Electronic Supporting Information for:

# Facile synthesis of stereoregular helical poly(phenyl isocyanide)s and poly(phenyl isocyanide)-*block*-poly(L-lactic acid) copolymers using alkylethynylpalladium(II) complexes as initiators

Jia-Li Chen, Ming Su, Zhi-Qiang Jiang, Na Liu, Jun Yin, Yuan-Yuan Zhu and Zong-Quan Wu\*

Department of Polymer Science and Engineering, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Hefei University of Technology and Anhui Key Laboratory of Advanced Functional Materials and Devices,

Hefei 230009, China

Instruments ·····	····· S3
Materials	····· S3
Synthetic procedures for Pd complexes <b>1a–d</b>	····· S4-S6
Typical polymerization procedure of $2a$ with $1a-d$ (poly- $a2a_{100}$ )	
S6	
Typical kinetic study for the polymerization of <b>2a</b> with <b>1a</b>	····· S6
Typical procedure for acetone fractionation of poly- $e2d_{100}$ ······	····· S7
Typical polymerization procedure of L-lactide <b>3</b> with <b>1b</b> (poly- <b>3</b> <sub>50</sub> ) ······	····· S7
Typical two-feed procedure for one-pot copolymerization of $2a$ and $3$ using $1b$ as initiator $\cdots$	····· S8
Typical one-feed procedure for one-pot copolymerization of $2a$ and $3$ using $1b$ as initiator $\cdots$	····· S8
References	····· S9
Table S1. Selected results for the polymerization of 3 with 1b as initiator	
S10	
Table S2. Selected results for the copolymerization of 2a and 3 via one-feed procedure	S10
Fig. S1-S12: <sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR, and FT-IR spectra of 1a-1d	···· S11-S16
Fig. S13-S15: <sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR, and FT-IR spectra of poly-a2a <sub>m</sub> ······	···· S17-S18
Fig. S16: Time-dependent SEC chromatograms for 1a-initiated polymerization of 2a	
S18	
<b>Fig. S17-S19</b> : SEC traces and plots of $M_n$ and $M_w/M_n$ with initial feed ratio of monomer to	initiator for
the polymerizations of <b>2a</b> with <b>1b</b> , <b>1c</b> , and <b>1d</b> as initiator	··· S19-S20
Fig. S20-S22: SEC chromatograms of poly- $b2a_m$ prepared in different solvents	···· S20-S21
Fig. S23-S24: SEC chromatograms of polymerizaiton of 2b and 2c with 1b as initiator	······ S22
Fig. S25: FT-IR spectrum of poly- $3_n$	
S23	
Fig. S26: FT-IR spectrum of poly(b2a <sub>90</sub> -b-3 <sub>30</sub> ) prepared via two-feed procedure	
\$23	
<b>Fig. S27</b> : SEC chromatograms of poly- <b>b2a</b> <sub>m</sub> s and the respective poly( <b>b2a</b> <sub>m</sub> - $b$ - <b>3</b> <sub>n</sub> )s ·······	····· S24

**Fig. S28-S31**: SEC traces, FT-IR, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of poly(**b2a**<sub>m</sub>-*b*-**3**<sub>n</sub>)s prepared via one-feed procedure S24-S26

### Instruments.

The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker 600 or 400 MHz spectrometer {H}. Size exclusion chromatography (SEC) was performed on Waters 1515 pump and Waters 2414 differential refractive index (RI) detector (set at 40 °C) using a series of linear Styragel HR1, HR2 and HR4 columns. Molecular weight and polydispersity data are reported relative to polystyrene standards. The eluent was tetrahydrofuran (THF) at a flow rate of 0.3 mL/min. FT-IR spectra were recorded on Perkin-Elmer Spectrum BX FT-IR system using KBr pellets. UV-vis spectra were performed on a UNIC 4802 UV/VIS double beam spectrophotometer in 1.0 cm length quartz cell. Circular dichroism (CD) spectra were obtained in a 1.0 mm quartz cell at 25 °C using a JASCO J1500 spectropolarimeter. The polymer concentration was calculated on the basis of the monomer units and was 0.2 mg/mL. The optical rotations were measured in CHCl<sub>3</sub> at room temperature using a 10.0 cm quartz cell on a WZZ-2B polarimeter. Melting points were obtained with a Mel-Temp apparatus and are uncorrected. Samples for atomic force microscopy (AFM) measurements were prepared by drop casting solutions of polymers onto pre-cleaned silicon wafers, placed in covered Petri dishes to slow the evaporation process. AFM images were acquired in tapping mode with a Digital Instruments Dimension 3100 Scanning Probe Microscope, performed at room temperature in air using standard silicon cantilevers with a nominal spring constant of 50 N/m and resonance frequency of ~300 kHz. The images were acquired at a scan frequency of 1 Hz in  $1 \times 1 \,\mu\text{m}^2$  scan areas.

