

## Supplementary Material

for

### Temperature-Triggered Self-Separating Swelling Poly(Ionic Liquid)s as Efficient Catalysts for CO<sub>2</sub> Cycloaddition Reactions

*Jiayi Chen<sup>a</sup>, Qing Sun<sup>a,b</sup>, Haihong Zhao<sup>a,\*</sup>, Hao Chen<sup>c,d,e,\*</sup>*

*<sup>a</sup> National & Local United Engineering Laboratory for New Petrochemical Materials  
& Fine Utilization of Resources, College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering,  
Hunan Normal University, Changsha, Hunan Province 410081, China*

*<sup>b</sup> State Key Laboratory of Mineral Processing, Beijing 100044, China*

*<sup>c</sup> School of Metallurgy and Environment, Central South University, Changsha 410083,  
China*

*<sup>d</sup> State Key Laboratory of Advanced Metallurgy for Non-ferrous Metals, Changsha  
410083, China*

*<sup>e</sup> Chinese National Engineering Research Center for Control & Treatment of Heavy  
Metal Pollution, Changsha 410083, China*

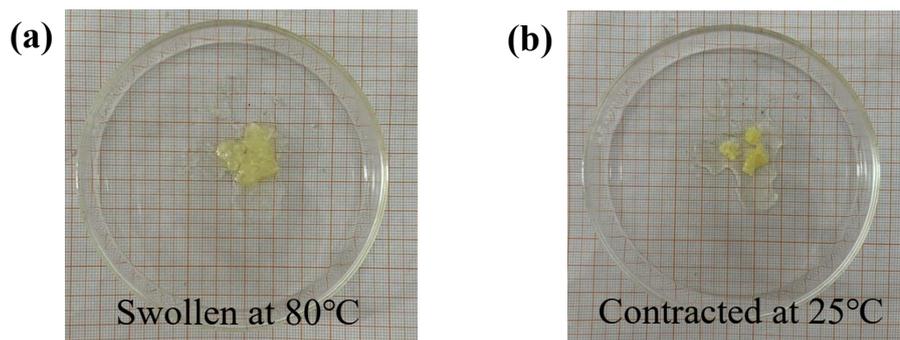
*\*Corresponding authors. E-mail addresses: zhh\_1998@163.com (H. Zhao),  
chenhao0815@csu.edu.cn (H. Chen)*

### **Text 1: Preparation of Ionic Liquid Monomer VC<sub>m</sub>Im**

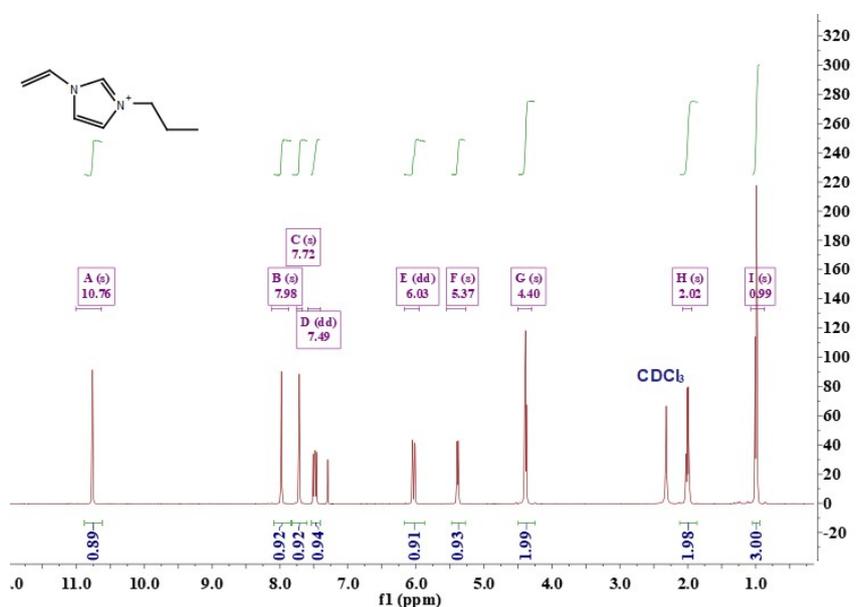
The synthesis of five ionic liquid monomers VC<sub>m</sub>Im with different alkyl chain lengths on the imidazole ring (m represents the number of carbon atoms in the imidazole side chain, 3, 6, 12, 14, 18) follows the nucleophilic substitution mechanism. Taking the synthesis of 1-vinyl-3-dodecylimidazolium bromide (VC<sub>12</sub>Im) as an example, the detailed experimental steps are as follows: in a 50 mL three-neck flask, a mixture of 1-Vinylimidazole (20 mmol, 1.88 g) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was prepared under a N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. Then, a solution of 1-Bromododecane (20 mmol, 4.98 g) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added dropwise. Subsequently, the mixture was heated in an oil bath preheated to 75°C and reacted for 10 hours. After the reaction, the solvent was removed using a rotary evaporator, and the unreacted substances were washed with ethyl acetate to obtain a white solid. The target product VC<sub>12</sub>Im was obtained in 94.6% yield. Similarly, 1-vinyl-3-propylimidazolium bromide (VC<sub>3</sub>Im), 1-vinyl-3-hexylimidazolium bromide (VC<sub>6</sub>Im), 1-vinyl-3-tetradecylimidazolium bromide (VC<sub>14</sub>Im), 1-vinyl-3-octadecylimidazolium bromide (VC<sub>18</sub>Im) were prepared. The structure was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy (see Figures S2-S11).

### **Text 2: Preparation of Crosslinker VIm-C<sub>n</sub>-VIm**

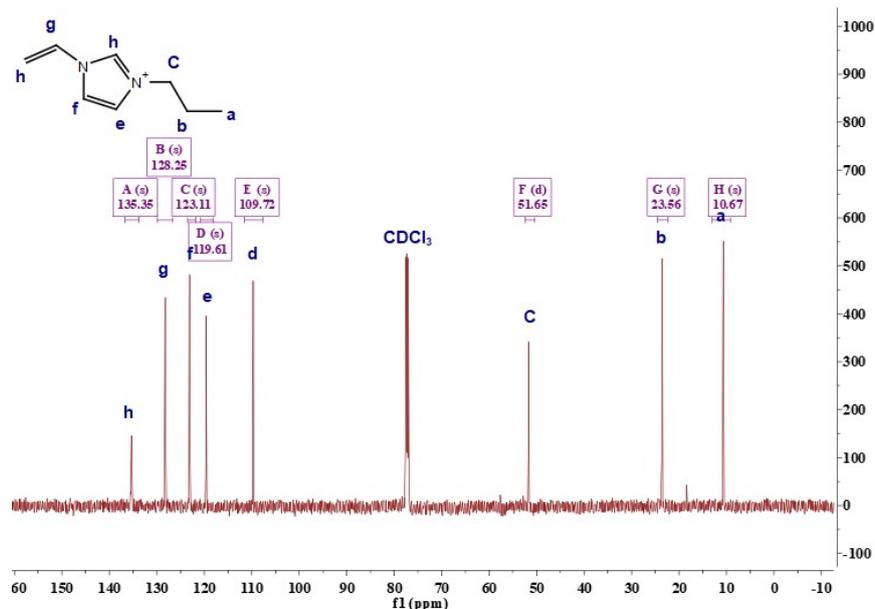
Four crosslinkers VIm-C<sub>n</sub>-VIm with different chain lengths (n represents the number of carbon atoms in the central alkyl chain, 3, 6, 12, 14) were synthesized following the route shown in Figure 1(b). Taking the synthesis of 3,3'-(dodecane-1,12-diyl)bis(1-vinyl-3-imidazolium) dibromide (VIM-C<sub>12</sub>-VIM) as an example, the specific synthesis steps are as follows: 1-vinylimidazole (25.0 mmol, 4.10 g), 1,12-Dibromododecane (12.5 mmol, 2.52 g), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL) were simultaneously added to a 100 mL round-bottom flask and mixed uniformly. Then, the mixture was heated at 60°C for the reaction. After the reaction, the mixture was allowed to settle and separate into layers. The lower yellow oily layer was the product layer. The upper turbid liquid was discarded, and the yellow oily crude product was washed with dichloromethane to remove unreacted starting materials. The product was dried at 75°C to obtain a white solid VIM-C<sub>12</sub>-VIM. The yield of VIm-C<sub>12</sub>-VIm reached 97.2%. Similarly, 3,3'-(propane-1,3-diyl)bis(1-vinyl-3-imidazolium) dibromide (VIM-C<sub>3</sub>-VIM), 3,3'-(hexane-1,6-diyl)bis(1-vinyl-3-imidazolium) dibromide (VIM-C<sub>6</sub>-VIM), and 3,3'-(tetradecane-1,14-diyl)bis(1-vinyl-3-imidazolium) dibromide (VIM-C<sub>14</sub>-VIM) were prepared. The structures were confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy (see Figures S12-S21).



