

Supporting Information

Self-initiated butyl acrylate polymerizations in bulk and in solution monitored by in-line techniques

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Table S1: Experimental details for bulk polymerizations.

| $T / ^\circ\text{C}$ | $m_{\text{BA}} /$ mg | $\rho_{\text{BA}}^{[1]} /$ ($\text{g}\cdot\text{cm}^{-3}$) | $\rho_{\text{Poly(BA)}}^{[1]} /$ ($\text{g}\cdot\text{cm}^{-3}$) | I / J | x | $t (x=0.9) /$ s |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---|---|----------------|-------|--------------------|
| 80 | 18.431 | 0.836 | 0.984 | 11.45 | 0.997 | 12720 |
| 90 | 13.375 | 0.826 | 0.973 | 7.875 | 0.945 | 7950 |
| 100 | 13.708 | 0.816 | 0.962 | 8.382 | 0.982 | 4590 |
| 110 | 17.217 | 0.805 | 0.951 | 10.28 | 0.959 | 3524 |
| 120 | 12.357 | 0.795 | 0.940 | 7.277 | 0.945 | 3200 |
| 130 | 12.036 | 0.785 | 0.929 | 6.976 | 0.928 | 1410 |

Final monomer conversion at the end of the reaction, x , for bulk polymerizations with in-line DSC measurement at the indicated temperature, T , with the initial BA mass, m_{BA} , the time required for 90 % conversion, $t (x=0.9)$, and the integral, I , of the exothermic DSC peak.

- [1] Baruido, I.; Févotte, G. McKenna T.F. Density data for copolymer systems: butyl acrylate/vinyl acetate homo- and copolymerization in ethyl acetate, *Eur. Polym. J.* **1999**, 35, 775-780, 10.1016/S0014-3057(98)00070-6.

Table S2: List of reaction conditions of all polymerizations carried out in solution with dioxane. M_p refers to the molar mass of the main peak of the molar mass distribution, M_n is the number average molar mass, D the dispersity, T the temperature, t reaction time, c_{BA} the initial monomer concentration and x_{BA} the initial molar ratio of monomer.

