

## Supporting Information

# The degradation product promoted depolymerization strategy for chemical recycling of poly(bisphenol A carbonate)

Maoqing Chai <sup>1,2</sup>, Guangqiang Xu <sup>2,3,4,5,\*</sup>, Rulin Yang <sup>2,4,5</sup>, Hongguang Sun <sup>1,\*</sup> and Qinggang Wang <sup>2,3,4,5,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> College of Polymer Science and Engineering, Qingdao University of Science and Technology, Qingdao, 266042, China; chaimq@qibebt.ac.cn (M.C.); hgsun816@qust.edu.cn (H.S.)

<sup>2</sup> Key Laboratory of Biobased Materials, Qingdao Institute of Bioenergy and Bioprocess Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Qingdao, 266101, China; xu\_gq@qibebt.ac.cn (G.X.); yangrl@qibebt.ac.cn (R.Y.); wangqg@qibebt.ac.cn (Q.W.)

<sup>3</sup> Center of Materials Science and Optoelectronics Engineering, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 100049, China

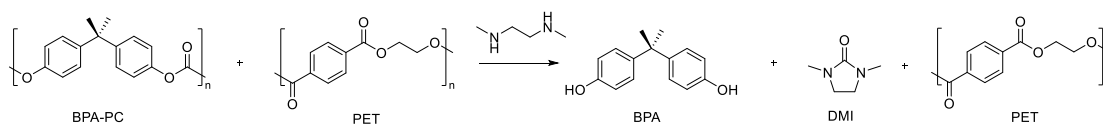
<sup>4</sup> Shandong Energy Institute, Qingdao, 266101, China

<sup>5</sup> Qingdao New Energy Shandong Laboratory, Qingdao, 266101, China

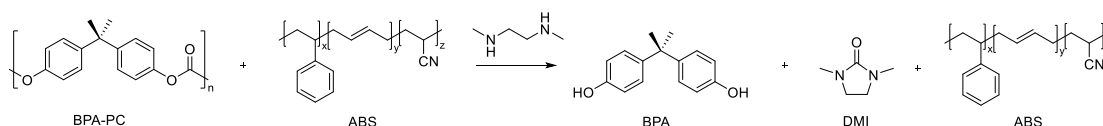
\* Correspondence: xu\_gq@qibebt.ac.cn (G.X.); hgsun816@qust.edu.cn (H.S.); wangqg@qibebt.ac.cn (Q.W.)

## General procedure for the depolymerization of BPA-PC/PET and BPA-PC/ABS mixed plastics under the condition of addition of 1 equiv. DMI

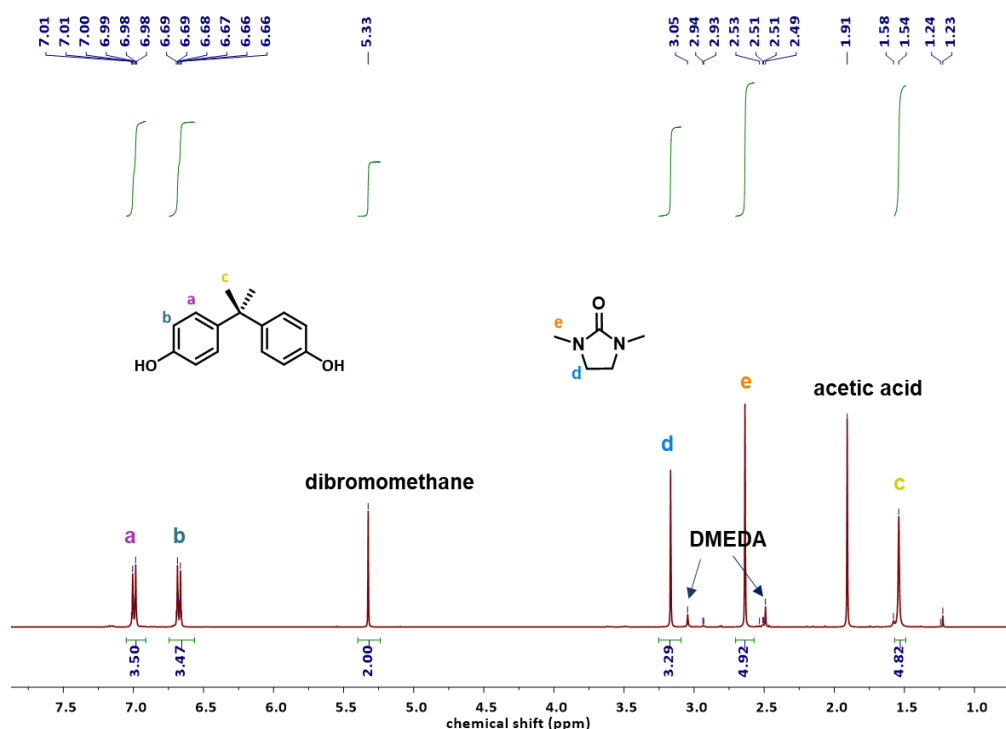
(Figure 6)



