# An ATP/ATPase responsive supramolecular fluorescent hydrogel constructed *via* electrostatic interactions between poly(sodium *p*styrenesulfonate) and a tetraphenylethene derivative

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#### 1. Materials and methods

All reagents were commercially available and used as supplied without further purification. Compound **2** was prepared according to the published procedures.<sup>S1</sup> NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker Avance DMX 500 spectrophotometer using the deuterated solvent as the lock and the residual solvent or TMS as the internal reference. The two-dimensional diffusion-ordered NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX 500 spectrometer. The fluorescence data were measured on an RF-5301 spectrofluorophotometer (Shimadzu Corporation). Rheological data were obtained using a Physica MCR302 rheometer (Anton Paar) with cone-plate geometry (diameter of 25 mm,  $2^{\circ}$  cone, truncation height of 0.3 mm). Oscillatory frequency sweep experiments were performed from 0.1 rad/s to 100 rad/s with a strain in the linear region at 25 °C. Viscosity measurements were carried out with a Cannon-Ubbelohde semi-micro dilution viscometer at 25 °C in acetonitrile. Scanning electron microscopy investigations were carried out on a JEOL 6390LV instrument.

#### 2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **2**



*Figure S1.* <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O, 298 K) of **2**.

### 3. Partial NOESY NMR spectrum of a mixture of 1 and 2



Figure S2. Partial NOESY NMR (500MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O, 298 K) spectrum of a solution of 0.0290 mM 1 and 5.00 mM 2.

4. Rheological characterization of hydrogel 3 at different temperatures



*Figure S3.* Rheological characterization of hydrogel **3** with the rise of temperature from 30 °C to 80 °C.

5. Specific viscosity of polymer 1, compound 2, and hydrogel 3



*Figure S4.* Specific viscosity (H<sub>2</sub>O, 25 °C) of polymer 1 (•), compound 2 (•), and hydrogel 3 ( $\blacktriangle$ ) versus the concentration of charges.

6. Diffusion coefficient D (500 MHz,  $D_2O$ , 298 K) of mixture solutions of **1** with different concentrations of **2** 







*Figure S5.* Diffusion coefficient *D* (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O, 298 K) of mixture solution of **1** ( $2.94 \times 10^{-3}$  mM) with different concentrations of **2**: (a) 0.250 mM; (b) 1.49 mM; (c) 2.84 mM; (d) 3.84 mM; (e) 5.21 mM.

7. Photographs of **2** under natural light and 365 nm UV light after addition of **1**, ATP, and alkaline phosphatase ATPase



*Figure S6.* Photographs under natural light and 365 nm UV light: (a) a mixture solution of  $1 (4.14 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mM})$  and 2 (6.00 mM); (b) after addition of 12.0 mM of ATP to a; (c) after addition of 150 U L<sup>-1</sup> alkaline phosphatase ATPase to b.

8. Fluorescence spectra of **2**, hydrogel **3**, **3** after addition of ATP, and **3** after further addition of alkaline phosphatase ATPase



*Figure S7.* Fluorescence spectra of 2 (39.8 mM), hydrogel 3 (39.8 mM 2 + 0.234 mM 1), hydrogel 3 (39.8 mM 2 + 0.234 mM 1) after addition of ATP (79.6 mM), and hydrogel 3 (39.8 mM 2 + 0.234 mM 1) after addition of ATP (79.6 mM) and alkaline phosphatase ATPase (150 U L<sup>-1</sup>).

9. Controlled formation of hydrogel 3 by addition of ATP and alkaline phosphatase ATPase



*Figure S8.* Controlled formation of hydrogel **3** (39.8 mM  $\mathbf{2}$  + 0.234 mM  $\mathbf{1}$ ) by addition of ATP (79.6 mM) and alkaline phosphatase ATPase (150 U L<sup>-1</sup>). Photographs of the hydrogel were taken under either natural light or 365 nm UV light.

10. Response of a mixture of 1 and 2 toward ADP and pyrophosphate ( $Na_4P_2O_7$ )



*Figure S9.* Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O, 298 K): (a)  $4.14 \times 10^{-3}$  mM **1**; (b) 6.00 mM **2**; (c) a mixed solution of  $4.14 \times 10^{-3}$  mM **1** and 6.00 mM **2**; (d) a mixed solution of  $4.14 \times 10^{-3}$  mM **1**, 6.00 mM **2** and 12.0 mM ADP.



*Figure S10.* Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O, 298 K): (a)  $4.14 \times 10^{-3}$  mM 1; (b) 6.00 mM 2; (c) a mixed solution of  $4.14 \times 10^{-3}$  mM 1 and 6.00 mM 2; (d) a mixed solution of  $4.14 \times 10^{-3}$  mM 1, 6.00 mM 2 and 12.0 mM Na<sub>4</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>.

From <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra in Figure S9 and Figure S10, the peaks of protons  $H_1-H_4$  on **2** shifted down field when 6.00 mM **2** and  $4.14 \times 10^{-3}$  mM **1** were mixed. Then, after 12.0 mM ADP or pyrophosphate was added into this mixture, these peaks shifted back to high field. These results demonstrate that the hydrogel **3** could response toward ADP and pyrophosphate.

#### 11. Response of hydrogel 3 toward ADP and $Na_4P_2O_7$



*Figure S11.* The gel-sol transformation of hydrogel **3** (39.8 mM 2 + 0.234 mM **1**) upon addition of ADP (79.6 mM) or Na<sub>4</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> (79.6 mM).

#### 12. Dynamic color change photos during the gelation process of hydrogel 3



*Figure S12.* The dynamic color change photos during the gelation process of hydrogel **3** upon mixing a clear and free flowing aqueous solution of polymer **1** (0.234 mM) and **2** (39.8 mM) taken at different time points after mixing: a) 1 min; b) 2 min; c) 3 min; d) 4 min; e) 5 min; f) 6 min; g) 7 min; h) 8 min; i) 9 min.

#### Reference

S1. B.-P. Jiang, D.-S. Guo, Y.-C. Liu, K.-P. Wang and Y. Liu, ACS Nano., 2014, 8, 1609–1618.