

# ActInPak

## **COST Action FP1405**

Active and intelligent fibre-based packaging – innovation and market introduction

## **Chitosan-genipin paper coating – an alternative approach for active packaging materials**

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# Scope



**Chitosan-genipin films**



**Good mechanical properties**  
**Antioxidant activity**  
**Acidic stability**

**Paper coating for  
active packaging  
production???**



# Experimental work

## Chitosan-genipin solution

1% Chitosan + 0.05% (w:v) Genipin

Temperature (40; 50; 60 °C)

Time (0 - 120 min)

Viscosity measurements

## Paper coating

Non-calendared paper

1% wt. Chitosan + 0.05% (w:v) Genipin (6CG)

1:1 wt. Chitosan : Cellulose Nanocrystals\* + 0.05% (w:v) Genipin (6CGCNC)

6 coating layers

Blade coated with IR @ 2500 W

Color; Thickness; Weight gain; Barrier and mechanical properties; Acid stability

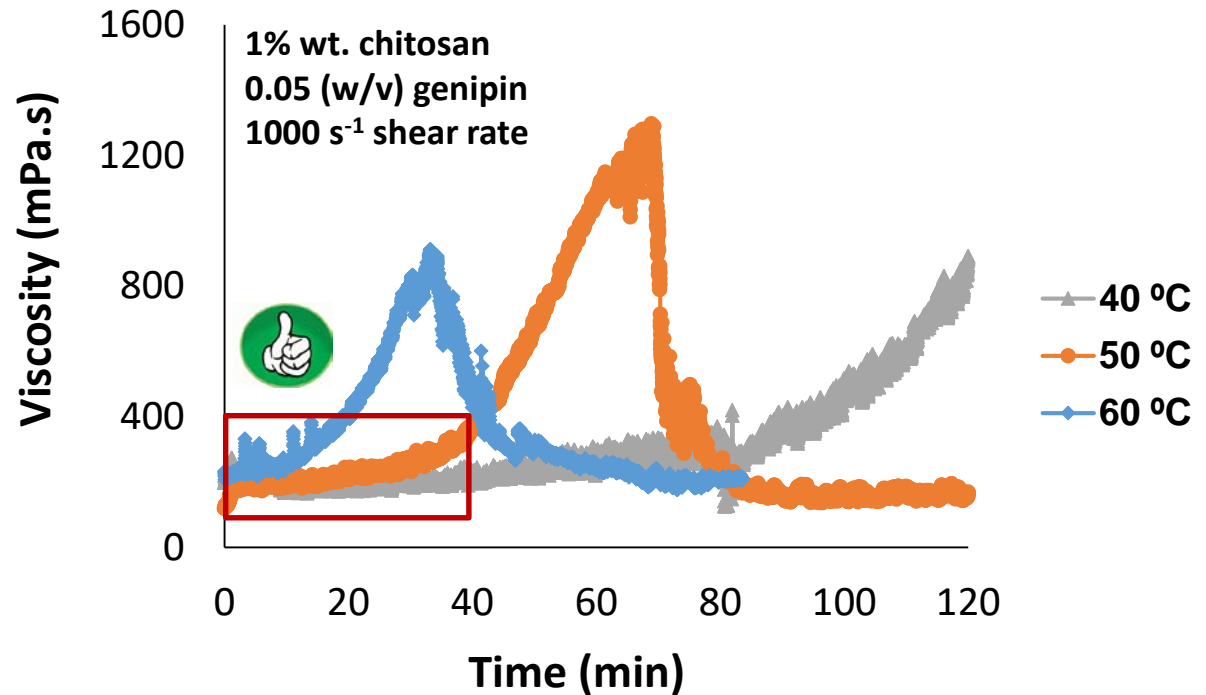
\* [CNC]<sub>i</sub> ≈ 12%

# Chitosan-genipin crosslinking

## ❖ Viscosity measurements



MCR 302 rheometer  
(Anton Paar)



