

# Glucosamine for CO<sub>2</sub> Capture: Absorption Kinetics, Promoted Absorption Rate, and Comparison with Other Amino Sugars

Urvashi K. Sarode, Prakash D. Vaidya,\* and Eugeny Y. Kenig

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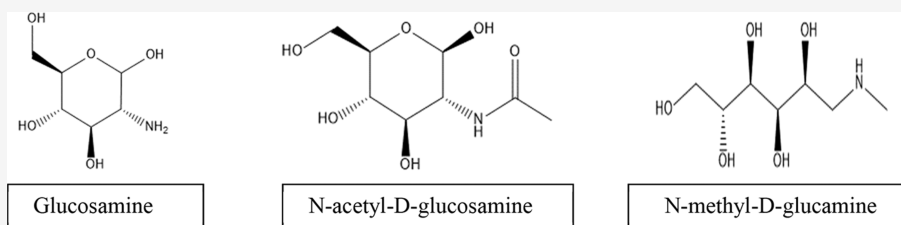
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**ABSTRACT:** Amino sugars—sugars wherein the amine group substitutes the hydroxyl group—are renewable and ecofriendly CO<sub>2</sub> separation solvents. In this work, the kinetics of CO<sub>2</sub> absorption in the amino sugar glucosamine (GA) was studied. Absorption rates in aqueous GA solutions (0.1–1 M) were measured in a stirred cell reactor in the 303–313 K range. At  $T = 308$  K, the value of the reaction rate constant for GA (0.1 M) was  $27 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ . The two-step zwitterion mechanism was employed for describing the reaction pathway. Some useful characteristics of GA solutions, such as density and viscosity, were measured. Using the modified Stokes law and the N<sub>2</sub>O analogy method, the diffusivity and solubility of CO<sub>2</sub> in solutions were determined. The liquid-side mass-transfer coefficient was found to be  $0.005 \text{ cm/s}$  at 308 K. Three amine promoters were chosen to improve the reactivity of GA, viz., monoethanolamine (MEA), 2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol (AMP), and piperazine (PZ). Mixtures of GA/PZ (2.5/0.5 M) were the most reactive. The reactivity of two further amino sugars, *N*-acetyl-D-glucosamine (NAG) and *N*-methyl-D-glucosamine (NMG), was also studied, and a comparison with GA was provided. NMG was the most reactive with CO<sub>2</sub>, whereas GA was the least reactive. This work will draw attention to this new category of CO<sub>2</sub>-capturing solvents.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Absorbents derived from natural sources are promising for CO<sub>2</sub> capture because they are renewable and ecofriendly. Amino sugars, which occur widely in nature, represent a candidate class of benign CO<sub>2</sub> separation solvents. Glucosamine (GA), *N*-acetyl-D-glucosamine (NAG), and *N*-methyl-D-glucosamine (NMG) are examples of this category of reagents (see Figure 1). GA (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>) is a hexosamine made from glucose and is found in chitin, chitosan, and polysaccharides. An amino group substitutes the hydroxyl group in this weakly basic sugar, thereby suggesting the possibility to react with absorbed CO<sub>2</sub> in the liquid phase.

Navaza's research group put forth the idea of using GA as a CO<sub>2</sub>-capturing solvent due to its nontoxicity and ease of biodegradation.<sup>1–4</sup> For example, Gomez-Diaz et al.<sup>1</sup> investigated the gas–liquid mass-transfer process for the CO<sub>2</sub>–glucose and CO<sub>2</sub>–GA systems in aqueous solutions using a cylindrical bubble column. They established the dependence of mass-transfer coefficient on the composition of the liquid phase. In another work,<sup>2</sup> they found that the CO<sub>2</sub>–GA reaction in aqueous solutions was moderately fast. Besides, they reported that the gas–liquid interfacial area increased with the rising CO<sub>2</sub> gas flow rate, whereas the mass-transfer coefficient reduced with the rising free GA concentration in the liquid phase. Gomez-Diaz and Navaza<sup>3</sup> studied chemical reaction kinetics in a stirred

reactor with a flat gas–liquid interface and established first-order kinetics for CO<sub>2</sub> and GA.

It was found that the activation energy ( $47 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) was close to the activation energy ( $E_{\text{act}}$ ) values for the reactions of CO<sub>2</sub> with amines such as MEA (monoethanolamine). A certain steric hindrance for the CO<sub>2</sub>–GA reaction was suggested. Finally, Garcia-Abuin et al.<sup>4</sup> performed <sup>13</sup>C NMR studies and found that bicarbonate ions were produced during the reactive absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> in aqueous GA solutions. The CO<sub>2</sub>–amino sugar reaction stoichiometry was 1:1, thereby suggesting that these sugars were loading CO<sub>2</sub>. However, GA degraded fast at high temperatures, and thus milder methods were necessary for regenerating amino sugars.

