Effects of the thermal denaturation degree of a whey protein isolate on the strength of acid 1 2 milk gels due to the dissociation of k-casein 3 Daiki Oka^{1*}, Wataru Ono², Shojiro Tamaki³, Tomohiro Noguchi², and Katsumi Takano¹ 4 5 6 7 8 SUPPLEMENTARY FILE 9 **Materials & Methods** 10 *Quantitation of κ-Casein* 11 12 Upon heating of WPI-containing skimmed milk, κ -case dissociated from case in micelles (Mohomud et al., 2017), and the extent of this dissociation was quantified by reverse-phase high-13 performance liquid chromatography using the method of Bonfatti et al. (2008). The milk sample 14 was subjected to ultracentrifugation (33,000 g, 30 min) (himac CP80WX, HITACHI), and the 15 16 supernatant was dissolved in 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH 6.8) to a protein content of 2 mg/mL. A 850-µL aliquot of this solution was then treated with 50 µL of 0.5 M dithiothreitol containing 50 17 18 mM ethylenediaminetetraacetate, heated for 10 min, supplemented with 100 µL of 0.5 M iodoacetamide to modify the SH groups produced, and passed through a 0.45-µm filter. A 50-µL 19 20 aliquot of the prepared sample was loaded on a ZORBAX 300SB-C8 column (Agilent) and eluted at 0.5 mL/min using a gradient of two solvents. Solvent A consisted of 0.1 wt% 21 22 trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) in water, and Solvent B was 0.1 wt% TFA in acetonitrile. Separations were performed with the following program: 0–8 min linear gradient from 30% B to 37% B; 8– 23 24 12 min isocratic elution 37% B; 12-18 min linear gradient from 37% B to 40% B; 18-23 min 25 isocratic elution 40% B; 23–27 min linear gradient from 40% B to 80% B; 27–31 min isocratic elution 80% B; and 31–34 min linear gradient from 80% B to 30% B, followed by a 6-min 26 isocratic elution under the initial conditions. Therefore, the total duration of a single run, 27 28 including column re-equilibration, was 40 min. The detection was performed at a wavelength of 29 214 nm. Peak areas were determined by fitting to a calibration curve constructed using a standard solution, and the ratio of κ -casein content in the whey fraction to that in milk was defined as the 30 extent of κ -case dissociation (%). 31

