

Thermodynamic Study on Hydrotropic Aggregation Behavior of Theophylline

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: A systematic study is required to enhance the solubility of insoluble fluid drugs that are only sparingly soluble. Hydrotropy may be a distinctive development to reinforce the liquid solubility of poorly water-soluble drugs. **Materials and Methods:** The term hydrotropic has been used to designate the rise in the solubility of assorted substances in water because of the presence of enormous amounts of additives. Sodium salicylate, sodium benzoate, and resorcinol are utilized to reinforce the liquid solubility of many poorly soluble drugs. Varied organic solvents like methyl alcohol, chloroform, alcohol, dimethylformamide, and benzene are utilized for the solubilization of poorly soluble drugs. Theophylline drug was subjected to numerous hydrotrope concentrations (0-3 mol/L) and also the non-inheritable sample for a solubility determination was analyzed in an exploitation UV spectrophotometer. **Results:** The solubility of theophylline has been specifically found to improve with an increase in hydrotrope concentration and also with a device temperature likely to be close to that of other organic compounds and drugs.

Conclusion: To initiate substantial solubilization of the theophylline compound, a minimum hydrotrope concentration (MHC) in the aqueous phase was needed. As a consequence of the improvement in the solubilization of theophylline, the coefficient of mass transfer was also observed to expand with an increase in the hydrotropic concentration at 303 K. To have a substantial enhancement within the mass transfer coefficient, a threshold value equivalent to MHC is to be maintained. For all sets of experiments, the maximal enhancement factor, which is the value ratio between the presence and absence of a hydrotrope, has been calculated. Thermodynamic parameters such as Gibb's free energy, enthalpy, and entropy of theophylline were calculated to determine the hydrotropic aggregation activity of theophylline. With an increase in system temperature, Gibb's free energy declines. It was found that the aggregation of hydrotropes was exothermic and preferred by a positive entropy value.

Key words: Hydrotropy, Theophylline, Solubility, Enhancement Factor, Aggregation Properties.

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INTRODUCTION

Neuberg discovered in 1916 that the solution of some salts can increase the solubility in water of certain otherwise water-insoluble compounds. Hydrotrope or hydrotropism is a development that improves the liquid solubility caused by the third component or additive of drugs that are normally insoluble or poorly soluble in water. Booth and Everson were the primary ones to discover that with the hydrotrope concentration within the hydrotropic resolution,

the increase in solubility does not happen linearly. This is a very important truth, although it is very important to interpret the hydrotrope mechanism.¹⁻³ Most of the recent advances in the hydrotropic area have been examined by Balasubramanian and Friberg, apart from separations, stressing the similarity between the aggregation actions of hydrotropes and surfactants.^{4,5} As a possible and industrially desirable technique, hydrotrope will be con-



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sidered. The established increase in solubility is greater than that is caused by various well-known solubilization techniques. Surface-active, non-toxic, and strong properties are the features of hydrotropes. Quick regeneration of the dissolved material and the use of hydrotropes is the benefit of the hydrotropic technique.⁶⁻⁹ The MHC (Minimum Hydrotropic Concentration), which is outlined since the concentrations tend to combine at certain hydrotropic molecules, is said to be the most distinctive of the hydrotropes. The flexibility of hydrotropes to increase the solubility of organics in water is usually highest when the hydrotrope concentration is sufficient to cause the production of related structures. Hydrotropes have many functional uses, such as separation methods, the production of pharmaceutical formulations, the interaction of detergent solutions with cloud points, improvements in reaction rate, etc. However, the pharmaceutical industry is unable to supply itself with particle engineering technology capable of improving the degradation of poorly soluble compounds. Hydrotropes have many functional applications, such as separation methods, the production of pharmaceutical formulations, the interaction of detergent solutions with cloud points, changes in reaction rate, etc. However, there remains an unmet goal to equip the pharmaceutical industry with particle engineering technologies capable of enhancing the dissolution of poorly soluble compounds. Hydrotropic solubilization technology is one such innovative technology.¹⁰⁻¹² Theophylline also referred to as 1, 3-dimethylxanthine ($C_7H_8N_4O_2$) (Figure 1), is a phosphodiesterase-inhibiting drug used under several brand names in the treatment of respiratory disorders such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and asthma.¹³⁻¹⁵ Theophylline is used to prevent and cure asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema and other lung disorders that cause wheezing, shortness of breath and chest tightness. It relaxes and opens air passages in the lungs and creates more space for air to move through. Theophylline is available under numerous brand names: Theo 24, Theochron, Elixophyllin, Uniphyland Aminophyllin.¹⁶⁻¹⁸

MATERIALS AND METHODS

All chemicals used were of analytical grade and bought from Sisco Research Laboratories Pvt. Ltd, Mumbai, India. Theophylline tablets were purchased from the local market.

