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# Speciation of Ternary Complexes of Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II) with Citric and Succinic Acids in Micellar Medium

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#### ARTICLE DETAILS

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#### ABSTRACT

The ternary complexes MLX, MLXH and MLX<sub>2</sub>H have been identified in citric and succinic acid complexes of Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II) in (0.0-2.5% w/v) anionic, cationic and neutral micellar media at an ionic strength of 0.16 moldm<sup>-3</sup> (NaNO<sub>3</sub>) and 303 K temperature. These species were selected based on statistical parameters and residual analysis. Extra stability of the ternary complexes compared to their binary complexes was believed to be due to electrostatic interactions of the side chains of ligands, charge neutralization, chelate effect, stacking interactions and hydrogen bonding. The species distribution, effects of micelles and dielectric constant of the medium have been discussed.

#### 1. Introduction

Considerable attention has been paid in recent years on the study of the coordination of bio ligands with metal ions in biochemistry [1-4]. Citric acid (Cit) plays an important role in enzyme-catalyzed chemical reactions of central importance in all living cells that use oxygen as part of cellular respiration. In eukaryotes, the citric acid or tricarboxylic acid cycle occurs in the matrix of the mitochondrion. In aerobic organisms, the citric acid cycle as a possible substitute for poly phosphates added to solid detergents and these applications are based on formation of stable complexes with metal ions [5]. It has been regarded as being on a side is part of a metabolic pathway involved in the chemical conversion of carbohydrates, fats and proteins into carbon dioxide and water to generate a form of usable energy. Citrates have been traditionally used as masking agents in ion-exchange chromatography. Recently citrate has been considered path in the Krebs cycle [6]. Succinic acid (Suc) is involved in citric acid cycle and glyoxalate cycles, in which two-carbon acetyl units are converted into four-carbon succinate units for energy production and biosynthesis. Succinic acid is used [7, 8], in the manufacture of medicaments and nutritional supplements effective for treating of insulin resistance in mammals, preferably in non-insulin dependent diabetic humans.

From these facts it is obvious that the physiological activities of Cit and Suc with some essential metal ions are associated with the catabolic and anabolic processes. Hence, speciation studies of citric acid and succinic acid with Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II) ions in surfactant-water mixtures have been studied.

# 2. Experimental Methods

# 2.1 Materials and Methods

AR sample of sodium laurylsulphate (SLS, Qualigens, India), cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB, AR, Qualigens, India) and Triton X100 (TX 100, E-Merck, Germany) were dissolved in triple distilled water. Their purity was checked by determining the Critical Micellar Concentrations (CMC) conductometrically. CMC values of SLS, CTAB and TX 100 were 8.1x10-3, 9.2x10-4 and 0.54 vol%, respectively at 298 K. GR Grade (Merck, India) samples of citric acid, succinic acid, Co(II), Cu(II),

Ni(II) and Zn(II) chlorides, nitric acid, sodium hydroxide and sodium nitrate were prepared by dissolving then in triple distilled water. All the metal solutions have been standardized by usual standard methods [9].

To increase the solubility of Cit and Suc and to suppress the hydrolysis of metal salts, nitric acid concentration was maintained at 0.05 moldm<sup>-3</sup>. To assess the errors that might have crept into the determination of the concentrations, the data were subjected to analysis of variance of one way classification (ANOVA). The strengths of alkali and acid were determined using the Gran plot method [10].

# 2.2 Apparatus

An ELICO (Model L1-120) pH meter (readability 0.01) was used to monitor the changes in H $^+$  concentration. The pH meter was calibrated as mentioned in our earlier papers [11] .The glass electrode was equilibrated in a well stirred water-surfactant solution containing the inert electrolyte (NaNO $_3$ ). The effects of variations in asymmetry, liquid junction potential, activity coefficient, sodium ion error and dissolved carbon dioxide on the response of glass electrode were accounted for in the form of the correction factor [12].

