# **Supporting Information to**

# Synthesis of Alkyne Functional Cyclic Polymers by One-pot Thiol-ene Cyclization.

Derong Lu, Zhongfan Jia\* and Michael J. Monteiro\*

Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, University of Queensland,
 Brisbane QLD 4072, Australia

## 1 Synthesis of 2-methyl-2-((prop-2-yn-1-yloxy)methyl)propane-1,3-diol

This compound was synthesized according to literature procedure<sup>1</sup>.

**Scheme S1:** The reaction route of the synthesis of 2-methyl-2- ((prop-2-yn-1-yloxy) methyl) propane

-1,3-diol

HO OH 
$$\stackrel{i}{\longrightarrow}$$
 HO O  $\stackrel{i}{\longrightarrow}$   $\stackrel{i}{\longrightarrow}$  O OH OH OH

i) Acetone, p-TsOH, RT,16 h; ii) THF, NaH, propargyl bromide, -78  $^{\circ}$ C to R.T., 16 h; iii) DOWEX, Methanol, R.T. 16 h;

### 2 Synthesis of the 2-(((butylthio)carbonothioyl)thio)-2-methylpropanoic acid(2)

$$SH + CS_2 + Br$$

OH

Acetone

OH

Acetone

The 2-(((butylthio)carbonothioyl)thio)-2-methylpropanoic acid was synthesized according to the literature procedure<sup>2</sup>. A mixture of 11.76 g ( $5.540 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol}$ )  $K_3PO_4$  and 100 mL acetone was allowed to stir for 6 h, 5.938 mL ( $5.540 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol}$ ) 1-butanethiol and 10 mL ( $5.540 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol}$ ) carbondisulfide were added into the solution above and kept stirring for 1h. After that 8.35 g ( $5.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol}$ ) bromoisobutyric acid was added dropwise to a stirring solution above over a period of 30 min at 0 °C under an argon atmosphere. The reaction was stirring overnight and warmed up to R.T. The reaction mixture was filtered to remove the solid, concentrated and applied under vaccum at R.T. The solution was then washed with cold 10% HCl solution ( $3 \times 50 \text{ mL}$ ) and distilled water ( $2 \times 50 \text{ mL}$ ) and dried over anydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under vacuum, and the residual crude product was purified by column chromatography with EtOAc / petroleum spirit (3/2, v/v) as eluent. The fraction with  $R_f$  as 0.45 was collected, concentrated, recrystallized into n-Hexane, dried under the vacuum at R.T., and orange solid product **2** was obtained with the yield as 68.5%.

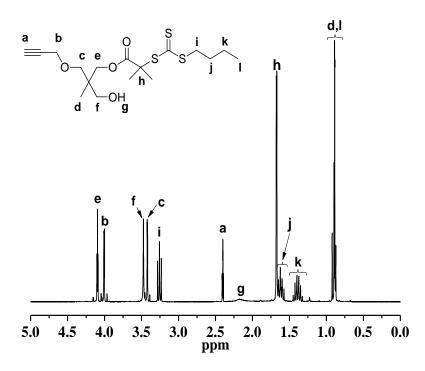
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 300 MHz): δ 3.27 (t, 2H; *J*=7.38 Hz; -CH<sub>2</sub>-C*H*<sub>2</sub>-S-), 1.70 (s, 6H; (*CH*<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-C-), 1.64 (m, 2H, *J*=8.94 Hz; -CH<sub>2</sub>-C*H*<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-), 1.41 (m, 2H; *J*=7.29 Hz; CH<sub>3</sub>-C*H*<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-), 0.90 (t, 3H, *J*=7.26 Hz; *CH*<sub>3</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-),; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 300 MHz): 228.3, 128.9, 55.6, 36.7, 29.8, 25.2, 22.1, 13.6.

### 3 Synthesis of (1-azidoethyl) benzene

$$+ \text{ NaN}_3 \xrightarrow{\text{DMF/H}_2\text{O}} \text{ R.T.} \qquad \text{N}_3$$

(1-bromomethyl)-benzene (3.0 g, 16.2 mmol) and sodium azide (2.1 g, 32.4 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of DMF (9 mL) and water (1 mL) and the resulting solution was stirred overnight. The mixture was added 30 mL brine and extracted with diethyl ether (3 x 60 mL). The organic layer collected were dried over anydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, after removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, colourless oil (1-azidoethyl) benzene was obtained with yield as 84 %.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 400 MHz): δ 7.45 (d, 2H, *J*=7.48, benzene protons), 7.35 (dd, 2H, *J*=8.28 Hz, 7.40 Hz; benzene protons), 7.29 (d, 1H, *J*=7.12 Hz; benzene proton), 4.60 (q, 1H, *J*=6.92 Hz; CH<sub>3</sub>-*CH*-N<sub>3</sub>), 1.53 (d, 3H; *J*=6.92 Hz; methyl protons); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 400 MHz); 140.9, 128.7, 128.1, 126.3, 61.1, 21.6.



**Figure S1:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (300 MHz) of α-hydroxyl-α'-alkyne RAFT agent **3** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.

