

1                   **Host-guest molecular interactions in vanillin/amylose**

2                   **inclusion complexes**

3  
4   Silvio D. Rodríguez<sup>a</sup> and Delia L. Bernik<sup>a,\*</sup>

5  
6   a Instituto de Química Física de Materiales, Ambiente y Energía (INQUIMAE)  
7   Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales. Universidad de Buenos Aires. Intendente  
8   Güiraldes 2160, Ciudad Universitaria, C1428EGA, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

9  
10   \* To whom correspondence should be addressed

11   Ciudad Universitaria, Pabellón II, INQUIMAE. C1428EGA, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

12   e-mail: dbernik@qi.fcen.uba.ar   TE: +54-11-4576-3378   FAX: +54-11-4576-3341

13  
14   Keywords: Inclusion complex, amylose, Fourier Transformed Infrared Spectroscopy  
15   (FTIR), Circular Dichroism (CD), Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC).

16  
17  
18   **Abstract**

19  
20       The interaction of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (vanillin) and Hylon VII  
21   due to the formation of an inclusion complex is studied by Fourier transformed infrared  
22   spectroscopy (FTIR), differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) and circular dichroism  
23   (CD). The results confirm the close interaction among the different functional groups of  
24   vanillin and its host. In addition, a second case study was carried out with an amylose  
25   from a different source (100% amylose, APTIII). As a result, remarkable differences

26 were found in the vanillin complexation capability of this amylose, which is only  
27 evidenced in solution by circular dichroism spectroscopy studies through a clear Cotton  
28 effect. This finding confirm the value of using CD studies, which allow finding that,  
29 depending of the amylose source, inclusion complexes can be found only in solution, or  
30 both in solution and the coexisting precipitates, when this is evidenced by other  
31 techniques such as X-ray diffraction (XRD) or Differential Scanning Calorimetry  
32 (DSC). Moreover, solubility assays and complexation of both starches with iodine and  
33 subsequent absorption spectroscopy studies gives more information regarding the  
34 possible source of the starch encapsulation capability. Thus, Hylon VII evidences higher  
35 capacity as vanillin encapsulant than APTIII, showing the formation of inclusion  
36 complexes both in solution and solid phase, whereas APTIII complexes are only  
37 perceivable in solution.

38

39

40

41

42

43

## 44    **Introduction**

45            Cereal grains like wheat, rice, corn, oats, barley and also tubers like potatoes are  
46    rich in starch, a glucose polysaccharide used as reservoir of energy. Natural starches are  
47    mixes of two polymers: the linear amylose (~10-25%) and the branched amylopectin  
48    (~75-90%), both made of  $\alpha$ -1,4 linkages with a small proportion of  $\alpha$ -1,6 bonds. About  
49    5% of the glucose units are linked in amylopectin in the form  $\alpha$ -1,6, and 1% in the case  
50    of amylose, explaining the branched or the linear conformations respectively.<sup>1</sup> Amylose  
51    adopts a helical conformation known as V-amylose, giving the possibility to host  
52    molecules such as flavor compounds inside the cavity formed by the helix.<sup>2,3</sup> These  
53    structures, called inclusion complexes, provide protection to the guest molecules against  
54    degradation processes.<sup>4,5</sup> Useful techniques to investigate amylose inclusion complexes  
55    in solid phase are differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) and X-ray diffractometry  
56    (XRD), while circular dichroism (CD) has proved to be a valuable technique when  
57    studying inclusion complexes in solution.<sup>6,7</sup>

58            Vanillin (4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde), the main component of natural  
59    vanilla extracts, is one of the most used compounds in food and pharmaceutical  
60    industries as flavoring, antioxidant and masking agent.<sup>8</sup> In a work done previously,<sup>9</sup>  
61    demonstrated the ability of the amylose-rich commercial starch Hylon VII (70%  
62    amylose) to form an inclusion complex with vanillin molecule. In that work, the  
63    formation of the complex was addressed for the first time both in the soluble fraction as  
64    well as in the precipitate obtained, using CD and XRD. Moreover, the results obtained  
65    by CD were corroborated by theoretical simulations using quantum mechanical hybrid  
66    approaches, which showed the energetic stability of the complex and suggested that the  
67    chiro-optical changes observed arises from the geometric distortion undergone by the  
68    vanillin molecule when included in the amylose helical cavity.

In this work, a detailed description of the molecular interaction between vanillin and Hylon VII is given on the basis of the results obtained by Fourier transformed infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) and DSC. The results confirm the existence of the inclusion complex and remark the close interaction among the different functional groups of vanillin and its host. In addition, a second case study was carried out with an amylose from a different source (100% amylose, APTIII); as a result, remarkable differences were found in the vanillin complexation capability of this amylose, which is able to form inclusion complex with vanillin in solution as revealed by a clear Cotton effect observed by circular dichroism, but do not show complex signals in either DSC and XRD analysis, indicating that no complex is present in the solid phase. In order to study the possible structural differences that cause this disparity in the encapsulant capability, limiting solubility studies and complexation of both starches with iodine and subsequent absorption spectroscopy studies were assessed, confirming that the complexing ability of an amylose containing starch to form inclusion complexes with vanillin is strongly dependent on the amylose type and source.

