

ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**Sequential crystallization and morphology of triple crystalline biodegradable PEO-*b*-PCL-*b*-PLLA triblock terpolymers**

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### S1. Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC)

Several tests, at different cooling rates, were carried out to establish the ideal rate to achieve the crystallization of the blocks.

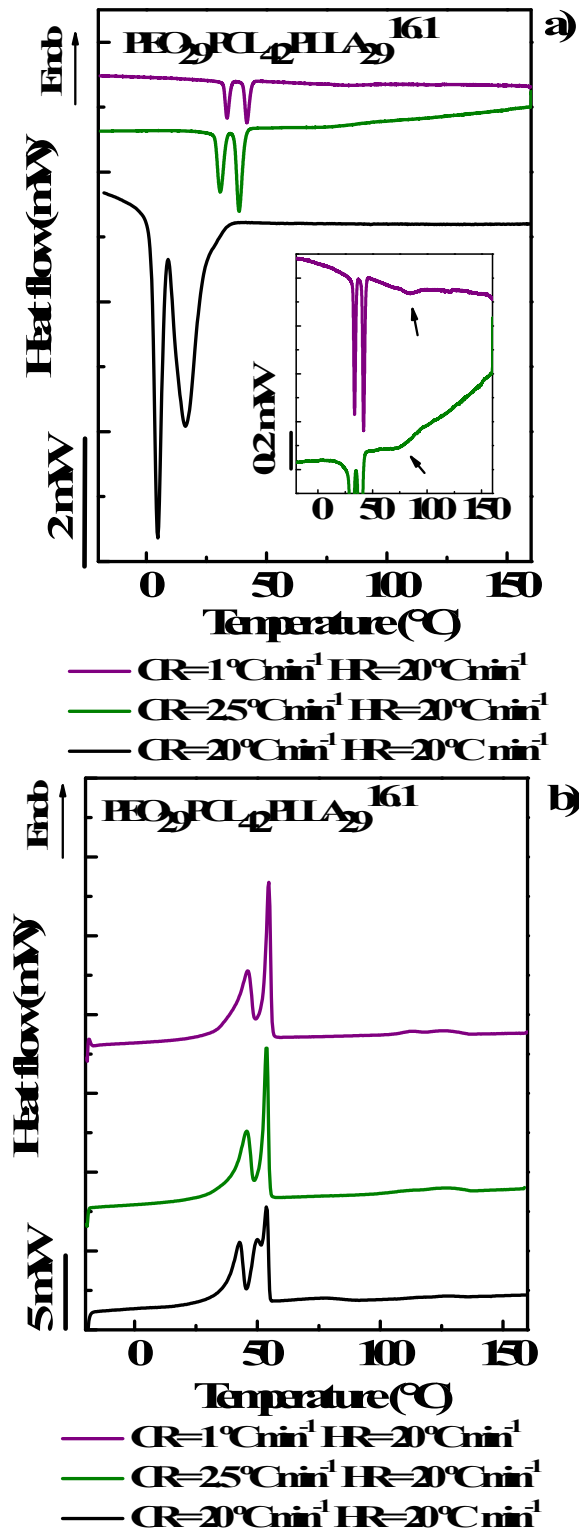


Figure SI.1. a) DSC cooling scans at several cooling rates (CR) after melting at 160  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 3 min and b) Subsequent

DSC heating scans at 20  $^{\circ}\text{C min}^{-1}$  for  $\text{PEO}_{29}\text{PCL}_{42}\text{PLLA}_{29}^{16.1}$ .

