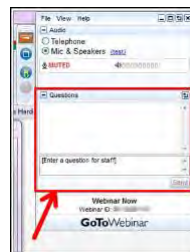
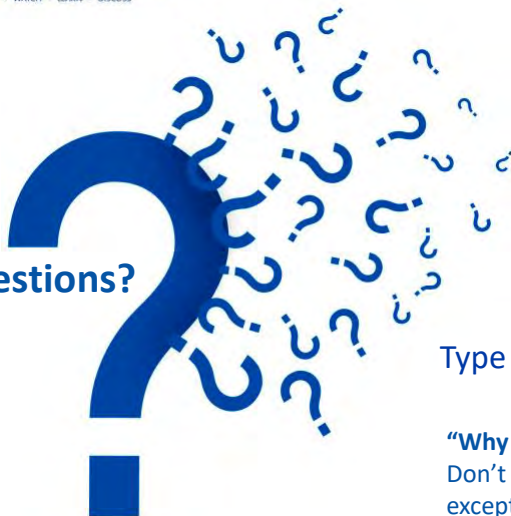




Have Questions?



Type them into questions box!

**“Why am I muted?”**

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1



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2

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Why does food taste better when it is grilled or what molecular compounds make a great wine? Discover the delectable science of your favorite food and drink and don't forget to come back for a second helping.

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### Business & Entrepreneurship

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3



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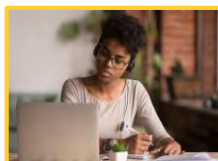
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7

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9

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10

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We believe in the strength of diversity in all its forms, because inclusion of and respect for diverse people, experiences, and ideas lead to superior solutions to world challenges and advances chemistry as a global, multidisciplinary science.

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[Diversity@acs.org](mailto:Diversity@acs.org)



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11

**Strategic Goals**

- Grow a robust, diverse, and engaged global organization that encompasses the broader polymer enterprise.
- Provide a portfolio of resources to educate and empower our members to thrive in the polymer enterprise.
- Effectively communicate the importance and activities of the polymer community to our members, polymer practitioners, and the public at large.

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Consider spotlighting your event with other notables in the field on POLY's community event calendar!

Email: [carfech@vt.edu](mailto:carfech@vt.edu) with details of your contribution to the POLY Calendar.

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Organizers: Hillmyer, Epps, and Robertson

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November 14 - 17, 2021

Hotel Emeline (Formerly the Downtown Doubletree)

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December 1 - 4, 2021

Omni San Diego

San Diego, CA USA

Organizers: J. Furgal, C. Hartmann-Thompson, H. Gao, and B. Sumerlin

Workshop Chair: Marc Hillmyer ([hillmyer@umich.edu](mailto:hillmyer@umich.edu)) or contact: [Lena.Probst@uow.edu.au](mailto:Lena.Probst@uow.edu.au)

[www.polyacs.org](http://www.polyacs.org)



## Designing Around Structural Alerts in Drug Discovery



Date: Friday, September 17, 2021 @ 2-3:15pm ET  
 Speaker: Nick Meanwell, Bristol-Myers Squibb  
 Moderator: Deepak Dalvie, Cinetics Pharmaceuticals

[Register for Free!](#)

### What You Will Learn:

- The identity of structural alerts that have been associated with problems in drug discovery and development
- The fundamental mechanistic organic chemistry subtending structural alerts that are subject to bioactivation
- Strategies and tactics to design around structural alerts

Co-produced with: ACS Division of Medicinal Chemistry, American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, and ACS Publications

## Service Dogs in Your Chemistry Lab



Date: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 @ 2-3pm ET  
 Speakers: Patricia Redden, Saint Peter's University / Joey Ramp, Empower Ability Consulting, LLC / Ashley Heybert, Independence Science  
 Moderator: Partha Basu, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

[Register for Free!](#)

### What You Will Learn:

- What does the Americans with Disabilities Act cover regarding access rights for service dogs
- How is a service dog selected for certain jobs or disabilities, and what type of training is required
- What types of service dogs exist and what is the process to obtain one

Co-produced with: Chemists with Disabilities (CWD) Committee, ACS Department of Diversity Programs, and ACS Diversity, Inclusion & Respect Advisory Board

## Molecules to Manufacturing to Marketplace



### 3D Printing of Sulfonated Polyesters for Controlled Release

Date: Thursday, September 23, 2021 @ 2-3:15pm ET  
 Speakers: Timothy Long, Arizona State University and Michael Bortner, Virginia Tech

Moderator: Bryan Tweedy, American Chemical Society

[Register for Free!](#)

### What You Will Learn:

- What is the impact of polyester ionomers and macromolecular architecture on processability and performance of 3D printed structures
- How to leverage rheology for predictive additive manufacturing system design and materials screening
- A snapshot of the topics and concepts captured in the ACS Polymer Chemistry: Principles and Practice short course held at Virginia Tech

Co-produced with: ACS Professional Education

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Co-produced with: **POLY | ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry**

# Advancing Polymer Science with Organic Catalysts



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## Advancing Polymer Science with Organic Catalysts



**RACHEL LETTERI**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical  
Engineering, University of Virginia



**ROBERT WAYMOUTH**  
Robert Eckles Swain Professor in Chemistry,  
Stanford University



**ANDREW DOVE**  
Professor, Sustainable Polymer Chemistry,  
University of Birmingham, UK

*Presentation slides are available now! The edited recording will be made available as soon as possible.*

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*This ACS Webinar is co-produced with ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry.*

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## Audience Survey Question

ANSWER THE QUESTION ON BLUE SCREEN IN ONE MOMENT



### Do you have experience in using organic catalysis?

- Yes, I'm expert level!
- Yes, I have used them a lot
- Yes, but only a little
- No, I have never tried



16





## Advancing Polymer Science with Organic Catalysts



**RACHEL LETTERI**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical  
Engineering, University of Virginia



**ROBERT WAYMOUTH**  
Robert Eckles Swain Professor in Chemistry,  
Stanford University



**ANDREW DOVE**  
Professor, Sustainable Polymer Chemistry,  
University of Birmingham, UK

*Presentation slides are available now! The edited recording will be made available as soon as possible.*

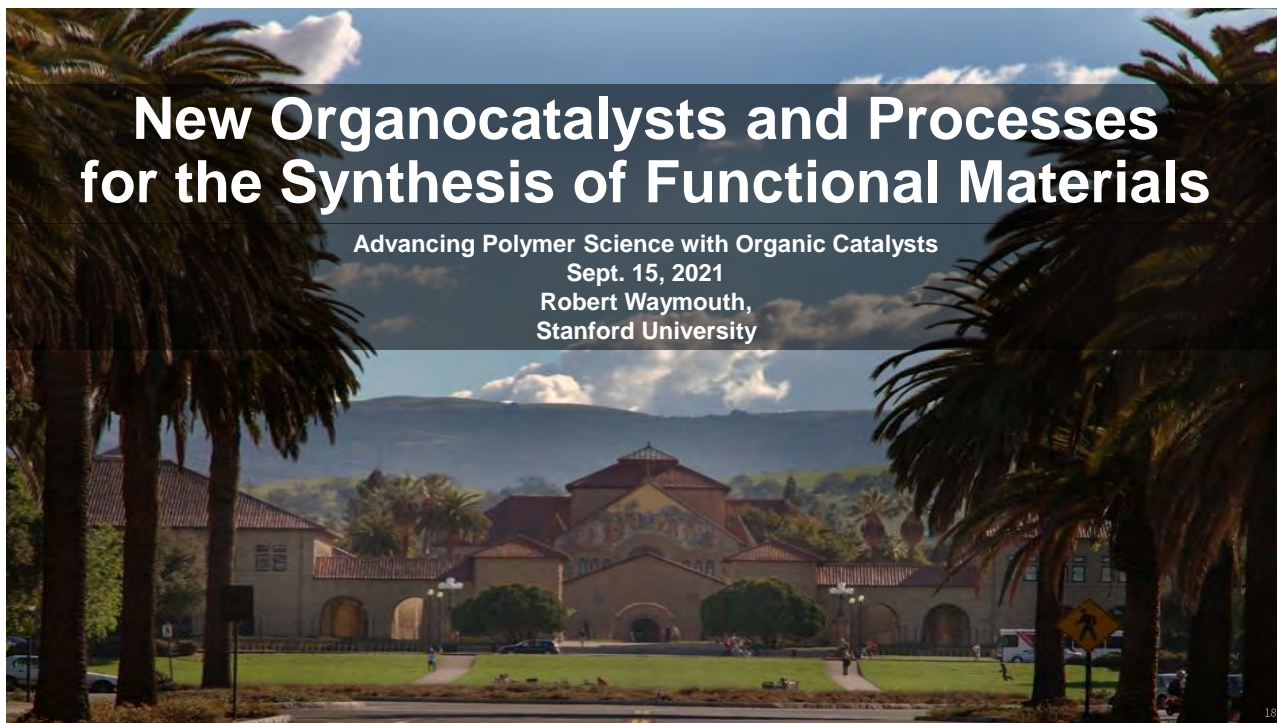
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# New Organocatalysts and Processes for the Synthesis of Functional Materials

Advancing Polymer Science with Organic Catalysts  
Sept. 15, 2021  
Robert Waymouth,  
Stanford University



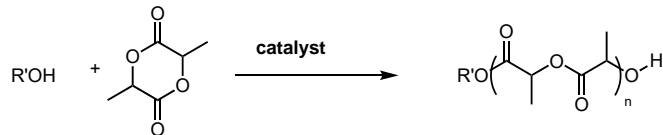
18

# New Organocatalysts and Processes for the Synthesis of Functional Materials

Advances in Catalyst Design Continue to Drive Innovation in Polymer Science

19

## Ring-Opening Polymerization of Lactones: Metal Catalysts

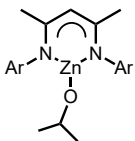


MOR, M = Li, Na, K

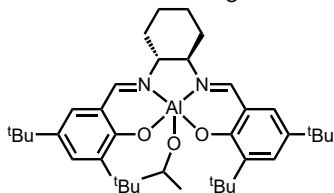
Al(OR)<sub>3</sub>

Sn(O<sub>2</sub>CR)<sub>2</sub>

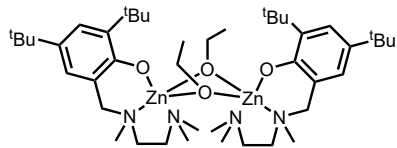
Kricheldorf, Jerome  
Pencek, Duda



Coates

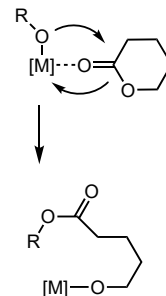


Spassky, Feijen

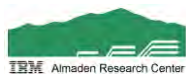


Tolman, Hillmyer

Proposed Mechanism



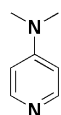
20



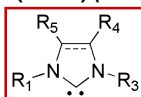
Hedrick

2001

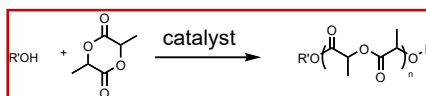
DMAP



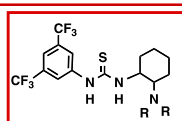
**N-Heterocyclic  
Carbenes  
(NHCs) (2002)**



## Organocatalytic Polymerization

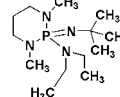


**Phosphines  
(2002)**



**Thiourea-Amines  
(2005)**

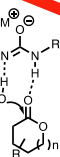
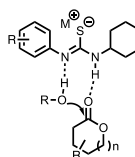
**Phosphazenes  
(2007)**



**Amidines and Guanidines  
(2006)**



**Breslow (1958)**



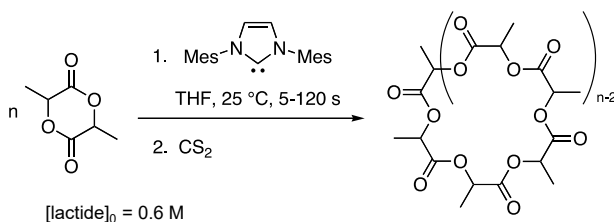
**Present**

Waymouth, Hedrick, et al *Chem. Rev.* **2007**, 5813  
Zhang, Hedrick Waymouth, *Nat. Chem.* **2016**, 1047  
Lin, Waymouth *JACS*, **2017**, 1645.

