

# Helix-Sense-Selective Encapsulation of Helical Poly(lactic acid)s within a Helical Cavity of Syndiotactic Poly(methyl methacrylate) with Helicity Memory

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**ABSTRACT:** We report a highly enantio- and helix-sense-selective encapsulation of helical poly(lactic acid)s (PLAs) through a unique “helix-in-helix” superstructure formation within the helical cavity of syndiotactic poly(methyl methacrylate) (st-PMMA) with a one-handed helicity memory, which enables the separation of the enantiomeric helices of the left (*M*)- and right (*P*)-handed-PLAs. The *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs with different molar masses and a narrow molar mass distribution were prepared by the ring-opening living polymerization of the optically-pure L- and D-lactides, respectively, followed by end-capping of the terminal residues of the PLAs with a 4-halobenzoate and then a C<sub>60</sub> unit, giving the C<sub>60</sub>-free and C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*- and *P*-PLAs. The C<sub>60</sub>-free and C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*- and *P*-PLAs formed crystalline inclusion complexes with achiral st-PMMA accompanied by a preferred-handed helix induction in the st-PMMA backbone, thereby producing helix-in-helix superstructures with the same-handedness to each other. The induced helical st-PMMA were retained after replacement with the achiral C<sub>60</sub>, indicating the memory of the induced helicity of the st-PMMA. Both the C<sub>60</sub>-free and C<sub>60</sub>-bound helical PLAs were enantio- and helix-sense selectively encapsulated into the helical hollow space of the optically-active *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA with the helicity memory prepared using chiral amines. The *M*- and *P*-PLAs are preferentially encapsulated within the *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA helical cavity with the same-handedness to each other, respectively, independent of the terminal units. The C<sub>60</sub>-bound PLAs were more efficiently and enantioselectively trapped in the st-PMMA compared to the C<sub>60</sub>-free PLAs. The enantioselectivities were highly dependent on the molar mass of the C<sub>60</sub>-bound and C<sub>60</sub>-free PLAs, and significantly increased with the increasing molar mass of the PLAs.

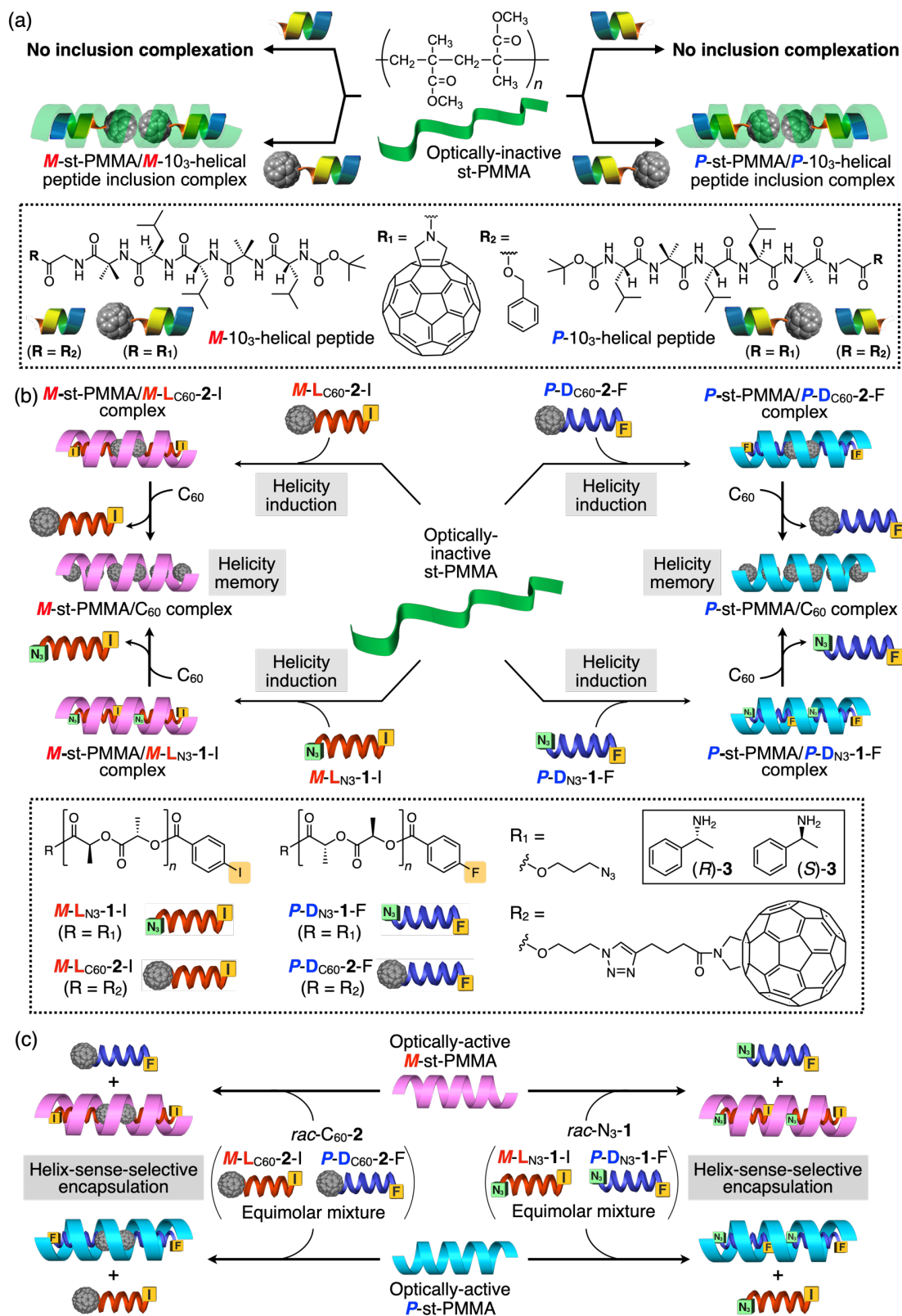
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## INTRODUCTION

Biological polymers, such as polysaccharides (e.g., amylose and schizophyllan)<sup>1-10</sup> and assembled proteins<sup>11-16</sup> are known to possess a unique helical cavity or pore, within which a variety of small molecules and polymers are encapsulated in a size- and shape-selective manner, thereby producing discrete supramolecular inclusion complexes with specific functionalities that involve molecular/chiral recognition, catalysis, and ion/water transport.<sup>9,17-21</sup> Inspired by such biopolymer-based helical host systems, a large number of macrocyclic host molecules,<sup>22-30</sup> self-assembled organic/inorganic cages and capsules,<sup>31-38</sup> and helical foldamers<sup>39-46</sup> possessing a confined nano-space or cylindrical helical cavity suitable for encapsulating specific small molecules or oligomers has been extensively developed. However, because of their molecular-scale space, the encapsulating of polymers, in particular, helical polymers within their space or helical cavities is virtually impossible. Hence, the development of synthetic helical polymers with an optical activity showing an enantioselective or helix-sense-selective inclusion capability for helical polymers is an attractive challenge because of potential applications for

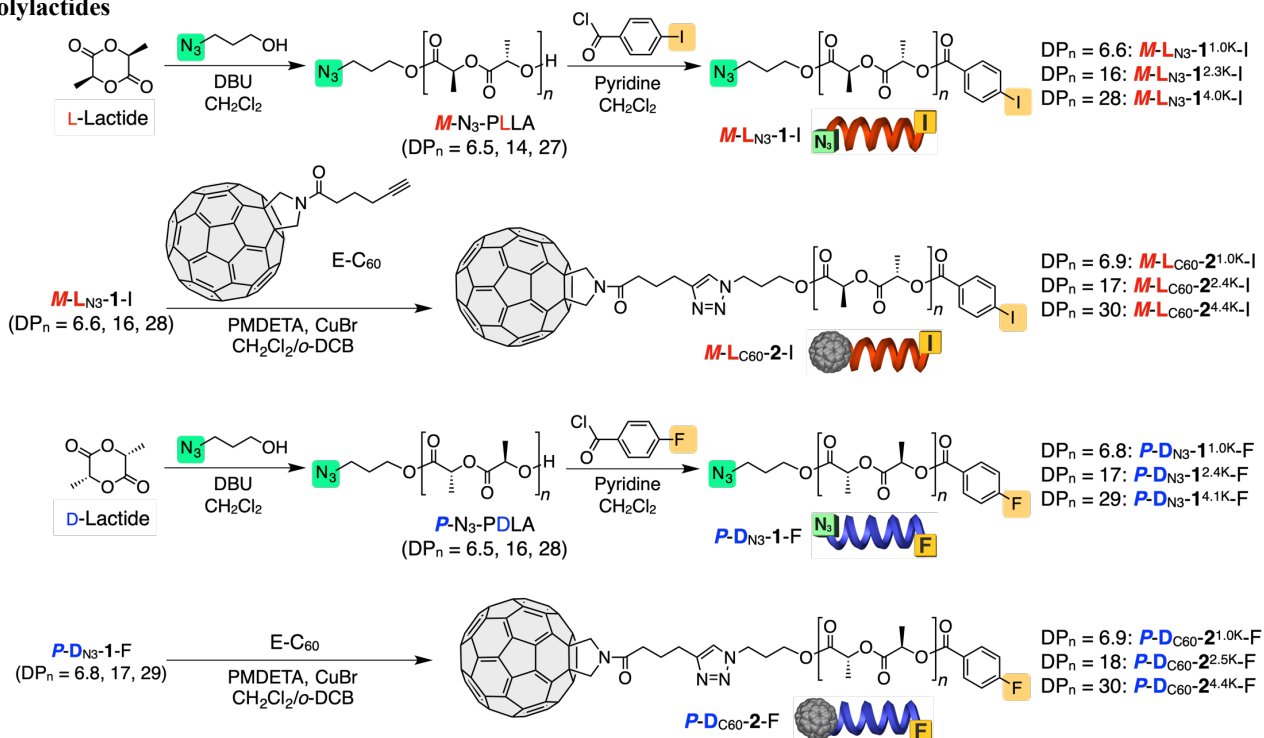
separating enantiomers as chiral stationary phases (CSPs),<sup>47</sup> supramolecular liquid crystals,<sup>6</sup> and electronic and optoelectronic materials<sup>2-9,18,48-55</sup> as well as circularly polarized luminescence (CPL) when complexed with photoluminescent achiral polymers in a one-handed helical cavity.<sup>56,57</sup>

