# Study of Cadmium Complexation with Na-DDTC by Voltammetry and Spectrophotometric Method

# and its Application in Corrosion Inhibition

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#### Abstract

Stoichiometry and  $\beta$  of Cd(II)/Na-DDTC complex were herein determined by DPV, employing Lingane's equation in a simple and extended form. Ionic strength was kept constant by using NaClO<sub>4</sub> and KNO<sub>3</sub> as SE. All measurements were performed at a constant T of 298±1 K. The approximation of all possible Lingane's equations was established. According to obtained results, it was concluded that the equation should be used in its extended form. In KNO<sub>3</sub> and in NaClO<sub>4</sub>, q was found to be 5 and 6, and  $\beta$  logarithms were found to be 21.20 and 24.47, respectively. Spectrophotometric study was also performed to determine stoichiometry and  $\beta$  of Cd(II)/Na-DDTC complex in the same SE. Data indicated that Na-DDTC should be combined with Cd in molar ratios of 1:5 ( $ML<sub>5</sub>$ ), in KNO<sub>3</sub>, and of 1:6 ( $ML_6$ ), in NaClO<sub>4</sub>. B logarithms were calculated to be 22.26 and 23.94, in KNO<sub>3</sub> and NaClO<sub>4</sub>, respectively. IE(%) of Na-DDTC as an ecofriendly CI for CS in  $0.5 M H_2SO_4$ medium was also investigated using WL measurements. Experimental results showed that IE(%) increased with higher inhibitor's Ct. The inhibitor's adsorption onto the CS surface obeyed Langmuir's isotherm, and it proceeded by both physisorption and chemisorption modes.  $\Delta G_{ads}$  was determined. The effect of  $Cd^{2+}$  addition, which formed a complex with Na-DDTC, was also studied.

 $Keywords: \beta; CI; DPV; Job's method; Na-DDTC.$ 

### Introduction<sup>\*</sup>

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A broad range of complexes used in industries, pharmaceutical processes, agriculture and medicinal chemistry has garnered significant interest in recent years. DTC are a class of organic chemicals that have been extensively used in the field of fine organic synthesis, particularly in the production of pesticides, herbicides and fungicides [1]. Due to the elevated electron density of S atom in these ligands, and to the existence of active sites with C=S and C-S bonds, DTC are able to create insoluble complexes, and provide stability to metal ions in various oxidation states [2-4]. Recently, it has been found that metal-DTC complexes enhance cytotoxic action mechanisms [5-7], and are able to stimulate the growth of tumor cells [8, 9].

The abbreviations and symbols definition lists are in pages 62-64.

Furthermore, they have been employed as chemotherapeutic agents. DTC also hinders the corrosion process, due to the existence of N and S as electronegative elements [10]. The substance is adsorbed onto the metal surface, creating a protective layer that prevents corrosion, at certain areas [11]. Recent studies have shown that Na-DDTC is a very effective, secure and cost-effective CI for metals in aggressive environments [12-16]. [12] have assessed the IE(%) of Na-DDTC on CS corrosion in a HCl solution, by employing Tafel polarization and electrochemical impedance techniques. Data indicated that the ligand was an effective CI, despite its tendency to expedite the anodic process.

Various analytical approaches are employed to synthesize, analyze and characterize these substances. Electrochemical analysis is a crucial method for characterizing DTC complexes. This methodology has several key benefits, including rapid analysis speed [17], excellent selectivity and sensitivity, a low detection limit, relative simplicity and less equipment costs than those of other methods [18, 19]. Additionally, its reproducibility is enhanced by the use of a renewable surface electrode [20]. Among these electroanalytical approaches, polarography is widely regarded as a productive and adaptable technique to investigate complexes in solutions. For many metal-ligand systems, it is possible to determine the degree of formation, distribution and B of all species present [21].

In continuation of previous researches in the field by the authors of this study, Na-DDTC was herein used as a ligand to coordinate with Cd ion. Its general chemical formula is  $C_5H_{10}NS_2Na$ . Na-DDTC's chemical structure is shown in Scheme 1.



ionic diethyldithiocarbamate

Sodium diethyldithiocarbamate trihydrate Scheme 1: Molecular structure of Na-DDTC.

Herein,  $\beta$  and stoichiometry of Cd-Na-DDTC complex were calculated, by using classical and extended Lingane's equations in two different SE  $(KNO<sub>3</sub>$  and NaClO4). Then, the results were compared to those of spectrophotometric techniques like Job's method. Finally, the complex was employed as CI for CS in  $a$  H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> medium.

# Materials and methods

## Stock solutions preparation

NaClO<sub>4</sub> was obtained from Fluka. KNO<sub>3</sub>, Cd and CdCl<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O (Fw: atomic absorption standard (98%) were purchased from Aldrich.

The  $5.10^{-3}$  M Cd<sup>2+</sup> reference solution was prepared by weighing out the required amount of  $CdCl<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O$  and dissolving it in 100 mL Milli-Q® water.

The 10<sup>-5</sup> M Cd<sup>2+</sup> solution used in this study was prepared by diluting 5.10<sup>-3</sup> M Cd<sup>2+</sup> with 10 mL 0,1 M KNO<sub>3</sub> or 0,1 M NaClO<sub>4</sub> in the polarographic cell.

