

Supporting Information

Co-assembly of Charged Complementary Peptides and their Applications as Organic

Dye / Heavy Metal Ion (Pb^{2+} , Hg^{2+}) Absorbents and Arsenic (III/V) Detectors

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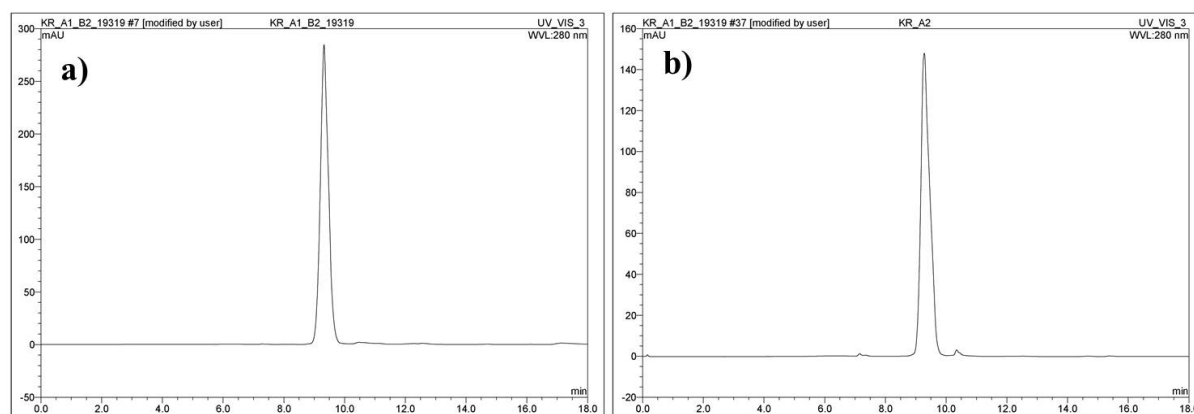


Figure S1: Analytical HPLC trace of the peptides a) A1 and b) A2

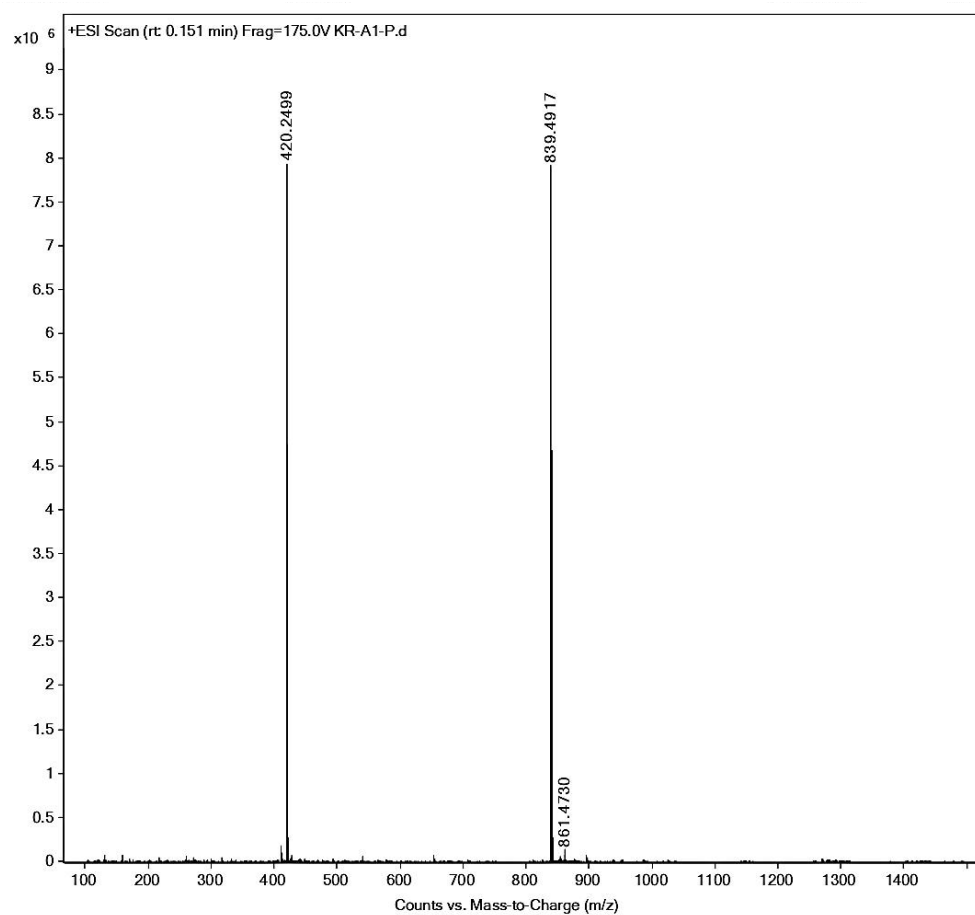


Figure S2: ESI-MS of A1.

