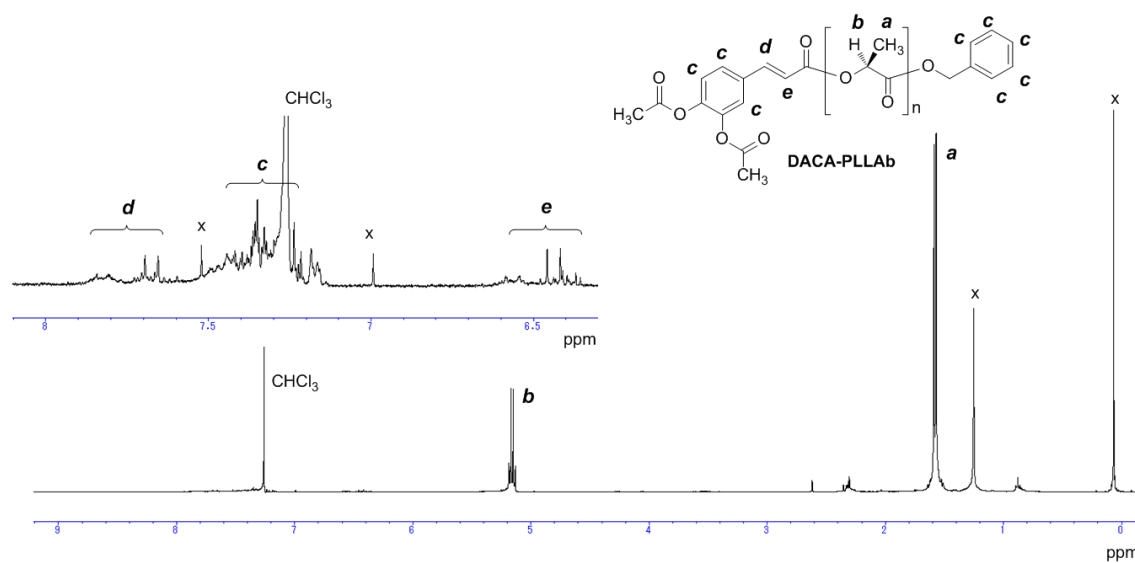
## 2. $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra of polymers.



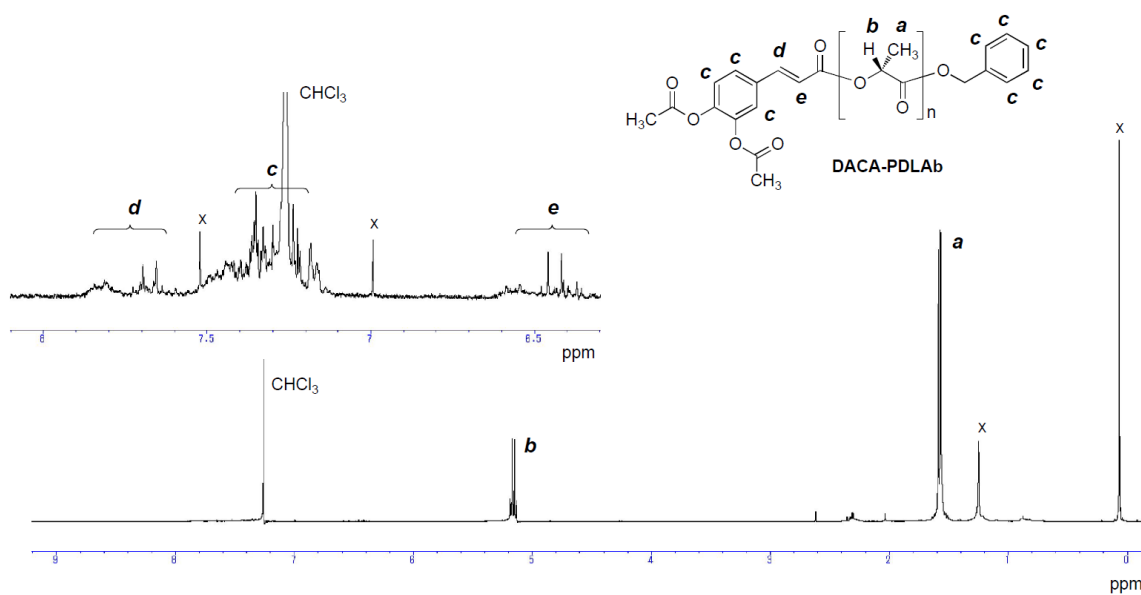
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of PLLAb in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at r.t. (600 MHz).



