# Clarification of The Corrosion Inhibition of Mild Steel in Hydrochloric Acid Solutions via Cetyltrimethyl Ammonium Bromide Inhibitor

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> C ETYLTRIMETHYL ammonium bromide (CTAB) was investigated as corrosion inhibitors of mild steel in 0.1 and 0.5 M HCl solutions using weight loss, Tafel polarization and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy techniques. The experimental results showed that the inhibition efficiency increases with increasing of CTAB concentrations but decreases with increasing temperature. The adsorption of CTAB on the mild steel surface obeyed the Langmuir adsorption isotherm. Potentiodynamic polarization curves showed that CTAB acted as a cathodic inhibition predominantly in hydrochloric acid. This was supported by the impedance measurements which showed a change in the charge transfer resistance (R<sub>ct</sub>) and double layer capacitance (C<sub>dl</sub>) indicating adsorption of CTAB on the mild steel surface. Thermodynamic parameters were also calculated to know the mechanism of the inhibition. The thermodynamic functions of the adsorption processes were calculated from the weight loss and effect of temperature data and were used to analyze the inhibitor adsorption mechanism. The thermodynamic parameters indicate that physical adsorption and chemisorptions of the inhibitor on the metal surface may occur.

> **Keyword:** Cetyltrimethyl ammonium bromide (CTAB), Mild steel, Corrosion inhibitor, Langmuir adsorption isotherm, Potentiodynamic polarization and Free energy.

The carbon steel is used as essential part in the manufacturing of installations used in the petroleum and other industries. Corrosion is a common phenomenon in industries, and it attracts considerable amount of interest because of its hazardous nature on metals<sup>(1)</sup>. Acids are widely used in industries such as pickling, cleaning, descaling, oil-well acid in oil recovery, and the petrochemical processes, which leads to corrosive attack of metals<sup>(2-4)</sup>. So, the use of inhibitors is one of the most practical methods to reduce the corrosive attack on metallic materials<sup>(5-6)</sup>. The selection of appropriate inhibitors mainly depends on the type of acid, its concentration and temperature, the presence of dissolved organic and/or inorganic substances and on the type of metallic material exposed to the action of the selection and utilization of these inhibitors. Most of the inhibitors are organic molecules<sup>(7)</sup>; however, inorganic molecules<sup>(8)</sup> and polymeric materials<sup>(9)</sup> are also

used. Organic compounds have been widely used as corrosion inhibitors for metals in acidic media<sup>(10-15)</sup>. The organic inhibitors decrease the corrosion rate by adsorbing on the metal surface and blocking the active sites by displacing water molecules and form a compact barrier film on the metal surface<sup>(16,17)</sup>. It has been reported that quaternary ammonium compounds (surfactants) are important as inhibitor additives in hydrochloric acid. Many mechanisms have been proposed for the inhibition of metal corrosion by organic inhibitors<sup>(18–20)</sup>.

The present work was undertaken to investigate the corrosion inhibition behavior of (CTAB) on mild steel in 0.1 and 0.5 M HCl solutions. The efficiency of this additive will be discussed in relation to the effect of the corresponding structure, atom of active center and substituted halide (Br), in attempting to explain the mechanism whereby corrosion resistance is improved. For this purpose, the behavior of carbon steel in HCl acid solutions in the absence and presence of the inhibitor was studied using weight loss, Tafel polarization and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) techniques.

## **Experimental**

## Weight loss technique

Experiments were performed using low carbon steel with the following chemical composition (wt.%):C: 0.06, Mn: 0.7, Si: 0.06, S: 0.012, P: 0.001, V: 0.005, Ni: 0.015, Cr: 0.004, Mo: 0.002, Cu: 0.02 and iron is the remainder with size  $(2cm \times 4 cm \times 0.3 cm)$  for the measurement of weight loss. For all the experiments, the surface pre-treatment was carried out by grinding with emery paper SiC (grades 400, 800, 1000 and 1200), rinsed with distilled water, degreased in alkaline degreaser immersion for 5 min at 70° C and finally dried using a stream of air at room temperature. The acidic solutions 0.1 and 0.5 M HCl were prepared by dilution of analytical grade 37% HCl with distilled water. The inhibitor used, namely CTAB is a surfactant (C16H33)N(CH3)3Br). All solutions were prepared using bi-distilled water. IEs for different concentrations of the inhibitor were calculated from weight loss values in the absence and presence of the inhibitor at different temperatures. The effect of temperature 20-40°C on the performance of the inhibitor and the effectiveness of the inhibitor at higher acid strength were also studied. The samples were immersed in hanging positions in 0.1 or 0.5 M HCl solution containing different concentrations of inhibitors for 24 hr. Samples were weighed before and after immersion and weight differences were determined. The degree of surface coverage ( $\theta$ ) and percentage inhibition efficiency (IE %) were calculated from the following equations:

