

Université
de Liège



Polymer (PE) synthesis

Dr. Christophe Detrembleur

Center for Education and Research on Macromolecules (CERM)

University of Liège, Sart-Tilman B6a

4000 Liège, Belgium

Plan

1- Controlled radical polymerization vs conventional radical polymerization

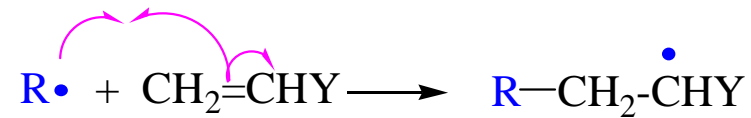
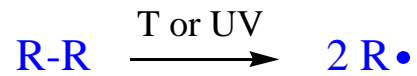
2- 1st CRP mechanism: Reversible Termination

3- 2nd CRP mechanism: Atom Transfer Radical Polymerization

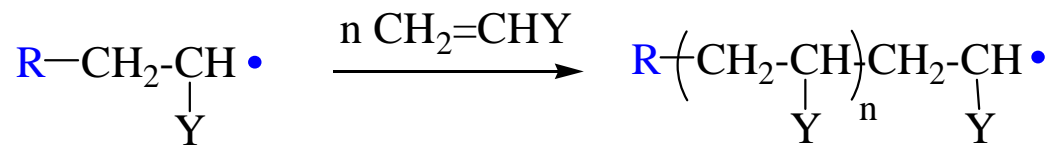
4- 3rd CRP mechanism: Degenerative Transfer (DT)

Classical radical polymerization

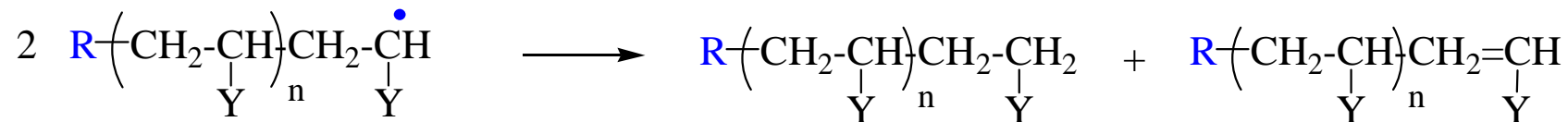
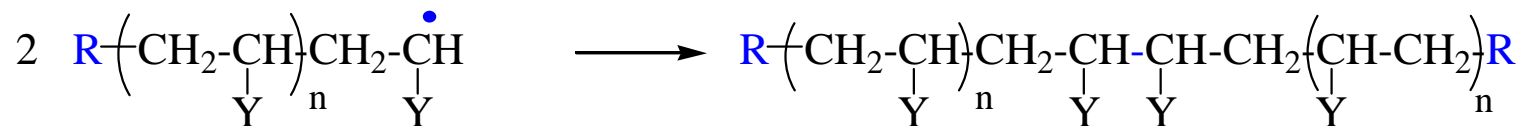
1- Initiation



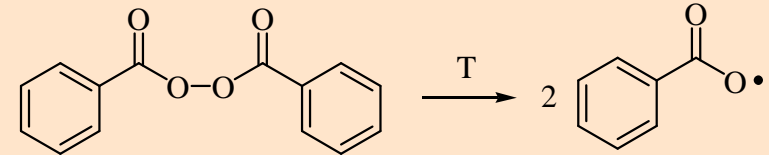
2- Propagation



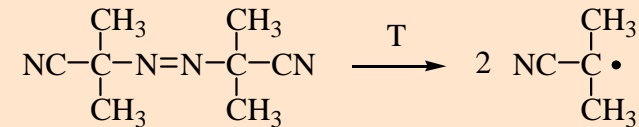
3- Terminations



Some free-radical initiators (R-R):



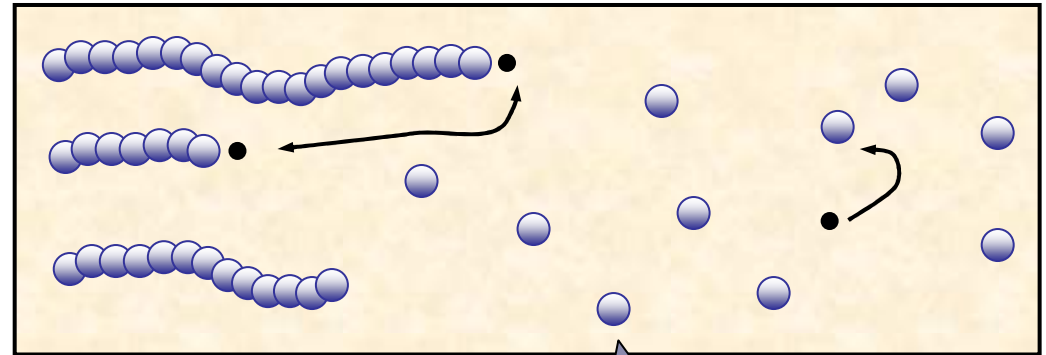
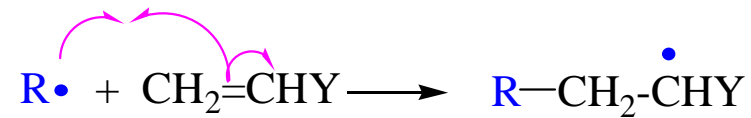
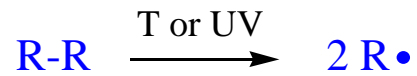
Benzoyl peroxide
(BPO)



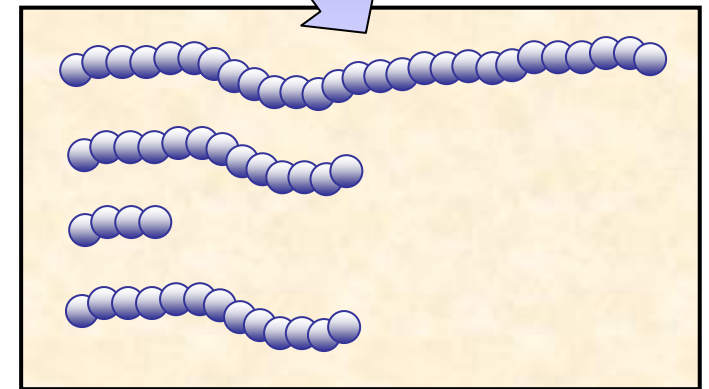
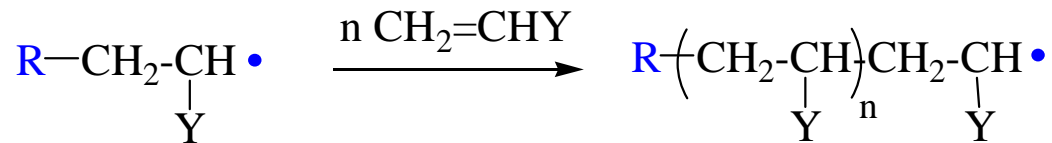
Azobisisobutyronitrile
(AIBN)

Classical radical polymerization

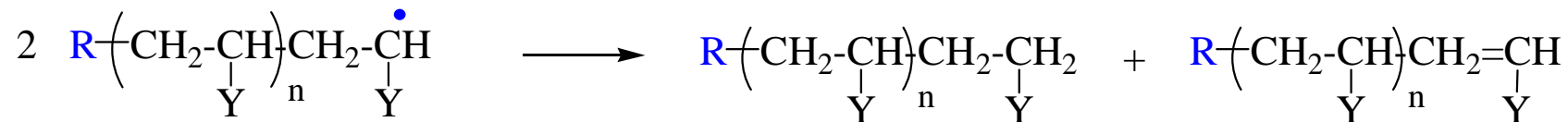
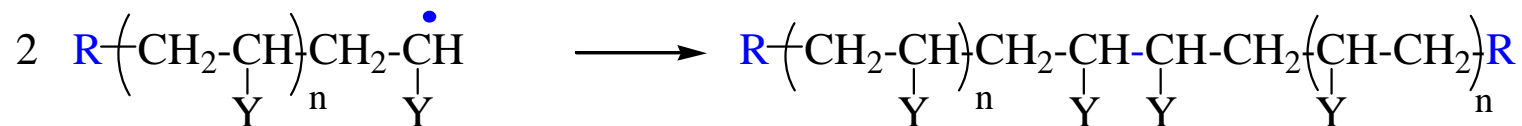
1- Initiation



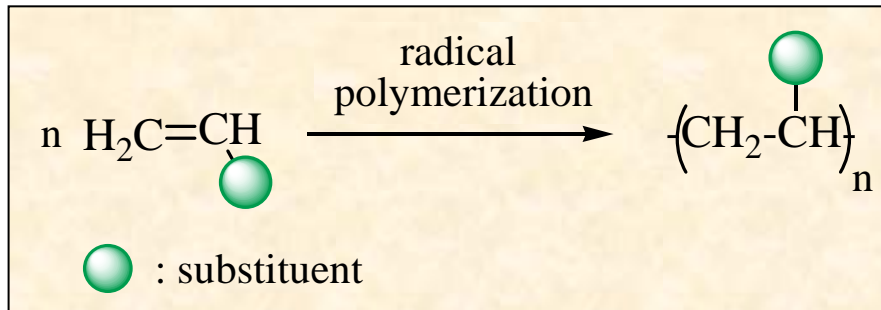
2- Propagation



3- Terminations



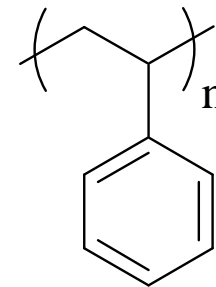
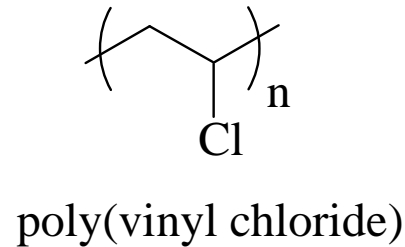
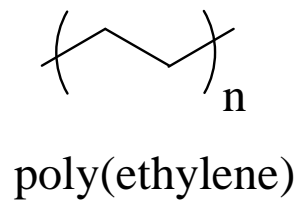
Importance of the « classical » radical polymerization



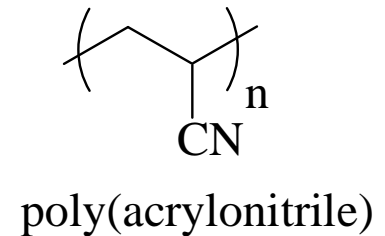
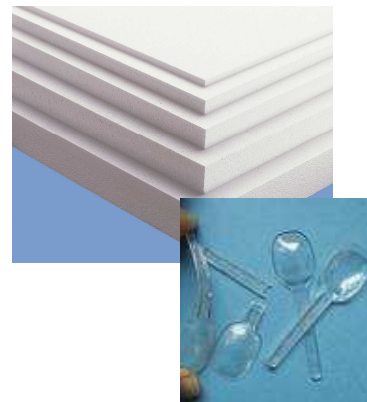
Radical polymerization is

- tolerant towards numerous functions (-COOH, -OH, -NH₂,...).
- applicable to a broad range of vinyl monomers
- can be applied to aqueous media (suspension, emulsion, miniemulsion)
- highly reproducible (tolerant to impurities)

Some examples of polymers produced by this technique:



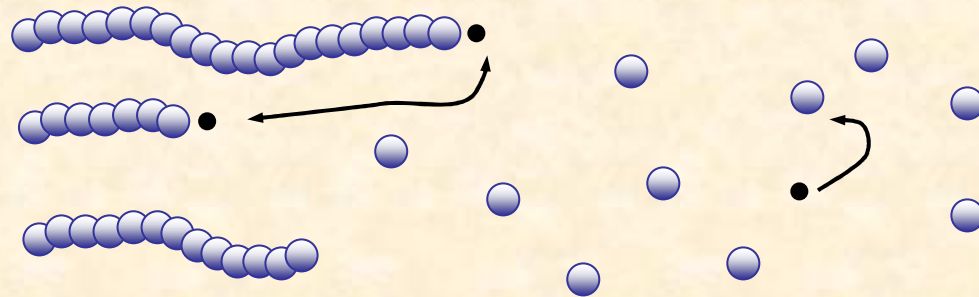
poly(styrene)



Controlled radical polymerization

Controlled radical polymerization

Conventional radical polymerization



1- Initiation

2- Propagation : $v_p = k_p [P^\bullet] [M]$

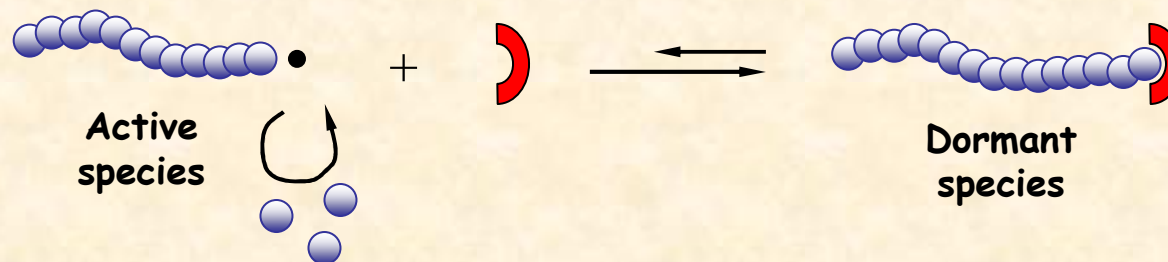
3- Occurrence of irreversible termination reactions: $v_t = k_t [P^\bullet]^2$

Controlled radical polymerization

NO irreversible termination reactions, only initiation and propagation.

How to avoid the occurrence of irreversible termination reaction ?

$[P^\bullet]$ has to decrease $\rightarrow v_p/v_t \uparrow$

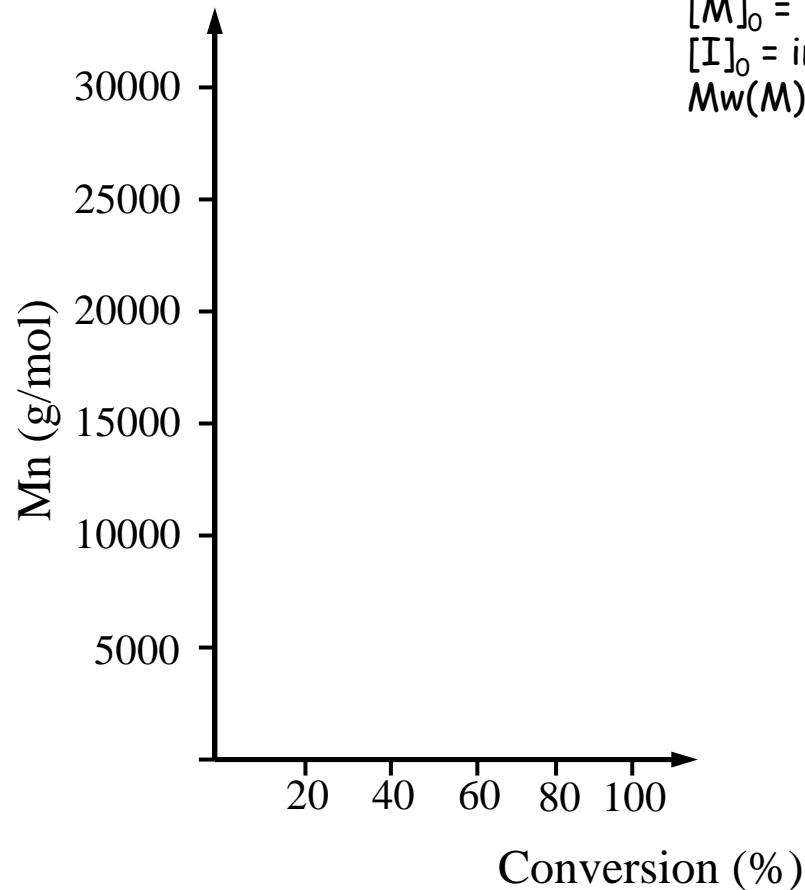


Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

1- Control of the molecular weight

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Mn} &= ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times \text{conv} \\ &= (m_M/n_I) \times \text{conv} \end{aligned}$$

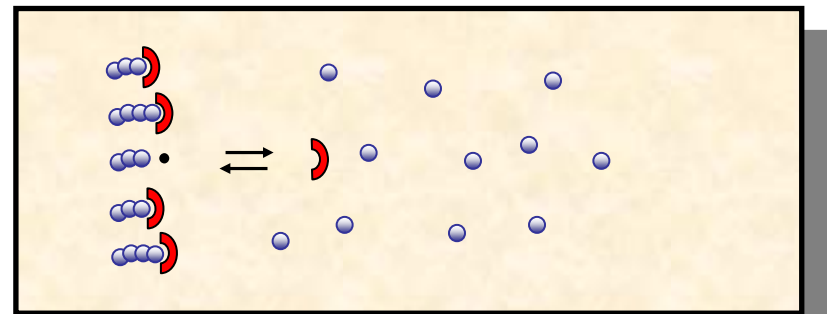
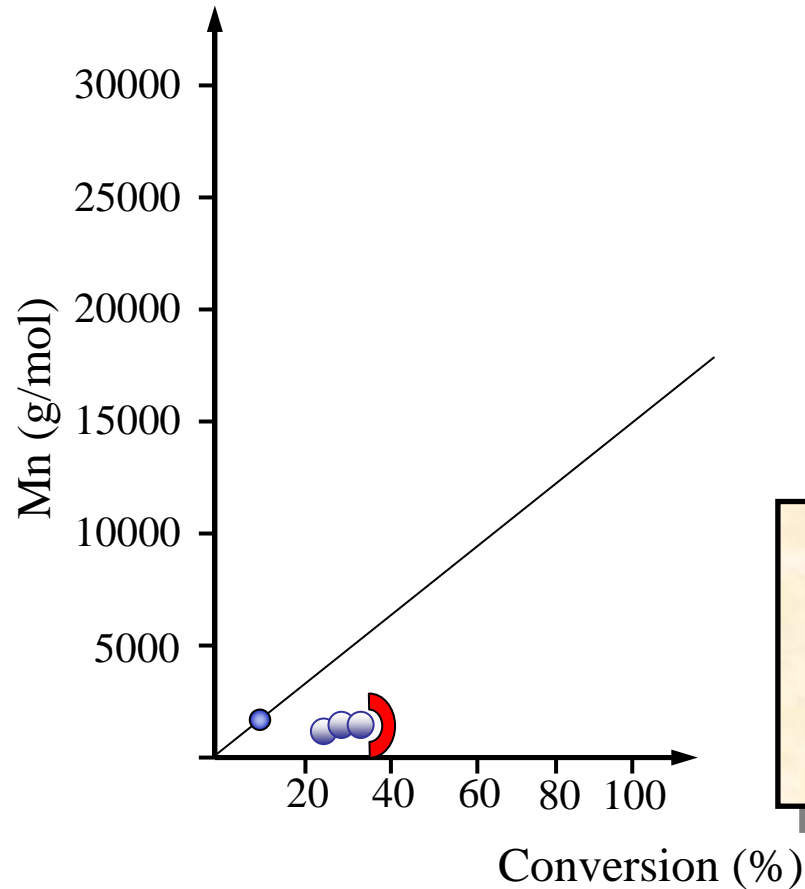
$[M]_0$ = monomer concentration at the initial stage
 $[I]_0$ = initiator concentration at the initial stage
 $Mw(M)$ = molecular weight of the monomer



Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

1- Control of the molecular weight

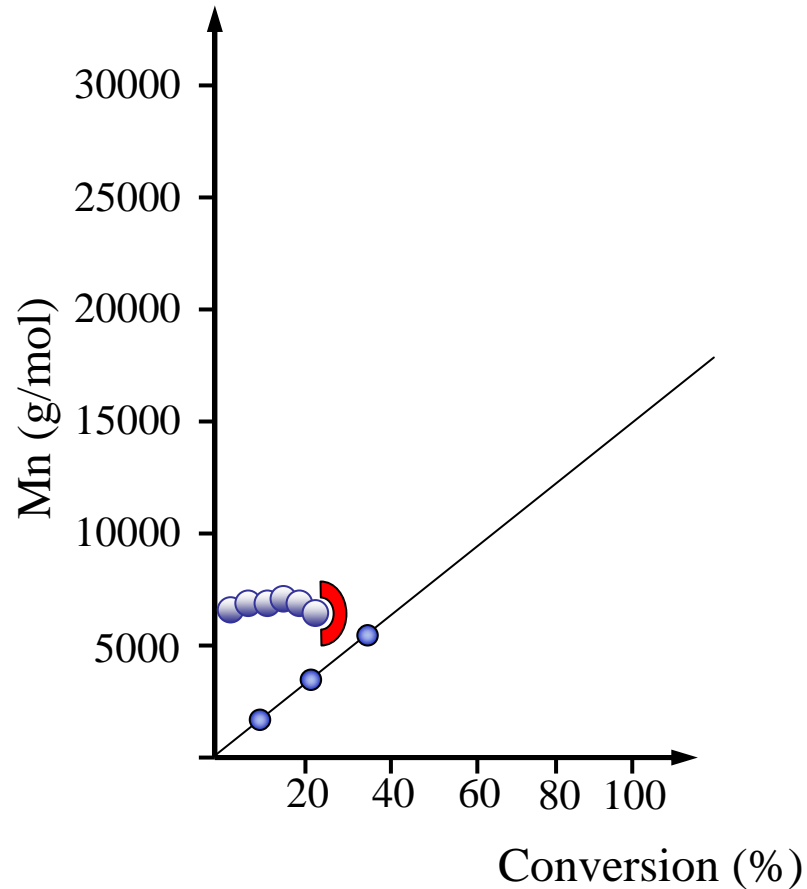
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Mn} &= ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times \text{conv} \\ &= (m_M/n_I) \times \text{conv} \end{aligned}$$



Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

1- Control of the molecular weight

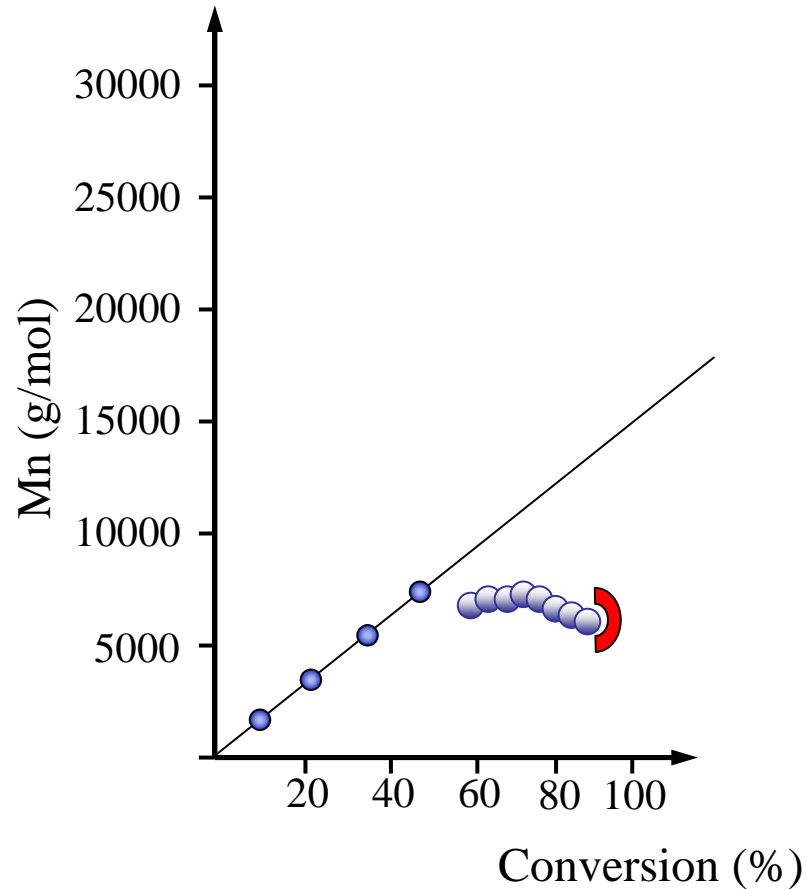
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Mn} &= ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times conv \\ &= (m_M/n_I) \times conv \end{aligned}$$



Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

1- Control of the molecular weight

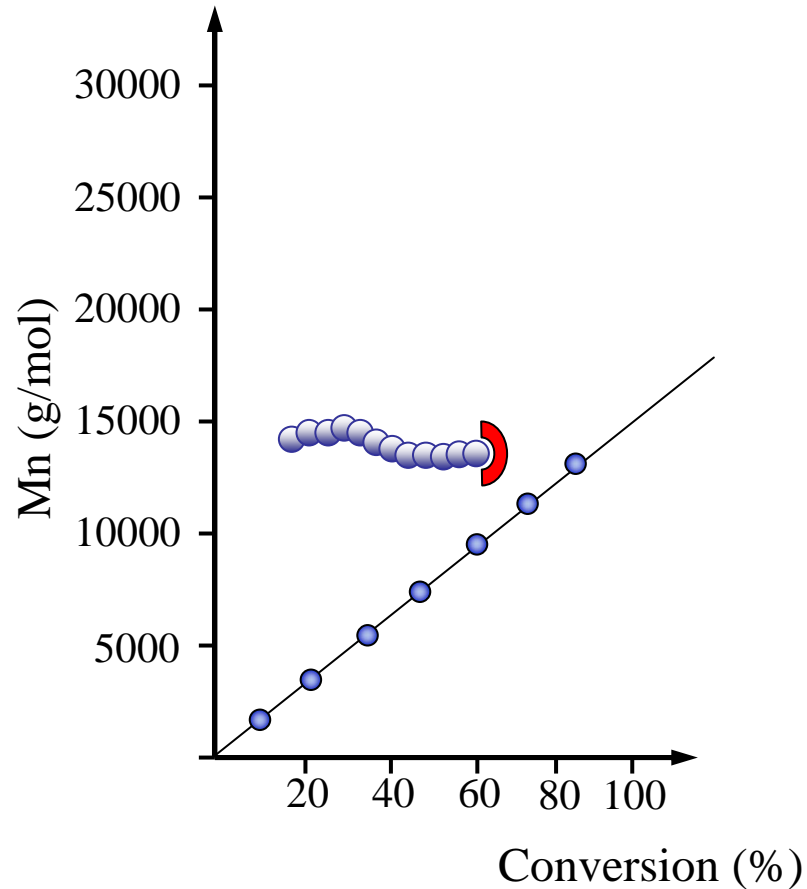
$$\begin{aligned} \overline{M}_n &= ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times conv \\ &= (m_M/n_I) \times conv \end{aligned}$$



Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

1- Control of the molecular weight

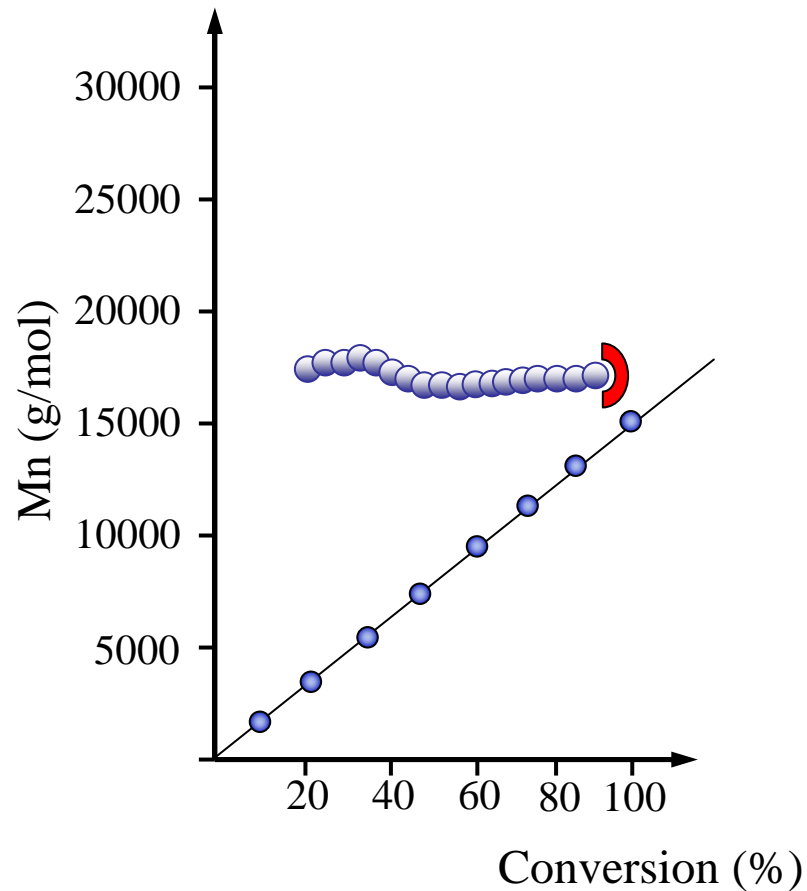
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Mn} &= ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times conv \\ &= (m_M/n_I) \times conv \end{aligned}$$



Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

1- Control of the molecular weight

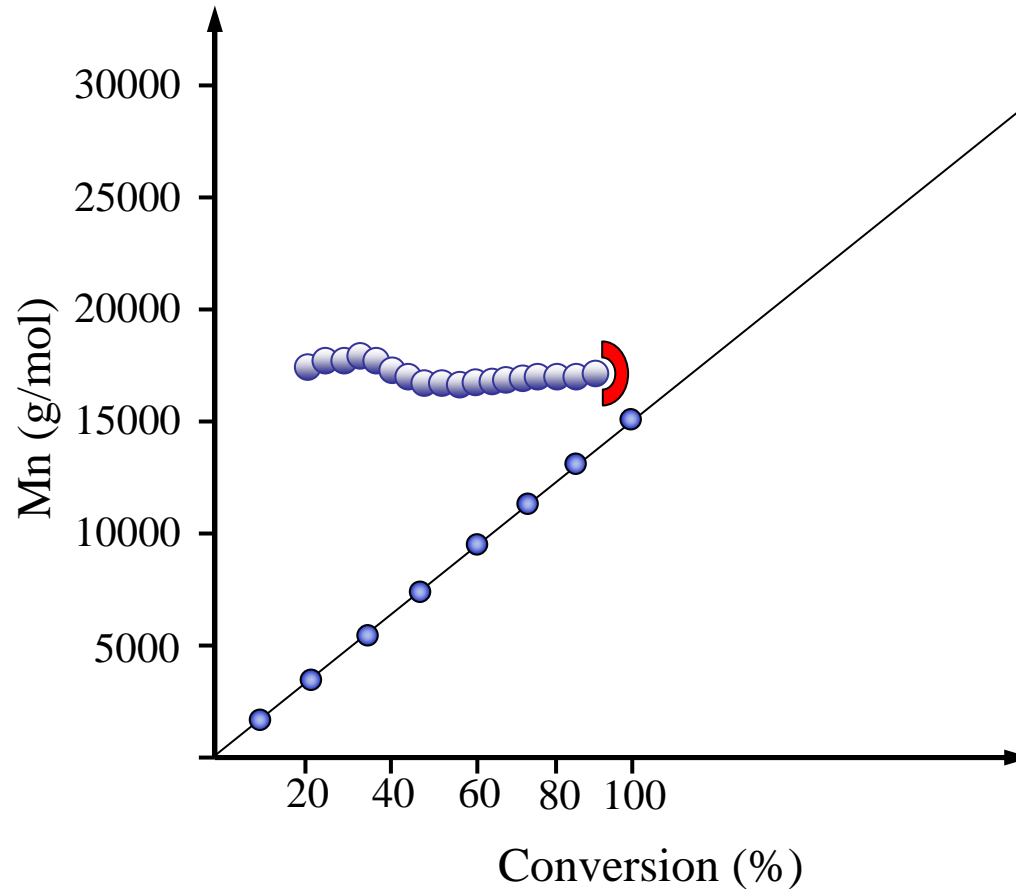
$$\begin{aligned} \overline{M}_n &= ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times \text{conv} \\ &= (m_M/n_I) \times \text{conv} \end{aligned}$$



Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

2- Resumption of the polymer chains

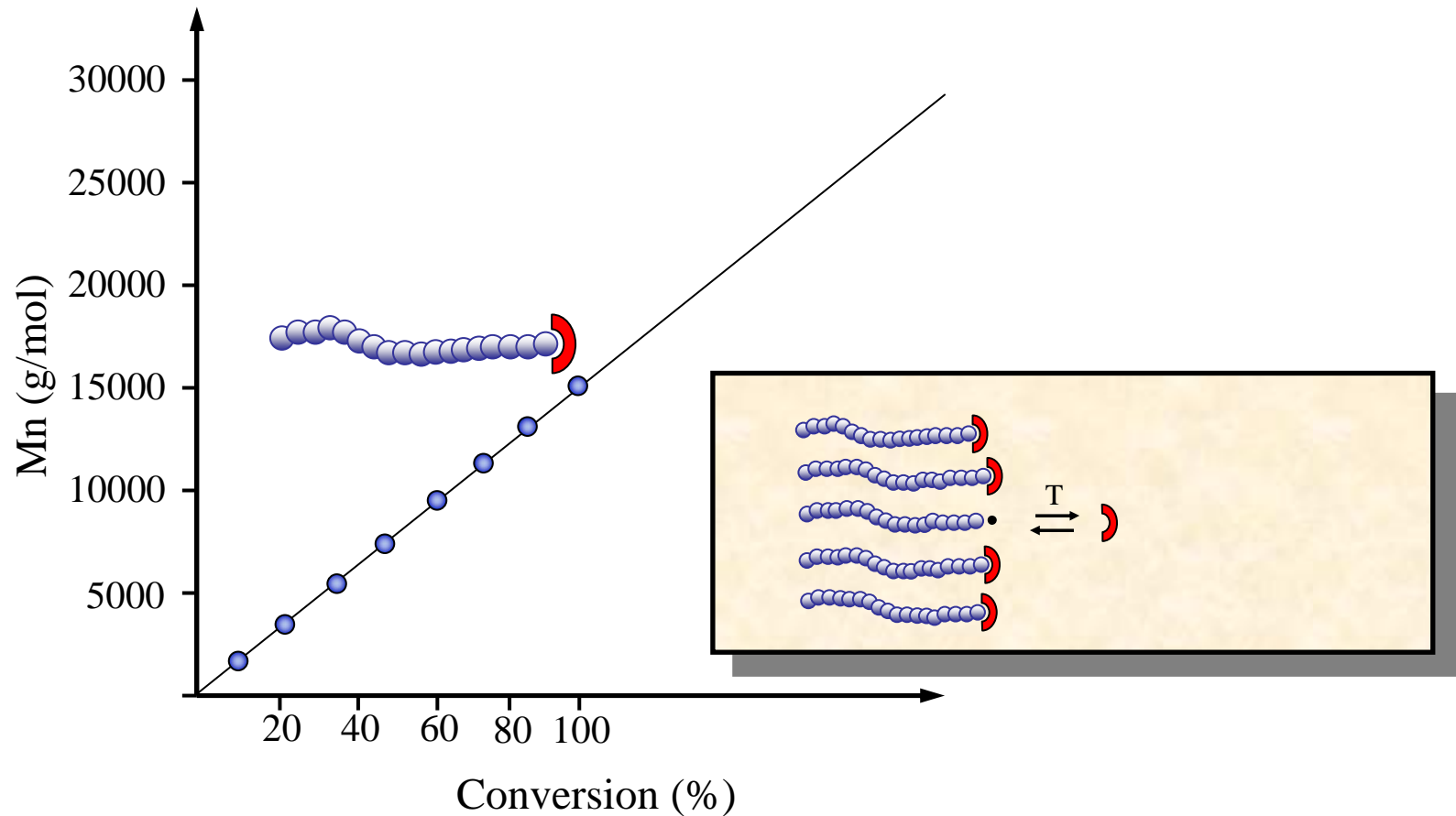
At the end of the polymerization, the chains are end-capped by the controlling agent



Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

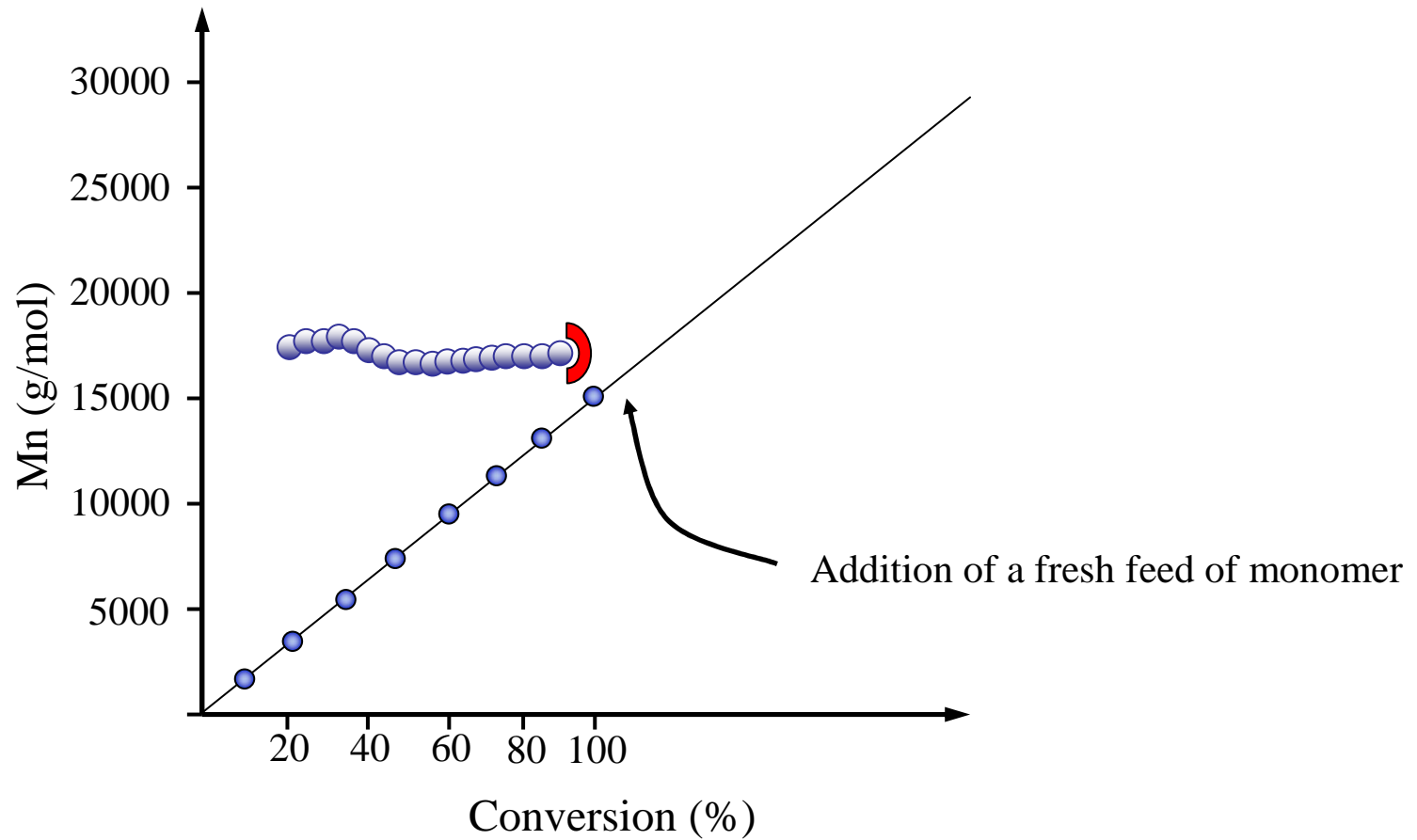
2- Resumption of the polymer chains

At the end of the polymerization, the chains are end-capped by the controlling agent
⇒ The chains can be reactivated and initiate the polymerization of a vinyl monomer



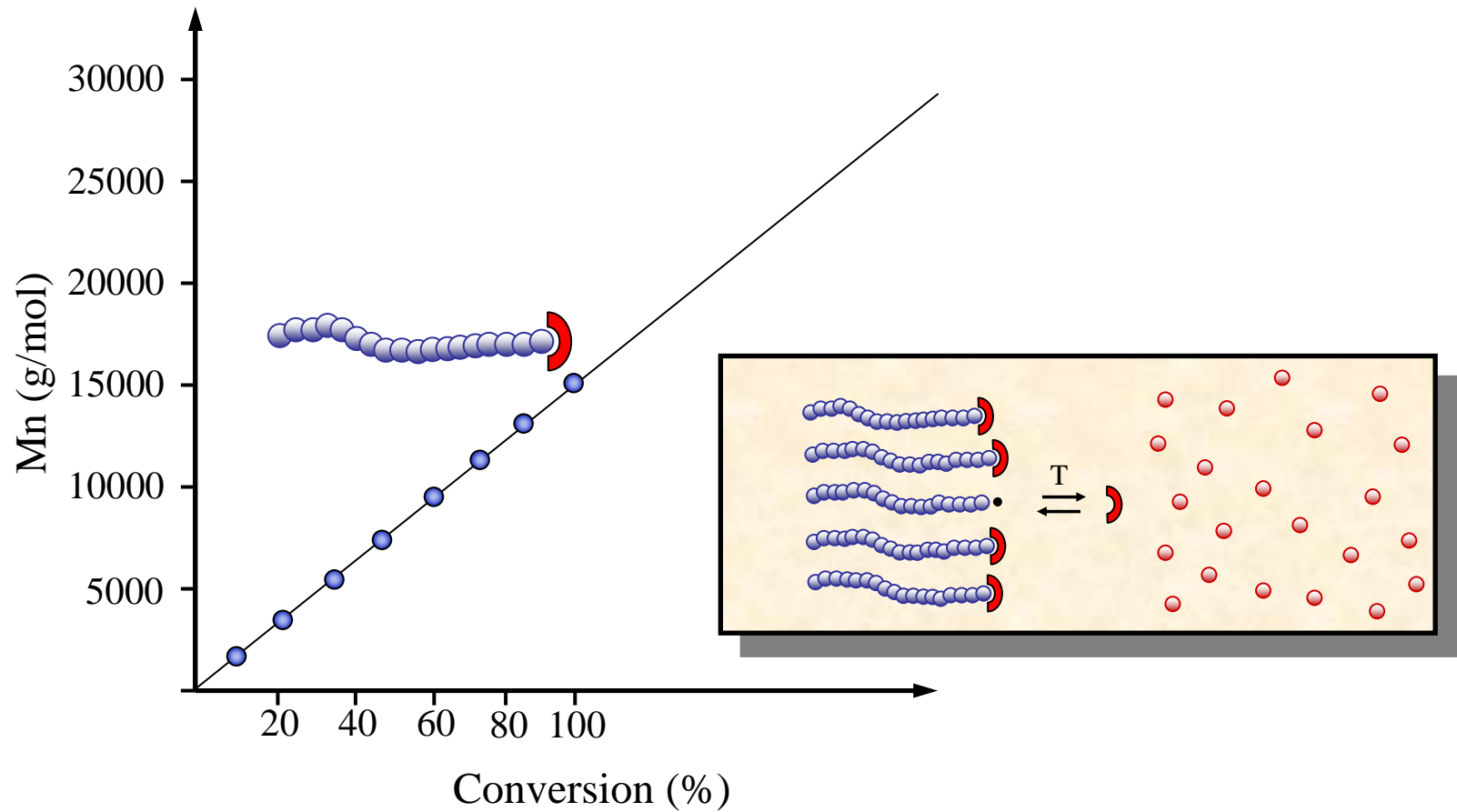
Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

2- Resumption of the polymer chains



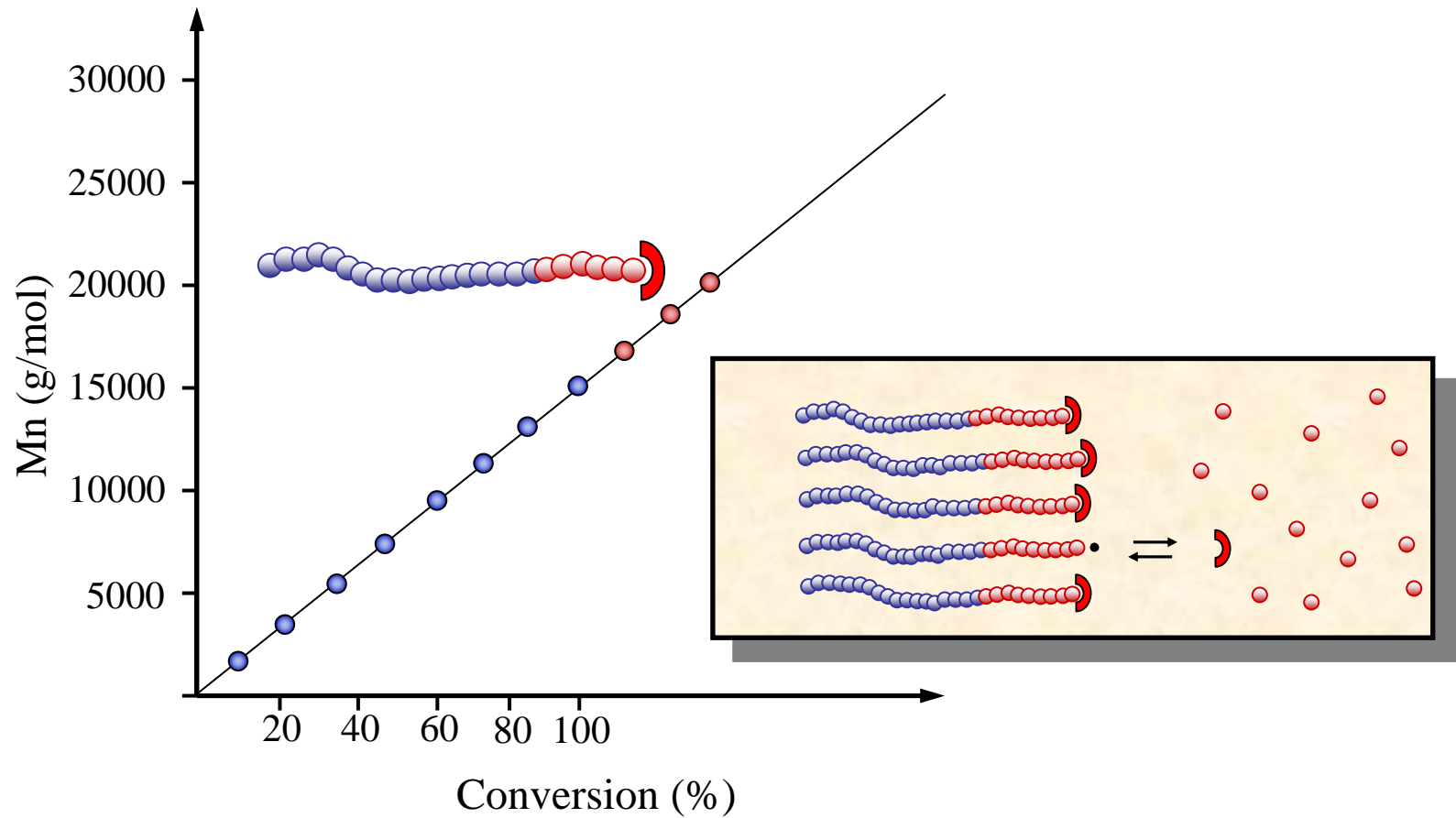
Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

2- Resumption of the polymer chains



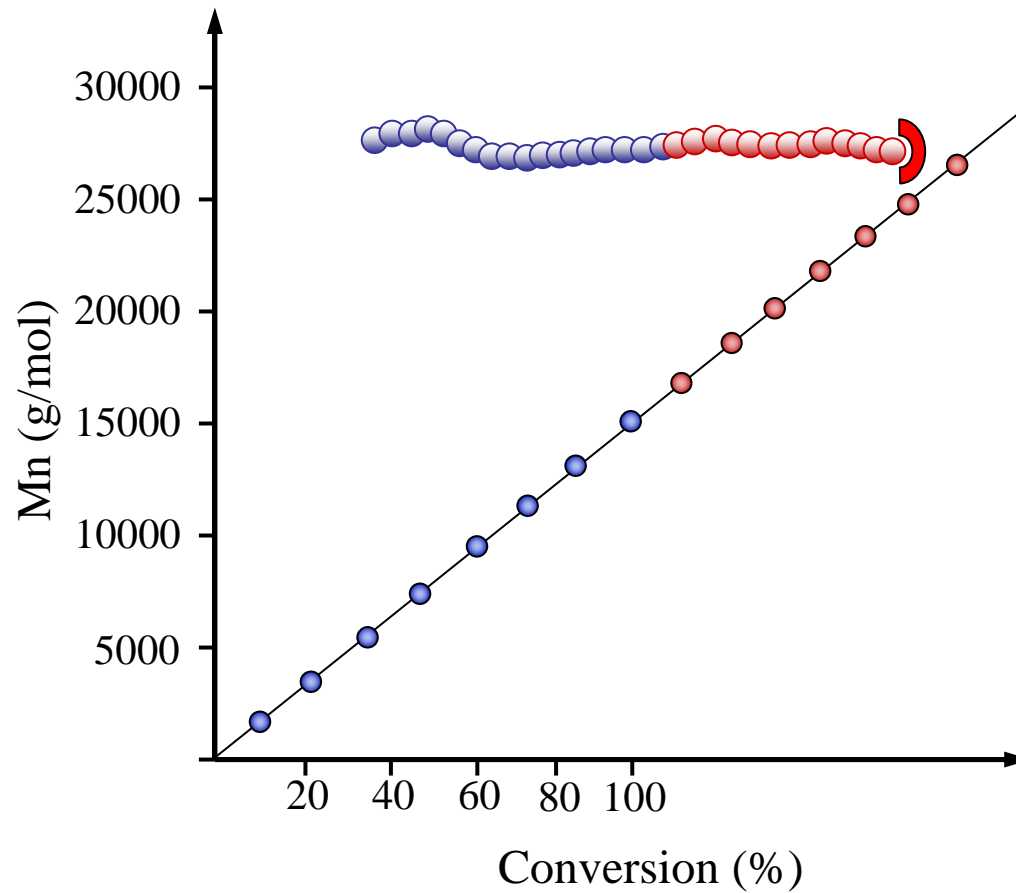
Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

2- Resumption of the polymer chains



Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

2- Resumption of the polymer chains



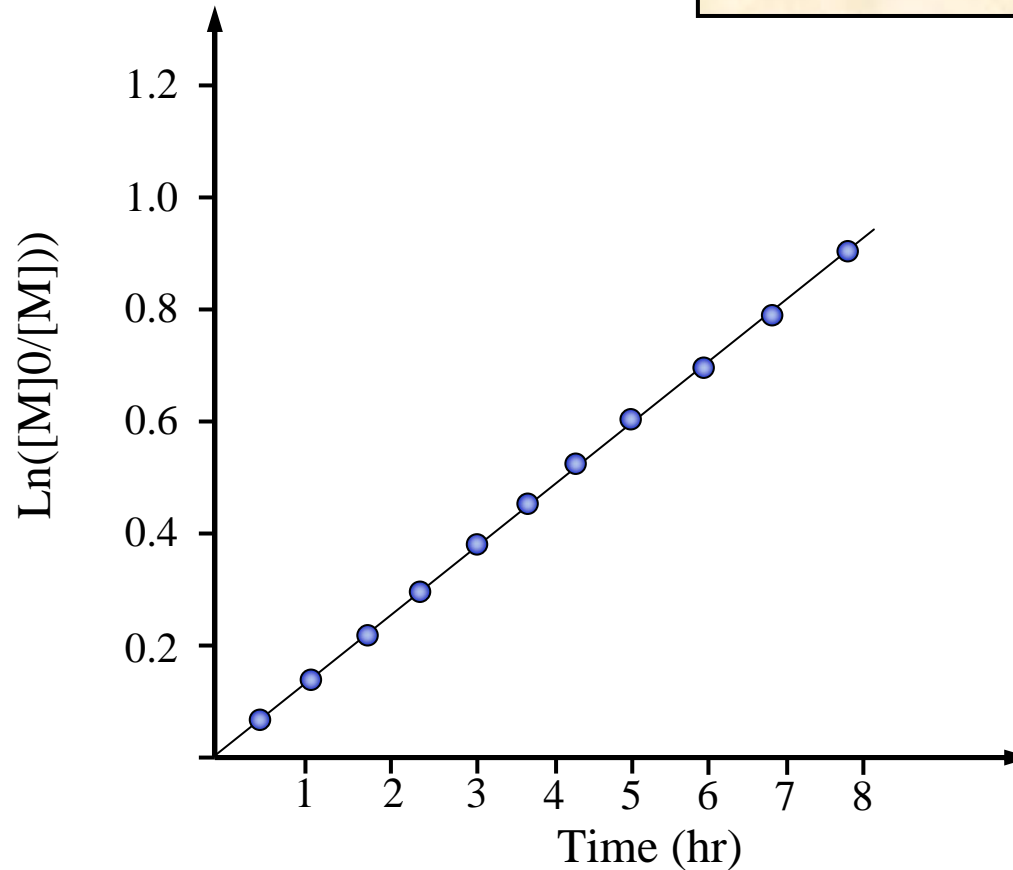
Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

3- Kinetics is first order in monomer

$$V_p = -d[M]/dt = k_p \times [M] \times [P^\circ]$$

By integration of v_p :

$$\text{Ln}([M]_0/[M]) = k_p \times [P^\circ] \times t$$



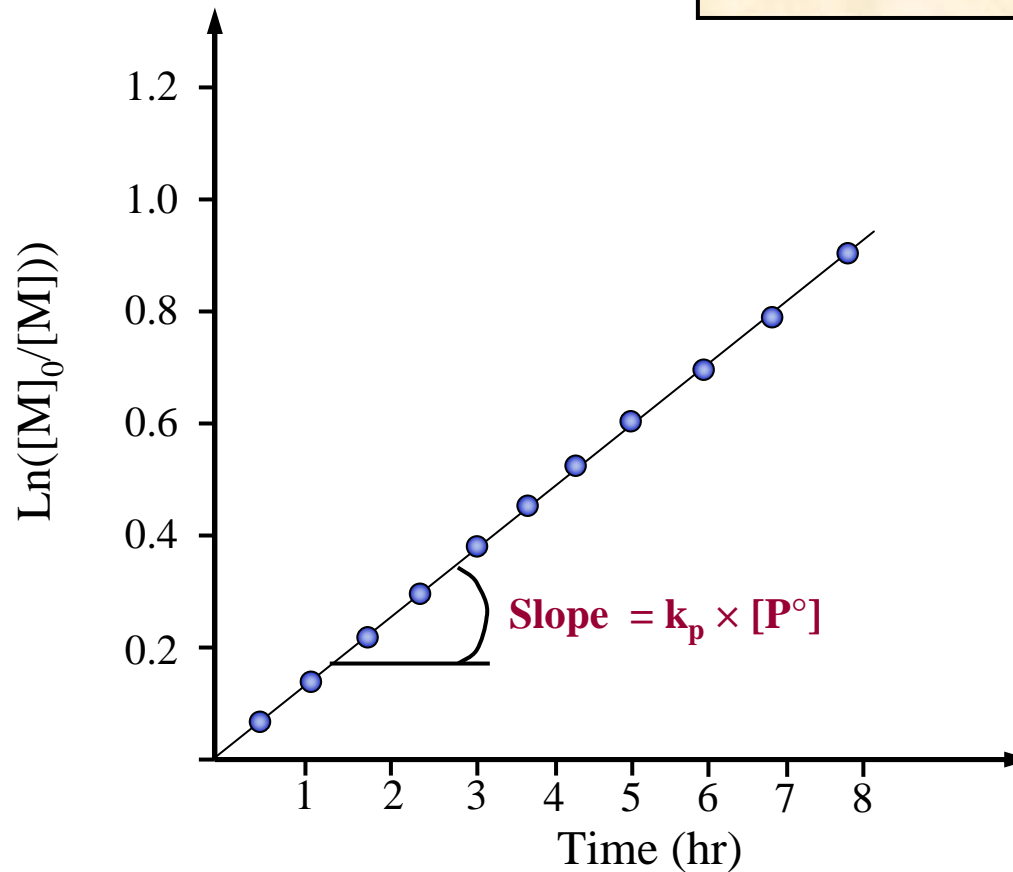
Criteria for a controlled radical polymerization

3- Kinetics is first order in monomer

$$V_p = -d[M]/dt = k_p \times [M] \times [P^\circ]$$

By integration of v_p :

$$\text{Ln}([M]_0/[M]) = k_p \times [P^\circ] \times t$$



Polydispersity: a criterium for CRP ?

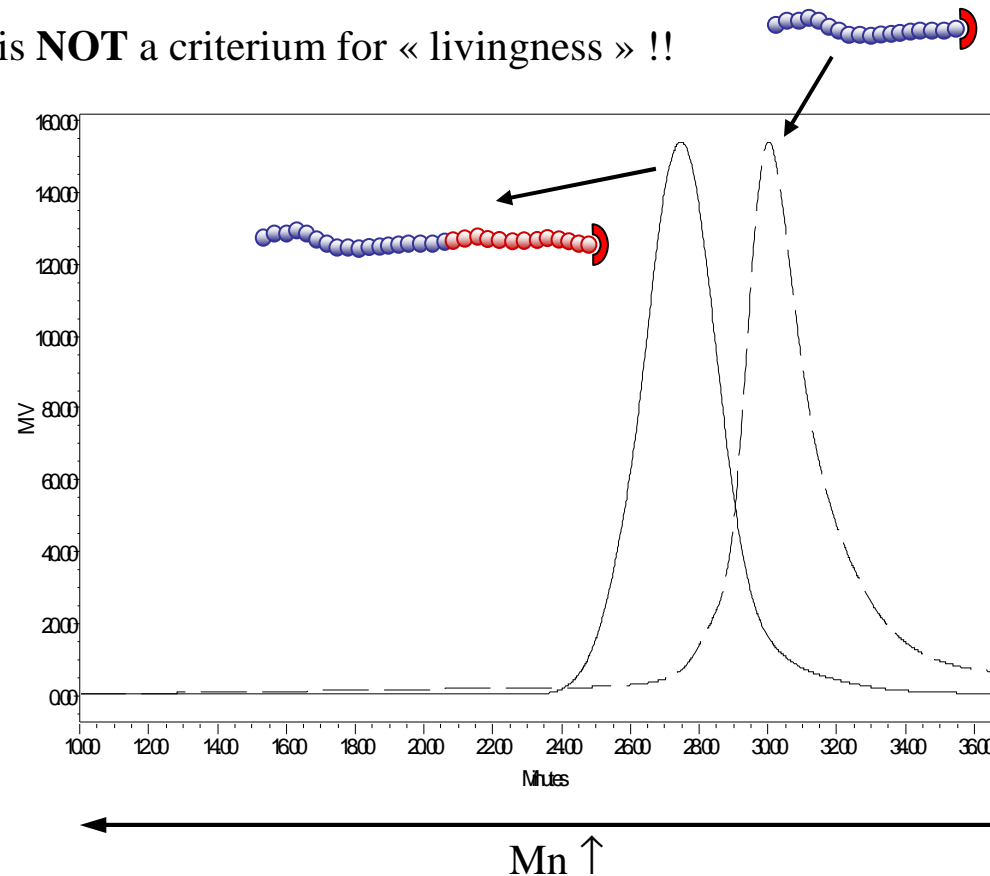
Polydispersity = M_w/M_n = size distribution of the polymer chains.

For most of living and controlled polymerization processes, $M_w/M_n \rightarrow 1$.

If $M_w/M_n = 1$: all the polymer chains have the same length.

$M_w/M_n \rightarrow 1$: **ONLY** if the initiation rate is faster than the propagation rate !!

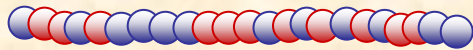
A narrow polydispersity is **NOT** a criterium for « livingness » !!



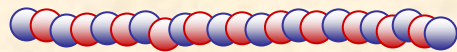
CRP: a way to the macromolecular engineering



Homopolymer



Statistical copolymer



Alternated copolymer



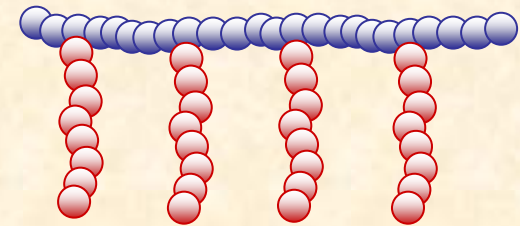
Gradient copolymer



Block copolymer

1- Control of Mn

$$M_n = ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times \text{conv.}$$

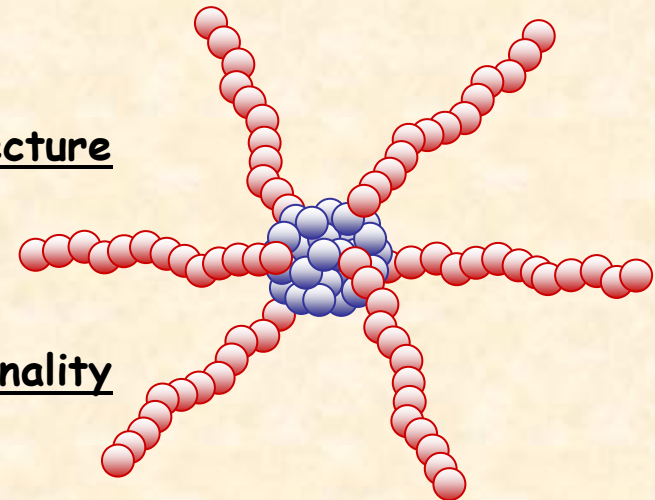


Grafted (co)polymer

2- Control of the copolymer composition

3- Control of the architecture

4- Control of the functionality



Star-shaped (co)polymer

CRP: a way to the macromolecular engineering



Homopolymer



Statistical copolymer



Alternated copolymer



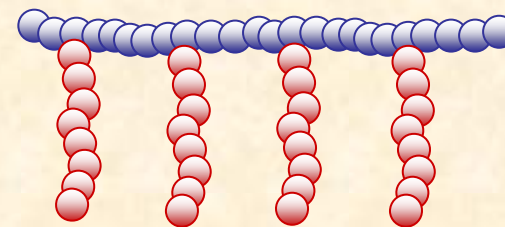
Gradient copolymer



Block copolymer

1- Control of Mn

$$M_n = ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times \text{conv.}$$

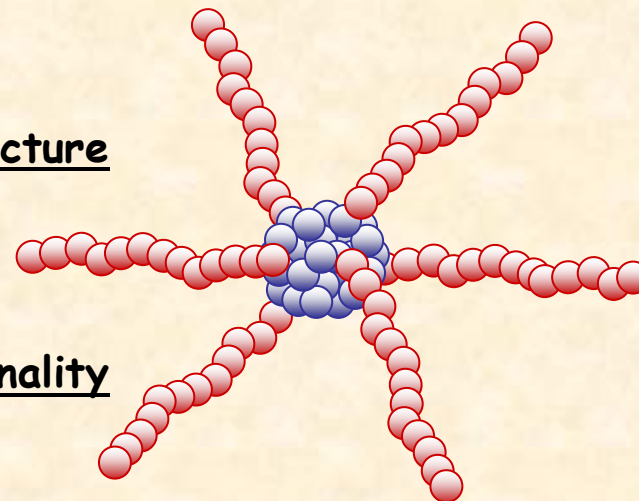


Grafted (co)polymer

2- Control of the copolymer composition

3- Control of the architecture

4- Control of the functionality



Star-shaped (co)polymer

CRP: a way to the macromolecular engineering

The diagram illustrates four levels of control in Controlled Radical Polymerization (CRP) and their corresponding polymer architectures. The levels are listed in the center, with their respective polymer structures shown on the left and right.

