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# Effects of Particle Size and Stabilizing Agents upon Dielectric Properties of Water-in-Oil Type Emulsions<sup>1-4)</sup>

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The dielectric relaxation due to the interfacial polarization of water-in-oil type emulsions (W/O emulsions) was investigated at frequencies ranging from 10 kHz to 3 MHz.

In preparing W/O emulsions, differences of mixing or micronizing efficiency arise between bench-scale and production-scale apparatus owing to the difference of mixing or shear rate. Therefore, the size of dispersed particles can be regarded as an index of the mechanical effect arising from the mixing apparatus. Firstly, the relationship between the size of dispersed particles and the dielectric properties of W/O emulsions was investigated. It was found that 1 d after preparation, the degree of particle aggregation leveled off and became fairly steady, and the values, for W/O emulsions with coarse particles, of the limiting dielectric constant at low frequency,  $\varepsilon_l$ , and parameter  $\alpha$ , indicating the distribution of relaxation frequencies, determined from complex plane plots, were greater than for those for emulsions with fine particles. The value of  $\varepsilon_l$  is thought to be related to the thickness of the surfactant layer between aggregated particles rather than to the size of particle clusters, but the relation becomes more ambiguous as the concentration of surfactant becomes higher. Relaxation frequency,  $f_0$ , decreases with increasing particle aggregation.

Secondly, in order to obtain good emulsification in the W/O emulsion, the stabilizing effects of 23 stabilizing agents upon the state of dispersion of W/O emulsion were evaluated by dielectric measurement. Primary emulsifiers for micronizing dispersed particles, such as polyoxyethylene (POE) (6) sorbitan monooleate, secondary emulsifiers for protecting interface membranes, such as phytosterol, and lipojelling additives, such as aluminum stearate, decreased the value of  $\varepsilon_l$  of W/O emulsions.

From the present study, it was concluded that dielectric evaluation can be applied to examine the mechanical effects on emulsification and to as an aid in the selection of optimum additives and vehicles for a W/O emulsion.

**Keywords**—interfacial polarization; dielectric relaxation; dielectric measurement; colloid-chemical stability; aggregation; W/O emulsion; stabilizing agent

The dielectric properties of emulsions of water, polyols and aqueous solutions of polyols in hydrophobic colloidal silica—oil gel have been investigated. Hydrophobic colloidal silica has been suitable for the purposes of the previous investigations, but it cannot be used generally as an emulsifier for preparing any water-in-oil type emulsion.

In the present study, the dielectric properties of water-in-oil type emulsions without hydrophobic colloidal silica (W/O emulsions) were studied keeping two practical problems in mind. Firstly, the size of dispersed particles affects the viscosity regarded as an important property of a W/O emulsion.<sup>5)</sup> From this point of view, it is necessary to obtain the same size of dispersed particles between bench-scale and production-scale preparations by the control of mixing rate or mixing time. The effect of the size of dispersed particles in the W/O emulsions upon the dielectric properties, especially on the limiting dielectric constant at low frequency,  $\varepsilon_l$ , and the parameter of distribution of relaxation frequencies,  $\alpha$ , were therefore investigated.

Secondly, the HLB (hydrophilic-lipophilic balance) method is not very useful for

preparing W/O emulsions, because the range of HLB values in which good W/O emulsions can be prepared is narrow (between 3 and 6—7),<sup>6)</sup> and HLB is not generally such a predominant factor in the stability of W/O emulsions as it is in the case of oil-in-water type emulsions. In order to obtain good emulsification in W/O emulsions, it is necessary to use stabilizing agents—primary emulsifiers for micronizing dispersed particles, secondary emulsifiers for protecting interfacial membranes and lipojelling additives for preventing particle aggregation. The effect of these stabilizing agents upon the dielectric properties of W/O emulsions was also examined.