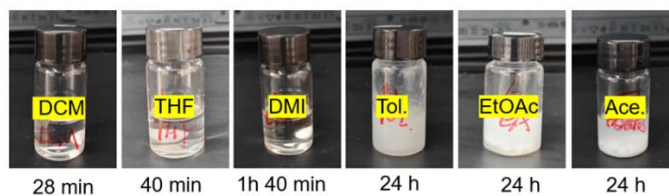
The depolymerization of BPA-PC and PET blends was carried out in a Schlenk flask at 80 °C. BPA-PC pellets (508 mg, 2 mmol, based on BPA units) and PET bottle small pieces (384 mg, 2 mmol, relative to the polymeric repeating unit) were added first, followed sequentially by N,N'-Dimethyl-1,2-ethylenediamine (DMEDA) (646  $\mu\text{L}$ , 6 mmol) and 1,3-Dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone (DMI) (216  $\mu\text{L}$ , 2 mmol). Dibromomethane (140  $\mu\text{L}$ , 2 mmol) was added as the internal standard and acetic acid as the quencher. The reaction was monitored by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum. After 3 h, the yields of BPA and 1, 3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone (DMI) were 99%.



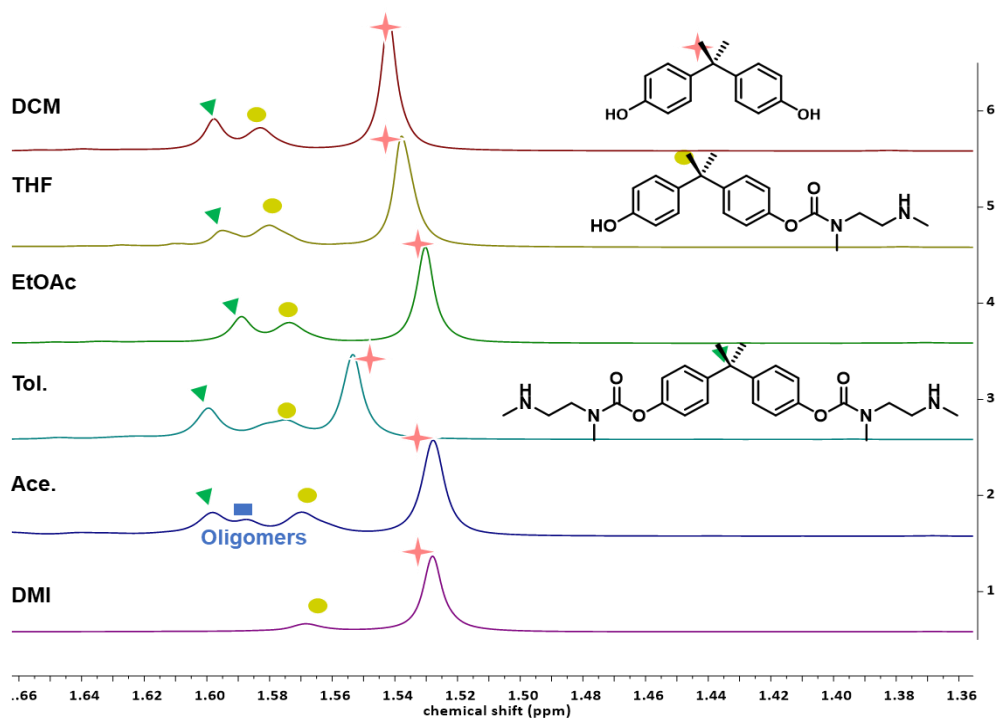
The depolymerization of PC/ABS alloy plastics (mass ratio 1:1) is carried out in a Schlenk flask at 80 °C. PC/ABS particles (254 mg, 0.5 mmol, based on BPA units) were added first, followed sequentially by N,N'-Dimethyl-1,2-ethylenediamine (DMEDA) (102  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1 mmol) and 1,3-Dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone (DMI) (96  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1 mmol). Dibromomethane (63  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1 mmol) was added as the internal standard and acetic acid as the quencher. The reaction was monitored by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum. After 3 h, the yields of BPA and 1, 3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone (DMI) were 99%.