# 2.3 Procedure

The titrations were carried out in the medium containing varying concentrations of (0.0-2.5% w/v) surfactants in water maintaining an ionic strength of 0.16 moldm³ with sodium nitrate at  $303.0\pm0.1$  K. The strong acid was titrated with alkali at regular intervals to check whether complete equilibration was achieved. Free acid titrations were carried every day prior to the mixed-ligand titrations to calculate the correction factor. In each of the titrations, the titrand consisted of approximately 1 mmol, of mineral acid, metal ion, ligands and the inert electrolyte in a total volume of 50 cm³. Titrations with different ratios (M: L: X =1:2:2, 1:2:4, 1:4:2) of metal to primary ligand to secondary ligand were carried out with 0.4 moldm³ sodium hydroxide solution. Other experimental details are given elsewhere [13].

## 2.4 Modelling Strategy

The approximate stability constants of ternary complexes were calculated with the computer program SCPHD [14]. Different models containing varied number of ternary species were generated using the expert systems CEES [15]. The best fit chemical models for each ternary system were investigated by using MINIQUAD75.

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### 3. Results and Discussion

#### 3.1 Complex Equilibria

A preliminary investigation of alkali metric titrations of mixtures containing different mole ratios of Cit and Suc in the presence of mineral acid and inert electrolyte inferred that no condensed species are formed [16]. The binary metal complexes were fixed in the refinement of ternary complexes in testing various chemical models using computer program MINIQUAD75 [17]. The best fit models were chosen as that with low standard deviation in the formation constants and minimum  $U_{\rm corr}(sum\ of\ squares\ of\ deviations\ in\ concentrations\ of\ ligands\ and\ hydrogen\ ion\ at\ all\ experimental\ points)\ corrected\ for\ degrees\ of\ freedom,\ which\ was\ corroborated\ by\ other\ statistical\ parameters\ like\ \chi^2,\ R-factor,\ skewness\ and\ kurtosis\ given\ in\ Tables\ 1-3.$  The species detected for Co(II), Ni (II),Cu

(II) and Zn (II) ions are  $MLX^3$ ,  $MLXH^2$  and  $MLX_2H^4$ , where L is the primary ligand (Cit) and X is the secondary ligand (Suc).

A very low standard deviation in log  $\beta$  values indicates the precision of these parameters. The small values of  $U_{corr}$  indicate that the experimental data can be represented by the model. Small values of mean, standard deviation and mean deviation for the systems corroborate that the residuals are around a zero mean with little dispersion. For an ideal normal distribution, the values of kurtosis and skewness should be three and zero, respectively. The kurtosis values in the present study indicate that most of the residuals are leptokurtic and a few form mesokurtic patterns. The values of skewness recorded in the tables are between -2.98 to 1.70. These data evince that the residuals form a part of normal distribution; hence, least–squares method can be applied to the present data. The sufficiency of the model is further evident from the low crystallographic R-value recorded.

Table 1 Parameters of best fit chemical models of Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II)-Cit - Suc complexes in CTAB-water mixtures