Previously, we found that syndiotactic poly(methyl methacrylate) (st-PMMA), a commodity plastic widely used as plastic optical fibers,<sup>58</sup> folds into either an excess left (*M*)- or right (*P*)-handed 18<sub>1</sub>-helical conformation (18 monomer units per one turn) assisted by an optically-active alcohol or amine in toluene upon gelation, thus creating a helical cavity of about 1 nm in diameter,<sup>59-62</sup> in which achiral and chiral fullerenes can be encapsulated in a size- and/or enantio-selective manner through an induced-fit mechanism,<sup>59,61,63-65</sup> thereby producing unique peapod-like inclusion complexes with an optical activity that are retained (memorized) after complete removal of the chiral additives.<sup>59-62</sup> Such a one-handed helical cavity of the st-PMMA with a helicity memory is self-adjustable while maintaining its helical handedness, thus allowing the helix-sense-selective encapsulation of the complementary isotactic PMMA (it-PMMA) to produce the first optically-active PMMA stereocomplex<sup>60</sup> composed of an inner it-PMMA double-helix



**Figure 1.** (a) Schematic illustration of the “helix-in-helix” superstructure formation through encapsulation of C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*- and *P*-10<sub>3</sub>-helical peptides within the st-PMMA helical cavity.<sup>75</sup> (b) Structures of C<sub>60</sub>-bound (*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2-I and *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2-F) and C<sub>60</sub>-free (*M*-L<sub>N3</sub>-1-I and *P*-D<sub>N3</sub>-1-F) *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs and optically-active amines ((*R*)- and (*S*)-3) and a schematic illustration of the macromolecular helicity induction in st-PMMA upon inclusion complex formations with the C<sub>60</sub>-bound and C<sub>60</sub>-free *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs and subsequent memory of the induced macromolecular helicities of st-PMMA by replacing the encapsulated *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs with the achiral C<sub>60</sub>. (c) Helix-sense-selective encapsulation of C<sub>60</sub>-bound and C<sub>60</sub>-free *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs within a helical cavity of st-PMMA with a one-handed helicity memory based on the “helix-in-helix” superstructure formation.

**Scheme 1. Synthesis of the C<sub>60</sub>-Free (*M*-L<sub>N<sub>3</sub>-1-I and *P*-D<sub>N<sub>3</sub>-1-F) and C<sub>60</sub>-Bound (*M*-L<sub>C<sub>60</sub>-2-I and *P*-D<sub>C<sub>60</sub>-2-F) Optically-Active Poly lactides</sub></sub></sub></sub>**



surrounded by the st-PMMA single-helix with the same handedness to each other.<sup>66-74</sup>

Taking advantage of the specific interactions between fullerenes and the hydrophobic helical cavity of st-PMMA, we recently succeeded in the construction of a unique “helix-in-helix” superstructure through encapsulation of the *M*- and *P*-10<sub>3</sub>-helical peptides (Figure 1a) within the st-PMMA helical cavity when a C<sub>60</sub> moiety was introduced at one end of the peptides, through which a preferred-handed helix with the same-handedness as that of the encapsulated peptide was, at the same time, induced in the st-PMMA backbone.<sup>75</sup> Of particular importance is the terminal C<sub>60</sub> unit of the peptides that is essential for the inclusion complex formation with the st-PMMA or no inclusion complexation took place. The results imply that a C<sub>60</sub> unit can serve as a molecular carrier or transporter of particular organic molecules and polymers into the helical cavity of the st-PMMA once introduced at their terminals, resulting in unique supramolecular inclusion complexes.<sup>76</sup>

We envisioned that poly(lactic acid) (PLA), one of the popular bio-based, biocompatible, and biodegradable polyesters,<sup>77</sup> would also be encapsulated in the st-PMMA helical cavity once the PLA is end-capped with a C<sub>60</sub> unit because the homochiral PLAs, namely, poly(L-lactic acid) (PLLA) and poly(D-lactic acid) (PDLA) take *M*- and *P*-10<sub>3</sub>-helical structures, respectively,<sup>78-80</sup> which resemble the helical polypeptides, specifically, poly(D- or L-alanine).<sup>81,82</sup> We now report the unprecedented helix-sense-selective encapsulation of C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs (*M*-C<sub>60</sub>-L-2-I and *P*-C<sub>60</sub>-D-2-F) (Scheme 1 and Figure 1b) within the helical cavity of the preferred-handed helical st-PMMA prepared by the helicity induction and memory strategy<sup>42,59-62</sup> using chiral amines, such as (*R*)- and (*S*)-1-phenylethylamine ((*R*)- and (*S*)-3),<sup>61,62</sup> based on a unique “helix-in-helix” superstructure formation, which would enable us to separate the enantiomeric helices of PLAs (Figure 1c). The separation of enantiomers of optically-active

polymers, in particular, helical polymers, is quite rare.<sup>83-85</sup> Although chiral recognition of the enantiomeric helical PLAs has been reported using cyclodextrins<sup>86</sup> and amylose,<sup>87,88</sup> the *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs were neither separated nor isolated, providing little information about the enantioselective inclusion complex formation at a molecular level as well as its enantioselectivity (helix-sense selectivity). During the course of our studies, we surprisingly found that the C<sub>60</sub>-free *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs (*M*-N<sub>3</sub>-L-1-I and *P*-N<sub>3</sub>-D-1-F) (Scheme 1 and Figure 1b) prepared as precursors for the C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs are also helix-sense selectively included in the st-PMMA helical nanotube, resulting in a similar “helix-in-helix” superstructure. The effects of the end-capped C<sub>60</sub> unit and molar mass of the PLAs on the helix-sense-selective inclusion complexations in the st-PMMA helical nanotube with a helicity memory and their preferred-handed helix induction abilities to the optically-inactive st-PMMA (Figure 1b,c) are also investigated.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Synthesis and Characterization of C<sub>60</sub>-Free and C<sub>60</sub>-Bound *M*- and *P*-Helical PLAs.** The C<sub>60</sub>-free (N<sub>3</sub>-1) and C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*-L- and *P*-D-helical PLAs (C<sub>60</sub>-2) with different molar masses and a narrow molar mass distribution were synthesized according to Scheme 1. The ring-opening living polymerization of the optically-pure L- and D-lactides (enantiomeric excess (ee) > 99% (Figure S1)) initiated with 3-azido-1-propanol in the presence of 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]-7-undecene (DBU) as a catalyst (Table S1),<sup>89</sup> followed by esterification of the terminal hydroxy groups using 4-iodo- and 4-fluorobenzoyl chlorides, respectively, afforded the C<sub>60</sub>-free *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs (*M*-L<sub>N<sub>3</sub>-1-I and *P*-D<sub>N<sub>3</sub>-1-F) (Table S2). The copper(I)-catalyzed click reaction of the resulting PLAs bearing an azido residue (*M*-L<sub>N<sub>3</sub>-1-I and *P*-D<sub>N<sub>3</sub>-1-F) with an alkyne-terminated C<sub>60</sub> derivative (E-C<sub>60</sub>) produced the C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*- and *P*-helical</sub></sub></sub></sub>

**Table 1. Characteristics of PLA Prepolymers and C<sub>60</sub>-Free and C<sub>60</sub>-Bound *M*- and *P*-PLAs**

entry	sample code	$M_{n,SEC}$ (10 <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	$M_w/M_n$ <sup>a</sup>	$M_{n,NMR}$ (10 <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	$DP_{n,NMR}$ <sup>c</sup>	$f_{end\ group}$ (%) <sup>d</sup>	$T_m$ (°C) <sup>e</sup>
1	<i>M</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -PLLA <sup>0.9K</sup>	1.53	1.26	0.94	6.5	–	92
2	<i>M</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -PLLA <sup>2.1K</sup>	3.55	1.11	2.08	14	–	130
3	<i>M</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -PLLA <sup>3.9K</sup>	6.28	1.11	3.85	27	–	151
4	<i>M</i> -L <sub>N3</sub> - <b>1</b> <sup>1.0K</sup> -I	1.61	1.19	0.95	6.6	>99	96
5	<i>M</i> -L <sub>N3</sub> - <b>1</b> <sup>2.3K</sup> -I	4.14	1.11	2.30	16	>99	137
6	<i>M</i> -L <sub>N3</sub> - <b>1</b> <sup>4.0K</sup> -I	6.53	1.12	4.01	28	>99	149
7	<i>M</i> -L <sub>C60</sub> - <b>2</b> <sup>1.0K</sup> -I	1.82	1.24	0.99	6.9	>99	– <sup>f</sup>
8	<i>M</i> -L <sub>C60</sub> - <b>2</b> <sup>2.4K</sup> -I	4.38	1.20	2.43	17	>99	141
9	<i>M</i> -L <sub>C60</sub> - <b>2</b> <sup>4.4K</sup> -I	7.73	1.32	4.36	30	>99	146
10	<i>P</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -PDLA <sup>0.9K</sup>	1.40	1.31	0.94	6.5	–	93
11	<i>P</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -PDLA <sup>2.3K</sup>	3.82	1.12	2.28	16	–	136
12	<i>P</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -PDLA <sup>4.0K</sup>	7.11	1.12	4.04	28	–	152
13	<i>P</i> -D <sub>N3</sub> - <b>1</b> <sup>1.0K</sup> -F	1.62	1.23	0.98	6.8	>99	95
14	<i>P</i> -D <sub>N3</sub> - <b>1</b> <sup>2.4K</sup> -F	4.15	1.11	2.41	17	>99	138
15	<i>P</i> -D <sub>N3</sub> - <b>1</b> <sup>4.1K</sup> -F	7.38	1.12	4.11	29	>99	149
16	<i>P</i> -D <sub>C60</sub> - <b>2</b> <sup>1.0K</sup> -F	1.63	1.41	1.00	6.9	>99	– <sup>f</sup>
17	<i>P</i> -D <sub>C60</sub> - <b>2</b> <sup>2.5K</sup> -F	4.75	1.26	2.52	18	>99	141
18	<i>P</i> -D <sub>C60</sub> - <b>2</b> <sup>4.4K</sup> -F	7.93	1.35	4.39	30	>99	146

