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Faculty of Engineering

Department of Biomedical Engineering

Citosan-graft-Silk Fibroin Hydrogels for Biomedical Applications

BME 400/402

GRADUATION PROJECT

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CS	Chitosan
SF	Silk Fibroin
Ser	Serine
Gly	Glycine
Ala	Alanine
Tyr	Tyrosine
PBS	Phosphate Buffer Saline
ABS	Acetic acid Buffer Saline
KCl	Potassium Chloride
HCl	Hydrochloric Acid
NaCl	Sodium Chloride
NaOH	Sodium Hydroxide
Glyc	Glycerine
CaCl ₂	Calcium Chloride
Na ₂ CO ₃	Sodium Carbonate
CH ₃ OH	Methanol
N ₂ HPO ₄ ·2H ₂ O	di-Sodium hydrogen phosphate dehydrate
KH ₂ PO ₄	Potassium dihydrogen phosphate
CAN	Ceric Ammonium Nitrate
C ₂ H ₅ OH	Ethanol
CH ₃ COOH	Acetic Acid
H ₂ O	Pure water
C ₆ H ₁₁ O ₄ N	2-amino- 2-deoxy-b-D-glucopyranose
HepG2	Hepatocellular carcinoma cells
ACF-HS	Alginate, chitin/chitosan and fucoidan hydrogel sheet

1-INTRODUCTION

The aim of this project is to synthesize and characterize Silk-Fibroin(SF) grafted Chitosan(CS) hydrogels and scaffolds modified the thrombogenic properties by adding clopidogrel as a anticoagulation agent.

- Swelling (PH:1,2 PBS PH:7,4)
- Creating SF and CS Biofilms
- Antimicrobial Activity

1. 1.CHITOSAN

Chitosan is a polysaccharide extracted from the shells of crustaceans, such as shrimp, crab and other sea crustaceans, including *Pandalus borealis* and cell walls of fungi. Chemical name is 2-amino- 2-deoxy-b-D-glucopyranose.molecular formula is $(C_6H_{11}O_4N)_n$. Chitosan is also known as soluble chitin. Chitin consists mainly of unbranched chains of beta-(1 4)-2-acetamido-2-deoxy-D-glucose (=N-acetyl-d- glucosamine). It is similar to cellulose, in which the C-2 hydroxyl groups are replaced by acetamido residue. Chitin is practically insoluble in water, dilute acids, and alcohol, with variation depending on product origin. Chitosan, the partially deacetylated polymer of N- acetyl-D-glucosamine, is water-soluble [1].

1.2.PHARMACEUTICAL APPLICATIONS OF CHITOSAN

Chitoasn has received considerable attention as a possible pharmaceutical excipient in recent decades, due to its good biocompatibility and low toxicity properties in both conventional excipient applications as well as in novel application. Some of the general applications of Chitosan in pharmaceutical fields are: Diluents in direct compression of tablets. Binder in wet granulation,Slow-release of drugs from tablets and granules,Drug carrier in micro particle systems,Films controlling drug release,Preparation of hydrogels, agent for increasing viscosity in solutions. Wetting agent, and improvement of dissolution of poorly soluble drug substances,Disintegrant,Bioadhesive polymer,Site-specific drug delivery (e.g. to the stomach or colon)Absorption enhancer (e.g. for nasal or oral drug delivery).Biodegradable polymer (implants, microparticles), Carrier in relation to vaccine delivery or gene therapy [1].

1.3.Preparation of Chitosan (CS) from Raw Materials:

CS is not a single chemical entity, but varies in composition depending on the source and method of preparation and also on physiological conditions. CS could be defined as sufficiently deacetylation of chitin to form a soluble amine salts. The degree of deacetylation must be 80 to 85% or higher or the acetyl content must be less than 4- 4.5% to form the soluble product. CS is manufactured commercially by a chemical method. Firstly the sources such as crab or shrimp shells are washed and grinded in to powdered form and then it is deproteinized by treatment with an aqueous 3-5% solution of sodium hydroxide. After that it is neutralized and demineralized at a room temperature by treating it with aqueous 3-5% of hydrochloric solution to form a white or slightly pink precipitate of chitin. Then chitin is deacetylated by treatment with an aqueous 40-45% of sodium hydroxide solution and the precipitate is then washed with water. The insoluble part is removed by dissolving in an aqueous 2% acetic acids solution. The supernatant solution is then neutralized with an aqueous sodium hydroxide solution to obtain a purified CS [7].

In the solid state, chitosan is a semicrystallinepolymer. Its morphology has been investigated, and many polymorphs are mentioned in the literature. Single crystals of chitosan were obtained using fully deacetylated chitin of low molecular weight. The unit cell contains two antiparallel chitosan chains, but no water molecules [10].

It consists of two types of monomers; chitin-monomers and chitosan-monomers.Chitosan is also reported to accelerate wound healing and enhance bone formation [9].

Preparation of Chitin & Chitosan

Shellfish wastes from food processing (shrimp, squid, crab)

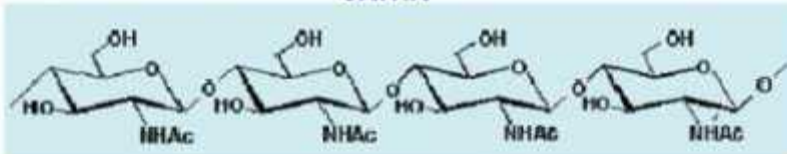


Decalcification in dil. aqueous HCl solution
(3% to 5% HCl w/v HCl at room temperature)

Deproteination in dil. aqueous NaOH solution
(3% to 5% w/v NaOH, 80°C to 90°C for a few hrs. or room temperature overnight)

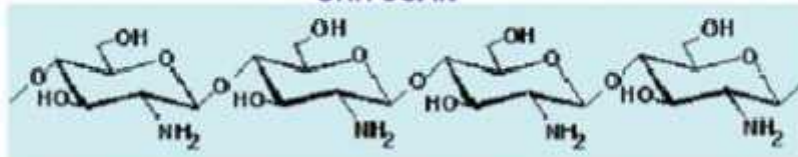
Decolorization in 0.5% KMnO₄ aqueous and oxalic acid aqueous or sunshine

