

## Tannic Acid-Modified Poly(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid): A Versatile Approach for Aqueous Viscosity Modulation

Ramses S. Meleán Brito <sup>1,3</sup>, Juan Milanesio <sup>2,3</sup>, María Belén Oviedo <sup>4,5</sup>, Juan M. Padró <sup>6,7</sup>,

Miriam C. Strumia <sup>1,3</sup>, Facundo Mattea <sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Departamento de Química Orgánica, Facultad de Ciencias Químicas, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Av. Haya de la Torre y Av. Medina Allende, Córdoba, X5000HUA, Argentina.

<sup>2</sup> Departamento de Química Industrial y Aplicada, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Av. Vélez Sarsfield 299, Córdoba, X5000JJC, Argentina.

<sup>3</sup> Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo en Ingeniería de Procesos y Química Aplicada (IPQA), Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET), Av. Vélez Sarsfield 1611, Córdoba, X5016GCA, Argentina.

<sup>4</sup> Departamento de Química Teórica y Computacional, Facultad de Ciencias Químicas, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Av. Haya de la Torre y Av. Medina Allende, Córdoba, X5000HUA, Argentina.

<sup>5</sup> Instituto de Investigación en Físico-Química de Córdoba (INFIQC), Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET), Av. Haya de la Torre y Av. Medina Allende, Córdoba, X5000HUA, Argentina

<sup>6</sup> División Química Analítica, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas, UNLP, 47 and 115, B1900AJL, La Plata, Argentina

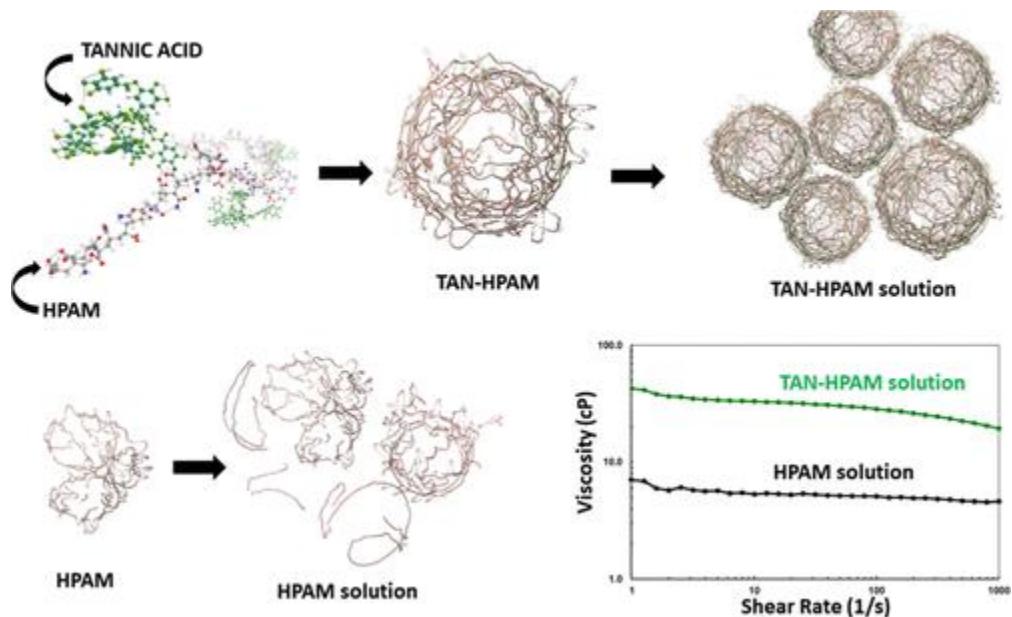
<sup>7</sup> YPF TECNOLOGÍA S. A., Av. Del Petróleo s/n (entre 129 y 143), 1923, Berisso, Argentina

Corresponding author email address: fmattea@unc.edu.ar

### Abstract

This study focuses on the synthesis of a polymer through the grafting of tannic acid onto poly(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid). The main goal is to generate polymers with lateral branched structures with the versatile bonding abilities associated with tannic acid and then study their ability to modify the viscosity of aqueous solutions for potential application in enhanced oil recovery. The synthesized macromolecules were characterized using Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy, <sup>1</sup>H-nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, ultraviolet-visible spectroscopy, size exclusion chromatography coupled with multi-angle light scattering and differential

refractive index detection, as well as fluorescence spectroscopy. These techniques were employed to confirm and quantify the incorporation of tannic acid. The results showed that adding 0.4, 4.0, and 10.0% w/w tannic acid in the reaction mixture produced polymers with incorporations of the branched monomer ranging from 0.06 to 6.92% w/w. The rheological properties of aqueous solutions of the obtained polymers indicated changes in the intra- and intermolecular interactions that were also interpreted by density functional theory simulations. Results showed that the viscosity of the solutions was at least 4.4 times higher than that of the original poly(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid) in water.



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