Palestinian Medical and Pharmaceutical Journal



Mirtazapine Loaded Solid and Liquid Self-Emulsifying Delivery System and Characterization with Neural Network Start (NNS) Modelling

Taraka Ramarao Challa^{1,*}; Krishnaven Akula²; Kiranmai Arasavilli²; Manisha Baratam²; Jayasri Guntamukkala²; Narendra Malluri²; Manikantha Patnana²; Tulasi Chintala² & Raghunadha Gupta C³ Received: 29th Mar. 2024, Accepted:27th Jul, 2024, Published: 1th Mar. 2025

Abstract: Background: Mirtazapine (MTZ) is delivered via a self-emulsifying system (SEDDS) to treat depression by acting as an antagonist at multiple serotonin and adrenergic receptors. **Aim:** The goal of SEDDS formulation preparation is a 2-level factorial design using a selected combination of three components such as X1- surfactant and co-solvent (Smix) (Tween80&PEG400) at upper level 1:5 and lower level 1:1 ratio, X2- stirrer speed (rpm), X3- stirring time (min), and to evaluate the produced SEDDS. **Materials and methods:** The two-level factorial design with a Design Expert used in formulation assessed physicochemical features such as pseudo-ternary phase design, emulsification, phase separation, pH, percent transmittance, permeability studies, ex vivo drug release, liquid (LSDDS) to solid SEDDS conversion, flow properties, entrapment efficiency, cloud point, drug excipient compatibility studies, stability studies, and optimization. **Results:** The Neural Network Start (NNS) was used in the optimization, feed-forward back propagation Levenberg-Marqardt Algorithm, and performance was measured using the mean square error (MSE). NNS with ten units of layer size provided a better fit for all responses (R² = 0.99996, 0.999, and 0.98 for T100, T50, and PD 20) than multiple linear regression (MLR) (0.9517, 0.9998, and 0.7942 for T100 (time required for 100% drug release), T50 (time required for 50% drug release), and PD 20 (percentage drug release 20 minutes), respectively). **Conclusion:** The dissolution of drug release in LSEDDS and SSEDDD is substantially better than in pure MTZ. LSEEDS and SSEDDS formulations demonstrated appropriate stability for 90 days according to ICH stability quality requirements, including emulsification time, phase separation, angle of repose, and drug content. The SEDDS were successfully designed to increase the oral bioavailability of MTZ, allowing for larger therapeutic applications.

Keywords: Miratazepine, Surface adsorption, Stability, Flow properties, in vitro.

Introduction

Mirtazapine (MTZ), a BCS Class II medication, increases the release of norepinephrine and serotonin in the brain, as seen in Figure 1. It has also been shown to be an antagonist at various serotonin and adrenergic receptors [1, 4]. The recent literature review on various designs of MRT was significantly boosted in formulated aquasomes[5], co-processed excipients have considerable promise in increasing release[6], increased solubility of MTZ with improved percentage relative bioavailability to 153%[7], embedded ina-gel demonstrated successful transdermal drug permeation[8], and floating sustained are reported[9].SEDDS technology increased the solubility and the bioavailability of many weakly water-soluble medications. However, SEDDS as liquid formulations has various limitations, including low drug loading capacity, drug leakage, low stability, and a limited range of dose forms. To circumvent these restrictions, liquid SEDDS (L-SEDDS) can be changed to solid dosage forms using diverse procedures such as filling capsules with liquid or semi-solid SEDDS and adsorbing them to a solid carrier.A current literature study on various SEDDS is used to solve low bioavailability issues in poorly soluble and highly permeable compounds, according to in silico formulations,

increase cannabidiol bioavailability, atorvastatin adsorbed on solid carriers, hydrophobic drugs, ciprofloxacin, silymarin, cromolyn sodium, benznidazole, and hydrophobic drugs, allowing them to enter formulations by oral administration[10, 18]. The SEDDS formulation is administered in the GIT, where it comes into contact with GI fluid and forms a self-emulsion, resulting in drug solubilization. The current study's objective was to perform SEDDS formulation of MTZ and design statistically using a 2-level factorial design with a selected combination of three factors such as X1- concentration of surfactant and cosolvent (Smix) (Tween80&PEG400) at higher levels 1:5 and lower levels 1:1 ratio, X2- Stirrer speed (rpm) at higher levels 200rpm and lower levels 150rpm, and X3- Stirring Time (min) at higher levels (+) of 25 min. Furthermore, lower levels (-) of 15 min. (+) represent a higher level, (-) indicates a lower level, and Central (0) is shown in (Table 1). The individual and combination elements that significantly increase formulation performance are described [19, 24].

¹ Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, Sri Venkateswara College of Pharmacy, Etchrela, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh- 532410, INDIA. *Corresponding author email: tarak.pharm60@gmail.com

² UG Research Scholars, Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, Sri Venkateswara College of Pharmacy, Etchrela, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh-532410, INDIA.

³ Senior Manager-FRD, Pellets Pharma Limited, Hyderabad, Telangana-INDIA.

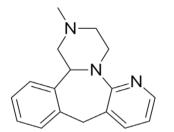


Figure (1): Structure Of MTZ.

Methods

Materials: Mirtazapine, A complimentary from Newland Pvt. Ltd. in Hyderabad, Tween 80 & PEG 400 was acquired from Merck Specialties Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, and castor oil from Swastika Jaya Products, Bhimavaram.

Pseudo-Ternary Phase Design: The varied proportions of surfactants co-surfactant (Smix) (1:1, 1:2, 1:3, 1:4, and 1:5w/w) [45]. In brief, Smix and oil were mixed at varied volumes such as 1:9, 2:8, 3:7, 4:6, 5:5, 6:4, 7:3, 8:2, and 9:1 in the pre-weighed conical flask, oil- surfactant- co-surfactant with water under moderate stirring, equilibrated, observed visually and determined as being microemulsions and design by Ternaryplot.com [25].

Design of Experiments (DOE.): The SEDDS formulation has 3 factors and 2-levels factorial designs to find the individual combined response of additives on drug release. The concentrations of Smix (X1), Stirrer speed (X2), Stirring time (min) (X3). The effect of 3 factors on dependent variables (Y1: T100 (time required 100% drug release), (Y2: T50 (time required 50% drug release), and (Y3: PD20 (% drug release 20 min.) were studied using DOE, which was reported previously. The experiments are shown in (Table 1) [19, 24].

