

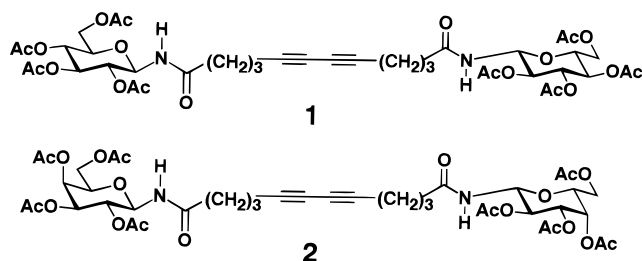
# Polymerization of Bolaform Butadiyne 1-Glucosamide in Self-Assembled Nanoscale-Fiber Morphology

Mitsutoshi Masuda,\* Takeshi Hanada,  
Kiyoshi Yase, and Toshimi Shimizu

National Institute of Materials and Chemical Research,  
1-1 Higashi, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8565, Japan

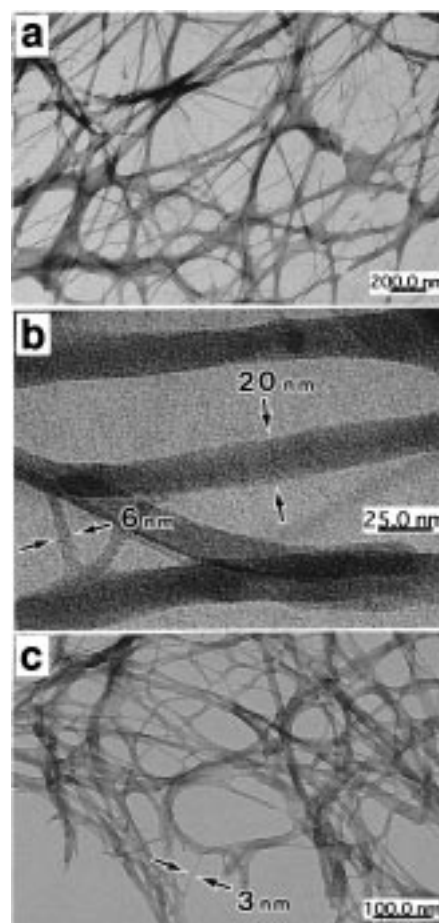
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Polymerization of constituent molecules in supramolecular self-assemblies<sup>1</sup> will provide stable covalent assemblies. In contrast to a number of studies on bilayer-membrane(BLM)-templated polymerization of diacetylenes,<sup>2</sup> only few studies have been reported for the polymerization in monolayer lipid membranes (MLMs) such as liposomes<sup>3</sup> or multi sheets.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, the characteristics of the polymerized entity have been uncertain, owing to the fairly poor solubility of the products. Bolaamphiphiles,<sup>5</sup> unlike one-headed amphiphiles, are characteristic of forming MLMs such as supramolecular tubes<sup>6a</sup> and rods.<sup>6b–d</sup> We have recently reported the supramolecular fiber formation from 1-glucosamide bolaamphiphiles.<sup>7</sup> Packing parameters of the alkylene chains in their crystals<sup>8</sup> are in good accord with those of reactive diacetylene monomers.<sup>9</sup> Thus, butadiynes were incorporated into the bolaamphiphile bridge to provide a potential candidate for the topochemical polymerization within the fiber MLMs, as represented by **1** and **2**. Here, we first describe nanoscale fiber



(nanofiber) formation from the bolaform butadiyne 1-glucosamide **1** and its partial polymerization leading to oligodiacetylene-containing fibers.