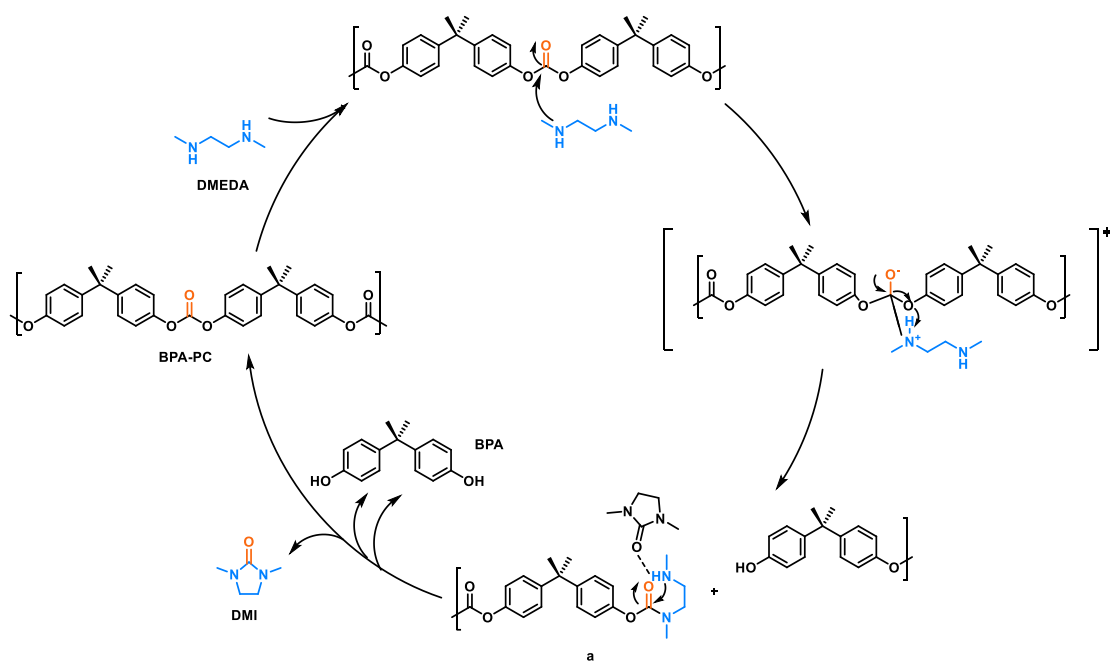
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of BPA-PC degradation reaction under solvent-free conditions for 24 h. (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ , 298 K).



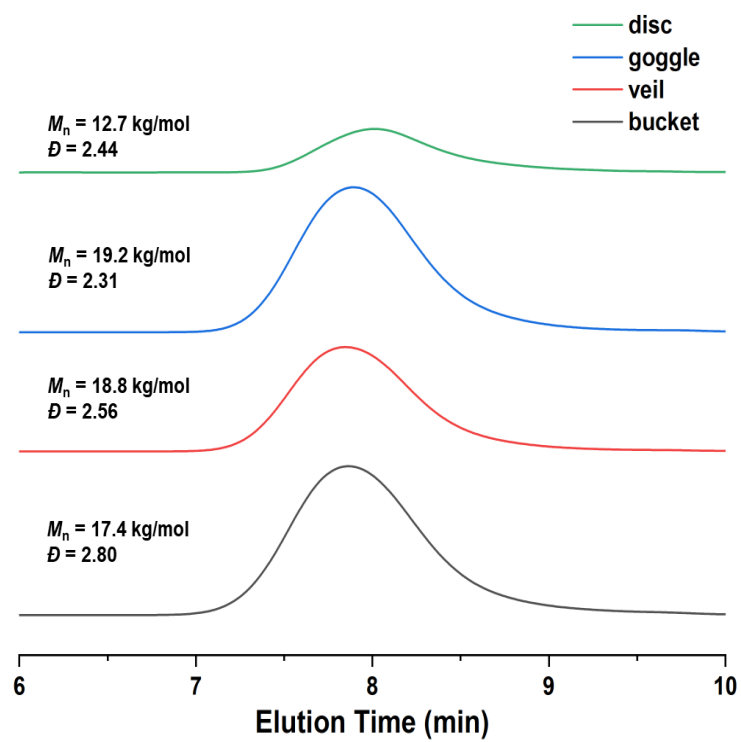
**Figure S2.** Dissolution of 254 mg (1 mmol based on BPA unit) BPA-PC in 4 mL of different solvents at 50 °C.



