

# Rational controlled morphological transitions in the self-assembled multi-headed giant surfactants in solution

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## This file includes:

**Scheme 1.** Chemical structures of the linear and branched giant surfactants.

**Figure S1.** CONTIN analysis of the DLS data of the concentration of 0.15 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF solution at different scattering angles.

**Figure S2.** CONTIN analysis of the DLS data of the concentration of 0.05 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF solution at different scattering angles.

**Figure S3.** TEM images of the assemblies in the concentration of 0.05 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.

**Figure S4.** CONTIN analysis of the DLS data of the concentration of 0.5 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF solution at different scattering angles.

**Figure S5.** TEM images of the assemblies in the concentration of 0.5 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.

**Figure S6.** ATR-FTIR spectra of **PS-A1** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent with the concentration of 0.05 mg/mL, 0.15 mg/mL and 0.50 mg/mL, respectively.

**Figure S7.** Concentration-dependent scattered intensity of SLS of **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.

**Figure S8-S12.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A5**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5b**.

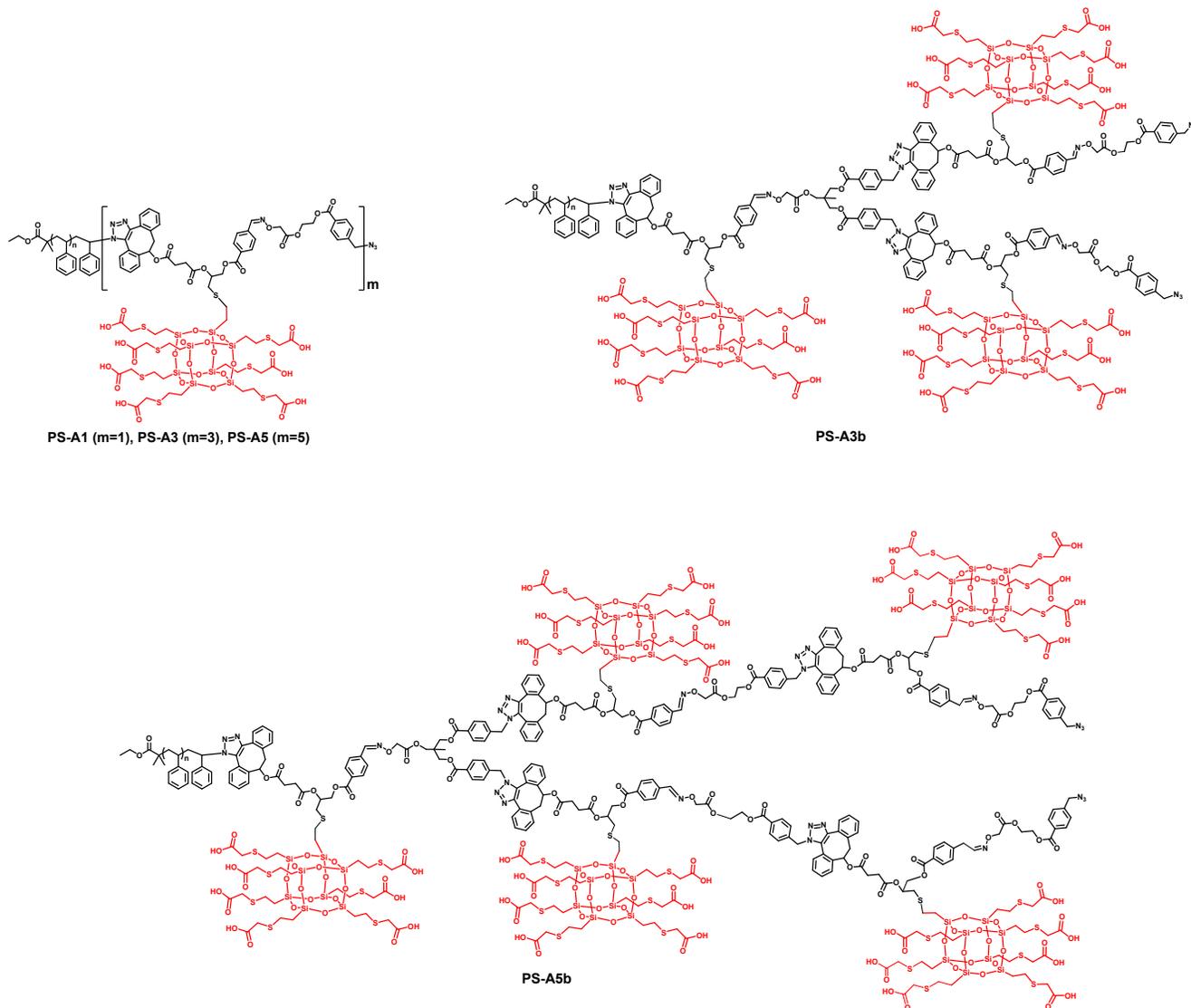
**Table S1.** Summary of the light scattering results of the concentration of 0.15 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.