Na-DDTC (Fw: 225.331) was purchased from Sigma Aldrich. Na-DDTC solutions with Ct from  $1.10^{-4}$  to  $3.10^{-4}$  M were prepared by weighing out their required amounts and dissolving them in the same solution of  $0.1$  M KNO<sub>3</sub> or  $0.1$  M NaClO<sub>4</sub>, as those used for preparing the  $Cd^{2+}$  solution.

H2SO4 (Fw: 98.08, purity of 99.99%) used in WL measurements was purchased from Sigma Aldrich.

# Equipments

DPV measurements were performed using a Trace-Lab50 from Radiometer, which included a polarographic analyser (Pol150) and stand (MDE150), monitored by Trace Master 5 software. These measurements were carried out using a conventional three-electrode system. The working electrode was a HMDE, with a capillary diameter of 70 µm. Potential's values were expressed vs. an Ag/AgCl (3 M KCl) electrode separated from the test solution by a salt bridge containing the solvent/SE. The auxiliary electrode was a Pt wire.

Spectrophotometric measurements were performed on a UV-visible Thermo Electron Corporation Nicolet Evolution 100 device, using a matched 10 mm quartz cell.

The pH measurements were carried out employing a pH-meter from Denver Instrument Company.

## Electrochemical method

In DPV experiments, the pulse duration was programmed to 0.04 s, and the scan rate was 125 mV/s. Initial and final potential's values were -400 and -700 mV, respectively. A 10 mL SE was placed in the polarographic cell. A magnetic stirrer provided the convective transport. Pure  $N^2$  was bubbled through the experimental solution to remove dissolved  $O^2$ . Data were analyzed using Lingane's equations.

# Lingane's equation

For the reaction denoted as  $M^{m+} + qL \rightarrow (MLq)^{m+}$  (where M is a metal with a charge of  $m<sup>+</sup>$  and L is a neutral ligand with a stoichiometric coefficient of q), the polarographic half wave or  $E_p$  shifts more negatively with higher Ct of Na-DDTC added to Cd ion solution. Lingane's [22] classical equation is derived in Eq. (1), to calculate  $\beta$ , when activity coefficients were not considered.

$$
\Delta E_p = \frac{2.303RT}{nF} \log \beta + q \frac{2.303RT}{nF} \log C_L \tag{1}
$$

where n value of was  $= 2$ . This equation has been successfully applied by several researchers for determining  $\beta$  and the ligand's stoichiometric coefficient complexation reactions [22, 23].

## Extended Lingane's equation

If the current's effect is included, the classical Lingane's equation should be extended as follows [24, 25] in Eq. (2):

$$
\Delta E_p = \frac{2.303RT}{nF} \log \left[ \frac{I_{MLq}}{I_M} \frac{\gamma_M \gamma_L^q}{\gamma_{MLq}} \beta_{M \gamma_L^q} C_L^q \right] \tag{2}
$$

This equation can only be applied when the system involves a complex highly stable.

#### Spectrophotometric method

For determining stoichiometry and  $K_f$ , A of a series of metal salt and ligand mixtures was initially measured at 298 K. Then, in order to perform  $\beta$  variation with changes in T, A shifts at different T were studied.

Data were analyzed using Job's method, also called CVM, which was selected, since it is easy, simple and commonly employed [26] to determine anions and organometallic compounds, and to help understand ligands/metal action modes [26-28]. In analytical chemistry, it is mainly used to determine the stability of a complex, its  $K_f$  and composition. Optical measurements were employed to study a system with two or three components.

The procedure included making a volume of 2 mL metal complex solutions with different Ct of Cd ions and ligands (Table 1).

Table 1: Metal complex solutions containing different Ct of Cd ions and ligands.

Sr. no of solution								
Cd ion volume (mL)		$0.2$ 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2 1.4 1.6						
Na-DDTC volume (mL)		16.	$-12$	$1.0^{\circ}$	0.8	$0.6 \quad 0.4$	0.2	

Then, the sum of the Ct from  $Cd^{2+}$  was calculated by Eq. (3):

$$
C_L + C_M = Ct \text{ (constant)} \tag{3}
$$

The optical densities of the solutions, prepared in the previous step, were determined at the wavelength of a light strongly absorbed by Cd-Na-DDTC. The metal-ion and the ligand did not absorb at this wavelength.

A was plotted against  $f_L (= C_L / Ct)$ . This plot is referred to as a Job's plot. For calculating the Ct of Cd-Na-DDTC, Eq. 3 was rewritten as Eq. (4):

$$
\frac{c_M}{ct} + \frac{c_L}{ct} = 1\tag{4}
$$

Since, as in Eq. (5):

$$
\frac{c_L}{ct} = f_L \tag{5}
$$

Eq. (4) can be reduced to Eq.  $(6)$ :

$$
\frac{c_M}{ct} = 1 - f_L \tag{6}
$$

From Eqs.  $(5)$  and  $(6)$  q can be obtained in Eq.  $(7)$ :

$$
q = \frac{c_L}{c_M} = \frac{f_L}{1 - f_L} \tag{7}
$$

Job's diagram, as shown in Fig. 6, consists of two straight lines intersecting at A0, at a given value of  $f_L$ , which indicates Cd:Na-DDTC ratio in ML<sub>a</sub>.