Surface Coverage ( $\theta$ ) = W<sub>0</sub>-W/W<sub>0</sub>....(1) Inhibition Efficiency (IE %) = (W<sub>0</sub>-W/W<sub>0</sub>) X 100....(2)

where  $W_0$  and W are the weight loss of mild steel without and with the inhibitor, respectively. It was assumed that the surface was saturated with adsorbed inhibitor molecules, that is  $\theta = 1$ .

The corrosion rate "CR" was calculated from the following equation:

$$CR = \frac{m_1 - m_2}{s.t} \qquad (3)$$

where m1 and  $m_2$  are the weights of the specimen before and after in mg, S (cm<sup>2</sup>) is the total area of the specimen and t (h) is the immersion time. The weight loss data were made after 24 hr of immersion.

#### Potentiodynamic polarization measurements

The sheet cut of the same composition embedded in cell with an exposed area of 1 cm<sup>2</sup> was used for the electrochemical studies. Electrochemical measurements were carried out in a conventional three - electrode cell; platinum sheet and saturated calomel electrode (SCE) was used as counter and reference electrodes, respectively. The potentiodynamic current – potential curves were recorded by changing the electrode potential automatically from -0.250 to 0. 250 mV with a scan rate 10 mVs<sup>-1</sup> using Iviumstat instrument (supplied by Ivium technologies, Eindhoven, Netherlands). The Ivium stat software can be used to control Ivium stat instrument, by means of a personal computer (PC). The experiments were measured after 24 hr of immersion in the testing solution (no deaeration, no stirring).The mild steel surface was exposed to various concentrations of CTAB in 100ml of 0.1 and 0.5 M HCl at different temperatures.

Tafel plots were illustrated by plotting E Vs log I. Corrosion potential ( $E_{corr}$ ), corrosion current density ( $I_{corr}$ ), cathodic and anodic slopes ( $\beta_c$  and  $\beta_a$ ) were calculated according to known procedures. The inhibition efficiency (IE%) was calculated using the following equation for Inhibition Efficiency:

IE % = 
$$(I_0 - I / I_0) X 100....(4)$$

where  $I_0$  and I are the corrosion current density without and with the inhibitor, respectively.

#### Electrochemical impedance measurements

The EIS spectra were recorded at open circuit potential (OCP) after immersion of the electrode in the test solution. EIS tests were carried out in the frequency range from 0.1 to 10000 Hz using an amplitude of 20 mV and 10 mV peak to peak with an AC signal. The impedance diagrams were plotted in the Nyquist representation. Charge transfer resistance ( $R_{ct}$ ) values were obtained by subtracting the high-frequency impedance. The IEs were calculated from the following equation:

$$\%$$
IE = (  $R_{ct} - R'_{ct}/R_{ct}$  ) x 100.....(5)

where  $R'_{ct}$  and  $R_{ct}$  are the corrosion current of mild steel with and without inhibitor, respectively.

#### **Results and Discussion**

## Weight loss measurements

The corrosion behavior of a metal in aqueous environment is characterized by measuring the weight loss of a specimen after exposure to corrosive media. The weight loss method is usually preferred because the quantity measured is directly related to the extent of corrosion and does not rely on any assumptions about reactions occurring during corrosion. The weight loss technique was employed as the chemical testing technique to evaluate the influence of inhibitor compounds on the corrosion of low carbon steel in 0.1M and 0.5M HCl solution at different temperatures 20, 25, 30, 35, 40  $^{\circ}$ C.