**Table S2.** Summary of the light scattering results of the concentration of 0.05 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.

**Table S3.** Summary of the light scattering results of the concentration of 0.5 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.

## Chemical and solvents:

All chemicals and solvents were used as received from Sigma-Aldrich, Acros Organic, or Fisher Scientific. The PS-vinyl POSS precursor were prepared based on our previous report,<sup>21</sup> which together with 2 eq. of thiol ligands mercaptoacetic acid to vinyl group and 0.03 eq. of photoinitiator Irgacure 2959 were dissolve in THF (5 mL). The solution was illuminated under 365 nm UV light (Rayonet RPR-200 photochemical reactor) for 10 min before precipitated into methanol/water 1:5. The products were collected by filtration. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (Varian Mercury, 500M, in CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of all five samples are included below (Figures S8-12). The representative peaks from APOSS (~3.2 ppm) increased relative to that of PS (~6.3-7.4 ppm), as more hydrophilic APOSS are incorporated. In addition, the major signals of the pairs of topological isomers are almost identical.



**Scheme S1.** Chemical structures of various giant surfactants in the main text.

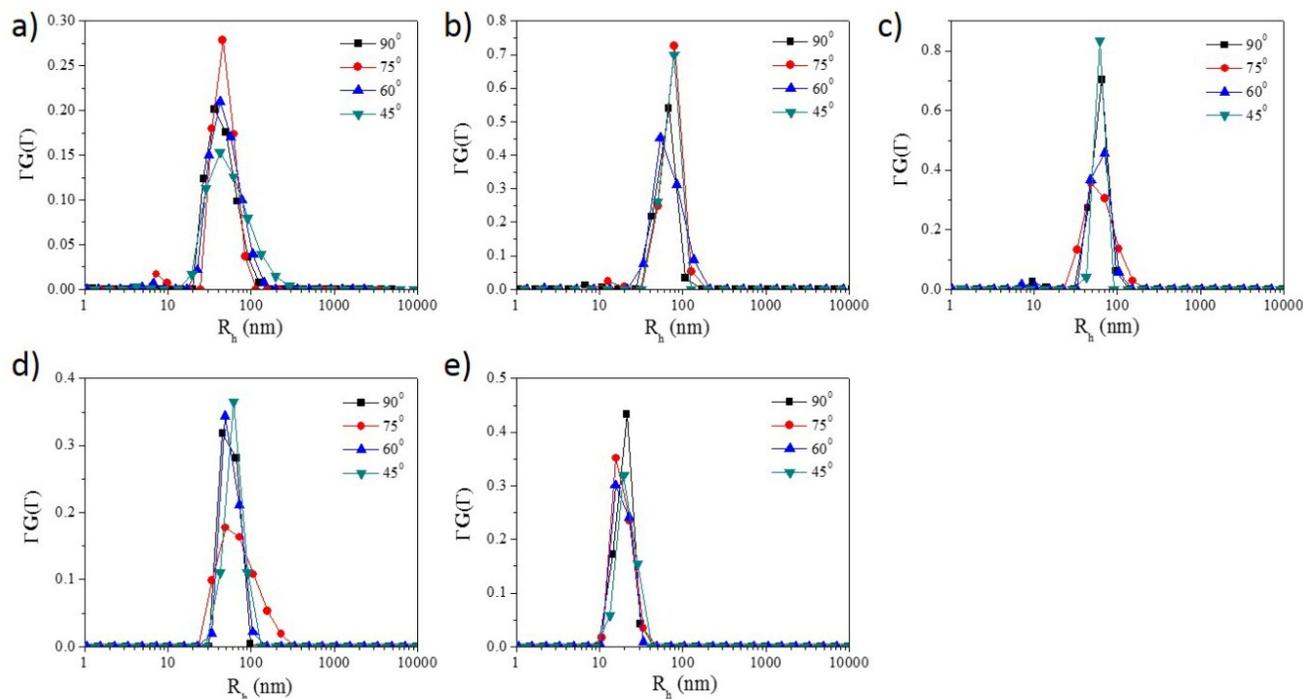
**Sample preparation:**

For a typical sample preparation with the concentration of 0.15 mg/mL, 0.75 mg sample was dissolved in 5.0 mL DMF and sonicate for 30 min. A certain amount of ultrapure water (0.05  $\mu\text{s/cm}$  from a Millipore filtration system, pH 6-7) was added drop by drop into the solution at the rate of 50  $\mu\text{L/hour}$ . Water was stopped to be added until the water content reached 20 v/v%. Water was added drop by drop to another sets of samples until the water content reached 25 v/v% for examination the SLS intensity change.

