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## Supporting Information

# Hyperbranched PEI with various oligosaccharide architectures: Synthesis, characterization, ATP complexation and cellular uptake properties

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## Calculation of the degree of functionalization (DF) and total degree of functionalization (TDF) of modified PEI based on PEI-II from elemental analysis

### Example for 2-Mal:

Elemental analysis: C = 44.42 %, N = 3.94 %, H = 7.19

DP = 84, a = number of coupled maltose

$M_{Polymer} = (C_2H_5N) \times 84 + a \times (C_{12}H_{23}O_{10})$

Nitrogen content: N = 84 x 14 /  $M_{Polymer}$

Carbon content: C = (2 x 12 x 84 + a x 12 x 12) /  $M_{Polymer}$

N/C ratio is 3.94 / 44.42, a = 77.7

The degree of functionalization (DF) based on the conversion of twice T units and one L unit:  
77.7 / (2 x 27.4 + 30.8) = 91 %

The degree of total functionalisation (TDF) based on the conversion of all branching units in the PEI derivative (twice T units, one L unit and one D unit): 77.7 / (2 x 27.4 + 30.8 + 25.8) = 70 %

## Calculation of the degree of branching units (T, L or D units) of modified PEI based on PEI-II from elemental analysis

### Example for 2-Mal:

Number of coupled maltose units (a) on PEI-II is 77.7 received from the calculation of DF.

**PEI-II** possesses 27.4 T units, 30.8 L units and 25.8 D units (Table 3) at which twice conversion of T units is possible finally to result into D units.

The calculation bases on the assumption that at first the T units are converted into L units and then the L units can be converted into D units. Therefore, 27.4 T units are converted into 27.4 L units. From all L units ( $\Sigma$  58.2) 50.3 units are also converted into 50.3 D units. The final calculation gave that 7.9 L units (9.4 %) and 76.1 D units (90.6 %) are present in 2-Mal-I.

## Calculation of the molecular weight ( $M_n$ ) for the PEI derivative used in the ITC study

Need of DP and  $M_n$  of the parent PEI (**PEI-II** and **PEI-II**) which is presented in Table 3.  
Need of number of chemically coupled oligosaccharide received by calculation of the degree of functionalization (DF) from elemental analysis.

### Example for 4-Mal:

DP = 84,  $M_n$  = 3600 g/mol, a = number of coupled maltose

$M_{Polymer} = (C_2H_5N) \times 84 + a \times (C_{12}H_{23}O_{10})$

Nitrogen content: N = 84 x 14 /  $M_{Polymer}$

Carbon content: C = (2 x 12 x 84 + a x 12 x 12) /  $M_{Polymer}$

N/C ratio is 8.09 / 44.53, a = 31

Then, determination of  $M_n$  of chemically coupled maltose unit on PEI-core with a = 31. This means the calculation of  $31 \times (C_{12}H_{23}O_{10})$  followed by the addition of  $M_{n,PEI}$  and  $M_{maltose}$ . Thus, the sum of  $M_n$  is 13800 g/mol for **4-Mal**

**Figure Caption for Supporting Information**

**Figure 1-SI**  $^1\text{H}$  spectra of **1-Mal-III** and **5-Mal-III** obtained from substrate ratio **PEI-I/Mal-III** 1 : 5 and **PEI-III/Mal-III** 1: 2, respectively.

**Figure 2-SI**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **2-Lac** obtained from substrate ratio **PEI-II/Lac** 1 : 5.

**Figure 3-SI**  $^1\text{H}$  spectra of **4-Mal** and **6-Mal** obtained from substrate ratio **PEI-II/Mal** 1 : 0.5 and 1 : 0.2, respectively.

**Figure 4-SI**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **6-Mal-VII** based on the substrate ratio **PEI-II/Mal-VII** 1 : 0.5 (R = reductively coupled maltoheptaose unit).

**Figure 5-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of (A) **1-Mal-III** based on the substrate ratio **PEI-I/Mal-III** 1 : 5 and (B) **3-Mal-III** based on the educt ratio **PEI-III/Mal-III** 1 : 2.

**Figure 6-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **2-Mal** obtained from substrate ratio **PEI-II/Mal** 1 : 2 and 1 : 10, respectively.

**Figure 7-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **2-Lac** and **4-Lac** based on the substrate ratio **PEI-II/Lac** 1 : 5 and 1 : 0.4, respectively.

**Figure 8-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **2-Mal-III** based on the substrate ratio **PEI-II/Mal-III** 1 : 5.

**Figure 9-SI.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of (A) **4-Mal-III** based on the substrate ratio **PEI-II/Mal-III** 1 : 0.5

**Figure 10-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **6-Mal-VII** based on the educt ratio **PEI-II/Mal-VII** 1 : 0.5 (R = reductively coupled maltoheptaose unit).

**Figure 11-SI** ATR-IR spectrum of **PEI-II**.

**Figure 12-SI** ATR-IR spectrum of **2-Glc** with structure **A**.

**Figure 13-SI** ATR-IR spectrum of **2-Mal** with structure **A**.

**Figure 14-SI** ATR-IR spectrum of **5-Mal-III** with structure **B**.

**Figure 15-SI** ATR-IR spectrum of **4-Mal** with structure **B**.

**Figure 16-SI** ATR-IR spectrum of **2-Lac** with structure **A**.

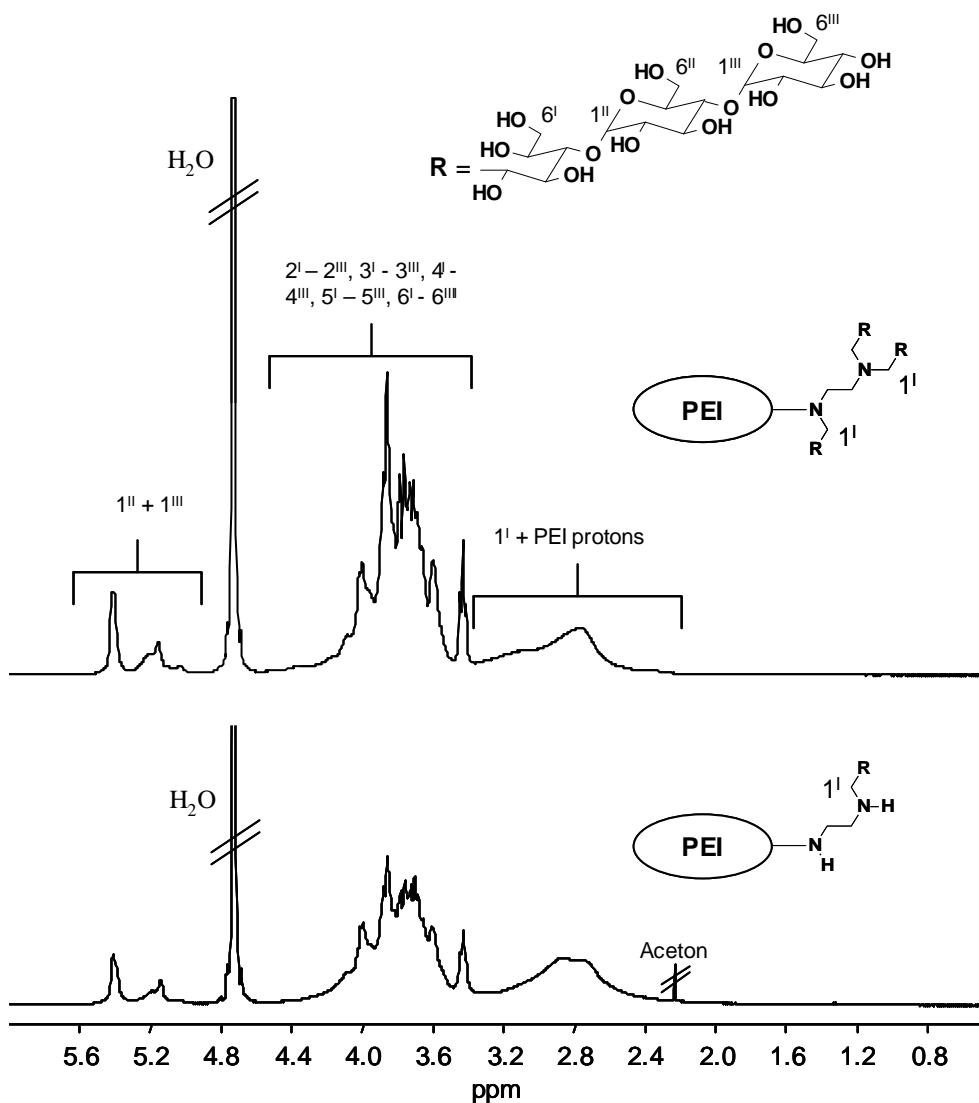
**Figure 17-SI** Binding of ATP to **PEI-III** and **3-Mal-III** and **7-Mal-III** which possess **PEI-III** as core molecule.