1- Control of M_n
$$M_n = ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times \text{conv.}$$

2- Control of the copolymer composition

3- Control of the architecture

4- Control of the functionality

Homopolymer

Statistical copolymer

Alternated copolymer

Gradient copolymer

Block copolymer

Grafted (co)polymer

Star-shaped (co)polymer

CRP: a way to the macromolecular engineering

The diagram illustrates four control strategies in Controlled Radical Polymerization (CRP) and their corresponding polymer architectures. The strategies are listed in the center, with their respective polymer structures shown on the left and right.

1- Control of M_n
$$M_n = ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times \text{conv.}$$

2- Control of the copolymer composition

3- Control of the architecture

4- Control of the functionality

Homopolymer
Homopolymer

Statistical copolymer
Statistical copolymer

Alternated copolymer
Alternated copolymer

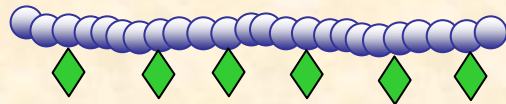
Gradient copolymer
Gradient copolymer

Block copolymer
Block copolymer

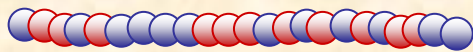
Grafted (co)polymer
Grafted (co)polymer

Star-shaped (co)polymer
Star-shaped (co)polymer

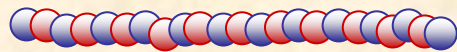
CRP: a way to the macromolecular engineering



Homopolymer



Statistical copolymer



Alternated copolymer



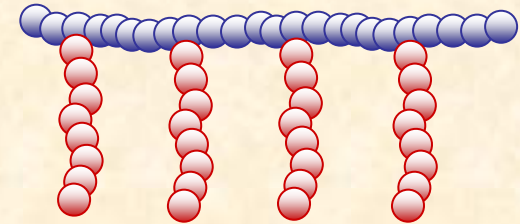
Gradient copolymer



Block copolymer

1- Control of Mn

$$M_n = ([M]_0/[I]_0) \times Mw(M) \times \text{conv.}$$

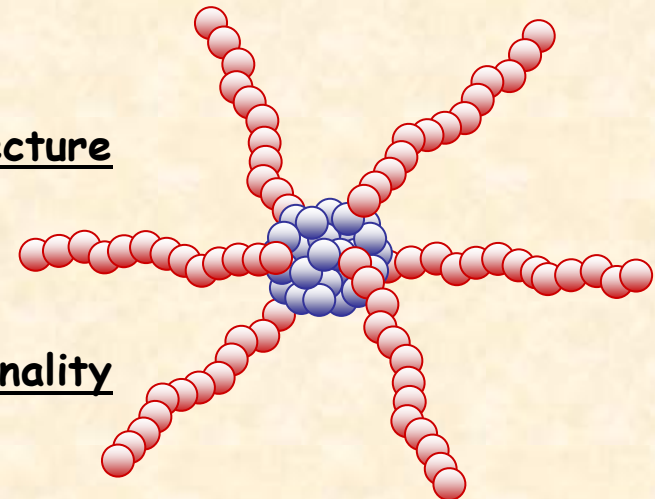


Grafted (co)polymer

2- Control of the copolymer composition

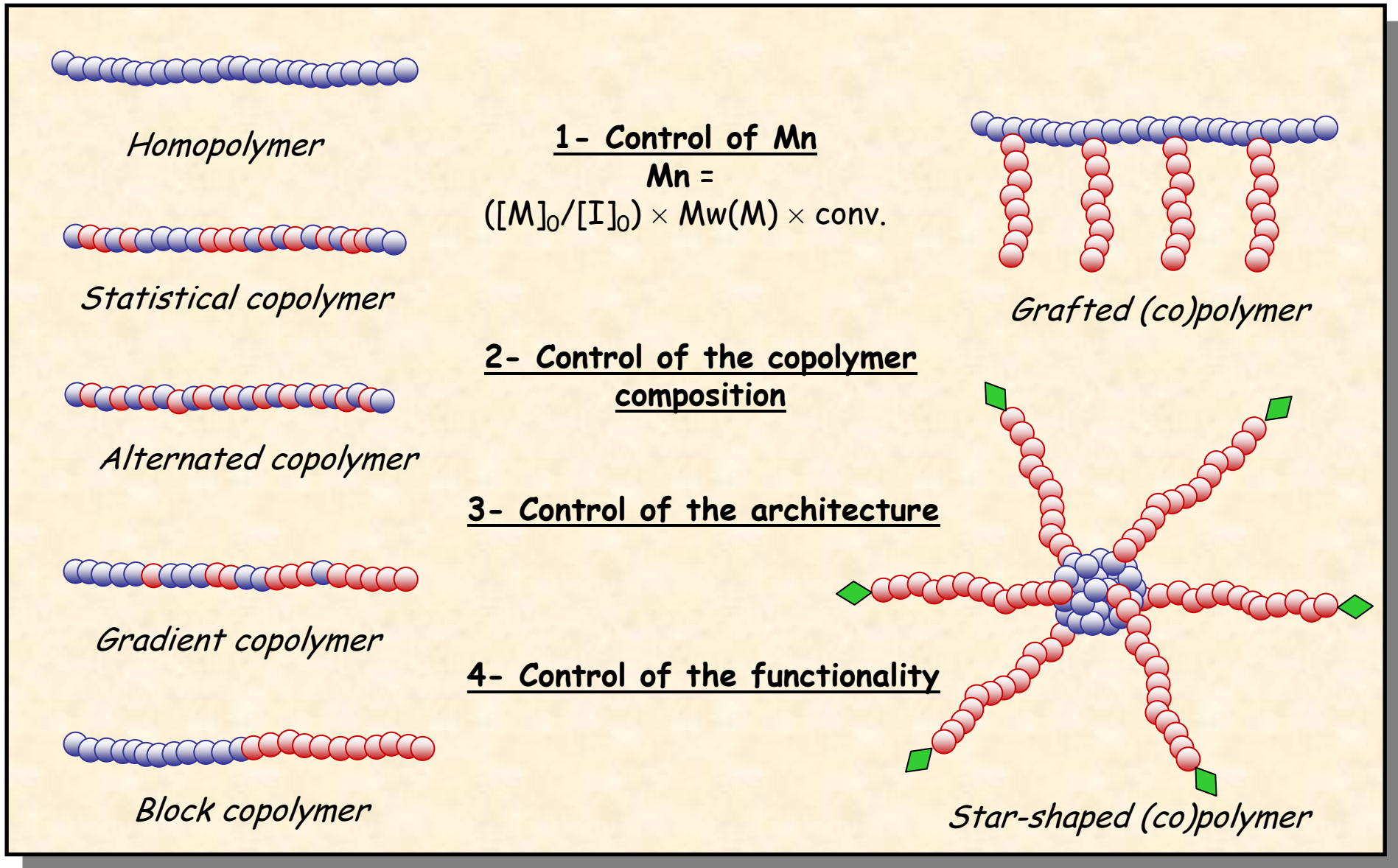
3- Control of the architecture

4- Control of the functionality



Star-shaped (co)polymer

CRP: a way to the macromolecular engineering



Macromolecular engineering by CRP



Homopolymer



Block copolymer



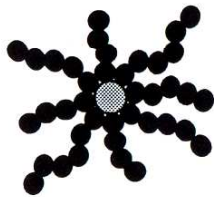
Random copolymer



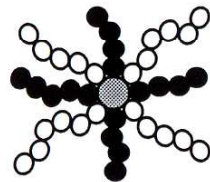
Gradient copolymer



Graft copolymer



A_n star-shaped polymer



$A_n B_m$ star-shaped copolymer

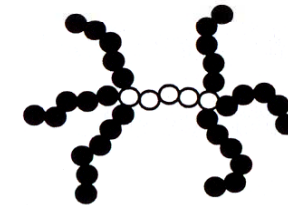
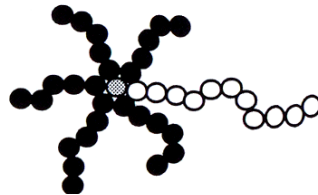


$A_2 B$ star-shaped copolymer

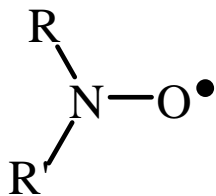
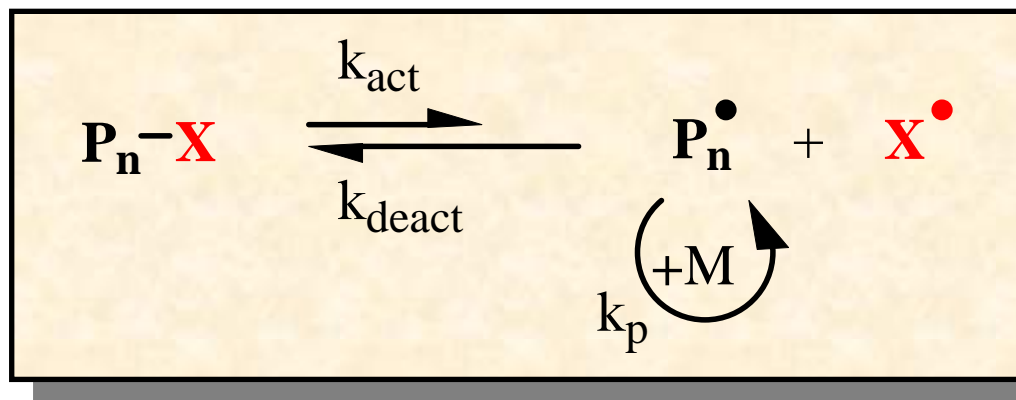


ABC star-shaped copolymer

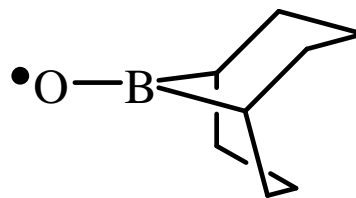
More complex architectures:



1st CRP mechanism: reversible termination



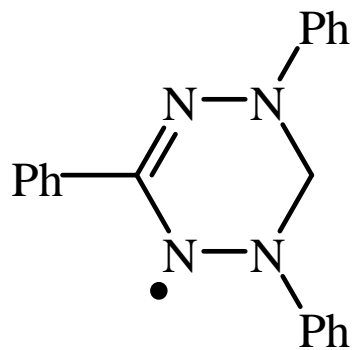
nitroxide radicals



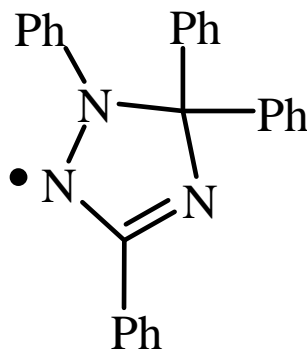
borinate radical



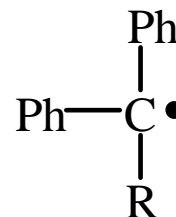
organocobalt porphyrin complexes



verdazyl radicals



triazolinyl radicals

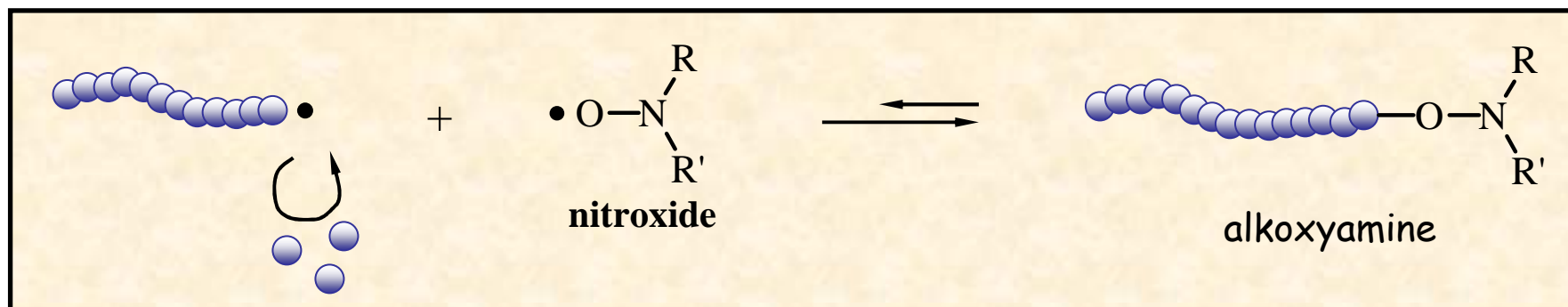


R = Ph, CN, CO₂Me,...

di- or triarylmethyl radicals

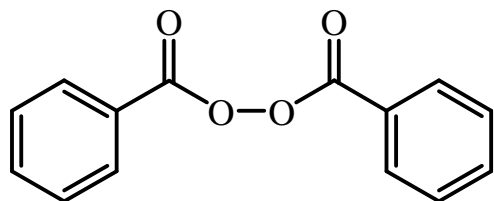
Co(acac)₂
cobalt(II) acetylacetonate

The Nitroxide-Mediated Radical Polymerization (NMP)



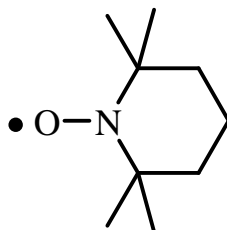
Two main approaches for NMP:

Bimolecular system:
free radical initiator + nitroxide



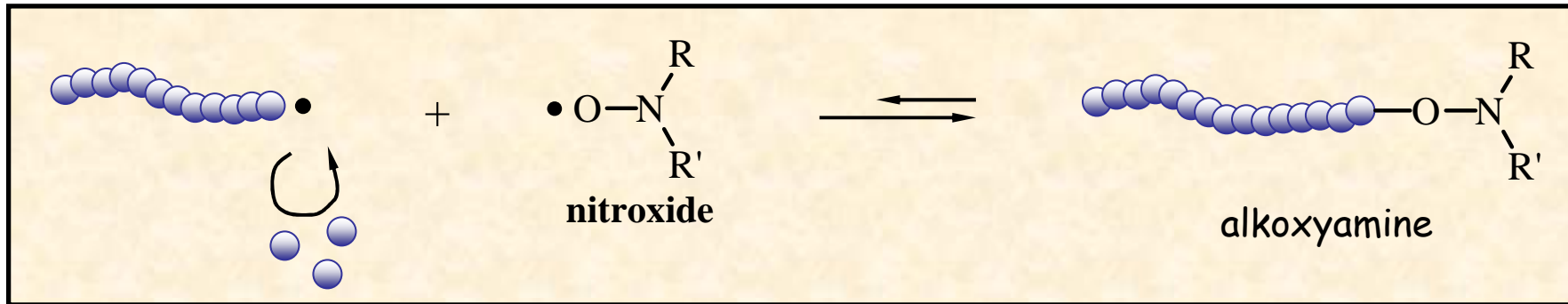
BPO

+



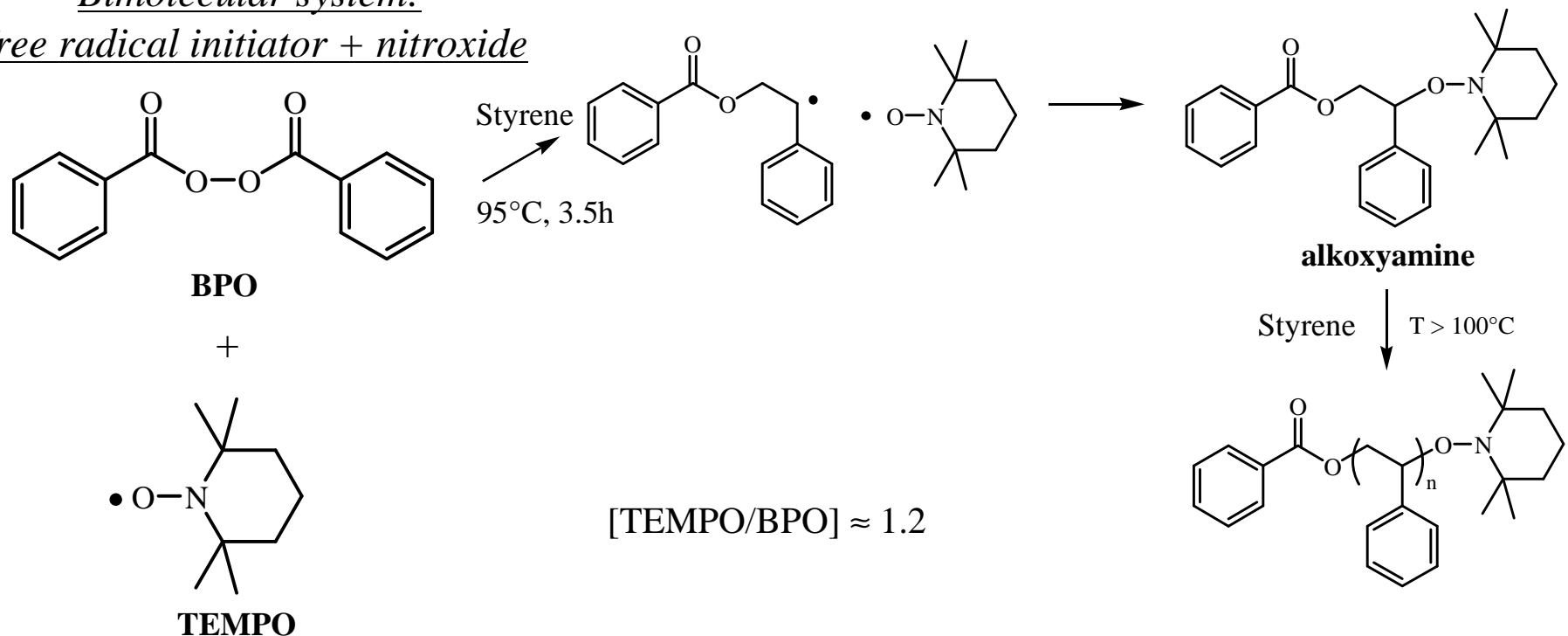
TEMPO

The Nitroxide-Mediated Radical Polymerization (NMP)

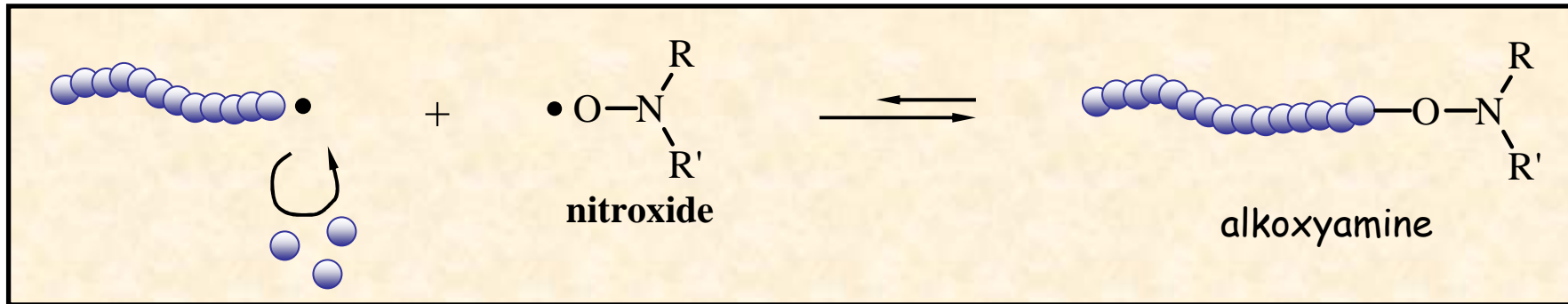


Two main approaches for NMP:

Bimolecular system:
free radical initiator + nitroxide

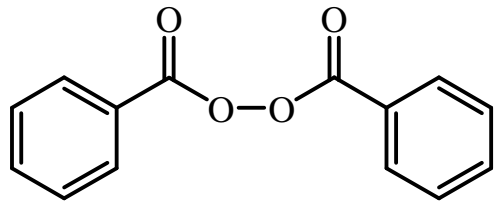


The Nitroxide-Mediated Radical Polymerization (NMP)



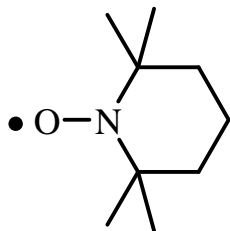
Two main approaches for NMP:

*Bimolecular system:
free radical initiator + nitroxide*



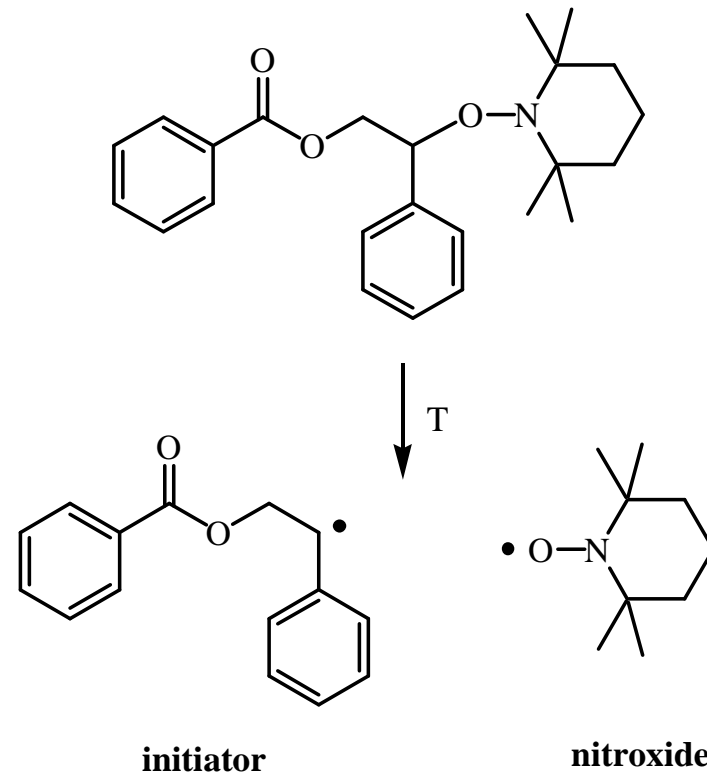
BPO

+

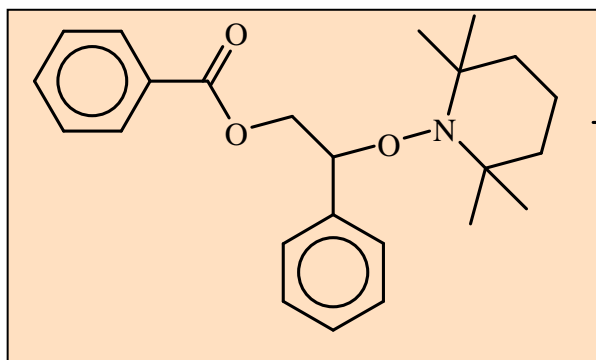


TEMPO

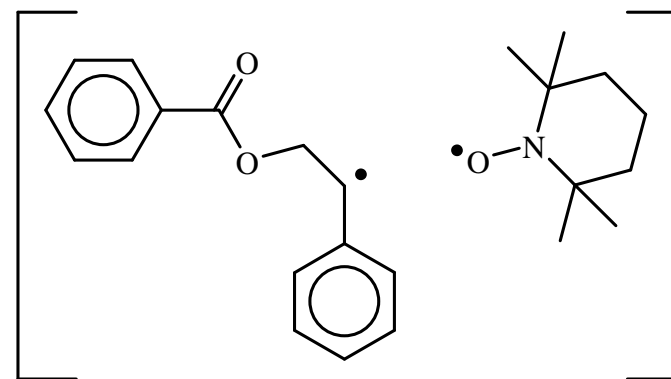
Unimolecular system: use of alkoxyamines



Unimolecular system



>100°C



Alkoxyamine

=

Initiator and control agent

Advantage of the unimolecular system:

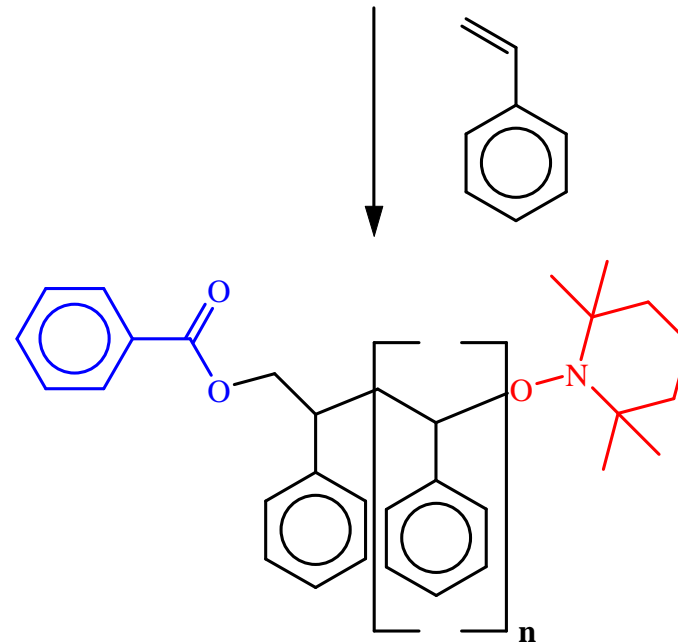
⇒ improved initiator efficiency

⇒ control of the chain-ends structure

Molecular weight calculation:

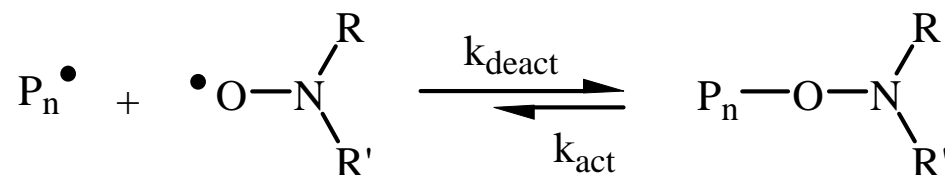
$$\begin{aligned} M_{n, th.} &= \frac{[M]_0}{[Alk]_0} \times MW_M \times conv \\ &= (m_M/n_{Alk}) \times conv \end{aligned}$$

where m_M is the weight (g) of monomer; and n_{Alk} is the moles number of alkoxyamine



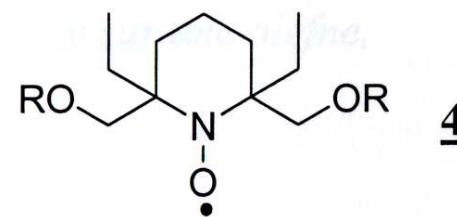
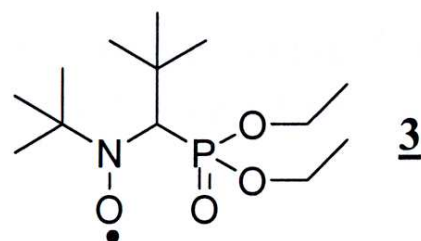
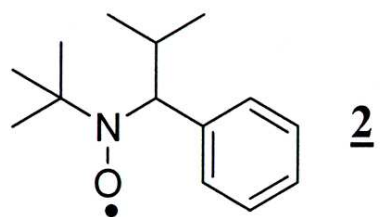
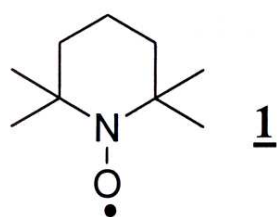
Conditions: in the bulk at 123°C

Importance of the nitroxide structure

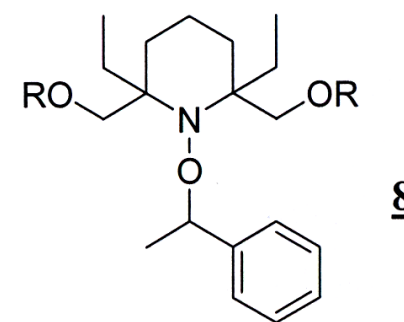
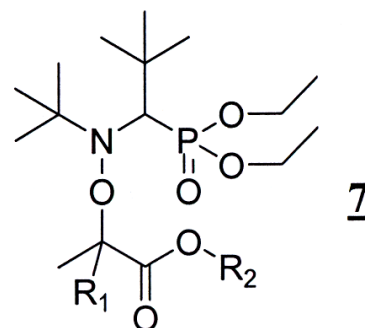
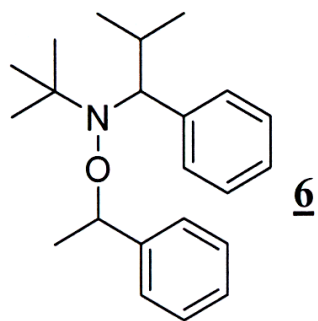
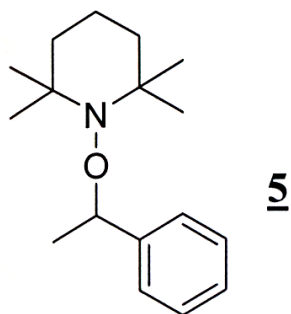


R and R' govern the stability and reactivity of the nitroxide, but also k_{deact} et k_{act} , and consequently, the equilibrium active/dormant species.

