

Electronic Supplementary Information for

Ultrafast RAFT Polymerization: Multiblock Copolymers within Minutes

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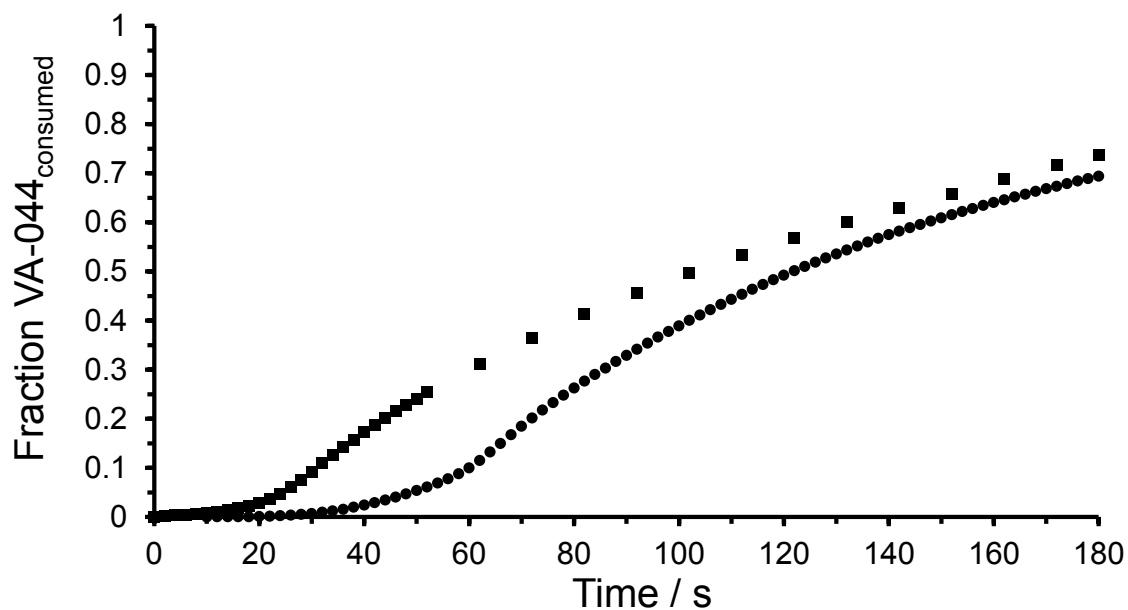


Figure S1. Comparison of the fraction of azoinitiator VA-044 consumed during the 1st block (circles) and the 2nd block (squares) (see Table S2, cycles 1 and 2 for experimental RAFT conditions) calculated using equation S1 (see below) and the temperature profile (Figure S2) obtained during the synthesis of PNAM₂₀-*b*-PNAM₂₀ via RAFT polymerization in the presence of air and without degassing (oil bath thermostated at 100°C).

Method to determine the decomposition rate constant k_d

Arrhenius equation: $k_d = A e^{\frac{-E_A}{RT}}$, where k_d is the decomposition rate constant (in s^{-1}) of the azoinitiator, A the pre-exponential factor, E_A the activation energy (in $J.mol^{-1}$), R the Universal gas constant ($= 8.31 J.mol^{-1}.K^{-1}$) and T the temperature (in K).

k_d values for VA-044 are determined by using Equation S1 based on the temperature profile recorded (Figure S5):

$$A = \frac{k_{d(317K)}}{e^{\frac{-E_A}{RT_{(317K)}}}} = \frac{k_{d(x K)}}{e^{\frac{-E_A}{RT_{(x K)}}}} \quad (\text{Equation S1})$$

Where x is the unknown temperature. A value of $108\,000 J.mol^{-1}$ is used for E_A (obtained from Wako, <http://www.wako-chem.co.jp/specialty/waterazo/VA-044.htm>).

As an example, the table below shows k_d values determined for VA-044 by using Equation S1 and the temperature profile recorded during the first block PNAM₂₀.

T (K)	kd(VA-044)	Time (s)	[VA-044]t	[VA-044]consumed	k_d	Time (s)	k_d	Time (s)	k_d
301.800	2.44E-06	6	1.000	0.000	370.100	7.47E-03	90	0.686	0.314
301.500	2.34E-06	8	1.000	0.000	370.300	7.47E-03	92	0.675	0.325
312.200	1.02E-05	10	1.000	0.000	370.500	7.13E-03	94	0.666	0.334
318.600	2.36E-05	12	1.000	0.000	369.700	7.13E-03	96	0.656	0.344
323.400	4.32E-05	14	1.000	0.000	369.500	7.13E-03	98	0.647	0.353
327.700	7.32E-05	16	1.000	0.000	369.400	6.42E-03	100	0.639	0.361
331.700	1.18E-04	18	0.999	0.001	369.400	6.42E-03	102	0.631	0.369
337.400	2.29E-04	20	0.999	0.001	369.400	6.42E-03	104	0.623	0.377
339.000	2.74E-04	22	0.998	0.002	369.500	6.48E-03	106	0.615	0.385
343.400	4.48E-04	24	0.998	0.002	369.500	6.48E-03	108	0.607	0.393
346.900	6.56E-04	26	0.996	0.004	369.600	6.48E-03	110	0.599	0.401
348.800	8.05E-04	28	0.995	0.005	369.600	6.48E-03	112	0.591	0.409
350.800	9.95E-04	30	0.993	0.007	369.700	6.48E-03	114	0.584	0.416
352.600	1.20E-03	32	0.990	0.010	369.800	6.67E-03	116	0.576	0.424
354.500	1.46E-03	34	0.987	0.013	368.900	6.67E-03	118	0.568	0.432
356.400	1.78E-03	36	0.984	0.016	368.900	6.67E-03	120	0.561	0.439
358.100	2.12E-03	38	0.980	0.020	368.900	6.67E-03	122	0.553	0.447
359.700	2.49E-03	40	0.975	0.025	368.700	6.67E-03	124	0.546	0.454
361.200	2.89E-03	42	0.969	0.031	368.700	6.67E-03	126	0.539	0.461
362.600	3.32E-03	44	0.963	0.037	368.700	6.67E-03	128	0.531	0.469
364.200	3.89E-03	46	0.955	0.045	368.700	6.67E-03	130	0.524	0.476
365.900	4.59E-03	48	0.947	0.053	368.600	6.67E-03	132	0.518	0.482
367.600	5.41E-03	50	0.936	0.064	368.600	6.67E-03	134	0.511	0.489
368.500	5.89E-03	52	0.925	0.075	368.600	5.95E-03	136	0.505	0.495
370.100	6.86E-03	54	0.913	0.087	368.600	5.95E-03	138	0.499	0.501
371.400	7.76E-03	56	0.899	0.101	368.600	5.95E-03	140	0.493	0.507
372.000	8.21E-03	58	0.884	0.116	368.600	5.95E-03	142	0.487	0.513
372.300	8.45E-03	60	0.869	0.131	368.600	5.95E-03	144	0.481	0.519
372.500	8.60E-03	62	0.855	0.145	368.600	5.95E-03	146	0.475	0.525
372.400	8.52E-03	64	0.840	0.160	368.600	5.95E-03	148	0.470	0.530
372.300	8.45E-03	66	0.826	0.174	368.600	5.95E-03	150	0.464	0.536
372.300	8.45E-03	68	0.812	0.188	368.600	5.95E-03	152	0.459	0.541
372.200	8.37E-03	70	0.799	0.201	368.600	5.95E-03	154	0.453	0.547
372.000	8.21E-03	72	0.786	0.214	368.600	5.95E-03	156	0.448	0.552
371.700	7.98E-03	74	0.773	0.227	368.600	5.95E-03	158	0.443	0.557
371.400	7.76E-03	76	0.761	0.239	368.600	5.95E-03	160	0.437	0.563
371.200	7.62E-03	78	0.750	0.250	368.600	5.95E-03	162	0.432	0.568
371.000	7.47E-03	80	0.739	0.261	368.600	5.95E-03	164	0.427	0.573
371.600	7.47E-03	82	0.728	0.272	368.600	5.95E-03	166	0.422	0.578
370.600	7.47E-03	84	0.717	0.283	368.600	5.95E-03	168	0.417	0.583
370.300	7.47E-03	86	0.706	0.294	368.600	5.95E-03	170	0.412	0.588
370.200	7.47E-03	88	0.696	0.304	368.600	5.95E-03	172	0.407	0.593
370.100	7.47E-03	90	0.686	0.314	368.600	5.95E-03	174	0.402	0.598
					368.600	5.95E-03	176	0.398	0.602

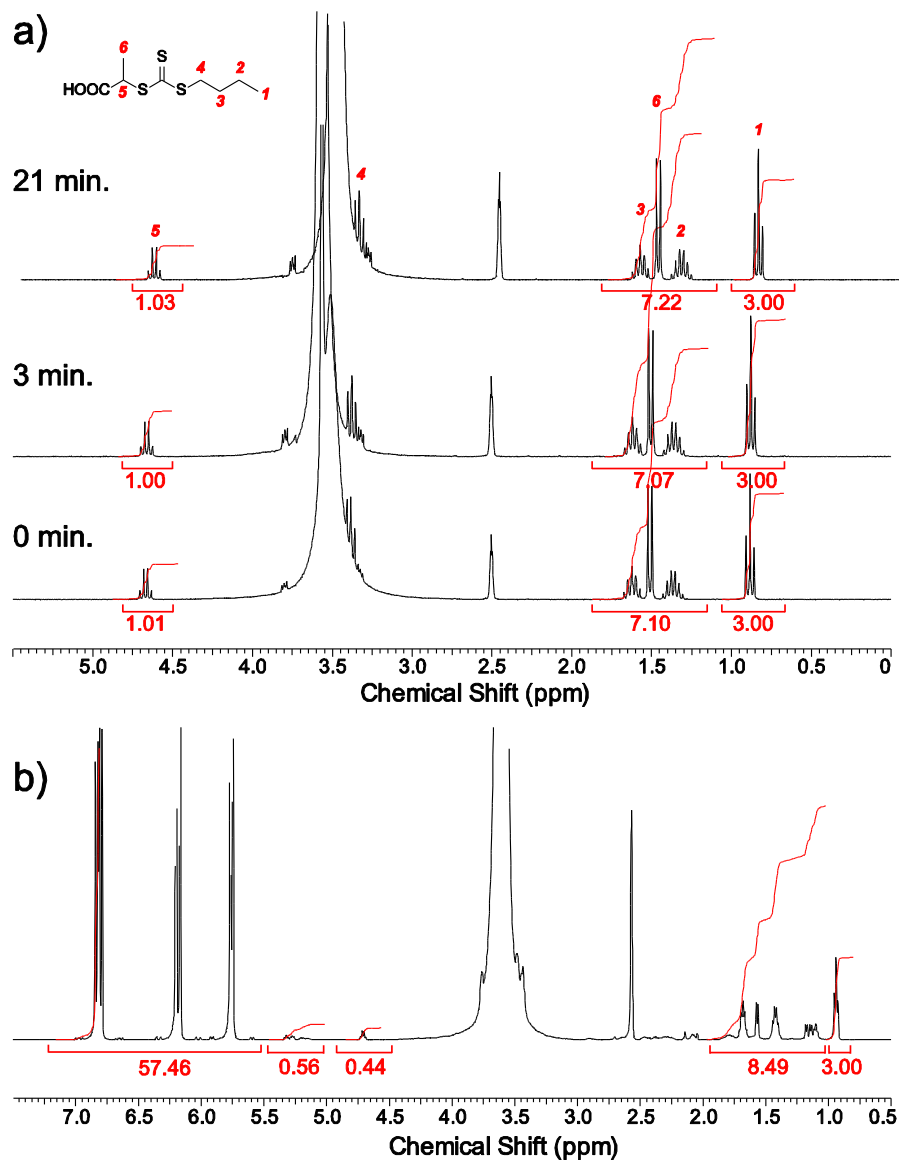


Figure S2. (a) Comparison of the ^1H NMR spectra (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) of the RAFT agent PABTC after 0, 3, and 21 minutes in a mixture H₂O/dioxane (80/20, v/v). Peak integration shows no degradation of the CTA. b) ^1H NMR spectrum (DMSO- d_6 , 300 MHz) of the mixture of NAM and chain transfer agent (without azoinitiator) after 3 min in H₂O/dioxane (80/20, v/v) at 100°C in the presence of air and without degassing. Less than 4% of monomer conversion is obtained.

