

*Supporting Information*

**Multicomponent Supramolecular Hydrogels Composed of Cationic  
Phenylalanine Derivatives and Anionic Amino Acids**

*Shruti Ghosh,<sup>a</sup> Hannah E. Distaffen,<sup>a</sup> Christopher W. Jones,<sup>a</sup> and Bradley L. Nilsson<sup>a,b\*</sup>*

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, 14627-0216, USA

<sup>b</sup> Materials Science Program, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627-0166, USA

E-mail: [bradley.nilsson@rochester.edu](mailto:bradley.nilsson@rochester.edu)

Tel. +1 585 276-3053

**Table of Contents**

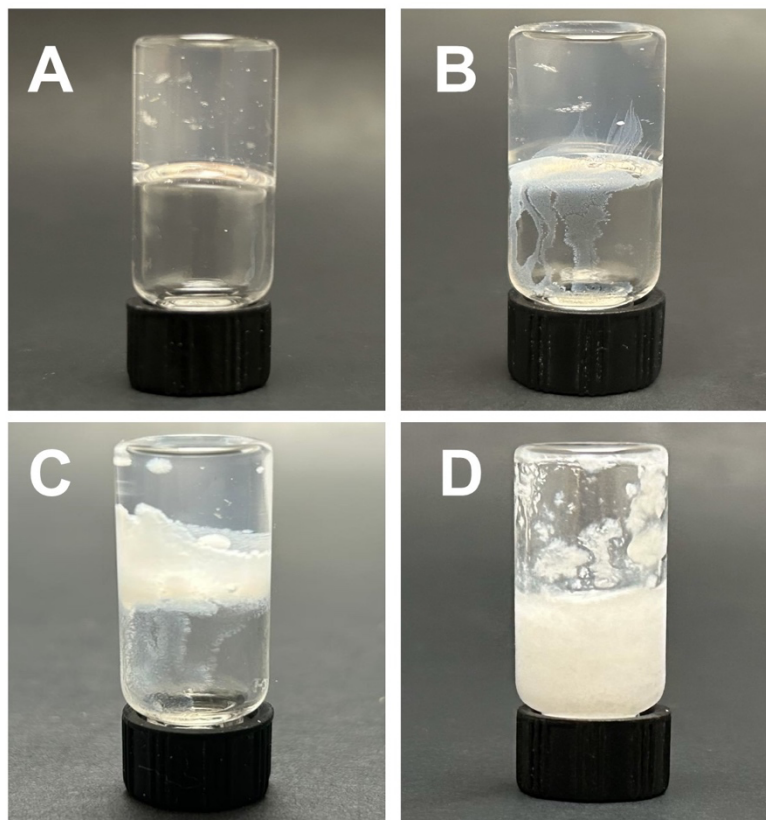
<b>Figure</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Table S1</b>	Detailed procedure for preparation of hydrogels of compounds <b>1-3</b> with anionic amino acids	S3
<b>Figure S1</b>	Digital images of assemblies of Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP ( <b>2</b> )/aspartate mixtures at different time intervals	S4
<b>Figure S2</b>	TEM images of Fmoc-Phe-DAP ( <b>1</b> ) assemblies with NaCl, glutamate, and aspartate after 4 hours and 24 hours of assembly	S5
<b>Figure S3</b>	TEM images of Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP ( <b>2</b> ) assemblies with NaCl, glutamate, and aspartate after 4 hours and 24 hours of assembly	S6
<b>Figure S4</b>	TEM images of Fmoc-F <sub>5</sub> -Phe-DAP ( <b>3</b> ) assemblies with NaCl, glutamate, and aspartate after 4 hours and 24 hours of assembly	S7
<b>Figure S5</b>	TEM images of Fmoc-Phe-DAP derivatives <b>1</b> , <b>2</b> , and <b>3</b> with glutamate, aspartate, and NaCl after 7 days	S8
<b>Figure S6</b>	TEM image of Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP ( <b>2</b> ) with aspartate after 4 h	S9
<b>Figure S7</b>	Amplitude sweep plots for hydrogels of Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP ( <b>2</b> )/glutamate and Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP ( <b>2</b> )/NaCl	S9
<b>Figure S8</b>	Amplitude sweep plot for Fmoc-Phe-DAP ( <b>1</b> )/glutamate	S10
<b>Figure S9</b>	Frequency sweep plots for Fmoc-Phe-DAP ( <b>1</b> )/glutamate hydrogels	S10
<b>Figure S10</b>	Frequency sweep plots for Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP ( <b>2</b> )/glutamate hydrogels	S11

## Supporting Information

**Table S1.** Procedure for preparing assemblies of compounds **1–3** with monosodium salts of either glutamic acid or aspartic acid. All hydrogels have a final concentration of compounds **1–3** of 15 mM.