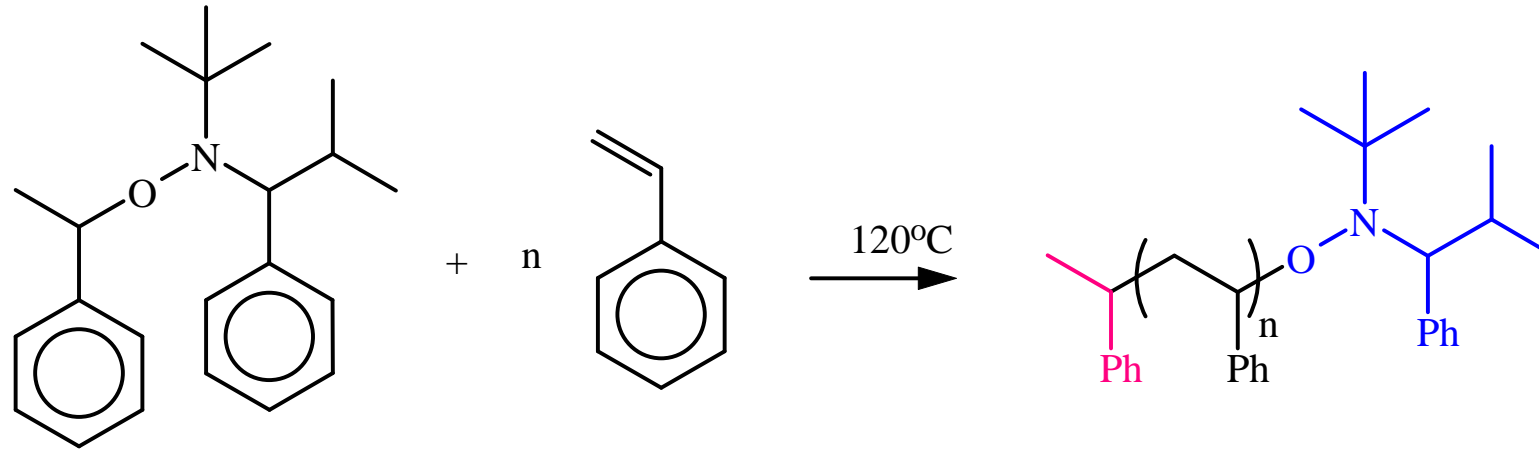
Some important nitroxides active in NMP:



Some alkoxyamines active in NMP:

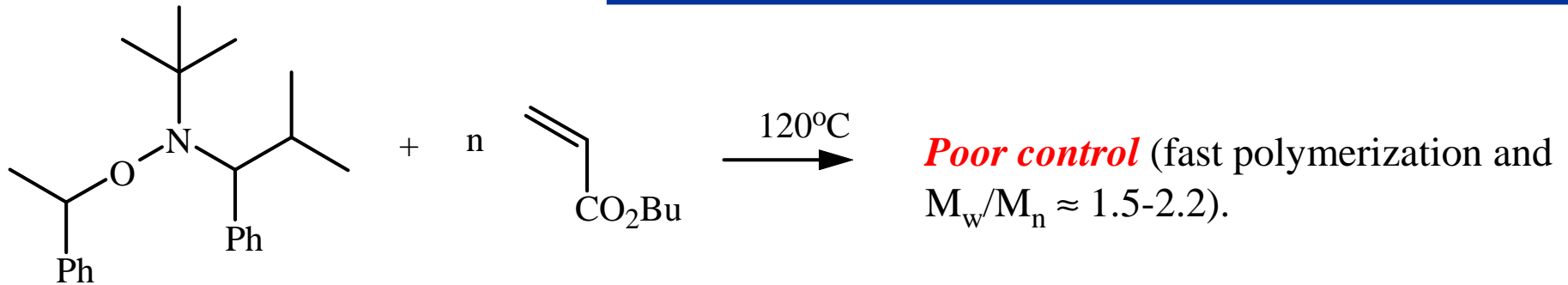


Styrene polymerization

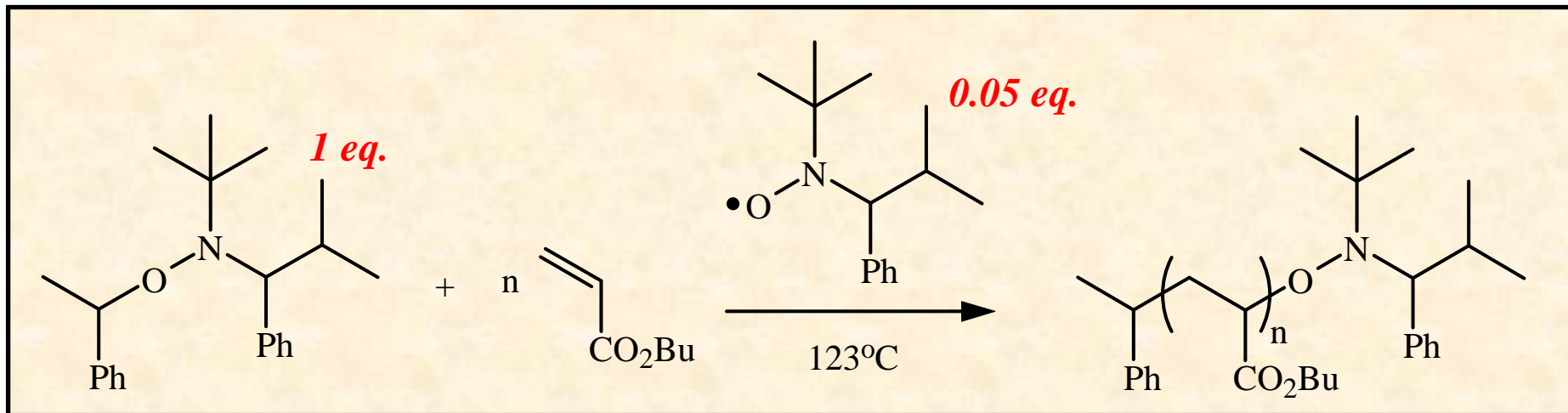


- Polymerization time: 4-18 h
- M_n controlled up to 200000 g/mol
- $M_{n,exp} \approx M_{n,th}$
- $M_w/M_n : < 1.1$ until $M_n \sim 75000$ g/mol and 1.2-1.25 until $M_n \sim 200000$ g/mol

Butyl acrylate polymerization



How to improve the control ?



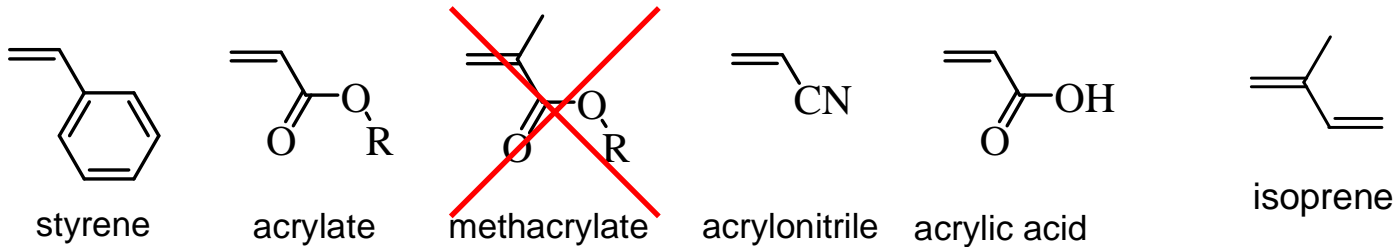
- Polymerization time : 16h at 123°C et 48h at 95-100°C.
- M_n until 150000 g/mol
- $M_{n,\text{exp}} \approx M_{n,\text{th}}$
- $M_w/M_n : \approx 1.05-1.30$

➡ ***A slight excess of free nitroxide is needed !***

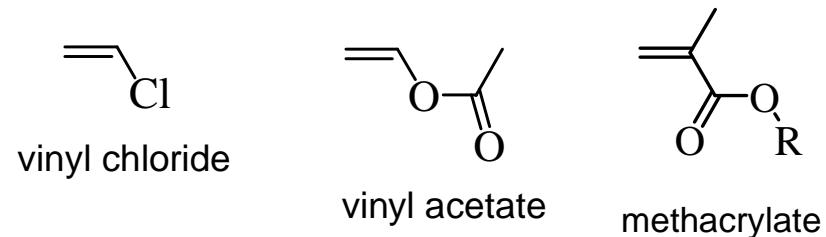
Monomers and solvents

Monomers

- styrenes, acrylates, acrylonitrile, (meth)acrylic acid, isoprene,...



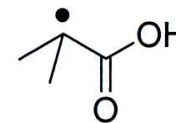
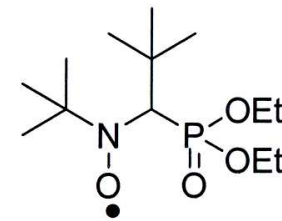
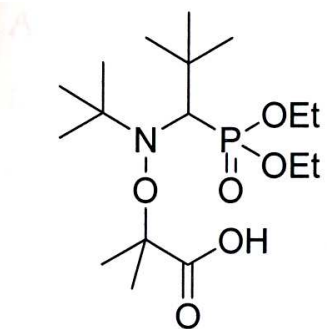
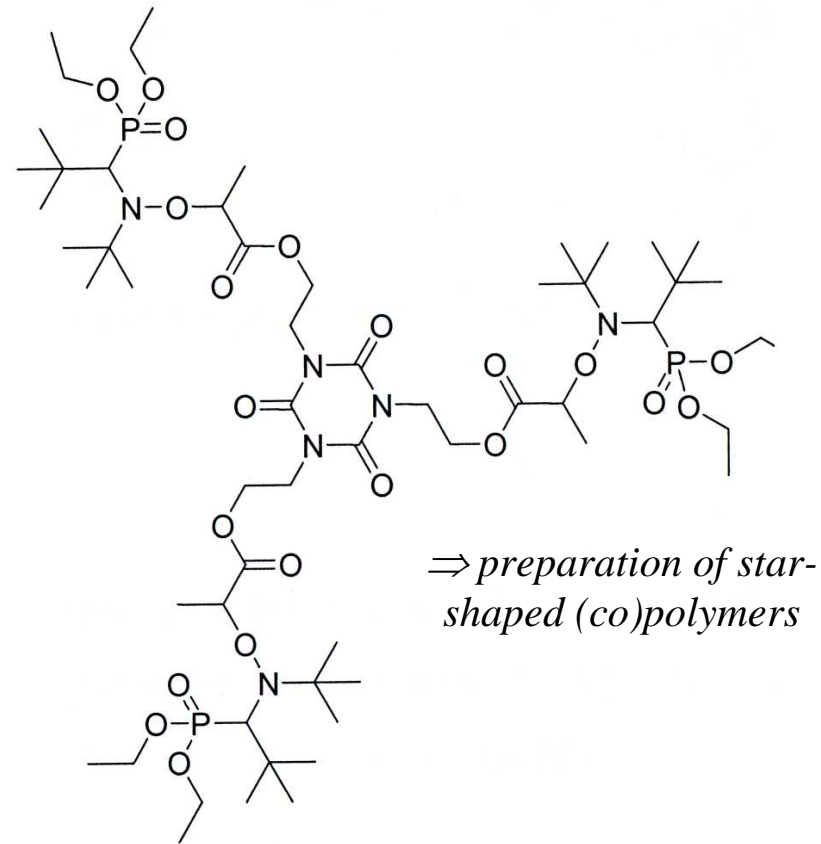
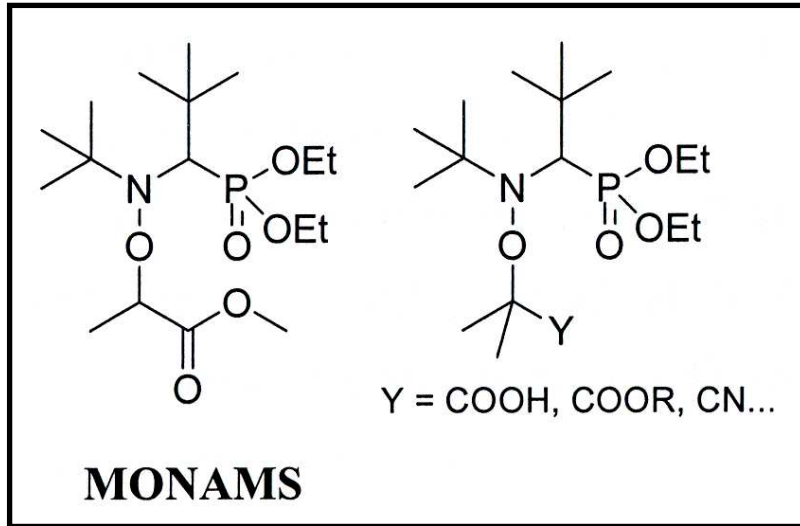
- NMP inefficient with vinyl chloride, vinyl acetate (and methacrylates)



Solvents

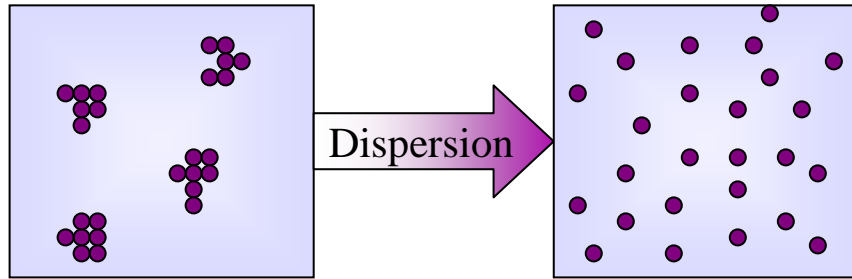
- Most often, the polymerizations are carried out in the bulk ($T > 100^\circ\text{C}$)
- Non polar solvents (xylene, toluene,...) with a low transfer constant.
- Aqueous media (suspension, miniemulsion, emulsion)

SG1 based alkoxyamines



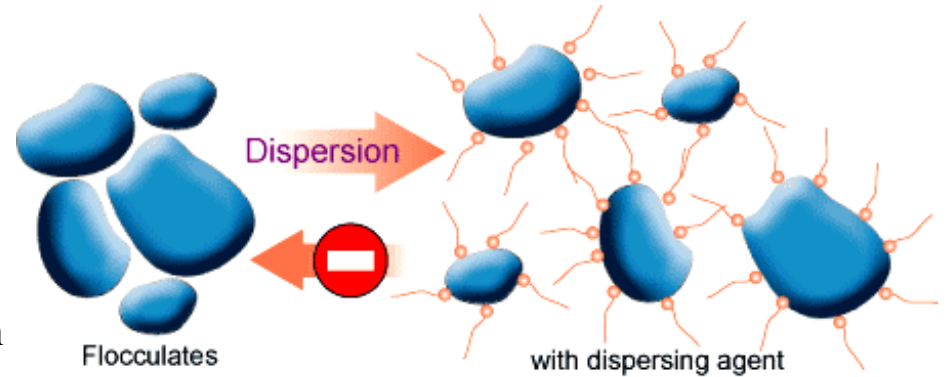
Efficient for styrene and acrylate polymerizations without the use of excess nitroxides

Application: pigments stabilization



Bad pigment dispersion

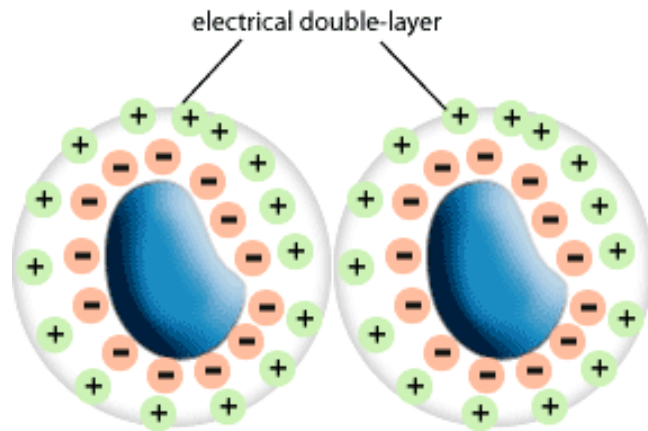
Good pigment dispersion



Flocculates

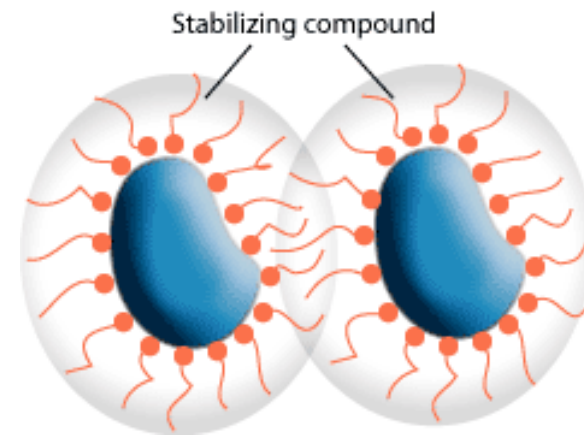
with dispersing agent

Electrostatic stabilisation



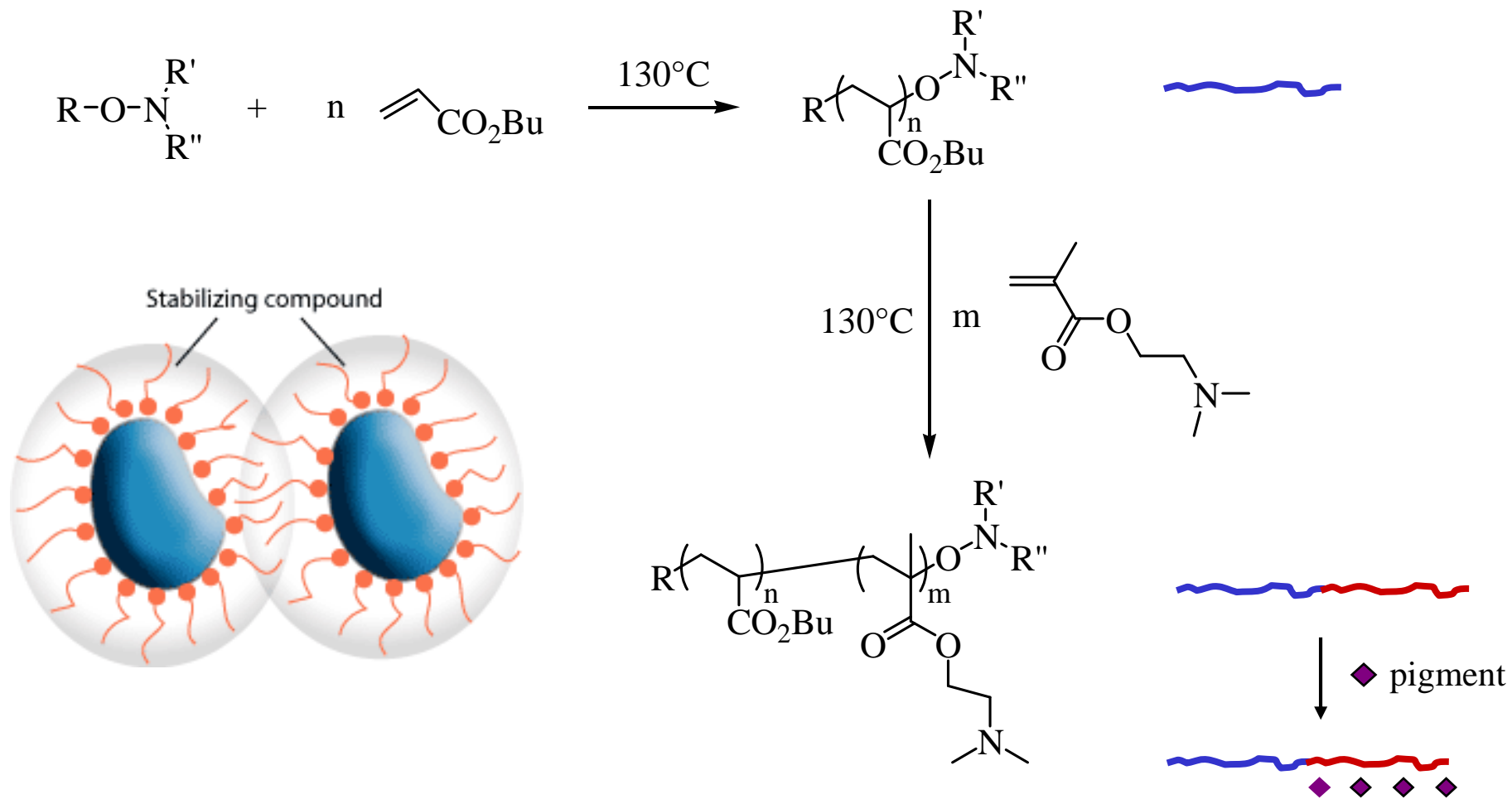
Use of polyelectrolytes
(polyphosphates, poly(carboxylic acids),...)

Steric stabilisation



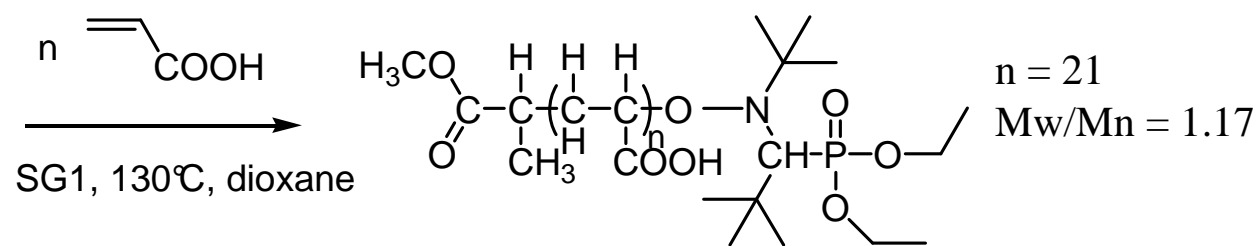
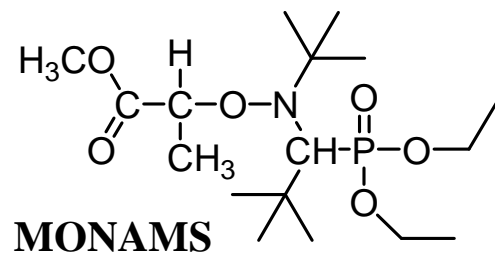
Utilisation de (co)polymères

Application: pigments stabilization



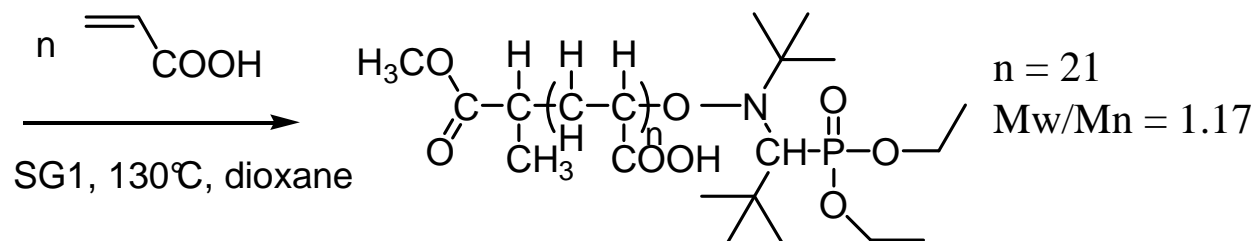
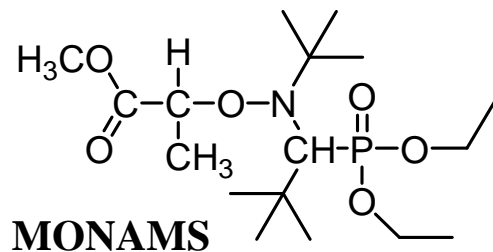
Emulsion polymerization without any surfactant

1- Preparation of PAA

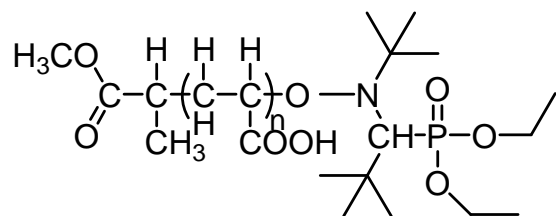


Emulsion polymerization without any surfactant

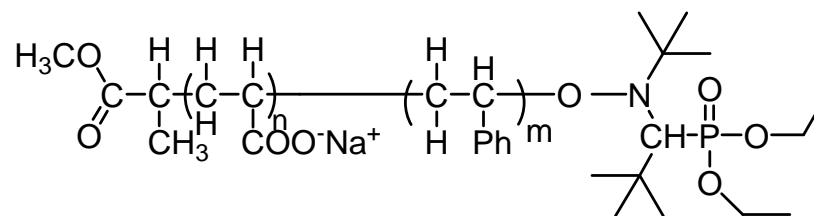
1- Preparation of PAA



2- Preparation of PAA-b-PS (and PAA-b-PnBuA) in emulsion

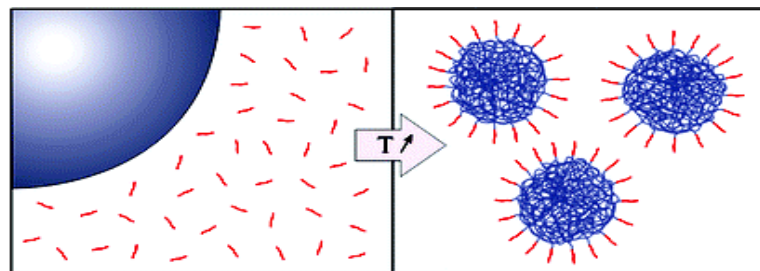
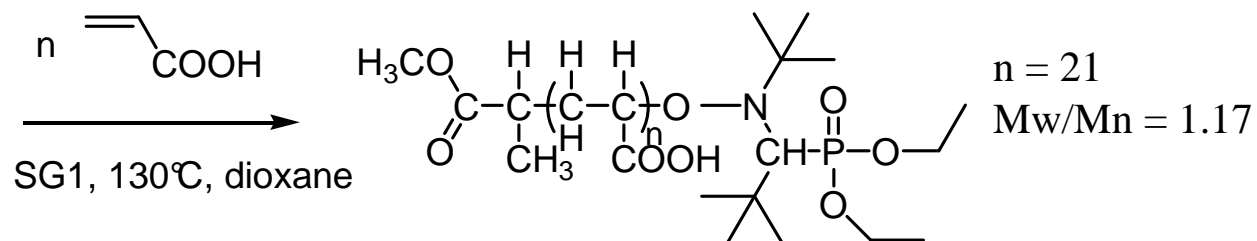
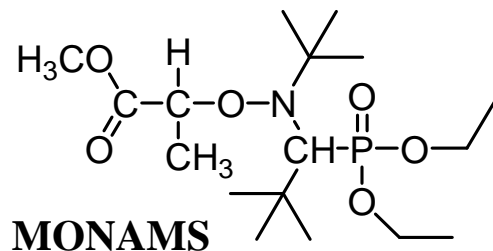


styrène, 120°C
eau, NaOH

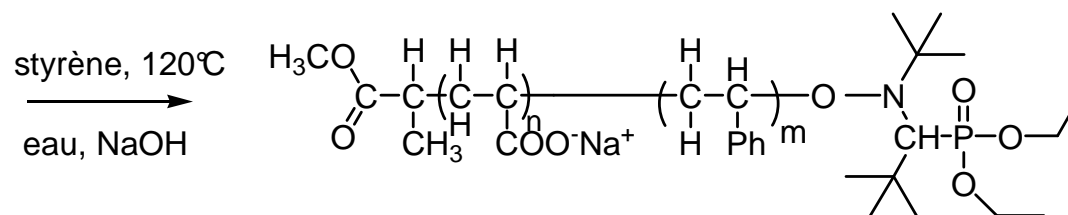
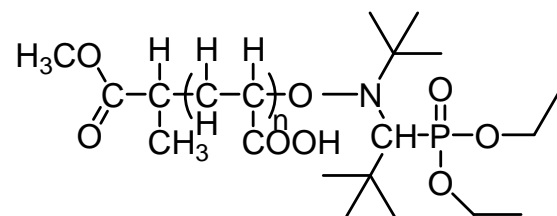


Emulsion polymerization without any surfactant

1- Preparation of PAA

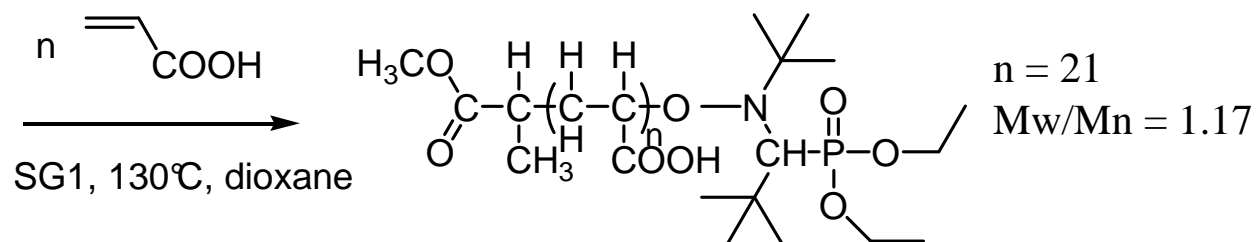
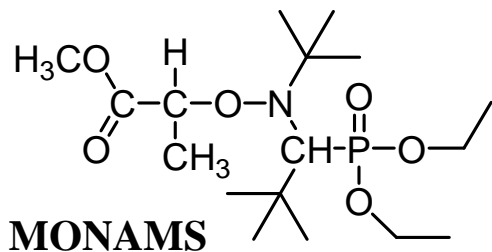


2- Preparation of PAA-b-PS (and PAA-b-PnBuA) in emulsion

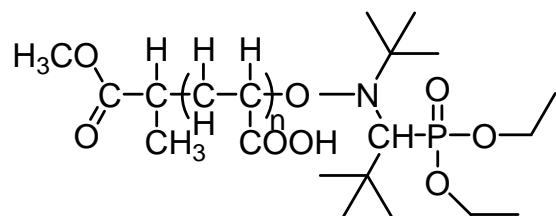


Emulsion polymerization without any surfactant

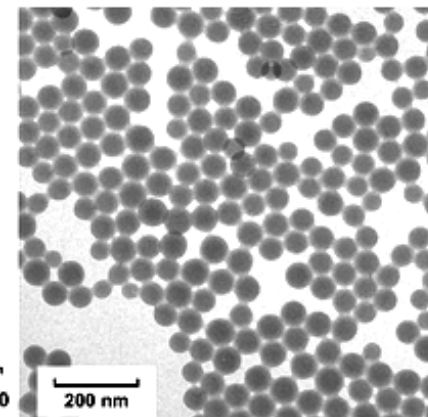
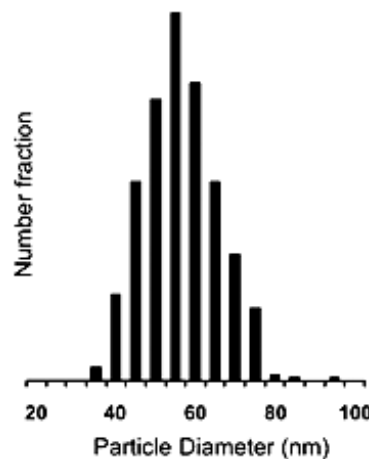
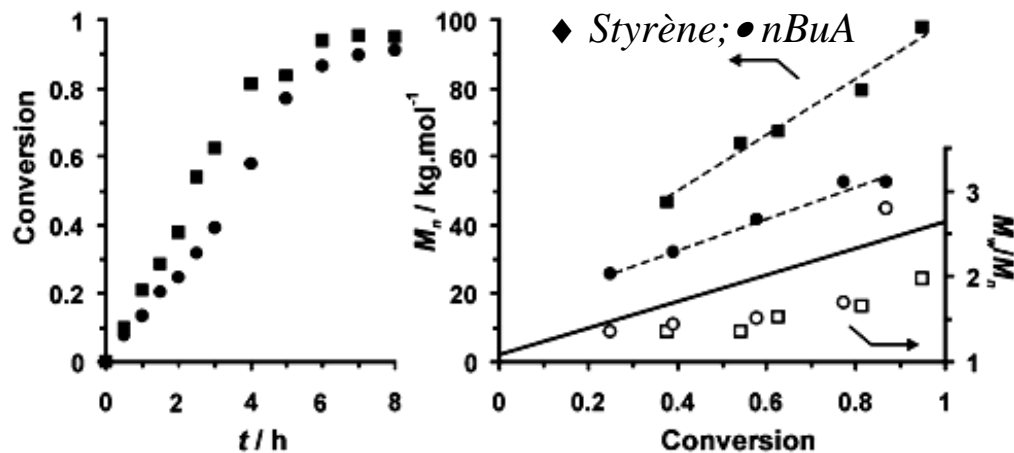
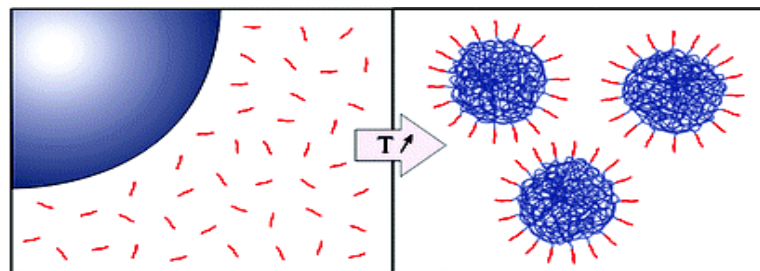
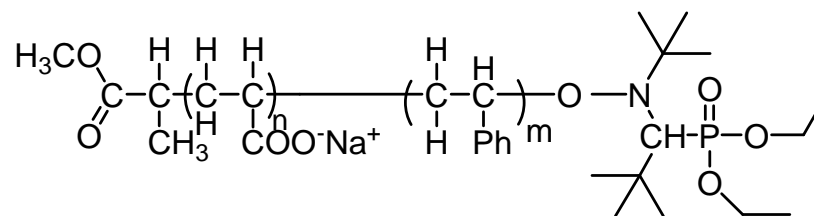
1- Preparation of PAA