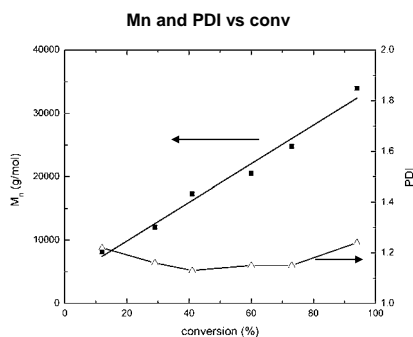


Waymouth

## Synthesis of Cyclic Polyesters via NHC Catalysts



- **Highly Active**
- **Controlled**
- **M<sub>n</sub> tracks % conversion**
- **Low PDIs**
- **Forms large ring cyclics**

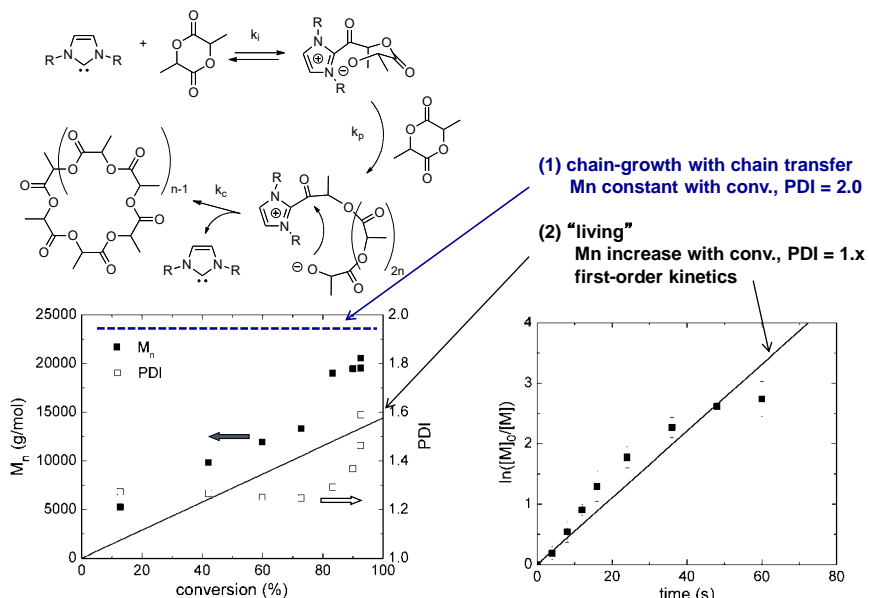


M <sub>n</sub> (Da)	time (s)	M/Cat	conv (%)	PDI
28574	120	200	92	1.22
33957	120	100	94	1.24
28648	15	30	92	1.24
11742	12	200	30	1.14
12044	5	100	29	1.16
13566	5	30	29	1.11
5855	5	200	7	1.20

M<sub>n</sub> tracks conversion, but non-zero intercept

Culkin, **Szihony**, Hedrick, Waymouth *ACIEE*, **2007**, 2627  
Jeong, Waymouth, et.al, *JACS*, **2009**, 4884

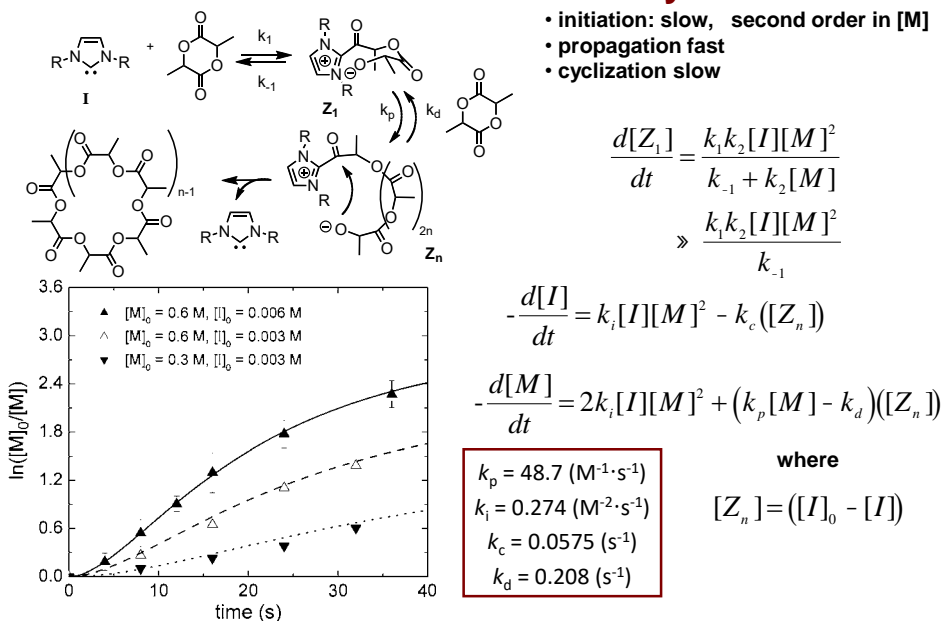
## Mechanistic Anomalies: Zwitterionic Polymerization



Jeong, W.; Shin, E. Waymouth, R. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2009**, 4884.

23

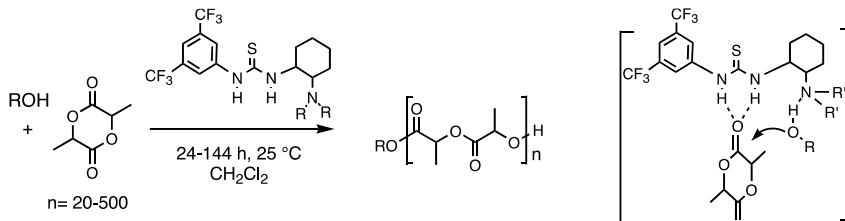
## Kinetic Model of Zwitterionic Polymerization



Jeong, W.; Shin, E. Waymouth, R. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2009** 4884

24

## Bifunctional Thiourea Catalysts for Lactide Polymerization



[M]/[I]	Time	Conv %	DP	M <sub>n</sub> GPC	PDI
20	24 h	97	21	5200	1.08
50	32h	98	53	12300	1.05
100	48 h	97	103	23000	1.05
200	105h	98	215	42000	1.05
500	144	95	- <sup>e</sup>	- <sup>e</sup>	- <sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup> 5 mol% 1; [LA] = 1 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>; <sup>b</sup> determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR; <sup>c</sup> degree of polymerization <sup>e</sup> not soluble in THF.

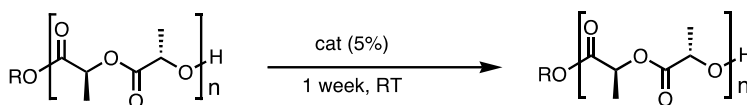
- Solvent Effect: Polymerization Observed in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, toluene  
- No polymerization observed in THF, DMF

Dove, Pratt, Lohmeijer, Hedrick, Waymouth, *JACS*, **2005**, 13798

25

## Chain Extension: No Transesterification

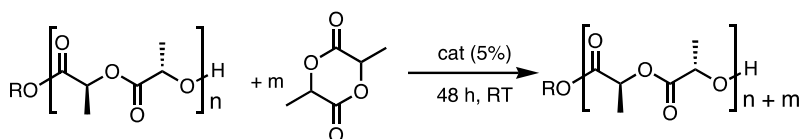
### Minimal Transesterification



M<sub>n</sub> = 21,300; PDI of 1.06

M<sub>n</sub> = 20,900; PDI of 1.07

### Chain extension



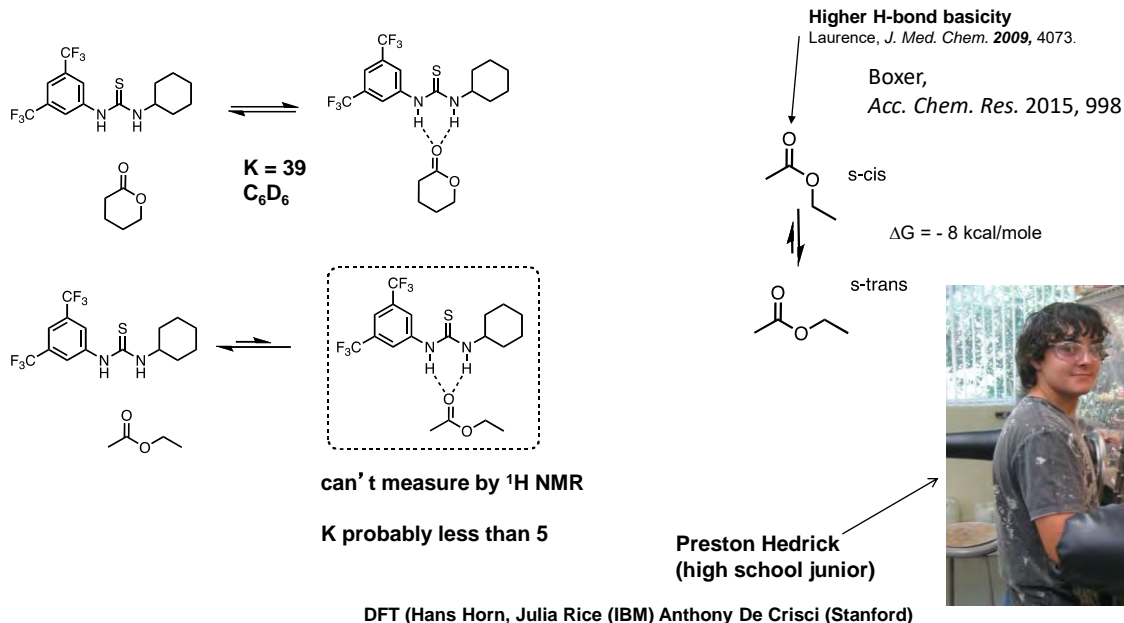
DP of 103 (PDI of 1.05)

additional 100  
equiv of lactide

DP of 215 (PDI of 1.05)

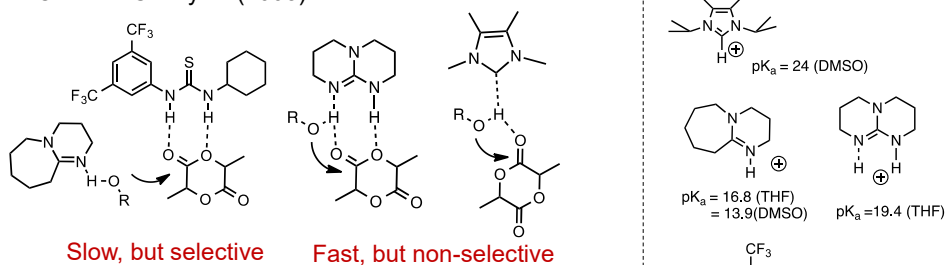
26

## Origin of High Selectivity?

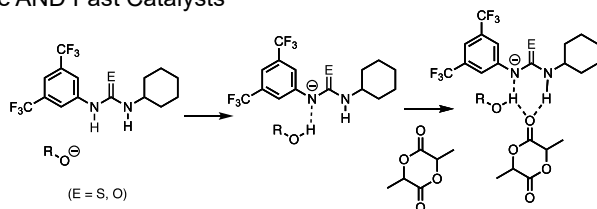


## Development of Fast AND Selective Catalysts

- Selective OR Fast Catalysts (2005)



- Selective AND Fast Catalysts

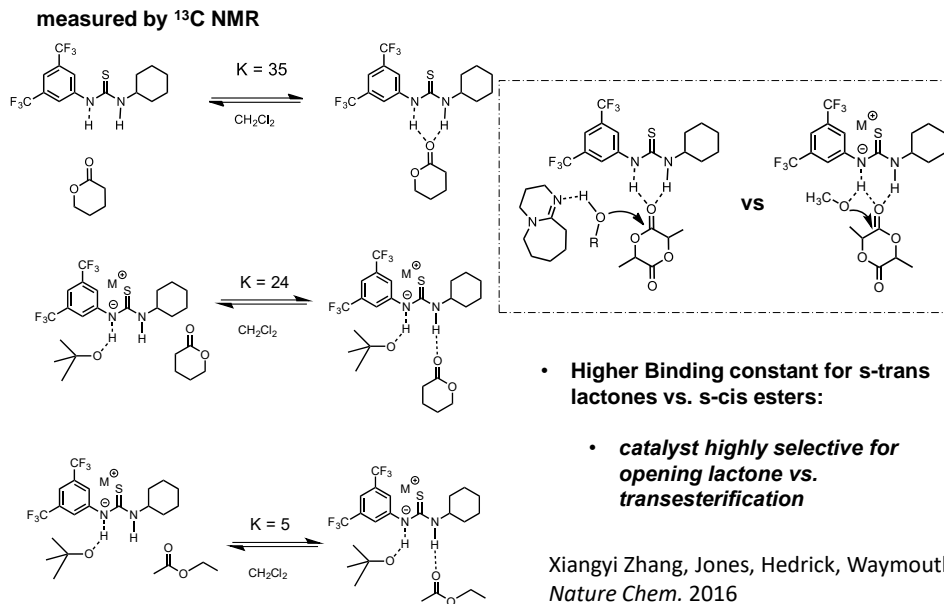


Zhang, X.; Jones, G. O.; Hedrick, J.L.; Waymouth, R. M. *Nature Chem.* **2016**, *8*, 1047-1053.

Lin, B.; Waymouth, R. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2017**, 1645-1652

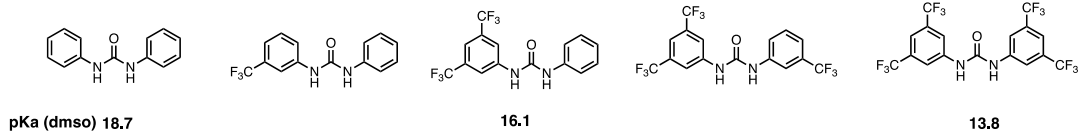
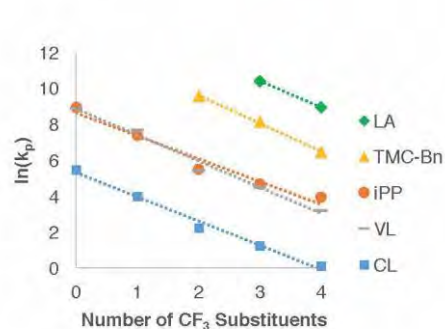
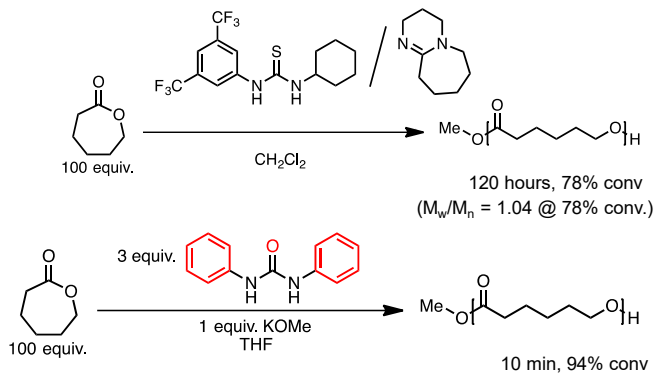
28