**Figure S2.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of PDLAb in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at r.t. (600 MHz).

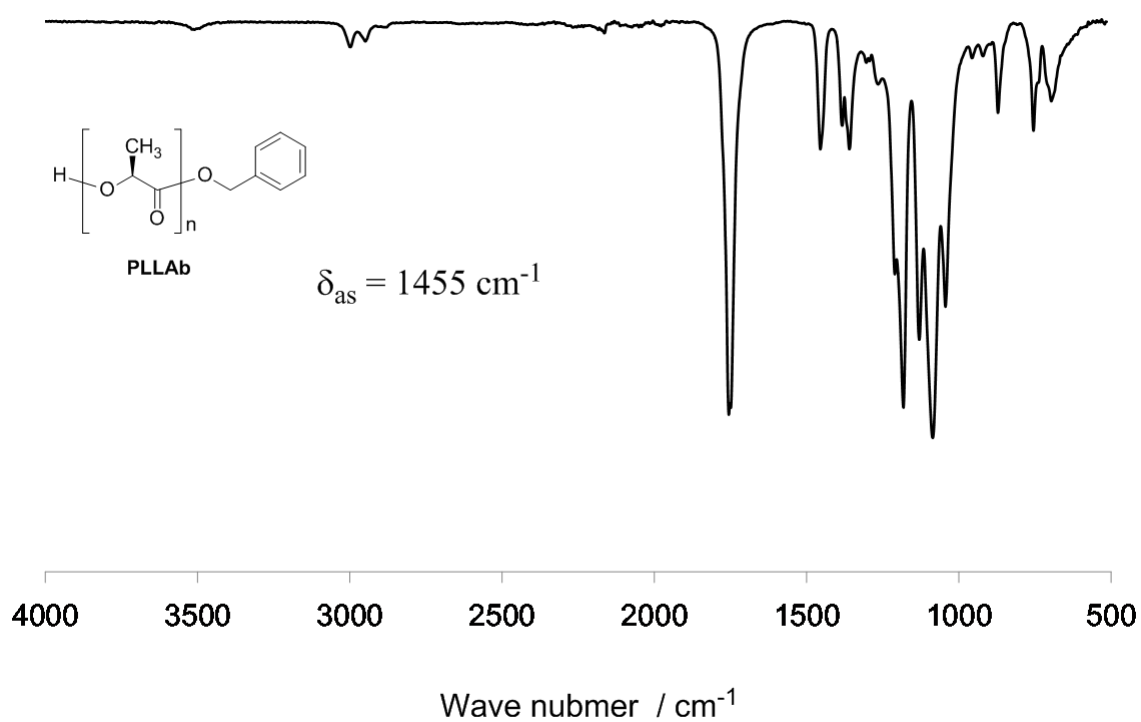


**Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of DACA-PLLab in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at r.t. (400 MHz).

