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## Nanoparticles preparation of pyrrole and vinylacetate copolymer using various surfactants

Mahmoud sh. Hussain\* and Hani T. Chayed

Department of Chemistry, College of Education for pure sciences, University of Basrah, Iraq

### ABSTRACT

Poly pyrrole/poly (vinyl acetate) (Ppy/PvAc) copolymer was prepared in the aqueous /non aqueous solution by copolymerization of Pyrrole and Vinyl acetate using benzoyl peroxide and  $\text{FeCl}_3$  as an oxidant in the absence and presence of surfactant such as hydroxypropyl cellulose (commercial surfactant) and [(2,2'-1,22-diamino-8,15-dioxo-7,10,13,16-tetraazadocosane-10,13-diyl)diacetic acid] (DAdAc) synthesized surfactant. In this study, the (Ppy/PvAc) copolymer was characterized by Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) and Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM). The results indicate that the intensity of peaks, morphology, particle size, and conductivity of products are dependent on the type of surfactants.

**Keywords:** Nanoparticles, Surfactant, Copolymer

### INTRODUCTION

Polypyrrole (Ppy), one of the most extensively investigated conducting polymers, has attracted a great deal of interest because of its good electrical conductivity, environmental stability and easy synthesis [1]. Conducting polymers have attracted a great attention due to broad application areas such as energy conversion, surface coating layer, and electrochromic devices. In general, they have been synthesized by chemical or electrochemical methods.

Poly pyrrole (Ppy) is one of the most interesting conducting polymers since it is easily deposited from aqueous and non-aqueous media, very adherent to many types of substrates, and is well-conducting and stable. Electrochemical polymerization produces thin films with a thickness of few micrometers on an electrode surface [2], while a chemical oxidation yields a fine-grained material. However, the yield and quality of the resulting polymer films are influenced by several factors, such as nature and concentration of monomer and the counter ion, solvent, cell conditions (e.g. electrode and applied potential), temperature and pH [3,4].

Nanoprecipitation is also called solvent displacement method. It involves the precipitation of a preformed polymer from an organic solution and the diffusion of the organic solvent in the aqueous medium in the presence or absence of a surfactant [5-8].

Polymer deposition on the interface between the water and the organic solvent, caused by fast diffusion of the solvent, leads to the instantaneous formation of a colloidal suspension [9]. To facilitate the formation of colloidal

polymer particles during the first step of the procedure, phase separation is performed with a totally miscible solvent that is also a non solvent of the polymer [10].

All surfactants have both hydrophilic and lipophilic properties and are characterized by their hydrophilic-lipophilic balance (HLB) values. HLB system is the relationship (or balance) between the hydrophilic portions of the nonionic surfactant to the lipophilic portion. HLB values of the stabilizing agents affect the qualities of nanoparticles. A stabilizing agent with high HLB can cause destabilization of the double structure while a stabilizing agent with low HLB may lead to instability between globules [11].

Emulsion polymerization is one of the fastest methods for nanoparticle preparation and is readily scalable [12]. The method is classified into two categories, based on the use of an organic or aqueous continuous phase.

Adsorption of the surfactant on the Ppy particles is primarily due to the hydrophobic component of the surfactants, probably via a hydrogen bonding mechanism with the pyrrole N-H group [13]. The type of surfactant is known to influence the rate of polymer formation, particle size, size distribution, morphology, and homogeneity [14-16]. The interaction between surfactant and polymer or copolymer affects the electrical conductivity and morphology of resultant products [17].

In this study, Polypyrrole/Poly(vinyl acetate) copolymer was prepared in the aqueous/non-aqueous solution by copolymerization of Pyrrole and (vinyl acetate) using benzoyl peroxide and  $\text{FeCl}_3$  as an oxidant in the presence of various surfactants.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The Materials used in this work were vinyl acetate ( $d=0.93\text{g/ml}$ ) and benzoyl peroxide from (Merk), hydroxy propyl cellulose, pyrrole ( $d=0.97\text{g/ml}$ ), ferric chloride from (Aldrich), (2,2'-1,22-diamino-8,15-dioxo-7,10,13,16-tetraazadocosane-10,13-diyl)diacetic acid (DAdAc) [18]. Distilled water. Pyrrole was purified by simple distillation.