## Effect of concentration and temperature on the corrosion rate and efficiency

The results of the gravimetric determination of carbon steel in different concentrations acidic medium (0.1 and 0.5 M HCl) operated at different temperature such as CR and IEs without and with addition of various CTAB concentration inhibitor are summarized in Tables 1&2 and Fig. 1&2, respectively. As shown from these tables and figures, by increasing the temperature, the corrosion rate of carbon steel is increased at the same concentration, a remarkable decrease in the carbon steel corrosion rate was observed with the addition of increasing amount of inhibitors at each studied temperature. This means that the presence of CTAB inhibitor retards the corrosion of carbon steel in 0.1M and 0.5M HCl solution at different temperatures (20 - 40 °C). Moreover, the results reveal that the CR of carbon steel was reduced in the presence of the inhibitor compared to the blank acid solution. Also, corrosion rate is seen to increase with temperature rise both in the absence and in the presence of the inhibitor. The temperature increases the rate of all electrochemical processes as well influences adsorption equilibrium and kinetics. It can be seen that the corrosion rate increases and efficiency decreases with temperature in the absence and presence of inhibitor. Adsorption and desorption of inhibitor molecules continuously occur at the metal surface and an equilibrium exists between two processes at a particular temperature. With increase of temperature, the equilibrium between adsorption and desorption processes is shifted to a higher desorption rate than adsorption until equilibrium is again established at a different value of equilibrium constant. It explains the lower inhibition efficiency at higher temperature.

T(K)	Corr. Rate (mg.cm <sup>-2</sup> .h <sup>-1</sup> )							
Cinh	0 ppm	3 ppm	4 ppm	5 ppm	6 ppm	7 ppm		
293	0.159879	0.048844	0.037631	0.026968	0.025523	0.018987		
298	0.161048	0.060883	0.046161	0.037149	0.033434	0.025385		
303	0.162287	0.079458	0.060195	0.053866	0.049807	0.036874		
308	0.163387	0.092529	0.07705	0.068932	0.05992	0.050633		
313	0.164626	0.104018	0.097895	0.088539	0.078013	0.069345		

 TABLE 1. Corrosion rates of low carbon steel specimen in 0.1M HCl in the absence and presence of different concentrations of CTAB at different temperatures.

TABLE 2. Corrosion rates of low carbon steel specimen in 0.5 M HCl in the absence and presence of different concentrations of CTAB at different temperatures.

T(K)	Corr. Rate (mg.cm- <sup>2</sup> .h <sup>-1</sup> )							
C <sub>inh</sub>	0 ppm	5 ppm	10 ppm	15 ppm	20 ppm	25 ppm		
293	0.647083	0.18437	0.133187	0.098445	0.067006	0.043822		
298	0.672812	0.25454	0.194001	0.158916	0.133462	0.098376		
303	0.74484	0.383462	0.313773	0.282058	0.232595	0.196753		
308	0.785636	0.500826	0.411392	0.35842	0.306824	0.272427		
313	0.826912	0.613718	0.54052	0.454871	0.395363	0.356976		



Fig. 1. Variation of IE (%) with CTAB concentration at different temperatures in 0.1M HCl solution.

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Fig. 2. Variation of IE (%) with CTAB concentration at different temperatures in 0.5  $\,$  M HCl solution.

It is observed that %IE increases with increasing the concentration of inhibitor and at the same time decreases with increasing temperature in different HCl concentration solutions. It is illustrated that CTAB has good %IE, as the concentration of CTAB increases the inhibition efficiency increases, *i.e.* 3 ppm of CTAB has IE = 69.4% while7 ppm of CTAB has IE = 88.1% operated at 293 K. Increase in inhibition efficiency with increase in the concentration is suggestive of the adsorption of the inhibitor onto the mild steel surface. It was also reported that the inhibition of CTAB in 0.5 M HCl was not good with loss inhibitor concentration used with 0.1 m HCl solution, so we used high inhibitor concentration up to 25 ppm due to increasing the CTAB concentration more than 25 ppm probably has the same %IE. These results indicated that the concentration of HCl plays an important role in the inhibition efficiency.

