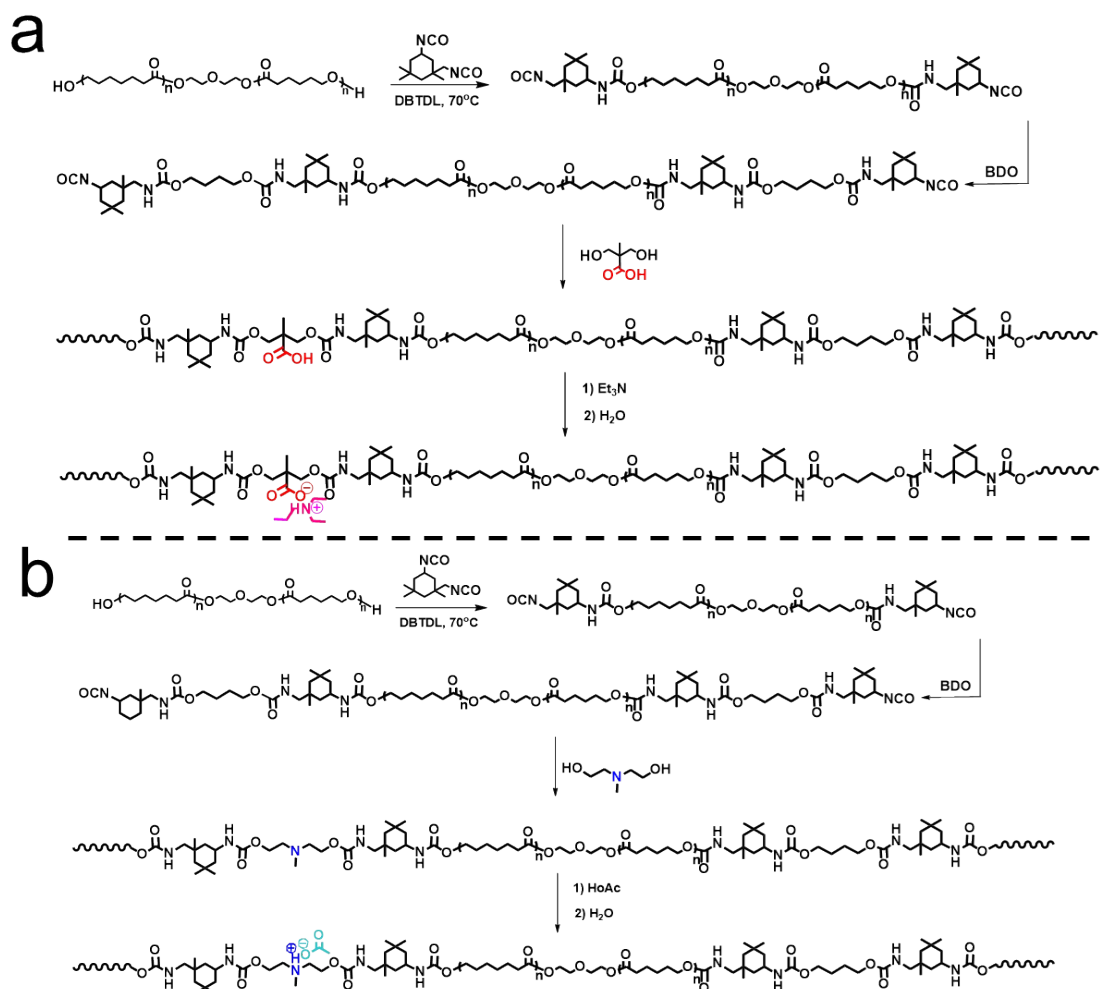


## Supporting Information

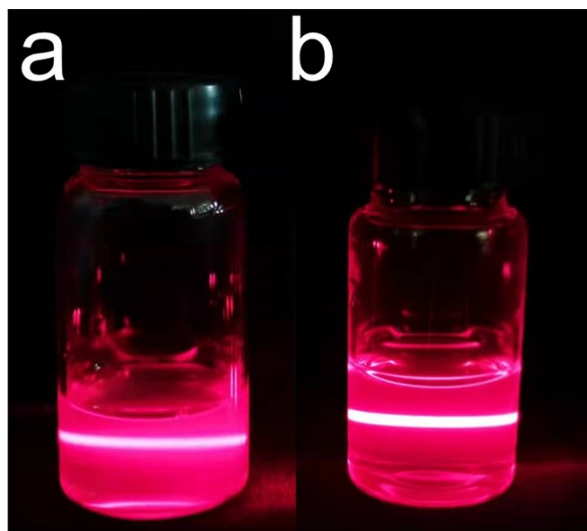
### **Turn things around: from cationic/anionic complexation-induced nanoemulsion instability to toughen water resistant waterborne polyurethanes**

*Yuan Yao, Meng Xiao, and Wenguang Liu\**

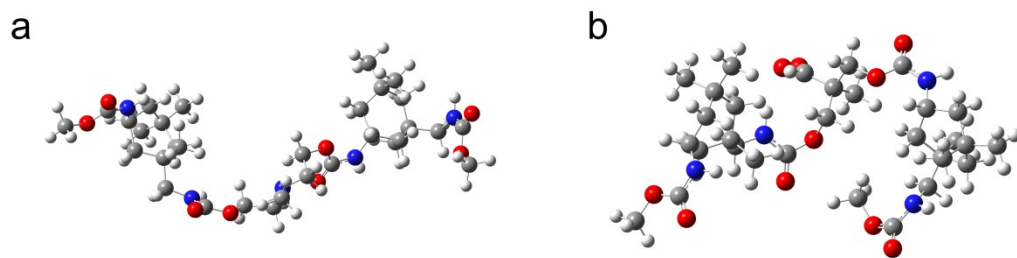
Y. Yao, Prof. W. Liu.  
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E-mail: [wgliu@tju.edu.cn](mailto:wgliu@tju.edu.cn)



