

Supplemental informations

For

New Scandium Based Catalyst for the Green Synthesis of Polyols-Polyesters Starting from Waste Raw Materials

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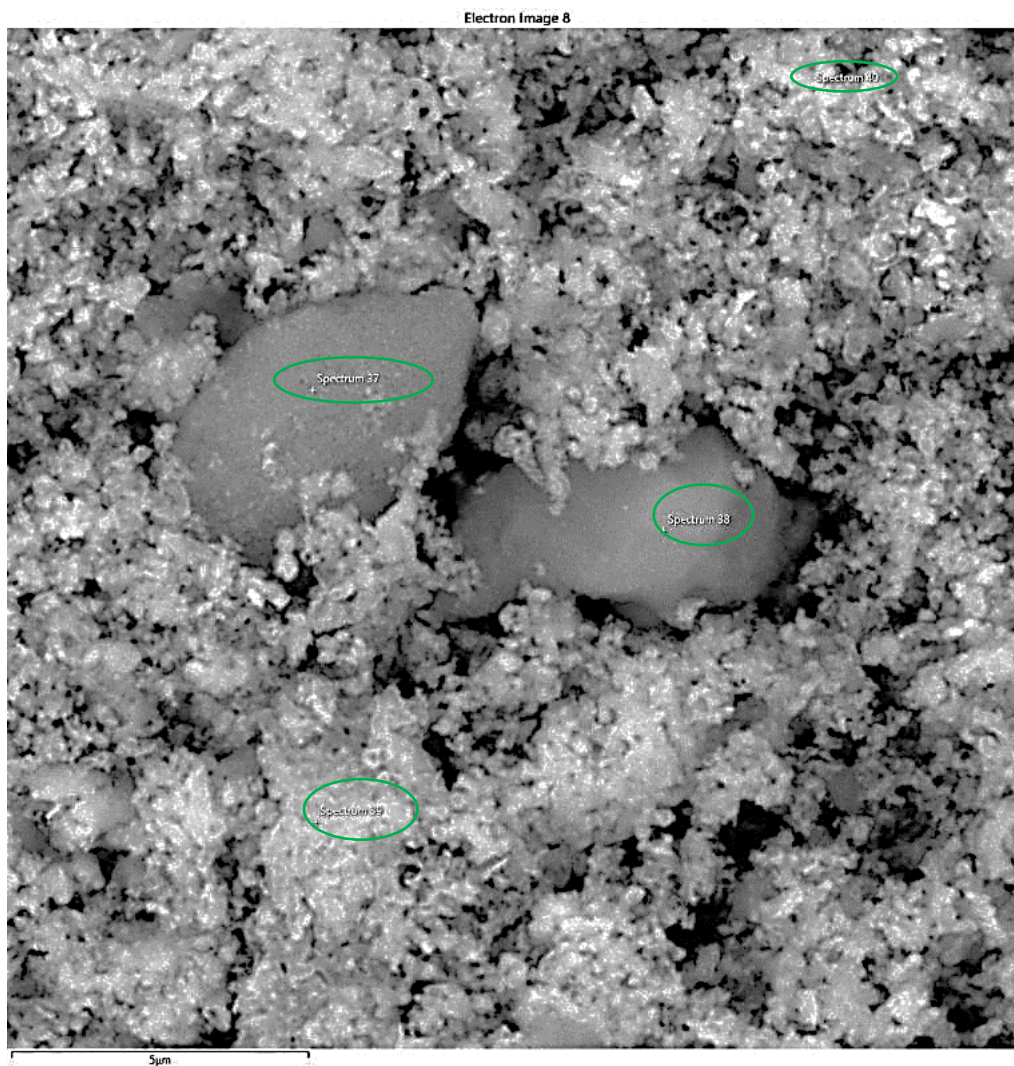
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(21 pages including the cover)

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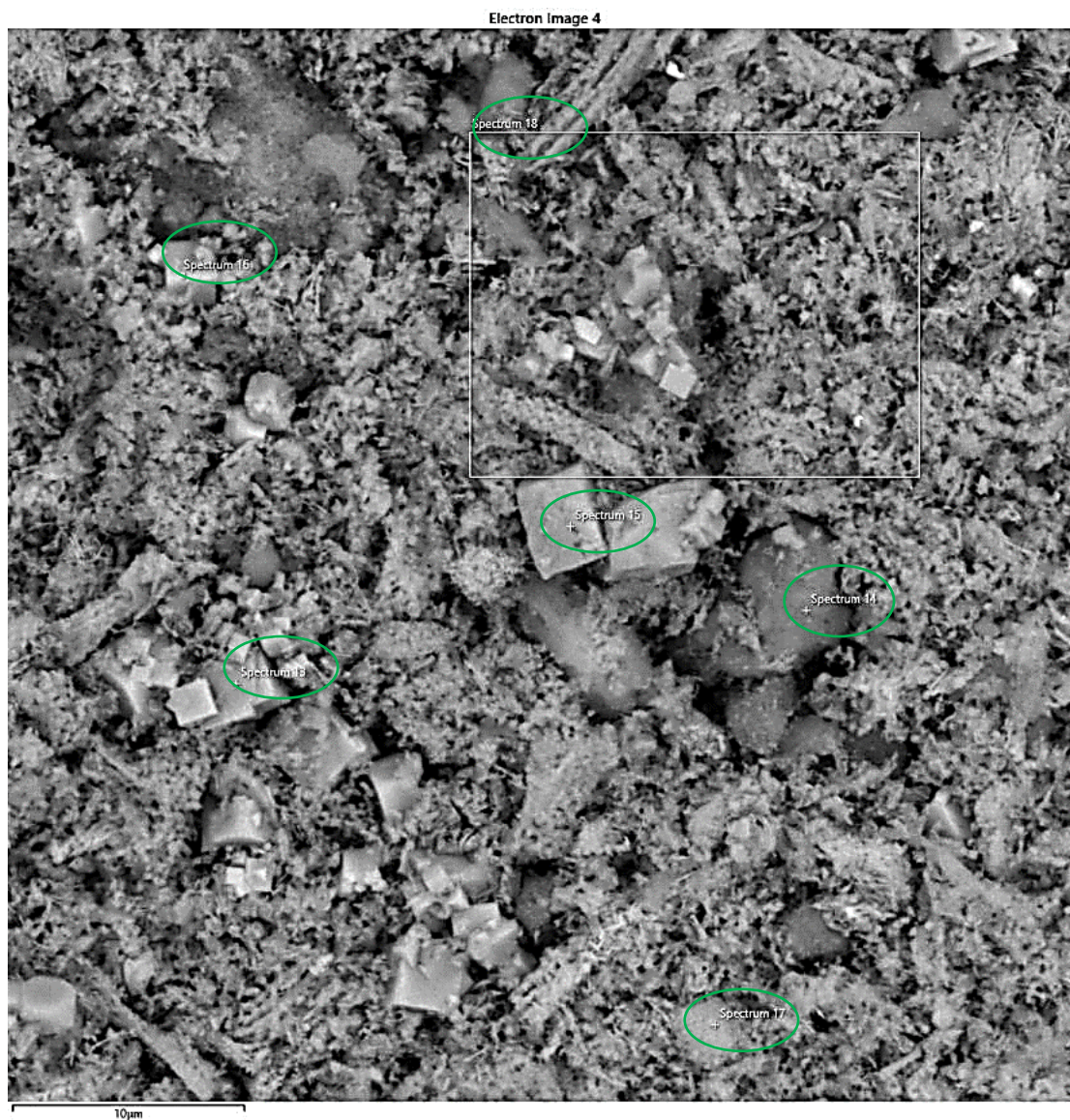
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List of abbreviations: **GSX-XX** (Samples obtained from Glycerol and succinic acid), **GSA-XX** (Samples obtained from Glycerol and Succinic acid with **Sc-A.T.** catalyst), **GSB-XX** (Samples obtained from Glycerol and Succinic acid with **Sc(III)O-KIT-6**), **GSN-XX** (Samples obtained from Glycerol and Succinic acid with no catalyst), **GSA-03N** (sample obtained in Nitrogen atmosphere), **GSA-03V** (sample obtained in vacuum), **GSA-03D** (sample obtained with glycerol 70% purity), **GSA-03Sc**, **GSR-XX** (Samples obtained from Glycerol and Succinic acid using commercial Sc_2O_3 and $\text{Sc}(\text{OTf})_3$ as catalyst).



