## Optimization of poly(*N*-isopropylacrylamide) as an artificial amidase

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Figure S1. <sup>13</sup>C NMR of NMG–20% 1-VI in  $D_2O$ .



**Figure S2.** Esterase activity on substrate, *p*-nitrophenyl acetate using 40 g/L of NMG–1-VI 20% at 25°C, pH 8. (a) Amount of *p*-nitrophenol released as a function of time. Initial velocity obtained was plotted as (b) Michaelis-Menten plot and followed by (c) Lineweaver-Burk plot to determine the catalytic constants. All data shown are the means of triplicate tests.



**Figure S3.** (a) Acid–base titration of polymer catalyst solution of NMG–5% 1-VI (●), NMG–10% 1-VI (●), NMG–15% 1-VI (●), NMG–20% 1-VI (●), and NMG–10% DMAPM (●) at 25°C against HCl. (b) The fraction of protonated functional group for different NMGs.



**Figure S4.** Amidase activity on substrate, L-alanine *p*-nitroanilide (0.25 mM) using ionized NMG–10% DMAPM and NMG–10% DMAPM (as control) at 25°C, pH 8. All data shown are the means of triplicate tests, and mean data accompanied by asterisks are significantly different (Tukey's HSD test, p < 0.05).



**Figure S5.** The influence of temperature on the amidase activity on substrate, L-alanine *p*-nitroanilide using 40 g/L of NMG–1-VI 20% at pH 6. Insets show the transition of NMG from swollen state (25°C) to shrunken state as the temperature increased to 50°C. All data shown are the means of triplicate tests.



**Figure S6.** Linear plot of the relationship between catalytic rate and calculated distance. Turnover rate for  $\alpha$ -chymotrypsin was taken from the reported result as monopeptide-*p*-nitroanilide substrates were used.



**Figure S7.** Dixon plots of NMG–20% 1-VI with different types of inhibitors (a) UV, (b) PMSF and (c) E-64 using L-alanine *p*-nitroanilide as substrate at 25°C, pH 6.

Figure S5 shows the Dixon plot which was used to calculate the inhibitor constant,  $K_i$  of the NMG. According to the Dixon method,  $K_i$  is detemined when the straight lines generated from different substrate concentrations intercept each other at a point on the left of the vertical axis. Therefore, the value of  $-K_i$  can be determined directly.<sup>1</sup>

NMG-x 1-VI	Distance,
(%)	(Å)
5	18.0
10	14.2
15	12.6
20	11.2
lpha-chymotrypsin	$2.6 - 2.9^{a}$

**Table S1.** Distance between functional group of the NMG based on the proposed

 theoretical average distance.

<sup>a</sup>Distance among the catalytic triads at the active site of  $\alpha$ -chymotrypsin are Ser 195 – His 57, 2.74 – 2.82 Å and His 57 – Asp 102, 2.61 – 2.64 Å as reported.<sup>2</sup>

 Table S2. Debye-Huckel length of NMGs.

Sample	Debye-Huckel length, 1/κ <sup>a</sup>
	(× 10 <sup>2</sup> nm)
NMG-5% 1-VI	3.76
NMG-10% 1-VI	3.84
NMG-15% 1-VI	4.71
NMG-20% 1-VI	7.44
NMGs in 0.1 M Acetate buffer	0.01
$\alpha$ -chymotrypsin	0.40
$\alpha$ -chymotrypsin in 0.1 M Sodium phosphate buffer <sup>b</sup>	0.01

<sup>a</sup>Debye-Huckel length is calculated based on the equation,

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} = \frac{304 \ pm}{\sqrt{c} \ mol/L}$$

where,  $1/\kappa$  denotes Debye-Huckel length and *c* is concentration of electrolyte.

<sup>b</sup>Condition of  $\alpha$ -chymotrypsin is based on the catalysis using monopeptide-*p*-nitroanilide substrates.<sup>3</sup>

## REFERENCES

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