Once q was determined,  $K_f$  was calculated [29, 30] by Eqs. (8) and (9):

$$
M + qL \leftrightarrow ML_q \tag{8}
$$

$$
K_f = \frac{[ML_q]}{[M][L]^q} \tag{9}
$$

A was plotted at  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  vs. f<sub>L</sub>, in order to obtain Job's diagram. A and f<sub>L</sub> were given by Eqs. (10) and (11):

$$
A = A_{ML} - (\mathcal{E}_L C_L + \mathcal{E}_M C_M)
$$
 (10)

$$
f_L = \frac{c_L}{(c_M + c_L)}\tag{11}
$$

The deviation from Ao values was due to Cd-Na-DDTC's complex dissociation. Thus,  $\beta$  was determined from theoretical lines deviations (Fig. 6). A<sub>max</sub> denoted A value at the highest point on the experimental curve, indicating the maximum amount of the complex formed with a dissociation degree  $(\alpha)$ . A<sub>0</sub> represents absorbance value, where the theoretical straight lines intersected due to the complex, when its maximum Ct was formed, with a value of  $\alpha = 0$ . A<sub>α</sub> represents the absorbance value of the complex's dissociated part, which is the difference between  $A_0$  and  $A_{max}$ . In order to quantify  $\beta$ , it was imperative to determine  $\alpha$ , which was calculated by employing Eq.  $(12)$ :

$$
\alpha = \frac{A_0 - \text{Amax}}{A_0} \tag{12}
$$

At equilibrium, Eq. (13) is as follows in Eq. (14):

$$
C_{MLq} = (1 - \alpha)C \; ; \; C_M = \alpha C \; ; C_L = q\alpha C \tag{13}
$$

So,  $K_f$  was given by:

$$
K_f = \frac{(1-\alpha)}{q^q \times \alpha^{q+1} \times c^q} \tag{14}
$$

#### CI study

#### Corrosive solution

 $0.5$  M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> was used as an aggressive solution, prepared by diluting a 99.99% analytical reagent grade with ultra-pure water.

For WL measurements, 100 mL of the test solution were used, and the Ct of the studied inhibitors varied from 50 to 500 mg/L.

#### WL measurements

Rectangular samples of CS XC38 (AFNOR/Euronorm: C35E CS and US specification: SAE1035), of  $3 \times 1.4 \times 0.25$  cm, were obtained by cutting plates with the chemical composition (wt.%):  $C = 0.37\%$ ,  $S = 0.016\%$ ,  $Cr = 0.077\%$ , Mn  $= 0.68\%$ , Si = 0.23%, Ti = 0.011%, Ni = 0.059%, Co = 0.009%, Cu = 0.160% and remainder iron (Fe), which were used for WL measurements. The samples were gradually polished with 200 to 1200 grade emery paper, with a pitch of 200. They were rinsed with double distilled water, degreased, washed thoroughly with double distilled water, dried in a stream of hot air, and weighed. Then they were immersed

in the test aggressive solution without and with inhibitor, at different Ct, for 1 h, at T in the range from 298 to 323 K. At the end of the test period, the samples were withdrawn, cleaned with water, dried and reweighed. All measurements were repeated at least thrice, to ensure the results reproducibility.

The measured CR (mg/cm<sup>-2</sup>/h) was determined using Eq. (15):

$$
v = \frac{m_0 - m_1}{At} \tag{15}
$$

where  $m_0$  and  $m_1$  are the weight of samples before and after immersion, respectively, t is immersion time (1 h) and A is the samples' total exposed surface area. According to several authors [31-33], IE(%) may be calculated using Eq. (16):

$$
IE(\%) = \frac{v_0 - v}{v_0} \times 100 \tag{16}
$$

where  $v_0$  and v denote average WL in a  $H_2SO_4$  solution without and with inhibitor, respectively.

## Results and discussion

## Voltammetric behavior

 $\beta$  of Cd-Na-DEDTC complex was calculated by DPV. KNO<sub>3</sub> and NaClO<sub>4</sub> solutions were tested as SE, with an ionic strength of 0.1 M, at 298 K.

Under these conditions,  $10^{-5}$  M Cd<sup>2+</sup> showed a peak at about -500 mV, without the ligand. With Na-DEDTC added, at different Ct, to the Cd ion, its  $E_p$  shifted towards more negative values than those of the simple and free states. DPV values of  $Cd^{2+}$ in different Ct of Na-DDTC are shown in Figs. 1 and 2.



Figure 1: DPV of- (A)  $10^{-5}$  M Cd<sup>2+</sup> and (B) different Ct of Na-DDTC in 0.1 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>.



Figure 2: DPV (A) without and (B) with Na-DDTC, at different Ct in 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub>.

This significant displacement was used to determine  $\beta$  and q, using simple and extended Lingane's equations. The obtained results are listed in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2:  $\Delta E_p$  vs. Ag/AgCl and peak current of a 10<sup>-5</sup>M Cd<sup>2+</sup> solution as a function of the Ct from Na-DDTC with 0.1 M NaClO4.

Ct of Na-DDTC $(M) \times 10^4$	L <sub>D</sub>	Īр (nA)	logC <sub>L</sub>	$log I_M/I_{ML}$	$\Delta E_{\rm p}$	Al x 10 <sup>5</sup> M)	logAL
	0.52	5.763					
1.4	0.57	14.864	3.853	$-0.411$	0.05	9.99	4.000
1.6	0.58	11.843	3.795	$-0.312$	0.06	11.42	3.942
1.8	0.59	.268 11	3.744	$-0.291$	0.07	12.85	3.891
2.4	0.60	7.866	3.619	$-0.135$	0.08	17.13	3.766

Table 3:  $\Delta E_p$  vs. Ag/AgCl and peak current of a 10<sup>-5</sup> M Cd<sup>2+</sup> solution as a function of the Ct from Na-DDTC with 0.1 M KNO3.



