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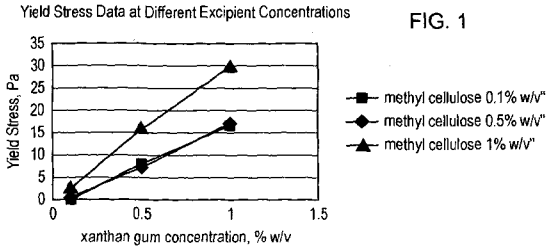


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a composition comprising (i) a mixed meta! compound containing at least one trivalent metal selected from iron (III) and aluminium and at least one divalent metal selected from of magnesium, iron, zinc, calcium, lanthanum and cerium, (ii) xanthan gum (iii) at least one of (a) polyvinyl pyrrolidone (b) locust bean gum (c) methyl cellulose wherein the composition has been irradiated with ionising radiation in an amount of at least 4kGy.

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