

Density and Partial Molar Volume of Cetyltrimethylammonium Bromide in the Presence and Absence of KCl and NaCl in Aqueous Media at Room Temperature

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Abstract The density of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in pure water and in the presence of KCl and NaCl at room temperature are reported. The concentrations of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide are varied from (0.013 to 0.0002) mol L⁻¹. Both the salts have a concentration of 0.01 M. The density of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in presence of KCl is higher than NaCl. On the basis of the obtained results of density measurements, the critical micelle concentration (cmc), degree of dissociation (α) and partial molar volume of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in pure water and in the presence of KCl and NaCl are determined. The obtained cmc values are also analyzed with those accounted on the basis of the surface tension data from the previous paper [1]. It is observed that the partial molar volume of surfactant increases with increase in concentration. The lesser value of partial molar volumes of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide is noticed in the presence of KCl than NaCl.

Keywords Cetyltrimethylammonium bromide, KCl, NaCl, Density, Partial molar volume, Degree of dissociation

1. Introduction

When the surfactants are mixed with water they distort the structure of water and thereby increase the free energy of the system. Therefore, they concentrate at the surface and are so orientated that their hydrophobic groups “turn away” from the solvent, and the free energy of the solution is minimized. On the other hand, the distortion of the solvent structure can also be decreased by aggregation of the surface-active molecules into micelles with their hydrophobic groups directed towards the interior of the micelle, and their hydrophilic groups directed towards the solvent. Micellization is therefore an important mechanism in relation to adsorption at interfaces for removing hydrophobic groups from their contact with water, reducing thereby the free energy of the system [2-4]. Since the properties of surfactant solutions change markedly when micelle formation occurs, many investigations have been focused on determining the values of the cmc in various systems and many studies have been carried out to elucidate the factors that determine the cmc value at which micelle formation becomes significant, especially in aqueous media. The most important factor known to affect the cmc in aqueous solution

is the structure of a surfactant [5].

Volumetric, viscometric, and other thermodynamic data provide valuable information regarding solute-solvent, solute-solute, and solvent-solvent interactions [6, 7]. Among various physical parameters, density and partial molar volume have been recognized are the quantities that are sensitive to structural changes occurring in solutions [8]. The partial molar volume, V_A , is defined by Wandrey et al. [9], as the following equation;

$$V_A = (\partial V / \partial n)_{T,p} \quad (1)$$

Where, ∂V represent a change in total volume and n as the number of moles. The partial molar volume is often provided in units of partial molar volume (cm³/mol). If there is concentration dependence, the partial molar volumes have to be extrapolated to concentration zero using one of the following two equations which calculate the apparent volume at the finite concentrations, c [9, 10]

$$v = \frac{1}{\rho_0} - \frac{1}{c} \left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_0} - 1 \right) \quad (2)$$

With c in g cm⁻³ or

$$V_A = \frac{M}{\rho_0} - \frac{10^3}{c} \left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_0} - 1 \right) \quad (3)$$

where, M is the molecular weight of the cetyltrimethylammonium bromide, ρ_0 is the density of the

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solvent, ρ is the density of the solution and c is the equivalent concentration in mol L^{-1} .

In order to calculate partial molar volumes, the solution densities are measured for cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in pure water and in the presence of NaCl and KCl at the room temperature.

In this work, the results are reported for density measurements on cetyltrimethylammonium bromide, a cationic surfactant, in the presence and absence of salts (NaCl and KCl) at room temperature. The aim of the present work is to analyze the influence of concentration and salts on cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in aqueous media for density and also see the influence of concentration and salts for partial molar volumes for cetyltrimethylammonium bromide.

Therefore, the purpose of our article is to compare the cmc of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in the presence of salts on the basis of surface tension measurements [1] with density methods and the calculation of degree of dissociation for cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in the presence of salts.

2. Experimental

Triply distilled water with a specific conductance less than $10^{-6} \text{ S.cm}^{-1}$ at 308.15 K was used for the preparation of the solution.

