



PHYSICOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF DRUG ACTION

III Year B.Pharm I Sem
Subject: Medicinal Chemistry-I

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The background features a dense pattern of small, light-colored chemical structures on the left side. A thick yellow horizontal bar spans the top of the page. A green curved line starts from the top right, loops back to the left, and ends at a black circle containing several white dots.

PHYSICOCHEMICAL PRINCIPLES OF DRUG ACTION



INTRODUCTION

Drug molecules interact with biological structures



drug effect

lipoproteins/enzymes

membranes

nucleic acids



DRUG EFFECT

Drug effect is preceded by drug transport

from site of application to site of action

and is dependent on

physicochemical properties



PHYSICOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Interatomic distances

Intermolecular forces

Stereochemistry

Partition coefficient

Solubility

Ionization

**All affect
pharmacokinetics**

PHARMACOKINETICS

Tissue

unbound



bound

TO UNDERSTAND ALL
THIS WE MUST
UNDERSTAND
PHYSICOCHEMICAL
PROPERTIES

EXCRET

SM



PHYSICOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES

✓ Interatomic distances

✓ Intermolecular forces

✓ Stereochemistry

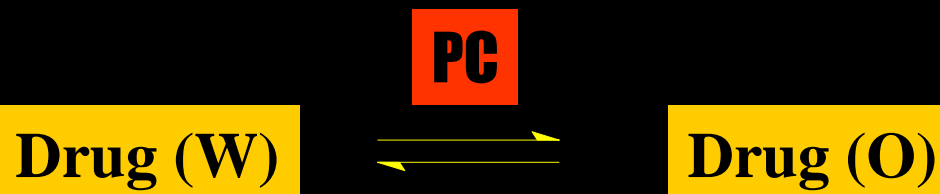
Partition coefficient

Solubility

Ionization

PARTITION COEFFICIENT

Hydrophobic bonding interactions are critical
Can be approximated by partition coefficient



$$\text{PC} = \frac{[\text{drug}]_o}{[\text{drug}]_w}$$

Thus, PC describes the **entire** drug.



PARTITION COEFFICIENT

Useful to know the hydrophobic bonding properties of substituent groups.

Hydrophobic bonding constant π for a substituent is obtained as a difference in $\log P$.

$$\pi = \log P_X - \log P_H$$

$P_X = PC$ for substituted compound

$P_H = PC$ for parent compound

Thus, π describes the **substituent**.

REPRESENTATIVE π VALUES

Substituent	Aromatic	Aliphatic
C_6H_{11}	2.51	2.51
n- C_4H_9	2.00	2.00
Cl	0.76	0.39
H	0.00	0.00
NO_2	-0.28	-0.82
COOH	-0.28	-1.26
OH	-0.67	-1.16



SOLUBILITY

Drugs must be in solution to interact with receptors.

Drugs have some degree of solubility in both aqueous and lipid compartments (PC).

Solubility is a function of:

ionization

molecular structure

molecular weight

stereochemistry

electronic structure



SOLUBILITY of WEAK ELECTROLYTES

Solubility will be affected by pH.