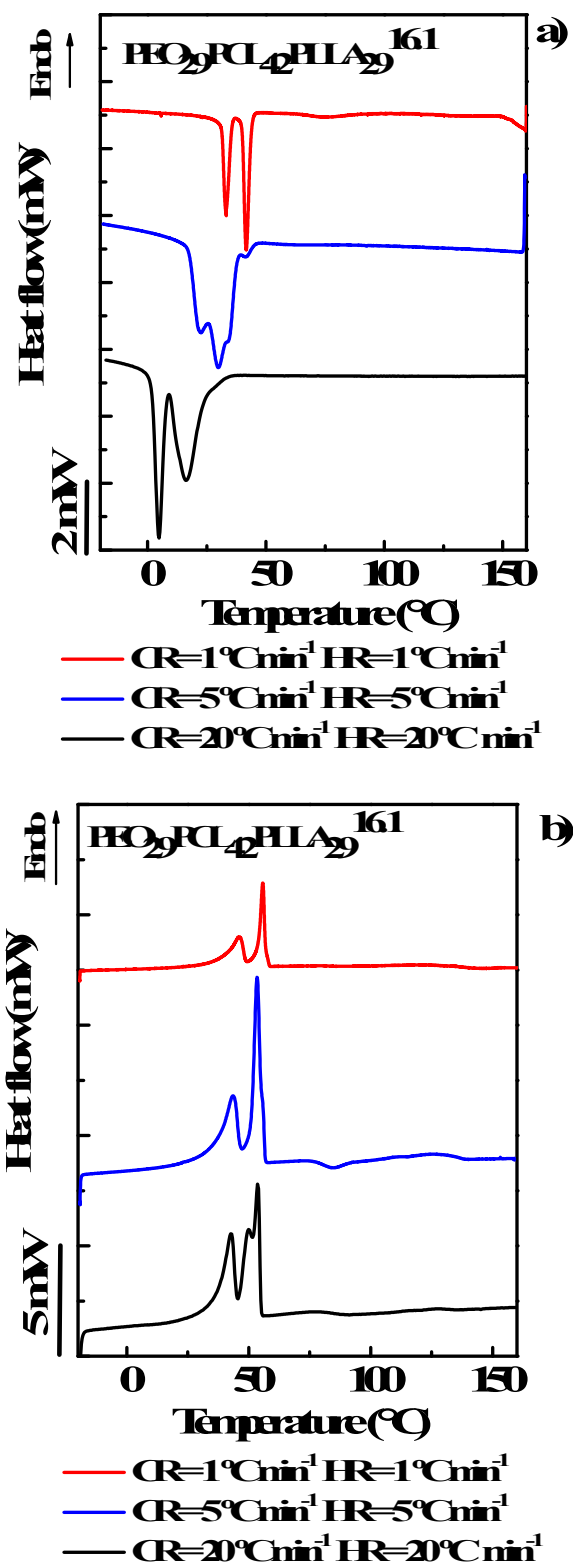


Figure SI.2. a) DSC cooling scans at several cooling rates (CR) after melting at 160  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 3 min and b) Subsequent

DSC heating scans at several heating rates (HR) for  $\text{PEO}_{29}\text{PCL}_{42}\text{PLLA}_{29}^{161}$ .

