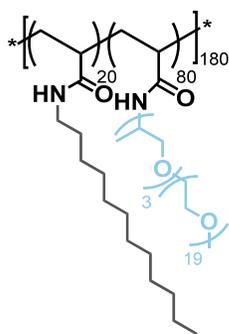


1. Structure of polymer P4



Scheme S1: Structure of polymer P4

2. NMR Spectra

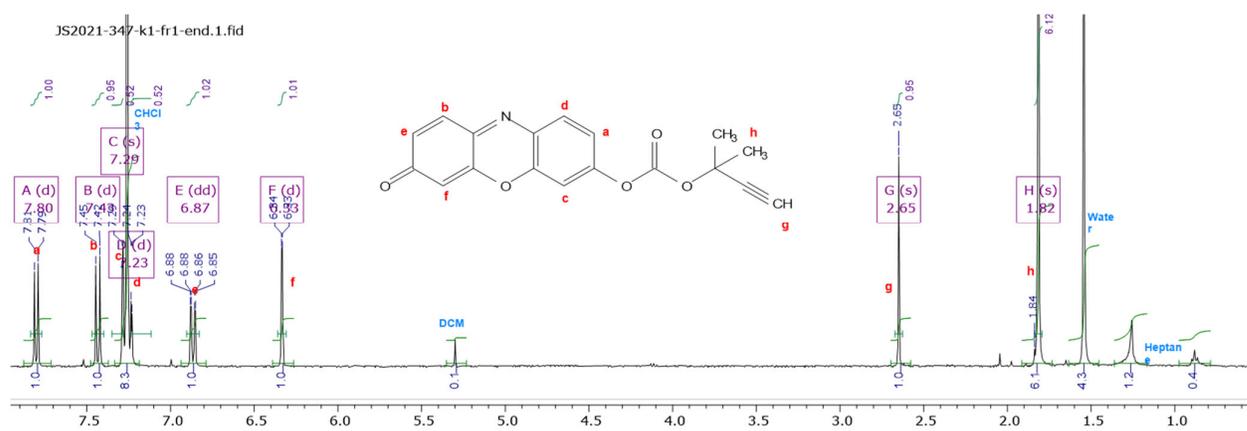


Figure S1: ¹H NMR spectrum of pro-res 6

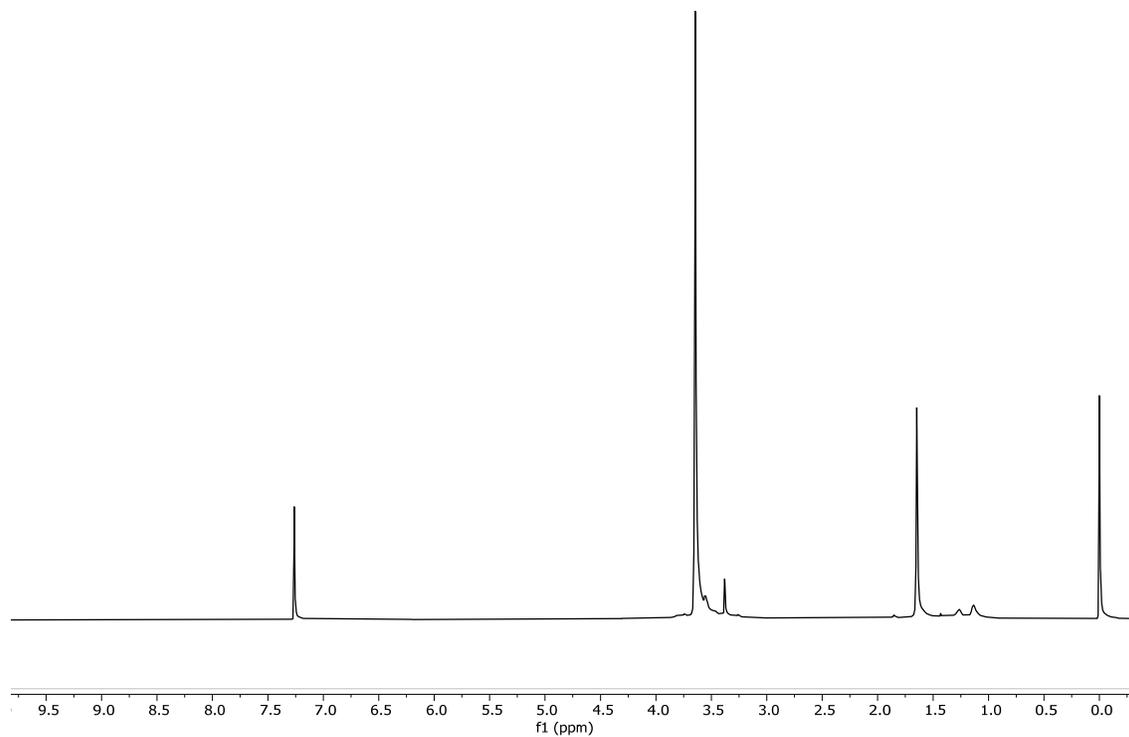


Figure S2: ^1H NMR spectrum of **P1** in CDCl_3 .