<sup>a</sup> Estimated by SEC (polystyrene standards) with CHCl<sub>3</sub> as the eluent. <sup>b</sup> Determined by the <sup>1</sup>H NMR end-group analysis in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. <sup>c</sup> Number-average degree of polymerization determined by  $M_{n,NMR}$ . <sup>d</sup> Functionality of the end-capped benzoate (entries 4–6 and 13–15) or C<sub>60</sub> (entries 7–9 and 16–18) residue estimated by <sup>1</sup>H NMR in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

<sup>e</sup> Melting point determined by DSC. <sup>f</sup> Not observed in the DSC thermogram.

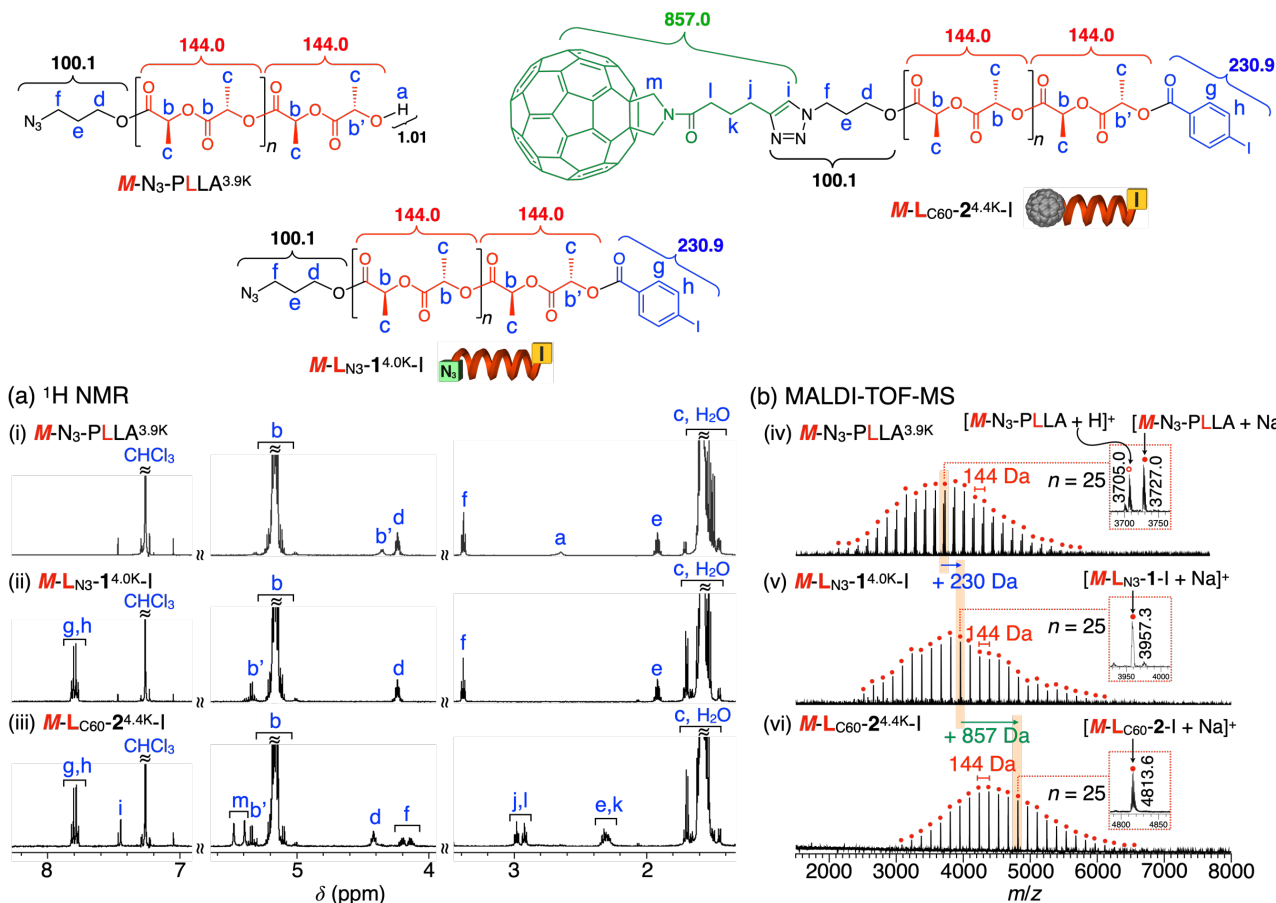
PLAs (*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-**2**-I and *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-**2**-F) in good yields (Table S3). The different terminal benzoate groups were introduced to the C<sub>60</sub>-free and C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*-L- and *P*-D-helical PLAs to determine the ee of the nonracemic **1** and **2** by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy after enantioselective extractions, respectively (see below (Figure 6a) and the Supporting Information (SI)), since the C<sub>60</sub>-bound and C<sub>60</sub>-free L- and D-PLA enantiomers could not be separated by chiral HPLC.

The polymerization results of the L- and D-lactides and characteristics of the PLA prepolymers and the C<sub>60</sub>-free and C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*- and *P*-helical PLAs are summarized in Table 1. The structures were fully characterized and identified using size exclusion chromatography (SEC), NMR and IR spectroscopies, and matrix-assisted laser desorption-ionization time-of-flight mass (MALDI-TOF-MS) measurements (see the Experimental Section in the SI and Figures 2 and S2–S6). The number-average molar masses ( $M_{n,NMR}$ ) of the PLA chains and the functionalities ( $f_{end\ group}$ ) of the 4-iodo- or 4-fluorobenzoate ( $f_{benzoate}$ ) and C<sub>60</sub> ( $f_{C60}$ ) of the isolated C<sub>60</sub>-free and C<sub>60</sub>-bound PLAs were estimated based on the <sup>1</sup>H NMR end group analyses, showing the almost complete functionalizations of the PLA terminal ends, which were further supported by the MALDI-TOF-MS measurements. The MALDI-TOF-MS spectra of a series of *M*-N<sub>3</sub>-PLLA and *P*-N<sub>3</sub>-PDLA with different  $M_{n,NMR}$  values before and after end-capping with 4-iodo- or 4-fluorobenzoyl chloride followed by C<sub>60</sub> showed one main series of peaks, whose intervals were regular and separated by approximately 144.0 ( $m/z$ ) mass corresponding to the molar mass of the lactic acid monomer; each molecular peak equals

the molecular mass expected for the as-prepared PLAs (*M*-N<sub>3</sub>-PLLA and *P*-N<sub>3</sub>-PDLA) end-capped with 4-iodo- or 4-fluorobenzoate (*M*-L<sub>N3</sub>-**1**-I and *P*-D<sub>N3</sub>-**1**-F) and further with C<sub>60</sub> (*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-**2**-I and *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-**2**-F) (Figures 2b and S2–S6). Sample codes are abbreviated using the helicity of PLA (*M* or *P*), the absolute configuration of the lactide (L or D),  $M_{n,NMR}$ , and the end groups such that *M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-**2**<sup>1.0K</sup>-I, for example, stands for the *M*-PLLA end-capped with 4-iodobenzoate and C<sub>60</sub> with the  $M_{n,NMR}$  of the PLA chain (ca. 1.0 K) (Scheme 1 and Table 1).

The st-PMMA was synthesized using the stereospecific polymerization technique (see SI).<sup>90</sup> The  $M_n$ , its distribution ( $M_w/M_n$ ), and stereoregularities ( $mm : mr : rr$ ) were as follows:  $M_n = 616$  kDa,  $M_w/M_n = 1.36$ , and  $mm : mr : rr = 0 : 4 : 96$ , in which *m* and *r* represent the isotactic (it) and st dyads of the meso and racemo sequences, respectively, and *mm*, *mr*, and *rr* are the corresponding triad sequences.

**Inclusion Complex Formation of C<sub>60</sub>-Bound and C<sub>60</sub>-Free PLAs with st-PMMA.** As reported previously,<sup>59</sup> the st-PMMA/C<sub>60</sub> complex gels in toluene were completely dissolved to form homogeneous solutions by heating above 90 °C, in which st-PMMA and C<sub>60</sub> molecules are molecularly dispersed. Based on this observation, the encapsulation experiments of PLAs with st-PMMA were performed in toluene at 110 °C. As anticipated, the C<sub>60</sub>-bound PLAs (*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-**2**-I and *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-**2**-F) were efficiently encapsulated within the st-PMMA helical cavity during gelation of an optically-inactive st-PMMA in toluene upon heating at 110 °C, followed by cooling to room temperature (Figure 3a),<sup>59-62,75</sup> which was almost independent



**Figure 2.** (a)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and (b) MALDI-TOF-MS spectra of  $M-N_3-PLLA^{3.9K}$ ,  $M-L_{N_3}-1^{4.0K}-I$ , and  $M-L_{C60}-2^{4.4K}-I$ . The NMR spectra were measured in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 25 °C and the MS measurements were performed using dithranol as a matrix and sodium iodide as a cationizing agent.

