

Supporting Information for

Asymmetrical Vesicles: Convenient In Situ RAFT Synthesis and Controllable Structure Determination

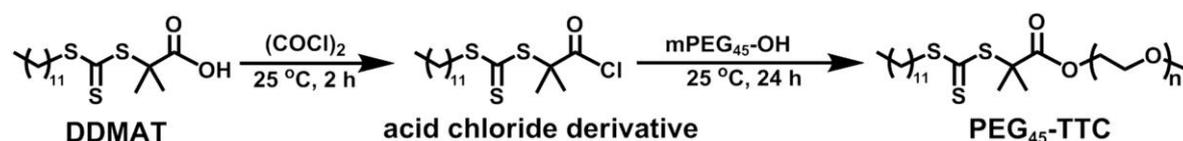
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1 Synthesis of mPEG₄₅-TTC

Into a dry 100 mL flask, DDMAT (1.46 g, 4.00 mmol) and DCM (20.0 mL) were added, and subsequently dripping addition of oxalyl chloride [(COCl)₂, 1.7 mL, 20.0 mmol] dissolved in DCM (10.0 mL) in 10 min under nitrogen atmosphere was followed. The mixture was magnetically stirred under nitrogen atmosphere at 25 °C for about 2 h until the gas evolution stopped. The solvent and the excess oxalyl chloride were removed by rotary evaporation. Into the flask, mPEG₄₅-OH (4.00 g, 2.00 mmol) dissolved in DCM (20.0 mL) was added, and the reaction was allowed to proceed for 24 h at 25 °C with magnetically stirring under nitrogen atmosphere. The solution was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the polymer was precipitated in *n*-hexane and dried in a vacuum oven at room temperature to afford the desired macro-RAFT agent of PEG₄₅-TTC (4.6 g, 97% yield).



Scheme S1. Synthesis of PEG₄₅-TTC.

2 Tables

Table S1. Experimental details and summary of the P4VP macro-RAFT agents.

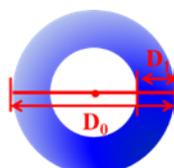
Macro-RAFT	[M] ₀ : [CTA] ₀ : [I] ₀	Time (h)	Conv. (%) ^a	<i>M_n</i> (kg/mol)			PDI ^e
				<i>M_{n,th}</i> ^b	<i>M_{n,GPC}</i> ^c	<i>M_{n,NMR}</i> ^d	
P4VP ₂₉ -TTC	120:4:1	12	96	3.4	2.9	3.6	1.18
P4VP ₄₆ -TTC	200:4:1	12	92	5.2	4.8	5.5	1.14
P4VP ₆₆ -TTC	300:4:1	12	88	7.3	7.0	7.8	1.15
P4VP ₉₃ -TTC	400:4:1	12	93	10.1	9.8	10.9	1.16

^a The monomer conversion determined by ¹H NMR analysis. ^b Theoretical molecular weight determined by monomer conversion. ^c The molecular weight determined by GPC analysis. ^d The molecular weight determined by ¹H NMR analysis. ^e The PDI (*M_w*/*M_n*) value determined by GPC analysis.

3 Equations

$$M_{n,NMR} = \frac{9I_{3.64}}{2I_{1.1-1.45}} \times 44 + 364 \quad (S1)$$

$$M_{n,NMR} = \frac{3I_{8.30}}{2I_{0.88}} \times M_{n,4VP} + M_{n,RAFT} \quad (S2)$$



$$S_{out}/S_{in} = \frac{4\pi\left(\frac{D_0}{2}\right)^2}{4\pi\left[\frac{(D_0-2D_1)}{2}\right]^2} = \frac{D_0^2}{(D_0-2D_1)^2} \quad (S3)$$

