Data Article

Data on the role of accessible surface area on osmolytes-induced protein stabilization

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This paper describes data related to the research article “Testing the dependence of stabilizing effect of osmolytes on the fractional increase in the accessible surface area on thermal and chemical denaturations of proteins” [1]. Heat- and guanidinium chloride (GdmCl)-induced denaturation of three disulfide free proteins (bovine cytochrome c (b-cyt-c), myoglobin (Mb) and barstar) in the presence of different concentrations of methylamines (sarcosine, glycine-betaine (GB) and trimethylamine-N-oxide (TMAO)) was monitored by [θ]222, the mean residue ellipticity at 222 nm at pH 7.0. Methylamines belong to a class of osmolytes known to protect proteins from deleterious effect of urea. This paper includes comprehensive thermodynamic data obtained from the heat- and GdmCl-induced denaturations of barstar, b-cyt-c and Mb.

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How data were acquired
Experiments were performed using Jasco spectropolarimeter, Model J-1500-150 (JASCO Corporation, Japan), equipped with Peltier-type temperature controller.

Data format
Raw, Plotted, analyzed

Experimental factors
All samples and buffers were filtered with 0.22 μm Millipore filters and degassed.

Experimental features
All CD spectra were recorded at 1 nm band width, temperature scan rate 1 °C/min and data was collected at every 0.1 °C

Data source location
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, India

Data accessibility
Data are accessible in this article

Value of the data

- Methylamines are stabilizing osmolytes. That is, they shift midpoint of denaturation curves to higher $C_m$ (midpoint of the GdmCl-induced unfolding transition) and $T_m$ (midpoint of the heat-induced unfolding transition). $C_m$ and $T_m$ increase with increase in concentrations of methylamines.
- Stabilization effect of methylamines in terms of $\Delta G^o_D$ (Gibbs free energy change) obtained from GdmCl-induced denaturation studies are found to be more than that from thermal transitions in cases of Mb and barstar.
- The stabilizing effect of methylamine against heat- and GdmCl-induced denaturation is same in the case of b-cyt-c.

1. Data

Heat- and GdmCl-induced transition curves of proteins were monitored by $[\theta]_{222}$ measurements. These transition curves were analyzed for thermodynamic parameters according to Eqs.(1)–(4).

We have carried out GdmCl- and heat-induced denaturation experiments of barstar, b-cyt-c and Mb in the absence and presence of different concentrations of different methylamine by following the change in $[\theta]_{222}$ (probe for measuring change in secondary structure). Fig. 1 shows GdmCl-induced denaturation curves of Mb, barstar and b-cyt-c in the absence and presence of 0.25 and 0.75 M of each of sarcosine, glycine-betaine and TMAO at pH 7.0 and 25 °C. Denaturation of each of protein was found to be reversible in entire range of methylamine concentrations. Each transition curve was measured at least three times, and analyzed for thermodynamic parameters using the Eq. (1). Values of $\Delta G^o_D$, $m_g$ and $C_m$ thus obtained are given elsewhere [1].

Fig. 2 shows heat-induced denaturation curves of Mb, barstar and b-cyt-c in the presence of 0, 0.25 and 0.75 M sarcosine, glycine-betaine and TMAO at pH 7.0. Furthermore, Figs. 3–5 show heat-induced denaturation curves of these proteins in the presence of 0.25, 0.5, 0.75 and 1.0 M of each methylamine (sarcosine, glycine-betaine and TMAO) at pH values other than 7.0. All these denaturation curves (Figs. 2–5) were monitored by change in $[\theta]_{222}$ and were measured at least in triplicate. Thermal denaturation of each protein in the entire range of each [methylamine], the molar concentration of methylamine, was reversible at all pH values. It was observed that the temperature-dependence of $y_N$, the optical property of the native (N) state of the protein depends on neither [methylamine] nor pH. However, $y_D$, the optical property of the denatured (D) state of the protein depends on pH (Figs. 2–5).

