## Hierarchical DL-Glutamic Acid Microspheres from Polymer-Induced Liquid Precursors

Yuan Jiang<sup>1,4</sup> Laurie Gower<sup>2</sup>, Dirk Volkmer<sup>3</sup> and Helmut Cölfen<sup>1,4</sup>\*

<sup>1</sup> The Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces, Potsdam 14476 (Germany)

<sup>2</sup> Materials Science & Engineering, University of Florida, Gainesville, 32611 (USA)

<sup>3</sup> Chair of Solid State and Materials Chemistry, Institute of Physics, Augsburg University, Universitätsstrasse 1, D-86159 Augsburg (Germany)

<sup>4</sup> University of Konstanz, Physical Chemistry, Universitätsstr. 10, D-78457 Konstanz (Germany)



**Figure 1**. Images **A-D** are side views of the surfaces of  $(1 \ 0 \ 1)$ ,  $(0 \ 0 \ 2)$ ,  $(0 \ 1 \ 1)$ , and  $(1 \ 1 \ 0)$  of  $\beta$ -L-Glu (white lines) Gray = carbon, red = oxygen, blue = nitrogen (from Materials studio 5.5., Accelrys).



**Figure 2**. Image **A** shows the morphology of a representative nanoplatelet. Image **B** represents a single crystalline sheet, which models the precipitates collected by mixing DL-Glu aqueous solution with EtOH in the absence of PEI additive. Pink =  $(0\ 2\ 0)$ , blue =  $(0\ 1\ 1)$ , green =  $(1\ 1\ 0)$ , red =  $(0\ 0\ 2)$ , and grey =  $(1\ 0\ 1)$ . Both figures were drawn by using software Cerius<sup>2</sup> (Accelrys).



**Figure 3**. Reaction kinetics from a time-resolved turbidity measurement for the crystallization of microspheres from PILP droplets. The wavelength used was 500 nm.  $[DL-Glu] = 0.3 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ ,  $[EI] = 0.05 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ ,  $V_{\text{Et}} / V_{\text{Aq}} = 9$ , pH = 0.5, 60°C. The measurement was performed at R.T.

Table	1	Compositions	for the	preparation	of	microspheres ( $V_{Et}$ /	$V_{Aq} = 9, pH = 0.5,$	
60°C)								

	$[DL-Glu] (mol \cdot L^{-1})$	$[EI] (mol \cdot L^{-1})$		
1	0.2	0.04		
2	0.7	0.15		
3	0.7	0.25		
4 <sup>a</sup>	1	0.05		
5	1	0.15		
6	1	0.25		
<sup>a</sup> some insoluble crystals remained in the aqueous solution				

Table 2 Compositions for the preparation of microspheres ( $V_{Et} / V_{Aq} = 9$ , pH = 0.5, R.T.)

	$[DL-Glu] (mol \cdot L^{-1})$	$[EI] (mol \cdot L^{-1})$				
7 <sup>a</sup>	1	0.05				
8 <sup>a</sup>	1	0.15				
9 <sup>a</sup>	1	0.25				
<sup>a</sup> some insoluble crystals remained in the aqueous solution						