Supporting Information for

Fabrication and Manipulation of Ionotropic Hydrogels Crosslinked by Paramagnetic Ions

Adam Winkleman, Paul J. Bracher, Irina Gitlin, and George M. Whitesides*

Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology

Harvard University

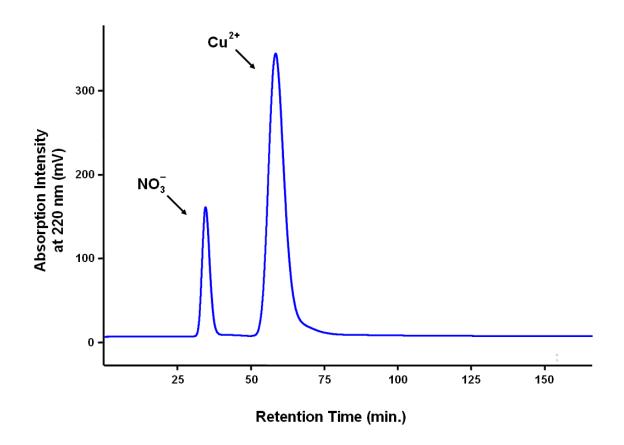
12 Oxford St.

Cambridge, MA 02138

*Corresponding Author

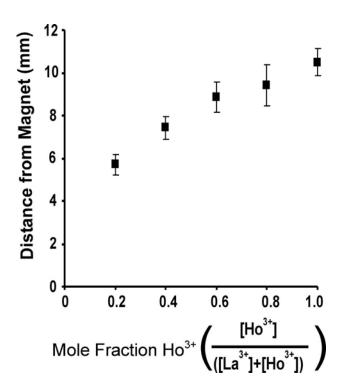
Supplemental Figure 1:

A sample chromatogram from the LC analysis of metal ions on a column of acidified AA. In this experiment, a 100- μ L aliquot of 50 mM $CuSO_4$ and 2 mM KNO_3 was eluted off of a 19-cm column of AA with 0.1 M HCl. Detection was observed at a wavelength of 220 nm.



Supplemental Figure 2:

The farthest distance a paramagnetic CMC hydrosphere was attracted to a set of NdFeB magnets was measured and plotted against the mole fraction of Ho³⁺. The graph is non-linear because the geometry of the magnets used in the experiment created a gradient of the magnetic field that is not constant. The distance from the magnets is proportional to the magnetic force on the sphere, and this force is proportional to the dot product of the magnetic field and its gradient (eq. 1). Since the gradient is not constant, the dot product of these two vectors is non-linear. All of the spheres that became attached to the magnet completed their movement in five seconds or less.



Supplemental Figure 3:

Structures of the monomer units for all of the polymers that we attempted to crosslink with Ho³⁺. The top five polymers (above the dotted line) formed stable hydrogels with Ho³⁺; the bottom eight polymers (below the line) did not.

M:G varies from ~1-3 based on species

Galacturonic Acid

Poly(bis(4-Carboxyphenoxy)phosphazene)

Poly(acrylic acid)

Polystyrene Sulfonate

Poly(vinyl phosphonic acid)

Chitosan

κ-Carrageenan

Hyaluronic Acid

Chondroitin Sulfate

Supplemental Figure 4:

A) A set of UV-vis spectra for solutions containing AA spheres crosslinked with Ho³⁺ with embedded carbon powder (0%, 5%, or 10% (w/v)) after soaking in an aqueous solution containing crystal violet (0.1 mg/mL). The spheres containing the carbon powder remove the dye from the aqueous solution. B) An optical image of the three types of spheres after completion of the removal of the dye by the spheres containing carbon.

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