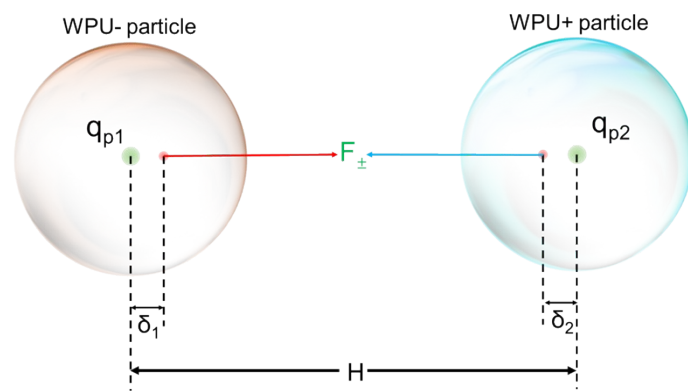
**Figure S1.** Synthesis and chemical structures of supramolecular (a) WPU- and (b) WPU+ elastomer.



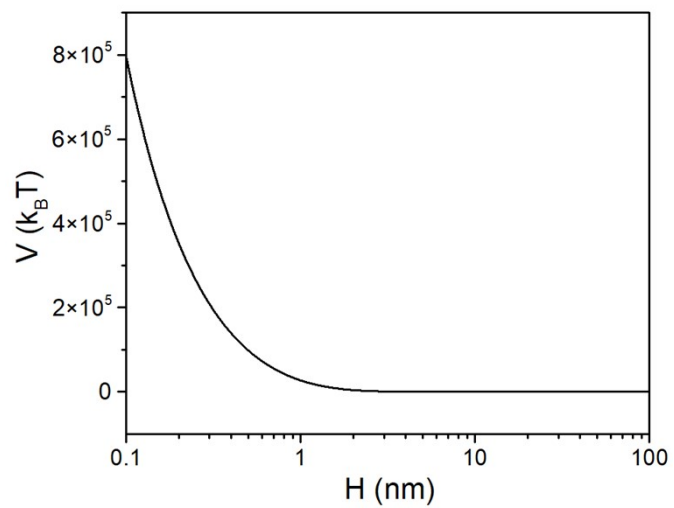
**Figure S2.** Tyndall effect of laser beam scattering with a) WPU+ and b) WPU- dispersions, showing colloidal particle formation in water.



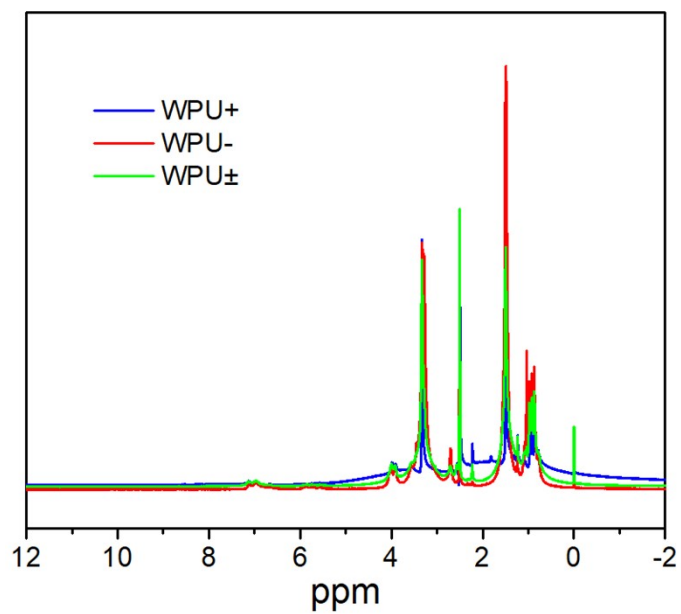
**Figure S3.** Conformation of hydrophilic hard segments in model system: (a) WPU+; (b) WPU-.



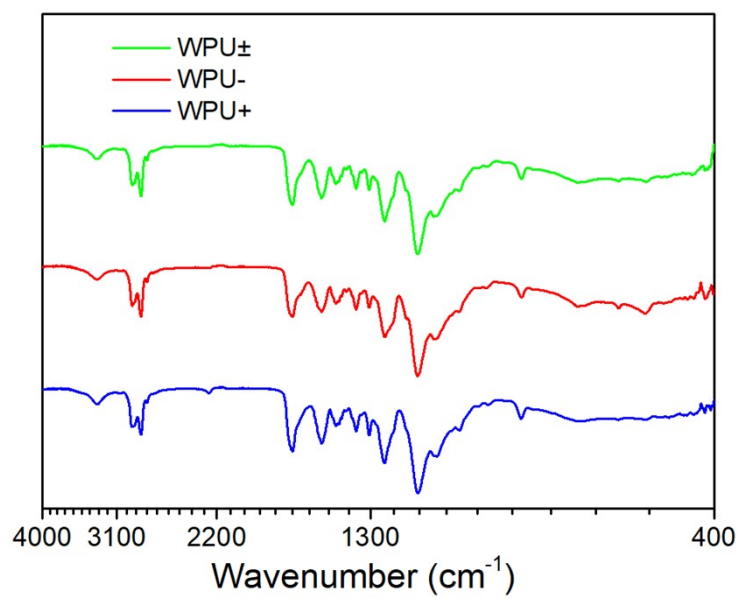
**Figure S4.** Model of electrostatic attraction of oppositely charged particles.