## Origin of High Selectivity?



## Urea Anions: Efficient Catalysts for Polymer Synthesis

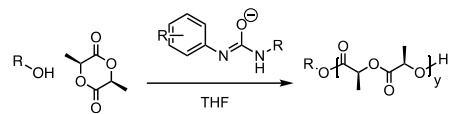
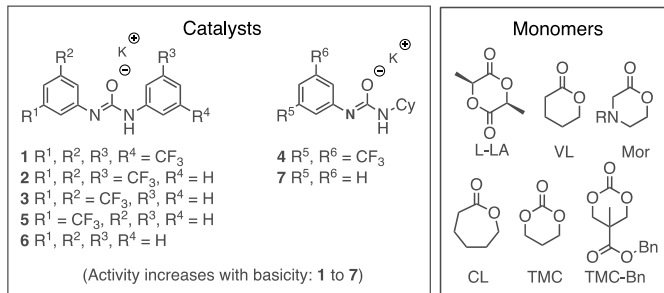
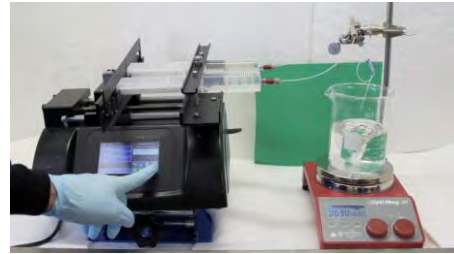
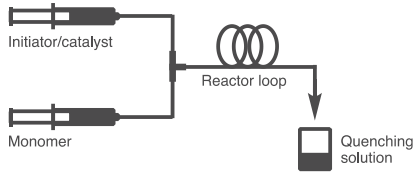
Lohmeier, Hedrick Waymouth, *Macro.* 2006, 8574



Lin, B.; Waymouth, R. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2017, 1645–1652

## A New Catalyst Platform Tailored for Continuous Flow Processes

Continuous-flow polymerization

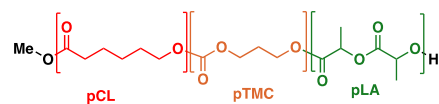
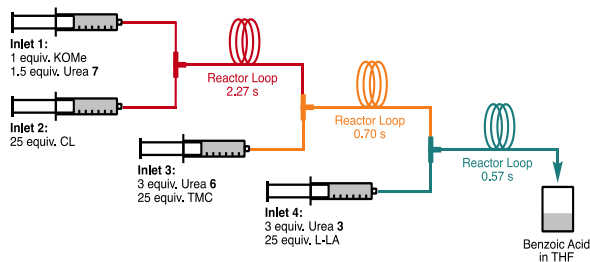


Movie: 16 grams PLA in 40 seconds!

Lin, Hedrick, Park, Waymouth, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2019**, *141*, 8921-8927.

31

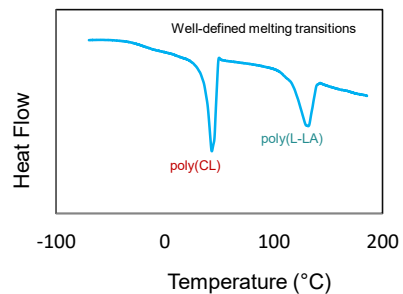
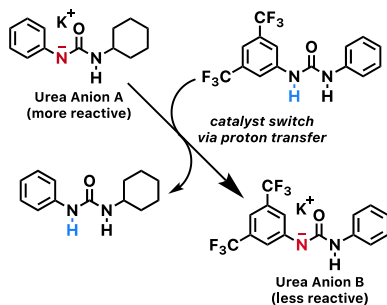
## A New In-Flow Catalyst Switch for Rapid Generation of Multiblock Copolymers



poly(CL)<sub>25</sub>-block-poly(TMC)<sub>25</sub>-block-poly(L-LA)<sub>25</sub>

$\tau = 3.5$  seconds,  $M_n$  GPC = 12 kDa,  $\bar{D} = 1.08$ .

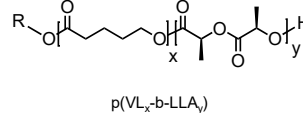
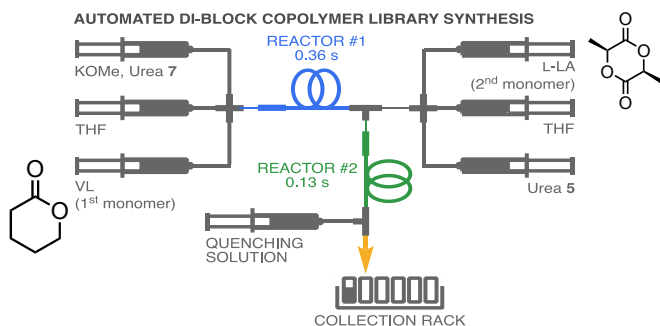
Rapid Catalyst Switch by Proton Transfer



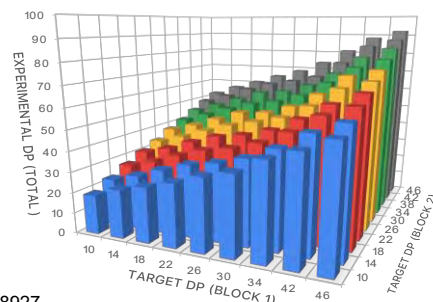
32



## Programmed Library Generation in Flow Reactor



$x, y = 10 - 46$  in increments of 4



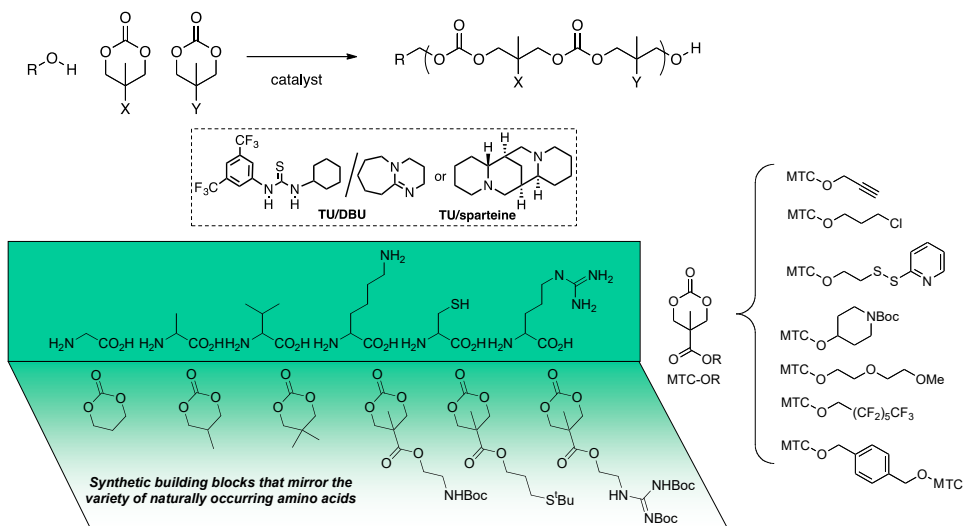
Automated, programmed generation of 100 separate VL-b-PLA diblock copolymers generated in 10 minutes

Length of each block ranging from 10 to 46 in increments of four monomer repeat units

Lin, Hedrick, Park, Waymouth, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2019, 141, 8921-8927.

33

## Polycarbonates: Synthetic Multifunctional Polymers

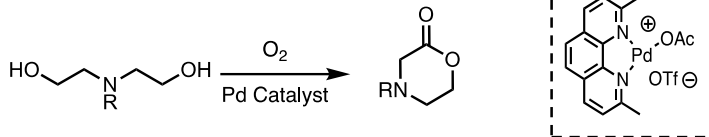


Pratt, R. C.; Nederberg, F.; Waymouth, R. M.; Hedrick, J. L. *Chem. Commun.* **2008**, 114-116.  
 Cooley, C. B.; Trantow, B. M.; Nederberg, F.; Kiesewetter, M. K.; Hedrick, J. L.; Waymouth, R. M.; Wender, P. A. *JACS*, **2009**, 16401

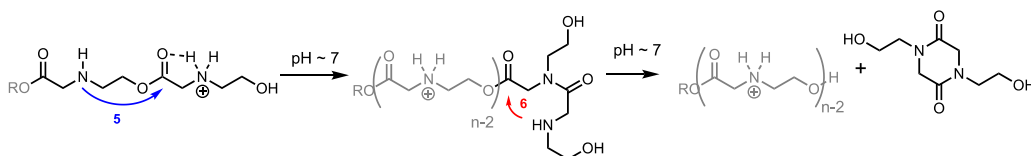
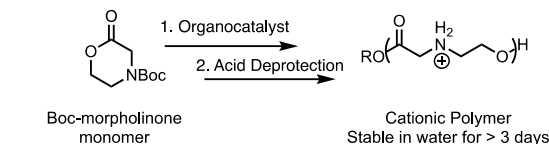
34

## Degradable Polycations: Synthesis and Mechanism

Chung, Blake, Waymouth, et. al. *JACS*, **2013**, 135, 7593-7602.



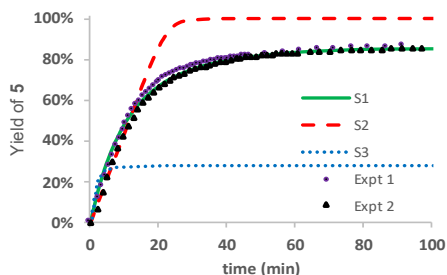
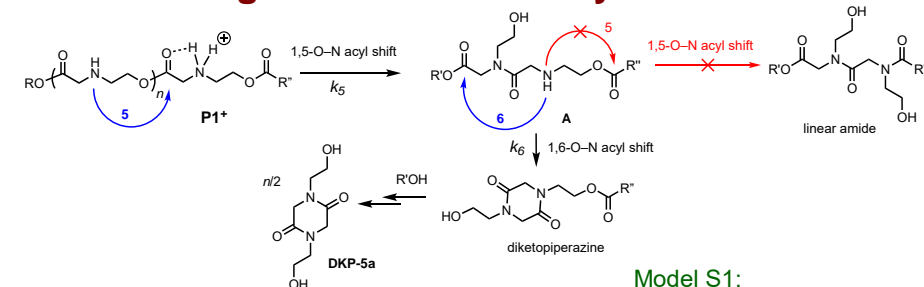
Blake, Waymouth *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, 7593-7602.



Blake, T. R.; Ho, W. C.; Turlington, C.R.; Zhang, X.; Huttner, M. A.; Wender, P. A.; Waymouth, R. M. "Synthesis and Mechanistic Investigations of Rapid Base-Triggered Immolative Cationic Polyesters", *Chem. Sci.*, **2020**, 11, 2951.

35

## Degradation: Selectivity for DKP



**Model S1:**  
random at any point in chain;  
 $k_6/k_5 = 10^6$   
 $k_6 \gg k_5 = 0.0412 \text{ min}^{-1}$

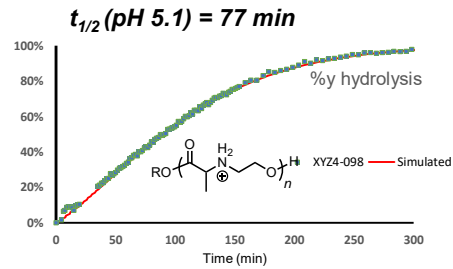
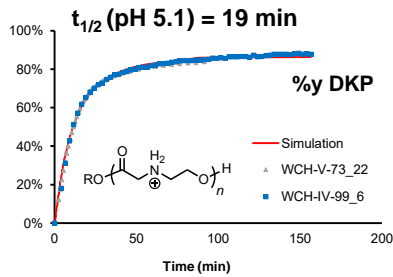
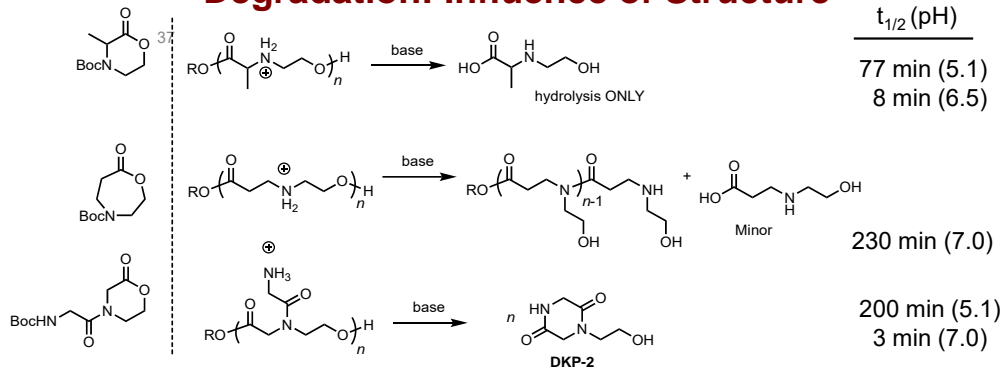
**Model S2:**  
degradation from chain-end;  
 $k_6/k_5 = 10^6$   
 $k_6 \gg k_5 = 1.44 \text{ min}^{-1}$

**Model S3:**  
random at any point in chain;  
 $k_5 = k_6 = 0.483 \text{ min}^{-1}$

Blake, Ho, Turlington, Zhang, Huttner, Wender, Waymouth, "Synthesis and Mechanistic Investigations of Rapid Base-Triggered Immolative Cationic Polyesters" *Chem. Sci.*, **2020**, 2951

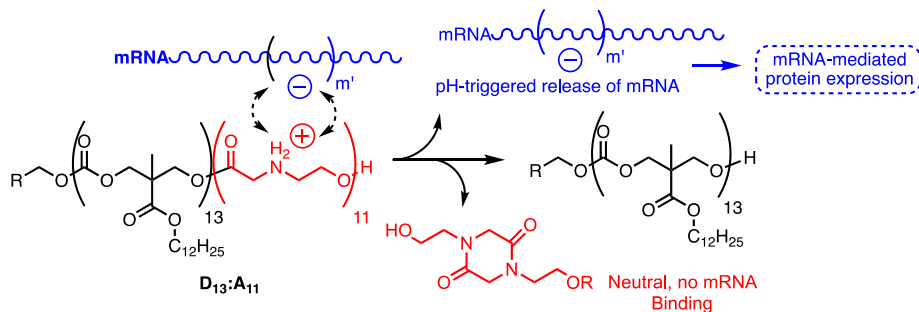
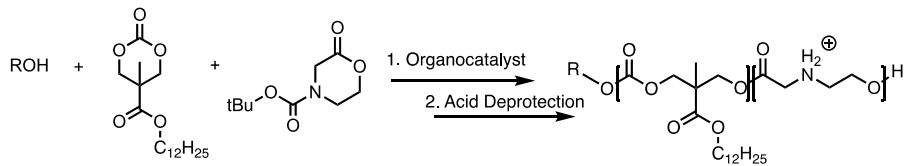
36

