

Supporting Information

Impact of Copolymer Architecture on Demicellization and Cargo Release via Head-to-Tail Depolymerization of hydrophobic blocks or branches.

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Table S1. The number of encapsulated cargo molecules in micelles formed from mixtures containing 1000 linear or miktoarm copolymer chains with 2000 or 4000 cargo molecules C_3 . The different interaction parameters between hydrophobic C-C and B-C beads correspond to $T^*=1.8, 1.6$, and 1.4 . $[\Phi]=0.12$.

	Total C_3	encapsulated C_3	Ratio
$A_{30}B_{30}$, $T^*_B = 1.8$ $T^*_C = 1.8$, $T^*_{B-C} = 1.8$	2000	816	0.408
$A_{30}B_{30}$, $T^*_B = 1.8$ $T^*_C = 1.6$, $T^*_{B-C} = 1.8$	2000	841	0.421
$A_{30}B_{30}$, $T^*_B = 1.8$ $T^*_C = 1.5$, $T^*_{B-C} = 1.8$	2000	860	0.430
$A_{30}B_{30}$, $T^*_B = 1.8$ $T^*_C = 1.4$, $T^*_{B-C} = 1.8$	2000	863	0.432
$A_{30}B_{30}$, $T^*_B = 1.8$ $T^*_C = 1.4$, $T^*_{B-C} = 1.4$	2000	1662	0.831
$A_{30}(B_{15})_2$, $T^*_B = 1.8$ $T^*_C = 1.4$, $T^*_{B-C} = 1.4$	2000	1651	0.826
$A_{30}(B_{10})_3$, $T^*_B = 1.8$ $T^*_C = 1.4$, $T^*_{B-C} = 1.4$	2000	1625	0.812
$A_{30}B_{30}$, $T^*_B = 1.8$ $T^*_C = 1.4$, $T^*_{B-C} = 1.4$	4000	3284	0.821

Table S2. The preferential aggregation number (N_p), the mean squared radius and gyration ($\langle R_g^2 \rangle$), and the shape asymmetry parameter (κ^2) of micelles formed by $A_{30}B_{30}$, $A_{30}(B_{15})_2$ and $A_{30}(B_{10})_3$ copolymers, and from their mixtures with 2000 C_3 cargo molecules.

	N_p	$\langle R_g^2 \rangle$	κ^2
$A_{30}B_{30}$	44	115.5 ± 0.2	0.0162 ± 0.0009
$A_{30}B_{30} + C_3$	51	126.8 ± 0.3	0.0126 ± 0.0006
$A_{30}(B_{15})_2$	30	91.4 ± 0.2	0.031 ± 0.001
$A_{30}(B_{15})_2 + C_3$	39	108.4 ± 0.2	0.025 ± 0.001
$A_{30}(B_{10})_3$	23	82.1 ± 0.3	0.049 ± 0.002
$A_{30}(B_{10})_3 + C_3$	31	97.9 ± 0.4	0.041 ± 0.002