CHITIN



Deacetylation in hot concentration NaOH solution
(40% to 50% w/v NaOH, at 90°C to 120°C for 4 to 5 hrs)

CHITOSAN



The crude chitosan is dissolved in aqueous 2% w/v acetic acid. Then the insoluble material is removed giving a clear supernatant solution, which is neutralized with NaOH solution resulting in a purified sample of chitosan as a white precipitate. Further purification may be necessary to prepare medical and pharmaceutical-grade chitosan.¹²

Figure-1: Properties of Chitin and Chitosan

1.4.Derivatives of Chitosan (CS): CS has a large no. Of application in pharmaceutical dosage form; its further application can be exploited by modification of basic structure to obtain polymers with a wide range of properties.

1.4.1.N-Trimethylene Chloride Chitosan:

Hamman and coworkers showed that the degree of quaternization of trimethylene chloride influences its drug absorption-enhancing properties . The charge on chitosan has a role in providing intestinal permeability. Hence, a quaternary derivatized chitosan (N-trimethylene chloride chitosan) is found to demonstrate higher intestinal permeability than chitosan alone. Polymers with higher degrees of quaternization (> 22%) are able to reduce the trans-epithelial electrical resistance and thereby epithelial transport (in vitro) in a neutral environment (pH 7.4). The maximum reduction in trans-epithelial resistance is found to be reached with trimethylene chloride with a degree of quaternization of 48%. This degree of quaternization is optimum for in-vitro transport of model drugs across a Caco-2 monolayer.

1.4.2.Chitosan Esters: Chitosan esters, such as chitosan succinate and chitosan phthalate have been used successfully as potential matrices for the colon- By converting polymer from an amine to succinate form, the solubility profile is changed significantly . The modified polymers are insoluble under acidic conditions and act as sustained release for the encapsulated agent under basic conditions and also for colon-targeted system[1].

1.4.3.Chitosan Conjugates: Guggi and Bernkop attached an enzyme inhibitor to chitosan. The resulting polymer retained the mucoadhesivity of chitosan preventing drug degradation by inhibiting enzymes such as trypsin and chymotrypsin. This conjugated chitosan has promising role in delivery of sensitive peptide drugs such as calcitonin[1].

1.5.Properties of Chitosan:The amino group in Chitosan has a pKa value of ~6.5, which leads to a protonation in acidic to neutral solution with a charge density dependent on pH and the %DA-value. This makes Chitosan water soluble and a bioadhesive which readily binds to negatively charged surfaces such as mucosal membranes. Chitosan enhances the transport of polar drugs across epithelial surfaces, and is biocompatible and biodegradable. Purified quantities of Chitosans are available for biomedical applications. (Fig.1)

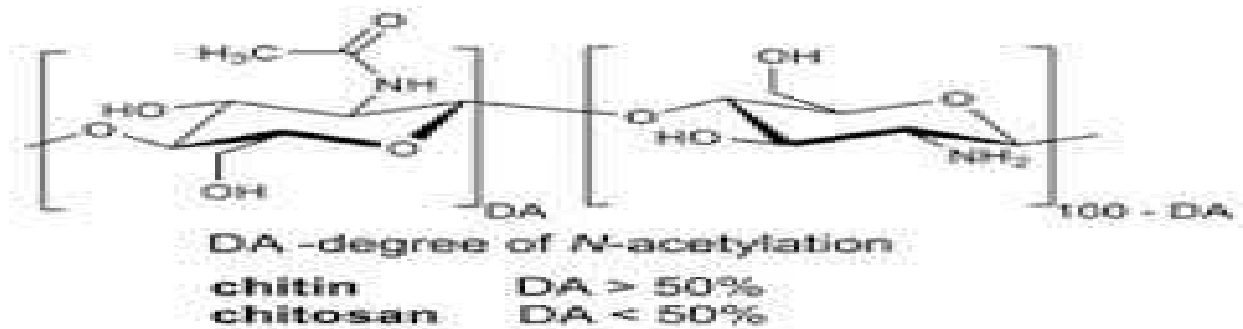


Figure. 2: Structural units of chitosan (right) and chitin (left)[5]

1.6.Characteristics of chitosan

1.6.1.Biocompatibility

Both chitin and chitosan show very good compatibility but this property depends on the characteristics of the sample (natural source, method of preparation, Mw and DD). Due to its higher versatility and biological properties the majority of the assays have been carried out on chitosan samples. Although the gastrointestinal enzymes can partially degrade both chitin and chitosan, when both polymers are orally administered they are not absorbed. For this reason, they are considered as not bioavailable. Chitosan shows a LD50 of around 16g/kg, very similar to the salt and glucose values in assays carried out on mice . Toxicity of chitosan is reported to depend on DD. Schipper et al. Reported that chitosans with DD higher than 35% showed low toxicity, while a DD under 35% caused dose dependant toxicity.

On the other hand, Mw of chitosan did not influence toxicity. Chitosan presents higher cytocompatibility in vitro than chitin. The cytocompatibility of chitosan has been proved in vitro with myocardial, endothelial and epithelial cells, fibroblast, hepatocytes, chondrocytes and keratinocytes. This property seems to be related to the DD of the samples. When the positive charge of the polymer increases, the interactions between chitosan and the cells increase too, due to the presence of free amino groups. The adhesion and proliferation of keratinocytes and fibroblasts on several chitosan films with different DDs depend on both, DD and cell type. In both cells, the percentage of cell adhesion was strongly dependent of the DD, increasing with this parameter. The type of cell was a factor that also affected the adhesion, being more favourable for fibroblasts which exhibit a more negative charge surface than for keratinocytes. On the other hand, the proliferation decreased considerably by increasing the DD.

Residual proteins in chitin and chitosan could cause allergic reactions such as hypersensitivity. The protein content in a sample depends on the source of the sample and, especially, on the method of preparation[1].

