A Systematic Methodology for Design of Emulsion Based Chemical Products

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Publication date:
2012

Document Version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

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Citation (APA):
Mattei, M., Kontogeorgis, G., & Gani, R. (2012). *A Systematic Methodology for Design of Emulsion Based Chemical Products*. Poster session presented at 11th International Symposium on Process Systems Engineering, Singapore.

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1. CHEMICAL PRODUCT DESIGN AND EMULSIONS

- Chemical product design aims to find a product exhibiting a set of desirable or specified behavior
- Chemical industry is shifting from commodities towards higher value added products
- Higher value added products gain their value from a molecular or micro-structure
- Emulsions are largely used as commercial products: food, cosmetic, household and health-care industries
- Surfactant and emulsion properties may require dedicated models

2. A SYSTEMATIC METHODOLOGY

Step	Input	Performed Action	Output
Step 1	Information about the product	Understanding of needs, translation into target properties in terms of constraints to match	List of main needs, secondary needs and target properties with boundaries
Step 2	List of main needs	Find chemicals suitable as active ingredient(s), select the most advantageous and search/calculate main properties	Candidate active ingredient with its main properties
Step 3	Candidate active ingredient with its main properties	Find chemicals suitable as dispersed phase solvents, select the most advantageous and search/calculate main properties	Candidate dispersed phase solvent with its main properties
Step 4	Candidate active ingredient and dispersed phase solvent with their main properties	Find chemicals suitable as continuous phase solvents, select the most advantageous and search/calculate main properties	Candidate continuous phase solvent with its main properties
Step 5	Candidate active ingredient dispersed and continuous phase solvents with their main properties	Find chemicals suitable as emulsifiers, select the most advantageous and search/calculate main properties	Candidate emulsifier with its main properties
Step 6	List of secondary needs, candidate dispersed and continuous phase solvents with their main properties	Find chemicals suitable as additives, select the most advantageous and search/calculate main properties	Candidate additives with their main properties
Step 7	List of constraints on target properties, all ingredients	Find overall composition of selected ingredients	Product to be experimentally verified (Stage-2)

3. SELECTION CRITERIA

- Constraints
 - Low toxicity → Lethal concentration: $LC_{50} > 3,16$
 - Safety → Flash point: $FP > 60^{\circ}C$
 - Legislation → Some chemicals are not allowed
 - Critical temperatures → Melting point, boiling point, peculiar critical temperatures of surfactants
- Stability → Surfactant above critical micelle concentration
- Selection criteria
 - Optimize the effectiveness (it differs ingredient by ingredient and it is estimated mainly with knowledge base)
 - Minimize the cost

4. SURFACTANT PROPERTY MODELING

- Critical micelle concentration (158 data)
 - Non-ionic surfactants, $T = 25^{\circ}C$
 - M&G GC⁺ method: $f(X) = \sum_i N_i C_i + w \sum_j M_j D_j + z \sum_k O_k E_k$
 - $R^2 = 0,99$

- Cloud point and surface tension reduction have been similarly modeled with high fitting quality
- Modeling of ionic surfactant properties will be the next step

5. A CONCEPTUAL CASE STUDY

- UV sunscreen, emulsified form
- Proposed formulation to be experimentally validated

Avobenzone	0,99%	Octyl Esaethylene Oxide	0,09%
Octyl Salycilate	1,22%	α -Tocopherol	0,34%
Zinc Oxide	8,56%	Heptylparaben	0,59%
Butyl Acetate	32,4%	laevo-Menthol	0,91%
Water	54,9%		

6. CONCLUSIONS

- A systematic methodology for design of emulsion-based products has been developed
- Its application has been illustrated through the conceptual case study of an emulsified UV sunscreen
- The development of dedicated models for pure compound (surfactant) as well as mixture (emulsion) properties is fundamental
- A second stage, model-experiment based further refinement and/or validation has been considered and needs to be developed
- The work-flow will be implemented into a software to allow virtual product design

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