



## Synthesis of hydrogels

The syntheses of hydrogels of various compositions were performed by free radical crosslinking copolymerization at 60°C. Briefly, NiPAAm and VOE-CEA were dissolved in water. The concentration of the crosslinking agent, N, N-methylene-bis-akpila-mid (MBAA), was 2.0 and 4.0 wt.% with respect to monomers. After being purged by the argon.

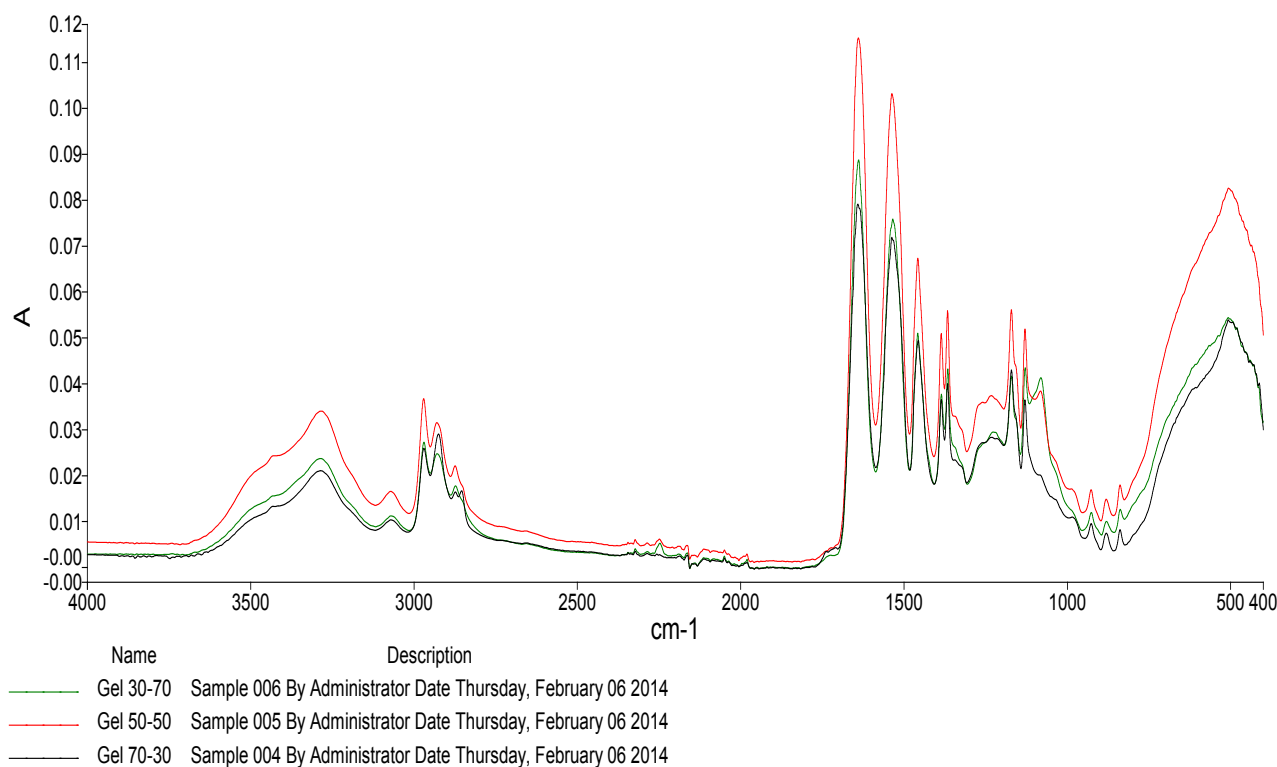
The reaction time depended on the concentration of the crosslinking agent, as well as on the NiPAAm/VOE-CEA comonomer weight ratio in the initial mixture and was in the range of 1 to 3 h. After the reaction was completed, the gels were cut into discs and immersed in water which was changed daily for a week, to remove unreacted reactants. The discs were

dried at room temperature for a day and then at the temperature of 37°C to hydrogels (cm thick and cm in diameter). The samples were labeled as NiPAAm/VOE-CEA/MBAA 30/70/1, 50/50/1, 70/30/1.

## Results and Discussion

FT-IR spectra of hydrogels with 1.0 wt.% of MBAA are presented in Figure 1. Figures show FT-IR spectra of homo- and copolymer hydrogels of different composition, both monomer content and crosslinking agent concentration.

The first three numbers in the sample labels correspond to the comonomer NiPAAm/VOE-CEA weight ratio, and the third one corresponds to the concentration of the crosslinking agent, MBAA.



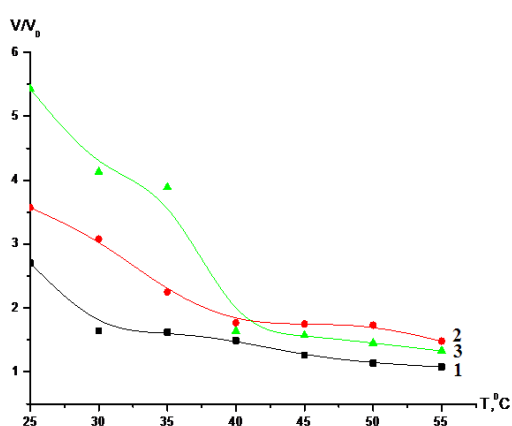
**Figure 1** – FT-IR spectra of hydrogels: spectra of hydrogels with 1.0 wt.% of MBAA ((A)30/70/1; (B) 50/50/1; (C) 70/30/1;). The first two numbers in the sample labels correspond to the comonomer NiPAAm/VOE-CEA weight ratio, and the third one corresponds to the concentration of the crosslinking agent, MBAA

FT-IR spectra of hydrogels are similar. Each spectrum shows a wide band in the area of 3300–3100 cm<sup>-1</sup> which corresponds to the C–O–C stretching vibration of carboxylic groups in VOE-CEA and N–H stretching vibration of NiPAAm.