#### **Theoretical**

List of Symbols

 $\varepsilon^*$ : complex dielectric constant

 $\varepsilon$ : dielectric constant

 $\varepsilon_p$ : dielectric constant of dispersed phase

 $\varepsilon_m$ : dielectric constant of continuous phase

 $\varepsilon_h$ : limiting value of  $\varepsilon$  at high frequency

 $\varepsilon_l$ : limiting value of  $\varepsilon$  at low frequency

 $\kappa$ : electric conductivity (75/cm)

 $\kappa_p$ : electric conductivity of dispersed phase ( $\sigma$ /cm)

 $\kappa_m$ : electric conductivity of continuous phase ( $\sqrt{5}$ /cm)

 $\Phi$ : volume fraction of dispersed phase

f: experimental frequency (Hz)

 $f_0$ : relaxation frequency (Hz)

 $\gamma$ : imaginary part of the complex dielectric constant

$$\gamma = \frac{\kappa}{f} \times 1.7975 \times 10^{12}$$

*j*: imaginary unit  $\sqrt{-1}$ 

 $\alpha$ : parameter of the distribution of relaxation frequency, determined from complex plane plots

# **Empirical Formula of Cole and Cole**<sup>7)</sup>

The dielectric relaxation can be represented as a function of the frequency, f, in the following form:

$$\varepsilon^* = \varepsilon - j\gamma = \varepsilon_h + \frac{\varepsilon_l - \varepsilon_h}{1 + (jf/f_0)^{1-\alpha}} \qquad (0 < \alpha < 1)$$

#### **Experimental**

**Materials**—Squalane ( $\varepsilon_m = 2.10$ ,  $\kappa_m = 5.64 \times 10^{-10}$  U/cm) of commercial grade (Kuraray Co., Ltd.), sorbitan sesquioleate (NIKKOL SO-15, Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.) of commercial grade, various stabilizing agents (see Table I) and water obtained by reverse osmosis ( $\varepsilon_p = 78.58$ ,  $\kappa_p = 2.31 \times 10^{-6}$  U/cm) were used.

**Preparation of W/O Emulsion**—Sorbitan sesquioleate  $0.5 \, \mathrm{g}$ ,  $1.0 \, \mathrm{g}$  or  $2.0 \, \mathrm{g}$  was dissolved in warm squalane (70— $80 \, \mathrm{^oC}$ ) (total volume: 70 ml). The squalane was cooled to room temperature. Then,  $30 \, \mathrm{ml}$  of water was gently added to the oil phase with vigorous agitation by means of a propeller mixer (max. rpm=1200) for 1 min or 10 min. Coarse particles were obtained on agitation for 1 min and fine particles were obtained on agitation for 10 min.

Preparation of W/O Emulsion Containing Additional Stabilizing Agents—Various stabilizing agents (see Table I) at concentrations of 0.1%, 0.2% or 0.5% by weight were dissolved in warm squalane (70—80°C) containing 0.5% sorbitan sesquioleate (total volume: 70 ml). The squalane was cooled to room temperature. Finally, 30 ml of water was gently added to the oil phase and the whole was vigorously agitated by means of a propeller mixer (max. rpm = 1200) for 10 min.

Measurement—Both capacitance and conductance were measured over the frequency range from 10 kHz to