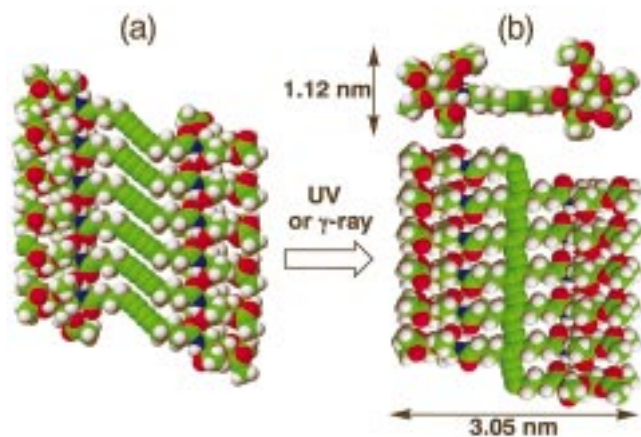
The polymerizable bolaform (1-aldosamide)s **1** and **2** have been synthesized<sup>10</sup> by condensation of octa-acetylated 1-glucosamine and 1-galactosamine with 5,7-dodecadiynedioic acid, respectively, according to the method previously reported.<sup>11</sup> Upon slow cooling to room temperature, the solutions of **1** (7 g) in an ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane (300/700 mL) mixture solidified to a gel. Similar gelation also occurs for bolaform (1-aldosamide)s<sup>11</sup> and (urethane amide)s<sup>12</sup> with saturated oligomethylene chains. The gel from **1** is a little resistant to mechanical stress. No gels of **1** were produced from common organic solvents such as MeOH, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, and DMF. Energy-filtering transmission electron microscopy (EF-TEM)<sup>13</sup> for the unstained specimens revealed that the gel from the ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane solution was composed of nanofibers with widths of 6–20 nm (Figure 1, parts a and b). In contrast to helical ribbons formed from the 1-glucosamide bolaamphiphiles,<sup>7</sup> the present fibers form ribbons without remarkable twisting or spirals. The nanofibers of **1** were robust during the EF-



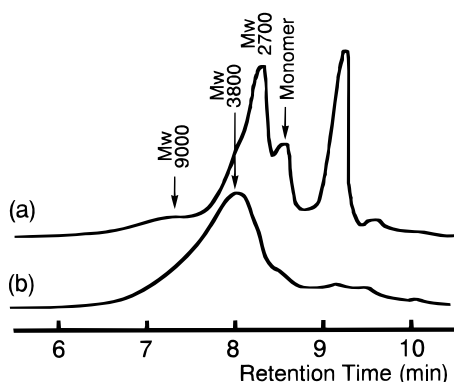
**Figure 1.** Nanoscale fibers (unstained) made of bolaform butadiyne 1-glucosamide **1** observed using EF-TEM. (a) and (b): unpolymerized fibers of **1**. (c):  $\gamma$ -ray-irradiated fibers of **1**.

TEM observation, presumably because of the polymerization of the butadiynes by an electron beam of the EF-TEM. The formation of linear amide hydrogen bond chains can be confirmed by the appearance of the amide N–H and C=O stretching bands at 3343, 3060, and 1680 cm<sup>−1</sup>, and the N–H deformation band at 1535 cm<sup>−1</sup> in FT-IR spectra.<sup>14</sup> These findings are consistent with a layered structure of **1** within the fibers, stabilized by a one-dimensional hydrogen-bonded network (Figure 2a).<sup>15</sup> However, the 1-galactosamide homologue **2**, an epimer of **1**, formed no fibers but amorphous solids in the same solvent. It was due to steric hindrance between adjacent pyranose rings in a stacked conformation similar to that in Figure 2a.

Upon exposure to 254-nm light<sup>16</sup> or  $\gamma$ -ray<sup>17</sup> under an argon atmosphere, the fibrous gel of **1** (3.3 mg) in ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane (1/9 mL) changed the color from colorless to red ( $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 506$  and 546 nm). The UV absorption maxima are blue-shifted as compared to those for solid-state-polymerized polydiacetylenes and consistent with that of poly{5,7-dodecadiyne-1,12-diol bis[(4-butoxycarbonyl)methyl]urethane}], called poly-4BCMU ( $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 494$  and 530 nm, at 56 °C in toluene).<sup>18</sup> Therefore, the occurrence of a coil-like conformation or moderate extension of  $\pi$ -conjugated polymer chains can be suggested. In contrast, the dried amorphous solids of **1** and **2** from the chloroform solution exhibit no such color



**Figure 2.** A possible model of the (a) self-assembled and (b) polymerized monomolecular fibers from **1** [(top): top view and (bottom): front view]. One-dimensional hydrogen-bond networks were formed between amide groups in (a) and (b).