#### Materials

All solvents were obtained from Sinopharm. Co. Ltd. and were purified by the standard procedures before prop-2-yn-1-ol, but-3-yn-2-one, ethyl propiolate, use. Hex-1-yne, transdichlorobis(triethylphosphine)palladium(II), copper(I) chloride, (3),and 1,5,7-L-lactide triazabicyclo[4.4.0]dec-5-ene (TBD) were purchased from Aladdin and Sigma-Aldrich. Co. Ltd., and were used as received without further purification otherwise denoted. L-Lactide 3 was recrystallized from toluene for three times before use. Isocyanide monomers 2a-d, and phenylethynyl Pd(II) complex (1e) and phenylbuta-1,3-divnyl Pd(II) complex (1f) were prepared according to the literatures and the structures were confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.<sup>1</sup>

### Synthetic Procedures for Pd Complexes 1a-1d

$$C_4H_9 \xrightarrow{PEt_3} Pd-Cl$$
  
 $Pd-Cl$   
 $PEt_3$   
 $Pd-Cl$   
 $PEt_3$ 

**Synthesis** of **1**a: Hex-1-yne (40 mg, 0.49 mmol) was treated with transdichlorobis(triethylphosphine)palladium (202 mg, 0.49 mmol) in the presence of copper(I) chloride (6.9 mg, 0.070 mmol) as catalyst in diethylamine (40 mL) and dichloromethane (10 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. After the solvent was removed by evaporation under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by chromatography with petrol ether as eluent. The isolated product was recrystallized from petrol ether and methanol to afford **1a** as a vellow solid (190 mg, 85 %). M.P.: 138.7–139.8 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ 2.22 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>), 1.93–1.87 (m, 12H, PCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.45–1.35 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.19–1.11 (m, 18H, PCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.87 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 3H, (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> ). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ 104.52, 76.82, 31.40, 28.72, 21.11, 20.04, 14.21, 7.32. FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2968 (*v*<sub>C-H</sub>), 2930 (*v*<sub>C-H</sub>), 2879 (*v*<sub>C-H</sub>), 2130 (*v*<sub>C=C</sub>). MS m/z calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>40</sub>ClP<sub>2</sub>Pd [M + 1]<sup>+</sup>: 459.1250; Found: 459.1118. Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>39</sub>ClP<sub>2</sub>Pd: C, 47.07; H, 8.56; Found (%): C, 46.81; H, 8.80.

Similar to **1a**, Pd(II) complexes **1b**, **1c**, and **1d** were synthesized from the reaction of prop-2-yn-1-ol, but-3-yn-2-one, and ethyl propiolate with *trans*-dichlorobis(triethylphosphine)palladium in dichloromethane, respectively. The characterization data for **1b–1d** were showed below.

**1b**: M.P.: 53.3–54.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  4.26 (s, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.94–1.91 (m, 12H, PC<u>H<sub>2</sub></u>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.20–1.12 (m, 18H, PCH<sub>2</sub>C<u>H<sub>3</sub></u>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  104.34, 89.11, 53.14, 15.17, 8.26. FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3426 ( $v_{\text{O-H}}$ ), 2958 ( $v_{\text{C-H}}$ ), 2933 ( $v_{\text{C-H}}$ ), 2871 ( $v_{\text{C-H}}$ ), 2130 ( $v_{\text{C=C}}$ ). MS *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>34</sub>ClOP<sub>2</sub>Pd [M + 1]<sup>+</sup>: 433.0730; Found: 433.1024. Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>33</sub>ClOP<sub>2</sub>Pd: C, 41.58; H, 7.68; Found (%): C, 41.30; H, 7.90.

**1c**: M.P.: 65.1–65.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ 2.24 (s, CH<sub>3</sub>CO), 1.94–1.90 (m, 12H, PC<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.20–1.15 (m, 18H, PCH<sub>2</sub>C<u>H</u><sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ 183.96, 112.24, 110.79, 32.77, 15.10, 8.21. FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2967 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2925 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2873 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2084 ( $v_{C=C}$ ), 1650 ( $v_{C=O}$ ). MS *m*/*z* calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>34</sub>ClOP<sub>2</sub>Pd [M + 1]<sup>+</sup>: 445.0730; Found: 445.1031. Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>33</sub>ClOP<sub>2</sub>Pd: C, 43.16; H, 7.47; Found (%): C, 42.91; H, 7.70.