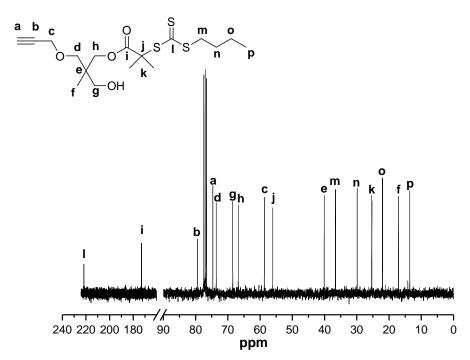
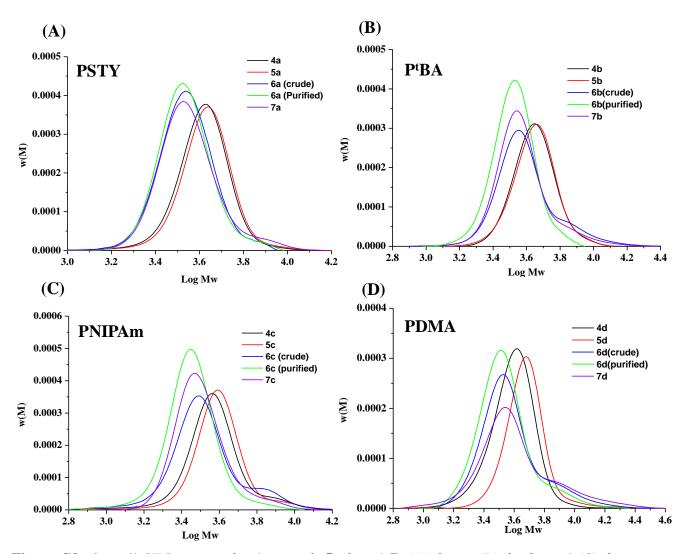
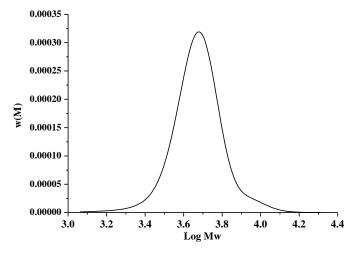


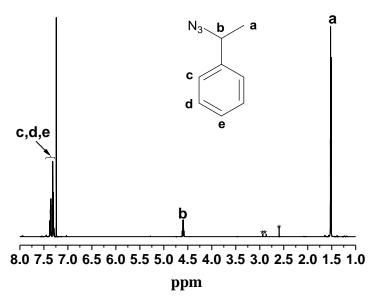
Figure S2: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (300 MHz) of 3 in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.



**Figure S3**: Overall SEC traces of polymers **4**, **5**, **6**, and **7**. (A) for **a**, (B) for **b**, and (C) for **c** were determined from THF SEC, RI detector, PSTY standard; (D) for **d** was determined from DMAc SEC, RI detector, PSTY standard.



**Figure S4:** SEC trace of polymer **11**, determined from THF SEC, RI detector, PSTY standard,  $M_n$ =4480, PDI=1.10.



**Figure S5:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of (1-azidoethyl) benzene in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K, \*\*=DMF. \*=DMSO

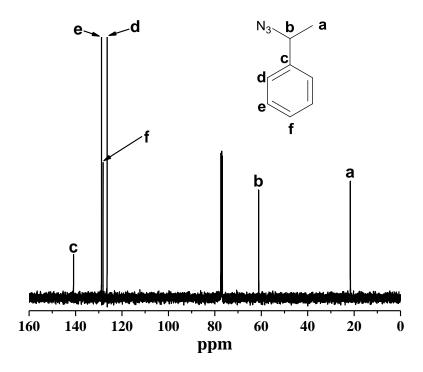
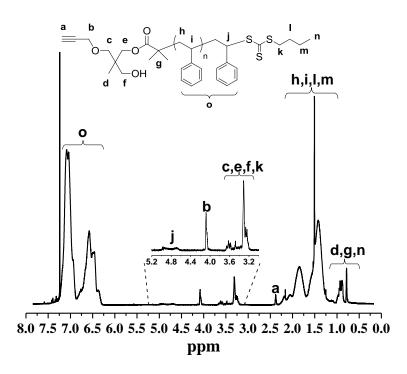


Figure S6: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of (1-azidoethyl) benzene in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.



**Figure S7:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of **4a**, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.

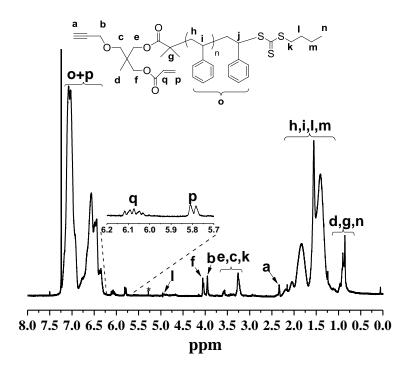
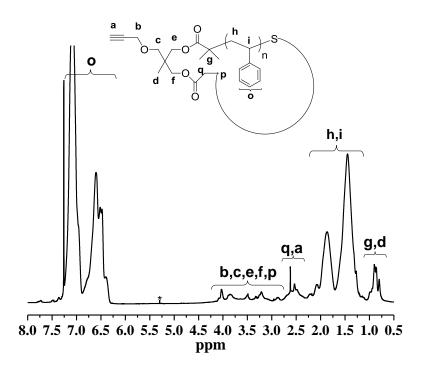


Figure S8: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 5a, recorded in CDCL<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.



**Figure S9**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of **6a**, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K. \*=DCM

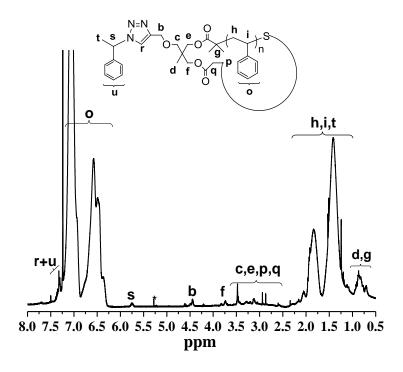


Figure S10: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 7a, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K. \*=DCM

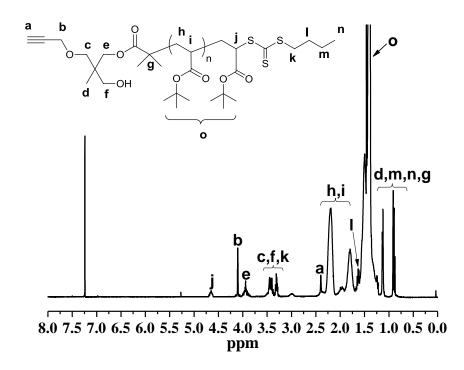


Figure S11:  $^{1}$ H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 4b, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.

