

## Supporting information

# Antimicrobial Amphiphilic Random Copolymers From Bio-Based Methacrylates: Effect of Chemical Composition on Activity and Selectivity

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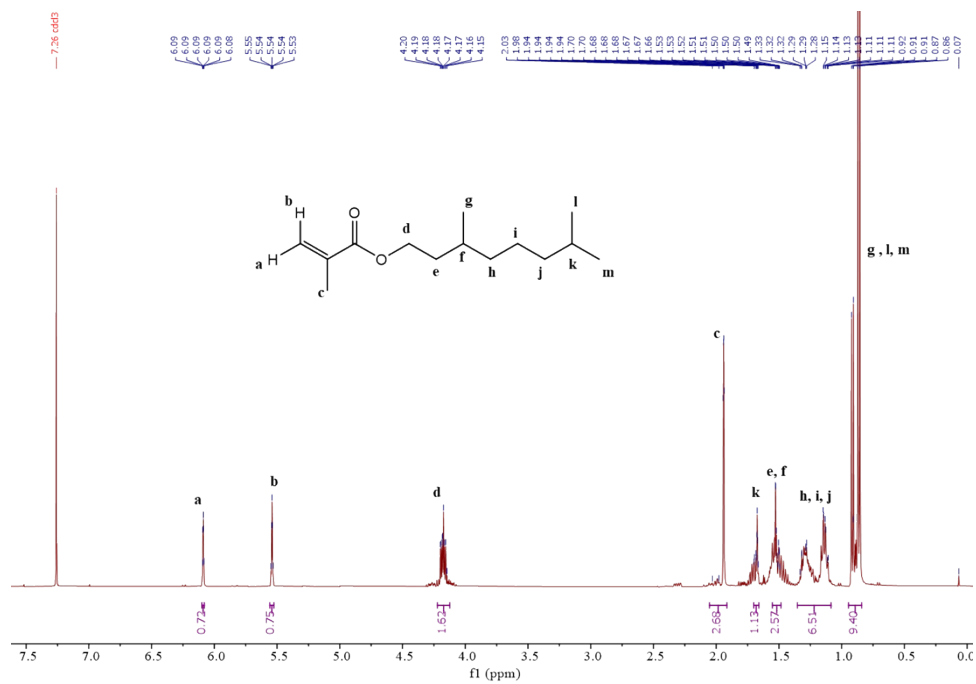


Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of THGA monomer in Chloroform-D<sub>1</sub>.

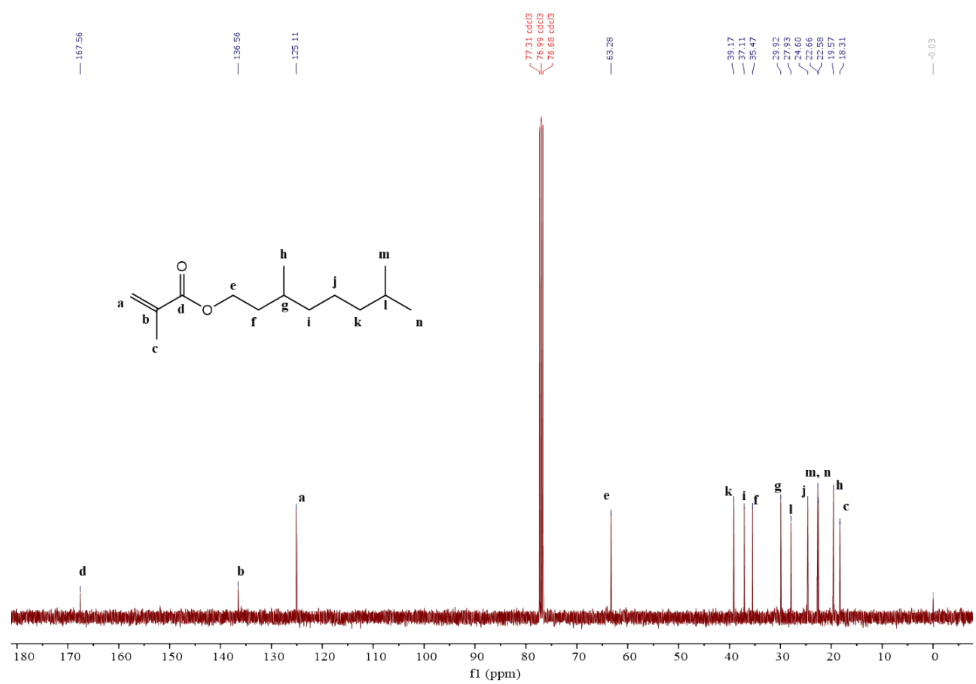


Figure S2. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of THGA monomer in Chloroform-D<sub>1</sub>.

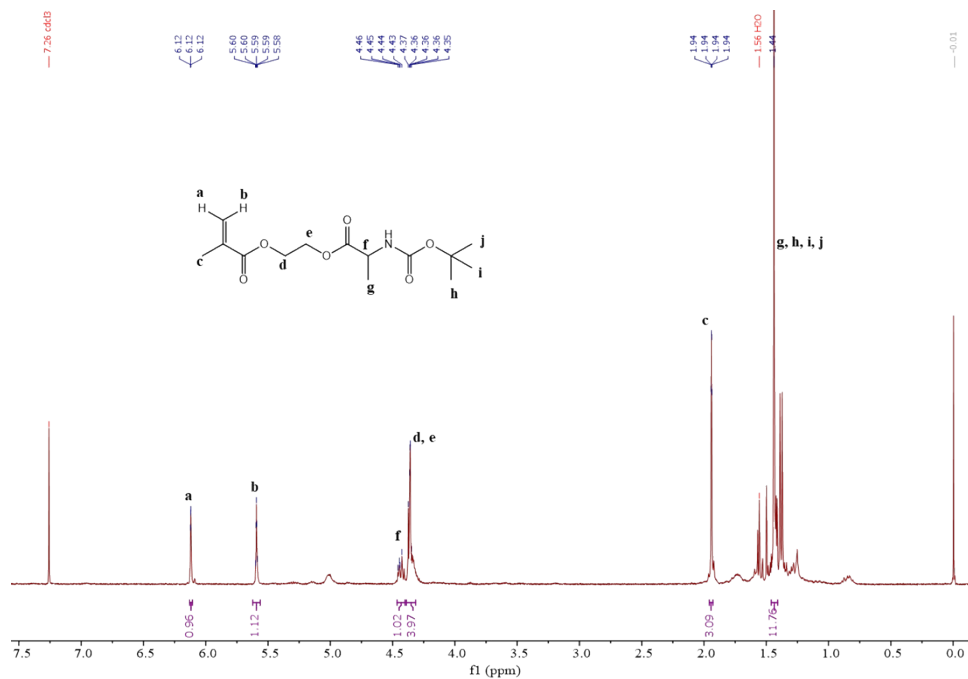


Figure S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Boc-Ala-Hema monomer in Chloroform-D<sub>1</sub>.

