## **Supporting Information**

# Active Ga-catalysts for the ring opening homo- and copolymerization of cyclic esters, and copolymerization of epoxide and anhydrides

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**Figure S35.** DSC curve of PCL-*b*-PLLA obtained by reaction of  $\varepsilon$ -CL, *L*-LA and **1** in ratio [ $\varepsilon$ -CL]:[*L*-LA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

Figure S36. DOSY NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectrum of PCL-b-PLLA diblock copolymer.

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**Figure S40**. GPC elugram of PLLA obtain by polymerization resumption experiment of enantiomeric pure *L*-LA and **1** in toluene at 100 °C, [monomer]:[cat.]:[BnOH] =  $(200^{1st} + 200^{2nd})$ :1:4.

**Figure S41**. GPC elugram of PCL obtain by polymerization resumption experiment of  $\varepsilon$ -CL and 1 in toluene at 100 °C, [monomer]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = (200<sup>1st</sup> + 200<sup>2nd</sup>):1:4.

**Figure S42**. COSY NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

**Figure S43**. HMBC NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[ SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

**Figure S44**. HSQC NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

**Figure S45**. COSY NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene malonate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and 1 in ratio [CHO]:[MA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

**Figure S46**. HMBC NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene malonate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[MA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

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Figure S48. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 2 (blue color) and catalyst-2-OBn (red color) in  $CD_2Cl_2$ . Catalyst-2-OBn obtained by reaction of catalyst -2 and BnOH in ratio [Cat-2]:[BnOH] = 1:4 at 23 °C in  $CD_2Cl_2$ .

**Figure S49**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum **catalyst-2-OBn** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> obtained by reaction of **2** and BnOH in ratio [**Cat-2**]:[BnOH] = 1:4 at 23 °C in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

**Figure S50**. MALDI-ToF spectrum of poly(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 100:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene at 100 °C.

**Table S2** ROP of  $\varepsilon$ -CL initiated by complex 1 with varying [monomer]:[cat.]:[BnOH] molar ratios in toluene at 100 °C.

#### I. Spectroscopic Characterization of 1-3

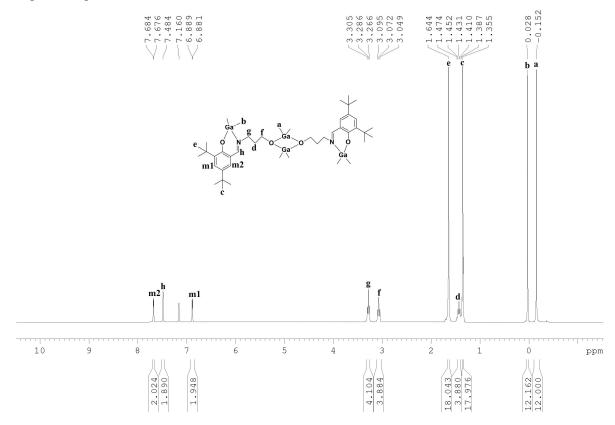


Figure S1: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 300 K) spectrum of 1

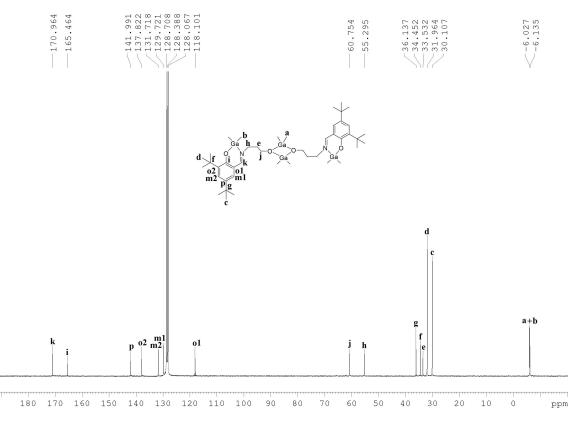


Figure S2: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 300 K) spectrum of 1

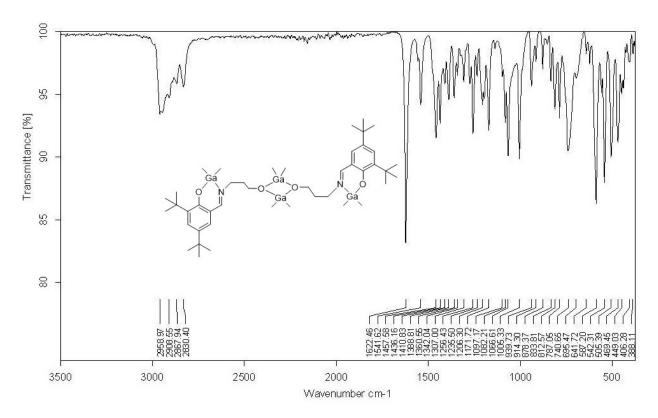


Figure S3: IR spectrum of 1

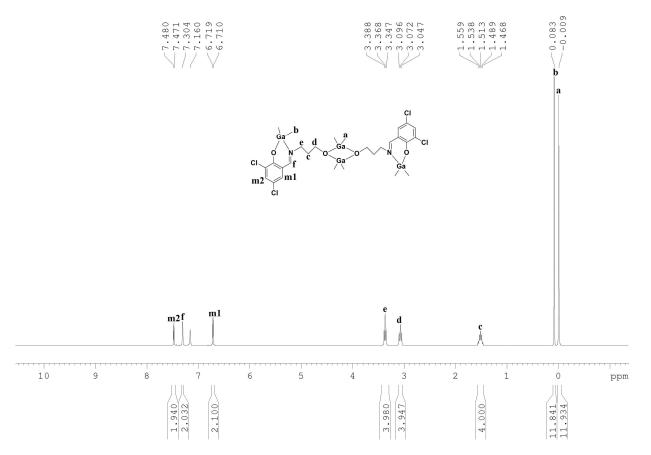


Figure S4: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 300 K) spectrum of 2