1.6.2. Anti Cancerous Agent

Santosh Kumar and coworkers³⁰ concluded that novel chitosan–thymine conjugate has been successfully synthesized by the acylation reaction between chitosan and thymine-1-yl-acetic acid and its dual antimicrobial and anticancer effect had been tested. The morphological study of the chitosan–thymine conjugate has shown macro porous structure for biomedical properties. The microbiological screening has demonstrated the positive antimicrobial activity against pathogenic bacteria and fungi. The assays for cell proliferation and viability showed that the chitosan–thymine conjugate was non-cytotoxic but significantly reduced the rate of proliferation in cancerous HepG2 cells. Thus, the chitosan–thymine conjugate might be a very promising candidate for practical applications in the field of biomedical and medicine vis-à-vis genetic information (transfer and function)[1].

1.6.3. Antibacterial Activity

Chitosan may also have an effect on the type of bacteria living in the intestines or on the action of these bacteria. A small human study found that taking 3-6 grams per day of chitosan for two weeks reduced indicators of putrefaction in the intestines, change that might help prevent diseases such as colon cancer. Antibacterial activity of the water-soluble N-alkylated disaccharide chitosan derivatives against *Escherichia coli* and *Staphylococcus*.

1.6.4. Wound Healing

Kaoru Murakami and co workers prepared a composite hydrogel sheet produced from blended alginate, chitin/chitosan and fucoidan powders (ACF-HS). It possesses many advantages as a wound dressing for repair of healing-impaired wounds. The application of ACF-HS significantly stimulated repair of mitomycin C-treated healing-impaired wounds in rats. Thus, ACF-HS is a promising wound dressing for healing-impaired wound repair. R. Jayakumar, M. Prabaharan and coworkers reviewed the recent progress of chitin and chitosan- based fibrous materials, hydrogels, membranes, scaffolds and sponges in wound dressing. The fibrous materials based on chitin and its derivatives have the properties of high durability, good biocompatibility, low toxicity, liquid absorption, and antibacterial activity. These properties would lead to accelerate wound healing. Chitosan/collagen membrane could be used to hasten wound healing and induce cell migration and proliferation and antibacterial activity

1.7.SILK FIBRION

Silks are generally defined as protein polymers that are spun into fibers by some lepidoptera larvae such as silkworms, spiders, scorpions, mites and flies [1–3]. Silk proteins are usually produced within specialized glands after biosynthesis in epithelial cells, followed by secretion into the lumen of these glands where the proteins are stored prior to spinning into fibers. Silks differ widely in composition, structure and properties depending on the specific source. The most extensively characterized silks are from the domesticated silkworm, *Bombyx mori*, and from spiders (*Nephila clavipes* and *Araneus diadematus*). Many of the more evolutionarily advanced spiders synthesize different types of silks. Each of these different silks has a different amino acid composition and exhibits mechanical properties tailored to their specific functions: reproduction as cocoon capsular structures, lines for prey capture, lifeline support (dragline), web construction and adhesion. Fibrous proteins, such as silks and collagens, are characterized by a highly repetitive primary sequence that leads to significant homogeneity in secondary structure, i.e., triple helices in the case of collagens and β -sheets in the case of many of the silks.

1.7.1. STRUCTURE OF SILK FIBROIN

Silk fibroin, like creatine and collagen, belongs to fibrillar proteins. The elements of the supramolecular structure of silk fibers are macrofibrils with a width of up to 6.5×10^5 nm, which, in turn, consist of helically packed nanofibers 90–170 nm in diameter. Nanofibrils may play an important role in imparting enhanced strength to silks. The molecular weight of natural silk fibroin reaches 370 000 Da; fibroin macrochain length, 150 nm; and macrochain diameter, 0.45 nm.

Silk fibers produced by cultivated *Bomby mori* mulberry silkworm mainly consist of two proteins, sericin and fibroin; they also contain minor amounts of residues of other amino acids and various impurities: fats, waxes, dyes, and mineral salts. Depending on the cocoon strain, the fibroin content is 66.5–73.5%, and the sericin content, 26.5–33.5 wt%.

As for the chemical composition, *Bombyx mori* fibers consist of residues of no less than 16 amino acids whose ratio varies between different areas of the supramolecular structure of fibroin. "Heavy" areas of the polymer, with a mean molecular weight of up to 350 000–370 000, mainly consist of highly ordered hydrophobic macromolecules, and in looser "light" areas

with a mean molecular weight of about 25 000 the major components are polar amino acid residues.

The mole fraction of glycine,alanine,serine,and tyrosine residues combined is 90 %; their sequence is represent by the general formula.

-Gly-Ala-Gly Ala-Gly-Ser-Gly-Ala-Ala-Gly-[-Ser-Gly-(Ala-Gly)_n]-₈-Tyr-

1.7.2. PROPERTIES OF SILK-FIBROIN

The enhanced environmental stability of silk fibers in comparison to globular proteins is due to the extensive hydrogen bonding, the hydrophobic nature of much of the protein, and the significant crystallinity. Silks are insoluble in most solvents, including water, dilute acid and alkali. Detailed structural analysis of spider dragline silk proteins has yielded information on the organization and orientation of the numerous but very small β -sheet crystals in the fibers, and a high level of organization of the protein even in the less crystalline domains. Liquid crystalline phases and conformational polymorphism have been implicated in the biological processing of these proteins to contribute to the architectural features within the fibers . These nanoscale features, factoring in the small, orientated and numerous β -sheet crystals, a fuzzy interphase between these crystals and the less crystalline domains, and the shear alignment of the chains, provides a basis for the origin of the novel mechanical properties exhibited by silk fibers. A comparison of mechanical properties suggests that they provide a remarkable combination of strength and toughness. The distinguishing features of the spider silks are the very high strength in combination with excellent elasticity in comparison with these other biomaterials. In addition, these fibers display resistance to failure in compression that distinguishes them from other high performance fibers, such as Kevlar.