## Degradation: Influence of Structure



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## Degradable Polycations: A Mechanism of mRNA Release

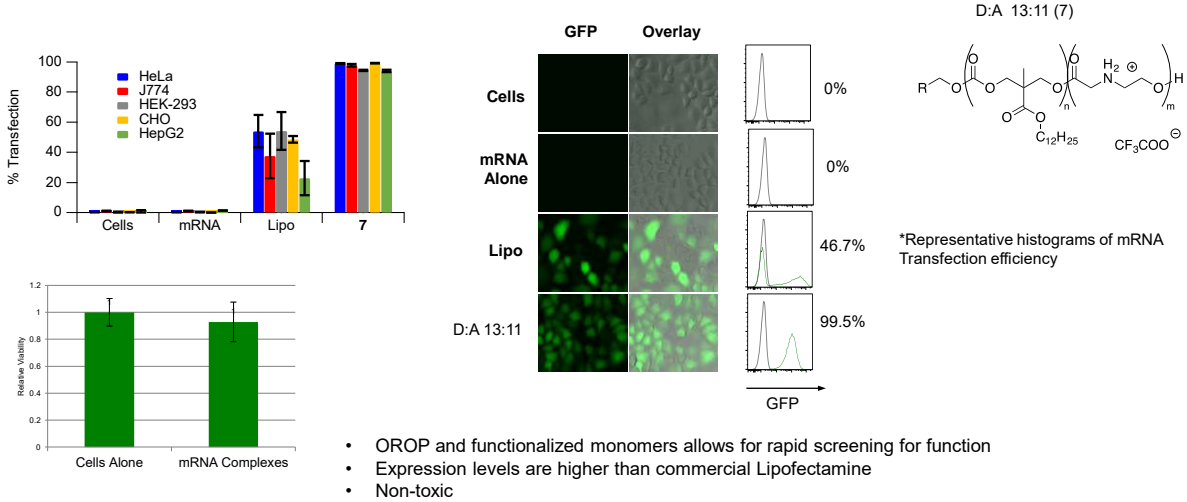


McKinlay, Vargas, Blake, Hardy, Kanada, Contag, Wender, Waymouth, "Charge-altering Releasable Transporters (CARTs) for the delivery and release of messenger RNA in living animals" Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 2017, E448

38

## mRNA delivery: cell culture

Using new amphipathic materials we were able to transfect mRNA and elicit the expression of Green Fluorescent Protein (HeLa cells)



McKinlay, Vargas, Blake, Hardy, Kanada, Contag, Wender, Waymouth, "Charge-altering Releasable Transporters (CARTs) for the delivery and release of messenger RNA in living animals" Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., **2017**, E448

39

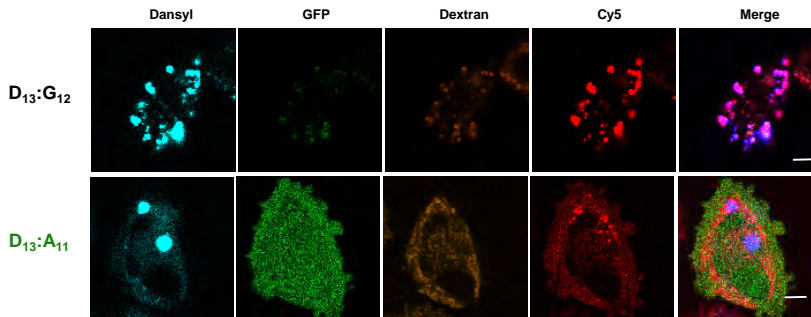
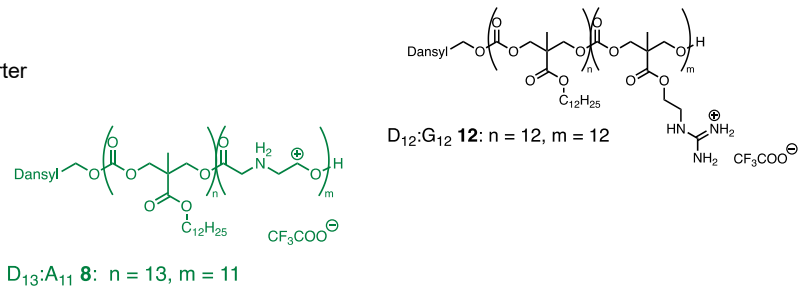
## To Express mRNA, mRNA Must Escape Endosome

### Confocal Microscopy

- Allows for independent imaging of transporter and cargo on a cell-by-cell basis

### Fluorophores

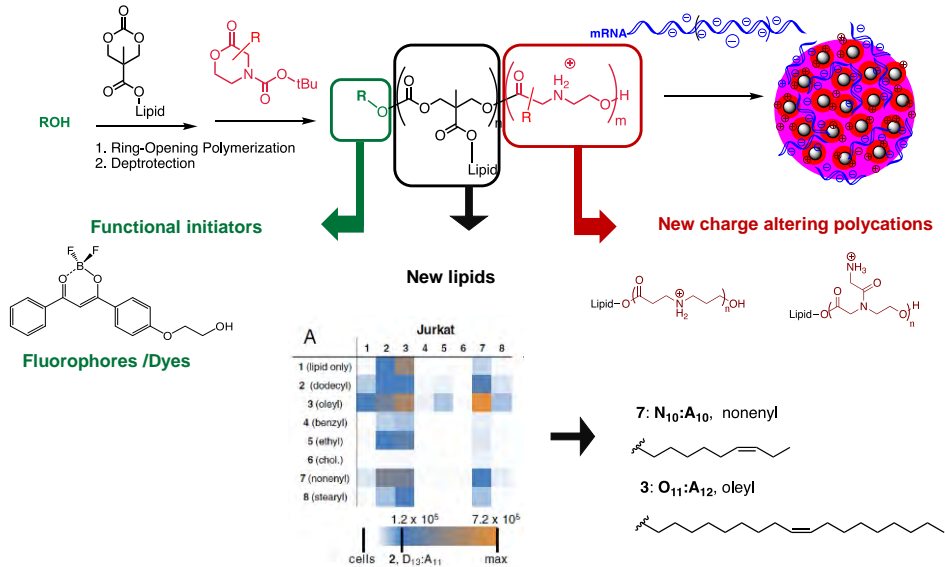
- Dansyl: attached to transporter
- GFP: indicates expression has occurred
- Dextran: stains endosomes
- Cy5: attached to mRNA



Conditions: HeLa cells, 10:1 +/- charge ratio, 4 hours following treatment

40

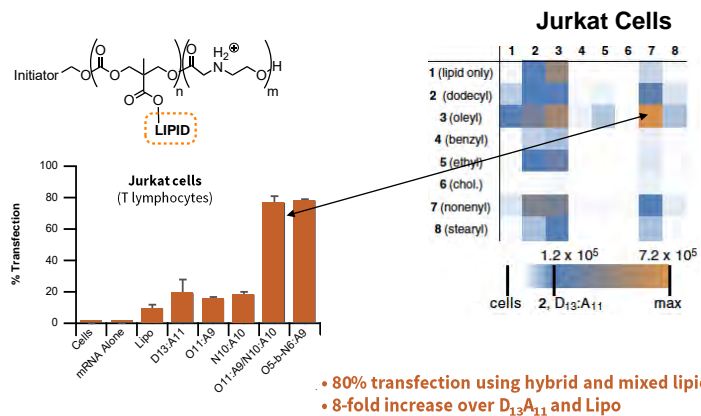
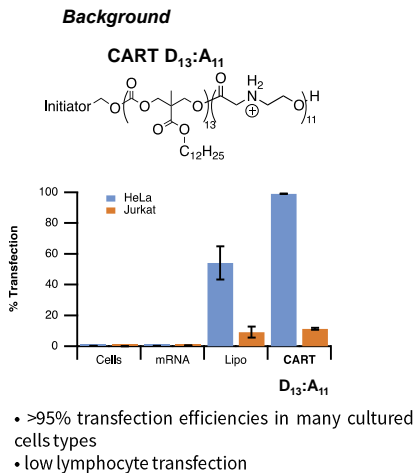
## Broad Chemical Space



41

## mRNA delivery with CARTs into *T* lymphocytes

- Combinatorial library: CART mixtures (2:1) High throughput screen



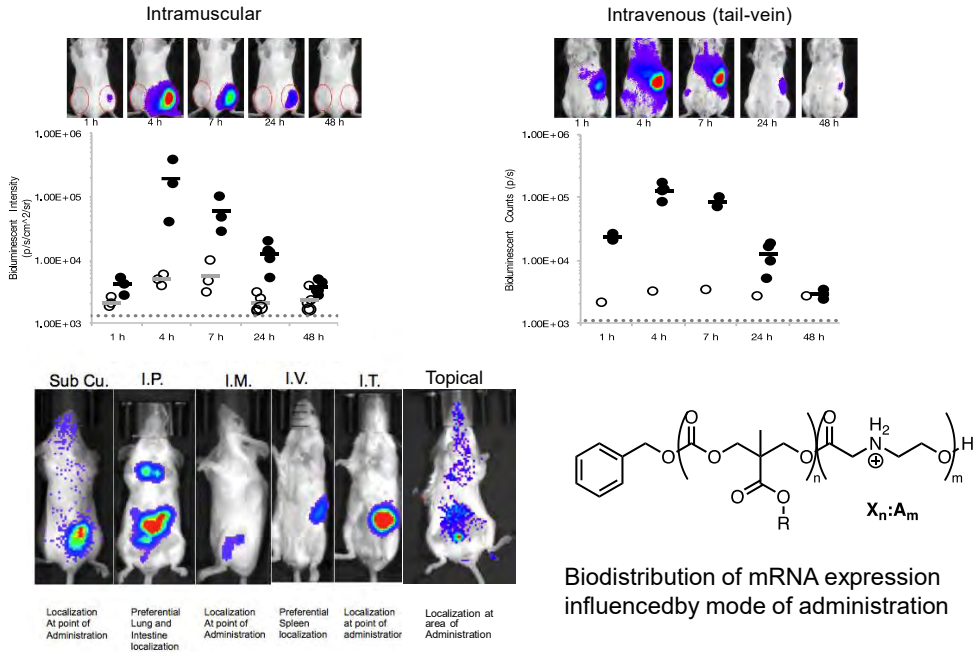
- Lipid-mixed CARTs enhance mRNA delivery into:
  - T cells and B cells (primary and immortalized)

McKinlay, C.; Vargas, J. *et al.* *PNAS* **2017**, *114*, E448

McKinlay, C.; Benner, N. *et al.* *PNAS* **2018**, *115*, E5859

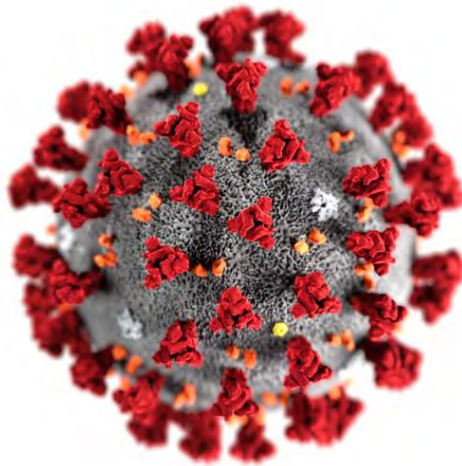
42

## mRNA expression is effective via multiple routes of administration in vivo



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## The Plague Year



See: "the Plague Year". Lawrence Wright, The New Yorker, Jan 4&11, 2021

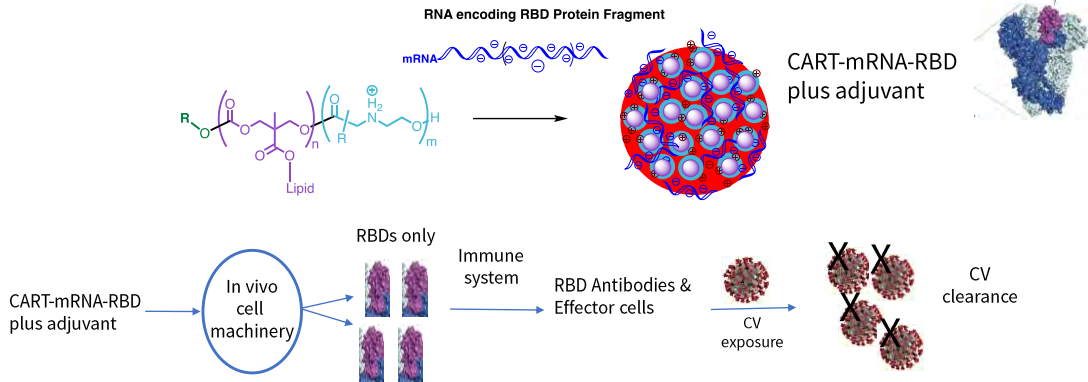
44

# The CART-mRNA Approach to COVID 19 Vaccination: Deliver the message, cells make the vaccine

Levy, Waymouth and Wender labs



mRNA vaccines are quick and inexpensive to make, produce RBD and elicit immune response



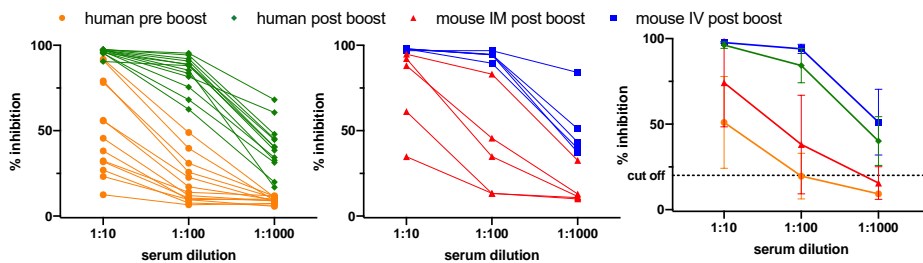
Haabeth, Lohmeyer, Sallets, Blake, Sagiv-Barfi, Czerwinski, Powell, Wender, Waymouth, Levy, An mRNA SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Employing Charge-Altering Releasable Transporters with a TLR-9 Agonist Induces Neutralizing Antibodies and T Cell Memory y. *bioRxiv* 2021, 2021.04.14.439891, *ACS Central Science* 2021, 1191.