Scanning electron microscope (SEM) model KYKY-EM3200. A magnetic mixer model VELP scientifica, Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectrometer model THERMO-NICOLET IR 100, Thermogravimetric analysis: TGA Q 50 (U.S.A) A four-point probe method was used to measure the volume resistivity of conducting polymer films.

### Synthetic methods, analytical and spectral data

#### Chemistry

##### Copolymerization of PPy/PvAc

The reaction was carried out in aqueous/non-aqueous media at room temperature for 5 hours. In a typical experiment 3ml of vinyl acetate monomer was added to stirred aqueous/nonaqueous solution 100ml (water/toluene, 75/25% v/v) containing 2g of benzoyl peroxide, 5.4g of  $\text{FeCl}_3$ , 0.2g of one of the surfactants. After a few minutes, 1ml pyrrole was added to stirred solution. After 5 hours, the polymer was filtered, and washed several times with deionized water, and then dried at room temperature.

Table 1. FTIR of poly pyrrole and copolymers

Type of band	Ppy $\text{cm}^{-1}$	Without surfactant $\text{cm}^{-1}$	hydroxy propyl cellulose $\text{cm}^{-1}$	(DAdAc) $\text{cm}^{-1}$
Pyrrole unit	1550	1542.28	1552.24	1542.09
(C-N) stretching vibration	1306	1302	1298.93	1292.54
(C-H) in plan deformation	1190	1183.96	1177.59	1174.54
(N-H) in plan deformation	1037	1043.97	1048.19	1037.22
(C-H) out of plane deformation.	901	919.55	929.43	905.45
New peak of Ppy/PvAc particles	-----	1699.58	1690.94	1697.63

The chemical structure of obtained product was determined by FTIR spectrum. FTIR analysis has been done to identify the characteristic peaks of product. The FTIR spectra in the 4000-400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region for poly pyrrole and various copolymers are shown in Figs (1,2,3,4) as can be seen. The FTIR spectrum changes when the copolymer is formed by copolymerization. New peaks which are due to pyrrole /vinyl acetate units appear in the new copolymers.

as can be seen in the Table (1) the presence of the characteristic bands of these bring strong evidence for the effective in corporation of vinyl acetate into the conjugated pyrrole polymer.