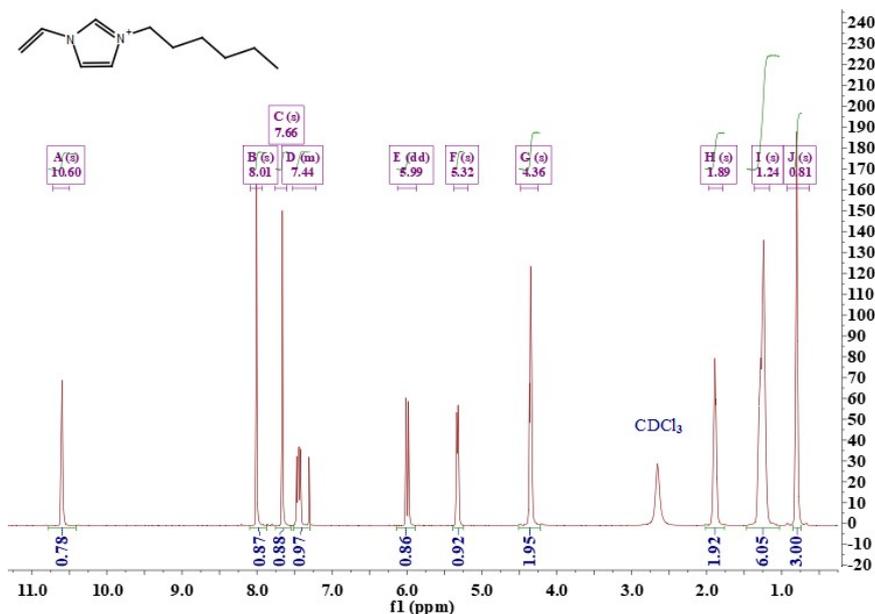
**Figure S1 (a)-(b)** Images of P-[VC<sub>12</sub>Im]-C<sub>12</sub>-Br in reaction medium under different temperature



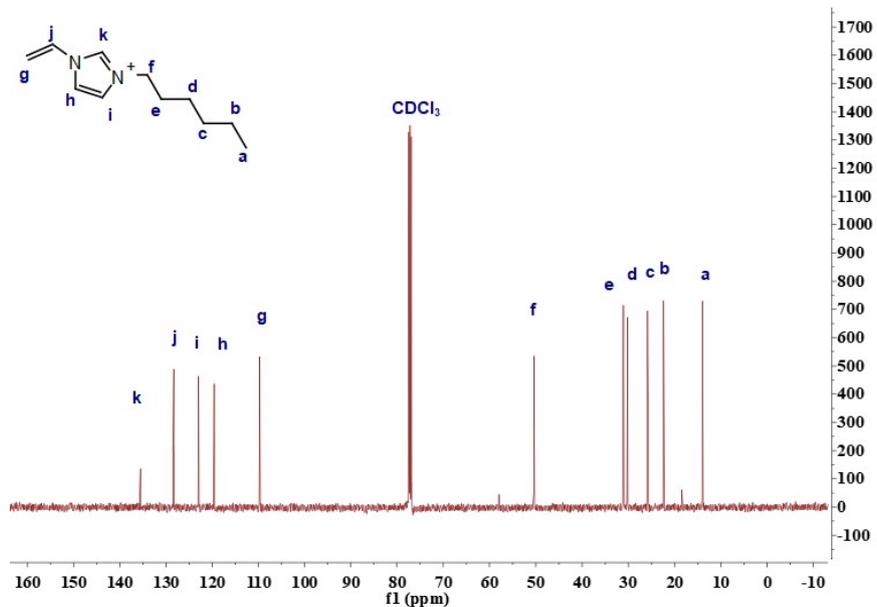
**Figure S2** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer VC<sub>3</sub>Im  
 VC<sub>3</sub>Im: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.76 (s, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.03 (dd, *J* = 15.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (s, 1H), 4.40 (s, 2H), 2.02 (s, 2H), 0.99 (s, 3H).



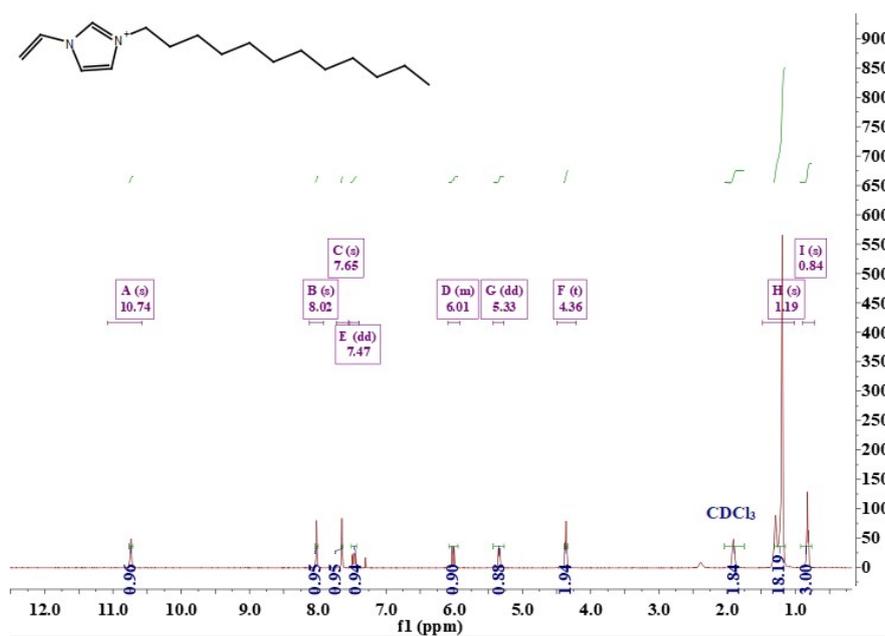
**Figure S3**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer  $\text{VC}_3\text{Im}$   
 $\text{VC}_3\text{Im}$ :  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  135.35 (s), 128.25 (s), 123.11 (s), 119.61 (s), 109.72 (s), 51.65 (d,  $J = 4.9$  Hz), 23.56 (s), 10.67 (s).



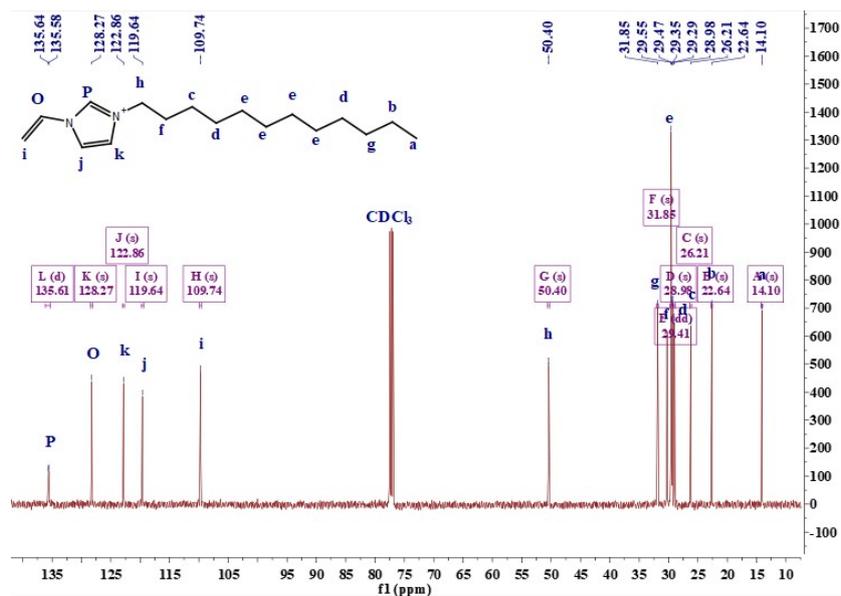
**Figure S4**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer  $\text{VC}_6\text{Im}$ .  
 $\text{VC}_6\text{Im}$ :  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  10.60 (s, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.52 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 5.99 (dd,  $J = 15.7, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.32 (s, 1H), 4.36 (s, 2H), 1.89 (s, 2H), 1.24 (s, 7H), 0.81 (s, 3H).