**Figure 3.** GPC profiles for the UV-irradiated fibers made from **1** [(a) 40-min and (b) 4-h irradiation].<sup>16</sup> Absorbance was monitored at 250 nm. Solvent: chloroform.

change by UV irradiation. It has been well-documented that diacetylenes incorporated into macromonomers can be polymerized readily in crystalline domains.<sup>19</sup> In addition, the polymerizability of diacetylene monomers in a crystal lattice strongly depends on their packing parameters.<sup>9</sup> Considering this strict positional requirement, the bolaform molecules **1** seem to align at a critical repeat distance near 5.0 Å and with an orientation angle of about 45° relative to the translation axis<sup>9</sup> within the nanofibers. The appearance of the FT-IR shoulder for the C=C double bonds (1625–1640 cm<sup>-1</sup>) can also support the polymerization of the nanofibers from **1**.<sup>20</sup> The irradiated fibers proved to be insoluble in toluene which can dissolve the original ones, whereas both fibers were still soluble in chloroform. Thus, the solubility and UV-vis spectra of the irradiated fibers are similar to those of soluble polydiacetylenes such as poly-4BCMU.<sup>18</sup> The poly-4BCMU also forms gels in toluene.<sup>21</sup> However, this gelation behavior can be exhibited only by polydiacetylenic BCMUs, not by their monomers.

Gel permeation chromatography (GPC)<sup>22</sup> in chloroform provided definitive evidence of the polymerization (Figure 3). The GPC profile of the UV-irradiated (40 min) fibers showed that the mass-average molecular weight ( $M_w$ ) ranged from  $3.3 \times 10^4$  to  $1.6 \times 10^3$  against the polystyrene standard (Figure 3a). These molecular weights correspond to 37mer–dimer. Further irradiation (4 h) induced a color change from red to orange. As a consequence, the monomer peak almost disappeared

and the molecular-weight distribution shifted to a higher mass region (Figure 3b). The  $\gamma$ -ray-irradiated fibers also showed a similar molecular-weight distribution ( $M_w = 2.8 \times 10^4$ – $2.0 \times 10^3$ ). This oligomerization behavior indicates that the nanoscale fiber lacks the long-range molecular order needed for high-molecular-weight polydiacetylenes.

The EF-TEM observation of the  $\gamma$ -ray-irradiated fibers also gave nanofiber images similar to those before irradiation (Figure 1c). It is quite different from parallel linear features in the TEM image observed for poly-4BCMU thin films.<sup>23</sup> The minimum width of the fibers is found to be 3 nm (Figure 1c), which corresponds well to an extended molecular width (3.05 nm, Figure 2b). Taken together, the polymerization of the nanofibers from **1** produced oligodiacetylene chains within the fibers, utilizing a gel state as a template. We were able to estimate the molecular-weight distribution of the nanoscale-fiber-templated oligodiacetylenes. The possibility of solid-state polymerization of microcrystals<sup>24</sup> is ruled out in this case since optical microscopy and EF-TEM give no microcrystal images. X-ray diffraction analysis also shows no crystalline Bragg reflections for the nonirradiated fibers. In this report, we also provided an example of the direct TEM observation of bundles of oligodiacetylene-containing fibers. Further studies on the self-assembling and polymerization properties of deacetylated 1-aldosamide bolaamphiphiles in aqueous solutions are now in progress.

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**Supporting Information Available:** Synthetic scheme and <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **1**, and FT-IR and UV-vis spectra of the nanofibers from **1** (4 pages). Ordering and accessing information is given on any current masthead page.

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