Each denaturation curve of the protein at given (methylamine) was analyzed for thermodynamic parameters, namely $\Delta H_m$, $T_m$, $\Delta C_p$ and $\Delta G^o_D$ using Eqs. (2)–(4), and the values are given in Tables 1–3 (values for pH 7.0 are given elsewhere [1]). Fig. 6 shows far-UV CD spectra of Mb and b-cyt-c in the absence and presence of different concentrations of GdmCl at 85 °C. It is seen in this figure that $[\theta]_{222}$ of Mb depends significantly on the (GdmCl). However, this dependence is insignificant in the case of b-cyt-c.
Fig. 1. GdmCl-induced denaturation curves of proteins: GdmCl-induced denaturation curves of Mb, barstar and b-cyt-c in the presence of 0.25 and 0.75 M osmolytes at pH 7.0 and 25 °C: control (○) represents denaturation curve in the absence of osmolytes. Symbols (△), (∇) and (▢) represent 0.25 M sarcosine, 0.25 M TMAO and 0.25 MGB, respectively, while (▲) and (▼) represent 0.75 M TMAO, 0.75 M sarcosine and 0.75 MGB, respectively. To maintain clarity all data points are not shown.
Fig. 2. Heat-induced denaturation curves of proteins at pH 7.0: Heat-induced denaturation curves of Mb, barstar and b-cyt-c in the presence 0.25 and 0.75 M osmolytes at pH 7.0: Denaturation curves in cases of Mb and b-cyt-c were obtained in the presence of 0.6 and 1.25 M GdmCl, respectively. Symbols have same meaning as in Fig. 1.
2. Experimental design, materials and methods

2.1. GdmCl-induced denaturation studies in the absence and presence of methylamines

GdmCl-induced transition between N and D states of b-cyt-c, Mb, and barstar in the absence and presence of different methylamines were monitored by [θ]_{222} at pH 7.0 and 25 °C. Using a non-linear least-squares method, the entire data (y(g), |g|) of each denaturant-induced transition curve were

Fig. 3. Heat-induced denaturation of Mb: Heat-induced denaturation curves of Mb in the absence and presence of 0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75 M and 1.0 M osmolytes: (A) Sarcosine, TMAO and GB at pH values 5.5; (B) Sarcosine, TMAO and GB at pH values 5.7; and (C) Sarcosine, TMAO and GB at pH values 6.0. Lines (solid line), (long dash), (short dash), (dotted) and (dash-dot) represent 0.00, 0.25, 0.50, 0.75 and 1.00 M of each of co-solute, respectively. These denaturation curves were obtained in the presence of 0.6 GdmCl.
analyzed for $\Delta G_0^D$, $m_g$ and $C_m$ using the relation [2],

$$y(g) = \frac{y_N(g) + y_D(g) \times e^{-(\Delta G_0^D + m_{g}(g))/RT}}{1 + e^{-(\Delta G_0^D + m_{g}(g))/RT}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)$$

where $y(g)$ is the observed $[\theta]_{222}$ at $[g]$, the molar concentration of GdmCl, $y_N$ and $y_D$ are $[\theta]_{222}$ values of N and D molecules under the same experimental conditions in which $y(g)$ was measured, $\Delta G_0^D$ is the value of Gibbs free energy change in the absence of the denaturant, $m_g$ is the slope ($\partial \Delta G_D/\partial [g])_{T,P}$, $R$ is the universal gas constant and $T$ is the temperature in Kelvin. It should, however, be noted that the derivation of Eq. (1) assumes that GdmCl-induced denaturation of each protein is a two-state process. Another assumption is that $[g]$-dependencies of $y_N(g)$ and $y_D(g)$ are linear (i.e., $y_N(g) = a_N + b_N [g]$ and $y_D(g) = a_D + b_D [g]$, where $a$ and $b$ are $[g]$-independent parameters, and subscripts N and D represent these parameters for the native and denatured protein molecules, respectively.

