Supporting Information

Supramolecular design for polymer/titanium oxo-cluster hybrids: An open door to new organic-inorganic dynamers

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Experimental Section

Materials

Methanol (VWR, 99%), phenyl isothiocyanate (Aldrich, 98%), and aminopropyl terminated polydimethylsiloxanes (ABCR; 0.6-0.7% amine, viscosity 100-120 cSt., ~5000 g mol⁻¹ and 0.08-0.09% amine, viscosity 1800-2000 cSt., ~30000 g mol⁻¹) were used as received. 1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2-pyrrolidone (Aldrich, 98%), chloroform (Acros, 99%), dichloromethane (Acros, 99%), dimethylsulfoxide (VWR, 99%), pentane (Acros, 99%), tetrahydrofuran (VWR, 99%), and toluene (VWR, 99%) were distilled on the proper desiccant and then stored on molecular sieves. Ti₁₆O₁₆(OEt)₃₂ and ¹⁷O enriched Ti₁₆O₁₆(OEt)₃₂ were synthesized as described elsewhere.¹

Instrumentation

¹H liquid NMR spectra were recorded in CD₂Cl₂ or CDCl₃ on a Bruker Avance II 300 spectrometer at 300 MHz. ¹⁷O liquid NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Bruker Avance 300 spectrometer at 40.7 MHz. FTIR spectra were recorded in transmission, at room temperature on a Nicolet iS10 Thermo Scientific spectrometer. For bulk analyses, the product was pressed between two KBr disks. Analyses in solution were performed in CHCl₃ using a KBr cell of 1 mm path length. SEC measurements were performed in THF at a flow rate of 1 mL/min using a Waters HPLC 515 pump, a Viscotek VE 5200 automatic injector, two columns thermostated at 40°C (PSS SDV, linear M, 8 mm x 300 mm, bead diameter: 5 μ m, separation range: 400-10⁶ Da), a Viscotek 3580 differential refractive index and a Waters UV 484 detectors. Calculations were made using the Omnisec software. The calibration curve was based on polystyrene standards from Polymer Laboratories. Heats of association were measured using a MicroCal VP-ITC titration microcalorimeter. The experimental conditions have been described previously.²

Post-functionalization of Ti₁₆O₁₆(OEt)₃₂ (Ti₁₆-pyrrolidone)

In a glovebox, 1 g (0.4 mmol) of $Ti_{16}O_{16}(OEt)_{32}$ was dissolved in 10 mL of toluene to which an excess (26 mmol, 3.36 g) of 1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2-pyrrolidone was added. This mixture was then placed at 50 °C for 72 h after which the volatile fraction was evaporated to get a white paste. This paste was dissolved in a minimum amount of THF and the cluster was precipitated into DMSO, then again dissolved in a minimum amount of THF and finally precipitated into pentane to get 340 mg (~30 %) of a white powder.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): see Figure S1. ¹³C NMR (75.4 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) : see Figure S2. ¹⁷O NMR (40,7 MHz, $CDCl_3$): see Figure S3.

Thiourea terminated polydimethylsiloxane PDMS1

Under nitrogen atmosphere, 0.5 mL (4.2 mmol) of phenyl isothiocyanate were slowly dropped into a mixture of 10 g (2 mmol) of aminopropyl terminated polydimethylsiloxane

(molar mass \sim 5000 g mol⁻¹) in 2 mL of dichloromethane. This mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h, after which the solvent was evaporated. The polymer was recovered as a yellow oil after precipitation into methanol.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, δ): 7.65 (s, 2H, Ar-N*H*), 7.46-7.22 (m, 10H, ArH), 6.11 (s, 2H, N*H*-CH₂), 3.57 (dt, 4H, NH-CH₂), 1.59 (m, 4H, C-CH₂-C), 0.52 (m, 4H, Si-CH₂), 0.08 (s, 580H, CH₃), M_n(RMN) = 7600 g mol⁻¹; ²⁹Si NMR (59.63 MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 7.25 (Si-CH₂), - 22.38 (O-Si-O); SEC (PS standards): M_n = 12600 g mol⁻¹, M_w = 18850 g mol⁻¹, M_w/M_n = 1.5; molecular weights were derived from the UV absorption signal (254 nm) due to the aromatic chain ends and calculated as previously described.³

Thiourea terminated polydimethylsiloxane PDMS2

The same procedure as for PDMS1 was used with aminopropyl terminated polydimethylsiloxane of molar mass $\sim 30000 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$.

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , δ): 7.32 (s, 2H, Ar-N*H*), 7.28-7.22 (m, 10H, ArH), 6.11 (s, 2H, N*H*-CH₂), 3.58 (dt, 4H, NH-CH₂), 1.61 (m, 4H, C-CH₂-C), 0.52 (m, 4H, Si-CH₂), 0.08 (s, 3150H, CH₃), M_n(RMN) = 39000 g mol⁻¹; ²⁹Si NMR (59.63 MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 7.25 (Si-CH₂), -22.37 (O-Si-O); SEC (PS standards): M_n = 34050 g mol⁻¹, M_w = 58450 g mol⁻¹, M_w/M_n = 1.7.

Hybrid supramolecular network HSN1

0.05 g (1.78 10^{-5} mol) of Ti₁₆-pyrrolidone and 0.27 g (3.6 10^{-5} mol) of PDMS1 were solubilized in 0.1 mL of dichloromethane. The solvent was then gently evaporated to get a clear yellow gel.

Hybrid supramolecular network HSN2

0.078 g (2.78 10^{-5} mol) of Ti₁₆-pyrrolidone and 1.94 g (5.0 10^{-5} mol) of PDMS2 were solubilized in 1 mL of dichloromethane. The solvent was then gently evaporated to get a clear yellow gel.



*Figure S1.*¹H NMR spectra of 1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2-pyrrolidone (\overline{CD}_2Cl_2 , top), Ti₁₆-pyrrolidone (\overline{CD}_2Cl_2 , middle) and Ti₁₆ (\overline{C}_6D_6 , bottom).





Figure S3. ¹⁷O NMR spectrum of Ti₁₆-pyrrolidone in CDCl₃.



Figure S4. ¹H NMR spectra of aminopropyl terminated PDMS (CDCl₃, top), and thioureamodified PDMS1 (CD₂Cl₂, bottom).



Figure S5. ²⁹Si NMR spectra in CDCl₃ of thiourea terminated PDMS1 (a) and PDMS2 (b).

The following model compounds were considered to investigate the complementarity of the pyrrolidone and thiourea moieties:



Figure S6. Isothermal Titration Calorimetry (ITC) experiment showing the heat exchange during the addition 3μ L aliquots of a 20mM PY solution in heptane into a 1.5mM TU solution in heptane (black curve) and the blank experiment corresponding to the dilution of the same PY solution into heptane (green curve). Heat flow versus time (a) and enthalpogram obtained after integration of the heat flow curves (b).

The strong exothermic signal obtained during the addition of PY to TU shows that the heteroassociation (TU:PY) is stronger than the self-association (TU:TU and PY:PY). It was not possible to extract more quantitative information because of the complexity of the equilibria involved.

References

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- 3 S. Abed, S. Boileau, L. Bouteiller and N. Lacoudre, *Polymer Bulletin*, 1997, **39**, 317.