TABLE	ī	List	$\alpha f$	Stal	silizino	Agents
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Stabilizing agent	Trademark/grade	HLB <sup>a)</sup> value	Manufacturer		
Primary emulsifiers					
Sorbitan monooleate	NIKKOL SO-10	4.3	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
POE <sup>b)</sup> (6) sorbitan monooleate	NIKKOL TO-106	10.0	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
Diglyceryl monooleate	NIKKOL DGMO-C	5.5	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
Diglyceryl dioleate	NIKKOL DGDO	7.5	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
	NIKKOL Decaglyn 2-O	10.0	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
Decaglyceryl trioleate	NIKKOL Decaglyn 3-O	6.5	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
Decaglyceryl pentaoleate	NIKKOL Decaglyn 5-O	4.0	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
POE (2) oleyl ether	NIKKOL BO-2	7.5	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
POE (7) oleyl ether	NIKKOL BO-7	10.5	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
POE (2) monooleate	NIKKOL MYO-2	4.5	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
POE (6) monooleate	NIKKOL MYO-6	8.5	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
Secondary emulsifiers					
Cholesterol	Reagent grade		Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
Cholesteryl stearate	Reagent grade		Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
Phytosterol	Reagent grade		Eisai Co., Ltd.		
POE (10) phytosterol	NIKKOL BPS-10	12.5	Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
POP-POE-POP copolymer	UNISAFE IP-225		Nippon Oil & Fats Co., Ltd.		
Lanolin	SPM		Takasago Perfumery Co., Ltd		
Liquid lanolin	Reagent grade		Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
L-α-dipalmitoyl phosphatidyl choline	Reagent grade		Nippon Oil & Fats Co., Ltd.		
	(content: $>99\%$ )				
Lipojelling additives					
Aluminum monostearate	Reagent grade		Kishida Chemical Co., Ltd.		
Paraffin	Reagent grade 135 F		Nippon Oil Co., Ltd.		
Cetanol	Reagent grade		Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		
Bephenyl alcohol	Reagent grade		Nikko Chemicals Co., Ltd.		

a) Hydrophilic-lipophilic balance. b) Polyoxyethylene.

### Results

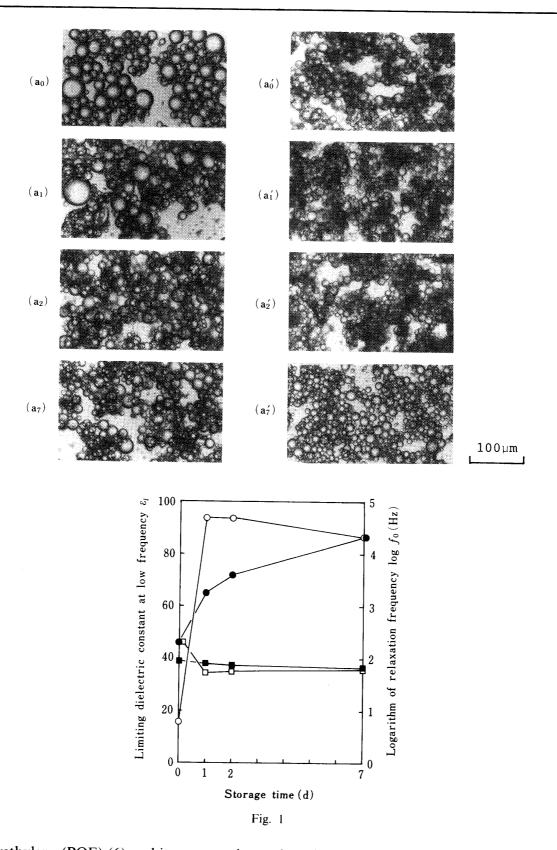
Figure 1 shows microphotographs and plots of  $\varepsilon_l$  and  $\log f_0$  against storage time of W/O emulsions with coarse particles and fine particles immediately after preparation and 1, 2 and 7 d after preparation at various concentrations of sorbitan sesquioleate. It was found that the value of  $\varepsilon_l$  rapidly increased up to 1 d after preparation, and then decreased or increased slowly during storage. The value of  $\varepsilon_l$  where the particles were fine was greater than in the case of coarse particles immediately after preparation, and this tendency was more marked at lower concentrations of sorbitan sesquioleate. The differences in the values of  $\varepsilon_l$  due to the differences of particle size in the dispersed phase were apparent at various concentrations of sorbitan sesquioleate, and the higher the concentration was, the smaller the  $\varepsilon_l$  value both with coarse and with fine particles. The value of the relaxation frequency,  $f_0$ , decreased as the particle aggregation increased.

Table II summarizes the values of the dielectric parameters of the W/O emulsions with coarse particles and with fine particles at various storage times. Parameter  $\alpha$  of the W/O emulsions with coarse particles was larger than when the particles were fine, 1 d after preparation.