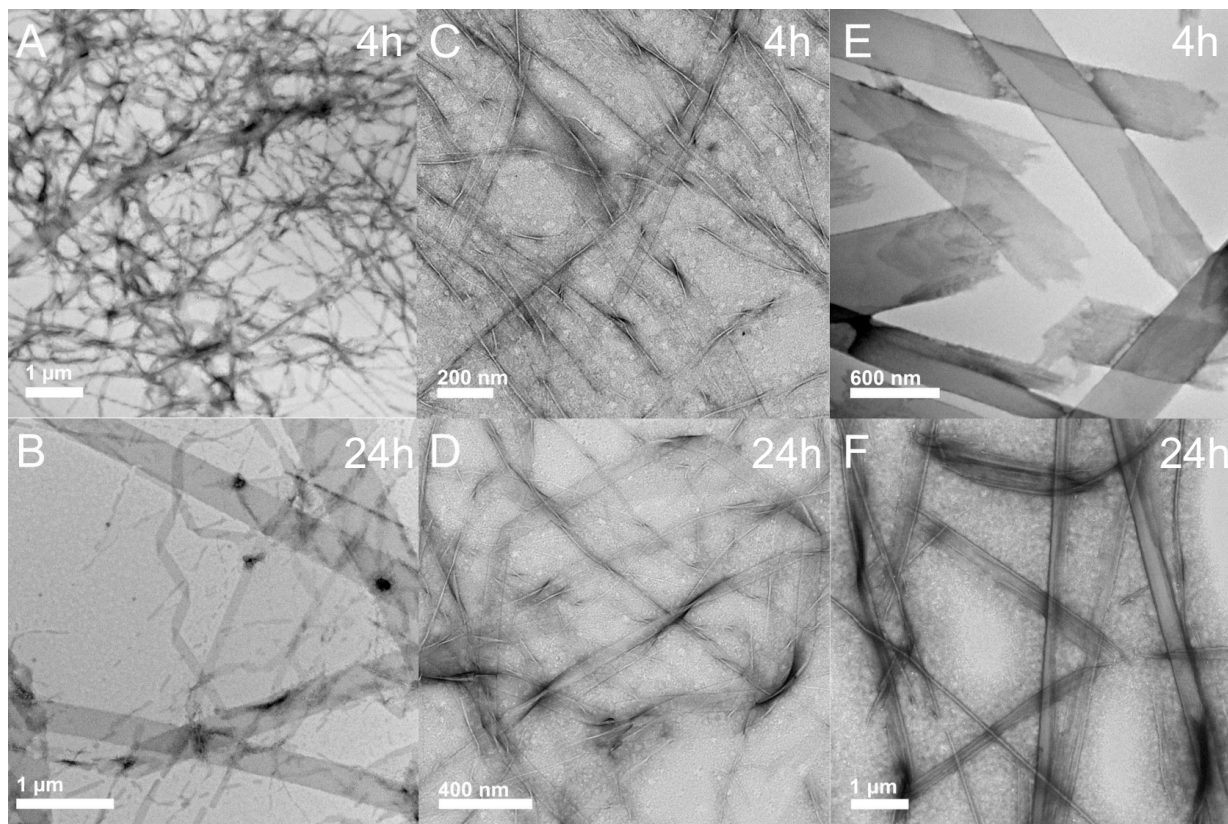
Equivalents of anionic amino acid with respect to Fmoc-Phe-DAP derivative (compounds <b>1</b> , <b>2</b> , or <b>3</b> )	Final concentration of anionic amino acid (mM)	Volume of stock solution of anionic amino acid (500 mM) added to solution of compound <b>1</b> , <b>2</b> , or <b>3</b> ( $\mu\text{L}$ )	Volume of water added ( $\mu\text{L}$ )
1	15	30	470
2	30	60	440
3	45	90	410
4	60	120	380
5	75	150	350
6	90	180	320
7	105	210	290
8	120	240	260
9	135	270	230
10	150	300	200