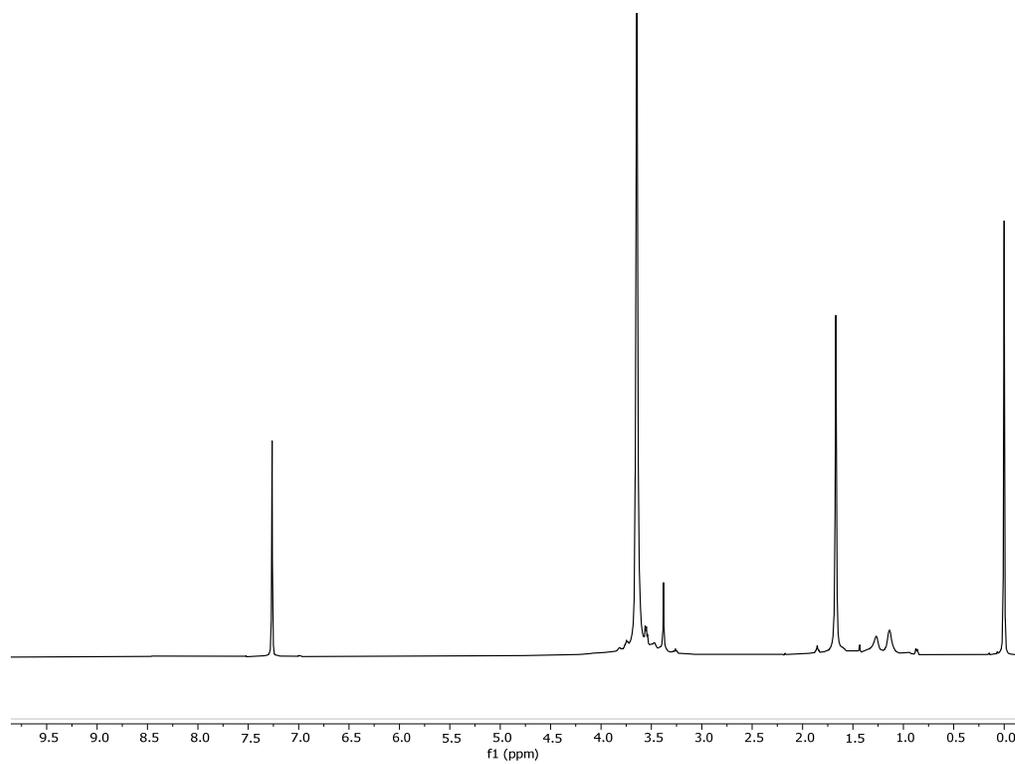


Figure S3: ^1H NMR spectrum of **P2** in CDCl_3 .

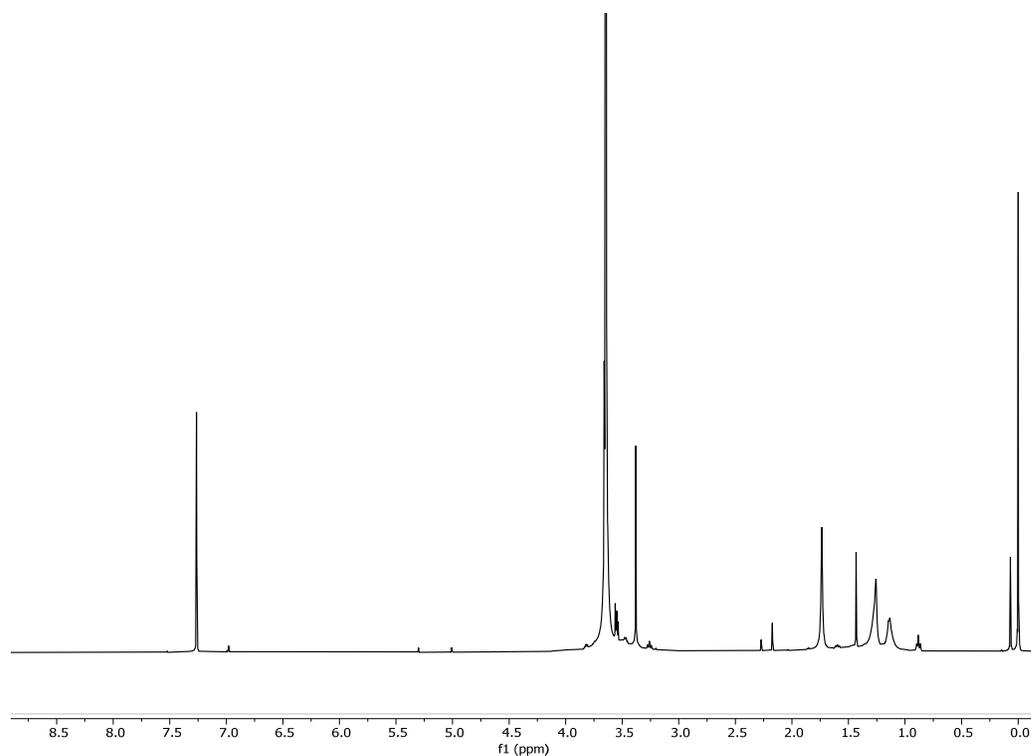


Figure S4: ^1H NMR spectrum of **P3** in CDCl_3 .