Table III summarizes the values of the dielectric properties of W/O emulsions containing 23 stabilizing agents. Several primary emulsifiers with micronizing action, such as po-

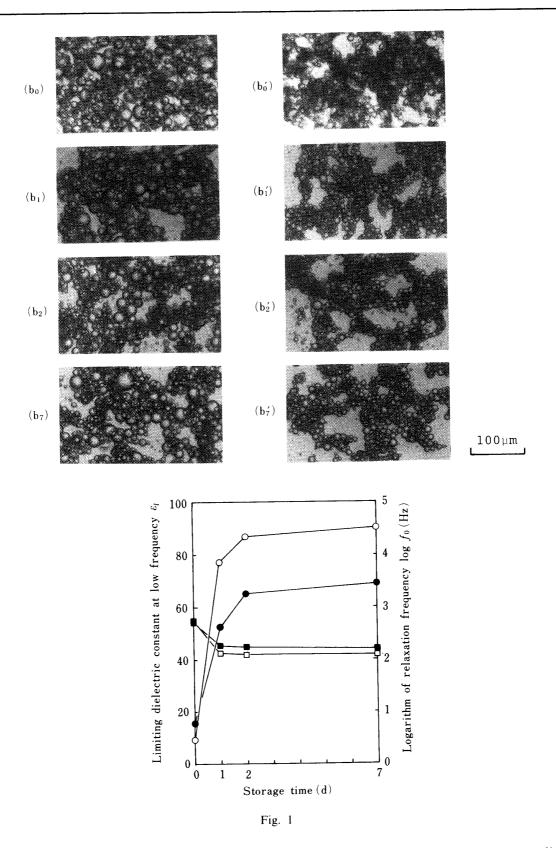
<sup>3</sup> MHz by means of a capacitance-conductance bridge, as in the previous study.<sup>1)</sup>

No. 12



lyoxyethylene (POE) (6) sorbitan monooleate, decaglyceryl esters, POE (2) oleyl ether, POE (7) oleyl ether and POE (6) monooleate, decreased the values of  $\varepsilon_l$  and  $\alpha$  at concentrations of 0.1% or more. Thus, the primary emulsifiers with higher HLB values can be said to have the effect of decreasing the value of  $\varepsilon_l$  regardless of their chemical structure. Several secondary emulsifiers with the property of protecting the interfacial membrane, such as phytosterol and

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liquid lanolin, decreased the value of  $\varepsilon_l$ , but L- $\alpha$ -dipalmitoyl phosphatidyl choline immediately decreased the value of  $\varepsilon_l$ , then increased both it and  $\alpha$  during storage. Lipojelling additives with emulsifying action, such as aluminum stearate, decreased the value of  $\varepsilon_l$ . Secondary emulsifiers and the lipojelling additives have the effect of decreasing the value of  $\varepsilon_l$  above 0.2%. No effect of lipojelling additives without emulsifying action, such as paraffin and