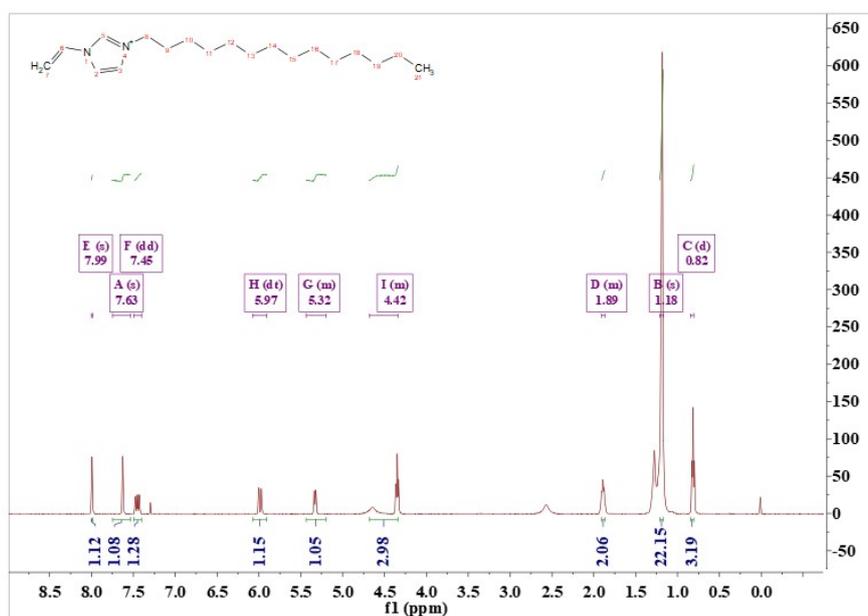
**Figure S5** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer VC<sub>6</sub>Im  
 VC<sub>6</sub>Im: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 154.39 (s), 76.89 (s), 67.02 (s), 43.88 (s).



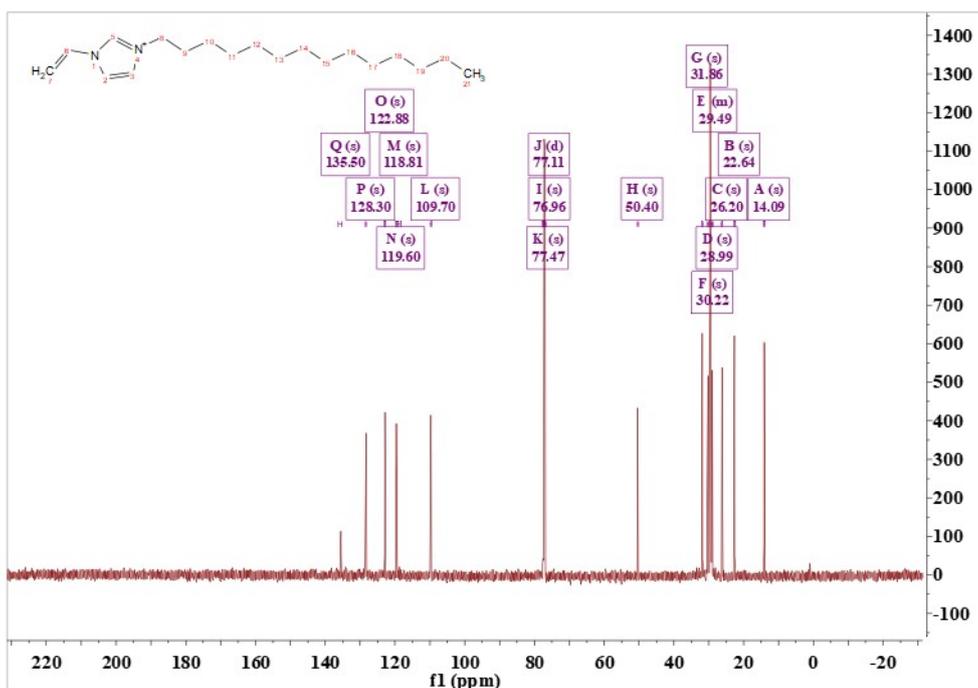
**Figure S6** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer VC<sub>12</sub>Im  
 VC<sub>12</sub>Im: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 10.74 (s, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.65 (s, 2H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.09 – 5.92 (m, 1H), 5.33 (dd, *J* = 23.1, 16.2 Hz, 2H), 4.36 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.19 (s, 33H), 0.84 (s, 5H).



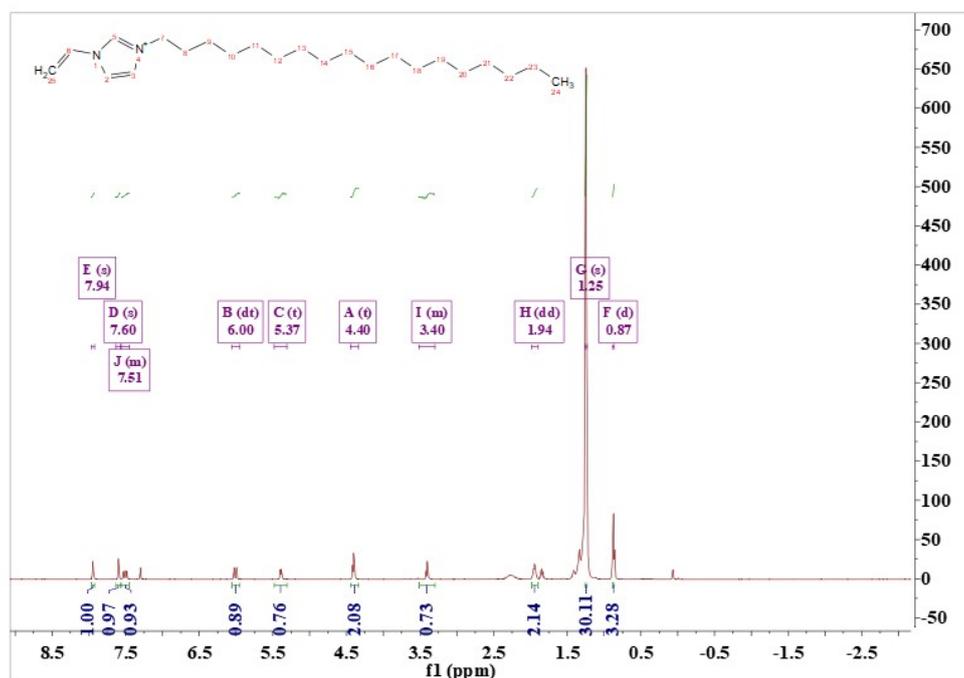
**Figure S7**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer  $\text{VC}_{12}\text{Im}$   
 $\text{VC}_{12}\text{Im}$ :  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  135.61 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz), 128.27 (s), 122.86 (s), 119.64 (s), 109.74 (s), 50.40 (s), 31.85 (s), 29.41 (dd,  $J = 24.3, 9.1$  Hz), 28.98 (s), 26.21 (s), 22.64 (s), 14.10 (s).



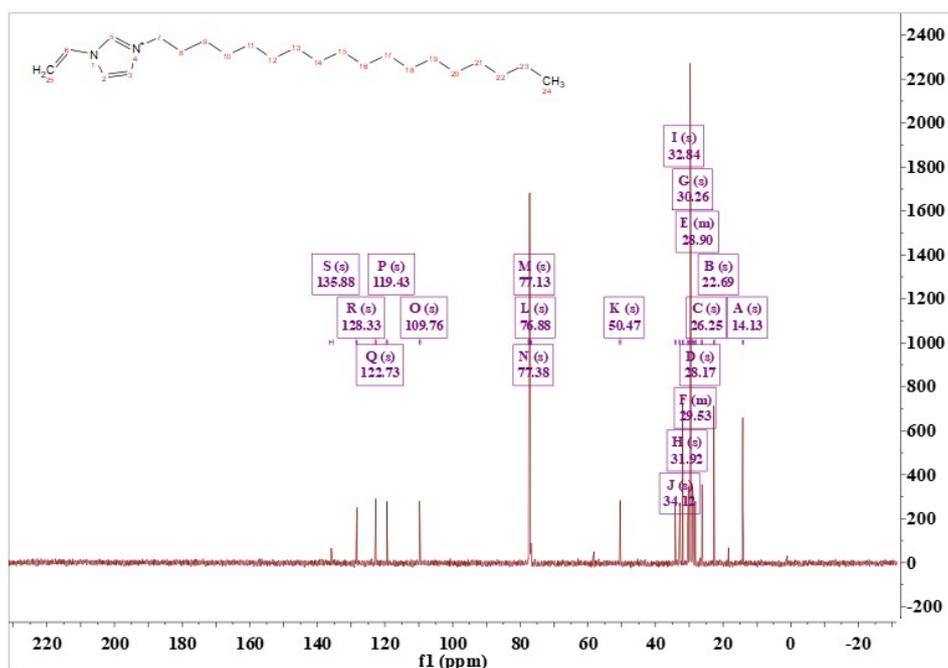
**Figure S8**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer  $\text{VC}_{14}\text{Im}$   
 $\text{VC}_{14}\text{Im}$ :  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.99 (s, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.45 (dd,  $J = 15.6, 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 5.97 (dt,  $J = 31.4, 15.7$  Hz, 1H), 5.44-5.20 (m, 1H), 4.68-4.34 (m, 3H), 1.91-1.87 (m, 2H), 1.18 (s, 22H), 0.82 (d,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 3H).



