

Supporting Information for

Dual-faced borax mediated synthesis towards self-healable hydrogels merging dynamic covalent bonding and micellization

Xiaohui Li^{a,b}, Hatice Mutlu^b, Christian Fengler^a, Manfred Wilhelm^a, Patrick Theato^{*a,b}

- a. *Institute for Chemical Technology and Polymer Chemistry (ITCP), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Engesserstr.18, D-76131 Karlsruhe, Germany*
- b. *Soft Matter Synthesis Laboratory, Institute for Biological Interfaces III (IBG3), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Hermann-von-Helmholtz-Platz 1, D-76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany*

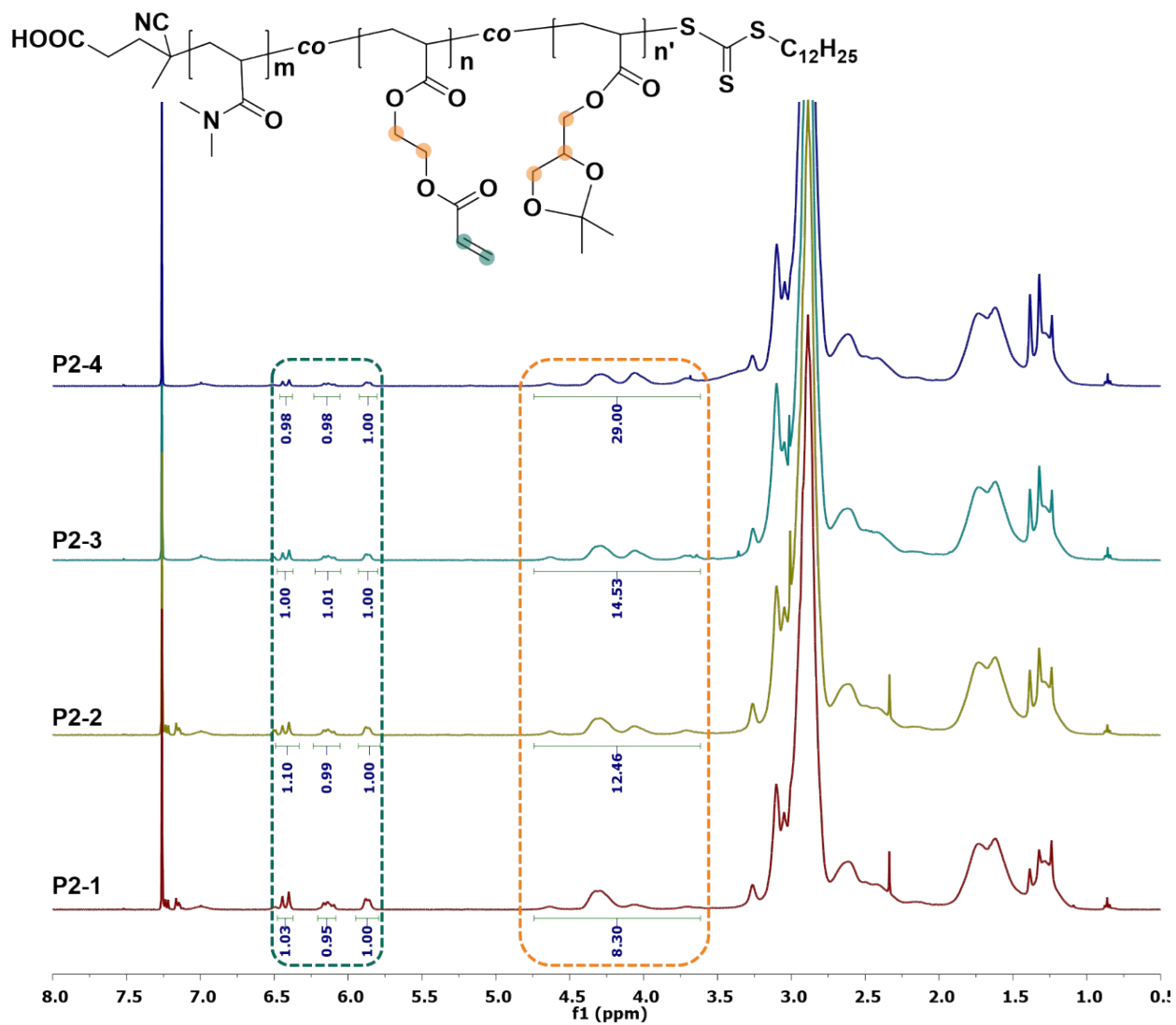


Figure S1. ¹H-NMR spectra (400 MHz) of P(DMA-co-EDA-co-IPA), i.e. P2, with different ratios of EDA: IPA in CDCl₃, respectively P2-1, P2-2, P2-3 and P2-4.

Table S1 The molar ratios of EDA : IPA as determined by ¹H-NMR spectra in Figure S1 for P2, respectively P2-1, P2-2, P2-3 and P2-4