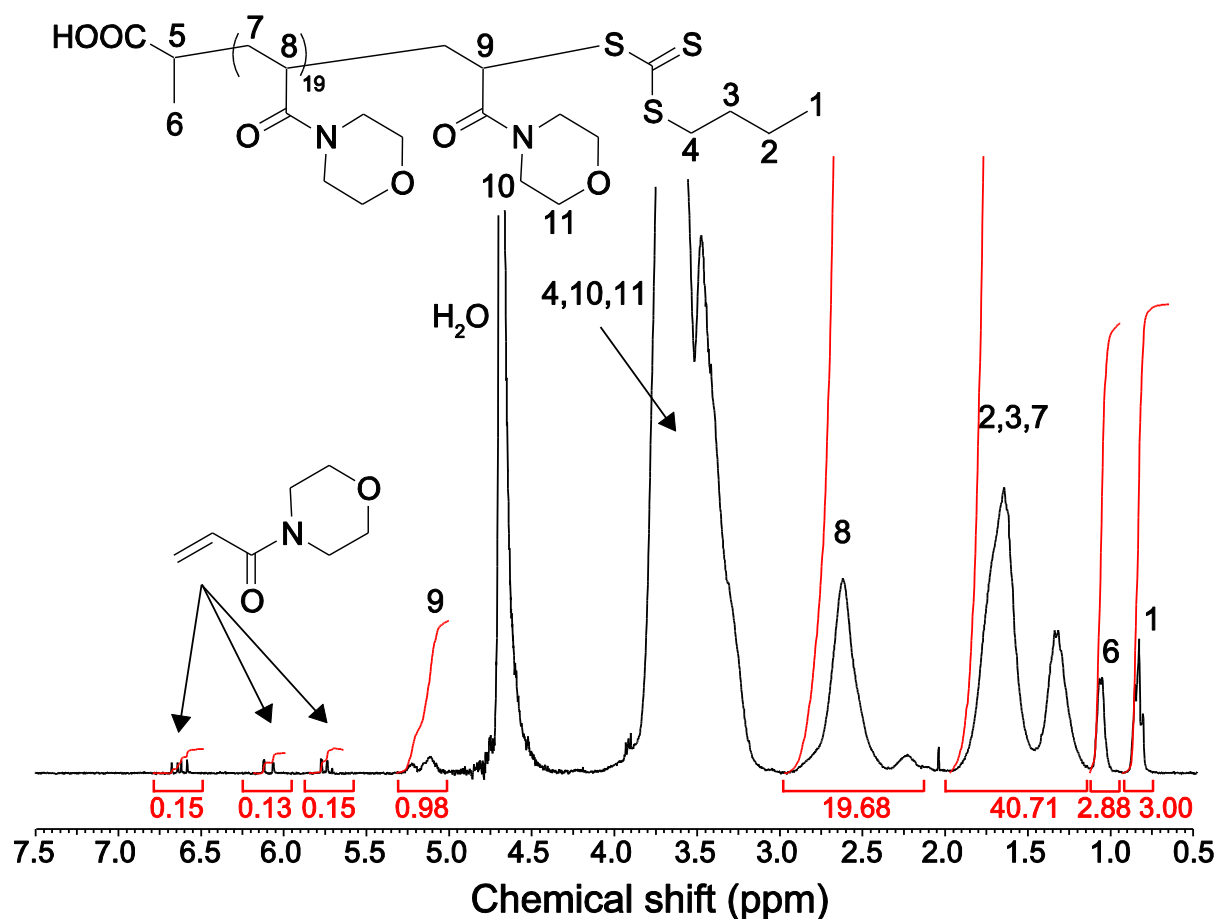


Figure S3. ^1H NMR spectrum (D_2O , 300 MHz) of the polymerization mixture NAM/CTA/VA-044 : 20/1/0.01 (Table S2, cycle 1) after 3 min of RAFT polymerization in H_2O /dioxane (80/20, v/v) at 100°C in the presence of air and without degassing (monomer conversion >99%). Comparison of the integrals of 1 with 9 and 6 shows that the CTA does not degrade in the chosen reaction conditions and is fully consumed.

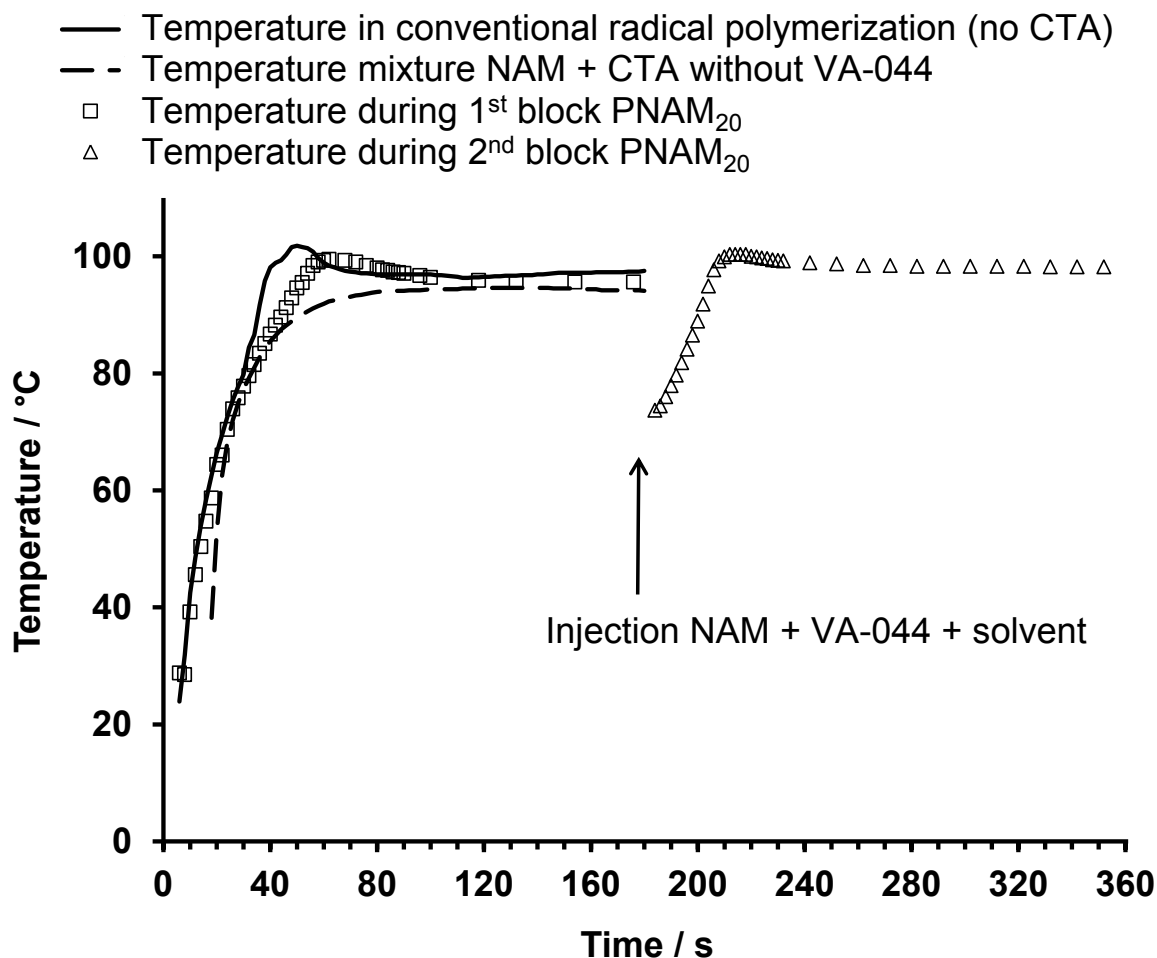


Figure S4. Comparison of the temperature profiles obtained for the NAM homopolymerization by conventional radical polymerization (full line), by RAFT polymerization (empty squares) ($DP_{\text{targeted}} = 20$, see Table S2, cycle 1 for the RAFT polymerization conditions) and for the polymerization mixture without azoinitiator. The $[VA-044]_0$ used for the conventional radical polymerization is the same than the one in the RAFT process. The temperature profile obtained during the one-pot chain extension with NAM is represented (empty triangles) (see Table S2, cycle 2 for reaction conditions). All the experiments were performed in the presence of air and without degassing.

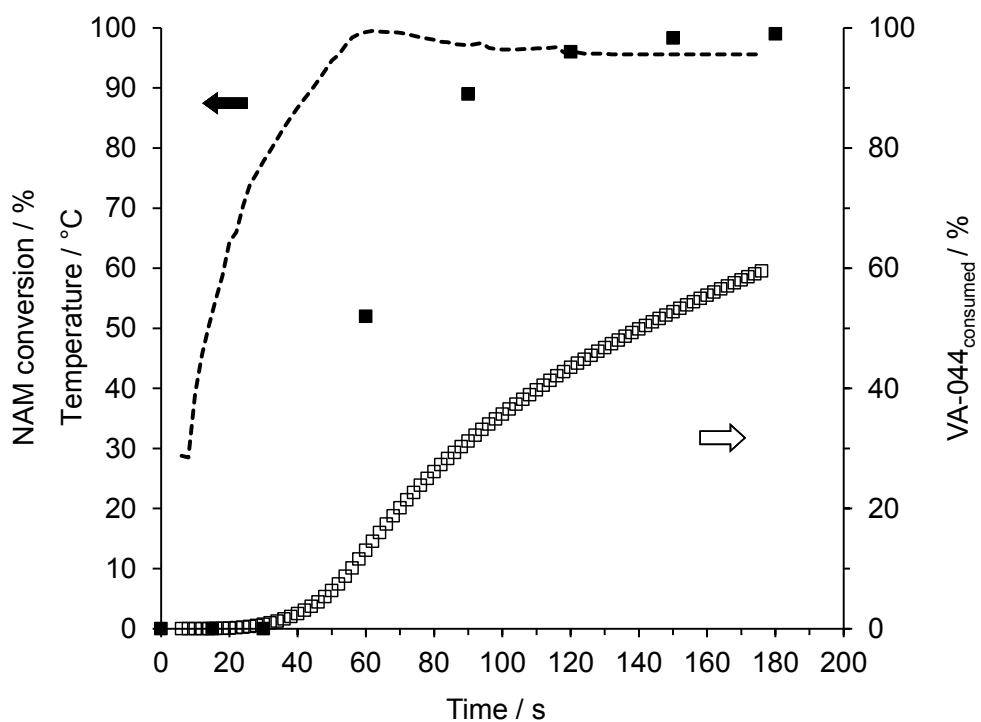


Figure S5. Monomer conversion (full square), percentage of VA-044 consumed (empty square, Equation S1), and temperature (dash line) versus time for the RAFT homopolymerization of NAM in the presence of air and without degassing ($DP_{\text{targeted}} = 20$, see Table S2, cycle 1 for the polymerization conditions).