Spectrophotometric method analysis of theophylline bulk sample

The solubility study of theophylline drug using different hydrotropes was carried out by applying an excess of

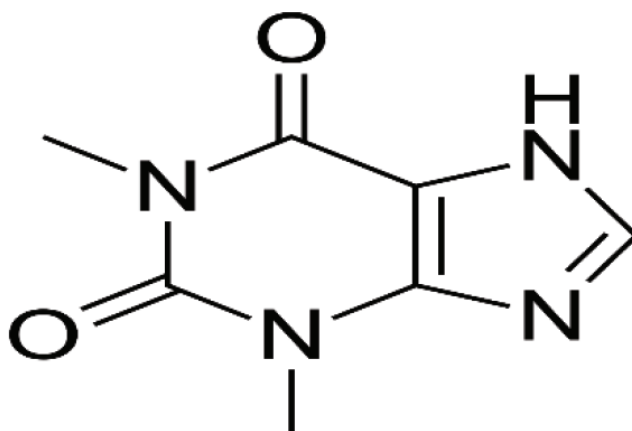


Figure 1: Structure of Theophylline.

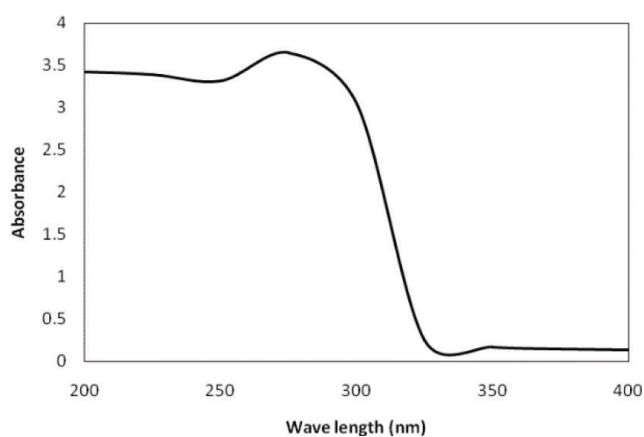


Figure 2: λ_{max} Graph for Theophylline.

theophylline to a range of hydrotropic solutions (0.1 to 3.0 mol/L) in 50 ml of the screwed glass vial. The vial on a mechanical shaker was shaking for 12 hrs. In important to maintain equilibrium, the setup was kept for 24 hrs. The solution was centrifuged for 10 min after equilibration was obtained, and the supernatant was distilled by Whatman filter paper no.1 and then diluted correctly. A UV-spectrophotometer (Shimadzu Model: 1800) at 274 nm (Figure 2) has been used to analyze the concentration of theophylline in the supernatant.¹⁹⁻²²

Enhancement factor

The enhancement factor is defined as the ratio of solubility of the system in presence of hydrotrope to the absence of hydrotrope. i.e., the solubility of the system at a maximum concentration of the hydrotrope to the solubility of the system in water.²³⁻²⁵

$$\text{Enhancement factor} = \frac{\text{Solubility value in the presence of hydrotrope}}{\text{Solubility value in the absence of hydrotrope}} \quad (1)$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Experimental results representing the effects of hydrotropes on the solubility of theophylline, i.e., sodium salicylate, sodium benzoate, and resorcinol, are presented in Tables 1-3 and are presented in Figures 3. One of the hydrotropes used in this study is sodium salicylate. The solubility of theophylline in the water at 303 K is 4.50×10^{-2} mol/L in the absence of any hydrotrope. It was observed that even after the addition of 0.40 mol/L of sodium salicylate in the aqueous phase, the solubility of theophylline in water showed no appreciable increase. However, the solubility of theophylline in water was investigated to improve considerably with the resulting increase in the concentration of sodium salicylate above 0.40 mol/L. This aqueous phase concentration of sodium salicylate, i.e. 0.40 mol/L, is referred to as the Minimum Hydrotrope Concentration (MHC), which is the minimum required aqueous phase concentration of sodium salicylate (hydrotrope), above which the solubility of theophylline in water increases considerably. For other hydrotropes, a similar process has also been observed in the MHC requirement in the aqueous phase. Therefore, it is apparent that hydrotropic solubilization is shown only above MHC, which could be a hydrotropic feature for each solution. In the sense of the recovery of hydrotrope solutions, this MHC value