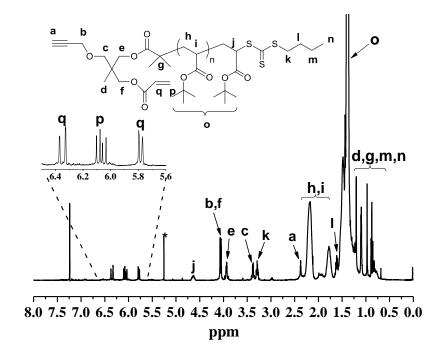
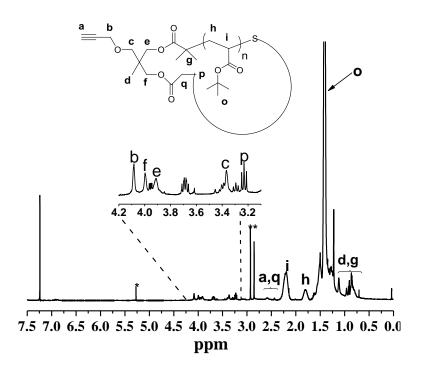


Figure S12: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 5b, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.\*=DCM



**Figure S13:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of **6b**, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.\*=DCM.

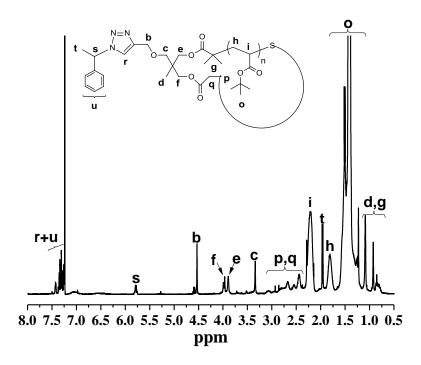
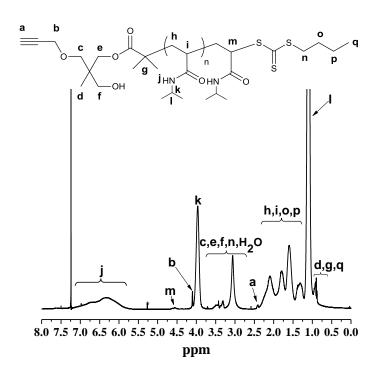
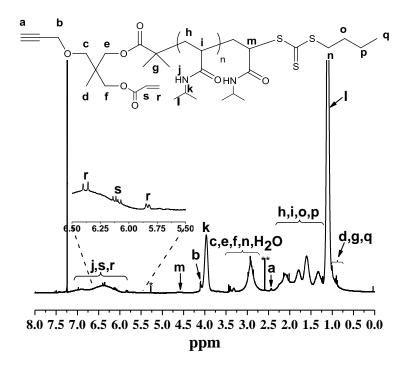


Figure S14: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of **7b**, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.



**Figure S15:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of **4c**, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.



**Figure S16:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of **5c**, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.\*=DCM, \*\*=DMSO.

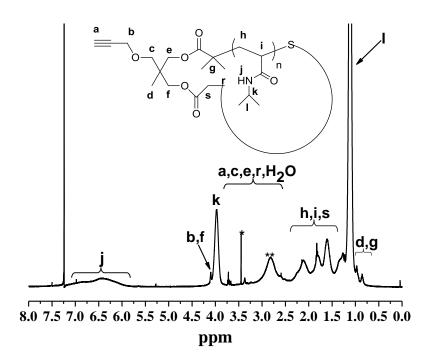


Figure S17: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 6c, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K. \*=Et<sub>2</sub>O.

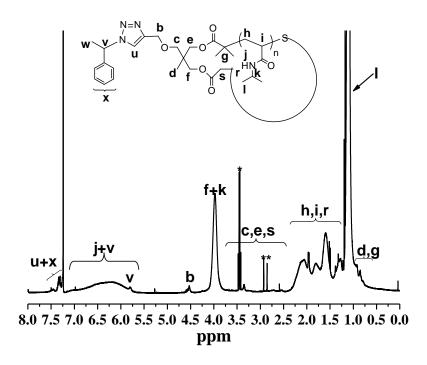


Figure S18: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 7c, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.\*=Et<sub>2</sub>O, \*\*=DMF.

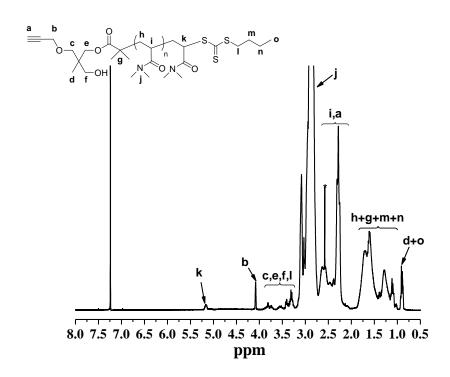


Figure S19: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 4d, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.

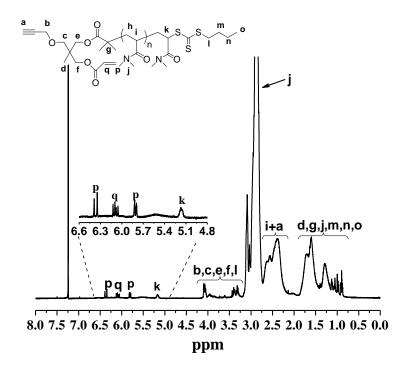


Figure S20: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of **5d**, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.

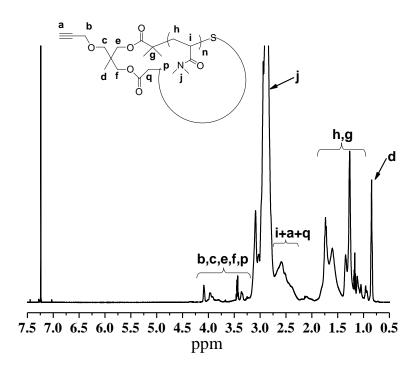
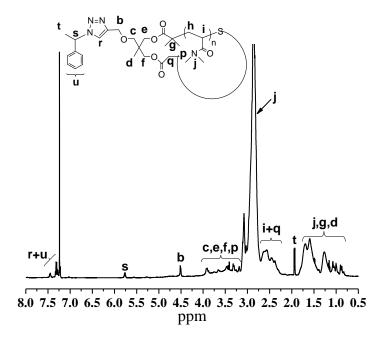


Figure S21: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 6d, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.



**Figure S22:** <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectrum (400 MHz) of **7d**, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.