Both GA and NAG react moderately fast with CO<sub>2</sub>. There are few works that report the values of their second-order rate constant ( $k_2$ ) and  $E_{\text{act}}$  in diluted solutions. For instance,  $k_{2,\text{GA}}$  equals  $10 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at  $T = 298 \text{ K}$  in the 50–400 mM range of GA

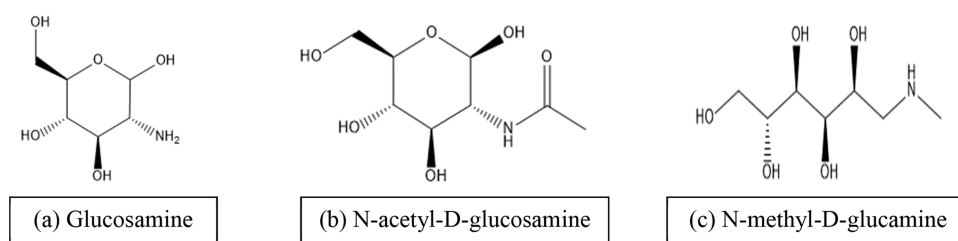
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**Figure 1.** Molecular structure of glucosamine, N-acetyl-D-glucosamine and N-methyl-D-glucamine.

concentrations, according to Gomez-Diaz and Navaza,<sup>3</sup> and  $E_{\text{act}}$  equals  $47 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ . In our recent work with weak NAG solutions ( $20\text{--}100 \text{ mM}$ ),<sup>5</sup> it was shown that the value for  $k_{2,\text{NAG}}$  was higher ( $125 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  at  $T = 308 \text{ K}$ ), whereas  $E_{\text{act}}$  was lower ( $42 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ). Clearly, amino sugars were less reactive than other traditional solvents. It appeared helpful to add rate activators such as MEA, AMP (2-amino-2-methyl-1-propanol), and PZ (or piperazine) to NAG.<sup>5</sup>

It is interesting to augment the scarcely available data on the performance of amino sugars, especially at higher molarity and temperature; this was done in our work. First, chemical kinetics of GA ( $0.1\text{--}1 \text{ M}$ ) was studied in a stirred cell in the  $303\text{--}313 \text{ K}$  range. In future, the measured kinetics data may be used to develop a comprehensive numerical kinetic model. For instance, Liu et al.<sup>6</sup> developed a reaction kinetic model of  $\text{CO}_2$  absorption into a new tertiary amine 1DMA2P (1-dimethylamino-2-propanol) using a FEM-based COMSOL software. Next, performance of concentrated GA/promoter mixtures ( $2.5/0.5 \text{ M}$ ) was investigated while MEA, AMP, and PZ were used as promoters. Furthermore, the reactivity of GA was compared with that of NAG (studied earlier<sup>5</sup>) and a third amino sugar compound NMG. NMG ( $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_5$ ), also known as meglumine, is a glucose-derived hexosamine and a secondary amine. The hydroxyl group at the first position in NMG is replaced with the nitrogen of a methylamino group (see Figure 1). NMG is a crystalline base, used together with iodinated organic compounds as the contrast medium. It is also applied in the pharmaceutical industry. The absorption of  $\text{CO}_2$  into aqueous NMG is hitherto not reported in the literature. Surely, this work will accentuate the useful properties of this category of hexosamines. Especially, the outcomes will be helpful for a detailed analysis of the application of new  $\text{CO}_2$ -capturing solvents using commercial process software. In this regard, we can mention, for example, a rigorous simulation of absorption in potassium taurate performed by Moioli et al.<sup>7</sup> using ASPEN Plus. In another work, Moioli and Pellegrini<sup>8</sup> applied such simulations to analyze the solvent storage mode for the flexible operation of the  $\text{CO}_2$  removal section in a natural gas-combined cycle power plant.

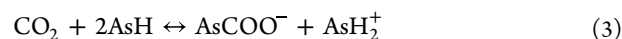
Besides, we provided new data on the physical properties of glucosamine and determined the mass-transfer coefficient in a stirred cell reactor. Today, artificial neural network (ANN) models can describe the physical properties of  $\text{CO}_2$ -capturing solvents. Thus, Liu et al.<sup>9</sup> developed such models to describe the experimental results of the physical properties of 1DMA2P. In another work, Quan et al.<sup>10</sup> developed generic AI models for predicting the mass-transfer coefficient in an amine-based  $\text{CO}_2$  absorber. The present work will be useful for such forthcoming investigations on amino sugars.