**Figure S5.** Plot of the electrostatic attraction potential energy for two oppositely charged particles separated by a distance  $H$ .

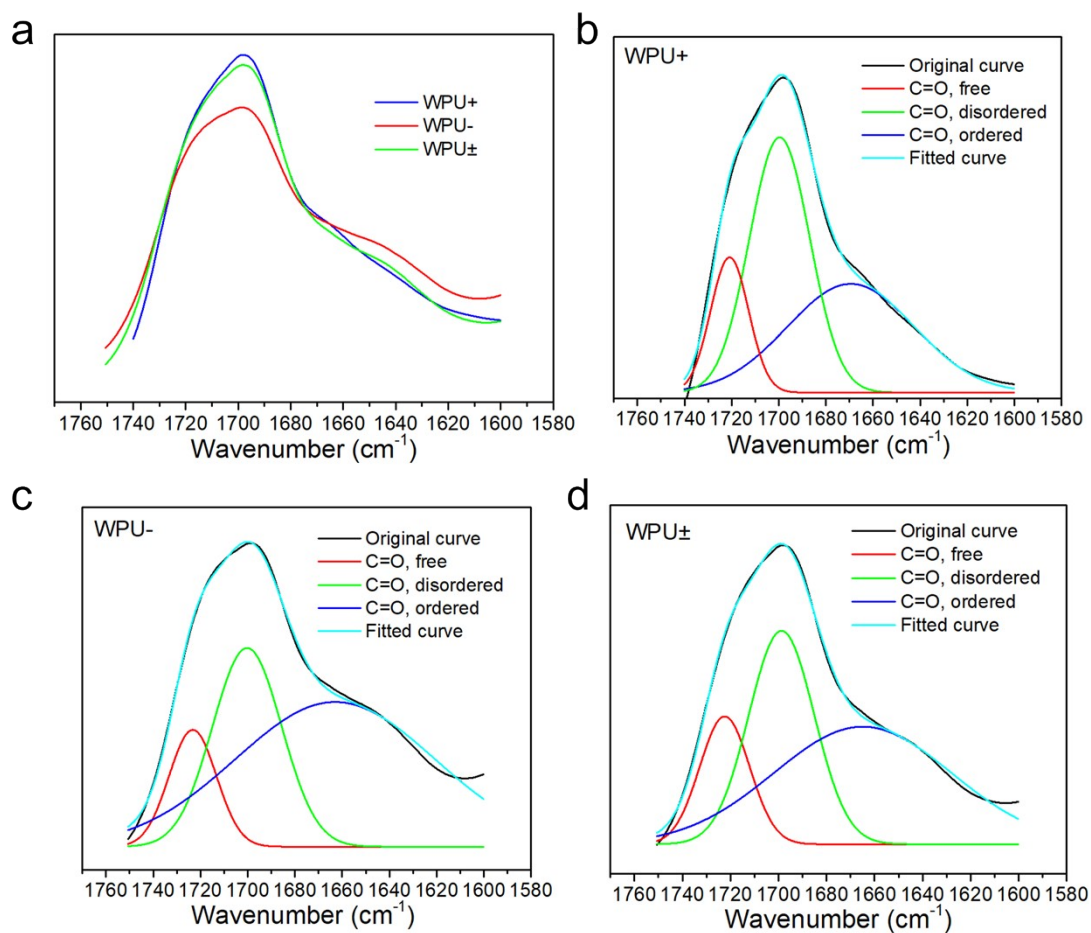


**Figure S6.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of WPU polymers in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>. The spectrum indicated that there were typical characteristic peaks of the carbamate (7.00 ppm attributed to -NH-), and PCL diol (2.23, 1.50, and 4.00 ppm attributed to methylene).