**Figure 18-SI** -fold increase in nucleotide uptake upon complexation (HepG2 cells):  
procedure as mentioned for Figure 8.

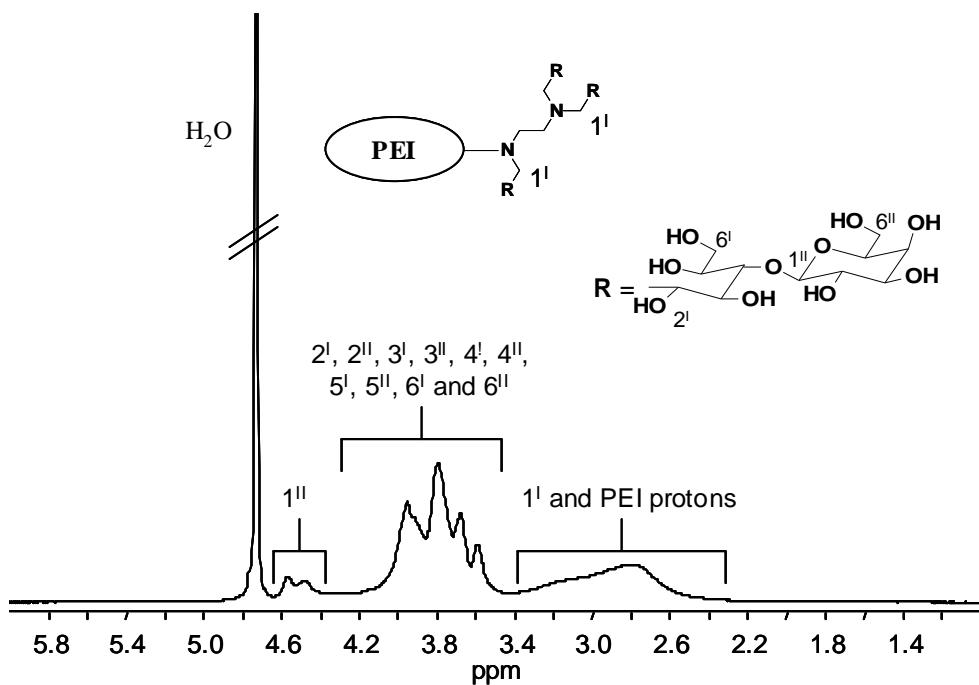
**Table 1-SI** Influence of the substrate ratio **PEI-II** : oligosaccharide (OS) and **PEI-III** : OS on the degree of functionalization (DF), total degree of functionalization (TDF) of modified PEI and the determination of the degree of T, L and D units obtained from elemental analysis.

**Table 2-SI** Comparison of  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts of D, L and T units for **PEI-II** and **PEI-III** and (oligo-)saccharide-modified PEI based on modified **PEI-II** and **PEI-III** in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ .

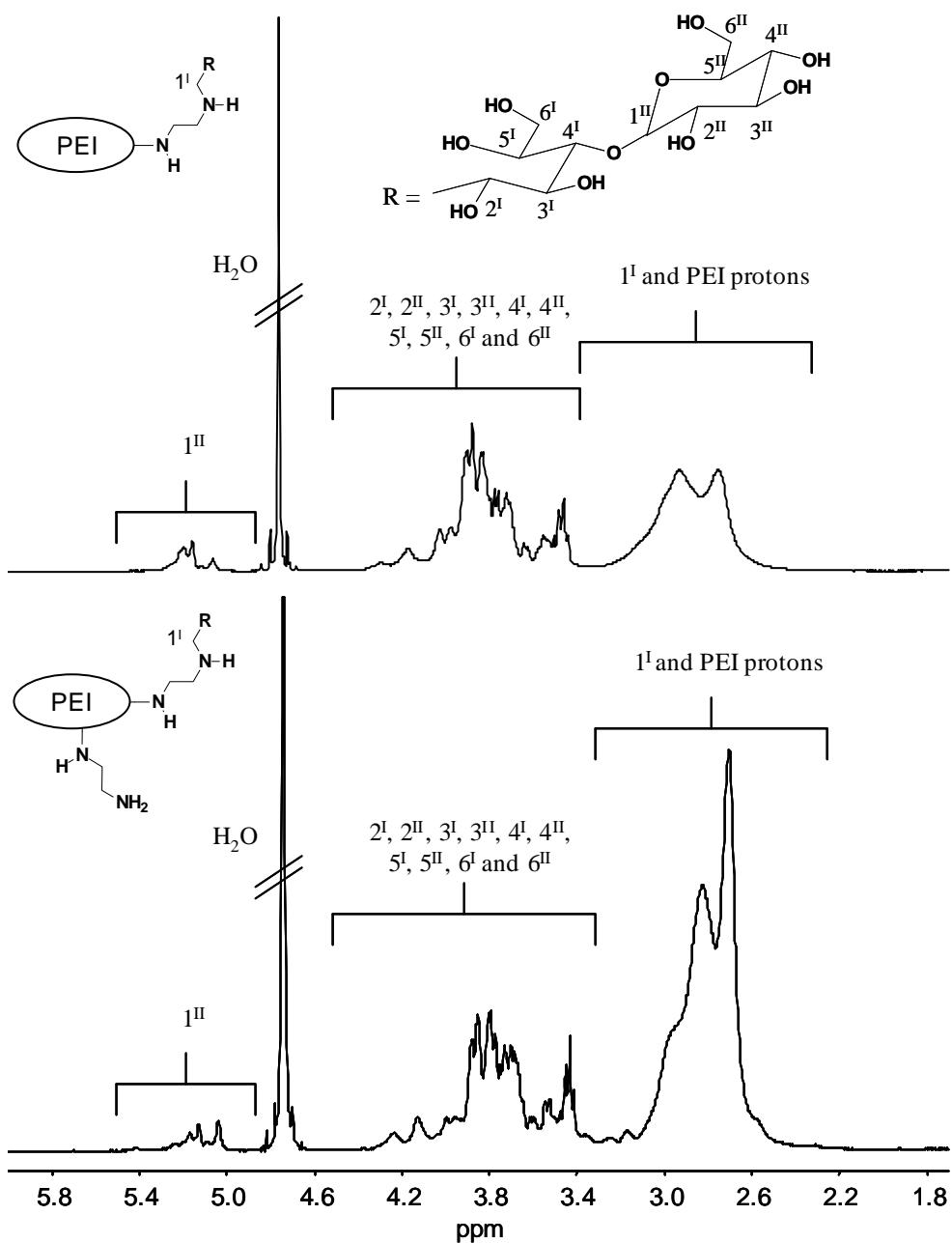
**Table 3-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  signal assignment for PEI-bonded glucose (**Glc**), maltose (**Mal**) and maltotriose (**Mal-III**)



