Saturated Fatty Acids Derivatives as Assistants Materials for Textile Processes

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Introduction

A textile auxiliary is chemical or formulated chemical products which enables a processing operation in preparation, dyeing, printing or finishing to be carried out more effectively and/or which is essential if a given effect is obtained [1].

Surfactants or surface-active agents are chemicals, which show ability to adsorb at surfaces [1] it is also known as an agent, soluble or insoluble in a liquid, which reduces the surface tension of this liquid. According to their amphiphilic nature, their molecular structure contains a hydrophobic (non-polar) part and a hydrophilic (polar) part. Surfactants have four main types: anionic, cationic, non-ionic and amphoteric surfactants.

Usually, saturated fatty esters establish a group of valuable synthetic intermediates in the production of a many materials, for example, amides and fatty alcohols. These materials can be used as solvents or softening agent in several fields such as textile, cosmetic, biodiesel and polymer industries [2,3]. The esterification of saturated fatty acids normally done using anhydrous alcohols.

Polyethyleneimine (PEI) consider as one of the highly effected polymers because it works as shell for several materials. Therefore, it has been utilized in several fields, for example; water purification, paper production and textile softener [4-8]. Due to it is effective properties, its esterified product with saturated and unsaturated fatty acid could be very interesting.

The present research aiming at establishing a base for the preparation and characterization of some textile auxiliaries based on esterification of saturated fatty acid with polyethylene glycol with different molecular weight, octadecylamine, polyethyleneimine or stearyl alcohol. The produced material will be characterised and utilize in textile field depending on their Hydrophilic Lipophilic Balance (HLB) [1,9,10].

Experimental

Materials

Three different saturated fatty acid; myristic acid (228.37g/mol), palmitic acid (256.42g/mol) and stearic acid (284.48g/mol). Polyethylene glycol with different molecular weight (1000, 4000 and 6000g/mol), octadecylamine (269.51g/mol), polyethyleneimine (Ξ 60000g/mol) and stearyl alcohol (270.49g/mol), urea and diammonium hydrogen phosphate were used as a laboratory grade. Acrylate binder (Helizarin®Binder ET-BASF, Egypt) and chloropyrimidine pigment (Drimarine®Blue P, Clariant, Egypt) were used.

Methods

Reaction of saturated fatty acids: Three saturated fatty acid (namely myristic (MA), palmitic (PA) and stearic (SA) acid) was selected to condensate with different hydroxyl or amino groups...
in different compounds (polyethylenimine (PEI), octadecylamine (OCTA), stearyl alcohol (SA), and polyethylene glycol (PEG) 1000, 4000 and 6000).

Reaction will be carried out in round flask equipped with Dean and Stark apparatus. 1: 1 mole fatty acids to polymers are melted at 60°C and 0.01 mole of sulphuric acid as catalyst was added to the mixture. Then, Danish and Stark apparatus will be fitted onto the flask that introduced into the oil bath. The temperature will then raise to 150°C and kept at this temperature for 5 h, after that, the flask will take out from the bath and cooled to room temperature, and the product will be analyzed.

**Application of produced materials to cotton fabrics**

**Application of produced materials as softeners:** Cotton fabric were treated using pad-dry cure technique. Fabric will be padded in the finishing bath consisting of a fatty acid derivative (10, 30 or 50 g/l), Hostapel®CX-ET as detergent (2 g/l), and acetic acid (2 ml/l), to a wet pick up of 80%. Blank sample was padded (100% wet pick up) in a bath consisting of only Hostapel®CX-ET (2 g/l). After that, the blank and treated samples were dried at 100°C for 3 min. and cured at 140°C for 3 min.

**Application of produced materials as emulsifier in printing paste**

A printing paste was prepared through emulsifying process using kerosene in an aqueous solution containing other ingredients materials using a homogenizer. The paste ingredients were as following recipe:

| Colorant      | 2 g       |
|---------------|-----------|
| Emulsifier    | 1.5 g     |
| Kerosene      | 65 g      |
| Water         | 15 g      |
| Urea          | 7 g       |
| Binder        | 6 g       |
| Sodium dihydrogen phosphate | 3.5g |
| Total         | 100 g     |

Printing was applied to cotton fabrics using the flat screen technique. The prints fabrics were dried at 100°C /5 min. then cured at 160°C/ 3 min.