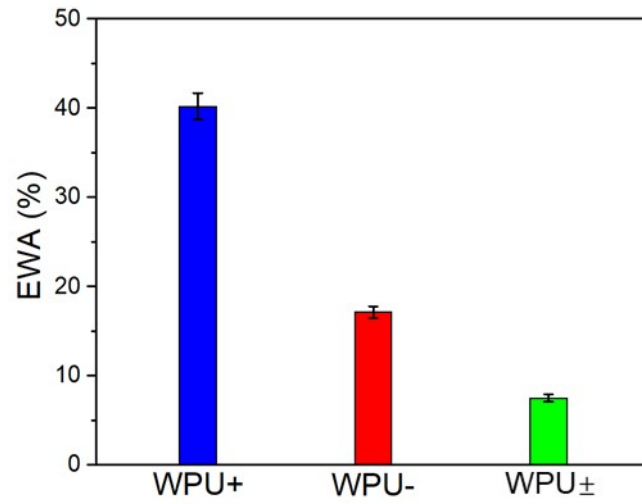


**Figure S7.** FTIR spectra of WPU films.

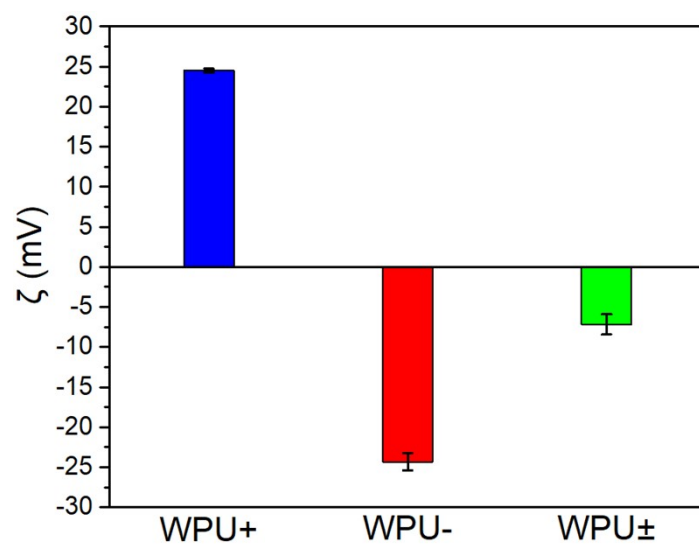




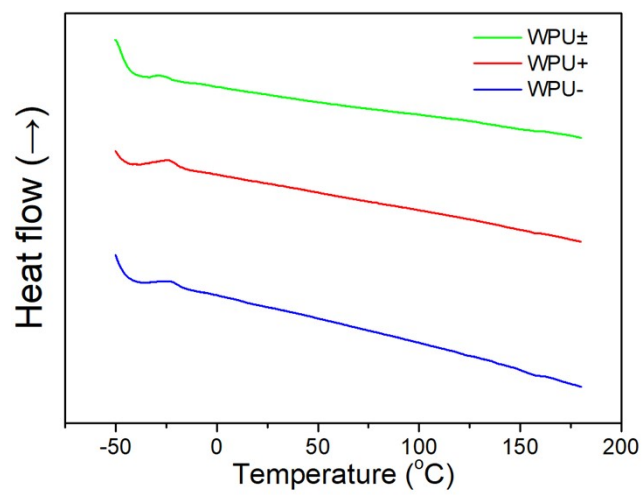
**Figure S8.** a) FTIR Spectra of WPU in the range from 1600 to 1750  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Splits of stretching vibration C=O bands in the FTIR spectra of b) WPU+, c) WPU- and d) WPU± via peak deconvolution method.



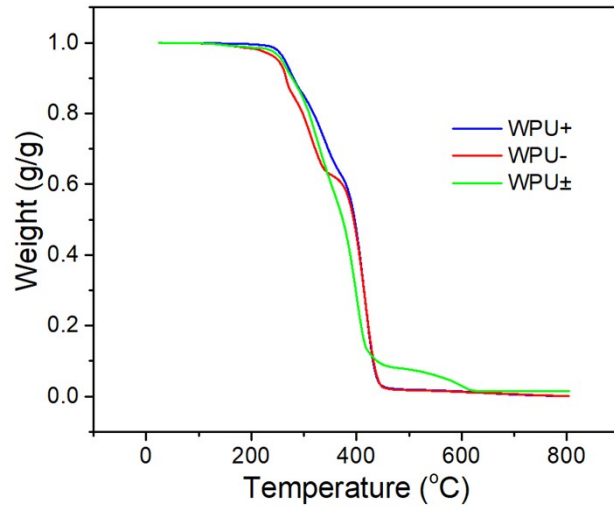
**Figure S9.** Equilibrium water absorptions of WPUs. (n=3)



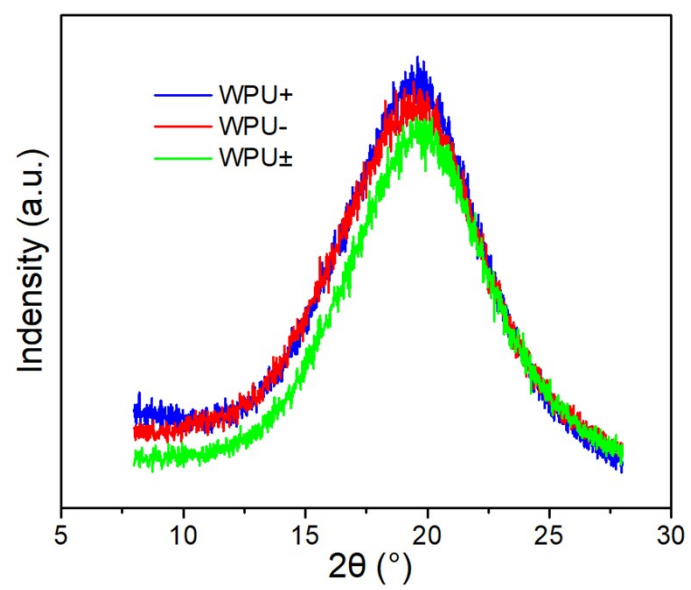
**Figure S10.** Surface zeta potentials of WPUs. (n=3)



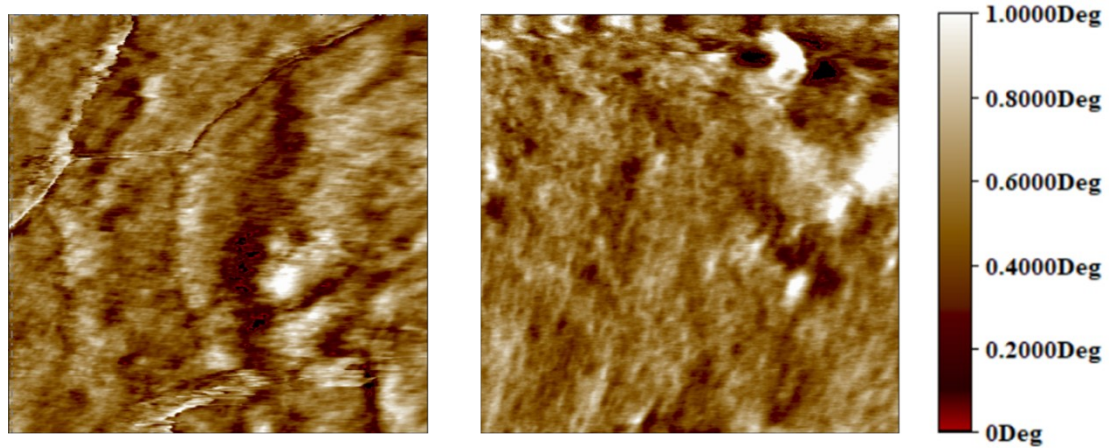
**Figure S11.** DSC curves of WPUs.