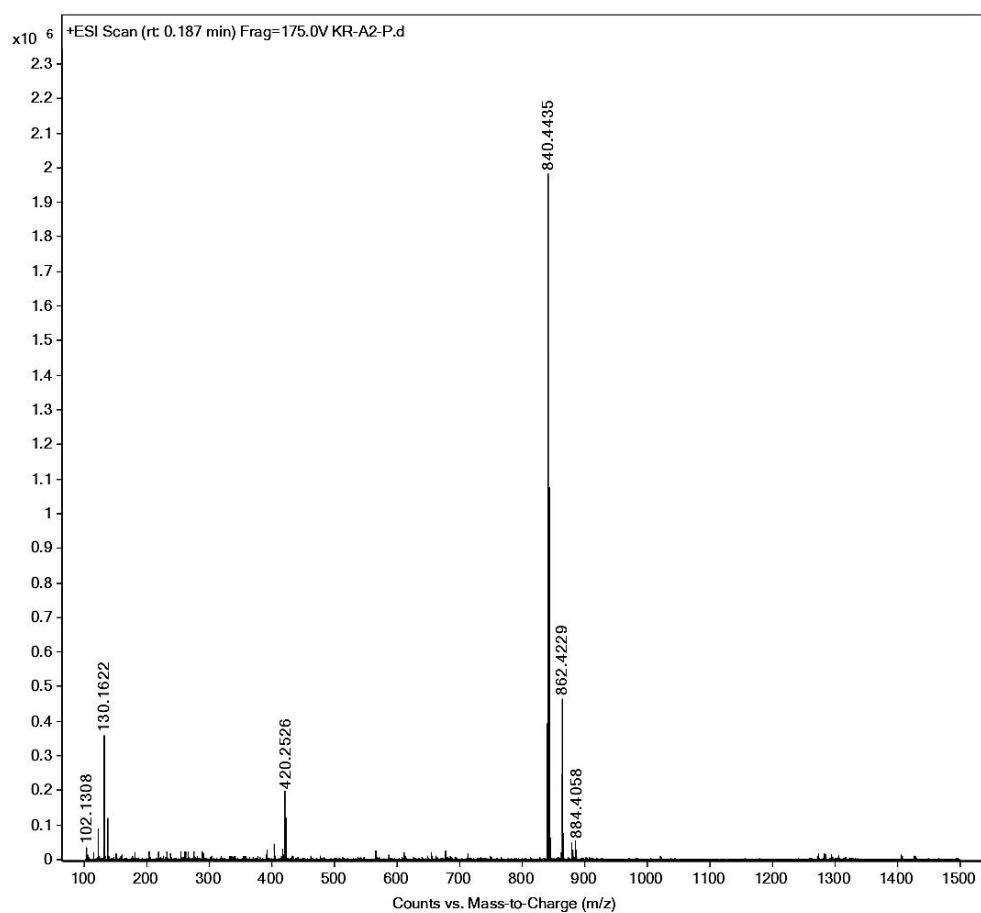


Figure S3: ESI-MS of A2.

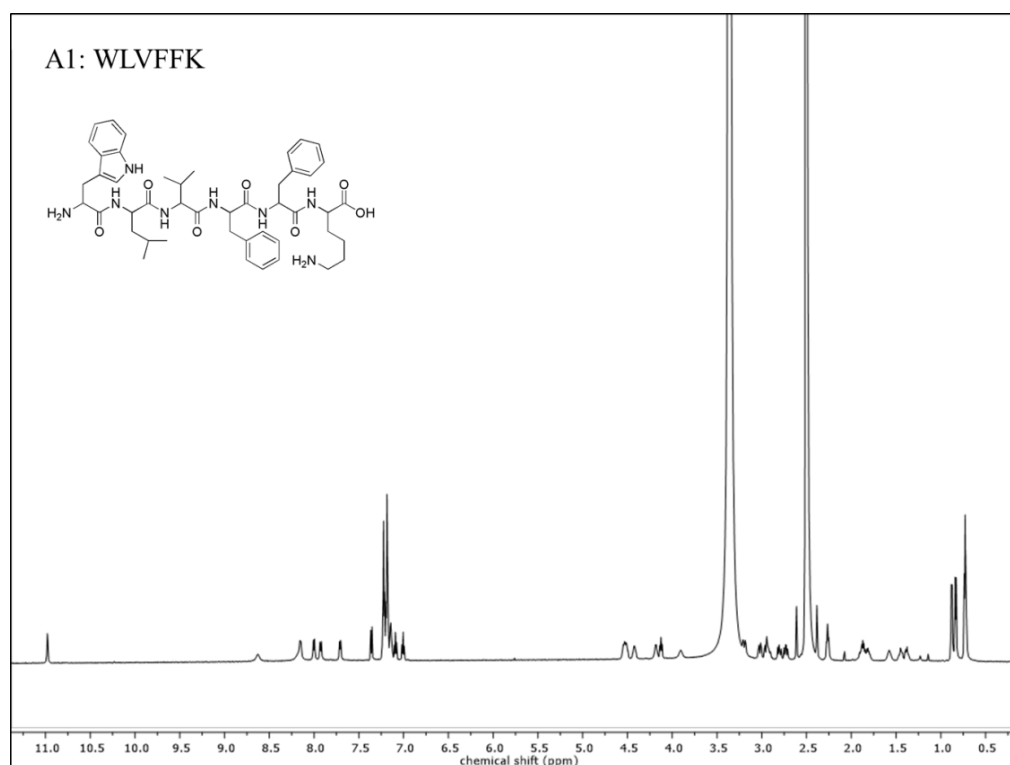


Figure S4: ¹H NMR spectra of A1.