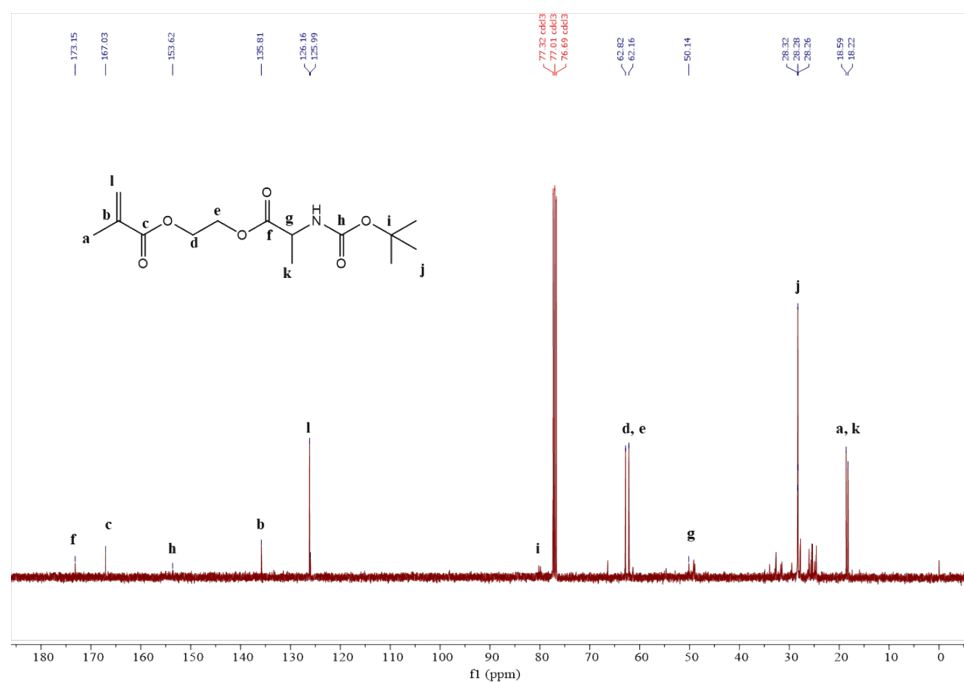


Figure S4. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of Boc-Ala-Hema monomer in Chloroform-D<sub>1</sub>.

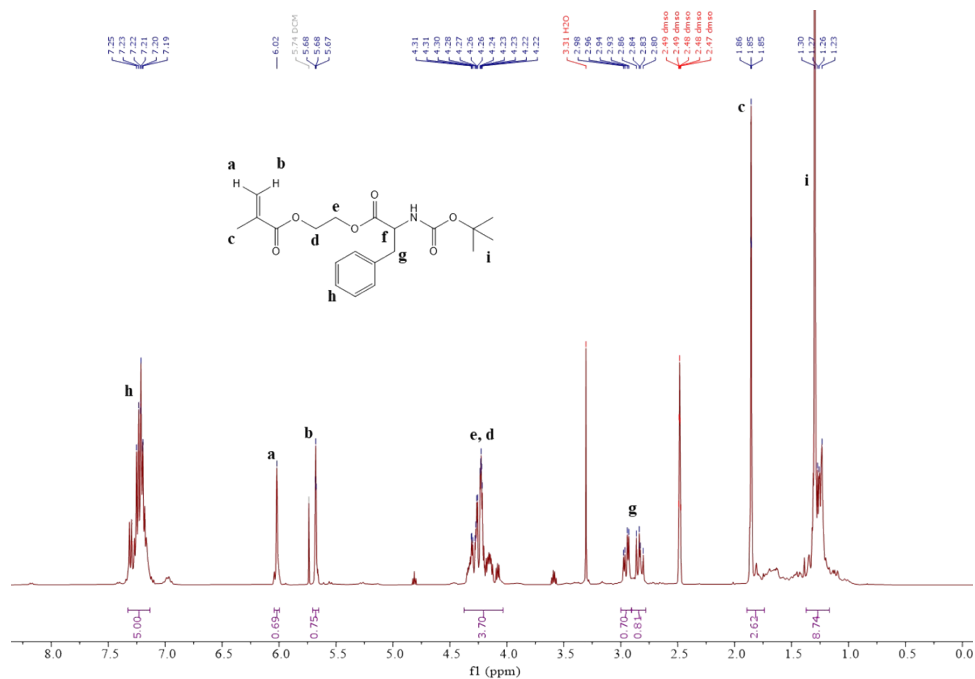


Figure S5.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of Boc-Phe-Hema monomer in  $\text{DMSO-D}_6$ .

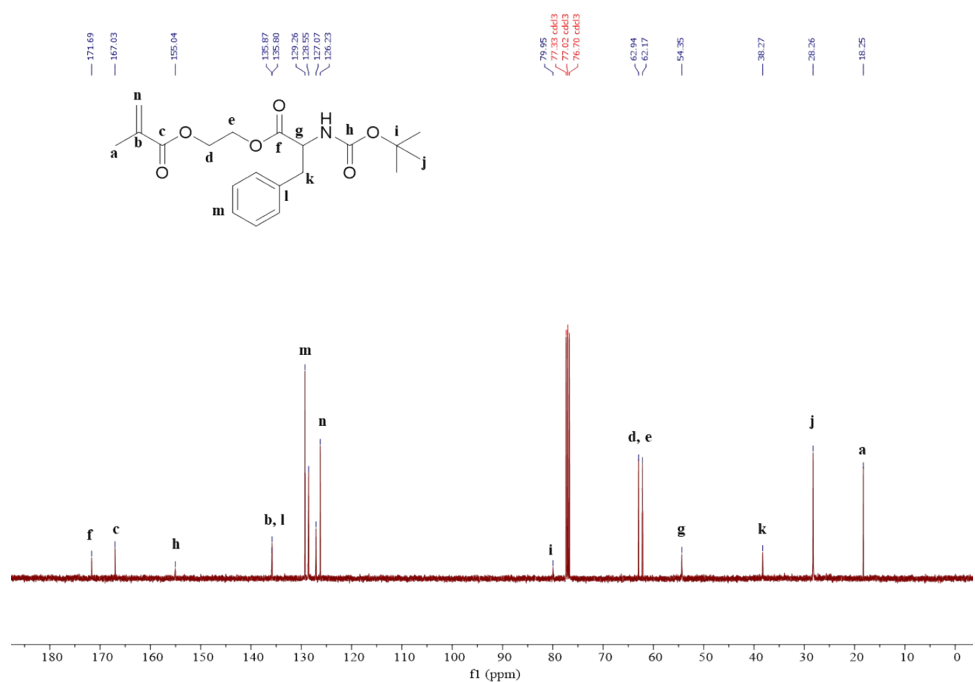


Figure S6.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of Boc-Phe-Hema monomer in  $\text{Chloroform-D}_1$ .

### Converting Boc-Amino Acid DCHA Salts to Free Acids

1. Dissolve the Boc-amino acid DCHA salt in dichloromethane (DCM).
2. Extract the DCM solution with ice-cold aqueous  $\text{KHSO}_4$  solution 3 times.
3. Dry the organic layer over  $\text{NaSO}_4$  and filter.
4. Evaporate the solvent under reduced pressure. Dry the resulting residue in vacuo.