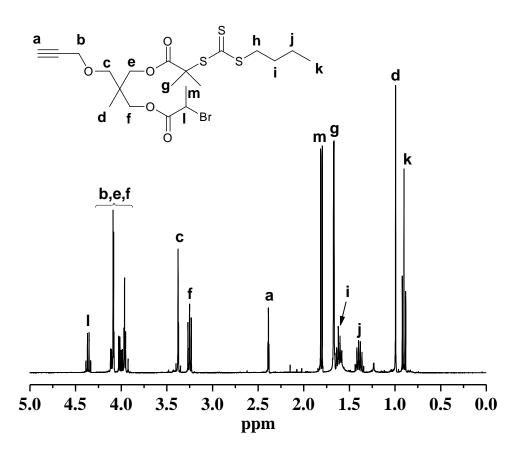


Figure S23: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 10, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.

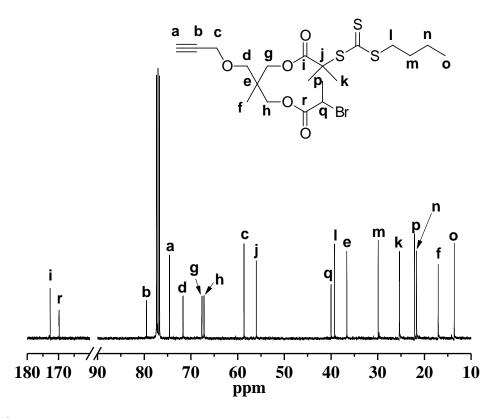


Figure S24:  $^{13}$ C NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 10, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.

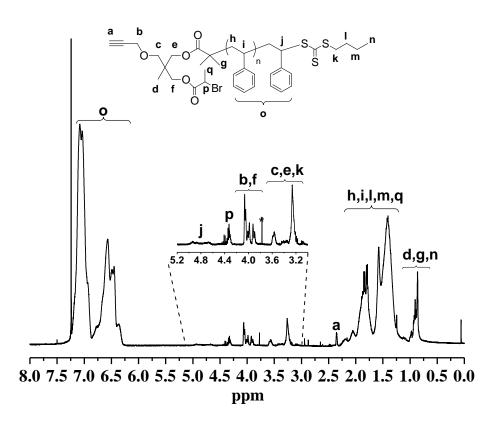


Figure S25: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 8, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.

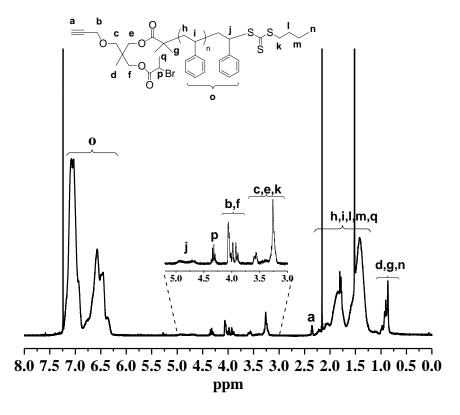
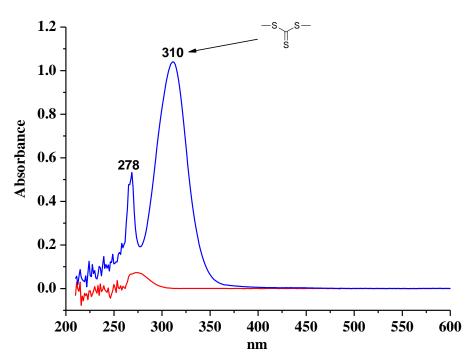
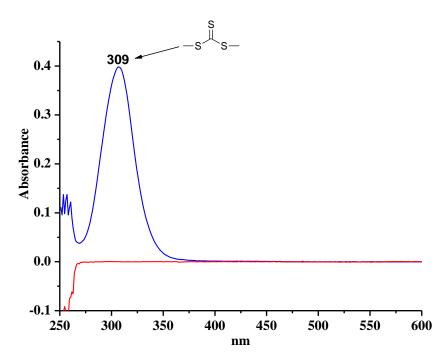


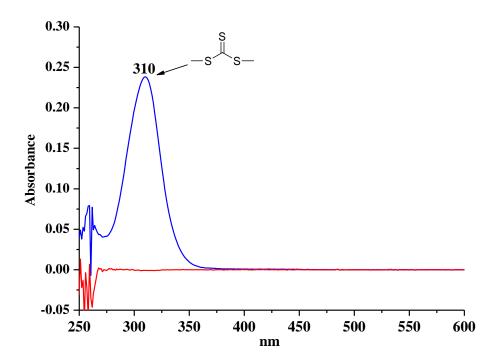
Figure S26: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of 11, recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K.



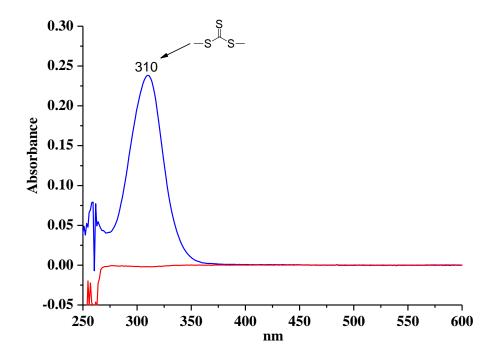
**Figure S27:** UV-vis absorbance of **5a** (blue) and **6a** (red). UV-vis spectrum was recorded by UV-detector of THF GPC with the same concentration of polymers. The peak at 310 nm is attributed to RAFT moiety.



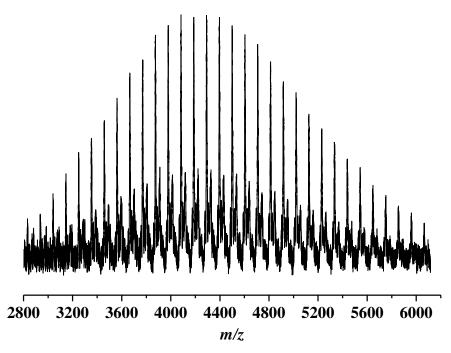
**Figure S28:** UV-vis absorbance of **5b** (blue) and **6b** (red). UV-vis spectrum was recorded by UV-detector of THF GPC with the same concentration of polymers. The peak at 309 nm is attributed to RAFT moiety.