## **Materials and methods**

### ***Materials***

High amylose (70%) maize starch Hylon VII was provided by the National Starch & Chemical Company (Bridgewater, NJ, U.S.A.). Pure 100% amylose (APTIII) and 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (vanillin, 99% purity) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. All the other reagents were of analytical degree and used as received.

### ***Experimental***

#### **Preparation of the Hylon VII and pure amylose dispersions**

94 1.00 g of Hylon VII was dispersed in 150ml of Milli-Q water and heated at  
95 130°C for 90 min in a flask with a screw cap. The suspension was then left to cool down  
96 to 50°C, at this temperature vanillin was added as indicated in each case. The same  
97 procedure was followed when using APTIII.

98

#### 99 **Inclusion Complexes: sample preparation**

100 1.20 g of vanillin (54.5% w/w vanillin/starch) dissolved in 1.50 ml of ethanol  
101 was added to 150 ml of the starch dispersion. The mixture was allowed to rest at room  
102 temperature for 24 h. The precipitated obtained was filtered, washed, centrifuged, and  
103 intensively dried. The supernatant was used for the CD studies.

104

#### 105 **Solubility determination**

106 The limiting (saturated) solubility of each starch was calculated by heating an  
107 excess of starch in a given volume of Milli-Q water at heated at 130°C for 90 min in a  
108 flask with a screw cap, with agitation. After that, the dispersion was cool down at room  
109 temperature (20°C) several hours, centrifuging the suspension at 9000 g and discarding  
110 the pellet. The supernatant (a completely translucent solution) was separated, 8700 g  
111 during 30 minutes at 20°C, and an aliquot of this solution was freeze-dried and  
112 weighted, allowing calculating the amount of dissolved starch in each case.

113

#### 114 **FTIR spectra**

115 About 5 milligrams of solid were mortared and mixed with 200 mg of KBr (IR  
116 grade) to obtain the pellet. The Fourier transform infrared spectra (FTIR) were recorded  
117 on a Thermo Nicolet 8700 spectrometer, in the range of 660-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Thirty two  
118 scans were accumulated for each measurement. As a control, a mechanical mixture was

119 prepared by mixing the amounts of starch and vanillin, matching the relative amounts of  
120 each component to the one used in the inclusion complex preparation.

121

#### 122 **DSC measurements: experimental conditions**

123 The dried material obtained (see Inclusion Complexes: sample preparation) was  
124 used to carry out the high pressure differential scanning calorimetry (HP-DSC,  
125 *Shimadzu DSC-50*) using sealed aluminum capsules. 1 mg of dried sample was placed  
126 into a high pressure DSC pan adding 5  $\mu$ l of Milli-Q water to ensure an adequate  
127 moisture amount. The DSC pan was closed and leave to rest 1 hour until the  
128 measurement. The heating rate was 5°C/min from 30 °C until 190°C, and the stage of  
129 cooling (heat dissipation) of each sample was also recorded.

130 Regular DSC scans were performed with the same equipments under a rate of 10  
131 °C /min using standard aluminum sealed capsules. Pans are crimped, but not  
132 hermetically sealed, supporting a maximum pressure of 0.3 MPa (Shimadzu, #201-  
133 53090).

134

#### 135 **Circular dichroism measurement of APTII complex**

136 An appropriate dilution (0.15 ml into 3.00 ml of Milli-Q water) of the  
137 supernatant obtained (see Inclusion Complexes: sample preparation) was used to  
138 determine the CD and UV spectra, recorded using a Jasco-815 spectrometer under a 5  
139 L/min flow of nitrogen (99.998%). The scans were done at 20 nm/min with a response  
140 of 8 seconds, using a band width of 1 nm and averaging 5 accumulated spectra for each  
141 measurement.

142

#### 143 **X-Ray diffraction measurement of complexes**

144 X-ray diffraction patterns of the powders obtained (see Inclusion Complexes:  
145 sample preparation) were recorded in a Siemens D5000 diffractometer using a Cu K $\alpha$   
146 radiation. The operating conditions were a 0.154 nm radiation wavelength, a voltage of  
147 40 kV and a current of 30 mA. Diffractograms were scanned over the 2 $\theta$  range of 3.5 -  
148 35°, with a scan rate of 0.022°/s.

149

## 150 **Iodine complexation of Hylon VII and APTII**

151 In order to measure the UV/VIS spectrum of the amylose/iodine complex  
152 different aliquots of the supernatant solutions obtained for Hylon VII and APTIII (see  
153 Solubility determination) were added to 3.00 ml of a  $2 \times 10^{-3}$  M KI/ $5.2 \times 10^{-5}$  M I<sub>2</sub>  
154 solution, obtaining the typical blue coloration. The spectra were recorded from 700 to  
155 300 nm with a PG T60 spectrometer.

