

Note

Interaction of nitroglycerin with 6-*O*- α -maltosylcyclomaltoheptaose

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The application of cyclomaltoheptaose (β -cyclodextrin, β CD) in the pharmaceutical field is limited by its relatively low aqueous solubility. Many kinds of branched CDs have been studied¹ because they are significantly more soluble in water than the natural CDs, and some have found pharmaceutical applications particularly in injection preparations^{2,3}. We now report on the complexation of the vasodilator (coronary) glycerol trinitrate (nitroglycerin, TNG) with 6-*O*- α -maltosyl- β -cyclodextrin (G_2 - β CD) in comparison with the complexation of β CD^{4,5} and other β CD derivatives⁶.

The formation of a complex between TNG and G_2 - β CD in aqueous solution was studied using the solubility method. Fig. 1 shows an equilibrium-phase solubility diagram obtained for the TNG/ G_2 - β CD system at 5°. The plot shows a typical A_L -type solubility curve [cf. the B_S -type curve for the TNG/ β CD system^{4,5} and the A_P -type curve of the TNG/water-soluble β CD polymer (CDPS) system⁶]. The apparent stability constant (K') of the TNG/ G_2 - β CD system, assuming that a 1:1 complex was formed, was 67.95 M^{-1} at 5° (cf. 29.4 M^{-1} for the TNG/CDPS complex, and 181 M^{-1} for the TNG/ β CD complex).

¹H-N.m.r. techniques were used to elucidate the interactions of TNG/ G_2 - β CD in aqueous solution (see Table I). On complexation, four signals of TNG were shifted to higher field and two were shifted to lower field. The chemical shift data were similar for the TNG/ G_2 - β CD and TNG/ β CD systems, and suggest that the TNG molecule is included partially in the cavity of G_2 - β CD and β CD.

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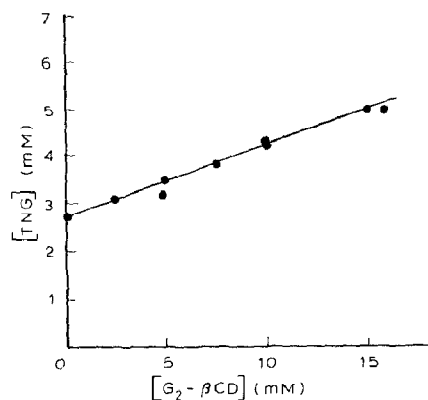
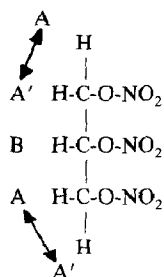


Fig. 1. Phase solubility diagram of TNG/G₂-βCD in water at 5°.

TABLE I

¹H-N.M.R. DATA FROM TNG IN PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF βCD OR G₂-βCD^a



Proton ^b	Chemical shift (p.p.m.)				
	TNG (δ ₀)	Plus CD (δ ₁)	(δ ₁ - δ ₀)	Plus G ₂ -βCD (δ ₂)	(δ ₂ - δ ₀)
A	4.5963 ^c	4.5872	-0.0091	4.5847	-0.0116
	4.6293 ^c	4.6201	-0.0092	4.6180	-0.0113
A'	4.7407 ^c	4.7444	0.0037	4.7450	0.0043
	4.7737 ^c	4.7774	0.0037	4.7780	0.0043
B	5.5566 ^d	5.5517	-0.0049	5.5499	-0.0067

^aβCD, 0.01M; G₂-βCD, 0.01M; TNG, 0.005M; in D₂O. ^bThe protons A and A' were not assigned individually, because of their mobility and symmetrical structure. ^cCentre point of a doublet. ^dCentral main peak of multiplet.