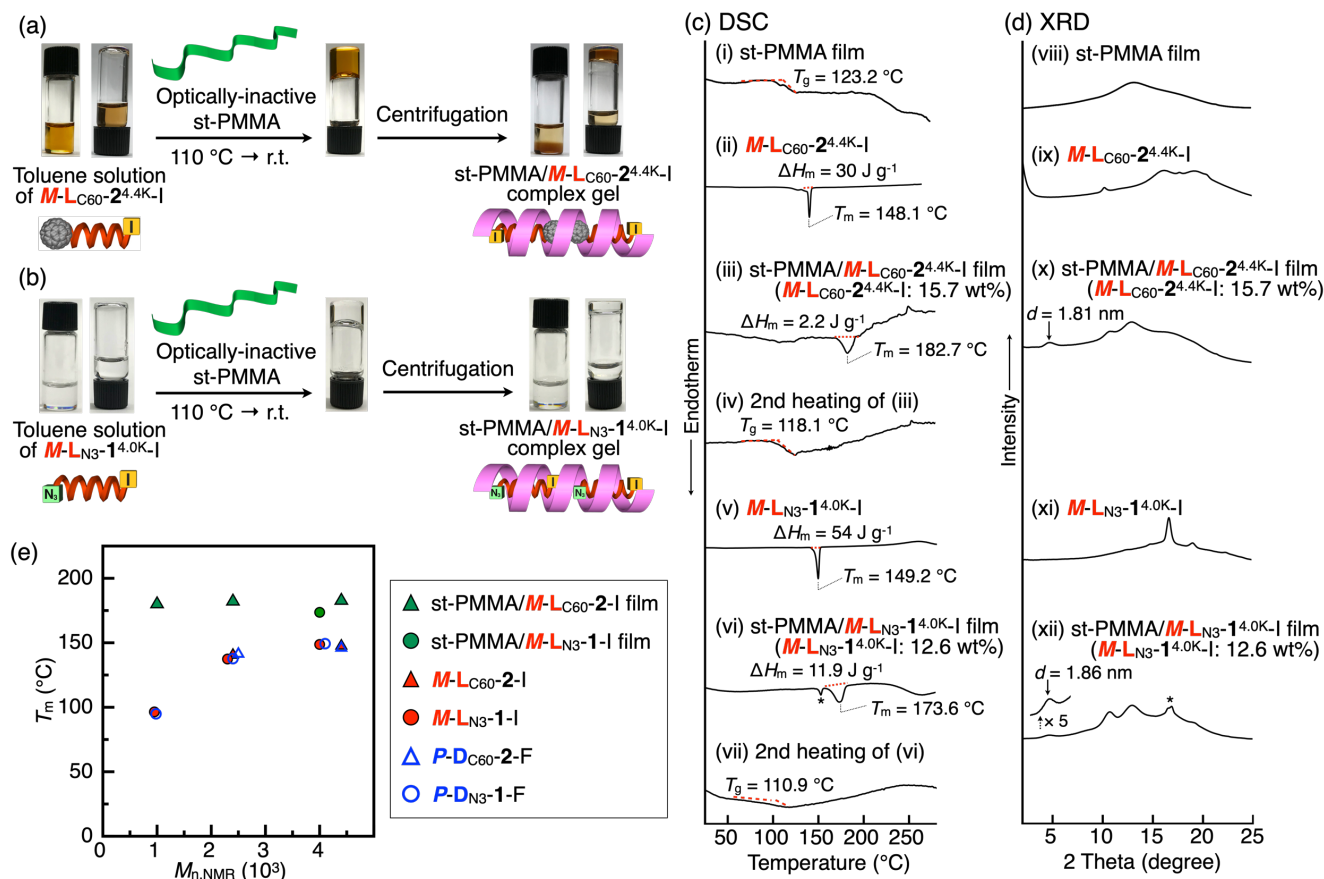
of the  $M_{n,NMR}$  of **2**. Typically, st-PMMA (10 mg) was dissolved in a toluene solution of  $M-L_{C60}-2^{4.4K}-I$  (3.0 mg/mL, 1.0 mL) at 110 °C. After the solution was cooled to room temperature, the solution gelled within 10 min (Figure 3a, middle). The resulting soft gel was then centrifuged at 1700 g for 10 min (Figure 3a, right) and the supernatant containing the unencapsulated  $M-L_{C60}-2^{4.4K}-I$  was removed from the gel by decantation. The amount of the  $M-L_{C60}-2^{4.4K}-I$  encapsulated in the st-PMMA was estimated based on the differences in the absorption spectra between the feed  $M-L_{C60}-2^{4.4K}-I$  and the supernatant (Figure S7) according to a previously reported method (see Section 3 in the SI).<sup>75</sup> The inclusion complex formation results are summarized in Table 2. The encapsulated C<sub>60</sub>-bound **2** content increased by using a higher concentrated C<sub>60</sub>-bound **2** solution in toluene (>9.0 mg/mL) as the feed and reached an almost maximum value of ca. 24 wt% (run 5, Table 2).

The “helix-in-helix” superstructured inclusion complex formations were confirmed by differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) and X-ray diffraction (XRD) measurements of the st-PMMA complexed with C<sub>60</sub>-bound **2** films containing about 15 wt% of C<sub>60</sub>-bound **2** prepared from the gels, which revealed a crystalline structure of the st-PMMA/C<sub>60</sub>-bound **2** complexes (Figure 3c,d and Table 2) as supported by an apparent melting temperature ( $T_m$ ) (ca. 180 °C) and a characteristic reflection at the  $d$ -spacing of ca. 1.8 nm due to the bundle structures of the helical st-PMMA chains, which are almost independent of the  $M_{n,NMR}$  of **2**; the observed  $d$ -spacing is larger than that of the st-PMMA complexed with C<sub>60</sub> (1.67 nm), but smaller than that

with larger fullerenes, such as C<sub>70</sub> (1.92 nm) and C<sub>84</sub> (2.04 nm),<sup>59</sup> and is almost identical to that with the C<sub>60</sub>-bound  $P$ -L-peptide (Figure 1a) (1.80 nm).<sup>75</sup> We also found that significant differences were not observed in the  $T_m$  and  $d$ -values when the encapsulated C<sub>60</sub>-bound **2** content in the st-PMMA increased to 23.5 wt% (run 5, Table 2 and Figure S8). Contrary to our expectation, the C<sub>60</sub>-free PLA ( $M-L_{N_3}-1^{4.0K}-I$ ) was also found to form an inclusion complex with st-PMMA in toluene by heating followed by cooling to room temperature, resulting in gelation (Figure 3b). Compared with the previously reported C<sub>60</sub>-free 10<sub>3</sub>-helical peptides that could not form an inclusion complex with st-PMMA,<sup>75</sup> the PLA chains with the same helical geometry seem to more compatibly fit the helical cavities of the st-PMMA, leading to a larger enthalpy gain that mostly overcomes the entropic loss. The st-PMMA/C<sub>60</sub>-free **1** inclusion complex film showed a slightly lower  $T_m$  value (174 °C) but a similar  $d$ -value (1.86 nm) as those of the st-PMMA/C<sub>60</sub>-bound **2** complexes (Figure 3c–e and Table 2). St-PMMA has been suggested to form a crystalline stereocomplex only with its complementary it-PMMA since its discovery in 1958.<sup>91–93</sup> Hence, the present finding will provide a rare opportunity for applications of the crystalline st-PMMA/PLA complexes as a practically useful hybrid plastic composed of biodegradable PLAs.

**Preferred-Handed Helix Formation in st-PMMA Induced by C<sub>60</sub>-Bound and C<sub>60</sub>-Free  $M$ - and  $P$ -PLAs.** We anticipated that the one-handed helical C<sub>60</sub>-bound and C<sub>60</sub>-free  $M$ - and  $P$ -PLAs could induce one of the helices in st-PMMA once





**Figure 3.** (a, b) Photographs of toluene solutions of  $M-L_{C60-2^{4.4K-I}}$  (a; 3.0 mg/mL, 1.0 mL; left) and  $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$  (b; 14.5 mg/mL, 0.80 mL; left), st-PMMA/ $M-L_{C60-2^{4.4K-I}}$  (a) and st-PMMA/ $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$  (b) gels after the addition of st-PMMA (10 mg (a) and 8 mg (b), respectively) with subsequent heating to 110 °C and then cooling to room temperature (middle), and the st-PMMA/ $M-L_{C60-2^{4.4K-I}}$  (a) and st-PMMA/ $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$  (b) complex gels after centrifugation at 1700 g for 10 min (right). (c) DSC thermograms of st-PMMA (i),  $M-L_{C60-2^{4.4K-I}}$  (ii), st-PMMA/ $M-L_{C60-2^{4.4K-I}}$  complex film containing 15.7 wt% of  $M-L_{C60-2^{4.4K-I}}$  (iii),  $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$  (v), and st-PMMA/ $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$  complex film containing 12.6 wt% of  $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$  (vi). These films were prepared by evaporating the solvents from the st-PMMA and st-PMMA/PLA complex gels in toluene. The DSC measurements were conducted after cooling the samples at -20 °C, followed by heating to 280 °C (10 °C/min) under nitrogen. The samples (iii) and (vi) were then cooled to -20 °C (40 °C/min), and then heated again ((iv) and (vii), respectively; 10 °C/min). The arrow to the left of the DSC data indicates the endothermic direction. Asterisk (\*) in (vi) denotes the melting peak from the free  $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$ . (d) XRD profiles of st-PMMA (viii),  $M-L_{C60-2^{4.4K-I}}$  (ix), st-PMMA/ $M-L_{C60-2^{4.4K-I}}$  complex film (15.7 wt%) (x),  $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$  (xi), and st-PMMA/ $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$  complex film (12.6 wt%) (xii). Asterisk (\*) in (xii) denotes the diffraction peak from the free  $M-L_{N3-1^{4.0K-I}}$ . (e) Plots of melting temperature ( $T_m$ ) of st-PMMA/PLAs complex films and PLAs versus the number-average molar mass of PLAs.