156

157

## 158 **Results**

### 159 *FTIR studies of Hylon-vanillin inclusion complexes*

160 FTIR spectra were recorded for samples of the starch Hylon VII, pure vanillin  
161 (4-Hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde), the vanillin-starch inclusion complex and the  
162 mechanical mixture of starch and vanillin, matching in this last sample the relative  
163 amounts of each component used in the complex preparation (Figure 1). For clarity, the  
164 figure was divided in part A, which shows the spectra of the starch Hylon VII (black  
165 line) and the mechanical mixture starch+vanillin (green line). Figure 1B shows the  
166 spectra of pure vanillin (red line) and the one of the inclusion complex (blue line).

167 In part A, the spectrum of the pure starch shows the typical absorptions of the  
168 polysaccharides. The region of frequencies around 1000 cm<sup>-1</sup>, attributed to different  
169 types of transitions: two of the most intense are assigned to the C–C stretching

170 vibrations from 1200 to 1103  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and to the C–O bending vibrations from 1047 to  
171 994  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; at longer wavenumbers, the noticeable O-H stretching vibration band centered  
172 at 3402  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .<sup>10</sup> The mechanical mixture displays high absorption intensity in the whole  
173 fingerprint region between 700 and 1700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and a broad O-H band between 3100 and  
174 3600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The overall spectrum and in particular this very broad O-H stretching  
175 vibration band represents, as expected, the sum of the individual spectra of the starch  
176 and vanillin, as both components were mixed just before running the spectrum.

177 In Figure 1B, the pure vanillin spectrum displays a wide fingerprint region  
178 between 700 and 1700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  with several peaks of high absorption intensity, and the  
179 phenol O-H stretching vibration band centered at 3170  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . For the Hylon VII-vanillin  
180 inclusion complex, remarkable differences can be observed in the spectrum. First, the  
181 vanillin's O-H band at 3170  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is not observed, appearing only a unique band  
182 centered at 3415  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . In addition, several intense bands of the vanillin spectrum  
183 originally found between 700 and 1700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are in the complex depleted or their  
184 absorption intensity significantly diminished.

185 To better describe the numerous changes observed in the fingerprint region of  
186 the inclusion complex, the Figure 2 plots exclusively this region showing  
187 simultaneously the bands of the four samples studied, and each band is particularly  
188 depicted. At first glance, it is noticeable that some bands (pointed out with black dotted  
189 arrows) observed in the vanillin spectrum vanish in the spectrum of the inclusion  
190 complex (compare the red and blue curves, respectively).

191 The bands at 1465  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 1429  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are assigned to the asymmetric  
192 deformation of the methyl group belonging to the  $-\text{OCH}_3$  substituent.<sup>11,12</sup> The two  
193 strong bands at 1265 and 732  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  correspond to the C-OCH<sub>3</sub> stretching mode.<sup>13</sup>  
194 Additionally, the bands at 812  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 856  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  assigned to C-H out-of-plane bending



195 vibrations, also vanished.<sup>14</sup> It is worth to recall that many of these bands belonging to  
196 the vanillin molecule fall in regions where no absorption bands are present in the pure  
197 starch spectrum, which facilitates the comparison of and allows seeing which of these  
198 remain in the starch-vanillin mechanical mixture and which disappear after obtaining  
199 the inclusion complex.

200         The vanillin's bands which still remain, although significantly lowered in their  
201 intensity and some of them slightly shifted, are those bands centered originally at: 1300  
202  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (shifted to 1292  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , assigned to the phenolic OH bending), 1510  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (shifted to  
203 1516  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and 1589  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (shifted to 1593  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) both assigned to C=C and C-C  
204 stretching mode vibrations of the benzene ring; and 1664  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (shifted to 1672  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  
205 corresponding to the aldehyde C=O stretching mode).

206

#### 207 *DSC studies of Hylon-vanillin inclusion complexes*

208         Figure 3 (main frame) shows two HP-DSC thermograms obtained by scanning  
209 the temperature from 30°C to 190°C for the Hylon VII-vanillin inclusion complex  
210 sample (full black line) and the Hylon VII control sample (dashed red line). The  
211 thermogram obtained for Hylon VII-vanillin shows a unique well-defined endothermic  
212 peak at 108°C, which is assigned to the dissociation of the inclusion complex. In fact,  
213 90°C-110°C is the range of temperatures reported for the “melting” peaks of most of the  
214 starch inclusion complexes with different ligands, which are listed in Table I,  
215 incorporating the present case.