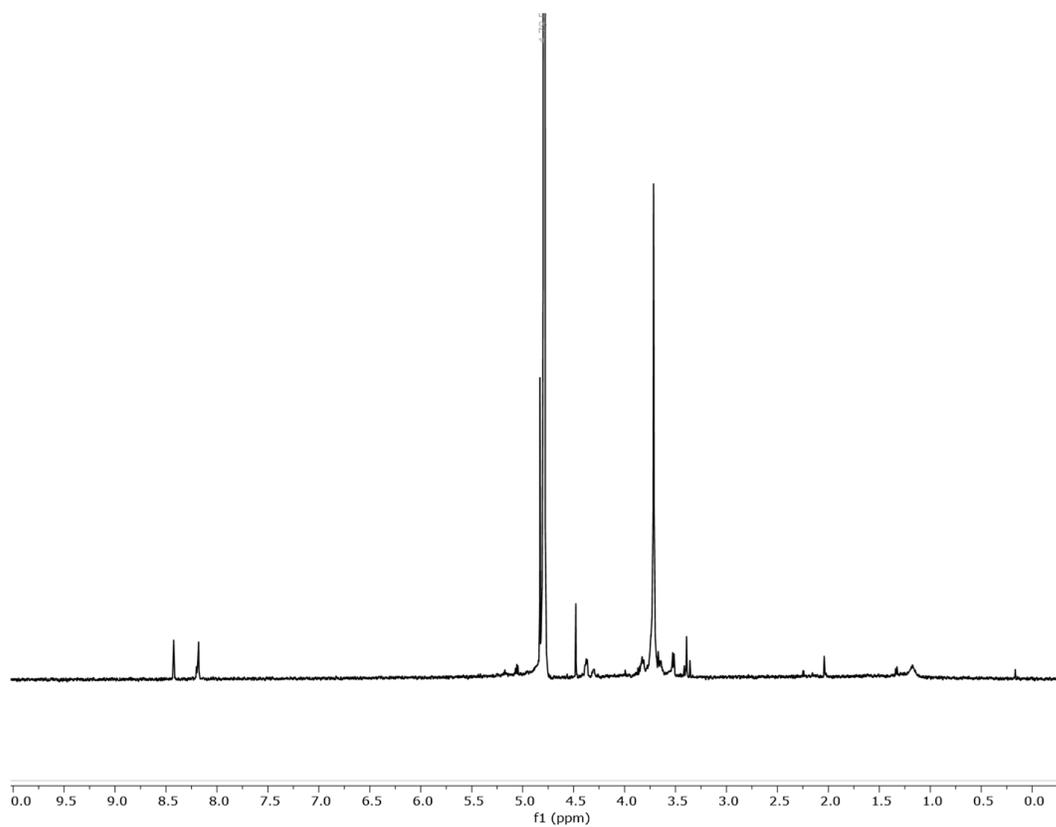


Figure S5: ^1H NMR spectrum of **P1a** in D_2O .

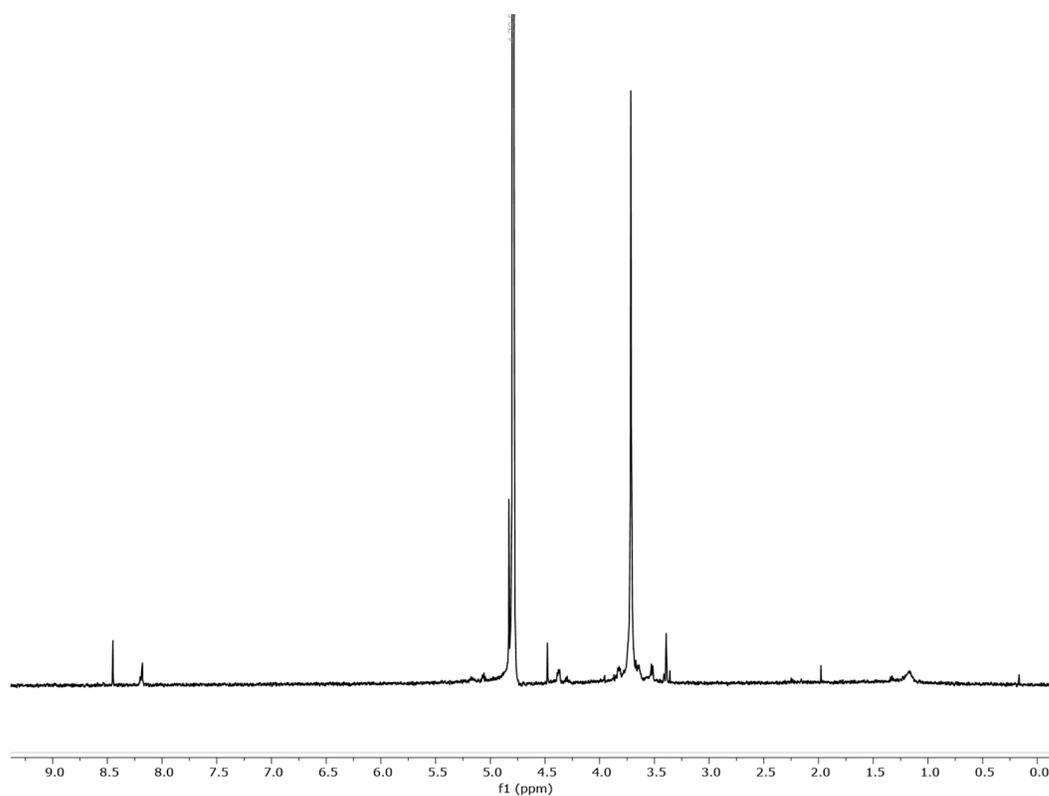


Figure S6: ¹H NMR spectrum of **P2a** in D₂O.