4 Figures

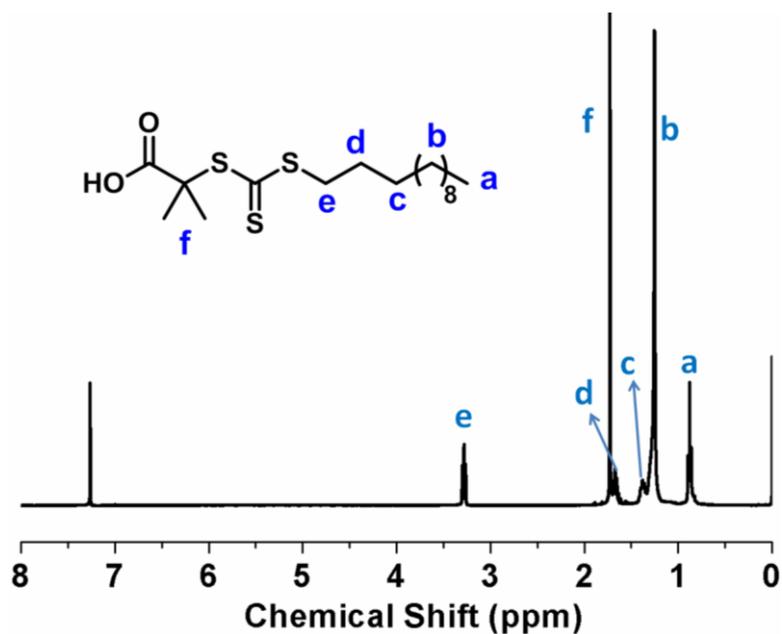


Figure S1. The ¹H NMR spectra of DDMAT.

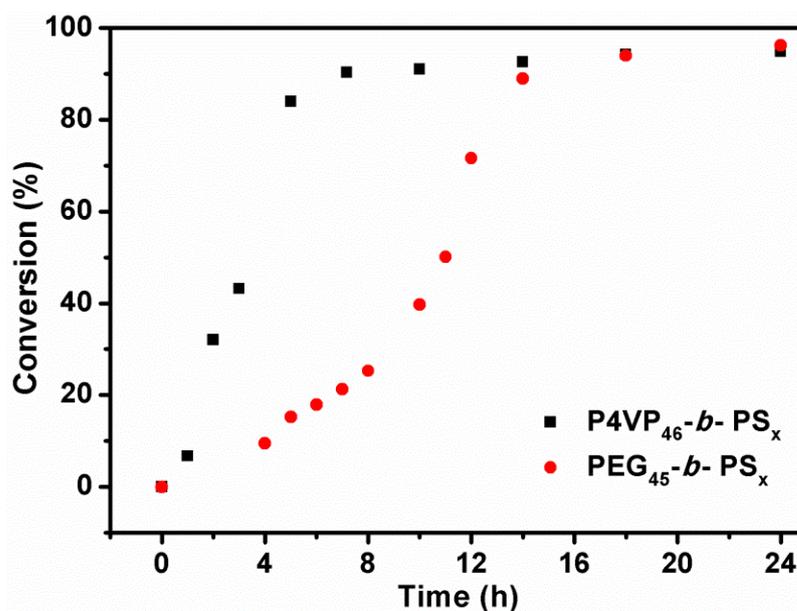


Figure S2. The time dependent monomer conversion in the individual macro-RAFT agent mediated polymerization in the presence of PEG₄₅-TTC or P4VP₄₆-TTC. Polymerization conditions: St (1.50 g, 14.4 mmol), the methanol/water mixture (9.25 g, 80/20 by weight), [St]₀:[macro-RAFT]:[AIBN]₀ = 300:1:1/3, 70 °C.

