

Supporting Information

Synthesis and characterization of triblock copolymer of PLA-*b*-PBT-*b*-PLA and its effect on crystallization of PLA

Jian Zhou^a, Zhiqiang Jiang^{a,b}, Zongbao Wang^a, Jianqiang Zhang^{a,c}, Jun Li^d, Ya Li^a,
Junwu Zhang^a, Peng Chen*^{a,e} and Qun Gu *^a

^aNingbo Key Laboratory of Polymer Materials, Ningbo Institute of Materials
Technology and Engineering, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Ningbo, Zhejiang
315201, PR China

^bSchool of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh, West Mains Road, Edinburgh, EH9 3
JJ, United Kingdom

^cSchool of Petrochemical Technology, Lanzhou University of Technology, Lanzhou,
730050, PR China.

^d School of Chemical Engineering and Technology, Harbin Institute of Technology
150001, PR China

^e Key Laboratory of New Marine Materials and Application Technology, Ningbo
Institute of Materials Technology and Engineering, Chinese Academy of Sciences

* To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: pchen@nimte.ac.cn; Tel: +86-574-86685283; Fax: +86-574-86685186; guqun@nimte.ac.cn; Tel: +86-574-86685183; Fax: +86-574-86685186

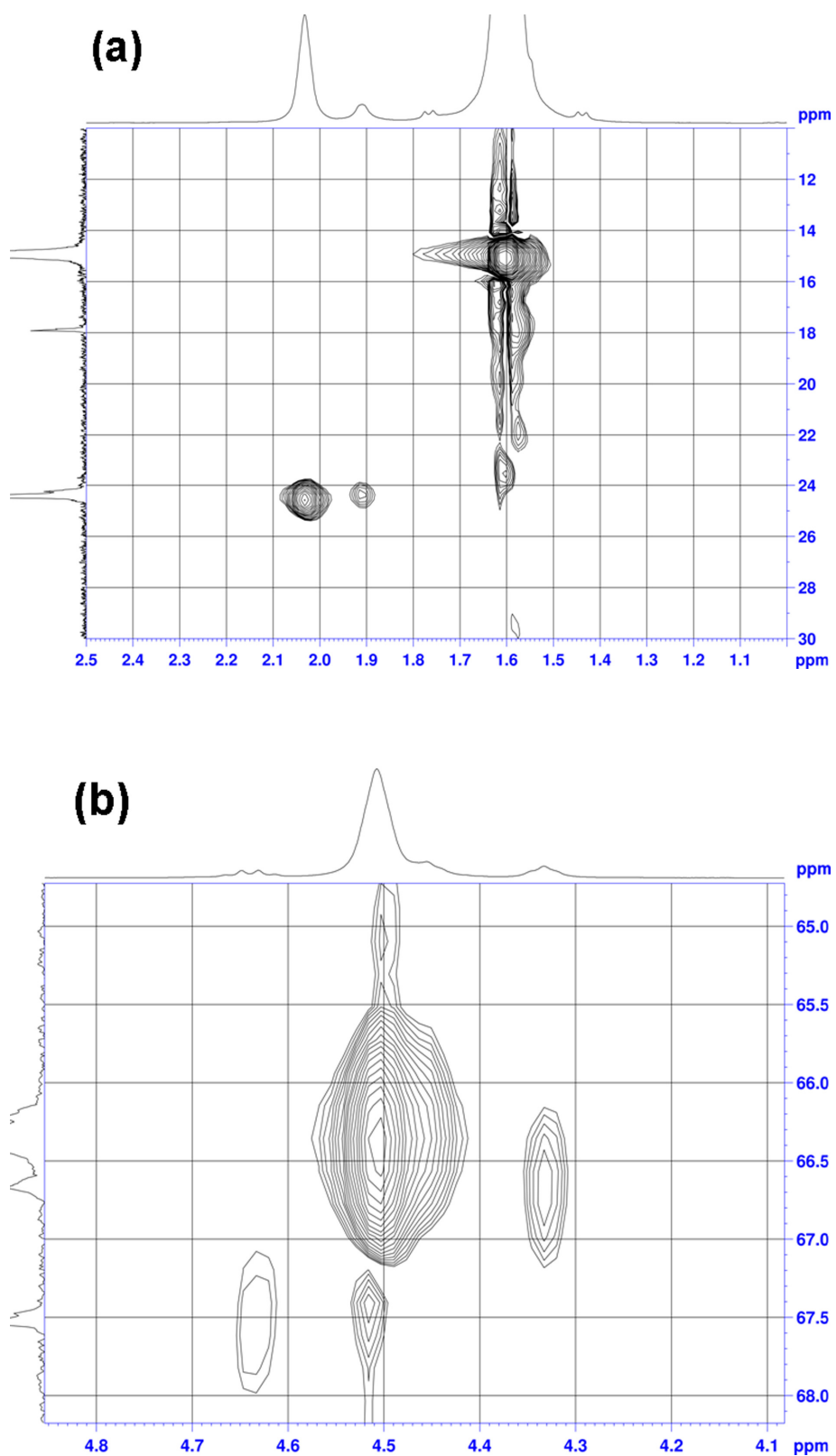
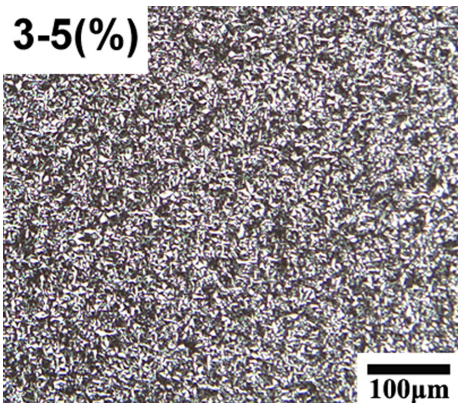
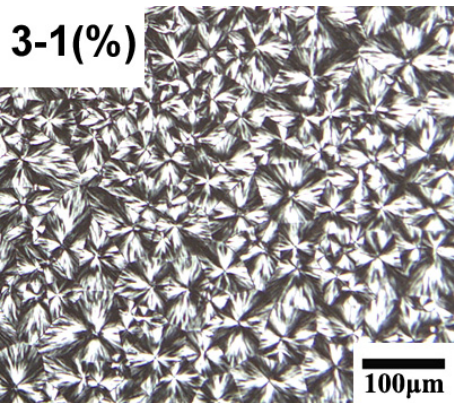
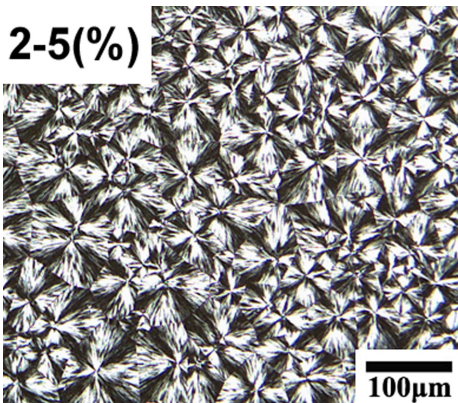
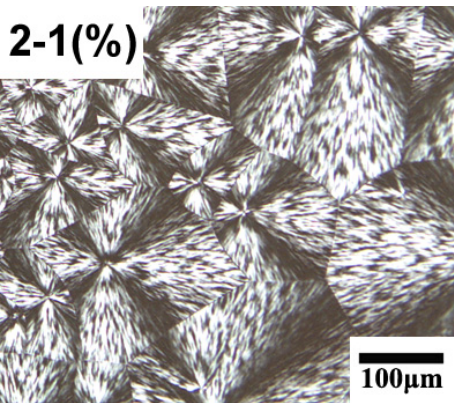
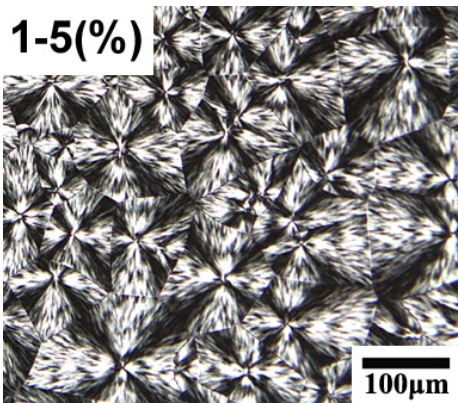
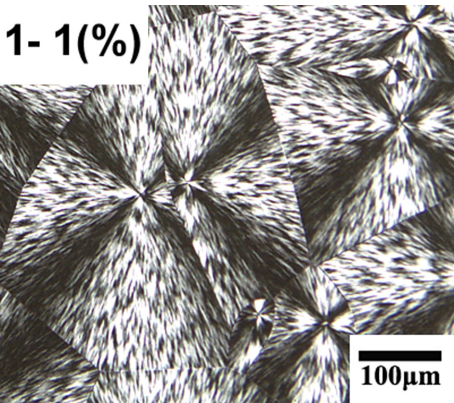
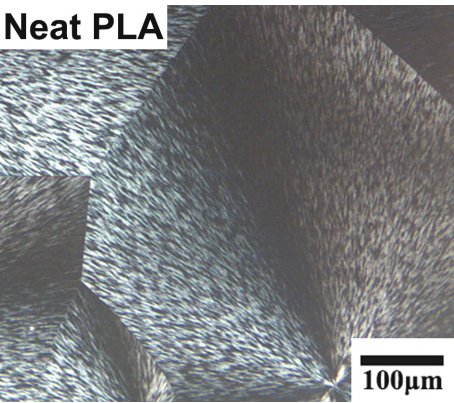


Fig. S1 ^1H - ^{13}C HSQC NMR spectra of Copolymer 1 with particular regions enlarged.



