

**Subtle influence on alginate gel properties through host–guest interactions between covalently appended cyclodextrin and adamantane units**

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**Table S1.** Yield stress values of alginate and functionalized alginate gels

System	$\sigma^*$ (Pa)
Alg	377
Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD	913
Alg-1,3- $\beta$ -CD	872
Alg-1,6- $\beta$ -CD	2563
Alg-Ad	803
Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD/Alg-Ad	3450
Alg-1,3- $\beta$ -CD/Alg-Ad	6961
Alg-1,6- $\beta$ -CD/Alg-Ad	9860

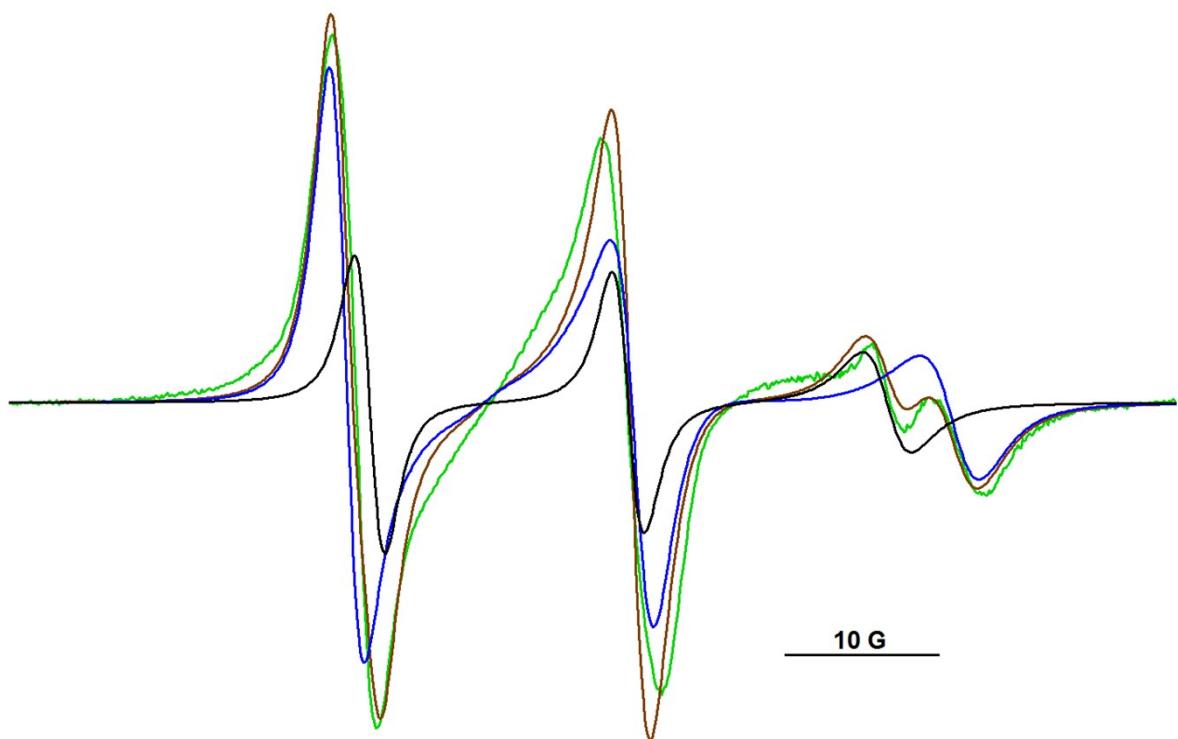
**Table S2.** Assignment of the main vibrational modes of unmodified alginate, functionalised alginates and mixtures of functionalized alginates

Xerogel	Wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	Assignment <sup>b</sup>
Alg	3345, 3228 (s); broad 2934, 2853 (w) <b>1595</b> (s) <b>1425</b> (m) 1308 (w) 1144, 1113 (w) 1078 (sh), 1017 (s)  <i>fingerprint region</i> 964, 938 (m) 887 (w) 820 (m)	v(O-H), hydrogen bonded v(C-H) v <sub>a</sub> (COO <sup>-</sup> ) v <sub>s</sub> (COO <sup>-</sup> ) δ(C-C-H) + δ(O-C-H) v(C-O) + v(C-C) + v(C-O-C) v(C-O) + v(C-C) + δ(C-C-C)  v(C-O) + v(C-C) + δ(C-C-O) (M+G) δ(C1-H) (M+G) δ(C-C-O) + δ(C-C-H) (M)
Alg-Ad	3348, 3230 (s); broad <b>1623</b> (sh, s) <b>1600</b> (s) <b>1433</b> (m) 1307 (w) 1146, 1114 (m) 1079, 1018 (m)  <i>fingerprint region</i> 962, 940 (m) 888 (w) 821 (m)	v(O-H) + v(N-H), hydrogen bonded v(C=O) v <sub>a</sub> (COO <sup>-</sup> ) v <sub>s</sub> (COO <sup>-</sup> ) + v(C-N) + δ(N-H) δ(C-C-H) + δ(O-C-H) v(C-O) + v(C-C) + v(C-O-C) v(C-O) + v(C-C) + δ(C-C-C)  v(C-O) + v(C-C) + δ(C-C-O) (M+G) δ(C1-H) (M+G) δ(C-C-O) + δ(C-C-H) (M)
Alg-1,2-β-CD	3360, 3238 (s); broad <b>1623</b> (s) <b>1443</b> (w) 1150, 1113 (w) 1078, 1025 (m)  <i>fingerprint region</i> 963, 941 (w) 823 (m)	v(O-H) + v(N-H), hydrogen bonded v(C=O) v(C-N) + δ(N-H) v(C-O) + v(C-C) + v(C-O-C) v(C-O) + v(C-C) + δ(C-C-C)  v(C-O) + v(C-C) + δ(C-C-O) (M+G) δ(C-C-O) + δ(C-C-H) (M)
Alg-1,2-β-CD/Alg-Ad	3350, 3230 (s); broad <b>1615</b> (s); less sharp, broader <b>1434</b> (m) 1149, 1115 (w) 1079, 1025 (m)  <i>fingerprint region</i> 962, 940 (w) 890 (w) 820 (m)	v(O-H) + v(N-H), hydrogen bonded v(C=O) v(C-N) + δ(N-H) v(C-O) + v(C-C) + v(C-O-C) v(C-O) + v(C-C) + δ(C-C-C)  v(C-O) + v(C-C) + δ(C-C-O) (M+G) δ(C1-H) (M+G) δ(C-C-O) + δ(C-C-H) (M)

