Supplementary Information

Photoinduced Iron-Catalyzed C-H Alkylation of Polyolefins

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General information

(1) Materials:

Chlorobenzene (PhCl) was purchased from Sinopharm without purification, acetonitrile (MeCN) and dichloromethane (DCM) were purified by a Vigor solvent purification system. Anhydrous FeCl₃ was purchased from Energy Chemical. TBACl (tetrabutylammonium chloride) was purchased from TCI. TBAFeCl₄ was prepared by mixing FeCl₃ and TBACl (1:1 ratio) in MeCN in the glovebox. LDPE, LLDPE, PP, and PIB were purchased from Macklin. Other commercially available chemicals were purchased and used without additional purification unless noted otherwise.

(2) Starting materials:

The electron deficient alkenes including 14^1 , 15^1 , 12^2 , 13^2 , 9^3 are known and were prepared according to the known literature.

(3) Setting-up of the photo-induced reactions:

The LED light (100 W, emitting area: 30×30 mm) was assembled using the 390-395 nm chips purchased from GuangHong Chips. The emission spectrum of the LED light is shown below (**Figure S1**) and wavelength of peak intensity is 390-395 nm. The material of the reaction vessels is regular borosilicate glass. The distance from the light source to the reaction vessel is 5 cm (**Figure S2**).



Figure S1. The emission spectrum of the LED light.



Figure S2. The setting-up reactions. Left is for 2-10 mmol scale; right is for > 100 mmol scale. (4) IR:

Infrared spectra were recorded on a Nicolet iS5 using neat thin film technique.

(5) NMR:

¹H NMR spectra were recorded on JNM-ECZ400S/L1 or Bruker-600 MHz spectrometer at 400 or 600 MHz, ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 101 or 151 MHz, ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded at 376 MHz, and ³¹P NMR spectra were recorded at 162 MHz. Spectra were acquired in CDCl₃, C₂D₂Cl₄, or acetone-d₆. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm, δ), downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS, $\delta = 0.00$ ppm) and are referenced to residual solvent [(CDCl₃, $\delta = 7.26$ ppm (¹H) and 77.00 ppm (¹³C)), (C₂D₂Cl₄, $\delta = 6.00$ ppm (¹H)) and (acetone-d₆, $\delta = 2.05$ ppm (¹H) and 206.00 ppm (¹³C))]. Coupling constants were reported in Hertz (Hz). Data for NMR spectra were reported as follows: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, dd = doublet of doublets, m = multiplet, coupling constant (Hz), and integration. (6) GPC:

 M_w , M_n , and D of PS and **PS-5** were determined by an Agilent 1260 infinity II gel permeation chromatography (GPC) equipped with a refractive index (RI) detector. 5.0 mg of sample was dissolved in 1 mL of DMF containing 0.1% LiBr, and then filtered through a 0.22 µm filter. GPC columns (PolarGel-M Gard, 50 mm × 7.5 mm, and PolarGel-M, 300 mm × 7.5 mm, two in series) were eluted with DMF (plus 0.1% LiBr) at a flow rate of 1 mL/min at 50 °C. GPC column were calibrated with linear poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA) standards.

 M_w , M_n , and D of PIB and **PIB-5** were determined by an Agilent 1260 infinity II gel permeation chromatography (GPC) equipped with a refractive index (RI) detector. 5.0 mg of sample was dissolved in 1 mL of THF, and then filtered through a 0.22 µm filter. GPC columns (PolarGel-M Gard, and Plgel 5 µm MIXED-C, 300 mm × 7.5 mm) were eluted with THF at a flow rate of 1 mL/min at 40 °C. GPC column were calibrated with linear polystyrene (PS) standards. (7) HT-GPC: M_w , M_n , and D of LDPE, LLDPE, PP, functionalized-LDPE, functionalized-LDPE, and functionalized-PP were determined by an Agilent 1260 infinity II high temperature system gel permeation chromatography (GPC) equipped with a refractive index (RI) detector. 5.0 mg of sample was dissolved in 1 mL of 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene (TCB), and then filtered through a 0.22 μ m filter. GPC columns (PolarGel-M Gard, 50 mm × 7.5 mm, and mix-B 2.50 mm × 300 mm, two in series) were eluted with TCB at a flow rate of 1 mL/min at 140 °C. GPC column were calibrated with linear polystyrene (PS) standards.

(8) DSC:

The melting temperature (T_m) were evaluated. Heating (1-10 mg of sample) at a rate of 10 °C/min from 30 to160 °C, 160 to 30 °C, and 30 to160 °C under N₂. Data was taken from the last heating cycle.

(9) TGA:

The melting temperature (T_m) and decomposition onset temperature (T_d) were evaluated with METTLER TOLEDO TGA/DSC. Heating (1-10 mg of sample) at a rate of 10 °C/min from 35-800 °C under N₂.

(10) Definition of the level of functionalization (LOF)

The level of functionalization (LOF) = $n_{(polar alkene in polymer)}/n_{(monomer)} = A_{(equivalent of functional group in polymer)}/A_{(equivalent of monomer)}$.

n: mole number; A: integral area by ¹H NMR.

Solvent effect of the Fe-catalyzed C-H bond alkylation of LDPE with 5



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.7 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.7 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **5** (34.4 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 36 µL, 0.4 mmol), and solvent (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5.0 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours, the level of the functionalization was then determined by ¹H NMR.

entry	solvent	the level of functionalization (LOF mol%)
1	MeCN	_a
2	DMF	_a
3	PhCF ₃	4.2 mol%
4	PhCl	9.0 mol%

Table S1. Solvent effect for C-H alkylation reaction

^a The LOF was not determined due to the low solubility in CDCl₃.

When PhCl was used as solvent, the product **LDPE-5** was obtained as a white solid (54.2 mg, LOF = 9.0 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.66 (s, **3.00 H**), 2.62-2.13 (m, 1.89 H), 1.86-0.68 (m, **45.64 H**). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2820, 1742, 1463, 1375, 1165.

Characterization of LDPE-5



LDPE in CDCl₃ LDPE-5 in CDCl₃

Typical Procedure 1: To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.7 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.7 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **5** (34.4 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 36 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5.0 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LDPE-5** was obtained as a white solid (54.2 mg, LOF = 9.0 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.66 (s, 3.00 H), 2.62-2.13 (m, 1.89 H), 1.86-0.68 (m, 45.64 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2820, 1742, 1463, 1375, 1165. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 35944 g/mol, M_w = 228129 g/mol, D = 6.35. TGA (°C) LDPE T_d = 420, LDPE-5 T_d = 360. DSC (°C) LDPE T_m = 104 with 23% crystallinity (DH = 63 J/g), LDPE-5 T_m = 88 with 12% crystallinity (DH = 34 J/g).



Figure S3. The HT-GPC traces. LDPE (black), $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84; LDPE-5 (green), $M_n = 35944$ g/mol, $M_w = 228129$ g/mol, D = 6.35.



Figure S4. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-5



180 170 110 100 f1 (ppm) -10 -

Figure S5.¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-5



Figure S6. The DSC trace of LDPE





Comparable result using BPO as a radical initiator



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added BPO (127.5mg, 0.4 mmol), LDPE (56.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 36500 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 227734 \text{ g/mol} \ D = 6.24$), **5** (34.4 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 36 µL, 0.4 mmol), and solvent (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. The resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5.0 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LDPE-5** was obtained as a white solid (20.0 mol% BPO: 55.2 mg, LOF = 2.2 mol%). **GPC (TCB, 140 °C)** 20.0 mol% BPO: M_n = 14049 g/mol, M_w = 52513 g/mol, D = 3.74. The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR. Notably, when the loading of BPO was decreased to 0.2 mol%, no detectable C-H functionalization was observed.



