**Electronic Supporting Information (ESI)** 

## CS<sub>2</sub>-Based one-pot multicomponent tandem polymerization toward functional polybenzothiazoles

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Solution concentration:  $10 \ \mu\text{M}$ ; excitation wavelength: 350 nm. S16

Scheme S1 Synthetic route to model compound 3.



Scheme S2 The three-component polymerization of CS<sub>2</sub>, 1a and 2.



Formula S1 The calculation formula of polymer yields.

$$yield = \frac{m_a}{m_t} \times 100\% = \frac{m_a}{n \times (2M_{CS_2} + M_1 - 2M_H + 2M_K + M_2) - (2n-1)M_{KI} - (2n-1)M_{H_2S})} \times 100\%^a$$

<sup>*a*</sup>Where  $m_a$  is the actual mass of the polymer,  $m_t$  is theoretical mass of the polymer, n is the amount of substance of monomers, and  $M_{CS_2}$ ,  $M_1$ ,  $M_H$ ,  $M_K$ ,  $M_2$ ,  $M_{KI}$ ,  $M_{H_2S}$  are the molar mass of CS<sub>2</sub>, monomer **1**, H atom, K atom, monomer **2**, KI and H<sub>2</sub>S.

Entry	Solvent	Yield (%)	$M_{\rm n}{}^b$	$M_{ m w}{}^b$	$D^b$
$1^c$	Toluene	trace	—	—	—
$2^d$	Chloroform		No po	lymer	
$3^d$	Tetrahydrofuran	23	4000	4800	1.2
4 <sup><i>c</i></sup>	1, 4-Dioxane	trace	_	_	_
5	DMSO	77	10 600	18 500	1.7
6	DMF	84	8700	13 600	1.6
7	DMAc	82	7000	10 300	1.5

**Table S1** Effect of solvent on the polymerization of  $CS_2$ , 1a and 2<sup>*a*</sup>.

<sup>*a*</sup> The first step of this MCTP was carried out at 30 °C for 1 h, and the second step was carried out at 100 °C for 16 h. [**1a**] = 0.15 M, [**1a**]/[**2**]/[CS<sub>2</sub>]/[CuCl<sub>2</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O] /[K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>] = 1:1:2.4:3:2. <sup>*b*</sup> Determined by gel-permeation chromatography (GPC) using *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) containing 0.05 M LiBr as an eluent on the basis of a linear polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) calibration. D = polydispersity index ( $M_w/M_n$ ,  $M_w$  = weight-average molecular weight,  $M_n$  = number-average molecular weight). <sup>*c*</sup> 90 °C for 4 h. <sup>*d*</sup> 50 °C for 10 h.

Entry	CuCl <sub>2</sub> •2H <sub>2</sub> O (equiv.)	Yield (%)	$M_{\rm n}{}^b$	$M_{ m w}{}^b$	$D^b$
1	3	78	10 500	17 800	1.7
2	2	90	10 100	16 600	1.6
3	1	46	5300	6300	1.2

Table S2 Effect of CuCl<sub>2</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O loading on the polymerization of CS<sub>2</sub>, 1a and  $2^a$ .

<sup>*a*</sup> The first step of this MCTP was carried out in DMSO at 30 °C for 1 h, and the second step was carried out in DMSO at 100 °C for 16 h. [**1a**] = 0.15 M, [**1a**]/[**2**]/[CS<sub>2</sub>]/[K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>] = 1:1:2.4:2. <sup>*b*</sup> Determined by GPC using DMF containing 0.05 M LiBr as an eluent on the basis of a linear PMMA calibration.  $D = M_w/M_n$ .

Entry	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (equiv.)	Yield (%)	$M_{ m n}{}^b$	$M_{ m w}{}^b$	$D^b$
 1	2	89	7500	16 500	2.2
2	1	88	7700	14 600	1.9
3	0.5	87	8000	13 300	1.7
4	0	81	6400	11 300	1.8

**Table S3** Effect of  $K_2CO_3$  loading on the polymerization of  $CS_2$ , **1a** and **2**<sup>*a*</sup>.

<sup>*a*</sup> The first step of this MCTP was carried out in DMSO at 30 °C for 1 h, and the second step was carried out in DMSO at 100 °C for 16 h. [**1a**] = 0.15 M, [**1a**]/[**2**]/[CS<sub>2</sub>]/[CuCl<sub>2</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O] = 1:1:2.4:2. <sup>*b*</sup> Determined by GPC using DMF containing 0.05 M LiBr as an eluent on the basis of a linear PMMA calibration.  $D = M_w/M_n$ .

**Table S4** Effect of monomer concentration on the polymerization of  $CS_2$ , **1a** and **2**<sup>*a*</sup>.

Entry	[1a] (mol/L)	Yield (%)	$M_{ m n}{}^b$	$M_{ m w}{}^b$	$D^b$
1	0.10	88	7600	12 800	1.7
2	0.15	89	8300	14 800	1.8
3 <sup>c</sup>	0.30	87	11 000	23 200	2.1
4 <sup>c</sup>	0.40	Gel	_	_	_

<sup>*a*</sup> The first step of this MCTP was carried out in DMSO at 30 °C for 1 h, and the second step was carried out in DMSO at 100 °C for 16 h. [**1a**]/[**2**]/[CS<sub>2</sub>]/[CuCl<sub>2</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O]/[K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>] = 1:1:2.4:2:1. <sup>*b*</sup> Determined by GPC using DMF containing 0.05 M LiBr as an eluent on the basis of a linear PMMA calibration.  $D = M_w/M_n$ . <sup>*c*</sup> For 10 h.

