



**UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL  
AUTÓNOMA DE MÉXICO**  
PROGRAMA DE DOCTORADO EN INGENIERÍA  
FACULTAD DE QUÍMICA



*Reversible Addition-Fragmentation chain  
Transfer (RAFT) polymerization in  
supercritical Carbon Dioxide (scCO<sub>2</sub>)*

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**INSTITUTE FOR POLYMER RESEARCH**

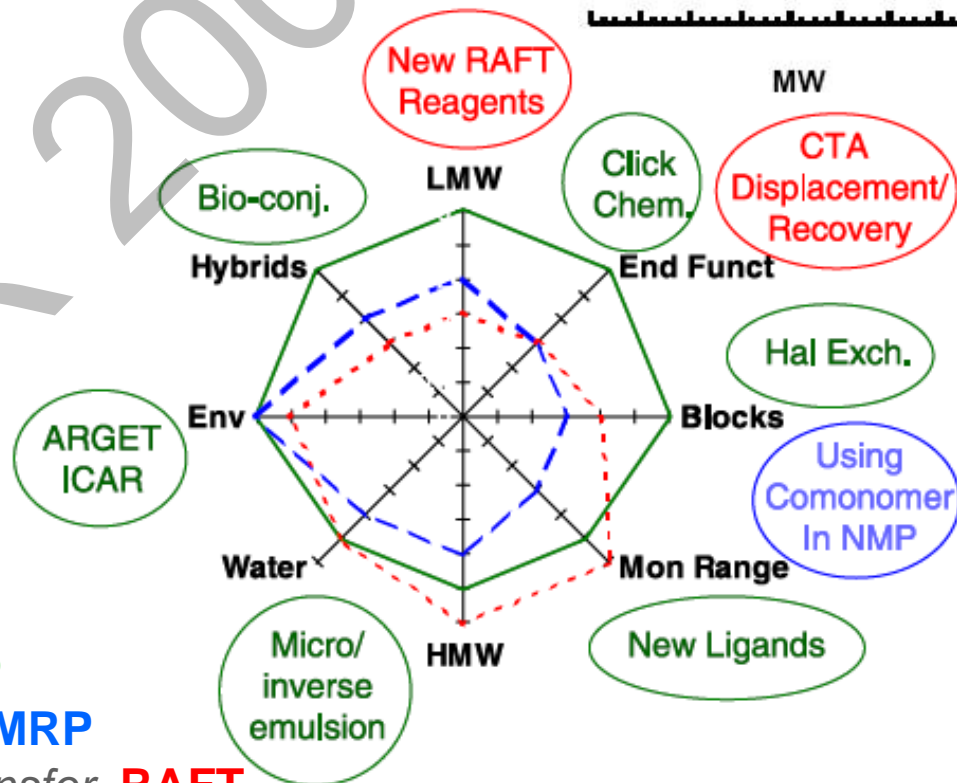
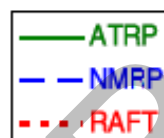
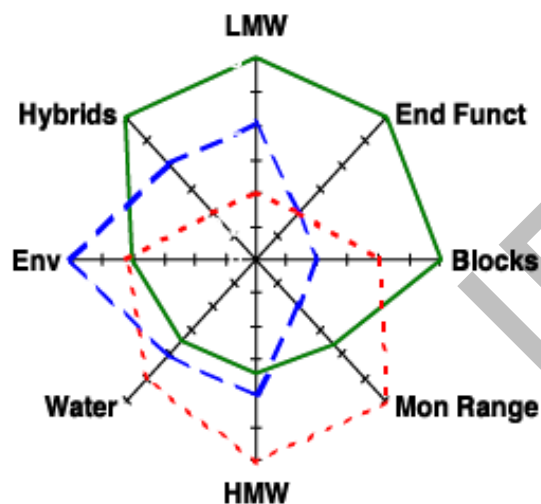
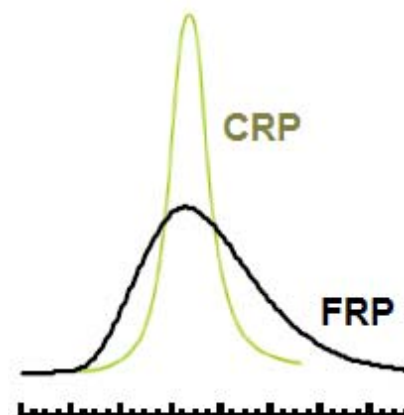
**University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario. Friday, May 1, 2009**

# OUTLINE

- Controlled Radical Polymerization
  - **RAFT** Polymerization
  - Why polymerization in  $\text{scCO}_2$ ?
  - State of the Art
  - Model and Simulation
  - Experimental Results
  - Conclusions
-

# CRP

- Living polymer chains with active end groups
- Predetermined MW and narrow MWD.
- Applications include adhesives, coatings, electronics, nano-technology, and biomaterials.



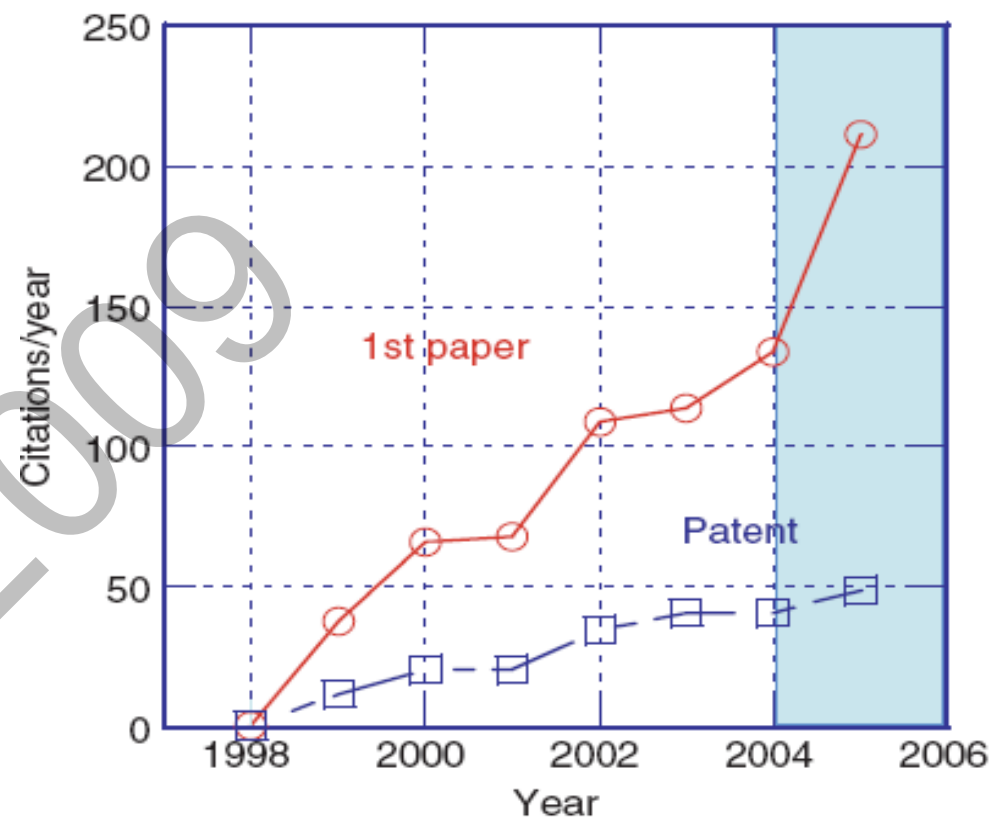
Atom Transfer Radical Polymerization, **ATRP**