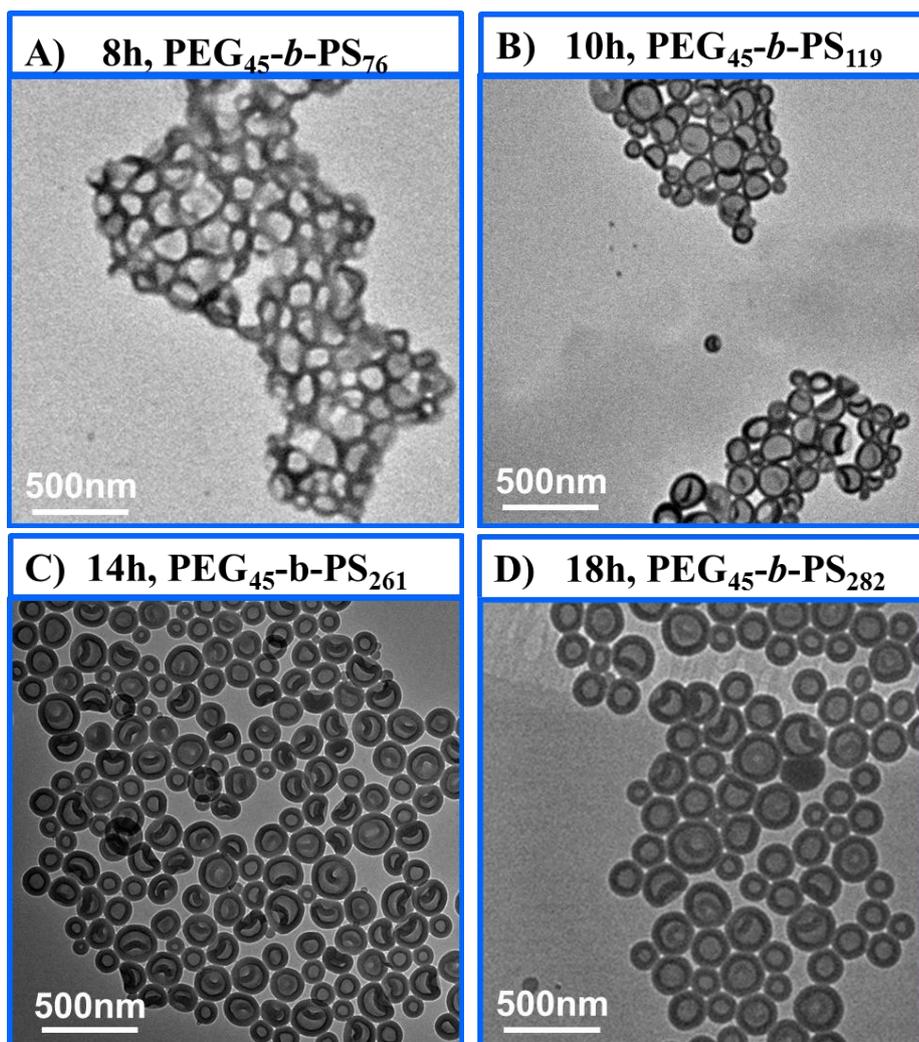


Figure S3. The TEM images of the PEG₄₅-*b*-PS nano-objects prepared through the PEG₄₅-TTC macro-RAFT agents mediated dispersion polymerization at different polymerization times. Polymerization conditions: St (1.50 g, 14.4 mmol), the methanol/water mixture (9.25 g, 80/20 by weight), [St]₀:[PEG₄₅-TTC]:[AIBN]₀ = 300:1:1/3, 70 °C. Note: the TEM samples are not stained.