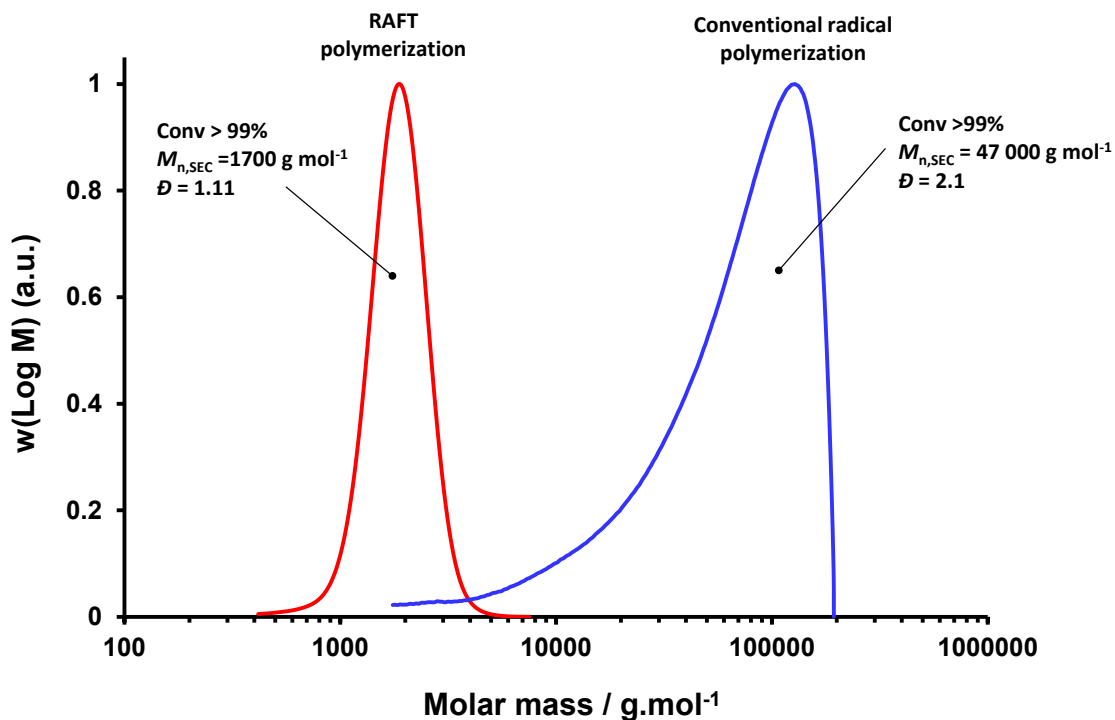


Figure S6. Comparison of the SEC chromatograms of the polymer obtained by conventional radical polymerization of NAM and the PNAM₂₀ (DP_{targeted} = 20, Table S2, cycle 1) synthesized by ultrafast RAFT polymerization in the same conditions (H₂O/dioxane : 80/20, v/v at 100°C in the presence of air and without degassing). SEC analyses were performed in THF with PSty standards.

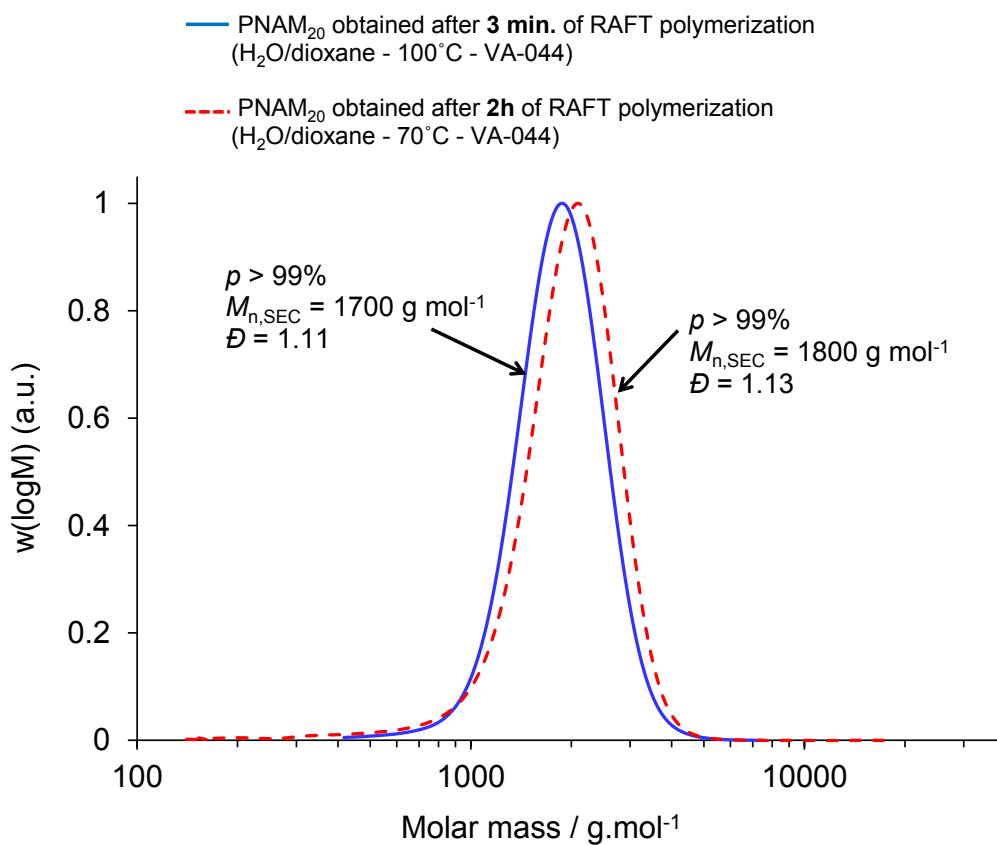


Figure S7. Comparison of the SEC chromatograms of PNAM₂₀ synthesized with VA-044 as azoinitiator, in H₂O/dioxane (80/20, v/v), either at 70°C under argon for 2 hours or at 100°C in the presence of air and without degassing for 3 min. SEC analyses were performed on the THF system with PSty standards.

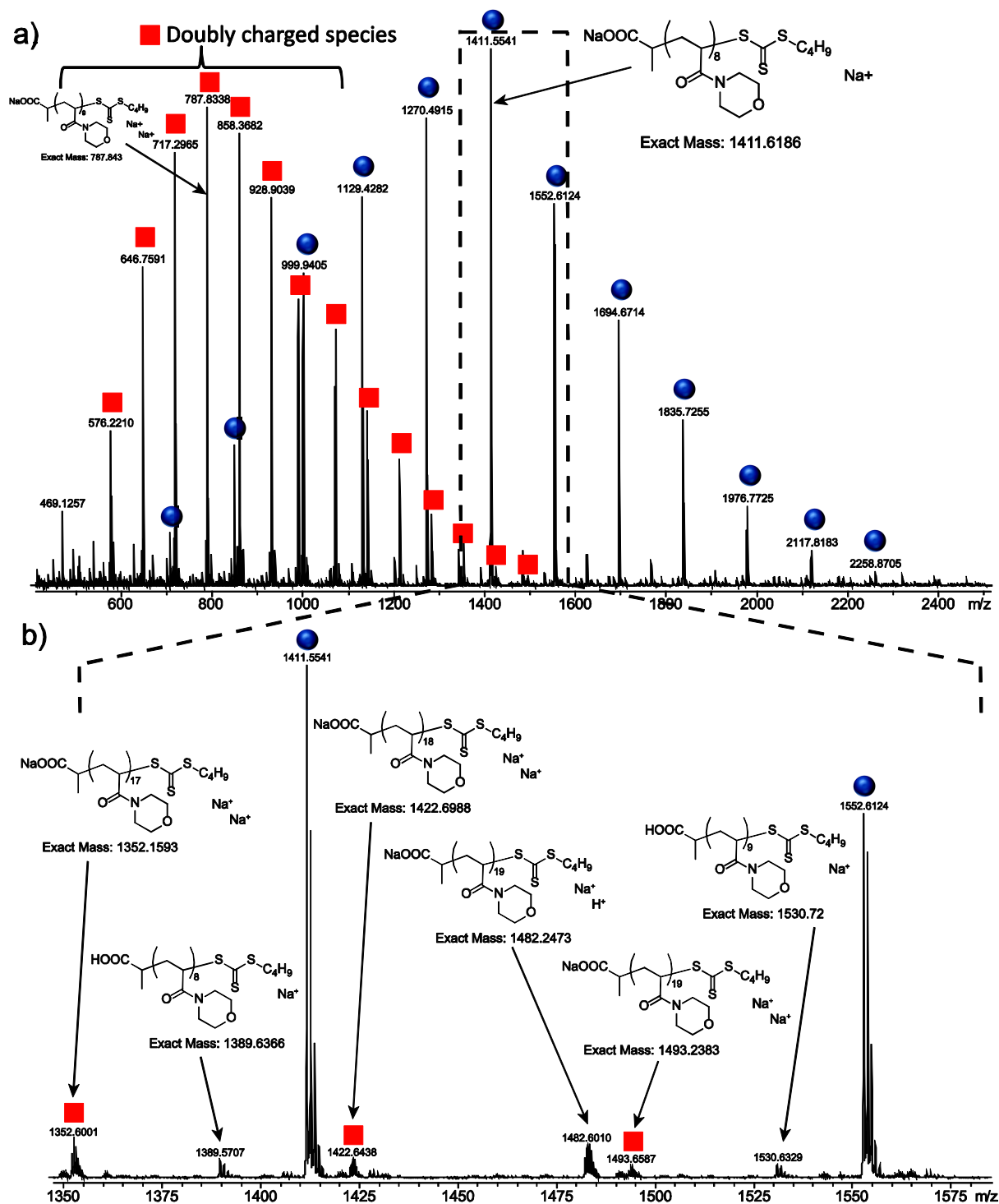


Figure S8. (a) ESI-ToF spectrum and (b) enlargement of the corresponding spectrum showing the excellent retention and stability of the RAFT end-group (no hydrolysis and no degradation) after 3 min of RAFT polymerization performed at 100°C in a mixture dioxane/H₂O (75/25, v/v) in the presence of air and without degassing (i.e., same conditions than the one described in Table S1).

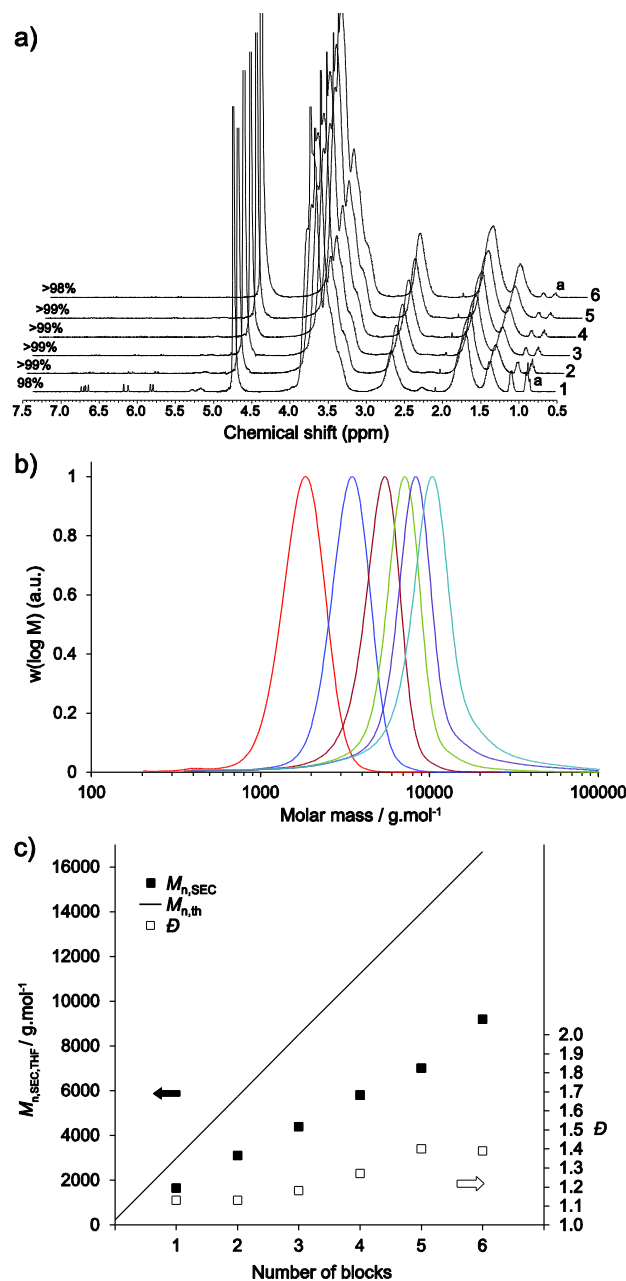


Figure S9. (a) ¹H NMR spectra (D₂O, 300 MHz) showing the conversion of NAM for each new block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerizations performed in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) SEC chromatograms for successive chain extension of the hexablock [PNAM₂₀]₆ (Scheme 3 and Table 1, multiblock **b**) at 100 °C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S2 for reaction conditions); (c) Evolution of the number-average molar mass and dispersity with the number of blocks during the preparation of [PNAM₂₀]₆. The black line represents the theoretical molar mass calculated from Equation 2. The filled squares represent the experimental molar masses obtained by THF SEC. The empty squares represent the dispersity values as determined by THF SEC.