Nitroxide Mediated Radical Polymerization, **NMRP**

Reversible Addition Fragmentation chain Transfer, **RAFT**

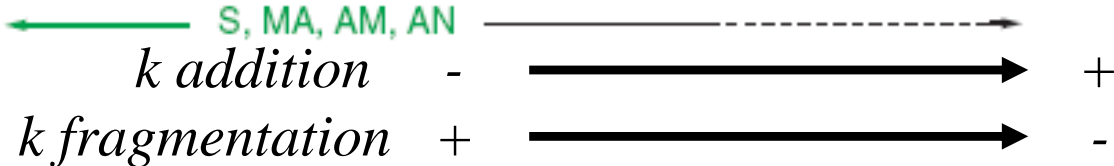
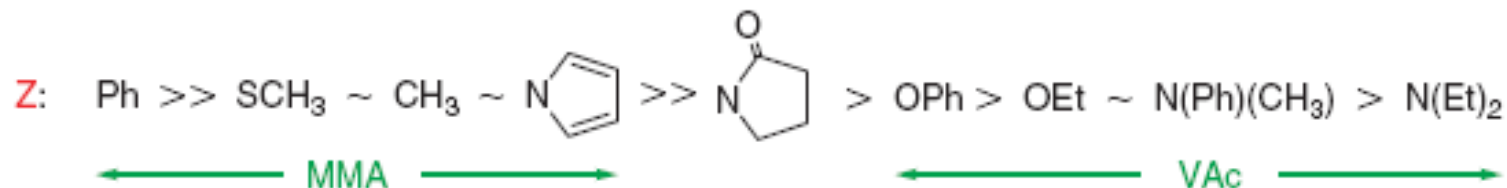
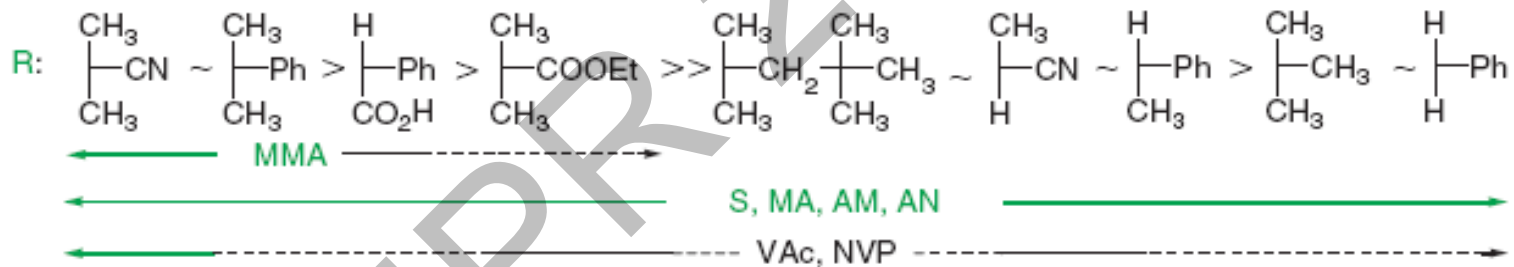
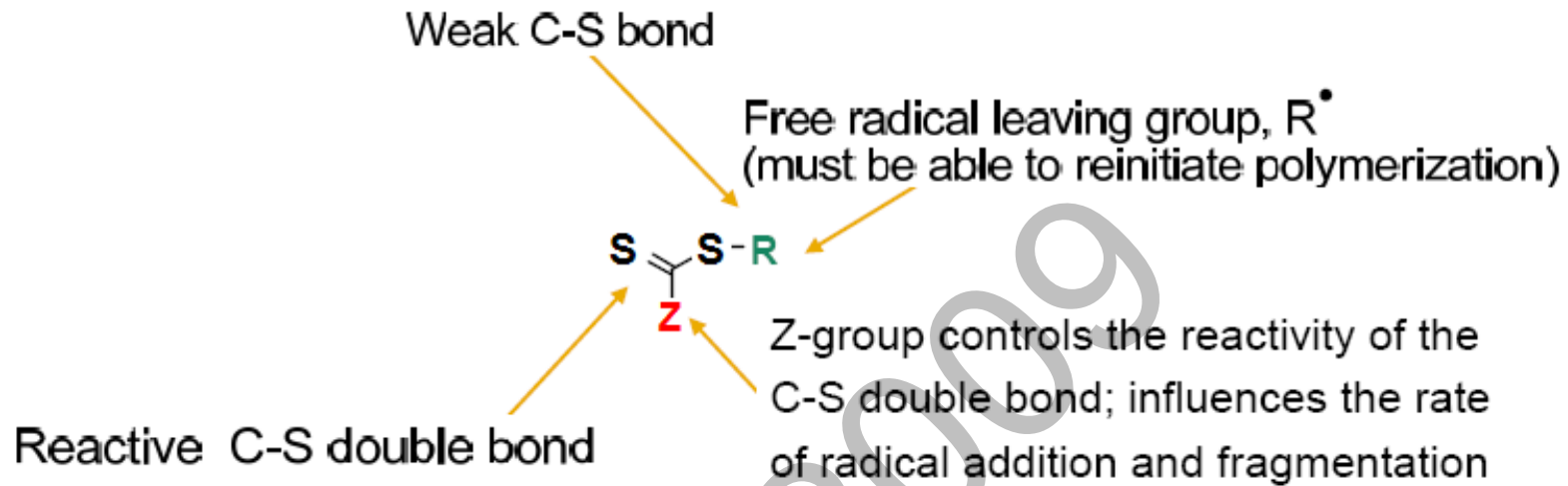
# RAFT

- **First communication:** *J. Chiefari, Y. K. Chong, F. Ercole, J. Krstina, J. Jeffery, T. P. T. Le, R. T. A. Mayadunne, G. F. Meijs, C. L. Moad, G. Moad, E. Rizzardo, S. H. Thang, *Macromolecules* **1998**, 31, 5559.*
- **First patent:** *T. P. Le, G. Moad, E. Rizzardo, S. H. Thang, *Int. Pat. WO9801478* **1998** [Chem. Abs. **1998**, 128, 115390f].*



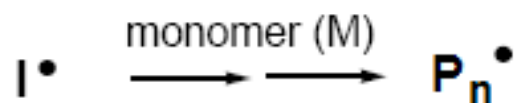
- ✓ Applicable to a large range of monomers
- ✓ Polymeric materials with controlled structure
- ✓ Success under a wide range of reaction conditions
- ✓ Wide variety of RAFT agents structures

