



## MICROPARTICLES SYNTHESIZED BY HIGH PRESSURE SPRAYING METHOD AND THEIR ADSORPTION PROPERTIES FOR PHENOL DERIVATIVES

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### **OBJECTIVES**

- To study the interaction between cationic chitosan and an anionic surfactant sodium bis-(2-ethyl hexyl) sulfosuccinate (AOT).
- To synthesize chitosan based microparticles at atmospheric pressure and by high pressure method.
- To prove the chitosan/AOT complex formation by Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectroscopy, and to characterize the size and shape of micropaticles by optical and SEM microscopy.
- To investigate the behaviour of lyophilized microparticles in contact with phenol derivatives.
- To study the influence of medium pH and the amount of microparticles on the phenol adsorption efficiency.
- To monitor the time evolution of phenol derivatives sorption by microparticles.

### EXPERIMENTAL

#### **Methods**

- Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectroscopy Nicolet iN10 FT-IR Microscope – Thermo Scientific
- UV-Vis spectroscopy Cary 100 Bio VARIAN
- Optical Microscopy Magnum T Microscope
- Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) using a Zeiss EVO LS10 Apparatus
- Freeze drying ALPHA 1-2 LD

#### **Materials**

- Chitosan medium molecular weight (Mw = 120±70 kDa) Aldrich
- Sodium bis (2-ethyl hexyl) sulfosuccinate (AOT) 98% Sigma
- Carbon dioxide with 99.9% Linde Gas Romania



### MICROPARTICLES PREPARARED AT ATMOSFERIC PRESSURE



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### MICROPARTICLES PREPARARED AT ATMOSFERIC PRESSURE

### **Domains of phase diagram**

- 1) HOMGENEOUS SOLUTIONS, monophasic and transparent within domain C;
- 2) PRECIPITATES, preceded by the apparence of an advanced turbidity within domain PP;
- **3) GEL-TYPE MEMBRANES:** 
  - domain MEC (microcapsule that expels its content Fig. 2b);
  - domain MP (microparticles Fig.2a);
  - domain DM (shrinked microcapsule Fig.2c).



### MICROPARTICLES PREPARARED AT ATMOSFERIC PRESSURE

**Domains of solubility for Chitosan-AOT complex-gel** 



Protonated with 1% wt acetic acid

Protonated with 2.5% wt acetic acid



#### Microcapsule



### **GEL-TYPE MEMBRANES**

## Microcapsule that expels its content



#### Shrinked microcapsule



Bar = 1000 μm



### MICROPARTICLES PREPARED BY HIGH PRESSURE SPRAYING METHOD

#### **Experimental apparatus**



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### POLYMER-SURFACTANT COMPLEX PREPARED AT HIGH PRESSURE

#### **Optical microscopy**



**Microparticles** 



Wires

 $bar = 500 \ \mu m$ 



### **CHITOSAN-AOT WET MICROSPHERES**

#### **SEM micrographs**





#### Microparticle

Surface of microparticle



#### **SEM micrographs**





#### Microparticle

#### Surface of microparticle



### **INTERACTION BETWEEN CHITOSAN-AOT**



#### **FTIR measurements**

#### The specific values for Chi/AOT complex

Chitosan v (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	AOT v (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Microparticles Chi/AOT v (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Assignment
1642		1634	νΝΗ, δΝΗ2
1586		1522	δΝΗ2
	1212	1204	vSO
	1093	1082	v80



#### Interaction between lyophilized microparticles with phenol and o-cresol



**FTIR measurements** 

#### Specific values for interaction phenol, o-cresol

Chi/AOT- o-Cresol v (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Chi/AOT- Phenol v (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Microparticle Chi/AOT v (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Assignment
3395.02	3396.44	3413.92	Bonded OH; position and shape depend on degree of association; CH aromatic streching.
2873.43	2873.52	2860.65	H bond; intramolecular with C=O; chelatic OH.
1635.96	1635.96	1634.69	C-C aromatic streching.
1532.96	1533.48	1522.56	δNH; CH aromatic streching.



#### Effect of pH on contaminant removal





#### Effect of sorbent dose





#### Kinetics of pollutant adsorption





### CONCLUSIONS

- Two methods to obtain ultrafine particles by the interaction between chitosan and an anionic surfactant, sodium bis (2-ethyl hexyl) sulfosuccinate (AOT), were developed.
- Chitosan-surfactant complex synthesized at atmospheric pressure may take the form of stable microparticles at optimal concentrations of the reactants.
- An experimental apparatus equipped with a high pressure cell for spraying the polymer into the anionic surfactant solution produces either ultrafine particles or wires depending on the spraining pressure.
- The interaction between chitosan and AOT is proved by FTIR, whereas SEM shows that the lyophilized chitosan/AOT microparticles present a higher roughness and porosity than the wet particles.
- Lyophilised chitosan/AOT microparticles have been successfully used in advanced treatment of wastewaters for the retention of phenol and o-cresol.
- The contaminant removal for phenol and o-cresol attain a maximum in the range of pH 7-8, increases with the amount of used particles and decreases with increasing of initial pollutant concentration.
- The adsorption of phenol and o-cresol occurs rapidly in the first 60-120 minutes followed by a slow process that takes about 520-600 minutes.



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