In examining the effect of temperature on the apparent activation energies  $(E_a)$  were calculated from the Arrhenius equation to illustrate the nature of the adsorption<sup>(21)</sup>:

$$\log (CR_2/CR_1) = E_a / 2.303 R (1/T_1 - 1/T_2) - (6)$$

where  $CR_1$  and  $CR_2$  are the corrosion rates at temperature  $T_1$  (303K) and  $T_2$  (313K), respectively, and R is the molar gas constant. The calculated values for  $E_a$  parameter are given in Table 3. The values of  $E_a$  are: 11.5, 75.8, 126.2,

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137.5 kJ/mol for the 0.1 M HCl and inhibitor concentrations 0, 3, 5, 7 ppm, respectively. While the E<sub>a</sub> are: 29.9, 127, 183.8, 247 kJ/mol for the 0.5 M HCl and 0, 5, 15, 25 ppm inhibitor concentrations, respectively. Generally, a corrosion inhibitor is a substance that increases the activation energy of the corrosion process and this is clear from the obtained values of E<sub>a</sub> in different concentration acid solutions in the presence of the investigated inhibitor. This means that the energy barrier for the corrosion reaction increases in the presence of the inhibitor, where the corrosion reaction will be further pushed to surface sites that are characterized by higher values of E<sub>a</sub>. This indicates that carbon steel corrosion occurs at the uncovered part of its surface. The value of  $E_a$  for the investigated inhibitors increases according to the inhibitor concentration increase. This order is the same as that of the inhibition efficiency. Increased E<sub>a</sub> in inhibited solutions compared to the blank suggests that the inhibitor is physically adsorbed on the corroding metal surface while either unchanged or lower Ea in the presence of inhibitor suggest chemisorptions<sup>(22)</sup>. The results reveal that the adsorption is physical adsorption.

Concentration of Inhibitor, ppm	E <sub>a</sub> (KJmol <sup>-1</sup> ) In 0.1 M HCl
Blank	11.5
3	75.8
5	126.2
7	137.5
Concentration of Inhibitor, ppm	Ea (KJmol <sup>-1</sup> ) In 0.5 M HCl
Blank	29.9
5	127
15	183.8
25	247

TABLE 3. Calculated values of activation energy  $(E_a)$  for low carbon steel in 0.1 and 0.5 M HCl in the absence and presence of inhibitor.

#### Polarization measurement

Anodic and cathodic polarization curves were recorded to obtain information about the action of the inhibitor on the partial corrosion processes. Figures 3 and 4 show the polarization curves measured on carbon steel electrodes in each of 0.1 and 0.5M HCl solutions at 20 °C in the absence and in presence of CTAB inhibitor. The electrochemical parameters, such as current density ( $i_{corr}$ ), anodic ( $b_a$ ) and cathodic ( $b_c$ ) slopes, were obtained by Tafel extrapolation at the corrosion potential ( $E_{corr}$ ) and are reported in Table 4. It is observed that the current density of the anodic and cathodic branch is displaced towards lower values. This displacement is more evident with the increase in concentration of the corrosion inhibitor.

It can be seen from the results that  $I_{corr}$  values decrease with increasing the CTAB concentration range in 0.1 and 0.5 M HCl solutions. Maximum reduction of  $I_{corr}$  for CTAB is obtained at 7 ppm concentration in 0.1 M HCl and 25 ppm concentration in 0.5 M HCl. It is also observed that the slopes do not display an order with the inhibitor concentration; this feature indicates that corrosion inhibitors have no effect on both hydrogen evolution and iron dissolution reactions, it appears that inhibition occurred by a blocking mechanism on the available metal spaces<sup>(23)</sup>. Moreover, the corrosion potential in the presence of inhibitor displayed small fluctuations around the corrosion potential of the solution in the absence of inhibitor and it tends to slightly change towards the negative direction (Table 4). These results indicate that the presence of CTAB compound inhibited iron oxidation and the hydrogen evolution reactions; consequently this compound can be classified as a mixed type corrosion inhibitor<sup>(23)</sup>.



Fig. 3. The potentiodynamic polarization curves of carbon steel in 0.1 M HCl with and without different concentrations of CTAB operated at 20 °C.

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Fig. 4. The potentiodynamic polarization curves of carbon steel in 0.5 M HCl with and without different concentrations of CTAB operated at 20 °C.

	Conc <sub>inh</sub> , ppm	Ecorr,mV	icorr, mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	bc, mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	ba, mV dec <sup>-1</sup>	IE %
At 0.1 M	0	-509	1439	226	248	
HCl	3	-506	475	203	242	67.00
	7	-525	133	180	240	90.70
	0	-473	4104	235	257	
At 0.5 M	5	-506	1062	175	244	74.10
nei	25	-491	249	168	234	93.90

 TABLE 4. Variation of polarization parameters for low carbon steel in 0.1M and 0.5M

 HCl solutions at 20 C° with different CTAB concentration inhibitor.

Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS)

The corrosion behavior of carbon steel in 0.1 and 0.5 M HCl solutions in the absence and presence of different concentrations of inhibitor was investigated by AC impedance spectra technique (EIS) at 25 °C as shown in Fig. 5&6 (Nyquist plots) and in Fig. 7&8 (Bode plots). The impedance log ( $Z/\Omega$ ) values derived from Bode plots are also given in Tables 5&6. Using Ivium software, the impedance spectra of the different Nyquist plots were analyzed by fitting the experimental data to a simple equivalent circuit model. It was found that the equivalent circuit that fit the experimental data consists of one time constant model  $R_s(R_pC_{dl})$  for steel electrodes in HCl solutions as a given in Fig. 9. It includes the solution resistance  $R_s$  and the double layer capacitance  $C_{dl}$  which is

placed in parallel to the polarization resistance  $R_p$ . The obtained Nyquist impedance diagrams in most cases does not show perfect semicircle, generally attributed to the frequency dispersion as a result of roughness and in homogenates of the electrode surface. The data reveal that, each impedance diagram consists of a large capacitive loop with low frequencies dispersion.

The results of simulation of all the measured impedance spectra for the carbon steel at different conditions as illustrated in Tables 5&6 reveal that, when mild steel is immersed in 0.1 M HCl aqueous solution containing 7 ppm CTAB, the polarization resistance ( $R_p$ ) and the double layer capacitance ( $C_{dI}$ ) (derived from Nyquist plots) are 114 ohm cm<sup>2</sup> and 44  $\mu$ F cm<sup>-2</sup>, respectively. The impedance log (Z/ $\Omega$ ), value derived from bode plots is 3.3. While, when mild steel is immersed in 0.5 M HCl aqueous solution containing 25 ppm of CTAB, the  $R_p$  is 44.8 ohm cm<sup>2</sup> and the double layer capacitance ( $C_{dI}$ ) is 47 $\mu$ F cm<sup>-2</sup> and the impedance log (Z/ $\Omega$ ) value is 3.

It can be seen that, as carbon steel immersed in aqueous solution 0.1M HCl containing 7 ppm of inhibitor the  $R_s$  increases from 46.9 to 114 ohm cm<sup>2</sup>, the  $C_{dI}$  value decreases from 1787 to 44 $\mu$ F cm<sup>-2</sup> and the impedance value increases from 1.25 to 3.3. Moreover, it can be noticed that the same trend was obtained when carbon steel immersed in 0.5M HCl aqueous solution containing 50 ppm of inhibitor, the  $R_s$  increases from 10 to 44.8 ohm cm<sup>2</sup>, the  $C_{dI}$  value decreases from 6302 to 47 $\mu$ F cm<sup>-2</sup> and the impedance value increases from 0.7 to 3. This indicates that the film formed on the metal surface due to the presence of inhibitor which lead to 5 the decrease in local dielectric constant and increase in thickness of the electrical double layer, suggests that CTAB act via adsorption at the metal/solution interface<sup>(24-26)</sup>.



Fig. 5. Nyquist plots for carbon steel in 0.1 M HCl in the absence and presence of different concentrations of CTAB operated at the room temperature.

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Fig. 6. Nyquist plots for carbon steel in 0.5 M HCl in the absence and presence of different concentrations of CTAB operated at the room temperature.



Fig. 7. Bode plots of 0.1M HCl solutions containing CTAB.

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Fig. 8. Bode plots of 0.5 M HCl solutions containing CTAB inhibitor.

 TABLE 5. Electrochemical kinetic parameters obtained from EIS technique for the corrosion of carbon steel in 0.1 HCl at CTAB different concentrations operated at the room temperature .

Conc., ppm	C <sub>dI</sub> , μF cm <sup>-2</sup>	R <sub>s</sub> ohm cm <sup>2</sup>	R <sub>ct</sub> , ohm cm <sup>2</sup>	Impedance log(Z/Ω)	IE %	n %
Blank	1787	46.9	18	1.2		0.9819
3 ppm	87	53.4	155.8	2.2	88.4	0.9841
7 ppm	44	114	2130	3.3	99.1	0.984

 TABLE 6. Electrochemical kinetic parameters obtained from EIS technique for the corrosion of carbon steel in 0.5 HCl at CTAB different concentrations operated at the room temperature .