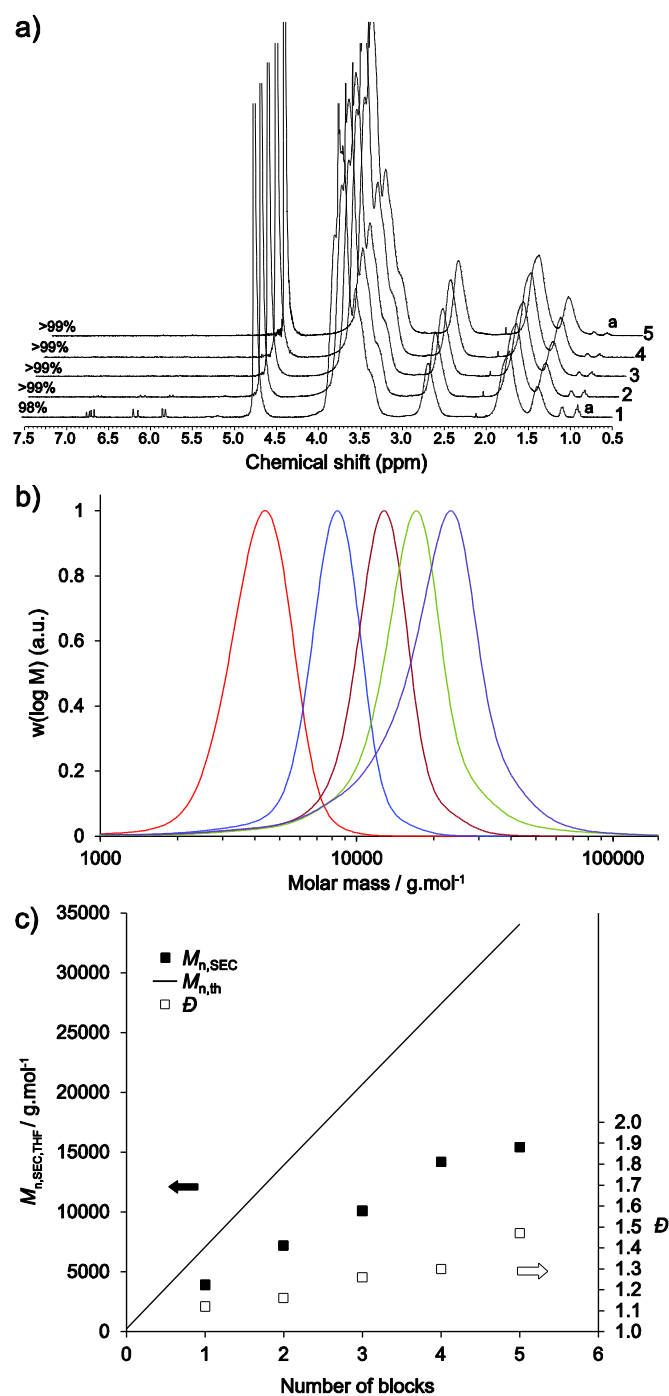


Figure S10. (a) ¹H NMR spectra (D₂O, 300 MHz) showing the conversion of NAM for each new block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerizations performed in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) SEC chromatograms for successive chain extension of the pentablock [PNAM₅₀]₅ (Scheme 3 and Table 1, multiblock c) at 100 °C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S3 for reaction conditions); (c) Evolution of the number-average molar masses and dispersity values with the number of blocks during the preparation of [PNAM₅₀]₅. The black line represents the theoretical molar mass calculated from Equation 2. The filled squares represent the experimental molar masses obtained by THF SEC. The empty squares represent the dispersity values as determined by THF SEC.

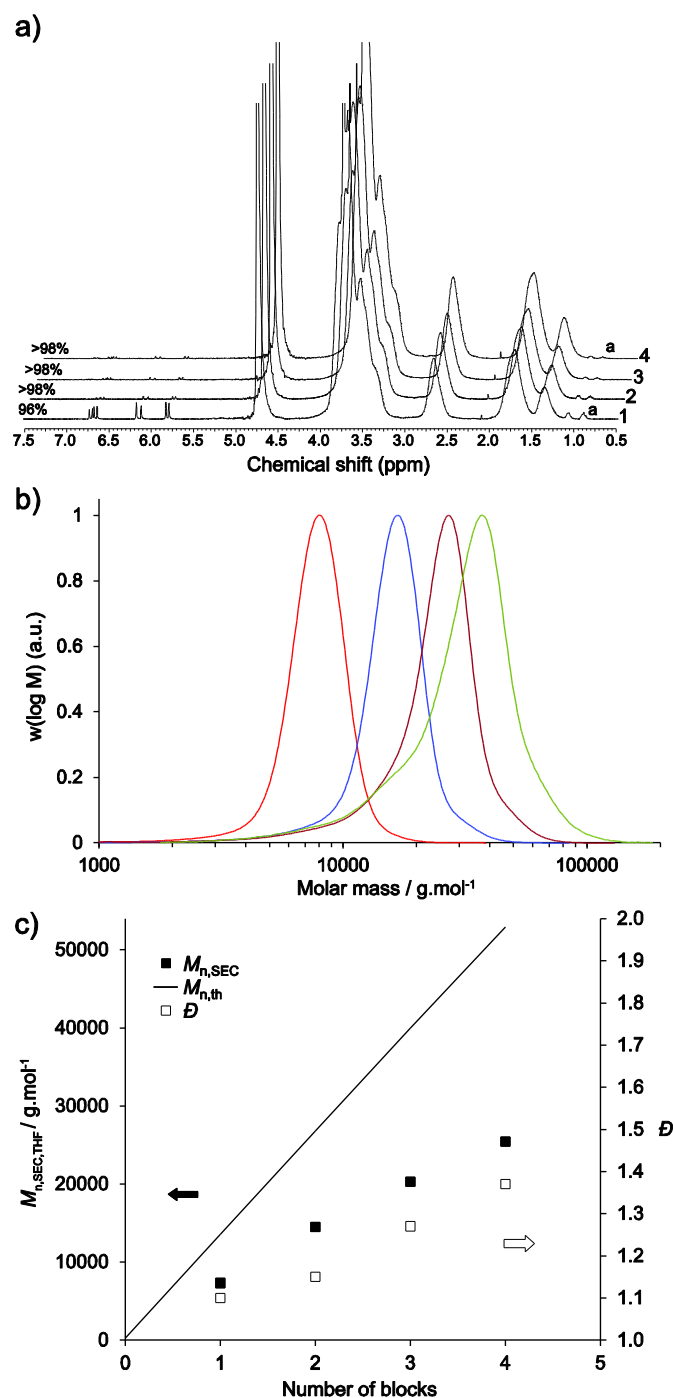


Figure S11. (a) ^1H NMR spectra (D_2O , 300 MHz) showing the conversion of NAM for each new block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerizations performed in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) SEC chromatograms for successive chain extension of the tetrablock $[\text{PNAM}_{100}]_4$ (Scheme 3 and Table 1, multiblock **d**) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S4 for reaction conditions); (c) Evolution of the number-average molar masses and dispersity values with the number of blocks during the preparation of $[\text{PNAM}_{100}]_4$. The black line represents the theoretical molar mass calculated from Equation 2. The filled squares represent the experimental molar masses obtained by THF SEC. The empty squares represent the dispersity values as determined by THF SEC.

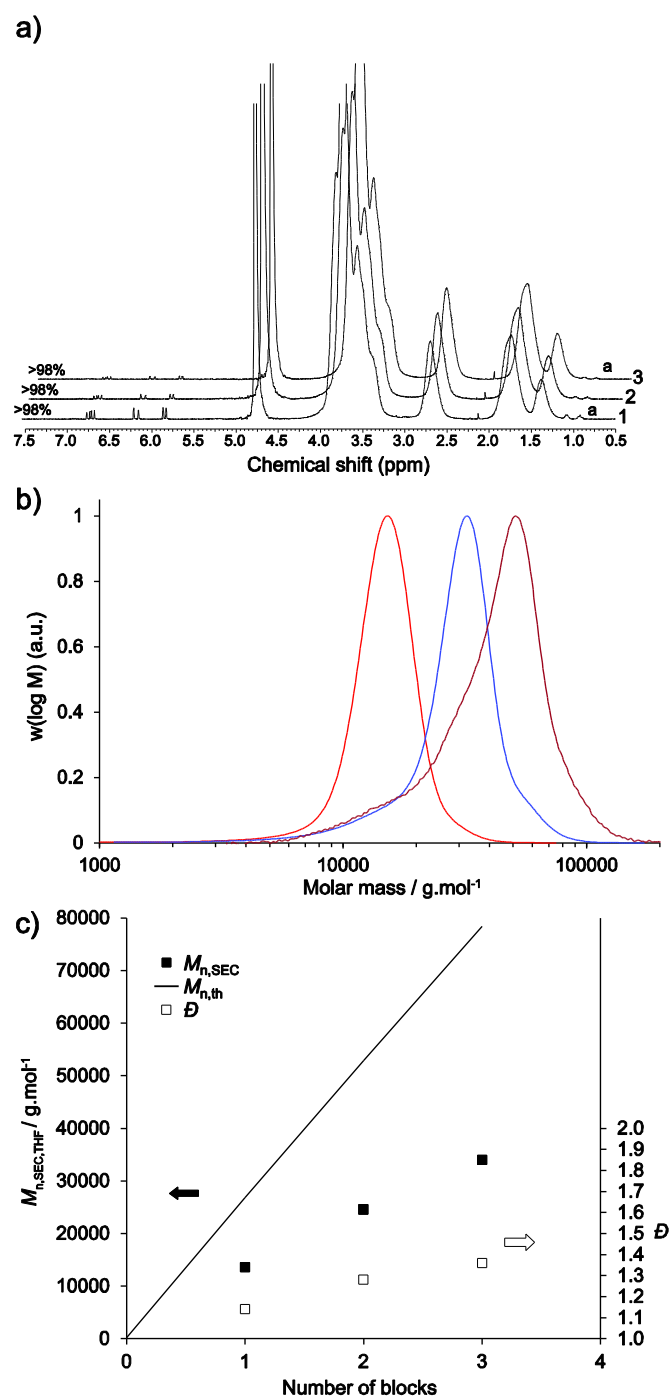


Figure S12. (a) ^1H NMR spectra (D₂O, 300 MHz) showing the conversion of NAM for each new block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerizations performed in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) SEC chromatograms for successive chain extension of the triblock [PNAM₂₀₀]₃ (Scheme 3 and Table 1, multiblock e) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S5 for reaction conditions); (c) Evolution of the number-average molar masses and dispersity values with the number of blocks during the preparation of [PNAM₂₀₀]₃. The black line represents the theoretical molar mass calculated from Equation 2. The filled squares represent the experimental molar masses obtained by THF SEC. The empty squares represent the dispersity values as determined by THF SEC.

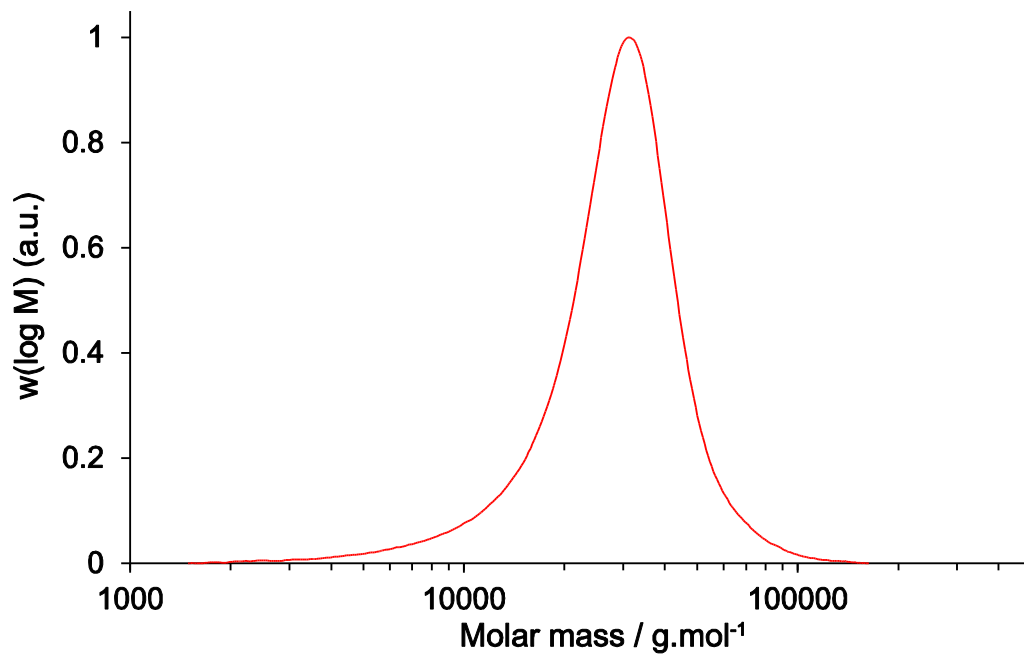


Figure S13. SEC chromatogram of the homopolymer PNAM₄₀₀ (Scheme 3 and Table 1, homopolymer **f**) synthesized by RAFT polymerization at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block), in the presence of air and without degassing. SEC was performed on the THF system. Refer to Table S6 for exact reaction conditions.

