Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Soft Matter


# The Effect of Polymer Additives on the Rheological Properties of Dipeptide Hydrogelators

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## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

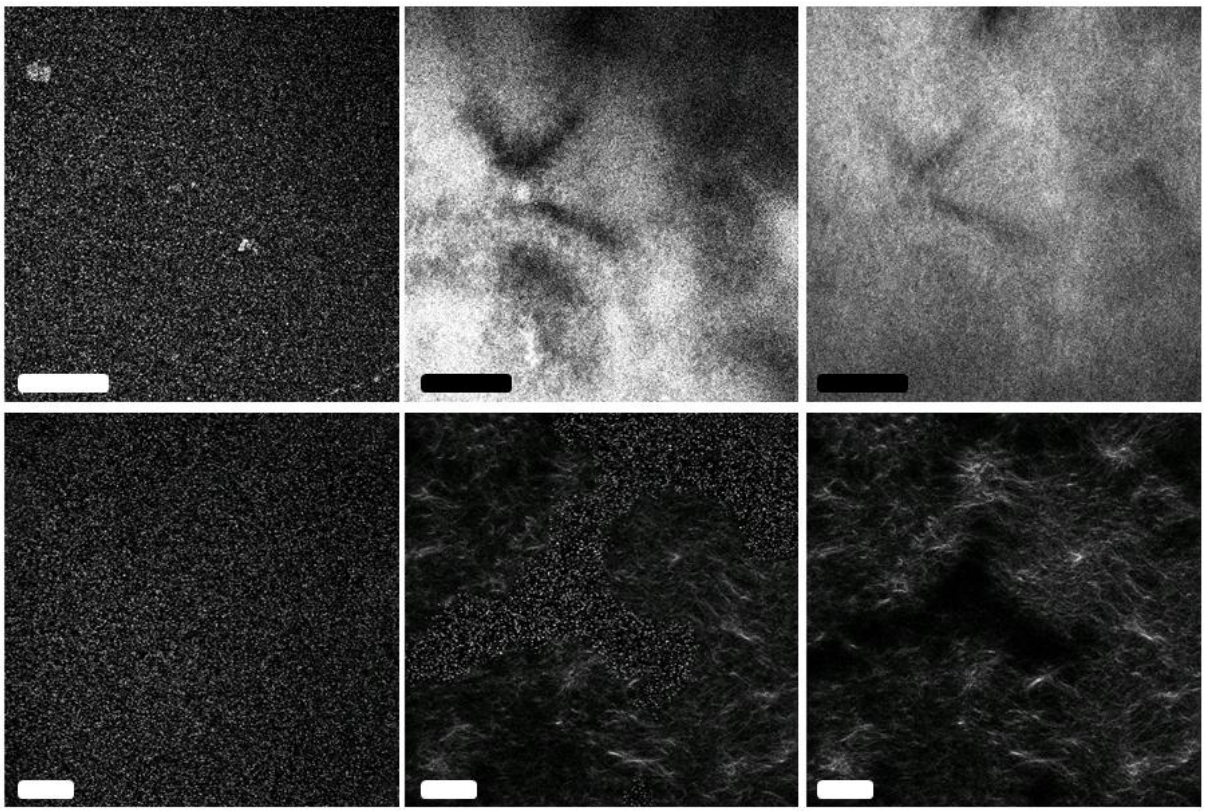

**Figure S1.** Confocal microscope images showing phase separation followed by formation of spherulites for (top) **1** and (bottom) **2** resulting in gels formed at a $\phi_{DMSO}$ of 0.05. Left to right shows the initial phase separation to spherical structures, which are then replaced by a fibrous network. In all cases, the scale bar represents 50 μm. The fibrous network from **1** are much finer than for **2** and more difficult to resolve using confocal microscopy.

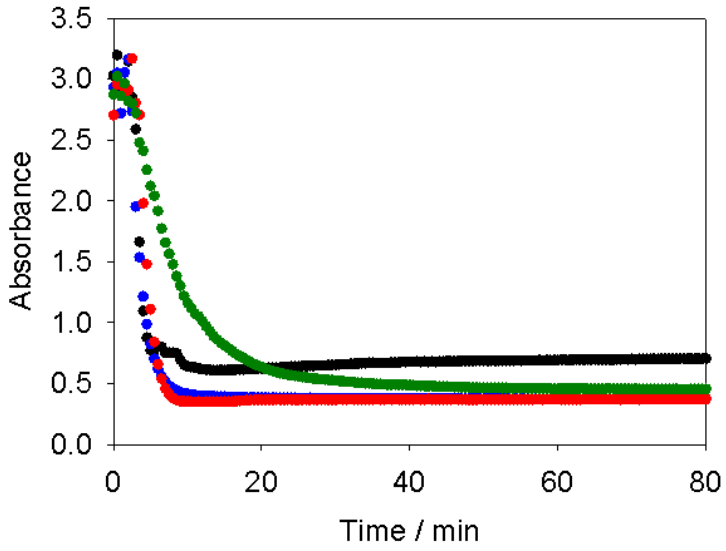


**Figure S2.** Absorbance at 600 nm as a function of time after water or aqueous dextran solutions were added to a solution of **1** in DMSO. The dextran used had a molecular weight of 6000 Da. Solutions had a final concentration of **1** of 0.5 wt% and a $\phi_{DMSO}$ of 0.10. Black data is for **1** alone; blue data for 10 wt% dextran; red data for 20 wt% dextran; green data for 30 wt% dextran.