| Label | O | Al | Si | S | K | Sc | Fe | Total W% |
|--------------------|-------|------|-------|------|------|-------|------|----------|
| Spectrum 37 | 21.08 | | 22.10 | 0.95 | 0.31 | 54.93 | 0.63 | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 38 | 36.24 | | 39.06 | 0.49 | 0.22 | 24.00 | | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 39 | 29.32 | | 21.67 | 0.82 | 0.26 | 47.92 | | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 40 | 31.12 | 0.25 | 16.97 | 0.68 | 0.20 | 50.36 | 0.42 | 100.00 |

Figure S1. EDS analysis and composition Sc(III)O-KIT-6 catalyst before NaOH treatment



| Label | O | Al | Si | S | K | Ca | Sc | Total W% |
|--------------------|-------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|----------|
| Spectrum 13 | 10.69 | 0.41 | 0.89 | | | | 88.01 | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 14 | 20.20 | | 28.05 | 0.44 | 5.66 | 2.53 | 43.12 | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 15 | 6.95 | 0.46 | 0.59 | | | | 91.83 | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 16 | 23.51 | 0.33 | 2.54 | | 0.22 | | 73.40 | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 17 | 22.13 | | 10.05 | 0.45 | 0.32 | | 67.05 | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 18 | 16.81 | 0.27 | 11.76 | 0.45 | 0.38 | | 69.92 | 100.00 |

Figure S2. EDS analysis and composition **Sc. A.T.** after NaOH treatment.

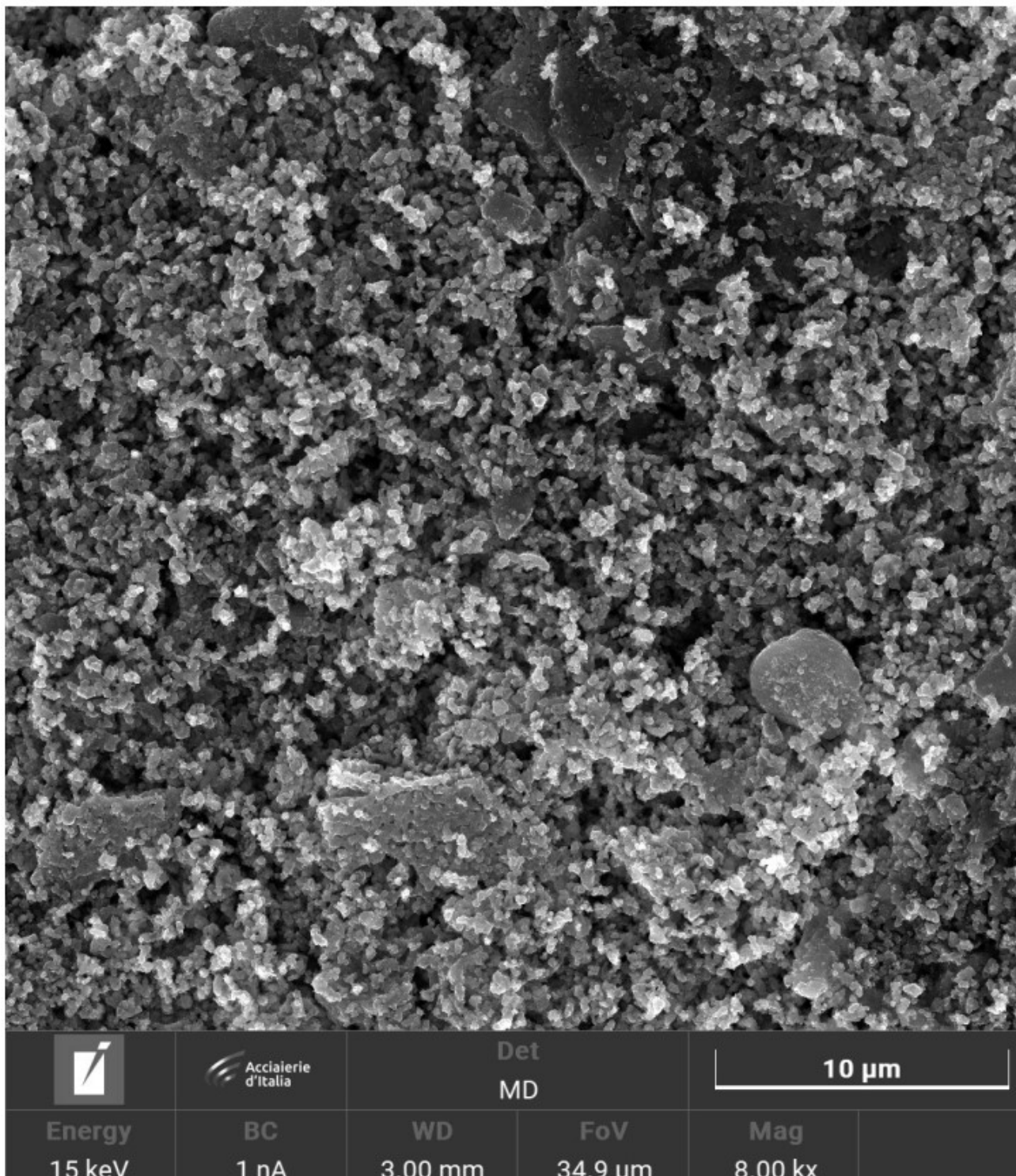


Figure S3. Magnification of SEM image at 10 μm Sc(III)O-KIT-6 before NaOH treatment

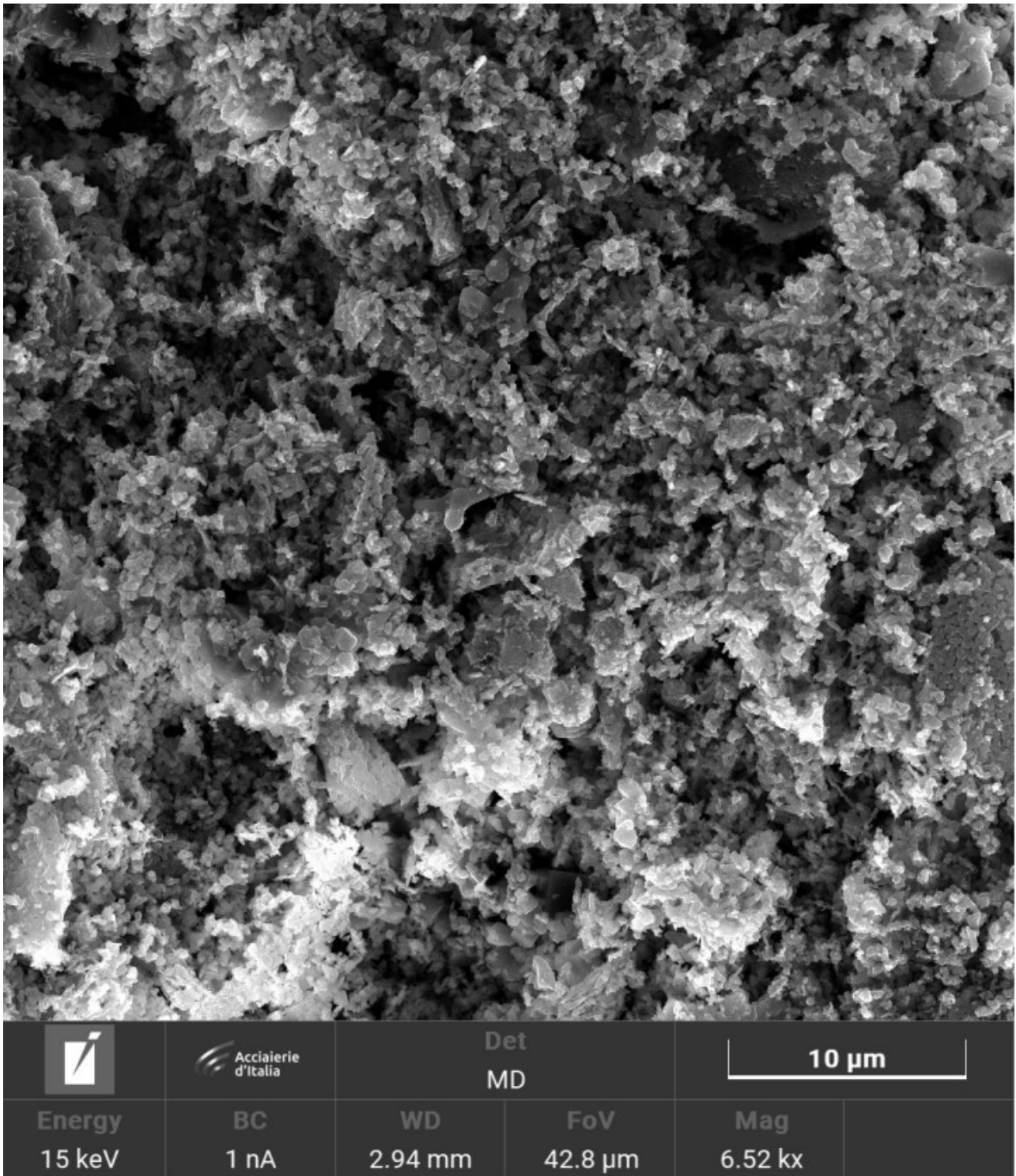


Figure S4. Magnification of SEM image at 10 μm of the Sc. A.T. after NaOH treatment.