% w/v CTAB	Logβ(SD)			NP U <sub>corr</sub> Skew-ness	$\chi^2$	R-Factor	Kurtosis	pH-Range		
70 W/V CIAD	MLX	MLXH	$MLX_2H$	INF	Ucorr	Skew-ness	χ	K-ractoi	Kurtosis	pii-Range
Co(II)				•		·	•			•
0.0	10.74(8)	16.85(20)	22.97(32)	197	9.63	-1.27	54.02	0.0821	5.84	1.75-7.50
0.5	10.92(9)	16.98(18)	23.02(31)	195	8.16	-2.20	51.05	0.0732	4.48	1.75-7.50
1.0	11.04(7)	17.12(22)		189	7.41	-1.74	49.09	0.0844	3.72	1.75-8.00
1.5	11.25(7)	17.26(18)	23.56(32)	183	2.72	-1.99	46.97	0.0755	6.08	1.75-7.00
2.0	11.63(8)	17.54(17)	23.78(30)	180	5.08	-1.84	37.34	0.0842	7.84	1.75-7.00
2.5	11.91(9)	17.81(20)	24.02(31)	178	1.37	-1.77	29.97	0.0731	6.93	1.75-7.00
Ni(II)										
0.0	14.73(9)	18.59(18)	23.58(25)	174	1.38	0.21	66.09	0.0972	6.01	2.00-6.70
0.5	14.96(7)	19.05(15)	23.97(22)	189	2.80	0.39	61.79	0.0700	5.04	2.007.70
1.0	15.26(8)	19.45(18)	24.15(26)	187	3.60	0.09	57.39	0.0625	3.07	2.00-7.70
1.5	15.89(8)	19.24(14)		181	7.80	0.74	49.07	0.0071	1.22	2.00-7.70
2.0	16.08(5)	19.78(16)		179	2.55	0.33	39.09	0.0082	2.97	2.00-7.70
2.5	16.45(6)	20.23(15)	24.79(25)	171	0.48	0.21	37.25	0.0097	3.45	2.00-6.70
Cu (II)										
0.0	12.86(10)	15.82(18)	20.74(28)	189	3.37	0.44	22.32	0.0815	8.21	1.75-8.00
0.5	12.95(8)	16.04(19)	21.09(32)	184	3.92	0.97	25.09	0.0717	6.31	1.75-8.00
1.0	13.16(8)	16.28(15)		179	0.48	0.07	31.72	0.0741	5.49	1.75-8.00
1.5	13.46(7)	16.49(18)	21.56(26)	177	5.78	0.37	35.94	0.0815	3.52	1.75-8.00
2.0	13.25(9)	16.87(15)	21.82(24)	170	3.41	0.50	41.04	0.0710	4.72	1.75-7.00
2.5	13.87(7)	17.17(17)	22.09(25)	175	7.50	0.79	48.09	0.0011	5.92	1.75-8.00
Zn(II)										
0.0	13.52(5)	17.82(10)	25.96(30)	147	0.41	-1.14	51.04	0.0824	5.02	1.75-7.50
0.5	13.89(7)	17.94(12)	26.04(32)	148	2.21	-1.94	59.08	0.0721	4.29	1.75-8.00
1.0	14.02(6)	18.01(15)	-	142	3.38	-1.33	63.71	0.0844	3.92	1.75-7.00
1.5	14.25(5)	18.35(16)	-	149	0.82	-1.74	68.78	0.0753	4.87	1.75-8.00
2.0	14.54(6)	18.69(15)	26.69(36)	138	8.81	-1.97	49.81	0.0774	5.92	1.75-7.70
2.5	15.03(5)	19.12(18)	27.09(38)	129	4.42	-1.88	74.85	0.0832	4.91	1.75-6.50