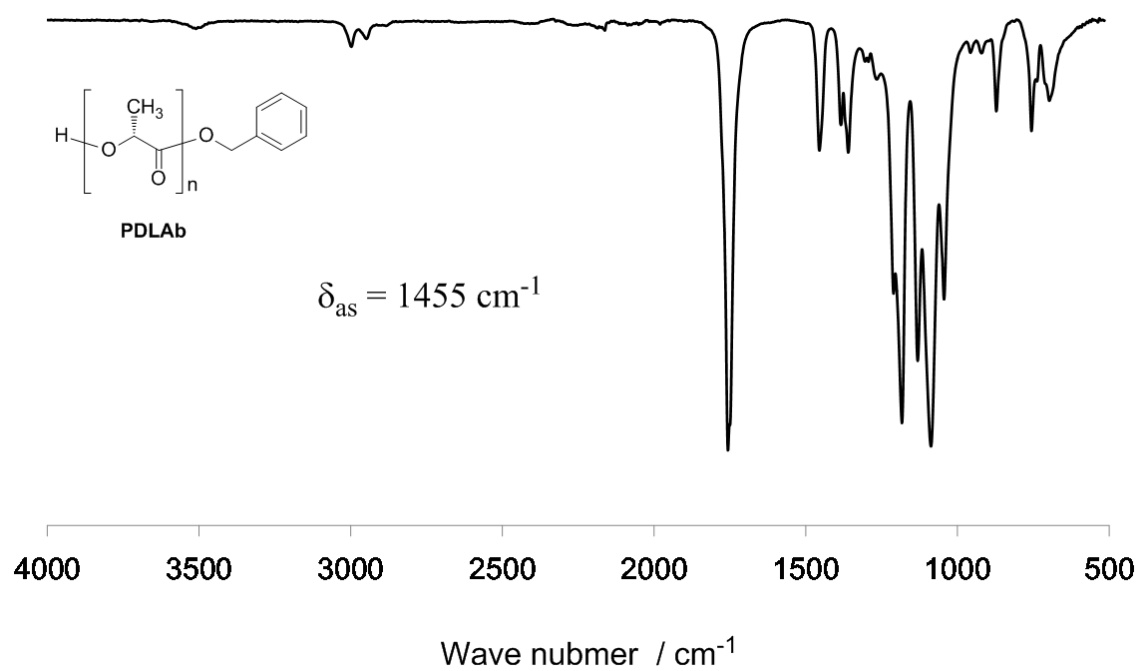


**Figure S4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of DACA-PDLAb in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at r.t. (400 MHz).