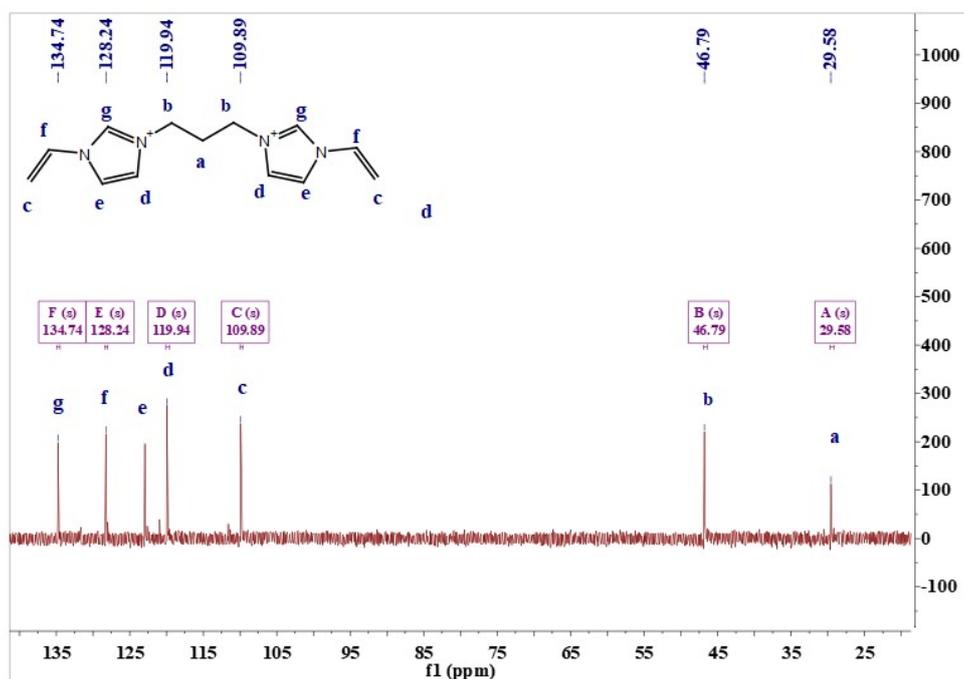
**Figure S9**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer  $\text{VC}_{14}\text{Im}$   
 $\text{VC}_{14}\text{Im}$ :  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  135.50 (s), 128.30 (s), 122.88 (s), 119.60 (s), 118.81 (s), 109.70 (s), 77.47 (s), 77.11 (d,  $J = 25.9$  Hz), 76.96 (s), 50.40 (s), 31.86 (s), 30.22 (s), 29.84 – 29.16 (m), 28.99 (s), 26.20 (s), 22.64 (s), 14.09 (s).



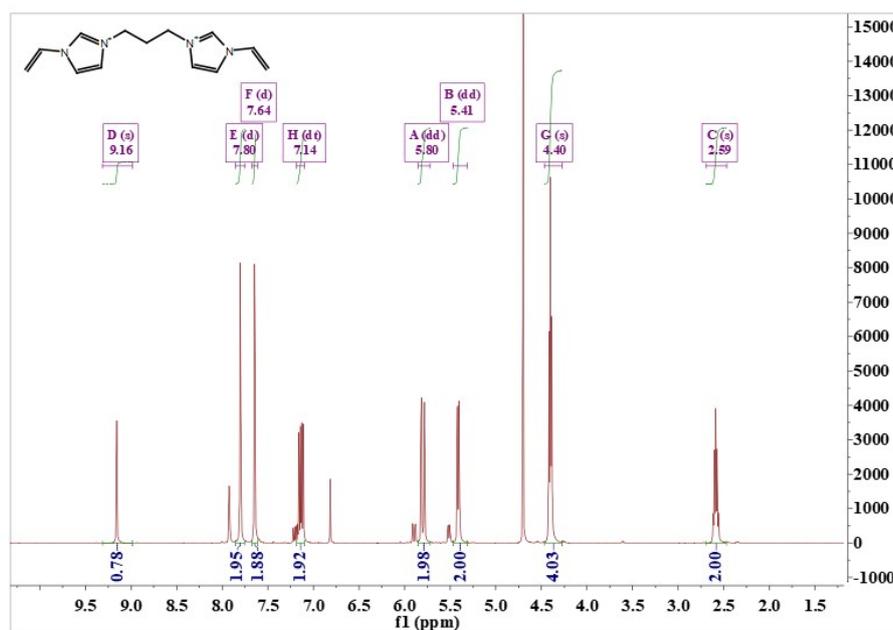
**Figure S10**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer  $\text{VC}_{18}\text{Im}$   
 $\text{VC}_{18}\text{Im}$ :  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.94 (s, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.56 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 6.00 (dt,  $J = 23.3, 11.7$  Hz, 1H), 5.37 (t,  $J = 22.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.40 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 3.52 – 3.30 (m, 1H), 1.94 (dd,  $J = 13.9, 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 1.25 (s, 30H), 0.87 (d,  $J = 5.7$  Hz, 3H).



**Figure S11**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the ionic liquid monomer  $\text{VC}_{18}\text{Im}$   
 $\text{VC}_{18}\text{Im}$ :  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  135.50 (s), 128.30 (s), 122.88 (s), 119.60 (s), 118.81 (s), 109.70 (s), 77.47 (s), 77.11 (d,  $J = 25.9$  Hz), 76.96 (s), 50.40 (s), 31.86 (s), 30.22 (s), 29.84 – 29.16 (m), 28.99 (s), 26.20 (s), 22.64 (s), 14.09 (s).

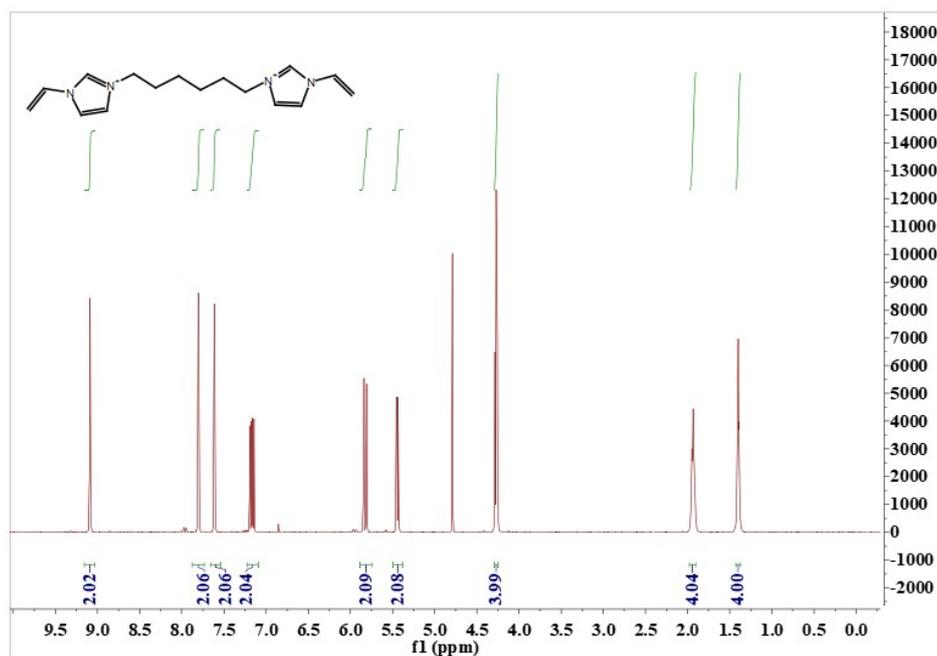


**Figure S12**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of the crosslinker  $\text{VIm-C}_3\text{-VIm}$   
 $\text{VIm-C}_3\text{-VIm}$ :  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  9.16 (s, 1H), 7.80 (d,  $J = 1.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.14 (dt,  $J = 15.6, 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 5.80 (dd,  $J = 15.6, 2.8$  Hz, 2H), 5.41 (dd,  $J = 8.7, 2.7$  Hz, 2H), 4.40 (s, 4H).