## 2. THEORY

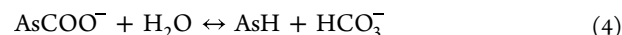
**2.1. Reaction Pathway.** The pathway for the  $\text{CO}_2$  reactions with GA, NAG, and NMG is briefly summarized in this section. Unlike GA that comprises a primary amino group, both NAG and NMG are secondary amines. Amino sugars (or AsH) form unstable carbamates as per the zwitterion mechanism:<sup>11–13</sup>



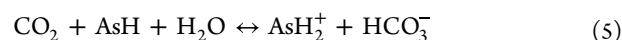
The base B in eq 2 can be AsH,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and  $\text{OH}^-$ . For the case when B is the amino sugar, the overall reaction for carbamate formation is represented by



Unstable carbamates, such as those formed by GA, NAG, and NMG, are fast hydrolyzed, and bicarbonate is formed as follows:



AsH forms bicarbonate instead of carbamate, according to Garcia-Abuin et al.:<sup>4</sup>



As  $\text{CO}_2$  reactions with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{OH}^-$  do not contribute to the overall rate,<sup>3</sup>  $R_{\text{CO}_2}$  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\text{CO}_2} &= \frac{k_2(\text{CO}_2)(\text{AsH})}{1 + \frac{k_{-1}}{\hat{k}_B(\text{B})}} \\ &= \frac{k_2(\text{CO}_2)(\text{AsH})}{1 + \frac{k_{-1}}{\hat{k}_{\text{AsH}}(\text{AsH}) + \hat{k}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}(\text{H}_2\text{O}) + \hat{k}_{\text{OH}^-}(\text{OH}^-)}} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The term  $\hat{k}_B(\text{B})$  in eq 6 represents the contribution of base B in zwitterion deprotonation.

**2.2. Reaction Kinetics.** In the bulk liquid,  $\text{CO}_2$  concentrations were very low and hence could be neglected. Doraiswamy and Sharma<sup>14</sup> showed that the rate for the fast reaction regime is given by eq 7:

$$R_{\text{CO}_2} = k_L(\text{CO}_2)E \quad (7)$$

Here,  $(\text{CO}_2)$  is the saturation concentration of  $\text{CO}_2$ , and  $k_L(\text{CO}_2)$  is the absorption rate for the diffusion controlled regime. The value of the enhancement factor ( $E$ ) due to the reaction is given by the Hatta number:

$$Ha = \frac{\sqrt{\frac{2}{(m+1)} D_{\text{CO}_2} k_{m,n} (\text{CO}_2)^{m-1} (\text{AsH})^n}}{k_L} \quad (8)$$

The kinetic parameters in eq 8 are the rate constant ( $k_{m,n}$ ) and the reaction orders ( $m$  and  $n$  for  $\text{CO}_2$  and AsH). To conform to

Table 1. Physicochemical Properties of Aqueous GA Solutions

temperature (K)	concentration (M)	$\rho$ (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	$\mu$ (mPa s)	$D_{\text{CO}_2} \times 10^9$ (m <sup>2</sup> /s)	$H_{\text{CO}_2} \times 10^4$ (kmol/m <sup>3</sup> kPa)
303	0.5	1049	0.683	2.54	1.93
308	0.1	1006.3	0.604	2.79	1.96
308	0.3	1025	0.636	2.68	1.91
308	0.5	1046.4	0.667	2.58	1.88
308	1	1093.6	0.785	2.26	1.84
313	0.5	1044	0.654	2.79	1.79

the fast regime, the condition to be satisfied is  $10 < Ha \ll (E_i - 1)$ . Here,  $E_i$  is the instantaneous enhancement factor, whose value as per the film theory is:

$$E_i = 1 + \left[ \frac{(\text{AsH})}{z(\text{CO}_2)} \frac{D_{\text{AsH}}}{D_{\text{CO}_2}} \right] \quad (9)$$

$D_{\text{AsH}}$  denotes the diffusivity of AsH in liquid, whereas  $z$  denotes the stoichiometric reaction coefficient. It follows from eqs 7 and 8 that the reaction rate is given by:

$$R_{\text{CO}_2} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{m+1} D_{\text{CO}_2} k_{m,n} (\text{CO}_2)^{m+1} (\text{AsH})^n} \quad (10)$$

It is known from Henry's law that  $(\text{CO}_2) = P_{\text{CO}_2} H_{\text{CO}_2}$ . As  $m = 1$ , eq 10 is rewritten as:

$$R_{\text{CO}_2} = P_{\text{CO}_2} H_{\text{CO}_2} \sqrt{D_{\text{CO}_2} k_{1,n} (\text{AsH})^n} \quad (11)$$

Upon rearranging and taking logarithm on both sides, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \log \left\{ \frac{R_{\text{CO}_2}}{P_{\text{CO}_2} H_{\text{CO}_2} \sqrt{D_{\text{CO}_2}}} \right\} \\ = \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \log(k_{1,n}) \right\} + \left\{ \frac{n}{2} \log(\text{AsH}) \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

