

Thiophene End-Functionalized Oligo-(D,L)-Lactide as a New Electroactive Macromonomer for the “Hairy-Rod” Type Conjugated Polymers Synthesis

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Supporting Information

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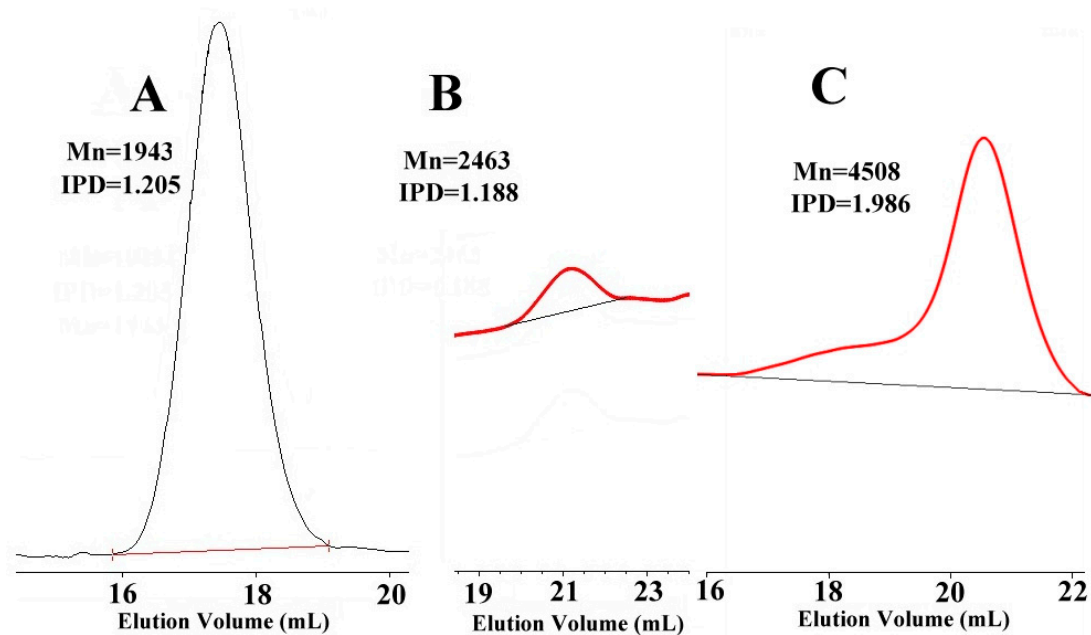


Figure S1. The GPC traces for **Th-PDLLA** macromonomer in THF (**A**) or chloroform (**B**) and GPC trace of **OTh-PDLLA** in chloroform