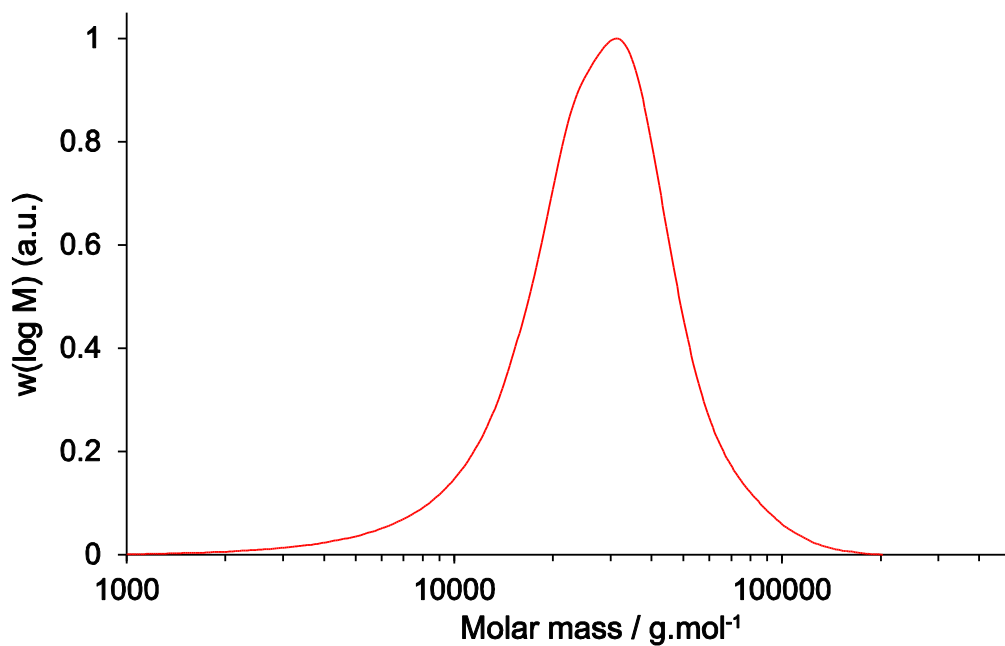


Figure S14. SEC chromatogram of the homopolymer PNAM₆₀₀ (Scheme 3 and Table 1, homopolymer **g**) synthesized by RAFT polymerization at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block), in the presence of air and without degassing. SEC was performed on the THF system. Refer to Table S7 for exact reaction conditions.

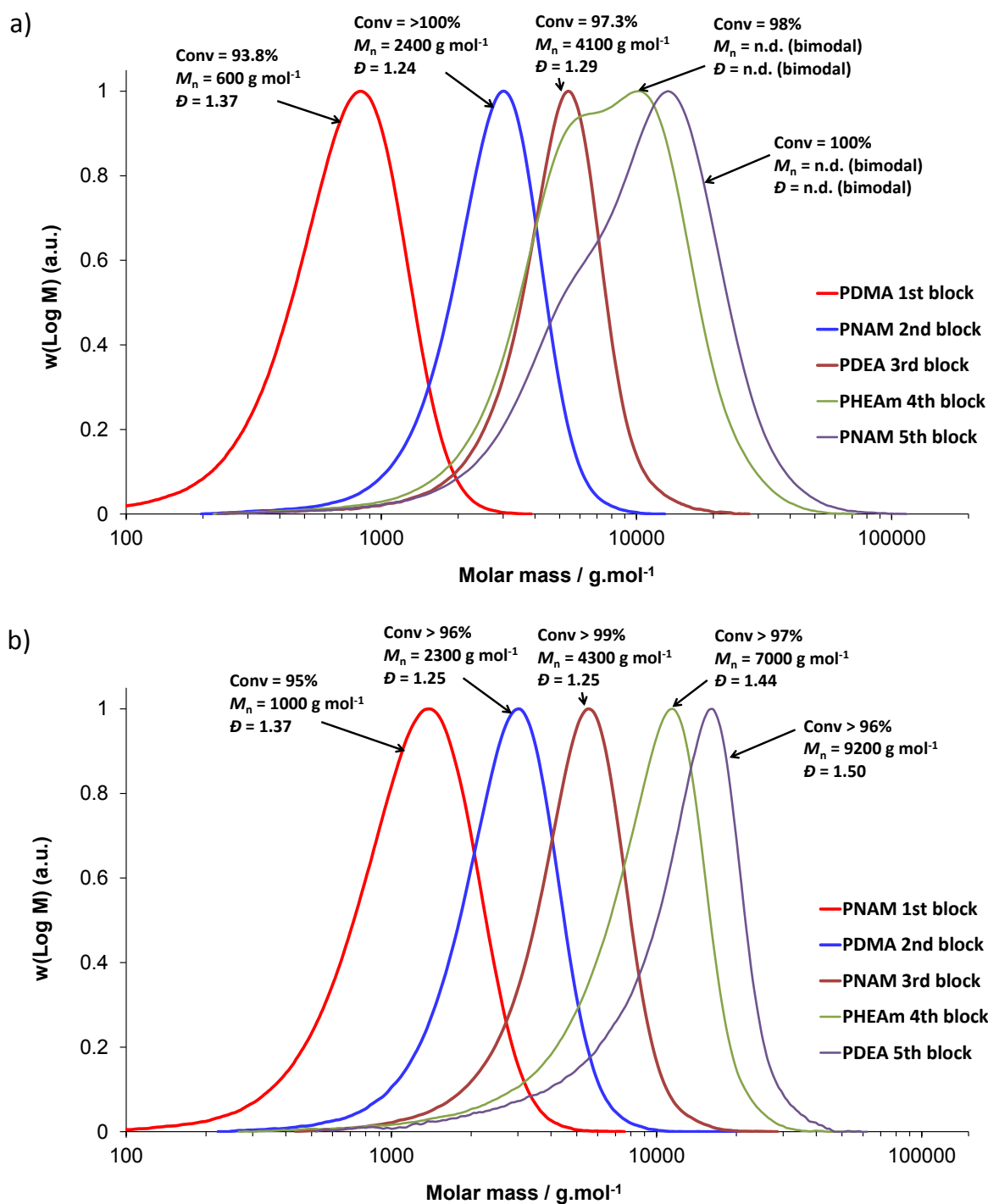


Figure S15. Comparison of the SEC chromatograms of the two pentablock copolymers (a) PNAM₂₀-*b*-PDMA₂₀-*b*-PDEA₂₀-*b*-PHEAm₂₀-*b*-PNAM₂₀ and (b) PNAM₂₀-*b*-PDMA₂₀-*b*-PNAM₂₀-*b*-PHEAm₂₀-*b*-PDEA₂₀ showing the impact of having the thermoresponsive block PDEA₂₀ as the 3rd block or as the 5th block. Both multiblock copolymers have been prepared in similar condition (see Table S8) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) in the presence of air and without degassing. SEC analyses were performed on the DMF system with PMMA standards.

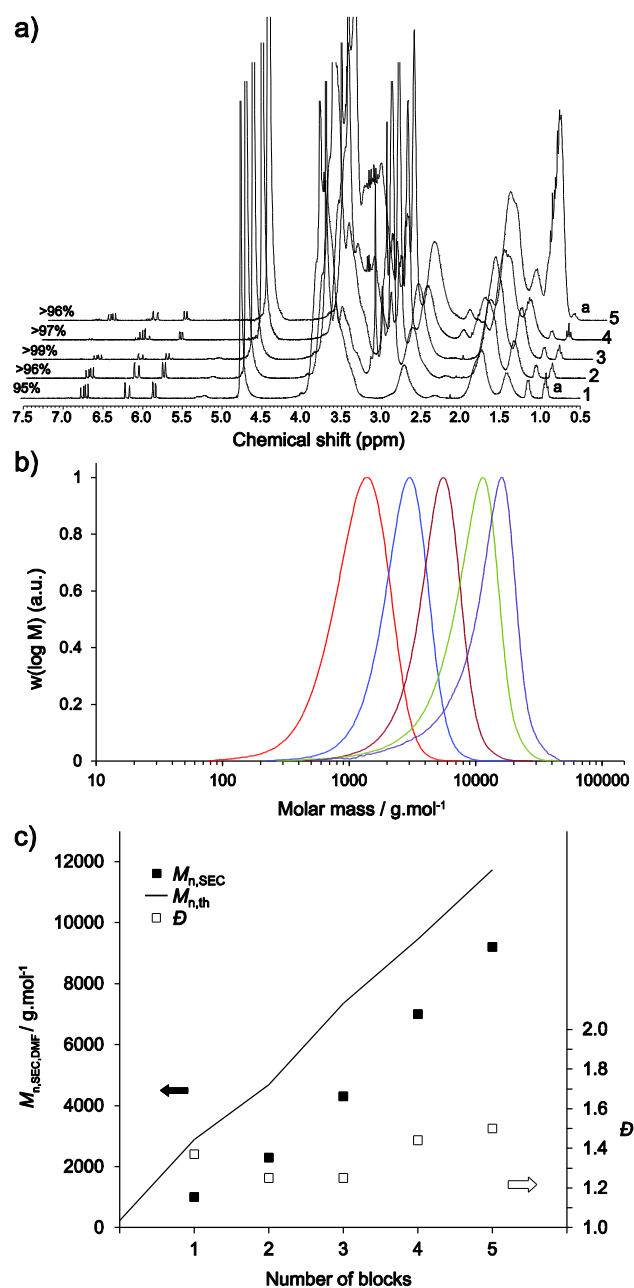


Figure S16. (a) ¹H NMR spectra (D₂O, 300 MHz) showing the monomer conversion for each block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerization in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) SEC chromatograms for successive block extensions of the pentablock PNAM₂₀-*b*-PDMA₂₀-*b*-PNAM₂₀-*b*-PHEAm₂₀-*b*-PDEA₂₀ (Scheme 4 and Table 2, multiblock **i**) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S9 for reaction conditions); (c) Evolution of the number-average molar mass and dispersity with the number of blocks during the preparation of the pentablock copolymer. The black line represents the theoretical molar mass calculated from Equation 2. The filled squares represent the experimental molar masses obtained by DMF SEC. The empty squares represent the dispersity values as determined by DMF SEC.