Figure S8. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-5-2.2 mol%



Figure S9. The HT-GPC traces of comparable result using BPO as a radical initiator

The C-H alkylation of LDPE by controlling the reaction time and loading of 6

(1) The level of functionalization (LOF) using various amount of alkenes



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.8 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **6** [(6.5 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 6 µL, 0.04 mmol, 2.0 mol%), (16.5 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 15 µL, 0.1 mmol, 5.0 mol%), (25.9 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 24 µL, 0.16 mmol, 8.0 mol%), (38.9 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 36 µL, 0.24 mmol, 12.0 mol%), (51.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 48 µL, 0.32 mmol, 16.0 mol%), or (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol, 20.0 mol%)], and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5.0 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LDPE-6** was obtained as white solid (38.6-64.1 mg). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR. When less than 12 mol% of **6** was used in the 24-hours reactions, the LOFs depended on the usage of alkene (mol%) in terms of a linear function y = 0.76x + 0.46 with $R^2 = 0.98$.



Table S2. The LOF using various amount of 6

(2) The time-dependent experiment of the C-H alkylation of LDPE with 6



To a 4 mL vial were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.8 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, D = 5.84), 6 (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 2, 6, 12, 24, 36 or 48 hours at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5.0 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours, the level of the functionalization was then determined by ¹H NMR. The compound LDPE-6 was obtained as white solid (56.6-78.4 mg). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

Table S3. The LOF vs various reaction time



(3) The reaction order with 6 in the C–H alkylation of LDPE



To a 4 mL vial were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.8 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **6** (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 2, 6, 8, 12, 20 or 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, the resulting mixture was transformed to 20 mL vial with dodecane as internal standard, EtOH (10.0 mL) was added to precipitate the product. The amount of **6** in the liquid phase was then determined by GC using standard calibration curves.

Time (h)	n _i (mmol)	A_i	A_6	6 (mmol)	[6] (mol/L)	1/[6]	ln(1/[6])
0	-	-	-	0.400	0.133	7.519	2.017
2	0.214	5226	3110	0.170	0.057	17.544	2.865
6	0.212	5316	1795	0.100	0.033	30.303	3.411
8	0.218	5264	1359	0.075	0.025	40.000	3.689
12	0.217	5502	559.4	0.030	0.010	100.00	4.605
20	0.212	5229	55.6	0.0030	0.001	1000.0	6.908
24	0.221	6382	25.3	0.0012	0.0004	2500.0	7.824

Table S4. The kinetics experiment for 6

 n_i : the amount of dodecane as internal standard. A_i : the area of dodecane as internal standard determined by GC. A_6 : the area of **6** determined by GC.



Figure S10. A linear relationship was observed for $\ln(1/[6])$ vs reaction time, indicating a first order dependence of the reaction rate with alkene 6.

(4) The screening of the catalyst loading



To a 4 mL vial were added TBAFeCl₄ (44.0 mg, 0.1 mmol or 88.0 mg, 0.2 mmol), LDPE (56.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 40897$ g/mol, D = 6.68), **6** (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5.0 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours, the level of the functionalization was then determined by ¹H NMR. The compound **LDPE-6** was obtained as oil (131.2 mg, 19.9 mol% LOF or 122.4 mg, 17.5 mol% LOF). **GPC (TCB, 140 °C)** with 5.0 mol% TBAFeCl₄: M_n = 39764 g/mol, M_w = 230205 g/mol, D = 5.79. **GPC (TCB, 140 °C)** with 10.0 mol% TBAFeCl₄: M_n = 35774 g/mol, M_w =

227393 g/mol, D = 6.36. The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.



Figure S11. The HT-GPC traces of LDPE, LDPE-6-19.9 mol%, and LDPE-6-17.5 mol%

Determination of quantum yield

(1) Determination of the light intensity at 390 nm:

The photon flux of the spectrophotometer was determined by standard ferrioxalate actinometry (referred to the reported procedure: M. A. Cismesia, et al., *Chem. Sci.* **2015**, *6*, 5426-5434). A 0.006 M solution of ferrioxalate was prepared by dissolving 88.4 mg of potassium ferrioxalate hydrate in 30 mL of 0.05 M H₂SO₄. A buffered solution of phenanthroline was prepared by dissolving 50 mg of phenanthroline and 11.25 g of sodium acetate in 50 mL of 0.5 M H₂SO₄. Both solutions were stored in the dark. To determine the photon flux of the spectrophotometer, 5.0 mL of the ferrioxalate solution was placed in a 10 mL quartz reaction tube (V = 5.0 mL) and irradiated for 30.0 seconds with a commercial 100 W 390 nm laser. After irradiation, the solution was shielded with aluminum foil and 0.88 mL of the phenanthroline solution was added. The solution was then allowed to rest for 1 h to allow the ferrous ions to coordinate to the phenanthroline completely. The absorbance of the solution was measured at 510 nm. A non-irradiated sample was also prepared and the absorbance at 510 nm measured. Conversion was calculated using eq 1.

$$mol \ Fe^{2+} = (V \cdot \Delta A)/(l \cdot \varepsilon) \qquad (1)$$

Where V is the total volume (0.00588 L) of the solution after addition of phenanthroline, ΔA is the difference in absorbance at 510 nm between the irradiated and non-irradiated solutions, *l* is the path length (1.000 cm), and ε is the molar absorptivity at 510 nm (11,100 L mol⁻¹ cm⁻¹). The photon flux can be calculated using eq 2.

Photon flux =
$$(mol Fe^{2+})/(\Phi \cdot t \cdot f)$$
 (2)

Where Φ is the quantum yield for the ferrioxalate actinometer (1.19 for a 0.006 M solution at λ = 390 nm), t is the time (30.0 s), and *f* is the fraction of light absorbed at λ = 390 nm (*A* = 2.1761, see Figure S11). The photon flux was calculated to be 0.60 × 10⁻⁸ einstein s⁻¹.

$$mol \; Fe^{2+} = (0.00588 \; L \cdot 0.4006) / (1.000 \; cm \cdot 11100 \; L \; mol^{-1} cm^{-1}) = 2.12 \times 10^{-7} \; mol$$

Photon flux =
$$(2.12 \times 10^{-7} \text{ mol})/(1.18 \cdot 30.0 \text{ s} \cdot 0.9933) = 0.60 \times 10^{-8} \text{ einstein s}^{-1}$$

(2) Determination of fraction of light absorbed at 390 nm for the ferrioxalate solution:

The absorbance of the above ferrioxalate solution at 390 nm was measured to be 2.1761. The fraction of light absorbed (f) by this solution was calculated using eq 3, where A is the measured absorbance at 390 nm.



Figure S12. Absorbance of the ferrioxalate actinometer solution.

(3) Determination of quantum yield

The reaction sample was prepared following the general procedure, and subsequently the sample was irradiated with a commercial 100 W 390 nm laser. After irradiation, the yield of **cyclohexane-**6 was detected by ¹H NMR spectrum of crude product with an internal standard of CH₂Br₂. The quantum yield was determined using eq 4.