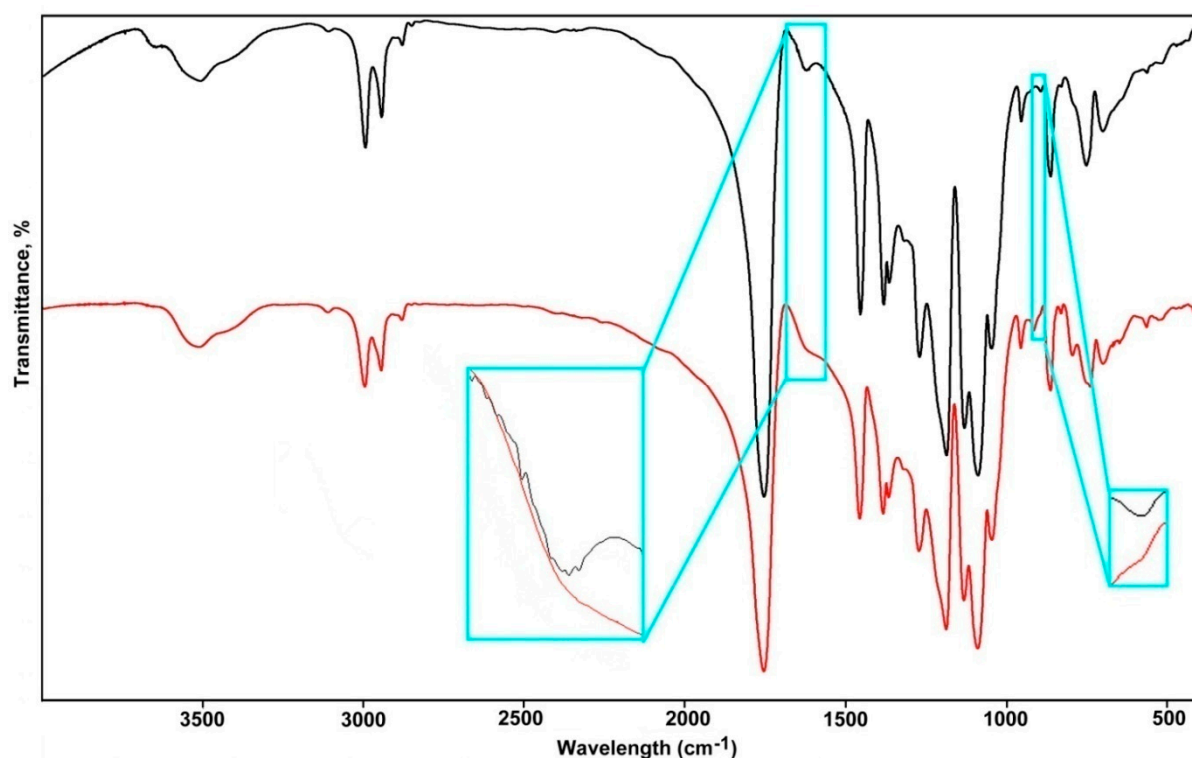


Figure S2. The IR spectra of **Th-PDLLA** macromonomer (red line) and of PDLLA-substituted oligothiophene, (**OTh-PDLLA**), obtained by photo-induced oxidative polymerization of **Th-PDLLA** (black line)

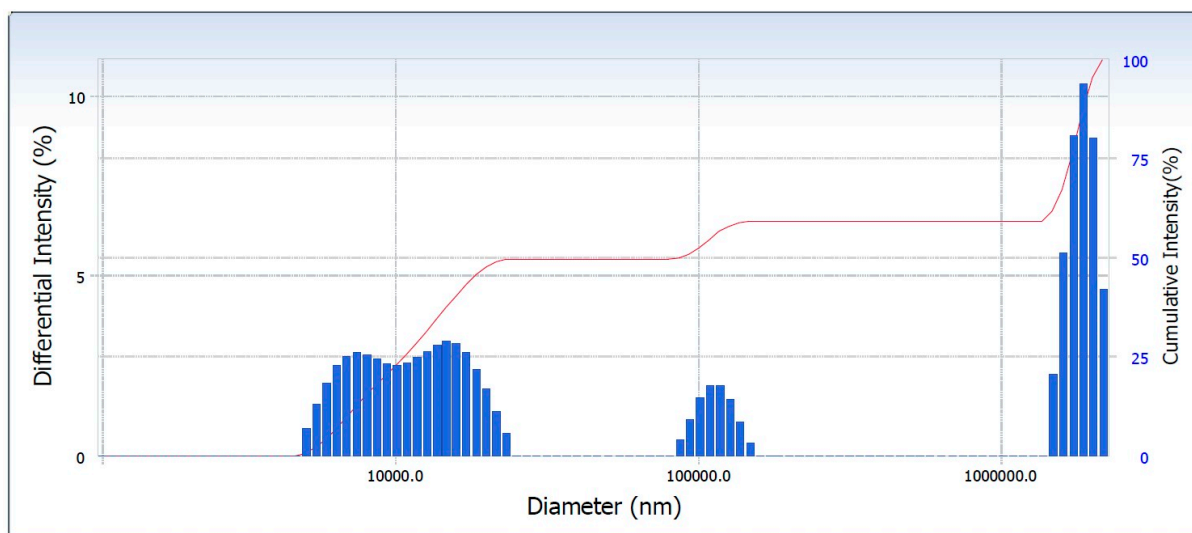


Figure S3. DLS trace of intensity-weighted distribution of apparent hydrodynamic diameter (D_h) for Th-PDLLA in Chl at concentration of 1mg/mL

