

# EXPERIMENTS FOR HYDROPHILIC AND HYDROPHOBIC INTERACTIONS ANALYSIS OF N-METHYL UREAS WITH WATER USING DENSITY AND SURFACE TENSION

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**Abstract.** Surface tension ( $\gamma \pm \text{mNm}^{-1}$ ) of urea, 1-methylurea (MU), 1, 3-dimethylurea (DMU) and 1,1,3,3-tetramethylurea (TMU) as N, N'-ureas were obtained at 7.99 to 7.01 pH and 293.15, 298.15 and 303.15 K temperatures for 0.005 to 0.25 mol kg<sup>-1</sup> at an interval of 0.005 mol kg<sup>-1</sup> solutions. Limiting surface tension  $\gamma^0$  data were obtained from regression analysis. The contributions of -CH<sub>3</sub> (methyl) groups were analyzed from a difference of the  $\gamma^0$  values of consecutive ureas. The  $\gamma^0$  data illustrated weakening of hydrophilic and strengthening of hydrophobic interactions with each -CH<sub>3</sub> group and inferred a shift from hydrophilic-hydrophilic to hydrophilic-hydrophobic interactions. The  $\gamma^0$  data illustrated a structure making action of the TMU.

**Keywords:** hydrophobic, hydrophilic, tetramethylurea, interactions, structure breaking

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## Introduction

The N, N' Ureas with water are effective mixed solvents for protein chemistry and biological processes. Their interactions elucidate intermolecular forces responsible for biological processes. The cohesive forces [1] of mixed solvents are due to hydrophilic and hydrophobic interactions [2] with variable polarity [3, 4] and define a stability of proteins, nucleic acids and membrane to focus a cage approach of the

solvents for biomolecules like sarcosylsarcosine [5]. A number of studies on ureas with different probes are reported [6, 7] but the surface tensions are yet to be reported [8-13]. The H substitution of the amino group ( $-\text{NH}_2$ ) by the  $-\text{CH}_3$ , enhanced hydrophobic interactions. It weakened hydrogen bonding of substituted  $-\text{NH}_2$  and also weak hydrogen bonding of carbonyl group ( $>\text{C}=\text{O}$ ) [14]. So ureas denature the biopolymers [15-18]. At low temperature Stokes studied [19] the structural interactions with urea and alkyl derivatives and noted as structure breaker [20-25]. A long-range arrangement of electrostatic forces of water with higher dipole moment influences the hydrophilic and hydrophobic interactions with polar and non-polar compounds like urea and tetramethylurea. The urea, dimethylurea, 1,3-dimethyl carbamate, diethyl ether, methyl acetate and ethyl alcohol were used with polyurethane for hydrogen bond length, energy and IR spectra [25, 26]. A small angle neutron scattering, NMR relaxation and self-diffusion coefficient studies on aqueous TMU showed a hydrophobic interaction. Many models like lattice and statistical, mechanical, osmotic and activity coefficient of N, N' ureas [27] furnish better understanding of hydrophobic interactions of mono-, di-, and tetra- substituted molecules.

### Experiment

The solutions, w/w, were prepared with Millipore water having  $1.10^{-6} \Omega^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$  conductivity, (urea, methylurea, dimethylurea and tetramethylurea, AR, Merck), were dried for 24 h keeping over night in a vacuum dessiccator and stored in  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  filled desiccator. The tetramethylurea (Merck Schuchardt) is a high boiling point liquid (BP, 449.65 K) and was used as received. The densities were determined with weight method using bicapillary pycnometer at a fairly constant temperature [2]. The weighing was made with 0.01mg analytical Dhona balance, model 100 DS, Instruments Pvt Ltd, Calcutta, India. The surface tensions were measured with Survismeter [19] at  $\pm 0.01^\circ\text{C}$  temperature control, read with Beckman thermometer.

### Result

The densities values were calculated as usual [2] and the density of water is taken from literature [28]. The surface tensions ( $\gamma$ ) were calculated usual relation [4], the data are regressed and constants are given in Table 1 and difference in data in Table 2.

