Electronic Supporting Information (ESI)

# **Polymers with Autonomous Self-Healing Ability**

## and Remarkable Reprocessability under Ambient

# **Humidity Conditions**

Chaehoon Kim,<sup>a</sup> Hirotaka Ejima,<sup>b</sup> and Naoko Yoshie<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Institute of Industrial Science, The University of Tokyo, 4-6-1 Komaba, Meguro-ku, Tokyo 153-8505, Japan.

<sup>b</sup>Department of Materials Engineering, The University of Tokyo, 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8656, Japan

\*Corresponding author

E-mail: yoshie@iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp



**Fig. S1** The data of relative humidity of Tokyo, Japan in 2017. The monthly average relative humidity (Blue line). The lowest relative humidity of each month (Orange line). (Data source: Japan Meteorological Agency)



**Fig. S2** ATR-FTIR spectra of P-PDBA 60% (blue: P-PDBA 60%/RH75, red: P-PDBA 60%/RH30) and P(DA-*co*-BA) (gray).



**Fig. S3** Humidity dependent mechanical properties. Each sample was kept under ambient humidity conditions. P-PDBA 60% under (a) RH55, (b) RH75, and (c) RH90. P-PDBA 100% under (d) RH55, (e) RH75, and (f) RH90.



**Fig. S4** Self-healing abilities of P-PDBA 100% under (a) RH75 and (b) RH55, together with the curve of virgin samples saturated under each humidity.



**Fig. S5** Self-healing abilities of (a) P-PDBA 60% and (b) P-PDBA 100% under RH90, together with the curve of virgin samples saturated underRH90.



**Fig. S6** Tensile properties of P-PDBA 100% after ten times loading-unloading cycles. The results of cyclic tests and tensile tests (a) under RH30 with P-PDBA 100%/RH30, (b) under RH55 with P-PDBA 100%/RH55.



**Fig. S7** Tensile properties of P-PDBA 60% after ten times loading-unloading cycles. The results of cyclic tests and tensile tests (a) under RH30 with P-PDBA 60/RH30, (b) under RH55 with P-PDBA 60%/RH55.

Unlike the results of P-PDBA 100%/RH30 (Figure S6a), there were no differences in mechanical properties between the virgin and fatigue accumulated P-PDBA 60%/RH30 even under dry conditions (Figure S7a). These results suggest that the reversible hydrogen bond interactions contribute to the energy dissipation under external stress in P-PDBA 60%/RH30, which results in the mechanical property retention without breaking tetrahedral boronate ester bonds under dry conditions. In case of P-PDBA 60%/RH55, malleability was observed which caused by network rearrangement via rapid transesterification between dynamic bonds (Figure S7b).

sample	Condition	Satd. swelling ratio (wt%) <sup>a)</sup>	
P-PDBA 60%	RH55	0.05 ± 0.0	
	RH75	$0.61 \pm 0.1$	
	RH90	$2.40 \pm 0.1$	
P-PDBA 100%	RH55	0.26 ± 0.1	
	RH75	0.73 ± 0.2	
	RH90	$3.31 \pm 0.1$	
	Underwater	~20 <sup>b)</sup>	

### Table S1 Swelling behavior of P-PDBA polymers under various wet conditions.a

<sup>a)</sup> Swelling ratio was saturated in one day. <sup>b)</sup> Swelling ratio was saturated in 2 weeks.