1.7.3. BIOMEDICAL APPLICATIONS OF SILK-FIBROIN

1.7.3.1. Tissue Engineering

Silk based tissue engineering system which search new methods and materials to create synthetic tissue mimics that can be implanted in vivo to spur regeneration of diseased tissue or injured.

1.7.3.2. Drug delivery

Drug delivery is the method or process of administering a pharmaceutical compound to achieve a therapeutic effect in humans or animals. Drug delivery release profile, absorption, distribution and elimination for the benefit of improving product efficiency and safety as well as patient convenience and compliance.

1.7.3.3. Blood-Contacting Material

Several approaches have been used to improve blood compatibility of SF. Silk fibroin have been modeled after the structure of the highly sulfated polysaccharide heparin, which is anticoagulation.

SF derivatives produced through the reaction with sulfuric acid, and sulfonated silk blends were shown to be effective anticoagulation, suggesting that type of chemical modification of SF would be useful for applications where these materials will be in contact with blood.

2-EXPERIMENTAL

2.1. Materials and Methods

Ultrapure water were supplied by Near East University medicine faculty. CAN(ceric ammonium nitrate) was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich(St.Louis,MO,USA), CH₃COOH (acetic acid)were purchase from E.Mecrk D-6100 Darmstadt. Ultrapure water was used to prepared silk fibroin. Acetic acid and ultrapure water were used to prepared Chitosan.

2.2. Preparation of Chitosansolution

Firstly measured 0,2g chitosan, 0,1M 100ml acetic acid. After we put the magnetic stirrer no temprature and spined at 1 rpm.



Figure-3: Solution of CS

2.3. Preparation of Silk Fibroin

2.3.1 Silk Degumming;

1 gram of Bombyx Bori was measured and boiled for 3 hours in a 0.1 M Sodium carbonate solution at 70 °C on a magnetic stirrer with speed of 1 rpm. Then rinsed thoroughly with warm ultrapure water to extract the glue like sericin proteins. This procedure is repeated three times and then dried at room temperature.

2.3.2 Preparation of Electrolyte

Electrolyte formation is dissolving the silk fibres to have liquid form of silk fibroin by breaking down the H-bonding in β -sheet to get aqueous solution.

In this step, CaCl_2 , $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$, H_2O (1:2:8 mole ratio) and degummed silk fibres were mixed at 75 °C with stirring.

2.3.3. Silk Fibroin Dialysis

Dialysis is removal of the ions within the solution obtained from the dissolution step. Electrolyte solution was dialyzed continuously for 72 h against running ultrapure water to remove ions using a cellulose semi-permeable membrane (made of Carboxymethyl, diameter: 2.7 cm). The liquid silk fibroin was stored to be used in nanoparticle preparation.



Figure-4: Degumming process



Figure-5: Electrolyte procedure



Figure-6: Dialysis system

2.4. Preparation of Phosphate Buffer Saline

There are many different ways to prepare Phosphate Buffer Saline. Some formulations do not contain potassium, while others contain calcium or magnesium. Generally, PBS contains the following constituents:

Salt	Concentration	Concentration
(-)	(mmol/L)	(g/L)
NaCl	137	8.01
KCL	2.7	0.20
Na ₂ HPO ₄ .H ₂ O	10	1.78
KH ₂ PO ₄	2.0	0.27
Ph	7.4	7.4

Table-1: Phosphate Buffer Saline Contents

After preparing the PBS solution the PH is adjusted to 7.4 by adding either Hydrochloric acid HCl or Sodium hydroxide NaOH depending on the PH value whether it is below or above 7.4

2.5. Acetic Acid Solution Preparation

Glacial acetic acid is diluted by water to get 0.5M acetic acid after that the ph is adjusted to 1.2 by HCl if the PH value goes beyond that point it can be reversed back by NaOH.

2.6. Preparation of Chitosan Graft and Silk Fibroin Hydrogels

First Graft used 18ml dissolved chitosan, 5ml of liquid silk fibroin and 100 ml 0.1M CH₃COOH (acetic acid) and 0.05g CAN (ceric ammonium nitrate) were obtained solution. In the process used 5 bar nitrogen gas 2 hour at 60C to protect to crystalline structure. After form of grafting we are used pure Aseton to precipitated. We repeated four times grafting operations. We took best result at CAN 0.0756g.

3.RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

3.1.Creating SF and CS Graftings

CS(Chitosan)	SF(Silk Fibroin)	CAN(Ceric Ammonium)	Time	Temperature	rpm
18 ml	5 ml	0.0527 g	2h	60 °C	1 rpm
18 ml	5 ml	0.0756 g	2h	60 °C	1 rpm
18 ml	5 ml	0.1 g	2h	60 °C	1 rpm
18 ml	6 ml	0.0756 g	2h	60 °C	1 rpm

Table-2:Proportions and Properties of CS and SF Grafts



Figure-7: Preparation of CS graft



Figure-8: Before filtration operation

and SF hydrogels

3.1.2 Filtration of Graft

Consisted chitosan solution filtration with filter paper and we separated particles. After chitosan filtration we obtained;



Figure-9: Filtration of CS graft and SF hydrogels **Figure-10: Waste products of CS graft and SF**



Figure-11 : Result of CS graft and SF hydrogels

3.1.3. Swelling Test for SF and CS Grafts

After the grafts were prepared, they were tested for their swelling properties in the PBS and ABS solutions.

The swelling ratios were calculated by using:

$$\text{Swelling \%} = \frac{\text{weight(t)} - \text{weight(dry)}}{\text{weight(dry)}} * 100\%$$

Where weight(t) is the graft's weight measured at any given time and the weight (dry) is the weight of the grafts in its dry state.