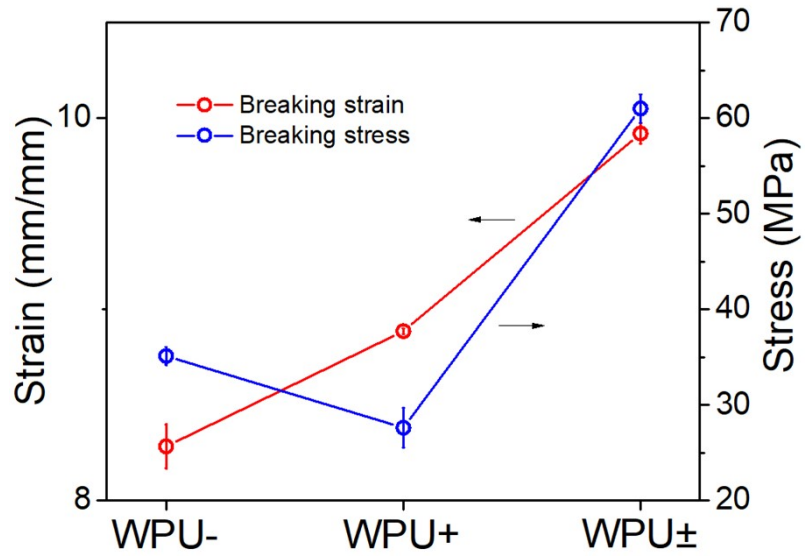
**Figure S12.** TGA curves of WPUs.



**Figure S13.** XRD patterns of WPUs.

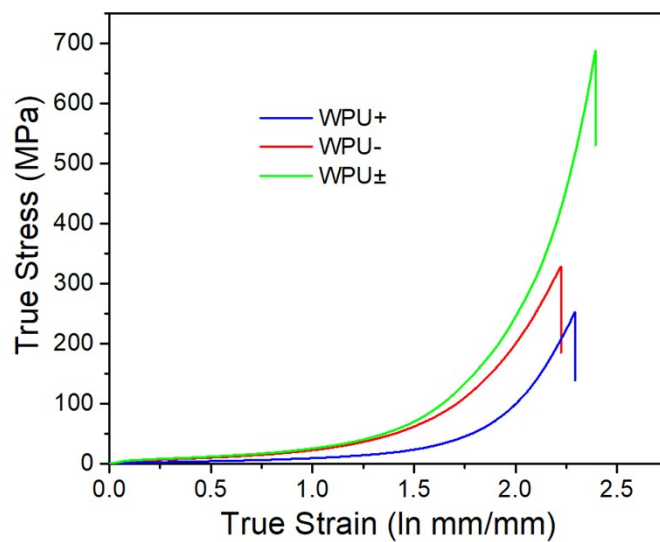


**Figure S14.** AFM images of WPU+ film (left) and WPU- film (right). Size 1  $\mu\text{m}$  $\times$ 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .

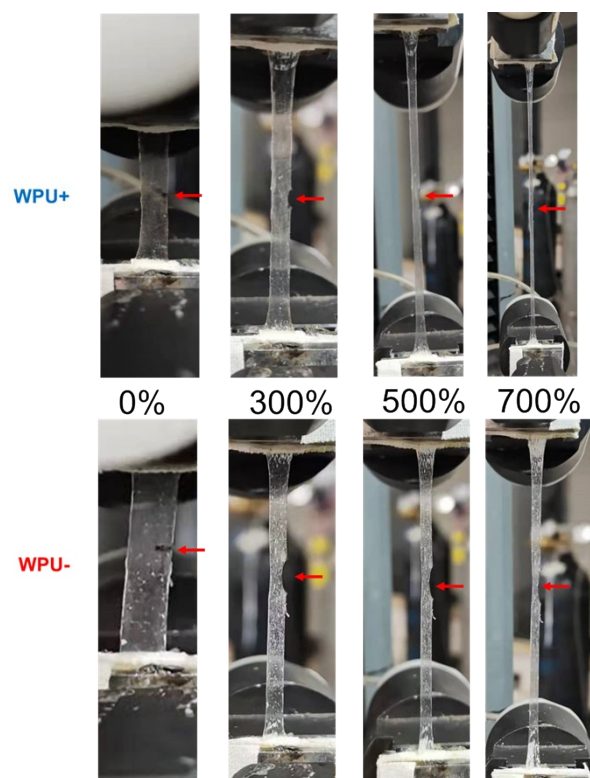


**Figure S15.** Breaking strain and tensile strength of WPUs.

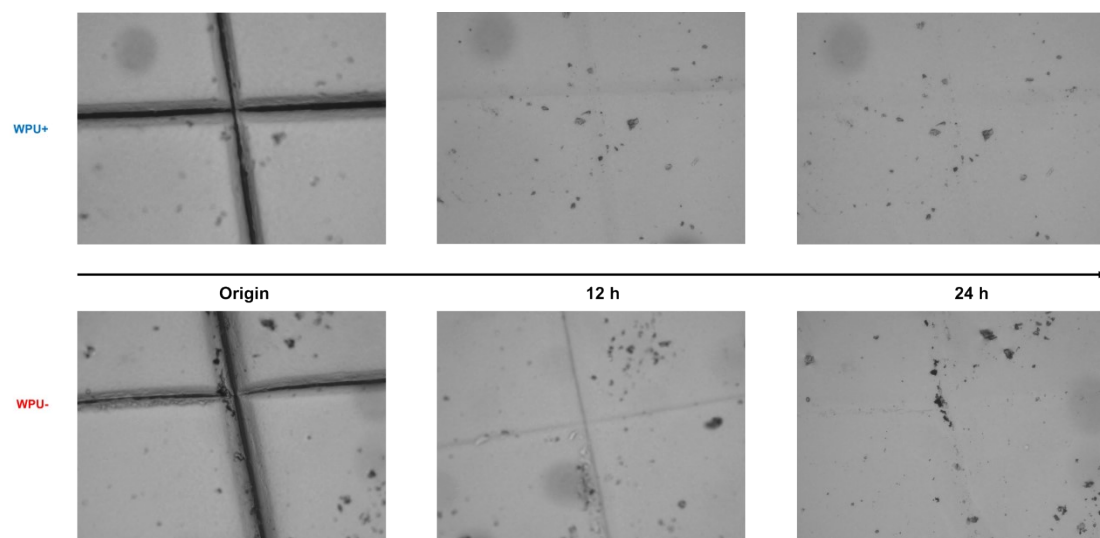




**Figure S16.** True stress–strain curves of WPUs.

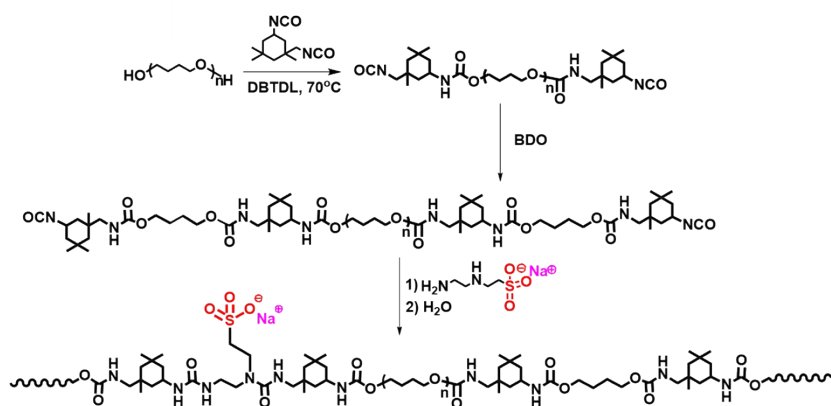


**Figure S17.** Images of the notched WPU+ and WPU- samples during stretching.

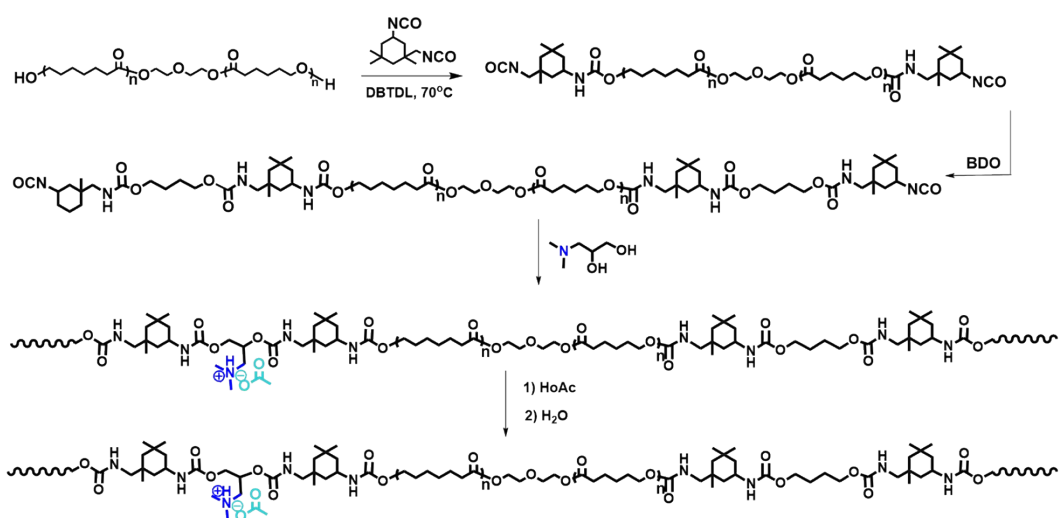


**Figure S18.** Optical microscope images of artificially scratched WPU+ and WPU- films in the healing process.

a

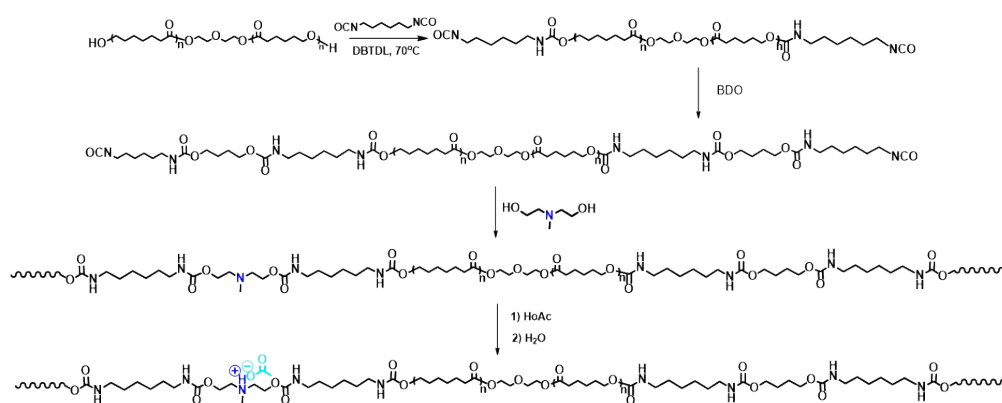


b

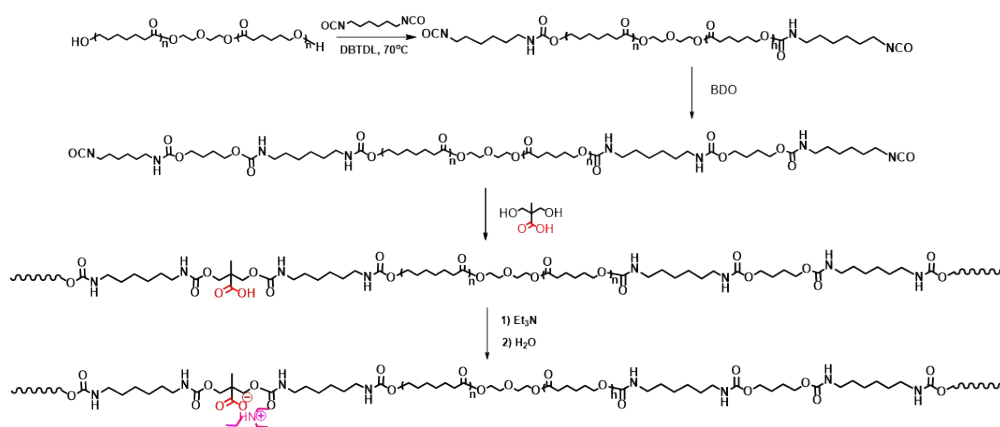