# RAFT

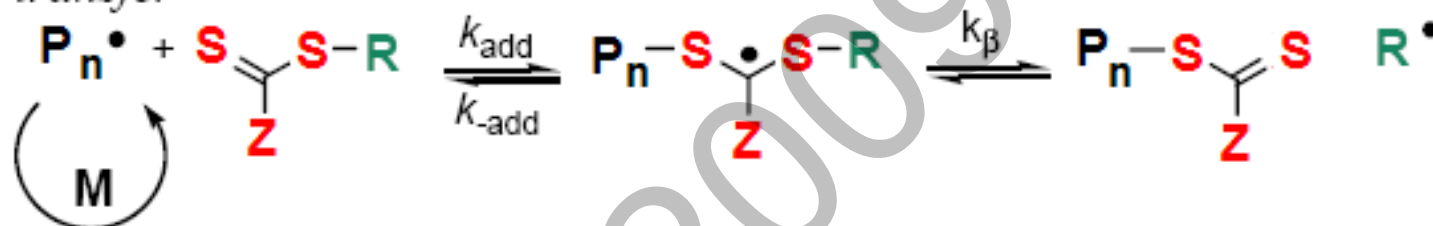


# RAFT

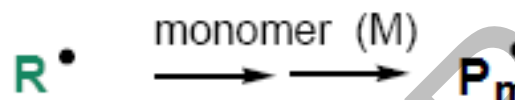
initiation



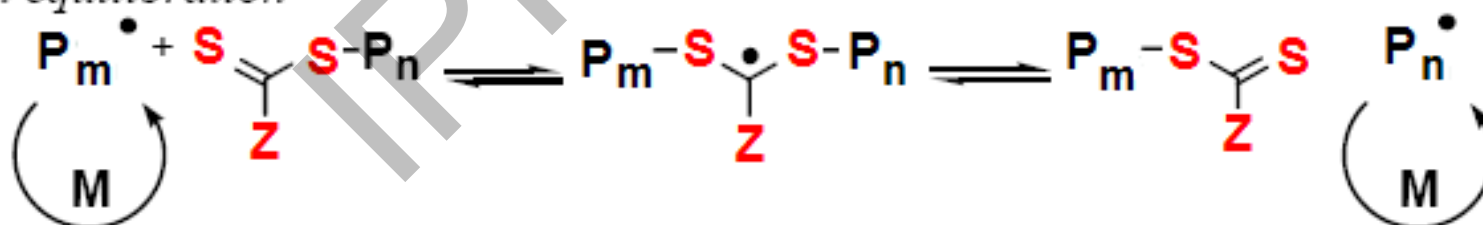
chain transfer



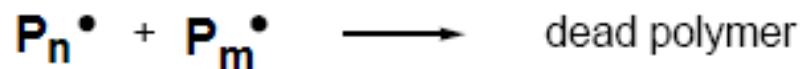
reinitiation



chain equilibration

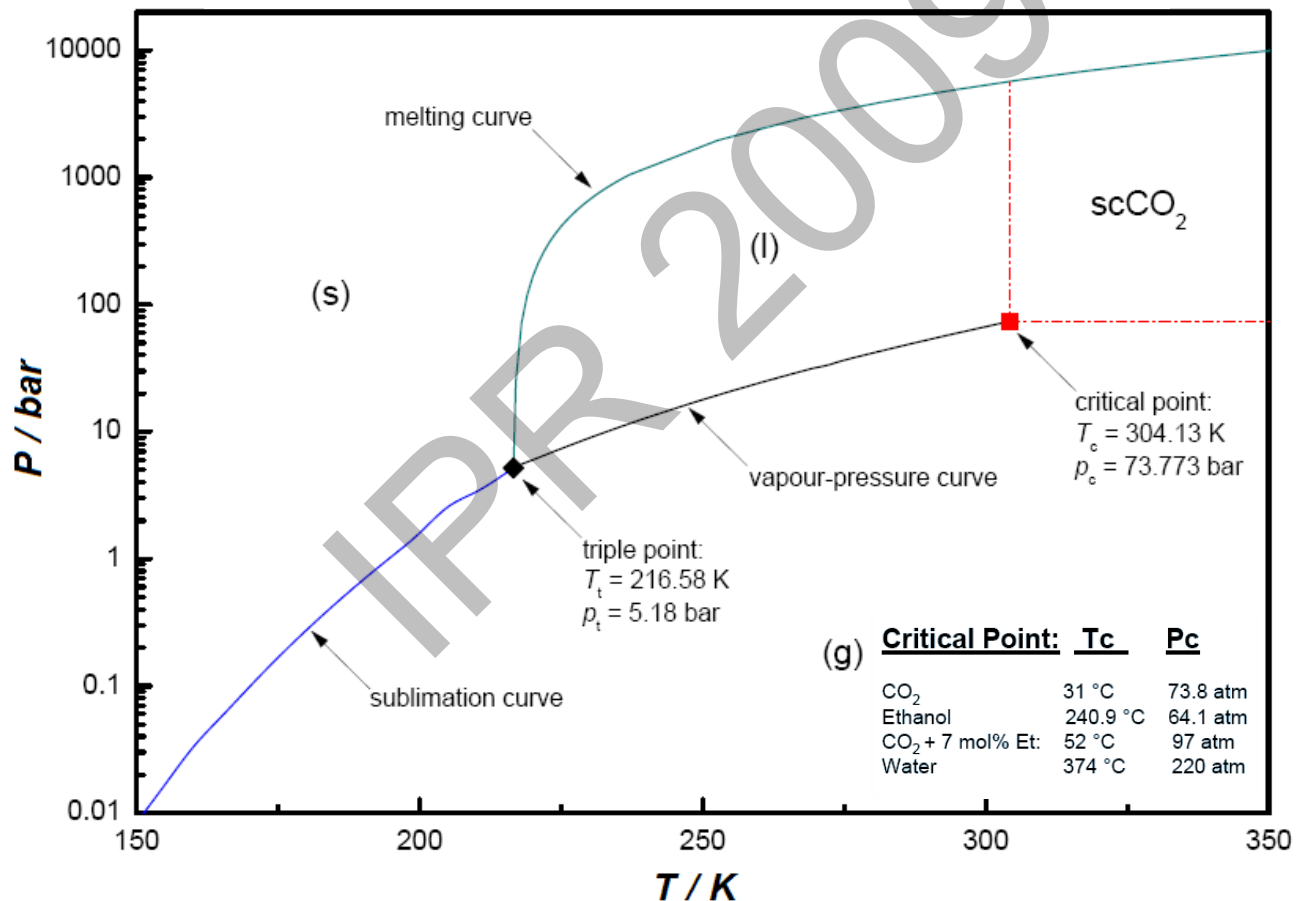


termination



# scCO<sub>2</sub>

	Liquid	Supercritical	Gas
$\rho$ [kg m <sup>-3</sup> ]	1000	100-800	1*
$\eta$ [Pa S]	10 <sup>-3</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup> -10 <sup>-4</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup>
$D$ [m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ]	10 <sup>-9</sup>	10 <sup>-8</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup>



\*NIST Chemistry Webbook, NIST Standard Reference Database 69, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg MD, <http://webbook.nist.gov>

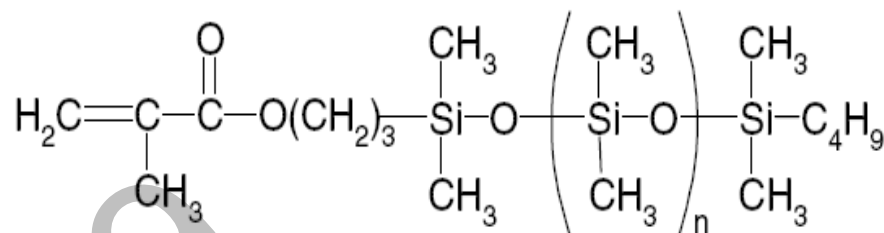
# scCO<sub>2</sub>

- ✓ High purity, low toxicity, low cost.
  - ✓ Controllable dissolving power.
  - ✓ Inert solvent.
  - ✓ Low viscosity favors mass transportation.
  - ✓ Advantages in the operation.
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- Elevated pressures required.
  - Compression costs.
  - High capital equipment investment.
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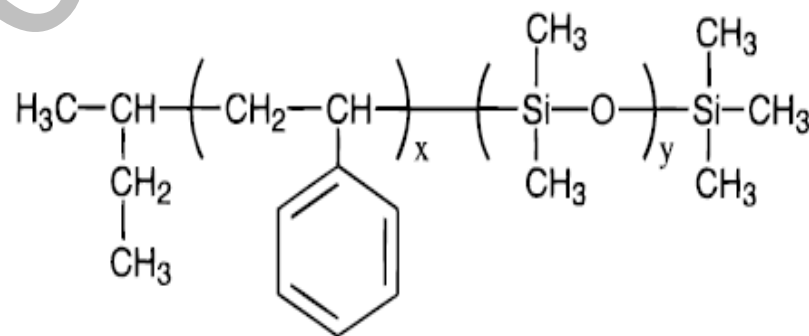


# RAFT POLYMERIZATION IN $scCO_2$

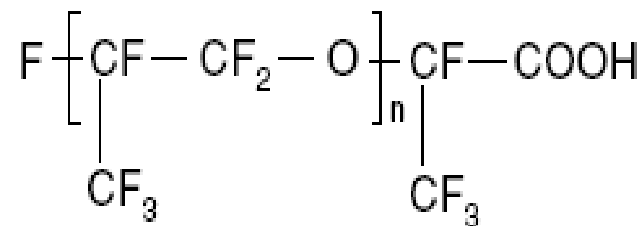
- Complexity of the kinetics and mechanisms presents
- Solubility of the RAFT agent, **Z** and **R•** groups
- Interaction between controller and surfactant in dispersion polymerization