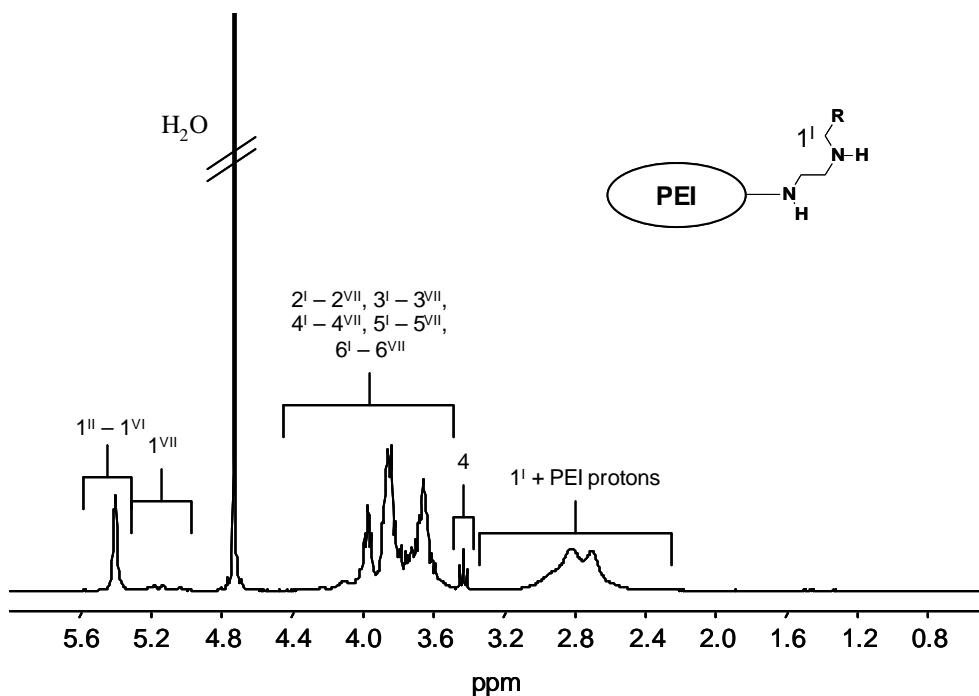
**Figure 1-SI**  $^1\text{H}$  spectra of **1-Mal-III** with structure **A** (top) and **3-Mal-III** with structure **B** (bottom) obtained from educt ratio **PEI-I/Mal-III** 1 : 5 and 1: 2, respectively.



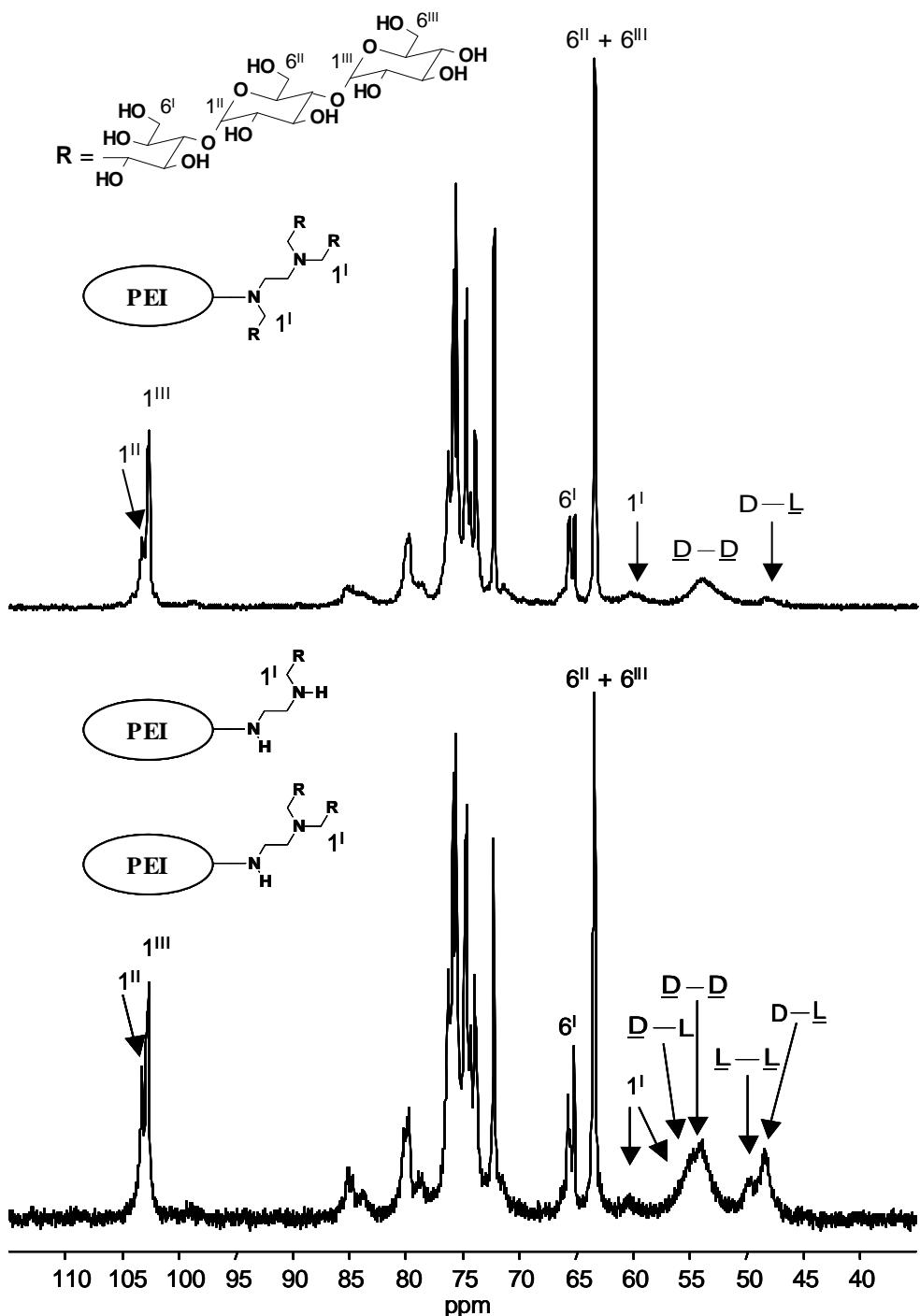
**Figure 2-SI** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **2-Lac** with structure **A** obtained from educt ratio **PEI-II/Lac** 1 : 5.



