Supporting information for

## Hydrophobic surface to hold water droplet by cholesterol-based organogel with solvent-tuned morphologies

Xudong Yu<sup>a</sup>,<sup>b</sup> Yajuan Li<sup>b</sup>, Di Wu<sup>a</sup>, Zichuan Ma<sup>b,\*</sup>, Shengtao Xing

Synthesis data of compound 1



*9-ethyl-9H-carbazol-2-amine* (2mmol, 420mg), *cholesterol chloride* (2mmol, 896mg) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (1mL) were stirred in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30mL) at R.T. for 24 hours, the reaction mixture was concentrated and purified by chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: PE=4:1), whilte solid was obtained. Yield: 72% (621.4mg). <sup>1</sup>HNMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400MHz): 0.69 (s, 3H), 0.86 (d, J=1.2 Hz, 3H), 0.88 (d, J=1.6Hz, 3H), 0.91-0.93(d, J=6.4Hz, 3H), 0.97-2.39 (m, 32H), 4.31-4.37 (m, 2H), 4.60-4.70 (m, 1H), 5.41-5.42 (m, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 7.18-7.21 (t, J=7.2Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.43-7.47(t, J=7.2Hz, 1H), 8.05-8.07 (d, J=7.6Hz, 1H), 8.17(s, 1H).

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>58</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 80.98; N, 4.50; H, 9.38; Found: C, 80.90; N, 4.40; H, 9.42.



Figure S2 SEM image of xerogel 1 (25 mg/mL) from isopropanol, part areas.



Figure S3 SEM images of the xerogel 1 (10 mg/mL) from acetonitrile. Scale bar: 100  $\mu$ m, 20  $\mu$ m.



Figure S4 SEM images of the precipitate (5 mg/mL) from acetonitrile. Scale bar: 20 µm, 5µm.



Figure S5 video snapshots of a droplet on the xerogel surface from ethanol with the gradually increasing angles of the interface.



Figure S6 IR spectra of the xerogel 1 (12.5mg/mL) from isopropanol.



Figure S7 Uv-vis spectra of the gel 1 (25 mg/mL) in different solvents.



Figure S8 Uv-vis spectra of the gel and solution (1×10<sup>-4</sup> M) and the gel (25mg/mL) in acetonitrile.



Figure S9 Uv-vis spectra of the gel and solution  $(1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M})$  and the gel (25mg/mL) in ethanol.



Figure S10 Uv-vis spectra of the gel and solution  $(1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M})$  and the gel (25mg/mL) in isopropanol.



Figure S11 XRD data of the xerogel 1 (25mg/mL) from isopropanol.