**Static light scattering (SLS) and Dynamic light scattering (DLS):** Experiments were both performed on a commercial Brookhaven laser scattering spectrometer that was equipped with a 637 nm laser. For SLS, the angle from 30° to 120° with an interval of 3° was applied. The radius of gyration ( $R_g$ ) was directly calculated by the Rayleigh-Gans-Debye equation from the software. For DLS, an intensity-intensity BI-9000AT correlator was used to get the correlation function based on the particle movement. The diffusion coefficient  $D$  could be obtained by  $\Gamma = Dq^2$ , which  $\Gamma$  was calculated by CONTIN method. The hydrodynamic radius ( $R_h$ ) can be calculated according to the Stokes-Einstein equation:  $R_h = k_b T / 6\pi\eta D$  in which  $k_b$  is the Boltzmann constant and  $\eta$  is the viscosity of the solution.

**Transmission electron microscopy (TEM):** A JEOL JEM-2000 electron microscope operated at 200 kV was used for obtaining the images. The samples were prepared by dropping 10  $\mu\text{L}$  of solution on a copper grid which was coated with a thin carbon film and dried at room temperature for overnight.

**Attenuated total reflectance Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (ATR-FTIR):** A THERMO NICOLET Is-50R FTIR SPECTROMETER equipped with an ATR setup which was specific for solution samples was used to investigate the IR spectrum. 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of the samples were dropped onto the ATR window and tested immediately for 36 times. An average IR spectrum was obtained.

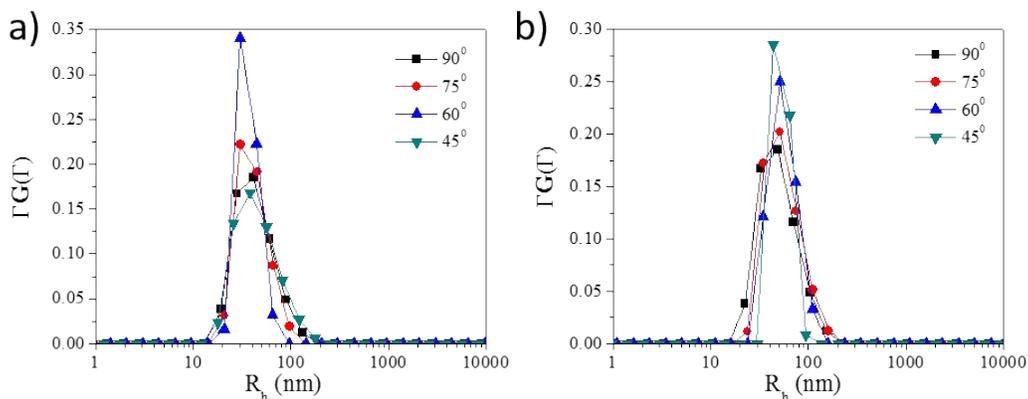


**Figure S1.** CONTIN analysis of the DLS data of the concentration of 0.15 mg/mL (a) **PS-A1**, (b) **PS-A3**, (c) **PS-A3b**, (d) **PS-A5** and (e) **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF solution at different scattering angles.

**Table S1.** Summary of the light scattering results of the concentration of 0.15 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.

	$R_h$ (nm)					$R_g$ [c] (nm)	$R_g/R_h$	Morphology based on light scattering [d]
	90° [a]	75°	60°	45°	0° [b]			
<b>PS-A1</b>	42	46	46	48	48	46	0.96	Vesicle
<b>PS-A3</b>	53	57	57	61	63	95	1.5	Cylindrical micelle
<b>PS-A3b</b>	57	57	57	62	58	77	1.3	Cylindrical micelle
<b>PS-A5</b>	58	63	58	60	60	87	1.4	Cylindrical micelle
<b>PS-A5b</b>	13	12	13	13	13	9.7	0.75	Spherical micelle