Conc., ppm	C <sub>dI</sub> , μF cm <sup>-2</sup>	R <sub>s</sub> ohm cm <sup>2</sup>	R <sub>ct</sub> , ohm cm <sup>2</sup>	Impedance log(Z/Ω)	IE %	n %
Blank	6302	10	5.1	0.7		0.990
5 ppm	63	40.3	1078	3	99.5	0.984
25 ppm	47	44.8	1227	3.1	99.6	0.984



Fig. 9. The equivalent circuit model used to fit the experimental results.

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### Adsorption isotherms

Basic information on the interaction between the inhibitors molecules and the carbon steel can be provided by the adsorption isotherm. Two main types of interaction can describe the adsorption of the organic compound: physical adsorption and chemical adsorption. These are influenced by the chemical structure of the inhibitor, the type of the electrolyte, the charge and nature of the metal. The surface coverage  $\Theta$  of the metal surface by the adsorbed inhibitor was evaluated from weight loss measurement using the following ratio:

Surface Coverage (
$$\theta$$
) = W<sub>0</sub>–W/W<sub>0</sub>....(7)

The Langmuir isotherm<sup>(27)</sup> was found to provide the best description of the adsorption behavior.

$$C/\Theta = 1/K + C.$$

where C is the concentration of inhibitor and K is the adsorptive equilibrium constant. Plots of C/ $\Theta$  Vs C of 0.1 and 0.5M HCl solutions yield a straight line as shown in Fig. 10. In both cases the linear regression coefficients (R<sup>2</sup>) are almost equal to 1 and the slopes are very close to 1, indicating that the adsorption of CTAB obeys the Langmuir isotherm and there is a negligible interaction between the adsorbed molecules. K<sub>ads</sub> values can be calculated from the intercepts of the straight lines on the C/ $\Theta$  -axis, the K<sub>ads</sub> is related to the standard free energy of adsorption,  $\Delta G^{\circ}_{ads}$  with the following equation:

$$\Delta G_{ads}^{\circ} = -RT \operatorname{Ln} (C_{H2O}, K_{ads})....(9)$$

In equation (9), we use  $C_{\text{H2O}}$  which is the molar concentration of water in solution in g/L and K<sub>ads</sub> is the equilibrium constant of the inhibitor adsorption process, in L/g, the unity of  $\Delta G^{\circ}_{ads}$  depends only on the factor RT (kJ.mol<sup>-1</sup>). Thermodynamic parameters for adsorption process obtained from Langmuir's adsorption isotherm for the studied inhibitor are given in Tables7 and 8.

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Fig. 10. Langmuir adsorption isotherm of CTAB on carbon steel surface in a) 0.1 M HCl and b) 0.5 M HCl at different temperature.

The negative  $\Delta G^{\circ}_{ads}$  values (Table 7 and 8) are consistent with the spontaneity of the adsorption process and the stability of the adsorbed layer on the carbon steel surface<sup>(28)</sup>. It generally accepted that the values of  $\Delta G^{\circ}_{ads}$  up to -20 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, the types of adsorption were regarded as physical adsorption, the inhibition acts due to the electrostatic interaction between the charged molecules and the charged metal, while the values around -40 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> or smaller, were seen as chemisorptions, which is due to the charge sharing or a transfer from the inhibitor molecules to the metal surface in a covalent bond<sup>(29,30)</sup>. The  $\Delta G^{\circ}_{ads}$ values obtained in this study range from -31.4 to -32.6 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>for 0.1M HCl and from -30.6to -31.5 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>for 0.5M HCl. It suggested that the adsorption mechanism of the CTAB on carbon steel in HCl solution was typical of the two process physical adsorption and chemisorptions. The heat of adsorption  $\Delta H^{\circ}$  is obtained from the Van't Hoff's equation<sup>(31)</sup>:

$$Ln K_{ads} = -\frac{\Delta H}{RT} + constant...(10)$$

when  $\ln K_{ads}$  vs. (1/T) is plotted, the values of  $\Delta H$  are obtained from the slope.

