Author's Accepted Manuscript

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 PII:
 S0376-7388(17)32599-1

 DOI:
 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.memsci.2018.01.055

 Reference:
 MEMSCI15909

To appear in: Journal of Membrane Science

Received date: 10 September 2017 Revised date: 18 January 2018 Accepted date: 22 January 2018

Cite this article as: Meng Zhu, Xiaojuan Zhang, Yiguang Wang, Yibo Wu, Hao Wang, Min Zhang, Quan Chen, Zichao Shen and Nanwen Li, Novel Anion Exchange Membranes based on Quaternized Diblock Copolystyrene containing a Fluorinated Hydrophobic Block, *Journal of Membrane Science*, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.memsci.2018.01.055

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Novel Anion Exchange Membranes based on Quaternized Diblock Copolystyrene

containing a Fluorinated Hydrophobic Block

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Abstract

USCIN With the aim to enhance the hydrophilic-hydrophobic separation and thus improve the anion conductivity of diblock copolymer anion exchange membranes (AEMs), a fluorinated hydrophobic block was introduced into quaternized diblock copolystyrene. Two fluoro-containing monomers (i.e., 4-fluorostyrene (4FS) and 2, 3, 4, 5, 6-pentafluorostyrene (PFS)) were polymerized into a poly(4-vinyl benzyl chloride)-based macroinitiator (Macro-PVBC₂₆₃) via reversible additionfragmentation chain transfer (RAFT) polymerization. This route led to the corresponding diblock copolymers PVBC₂₆₃-b-P4FS_v and PVBC₂₆₃-b-PPFS_v, which served to prepare AEMs (i.e., PVBC₂₆₃-*b*-PPFS_v-OH and PVBC₂₆₃-*b*-P4FS_v-OH, respectively) via quaternization with trimethyl amine (TMA) and subsequent ion-exchange. As expected, the as-obtained AEMs showed well-defined lamellar morphologies, as revealed by small-angle X-ray scattering (SAXS) and atomic force microscopy (AFM). Consequently, all the fluorinated diblock copolymer-based AEMs showed Download English Version:

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