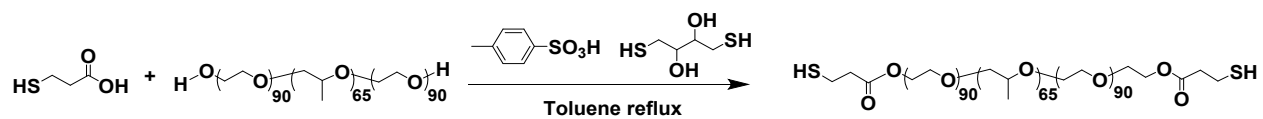
Copolymer	Feeding molar ratio (EDA:IPA)	Actual molar ratio ^a (EDA:IPA)
P2-1	60:40	60:51 (1:0.86)
P2-2	40:60	40:67 (1:1.69)
P2-3	30:70	30:63 (1:2.11)
P2-4	20:80	20:100 (1:5.00)

^a Determined by ¹H-NMR spectra in Figure S1

Table S2 Formulations for different specimens containing (P(DMA-co-EDA-co-DHA)) (P3) with different molar ratios of EDA : DHA (P3-1, P3-2, P3-3 and P3-4 are the deprotection products of P2-1, P2-2, P2-3 and P2-4, respectively) and their corresponding gelation time.

Specimen	Copolymer	Acrylate: diol: SH: borax ^a	Solid Content	Gelation time
S3-1	P3-1	1:0.86:1:0.17	20%	30"
S3-2	P3-2	1:1.69:1:0.33	20%	58"
S3-3	P3-3	1:2.11:1:0.42	20%	1'50"
S3-4	P3-4	1:5.00:1:1	20%	No gelation

^a Molar ratio between the acrylate and diol groups was determined by ¹H-NMR spectra in Figure S1, and molar ratio of diol and borax was fixed at 5 : 1.



Scheme 1. The synthesis route of thiol-terminated Pluronic F127 (PF127-SH).