216         Instead, the thermogram obtained with Hylon VII control sample (dashed red  
217 line) presents a well defined peak at 177°C. Such transitions at elevated temperatures  
218 (above 140°C) have been previously assigned to changes in the amylose fraction of the  
219 starch due to endothermic transitions of amylose crystals,<sup>15</sup> formed in our case probably

during the experimental procedure followed to obtain the complex (starch gelatinization, then subsequent precipitation by slow cooling). During cooling processes no signals were observed, either for the Hylon VII control or the Hylon VII-vanillin samples, indicating that the melting process of the amylose-vanillin complex is not reversible; and either the transition originally found for the control sample, at least under the scanning conditions assayed. A pure vanillin control sample presented no signals by HP-DSC during the whole heating and cooling cycle, indicating that vanillin is dissolved in the water and chemically stable in the range of temperatures tested. These transitions were observed in thermograms obtained in high pressure aluminum capsules with an excess of water added to the solid sample. However, some works have also been reported in which the formation of inclusion complexes are studied analyzing the dried solid samples obtained, focusing on the transitions (melting) occurring to the guest ligands before and after complexation. Therefore we also performed a DSC using regular crimped aluminum capsules and run scans of dried samples of pure vanillin crystals (blue solid line) and the Hylon VII-vanillin inclusion complex (blue dotted line), which are displayed in the inset of Figure 3. In both cases the amount of vanillin introduced in the samples was the same. The first run shows a strong endothermic peak assigned to the melting at 82°C of pure vanillin crystals,<sup>16</sup> and the second run, in contrast, remarks the disappearance of the peak at 82°C, leaving a remaining small and broad peak at lower temperatures.

240

#### 241 *Characterization of a vanillin inclusion complex obtained with another amylose* 242 *source*

243 To evaluate the complexing ability of amylose obtained from a different source  
244 we assayed the amylose APTIII (from Sigma-Aldrich, see materials). The APTIII-

245 vanillin inclusion complex was prepared with exactly the same methodology and  
246 host/guest ratios used in the case of the starch Hylon VII.

247         The first study was to record the circular dichroism spectra of the solution after  
248 centrifugation and separation of the precipitate. The experimental procedure is clearly  
249 detailed in methods (see Inclusion Complexes: sample preparation) and in a previous  
250 work.<sup>9</sup> The obtained absorption and associated circular dichroism spectra of the APTIII-  
251 vanillin solution are shown in Figure 4; being similar to those obtained for the Hylon  
252 VII-vanillin inclusion complex. The CD spectrum shows the same two negative bands  
253 at 205 and 230 nm, centered at the same wavelengths observed in UV spectrum. Notice  
254 that the vanillin molecule has no chiral centers, thus, a pure aqueous vanillin solution  
255 does not show any signal in CD, and the water soluble fraction of pure amylose have no  
256 absorption above 180 nm.

257         As in the case study with Hylon VII, X-Ray diffraction studies were performed  
258 with the solid isolated and dried after obtaining the APTIII-vanillin complex. However,  
259 no differences between the complex and the control samples were found in the x-ray  
260 pattern. Moreover, HP-DSC measurements showed no peaks in heating-cooling cycles,  
261 confirming that no APTIII-vanillin complex was present in the solid phase. CD, XRD  
262 and HP-DSC experiments were repeated with different batches, arriving to the same  
263 results, that is, CD yielded evidence of complex formation in solution, but lack of  
264 signals in XRD and DSC, indicating that no complex is found in the solid phase.

265

266 *Comparison of the ability of Hylon VII and APTIII to form inclusion complexes*  
267 *studied by titration of an iodine solution.*

268         With the aim of characterizing the capability of inclusion complex formation of  
269 both amylose sources, both Hylon VII and APTIII were complexed with iodine

270 solutions according to the method developed by Gilbert and Spragg.<sup>17</sup> First, saturated  
271 solutions at room temperature (20°C) of both starches were obtained, and the limiting  
272 solubility of each starch in water was determined (see Solubility determination). The  
273 results showed that the limiting solubility in pure water was 172 mg/ml for Hylon VII  
274 and 226 mg/ml for APTIII amylose.

275 Two well measured volumes of iodine solutions from the same batch (see Iodine  
276 complexation of Hylon VII and APTII) were titrated separately by adding successive  
277 aliquots of the Hylon VII and APTIII saturated solutions. As a result, a linear increasing  
278 formation of the iodine-amylose complex is clearly observed with both starches. In  
279 Figure 6 the absorption at the maximum absorption wavelength ( $\lambda_{\max}^{abs}$ ) of the iodine  
280 complexes with Hylon VII and APTIII is plotted as a function of polysaccharide  
281 concentration. Two straight curves with excellent linear correlation coefficients (higher  
282 than 0.99) were obtained. It is remarkable that the  $\lambda_{\max}^{abs}$  was invariant, being always 602-  
283 603 nm irrespective of the starch identity and concentration.

284 Noticeable, a pronounced difference among both starches is observed in the  
285 slope of the linear regressions, indicating that for a similar concentration of starch, the  
286 absorbance of the Hylon complex is about 10 times higher than the absorbance of the  
287 APTIII iodine complex. This difference is observed for polysaccharides concentrations  
288 well below the limiting solubility of both starches.