Acidic drugs

barbiturates, NSAIDs

Basic drugs

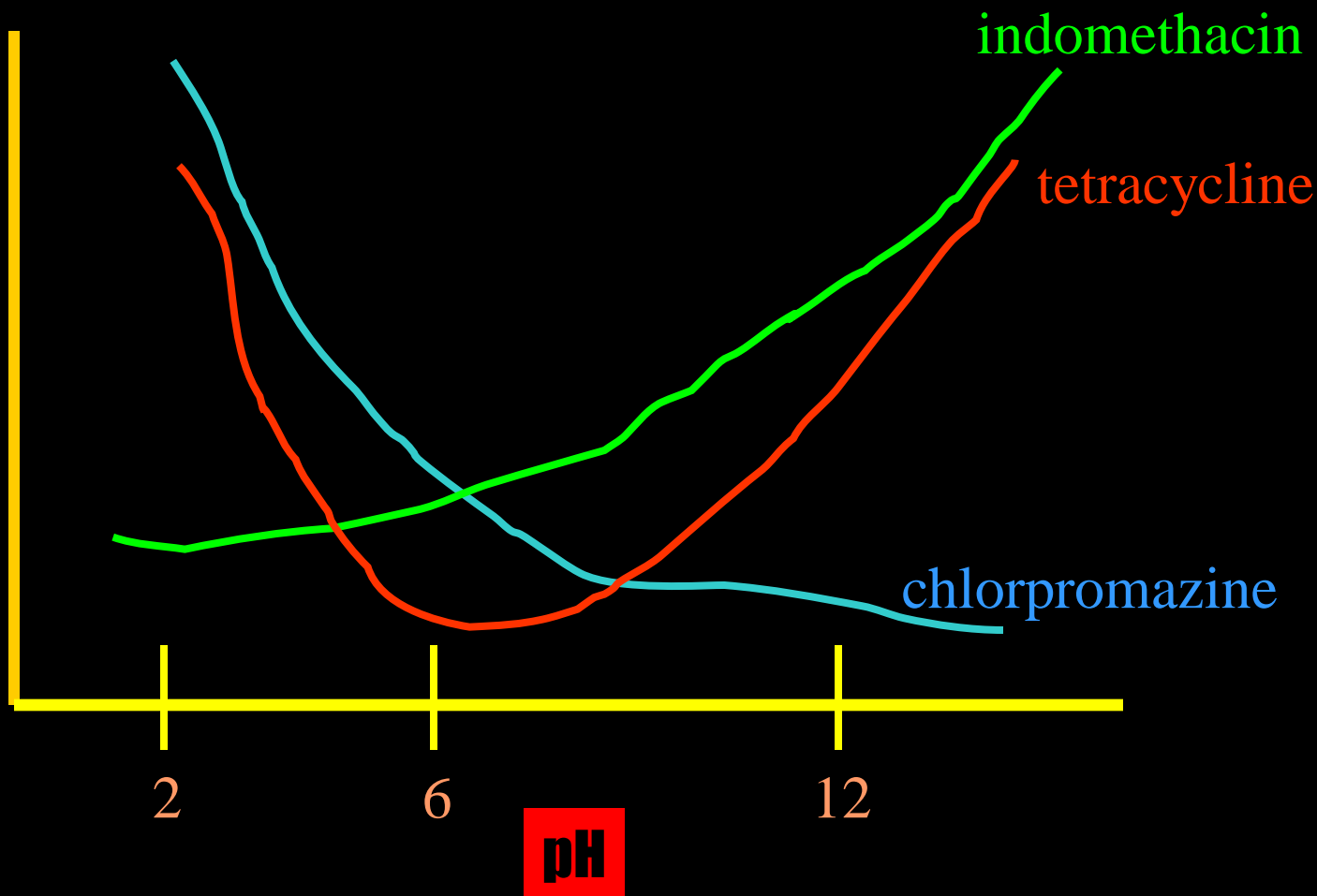
phenothiazines, β -blockers

Amphoteric

tetracyclines, ACEIs

SOLUBILITY of WEAK ELECTROLYTES

**Aqueous
solubility**





PREDICTING WATER SOLUBILITY

Empiric method

Analytic method

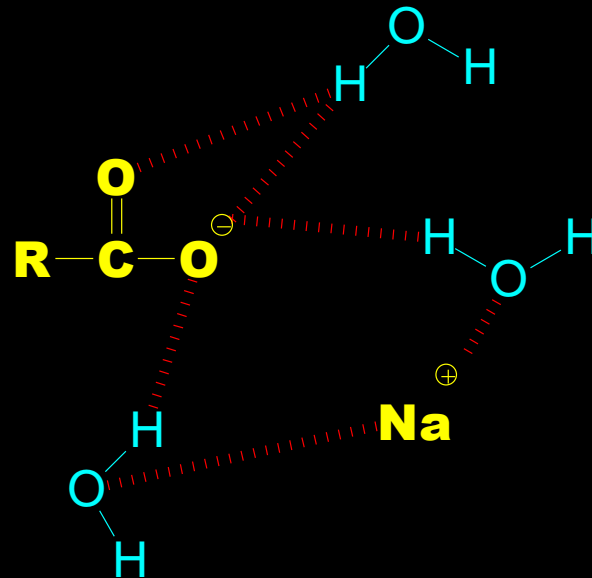
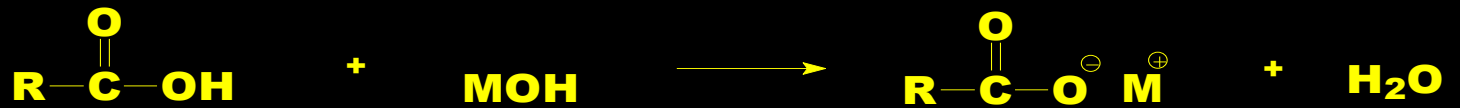
Solubility in water

ionic compounds, i.e. salts of WA, WB

polar compounds, i.e. those that H-bond

EMPIRIC METHOD

Solubility Properties of Na Salts of Common Organic Acids



EMPIRIC METHOD

Solubility Properties of Na Salts of Common Organic Acids

RCOO⁻Na⁺	Solubility (g/100g H₂O)
C ₆ H ₅	55.5
CH ₃	125.0
CH ₃ CH ₂	100.0
CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₁₆	10.0

**H₂O solubility
can be increased
by salt formation**

EMPIRIC METHOD

Solubility Properties of Common Organic Acids

RCOOH	Solubility (g/100g H₂O)
$\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2$	∞
$\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_4$	1.0
$\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_8$	0.015
$\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{16}$	insoluble

COOH brings into solution 5 – 6 C's to extent of 1%