Table S1. Parameters of XRD characterization for the catalysts

| | Literature data | Catalysts | | | |
|--|-----------------|------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Parameters | Ref XX in paper | Sc2O3 | Sc(III)-KIT 6 | SC A T | SC A T m |
| Sc2O3 | | | | | |
| Unit Cell Parameters | | | | | |
| a (Å) | 9,81 | 9.8462(6) | 9.849(1) | 9.8419(4) | 9.859(2) |
| Volume (Å³) | 930,704 | 954.57(17) | 955.38(29) | 953.32(12) | 958.29(58) |
| Bond Distances (Å) | | | | | |
| Sc1-O (x6) | 2,12 | 2,130 | 2,131 | 2,129 | 2,133 |
| | | | | | |
| Sc2-O (x2) | 2,16 | 2,087 | 2,088 | 2,086 | 2,090 |
| Sc2-O' (x2) | 2,08 | 2,100 | 2,101 | 2,093 | 2,103 |
| Sc2-O'' (x2) | 2,09 | 2,171 | 2,171 | 2,170 | 2,173 |
| <Sc2-O> | 2,11 | 2,119 | 2,120 | 2,116 | 2,122 |
| Sc₂Si₂O₇ | | | | | |
| Unit Cell Parameters | | | | | |
| a (Å) | 6,56 | | 6.516(1) | 6.5046(4) | 6.49(1) |
| b (Å) | 8,58 | | 8.512(1) | 8.5087(6) | 8.58(2) |
| c (Å) | 4,74 | | 4.6950(8) | 4.6902(4) | 4.693(8) |
| β (°) | 103,83 | | 102.78(1) | 102.737(4) | 103.1(1) |
| Volume (Å³) | 259,52 | | 253.95(7) | 253.19(3) | 254.53(84) |
| | | | | | |
| Bond Distances (Å) | | | | | |
| Sc-O2 | 2.162(1) | | 2,140 | 2,139 | 2,147 |
| Sc-O3 | 2.124(2) | | 2,088 | 2,086 | 2,086 |
| Sc-O3' | 2.234(2) | | 2,212 | 2,208 | 2,210 |
| <Sc-O> | 2,173 | | 2,146 | 2,144 | 2,148 |
| | | | | | |
| Si-O1 | 1.608(1) | | 1,583 | 1,580 | 1,580 |
| Si-O2 | 1.624(2) | | 1,606 | 1,605 | 1,589 |
| Si-O3 (x2) | 1.631(2) | | 1,619 | 1,628 | 1,628 |
| <Si-O> | 1,623 | | 1,607 | 1,610 | 1,606 |

Table S2. Catalyst scope in the polymerization of glycerol and succinic acid under solvent free conditions.^a

| <i>Entry</i> | <i>Catalyst (mg)*</i> | <i>T (°C)</i> | <i>Time (h)</i> | <i>Polyester Label</i> | <i>M_{w1} (Da)/ Selectivity (%)^d</i> | <i>P.D.₁</i> | <i>M_{w2}</i> | <i>P.D.₂</i> | <i>M_{w3}</i> | <i>P.D.₃</i> |
|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | none | 180 | 2 | GS-N01^b | ---- ^c | ----- | | | | |
| 2 | none | 150 | 2 | GS-N02 | 15,592 / 8 | 1.13 | 805 / 92 | | | |
| 3 | La-B.T. (120) | 150 | 2 | GS-B01 | 1,458 / 92 ^e | 1.37 | | | | |
| 4 | Sc-B.T. (120) | 150 | 2 | GSB02 | 18,389/10 | 1.008 | 5,345/7 | 1.09 | 642/12 | 1.007 |
| 5 | Sc-B.T. (120) | 120 | 2 | no reaction | --- | ----- | | | | |
| 6 | Sc-A.T. (120) | 120 | 2 | GS-A01 | 27,643 / 65 ^e | 2.2 | | | | |
| 7 | Sc(OTf) ₃ (25) | 120 | 2 | GS-R01 | 2,408 / 56 | 1.06 | 448 / 43 | 1.03 | | |
| +8 | Sc ₂ O ₃ | 120 | 2 | GS-R02 | 1,655 / 90 ^e | 4.06 | | | | |

^a Ratio Succinic acid/Glycerol (w/w) 2:1, ^bValerio et al., 2015, ^cDetermined using the GPC analysis, ^dPolyethers tetramer of glycerol Mw 315 (Mw-H⁺)