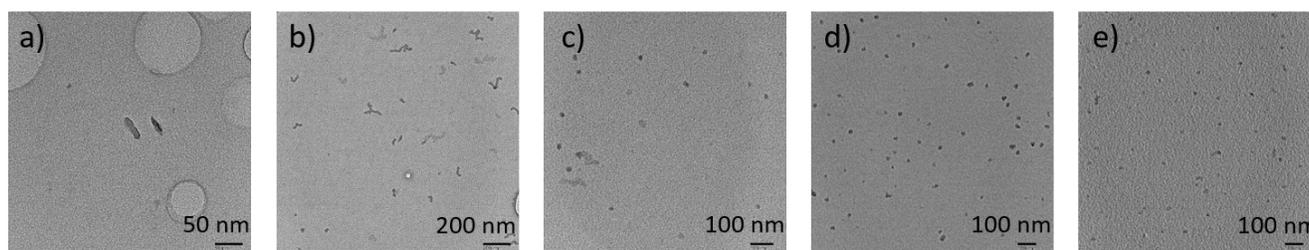
[a] The  $R_h$  at 90°, 75°, 60° and 45° are calculated based on CONTIN analysis from DLS correlation function. [b] The  $R_h$  at 0° is extrapolated by the  $R_h$  at other angles. [c] The  $R_g$  is obtained by SLS and calculated directly from the software. [d] The morphology is indicated by:  $R_g/R_h \approx 0.77$ , spherical micelle;  $R_g/R_h \approx 1$ , vesicle;  $R_g/R_h > 1$ , cylindrical micelle.



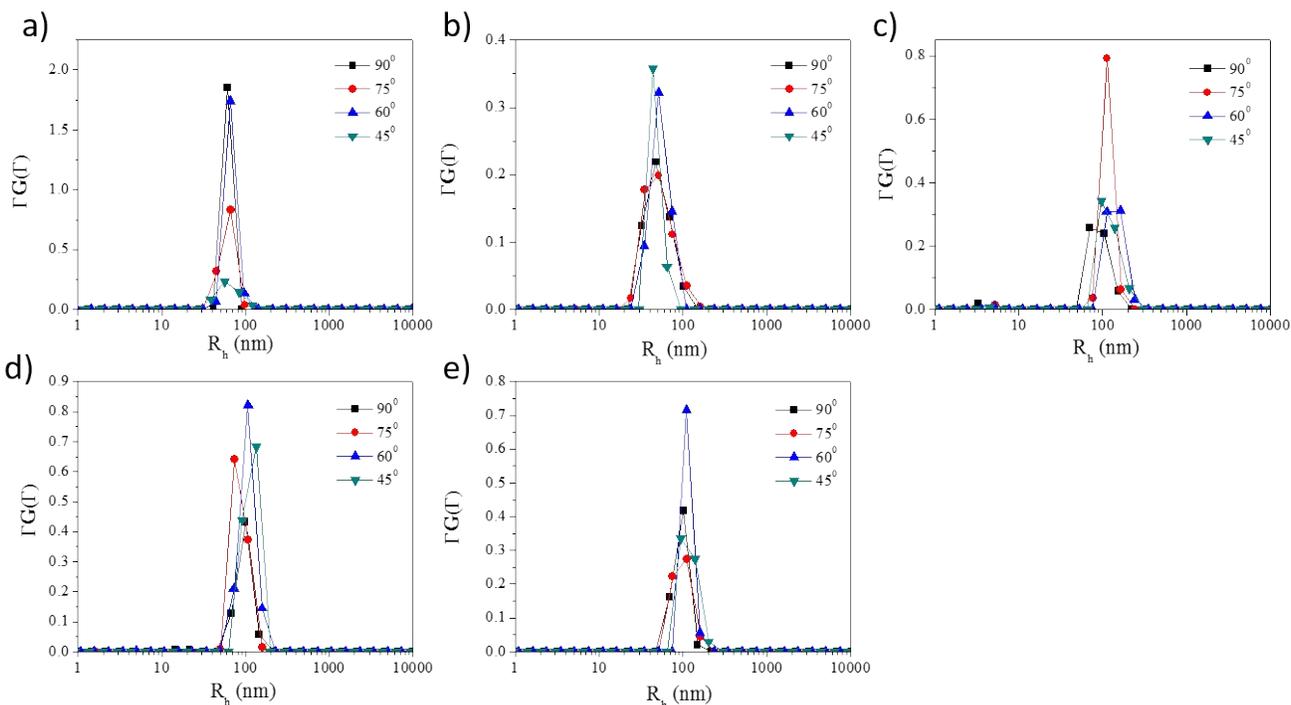
**Figure S2.** CONTIN analysis of the DLS data of the concentration of 0.05 mg/mL (a) **PS-A1**, (b) **PS-A3** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF solution at different scattering angles.

**Table S2.** Summary of the light scattering results of the concentration of 0.05 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.