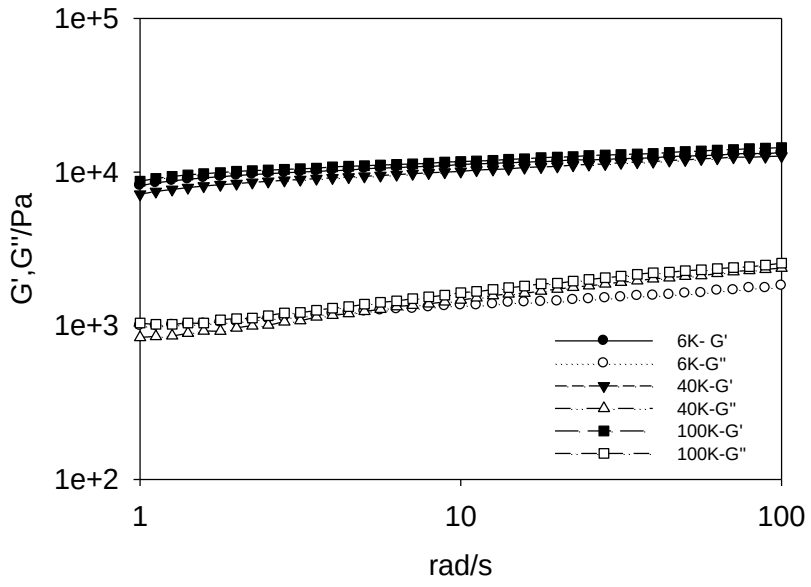


**Figure S3.** Example frequency sweep data for gels formed at a final concentration of **1** of 0.5 wt% and a $\phi_{DMSO}$ of 0.10 with addition of dextran to a concentration of 20 wt%.

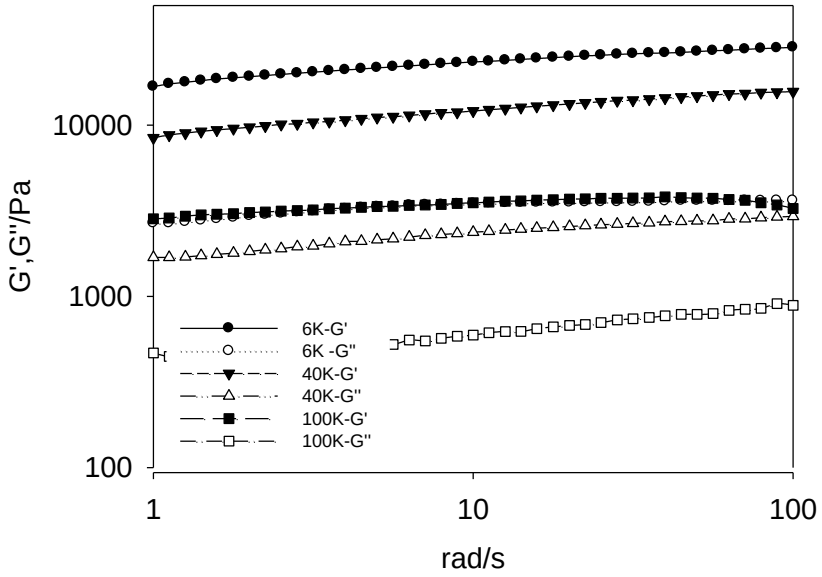


**Figure S4.** Example frequency sweep data for gels formed at a final concentration of **2** of 0.5 wt% and a $\phi_{DMSO}$ of 0.10 with addition of dextran to a concentration of 20 wt%.

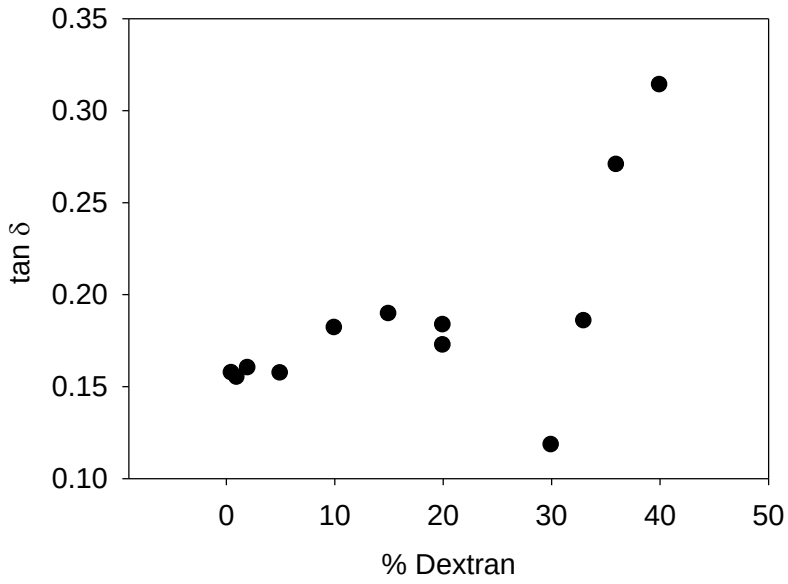


**Figure S5.** Plot of % dextran against tan δ for gels formed at a final concentration of **2** of 0.5 wt% and a $\phi_{DMSO}$ of 0.10 with addition of dextran (100 K Da).