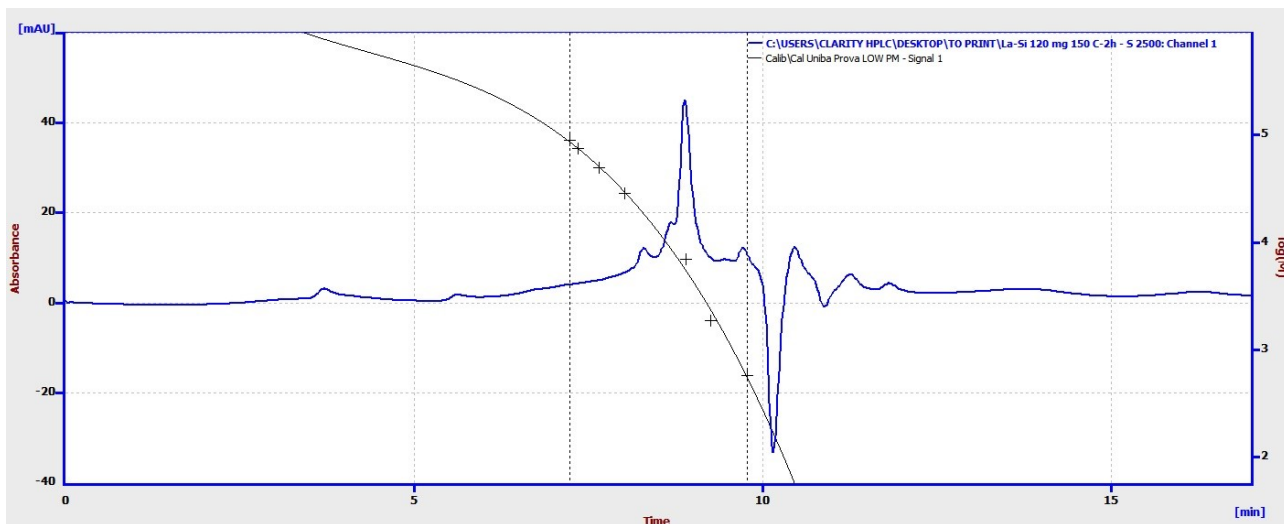


Figure S5. GPC analysis of sample **GSB-01**

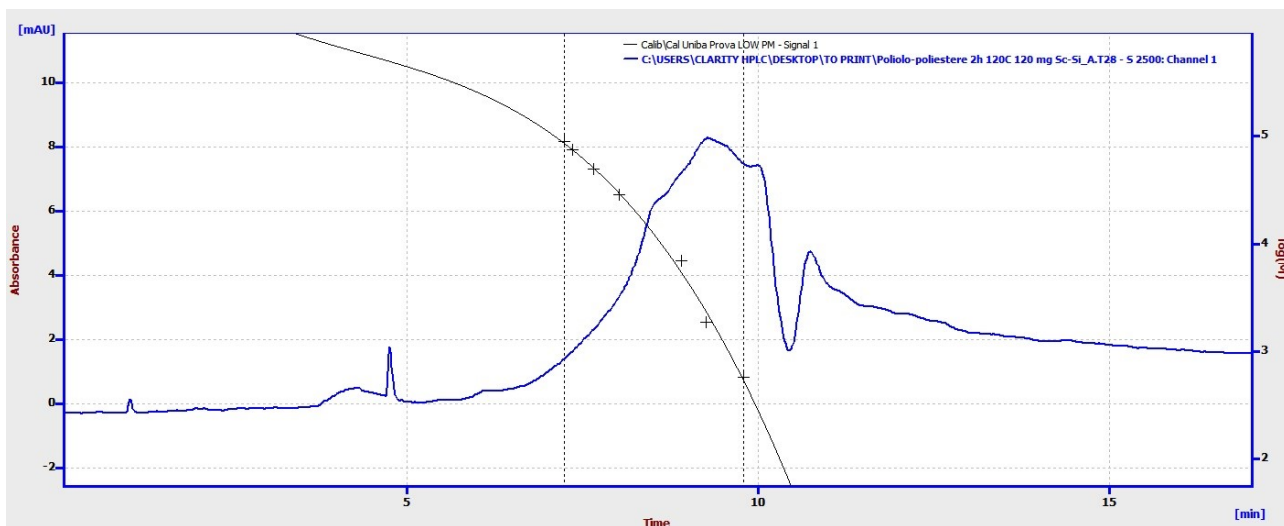


Figure S6. GPC analysis of sample **GSA-01**

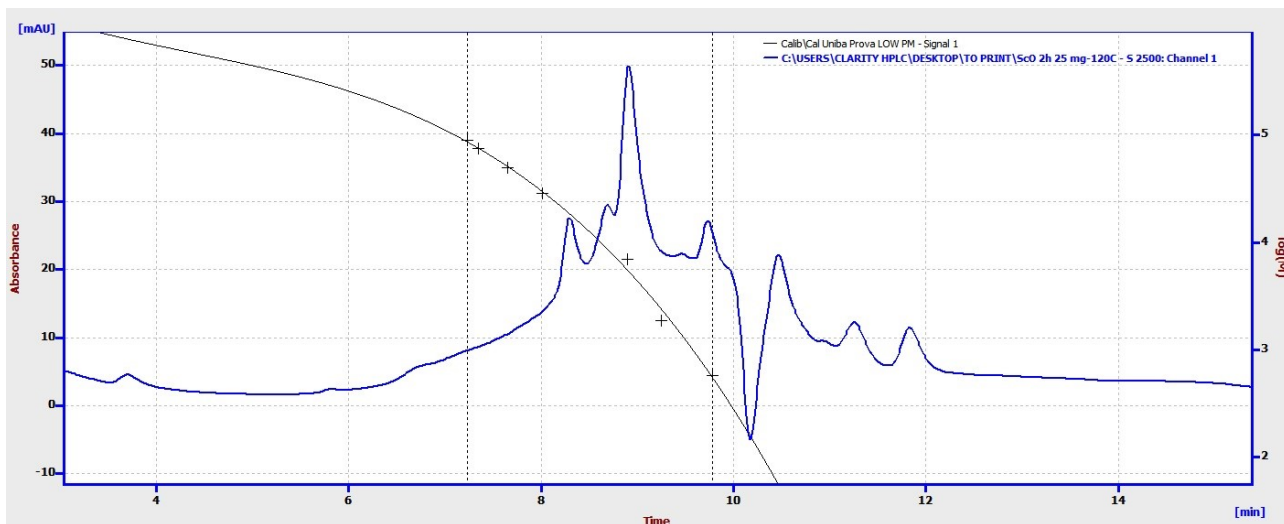


Figure S7. GPC analysis of sample **GSA-03**

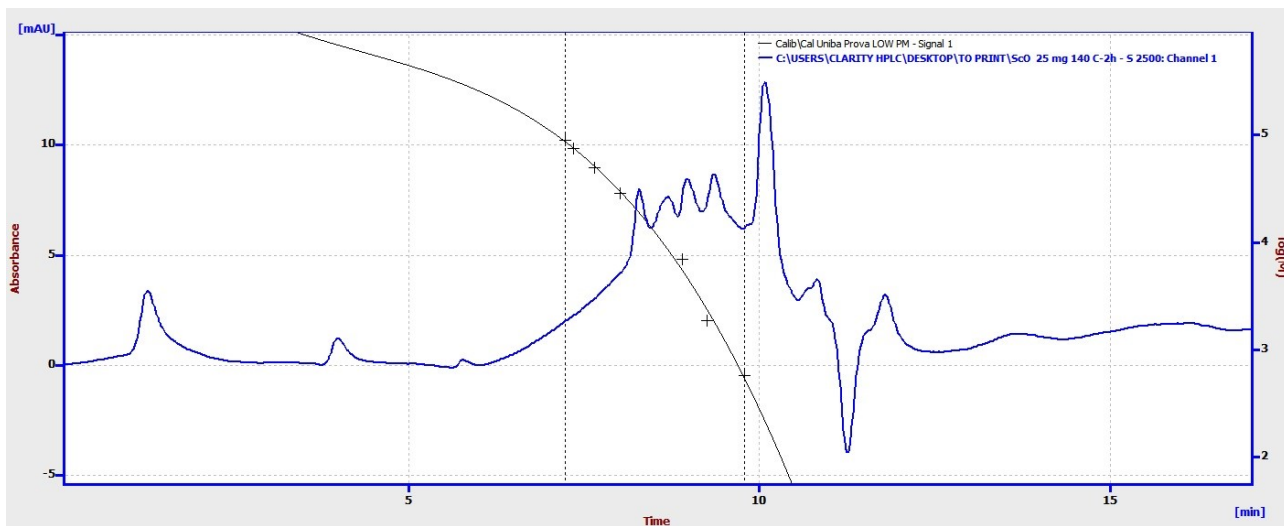
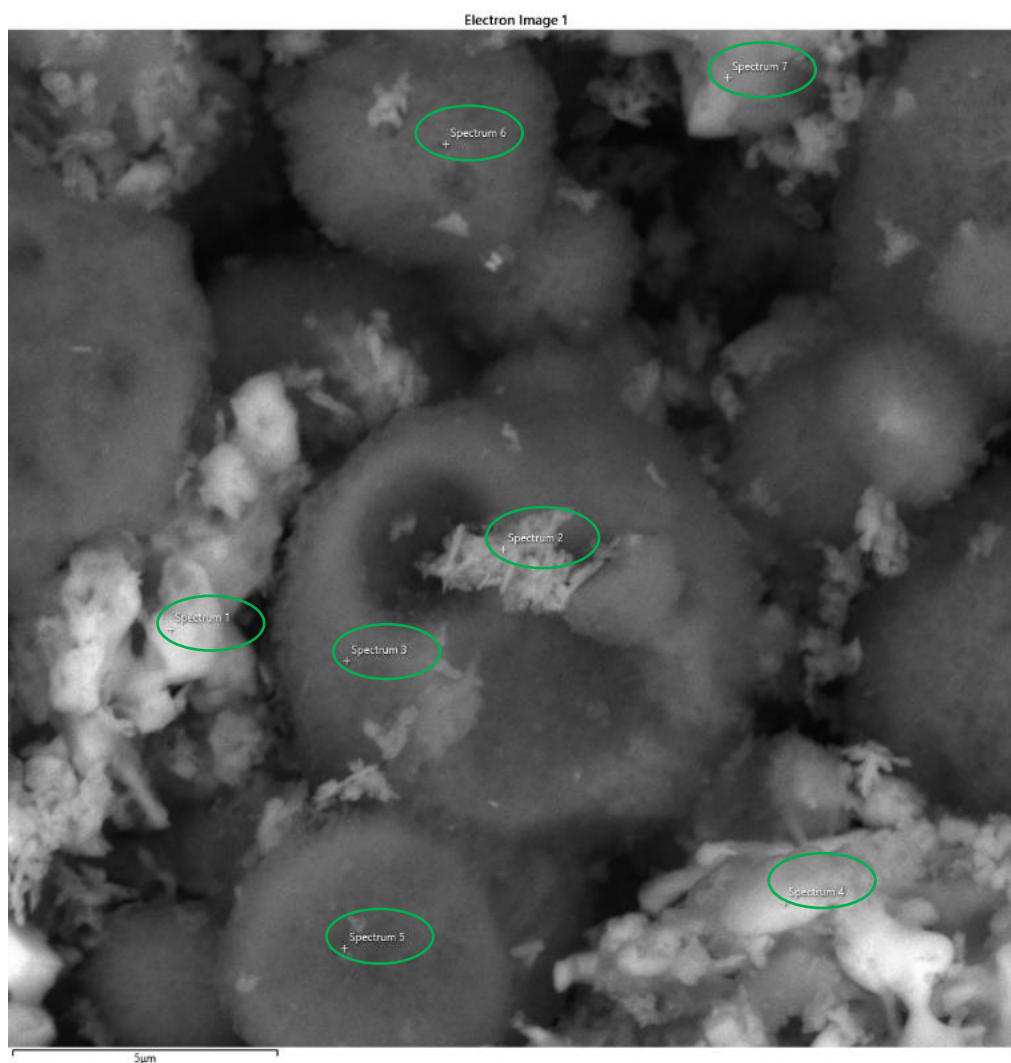