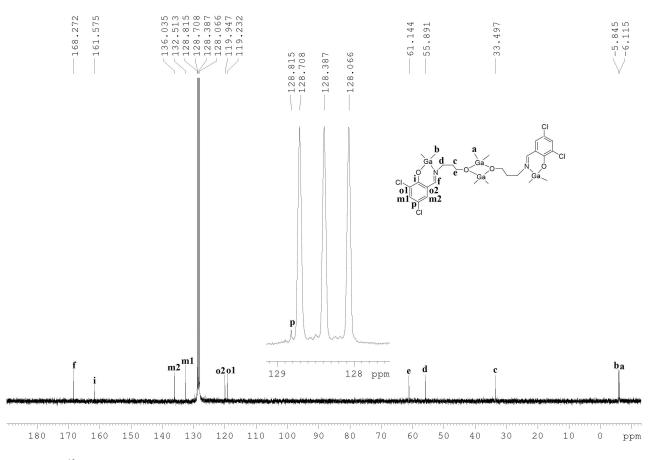


Figure S5: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 300 K) spectrum of 2

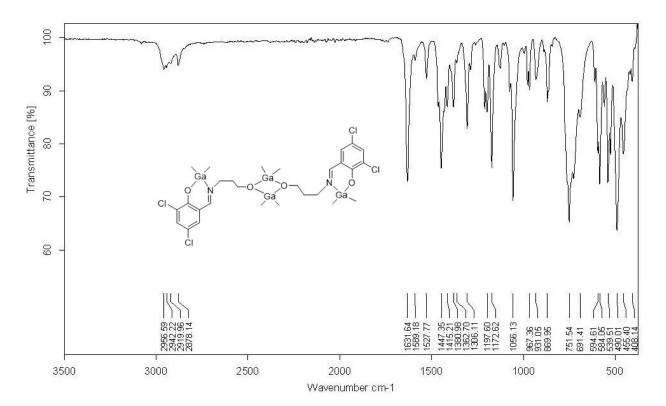
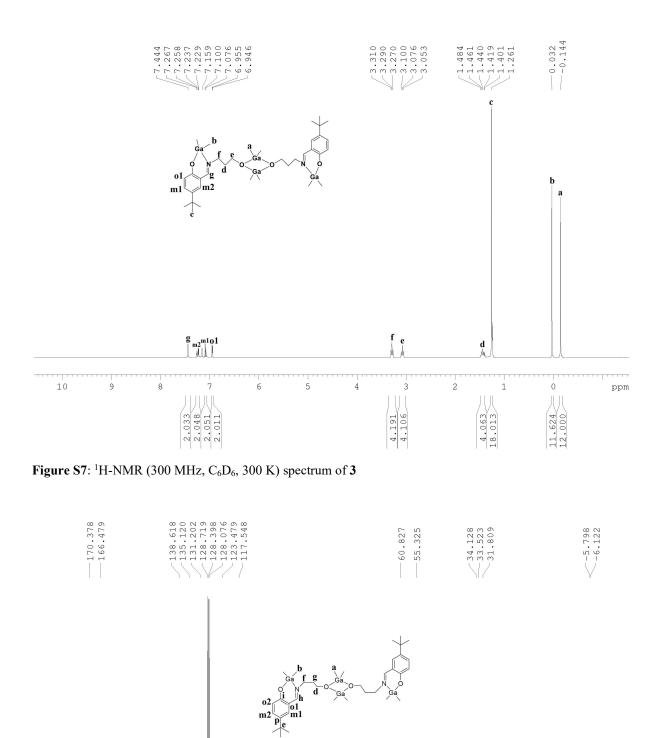


Figure S6: IR spectrum of 2





a b

e

Figure S8: <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 300 K) spectrum of 3

p m1 | m2 |

h

0<sup>2</sup> 01

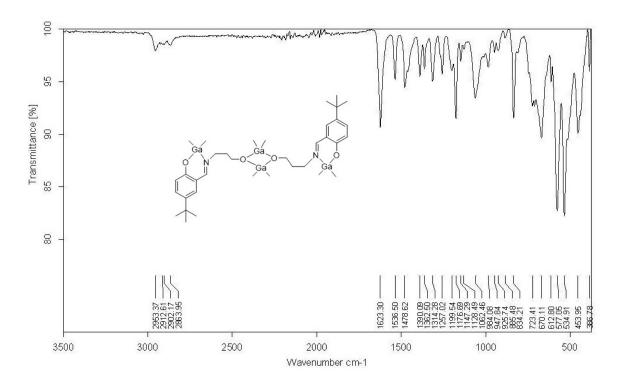


Figure S9: IR spectrum of 3

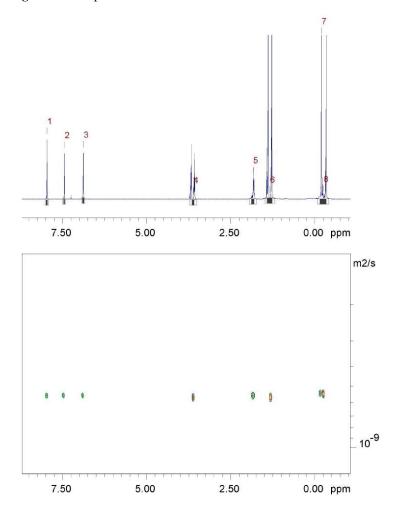


Figure S10. DOSY NMR spectrum of (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectrum of 1

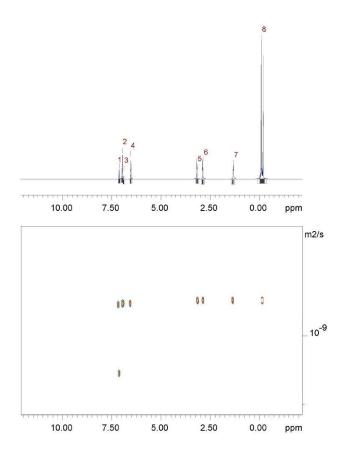


Figure S11. DOSY NMR spectrum of (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K) spectrum of 2

