SUPPORTING INFORMATION

MULTI-STIMULI-RESPONSIVE COPOLYMERS BASED ON 1-PYRENOL POLYPHOTOACIDS

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Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum of sodium 6/8-acetoxypyrene-1-sulphonate in DMSO-d6.



Figure S3. ¹H NMR spectrum of sodium 6-acetoxypyrene-1-sulphonate in DMSO-d6.



Figure S4. ¹³C NMR spectrum of sodium 6-acetoxypyrene-1-sulphonate in DMSO-d6.



3400 3200 Wavenumber (cm-1

Figure S5. FT-IR spectrum of sodium 6-acetoxypyrene-1-sulphonate.



Figure S6. ¹H NMR spectrum of sodium 8-acetoxypyrene-1-sulphonate in DMSO-d6.



Figure S7. ¹³C NMR spectrum of sodium 8-acetoxypyrene-1-sulphonate in DMSO-d6.



Figure S8. FT-IR spectrum of sodium 8-acetoxypyrene-1-sulphonate.



Figure S9. ¹H NMR spectrum of *N*-(3-((6-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (HPSAPMA) in DMSO-d6.



Figure S10. ¹³C NMR spectrum of *N*-(3-((6-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (HPSAPMA) in DMSO-d6.



Figure S11. ¹H-¹³C DEPT-HSQC spectrum of *N*-(3-((6-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (HPSAPMA) in DMSO-d6.



4000 3800 3600 3400 3200 3000 2800 2600 2400 2200 2000 1800 1600 1400 1200 1000 Wavenumber (cm-1

Figure S12. FT-IR spectrum of *N*-(3-((6-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (HPSAPMA).



Figure S13. ¹H NMR spectrum of *N*-(3-((8-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (HPSAPMA) in DMSO-d6.



Figure S14. ¹³C NMR spectrum of *N*-(3-((8-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (HPSAPMA) in DMSO-d6.



Figure S15. ¹H-¹³C DEPT-HSQC spectrum of *N*-(3-((8-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (HPSAPMA) in DMSO-d6.



4000 3800 3600 3400 3200 3000 2800 2600 2400 2200 2000 1800 1600 1400 1200 1000 Wavenumber (cm-1

Figure S16. FT-IR spectrum of *N*-(3-((8-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (HPSAPMA).



Figure S17. ¹H NMR spectrum of *N*-(3-((6/8-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (HPSAPMA, 1:1 mixture of 6 and 8 isomers) in DMSO-d6.



Figure S18. ¹H NMR spectrum of *N*-(3-((6/8-((Tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)pyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl)methacrylamide (tHPSAPMA, 1:1 mixture of 6 and 8 isomers) in DMSO-d6.



Figure S19. ¹H NMR spectrum of P[(OEG₉MA)_{0.78}-co-HPSAPMA_{0.22}] in DMSO-d6.



Figure S20. ¹H NMR spectrum of P[(OEG₅MA)_{0.81}-co-HPSAPMA_{0.19}] in DMSO-d6.



Figure S21. ¹H NMR spectrum of P[(OEG₃MA)_{0.86}-co-HPSAPMA_{0.14}] in DMSO-d6.

Spectroscopic Studies

For pH titration experiments, a stock solution was prepared by dissolving 1 mg of the polymer in 1 mL of DMSO. 20 μ L from the stock was added to a 2100 μ L of buffer in a quartz cell (giving a concentration for the pyrenol unit of ~4.1 μ M) and mixed thoroughly for 30 seconds following which absorption, emission and excitation spectra were recorded. For pH range from 1.2-3.4 glycine-HCl buffers were used whereas for the preparation of pH ranging from 4.0-8.0 phosphate buffers were used. Glycine-NaOH buffers were used to prepare solutions with pH ranging from 8.5 to 10.0. Commercially available buffer solutions from Carl Roth were used for measurements in pH 11, 12 and 13. For measurements at pH 1, a 0.1 (M) HCl solution was used instead.



Figure S22. (A) UV/vis absorption spectra of trisodium 8-hydroxypyrene-1,3,6-trisulfonate (HPTS, C=140 μ M) in inert water at different illumination times with a LED at 405 nm. Inset shows slight changes in the absorption spectra which is likely a consequence of photo-bleaching. (B) UV/vis absorption spectra of HPTS (C=140 μ M) in aerated water at different illumination times using a LED at 405 nm. Inset shows a formation of a broad band extending to 600 nm which is not observed in (A).



Figure S23. (A) UV/vis absorption spectra of P[(OEG₉MA)_{0.75}-co-HPSAPMA_{0.25}] (C=150 μ M) recorded at different times in the absence of light. The unchanging absorption spectra over time indicates that the changes observed in (B) is due to light triggered reactions. (B) UV/vis absorption spectra of P[(OEG₉MA)_{0.75}-co-HPSAPMA_{0.25}] (C=150 μ M) recorded at 30 minutes after illumination (magenta) with a LED of 405 nm (power = 20 mW). Following illumination, the sample was kept in the dark for 18 hours. The unchanging absorption spectrum (green), indicates that the photo-product is stable. Moreover, upon addition of 0.1 equivalent HCl (blue), the spectrum does not revert back to the absorption spectrum observed prior to illumination, indicating that the species is may not be a pyrenolate anion.



Figure S24. (A) UV/vis absorption spectra of the monomer *N*-(3-((6/8-Hydroxypyrene)-1-sulfonamido)propyl) methacrylamide (HPSAPMA, C=140 μ M) in aerated tetrahydrofuran (THF) at different illumination times using a LED at 405 nm. Inset shows a formation of a broad band extending to 600 nm which is not observed in (B). (B) UV/vis absorption spectra of the monomer HPSAPMA (C=140 μ M) in inert THF at different illumination times with a LED at 405 nm. Inset shows no change in the absorption spectra during the time course of illumination.



Figure S25: Distribution functions of the hydrodynamic radius R_h for P[(OEG₉MA)_{0.78}-*co*-HPSAPMA_{0.22}] solutions in water (5 mg/mL) and methanol (1 mg/mL).



Figure S26: Distribution functions of the hydrodynamic radius R_h for P[(OEG₅MA)_{0.81}-*co*-HPSAPMA_{0.19}] solutions in water (1 mg/mL) and methanol (1 mg/mL).



Figure S27: Distribution functions of the hydrodynamic radius R_h for P[(OEG₃MA)_{0.86}-*co*-HPSAPMA_{0.14}] solutions in water (1 mg/mL) and methanol (1 mg/mL).



Figure S28: TEM micrograph of aggregates formed by P[(OEG₃MA)_{0.9}-co-HPSAPMA_{0.1}] in aqueous solution.



Figure S29. SEC (DMSO/LiCl) eluagrams of P[(OEG₃MA)_{0.8}-*co*-HPSAPMA_{0.2}] before and after illumination at (λ_{CWL} = 405 nm, t = 2 h, power = 40 mW). The graph serves to prove the absence of chain coupling under visible light exposure.



Figure S30. Transmittance vs. temperature plots for the polyphotoacids in aqueous solutions before and after irradiation. Two heating-cooling cycles.



Figure S31. Transmittance vs. temperature plots for the polyphotoacids in aqueous solutions at pH3 and pH11. Two heating-cooling cycles.