 $\beta$  values of Cd-Na-DDTC complex obtained from Eq. 1 were equal to 17.52 for  $KNO_3$  and 20.2 for NaClO<sub>4</sub>. The values of q were 4 in  $KNO_3$  and 5 in NaClO<sub>4</sub>. The values obtained from Eq. 2 for log $\beta$  were 21.20 and 24.48, in KNO<sub>3</sub> and NaClO<sub>4</sub>, respectively. Those of q were 5 in  $KNO_3$  and 6 in NaClO<sub>4</sub>. Thus, it is noted that there was a significant difference in the results obtained by Eqs. (1) and (2), which seems to be due to the change in peak intensity.

### Validity of approximation

In this step, the same approximations that were used by [34] were adopted. Lingane's equation was applied by considering Na-DDTC's activity instead of its Ct. Ionic strength was considered 0.1 M, and the ligand's activity coefficient was found to be 0.714. Thus, obtained results are given in Table 4, which shows that  $log\beta$  on KNO<sub>3</sub> and NaClO4 originated errors of -0.75 and -3.59%, respectively. Concerning q, on  $KNO<sub>3</sub>$  and NaClO<sub>4</sub>, 0.064% and 0.00%, respectively, were obtained. That is why it was concluded that Lingane's equation should be used in its extended form, and that the approximation  $\gamma_M x \gamma_L q / \gamma_{ML} = 1$  was not favorable. Thus, and still in agreement with [34], q and logβ values were obtained by plotting n $\Delta E_p/0.059 + \log(I_M/I_{ML})$ , as an activity's function (Fig. 3). In this context, even if  $\Delta E_p$  remains constant, β and q can be calculated by plotting  $log(I_M/I_{ML})$  as  $log CL$ 's function [35].

 $Cd^{2+}$  reversibility in Na-DDTC presence was verified by DPV. As Fig. 4 shows, according to  $E_{pa}$  -  $E_{pc}$ , values were close to 30 mV, and to  $I_{pa}/I_{pc}$ , were near to unity. This indicated that the system, including the cation with Na-DDTC, was reversible. A similar result was found by [36], who have studied complexation reactions of  $Zn^{2+}$ , Pb<sup>2+</sup>, Cd<sup>2+</sup> and T1<sup>+</sup> metal cations by 5,7- diiodo-8-hydroxyquinoline in nonaqueous solvents.

<b>Extended Lingane's equations</b>		KNO <sub>3</sub>		NaClO <sub>4</sub>			
		$log \beta_N$	$\mathbf{R}^2$		$log B_N$	$\mathbb{R}^2$	
$n.\Delta E_p/0.0591 + \log \frac{I_M}{I_{ML}} = f(\log C_L)$ 4.94 21.20 0.988 6.005					24.47	0.982	
$n.\Delta E_p/0.0591 + \log \frac{I_M}{I_{ML}} = f(\log a_L)$ 4.94 21.36 0.988 6.005					25.35	0.982	

Table 4: Results of q and logβ determination for Cd-Na-DDTC calculated from DPV at 298 K.



Figure 3: Linear dependence of  $\Delta E_p$  on Na-DDTC activity and  $C_L$  in - (A) KNO<sub>3</sub> and (B) NaClO4.



Figure 4: DPV of  $10^{-5}$ M Cd<sup>2+</sup> with  $10^{-4}$  M Na-DDTC in-(A) 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub> and (B) 0.1 M NaClO<sub>4</sub>; scan rate of 125 mV/s, at 25 °C.

#### Spectrophotometric behavior

The obtained results of  $\beta$  and q in both SE were checked using spectrophotometric technique. Electronic spectra of Na-DDTC and Cd(II) complex in  $KNO_3$  are shown in Fig. 5. When  $Cd^{2+}$  ion was added to Na-DDTC in the KNO<sub>3</sub> solution, two absorption peaks were seen. The first, at  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 256$  nm, corresponds to n- $\pi$ transition of S-C=S, and the second, at  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 280$  nm, is assigned to the intraligand π-π\* transition of N-C-SS. S absorption was determined [37, 38]. In perchlorate salts, the first absorption peak appeared in the same place, while a 20 nm bathochromic shift occurred at 300 nm.



Figure 5: Cd-Na-DDTC absorption spectra in a solution with decreasing Na-DDTC, increasing CS and constant total Ct in 0.1 M NaClO4, at 298±0.1 K.

According to the results in Tables 5 and 6, Job's diagrams were drawn by plotting absorbance as  $f_L$  function, at 280 nm and 300 nm, in KNO<sub>3</sub> and NaClO<sub>4</sub> solutions, respectively.  $\beta$  and q were derived from Eqs. (7) and (14).