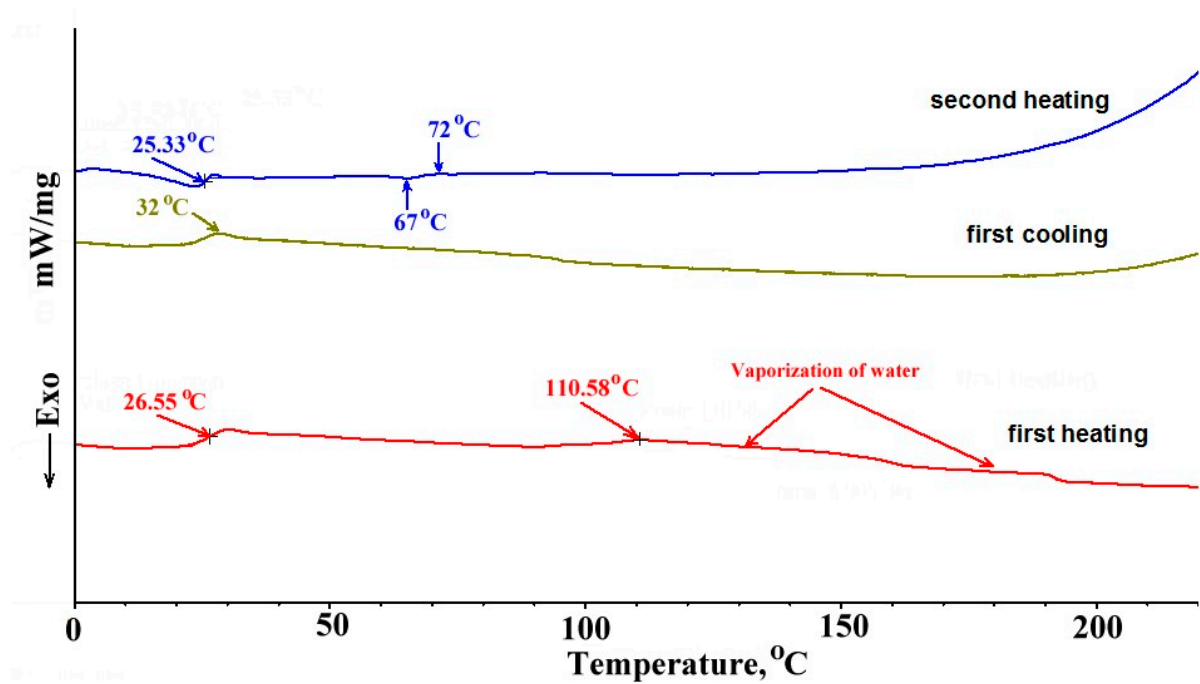


Figure S4. DSC traces of Th-PDLLA macromonomer



Figure S5. Photographs of (A)- **Th-PDLLA** macromonomer freshly dried powder and of the resulted homopolymer **OTh-PDLLA** (B)