Stretching of C–H group from NiPAAm is also noticeable at 2976 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Peak at 1723 cm<sup>-1</sup> originates from the vibration of the carbonyl group in N-(2-vinylloxyethyl)-N-(2-cyanoethyl) amine. Typical amide I band and amide II band of NiPAAm ap-

pear around 1650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 1540  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. Two typical bands of C–H vibrations of nearly the same intensity at 1386 and 1379  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  correspond to the stretching vibration of C–H bond of CH (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> groups. The band around 1174  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  originates from the amide III band in P(NiPAAm). Band at 1207  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  corresponds to C–O stretching of carboxylic groups in N-(2-vinylxyethyl)-N-(2-cyanoethyl) amine. At 1400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  some C–O–H banding in plane is visible. Characteristic bands in the FT-IR spectra correspond to the absorption bands of hydrogels characteristic for homopolymers of poly(N-(2-vinylxyethyl)-N-(2-cyanoethyl) amine) and poly(N-isopropylacrylamide) but are slightly shifted in relation to the wavenumbers of pure polymers because of the crosslinking reaction and the formation of the hydrogel polymer network.

We investigated swelling capacity of hydrogels in different environments of pH, as hydrogels on a basis [NIPAAm]: [VOECEA] of a positive charge.

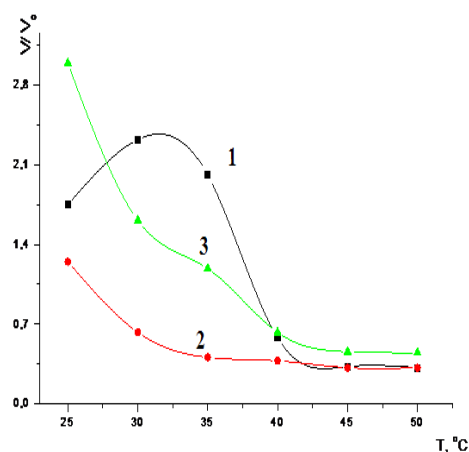


NiPAAm/VOECEA hydrogels with 1.0 wt.% of MBAA ((1)30/70/1; (2) 50/50/1; (3) 70/30/1;).

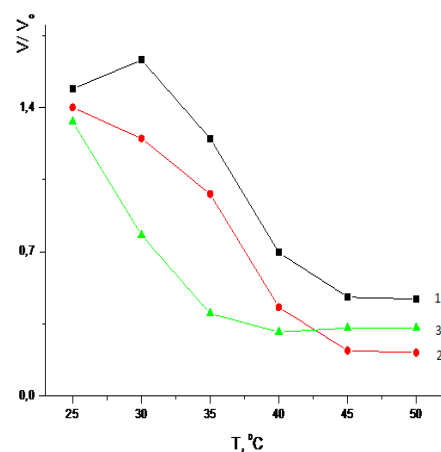
**Figure 2** – Influence of the temperatures to hydrogels based on the NiPAAm/VOECEA.

### Conclusion

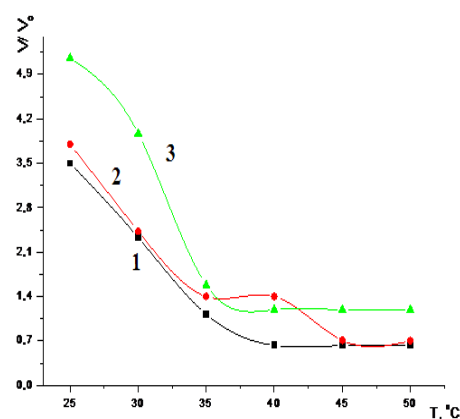
Thus, in this work has been synthesized cationic type hydrogels based on NIPAAm/VOECEA and has investigated physical and chemical properties of the new NIPAAm/VOECEA hydrogels. The syntheses of hydrogels of various compositions were performed by free radical crosslinking copolymerization and also has been investigated thermosensitivity of hydrogels. We have proved that, the above temperature the is lower swelling of copolymers.



(3)NiPAAm/VOECEA hydrogels with 1.0 wt.% of MBAA (30/70/1); pH = 4,0 (1); 7,0 (2); 9,0 (3); [CA] = 0,5%



(4)NiPAAm/VOECEA hydrogels with 1.0 wt.% of MBAA (50/50/1); pH = 4,0 (1); 7,0 (2); 9,0 (3); [CA] = 0,5%



(5)NiPAAm/VOECEA hydrogels with 1.0 wt.% of MBAA (70/30/1); pH = 4,0 (1); 7,0 (2); 9,0 (3); [CA] = 0,5%

**Figure 3-5** – The behavior of hydrogels based on the NiPAAm/VOECEA depends on the temperatures in different environments of pH.

## References

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