3.1.3.1. Swelling Test in PBS at pH:7.4

Grafts	Ingredients	Propotions	Weight in dry state
G1	CS+SF+CAN	18 ml + 5 ml+ 0.0527 g	0.0275g
G2	CS+SF+CAN	18 ml+ 5 ml + 0.0756 g	0.0141 g
G3	CS+SF+CAN	18 ml+ 5 ml+ 0.1 g	0.0353 g

Table-3: Propeties of SF+CS Grafts which were used in PBS swelling test

Time (minutes)	G1 Weight (g)	G2 Weight (g)	G3 Weight (g)
5	0.0312	0.0153	0.0424
10	0.0323	0.0173	0.0465
15	0.0335	0.0186	0.0487
20	0.0349	0.0192	0.0555
25	0.0363	0.0218	0.0592
30	0.0389	0.0238	0.0625
45	0.0402	0.0273	0.0703
60	0.0413	0.0272	0.0747
75	0.0438	0.0264	0.0773
90	0.0456	0.0286	0.0778
120	0.0465	0.0297	0.0790
150	0.0488	0.0281	0.0810
1391	0.0501	0.0294	0.0833
1421	0.0505	0.0292	0.0838
1451	0.0517	0.0303	0.0786
1511	0.0504	0.0292	0.0848

1571	0.0510	0.0293	0.0808
2828	0.0532	0.0287	0.0812
2888	0.0542	0.0295	0.0844
4316	0.0563	0.0297	0.0802
4436	0.0536	0.0297	0.0787
9991	0.0539	0.0288	0.0937
10051	0.0551	0.0303	0.0944
10111	0.0563	0.0305	0.0927
11243	0.0575		0.0942
11423	0.0572		0.0938

Table-4: The weight results of SF+CS grafts while swelling in Phospate Buffer Solutin at pH 7.4

Swelling Ratios (%)

Time (minutes)	G1	G2	G3
5	13.45	8.51	20.11
10	17.45	22.69	31.72
15	21.18	31.91	37.96
20	26.9	36.17	57.22
25	32	54.60	67.70
30	41.5	68.79	77.05
45	46.18	93.61	99.15
60	50.18	92.90	111.61
75	59.3	87.23	118.98
90	65.81	102.83	120.39
120	69.1	110.63	123.79
150	77.5	99.29	129.46
1391	82.18	108.51	135.97
1421	83.63	107.09	137.39
1451	88	114.89	122.66
1511	83.3	107.09	140.22
1571	85.5	107.80	128.89
2828	93.5	103.54	130.02
2888	104.7	109.21	139.09
4316	94.9	110.63	127.19
4436	96	110.63	122.94
9991	100.3	104.25	165.43
10051	104.7	114.89	167.42
10111	109.1	116.31	162.60
11243	108	116.10	166.85
11423	107.6	115.86	165.72

Table-5: Swelling ratios of SF+CS grafts while swelling in Phosphate Buffer Solution at pH 7.4



Figure-12:Swelling Test for Phosphate Buffer Saline of Graft 1



Figure-13:Swelling Test for Phosphate Buffer Saline of Graft 2



Figure-14:Swelling Test for Phosphate Buffer Saline of Graft 3

We prepare 3 different samples that includes constant amount of SF and CS but different amount of CAN.

In the first sample we can see that after 75 minutes the swelling ratio reaches to equilibrium state. In the second graph it can be said after 90 minutes the swelling ratio reaches to equilibrium level. For the third graph we can say at 1391 minutes the swelling ratio reaches to equilibrium state. However it can also see that after 4436 minutes the graft 3 swells and then being stable again.

From these three graphics it can be seen PBS swelling ratio is increasing at the certain level then it reaches to the equilibrium state. However, we can say that as increasing the amount of CAN, time to reach equilibrium is increasing.

3.1.3.2. CS and SF Grafts' Swelling Test in ABS at pH:1.2

Grafts	Ingredients	Propotions	Weight in dry state
G1	CS+SF+CAN	18 ml + 5 ml+ 0.0527 g	0.0143g
G2	CS+SF+CAN	18 ml+ 5 ml + 0.0756 g	0.0167g
G3	CS+SF+CAN	18 ml+ 5 ml+ 0.1 g	0.0198g

Table-6: Propeties of SF+CS Grafts which were used in ABS swelling test

Time (minutes)	G1 Weight (g)	G2 Weight (g)	G3 Weight (g)
5	0.0169	0.0205	0.0235
10	0.0180	0.0225	0.0268
15	0.0200	0.0241	0.0287
20	0.0207	0.0261	0.0324
25	0.0211	0.0283	0.0358
30	0.0247	0.0305	0.0374
45	0.0248	0.0344	0.0423
60	0.0253	0.0352	0.0469
75	0.0272	0.0384	0.0457
90	0.0289	0.0349	0.0484
120	0.0312	0.0384	0.0476
150	0.0292	0.0349	0.0527
1391	0.0323	0.0374	0.0478
1421	0.0318	0.0355	0.0483
1451	0.0321	0.0349	0.0463
1511	0.0320	0.0351	0.0453
1571	0.0317	0.0342	0.0420
2828	0.0317	0.0347	0.0451
2888	0.0306	0.0375	0.0427
4316	0.0307	0.0339	0.0401
4436	0.0306	0.0357	0.0430
9991	0.0313	0.0343	0.0413
10051	0.0306	0.0336	0.0406
10111	0,0308	0.0321	0.0373
11243	0.0313	0.0309	0.0361
11423	0.0318	0.0306	0.0332

Table-7: The weight results of SF+CS grafts while swelling in Acetic Acid Buffer Solution at pH

1.2

Swelling Ratios (%)

Time (minutes)	G1	G2	G3
5	18.8	22.75	18.68
10	25.9	34.73	35.35
15	39.9	44.31	44.94
20	44.6	59.88	63.63
25	47.6	69.46	80.80
30	72.4	82.63	88.88
45	73.4	105.98	113.63
60	77	110.77	136.86
75	90.2	129.94	130.80
90	102.1	108.98	144.44
120	118.2	123.95	140.40
150	118.2	112.57	166.16
1391	104.2	108.98	141.41
1421	126.9	110.17	143.93
1451	122.4	104.79	133.83
1511	124.5	107.78	128.78
1571	123.8	124.55	112.12
2828	121.7	102.99	127.77
2888	114	113.77	115.65
4316	114.7	105.38	102.52
4436	114	101.19	117.17
9991	122.4	92.21	108.58
10051	115.4	85.02	105.05
10111	125.2	83.23	88.38
11243	116.8	82.60	82.32
11423	114.2	79.92	67.67

