

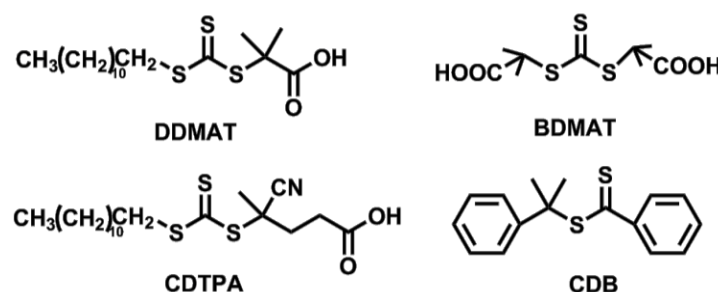
## Supporting information for

### *N*-Ester-substituted polyacrylamides with tunable lower critical solution temperature (LCST): the *N*-ester-substitutes dependent thermoresponse

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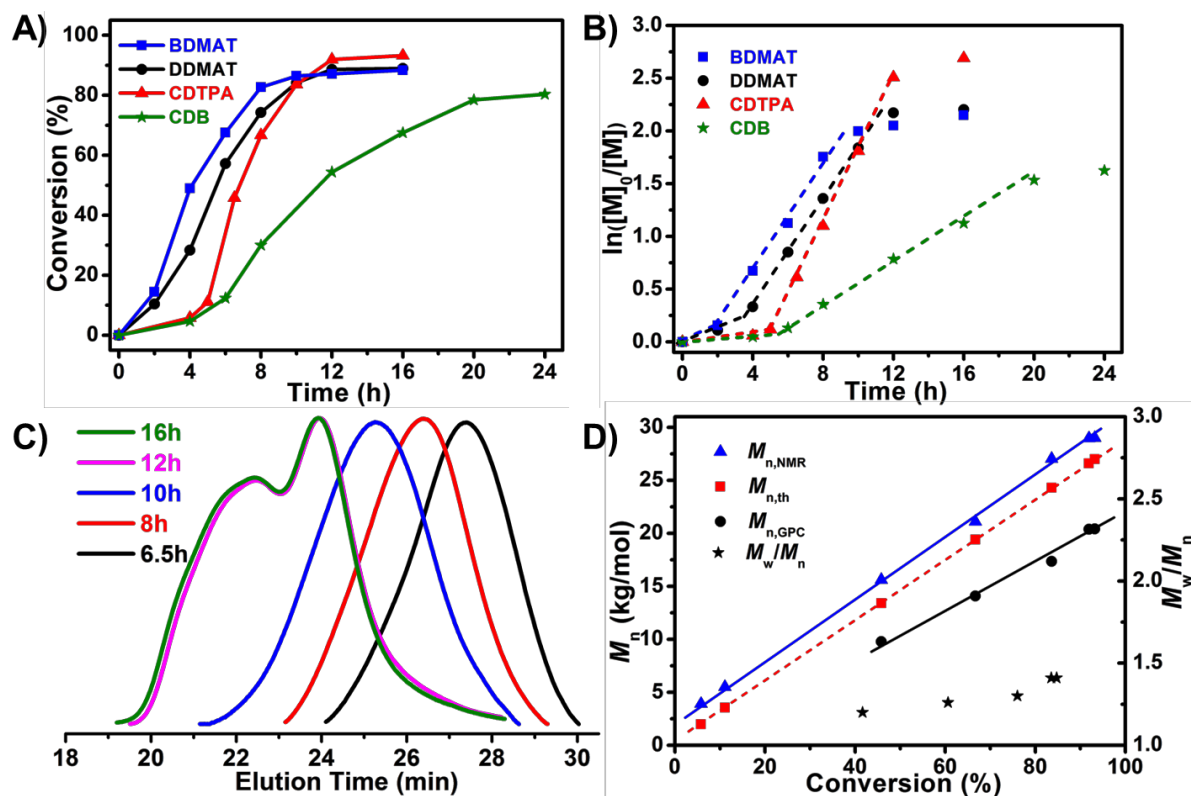
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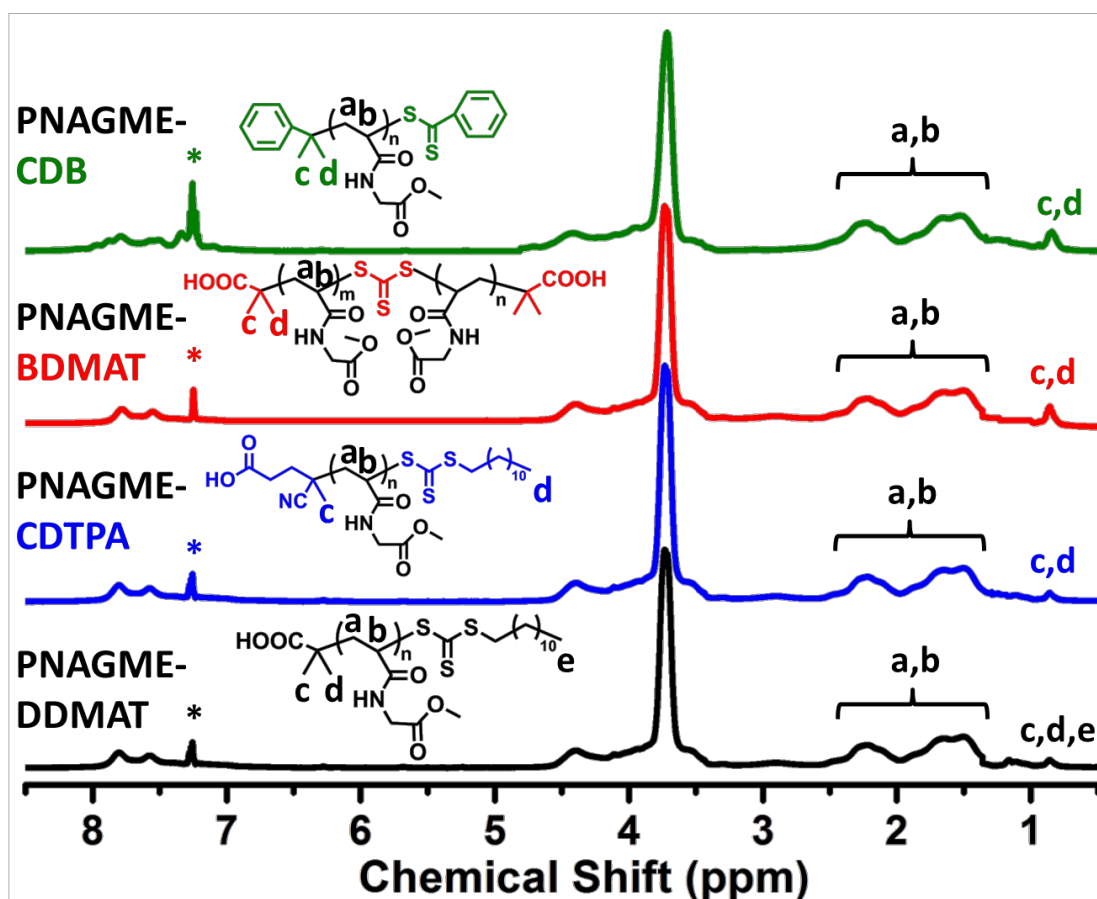
**Scheme S1** The RAFT agents of DDMAT, BDMAT, CDTPA and CDB.