EMPIRIC METHOD

Solubility Properties of Common Alcohols

ROH	Solubility (g/100g H₂O)
2-propanol	∞
1-butanol	7.9
2-butanol	12.5
1-pentanol	2.3

ROH brings into solution 5 – 6 C's to extent of 1%

EMPIRIC METHOD

Solubility Properties of Common Amines

NR ₁ R ₂ R ₃			Solubility (g/100g H ₂ O)
R1	R2	R3	
Me	H	H	very soluble
Me	Me	Me	91
Et	H	H	very soluble
Et	Et	Et	14
Ph	H	H	3.7
Ph	Me	Me	1.4

N brings into solution 6 – 7 C's to extent of 1%

EMPIRIC METHOD

Solubility Properties of Common Phenols

ArOH	Solubility (g/100g H ₂ O)
cyclohexanol	3.6
phenol	9.3
p-cresol	2.3
m-chlorophenol	2.6
catechol	45.0

ArOH brings into solution 6 – 7 C's to extent of 1%



BASIS OF EMPIRIC METHOD

For monofunctional compounds a single functional group (capable of H-bonding) will bring into solution 5–7 carbons to the extent of 1%.

but

Drugs are usually not simply monofunctional.

Simple summation of “water-solubilizing” potential may not give accurate predictions.

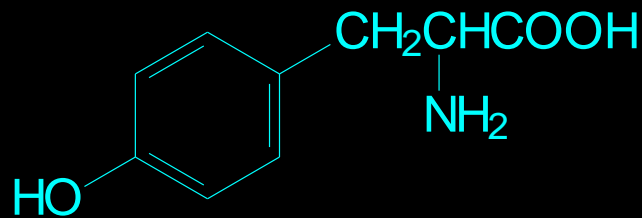
EMPIRIC METHOD

Water Solubilizing Potential of Functional Groups

Group	Mono	Poly
ROH	5-6 C	3-4 C
ArOH	6-7	3-4
ROR	4-5	2
RCHO	4-5	2
R ₂ CO	5-6	2
N(R) ₃	6-7	3
RCOOH	5-6	3
RCOOR	6	3
RRNCOR	6	2-3
Urea, carbamate, etc		2