Fig. 4. Heat-induced denaturation of barstar: Heat-induced denaturation curves of barstar in the absence and presence of 0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75 M and 1.0 M osmolytes: (A) Sarcosine, TMAO and GB at pH values 7.5; (B) Sarcosine, TMAO and GB at pH values 8.0; and (C) Sarcosine, TMAO and GB at pH values 9.0. Lines have same meaning as in Fig. 3.
Heat-induced denaturation studies in the presence and absence of osmolytes

Heat-induced denaturation of Mb, b-cyt-c and barstar in the absence and presence of different concentrations of each osmolyte (sarcosine, TMAO and glycine betaine) were monitored by $\theta_{222}$ at different pH values. Methods for determining the authentic values of thermodynamic parameters from the analysis of thermal denaturation curves of optical properties have already been published [3–5]. It should be noted that this analysis assumes that (i) the transition between N and D states of the protein in the absence and presence of each osmolyte is a two-state process, and (ii) structural characteristics of both N and D states are not affected by osmolytes. Each denaturation curve of the protein at a given [methylamine] and pH was analyzed for $T_m$ and $\Delta H_m$ using a non-linear least-squares method that involves fitting the entire ($\theta_{222}$, $T$) data of the transition curve to Eq. (2) with all

![Fig. 5.](image-url)

Fig. 5. Heat-induced denaturation of b-cyt-c. Heat-induced denaturation curves of b-cyt-c in the absence and presence of 0, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75 M and 1.0 M osmolytes: (A) Sarcosine, TMAO and GB at pH values 6.0; (B) Sarcosine, TMAO and GB at pH values 6.5; and (C) Sarcosine, TMAO and GB at pH values 7.5. Lines have same meaning as in Fig. 3. These denaturation curves were obtained in the presence of 1.25 M GdmCl.

2.2. Heat-induced denaturation studies in the presence and absence of osmolytes

Heat-induced denaturation of Mb, b-cyt-c and barstar in the absence and presence of different concentrations of each osmolyte (sarcosine, TMAO and glycine betaine) were monitored by $\theta_{222}$ at different pH values. Methods for determining the authentic values of thermodynamic parameters from the analysis of thermal denaturation curves of optical properties have already been published [3–5]. It should be noted that this analysis assumes that (i) the transition between N and D states of the protein in the absence and presence of each osmolyte is a two-state process, and (ii) structural characteristics of both N and D states are not affected by osmolytes. Each denaturation curve of the protein at a given [methylamine] and pH was analyzed for $T_m$ and $\Delta H_m$ using a non-linear least-squares method that involves fitting the entire ($\theta_{222}$, $T$) data of the transition curve to Eq. (2) with all
where $y(T)$ is the optical property at temperature $T$ (Kelvin), $y_N(T)$ and $y_D(T)$ are the optical properties of the native and denatured protein molecules at temperature $T$ (Kelvin) and $R$ is the gas constant. As described earlier [3–5], in the analysis of the transition curve, it was assumed that a parabolic function describes the dependence of the optical properties of the native and denatured protein

$$y(T) = \frac{y_N(T) + y_D(T)\exp[-\Delta H_m/R(1/T - 1/T_m)]}{1 + \exp[-\Delta H_m/R(1/T - 1/T_m)]}$$

Table 1

| [Osmolytes] | pH 5.5 | | pH 5.7 | | pH 6.0 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| M           | $\Delta G_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ | $T_m$(°C) | $\Delta H_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ | $\Delta G_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ | $T_m$(°C) | $\Delta H_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ |
| +Sarcosine  +TMAO +GB | | | | | | |
| 0.00 | 4.80 ± 0.20 | 775 ± 4 | 101 ± 3 | 5.15 ± 0.19 | 79.5 ± 0.3 | 105 ± 3 | 5.51 ± 0.35 | 82.5 ± 0.4 | 110 ± 4 |
| 0.25 | 5.06 ± 0.38 | 78.3 ± 4 | 102 ± 3 | 5.41 ± 0.28 | 80.4 ± 0.4 | 106 ± 3 | 6.13 ± 0.28 | 83.5 ± 0.3 | 113 ± 3 |
| 0.50 | 5.22 ± 0.33 | 79.7 ± 3 | 103 ± 3 | 5.57 ± 0.18 | 81.9 ± 0.4 | 107 ± 2 | 6.31 ± 0.17 | 84.9 ± 0.3 | 114 ± 2 |
| 0.75 | 5.38 ± 0.45 | 81.0 ± 4 | 106 ± 4 | 5.73 ± 0.33 | 83.1 ± 0.3 | 110 ± 3 | 6.52 ± 0.34 | 86.7 ± 0.2 | 116 ± 3 |
| 1.00 | 5.80 ± 0.17 | 82.3 ± 4 | 108 ± 2 | 6.12 ± 0.38 | 84.6 ± 0.3 | 112 ± 4 | 6.92 ± 0.42 | 87.8 ± 0.4 | 118 ± 4 |