If the variation in  $R_{\text{CO}_2}$  versus (AsH) is studied, a plot of  $\log \left\{ \frac{R_{\text{CO}_2}}{P_{\text{CO}_2} H_{\text{CO}_2} \sqrt{D_{\text{CO}_2}}} \right\}$  vs  $\log(\text{AsH})$  can provide the values of  $k_{1,n}$  and  $n$ . For the first-order kinetics of AsH (i.e.,  $n = 1$ ), eq 11 further simplifies to

$$R_{\text{CO}_2} = P_{\text{CO}_2} H_{\text{CO}_2} \sqrt{D_{\text{CO}_2} k_2 (\text{AsH})} \quad (13)$$

### 3. EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**3.1. Materials.** The chosen amino sugars (purity 99%) were purchased from three local vendors in Mumbai: D-glucosamine hydrochloride from Molychem Chemicals, N-acetyl-D-glucosamine from Sisco Research Laboratories Pvt., Ltd., and N-methyl-D-glucamine from Sigma Aldrich Pvt., Ltd. The hydrochloride group in glucosamine was neutralized by adding sodium hydroxide in stoichiometric proportion. This neutralized form of glucosamine was used in all trials. MEA and PZ (purity 98%) were purchased from S. D. Fine Chemicals Pvt., Ltd., whereas AMP (purity 99%) was purchased from Molychem Chemicals. Inox Air Products Ltd., Mumbai, provided cylinders of pure  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{N}_2$ , and nitrous oxide ( $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ).

**3.2. Estimation of Solution Properties.** Solution density was measured using a density meter (DMA 5000, Anton Parr). The viscosity of solutions of GA was measured using Ostwald's viscometer. Trials were performed using BSS number 3J-SIL borosilicate glass.

**3.3. Stirred Cell Kinetics.** The measurements were carried out with a jacketed stirred cell (diameter, 84 mm and height, 270 mm), with a volume of 1.48 L. The area of the flat gas–liquid interface was 55 cm<sup>2</sup>. Before each experiment,  $\text{N}_2$  was used to provide an inert atmosphere. The reactor was then evacuated, and 400 mL of the sugar solution was charged inside. Pure  $\text{CO}_2$  was charged from a gas reservoir. The gas and liquid phases were stirred at 1000 and 60 rpm (accuracy = 1 rpm), and the fall in pressure was noted (accuracy = 1 mbar). Absorption rates were measured at 303, 308, and 313 K using the pressure versus time record.<sup>15</sup> The error in measuring rates (<2%) was found by repeating a few trials.

The gas-side mass-transfer resistance was neglected because the inert gas pressure was low, and the stirring speed was high.<sup>16</sup> The stirring speed ( $n$ ) in liquid was raised from 60 to 100 rpm; yet, the absorption rates were identical. Thus, the value of  $k_L$  did not influence the rates, and the reaction was kinetically controlled. To validate the procedure for kinetic measurements, the rate constant for the  $\text{CO}_2$ –MEA system was measured at  $T = 303$  K. Sada et al.<sup>17</sup> reported a value of  $7740 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and our value was not too different ( $8015 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ). Thus, our experimental technique was validated.

### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**4.1. Properties of GA Solutions.** The values of density and viscosity of aqueous GA solutions are represented in Table 1. The nonreactive  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  gas is similar to  $\text{CO}_2$  with regard to its molecular volume, electronic structure, and configuration. Thus, it can be used to estimate the properties of reactive  $\text{CO}_2$ .<sup>18</sup> The  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  analogy method suggests that the ratio of the solubilities of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  remains constant for aqueous amines:

$$(\text{solubility of } \text{CO}_2) = C_1 (\text{solubility of } \text{N}_2\text{O}) \quad (14)$$

where  $C_1$  is given by

$$C_1 = \frac{(\text{solubility of } \text{CO}_2 \text{ in water})}{(\text{solubility of } \text{N}_2\text{O} \text{ in water})} \quad (15)$$

The stirred cell was used for finding the  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  solubility in GA solutions ( $H_{\text{N}_2\text{O}}$ ). The values of solubilities of  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  in water, earlier reported by Versteeg and van Swaij,<sup>18</sup> were substituted in eq 15. The value of  $H_{\text{CO}_2}$  was then found using eq 14 (see Table 1). This analogy can also be applied to estimate the diffusivity of  $\text{CO}_2$  in solutions. The Stokes–Einstein relation and the value of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  diffusivity in water were used to find  $D_{\text{N}_2\text{O}}$  in GA solutions.<sup>18</sup> Using the value of  $D_{\text{N}_2\text{O}}$ , the diffusivity of  $\text{CO}_2$  was found (see Table 1). More values of the solution properties over wider ranges of temperature (298–318 K) and GA concentration (20 mM–3 M) are listed in Tables S1–S6 in the Supporting Information. As evident from Table S2, GA solutions obey the common trend of rising viscosity with the

growing solute concentration. When molarity is high (>1 M), GA solutions are clearly more viscous than water.