Selected crosslinking conditions: 30 min at 50 °C

# Colorimetry

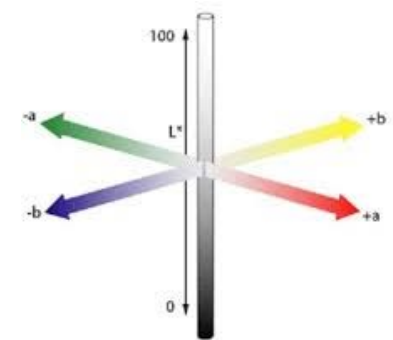
1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

Coating	IR power (W)	$L^*$	$a^*$	$b^*$
0	-----	92.802	-0.012	-0.418
6CG	2500	87.592	-2.732	6.856
6CGCNC	2500	89.113	-1.660	6.358



SpectroEye



CIE Lab color model

Decreasing of  $a^*$  parameter

Greenish coloration



6CG: 6 layers of chitosan-genipin

6CGCNC: 6 layers of chitosan-genipin-cellulose nanocrystals

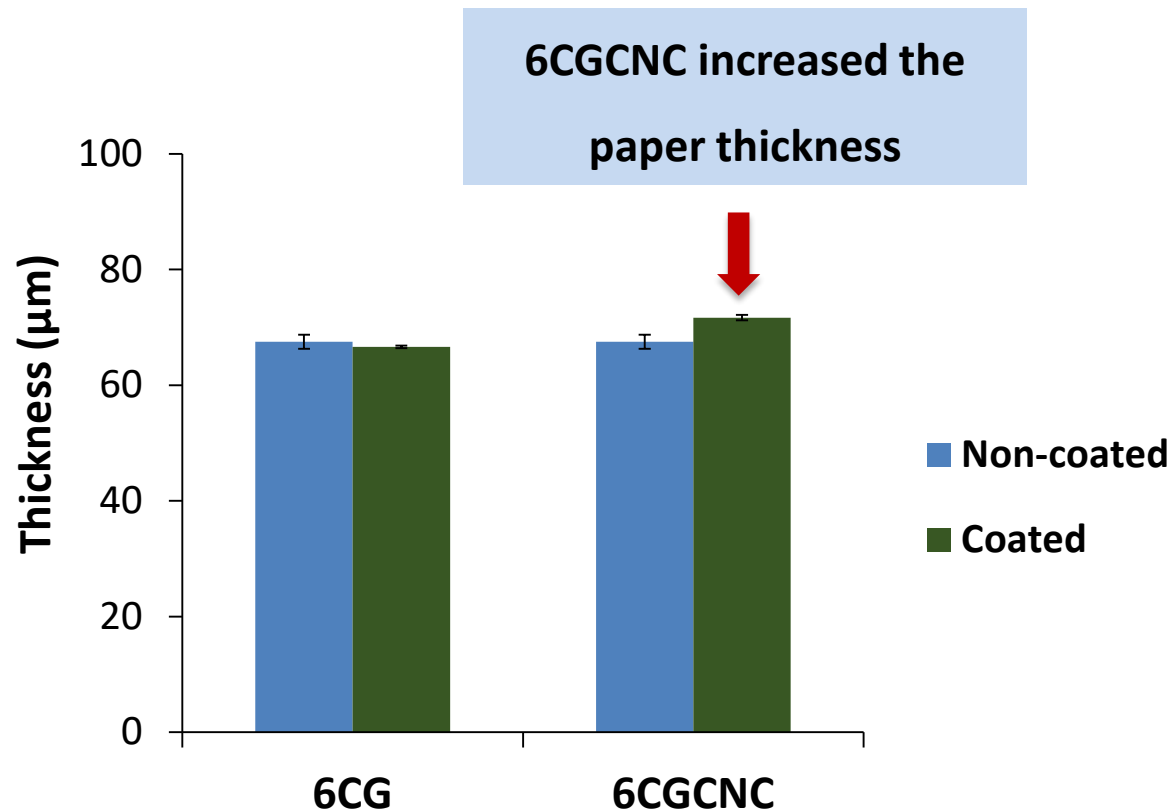
# Thickness



A coating using only water should be performed as control sample

1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin



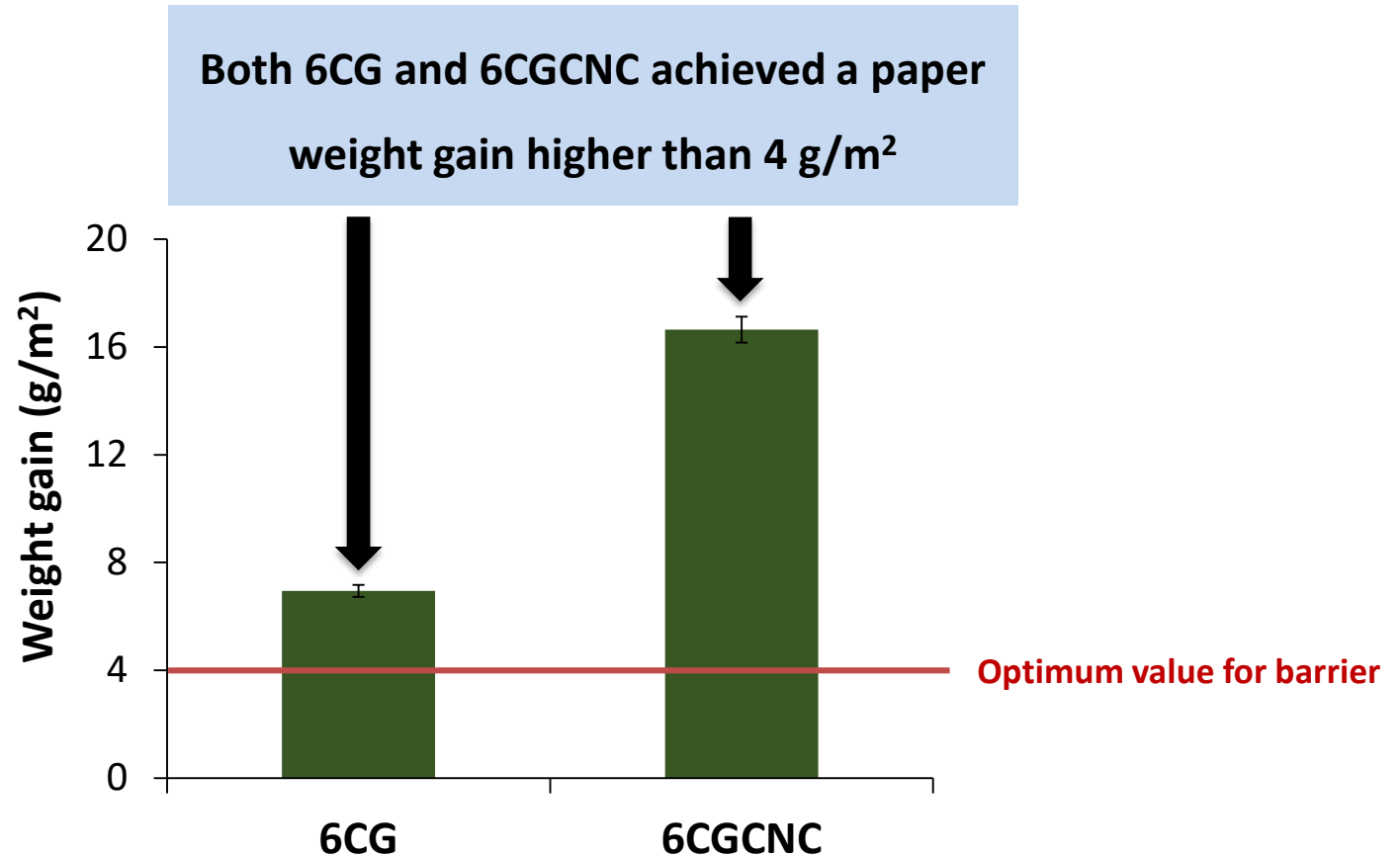
6CG: 6 layers chitosan-genipin

6CGCNC: 6 layers chitosan-genipin-cellulose nanocrystals

# Weight gain

1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin



6CG: 6 layers chitosan-genipin

6CGCNC: 6 layers chitosan-genipin-cellulose nanocrystals

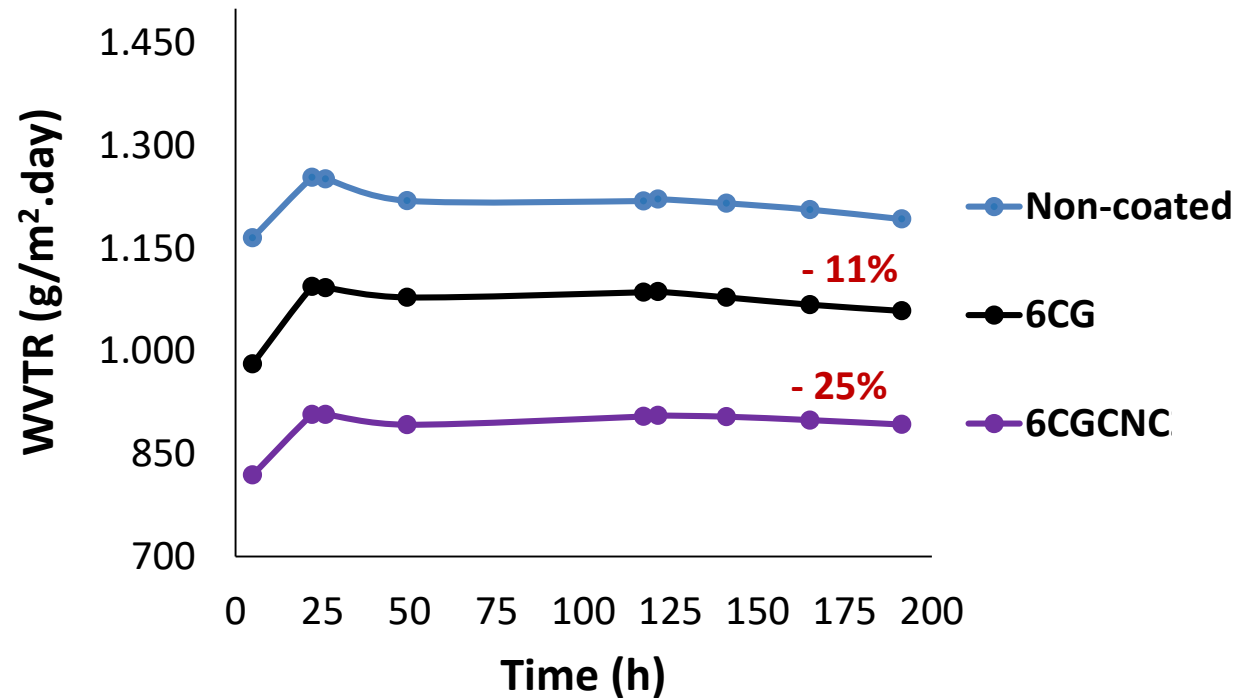
# Water Vapor Transmission Rate (WVTR)

1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin



23 °C with 50% of RH  
for 7 days



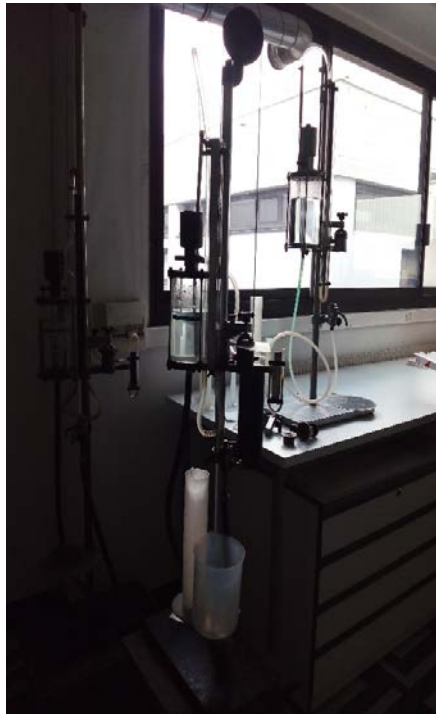
Both 6CG and 6CGCNC coatings decreased the WVTR, being 6CGCNC the most effective.