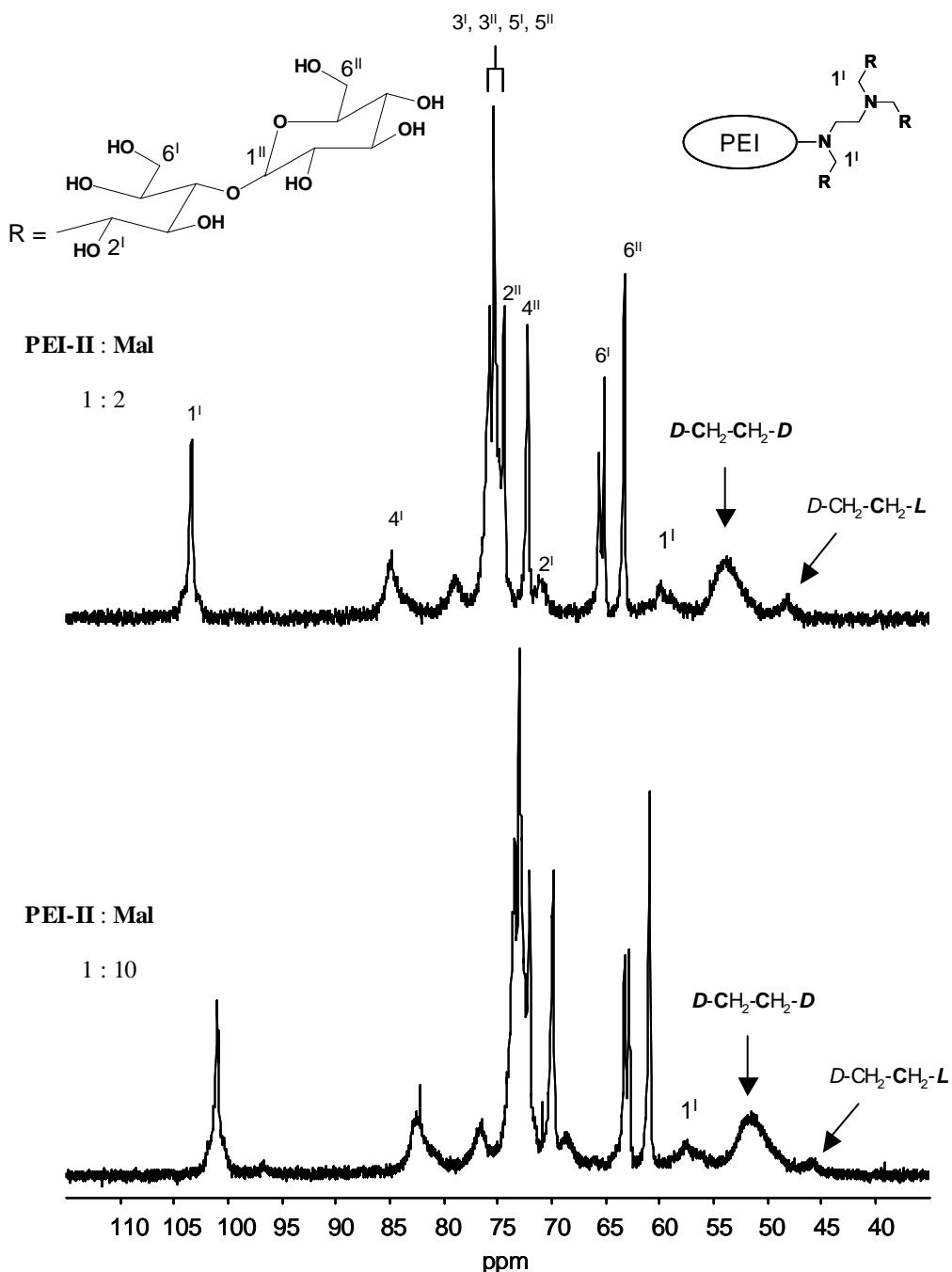
**Figure 3-SI**  $^1\text{H}$  spectra of **4-Mal** with structure **B** (top) and **6-Mal** with structure **C** (bottom) obtained from educt ratio **PEI-II/Mal** 1 : 0.5 and 1 : 0.2, respectively.



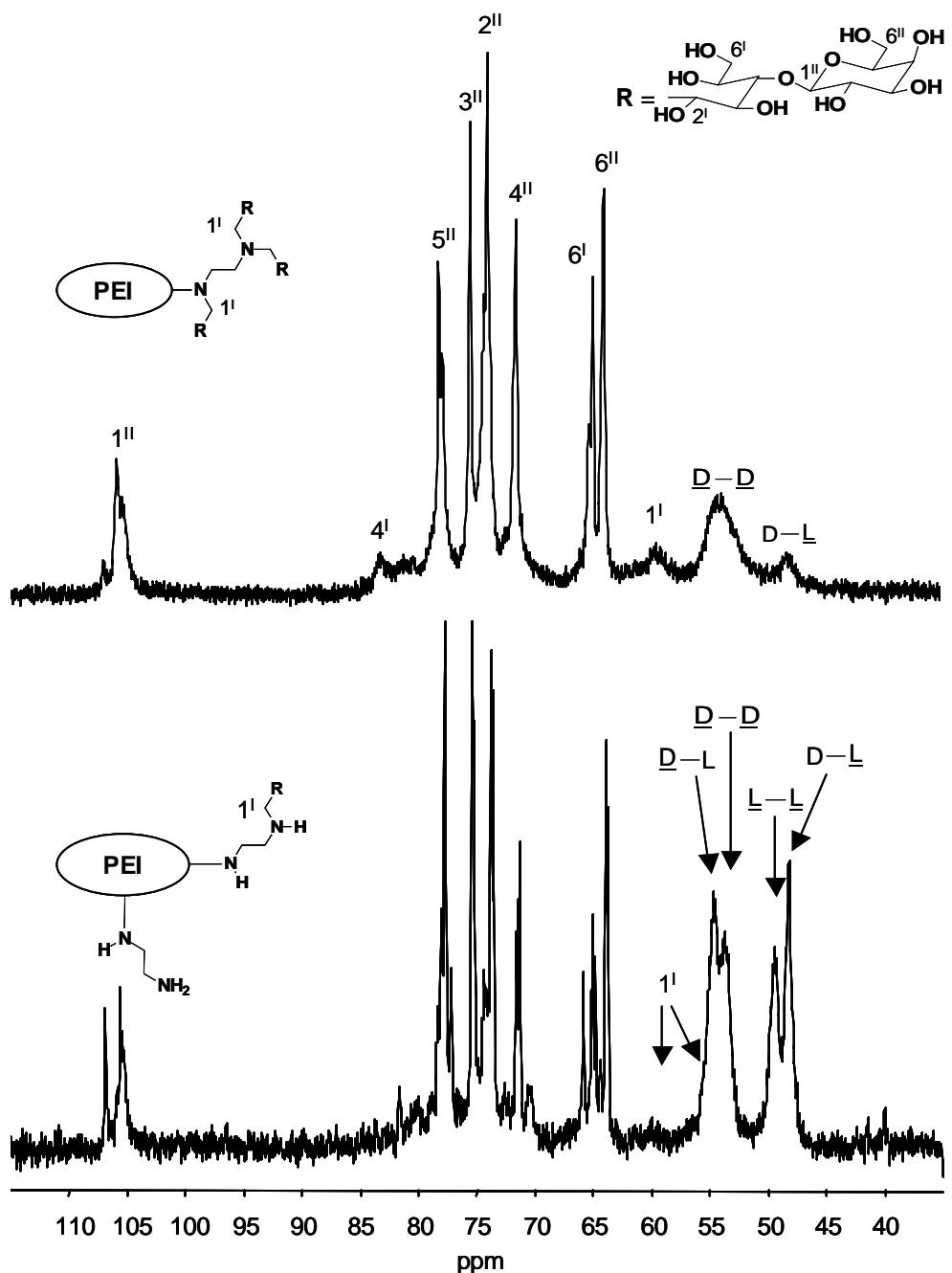
**Figure 4-SI** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **6-Mal-VII** with structure **C** based on the educt ratio **PEI-II/Mal-VII** 1 : 0.5 (R = reductively coupled maltoheptaose unit; Scheme 1).