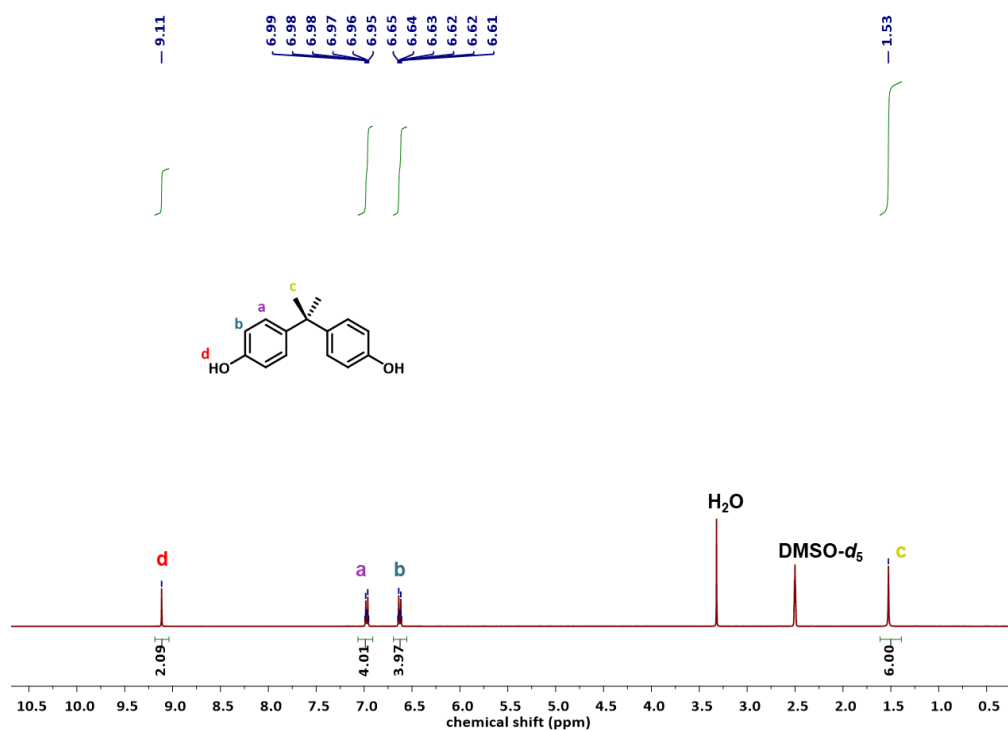
**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of BPA-PC degradation in different solvents for 2 h. (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ , 298 K).



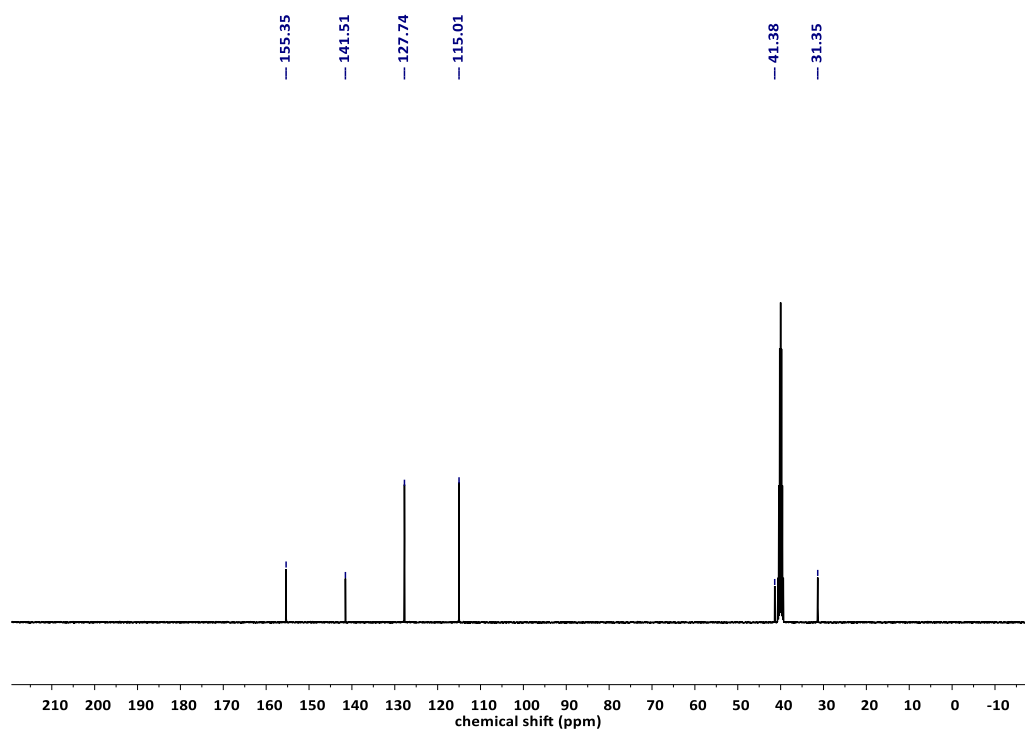
**Figure S4.** Proposed mechanism.