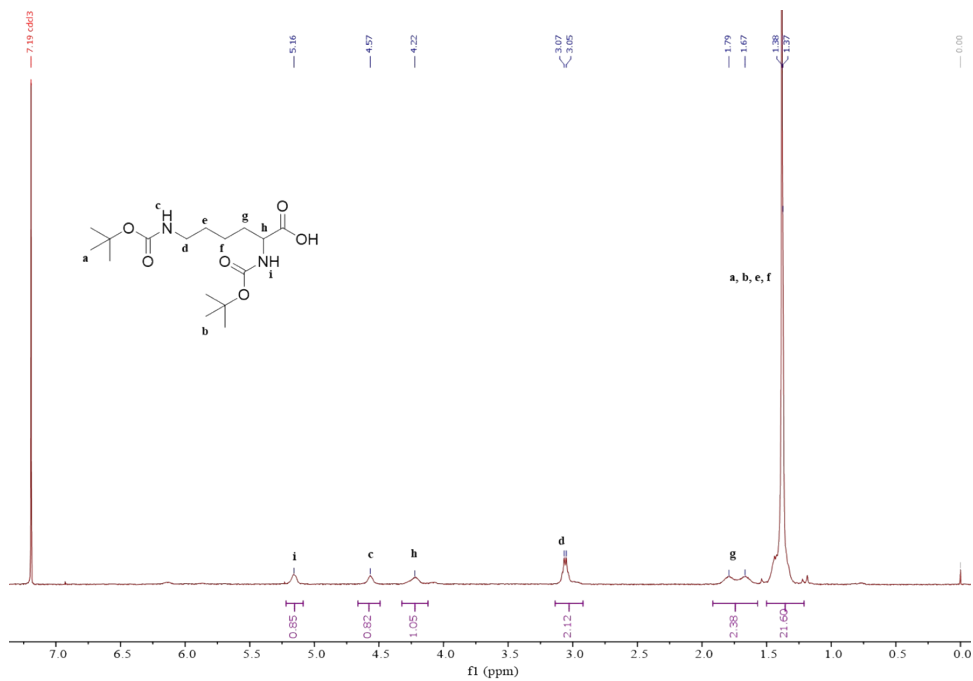


Figure S7.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of Boc-Lys(boc)-OH free acid in Chloroform- $\text{D}_1$ .

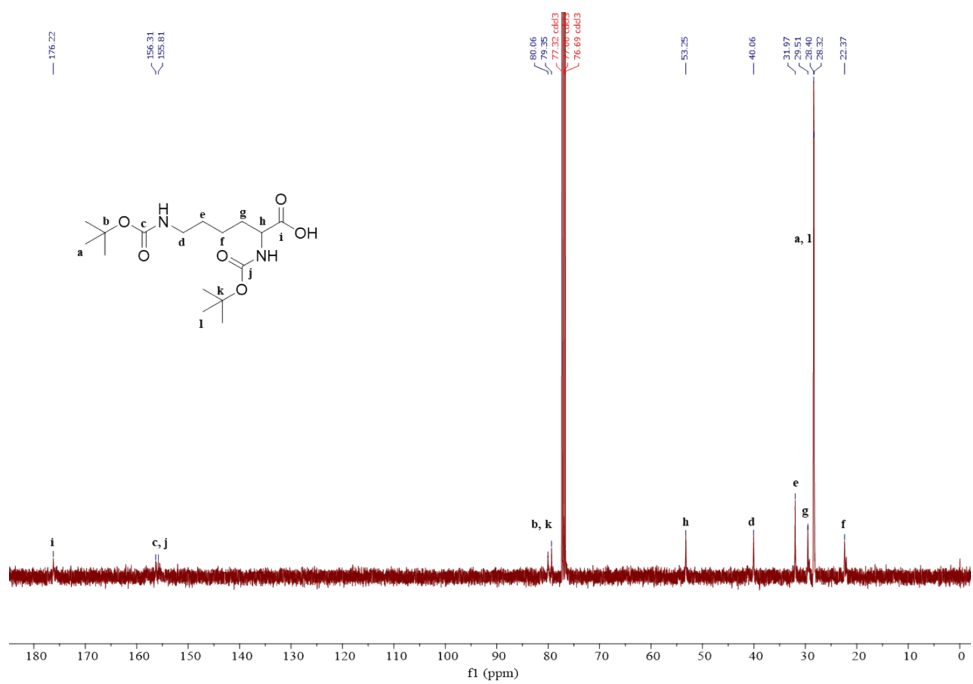


Figure S8.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of Boc-Lys(boc)-OH free acid in Chloroform- $\text{D}_1$ .

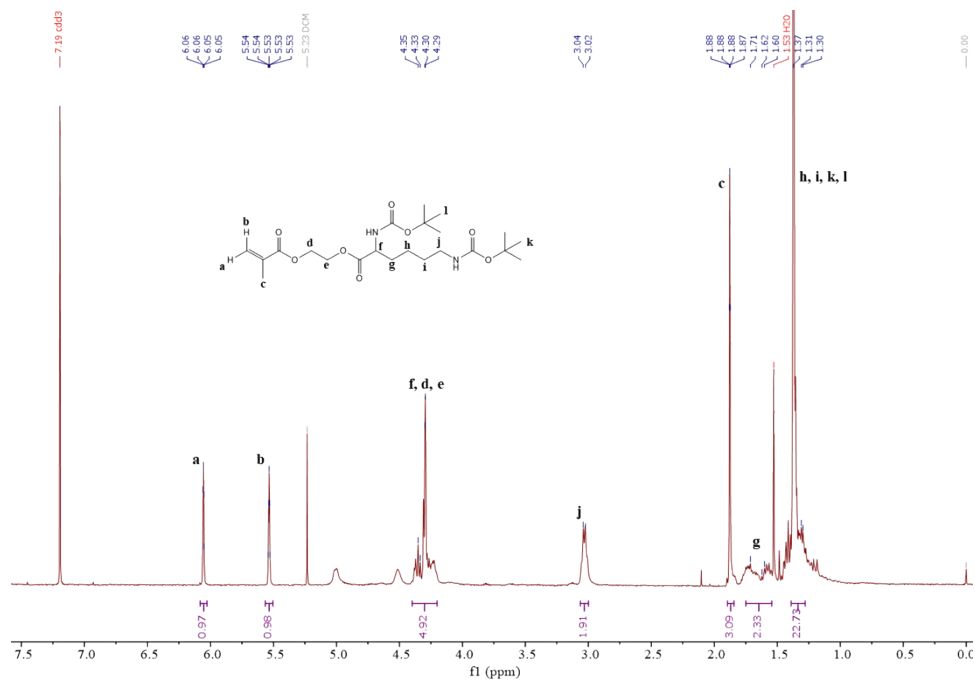


Figure S9. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Boc-Lys(boc)-Hema monomer in Chloroform-D<sub>1</sub>.