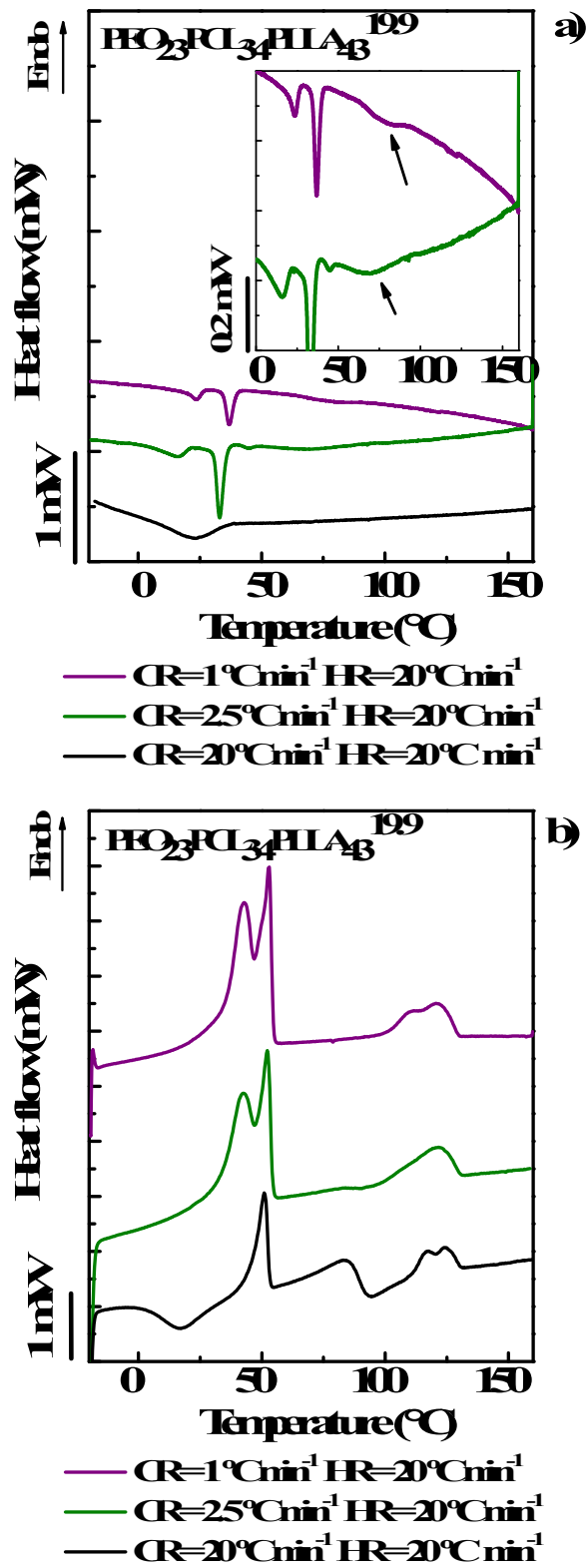


Figure SI.3. a) DSC cooling scans at several cooling rates (CR) after melting at 160 °C for 3 min and b) Subsequent DSC heating scans at 20 °C min<sup>-1</sup> for PEO<sub>23</sub>PCL<sub>34</sub>PLLA<sub>43</sub><sup>19,9</sup>.

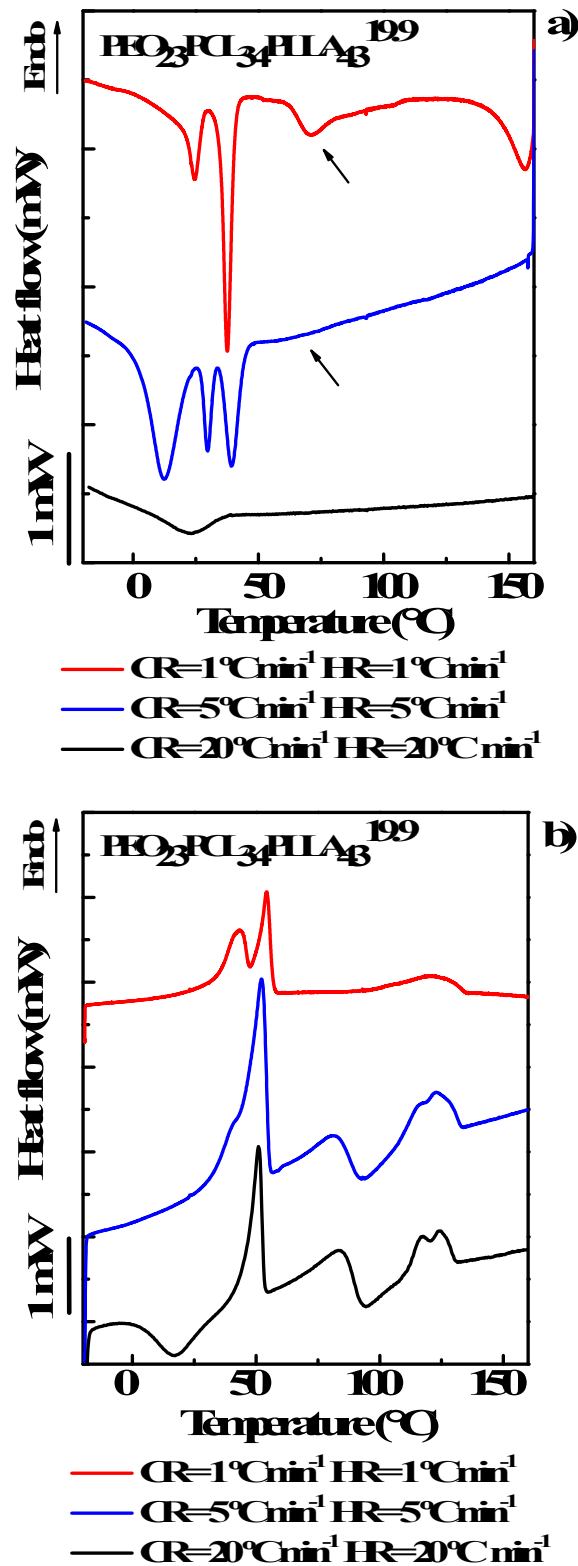


Figure SI.4. a) DSC cooling scans at several cooling rates (CR) after melting at 160 °C for 3 min and b) Subsequent DSC heating scans at several heating rates (HR) for PEO<sub>23</sub>PCL<sub>34</sub>PLLA<sub>43</sub><sup>19,9</sup>.