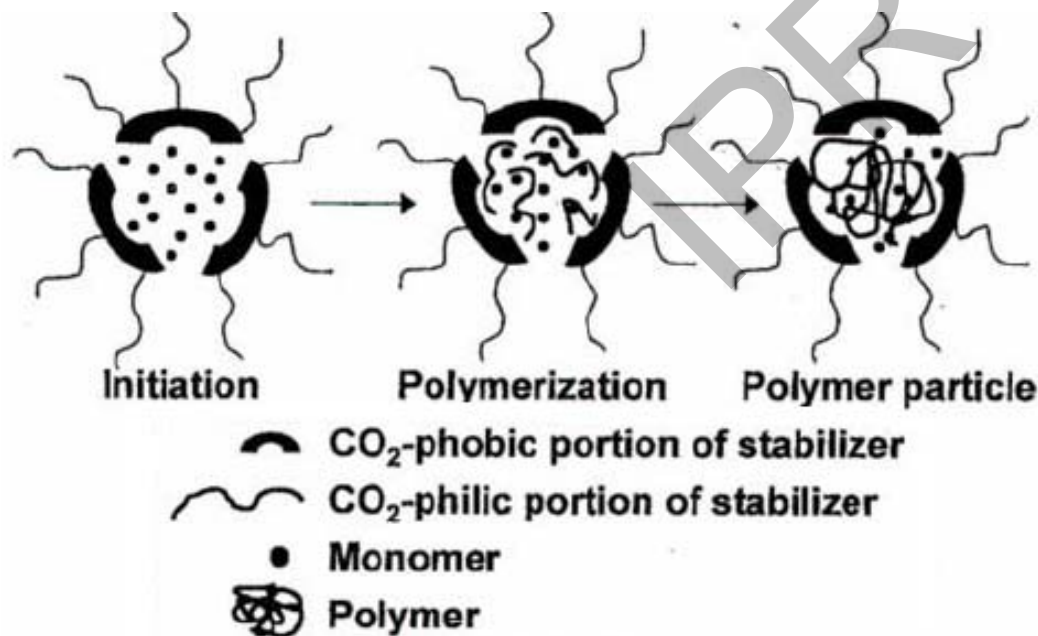
*PDMS-MA*



*PS-PDMS*



*Krytox 157 FSL*



# STATE OF THE ART

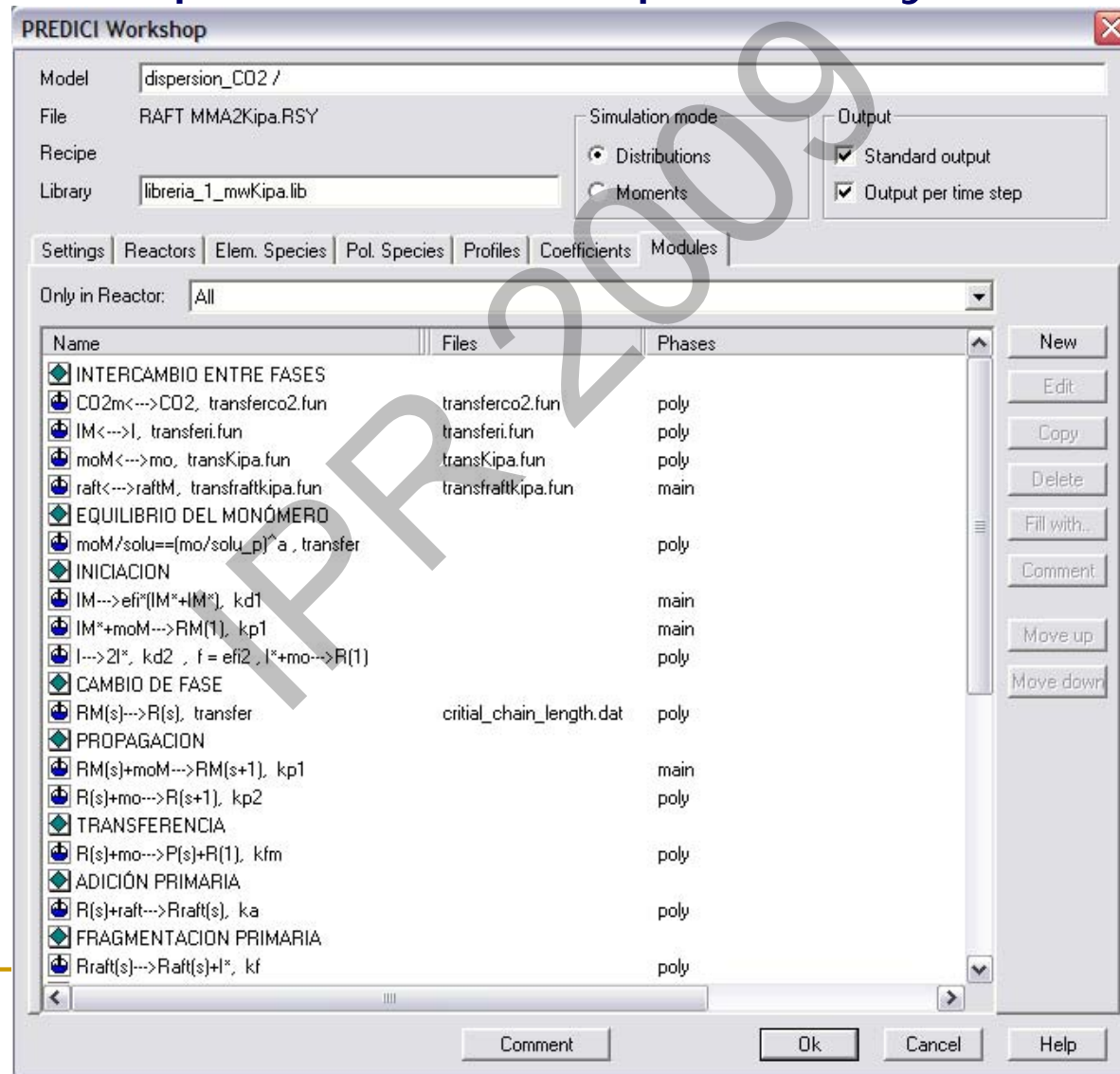
- ❖ Arita T., Beuermann, S., Vana, P. *Reversible addition fragmentation chain transfer (RAFT) polymerization of styrene in fluid CO<sub>2</sub>*, *e-Polymers* **2004**, no. 003. <http://www.e-polymers.org>
- ❖ Arita, T., Beuermann, S. & Vana Philipp *RAFT Polymerization of Methyl Acrylate in Carbon Dioxide* *Macromol. Mater. Eng.* 2005, 290, 283-293
- ❖ Kristofer J. Thurecht, Andrew M. Gregory, Wenxin Wang, and Steven M. Howdle, *"Living" Polymer Beads in Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>* Communications to the Editor *Macromolecules*, Vol. 40, No. 9, 2007
- ❖ Andrew M. Gregory, Kristofer J. Thurecht and Steven M. Howdle *Controlled Dispersion Polymerization of Methyl Methacrylate in Supercritical Carbon Dioxide via RAFT* *American Chemical Society. Macromolecules* **2008**, 41, 1215-1222

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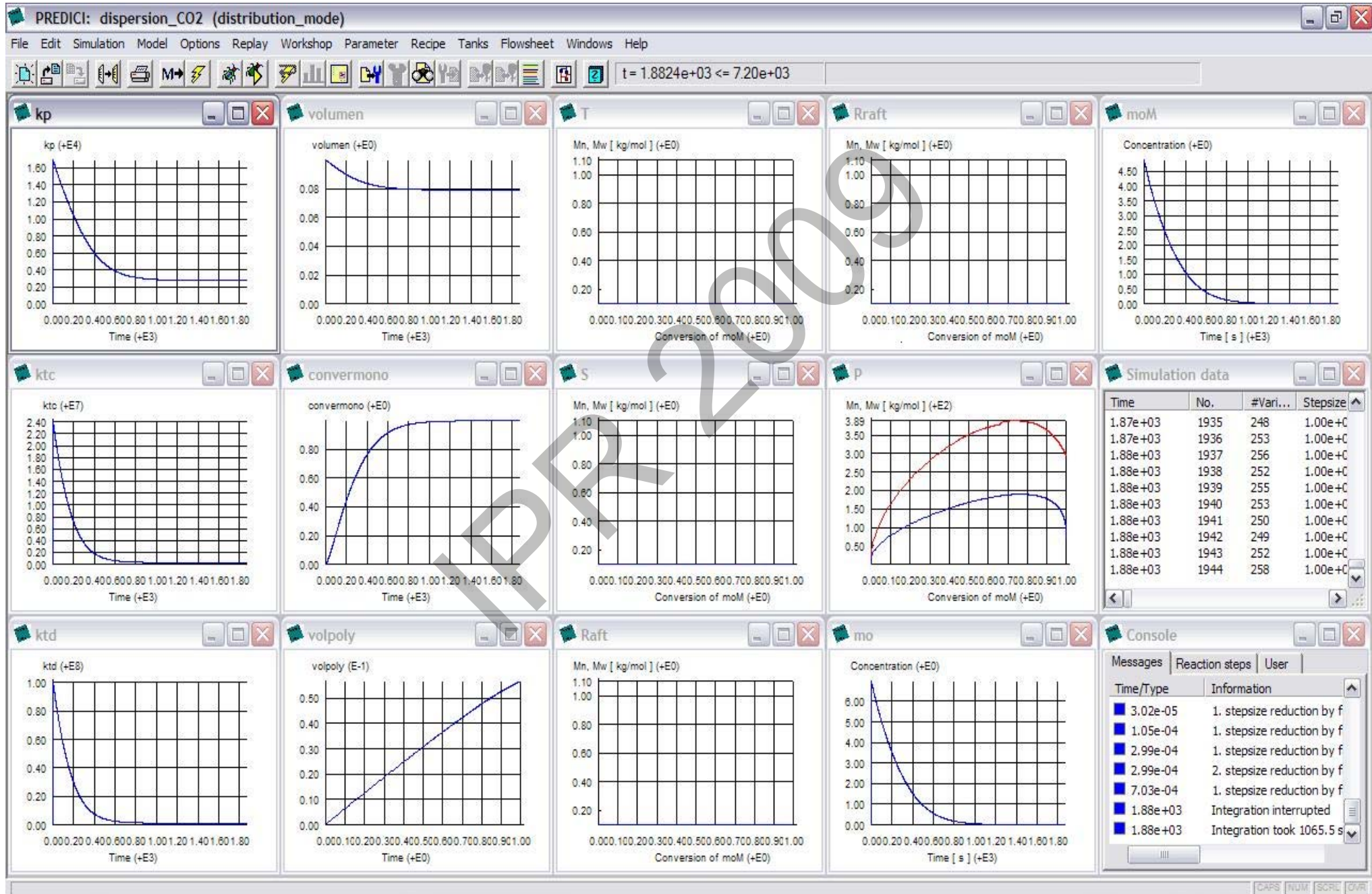
**EXPERIMENTAL REPORTS, NOT SIMULATION OR MODELING STUDIES!**