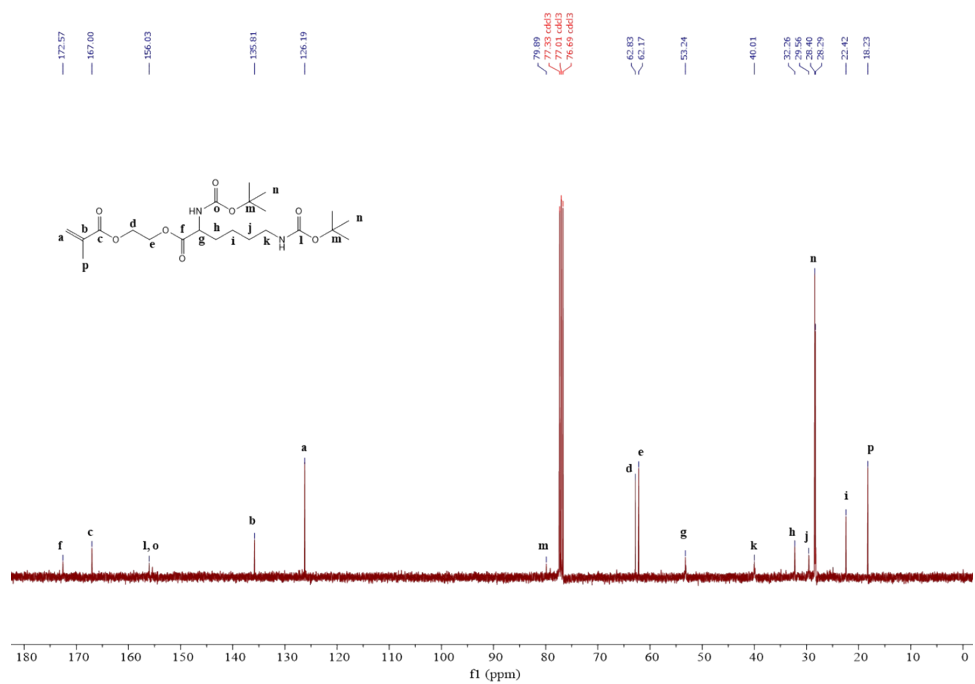
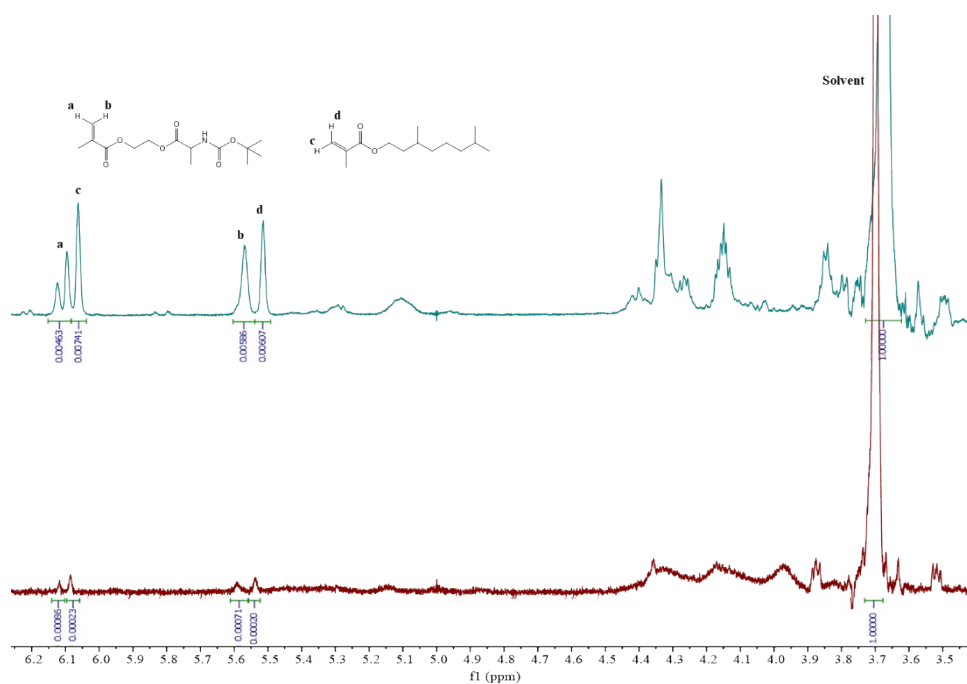


Figure S10. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of Boc-Lys(boc)-Hema monomer in Chloroform-D<sub>1</sub>.



**Figure S11.** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum in Chloroform-D<sub>1</sub> used to calculate the monomer conversion rate, before the reaction (top) and after the reaction (bottom), taking P(A-r-T)5 as an example.

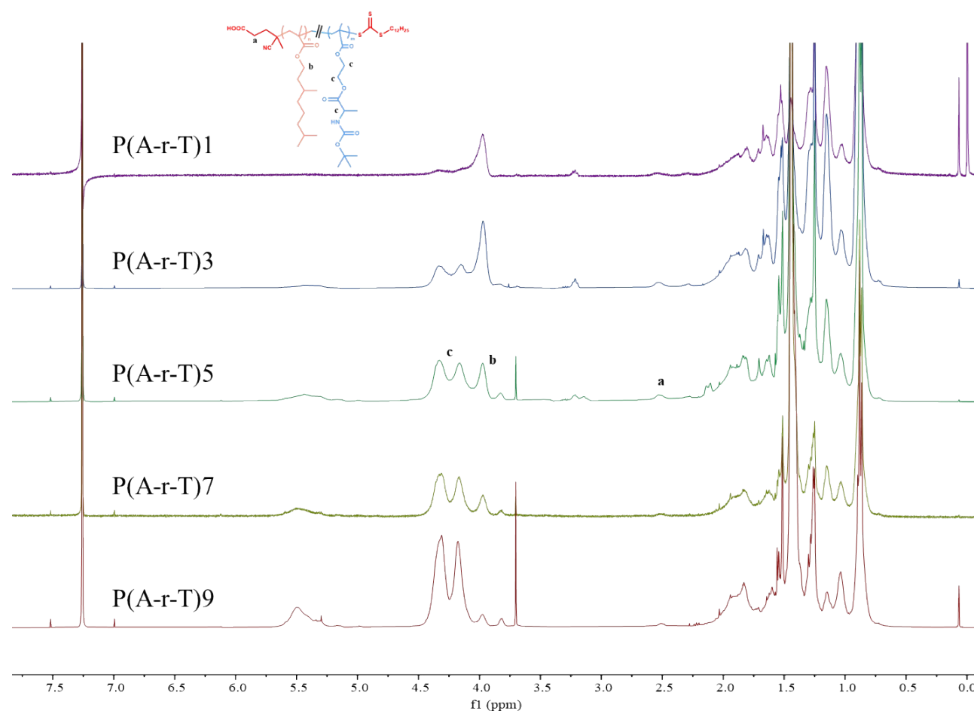
Peaks a and b in **Figure S11** represent a proton from the Boc-Ala-Hema double bond, and peaks c and d represent a proton from the THGA double bond. We determined the conversion of the monomer by comparing the changes in the double bond protons before and after the reaction, as follows: Assuming that the solvent does not change before and after the reaction, and the total content is set to 1, the conversion rate of THGA is

$$\{[(0.00741+0.00607)/2-(0.00023+0.00020)/2]/(0.00741+0.00607)/2\} * 100 \% = 96.8 \%$$

and the conversion rate of Boc-Ala-HEMA is

$$\{[(0.00463+0.00586)/2-(0.00086+0.00071)/2]/(0.00463+0.00586)/2\} * 100 \% = 85.0 \%$$

the overall monomer conversion rate is  $96.8 \% * 0.5 + 85.0 \% * 0.5 = 90.9 \%$ .



