



Short communication

## Enthalpies of solution of glycyglycylglycine in aqueous solution of amides at 298.15 K

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## ABSTRACT

Calorimetric measurements have been carried out at 298.15 K in aqueous solutions of glycyglycylglycine containing formamide, *N*-methylformamide, *N,N*-dimethylformamide and *N,N*-diethylformamide at concentrations of amides as co-solvents up to 0.4 mole fractions. The results obtained have been used to calculate the standard enthalpies of solution ( $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ$ ) and transfer ( $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ$ ) of the glycyglycylglycine from water into the mixtures as well as enthalpy coefficients of pair-wise interaction ( $h_{xy}$ ) of the solute with amide in aqueous media. The  $h_{xy}$  values were correlated with the properties of organic solvents using Kamlet–Taft equation. The results of the calorimetric measurements have been discussed with regard to the intermolecular interactions occurring in these systems.

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### 1. Introduction

The present paper is a continuation of our studies of amino acids and peptides in water–organic solutions [1–6]. Organic solvents are known to be very important organic synthesis substances, used in the fields of medicine, pharmacology and biopolymer chemistry. They can affect strongly the solubility and denaturation of proteins, and enzyme activities. These processes depend to a large extent on the interactions between the solution components, and particularly on the solvation of peptide molecules. By this time, many studies have been done with aqueous amino acid and peptide systems, but much less have been done with binary mixtures of organic solvent and water [7–12]. Besides, the range of organic solvent concentration in water was narrow enough (did not exceed 8 mol/kg). The major object of this work is to study the influence of various physico-chemical properties of organic solvents on their interaction with glycyglycylglycine (GlyGlyGly) in water–organic mixtures. Therefore, here we report the enthalpies of GlyGlyGly dissolution,  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ$  in aqueous solution of formamide (FA), *N*-methylformamide (MFA), *N,N*-dimethylformamide, (DMF) and *N,N*-diethylformamide (DEF) with content of amide in the studied mixtures up to 0.4 mole fractions. Chosen amides differ from each other in the molecular structure and size as well as donor–acceptor ability, polarity, polarizability and the exerted effect on the water structure.

### 2. Experimental

GlyGlyGly (Aldrich Chemical Co., Ltd., mass fraction: 0.99) was dried under given pressure at room temperature, and it was then kept over  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  in a desiccator. The molal concentration ( $m$ ) of GlyGlyGly varied in the range ( $5 \times 10^{-3}$  to  $1.5 \times 10^{-2}$  mol kg $^{-1}$ ) of the mixed solvent. FA and DMF (Fluka) were distilled twice under reduced pressure over NaOH according to [13]. MFA and DEF (Sigma–Aldrich, purum, assay: 99%) were used without further purification. Water content determined by Karl Fisher titration [14] did not exceed 0.03 wt.% for all amides. The water was purified by deionization and double distillation up to a specific conductivity of ca.  $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  S m $^{-1}$ . All measurements were made at  $(298.15 \pm 0.01)$  K. The solutions before measurement were prepared by weight. The values of  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^m$  for GlyGlyGly were measured using an “isoperibol” hermetic calorimeter. The calorimeter setup, testing and experimental procedure were described in detail previously [4,5,15]. The relative random error of measurements did not exceed 0.5%.

### 3. Results

The measured molal enthalpies of solution of GlyGlyGly were found to be independent of its content within the investigated range of the GlyGlyGly concentration, hence, the standard enthalpies of solution,  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ (\equiv \Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\infty)$  at 298.15 K were calculated as the mean from  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^m$  values of all independent calorimetric experiments with the given mixed solvent composition. The obtained values of  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ$  for GlyGlyGly in the investigated

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**Table 1**  
Standard enthalpies (kJ/mol) of dissolution ( $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ$ ) of glycyglycylglycine in aqueous solution of amides at 298.15 K.

