

# Heteroatom Radical Controlled Polymerization

Pan, Xiangcheng 潘翔城

Fudan University

Department of Macromolecular Science

State Key Laboratory of Molecular Engineering of Polymers

# Outline

---

- 1. Introduction and background**
- 2. Boryl radical mediated CRP**
- 3. Silyl radical involved RP**
- 4. Summary**

# Outline

---

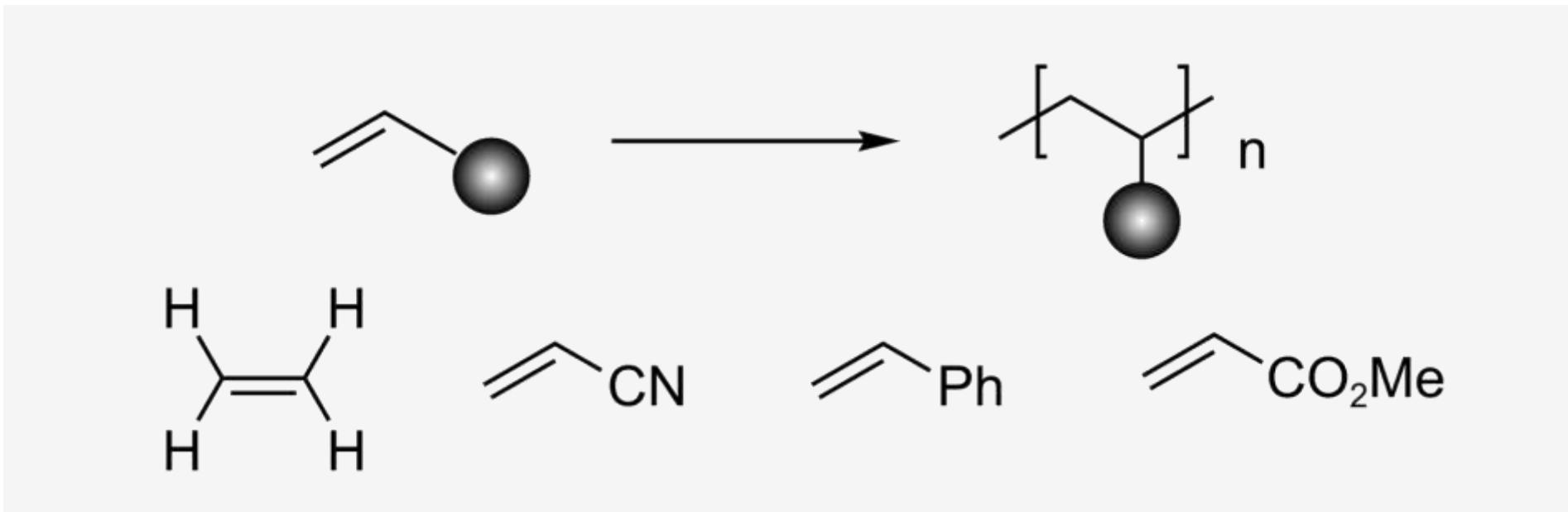
**1. Introduction and background**

**2. Boryl radical mediated CRP**

**3. Silyl radical involved RP**

**4. Summary**

# Radical Polymerization

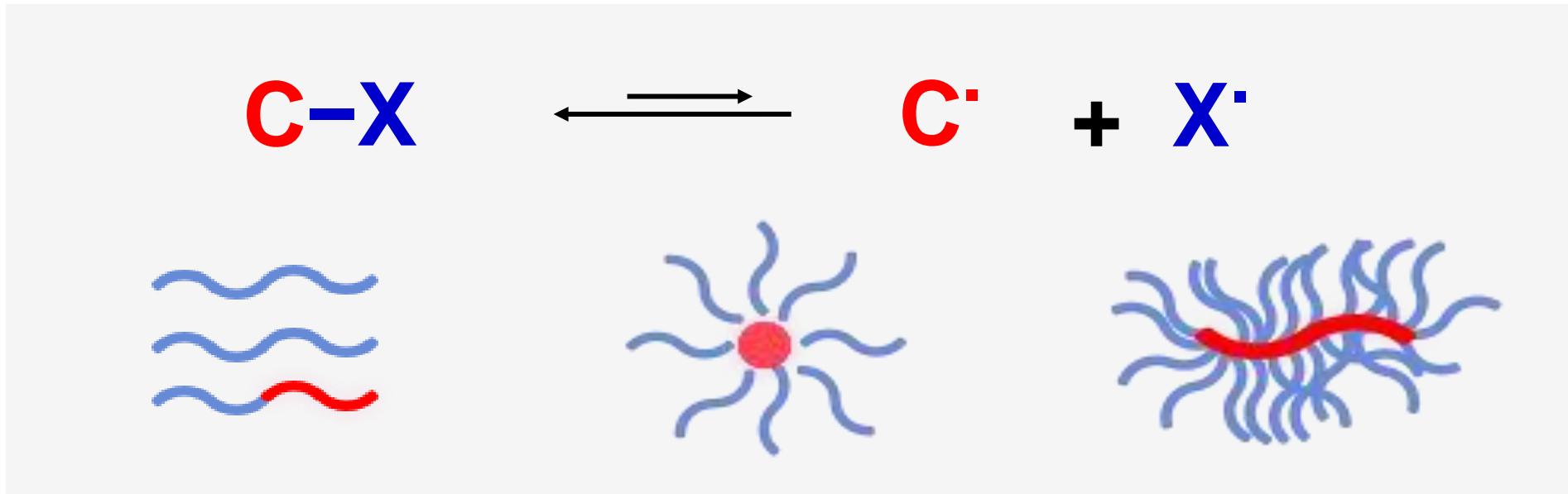


Broad monomer scope, various processes,  
large-scale industrialization

**Limitations:** No control over molecular weight/topology,  
broad molecular weight distribution, etc.

**Solution?**

# Controlled Radical Polymerization

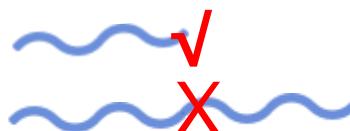


Reversible Deactivation Radical Polymerization

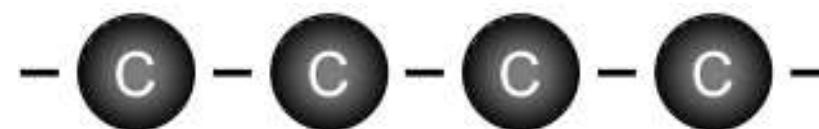
Controlled Radical Polymerization, “Living” Radical Polymerization

Limitation 1: termination

~~O<sub>2</sub>~~  
Oxygen inhibition

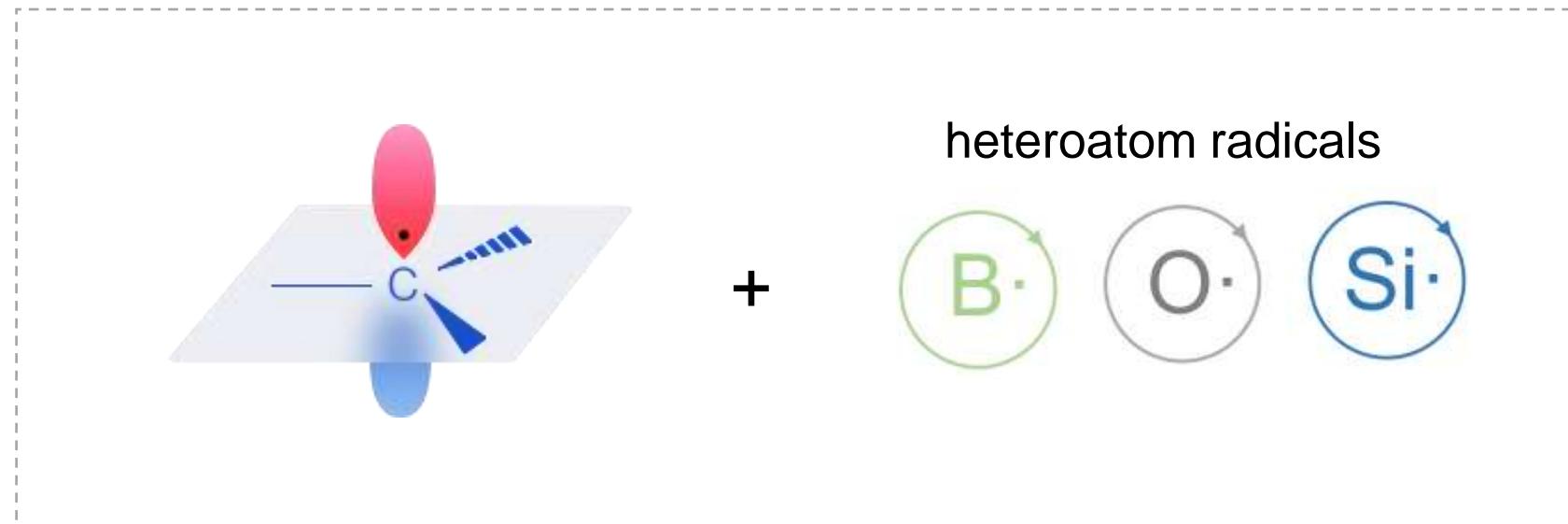


Limitation 2: carbon-based



# Introducing heteroatom radicals

By introducing heteroatom radicals,  
how to regulate the reactivity of carbon radicals?  
how to introduce heteroatom in polymer main chain?