289 A valuable parameter for the characterization of a starch ability to form  
290 inclusion complexes with iodine is the so called "blue value",<sup>17</sup> which is a calculation  
291 based on the absorption in the far red side (680 nm) of the iodine complex spectrum,  
292 which is directly proportional to the concentration of said complex,

$$293 \quad BV = \frac{0.4 \times Abs_{680nm}}{C_{starch}(mg/ml)} \quad \text{Eq. 1}$$

294 To make a reliable calculation of BV is relevant performing calibration curves as a  
295 function of the concentration of the tested starches, as shown in Figure 5. The results  
296 described in Table II shows a very good reproducibility in the BV value obtained, which  
297 for Hylon VII is 12 times larger than for APTIII.

298

## 299 **Discussion**

300 The molecular structure of the amylose, a linear polysaccharide having 99% of  
301  $\alpha$ -(1  $\rightarrow$  4) links among glucose monomers with almost no branching, gives the  
302 possibility of forming different types of helices, such as the double helices observed in  
303 the diffraction patterns A and B in the starch granules, and also a single helical  
304 conformation, characteristic in the case of inclusion complex formation, with a  
305 diffraction pattern called type V.<sup>18</sup>

306 The amylose molecule builds an helical internal cavity which, when hosting the  
307 vanillin molecules forms an inclusion complex and shrinks wrapping around the guest,  
308 as depicted in the sequence depicted in Figure 6 parts a and b, thus decreasing the  
309 interatomic distances favoring the interaction among vanillin and amylose functional  
310 groups.<sup>9</sup> This close interaction becomes evident in the changes observed in the FTIR  
311 spectrum of the complex, when comparing with the spectra obtained with pure vanillin,  
312 amylose, or a simple mechanical mixture of both.

313 In general, in Figures 1 and 2, we can observe that the host-guest interaction  
314 significantly reduce the absorption intensity of the vanillin, the guest in this case. First,  
315 the vanillin's O-H band originally at 3170 cm<sup>-1</sup> is not observed, appearing only a unique  
316 band centered at 3415 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This suggests a close interaction of this functional group  
317 with the amylose in the complex, leading to a noticeable shift to higher frequencies (a  
318 faint shoulder can be seen at 3260 cm<sup>-1</sup>), being overlapped by the O-H stretching band

319 of the starch, which was in fact also shifted from 3350 to 3415  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .<sup>21</sup> This is supported  
320 by a previous theoretical approach, which also allowed understanding the circular  
321 dichroism spectrum of the amylose-vanillin inclusion complex. That study mentions the  
322 hydroxyl phenolic group among the chemical substituents of vanillin which experience  
323 the shortest interatomic distances ( $<3\text{\AA}$ ) with the atoms of the amylose (see Table II and  
324 Figure 5 in Rodríguez et al.<sup>9</sup>) Similar changes were observed in the obtaining of the  
325 inclusion complex of vanillin with cyclodextrin, as reported by Rajendiran &  
326 Balasubramanian,<sup>19</sup> who also attributed this change to a more internal and compromised  
327 position of the OH group within the helical cavity.

328         Among the other differences observed in the FTIR spectra, the bands at 1465  
329  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 1429  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (asymmetric deformation of the  $-\text{OCH}_3$  methyl group) and the two  
330 bands at 1265 and 732  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  ( $\text{C}-\text{OCH}_3$  stretching mode) disappear in the inclusion  
331 complex spectrum. This is also consistent with the changes induced by the host when  
332 including the guest, suggested by theoretical modeling: the Figure 6 c shows a torsion  
333 out of plane of the  $-\text{OCH}_3$  methyl group which, by simulation, gives place to a  
334 theoretical CD spectrum similar to the experimentally found, supporting the proposed  
335 structure. The bands observed in the CD spectra are then assigned to the quirkality  
336 induced by the geometrical distortion of the vanillin molecule after entrapment into the  
337 amylose helix, leading to a new chiral conformation and producing the signals in the  
338 CD spectra (Rodríguez et al., 2011,<sup>9</sup> and this work). This represents a clear Cotton  
339 effect, which, in the case of this complex is induced by the molecular distortion of the  
340 vanillin when included in the amylose cavity.

341         The formation of the complex is also undoubtedly ascertained by using the  
342 thermoanalytical DSC analysis, one of the most widespread techniques to study the  
343 formation of amylose inclusion complexes. When applied to polymers, DSC detects

transformations that can be primarily ascribed to fusion, inter-conversion between different crystalline states, and sub-T<sub>g</sub> transitions of glassy or crystalline polymers. In the case of HP-DSC applied to starches and their complexes with diverse guest molecules, this technique reveals endothermic transitions assigned to the dissociation of the complex when the solid is subjected to heating in the presence of water, a process commonly called "melting" of the inclusion complex.<sup>18</sup> The peak at 108 °C found by HP-DSC and the disappearance of the melting peak of the pure ligand (Figure 3) are unequivocal evidences of the amylose-vanillin inclusion complex existence. Similar findings were reported in the cases of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin/vanillin and  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin/flavonoid inclusion complexes.<sup>20,21</sup> On the other hand, the transitions observed on pure starches at elevated temperatures (above 140 °C) have been assigned to changes in the amylose fraction of the starch, probably due to an endothermic transition of amylose crystals, in our case formed during the experimental procedure to obtain the complex (starch gelatinization, then vanillin addition and subsequent precipitation by slow cooling). We found such a transition at 177 °C (see Figure 3, red dashed line), a similar to the one observed by Heussen et al.<sup>15</sup>