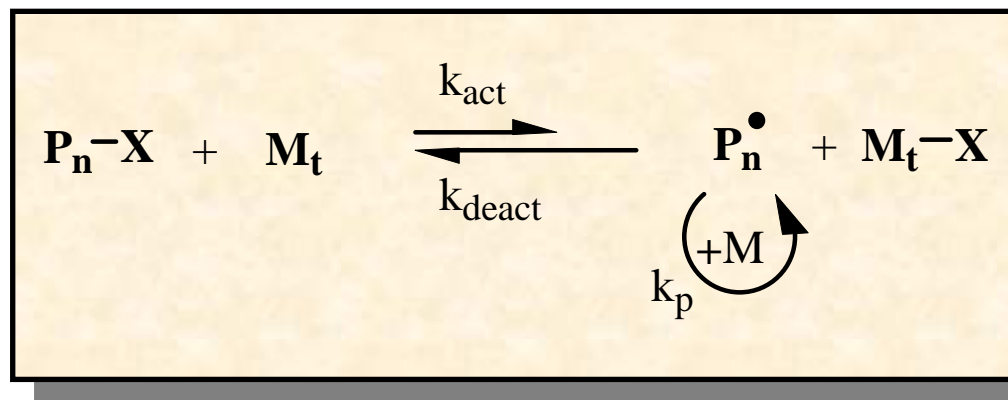
2- Preparation of PAA-b-PS (and PAA-b-PnBuA) in emulsion



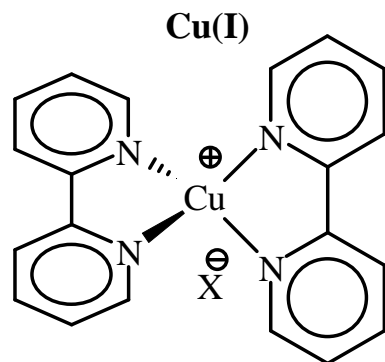
styrène, 120°C
 eau, NaOH



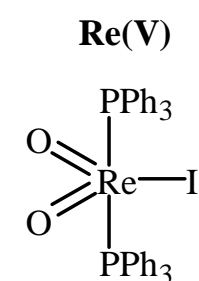
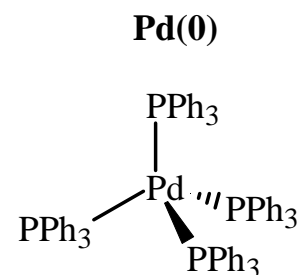
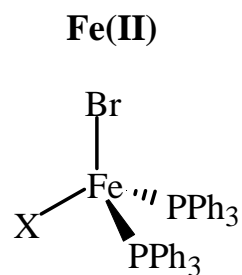
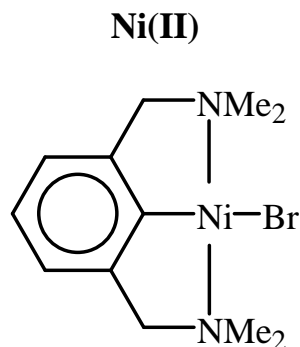
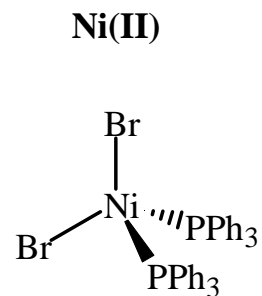
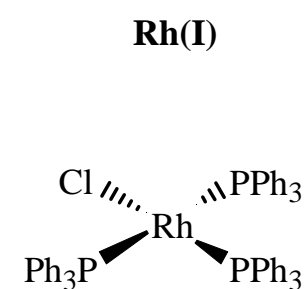
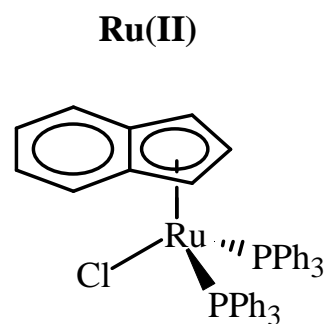
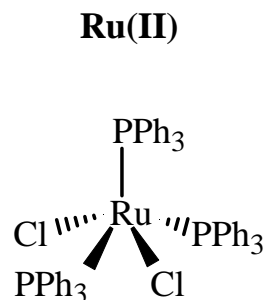
2nd CRP mechanism: Atom Transfer Radical Polymerization



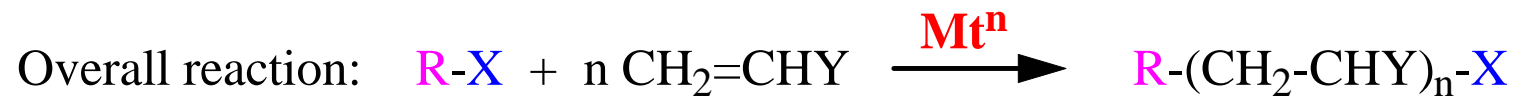
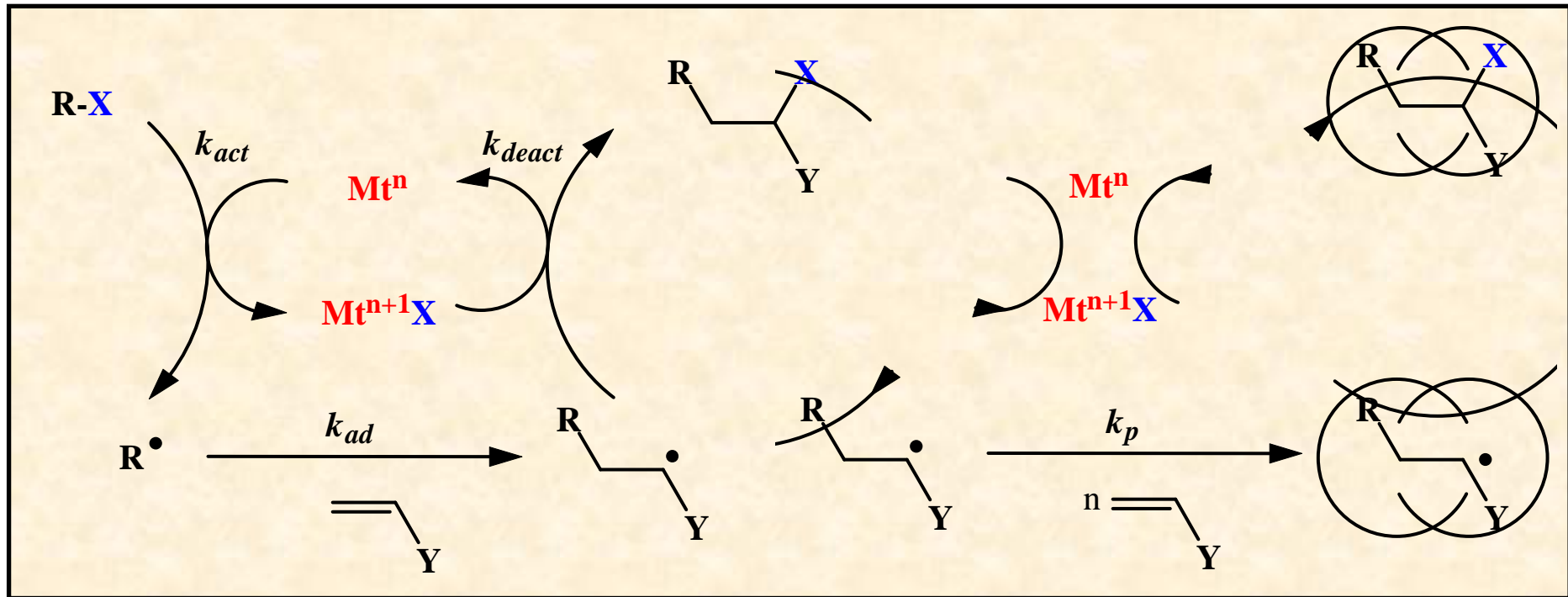
Mt:



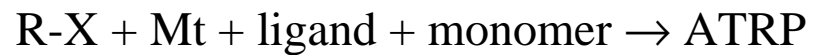
(X = Cl, Br)



Atom Transfer Radical Polymerization (ATRP)



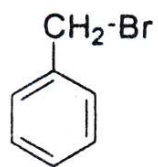
How to carry out an ATRP experiment ?



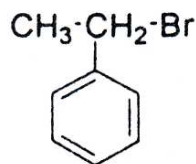
$[\text{RX}]/[\text{Mt-L}] = 1/1$

ATRP initiators

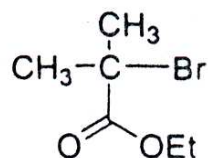
ATRP initiators = activated halogenoalkanes: α -haloketones, α -haloesters, α -nitriles, sulfonyl chlorides,...



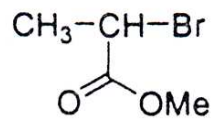
BzBr



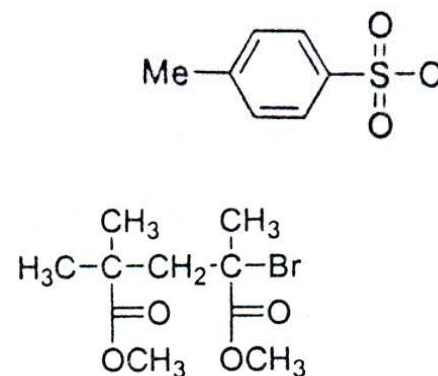
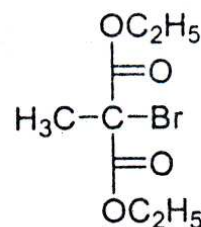
PEBr



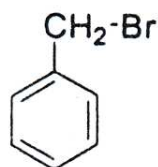
EBriB



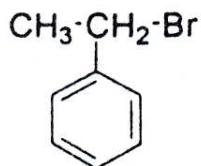
MBP



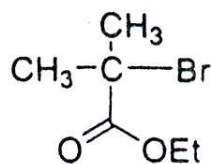
Generally, use of initiators which mimic the structure of the dormant chains:



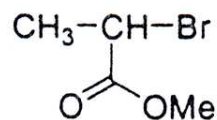
BzBr



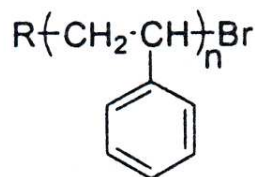
PEBr



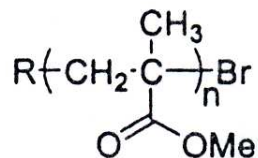
EBriB



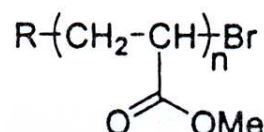
MBP



pSt-Br



pMMA-Br



pMA-Br

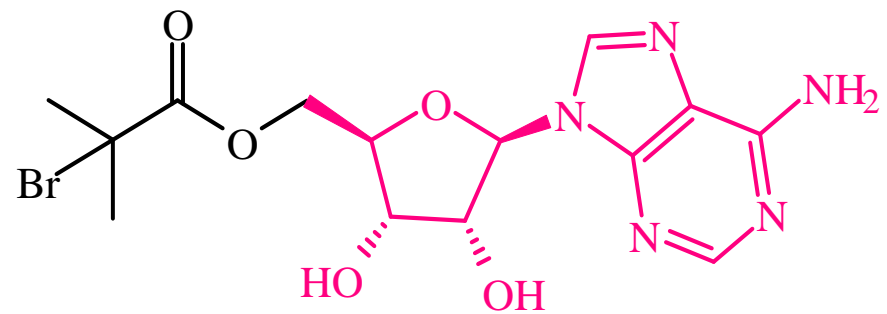
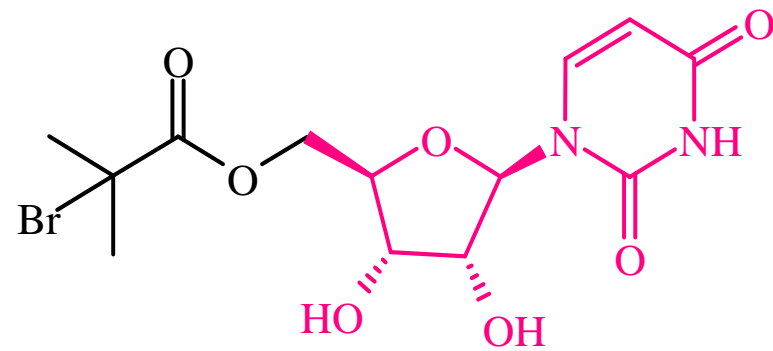
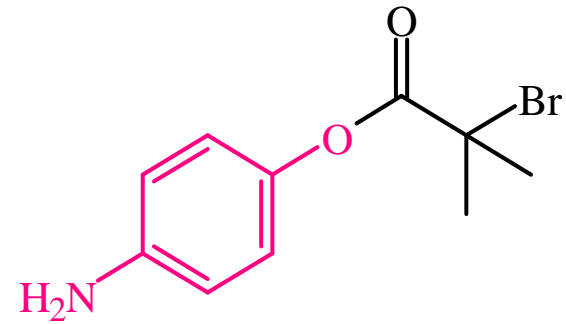
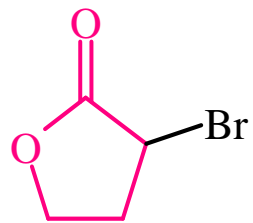
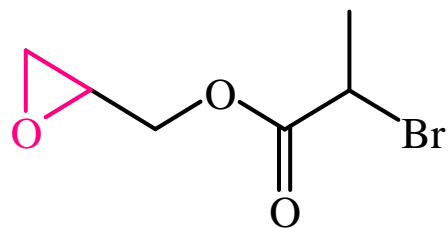
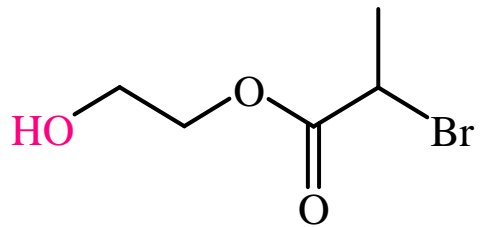
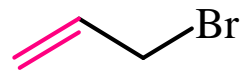
Molecular weight calculation:

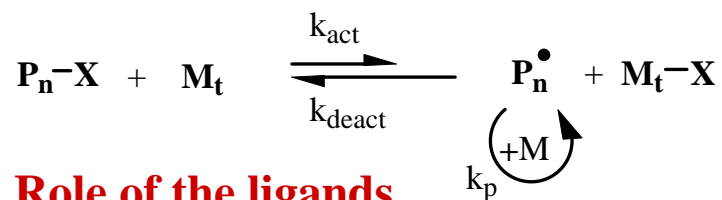
$$M_{n, th.} = \frac{[M]_0}{[RX]_0} \times MW_M \times conv$$

$$= (m_M/n_{RX}) \times conv$$

where m_M is the weight (g) of monomer;
and n_{RX} is the moles number of initiator

Some ATRP functional initiators





Role of the ligands

- 1- Metal solubilisation in organic media
- 2- Adjusting the position and dynamics of the active/dormant species equilibrium

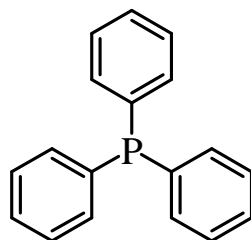
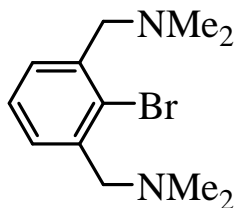
Types of ligands

Cu: bipyridines, iminopyridines, polyamines

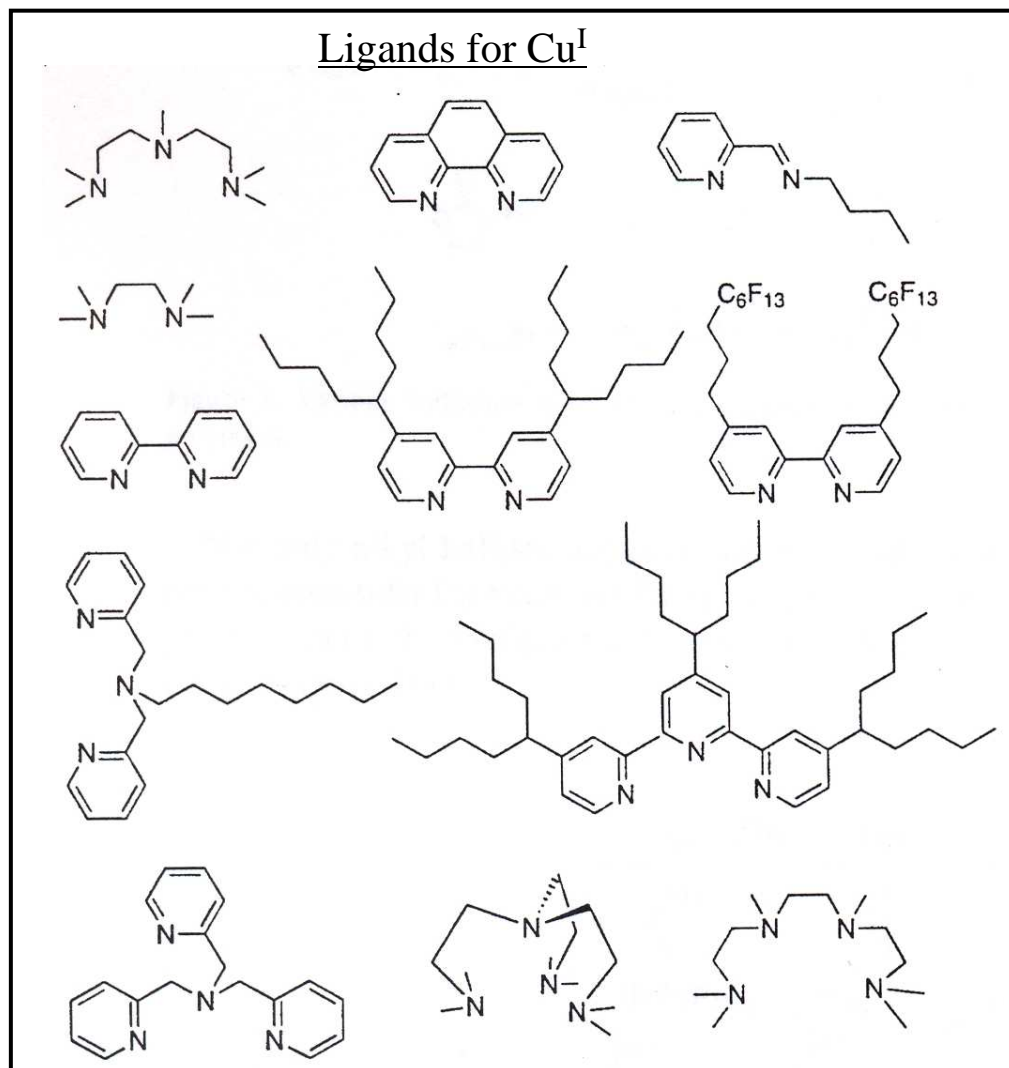
Ru: triarylphosphines, carbènes

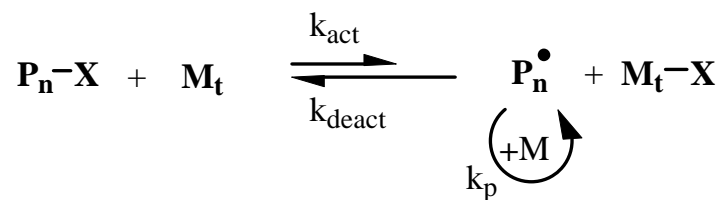
Ni: triarylphosphine, Granel

Fe: trialkylphosphine, trialkylamine



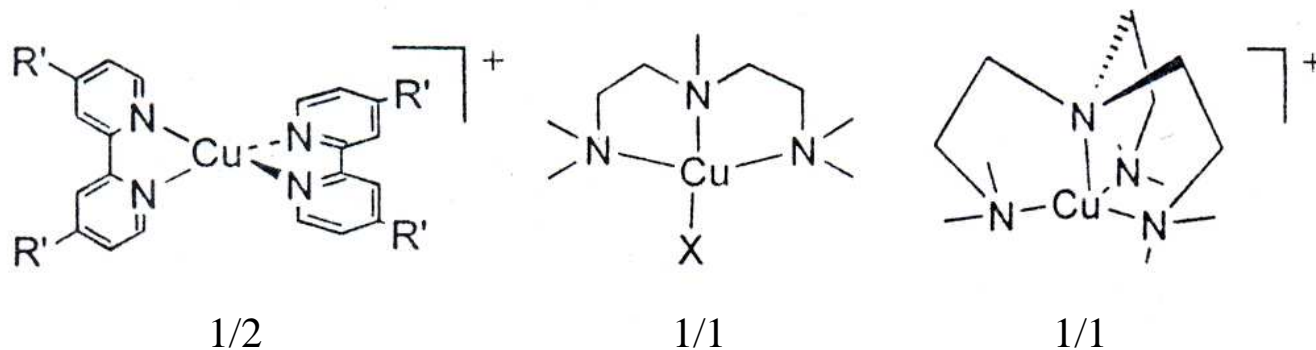
Ligands for Cu^I



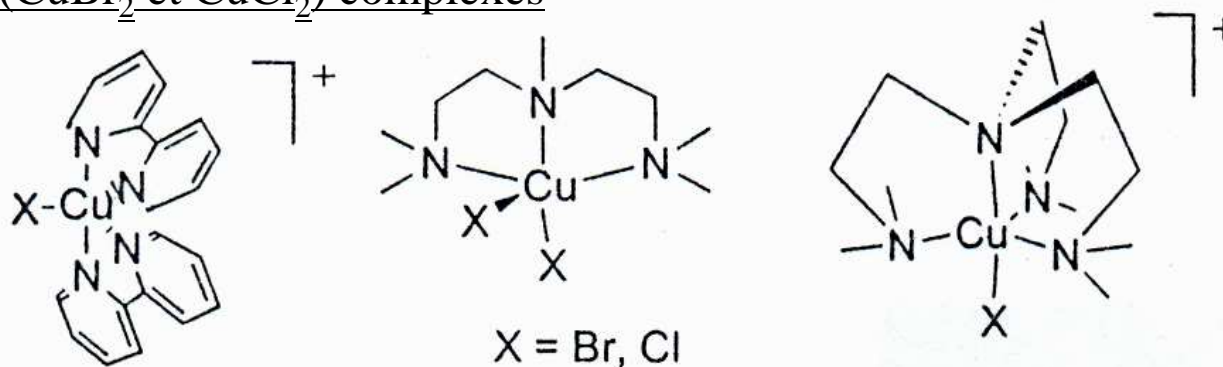


Some important Cu^I (CuBr et CuCl) complexes

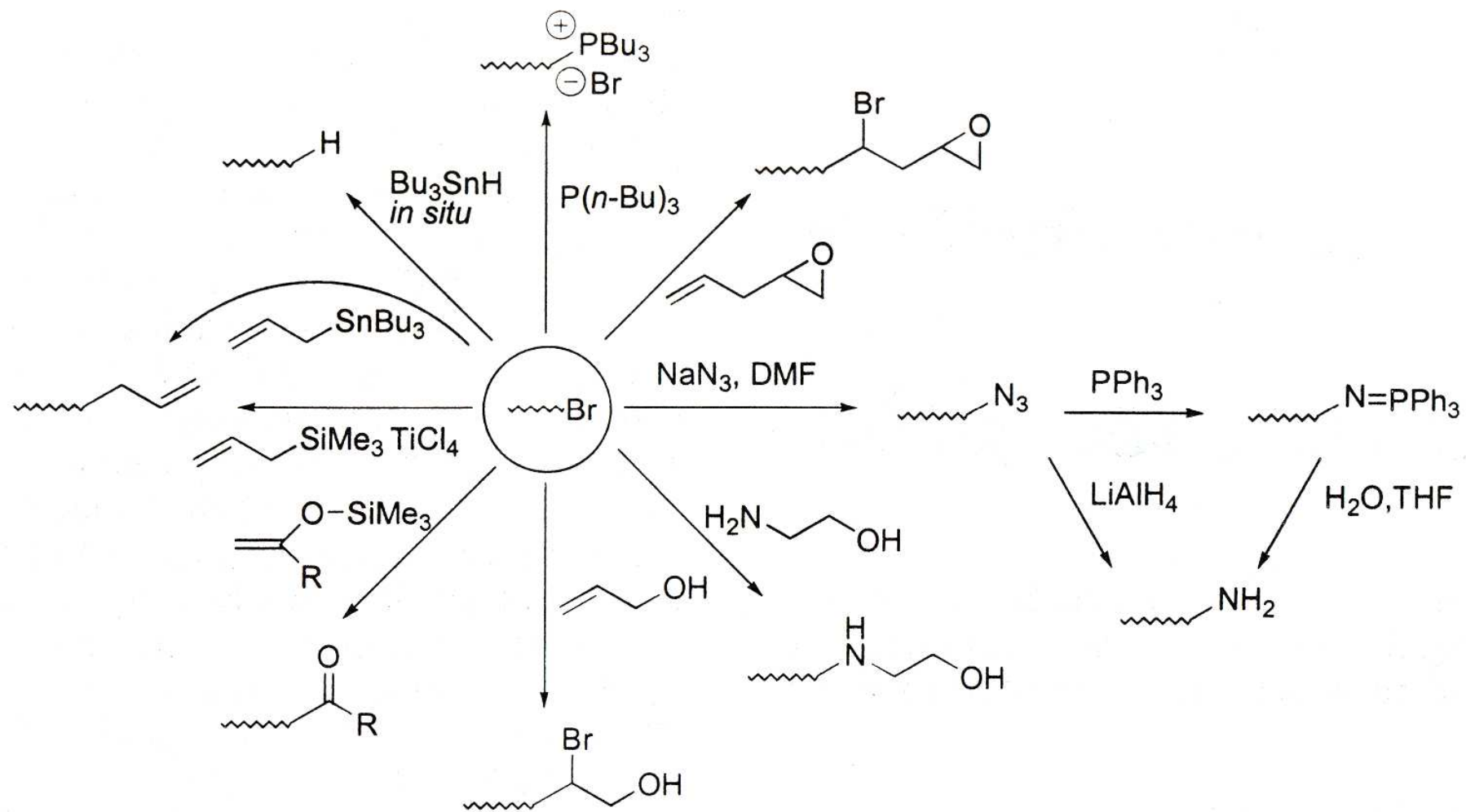
Cu(I)/Ligand molar ratios:



...and Cu^{II} (CuBr₂ et CuCl₂) complexes

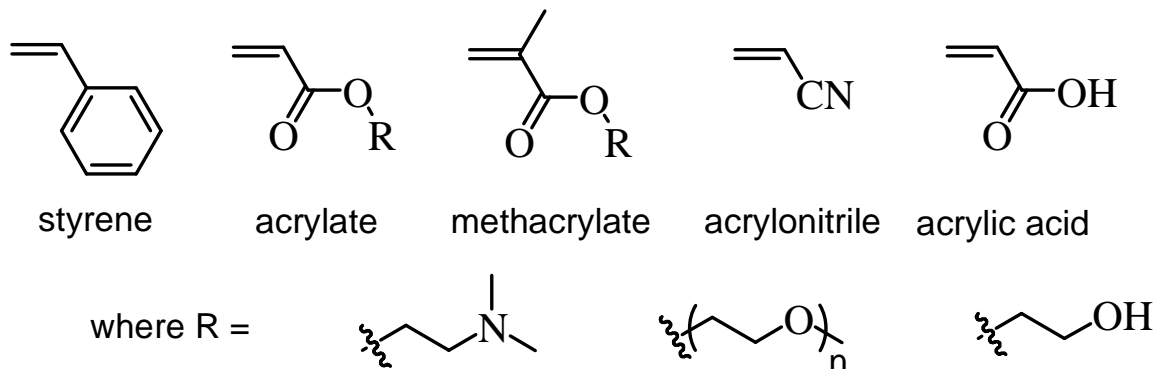


ω -chain end functionalization

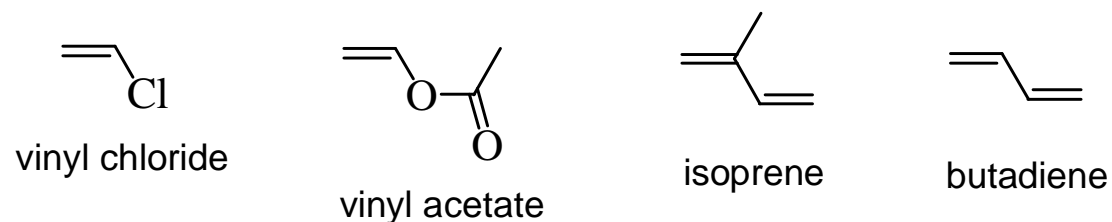


Monomers

- styrenes, acrylates, methacrylates, acrylonitrile, (meth)acrylic acid,...



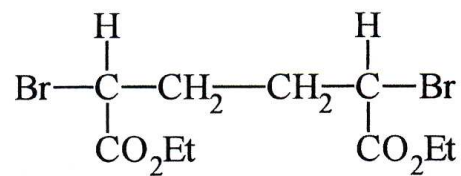
- ATRP inefficient with vinyl chloride, vinyl acetate and dienes because the radical is too reactive and poorly stabilized \Rightarrow C-X bond at the ω -chain-end is too stable.