**4.2. Liquid-Side Mass-Transfer Coefficient.** The method of Littel et al.<sup>19</sup> was used for finding the value of  $k_L$  in the stirred cell. The equation for mass balance for CO<sub>2</sub> for both the gas and liquid phases, which was earlier derived in their work, was applied here:

$$\ln \left[ \frac{P(t) - P_{\text{final}}}{P_{\text{initial}} - P_{\text{final}}} \right] = - \left[ \frac{(\hat{m}V_L) + V_G}{V_L V_G} \right] k_L A t \quad (16)$$

From the study of physical absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> in water at 308 K and the pressure versus time record, a plot of  $\ln \left[ \frac{P(t) - P_{\text{final}}}{P_{\text{initial}} - P_{\text{final}}} \right]$  versus  $t$  was drawn. The values of  $\hat{m}$  (= 0.28 mol/mol),  $V_G$  (= 1080 cm<sup>3</sup>),  $V_L$  (= 400 cm<sup>3</sup>), and  $A$  (= 55 cm<sup>2</sup>) were known.

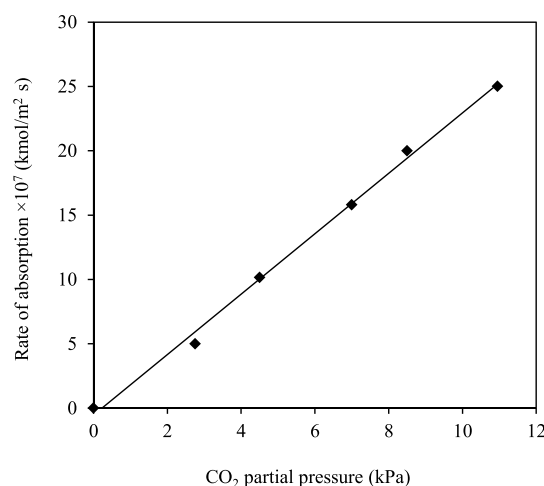
From the value of the slope of this plot, viz.,  $\left\{ - \left[ \frac{(\hat{m}V_L) + V_G}{V_L V_G} \right] k_L A \right\}$ , it was found that  $k_L$  equals  $5 \times 10^{-3}$  cm/s. This value is similar to that obtained by Patil et al.<sup>5</sup> and appears to be generally relevant for this model contactor. The value of  $k_L$  was corrected for the proposed solvent using the film theory correction factor ( $k_L \propto$  diffusivity at any arbitrary temperature). The values of  $k_L$  at 303 and 313 K were found to be  $4.9 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $5.4 \times 10^{-3}$  cm/s, respectively.

**4.3. Reaction Kinetics for GA.** The rates of CO<sub>2</sub> absorption in aqueous GA solutions (0.1–1 M) were measured at 303, 308, and 313 K (see Table 2). The CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure was around 5

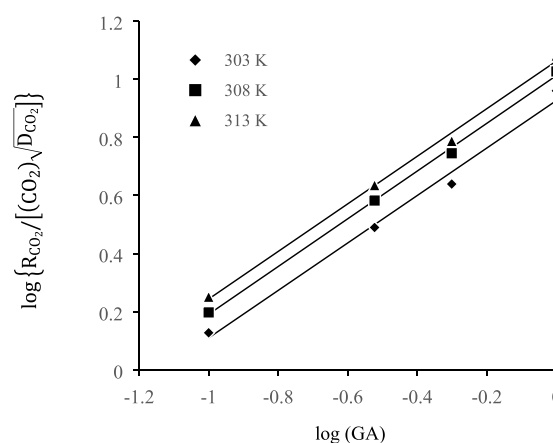
**Table 2. Rates of CO<sub>2</sub> Absorption in Aq. GA Solutions (0.1–1 M) at 303, 308, and 313 K**

temperature (K)	concentration (M)	CO <sub>2</sub> partial pressure (kPa)	rate of absorption $\times 10^7$ (kmol/m <sup>2</sup> s)
303	0.1	5.07	0.89
	0.3	4.80	1.93
	0.5	4.53	2.57
	1	4.65	5.53
308	0.1	5.02	1.03
	0.3	4.52	2.25
	0.5	4.01	2.91
	1	4.87	6.75
313	0.1	4.76	1.11
	0.3	4.40	2.48
	0.5	4.04	3.23
	1	4.46	7.01