<sup>a</sup> s, strong; sh, shoulder; w, weak; m, medium; <sup>b</sup> v, stretching; δ, deformation (bending)

**Table S3.** Rotational correlation time ( $\tau$ ) values for alginate samples in aqueous solution (1%)

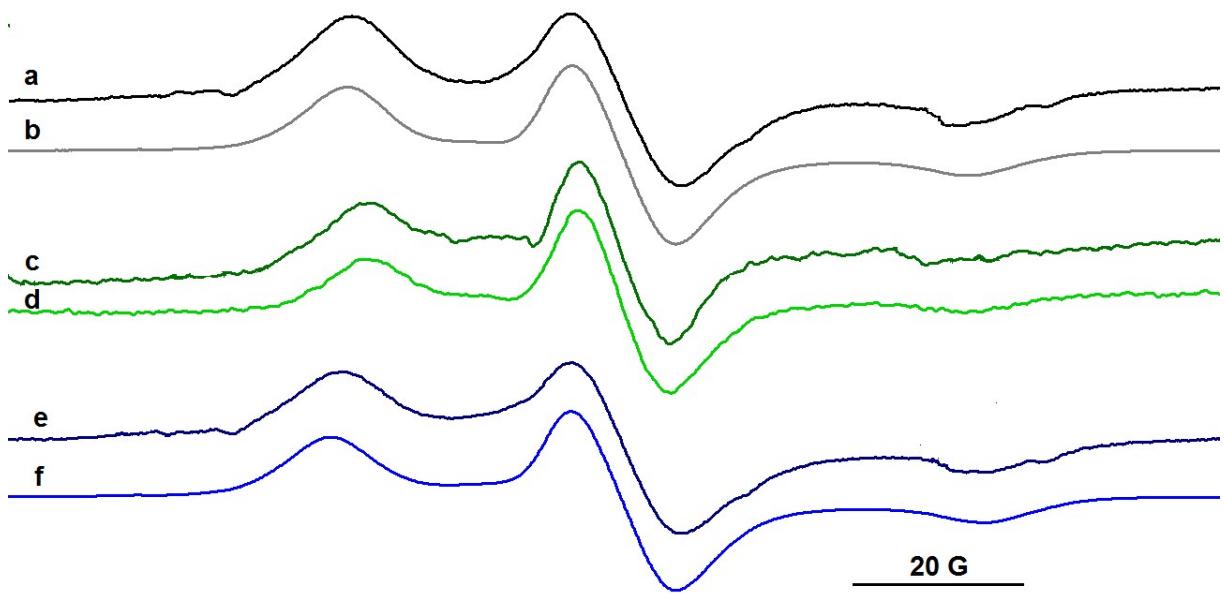
System	$\tau \times 10^{10}$ (s)	$\tau \times 10^{10}$ (s)
	(mixture with Alg-Ad-T)	
Alg-T	3.7	-
Alg-Ad-T	3.9	-
Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD-T	7.3	6.6
Alg-1,3- $\beta$ -CD-T	3.4	4.2
Alg-1,6- $\beta$ -CD-T	3.9	4.2



**Fig. S1.** The EPR spectra of 4-carboxy-TEMPO in Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD gel: experimental (green), simulated (brown), slower component (blue), faster component (black).

**Table S4.** The ratio between the two components and the distance between outer peaks ( $2A_{zz}$ , in G) in the EPR spectra of spin-labelled alginate gels and their mixtures

<b>System</b>	<b>One alginate</b>		<b>Mixture of Alg-Ad-T and Alg-1,n-<math>\beta</math>-D-T</b>	
	Ratio slow component/fast component	$2A_{zz}$	Ratio slow component/fast component	$2A_{zz}$
Alg-Ad-T		57.4	-	-
Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD-T	4.74	57.8	4.58	60.2
Alg-1,3- $\beta$ -CD-T	3.66	62.1	4.64	63.5
Alg-1,6- $\beta$ -CD-T	2.15	60.4	3.78	61.0



**Fig. S2.** The EPR spectra of alginates recorded at 120 K: a) Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD-T solution, b) Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD-T gel, c) 4-amino-TEMPO in Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD solution, d) 4-amino-TEMPO in Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD gel, e) Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD-T solution in the presence of 1-adamantanecarboxylic acid, f) Alg-1,2- $\beta$ -CD-T gel in the presence of 1-adamantanecarboxylic acid.