SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL FOR:

Role of protein aggregation on the strength and underwater performance of barnacle-inspired adhesives

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Figure S1: SDS-PAGE results to determine purity of α -Lactalbumin. Data shown next to molecular weight ladder (MWL). The intensity of each band is calculated for calibration of results using Analyze Gel in ImageJ. Table indicates average of two samples.



Figure S2: SDS-PAGE results for concentrations of BSA. The intensity of each lane is calculated for calibration of results using Analyze Gel in ImageJ.



Figure S3: Composition of β -Lg heated at 90 °C in a heating block or in the steaming chamber.



Figure S4: Example fitting of second derivative of amide I absorbance from transmission FTIR experiments. Sample is BSA cured at 90 °C.



Figure S5: Scanning electron microscopy of β -Lg gel steam-cured at 70 °C



Figure S6: Scanning electron microscopy of β -Lg gel steam-cured at 90 °C



Figure S7: Scanning electron microscopy of BSA gel steam-cured at 60 °C



Figure S8: Scanning electron microscopy of BSA gel steam-cured at 90 °C



Figure S9: Scanning electron microscopy of α -La gel steam-cured at 60 °C



Figure S10: Scanning electron microscopy of α-La gel steam-cured at 90 °C



Figure S11: Pictures of lap shear sample fabrication. (a) Alignment of samples on a frame. (b) Samples held in place by screws and mounted on two brass rods.



Figure S12: Lap shear experimental setup on clevis rod mounts.



Figure S13: Processing diagram for various concentrations of β -Lg solutions heated in a heating block. Material state determined by inversion testing.



Figure S14: Processing diagram for various concentrations of BSA solutions heated in a heating block. Material state determined by inversion testing.



Figure S15: Processing diagram for various concentrations of α -La solutions heated in a heating block. Material state determined by inversion testing.



Figure S16: Microscope images of ThT fluorescence of protein solutions heated at 90 °C in a heating block for 15 min (left column), 90 min (center column) and 180 min (right column).



Figure S17: SDS-PAGE for 30% BSA cured at different temperatures. Lanes (from left to right) 60 °C Laemmli extracted, 60 °C water extracted, 70 °C Laemmli extracted, 70 °C water extracted, 80 °C Laemmli extracted, 80 °C water extracted, 90 °C Laemmli extracted, 90 °C water extracted, 90 °C between the stracted, 90 °C water extracted, 90 °C



Figure S18: Example transmission FTIR and second derivative for each protein at high and low curing temperatures. All spectra were collected at room temperature.



Figure S19: Example force-displacement curves for lap shear testing of each protein and curing condition. α -La cured at 60 °C did not provide measurable results in nearly all cases, so no example curve is given. Note: The y-axis scale differs for each protein.



Figure S20: Coomassie-stained lap shear samples of short-term conditioning to depict failure mode.

| Sample Set | Sample Size | Force (N) ^a | Area (mm ²) ^a |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Short-Term | | | |
| β-Lg 70 °C dry | 5 | 27 ± 5 | 169 ± 5 |
| β-Lg 70 °C wet | 7 | 15 ± 4 | 155 ± 4 |
| β-Lg 90 °C dry | 7 | 58 ± 11 | 150° |
| β-Lg 90 °C wet | 7 | 20 ± 2 | 160 ± 2 |
| BSA 60 °C dry | 7 | 247 ± 30 | 155 ± 4 |
| BSA 60 °C wet | 7 | 121 ± 26 | 160 ± 4 |
| BSA 90 °C dry | 7 | 158 ± 18 | 147 ± 3 |
| BSA 90 °C wet | 7 | 80 ± 8 | 153 ± 5 |
| α-La 60 °C dry | 7 | 64 ± 13 | 142 ± 7 |
| α-La 60 °C wet | 7 | 3 ± 3 | $142\pm3^{\text{b}}$ |
| α-La 90 °C dry | 7 | 201 ± 32 | 144 ± 4 |
| α-La 90 °C wet | 7 | 58 ± 6 | 144 ± 4 |
| | | | |
| Accelerated Degradation | | | |
| β-Lg 70 °C wet | 5 ^d | 12 ± 2 | 158 ± 2 |
| β-Lg 90 °C wet | 6 ^d | 10 ± 4 | 156 ± 1 |
| BSA 60 °C wet | 7 | 16 ± 2 | 140 ± 8 |
| BSA 90 °C wet | 7 | 77 ± 12 | 151 ± 2 |
| α-La 90 °C wet | 5 | 34 ± 7 | 138 ± 3 |

Table S1: Lap shear sample size, average force, and average adhesive area.