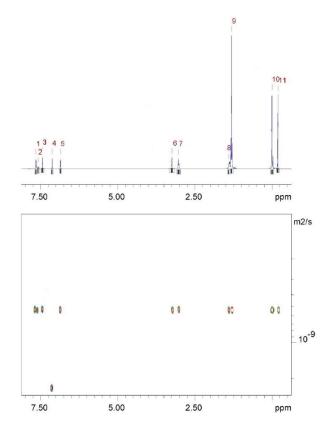


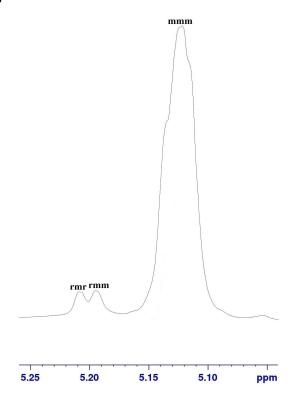
Figure S12. DOSY NMR spectrum of (300 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 298 K) spectrum of 3

### II. Crystallographic Details

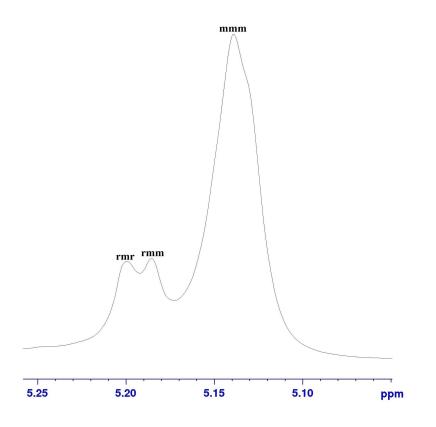
Table S1 Crystal data for compound 1 and 2

Compounds	1	2	
Empirical formula	C <sub>60.33</sub> H <sub>96.67</sub> Ga <sub>4</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	$C_{28}H_{42}Cl_4Ga_4N_2O_4$	
Formula weight (Da)	1192.94	891.31	
T/K	100(2)	100(2)	
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073	1.54178	
Crystal system,	trigonal	monoclinic	
Space group	R -3:H	$P 2_1/n$	
a /Å	39.314(7)	7.8895(8)	
b/Å	39.314(7)	17.1647(17)	
c /Å	10.636(2)	13.2719(13)	
α (°)	90	90	
$\beta$ (°)	90	93.448(4)	
γ (°)	120	90	
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	14237(6)	1794.0(3	
Z, Calculated density (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	9, 1.252	2, 1.650	
Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.727	6.447	
Crystal size (mm)	0.275 × 0.215 × 0.186	0.151 × 0.089 × 0.044	
Theta range for data collection (°)	1.794°- 33.288°	4.215°- 81.023°	
Reflections collected	64996	54968	
Independent reflections	11471	3917	
Data/restraints/parameters	8827/216/451	3917 / 0 / 194	
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.088	1.068	
Final <i>R</i> indices $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	R1 = 0.0429	R1 = 0.0274	
	wR2 = 0.0933	wR2 = 0.0718	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0633	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.0293	
	wR2 = 0.0997	wR2 = 0.0738	

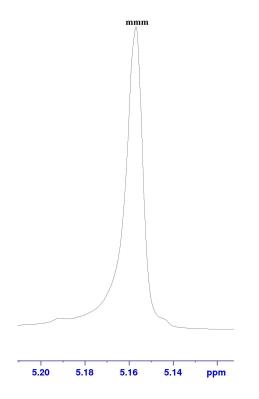
#### **III.** Polymerization Studies



**Figure S13**. Homonuclear decoupled <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of *rac*-PLA in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (methine H-atom region) obtained by reaction of *rac*-LA and **1** in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S14**. Homonuclear decoupled <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of *rac*-PLA in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (methine H-atom region) obtained by reaction of *rac*-LA and **2** in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S15**. Homonuclear decoupled <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of *L*-PLA in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (methine H-atom region) obtained by reaction of *L*-LA and **1** in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

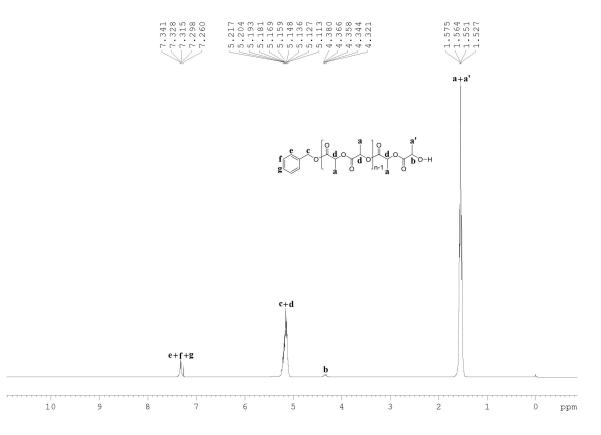
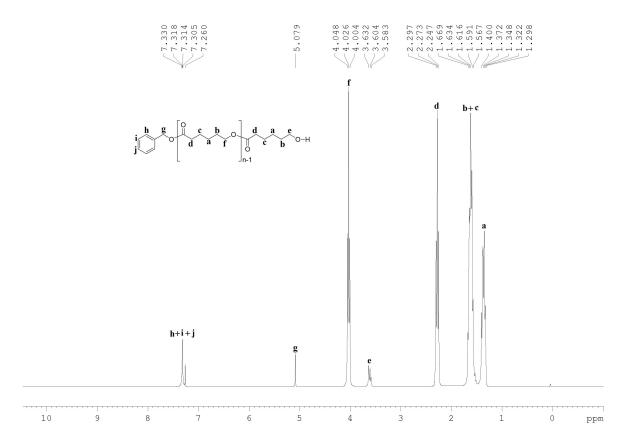


Figure S16. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of *rac*-PLA in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of *rac*-LA and 1 in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 100:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S17.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of PCL in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of  $\varepsilon$ -CL and **1** in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 100:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

