

Supplementary Information

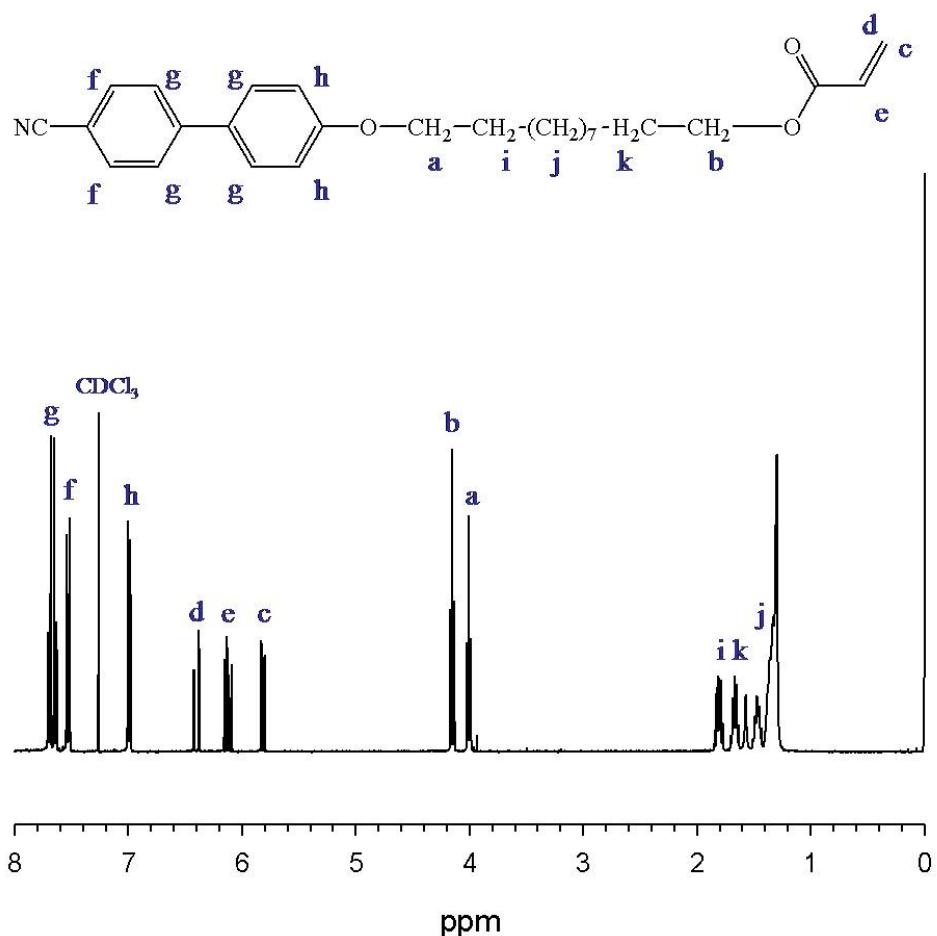


Fig. S1. The NMR spectrum of LC11: $^1\text{H-NMR}$: δ H (CDCl_3): 1.2-2.0 (m, 18H, $-(\text{CH}_2)9$), 3.9-4.0 (t, 2H, $\text{CH}_2-\text{O-Ar}$), 4.1-4.2 (t, 2H, O-CH_2), 5.73-6.35(m, 3H, $=\text{CH}$, CH_2), 6.9-7.0 (m, 2H, aromatic), 7.4-7.5 (m, 4H, aromatic), 7.6-7.7 (m, 2H, aromatic) ppm