encapsulated in the st-PMMA helical cavity (Figure 1b), as observed for the inclusion complex formation with the  $C_{60}$ -bound  $M$ -D- and  $P$ -L-peptides.<sup>75</sup> In fact, the st-PMMA gels complexed with  $C_{60}$ -bound  $M$ - and  $P$ - $C_{60-2}$  (15.6 – 18.5 wt%) showed mirror-image electric circular dichroism (ECD) and vibrational CD (VCD) spectra in the achiral fullerene chromophore and PMMA IR regions in toluene and toluene- $d_8$ , respectively (Figures 4d,e and S9f-i), while the  $C_{60}$ -bound PLAs ( $C_{60-2}$ ) themselves exhibited negligibly weak ECD signals in the achiral fullerene chromophore regions in toluene- $d_8$  (Figures 4a and S9b,c). The  $C_{60}$ -free  $M$ - and  $P$ -PLAs ( $N_3-1$ ) also induced an excess of the one helical sense in st-PMMA, thus showing VCD signals in the PMMA IR regions (Figure 4f), which were different from those of the  $C_{60}$ -free  $M$ - and  $P$ -PLAs ( $N_3-1$ ) (Figure 4c). The observed VCD spectral patterns of the st-PMMA complexed with  $C_{60}$ -bound and  $C_{60}$ -free  $M$ - and  $P$ -PLAs agree well with those of the calculated  $M$ - and  $P$ -18<sub>1</sub>-helical st-PMMA, respectively (Figure 4g), thereby producing the helix-in-helix superstructures with the same-handedness to

each other.<sup>60,75</sup> The inclusion complex structures of  $M$ -st-PMMA with  $C_{60}$ -bound and  $C_{60}$ -free  $M$ -PLAs optimized by molecular mechanics calculations based on an 18<sub>1</sub>-helical st-PMMA structure<sup>66</sup> support the helix-in-helix superstructures, in which the encapsulated  $C_{60}$ -bound and  $C_{60}$ -free  $M$ -PLAs fill the st-PMMA helical nanotube, while maintaining its 10<sub>3</sub>-helical structures (Figure S10).<sup>78-80</sup> The molecular arrangements of the  $C_{60}$ -bound and  $C_{60}$ -free  $M$ -PLAs within the st-PMMA helical cavity are not clear at present, but preferable stacking interactions between the  $C_{60}$  units of the  $C_{60}$ -bound-PLAs<sup>59,75,94,95</sup> may suggest a head-to-head packing array that may exist in part. The VCD intensities of the st-PMMA induced by the  $C_{60}$ -bound and  $C_{60}$ -free  $M$ - and  $P$ -PLAs were relatively weaker than those induced by the (*R*)- and (*S*)-**3**<sup>62</sup> and  $C_{60}$ -bound  $P$ -L- and  $M$ -D-10<sub>3</sub>-helical peptides.<sup>75</sup>

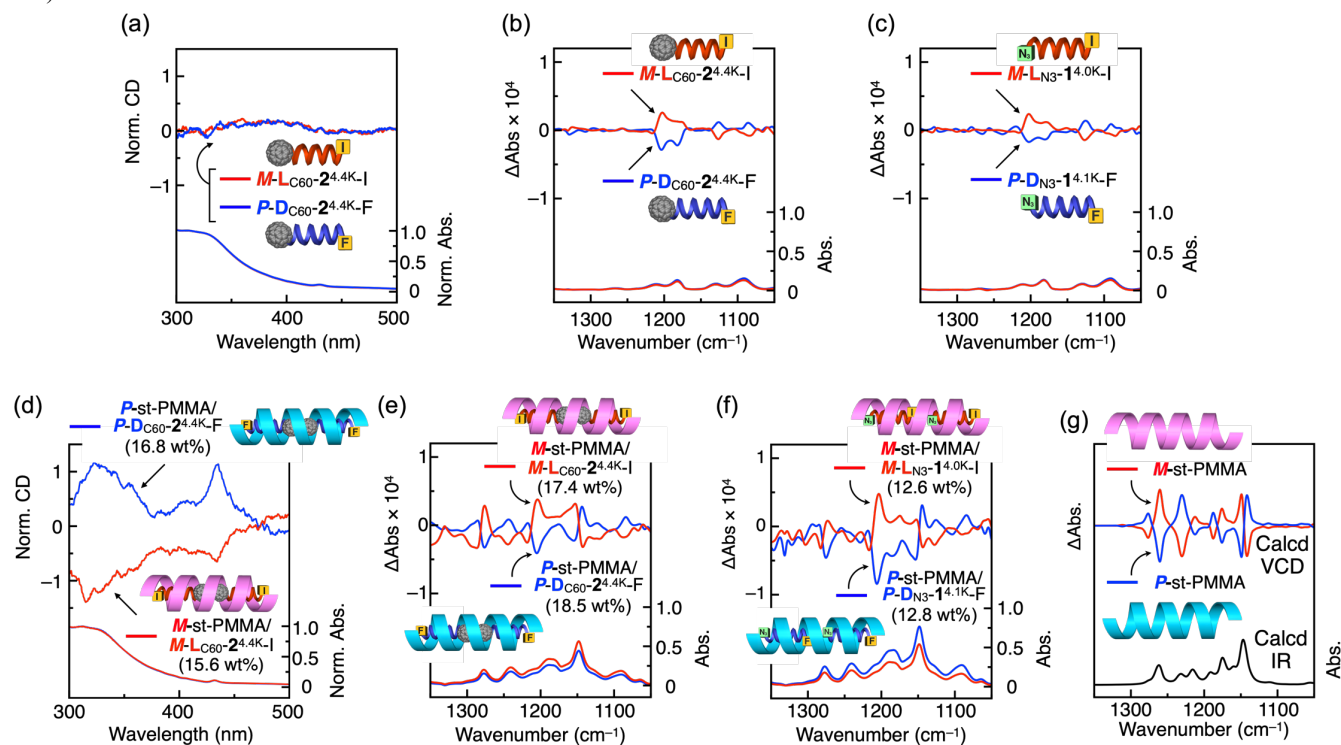
Interestingly, the encapsulated  $C_{60}$ -bound and  $C_{60}$ -free PLAs in the st-PMMA cavities could be almost completely replaced by the achiral  $C_{60}$  as evidenced by the difference in the absorption and/or NMR spectra before and after the

replacement (Figures 1b and S12) due to a higher affinity of st-PMMA to C<sub>60</sub> over the C<sub>60</sub>-bound and C<sub>60</sub>-free PLAs. More interestingly, the preferred-handed helical structures of the st-PMMA induced by the C<sub>60</sub>-bound and C<sub>60</sub>-free *M*- and *P*-PLAs were retained after replacement by the achiral C<sub>60</sub>, thus showing apparent ECDs in the C<sub>60</sub> chromophore regions (Figure 5a), which were completely different from those of the st-PMMA complexed with *M*- and *P*-C<sub>60</sub>-bound PLAs (Figure 4d), but were similar in their patterns to those of the st-PMMA/C<sub>60</sub> complexes prepared from the isolated optically-active *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA complexed with C<sub>60</sub>,<sup>59,62</sup> indicating that the induced helical conformations of the st-PMMA were memorized after the *M*- and *P*-C<sub>60</sub>-bound and C<sub>60</sub>-free PLAs were replaced by the achiral C<sub>60</sub>.<sup>59,60,62</sup> The ECD intensities of the helicity-memorized *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA/C<sub>60</sub> complexes were almost identical and independent of the terminal groups (C<sub>60</sub> or azido group) of the PLA chains when the amounts of the encapsulated *M*- and *P*-PLA chains are the same (Figure 5b(ii–v)), indicating that the helical chirality of the *M*- and *P*-PLA chains play a dominant role to induce the preferred-handed helical conformation in st-PMMA. The ECD intensity of the helicity-memorized st-PMMA complexed with C<sub>60</sub> tended to increase with an increase in the amount of the C<sub>60</sub>-bound and C<sub>60</sub>-free *M*- and *P*-PLAs encapsulated in the st-PMMA helical cavity during the helicity induction process (Figures 5b(i,ii) and S13).