The examples of inclusion complexes and their melting points shown in Table I remark that melting temperatures fluctuate depending on factors such as the source of amylose used, its native or processed nature, and the guest molecule incorporated in the helical structure. Factors depending particularly on the amylose source are evidenced by the inclusion complexes obtained with geraniol and fenchone, whose reported melting temperatures are 91°C/107°C and 92°C/114°C, for the case of complexation using native potato starch and using potato amylose, respectively (see Table I; Nuessli et al.<sup>22</sup>; Nuessli et al.<sup>6</sup>). Another example is the melting temperatures recorded when using native and pre-processed starch, like in the complexes obtained with Hylon VII by

369 Lay Ma et al.<sup>23</sup>. The authors observed differences in the temperatures of dissociation of  
370 the complexes formed among Hylon VII and three different fatty acid esters (ascorbyl  
371 palmitate, retinyl palmitate and phytosterol esters), when the starch is used in its native  
372 form or after lipid extraction, informing temperatures of 100°C/ 98°C, 102°C/ 80°C and  
373 126°C/ 98°C, respectively.

374 Thus, the key influence of the starch source, its composition and pre-treatment  
375 before complexation with a flavor ligand help to explain why in this work we can show  
376 that Hylon VII forms an inclusion complex both in the solid, as in the solution obtained  
377 by centrifugation and filtration; whereas pure APTIII amylose evidences the formation  
378 of inclusion complex with vanillin only in solution. To better understand starch  
379 properties which may account for these differences, we tested the complexing ability of  
380 the starches by obtaining iodine inclusion complexes, a well known spectroscopic tool.

381 Remarkable differences were found between both Hylon VII and APTIII  
382 starches. The lowest complexation capacity displayed by APTIII, besides the fact that  
383 the solubility of APTIII is greater than the one observed for Hylon VII, suggest that  
384 APTIII has higher proportion of short chains, which do not form iodide complex,  
385 together with a lower proportion of soluble chains with a length similar to those found  
386 in the Hylon VII solutions. This last statement is suggested by the fact that the  
387 maximum absorption wavelength ( $\lambda_{\max}^{abs}$ ) of the complexes with iodine is the same for  
388 both Hylon VII and APTIII. According to Wulff et al.<sup>24</sup> (and references therein), the  
389  $\lambda_{\max}^{abs}$  shifts to longer values as the average chain length of the amylose increases. In  
390 addition, the finding of a “blue value” for Hylon VII twelve times higher than the one  
391 obtained for APTIII further supports all the previous statements.

392

393



394

395

396 **Conclusions**

397         Summarizing, Hylon VII evidences higher capacity as vanillin encapsulant than  
398 APTIII, showing the formation of inclusion complexes in the solid phase whereas  
399 APTIII complexes are only appreciable in solution by circular dichroism. These  
400 conclusions are reached on the basis of a joint analysis of the spectroscopic evidences  
401 provided by Circular Dichroism, FTIR, XRD analysis and iodine complexation, as well  
402 as thermoanalytical DSC analysis and the previous support shown by theoretical  
403 modeling. These studies confirm the ability of the amylose to form complexes with  
404 vanillin and the close interaction of the corresponding host/guest functional groups.

405

406

407

408     **References:**

- 409     1. R.F. Tester, J. Karkalas, X. Qi. "Starch-composition, fine structure and architecture".  
410     Journal of Cereal Science. 2004. 39(2): 151-165.  
411
- 412     2. T. Itthisoponkul, J.R. Mitchell, A.J. Taylor, I.A. Farhat. "Inclusion complexes of  
413     tapioca starch with flavour compounds". Carbohydrate Polymers. 2007. 69(1), 106-115.  
414
- 415     3. Y. Yang, Z. Gu, G. Zhang. "Delivery of Bioactive Conjugated Linoleic Acid with  
416     Self-Assembled Amylose-CLA Complex". Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry.  
417     2009. 57(15): 7125-7130.  
418
- 419     4. O. Tapanapunnitikul, S. Chaiseri, D.G. Peterson, D.B. Thompson. "Water Solubility  
420     of Flavor Compounds Influences Formation of Flavor Inclusion Complexes from  
421     Dispersed High-Amylose Maize Starch". J. Agric. Food Chem. 2008. 56(1): 220-226.  
422
- 423     5. G. Wulff, G. Avgenaki, M.S.P. Guzmán. "Molecular encapsulation of flavours as  
424     helical inclusion complexes of amylose". Journal of Cereal Science. 2005. 41(3): 239-  
425     249.  
426
- 427     6. J. Nuessli, B. Sigg, B. Conde-Petit, F. Escher. "Characterization of amylose-flavour  
428     complexes by DSC and X-ray diffraction". Food Hydrocolloids. 1997. 11(1): 27-34.  
429
- 430     7. G. Wulff, S. Kubik. "Helical amylose complexes with organic complexands, 1.  
431     Microcalorimetric and circular dichroic investigations". Die Makromolekulare  
432     Chemie. 1992. 193(5): 1071-1080.

