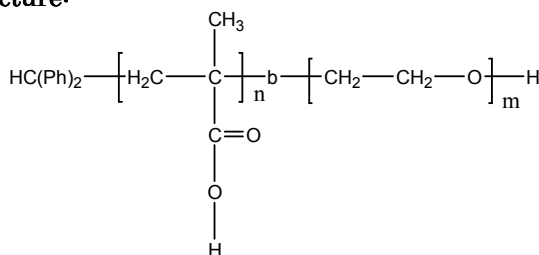


**Sample Name:** Poly(ethylene oxide -b- methacrylic acid)

**Sample #:** P8023-EOMAA

**Structure:**



**Composition:**

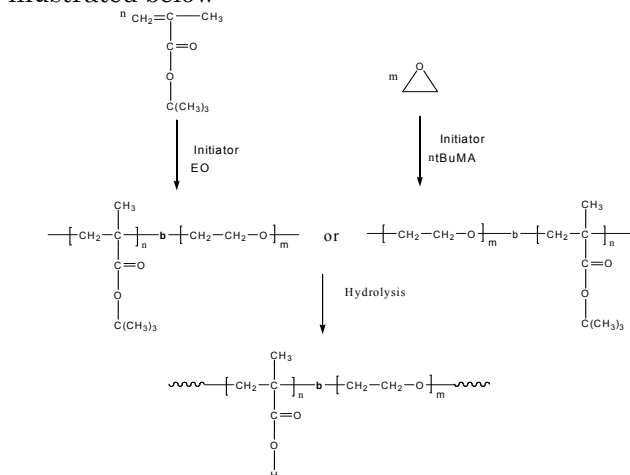
Mn x 10 <sup>3</sup> PEO-b-PMAA	PDI
25.0-b-5.5	1.15

**Synthesis Procedure:**

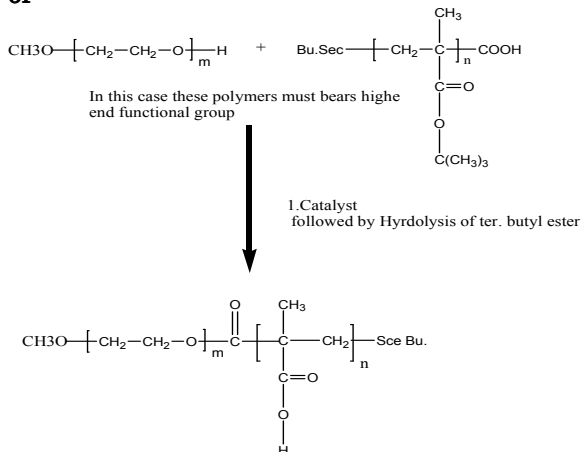
Poly(ethylene oxide -b- methylacrylic acid) is prepared by 2 different routes A and B respectively:

**A.** By living anionic polymerization of sequential addition of EO and tBuMA (ethylene oxide or t-butyl methacrylate) followed by hydrolysis of the t-butyl group<sup>1</sup>.

**B.** By chemical coupling reaction of the corresponding functionalized polymer. The scheme of the reaction is illustrated below:



**or**



**Characterization:**

An aliquot of the first anionic block was terminated before addition of the second block and analyzed by size exclusion chromatography (SEC) to obtain the molecular weight and polydispersity index (PDI). The final block copolymer composition was calculated from <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy by comparing the peak area of the ethylene oxide protons at about 3.6 ppm with the tert.butyl protons at about 1.4 ppm.

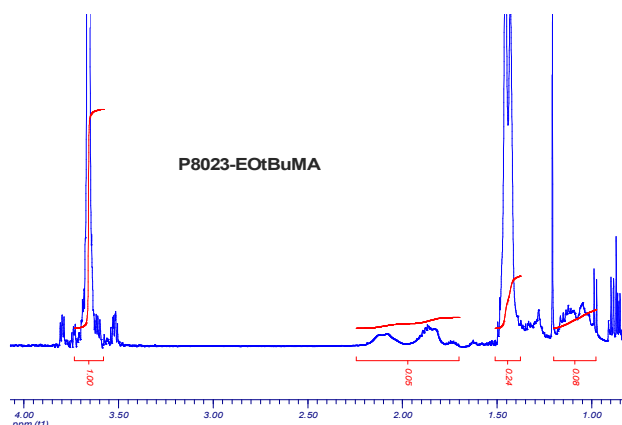
**Hydrolysis:**

To cleave the tert.butyl ester moiety the hydrolysis was carried out in dioxane using acid catalyst. The degree of hydrolysis was checked by FTIR the disappearance of characteristics at 1362cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**Solubility:**

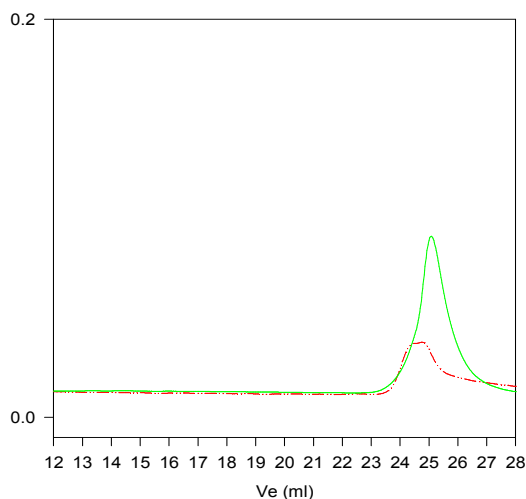
Poly(ethylene oxide -b- methacrylic acid) is soluble in water, THF, methanol, ethanol and precipitate out in hexane, ether.

**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectrum of the block copolymer:**



**SEC of the block copolymer:**

**P8023-EOtBuMA**



Size exclusion chromatography of poly(ethylene oxide-b-tert-butyl methacrylate)

----- Poly(tert-butyl methacrylate), M<sub>n</sub>=9000, M<sub>w</sub>=9700, PI=1.08

----- Block Copolymer PtBuMA-b-EO Mn: (9000)-(25000) from NMR, PI=1.15  
After hydrolysis of ester groups:  
PEO(25000)-b-MAA(5500) Mw/Mn :1.15

**References:**

J. Wang, S. K. Varshney, J. Jerome and Ph. Teyssie  
"Synthesis of AB (BA) ABA and BAB Block copolymers of tert-butylmethacrylate (A) and ethylene oxide (B) " *CA Vol 117, 16, 151478, J. Polym. Sci., Part-A: Polym. Chem. Ed., 1992, 30, 2251-2261.*