Table (1): Coded formulation for Mirtazapine as per Factorial design.

Independent Variable	High Level(+)	Medium Level(0)	Low Level(-)
(X1) Smix(Tween80:PEG400) ratio	1:5	1:3	1:1
(X2) Stirrer Speed (Rpm)	200	175	150
(X3) Stirring Time (Min)	25	20	15

Formulation of Liquid SEDDS (LSEDDS).

The required amounts ofcastor oil, tween80, and PEG400 were used. The PEGwasin a beaker, slightly heated by a magnetic stirrer;castoroil was blended with tween 80, mixed thoroughly,and drug added (specified time &rpm). The total mixture was properly homogeneous [30, 33, 44].

Emulsification: A USP Type II was employed to investigate emulsification. 1 milliliter was added to 900 milliliters of distilled water at $37\pm0.50C$ and 100 rpm for agitation [34]. The visual performance of formulations was assessed, as shown in (Table 2).

Table (2): Emulsification Grading.

Grade	Characteristic	Time(min)
A	Rapid Clear Appearance	1
В	slightly less clear emulsion	1
С	milky emulsion	2
D	slightly oily appearance	>2
E	poor emulsification on the Surface	>2

Phase Separation Study: Formulations were diluted 100 times with distilled water. The tested formulations were maintained at 25°C for 24 hours and visually evaluated for phase separation.

pH: The pH was measured by accurately weighing 0.5 milliliter of a sample and 10 milliliters of water to dissolve the sample; the pH was determined at room temperature using a digital pHmeter. The performance friendliness and biological compatibility of this application are confirmed.

UVA nalysis: To obtain 10-70 μ g/ml (microgram/milliliter), 10 milliliters (1 milliliter/ml) were transferred to a 100-milliliter volumetric flask and diluted with 0.1N hydrochloric acid buffer. The absorbance of these solutions was measured at 232nm with a UV (ELICO Double Beam SL 210) (n = 6).

Determination of Transmittance (%): It was diluted 100 times with water, and the % transmittance at 232 nm was measured with a UV spectrophotometer.

Ex-vivo drug release: A portion of female sheep skin was cut and inserted in the area between the donor and receptor compartments of the diffusion cell introducing M4 formulation, with the dorsal side up, 0.1 N Hydrochloric acid buffers were used as a dissolution media, with the temperature fixed at 32°C and the sample retrieved at appropriate time intervals(n=4). A UV at 232nm was used to analyze the sample.

Permeability studies: The chick's duodenum was isolated, and the tissue was extensively cleaned with Ringer's solution [46]. A syringe was used to inject the sample into the duodenum, and the two ends of the intestine were firmly connected before being placed in an organ bath with constant aeration and filled with 0.1N hydrochloric acid buffer, absorbance estimate by UV at 232 nm.

Conversion of LSSDDS to Solid SEDDS (SSEDDS): The SSEDDS was prepared by the Surface adsorption method by using solid carriers such as magnesium stearate, lactose, and talc for solidification. The solidification is performed using the surface adsorption method. An accurate quantity of lactose, approximately 5-5.5 gm, was mixed with LSEDDS volume 1 milliliter, with lactose acting as adsorbing agent in a vessel. The final formulation was uniformly homogenized; the mass was passed through sieve 12 and dried in the oven (Temp. 60-700c).

Flow properties: The Flow properties were assessed by using an angle of repose (AR), Carr's index (CI), Bulk density (BD), true density (TD), and Hausner's ratio (HR), which were reported earlier [36-37].

Entrapment Efficiency (EE.): The formulation with 250 milliliters of water stirred for 10 minutes, and 2 milliliters of the sample was removed, centrifuged, and estimated using a UV. The EE was determined by

= drug in formulation×100

Drug added

Cloud Point: The formulations were diluted one-to-100 with distilled water, placed in a water bath at 37 °C, and the temperature was gradually increased until cloudiness appeared [37].

Effect of Robustness: The LSEDDS were diluted in 0.1N hydrochloric acid 50, 100, 500, and 1000 times, and the mixtures were held for one day to observe phase separation. The LSEDDS was used to simulate the physiological dilution process following oral delivery.

FTIR: The FTIR samples were collected using the Kbr disc method on a Bruker ALPHA -, with a resolution of 1 cm-1 and a scanning range of 4000-600 cm-1.

In Vitro dissolution: The USP type II (LAB INDIA DS-8000) was utilized, and the SSEDDS were placed in hard gelatine capsules (size 00) and dissolved. As a dissolution media, 900 milliliter of 0.1N hydrochloric acid was kept at 37 ± 2 °C and agitated at 50 rpm. The samples (5 milliliters) were taken at 10, 72/80

Mirtazapine Loaded Solid and Liquid Self-Emulsifying Delivery System and

20, 30, 40, 50, and 60-minute intervals and replaced with an equivalent volume of 0.1N hydrochloric acid buffer and MTZ. Concentrations were measured by UV spectroscopy.

In Vitro/ Ex Vivo Correlation: Calculate between in vitro and ex vivo drug release profiles with M2 formulation release 100% within 40 min.

Globule size and Zeta potential determination Optimized formulae: In a glass beaker with constant stirring, 5 milliliters of each LSEDDS formulation were diluted with 250 milliliters of distilled water, and the globules formed and polydispersity index was assessed using a Zetasizer (Nano ZS).

Stability studies: The samples were stored for 90 days under accelerated circumstances (40 ± 2 oC, 75 $\pm 5\%$ RH), and stability tests were performed on the emulsification, phase separation, angle of repose, and drug contents up to 90 days at the time of manufacturing and after processing [38].

Neural network start (NNS) modeling: Train a neural network with the backpropagation method Levenberg-Marqardt Algorithm used for the MATLAB Neural Network Toolbox learning process. The (X1) surfactant and co-solvent (Smix) (Tween80&PEG400), X2- Stirrer speed (rpm), X3- Stirring Time, three inputs, 3 output units T100 (Y1), T50 (Y2) and PD 20(Y3) were used in the developed networks. The optimum network model was explored with several trials, and training was considered to Mean square error; R² values were reached, and the appropriate network structure was determined [50, 52].