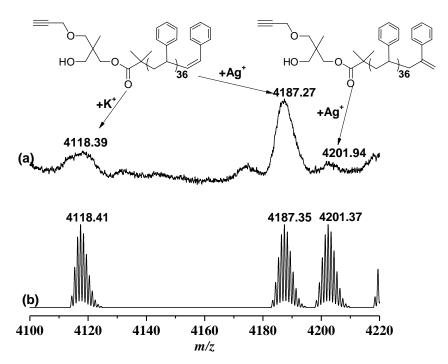
**Figure S29:** UV-Vis absorbance of **5c** (blue) and **6c** (red). UV-vis spectrum was recorded by UV-detector of THF GPC with the same concentration of polymers. The peak at 310 nm is attributed to RAFT moiety.



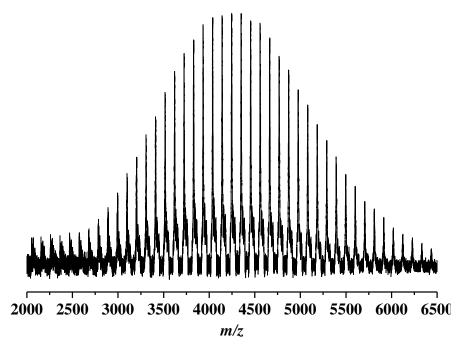
**Figure S30:** UV-vis absorbance of **5d** (blue) and **6d** (red). UV-vis spectrum was recorded by UV-detector of THF GPC with the same concentration of polymers. The peak at 310 nm is attributed to RAFT moiety.



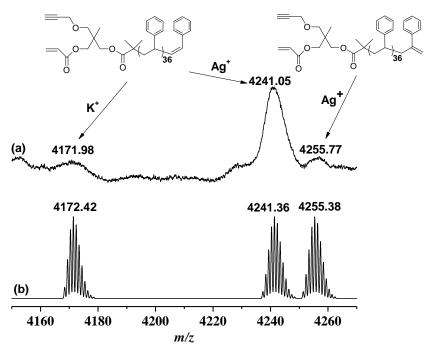
**Figure S31**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **4a** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



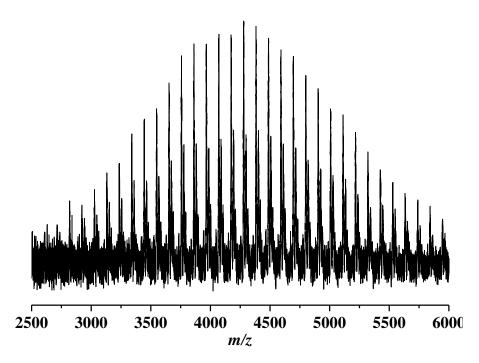
**Figure S32**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **4a** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



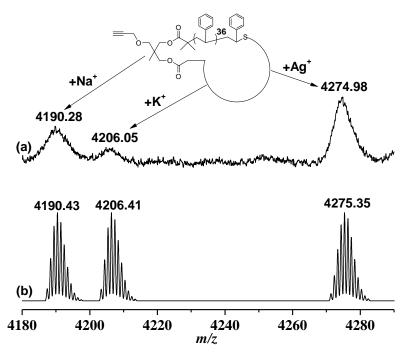
**Figure S33**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **5a** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



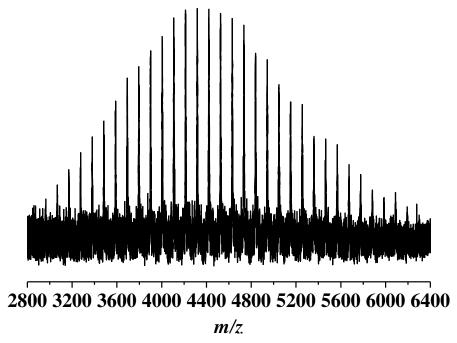
**Figure S34**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **5a** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



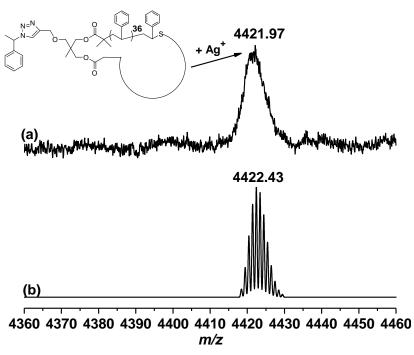
**Figure S35**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **6a** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



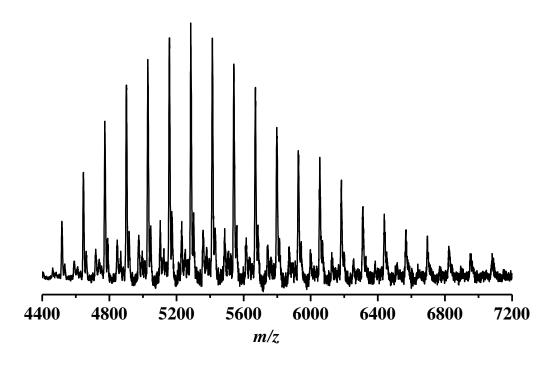
**Figure S36**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **6a** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



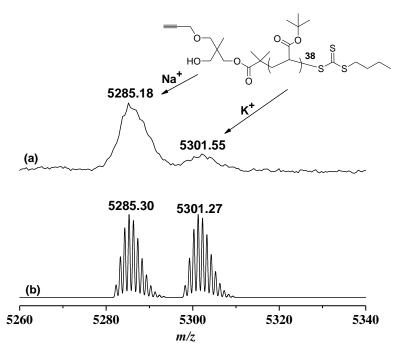
**Figure S37**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **7a** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