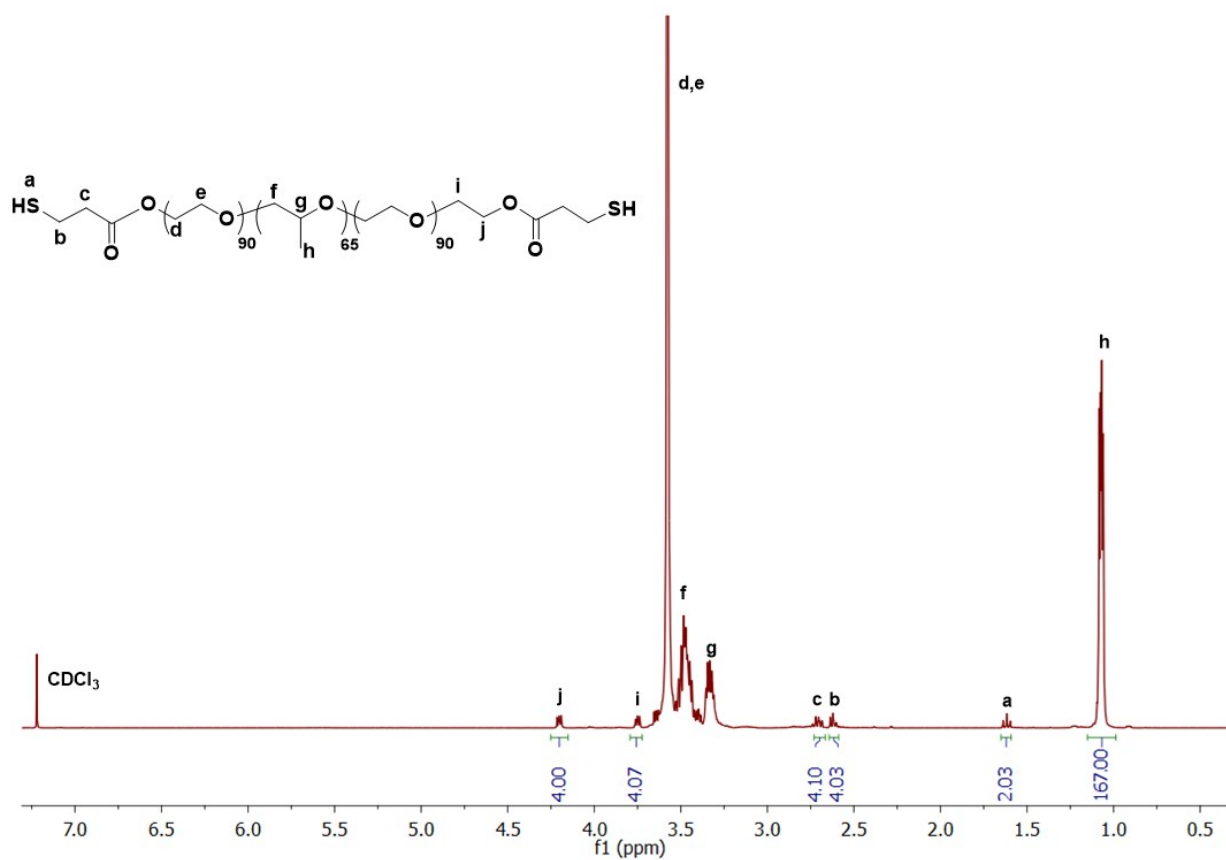


Figure S2. ¹H-NMR spectra (400 MHz) thiol-terminated Pluronic F127 (PF127-SH) in CDCl₃ with detailed integral information.

