

Tunable hydrogel morphology via self-assembly of amphiphilic pentablock copolypeptides

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Electronic Supplementary Information

Table S1 Molecular weights and segment lengths of select $K_aL_bK_cL_dK_e$ pentablock copolypeptides. DP = degree of polymerization. x = determined by GPC/LS. y = determined by NMR and GPC/LS data.

Sample	1 st segment (K_a) ^x		Found lengths (DP) of individual segments ^y				
	M_w/M_n	M_n (kDa)	K_a	L_b	K_c	L_d	K_e
$K_{60}L_{20}K_{10}L_{20}K_{60}$	1.23	15.9	60	19	11	23	59
$K_{60}L_{20}K_{40}L_{20}K_{60}$	1.27	16.1	61	18	41	22	71
$K_{60}L_{20}K_{60}L_{20}K_{60}$	1.19	16.6	63	20	62	21	62
$K_{60}L_{20}K_{100}L_{20}K_{60}$	1.21	15.3	59	17	101	24	64
$K_{60}L_{20}K_{200}L_{20}K_{60}$	1.20	17.2	66	19	216	22	53

Table S2 Minimum Gelation concentrations of $K_{60}L_{20}K_xL_{20}K_{60}$ pentablock copolypeptides.

Sample	Gelation Concentration (mM)
$K_{60}L_{20}K_{10}L_{20}K_{60}$	N/A
$K_{60}L_{20}K_{60}L_{20}K_{60}$	0.18
$K_{60}L_{20}K_{100}L_{20}K_{60}$	0.15
$K_{60}L_{20}K_{200}L_{20}K_{60}$	0.03