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.8 mg, 0.004 mmol), cyclohexane (336.0 mg, d = 0.779 g/mL, 431 µL, 4.0 mmol), **6** (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (4.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 100 W 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 2 hours (7200 s) at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, the resulting mixture was concentrated in vacuo. Yield: 1.4 %, $\Phi = 0.131$.

 $\Phi = (4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol} \times 1.4 \text{ \%})/(0.60 \times 10^{-8} \text{ einstein s}^{-1} \cdot 7200 \text{ s} \cdot 0.9933) = 0.131$



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.8 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **6** (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (4.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 100 W 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 6 hours (21600 s) at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, the resulting mixture was concentrated in vacuo. Yield: 30 %, $\Phi = 0.932$.

 $\Phi = (4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol} \times 30 \text{ \%})/(0.60 \times 10^{-8} \text{ einstein s}^{-1} \cdot 21600 \text{ s} \cdot 0.9933) = 0.932$

Concern on multiple peaks in the ¹³C NMR carbonyl region of LDPE-5 and LDPE-6

One concern in this reaction was arisen by the multiple peaks in the ¹³C NMR carbonyl region of **LDPE-5** and **LDPE-6**, which could be yielded by either the incorporation of the alkenes via multiple C-H functionalization or alkene trimer- and oligomer-grafting.

To address this concern, a series of experiments were then conducted.

Firstly, we have conducted the reaction of cyclohexane with acrylates **5** and **6** as model reactions under the conditions. The reaction of cyclohexane, acrylate **5** or **6**, TBAFeCl₄, and PhCl in an N₂ glovebox was conducted under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs for 24 hours at 120 °C. We only observed one cross coupling product, in which only one acrylate was attached to cyclohexane. These results could be confirmed by TLC, ¹H NMR, and GC-MS. This result highly suggested that the oligomer-grafted product be not easy to prepare under the standard conditions. The ¹H NMR spectrum was matching with the known literature.^[4]







Figure S13. The detection of cross-coupling product by GC-MS.



Figure S14. Crude ¹H NMR

Moreover, as a better model reaction than that of cyclohexane, the reaction of dodecane (0.4 mmol, accounting for 2.0 mmol of ethylene monomer) with acrylics **6** (20 mol% based on ethylene monomer) was examined for 24 hours at 120 °C. Evaporation and flash chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 30/1) afforded the less polar mono-alkylation product, which could be determined by NMRs: **Dod-MA** (17.6 mg, 16%): ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra see below. **IR v** (**neat, cm**⁻¹) 2924, 2853, 1738, 1454, 1163. **HRMS (ESI) m/z**: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₂H₃₇O₂ 333.2788; found 333.2798.

Dod-MA2 (17.9 mg, 11%): ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra see below. **IR** ν (**neat, cm**⁻¹) 2926, 2853, 1737, 1454, 1154. **HRMS** (**ESI**) **m/z**: $[M + H]^+$ Calcd for C₃₂H₄₇O₄ 495.3469; found 495.3466.



The ¹H NMR of **Dod-MA** and **Dod-MA2** clearly showed the incorporation of the acrylate **6**. Interestingly, while the corresponding ¹³C NMR of **Dod-MA** disclosed that the acrylate group should be randomly incorporated into the main chain since over 40 peaks were observed in the alkyl group region, however, only one major peak was observed in the carbonyl region. The position of the acrylate in the main chain did not significantly affect the chemical shift of the carbonyl group in ¹³C NMR. This conclusion is very important.

The ¹³C NMR of the di-alkylation product **Dod-MA2** was also measured and showed multiple peaks in the ¹³C NMR carbonyl region, which are quite similar as **LDPE-6**. This result clearly disclosed that the incorporation of two acrylate randomly into a long chain alkane (such as dodecane) would observe the multiple peaks in the ¹³C NMR carbonyl region. The reasons might be explained by the diverse regio- and diastereoisomers. And it is reasonable to assume that the incorporation of more than two acrylate molecules would observed similar multiple peaks in the ¹³C NMR carbonyl region.

Alternatively, according to the known literature (*Organometallics*, **2012**, *31*, 8388-8406) and the conclusion we obtained above, the structure of the dimerization product (probably also the trimers) of acrylate **6** might present only two peaks in the ¹³C NMR carbonyl region, which would

be much less than that of **Dod-MA2**. Therefore, <u>although we cannot rule out the possibility on the</u> <u>existence of the dimerization of acrylate, the installation of two acylates by double C-H bond</u> <u>functionalization would be the major process during the transformation.</u>



¹H NMR of mono-alkylation product **Dod-MA**:

¹³C NMR of mono-alkylation product **Dod-MA**:





2.5 2.0

1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 -0.5

-1.0



The C-H bond functionalization of the LDPE



Following Typical Procedure 1, the reaction of TBAFeCl₄ (1.7 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.4 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **6** (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) afforded **LDPE-6** as a white solid (69.4 mg, LOF = 11.1 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR. Moreover, the heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) and diffusion ordered NMR spectroscopy (DOSY) spectra of **LDPE-6** confirmed the small molecule is covalently linked onto LDPE.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.50-7.27 (m, 5.36 H, Ar-H), 5.25-4.78 (m, 2.00 H), 2.35-2.12 (m, 1.82 H), 1.75-0.60 (m, 37.06 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2919, 1737, 1587, 1454, 1157. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 38373 g/mol, M_w = 161595 g/mol, D = 4.21. TGA (°C) LDPE T_d = 420, LDPE-6 T_d = 340. DSC (°C) LDPE T_m = 104 with 23% crystallinity (DH = 63 J/g), LDPE-6 no recorded melting point.



Figure S15. The HT-GPC traces. LDPE (black), $M_n = 30423 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 177700 \text{ g/mol}, D = 5.84$; LDPE-6 (red), $M_n = 38373 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 161595 \text{ g/mol}, D = 4.21$.



Figure S17.¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-6



Figure S18. Heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) spectroscopy of LDPE-6.



Figure S19. Diffusion ordered NMR spectroscopy (DOSY) of **LDPE-6** presented that the all protons of **LDPE-6** had the same diffusion coefficient, indicating the small molecule is covalently linked onto LDPE.



Following Typical Procedure 1, the reaction of TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.3 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84), 7 (67.3 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) afforded **LDPE-7** as a yellow solid (73.0 mg, LOF = 10.4 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.25-7.28 (m, 5.00 H), 3.25-2.89 (m, 2.00 H), 2.25-0.61 (m, 41.40 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2919, 1464, 1306, 1147, 1087. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 26789 g/mol, M_w = 94167 g/mol, D = 3.52. TGA (°C) LDPE T_d = 420, LDPE-7 T_d = 370. DSC (°C) LDPE T_m = 104 with 23% crystallinity (DH = 63 J/g), LDPE-7 T_m = 84 with 10% crystallinity (DH = 26 J/g).



Figure S20. The HT-GPC traces. LDPE (black), $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84; LDPE-7 (green), $M_n = 94167$ g/mol, D = 3.52.