^aReported as mean \pm std. err.

^bCalculated from 6 measurements. One area from a sample with zero force was unmeasurable, so adhesion strength is unaffected. ^cCalculated from the average of all samples (149.9 mm²). ^dNot including outlier samples with >150 N force.

| Protein | Concentration (w/v) | Curing Temp (°C) | Water-soluble fraction (%) ^a | Laemmli-soluble fraction (%) ^{a,b} | Laemmli-insoluble fraction (%) ^a |
|---------|------------------------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| β-Lg | 10 | 70 | 54 ± 12 | 36 ± 9 | 10 ± 4 |
| β-Lg | 10 | 80 | 21 ± 13 | 53 ± 15 | 26 ± 4 |
| β-Lg | 10 | 90 | 23 ± 16 | 51 ± 8 | 25 ± 9 |
| β-Lg | 15 | 70 | 47 ± 8 | 44 ± 14 | 8 ± 6 |
| β-Lg | 15 | 80 | 26 ± 17 | 50 ± 15 | 24 ± 7 |
| β-Lg | 15 | 90 | 20 ± 14 | 40 ± 12 | 40 ± 13 |
| β-Lg | 20 | 70 | 27 ± 2 | 64 ± 5 | 9 ± 4 |
| β-Lg | 20 | 80 | 12 ± 6 | 48 ± 11 | 40 ± 10 |
| β-Lg | 20 | 90 | 11 ± 6 | 36 ± 5 | 52 ± 5 |
| β-Lg | 25 | 70 | 48 ± 8 | 36 ± 6 | 16 ± 3 |
| β-Lg | 25 | 80 | 14 ± 4 | 36 ± 2 | 50 ± 5 |
| β-Lg | 25 | 90 | 12 ± 6 | 39 ± 10 | 49 ± 10 |
| BSA | 10 | 60 | 59 ± 4 | 14 ± 7 | 26 ± 3 |
| BSA | 10 | 70 | 30 ± 4 | 39 ± 6 | 32 ± 2 |
| BSA | 10 | 80 | 25 ± 6 | 50 ± 6 | 25 ± 6 |
| BSA | 10 | 90 | 7 ± 2 | 37 ± 4 | 56 ± 6 |
| BSA | 20 | 60 | 49 ± 9 | 25 ± 11 | 26 ± 6 |
| BSA | 20 | 70 | 30 ± 12 | 44 ± 10 | 27 ± 6 |
| BSA | 20 | 80 | 16 ± 12 | 38 ± 10 | 46 ± 6 |
| BSA | 20 | 90 | 4 ± 1 | 31 ± 9 | 65 ± 9 |
| BSA | 30 | 60 | 45 ± 11 | 27 ± 12 | 29 ± 4 |
| BSA | 30 | 70 | 30 ± 14 | 36 ± 10 | 34 ± 5 |
| BSA | 30 | 80 | 13 ± 4 | 41 ± 8 | 46 ± 6 |
| BSA | 30 | 90 | 1 ± 0 | 26 ± 9 | 73 ± 9 |
| BSA | 40 | 60 | 35 ± 5 | 17 ± 6 | 47 ± 11 |
| BSA | 40 | 70 | 8 ± 5 | 26 ± 16 | 66 ± 14 |
| BSA | 40 | 80 | 5 ± 3 | 17 ± 8 | 77 ± 10 |
| BSA | 40 | 90 | 3 ± 2 | 16 ± 7 | 81 ± 7 |
| α-La | 15 | 60 | 67 ± 1 | 15 ± 2 | 18 ± 1 |
| α-La | 15 | 70 | 54 ± 7 | 36 ± 9 | 10 ± 3 |
| α-La | 15 | 80 | 41 ± 11 | 42 ± 5 | 17 ± 7 |
| α-La | 15 | 90 | 47 ± 7 | 37 ± 6 | 15 ± 5 |
| α-La | 25 | 60 | 59 ± 5 | 27 ± 5 | 14 ± 6 |
| α-La | 25 | 70 | 38 ± 11 | 21 ± 3 | 41 ± 9 |
| α-La | 25 | 80 | 32 ± 11 | 24 ± 2 | 44 ± 13 |
| α-La | 25 | 90 | 40 ± 8 | 29 ± 3 | 31 ± 5 |
| α-La | 40 | 60 | 51 ± 4 | 33 ± 4 | 16 ± 8 |
| α-La | 40 | 70 | 39 ± 8 | 26 ± 5 | 34 ± 4 |
| α-La | 40 | 80 | 31 ± 11 | 26 ± 7 | 43 ± 5 |