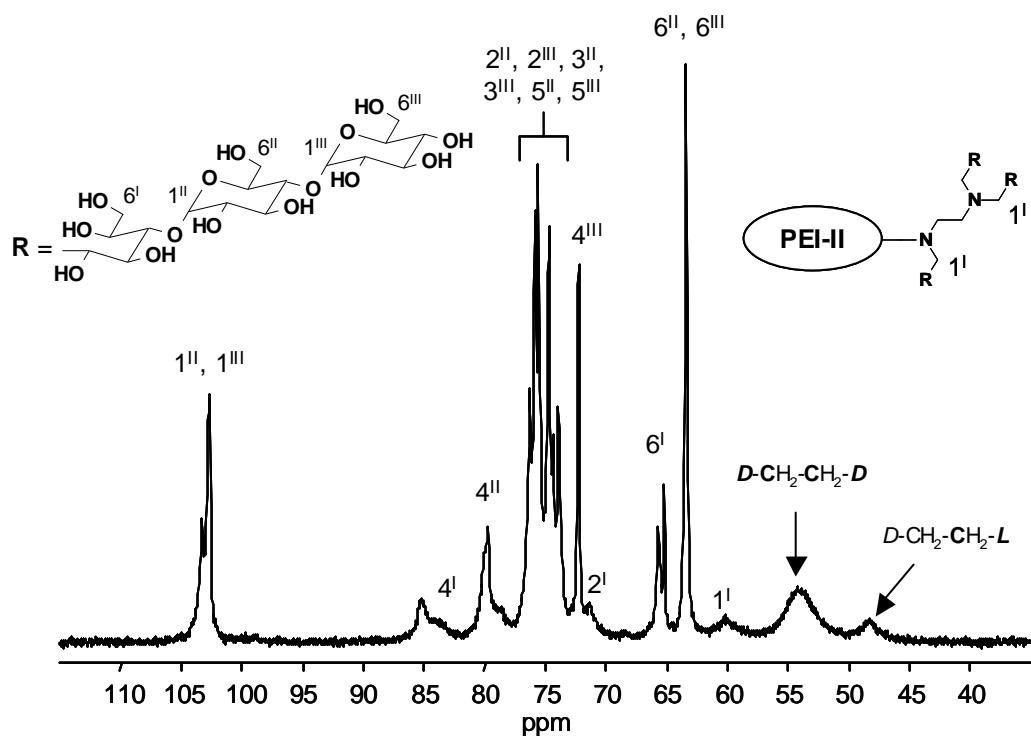
**Figure 5-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **1-Mal-III** with structure **A** (top) based on the educt ratio **PEI-I/Mal-III** 1 : 5 and **3-Mal-III** with transition from structure **A** to **B** (bottom) based on the educt ratio **PEI-III/Mal-III** 1 : 2.



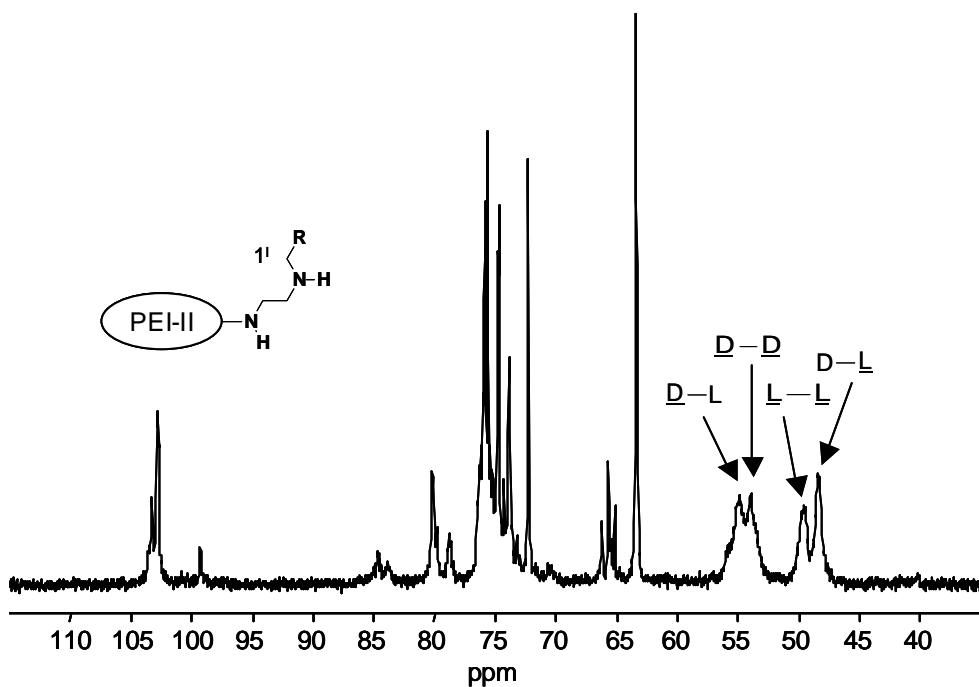
**Figure 6-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of 2-Mal obtained from educt ratio **PEI-II/Mal** 1 : 2 and 1 : 10, respectively.



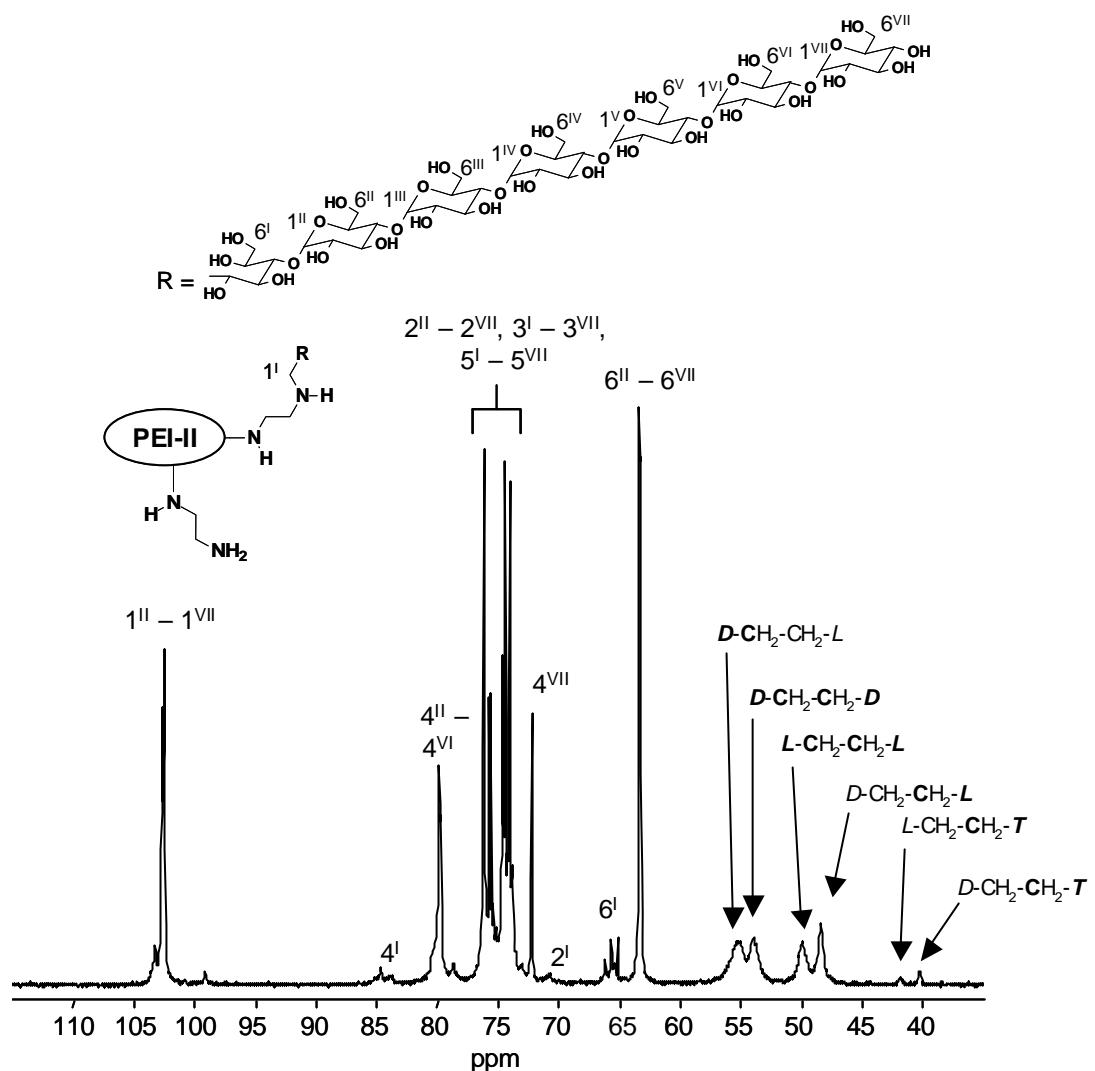
**Figure 7-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **2-Lac** with structure **A** (top) and **6-Lac** with structure **C** (bottom) based on the educt ratio **PEI-II/Lac** 1 : 5 and 1 : 0.4, respectively.



