# MICROEMULSION FORMATION OF MOTOR OIL WITH MIXED SURFACTANT OF ALCOHOL ETHOXYLATES AND SORBITAN MONOOLEATE WITHOUT ADDED ALCOHOL



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#### **ABSTRACT**

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The aim of this research was to investigate the microemulsion formation of motor oil with alcohol ethoxylate (AEs), nonionic surfactant derived from plam oil, without adding alcohol. The alcohol ethoxylate surfactants with different ethoxylate groups (AE3, AE7 and AE9) were mixed with methylester sulphonate (MES) and sorbitan monooleate (Span 80) for forming microemulsions with motor oil at various temperatures (20°C, 30°C, 40°C, and 50°C). Span 80 used as a lipophilic linker that was found to be crucial to the formation of these microemulsion systems. The mixed surfactant system of AE3 and AE7 (2:1) with Span 80 was found to form middle phase microemulsions (Winser Type III) at relatily low surfactant concentrations. For all of the studied surfactant systems, temperature showed a significant effect on the microemulsion phase transformation and the lowest values of the critical microemulsion concentrations were achieved at 50°C.

## บทคัดย่อ

สนิทัศน์ อิสรีย์นเรศ: การเกิดไมโครอิมัลชั้นของน้ำมันเครื่องด้วยการผสมสารลดแรงตึง ผิวระหว่างแอลกอฮอล์ อีท๊อกซีเลท และซอร์บิแทน โมโนโอลีเอต โดยไม่เติมแอลกอฮอล์ (Microemulsion Formation of Motor Oil with Mixed Surfactants of Alcohol Ethoxylate and Sorbitan Monooleate without Added Alcohol) อ. ที่ปรึกษา: ศ. คร. สุเมช ชวเคช และ ศ. จอห์นเอฟ. สกามีฮอร์น 54 หน้า

งานวิจัยนี้ได้มุ่งศึกษาพฤติกรรมการเปลี่ยนแปลงวัฏภาคของการเกิดไมโครอิมัลชันของ น้ำมันเครื่องกับแอลกอฮอล์ อีท็อกซีเลท ที่มีหมู่อีโอ (EO Group) จำนวนแตกต่างกันตั้งแต่ 3, 7 และ 9 หมู่ โดยเติมสารลดแรงตึงผิวร่วมที่มีความยาวสายโช่ยาวเพื่อช่วยในการเกิดวัฏภาคต่างแทน การเติมแอลกอฮอล์ซึ่งส่งผลกระทบต่อผลิตภัณฑ์ และ สิ่งแวคล้อม ในช่วงอุณหภูมิ 20, 30, 40 และ 50 องศาเซลเซียส โดยการสังเกตการณ์เปลี่ยนแปลงวัฏภาคของแต่ละระบบหลังเข้าสู่สมคุล แล้วนำมาสร้างฟิชไดอะแกรมเพื่อหาค่าความเข้มข้นของสารลดแรงตึงผิวและสารลดแรงตึงผิวร่วม ต่ำสุดที่ทำให้เกิดวัฏภาคชั้นกลางของไมโครอีมัลชัน (วินเซอร์แบบที่ 3) นอกจากนี้ยังหาค่าความสามารถในการละลาย และค่า CMC ของแต่ละระบบอีกด้วย จากการศึกษาพบว่า การใช้ แอลกอฮอล์ อีท็อกซิเลท ซึ่งมีหมู่อีโอ 7 หมู่ สามารถช่วยให้เกิดวัฏภาคชั้นกลางของไมโครอิมัลชัน ได้เป็นอย่างดี สำหรับการศึกษาผลของอุณหภูมิต่อการเกิดไมโครอิมัลชัน พบว่าเมื่ออุณหภูมิ เพิ่มขึ้น ส่งผลให้ค่าความเข้มข้นของสารลดแรงตึงผิวและสารลดแรงตึงผิวร่วมต่ำสุดที่ทำให้เกิดวัฏ ภาค ชั้นกลางของไมโครอิมัลชันมีค่าลดลง

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#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

AEs Alcohol ethoxylate

MES Methyl ester sulfonate

EO Ethylene oxide

CMC Critical micelle concentration

CμC Critical microemulsion concentration

IFT Interfacial tension

SP Solubilization Parameter

SPw Volume of water solubilized per weight of total

surfactants in the microemulsion phase

SPo Volume of oil solubilized per weight of total surfactants

in the microemulsion phase

Vw Phase height fraction of water

Vo Phase height fraction of oil

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

α	Weight fraction of oil in oil and water mixture	
δ	Weight fraction of MES in alcohol ethoxylate(EO3)	
	and MES	
$\gamma_{mw}$	Interfacial tension of microemulsion-water interface	
$\gamma_{mo}$	Interfacial tension of microemulsion-oil interface	