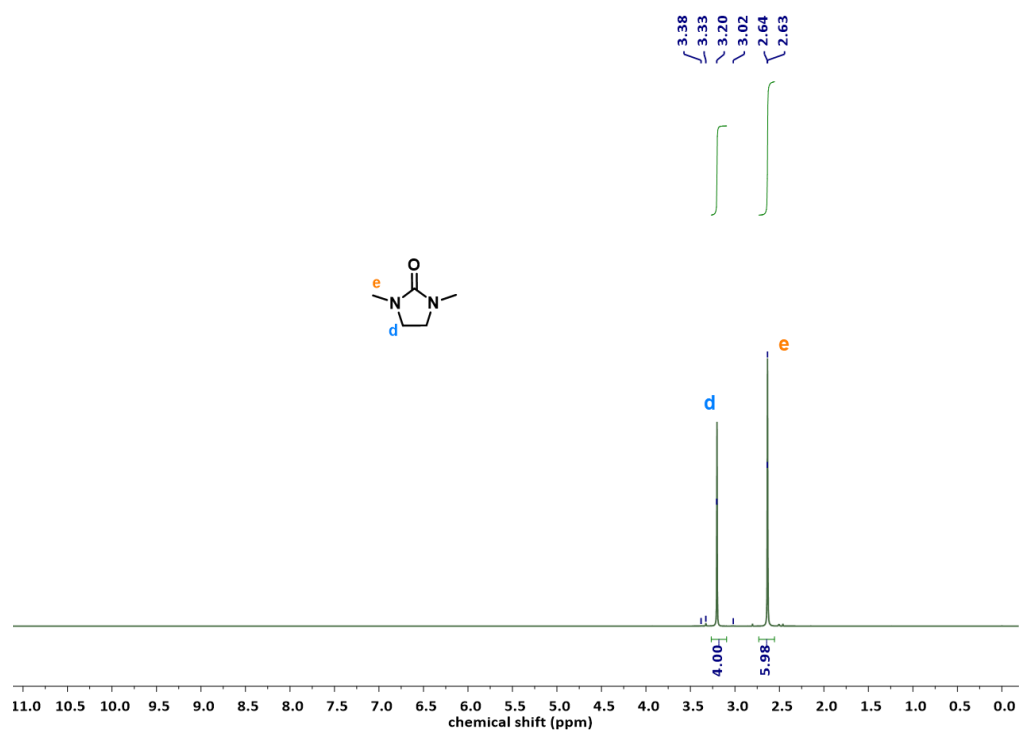
**Figure S5.** GPC analysis for BPA-PC disc, goggle, veil, bucket.



