Application of hyperbranched polysiloxanes in biomedical materials based on AIE polymer properties

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Abstract. Hyperbranched polysiloxanes have recently gained attention as promising aggregation-induced emission (AIE) polymers in biomedical materials field, which shows extremely attractive application prospects. An overview of the synthesis and description of hyperbranched polysiloxanes is given in this research, as well as their applications in biomedical materials, including optical imaging, drug delivery, and biosensors. This research will also discuss the advantages and challenges of using hyperbranched polysiloxanes as AIE polymers in biomedical materials, highlighting their high fluorescence efficiency, biocompatibility, and stability under physiological conditions, as well as their limited solubility and difficulty in controlling molecular weight and branching structure. Hyperbranched polysiloxanes have the potential to have a substantial impact on the field of biomedicine through their use as AIE polymers in biomedical materials, resulting in the creation of innovative materials and new applications. In addition, this research can also promote the synthesis and modification of other functional materials in the biomedical field.

Keywords: Hyperbranched polysiloxanes, Biomedical applications, AIE polymers, Synthesis and characterization.

1. Introduction

The current boom in biomedical materials research can be attributed to the growing demand for materials that can be used in various biomedical applications. Biomedical materials are essential components in medical devices, implants, and drug delivery systems. The need for materials that are biocompatible, biodegradable, and have specific functionalities has led to the exploration of new materials.

One of the promising classes of materials that have gained significant attention in recent years is aggregation-induced emission (AIE) polymers. AIE polymers are known for their unique properties, such as bright fluorescence upon aggregation, which makes them ideal for various applications, including sensing, imaging, and drug delivery [1]. Their properties make them highly attractive for biomedical applications. In this context, hyperbranched polysiloxanes have emerged as potential AIE polymers with excellent biocompatibility, low toxicity, and high stability under physiological conditions. They can be synthesized via various methods, including metal-free click chemistry, making them highly versatile for different biomedical applications [2].

This research is to investigate the possibilities of AIE polymers made from hyperbranched polysiloxanes in biomedical materials. It really wants to look into their characteristics and possible uses

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in things like optical imaging and medicine delivery. This research will create hyperbranched polysiloxanes and use a variety of methods, such as NMR spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction, and fluorescence spectroscopy, to characterize their structural and physical characteristics. This research will look into the usage of hyperbranched polysiloxanes as AIE polymers in biomedical materials for optical imaging, drug delivery, and biosensors. This research will also evaluate the benefits and drawbacks of this approach. It will hope to advance the creation of new biomedical materials with enhanced qualities by examining the characteristics and possible uses of these materials. My research will be useful in the creation and improvement of novel AIE polymers with improved characteristics for biomedical applications.

2. Synthesis and characterization of hyperbranched polysiloxanes

2.1. Synthesis

nthesis of hyperbranched polysiloxanes involves a two-step process that includes hydrosilylation of a divinyl compound and dehydrogenative coupling reaction. In the hydrosilylation reaction, a divinyl molecule is combined with a hydrosilane to produce a linear polysiloxane with hydrosilane end groups. This intermediate is then subjected to a dehydrogenative coupling reaction, which results in the formation of a hyperbranched polysiloxane with a high degree of branching and molecular weight [3]. The two-step process is a versatile method for synthesizing hyperbranched polysiloxanes, and modifying the reaction conditions makes it simple to control the amount of branching. Because of their distinctive branching structure, the resultant polymers offer a number of desired qualities, including as high heat stability, outstanding solubility, and exceptional film-forming abilities. These properties make hyperbranched polysiloxanes valuable for various applications in materials science, including coatings, adhesives, and biomedical devices [3].

2.2. Characterization

Characterization techniques are used to analyze the synthesized hyperbranched polysiloxanes, such as chromatography, nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), and Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR). The chemical structure of the polysiloxanes is revealed by FTIR, and the molecular weight (MW) and degree of branching are ascertained by NMR. The molecular weight distribution and size of the polysiloxanes are determined [4]. A useful tool for analyzing the chemical makeup of hyperbranched polysiloxanes is FTIR spectroscopy. It provides information about the functional groups present in the polymer, such as Si-H, Si-O-Si, and Si-CH=CH₂. The degree of branching and MW of the hyperbranched polysiloxanes are determined using NMR spectroscopy. GPC is used to determine the MW distribution and size of the polymers, which are crucial criteria for comprehending their properties and prospective applications [4].

2.3. Potential applications

Hyperbranched polysiloxanes possess unique structural and physical properties that make them valuable for various applications. These polymers' high heat stability, superior solubility, and exceptional film-forming capabilities are all a result of their highly branched three-dimensional structure. The degree of branching and the nature of the terminal groups can be tailored to modify the physical properties of these polymers [5].

Hyperbranched polysiloxanes have potential applications in various fields, including coatings, adhesives, and drug delivery systems, because of their unique chemical properties and versatility. The highly branched structure of these polymers allows them to form dense films with good mechanical properties, making them useful as coatings and adhesives. The ability to modify the physical properties of hyperbranched polysiloxanes by controlling the degree of branching and the nature of the terminal groups makes them attractive for drug delivery applications [5].

The synthesis and characterization of hyperbranched polysiloxanes is an important area of research in materials science. The two-step process for synthesizing these polymers is versatile and allows for the control of the degree of branching. Characterization techniques such as FTIR, NMR, and GPC provide valuable information about the chemical structure and properties of hyperbranched polysiloxanes. These polymers have unique structural and physical properties that make them suitable for a diverse of different applications, such as coatings, adhesives, and drug delivery systems.

