

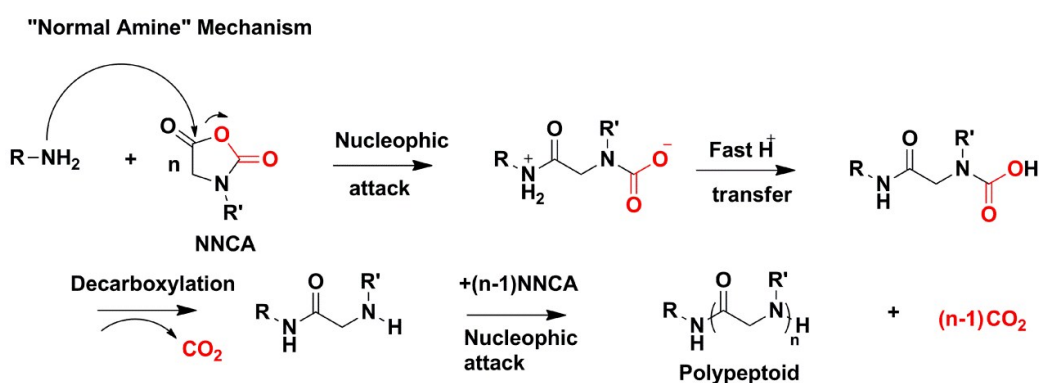
Supporting Information

Amphiphilic Star-Shaped Poly(sarcosine)-*block*-poly(ϵ -caprolactone) Diblock Copolymers: One-Pot Synthesis, Characterization, and Solution Properties

Saide Cui, Xianfu Pan, Hailemariam Gebru, Xin Wang, Jiaqi Liu, Jingjing Liu, Zhenjiang Li,* Kai Guo*

State Key Laboratory of Materials-Oriented Chemical Engineering, College of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Engineering, Nanjing Tech University, 30 Puzhu Rd South, Nanjing 211816, China

*E-mail: guok@njtech.edu.cn, zjli@njtech.edu.cn.



Scheme S1. The "normal amine" mechanism for the ring-opening polymerization of NNCA initiated by primary amines.¹

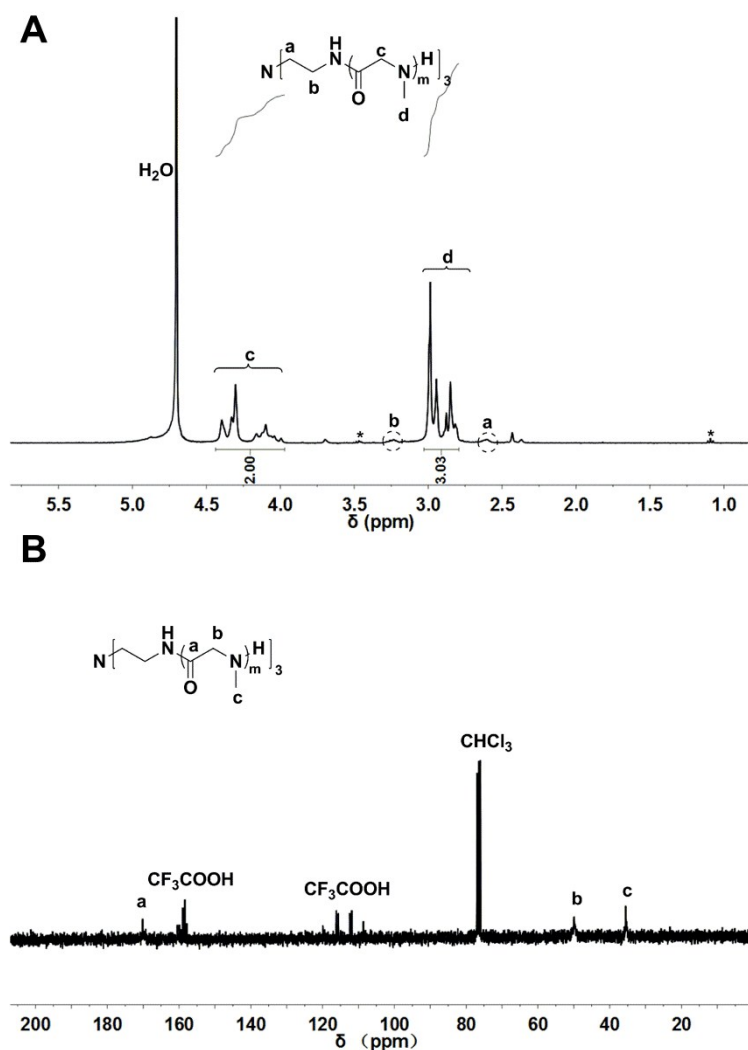


Figure S1. (A) ^1H spectrum of a star-shaped PSar sample in D_2O . Asterisk refers to the residual diethyl ether in sample. (B) ^{13}C NMR spectrum of a star-shaped PSar sample in $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{CF}_3\text{COOD}$.