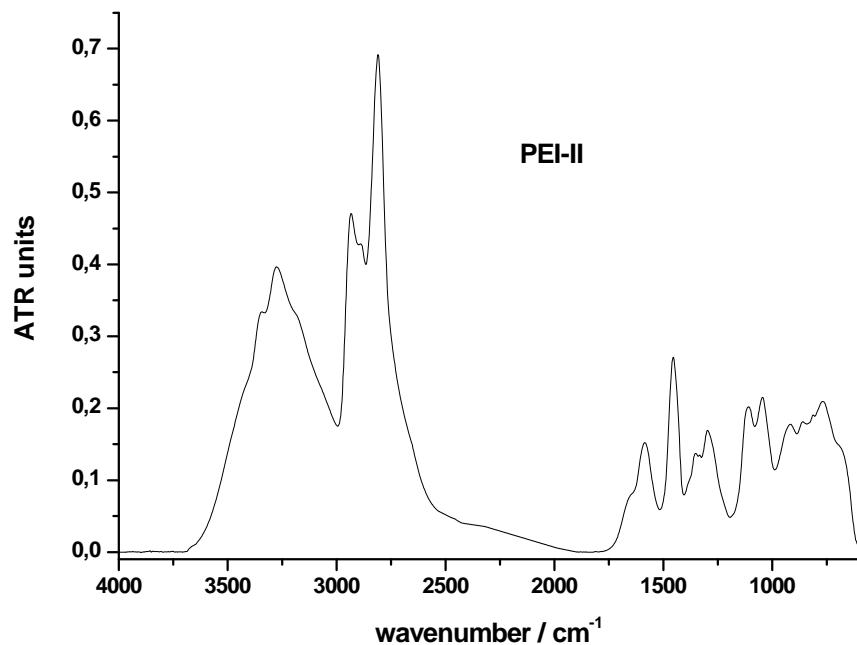
**Figure 8-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **2-Mal-III** based on the substrate ratio **PEI-II/Mal-III** 1 : 5.



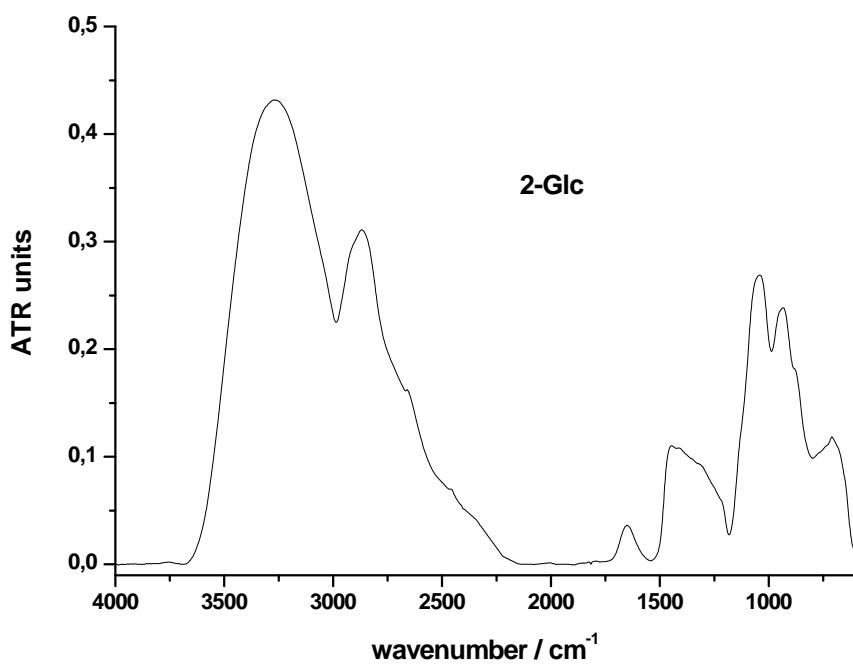
**Figure 9-SI.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of (A) 4-Mal-III with structure **B** based on the substrate ratio PEI-II/Mal-III 1 : 0.5 (R = reductively coupled maltotriose).



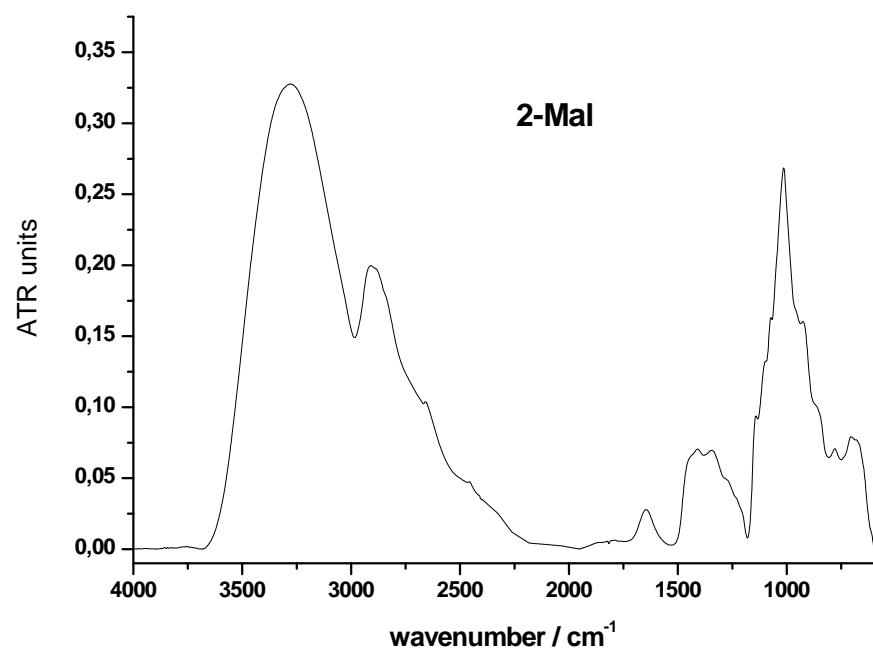
**Figure 10-SI**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **6-Mal-VII** with structure **C** based on the educt ratio **PEI-II/Mal-VII** 1 : 0.5 (R = reductively coupled maltoheptaose unit).