$m_2^a$	FA	$m_2^a$	MFA	$m_2^a$	DMF	$m_2^a$	DEF
1.242	16.98 ± 0.01	0.814	17.79 ± 0.02	0.717	17.84 ± 0.02	0.805	18.56 ± 0.01
2.345	14.89 ± 0.01	1.646	17.85 ± 0.02	1.193	18.18 ± 0.02	1.396	19.48 ± 0.02
3.748	13.81 ± 0.02	2.411	17.93 ± 0.02	2.102	18.51 ± 0.02	1.772	19.98 ± 0.01
5.079	12.85 ± 0.01	3.869	17.99 ± 0.01	2.598	18.89 ± 0.01	2.468	20.31 ± 0.01
7.521	11.72 ± 0.02	4.701	18.23 ± 0.02	3.528	19.11 ± 0.02	2.952	20.81 ± 0.02
8.477	11.28 ± 0.01	5.829	18.39 ± 0.01	4.372	19.48 ± 0.01	3.724	21.12 ± 0.01
10.867	10.27 ± 0.01	6.681	18.45 ± 0.01	5.586	19.94 ± 0.01	4.464	21.19 ± 0.01
12.756	9.55 ± 0.01	9.909	18.69 ± 0.01	6.503	20.22 ± 0.01	5.513	21.22 ± 0.01
17.652	8.87 ± 0.01	12.404	18.78 ± 0.02	9.282	21.23 ± 0.02	6.710	21.06 ± 0.01
25.445	8.31 ± 0.02	17.463	18.82 ± 0.01	12.996	21.79 ± 0.02	8.889	20.36 ± 0.02
35.557	7.22 ± 0.02	24.523	18.69 ± 0.02	18.183	20.42 ± 0.02	12.412	18.87 ± 0.02
–	–	34.557	16.78 ± 0.02	25.926	11.23 ± 0.02	17.797	17.26 ± 0.03

<sup>a</sup> -The molal concentration of amides, mol/kg.

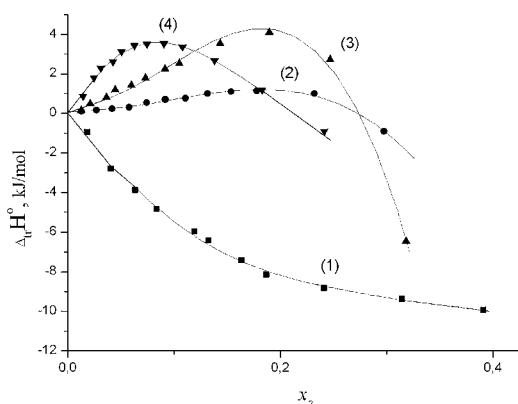
systems and their standard deviations are given in Table 1. The transfer enthalpy  $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ$  is derived from Eq. (1).

$$\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ = \Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ(w+y) - \Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ(w), \quad (1)$$

where  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ(w+y)$  is the enthalpy of solution in each of aqueous solution of organic solvent and  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ(w)$  is the enthalpy of GlyGlyGly solution in pure water ( $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ(w) = 17.62 \pm 0.05$  kJ/mol was taken from paper [16]). The changes in  $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ$  for GlyGlyGly against the amide mole-fraction content are shown in Fig. 1.

#### 4. Discussion

From Fig. 1 it is possible to notice that values of transfer enthalpies for GlyGlyGly are exothermic in all studied concentration range of FA for H<sub>2</sub>O+FA mixture. In the case of H<sub>2</sub>O+MFA, H<sub>2</sub>O+DMF and H<sub>2</sub>O+DEF mixtures the transfer enthalpies for GlyGlyGly are endothermic for concentration of substituted amide  $x < 0.25$  and exothermic with an increase of concentration  $x > 0.25$ . Herewith endothermic  $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ$  values of GlyGlyGly are increasing monotonically with the increase of *N*-substituted amide content up to  $x_2 \approx 0.1-0.15$ . The slopes of the  $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ = f(x_2)$  dependences in this range increase in the series: MFA < DMF < DEF. Here the substances are well hydrated and the endothermic enthalpy contributions from the dehydration of GlyGlyGly and amide molecules probably prevail over exothermic ones from the peptide–amide interactions. In the case of (H<sub>2</sub>O+FA) mixture the  $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ$  value for GlyGlyGly is negative by sign and smoothly decreases (in magnitude) as the content of FA increases. The exothermicity of a transfer process testifies the preferential role of a direct intermolecular interaction between FA and GlyGlyGly to the processes of associated molecule dissociation of FA and the processes of dehydration of peptide and FA