Figure S22.¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-7



Figure S23. The DSC trace of LDPE-7



Following Typical Procedure 1, the reaction of TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.8 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **8** (69.5 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) afforded **LDPE-8** as a white solid (60.5 mg, LOF = 6.6 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR. Moreover, the heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) and diffusion ordered NMR spectroscopy (DOSY) spectra of **LDPE-8** confirmed the small molecule is covalently linked onto LDPE.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58-7.23 (m, 5.52 H, Ar-H), 3.24-3.06 (m, 1.00 H), 2.80-2.75 (m, 1.09 H), 2.72-2.55 (m, 0.99 H), 1.68-0.61 (m, 60.44 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2918, 1714, 1369, 1176. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 50547 g/mol, M_w = 187854 g/mol, D = 3.72. TGA (°C) LDPE T_d = 420, LDPE-8 T_d = 380. DSC (°C) LDPE T_m = 104 with 23% crystallinity (DH = 63 J/g), LDPE-8 T_m = 78 with 5% crystallinity (DH = 13 J/g).



Figure S24. The HT-GPC traces. LDPE (black), $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84; LDPE-8 (blue), $M_n = 50547$ g/mol, $M_w = 187854$ g/mol, D = 3.72.



Figure S25. The DSC trace of LDPE-8



Figure S27. ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-8



Figure S28. Heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) spectroscopy of LDPE-8



Figure S29. Diffusion ordered NMR spectroscopy (DOSY) of LDPE-8 presented that the all

protons of **LDPE-8** had the same diffusion coefficient, indicating the small molecule is covalently linked onto LDPE.



Following Typical Procedure 1, the reaction of TBAFeCl₄ (1.7 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.3 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **9** (81.5 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) afforded **LDPE-9** as a white solid (70.0 mg, LOF = 10.0 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.02-3.80 (m, 2.00 H), 3.68-2.85 (m, 2.05 H), 3.18-2.85 (m, 0.86 H), 2.75-2.45 (m, 1.77 H), 1.72-0.58 (m, **38.26 H**). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. **IR** v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2920, 1703, 1397, 1145. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 40501 g/mol, M_w = 138482 g/mol, D = 3.42. TGA (°C) LDPE T_d = 420, LDPE-9 T_d = 320. DSC (°C) LDPE T_m = 104 with 23% crystallinity (DH = 63 J/g), LDPE-9 no recorded melting point.



Figure S30. The HT-GPC traces. LDPE (black), $M_n = 30423 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 177700 \text{ g/mol}, D = 5.84$; LDPE-9 (blue), $M_n = 40501 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 138482 \text{ g/mol}, D = 3.42$.



Figure S32. ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-9


Following Typical Procedure 1, the reaction of TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.3 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **10** (38.7 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) afforded **LDPE-10** as a white solid (70.1 mg, LOF = 8.5 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.50-3.24 (m, 1.00 H), 3.12-2.85 (m, 1.22 H), 2.83-2.63 (m, 1.03 H), 1.76-0.58 (m, 44.56 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2915, 1774, 1705, 1461, 1143. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 12199 g/mol, M_w = 37383 g/mol, D = 3.06. TGA (°C) LDPE T_d = 420, LDPE-10 T_d = 220. DSC (°C) LDPE T_m = 104 with 23% crystallinity (DH = 63 J/g), LDPE-10 no recorded melting point.



Figure S33. The HT-GPC traces. LDPE (black), $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84; LDPE-10 (yellow), $M_n = 12199$ g/mol, $M_w = 37383$ g/mol, D = 3.06.



Figure S35. ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-10



Following Typical Procedure 1, the reaction of TBAFeCl₄ (1.8 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.5 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **17** (73.9 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) afforded **LDPE-11** as a white solid (70.7 mg, LOF = 4.2 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.25-4.18 (m, 4.00 H), 3.34 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 0.83 H), 2.50-2.36 (m, 0.83 H) 1.50-0.65 (m, 104.11 H including 9.00 H from di-ester moiety). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2917, 1736, 1461, 1373, 1174. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 26867 g/mol, M_w = 147230 g/mol, D = 5.48. TGA (°C) LDPE T_d = 420, LDPE-11 T_d = 320. DSC (°C) LDPE T_m = 104 with 23% crystallinity (DH = 63 J/g), LDPE-11 no recorded melting point.



Figure S36. The HT-GPC traces. LDPE (black), $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84; LDPE-11 (purple), $M_n = 26867$ g/mol, $M_w = 147230$ g/mol, D = 5.48.



Figure S38. ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-11



Following Typical Procedure 1, the reaction of TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.3 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **12** (62.8 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) afforded **LDPE-12** as a yellow solid (56.3 mg, LOF = 4.1 mol%, 21%). The 21% yield was determined as LOF/amount of alkene. The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48-7.28 (m, 1.00 H, Ar-H), 7.27-7.19 (m, 1.47 H, Ar-H), 7.18-7.03 (m, 0.92 H, Ar-H), 4.15-4.02 (m, 0.89 H), 3.36-3.25 (m, 0.91 H), 1.57-0.60 (m, 97.25 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2917, 2329, 1572, 1464, 1085. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 27632 g/mol, M_w = 80165 g/mol, D = 2.90. TGA (°C) LDPE T_d = 420, LDPE-12 T_d = 310. DSC (°C) LDPE T_m = 104 with 23% crystallinity (DH = 63 J/g), LDPE-12 T_m = 75 with 5% crystallinity (DH = 14 J/g).



Figure S39. The HT-GPC traces. LDPE (black), $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84; LDPE-12 (yellow), $M_n = 27632$ g/mol, $M_w = 80165$ g/mol, D = 2.90.



Figure S41. ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-12



Figure S42. The DSC trace of LDPE-12



Following Typical Procedure 1, the reaction of TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), LDPE (56.8 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84), **13** (74.3 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) afforded **LDPE-13** as a brown solid (51.5 mg, LOF = 8.4 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR. Moreover, the heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) and diffusion ordered NMR spectroscopy (DOSY) spectra of **LDPE-13** confirmed the small molecule is covalently linked onto LDPE.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48-7.15 (m, 5.36 H, Ar-H), 4.23-3.06 (m, 5.00 H), 1.69-0.61 (m, 46.28 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2922, 2247, 1747, 1275. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) $M_n = 26949$ g/mol, $M_w = 109311$ g/mol, D = 4.06. TGA (°C) LDPE T_d = 420, LDPE-133 T_d = 300. DSC (°C) LDPE T_m = 104 with 23% crystallinity (DH = 63 J/g), LDPE-13 no recorded melting point.



Figure S43. The HT-GPC traces. LDPE (black), $M_n = 30423$ g/mol, $M_w = 177700$ g/mol, D = 5.84; LDPE-13 (purple), $M_n = 26949$ g/mol, $M_w = 109311$ g/mol, D = 4.06.



Figure S44.¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-13



Figure S45.¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LDPE-13



Figure S46. Heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) spectroscopy of LDPE-13



Figure S47. Diffusion ordered NMR spectroscopy (DOSY) of **LDPE-13** presented that the all protons of **LDPE-13** had the same diffusion coefficient, indicating the small molecule is covalently linked onto LDPE.

The C-H bond functionalization of polyolefins



To a 100 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (44.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), LLDPE (2.8025 g, 100.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol, D = 3.37), **5** (430.0 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 450 µL, 5.0 mmol), and PhCl (40.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After EtOH (100 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (50 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 70 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5** was obtained as a white solid (3.0641 g, LOF = 4.7 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.66 (s, 3.34 H), 2.50-2.25 (m, 2.00 H), 2.12-0.75 (m, 83.73 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 64342 g/mol, M_w = 210306 g/mol \mathcal{D} = 3.27. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-5 T_d = 410. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-5 T_m = 106 with 18% crystallinity (DH = 50 J/g).