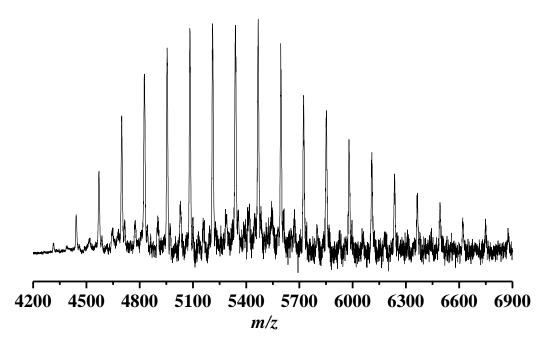
**Figure S38**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **7a** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



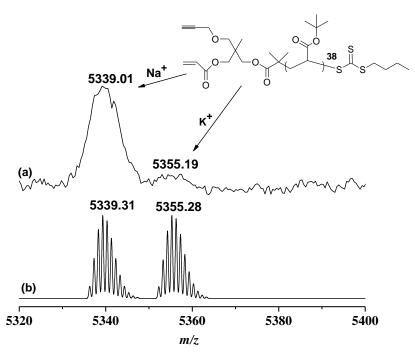
**Figure S39**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **4b** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in linear mode.



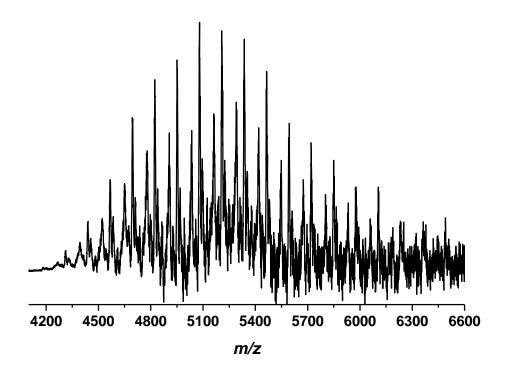
**Figure S40**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **4b** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in linear mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



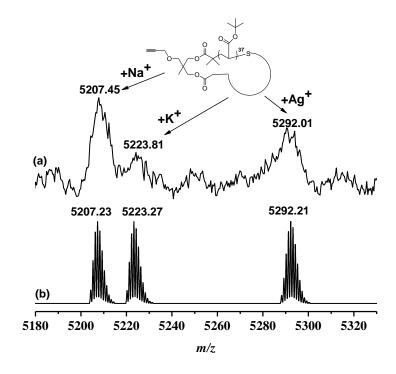
**Figure S41**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **5b** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in linear mode.



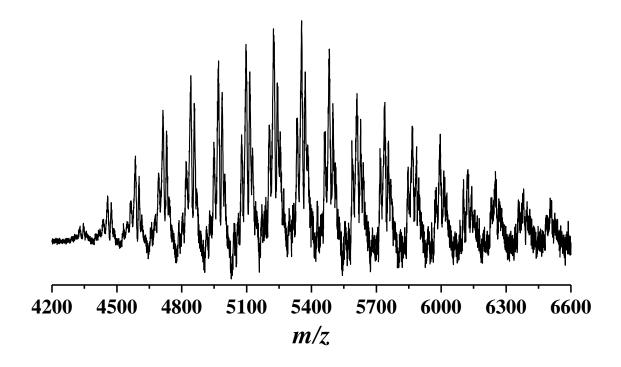
**Figure S42**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **5b** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in linear mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



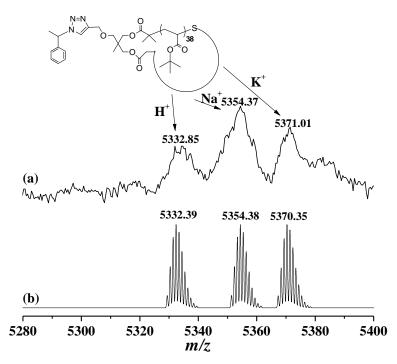
**Figure S43**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **6b** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in linear mode.



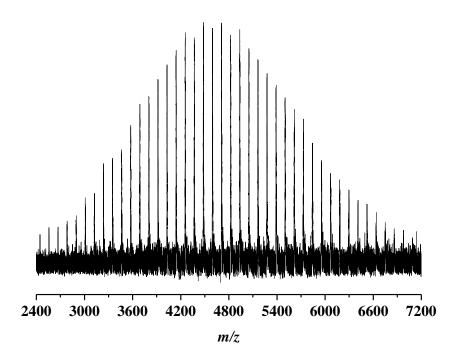
**Figure S44**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **6b** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



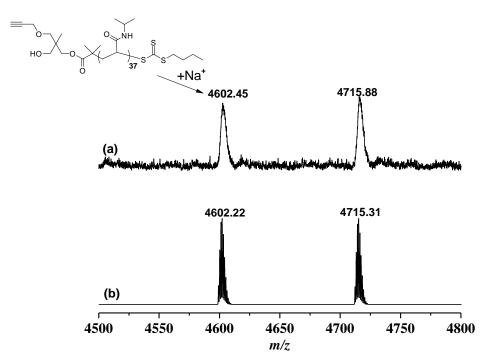
**Figure S45**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of 7b with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in linear mode.



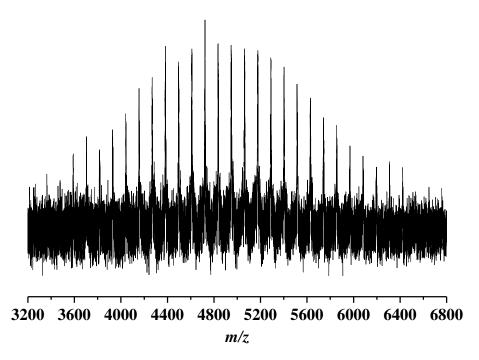
**Figure S46**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **7b** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in linear mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



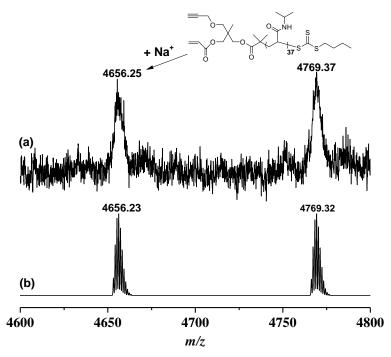
**Figure S47**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **4c** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