Statistical Analysis: The release kinetics were evaluated by using first & zero-order kinetic models reported [39, 43]. The Dissolution parameters were subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA) by using DOE.

Table (13): Entrapment Efficiency & CPof formulations.

Results

SEDDS, when introduced into aqueous media from an o/w emulsion, because of good agitation of the surfactant and cosolvent absorbed at the interface, reducing interfacial tension. The ternary phase diagrams were created in order to locate the self-emulsifying zone.

Emulsification studies (ES.): The formulation M3 (35sec), M4 (25sec), and M7 (23sec) rapidly formed an emulsion with a clear appearance assessed as grade-A. The formulations M1 (50 sec), M2 (55 sec), and M5 (56sec) rapidly form a slightly less clear emulsion with a white appearance exhibiting grade -B. The M6 (1.12min) and M8 (1.40 min) form a fine milky emulsion that exhibits grade -C.

pH: The pH of all prepared LSEDDS was 5.0 – 6.3, as shown in (Table 4).

ons.

FORMULATION	рН
M1	5.0
M2	6.1
M3	5.4
M4	6.2
M5	6.3
M6	5.4
M7	5.3
M8	5.5
MCP	6.2

Cloud Point Measurement (CP.): Non-ionic surfactants, Smix ratios, and drug hydrophobicity influence the CP in SEDDS formulations. The CP reach, a further increase in temperature can cause phase separation (PS) in formulations containing nonionic surfactants, dehydration of polyethylene oxide, and can affect the drug absorption. The CP of formulations 61.2 to 69.110C is shown in (Table13).

Formulation	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	MCP
EE(%)	81.22	83.44	84.11	85.15	85.336	87.12	88.54	87.10	81.90
CP(ºC)	61.2	63.8	69.11	68.90	66.23	65.18	69.10	68.98	67.12

UV Analysis: Figure3 depicts the standard curve of 10 to 70 μ g/milliliter, yielding the equation y = 0.0128x + 0.005 and an R² value of 0.9985 (Figure 3).

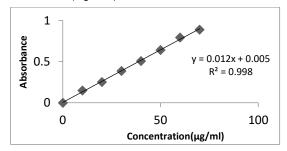


Figure (3): Calibration curve for the Estimation of Mirtazapine by using 0.1N Hydrochloric acid Buffer

%Transmittance: If the transmittance M1 to Mcp is greater than 90%, formulations have a transparent;the findings of a percentage transmittance value more than 90% indicate their clarity; this could be owing to the smaller globule size, which increases the emulsion's transparency, the high capacity with led to increased bioavailability.

EX –VIVO drug release: The Ex –vivo drug release LSEDDS were studied (M4) 100% of drug release within 40 min (Figure7).

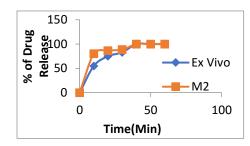


Figure (7): Comparison of Dissolution Profile of Ex Vivo (LSEDDS (M4) and SSEDDS (M2).

Flow properties

AR: The AR for all the formulations was 14.3 – 30.0, showing excellent flow properties.

b) BD.: The BD of all the formulations was found to be 0.45 – 0.55 (gm/cc). c) TD.: The TD of all the formulations was found to be in the range of 0.59 - 0.95 (gm/cc) d) CI: The CI of all the formulations was found to be in the range of 10.16 - 26.2% are shown in good to fair to passable, e) HR: The HR of all the formulations was found to be in the range of 1.11 - 1.43 respectively are shown in good to fair to passable.

EE.: The EE of all formulations of SSEDDS was greater than 80%, so the drug content fulfillable claims shown in (Table13).

In Vitro Dissolution: The drug release from different formulation M1 100% drug release until 30mins, M2 100% drug release until 40mins, M3 100% drug release until 60mins, M4

100% drug release until 40mins, M5 100% drug release until 50mins, M6 100% drug release until 60mins, M7 100% drug release until 60mins, M8 100% drug release until 30mins, Mcp 100% drug release until 50mins. The results collected from invitro drug release investigations are applied to the mechanism of **Table (6)**: Dissolution Parameters of prepared SSEDDS.

drug release from SSEDDS, such as the zero-order, first-order kinetic model (Table 6). The formulations' correlation coefficient was larger when fitted to the first-order equation, indicating that the first-order release occurs in all formulations.

Formulation	T100	T50	'r'(Correlatio	n Coefficient)	K ₁	PD20
Formulation	(min)	(min)	Zero order	First order	N 1	FD20
M1	30	8	0.7553	0.8777	0.221	96.57
M2	40	6.5	0.7592	0.9450	0.039	86.6
M3	60	13	0.7076	0.7476	0.027	75.8
M4	40	5.5	0.6695	0.8639	0.147	97.9
M5	40	25.5	0.8702	0.8739	0.00012	20.8
M6	60	12.5	0.7306	0.8730	0.009	80.64
M7	60	6	0.7076	0.8534	0.078	92.02
M8	30	20	0.6624	0.8348	0.064	97.80
MCP	50	11.5	0.7815	0.9349	0.020	81.99

Design of Experiments: The impact of important factors on the T100 (Time for 100% release), T50(Time for 50% release), and PD 20 (% release 20 min) SSEDDS was investigated using the 2-level factorial design. The responses T100, T50, and PD20 were found to be in the ranges of 30.0 to 60.0 min, 6.0 to 25.5, and 20.8 to 97.9% due to factors of variables. The contour plots and 3D surface plots are shown in (Figure8), (Figure 9) & (Figure10).

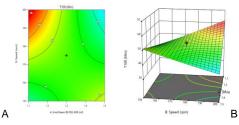


Figure (8): A. Counter plots of T100 B. 3D Surface Plots.

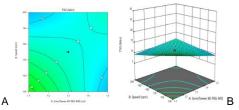


Table (8): Analysis of Variance of T100

Figure (9): A. Counter plots of T50 B. 3D Surface Plots of T50

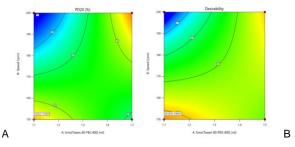


Figure (10): A. Counter Plot of Optimized PD20 B. Desirability Plot

The adequacy of the replies was validated by the ANOVA and statistical parameters (p< 0.05) significant displayed in (Table 8), (Table 9), Table (10) and (Table12), which also highlights the major variables on the development of the SEDDS responses T100, T50, and PD20.