Figure S8. GPC analysis of sample **GSA-05**



| Label | O | Na | Al | Si | S | K | Ca | Sc | Fe | Total W% |
|-------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|------|----------|
| Spectrum 1 | 32.57 | 2.14 | 1.33 | 18.52 | 0.78 | | | 44.23 | 0.42 | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 2 | 32.89 | 20.05 | | 1.58 | | | 0.42 | 45.06 | | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 3 | 30.33 | 51.83 | 0.53 | 4.66 | | | 0.66 | 12.00 | | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 4 | 34.06 | 2.38 | 2.64 | 16.36 | | 0.21 | | 43.67 | 0.68 | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 5 | 34.84 | 48.68 | | 2.31 | | | 0.59 | 13.59 | | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 6 | 27.06 | 55.69 | | 2.60 | | | 1.23 | 13.42 | | 100.00 |
| Spectrum 7 | 6.77 | 3.05 | 0.19 | 1.71 | 0.31 | | | 86.71 | 1.26 | 100.00 |

Figure S9. EDS analysis and composition **Sc. A.T.** after III cycles

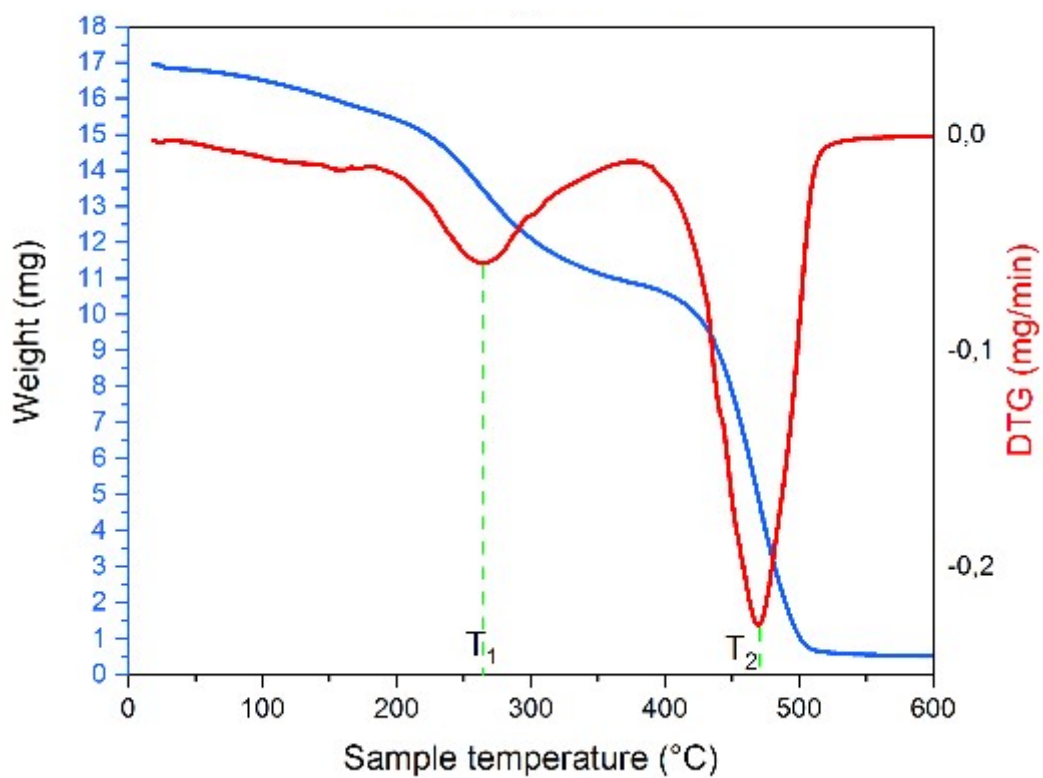


Figure S10. TGA and DTG of GSA-02 polymer.

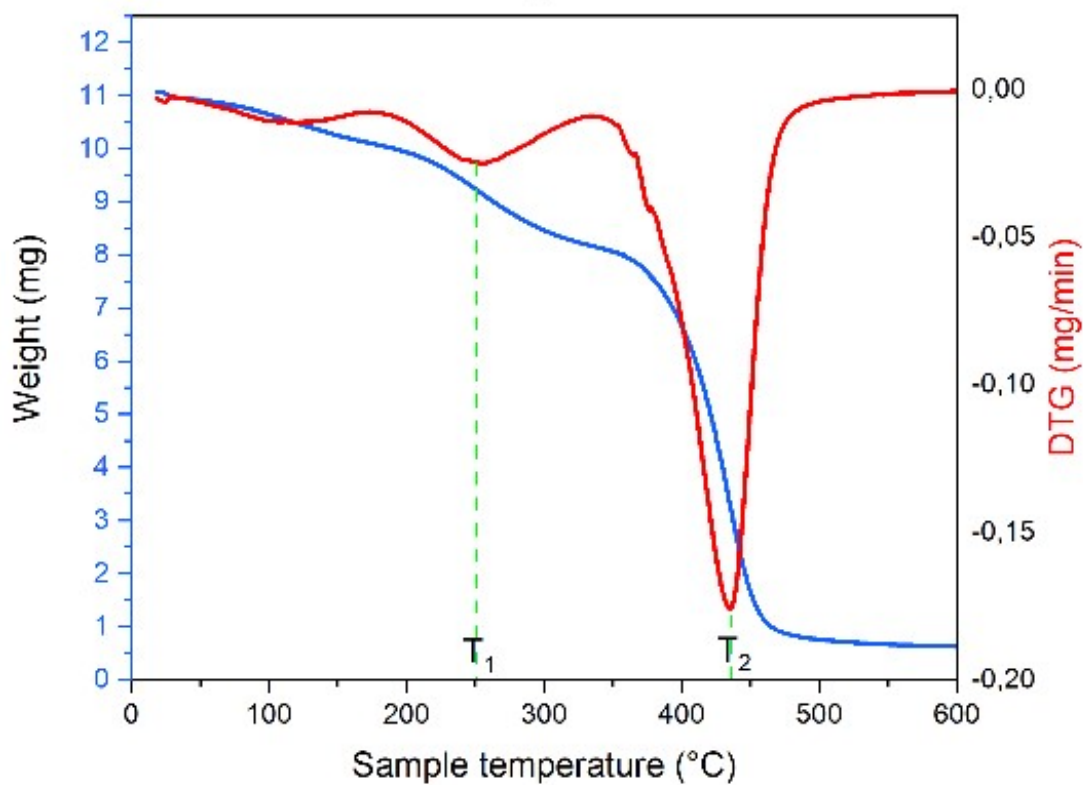


Figure S11. TGA and DTG of GSA-03 polymer.