kPa. The rates were higher in GA solutions of higher concentration. For example, the rate at 308 K increased from  $1.03 \times 10^{-7}$  (GA = 0.1 M) to  $6.75 \times 10^{-7}$  kmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> (GA = 1 M). The rise in temperature also resulted in higher absorption rates. Thus, the rate of absorption in 1 M GA solution improved from  $5.53 \times 10^{-7}$  ( $T = 303$  K) to  $7.01 \times 10^{-7}$  kmol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> ( $T = 313$  K). Next, the dependence of rate on CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure was studied in the 5–25 kPa range. A plot of  $R_{\text{CO}_2}$  versus  $P_{\text{CO}_2}$  at 308 K is shown in Figure 2 (GA = 0.5 M). This plot is linear, which verifies the first-order kinetics for CO<sub>2</sub>. According to eq 12,  $\log \left\{ \frac{R_{\text{CO}_2}}{P_{\text{CO}_2} H_{\text{CO}_2} \sqrt{D_{\text{CO}_2}}} \right\}$  was plotted against  $\log(\text{GA})$  at 303, 308, and 313 K (see Figure 3). The values of the slope (0.8) suggested fractional reaction order ( $n = 1.6$ ) with respect to the GA concentration. Earlier, the results of Gomez-Diaz and Navaza<sup>3</sup> suggested first-order kinetics for GA. It follows from eq



**Figure 2.** Plot of  $R_{\text{CO}_2}$  vs  $P_{\text{CO}_2}$  at  $T = 308$  K (GA = 0.5 M).



**Figure 3.** Plots of  $\log \left\{ \frac{R_{\text{CO}_2}}{P_{\text{CO}_2} H_{\text{CO}_2} \sqrt{D_{\text{CO}_2}}} \right\}$  vs  $\log(\text{GA})$  at 303, 308, and 313 K.

6 that this relation is valid:  $[\hat{k}_{\text{AsH}}(\text{AsH}) + \hat{k}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}(\text{H}_2\text{O}) + \hat{k}_{\text{OH}^-}(\text{OH}^-)] \ll k_{-1}$ . Thus, zwitterion deprotonation is the rate-limiting step.

The kinetic data for GA solutions (0.1 M) at 303, 308, and 313 K are represented in Table 3. Using eq 13, the values of  $k_2$  were found. The values of  $H_a$  and  $E_1$  suggest that the reaction is moderately fast. This is in line with the work of Gomez-Diaz and Navaza.<sup>3</sup> They also found that the CO<sub>2</sub>–GA reaction is moderately fast ( $0.3 < H_a < 3$ ). Thus, enhancement factor is given by the correlation  $E = \sqrt{1 + H_a^2}$ . The values of  $E$  are listed in Table 3. The variation in  $k_2$  with temperature was studied. The Arrhenius plot is shown in Figure 4. The following correlation holds:

$$\ln(k_{2,\text{GA}}) = 23.749 - \left( \frac{6313.5}{T} \right) \quad (17)$$

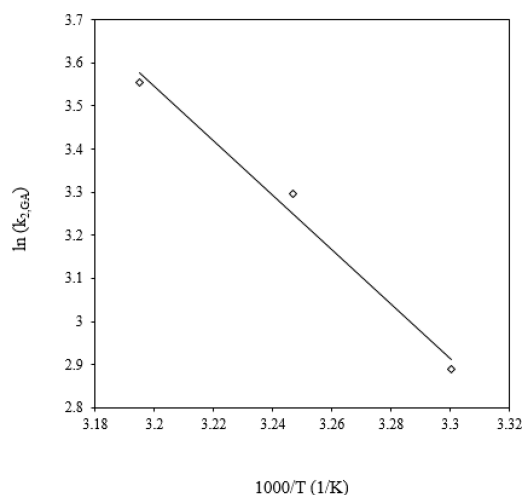
The activation energy was 52 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, which is close to the value published by Gomez-Diaz and Navaza<sup>3</sup> (47.6 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>).

**4.4. Addition of Rate Promoters to GA.** GA solutions (2.5 M) were promoted with three amines MEA, AMP, and PZ (0.5 M). It was recently reported that the chosen amines aided the absorption process in NAG solutions.<sup>5</sup> Experiments were performed at  $T = 308$  K in the 5–25 kPa range of CO<sub>2</sub> partial

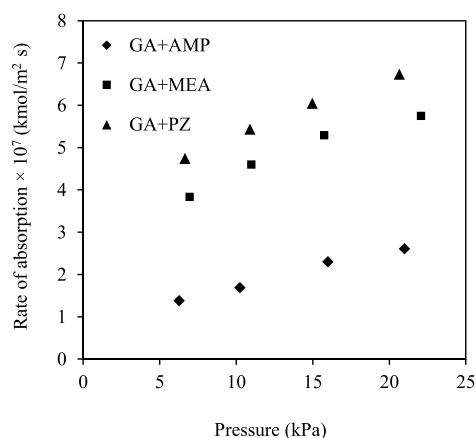


**Table 3.** Kinetic Data on the CO<sub>2</sub>–Aq. GA System at 303, 308, and 313 K (GA = 0.1 M)

temp. (K)	CO <sub>2</sub> partial pressure (kPa)	rate of absorption × 10 <sup>7</sup> (kmol/m <sup>2</sup> s)	k <sub>2</sub> (M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	k <sub>L</sub> × 10 <sup>3</sup> (cm/s)	Ha	E <sub>i</sub>	√(1 + Ha <sup>2</sup> )
303	5.07	0.89	18	4.9	0.17	2.76	1.01
308	5.02	1.03	27	5.0	0.37	2.92	1.05
313	4.76	1.11	35	5.4	0.47	3.02	1.11

