

## SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC METHOD FOR DETERMINATION OF TRIMETHOPRIM BY USING NQS

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**ABSTRACT :** A sensitive and simple spectrophotometric method to assay the Trimethoprim was investigated. The method based on Schiff base formation reaction of Trimethoprim with 1, 2-naphthoquinone sulphonate (NQS), in the buffer solution of carbonate and sodium carbonate in an aqueous solution to give coloured interaction product with maximal absorption at 478nm. As well Beer's Law was obeyed in the range of (5-16 µg/mL). The limit of detection and quantitation were 0.0436 and 0.135 µg/mL respectively, the average recovery was 100.38% and the relative standard deviation was 0.380. Also it was found that the product formed in ratio of 2:1 product. The stability constant of  $6.21 \times 10^7 \text{ L.mol}^{-1}$ . Therefore, the placebo method was successfully applied to the assay of Trimethoprim in pharmaceutical formulations.

**Key words :** Trimethoprim, NQS, Schiff's base.

### INTRODUCTION

Trimethoprim is a drug contains the active element methoprim, which is an antibiotic used to treat the infections along with bacteria (Garwick, 1996), where bacterial cell need to produce DNA in order to grow and reproduce. This drug prohibits the bacteria producing the folic acid therefore the bacteria cannot reproduce and increase (Kimmitt *et al*, 2000). Various analytical methods have been recorded for determination of it in pure or dosage forms including chromatographic methods (Lazar and Mouzdahir, 2014), Voltammetry (Rajith and Kumar, 2010), titrimetry (Meeran *et al*, 2001), atomic absorption (Rose *et al*, 1988), flow injection (Fernandez *et al*, 2003) and ion selective electrode (Helder *et al*, 2014). The above techniques are critical, but expensive method several spectrophotometric procedures have been applied for determination of trimethoprim using different reagents including p-chloranilic acid reagent (Olajira *et al*, 2014), Blue prothaimol so green promocresol and the red alizarin in different organic medium (El-Ansary *et al*, 1999), 2,4 (Dinitro-1-floro benzene) reagent in acetone medium (Al-Sabah and Hamody, 2011), Bromocresol purple reagent by extraction of double ionic yellow (Nagaraja *et al*, 2012), also spectrophotometric methods for determination of Trimethoprim with sulfamethoxazole in Dual mix (Alatas and Wulansari, 2008).

### Experimental Apparatus

UV- VIS spectrophotometer 1650 shimadzu cell 1cm

path length silica cell. Pw 9421-pH meter with a common glass electrode was used for pH measurements. The reagent is supplied by BDH, Fluka and Molekula companies; a standard solution of 100 µg/ml of trimethoprim was prepared by dissolving 0.01g in 2ml of water and diluting to the mark with distilled water in 100ml volumetric flask.  $5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$  of NQS reagent was made by dissolving 0.065g in distilled water and making the Volume up to 50ml in a volumetric flask, this Solution was made fresh as a daily procedure.

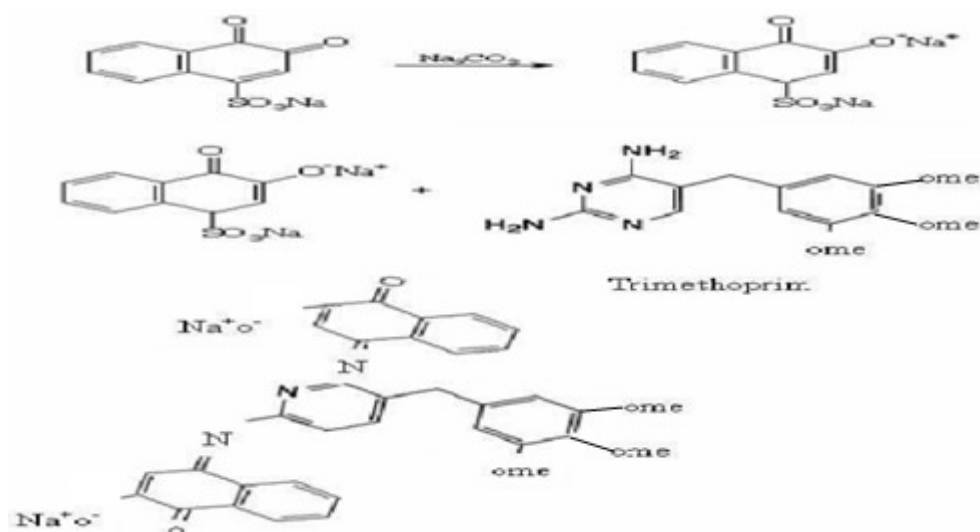
0.1M sodium bicarbonate was prepared by dissolving 2.65g in distilled water and making the volume up to 250 ml in a volumetric flask. 0.1M sodium hydroxide was prepared by dissolving 1gm in 250mL in distilled water, 0.1 gm % of CPC was prepared in warm distilled water.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