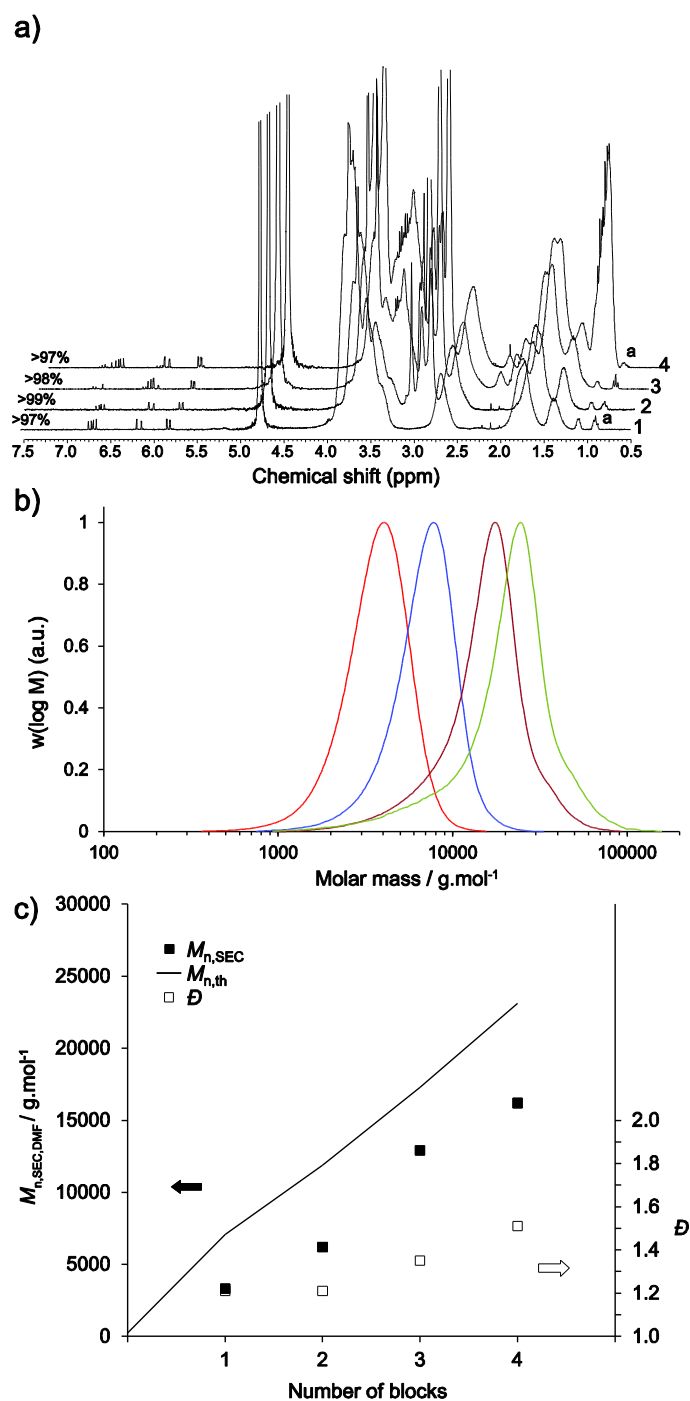


Figure S17. (a) ^1H NMR spectra (D_2O , 300 MHz) showing the monomer conversion for each block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerization in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) MWDs for successive block extensions of the tetrablock $\text{PNAM}_{50}\text{-}b\text{-PDMA}_{50}\text{-}b\text{-PHEAm}_{50}\text{-}b\text{-PDEA}_{50}$ (Scheme 4 and Table 2, multiblock **j**) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S10 for reaction conditions); (c) Evolution of the number-average molar mass and dispersity with the number of blocks during the preparation of the tetrablock copolymer. The black line represents the theoretical molar mass calculated from Equation 2. The filled squares represent the experimental molar masses obtained by DMF SEC. The empty squares represent the dispersity values as determined by DMF SEC.

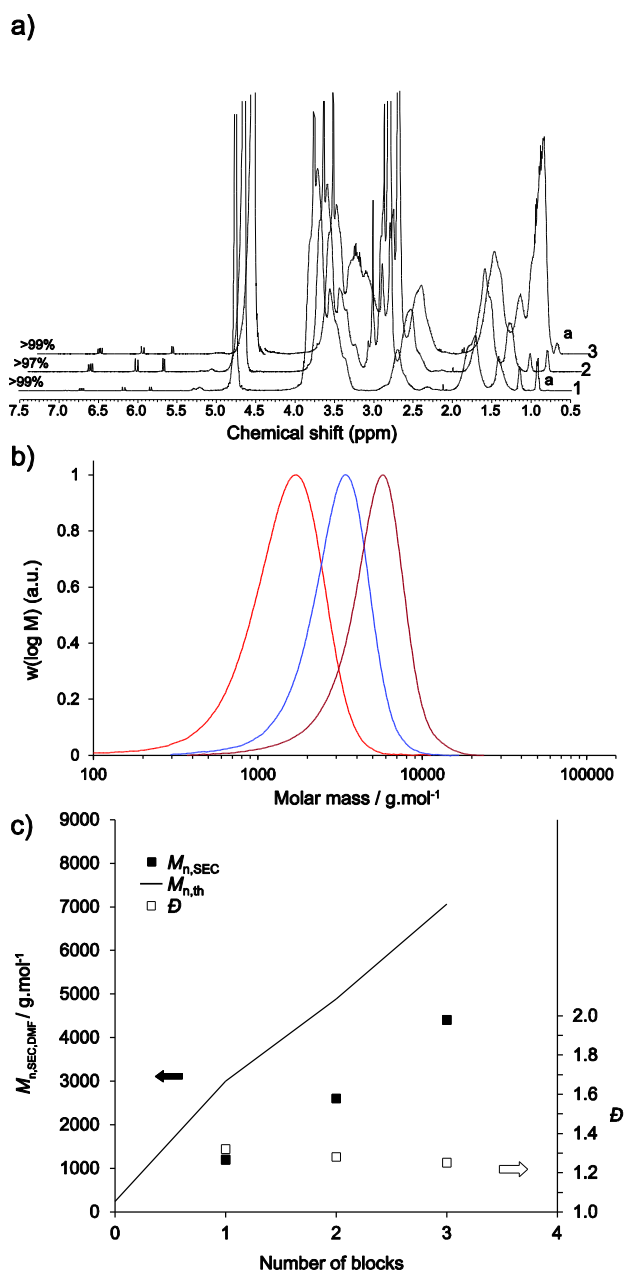


Figure S18. (a) ^1H NMR spectra (D_2O , 300 MHz) showing the monomer conversion for each block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerization in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) MWDs for successive block extensions of the triblock $\text{PNAM}_{20}\text{-}b\text{-PDMA}_{20}\text{-}b\text{-PHEAm}_{20}$ (Scheme 4 and Table 2, multiblock **k**) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S11 for reaction conditions); (c) Evolution of the number-average molar mass and dispersity with the number of blocks during the preparation of the triblock copolymer. The black line represents the theoretical molar mass calculated from Equation 2. The filled squares represent the experimental molar masses obtained by DMF SEC. The empty squares represent the dispersity values as determined by DMF SEC.

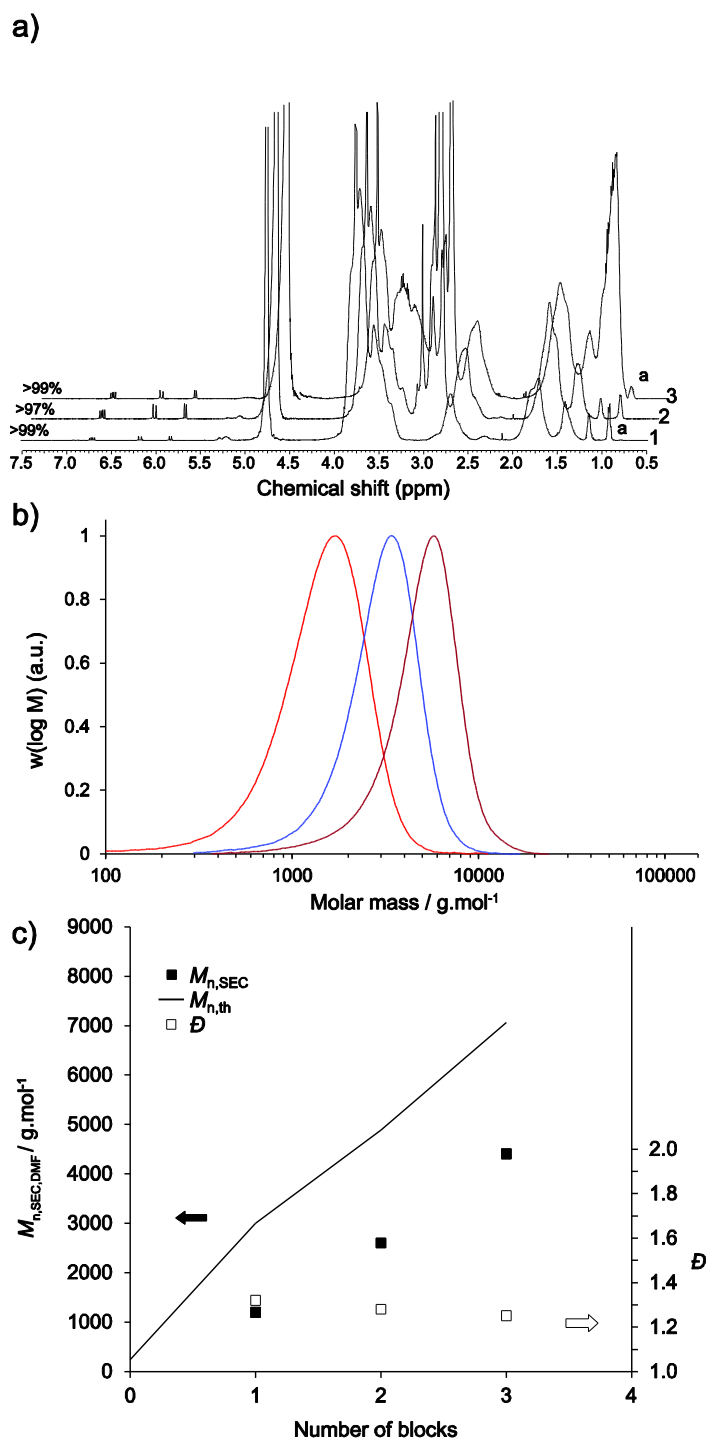


Figure S19. (a) ^1H NMR spectra (D_2O , 300 MHz) showing the monomer conversion for each block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerization in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) MWDs for successive block extensions of the triblock $\text{PNAM}_{20}\text{-}b\text{-PDMA}_{20}\text{-}b\text{-PDEA}_{20}$ (Scheme 4 and Table 2, multiblock I) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min. per block) (see Table S12 for reaction conditions); (c) Evolution of the number-average molar mass and dispersity with the number of blocks during the preparation of the triblock copolymer. The black line represents the theoretical molar mass calculated from Equation 2. The filled squares represent the experimental molar masses obtained by DMF SEC. The empty squares represent the dispersity values as determined by DMF SEC.

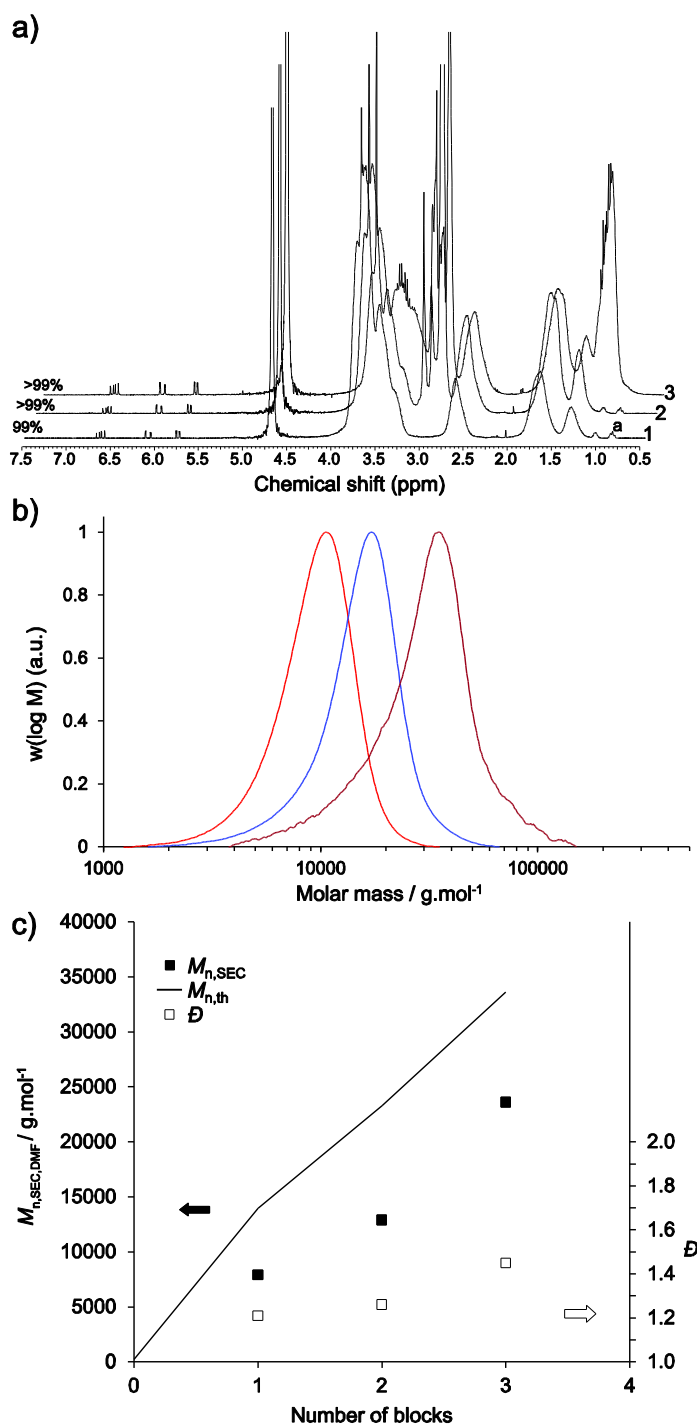


Figure S20. (a) ^1H NMR spectra (D₂O, 300 MHz) showing the monomer conversion for each block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerization in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) MWDs for successive block extensions of the triblock PNAM₁₀₀-*b*-PDMA₁₀₀-*b*-PDEA₁₀₀ (Scheme 4 and Table 2, multiblock **m**) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S13 for reaction conditions); (c) Evolution of the number-average molar mass and dispersity with the number of blocks during the preparation of the triblock copolymer. The black line represents the theoretical molar mass calculated from Equation 2. The filled squares represent the experimental molar masses obtained by DMF SEC. The empty squares represent the dispersity values as determined by DMF SEC.

