

Article

Polypeptide Composition and Topology Affect Hydrogelation of Star-Shaped Poly(L-lysine)-Based Amphiphilic Copolypeptides

Thi Ha My Phan ¹, Ching-Chia Huang ¹, Yi-Jen Tsai ¹, Jin-Jia Hu ^{3,*}, and Jeng-Shiung Jan ^{1,2,*}¹ Department of Chemical Engineering, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan 70101, Taiwan; myphan3008@gmail.com (T.H.M.P.); s110076@shsh.tw (C.-C.H.); iris870814@gmail.com (Y.-J.T.)² Hierarchical Green-Energy Materials (Hi-GEM) Research Center, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan 70101, Taiwan³ Department of Mechanical Engineering, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu 30010, Taiwan

* Correspondence: jsjan@mail.ncku.edu.tw (J.-J.H.); jjhu@nctu.edu.tw (J.-S.J.)

Supplementary Materials

Table S1. Feed molar ratio, degree of polymerization (DP), number-average molecular weight (M_n) and molecular weight distribution (M_w/M_n) of s-PZLL homopolypeptides.

Polypeptide	Feed ratio	DP of ZLL	M_n^b	M_w/M_n^b
3s-PZLL ₂₂	1:60	66	17000	1.37
6s-PZLL ₂₁	1:120	126	35200	1.42

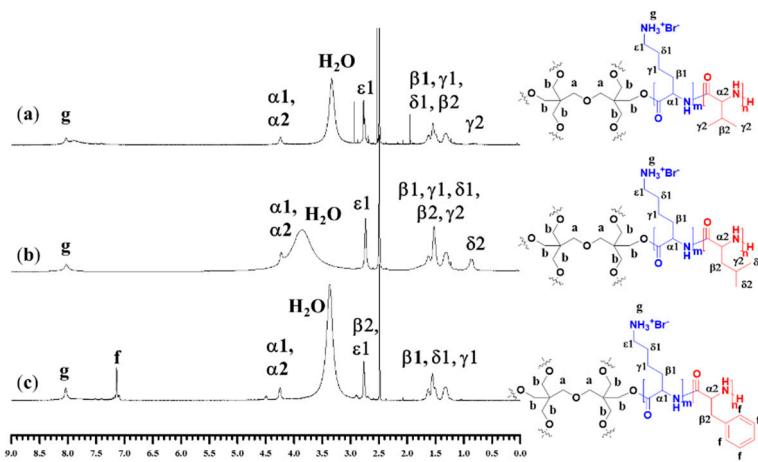
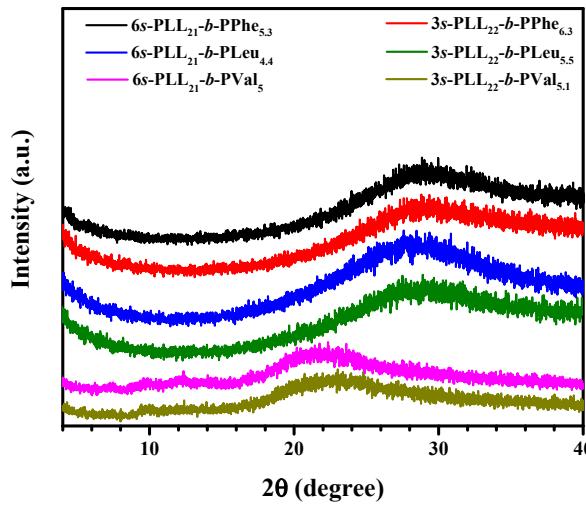
^a Degree of polymerization (DP) of ZLL was calculated by ¹H NMR. ^b M_n and M_w/M_n were determined by GPC-LS.**Table S2.** Feed ratios and block ratios between the ZLL block and the second block.

Polypeptide	Feed ratio	ZLL: Y ^a
3s-PZLL ₂₂ -b-PPhe _{6.3}	4 : 1	3.5 : 1
6s-PZLL ₂₁ -b-PPhe _{5.3}	4 : 1	4.0 : 1
3s-PZLL ₂₂ -b-PLeu _{5.5}	4 : 1	4.0 : 1
6s-PZLL ₂₁ -b-PLeu _{4.4}	4 : 1	4.8 : 1
3s-PZLL ₂₂ -b-PVal _{5.1}	4 : 1	4.3 : 1
6s-PZLL ₂₁ -b-PVal ₅	4 : 1	4.2 : 1

^a Block ratio of the ZLL block to the second block (Y block) was calculated by ¹H NMR.

Table S3. The corresponding d spacing obtained from SAXS profiles of 3-armed PLL-*b*-PY hydrogel samples.

Samples	Concentration (wt%)	d (Å)
3s-PLL ₂₂ - <i>b</i> -PPhe _{6.3}	5.0	273
	7.0	273
3s-PLL ₂₂ - <i>b</i> -PLEu _{5.5}	8.0	241.5
	9.0	241.5
3s-PLL ₂₂ - <i>b</i> -PVal _{5.1}	6.0	314
	8.0	314

**Figure S1.** ¹H-NMR spectra of (a) 6s-PLL₂₁-*b*-PVal₅ in DMSO-d₆, (b) 6s-PLL₂₁-*b*-PLEu_{4.4} in DMSO-d₆, and (c) 6s-PLL₂₁-*b*-PPhe_{5.3} in DMSO-d₆.**Figure S2.** XRD patterns of freeze-dried 6s-PLL₂₁-*b*-PPhe_{5.3} (5.0 wt%), 3s-PLL₂₂-*b*-PPhe_{6.3} (5.0 wt%), 6s-PLL₂₁-*b*-PLEu_{4.4} (5.0 wt%), 3s-PLL₂₂-*b*-PLEu_{5.5} (8.0 wt%), 6s-PLL₂₁-*b*-PVal₅ (5.0 wt%), and 3s-PLL₂₂-*b*-PVal_{5.1} (8.0 wt%) hydrogel samples.

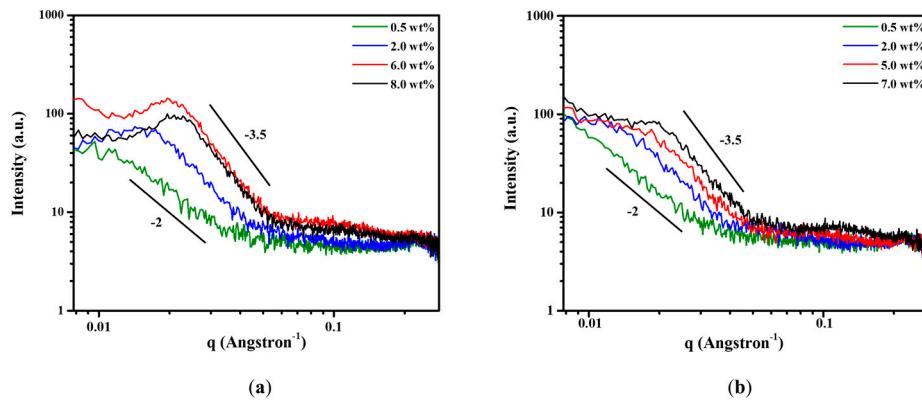


Figure S3. SAXS profiles of (a) 3s-PLL₂₂-*b*-PVal_{5.1} and (b) 6s-PLL₂₁-*b*-PVal₅ sol and gel solutions at different polypeptide concentrations in DI water.