

**Supporting material for students registered to subject:**

## **Macromolecular chemistry S112003**

**Teacher: Jan Merna, Department of Polymers, Institute of Chemical Technology ,Prague**



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### **Sources:**

Prokopová I.: Makromolekulární chemie, VŠCHT Praha, 2007. (educational text in Czech)

Merna J.: Polymers Instantly, educational text in English, freely accessible from

<http://merna.eu/teaching/macromolecular-chemistry/>

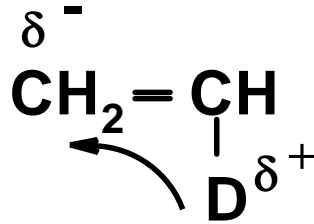
Encyclopedia of Polymer Science and Technology, J.Wiley Sons, Interscience, Publ., New York, 1964-1991

# OUTLINE OF THE COURSE:

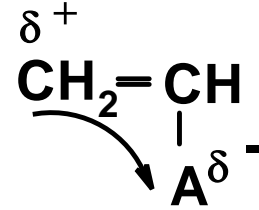
1. Basic terms, history, nomenclature
2. Structure of macromolecules, molecular weight.
3. Molecular structure and properties of polymers.
4. Polymerizability of low molecular substances.
5. Free radical polymerization - elemental reactions.
6. Kinetics of free radical polymerization.
7. Free radical copolymerization.
8. [Ionic polymerization and copolymerization.](#)
9. Ring-opening polymerization.
10. Insertion polymerization, polymerization techniques
11. Step-growth polymerization - characterization, reactivity of monomer functional groups.
12. Polycondensation - mechanism and kinetics, molecular weight distributions.
13. Polyadditions - typical syntheses.
14. Reactions of polymers.

# Ionic polymerizations

- Highly selective compared to radical polymn.



**cationic polymerization**



**anionic polymerization**

**Initiator:**

**acid**

$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ ,  $\text{HClO}_4$

Lewis acids, e.g.

$\text{BF}_3$ ,  $\text{AlCl}_3$ ,  $\text{SnCl}_4$ ,  $\text{TiCl}_4$ , ...

+ coinitiator (water, alcohol, ...)

**base**

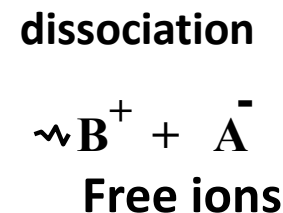
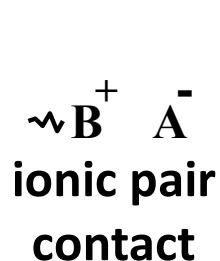
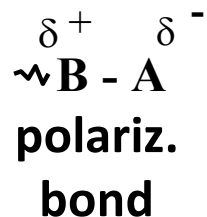
alkaline metals, alkoxides

and hydroxides of alkal. metals,

phosphines, amines, n-Bu-Li, ...

# Ionic polymerization

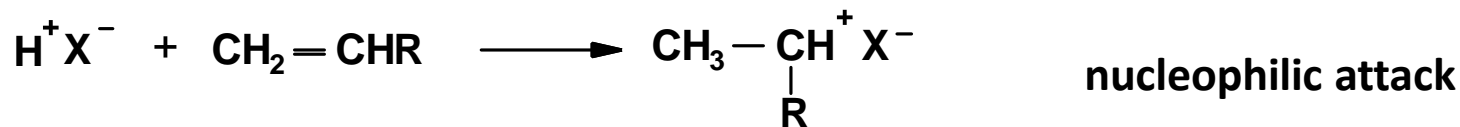
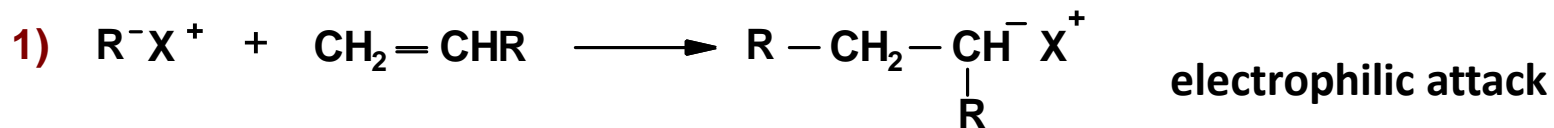
## Types of growing centers:



Media polarity



## Formation of growing center :



# Living vs. controlled polymerization

## Living polymerization

$$R_{\text{tr}}^{\text{irr}}=0 \quad R_{\text{term}}=0$$

Does not mean any control

Jenkins, A. D.; Kratochvil, P.; Stepto, R. F. T.; Suter, U. W. *Pure Appl. Chem.* **1996**, *68*, 2287.

## Controlled polymerization

Kinetically driven:

$$R_i \gg R_p$$

$$R_{\text{tr}}^{\text{irr}} \ll R_p \quad R_{\text{term}} \ll R_p$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{DISPERSITY} = \mathcal{D} = M_w / M_n \rightarrow 1$$