Figure S48. The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol D = 3.37; LLDPE-5 (green), $M_n = 64342$ g/mol, $M_w = 210306$ g/mol D = 3.27.



Figure S50. The DSC trace of LLDPE-5



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), PP (84.5 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 12122$ g/mol, $M_w = 27466$ g/mol, D = 2.27), **6** (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5.0 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **PP-6** was obtained as a white solid (81.2 mg, LOF = 5.7 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.40-7.26 (m, 5.39 H), 5.25-5.02 (m, 2.00 H), 2.39-2.25 (m, 1.29 H), 1.72-1.40 (m, 20.77 H), 1.27-1.02 (m, 16.26 H), 1.00-0.61 (m, 67.68 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2953, 1736, 1455, 1374, 1155. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) $M_n = 13899$ g/mol, $M_w = 28876$ g/mol, D = 2.08. TGA (°C) PP T_d = 410, PP-6 T_d = 352. DSC (°C) PP T_m = 151 with 59% crystallinity (DH = 111 J/g), PP-6 no recorded melting point.



Figure S51. The HT-GPC traces. PP (black), $M_n = 12122$ g/mol, $M_w = 27466$ g/mol, D = 2.27; PP-6 (red), $M_n = 13899$ g/mol, $M_w = 28876$ g/mol, D = 2.08.



Figure S53. ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of PP-6



Figure S54. The DSC trace of PP

The regioselectivity was determined using the model reaction of benzalmalononitrile with 2,4dimethylpentane and PP.



To a 4 mL vial were added benzalmalononitrile (30.9 mg, 0.20 mmol), 2,4-dimethylpentane (100.0 mg, d = 0.673 g/mL, 149 µL, 1.0 mmol), and TBAFeCl₄ (1.2 mg, 0.002 mmol) in MeCN (1.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The vial was sealed and transferred out of glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at rt. Evaporation and flash chromatography on silica gel afforded the alkylation product (19.3 mg, 38%) (eluent: PE/EA = 20/1): oil. A mixture was afforded and the ratio of 1°, 2°, 3° C–H alkylation was determined as 2.4:0.8:1.



Figure S55. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of benzalmalononitrile alkylation products with 2,4dimethylpentane



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.7 mg, 0.004 mmol), PP (85.0 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 12122$ g/mol, $M_w = 27466$ g/mol, D = 2.27), benzalmalononitrile (61.2 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5.0 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound was obtained as a white solid (89.1 mg).



Figure S56. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of benzalmalononitrile alkylation products with PP.



Figure S57. COSY of benzalmalononitrile alkylation products with PP.



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), PS (207.3 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 130714$ g/mol, $M_w = 265657$ g/mol, D = 2.03), **5** (34.4 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 36 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at rt. EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to the resulting mixture precipitated. Then, the resulting mixture was precipitated 2 times using DCM and EtOH (DCM/EtOH = 1:8) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound **PS-5** was obtained as a yellow solid (150.7 mg, LOF = 1.9 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.26-6.25 (m, 260.29 H), 3.85-3.25 (m, 3.00 H), 2.38-0.74 (m, 160.93 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 3024, 2922, 1737, 1600, 1028. GPC (DMF, 50 °C) M_n = 129038 g/mol, M_w = 249576 g/mol, D = 1.93. TGA (°C) PS T_d = 370, PS-5 T_d = 355. DSC (°C) PS no recorded melting point, PS-5 no recorded melting point.



Figure S58. The GPC traces. PS (black), $M_n = 130714$ g/mol, $M_w = 265657$ g/mol, D = 2.03; PS-5 (green), $M_n = 129038$ g/mol, $M_w = 249576$ g/mol, D = 1.93.



Figure S60.¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of PS-5

The regioselectivity was determined using the model reaction of benzalmalononitrile with

cyclohexylbenzene and PS.



To a 4 mL vial were added benzalmalononitrile (30.6 mg, 0.20 mmol), cyclohexylbenzene (160.0 mg, d = 0.950 g/mL, 168 µL, 1.0 mmol), and TBAFeCl₄ (1.1 mg, 0.002 mmol) in MeCN (1.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The vial was sealed and transferred out of glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at rt. Evaporation and flash chromatography on silica gel afforded a less polar mixture (27.5 mg, 44%) and a more polar mixture (12.4 mg, 20%) (eluent: PE/EA = 20/1): oil. The ratio of 2° and 3° C–H alkylation was determined as 9.7:1 by analyzing the ¹H NMRs.



Figure S61. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of benzalmalononitrile alkylation products with cyclohexylbenzene (less polar mixture)



Figure S62. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of benzalmalononitrile alkylation products with cyclohexylbenzene (more polar mixture)



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.6 mg, 0.004 mmol), PS (209.1 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 130714$ g/mol, $M_w = 265657$ g/mol, D = 2.03), benzalmalononitrile (61.6 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at rt. EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to the resulting mixture precipitated. Then, the resulting mixture was precipitated 2 times using DCM and EtOH (DCM/EtOH = 1:8) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound was obtained as a yellow solid (206.3 mg).



5.6 5.4 5.2 5.0 4.8 4.6 4.4 4.2 4.0 3.8 3.6 3.4 3.2 3.0 2.8 2.6 2.4 2.2 2.0 1.8 1.6 1.4 1.2 1.0 0.8 0.6 0.4 0.2 0.0 -0.2 -0.4 -0.6 -0.8 fl (ppm)

Figure S63. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of benzalmalononitrile alkylation products with PS.



Figure S64. COSY of benzalmalononitrile alkylation products with PS.



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.8 mg, 0.004 mmol), PIB (112.9 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 2497$ g/mol, $M_w = 12770$ g/mol, D = 5.11), **6** (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooled to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to the resulting mixture precipitated. Then, the resulting mixture was precipitated 2 times using DCM and EtOH (DCM/EtOH = 1:8) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound **PIB-6** was obtained as a colorless gel (93.1 mg, LOF = 3.3 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.48-7.27 (m, 6.52 H), 5.25-5.03 (m, 2.00 H), 1.78-0.58 (m, 427.30 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2951, 1738, 1470, 1230, 1158. GPC (THF, 40 °C) M_n = 3502 g/mol, $M_w = 5369$ g/mol, D = 1.53. TGA (°C) PIB T_d = 342, PIB-6 T_d = 330. DSC (°C) PIB no recorded melting point, PIB-6 no recorded melting point.



Figure S65. The GPC traces. PIB (black), $M_n = 2497$ g/mol, $M_w = 12770$ g/mol, D = 5.11; PIB-6 (red), $M_n = 3502$ g/mol, $M_w = 5369$ g/mol, D = 1.53.



Figure S67. ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of PIB-6

The regioselectivity was determined using the model reaction of benzalmalononitrile with PIB.



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), PIB (114.5 mg, 2.0 mmol, $M_n = 2497$ g/mol, $M_w = 12770$ g/mol, D = 5.11), benzalmalononitrile (61.7 mg, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 120 °C. After cooled to rt, EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to the resulting mixture precipitated. Then, the resulting mixture was precipitated 2 times using DCM and EtOH (DCM/EtOH = 1:8) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound was obtained as a colorless gel (112.0 mg).



Figure S68. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of benzalmalononitrile alkylation products with PIB.



Figure S69. COSY of benzalmalononitrile alkylation products with PIB.