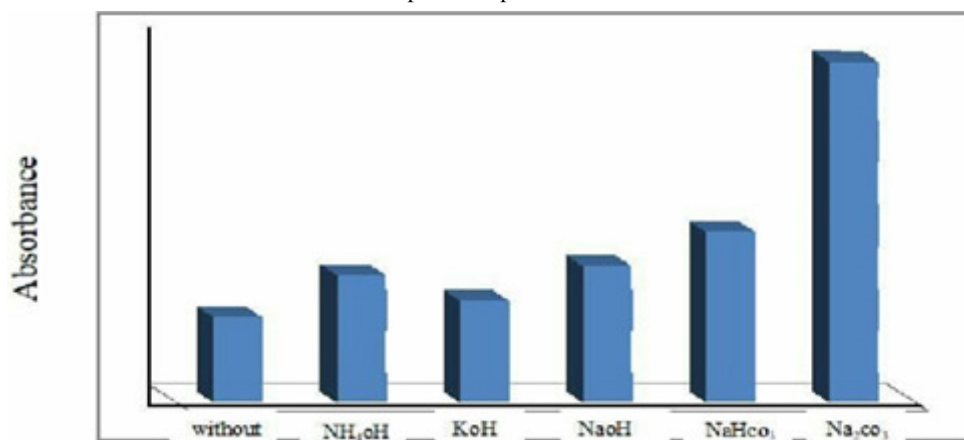
Study of the optimum reaction conditions to prove the sensitivity of proposed, the reagent concentrations must be optimized the parameters were optimized by settling all parameters constant and optimizing one each time at 55 for 20 min.

### Test of types bases

To obtain high sensitivity for the product the test of some bases such as sodium hydroxide sodium bicarbonate sodium carbonate, potassium hydroxide and ammonium hydroxide, as shown in Fig. 1. Sodium carbonate gave maximum absorption at 478 nm.



**Scheme 1** : shows the probable product formation mechanism.



**Fig. 1** : Effect of bases.

As well the effect of the sodium carbonate amount and pH were studied and found that 1.5 ml gave maximum absorbance at pH 10.5 (Fig. 2).

#### Effect of buffer solution

The effect of buffer solution with pH 10.5 was examined such as ammonium, borate, carbonate and phosphate buffers, but decrease in the absorbance of the product was observed.

#### Effect of NQS reagent

The absorbance increase with increasing NQS concentration and reached maximum on using 0.8 ml of  $5 \times 10^{-3}$  M NQS. Table 2, which is recommended this work.

#### Effect of temperature and developing time

The reaction time was determined by following the colour development at room temperature and at different temperature up to 60°C. It was observed that the absorbance reached maximum after 25 min at 40°C and remained constant for 35 min, Table 3 show the results. 25 min at 40°C was used in this work.

#### Effect of Surfactants

The impact of surfactants such as (CTAB), (CPC), (TW 80) and (TX-100) of 0.1% concentration. the (TX-100) increased the absorbance of trimethoprim – NQS product, but other surfactant showed negative impact as shown in Table 2, therefore (TX-100) was selected in this method. The absorbance increase with an increased (TX -100) concentration up to 1ml (Fig. 3).

#### Effect of order addition

The order of addition of addition of reagent was tested under the optimum conditions.