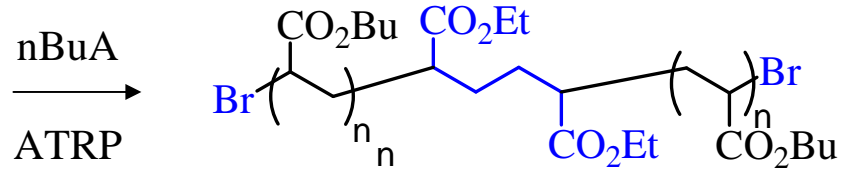
Solvents

- Most often, the polymerizations are carried out in the bulk
- Non polar solvents (xylene, toluene,...) with a low transfer constant.
- Aqueous media (suspension, miniemulsion, emulsion)
- Alcohols

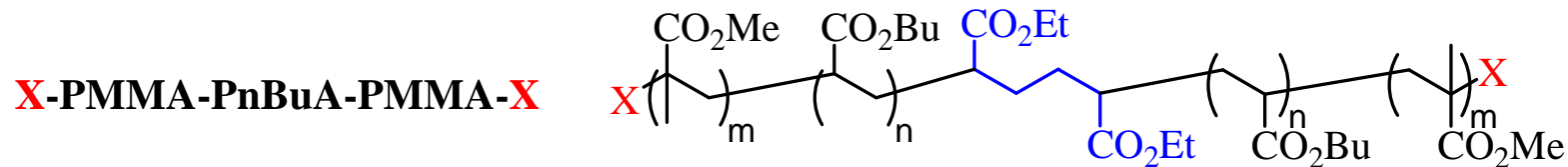
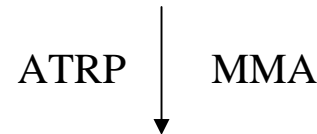
Halogen exchange in ATRP



Diethyl meso-2,5-dibromoadipate (DEMDBA)



Br-PnBuA-Br

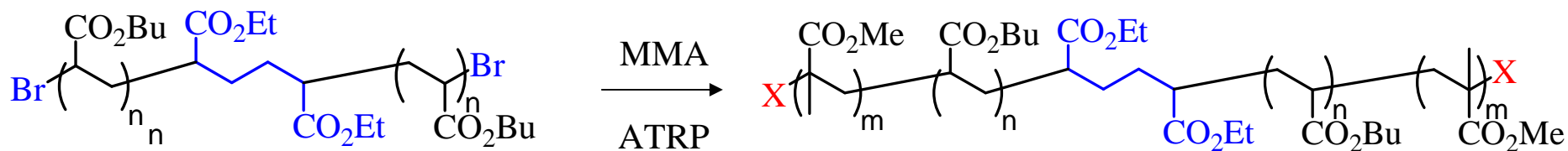


X-PMMA-PnBuA-PMMA-X

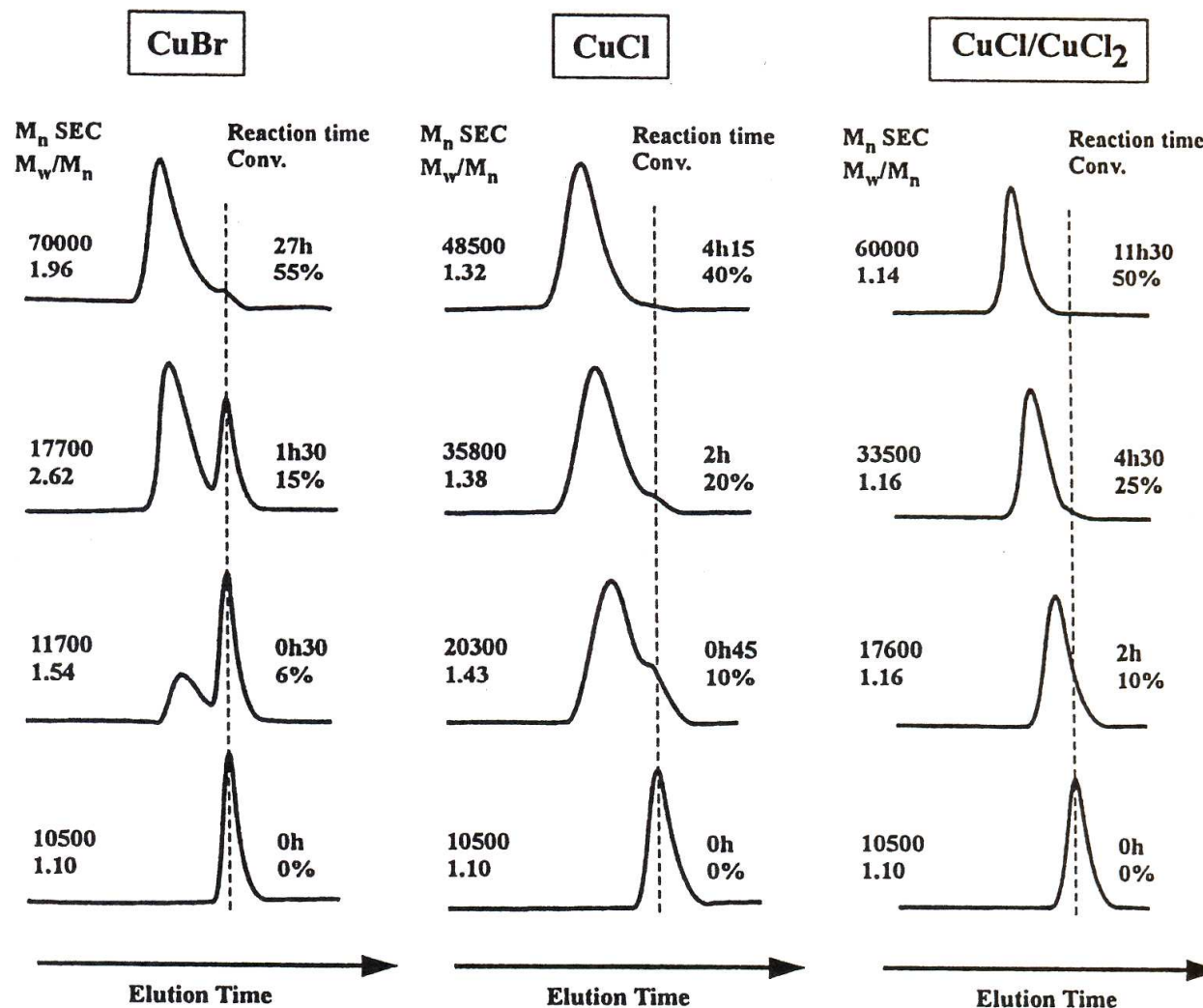
For preparing such copolymer, the halogen exchange is required.

Optimal conditions for the MMA polymerization: $\text{CuCl} + \text{CuCl}_2$ (10mol%)

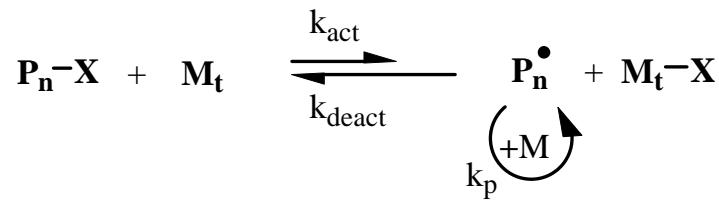
Halogen exchange in ATRP



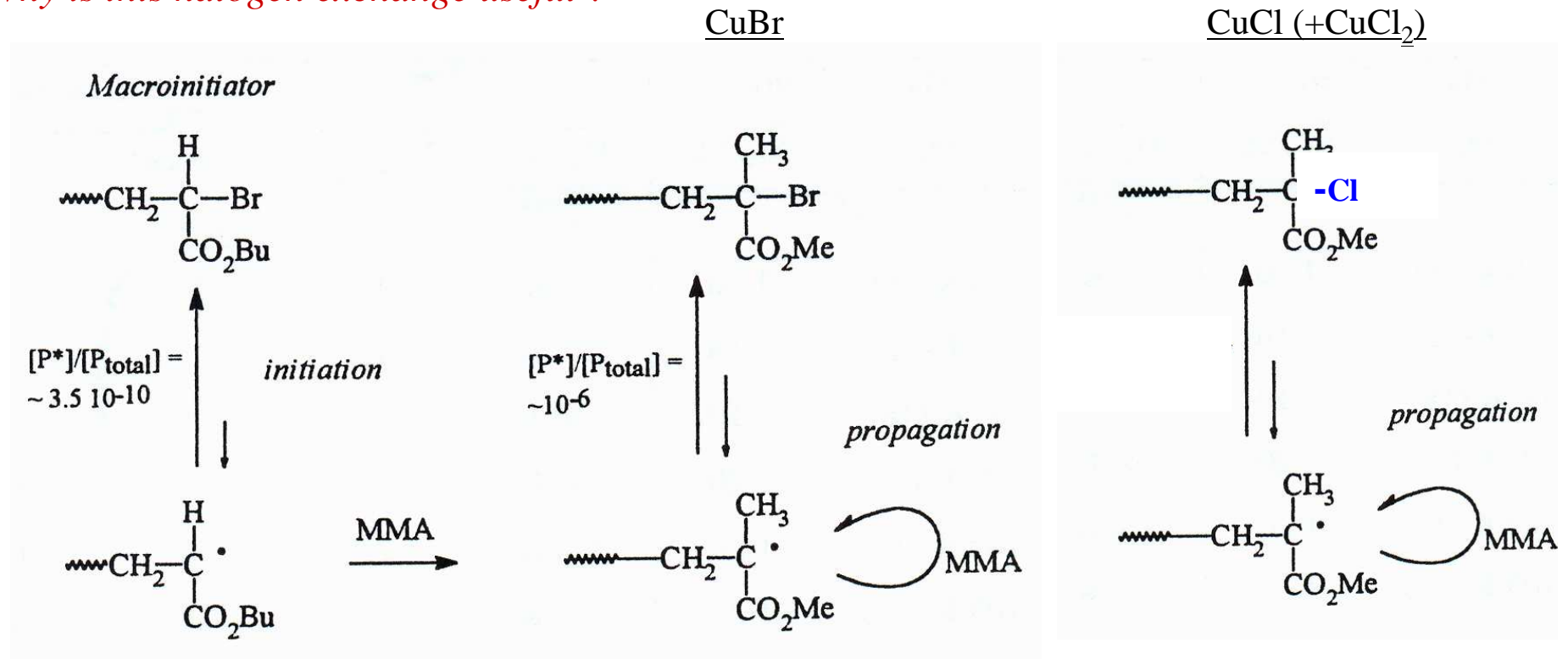
Conditions:
 toluene, 85°C,
 [MMA] = 4.67M,
 [Br-PnBuA-Br] = 4mM,
 [catalyseur] = 4mM



Halogen exchange in ATRP



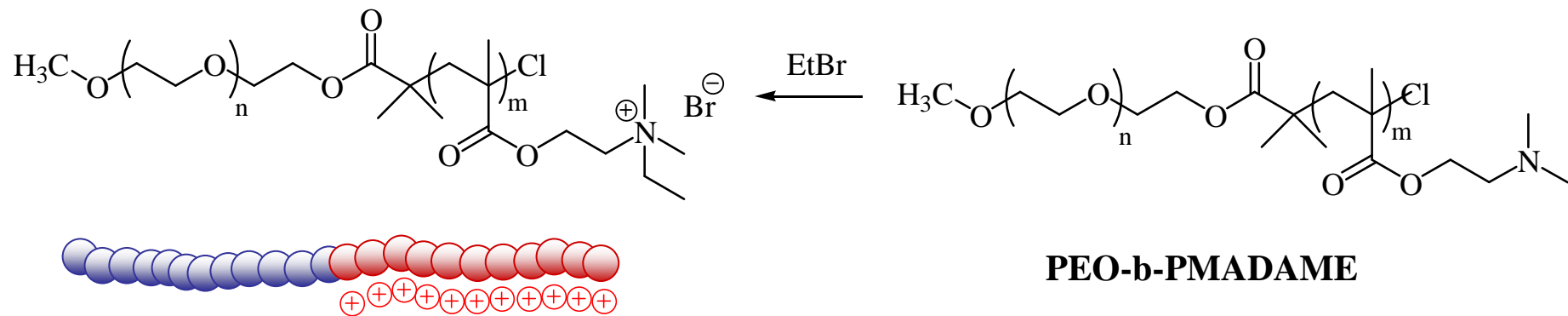
Why is this halogen exchange useful ?



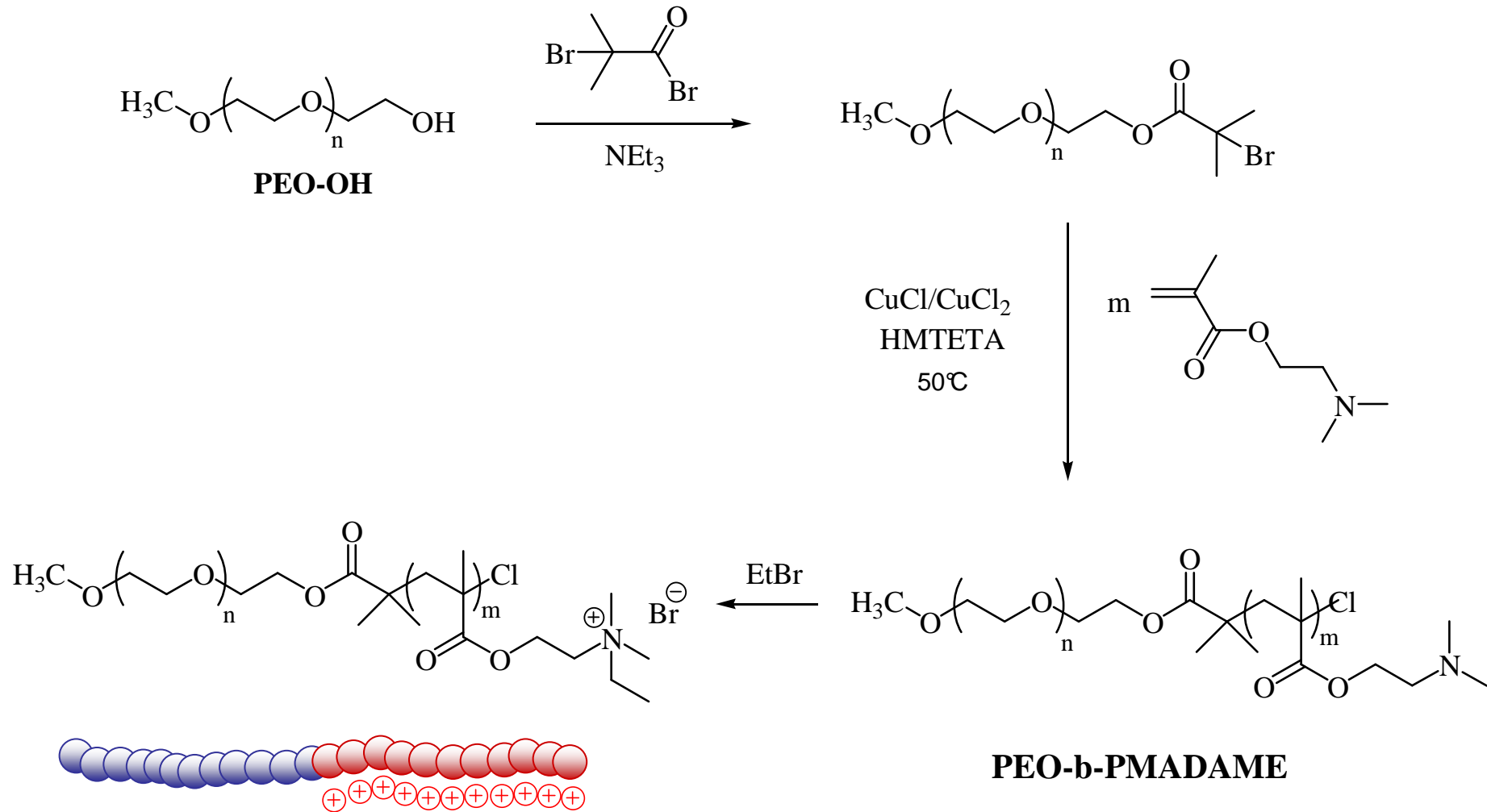
Without halogen exchange, MMA propagation is fast compared to initiation. Unreacted macroinitiator will thus be left at the end of the MMA polymerization.

With halogen exchange (Cl in place of Br), MMA propagation is decreased because C-Cl bond at the ω -chain end of PMMA is more stable than the C-Br bond. Initiation would thus be favoured compared to propagation.

Preparation of hydrosoluble block copolymers

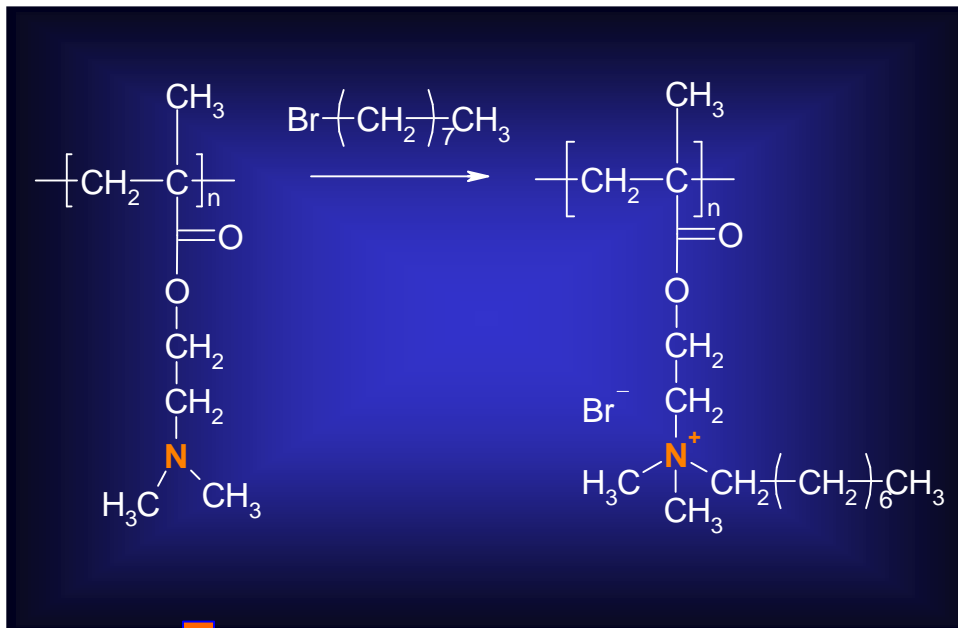


Preparation of hydrosoluble block copolymers

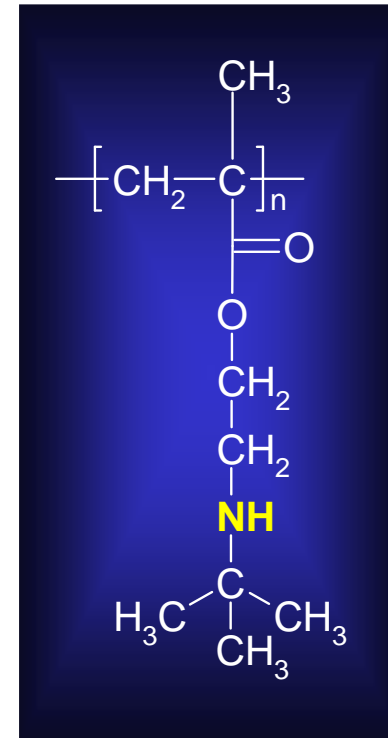


Antibacterial copolymers

Some exemples

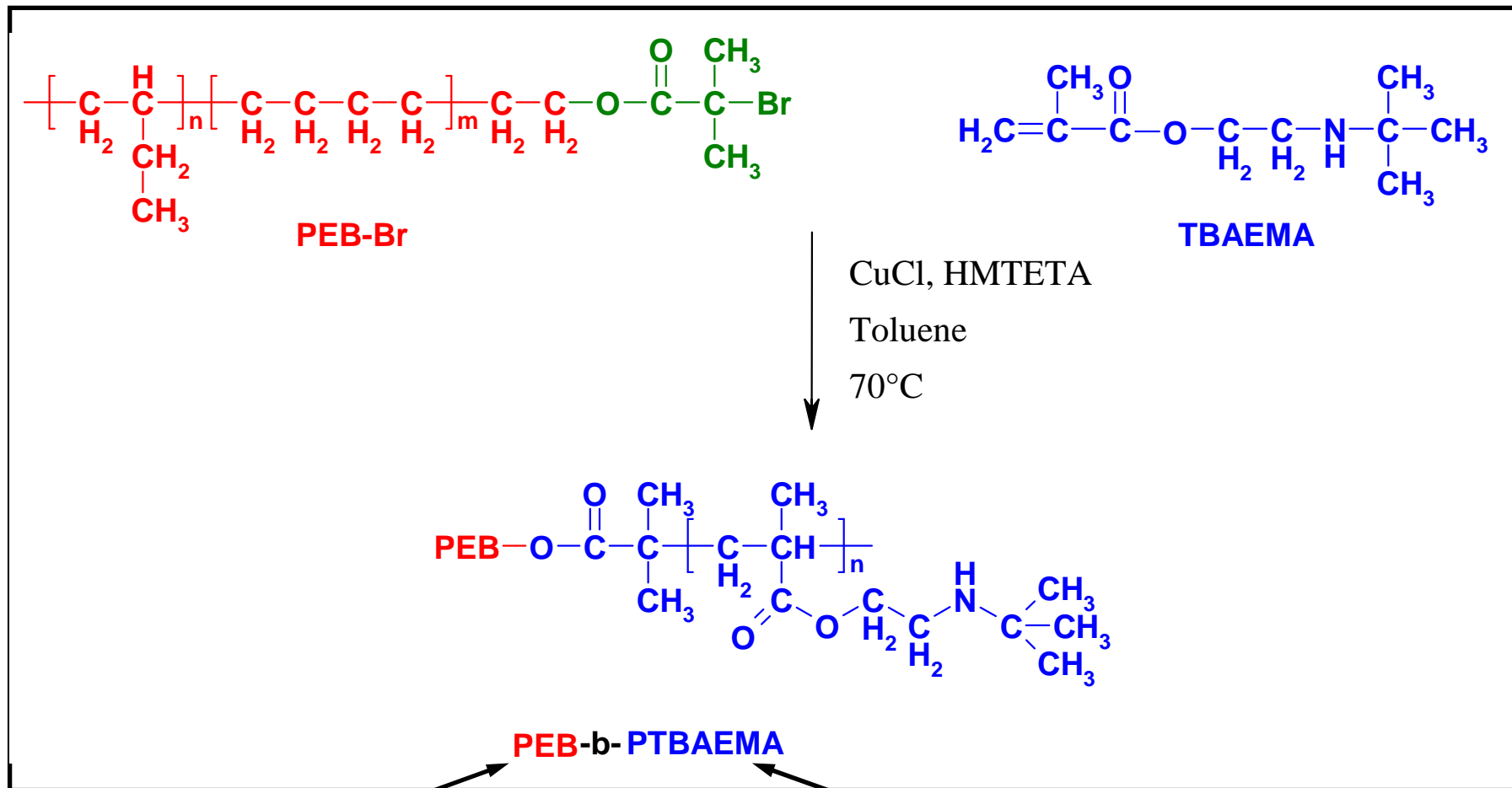


Quaternized poly(DMAEMA)



Poly(TBAEMA)

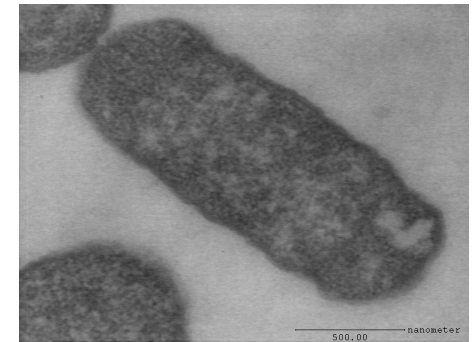
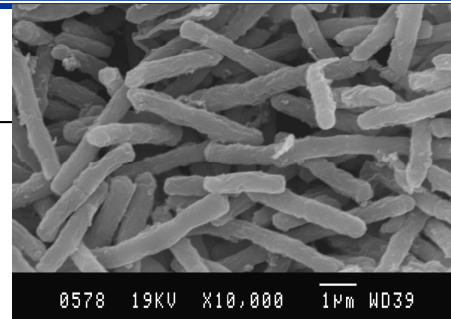
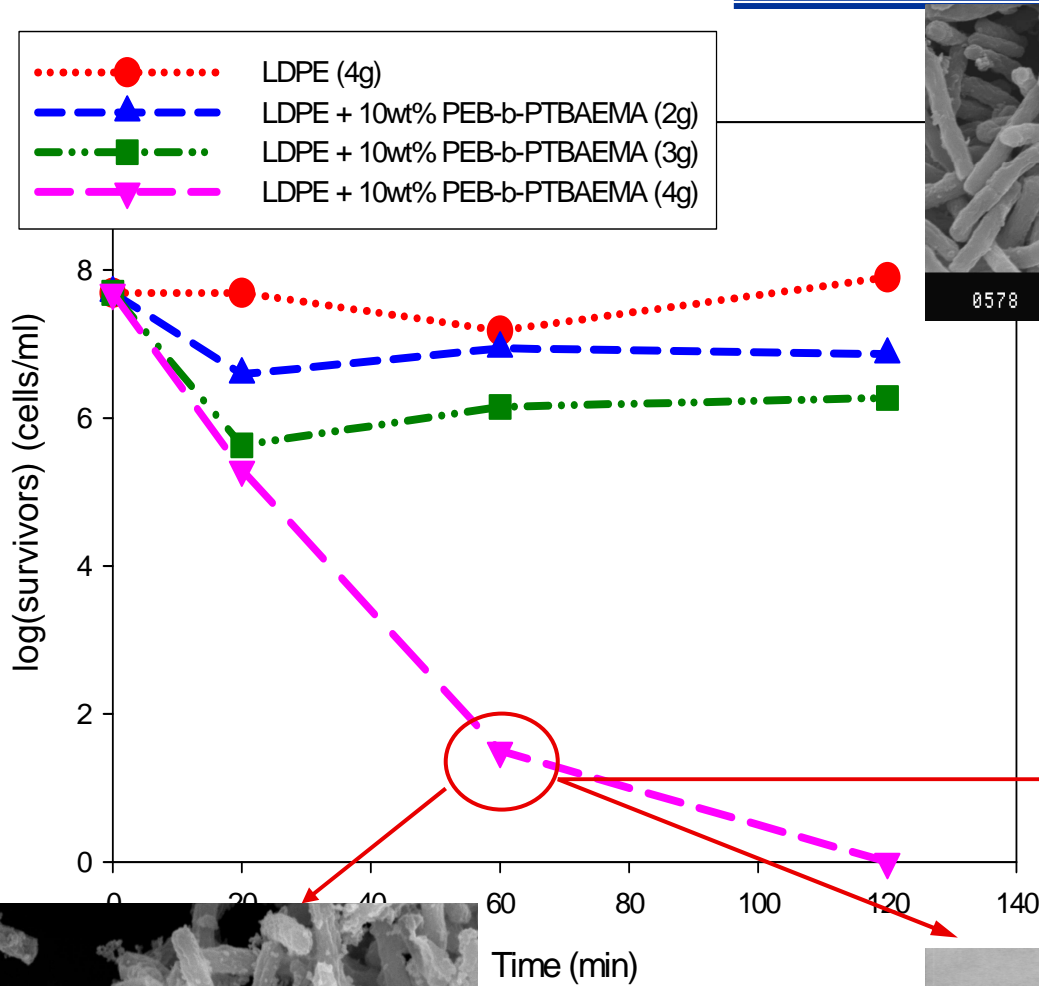
Antibacterial copolymers for LDPE



Miscible with LDPE
⇒ Anchoring block to the LDPE
matrix

Antibacterial block

Antibacterial testings of LDPE bottles containing PEB-b-PTBAEMA



Control:

LDPE, 4g, 0.5 cm × 0.5 cm pieces

Antibacterial LDPE:

LDPE+ 10 % PEB-b-PTBAEMA,

4 g, 0.5 cm × 0.5 cm pieces

3g, 0.5 cm × 0.5 cm pieces

2g, 0.5 cm × 0.5 cm pieces

TEM images

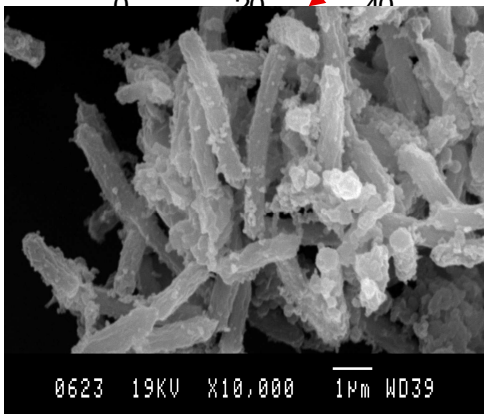
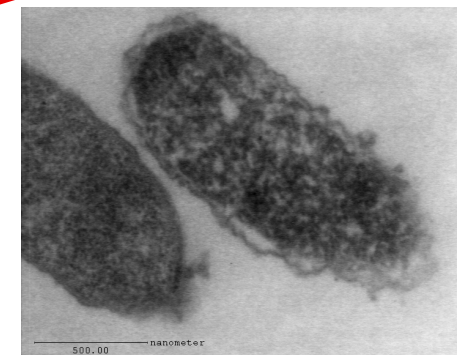
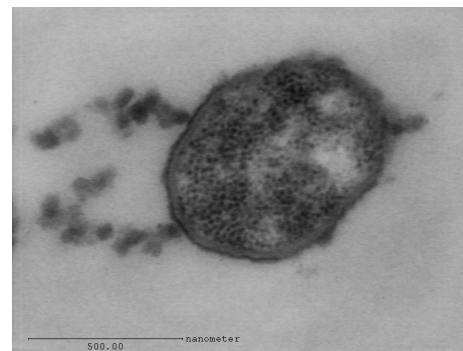


Image SEM



Biomacromolecules 2006,
7(8), 2291-2296

Polymer/biomolecules biohybrides

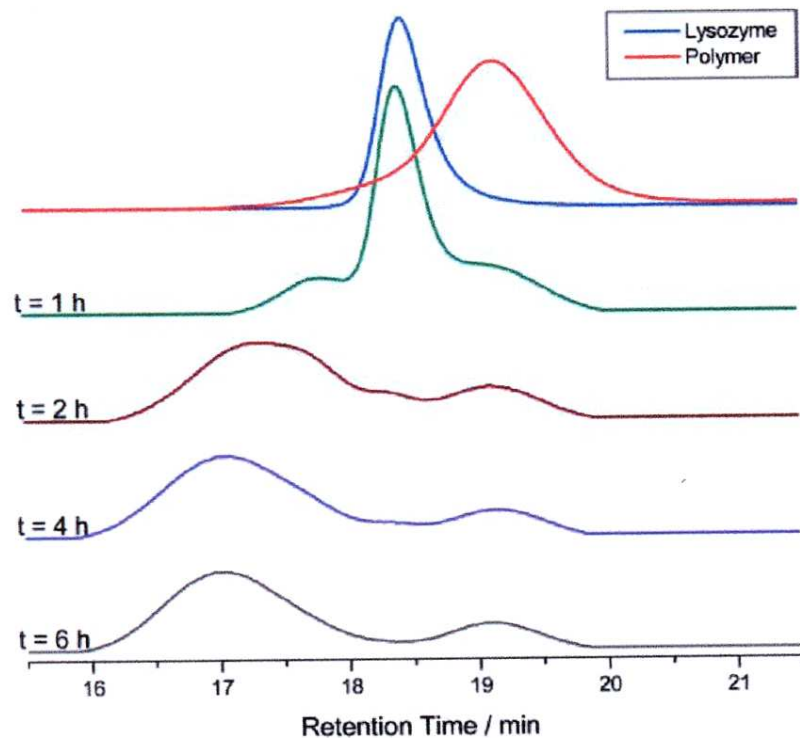
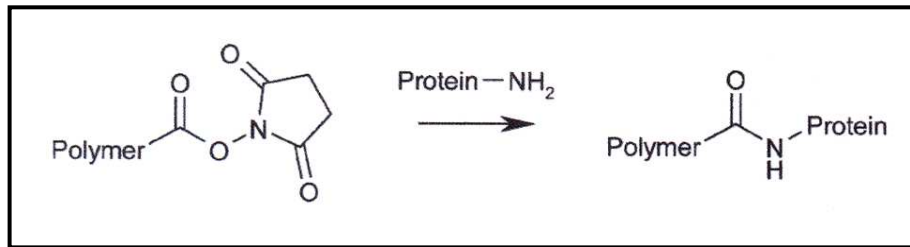
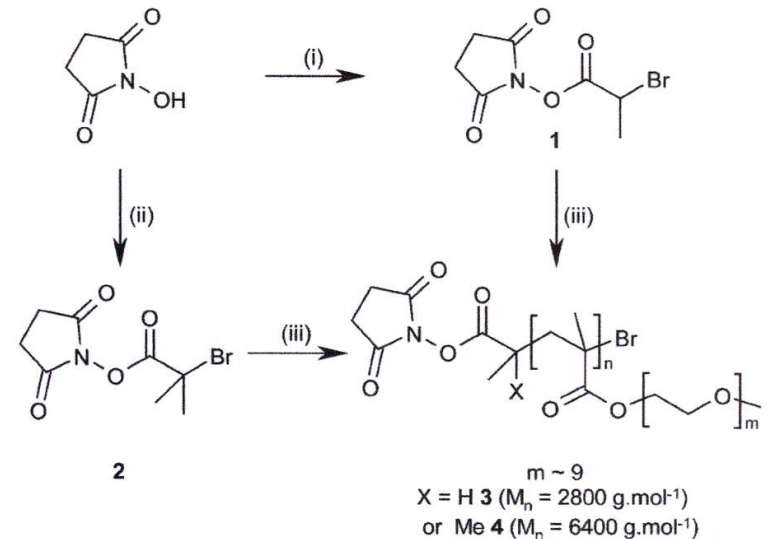


Fig. 2 SEC HPLC traces following the reaction of *N*-succinimidyl esters functionalised Poly(mPEGMA) ($M_n = 6400 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$, $M_w/M_n = 1.11$) with lysozyme.

