

# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

## A Modular Telechelic Catechol Platform for Tunable Fe- and V- Coordinated Dynamic Polymer Gels

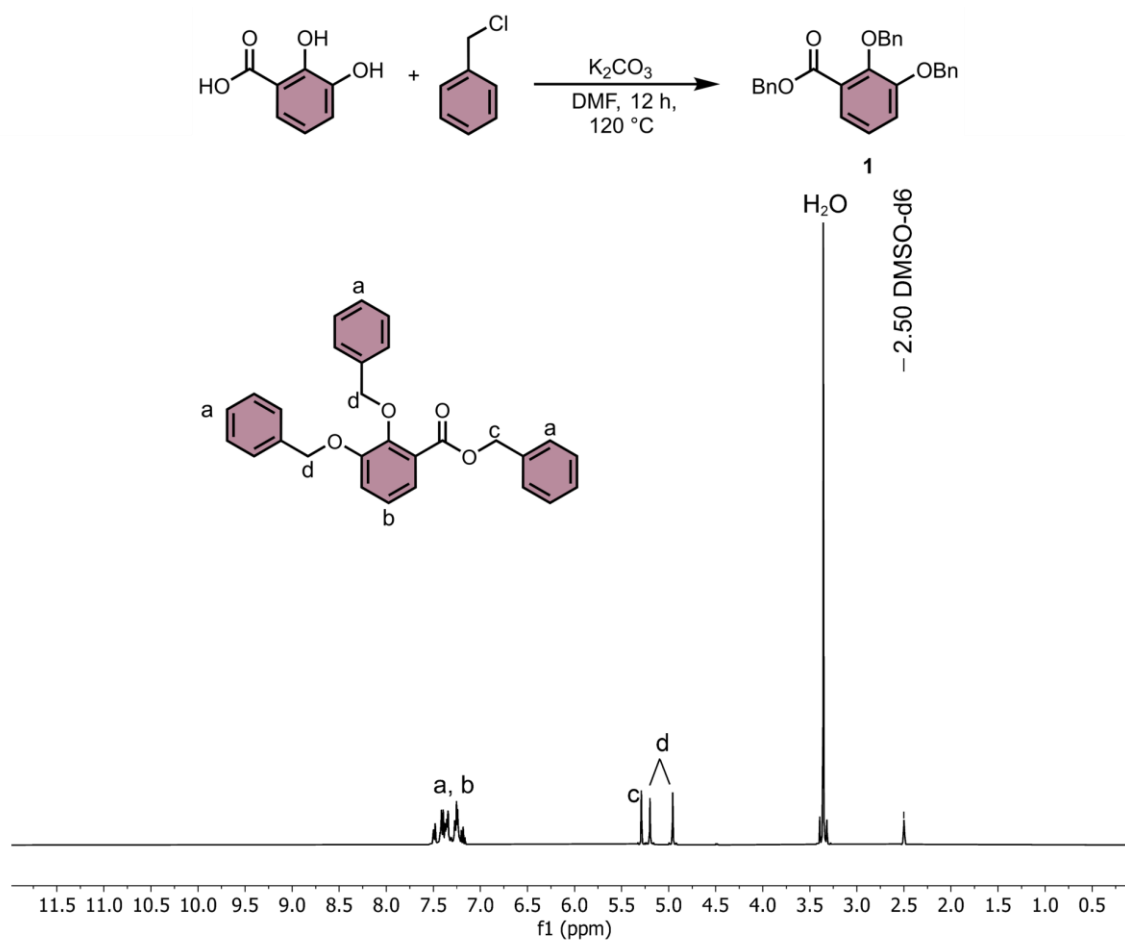
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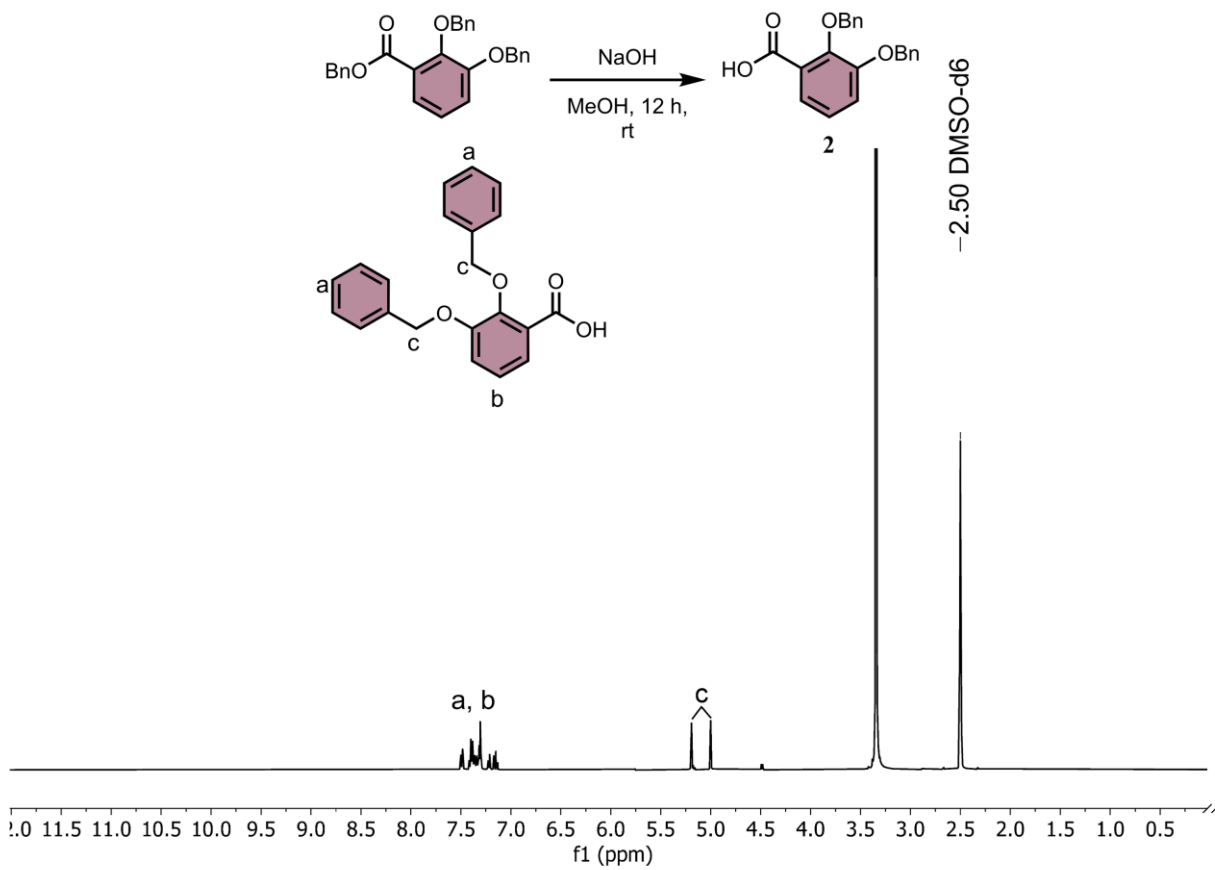
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## Synthesis of monomers



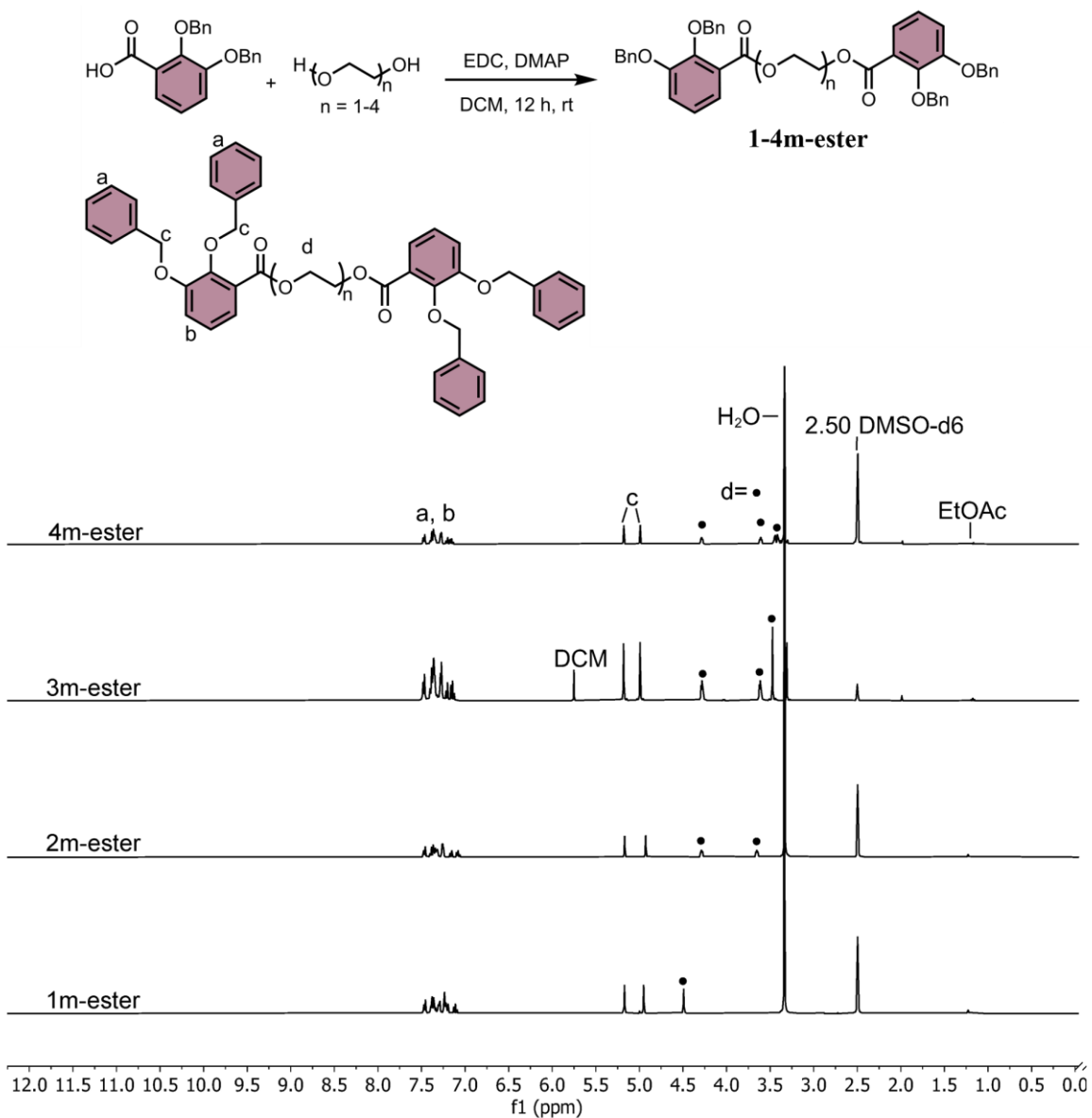
**Figure S1.** Synthesis and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compound 1.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*D*<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.51 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.31 (m, 9H), 7.29 – 7.16 (m, 7H), 5.29 (s, 2H), 5.20 (s, 2H), 4.96 (s, 2H)



**Figure S2.** Synthesis and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compound 2.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-D<sub>6</sub>) δ 7.53 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.27 (m, 9H), 7.25 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 5.00 (s, 2H).