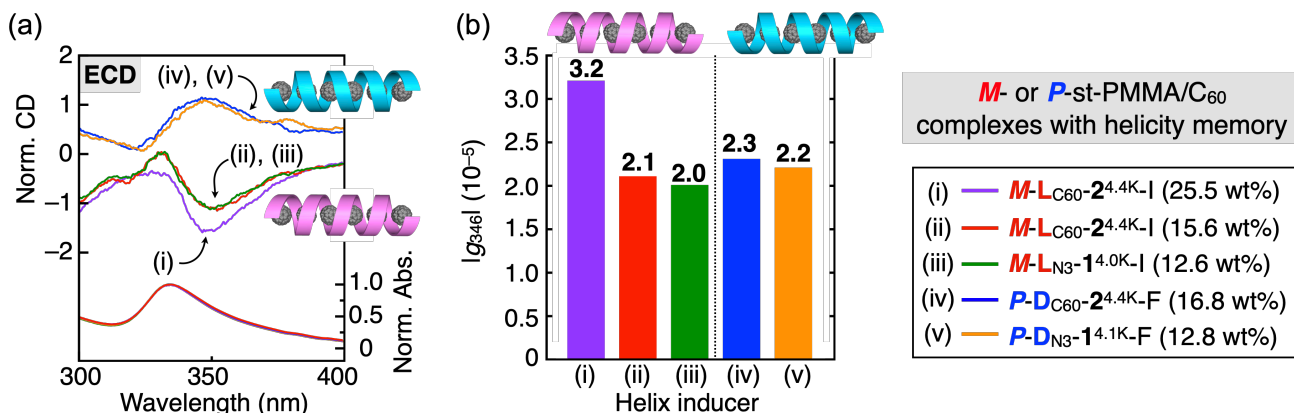
**Table 2. Characteristics of Inclusion Complexes of C<sub>60</sub>-Bound and C<sub>60</sub>-Free *M*- and *P*-PLAs with st-PMMA<sup>a</sup>**

run	PLA	st-PMMA/PLA inclusion complex		
		encapsulated PLA (wt%) <sup>b</sup>	<i>d</i> (nm) <sup>c</sup>	<i>T</i> <sub>m</sub> (°C) <sup>d</sup>
1	<i>M</i> -L <sub>C60</sub> -2 <sup>1.0K</sup> -I	15.2	1.77	180
2	<i>M</i> -L <sub>C60</sub> -2 <sup>2.4K</sup> -I	15.3	1.82	181
3	<i>M</i> -L <sub>C60</sub> -2 <sup>4.4K</sup> -I	15.7	1.81	183
4	<i>P</i> -D <sub>C60</sub> -2 <sup>4.4K</sup> -F	16.8	–	–
5	<i>M</i> -L <sub>C60</sub> -2 <sup>4.4K</sup> -I	23.5	1.86	181
6	<i>M</i> -L <sub>N3</sub> -1 <sup>4.0K</sup> -I	12.6	1.86	174

<sup>a</sup> The st-PMMA/PLA complex gels were prepared by adding a toluene (runs 1–5) or toluene-*d*<sub>8</sub> (run 6) solution of PLA (3.0 mg/mL, 1.0 mL in runs 1–4, 9.0 mg/mL, 0.40 mL in run 5, and 14.5 mg/mL, 0.80 mL in run 6) to st-PMMA (10.0 mg in runs 1–4, 4.0 mg in run 5, and 8.0 mg in run 6) followed by heating to 110 °C and cooling to room temperature, and then centrifuged. <sup>b</sup> Determined by absorption (runs 1–5) and <sup>1</sup>H NMR (run 6) analyses. <sup>c</sup> Estimated by XRD of the st-PMMA/PLA complex films. <sup>d</sup> Melting point determined by DSC of the st-PMMA/PLA complex films.



**Figure 4.** (a,d) ECD (top) and absorption (bottom) spectra of *M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I ( $5.1 \times 10^{-4}$  M) (red) and *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-F ( $5.3 \times 10^{-4}$  M) (blue) (a) in toluene-*d*<sub>8</sub> at 25 °C and those of st-PMMA/*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I gel (15.6 wt%) (red) and st-PMMA/*P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-F gel (16.8 wt%) (blue) (d) in toluene at 25 °C. The ECD and absorption spectra in (a,d) were normalized based on the corresponding absorption spectra at 25 °C. The contribution of the linear dichroism caused by the macroscopic anisotropy was negligible (d). The corresponding ECD and absorption spectra of st-PMMA/*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I gel containing a higher content of *M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I (25.5 wt%) are shown in Figure S11. (b,e) VCD (top) and IR (bottom) spectra of *M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I ( $5.1 \times 10^{-4}$  M) (red) and *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-F ( $5.3 \times 10^{-4}$  M) (blue) (b) and those of st-PMMA/*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I (17.4 wt%) (red) and st-PMMA/*P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-F (18.5 wt%) (blue) complex gels (e) in toluene-*d*<sub>8</sub> at room temperature. (c,f) VCD (top) and IR (bottom) spectra of *M*-L<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>4.0K</sup>-I ( $6.7 \times 10^{-4}$  M) (red) and *P*-D<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>4.1K</sup>-F ( $6.7 \times 10^{-4}$  M) (blue) (c) and those of st-PMMA/*M*-L<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>4.0K</sup>-I (12.6 wt%) (red) and st-PMMA/*P*-D<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>4.1K</sup>-F (12.8 wt%) (blue) complex gels (f) in toluene-*d*<sub>8</sub> at room temperature. (g) Calculated VCD (top) and IR (bottom) spectra of *M*- (red line) and *P*- (blue line) helical st-PMMA.<sup>59</sup>



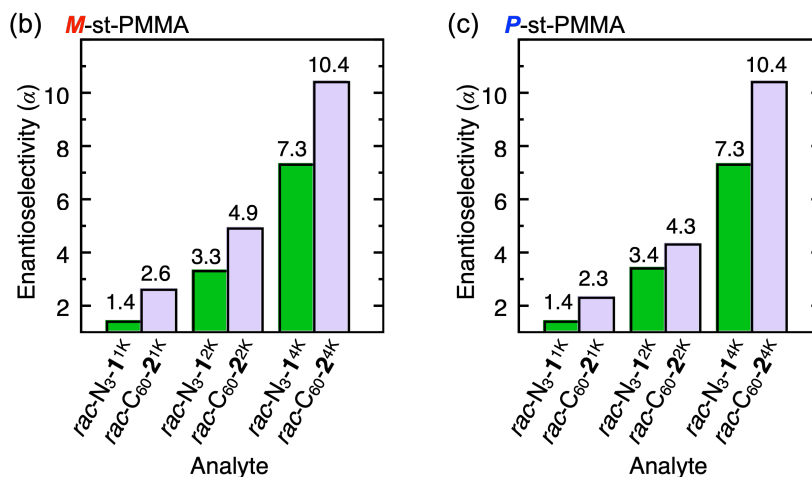
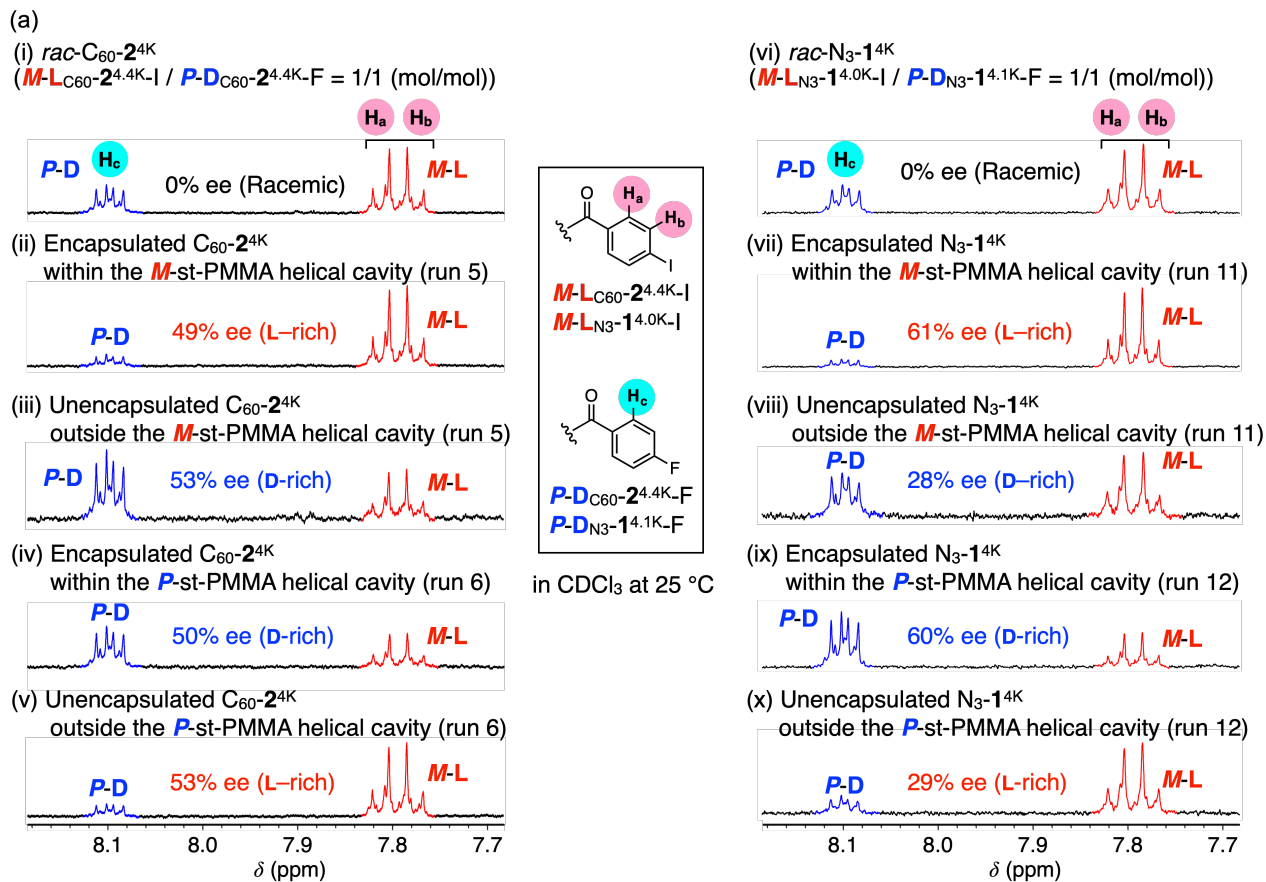
**Figure 5.** (a) ECD (top) and absorption (bottom) spectra of isolated st-PMMA/C<sub>60</sub> complex gels in toluene prepared by complexation with *M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I (i; 25.5 wt%), *M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I (ii; 15.6 wt%), *M*-L<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>4.0K</sup>-I (iii; 12.6 wt%), *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-F (iv; 16.8 wt%), and *P*-D<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>4.1K</sup>-F (v; 12.8 wt%) followed by replacement with the achiral C<sub>60</sub>. Complete removal of the optically-active PLAs was confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR measurements of the isolated st-PMMA/C<sub>60</sub> complexes (Figure S12). The ECD and absorption spectra were normalized based on the corresponding absorption spectra at 25 °C. (b) Kuhn's dissymmetry factors at 346 nm ( $lg_{346}$ ) of the isolated st-PMMA/C<sub>60</sub> complexes (i–v) in (a).