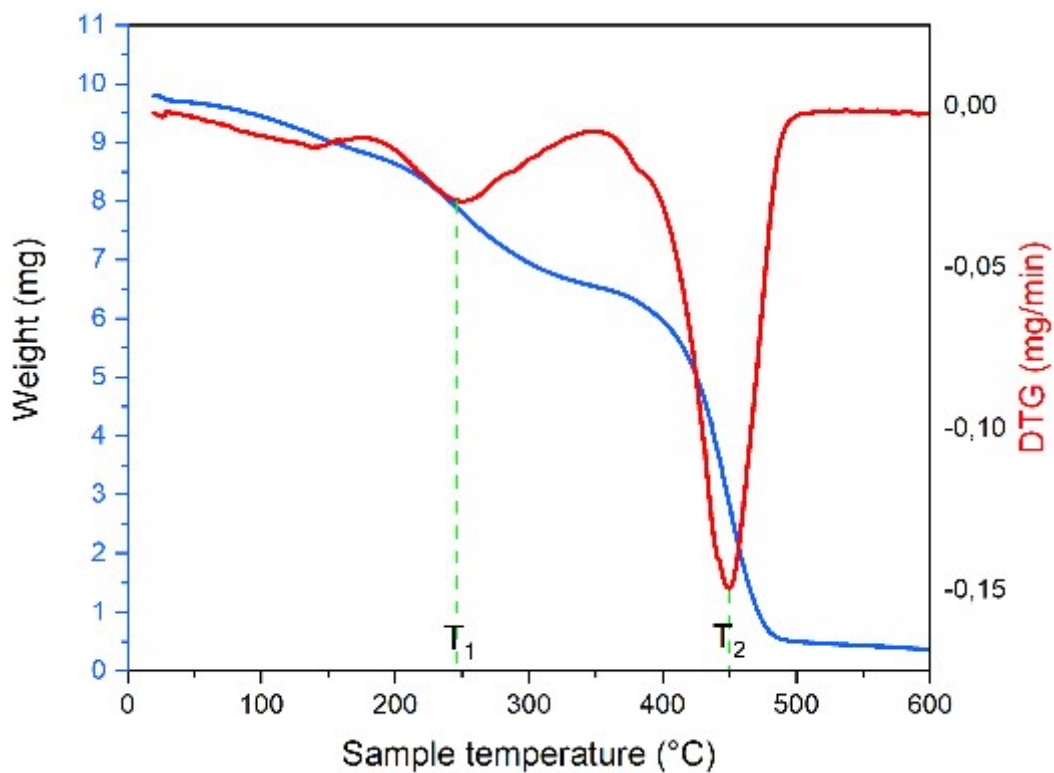


Figure S12. TGA and DTG of GSA-04 polymer.

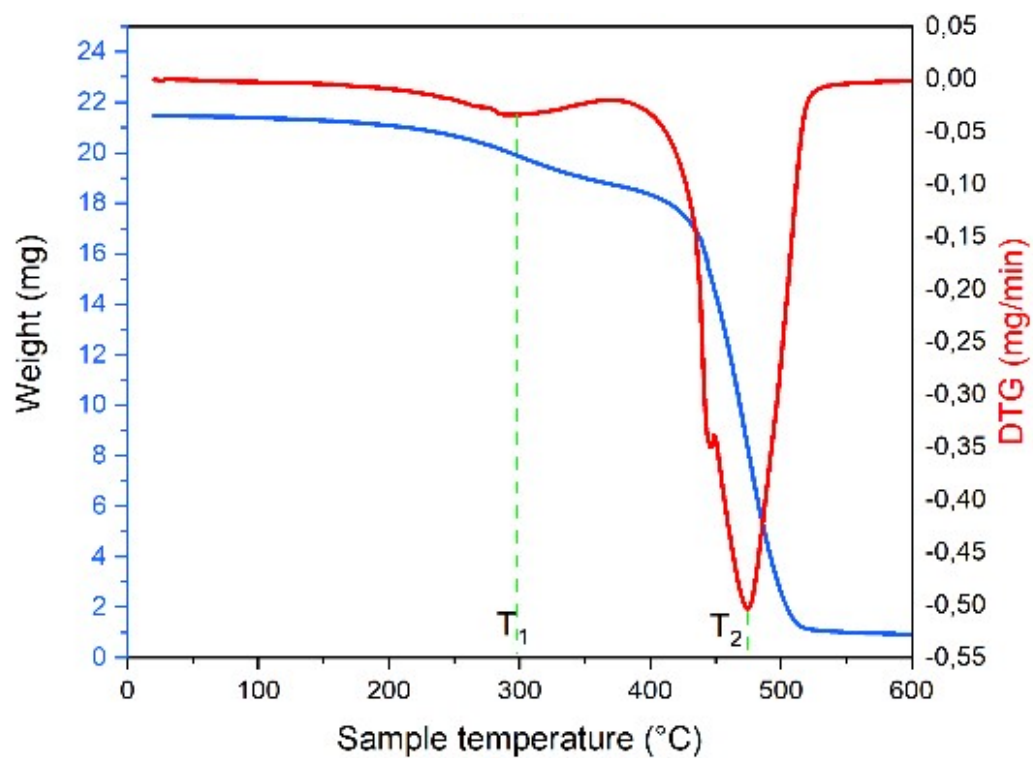


Figure S13. TGA and DTG of GSA-05 polymer.

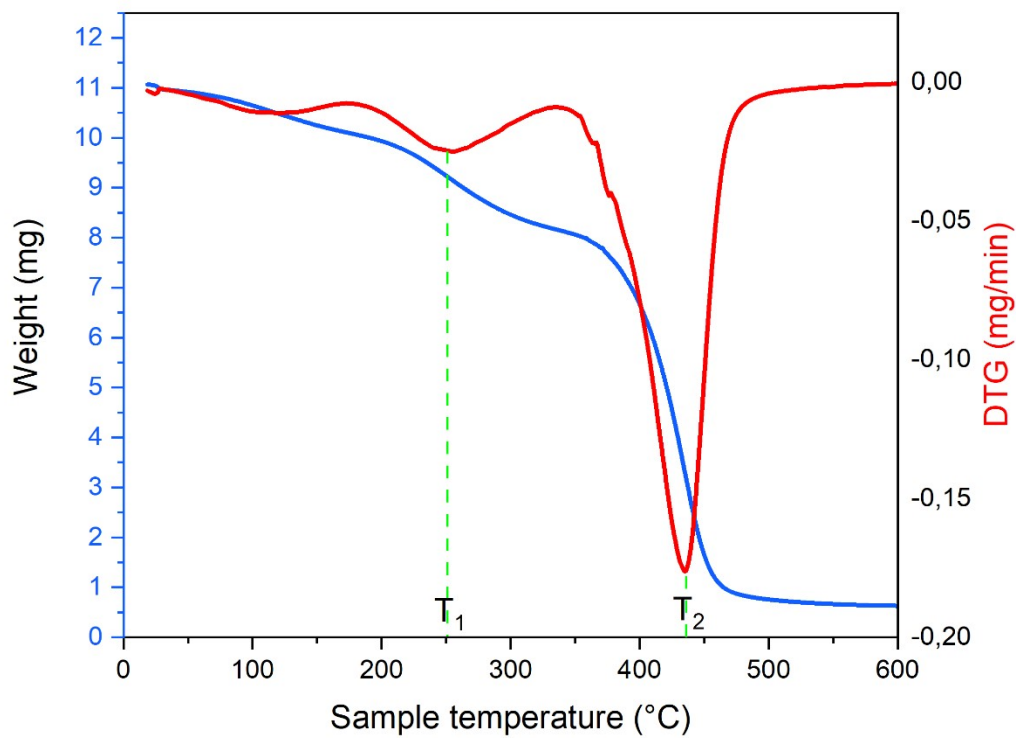


Figure S14. TGA and DTG of GSA-06 polymer.

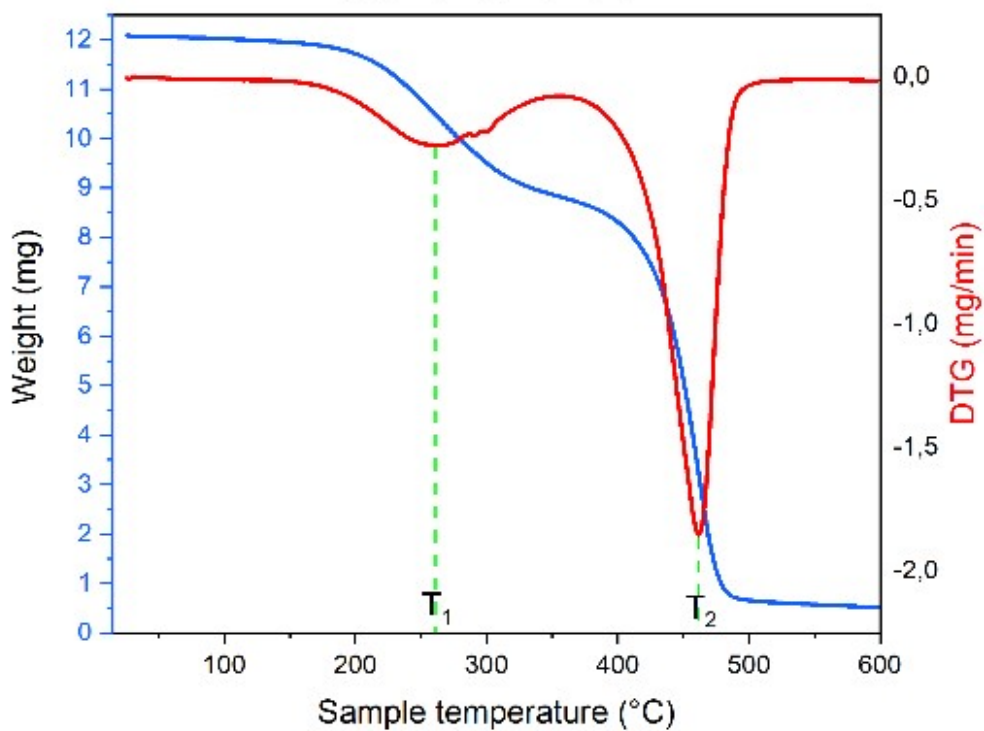


Figure S15. TGA and DTG of GSA-07 polymer.

