ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Hydrophobically functionalized poly(acrylic acid) comprising the ester-type labile spacer: Synthesis and self-organization in water

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1. FT-IR, etc and ¹H NMR spectra

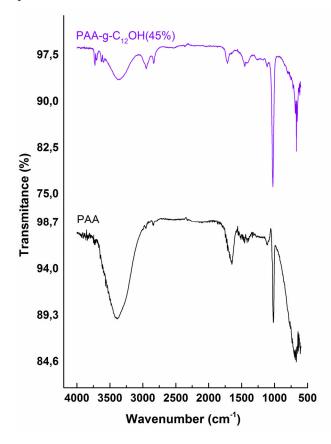


Figure 1S. FT-IR spectrum of the synthesized hydrophobically functionalized poly(acrylic acid) in comparison to poly(acrylic acid).

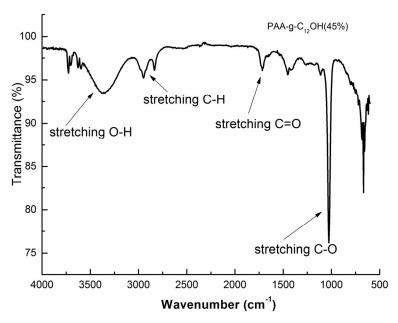


Figure 2S. FT-IR spectrum of the synthesized hydrophobically functionalized poly(acrylic acid) with marked signals attributed to the main bonds.

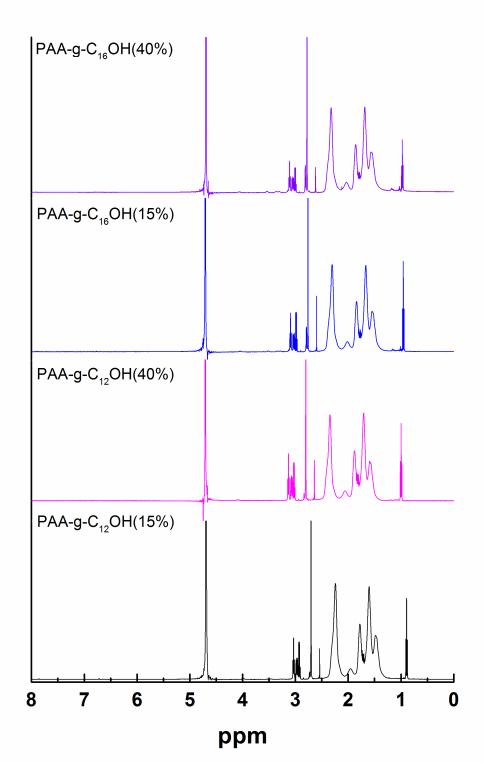


Figure 3S. 1 H NMR spectra of the synthesized hydrophobically functionalized poly(acrylic acid) (0 - 8 ppm range)

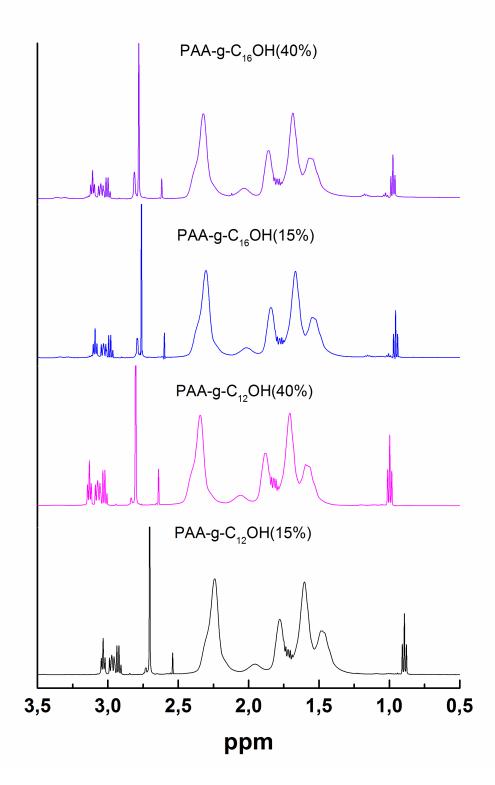


Figure 4S. 1 H NMR spectra of the synthesized hydrophobically functionalized poly(acrylic acid) (0.5 – 3.5 ppm range).