Chem. Comm. 2004, 2026



Scheme 2 Reagents and conditions: (i) 2-Bromopropionic acid, dicyclohexylcarbodiimide, CH_2Cl_2 ; (ii) 2-bromo-2-methylpropionyl bromide, triethylamine, CH_2Cl_2 ; (iii) Cu(I)Br , *N*-(ethyl)-2-pyridylmethanimine, poly(ethylene glycol) methyl ether methacrylate, toluene 50% v/v; [PEGMA]:[initiator]:[Cu(I)Br]:[ligand] = 5:1:1:2.

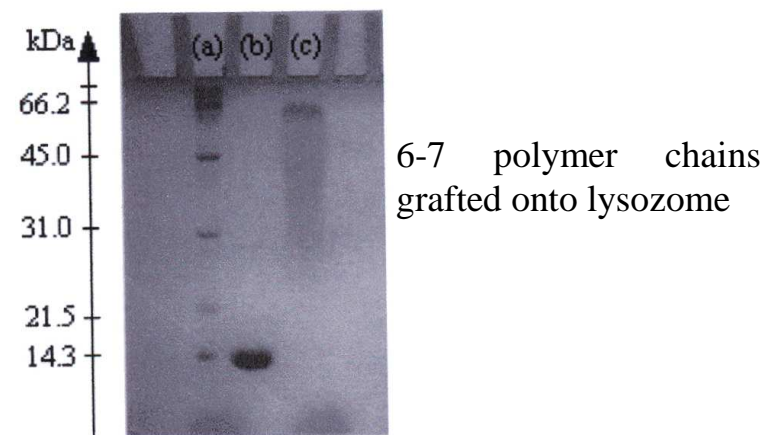
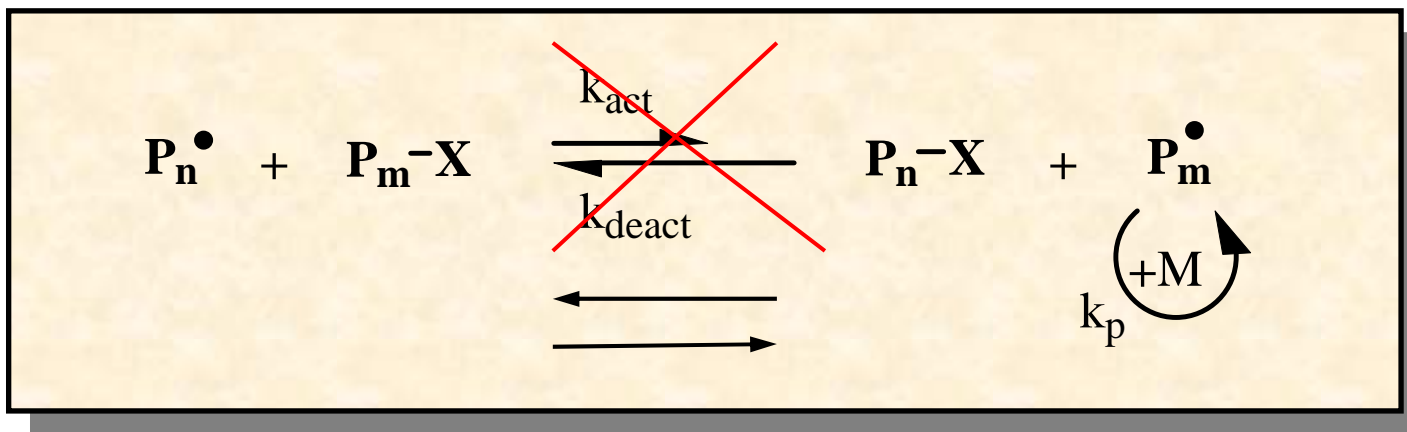


Fig. 3 SDS-PAGE for the conjugation of lysozyme with 3. (a) Protein standards. (b) Lysozyme. (c) Protein-polymer bioconjugate.

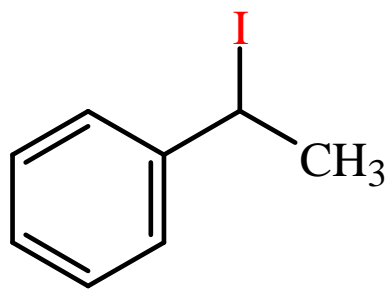
3rd mechanism: degenerative transfert (DT)

An atom or group of atoms is rapidly and reversibly transferred from a dormant chain to an active chain. During this transfer, the dormant chain becomes active, and the active chain becomes dormant.

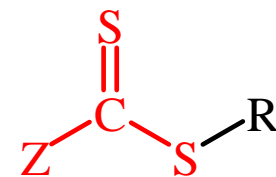


For the polymerization to be controlled, the transfer has to be fast compared to propagation !

Some examples of DT reagents:



1-phenyl ethyl iodide

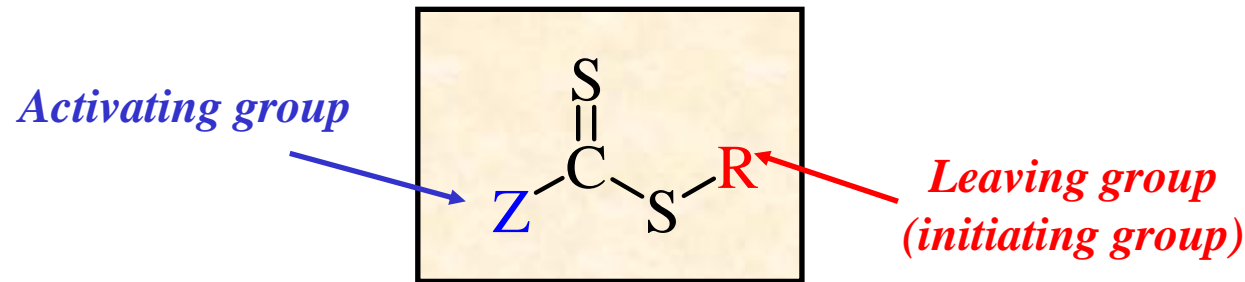


Z = Ph

R = CH₂Ph

thiocarbonylthio compounds

Reversible Addition-Fragmentation chain Transfer (RAFT)



a Z = Ph, R = C(CH₃)₂Ph

b Z = Ph, R = CH(CH₃)Ph

c Z = Ph, R = CH₂Ph

d Z = Ph, R = C(CH₃)(CN)CH₂CH₂CO₂Na

e Z = Ph, R = C(CH₃)₂CN

f Z = CH₃, R = CH₂Ph

g Z = Ph, R = C(CH₃)(CN)CH₂CH₂CH₂OH

h Z = Ph, R = C(CH₃)(CN)CH₂CH₂CO₂H

How to carry out a RAFT experiment ?



Advantages:



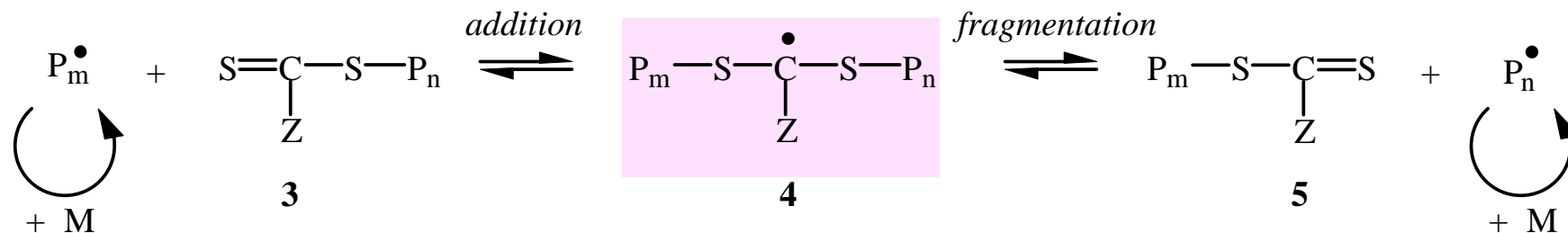
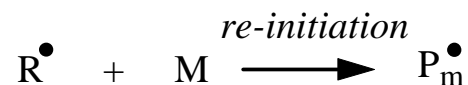
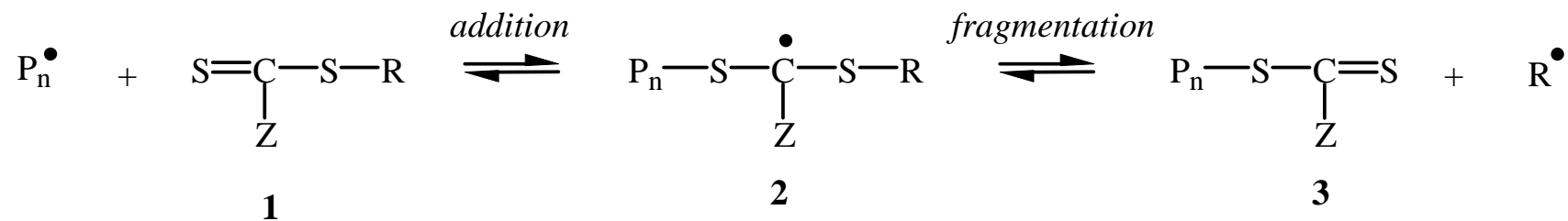
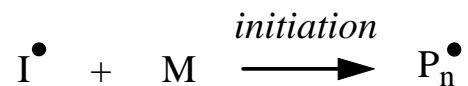
[RAFT agent]/ [free radical initiator] = 10/1 to 5/1

➔ Only organic reagents

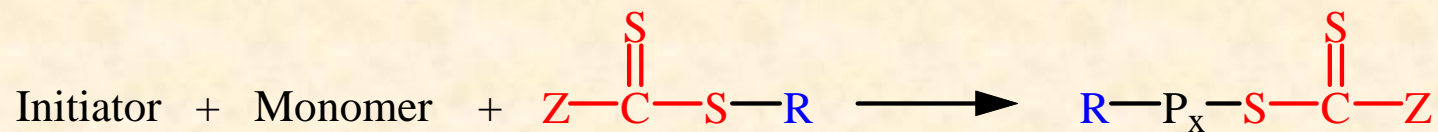
➔ A wide range of monomers: methacrylates, acrylates, styrene, *styrene sulfonate*, vinyl benzoate, 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate, acrylic acid, dimethylaminoethyl methacrylate, acrylamides, ...

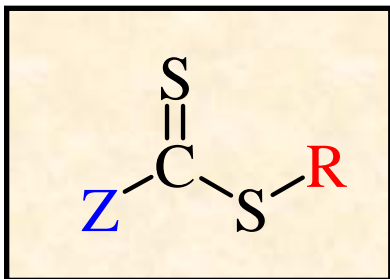
➔ T: 60-100°C; polymerizations in bulk, solutions and aqueous (dispersed) media

RAFT mechanism



Overall process

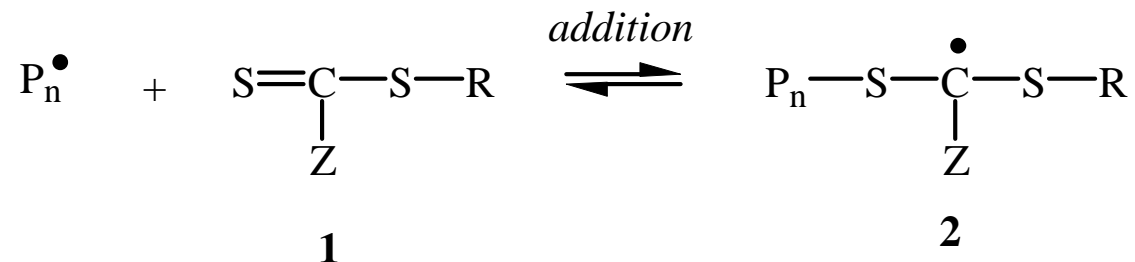




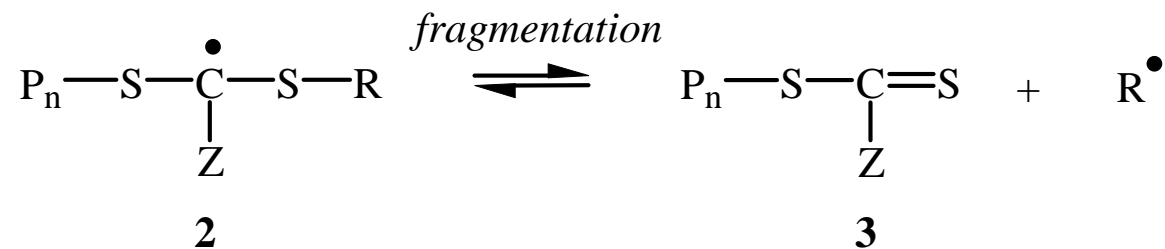
How to choose the RAFT agent ?

1) Importance of Z and R groups

Z = activating group \Rightarrow has to activate the RAFT agent for the addition of radicals



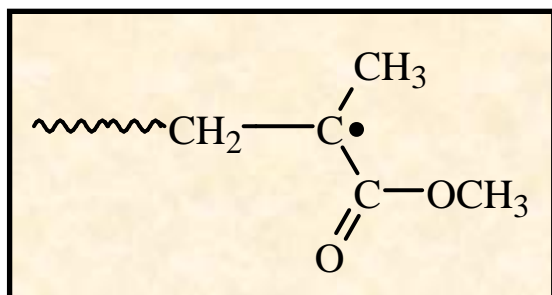
R = leaving group \Rightarrow has to be a good leaving “radicalar” group in order to promote the fragmentation in the good direction



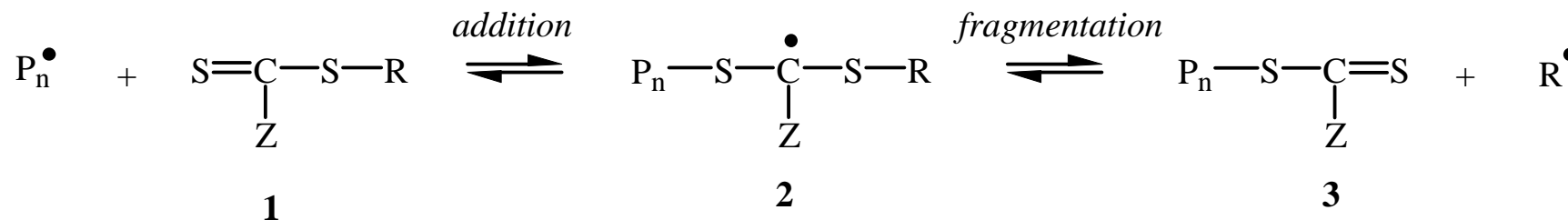
2) Choice of the RAFT agent = f(monomer)

How to choose the RAFT agent ?

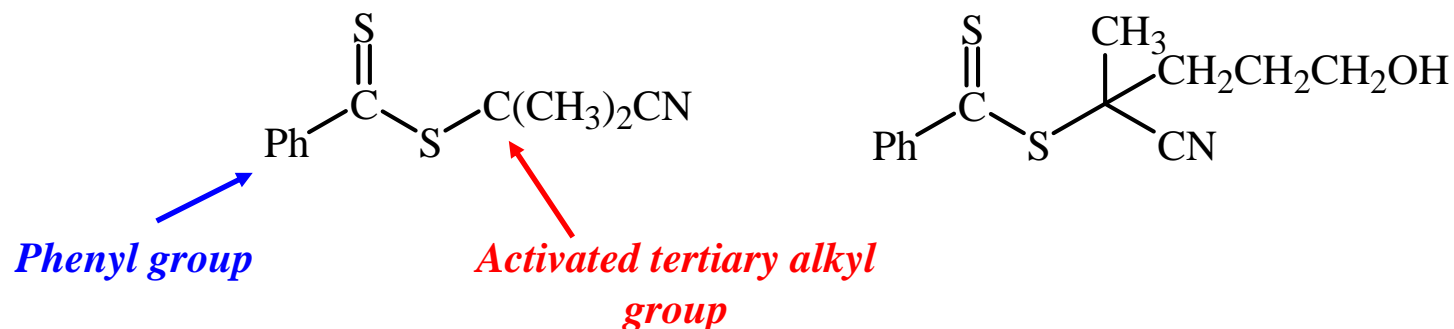
Methacrylates



Sterically hindered propagating radical with a moderate reactivity

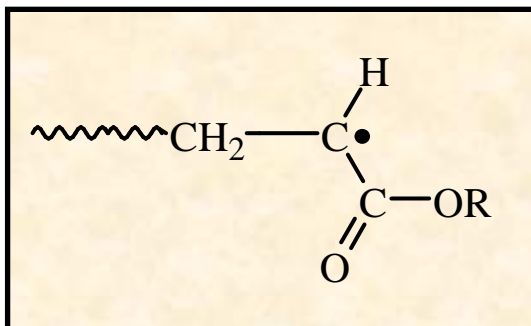


In order to transform the active chain P_n^\bullet into dormant chain **3**, the S-R bond (intermediate **2**) has to break. If this S-R bond is too stable compared to S- P_n bond, the dormant species **3** will not form. No control will be observed.

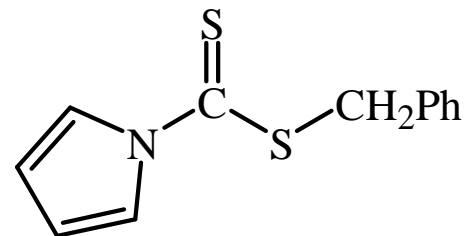
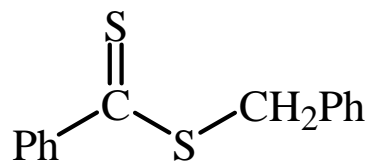


How to choose the RAFT agent ?

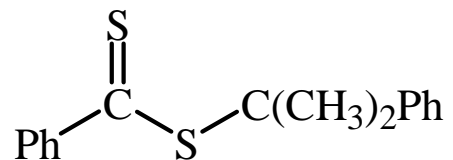
Acrylates et acrylic acid



Low steric hindrance and high reactivity of the propagating radical

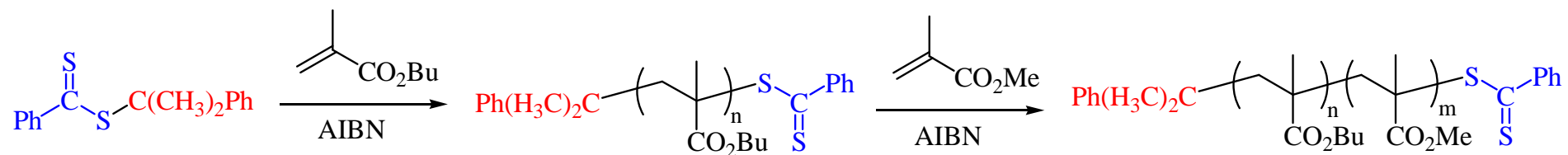


Acrylamides



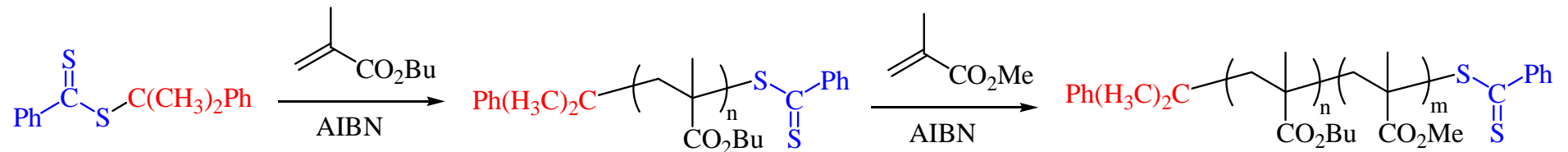
How to prepare block copolymers by RAFT ?

1- Monomers with similar reactivities

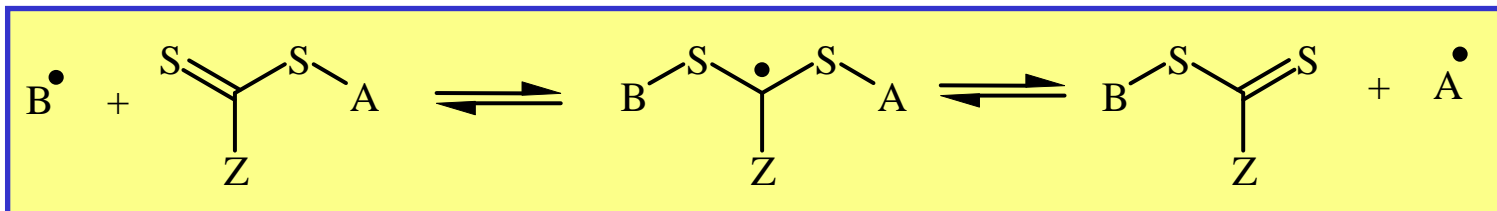
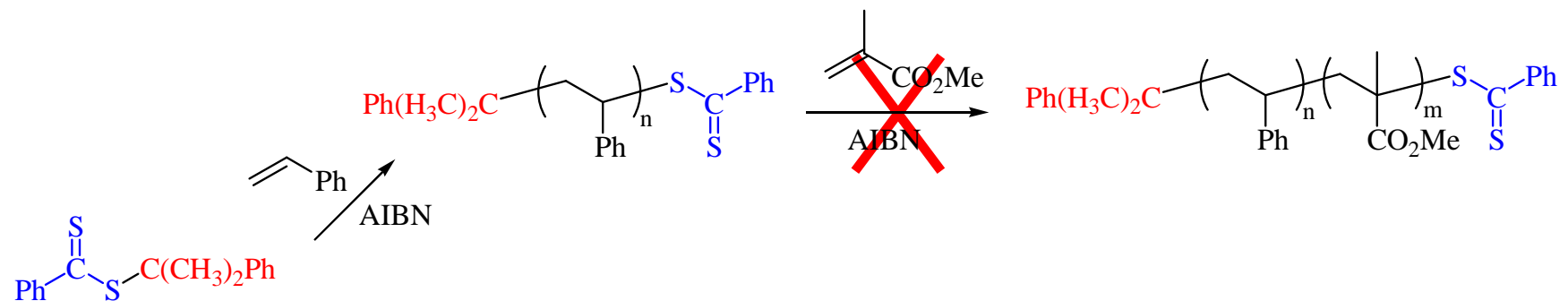


How to prepare block copolymers by RAFT?

1- Monomers with similar reactivities

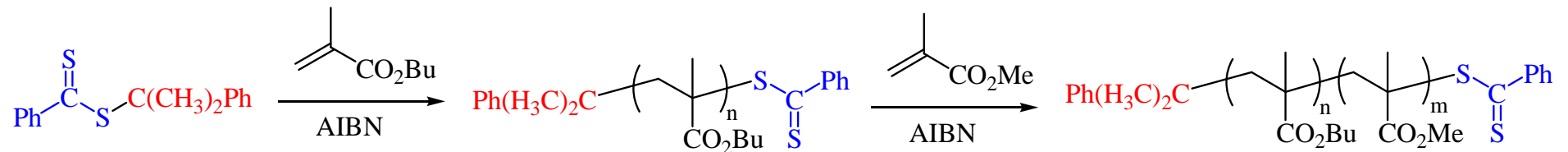


2- Monomers with different reactivities

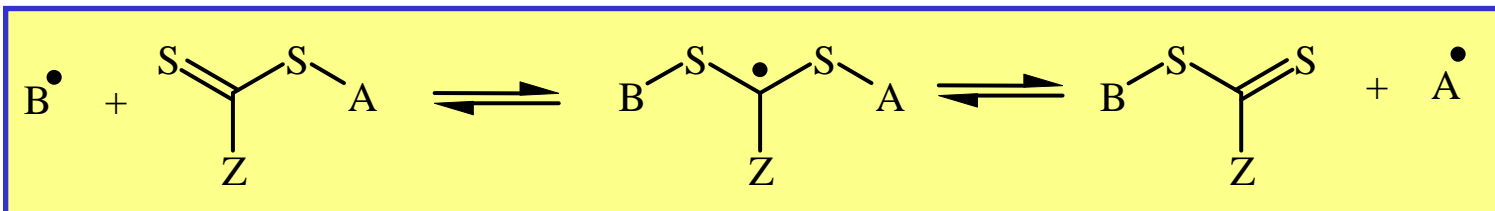
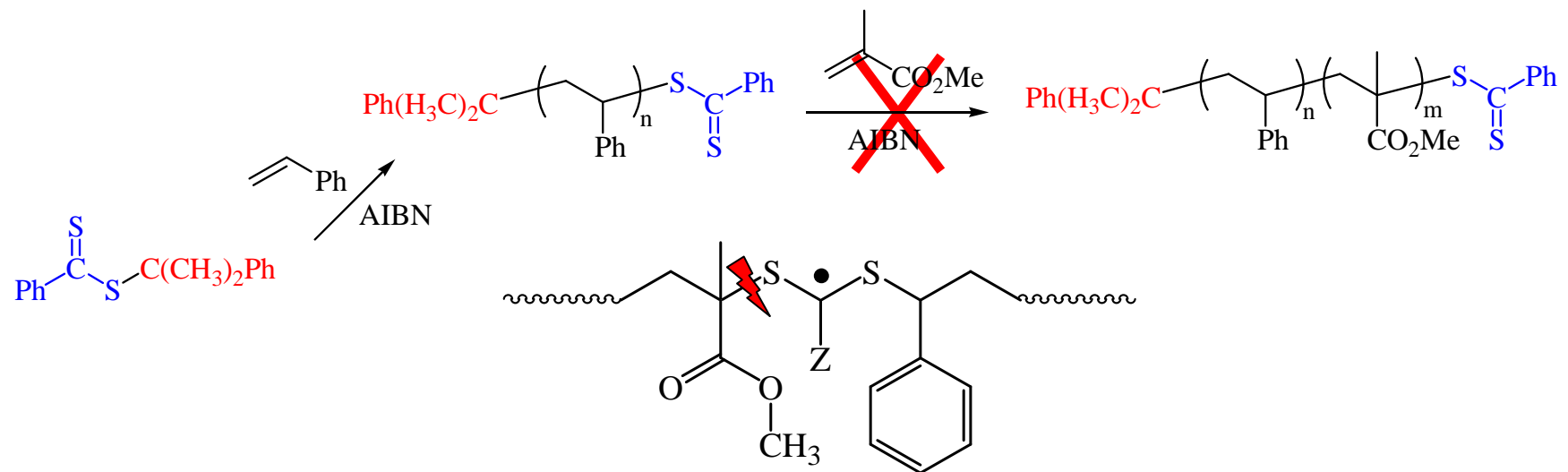


How to prepare block copolymers by RAFT?

1- Monomers with similar reactivities

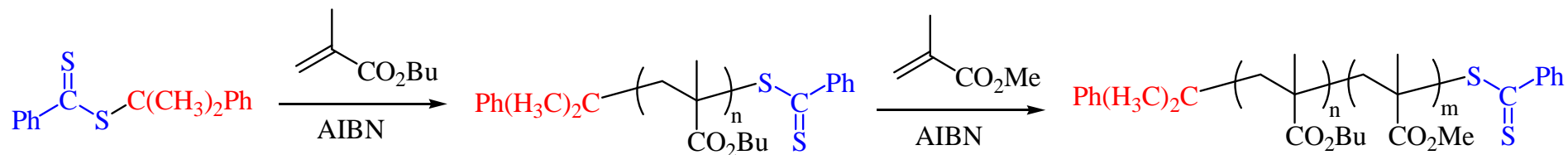


2- Monomers with different reactivities

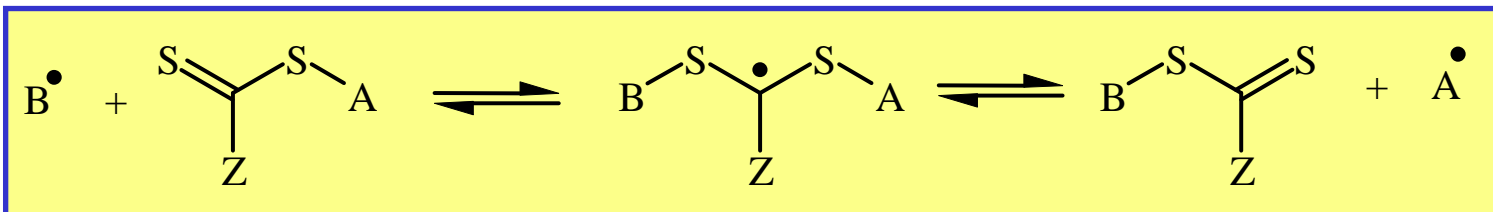
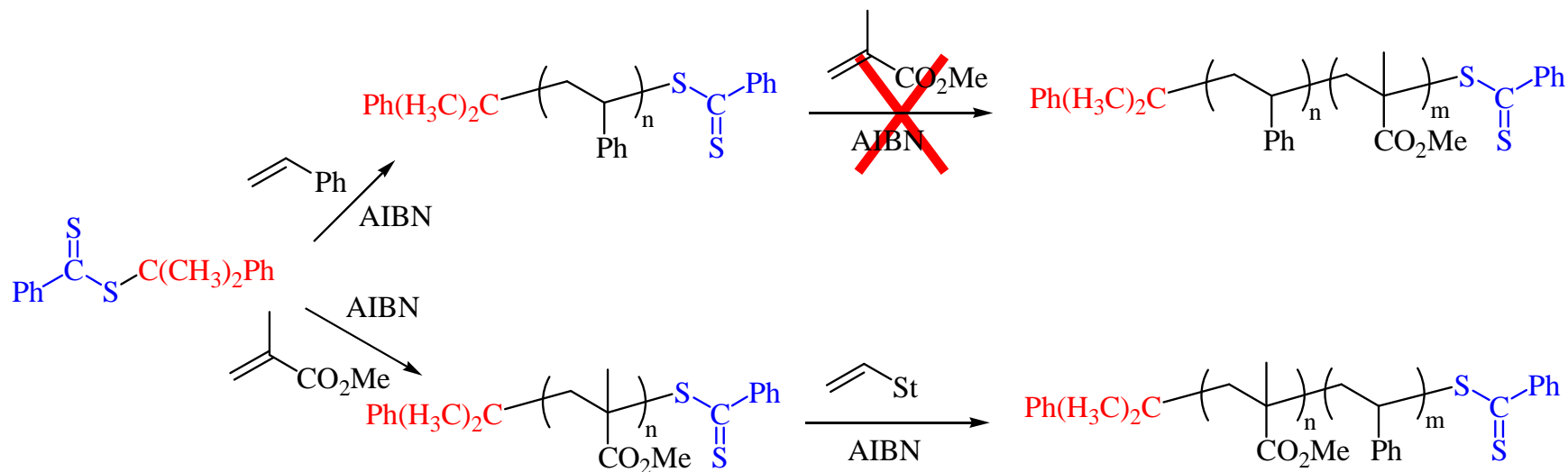


How to prepare block copolymers by RAFT?