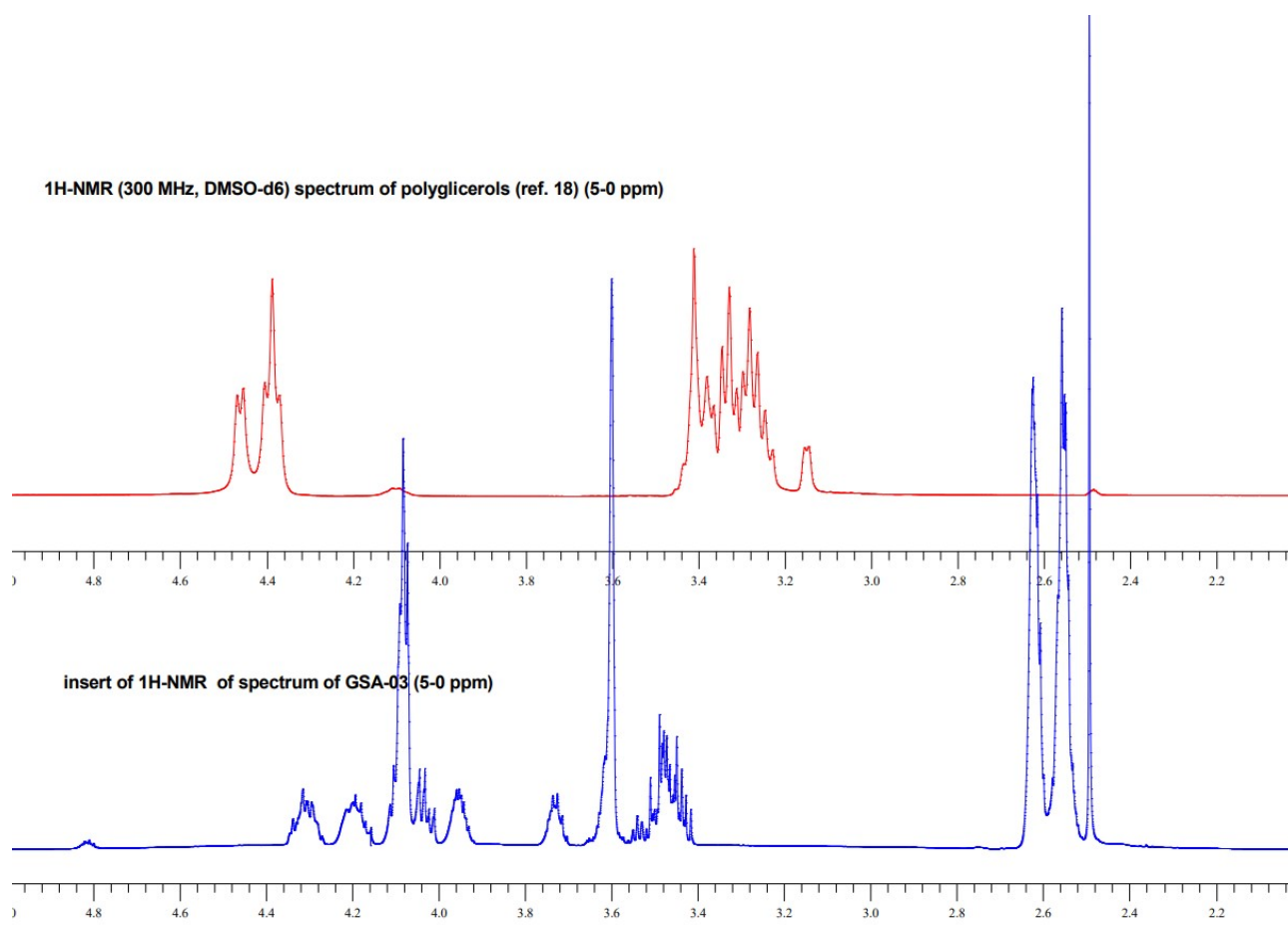


Figure S16. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ of GSA-03 (0-5 ppm, blue line) vs polyol-polyether from reference 18

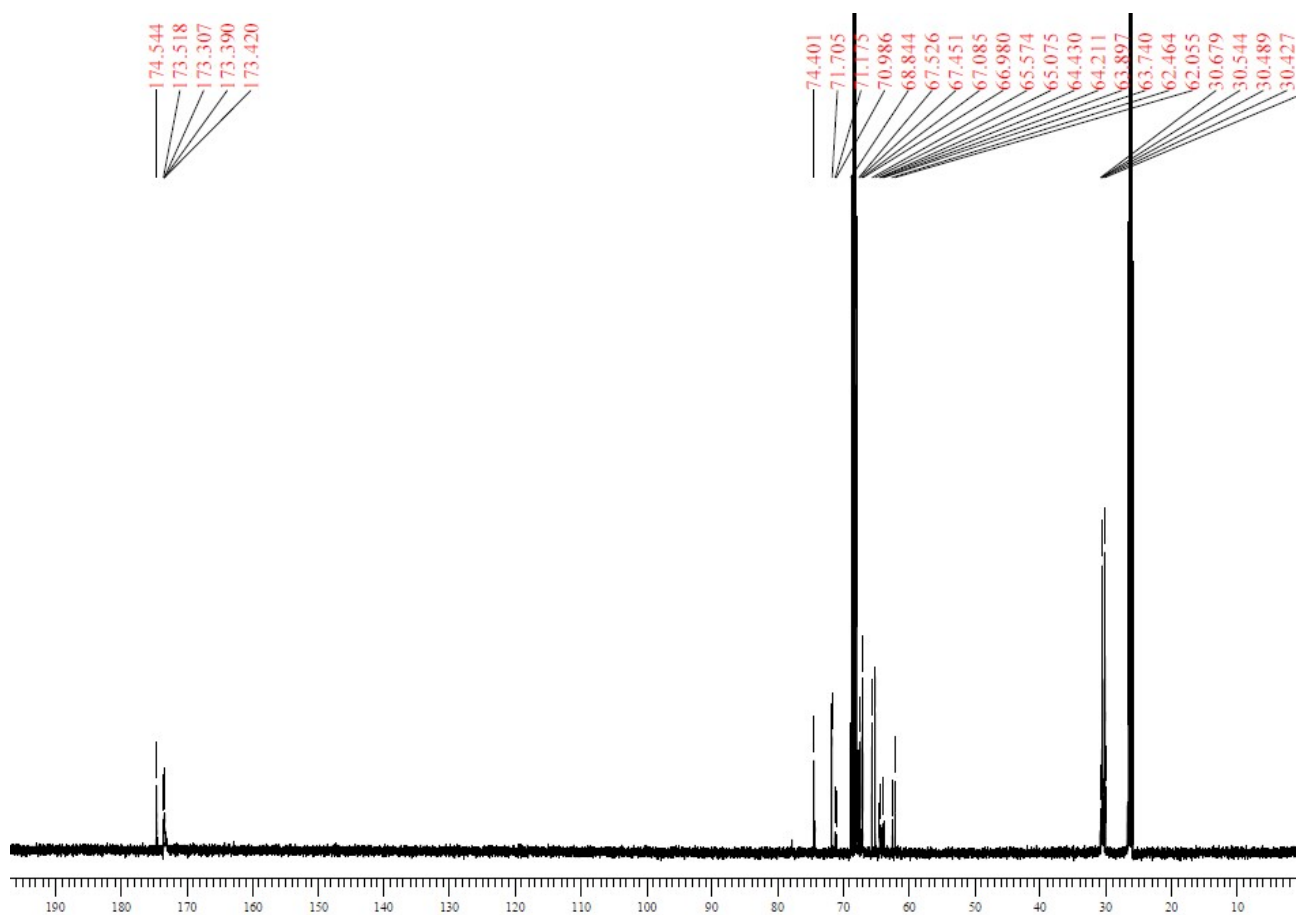


Figure.S17 ^{13}C -NMR analysis of GSA-03 polymer in Tetrahydrofuran- d_8 ¹

Supplementary Studies of Mass structures

The figure *S18* (A-G) shows the experimental mass signals with relative isotopic patterns (blue traces), compared with the theoretical ones (red traces) suggested by the software. It is easy to see high degree of overlap. Moreover, the software provides a possible molecular formula. As expected, the formation of the adduct with the Na⁺ cation is preponderant among all oligomers. All measured m/z values have a deviation of less than 15 ppm compared to the theoretical ones and in some cases less than 2 ppm allowing us to have a solid certainty on the attributions of the various signals. A further verification was the analysis of the isotopic patterns, also in this case the software analysis provides to an additional confirmation of the nature of the signals.