	$R_h$ (nm)					$R_g$ (nm)	$R_g/R_h$	Morphology based on light scattering and TEM
	90°	75°	60°	45°	0°			
<b>PS-A1</b>	38	37	37	39	38	61	1.6	Cylindrical micelle
<b>PS-A3</b>	49	51	51	49	50	70	1.4	Cylindrical micelle
<b>PS-A3b</b>	Low Intensity							Spherical micelle
<b>PS-A5</b>	Low Intensity							Spherical micelle
<b>PS-A5b</b>	Low Intensity							Spherical micelle



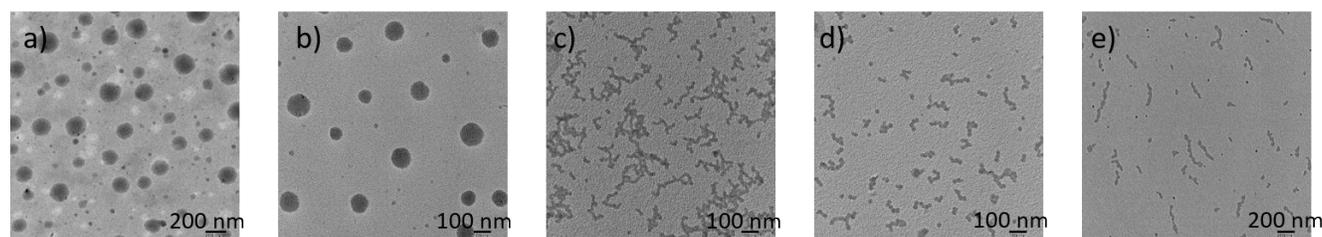
**Figure S3.** TEM images of the assemblies in the concentration of 0.05 mg/mL (a) **PS-A1**, (b) **PS-A3**, (c) **PS-A3b**, (d) **PS-A5** and (e) **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.



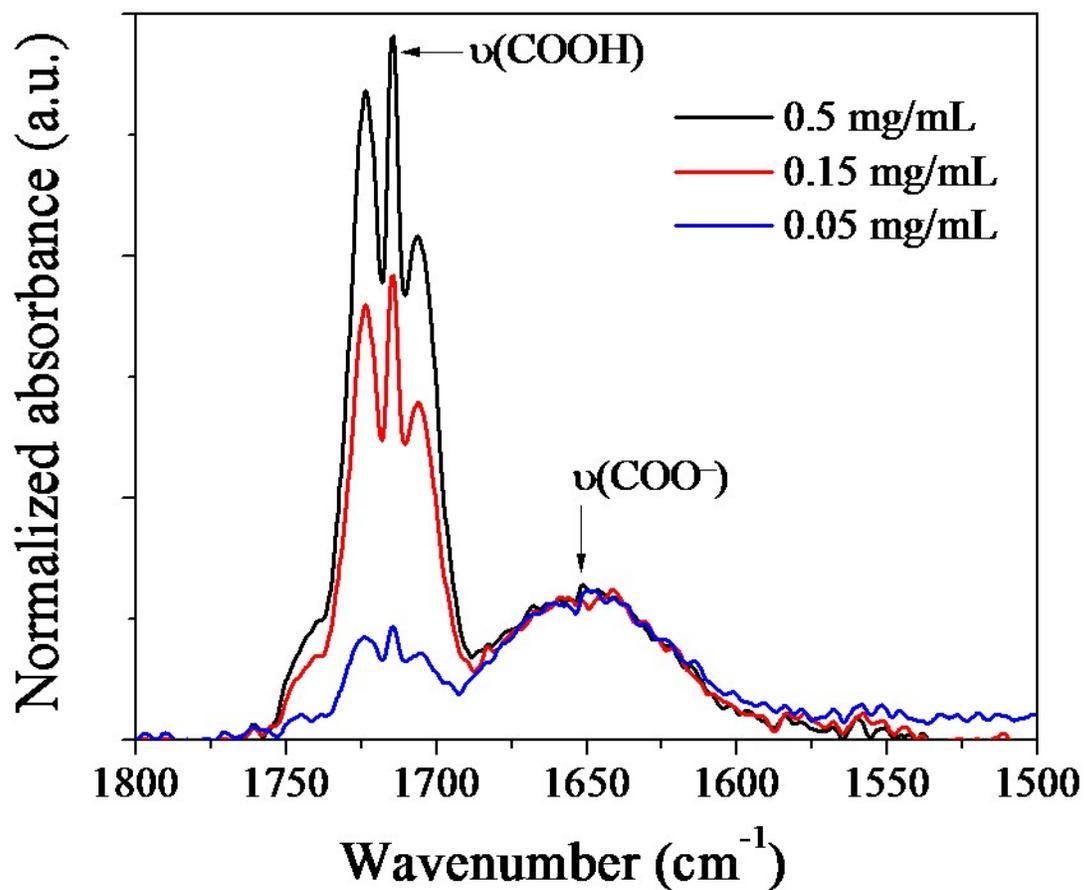
**Figure S4.** CONTIN analysis of the DLS data of the concentration of 0.5 mg/mL (a) **PS-A1**, (b) **PS-A3**, (c) **PS-A3b**, (d) **PS-A5** and (e) **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF solution at different scattering angles.