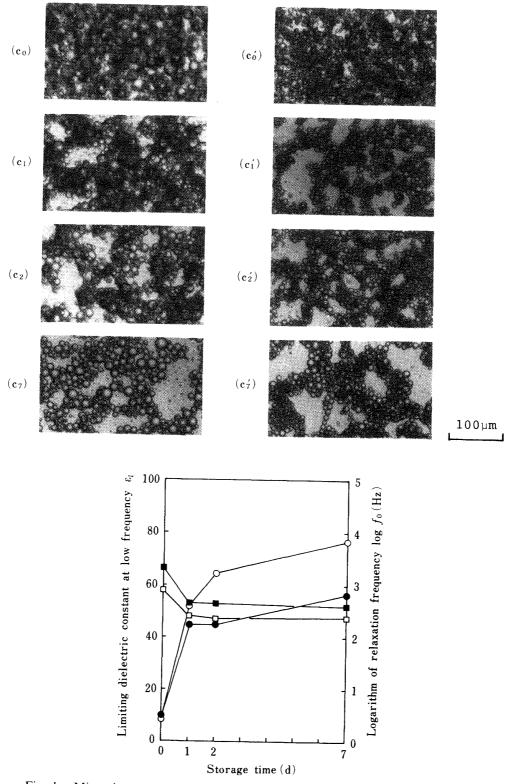


Fig. 1. Microphotographs of Dispersed Particles and Plots of Limiting Dielectric Constant,  $\varepsilon_l$ , and Relaxation Frequency,  $f_0$ , against Storage Time of W/O Emulsion ( $\Phi$ =0.3) with Coarse and Fine Disperse Particles

<sup>(1) 0.5%</sup> sorbitan sesquioleate, (2) 1.0% sorbitan sesquioleate, (3) 2.0% sorbitan sesquioleate.

 $<sup>(</sup>a_0)$ ,  $(a'_0)$ ,  $(b_0)$ ,  $(b'_0)$ ,  $(c_0)$ ,  $(c'_0)$ : immediately after preparation.  $(a_1)$ ,  $(a'_1)$ ,  $(b'_1)$ ,  $(b'_1)$ ,  $(c_1)$ ,  $(c'_1)$ : at 1 d after preparation.  $(a_2)$ ,  $(a'_2)$ ,  $(b'_2)$ ,  $(b'_2)$ ,  $(c'_2)$ : at 2 d after preparation.  $(a_7)$ ,  $(a'_7)$ ,  $(b'_7)$ ,  $(c'_7)$ ; at 7 d after preparation.

 $<sup>\</sup>bigcirc$ , coarse particles  $(\varepsilon_l)$ ;  $\bigcirc$ , fine particles  $(\varepsilon_l)$ ;  $\square$ , coarse particles  $(f_0)$ ;  $\blacksquare$ , fine particles  $(f_0)$ .

TABLE II.	Values of $\varepsilon_h$ , $\varepsilon_l$ , $f_0$ and $\alpha$ of W/O Emulsions at	
Variou	is Concentrations of Sorbitan Sesquioleate	

Concentration of sorbitan sesquioleate (%)	Average size of dispersed particles (μm)		Storage time (d)	E <sub>h</sub>	$arepsilon_l$	f <sub>0</sub> (kHz)	α
0.5	Coarse	13.00	0	6.7	14.8	199.5	0.023
0.5	particles	12.24	1	8.2	93.0	52.5	0.074
	particles	12.40	2	8.2	93.8	56.2	0.074
		12.60	7	8.2	86.5	63.1	0.057
	Fine	8.72	0	8.2	46.0	89.1	0.087
	particles	7.44	1	8.2	65.3	79.4	0.024
	P	9.76	2	8.2	72.0	74.1	0.043
		10.20	7	8.2	86.5	67.6	0.057
1.0	Coarse	14.60	0	6.5	9.4	562.3	0.003
1.0	particles	11.88	1	8.3	77.3	134.9	0.048
	P	9.76	2	8.3	87.0	125.9	0.033
		10.60	7	8.6	90.3	125.9	0.030
	Fine	7.16	0	7.4	15.8	524.8	0.013
	particles	6.92	1	8.3	52.8	190.5	0.014
	P	7.92	2	8.4	65.3	177.8	0.014
		9.16	7	9.0	69.3	162.2	0.014
2.0	Coarse	12.64	0	6.3	8.3	794.3	0
2.0	particles	10.40	1	7.9	51.8	251.2	0.070
	Partition	10.84	2	9.2	64.1	223.9	0.022
		9.72	7	9.2	76.8	239.9	0.050
	Fine	7.84	0	6.8	10.0	2089.3	0
	particles	7.72	1	8.2	42.8	446.7	0.022
	pa	7.08	2	8.2	42.8	436.5	0.02
		8.96	7	9.2	56.6	398.1	0