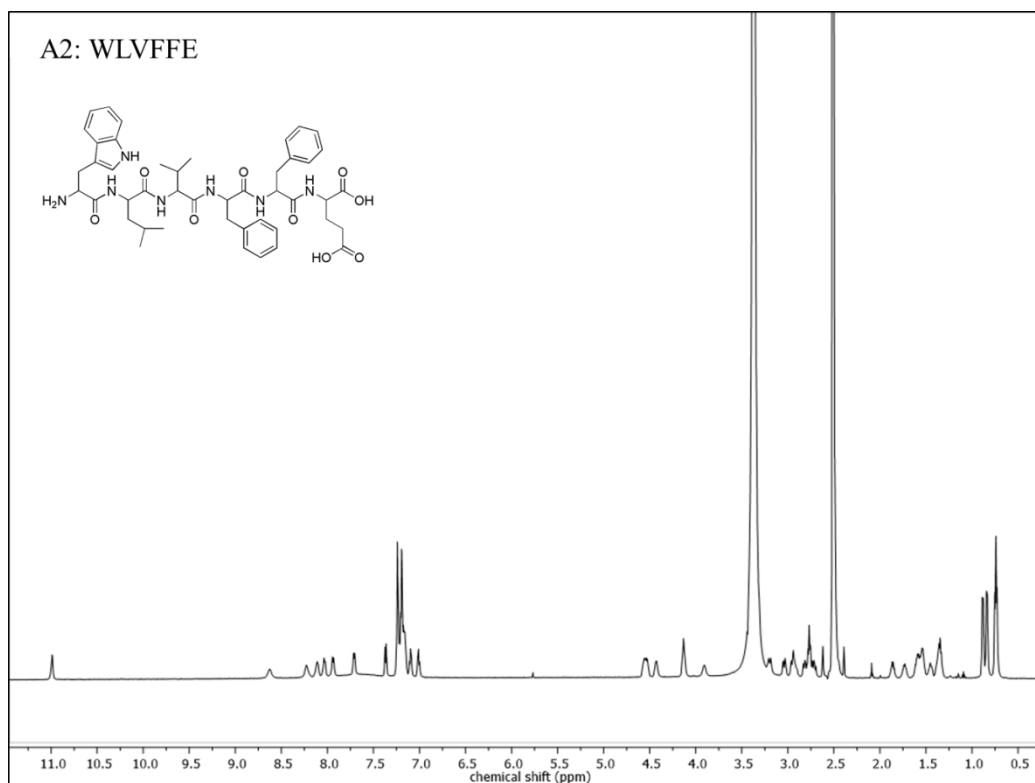


Figure S5: ^1H NMR spectra of A2.

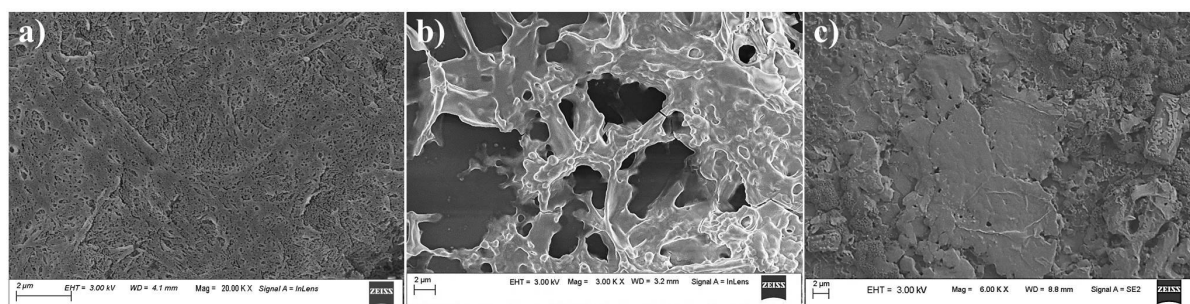


Figure S6: FESEM images in sodium phosphate buffer (pH=7.0) of a) hydrogel of A1, b) hydrogel of A1 in EtOH/phosphate buffer system at MGC and c) viscous solution of A2 at 5 mM.