**solubility
defined as
≥ 1%**

EMPIRIC METHOD



tyrosine

COOH	5 – 6 C
OH	6 – 7 C
NH ₂	6 – 7 C

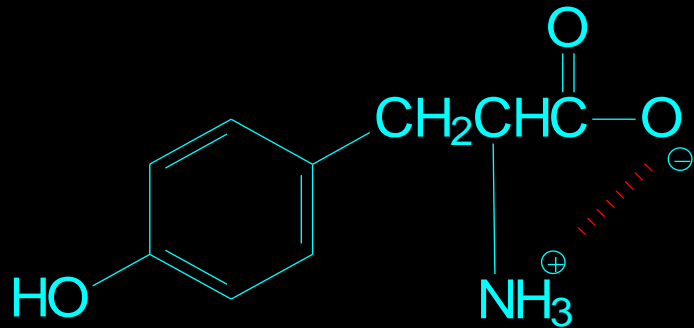
Prediction: 17 – 20 C
should be brought into
solution.

Only 9 C present, so
should be >1% soluble.

Experimental Results: 0.045% solubility

WHY?

EMPIRIC METHOD



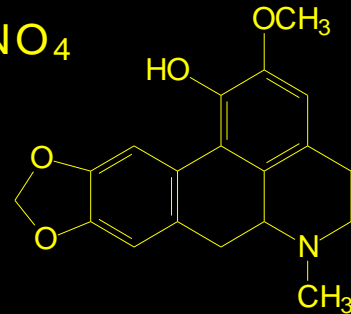
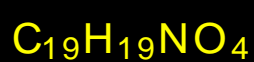
intramolecular ionic
bonding reduces solubility

pH adjustment increases
solubility

Polyfunctional data compensates for intra- and inter-molecular bonding.

Group	Mono	Poly
ROH	5-6 C	3-4 C
ArOH	6-7	3-4

EMPIRIC METHOD



Mono

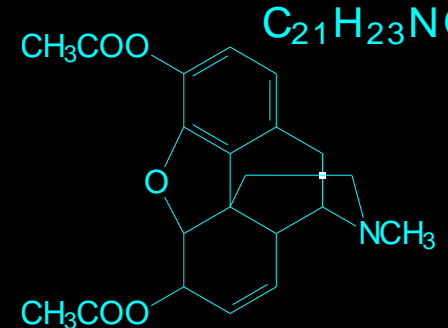
$$5 + 5 + 5 + 7 + 7 = 29$$

soluble

Poly

$$2 + 2 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 13$$

insoluble



$$6 + 6 + 5 + 7 = 24$$

soluble

$$3 + 3 + 2 + 3 = 11$$

insoluble

ANALYTIC METHOD

$$\log P = \frac{[\text{drug}]_{\text{octanol}}}{[\text{drug}]_{\text{water}}}$$

log P is a measure of the solubility of the **whole** drug

π is the log P of the fragment

$$\log P_{\text{calc}} = \sum \pi_{\text{fragments}}$$

if calc. logP is **> +0.5** then compound is H₂O insoluble

if calc. logP is **< +0.5** then compound is H₂O soluble

**solubility
defined as
>3.3%**

ANALYTIC METHOD

π Values for Organic Fragments

Fragment	π Value
C (aliphatic)	+0.5
phenyl	+2.0
Cl	+0.5
O ₂ NO (nitrate)	+0.2
IMHB	+ 0.65
S	0.0
OCO, OCN	-0.7
O, N	-1.0
O ₂ N (aliphatic)	-0.85
O ₂ N (aromatic)	-0.28

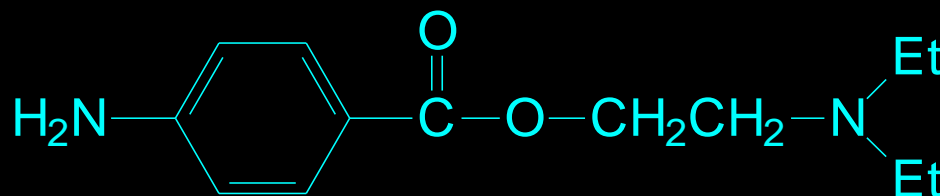
**solubility
defined as
>3.3%**



ANALYTIC METHOD

1. table is only a brief compilation
2. π values are approximations
3. π values depend on whether fragment aromatic or aliphatic
4. π values are obtained under nonionizing conditions
5. intramolecular H-bonding must be considered
6. values for heterocycles can be estimated