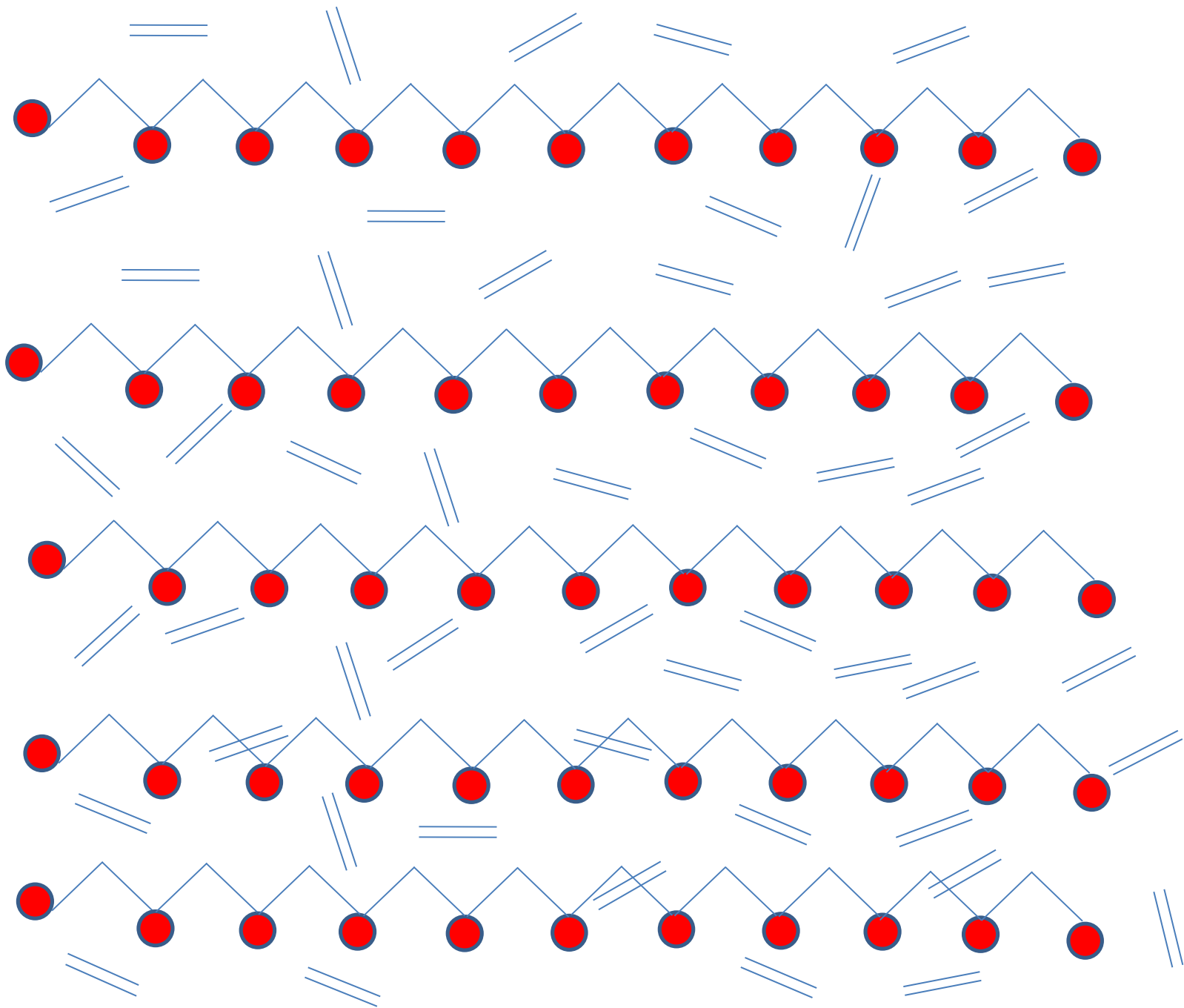
$$\Rightarrow M_n \text{ determined by stoichiometry}$$

Matyjaszewski, K.; Müller, A. H. E. *ACS, Macromolecular Nomenclature Note No. 12*

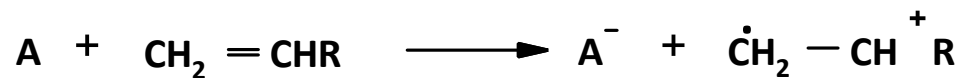
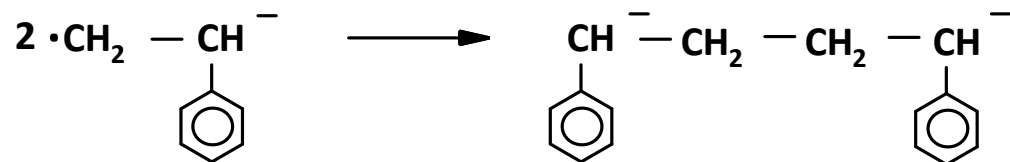
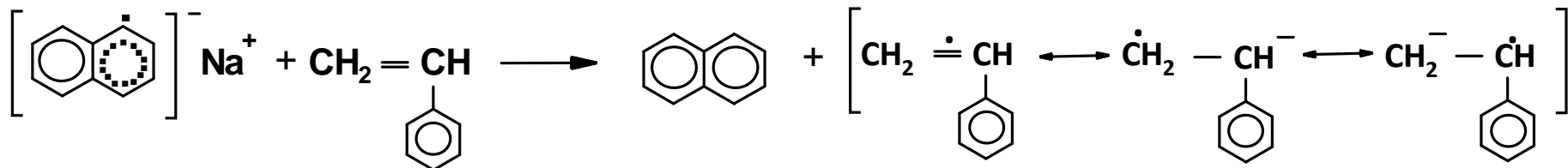
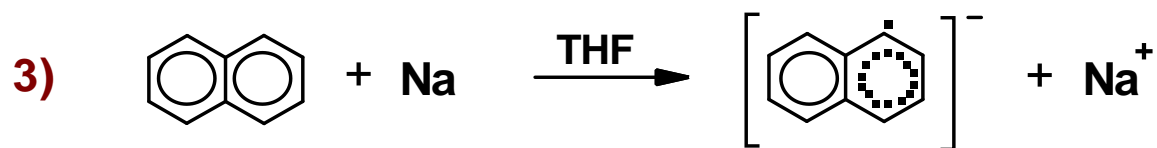
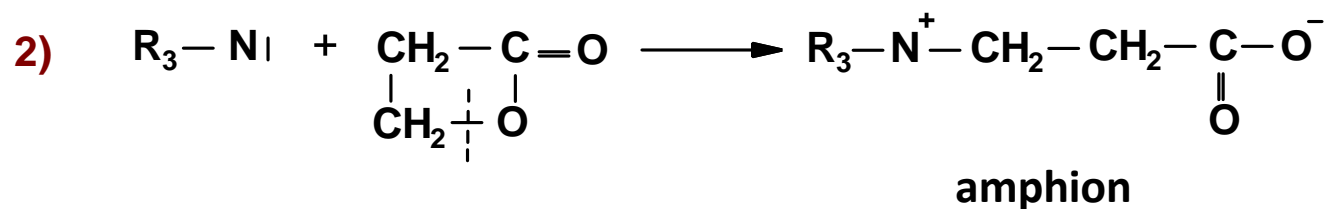
Stepto, RFT et al.  
IUPAC Recommendation 2008: Dispersity