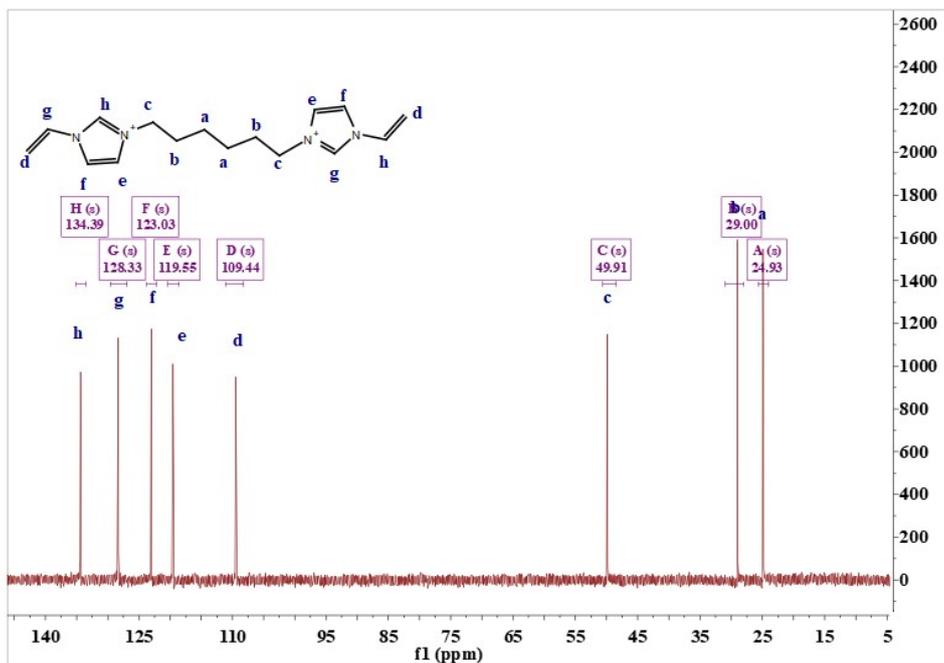
**Figure S13**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the crosslinker VIm-C<sub>3</sub>-VIm

VIm-C<sub>3</sub>-VIm:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  134.74 (s), 128.24 (s), 119.94 (s), 109.89 (s), 46.79 (s), 29.58 (s).

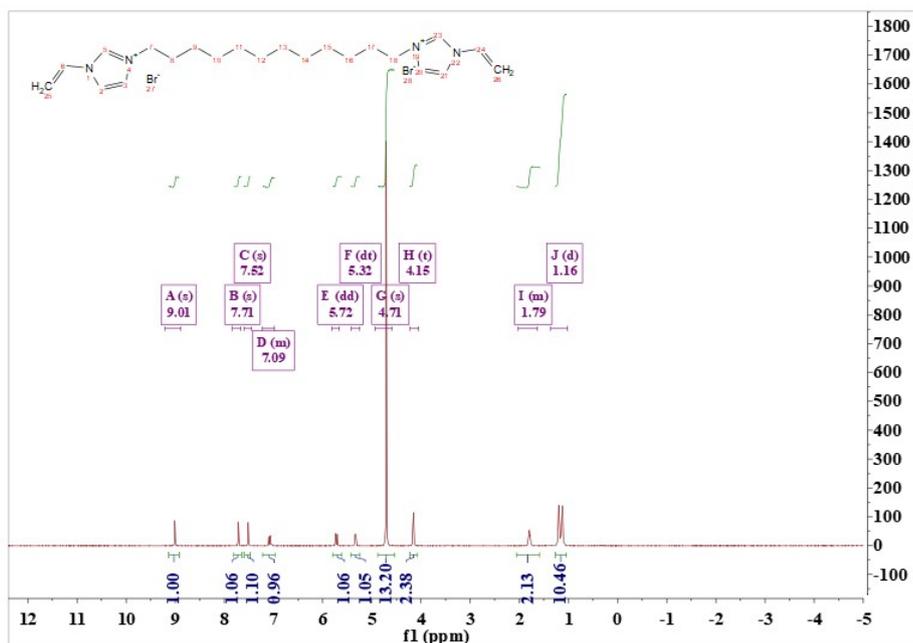


**Figure S14**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of crosslinker VIm-C<sub>6</sub>-VIm

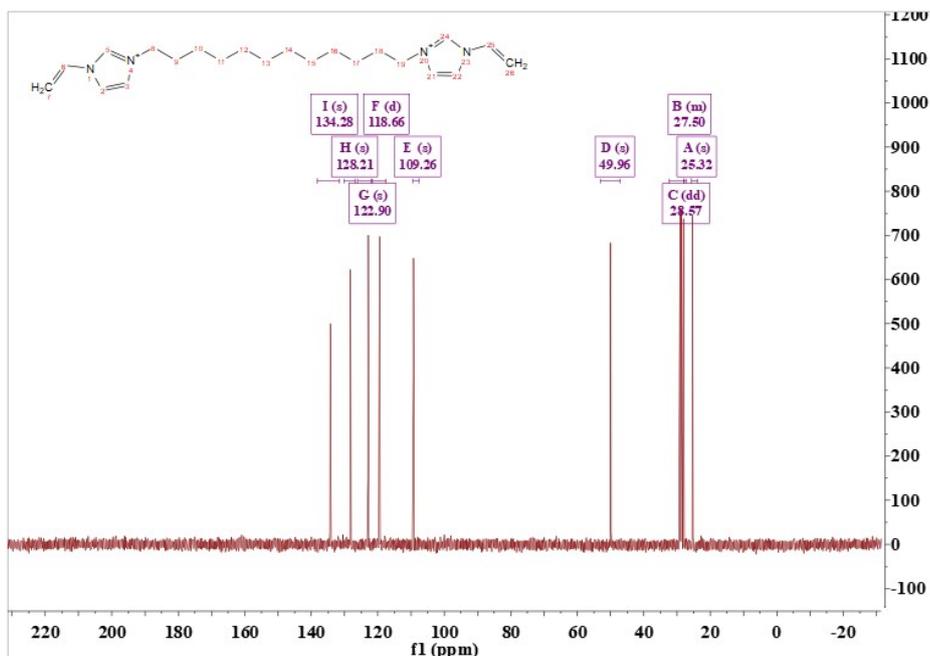
VIm-C<sub>6</sub>-VIm:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  9.09 (s, 1H), 7.80 (t,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t,  $J$  = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd,  $J$  = 15.6, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (dd,  $J$  = 15.6, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 5.44 (dd,  $J$  = 8.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 4.27 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (s, 1H), 1.40 (s, 1H).



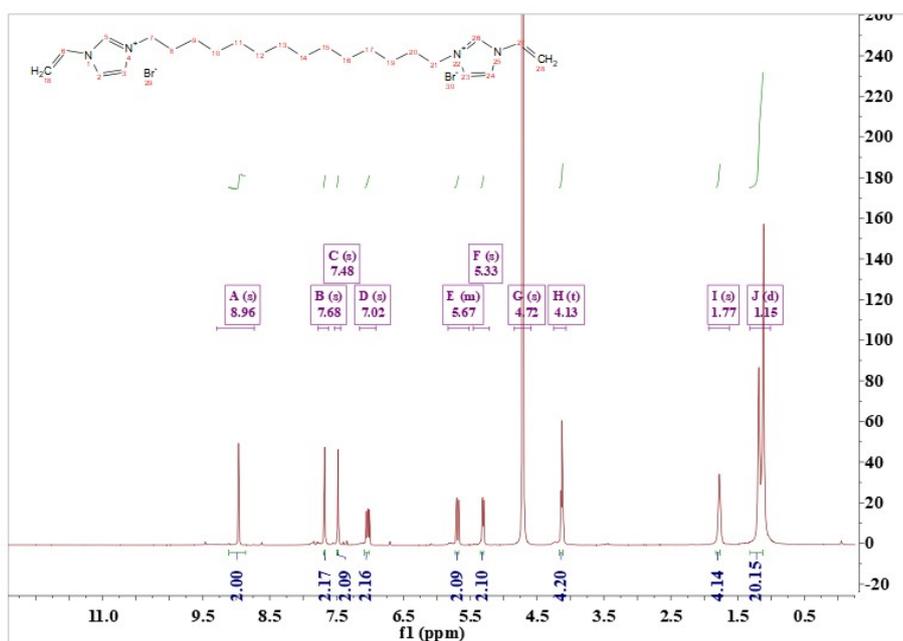
**Figure S15**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the crosslinker VIm- $\text{C}_6$ -VIm  
 VIm- $\text{C}_6$ -VIm:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  134.39 (s), 128.33 (s), 123.03 (s), 119.55 (s), 109.44 (s), 49.91 (s), 29.00 (s), 24.93 (s).



