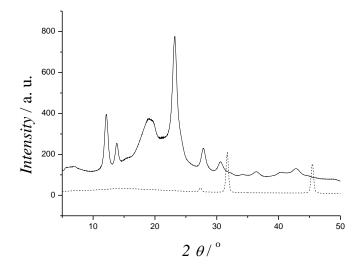
## Synthesis and Self-assembly of a DNA Molecular Brush

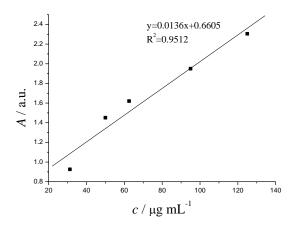
Dawid Kedracki<sup>1</sup>, Mahshid Chekini<sup>2</sup>, Plinio Maroni<sup>1</sup>, Helmut Schlaad<sup>3</sup> and Corinne Nardin<sup>1</sup>\*

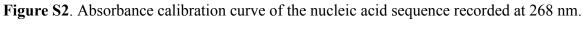
<sup>1</sup>Departement of Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry, University of Geneva, Quai Ernest Ansermet 30, 1211, Geneva 4, Switzerland; <sup>2</sup>Departement of Physical Chemistry, University of Geneva, Quai Ernest Ansermet 30, 1211, Geneva 4, Switzerland; <sup>3</sup>Institute of Chemistry, University of Potsdam, Karl-Liebknecht-Straße 24-25, 14476 Potsdam, Germany

## **Supporting Information**



**Figure S1**. X-ray diffraction curve of freeze-dried precipitate of PBOX, prior to (dashed line) and subsequent to crystallization (solid line) of a 1 wt% polymer solution in ethanol–water 55:45 (w/w) at room temperature





UV-Vis grafting density estimation. PBOX absorbance at 268 nm is negligible

For a representative quantification of the grafting density: absorbance value at 268;  $A_{268}$ = 1.809

Thus, concentration is equal to;

 $x = (1.809-0.6605)/0.0136 = 84.5 \ \mu g \ mL^{-1}$ 

Concentration for measurement; 0.1 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>, volume; 1mL

 $m_{DNA}$ =84.5 µg

 $M_{PBOX} = 5381.45 \text{ g mol}^{-1}$ 

 $M_{DNA}$ =3709.9 g mol<sup>-1</sup>

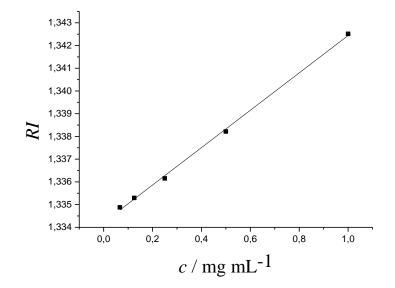
 $m_{PBOX} = 100-84.5 = 15.5 \ \mu g$ 

 $n_{PBOX} = 15.5 \times 10^{-6} / 5381.45 = 2.9 \text{ nmol}$ 

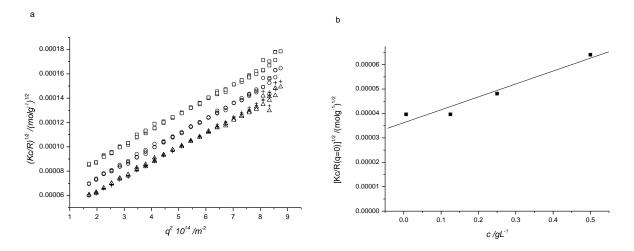
 $m_{DNA} = 84.5 \mu g$ 

 $n_{DNA} = 84.5*10^{\text{-6}}/3709.9 = 22.8 \text{ nmol}$ 

 $n_{DNA}$  /  $n_{PBOX}$  = 7.86  $\,\approx\,$  8 DNA strands for one PBOX chain



*Figure S3*. *Refractive index (RI) dependence on concentration (c):*  $\frac{dn}{dc} = 0.0082 \text{ cm}^3 g^{-1}$ 