sample	Saturated time	Young's modulus [MPa] <sup>a)</sup>	Fracture stress [MPa]	Fracture strain [mm mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	Toughness [MJ m <sup>-3</sup> ] <sup>b)</sup>
	Dried sample <sup>c)</sup>	$4.1\pm0.3$	$4.6\pm0.2$	$3.0\pm0.3$	$10.3 \pm 0.2$
	1 d	$1.8\pm0.1$	$2.9 \pm 0.0$	4.3 + 0.3	8.7 ± 0.7
P-PDBA 60%	3 d	$1.4 \pm 0.1$	$2.8 \pm 0.0$	$3.9 \pm 0.3$	7.2 ± 0.5
	7 d	$1.7\pm0.3$	$2.8 \pm 0.2$	$4.0\pm0.9$	7.6 ± 2.2
	10 d	1.5 ± 0.2	$2.9 \pm 0.0$	3.9 ± 0.2	7.2 ± 0.4
P-PDBA 100%	Dried sample <sup>c)</sup>	13.1 ± 2.4	6.7 ± 0.1	2.3 ± 0.3	13.3 ± 1.9
	1 d	$4.6 \pm 0.1$	$4.4 \pm 0.2$	$3.4 \pm 0.6$	10.7 ± 2.7
	3 d	5.3 ± 0.7	4.7 ± 0.4	$2.8 \pm 0.5$	8.8 ± 2.4
	7 d	5.7 ± 0.3	$5.1 \pm 0.4$	$3.3 \pm 0.7$	11.9 ± 3.8
	10 d	4.9 ± 1.2	4.4 ± 0.2	$3.0 \pm 0.1$	9.1 ± 1.0

Table S2 Humidity dependent mechanical properties under 55% relative humidity

<sup>a)</sup> Calculated from stress at a small strain (< 10%). <sup>b)</sup> Integration of the area under the stress-strain curves. <sup>c)</sup> Samples were kept in desiccator more than 3 d.

sample	Saturated time	Young's modulus [MPa] <sup>a)</sup>	Fracture stress [MPa]	Fracture strain [mm mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	Toughness [MJ m <sup>-3</sup> ] <sup>b)</sup>
	Dried sample <sup>c)</sup>	$4.1\pm0.3$	$4.6\pm0.2$	3.0 ± 0.3	10.3 ± 0.2
	1 d	$4.1 \pm 0.3$	4.6 ± 0.2	$3.0 \pm 0.3$	6.9 ± 0.7
P-PDBA 60%	3 d	$1.3 \pm 0.3$	$2.3 \pm 0.1$	4.3 + 0.6	5.8 ± 2.5
	7 d	0.8 ± 0.2	$2.2 \pm 0.3$	4.2 ± 1.1	5.3 ± 0.5
	10 d	0.7 ± 0.4	$1.8 \pm 0.1$	4.5 ± 0.8	6.8 ± 0.6
P-PDBA 100%	Dried sample <sup>c)</sup>	13.1 ± 2.4	6.7 ± 0.1	2.3 ± 0.3	13.3 ± 1.9
	1 d	3.5 ± 0.7	3.6 ± 0.3	3.3 ± 0.1	8.3 ± 0.7
	3 d	2.2 ± 1.0	3.5 ± 0.1	3.5 ± 0.6	7.8 ± 1.3
	7 d	2.5 ± 0.6	3.3 ± 0.4	3.5 ± 0.2	7.5 ± 0.7
	10 d	2.2 ± 0.9	3.3 ± 0.4	3.6 ± 0.3	7.8 ± 1.5

 Table S3 Humidity dependent mechanical properties under 75% relative humidity

<sup>a)</sup> Calculated from stress at a small strain (< 10%). <sup>b)</sup> Integration of the area under the stress-strain curves. <sup>c)</sup> Samples were kept in desiccator more than 3 d.

sample	Healing time	Young's modulus [MPa] <sup>a)</sup>	Fracture stress [MPa]	Fracture strain [mm mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	Toughness [MJ m <sup>-3</sup> ] <sup>b)</sup>	Healing efficiency [%] <sup>c)</sup>
P-PDBA 60%	Saturated sample <sup>d)</sup>	$1.5 \pm 0.1$	$2.8\pm0.0$	3.9 ± 0.1	7.3 ± 0.2	-
	1 d	$2.1 \pm 0.4$	$1.5 \pm 0.5$	0.8 + 0.2	0.8 ± 0.5	10.9 ± 7.0
	3 d	$1.2 \pm 0.2$	$1.0 \pm 0.0$	$0.9 \pm 0.2$	0.5 ± 0.1	7.3 ± 1.5
	7 d	$1.0 \pm 0.1$	$1.7\pm0.1$	2.1 ± 0.3	2.2 ± 0.4	30.0 ± 5.7
P-PDBA 100%	Saturated sample <sup>a)</sup>	$5.3 \pm 0.4$	$4.7\pm0.4$	3.0 ± 0.3	9.9 ± 1.7	-
	1 d	$5.1\pm0.8$	$1.5 \pm 0.4$	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	0.3 ± 0.2	3.3 ± 1.9
	3 d	5.3 ± 0.7	2.3 ± 0.6	0.7 ± 0.3	$1.0 \pm 0.6$	10.6 ± 6.5
	7 d	3.2 ± 0.9	2.0 ± 0.5	$1.0 \pm 0.2$	1.3 ± 0.6	11.5 ± 5.3