**Figure S12.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of random copolymers (with boc protection) with different feed ratios of Ala and THGA in chloroform-D<sub>1</sub>.

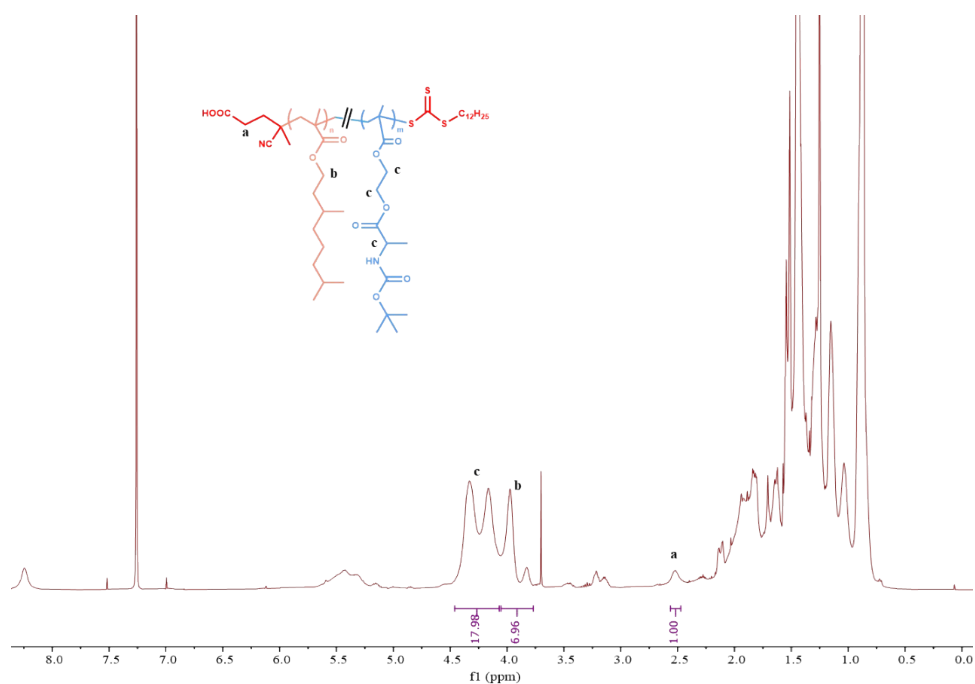
The calculation method takes P(A-r-T)5 as an example as follows: Peak a of **Figure S13** accounts for 2 protons from the R group of the RAFT agent. Comparing the integration of this peak to those from side chains of monomer give the DP for the polymer.

For instance, peak b constitutes 2 protons of the THGA monomers. Therefore, the average number of THGA units per polymer chain equates to 6.96. Similarly, the peak c constitutes 5 protons of the Ala-Hema monomers. Therefore, the average number of Ala-Hema per polymer chain equates to  $(17.98/5)*2 = 7.19$ .

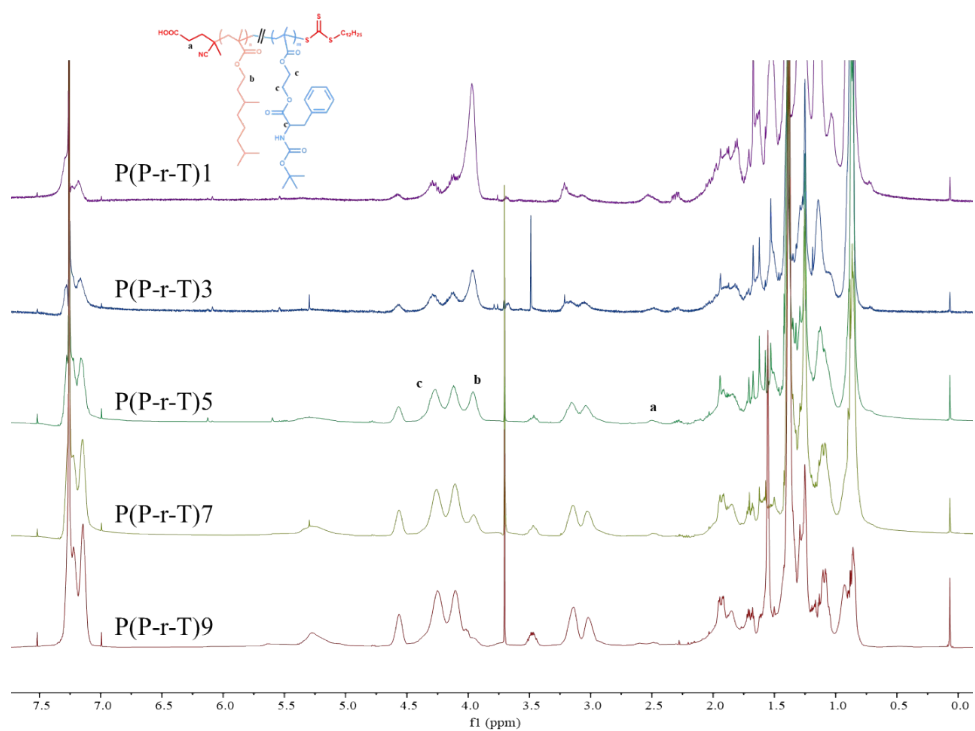
DP is the average total number of monomer units per polymer chain and is the sum of these values ( $6.96+7.19=14.15$ ). This is rounded to a DP value of 14.

MP<sub>THGA</sub> (mole percentage of hydrophobic side chains) is simply the number of THGA containing units divided by the total number of monomer units (DP) and would be  $6.96/14.15 = 49\%$

To work out the M<sub>n</sub> of the polymer, you take the number of each of the relevant repeat units and multiply by the relevant molecular weight of monomers (THGA = 228.38 g mol<sup>-1</sup> and Ala-Hema=303.36 g mol<sup>-1</sup>) then add the molecular weight of the RAFT agent (403.67 g mol<sup>-1</sup>). This would be as follows:  
 $(6.96*228.38)+(7.19*303.36)+403.67 = 4180 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ .



**Figure S13.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of P(A-r-T)5 (with boc protection) in chloroform- $\text{D}_1$ .



**Figure S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of random copolymers (with boc protection) with different feed ratios of Phe and THGA in chloroform- $\text{D}_1$ .

The calculation method takes P(P-r-T)5 as an example as follows: Peak a of **Figure S15** accounts for 2 protons from the R group of the RAFT agent. Comparing the integration of this peak to those from side chains of monomer give the DP for the polymer.