433

434 8. A. Tai, T. Sawano, F. Yazama, H. Ito. "Evaluation of antioxidant activity of vanillin  
435 by using multiple antioxidant assays". *Biochimica Et Biophysica Acta*. 2001. 1810(2):  
436 170-177.

437

438 9. S.D. Rodríguez, D.L. Bernik, R. Méreau, F. Castet, B. Champagne, E. Botek.  
439 "Amylose-Vanillin Complexation Assessed by a Joint Experimental and Theoretical  
440 Analysis". *Journal of Physical Chemistry C*. 2011 115(47): 23315-23322.

441

442 10. R. Kizil, J. Irudayaraj, K. Seetharaman. "Characterization of irradiated starches by  
443 using FT-Raman and FTIR spectroscopy". *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*.  
444 2002. 50: 3912-3918.

445

446 11. V. Balachandran, K. Parimala. "Vanillin and isovanillin: Comparative vibrational  
447 spectroscopic studies, conformational stability and NLO properties by density  
448 functional theory calculations". *Spectrochimica Acta Part A: Molecular and*  
449 *Biomolecular Spectroscopy*. 2012. 95: 354-368.

450

451 12. S. Gunasekaran, S. Ponnusamy. "Vibrational spectra and normal coordinate analysis  
452 on an organic non-linear optical crystal-3-methoxy-4-hydroxy benzaldehyde". *Indian*  
453 *Journal of Pure & Applied Physics*. 2005. 43: 838-843.

454

455 13. S.M. Ehrhardt. "An Investigation on the Vibrational Spectra of Lignin Model  
456 Compounds". Ph.D. Thesis. Georgia Institute of Technology. 1984.

457

- 458 14. B.S. Yadav, S.K. Tyagi, E. Seema. "Study of vibrational spectra of 4-methyl-3-  
459 nitrobenzaldehyde". Indian Journal of Pure & Applied Physics. 2006. 44: 644-648.  
460
- 461 15. P. Heussen. "Practical Food Applications of Differential Scanning Calorimetry  
462 (DSC)". Application Note. Unilever Research and Development. Vlaardinger, The  
463 Netherlands, 2011. [http://www.perkinelmer.com/CMSResources/Images/44-  
464 129725APP\\_DSC\\_Food\\_Applications.pdf](http://www.perkinelmer.com/CMSResources/Images/44-129725APP_DSC_Food_Applications.pdf)  
465
- 466 16. S. Roy, A.T. Riga, K.S. Alexander. "Experimental design aids the development of a  
467 differential scanning calorimetry standard test procedure for pharmaceuticals".  
468 Thermochimica Acta. 2002. 392: 399-404.  
469
- 470 17. G.A. Gilbert, S.P. Spragg. "Iodimetric determination of amylose". In: R. L. Whistler  
471 (Ed.). Methods of carbohydrate chemistry Vol. IV. New York: Academic Press, 1964.  
472 Pp. 168-169.  
473
- 474 18. B. Conde-Petit, F. Escher, J. Nuessli. "Structural features of starch-flavor  
475 complexation in food model systems". Trends in Food Science & Technology. 2006.  
476 17(5): 227-235.  
477
- 478 19 N. Rajendiran, T. Balasubramanian. "Intramolecular charge transfer of 4-hydroxy-3-  
479 methoxybenzaldehyde". Spectrochimica Acta. 2008. 69: 822-829.  
480

- 481 20. V.T. Karathanos, I. Mourtzinos, K. Yannakopoulou, N.K. Andrikopoulos. "Study of  
482 the solubility, antioxidant activity and structure of inclusion complex of vanillin with  $\beta$ -  
483 cyclodextrin". Food Chemistry. 2007. 101: 652-658.  
484
- 485 21 R. Ficarra, S. Tommasini, D. Raneri, M.L. Calabró, M.R. Di Bella, C. Rustichelli,  
486 M.C. Gamberini, P. Ficarra. "Study of flavonoids/ $\beta$ -cyclodextrins inclusion complexes  
487 by NMR, FT-IR, DSC, X-Ray investigation". 2002. 29: 1005-1014.  
488
- 489 22 J. Nuessli, J.L. Putaux, P. Le Bail, A. Buléon. "Crystal structure of amylose  
490 complexes with small ligands". 2003. 33: 227-234.  
491
- 492 23. U.V. Lay Ma, J.D. Flores, G.R. Ziegler. "Formation of inclusion complexes of  
493 starch with fatty acid esters of bioactive compounds". 2011. 83: 1869-1878.  
494
- 495 24. G. Wulff, A. Steinert, O. Holler. "Modification of amylose and investigation of its  
496 inclusion behavior". Carbohydrate Research. 1998. 307: 19-31.  
497
- 498 25. C. Jouquand, V. Ducruet, P. Le Bail. "Formation of amylose complexes with C6-  
499 aroma compounds in starch dispersions and its impact on retention". 2006. Food  
500 Chemistry. 96: 461-470.  
501
- 502 26. C. Heinemann, B. Conde-Petit, J. Nuessli, F. Escher. "Evidence of starch inclusion  
503 complexation with lactones". Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry. 2001. 49:  
504 1370-1376.  
505

506 27. B. Zhang, Q. Huang, F. Luo, X. Fu. "Structural characterizations and digestibility of  
507 debrnached high-amylose maize starch complexed with lauric acid". Food  
508 Hydrocolloids. 2012. 28: 174-181.