**Characterization of produced materials**

Total conversion percent of the reactants to ester was determined by calculation of the fatty acid amount before and after the reaction. Fatty acid amount was calculating by measuring acid value before and after the reaction [1, 9, 11].

\[
\text{Total conversion } (\%) = \frac{(A_1 - A_2)}{(A_1 - A_2)} \times 100
\]

where \(A_1\) is the acid value before the reaction, \(A_2\) is the acid value after the reaction, \(A_3\) is the acid value of catalyst.

Acid value was determined according the following procedure: [11] 1-5 g of prepared materials was dissolved in 50 ml of ethanol: water (1: 1) (using heat if necessary). 1 ml phenol phenthalein was added to the solution, and then titrate against 0.1 N KOH. Therefore, acid value was calculated using following equation:

\[
\text{Acid value } = \frac{VT \times 1000}{W}
\]

where: \(V\) is volume of 0.1 N KOH used in the titration of the sample, \(mL\), \(T\) is titer of the KOH solution \(\frac{N \times g \cdot mL}{1000}\), \(g/mL\), and \(W\) is weight of the sample, grams.

FT-IR spectroscopy for the prepared compounds were done using JASCO FT-IR spectrometer (ATR) with data collection over a total range of 400-400 cm⁻¹ with best resolution of 0.5 cm⁻¹.

Hydrophilic – Lipophilic Balance (HLB) of the prepared materials was calculated according to the following formula: [1, 9, 10, 12].

\[
\text{HLB} = \frac{1}{5} \times \left( \frac{\text{formula weight of the compound}}{\text{formula weight of the hydrophilic part}} \right) \times 100
\]

Cloud point of the prepared materials was calculated as follow: A paste from the product was prepared as following: 5 g of the product was added to 20 ml ethanol/water (20:80). After that, 1 g paste was dispersed in 100 ml water. Then, it was heated up by 1°C/min. until the solution became cloudy at temperature (T1). Then, the temperature was raised over T1 by 5°C, and then cooled down with the same rate until the solution become cloudy again (T2). Cloud point was then calculated using the following equation: [1, 9, 10, 12, 13].

\[
\text{Cloud point } = \frac{(T_1 + T_2)}{2}
\]

Dry crease recovery angle (CRA) was measured according to AATCC Test Method 66-1990 [14]. Fabric roughness was measured using Surface Roughness Measuring Instrument SE 1700 a. Fabric stiffness were determined according to ASTM Test Method D 1388-96E1 using the cantilever apparatus [15]. Wettability was evaluated according to AATCC Test Method 39-(1971) [16].

Colour strength and fastness properties of the printed samples were evaluated by Hunter Lab Ultra Scan PRO (Hunter Lab Ultra Scan PRO (USA, 2007) [4, 7, 10, 17-27].

The colour intensity (E) and the relative colour strength (K/S) of the printed cotton fabrics was measured and assessed by applying the Kubelka–Munk equation as follow [28]:

\[
K/S = \frac{(1 - R)^2}{2R} - \frac{(1 - R_0)^2}{2R_0}
\]

where \(K\) is the absorption coefficient, \(S\) is the scattering coefficient, \(R_0\) is the reflectance of uncolored (white) sample, and \(R\) is the reflectance of colored sample.

The colour fastness to washing was determined according to the AATCC Test method 61-1975 using Launder-Ometer. [18] The colour fastness to crocking was determined according to the AATCC test method 8 – 1977 [25]. The colour fastness to perspiration was determined according to the AATCC test method 6 – 1977 [26]. Evaluation of the fastness was established using the Gray Scale reference for colour change.
Results and Discussion

Characterization of produced materials

Total conversion: The results in Table 1 and Figure 1 presented the total conversion percent for the prepared materials with each saturated fatty acid. Percent total conversion is an indication for the ability to produce material. It is indication for the conversion of carboxyl group in fatty acid to ester or amide with hydroxyl or amine group in polyalcohol or polyamine.