$[Cd^{2+}] \times 10^5$	[Na-DDTC] $x 10^5$	$c_{\iota}$	A $(\lambda_{\text{max}} = 280 \text{ nm})$			
(M)	(M)	$(C_M + C_L)$	298 K	313 K	323 K	
$\Omega$	10.0					
0.5	9.5	0.95	0.597	0.542	0.516	
1.0	9.0	0.9	0.606	0.525	0.487	
1.5	8.5	0.85	0.915	0.843	0.796	
2.0	8.0	0.8	0.870	0.828	0.801	
3.0	7.0	0.7	0.794	0.709	0.654	
5.0	5.0	0.5	0.552	0.483	0.441	
6.0	4.0	0.4	0.538	0.468	0.425	
7.0	3.0	0.3	0.35	0.21	0.188	
8.0	2.0	0.2	0.262	0.216	0.215	
9.0	1.0	0.1	0.135	0.129	0.109	
10.0	0	0				

Table 6: Spectrophotometric data for Cd-Na-DDTC system in the 0.1 M NaClO<sup>4</sup> solution, with  $pH = 7.5$ , at different T.



Fig. 6 depicts Job's diagram in NaClO4, showing that the straight lines intersected at  $f_L = 0.85$ , which indicates that  $Cd^{2+}$  coordinated with six Na-DDTC ligands. The same was seen for  $KNO_3$ . In this case, q was found to be 5. All measurements were taken at a pH of 7.5, since Na-DDTC was dissolved in acidic media. These results can be compared with those obtained by DPV. In addition, in this area, hydroxyl groups formation was suppressed. When the results obtained in both SE were compared, it was found that  $\beta$  in KNO<sub>3</sub> was lower than that in NaClO<sub>4</sub>. From this, it can be concluded that nitrate ions have a complexing character, and compete with  $Cd^{2+}$  for Na-DDTC.



### Effect of T

Thermodynamic parameters provide information about the structure, the kind of complex, and the nature of the interaction between Na-DDTC and  $Cd^{2+}$ . These parameters were calculated using Eqs. (17-19):

$$
\Delta G^0 = -RT \ln K \tag{17}
$$

$$
\Delta G^0 = \Delta H^\circ - T\Delta S^\circ \tag{18}
$$

These equations can be arranged to give Eq. (19):

$$
lnK = -\frac{\Delta H^{\circ}}{RT} + \frac{\Delta S^{\circ}}{R}
$$
 (19)

The plot of lnK or ln $\beta$  vs.  $\frac{1}{\pi}$ , that was not herein reported, gave a straight line. The slope and intercept of this straight line were  $\frac{\Delta H^{\circ}}{R}$  and  $\frac{\Delta S^{\circ}}{R}$  (complexation entropy), respectively.

, q and thermodynamic parameters of the complexation process were determined in KNO<sub>3</sub> or NaClO<sub>4</sub> solutions at different T (Table 7). These results show that  $\Delta G^{\circ}$ was negative, which confirms the spontaneous nature of the complexation process. Moreover,  $\beta$  values decreased with increasing T. At 323 K, q was found to be 4.

This shows that the complex's formation was strongly favored at lower T. On the other hand, ΔHº negative values indicate an exothermic interaction between Na-DDTC and Cd<sup>2+</sup>.  $\Delta S^{\circ}$  positive values led to an increase in the solution, and accordingly, the complex's structure disordering. ΔSº value in the NaClO4 solution was higher than that from the KNO<sub>3</sub> one, showing an increase in steric factor [39].  $K_f$  was more favored in the NaClO<sub>4</sub> solution.

Table 7:  $\beta$  for Cd-Na-DDTC calculated from Job's method, at various T, in NaClO<sub>4</sub> and KNO3 solutions, with different thermodynamic parameters.

T (K)	<b>Solution</b>	a	$\mathbf a$	<i>LogK</i> or $log\beta$	$-AH^0$ (kJ/mol)	$\Lambda \mathrm{S}^0$ (J/mol)	$-AG^0$ (kJ/mol)	$\mathbb{R}^2$
298			0.096	22.26			7.693	
313	KNO <sub>3</sub>		0.067	19.43	6.546	3.847	7.726	0.998
323			0.118	18.17			7.793	
298		6	0.057	23.94			7.872	
313	NaClO <sub>4</sub>		0.120	21.97	5.198	7.077	8.045	0.984
323		$\overline{4}$	0.054	18.99			8.450	

# Effect of Ct

DPV showed that, even in acidic media, Cd-Na-DDTC complex was formed. For this reason, IE(%) of the complex on CS corrosion in  $H_2SO_4$  was studied. Corrosion parameters for CS in 0.5 M H2SO4 were determined, from WL measurements, at different Ct (50-500 mg/L) of the studied inhibitor, at various T (Fig. 7).



Figure 7: Relationship between CR and Na-DDTC Ct, at different T.

Fig. 7 shows that, at the initial Ct of Na-DDTC (50 mg/L), CR stayed high. Thus, this Ct was not enough to cover the entire CS's surface, and  $IE(\%)$  was low. When it was increased, CR decreased for all T, except 323 K, and the inhibitor formed an effective film that protected the CS's surface. This was accompanied by a decrease in CR and an increase in IE(%), as a function of the inhibitor's Ct. Maximum IE(%) (>96) was obtained with a Ct of 500 mg/L.