**Table S3.** Summary of the light scattering results of the concentration of 0.5 mg/mL **PS-A1**, **PS-A3**, **PS-A3b**, **PS-A5** and **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.

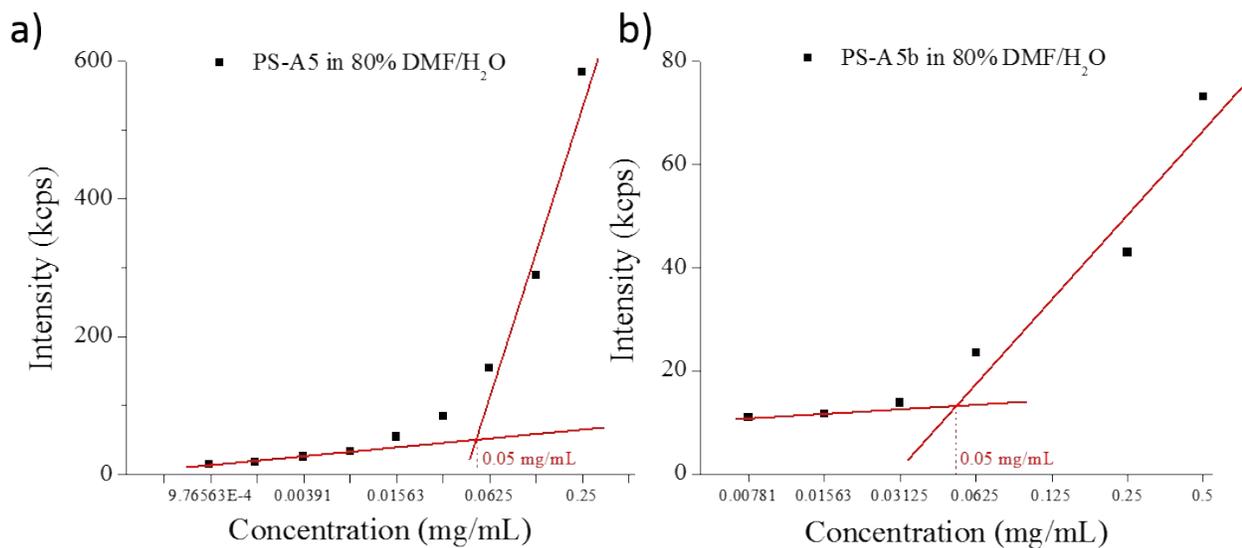
	$R_h$ (nm)					$R_g$ (nm)	$R_g/R_h$	Morphology based on light scattering results
	90°	75°	60°	45°	0°			
<b>PS-A1</b>	60	62	66	60	63	62	0.98	Vesicle
<b>PS-A3</b>	46	49	51	50	53	53	1.0	Vesicle
<b>PS-A3b</b>	92	114	120	123	130	182	1.4	Cylindrical micelle
<b>PS-A5</b>	89	88	99	106	114	218	1.9	Cylindrical micelle
<b>PS-A5b</b>	86	100	115	107	130	214	1.6	Cylindrical micelle



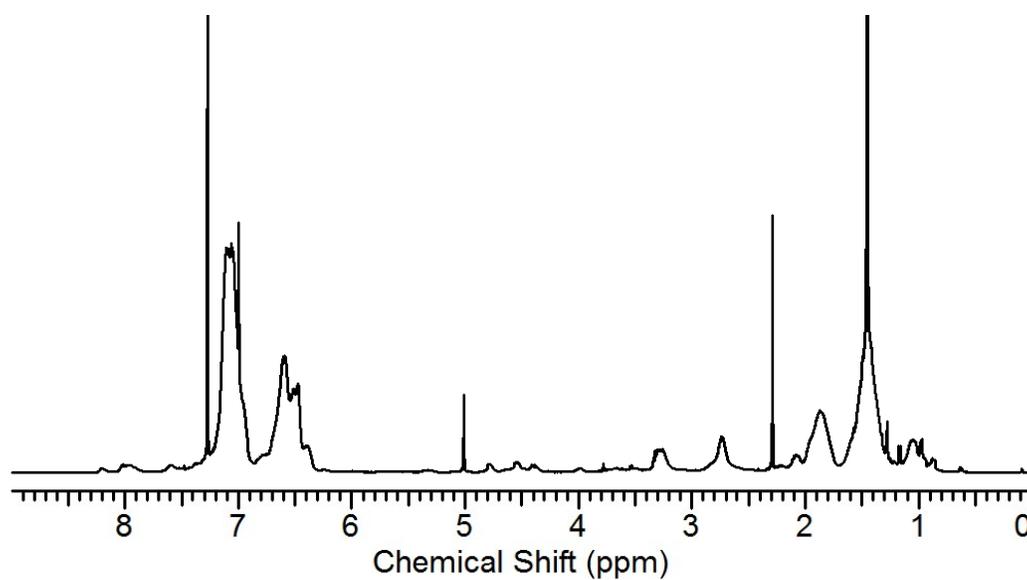
**Figure S5.** TEM images of the assemblies in the concentration of 0.5 mg/mL (a) **PS-A1**, (b) **PS-A3**, (c) **PS-A3b**, (d) **PS-A5** and (e) **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.