Table-8: Swelling ratios of SF+CS grafts while swelling in Acetic Acid Buffer Solution at pH 1.2

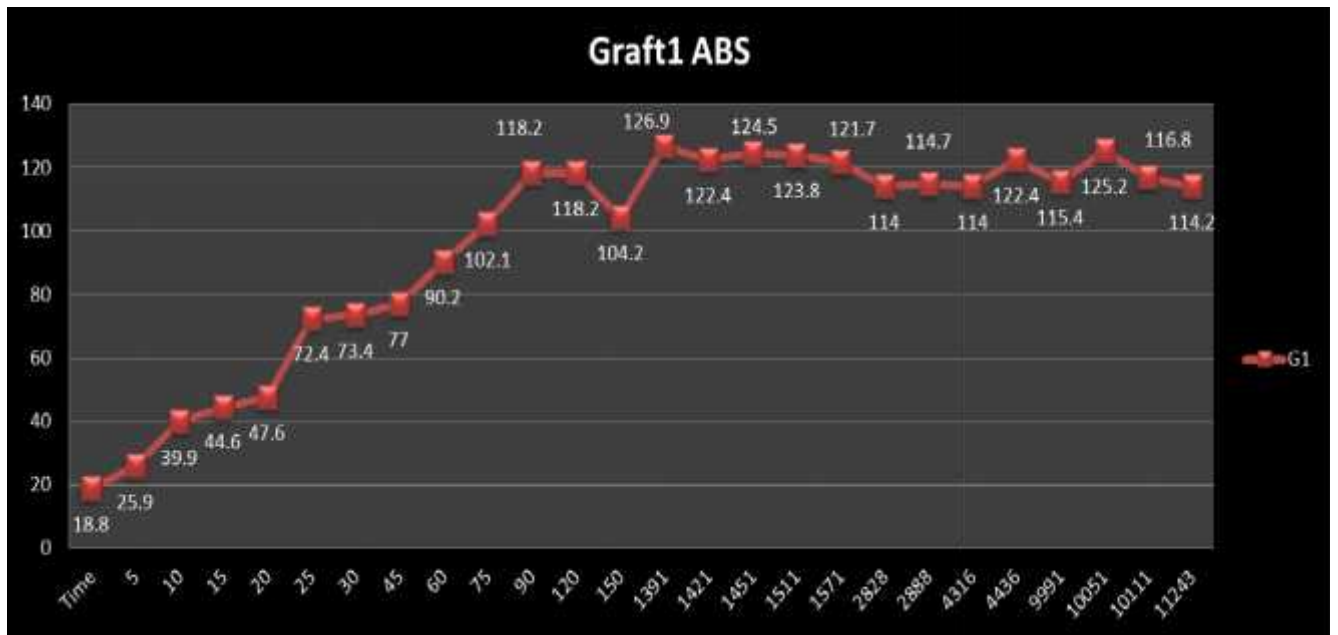


Figure-15:Swelling Test for Acedic Buffer Saline of Graft 1

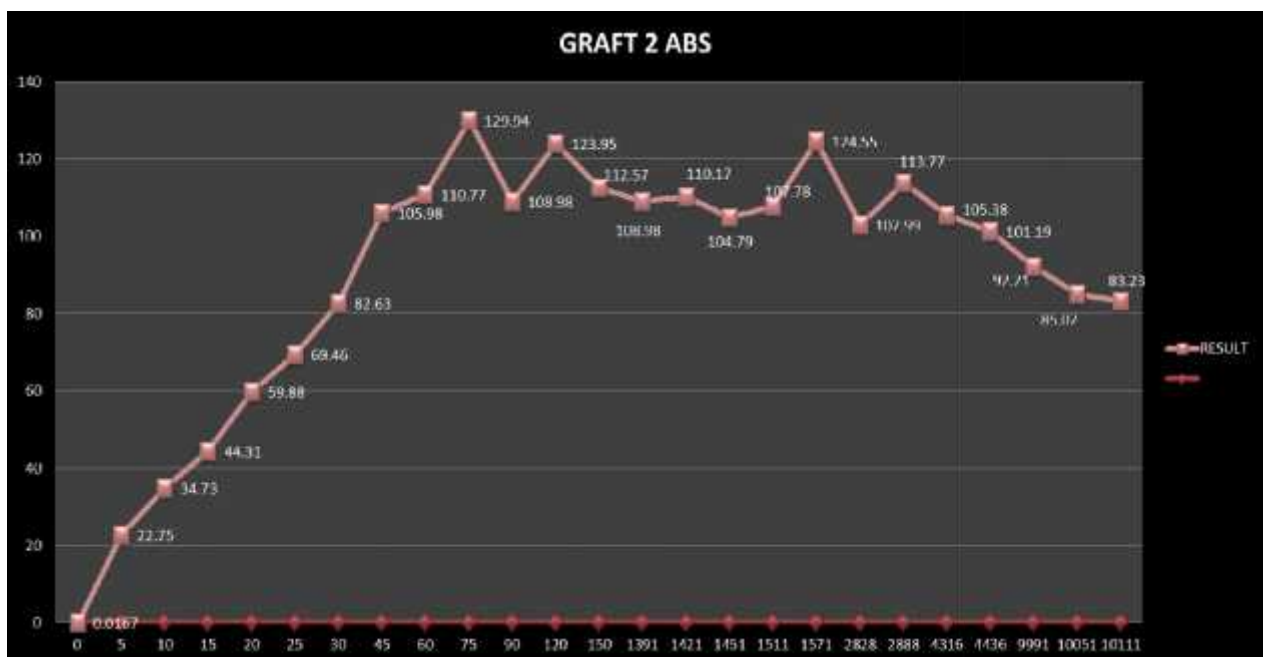


Figure-16: Swelling Test for Acedic Buffer Saline of Graft 2



Figure-17:Swelling Test for Acidic Buffer Saline of Graft 3

The graphs show that, the SF and CS graft crystalline structure swells up to the optimum swelling value. Then begins decreasing. These swelling ratio decreasing causes by the decomposition of our crystalline structure. The result prove that at basic pH, crystalline structures keep their surface stability at their saturation level. But when they faced with acidity they start to dissolve.

