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# SOLVATOCHROMIC AND THERMOCHROMIC STUDY OF KETOCONAZOLE AND MICONAZOLE

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## SOLVATOCHROMIC AND THERMOCHROMIC STUDY OF KETOCONAZOLE AND MICONAZOLE





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Ketoconazole (KNZ) and miconazole (MNZ) are two of the most common topical and vaginal antifungal drugs in clinical use. Although they are imidazoles of extremely low aqueous solubility, they are presented in various pharmaceutical formulations. The purpose of this work is to analyze the solute-solvent interactions in pure solvents and the effect of temperature on KNZ and MNZ in buffer solutions at physiological pH. The study was carried out using solvatochromic and thermochromic techniques, and the multiparametric statistical analysis was performed with the method of linear solvation energy relationship of Kamlet and Taft and the Catalán method. The results showed a hypsochromic shift as the polarity of the solvents decreases. The highest relative contribution in KNZ by means of the Kamlet and Taft equation was due to the  $\pi$ parameter, while in MNZ it was the SP parameter by means of the Catalán equation. The thermochromic study of KNZ at physiological pH 5.00 and 7.40 allowed us to visualize a considerable increase in absorbance as temperature rises, without isosbestic points or crossovers. KNZ polarity/polarizability and MNZ polarizability are highlighted as the main non-specific interactions in solution. The hypsochromic shift observed shows that the excited state in solution is of lower polarity and higher energy than the basal state. The absorbance of KNZ observed at pH 5.00 corresponds to the higher concentration of the BH<sup>+</sup> species, while at pH 7.40 it is due to the predominance of the B molecular species.

**Keywords:** Catalán; Kamlet and Taft; ketoconazole; miconazole; solvatochromism; thermochromism.



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### Introduction

Solvatochromism and thermochromism studies of active pharmaceutical ingredients account for solute-solvent interactions and the presence of molecular equilibria, the analysis of which provides relevant information applicable to pharmaceutical manufacturing, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics stages of the drug.

Ketoconazole (KNZ) and Miconazole (MNZ) are two of the most common topical and vaginal antifungal drugs in clinical use. Although they are imidazoles of extremely low aqueous solubility, they are presented in various pharmaceutical formulations.

The purpose of this work is to analyze the solute-solvent interactions in pure solvents and the effect of temperature on KNZ and MNZ in buffer solutions at physiological pH.







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The study was carried out using solvatochromic and thermochromic techniques, and the multiparametric statistical analysis was performed with the method of linear solvation energy relationship of Kamlet and Taft and the Catalán method.

The quality control of the drugs was determined by measurement of the melting point and by HPLC. The solvents were tested by the refractive index.



The solvatochromic study of KNZ was performed with  $1x10^{-5}$  M solutions in 5 pure polar solvents, 3 protic and 2 aprotic.

The results showed a hypsochromic shift as the polarity of the solvents decreases.



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SOLVENT	λ (nm)	<i>ṽ</i> (cm⁻¹)	π*	α	β	SP	SdP	SA	SB
Dichlorometane	246,5044475	40,567219	0,79	0,04	-0,01	0,761	0,769	0,04	0,178
Acetonitrile	246,7390225	40,5286521	0,75	0,19	0,31	0,645	0,974	0,044	0,286
2-propanol	242,1926825	41,2894391	0,48	0,76	0,84	0,633	0,808	0,283	0,83
Ethanol	243,7554925	41,0247166	0,54	0,83	0,77	0,633	0,783	0,4	0,658
Methanol	243,0220125	41,1485358	0,6	0,93	0,62	0,608	0,904	0,605	0,545

The multiple regression analysis of the Kamlet and Taft equation of KNZ at 243 nm is expressed as

 $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = (42065.2 ± 152.1) - (193.9 ± 185.5) $\pi^*$  + (100.6 ± 35.4) $\alpha$  - (95.2 ± 77.3) $\beta$ 

Relative contribution:

 $\pi$  \* = 49.76 %,  $\alpha$  = 25.82 %,  $\beta$  = 24.42 %, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.9706.