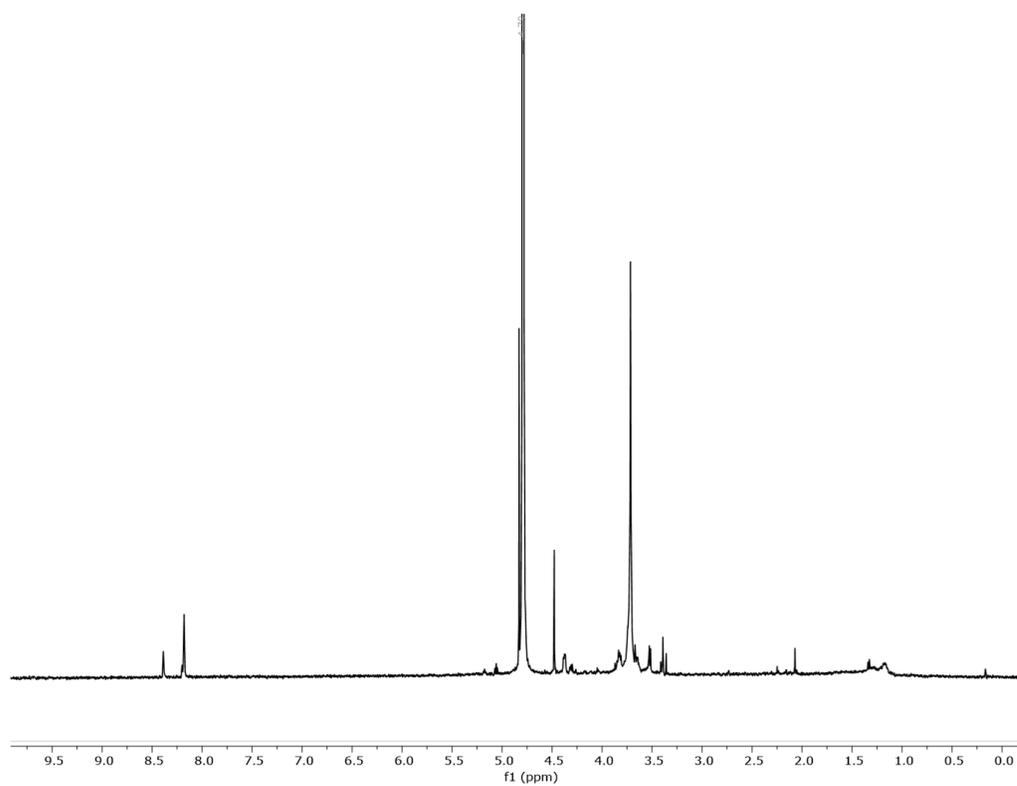


Figure S7: ¹H NMR spectrum of **P3a** in D₂O.

3. IR spectroscopy

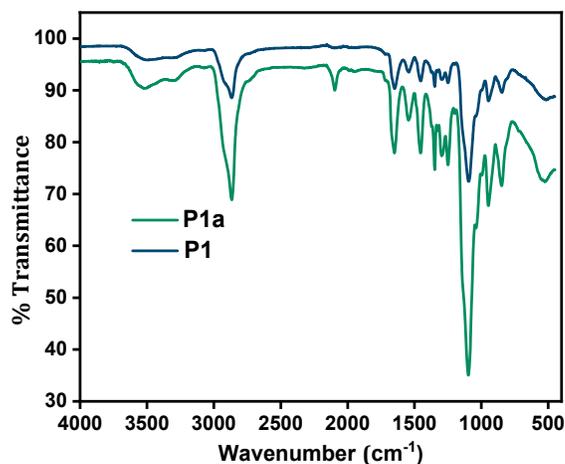
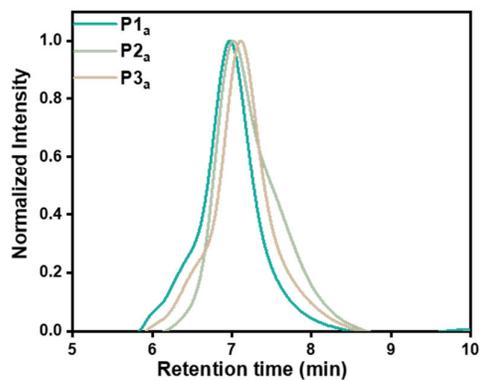


Figure S8: Infrared spectra of amphiphilic polymer of **P1_a** and **P1**: before and after incorporation of diyne **2** confirming the disappearance of azide peak at 2096 cm⁻¹.

4. SEC chromatography

A



B

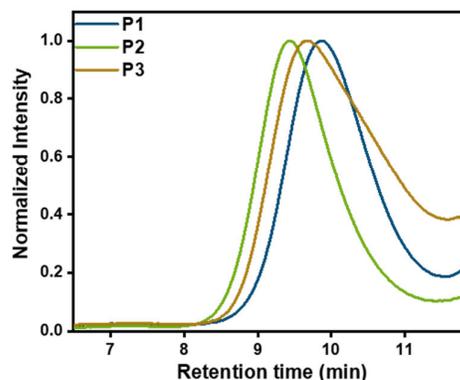


Figure S9: A) Normalised SEC traces in DMF of polymer precursors **P1_a-P3_a** (1 mg/mL). B) Normalised SEC traces in PBS of **P1-P3** after incorporation of ligand (1 mg/mL).

5. CD Spectroscopy

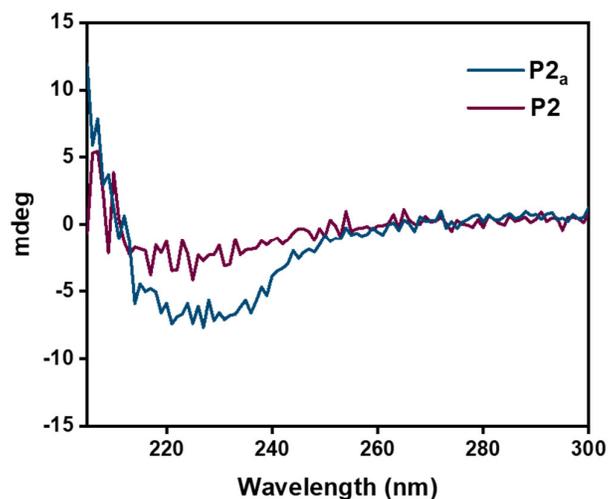


Figure S10: Circular dichroism spectra of polymeric nanoparticles: **P2_a** and **P2** after intramolecular crosslinking, $[P] = 0.5 \text{ mg/mL}$, $T = 20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, in H_2O : The self-assembly of BTA grafts before and after the incorporation of the crosslinking ligands showed a negative CD signal centred around $\lambda = 225 \text{ nm}$ indicating the presence of left-handed (M) helical BTA aggregates. The incorporation of the ligand reduced the size of the CD effect, indicating that the degree of BTA self-assembly was negatively affected.