Source	SS	df	MSS	F	р	Remarks
Model	6.68	7	0.9543	14.07	0.0051	Significant
A-Smix(Tween 80-PEG 400)	0.5875	1	0.5875	8.66	0.0321	
B-Speed	0.0569	1	0.0569	0.8394	0.4016	
C-Time	0.5875	1	0.5875	8.66	0.0321	
AB	3.40	1	3.40	50.07	0.0009	
AC	0.1300	1	0.1300	1.92	0.2249	
BC	1.86	1	1.86	27.49	0.0033	
ABC	0.0569	1	0.0569	0.8394	0.4016	
Residual	0.3392	5	0.0678			
Lack of Fit	0.3392	1	0.3392			
Pure Error	0.0000	4	0.0000			
Cor Total	7.02	12				

Table (9): Analysis of Variance of T50

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F-value	р	Remark
Model	6.98	7	0.9973	3367.53	< 0.0001	Significant
A-Smix(Tween 80-PEG 400)	0.1328	1	0.1328	448.50	< 0.0001	
B-Speed	0.1487	1	0.1487	502.23	< 0.0001	
C-Time	2.18	1	2.18	7368.30	< 0.0001	
AB	0.8163	1	0.8163	2756.24	< 0.0001	
AC	0.5241	1	0.5241	1769.76	< 0.0001	
BC	0.6252	1	0.6252	2111.14	< 0.0001	
ABC	2.55	1	2.55	8616.56	< 0.0001	

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F-value	р	Remark
Residual	0.0015	5	0.0003			
Lack of Fit	0.0015	1	0.0015			
Pure Error	0.0000	4	0.0000			
Cor Total	6.98	12				

Table (12): Analysis of Variance of PD2O.

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F-value	p-value	Remark
Model	0.0126	7	0.0018	2.76	<0.1410	Significant
A-Smix(Tween 80-PEG 400)	0.0008	1	0.0008	1.20	0.3233	
B-Speed	0.0008	1	0.0008	1.17	0.3290	
C-Time	0.0000	1	0.0000	0.0403	0.8488	
AB	0.0048	1	0.0048	7.32	0.0425	
AC	0.0003	1	0.0003	0.4450	0.5343	
BC	0.0041	1	0.0041	6.33	0.0535	
ABC	0.0018	1	0.0018	2.80	0.1554	
Residual	0.0033	5	0.0007			
Lack of Fit	0.0033	1	0.0033			
Pure Error	0.0000	4	0.0000			
Cor Total	0.0159	12				

The mathematical equations for the replies were calculated in terms of coded factors and are given in Equations (1)-(1II). The positive sign indicates a synergistic; a negative sign indicates an opposed effect.

(Y1) Sqrt(T100) = +6.86676 - 0.27099 X1 + 0.0843624 X2 + 0.27099 X3 - 0.651548 X1X2 -0.12747 X1X3 - 0.482823 X2X3 - 0.0843624 X1X2X2-----1

(Y2) Sqrt(T50) = +3.36289 - 0.128854 X1- 0.136355 X2 + 0.522277 X3 + 0.31943 X1X2 + 0.255961 X1X3 - 0.27956 X2X3 + 0.564786 X1X2X3-------II

(Y3) Log10 (PD20) = +1.93384 +0.00991135 X1+0.0097821 X2-0.00181686 X3+0.0244812 X1X2 0.00603594 X1X3+0.0227592 X2X3- 0.0151283 X1X2X3-------III

Above coded equation shown, Equation -1, In the instance of Y1, X1 demonstrated an opposite effect and X2, X3 demonstrated anenhanced effect; Equation -11-in the case of Y2, X1, and X2 demonstrated the opposite, and X3 demonstrated a enhance; and equation -1II- in the case of Y3, X1, X2, and X3 demonstrated opposites. The Y1 stirrer speed(rpm) and stirring time play an important role; however, Y2 stirring time plays a significant role. and Y3. Smix(Tween80:PEG400) concentrations and stirrer speed plays an important role, in the case of Y1, as the concentration of Smix(Tween80:PEG400) reduced, stirrer speed and stirring time increased. In the case of T50, as the concentration of Smix(Tween80:PEG400) was reduced, the stirrer speed was reduced, and the stirring time increased[49]. In the case of PD 20, as the concentration of Smix(Tween80:PEG400) increases, the stirrer speed increases, and the stirring time decreases. The summary (Table11) Correlation coefficient (R²), Coefficient variance (CV %), Standard deviation, and Adeq. Precision relative to its obtained from the best fitting MLR models.

Table (11): R², Coefficient variance (CV %), Standard deviation and Adeq. Precision.

Response	R ²	CV %	Std. Dev.	Adeq Precision
T100	0.9517	3.79	0.2604	11.1045
T50	0.9998	0.511 7	0.0172	200.3358
PD20	0.7942	1.32	0.0256	5.5343

Permeability studies: The total percentage release was substantially higher for the SEDDS; within one hour, 90.5% of the medication was dispersed from the LSEDDS.

Drug excipient compatibilities: The FTIR spectrum of Mirtazapine is shown in (Figure 4), with characteristic peaks observed at 3615cm-1 (N-H stretch), 3218cm-1, 2935cm-1 (C-H stretch), 2362cm-1 (C-C stretch), 1572cm-1N-H bending) 1427 cm-1 (C-H bend plane), 1270cm-1, 951cm-1 (C-O stretch), 822cm-1, 756cm-1 (Due to N-H rocking), 699cm-1, 655cm-1 (Due to C-H rocking), confirming the drug structure.

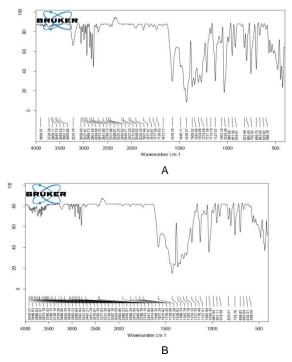


Figure (4): FTIR Spectrum of A. Pure drug B.Pure drug with Excipients.