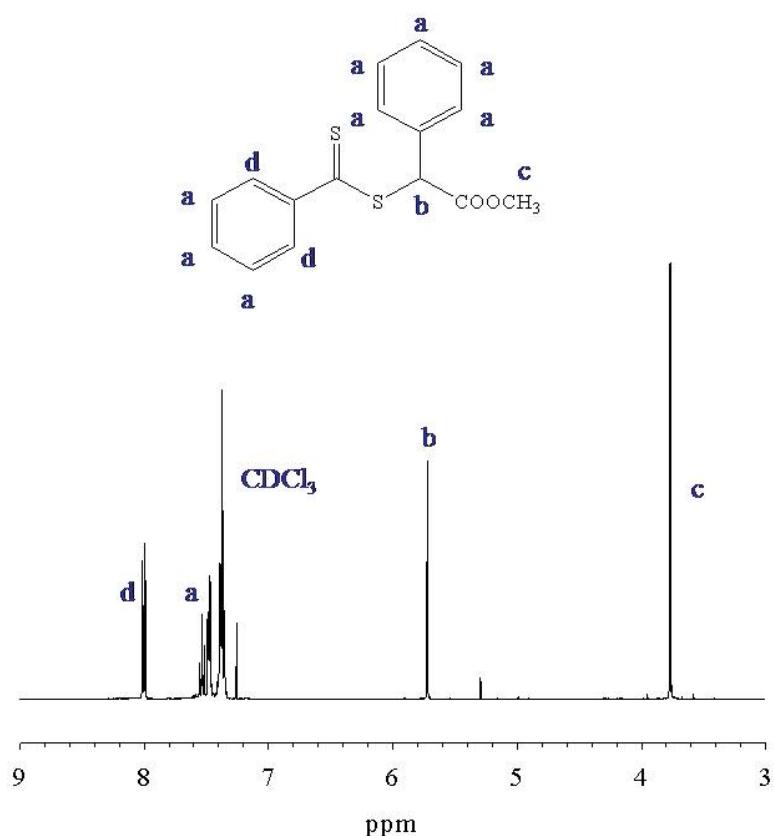


Fig. S2. The NMR spectrum of MCPDB: ^1H -NMR: δH (CDCl_3): 3.70 (s, 3H, -O-CH₃), 5.65 (s, 1H, -S(Ph)CH-CO₂Me), 7.20-7.48 (m, 8H, aromatic), 7.91 (m, 2H, aromatic) ppm