**Figure 4.** Arrhenius plot for the CO<sub>2</sub>–GA system.

pressure. The results are represented in Figure 5. The rates improved with the rising partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub>. PZ was the

**Figure 5.** Dependence of R<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> on P<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> at 308 K for 2.5/0.5 M GA/promoter mixtures.

most efficient promoter because the absorption rates in GA/PZ were the highest. All promoters form carbamates with CO<sub>2</sub>. For all AsH/AmH mixtures (here, AmH denotes the promoter amine), eq 6 can be modified as follows:

$$R_{\text{CO}_2} = \frac{k_{2,\text{AsH}}(\text{CO}_2)(\text{AsH})}{1 + \frac{k_{-1,\text{AsH}}}{\hat{k}_{\text{AsH}}(\text{AsH}) + \hat{k}_{\text{AmH}}(\text{AmH}) + \hat{k}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}(\text{H}_2\text{O}) + \hat{k}_{\text{OH}^-}(\text{OH}^-)}} + \frac{k_{2,\text{AmH}}(\text{CO}_2)(\text{AmH})}{1 + \frac{k_{-1,\text{AmH}}}{\hat{k}_{\text{AsH}}(\text{AsH}) + \hat{k}_{\text{AmH}}(\text{AmH}) + \hat{k}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}(\text{H}_2\text{O}) + \hat{k}_{\text{OH}^-}(\text{OH}^-)}} \quad (18)$$

Due to the high CO<sub>2</sub> reactivity of the promoter amines, deprotonation of the zwitterion is fast, and eq 18 can be simply rearranged as follows:

$$R_{\text{CO}_2} = k_{2,\text{AsH}}(\text{CO}_2)(\text{AsH}) + k_{2,\text{AmH}}(\text{CO}_2)(\text{AmH}) \quad (19)$$

**4.5. Comparison of the Reactivity of GA, NAG, and NMG.** Trials were performed in the stirred cell at 308 K using 0.5 M solutions of amino sugars. The value of the CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure was around 4 kPa. From the measured values of the absorption rates (see Table 4), it was found that NMG was the

**Table 4.** Comparison of the CO<sub>2</sub> Reactivity of Amino Sugars (Molarity = 0.5 M) at 308 K

amino sugar	temperature (K)	sugar concentration (M)	CO <sub>2</sub> partial pressure (kPa)	rate of absorption × 10 <sup>7</sup> (kmol/m <sup>2</sup> s)
GA	308	0.5	4.01	2.91
NAG	308	0.5	4.25	3.35
NMG	308	0.5	4.15	4.83

most reactive with CO<sub>2</sub>, whereas GA was the least reactive. As the results with NMG were encouraging, further trials were performed with this amino sugar. The rates of CO<sub>2</sub> absorption in aqueous NMG solutions (0.1–0.5 M) were measured at 303 and 308 K (see Table 5). In dilute solutions (sugar = 0.1 M), the

**Table 5.** Rates of CO<sub>2</sub> Absorption in Aq. NMG Solutions (0.1–0.5 M) at 303 and 308 K

temp. (K)	concentration of NMG (M)	CO <sub>2</sub> partial pressure (kPa)	rate of absorption × 10 <sup>6</sup> (kmol/m <sup>2</sup> s)
303	0.5	7.98	3.86
308	0.1	7.69	1.39
	0.3	7.74	3.47
	0.5	8.85	6.10

absorption rate at  $T = 308$  K and  $P_{\text{CO}_2} = 8$  kPa was low ( $R_{\text{CO}_2} = 1.39 \times 10^{-6}$  kmol/m<sup>2</sup> s). However, the rate in 0.3 and 0.5 M NMG solutions was markedly higher. Also, the rate at  $T = 308$  K and (NMG) = 0.5 M was higher than the rate at 303 K, thus highlighting that the rise in temperature resulted in a higher absorption rate. In a forthcoming study, we will investigate the absorption kinetics in NMG solutions.

**4.6. Some General Remarks.** The motive for the extra kinetic study performed in our work was to extend the scope of validity of the reported kinetic model of Gomez-Diaz and Navaza<sup>3</sup> to a high molarity of GA (up to 1 M) and find out the kinetic parameters (order, rate constant, or activation energy) and the reaction pathway (slowest step) in the 0.1–1 M range. A few of our outcomes (rate constant and  $E_{\text{act}}$ ) matched well with the past work of Gomez-Diaz and Navaza<sup>3</sup> (molarity 0.05–0.4 M). However, we realized that kinetics was not of the first order for GA ( $n = 1.6$ ), and the rate-limiting step was dissimilar (zwitterion deprotonation).