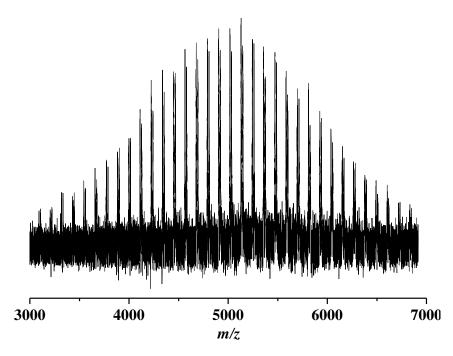
**Figure S48**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **4c** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



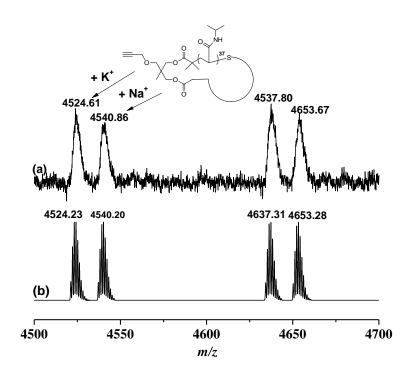
**Figure S49**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **5c** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



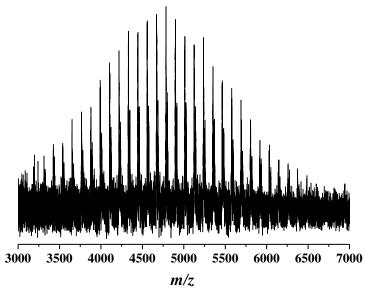
**Figure S50**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **5c** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



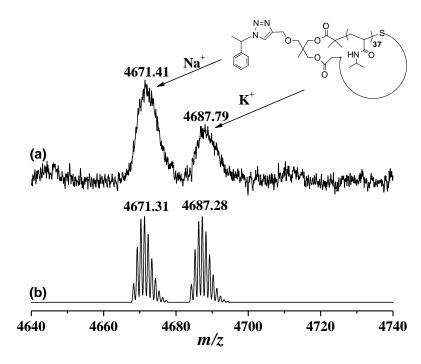
**Figure S51**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **6c** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



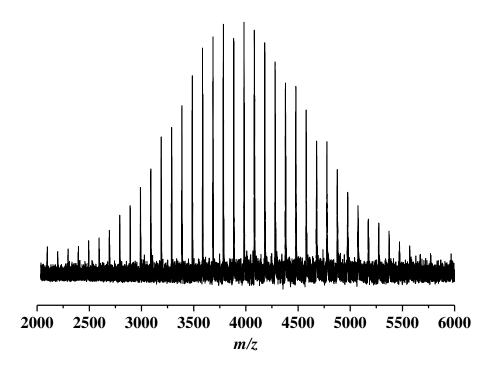
**Figure S52**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **6c** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



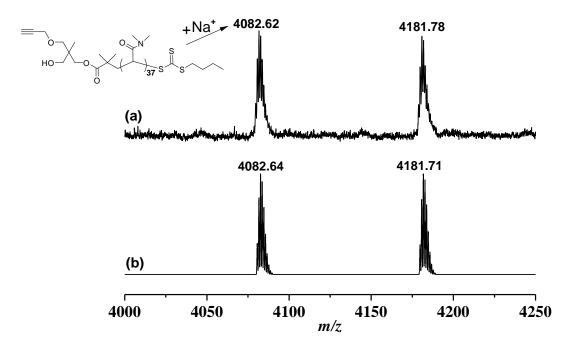
**Figure S53**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **7c** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



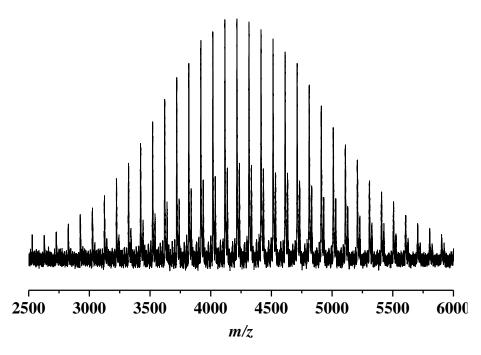
**Figure S54**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of 7c with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



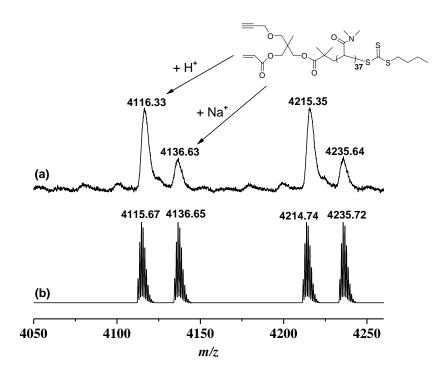
**Figure S55**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of 4d with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



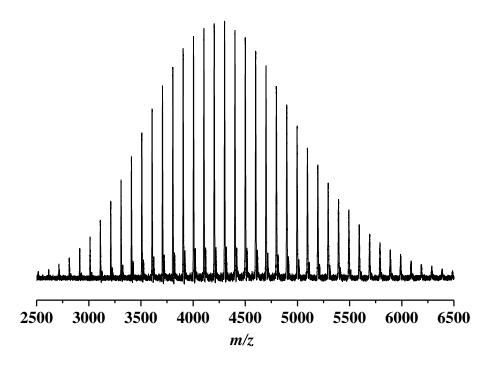
**Figure S56**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **4d** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



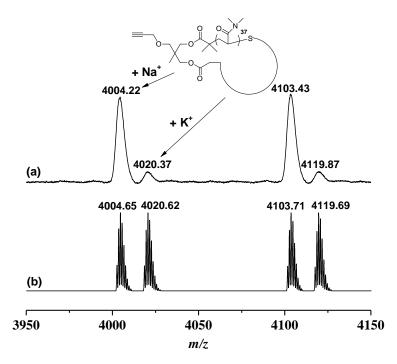
**Figure S57**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **5d** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