**1d**: M.P.: 35.6–37.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ4.13 (q,  $J_1$  = 8.8 Hz,  $J_2$  = 14.4 Hz, 2H, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.96–1.92 (m, 12H, PCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.27 (t, J = 8.8 Hz, 3H, CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.22–1.14 (m, 18H, PCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ 154.08, 104.34, 99.84, 60.67, 15.09, 14.23, 8.23. FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2969 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2915 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2875 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2110 ( $v_{C=C}$ ), 1693 ( $v_{C=O}$ ). MS *m/z* calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>36</sub>ClO<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Pd [M + H]<sup>+</sup>: 475.0836; Found: 475.1091. Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>35</sub>ClO<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Pd: C, 42.96; H, 7.42; Found (%): C, 42.67; H, 7.70.

**Typical Polymerization Procedure of 2a with 1a–d (poly-a2a**<sub>100</sub>): A 10 mL oven-dried flask was charged with monomer **2a** (100 mg, 0.35 mmol), THF (1.64 mL) and a stir bar. To this stirring solution was added a solution of **1a** in THF (0.035 M, 0.10 mL) *via* a microsyringe at ambient temperature. The concentrations of monomer **2a** and initiator **1a** were 0.2 and 0.002 M, respectively ( $[2]_0/[1a]_0 = 100$ ). The reaction flask was then immersed into an oil bath at 55 °C and stirred for 6 h. After cooled to room temperature, the polymerization solution was precipitated into a large amount of methanol, collected by centrifugation, and dried in vacuum at room temperature overnight (95 mg, 95% yield). SEC:  $M_n = 3.01 \times 10^4$  Da,  $M_w/M_n = 1.14$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  7.31 (br, aromatic), 5.74 (br, aromatic), 4.50–3.50 (br, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.95–0.75 (br, CH<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  164.93, 162.55, 150.35, 129.64, 127.23, 117.02, 64.87, 31.87, 29.65, 29.58, 29.42, 29.30, 28.61, 25.98, 22.62, 14.03. FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2960 (*v*<sub>C-H</sub>), 2930 (*v*<sub>C-H</sub>), 2860 (*v*<sub>C-H</sub>), 1720 (*v*<sub>C-O</sub>), 1600 (*v*<sub>C-N</sub>).

Typical Kinetic Study for the Polymerization of 2a with 1a. A mixture of monomer 2a (100.0 mg, 0.35 mmol) and a standard polystyrene ( $M_n = 2630$ ,  $M_w/M_n = 1.06$ , 50.0 mg) were placed in a dry ampule,

which was then evacuated on a vacuum line and flushed with dry nitrogen. After the evacuation-flush procedure had been repeated three times, a three-way stopcock was attached to the ampule, and dry THF (1.36 mL) was added by a syringe. To this was added a solution of **1a** in THF (10 mM, 0.39 mL) *via* a microsyringe at ambient temperature. The concentrations of **1a** and **2** were 0.0022 and 0.2 M, respectively. The mixture was then stirred under a dry nitrogen atmosphere and heated to 55 °C ([**2a**]<sub>0</sub> = 0.2 M, [**2**]<sub>0</sub>/[**1a**]<sub>0</sub> = 90). The conversion of **2a** was followed by measuring the SEC of the reaction mixture at appropriate time intervals. The peak area of the unreacted **2a** relative to that of the internal standard (polystyrene) was used for the determination of the conversion of **2a** on the basis of the linear calibration curve. The  $M_n$  and  $M_w/M_n$  were estimated by SEC and reported as equivalent to standard polystyrene.

**Typical Procedure for Acetone Fractionation of Poly-e2d**<sub>100</sub>. The afforded the diastereomeric mixture of left- and right-handed helices, poly-**e2d**<sub>100</sub> was separated into each helix according to the procedure we reported previously with slightly modification.<sup>1a, 2</sup> The poly-**e2d**<sub>100</sub> (100 mg) was suspended in 30 ml of acetone, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. After filtration, the filtrate was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure, giving poly-**e2d**<sub>100</sub>(+) (15 mg, 15%). The acetone-insoluble polymer was then dissolved in a small amount of CHCl<sub>3</sub>, the solution was precipitated in a large amount of acetone, and the precipitate was then collected by filtration. After this procedure was repeated again, the poly-**e2d**<sub>100</sub>(–) was obtained (65 mg, 65%).