**Table 1.** Regression constants of the  $\rho$  and  $\gamma$  data and slopes for systems

| Systems | Density constants                    |                                                              | Surface tension constants        |                                                        |
|---------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
|         | $\rho^0$<br>$10^3 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ | $S_d$<br>$10^3 \text{ kg}^2 \text{ m}^{-3} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ | $\gamma^0$<br>$\text{mN m}^{-1}$ | $S_s$<br>$10^{-2} \text{ m N m}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ |
|         |                                      |                                                              | 293.15 K                         |                                                        |
| U       | 0.99831                              | 0.0104                                                       | 72.76                            | 0.75                                                   |
| MU      | 0.99832                              | 0.0079                                                       | 71.86                            | 17.74                                                  |
| DMU     | 0.99821                              | 0.0079                                                       | 73.61                            | 9.22                                                   |
| TMU     | 0.99822                              | 0.0075                                                       | 78.01                            | -24.74                                                 |
|         |                                      |                                                              | 298.15 K                         |                                                        |
| U       | 0.99712                              | 0.0101                                                       | 71.96                            | 0.73                                                   |
| MU      | 0.99713                              | 0.0077                                                       | 71.01                            | -1.94                                                  |
| DMU     | 0.99682                              | 0.0072                                                       | 72.73                            | 12.20                                                  |
| TMU     | 0.99651                              | 0.0068                                                       | 77.12                            | 43.30                                                  |
|         |                                      |                                                              | 303.15 K                         |                                                        |
| U       | 0.99574                              | 0.0100                                                       | 71.16                            | -0.65                                                  |
| MU      | 0.99542                              | 0.0079                                                       | 69.88                            | 5.10                                                   |
| DMU     | 0.99562                              | 0.0053                                                       | 72.14                            | -2.13                                                  |
| TMU     | 0.99551                              | 0.0048                                                       | 77.94                            | -25.35                                                 |

**Table 2.** Contribution of methyl group calculated from ((N-ureas)-(urea))/n, n denotes-CH<sub>3</sub> groups numbers

| For $\rho^0$   |          |          |          |          |          |          |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Temp., K       | MU-U     | DMU-U    | TMU-U    | DMU-MU   | TMU-MU   | TMU-DMU  |
| 293.15         | 0.00000  | -0.00005 | -0.00003 | -0.00010 | -0.00003 | 0.00000  |
| 298.15         | 0.00000  | -0.00015 | -0.00015 | -0.00030 | -0.00020 | -0.00015 |
| 303.15         | -0.00030 | -0.00005 | -0.00005 | 0.00020  | -0.00003 | -0.00005 |
| For $\gamma^0$ |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| 293.15         | -0.90    | 0.42     | 1.31     | 1.75     | 2.05     | 2.20     |
| 298.15         | -0.95    | 0.38     | 1.29     | 1.72     | 2.03     | 2.19     |
| 303.15         | -1.28    | 0.49     | 1.69     | 2.26     | 2.68     | 2.90     |

### Discussion

The  $\rho^0$  values with each -CH<sub>3</sub> groups are as U = MU > DMU = TMU, U = MU > DMU > TMU, U > DMU > TMU > MU for 293.15, 298.15 and 303.15 K (Table1), respectively, with sequential strength of intermolecular forces. The  $\rho^0$  va-

lues for urea are higher than those of the others with stronger hydrophilic interactions with stronger intermolecular forces than those of others. The urea with both the amino ( $-\text{NH}_2$ ) and ketonic ( $>\text{C}=\text{O}$ ) groups strongly disrupts the hydrogen bonded water structure and develops stronger hydrogen bonded structure than the water. The hydrogen bonding centers of the urea are  $2(-\text{H}-\text{N}-\text{H}-) + 2(-\text{H}-\text{N}-\text{H}-) + 1(>\text{C}-\text{O}-) = 5$  and hence the 5 times hydrophilic (philic): 0 times hydrophobic (phobic) interactions are noted. The  $\rho^0$  values at 293.15 and 298.15 K for MU are lower than those of the urea with comparatively weaker intermolecular forces. The  $-\text{CH}_3$  of MU weaken hydrophilic strengthen hydrophobic interaction in same proportion, and at 303.15 K, the interactions weakest. The 4(philic):1(phobic) ratio is noted with the MU against the 5(philic): 0(philic) of the U. Similarly the ratios are as 3(philic): 2(phobic) and 0(philic): 5(phobic) for DMU and TMU, respectively. So with DMU and TMU the hydrophobic interactions dominate over the hydrophilic and the water developed a cage around the  $-\text{CH}_3$  groups. The decrease in the  $\rho^0$  values with the  $-\text{CH}_3$  infer weaker intermolecular forces with mild disruption in structure as compared to U. Hence the  $-\text{CH}_3$  weakens the structure breaking and strengthen making strengths as compare to U (Table 2). The  $\rho^0$  values of the DMU at 303.15 K predict micelles formation and bursting and a decrease in the  $\rho^0$  values with temperatures infers destabilization solute-solvent interactions. The  $S_d$  values are as  $\text{U} > \text{MU} > \text{DMU} > \text{TMU}$ , and the compositions strongly influence the hydrophilic interactions as compared to the hydrophobic. The U with composition develops stronger dipolar interactions which weaken as  $\text{MU} > \text{DMU} > \text{TMU}$ . A structure breaking effect of N-ureas decreases and the making increases. The  $-\text{CH}_3$  weakens the disruption mechanism favoring a cage formation. The lowest  $S_d$  values for TMU infer weaker hydrophobic interactions.

The  $\gamma^0$  data (Table1) are as  $\text{TMU} > \text{DMU} > \text{U} > \text{MU}$ , with higher cohesive forces with TMU due to purely hydrophobic interactions. It developed higher integrated molecular forces with stronger adhesion on the glass capillary. The  $-\text{CH}_3$  with the  $\text{N}^+$  and  $>\text{CO}^-$  developed stronger intermolecular forces with higher surface forces. The  $\gamma^0$  values of MU decrease because of an asymmetric structure that disbalances the surface forces and the  $\gamma^0$  values for DMU and TMU are noted higher due to symmetric structure. The U and MU with comparatively stronger hydrophilic interactions produce the lower  $\gamma^0$  values with weaker surface forces (Tables 1 and 2).

