## **Supporting Information**

## Sub-5 µm Balls Possessing Forest-like Poly(methyloxazoline)/Polyethyleneimine Side Chains and Templated Silica Microballs with Unusual Internal Structures

Daiki Soma and Ren-Hua Jin\*

Department of Material and Life Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering, Kanagawa University, 3-

2-7, Rokkakubashi, Yokohama 221-8686, Japan

Corresponding author: rhjin@kanagawa-u.ac.jp



Figure S1. SEM images of  $\mu$ -PStCl prepared from different stabilizers: (a,g) PVP K60 ( $M_w = 160,000$ ); (b,h) PVP K90 ( $M_w = 600,000$ ); (c,i) Hydroxypropyl cellulose3~5.9 (HPC3~5.9,  $M_w = 160,000$ ); (d,j) HPC150~400 ( $M_w = 620,000$ ); (e,k) Poly(2-ethyl-2-oxazoline) (PEOZ,  $M_w = 50,000$ ); (f,l) PEOZ ( $M_w = 500,000$ ).



Figure S2. SEM images of the as-prepared microballs of  $\mu$ -PSt-g-PEI@SiO<sub>2</sub> mediated from (a) water, (b) methanol, (c) ethanol and (d) acetone.



Figure S3. DLS curves of  $\mu$ -PSt-g-PEI in different solvents



Scheme S1. Chemical etching of the silica microballs mediated from water

White powders (subjected to SEM)





White powders (subjected to SEM)



**Figure S4**. Influences of the calcination temperatures on the sizes of the silica microballs. Sample:  $\mu$ -PSt-g-PEI@SiO<sub>2</sub> mediated from methanol. Calcination temperatures: 700 (a, b), 800 (c, d), and 900 °C (e, f).



**Figure S5.** <sup>29</sup>Si CP/MAS NMR spectra of silica microballs prepared by calcination of  $\mu$ -PStg-PEI@SiO<sub>2</sub> mediated from methanol. Calcination temperature: (a) 700 °C, (b) 800 °C and (c) 900 °C.

| Calcination<br>temperature (°C) | Integration values (%) <sup>b)</sup> |      |      |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------|------|
|                                 | Q2                                   | Q3   | Q4   |
| 700                             | 10.0                                 | 65.2 | 24.8 |
| 800                             | 12.0                                 | 64.4 | 23.6 |
| 900                             | 18.4                                 | 51.1 | 31.7 |

**Table S1**. Integration values of silica microballs obtained bycalcination of  $\mu$ -PSt-g-PEI@SiO2 mediated in methanol