Table 2 Parameters of best fit chemical models of Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II)-Cit - Suc complexes in TX100-water mixtures Logβ(SD) % v/v TX100 NP  $U_{corr}$ Skew-ness  $\chi^2$ R-Factor Kurtosis pH-Range MLXH  $MLX_2H$ MLX Co(II) 10.74(8) 16.85(20) 22.97(32) 197 9.63 -1.27 54.02 0.0821 5.84 1.75-7.50 0.0 15.83(11) 0.5 10.25(6) 21.85(26) 122 5.54 0.33 49 49 0.0393 2.98 2.8-6.5 1.0 9.76(7) 15.46(10) 127 5.96 0.41 60.66 0.0532 3.03 2.5-6.5 15.87(12) 2.5-6.5 1.5 9.45(5) 21.45(26) 121 2.71 0.95 58.32 0.0074 3.85 2.0 9.78(7) 15.09(11) 21.33(25) 117 7.75 1.01 77.11 0.0062 5.15 2.5-6.6 2.5 9.16(8) 14.56(10) 20.15(24) 6.83 0.88 37.54 0.0414 4.32 2.5-6.6 Ni(II) 0.0 14.73(9) 18.59(18) 23.58(25) 174 1.38 0.21 66.09 0.0972 6.01 2.0-6.7 0.5 14.05(6) 18.06(14) 22.78(28) 100 9.01 -0.98 59.74 0.0698 5.42 2.5-6.0 13.75(6) -0.44 27.84 0.0574 8.82 2.5-6.0 1.0 17.56(15) 98 4.10 13.89(5) 17.91(13) 95 3.75 -0.39 36.75 0.0556 7.42 2.6-6.0 1.5 2.0 13.44(5) 22.56(30) 100 9.56 -0.27 49.74 0.0432 4.34 2.5-6.2 17.25(15) 2.5-6.5 2.5 13.07(8) 22.09(32) 104 7.32 -1.0281.52 0.0098 6.66 Cu (II) 189 0.0815 8.21 0.0 12.86(10) 15.82(18) 20.74(28) 3.37 0.44 22.32 1.75-8.0 0.5 11.53(6) 15.36(9) 19.86(28) 98 1.57 -2.2450.21 0.0452 225 2.0-6.5 1.0 11.84(7) 14.56(15) 95 2.39 -1.7948.34 0.0395 5.94 2.0-6.5 14.76(18) 19.52(28) 91 1.93 -2.88 39.41 0.0786 2.0-6.5 1.5 11.23(5) 4.74 2.0 10.89(6) 14.09(17) 19.25(27) 88 8.58 -3.7498.46 0.0532 3.98 2.0-6.5 2.5 10.24(5) 13.86(18) 18.79(28) 97 4.78 -2.98 77.67 0.0793 2.79 2.0-6.5 Zn(II) 0.0 13.52(5) 17.82(10) 25.96(30) 147 0.41 -1.1451.04 0.0824 5.02 1.75-7.5 13.05(9) 17.24(15) 125 1.06 0.24 44.39 0.0432 2.98 2.5-6.5 0.5 25.43(25) 16.58(17) 0.0531 1.0 12.85(10) 127 2.03 0.4459.74 3.08 25-65 1.5 16.82(15) 120 2.54 0.39 54.38 0.0834 2.98 2.5-6.5 12.31(10) 0.0792 2.77 2.0 11.89(9) 16.38(18) 24.57(28) 119 9.39 0.87 49.75 2.5-6.5 2.5 11.58(8) 16.06(15) 24.06(28) 115 1.51 0.65 39.79 0.0034 2.32 2.5-6.5

Table 3 Parameters of best fit chemical models of Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II)-Cit - Suc complexes in SLS-water mixtures