# Outline

---

1. Introduction and background

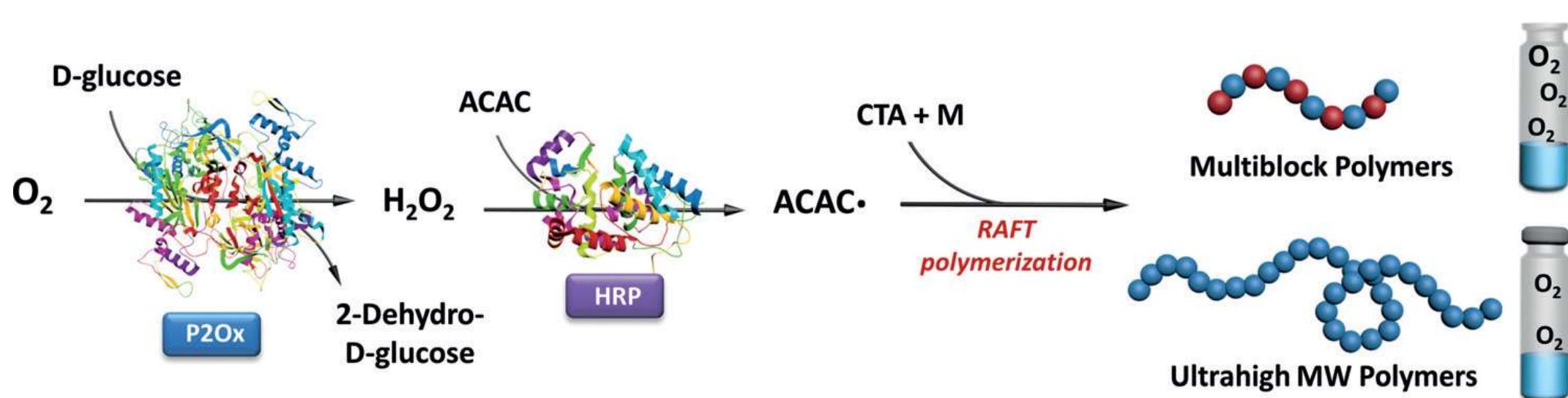
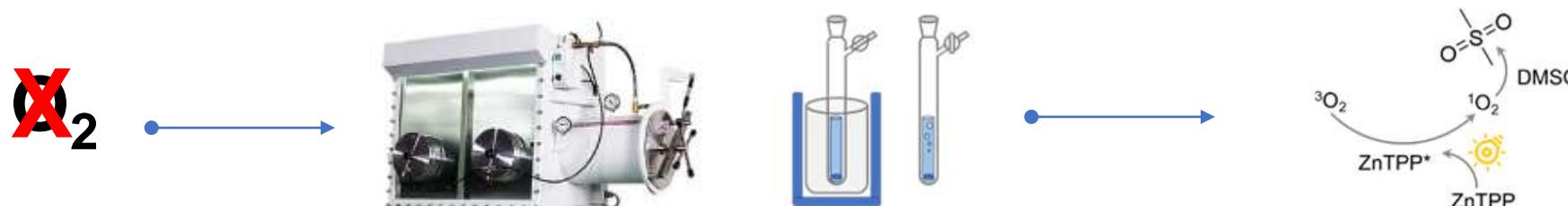
2. Boryl radical mediated CRP

3. Silyl radical involved RP

4. Summary

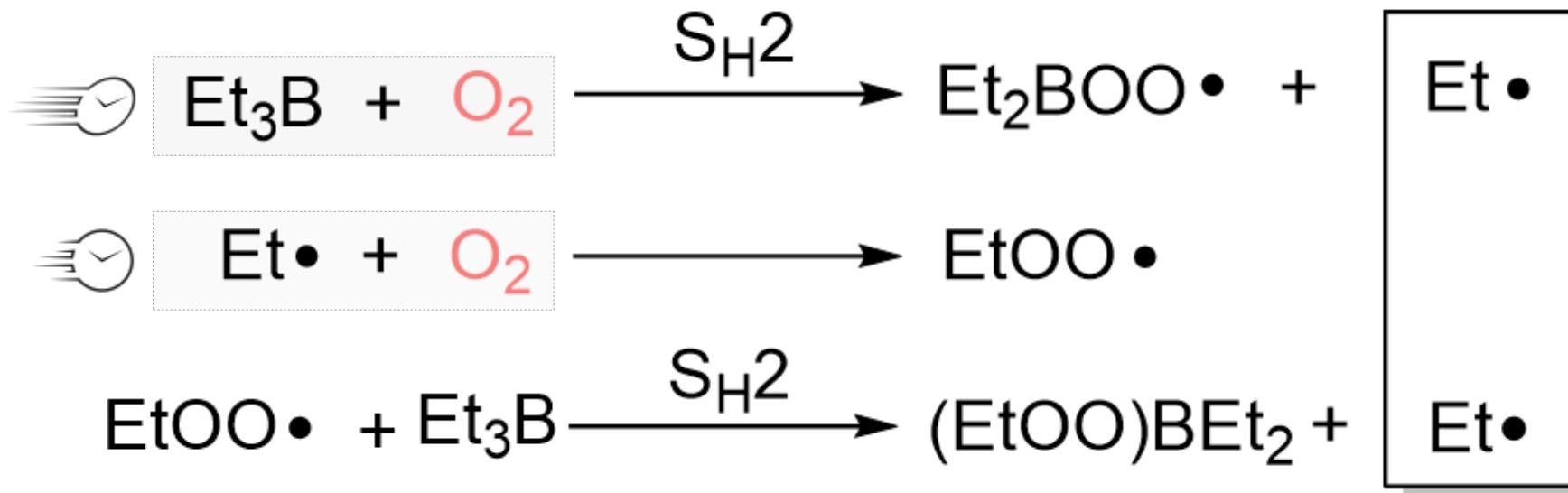
# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation

## Oxygen is Radical Scavenger in Radical Polymerization



# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation

## Self-oxidation of alkylborane

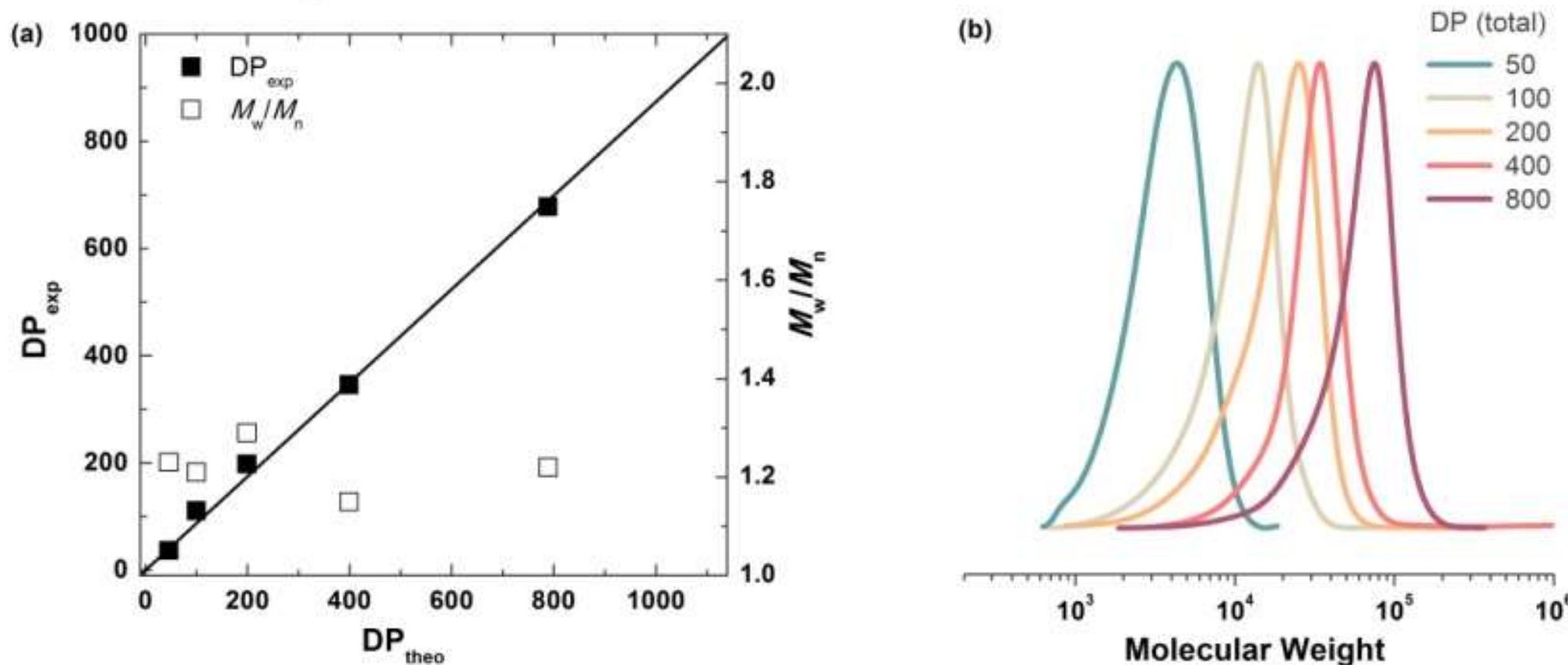


# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation

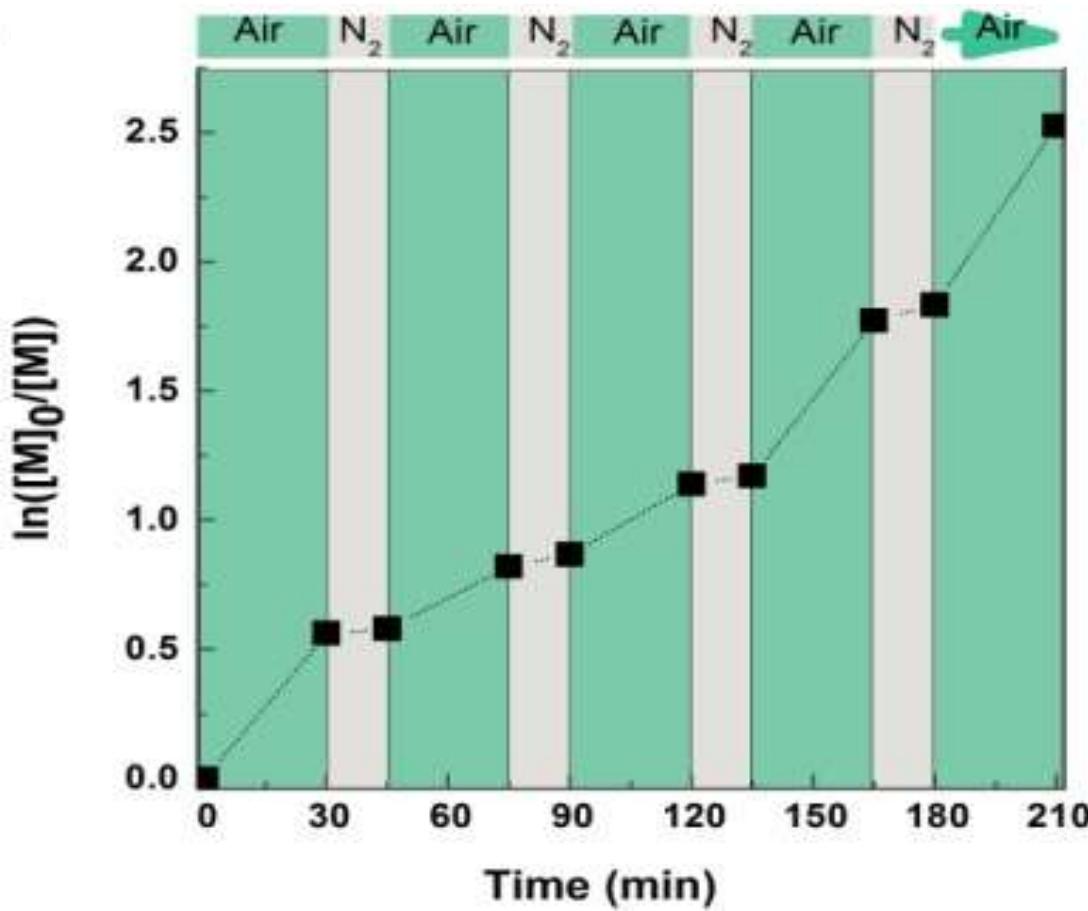
Entry	Solvent	Et <sub>3</sub> B	Time	Conversion	M <sub>n,th</sub>	M <sub>n,SEC</sub>	M <sub>w/M<sub>n</sub></sub>
1	DMSO	2.0	15 mins	>95%	33000	29200	1.15
2	DMSO	2.0	60 mins	-	<b>nitrogen atmosphere</b>	-	-
3	DMF	2.0	15 mins	87%	30200	28000	1.20
4	MeCN	2.0	15 mins	71%	24700	23200	1.18
5	DMSO	0.5	15 mins	10%	3800	2000	1.12
6	DMSO	1.0	15 mins	77%	26700	19000	1.14
7	DMSO	4.0	15 mins	>98%	34000	20400	1.66

Reaction conditions: [MA]<sub>0</sub>:[CTA-1]<sub>0</sub>:[Et<sub>3</sub>B]<sub>0</sub> = 400:1:x, [MA]<sub>0</sub> = 8 M, Et<sub>3</sub>B solution injected at once, ambient temperature and atmosphere

# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation



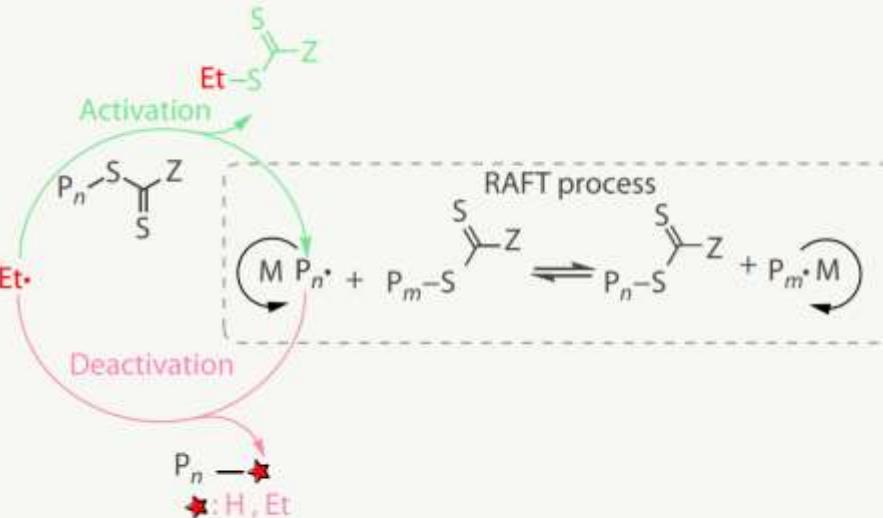
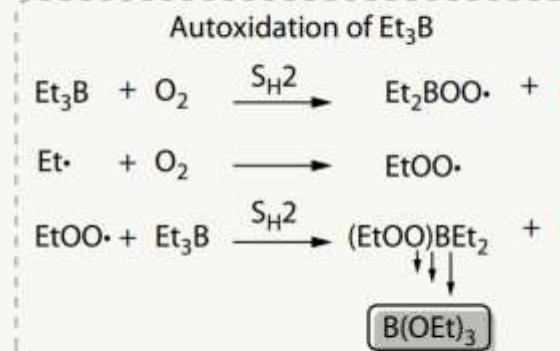
# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation



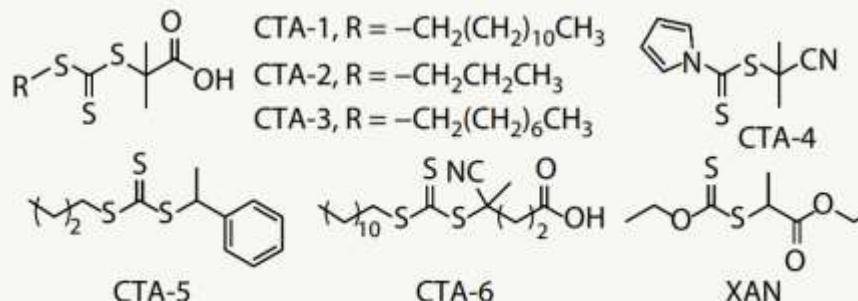
# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation

## Removal of chain end and aqueous conditions

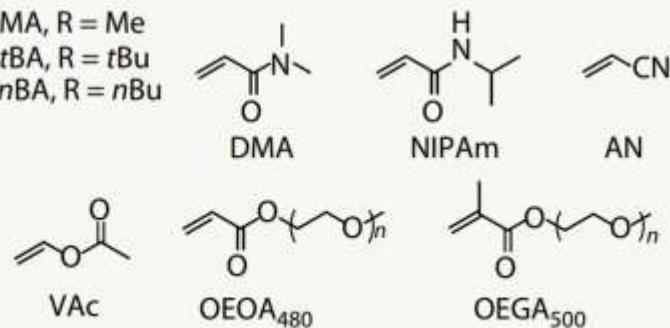
### a Mechanism



### b RAFT agents

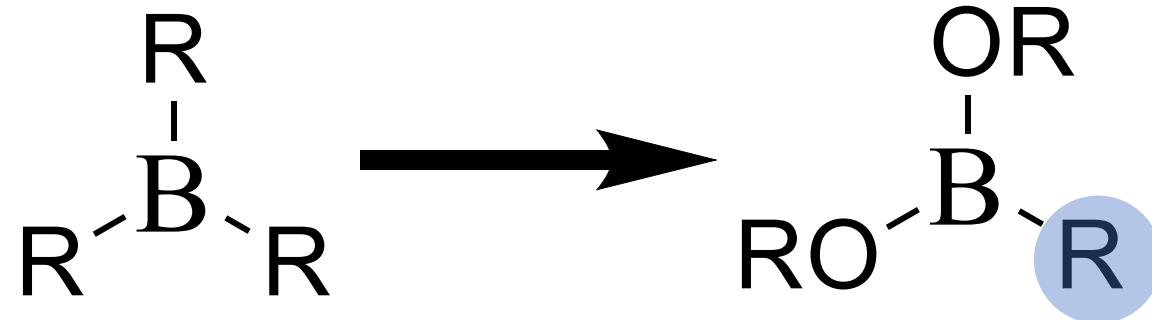


### c Monomers



# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation

## Towards UHMW

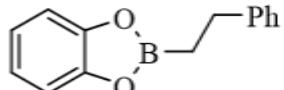
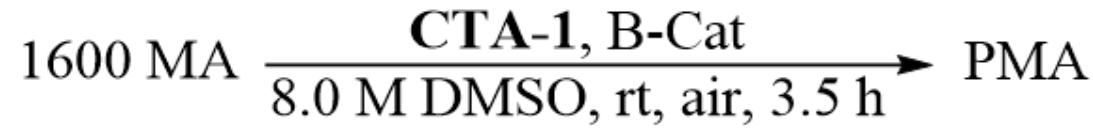


>1 radical formed  
limited radical structure  
rapid autoxidation

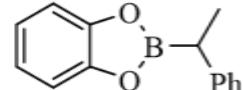
tuned autoxidation rate  
only **ONE** radical formed  
various radical structure  
primary, secondary, benzylic..  
electronic property...

# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation

## Model Polymerization by Borane Radical Initiator

**B-Cat-1**

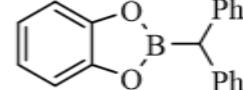
Conv. = 53%

 $M_n = 53,267$  $D = 1.15$ **B-Cat-2**

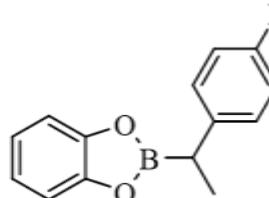
Conv. = 89%

 $M_n = 111,447$  $D = 1.10$ **15000 DP**

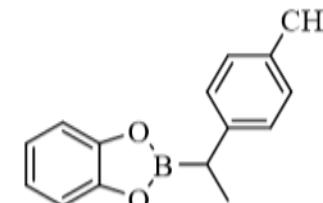
Conv. = 92%

 $M_n = 1072,74$  $D = 1.09$ **B-Cat-3**

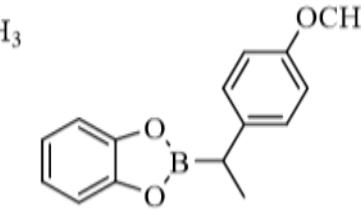
Conv. = 30%

 $M_n = 34,002$  $D = 1.11$ **B-Cat-4**

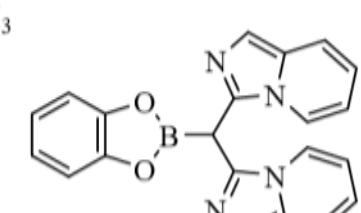
Conv. = 70%

 $M_n = 75,002$  $D = 1.09$ **B-Cat-5**

Conv. = 82%

 $M_n = 92,394$  $D = 1.09$ **B-Cat-6**

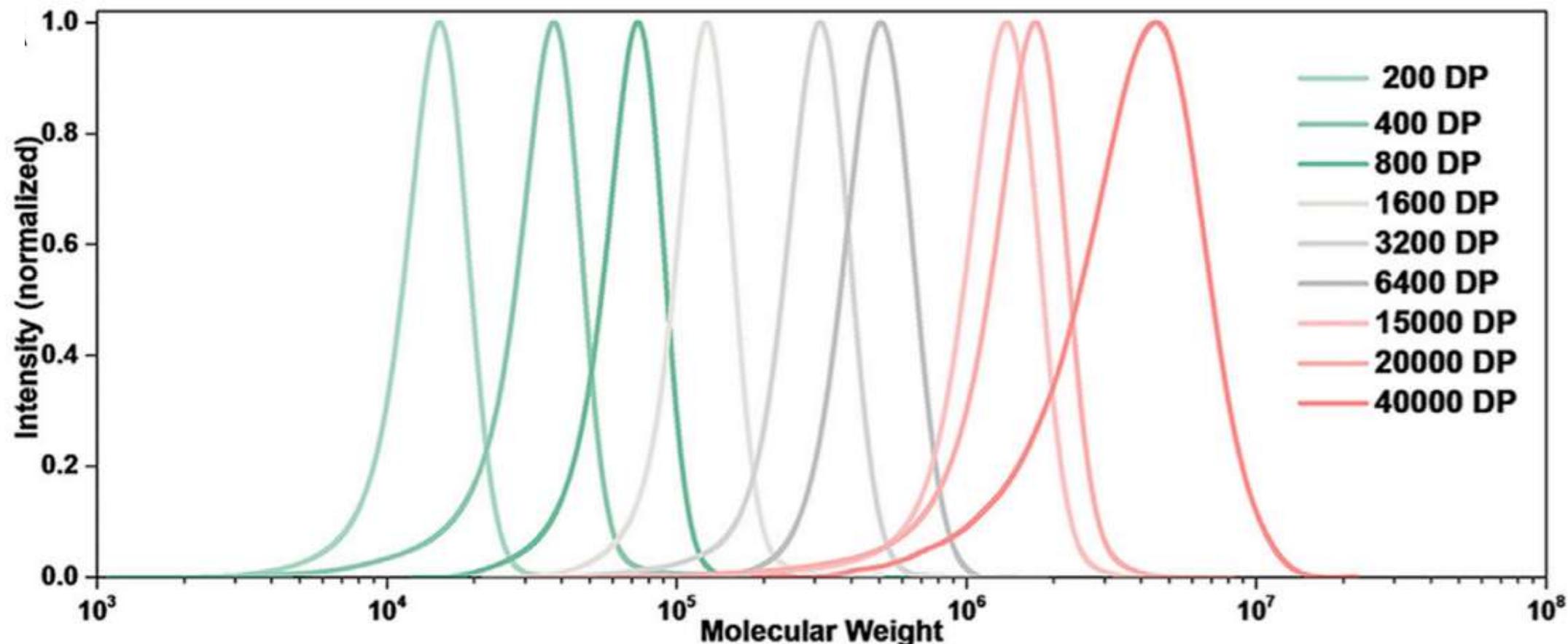
Conv. = 70%

 $M_n = 73,629$  $D = 1.10$ **B-Cat-7**

Conv. = 0

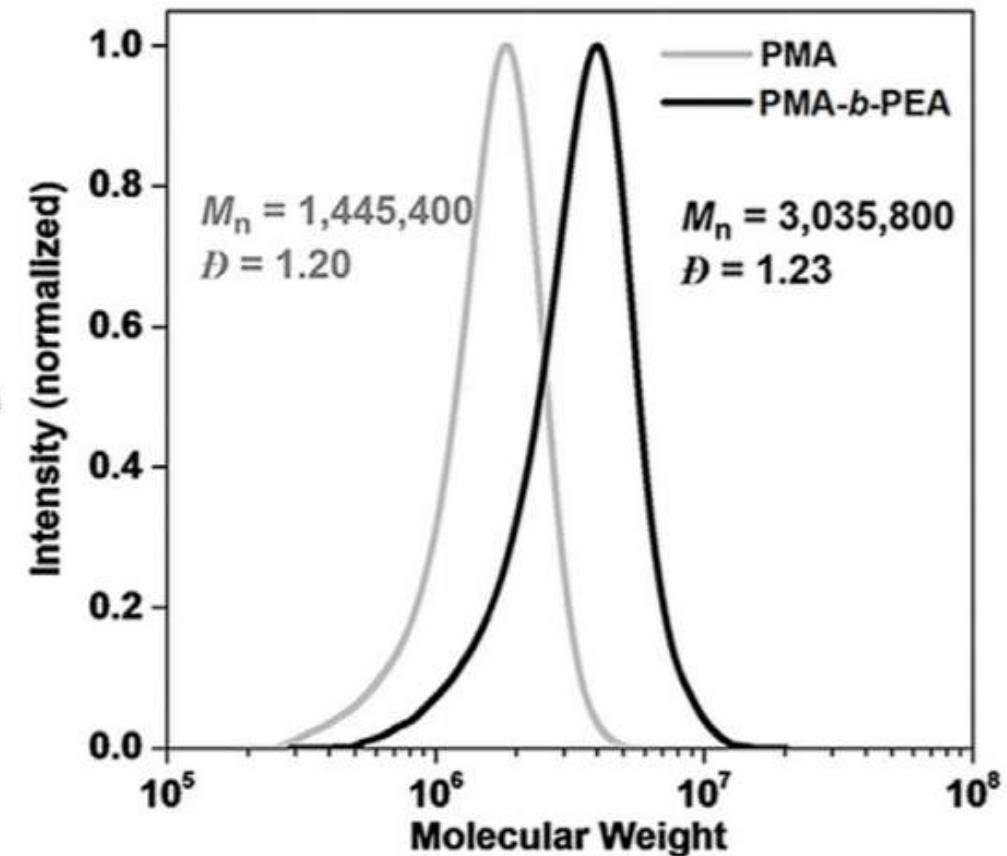
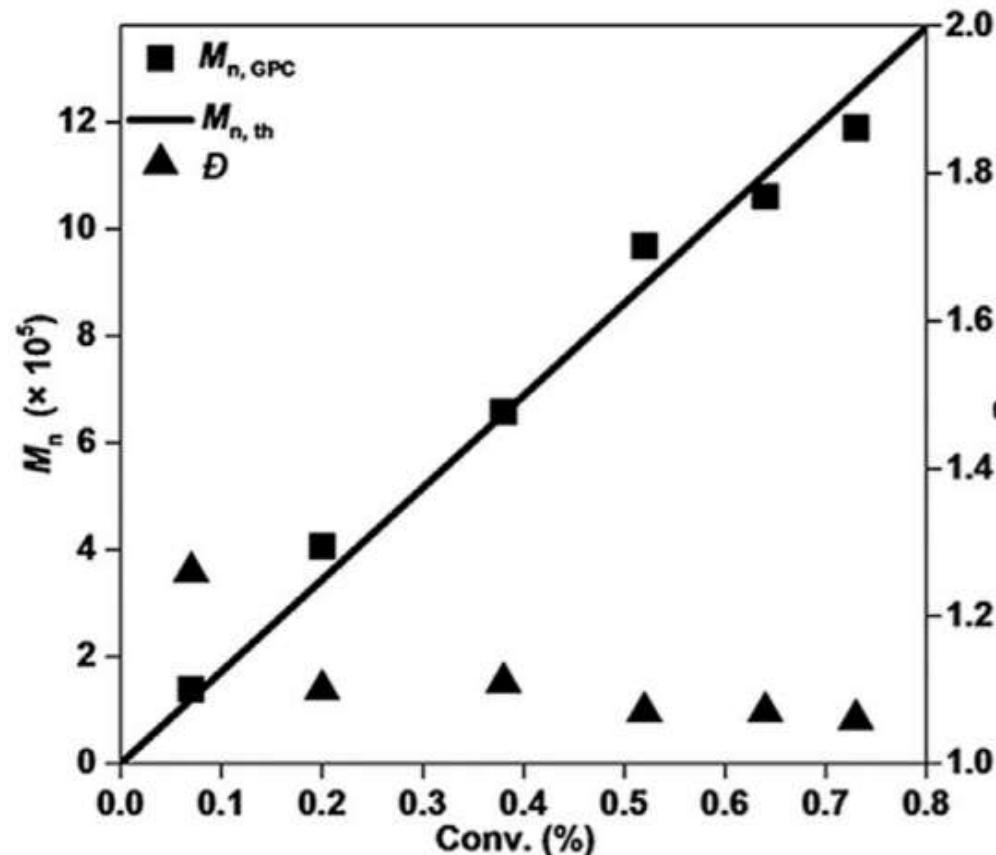
# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation

## UHMW polymers



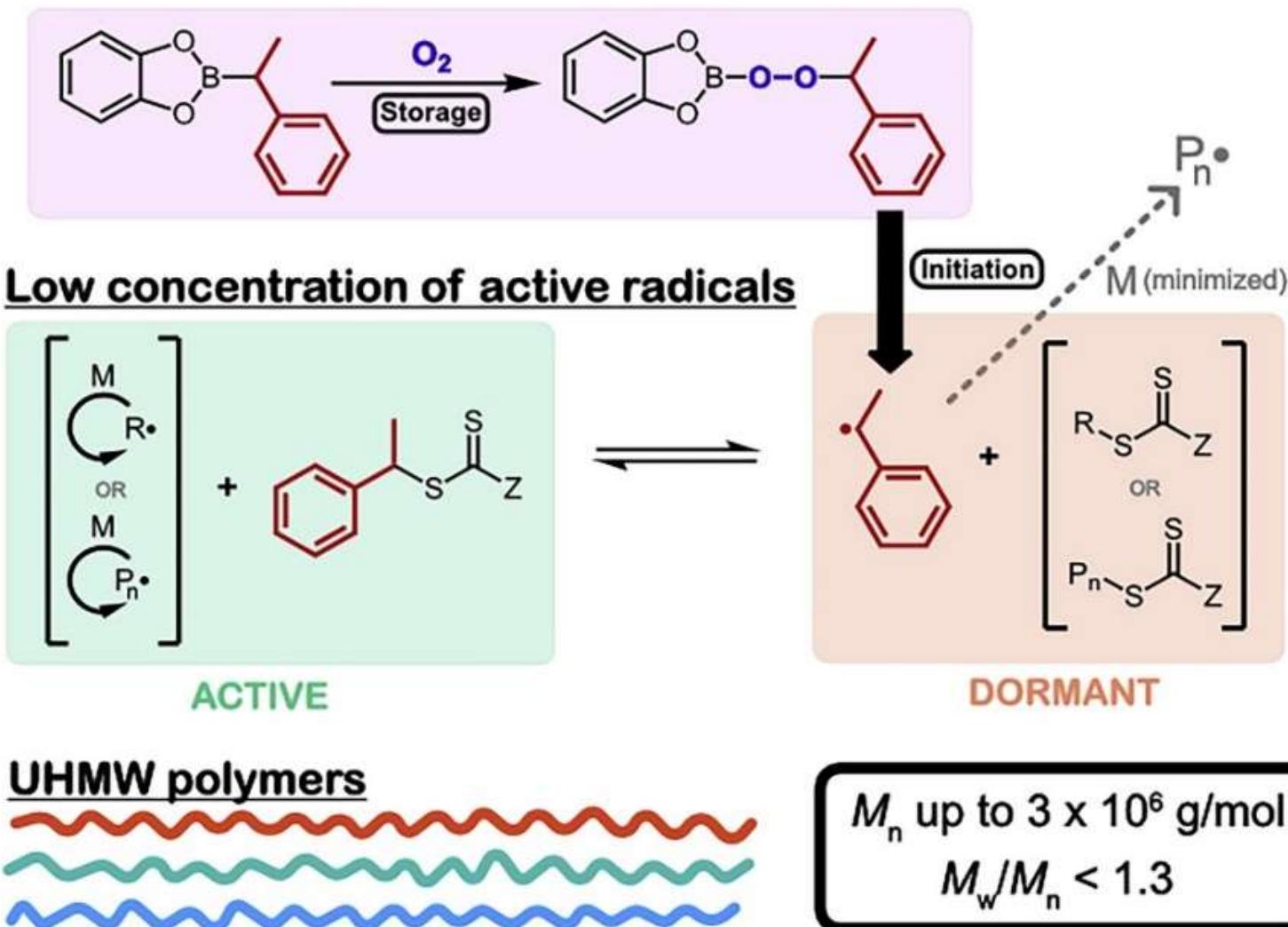
# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation

## UHMW polymers

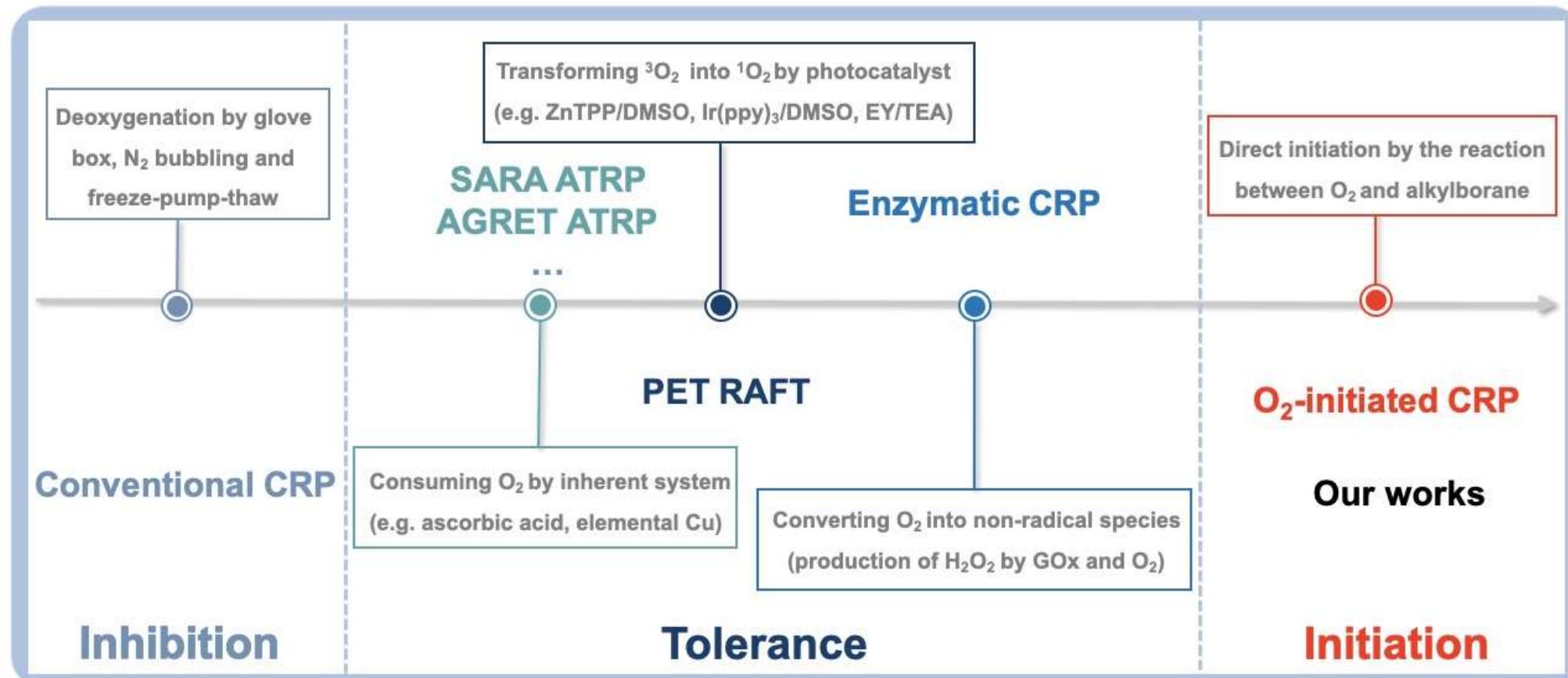


# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation

## Proposed mechanism



# Organoboron and Oxygen Co-initiation



Controlled radical polymerization: from oxygen inhibition and tolerance to oxygen initiation.  
*Chinese J. Polym. Sci.* **2021**, 39, 1084-1092. (invited, Feature Article, Special Topic: Reversible Deactivation Radical Polymerization)

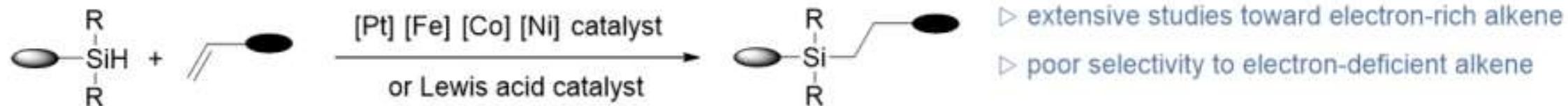
# Outline

---

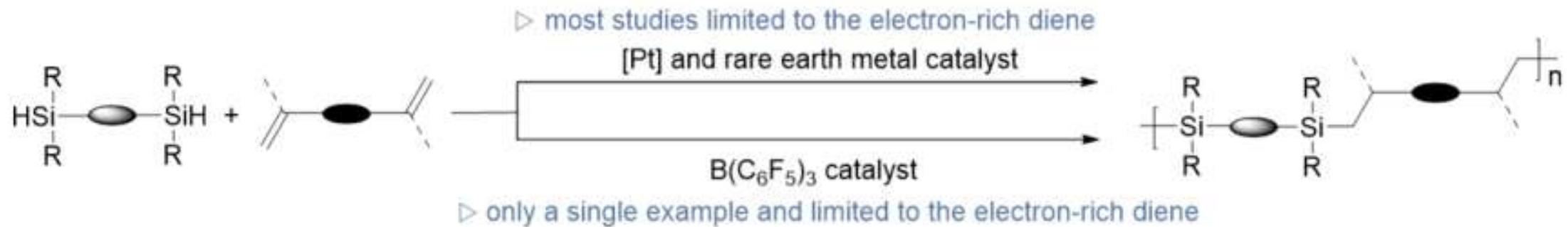
1. Introduction and background
2. Boryl radical mediated CRP
3. Silyl radical involved RP
4. Summary