#### Absorption Spectra

The final absorption spectra of NQS- Trimethoprim product are plotted under the best condition reached above. Fig. 4 establish that Schiff base product has maximum absorption at 478 nm versus reagent blank, while the reagent blank has low absorbance at this wavelength and has a maximum absorption at 370 nm versus distilled water.

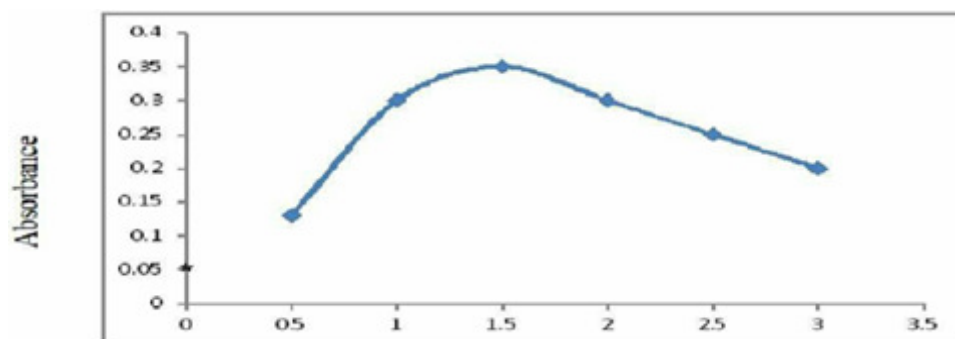


Fig. 2 : Effect of  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  amount and pH on absorption of reaction mixture of  $4\mu\text{g/ml}$  trimethoprim.

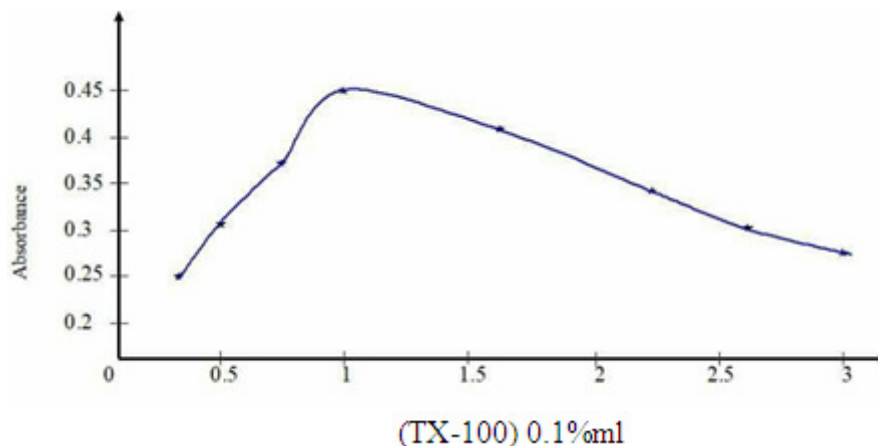


Fig. 3 : Effect of (TX-100) concentration on the absorption of reaction mixture of  $4\mu\text{g/ml}$  for Trimethoprim.

Table 1 : Effect NQS amount.

NQS( $5 \times 10^{-3}\text{m}$ ) ml	Without	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4
Absorbance	0.03	0.19	0.25	0.28	0.34	0.37	0.35	0.31	0.21

Table 2 : Effect of temperature and developing time.

Temp	Absorbance at time (min)								
	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45
RT*	0.194	0.198	0.221	0.234	0.318	0.335	0.310	0.261	0.121
30	0.260	0.278	0.284	0.347	0.353	0.351	0.312	0.231	0.135
40	0.261	0.291	0.321	0.383	0.393	0.389	0.361	0.290	0.180
50	0.293	0.298	0.342	0.353	0.372	0.342	0.311	0.211	0.124
60	0.274	0.295	0.241	0.235	0.283	0.270	0.161	0.113	-