45

## The CART-mRNA Approach to COVID 19 Vaccination:

Levy-Waymouth-Wender labs

CART-mRNA-RDB elicits a protective immune response



Sera from immunized mice (IM in red, IV in blue, n=5) was harvested on Day 28. Serum from blood donors (n=13) who were vaccinated with the Pfizer/ BioNTech mRNA vaccine was collected either within 7 days before (pre boost, black) or 15±4 days after the boost (post boost, green) was tested for the ability to inhibit RBD/ACE-2 binding using a commercially available surrogate Virus Neutralization Test.

- Neutralizing antibody levels of immunized mice are comparable to those achieved in vaccinated humans

Haabeth, Lohmeyer, Sallets, Blake, Sagiv-Barfi, Czerwinski, Powell, Wender, Waymouth, Levy, An mRNA SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Employing Charge-Altering Releasable Transporters with a TLR-9 Agonist Induces Neutralizing Antibodies and T Cell Memory y. *bioRxiv* 2021, 2021.04.14.439891, *ACS Central Science* 2021, 1191.

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# New Organocatalysts and Processes for the Synthesis of Functional Materials

## Advances in Catalyst Design Continue to Drive Innovation in Polymer Science

47

Dr. Tim Blake, Rebecca McClellan,  
Keith Armstrong, Conor Galvin,  
Summer Ramsay-Burroughs, Vince Pane,  
Caleb Jadrich, Dan Marron,  
Dr. Trevor Del Castillo, Dr. Blaine McCarthy  
Jim Zhang, Yuan Jia, Isaac Appelbaum



National Science Foundation  
National Institute of Health  
**Adelson Medical Research Foundation**  
**The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society**  
**NASA**  
**IBM**  
**EVONIK**  
Cancer TNT Program (Stanford)  
SPARK Program (Stanford)  
ChEM-H (Stanford)  
**Center For Molecular Analysis and Design**  
(Stanford Chemistry)

### Collaborators

Dr. James Hedrick (IBM)  
Dr. Nathaniel Park (IBM)

**Prof. Paul Wender (Stanford)**  
**Prof. Ron Levy (Stanford)**  
**Prof. Grant Rotskoff (Stanford)**  
**Prof. Catherine Blish (Stanford)**  
**Prof. Eric Kool (Stanford)**  
**Dr. Ole Haalbeth (Stanford)**

Prof. Jeff Glenn (Stanford)  
Prof. V. Sebastiani (Stanford)

Prof. Dick Zare (Stanford)  
Prof. Craig Criddle (Stanford)



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## Team Expertise and Background



### Polymer synthesis Gene delivery



**Prof. Robert M.  
Waymouth**

Bob has pioneered the metal-free synthesis of biocompatible polymers, which are now used in many therapeutic indications, including antimicrobials, gene and drug delivery agents

### Drug and Gene delivery



**Prof. Paul A Wender**

Paul's work is directed at using chemistry and synthesis to address unsolved problems in medicine, including drug delivery, a cure for HIV/AIDS, cancer immunotherapy, Alzheimer's disease and antibiotic resistance

### Clinical Oncology



**Prof. Ronald Levy**

Ron researches how the immune system can be harnessed to fight cancer. His work has led to personalized anticancer drugs, inventing an antibody-based drug, Rituxan, that is widely used to treat lymphoma

### Stanford Team

Dr. Timothy R. Blake  
Dr. Rebecca McClellan  
Dr. Blaine McCarthy  
Dr. Trevor Del Castillo  
Dr. Ralph Lange  
Summer Ramsay-Burrough  
Yuan Jia  
Isaac Applebaum

Dr. Ole A. W. Haabeth  
Dr. Adrienne Sallets  
Dr. Julian Lohmeyer  
Dr. Idit Barfi  
Dr. Stefano Testa

Dr. Colin McKinlay  
Dr. Jessica Vargas  
Dr. Nancy Benner  
Harry Rahn  
Zhijian Li  
Gillian Sun  
Dr. Steven Stanton

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UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

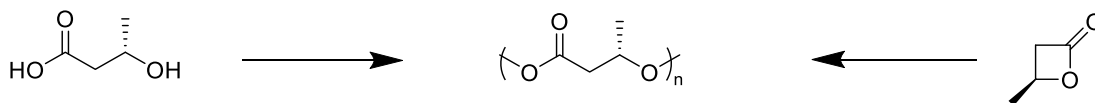
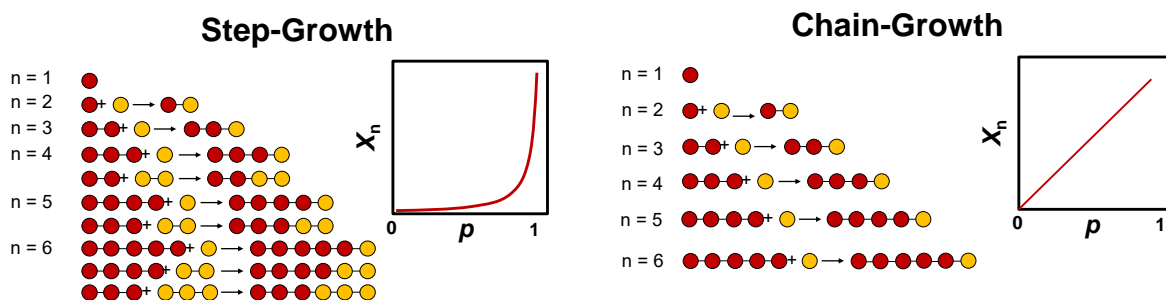
Using organic catalysts for step growth  
polymerization and depolymerisation

Prof Andrew P. Dove

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## Step-Growth vs Chain Growth Polymerisation



***Polymer structure is distinct from polymerisation process***

## Audience Survey Question

ANSWER THE QUESTION ON BLUE SCREEN IN ONE MOMENT



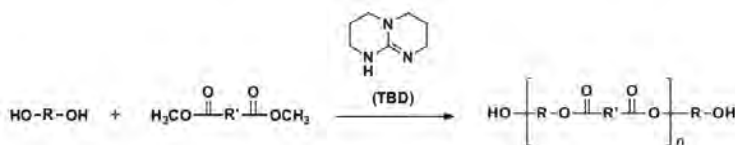
**What do you think is the biggest remaining challenge to overcome for organic catalysis in polymer science?**

- Reaction scope
- Increasing reactivity
- High temperature operation
- Better stereoselectivity
- Other (Tell us more in the chat!)

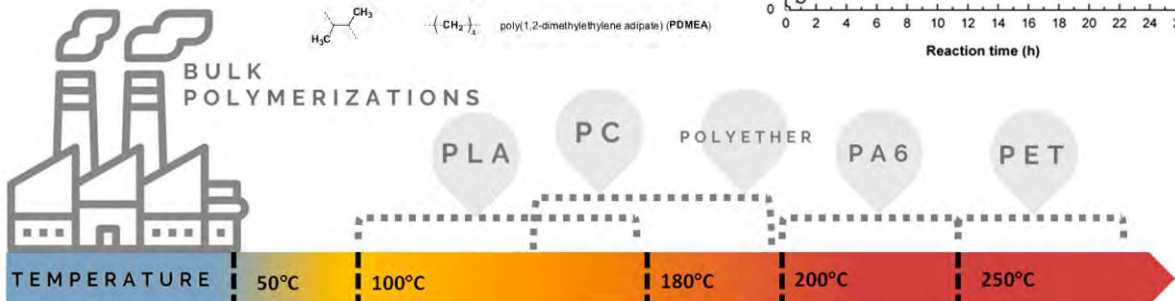
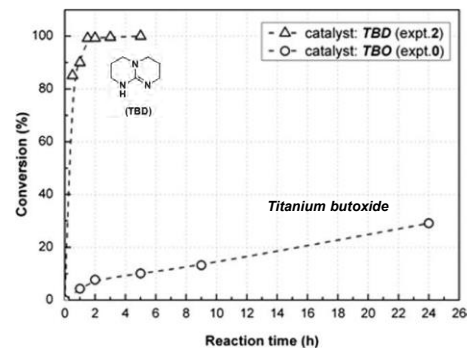
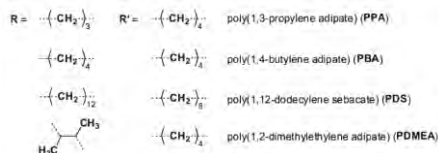


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## Organocatalytic Polycondensation



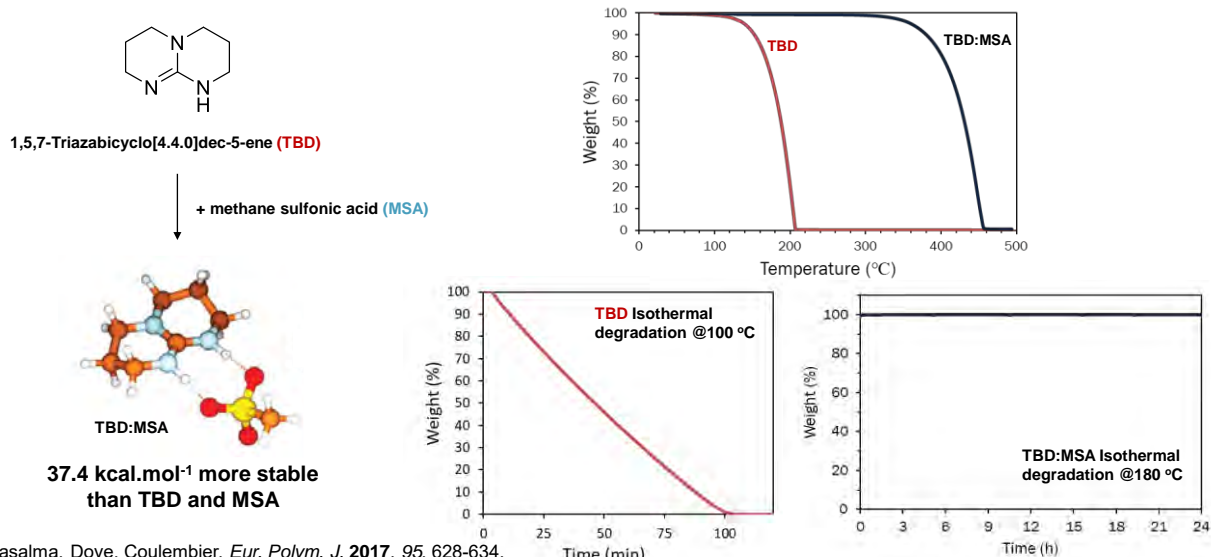
Tang, Noorderover, Sablong, Koning, *J. Polym. Sci. Part A: Polym. Chem.*, **2011**, *49*, 2959–2968.



Basterretxea, Jehanno, Merceyreyes, Sardon. *ACS Macro Lett.* **2019**, *8*, 1055-1062

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# Thermal Stability is Commonly a Problem



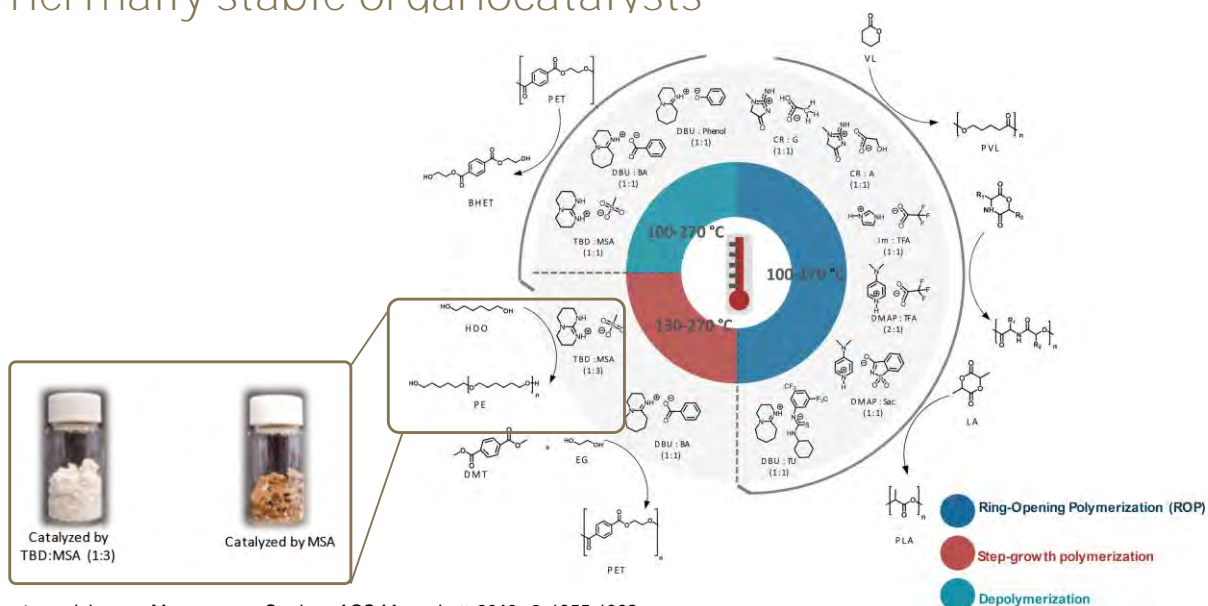
Mezzasalma, Dove, Coulembier, *Eur. Polym. J.* **2017**, *95*, 628-634.