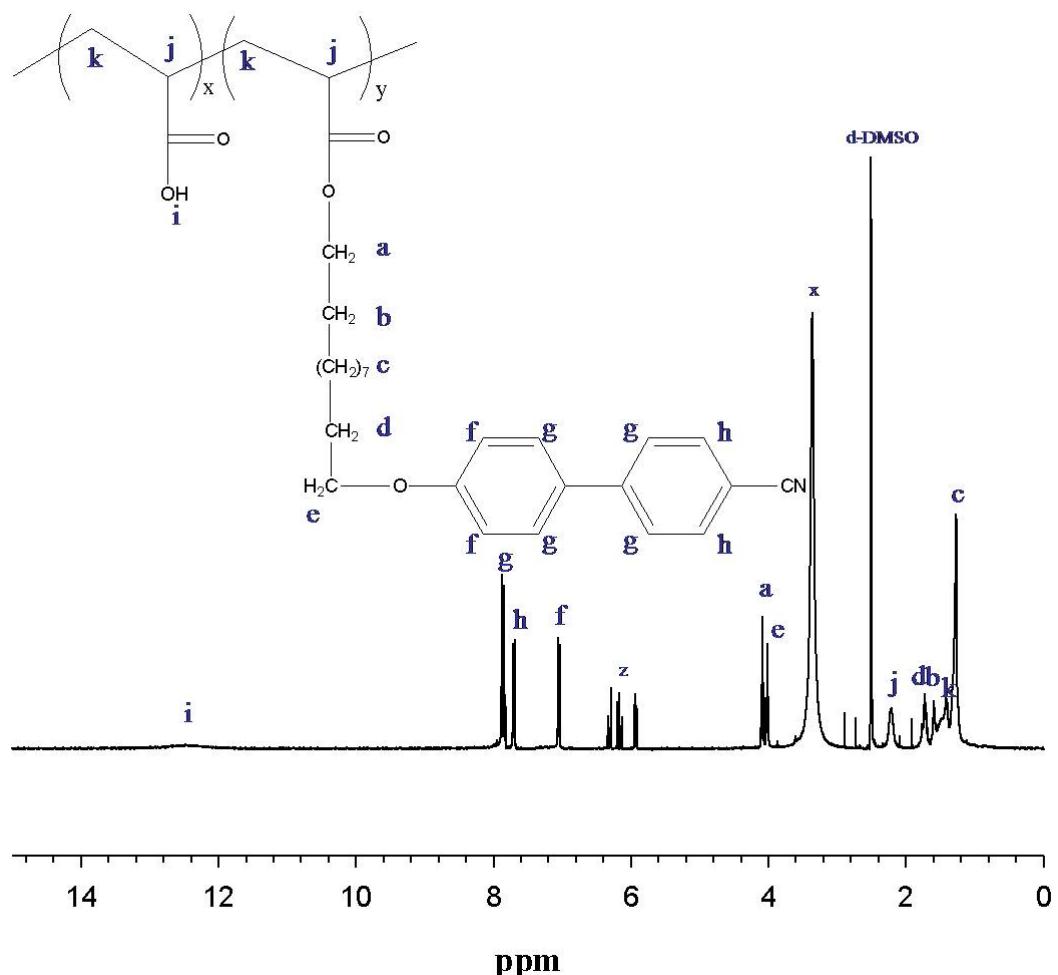


Fig. S3. The NMR spectrum of PAA-LC11P: $^1\text{H-NMR}$: δ H (d-DMSO): 1.24-1.35 (s, 14H, $-(\text{CH}_2)_7$), 1.35-1.58 (m, main chain, $-\text{CH}_2$), 1.59 (m, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2$), 1.72 (m, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2$), 2.11-2.31 (s, main chain, $-\text{CH}$), 4.02 (t, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2$), 4.09 (t, 2H, $-\text{CH}_2$), 7.05 (d, 2H, aromatic), 7.70 (d, 2H, aromatic), 7.83-7.89 (q, 4H, aromatic), 12.4 (s, 1H, $-\text{OH}$) ppm. x is due to the remaining LC11 monomer. Peak at x represent protons of water.

