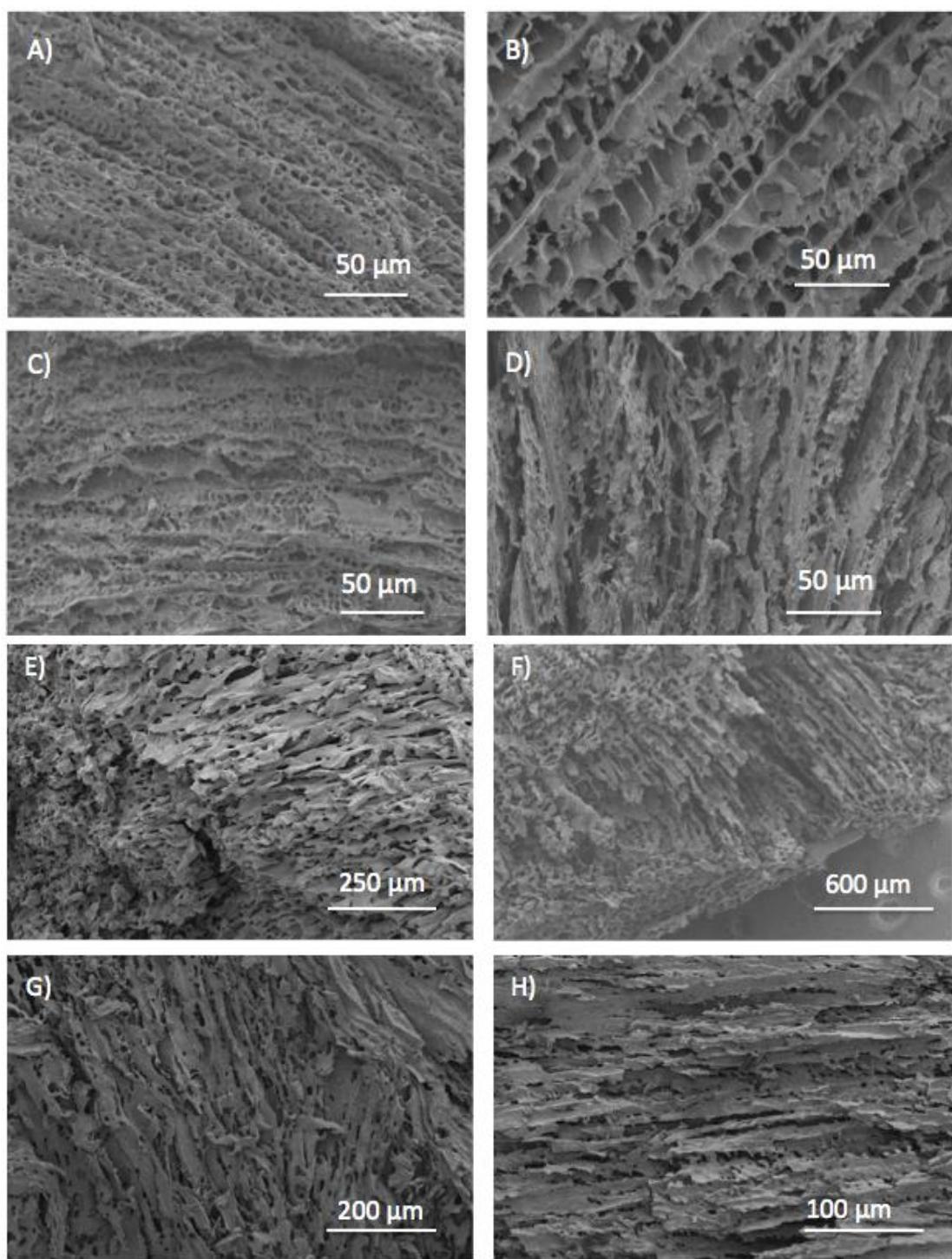


# Aligned porous stimuli-responsive hydrogels via directional freezing and frozen UV initiated polymerization

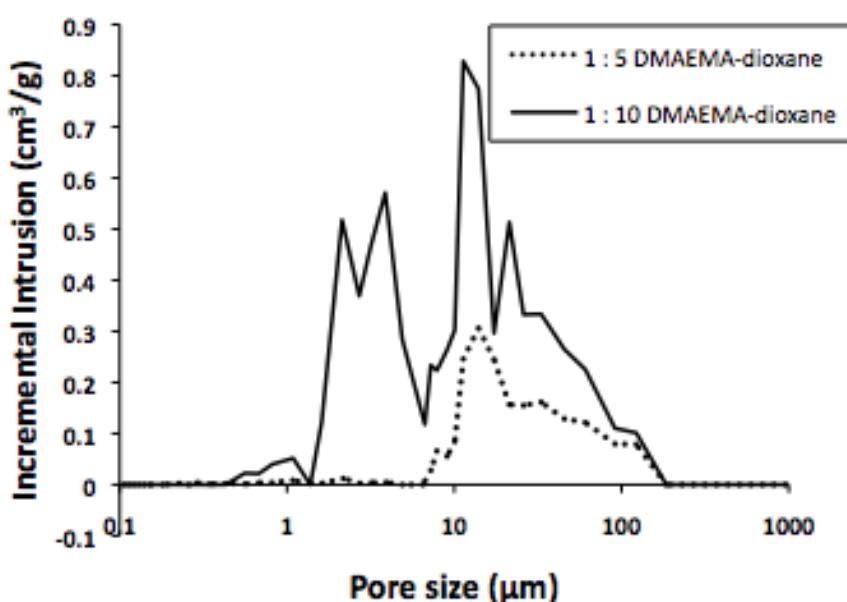
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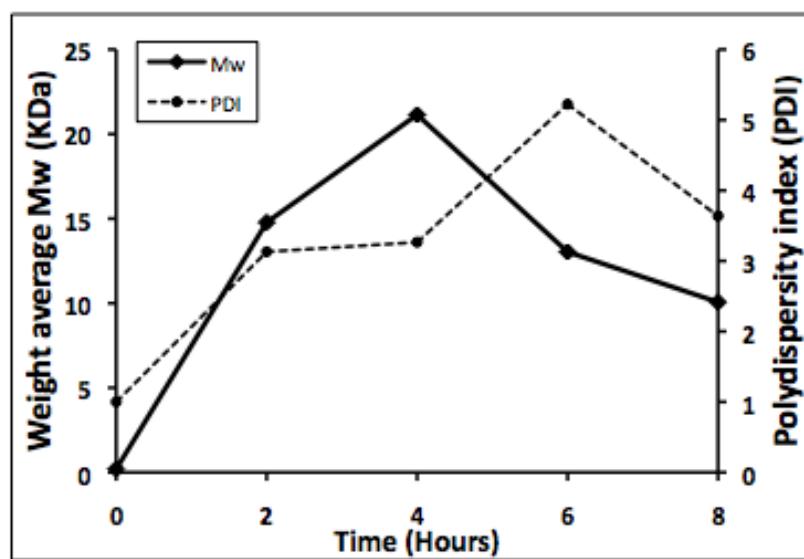
## SUPPORTING INFORMATION