Concerting plastic waste into the potentially valuable materials



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), plastic bag (HDPE) (57.1 mg, 2.0 mmol), **6** (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (10 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound *pb*-HDPE-6 was obtained as a white solid (74.1 mg, LOF = 11.0 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.40-7.26 (m, 5.32 H), 5.23-5.00 (m, **2.00 H**), 2.50-2.24 (m, 1.72 H), 1.75-1.02 (m, **36.30 H**).



Figure S70. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of *pb*-HDPE-6



Figure S71. The GPC traces. *pb*-HDPE (black), $M_n = 19250$ g/mol, $M_w = 378866$ g/mol, D = 19.68; *pb*-HDPE-6 (purple), $M_n = 35727$ g/mol, $M_w = 239292$ g/mol, D = 6.70.



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), single-use container (PP) (84.3 mg, 2.0 mmol), **6** (64.8 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 60 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (10 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound *dc*-PP-6 was obtained as a white solid (101.8 mg, LOF = 6.0 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.41-7.27 (m, 5.95 H), 5.31-4.75 (m, **2.00 H**), 2.41-2.24 (m, 1.67 H), 1.75-0.58 (m, **99.26 H**).



Figure S72. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of *dc*-PP-6



Figure S73. The GPC traces. *dc*-PP (black), $M_n = 50218$ g/mol, $M_w = 163591$ g/mol, D = 3.26; *dc*-PP-6 (purple), $M_n = 22551$ g/mol, $M_w = 75962$ g/mol, D = 3.37.



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), foam box (PS) (209.1 mg, 2.0 mmol), **5** (34.4 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 36 µL, 0.4 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at rt. EtOH (8.0 mL) was added to the resulting mixture precipitated. Then, the resulting mixture was precipitated 2 times using DCM and EtOH (DCM/EtOH = 1:8) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound *foam*-**PS-5** was obtained as a yellow solid (200.4 mg, LOF = 0.2 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 7.26-6.24 (m, 2455.36 H), 3.25-3.16 (m, **3.00 H**), 2.75-0.74 (m, **1506.53 H**).

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of *foam*-PS-5



Figure S74. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of *foam*-PS-5



Figure S75. The GPC traces. *foam*-PS (black), $M_n = 114458 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 261570 \text{ g/mol}, D = 2.29$; *foam*-PS-6 (brown), $M_n = 85031 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 176373 \text{ g/mol}, D = 2.07$.

Modular synthesis of multi-polar polyolefins from LLDPE and deficient alkenes

(1) LOF-controllable multi-incorporation of the polar groups.

Entry 1:



To a 100 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (2.3 mg, 0.005 mmol), LLDPE (141.1 mg, 5.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol D = 3.37), **5** (8.6 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 9 µL, 0.1 mmol), and PhCl (4.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 12 hours at 130 °C. After EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5** was obtained as a white solid (142.4 g, LOF = 1.9 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.66 (s, **3.00 H**), 2.50-2.25 (m, 2.43 H), 2.12-0.75 (m, **207.08 H**). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.



Figure S76. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.006 mmol), **LLDPE-5** (112.5 mg, 4.0 mmol), **14** (16.4 mg, 0.08 mmol), and PhCl (4.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5-14** was obtained as a yellow solid (119.4 mg, LOF = **1.6 mol%** for **14**).¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25-6.80 (m, 3.50 H), 3.82 (s, **3.00 H**), 1.78-0.71 (m, **243.21 H**).



Figure S77.¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5-14



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.4 mg, 0.003 mmol), **LLDPE-5-14** (84.5 mg, 3.0 mmol), **9** (12.3 mg, 0.06 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5-14-9** was obtained as a white solid (87.9 mg, LOF = **1.7 mol%** for **9**). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR δ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 4.01-3.78 (m, 2.00 H), 3.60-3.48 (m, 2.06 H), 1.78-0.71 (m, 236.36 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 69558 g/mol, M_w = 337594 g/mol, D = 4.85. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-5-13-15 T_d = 325. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-5-14-9 no recorded melting point.



Figure S78. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5-14-9



Figure S79.The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 68110 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 229639 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.37; LLDPE-5-14-9 (purple), $M_n = 69588 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 337594 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 4.85 for entry 1.

Entry 2:



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.7 mg, 0.004 mmol), LLDPE (112.5 mg, 4.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol, D = 3.37), **5** (6.9 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 7 µL, 0.08 mmol), **14** (16.3 mg, 0.08 mmol), **9** (16.5 mg, 0.08 mmol) and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5-14-9** was obtained as a white solid (139.0 mg, LOF = 1.2/1.8/1.9 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25-6.80 (m,4.00 H), δ 3.94-3.83 (m, 2.33 H), δ 3.82 (s, 3.27 H), δ 3.66 (s, 2.22 H), δ 3.57-3.50 (m, 2.36 H), 1.75-0.70 (m, 245.73 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 66103 g/mol, M_w = 194904 g/mol, D = 2.95. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-5-14-9 T_d = 330. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-5-14-9 no recorded melting point.


Figure S80. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5-14-9



Figure S81.The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 68110 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 229639 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.37; LLDPE-5-14-9 (blue), $M_n = 66103 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 194904 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 2.95 for entry 2.

Entry 3:



To a 100 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (44.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), LLDPE (2.8025 g, 100.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol, D = 3.37), **5** (430.0 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 450 µL, 5.0 mmol), and PhCl (40.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After EtOH (100 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (50 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 70 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5** was obtained as a white solid (3.0641 g, LOF = 4.7 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.66 (s, 3.34 H), 2.50-2.25 (m, **2.00 H**), 2.12-0.75 (m, **83.73 H**). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.



Figure S82. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), **LLDPE-5** (112.3 mg, 4.0 mmol), **14** (40.4 mg, 0.2 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5-14** was obtained as a white solid (132.7 mg, LOF = **3.7 mol%** for **14**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25-6.80 (m, **4.00** H), 3.82 (m, 3.17 H), 1.78-0.71 (m, **109.32 H**).



Figure S83. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5-14



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.5 mg, 0.003 mmol), **LLDPE-5-14** (84.2 mg, 3.0 mmol), **9** (30.8 mg, 0.15 mmol), and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5-14-9** was obtained as a yellow solid (104.7 mg, LOF = **4.6 mol%** for **9**). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR δ (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 4.01-3.78 (m, 2.00 H), 3.60-3.48 (m, 2.06 H), 1.85-0.71 (m, 86.05 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 64821 g/mol, M_w = 162946 g/mol, D = 2.51. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-5-14-9 T_d = 300. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-5-14-9 no recorded melting point.



Figure S84. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5-14-9



Figure S85.The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 68110 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 229639 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.37; LLDPE-5-14-9 (brown), $M_n = 64821 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 162946 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 2.51 for entry 3.

Entry 4:



To a 100 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (44.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), LLDPE (2.8025 g, 100.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol, D = 3.37), **5** (430.0 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 450 µL, 5.0 mmol), and PhCl (40.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After EtOH (100 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (50 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5** was obtained as a white solid (3.0641 g, LOF = 4.7 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.66 (s, 3.34 H), 2.50-2.25 (m, **2.00 H**), 2.12-0.75 (m, **83.73 H**). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.