In Vitro/ Ex Vivo Correlation: Ex Vivo (M2) and M2 SSEDDS were R2 = 0.9250 and R² = 0.9316, respectively. The model showed higher data fitting for the curved form (Figure 7).

Globule size and zeta potential: SEDDS were distinguished by droplet sizes less than 400 nm, and globule size and polydispersibility index (PDI) were determined to be 329.1 nm and 0.283, respectively. After dilution with water, a PDI of less than 0.3 indicates good consistency in the globule size distribution.

Stability: Furthermore, the self-emulsification was proven to have maintained its initial state when the LSEDDS formulation was dispersed in distilled water for 90days; theangle of repose exhibited excellent flow, and drug content was 97±5%, but the dispersion remained stable (Table7).

Table (7): Stability studies of LSEDDS and SSEDDS for Emulsification, Phase separation, angle of repose and drug content after 3 Months (n=3).

	LSEI	DDS	SSEDDS		
Formulation	Emulsification Time (Min)	Phase Separation	Angle of repose(0)	Drug Content (%)	
M1	<1	No	26	98.1	
M2	<1	No	27.1	99.10	
M3	<1	No	28.2	98.11	
M4	<1	No	29.0	97.17	
M5	<1	No	28.1	99.10	
M6	<1	No	26.8	98.13	
M7	<1	No	28.9	99.38	
M8	<1	No	29.1	98.88	
MCP	<1	No	29.9	99.10	

Discussion

The phase diagram increase in the self-emulsifying zone is shown in (Figure 2).

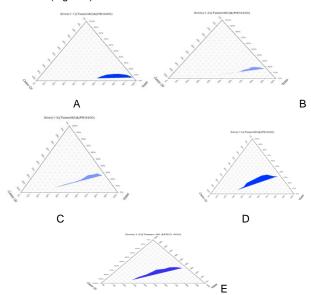


Figure (2): Construction of Ternary Phase diagram with Castor oil, Smixand water system A. 1:1(Oil: Smix), B. 1:2(Oil: Smix) C. 1:3(Oil: Smix) D. 1:4 (Oil: Smix) E. 1:5(Oil: Smix) ratio's.

The diagrams were concentration of castor oil, Tween 80 & PEG 400 to identify pseudo ternary phase diagram was marked in blue color, best self-emulsifying of 1:5 castor oil, tween 80 & PEG 400 were selected for future studies. The surfactant reduces the interfacial tension between the oil and aqueous phase and facilitates the dispersion and formulation of the o/w system; ESis shown in (Table3).

Table (3): Emulsification study of different LSEDDS

Formulation	Grade	Emulsification time (Min. Sec)
M1	В	0.50
M2	В	0.55
M3	A	0.35
M4	A	0.25
M5	В	0.56
M6	С	1.12
M7	A	0.23
M8	С	1.40
MCP	В	0.53

The CP of all formulations was greater than 37 °C, indicating that they will be stable in vivo. The results of a percentage transmittance value greater than 90% suggest their clarity; this might be due to the smaller globule size, raising the transparency of the emulsion. The Ex –vivo drug release LSEDDS were studied (M4) 100% of drug release within 50 min shown in (Figure 7). The flow properties are shown in (Table 5).

Property	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	Мср
AR	30	27.3	26.3	22.1	18.2	19.1	14.3	16.1	25.64
BD (gr/cc)	0.494	0.55	0.54	0.54	0.53	0.45	0.46	0.6	0.5
TD (gr/cc)	0.63	0.70	0.75	0.75	0.59	0.61	0.62	0.8	0.64
Carr's index (%)	22%	21.4%	28%	28%	10.16%	26.2%	25%	25%	21.87%
HR	1.28	1.27	1.43	1.38	1.11	1.35	1.33	1.33	1.28
LF	0.18	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.13	0.12	0.14	0.15	0.12

The release of MTZ from optimized SSEDDS is illustrated in (Figure 5) & (Figure 6) drug release was greatly increased in formulation SEDDS compared to pure drugs.

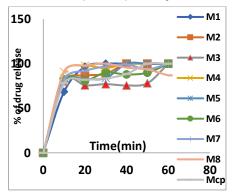


Figure (5): Mean Dissolution Profile of SSEDDS (±SD).

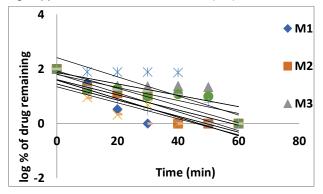


Figure (6): First orders Dissolution Profile of SSEDDS.

The other kinetic parameters, such as T100, T50, and PD20were shown in (Table 6). The desirability value was 0.8634,

76/80

Mirtazapine Loaded Solid and Liquid Self-Emulsifying Delivery System and

as shown in Figure10, and independent variables such as X1, X2, and X3 were found in 1:3 ratios Smix,175rpm, and 20 min, and Y1, Y2, and Y3 were 31.48 min, 8.04 min, and 93.9828%, respectively, SEDDSs were formulation achieved biopharmaceutical consideration was reported [42, 45].The optimized product is shown in (Figure11). The zeta potentials may be regarded as stable if their negative zeta potential was more than -25 mV; SSEDDS had a zeta potential of -26.1 mV, indicating a stable formulation of produced SMEDDS.

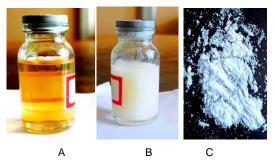


Figure (11): Optimized A. LSEDDS B. After dilution C. Solid state. Confirmation of the Results

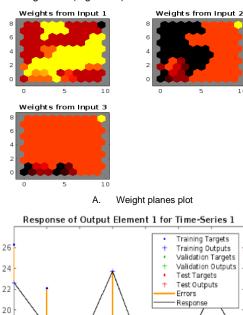
The results were confirmed with a 95% confidence level, as shown in Table 10, which displays the results. Using a factorial design, the researchers created MTZ-loaded SEDDS with low values of all formulation factors T100, T50, and PD20.

Gradient = 8.1826e-14, at epoch 7

Table (10): Confirmation of the Results.