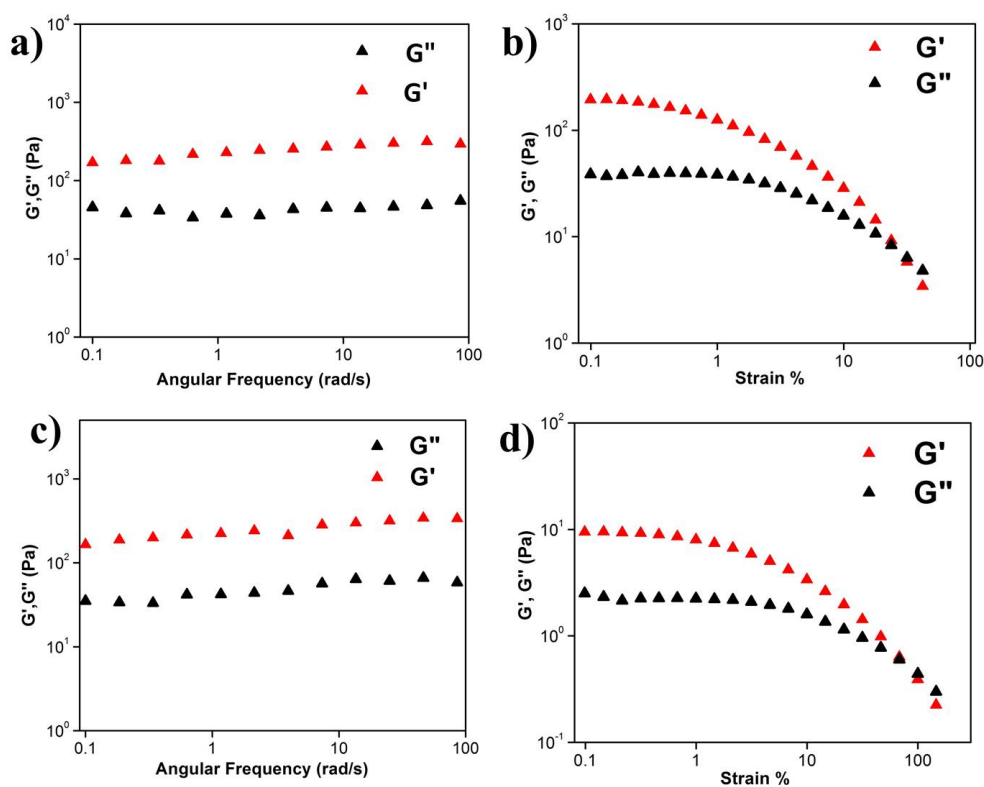


Figure S7: Angular frequency and strain dependence of the dynamic storage moduli (G') and the loss moduli (G'') of hydrogel A1 at 0.45 % wt/v in a, b) sodium phosphate buffer; c, d) 20% EtOH/phosphate buffer system respectively.

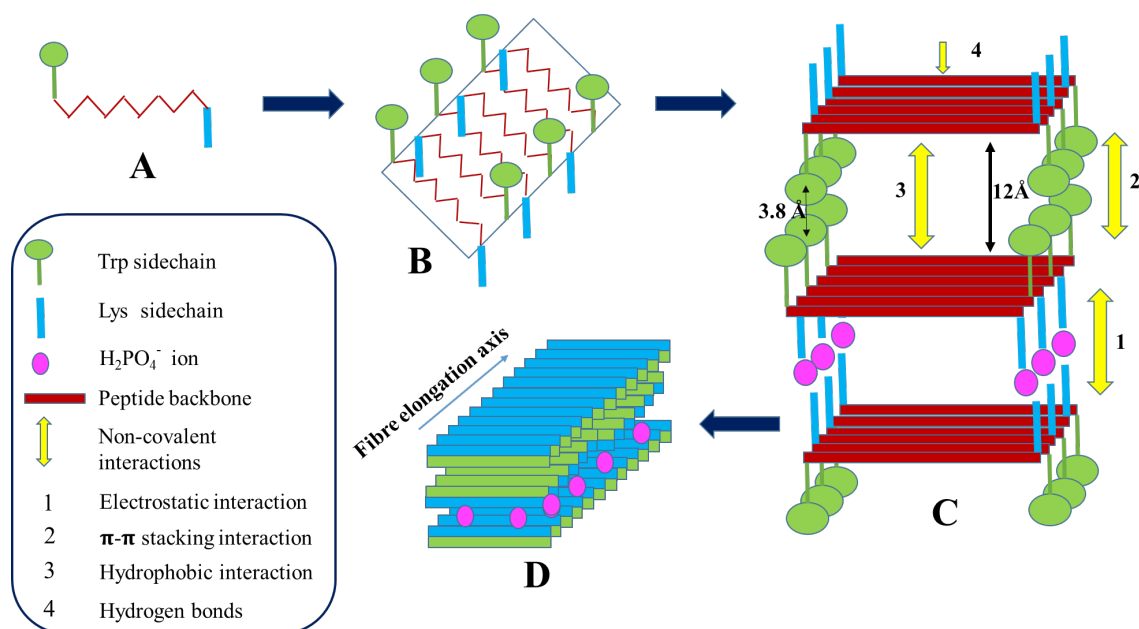


Figure S8: Schematic representation of the molecular arrangement involved in the self-assembly of A1.