The complexation of TNG with G₂-βCD and βCD by the grinding method is shown in Fig. 2. The velocity for G₂-βCD was slightly lower, possibly because of steric hindrance by the maltose moiety⁷. On the basis of the results of differential scanning calorimetry (Fig. 3), there was no significant difference between the

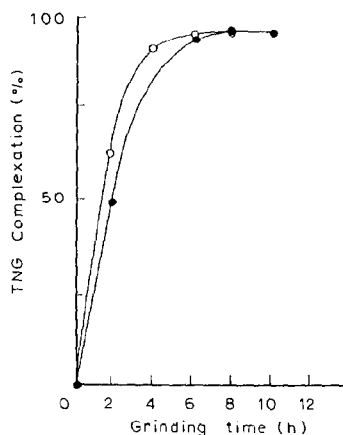


Fig. 2. Effect of time of grinding on the complexation of TNG with β CD (○) and G_2 - β CD (●).

TNG/ G_2 - β CD and TNG/ β CD complexes formed by the grinding and solvent evaporation methods.

The stabilities of the TNG/ G_2 - β CD and TNG/ β CD complexes at 37° are shown in Fig. 4 and those at 37°/3 mmHg in Fig. 5. The volatility of TNG was reduced greatly on complexation and there was no significant difference between the complexes.

The interaction of TNG with G_2 - β CD in 0.02M sodium hydroxide was studied in order to evaluate the effect on the degradation of TNG using parameter K , based on semi-log plots of $\ln(C/C_0)$ -time. As shown in Fig. 6, the rate of degrada-

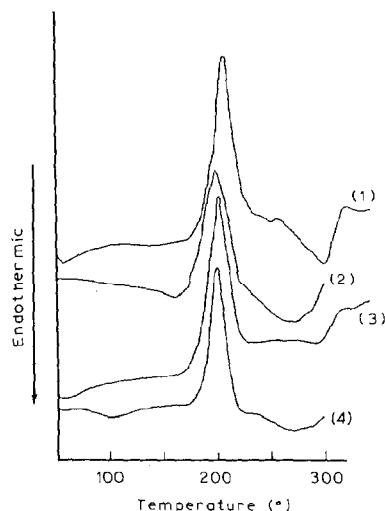


Fig. 3. Differential scanning calorimetry at 5°/min of TNG/ G_2 - β CD prepared by evaporation (1) and grinding (2) methods, and TNG/ β CD prepared by evaporation (3) and grinding (4) methods.

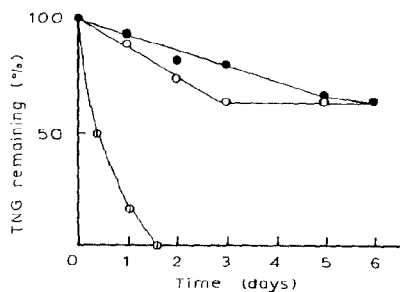


Fig. 4. Loss of TNG at 37° from TNG/βCD (○), TNG/G₂-βCD (●), and TNG/pullulan (⊕) (the pullulan was used as an inactive additive).

tion increased in the series $\beta\text{CD} < \text{G}_2\text{-}\beta\text{CD} < \text{DM-}\beta\text{CD} < \text{CDPS}$. Experiments at various temperatures and the activation energies of TNG degradation were calculated from the Arrhenius plot. Fig. 7 shows the relationship between activation energy and stability constant. The acceleration of phenyl ester cleavage by CDs has been explained on the basis that the secondary hydroxyl groups are the active sites⁸. In TNG/CD systems, however, the hydroxyl groups seem not to play an important role in the degradation of TNG because reduction of the number of hydroxyl groups increased the rate of degradation. The mechanism of degradation of TNG by CDs is being investigated further. The loss of isosorbide dinitrate in medications is reduced⁹ by βCD. The data presented herein demonstrate that the addition of any kind of CD in alkaline solution in order to prevent the loss of TNG will promote the degradation of TNG.

EXPERIMENTAL

Materials. — G₂-βCD, kindly donated by the Nikken Chemical Co. Ltd., was a white powder that was 100% pure (h.p.l.c.), had $[\alpha]_D^{20} +167^\circ$ (water), and a solubility in water (20°) of ~1.7 g/mL. βCD and DM-βCD [hexakis(2,6-di-*O*-methyl)cyclomaltoheptaose] were supplied by Nihon Shokuhin Kako Co. Ltd.