Table 1: Total conversion percentage for prepared materials from saturated fatty acids.

| Fatty acid     | Code      | Total Conversion (%) |
|----------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Stearic acid   | PEG 1000  | SA-1000              |
| (284.49)       | PEG 4000  | SA-4000              |
| CH₃(CH₂)₁₄COOH | PEG 6000  | SA-6000              |
|                | Stearyl alcohol | SA-Sa                  |
|                | PEI       | SA-PEI               |
|                | Octadecylamine | SA-OCT                |
| Palmitic acid  | PEG 1000  | PA-1000              |
| 256.43         | PEG 4000  | PA-4000              |
| CH₃(CH₂)₁₄COOH | PEG 6000  | PA-6000              |
|                | Stearyl alcohol | PA-SA                  |
|                | PEI       | PA-PEI               |
|                | Octadecylamine | PA-OCT                |
| Myristic acid  | PEG 1000  | My-1000              |
| 228.38         | PEG 4000  | My-4000              |
| CH₃(CH₂)₁₀COOH | PEG 6000  | My-6000              |
|                | Stearyl alcohol | My-SA                  |
|                | PEI       | My-PEI               |
|                | Octadecylamine | My-OCT                |

The results provide that, increasing the molecular weight of fatty acid (carbon chain number) led to decreasing in the total conversion for the same alcohol or amine compound. Furthermore, this increasing in the total conversion may be due to the flexibility of the fatty acid, which give more opportunity to increasing the reaction between the reactant. In addition, the ability of formation amid group higher than to for ester group which make the reactivity of PEI and OCTA higher than using other compounds.
HLB values and cloud point: The results for hydrophilic–lipophilic balance (HLB) and cloud point presented in Table 2 and Figure 2 for the prepared materials with each saturated fatty acid. Whereas, HLB is an indication for the suitable usage for each prepared material. In addition, cloud point gives information for the suitable application temperature.

Table 2: HLB-number and the function expected for prepared materials from saturated fatty acids.

| Fatty acid   | Code        | HLB  | Cloud Point |
|--------------|-------------|------|-------------|
| Stearic acid | PEG 1000    | 15.78| 88.5        |
|              | PEG 4000    | 18.75| >100        |
|              | PEG 6000    | 19.15| >100        |
|              | Stearyl alcohol | 10.04| 76          |
|              | PEI         | 19.91| 69.5        |
|              | octadecylamine | 10.02| 89.5        |
| Palmitic acid| PEG 1000    | 16.13| 86.5        |
|              | PEG 4000    | 18.87| >100        |
|              | PEG 6000    | 19.23| >100        |
|              | Stearyl alcohol | 10.59| 74          |
|              | PEI         | 19.92| 69          |
|              | octadecylamine | 10.57| 88          |
| Myristic acid| PEG 1000    | 16.51| 84.5        |
|              | PEG 4000    | 19.00| >100        |
|              | PEG 6000    | 19.32| >100        |
|              | Stearyl alcohol | 11.21| 72          |
|              | PEI         | 19.93| 67          |
|              | octadecylamine | 11.19| 86          |

Figure 2: HLB and Cloud point of fatty acids derivatives.

Table 3: HLB-number and the function expected from the product in aqueous solution.

| HLB       | Function                  | Suggested Product code |
|-----------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 to 3    | Anti-foaming agent        | -                      |
| 3 to 8    | W/O (water in oil) emulsifier | -                      |
| 7 to 9    | Wetting and spreading agent | -                      |
| 13 to 16  | Detergent                 | SA-1000                |
| 8 to 16   | O/W (oil in water) emulsifier | SA-1000               |
|           |                           | SA-Sa                  |
|           |                           | PA-Sa                  |
|           |                           | My-Sa                  |
|           |                           | SA-OCT                 |
|           |                           | PA-OCT                 |
|           |                           | My-OCT                 |
| 16 to 18 | Solubilize or Hydrotrope | PA-1000 | MA-1000 |
|----------|--------------------------|---------|---------|
| > 16     | Softener                 | PA-1000 | My-1000 |
|          |                          | SA-4000 | PA-4000 |
|          |                          | SA-6000 | PA-6000 |
|          |                          | SA-PEI  | PA-PEI  |