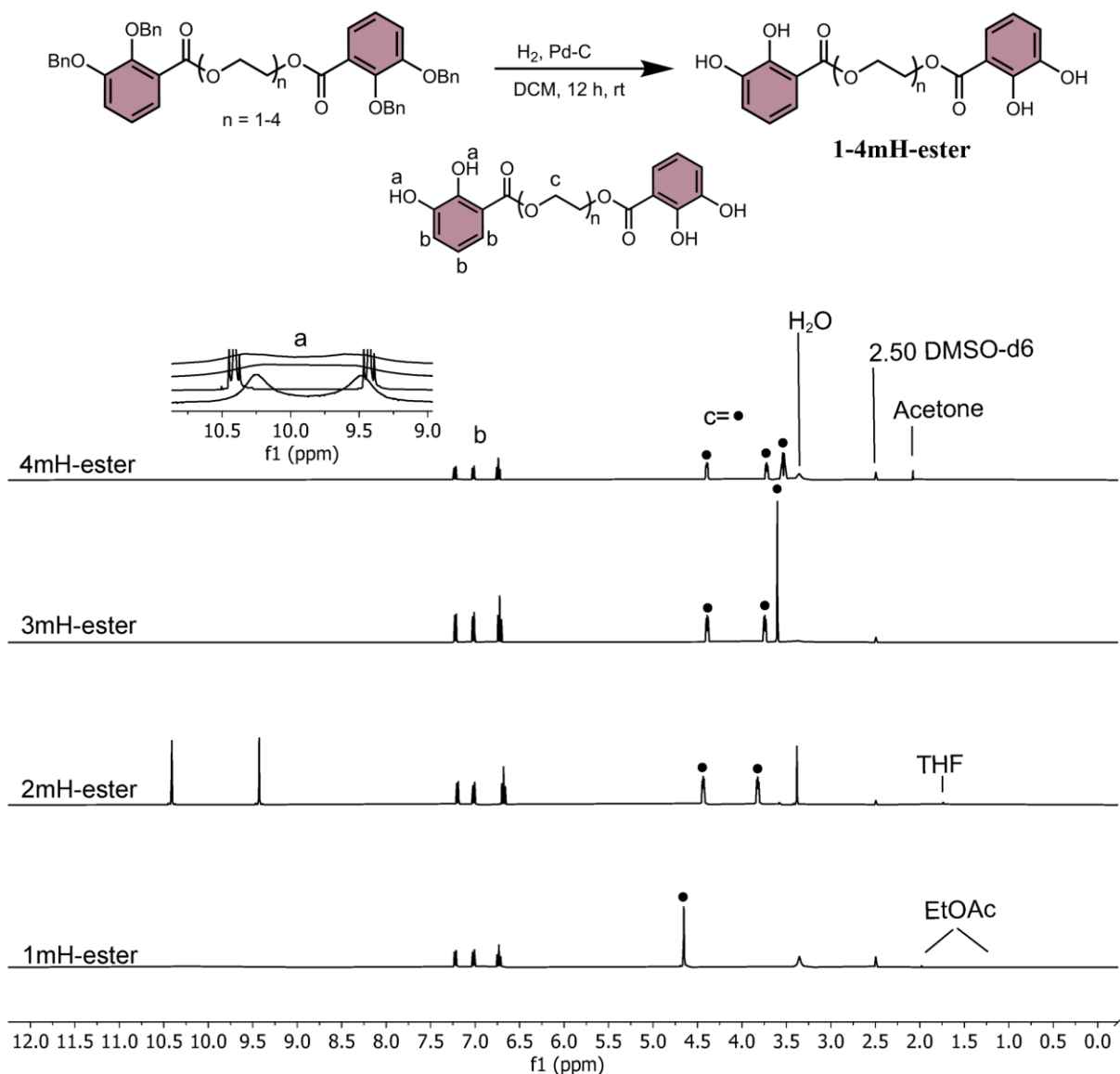
**Figure S3.** Synthesis and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of 1-4m-ester, n-series.

**1m-ester:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  7.45 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 7.37 – 7.23 (m, 12H), 7.23 – 7.14 (m, 8H), 7.07 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 5.13 (s, 4H), 4.91 (s, 4H), 4.45 (s, 4H).

**2m-ester:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  7.43 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 4H), 7.37 – 7.27 (m, 12H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 6H), 7.14 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 7.04 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 5.13 (s, 4H), 4.89 (s, 4H), 4.27 – 4.22 (m, 4H), 3.61 (t,  $J = 4.7$  Hz, 4H).

**3m-ester:**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  7.46 – 7.41 (m, 4H), 7.37 – 7.21 (m, 18H), 7.17 (dd,  $J = 7.9, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.11 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 5.14 (s, 4H), 4.95 (s, 4H), 4.24 (t, 4H), 3.58 (t, 4H), 3.44 (s, 4H).

**4m-ester:**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  7.46 – 7.41 (m, 4H), 7.39 – 7.20 (m, 18H), 7.17 (dt,  $J = 7.9, 1.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.12 (td,  $J = 7.9, 1.2$  Hz, 2H), 5.14 (s, 4H), 4.95 (s, 4H), 4.25 (dd,  $J = 5.6, 3.7$  Hz, 4H), 3.57 (dd,  $J = 5.5, 3.7$  Hz, 4H), 3.41 (dd,  $J = 6.3, 3.2$  Hz, 4H), 3.39 – 3.35 (m, 4H).



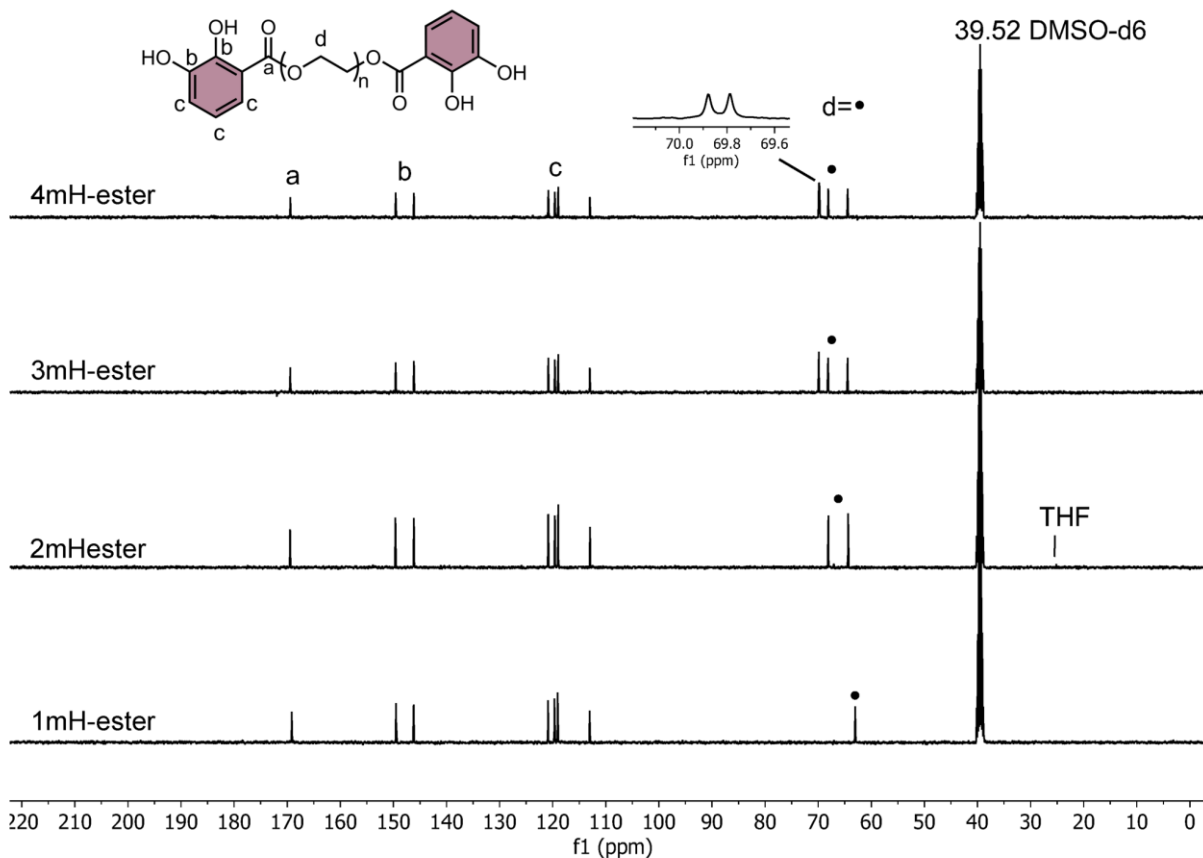
**Figure S4.** Synthesis and  $^1\text{H NMR}$  spectra of 1-4mH-ester, n-series.

**1mH-ester:**  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  10.25 (s, 2H), 9.49 (s, 2H), 7.23 (dt,  $J = 8.1, 1.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (dt,  $J = 7.8, 1.3$  Hz, 2H), 6.74 (td,  $J = 7.9, 0.9$  Hz, 2H), 4.66 (s, 4H).

**2mH-ester:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  10.42 (s, 2H), 9.43 (s, 2H), 7.20 (dd,  $J = 8.1, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (dd,  $J = 7.9, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.69 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 4.44 (t, 4H), 3.83 (t, 4H).

**3mH-ester:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  10.15 (s, 2H), 9.66 (s, 2H), 7.22 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (dd,  $J = 7.9, 1.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.73 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 4.43 – 4.36 (m, 4H), 3.78 – 3.71 (m, 4H), 3.60 (s, 4H).

**4mH-ester:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  10.28 (s, 2H), 9.54 (s, 2H), 7.23 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 1.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (dd,  $J = 7.8, 1.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.74 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H), 4.40 (t, 4H), 3.73 (t, 4H), 3.62 – 3.47 (m, 8H).



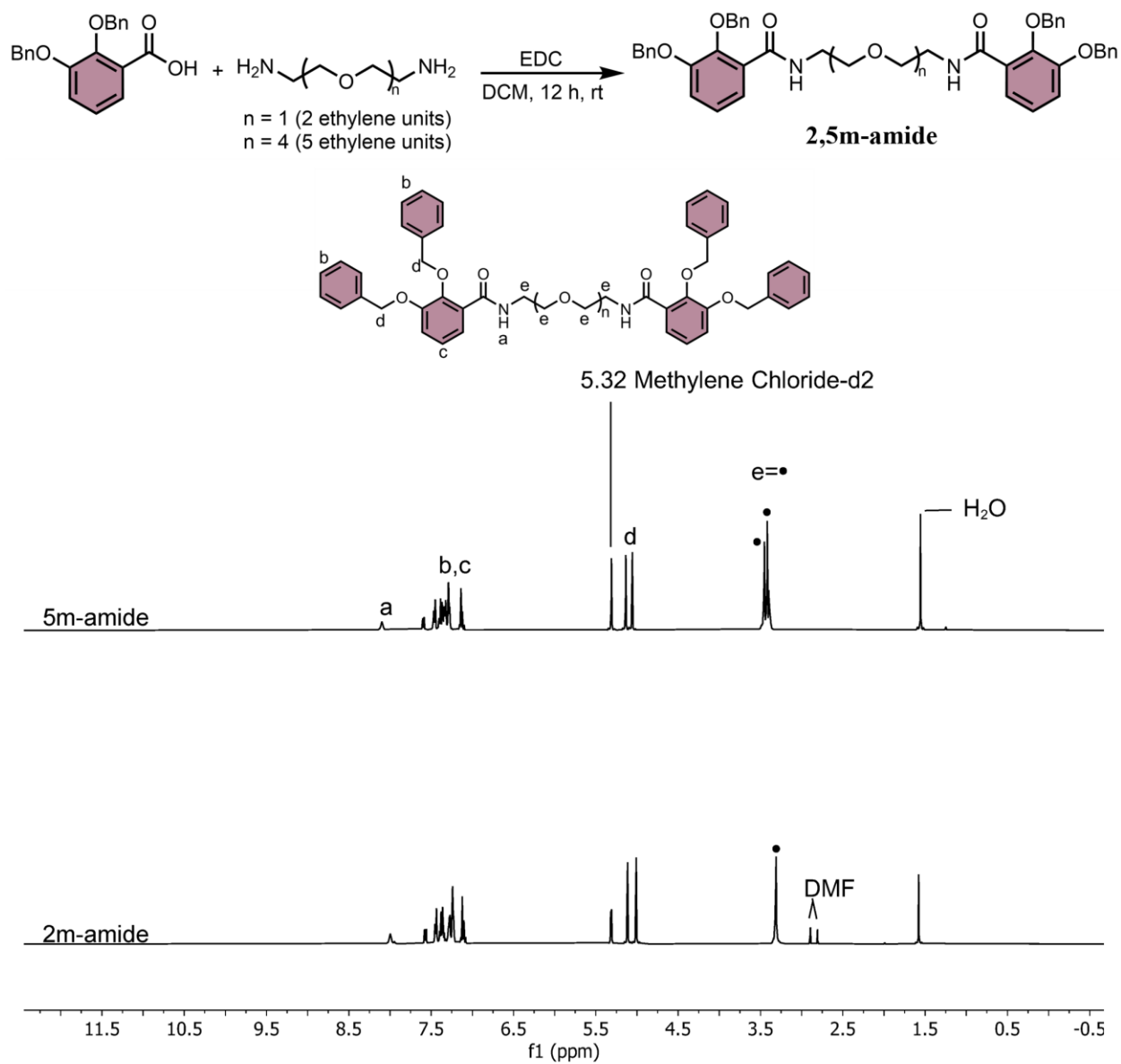
**Figure S5.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of 1-4mH-ester, n-series.

**1mH-ester:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  169.15, 149.49, 146.19, 120.88, 119.68, 119.07, 113.07, 63.01.

**2mH-ester:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  169.45, 149.63, 146.14, 120.85, 119.58, 118.95, 112.97, 68.08, 64.38.

**3mH-ester:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  169.40, 149.58, 146.14, 120.83, 119.60, 118.96, 113.01, 69.88, 68.14, 64.45.