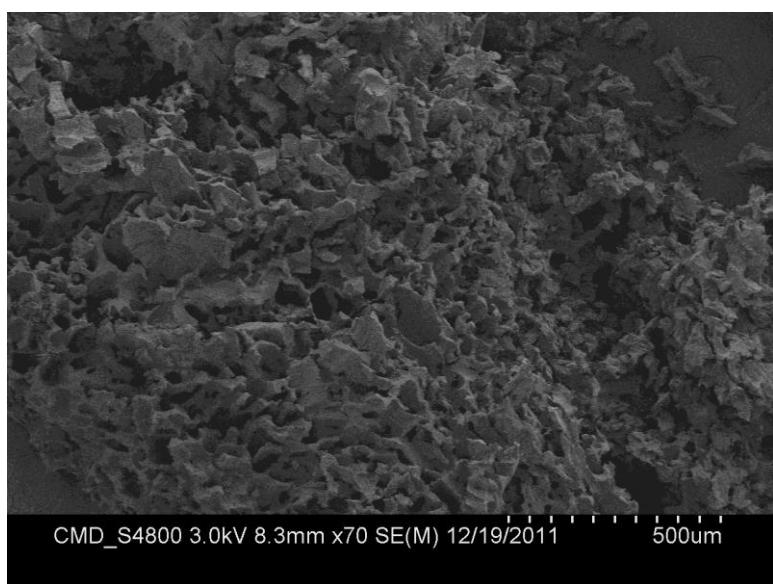
**Figure S1.** SEM images showing aligned porous structures made from solutions of:  
A) 1:5 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (3% EGDMA) B) 1:5 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (10% EGDMA). C) 1:10 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (3% EGDMA) D) 1:10 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (10% EGDMA) E) 1:5 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (3% EGDMA) F) 1:5 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (10% EGDMA) G) 1:10 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (3% EGDMA) H) 1:10 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (10% EGDMA)



**Figure S2.** Pore size distributions of the samples prepared from 1:5 and 1:10 DMAEMA-dioxane (v/v) (10% EGDMA) by Hg intrusion porosimetry.



**Figure S3.** Plot of how weight average  $M_w$  and polydispersity change with polymerization time for 1 : 5 OEGMA to dioxane solutions with no crosslinker present.



**Figure S4.** The SEM image shows the randomly porous structure for the hydrogel prepared by random freezing in freezer.

**Table S1.** Gel permeation chromatography (GPC) results for the 1:5 monomer(s)-dioxane solutions polymerized with no crosslinker.

OEGMA				DMAEMA			
Time (Hours)	Mn	Mw	PDI	Time (Hours)	Mn	Mw	PDI
0		≈ 200		0		157.2	
2	4724	14777	3.13	2	5294	11349	2.05
4	6475	21141	3.265	4	7469	17644	2.376
6	2495	13035	5.224	6	13623	36526	2.681
8	2767	10064	3.637	8	25303	64716	2.55

**Table S2.** Dimensions of hydrogels after soaking for 2 hours in different aqueous conditions. All the test samples are in cylindrical shape (10 mm length x 7 mm diameter).

SAMPLE	Dimensions in 4°C water (length x diameter mm)	Dimensions in 50°C water (length x diameter mm)
1:5 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (3% EGDMA)	13 x 9	10 x 7
1:5 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (5% EGDMA)	13 x 9	10 x 7
1:5 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (10% EGDMA)	13 x 9	10 x 7
1:10 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (3% EGDMA)	13 x 9	11 x 8
1:10 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (5% EGDMA)	13 x 9	11 x 8
1:10 OEGMA/dioxane (v/v) (10% EGDMA)	13 x 9	11 x 8
SAMPLE	Dimensions in 1M HCl (length x diameter mm)	Dimensions in 1M NaOH (length x diameter mm)
1:5 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (3% EGDMA)	20 x 15	12 x 8
1:5 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (5% EGDMA)	18 x 14	12 x 8
1:5 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (10% EGDMA)	12 x 11	12 x 8
1:10 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (3% EGDMA)	18 x 15	11 x 8
1:10 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (5% EGDMA)	16 x 12	11 x 8
1:10 DMAEMA/dioxane (v/v) (10% EGDMA)	12 x 10	11 x 8