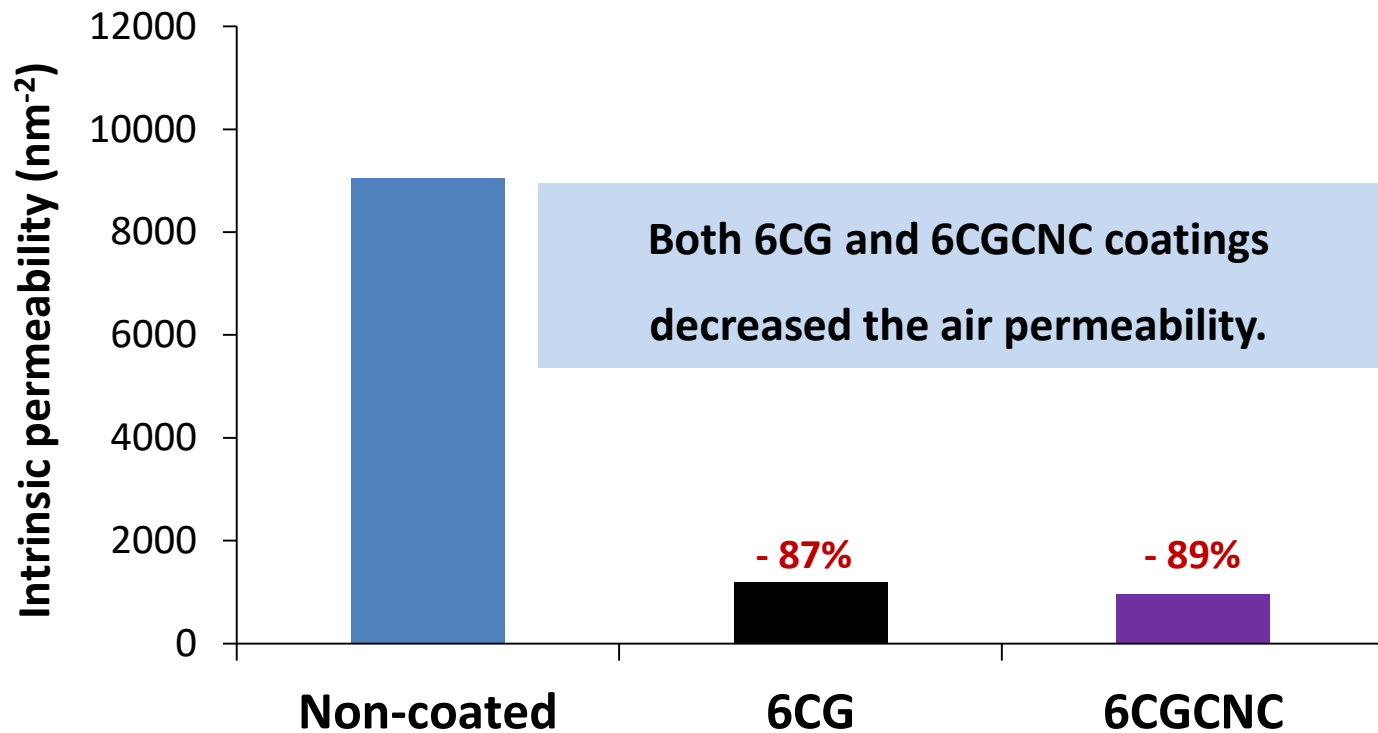
# Air permeability – Mariotte vase

1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin



Mariotte vase



⚠ Only 1 replicate was performed

6CG: 6 layers chitosan-genipin

6CGCNC: 6 layers chitosan-genipin-cellulose nanocrystals