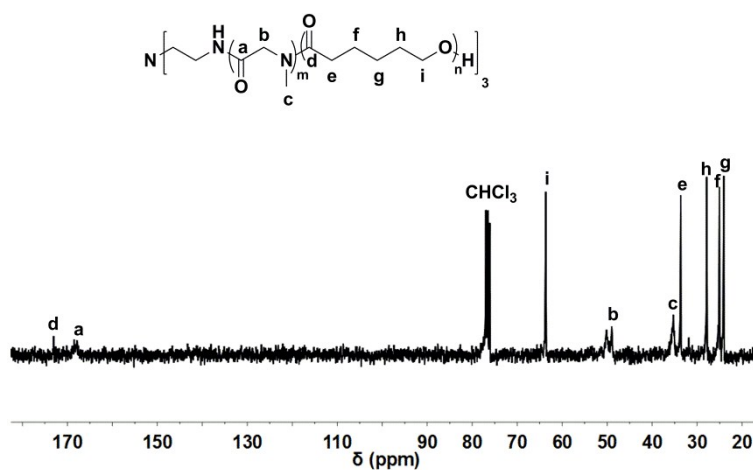


Figure S2. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of a star-shaped poly(sarcosine)-*b*-poly(ϵ -caprolactone)

diblock copolymer sample in CDCl_3 .

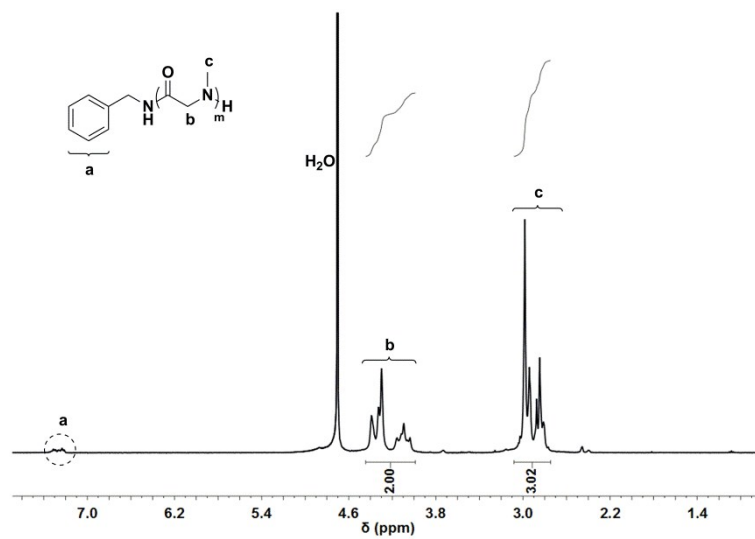


Figure S3. ^1H NMR spectrum of linear poly(sarcosine) in D_2O .

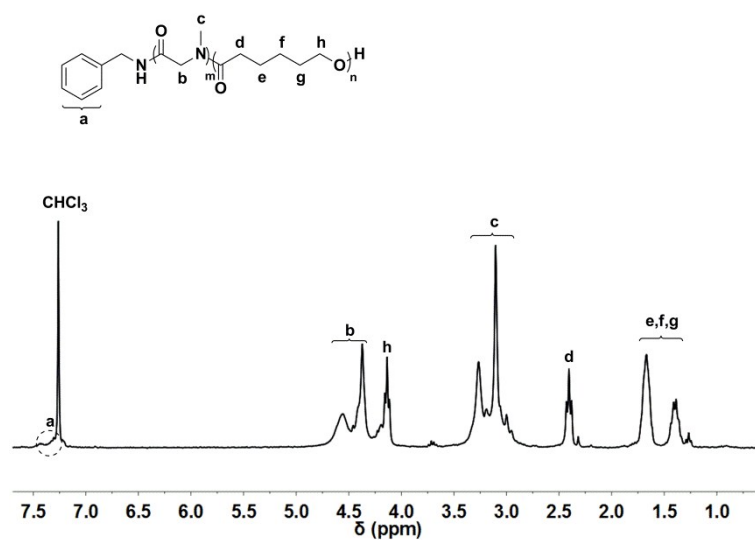


Figure S4. ^1H NMR spectrum of linear poly(sarcosine)-*b*-poly(ϵ -caprolactone) diblock copolymer in CDCl_3/TFA .