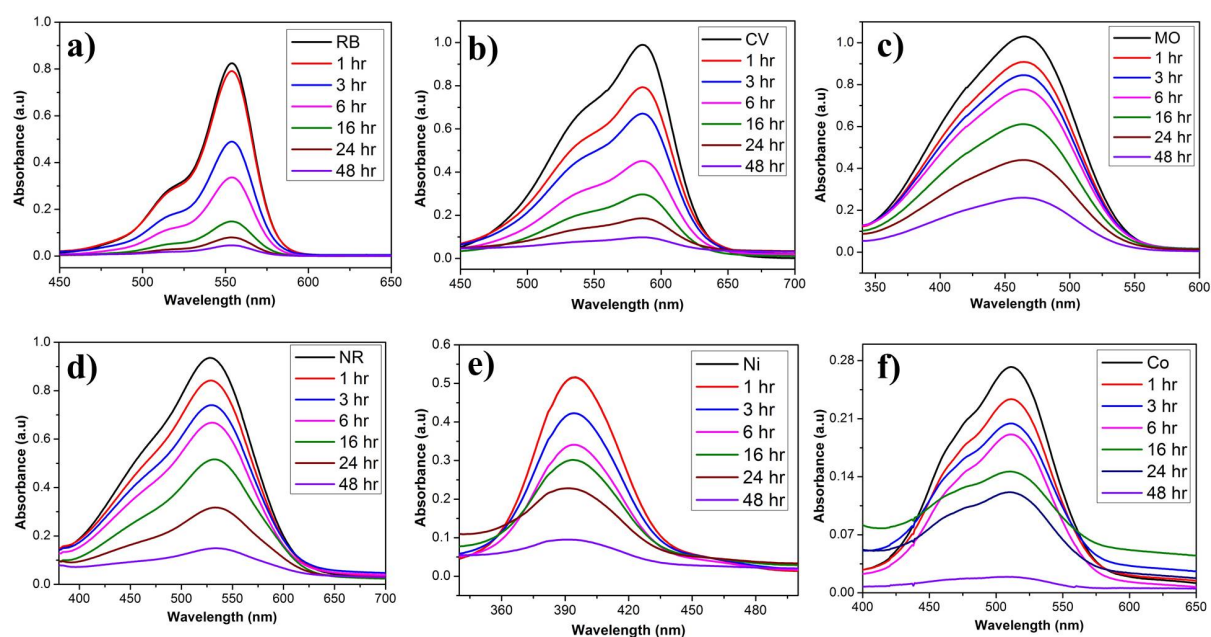


Figure S9: Dye/Metal ion absorption by A1 hydrogel a) RB b) CV c) MO d) NR e) Nickel Chloride and f) Cobalt Chloride by UV-Vis spectroscopy.

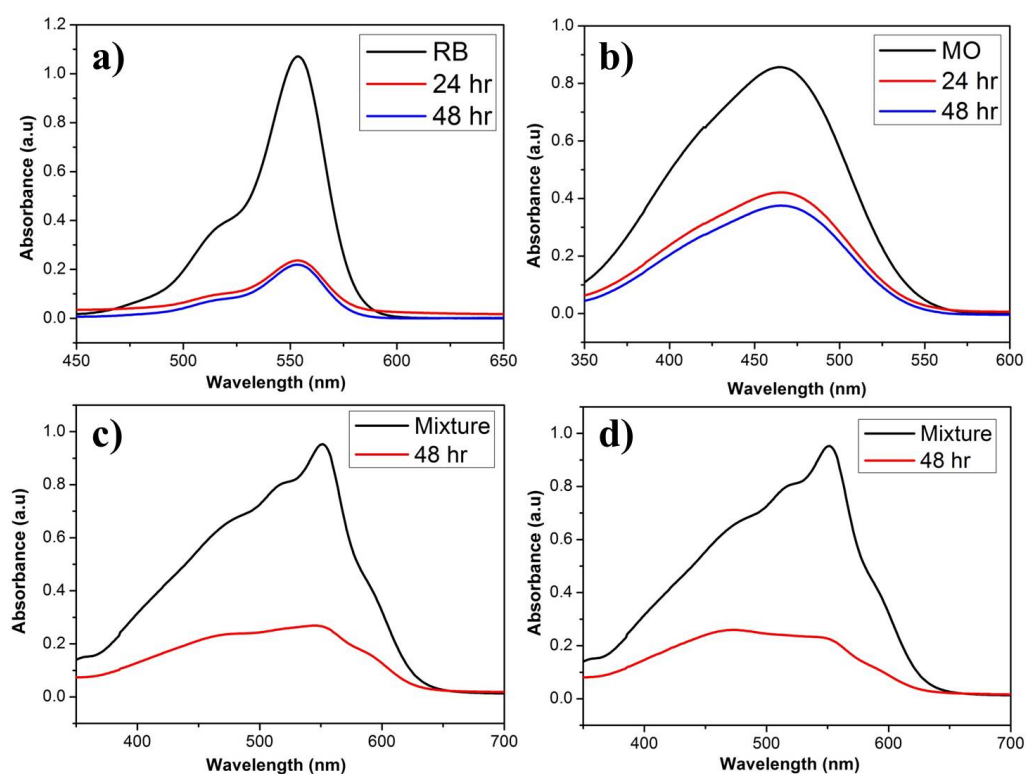


Figure S10: UV-Vis studies to show a) RB and b) MO absorbed by co-assembled A1+A2 (1:1) hydrogel. UV-Vis studies to show an all component mixture absorption by hydrogels c) A1 and d) A1+A2.

