

Encapsulation of (PT–Lap)/PAAm Hydrogels for Reliable Electrochemical Measurements for Wearable Electronics

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(PT–Lap)/PAAm physical hydrogels are used due to their unique combination of electrochemical conductivity, mechanical flexibility, and structural stability, while closely mimicking biological tissues, making them highly suitable for bioelectronic and flexible electronic devices [1], [2]. Their composite structure where the PAAm chains are linked by the (PT–Lap) cubosomes enables high stretchability, robustness, and ionic conductivity, while providing a relevant platform to study electrochemical interactions and environmental effects [3], [8], [9].

However these hydrogels exhibit strong dependence on environmental conditions. Their high water content makes them prone to evaporation, leading to conductivity instability and poor reproducibility of measurements [4], [5]. In addition, their non-ohmic electrochemical behavior and mechanical aging further complicate their characterization [5].

In this context, encapsulation becomes essential to stabilize their properties by limiting deshydration and improving measurement reliability [5]. A Kapton based encapsulation is well suited for experimental characterization due to its chemical stability and electrical compatibility [6]. However its limited flexibility restricts its use in real-world applications. Alternatively, elastomers such as PDMS (polydimethylsiloxane) provide a more flexible and stretchable encapsulation, better suited for bioelectronic systems while maintaining effective environmental protection [3], [7].

Electrical characterization will include time-dependent conductivity measurements, and charge–discharge experiments to evaluate stability, ionic transport, and electrochemical performance [9].

Work is in progress in order to gather more data and help in understanding the conditions in forming such complex and interesting smart assemblies for suitable electronic devices.

Keywords:

hydrogels, bioelectronics, flexible electronic devices, sensors, soft conductive materials

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