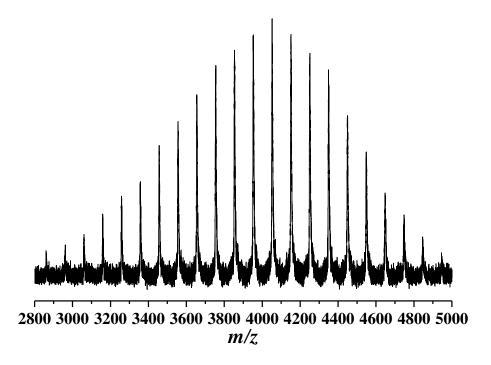
**Figure S58**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **5d** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



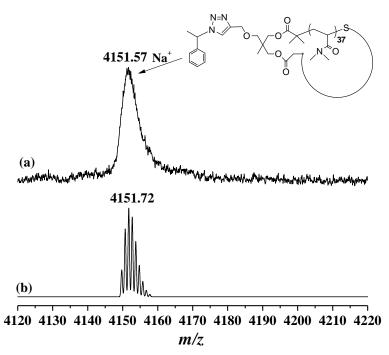
**Figure S59**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **6d** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



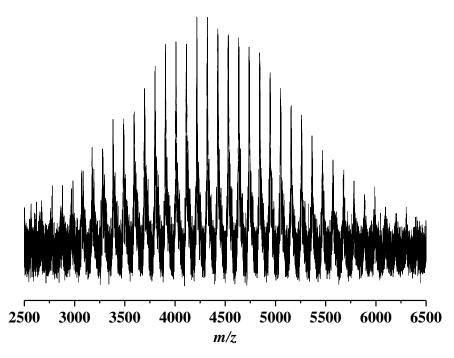
**Figure S60**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **6d** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



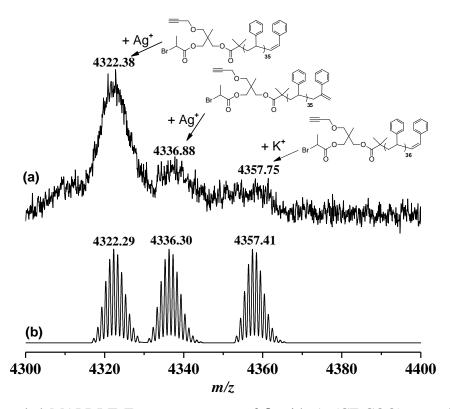
**Figure S61**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **7d** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



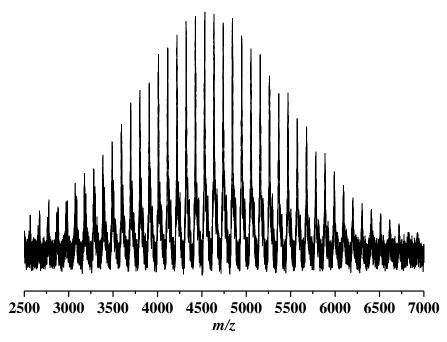
**Figure S62**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **7d** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



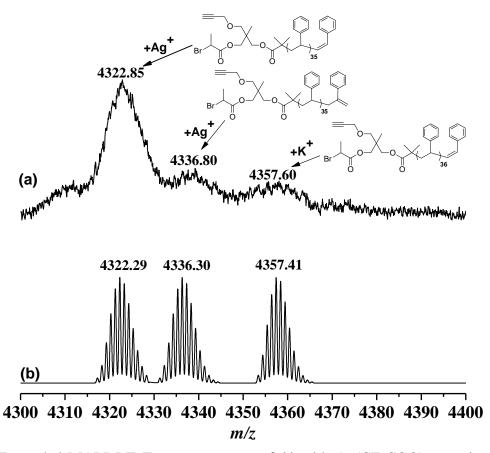
**Figure S63**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **8** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



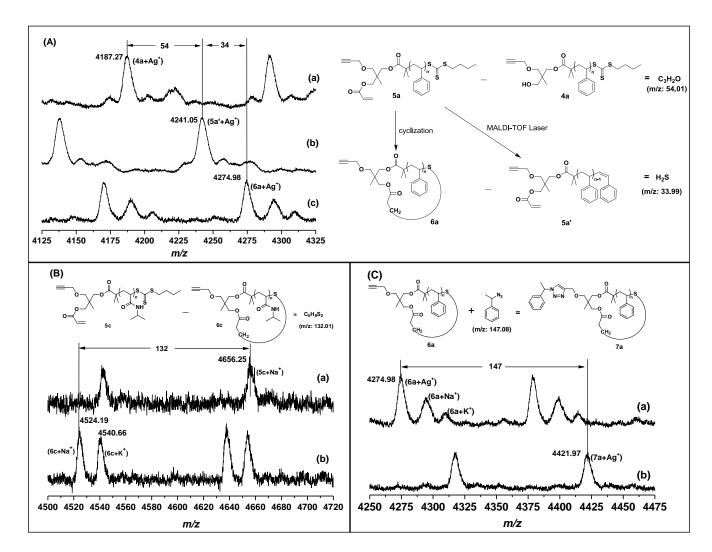
**Figure S64**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **8** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



**Figure S65**: Full MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **11** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode.



**Figure S66**: Expanded MALDI-ToF mass spectrum of **11** with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent from a DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (a) experimental isotopic resolution of peaks (b) theoretical isotopic pattern of products.



**Figure S67:** Expanded MALDI-TOF mass spectra comparison, for **4a**, **5a**, **6a** and **7a**, the spectra were acquired with Ag(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent, for **5c** and **6c** with Na(CF<sub>3</sub>COO) as cationization agent, and DCTB matrix in reflectron mode. (A) PSTY **4a** (a), PSTY **5a'** (b), and PSTY **6a** (c); (B) PNIPAm **5c** (a) and PNIPAm **6c** (b); and (C) PSTY **6a** (a) and PSTY **7a** (b). The schemes in the figure illustrated the formula change after the end-group modification and cyclization.

### **Reference:**

[1] Jia, Z. F.; Lonsdale, D. E.; Kulis, J.; Monteiro, M. J. Acs Macro Lett 2012, 1, 780-783.

[2] Hossain, M. D.; Valade, D.; Jia, Z. F.; Monteiro, M. J. Polymer Chemistry 2012, 3, 2986-2995.