*Supporting Information*

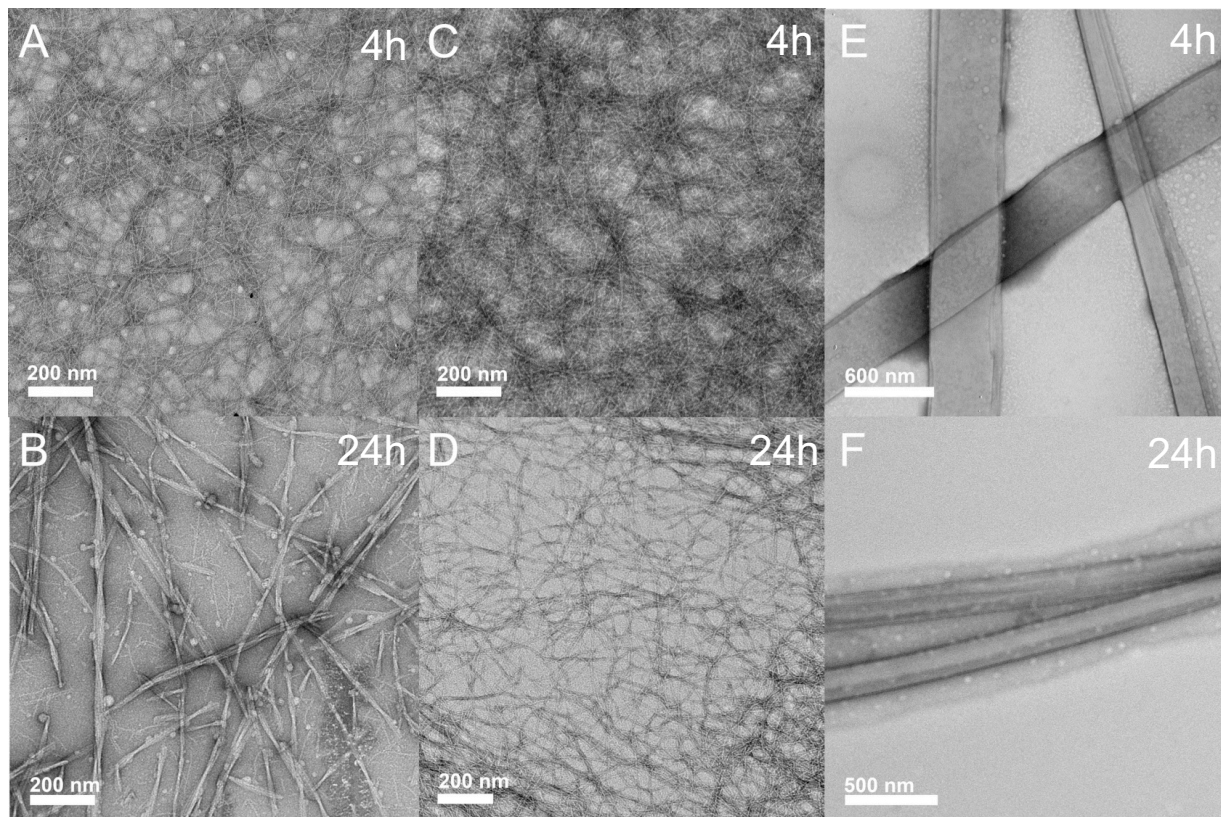


**Figure S1.** Digital images of assemblies of Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/aspartate mixtures at different time intervals. These images show the progression from a hydrogel to a precipitate over 12 hours. **A.** 5 minutes after gelation, **B.** 30 minutes after gelation, **C.** 2 hours after gelation, and **D.** 12 hours after gelation.