**Figure S4**. Berry analysis of the scattered intensity as assessed by static light scattering a) angle dependence for  $\Box$ ) 0.5,  $\circ$ ) 0.25,  $\Delta$ ) 0.125 et +) 0.00625 gL<sup>-1</sup>; b) concentration dependence subsequent to 0 angle extrapolation

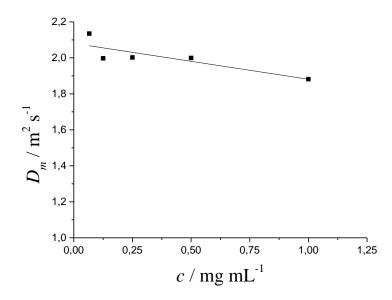
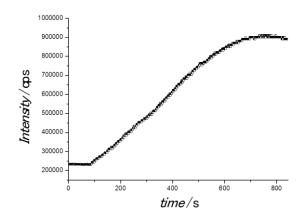
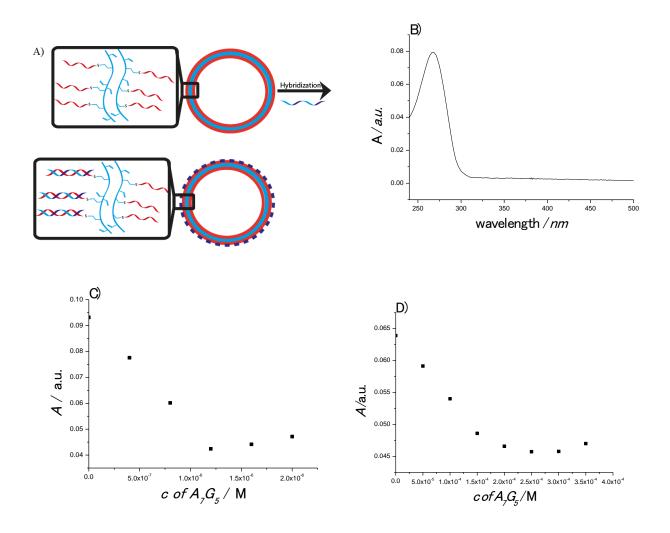


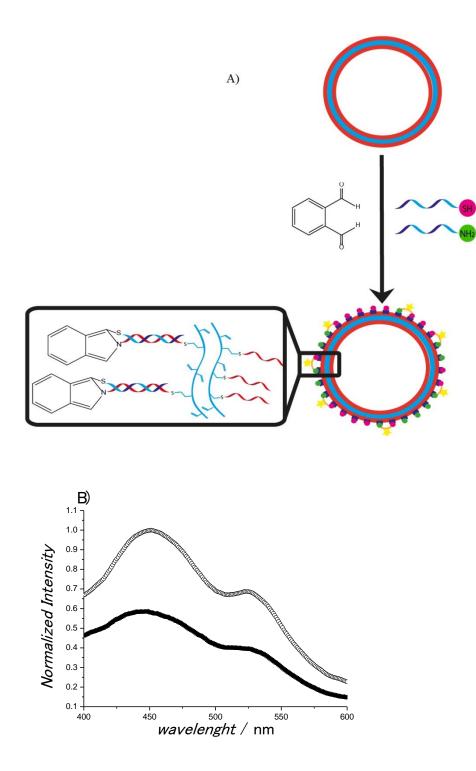
Figure S5. Concentration dependence of the mutual diffusion coefficient as measured by dynamic light scattering



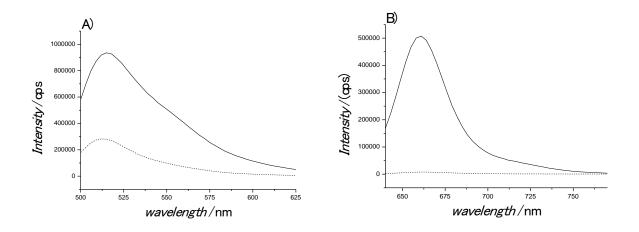
*Figure S6*. *Time course of the fluorescein fluorescence intensity subsequent to encapsulation (concentration) and release by addition of sodium azide* 