For instance, peak b constitutes 2 protons of the THGA monomers. Therefore, the average number of THGA units per polymer chain equates to 7.11. Similarly, the peak c constitutes 5 protons of the Phe-

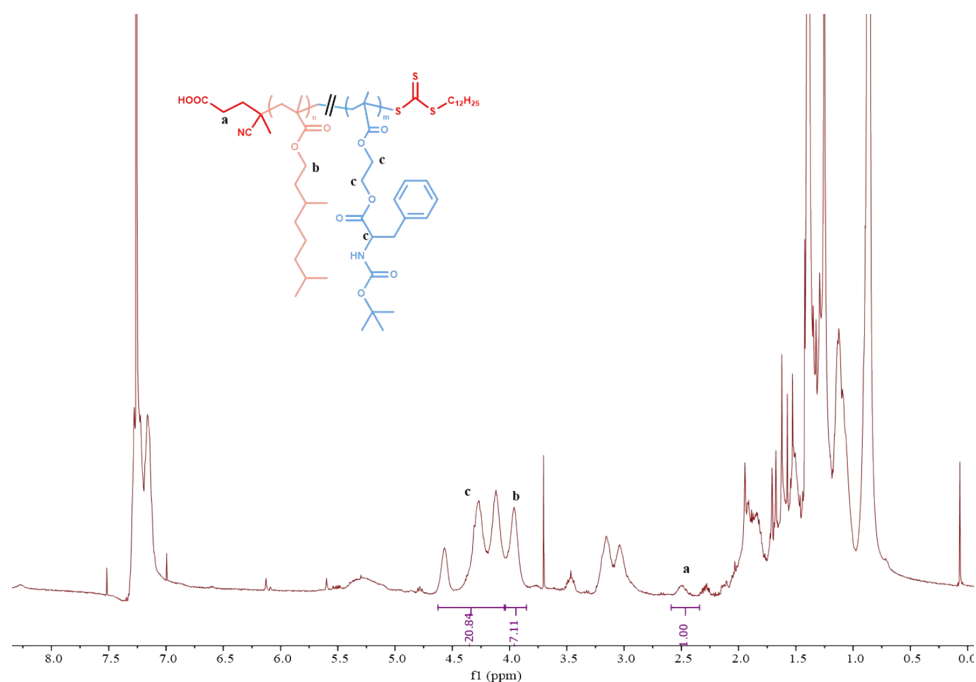
Hema monomers. Therefore, the average number of Phe-Hema per polymer chain equates to  $(20.84/5)*2 = 8.34$ .

DP is the average total number of monomer units per polymer chain and is the sum of these values ( $7.11+8.34=15.45$ ). This is rounded to a DP value of 15.

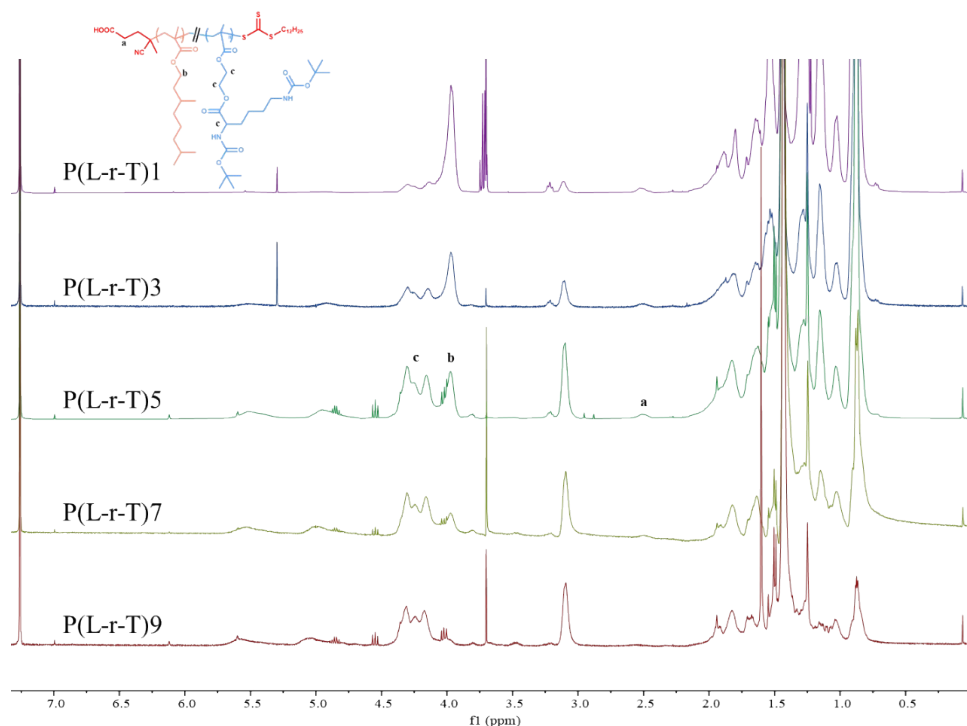
$MP_{\text{THGA}}$  (mole percentage of hydrophobic side chains) is simply the number of THGA containing units divided by the total number of monomer units (DP) and would be  $7.11/15 = 47\%$

To work out the  $M_n$  of the polymer, you take the number of each of the relevant repeat units and multiply by the relevant molecular weight of monomers (THGA =  $228.38 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$  and Phe-Hema =  $379.45 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ) then add the molecular weight of the RAFT agent ( $403.67 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ). This would be as follows:

$$(7.11*228.38)+(8.34*379.45)+403.67 = 5190 \text{ g mol}^{-1}.$$



**Figure S15.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of P(P-r-T)5 (with boc protection) in chloroform-D<sub>1</sub>.



**Figure S16.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of random copolymers (with boc protection) with different feed ratios of Lys and THGA in chloroform- $\text{D}_1$ .

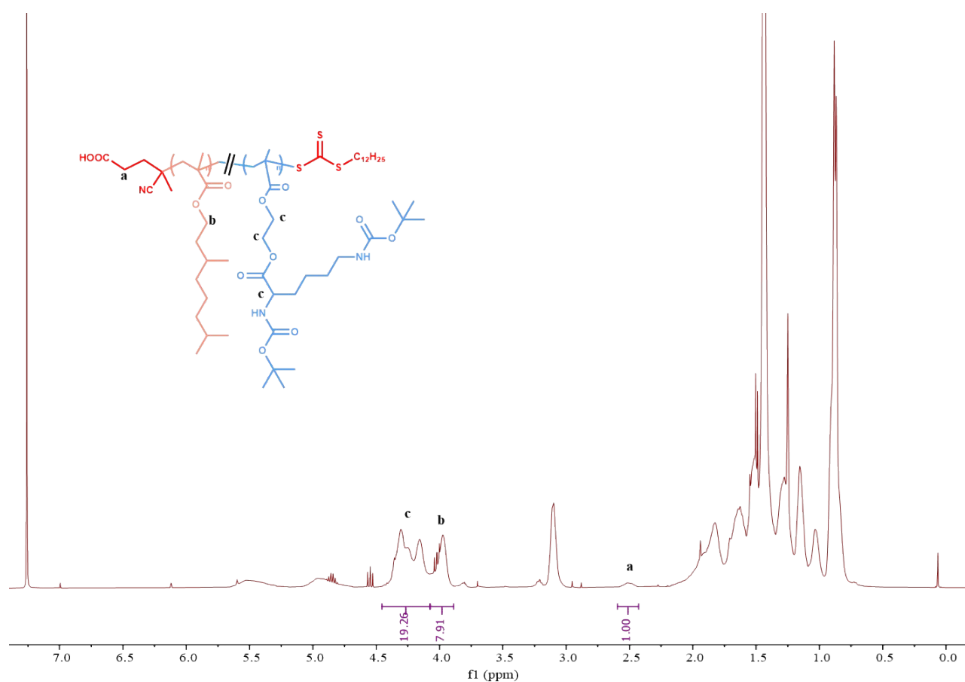
The calculation method takes P(L-r-T)5 as an example as follows: Peak a of **Figure S17** accounts for 2 protons from the R group of the RAFT agent. Comparing the integration of this peak to those from side chains of monomer give the DP for the polymer.