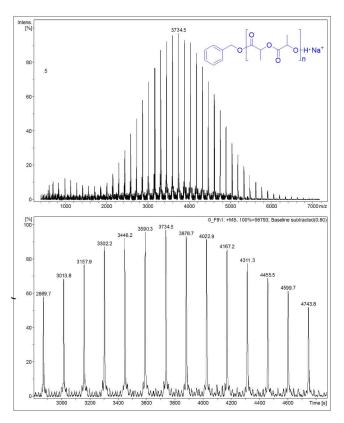
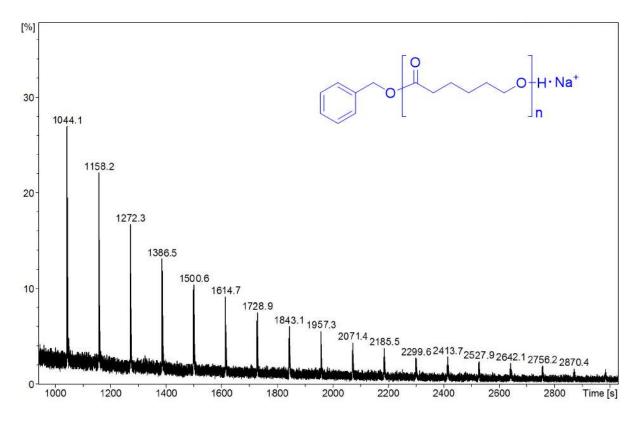
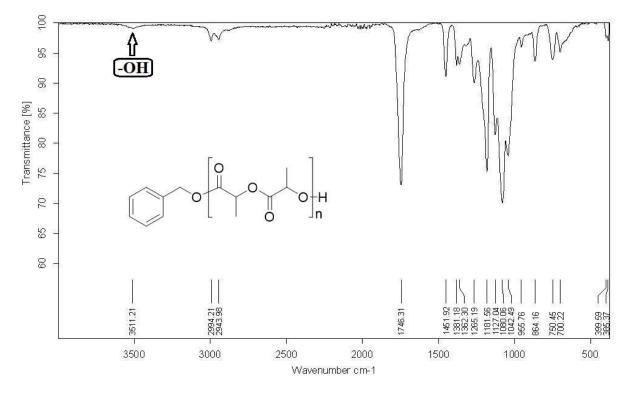


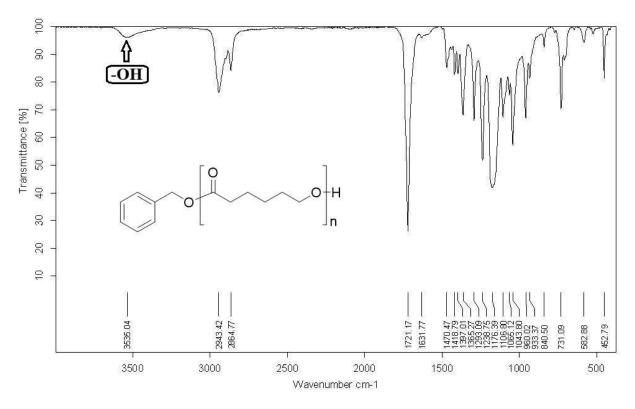
Figure S18. MALDI-ToF spectrum of *rac*-PLA obtained by reaction of *rac*-LA and 1 in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 100:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



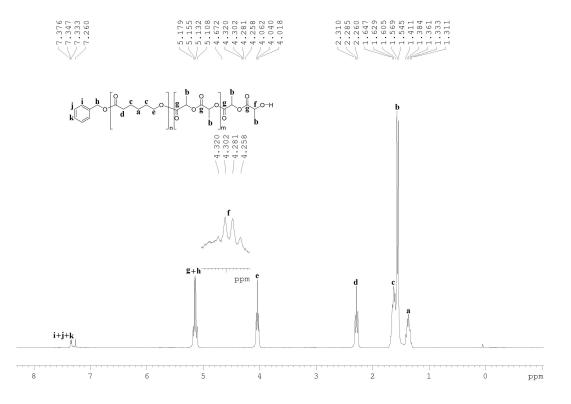
**Figure S19**. MALDI-ToF spectrum of  $\varepsilon$ -PCL obtained by reaction of  $\varepsilon$ -CL and **1** in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 100:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



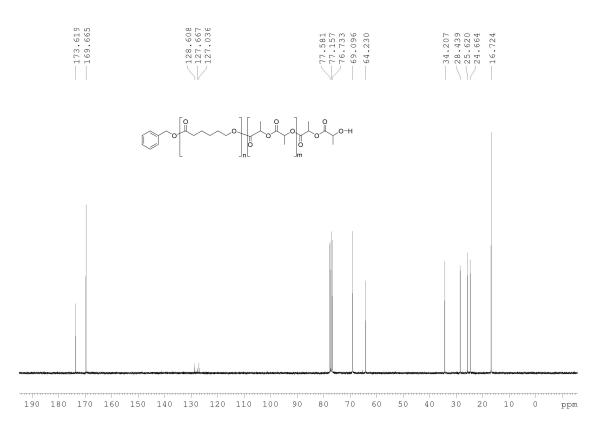
**Figure S20**. IR spectrum of *rac*-PLA obtained by reaction of *rac*-LA and **1** in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 100:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



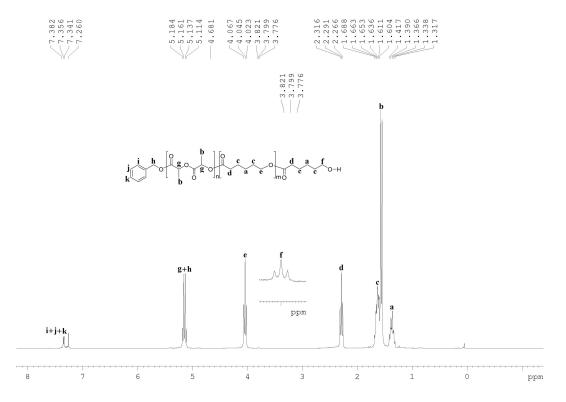
**Figure S21.** IR spectrum of of PCL in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of  $\varepsilon$ -CL and **1** in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 100:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



