## **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS**

# Polyamidoamine-based photostabilizers for cotton fabrics

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### <sup>1</sup>H-NMR characterization of PAAs

The chemical structure of M-GLY, M-LEU, M-ARG and M-GLU at 0 and 100 h of UV irradiation was assessed by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, collecting spectra in D<sub>2</sub>O at pH 4.5 and at 25 °C using a Bruker Advance DPX-400 NMR spectrometer (Milan, Italy) operating at 400.13 MHz. Parameters: scan number 32, relaxation delay, *d1*, 10.0 s, receiver gain automatically measured and set by the instrument.



**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of M-GLY at 0 h UV irradiation. The 1<sub>t</sub> - 4<sub>t</sub> peaks are ascribed to the glycine-based terminals. Green asterisks indicate traces of the vinyl-based terminals.



Figure S2. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of M-LEU at 0 and 100 h UV irradiation. Green asterisks indicate traces of the vinyl-based terminals. Small changes in the positions of the resonance peaks are due to the pH-dependence of the PAA proton magnetization.



**Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of M-ARG at 0 and 100 h UV irradiation. The  $4_t$  -  $7_t$  peaks are ascribed to the glycine-based terminals. Green asterisks indicate traces of the vinyl-based terminals. Small changes in the positions of the resonance peaks are due to the pH-dependence of the PAA proton magnetization.



**Figure S4.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of M-GLU at 0 UV irradiation. Green asterisks indicate traces of the vinylbased terminals. The purple tilde on peak n°4 indicate differently protonated species.

#### Determination of the pKa values of PAAs and speciation diagrams

*M-GLY*: pK<sub>a</sub> values were calculated in a previous work [1]. Speciation diagrams (Figure S5) were obtained by plotting the concentration fractions ( $\alpha$ ) of the different ionic species as a function of pH. The concentration fractions of M-GLY were calculated according to the following equations:

- Mass balance:  $C_0 = C_{L^+} + C_{L0} + C_{L^-}$
- Equilibrium constants:  $K_{a1} = \frac{C_{L0} C_{H+}}{C_{L+}}$ ;  $K_{a2} = \frac{C_{L-} C_{H+}}{C_{L0}}$
- Concentration fractions:

$$C_{L^{+}} = \frac{C_0 C_{H^{+}}^2}{C_{H^{+}}^2 + K_{a1} C_{H^{+}} + K_{a1} K_{a2}} = \frac{C_0 C_{H^{+}}^2}{D} \rightarrow \alpha_{L^{+}} = \frac{C_{L^{+}}}{C_0} = \frac{C_{H^{+}}^2}{D}$$

$$C_{\rm L0} = \frac{C_0 K_{\rm a1} C_{\rm H^+}}{C_{\rm H^+}^2 + K_{\rm a1} C_{\rm H^+} + K_{\rm a1} K_{\rm a2}} = \frac{C_0 K_{\rm a1} C_{\rm H^+}}{D} \longrightarrow \alpha_{\rm L0} = \frac{C_{\rm L0}}{C_0} = \frac{K_{\rm a1} C_{\rm H^+}}{D}$$

$$C_{\rm L-} = \frac{C_0 K_{\rm a1} K_{\rm a2}}{C_{\rm H+}^2 + K_{\rm a1} C_{\rm H+} + K_{\rm a1} K_{\rm a2}} = \frac{C_0 K_{\rm a1} K_{\rm a2}}{D} \rightarrow \alpha_{\rm L-} = \frac{C_{\rm L-}}{C_0} = \frac{K_{\rm a1} K_{\rm a2}}{D}$$



Figure S5. Speciation diagrams and chemical structures of the ionized repeat units of M-GLY.

*M-LEU*: the  $pK_a$  values were calculated in a previous work [2]. Speciation diagrams (Figure S6) were obtained by plotting the concentration fractions ( $\alpha$ ) of the different ionic species as a function of pH. The concentration fractions of M-LEU were calculated using the same equations used for M-GLY.



Figure S6. Speciation diagram and chemical structures of the ionized repeat units of M-LEU.