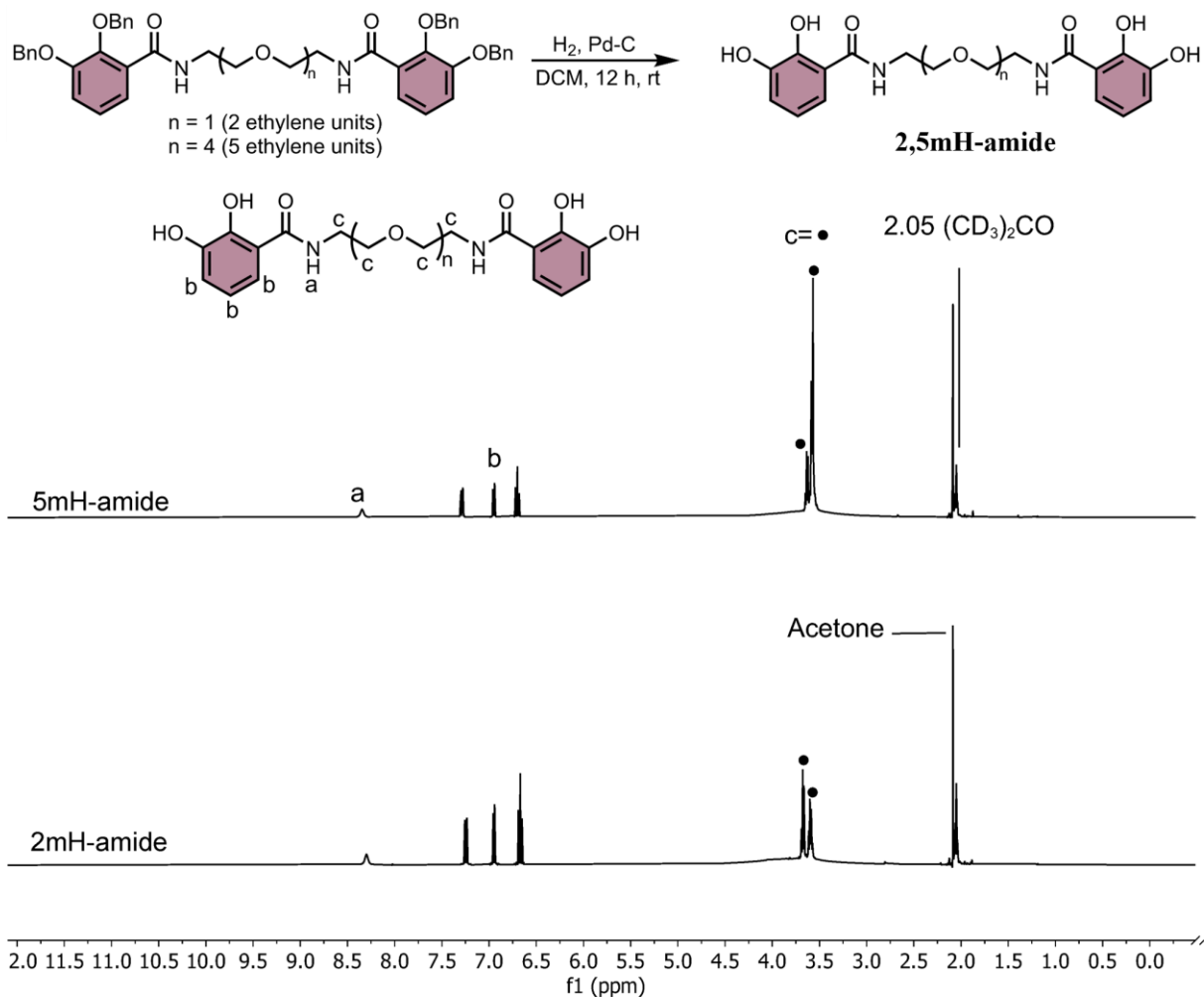
**4mH-ester:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}D_6$ )  $\delta$  169.39, 149.57, 146.14, 120.82, 119.61, 118.95, 113.01, 69.88, 69.79, 68.10, 64.45.



**Figure S6.** Synthesis and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of 2,5m-amide, n-series.

**2m-amide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, METHYLENE-CHLORIDE)  $\delta$  8.01 (s, 2H), 7.58 (ddd,  $J = 6.9, 2.6, 1.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.49 – 7.18 (m, 20H), 7.17 – 7.07 (m, 4H), 5.12 (s, 4H), 5.02 (s, 4H), 3.32 (q,  $J = 1.7$  Hz, 8H).

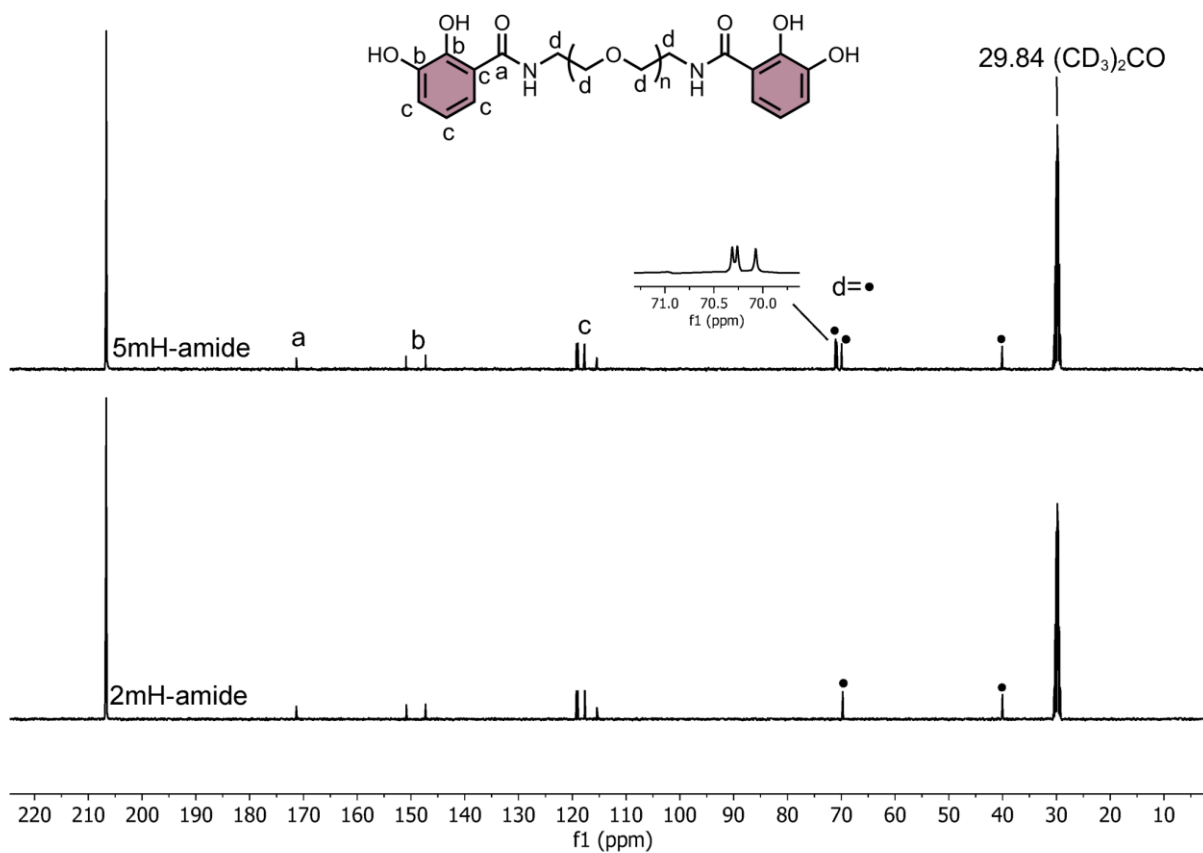
**5m-amide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, METHYLENE-CHLORIDE)  $\delta$  8.11 (s, 2H), 7.61 (ddd,  $J = 6.9, 2.6, 1.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.47 (dt,  $J = 7.7, 1.4$  Hz, 4H), 7.43 – 7.24 (m, 15H), 7.21 – 7.08 (m, 5H), 5.15 (s, 4H), 5.07 (s, 4H), 3.49 – 3.39 (m, 20H).



**Figure S7.** Synthesis and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of 2,5mH-amide, n-series.

**2mH-amide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, ACETONE- $D_6$ )  $\delta$  8.30 (s, 2H), 7.25 (dd,  $J = 8.1, 1.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.97 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 6.67 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 3.68 (dd,  $J = 5.8, 4.8$  Hz, 4H), 3.62 – 3.57 (m, 4H).

**5mH-amide:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, ACETONE- $D_6$ )  $\delta$  8.34 (s, 2H), 7.29 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 1.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.95 (dt,  $J = 7.9, 1.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.73 – 6.67 (m, 2H), 3.64 (dd,  $J = 6.3, 5.0$  Hz, 5H), 3.59 – 3.56 (m, 15H).



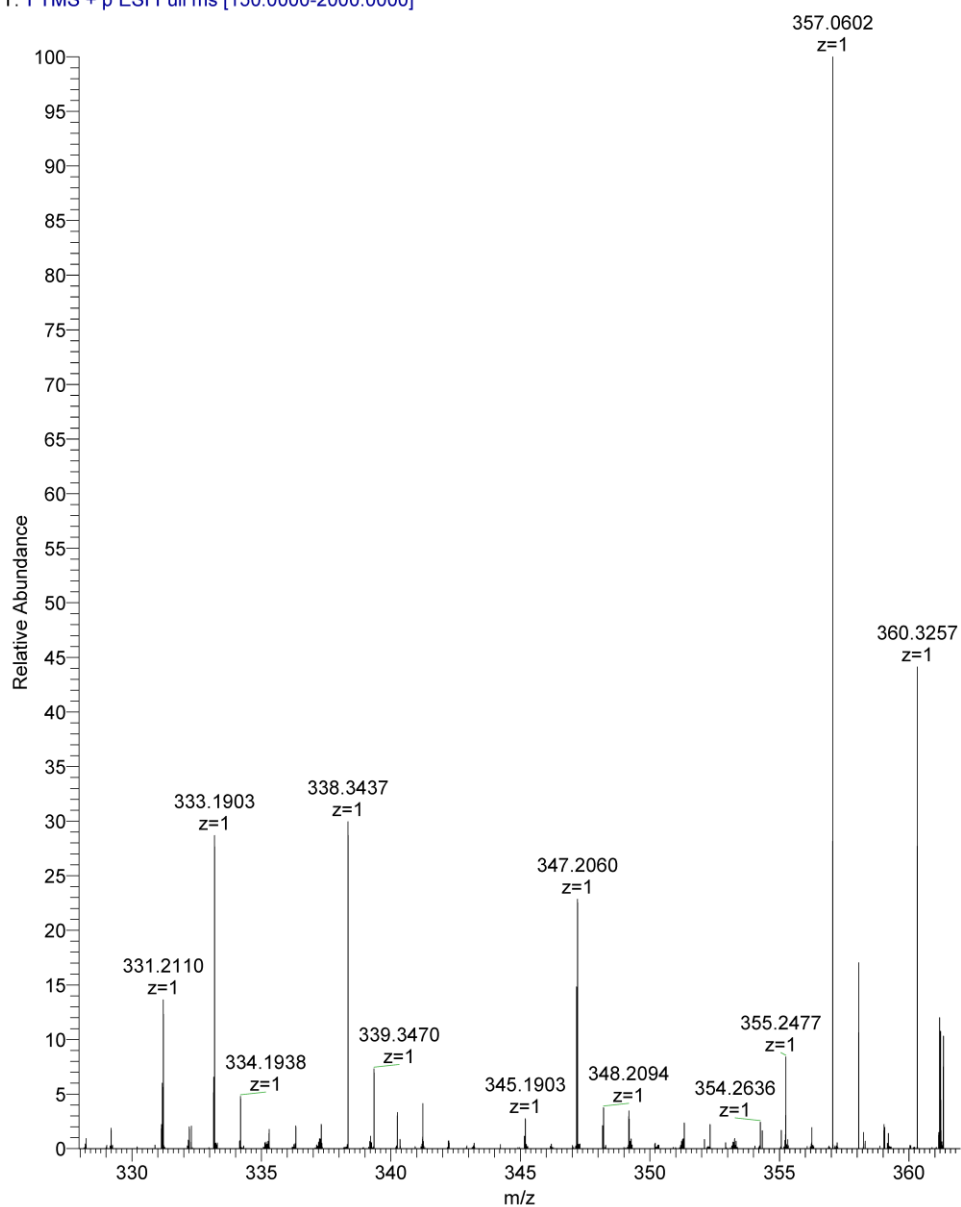
**Figure S8.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of 2,5mH-amide, n-series.

**2mH-amide:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, ACETONE- $D_6$ )  $\delta$  206.68, 119.25, 118.97, 117.68, 69.70, 40.02.

**5mH-amide:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, ACETONE- $D_6$ )  $\delta$  206.66, 119.24, 118.94, 117.74, 71.08, 71.02, 70.84, 69.92, 40.09.