Concerning general dissolution mechanism for CS, the one proposed by [40], which found that CS is positively charged in a  $H_2SO_4$  medium, was herein adopted. SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2</sup> anions act as connecting bridges between protonated organic inhibitors and positively charged metal surfaces, as expressed in Eqs. (20-22).

$$
\text{Fe} + \text{SO}_4{}^{2-} \rightarrow (\text{FeSO}_4{}^{2-}) \text{ ads}
$$
 (20)

$$
(\text{Fe SO}_4{}^2)_{ads} \leftrightarrow (\text{Fe SO}_4)_{ads} + 2e^{\cdot} \tag{21}
$$

$$
(\text{Fe SO}_4)_{\text{ads}} \leftrightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{SO}_4{}^{2-} \tag{22}
$$

Furthermore, CS corrosion in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solutions was an electrochemical process. The anodic reaction (Eq. 23) was:

$$
\text{Fe} \to \text{Fe}^{2+} + 2\text{e}^{\text{-}} \tag{23}
$$

And cathodic behavior corresponded to Volmer's reaction (Eq. 24):

$$
H^+ + e^- \to H_{ads} \tag{24}
$$

followed by Tafel's reaction (Eq. 25):

$$
H_{ads} + H_{ads} \rightarrow H_2. \tag{25}
$$

or Heyrovsky's reaction (Eq. 26):

$$
H^{+} + H_{ads} + e^{-} \rightarrow H_{2}
$$
 (26)

### Effect of T

To investigate T effect on CR, WL measurements were performed at different T (298-323 K), without and with inhibitor, at various Ct (Table 8).

**Table 8:** CR and  $IE(\%)$  for CS in a 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution with different Ct of Na-DDTC, at various T.

T(K)	293	303	308	323	293	303	308	323
<b>Ct of Na-DDTC</b>	CR							
(mg/L)	$(mg/cm^{-2}/h)$				$IE(\%)$			
	2.87	5.64	5.70	13.9				
50	1.97	3.47	3.80	12.6	31.35	38.47	33.33	0.096
100	1.64	2.085	2.405	13.9	42.85	63.03	57.80	0.00
300	0.260	0.445	0.61	18.8	90.94	92.10	89.29	$-35.25$
400	0.261	0.190	0.557	15.1	90.91	96.63	90.22	$-8.63$
500	0.103	0.169	0.444	13.6	96.41	97.00	92.21	2.15

Inspection of the results reveals that CR decreased with higher inhibitor's Ct. So, at 500 mg/L, IE(%) reached maximum values of 96.43, 96.98, and 92.2%, at 293, 303 and 308 K, respectively.

The fact that  $IE(\%)$  decreased with higher T suggests a physical adsorption mechanism. This may be due to an increase in the solubility of the protective barrier. On the other hand, the decrease in IE(%) with higher T may also be due to a possible shift in  $K_{ads}$  towards the desorption of the adsorbed inhibitor molecules. Inversely, IE(%) increased with T from 293 to 303 K. That suggests a chemical

adsorption mechanism [41]. So, physisorption was predominant at higher T, while chemical adsorption predominated at lower ones  $(\leq 303 \text{ K})$ .

#### Synergistic effect of  $Cd^{2+}$

To show the effect of  $Cd^{2+}$  addition to Na-DDTC on its IE(%), the metal's Ct was increased from 4.43 to 22.53 mg/L, while the ligand's Ct was kept constant. Table 9 shows that the decrease in CR of CS in  $0.5$  M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> with Cd<sup>2+</sup> was more pronounced than that without it. This table also shows that CR visibly decreased with increased Ct of  $Cd^{2+}$ . As a result, IE(%) also substantially increased. This result may be explained by Cd ions and Na-DDTC molecules co-adsorption onto the CS surface, which involved a possible increase in  $Cd^{2+}$  synergistic effect. Therefore, it was concluded that Cd-Na-DDTC complex was more hydrophobic in the CS surface, and it had low electronegativity and easy polarization in the electronic layer.

**Table 9:** CR and IE(%) for XC38 CS in a  $0.5$  M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution, at 303 K, at different Ct of  $Cd^{2+}$  with 100 mg/L Na-DDTC.

Ct from $Cd^{2+} \times 10^5$ (mol/L)	$CR \times 10^5$ $(g/cm^{-2}/h)$	$IE(\%)$
0	208.5	63.03
2	2.74	80.1
	1.87	86.6
6	1.35	90.3
10	0.0486	99.7

It is worthwhile to note that, when  $H_2SO_4$  was added to Na-DDTC without Cd ion, the synergistic effect was not seen. Inversely, when Cd ion was added to Na-DDTC without  $H_2SO_4$ , IE(%) increased. This could mean that although  $H_2SO_4$  can degrade Na-DDTC, it cannot dissolve the complex.

#### Adsorption study

Most often, organic CI act on the metal surface by adsorption. It is known that the determination of adsorption types and thermodynamic parameters serves to understand the interaction between metal surface and inhibitor.

Assuming that CI mechanism was due to Na-DDTC adsorption, according to [42], the degree of metal surface coverage  $(\theta)$  was calculated from WL measurements, using Eq. (27):

$$
\theta = \frac{V_{corr} - V_{corr}'}{V_{corr}} \tag{27}
$$

where  $V_{\text{corr}}$  and  $V'_{\text{corr}}$  are CR for solutions without and with inhibitor, respectively. Therefore, SC was calculated using Eq. (28):

$$
\theta = \frac{IE(\%)}{100} \tag{28}
$$

In order to verify the suitable adsorption mode, various isotherms, including Temkin's, Frumkin's, Flory Huggins' and Langmuir's, were tested. The best fit was obtained with Langmuir's isotherm. According to it, the inhibitor Ct was related with SC by Eq. (29):

$$
\frac{c_{inh}}{\theta} = \frac{1}{K_{ads}} + C_{inh} \tag{29}
$$

Kads denotes the interaction strength between adsorbent and adsorbate [43]. The plot of  $\frac{C_{inh}}{a}$  $\frac{mn}{\theta}$  vs. C<sub>inh</sub>, at different T, yielded straight lines (Fig. 8 (A)).