3.2. CS and SF Biofilms

3.2.1 Preperation of biofilms

Sample	Glycerin	Silk Fibroin	Chitosan
1	0.0563 gr	2 ml	2 ml
2	0.0563 gr	2 ml	3 ml
3	0.0563 gr	3 ml	3 ml
4	0.0563 gr	3 ml	2 ml

Table-9:Proportions of SF and CS Biofilms

Silk fibroin and chitosan biofilms were prepared by mixing different amounts of chitosan and silk fibroin showed in Table-9 and 0.0563 g of glycerine. Then the solution was placed on to

smooth glass slides at room temperature. After one day they were washed with pure water in order to remove the films from glass slides. Then the films were allowed to dry.



Figure-18: CS and SF Biofilm 1

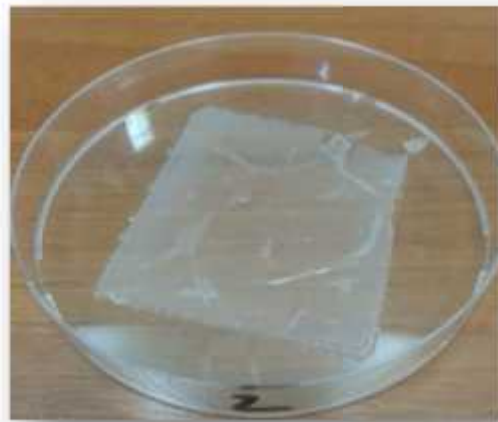


Figure-19: CS and SF Biofilm 2

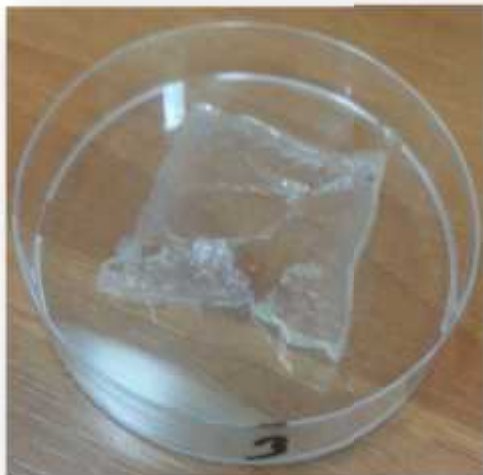


Figure-20: CS and SF Biofilm 3



Figure-21: CS and SF Biofilm 4

During the experiment instead of washing with distilled water methanol treatment was applied to the films but structural damage was observed since chitosan is a polymer.

3.3. Antimicrobial Activity

Antibiotic sensitivity is the susceptibility a bacterium to an antibiotic. Antibiotic susceptibility testing is used to determine which antibiotic will be most successful in treating a bacterial infection.

Small discs are placed onto a petri dish. Then the material is applied onto the discs to examine the bacterial growth. This method based on the diffusion of material through the disc. If materials have antibiotic behaviour they kill bacteria or fungus and create a clear ring called zone of inhibition around the discs.

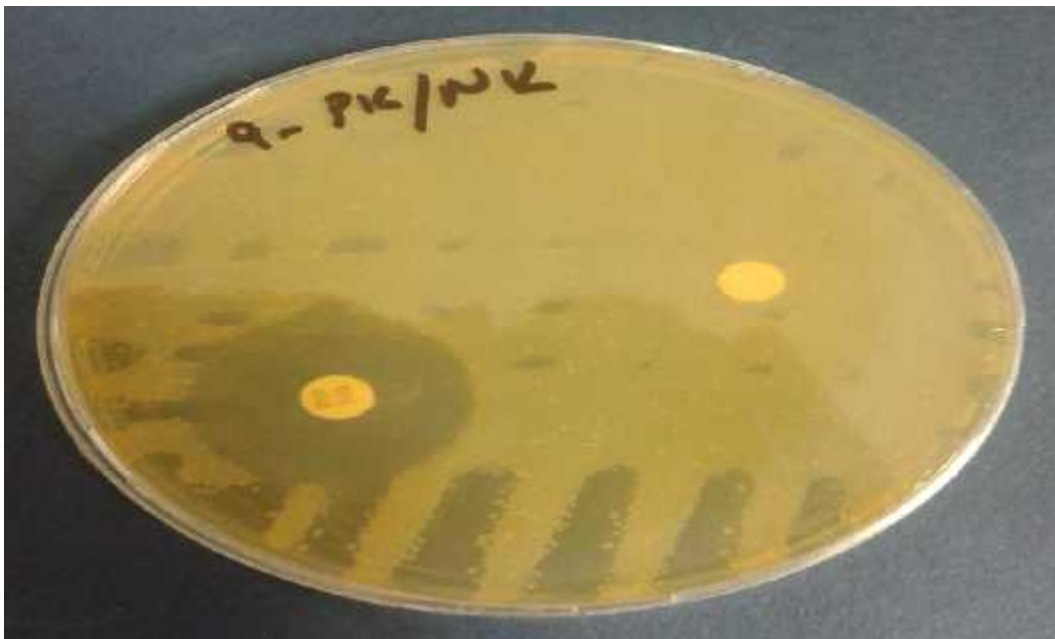


Figure-22: Positive-Negative Control of Bacterial Test

In the antimicrobial activity experiments, firstly agar was poured into the petri dishes to supply the microbiological growth medium at the pH level 7.2-7.4. Then 100 μ l E.coli bacteria were added to medium. The disc to be diffused. Liquid form of SF and mixture of SF and CS was applied to disc, however the SF biofilms were put in the medium without disc. Then samples incubated overnight at 37 °C.