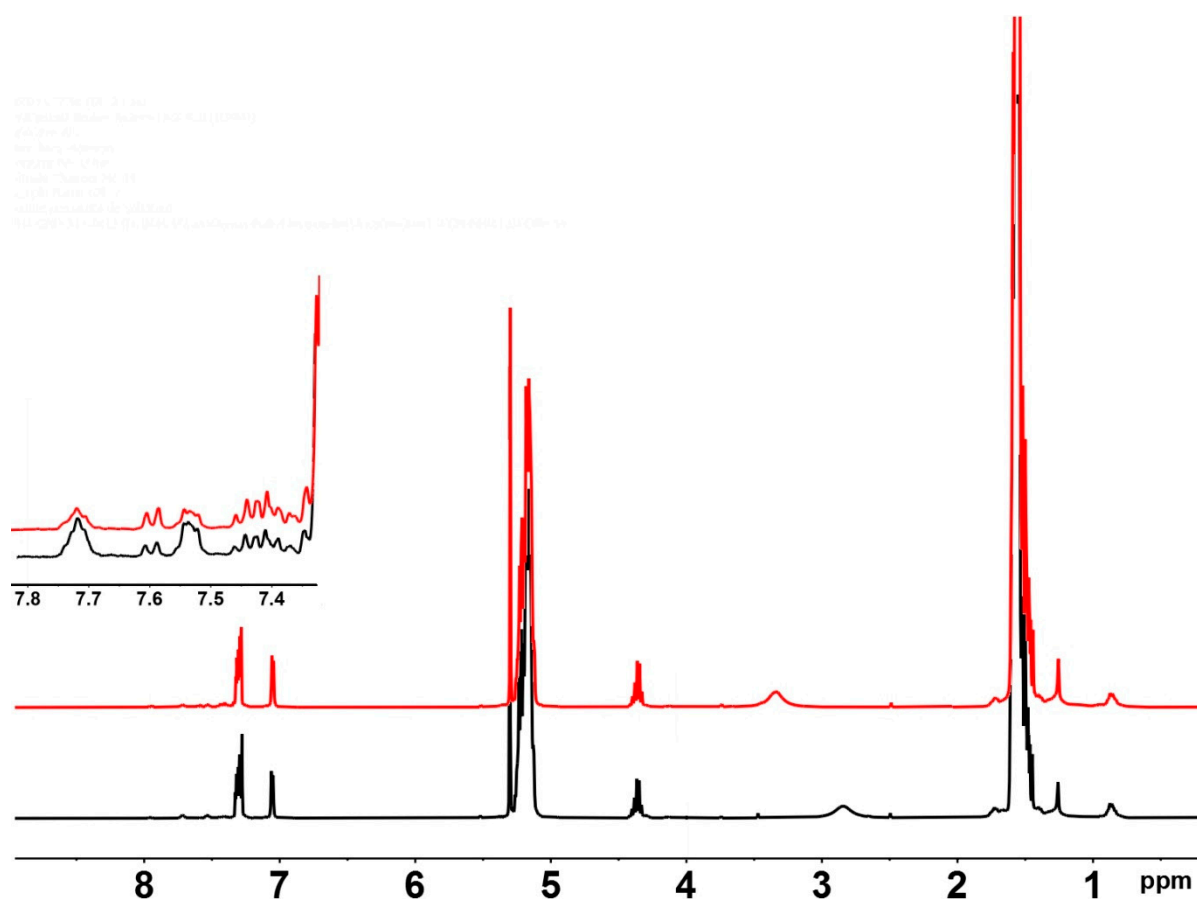
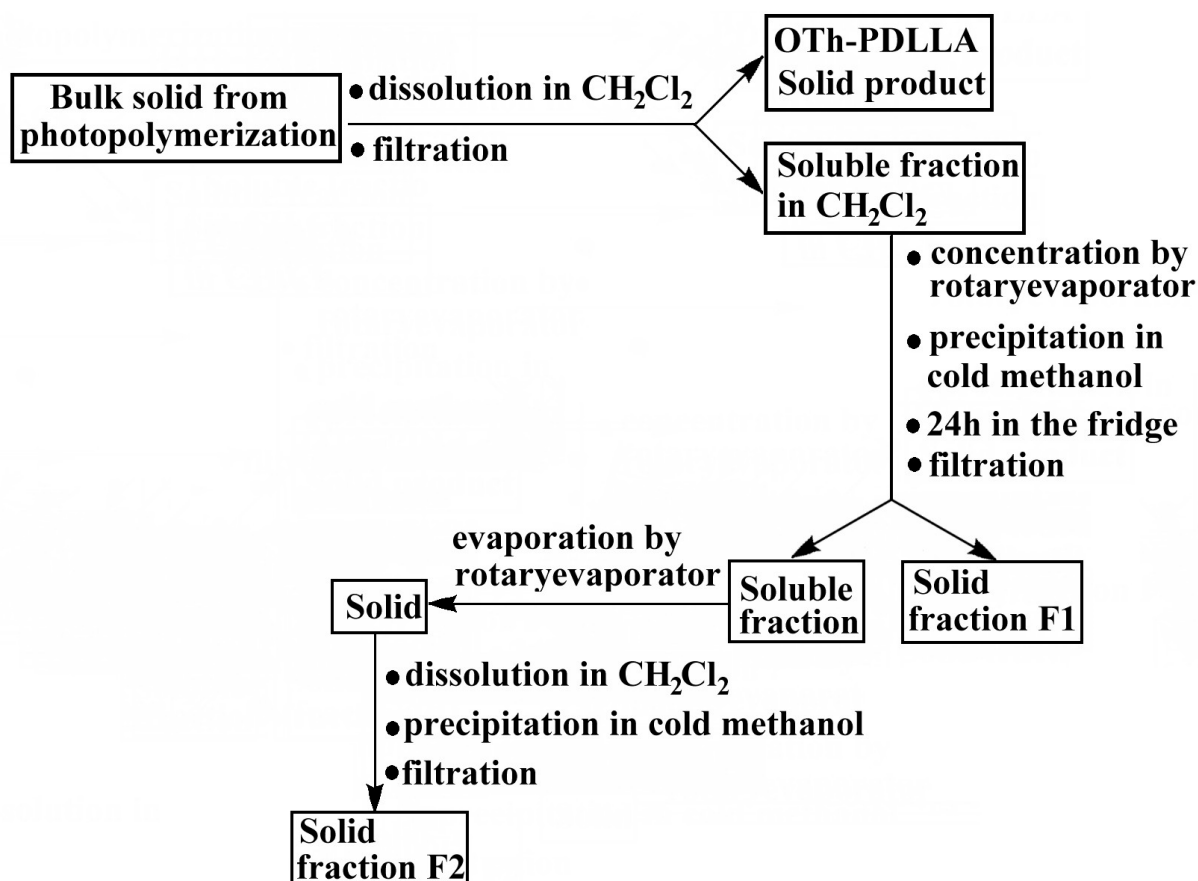


