

## **Supporting Information**

**for**

### **Host–guest-driven color change in water: influence of cyclodextrin on the structure of a copper complex of poly((4-hydroxy-3-(pyridin-3-yl diazenyl)phenethyl)methacrylamide-co-dimethylacrylamide)**

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## **Experimental**

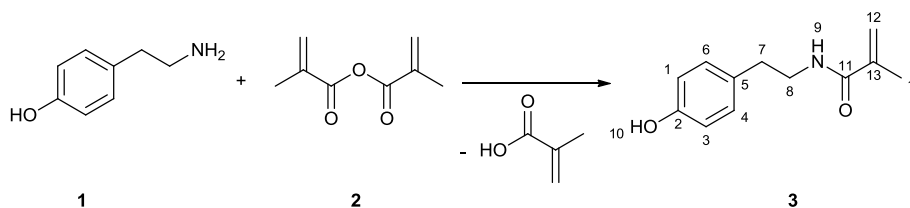
## General

All reagents and solvents were commercially available (Sigma-Aldrich) and used without further purification.  $\gamma$ -CD purchased from Wacker Chemie GmbH, Burghausen, Germany was used after drying in an exsiccator over  $P_4O_{10}$  for 24 hours.  $^1H$ -NMR spectras were recorded on a Bruker Avance DRX 300 at 20 °C using MeOD or Deuteriumoxide (99.9%) as solvents.

The absorption spectra were measured in 1 cm quartz cells on a Specord 210 Plus UV–visible spectrophotometer (Analytik Jena AG, Germany) in a 50-50 Vol%.water-methanol solution. For the observed effects copper sulfate was used in shortage and  $\gamma$ -CD in excess.

Dynamic light scattering experiments were carried out with a Malvern Zetasizer Nano, ZS ZEN 3600 at 20 °C. The particle size distribution is derived from a deconvolution of a measured intensity autocorrelation function of the sample by a general purpose method, i.e. the non-negative least squares algorithm, included in the DTS software. For the observed effects copper sulfate was used in shortage and  $\gamma$ -CD in excess.

### Synthesis of *N*-(4-hydroxyphenethyl)methacrylamide (**3**) [1]



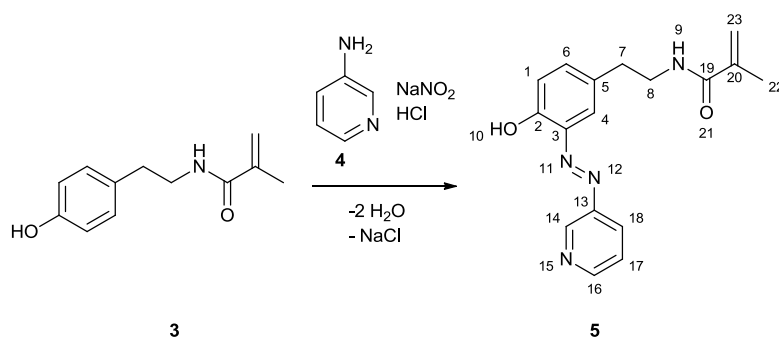
To 0.53 g (3.86 mmol) tyramine solved in 50 ml of methanol, 0.61 ml (4.13 mmol) of methacrylic anhydrid (**2**) were added drop wise. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. Subsequently 100 ml of aqueous sodium chloride solution (10%) and 2 g of solid sodium chloride were added and the mixture was further stirred for 30 minutes before excess salt was being removed by filtration. From the obtained mixture a colorless solid could be isolated after cooling for 2 hours in an ice bath and recrystallization in chloroform. (Yield 59%, Lit. 84,5% [1])

$^1\text{H-NMR}$  (300 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  9.17(s,1H,H.10), 7.94(t,1H,H.9), 7.01-6.95(m, 2H,H.4,6), 6.70-6.64(m,2H,H.1,3), 5.62,5.31(m,2H,H.12), 3.30-3.20(m,2H,H.8), 2.66-2.59(m,2H,H.7), 1.83(s,3H,H.14) [ppm]