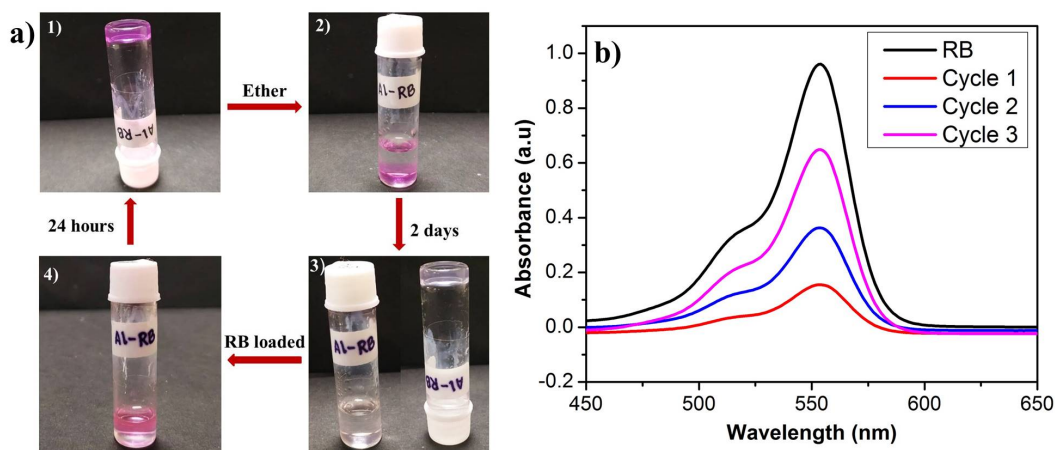


Figure S11: Reusability of hydrogel A1: a) Reusing hydrogel A1 for dye absorption and b) UV-Vis study for reusability of the hydrogel A1 with RB.

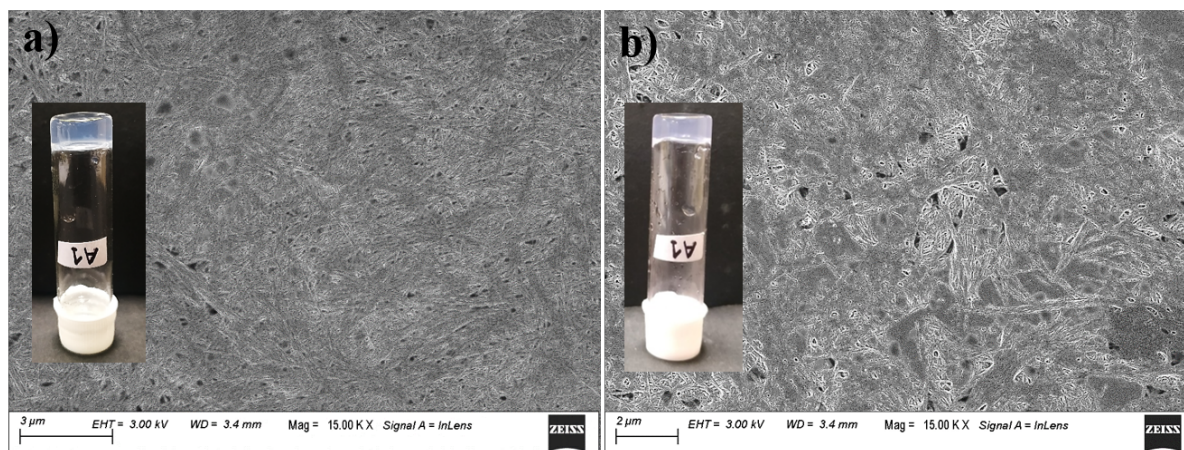


Figure S12: Morphology of hydrogel A1 a) before absorption and b) after release of the dye Rhodamine B.

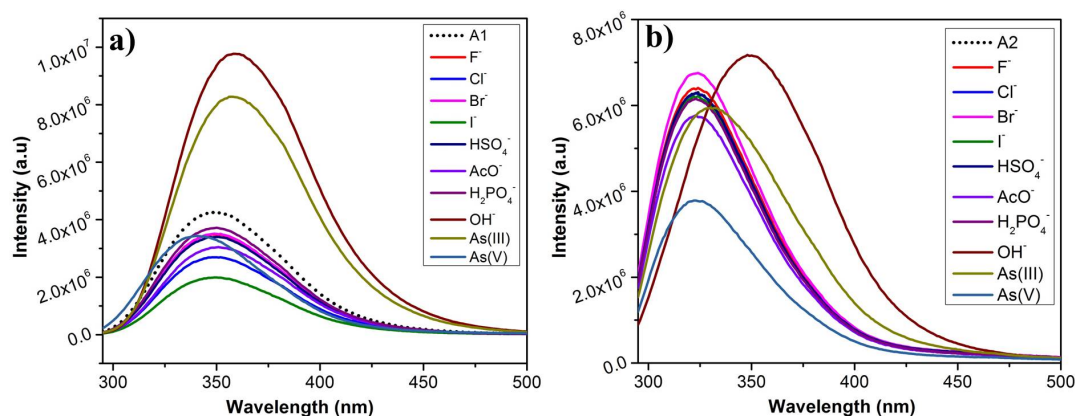


Figure S13: Sensing of anions by a) A1 and b) A2 (Anions=0.1mM, A1=0.1 mM and A2=0.1 mM).