509

510

511

512

513

514

515

516

517 Figure Captions:

518

519 Figure 1: FTIR spectra of A) Hylon VII (black solid line) and the mechanical mixture of  
520 Hylon VII with vanillin (green solid line). B) Inclusion complex between Hylon VII and  
521 vanillin (blue solid line) and pure vanillin (red solid line).

522

523 Figure 2: FTIR spectra of the Figure 1 showing a selected region between 700-1800 cm<sup>-1</sup>,  
524 for Hylon VII (black solid line), mechanical mixture of Hylon VII with vanillin  
525 (green solid line), inclusion complex between Hylon VII and vanillin (blue solid line)  
526 and pure vanillin (red solid line). The vanillin bands which disappear in the complex  
527 (and their wavenumbers) are indicated with dashed arrows, whereas the bands which  
528 have a significant lowered intensity are indicated by solid arrows. The assignments of  
529 the bands are described in the text.

530

531 Figure 3: High pressure DSC thermograms of the inclusion complex between Hylon VII  
532 and vanillin (black solid line) and Hylon VII as control sample (red dashed line) in  
533 presence of water. Insert : DSC thermograms of the sample containing the solid  
534 inclusion complex (blue dashed line) and pure vanillin crystals (blue solid line).

535

536 Figure 4: CD and UV spectra of the inclusion complex between ATPIII and vanillin in  
537 solution. For scanning conditions details, see Circular dichroism measurement of APTII  
538 complex.

539

540 Figure 5: Scatter plot of the absorbances measured at the maximum absorption  
541 wavelength  $\lambda_{\max}^{abs}$  of iodine complexes formed with increasing concentrations of Hylon  
542 VII (green triangles) and APT III (red squares).

543

544 Figure 6: a) top view of a 10 units amylose helix alone ; b) top view of the inclusion  
545 complex of the helix and vanillin, and c) representation of the molecular distortion of  
546 vanillin upon inclusion, which gives place to CD spectrum.

547

548

549

550

551

552

553

554

555

556 Table I: phase transition temperatures (melting) of inclusion complexes between  
 557 amylose and various guest compounds.

Guest molecule	Amylose source	Transition temperatures (°C)	Reference
Hexanal	native potato starch	107	Jouquand et al. <sup>25</sup> , 2006
$\gamma$ -hepta-lactone		90	Heinemann et al. <sup>26</sup> , 2001
$\gamma$ -nona-lactone		91	
$\gamma$ -deca-lactone		95	
$\delta$ -deca-lactone		105	
$\delta$ -dodeca-lactone		115	
Decanal		90	Nuessli et al. <sup>6</sup> , 1997
(-) fenchone		107	
(-) carvone		91	
Geraniol		91	
(+) campher		76	
Thymol		105	
1-naphthol		109	
Fenchone	potato amylose	114	Nuessli et al. <sup>22</sup> , 2003
Geraniol		92	
Menthone		114	
ácido láurico	Hylon VII	109	Zhang et al. <sup>27</sup> , 2012
<b>vanillin</b>		<b>108</b>	<b>This work</b>
ascorbyl palmitate		100 y 98*	Lay Ma et al. <sup>23</sup> , 2011
retinyl palmitate		102 y 80*	
phytosterol ester		126 y 98*	

558 \*Two temperatures reported for complexes obtained with native and lipid-free starch,  
 559 respectively.

560

561

562

563

564

565



566

567 Table II: Blue values obtained for Hylon VII-iodine and APTII-iodine complexes at  
 568 each starch concentration, according to Eq. 1.

Hylon VII iodine complex $\lambda_{\max}^{abs} = 603 \text{ nm}$			APTIII iodine complex $\lambda_{\max}^{abs} = 602 \text{ nm}$		
C (starch mg /ml)	Absorption at 680 nm	Blue value	C (starch mg/ml)	Absorption at 680 nm	Blue value
1.14	0.201	0.070	3.70	0.058	0.0063
1.70	0.292	0.069	7.29	0.111	0.0061
2.26	0.381	0.069	14.13	0.213	0.0060
2.82	0.470	0.067	26.59	0.384	0.0058
3.37	0.566	0.067	32.29	0.470	0.0058
		$BV_{\text{Hylon VII}} \approx 0.07$			$BV_{\text{APTIII}} \approx 0.006$

569

570