# Grease permeability

1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

## ❖ Red turpentine oil test (T-454)



Non-coated

2 min



5 min



10 min



6CG



6CGCNC

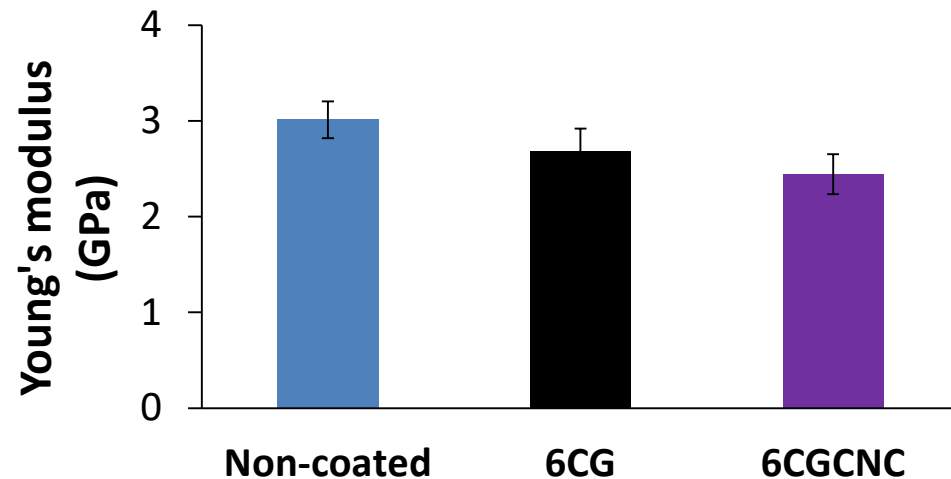
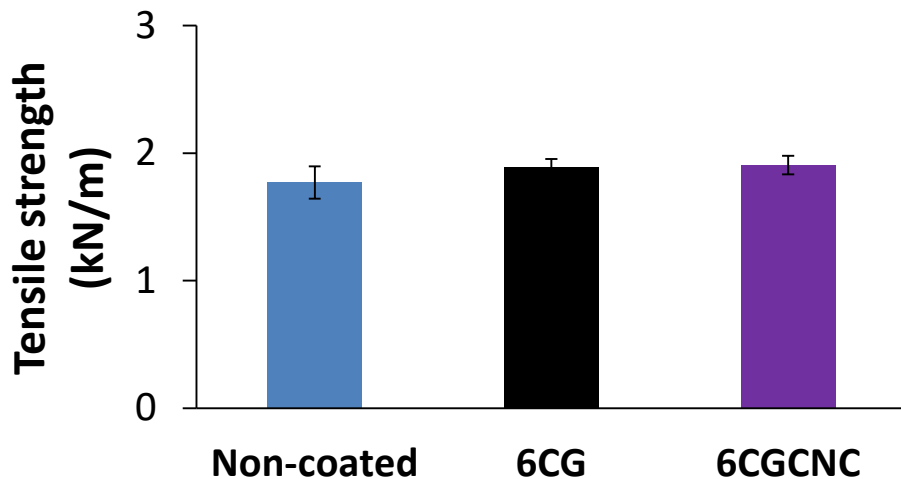


Both 6CG and 6CGCNC coatings reduced the grease permeability, being 6CG the most effective