ANALYTIC METHOD



procaine

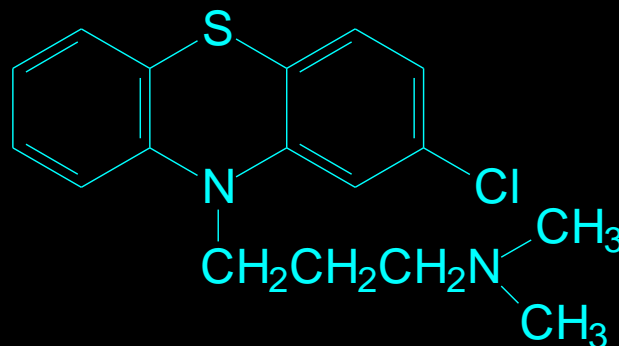
**solubility
defined as
>3.3%**

6 C @ +0.5	+3.0
phenyl	+2.0
2 N @ -1.0	-2.0
O=C-O	-0.7

+2.3

insoluble

ANALYTIC METHOD



chlorpromazine

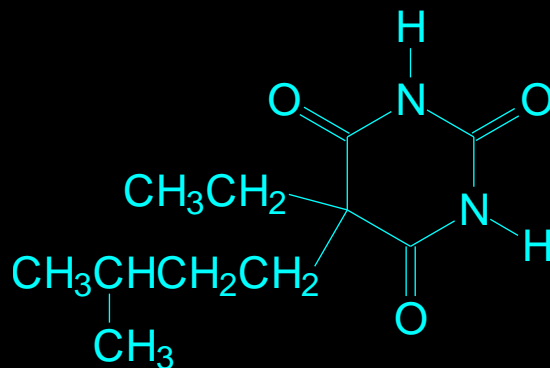
**solubility
defined as
>3.3%**

5C @ +0.5	+2.5
2 Ph @ +2	+4.0
Cl	+0.5
2 N @ -1	-2.0
S	0.0

Exp. +5.3

Calc. +5.0

ANALYTIC METHOD



amobarbital

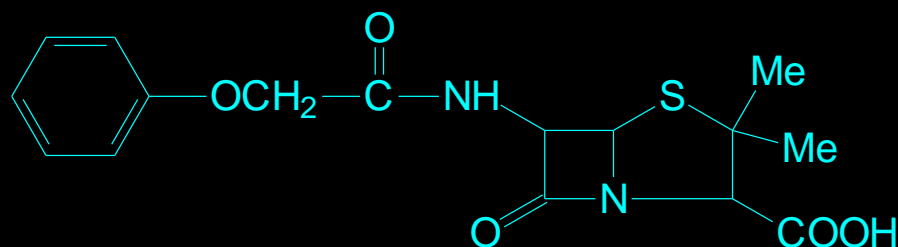
**solubility
defined as
>3.3%**

9C @ +0.5	+4.5
1 O @ -1	-1.0
2 OCN @ -0.7	-1.4

Exp. +2.1

Calc. +2.1

ANALYTIC METHOD



penicillin V

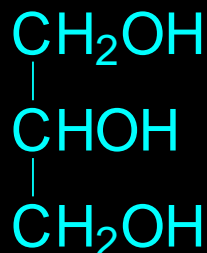
**solubility
defined as
>3.3%**

7C @ +0.5	+3.5
1 O @ -1	-1.0
3 OCN, OCO @ -0.7	-2.1
1 Ph @ +2	+2.0
S	0.0

Exp. +2.1

Calc. +2.4

ANALYTIC METHOD



glycerol

**solubility
defined as
>3.3%**

3C @ +0.5	+1.5
3 O @ -1	-3.0

Calc. -1.5

Exp. -1.7