0// CI C	Logβ(SD)			ND	TT	Cl	?	D Г	V	
% w/v SLS	MLX	MLXH	$MLX_2H$	NP	$U_{corr}$	Skew-ness	$\chi^2$	R-Factor	Kurtosis	pH-Range
Co(II)							•	•		
0.0	10.74(8)	16.85(20)	22.97(32)	197	9.63	-1.27	54.02	0.0821	5.84	1.75-7.5
0.5	9.21(5)	15.86(17)	21.56(32)	98	6.73	0.21	38.38	0.0322	2.45	2.5-6.5
1.0	9.45(4)	15.42(18)	21.76(28)	95	4.02	0.35	34.32	0.0343	3.34	2.5-6.5
1.5	9.65(8)	15.63(17)	21.84(27)	96	4.19	0.44	45.85	0.0415	2.21	2.5-6.5
2.0	9.82(7)	15.74(15)	22.02(25)	94	4.94	0.84	39.81	0.0931	3.45	2.5-6.5
2.5	10.74(8)	15.95(14)	22.15(32)	97	1.06	0.74	49.84	0.0757	2.75	2.5-6.5
Ni(II)										
0.0	14.73(9)	18.59(18)	23.58(25)	174	1.38	0.21	66.09	0.0972	6.01	2.0-6.7
0.5	13.26(9)	17.23(14)	22.56(28)	105	5.75	-1.35	40.82	0.0721	3.82	2.5-6.5
1.0	13.58(7)	17.46(15)		107	7.05	-1.48	48.82	0.0831	4.42	2.5-6.5
1.5	13.65(6)	17.65(18)		100	9.80	-1.37	37.32	0.0621	3.37	2.5-6.5
2.0	13.819(7)	18.02(17)	22.87(23)	103	3.19	-1.22	41.02	0.0321	3.20	2.5-6.5
2.5	14.04(7)	18.19(14)	23.05(25)	102	1.50	-1.94	37.09	0.0441	3.22	2.5-6.5
Cu (II)										
0.0	12.86(10)	15.82(18)	20.74(28)	189	3.37	0.44	22.32	0.0815	8.21	1.75-8.0
0.5	10.86(6)	13.98(17)	18.56(35)	100	3.81	-1.25	50.14	0.0025	4.42	2.5-6.5
1.0	10.95(7)	14.02(15)	18.92(30)	107	2.59	-1.29	39.15	0.0056	5.52	2.5-6.5
1.5	11.26(8)	14.26(17)	19.25(34)	102	0.80	-1.27	29.15	0.0026	4.32	2.5-6.5
2.0	11.58(6)	14.54(15)	19.43(32)	105	1.96	-1.39	34.12	0.0543	4.22	2.5-6.5
2.5	11.74(7)	14.83(17)	19.81(35)	101	7.16	-1.49	38.15	0.0581	3.39	2.5-6.5
Zn(II)										
0.0	13.52(5)	17.82(10)	25.96(30)	147	0.41	-1.14	51.04	0.0824	5.02	1.75-7.5
0.5	11.89(9)	15.92(15)	23.98(35)	90	9.88	1.22	39.82	0.0418	3.42	2.5-6.0
1.0	11.99(7)	16.02(18)		97	7.65	1.34	45.92	0.0317	4.72	2.5-6.5
1.5	12.31(7)	16.23(16)	24.31(34)	92	2.58	1.09	42.22	0.0418	3.72	2.5-6.5
2.0	12.52(8)	16.54(16)	24.58(32)	99	3.95	1.24	54.54	0.0319	2.82	2.5-6.5
2.5	12.75(8)	16.78(15)	24.85(35)	101	9.59	1.70	64.32	0.0013	3.34	2.5-6.5

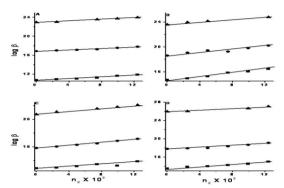


Fig. 1 Variation of stability constant values of complexes with mole fraction of CTAB (A) Co(II), (B) Ni(II), (C) Cu(II) and (D) Zn(II) ( $\blacksquare$ ) log $\beta_{MLX}$ , ( $\bullet$ ) log $\beta_{MLXH}$ , ( $\Delta$ ) log $\beta_{MLXZH}$ 

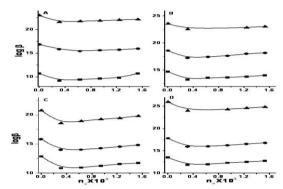


Fig. 2 Variation of stability constant values of complexes with mole fraction of SLS (A) Co(II), (B) Ni(II), (C) Cu(II) and (D) Zn(II) ( $\blacksquare$ ) log $\beta$ MLX; ( $\bullet$ ) log $\beta$ MLX; ( $\blacktriangle$ ) log $\beta$ MLX; ( $\bot$ )

# 3.2 Effect of Micelles

The variations in the magnitudes of the formation constants of ternary complexes of Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II) with Cit and Suc in different compositions of the surfactants (CTAB, SLS, TX 100) are shown in Figs. 1-3. In the case of SLS and TX 100 stabilities of the complexes decrease linearly with increase in surfactant concentration. This is due to the destabilization [18], of these negatively charged species MLX $^{3-}$ , MLXH $^{2-}$  and MLX $^{2-}$ 4 with increasing surfactant content. The destabilization is due to the decreased dielectric constant of the medium and negatively charged polar heads of SLS. The observed linear increase in the stabilities of the complexes with increase in CTAB concentration is due to the stabilization

of these negatively charged species. This trend is Similar to their corresponding binary complexes [19, 20].