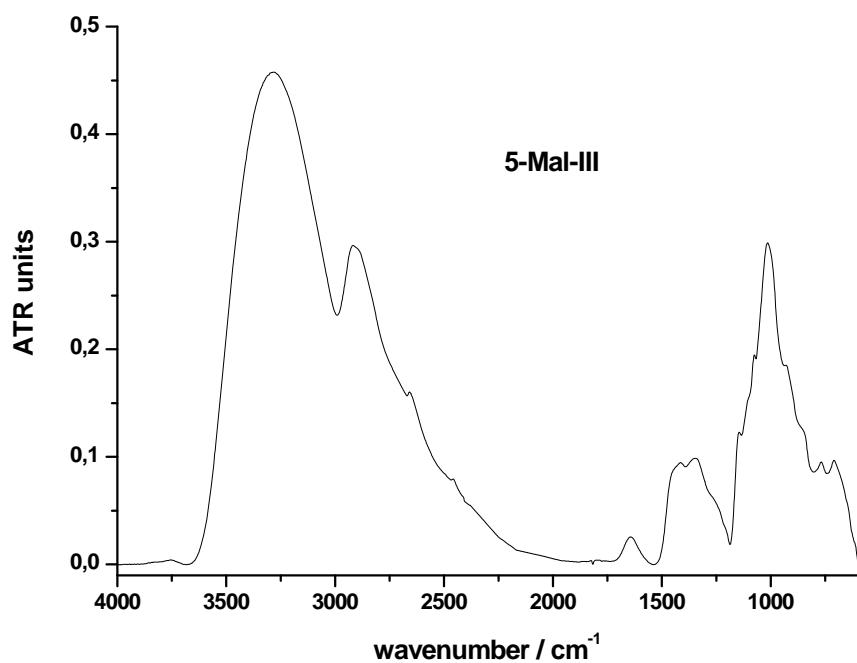
**Figure 11-SI.** ATR-IR spectrum of **PEI-II**.



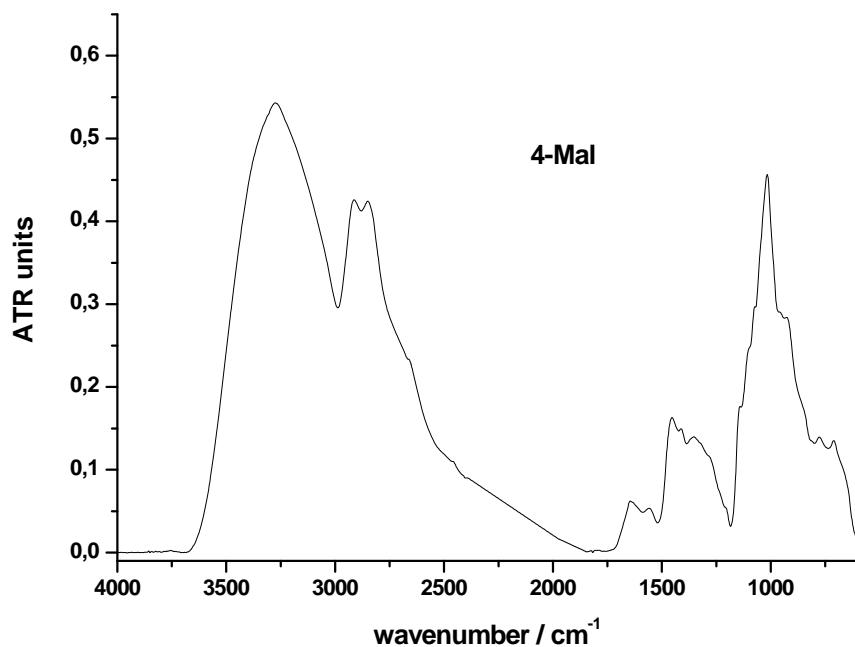
**Figure 12-SI.** ATR-IR spectrum of **2-Glc** with structure A.



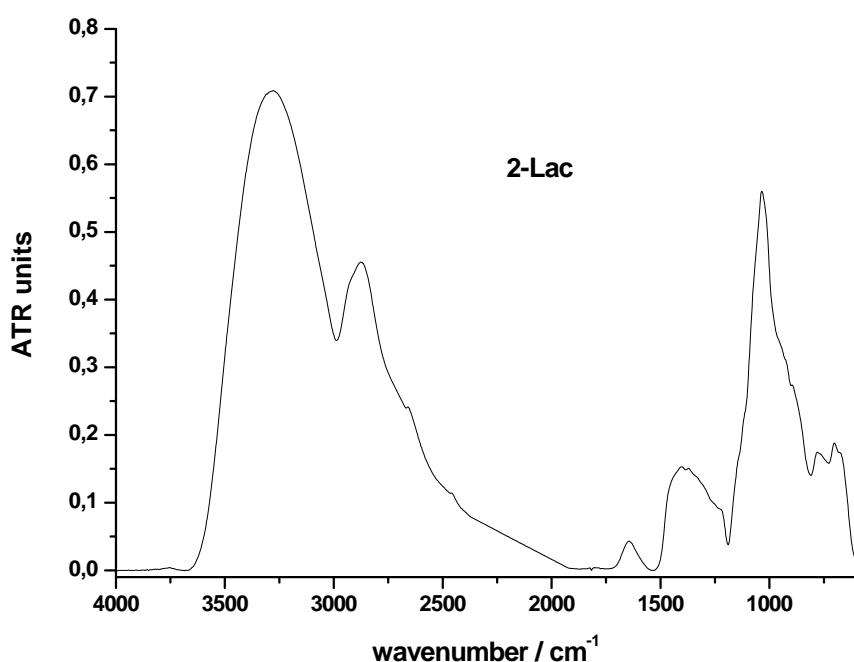
**Figure 13-SI.** ATR-IR spectrum of **2-Mal** with structure **A**.



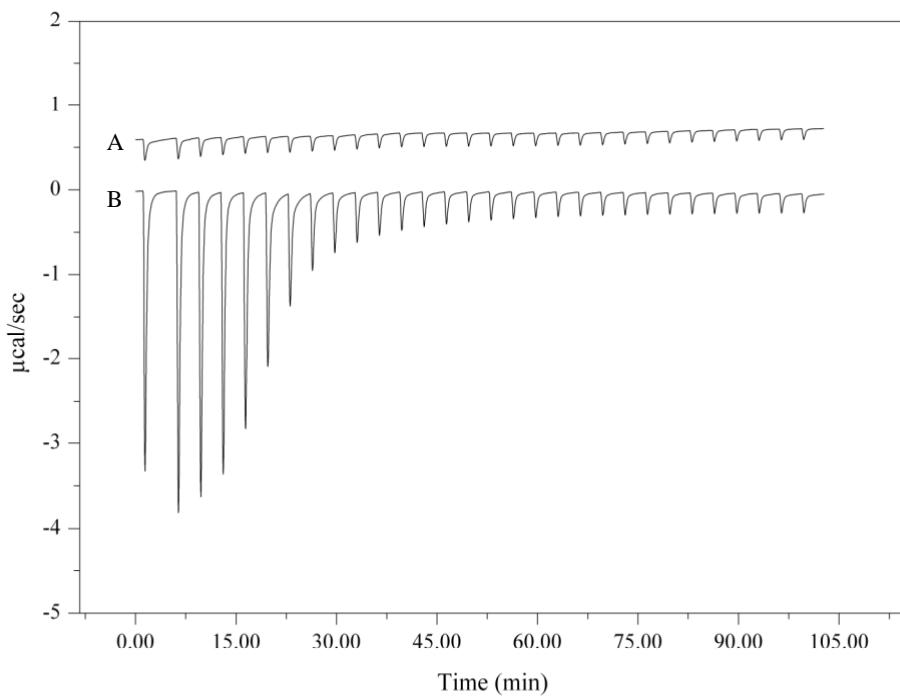
**Figure 14-SI.** ATR-IR spectrum of **5-Mal-III** with structure **B**.