Figure S86. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), **LLDPE-5** (111.7 mg, 4.0 mmol), **14** (8.2 mg, 0.04 mmol), **9** (16.2 mg, 0.08 mmol) and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5-14-9** was obtained as a yellow solid (123.9 mg, LOF = 1.0/1.4 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.94-3.83 (m, 2.71 H), δ 3.82 (m, 3.00 H), δ 3.57-3.50 (m, 3.02 H), 1.68-0.70 (m, 388.0 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 67668 g/mol, M_w = 229527 g/mol, *D* = 3.39. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-5-14-9 T_d = 331. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-5-14-9 no recorded melting point.



Figure S87. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5-14-9



Figure S88. The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 68110 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 229639 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.37; LLDPE-5-14-9 (gold), $M_n = 67668 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 229527 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.39 for entry 4.

Entry 5:



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.7 mg, 0.004 mmol), LLDPE (112.5 mg, 4.0 mmol, $M_n = 56845$ g/mol, $M_w = 193809$ g/mol, D = 3.41), **5** (6.9 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 7 µL, 0.08 mmol), **14** (16.3 mg, 0.08 mmol), **9** (16.5 mg, 0.08 mmol), **6** (13.0 mg, d = 1.080 g/mL, 12 µL, 0.08 mmol) and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5-14-9-6** was obtained as a white solid (141.3 mg, LOF = 0.6/1.7/1.2/1.2 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43-7.27 (m, 6.58 H), 7.25-6.80 (m, 6.10 H), 5.25-5.02 (m, 2.00 H), δ 3.94-3.83 (m, 2.55 H), δ 3.82 (s, 5.07 H), δ 3.66 (s, 1.65 H), δ 3.57-3.50 (m, 2.66 H), 1.75-0.70 (m, 387.71 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 57238 g/mol, M_w = 186614 g/mol D = 3.26. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-5-14-9-6 T_d = 335. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-5-14-9-6 no recorded melting point.



Figure S89. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5-14-9-6



Figure S90. The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 56845 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 193809 \text{ g/mol} \mathcal{D} = 3.41$; LLDPE-5-14-9-6 (orange), $M_n = 57238 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 186614 \text{ g/mol} \mathcal{D} = 3.26$ for entry 5.

Entry 6:



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.8 mg, 0.004 mmol), LLDPE (112.1 mg, 4.0 mmol, $M_n = 56845$ g/mol, $M_w = 193809$ g/mol D = 3.41), **5** (6.9 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 7 µL, 0.08 mmol), **14** (16.5 mg, 0.08 mmol), **9** (16.2 mg, 0.08 mmol), **11** (15.5 mg, 0.08 mmol) and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5-14-9-11** was obtained as a white solid (141.6 mg, LOF = 1.1/1.7/1.6/0.3 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.25-6.80 (m, 4.00 H), 4.26-4.10 (m, 0.87 H), δ 3.94-3.83 (m, 2.10 H), δ 3.82 (s, 3.47 H), δ 3.66 (s, 2.26 H), δ 3.57-3.50 (m, 2.20 H), 1.75-0.70 (m, 269.51 H). by ¹H NMR. GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 47723 g/mol, M_w = 159958 g/mol \mathcal{D} = 3.35. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-5-14-9-11 T_d = 345. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-5-14-9-11 no recorded melting point.



Figure S91. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5-14-9-11



Figure S92. The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black) $M_n = 56845 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 193809 \text{ g/mol} D = 3.41;$ LLDPE-5-14-9-11 (purple), $M_n = 47723 \text{ g/mol}, M_w = 159958 \text{ g/mol} D = 3.35$ for entry 6.

Entry 7:



To a 35 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (1.9 mg, 0.004 mmol), LLDPE (112.0 mg, 4.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol, D = 3.37), **5** (6.9 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 7 µL, 0.08 mmol), **14** (16.3 mg, 0.08 mmol), **9** (16.4 mg, 0.08 mmol), **15** (15.9 mg, 0.08 mmol) and PhCl (3.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After cooling to rt, EtOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 50 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5-14-9-15** was obtained as a white solid (147.9 mg, LOF = 0.4/1.7/1.2/1.2 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80-7.42 (m, 4.00 H), 7.25-6.80 (m, 4.70 H), δ 3.94-3.83 (m, 1.84 H), δ 3.82 (s, 4.14 H), δ 3.66 (s, 0.92 H), δ 3.57-3.50 (m, 2.00 H), 1.75-0.70 (m, 333.58 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 55542 g/mol, M_w = 194723 g/mol \mathcal{D} = 3.51. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-5-14-9-15 T_d = 340. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-5-14-9-15 no recorded melting point.



Figure S93. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-5-14-9-15



Figure S94. The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 68110 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 229639 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.37; LLDPE-5-14-9-15 (green), $M_n = 55542 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 194723 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.51 for entry 7.

Physical properties of various grafted-LLDPE



To a 100 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (44.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), LLDPE (2.8025 g, 100.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol, D = 3.37), **5** (430.0 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 450 µL, 5.0 mmol), and PhCl (40.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After EtOH (100 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (50 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 70 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-5** was obtained as a white solid (3.0641 g, LOF = 4.7 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.66 (s, 3.34 H), 2.50-2.25 (m, 2.00 H), 2.12-0.75 (m, 83.73 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 64342 g/mol, M_w = 210306 g/mol, D = 3.27. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-5 T_d = 410. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-5 T_m = 106 with 18% crystallinity (DH = 50 J/g).



Figure S95. The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 68110 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 229639 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.37; LLDPE-5 (green), $M_n = 64342 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 210306 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.27.



To a 100 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (43.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), LLDPE (2.8003 g, 100.0 mmol, $M_n = 56845$ g/mol, $M_w = 193809$ g/mol, D = 3.41), **8** (863.2 mg, 5.0 mmol), and PhCl (40.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After EtOH (100 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (50 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 70 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-8** was obtained as a white solid (3.2489 g, LOF = 3.5 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.62-7.30 (m, 3.20 H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 2.31 H), 7.25-7.16 (m, 0.85 H), 3.23-3.12 (m, 1.00 H), 2.83-2.75 (m, 1.12 H), 2.61-2.55 (m, 1.11 H), 2.18-2.05 (m, 1.07 H), 1.75-0.72 (m, 114.09 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 46914 g/mol, M_w = 134479 g/mol, D = 2.87. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-8 T_d = 410. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-8 T_m = 92 with 11% crystallinity (DH = 29 J/g).



Figure S96. The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 56845$ g/mol, $M_w = 193809$ g/mol, D =



3.41; LLDPE-8 (orange), $M_n = 46914$ g/mol, $M_w = 134479$ g/mol, D = 2.87.

Figure S97. The DSC trace of LLDPE-8



To a 100 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (43.5 mg, 0.1 mmol), LLDPE (2.8003 g, 100.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol, D = 3.37), 9 (1.0232 g, 5.0 mmol), and PhCl (40.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After EtOH (100 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (50 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 70 °C for 12 hours. The compound LLDPE-9 was obtained as a white solid (3.5702 g, LOF = 3.9 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.00-3.82 (m, 2.00 H), 3.62-3.47 (m, 2.31 H), 3.10-2.95 (m, 1.09 H), 2.67-2.55 (m, 1.14 H), 2.53-2.45 (m, 1.10 H), 2.12-1.98 (m, 1.11 H), 1.62-0.73 (m, 103.60 H). GPC (TCB, 140 °C) M_n = 71463 g/mol, M_w = 269291 g/mol, D = 3.77. TGA (°C) LLDPE T_d = 420, LLDPE-9 T_d = 310. DSC (°C) LLDPE T_m = 122 with 24% crystallinity (DH = 66 J/g), LLDPE-9 T_m = 95 with 11% crystallinity (DH = 30 J/g).