**Fig. 1.** Enthalpies of transfer  $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ$  of GlyGlyGly from water into the H<sub>2</sub>O+FA (1), H<sub>2</sub>O+MFA (2), H<sub>2</sub>O+DMF (3) and H<sub>2</sub>O+DEF (4) mixed solvent as functions of the amide mole fraction ( $x_2$ ) at 298.15 K.

molecules. The process of  $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ$  change with the increase in concentration of FA above 0.15 mole fractions in the aqueous solution weakly strengthens GlyGlyGly solvation because the endothermic processes of continued decomposition of self-associates H<sub>2</sub>O and FA balance the energy of newly formed heterocomponent H-bonds. In the case of (H<sub>2</sub>O+MFA H<sub>2</sub>O+DMF and H<sub>2</sub>O+DEF) mixtures in the range of  $0.15 < x_2 < 0.2$ , the endothermic effects caused by the solvent, structural reorganization and dehydrating GlyGlyGly and co-solvent molecules are compensated by the exothermic effects of direct interactions between polar groups of the interacting components. Here, the endothermic maxima on the curves of  $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ$  against  $x_2$  are observed for many peptides in the similar mixtures [5,17,18]. The maximum height depends on the structure and the physico-chemical properties of co-solvent. The increase in a molecular size of peptide as well as in the co-solvent hydrophobicity shifts this extremum in the water-rich region. At  $x_2 > 0.2$ , the exothermic contribution of GlyGlyGly–co-solvent interactions to the total enthalpy interaction effect becomes predominant and consequently, the  $\Delta_{\text{tr}}H^\circ$  vs.  $x_2$  curve becomes opposite in the direction.

The interparticle interactions in the ternary aqueous system with small concentration of co-solvent can be characterized in terms of McMillan–Mayer theory [19] adapted by Kauzmann, Friedman and Desnoyers [20–22] for calculating the enthalpy coefficients of pair-wise interactions  $h_{xy}$ . For this purpose, the  $\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ$  versus  $m_2$  function was approximated by the third-order polynomial equation (2).

$$\Delta_{\text{sol}}H^\circ = a_0 + a_1m_2 + a_2m_2^2 + a_3m_2^3 \quad (2)$$

where  $m_2$  is the molal concentration of amide, and  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ ,  $a_3$  are coefficients calculated by a least-squares method. The correlation coefficient,  $R$ , and the Student criterion value,  $t_\alpha$ , ranged from 0.991 to 0.998 and from 0.047 to 0.336, respectively. The calculated values of  $h_{xy}$  for all systems in question are presented in Table 2. The earlier obtained data concerning the interactions of GlyGlyGly with EtOH,

**Table 2**  
Enthalpic coefficients of pair-wise interactions, ( $h_{xy}$ ), between glycyglycylglycine and organic solvents in aqueous solutions at 298.15 K and parameters of organic solvents [23,24].

Solvent	$h_{xy}$ (J kg/mol <sup>2</sup> )	$(\delta^2/1000)_1(V_2/100)$ (J/mol)	$\pi^*$	$\alpha$	$\beta$
FA	$-561 \pm 16$	0.912	0.97	0.71	0.55
AN	$-212$ [2]	1.203	0.75	0.19	0.31
DMSO	220 [1]	1.627	1.00	0.00	0.76
MFA	$47 \pm 6$	1.340	0.90	0.62	0.80
DMF	$183 \pm 34$	1.775	0.88	0.00	0.69
EtOH	260 [4]	1.339	0.54	0.83	0.77
<i>n</i> -PrOH	503 [4]	1.714	0.52	0.78	0.82
<i>i</i> -PrOH	760 [4]	1.756	0.48	0.76	0.95
H <sub>2</sub> O	–	–	1.09	1.17	0.18