Figure 8: Langmuir's adsorption isotherm on CS in  $0.5$  M  $H_2SO_4$  for-(A) Na-DDTC and (B) Cd-Na-DDTC.

Table 10 shows  $R^2$  values and the slope of all straight lines, which were close to 1. This confirms that the inhibitor adsorption onto the CS surface obeyed Langmuir's isotherm. However, a deviation of the slopes from unity can be seen, which was due to the interaction between adsorbates on the metal surface [44-46], and to the fact that adsorption heat changed with the increasing SC [44]. So, Langmuir's isotherm could not be rigorously applied. Thus, Na-DDTC's behavior was interpreted by a modified Langmuir's isotherm, which suggested that each molecule inhibitor could occupy n's adsorbed sites [31]. This modified expression is given in Eq.  $(30)$ :

$$
\frac{c_{inh}}{\theta} = \frac{n}{K_{ads}} + nC_{in} \tag{30}
$$

K<sub>ads</sub> value obtained from the intercept enabled to calculate  $\Delta G^{\circ}$ <sub>ads</sub>, as in Eq. (31):

$$
K_{ads} = \frac{1}{55.5} \exp\left(\frac{-\Delta G_{ads}^{\circ}}{RT}\right) \tag{31}
$$

where 55.5 is the molar Ct of water in the solution in mol/ $L^{-1}$ .

From the intercept in Fig. 8 (A) and from Eq. (31),  $K_{ads}$  and  $\Delta G<sup>o</sup>$ <sub>ads</sub> (Table 10) for Na-DDTC were determined at different T. K<sub>ads</sub> larger value obtained at 308 K suggests that corrosion  $IE(\%)$  of Na-DDTC improved at this T, leading to the formation of a protective film at the metal/solution interface, which reduced chemical attacks on CS.  $\Delta G^{\circ}$ <sub>ads</sub> negative values at all tested T revealed that the adsorption process was spontaneous.

According to [45],  $\Delta G^{\circ}$ <sub>ads</sub> values up to -20 kJ/mol<sup>-1</sup> cause physisorption, while values lower than -40 kJ/mol<sup>-1</sup> lead to chemisorption. In this study,  $\Delta G^{\circ}$ <sub>ads</sub> values were from  $-20$  to  $-40$  kJ/mol<sup>-1</sup>. This suggests that Na-DDTC went through both physical and chemical adsorption [47].

The plot of  $\frac{c_{inb}}{\theta}$  vs.  $C_{inh}$ , in Cd-Na-DDTC complex's case, was a straight line (Fig. 8 (B)) with the slope equal to unity and  $R^2$  equal to 0,99. This confirmed that the inhibitor adsorption followed Langmuir's isotherm. The intercept gave  $K_{ads}$ , as represented in Table 10.

Table 10: Thermodynamic parameters obtained from gravimetric study for Na-DDTC and Cd-Na-DDTC adsorption onto the CS surface in  $0.5$  M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.

<b>Solutions</b>	Т (K)	<b>Slope</b>	$\mathbf{R}^2$	$K \times 10^{-3}$ (L/mol)	$\Delta G_{\rm ads}{}^0$ (kJ/mol)
Na-DDTC	293	0.753	0.989	1.278	$-27.21$
	303	0.854	0.998	2.465	$-29.79$
	308	0.882	0.998	2.109	$-29.88$
Cd-Na-DDTC	303		0.992	239.808	$-41.33$

The obtained results indicate that  $K_{ads}$  values were higher than those obtained by Na-DDTC alone, which might be due to the presence of a strong bond between adsorbate and adsorbent. More importantly,  $\Delta G^{\circ}$ <sub>ads</sub> value for Cd-Na-DDTC complex around -40 kJ/mol led to chemisorption process. This was due to the transfer of an unshared electronic pair of organic molecules to the metal surface, thus forming a dative bond.

#### Synergistic effect mechanism

 $S_p$  for different Ct of Cd<sup>2+</sup> in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> with 100 mg/L Na-DDTC was determined from the relationship proposed by [48] (Eqs. (32-33)).

$$
S_P = \frac{1 - P_{1+2}}{1 - P_{1+2}'}\tag{32}
$$

with

$$
P_{1+2} = (P_1 + P_2) - (P_1 \times P_2) \tag{33}
$$

where  $P_1$ ,  $P_2$  and  $P'_{1+2}$  are IE(%) values of Na-DDTC, Cd<sup>2+</sup> and of Cd-Na-DDTC, respectively. S<sub>p</sub> values are given in Table 11.