Table S2: Composition of heated protein solutions across compositions that form gels determined by gel electrophoresis.

| α-La | 40 | 90 | 27 ± 3 | 33 ± 2 | 40 ± 3 |
|------|----|----|-----------|-----------|------------|
| α-La | 50 | 60 | 39 ± 6 | 37 ± 6 | 25 ± 10 |
| α-La | 50 | 70 | 23 ± 9 | 39 ± 5 | 38 ± 12 |
| α-La | 50 | 80 | 22 ± 8 | 39 ± 5 | 39 ± 13 |
| α-La | 50 | 90 | 16 ± 5 | 34 ± 3 | 51 ± 7 |

^aReported as mean ± std. err. ^bWater insoluble; Laemmli buffer consists of 2% SDS, 10% glycerol, 5% beta-mercaptoethanol, 0.5% bromophenyl blue

| Protein | Curing Temp (°C) | Average Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹) | Average Peak Area (%) |
|---------|------------------|--|------------------------------|
| β-Lg | RT | 1612 ± 0.1 | 0.7 ± 0.2 |
| | | 1624 ± 0.4 | 23.5 ± 1.3 |
| | | 1635 ± 0.2 | 30.1 ± 1.5 |
| | | 1680 ± 0.4 | 8.5 ± 0.8 |
| θIα | 70 | 1612 + 0.1 | 12.0 ± 0.1 |
| p-Lg | 70 | 1013 ± 0.1 1620 ± 0.7 | 15.0 ± 0.1 18.4 ± 1.4 |
| | | 1020 ± 0.7 1622 ± 1.2 | 10.4 ± 1.4 10.7 ± 0.5 |
| | | 1032 ± 1.2 | 19.7 ± 0.3 |
| | | 1677 ± 1.6 | 10.4 ± 0.2 |
| β-Lg | 90 | 1613 ± 0.0 | 15.9 ± 0.3 |
| | | 1620 ± 0.0 | 15.5 ± 0.7 |
| | | 1632 ± 0.4 | 18.3 ± 0.4 |
| | | 1674 ± 0.7 | 10.2 ± 0.1 |
| DCV | рт | 1611 ± 0.1 | 0.2 ± 0.1 |
| DSA | KI | 1011 ± 0.1 1621 ± 0.2 | 0.2 ± 0.1 |
| | | 1051 ± 0.5 1670 + 0.4 | 21.7 ± 0.3 |
| | | $10/9 \pm 0.4$ | 0.5 ± 0.8 |
| BSA | 60 | 1614 ± 0.0 | 16.3 ± 0.8 |
| | | 1632 ± 0.2 | 18.8 ± 1.5 |
| | | 1678 ± 0.5 | 4.4 ± 0.2 |
| BSA | 90 | 1614 ± 0.2 | 273+12 |
| Don | <i>y</i> 0 | 1634 ± 0.2 | 195 ± 1.2 |
| | | 1674 ± 2.3 | 8.5 ± 4.5 |
| | | | |
| α-La | RT | 1619 ± 1.1 | 5.7 ± 1.1 |
| | | 1629 ± 0.7 | 12.2 ± 3.6 |
| | | 1639 ± 0.4 | 27.2 ± 5.0 |
| | | 1676 ± 0.4 | 8.3 ± 0.6 |
| α-La | 60 | 1613 ± 0.0 | 1.4 ± 0.5 |
| | | 1626 ± 0.4 | 20.8 ± 3.6 |
| | | 1637 ± 1.7 | 23.5 ± 0.9 |
| | | 1675 ± 2.1 | 11.3 ± 1.0 |
| ar I - | 00 | 1612 + 0.4 | 2.1 ± 0.2 |
| α-La | 90 | 1012 ± 0.4 1627 ± 0.7 | 3.1 ± 0.2 |
| | | $102 / \pm 0. /$ | 12.3 ± 1.4 |
| | | 1635 ± 0.2 | 25.7 ± 0.1 |
| | | N/A ^a | N/A |

Table S3: Wavenumber and Area from peak fitting for β -sheet/extended structures from transmission FTIR.

^aClosest peak position at 1682 cm⁻¹, assigned to β -turn.