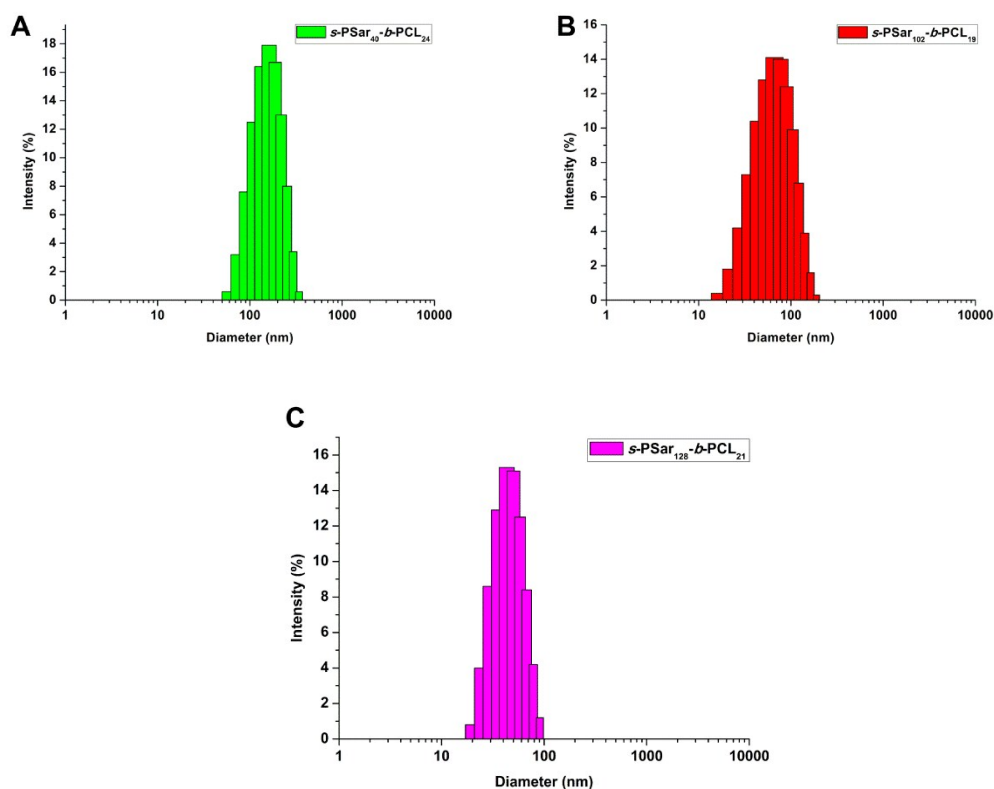


Figure S5. Particles size distributions in aqueous solution of (A) $s\text{-PSar}_{40}\text{-}b\text{-PCL}_{24}$, (B) $s\text{-PSar}_{102}\text{-}b\text{-PCL}_{19}$, (C) $s\text{-PSar}_{128}\text{-}b\text{-PCL}_{21}$.

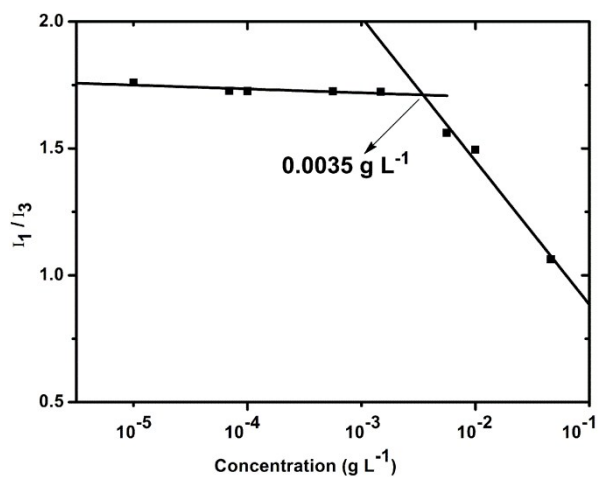


Figure S6. The ratio I_1/I_3 of pyrene emission spectra for the $s\text{-PSar}_{40}\text{-}b\text{-PCL}_{24}$ copolymer as a function of copolymer concentrations (measured at 25 °C).

References

- (a) Zhang, D. H.; Lahasky, S. H.; Guo, L.; Lee, C. U.; Lavan, M., Polypeptoid Materials: Current Status and Future Perspectives. *Macromolecules* **2012**, 45 (15), 5833-5841; (b) Luxenhofer, R.; Fetsch, C.; Grossmann, A., Polypeptoids: A perfect match for molecular definition and macromolecular engineering? *J. Polym. Sci. Pol. Chem.* **2013**, 51 (13), 2731-2752; (c) Klinker, K.; Barz, M., Polypept(o)

ides: Hybrid Systems Based on Polypeptides and Polypeptoids. *Macromol. Rapid Commun.* **2015**, *36* (22), 1943-1957; (d) Hadjichristidis, N.; Iatrou, H.; Pitsikalis, M.; Sakellariou, G., Synthesis of Well-Defined Polypeptide-Based Materials via the Ring-Opening Polymerization of alpha-Amino Acid N-Carboxyanhydrides. *Chem. Rev.* **2009**, *109* (11), 5528-5578.