# Radical Hydrosilylation Polymerization

## A) Hydrosilylation of alkene



## B) Hydrosilylation polymerization

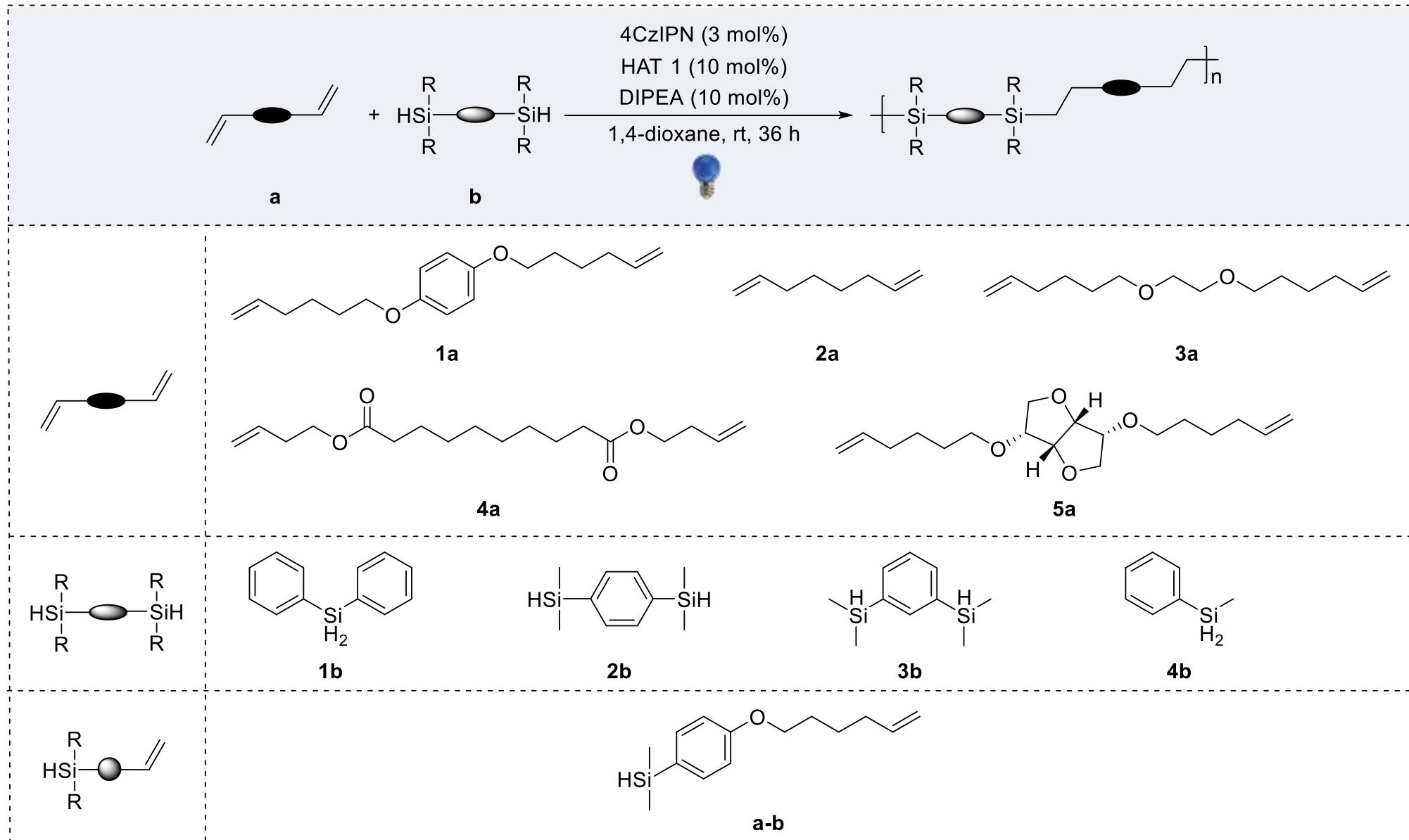


**POSSIBILITY?:**

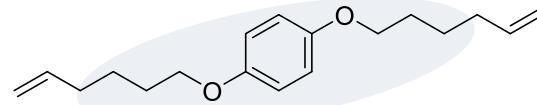
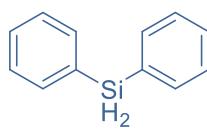
**Hydrosilylation polymerization via radical mechanism**

**Si-H → Si radical by photoredox and HAT catalysis**

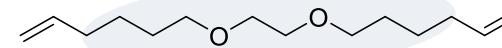
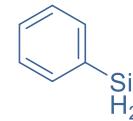
# Radical Hydrosilylation Polymerization



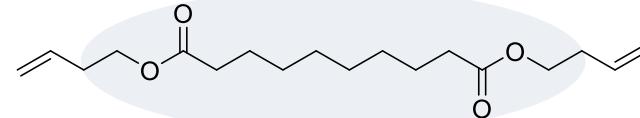
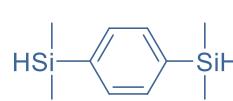
# Radical Hydrosilylation Polymerization



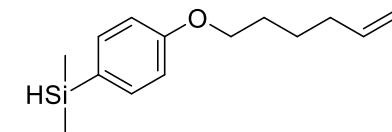
Conv. 99%,  $M_n = 14100$ ,  $D = 2.08$



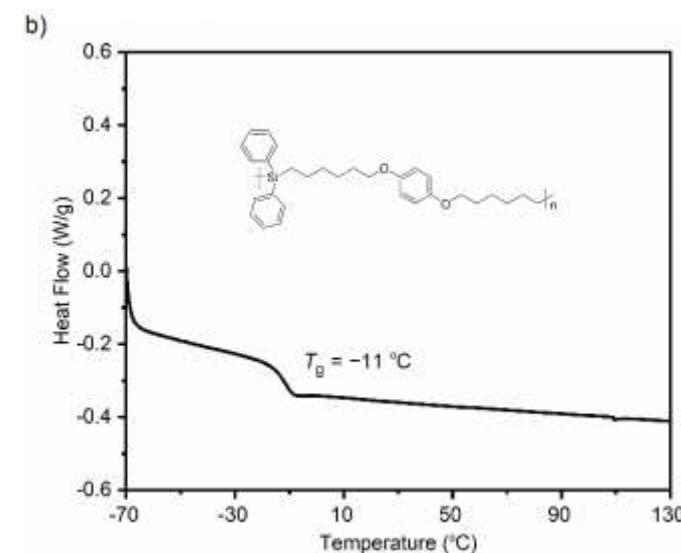
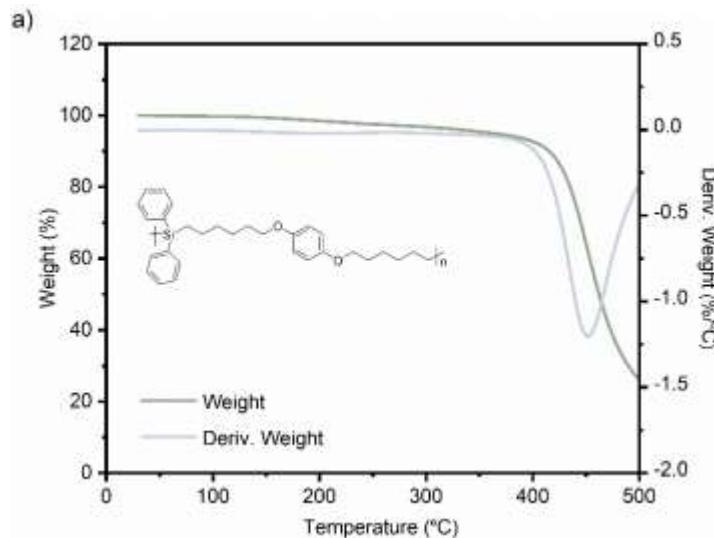
Conv. 91%,  $M_n = 6600$ ,  $D = 1.46$