*M-ARG*: the  $pK_a$  values were calculated in a previous work [3]. Speciation diagrams (Figure S7) were obtained by plotting the concentration fractions ( $\alpha$ ) of the different ionic species as a function of pH. The concentration fractions of M-ARG were calculated according to the following equations:

• Mass balance:  $C_0 = C_{L2^+} + C_{L^+} + C_{L0} + C_{L^-}$ 

• Equilibrium constants: 
$$K_{a1} = \frac{C_{L+}C_{H+}}{C_{L+}}$$
;  $K_{a2} = \frac{C_{L0}C_{H+}}{C_{L+}}$ ;  $K_{a3} = \frac{C_{L-}C_{H+}}{C_{L0}}$ ;

• Concentration fractions:

$$C_{L2^{+}} = \frac{C_0 C_{H^{+}}^3}{C_{H^{+}}^3 + C_{H^{+}}^2 K_{a1} + C_{H^{+}} K_{a1} K_{a2} + K_{a1} K_{a2} K_{a3}} = \frac{C_0 C_{H^{+}}^3}{D} \rightarrow \alpha_{L2^{+}} = \frac{C_{L2^{+}}}{C_0} = \frac{C_{H^{+}}^3}{D}$$

$$C_{\rm L^+} = \frac{C_0 C_{\rm H^+}^2 K_{\rm a1}}{D} \rightarrow \alpha_{\rm L^+} = \frac{C_{\rm L^+}}{C_0} = \frac{C_{\rm H^+}^2 K_{\rm a1}}{D}$$

$$C_{\rm L0} = \frac{C_0 C_{\rm H^+} K_{\rm a1} K_{\rm a2}}{D} \rightarrow \alpha_{\rm L0} = \frac{C_{\rm L0}}{C_0} = \frac{C_{\rm H^+} K_{\rm a1} K_{\rm a2}}{D}$$

 $C_{L-} = \frac{C_0 K_{a1} K_{a2} K_{a3}}{D} \rightarrow \alpha_{L-} = \frac{C_{L-}}{C_0} = \frac{K_{a1} K_{a2} K_{a3}}{D}$ 



Figure S7. Speciation diagram and chemical structures of the ionized repeat units of M-ARG.

*M-GLU*: the  $pK_a$  values were calculated in a previous work [4]. Speciation diagrams (Figure S8) were obtained by plotting the concentration fractions ( $\alpha$ ) of the different ionic species as a function of pH. The concentration fractions of M-GLU were calculated according to the following equations:

- Mass balance:  $C_0 = C_{L^+} + C_{L0} + C_{L^-} + C_{L^2}$
- Equilibrium constants:  $K_{a1} = \frac{C_{L0} C_{H+}}{C_{L+}}$ ;  $K_{a2} = \frac{C_{L-} C_{H+}}{C_{L0}}$ ;  $K_{a3} = \frac{C_{L2-} C_{H+}}{C_{L-}}$
- Concentration fractions:

$$C_{\rm L^+} = \frac{C_0 C_{\rm H^+}{}^3}{C_{\rm H^+}{}^3 + C_{\rm H^+}{}^2 K_{\rm a1} + C_{\rm H^+} K_{\rm a1} K_{\rm a2} + K_{\rm a1} K_{\rm a2} K_{\rm a3}} = \frac{C_0 C_{\rm H^+}{}^3}{D} \to \alpha_{\rm L^+} = \frac{C_{\rm L^+}}{C_0} = \frac{C_{\rm H^+}{}^3}{D}$$

$$C_{\rm L0} = \frac{C_0 C_{\rm H^+} K_{\rm a1}}{D} \rightarrow \alpha_{\rm L0} = \frac{C_{\rm L0}}{C_0} = \frac{C_{\rm H^+} K_{\rm a1}}{D}$$

$$C_{L^{-}} = \frac{C_0 C_{H^+} K_{a1} K_{a2}}{D} \rightarrow \alpha_{L^{-}} = \frac{C_{L^{-}}}{C_0} = \frac{C_{H^+} K_{a1} K_{a2}}{D}$$

 $C_{L2-} = \frac{C_0 K_{a1} K_{a2} K_{a3}}{D} \rightarrow \alpha_{L2-} = \frac{C_{L2-}}{C_0} = \frac{K_{a1} K_{a2} K_{a3}}{D}$ 



Figure S8. Speciation diagram and chemical structures of the ionized repeat units of M-GLU.

#### FT-IR/ATR characterization

COT, COT/M-GLY, COT/M-LEU, COT/M-ARG and COT/M-GLU were analyzed at 0 and 100 h of UV irradiation by attenuated total reflectance (ATR) Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR). FT-IR/ATR spectra were recorded at room temperature, in the 4000 - 600 cm<sup>-1</sup> wavenumber range, with 32 scans and 4 cm<sup>-1</sup> resolution, using a Perkin-Elmer Frontier FT-IR/FIR spectrophotometer (Milano, Italy), equipped with a ZnSe crystal characterized.



Figure S9. FT-IR/ATR spectra of COT, COT/M-GLY, COT/M-LEU, COT/M-ARG and COT/M-GLU analyzed at 0 and 100 h UV irradiation.



Figure S10. FT-IR/ATR spectrum of COT/M-GLY, COT/M-LEU, COT/M-ARG and COT/M-GLU after extraction.

### References

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