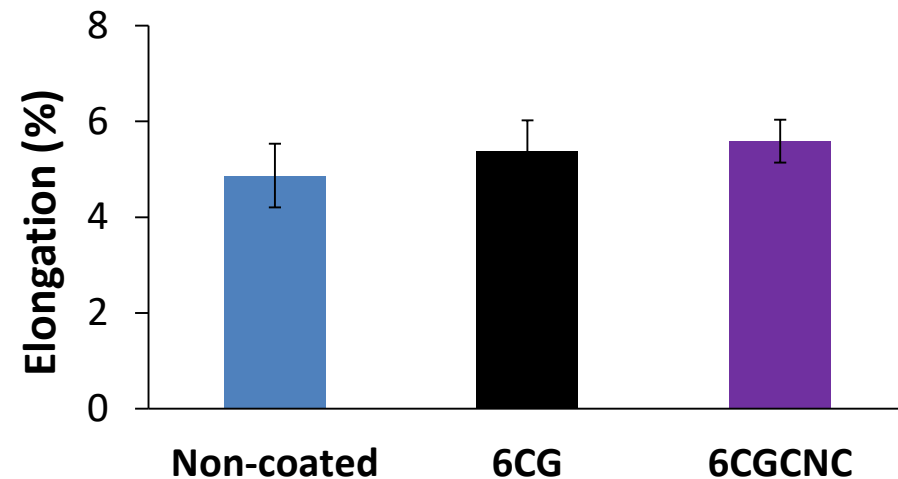
# Mechanical properties

1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin



Both 6CG and 6CGCNC coatings slightly reduced the paper rigidity

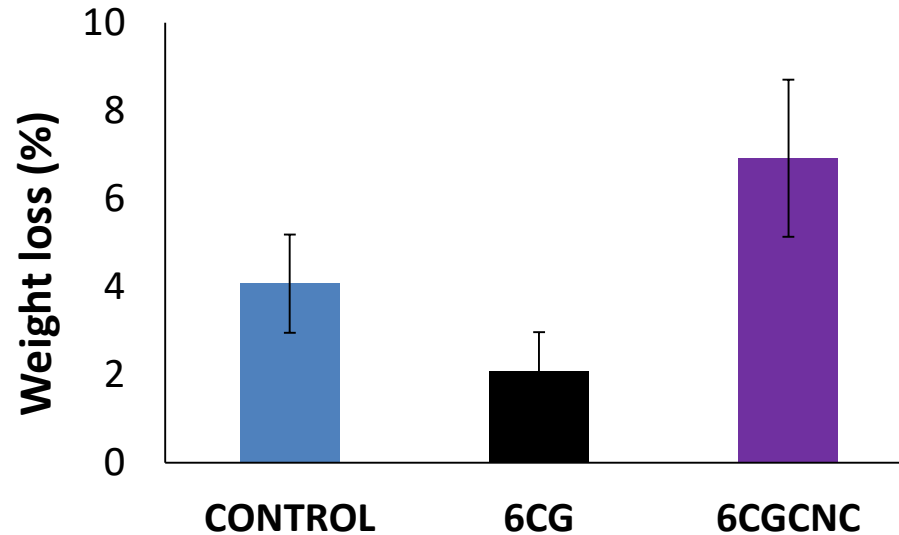


# Acidic stability

1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

7 days in acidic aqueous solution (pH = 3.5; distilled water adjusted with HCl)



6CG reduced the weight paper loss in acidic media while 6CGCNC increase it.

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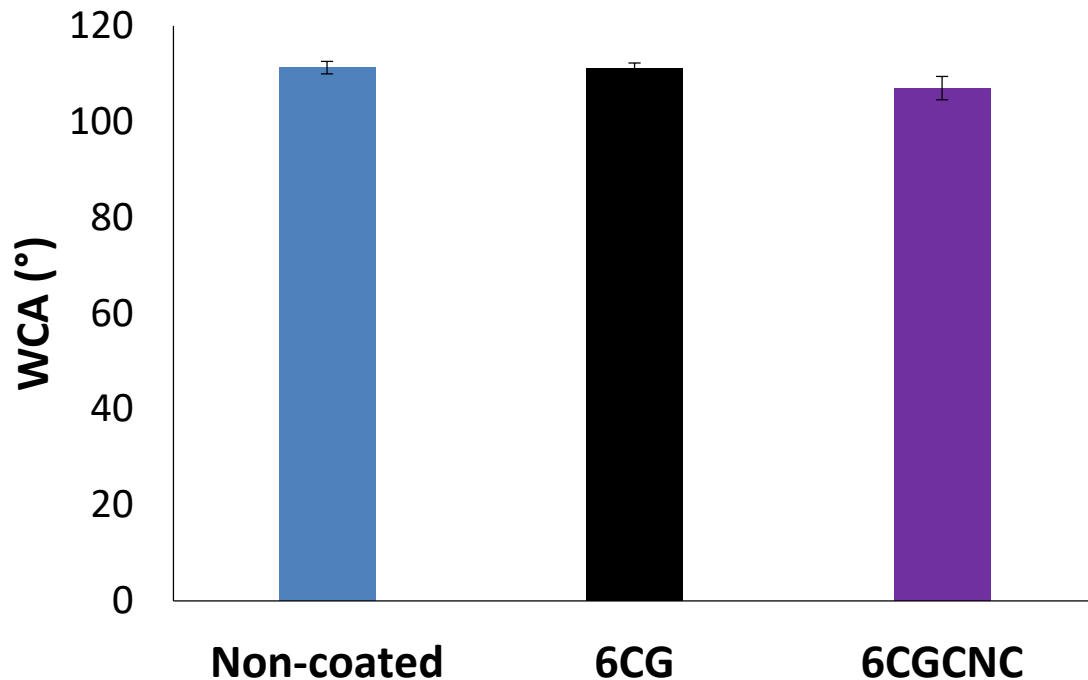
6CG: 6 layers chitosan-genipin