## Typical $\mathcal{D}$ values in controlled polymerization according to mechanism:

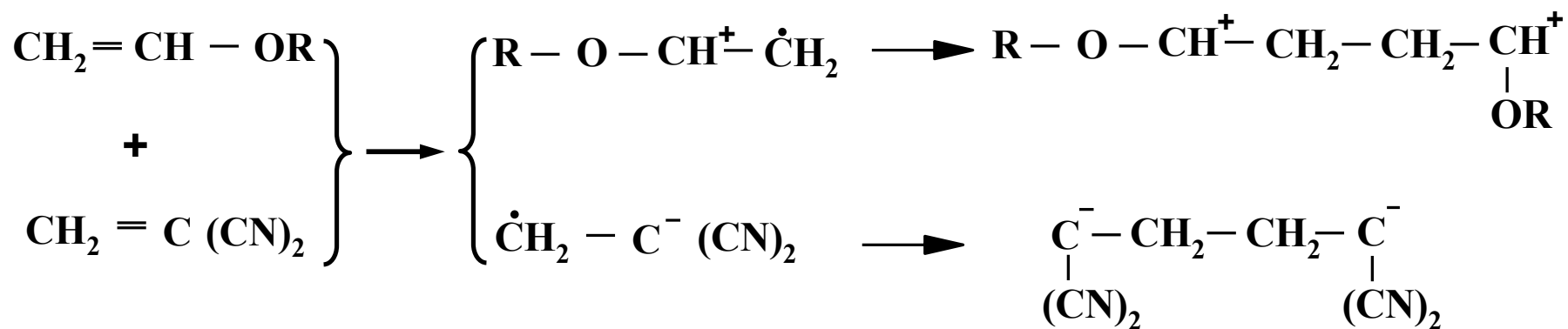
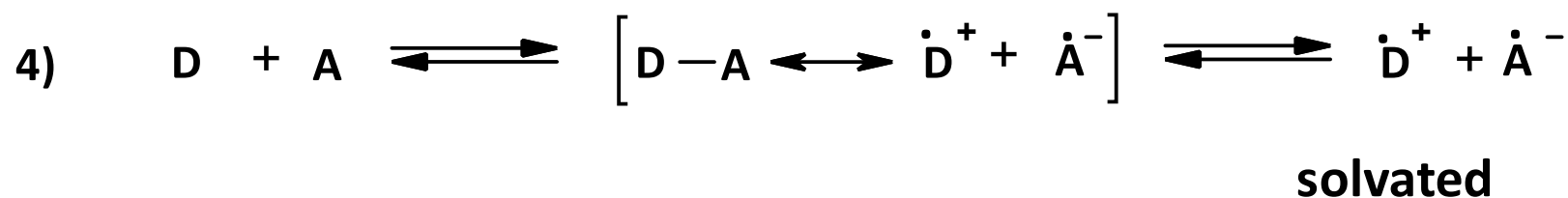
ionic	$\mathcal{D} < 1.1$
radical	$\mathcal{D} < 1.1-1.2$
coordination	$\mathcal{D} < 1.2-1.3$



## Formation of growing center



## Formation of growing center



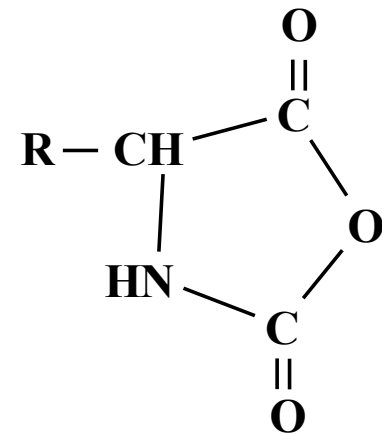


# Anionic polymerization

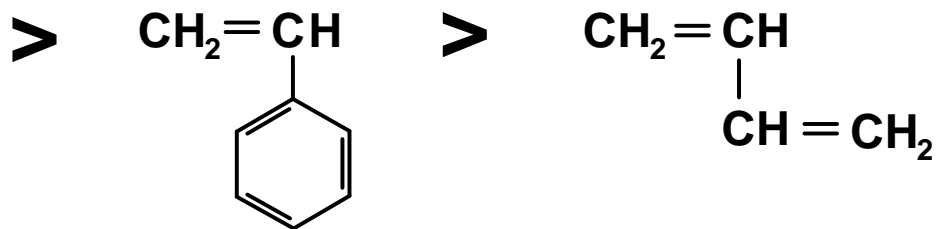
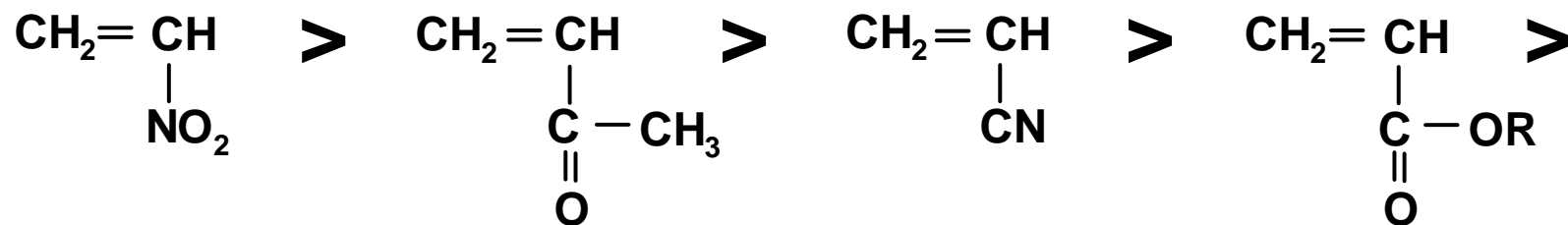
## Monomers:

- Olefin derivatives (subst. -I, -M)
- Cyclic monomers
  - lactams
  - lactones
  - oxiranes
  - anhydrides of N-carboxylic aminoacids

- isocyanates



# Polymerization ability of vinyl monomers

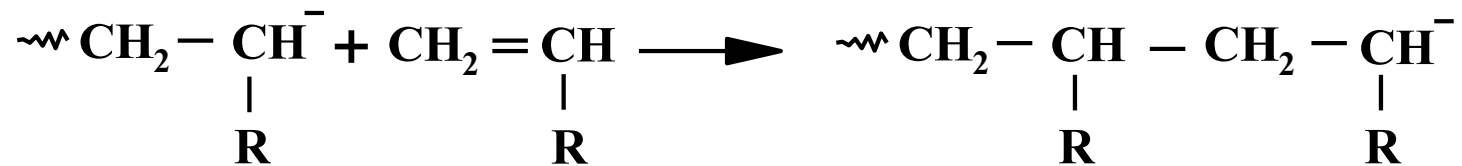


# Initiators of anionic polymerization

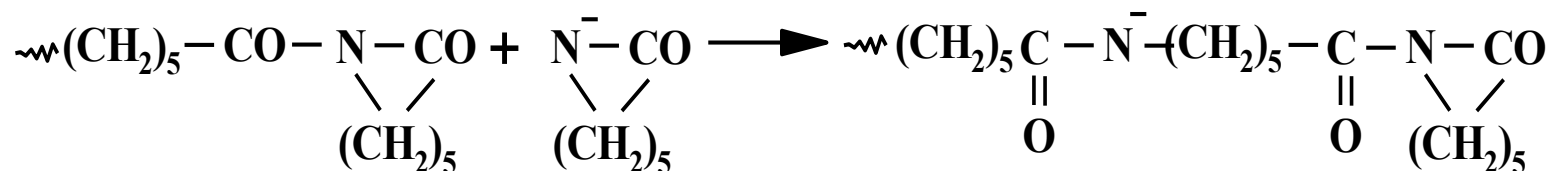
Alkaline metals, alkyl metals, alkoxides, amines, fosphins, alkylmagnesiumbromides, .....