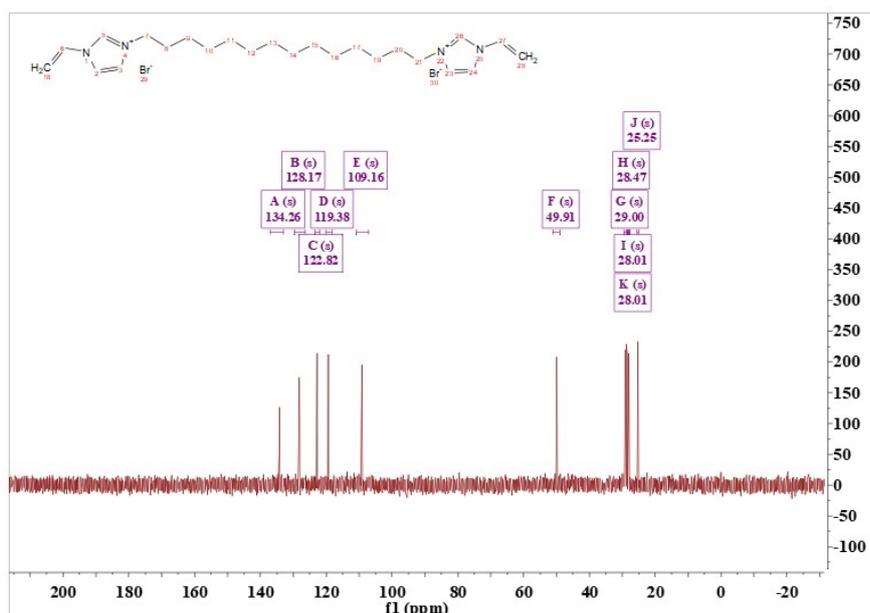
**Figure S16**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of crosslinker VIm- $\text{C}_{12}$ -VIm  
 VIm- $\text{C}_{12}$ -VIm:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  9.01 (s, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.23 – 6.98 (m, 1H), 5.72 (dd,  $J$  = 15.6, 2.7 Hz,  $^1\text{H}$ ), 5.32 (dt,  $J$  = 40.6, 20.3 Hz,  $^1\text{H}$ ), 4.71 (s, 15H), 4.15 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 2.02 – 1.63 (m, 2H), 1.16 (d,  $J$  = 37.5 Hz, 12H).



**Figure S17**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of crosslinker VIm-C<sub>12</sub>-VIm  
 VIm-C<sub>12</sub>-VIm:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  134.28 (s), 128.21 (s), 122.90 (s), 118.66 (d,  $J = 197.6$  Hz), 109.26 (s), 49.96 (s), 28.57 (dd,  $J = 68.2, 57.8$  Hz), 27.87 – 27.13 (m), 25.32 (s).

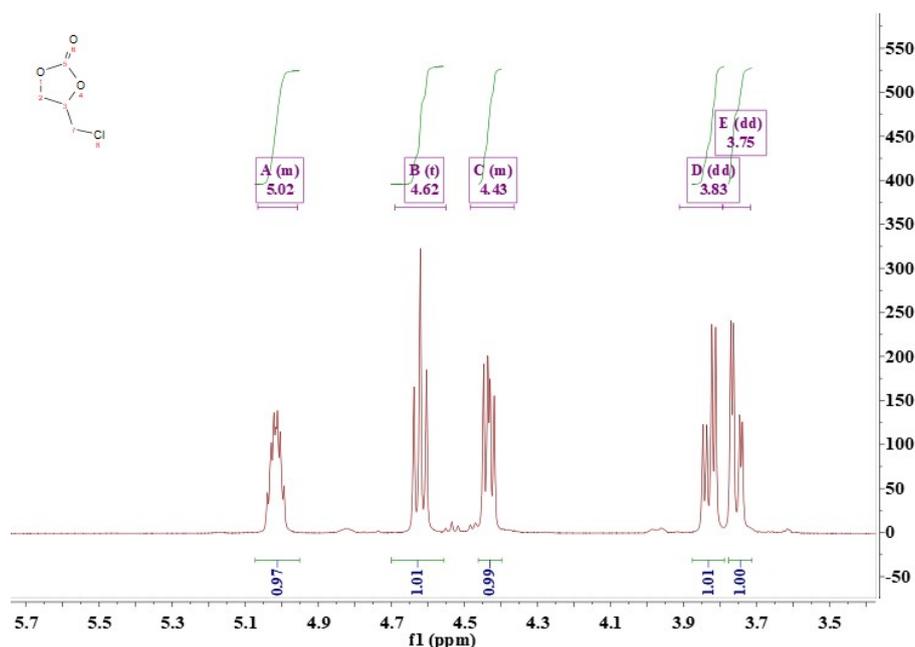


**Figure S18**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of crosslinker VIm-C<sub>14</sub>-VIm  
 VIm-C<sub>14</sub>-VIm:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  8.96 (s, 1H), 7.68 (s, 2H), 7.48 (s, 2H), 7.02 (s, 2H), 5.83 – 5.52 (m, 2H), 5.33 (s, 2H), 4.72 (s, 53H), 4.13 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 5H), 1.77 (s, 6H), 1.15 (d,  $J = 36.0$  Hz, 33H).



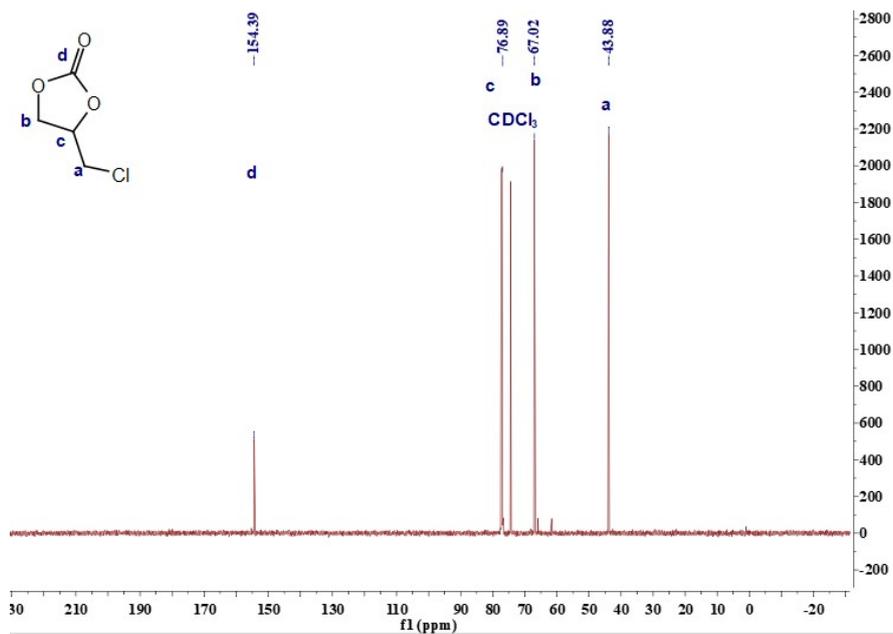
**Figure S19** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of crosslinker Vim-C<sub>14</sub>-Vim

Vim-C<sub>14</sub>-Vim: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) δ 134.28 (s), 128.21 (s), 122.90 (s), 118.66 (d, J = 197.6 Hz), 109.26 (s), 49.96 (s), 28.57 (dd, J = 68.2, 57.8 Hz), 27.87 – 27.13 (m), 25.32 (s).

