CLAIMS

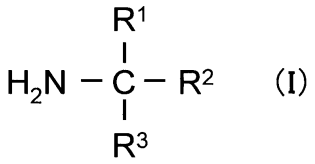
Claim 1

A skin emulsion composition comprising the following components (1) to (4), and having a viscosity of 10,000 mPa·s or more,

(1) at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyacrylic acids and salts thereof,

(2) an alkyl-modified carboxy polymer,

(3) a compound represented by the following formula (I)



(I)

wherein R^1, R^2, and R^3 are the same or different and represent C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkyl substituted with at least one hydroxyl group, with the proviso that at least one of R^1, R^2, and R^3 is C_{1-3} alkyl substituted with at least one hydroxyl group, and

(4) an oil,

wherein component (4) is present in an amount of 10% by weight or more of the composition.

Claim 2

The skin emulsion composition according to claim 1, wherein component (4) is present in an amount of 10 to 30% by weight of the composition.

Claim 3

The skin emulsion composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein component (4) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of waxes, solid hydrocarbon oils, solid ester oils, liquid hydrocarbon oils, liquid ester oils, plant oils, animal oils, and silicone oils.

Claim 4

The skin emulsion composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3, comprising ethanol in an amount of 20% by weight or less of the composition.

Claim 5

The skin emulsion composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein component (1) and component (2) are each present in an amount of 2% by weight or less of the composition.

Claim 6

The skin emulsion composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5, which has a pH of 7 or less.

Claim 7

The skin emulsion composition according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein component (2) is an acrylic acid/alkyl methacrylate copolymer.

Claim 8

The skin emulsion composition according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein component (3) is at least one member selected from the group consisting of aminomethyl propanol, aminomethyl propanediol, and amino hydroxymethyl propanediol.

Claim 9

The skin emulsion composition according to any one of claims 1 to 8, excluding compositions for application to scalp hair and/or scalp.

Claim 10

The skin emulsion composition according to any one of claims 1 to 9, further comprising an electrolyte, the composition being for use in moisturizing skin, preventing wrinkles on skin, or whitening skin.

Claim 11

The skin emulsion composition according to any one of claims 1 to 10, comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of phosphate esters of adenosine and salts thereof.

Claim 12

The skin emulsion composition according to claim 11, wherein the at least one member selected from the group consisting of phosphate esters of adenosine and salts thereof is present in an amount of 0.5 to 5% by weight of the composition.

Claim 13

The skin emulsion composition according to any one of claims 1 to 12, wherein a thickening agent other than components (1) to (3) is present in an amount of 0 to 0.5% by weight of the composition.

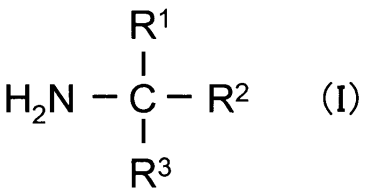
Claim 14

A method for increasing viscosity of a skin emulsion composition comprising the following components (1), (2), and (4), the method comprising adding the following component (3) to the skin emulsion composition such that component (4) is present in an amount of 10% by weight or more of the resulting composition,

(1) at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyacrylic acids and salts thereof,

(2) an alkyl-modified carboxy polymer,

(3) a compound represented by the following formula (I)



$$H_2N-\underset{\displaystyle R^3}{\overset{\displaystyle R^1}{\overset{|}{\underset{|}{C}}}}-R^2 \qquad (I)$$

wherein R^1, R^2, and R^3 are the same or different and represent C_{1-3} alkyl or C_{1-3} alkyl substituted with at least one hydroxyl group, with the proviso that at least one of R^1, R^2, and R^3 is C_{1-3} alkyl substituted with at least one hydroxyl group, and

(4) an oil.