Cetyltrimethylammonium bromide was purchased from Loba Chemical Private Limited, India and it was recrystallised several times until no minimum in the surface tension-concentration plot was observed and its critical micellar concentration (cmc) agreed with the literature value [11]. Both the salts (NaCl and KCl) was purchased from Ranbaxy India Ltd and making the solution of same concentration of 0.01 M.

To measure density the pycnometric method was used. The stock solutions were freshly prepared for each concentration series to avoid problems of aging and microorganism contamination, which was found to occur with diluted surfactant solutions [12]. The densities of solutions were determined by the use of Ostwald-Sprengel type pycnometer of about 10 cm^3 capacity. The sample solution was transfused into the pycnometer by using a medical syringe. The mass of the pycnometer was measured with electronic balance and the density was calculated. Density measurements are believed to be precise within ± 0.00005 , which is satisfactory for our purpose. In order to avoid moisture pickup, all solutions were prepared in a dehumidified room with utmost care. In all cases, the experiments were performed at least in three replicates.

The partial molar volume was calculated from the equation (3) by using molecular weight of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide(M) is 364.43, the density of the solvent (pure water) 0.996237 at 301.15K which was obtained from the literature [13].

3. Results and Discussion

The densities for the cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in the absence and presence of NaCl and KCl in pure water at room temperature is depicted in Figure 1. Figure 1 shows the variation of densities of the investigated solutions as a function of the surfactant concentrations. From this figure it is evident that the densities exhibit almost increase with increasing concentration within the concentration range investigated here. Our density data of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in the presence of salts(NaCl and KCl) in pure water is found to be higher than the density of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in pure water. The increase in density with the addition of KCl is in agreement with literature [14]. Moreover, the density of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in pure water in the presence of KCl is higher than NaCl.

There are several methods to obtain cmc. We found very less literature [15] regarding the calculation of cmc from density measurement. So, we are using density methods to get the cmc. The intersection between two straight lines give the cmc. The degree of dissociation, α , which is the ratio of slopes above and below the cmc in the dependence density versus surfactant concentration and is given by

$$\alpha = S_2/S_1 \quad (3)$$

where S_1 is the pre-cmc slope and S_2 is the post-cmc slope [16]. The surfactant has shown the largest pre-cmc slopes and smallest post-cmc slopes leading to the smallest degrees of dissociation (Table 1 and 2).

Table 1. The pre-cmc slope (S_1) and post-cmc slope (S_2) for CTAB System from density measurement in Pure water and in presence of NaCl and KCl at room temperature

Pure Water S_1, S_2	NaCl S_1, S_2	KCl S_1, S_2
0.304, 0.020	0.286, 0.023	0.278, 0.026

Table 2. Critical micelle concentration (cmc) and degree of dissociation, α , obtained from density methods of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in pure water and the presence of NaCl and KCl at room temperature

T (K)	Water cmc (mM), α	0.01 mol L ⁻¹ NaCl cmc (mM), α	0.01 mol L ⁻¹ KCl cmc (mM), α
301.15 K	1.00, 0.066	0.93, 0.080	0.81, 0.094

It is observed that pre-cmc slopes of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) decrease more in KCl than NaCl whereas post-cmc slopes increase more in KCl than NaCl (Table 1).

From our previous paper [1] it appears that there are sharp break points on surface tension (γ) vs logC curves, which correspond to the critical micelle concentration (cmc) of the surfactant and the cmc values of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in the absence and presence of NaCl and KCl in

pure water was 0.95mM, 0.87mM and 0.76mM whereas from density measurements 1mM, 0.93mM and 0.81mM respectively (Table 1).