Table 1: Effect of sodium salicylate concentration (c) on the solubility (s) of theophylline in water.

C, mol/L	$\lambda = 274 \text{ nm}$	10^2 S, mol/L
0.10	0.850	85.892
0.20	0.873	90.528
0.40(MHC)	0.886	93.147
0.60	0.895	94.961
0.80	0.906	97.178
1.00	0.928	101.612
1.20	0.935	103.022
1.40	0.945	105.038
1.60	0.956	107.255
1.80	0.968	109.673
2.00	0.975	111.084
2.20	0.978	111.689
2.40	0.983	112.696
2.60(C_{max})	0.989	113.905
2.80	0.992	114.510
3.00	0.997	115.517

Table 2: Effect of sodium benzoate concentration (c) on the solubility (s) of theophylline in water.

C, mol/L	$\lambda = 274 \text{ nm}$	10^2 S, mol/L
0.10	0.655	46.594
0.20	0.663	48.206
0.40(MHC)	0.668	49.214
0.60	0.675	52.625
0.80	0.682	52.036
1.00	0.685	52.640
1.20	0.693	54.252
1.40	0.697	55.058
1.60	0.705	56.671
1.80	0.712	58.081
2.00	0.724	60.499
2.20	0.735	62.716
2.40	0.739	63.523
2.60(C_{max})	0.745	64.732
2.80	0.749	65.538
3.00	0.753	66.344

Table 3: Effect of resorcinol concentration (c) on the solubility (s) of theophylline in water.

C, mol/L	$\lambda = 274 \text{ nm}$	10^2 S, mol/L
0.10	0.450	05.280
0.20	0.465	08.303
0.40(MHC)	0.470	09.310
0.60	0.474	10.117
0.80	0.478	10.923
1.00	0.484	12.132
1.20	0.495	14.349
1.40	0.510	17.372
1.60	0.524	20.193
1.80	0.535	22.410
2.00	0.542	23.821
2.20	0.550	25.433
2.40	0.557	26.844
2.60(C_{max})	0.562	27.852
2.80	0.568	29.061
3.00	0.574	30.270

assumes greater importance. Since hydrotrope seems to work only at large hydrotropic concentrations in water, the dissolved theophylline is released by most hydrotropic solutions when diluted with water below MHC. In general, knowledge of the MHC values is required at the industrial level as it ensures ready recovery of the hydrotrope for reuse.

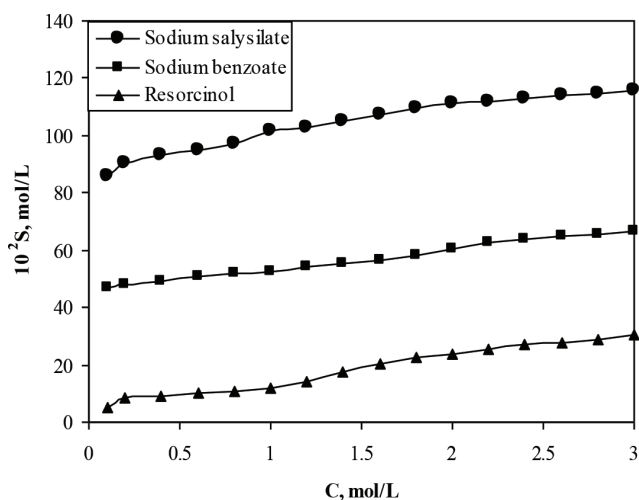


Figure 3: Effect of different hydrotrope concentrations (C) on the solubility (S) of theophylline in water.

Table 4: MHC and C_{max} values of hydrotropes.