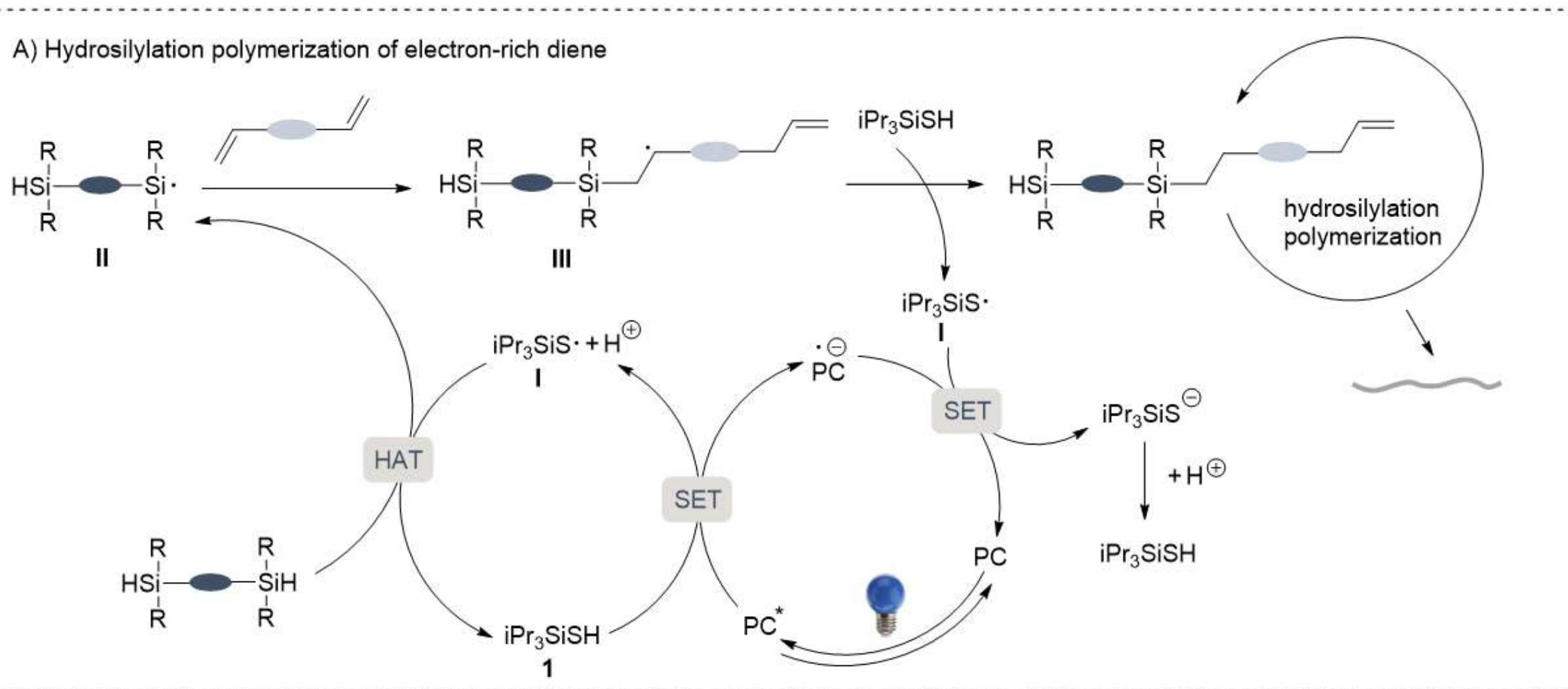
Conv. 92%,  $M_n = 7600$ ,  $D = 1.47$



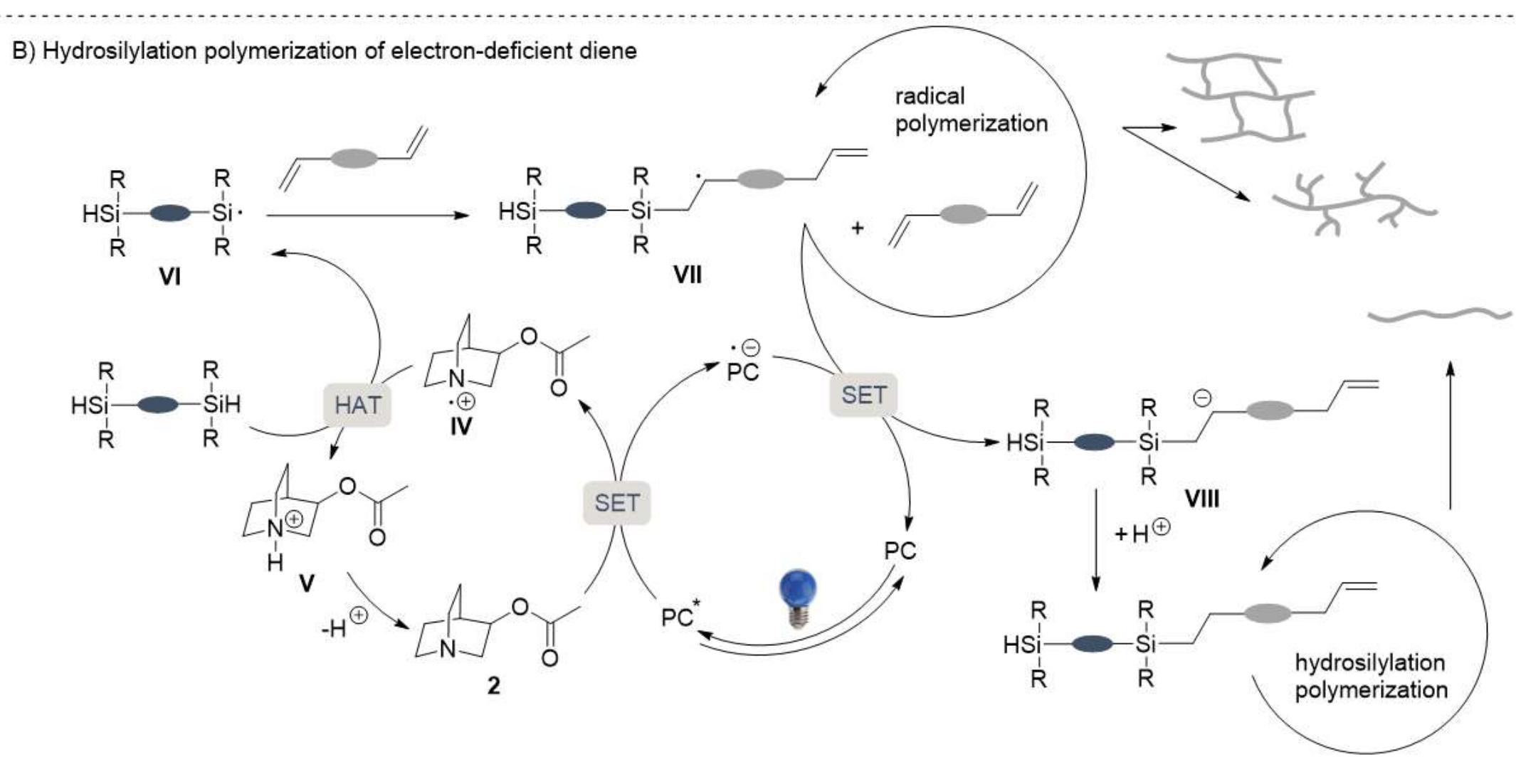
Conv. 82%,  $M_n = 4600$ ,  $D = 1.60$



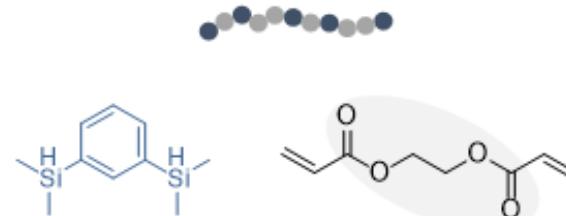
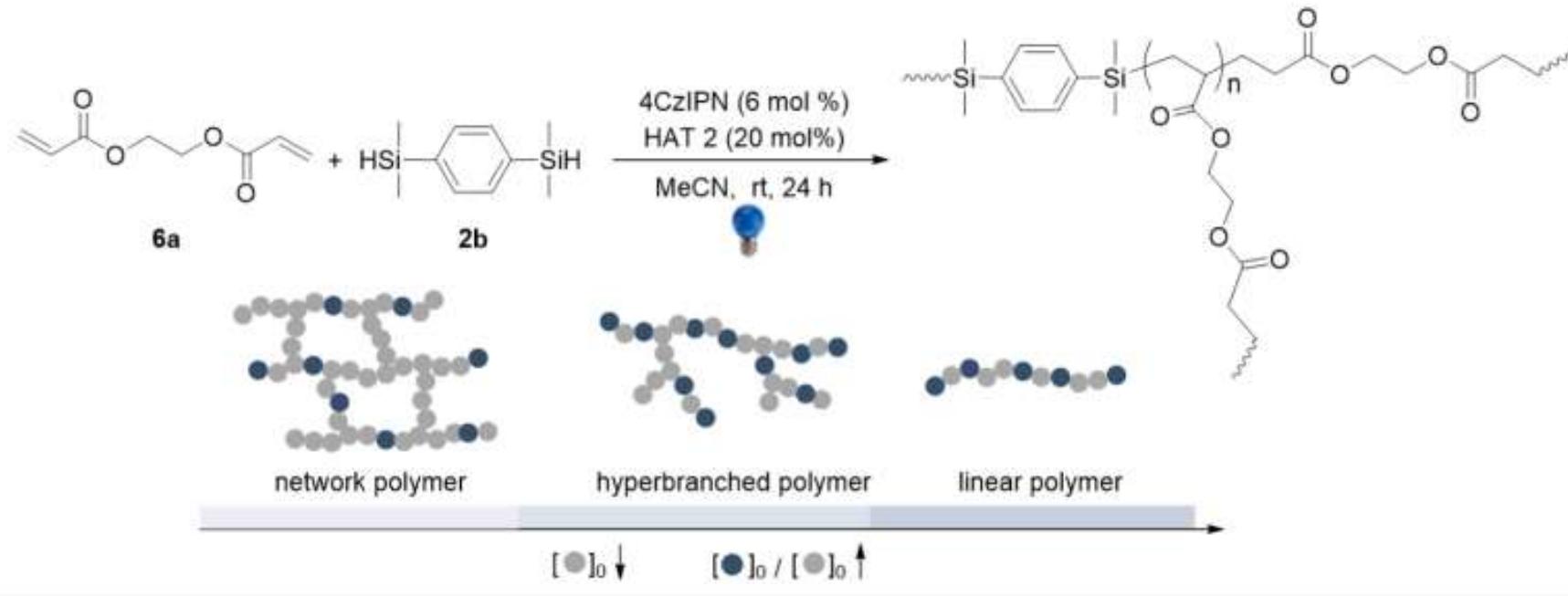
# Radical Hydrosilylation Polymerization



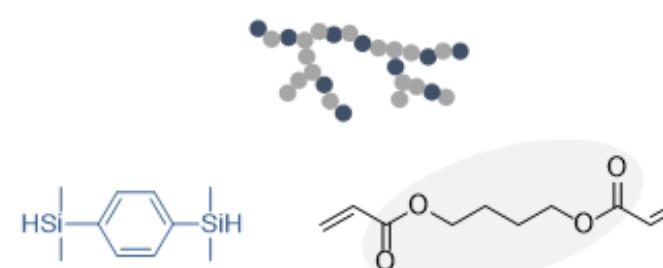
# Radical Hydrosilylation Polymerization



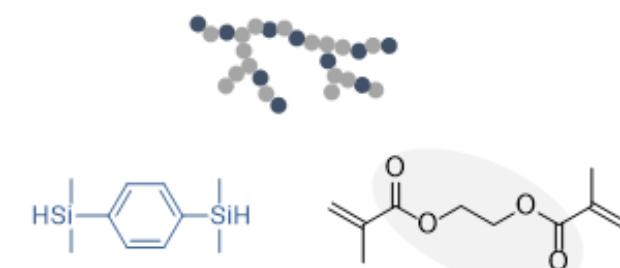
# Radical Hydrosilylation Polymerization