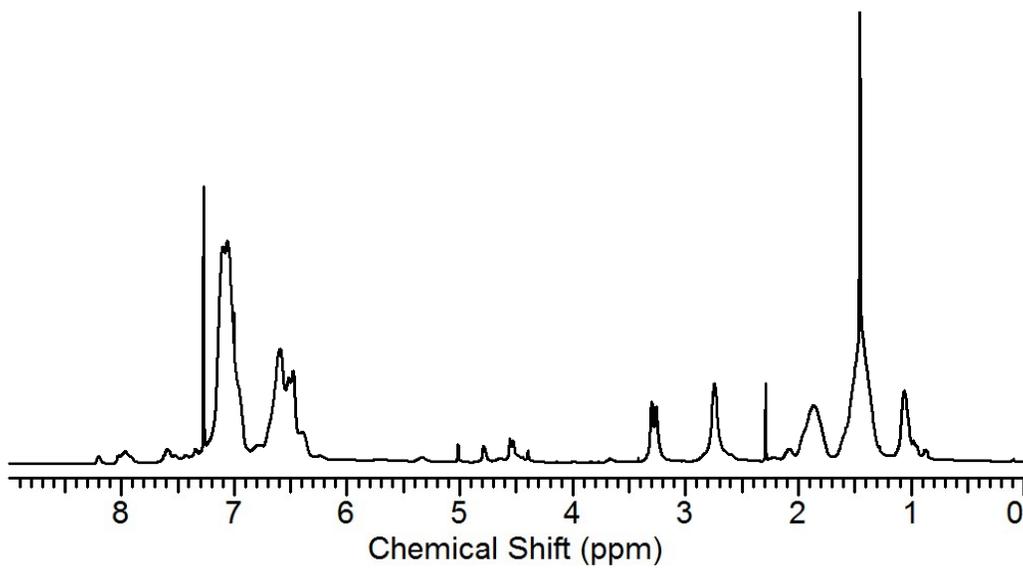
**Figure S6.** ATR-FTIR spectra of PS-A1 in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent with the concentration of 0.05 mg/mL, 0.15 mg/mL and 0.50 mg/mL, respectively.



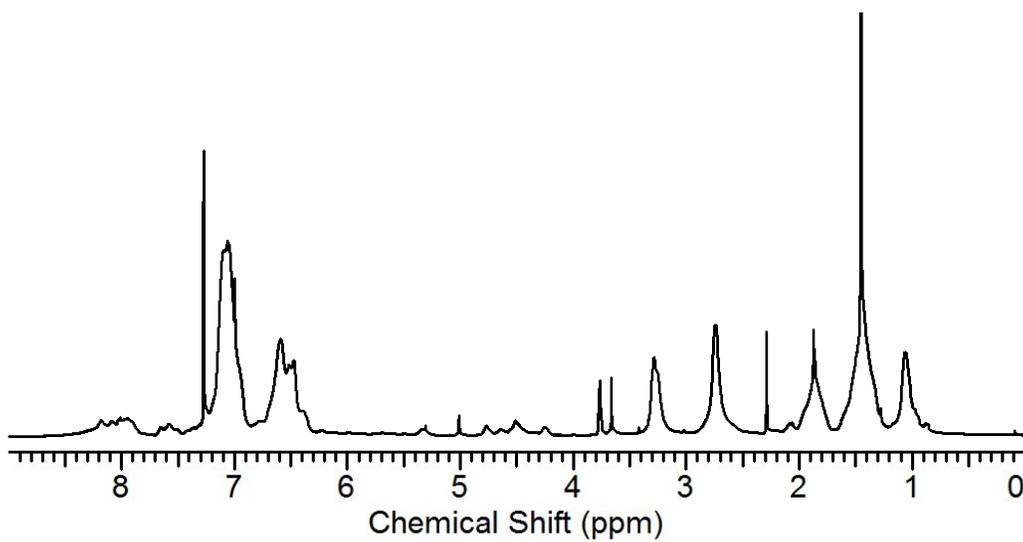
**Figure S7.** Concentration-dependent scattered intensity of SLS of (a) **PS-A5** and (b) **PS-A5b** in 20 v/v% H<sub>2</sub>O/DMF mixed solvent.



