Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for RSC Advances.

Supporting Information for

Covalent incorporation of tobacco mosaic virus increases the stiffness of poly(ethylene glycol) diacrylate hydrogels

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1. Rheology data of hydrogels

1.1 PEG-DA hydrogels

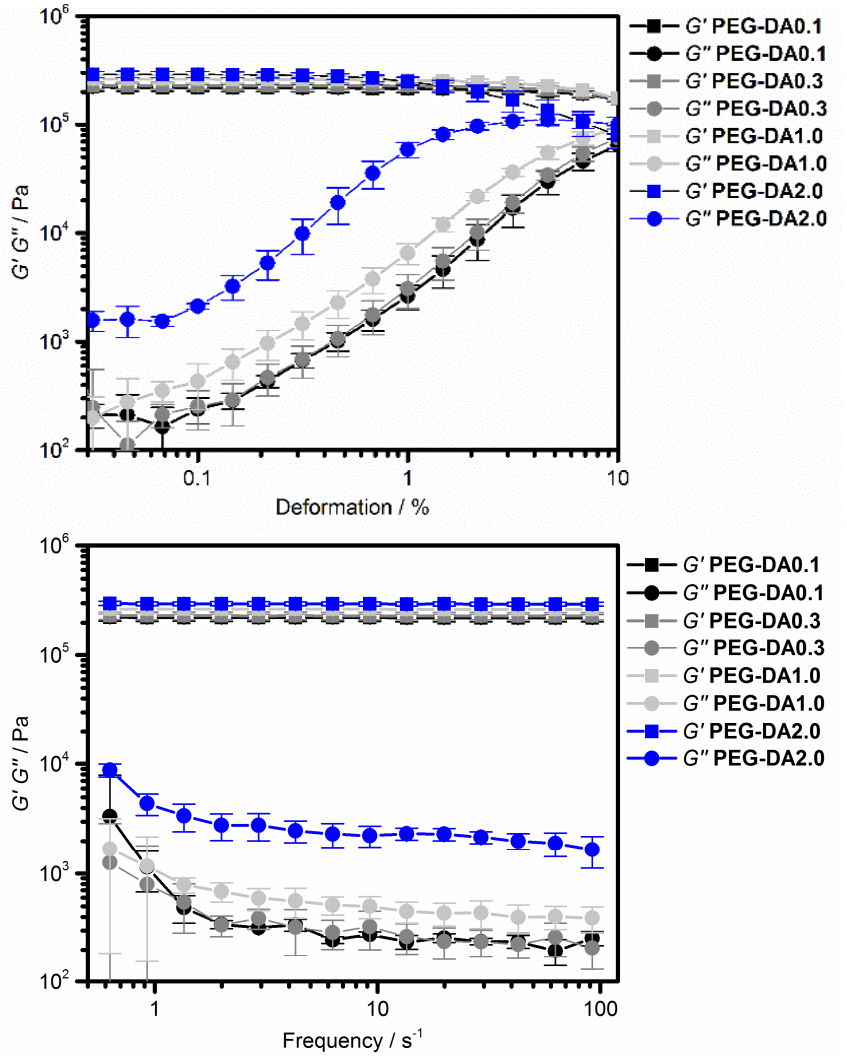

Figure 1 Amplitude sweep (top) and frequency sweep (bottom) of hydrogels prepared from PEG-DA without the addition of TMV particles.