Table 2

| [Osmolytes] | pH 6.0 | | pH 6.5 | | pH 7.5 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| M           | $\Delta G_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ | $T_m$(°C) | $\Delta H_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ | $\Delta G_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ | $T_m$(°C) | $\Delta H_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ |
| +Sarcosine  +TMAO +GB | | | | | | |
| 0.00 | 9.51 ± 0.39 | 80.4 ± 0.5 | 97 ± 3 | 9.95 ± 0.23 | 84.3 ± 0.4 | 99 ± 2 | 11.28 ± 0.22 | 89.1 ± 0.3 | 106 ± 3 |
| 0.25 | 9.82 ± 0.17 | 82.5 ± 0.4 | 98 ± 2 | 10.42 ± 0.29 | 85.2 ± 0.4 | 101 ± 4 | 11.60 ± 0.10 | 90.6 ± 0.3 | 107 ± 3 |
| 0.50 | 10.49 ± 0.18 | 84.4 ± 0.4 | 102 ± 3 | 10.93 ± 0.40 | 87.0 ± 0.3 | 104 ± 3 | 12.11 ± 0.34 | 91.1 ± 0.2 | 110 ± 2 |
| 0.75 | 10.95 ± 0.19 | 86.1 ± 0.3 | 103 ± 4 | 11.71 ± 0.34 | 89.7 ± 0.3 | 107 ± 3 | 12.74 ± 0.15 | 93.2 ± 0.2 | 112 ± 2 |
| 1.00 | 11.64 ± 0.23 | 89.1 ± 0.5 | 106 ± 3 | 12.69 ± 0.22 | 92.3 ± 0.4 | 111 ± 2 | 13.50 ± 0.26 | 94.8 ± 0.3 | 115 ± 4 |

eight free parameters ($a_N$, $b_N$, $c_N$, $a_D$, $b_D$, $c_D$, $T_m$ and $\Delta H_m$).
Table 3
Thermodynamic parameters associated with the thermal denaturation of barstar in the absence and presence of sarcosine, TMAO and GB at different concentrations and pH values.