It is interesting that a higher value of cmc was obtained from density measurements. The differences between the cmc values determined by different methods for a given ionic surfactant probably result from the sensitivity of the given method to the decrease of the dissociation degree of the surfactant molecules and their activity with surfactant concentration increases, particularly in the range in which small aggregates of the surfactants can be formed. The cmc value determined on the basis of the surface tension (0.95mM) and density (1mM) measurements for cetyltrimethylammonium bromide was somehow similar to that presented in the literature [11] in which for water the cmcs of CTAB were reported to be 1.007 mM from conductometry, and 1.102 mM from tensiometry respectively at 308.15 K. Therefore, we can also state that the cmc values of the surfactants depend a little on the method by which it was determined.

Addition of electrolyte in the surfactant solution decreases the cmc value [17]. The addition of salt reduces the polarity of the surfactant molecules and therefore strongly reduces the cmc [18]. Salts decrease the cmc of surfactant in the order: $\text{NaCl} < \text{KCl}$ [19]. Here Na^+ is least effective in decreasing the cmc due to small size and large hydrated radius and would act as a water-structure promoter decreasing the availability of water to the micelles. Therefore, upon addition of NaCl and KCl; KCl is more effective in reducing the cmc. Hence in our case KCl

decrease the cmc more than NaCl (Table 1) which matched from our previous findings of tensiometry works [1].

The partial molar volumes for the cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in the absence and presence of NaCl and KCl in pure water at room temperature is depicted in Figure 2. Figure 2 shows the variation of partial molar volumes of the investigated solutions as a function of the surfactant concentrations. From this figure, it is evident that the partial molar volumes exhibit increase with increasing concentration of surfactant and then almost constant value is found to be observed with higher concentration of surfactant. Actually, in lower concentration of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in the absence and presence of NaCl and KCl are concentration dependent. Such behaviour was also noticed by De Lisi et al. [10] while calculating partial molar volumes of alkyltrimethylammonium bromides. Our partial molar volumes of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in the presence of salts (NaCl and KCl) in pure water are found to be lesser than the partial molar volumes of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in pure water whereas partial molar volumes of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in presence of KCl is more lesser than in the presence of NaCl (Figure 2).

As we know that the higher degree of dissociation results in an increase of the specific conductivity [20]. In the presence of KCl, the degree of dissociation of CTAB is high because KCl has a higher specific conductivity than NaCl [21].

