### **Supporting Information for**

### Effect of complementary small molecules in the properties of bicomponent

### hydrogel of riboflavin

Abhijit Saha, Bappaditya Roy, Aluri Esterrani and Arun K. Nandi<sup>\*</sup>

Polymer Science Unit, Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science,

Jadavpur,

Kolkata-700 032, India

\* for correspondence, email: psuakn@iacs.res.in

Supporting Scheme SS1: Chemical structures of riboflavin, acetoguanamine, salicylic

acid and 3,5- dihydroxy benzoic acid.





Riboflavin (**R**)

3,5-dihydroxy benzoic acid (**B**)



Salicylic acid (S)

HaN

Acetoguanamine [2,4diamino-6-methyl-striazine (**D**)]

**Supporting Table ST1:** Life time and relative amplitude values of pure R solution and RS11, RD11 gels at same concentration of R at  $30^{0}$  C.

							Av.
Systems	$\tau_1$	Relative	$\tau_2$	Relative	$\tau_3$	Relative	Life
	(ns)	amplitudes	(ns)	amplitudes	(ns)	amplitudes	time
		(a <sub>1</sub> )		(a <sub>2</sub> )		(a <sub>3</sub> )	(ns)
Pure R	2.30	0.10	4.80	0.87	0.82	0.03	4.43
RS11	2.24	0.19	3.326	0.81	-	-	3.12
RD11	1.367	0.13	4.70	0.78	0.28	0.09	3.87

Supporting Figure S1: Polarised optical micrograph of hydrogel of (a) RS11 (1 % w/v)
& (b) RB11 (1% w/v); FESEM micrographs of xerogels of above (c) RS11 and (d)
RB11 hydrogels.



Supporting Figure S2: DSC thermograms of (a) RB11 (b) RD11 and (c) RS11 2.5 %

hydrogels (10 <sup>0</sup>C/min heating and 5 <sup>0</sup>C/min cooling rates).



**Supporting Figure S3:** DSC thermograms of gels at indicated compositions (% W/V) prepared after homogenization at 90<sup>o</sup>C and then keeping at 30<sup>o</sup>C for 1day (heating rate of  $10^{o}$ / min): (a) RS11 gels, (b) RD11 gels and (c) RB11 gels.







Supporting Figure S4. (a) Storage (G') and loss (G") modulus vs. frequency plot and

(b) Storage modulus (G') vs % strain plot of RD11



Supporting Figure S5: FTIR spectra of xerogels of (a) RS11 (b) RB11 and (c)

RD11along with the pure components R, B, D and S.





# **Supporting Figure S6:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of R in D<sub>2</sub>O.



## **Supporting Figure S7:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of B, RB11 gel and RB11 sol in D<sub>2</sub>O.



12

## **Supporting Figure S8:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of S, RS11 gel and RS11 sol in D<sub>2</sub>O.



13





Supporting Figure S10. WAXS patterns of xerogels of RB11, RS11 and RD11 with

pure R, B, S and D.



**Supporting Figure S11:** Comparison XRD spectra of xerogels and hydrogels of RB11, RS11 and RD11 systems at 30<sup>0</sup>C.



**Supporting Figure S12:** (a) UV-vis spectra of RS complex sols, pure R and pure S in solution (at 0.01 % w/v concentration) and (b) plot of absorbance at 445 nm vs. mol fraction of R in different RS complexes.



**Supporting Figure S13:** (a) UV-vis spectra of RB complex sols, pure R and pure B in solution (at 0.01 % w/v concentration) and (b) plot of absorbance at 445 nm vs. mol fraction of R in different RB complexes.



**Supporting Figure S14:** Time-resolved fluorescence decay of (a) R (b) RD11 gel and (c) RS11 hydrogel at  $25^{0}$ C ( $\lambda_{ex}$  =375 nm). The sharp profile on the left is the lamp profile.







**Supporting Figure S15:** Fluorescence spectra of RS11 1% (a and b) and RB11 1% (c and d) gel at different pH (4, 5, 6.7, 8 and 9.2) and Temperature  $(25^0 - 75^0C)$ .





Figure 11





**Supporting Figure S16:** Comparison of PL- spectra of dried gels of RD11, RB11 and RS11 systems (Inset PL spectra of pure R) at  $30^{\circ}$  C.