# MODEL AND SIMULATION

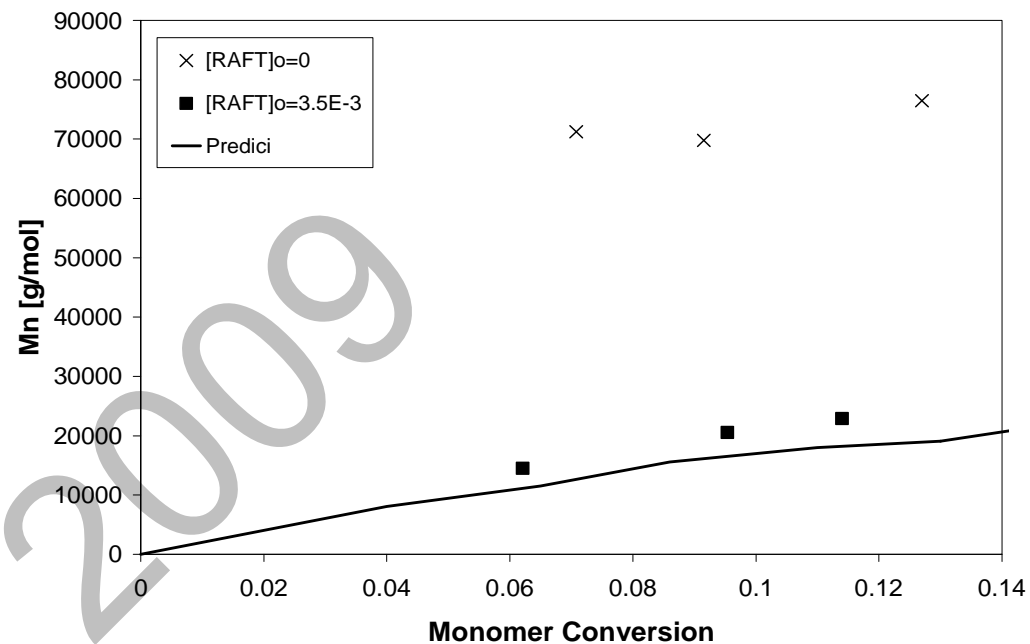
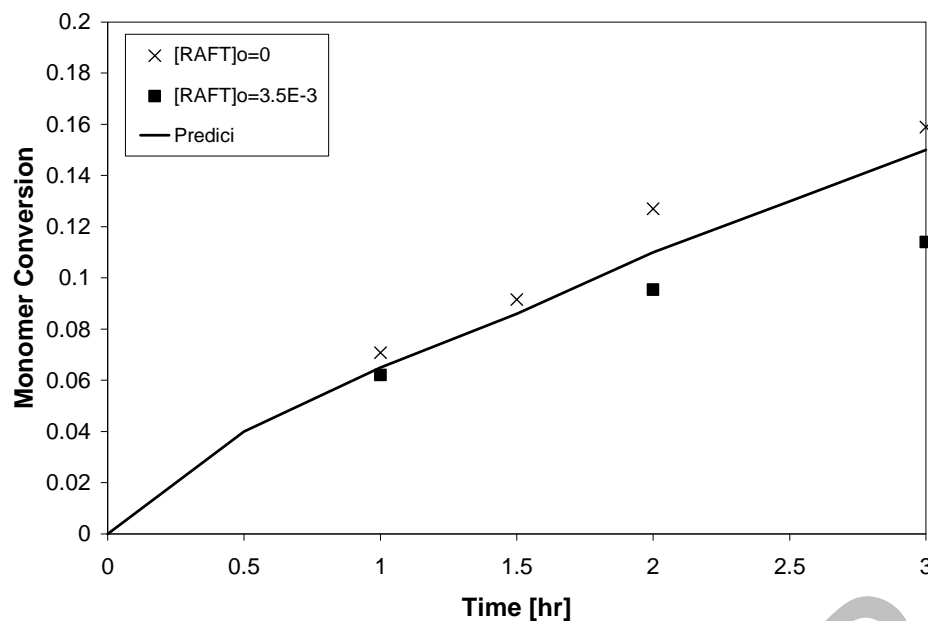
→ To develop a model, using Predici, for RAFT polymerization processes in dispersion systems in  $scCO_2$ .