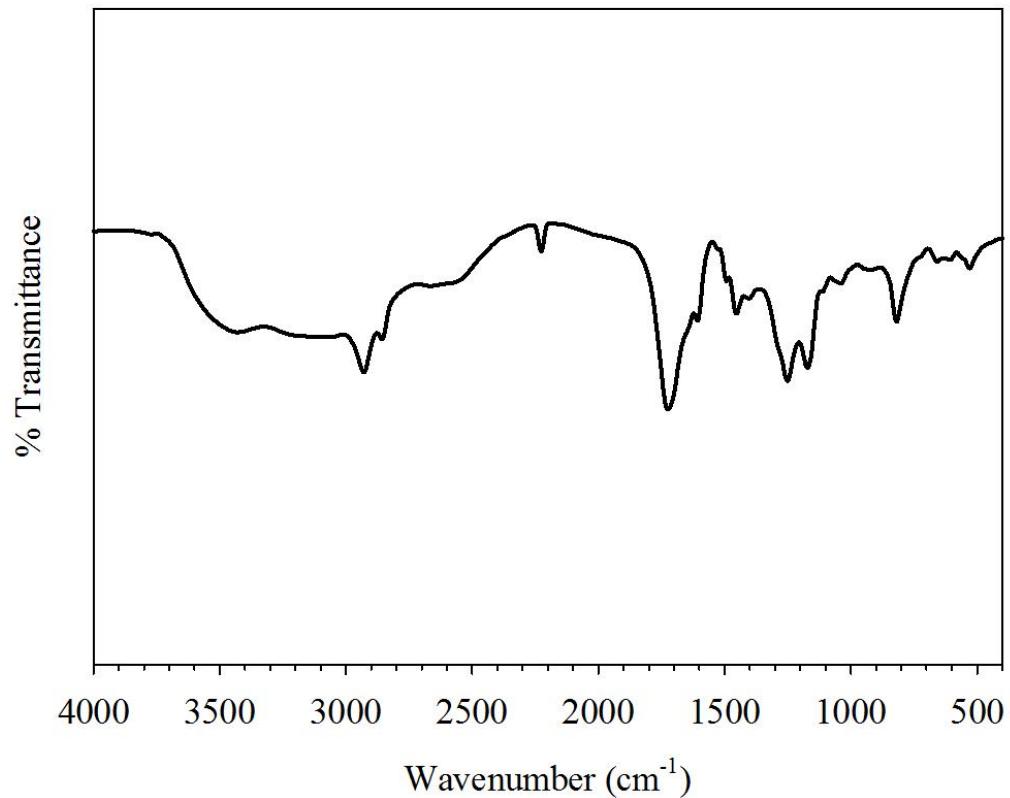


Fig. S4. Infrared spectrum of the PAA-b-LCP: The stretching bands of the O-H and C=O groups of PAA appear at 2606 and 1730 cm^{-1} , respectively; the peaks at 2225 and 1608 cm^{-1} represent the stretching bands of the CN and the aromatic C=C groups of LCP, respectively; the peaks at 2850 to 3000 cm^{-1} correspond to the stretching band of the sp³ hydrocarbons.

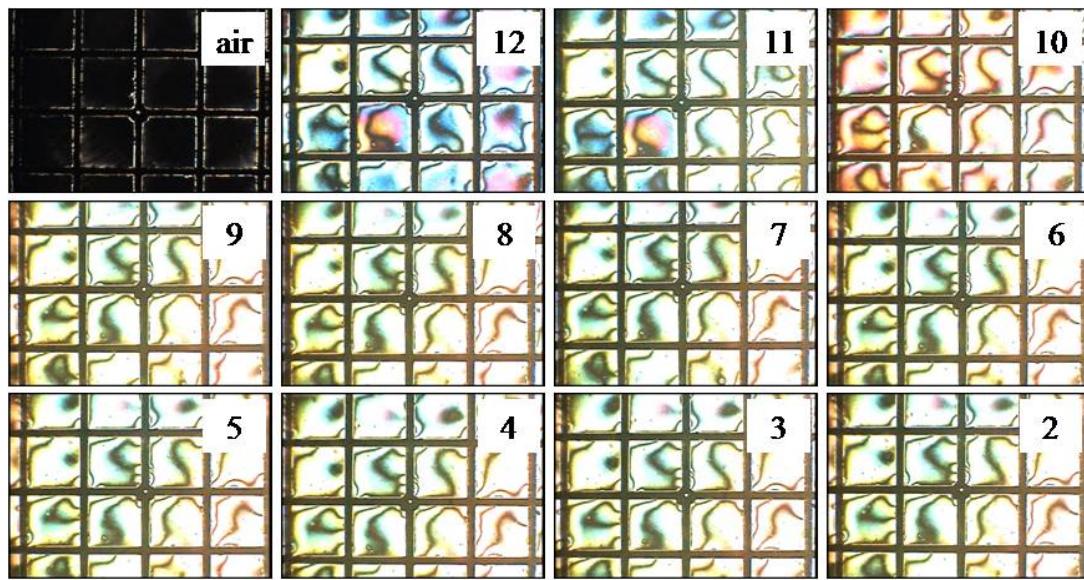


Fig. S5. The optical micrographs of the TEM grid cells without a PAA-*b*-LCP monolayer on the 5CB observed under a polarized optical microscope with a cross-polar state at the different pHs; the numbers in the figure indicate pH.