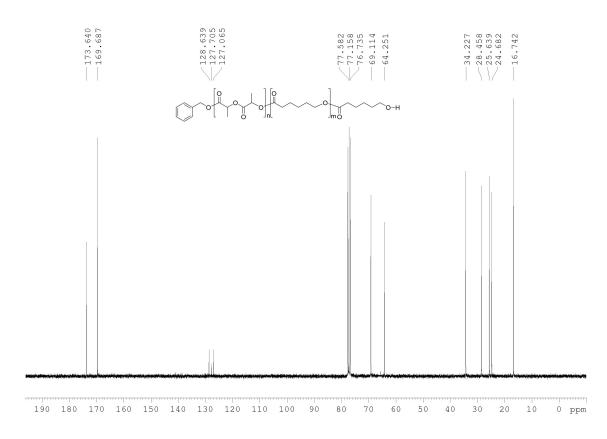
**Figure S22**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PCL-b-PLLA copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of  $\varepsilon$ -CL, *L*-LA and **1** in ratio [ $\varepsilon$ -CL]:[*L*-LA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



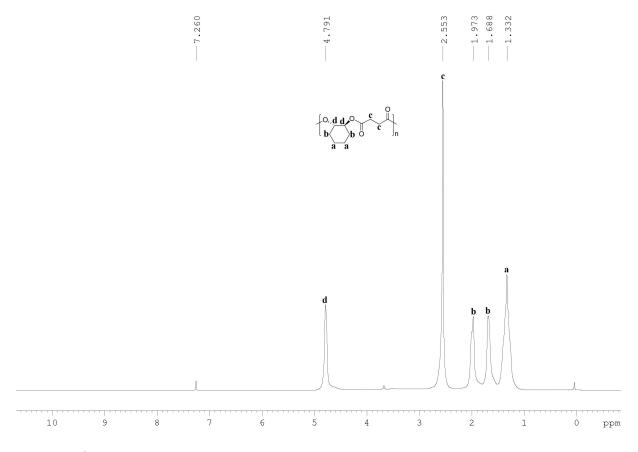
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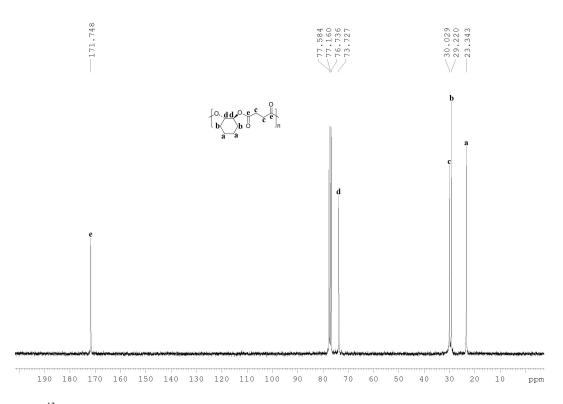
**Figure S24**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PLLA-b-PCL copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of *L*-LA,  $\varepsilon$ -CL, and **1** in ratio [*L*-LA]:[ $\varepsilon$ -CL]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



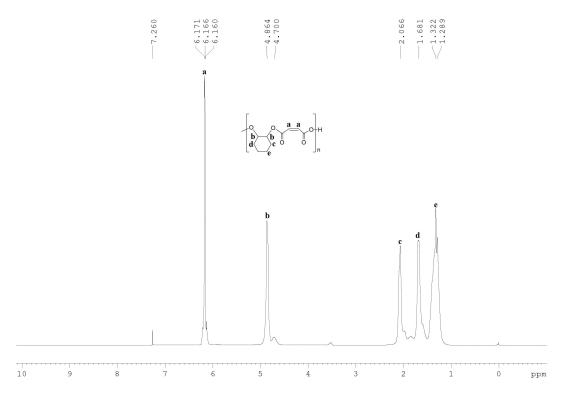
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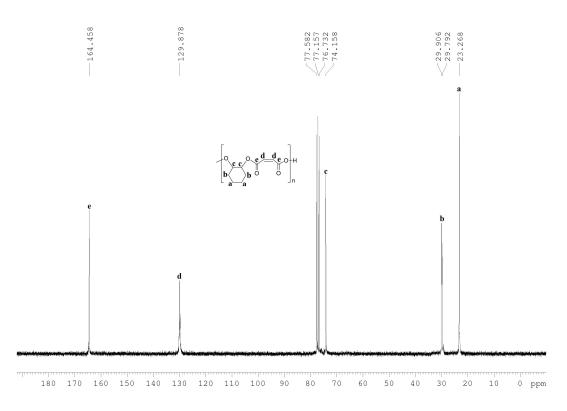
**Figure S26**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



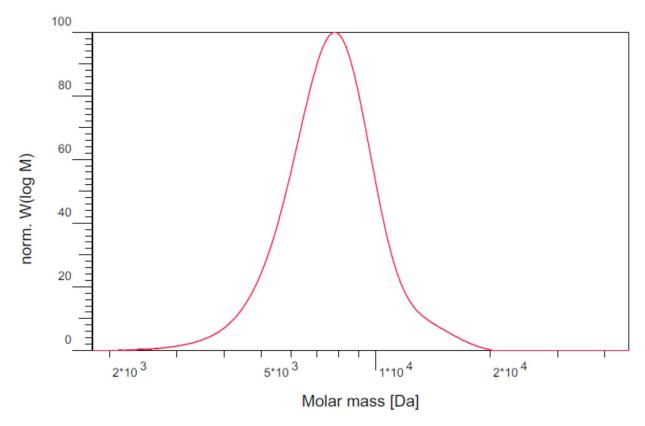
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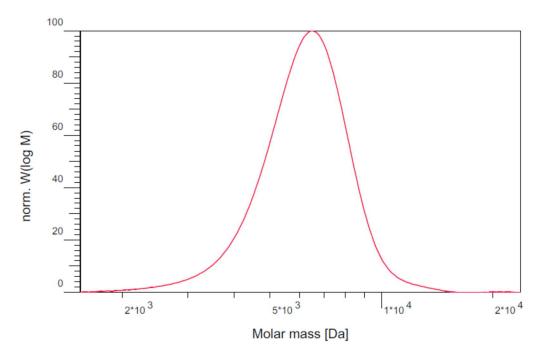
**Figure S28**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene malonate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[ MA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S29**. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene malonate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[ MA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S30**. GPC elugram of *rac*-PLA obtained by reaction of *rac*-LA and **1** in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S31**. GPC elugram of PCL obtained by reaction of  $\varepsilon$ -CL and **1** in ratio [monomer]:[Cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