# SIMULATION RESULTS



# SIMULATION RESULTS



T= 80°C

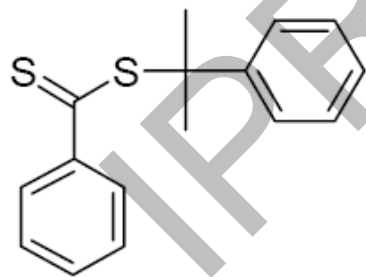
P= 300 bar

scCO<sub>2</sub>= 20% v/w

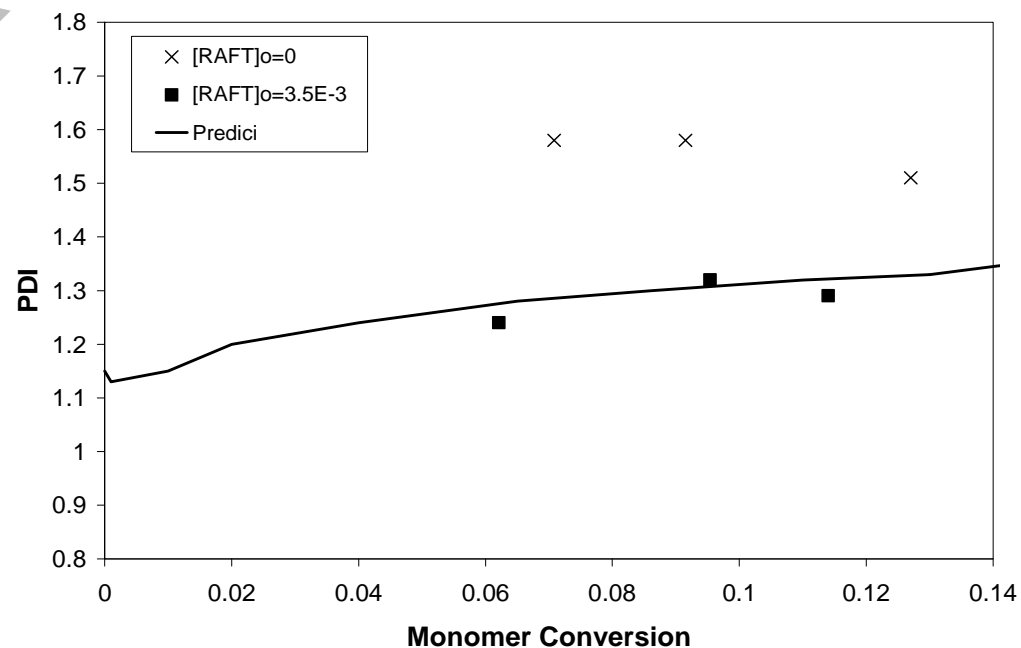
[AIBN]= 2.6X10<sup>-3</sup>M

[STY]= 6.49 M

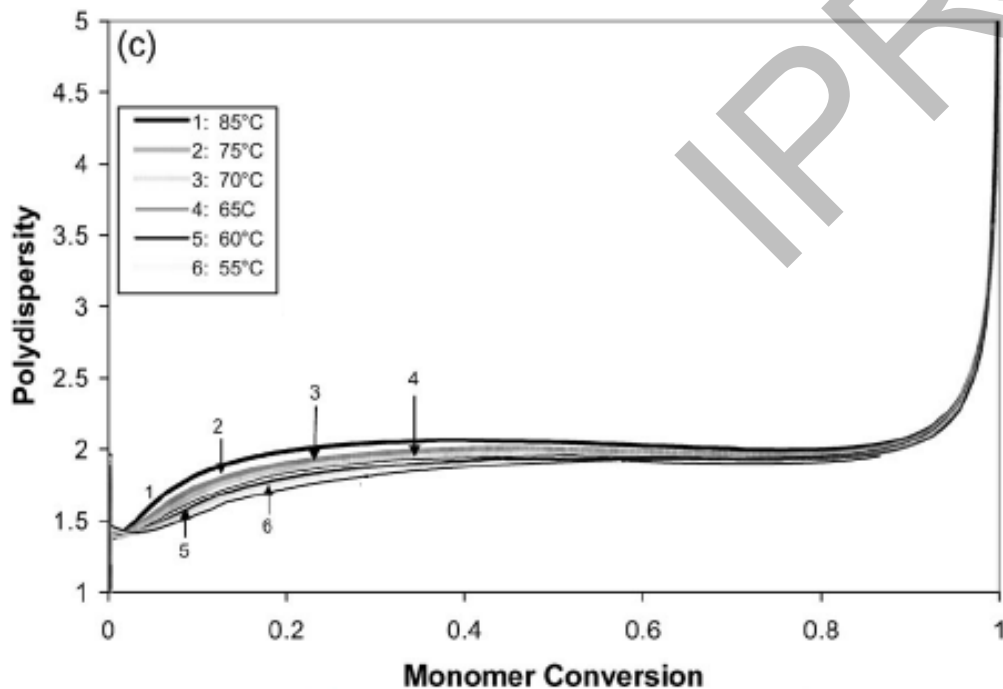
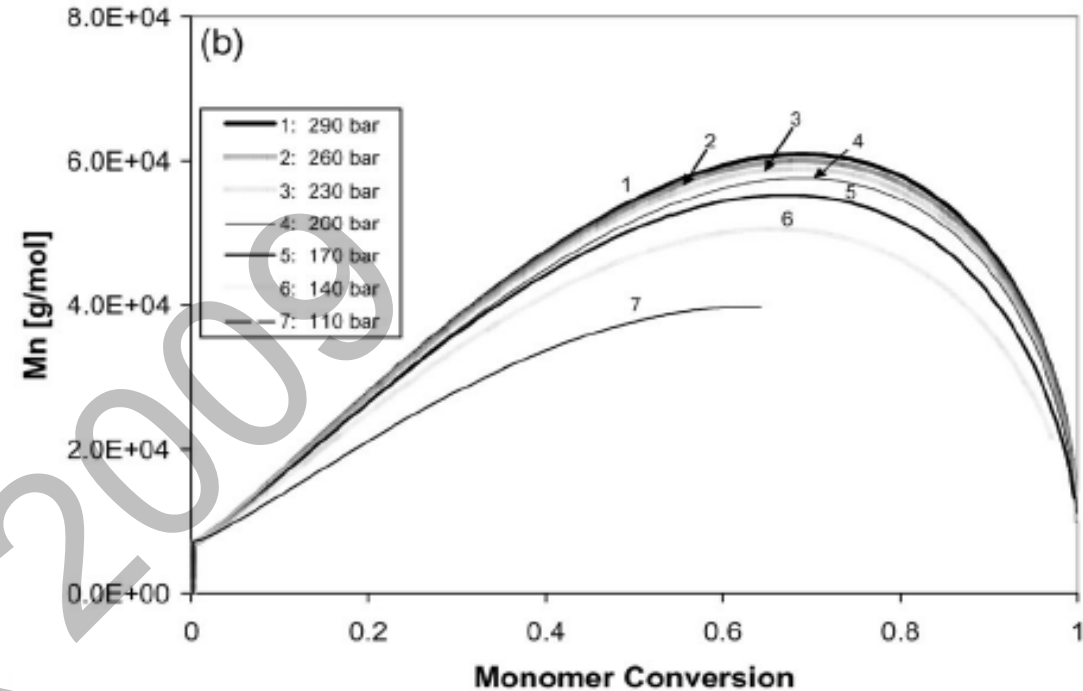
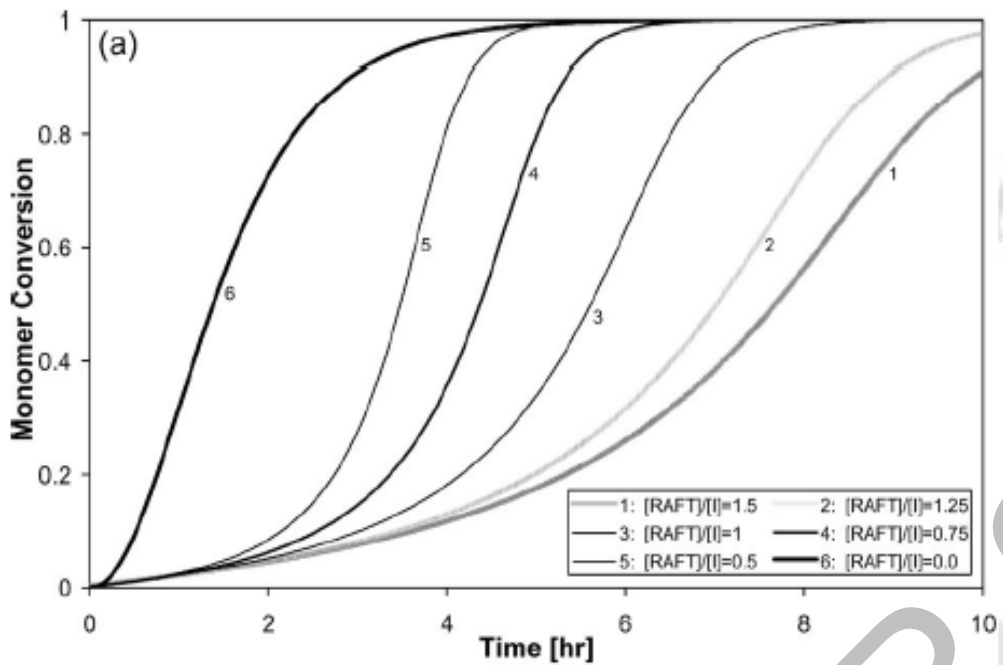
[RAFT]= 7.0X10<sup>-3</sup>M



*Cumil  
Ditiobenzoate  
(CDB)*



# SIMULATION RESULTS



$T = 65^{\circ}\text{C}$

$P = 200 \text{ bar}$

$\text{scCO}_2 = 20\% \text{ v/w}$

$[\text{AIBN}] = 1.19 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$

$[\text{MMA}] = 1.96 \text{ M}$

$[\text{RAFT}] = 1.19 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$

# SIMULATION CONCLUSIONS

- The model captured the expected effects of RAFT agent to initiator ratio, pressure and temperature on polymerization rate and molecular weight development.
  - More detailed and systematic experimental studies on this topic are needed for model validation purposes.
-

# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

- To evaluate RAFT agents, commercially available or synthesized in dispersion polymerization in scCO<sub>2</sub>
  - Evaluate the effect of operating conditions, P, T on monomer conversion and MWD
  - Designing and improved recipes and operating conditions for the RAFT dispersion polymerization in scCO<sub>2</sub>
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# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS



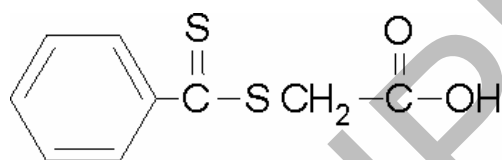
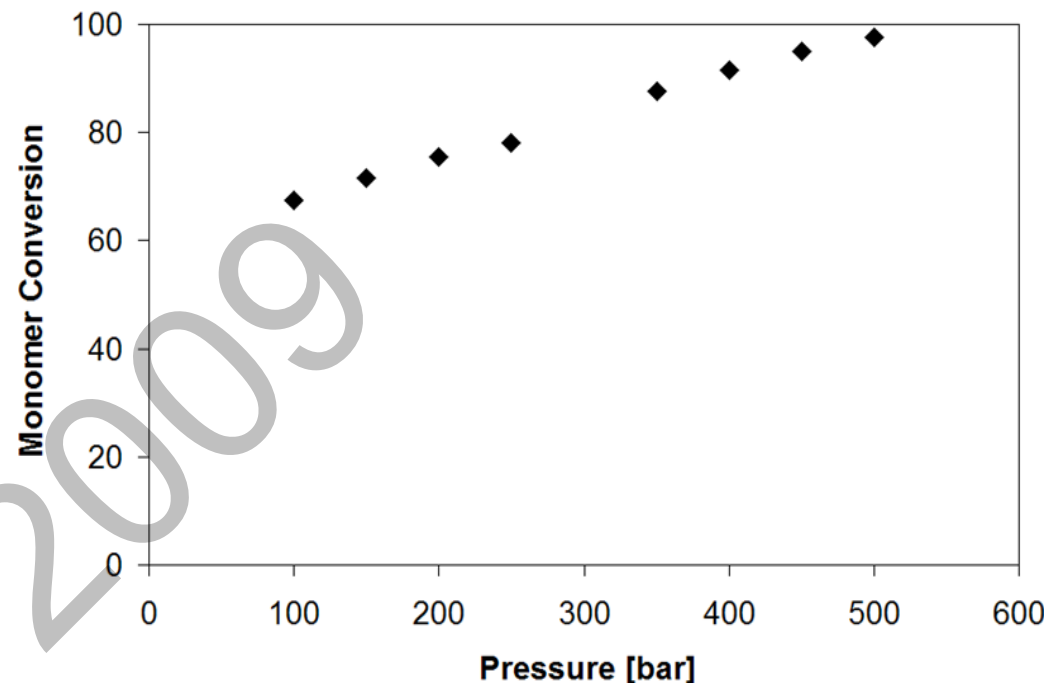
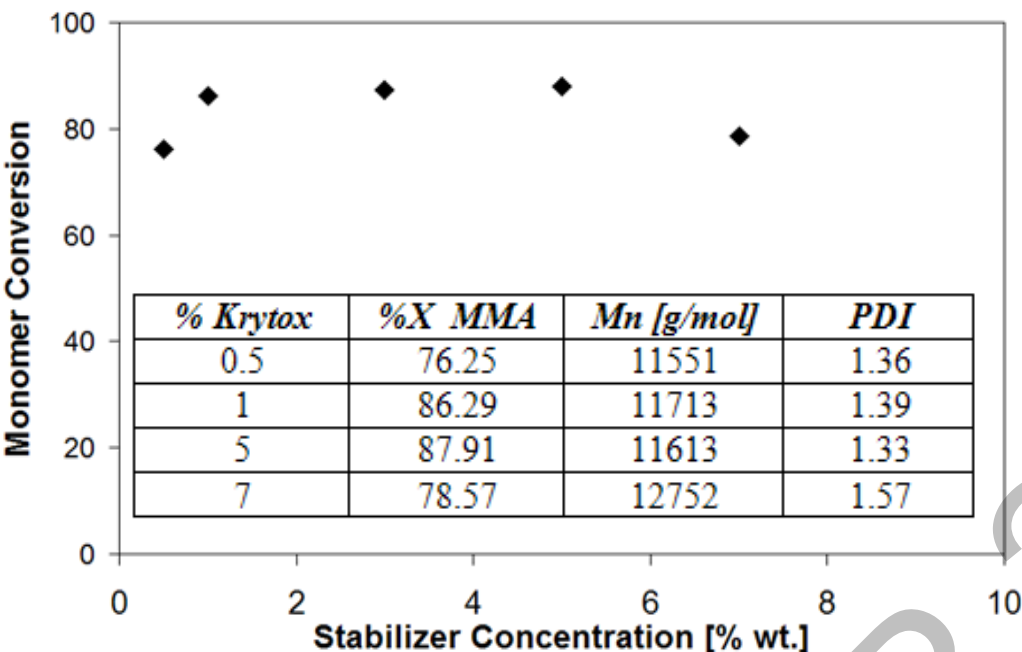
# EXPERIMENTAL SYSTEM



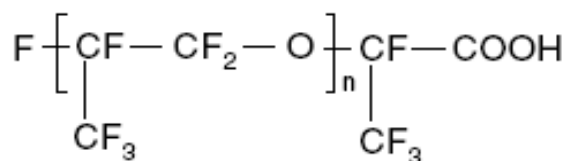
# EXPERIMENTAL SYSTEM



# MMA RAFT POLYMERIZATION IN $scCO_2$



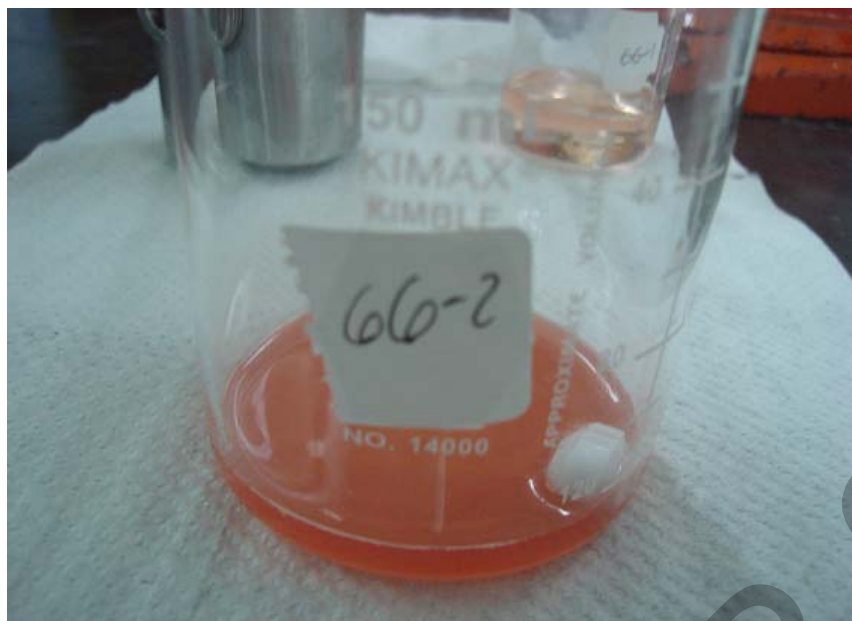
*S*-Thiobenzoyl thioglycolic acid



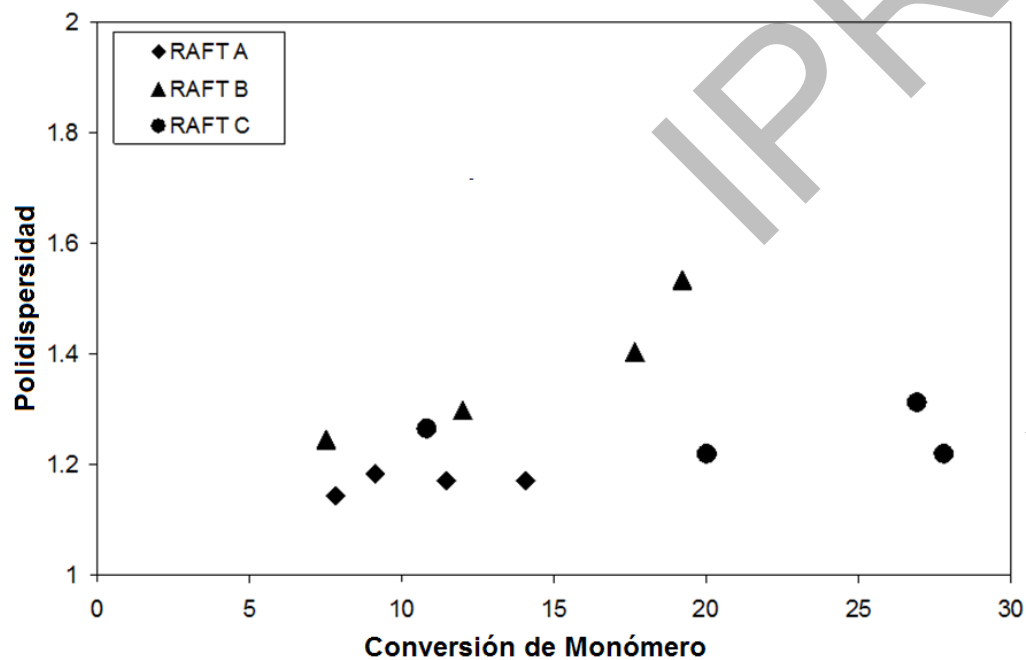
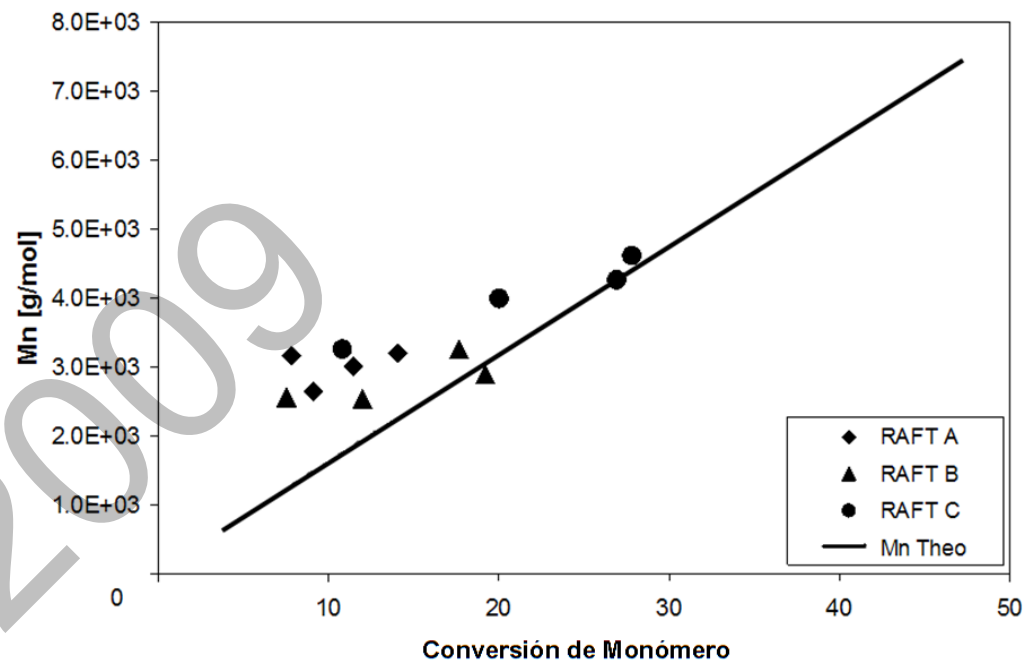
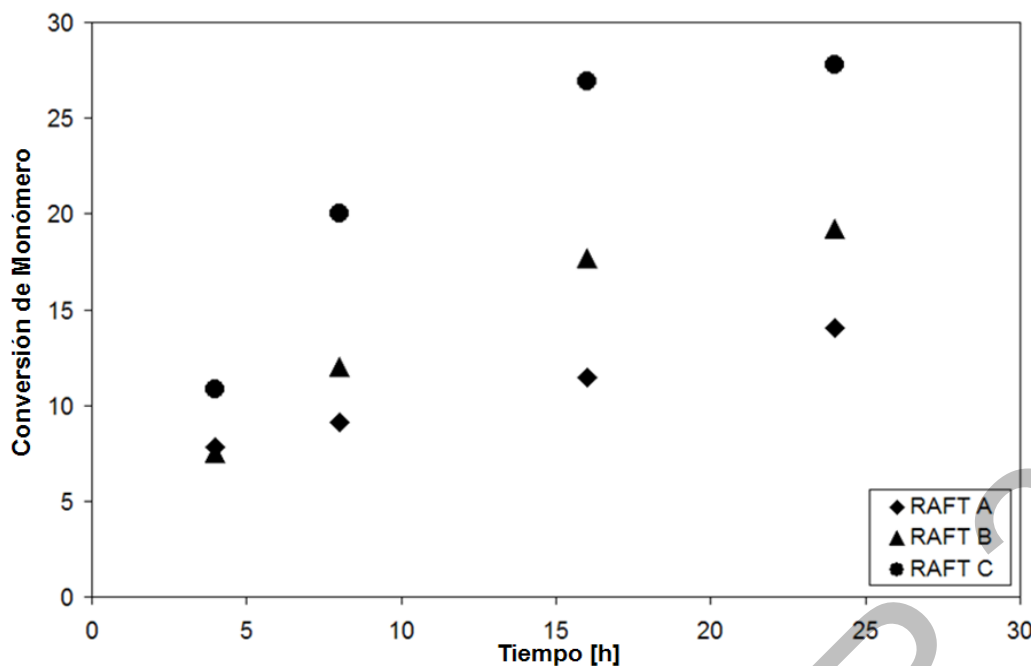
Krytox® 257 FSL.

