



Dr. BRR. GOVERNMENT COLLEGE,
JADCHERLA, MAHABUBNAGAR (Dist.)

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Student Study Project

2021 -22

Topic

EFFECT OF SODIUM CARBONATE ON FOAMING
CAPACITY OF THE SOAP

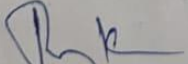
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Introduction:

Aim is to study the effect of addition of sodium carbonate on foaming capacity of a soap. Soaps and detergents are cleaning ingredients that are able to remove oil particles from surfaces because of their unique chemical properties. Soaps are created by the chemical reaction of a fatty acid with an alkali metal hydroxide. In a chemical sense soap is a salt made up of a fatty acid and an alkali like sodium or potassium.

The cleaning action of soap and detergents is a result of their ability to surround oil particles on a surface and disperse it in water. Bar soap has been used for centuries and continues to be an important product for bathing and cleaning. It is also a mild antiseptic and ingestible antidote for certain poisons.

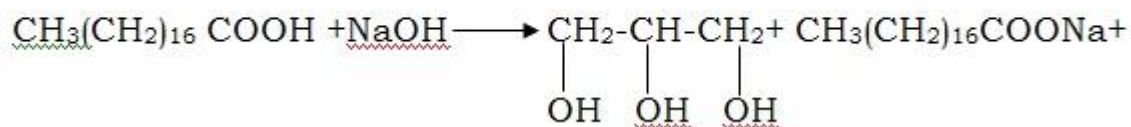
SOAP

Soap is a common term for a number of related compounds used as of washing clothes or bathing.

Soaps are sodium or potassium salts of higher fatty acids such as stearic acid (C₁₇H₃₅COOH), palmitic acid (C₁₅H₃₁COOH) and oleic acid (C₁₇H₃₅COOH) they have the general formula RCOONa and R'COONa. Soap is produced by a saponification or basic hydrolysis reaction of a fat or oil. Currently sodium carbonate or sodium hydroxide is used to neutralize the fatty acid and convert it to the salt.

General Overall Hydrolysis Reaction

Fat + NaOH \longrightarrow glycerol + sodium salt of



Although the reaction is shown as one step reaction, it is in fact two steps. The net effect is that the ester bonds are all broken. The glycerol turns back into an alcohol. The fatty acid is turned into a salt due to the presence of a basic solution of NaOH. In the carboxyl group, one oxygen now has a negative charge that attracts the positive sodium ion. A molecule of soap consists of two parts.

a) Alkyl group – it is oil soluble

b) Carboxyl group – It is water soluble

Types of soaps

The type of fatty acid and length of the carbon chain determines the unique properties of various soaps. Tallow or animal fats give primarily sodium stearate (18 carbons) a very hard, insoluble soap. Fatty acids with longer chains are even more insoluble. As a matter of fact, zinc stearate is used in talcum powders because it is water repellent. Coconut oil is a source of lauric acid (12 carbons) which can be made into sodium laurate. This soap is very soluble and will lather easily even in sea water. Fatty acids with only 10 or fewer carbons are not used in soaps because they irritate the skin and have objectionable odors

Materials Required:

- (a) Apparatus One 100ml conical flask, 20ml test tubes, 100ml measuring cylinder, test tube stand, weight box, stop watch and burner.
- (b) Chemicals Soap samples, distilled water, tap water and m/10 Na₂CO₃ solution.

Theory

Calcium and magnesium ions present in the tap water interfere in the foaming capacity of soap. These ions combine with soap and form insoluble calcium and magnesium salts which get precipitated



Therefore, the presence of these ions effect the foaming capacity of soap and hence their cleaning capacity. When Na₂CO₃ is added to the tap water, calcium and magnesium ions gets precipitated as their carbonates in the presence of Na₂CO₃



Foaming capacity of the water increases. In order to determine the effect of Na_2CO_3 on the foaming capacity of a sample of soap it is first shaken with distilled water then with tap water and finally with tap water containing equal volume of M/10 Na_2CO_3 solution and then the time taken for disappearance of foam is noted

Procedure

1. Weigh accurately 0.5g of the given amount of soap and transfer to a 100ml of conical flask. Add 50ml of distilled water and warm to dissolve till clear solution is obtained.
2. Take three 20ml test tubes and label them as 1, 2 and A, B and C. To test tube A add 10ml of distilled water, to test tube B add 5ml of tap water 5ml of M/10 Na_2CO_3 solution.
3. Add 1ml of soap solution to each tube.
4. Cork test tube A tightly and shake vigorously for 1 minute. Place the test tube on the test tube stand and start the stop watch immediately. Note the time taken for the disappearance of foam.
5. Repeat the same procedure for test tube B and C, note the time taken for the disappearance of foam

Observation Table

Weight of soap taken = 0.5g

Volume of distilled water taken for preparing solution = 50ml

Tube	Water used	Vol. of soap sol added	Time taken for the disappearance of foam
1	10.00 ml distilled water (A)	1.00ml	8.30 hrs
2	10ml of tap water (B)	1.00 ml	6.30 hrs
3	5.00 ml of tap water and 5.00 ml m/10 Na_2CO_3 (C)		

Conclusion

- Foaming capacity of tap water increases on addition of Na_2CO_3 solution.