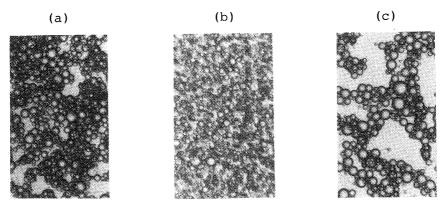


Fig. 2. Microphotographs of Dispersed Particles of W/O Emulsion and W/O Emulsions Containing Stabilizing Agent at 7d after Preparation

(a) W/O emulsion containing 0.5% sorbitan sesquioleate, (b) W/O emulsion containing 0.5% sorbitan sesquioleate and 0.5% POE (6) sorbitan monooleate, (c) W/O emulsion containing 0.5% sorbitan sesquioleate and 0.5% paraffin.

cetanol, upon the values of  $\varepsilon_l$  and  $\alpha$  of W/O emulsions was observed at 0.5%. Figure 2 shows microphotographs of W/O emulsion alone, containing 0.5% POE (6) sorbitan monooleate, and containing 0.5% paraffin at 7 d after preparation. The results in Fig. 2 are consistent with those in Table III.

Table III. Effect of Various Stabilizing Agents upon Values of  $\varepsilon_h$ ,  $\varepsilon_l$ ,  $f_0$  and  $\alpha$  for W/O Emulsion

Stabilizing agent	Storage time (d)	Concentration of stabilizing agent (%)	$arepsilon_h$	$\mathcal{E}_{l}$	f <sub>0</sub> (kHz)	α
None	0	V*************************************	7.5	46.5	89.1	0.111
	7		8.0	86.0	67.6	0.044
Primary emulsifiers						
Sorbitan	0	0.1	8.2	55.8	100.0	0.076
monooleate		0.2	8.3	53.7	141.3	0.067
		0.5	9.5	40.0	281.8	0.056
	7	0.1	8.2	99.0	79.4	0.036
		0.2	8.2	63.2	141.3	0.064
		0.5	8.0	35.0	269.2	0.069
POE (6)	0	0.1	7.2	27.5	158.5	0.100
sorbitan		0.2	7.1	19.8	166.0	0.100
monooleate		0.5	7.1	14.2	234.4	0.100
	7	0.1	6.8	22.1	177.8	0.077
		0.2	7.1	13.0	426.6	0.056
		0.5	6.8	11.1	831.8	0
Diglyceryl	0	0.1	8.2	57.3	79.4	0.109
monooleate		0.2	8.0	43.0	100.0	0.108
		0.5	8.0	28.2	177.8	0.077
	7	0.1	8.0	86.8	70.8	0.056
		0.2	8.0	64.0	83.2	0.050
		0.5	8.2	62.3	100.0	0.020
Diglyceryl	0	0.1	7.9	75.2	70.8	0.142
dioleate		0.2	8.2	55.0	95.5	0.070
		0.5	8.0	41.8	141.3	0.067
	7	0.1	8.3	94.5	63.1	0.044
		0.2	8.0	78.1	79.4	0.056
		0.5	8.3	71.2	100.0	0
Decaglyceryl	0	0.1	8.0	40.1	70.8	0.144
dioleate		0.2	7.2	39.3	63.1	0.133
	_	0.5	5.1	5.9	831.8	0
	7	0.1	7.5	31.7	166.0	0.106
		0.2	6.0	11.0	501.2	0.112
<b>5</b>		0.5				_
Decaglyceryl	0	0.1	8.3	51.0	63.1	0.071
trioleate		0.2	8.0	44.7	56.2	0.080
	~	0.5	7.3	31.3	50.1	0.092
	7	0.1	6.8	17.0	223.9	0.081
		0.2	6.8	13.9	426.6	0.063
ъ .		0.5	6.6	11.5	707.9	0.044
Decaglyceryl	0	0.1	7.6	48.2	79.4	0.100
pentaoleate		0.2	7.3	41.4	79.4	0.110
	_	0.5	7.5	36.3	79.4	0.130
	7	0.1	8.0	68.1	75.9	0.036
		0.2	8.0	50.2	79.4	0.018
DOF (2)	0	0.5	7.0	23.0	141.3	0.037
POE (2)	0	0.1	8.0	33.0	125.9	0.050
oleylether		0.2	6.8	17.5	177.8	0.043
	-	0.5	7.1	18.0	269.2	0.058
	7	0.1	8.5	98.0	70.8	0.048
		0.2	7.3	35.4	104.7	0.026
		0.5	6.1	11.4	354.8	0.052

