

## Synthesis and interaction with model DNA of polyaniline and poly[N-(2-hydroxyethyl)aniline]

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### Abstract

© 2019 Kazan Federal University. All Rights Reserved. The associates of conjugated polymers with biopolymers offer an attractive basis for creating bioelec-trosensors and biointerfaces. Nanostructured materials based on conjugated polymers and biopolymers allow to obtain hybrid electroactive biomaterials for applications in biosensors. Polyaniline and poly[N-(2-hydroxyethyl)aniline] have been synthesized by the method of mechanochemical oxidative polymerization. Ammonium persulfate has been used as an oxidant. The obtained polymers have been characterized by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, IR, and MALDI mass spectroscopy. The methods of dynamic light scattering and scanning electron microscopy have shown the formation of nano-sized particles: polyaniline forms of particles with the average size of 250 nm (PDI = 0.2); in case of poly[N-(2-hydroxyethyl)aniline], the average size is about 2 μm (PDI = 0.5). The interaction of conjugated polymer dispersions with model DNA from salmon sperm has been investigated by the dynamic light scattering method. The formation of micron-sized associates in the case of polyaniline has been revealed. Lower sizes of the associates have been recorded in the case of poly[N-(2-hydroxyethyl)aniline]. The introduction of hydroxyethyl fragments has resulted in deaggregation of particles forming smaller-sized associates with DNA having the average size of 1.2 μm (PDI=0.3). Such difference in the aggregation of conjugated polymer particles and their associates with DNA is explained by the effect of hydrophilic hydroxyethyl groups that are capable of hydrogen bonding with a biopolymer and allow to achieve higher dispersion stability due to more effective solvation in water.

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### Keywords

DNA, Mechanochemical oxidative polymerization, Polyaniline, Poly[(N-2-hydroxyethyl)aniline]

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