## Quantification

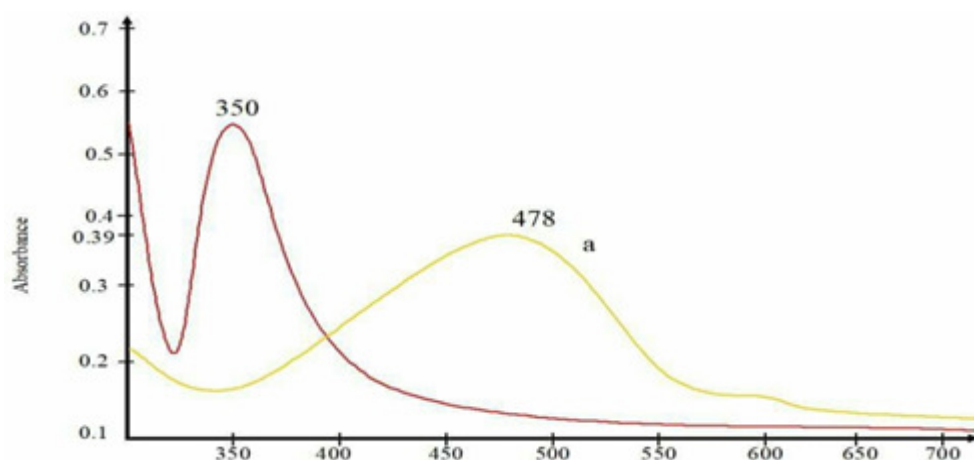
The absorbance of the product was measured at 478 nm after developing the color by following the general procedure calibration graph for a series of solutions containing increasing amount of trimethoprim. The molar absorptivity values and Beer's law limits were evaluated and given in Table 5 the linearity was represented by the regression equation and the corresponding correlation coefficient for the studied, the relative standard deviation and accuracy for the analysis of six replicates of each three different concentration Limit of detection is in accepted range.

## Interference

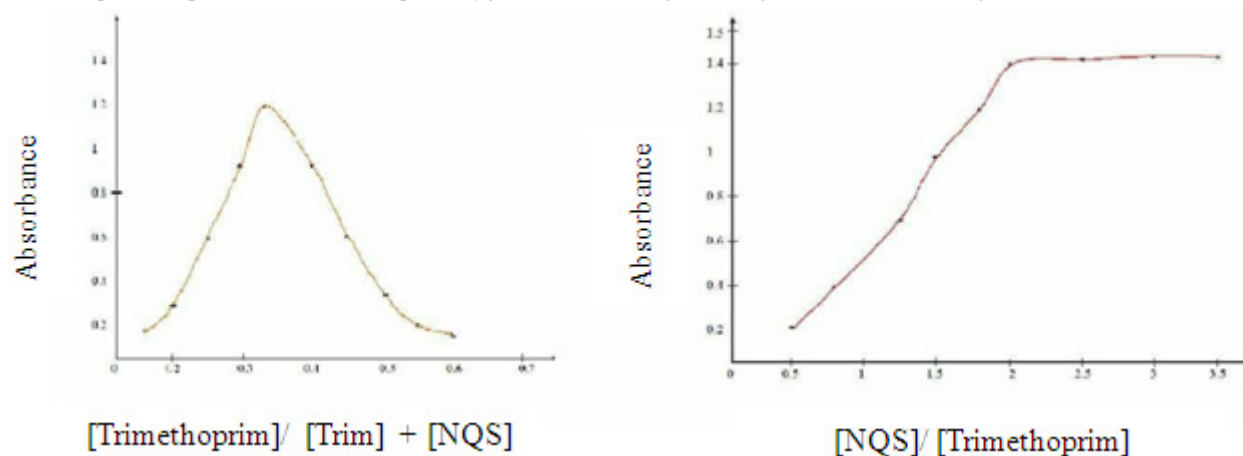
It was found that the studied excipients did not interfere seriously (Table 6).

## The molar ratio and Job's methods

The stoichiometry of the reaction was studied by the molar ratio and Job method (Gholamreza *et al*, 2011), as shown in Fig. 5 a & b the results indicate that 1:2. The apparent stability constant was estimated by comparing the absorbance of solution containing stoichiometric amounts of the trimethoprim and NQs (As) to one containing an excessive amount of NQs reagent (Am), The average stability constant of the product was



**Fig. 4 :** Absorption of Spectra of (a) trimethoprim (8µg/ml) with NQS against reagent blank and (b) reagent blank versus distilled water.



