

EXPERIMENT 36: SOLUBILITY OF POLAR AND NON-POLAR COMPOUNDS

Equipment: 3 test tubes, rack and stoppers.

Materials: sugar, paradichlorobenzene, $\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$, heptane, splints, iodine crystals.

In this experiment you will see how bonding in a compound can affect solubility.

- A. Half-fill each of three test tubes with water. Using an amount of solid that will fit on the end of a splint, place sugar in the first test tube, paradichlorobenzene (PDB) in the second, and aluminum sulfate in the third. Cover each with a clean stopper and shake for a moment.

1. Enter your observations and equations in the following Table:

- 2a. What bonds hold neighboring sugar molecules to each other in a crystal of sugar?

Test Tube #	Solvent	Solute	Dissolved?	Equation
1	H_2O	sugar		
2	H_2O	PDB		
3	H_2O	$\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$		

- 2b. Is water able to break these bonds?

- 2c. Explain.

- 3a. What bonds hold aluminum ions to neighboring sulfate ions in a crystal of aluminum sulfate?

- 3b. Is water able to break these bonds?

- 3c. Explain.

- 4a. What bonds hold neighboring PDB molecules to each other in a crystal of PDB?

- 4b. Is water able to break these bonds?

- 4c. Explain.

B. Repeat Part A using heptane as the solvent.

5. Explain your results in the format of questions 2, 3, and 4 above.

Test Tube #	Solvent	Solute	Dissolved?	Equation
1	heptane	sugar		
2	heptane	PDB		
3	heptane	$Al_2(SO_4)_3$		

C. Fill 1/3 of a clean and dry test tube with water. Carefully pour in an equal volume of heptane. What do you observe? Explain, using the ideas of bonding as above.

6. Cover the test tube and shake it. What happens as the contents are allowed to stand after shaking? Explain?

D. Put one large crystal of iodine in a test tube 1/3 filled with water. Cover and shake vigorously until some of the iodine dissolves (compare solution color to that of a test tube containing water only -- against a white background). DECANT the solution into a clean test tube, add 2 to 3 mL of heptane, cover and shake. What did you observe? Explain.