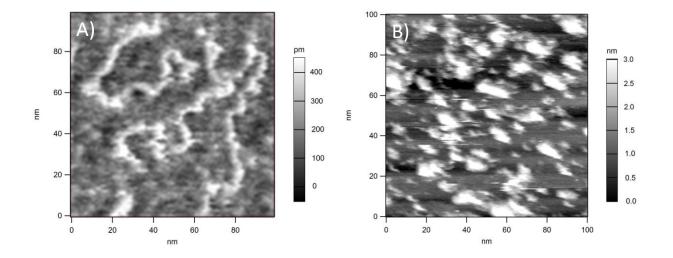
**Figure S7**. A) Schematic representation of hybridization. B) Representative spectrum which rules out hindrance owing to scattering C) Titration upon hybridization (maximum absorbance at 268 nm) D) Control hybridization of free  $C_5T_7$  with  $A_7G_5$ . Efficiency 100%: all complementary sequences did hybridize



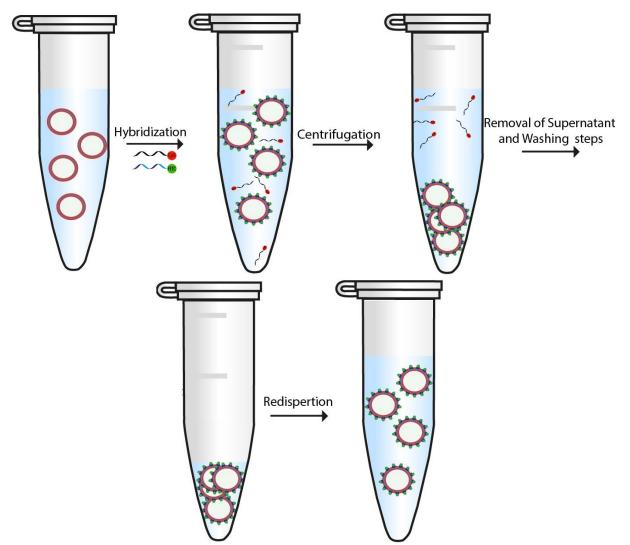
**Figure S8**. A) Schematic representation of isoindol reaction; B)Fluorescence spectroscopy upon isoindol formation at the surface of PBOX spheres,  $\blacktriangle$ ) initial stage of reaction,  $\circ$ ) reaction completed



**Figure S9**. Fluorescence intensity spectra upon speciation (solid line: before washing; dotted line: after washing) of a solution of PBOX-g-DNA self-assembled structures incubated with the complementary sequence stained with A) FITC which hybridizes with the nucleic acid grafts engaged in self-assembly and B) the non-complementary sequence labeled with Cye5 which remains in solution before washing (background). Subsequent to washing, the complementary sequence stained with FITC hybridizes with the PBOX-g-DNA composing the self-assembled structure, being the non-complementary sequence removed during the washing process (no background).



**Figure S10**. Atomic force microscopy imaging of A) molecularly dissolve PBOX polymer chains adsorbed on micaB) PBOX-g-DNA copolymer adsorbed on mica



**Scheme S1**. Procedure for sorting out nucleotides sequences with the use of PBOX-g-DNA spheres.

Wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Assignments
920	Vinyl C=CH2
970	P-O in (R-O)2-PO2 upper band
1064	$P=O \text{ in } (R-O)_2-PO_2 \text{ lower band}$
1226	P=O in (R-O)2-PO2 upper band
1471	N-H streching
1652	C=O amide I

 Table S1: Significant FTIR vibration bands and their corresponding wavenumbers