Jehanno, Flores, Dove, Muller, Rupierez, Sardon, *Green Chem.*, **2018**, *20*, 1205-1212.

55

# Thermally stable organocatalysts

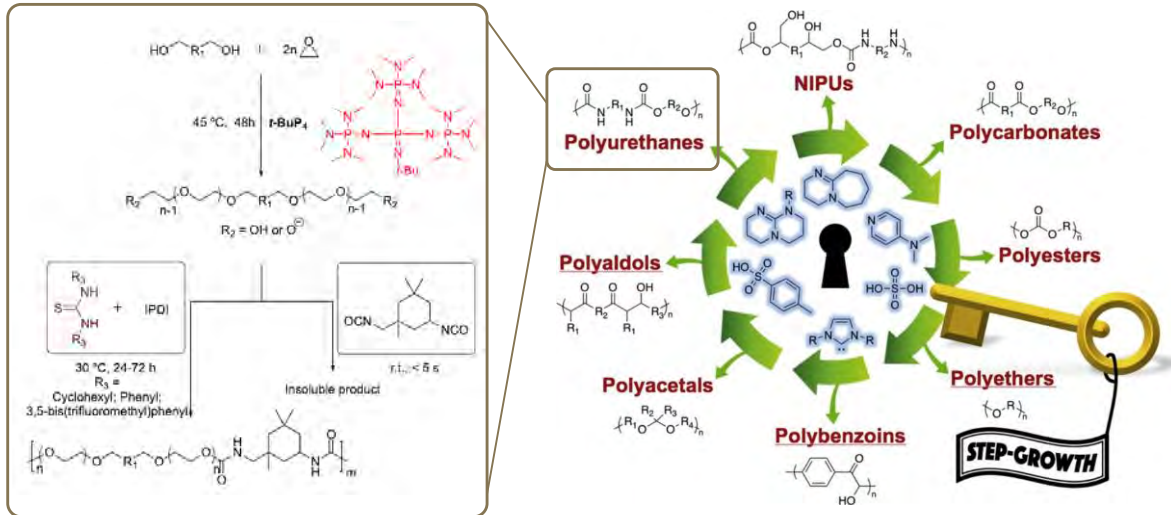
56



Basterretxea, Jehanno, Mercerryes, Sardon. *ACS Macro Lett.* **2019**, *8*, 1055-1062

Basterretxea, Gabirondo, Jehanno, Zhu, Flores, Müller, Etxebarria, Mercerryes, Coulembier, Sardon, *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.* **2019**, *7*, 4103-4111

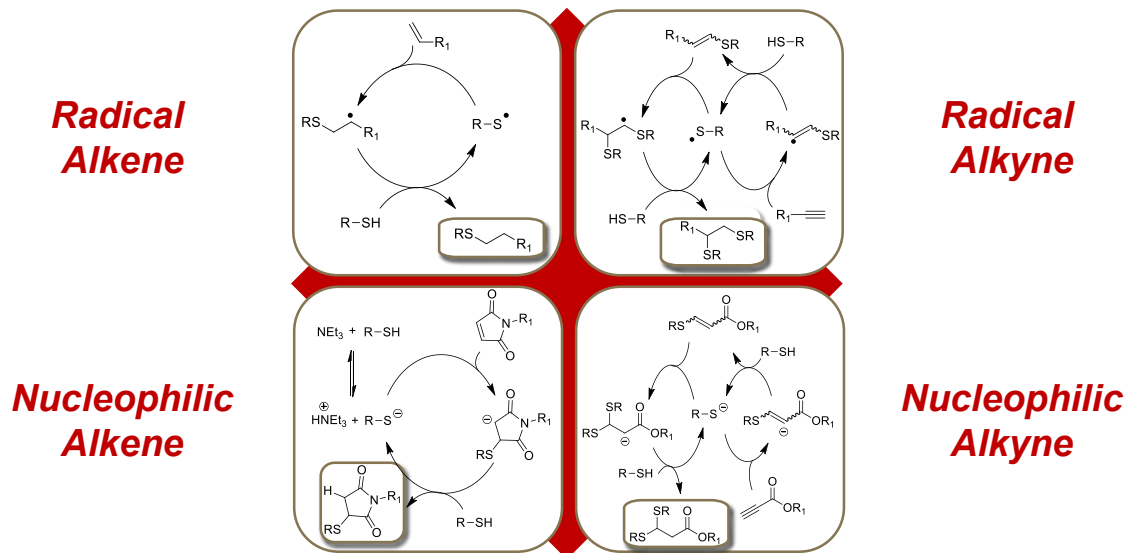
## Lower Temperature Step-Growth



Xia Y, Chen Y, Song Q, Hu S, Zhao J, Zhang G. *Macromolecules* **2016**, *49*, 6817–6825  
 Bossion, Heifferon, Meabe, Zivic, Taton, Hedrick, Long, Sardon. *Prog. Polym. Sci.* **2019**, *90*, 164-210

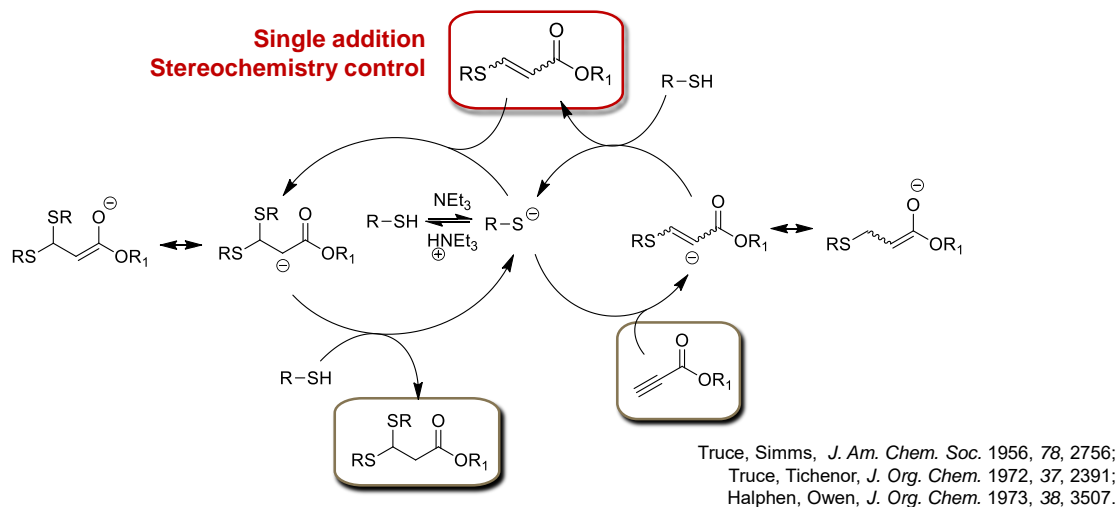
57

## Thiol-ene Additions in Polymer Chemistry



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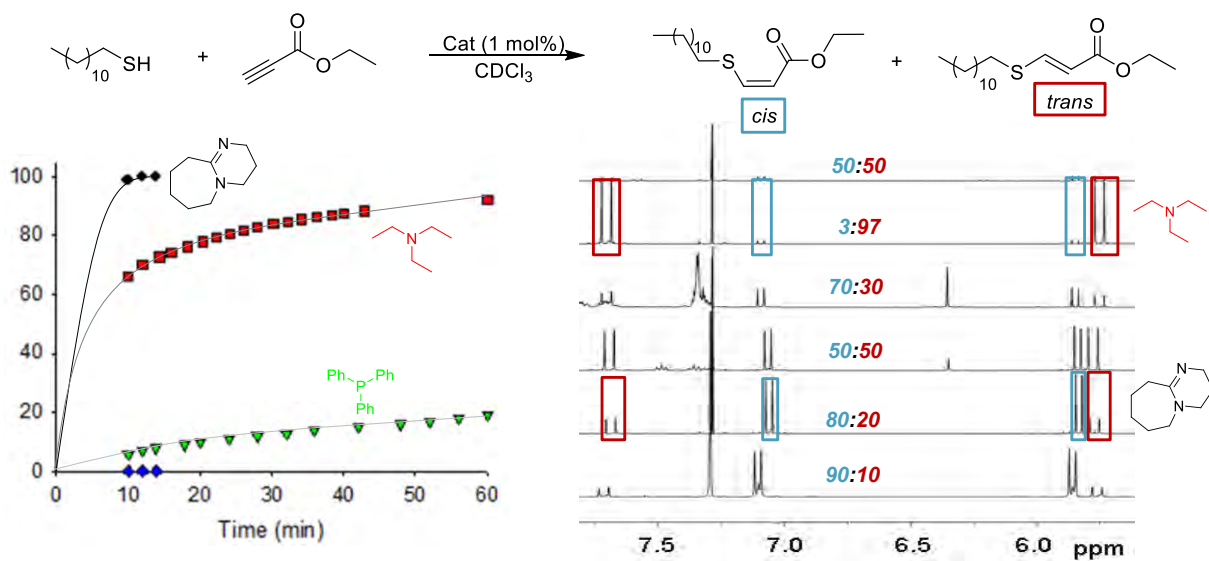
# Nucleophilic Thiol-yne Addition



Worch, Stubbs, Price, Dove, *Chem. Rev.* 2021, 121, 6744-6776.

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# Speed and Selectivity



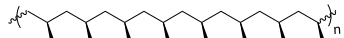
Truong, Dove, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2013, 52, 4132-4136

60

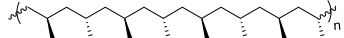
# The Importance of Stereochemistry in Polymers

## Optical Isomerism

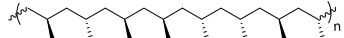
e.g. Polypropylene



Isotactic: ~80% crystallinity;  $T_m = 176^\circ \text{C}$

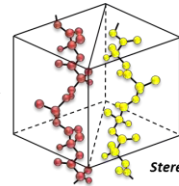
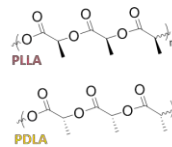


Syndiotactic: ~30% crystallinity;  $T_m = 130^\circ \text{C}$



Atactic: amorphous, no defined  $T_m$

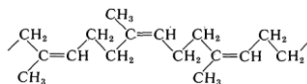
or Polylactide



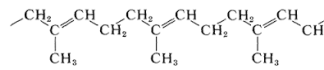
Stereocomplex

Homopolymer:  $T_m = 180^\circ \text{C}$  Stereocomplex:  $T_m = 240^\circ \text{C}$   
 UTS = 4 UTS = 8 GPa

## Geometric Isomerism



Natural rubber (cis-1,4-polyisoprene)  
 Elastic,  $E = 2 \text{ MPa}$

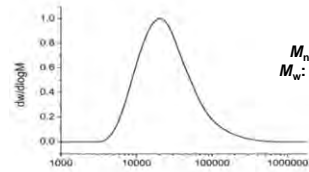
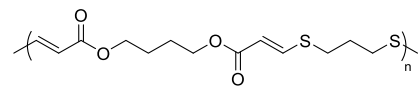
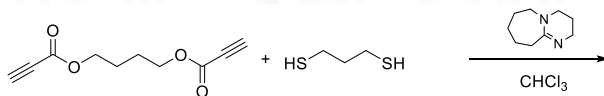
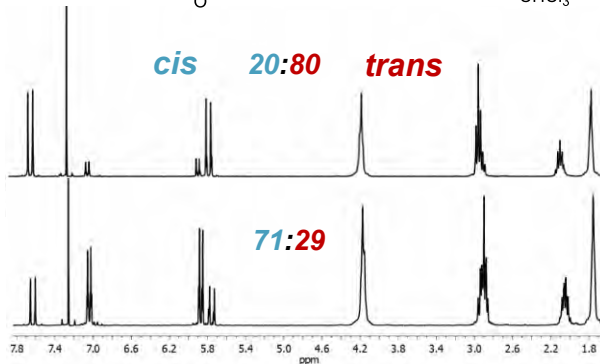
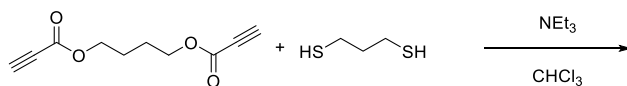


Gutta Percha (trans-1,4-polyisoprene)  
 Brittle,  $E = 80 \text{ MPa}$

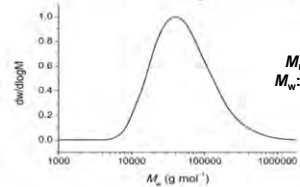
Worch, Pryderch, Jimaja, Bexis, Becker, Dove, *Nat. Rev. Chem.*, **2019**, 3, 514-535.