**Fig. 5 :** (a) Continuous variations (b) mole ratio for product of Trimethoprim ( $1 \times 10^{-2} \text{M}$ ) and NQs ( $1 \times 10^{-2} \text{M}$ ) under the optimum conditions.

**Table 3 :** Effect of Surfactants on the absorption.

Surfactant	Absorbance
Without	0.390
CPC	0.321
SDS	0.383
CTAB	0.351
TX - 100	0.401
TW 80	0.371

calculated by following equation:-  $K_c = 1 - \frac{A}{A^2c}$  and  $\frac{A}{A^2c} = \frac{A_m}{A_m}$ . The average  $K_c$  is ( $2.895 \times 10^{-4}$ )  $\text{l.mol}^{-1}$

### Reaction mechanisms

A characteristic product of  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  478nm for Trimethoprim was formed when it allowable to react with NQS in the presence of  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  in aqueous medium under the experiential conditions.

### Applying the proposed method on the pharmaceutical formulations

Due to the incapability of having the pharmaceutical composition of the trimethoprim alone without mixture, it can found mixed with a sulfonamide medications that contain amine groups with the capability of interaction

**Table 4 :** shows that order no. I is the best order.

Order of addition	Order no	Abs
Drug + NQS +base+ (TX-100)	I	0.456
Drug + base + NQS +( TX-100)	II	0.432
Drug + (TX-100) + NQS+ base	III	0.421
Drug + (TX-100) + base + NQS	IV	0.426
Drug + base + (TX-100) + NQS	V	0.394
Drug + NQS + (TX-100) + base	VI	0.367
NQS + base + Drug + (TX-100)	VII	0.245
NQS + base + (TX-100) + Drug	VIII	0.264

with the reagent NQS which cause spectrum interference with the complex, therefore, the pharmaceutical composition has been prepared by using placebo's method (Sameer and Kanak, 2011). Table 7 shows that the studied excipients did not interfere seriously in pharmaceutical products of trimethoprim.

Also, the proposed method was successfully applied to determin the trimethoprim in pharmaceutical preparations. The results showed that the experimental t-test and f- test were less than the theoretical value ( $t = 1.20$ ,  $f = 4.10$ ), indicating that there was no significant

**Table 5 :** Summary of optical characteristics and statistical data for the proposed method.

Parameter	Trimethoprim
Beer's law limits ( $\mu\text{g.m}^{-1}$ )	( 0 – 15 )
LoD ( $\mu\text{g.m}^{-1}$ )	0.0436
LoQ ( $\mu\text{g.m}^{-1}$ )	0.135
Average recovery%	100.38
Correlation Coefficient	0.999
Slop, a	0.1143
Intercept, b	0.0173
RSD	$\leq 0.44$

**Table 6 :** Effect of excipients for assay of Trimethoprim.

Excipient	Recovery % of 8 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ Trimethoprim per $\mu\text{g/ml}$ excipient added			
	200	300	400	500
Glucose	101.8	103.2	100.4	102.5
Starch	96.91	100.5	102.1	101.12
NaCl	98.99	98.7	100.10	103.5
Lactose	101.2	100.3	103.5	104.19
Acacia	101.8	101.7	99.4	98.2

**Table 7 :** Effect of excipients for assay 30  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  of Trimethoprim.

No. of placebo	Recovery %	RSD
1	103.8	2.01
2	100.75	1.32
3	102.21	1.98

**Table 8 :** Comparison of spectrophotometer methods for Trimethoprim determination.

Analytical parametrs	Present method NQS	Literature methods		
		DNF[16]	CA[17]	DDQ[19]
$\lambda_{\text{max}}$	478	538	523	585
pH	10.5	7.4	-	-
Temp $^{\circ}\text{C}$	40	60	R.T	R.T
Development (min)	25	40	30	30
Stability period (min)	45	40	-	-
Beer' law ( $\text{Mg.ml}^{-1}$ )	0.15	10.75	0.2-0.4	0.02-0.1
Recovery	100.38	100.43	100.09	100.09
RSP%	$\leq 0.44$	1.067	0.740	1.890

difference between the proposed method and official method.

The current method was compared in the estimate of Trimethoprim by using NQS reagent with other spectrophotometer method (Table 8) shows comparisons.

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