Figure-23:SF and CS 40 μ l

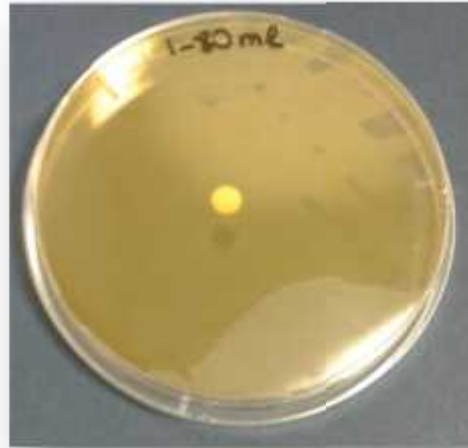


Figure-24:SF and CS 80 μ l



Figure-25:SF and CS 40 μ l



Figure-26:SF and CS 80 μ l

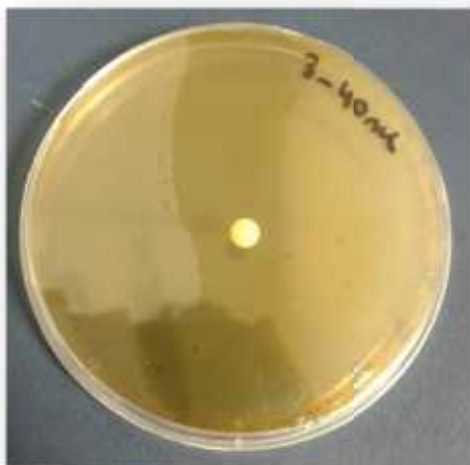


Figure-27:SF and CS 40 μ l

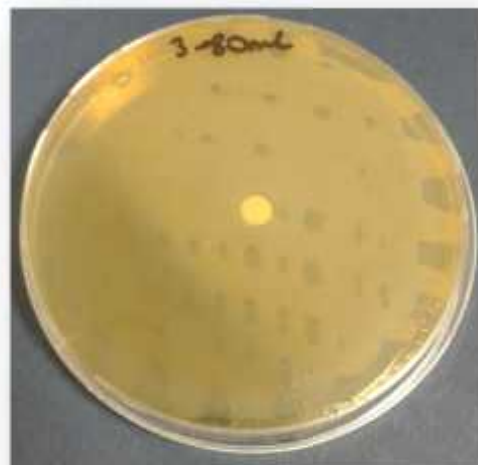


Figure-28:SF and CS 80 μ l



Figure-29:SF Film Tablet

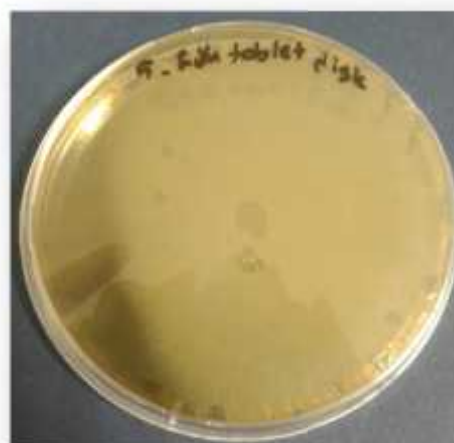


Figure-30:SF Round Shaped

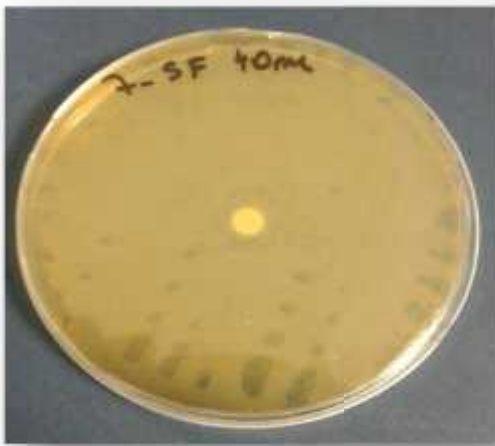


Figure-31:SF 40µl Disc Zone



Figure-32:SF 80µl Disc Zone

The results showed that silk fibroin has bactericidal property which is mean have bacteria killing behavior. The effect of bacteria killing is increased as the amount of SF is increased. The silk fibroin biofilms and SF and CS mixture have no bacteriocidal property but have bacteriostatic property that prevents the bacterial growth.

4.CONCLUSION

1. In this study, we achieved a crystalline structure by grafting the liquid form of silk fibroin and chitosan via using inhibitor called ceric ammonium nitrate in an inert atmosphere, supplied by nitrogen gas, instead of creating the grafts with electrospinning method like the other studies.
2. The acidic and basic behaviour of the silk fibroin and chitosan grafts were examined. From the PBS test graphics it can be seen swelling ratio is increasing at the certain level then it reaches to the equilibrium state. However, we can say that as increasing the amount of CAN, the time to reach equilibrium is increasing also.
3. The ABS graphs show that the S and CS graft crystalline structures swells up to the optimum swelling value. Then begins decreasing. These swelling ratio decreasing causes by the decomposition of our crystalline structure. From the graphics we also observed that as increasing the amount of CAN the stability of the swelling ratio is deteriorated. The result prove that at basic pH, crystalline structures keep their surface stability at their saturation level. But when they faced with acidity they start to dissolve.
4. During preparing the chitosan silk fibroin biofilms we observed that if the amount of silk fibroin is increased, the geleation formation is occurred. For the silk fibroin based biofilms methanol is used to remove the films from the glass slides. When we applied methanol to the chitosan and silk fibroin biofilms we have no success because methanol disturbs the chitosan structure. Distilled water was applied for removing the films from glass slides.
5. The antimicrobial activity test results showed that silk fibroin has bactericidal property which is mean have bacteria killing behavior. The effect of bacteria killing is increased as the amount of SF is increased. The silk fibroin biofilms and the liquid form SF and CS mixture have no bacteriocidal property but have bacteriostatic property that prevents the bacterial growth.

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