Figure S98. The HT-GPC traces. LLDPE (black), $M_n = 68110 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 229639 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.37; LLDPE-9 (purple), $M_n = 71463 \text{ g/mol}$, $M_w = 269291 \text{ g/mol}$, D = 3.77.



Figure S99. The DSC trace of LLDPE-9

Synthesis of the ionomers

(1) Preparation of ion-LLDPE-9 and ion-LLDPE-15 in gram scale



To a 100 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (44.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), LLDPE (2.8025 g, 100.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol, D = 3.37), **16** (430.0 mg, d = 0.956 g/mL, 450 µL, 5.0 mmol), and PhCl (40.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After EtOH (100 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (50 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. After drying under vacuum at 70 °C for 12 hours. The compound **LLDPE-16** was obtained as a white solid.

The level of functionalization (LOF) of compound **LLDPE-16** was not able to be determined due to the low solubility. However, such a LOF could be determined after the methylation with TMSCHN₂.



To a 100 mL Schlenk tube were added LLDPE-16 (57.2 mg, 2.0 mmol), PhCl/MeOH = 10/1 (5.0 mL), and TMSCHN₂ (2.0 M, 1.0 mL, 2.0 mmol) were added at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was warmed to 80 °C and stirred for 22 hours under N₂. After MeOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with MeOH (5 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound LLDPE-16 was obtained as a white solid (59.0 mg, LOF = 3.4 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.66 (s, **3.00 H**), 2.50-2.25 (m, 1.76 H), 2.12-0.75 (m, **118.54 H**).



Figure S100. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-16-3.4 mol%



To a solution of **LLDPE-16** (1.4279 g, about 50.0 mmol) in PhCl (30.0 mL) at 130 °C was added KO'Bu (449.1 mg, 4.0 mmol) under a N₂ atmosphere. The resulting mixture was stirred for 10 min at 130 °C to precipitate a yellow solid. After adding of EtOH (100.0 mL), the product was filtrated and washed with EtOH (50.0 mL \times 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound *ion*-LLDPE-16 was obtained as a yellow solid (1.1529 g).



To a 250 mL Schlenk flask with condenser were added **LLDPE-9** (1.4032 g, about 50.0 mmol), 1-methylimidazole (4.1000 g, d = 1.030 g/mL, 4.0 mL, 50.0 mmol), and PhCl (25.0 mL) in an N₂ atmosphere. The resulting mixture was stirred at 130 °C for **30 min**. After adding of acetone (100 mL), the product was precipitated, filtrated, and then washed with acetone (50 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound *ion*-LLDPE-9-0.7 mol% was obtained as a yellow solid (1.4164 g, LOI = 0.7 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₂D₂Cl₄, 110 °C) δ 4.65 (s, **2.00 H**), 4.18-4.12 (m, 4.94 H), 4.12-4.02 (m, 2.27 H), 3.97-3.82 (m, 5.55 H), 3.65-3.53 (m, 5.49 H), 1.68-0.75 (m, **556.73 H**). IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2917, 1773, 1702, 1465, 1398.



Figure S101. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₂D₂Cl₄, 110 °C) of *ion*-LLDPE-9-0.7 mol%



To a 250 mL Schlenk flask with condenser were added **LLDPE-9** (1.4053 g, about 50.0 mmol), 1-methylimidazole (4.1000 g, d = 1.030 g/mL, 4.0 mL, 50.0 mmol), and PhCl (30.0 mL) in an N₂ atmosphere. the resulting mixture was stirred for **5 h** at 130 °C and brown solid was precipitated. After acetone (50 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with acetone (30 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound *ion*-LLDPE-9-2.4 mol% was obtained as a yellow solid (1.4670 g, LOI = 2.4 mol%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₂D₂Cl₄, 110 °C) δ 4.69 (s, **2.00 H**), 4.25-3.96 (m, 6.05 H), 1.65-0.78 (m, **164.30 H**). IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2917, 1771, 1700, 1465, 1399.



Figure S102. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₂D₂Cl₄, 110 °C) of *ion*-LLDPE-9-2.4 mol%

(2) The clarities of LLDPE and ionized-LLDPEs

Polymer films were prepared by melt pressing using a Manual Compression Press.

LLDPE and *ion*-LLDPE-9-0.7 mol% samples were placed between two Kapton films and steel plates to be heated at 120 °C and pressed at 1.0 ± 0.1 MPa for 2 minutes.

ion-LLDPE-9-2.4 mol% samples were placed between two Kapton films and steel plates to be heated at 150 °C and pressed at 5.0 ± 0.1 MPa for 2 minutes.

ion-LLDPE-16 samples were placed between two Kapton films and steel plates to be heated at 145 °C and pressed at 4.0 ± 0.1 MPa for 5 minutes.

Ionomers are hygroscopic and demonstrate slow crystallization kinetics, the films were staged for 4-7 days in N₂ glovebox before tensile testing.



Figure S103. Images of LLDPE, *ion*-LLDPE-16, *ion*-LLDPE-9-0.7 mol%, and *ion*-LLDPE-9-2.4 mol% films. Comparing with LLDPE, the clarity of ionized-LLDPE is enhanced.

(3) Tensile test

Specimens for analysis were cut into dog-bone. Sample thickness at the bridge was measured using calipers. Test specimens were affixed on an CMT-1503 electromechanical tester (SUST Inc., China). Tensile stress and strain were measured at room temperature using an extension rate of 10 mm/min. Measurements were repeated for at least 3 specimens.



Figure S104. Images of LLDPE, *ion*-LLDPE-9-0.7 mol%, *ion*-LLDPE-9-2.4 mol%, and *ion*-LLDPE-16 dog-bones for tensile test.



Table S5. Tensile test data of LLDPE, *ion*-LLDPE-9-0.7 mol%, *ion*-LLDPE-9-2.4 mol%, and *ion*-LLDPE-16

Contact angles of LLDPE and LLDPE-17



To a 100 mL sealed tube were added TBAFeCl₄ (44.1 mg, 0.1 mmol), LLDPE (2.8003 g, 100.0 mmol, $M_n = 68110$ g/mol, $M_w = 229639$ g/mol, D = 3.37), **17** (1.4001g, 3.0 mmol, $M_n = 480$ g/mol), and PhCl (40.0 mL) in an N₂ glovebox. The tube was then sealed and transferred out of the glovebox. Under irradiation at 390 nm LEDs, the resulting mixture was stirred for 24 hours at 130 °C. After EtOH (100 mL) was added to precipitate the product. After filtration, the product was washed with EtOH (50 mL × 3) until the small molecules were removed completely. The compound **LLDPE-17** was obtained as a yellow solid (3.6738 g, LOF = 2.8 mol%). The level of functionalization was determined by ¹H NMR.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.80-3.25 (m, 40.0 H), 1.82-0.74 (m, 139.37 H). The ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum is very complicated, which is attached in the spectra part directly. IR v (neat, cm⁻¹) 2916, 1737, 1464, 1251, 1107.



Figure S105. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-17

¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-17



Figure S106. ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) of LLDPE-17



Figure S107. Polymer films from LLDPE and **LLDPE-17-2.8 mol%** were prepared by hot pressing. Static water contact angles were measured with deionized water by KRUSS DSA100.

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