**Figure S19.** Synthesis and chemical structures of supramolecular (a) WPU<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and (b) WPU<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> elastomer.

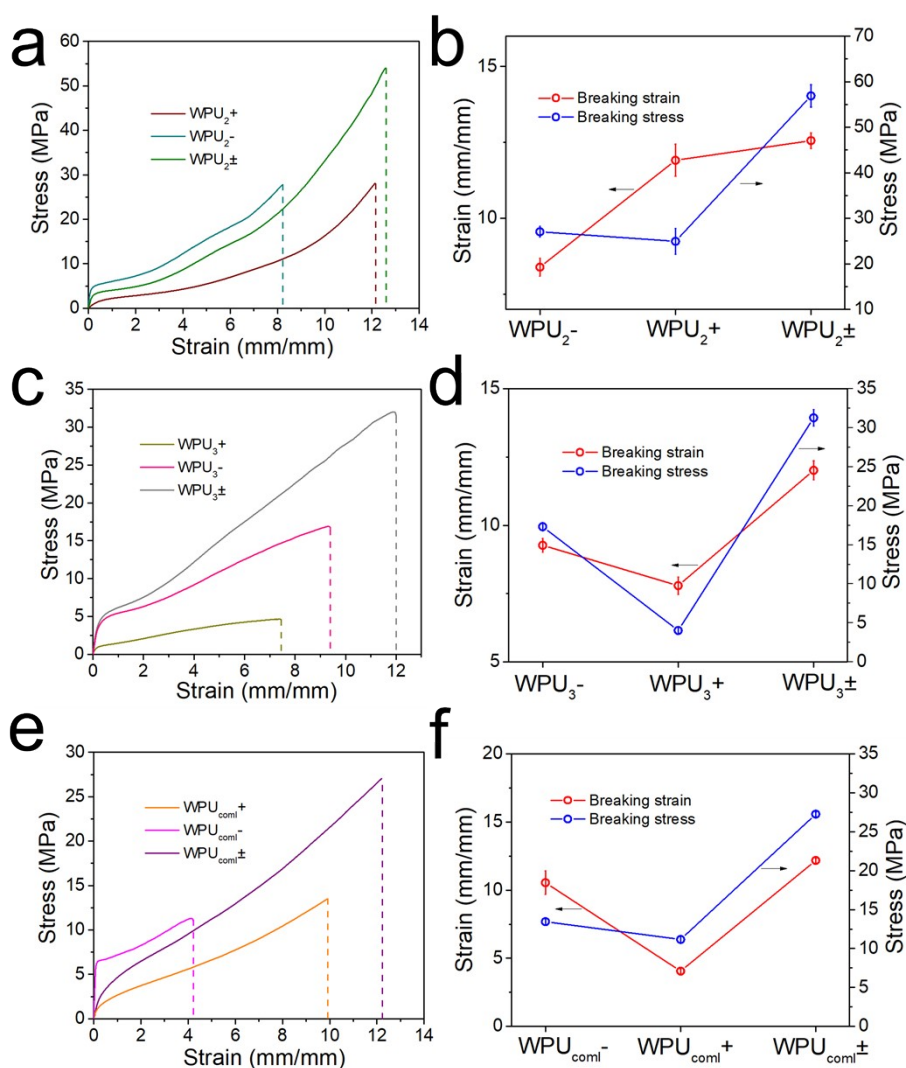
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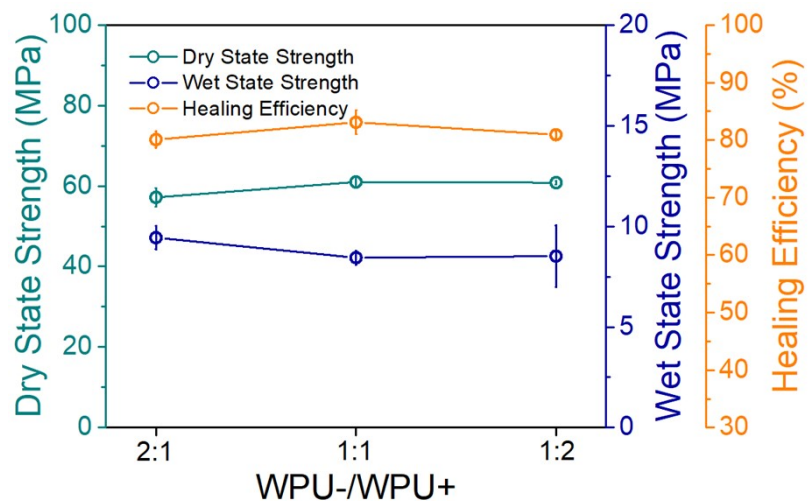
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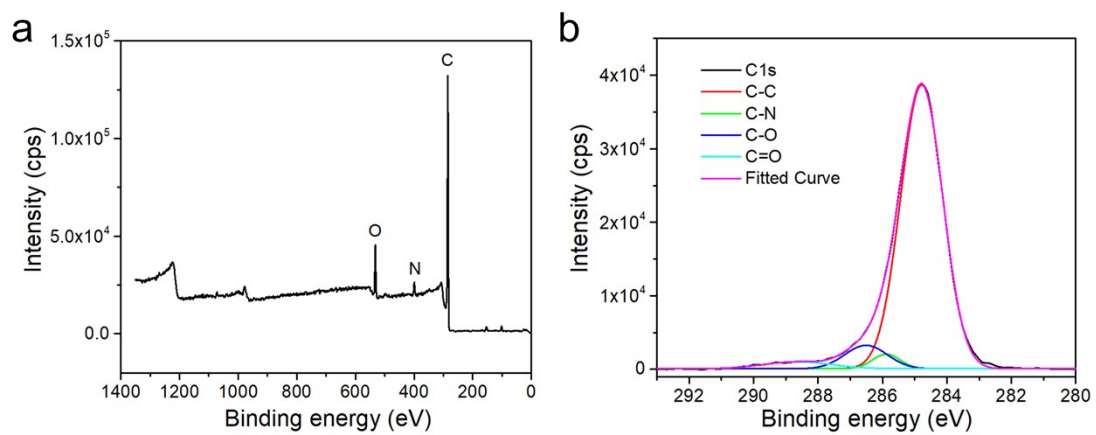
**Figure S20.** Synthesis and chemical structures of supramolecular (a) WPU<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> and (b) WPU<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> elastomer.