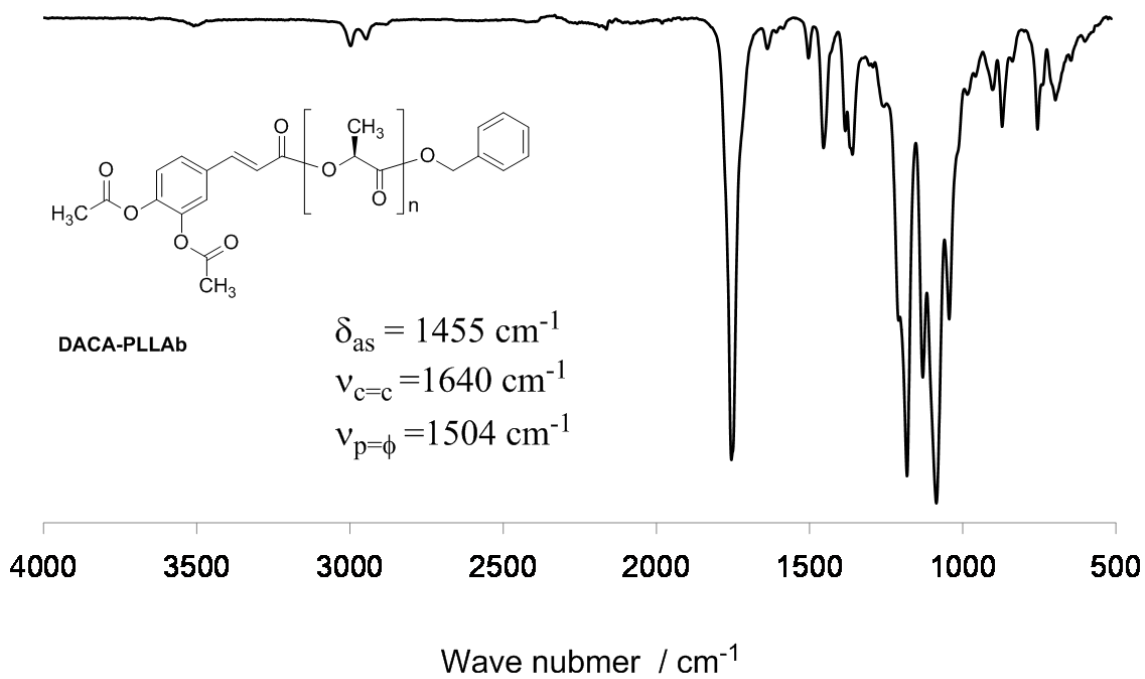
### 3. FT-IR/ATR spectra of polymers



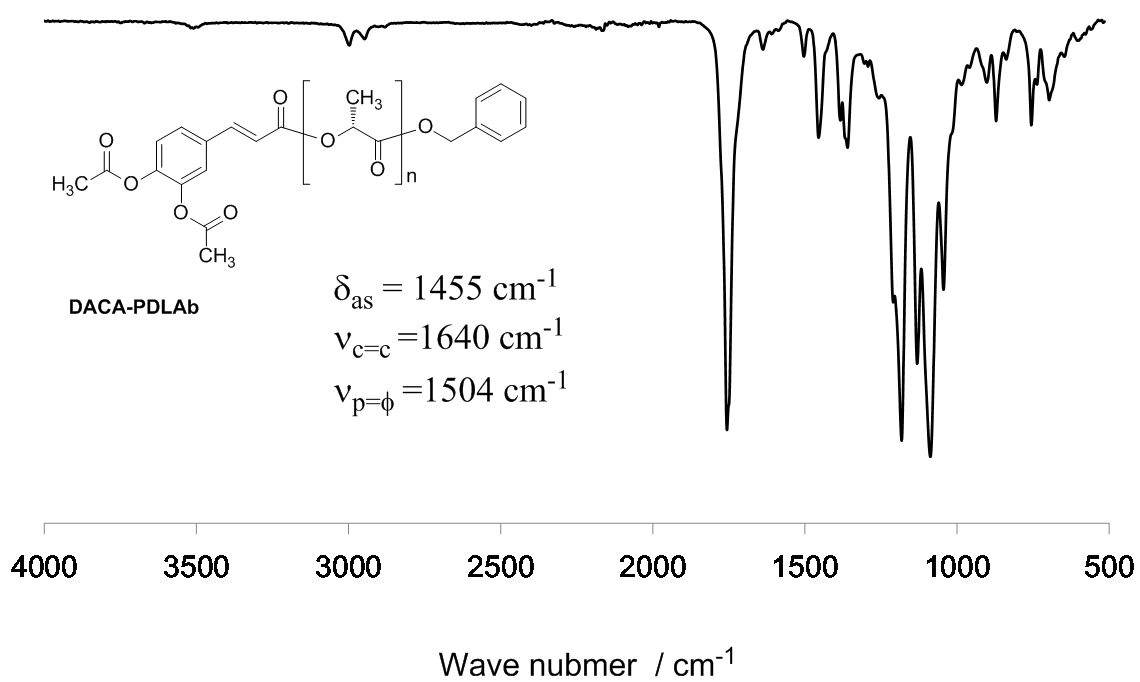
**Figure S9.** FT-IR/ATR spectrum of PLLAb.