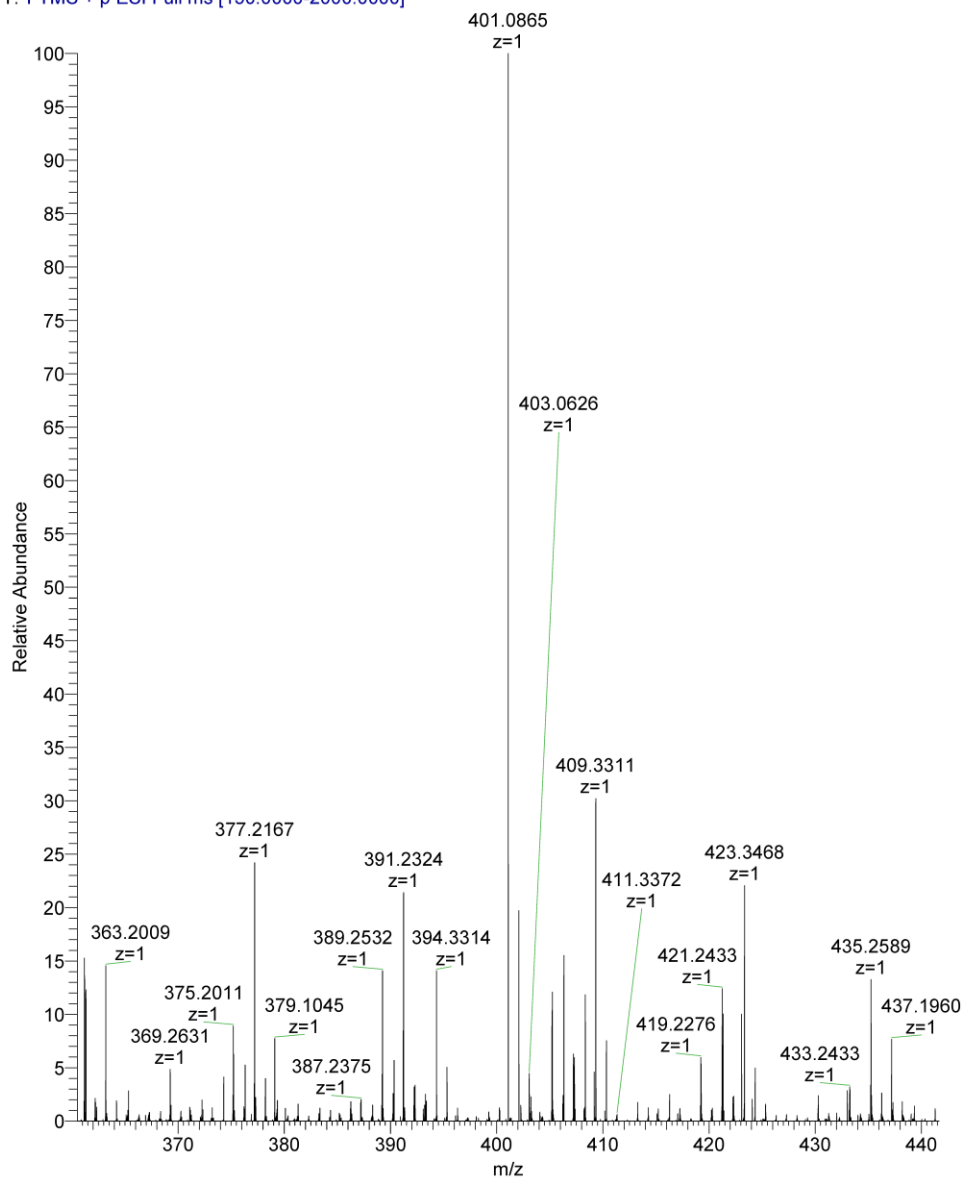
## High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry (HRMS) Data

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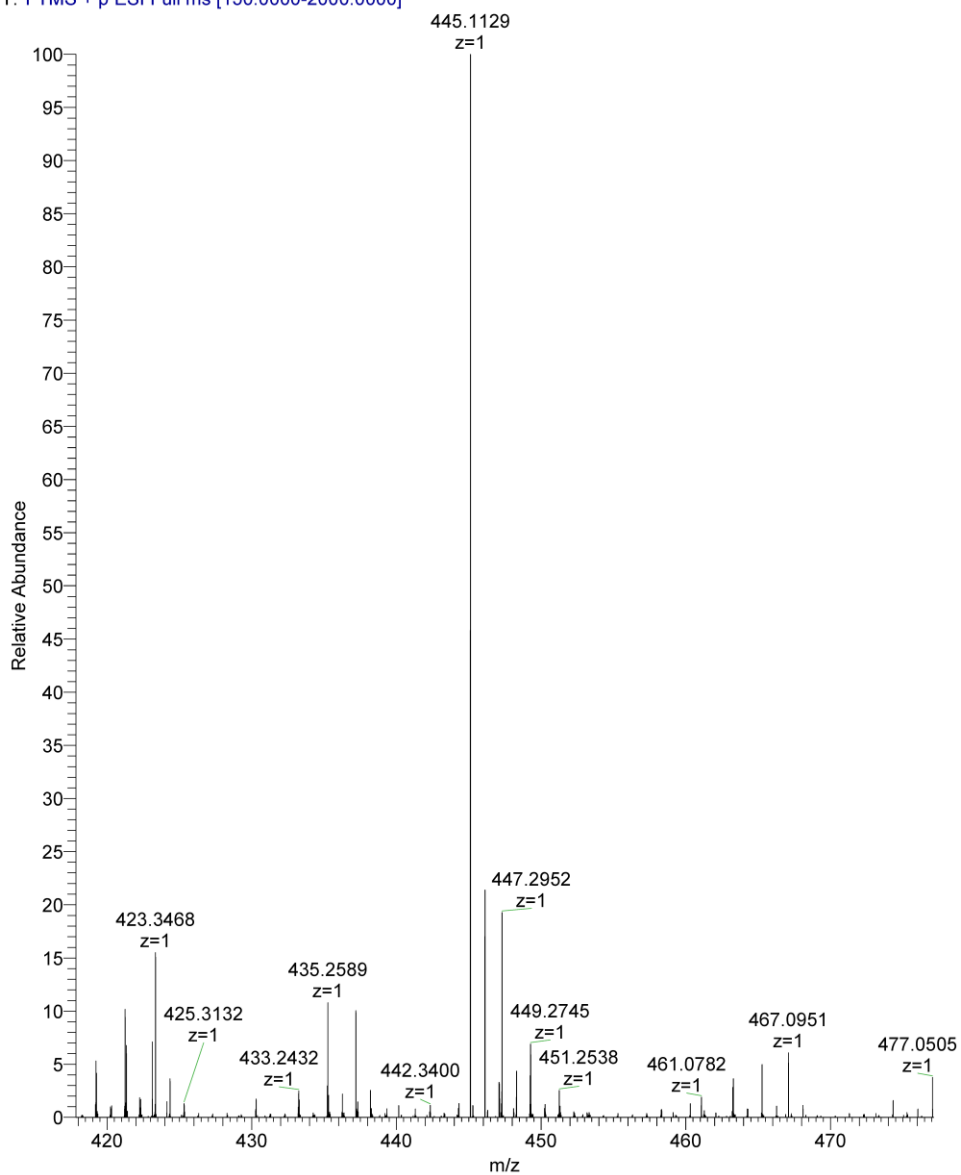
**Figure S9.** HRMS (ESI) spectrum of 1mH-ester.  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{16}H_{14}O_8Na$ , 357.0582; found, 357.0602 ( $\Delta = 5.5$  ppm).

250829\_H2 #225 RT: 1.17 AV: 1 NL: 1.34E8  
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [150.0000-2000.0000]



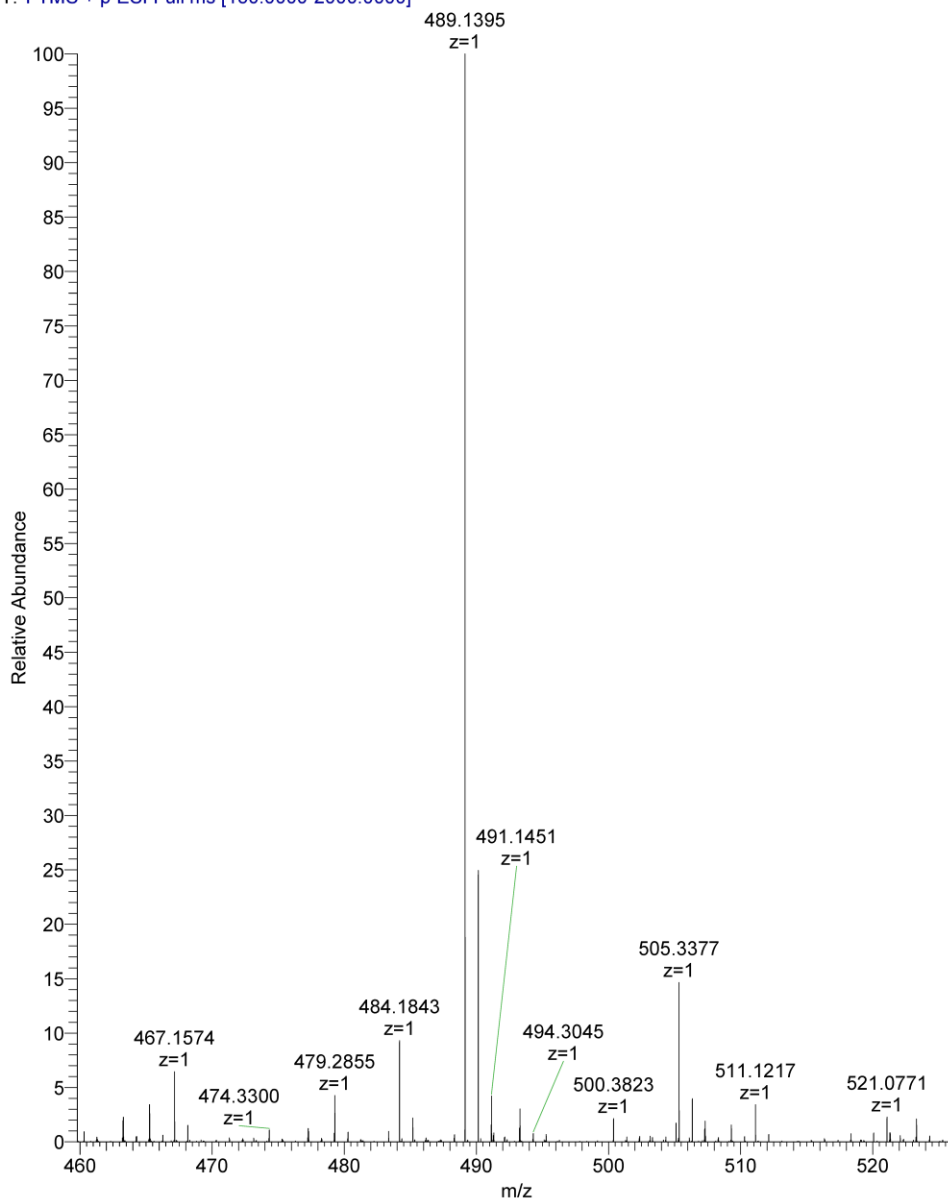
**Figure S10.** HRMS (ESI) spectrum of 2mH-ester.  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{18}H_{18}O_9Na$ , 401.0849; found, 401.0865 ( $\Delta = 4.1$  ppm).

250829\_H3 #189 RT: 0.99 AV: 1 NL: 1.37E8  
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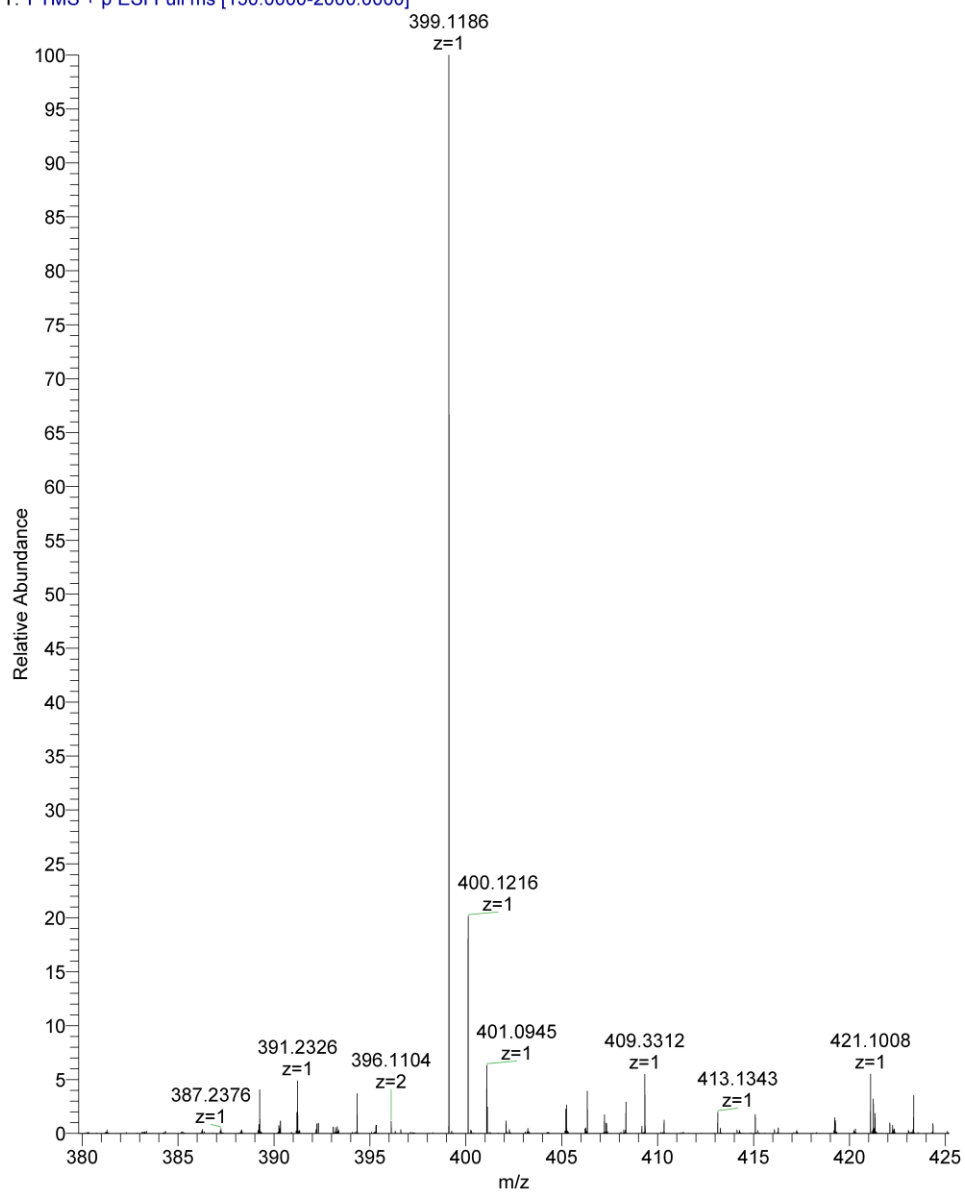
**Figure S11.** HRMS (ESI) spectrum of 3mH-ester.  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{20}H_{22}O_{10}Na$ , 445.1101; found, 445.1129 ( $\Delta = 6.4$  ppm).