The results provide that, increasing the molecular weight of fatty acid cause decreasing the HLB and increasing the cloud point for the same alcohol or amine compound. HLB values of can be suggest the suitable function of each material based on the HLB. From the data in Table 3, it can conclude that:

a. Most of the produced materials, have HLB’s ranging from 8 to 18, these values are within the range of oil – in water (o/w) emulsifiers.

b. HLB’s of SA–1000 was falls in the range recommended for detergents (i.e. the range of 12–16).

c. HLB’s of MA–1000 and PA–1000 are fall in the range recommended for solubilizers (i.e. the range of 15–18).

d. From another view most of the prepared materials having HLB values more than 16, it is expected that their behavior in aqueous solutions are musch similar to PEG 6000 rather than the parent fatty acids [1,9]. So, the unique structures of all these materials, allow them to confer textiles softening effect.

Table 2 and Figure 2 shows the cloud points of the prepared materials with fatty acids under investigation. It is clear that, for the same fatty acid, the cloud point increases upon increasing PEG molecular weight. This can be ascribed to the accompanying increase in both hydrophilicity and hydrogen bonding, which requires more energy to break the latter and separate the condensate in a cloudy form. Furthermore, for hydroxyl or amine compounds, increase the molecular weight of saturated fatty acid led to increase the cloud point of the produced materials.

**FT-IR measurements:** FT-IR spectra for all prepared materials are presented in Figure 3 for saturated fatty acid derivatives. Spectra of fatty acid have peaks at 1110, 2850 – 2930, 2960 – 2960 and 1670 – 1710 cm\(^{-1}\) represent the C–O–C, OH, C–H and C=O respectively [1,9,12,29]. Furthermore, spectra of prepared materials show ester band (–O–C=O) at 1730 – 1740 cm\(^{-1}\) which attributed to presence of carbonyl group resulted from the reaction between carboxyl and hydroxyl groups. This band was observed in spectra of fatty acids at 1670 – 1710 cm\(^{-1}\). In addition, a peak for OH group at 3390 – 3420 cm\(^{-1}\) was observed in the spectra for produced material via material having dihydroxyl groups. Therefore, it can be concluded that, the ester group appears in the IR spectra of the condensates.

![Figure 3: FT-IR spectra of saturated fatty acid and its derivatives.](image-url)
On the other side, spectra for produced materials from materials having amine group (PEI and OCTA) show presence of three main functional groups; NH2, NH and CH2 (at 2850 and 2960 cm⁻¹) [30, 31]. In addition, there are two peaks appears at 1112 and 1645 cm⁻¹, which they corresponding to stretching vibration of the C-N group and bending vibration of the NH group of PEI respectively. In addition, the FT-IR spectrum of prepared materials with PEI or OCTA, the absorption peaks including (C=O, amide I and II (δ(NH); 1720, 1550 cm⁻¹) and (C-O-C, 1110 cm⁻¹), were observed. Therefore, it can be concluded that, the amide group appears in the IR spectra of the condensates of fatty acid with amine compounds.

**Prepared materials as auxiliaries for cotton fabric**

**Prepared materials as softeners:** Most of the prepared materials used as softener for cotton fabrics with three different concentration. Table 4 listed all the data about mechanical and physical properties of treated cotton fabrics. It is clear that, treated fabrics with prepared materials gained an enhancement in physical and mechanical properties in comparison with blank fabric. In addition, softening effect increase as increasing in the softener concentration. Wettability (means hydrophilicity) of the treated fabrics was reduced upon treatment, which noticeable provided at a concentration of 30 and 60 g/l than at 10 g/l.