## Chain growth

mostly addition of M to macroion:

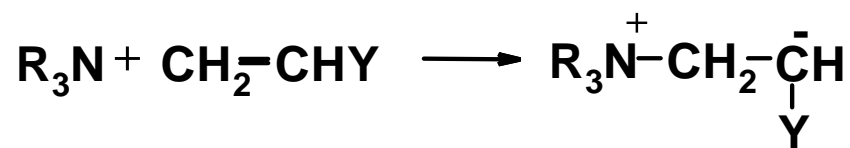


Less often addition of monomer anion on activated chain end (activated monomer mechanism):

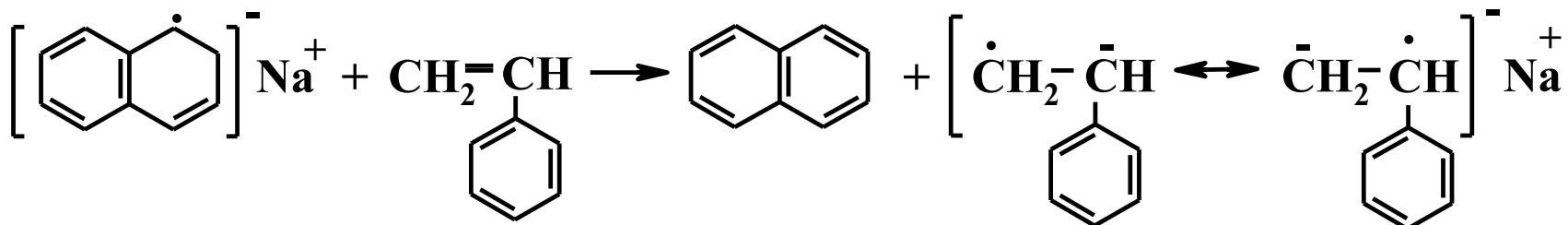
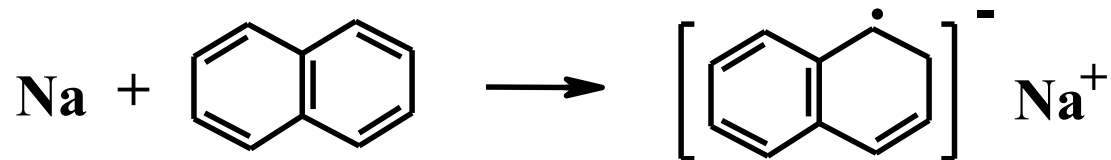


# Anionic polymerization

## Initiation:

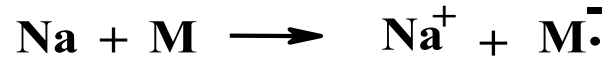


## Szwarc catalyst:



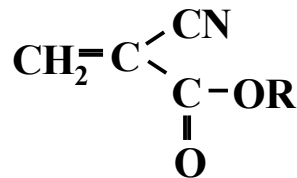
# Anionic polymerization - initiation

Alkaline metals:



Monomers with strongly electron-withdrawing substituents

For initiation less nucleophilic (basic) initiators are required :



(Super Glue)

Initiator: water

## Anionic polymerization - growth



Rate of polymerization depends on type of growing center

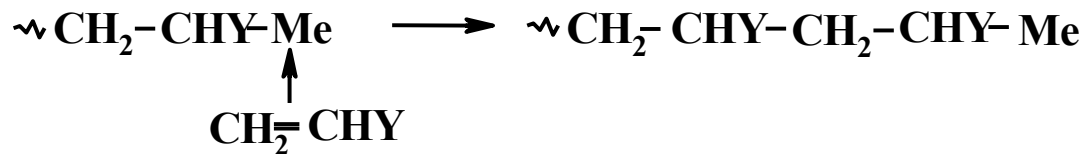
Free ions > ion. pairs > ion. pairs > polarized bonds  
solv. separated contact

## Stechiometric polymerization

- initiator dissociate very fast,  
the only growing centers are free ions

## Pseudo-ionic polymerization

(in non-polar media)



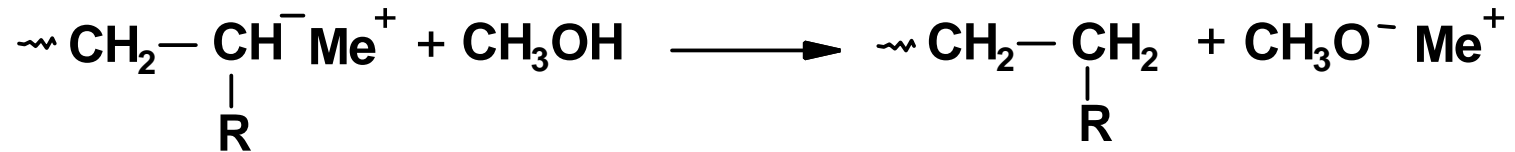
Coordination of monomer always in the same stereo configuration  $\Rightarrow$   
tactic polymers

(transition between anionic and coordination polymerization)

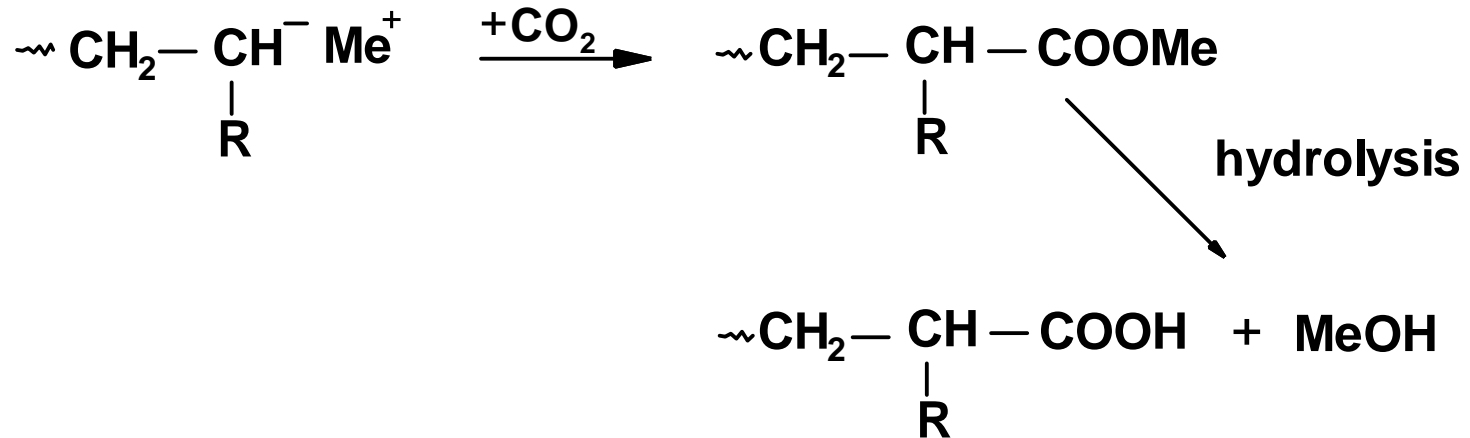
# Termination

Me=metal

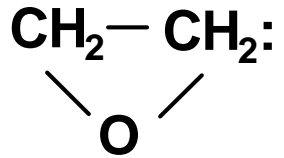
CH<sub>3</sub>OH:



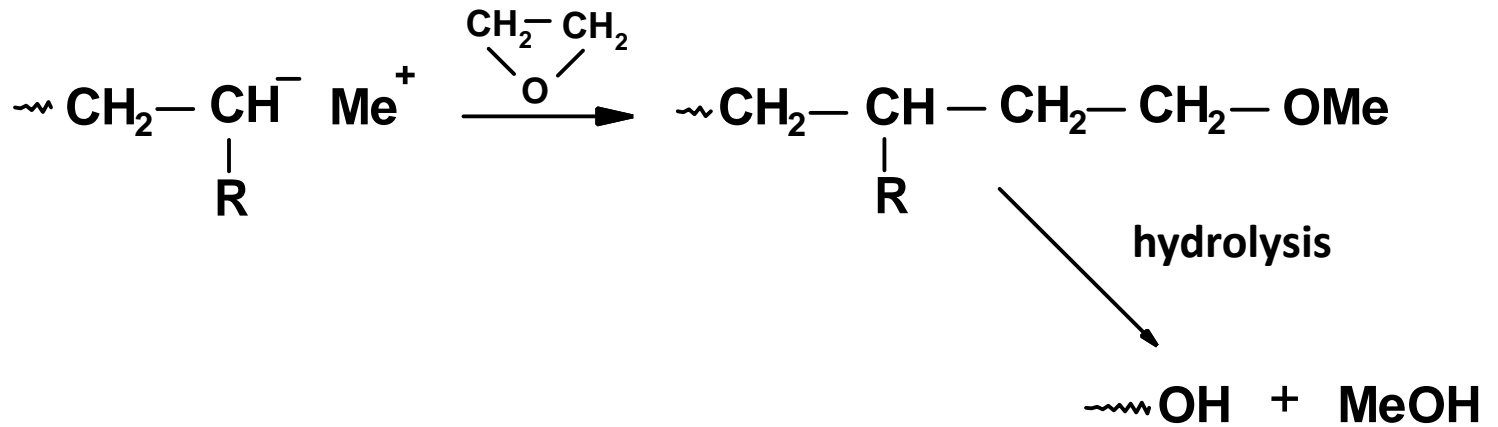
CO<sub>2</sub>:



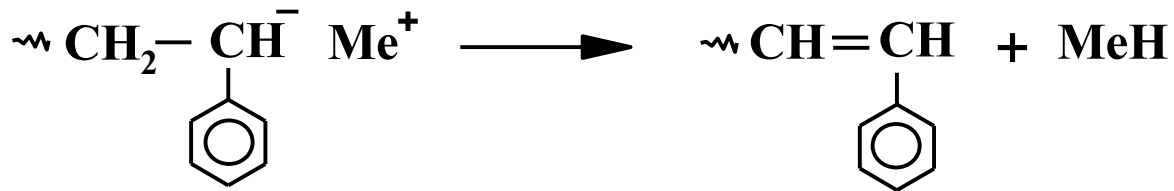
# Termination



Me=metal



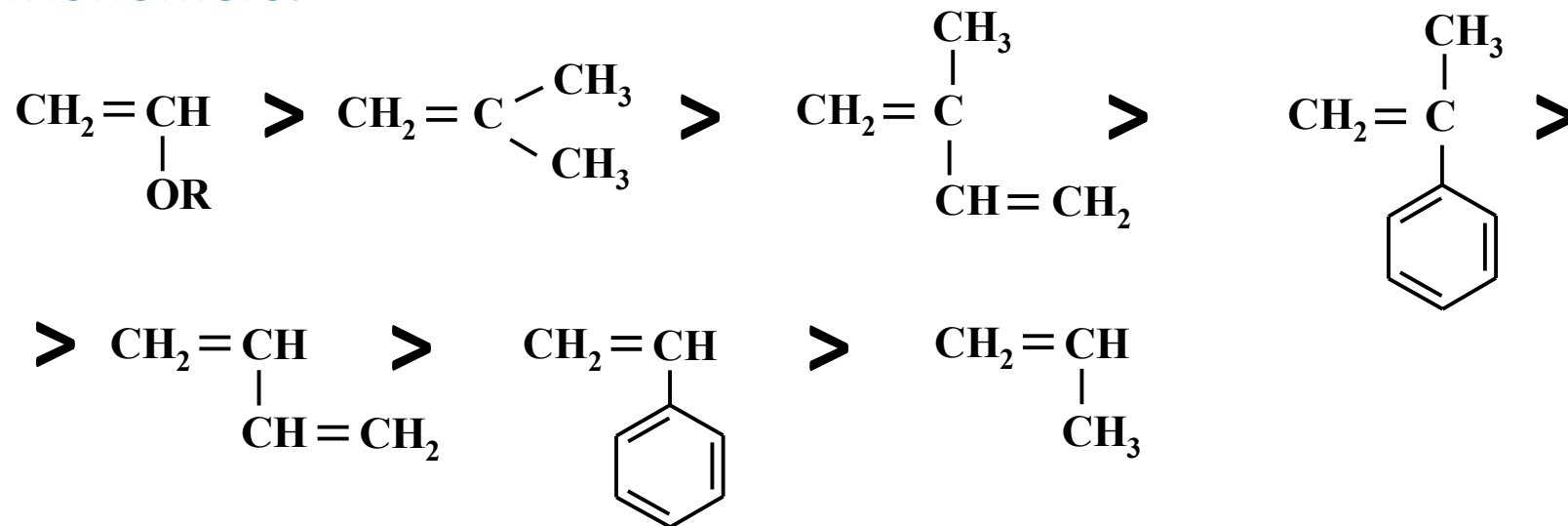
Monomolecular termination:



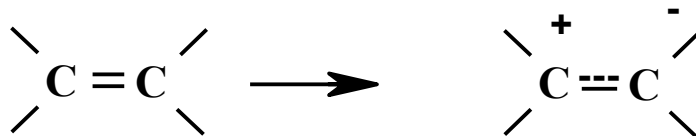


# Cationic polymerization

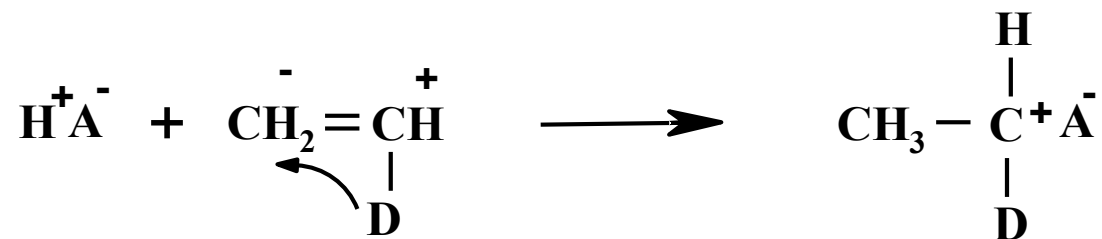
## Monomers:



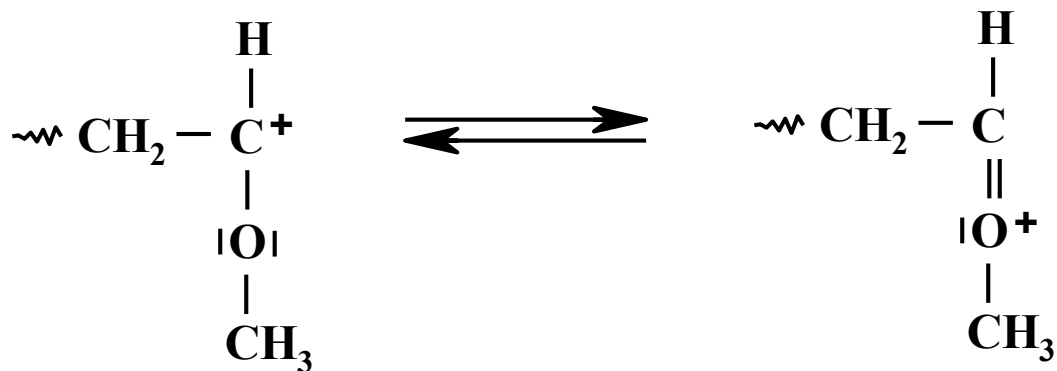
Cyclic ethers – imines  
Unsaturated hydrocarbons  
Lactams  
Lactones  
aldehydes



## Initiation of cationic polymerization:



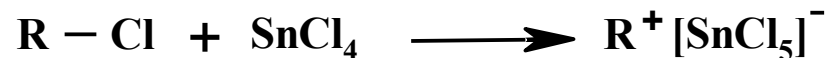
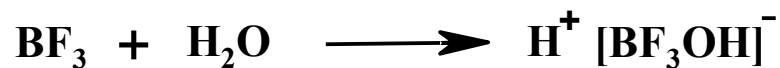
## Resonance stabilization of cation:



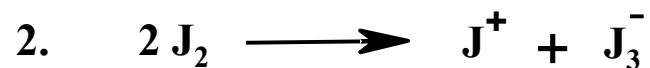
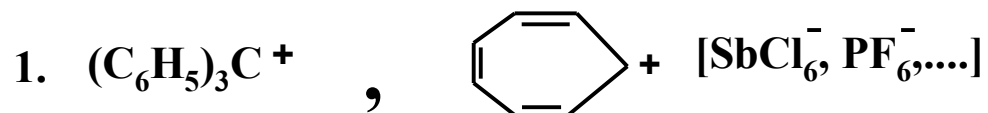
# Initiators

## A ) Proton (Broensted) acids

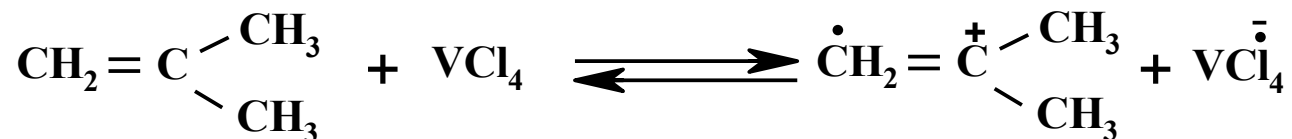
## B ) Lewis acids



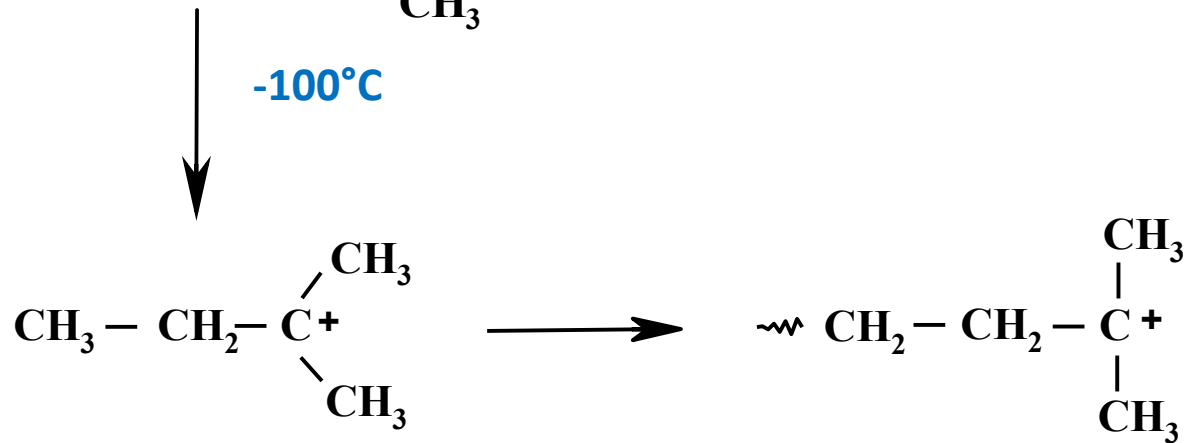
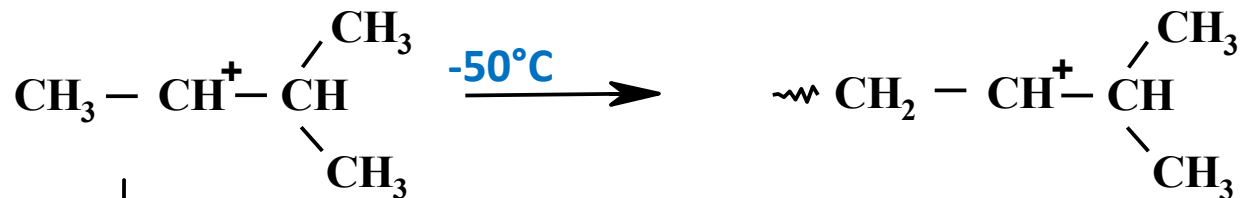
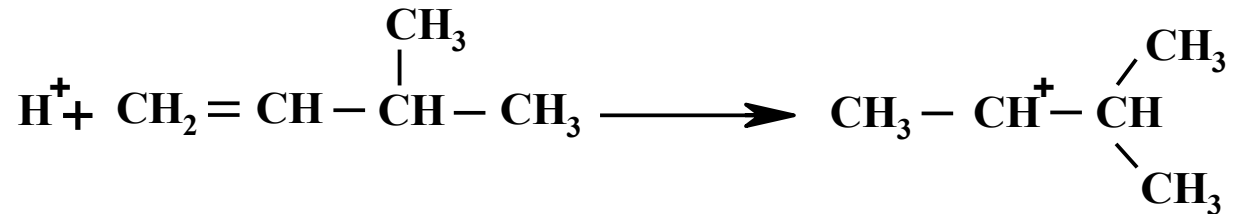
## C) Others