250829\_H4 #182 RT: 0.95 AV: 1 NL: 2.20E8  
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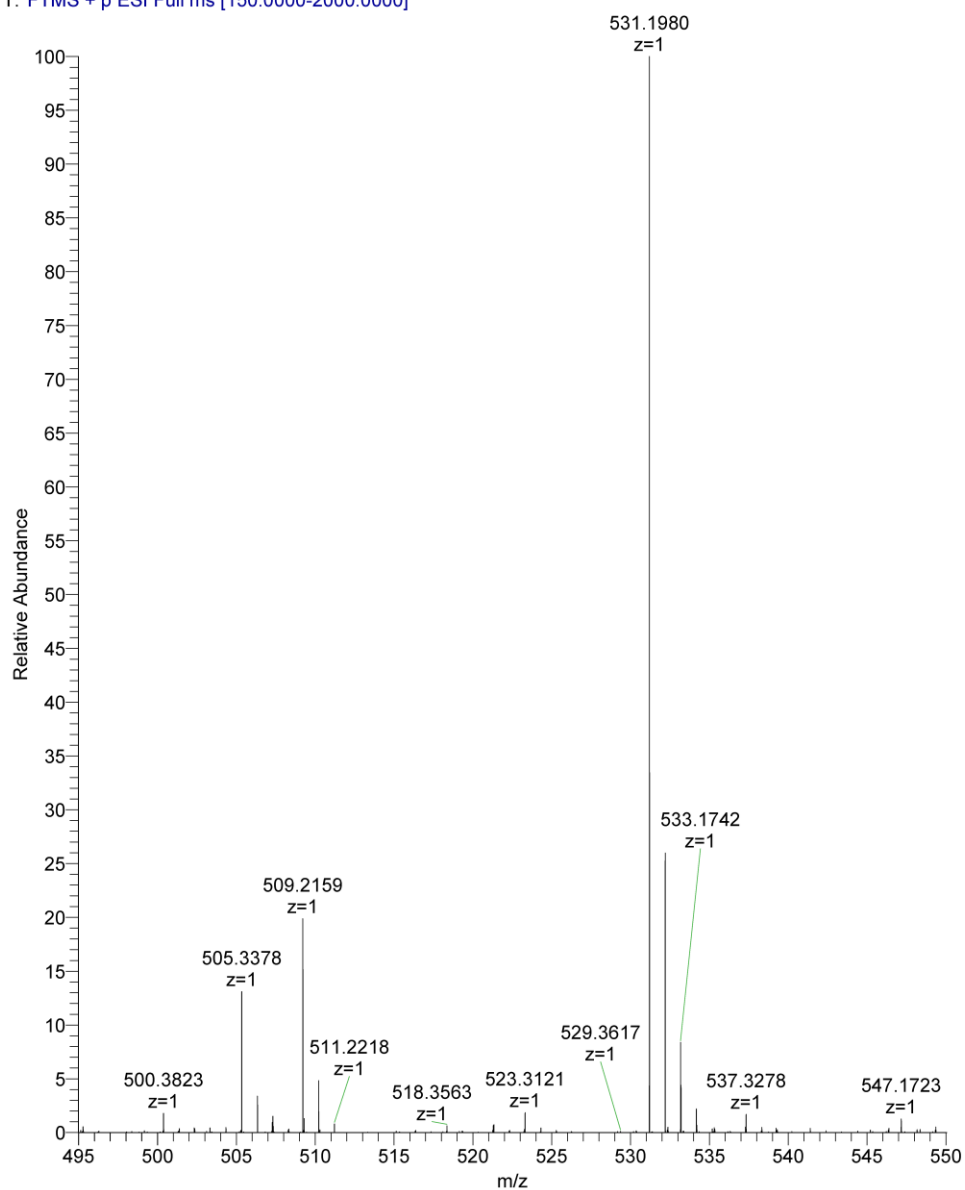
**Figure S12.** HRMS (ESI) spectrum of 4mH-ester.  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{22}H_{26}O_{11}Na$ , 489.1373; found, 489.1395 ( $\Delta = 4.5$  ppm).

250829\_H1.5 #207 RT: 1.08 AV: 1 NL: 3.72E8  
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**Figure S13.** HRMS (ESI) spectrum of 2mH-amide.  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{18}H_{20}N_2O_7Na$ , 399.1167; found, 399.1186 ( $\Delta = 4.7$  ppm).

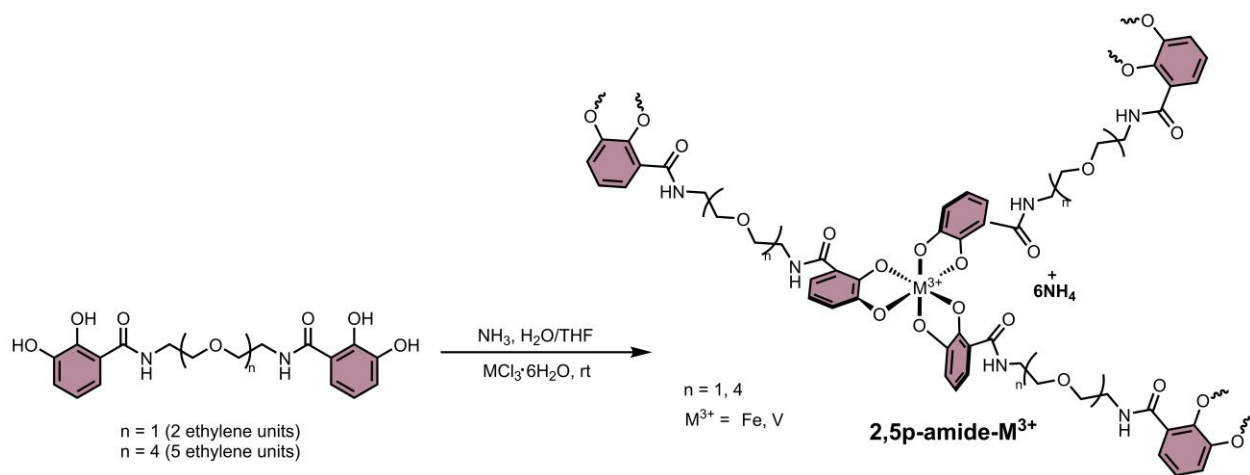
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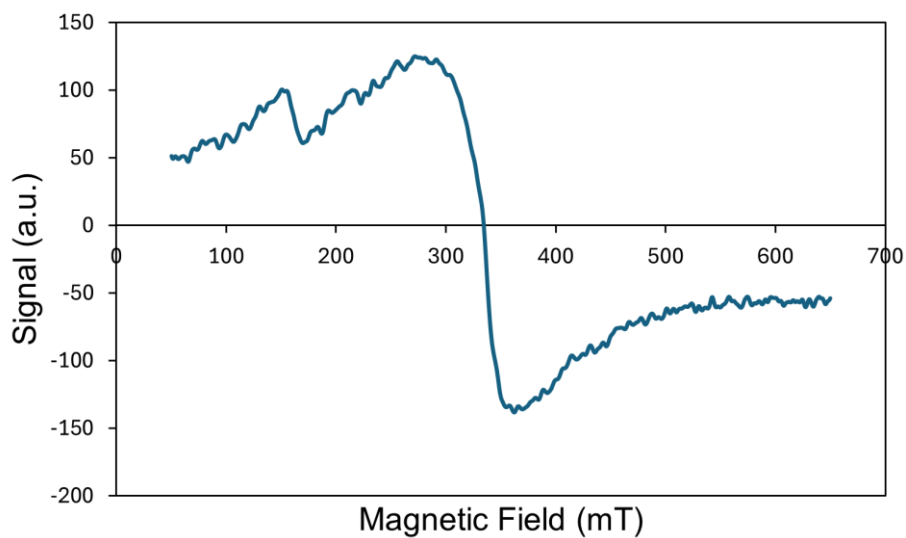
**Figure S14.** HRMS (ESI) spectrum of 5mH-amide.  $[M+Na]^+$  calcd for  $C_{24}H_{32}N_2O_{10}Na$ , 531.1955; found, 531.1980 ( $\Delta = 4.8$  ppm).

## Synthesis of gels

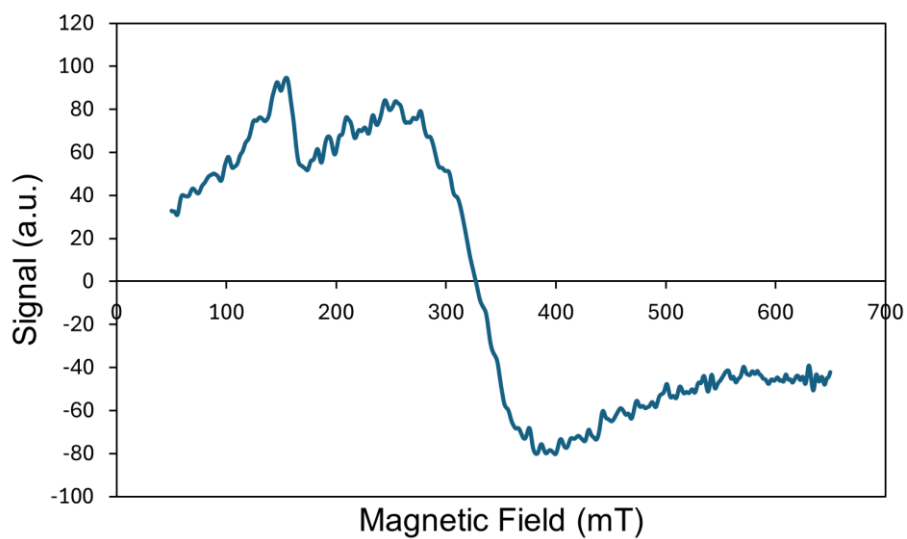
### Scheme S1. Synthesis of 2,5p-amide- $M^{3+}$ n-series.



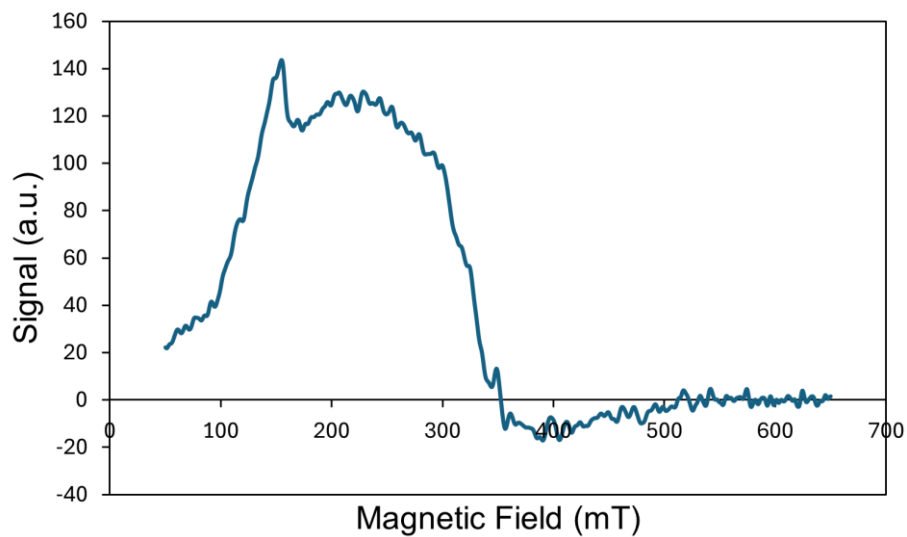
## Electron Paramagnetic Resonance Spectroscopy.