**Typical Polymerization Procedure of L-Lactide 3 with 1b (poly-3**<sub>50</sub>**).** A 10 mL oven-dried flask was charged with monomer **3** (100 mg, 0.69 mmol), **1b** (6.0 mg, 0.014 mmol), anhydrous  $CH_2Cl_2$  (0.5 mL) and a stir bar. To this stirring solution was added a solution of TBD in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (0.35 M, 0.2 mL) *via* 

a microsyringe at ambient temperature. The concentrations of monomer **3** and catalyst **1b** were 1.0 and 0.02 M, respectively ( $[3]_0/[1b]_0 = 50$ ). After stirred at room temperature for 12 h, the polymerization solution was precipitated into a large amount of methanol, collected by centrifugation, and dried in vacuum at room temperature overnight (75 mg, 75% yield). SEC:  $M_n = 5.51 \times 10^3$ ,  $M_w/M_n = 1.23$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta 5.16$  (m, CH), 1.58 (m, CH<sub>3</sub>). FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2991 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2940 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2877 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 1760 ( $v_{C=0}$ ).

**Typical Two-feed Procedure for One-pot Copolymerization of 2a and 3 Using 1b as Initiator.** Firstly, a THF solution of poly-**b2a**<sub>90</sub> ( $M_n = 2.56 \times 10^4$ ,  $M_w/M_n = 1.19$ ) was prepared from the polymerization of **2a** with **1b** as initiator in THF at 55 °C. To this solution was added a solution of **3** (16.0 mg, 0.11 mmol) and TBD (0.092 M) in THF ([**3**]<sub>0</sub>/[Pd]<sub>0</sub> = 30). After the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h, the solution was then precipitated into a large amount of methanol, collected by centrifugation, and dried in vacuum at room temperature overnight to afford the block copolymer poly(**b2a**<sub>90</sub>-*b*-**3**<sub>30</sub>) (88% yield, over two steps). SEC:  $M_n = 2.91 \times 10^4$ ,  $M_w/M_n = 1.20$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  7.31 (br, Ar of poly-**b2a**<sub>90</sub> segment), 5.74 (br, Ar of poly-**b2a**<sub>90</sub> segment), 5.16 (m, CH of poly-**3**<sub>30</sub> segment), 4.50–3.50 (br, OCH<sub>2</sub> of poly-**b2a**<sub>90</sub> segment), 1.95–0.75 (br, CH<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub> of poly-**b2a**<sub>90</sub> segment, and CH<sub>3</sub> of poly-**3**<sub>30</sub> segment). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  169.54, 164.94, 162.53, 150.34, 129.64, 127.17, 117.01, 68.94, 64.87, 31.85, 29.56, 29.40, 29.28, 28.56, 25.95, 22.60, 16.67, 14.02. FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2998 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2929 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2859 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 1760 ( $v_{C=0}$ ), 1720 ( $v_{C=0}$ ), 1600 ( $v_{C=N}$ ).

# **Typical One-feed Procedure for One-pot Copolymerization of 2a and 3 Using 1b as Initiator.** A 10 mL oven-dried flask was charged with monomer **2a** (50 mg, 0.17 mmol), **3** (50 mg, 0.35 mmol), **1b**

(0.01 M, 0.35 mL, 0.0035 mmol), anhydrous THF (0.6 mL) and a stir bar. To this stirring solution was added a solution of TBD (0.058 M, 0.3 mL, 0.0174 mmol) in THF *via* a microsyringe at room temperature. The concentrations of monomer **2a**, **3** and catalyst **1b** were 0.2, 0.4, and 0.004 M, respectively ([**2a**]<sub>0</sub>/[**3**]<sub>0</sub>/[**1b**]<sub>0</sub> = 50/100/1). After stirred at 55 °C for 12 h, the polymerization solution was then precipitated into a large amount of methanol, collected by centrifugation, and dried in vacuum at room temperature overnight to afford the block copolymer poly(**b2a**<sub>50</sub>-*b*-**3**<sub>100</sub>) (89 mg, 89% yield). SEC:  $M_n = 2.13 \times 10^4$ ,  $M_w/M_n = 1.18$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  7.31 (br, Ar of poly-**b2a**<sub>50</sub> segment), 5.74 (br, Ar of poly-**b2a**<sub>50</sub> segment), 5.16 (m, CH of poly-**3**<sub>100</sub> segment), 4.50–3.50 (br, OCH<sub>2</sub> of poly-**b2a**<sub>50</sub> segment), 1.95–0.75 (br, CH<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub> of poly-**b2a**<sub>50</sub> segment, and CH<sub>3</sub> of poly-**3**<sub>100</sub> segment). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  169.54, 164.94, 162.53, 150.34, 129.64, 127.17, 117.01, 68.94, 64.87, 31.85, 29.56, 29.40, 29.28, 28.56, 25.95, 22.60, 16.67, 14.02. FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2998 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2929 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 2859 ( $v_{C-H}$ ), 1760 ( $v_{C=0}$ ), 1720 ( $v_{C=0}$ ), 1600 ( $v_{C=N}$ ).