6. Dynamic light scattering measurements

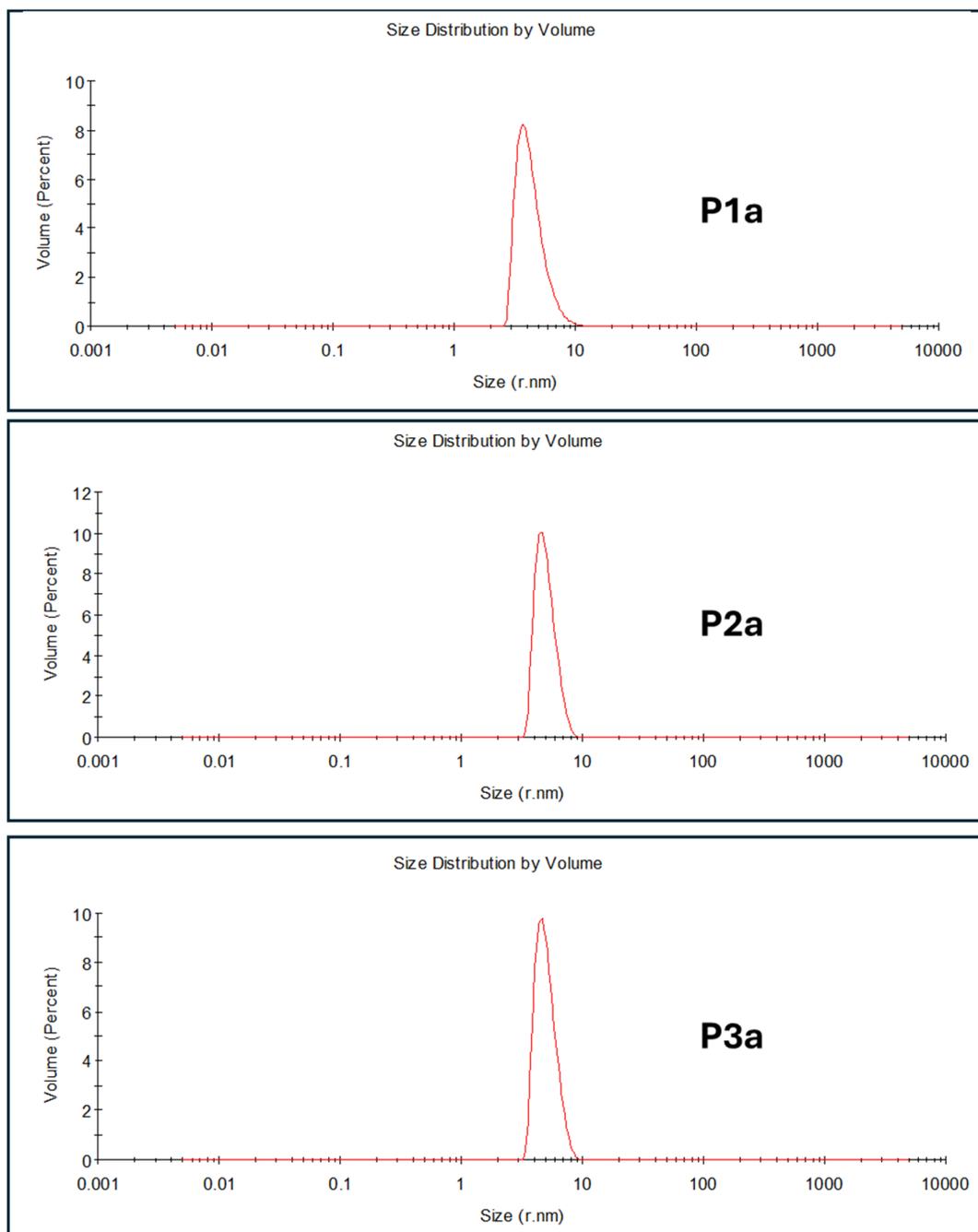


Figure S11: Dynamic light scattering measurements of **P1a-P3a**, $[P] = 1 \text{ mg/mL}$ in H_2O .