Entry	Temperature (°C)	Yield (%)	$M_{\rm n}{}^b$	$M_{ m w}{}^b$	$D^b$
1	120	93	8900	33 600	3.8
2	100	88	7200	21 600	3.0
3	80	86	7000	10 800	1.5

**Table S5** Effect of temperature on the polymerization of  $CS_2$ , 1a and 2<sup>*a*</sup>.

<sup>*a*</sup> The first step of this MCTP was carried out in DMSO at 30 °C for 1 h, and the second step was carried out in DMSO for 10 h. [**1a**] = 0.3 M, [**1a**]/[**2**]/[CS<sub>2</sub>]/[CuCl<sub>2</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O]/[K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>] = 1:1:2.4:2:1. <sup>*b*</sup> Determined by GPC using DMF containing 0.05 M LiBr as an eluent on the basis of a linear PMMA calibration.  $D = M_w/M_n$ .

Entry	CS <sub>2</sub> (equiv.)	Yield (%)	$M_{ m n}{}^b$	$M_{ m w}{}^b$	$D^b$
1	2.2	87	5500	9500	1.7
2	2.4	92	12 900	32 000	2.5
3	2.6	85	5100	7100	1.4

**Table S6** Effect of  $CS_2$  loading on the polymerization of  $CS_2$ , **1a** and **2**<sup>*a*</sup>.

<sup>*a*</sup> The first step of this MCTP was carried out in DMSO at 30 °C for 1 h, and the second step was carried out in DMSO at 120 °C for 10 h. [**1a**] = 0.3 M, [**1a**]/[**2**]/[CuCl<sub>2</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O]/[K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>] = 1:1:2:1. <sup>*b*</sup> Determined by GPC using DMF containing 0.05 M LiBr as an eluent on the basis of a linear PMMA calibration.  $D = M_w/M_n$ .

Entry	Time (h)	Yield (%)	$M_{ m n}{}^b$	$M_{ m w}{}^b$	$D^b$
1	2	35	4500	5400	1.2
2	4	58	6100	8300	1.4
3	6	87	9200	17 600	1.9
4	8	94	14 800	43 500	2.9
5	10	91	11 800	30 900	2.6

**Table S7** Time course of the polymerization of  $CS_2$ , **1a** and **2**<sup>*a*</sup>.

<sup>*a*</sup> The first step of this MCTP was carried out in DMSO at 30 °C for 1 h, and the second step was carried out in DMSO at 120 °C. **[1a]** = 0.3 M, **[1a]**/**[2]**/**[**CS<sub>2</sub>]/**[**CuCl<sub>2</sub>•2H<sub>2</sub>O]/**[**K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>**]** = 1:1:2.4:2:1. <sup>*b*</sup> Determined by GPC using DMF containing 0.05 M LiBr as an eluent on the basis of a linear PMMA calibration.  $D = M_w/M_n$ .



Fig. S1 The GPC curves of P1a/2/CS<sub>2</sub>-P1f/2/CS<sub>2</sub>.



Fig. S2 FT-IR spectra of monomers 1a (A) and 2 (B), and P1a/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C).



Fig. S3 FT-IR spectra of monomers 1b (A) and 2 (B), and P1b/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C).



Fig. S4 FT-IR spectra of monomers 1c (A) and 2 (B), and P1c/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C).



Fig. S5 FT-IR spectra of monomers 1e(A) and 2(B), and  $P1e/2/CS_2(C)$ .



Fig. S6 FT-IR spectra of monomers 1f(A) and 2(B), and  $P1f/2/CS_2(C)$ .



Fig. S7 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of monomers 1a (A) and 2 (B), and P1a/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



Fig. S8 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of monomers 1a (A) and 2 (B), and P1a/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



Fig. S9 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of monomers 1b (A) and 2 (B), and P1b/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



**Fig. S10** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of monomers **1b** (A) and **2** (B), and P**1b**/**2**/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



Fig. S11 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of monomers 1c (A) and 2 (B), and P1c/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



Fig. S12 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of monomers 1c (A) and 2 (B), and P1c/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



Fig. S13 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of monomers 1e (A) and 2 (B), and P1e/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



**Fig. S14** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of monomers **1e** (A) and **2** (B), and P**1e**/**2**/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



Fig. S15 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of monomers 1f (A) and 2 (B), and P1f/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



Fig. S16 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of monomers 1f (A) and 2 (B), and P1f/2/CS<sub>2</sub> (C) in DMSO- $d_6$ . The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



Fig. S17 S 2p XPS of 3 and P1d/2/CS<sub>2</sub>.



Fig. S18 DSC curves of the PBTs recorded under nitrogen.



**Fig. S19** PL spectra of P1b/2/CS<sub>2</sub> in DMSO/water mixtures with different water fractions ( $f_w$ ). Solution concentration: 10  $\mu$ M; excitation wavelength: 350 nm.