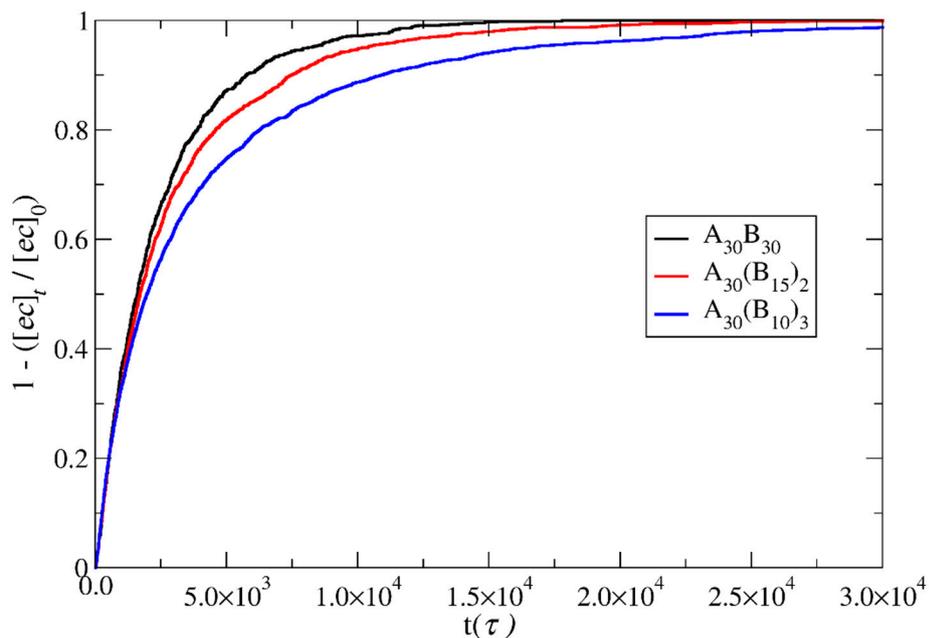


Figure S1 Depolymerization fraction of end cap beads of $A_{30}B_{30}$, $A_{30}(B_{15})_2$, and $A_{30}(B_{10})_3$ copolymers as a function of time for constant trigger molecules concentration. $RP_T=10^{-2}$, $RP_B=10^{-3}$. $[ec]_0$ is the initial end cap beads concentration, $[ec]_t$ is the end cap concentration.

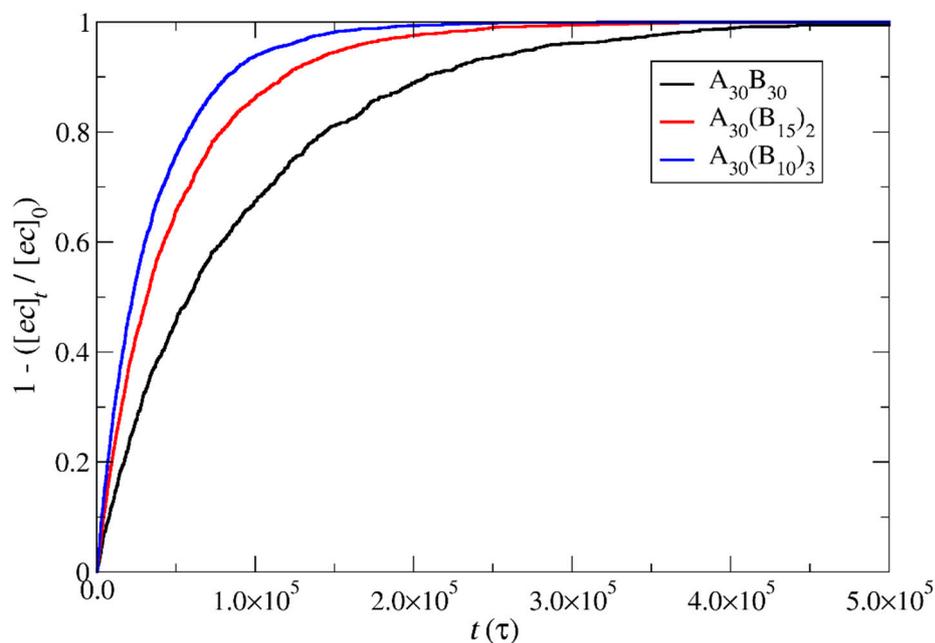


Figure S2 Depolymerization fraction of end cap (ec) beads of $A_{30}B_{30}$, $A_{30}(B_{15})_2$, and $A_{30}(B_{10})_3$ copolymers as a function of time for 10 times the stoichiometric trigger molecules

concentration. $RP_T=10^{-4}$, $RP_B=10^{-3}$. $[ec]_0$ is the initial end cap beads concentration, $[ec]_t$ is the end cap concentration.