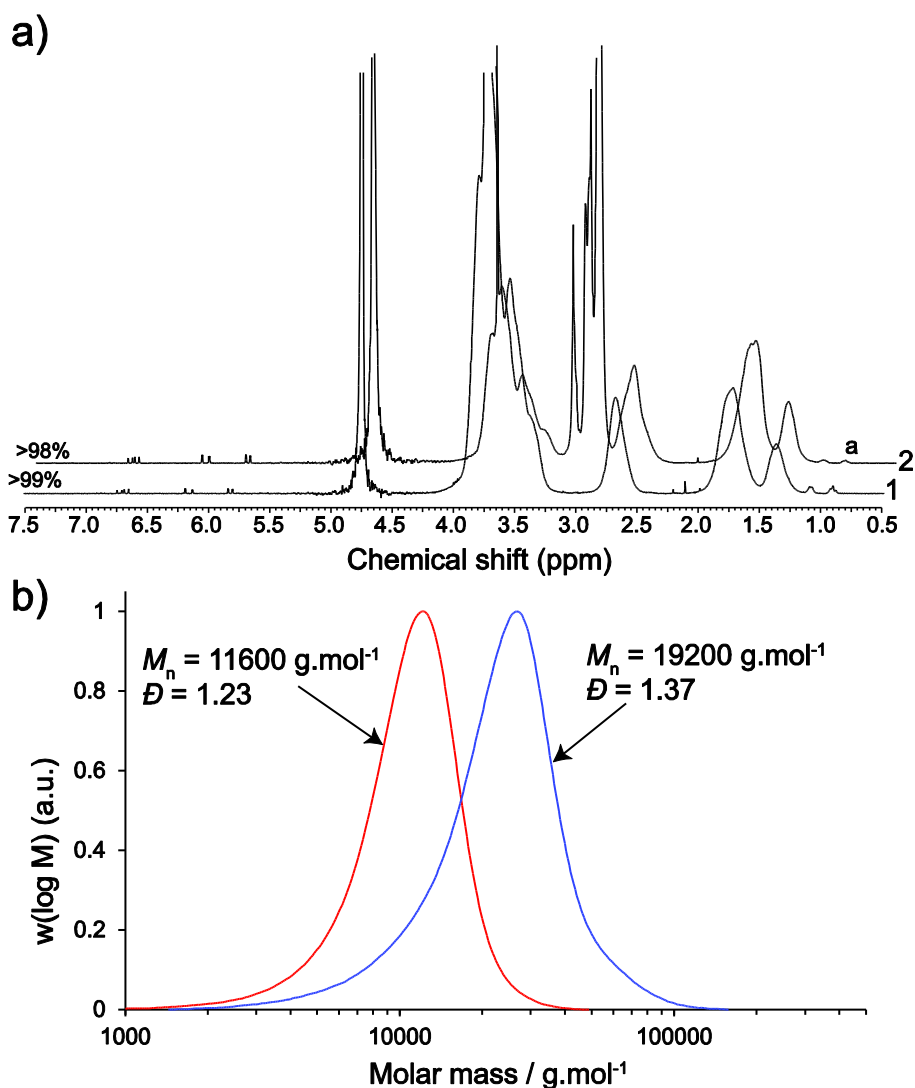


Figure S21. (a) ^1H NMR spectra (D_2O , 300 MHz) showing the monomer conversion for each block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerization in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) SEC chromatograms for successive block extensions of the diblock $\text{PNAM}_{150}\text{-}b\text{-PDMA}_{150}$ (Scheme 4 and Table 2, multiblock **n**) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S14 for reaction conditions), as well as number-average molar masses and dispersity values for the different blocks as determined with the DMF SEC system.

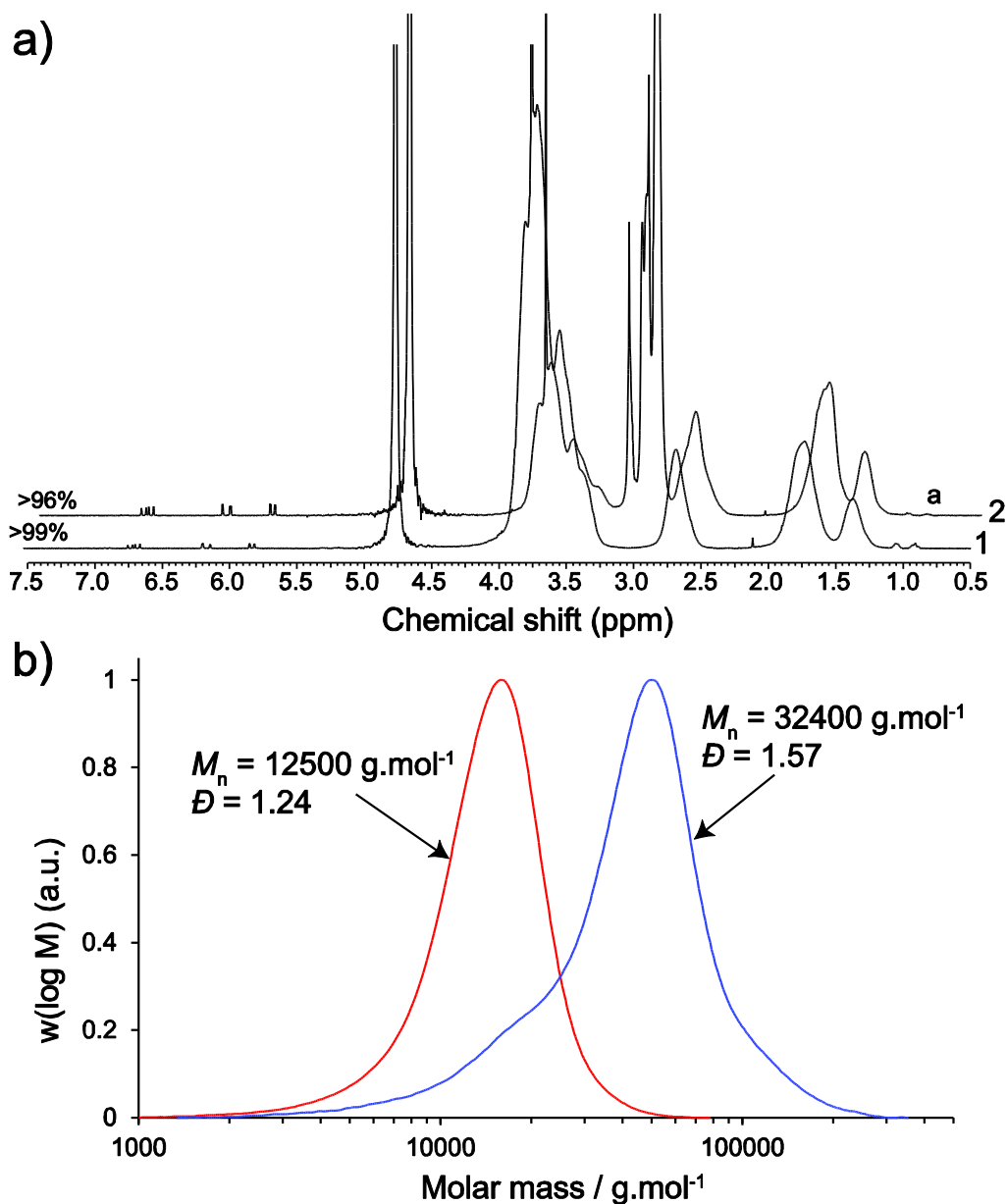


Figure S22. (a) ¹H NMR spectra (D₂O, 300 MHz) showing the monomer conversion for each block after 3 min of iterative RAFT polymerization in the presence of air and without degassing; (b) SEC chromatograms for successive block extensions of the diblock copolymer PNAM₂₀₀-*b*-PDMA₂₀₀ (Scheme 4 and Table 2, multiblock **o**) at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block) (see Table S15 for reaction conditions), as well as number-average molar masses and dispersity values for the different blocks as determined with the DMF SEC system.

Table S1. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the heptablock [PNAM₁₀]₇ (Scheme 3, multiblock **a**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Monomer	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM
DP _{targeted}	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
m _{monomer added} (mg)	400	400	400	400	400	400	400
m _{CTA added} (mg)	67.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
m _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.611	0.458	0.705	0.916	1.145	1.409	1.666
m _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.611	0.702	0.902	1.168	1.472	1.821	2.176
V _{H₂O added} (mL)	0.264	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.352
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.088	-	-	-	-	-	-
% H ₂ O	75.0	87.5	91.7	93.7	95.0	95.8	96.4
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	0.709	1.417	2.125	2.834	3.542	4.250	4.959
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	2.7 10 ⁻³	1.5 10 ⁻³	1.3 10 ⁻³	1.3 10 ⁻³	1.3 10 ⁻³	1.3 10 ⁻³	1.4 10 ⁻³
[NAM] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	4.00	2.00	1.33	1.00	0.80	0.67	0.57
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	150	130	102	78	62	50	42
L ^[c] (%)	99.6	99.5	99.3	99.1	98.9	98.6	98.3
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	99.6	99.1	98.4	97.5	96.3	95.0	93.4

[a] m_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added m_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S2. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the hexablock [PNAM₂₀]₆ (Scheme 3, multiblock **b**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3	4	5	6
Monomer	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM
DP _{targeted}	20	20	20	20	20	20
<hr/>						
m _{monomer added} (mg)	400	400	400	400	400	400
m _{CTA added} (mg)	33.8	-	-	-	-	-
m _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.458	0.458	0.705	0.916	1.145	1.309
m _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.458	0.641	0.885	1.164	1.471	1.721
V _{H2O added} (mL)	0.282	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.352
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.070	-	-	-	-	-
<hr/>						
% H ₂ O	80.1	90.0	93.4	95.0	96.0	96.7
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	0.708	1.416	2.125	2.833	3.541	4.250
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	2.0 10 ⁻³	1.4 10 ⁻³	1.3 10 ⁻³	1.3 10 ⁻³	1.3 10 ⁻³	1.2 10 ⁻³
[NAM] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	4.00	2.00	1.33	1.00	0.80	0.67
<hr/>						
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	100	71	52	39	31	27
L ^[c] (%)	99.4	99.0	98.6	98.2	97.7	97.4
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	99.4	98.4	97.1	95.3	93.2	90.7