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run	$[3]_0/[\mathbf{1b}]_0^b$	polymer	$M_{\rm n}({\rm Da})^c$	$M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm n}^{c}$	yield <sup>d</sup>
1	50	poly- <b>3</b> <sub>50</sub>	5.51 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	1.23	75%
2	70	poly- <b>3</b> 70	$5.84 \times 10^3$	1.20	76%
3	100	poly- <b>3</b> 100	6.51 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	1.21	77%
4	120	poly- <b>3</b> <sub>120</sub>	$7.12 \times 10^3$	1.24	77%
5	150	poly- <b>3</b> 150	$7.97 \times 10^3$	1.18	78%

Table S1. Selected results for the polymerization of 3 with 1b as initiator<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup>The polymers were synthesized according to Scheme 2 in main text. <sup>*b*</sup>The initial feed ratio of monomer **3** to initiator **1b**. <sup>*c*</sup>The  $M_n$  and  $M_w/M_n$  data were estimated through the SEC analyses with polystyrene standard. <sup>*d*</sup>Isolated yields.

## Table S2. Selected results for one-pot copolymerization of 2a and 3 with 1b as initiator via one-

run	$[2a]_0/[3]_0/[1b]_0^b$	block copolymer	$M_{\rm n}({\rm Da})^c$	$M_{\rm w}/M_{\rm n}^{c}$	yield <sup>d</sup>	block ratio <sup>e</sup>
1	30/50/1	poly( <b>b2a</b> <sub>30</sub> - <i>b</i> - <b>3</b> <sub>50</sub> )	$1.37 \times 10^{4}$	1.21	86%	3/5
2	40/100/1	poly( <b>b2a</b> <sub>40</sub> - <i>b</i> - <b>3</b> <sub>100</sub> )	$1.72 \times 10^{4}$	1.22	87%	2/5
3	50/100/1	poly( <b>b2a</b> <sub>50</sub> - <i>b</i> - <b>3</b> <sub>100</sub> )	$2.13 \times 10^{4}$	1.18	89%	1/2
4	50/150/1	poly( <b>b2a</b> <sub>50</sub> - <i>b</i> - <b>3</b> <sub>150</sub> )	$2.43 \times 10^4$	1.22	87%	1/3
5	90/30/1	poly( <b>b2a</b> <sub>90</sub> - <i>b</i> - <b>3</b> <sub>30</sub> )	$3.10  imes 10^4$	1.19	89%	3/1

feed procedure<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>The block copolymers were synthesized according to Scheme 2 in main text. <sup>b</sup>The initial feed ratio of

monomers to initiator.  ${}^{c}M_{n}$  and  $M_{w}/M_{n}$  were determined by SEC using polystyrene standard.  ${}^{d}$ Isolated yield.  ${}^{e}$ Block ratio of PPI to PLLA segment determined by integral analyses of  ${}^{1}$ H NMR spectroscopy.



Fig. S1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz) spectrum of 1a measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S2 <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz) spectrum of 1a measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S3 FT-IR spectrum of 1a measured at 25 °C using KBr pellets.



Fig. S4 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1b measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S5 <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz) spectrum of 1b measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S6 FT-IR spectrum of 1b measured at 25 °C using KBr pellets.



Fig. S7 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz) spectrum of 1c measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S8 <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz) spectrum of 1c measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S9 FT-IR spectrum of 1c measured at 25 °C using KBr pellets.



Fig. S10 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1d measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S11 <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz) spectrum of 1d measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S12 FT-IR spectrum of 1d measured at 25 °C using KBr pellets.