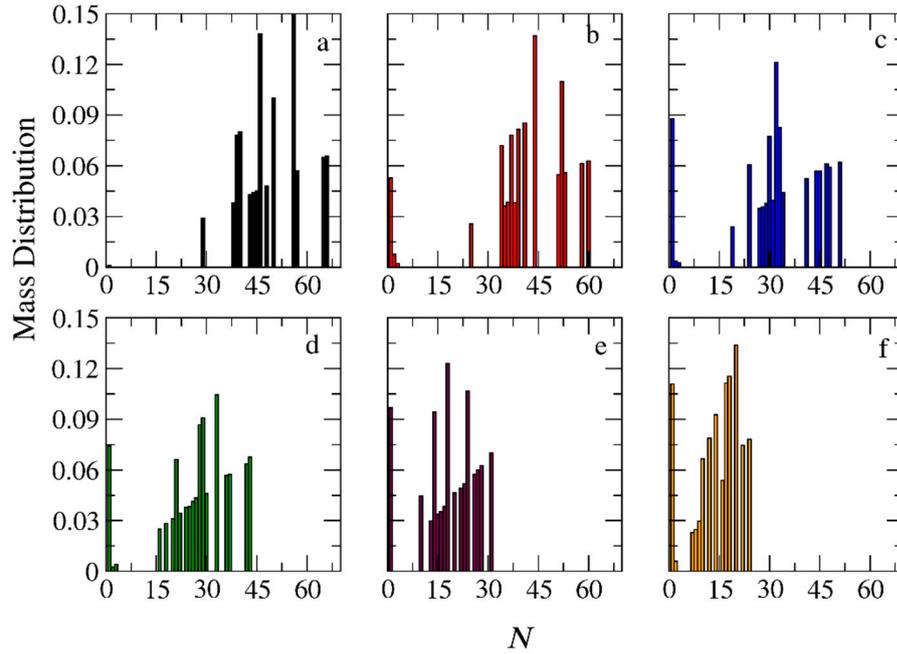


Figure S3 Mass distribution of micelles formed by linear $A_{30}B_{30}$ copolymers across various time points and depolymerization fractions of all hydrophobic beads: a) $t=0$, 0, b) $t=9100\tau$, 0.17, c) $t=13500\tau$, 0.32, d) $t=18000\tau$, 0.44, e) $t=27000\tau$, 0.61, f) $t=36500\tau$, 0.74. The trigger molecule concentration is maintained constant in all cases. $RP_T=RP_B=10^{-3}$.

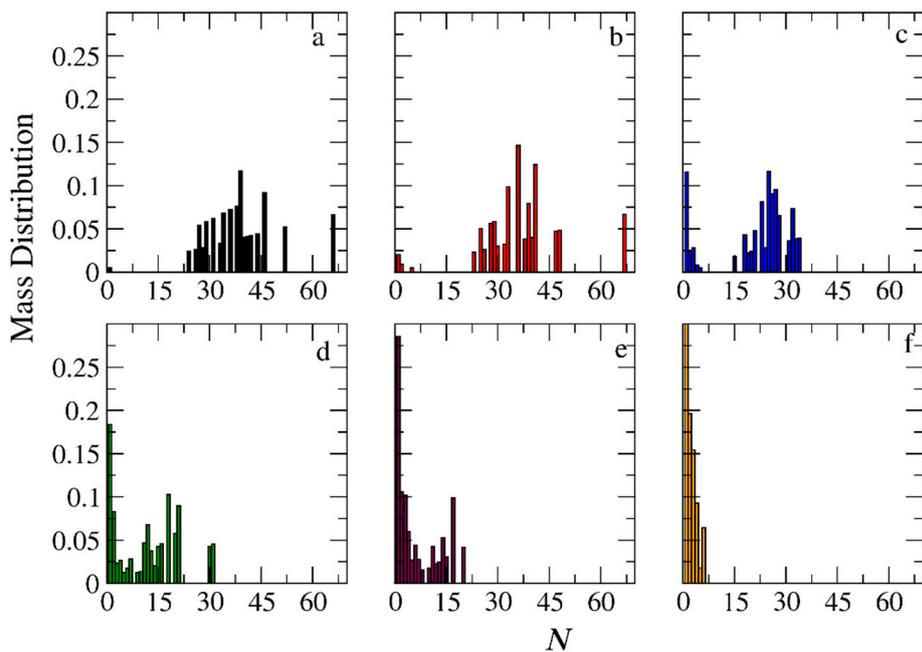


Figure S4 Mass distribution of micelles formed by miktoarm $A_{30}(B_{15})_2$ copolymers across various time points and depolymerization fractions of all hydrophobic beads: a) $t=0$, 0, b) $t=4500\tau$, 0.10, c) $t=9000\tau$, 0.24, d) $t=18000\tau$, 0.45, e) $t=27000\tau$, 0.59, f) $t=45000\tau$, 0.76. The trigger molecule concentration is maintained constant in all cases. $RP_T = RP_B = 10^{-3}$.