1.2 TMV_{Cys} containing hydrogels

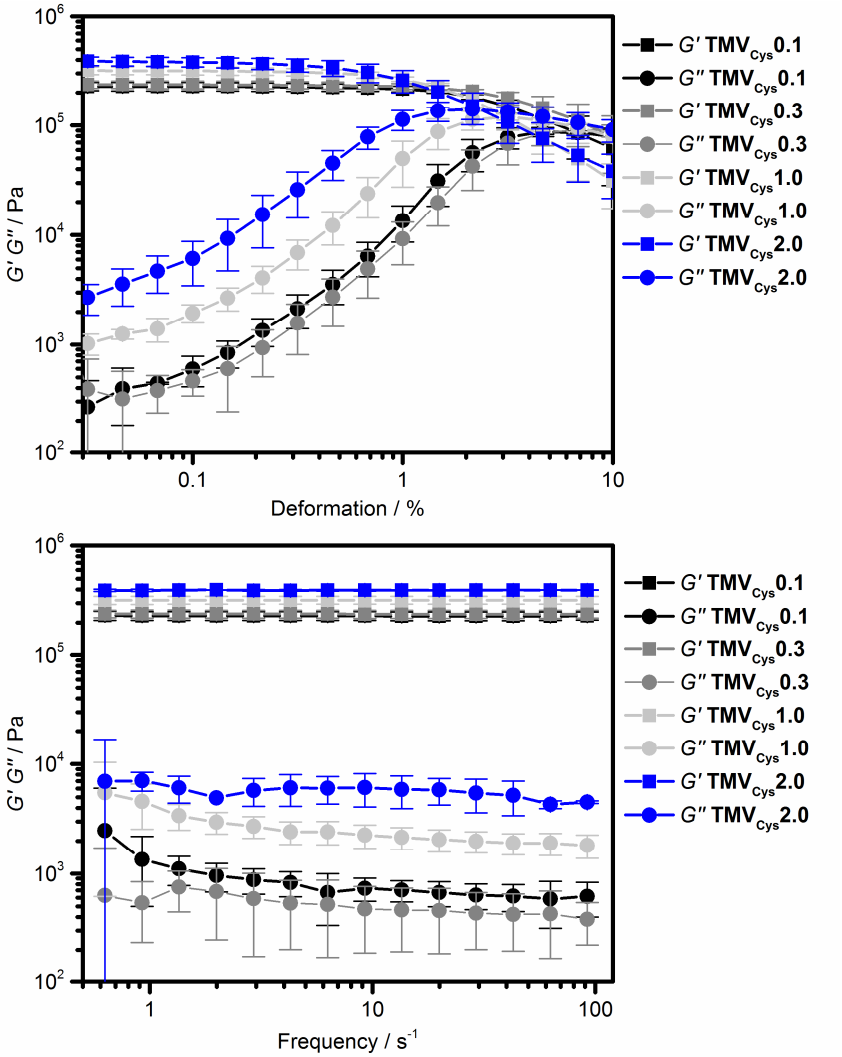

Figure 2 Amplitude sweep (top) and frequency sweep (bottom) of hydrogels prepared from PEG-DA with the addition of TMV_{Cys}.