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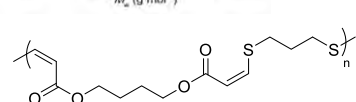
## Step-Growth Thiol-yne Addition



$M_n$ : 67 Kg mol<sup>-1</sup>  
 $M_w$ : 124 Kg mol<sup>-1</sup>  
 $\mathcal{D}_M$ : 1.85



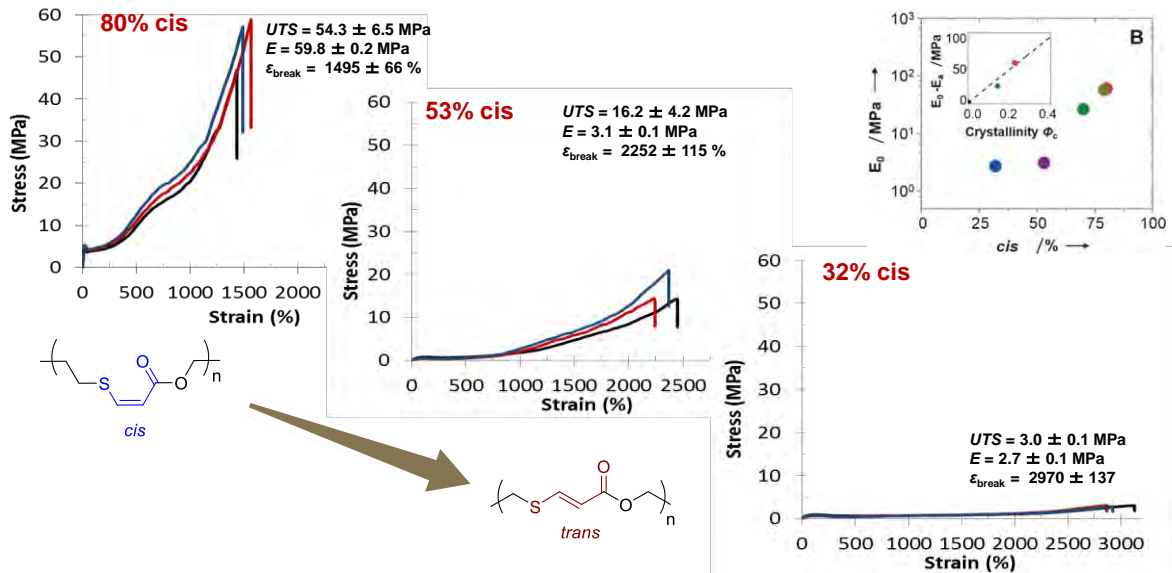
$M_n$ : 94 Kg mol<sup>-1</sup>  
 $M_w$ : 209 Kg mol<sup>-1</sup>  
 $\mathcal{D}_M$ : 2.21



Bell, Yu, Barker, Truong, Cao, Dobrynin, Becker, Dove, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2016**, 55, 13076-13080.

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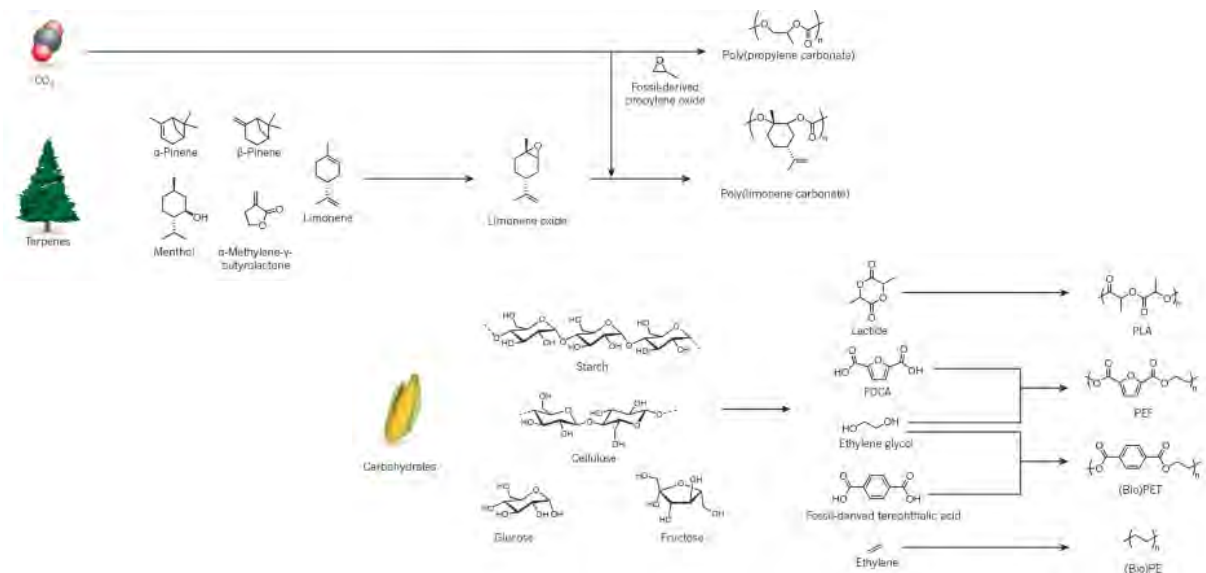
# Stereochemistry Dependent Mechanical Properties



Bell, Yu, Barker, Truong, Cao, Dobrynin, Becker, Dove, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2016**, *55*, 13076-13080.

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# Stereochemistry in Naturally-Sourced Monomers

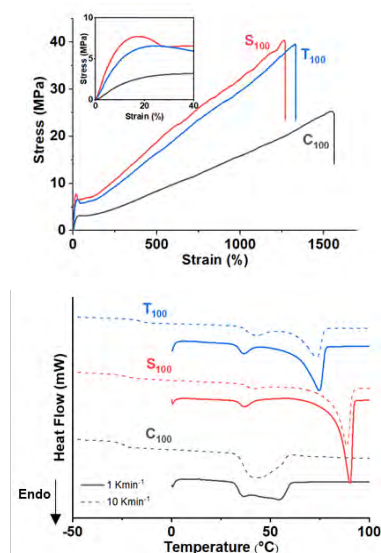
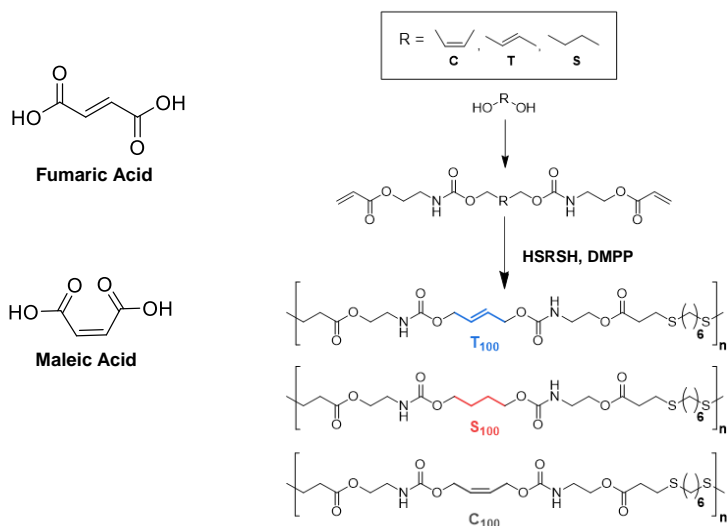


Zhu, Romain, Williams, *Nature*, **2016**, *540*, 354-362.

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## Organocatalytic Thiol-ene Step-Growth



Stubbs, Worch, Prydderch, Becker, Dove, *Macromolecules*, 2020, 53, 174-181.

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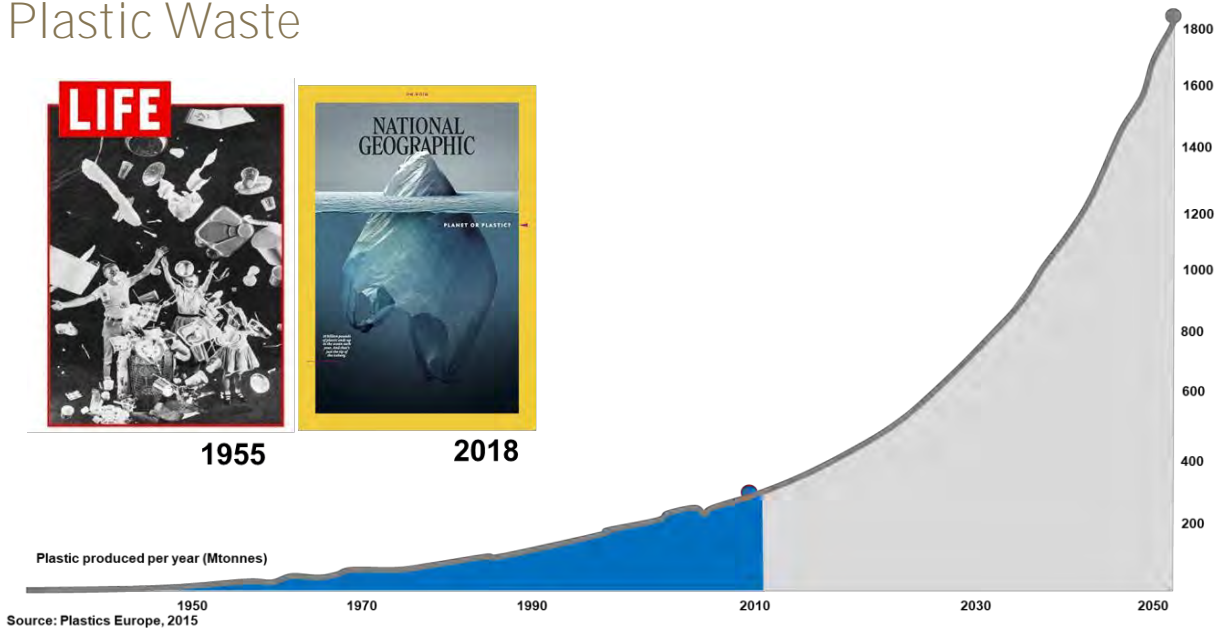
## Organocatalytic Step-Growth Polymerisation

### Mini-synopsis

- Organocatalysis can be used for a wide range of step-growth polymerisations – the frequently used ones and many more!
- Using organic salts, the thermal stability can be significantly increased to allow higher temperature operation for longer
- Using organocatalyzed nucleophilic thiol-yne addition chemistry, high levels of stereoselectivity can be obtained with which to control polymer properties.

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# Plastic Waste

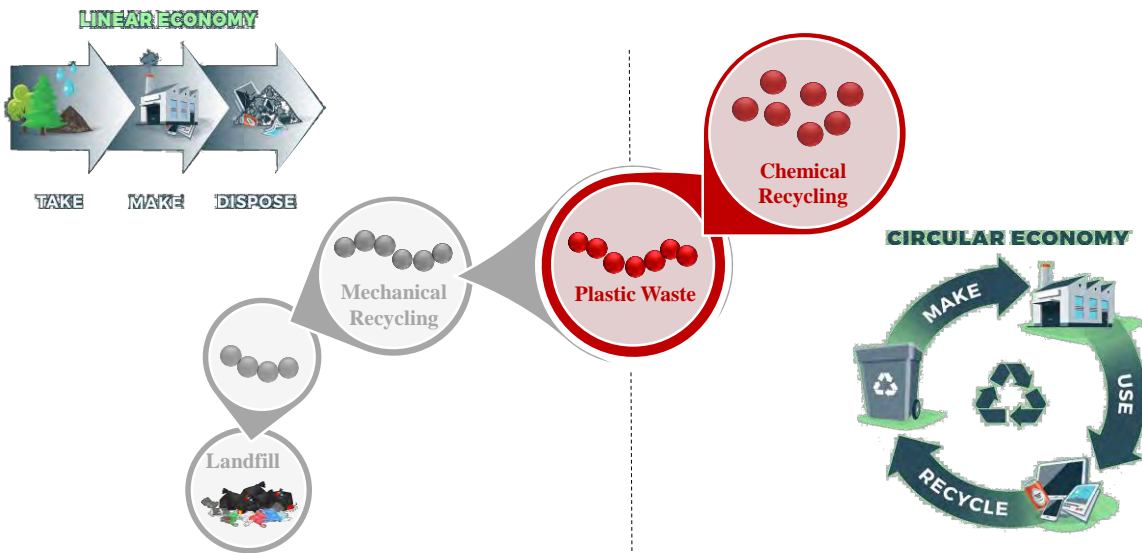


Coates, Getzler. *Nat. Rev. Mater.* **2020**, 5, 501-516

Worch, Dove, *ACS Macro Lett.*, **2020**, 9, 1494-1506.

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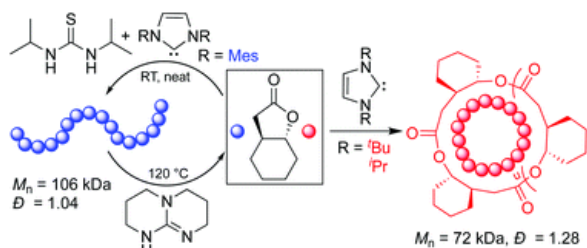
# Overview of Plastic Recycling Options



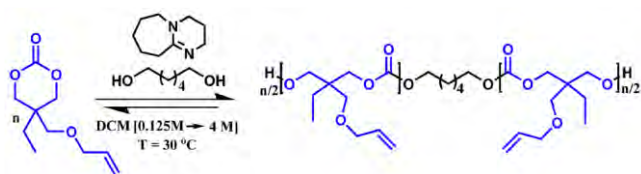
Coates, Getzler. *Nat. Rev. Mater.* **2020**, 5, 501-516

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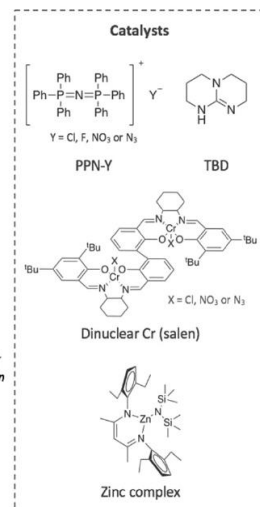
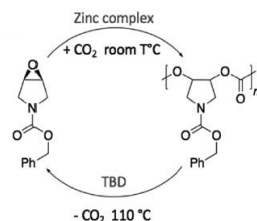
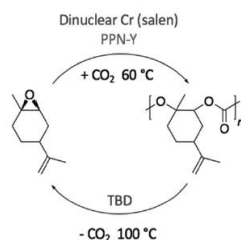
# Organocatalytic Circular Economy Approaches



Cywar, Zhu, Chen. *Polym. Chem.* **2019**, *10*, 3097-3106



Olsen, Undin, Odelius, Keul, Albertsson, *Biomacromolecules* **2016**, *17*, 3995-4002

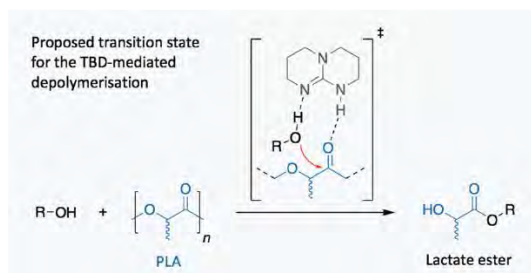
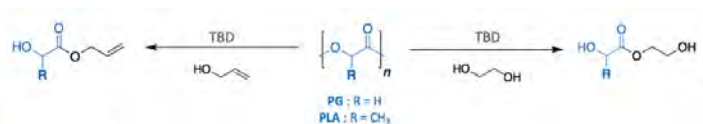
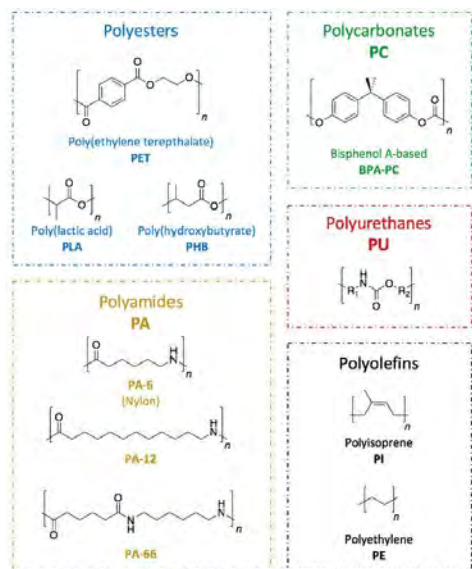


Liu, Zhou, Guo, Ren, Lu, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2017**, *56*, 4862-4866.