**S2. DSC Thermal properties of the triblock terpolymers studied here and some diblock and triblock copolymers reported in the literature.**

In Table S.1 are included the DSC thermal properties of the triblock terpolymers and compared to relevant block copolymers previously reported.

Table S.1. Crystallization and melting temperatures of PEO<sub>29</sub>PCL<sub>42</sub>PLLA<sub>29</sub><sup>16.1</sup> and PEO<sub>23</sub>PCL<sub>34</sub>PLLA<sub>43</sub><sup>19.9</sup> triblocks terpolymers compared to different linear diblock copolymers reported in the literature

Sample code	PLLA			PCL			PEO			Ref.
	Block $M_w$ (kg mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$T_c$ (°C)	$T_m$ (°C)	Block $M_w$ (kg mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$T_c$ (°C)	$T_m$ (°C)	Block $M_w$ (kg mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$T_c$ (°C)	$T_m$ (°C)	
<b>PEO<sub>29</sub>PCL<sub>42</sub>PLLA<sub>29</sub><sup>16.1</sup></b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>124.5</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>Samples reported here</b>
<b>PEO<sub>23</sub>PCL<sub>34</sub>PLLA<sub>43</sub><sup>19.9</sup></b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>72.3</b>	<b>121.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>36.7</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>45.0</b>	
L <sub>93</sub> C <sub>7</sub> <sup>18</sup>	15.7	102.6	171.7	1.7						Castillo, 2010 <sup>2</sup>
L <sub>81</sub> C <sub>19</sub> <sup>21</sup>	16.7	102.8	170.5	3.9						
L <sub>60</sub> C <sub>40</sub> <sup>21</sup>	12.4	102.8	168.9	8.5	0.5- 11.3	54.4				
<b>L<sub>55</sub>C<sub>45</sub><sup>18</sup></b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>98.3</b>	<b>166.9</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>55.0</b>				
<b>L<sub>44</sub>C<sub>56</sub><sup>25</sup></b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>91.8</b>	<b>166.5</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>56.5</b>				
L <sub>32</sub> C <sub>68</sub> <sup>22</sup>	6.9	100.3	161.0	14.9	28.1	56.9				
L <sub>10</sub> C <sub>90</sub> <sup>24</sup>	2.4	86.8	141.5	21.5	32.5	57.7				
<b>PLLA2300bPEG5000</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>93.0</b>	<b>140.1</b>				<b>5.0</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>54.7</b>	Sun, 2004 <sup>1</sup>
<b>PLLA6300bPEG5000</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>105.2</b>	<b>153.8</b>				<b>5.0</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>42.2</b>	
PLLA12000bPEG5000	12.0	116.3	162.4				5.0	12.9	37.2	Huang, 2008 <sup>3</sup>
PEO <sub>5</sub> - <i>b</i> -PLLA <sub>16</sub>	16.0	90.6	141.2				5.0		41.2	
PEO <sub>5</sub> - <i>b</i> -PLLA <sub>30</sub>	30.0	100.0	142.1				5.0		39.7	
2LPCL <sub>50</sub> - <i>b</i> -PLLA <sub>43</sub>	12.45	102.4	151.7	11.33	12.6	51.2				Wang, 2006 <sup>5</sup>
<b>PEOCL56</b>				<b>6.24</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>55.4</b>	He, 2006 <sup>6</sup>
PEOCL62				8.13	34.3	56.3	5.0	28.7	56.3	
PEG5000-PCL1000				1.0			5.0	34.7	59.8	Sun, 2011 <sup>7</sup>
PEG5000-PCL2900				2.9			5.0	30.0	51.0/5 4.9	
PEG5000-PCL9200				9.2	34.6	56.7	5.0	29.3	44.6	
<b>PCL<sub>13</sub>-PEG<sub>45</sub>-PCL<sub>13</sub></b>				<b>3.0</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>51.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>41.2</b>	Wei, 2009 <sup>8</sup>

### References of supporting information

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- (6) He, C.; Sun, J.; Ma, J.; Chen, X.; Jing, X. *Biomacromolecules* **2006**, *7*, 3482-3489.
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### S3. Polarized light optical microscopy (PLOM). Photographs videos

PLOM was performed on cooling from the melt in order to observe the sequential crystallization and superstructure formation of each block. Small videos made of PLOM photographs for each triblock terpolymer are presented.

**TriblockTerpolymer 16.1.ppsx**

**TribloqueTerpolymer 16.1.ppsx**

**TriblockTerpolymer 19.9.ppsx**

**TriblockTerpolymer 19.9.ppsx**