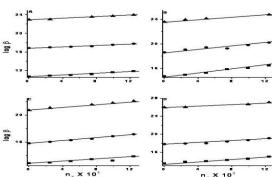


Fig. 3 Variation of stability constant values of complexes with mole fraction of TX 100 (A)Co(II),(B)Ni(II), (C) Cu(II) and (D) Zn(II) ( $\blacksquare$ ) log $\beta_{MLX}$ , ( $\bullet$ ) log $\beta_{MLX}$ , ( $\Delta$ ) log $\beta_{MLX2H}$ 

# 3.3 Extra Stability of Ternary Complexes

The change in the stability of the ternary complexes as compared to their binary analogues was quantified [21-24], based on the disproportionation constant (log X) given in Eq. (1), corresponding to the equilibrium given in Eq. (2),

$$\log X = 2\log K_{MLX}^M - \log K_{ML_2}^M - \log K_{MX_2}^M (1)$$

$$ML_2 + MX_2 \qquad \qquad 2 MLX \qquad (2)$$

Under these equilibrium conditions one can expect 50% ternary complex and 25% each of the binary complexes to be formed and the value of log X was reported [25], to be 0.6. A value greater than this accounts for the extra stability of MLX. Another approach [26], to quantify the stability of ternary complexes was based on the difference in stability ( $\Delta \log K$ ) for the reactions ML with X and  $M_{(aq)}$  with L and X, where L is primary ligand and X is a secondary ligand. It is compared with that calculated purely on statistical grounds as given in Eq. (3).

$$\Delta \log K = \log K_{MLX}^{M} - \log K_{ML}^{M} - \log K_{MX}^{M}$$
(3)

The electrostatic theory of binary complex formation and statistical arguments suggest the additional coordination positions of given multivalent hydrated metal ion available for the first ligand than for the

second. Hence, the usual order of stability  $K_{ML}^{M} > K_{ML}^{ML}$  applies. This suggests that  $\Delta$  logK should be negative, although several exceptions [27], have been found. The stastical values of  $\Delta$  logK for bidentate L and X are -0.4, -0.6 and between -0.9 and -0.3 for octahedral, square planar and distorted octahedral complexes, respectively. Negative values of  $\Delta$  logK can be understood as the secondary ligand forms a more stable complex with hydrated metal ion than with ML.

Whenever the experimental values of  $\Delta$  logK exceed the statistical values, it can be inferred that the ternary complex is formed as a result of interaction of ML with X or MX with L.  $\Delta$  logK values of ternary complexes containing bipyridyl as the primary ligand are positive [28], for O-donors (malonic acid, pyrocatechol etc.), negative [29], for N-donors (ethylene diamine) and intermediate or negative [30], for amino acids with both N and O co-ordination sites. However, a very high negative value (-2.3) for Cu(en)(iminodiacetic acid) and a positive value (0.82) for Cu(o-phen)-(6,7-dihydroxynaphthaline-2-sulphonate) was also observed.

The logX and  $\Delta$  logK values calculated from binary and ternary complexes are included in Tables 4-6. These values could not be calculated for some systems due to the absence of relevant binary species. In the present study, the log X values range from 33.17 to 0.31 surfactant some of which are higher than those expected on statistical basis (0.6). These higher values account for the extra stability of the ternary complexes. The values of  $\Delta$  logK are also found to be higher than -0.4. The reason[31, 32], for the extra stability of these complexes may be due to interactions outside the coordination sphere such as the formation of hydrogen bonds between the coordinated ligands, charge neutralization, chelate effect and stacking interactions.