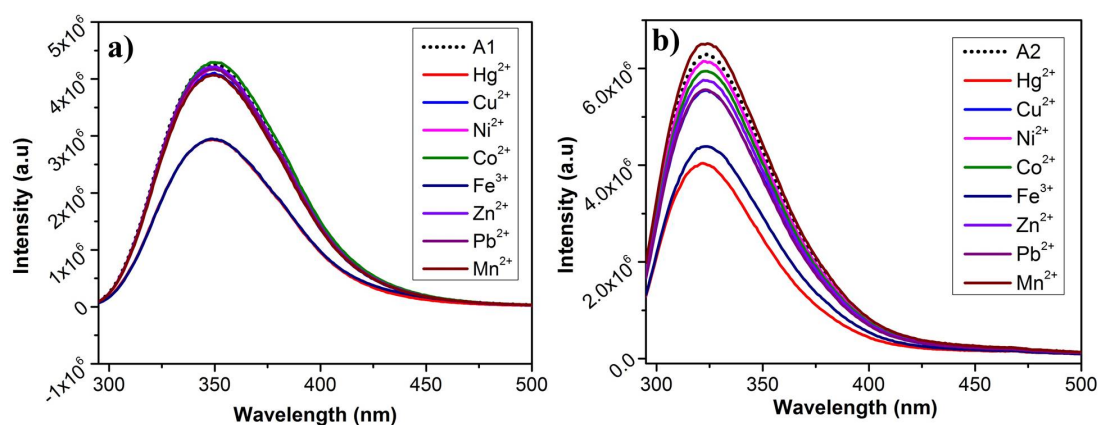


Figure S14: Sensing of metal ions by a) A1 and b) A2 (Metal ions=0.1mM, A1=0.1 mM and A2=0.1 mM).

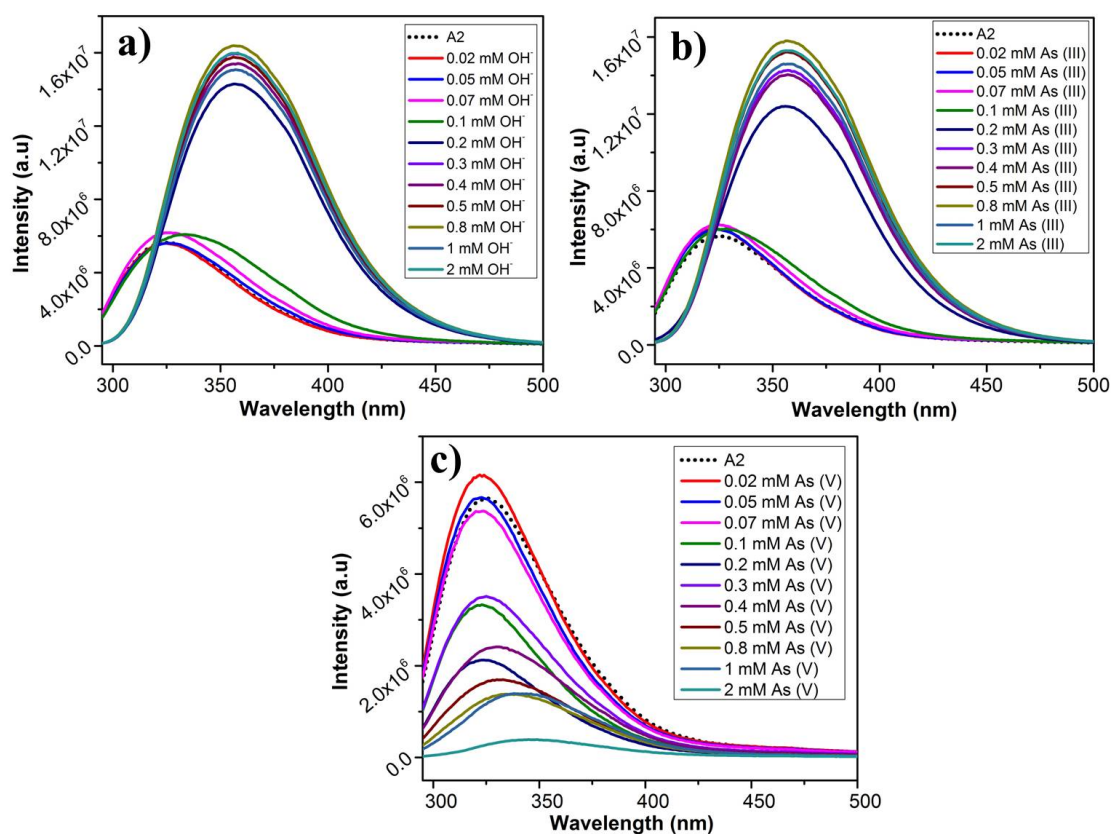


Figure S15: Anion sensing by A2: Titration of A2 with a) OH^- , b) As(III) , and c) As(V) .