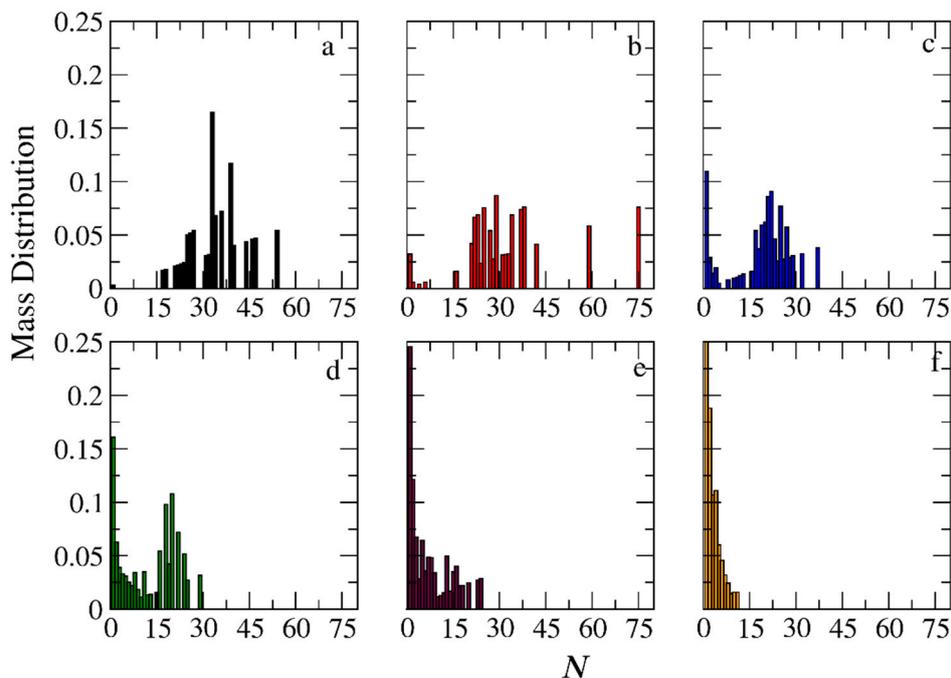


Figure S5 Mass distribution of micelles formed by miktoarm $A_{30}(B_{10})_3$ copolymers across various time points and depolymerization fractions of all hydrophobic beads: a) $t=0$, 0, b)

$t=4500\tau$, 0.11, c) $t=13500\tau$, 0.34, d) $t=22500\tau$, 0.49, e) $t=36000\tau$, 0.63, f) $t=63000\tau$, 0.76. The trigger molecule concentration is maintained constant in all cases. $RP_T=RP_B=10^{-3}$

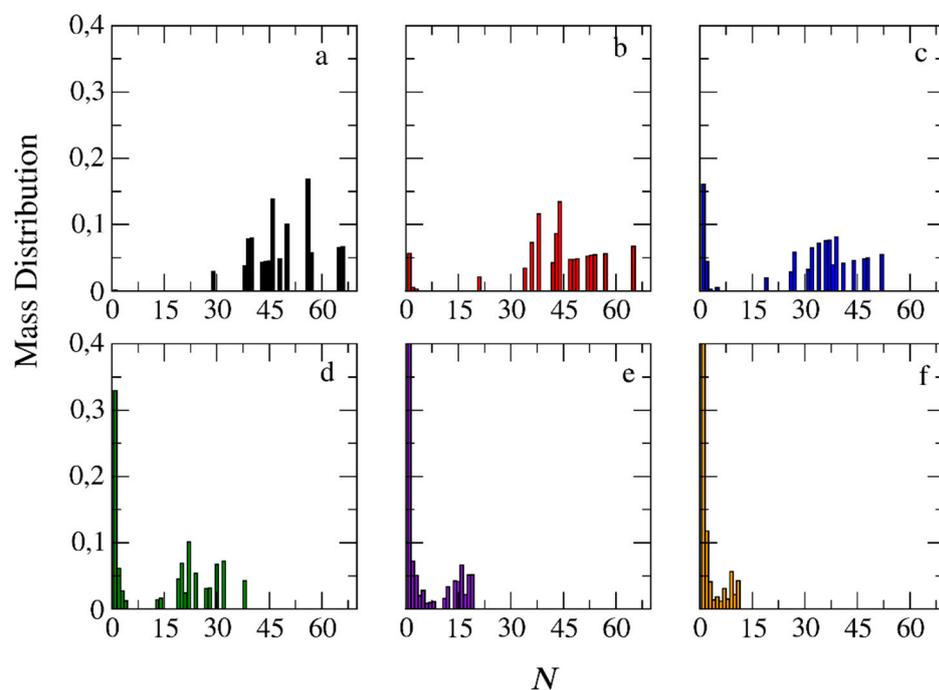


Figure S6 Mass distribution of micelles formed by linear $A_{30}B_{30}$ copolymers across various time points and depolymerization fractions of all hydrophobic beads: a) $t=0$, 0, b) $t=4500\tau$, 0.27, c) $t=6000\tau$, 0.41, d) $t=7500\tau$, 0.55, e) $t=9000\tau$, 0.68, f) $t=10500\tau$, 0.80. The trigger molecule concentration is maintained constant in all cases. $RP_T=10^{-2}$ and $RP_B=10^{-3}$.