Li, Sablong, van Benthem, Koning, *ACS Macro Lett.* **2017**, *6*, 684-688.

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# Organocatalytic Depolymerisation

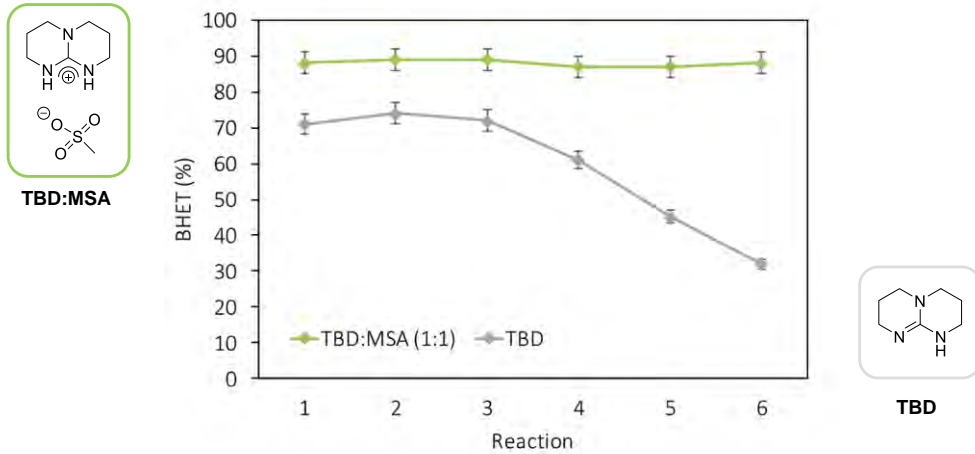


Leibfarth, Moreno, Hawker, Shand, *J. Polym. Sci., Part A: Polym. Chem.*, **2012**, *50*, 4814-4822.

Jehanno, Perez-Madrugal, Demarteau, Sardon, Dove. *Polym. Chem.* **2019**, *10*, 172-186

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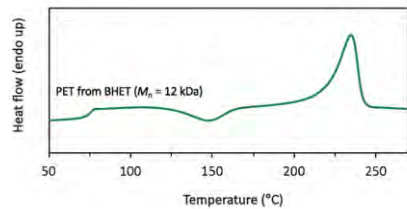
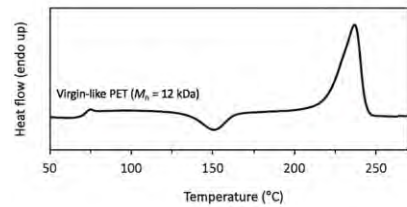
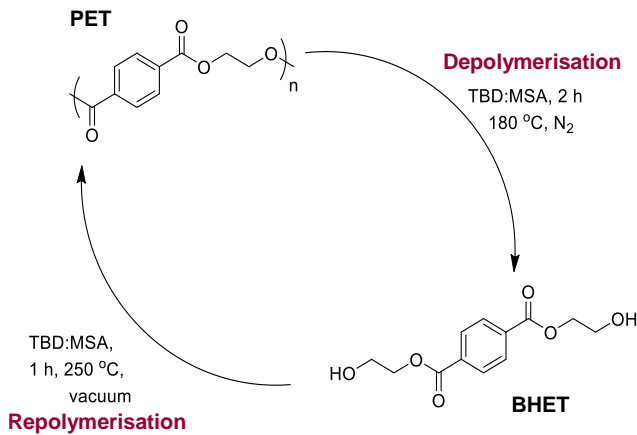
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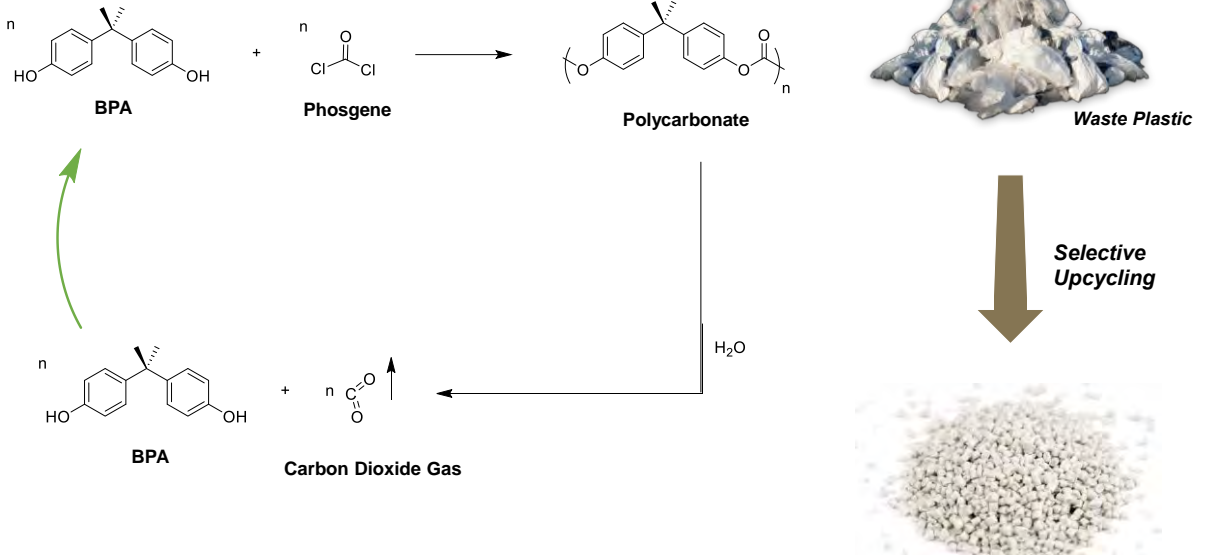
# Depolymerise and Repolymerise



Jehanno, Flores, Dove, Muller, Rupierez, Sardon, *Green Chem.*, **2018**, *20*, 1205-1212.

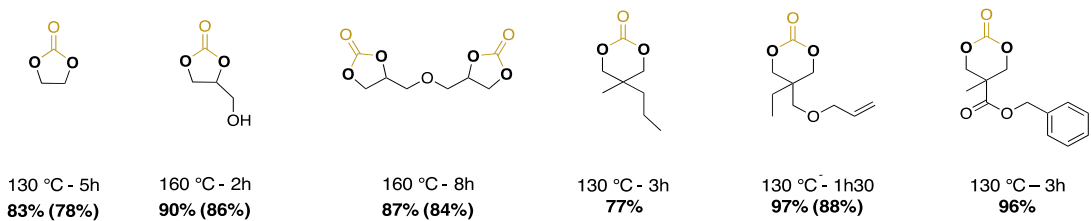
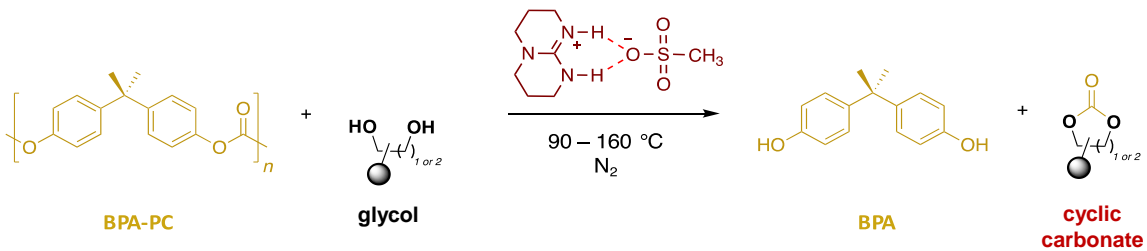
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# Not all polymers can be recycled...



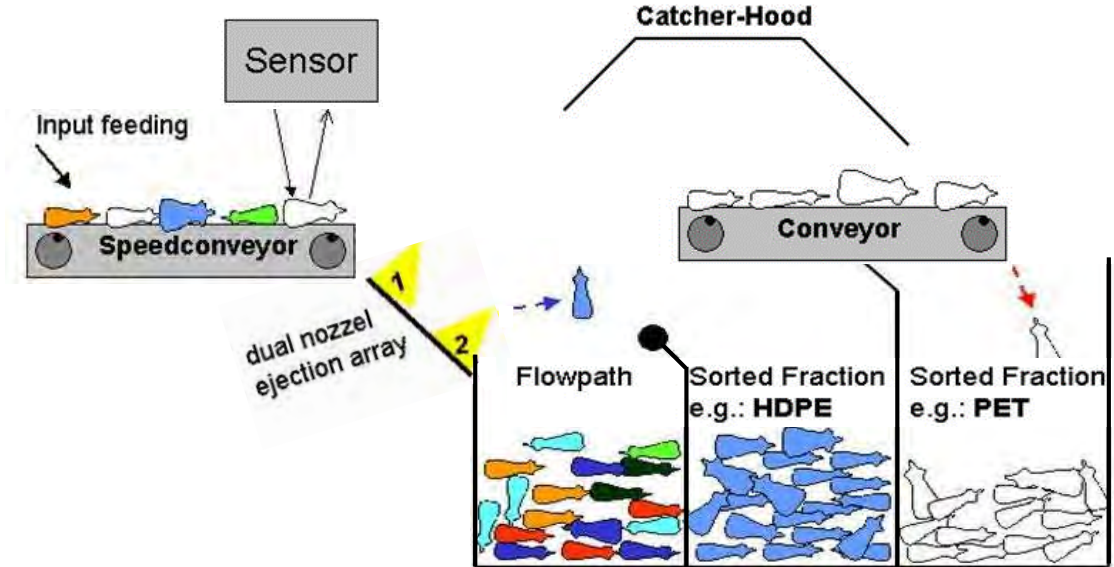
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## Upcycling to Aliphatic Polycarbonates



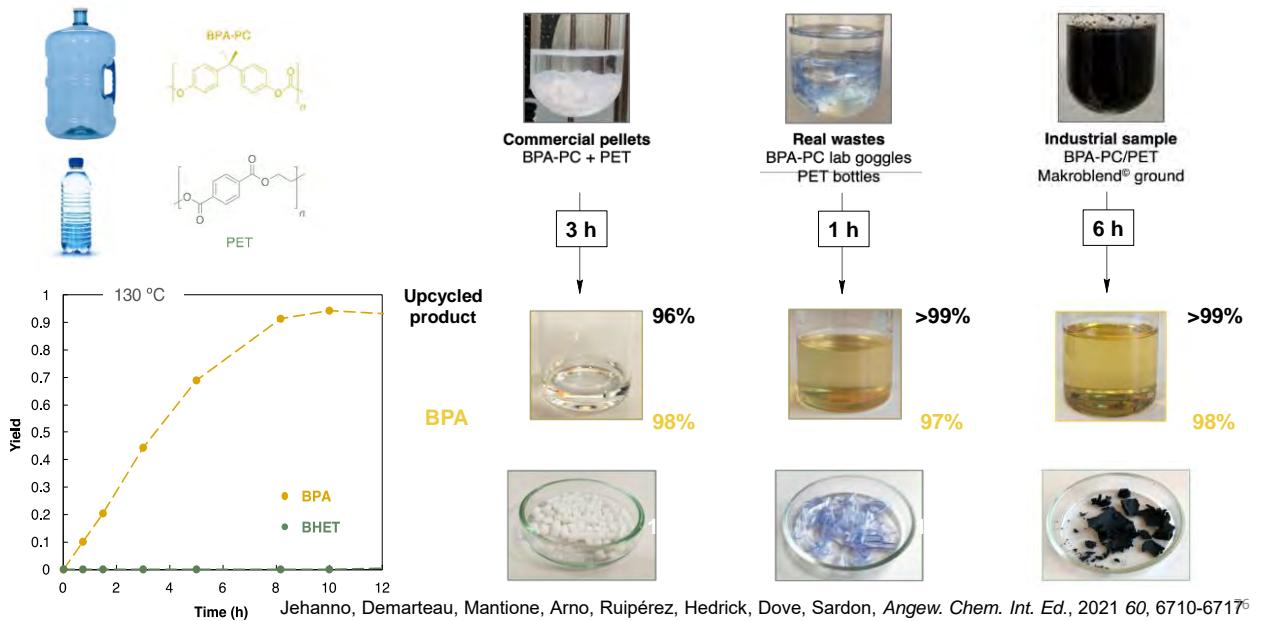
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## Mixed Plastics



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## Selective Chemical Depolymerisation



## Organocatalytic Depolymerisation

### Mini-synopsis

- In the same way that organic catalysis offers excellent opportunities to create polymers, it offers excellent methods for depolymerisation of a wide range of polymers
- Thermally-stable catalysts offer a high activity alternative at high temperatures
- Leveraging kinetic differences in depolymerisation rate, different plastics can be selectively and sequentially depolymerised.

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 Dr Craig Bell (PDRA)  
 Dr Ian Barker (PDRA)

## *Key Academic Collaborators*

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 Dr Haritz Sardon (POLYMAT, Spain)



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