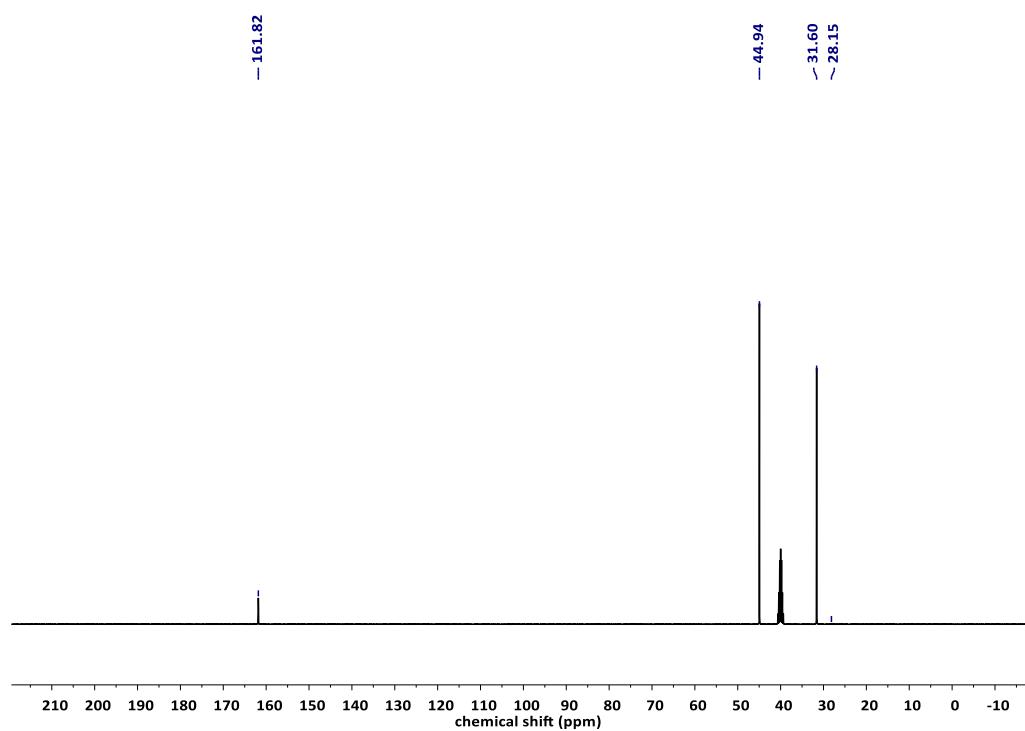
**Figure S6.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of BPA (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K).



**Figure S7.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of BPA. (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K).



**Figure S8.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of DMI. (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K).



**Figure S9.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of DMI. (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K).

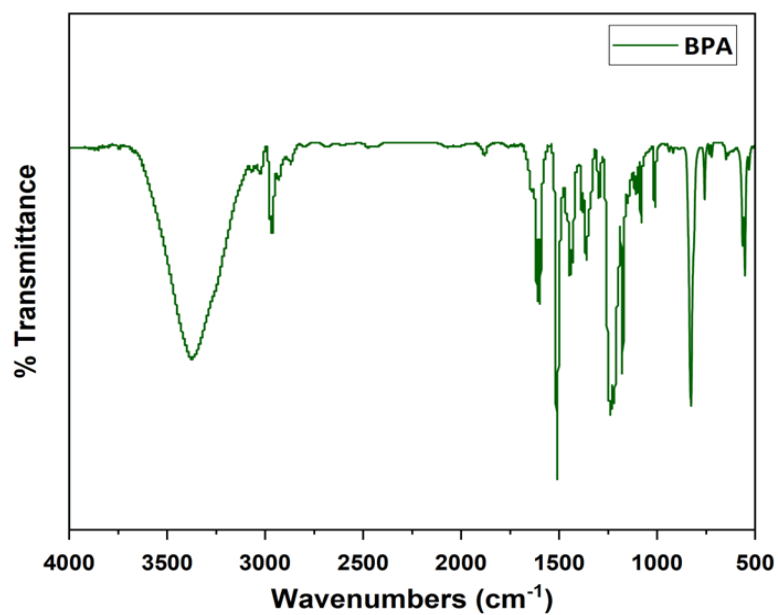


Figure S10. IR spectrum of BPA.