**Figure S10.** FT-IR/ATR spectrum of PDLAb.



**Figure S11.** FT-IR/ATR spectrum of DACA-PLLab.



**Figure S12.** FT-IR/ATR spectrum of DACA-PDLAb.



#### 4. SEC charts of polymers

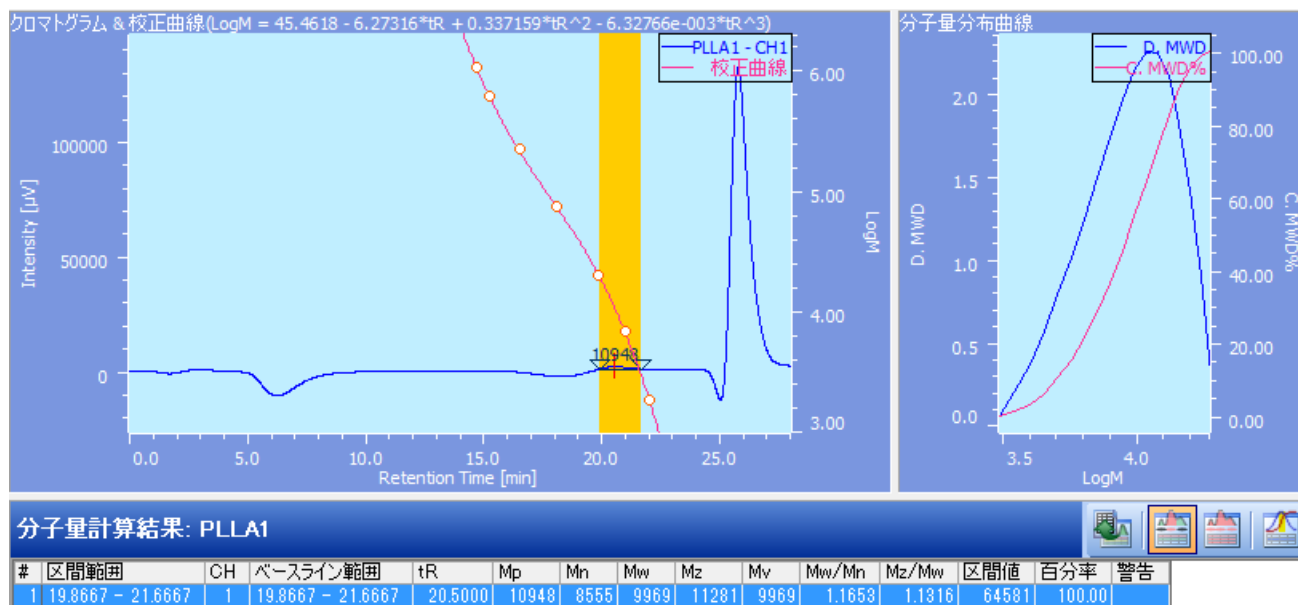


Figure S5. SEC chart of PLLAb in CHCl<sub>3</sub>.

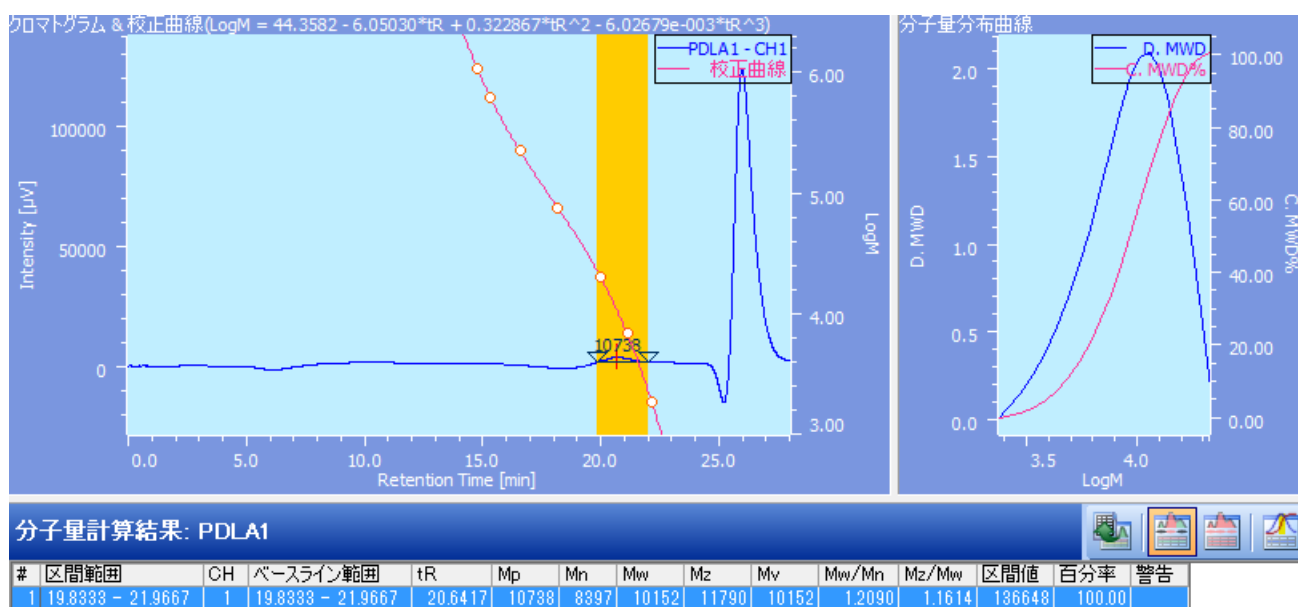


Figure S6. SEC chart of PDLAb in CHCl<sub>3</sub>.

## References

- [S1] T. H. Thi, M. Matsusaki, and M. Akashi, *Chem. Commn.*, 2008, 3918-3920.