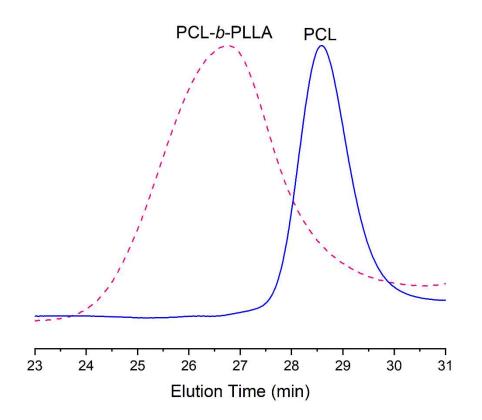


Figure S32. GPC elugram of PCL and PCL-*b*-PLLA obtained by the 1 in presence of BnOH at 100 °C in toluene.

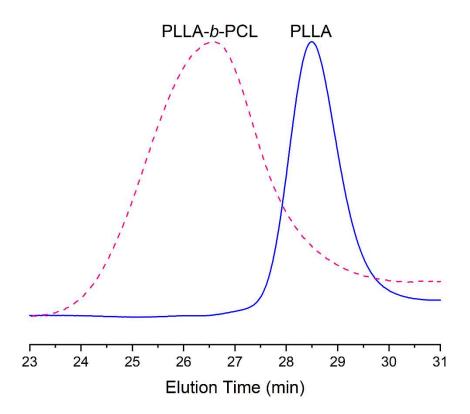
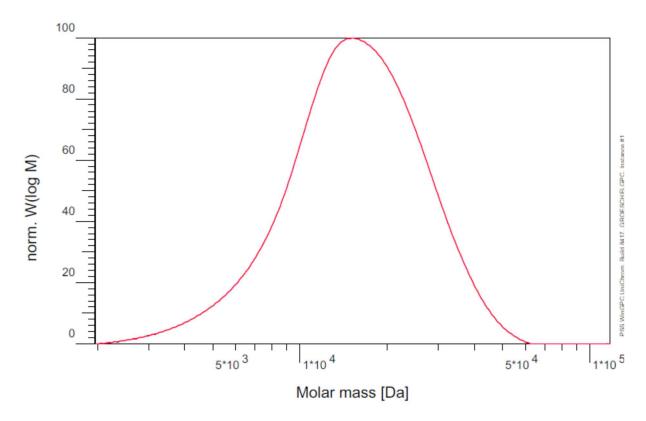
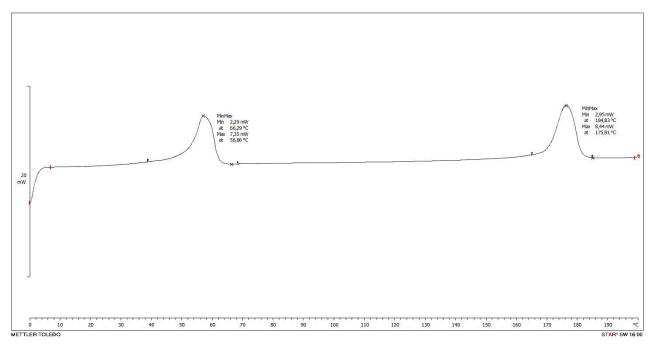


Figure S33. GPC elugram of PLLA and PLLA-*b*-PCL obtained by the 1 in the presence of BnOH at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S34**. GPC elugram of poly(cyclohexenesuccinate) copolymer obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S35.** DSC curve of PCL-*b*-PLLA obtained by reaction of  $\varepsilon$ -CL, *L*-LA and **1** in ratio [ $\varepsilon$ -CL]:[*L*-LA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

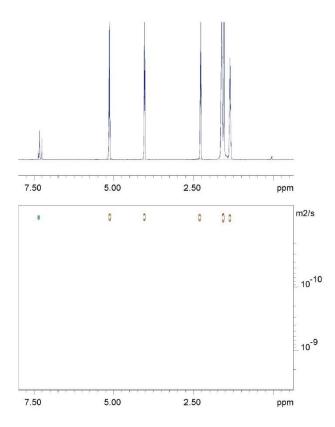


Figure S36. DOSY NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectrum of PCL-b-PLLA diblock copolymer.

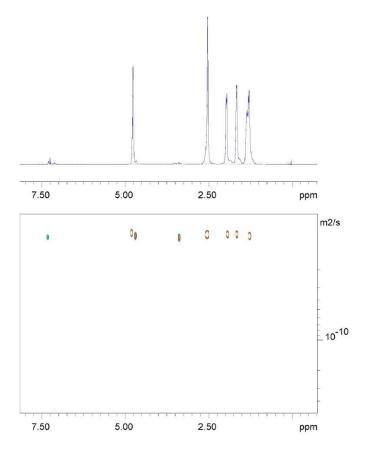


Figure S37. DOSY NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectrum of poly[(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer.