Table 4 Variation of stability of ternary complexes of Cit and Suc in CTAB-water mixtures

% w/v CTAB	log X <sub>MLX</sub>	log X <sub>MLXH</sub>	log X <sub>MLX2H</sub>	Δ log K	log X <sub>MLX</sub>	log X <sub>MLXH</sub>	log X <sub>MLX2H</sub>	Δ log K MLX2H
	Co(II)			•	Ni(II)			
0.0	7.17	12.09	21.63	-6.67	10.91	8.62	19.73	-4.02
0.5	8.17	9.58	24.62	2.31	13.76	8.66	21.89	-5.79
1.0	9.03	9.01	-	-	14.30	6.54	22.24	5.87
1.5	9.14	8.99	24.52	-3.65	15.66	6.34	-	-
2.0	9.48	9.91	24.83	2.56	15.79	7.11	-	-
2.5	9.57	10.47	24.68	1.25	17.43	9.80	24.12	-7.19
	Cu(II)				Zn(II)			
0.0	15.10	10.03	14.43	1.85	12.45	10.03	28.38	-
0.5	10.39	8.78	17.01	-432	15.62	8.78	30.80	-
1.0	11.06	11.52	-	-	15.87	11.52	-	-
1.5	12.06	8.23	18.75	-2.87	16.70	8.23	-	-
2.0	11.41	9.55	18.78	-4.20	17.90	9.55	33.17	-
2.5	12.57	9.25	19.29	1.23	18.17	9.25	25.43	-

Table 5 Variation of stability of ternary complexes of Cit and Suc in TX 100- water mixtures

% v/v	log	log	log	Δlog K	log	log	log	Δlog K
TX100	$X_{\text{MLX}}$	$X_{\text{MLXH}}$	$X_{MLX2H}$	MLX2H	$X_{\text{MLX}}$	$X_{\text{MLXH}}$	$X_{\text{MLX2H}}$	MLX2H
	Co(II)				Ni(II)			
0.0	7.69	8.20	20.24	4.52	11.12	20.56	2.24	-2.53
0.5	6.40	7.42	-	-5.23	8.82	18.52	3.52	-4.52
1.0	5.79	8.54	19.70	-	9.55	16.48	4.29	-
1.5	7.71	7.69	20.25	-4.26	-	19.77	2.57	-
2.0	5.70	7.06	20.60	-3.24	9.49	-	2.82	3.22
2.5	5.70	7.06	20.60	2.15	9.49	19.17	2.12	4.02
	Cu(II)				Zn(II)			
0.0	9.11	7.51	16.51	1.53	12.33	28.71	-	3.58
0.5	10.37	6.29	14.59	-2.58	10.15	25.34	-	-4.28
1.0	8.67	5.94	15.46	-	10.04	23.42	-	-
1.5	8.61	5.09	16.11	2.58	10.01	26.48	-	-
2.0	7.63	5.16	15.02	0.97	9.33	25.33	-	3.56
2.5	7.69	8.20	20.24	-3.48	11.12	20.56	2.24	0.58

 $\textbf{Table 6} \ \ \textbf{Variation of stability of ternary complexes of Cit \ and \ \textbf{Suc in SLS-water} \\ \textbf{mixtures}$ 

% w/v	log	log	log	∆ log	log V	log	log	Δlog
SLS	$X_{MLX}$	$X_{MLXH}$	$X_{MLX2H}$	$K_{\text{MLX2H}}$	log X <sub>MLX</sub>	$X_{MLXH}$	$X_{MLX2H}$	$K_{MLX2H}$
Co(II)		•	•	•	Ni(II)	•		
0.0	7.27	9.59	21.63	-0.64	9.90	9.75	2.03	2.23
0.5	3.02	8.26	18.93	0.40	7.97	9.46	0.31	-3.84
1.0	4.24	7.34	20.06	0.62	9.28	8.62	1.01	-
1.5	5.17	8.06	20.78	0.64	9.92	9.03	1.56	-
2.0	5.86	8.99	21.51	-0.86	10.25	10.69	2.79	-6.53

2.5	8.32	9.84	22.34	0.28	11.00	11.37	3.99	2.57
Cu(II)					Zn(II)			
0.0	7.11	6.6	16.44	1.22	12.45	12.1	28.38	-1.28
0.5	5.92	4.75	11.18	-2.45	9.99	9.69	25.43	3.57
1.0	5.80	5.21	11.95	2.57	9.21	9.03	25.93	-
1.5	6.29	4.94	12.49	-3.36	10.44	8.86	26.95	-1.94
2.0	8.39	5.99	13.45	4.99	10.48	10.42	-	-2.15
2.5	8.32	7.10	14.26	5.96	11.26	10.77	27.84	1.96