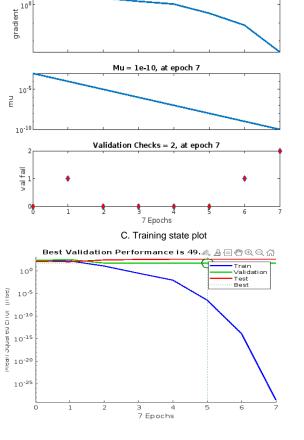
Solution 1 of 59	Predicted	Predicted	Std Dev	95% CI low	95% CI high	95% TI low for	95% TI high for
Response	Mean	Median*	Stu Dev	for Mean	for Mean	99% Pop	99% Pop
T100†	31.4829	31.4151	2.9211	24.5874	39.2319	13.6256	56.5286
T50†	8.0481	8.0478	0.0976416	7.80507	8.29485	7.34637	8.78121
PD20†	93.9828	93.8197	5.5433	81.0698	108.952	60.8478	144.658

Artificial Neural Network applications: Levenberg-Marqardt Algorithm Learning method neural network fitting results are given in (Figure 12).



Time B. Response plot X 6 Y 16.1

Targets - Outputs



D. Performance Plot

PMPJ. Vol. 10 (1), 2025

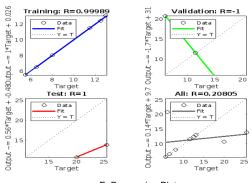
Output and Target

18

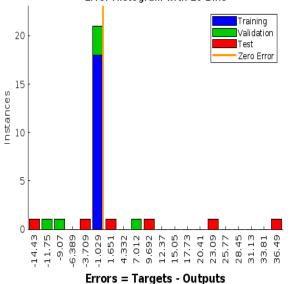
16

14

Error



E. Regression Plot





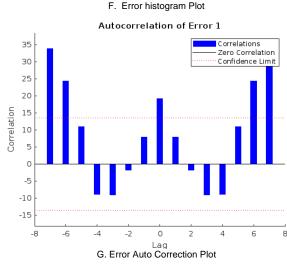


Figure (12): Results of NNS modeling Levenberg-Marqardt learning method.

A. Weight planes plot B.Response plot C.Training state plot D. Performance Plot E. Regression Plot F. Error histogram PlotG. Error Auto correction Plot

Comparison of NNS and MLR Models: To compare examined models, results indicated a better predictive ability than the MLR model with R^2 of 0.99996, 0.999, and 0.98 for T100, T50, and PD 20, respectively, compared to the multiple linear regression MLR models 0.9517, 0.9998, 0.7942 for T100, T50 and PD 20 respectively.

Conclusion

The LSEDDS with castor oil as the oil phase, tween80 as the surfactant, and PEG400 as co-surfactant weredeveloped; an attempt has been made to develop lactose as an effective carrier for SSEDDS, lactose to be an effective carrier for SSEDDS exhibit excellent EE& micrometric properties. Based on emulsification, drug release from Ex-vivo and in vitro studies was finally successfully performed using factorial design. The SEDDS system has promising potential in enhancing the oral bioavailability of BCS Class II drugs. The NNS modeling with good prediction capability has been developed.

Disclosure Statement

- Ethics approval and consent to participate: Not applicable
- Consent for publication: The authors give the Publisher the Author's Permission to publish the Work
- Availability of data and materials: All data generated for this study is included in the article.
- Author's contribution: Taraka Ramarao Challa.; conceptualization, writing-original draft, data curation, formal analysis, investigation, methodology, project administration, resources, visualization, and writing review & editing, Krishnaveni Akula.; writing review & editing, Kiranmai; methodology, Manisha; visualization, Jayasri; formal analysis, Narendra: project administration, resources, Manikantha; visualization, Tulasi; visualization, Raghunadha; Gupta software, supervision and validation.
- Competing interests: The authors have no conflicts of interest
- Funding: This study was not funded

Acknowledgments: The author would like to thank Sri Venkateswara College of Pharmacy, Etcherla, for providing research facilities.

Open Access

This article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, which permits use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons licence, and indicate if changes were made. The images or other third party material in this article are included in the article's Creative Commons licence, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the article's Creative Commons licence and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder. То view а copy of this license. visit https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/

References

- Tack J, Ly HG, Carbone F, Vanheel H, Vanuytsel T, Holvoet L, Boeckxstaens G, Caenepeel P, Arts J, Van Oudenhove L. Efficacy of Mirtazapine in patients with functional dyspepsia and weight loss. Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology, 2016; 14(3), pp.385-92.Doi: 10.1016/j.cgh.2015.09.043.
- 2] Banerjee S, Hellier J, Dewey M, Romeo R, Ballard C, Baldwin R, Bentham P, Fox C, Holmes C, Katona C, Knapp M. Sertraline or Mirtazapine for depression in dementia (HTA-SADD): a randomised, multicentre, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. The Lancet, 2011; 378(9789), 403-11.
- 3] Furukawa TA, Cipriani A, Cowen PJ, Leucht S, Egger M, Salanti G. Optimal dose of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, venlafaxine, and Mirtazapine in major depression:

78/80

a systematic review and dose-response meta-analysis. The Lancet Psychiatry, 2019; 6(7), 601-9.