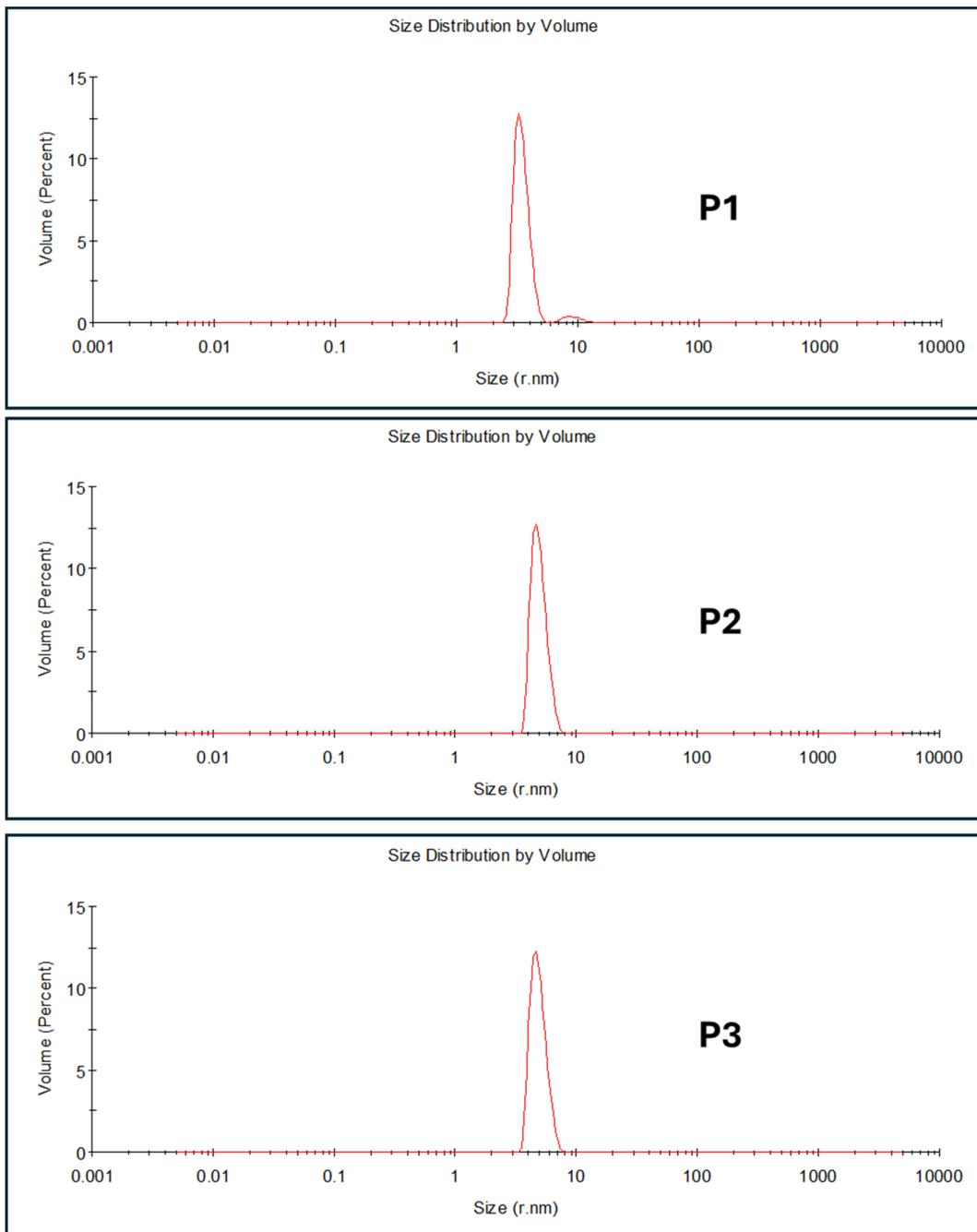


Figure S12: Dynamic light scattering measurements of **P1-P3**, $[P] = 1 \text{ mg/mL}$ in H_2O .

7. HPLC-UV

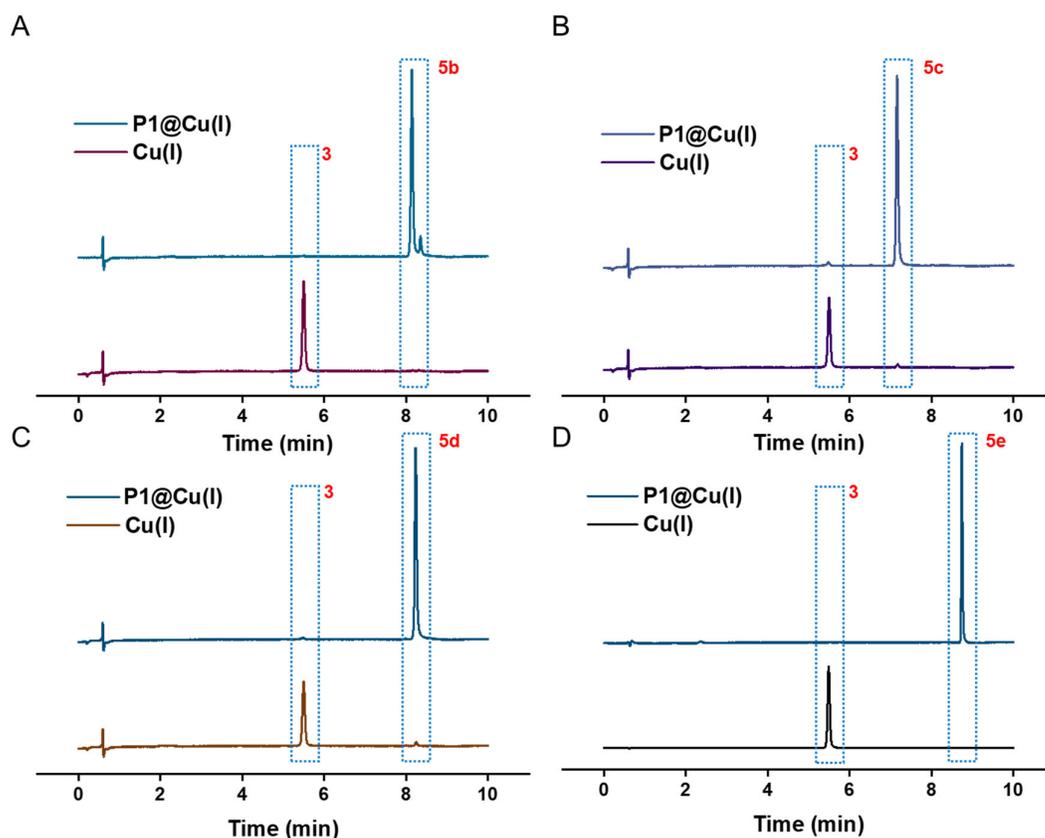


Figure S13: HPLC-UV chromatogram after CuAAC reaction between **3** and **4b-e** to form **5b-e** using **P1@Cu(I)** and **Cu(I)**, monitored after 10 min, at $\lambda = 340$ nm. Reaction conditions: in H_2O , $[\text{Cu(I)}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$, $[\mathbf{3}] = 100 \mu\text{M}$, $[\mathbf{4b-e}] = 400 \mu\text{M}$, $[\text{NaAsc}] = 2 \text{ mM}$, $[\mathbf{P}] = \sim 600 \text{ nM}$, at room temperature.