GC-EIMS,  $m/z$  ( $\text{M}^+$ ): 205

MP: 124, Lit. 123°C [1]

## Synthesis of *N*-(4-hydroxy-3-(pyridin-3-yl diazenyl)phenethyl) methacrylamide (**5**)



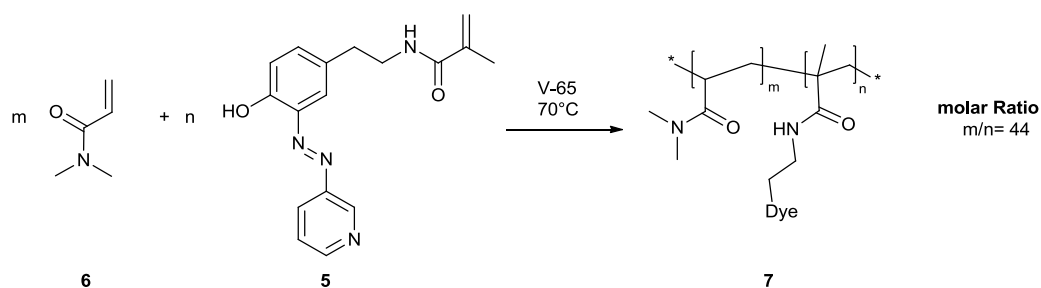
1000 ml of water were treated with 6 N hydrochloric acid until a pH of 2 was reached. To the acidic solution 0.5 g (5.3 mmol) 3-aminopyridin was added and stirred for 10 minutes at 0 °C. Under heavy stirring 0.44 g (6.3 mmol) sodium nitrite, solved in 50 ml of water, were added. To the cold mixture 1.31 g (6.3 mmol) (**3**) solved in 40 ml alkaline water was added drop wise, while the pH of the reaction mixture was kept below 2. The solution was stirred for 45 minutes below 5 °C, before the pH was adjusted by 2.5 N sodium hydroxide solution to pH 8.5. A dark red precipitate could be isolated after slowly warming to room temperature, readjusting the pH to 6 by 6 N hydrochloric acid, washing with ice-water and air drying on a filter. The obtained solid was further purified by column chromatographic with *n*-hexane and acetone as a solvent. (Yield 38%)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.66(s, 1H, H.10), 9.24(d, 1H, H.14), 8.77(dd, 1H, H.16), 8.40(m, 1H, H.18), 8.05(t, 1H, H.9), 7.68(m, 1H, H.17), 7.62(d, 1H, H.4), 7.36(dd, 1H, H.6), 7.08(d, 1H, H.1), 5.66(m, 1H, H.23), 5.35(m, 1H, H.23), 3.39-3.36(m, 2H, H.8), 2.80(t, 2H, H.7), 1.91–1.87(m, 3H, H.22) [ppm]

FT-IR (diamond):  $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ : 3012(w, -C=C-H<sub>2</sub>), 2955- 2925(m, -C-H), 1653(s, Amide) [cm<sup>-1</sup>]

GC-EIMS,  $m/z$  (M<sup>+</sup>): 310

## Synthesis of **7**



A mixture of 0.5 ml N,N dimethylacrylamide, 35 mg of **5** and 0.5 mg V65 was polymerized in a glass flask at 70 °C for 14 hours. (Yield quantitative)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )  $\delta$  9.02, 8.60, 8.24, 7.75, 7.61, 7.38, 7.00 (Azo, Ar-H), 3.00, 2.77(br,  $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 1.71, 1.24 (br, backbone) [ppm].

## References

[1] Jinkerson, D.; Polymerisierbare gelbe Farbstoffe sowie ihre Verwendung in ophthalmischen Linsen, Deutsches Patent 694 16 293 T2, January 27, 1999.