Chemically Synthesized Biomimetic Underwater Adhesive

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One of the unique structural features of Mussel adhesive proteins (MAPs) is the presence of L-3,4dihydroxyphenylalanine (DOPA) which is believed to be responsible for the adhesive characteristics of MAPs. For the underwater adhesives with biocompatible and more flexible bonds using biomimetic adhesive groups, DOPA like adhesive molecules were modified with cyanoacrylates to obtain different repeating units and chain length copolymers. The goal of this work is to incorporate functional DOPA analogues chemically synthesized into a gel network by radical copolymerization and /or polyblending for developing a chemically synthesized underwater natural adhesives (UWA) with more practical application in initial adhesion rate/ adhesion strength.