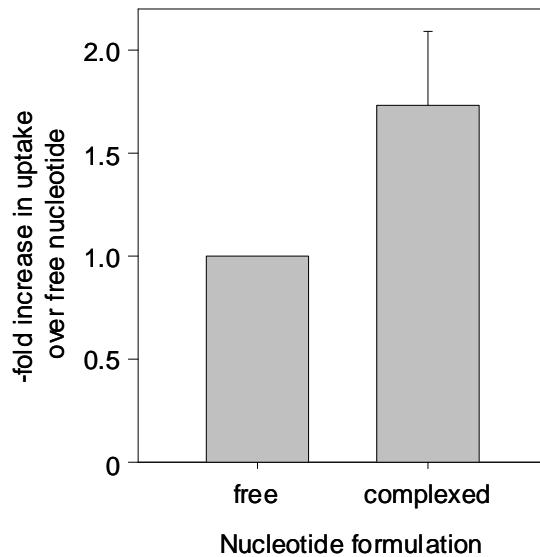
**Figure 15.-SI** ATR-IR spectrum of **4-Mal** with structure **B**.



**Figure 16-SI.** ATR-IR spectrum of **2-Lac** with structure **A**.



**Figure 17-SI.** Binding of ATP with **7-Mal-III** (A) Titration of ATP (0.1 mM) to HEPES buffer and (B) to **7-Mal-III** in HEPES buffer at 25°C. Graphs show the calorimetric traces (heat flow against time).



**Figure 18-SI** -fold increase in nucleotide uptake upon complexation (HepG2 cells):  
procedure as mentioned for Figure 8.

**Table 1-SI.** Influence of the substrate ratio **PEI-II** : oligosaccharide (OS) and **PEI-III** : OS on the degree of functionalization (DF), total degree of functionalization (TDF) of modified PEI and the determination of the degree of T, L and D units obtained from elemental analysis.

Substrate <sup>a</sup>	PEI	Educt ratio PEI : OS	DF for L + 2xT <sup>b,c</sup> %	TDF for L + 2xT + D <sup>b,d</sup> %	T unit <sup>b</sup> %	L unit <sup>b</sup> %	D unit <sup>b</sup> %
<b>3-Mal (A)</b>	<b>PEI-III</b>	1 : 4.25	91	70	-	9	91
<b>5-Mal (B)</b>	<b>PEI-III</b>	1 : 0.5	- <sup>e</sup>	- <sup>e</sup>	- <sup>e</sup>	- <sup>e</sup>	- <sup>e</sup>
<b>3-Mal-III (A)</b>	<b>PEI-III</b>	1 : 4.25	78	60	-	22	78
<b>5-Mal-III (B)</b>	<b>PEI-III</b>	1 : 2	48	37	-	51	49
<b>7-Mal-III (C)<sup>f</sup></b>	<b>PEI-III</b>	1 : 0.4	30	21	3	67	30
					7 <sup>e</sup>	53 <sup>e</sup>	40.0 <sup>e</sup>
<b>2-Lac (A)</b>	<b>PEI-II</b>	1 : 5	80	61	-	21	79
<b>6-Lac (C)<sup>g</sup></b>	<b>PEI-II</b>	1 : 0.4	30	23	2	67	31
					6 <sup>e</sup>	52 <sup>e</sup>	42 <sup>e</sup>
<b>3-Lac (A)</b>	<b>PEI-III</b>	1 : 4.25	50	-	-	-	-
<b>5-Lac (B)</b>	<b>PEI-III</b>	1 : 0.6	44	34	-	55	45

<sup>a</sup> Character in brackets presents structure for PEI derivative in Scheme 1. <sup>b</sup> Calculation based on elemental analysis; further details are given in Supporting Information. <sup>c</sup> 2xT means that two oligosaccharides can be coupled on one T unit. L means that one oligosaccharide can be coupled on the L unit. <sup>d</sup> All branching units are considered for the calculation of functionalization. <sup>e</sup> Degree of structure units determined by quantitative <sup>13</sup>C NMR. <sup>f</sup> degree of branching 93 %, using Fréchet equation, based on quantitative <sup>13</sup>C NMR. <sup>g</sup> degree of branching 94 %, using Fréchet equation, based on quantitative <sup>13</sup>C NMR.



**Table 2-SI.** Comparison of  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts of T (-NH<sub>2</sub>), L (-NHR) and D (-NR<sub>2</sub>) units for **PEI-II** and **PEI-III** and (oligo-)saccharide-modified PEI based on modified **PEI-II** and **PEI-III** in D<sub>2</sub>O.

Substrate	Structure	D units			L units			T units	
		D-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -T	D-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -L	D-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -D	L-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -T	L-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -L	D-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -L	L-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -T	D-CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -T
<b>PEI-II</b>	-	58.7	55.6, 56.7	53.5, 54.4	53.2, 53.3	50.2	48.1	42.4	40.33
<b>2-Glc</b>	A	-	-	53.3	-	-	47.8	-	-
<b>2-Mal</b>	A	-	-	53.9	-	-	48.2	-	-
<b>4-Mal</b>	B	-	54.7	53.9	- <sup>b</sup>	49.4	48.3	-	-
<b>6-Mal</b>	C	- <sup>a,b</sup>	55.1	53.7	- <sup>b</sup>	49.6	48.2	41.5	40.0
<b>2-Mal-III</b>	A	-	-	54.1	-	48.3	48.3	-	-
<b>4-Mal-III</b>	B	-	54.9	53.9	- <sup>b</sup>	50.0	48.4	-	-
<b>6-Mal-III</b>	C	- <sup>a,b</sup>	55.3	54.0	- <sup>b</sup>	49.9	48.4	41.7	40.3
<b>6-Mal-VII</b>	C	58.4	55.2	54.0	54.0	49.4	48.4	41.8	40.3
<b>2-Lac</b>	A	-	-	54.0	-	-	48.2	-	-
<b>6-Lac</b>	C	- <sup>a,b</sup>	54.6	53.7	- <sup>b</sup>	49.5	48.2	41.5	40.0
<b>PEI-III</b>	-	58.8, 58.9	55.8	53.7, 54.6	53.3, 53.7	50.4, 50.5	48.3	42.6	40.5
<b>3-Mal</b>	A	-	-	53.8	-	-	48.1	-	-
<b>5-Mal-III</b>	B	-	54.9	53.9	- <sup>b</sup>	49.7	48.4	-	-
<b>7-Mal-III</b>	C	- <sup>a,b</sup>	54.9	53.9	- <sup>b</sup>	49.7	48.4	41.6	40.1

<sup>a</sup> Not observable or not detectable compared to unmodified PEI-II. <sup>b</sup> Overlapped by other branching units **D-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-L** and **D-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-D**.

**Table 3-SI.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  signal assignment for PEI-bonded glucose (**Glc**), maltose (**Mal**) and maltotriose (**Mal-III**)<sup>a,b</sup>

substrate	reductive unit <sup>c</sup>																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6												
<b>Glc</b>	59.4	71.6	78.2	76.7	73.7	65.7												
reductive unit I <sup>c</sup>						terminal unit II												
<b>Mal</b>	60.3	71.4	74.5	85.4	75.5	65.3	103.6	74.6	75.9	72.3	75.6	63.4						
reductive unit I <sup>c</sup>				middle unit II				terminal unit III										
<b>Mal-III</b>	60.3	71.5	74.5	85.4	75.6	65.3	103.4	74.4	76.4	79.8	74.0	63.4	102.7	74.7	75.9	72.3	75.7	63.5

<sup>a</sup> Solvent: D<sub>2</sub>O; reference: internal sodium salt of 3-(trimethylsilyl)propionic acid-2,2,3,3-d<sub>4</sub> ( $\delta(^{13}\text{C}) = 0$  ppm). <sup>b</sup> For atom number compare Figures 3 and 5-SI. For signal groups or broadened signals the given  $\delta(^{13}\text{C})$  value is the center. <sup>c</sup> reductive unit is connected to the PEI scaffold by secondary or primary amino surface groups of PEI.