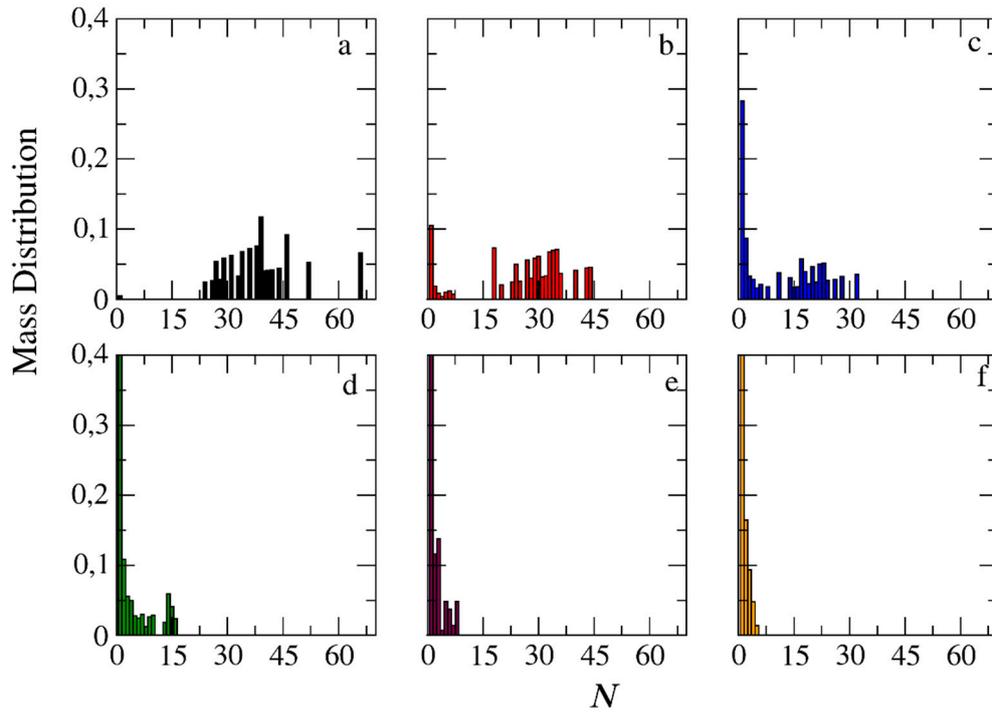


Figure S7 Mass distribution of micelles formed by miktoarm $A_{30}(B_{15})_2$ copolymers across various time points and depolymerization fractions of all hydrophobic beads: a) $t=0$, 0, b) $t=3000\tau$, 0.30, c) $t=4000\tau$, 0.45, d) $t=6000\tau$, 0.67, e) $t=7500\tau$, 0.78, f) $t=9000\tau$, 0.86. The trigger molecule concentration is maintained constant in all cases. $RP_T=10^{-2}$ and $RP_B=10^{-3}$.