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TABLE II	I. (co	ntinued)
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Stabilizing agent	Storage time (d)	Concentration of stabilizing agent (%)	$\varepsilon_h$	$arepsilon_l$	f <sub>0</sub> (kHz)	
POE (7)	0	0.1	7.2	17.3	234.4	0.
oleylether		0.2	7.0	13.0	446.7	0.
	_	0.5		1.5.4	222.0	0
	7	0.1	6.5	15.4	223.9	0.
		0.2 0.5	6.8	13.8	524.8	0.
DOE (2)	0	0.3	8.0	50.5	89.1	0.
POE (2) monooleate	U	0.2	8.0	37.0	125.9	0
monooicate		0.5	8.0	33.0	177.8	0
	7	0.1	8.0	98.0	63.1	0
	,	0.2	8.0	102.6	75.9	0
		0.5	7.8	82.8	112.2	0
POE (6)	0	0.1	6.7	18.3	213.8	0
monooleate	· ·	0.2	6.5	11.9	501.2	0
		0.5	6.8	11.2	707.9	0
	7	0.1	6.5	22.7	134.9	0
		0.2	5.9	11.4	354.8	0
		0.5	5.9	9.1	676.1	0
Secondary emulsifiers						
Cholesterol	0	0.1	7.5	51.7	79.4	0
		0.2	8.2	61.3	67.6	0
		0.5	8.3	41.2	83.2	0
	7	0.1	8.5	100.5	63.1	0
		0.2	8.2	98.0	60.3	0
		0.5	9.6	131.2	50.1	0
Cholesteryl	0	0.1	7.7	54.7 50.4	79.4 83.2	0
stearate		0.2 0.5	7.8 8.8	43.8	151.4	0
	7	0.3	8.2	76.8	67.6	0
	,	0.1	8.1	77.0	70.8	0
		0.5	7.9	69.5	158.5	0
Phytosterol	0	0.1	8.3	53.2	79.4	0
1 Hytosteroi	U	0.2	7.9	54.8	75.9	0
		0.5	8.0	37.0	100.0	0
	7	0.1	8.3	92.0	63.1	0
		0.2	8.3	78.8	67.6	C
		0.5	8.0	53.3	75.9	C
POE	0	0.1	8.2	47.8	117.5	(
phytosterol		0.2	8.6	55.0	63.1	(
		0.5	_			
	7	0.1	8.1	72.6	79.4	0
		0.2	8.5	74.0	85.1	(
	_	0.5			166.0	,
POP-POE-POP	0	0.1	7.8	23.0	166.0	(
copolymer		0.2	7.7	25.3	158.5	(
	-	0.5	7.3	27.5	158.5	(
	7	0.1	7.2	83.0	41.7	(
		0.2			_	