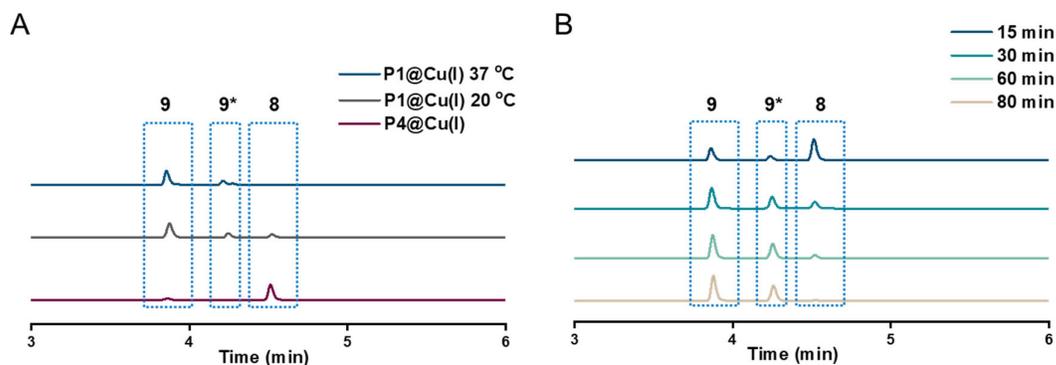


Figure S14: HPLC-UV chromatogram A) pro-rho **8** activation using **P1@Cu(I)**, $T = 20^\circ\text{C}$ and 37°C and **P4@Cu(I)**, $T = 20^\circ\text{C}$. Reaction conditions = in H_2O , $[\text{Cu(I)}] = 2 \mu\text{M}$, $[\mathbf{8}] = 30 \mu\text{M}$, $[\text{NaAsc}] = 2 \text{ mM}$, $[\mathbf{P}] = \sim 120 \text{ nM}$. B) pro-rho **8** activation using **P1@Cu(I)** over time, reaction

conditions = in H₂O, [Cu(I)] = 10 μM, [8] = 100 μM, [NaAsc] = 2 mM, [P] = ~600 nM. 9* formed during pro-rho activation was also monitored using HPLC-MS, but was not detected as sharply as seen in UV, with [M+H]⁺ = 510 and is expected to be the intermediate after depropargylation before the release of CO₂ stabilised by Na⁺ from sodium ascorbate.

8. Ensemble kinetic studies

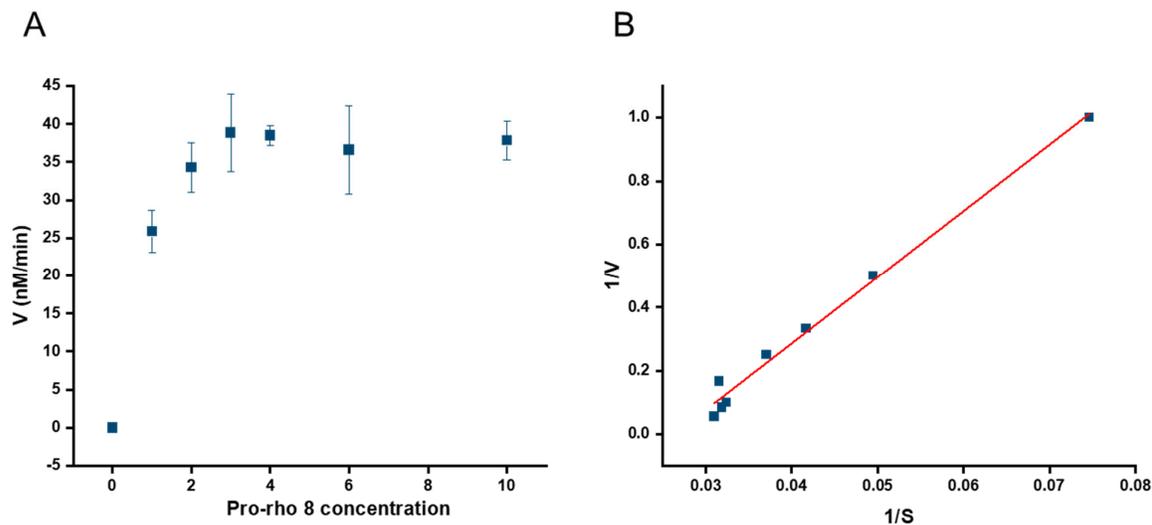
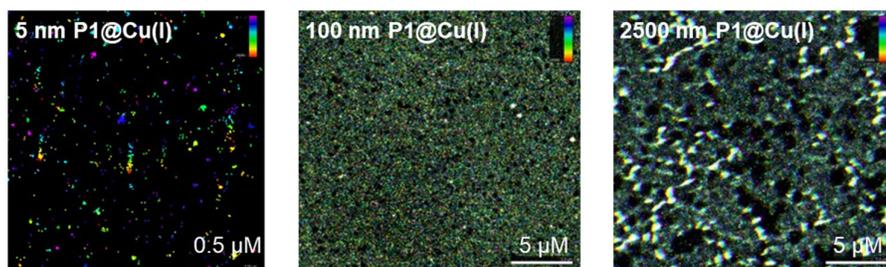