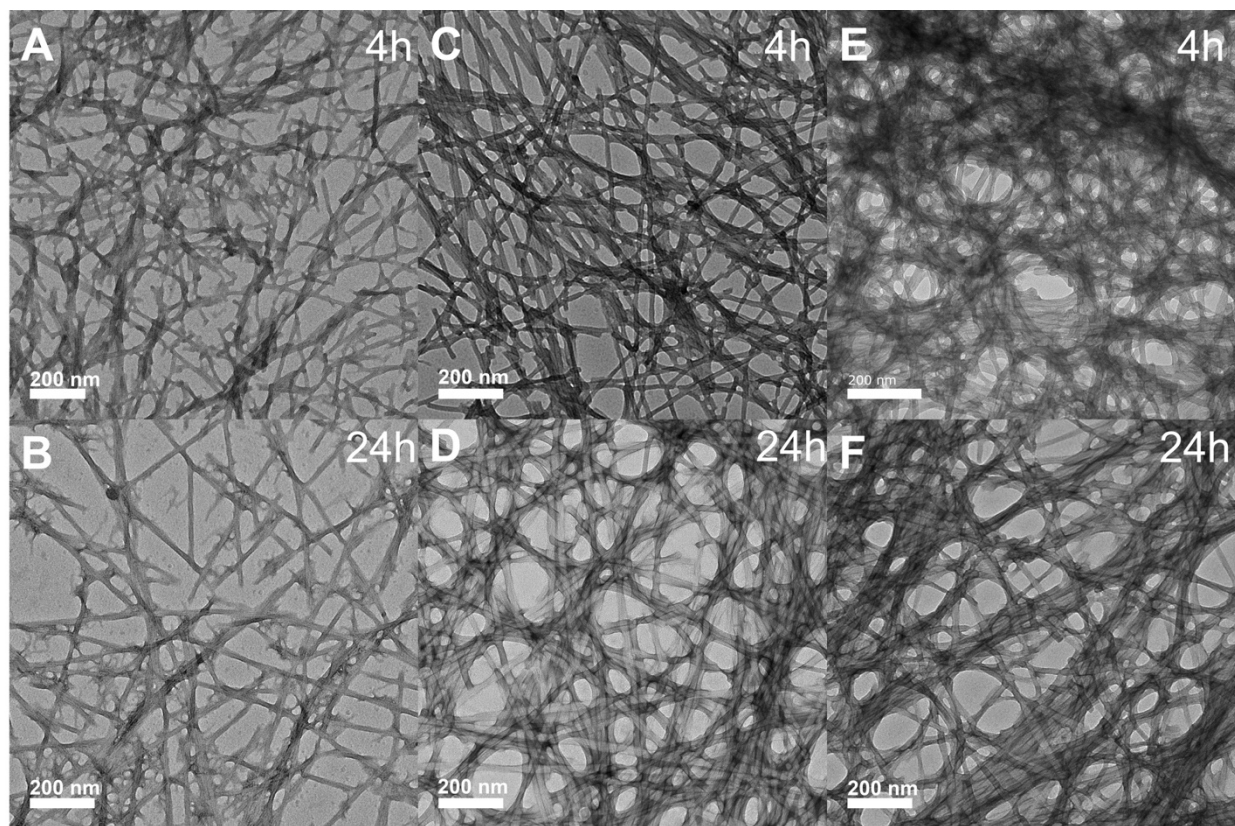
*Supporting Information*



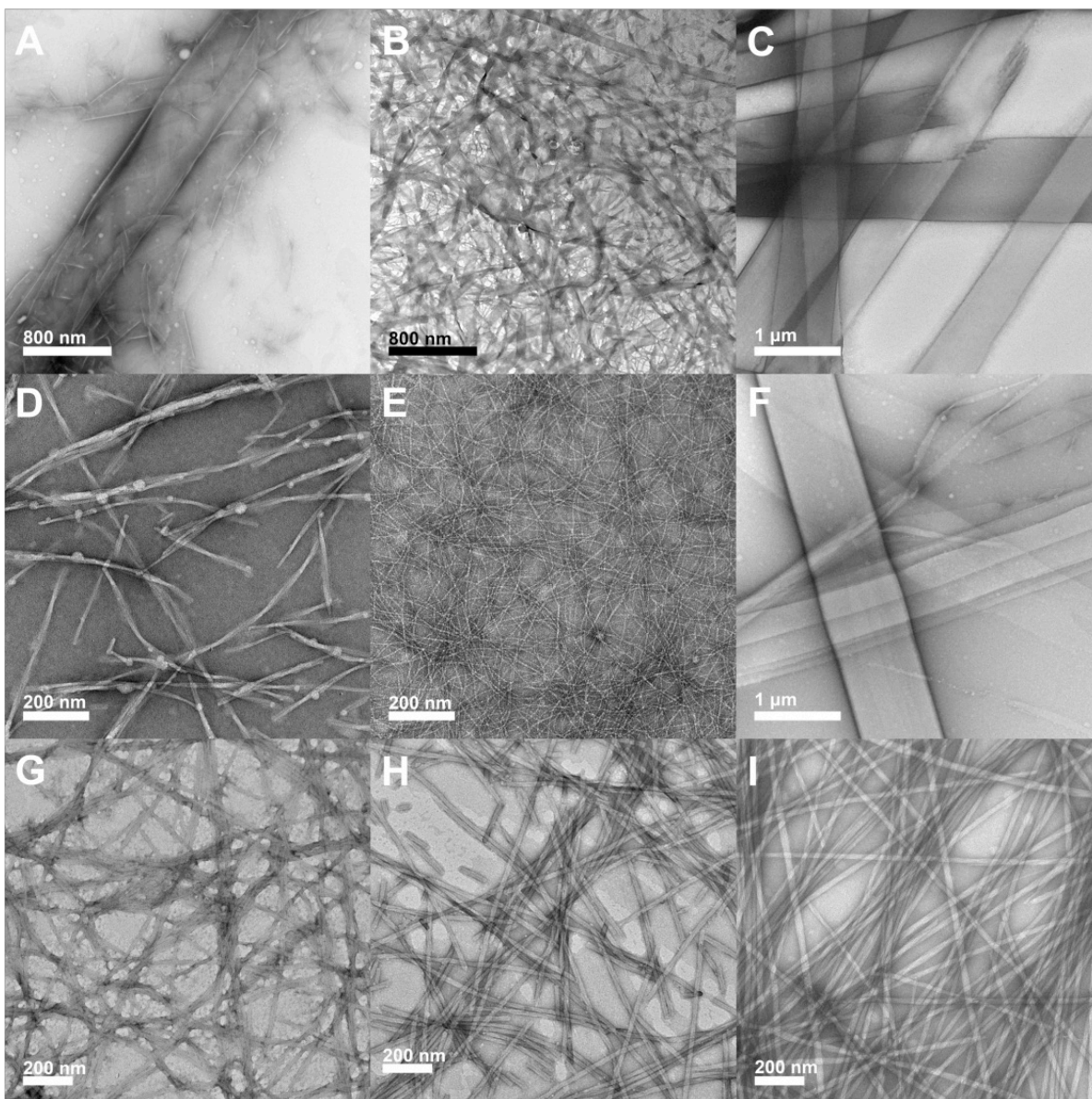
**Figure S2.** TEM images of Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**) assembled with NaCl (114 mM), glutamate (7 equivalents), or aspartate (7 equivalents) ions after 4 hours and 24 hours. **A.** Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**)/NaCl after 4 hours, **B.** Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**)/NaCl after 24 hours, **C.** Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**)/glutamate after 4 hours, **D.** Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**)/glutamate after 24 hours, **E.** Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**)/aspartate after 4 hours, **F.** Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**)/aspartate after 24 hours.



**Figure S3.** TEM images of Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**) assembled with NaCl (114 mM), glutamate (7 equivalents), or aspartate (7 equivalents) ions after 4 hours and 24 hours. **A.** Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/NaCl after 4 hours, **B.