Figure S6. ^1H -NMR spectra in CDCl_3 of the fractions resulting during the purification of the **Th-PDLLA**'s photopolymerization reaction product: **F1** (black line) and **F2** (red line) (see Scheme S1 for details identification)



Scheme S1. Purification and separation steps of the reaction product obtained by Th-PDLLA's photopolymerization

Supplementary Table

Table S1. Several physical properties of the used solvents for investigations and those of the Th-PDLLA macromonomer's constitutive parts*

Compound (e) ^{&}	Hansen Solubility parameters (MPa ^{1/2})				Solvent-Polymer interaction parameters (χ)			
	δ_d	δ_p	δ_H	δ_t	Chl	THF	ACN	CH ₂ Cl ₂
PDLLA	18.6 ¹	9.9 ¹	6 ¹	22 ² /20.5 ³	0.32 ⁶	-	0.43 ⁶	0.99 ⁶
Thiophene;(2.86)	18.9 ³	2.4 ³	7.8 ³	20 ⁴	miscible [#]	miscible [#]	miscible [#]	
Chl;(4.81)	17.8 ⁵	3.1 ⁵	5.7 ⁵	19 ⁵	-	-	-	
THF;(7.52)	16.8 ⁵	5.7 ⁵	8 ⁵	19.4 ⁵	-	-	-	
ACN;(36.6)	15.3 ⁵	18 ⁵	6.1 ⁵	24.3 ⁵	-	-	-	
CH₂Cl₂;(8.35)	18.2 ⁵	6.3 ⁵	6.1 ⁵	19.8 ⁵				

*- the superscript numbers in the table correspond to the similar numbers in the References section; #- experimentally noticed; &- dielectric constant

Supplementary comment regarding the possible behavior of the macromonomer **Th-PDLLA** in THF

Reported as being partially soluble in THF [8], however PDLLA samples of different molecular weight were evaluated by GPC using THF as eluent [9,10].

What it is really relevant, it is that a recent study [11] demonstrated that of PDLLA in THF behaves as a typical flexible polymer but it is essentially 1.6–2.1 times stiffer than the representative vinyl polymers, (polystyrene or poly(methyl methacrylate)), most likely due to the planar feature of the ester linkage, which partially constrains the free rotation of the main chain. If the traces of the **Th-PDLLA** absorbance in Figure 2A (main manuscript) are considered, the noticed differences, in particular when comparing that in THF with the one obtained in CHl, could be expectable, as the oligolactide chains changed their flexibility, being stiffer in the former solvent.

Moreover, our experimental findings intuitively suggest the formation of self-assembled supramolecular structures also in THF. The presence of eventually dispersed particles having the size comparable with the incident wavelength could sit at the base of the light scattering phenomenon [12]; which could be supported by the high increase of the apparent absorbance intensity around 300 nm (Figure 2A) [12].

However, to clarify the different and particular behaviour of **Th-PDLLA** in THF and the less usual shape of the UV-vis trace in this solvent, a more deep and particularly devoted study in the future is needed, all the more so as the photo-physical properties of PDLLA in the presence of additives seems not to be a trivial issue [13].

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