PrOH, i-PrOH [4], DMSO [1] and AN [2] are presented in the same place. The values of  $h_{xy}$  are a measure of interactions proceeding between the hydrated molecules of GlyGlyGly and hydrated amide molecules. The total effect is a sum of superimposing endothermic processes of partial dehydration of the hydration shields of reacting substances and exothermic interactions between GlyGlyGly and amide molecules. The positive sign of  $h_{xy}$  values for the aqueous solutions of (MFA, DMF and DEF) shows that the solutes are strongly hydrated by H<sub>2</sub>O molecules, while the interaction between hydrated GlyGlyGly and co-solvent molecules is weak. On the contrary, a negative value of  $h_{xy}$  for (H<sub>2</sub>O + FA, H<sub>2</sub>O + AN) suggests that the interactions between the co-solvent and the GlyGlyGly molecules prevail over the effects of their dehydration. We have shown before [3,17,18] that the enthalpy coefficients of pair-wise intermolecular interaction of amino acids or peptides with organic co-solvents depend on the properties of these solvents and can be quantitatively expressed in the form of a multi-parameter equation (a modified Kamlet–Taft equation [23,24]). Therefore, to analyse the data of enthalpy coefficients of pair-wise interactions of GlyGlyGly with molecules of different organic solvents in water–organic mixtures, we used the same Eq. (3) which was previously applied to the analysis of analogous data in the similar mixtures for the glycine and glycyglycine [3,6].

$$h_{xy} = A_0 + A_1 \left( \frac{\delta^2}{1000} \right)_1 \left( \frac{V_2}{100} \right) + A_2(\pi_1^* \pi_2^*) + A_3(\alpha_1 \beta_2) + A_4(\beta_1 \alpha_2) \quad (3)$$

where  $\pi_1^*$  and  $\pi_2^*$  are indexes of solvents dipolarity/polarizability of H<sub>2</sub>O and organic co-solvent, respectively (it is the ability of the solvent to stabilize a charge or a dipole by virtue of its dielectric effect);  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  are parameters which reflect the solvents hydrogen-bond donor acidity (HBD); and  $\beta_1, \beta_2$  are parameters which scale the solvents hydrogen-bond acceptor basicity (HBA), providing a measure of the solvent ability to solubilize the solute by accepting a proton through a hydrogen bond;  $\delta^2/1000$  and  $V_2/100$  are the structural contributions both of water and the co-solvent to the formation of cavities (these parameters are decreased respectively by factors of 1000 and 100 to simplify the estimation of the relative contributions of various parameters to  $h_{xy}$ );  $\delta^2$  is the solubility parameter according to Hildebrandt conception ( $\delta^2$  is proportional to the cohesion energy density) and  $V_2$  is the molar volume of the organic solvent being the ratio between its molecular weight and density (it reflects possible effect of structural factors). The solvent parameters were taken from [23–27], and the calculations were performed according to the IUPAC recommendations in the field of correlation analysis in chemistry. As a result of the calculation, we obtained the Eq. (4).

$$h_{xy} = 246.87 + 129.98 \left( \frac{\delta^2}{1000} \right)_1 \left( \frac{V_2}{100} \right) - 1195.29(\pi_1^* \pi_2^*) - 2943.27(\alpha_1 \beta_2) + 1155.56(\beta_1 \alpha_2), \quad (4)$$

$$R = 0.985, n = 8, t_{\alpha} = 75.87$$

It can be seen that the increase in polarity, polarizability and HBD of the co-solvent enhances their interaction with the GlyGlyGly molecules. On the other hand, an increase in the molar volume and HBA of the organic co-solvent weakens the pair-wise interactions. Comparing parameters of Eq. (4) with similar parameters in the equations received for glycine [3] and glycyglycine [6], it is possible to note the following: All the variables in these equations coincide by sign. It means that the interparticle interactions of glycine and its oligomers with the same co-solvents have a similar nature. Thus, the basic contribution to the strengthening of the interparticle interaction of glycine and its oligomers with molecules of organic solvents, contributes a polarity/polarizability and HBD ability of co-solvent. However, the values of coefficients

of the variables in Eq. (2) are increased in magnitude in the series Gly < GlyGly < GlyGlyGly. It is connected with rising specific solvation of a peptide group and with increasing the molar volume of a peptide molecule as well as with strengthening its donor–acceptor properties.

The received Eq. (3), fairly correlates the enthalpy coefficients of pair-wise interactions of GlyGlyGly with physico-chemical properties of solvents and allows one to forecast the value of  $h_{xy}$  for the GlyGlyGly with solvents for which experimental data are lacking.

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