[a] m_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added m_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S3. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the pentablock [PNAM₅₀]₅ (Scheme 3, multiblock **c**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3	4	5
Monomer	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM
DP _{targeted}	50	50	50	50	50
m _{monomer added} (mg)	400	400	400	400	400
m _{C_{TA} added} (mg)	13.5	-	-	-	-
m _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.229	0.366	0.555	0.733	0.916
m _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.229	0.458	0.683	0.924	1.175
V _{H₂O added} (mL)	0.317	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.352
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.035	-	-	-	-
% H ₂ O	80.1	90.0	93.4	95.0	96.0
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	0.708	1.417	2.125	2.833	3.542
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	1.0 10 ⁻³	1.0 10 ⁻³	9.9 10 ⁻⁴	1.0 10 ⁻³	1.0 10 ⁻³
[NAM] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	4.00	2.00	1.33	1.00	0.80
[C _{TA}] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	80	40	27	20	16
L ^[c] (%)	99.3	98.2	97.4	96.5	95.6
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	99.3	97.5	95.0	91.6	87.6

[a] m_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added m_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S4. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the tetrablock [PNAM₁₀₀]₄ (Scheme 3, multiblock **d**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3	4
Monomer	NAM	NAM	NAM	NAM
DP _{targeted}	100	100	100	100
m _{monomer added} (mg)	400	400	400	400
m _{CTA added} (mg)	6.7	-	-	-
m _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.183	0.395	0.458	0.611
m _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.183	0.468	0.589	0.776
V _{H₂O added} (mL)	0.430	0.566	0.453	0.352
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.023	-	-	-
% H ₂ O	94.9	97.7	98.4	98.7
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	0.810	1.733	2.542	3.352
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	7.0 10 ⁻⁴	8.4 10 ⁻⁴	7.2 10 ⁻⁴	7.2 10 ⁻⁴
[NAM] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3.50	1.64	1.11	0.85
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	50	20	16	12
L ^[c] (%)	98.8	96.5	95.6	94.3
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	98.8	95.3	91.1	85.9

[a] m_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added m_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S5. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the triblock [PNAM₂₀₀]₃ (Scheme 3, multiblock **e**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3
Monomer	NAM	NAM	NAM
DP _{targeted}	200	200	200
<hr/>			
m _{monomer added} (mg)	400	400	400
m _{CTA added} (mg)	3.4	-	-
m _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.183	0.278	0.398
m _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.183	0.351	0.496
V _{H2O added} (mL)	0.430	0.453	0.453
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.023	-	-
<hr/>			
% H ₂ O	94.9	97.5	98.3
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	0.810	1.619	2.429
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	7.0 10 ⁻⁴	6.7 10 ⁻⁴	6.3 10 ⁻⁴
[NAM] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3.50	1.75	1.17
<hr/>			
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	25	13	9
L ^[c] (%)	97.7	94.8	92.8
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	97.7	92.5	85.8

[a] m_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added m_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S6. Experimental conditions for the preparation of PNAM₄₀₀ (Scheme 3, multiblock **f**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100 °C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min polymerization, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1
Monomer	NAM
DP _{targeted}	400
$m_{\text{monomer added}}$ (mg)	500
$m_{\text{CTA added}}$ (mg)	2.1
$m_{\text{VA-044 added}}$ (mg)	0.191
$V_{\text{H}_2\text{O added}}$ (mL)	0.671
$V_{\text{dioxane added}}$ (mL)	0.037
% H ₂ O	95.0
V_{total} (mL)	1.181
$[\text{VA-044}]_0$ (mol.L ⁻¹)	$5 \cdot 10^{-4}$
$[\text{NAM}]_0$ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3
$[\text{CTA}]_0/[\text{VA-044}]_0$	15
L ^[a] (%)	95.5

[a] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group).

Table S7. Experimental conditions for the preparation of PNAM₆₀₀ (Scheme 3, multiblock **g**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100 °C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min polymerization, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1
Monomer	NAM
DP _{targeted}	600
<hr/>	
m _{monomer added} (mg)	500
m _{CTA added} (mg)	1.4
m _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.191
V _{H₂O added} (mL)	0.671
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.037
<hr/>	
% H ₂ O	95.0
V _{total} (mL)	1.181
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	5 10 ⁻⁴
[NAM] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3
<hr/>	
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	10
L ^[a] (%)	93.5

[a] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group).

Table S8. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the pentablock copolymer PNAM₁₀-*b*-PDMA₁₀-*b*-PNAM₁₀-*b*-PHEAm₁₀-*b*-PDEA₁₀ (Scheme 4, multiblock **h**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3	4	5
Monomer	NAM	DMA	NAM	HEAm	DEA
DP _{targeted}	10	10	10	10	10
<i>m</i> _{monomer added} (mg)	400	281	400	326	360
<i>m</i> _{CTA added} (mg)	67.6				
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.611	0.573	0.763	1.145	1.527
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.611	0.817	0.992	1.423	1.925
V _{H₂O} (mL)	0.264	0.220	0.317	0.273	0.319
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.088	0.055	0.035	0.000	0.000
% H ₂ O	75.0	84.6	90.1	92.4	94.1
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	0.708	1.275	1.983	2.550	3.258
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	2.7 10 ⁻³	2.0 10 ⁻³	1.6 10 ⁻³	1.7 10 ⁻³	1.8 10 ⁻³
[M] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	4.00	2.22	1.43	1.11	0.87
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	150	112	92	64	48
L ^[c] (%)	99.6	99.4	99.2	98.9	98.5
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	99.6	99.0	98.2	97.1	95.7

[a] *m*_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added *m*_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S9. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the pentablock copolymer PNAM₂₀-*b*-PDMA₂₀-*b*-PNAM₂₀-*b*-PHEAm₂₀-*b*-PDEA₂₀ (Scheme 4, multiblock **i**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3	4	5
Monomer	NAM	DMA	NAM	HEAm	DEA
DP _{targeted}	20	20	20	20	20
<i>m</i> _{monomer added} (mg)	400	281	400	326	360
<i>m</i> _{CTA added} (mg)	33.8				
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.458	0.458	0.611	1.018	1.145
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.458	0.641	0.791	1.239	1.492
V _{H₂O} (mL)	0.264	0.220	0.317	0.273	0.319
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.088	0.055	0.035	0.000	0.000
% H ₂ O	75.0	84.6	90.1	92.4	94.1
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	0.708	1.275	1.983	2.550	3.258
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	2.0 10 ⁻³	1.6 10 ⁻³	1.2 10 ⁻³	1.5 10 ⁻³	1.4 10 ⁻³
[M] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	4.00	2.22	1.43	1.11	0.87
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	100	71	58	37	31
L ^[c] (%)	99.4	99.0	98.8	98.1	97.7
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	99.4	98.4	97.2	95.4	93.2

[a] *m*_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added *m*_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S10. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the tetrablock copolymer PNAM₅₀-*b*-PDMA₅₀-*b*-PHEAm₅₀-*b*-PDEA₅₀ (Scheme 4, multiblock **j**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3	4
Monomer	NAM	DMA	HEAm	DEA
DP _{targeted}	50	50	50	50
m _{monomer added} (mg)	400	281	326	360
m _{CTA added} (mg)	13.5			
m _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.229	0.366	0.611	0.833
m _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.229	0.458	0.739	1.040
V _{H₂O} (mL)	0.362	0.179	0.218	0.319
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.091	0.045	0.055	0.000
% H ₂ O	79.9	85.6	89.3	92.2
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	0.810	1.325	1.893	2.601
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	8.8 10 ⁻⁴	1.1 10 ⁻³	1.2 10 ⁻³	1.2 10 ⁻³
[M] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3.50	2.14	1.50	1.09
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	80	40	25	18
L ^[c] (%)	99.3	98.2	97.2	96.1
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	99.3	97.5	94.8	91.0

[a] m_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added m_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S11. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the triblock copolymer PNAM₂₀-*b*-PDMA₂₀-*b*-PDEA₂₀ (Scheme 4, multiblock **k**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3
Monomer	NAM	DMA	DEA
DP _{targeted}	20	20	20
<i>m</i> _{monomer added} (mg)	500	351	450
<i>m</i> _{CTA added} (mg)	42.2		
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.716	0.573	0.881
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.716	0.859	1.122
V _{H₂O} (mL)	0.425	0.225	0.376
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.142	0	0
% H ₂ O	74.9	82.1	87.8
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	1.012	1.603	2.466
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	2.2 10 ⁻³	1.7 10 ⁻³	1.4 10 ⁻³
[M] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3.50	2.21	1.44
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	80	67	51
L ^[c] (%)	99.3	98.9	98.6
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	99.3	98.2	96.8

[a] *m*_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added *m*_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S12. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the triblock copolymer PNAM₂₀-*b*-PDMA₂₀-*b*-PHEAm₂₀ (Scheme 4, multiblock I) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3
Monomer	NAM	DMA	HEAm
DP _{targeted}	20	20	20
<i>m</i> _{monomer added} (mg)	500	351	408
<i>m</i> _{CTA added} (mg)	42.2		
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.716	0.498	0.881
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.716	0.784	1.101
V _{H₂O} (mL)	0.425	0.334	0.814
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.142	0	0
% H ₂ O	74.9	84.4	91.8
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	1.012	1.721	2.902
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	2.2 10 ⁻³	1.4 10 ⁻³	1.2 10 ⁻³
[M] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3.50	2.06	1.22
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	80	73	52
L ^[c] (%)	99.3	99.0	98.6
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	99.3	98.3	96.9

[a] *m*_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added *m*_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S13. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the triblock copolymer PNAM₁₀₀-*b*-PDMA₁₀₀-*b*-PDEA₁₀₀ (Scheme 4, multiblock **m**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2	3
Monomer	NAM	DMA	DEA
DP _{targeted}	100	100	100
<i>m</i> _{monomer added} (mg)	500	351	450
<i>m</i> _{CTA added} (mg)	8.4		
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.229	0.382	0.674
<i>m</i> _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.229	0.474	0.807
V _{H₂O} (mL)	0.538	0.225	0.221
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.028	0	0
% H ₂ O	95.1	96.5	97.2
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	1.012	1.602	2.310
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	7.0 10 ⁻⁴	9.1 10 ⁻⁴	1.1 10 ⁻³
[M] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3.50	2.21	1.53
[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	50	24	14
L ^[c] (%)	98.8	97.1	95.2
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	98.8	96.0	91.3

[a] *m*_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added *m*_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S14. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the diblock copolymer PNAM₁₅₀-*b*-PDMA₁₅₀ (Scheme 4, multiblock **n**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2
Monomer	NAM	DMA
DP _{targeted}	150	150
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m _{monomer added} (mg)	500	527
m _{CTA added} (mg)	5.6	
m _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.231	0.491
m _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.231	0.583
V _{H₂O} (mL)	0.510	0.781
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.057	0
<hr/>		
% H ₂ O	89.9	95.8
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	1.012	2.341
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	7.1 10 ⁻⁴	7.7 10 ⁻⁴
[M] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3.50	2.27
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[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	33	13
L ^[c] (%)	98.2	94.8
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	98.2	93.1

[a] m_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added m_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains

Table S15. Experimental conditions for the preparation of the diblock copolymer PNAM₂₀₀-*b*-PDMA₂₀₀ (Scheme 4, multiblock **o**) in H₂O/dioxane at 100°C with VA-044 as initiator (3 min per block, in the presence of air, and without degassing).

Cycles	1	2
Monomer	NAM	DMA
DP _{targeted}	200	200
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m _{monomer added} (mg)	500	702
m _{CTA added} (mg)	4.2	
m _{VA-044 added} (mg)	0.229	0.636
m _{VA-044 initial} ^[a] (mg)	0.229	0.728
V _{H₂O} (mL)	0.510	1.041
V _{dioxane added} (mL)	0.057	0
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% H ₂ O	89.9	96.5
V _{total} ^[b] (mL)	1.012	2.783
[VA-044] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	7.0 10 ⁻⁴	8.1 10 ⁻⁴
[M] ₀ (mol.L ⁻¹)	3.50	2.55
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[CTA] ₀ /[VA-044] ₀	25	8
L ^[c] (%)	96.2	88.7
Cumulative L ^[d] (%)	96.2	85.3

[a] m_{VA-044 initial} represents the sum of the initiator added m_{VA-044 added} + the amount of initiator remaining from the previous block. [b] represents the sum of the volume of the solvent added + volume of the monomer added + V_{total} previous block; [c] theoretical estimation of the fraction of living chains per block (e.g. extendable chains having the Z group); [d] theoretical estimation of the cumulated fraction of living chains