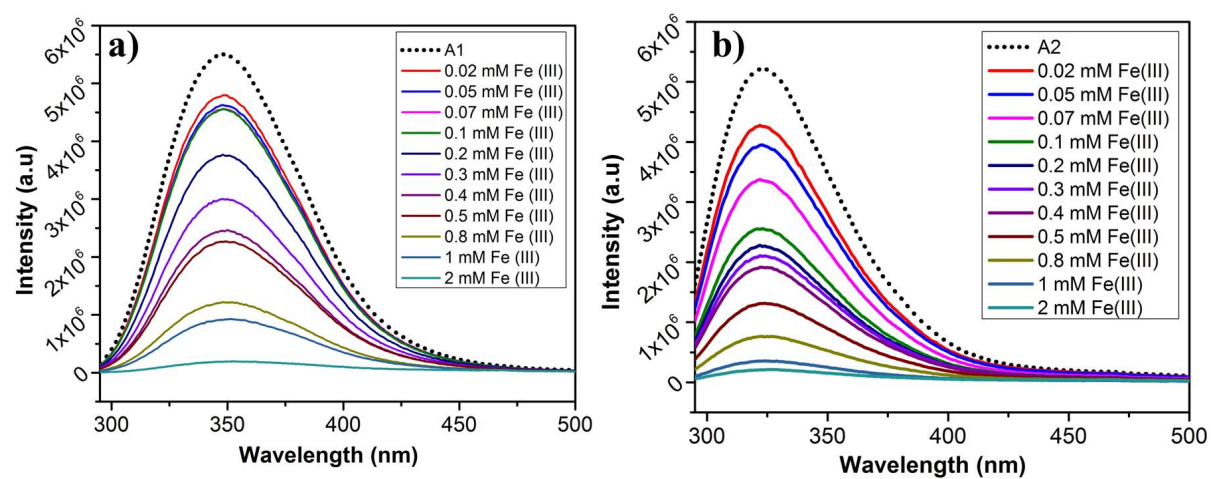


Figure S16: Fe³⁺ sensing by A1 and A2: Titration of a) A1 and b) A2 with different concentrations of Fe³⁺.

Tables

Table S1: Table summarizing gelation properties, physical state, Minimum Gelation Concentration (MGC) and sol-gel conversion temperature (T_{gel}) of A1, A2 and various ratios of A1+A2 mixtures. (PB: sodium phosphate buffer)

Peptides	Solvent system	MGC	T_{gel} (°C)	State
A1	PB (pH=7.0)	0.20 %w/v	60	Transparent
A1	PB (pH=7.0)+ Ethanol	0.20 %w/v	54	Translucent
A2	PB (pH=7.0)	-	-	Viscous solution
A1+A2	PB (pH=7.0)	1 mg each in 0.5 ml (0.40%w/v)	56	Translucent
A1+A2	PB (pH=7.0)	1+ 0.5 mg in 0.5 ml (0.30%w/v)	52	Translucent
A1+A2	PB (pH=7.0)	1+ 2 mg in 0.5 ml (0.60%w/v)	-	Viscous solution
A1+A2	PB (pH=7.0)	1+ 3 mg in 0.5 ml (0.80%w/v)	-	Solution

Table S2: Interplanar distances observed from the PXRD in A1, A2, A1 xerogel, 1:0.5 and 1:1 co-assembled xerogels of A1+A2.

	Peak 1	Peak 2	Peak 3	Peak 4
A1	$2\theta=7.64^\circ$, $d=11.56 \text{ \AA}$	$2\theta=23.16^\circ$, $d=3.84 \text{ \AA}$	-	-
A2	$2\theta=7.82^\circ$, $d=11.29 \text{ \AA}$	$2\theta=22.86^\circ$, $d=3.88 \text{ \AA}$	-	-
A1 (xerogel)	-	-	$2\theta=7.20^\circ$, $d=12.27 \text{ \AA}$	$2\theta=23.12^\circ$, $d=3.84 \text{ \AA}$
A1+A2 (1:0.5) (xerogel)	-	-	$2\theta=7.02^\circ$, $d=12.58 \text{ \AA}$	$2\theta=22.92^\circ$, $d=3.87 \text{ \AA}$
A1+A2 (1:1) (xerogel)	-	-	$2\theta=7.12^\circ$, $d=12.40 \text{ \AA}$	$2\theta=25.02^\circ$, $d=3.55 \text{ \AA}$

Table S3: Percentage of RB absorbed by hydrogel in three cycles

No. of Cycles	RB absorbed (%)
Cycle 1	88.95
Cycle 2	73.80
Cycle 2	52.90

Table S4: Dependence of absorption of Hg^{2+} and Pb^{2+} by A1 hydrogel on the counter anions

Salts	Loaded (mg/L)	Conc. of $\text{Pb}^{2+}/\text{Hg}^{2+}$ in supernatant (mg/L)	Conc. of $\text{Pb}^{2+}/\text{Hg}^{2+}$ absorbed (mg/L)	% absorbed
Lead chloride	20	2.48	17.52	87.60
Lead acetate	20	2.93	17.07	85.35
Lead nitrate	20	2.61	17.39	86.95
Mercury acetate	100	37.7	62.30	62.30
Mercury chloride	100	29.9	70.10	70.10