The analysis using the Catalán method yielded a non-significant result.

The highest relative contribution in KNZ was due to the  $\pi$  parameter which means that polarity/polarizability of the drug is highlighted as the main non-specific interaction in solution.



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The solvatochromic study of MNZ was performed with  $2x10^{-4}$  M solutions in 7 pure polar solvents, 3 protic and 4 aprotic.

The results showed a hypsochromic shift as the polarity of the solvents decreases.



λ (nm)

SOLVENT	λ (nm)	ν̃ (cm⁻¹)	π*	α	β	SP	SdP	SA	SB
Chloroform	272,529345	36,69329628	0 <i>,</i> 58	0,44	0	0,783	0,614	0,047	0,071
Dichlorometane	271,980895	36,76728838	0,79	0,04	-0,01	0,761	0,769	0,04	0,178
Ethyl acetate	271,986495	36,76653137	0,45	0	0,45	0,656	0,603	0	0,542
Acetonitrile	272,01491	36,76269069	0,75	0,19	0,31	0,645	0,974	0,044	0,286
2-propanol	271,975085	36,76807381	0,48	0,76	0,84	0,633	0,808	0,283	0,83
Ethanol	271,99063	36,76597242	0,54	0,83	0,77	0,633	0,783	0,4	0,658
Methanol	271,99063	36,76597242	0,6	0,93	0,62	0,608	0,904	0,605	0,545



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The multiple regression analysis of the Kamlet and Taft equation of MNZ at 272 nm is expressed as

 $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = (36638.5 ± 44.5) + (150.5 ± 62.6) $\pi^*$  - (53.8 ± 22.4) $\alpha$  + (121.2 ± 30.1) $\beta$ 

Relative contribution:

 $\pi$  \* = 46.24 %,  $\alpha$  = 16.53 %,  $\beta$  = 37.23 %, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.8446.

The multiple regression analysis of the Catalán equation of MNZ at 280 nm is expressed as

 $\tilde{v}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = (36830.9 ± 410.5) - (1358.7 ± 441.3)SP - (256.6 ± 134.4)SdP + (98.1 ± 72.2)SA - (147.3 ± 97.5)SB

Relative contribution:

SP = 73.02 %, SdP = 13.79 %, SA = 5.27 %, SB = 7.92 %, R<sup>2</sup> = 0.8888.

The highest relative contribution in MNZ by the Kamlet and Taft method was due to the  $\pi$  parameter while the one shown by the Catalán method was because of the SP parameter. Therefore, polarity/polarizability -especially polarizability- of the drug, is highlighted as the main non-specific interaction in solution.



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The thermochromic assays of KNZ were performed with  $1x10^{-5}$  M buffer solutions at physiological pH 5.00 and 7.40. The UV-Vis absorption spectrum was measured for the 230 nm to 270 nm interval in the 5 to 75 °C temperature range.

This study allowed us to visualize a considerable increase in absorbance as temperature rises, without isosbestic points or crossovers. The acid-base equilibrium of BH<sup>+</sup>/B is set by  $pKa_{b}$  BH<sup>+</sup> = 6.10.





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### Conclusions

KNZ polarity/polarizability and MNZ polarizability are highlighted as the main nonspecific interactions in solution. The halogenated phenyl ring and the long alkylic chain of KNZ, and the two halogenated phenil rings of MNZ are responsible for this predominant interactions in solution.

The hypsochromic shift observed and the sign and magnitudes of the parameters analyzed in KNZ and MNZ shows that the excited state in solution is of lower polarity and higher energy than the basal state.

The absorbance of KNZ observed at pH 5.00 corresponds to the higher concentration of the BH<sup>+</sup> species, while at pH 7.40 it is due to the predominance of the B molecular species.

Both the polarity and the polarizability of the solutes are correlated with the binding to the substrate of the target enzyme and the antifungal activity of imidazoles.



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