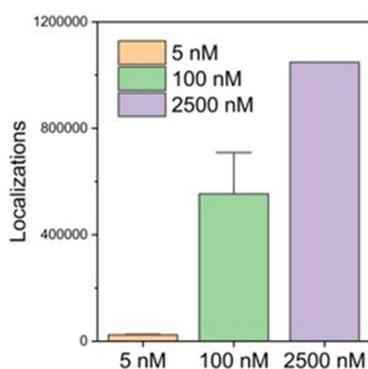
Figure S15: A) Change in the initial reaction rate of the depropargylation reaction of pro-rho **8** with the increase in substrate concentration using **P1@Cu(I)**, error calculated from three independent measurements. B) Lineweaver-Burk plot of reaction kinetics of the same reaction catalysed by **P3@Cu(I)**, rate monitored using fluorescence kinetic experiment ($t_0 = 0$ min and $t_f = 10$ min) and concentration of product determined from the calibration curve of rho **9**, [P] = 5 nM, in H₂O, T = 37 °C, pro-rho **8** concentration as indicated, Equation : $1/V = (K_m/V_{max} \times 1/[S]) + (1/V_{max})$, in the plot $y = 1/V$ and $x = 1/[S]$, $R^2 = 0.98$.

9. Single-particle kinetic studies

A



B



C

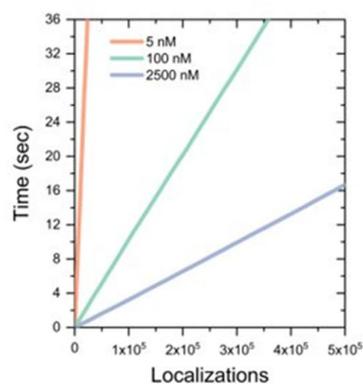


Figure S16: A) Time-sequence catalysis mapping using TIRF microscope monitoring the activation of pro-rho **3** by immobilised **P1@Cu(I)** in increasing concentrations B) Localisations of product molecules after catalysis measurements at different concentrations of **P1@Cu(I)** D) Localisation of product molecules overtime at different concentrations of **P1@Cu(I)**, [pro-rho **3**] = 1 μ M, [NaAsc] = 1 mM, [**P**] = 5, 100 and 2500 nM.

10. Mechanism of Cu(I) catalyzed depropargylation reactions

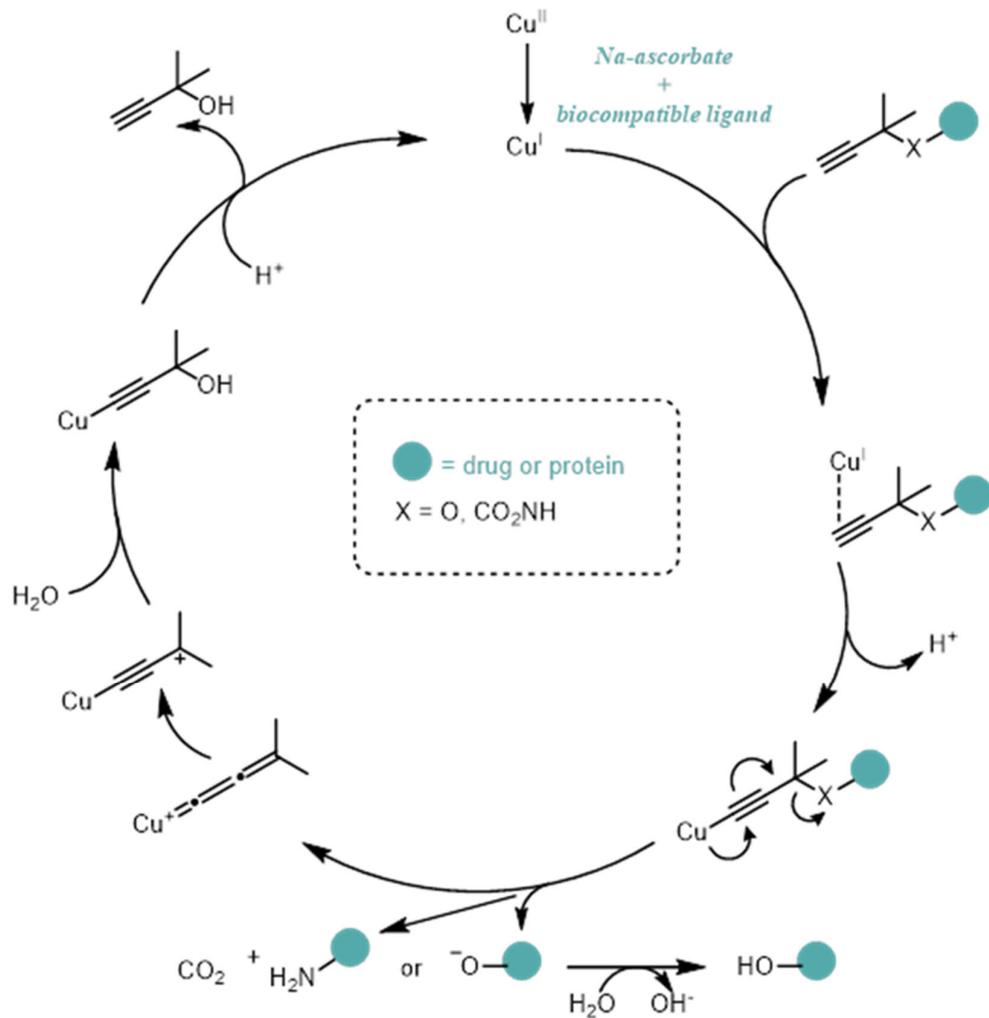


Figure S17: Reaction mechanism of Cu(I) catalyzed depropargylation reaction.[1]

11. References

1. Latocheski, E.; Dal Forno, G.M.; Ferreira, T.M.; Oliveira, B.L.; Domingos, J.B.; Bernardes, G.J.L.; et al. Mechanistic Insights into Transition Metal-Mediated Bioorthogonal Uncaging Reactions. *Chem Soc Rev* **2020**, *49*, doi:10.1039/D0CS00630K.