For instance, peak b constitutes 2 protons of the THGA monomers. Therefore, the average number of THGA units per polymer chain equates to 7.91. Similarly, the peak c constitutes 5 protons of the Lys-Hema monomers. Therefore, the average number of Lys-Hema per polymer chain equates to  $(19.26/5)*2 = 7.70$ .

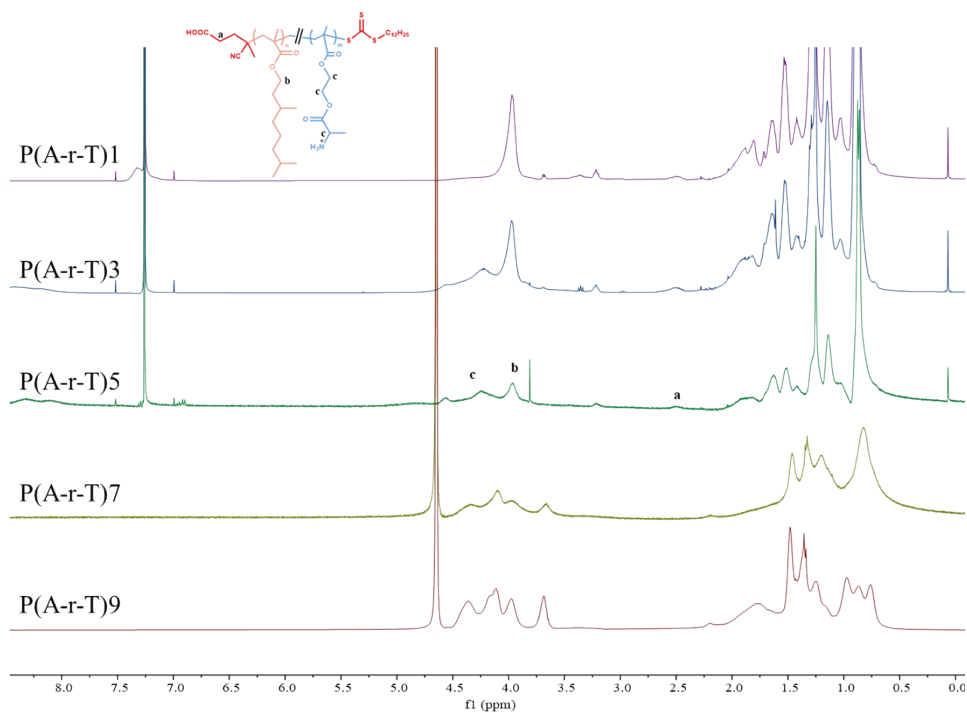
DP is the average total number of monomer units per polymer chain and is the sum of these values ( $7.70+7.91=15.61$ ). This is rounded to a DP value of 16.

$\text{MP}_{\text{THGA}}$  (mole percentage of hydrophobic side chains) is simply the number of THGA containing units divided by the total number of monomer units (DP) and would be  $7.91/16 = 50.7\%$

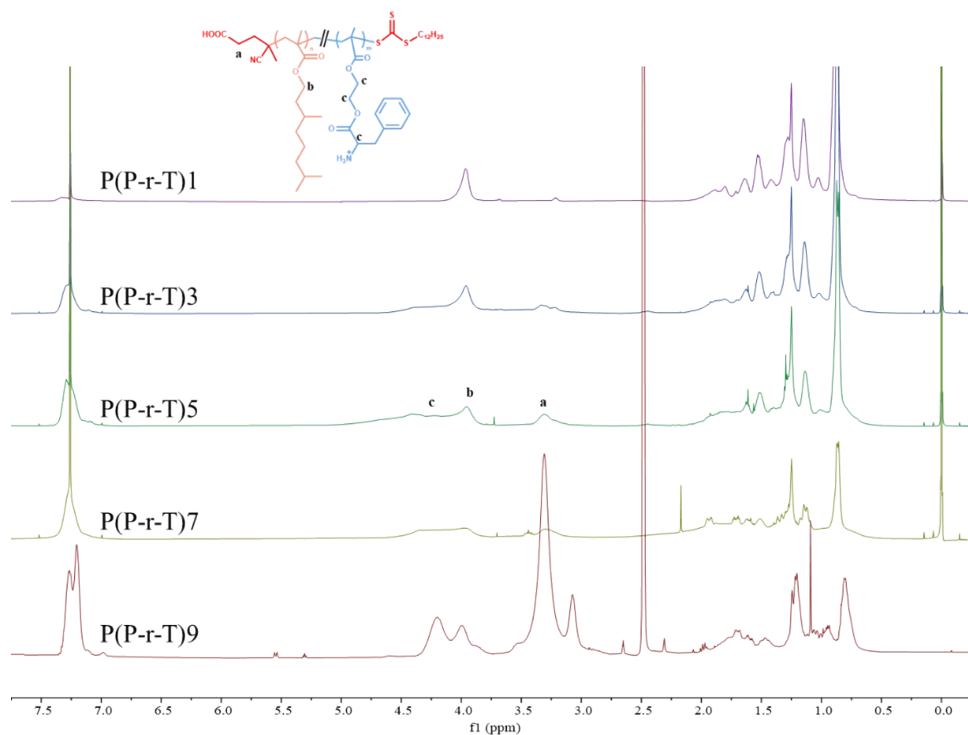
To work out the  $M_n$  of the polymer, you take the number of each of the relevant repeat units and multiply by the relevant molecular weight of monomers (THGA =  $228.38 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$  and Lys-Hema =  $460.57 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ) then add the molecular weight of the RAFT agent ( $403.67 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ ). This would be as follows:  $(7.91*228.38)+(7.70*460.57)+403.67 = 5760 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ .



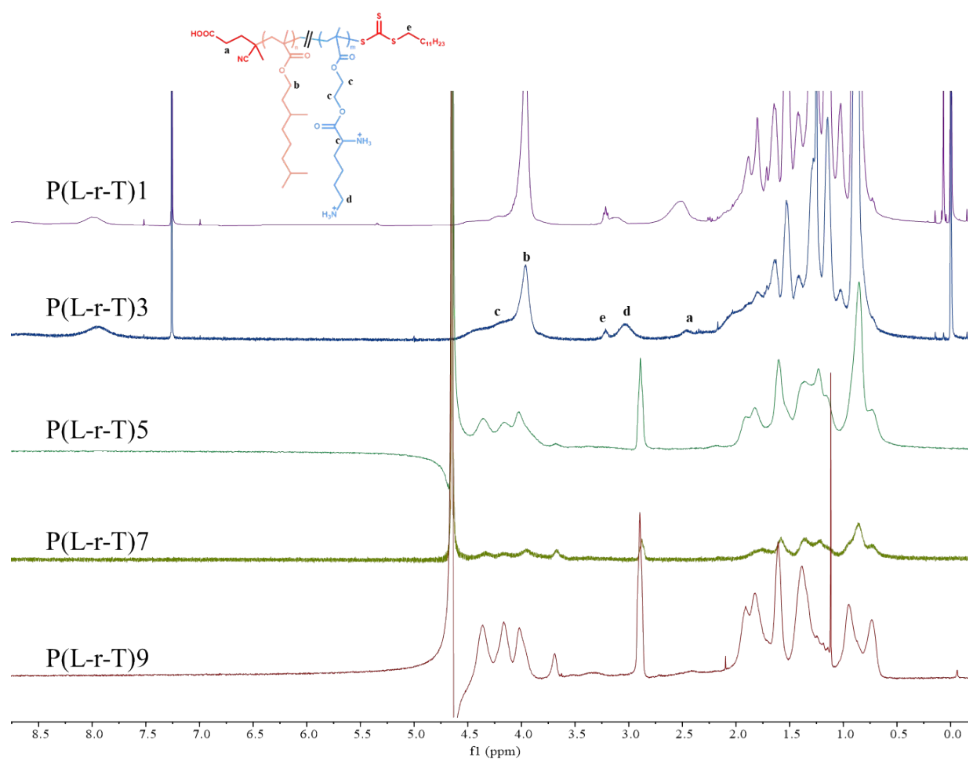
**Figure S17.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of P(L-r-T)5 (with boc protection) in chloroform- $\text{D}_1$ .



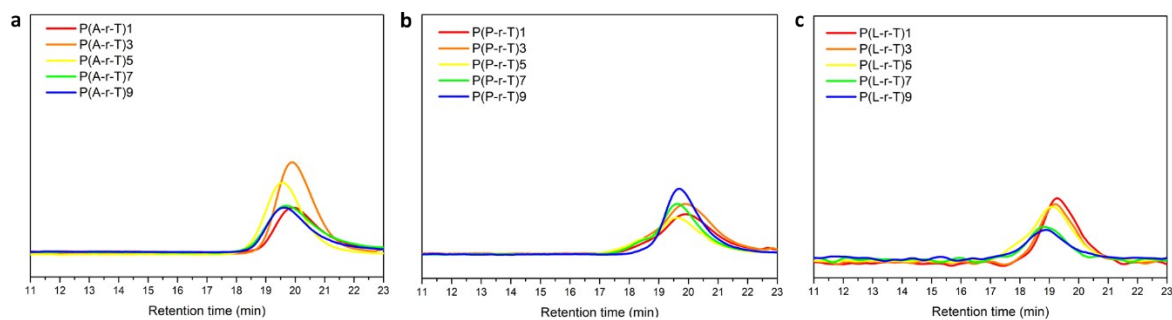
**Figure S18.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of random copolymers (without boc protection) with different feed ratios of Ala and THGA (P(A-r-T)1, P(A-r-T)3, P(A-r-T)5 in chloroform- $\text{D}_1$ ; P(A-r-T)7, P(A-r-T)9 in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ).



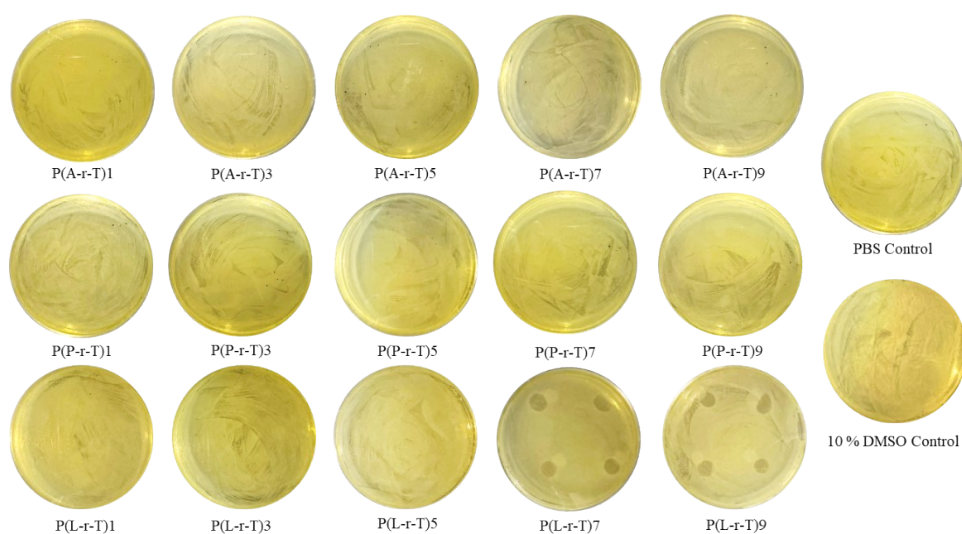
**Figure S19.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of random copolymers (without boc protection) with different feed ratios of Phe and THGA in chloroform- $\text{D}_1$ .



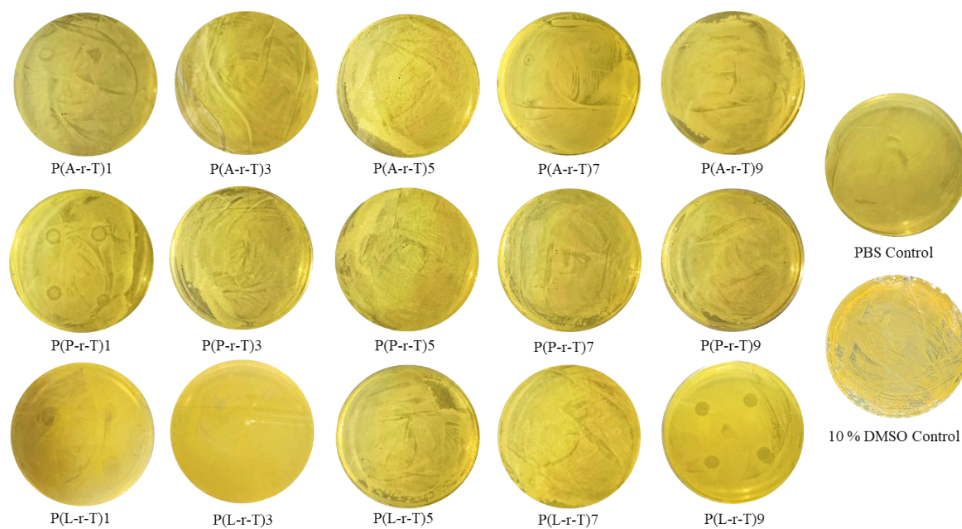
**Figure S20.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of random copolymers (without boc protection) with different feed ratios of Lys and THGA (P(L-r-T)1, P(L-r-T)3 in Chloroform- $\text{D}_1$ ; P(L-r-T)5, P(L-r-T)7, P(L-r-T)9 in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ).



**Figure S21.** Size exclusion chromatography (SEC) traces of the Boc protected copolymer of Ala (a) Phe (b) Lys (c) dissolved in THF.



**Figure S22.** Zone of inhibition of random copolymers with varying cationic monomers and monomer feed ratios against *E. coli* (ATCC 25922).



**Figure S23.** Zone of inhibition of random copolymers with varying cationic monomers and monomer feed ratios against *S. aureus* (ATCC 25922).