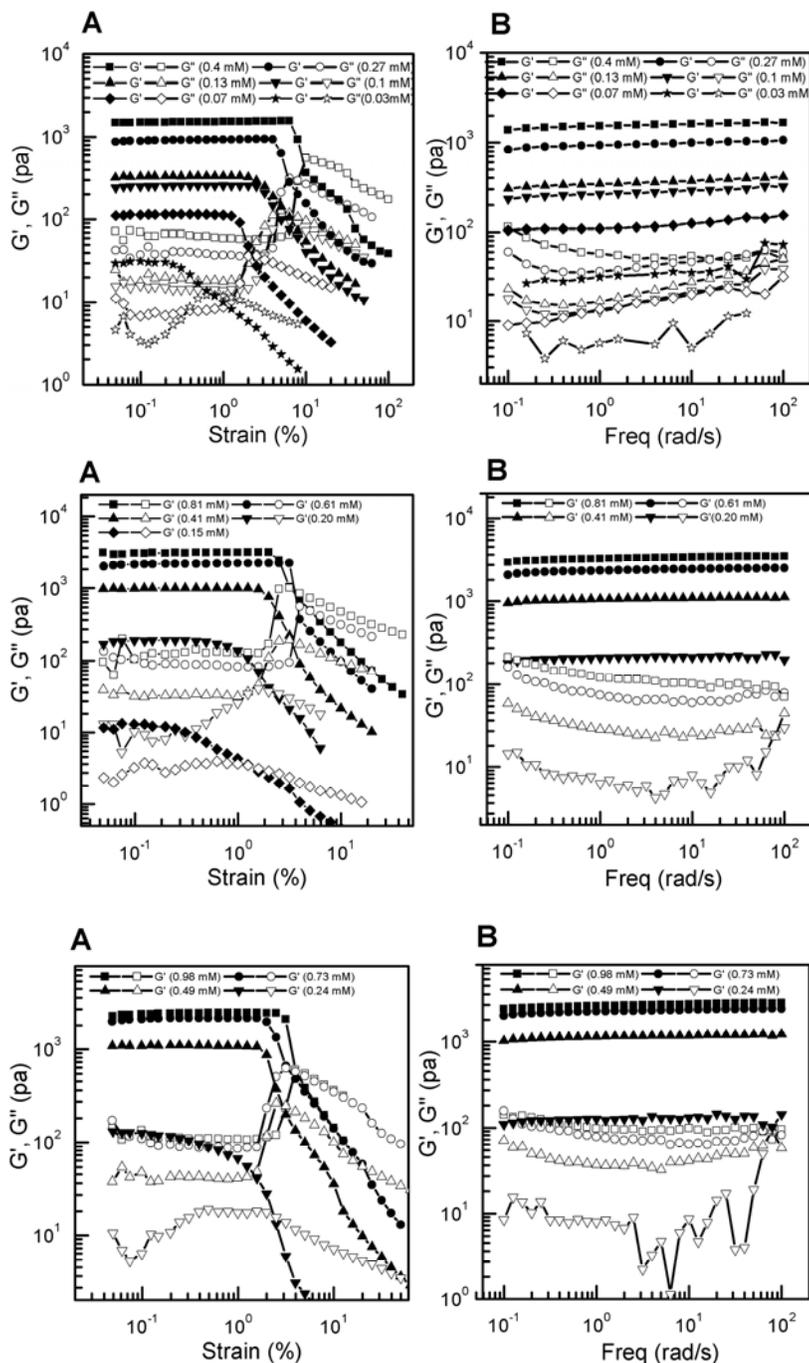


Figure S1 Storage modulus (G') and loss modulus (G'') of (A,B) $K_{60}L_{20}K_{200}L_{20}K_{60}$, (C,D) $K_{60}L_{20}K_{100}L_{20}K_{60}$, and (E,F) $K_{60}L_{20}K_{60}L_{20}K_{60}$ pentablock hydrogels at different concentrations measured as functions of (A,C,E) strain amplitude (γ_0) at an angular frequency of 1 rad/s, and (B,D,F) angular frequency (ω) in the linear regime with $\gamma=0.1$.

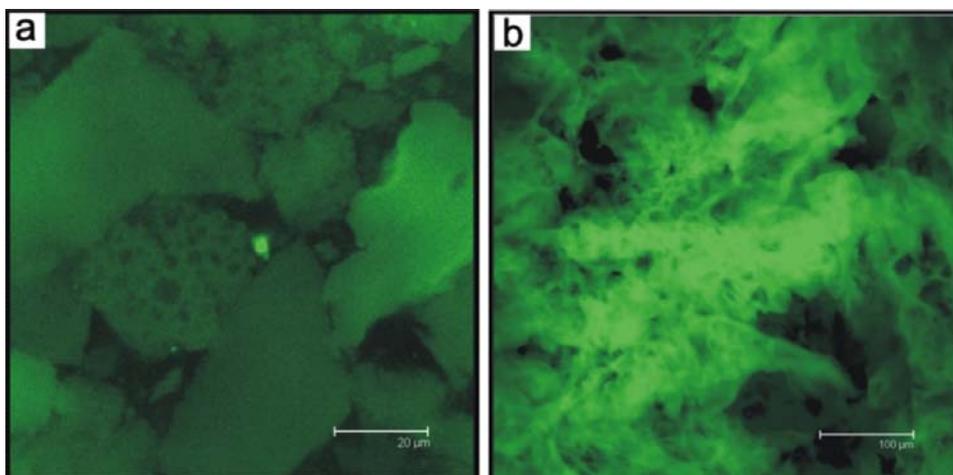


Figure S2 Laser scanning confocal microscopy images of $K_{60}L_{20}K_{200}L_{20}K_{60}$ pentablock hydrogels at 0.13 mM showing microporous structure. A small fraction (3 mol%) of the polyK amine group side-chains were fluorescently labeled with fluorescein isothiocyanate. Scale bars = 20 μm .

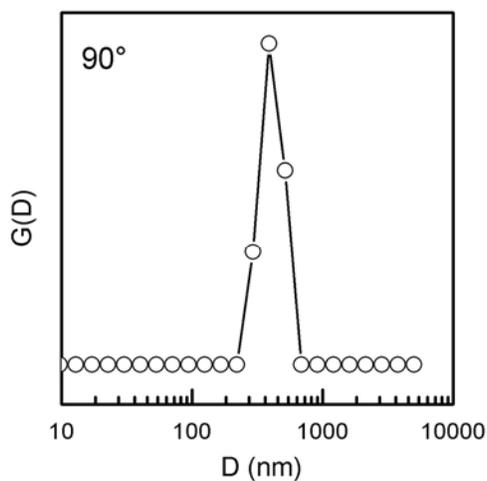


Figure S3 Size distribution (diameter) plot of $K_{60}L_{20}K_{10}L_{20}K_{60}$ assemblies (0.5 wt% in water) from DLS measurements.