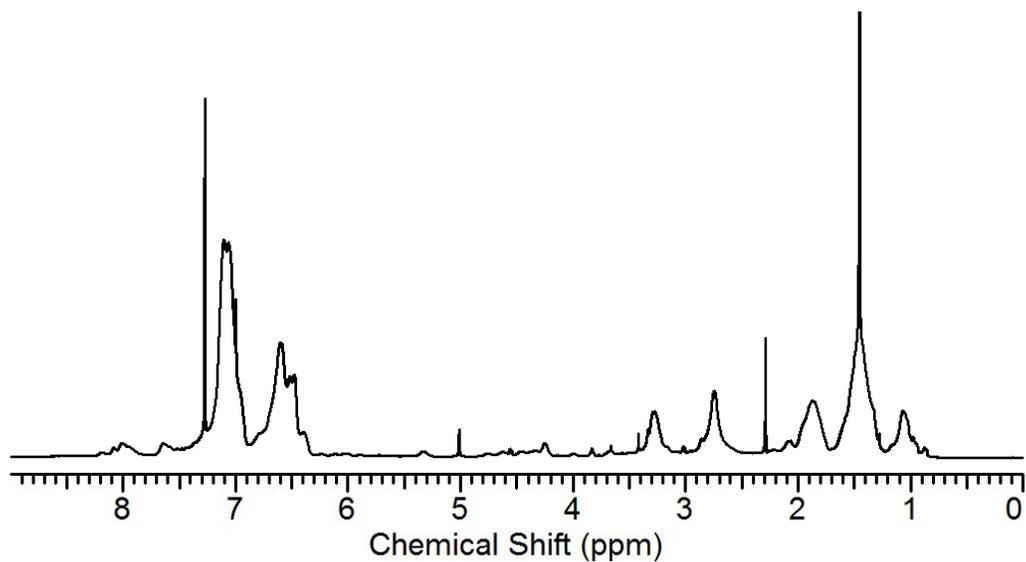
**Figure S8.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **PS-A1**.



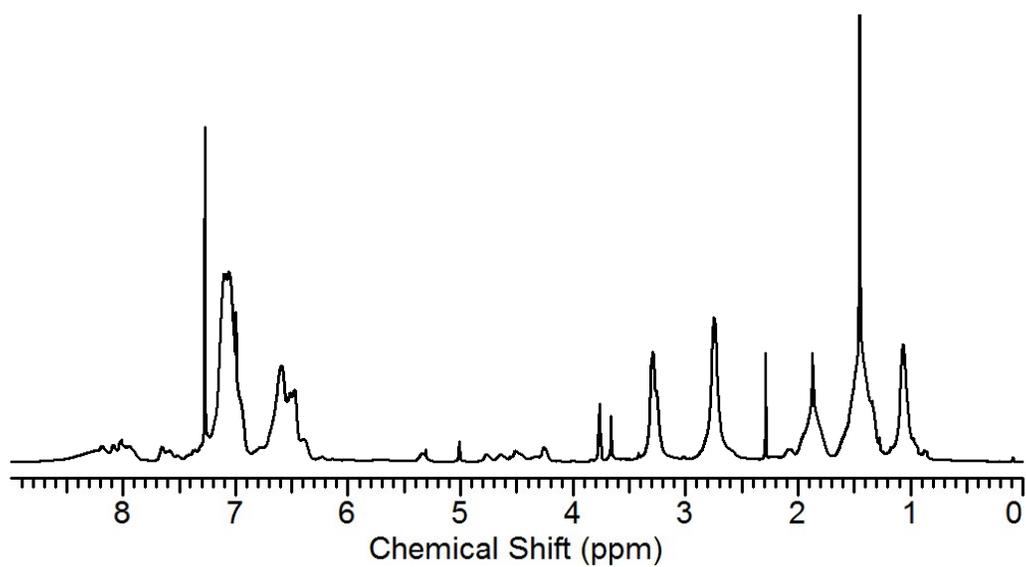
**Figure S9.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **PS-A3**.



**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **PS-A5**.



**Figure S11.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **PS-A3b**.



**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **PS-A5b**.