- 4] Abbasi SH, Behpournia H, Ghoreshi A, Salehi B, Raznahan M, Rezazadeh SA, Rezaei F, Akhondzadeh S. The effect of Mirtazapine add on therapy to risperidone in the treatment of schizophrenia: a double-blind randomized placebo-controlled trial. Schizophrenia research, 2010;116(2-3),101-6.Doi: 10.1016/j.schres.2009.11.008.
- 5] Hussein LM, Dawaba AM, El-Adawy SA. Formulation, optimization and full characterization of Mirtazapine loaded aquasomes: a new technique to boost antidepressant effects. Drug Development and Industrial Pharmacy, 2024; 50(3), 206-22.
- 6] Loke YH, Chew YL, Janakiraman AK, Lee SK, Uddin AH, Goh CF, Kee PE, Ng HS, Ming LC, Liew KB. Development of a novel direct compressible co-processed excipient and its application for formulation of Mirtazapine orally disintegrating tablets. Drug Development and Industrial Pharmacy, 2024; 50(1), 36-44.
- 7] El-Helaly SN, Rashad AA. Mirtazapine loaded polymeric micelles for rapid release tablet: A novel formulation—In vitro and in vivo studies. Drug Delivery and Translational Research. 2024 Feb 14;1-1.
- 8] Ibrahim TM, Abdulla NA, Mohamed MA. Investigating the efficacy of mirtazapine-embedded invasomal gel nanocarriers via I-optimal design for management of atopic dermatitis. Journal of Drug Delivery Science and Technology, 2024; 92:105395.
- 9] Ramarao CT, Laxmi SB. Floating Drug Delivery of Sustained Release Antidepressant Mirtazapine Tablets by Box-Behnken Design: Formulation and Optimization. Indian J of Pharmaceutical Education and Research.2024;58(1s), s113-s125. DOI: 10.5530/ijper.58.1s.11.
- 10] Gao H, Jia H, Dong J, Yang X, Li H, Ouyang D. Integrated in silico formulation design of self-emulsifying drug delivery systems. ActaPharmaceuticaSinica B. 2021; 11(11), 3585-94.
- 11] De Prá MA, Vardanega R, Loss CG. Lipid-based formulations to increase cannabidiol bioavailability: In vitro digestion tests, pre-clinical assessment and clinical trial. International Journal of Pharmaceutics. 2021; 609,121159.
- 12] Snela A, Jadach B, Froelich A, Skotnicki M, Milczewska K, Rojewska M, Voelkel A, Prochaska K, Lulek J. Selfemulsifying drug delivery systems with atorvastatin adsorbed on solid carriers: formulation and in vitro drug release studies. Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects. 2019 Sep 20; 577:281-90.
- 13] Tran P, Park JS. Recent trends of self-emulsifying drug delivery system for enhancing the oral bioavailability of poorly water-soluble drugs. Journal of Pharmaceutical Investigation. 2021; 51:439-63.
- 14] Arshad R, Tabish TA, Naseem AA, ul Hassan MR, Hussain I, Hussain SS, Shahnaz G. Development of poly-L-lysine multi-functionalized muco-penetrating self-emulsifying drug delivery system (SEDDS) for improved solubilization and targeted delivery of ciprofloxacin against intracellular Salmonella typhi. Journal of Molecular Liquids. 2021; 333:115972.
- 15] Di Costanzo A, Angelico R. Formulation strategies for enhancing the bioavailability of silymarin: the state of the art. Molecules. 2019; 24(11):2155.
- 16] Asfour MH, Kassem AA, Salama A, Abd El-Alim SH. Hydrophobic ion pair loaded self-emulsifying drug delivery

system (SEDDS): a novel oral drug delivery approach of cromolyn sodium for management of bronchial asthma. International journal of pharmaceutics, 2020; 585,119494.

- 17] Mazzeti AL, Oliveira LT, Gonçalves KR, Schaun GC, Mosqueira VC, Bahia MT. Benznidazole self-emulsifying delivery system: A novel alternative dosage form for Chagas disease treatment. European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences, 2020; 145,105234.
- 18] Maji I, Mahajan S, Sriram A, Medtiya P, Vasave R, Khatri DK, Kumar R, Singh SB, Madan J, Singh PK. Solid self emulsifying drug delivery system: Superior mode for oral delivery of hydrophobic cargos. Journal of Controlled Release. 2021; 337,646-60.
- 19] TarakaRamaraoCH, SomireddyMadhuri. In-vitro Design and Formulation of LevitiracetamExtended-Release Tablets. Research J. Pharm. And Tech.2022; 15(8), 3681-3684.DOI: 10.52711/0974-360X.2022.00617.
- 20] Bhavyasri K, RamaraoCHT. Formulation and Evaluation of Zidovudine Floating Tablets. World journal of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.2018; 7(8), 1210-1220.
- 21] Chowdary K.P.R., Rao C.H.T. Formulation development of valsartan tablets: optimization by 23 factorial design, in vitro and pharmacokinetic evaluation. World journal of Pharmaceutical Research. 2016; 5(02), 1423-34.
- 22] 22. ChowdaryK.P.R, TarakaRamarao Ch. A Factorial Study on the Evaluation of Formulation Variables on the Dissolution Rate of Etoricoxib Tablets. Asian Journal of Chemistry.2011; 23(3), 958-960.
- 23] Tarakaramarao C, Chowdary KP, Rao PR. In vitro and In vivo Pharmacokinetic Evaluation of valsartan tablets: optimization by factorial design 2³. Indian Drugs.2020; 57(11).
- 24] Ch T, Chowdary K.P.R.,Rajeswararao P. Pharmacokinetic Evaluation of Optimized Valsartan Tablets Formulated Employing βCD, Crospovidone and SLS in Comparison to a Market product. World journal of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences.2015; 4(09), 979-86.
- 25] Saggar S, Upadayay A, Goswami M. Formulation and evaluation of solid self-emulsifying drug delivery system of bambuterol hydrochloride. Indian J Pharm Sci. 2019 Jul 27; 81(4), 661-72.
- 26] Ch T, Jami R. Formulation development of Ezetimibe by using Soluplus and Co-Processed Acacia: tragacanth with Design Expert. Health Biotechnology and Biopharma (HBB). 2022; 6(3), 33-56.
- 27] Challa TR, Reshma K. Experimental Design Statistically by Design Expert Software: A Model Poorly Soluble Drug with Dissolution Enhancement and Optimization. International Journal of Drug Delivery Technology.2022; 12(3), 1367-1375. DOI: 10.25258/ijddt.12.3.72.
- 28] Ramarao CH, Preethi G. Statistically optimization and formulation development of bromofenac sodium ophthalmic drug delivery. Suranaree J. Sci. Technol. 2022; 29(6), 070060.
- 29] RamaraoChT, MadhuriS.Statistically 2 Level Factorial by Design Expert: In-vitro Design and Formulation of Levitiracetam Extended Release Tablets. Indian J of Pharmaceutical Education and Research. 2022; 56(4), 994-1002. Doi:10.5530/ijper.56.4.180.
- 30] Czajkowska-Kośnik, ASzekalska, M.; Amelian, ADevelopment and Evaluation of Liquid and Solid Self-Emulsifying Drug Delivery Systems for Atorvastatin.