Hydrotropes	MHC (mol / L)	C_{max} (mol / L)
Sodiumsalicylate	0.40	2.40
Sodium benzoate	0.40	2.40
Resorcinol	0.40	2.60

The solubilization effect varies with the number of different hydrotropes (Tables 1-3). A significant increasing trend in the solubility of theophylline above the MHC of sodium salicylate was found in this situation (Table 1). In the aqueous phase, this increasing phenomenon is maintained only up to a certain sodium salicylate concentration, above which there is no significant rise in the solution. This sodium salicylate (hydrotrope) concentration is referred to as the highest hydrotrope concentration in the aqueous phase (C_{max}). The theophylline-related C_{max} values of sodium salicylate, sodium benzoate, and resorcinol are 2.40, 2.60 and 2.60 mol/L, respectively (Table 4). From the study of the experimental results, it is found that further rises in the concentration of hydrotrope above C_{max} do not result in any substantial increase in the solubility of theophylline in the aqueous phase, including up to 2,40 mol / L of sodium salicylate. In this analysis, the knowledge of the MHC and C_{max} values of each hydrotrope for a specific solute assumes greater importance as it indicates the beginning and saturation of the hydrotropes' solubilization effect. However, the hydrotrope effect was observed to be significant in most situations at concentrations close to the C_{max} value of the hydrotrope. The hydrotrope-to-theophylline MHC and C_{max} values can be useful for

Table 5: Maximum enhancement factor for solubility (ϕ_s) of theophylline.

Solutes	Hydrotropes	Maximum enhancement factor for solubility (ϕ_s)
Theophylline	Sodium salicylate	27.43
	Sodium benzoate	15.47
	Resorcinol	6.78

determining the recovery of the dissolved theophylline to the sum of the determined hydrotrope solution volume at any concentration between MHC and C_{max} by easy dilution with distilled water. This is the hydro-tropic solubilization technique's unique benefit. From the experimental data shown in Figure 3, it has been observed that similar to other hydrotropes, the concentration of sodium salicylate needed in the aqueous phase to achieve the desired solubility of theophylline has decreased. Three different regions were observed in the concentration range of sodium salicylates between 0.10 and 2.40 mol/L. It was inactive below 0.40 mol/L MHC, beyond which there was a significant improvement in the solubility of theophylline up to 2.40 mol/L C_{max} , above which there was no more solubilizing impact of the hydrotrope. Sodium salicylate was also found to be an important hydrotrope in the theophylline concentration range between 0.40 and 2.40 mol/L (Figure 3). The solubilization effect of sodium salicylate was also found not to be a linear function of the sodium salicylate solution concentration. For the theophylline with water process at 303K, the maximum enhancement factor value 27.43 is observed in Table 5. The solubilization effect of other hydrotropes, namely sodium benzoate and resorcinol has shown a different phenomenon.²⁶⁻²⁸

Aggregation Properties of hydrotropes

Variations in enthalpy, entropy, and free energy correlated with the aggregation of hydrotropes, such as sodium salicylate, sodium benzoate, and resorcinol, at a system temperature of 303K at a wide range of hydro-tropic concentrations (0.1 to 3.0 mol/L) were calculated and presented in Table 6. As determined in the solution, the measurements are based on MHC.

$$\Delta G^0 = RT \ln(X_{MHC}) \quad (2)$$

Where, X_{MHC} = Solubility of theophylline at MHC, mol / L
The free energy decreases with an increase in temperature as reported in Table 6.

The standard enthalpy (ΔH^0) of aggregation can be found by the Van't Hoff equation,

Table 6: Effect of minimum hydrotrope concentration (MHC), Standard Gibbs free energy (ΔG°), Standard Enthalpy (ΔH°) and Entropy (ΔS°) of theophylline.