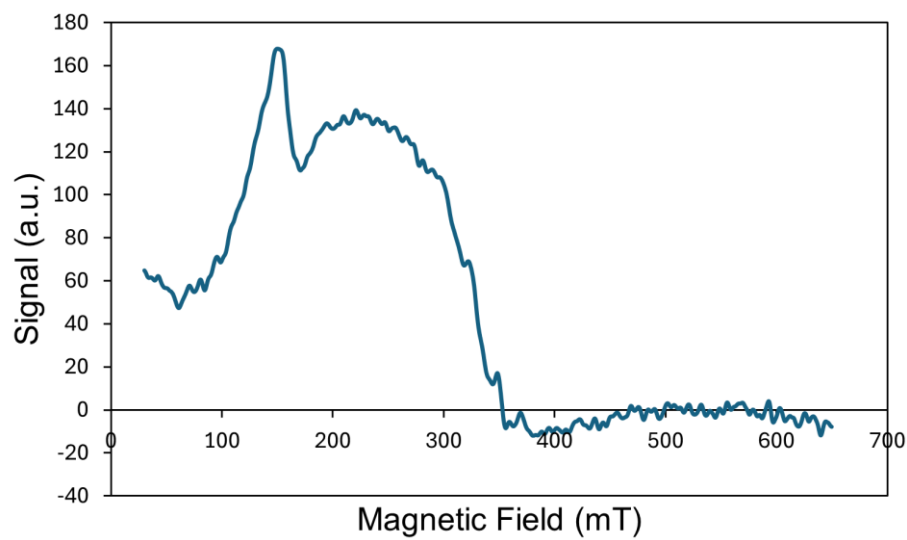
**Figure S15.** Room-temperature Electron Paramagnetic Resonance of 1p-ester-Fe.



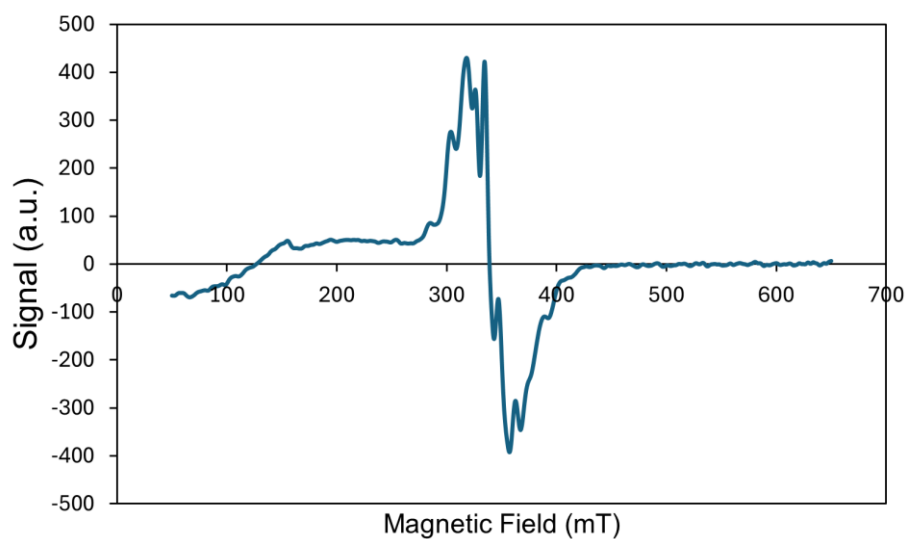
**Figure S16.** Room-temperature Electron Paramagnetic Resonance of 2p-ester-Fe.



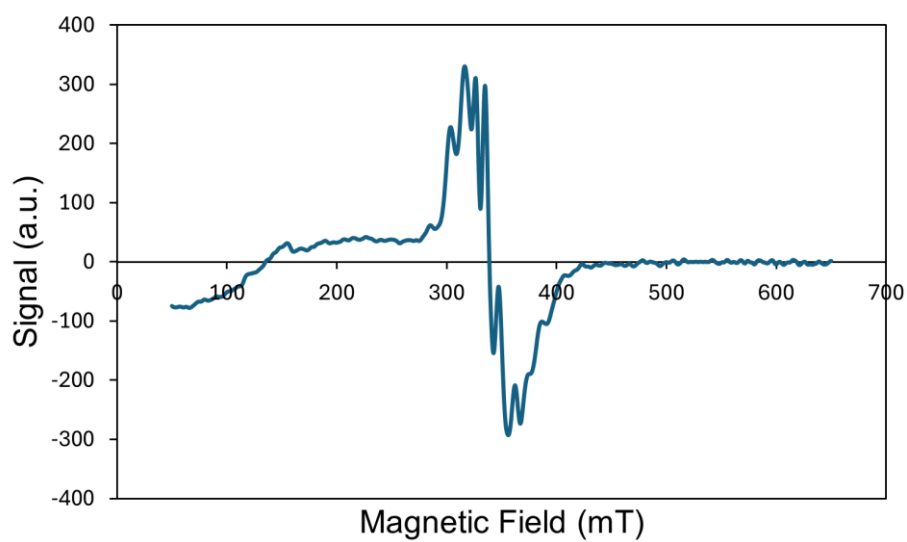
**Figure S17.** Room-temperature Electron Paramagnetic Resonance of 3p-ester-Fe.



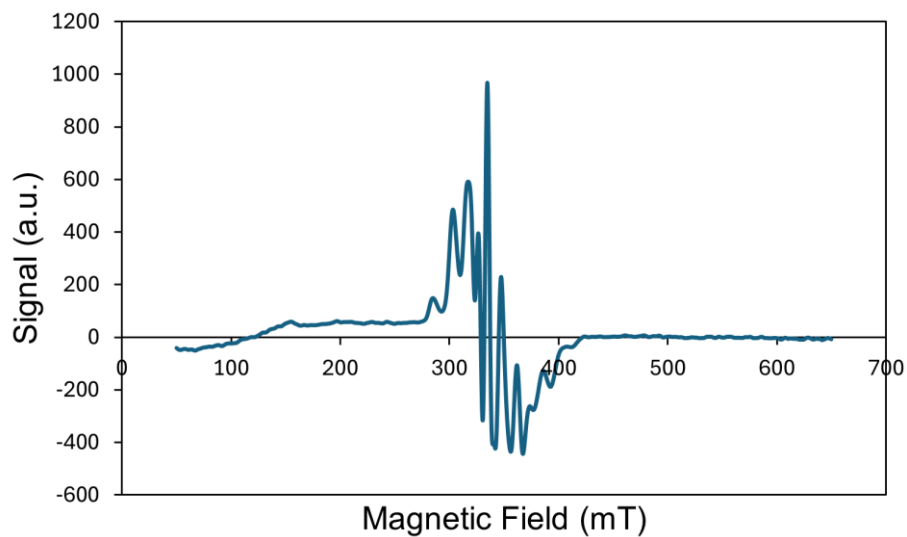
**Figure S18.** Room-temperature Electron Paramagnetic Resonance of 4p-ester-Fe.



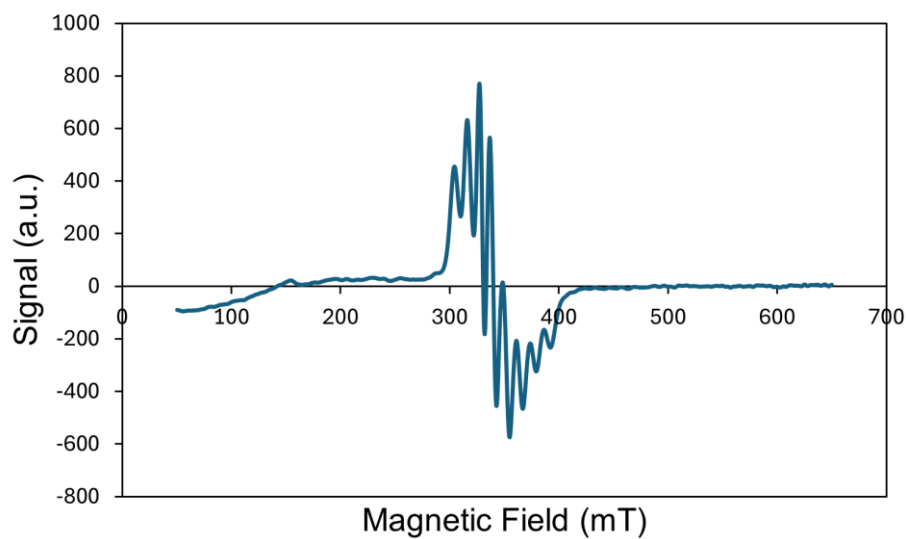
**Figure S19.** Room-temperature Electron Paramagnetic Resonance of 1p-ester-V.



**Figure S20.** Room-temperature Electron Paramagnetic Resonance of 2p-ester-V.

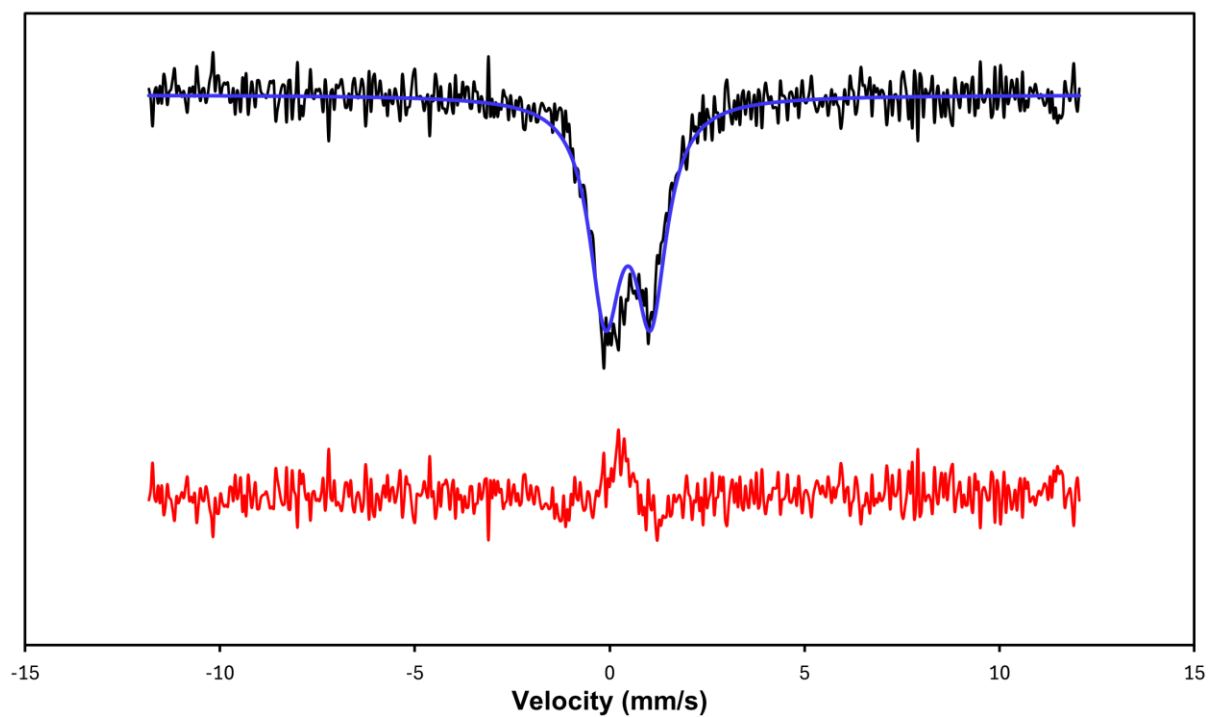


**Figure S21.** Room-temperature Electron Paramagnetic Resonance of 3p-ester-V.



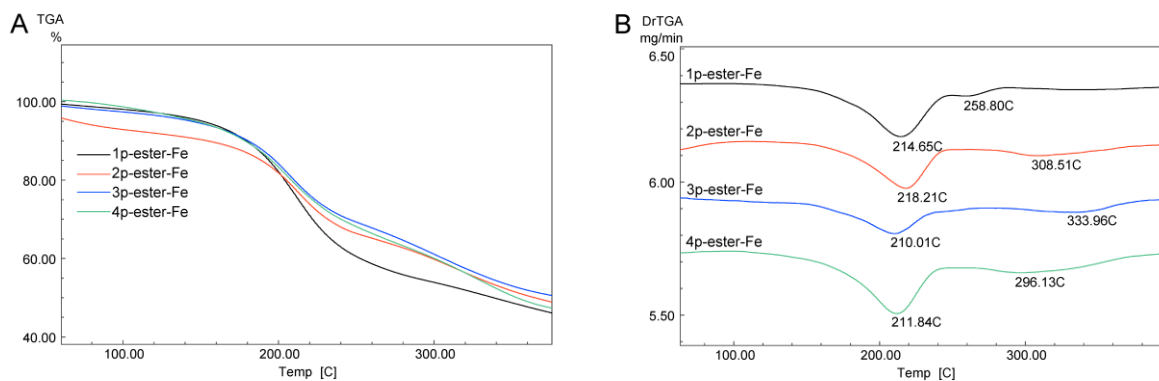
**Figure S22.** Room-temperature Electron Paramagnetic Resonance of 4p-ester-V.

**$^{57}\text{Fe}$  Mössbauer Spectrum.**

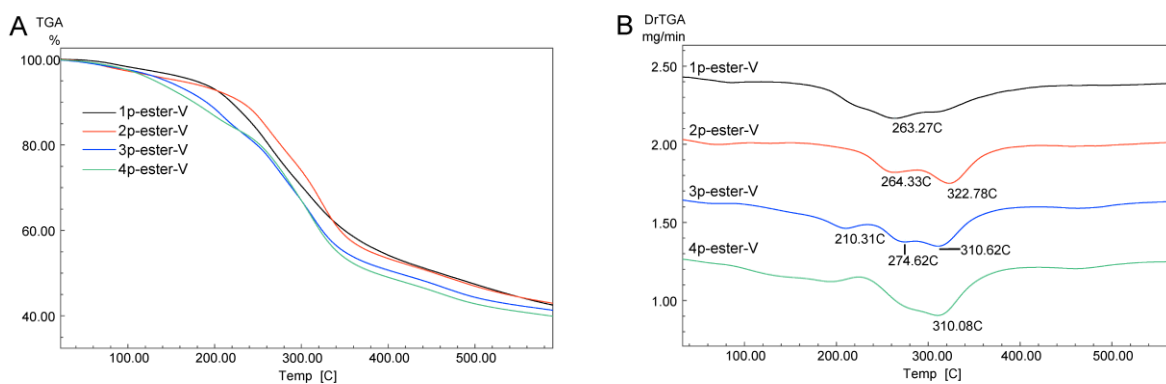


**Figure S23.** Room-temperature Mössbauer spectrum of 1p-ester-Fe. Experimental data in black, fit in blue, residuals in red.