Molecules.2015; 20, 21010-21022. https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules201219745.

- 31] Mantry S, Majumder D. Development of Liquid and Solid Self-Emulsifying Drug Delivery System of Silymarin. Journal of Drug Delivery and Therapeutics. 2019; 9(3-s), 54-61. https://jddtonline.info/index.php/jddt/article/view/2754.
- 32] Yang X, Gao P, Jiang Z, Luo Q, Mu C, Cui M. Preparation and evaluation of self-emulsifying drug delivery system (SEDDS) of cepharanthine. AAPS PharmSciTech. 2021 22, 1-2.
- 33] Zhao L, Zhang L, Meng L, Wang J, Zhai G. Design and evaluation of a self-microemulsifying drug delivery system for apigenin. Drug Development and Industrial Pharmacy, 2013; 39(5), 662-9.
- 34] Chintalapudi R, Murthy TE, Lakshmi KR, Manohar GG. Formulation, optimization, and evaluation of self-emulsifying drug delivery systems of nevirapine. International journal of pharmaceutical investigation, 2015;5(4), 205.
- 35] Yeom DW, Son HY, Kim JH, Kim SR, Lee SG, Song SH, Chae BR, Choi YW. Development of a solidified selfmicroemulsifying drug delivery system (S-SMEDDS) for atorvastatin calcium with improved dissolution and bioavailability. International Journal of Pharmaceutics. 2016; 506(1-2), 302-11.
- 36] Ch T, Lavyna G. Atenolol and glipizide bilayer Floating Tablets: formulation and Evaluation. European Journal of Pharmaceutical and Medical Research. 2015; 2(7), 211-9.
- 37] Kallakunta VR, Bandari S, Jukanti R, Veerareddy PR. Oral self emulsifying powder of lercanidipine hydrochloride: formulation and evaluation. Powder Technology. 2012; 221, 375-82.
- 38] Ramarao CT, Reshma K. Formulation and development of telmisartan tablets employing factorial designs and stability. Indo American Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences. 2017; 4(7), 2029-35.
- 39] Srinivasa Rao. B, Vijayaratna J. Design and Characterization of AlfuzosinHclGastroretentive Floating Matrix tablets Employing HPMC K100 M, Indian Drugs.2018; 55 (11), 71-73. Doi:10.53879/id.55.11.10741
- 40] VijayaratnaJ, Srinivasarao B. Sustained Release Matrix Tablets of Diclofenac Sodium Employing Kollidon SR, PEG 6000, Lactose Mono Hydrate and Eudragit S100 in Colon Target. Indian drugs. 2017; 54(10), 38-43. DOI: 10.53879/id.54.10.10814
- 41] Ramarao TC, Sravani P. Mucoadhesive microspheres of metoprolol succinate formulation and in vitro evaluation studies. InnoriginalInt J. Sci. 2018; 5(6), 33-9.
- 42] Rao BS, Vijayanratna J, Ramarao CT. Optimization of matrix tablets containing alfuzosinhcl employing HPMC K4 M. European Journal of pharmaceutical and medical research. 2016; 3(9), 529-33.

- 43] Ramarao CT, Rao BS, Ratna JV. Design of tinidazole Matrix tablets of for colon specific drug delivery employing Eudragit S 100, PEG 6000 and lactose. J Chem Pharm Res. 2018;10(1),76-82.
- 44] Van Staden D, Du Plessis J, Viljoen J. Development of topical/transdermal self-emulsifying drug delivery systems, not as simple as expected. Scientiapharmaceutica. 2020; 88(2), 17.
- 45] Zhang K, Wang Q, Yang Q, Wei Q, Man N, Adu-Frimpong M, Toreniyazov E, Ji H, Yu J, Xu X. Enhancement of oral bioavailability and anti-hyperuricemic activity of isoliquiritigenin via self-microemulsifying drug delivery system. AAPS PharmSciTech. 2019; 20:1-1.
- 46] Ghosh PK, Majithiya RJ, Umrethia ML, Murthy RS. Design and development of microemulsion drug delivery system of acyclovir for improvement of oral bioavailability. AAPS pharmscitech. 2006; 7, E172-7.
- 47] Ramarao CT, Pavani P. Atorvastatin calcium formulation development followed by pharmacokinetic with in vitro and in vivo correlation (IVIVC) with employing soluplus and 80ydroxyl propyl methyl cellulose with optimization. Egyptian Pharmaceutical Journal.2023; 22(2), 209.DOI: 10.4103/epj.epj_43_22.
- 48] Ramarao CT, Vineeth P, Bhanuchandar P, Madhuri M, Jayaram P, Jyothi MP, Kumar TB, Yugandhar S. Drug delivery systems and biopharmaceutical consideration of drug products designs: a review. Eur J Pharm Med Res. 2016; 3(3), 146-154.
- 49] Ramarao CT, Bammidi I, Banala M, Balaga K, Cheekati P, Busa Y. Assessment and validation of emulgel-based salicylic acid formulation development for drug release and optimisation by statistical design. International Journal of Computational Biology and Drug Design. 2023; 15(6), 463-79. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1504/IJCBDD.2023.134615
- 50] Barmpalexis P, Kanaze FI, Kachrimanis K, Georgarakis E. Artificial neural networks in the optimization of a nimodipine controlled release tablet formulation. European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics. 2010;74(2),316-23.
- 51] Güler GK, Eroğlu HA, Öner LE. Development and formulation of floating tablet formulation containing rosiglitazone maleate using artificial neural network. Journal of Drug Delivery Science and Technology. 2017; 39, 385-97.
- 52] Barmpalexis P, Kachrimanis K, Georgarakis E. Solid dispersions in the development of a nimodipine floating tablet formulation and optimization by artificial neural networks and genetic programming. European Journal of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics. 2011; 77(1), 122-31.
- 53] ChallaTarakaRamarao and PathivadaSaiKiranmai. DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF ANTIINFLAMMATORY DRUG NAPROXEN SOLID DISPERSIONS AND FORMULATIONS BY FACTORIAL DESIGN APPROACH. Suranaree J. Sci. Technol. 2023; 30(6), 070071(1-11). DOI: https://doi.org/10.55766/sujst-2023-06-e01216.