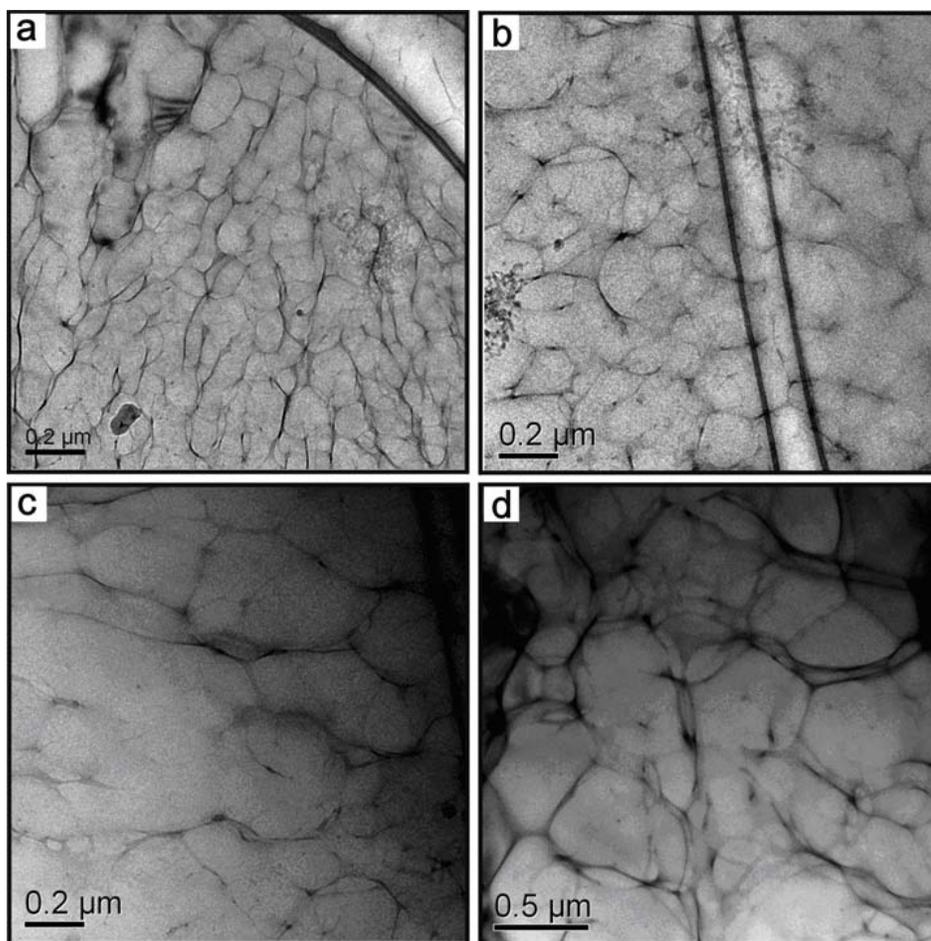


Figure S4 Additional CryoTEM images of $K_{60}L_{20}K_{200}L_{20}K_{60}$ hydrogels (0.25 wt%).

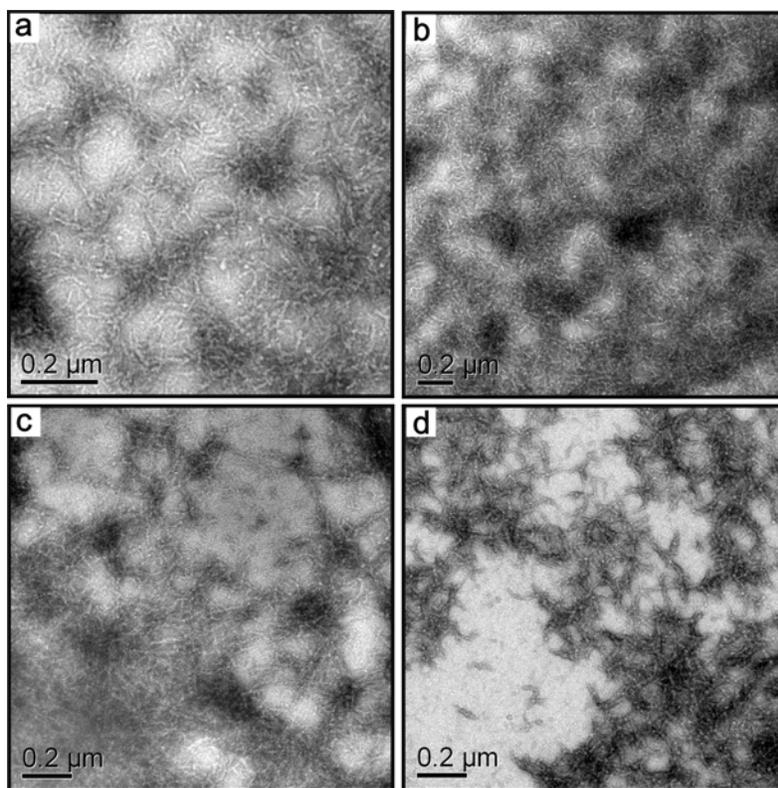


Figure S5 TEM images of $K_{60}L_{20}K_{200}L_{20}K_{60}$ hydrogels. The samples were negative stained with 1.5 wt% aqueous uranyl acetate.

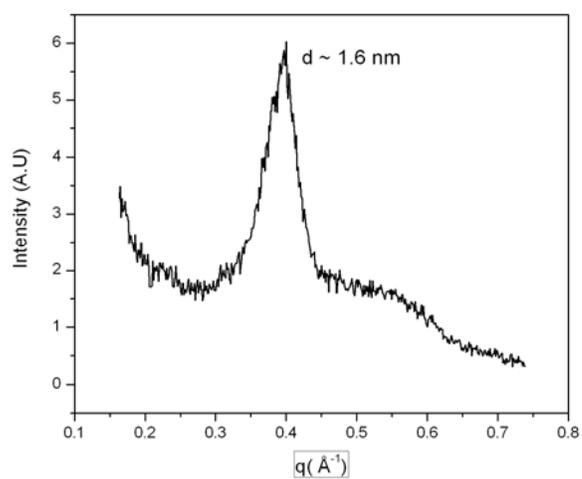


Figure S6 SAXS pattern of a freeze-dried $K_{60}L_{20}K_{200}L_{20}K_{60}$ hydrogel sample.