** Fmoc- 3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/NaCl after 24 hours, **C.** Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/glutamate after 4 hours, **D.** Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/glutamate after 24 hours, **E.** Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/aspartate after 4 hours, **F.** Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/aspartate after 24 hours.

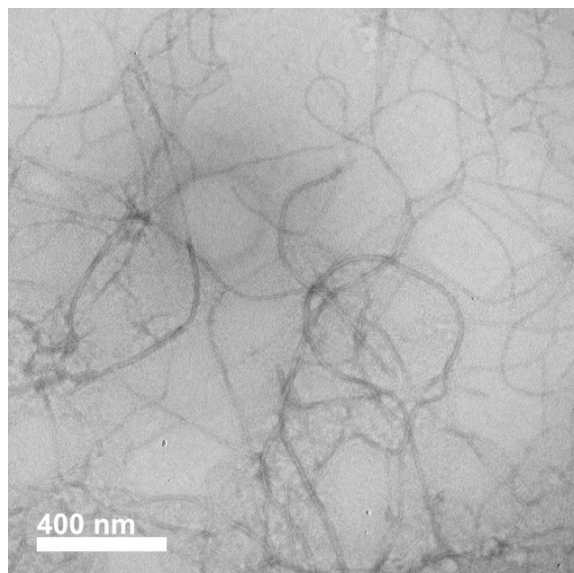


**Figure S4.** TEM images of Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**) assembled with NaCl (114 mM), glutamate (7 equivalents), or aspartate (7 equivalents) ions after 4 hours and 24 hours. **A.** Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**)/NaCl after 4 hours, **B.** Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**)/NaCl after 24 hours, **C.** Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**)/glutamate after 4 hours, **D.** Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**)/glutamate after 24 hours, **E.** Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**)/aspartate after 4 hours, **F.** Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**)/aspartate after 24 hours.