The negative sign of  $\Delta H^{\circ}_{ads}$  in 0.1 or 0.5M HCl solution indicates that the adsorption of inhibitor molecule is an exothermic process. Generally, an exothermic adsorption process signifies either physic- or chemisorptions while endothermic process is attributeable unequivocally to chemisorptions<sup>(32)</sup>. Moreover, the entropy ( $\Delta S$ ) is obtained for a range of temperatures with the following equation.

$$\Delta G^{\circ} = \Delta H^{\circ}_{ads} - T \Delta S^{\circ}_{ads}$$
(11)

The negative values of  $\Delta S_{ads}$  may be explained in the following way: before the adsorption of inhibitors onto carbon steel surface, inhibitor molecules freely move in the bulk solution, but with the progress in the adsorption process, inhibitor molecules were orderly adsorbed onto carbon steel surface, and hence, the entropy decrease.

 $\Delta S^{\circ}_{ads}(KJ mol^{-1} K^{-1})$ T(K) Kads(L/g)  $\Delta G^{\circ}_{ads}(kJ mol^{-1})$  $\Delta H^{\circ}_{ads}(kJ mol^{-1})$ 293 0.64766 -32.6 -51.4 -0.0641 298 0.4781 -32.4 -0.0637 303 0.31665 -31.9 -0.0643 308 0.2289 -31.6 -0.0642 0.17343 -31.4 -0.0639 313

 TABLE 7. Thermodynamic parameters for the adsorption of CTAB on low carbon steel surface in 0.1M HC1.

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T(K)	K <sub>ads</sub> (L/g)	$\Delta G^{\circ}_{ads}(kJ mol^{-1})$	$\Delta H^{\circ}_{ads}(kJ mol^{-1})$	ΔS <sup>°</sup> <sub>ads</sub> (KJ mol <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> )
293	0.4053	-31.5	-70.1	-0.1317
298	0.3148	-31.4		-0.1298
303	0.1916	-30.6		-0.1303
308	0.1185	-29.9		-0.1305
313	0.06585	-28.9		-0.1316

 TABLE 8. Thermodynamic parameters for the adsorption of CTAB on low carbon steel surface in 0.5M HC1.

#### Conclusion

The corrosion of low carbon steel in 0.1M and 0.5M HCl is efficiently inhibited by CTAB.

The inhibition efficiency of CTAB increases with increase in inhibitor concentration.

The inhibitor showed maximum inhibition efficiency at 7 ppm concentration in 0.1 M HCl and at 25 ppm in 0.5 M HCl. Langmuir adsorption isotherm and the impedance studies showed that CTAB inhibits through adsorption mechanism.

Potentiodynamic polarization reveals that CTAB acted as mixed-type predominantly cathodic inhibitor. Br– ion acts as an adsorption mediator for bonding the two positive partners, the metal surface and the positively charged ammonium compound. This gives rise to the formation of an adsorption composite film; this film acts as a barrier facing the corrosion process.

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## تثبيط تآكل الصلب الكربوني في محاليل حمض الهيدروكلوريك باستخدام أسيتيل ثلاثي مثيل بروميد الأمونيوم

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تقييم أسيتيل ثلاثي مثيل بروميد الأمونيوم (السيتاب) كمثبط لعملية تأكل الصلب الكربوني في تركيز 0.1 مولر وتركيز 0.5 مولرمن محلول حمض الهيدروكلوريك باستخدام عملية الفقد في الوزن وعمليتي الاستقطاب والمعاوقة الكهروكيميائية الطيفية.

توضح النتئاج العملية ان كفاءة التثبيط تزداد مع زيادة تركيز السيتاب ولكن تقل مع زيادة درجة الحرارة. عملية امتزاز السيتاب على سطح معدن الصلب الكربوني تتبع معادلة لانجمير. توضح منحنيات الاستقطاب ان السيتاب يتفاعل كمتبط كاثودي في وجود حمض الهيدروكلوريك. تؤكد قياسات المعاوقة عملية امتزاز السيتاب على سطح معدن الصلب الكربوني وذلك عن طريق التغير الحادث في مقاومة انتقال الشحنات وكذلك سعة الطبقة المزدوجة. تم حساب قيم عوامل الديناميكا الحرارية لتوضيح ميكانيكية عملية التثبيط، ويتم حساب قيم عوامل الفقد في الوزن تحت تأثير درجة الحرارة لتوضيح ميكانيكية عملية الامتزاز. توضح نتائج الديناميكا الحرارية احمالية حدوث كلا من الامتزاز الفيزيائي والكيميائي للمثبط على سطح معدن الصلب الكربوني.