**Table 11:**  $S_p$  for different Ct of  $Cd^{2+} + 100$  mg/L<sup>-1</sup> Na-DDTC.

$10^{-5}/ M [Cd^{2+}]$	$P_1/\frac{9}{6}$	$P'_{1+2}/\frac{9}{6}$	$P_2/$ %	Sр
	7.07	80.1	63	3.4
	18.09	86.6	63	
	28.77	90.3	63	2.6

It was noted that all  $S_p$  values were greater than unity. This result shows that Cd-Na-DDTC high CI on CS was due to the synergy effect. As a matter of fact, [49] explained the synergy effect either by competitive or by cooperative

adsorption between two compounds. In the first case, the two compounds are adsorbed on different sites onto the electrode surface. In the second case, one compound is chemisorbed onto the metal surface and the other is physisorbed onto it. If  $S_p < 1$ , thre is competitive adsorption. If  $S_p > 1$ , cooperative adsorption occurs. The values obtained in this study were well above unity, which shows cooperative adsorption between Na-DDTC and  $Cd^{2+}$ . Thus, the synergistic effect can be explained as follows: Na-DDTC was protonated in the acidic solution. Then, the protonated Na-DDTC and  $Cd^{2+}$  could attach onto CS through electrostatic interaction with the negatively charged surface, which was provided with the specifically adsorbed  $SO_4^2$  anions onto the FeS $O_4^2$  surface. When Na-DDTC adsorbed onto the CS surface, coordinate bonds were formed by the partial transference of electrons from unprotonated N and S atoms and delocalized  $\pi$  electrons in S atoms groups to the metal surface and to the Cd<sup>2+</sup> ions, which were able to form stable complexes with the ligand. Therefore, in the adsorption process, both physical and chemical adsorption took place.

## Conclusion

Experimental results indicated that Na-DDTC exhibited high propensity to form a stable complex with  $Cd^{2+}$ , in both KNO<sub>3</sub> and NaClO<sub>4</sub> solutions.  $\beta$  of the produced compound exhibited higher values in NaClO<sub>4</sub> than those of  $KNO<sub>3</sub>$ . This was due to the competition for Cd<sup>2+</sup> between NO<sub>3</sub> ions and the ligand. Negative  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  values seen in the complexation process revealed the intrinsic spontaneity of complexation. Observed values show that ∆G° became more negative at lower T, providing evidence for the enhanced stability of the complex under these conditions. The exothermic interaction between Na-DDTC and Cd<sup>2+</sup> was shown by the existence of negative ∆H° and positive ∆S values, highlighting the disorder of the complex structure. DPV and spectrophotometric measurements were in good agreement. Furthermore, Na-DDTC functioned as CI for XC38 CS, when immersed in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. An increase in the Ct from Na-DDTC enhanced IE(%), while higher T diminished it. Na-DDTC adsorbed according to Langmuir's adsorption isotherm. Thermodynamic data suggested that Na-DDTC action involved both physisorption and chemisorption processes. The synergistic impact of  $Cd^{2+}$  ions on CI by Na-DDTC was also highlighted. The chemisorption process of Cd-Na-DDTC was confirmed by measuring  $\Delta G^{\circ}_{ads}$  value.

### Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest among the authors.

## Authors' contributions

Djamila Hammoum: performed experiments; collected the data; wrote the paper. Lahcène Larabi: chose the problem; conceptualized ideas; supervised the whole work; wrote some sections of the manuscript. Yahia Harek: helped analysing results; guided in the paper writing.

### Abbreviations

A: absorbance A0: initial absorption before dissociation A<sub>ML</sub>: absorbance value of metallic complex CdCl<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O: cadmium chloride CI: corrosion inhibition/inhibitor  $C_{L}$ : concentration of the ligand  $C_M$ : metal concentration CR: corrosion rate CS: carbon steel C<sub>t</sub>: concentration CVM: continuous variation method DPV: differential pulse voltammetry DTC: dithiocarbamates  $E_p$ : peak potential Epa: anodic peak potential Epc: cathodic peak potential F: Faraday constant FL: molar fraction of ligand Fw: formula weight H2SO4: sulfuric acid HMDE: Hanging Mercury Drop Electrode IE(%): inhibition efficiency I<sub>M</sub>: currents for free metal I<sub>MLa</sub>: current for complexed metal Ipa: anodic peak current Ipc: cathodic peak current K<sub>ads</sub>: equilibrium constant of the adsorption Kf: formation constant of complex KNO3: potassium nitrate [L]: molar concentration of ligand at equilibrium [M]: molar concentration of the metal ion at equilibrium [MLq]: molar concentrations of metal complex at equilibrium NaClO4: sodium perchlorate Na-DDTC: sodium diethyldithiocarbamate tryhydrate  $(C_5H_{16}NNaO_3S_2)$ q: coordination number of ligand R: universal gas constant  $(8.315 \text{ J.K}^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1})$ R<sup>2</sup>: linear correlation coefficient SC: surface coverage  $(\theta)$ SE: supporting electrolyte Sp: synergy parameter T: absolute temperature in Kelvin (K) WL: weight loss

# Symbols definition

α: fraction of dissociation of complex β: stability constant of the complex n: number of electrons involved in the reaction  $\Delta E_p$ : difference between metal ion reduction and the complex peak potentials

 $\Delta G^{\circ}$ : standard free energy change of complexation ΔGºads: standard free enthalpy of adsorption energy  $\Delta H^{\circ}$ : standard enthalpy changes of complexation  $\Delta S^{\circ}$ : standard entropy changes of complexation  $\epsilon_L$ : extinction coefficient of ligand  $E_M$ : extinction coefficient of metal

 $\gamma_L^q$ : metal activity coefficient

γM: metal activity coefficient

 $\gamma_{M\gamma_L^q}$ : activity coefficient of the complex

 $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ : maximum wavelength

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