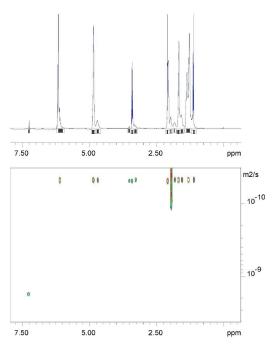
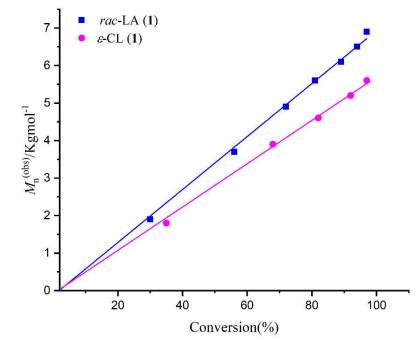
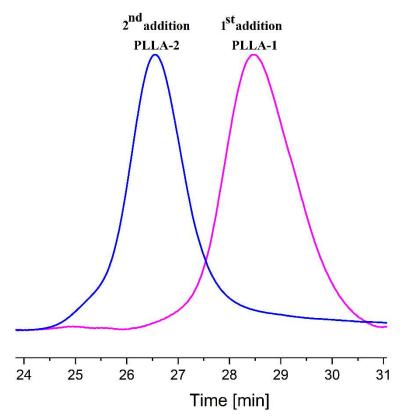


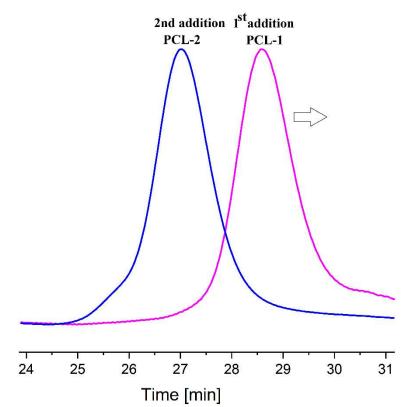
Figure S38. DOSY NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) spectrum of poly[(cyclohexene malonate) copolymer.



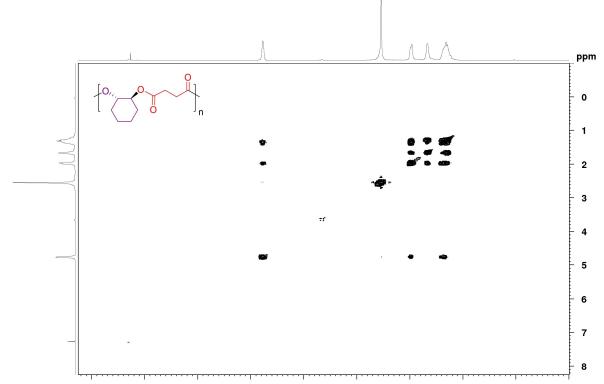
**Figure S39.** Plot of  $M_n^{(obs)}$  (kg/mol) vs. conversion (%) for *rac*-LA and  $\varepsilon$ -CL using complex 1 in a ratio [Monomer]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 in toluene at 100 °C.



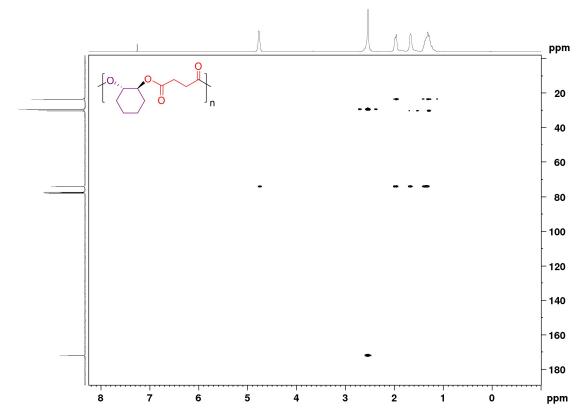
**Figure S40**. GPC elugram of PLLA obtain by polymerization resumption experiment of enantiomeric pure *L*-LA and **1** in toluene at 100 °C, [monomer]:[cat.]:[BnOH] =  $(200^{1st} + 200^{2nd})$ :1:4.



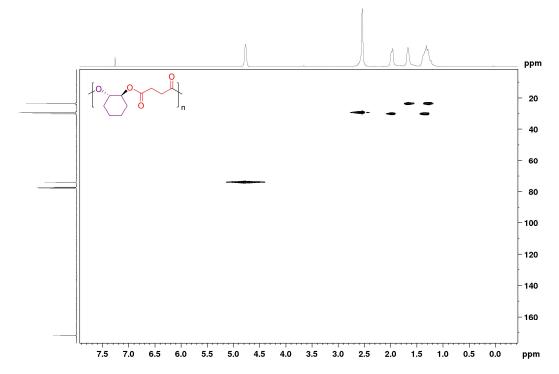
**Figure S41**. GPC elugram of PCL obtain by polymerization resumption experiment of  $\varepsilon$ -CL and **1** in toluene at 100 °C, [monomer]:[cat.]:[BnOH] =  $(200^{1st} + 200^{2nd})$ :1:4.



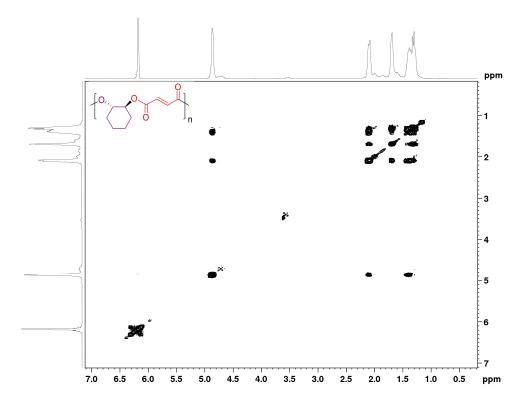
**Figure S42**. COSY NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



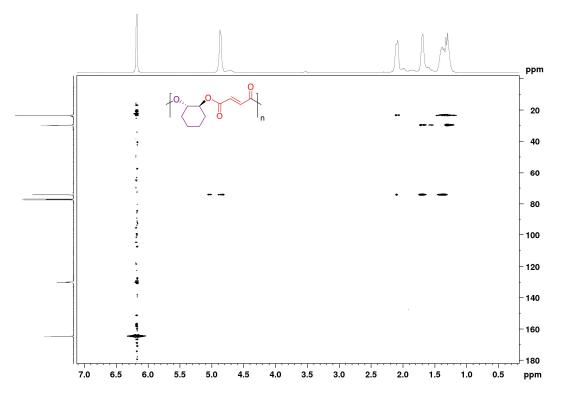
**Figure S43**. HMBC NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



