



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Content	page
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	<i>vi</i>
<i>List of Schemes</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>xi</i>
<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>xiv</i>
Chapter I. General Introduction	1
1.1. Introduction	2
1.1.1 Background	3
1.1.2 The Paradigam of Living Free-Radical Polymerization	6
1.1.3 ATRP- Atom Transfer Radical Polymerization	8
1.1.3.1 Initiator	10
1.1.3.2 Monomer	12
1.1.3.3 Ligand	12
1.1.3.4 Solvent	13
1.1.3.5 Additives	14
1.1.4 Reaction Temperature and Reaction Time	14
1.1.5 Kinetics and Molecular Weights	15
1.1.6 Mechanism of ATRP	17
1.1.6.1 Metal-Ligand Catalyst	18
1.1.7 Emulsion Polymerization	20
1.1.7.1 The ATRP process and Emulsion Polymerization	21
1.1.7.2 Emulsion polymerization: A Qualitative Description	21
1.1.8 ATRP in Emulsion	24
1.1.8.1 General Considerations	25
1.1.8.2 Emulsifiers	26
1.1.8.3 Direct ATRP	26
1.1.8.4 Reverse ATRP	28
1.2 Organotellurium mediated living radical polymerization (TERP)	30
1.3 Living anionic polymerization	32
1.4 History and Commercial Use of Polyacrylates	34

1.5 This Thesis	37
1.5.1 Aims and Rationale	37
1.5.2 Outline	38
1.6 References	41
Chapter II. Experimental Techniques	48
2.1 Analysis	49
2.2 Electron microscopy: The Basics of SEM and TEM	49
2.2.1 Introduction	49
2.2.2 Electron-specimen interactions	50
2.3 Reactions Exploited In SEM	51
2.3.1 Secondary Electrons	51
2.3.2 Backscattered Electrons	52
2.3.3 Relaxation of excited atoms	52
2.4 SEM-TEM	53
2.4.1 SEM	53
2.4.2 Operation	53
2.4.3 Advantages and Disadvantages	54
2.4.4 SEM Today	55
2.5 TEM	55
2.5.1 Operation	55
2.5.2 Main difficulties in the exploitation of TEM	57
2.6 Methods	58
2.6.1 Reverse Phase-Temperature Gradient Interaction Chromatography (RP-TGIC)	58
2.7 HPLC Separation Principles of Polymers	59
2.7.1 SEC, IC, and LCCC	59
2.7.2 Temperature Dependence of IC Retention and Martin's Rule	62
2.8 Vacuum Techniques and Glass Apparatus for the Anionic Polymerization	64
2.8.1 General Methods for Vacuum System	64
2.8.1.1 Vacuum System	64
2.8.1.2. Treatment of Glassware	65
2.8.1.3. Removal of Air from Liquids	66
2.8.1.4. Distillation of Liquids in a Vacuum System	66

2.8.2. Experimental Methods for the Polymerization in the Vacuum System	66
2.8.2.1. Distillation of the Monomers	66
2.8.2.2. Dilution	67
2.8.2.3. Titration of Initiator	69
2.8.2.4. Anionic Polymerization	70
2.8.2.4.1. Preparation of Constant-temperature Baths	70
2.8.2.4.2. Polymerization	71
2.9. References	73
Chapter III. Synthesis and Characterization Tri- and PentaBlock Copolymers via Atom Transfer Radical Polymerization	75
3.1 Introduction	76
3.2 Experimental	77
3.2.1 Materials	77
3.2.2 Methods	77
3.3 Polymerization procedures	78
3.3.1 Preparation of α,ω -difunctional bromo-terminated polystyrene macroinitiator) and its purification	78
3.4 Block copolymerizations	79
3.4.1 Preparation of poly (<i>n</i> -butyl methacrylate- <i>b</i> -styrene- <i>b</i> - <i>n</i> -butyl methacrylate), triblock copolymers, BAB1 and BAB2	79
3.4.2 Preparation of poly(methyl methacrylate- <i>b</i> - <i>n</i> -butyl methacrylate- <i>b</i> -styrene- <i>b</i> - <i>n</i> -butyl methacrylate- <i>b</i> -methyl methacrylate), pentablock copolymer (CBABC)	80
3.5 Results and discussion	83
3.5.1 Synthesis of macroinitiators	83
3.5.2 BAB1, BAB2 and CBABC Multiblock Copolymers	85
3.5.2.1 BAB1 Triblock Copolymer	85
3.5.2.2 CBABC Pentablock copolymer	88
3.5.2.3 Thermal analysis	88
3.5.2.4 Phase morphology	90
3.6 Conclusions	92
3.7 References	93

CHAPTER IV. Synthesis and characterization of Nano-sized PMMA in pure emulsion at room temperature via ATRP	96
4.1 Introduction	97
4.2 Experimental	99
4.2.1 Materials	99
4.2.2 Methods	99
4.2.2.1 Synthesis of 2-Hydroxyethyl-2'-Bromopropionate. (HEBI) as a hydrophilic Initiator	100
4.2.2.2 A True Emulsion ATRP of MMA at room Temperature (Semi-Batch Polymerization)	101
4.3 Results and discussion	102
4.3.1. Techniques for making nanoparticles	104
4.3.2. A True Emulsion ATRP of MMA at room Temperature	104
4.3.3. Semi-Batch Emulsion ATRP of MMA at room Temperature (Monomer Starvation method)	105
4.4. Conclusions	109
4.5. References	110
CHAPTER V. Synthesis and characterization of Well-defined Amphiphilic Block Cooligomers by TERP	112
5.1 Introduction	113
5.2 Experimental	115
5.2.1 Materials	115
5.2.2 Methods	115
5.2.3 Synthesis of TERP Promoter, Ethyl-2-methyl-2-methyltellanyl-propionate (MTEE)	116
5.2.4 Homo- and Block cooligomerizations	119
5.2.4.1 Homopolymerization of Styrene (1)	119
5.2.4.2 Homopolymerization of 2VP (2)	119
5.2.4.3 Block cooligomerization of styrene with 2VP (3a and 3b)	119
5.2.4.4 Block cooligomerization of 2VP with Styrene (4)	120
5.3. Preparation of P2VP-b-PS Polymer Solution	121
5.3.1. Fabrication of titania layer	121
5.3.2. Preparation of polymer/TiO ₂ thin films	122
5.4. Results and discussion	122
5.4.1. Homopolymerization of Styrene (1)	122
5.4.2. Homopolymerization of 2VP (2).	124

5.4.3. Block cooligomerization of styrene with 2VP (3a and 3b)	124
5.4.4. Block cooligomerization of 2VP with Styrene (4)	126
5.4.5. Quaternization of P2VP of block copolymers	128
5.4.6. Formation of block cooligomer nanoparticle and TiO ₂ mesoporous, membrane	130
5.5. Conclusions	133
5.6. References	135
CHAPTER VI. Synthesis and Characterization of Linear and Radial Block Copolymers of Styrene and Isoprene through a Novel Coupling Agent by Living Anionic Polymerization	139
6.1 Introduction	140
6.2 Experimental	141
6.3 Methods	142
6.4 Results and discussion	144
6.5 Conclusions	148
6.6 References	149
CHAPTER VII. Summary and conclusions	151
7.1 Summary and conclusions	152