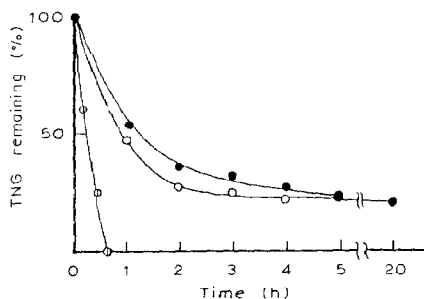


Fig. 5. Loss of TNG at 37°/3 mmHg from TNG/βCD (○), TNG/G₂-βCD (●), and TNG/pullulan (⊕).

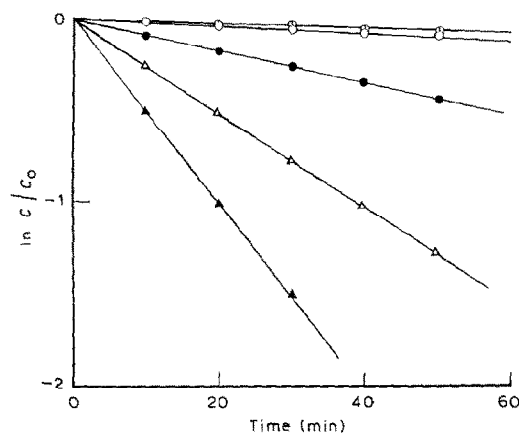


Fig. 6. Degradation of TNG at 27° in 0.02M NaOH: alone (○) and in the presence of β CD (●), G_2 - β CD (▲), CDPS (▲), and DM- β CD (△).

Water-soluble CD polymer was prepared as described¹⁰. Nitroglycerin was gift from Nippon Kayaku Co. Ltd.

Solubility studies. — The method of Higuchi and Connors¹¹ was used. The concentration of TNG in solution was determined by h.p.l.c.

Preparation of inclusion compounds. — (a) TNG and G_2 - β CD or β CD (molar ratio 1:1) were added to water, and each mixture was concentrated using a rotary evaporator.

(b) TNG and G_2 - β CD or β CD (molar ratio 1:1) were ground¹² at 85 r.p.m. for an appropriate time, using a Boll mill (Irie Shokai, Model V-1).

Physical methods. — Differential scanning calorimetry was performed at 5°/min with a Rigaku Denki TAS-100 instrument.

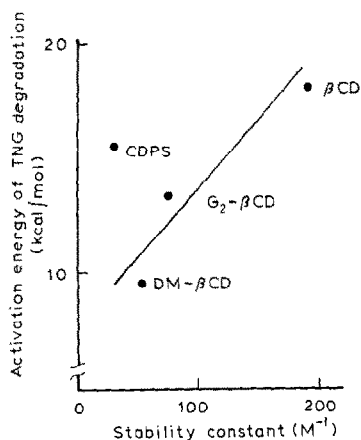


Fig. 7. Relationship between the activation energy for the degradation of TNG in 0.02M NaOH and the stability constants of the TNG/CD systems.

$^1\text{H-N.m.r.}$ spectra (400 MHz) were recorded at 37° with a JEOL GX-400 spectrometer (external Me_4Si).

Kinetics of the degradation of TNG. — Aliquots (5 mL) of 1.06mM TNG and 2.11mM $\text{G}_2\text{-}\beta\text{CD}$ in 0.02M NaOH were kept in sealed vessels at 17° , 27° , and 37° ($\pm 0.5^\circ$). At appropriate intervals, the concentrations of TNG in solution were determined by h.p.l.c. using a Jasco Model 800 system equipped with a variable-wavelength u.v. detector at 210 nm, and a column (4.5 mm \times 15 cm) of Chemcosorb[®] ODS-H (7 μm) (Chemko Scientific Co. Ltd.) with aqueous 50% methanol as the mobile phase.

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