2. Determination of diffusion coefficients by fitting to triexponential functions

Table 1S. Determination of diffusion coefficients (D) and hydrodynamic diameters (D_H) by fitting data to appropriate triexponentional models: G^1 (intensity versus linear gradient) or G^2 (intensity versus square gradient).

| c [mg/mL] | Model (G ¹ or G ²) | PAA-g-C ₁₂ OH(15%) | | | PAA-g-C ₁₆ OH(40%) | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| | | D [m ² /s] | D _H [nm] | \mathbb{R}^2 | D [m ² /s] | D _H [nm] | \mathbb{R}^2 |
| 10 | G ¹ (3 coefficients) | 5.502*10-10 | 0.7 | 0.99967 | 5.368*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 0.7 | 0.99986 |
| | | 5.502*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 0.7 | | 5.368*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 0.7 | |
| | | 5.502*10-10 | 0.7 | | 5.368*10-10 | 0.7 | |
| | | 5.498*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 0.7 | | 5.356*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 0.7 | |
| | G ² (3 coefficients) | 5.498*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 0.7 | 0.99967 | 5.356*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 0.7 | 0.99986 |
| | | 5.498*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 0.7 | _ | 5.356*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 0.7 | _ |
| 45 | | 4.228*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.0 | | 3.814*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.0 | |
| | G1 (3 coefficients) | 4.228*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.0 | 0.99996 | 3.814*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.0 | 0.99983 |
| | | 6.953*10 ⁻¹¹ | 5.8 | | 7.810*10 ⁻¹¹ | 5.1 | _ |
| | | 4.230*10-10 | 1.0 | | 3.813*10-10 | 1.0 | |
| | G ² (3 coefficients) | 4.229*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.0 | 0.99996 | 3.813*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.0 | 0.99983 |
| | | 1.248*10-11 | 32.1 | _ | 7.810*10 ⁻¹¹ | 5.1 | _ |
| 100 | | 4.041*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.0 | | 3.229*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.2 | |
| | G1 (3 coefficients) | 2.007*10-9 | 0.2 | 0.99988 | 3.229*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.2 | 0.99992 |
| | | 3.332*10 ⁻¹²² | 1.2*10112 | | 3.229*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.2 | _ |
| | | 3.492*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.1 | | 3.236*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.2 | |
| | G ² (3 coefficients) | 1.367*10-9 | 0.3 | 0.99988 | 3.236*10 ⁻¹⁰ | 1.2 | 0.99992 |
| | | -4.327*10-10 | -0.9 | _ | 3.236*10-10 | 1.2 | |

3. Molecular modeling studies

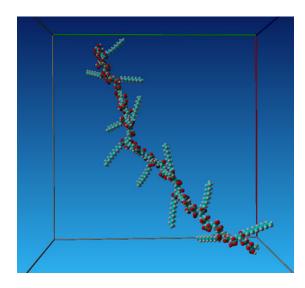


Figure 5S. Initial conformation of hydrophobically modified PAA molecule used for the molecular dynamics simulations.

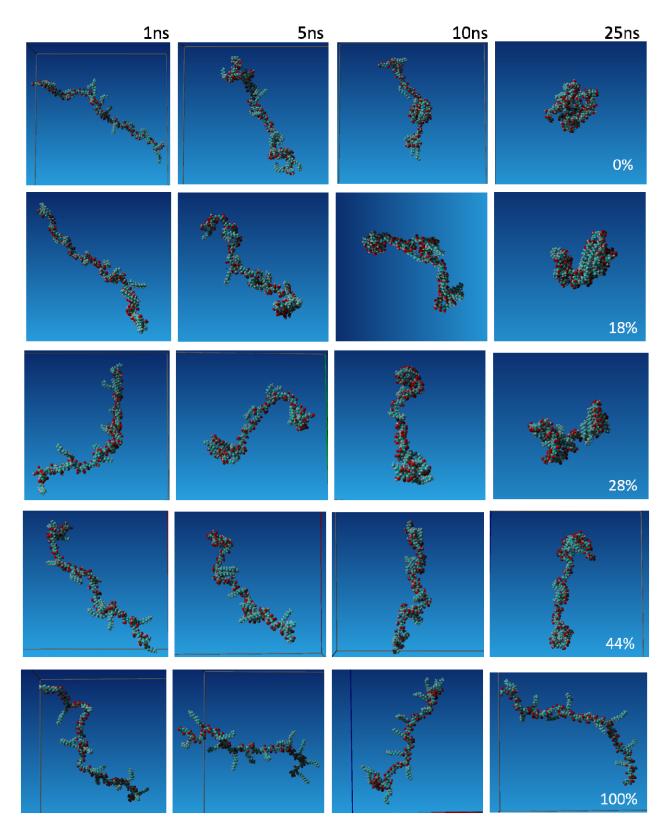


Figure 6S. Snapshots from the molecular dynamics simulations of PAA-g-C₁₂OH(15%) with various degree of charging (marked in the Figure) taken after 1ns, 5 ns, 10 ns and 25 ns of the simulation run.