3. Applications of hyperbranched polysiloxanes as AIE polymers in biomedical materials

3.1. Optical imaging

Optical imaging is a critical non-invasive technique that allows for the visualization of various biological processes. The use of hyperbranched polysiloxanes as AIE polymers has significantly enhanced this field. For fluorescent imaging, hyperbranched polysiloxanes with AIE characteristics are uniquely suited for fluorescent imaging due to their high brightness and photostability. These properties stem from their ability to resist photobleaching and maintain their luminescent properties under continuous light exposure. As a result, they can enhance the resolution and sensitivity of the imaging process, providing a more accurate diagnosis. For bioluminescent imaging, hyperbranched polysiloxanes also show promise in bioluminescent imaging. Their AIE-active properties make them ideal for non-invasive real-time tracking of biological processes [6].

3.2. Drug delivery

Hyperbranched polysiloxanes, due to their AIE properties and unique structures, especially in the areas of controlled and targeted drug release, have been utilized for drug delivery applications. For controlled release, hyperbranched polysiloxanes can encapsulate therapeutic agents within their branched structures, allowing for controlled drug release. This method could significantly improve the therapeutic effect by ensuring a steady and sustained release of drugs, reducing the frequency of dosages, and minimizing side effects [7]. For targeted delivery, the unique structure of hyperbranched polysiloxanes allows for targeted drug delivery. This means that drugs can be delivered directly to specific sites within the body, reducing systemic toxicity and enhancing the efficiency of drug transport [8], as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Application of hyperbranched polymer for targeted drug delivery [8].

3.3. Biosensors

The application of AIE-active hyperbranched polysiloxanes extends to the field of biosensors, particularly in the detection of biomolecules and real-time monitoring of biological processes. For detection of biomolecules, hyperbranched polysiloxanes can be used as biosensors for the detection of biomolecules. They can interact with various biomolecules, causing changes in their luminescent properties, which can be used as a signal for detection. This property has been used to develop sensors for various biomolecules, contributing to the advancement of diagnostic techniques [9]. For real-time monitoring of biological processes, monitoring biological processes in real time is possible because to the usage of these AIE polymers in biosensors. This provides valuable information for biomedical research, as it allows for the continuous tracking of changes in biological systems [10].

4. Advantages and challenges of using hyperbranched polysiloxanes as AIE polymers in biomedical materials

4.1. Advantages

There are some advantages for using hyperbranched polysiloxanes as AIE polymers in biomedical materials.

(1) High fluorescence efficiency. One of the primary advantages of hyperbranched polysiloxanes lies in their high fluorescence efficiency. This characteristic stems from their AIE (aggregation-induced emission) properties, which cause them to emit strong fluorescence when they aggregate. This fluorescence efficiency makes hyperbranched polysiloxanes particularly suitable for applications in bioimaging and disease diagnosis [11].

(2) Biocompatibility. Hyperbranched polysiloxanes have been found to exhibit excellent biocompatibility, which is a crucial factor for any material used in biomedical applications. They have been found to be non-toxic and compatible with biological systems, which reduces the likelihood of adverse reactions when used in biological environments [6].

(3) Stability under physiological conditions. Another significant advantage of hyperbranched polysiloxanes is their stability under physiological conditions. This stability ensures that they maintain their structural integrity and functional properties when used in the human body or other biological systems [12].

4.2. Challenges

It should also be pointed out that there are certain challenges in the use of this material.

(1) Limited solubility. Despite their numerous advantages, hyperbranched polysiloxanes are not without their challenges. One of the primary challenges is their limited solubility, which can hinder their usability in certain applications. For instance, their limited solubility can impact their dispersibility in biological systems, which can limit their effectiveness in applications such as drug delivery.

(2) Difficulty in controlling MW and branching structure. Controlling the MW and branching structure of hyperbranched polysiloxanes is a considerable additional challenge. These factors can significantly impact the performance of these polymers in biomedical applications. For instance, variations in molecular weight and branching structure can affect properties such as solubility, biocompatibility, and fluorescence efficiency.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, potential AIE polymers for biomedical materials have been identified as hyperbranched polysiloxanes. The current state of research highlights these polymers' distinctive qualities, such as their high-water solubility, great biocompatibility, and tunable fluorescence characteristics. These qualities make them suitable for the biomedical applications, such as bioimaging, drug delivery and biomaterials.

Future research in this area should concentrate on creating new hyperbranched polysiloxanes with enhanced characteristics, such as higher fluorescence intensity, longer fluorescence lifetime, and enhanced targeting capabilities. Additionally, the use of hyperbranched polysiloxanes in combination with other materials, such as nanoparticles and hydrogels, should be explored to enhance their biocompatibility and functionality.

The potential impact of hyperbranched polysiloxanes as AIE polymers in biomedical materials is significant. Their special qualities have the potential to lead to more accurate disease detection and therapy, including cancer and neurological disorders. Further, they are desirable candidates for usage in a variety of biomedical applications due to their biocompatibility and capacity for modification for particular uses. In summary, hyperbranched polysiloxanes represent a promising class of AIE polymers for use in biomedical materials. The creation of innovative materials and new applications that could have a substantial impact on the field of biomedicine could result from further research in this area.

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