6CGCNC: 6 layers chitosan-genipin-cellulose nanocrystals

# Water contact angle

1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin



Both 6CG and 6CGCNC did not affect the paper wettability

# Antioxidant activity

1% wt. chitosan + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

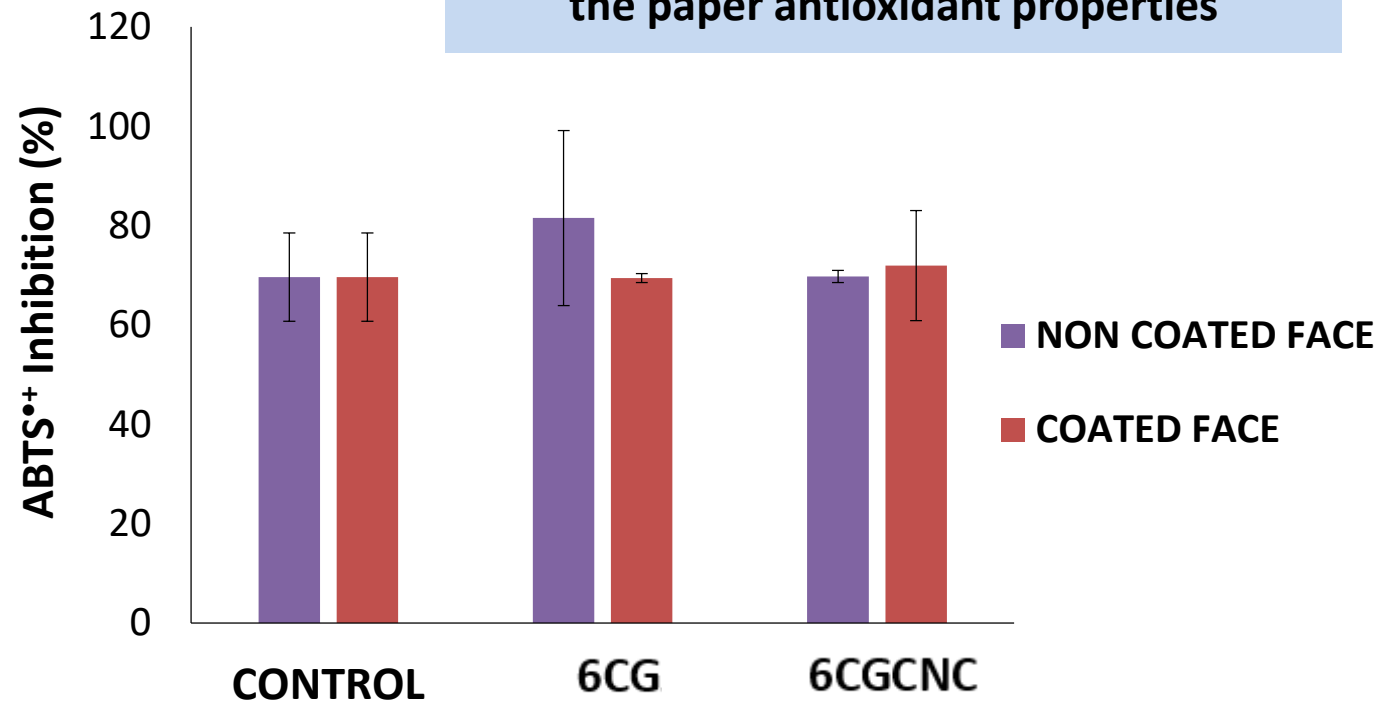
1:1 chitosan:CNC + 0.05% (w/v) genipin

7 days in ABTS<sup>•+</sup> solution

Ethanollic media

1 cm<sup>2</sup>

Both 6CG and 6CGCNC did not improved the paper antioxidant properties



6CG: 6 layers chitosan-genipin

6CGCNC: 6 layers chitosan-genipin-cellulose nanocrystals

# Major remarks

- ✓ CG and CGCNC coated papers presented a greenish coloration resulted from the chitosan-genipin crosslinking.



- ✓ CG and CGCNC increased the weight gain of paper without compromising the paper mechanical performance.
- ✓ CG and CGCNC reduced:
  - water vapor, grease and air permeability
- ✓ CG presented the lowest weight loss when exposed to acidic conditions.
- ✓ CG and CGCNC did not affect the paper wettability and antioxidant properties.

# Acknowledgments

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