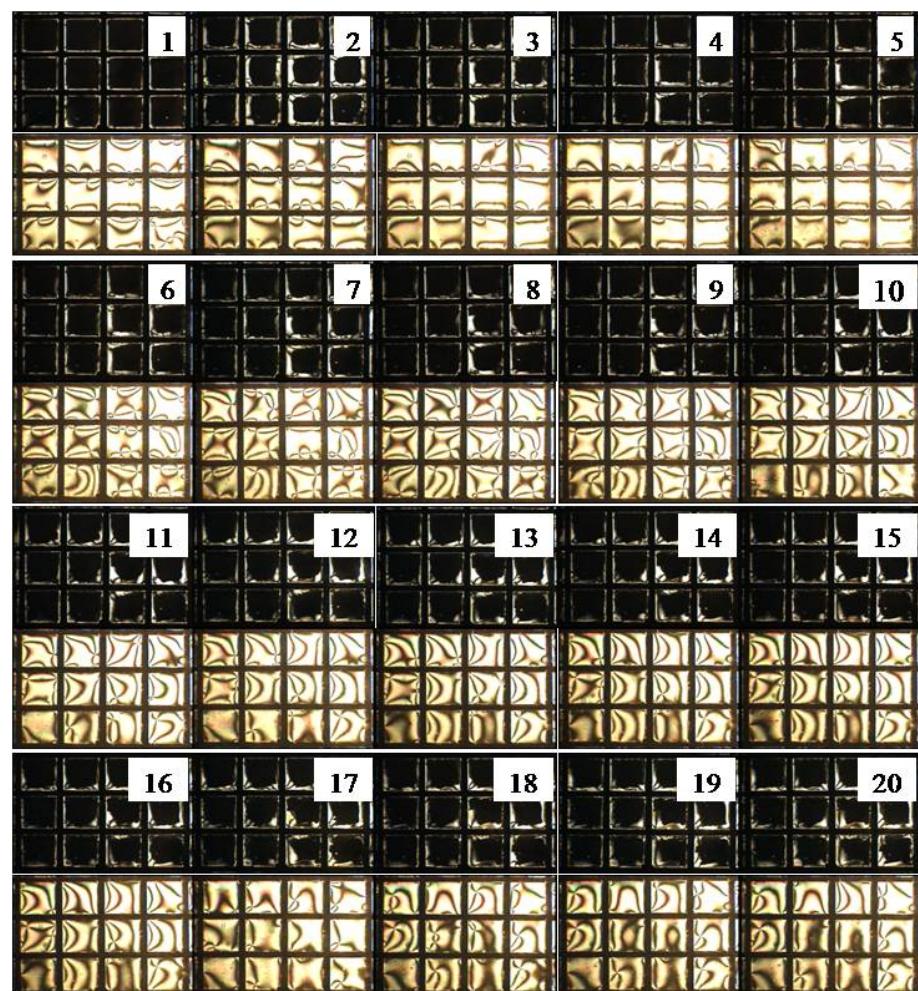


Fig. S7. The optical micrographs of the TEM grid cells during adjustment of the pH in the buffer solution from 12 to 2, 2 to 12, 12 to 2, and 2 to 12, up to 20 cycles after equilibrium; the numbers in the figure indicate cycle.

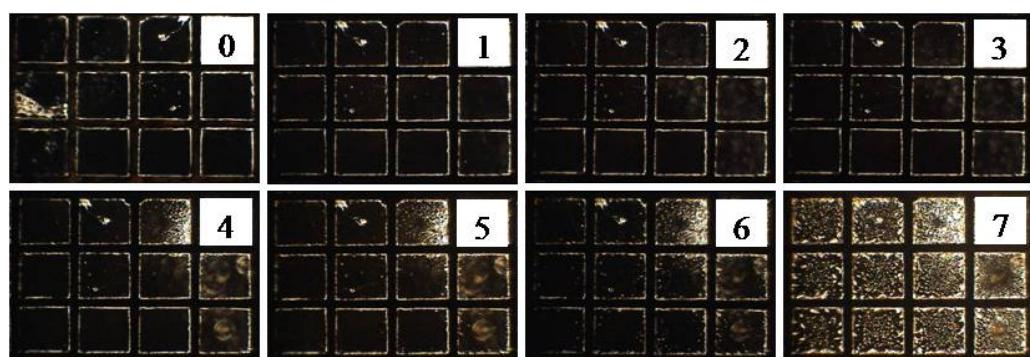


Fig. S8. The optical micrographs of the TEM grid cells for 7 days at pH=12; the numbers in the figure indicate day.