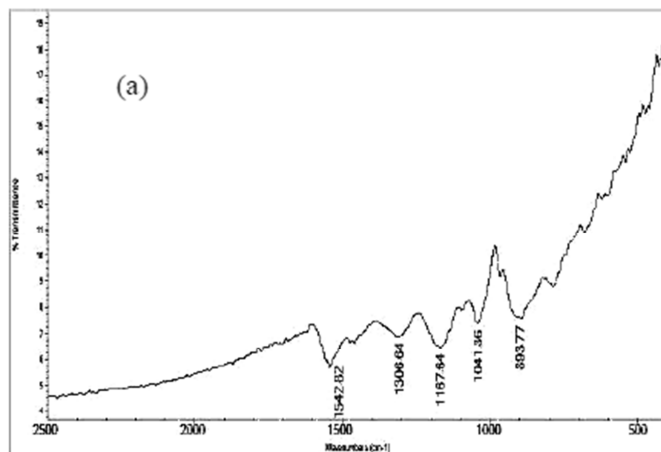


Fig. 1. FTIR spectrum of pure poly pyrrole

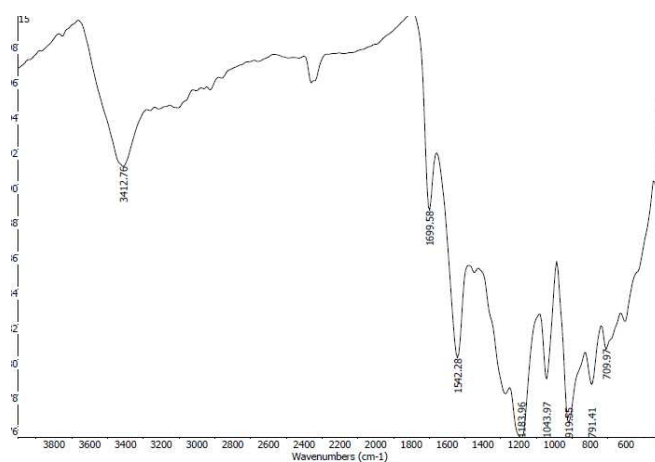


Fig. 2. FTIR spectrum of Ppy/pvAc without surfactant

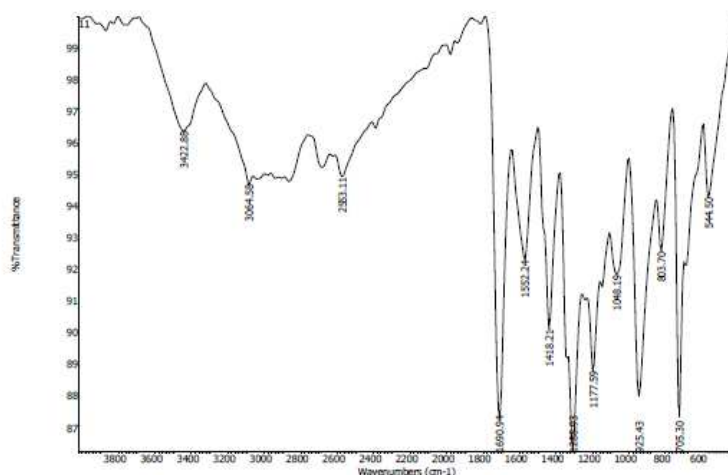


Fig. 3. FTIR spectrum of copolymer using hydroxy propyl cellulose

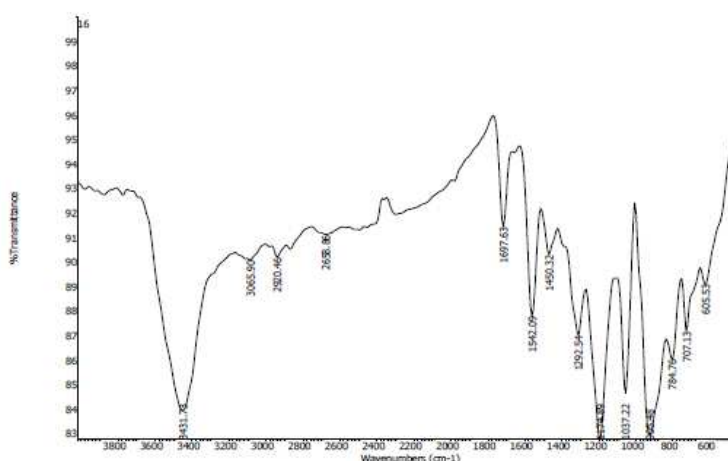


Fig.4. FTIR spectrum of copolymer using (DAdAc)

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The electrical conductivities of various copolymers produced under different reaction conditions were measured on pressed pellets of the copolymer powders. The electrical conductivity of compressed pellets was measured using four point probe method. The particle size and electrical conductivity of copolymers using various surfactants are listed in Table 2 and the Figures (5,6,7). As can be seen the particle size and electrical conductivity are dependent on the type of surfactant, because the surfactant, influence the rate of polymerization and also surfactants are adsorbed physically or chemically (graft copolymer) by the growing polymer [19]. The particles size and electrical conductivity are listed in Table (2). As can be seen, the particle size of the copolymer without surfactant in range (133.1-355.6nm), the particle size of the copolymer using surfactant in range (147.5-253,2nm), (100-197.4nm ) to hydroxyl propyl cellulose, and (DAdAc) respectively. The electrical conductivities were measured on pressed pellets of the copolymer powders.

Table 2.The conductivity and particles size of the copolymer

Type of copolymer	Type of surfactant	Particles size(nm)	Electrical conductivity (Scm <sup>-1</sup> )
Ppy/ PvAc	Without surfactant	206.6-274.4	$6.3 \times 10^{-5}$
Ppy/ PvAc	Hydroxy propyl cellulose	162.8-209.0	$7.4 \times 10^{-6}$
Ppy/ PvAc	(DAdAc)	102.9-135.3	$5.3 \times 10^{-6}$