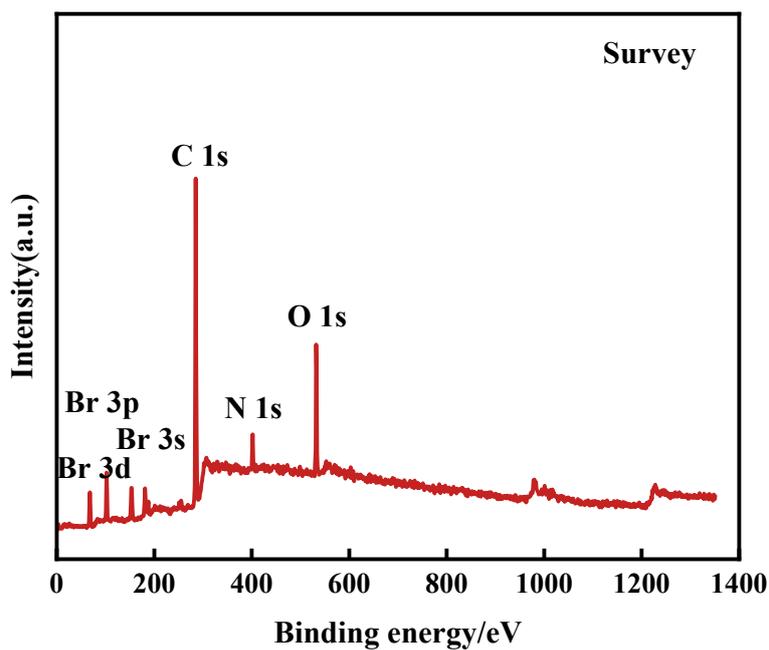


**Figure S20** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of chloromethyldioxane

Chloromethyldioxane: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 5.07-4.96 (m, 1H), 4.62 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.48 – 4.36 (m, 1H), 3.83 (dd, J = 12.2, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (dd, J = 12.2, 3.6 Hz, 1H).



**Figure S21**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of chloromethyldioxane  
 Chloromethyldioxane:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  154.39 (s), 76.89 (s), 67.02 (s), 43.88 (s).



**Figure S22** XPS spectra of P-[VC<sub>12</sub>Im]-C<sub>3</sub>-Br

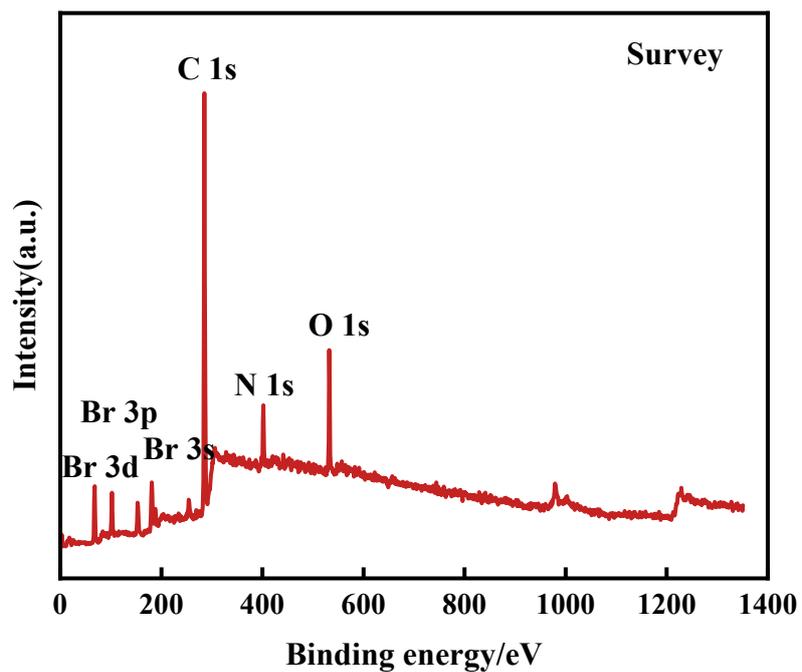


Figure S23 XPS spectra of P-[VC<sub>12</sub>Im]-C<sub>6</sub>-Br

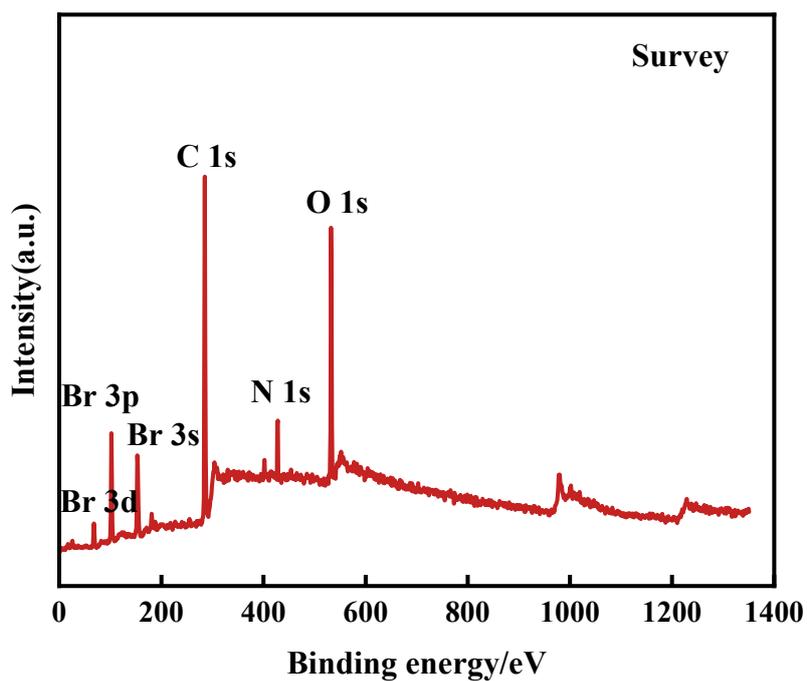
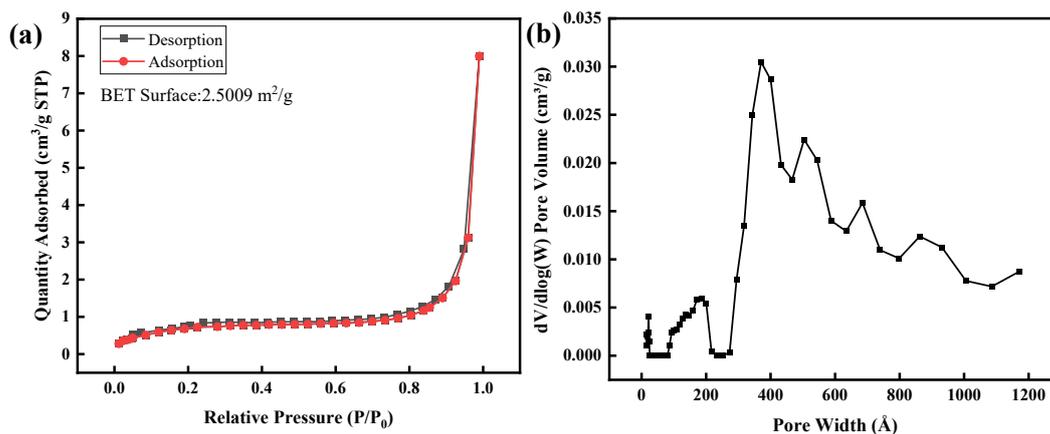
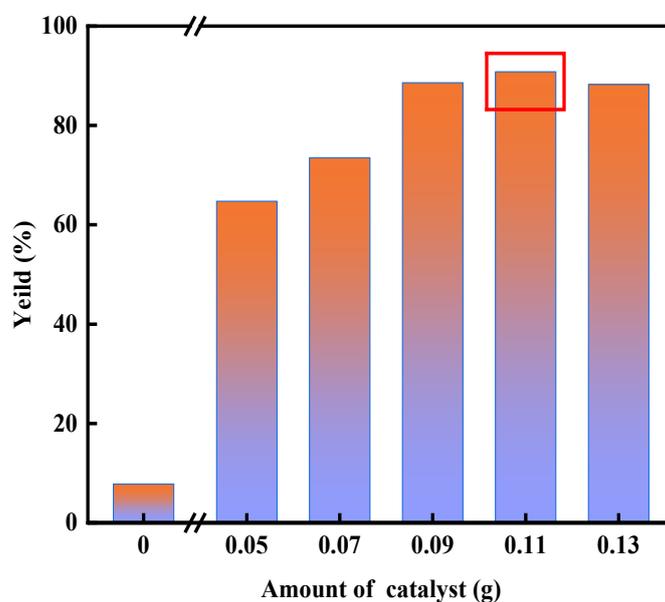