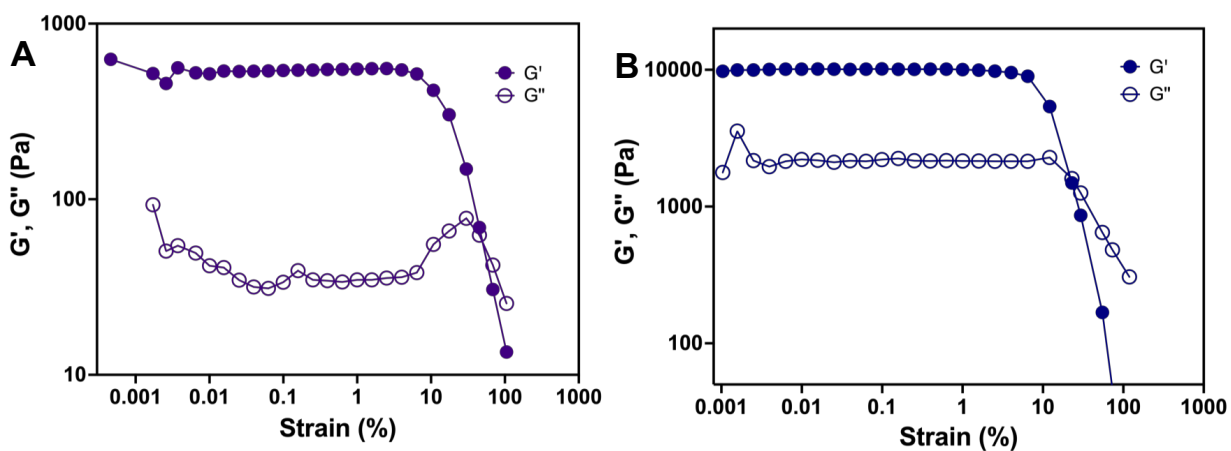


**Figure S5.** TEM images of assemblies of Fmoc-Phe-DAP derivatives after 7 days. All assemblies are mixtures of compounds **1**, **2**, or **3** (15 mM) and either 114 mM NaCl or 7 equivalents of monosodium glutamate or monosodium aspartate. **A.** Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**)/NaCl, **B.** Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**)/glutamate **C.** Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**)/aspartate, **D.** Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/NaCl, **E.** Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/glutamate, **F.** Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**)/aspartate, **G.** Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**)/NaCl, **H.** Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**)/glutamate, **I.** Fmoc-F<sub>5</sub>-Phe-DAP (**3**)/aspartate.



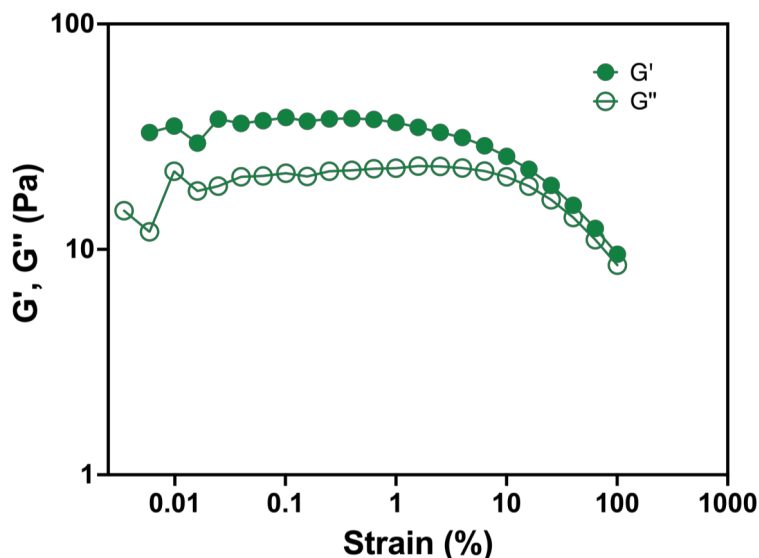


**Figure S6.** TEM image of Fmoc-3F-Phe DAP (**2**) with 7 equivalents of aspartate after 4 hours that shows the minor fibrous/wormlike micelle constituents of these mixtures.