$$M_{n,\text{th}} = \frac{[\text{monomer}]_0 \times M_{\text{monomer}}}{[\text{RAFT}]_0} \times \text{Conversion} + M_{\text{RAFT}} \quad (\text{S1})$$

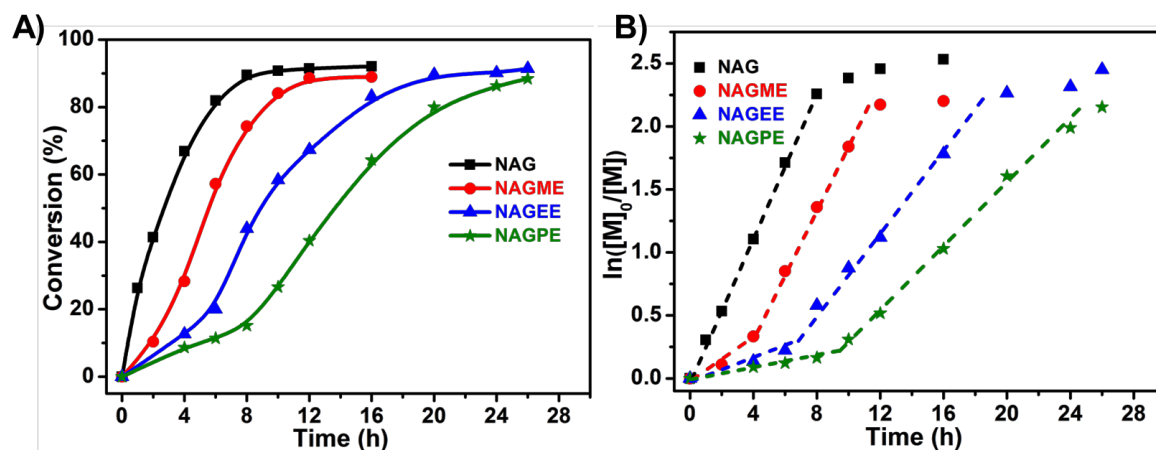
Note: in eq S1  $[\text{monomer}]_0$  and  $[\text{RAFT}]_0$  represent the concentration of the fed monomer and the RAFT agent, the Conversion is determined by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis by comparing the integral areas of the monomer protons of  $\text{C}=\text{C}-\text{H}$  at  $\delta = 5.81$  ppm with those of the 1,3,5-trioxane internal standard at  $\delta = 5.10$  ppm, and  $M_{\text{monomer}}$  and  $M_{\text{RAFT}}$  are the molar mass of the monomer and the RAFT agent.



**Fig. S1** Kinetics of solution RAFT polymerization of NAGME: the plots of time-dependent monomer conversion (A) and the  $\ln([M]_0/[M])$ -time plots of the RAFT polymerization (B) using BDMAT, DDMAT, CDTPA and CDB as the RAFT agents, respectively; the GPC traces (C), the evolution of the molecular weight and the  $\bar{D}$  ( $M_w/M_n$ ) value of PNAGME with the monomer conversion (D) using CDTPA as the RAFT agent. Conditions: NAGME (1.43 g, 10.00 mmol, 33.3 wt% in 1,4-dioxane),  $[NAGME]_0:[RAFT]_0:[AIBN]_0 = 600:3:1$ , 70 °C.



**Fig. S2** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of the four samples of PNAGME synthesized using DDMAT, CDTA, BDMAT and CDB as the RAFT agents.



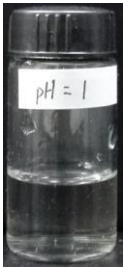
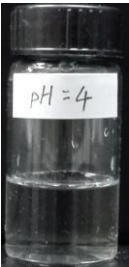
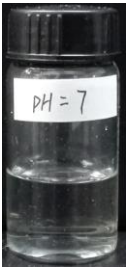
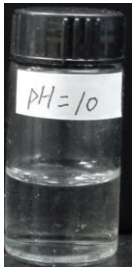
**Fig. S3** Kinetics of solution RAFT polymerization of four *N*-ester substituted acrylamides NAG, NAGME NAGEE and NAGPE, respectively. The plots of time-dependent monomer conversion (A) and the  $\ln([M]_0/[M])$ -time plots of the RAFT polymerization (B). Conditions: For all of the polymerization, the monomer concentration was fixed at 3.64 mol/L,  $[\text{Monomer}]_0:[\text{RAFT}]_0:[\text{AIBN}]_0 = 600:3:1$ , 70  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

**Table S1** The table showing the solubility of four monomers in common solvents at 20 °C (approx. 293.15 K) and a pressure of one atm.

Monomer	Water	MeOH	EtOH	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	Dioxane	DMF
NAG	S <sup>a</sup>	S	S	s <sup>b</sup>	s	S	S
NAGME	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
NAGEE	s	S	S	S	S	S	S
NAGPE	s	S	S	S	S	S	S

<sup>a</sup> S represents solubility > 10 mg/mL; <sup>b</sup> s represents solubility locates 1– 10 mg/mL.

**Table S2** Summary of the photographs of the PNAG solution (c=1.0 wt%) with various pH from 1 to 10 at 25 °C and 90 °C, respectively, showing the polymer did not possess phase transition behavior.

pH	1	4	7	10
25 °C				
90 °C	