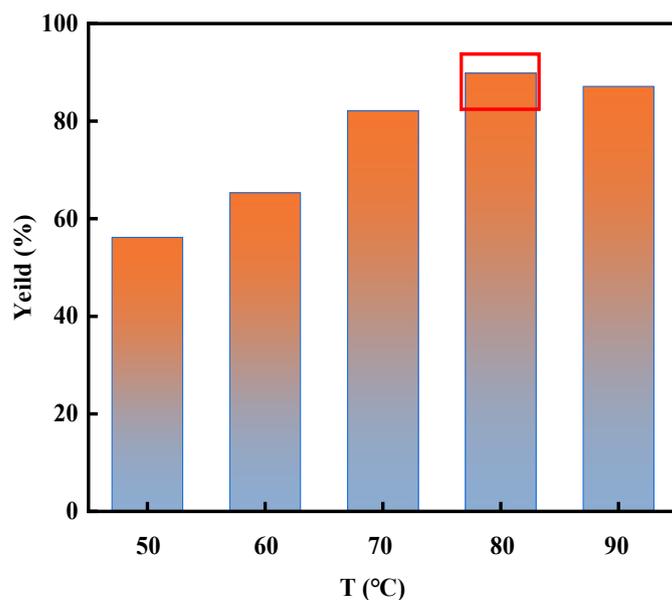
Figure S24 XPS spectra of P-[VC<sub>12</sub>Im]-C<sub>14</sub>-Br



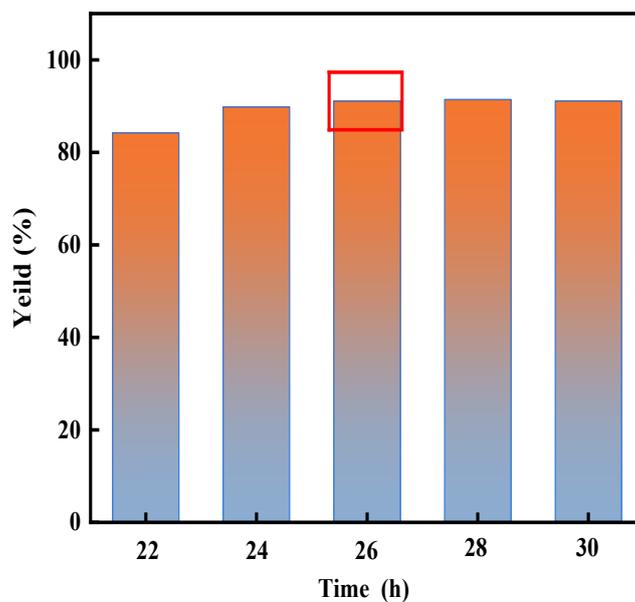
**Figure S25** (a) Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherm and (b) pore size distribution plot of P-[VC<sub>12</sub>Im]-C<sub>12</sub>-Br



**Figure S26** Effect of catalyst dosage of P-[VC<sub>12</sub>Im]-C<sub>12</sub>-Br on the yield of chloromethyl oxazolidinone in the CO<sub>2</sub> cycloaddition reaction



**Figure S27** Effect of reaction temperature on the yield of chloromethyl oxazolidinone in the CO<sub>2</sub> cycloaddition reaction catalyzed by P-[VC<sub>12</sub>Im]-C<sub>12</sub>-Br



**Figure S28** Effect of reaction time on the yield of chloromethyl oxazolidinone in the CO<sub>2</sub> cycloaddition reaction catalyzed by P-[VC<sub>12</sub>Im]-C<sub>12</sub>-Br

**Table S1** Comparison of the catalytic activity for Cycloaddition of CO<sub>2</sub> and epichlorohydrin by the selected reported literature.

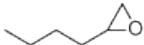
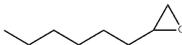
Entry	Catalyst	cocatalyst	Reaction condition	Yield	Ref.
1	P-[VC <sub>12</sub> Im]-C <sub>12</sub> -Br	-	0.1 MPa, 80°C, 26 h	91.07%	this work
2	poly[bvbim]Cl	-	0.1MPa, 140°C, 3h	30%	1

3	POP-PBnCl-TPPMg-12	-	0.1 MPa, 30°C, 48 h	53.7%	2
4	P4FIm-7	-	0.1 Mpa, 60°C, 48 h	87.4%	3
5	PQPBrCOOH	-	0.1 Mpa, 100°C, 8 h	65.2%	4
6	P-DAEImOPy	-	0.5 MPa, 110°C, 2 h	95%	5
7	HCPs-[DmPhe]Br	-	1.3 MPa, 130°C, 8 h	97%	6
8	PVBIMCl	-	6 Mpa, 110°C, 3 h	95.8%	7
9	HPILs-Cl-2	TBAB	0.1 Mpa, 70°C, 9 h	99%	8
10	IPOP1-XL	TBAB	0.1 Mpa, 35°C, 36 h	99%	9
11	[PDVB-HAVIM-C <sub>18</sub> ]Br	-	0.1 MPa, 80°C, 16 h	96.4%	10
12	[HDBU]Br@P-DD-4/1	-	0.1 MPa, 80°C, 24 h	95%	11
13	P-[VC6Im]Br-C8-5%	-	0.1 MPa, 70°C, 24 h	93%	12

**Table S2** Swelling kinetics parameters of P-[VC<sub>12</sub>Im]-C<sub>n</sub>-Br

SPILs	Parameters of exponential model			Parameters of Scott's second-order swelling kinetics model		
	n	k	R <sub>1</sub> <sup>2</sup>	a	b	R <sub>2</sub> <sup>2</sup>
P-[VC <sub>12</sub> Im]-C <sub>3</sub> -Br	0.514	0.137	0.991	0.269	3.486	0.992
P-[VC <sub>12</sub> Im]-C <sub>6</sub> -Br	0.595	0.105	0.997	0.157	3.918	0.983
P-[VC <sub>12</sub> Im]-C <sub>12</sub> -Br	0.828	0.049	0.991	0.087	2.905	0.992
P-[VC <sub>12</sub> Im]-C <sub>14</sub> -Br	0.782	0.059	0.990	0.443	2.626	0.995

**Table S3** CO<sub>2</sub> cycloaddition with long-chain epoxides

Entry	Epoxides	Reaction condition	Yeild
1		0.1 Mpa, 90°C, 28 h	24.75%
2		0.1 Mpa, 90°C, 32 h	1.72%

## References

1. S. Ghazali-Esfahani, H. Song, E. Păunescu, F. D. Bobbink, H. Liu, Z. Fei, G. Laurency, M. Bagherzadeh, N. Yan and P. J. Dyson, *Green Chem.*, 2013, **15**, 1584-1589.
2. Z. Dai, Y. Tang, F. Zhang, Y. Xiong, S. Wang, Q. Sun, L. Wang, X. Meng, L. Zhao and F.-S. Xiao, *Chin. J. Catal.*, 2021, **42**, 618-626.
3. X. Yang, N. Zhou, X. Xie, T. Peng, C. Zhang, X. Meng, Z. Dai and Y. Xiong, *Fuel*, 2025, **389**, 134617.
4. Y.-L. Wan, Z. Zhang, C. Ding and L. Wen, *J. CO<sub>2</sub> Util.*, 2021, **52**, 101673.
5. Y. He, X. Li, H. Li, J. Ding, H. Wan and G. Guan, *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.*, 2022, **10**, 2556–2568.
6. H. Wang, C. Yue, M. Wang and X. Ma, *Chem. Ind. Eng.*, 2024, **41**, 2-11.
7. Y. Xie, Z. Zhang, T. Jiang, J. He, B. Han, T. Wu and K. Ding, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2007, **46**, 7255-7258.
8. M. Li, L. Shi, Y. Liu, S. Li, W. Cui, W. Li, Y. Zhi, S. Shan and Y. Miao, *Chem. Eng. J.*, 2024, **481**.
9. Q. Yu, Y. Z. Cheng, Z. Li, D. H. Yang, Q. Bo Meng and B. H. Han, *Chem. Eng. J.*, 2022, **422**, 136275.
10. J. Zhang, X. Li, Z. Zhu, T. Chang, X. Fu, Y. Hao, X. Meng, B. Panchal and S. Qin, *Adv. Sustainable Syst.*, 2020, **5**, 2000133.
11. H. Li, K. Zheng, J. Qiu, R. Duan, J. Feng, R. Wang, Z. Liu, G. Xie and X. Wang, *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.*, 2023, **11**, 4248–4257.
12. B. Chen, S. Zhang and Y. Zhang, *Green Chem.*, 2023, **25**, 7743-7755.