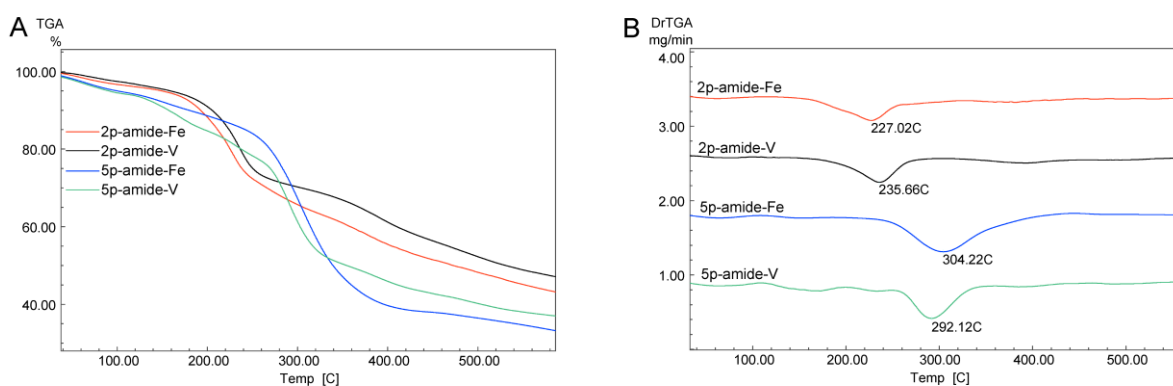
## Thermogravimetric Analysis (TGA) and Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC).



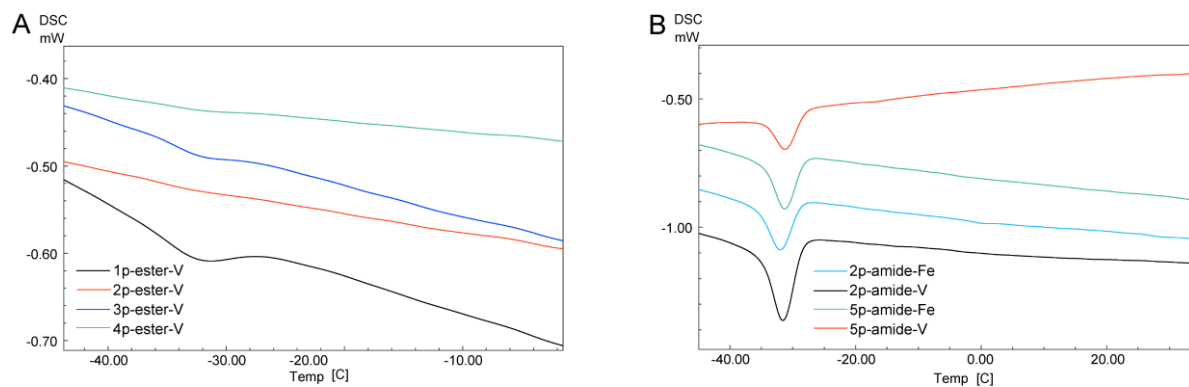
**Figure S24.** TGA and 1st derivative of polymers from esters Fe, A, and B, respectively.



**Figure S25.** TGA and 1st derivative of polymers from esters using V, A, and B respectively.



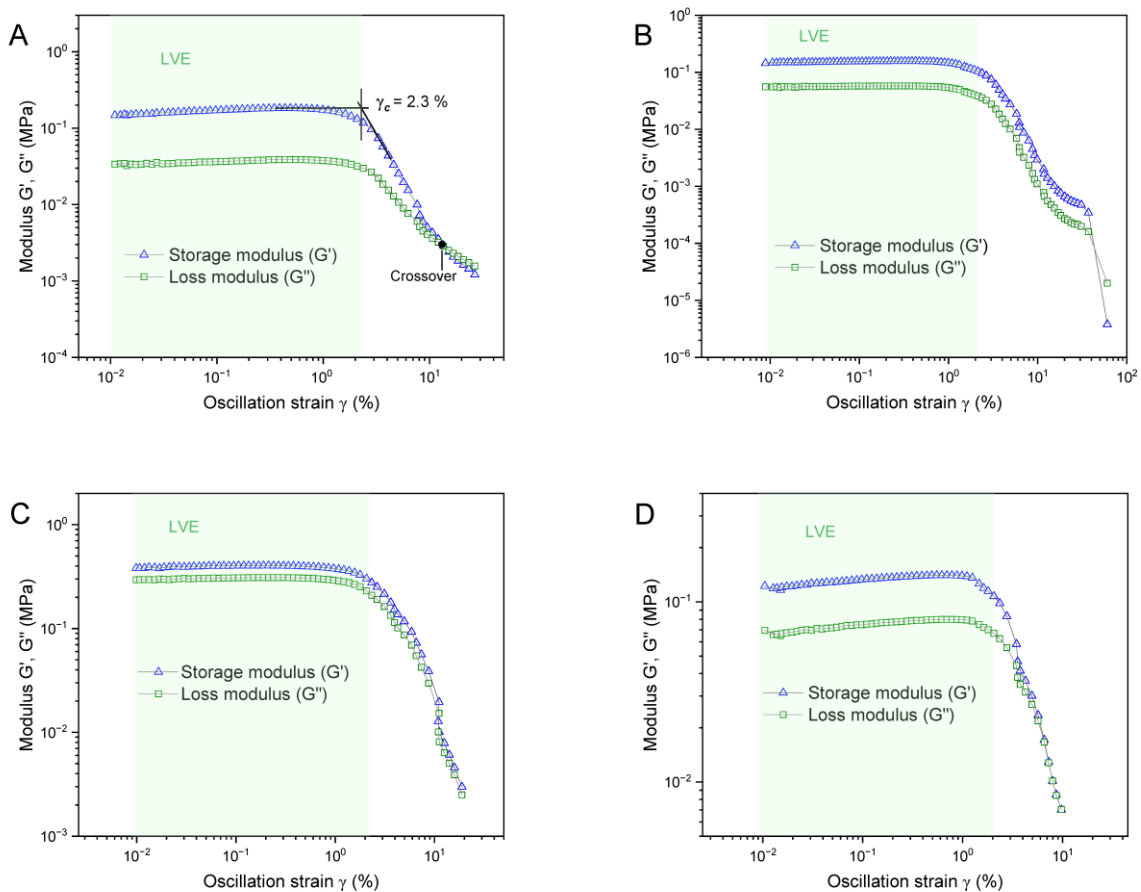
**Figure S26.** TGA and 1st derivative of amides using Fe and V, (A) and (B) respectively.



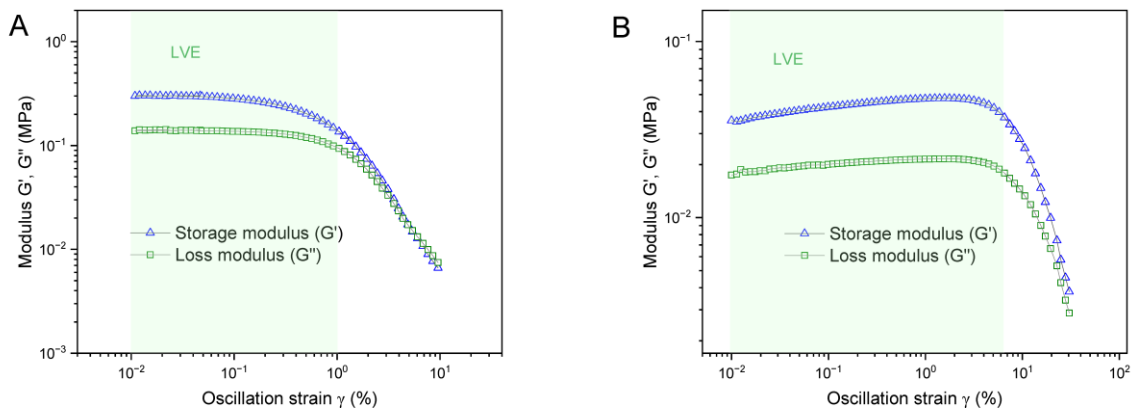
**Figure S27.** DSC comparison of polymers from esters using V (A) and materials from amides using Fe and V (B).

## Rheology

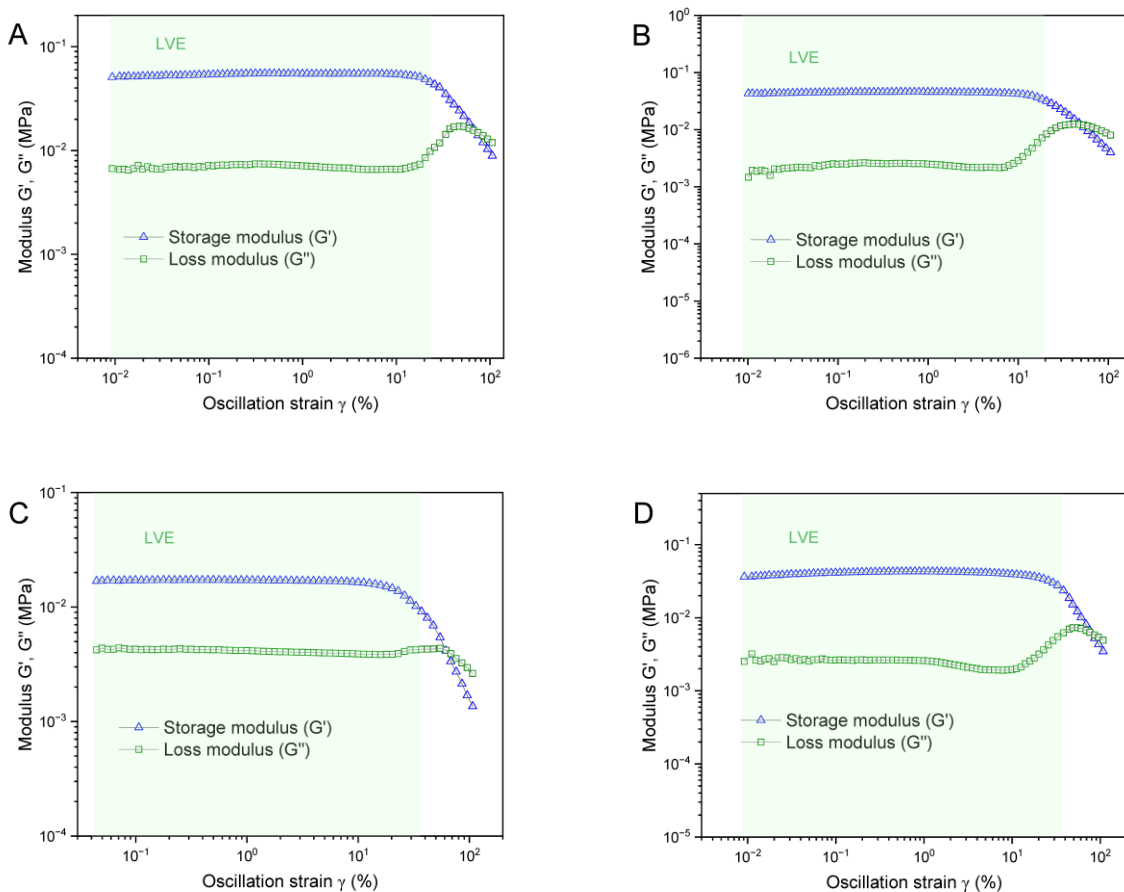
### Strain sweep



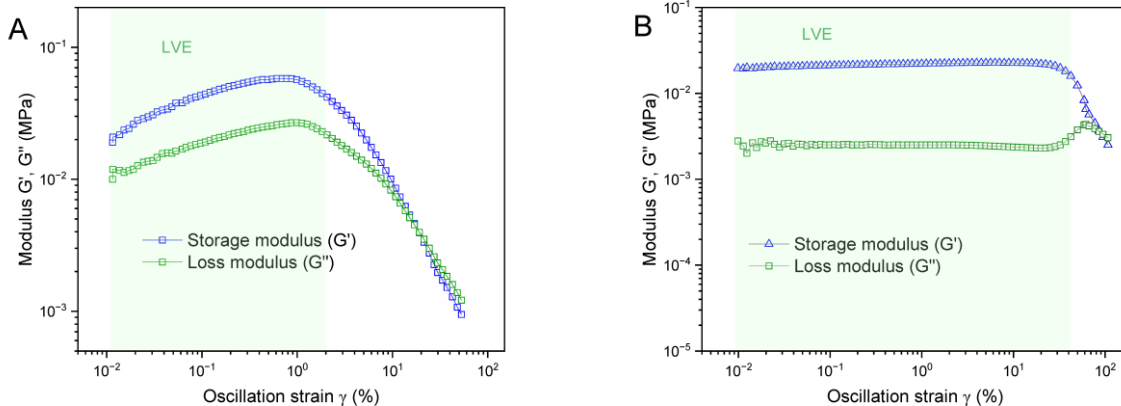
**Figure S28.** Strain dependence of storage modulus ( $G'$ ) and loss modulus ( $G''$ ) for Fe-catechol gels at 25 °C: A-D/1-4p-ester-Fe. ( $\omega = 6.28$  rad/s). The LVE is maintained up to  $\sim 2\%$  strain, after which  $G'$  decreases, and a crossover with  $G''$  is observed at  $\sim 14, 43, 11,$  and  $4\%$  strain respectively.



