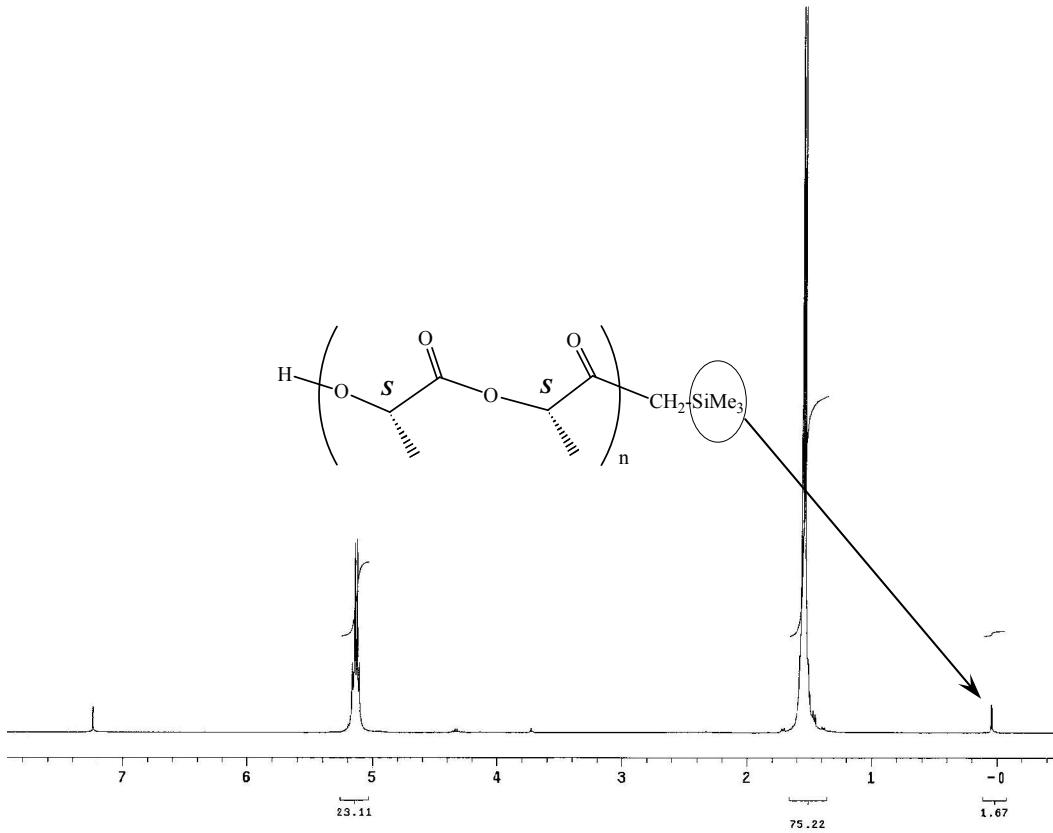


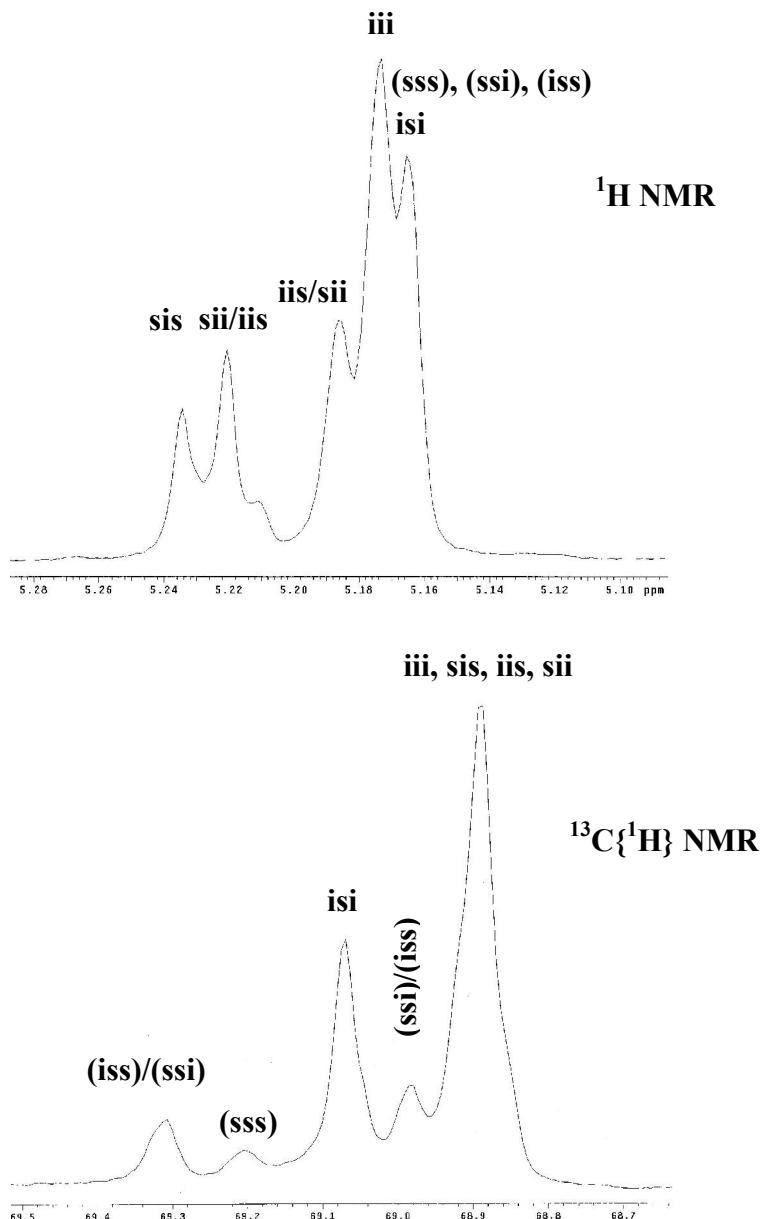
SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Well-defined alkyl heteroscorpionate  
magnesium complexes as excellent initiators for  
the ROP of cyclic esters.

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<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, 298 K, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of PLA prepared by the polymerization of L-LA initiated by **6** at 48% conversion, showing resonances for the –CH<sub>2</sub>SiMe<sub>3</sub> chain termini ([L-LA]<sub>0</sub>/[**6**]<sub>0</sub> = 100, toluene, 70 °C).



$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of the homodecoupled  $\text{CH}$  resonance and  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (125.7 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of the methane carbon signals of poly(rac-lactide) initiated by **3**. The tetrad sequence is according to: Zell, M. T.; Padden, B. E.; Paterick, A. J.; Thakur, K. A. M.; Kean, R. T.; Hiimyer, M. A.; Munson, E. J. *Macromolecules* **2002**, 35, 7700. The (sss), (iss), and (ssi) tetrads in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR homodecoupled and  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra are proposed to arise from trans-esterification, as these sequences are normally seen only in poly(meso-lactide).