| Osmylates | pH 7.5 | | pH 8.0 | | pH 9.0 | |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|           | $\Delta G^o_{D}$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ | $T_m$ (°C) | $\Delta H_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ | $\Delta G^o_{D}$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ | $T_m$ (°C) | $\Delta H_m$ kcal mol$^{-1}$ |
| Sarcosine | 0.00   | 4.05 ± 0.16 | 69.4 ± 0.2 | 61 ± 3 | 3.58 ± 0.20 | 66.0 ± 0.3 | 57 ± 4 | 3.02 ± 0.24 | 62.0 ± 0.3 | 52 ± 3 |
|           | 0.25   | 4.51 ± 0.22 | 70.2 ± 0.2 | 64 ± 2 | 3.92 ± 0.16 | 66.9 ± 0.3 | 59 ± 3 | 3.42 ± 0.17 | 63.0 ± 0.2 | 55 ± 2 |
|           | 0.50   | 4.78 ± 0.18 | 71.3 ± 0.4 | 66 ± 3 | 4.19 ± 0.18 | 67.6 ± 0.2 | 61 ± 3 | 3.51 ± 0.21 | 63.5 ± 0.2 | 56 ± 3 |
|           | 0.75   | 5.19 ± 0.16 | 72.2 ± 0.3 | 69 ± 2 | 4.52 ± 0.24 | 68.7 ± 0.4 | 64 ± 4 | 3.87 ± 0.19 | 64.4 ± 0.3 | 59 ± 2 |
|           | 1.00   | 5.55 ± 0.21 | 73.1 ± 0.2 | 72 ± 2 | 4.86 ± 0.21 | 69.8 ± 0.3 | 67 ± 4 | 4.19 ± 0.18 | 65.1 ± 0.4 | 62 ± 3 |
| TMAO      | 0.25   | 4.39 ± 0.22 | 70.3 ± 0.3 | 63 ± 2 | 3.82 ± 0.19 | 66.8 ± 0.3 | 59 ± 3 | 3.33 ± 0.19 | 63.1 ± 0.2 | 54 ± 3 |
|           | 0.50   | 4.69 ± 0.23 | 70.8 ± 0.2 | 66 ± 3 | 4.06 ± 0.16 | 67.6 ± 0.2 | 60 ± 2 | 3.58 ± 0.27 | 63.8 ± 0.3 | 56 ± 2 |
|           | 0.75   | 4.93 ± 0.21 | 71.5 ± 0.2 | 67 ± 3 | 4.31 ± 0.26 | 68.5 ± 0.3 | 63 ± 2 | 3.70 ± 0.21 | 64.2 ± 0.3 | 58 ± 3 |
|           | 1.00   | 5.30 ± 0.24 | 72.7 ± 0.3 | 70 ± 2 | 4.57 ± 0.24 | 69.4 ± 0.4 | 65 ± 4 | 3.94 ± 0.18 | 65.0 ± 0.2 | 60 ± 4 |
| GB        | 0.25   | 4.30 ± 0.17 | 70.0 ± 0.3 | 63 ± 3 | 3.75 ± 0.22 | 66.7 ± 0.3 | 58 ± 4 | 3.24 ± 0.21 | 62.8 ± 0.2 | 54 ± 2 |
|           | 0.50   | 4.56 ± 0.21 | 70.9 ± 0.2 | 65 ± 2 | 3.94 ± 0.18 | 67.4 ± 0.2 | 60 ± 3 | 3.47 ± 0.19 | 63.5 ± 0.3 | 56 ± 2 |
|           | 0.75   | 4.79 ± 0.25 | 71.0 ± 0.3 | 65 ± 3 | 4.20 ± 0.25 | 68.3 ± 0.3 | 62 ± 3 | 3.75 ± 0.18 | 64.0 ± 0.2 | 57 ± 4 |
|           | 1.00   | 5.11 ± 0.24 | 72.1 ± 0.2 | 70 ± 2 | 4.40 ± 0.27 | 69.2 ± 0.2 | 64 ± 2 | 3.94 ± 0.23 | 65.2 ± 0.2 | 61 ± 3 |

Fig. 6. The far-UV CD spectra of Mb (A) and b-cyt-c (B) in the presence of different concentrations of GdmCl as indicated in the figure: For comparison of these spectra, the far-UV CD spectra of proteins in the absence of GdmCl at 25 °C (native state) are also shown in this figure.
molecules (i.e., \( y_N(T) = a_N + b_N T + c_N T^2 \), and \( y_D(T) = a_D + b_D T + c_D T^2 \), where \( a_N, b_N, c_N, a_D, b_D, \) and \( c_D \) are temperature-independent coefficients). The temperature-independent constant-pressure heat capacity change (\( \Delta C_p \)) was determined from slope of the linear plot of \( \Delta H_m \) versus \( T_m \), using the relation:

\[
\Delta C_p = \frac{\partial \Delta H_m}{\partial T_m} p
\]  

Using values of \( T_m, \Delta H_m \) and \( \Delta C_p \) the value of \( \Delta G_D \) at any temperature \( T \), \( \Delta G_D(T) \), was estimated with the help of Gibbs-Helmholtz equation:

\[
\Delta G_D(T) = \Delta H_m \left( \frac{T_m - T}{T_m} \right) - \Delta C_p \left[ (T_m - T) + T \ln \left( \frac{T_m}{T} \right) \right]
\]

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