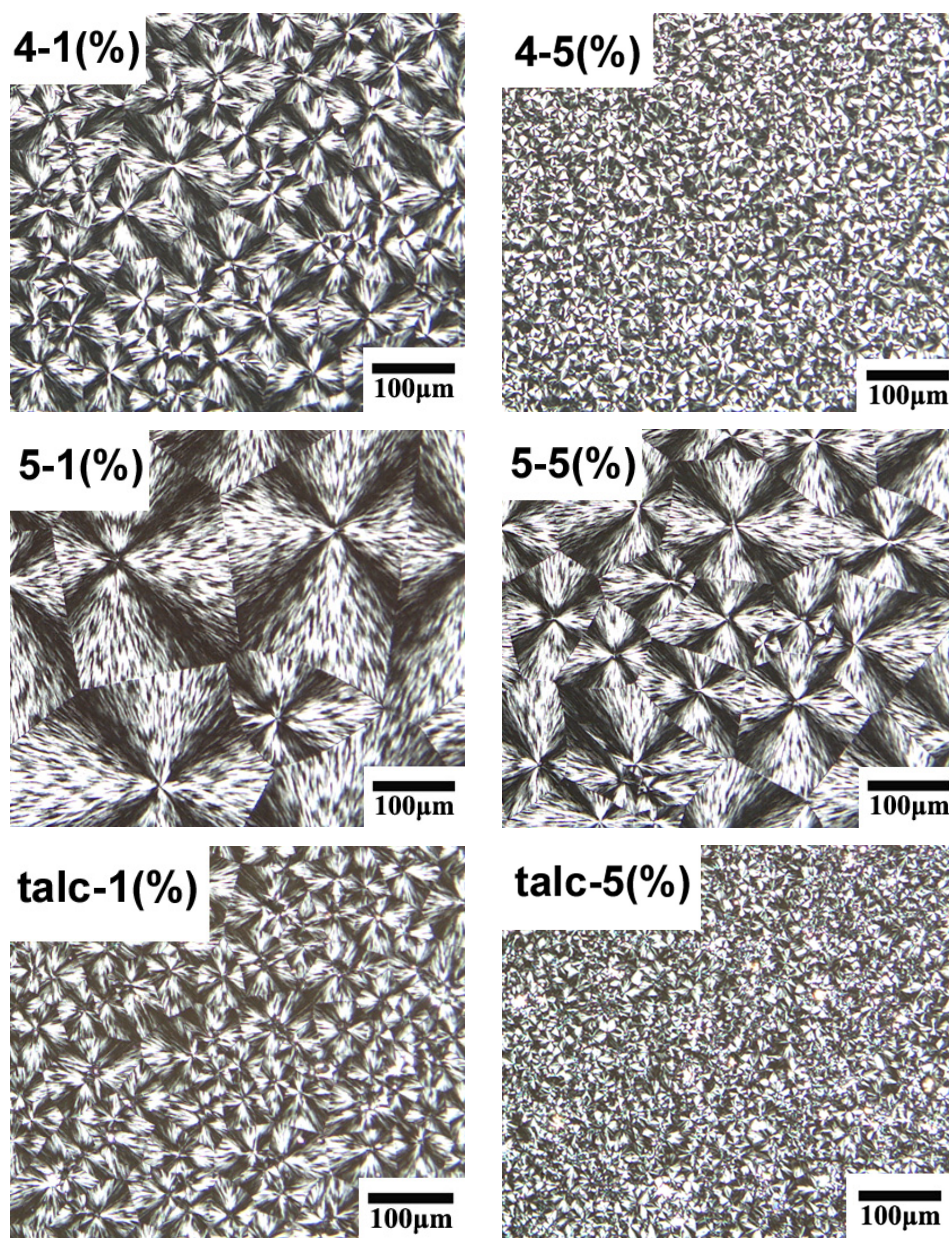


Fig.S2 Polarized optical micrographs of neat PLA, PLA containing 1wt%, 5 wt% Copolymers 1-5 or talc crystallized at 122 °C after quenched from 180 °C.