Furthermore, we reported the physical properties of GA solutions (0.02–3 M) in the 298–318 K range because such data are hitherto not published. As a matter of fact, the properties of GA hydrochloride were systematically studied, but no work focused on GA at a high molarity. For example, Gomez-Diaz and Navaza<sup>20</sup> reported the density and viscosity of glucosamine hydrochloride (0–0.4 M) in the 298–323 K range. In another work, Gomez-Diaz et al.<sup>1</sup> presumed that carbon dioxide diffusivity and viscosity in the aqueous solutions of glucose and glucosamine are identical. There was no further information available, and we intended to fill this gap.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

Amino sugars are potential solvents for CO<sub>2</sub> capture from industrial gases. In the present work, the absorption kinetics for glucosamine (GA) was investigated in a stirred cell reactor. The reaction orders for GA and CO<sub>2</sub> were determined. This reaction system corresponds to the moderately fast reaction regime. The physicochemical characteristics of GA solutions (20 mM–3 M) were measured between 303 and 313 K. The CO<sub>2</sub> reactivity of GA was low, and it was augmented by the addition of rate promoters MEA, AMP, and PZ. Rate enhancement was maximized upon the addition of PZ (0.5 M) to 2.5 M GA solutions. Next, the performance of two more amino sugars *N*-acetyl-D-glucosamine (or NAG) and *N*-methyl-D-glucamine (or NMG) was determined and compared to that of GA. The absorption rate for NMG was the highest among the chosen sugars. In this way, a proper insight into the efficacy of this class of compounds was provided.

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.iecr.2c02745>.

Physical property data for glucosamine (PDF)

## ■ AUTHOR INFORMATION

### Corresponding Author

Prakash D. Vaidya – Department of Chemical Engineering, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai 400019, India; [orcid.org/0000-0001-5061-9635](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5061-9635); Phone: +91 22 3361 2014; Email: [pd.vaidya@ictmumbai.edu.in](mailto:pd.vaidya@ictmumbai.edu.in); Fax: +91 22 3361 1020

### Authors

Urvashi K. Sarode – Department of Chemical Engineering, Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai 400019, India  
Eugen Y. Kenig – Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Chair of Fluid Process Engineering, Paderborn University, Paderborn D-33098, Germany

Complete contact information is available at: <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.iecr.2c02745>

### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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## ■ NOMENCLATURE

$A$	interfacial area, m <sup>2</sup>
$\text{AmH}$	amine used as an absorption activator
$(\text{AmH})$	concentration of amine in liquid, M
$\text{AsH}$	amino sugar
$(\text{AsH})$	concentration of amino sugar in liquid, M
$(\text{CO}_2)$	saturation concentration of CO <sub>2</sub> , M
$D_{\text{AsH}}$	diffusivity of amino sugar in liquid, m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
$D_{\text{CO}_2}$	diffusivity of CO <sub>2</sub> in liquid, m <sup>2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
$E$	enhancement factor due to chemical reaction
$E_{\text{act}}$	activation energy
$E_i$	enhancement factor for an instantaneous reaction
$(\text{GA})$	initial concentration of GA in liquid, M
$Ha$	Hatta number
$H_{\text{CO}_2}$	solubility of CO <sub>2</sub> in liquid, kmol m <sup>-3</sup> kPa <sup>-1</sup>
$(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	concentration of water, M
$k_2$	forward rate constant for the reaction between CO <sub>2</sub> and GA, M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
$k_{-1}$	reverse rate constant for the reaction between CO <sub>2</sub> and GA, M <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
$\hat{k}_{\text{AmH}}$	deprotonation constant for amine
$\hat{k}_{\text{AsH}}$	deprotonation constant for amino sugar
$\hat{k}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$	deprotonation constant for water
$k_L$	liquid-side mass-transfer coefficient, m s <sup>-1</sup>
$k_{\text{OH}^-}$	deprotonation constant for OH <sup>-</sup>
$\hat{m}$	dimensionless solubility, mol mol <sup>-1</sup>
$(\text{OH}^-)$	hydroxyl ion concentration, M
$P_{\text{CO}_2}$	partial pressure of CO <sub>2</sub> in bulk gas phase, kPa
$P(t)$	partial pressure of solute gas at time $t$ , kPa
$P_{\text{final}}$	final partial pressure of solute gas, kPa
$P_{\text{initial}}$	initial partial pressure of solute gas, kPa
$(\text{Promoter})$	concentration of promoter in liquid, M
$R_{\text{CO}_2}$	absorption rate of CO <sub>2</sub> , kmol m <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
$V_G$	volume of gas phase, m <sup>3</sup>
$V_L$	volume of liquid phase, m <sup>3</sup>

### Greek Symbols

$\rho$  density of amino sugar solution, kg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\mu$  viscosity of amino sugar solution, mPa s

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