## D) Irradiation

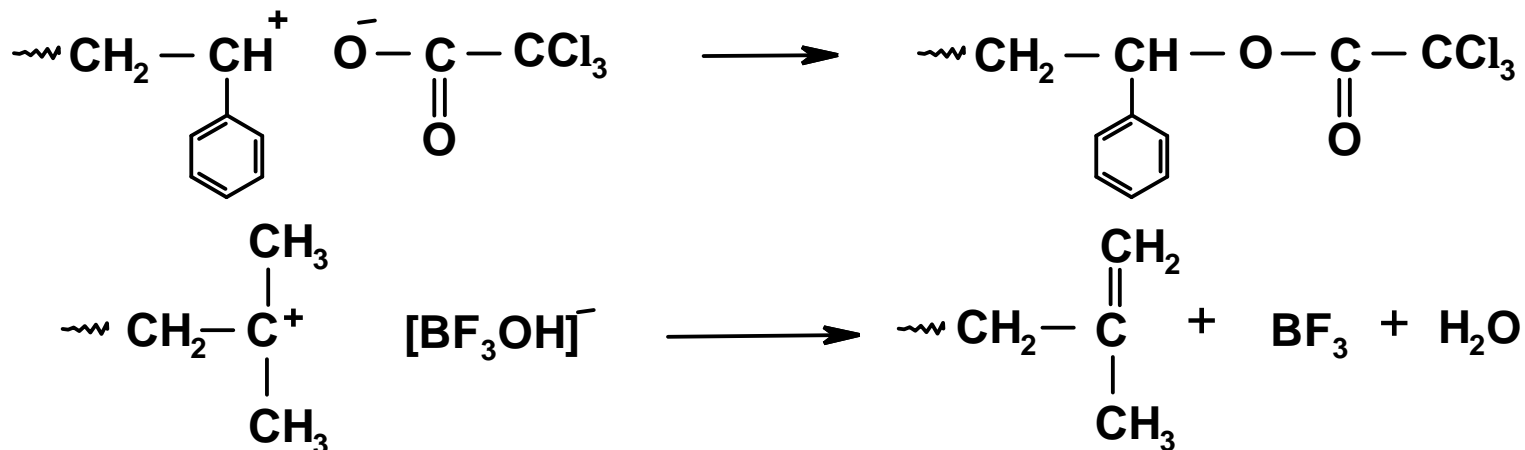


# Izomerization polymerization

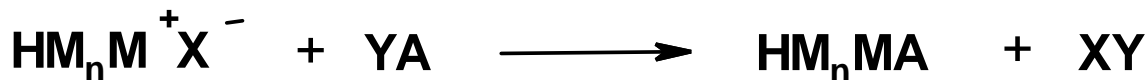


# Termination and transfer

## A) Termination with stopping of kinetic chain growth

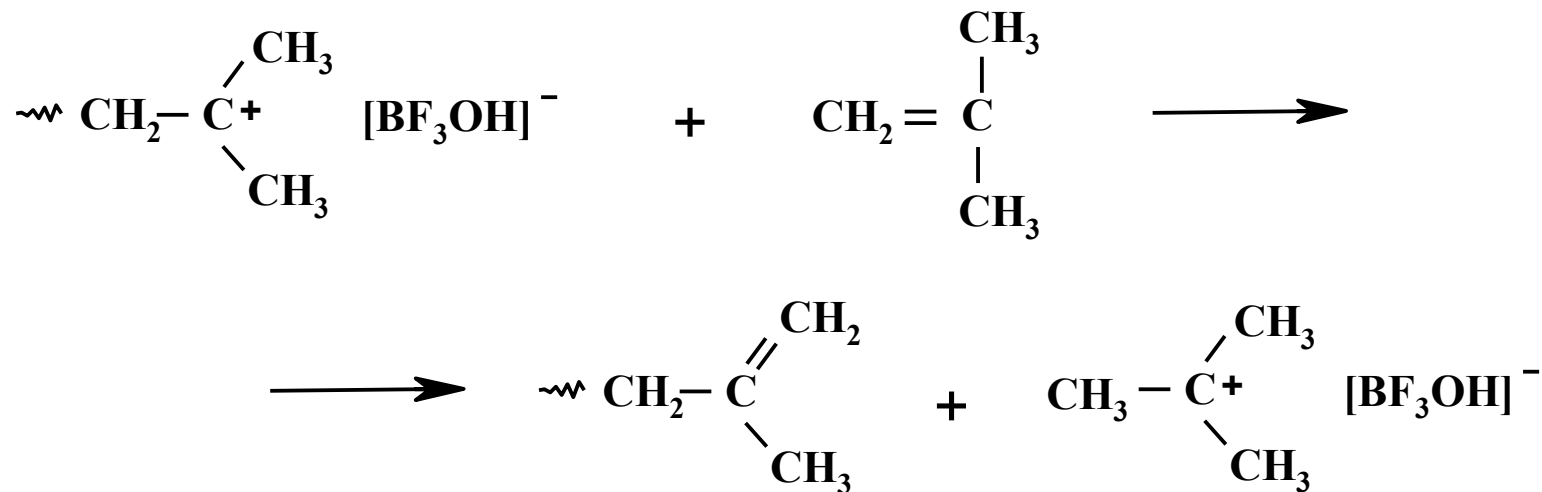


generally

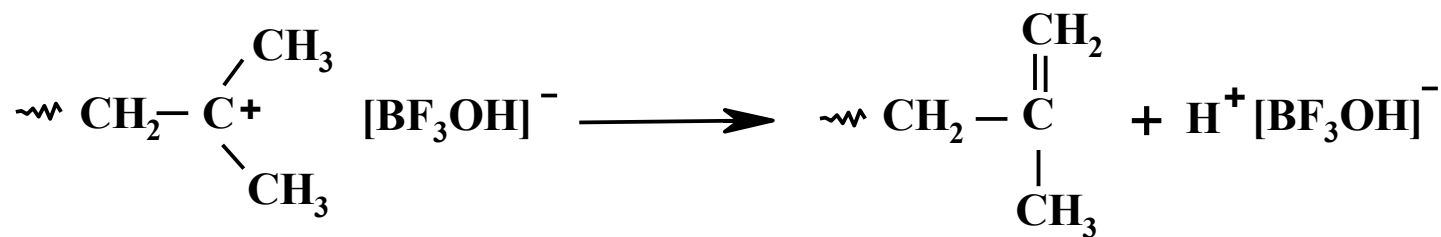


Acids, anhydrides, alcohols, R-Cl, tert. amines

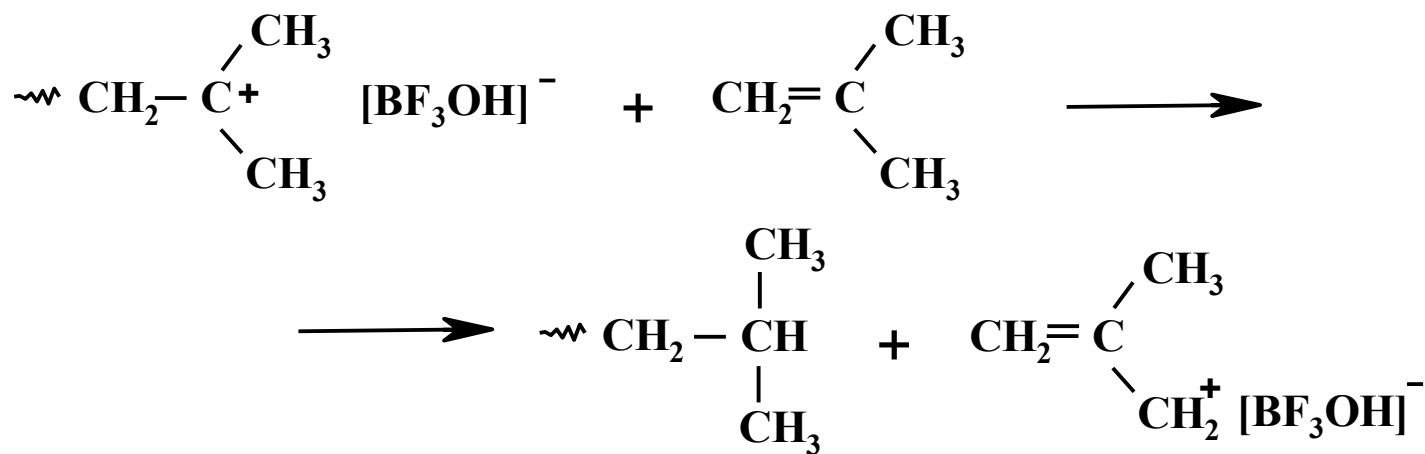
## B) Termination without stopping of kinetic chain growth



Transfer to monomer

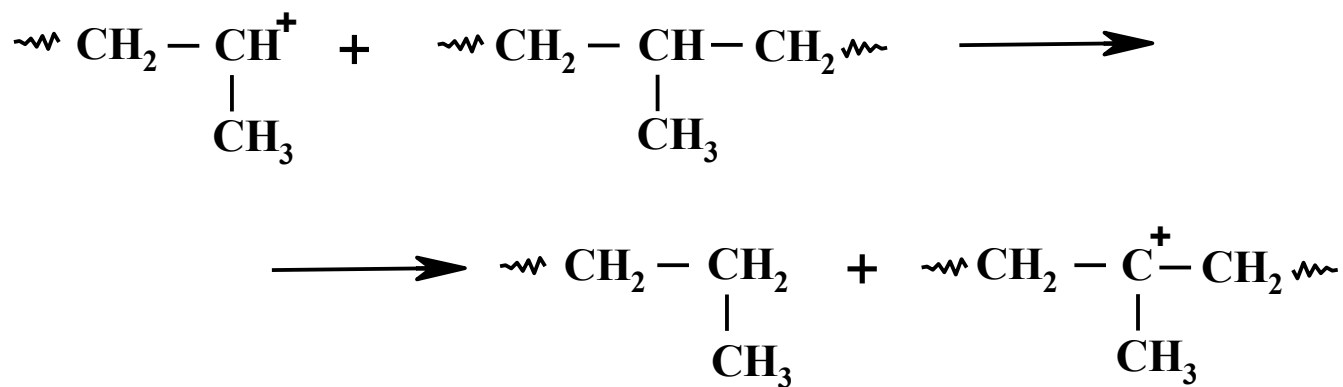


Elimination of catalytic complex



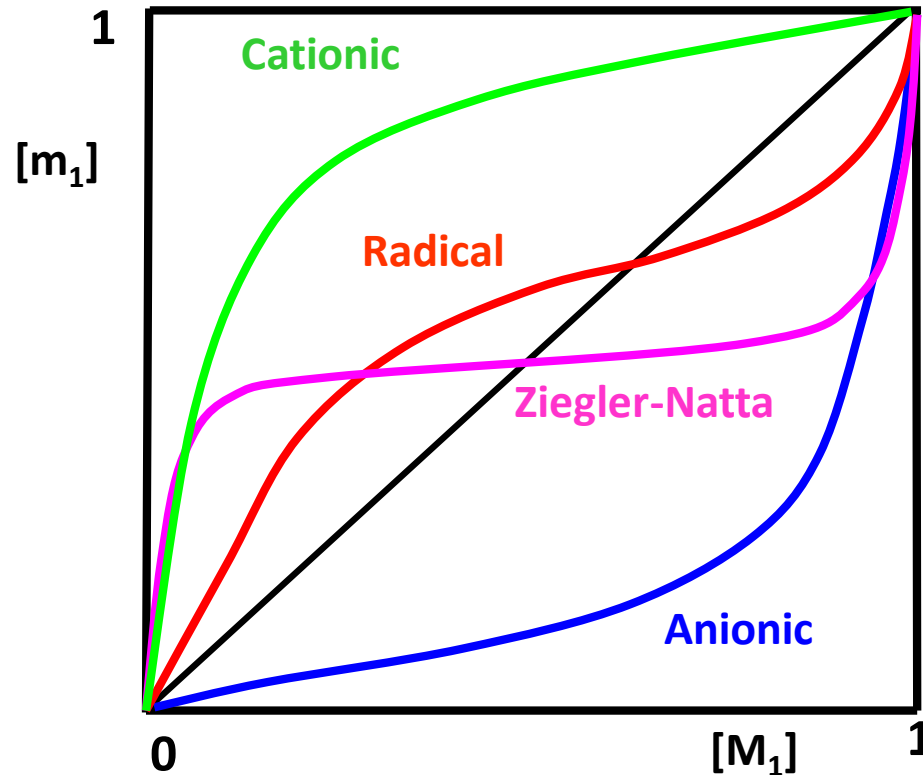
Elimination of hydrido ion from monomer

PP- branching



# Ionic copolymerization

Requirements to comonomers, order of addition, block copolymers, SBS , SIS



Copolymerization of styrene ( $M_1$ ) and methylmethacrylate ( $M_2$ ) at various copolymerization conditions



## Exercises:

### 1. Combine the following monomers with suitable initiators:

#### Monomers:

- vinylidencyanide (1,1-dicyanoethylene)
- acrylonitrile
- Styrene

#### Initiators:

- potassium amide
- potassium alkoxide
- ethylalcohol

### 2. Which of the following monomers can polymerize by cationic mechanism? :