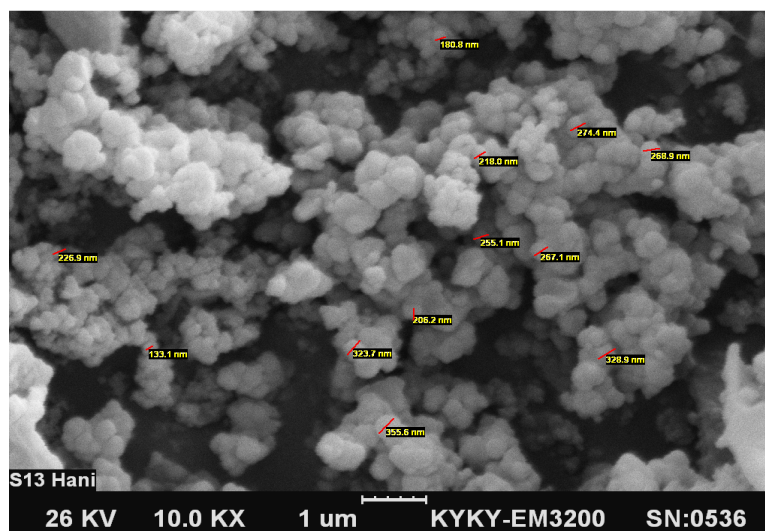


Fig. 5.Scanning electron micrograph of PPy/PvAc in aqueous/non-aqueous media without surfactant

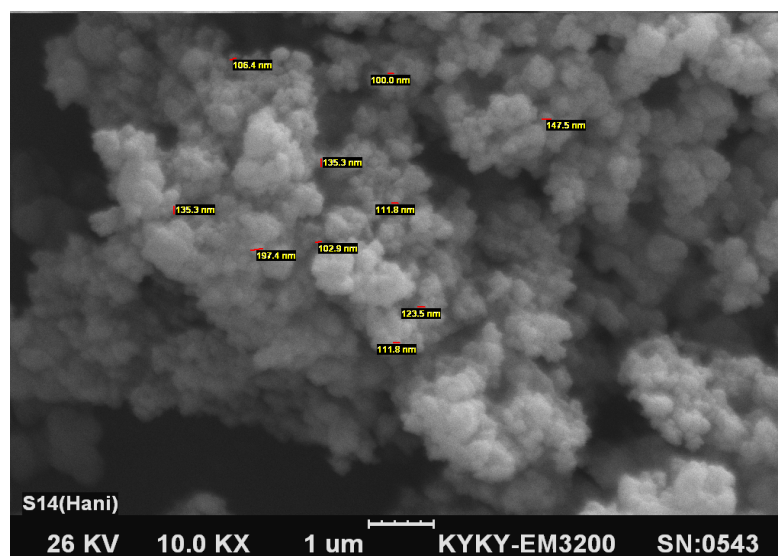


Fig. 6. Scanning electron micrograph of PPy/PvAc in aqueous/non-aqueous media with hydroxyl propyl cellulose surfactant

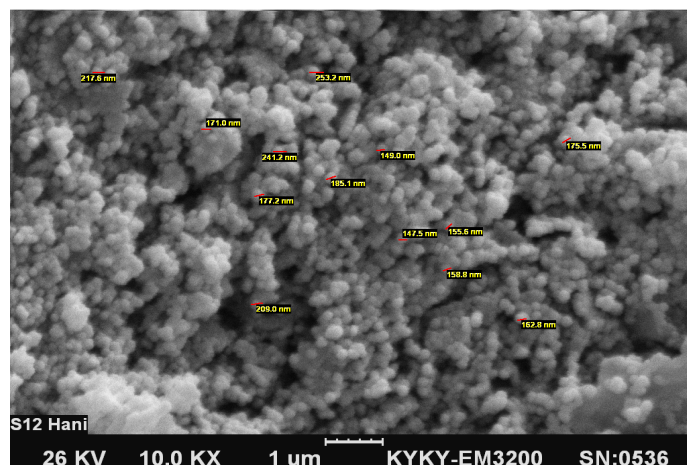


Fig. 7. Scanning electron micrograph of PPy/PvAc in aqueous/non-aqueous media with (DAdAc) surfactant

### CONCLUSION

In this work the characteristics of PPy/PVAc copolymers, such as conductivity, morphology and particle size, were investigated in aqueous/non-aqueous media. The SEM micrographs show that the type of surfactant plays a major role on the surface morphology and homogeneity of particles. The structure of products was determined by FTIR spectrum. By comparison FTIR spectra between pure PPy and copolymers, the copolymers have additional bands. All these bands indicate the formation of copolymers.

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