**Table 4:** Mechanical and physical properties of treated cotton fabrics.

| Fatty Acid Derivatives Concentration | 10 (g/l) | 30 (g/l) | 60 (g/l) |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                     | R(µm)    | S(mg.cm) | CRA      | W        | R(µm)    | S(mg.cm) | CRA      | W        | R(µm)    | S(mg.cm) | CRA      | W        |
| Blank                              | 20.3     | 26497    | 181      | 4        | 20.3     | 26497    | 181      | 4        | 20.3     | 26497    | 181      | 4        |
| SA-4000                            | 19.1     | 16889    | 229      | 16       | 19.1     | 14889    | 235      | 40       | 19.1     | 14889    | 258      | 3        |
| SA-6000                            | 22.3     | 26751    | 252      | 3        | 22.3     | 23583    | 258      | 3        | 22.3     | 23583    | 258      | 3        |
| PA-1000                            | 18.3     | 17437    | 255      | 78       | 18.3     | 16112    | 269      | 99       | 18.3     | 16112    | 269      | 99       |
| PA-4000                            | 18.5     | 16111    | 252      | 49       | 18.5     | 14987    | 267      | 69       | 18.5     | 14987    | 267      | 69       |
| PA-6000                            | 18.9     | 14989    | 245      | 19       | 18.9     | 14103    | 251      | 27       | 18.9     | 14103    | 251      | 27       |
| PA-PEI                             | 23.5     | 26512    | 271      | 3        | 23.5     | 24945    | 282      | 2        | 23.5     | 24945    | 282      | 2        |
| My-1000                            | 18.3     | 16112    | 256      | 77       | 18.3     | 16002    | 270      | 86       | 18.3     | 16002    | 270      | 86       |
| My-4000                            | 19.4     | 14974    | 251      | 49       | 19.4     | 14998    | 266      | 64       | 19.4     | 14998    | 266      | 64       |
| My-6000                            | 20.1     | 14234    | 246      | 21       | 20.1     | 13876    | 252      | 28       | 20.1     | 13876    | 252      | 28       |
| My-PEI                             | 25.1     | 26312    | 271      | 2        | 25.1     | 25650    | 283      | 1        | 25.1     | 25650    | 283      | 1        |

R: Roughness, S: Stiffness, CRA: Crease Recovery Angle, W wettability

From another point of view, for the same fatty acid increase the molecular weight of PEG accompanied by increase in roughness with a drop-in stiffness and wettability. This observation is true also when increasing the molecular weight of fatty acid which accompanied by increased hydrophilicity of the produced materials.

Furthermore, reaction of fatty acid with compounds containing amine groups (PEI) led to increasing in the roughness and wettability with decreasing in stiffness properties of the treated fabrics. In addition, crease recovery angle for all treated fabrics with increasing concentration led to changing in the properties of treated fabrics with increasing or even decreasing according to the concentration.

Concerning to the concentration of produced materials, increased the concentration led to changing in the properties of treated fabrics with increasing or even decreasing according to the property.

**Prepared materials as emulsifier for printing paste:** Printing paste prepared using fatty acid derivatives as emulsifier were applied to cotton fabrics and then the printed fabrics were evaluated. Characteristics of the printed cotton fabrics (colour strength (K/S) and fastness properties) are presented in Table 5.

**Table 5:** Colour strength and fastness properties of printed cotton fabrics.

| Fatty acid derivatives | K/S  | Washing | Rubbing | Perspiration |
|------------------------|------|---------|---------|--------------|
|                        |      | St.     | Alt.    | St. Wet Dry  | St. Alt. St. Alt. 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr |
| Commercial emulsifier  | 3.75 | 3       | 4       | 2 2 2       | 4 4 4 4 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr |
| SA-1000                | 4.91 | 4       | 5-Apr   | 3-Feb 3-Feb | 4 4 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr |
| SA-Sa                  | 4.83 | 4       | 4       | 3-Feb 3-Feb | 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr |
| SA-OCT                 | 4.95 | 4       | 4       | 3-Feb 3-Feb | 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr 5-Apr |

Citation: Ahmed G Hassabo, Sahar Sharaawy, Amina L Mohamed. Saturated Fatty Acids Derivatives as Assistants Materials for Textile Processes. J Textile Sci & Fashion Tech. 1(4): 2018. JTSFT.MSID.000516. DOI: 10.3355/JTSTF2018.01.000516.
From the data in Table 5, all printed fabrics using pastes with prepared emulsifiers have comparable colour strength (K/S value). In addition, all pastes with fatty acid derivatives as emulsifier, give rise to washing, perspiration and light fastness of all printed fabrics are comparable to that containing commercial emulsifier in printing paste. Furthermore, rubbing fastness (wet and dry) of all prints are moderate, a characteristic of pigment prints has the nearby rubbing fastness values as that of commercial one.