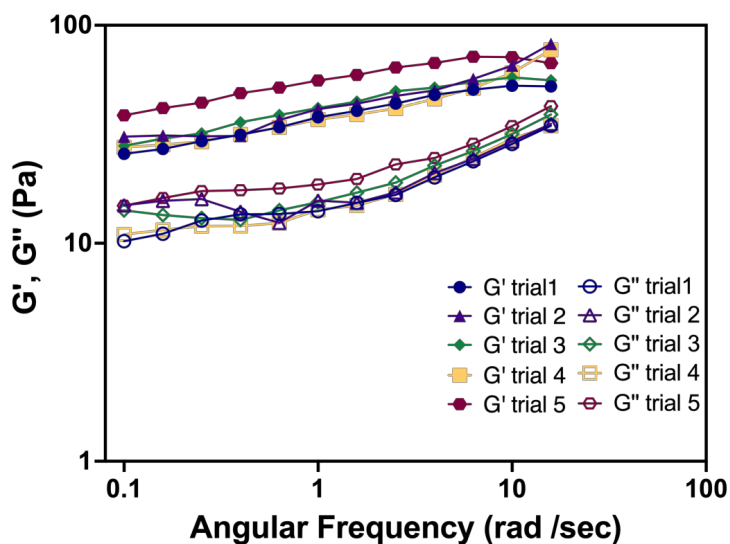
**Figure S7.** Oscillatory rheology amplitude sweep data for **A.** hydrogels of Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**) (15 mM) with 7 equivalents of glutamate, and **B.** hydrogels of Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (**2**) (15 mM) with NaCl (114 mM).

## Supporting Information

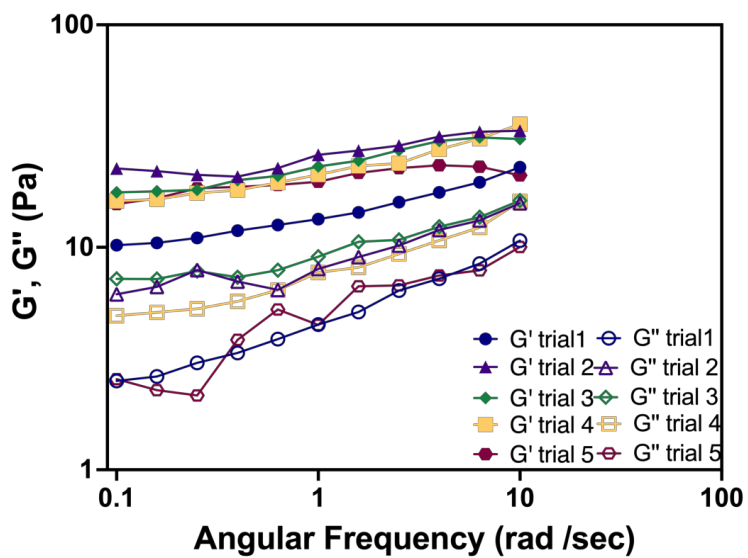


**Figure S8.** Oscillatory rheology amplitude sweep data for a hydrogel of Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**) (15 mM) with 7 equivalents of glutamate.<sup>#</sup>

<sup>#</sup> It should be noted that while we performed this amplitude sweep experiment for hydrogels of Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**) (15 mM) with 7 equivalents of glutamate, these hydrogels were exceptionally weak. The raw phase angle for these hydrogels in this data is greater than  $175^\circ$  for several data points, indicative of instrumental inertia dominating the signal. These data should thus be viewed with caution since they are not strictly reliable indicators of the properties of the material only.



**Figure S9.** Oscillatory rheology frequency sweep plot for hydrogels of Fmoc-Phe-DAP (**1**) with 7 equivalents of monosodium glutamate.



**Figure S10.** Oscillatory rheology frequency sweep plot for hydrogels of Fmoc-3F-Phe-DAP (2) with 3 equivalents of monosodium glutamate.