**Table 3. Helix-Sense-Selective Encapsulation of C<sub>60</sub>-Bound Racemic and Nonracemic 2 and C<sub>60</sub>-Free Racemic 1 by *M*- and *P*-Helical st-PMMA with Helicity Memory<sup>a,b</sup>**

run	analyte	handedness of st-PMMA <sup>c</sup>	analyte/ st-PMMA in feed (w/w)	encapsulated analyte		ee (%) of free analyte <sup>f</sup>	separation factor ( $\alpha$ ) <sup>g</sup>
				yield (%) <sup>d</sup>	ee (%) <sup>e</sup>		
1	<i>rac</i> -C <sub>60</sub> -2 <sup>1K</sup>	<i>M</i>	0.40	46 (41)	26, <i>M</i> -L	19 (18), <i>P</i> -D	2.6 (2.4)
2	<i>rac</i> -C <sub>60</sub> -2 <sup>1K</sup>	<i>P</i>	0.40	47 (42)	22, <i>P</i> -D	20 (16), <i>M</i> -L	2.3 (2.2)
3	<i>rac</i> -C <sub>60</sub> -2 <sup>2K</sup>	<i>M</i>	0.37	50 (48)	38, <i>M</i> -L	33 (35), <i>P</i> -D	4.9 (4.7)
4	<i>rac</i> -C <sub>60</sub> -2 <sup>2K</sup>	<i>P</i>	0.37	50 (47)	34, <i>P</i> -D	34 (31), <i>M</i> -L	4.3 (3.8)
5	<i>rac</i> -C <sub>60</sub> -2 <sup>4K</sup>	<i>M</i>	0.30	52 (55)	49, <i>M</i> -L	53 (59), <i>P</i> -D	10.4 (11.5)
6	<i>rac</i> -C <sub>60</sub> -2 <sup>4K</sup>	<i>P</i>	0.30	53 (54)	50, <i>P</i> -D	53 (58), <i>M</i> -L	10.4 (11.0)
7	<i>rac</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -1 <sup>1K</sup>	<i>M</i>	0.23	12	13, <i>M</i> -L	2, <i>P</i> -D	1.4
8	<i>rac</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -1 <sup>1K</sup>	<i>P</i>	0.23	11	13, <i>P</i> -D	2, <i>M</i> -L	1.4
9	<i>rac</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -1 <sup>2K</sup>	<i>M</i>	0.25	23	43, <i>M</i> -L	10, <i>P</i> -D	3.3
10	<i>rac</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -1 <sup>2K</sup>	<i>P</i>	0.25	25	43, <i>P</i> -D	13, <i>M</i> -L	3.4
11	<i>rac</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -1 <sup>4K</sup>	<i>M</i>	0.22	32	61, <i>M</i> -L	28, <i>P</i> -D	7.3
12	<i>rac</i> -N <sub>3</sub> -1 <sup>4K</sup>	<i>P</i>	0.22	32	60, <i>P</i> -D	29, <i>M</i> -L	7.3
13	53% ee of C <sub>60</sub> -2 <sup>4K</sup> (D-rich)	<i>M</i>	0.030	53 (52)	22, <i>P</i> -D	87 (87), <i>P</i> -D	9.4 (9.2)

<sup>a</sup> Experimental conditions: st-PMMA, 3.0 mg (runs 1–12), 15.0 mg (run 13); (*R*- or (*S*)-3, 75  $\mu$ L (runs 1–12), (*R*)-3, 380  $\mu$ L (run 13); *rac*-C<sub>60</sub>-2<sup>1K</sup> (*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>1.0K</sup>-I / *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>1.0K</sup>-F = 50/50 (mol/mol)), 1.2 mg in 0.50 mL toluene (runs 1,2); *rac*-C<sub>60</sub>-2<sup>2K</sup> (*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>2.4K</sup>-I / *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>2.5K</sup>-F = 50/50 (mol/mol)), 1.1 mg in 0.50 mL toluene (runs 3,4); *rac*-C<sub>60</sub>-2<sup>4K</sup> (*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I / *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-F = 50/50 (mol/mol)), 0.89 mg in 0.50 mL toluene (runs 5,6); *rac*-N<sub>3</sub>-1<sup>1K</sup> (*M*-L<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>1.0K</sup>-I / *P*-D<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>1.0K</sup>-F = 50/50 (mol/mol)), 0.68 mg in 0.50 mL toluene (runs 7,8); *rac*-N<sub>3</sub>-1<sup>2K</sup> (*M*-L<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>2.3K</sup>-I / *P*-D<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>2.4K</sup>-F = 50/50 (mol/mol)), 0.76 mg in 0.50 mL toluene (runs 9,10); *rac*-N<sub>3</sub>-1<sup>4K</sup> (*M*-L<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>4.0K</sup>-I / *P*-D<sub>N3</sub>-1<sup>4.1K</sup>-F = 50/50 (mol/mol)), 0.67 mg in 0.50 mL toluene (runs 11,12); 53% ee of C<sub>60</sub>-2<sup>4K</sup> (D-rich) (*M*-L<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-I / *P*-D<sub>C60</sub>-2<sup>4.4K</sup>-F = 23/77 (mol/mol)), 0.44 mg in 2.5 mL toluene (run 13). <sup>b</sup> Average values of two runs. <sup>c</sup> *M* and *P* denote left- and right-handed helical senses, respectively. <sup>d</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. In parentheses are shown the values estimated by absorption measurements (runs 1–6 and 13). <sup>e</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. <sup>f</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. In parentheses are shown the calculated ee values based on the yields determined by absorption measurements and the ee values of the encapsulated analytes (runs 1–6 and 13). <sup>g</sup> Calculated according to the equation  $\alpha = (F_{\text{major}} (\%) / F_{\text{minor}} (\%)) / (A_{\text{major}} (\%) / A_{\text{minor}} (\%))$ , where  $F_{\text{major}}$  and  $F_{\text{minor}}$  are the percentages of major and minor enantiomers of the free analyte in the supernatant solutions, respectively, and  $A_{\text{major}}$  and  $A_{\text{minor}}$  are those of major and minor enantiomers of the encapsulated analyte, respectively.  $F_{\text{major}}$ ,  $F_{\text{minor}}$ ,  $A_{\text{major}}$ , and  $A_{\text{minor}}$  are calculated from the yield and ee of the encapsulated analytes determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. In parentheses are shown the calculated ee values based on the yields determined by absorption measurements and the ee values of the encapsulated analytes (runs 1–6 and 13). <sup>h</sup> Values of a single experiment.

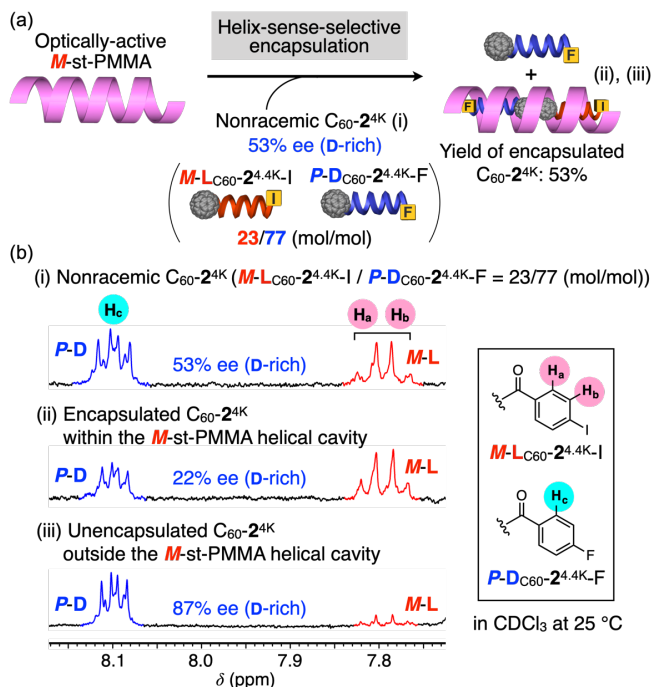




**Figure 6.** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) spectra of *rac*-C<sub>60</sub>-2<sup>4K</sup> (i) and helix-sense selectively encapsulated C<sub>60</sub>-2<sup>4K</sup> (L-rich (ii) or D-rich (iv)) and unencapsulated C<sub>60</sub>-2<sup>4K</sup> (D-rich (iii) or L-rich (v)) in the *M*- (ii and iii) (run 5, Table 3) and *P*- (iv and v) (run 6, Table 3) helical st-PMMA, respectively, and those of *rac*-N<sub>3</sub>-1<sup>4K</sup> (vi) and helix-sense selectively encapsulated N<sub>3</sub>-1<sup>4K</sup> (L-rich (vii) or D-rich (ix)) and unencapsulated N<sub>3</sub>-1<sup>4K</sup> (D-rich (viii) or L-rich (x)) in the *M*- (vii and viii) (run 11, Table 3) and *P*- (ix and x) (run 12, Table 3) helical st-PMMA, respectively. (b,c) Separation factors (enantioselectivity) ( $\alpha$ ) on *M*-st-PMMA (b) and *P*-st-PMMA (c) for *rac*-N<sub>3</sub>-1 (green bar) and *rac*-C<sub>60</sub>-2 (purple bar) with different molar masses. For experimental conditions, see Section 7 in the SI.