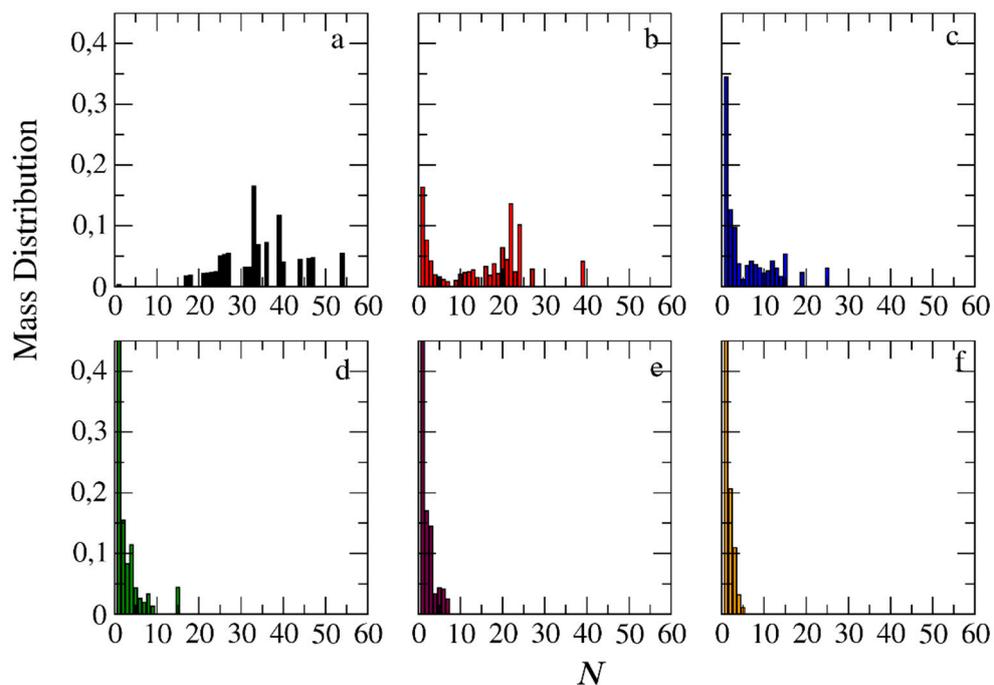
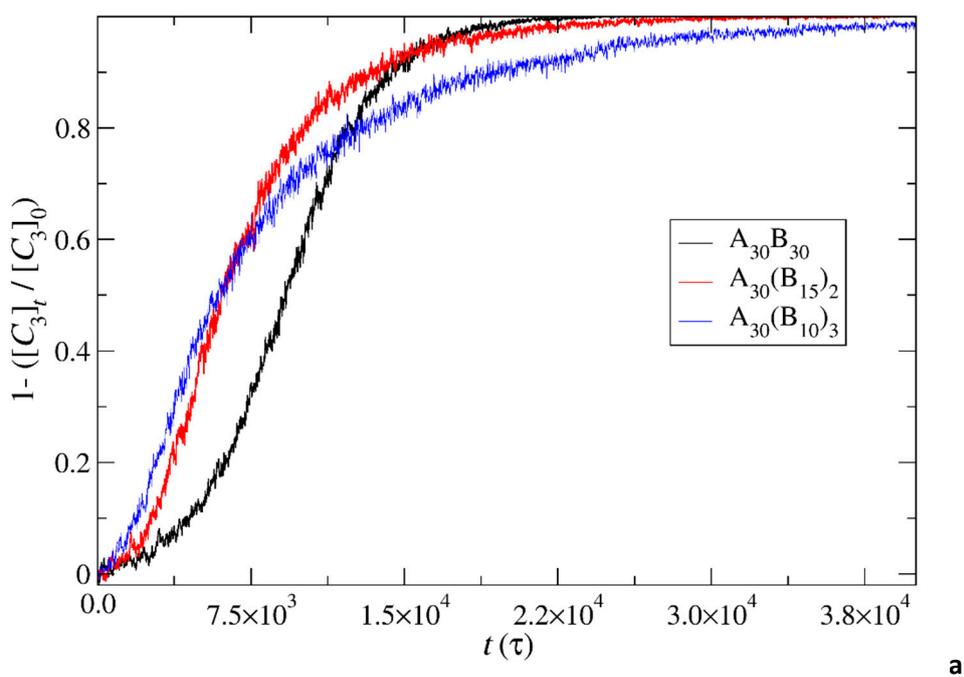
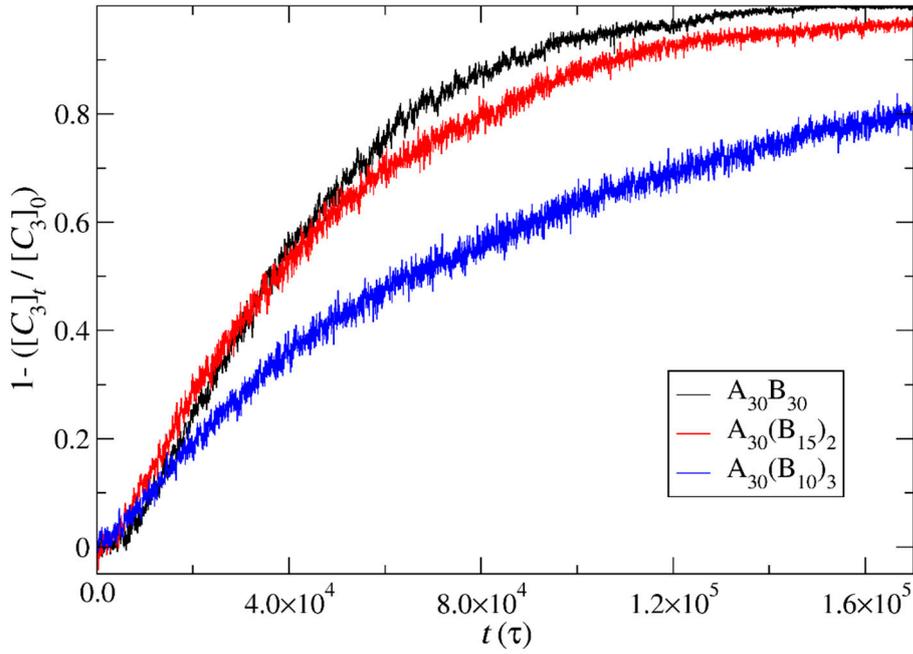


Figure S8 Mass distribution of micelles formed by miktoarm $A_{30}(B_{10})_3$ copolymers across various time points and depolymerization fractions of all hydrophobic beads: a) $t=0$, 0, b) $t=3000\tau$, 0.37, c) $t=4500\tau$, 0.56, d) $t=6000\tau$, 0.68, e) $t=7500\tau$, 0.74, f) $t=9000\tau$, 0.80. The trigger molecule concentration is maintained constant in all cases. $RP_T=10^{-2}$ and $RP_B=10^{-3}$.