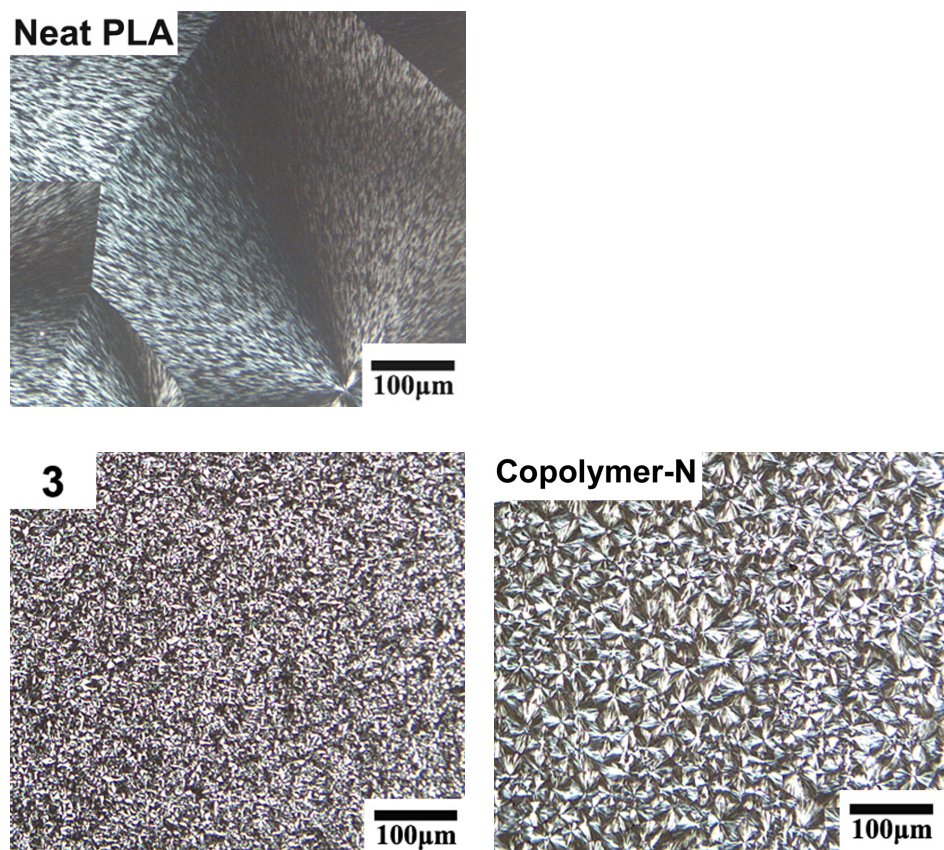
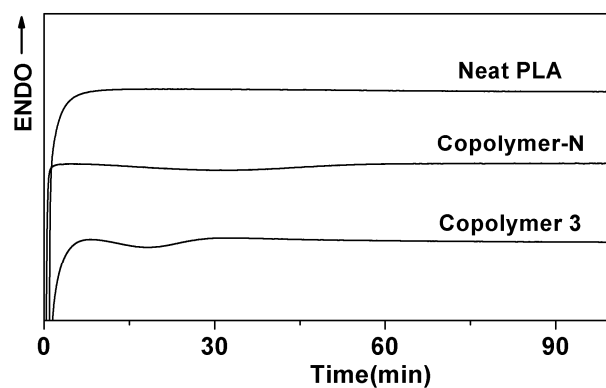


Fig.S3 Polarized optical micrographs of neat PLA, PLA containing 5 wt% Copolymer 3 or Copolymer-N crystallized at 122 °C after quenched from 180 °C.



**Fig.S4 DSC curves during isothermal crystallization at 122 °C for neat PLA,
PLA contain 5 wt% Copolymer 3 or Copolymer-N.**

Table S1. Chemical composition, molecular weight characteristics and thermal properties of PBT prepolymers and copolymers.

Sample	LA/BT(wt/wt) ^a	$M_n \times 10^{-3}$ kg mol ⁻¹	PDI ^b	T_c^d (°C)	T_m^d (°C)
PBT		1.6 ^b		193.0	210.6
PBT-H		3.0 ^b		200.5	215.8
Copolymer 3	34:1	19.8 ^c	1.42	118.2	170.8
Copolymer-N	16:1	23.3 ^c	1.52	115.5	170.0

^a Weight ratios of LA to BT in the copolymers calculated by ¹H-NMR;

^b Number average molecular weight calculated by ¹H-NMR;

^c Molecular weights and polydispersity indexes were measured by GPC with PS standards;

^d The values of T_c and T_m were taken at the minima of the corresponding peaks.

Table S2. Kinetic parameters of isothermal crystallization for neat PLA and PLA blends containing 5 wt% copolymers at 122 °C

Sample	t_0 (min)	$t_{1/2}$ (min)	$\log k$	n
Neat PLA	25.20	109.91	-4.42	2.21
Copolymer 3	9.07	19.18	-2.37	2.20
Copolymer-N	7.93	33.45	-3.06	2.07