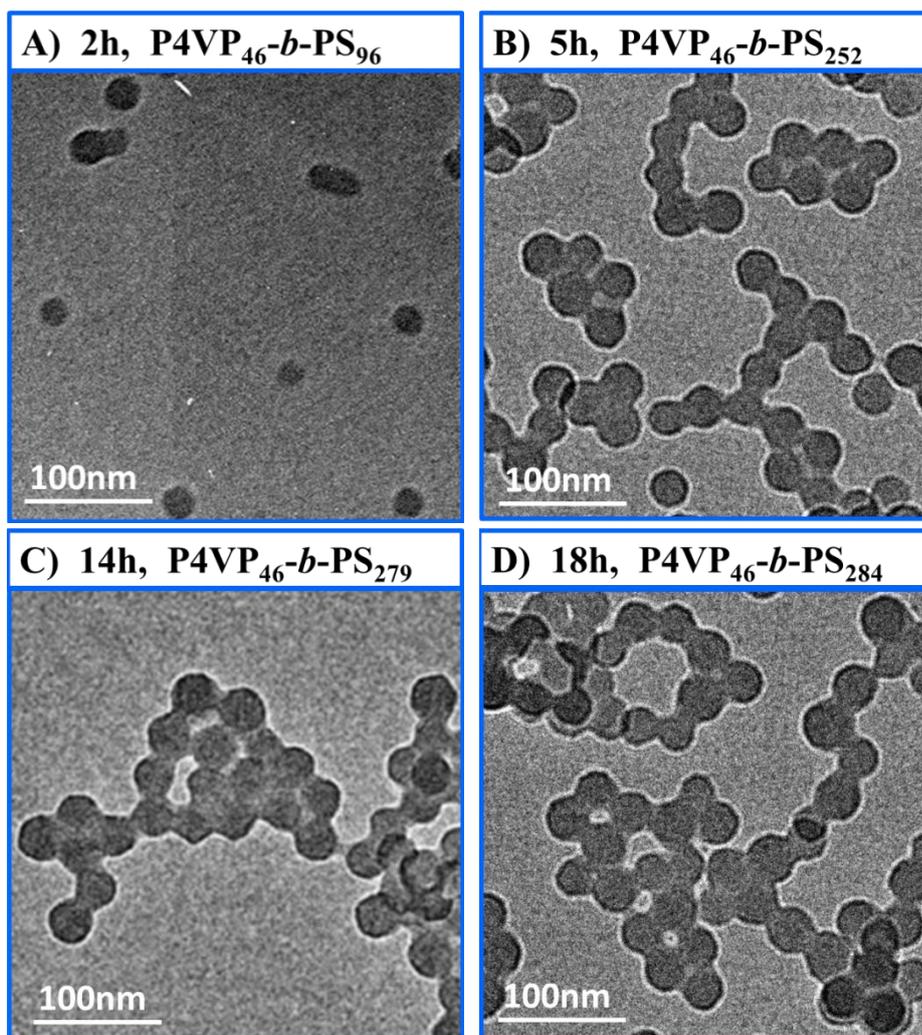


Figure S4. The TEM images of the P4VP₄₆-*b*-PS nano-objects prepared through the P4VP₄₆-TTC macro-RAFT agents mediated dispersion polymerization at different polymerization times. Polymerization conditions: St (1.50 g, 14.4 mmol), the methanol/water mixture (9.25 g, 80/20 by weight), [St]₀:[P4VP₄₆-TTC]:[AIBN]₀ = 300:1:1/3, 70 °C. Note: the TEM samples are not stained.

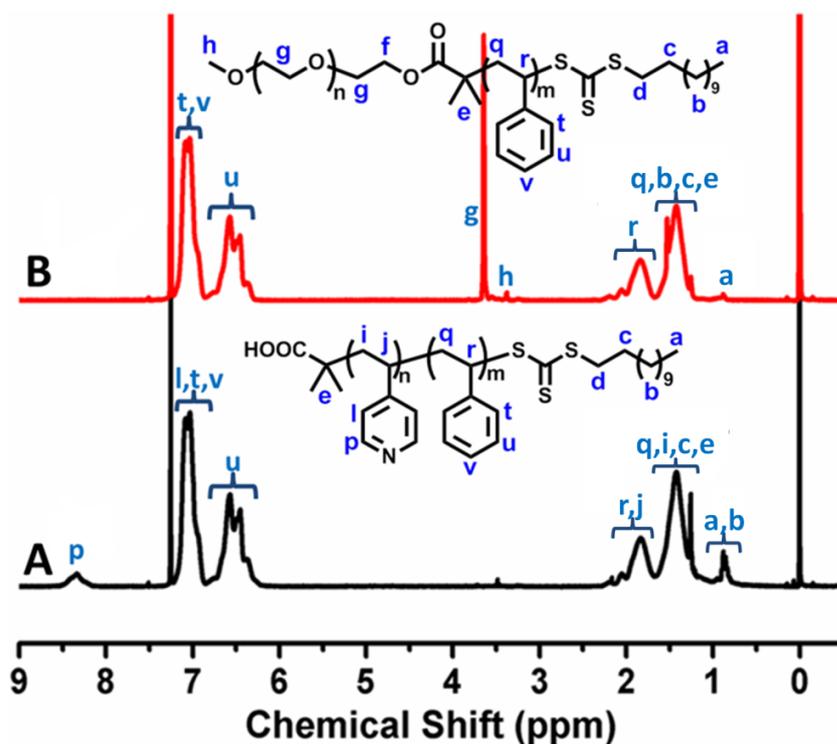


Figure S5. The ¹H NMR spectra of PEG₄₅-*b*-PS₂₆₁ (A) and P4VP₄₆-*b*-PS₂₇₉ (B) prepared through the individual macro-RAFT agent mediated dispersion polymerization at 14 h. Note: the polymerization conditions can be found in the Captions, for Figures S3 and S4.