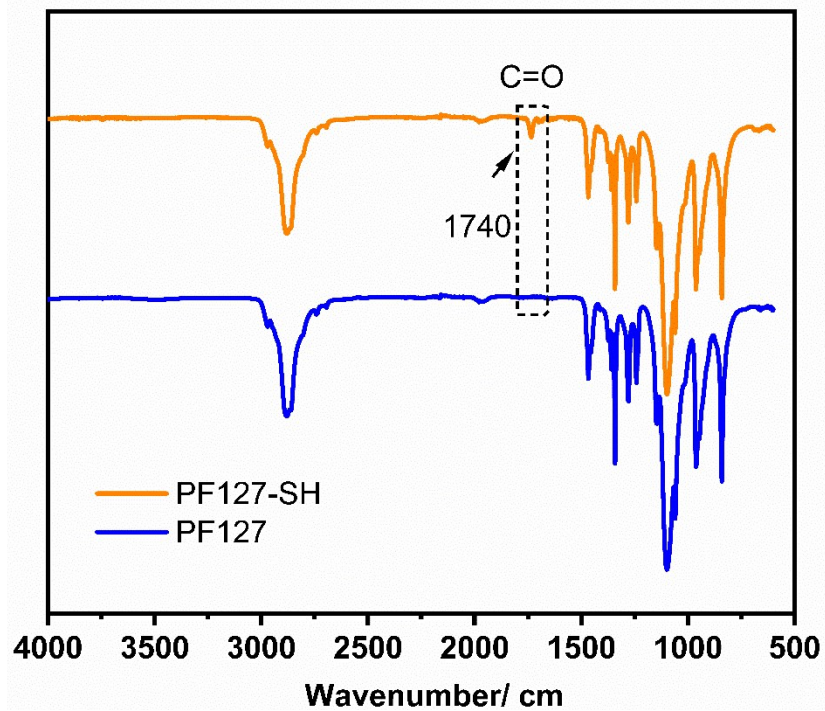


Figure S3. FT-IR spectra of thiol-terminated Pluronic F127 (PF127-SH, upper yellow line) and Pluronic F127 (PF127, bottom blue line).

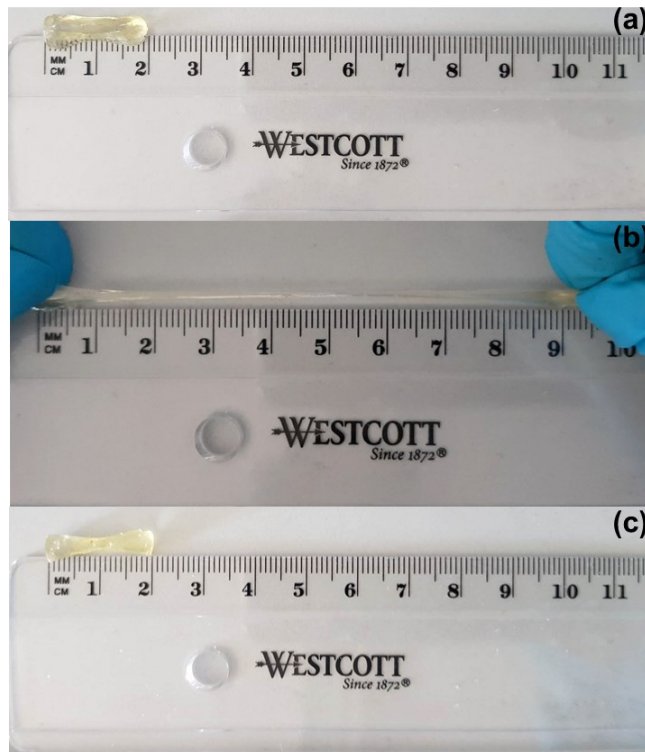


Figure S4. Photograph showing the shape recovery of the hydrogel sample: original sample (a); stretched to around 330 %; (c) after releasing the load for 30 min.

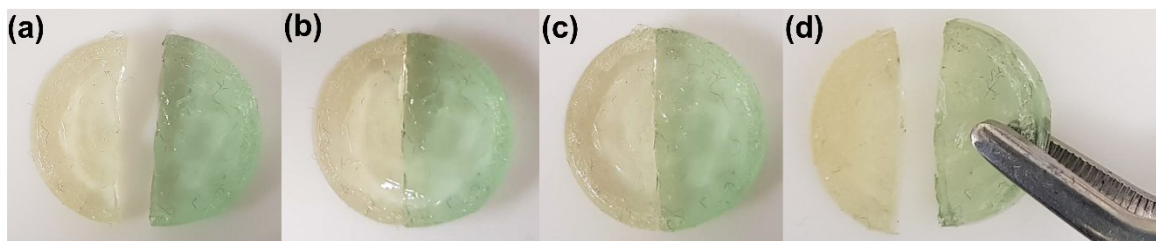


Figure S5. Photograph showing the cut-and-heal tests on P(DMA-*co*-EDA-*co*-IPA) (P2, with designated molar ratio of EDA / IPA =30 : 70) based hydrogel. (a) disk-shaped samples with and without dye were prepared and cut into pieces; (b) two pieces were put into contact; (c) self-healing for 24 h; (d) the two segments failed to integrate into one after 24 h.