**Figure S29.** Strain dependence of storage modulus ( $G'$ ) and loss modulus ( $G''$ ) for Fe-catechol gels at 25 °C: A-B/2,5p-amide-Fe. ( $\omega = 6.28$  rad/s). The LVE is maintained up to

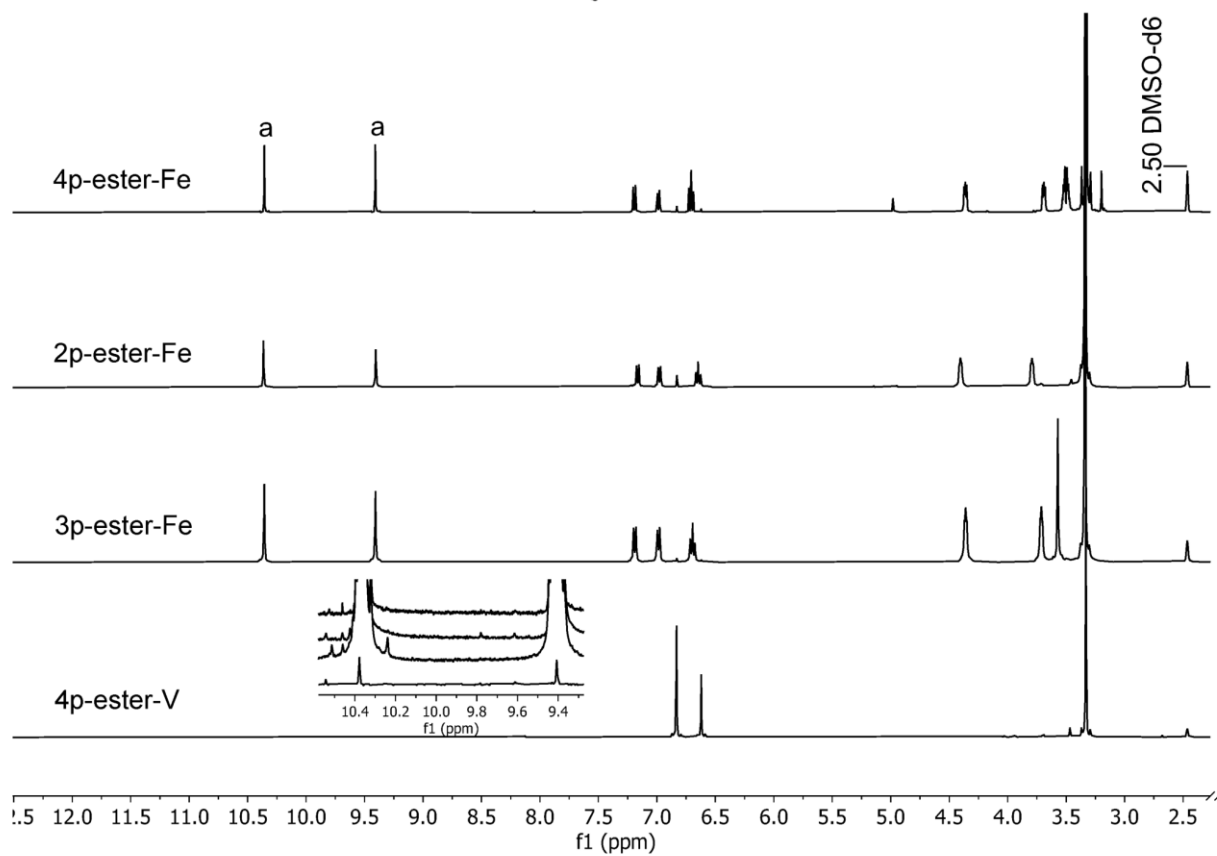
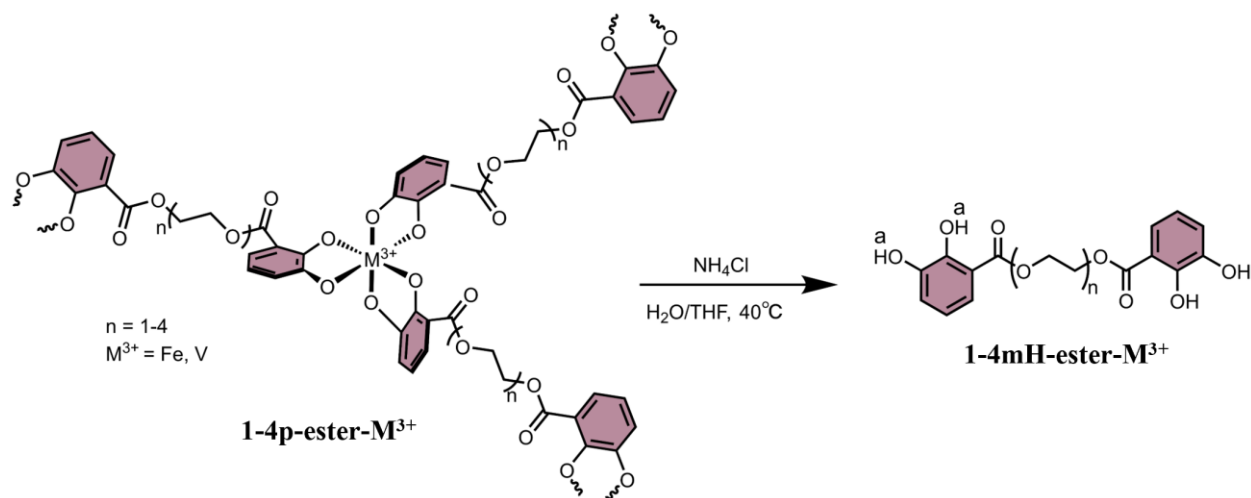


**Figure S30.** Strain dependence of storage modulus ( $G'$ ) and loss modulus ( $G''$ ) for V-catechol gels at 25 °C: A-D/1-4p-ester-V. ( $\omega = 6.28$  rad/s). The LVE is maintained up to ~22, 19, 33, and 31 % strain respectively, after which  $G'$  decreases, and a crossover with  $G''$  is observed at 67, 53, 62, and 76 % respectively.

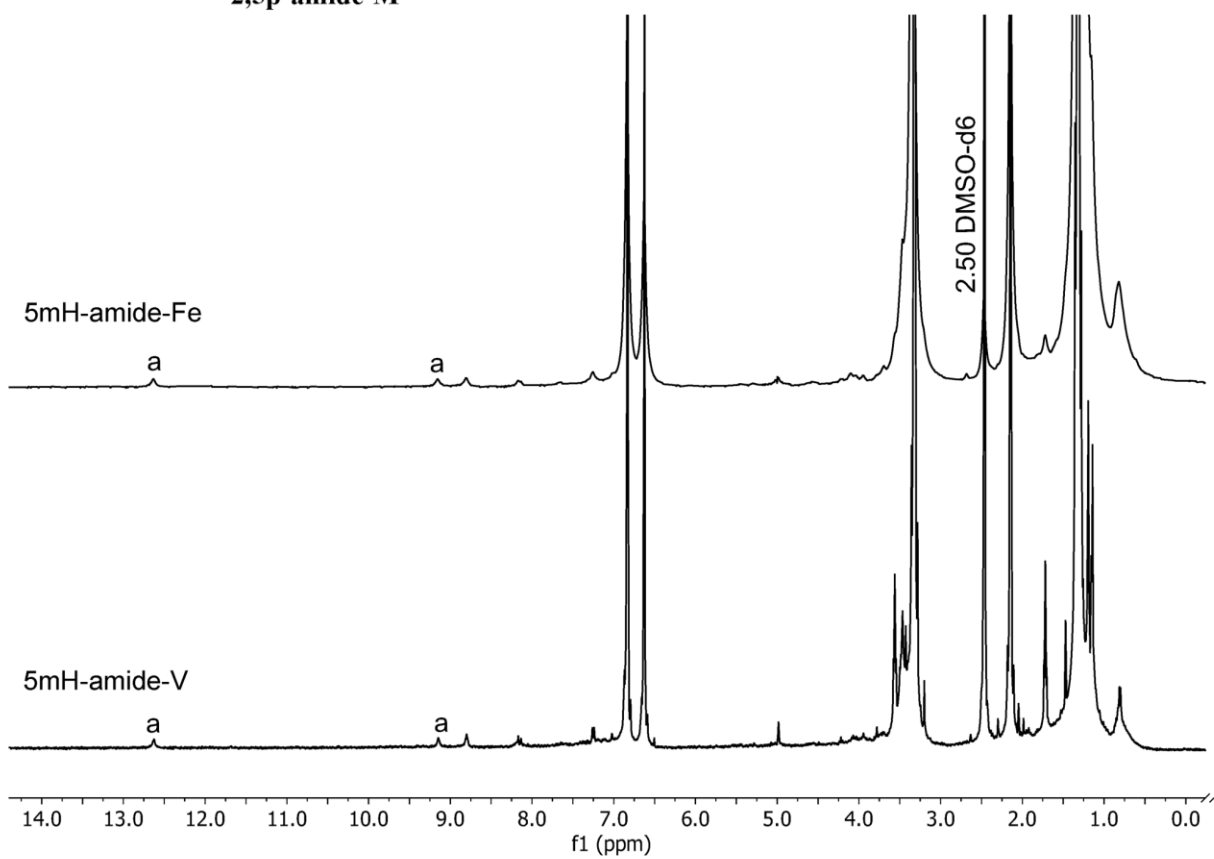
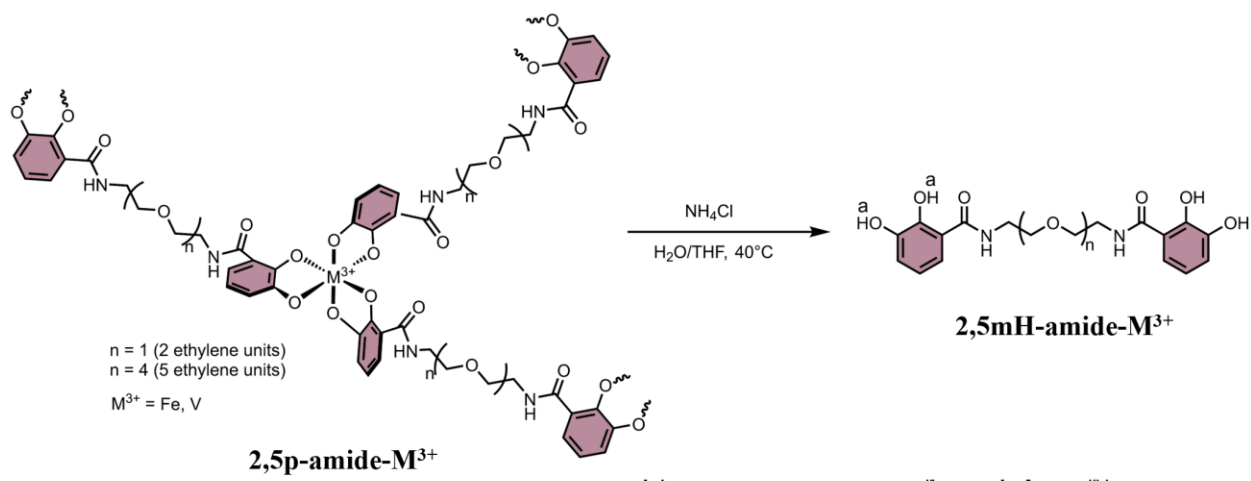


**Figure S31.** Strain dependence of storage modulus ( $G'$ ) and loss modulus ( $G''$ ) for V-catechol gels at 25 °C: A-B/2,5p-amide-V. ( $\omega = 6.28$  rad/s). The LVE is maintained up to  $\sim 2$  % strain for 2p-amide-V and  $\sim 42$  % strain for 5p-amide-V, after which  $G'$  decreases, and a crossover with  $G''$  is observed at 14% and 86 % respectively.

Table S1. Degradation studies for some representative polymers		
Polymer	Crosslinker	Catechol recovered mass (%)
1p-ester	Fe	48
2p-ester	Fe	47
3p-ester	Fe	47
4p-ester	Fe	45
5p-amide	V	67
	Fe	66
	V	32



**Figure S32.** Degradation reaction and  $^1H$  NMR spectra of representative esters 2-4p-ester- $M^{3+}$ .



**Figure S33** Degradation reaction and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of 5p-amide-M<sup>3+</sup>.