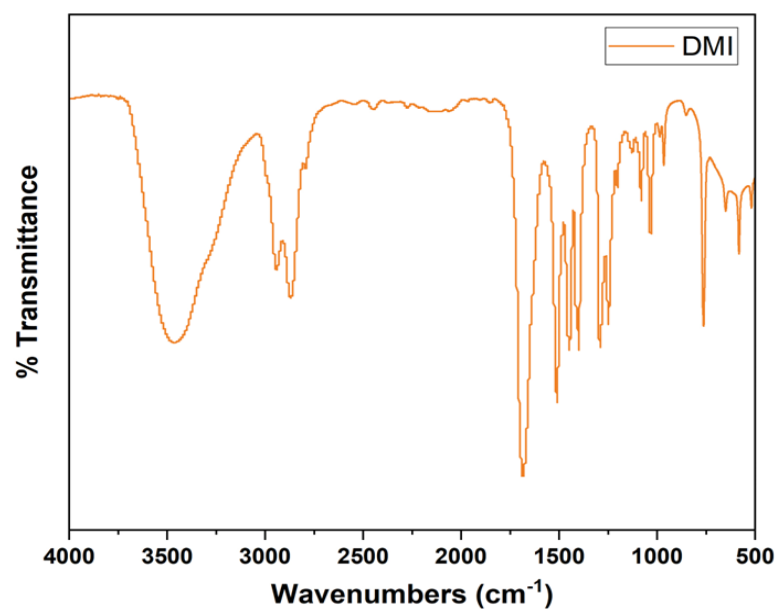
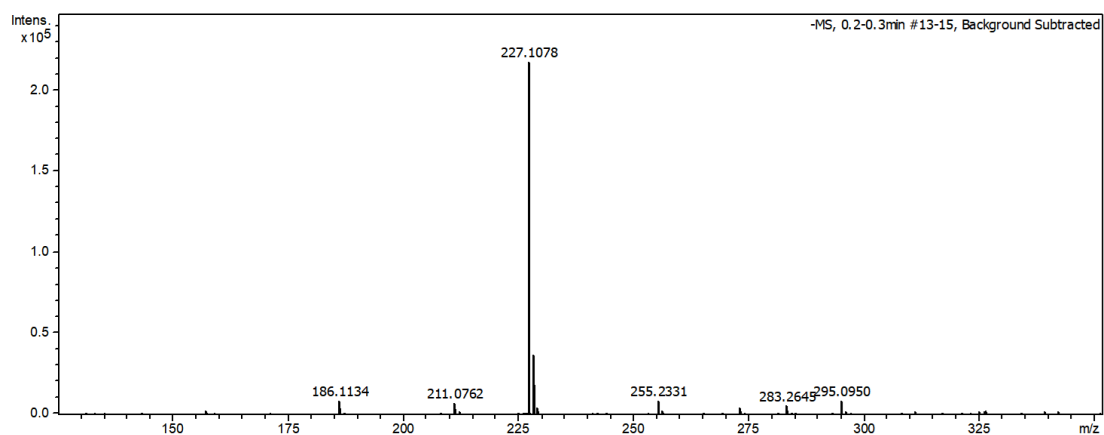
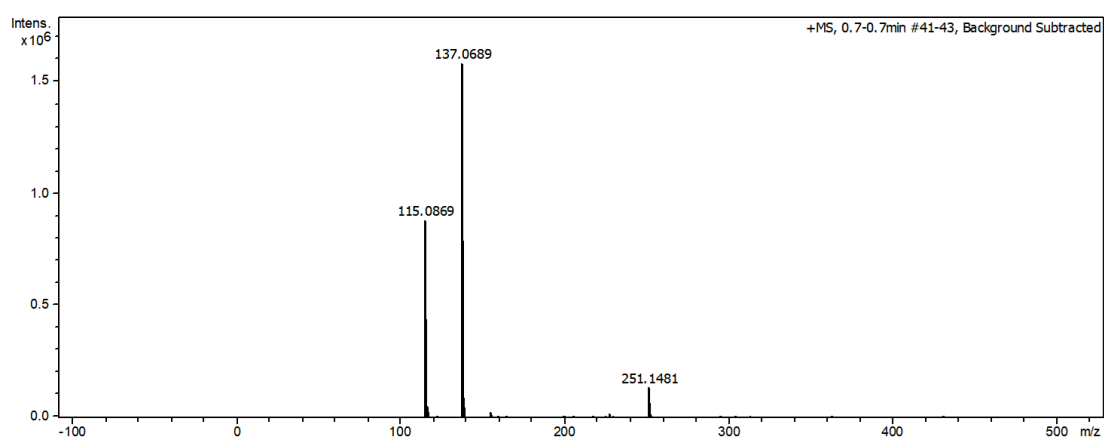


Figure S11. IR spectrum of DMI.



**Figure S12.** MS spectrum of BPA.



**Figure S13.** MS spectrum of DMI.

**Table S1.** Donor Number values of common compounds

Entry	Chemical Compound	Donor Number (kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> )
1	THF	21
2	DMI	29
3	EtOAc	16
4	Ace.	14