# **RSC Materials Advances**

Supporting Information (SI)

# A novel characterization technique for hydrogels – *in situ* Rheology-Raman spectroscopy for gelation and polymerization tracking

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#### 1. Synthetic procedures and analytical data

Synthetic procedure for the synthesis of Methyl-6-iodo- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (1). Methyl- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (10 mmol), triphenylphosphine (15.5 mmol), iodine (14.5 mmol), and imidazole (20 mmol) were refluxed in THF (60 mL) for 4 h. The resulting solid was filtered off, the solvent was removed and the product (91 % yield) was obtained after column chromatography (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH 12:1). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 2.87–2.95 (m, 1H); 3.16–3.27 (m, 3H); 3.31 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.34–3.42 (m, 1H); 3.50–3.57 (m, 1H); 4.54 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 3.65 Hz, H-1); 4.78 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 6.43 Hz, OH); 4.86 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 4.99 Hz, OH); 5.17 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.83 Hz, OH). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.5 (C-6); 54.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>); 70.9, 71.9, 72.7, 74.1 (C-2, C-3, C-4, C-5); 99.8 (C-1). ATR-FTIR: 3430, 3285, 2911, 2880, 2840, 1455, 1032 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Synthetic procedure for the quaternization with imidazoles to 1-(Methyl- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranosid-6-yl)-3-vinylimidazolium iodide (GVIM-I) (2). Methyl-6-iodo- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranoside (3 mmol) and the *N*-vinylimidazole (5 mmol) were dissolved in DMF (5 mL) and stirred at 95 °C for 24 hours. After cooling down, ethyl acetate (40 mL) was added and the flask was stored in a fridge overnight. The solvent was decanted and the precipitated solid was repeatedly washed with ethyl acetate and dried under a high vacuum to achieve the product, yielding in a light-brown solid (73 % yield). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O):  $\delta$  = 3.25 (s, 3 H, OCH<sub>3</sub>); 3.24–3.28 (m, 1H, H-4); 3.58 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 9.77 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 3.77 Hz, H-2); 3.66–3.75 (m, 1H, H-3); 3.95 (ddd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 9.96 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.47 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 2.46 Hz, H-5); 4.50 (dd, 1H, <sup>2</sup>J = 14.55 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.38 Hz, H-6a); 4.70 (dd, 1H, <sup>2</sup>J = 14.55 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 2.55, H-6b); 4.85 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 3.77 Hz, H-1); 5.49 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.68 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J = 2.84 Hz, Vinyl-CH<sub>2</sub>); 5.86 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 15.58 Hz, <sup>2</sup>J = , Vinyl-CH<sub>2</sub>); 7.2 (dd, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 15.58 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.70 Hz, Vinyl-CH); 7.70 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 2.09 Hz, H<sub>A</sub>r); 7.86 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J = 2.11 Hz, H<sub>A</sub>r); 9.16 (s, 1H, H<sub>A</sub>r). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O):  $\delta$  = 50.2 (C-6); 55.1 (OCH<sub>3</sub>); 69.2 (C-5); 70.5 (C-4); 71.0 (C-2); 72.8 (C-3); 99.3 (C-1); 109.8 (Vinyl-CH<sub>2</sub>); 119.4, 123.8 (CH<sub>A</sub>r); 123.8 (Vinyl-CH); 135.0 (CH<sub>A</sub>r).ATR-FTIR 3396, 3088, 2998, 2910, 1657, 1566, 1549, 1048, 1015 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### 1.1 NMR Spectra



Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO) spectrum of compound 1.



Figure S2. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (DMSO) spectrum of compound 1.



Figure S3. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O) spectrum of compound 2.



Figure S4. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O) spectrum of compound 2.



Figure S5. ATR-FTIR spectrum of compound 1.



Figure S6. ATR-FTIR spectrum of compound 2.

2. Rheological data



**Figure S7.** Gelation tracking and amplitude sweep measurements of the samples EGDA (A and B), PEGDA 250 (C and D) and PEGDA 575 10% (E and F) [ $c_{GVIM-I} = 1.25 \text{ mol/L}$ ; LAP as photoinitiator, gelation was tracked with a constant strain sweep of 0.1% and at a constant frequency of 1 Hz at 37 °C, the amplitude sweep was measured with varying the oscillation from 0.1 to 1000% at 37 °C].



**Figure S8.** Gelation tracking and amplitude sweep measurements of the samples PEGDA 575 15% (A and B), PEGDA 575 20% (C and D), PEGDA 700 (E and F) and MBAA (G and H) [ $c_{GVIM-I} = 1.25 \text{ mol/L}$ ; LAP as photoinitiator, gelation was tracked with a constant strain sweep of 0.1% and at a constant frequency of 1 Hz at 37 °C, the amplitude sweep was measured with varying the oscillation from 0.1 to 1000% at 37 °C].