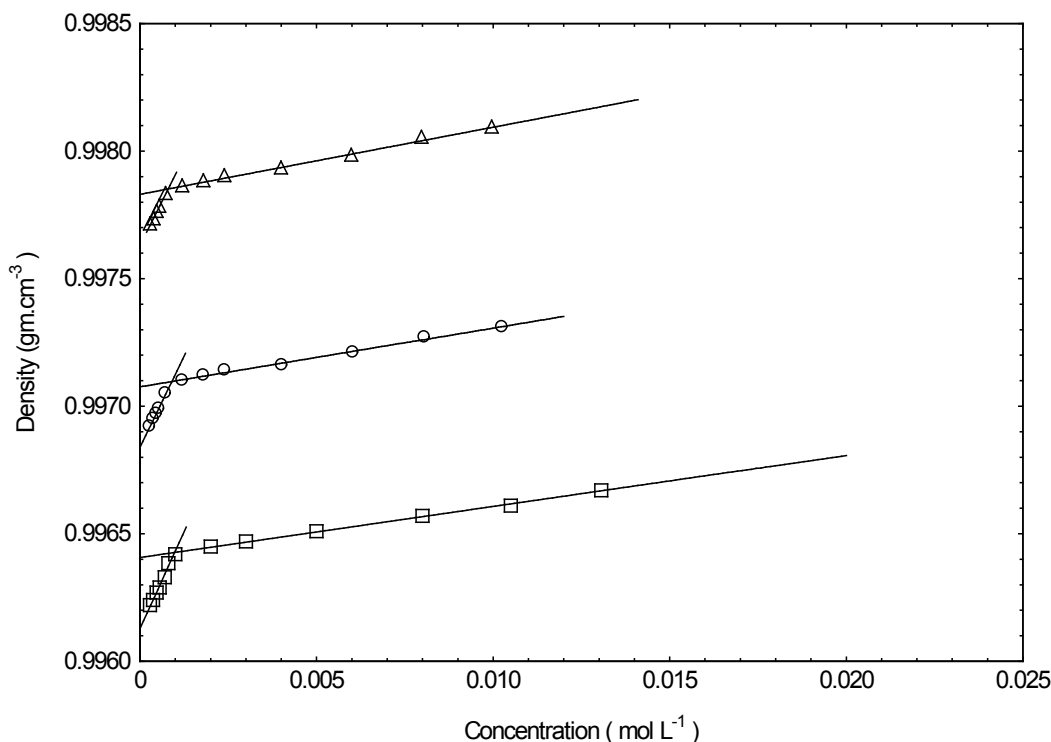


Figure 1. Density vs concentration of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in pure water(square), NaCl (circle) and KCl (triangle) at 301.15K: The intersection between two curves give critical micelle concentration (cmc)

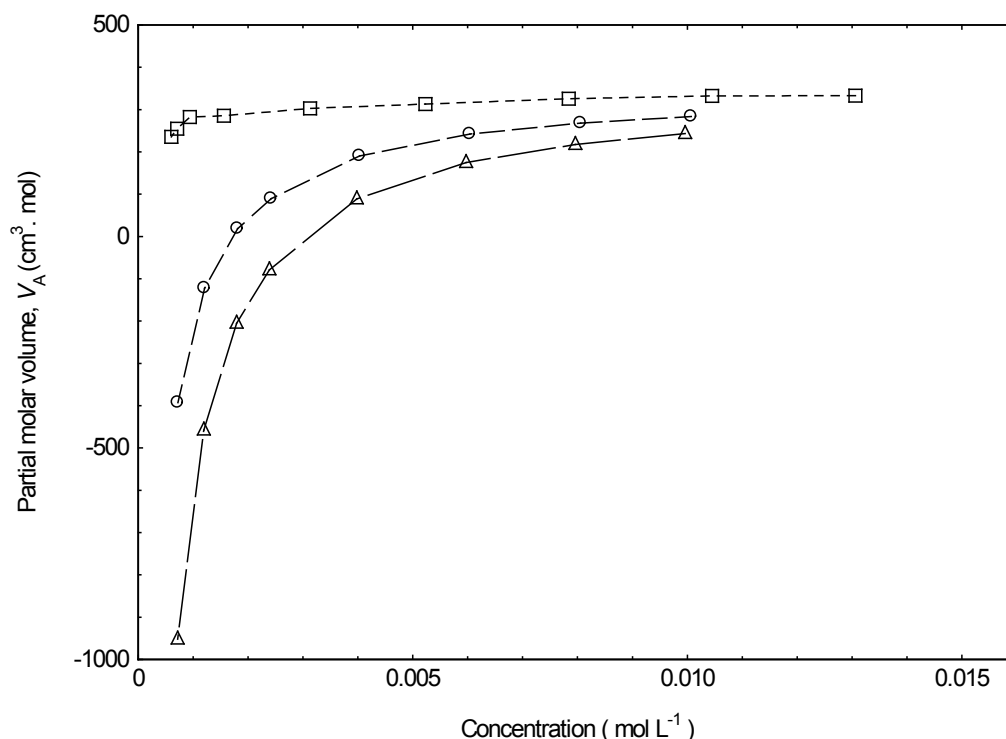


Figure 2. Partial molar volume of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in pure water (square), in the presence of NaCl(circle) and KCl(triangle) at 301.15K

4. Conclusions

The results showed that the density of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide increases with increase of concentrations. The density of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide in the presence of KCl found higher than NaCl. The partial molar volume of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide increases with increasing surfactant concentration. Also, the partial molar volumes decrease in the presence of salts. The lesser value of partial molar volumes of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide is noticed in the presence of KCl than NaCl.

It is found that the cmc of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide decreases with the addition of salts. The cmc of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide decreases more in the presence of KCl in comparison with the presence of NaCl. In the presence of KCl, the degree of dissociation of CTAB is high than NaCl.

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