### Stability of the paste upon storing

Evaluation of the stability of the printing paste upon time was studied by measuring the viscosity of the printing paste on different shear rate at different storing time. Table 6 listed the apparent viscosity for all printing paste upon different time (freshly prepared, after 7 days and one month) at different shear rate. From the data, it is clear that, all prepared pastes are stable during investigated storing time without any phase separation. Regardless of shear rate, that all printing pastes have higher viscosity upon storing; by meaning that, the higher the storing time is the higher the apparent viscosity. This phenomenon is common in some polymeric thickening printing pastes, [1,10] because of the better solubility and swelling of thickening agent over time. The increase in viscosity upon storing can be attributed to some changes in the paste internal structure, so that more hydrogen bonding can be formed between hydroxyl and amino groups of the fatty acid derivatives, with the external phases (water). Therefore, the binding between the two phases increases upon storing, leading to more resistance to flow [1,10].

**Table 6: effect of storing time on the viscosity of printing.**

| Storing Time | Shear Rate (S-1) | Apparent Viscosity (poise) |
|--------------|------------------|----------------------------|
|              | Commercial emulsifier | SA-1000 | SA-Sa | SA-OCT | PA-Sa | PA-OCT | My-Sa | My-OCT |
| Freshly Prepared | 2                | 144.6 | 120.5 | 132.6 | 126.5 | 129.5 | 128 | 128.8 | 128.4 |
|                | 20               | 43.8 | 40.3 | 42.1 | 41.2 | 41.6 | 41.4 | 41.5 | 41.4 |
|                | 50               | 18.3 | 15.2 | 16.8 | 16 | 16.4 | 16.2 | 16.3 | 16.2 |
|                | 100              | 11.4 | 12.3 | 11.9 | 12.1 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| After 7 days   | 2                | 190.6 | 187.7 | 189.2 | 188.4 | 188.8 | 188.6 | 188.7 | 188.7 |
|                | 20               | 57.7 | 62.8 | 60.3 | 61.5 | 60.9 | 61.2 | 61 | 61.1 |
|                | 50               | 24.1 | 23.7 | 23.9 | 23.8 | 23.8 | 23.8 | 23.8 | 23.8 |
|                | 100              | 15 | 19.2 | 17.1 | 18.1 | 17.6 | 17.9 | 17.7 | 17.8 |
| After 1 month  | 2                | 232 | 222.1 | 227.1 | 224.6 | 225.8 | 225.2 | 225.5 | 225.3 |
|                | 20               | 70.3 | 74.3 | 72.3 | 73.3 | 72.8 | 73 | 72.9 | 73 |
|                | 50               | 29.4 | 28 | 28.7 | 28.4 | 28.5 | 28.4 | 28.5 | 28.5 |
|                | 100              | 18.3 | 22.7 | 20.5 | 21.6 | 21 | 21.3 | 21.2 | 21.2 |

**Conclusion**

Three different saturated fatty acid (stearic, palmitic and myristic acid) were reacted with six different materials having mono functional group (octadecylamine (amino group) and stearyl alcohol (hydroxyl group)) or bifunctional groups (polyethylene glycol 1000, 4000 and 6000) or polyfunctional groups (polyethyleneimine) at equimolar ratio, at 180⁰C, 8 h. Percent total conversion was high (around 82.98 – 97.33 %). FT-IR spectra of produced materials proved the presence of ester or amide groups in O/W emulsion have succeed to prepare a good printing paste with good prints characteristics (colour strength and colour fastness). Furthermore, suggesting material from HLB values using as finishing agents have succeed to use as finishing agent with very good physical and mechanical properties.

**Acknowledgement**

This project was supported financially by the National Research Centre (NRC), Egypt, project No. 11090127). Furthermore, the authors also gratefully grateful acknowledge to National Research Centre (NRC) for facilities provided.

**Conflict of Interest**

There is no conflict of interest.

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