The  $S_s$  data are as  $293.15 > 298.15 > 303.15$  for U; the  $293.15 > 303.15 > 298.15$  for MU and the  $298.15 > 293.15 > 303.15$  for both the DMU and TMU. The temperature affects surface forces. The U induces stronger structure breaking at 293.15 K than that of 298.15 and 303.15 while the MU stronger breaking at 293.15 K than those of the 303.15 and 298.15 K. The DMU and TMU induce similar structure breaking actions however comparatively at 298.15 K they show stronger breaking actions than those of the 293.15 and 303.15 K. The  $\gamma^0$  and slope values (Table 1) mark  $-\text{CH}_3$  responsible for introducing an element of the structure making [22, 24]. The transition

point in the values with compositions infers the micelle formation, which has similar information of Barone [29]. The differences in values of the  $\gamma^0$  (Table 2) for consecutive N-ureas derive the contribution of the  $-\text{CH}_3$  and perhaps the size of molecule, composition of solution, temperature does influence the extent of solvation of N-ureas.

An increment in the  $\gamma^0$  data with the  $-\text{CH}_3$  is due to structured solutions and the  $\gamma^0$  is because of  $\gamma^0 = (\gamma_{\text{vw}} + \gamma_{\text{v}}) + (\gamma_{\text{s}} + \gamma_{\text{h}})$  factors. The  $\gamma_{\text{vw}}$  is due to van der Waals force, the  $\gamma_{\text{v}}$  void spaces. The  $\gamma_{\text{s}}$  is from solute-solvent interactions, and  $\gamma_{\text{h}}$  hydrophobic hydration. The  $(\gamma_{\text{vw}} + \gamma_{\text{v}})$  values for U is almost same and hence a variation in the  $(\gamma_{\text{s}} + \gamma_{\text{h}})$  explain the  $\gamma^0$  and  $(\gamma_{\text{s}} + \gamma_{\text{h}})$  values for U and N-ureas and are depicted as  $(\gamma_{\text{vw}} + \gamma_{\text{v}})_{\text{w}} = \gamma_{\text{uw}} + \gamma_{\text{ww}}$  and  $(\gamma_{\text{s}} + \gamma_{\text{h}})_{\text{w+s}} = \gamma_{\text{uw}} + \gamma_{\text{uu}} + \gamma_{\text{ww}}$ . Here the  $\gamma_{\text{uw}}$ ,  $\gamma_{\text{uu}}$  ( $_{\text{u}}$  indicates N-ureas) and  $\gamma_{\text{ww}}$  are the contributions from the N-ureas-water, N-ureas-N-ureas and water-water interaction, respectively where  $\gamma^0 = \gamma_{\text{uw}} + \gamma_{\text{uu}} + \gamma_{\text{ww}}$ . So a slight decrease in  $\gamma^0$  with temperature is contributed from the  $\gamma_{\text{uw}}$  values due to electrostricted regions of the  $>\text{CO}^-$  and  $\text{NH}_2^+$  ions. The changes in the  $\gamma_{\text{ww}}$  values are relatively smaller and the  $S_{\text{s}}$  values for the N-ureas are as  $\text{MU} > \text{U} > \text{DMU} > \text{TMU}$  at 293.15 and 298.15  $\text{U} > \text{DMU} > \text{TMU} > \text{MU}$  at 303.15 K. The positive  $S_{\text{s}}$  values of U infer stronger structure breaking with compositions and the negative values explain weaker solute-solvent interaction. The DMU and TMU have negative  $S_{\text{s}}$  values and behave weaker structure breakers. The MU at 293.15 and 298.15 has positive values and at 303.15 K, the negative due to structure breaking and making with respect to temperature.

The  $S_{\text{s}}$  values decrease at 303.15 K as the urea disrupts water structure making it a free liquid. The  $S_{\text{s}}$  values with U are as 298.15 > 293.15 > 303.15; MU as 293.15 > 298.15 > 303.15; DMU as 293.15 > 298.15 > 303.15 and TMU as 293.15 > 303.15 > 298.15 having similar influence of temperature on hydrogen bond disruption as of compositions. For urea at 298.15 K, the structure breaking action is stronger than that of the 293.15 and 303.15 K while DMU and TMU show similar action of structure breaking however the TMU causes stronger breaking action with compositions and the weaker at 298.15 K. The  $S_{\text{s}}$  values for TMU infer that the  $-\text{CH}_3$  vigorously reorients the bulk water for cage formation at 293.15 K than that of the 303.15 and 298.15 K.

## Conclusion

The hydrophobic interaction develops stronger cohesive forces with an effective caging around the N-ureas with each  $-\text{CH}_3$ . The densities decrease and the  $\gamma^0$  values increase with temperature with similar trends.

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