Solutes	Hydrotropes	Temp, K	MHC, (by solubility) $10^3 S$, (mol/L)	ΔG° , (kJ/mol)	ΔH° , (kJ/mol)	ΔS° , (kJ/mol)
Theophylline	Sodium salicylate	303	9.314	-5.979	-1.755	0.0130
	Sodium benzoate	303	4.921	-7.586	-3.282	0.0142
	Resorcinol	303	0.931	-11.781	-1.450	0.0341

$$\Delta H^\circ = -RT^2 (\partial \ln X_{\text{MHC}} / \partial T) \quad (3)$$

The slope in the plot of $\ln(X_{\text{MHC}})$ versus T at each temperature was taken as $(\partial \ln X_{\text{MHC}} / \partial T)$. A linear plot was observed for both the hydrotropes. The values of enthalpy are negative which indicates the aggregation behaviour of exothermic nature. The standard entropy (ΔS°) of aggregation was calculated from

$$\Delta S^\circ = [(\Delta H^\circ - \Delta G^\circ) / T] \quad (4)$$

The change in entropy in all cases is positive, confirming that entropic aggregation of hydrotropes is preferred. However, as in Table 6, the values decrease as the temperature rises. This may be because, due to improve molecular motion at elevated temperatures, self-aggregation becomes weak at a higher temperature.²⁹⁻³⁰

CONCLUSION

Theophylline solubility, which is essentially insoluble in water, has been increased to a maximum value of 115.517×10^2 mol/L in the presence of sodium salicylate as a hydrotrope at a system temperature of 303 K. In the presence of sodium salicylate as hydrotrope at 303 K, the maximum enhancement factor for the solubility (φ_s) of theophylline was also increased to a maximum value of 27.43. Sodium salicylate is therefore found to be the most effective hydrotrope for enhancing the solubility of the poorly soluble theophylline compound. In the case of a hydrotrope, solubility is considered useful for studying thermodynamic stability. From the data obtained from this analysis, it is found that, compared to micellar surfactants, hydrotrope concentration gives self-aggregation at a minimum concentration. An unparalleled increase in the solubilizing effect of hydrotropes is due to the creation, at a specific concentration, of structured aggregates of hydrotropic molecules. With an increase in system temperature due to increase solubilization of solutes, the normal Gibbs free energy (ΔG°), Standard enthalpy (ΔH°), and Standard entropy (ΔS°) of the solubilization of solutes decrease with an increase in system temperature.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

ABBREVIATIONS

MHC: Minimum Hydrotrope Concentration; **C_{max}:** Maximum Hydrotrope Concentration; **X_{MHC}:** Solubility of theophylline at MHC; **φ_s :** Maximum Enhancement Factor for solubility; **ΔG° :** Standard Gibbs free energy; **ΔH° :** Standard Enthalpy; **ΔS° :** Entropy.

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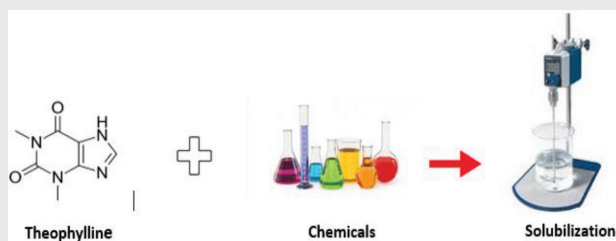
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SUMMARY

In the present research work, increasing the liquid solubility of insoluble and sparingly soluble drugs is of major importance. Hydrotrope may be a distinctive development to reinforce the liquid solubility of poorly water-soluble drugs. The term hydrotrope has been used to designate the rise in the solubility of assorted substances in water because of the presence of enormous amounts of additives. Sodium salicylate, sodium benzoate, and resorcinol are utilized to reinforce the liquid solubility of many poorly soluble drugs. Varied organic solvents like methyl alcohol, chloroform, alcohol, dimethylformamide, and benzene are utilized for the solubilization of poorly soluble drugs. Theophylline drug was used as a model for numerous hydrotrope concentrations (0-3 mol/L) and also the non-inheritable sample for a solubility determination was analyzed in an exploitation UV spectrophotometer. It has been distinctively observed and noted that the solubility of theophylline increases with an increase in a hydrotrope concentration and also with a system temperature likely similar to the several organic compounds and drugs. The maximum enhancement factor, which is the ratio of the value within the presence and absence of a hydrotrope, has been determined for all sets of experiments. To determine the hydrotropic aggregation behaviour of theophylline, thermodynamic parameters like Gibb's free energy, enthalpy, and entropy of theophylline were determined. Gibb's free energy decreases with a rise in system temperature. The aggregation of hydrotropes was found to be exothermic and favoured by a positive value of entropy.

PICTORIAL ABSTRACT



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