**Helix-Sense-Selective Encapsulation of C<sub>60</sub>-Bound and C<sub>60</sub>-Free PLAs within the Helical Cavity of *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA with a Helicity Memory.** Enantioselective extractions of the racemic C<sub>60</sub>-bound (*rac*-C<sub>60</sub>-2) and C<sub>60</sub>-free (*rac*-N<sub>3</sub>-1) *M*- and *P*-PLAs with a different  $M_{n,NMR}$  and the end groups by the *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA with a helicity memory were then performed (Figure 1c). The optically-active *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA with an

excess single-handed helix were prepared according to a previously reported method using (*R*)- and (*S*)-3 as the chiral solvent by heating at 110 °C, followed by cooling to room temperature, resulting in the gels composed of the *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA, respectively, which were then repeatedly washed with toluene to completely remove (*R*)- and (*S*)-3, then isolated by centrifugation.<sup>61,62</sup>



**Figure 7.** (a) Schematic illustration of the helix-sense-selective encapsulation of the  $C_{60}$ -bound nonracemic  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  with *M*-st-PMMA with a helicity memory. (b)  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 25 °C) spectra of 53% ee of  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  (D-rich) (i) and helix-sense selectively encapsulated  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  (D-rich; ii) and unencapsulated  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  (D-rich; iii) in the *M*-st-PMMA (run 13, Table 3). For experimental conditions, see Section 9 in the SI.

Typically, the condensed *M*-st-PMMA gel (3.0 mg) prepared by (*R*)-**3** was suspended in a toluene solution of *rac*- $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  composed of an equal mixture of  $M-L_{C_{60}-2^{4K}-I}$  and  $P-D_{C_{60}-2^{4K}-F}$  (1.8 mg/mL, 0.50 mL) with stirring at room temperature for 3 h to produce the *M*-st-PMMA/ $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  complex gel,<sup>96</sup> in which 0.47 mg of the nonracemic  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  (52% yield) was encapsulated within the *M*-st-PMMA cavities as estimated by the  $^1H$  NMR of the *M*-st-PMMA/ $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  complex dissolved in  $CDCl_3$  (run 5 in Table 3). The yield of the encapsulated  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  was almost consistent with that calculated from the difference in the absorption spectra of the racemic  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  in toluene before and after the single extraction (Figure S15a).<sup>59,61,75</sup> The ee value of the encapsulated  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  was estimated to be 49% ( $M-L_{C_{60}-2^{4K}-I}$  rich) by the  $^1H$  NMR analysis (run 5 in Table 3 and Figure 6a(ii)). When the opposite (*S*)-**3** was used as the chiral solvent during the helix induction in st-PMMA, the resulting opposite *P*-st-PMMA with the helicity memory enantioselectively extracted the opposite enantiomer of  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$ , giving 50% ee of  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  ( $P-D_{C_{60}-2^{4K}-F}$  rich) in 53% yield (run 6 in Table 3 and Figures 6a(iv) and S14b). We noted that the ee values of the unencapsulated  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  remaining in the supernatants were also determined to be 53 ( $P-D_{C_{60}-2^{4K}-F}$  rich) and 53% ( $M-L_{C_{60}-2^{4K}-I}$  rich) when the *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA gels were used, respectively (Figure 6a(iii,v)), which were in reasonably consistent agreement with the calculated ee values based on the amounts and ee of the encapsulated  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  (runs 5 and 6 in Table 3).

The enantioselective extraction results of a series of *rac*- $N_3$ -**1** and *rac*- $C_{60}$ -**2** samples with a different  $M_{n,NMR}$  and the end groups (azido or  $C_{60}$  group) are summarized in Table 3. The

results revealed that the helical PLA segments of  $N_3$ -**1** and  $C_{60}$ -**2** that fit the helical cavities of the st-PMMA with the same helical handedness as those of the PLAs are preferentially entrapped, which well agrees with the facts that the *M*-L-PLAs and *P*-D-PLAs induced the same *M*- and *P*-helical conformations in the st-PMMA backbone independent of the terminal residues (azido or  $C_{60}$  group), respectively, once encapsulated as previously described. The ee values of  $C_{60}$ -free **1** and  $C_{60}$ -bound **2** enantio- and helix-sense selectively entrapped in the optically-active *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA are variable depending on the amounts (yields) of the encapsulated  $N_3$ -**1** and  $C_{60}$ -**2**, therefore, we employed the separation factor (enantioselectivity) ( $\alpha$ )<sup>97-99</sup> to evaluate the chiral recognition ability of the *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA toward the *rac*- $N_3$ -**1** and *rac*- $C_{60}$ -**2** (Table 3).

The  $C_{60}$ -bound PLAs (*rac*- $C_{60}$ -**2**) were more efficiently and enantioselectively encapsulated in the helical cavity of the st-PMMA than the corresponding  $C_{60}$ -free *rac*- $N_3$ -**1** under the similar experimental conditions using almost the identical  $M_{n,NMR}$  of PLAs, probably because the terminal achiral  $C_{60}$  residues of the  $C_{60}$ -bound PLAs most likely contribute to enhancing the inclusion complexations with the st-PMMA, which could further enhance the hydrophobic interactions between the chiral PLA chains and the helical cavity of the st-PMMA, resulting in greater encapsulation yields and hence higher  $\alpha$  values over the corresponding  $C_{60}$ -free PLAs. The enantioselectivity ( $\alpha$  value) was highly dependent on the  $M_{n,NMR}$  of the  $C_{60}$ -free and  $C_{60}$ -bound PLAs, and showed a clear tendency that the  $\alpha$  value significantly increased with the increasing  $M_{n,NMR}$  of the PLAs such that  $1.4 < 3.3-3.4 < 7.3$  and  $2.3-2.6 < 4.3-4.9 < 10.4$  for the  $C_{60}$ -free *rac*- $N_3$ -**1** and  $C_{60}$ -bound *rac*- $C_{60}$ -**2**, respectively (Figure 6b,c and Table 3) and eventually reached the excellent  $\alpha$  value of ca. 10, thus giving approximately 50% ee for both the optically-active *M*- and *P*- $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  that could be isolated by a single extraction using *M*- and *P*-st-PMMA, when *rac*- $C_{60}$ -**2** composed of an equal mixture of the highest molar mass PLAs,  $M-L_{C_{60}-2^{4K}-I}$  and  $P-D_{C_{60}-2^{4K}-F}$ , was used (runs 5 and 6 in Table 3). The observed molar mass-dependent enhancement of the enantioselectivity is most likely due to the effective increases in the one-handed helical chain lengths of the *M*- and *P*-PLAs that allow further enhancement of the hydrophobic chiral interactions with the one-handed st-PMMA helical cavity. Furthermore, when the enantioselective extraction by *M*-st-PMMA with a helicity memory was further performed using nonracemic  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  (53% ee D-rich) as an analyte that can be obtained by single extraction with *M*-st-PMMA (run 5 in Table 3), the ee value of the unencapsulated  $C_{60}$ - $2^{4K}$  remaining in the supernatants increased to 87% ee (D-rich) (Figure 7 and run 13 in Table 3), thus providing a practically useful resolution method to obtain both helices of the PLAs with a high optical purity only by two extractions using *M*- or *P*-st-PMMA with a helicity memory.

## CONCLUSION

In summary, we have found that the homochiral *M*-L- and *P*-D-PLAs are efficiently encapsulated in a highly helix-sense-selective manner within the helical cavity of an optically-active st-PMMA with memory of the macromolecular helicity, which is readily prepared from inexpensive st-PMMA using chiral amines based on the “helicity induction and memory” strategy, thus producing unique crystalline “helix-in-helix” superstructured inclusion complexes with the same helical

sense to each other. Contrary to the previously observed inclusion complex of st-PMMA with the C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*- and *P*-helical peptides,<sup>75</sup> the introduction of a C<sub>60</sub> moiety at one end of the PLA chains is not necessarily required for the encapsulation in the st-PMMA hollow space, although the C<sub>60</sub> unit as well as the longer helical chains of the *M*- and *P*-PLAs contributes to significant enhancement of the enantioselectivities during the “helix-in-helix” inclusion complex formations. The present results imply that other varieties of helical as well as nonhelical oligomers and polymers may form similar “helix-in-helix” superstructured inclusion complexes with a controlled handedness once encapsulated within the one-handed helical cavity of the st-PMMA. It should be emphasized that the observed  $\alpha$  values of more than 2 (Table 3) are, in general, high enough for the complete base-line separation of enantiomers when used as a CSP for chiral HPLC,<sup>98,99</sup> indicating that the optically-active st-PMMA with an excess one-handedness has the potential as a practically useful CSP for separating not only racemic PLAs, but also other racemic helical oligomers and polymers as well as chiral fullerenes<sup>61</sup> and aromatic compounds,<sup>100</sup> since st-PMMA has successfully been chemically bonded to silica particles by the surface-initiated living syndiotactic-specific anionic polymerization of MMA.<sup>63</sup> Such an immobilized st-PMMA-based CSP has a great advantage such that either an *M*- or *P*-helical st-PMMA can be induced using (*R*)- or (*S*)-**3** and subsequently memorized, thus providing a switchable CSP,<sup>101,102</sup> in which the elution order of chiral analytes can be switched in a reversible fashion. The work to this goal is now in progress in our group.

## ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: XXX

Full experimental details, characterizations of C<sub>60</sub>-free and C<sub>60</sub>-bound *M*- and *P*-PLAs and their inclusion complexes with st-PMMA, and additional supporting data (PDF).

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### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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