Fig. S13 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz) spectrum of poly- $a2a_m$  measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S14 <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz) spectrum of poly-a2a<sub>m</sub> measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S15 FT-IR spectrum of poly- $a2a_m$  measured at 25 °C using KBr pellets.



Fig. S16 Time-dependent SEC chromatograms for 1a-initiated polymerization samples of 2a in THF at 55 °C with the presence of polystyrene (PS,  $M_n = 2630$ ,  $M_w/M_n = 1.06$ ) as internal standard ([2a]<sub>0</sub> = 0.2 M, [2a]<sub>0</sub>/[1a]<sub>0</sub> = 90). SEC condition: eluent = THF; temperature = 40 °C.



Fig. S17 (a) SEC chromatograms of poly-b2a<sub>m</sub> prepared from the polymerization of phenyl isocyanide 2a with Pd(II) complex 1b as initiator in THF at 55 °C with different initial feed ratios of 2a to 1b. (b) Plots of  $M_n$  and  $M_w/M_n$  values of poly-b2a<sub>m</sub> as a function of the initial feed ratios of 2a to 1b.  $M_n$  and  $M_w/M_n$  were determined by SEC with PS standard (eluent = THF, temperature = 40 °C).



Fig. S18 (a) SEC chromatograms of poly-c2a<sub>m</sub> prepared from the polymerization of phenyl isocyanide 2a with Pd(II) complex 1c as initiator in THF at 55 °C with different initial feed ratios of 2a to 1c. (b) Plots of  $M_n$  and  $M_w/M_n$  values of poly-c2a<sub>m</sub> as a function of the initial feed ratios of 2a to 1c.  $M_n$  and  $M_w/M_n$  were determined by SEC with polystyrene standard (eluent = THF, temperature = 40 °C).



Fig. S19 (a) SEC chromatograms of poly-d2a<sub>m</sub> prepared from the polymerization of phenyl isocyanide 2a with Pd(II) complex 1d as initiator in THF at 55 °C with different initial feed ratios of 2a to 1d. (b) Plots of  $M_n$  and  $M_w/M_n$  values of poly-d2a<sub>m</sub> as a function of the initial feed ratios of 2a to 1d.  $M_n$  and  $M_w/M_n$  were determined by SEC with PS standard (eluent = THF, temperature = 40 °C).



Fig. S20 SEC chromatograms of poly- $b2a_{50}$  and poly- $b2a_{100}$  prepared from the polymerization of 2a with 1b as initiator in CHCl<sub>3</sub> at 55 °C.



Fig. S21 SEC chromatograms of poly- $b2a_{50}$  and poly- $b2a_{100}$  prepared from the polymerization of 2a with 1b as initiator in toluene at 55 °C.



Fig. S22 SEC chromatograms of poly- $b2a_{50}$  and poly- $b2a_{100}$  prepared from the polymerization of 2a with 1b as initiator in DMF at 55 °C.



Fig. S23 SEC chromatograms of poly- $b2b_{50}$  and poly- $b2b_{100}$  prepared from the polymerization of 2b with 1b as initiator in THF at 55 °C.



Fig. S24 SEC chromatograms of poly- $b2c_{50}$  and poly- $b2c_{100}$  prepared from the polymerization of 2c with 1b as initiator in THF at 55 °C.



Fig. S25 FT-IR spectrum of poly-3<sub>100</sub> measured at 25 °C using KBr pellets.



**Fig. S26** FT-IR spectrum of the one-pot synthesized  $poly(b2a_m-b-3_n)$  via two-feed procedure measured at 25 °C using using KBr pellets.



Fig. S27 SEC chromatograms of the macroinitiator poly- $b2a_ms$  and the corresponding poly( $b2a_m-b-3_n$ )s block copolymers prepared in one-pot via two-feed procedure.



Fig. S28 SEC chromatograms  $poly(b2a_m-b-3_n)s$  block copolymers prepared in one-pot via one-feed procedure with 1b as a single initiator.



Fig. S29 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz) spectrum of the one-pot synthesized  $poly(b2a_m-b-3_n)$  via one-feed procedure measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



Fig. S30 <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz) spectrum of the one-pot synthesized  $poly(b2a_m-b-3_n)$  via one-feed procedure measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 25 °C.



**Fig. S31** Combined FT-IR spectra of poly-**b2** $\mathbf{a}_m$ , poly-**b3** $_n$ , and the one-pot synthesized poly(**b2** $\mathbf{a}_m$ -*b*-**3** $_n$ ) via one-feed procedure measured at 25 °C using KBr pellets.