Supplementary Materials: Hydrophobic Coatings by Thiol-Ene Click Functionalization of Silsesquioxanes with Tunable Architecture

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Silsesquioxane architecture



Figure S1. Cross-linking morphologies of general silsesquioxane networks (reprinted with permission from V. Tagliazucca , E. Callone, S. Dirè, "Influence of synthesis conditions on the cross-link architecture of silsesquioxanes prepared by in situ water production route" J Sol-Gel Sci Technol (2011) 60:236–245, © Springer)

Thiol-ene click reactions between purified SH-NBBs and long chain alkenes

The yield is calculated according to equation (3) from the ¹H NMR spectra shown in Figure 5.

| Table S1. | Reaction yie | eld (%) for e | ach purified | SH-NBB/alkene | mixture and | irradiation | procedure. |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| | <i>J</i> | · · · | 1 | | | | 1 |

| SH-NBBs 6h | | SH-NBBs 16h | | SH-NBBs 80h | |
|------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| Cotton | Paper | Cotton | Paper | Cotton | Paper |

100

| 100 | 99 | 99 | 100 | |
|-----|----|----|-----|--|

| | | - | | | | _ | |
|---------|-----------|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|--|
| Control | Unreacted | - | Unreacted | - | Unreacted | - | |
| 365nm | - | - | - | - | Unreacted | - | |

Solid State NMR analysis of Cotton-NBB80h and Cotton-NBB80h click samples

93

Experimental

254nm

265nm

Solid state NMR analyses were carried out with a Bruker 300WB spectrometer operating at a proton frequency of 300.13 MHz. NMR spectra were acquired with cp and sp pulse sequences under the following conditions: ²⁹Si frequency: 59.62 MHz, $\pi/2$ pulse 4.5 µs, contact time 5 ms; decoupling length 5.9 µs, recycle delay: 10 s, 36000 scans; ¹H frequency: 300.13 MHz, $\pi/2$ pulse 5 µs, recycle delay: 10 s, 8 scans. Samples were packed in 4 mm zirconia rotors, which were spun at 7 kHz under air flow. Q8M8 and water were used as external secondary references.

<u>Results</u>

The amount of coating on the cellulosic substrate is too low to be analysed at the solid state with NMR spectroscopy. Thus, in order to assess the coating features on cotton, a cotton sample was prepared ad hoc by repeated immersion steps in the SH-NBBs solution reacted for 80h and analysed through ²⁹Si CPMAS and ¹H MAS NMR.

Figure S2 shows the silicon spectrum of *Cotton-NBB80h* sample that is characterized by fully condensed RSi(OSi)₃ (T³) and RSi(OSi)OH (T²) units, at -65 and -56 ppm, respectively (R represents the mercaptopropyl chain). Due to the semi-quantitativeness of CPMAS experiment the intensity of T² units are strongly overestimated indicating that the condensation degree of the NBB is high as expected. The very low amount of Si in the whole materials does not permit a classical quantitative experiment and cause the low signal-to-noise ratio of the presented spectrum, besides the very high number of scans (36000).



Figure S2. ²⁹Si CPMAS NMR spectrum of *Cotton-NBB80h* sample



Figure S3. ¹H MAS NMR spectra of a) raw cotton, b) *Cotton-NBB80h* and c) the product of click reaction with 1-tetradecene (*Cotton-NBB80h click*). The peak marked with * are spurious.

The ¹H MAS NMR confirms the effectiveness of the coating. From the comparison between raw cotton (Figure S3a) and *Cotton-NBB80h* (Figure S3b) it can be appreciated the overlapping of the relatively sharp peaks in the 4-1 ppm range belonging to the pristine SH-NBBs, and the broad cellulose signal centered at 4.6 ppm, which experiences a further broadening due to the interaction with the NBBs. By exposing to UV radiation *Cotton-NBB80h* soaked in C14, the spectrum of sample *Cotton-NBB80h* C14 click (Figure S3c) presents two sharp and intense peaks at 1.3 and 0.9 ppm, which endorse the presence of the long alkyl chain. Moreover, the absence of sharp resonances in the region 5-6 ppm attributable to the double bond protons (Figure S3c) confirms the occurrence of the click reaction.



SEM images of *Cotton-NBB click* and *Paper-NBB click* samples

Figure S4. SEM images of *Cotton-NBB6h C14 click* (a), *Cotton-NBB16h C14 click* (b), and (c) *Cotton-NB80h C14 click*.



Figure S5. SEM images of *Paper-NBB80h C14 click* samples after 15' (a), 30' (b) and 1h (c) exposure to UV radiation.

Characterization of raw cotton and paper substrates by confocal microscopy



Figure S6. Confocal microscopy pictures of autofluorescence emission from raw cotton (**a**) and raw paper (**b**).