| x_{BA} | $c_{BA,0} / (\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1})$ | $T / ^\circ\text{C}$ | t / min | $M_n / (\text{g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1})$ | $M_p / (\text{g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1})$ | D |
|----------|---|----------------------|------------------|--|--|------|
| 0.20 | 2.06 | 120 | 60 | $4.93 \cdot 10^3$ | $3.21 \cdot 10^4$ | 5.0 |
| 0.30 | 2.92 | 120 | 60 | $7.03 \cdot 10^3$ | $4.85 \cdot 10^4$ | 6.3 |
| 0.40 | 3.69 | 120 | 60 | $9.52 \cdot 10^4$ | $7.43 \cdot 10^4$ | 8.5 |
| 0.50 | 4.39 | 120 | 60 | $9.88 \cdot 10^3$ | $9.18 \cdot 10^4$ | 10.8 |
| 0.20 | 2.06 | 130 | 60 | $3.72 \cdot 10^3$ | $1.74 \cdot 10^4$ | 4.7 |
| 0.30 | 2.92 | 130 | 60 | $5.96 \cdot 10^3$ | $4.24 \cdot 10^4$ | 6.3 |
| 0.40 | 3.69 | 130 | 60 | $6.62 \cdot 10^3$ | $5.40 \cdot 10^4$ | 7.9 |
| 0.50 | 4.39 | 130 | 60 | $1.07 \cdot 10^4$ | $7.13 \cdot 10^4$ | 7.1 |
| 0.20 | 2.06 | 140 | 60 | $3.21 \cdot 10^3$ | $1.36 \cdot 10^4$ | 4.4 |
| 0.30 | 2.92 | 140 | 60 | $4.51 \cdot 10^3$ | $3.30 \cdot 10^4$ | 5.7 |
| 0.40 | 3.69 | 140 | 60 | $5.79 \cdot 10^3$ | $4.22 \cdot 10^4$ | 6.1 |
| 0.50 | 4.39 | 140 | 60 | $6.46 \cdot 10^3$ | $5.20 \cdot 10^4$ | 7.2 |
| 0.10 | 1.10 | 150 | 30 | $1.81 \cdot 10^3$ | $3.47 \cdot 10^3$ | 2.7 |
| 0.20 | 2.06 | 150 | 30 | $2.58 \cdot 10^3$ | $1.03 \cdot 10^4$ | 3.7 |
| 0.30 | 2.92 | 150 | 30 | $3.15 \cdot 10^3$ | $1.46 \cdot 10^4$ | 4.2 |
| 0.40 | 3.69 | 150 | 30 | $4.07 \cdot 10^3$ | $3.26 \cdot 10^4$ | 5.6 |
| 0.10 | 1.10 | 160 | 30 | $1.81 \cdot 10^3$ | $2.27 \cdot 10^3$ | 4.7 |
| 0.20 | 2.06 | 160 | 10 | $2.10 \cdot 10^3$ | $6.06 \cdot 10^3$ | 3.3 |
| 0.30 | 2.92 | 160 | 10 | $2.89 \cdot 10^3$ | $1.23 \cdot 10^4$ | 3.9 |
| 0.40 | 3.69 | 160 | 10 | $3.78 \cdot 10^3$ | $1.75 \cdot 10^4$ | 4.8 |
| 0.10 | 1.10 | 170 | 30 | $1.46 \cdot 10^3$ | $2.04 \cdot 10^3$ | 3.1 |
| 0.20 | 2.06 | 170 | 10 | $1.83 \cdot 10^3$ | $3.46 \cdot 10^3$ | 2.8 |
| 0.30 | 2.92 | 170 | 10 | $2.25 \cdot 10^3$ | $7.16 \cdot 10^3$ | 3.5 |
| 0.40 | 3.69 | 170 | 10 | $2.90 \cdot 10^3$ | $1.33 \cdot 10^4$ | 4.4 |
| 0.10 | 1.10 | 180 | 30 | $1.32 \cdot 10^3$ | $1.71 \cdot 10^3$ | 1.7 |
| 0.20 | 2.06 | 180 | 10 | $1.91 \cdot 10^3$ | $3.21 \cdot 10^3$ | 2.3 |
| 0.30 | 2.92 | 180 | 10 | $1.95 \cdot 10^3$ | $4.24 \cdot 10^3$ | 3.4 |
| 0.40 | 3.69 | 180 | 10 | $2.53 \cdot 10^3$ | $9.75 \cdot 10^3$ | 4.0 |

Table S3: Reaction conditions of polymerizations carried out in solution with different solvents, including dioxane for comparison. M_p refers to the molar mass of the main peak of the molar mass distribution, M_n is the number average molar mass, D the dispersity, T the temperature, t reaction time, c_{BA} the initial monomer concentration and x_{BA} the molar ratio of monomer.

| solvent | x_{BA} | $c_{BA,0} / (\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1})$ | $T / ^\circ\text{C}$ | t / min | $M_n / (\text{g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1})$ | $M_p / (\text{g} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1})$ | D |
|------------|----------|---|----------------------|------------------|--|--|-----|
| dioxane | 0.50 | 4.39 | 130 | 60 | $1.07 \cdot 10^4$ | $7.13 \cdot 10^4$ | 7.1 |
| 2-octanone | 0.50 | 3.35 | 130 | 60 | $9.11 \cdot 10^3$ | $5.62 \cdot 10^4$ | 6.1 |
| mesitylene | 0.50 | 3.56 | 130 | 60 | $8.03 \cdot 10^3$ | $4.42 \cdot 10^4$ | 5.2 |
| xylene | 0.50 | 3.76 | 130 | 60 | $7.75 \cdot 10^3$ | $4.95 \cdot 10^4$ | 6.0 |
| toluene | 0.50 | 4.03 | 130 | 60 | $1.02 \cdot 10^4$ | $7.22 \cdot 10^4$ | 7.7 |