<i>P</i> [bar]	%X MMA	<i>Mn</i> [g/mol]	PDI
100	67.56	12079	1.40
150	71.65	12362	1.68
200	75.57	12782	1.65
250	78.08	12900	1.86
350	87.65	14188	1.42
400	91.57	15060	1.36
450	95.08	15711	1.3
500	97.62	16783	1.29

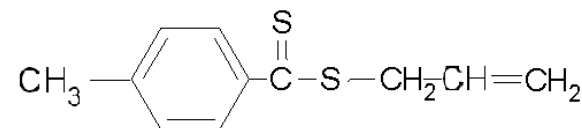
# MMA RAFT POLYMERIZATION IN $scCO_2$



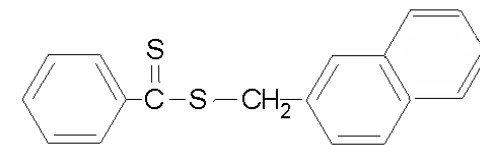
# STY RAFT POLYMERIZATION IN $scCO_2$



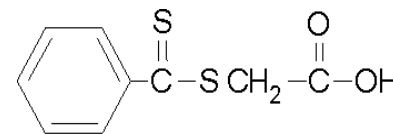
● *4-Methyl- allyl dithiobenzoate*



▲ *Methyl naphthalene dithiobenzoate*



◆ *S-(Thiobenzoil)thioglicolic acid*

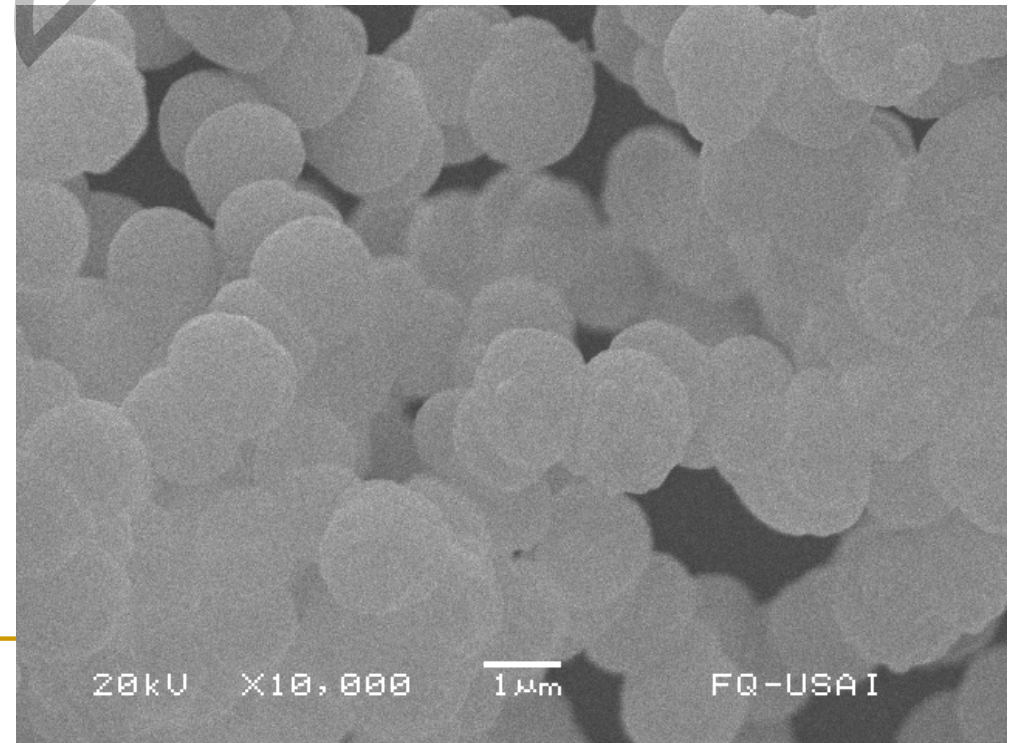


*Effect of Stabilizer Concentration and Controller Structure and Composition on Polymerization Rate and Molecular Weight Development in RAFT Polymerization of Styrene in Supercritical Carbon Dioxide. G.Jaramillo-Soto et. al. Submitted to Polymer, under corrections.*

# EXPERIMENTAL CONCLUSIONS

- There are too many experimental factors to study.
  - Results strongly depends on the RAFT agent structure.
  - S-(thiobenzoil) thioglicolic better results with STY than MMA.
  - Stabilizer concentration importance.
  - Model optimization.
-

# PERSPECTIVES



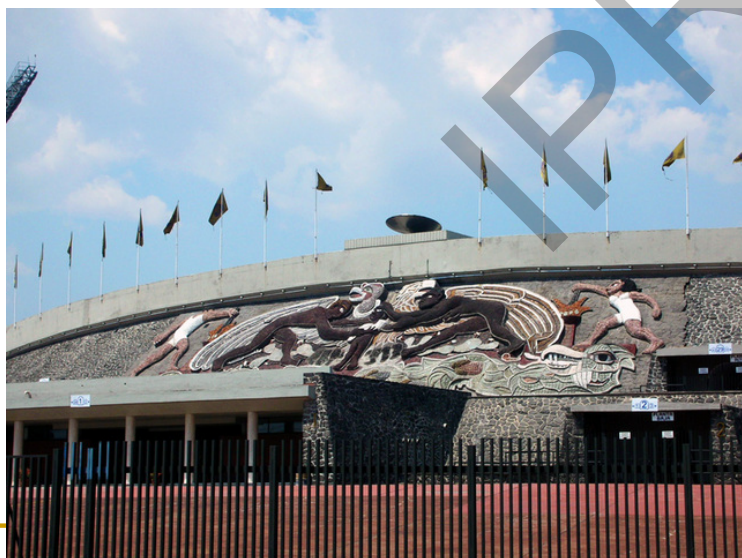


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Facultad de Química, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (FQ-UNAM), project PAIP 5290-28

Science and Technology National Council of Mexico (CONACYT) project CIAM-U40259 and scholarship.

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# THANK YOU