Calculations:-

$$\begin{split} &\Delta \log X_{MLX} = 2 \log \beta_{MLX} - \log \beta_{ML2} - \log \beta_{MX2} \\ &\Delta \log X_{MLXH} = 2 \log \beta_{MLXH} - \log \beta_{ML2H2} - \log \beta_{MX2} \\ &\Delta \log X_{MLX2H} = 2 \log \beta_{MLX2H} - \log \beta_{ML2} - \log \beta_{MX2} \\ &\Delta \log X_{MLX2H} = 2 \log \beta_{MLX2H} - \log \beta_{MLH} - \log \beta_{MX2} \end{split}$$

### 3.4 Distribution Diagrams

Since the present study is confined to a pH range of 1.7-8.0, citric acid exists [33], as LH<sub>3</sub>, LH<sub>2</sub>-, LH<sup>2</sup>- and L<sup>3</sup>- while succinic acid exists as XH<sub>2</sub>, XH-, X<sup>2</sup>- (2.5-6.5). A perusal of the distribution diagrams (Fig. 4) reveals that at very low pH the concentration of mixed ligand complexes are less than those of protonated ligands. As the pH is increased the concentrations of the ternary species are increased. The protonated ternary species, MLX<sup>3</sup>-, MLXH<sup>2</sup>- and MLX<sub>2</sub>H<sup>4</sup>- (Fig. 5) are distributed at higher pH. The smaller concentrations of binary species than those of ternary species indicate the extra stability of the ternary complexes. The formation of the complex species can be represented by the following equilibria. The species MLX<sup>3</sup>-formed in the pH region 4.0-8.0 can be represented by the following equilibria:

 $MLXH^{2\text{-}}$  might have formed due to some of the following equilibria in the pH range 2.0-4.0

 $M(II)+LH_3 + XH_2 \leftrightarrow MLXH^{2-} + 4H^+$   $M(II)+LH_2 + XH^- \leftrightarrow MLXH^{2-} + 2H^+$  $M(II)+LH+X^{2-} \leftrightarrow MLXH^{2-}$ 

The species  $MLX_2H^4$ -formed in the pH region 4.0-6.0 can be represented by the following equilibria:

 $M(II) + LH_3 + 2XH_2 \leftrightarrow MLX_2H^4 + 6H^+$   $M(II) + LH_2 + 2XH^{--} \leftrightarrow MLX_2H^4 + 3H$   $M(III) + LH + 2X^{2-} \leftrightarrow MLX_2H^4$   $M(III) + LH + 2X^{2-} \leftrightarrow MLX_2H^4$  M

Fig. 4 Distribution diagrams of ternary complexes of Cit and Suc in 1.5% w/v CTAB water mixture (A) Co(II), (B) Ni(II), (C) Cu(II) and (D) Zn(II)

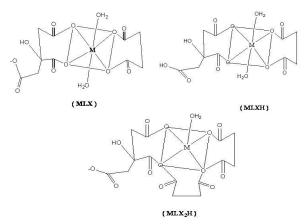


Fig. 5 Plausible structures of ternary complexes of citric acid (L) and succinic acid (X) with Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II)

### 4. Conclusion

The following conclusions result from the modeling studies: The models for the ternary species contained MLX³-, MLX4²-, MLX₂H⁴- where L is citric acid and X is succinic acid. The change in the stability of the ternary complexes as compared to their binary analogues shows that the ternary complexes are more stable than the binary complexes due to the interactions outside the coordination sphere. The linear variation of log  $\beta$  value of complexes with mole fraction of the surfactant indicates that electrostatic forces dominate the non-electrostatic forces. The decreased stability of the charged binary species compared to the corresponding ternary complexes observed in the present study is useful to understand the various ternary metal complexes formed in the biological systems.

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