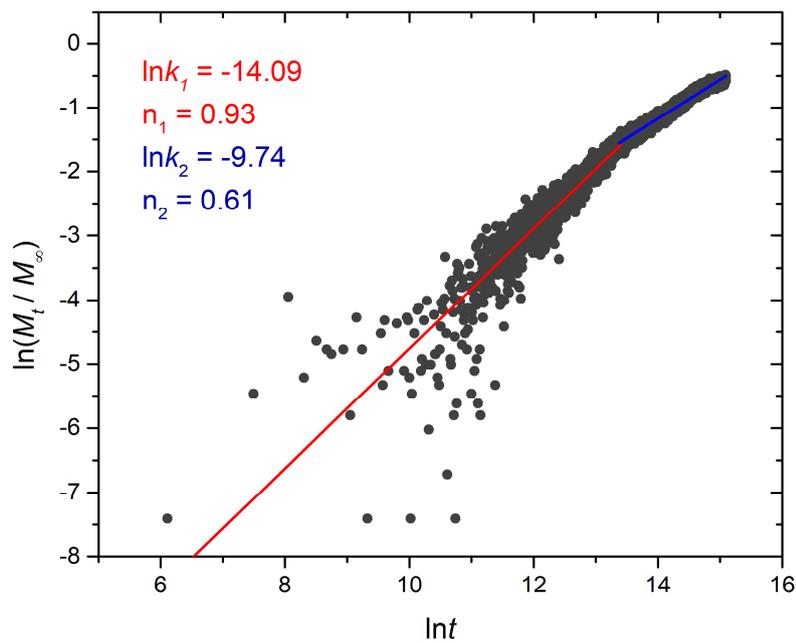


a

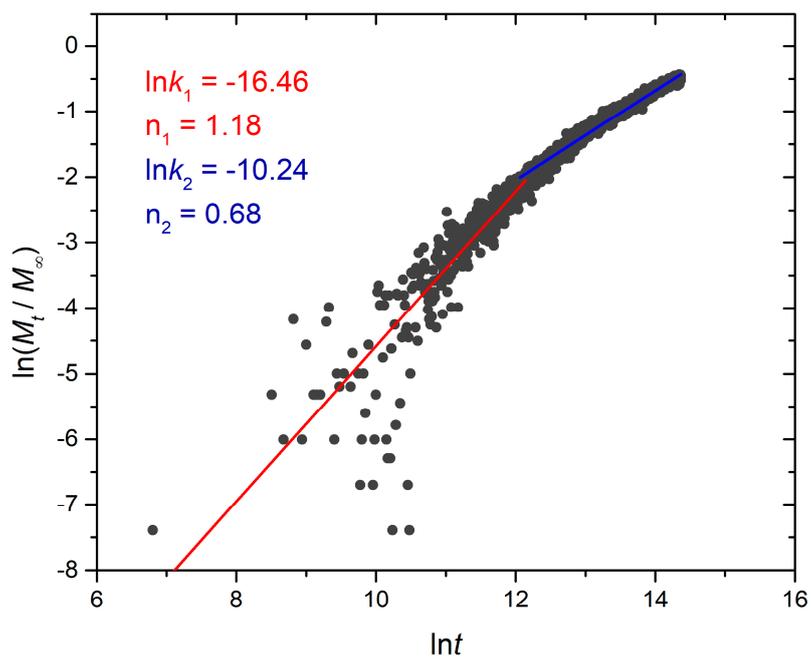


b

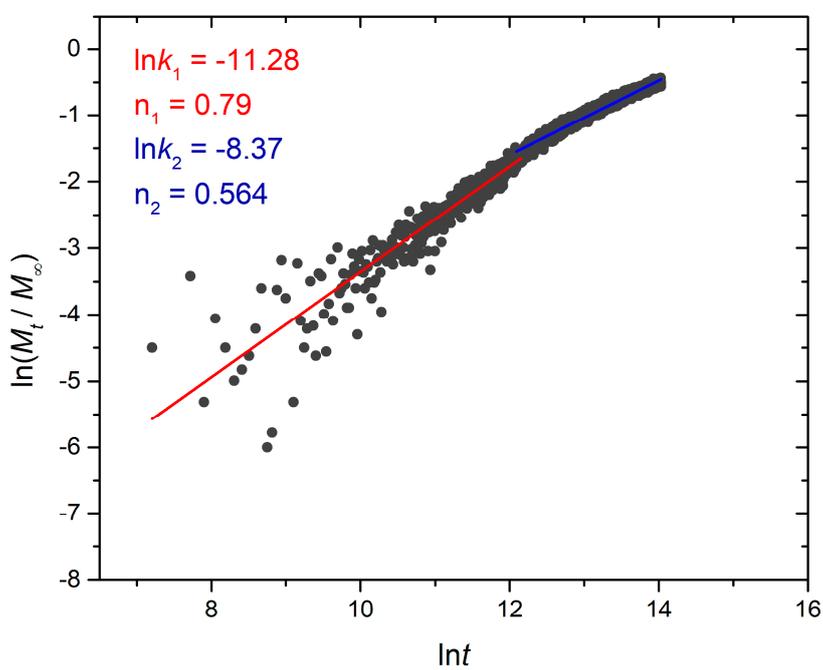
Figure S9 Cargo molecules release fraction from $A_{30}B_{30}$, $A_{30}(B_{15})_2$, and $A_{30}(B_{10})_3$ copolymer mixtures plotted against time for constant trigger molecule concentration. a) $RP_T=10^{-2}$, $RP_B=10^{-3}$ and b) $RP_T=10^{-3}$ and $RP_B=10^{-3}$. $[C_3]_0$ is the initial cargo molecules concentration, $[C_3]_t$ is the cargo molecules concentration.



a



b



c

Figure S10 Plot depicting the fraction of released cargo molecules against time for a) linear A₃₀B₃₀, b) miktoarm A₃₀(B₁₅)₂, and c) miktoarm A₃₀(B₁₀)₃ copolymers. Fitting lines, k and n

correspond to the Kormsmeier-Peppas equation. Trigger molecule concentration is maintained stoichiometric to end cap beads in all cases. $RP_T=10^{-4}$ and $RP_B=10^{-3}$.

Radius of Gyration

The radii of gyration used to describe the dimensions of a polymeric micelle $\langle R_g^2 \rangle_{micelle}$ and the micelle's core $\langle R_g^2 \rangle_{core}$ are defined as:

$$\langle R_g^2 \rangle_{micelle} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_{CM})^2 \quad (S1)$$

$$\langle R_g^2 \rangle_{core} = \frac{1}{M_c} \sum_{i=1}^{M_c} (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_{coreCM})^2 \quad (S2)$$

where, M_c represents the number of B-type beads forming the micelle core, and M denotes the total number of beads (both A-type and B-type) forming the micelle. \mathbf{r} , \mathbf{r}_{CM} , and \mathbf{r}_{coreCM} denote the position vectors of i bead, the center of mass of B-type beads, and the center of mass of all beads forming the micelle, respectively.

