Pillar[6]arene-based supramolecular polymeric material constructed via electrostatic interaction for rapid and efficient organic dye removal from water

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1. Materials and methods

All reagents were commercially available and used as supplied without further purification. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratory (Andover, MA). **WP6** was prepared according to the published procedure.^{S1} **WCTV** was prepared according to the published procedure.^{S2} NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian

Unity 500 MHz spectrometer. Mass spectra were recorded on a Micromass Quattro II triplequadrupole mass spectrometer using electrospray ionization with a MassLynx operating system. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) investigations were carried out on a Hitachi Zoom-1 HC-1 instrument. SEM was carried out with a Hitachi S-4800 field emission scanning electron microscope. Solid-state nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a BRUKER 400WB AVANCE III spectrometer. Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR) spectra were recorded on a Thermo Nicolet iS10 spectrometer. Elemental analyses were carried out on a Vario EL Cube instrument. Thermogravimetric Analysis (TGA) was carried out on a DSCQ1000 Thermal Gravimetric Analyzer. UV–vis spectra were taken on a PerkinElmer Lambda 35 UV–vis spectrophotometer.

2. Synthesis of WP6



Scheme S1. Synthetic route of WP6.

Compound **2** was prepared according our previous report.^{S1} **1** (4.86 g, 15 mmol), paraformaldehyde (0.69 g, 23 mmol), were stirred in 250 mL dry CHCl₃, then 3.26g BF₃•Et₂O was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at r.t. for 1 h, and then 250 ml water was added. The organic layer was collected and then the solvent was evaporated to get crude product. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CH₂Cl₂/PE, v/v 1:1) to give **2** as a white solid (0.62 g, yield: 12 %).

2 (1 g, 3 mmol), and 1.05 g of trimethylamine were stirred in 50 mL

CH₃CH₂OH/Toluene mixture at 100 °C for 8 h, then the solvent was evaporated to get crude product. The crude product was washed with CHCl₃ three times to give **WP6** as a white solid (1.58 g, yield: 95 %). The ¹H NMR spectrum of WP6 is shown in Figure 1a.¹H NMR (400 MHz, D₂O) δ 6.83 (s, 12H), 4.45-4.36 (m, 24H), 3.81-3.72 (m, 36H), 3.20-2.94 (m, 108H).



Figure S1b. ¹³C NMR spectra of **WP6** in D₂O at 100 MHz.

3. Synthesis of WCTV



Scheme S2. Synthetic route of WCTV.

A mixture of Catechol (5 g, 45 mmol), methyl chloroacetate (14.86 g, 136 mmol), and K_2CO_3 (9.5 g, 68.8 mmol) was refluxed in the presence of N_2 in 200 mL acetone overnight. After the reaction was completed, the mixture was concentrated and recrystallized from methanol to obtain Compound A (10.6 g, yield: 92%) as a pale yellow solid.

The ¹H NMR spectrum of Compound **A** is shown in Figure 2.¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.92 (ddd, J = 27.0, 6.1, 3.6 Hz, 4H), 4.73 (s, 4H), 3.79 (s, 6H).



Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectra of A in CDCl₃ at 400 MHz.

A (2.92 g, 11.5 mmol) and Paraformaldehyde (0.698 g, 23.0 mmol) were added to 200 mL CH₂Cl₂, BF₃•Et₂O was added to the mixture, stirred at r.t. for 3 h, then methanol (200 mL) was added to give crude product as white solid. Compound B was collect by vacuum filtration, recrystallized in CH₂Cl₂ / methanol mixture and dried in vacuum to give B (1.69 g, yield: 44%) as acicular crystal.

The ¹H NMR spectrum of Compound **B** is shown in Figure 3.¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.86 (s, 6H), 4.71 (s, 12H), 4.65 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 3H), 3.77 (s, 18H), 3.49 (d, *J* = 13.9 Hz, 3H)_°



Figure S3. ¹H NMR spectra of **B** in CDCl₃ at 400 MHz.

B (1.20 g, 1.50 mmol) was stirred in 120 mL ethanol, added 120 mL 40% NaOH aqueous solution and refluxed for 10 h. The reaction solution was concentrated under reduced pressure, diluted with 30 mL of water, and then acidified with HCl. The precipitate was collected by filtration, then washed the precipitate with water to give C (0.998g, yield: 93%).

The ¹H NMR spectrum of Compound C is shown in Figure 4. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 6.97 (s, 6H), 4.66 (s, 6H), 4.61 (s, 12H), 3.42 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 6H).



Figure S4. ¹H NMR spectra of C in DMSO at 400 MHz.

C (0.900 g, 1.25 mmol) was stirred in 40% $NH_3 \cdot H_2O$ aqueous solution under reflux for 5 h, then the reaction solution was concentrated under reduced pressure and filter to give the crude product. The crude product was washed with ethanol 3 times and then dried in vacuum to give WCTV (1.03 g, yield: 99%) as white solid.

The ¹H NMR spectrum of Compound **WCTV** is shown in Figure 5. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 6.80 (s, 6H), 4.58 (s, 3H), 4.38 (s, 12H), 3.42 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 3H)_°



Figure S5. ¹H NMR spectra of WCTV in D₂O at 400 MHz.

4. Characterization of WP6&WCTV



Figure S6. FT-IR spectra of WP6, WP6&WCTV, and WCTV.

 Table S1 Elemental analysis data of polymeric WP6&WCTV.

	Name	Weight	N %	C %	Н%
1	WP6&WCTV	1.9877 mg	5.26	63.41	7.16
2	WP6&WCTV	1.9932 mg	5.33	63.59	7.19
3	WP6&WCTV	1.9968 mg	5.34	63.46	7.20

Table S2. The Removal Efficiency of the dye

Dye	Removal		
	Efficiency %		
Azophloxine	86.5		
Ingrain Blue 1	92.7		
Rhodamine B	88.3		
Basic Brown	97.3		
alizarin red S	85.9		



Fig S7 Specific viscosity of (a) **WCTV**, (b) **WP6** in water versus the concentration. (c) When fixed **WP6** = 20 mmol, specific viscosity of the system versus the concentration of **WCTV**.



Fig. S8 ¹H NMR studies of Basic Brown and WCTV in D₂O.



Fig. S9 ¹H NMR studies of Ingrain Blue and WCTV in D_2O .



Fig. S10 1 H NMR studies of Rhodamine B and WCTV in D₂O.



Fig. S11 ¹H NMR studies of Alizarin Red and WP6 in D₂O.



Fig. S12 ¹H NMR studies of Azophloxine and WP6 in D₂O.



Fig. S13 UV spectra of different pure organic solvents and after **WP6&WCTV** were dispersed in the solvents overnight.

Reference

S1. Y. Yao, J. Li, J. Dai, X. Chi, and M. Xue, *RSC Adv.*, **2014**, *4*, 9039-9043.
S2. D. Xia, Y. Li, K. Jie, B. Shi, and Y. Yao, *Org. Lett.*, **2016**, *18*, 12, 2910-2913.