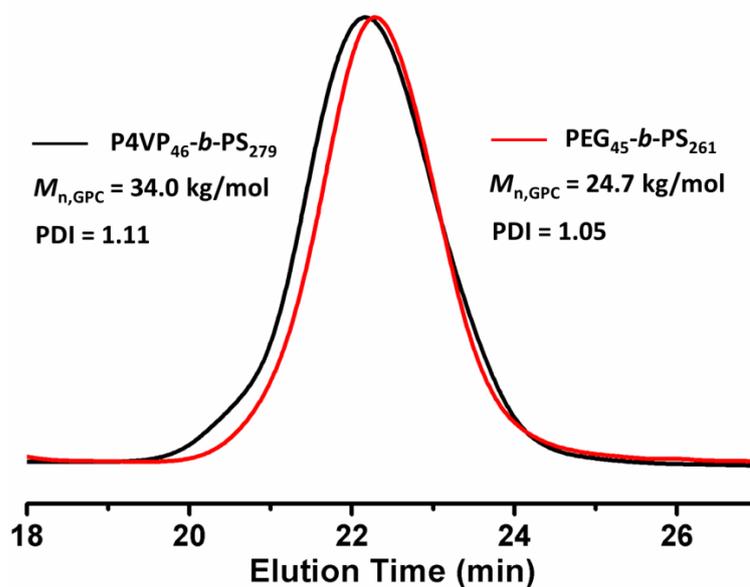


Figure S6. The GPC traces of PEG₄₅-*b*-PS₂₆₁ and P4VP₄₆-*b*-PS₂₇₉, prepared through the individual macro-RAFT agent mediated dispersion polymerization at 14 h. Note: the polymerization conditions can be found in the Captions for Figures S3 and S4.

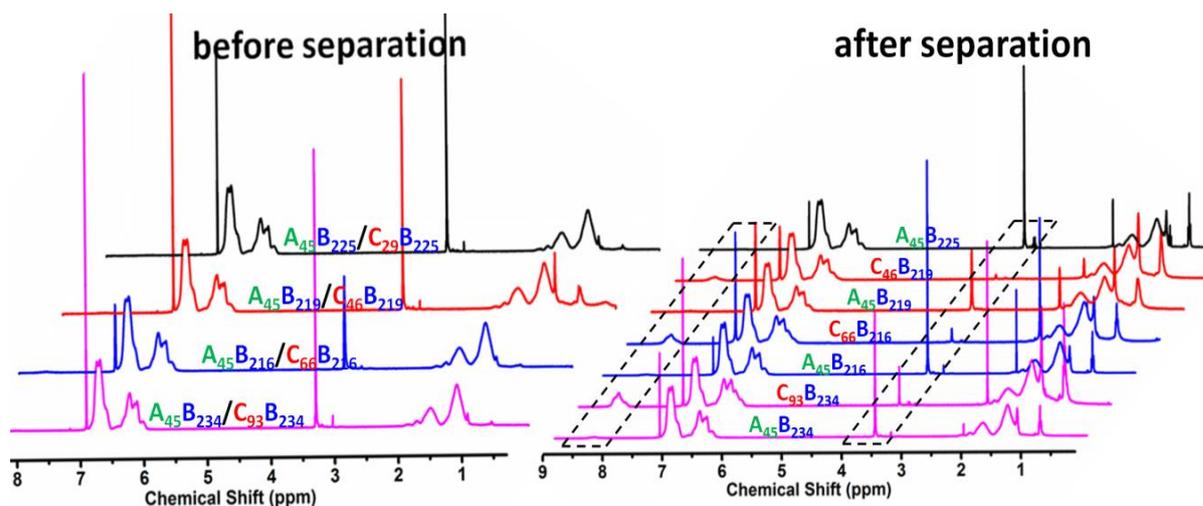


Figure S7. The ^1H NMR spectra of the PEG-*b*-PS/P4VP-*b*-PS mixture before and after separation. Note: in the separated P4VP₄₆-*b*-PS₂₁₉, P4VP₆₆-*b*-PS₂₁₆ and P4VP₉₃-*b*-PS₂₃₄, about part of the PEG₄₅-*b*-PS diblock copolymer at about 7%, 11% and 13.7% was immersed. For the PEG₄₅-*b*-PS₂₂₅/P4VP₂₉-*b*-PS₂₂₅ mixture, part of PEG₄₅-*b*-PS₂₂₅ was separated and its NMR spectra as indicated by the black plot were shown in Figure S7, whereas the separation of P4VP₂₉-*b*-PS₂₂₅ was not achieved.