Investigation of crystal polymorphism using sulfathiazole

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Experiment

The CrystalBreeder was evaluated using Sulfathiazole as a sample compound known to have five crystal polymorphs. Sulfathiazole and 16 different organic solvents were placed in each vial of CrystalBreeder, suspended, and heated to dissolve the compound completely. After the crystals then precipitated by gradual cooling, the structural polymorphs were analyzed by XPRD.*

*XRPD: X ray powder diffraction

*Information on sample compounds

Sulfathiazole

CAS No.: 72-14-0 Chemical formula: C9H9N3O2S2 Molecular weight: 255.31 Solubility: 373 µg/mL (25°C) LogP : 0.05 (DRUGBANK data)



Crystallization: Cooling method (complete dissolution by heating, followed by cooling to crystallize)

Suspend the compound in 16 different organic solvents

Heat to 65°C and dissolve the compound completely

The solution is cooled to 0°C at -1°C /min and -10°C /min , and the precipitated units are evaluated by XRPD *.

Result 1

In the first time, the product was heated to 65°C with a 30 mg/mL feed concentration and did not dissolve in any of the solvents. We therefore lowered the feed concentration to 10mg/mL whereupon it dissolved in 6 solvents.

Feed concentration 30 mg/mL($3 \text{ mg}/100 \mu L$) \rightarrow Insoluble in all solvents at 65°C

Methanol					
Ethanol					
2-Propanol					
1-Butanol					
Benzyl alchol					
Acetonitrile					
Ethyl acetate					
1-Propyl acetate					
1-Butyl acetate					
Methyl ethyl ketone					
Methyl isobutyl ketone					
Tetrahydrofuran					
1,4-Dioxane					
Anisole					
Toluene					
Chlorobenzene					

Feed concentration 10 mg/mL(1 mg/100 μ L) \rightarrow Dissolved in 6 solvents at 65°C

Methanol					
Ethanol					
2-Propanol					
1-Butanol					
Benzyl alchol					
Acetonitrile					
Ethyl acetate					
1-Propyl acetate					
1-Butyl acetate					
Methyl ethyl ketone					
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Anisole					
Toluene					
Chlorobenzene					



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Result 2

We observed polymorphic precipitation in the 6 solvents at different cooling rates (-1°C/min and - 10°C/min) and observed different polymorphs (forms in the table below) and precipitation temperatures in each solvent.

	10mg/mL	Precipitation temperature]	Precipitation temperature		
	Dissolution	after dissolution	form	after dissolution (-10°C/min)		form	
	temperature	(-1°C/min Temperature)					
Benzyl alchol	24.8°C	(Still supersaturated at 0°C)	-	(Still supersaturated at 0°C)		-	
Methyl ethyl ketone	45.8°C	(Still supersaturated at 0°C)	-	(Still supersaturated at 0°C)		-	
Ethanol	55.8°C	26.2°C	II + IV	10.2°C		II + IV	
Acetonitrile	40.9°C	24.3°C	II	9.2°C		Π	
Methanol	29.4°C	9.2°C	III	(Still supersaturated at 0°C)		-	
Tetrahydrofuran	42.8°C	31.1°C	V	29.3°C		I ?+ V	
1,4-Dioxane	-	-	IV+ <mark>V</mark>		-	IV+V	
2-Propanol	-	-	III+IV				
Ethyl acetate	-	-	III+IV				
Chlorobenzene	-	-	III+IV				
1-Butanol	-	-	III+IV	Same as results obtained by conventional measurement method			
1-Propyl acetate	-	-	III+IV				
1-Butyl acetate	-	-	III+IV				
Methyl isobutyl ketone	-	-	III+IV				
Anisole	-	-	III+IV	נן			
Toluene	-	-	III+IV				

Conclusion

Using CrystalBreeder, we prepared several crystal forms of Sulfathiazole as a sample compound. We confirmed that we achieved four different crystal forms depending on the solvent used. According to the density rule, form IV is the most stable polymorph at room temperature. Form IV > III > II > V > I

Bakar et al, int. J. Pharm. 414 (2011), 86 -103.

Crystallization method	Form
Conventional measurement methods	III+IV
CrystalBreeder (cooling method)	I? II III IVV



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