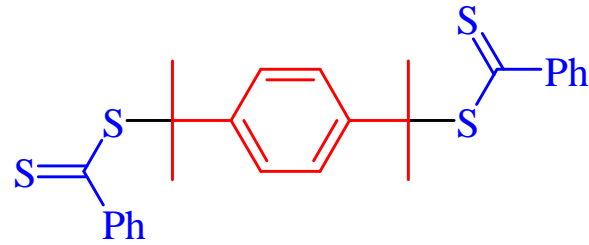
1- Monomers with similar reactivities



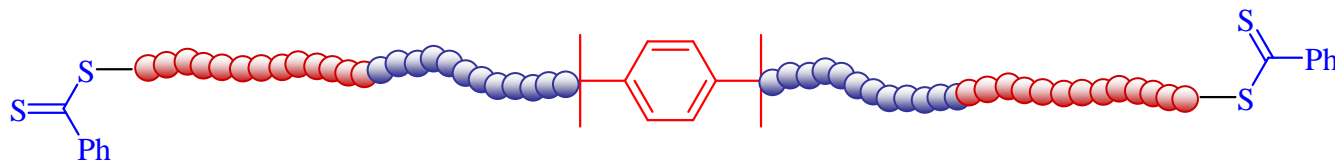
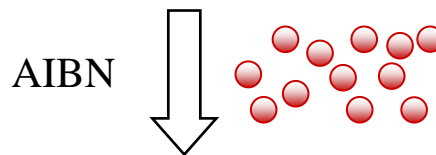
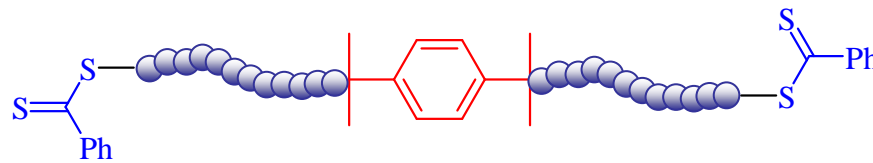
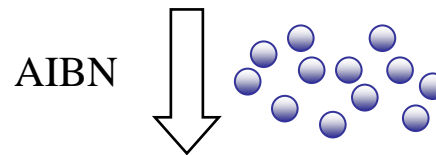
2- Monomers with different reactivities



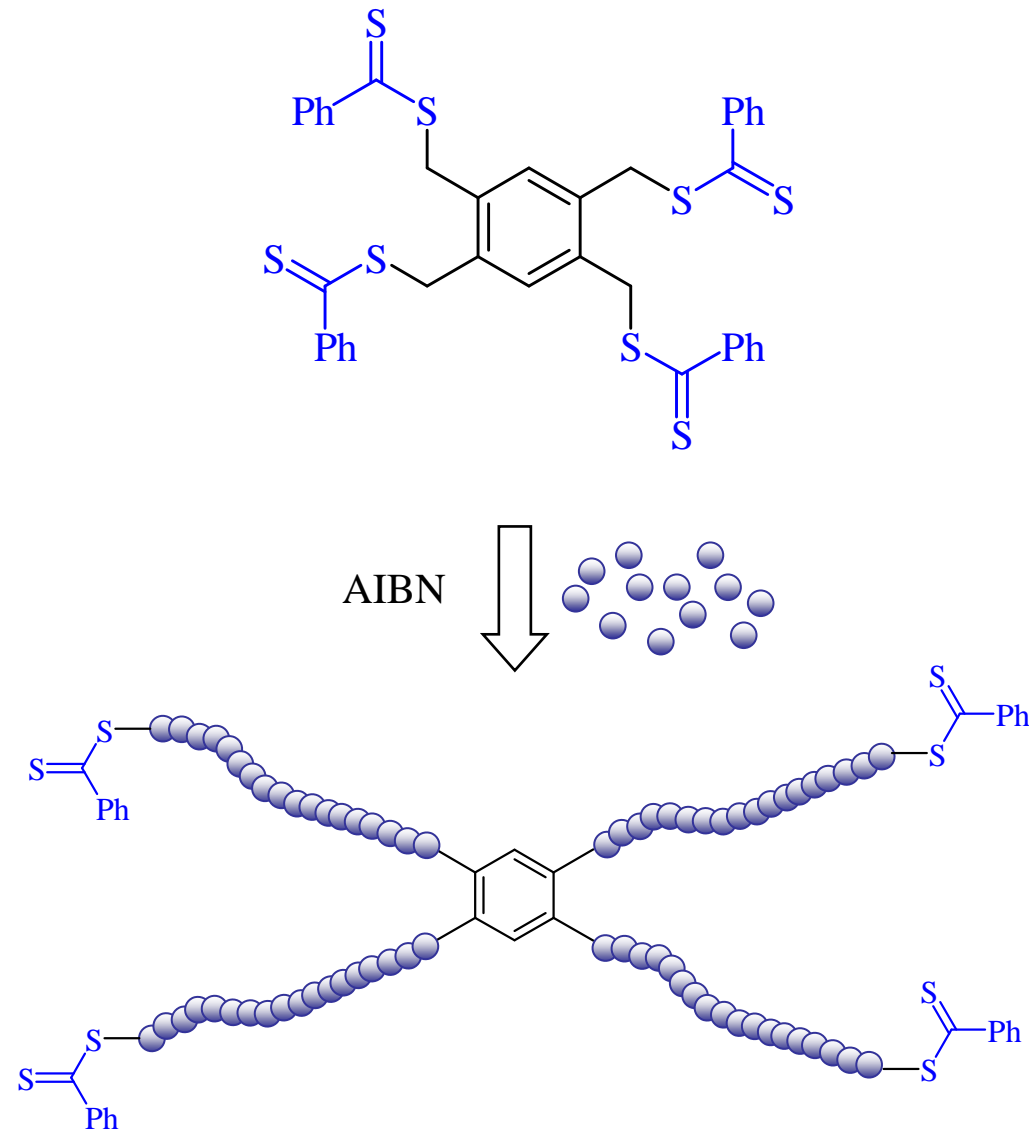
Other architectures by RAFT



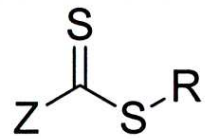
Difunctional RAFT agent



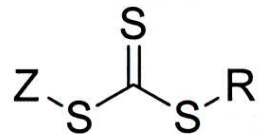
Other architectures by RAFT



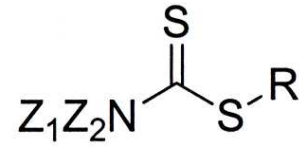
RAFT agents et MADIX agents



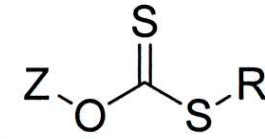
Dithioester



Trithiocarbonate



Dithiocarbamate

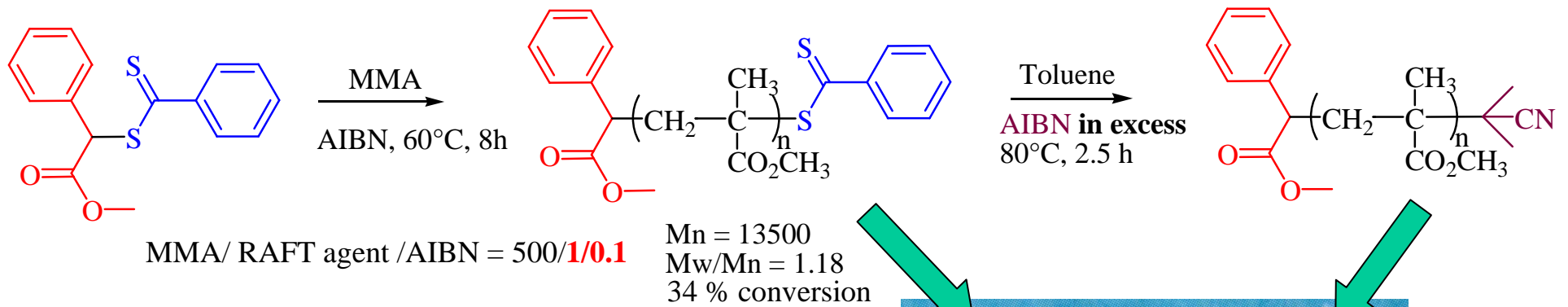


Xanthate

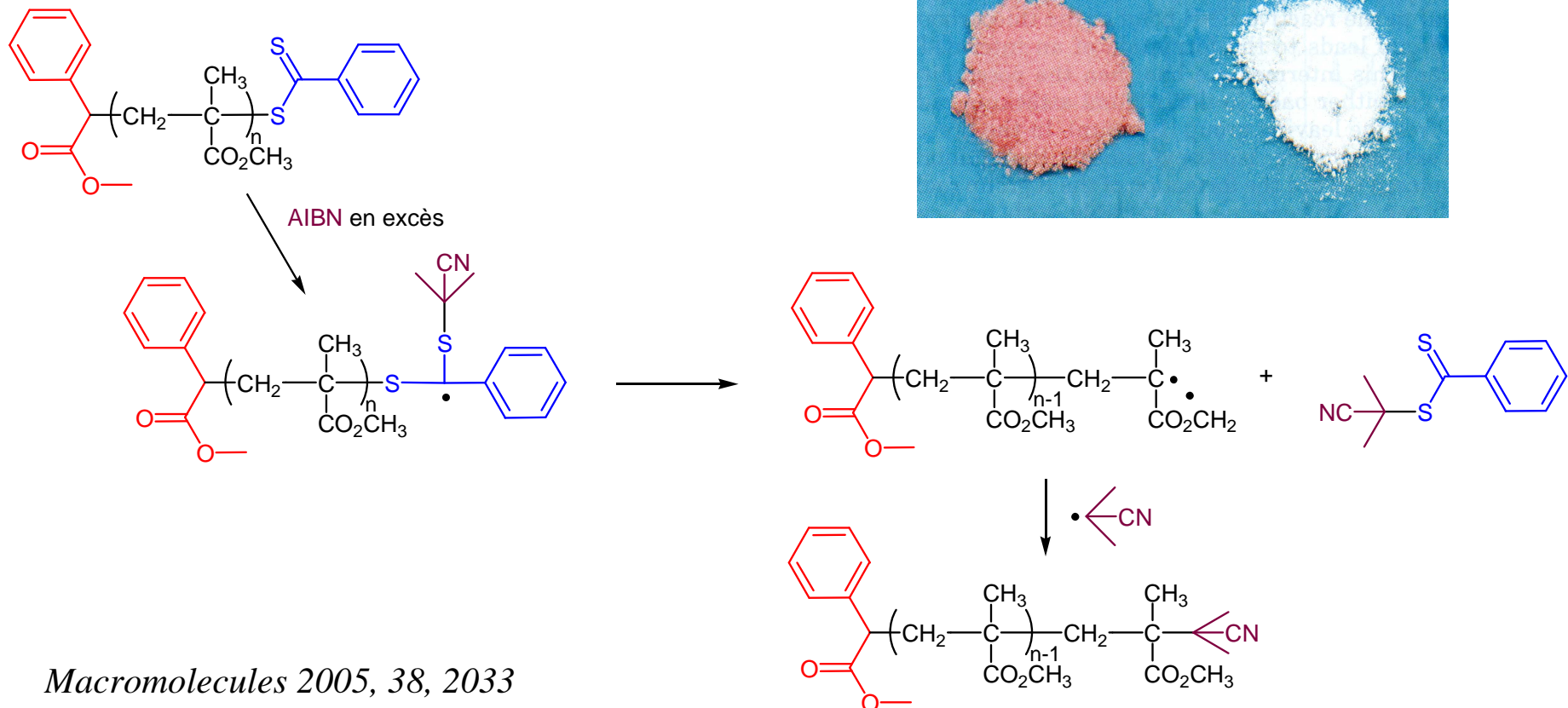
RAFT

MADIX

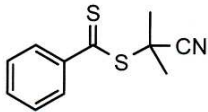
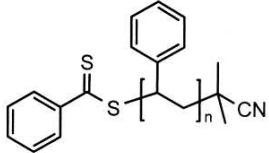
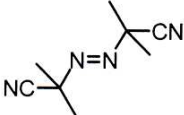
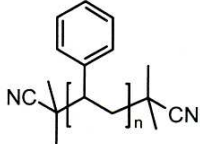
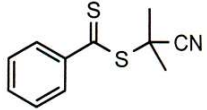
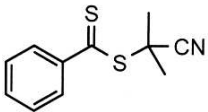
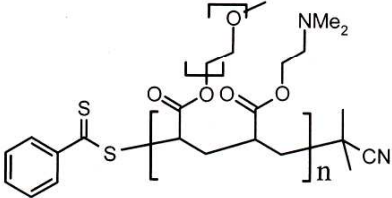
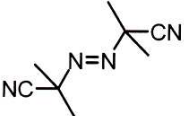
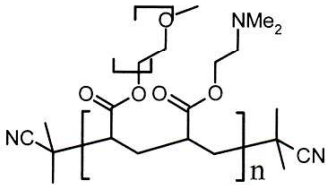
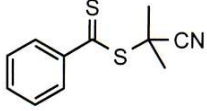
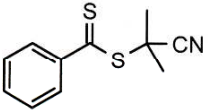
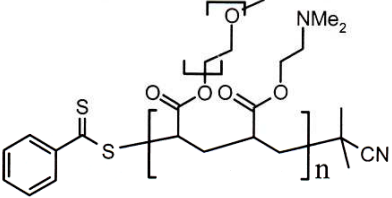
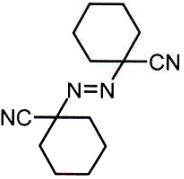
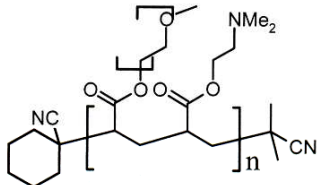
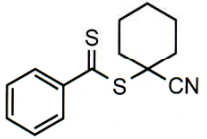
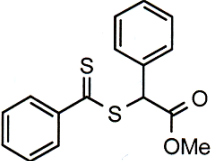
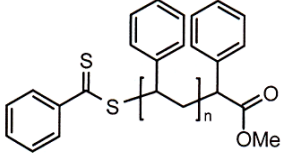
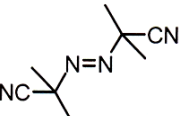
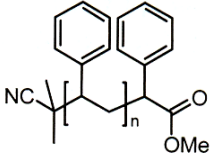
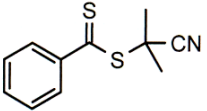
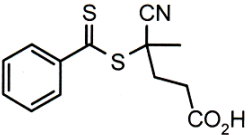
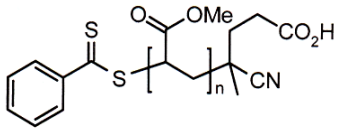
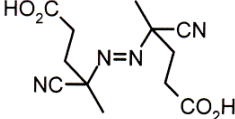
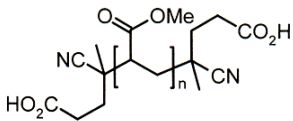
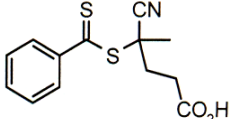
End-functionalization of (co)polymers



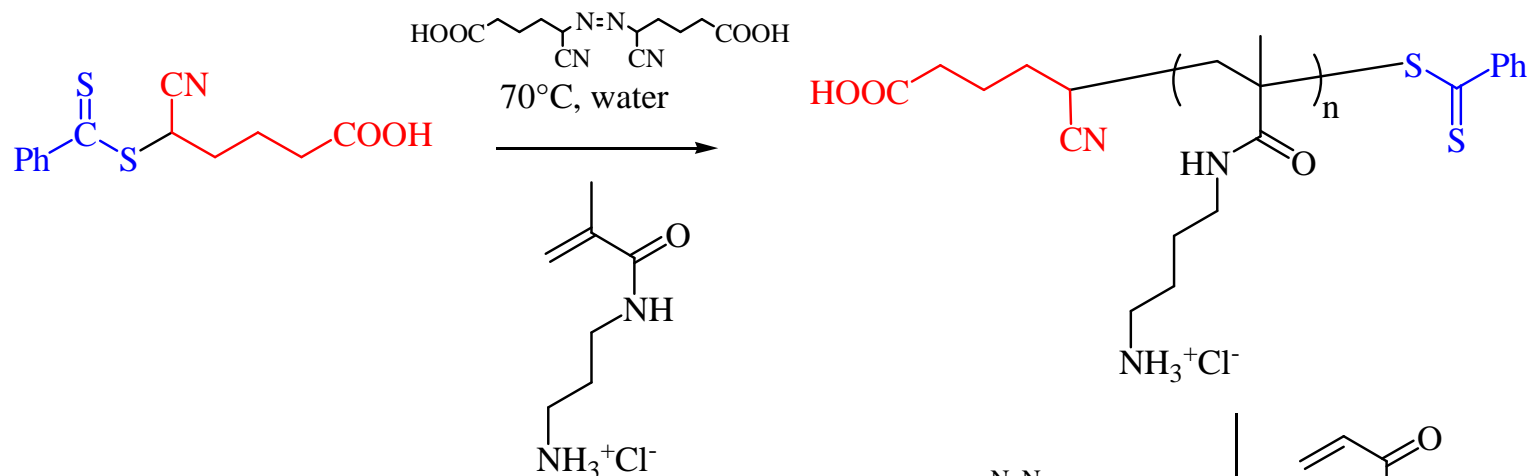
Mechanism of ω -chain end functionalization:



End-functionalization of (co)polymers

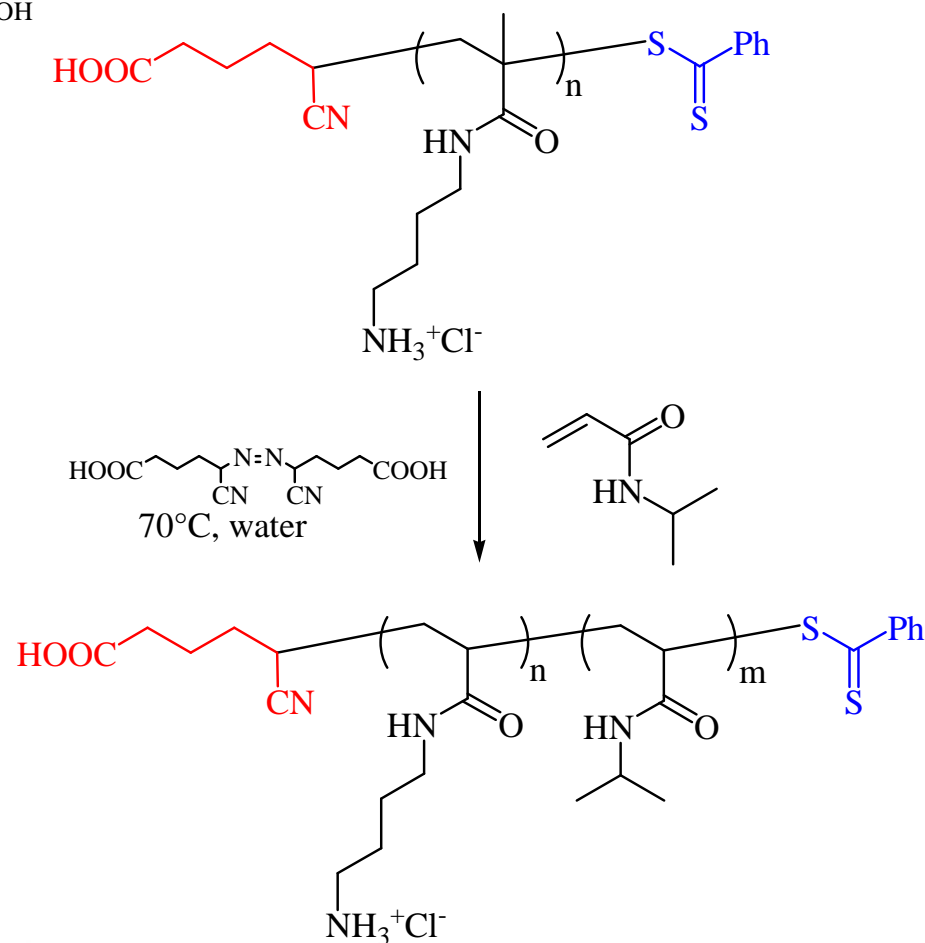
CTA	Polymer	Cleavage initiator	Modified Polymer	Recycled CTA
	 Mn = 19 750, PDI = 1.18		 Mn = 19 700, PDI = 1.17	
	 Mn = 36 000, PDI = 1.23		 Mn = 35 700, PDI = 1.23	
	 Mn = 36 000, PDI = 1.23		 Mn = 35 900, PDI = 1.23	
	 Mn = 12 800, PDI = 1.10		 Mn = 12 700, PDI = 1.08	
	 Mn = 34 700, PDI = 1.26		 Mn = 32 600, PDI = 1.27	

Preparation of polyelectrolytes

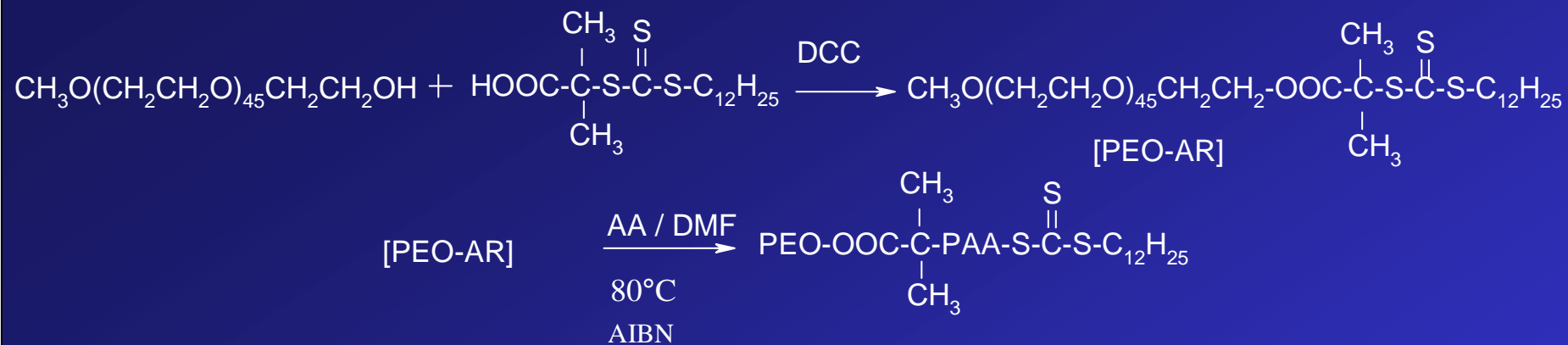


General procedure for the RAFT polymerization of AMPA: CTP (0.0078 g, 0.028 mmol) and AMPA (1.00 g, 5.6 mmol) were added along with deionized (DI) water (2.0 mL) to an ampoule. V-501 (0.00156 g, 0.0056 mmol) dissolved in dioxane (1.0 mL) was then added. The solution was stirred until all the CTP was dissolved. The ampoule was sparged with nitrogen for approximately 30 min and then placed in a preheated oil bath at 70°C. The reaction was terminated after a specified time by cooling the reaction tube in an ice bath followed by exposure to air. The product was purified by dialysis against water (pH 4–5) and isolated by lyophilization.

Block copolymer synthesis: NIPAM (0.272 g, 2.4 mmol), PAMPA₈₈ (0.20 g), and V-501 (0.8 mg, 0.0024 mmol, dissolved in 0.6 g dioxane) were added along with DI water (0.8 mL) to an ampoule. After sparging with nitrogen for 30 min, the reaction was allowed to proceed at 70°C for 2 h. The reaction was quenched by cooling the reaction vessel in an ice bath and exposure to air. The product was purified by dialysis against deionized water and isolated by lyophilization.



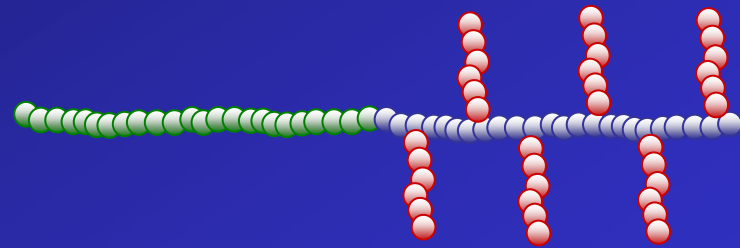
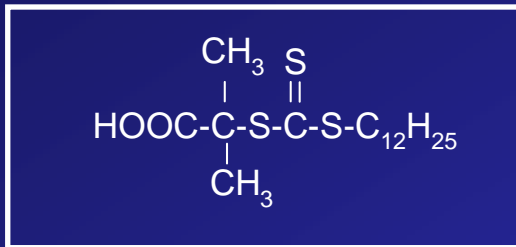
Synthesis of PEO-b-PAA



Polymerization conditions : [RAFT agent] : [AIBN] = 40: 1
 [AA] = 4 M in DMF at 80°C.

CODE	Ligand	DP (NMR)	IP (GPC)
E21-1	PAA-PEO	48-45	1.19
E21-2	PAA-PEO	83-45	1.16

Synthesis of PAA-b-PAMPEO

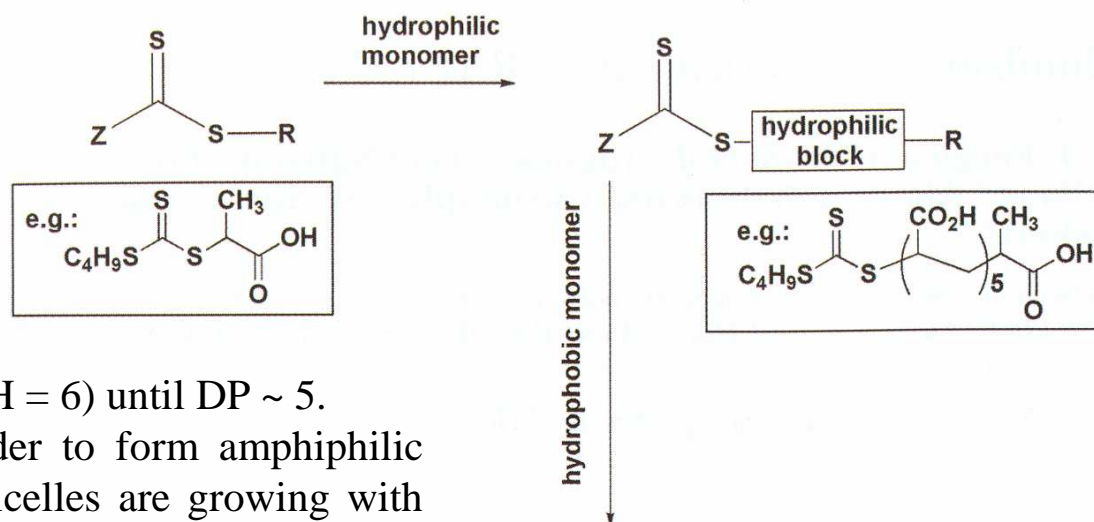


Polymerization condition : [RAFT agent] : [AIBN] = 80 : 1
 [AMPEO] = 0.5 M in DMF at 80°C.

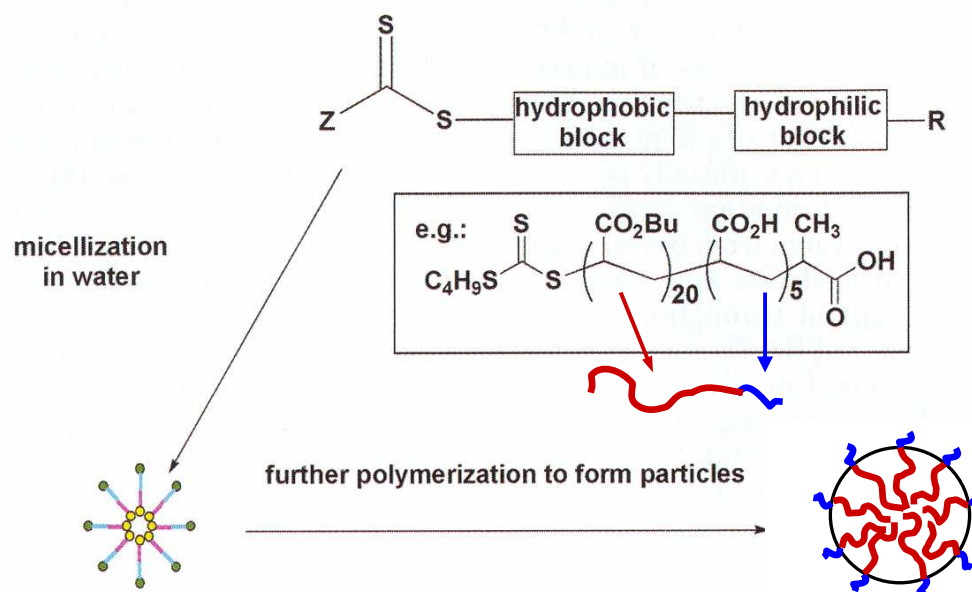
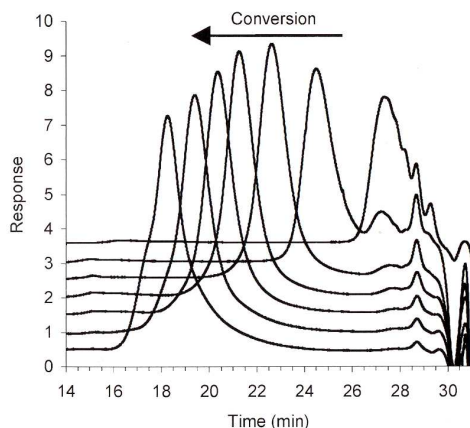
CODE	Ligand	DP(RMN)	IP(GPC)
E21-10	PAA-PAMPEO	61-11	1.25
E21-11	PAA-PAMPEO	61-21	1.51
E21-23	PAA-PAMPEO	34-110	1.35
E21-24	PAA-PAMPEO	34-66	1.30



Application to coatings



- 1- Acrylic acid is polymerized in water (pH = 6) until DP ~ 5.
- 2- Butyl acrylate is slowly added in order to form amphiphilic PAA-b-PnBuA which forms micelles. Micelles are growing with the monomer conversion to form the latex.



Advantages:

- Control of Mn
- No free surfactant \Rightarrow no migration of surfactant out of the coating
- Functionnalization of the latex particles possible
- No organic solvent

Some criteria for the use of CRP at the industrial scale

Cheap CRP system



- ✓ Cheap and readily available starting products
- ✓ Fast polymerization

Use of the existing reactors and lines

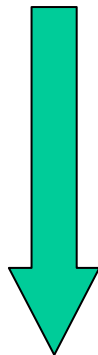


Same conditions as for conventional technique

No purification and treatment of the final polymers



- ✓ Odorless polymers
- ✓ Colorless polymers



Polymers not contaminated by toxic residues



Stability of the polymer during processing