### Table S4 Results of self-healing tests under 55% relative humidity

<sup>a)</sup> Calculated from stress at a small strain (< 10%).<sup>b)</sup> Integration of the area under the stress-strain curves. <sup>c)</sup> Quantified by percent recovery of toughness. <sup>d)</sup> Samples saturated under 55% of humidity were used for healing tests.

sample	Healing time	Young's modulus [MPa]ª)	Fracture stress [MPa]	Fracture strain [mm mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	Toughness [MJ m <sup>-3</sup> ] <sup>b)</sup>	Healing efficiency [%] <sup>c)</sup>
P-PDBA 60%	Saturated sample <sup>a)</sup>	$0.8 \pm 0.1$	2.1 ± 0.2	4.5 ± 0.3	6.0 ± 0.8	-
	1 d	0.9 ± 0.2	$1.2 \pm 0.1$	1.4 + 0.2	1.2 ± 0.2	19.2 ± 3.3
	3 d	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$1.7 \pm 0.1$	$4.9 \pm 0.3$	5.7 ± 0.8	96.1 ± 14.3
	7 d	0.7 ± 0.2	1.8 ± 0.1	5.0 ± 0.3	5.9 ± 0.5	98.7 ± 8.3
P-PDBA 100%	Saturated sample <sup>a)</sup>	2.3 ± 0.2	$3.4 \pm 0.1$	3.5 ± 0.1	7.7 ± 0.2	-
	1 d	$2.6 \pm 0.2$	$1.2 \pm 0.2$	0.6 ± 0.2	0.5 ± 0.2	6.3 ± 2.8
	3 d	$2.2 \pm 0.4$	$2.0 \pm 0.1$	$2.0 \pm 0.4$	2.6 ± 0.5	34.2 ± 6.1
	7 d	2.1 ± 1.0	$2.1 \pm 0.3$	2.0 ± 0.5	2.6 ± 0.3	31.1 ± 5.9

### Table S5 Results of self-healing tests under 75% relative humidity

<sup>a)</sup> Calculated from stress at a small strain (< 10%).<sup>b)</sup> Integration of the area under the stress-strain curves. <sup>c)</sup> Quantified by percent recovery of toughness. <sup>d)</sup> Samples saturated under 75% of humidity were used for healing tests.

sample	Conditions	Young's modulus [MPa] <sup>a)</sup>	Fracture stress [MPa]	Fracture strain [mm mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	Toughness [MJ m <sup>-3</sup> ] <sup>b)</sup>	Healing efficiency [%] <sup>c)</sup>
	Saturated sample <sup>d)</sup>	$0.8 \pm 0.1$	$2.1 \pm 0.2$	4.5 ± 0.3	6.0 ± 0.8	-
P-PDBA 60%	no waiting	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	1.7 ± 0.1	$4.9\pm0.3$	5.7 ± 0.8	96.1 ± 14.3
	24 h waiting	$0.5 \pm 0.1$	1.8 ± 0.2	5.0 ± 0.1	$6.0 \pm 0.6$	100 ± 10.2

**Table S6** Results of self-healing tests under 75% relative humidity at different waiting time

<sup>a)</sup> Calculated from stress at a small strain (< 10%).<sup>b)</sup> Integration of the area under the stress-strain curves. <sup>c)</sup> Quantified by percent recovery of toughness. <sup>d)</sup> Samples saturated under 75% humidity were used for healing tests.