C=C conv. >99%, Si-H/C=C = 0.92  
 $M_n = 7900$ ,  $D = 1.22$

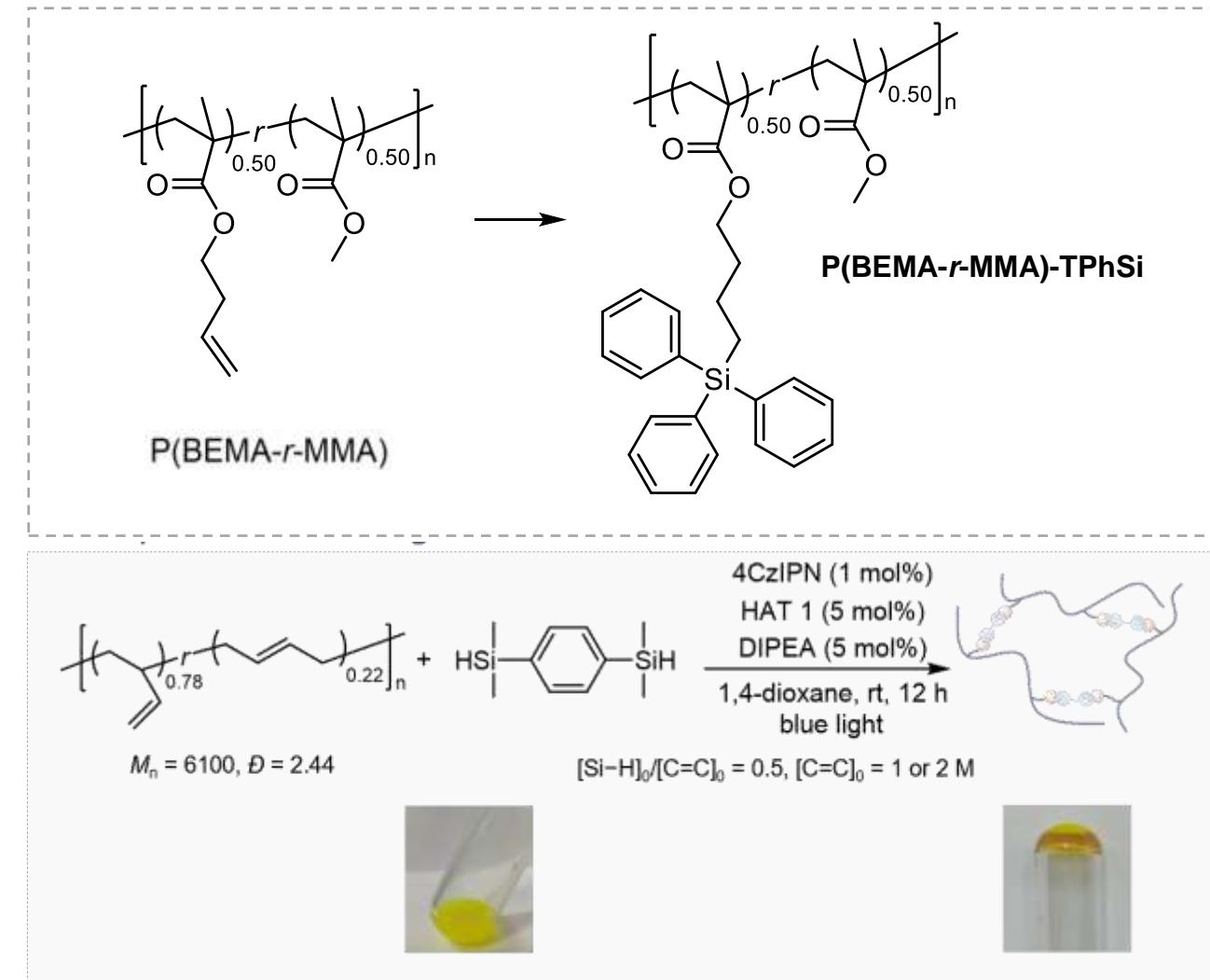
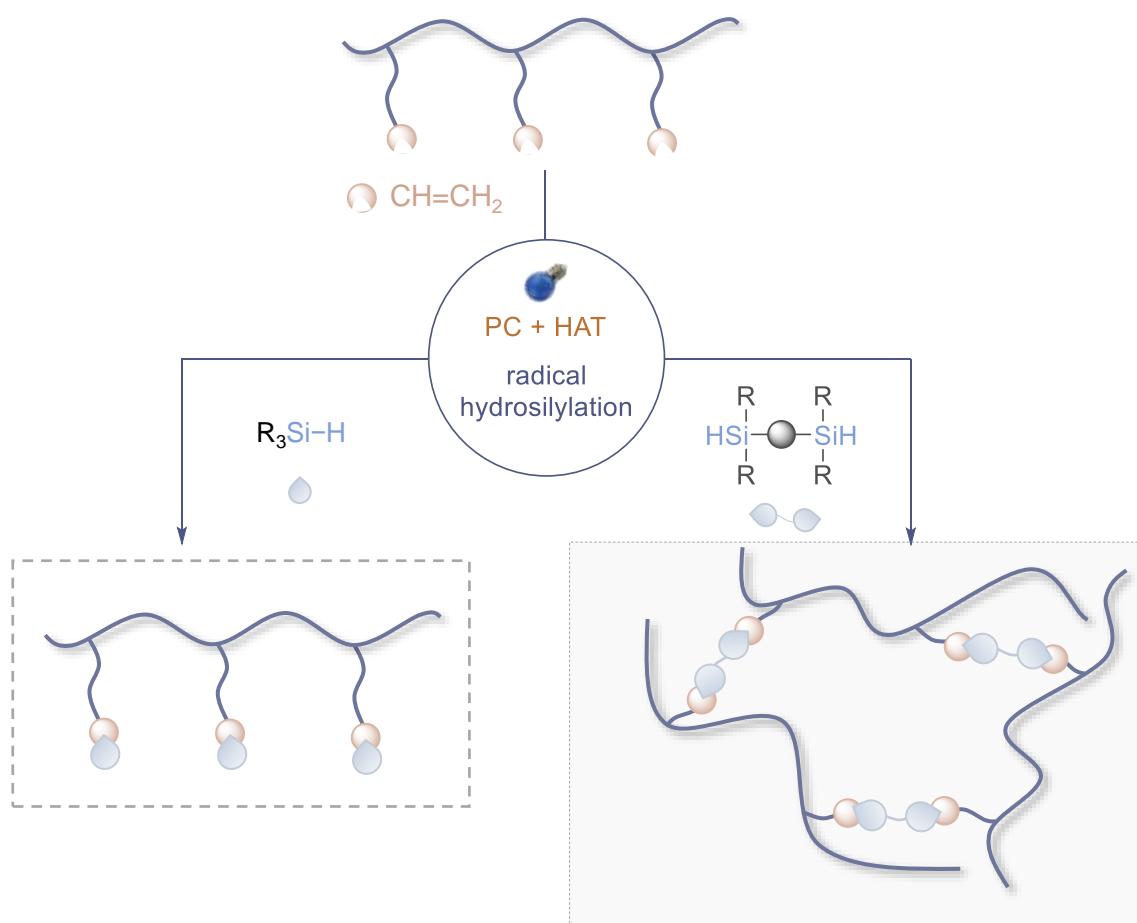


C=C conv. >99%, Si-H/C=C = 0.43  
 $M_n = 12900$ ,  $D = 1.40$



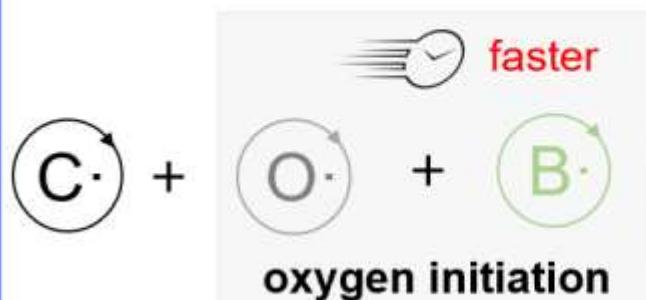
C=C conv. >99%, Si-H/C=C = 0.46  
 $M_n = 8700$ ,  $D = 1.55$

# Radical Hydrosilylation Post-Modification



# Summary

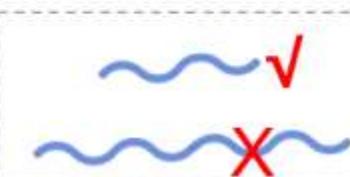
## Heteroatom radical regulation



## easy termination



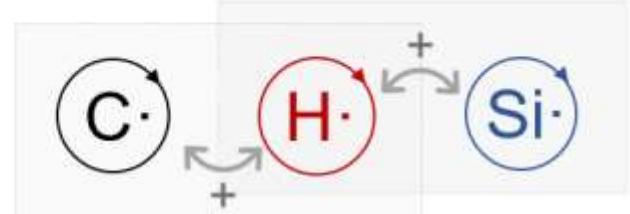
oxygen inhibition



## composition limitation



## Heteroatom radical introduction



or

# Acknowledgment

Funding:



## Group members (current and former)

**Dr. Chaoran Xu**

**Dr. Zhujun Huang**

**Prof. Dr. Yinling Wang**

**Prof. Dr. Qianyi Wang**

Jie Li

Mingyuan Liu

Siping Hu

Jin Dong

Jie Yun

Zhikang Xie

Kuiyong Jia

Xin Li

Yuxuan Du

Dr. Yuan Jiang

Zhe Chen

Congze He

Dr. Shicheng Yang

Dr. Wenjie Zhang

**Dr. Ning Li**

Kaiwen Liu

Siyu Yi

Jianhao He

Jiao Wang

Yu Kong

Zongwei Ma

Jiahua Li