1.3 wt-TMV containing hydrogels

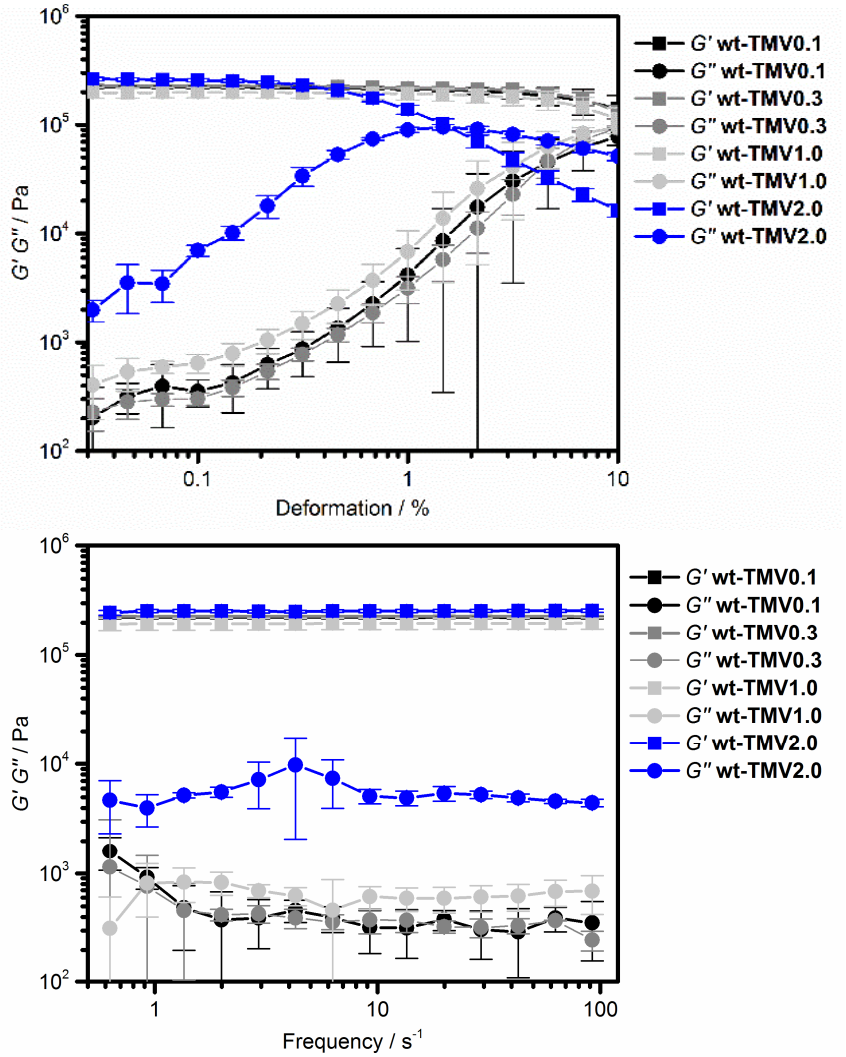

Figure 3 Amplitude sweep (top) and frequency sweep (bottom) of hydrogels prepared from PEG-DA with the addition of wt-TMV.

2. Photos of cured TMV containing hydrogels

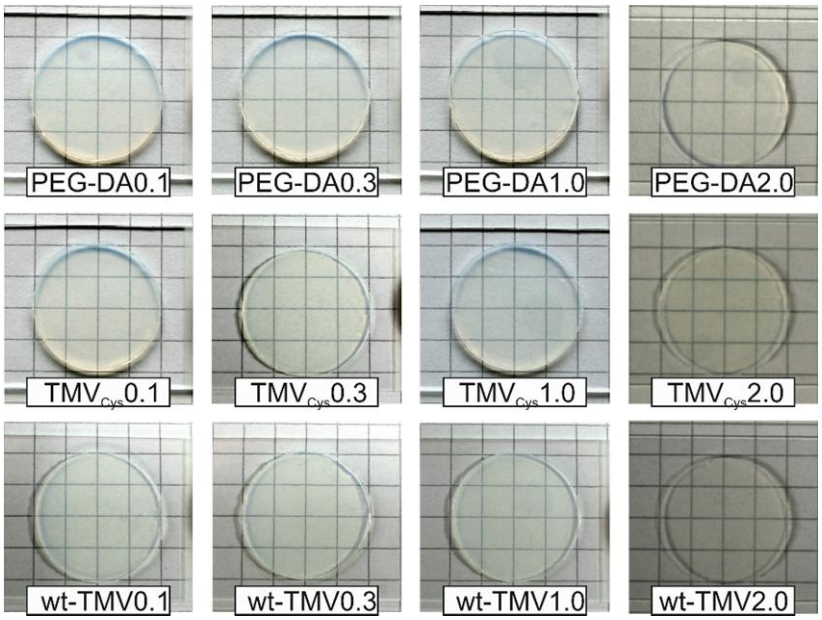

Figure 4 Representative photos of PEG-DA hydrogels containing 0.1, 0.3, 1.0 or 2.0 wt. % of TMV_{Cys}, wt-TMV or no TMV respectively. All hydrogels had a thickness of 1 mm and a diameter of 20 mm and were slightly opaque.

3. Micro BCA calibration of wt-TMV and TMV_{Cys}

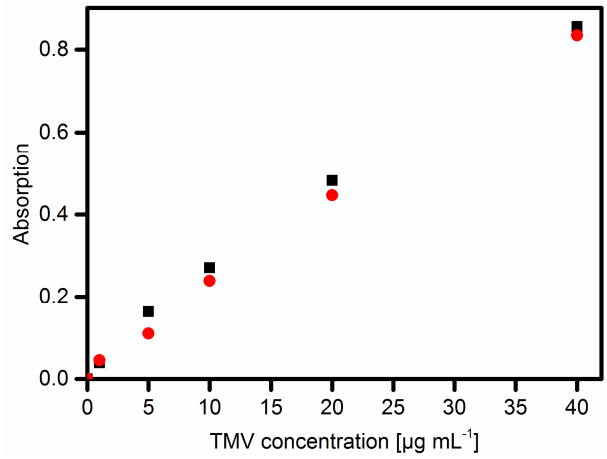

Figure 5 Typical calibration measuremets of wt-TMV (red circles) and TMV_{Cys} (black squares) measured with the micro BCA assay in SPP buffer.