**Figure S21.** a) Stress–strain curves of WPU<sub>2</sub> elastomers. (n=3) b) Breaking strain and tensile strength of WPU<sub>2</sub> elastomers. c) Stress–strain curves of WPU<sub>3</sub> elastomers. (n=3) d) Breaking strain and tensile strength of WPU<sub>3</sub> elastomers. e) Stress–strain curves of WPU<sub>comI</sub> elastomers. (n=3) f) Breaking strain and tensile strength of WPU<sub>comI</sub> elastomers.



**Figure S22.** Dependences of the tensile strength, water resistance and healing efficiency of WPU± films on the ratio of WPU+ and WPU-.



**Figure S23.** XPS spectra of the complexed WPU± : (a) survey scan spectra, (b) C1s spectra.



**Table S1.** Recipes used in the synthesis of the PU samples.

Sample	Polyol	Hydrophilic chain extender	BDO	Diisocyanate	Hard segment content
WPU+	4.00 g PCL	0.48g MDEA	0.09 g	2.40 g IPDI	42.6%
WPU-	4.00 g PCL	0.54g DMPA	0.09 g	2.40 g IPDI	43.1%
WPU <sub>2</sub> +	4.00 g PCL	0.48g DMAPD	0.09 g	2.40 g IPDI	42.6%
WPU <sub>2</sub> -	4.00 g PTMG	0.38 g AAS	0.09 g	1.87 g IPDI	36.9%
WPU <sub>3</sub> +	4.00 g PCL	0.48g MDEA	0.09 g	1.61 g HDI	35.3%
WPU <sub>3</sub> -	4.00 g PCL	0.54g DMPA	0.09 g	1.61 g HDI	35.9%

**Table S2.** The interaction energies among WPU+, WPU-, and water molecules.

Model	Interaction energy (kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> )
Water/Water	-4.5
Water/WPU+	-17.2
Water/WPU-	-12.5
WPU+/WPU+	-28.8
WPU-/WPU-	-33.7
WPU+/WPU-	-42.7

## **Supporting Movies**

**Movie S1.** WPU± can be extruded directly as a hot melt adhesive, and the adhesive adheres firmly to the glass sheet even after withstanding violent water rinsing.

**Movie S2.** WPU± adhered aluminum sheet can lift 15 kg after immersing 30 days in water.

**Movie S3.** WPU+ adhered aluminum sheet cannot carry 15 kg after immersing 30 days in water.