Shape anisotropy parameter.

The shape anisotropy κ^2 is defined as(Theodorou & Suter, 1985):

$$\kappa^2 = 1 - 3 \frac{\langle I_2 \rangle}{\langle I_1^2 \rangle}, \quad (S3)$$

where I_1 and I_2 are the first and second invariants of the radius of gyration tensor. $\kappa^2 = 0$ corresponds to a perfect sphere while $\kappa^2 = 1$ to a perfect rod. The relationship between the packing parameter and the shape anisotropy parameter in polymers is not a direct one, but they are both influenced by molecular structure and interactions. In some cases, molecules with high shape anisotropy (high κ^2) may have difficulty packing efficiently, especially in self-assembly processes where spherical structures are favored. Conversely, molecules with low shape

anisotropy (low κ^2) may have a higher tendency to pack efficiently. However, this relationship can vary depending on the specific molecular interactions and the overall system conditions.



SV1.mp4

Video S1. A preview of simulation box showing the depolymerization of hydrophobic (red) beads in $A_{30}B_{30}$ copolymer mixtures for constant trigger molecule concentration is presented ($RP_T=10^{-4}$, $RP_B=10^{-3}$). Cargo molecules are shown in green. For clarity all other types of beads are hidden.



SV2.mp4

Video S2. A preview of simulation box showing the release of cargo molecules (green) in $A_{30}B_{30}$ copolymer mixtures for constant trigger molecule concentration is presented ($RP_T=10^{-4}$, $RP_B=10^{-3}$). For clarity all other types of beads are hidden.