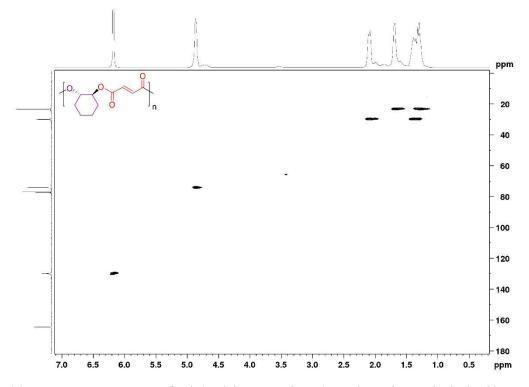
**Figure S44**. HSQC NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S45**. COSY NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene malonate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[MA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S46**. HMBC NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene malonate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[MA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.



**Figure S47**. HSQC NMR spectrum of poly(cyclohexene malonate) copolymer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[MA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 200:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene.

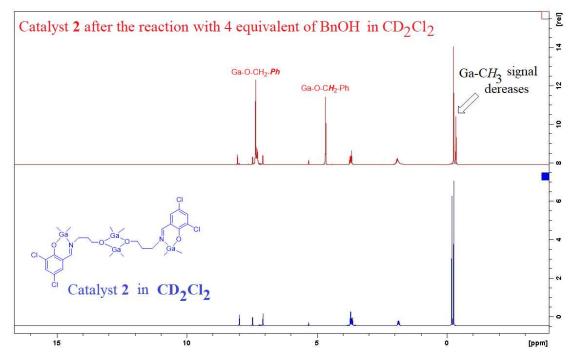


Figure S48. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 2 (blue color) and catalyst-2-OBn (red color) in  $CD_2Cl_2$ . Catalyst-2-OBn obtained by reaction of catalyst -2 and BnOH in ratio [Cat-2]:[BnOH] = 1:4 at 23 °C in  $CD_2Cl_2$ .

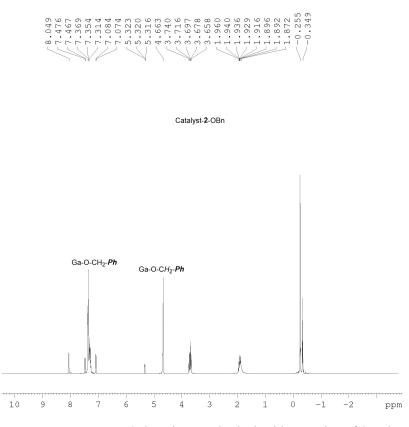
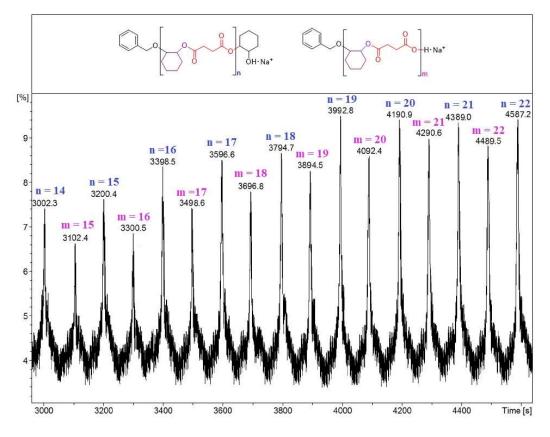


Figure S49. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum catalyst-2-OBn in  $CD_2Cl_2$  obtained by reaction of 2 and BnOH in ratio [Cat-2]:[BnOH] = 1:4 at 23 °C in  $CD_2Cl_2$ .



**Figure S50**. MALDI-ToF spectrum of poly(cyclohexene succinate) copolymer obtained by reaction of CHO, SA, and **1** in ratio [CHO]:[SA]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = 100:200:1:4 at 100 °C in toluene at 100 °C.

Entry	[M]:[cat.]:[BnOH]	Time min	Conv. <sup>a</sup>	$M_{ m n}^{ m b(theo)}$ Kg/mol	$M_{ m n}^{ m cal(GPC)c}$ Kg/mol	PDI
1	200:1:1	60	 99	22.7	22.1	1.12
1	200.1.1	00	,,,	22.7	22.1	1.12
2	200:1:4	15	98	5.7	5.6	1.07
3	500:1:8	20	95	6.9	6.3	1.10
4	1000:1:10	40	95	10.9	10.2	1.13
5	5000:1:10	300	90	51.47	49.4	1.16
6	10000:1:10	720	90	102.8	100.3	1.18
7 <sup>d</sup>	$(200^{1st} + 200^{2nd}):1:4$	$15^{1st} + 10^{2nd}$	97	5.7 <sup>1st</sup> , 11.1 <sup>2nd</sup>	5.6 <sup>1st</sup> , 10.9 <sup>2nd</sup>	1.07 <sup>1st</sup> , 1.09 <sup>2nd</sup>

**Table S2** ROP of  $\varepsilon$ -CL initiated by complex 1 with varying [monomer]:[cat.]:[BnOH] molar ratios in toluene at 100 °C.

<sup>a</sup>Monomer conversion as determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis. <sup>b</sup>M<sub>n</sub>, <sup>theo</sup> = {[M<sub>w</sub>(monomer) x [Monomer]/[Cat] x Conv./number eq of BnOH} +  $M_n$ (BnOH). <sup>c</sup> $M_n$ <sup>cal(GPC)</sup> values were determined by GPC analysis in THF using polystyrene standards. <sup>d</sup>Polymerization resumption experiment of  $\varepsilon$ -CL in toluene at 100 °C, [monomer]:[cat.]:[BnOH] = (200<sup>1st</sup> + 200<sup>2nd</sup>):1:4.