Figure S18: Isotopic pattern comparison

Table S3: List of determined oligomers

| Oligomers | Molecular formula | Exact Mass (molecular ion) | Predicted Mass (Na adduct) | Measured Mass | Diff ppm |
|------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| <i>A</i> | C ₁₁ H ₁₆ O ₉ | 292.0809 | 315.0687 | 315.0701 | 4.44 |
| <i>B</i> | C ₁₄ H ₂₂ O ₁₁ | 366.1183 | 389.1054 | 389.1075 | 5.40 |
| <i>C</i> | C ₁₇ H ₂₈ O ₁₃ | 440.1527 | 463.1422 | 463.1419 | -0.65 |
| <i>D</i> | C ₁₈ H ₂₆ O ₁₄ | 466.1337 | 489.1215 | 489.1229 | 2.86 |
| <i>E</i> | C ₂₁ H ₃₂ O ₁₆ | 540.1726 | 563.1583 | 563.1618 | 6.21 |
| <i>F</i> | C ₂₂ H ₃₀ O ₁₇ | 566.1563 | 589.1375 | 589.1455 | 13.58 |
| <i>G</i> | C ₂₅ H ₃₆ O ₁₉ | 640.1747 | 663.1743 | 663.1639 | -15.68 |

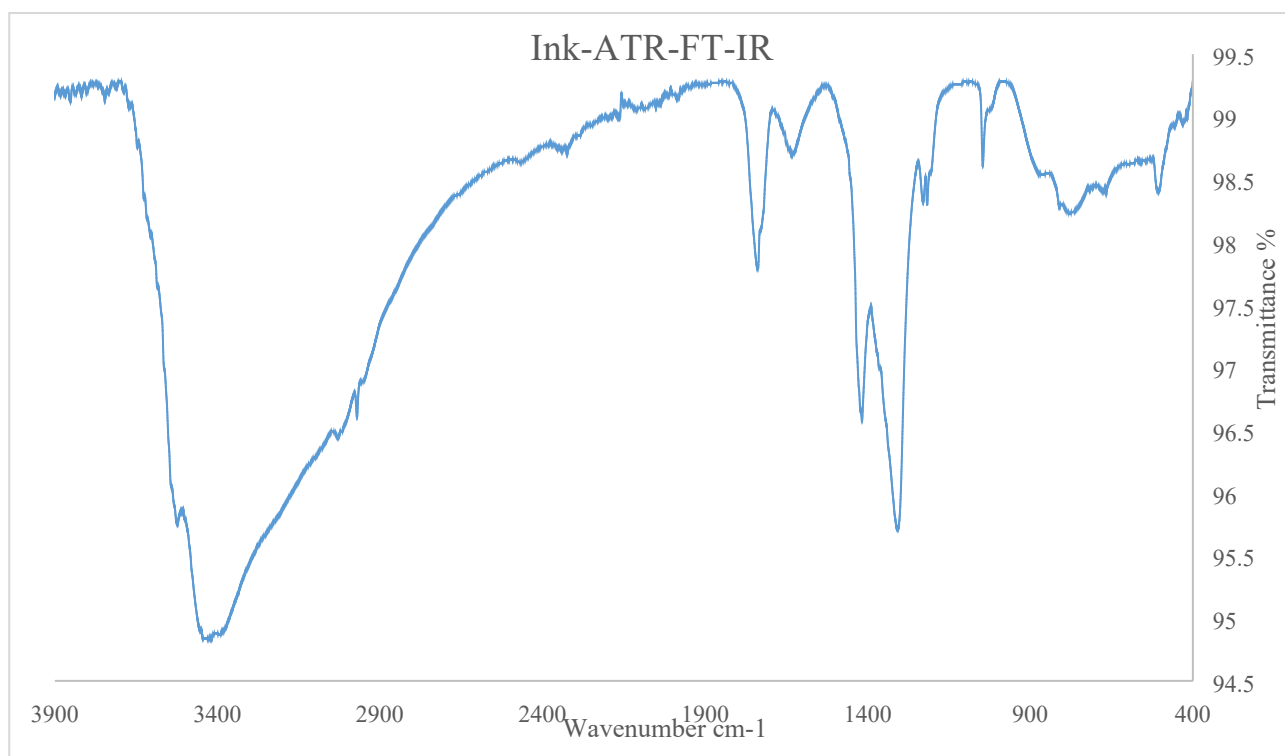


Figure S19. Ink ATR-FT-IR analysis



| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| DESCRIZIONE | Raw glycerol from FAMES 70 |
| LUOGO DI FABBRICAZIONE | Ferrandina (MT) |

| Composition | (%weight) |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| glycerol | 65-70 |
| water | 15 |
| MONG (organic material No Gly | 5 |
| Methanol | 1 |
| KCl | 5-10 |

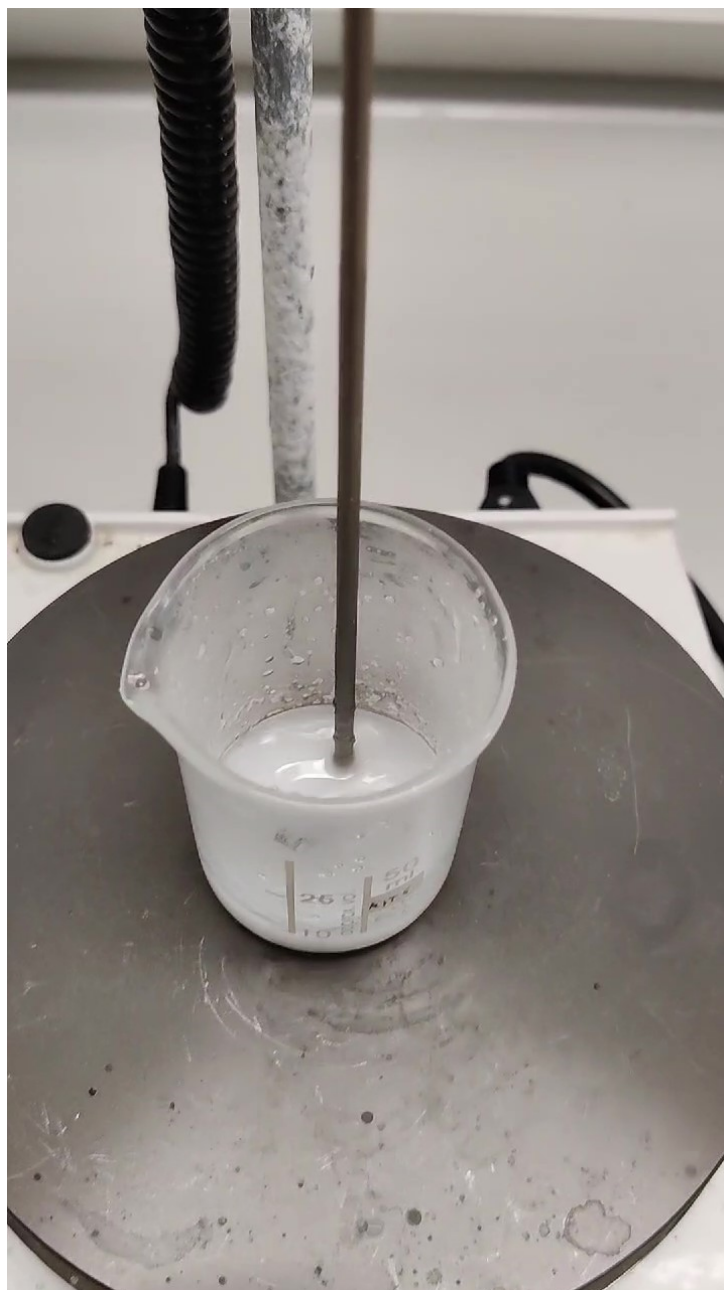


Figure S20. Picture of the reactor

Additional references

M. Agach, S. Delbaere, S. Marinkovic·B. Estrine, V. Nardello-Rataj *Polym. Degrad. Stab.* 2012, **97**, 1956.