		TABLE III. (conti	nued)			
Stabilizing agent	Storage time (d)	Concentration of stabilizing agent (%)	E <sub>h</sub>	$arepsilon_l$	f <sub>0</sub> (kHz)	α
Lanolin	0	0.1	8.1	57.3	70.8	0.089
		0.2	8.3	51.7	66.1	0.078
		0.5	8.0	48.0	79.4	0.076
	7	0.1	8.8	118.3	53.7	0.057
		0.2	8.5	96.8	60.3	0.054
		0.5	8.2	92.0	60.3	0.059
Liquid	0	0.1	7.9	50.8	79.4	0.069
lanolin		0.2	8.0	40.8	100.0	0.056
		0.5	7.5	38.0	112.2	0.070
	7	0.1	9.0	78.1	67.6	0.053
		0.2	8.2	66.1	66.1	0.020
		0.5	7.8	44.0	93.3	0
L-α-dipalmitoyl	0	0.1	7.2	20.0	158.5	0.081
phosphatidyl		0.2	7.8	27.0	85.1	0.090
choline		0.5		****		
	7	0.1	7.2	257.0	20.9	0.124
		0.2	7.8	105.5	28.2	0.213
		0.5			_	-
Lipojelling additives						
Aluminum	0	0.1	6.3	28.6	177.8	0.109
stearate		0.2	6.0	21.7	269.2	0.133
		0.5	7.7	22.0	166.0	0.189
	7	0.1	8.6	72.8	147.9	0.020
		0.2	8.3	50.7	316.2	0.031
D C		0.5	8.7	33.0	676.1	0.046
Paraffin	0	0.1	8.2	51.1	79.4	0.089
		0.2	8.2	52.3	70.8	0.059
	_	0.5	8.1	44.0	79.4	0.037
	7	0.1	8.0	102.8	60.3	0.070
		0.2	8.0	87.6	60.3	0.098
		0.5	8.0	84.0	60.3	0.048
Cetanol	0	0.1	7.7	58.3	70.8	0.108
		0.2	8.3	52.9	85.1	0.052
	_	0.5	8.3	47.0	79.4	0.058
	7	0.1	8.5	104.0	58.9	0.059
		0.2	8.6	107.9	56.2	0.042
Dominio 1		0.5	8.9	101.0	60.3	0.022
Bephenyl	0	0.1	8.0	50.1	93.3	0.071
alcohol		0.2	7.9	44.2	85.1	0.087
	7	0.5	7.9	41.0	100.0	0.047
	7	0.1	8.3	93.5	63.1	0.052
		0.2	8.2	92.0	67.6	0.054
		0.5	8.0	72.0	70.8	0.081

## **Discussion**

As shown in Fig. 1, the  $\varepsilon_l$  of W/O emulsion with fine particles is larger than that of emulsion with coarse particles immediately after preparation. This is considered to be due to the particle clusters formed.<sup>3)</sup> The rapid increase of  $\varepsilon_l$  up to 1 d after preparation was attributed to the decrease of the distance between the aggregates, *i.e.*, the decrease of thickness of the surfactant layer on the dispersed particles. The value of  $\varepsilon_l$  in the case of fine particles

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becomes smaller than that with coarse particles 1 d after preparation. It is therefore assumed that the density of surfactant molecules in the surfactant layer when the particles are fine is lower, but that the distance between particles is greater than with coarse particles due to the difference of magnitude of London-van der Waals' force. The value of  $\varepsilon_l$  is affected by both the increase in the size of the particle clusters and the decrease in the thickness of the surfactant layer between aggregated particles.

Parameter  $\alpha$  with coarse particles is always larger than in the case of fine particles 1 d after preparation, which suggests that there is non-uniformity in the thickness of the surfactant layer on dispersed particles in particle clusters—a non-uniformity resulting from particle size variation. In other words, the magnitude of parameter  $\alpha$  can be used to estimate the non-uniformity of particle size in the dispersed phase.

The values of  $\varepsilon_l$  and  $\alpha$  are affected by the difference of particle size in the dispersed phase of W/O emulsions. Dielectric measurement can thus probably be used to obtain valid figures for mechanical effect based on the particle size variation in W/O emulsions.

As shown in Table III,  $\varepsilon_l$  decreased on the addition of primary emulsifiers with a higher HLB value and of lipojelling additives, and the stabilizing agents are presumed to be adsorbed on the surface of particles, preventing access by other particles in the neighborhood. This view is supported by the microscopic findings shown in Fig. 2. In order to prevent particle aggregation, the concentration of the lipojelling additive without emulsifying action must be higher than 0.5%.

From the results of the present study, it is concluded that dielectric evaluation can be employed to examine the effects of various factors on emulsification and as an aid for the selection of optimum additives and vehicles for a W/O emulsion.

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