

Electrowinning of Copper Using Rotating Cylinder Electrode Utilizing Lead Anode

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Abstract

The effect of lead anode, rotating cylinder electrode (RCE), amount of 1, 2-dihydroxypropane (12-DHP), temperature and rotation on the electrowinning of copper from low concentration acidified copper sulphate solution has been investigated. Copper powder was electrodeposited onto RCE that made of pure copper. From cyclic voltammetry experiments, an empirical parameter called the departure percent, S, was obtained which may represent the stability of the organic additive in the given medium and under the experimental conditions. The inhibition percentage, P, was 0.00 - 89.91% depending on the experimental variables. P was affected by temperature and mole fraction of 12-DHP, while rotation did not show any influence on it. Values of activation energy of electrodeposition process, E_a , were found to be less than 28 kJ mol⁻¹ indicating diffusion controlled process. The overall mass transfer correlations under the present conditions have been computed using the dimensional analysis method. The data were valid for 90 < Sh < 1098, 737 < Sc < 59284and 271 < Re < 7046 and the results agreed with the previous studies of mass transfer to rotating cylinders in turbulent flow regimes. The effect of time, content of 12-DHP, temperature and the speed of rotation on the morphological changes of the electrodeposited copper powder as well as deposits composition and crystallite size have been studied. Various crystallite sizes ranged 7.1 nm - 250.6 nm were obtained and characterized by EDS and XRD. Different topographs proved that the rate of copper electrodeposition increased by increasing deposition time, temperature and the speed of rotation. Also, they proved that the deposition rate decreased by adding 12-DHP to the solution. Therefore, the results obtained by SEM supported those achieved by measuring the limiting current density and follow the normal manner when organic solvents were added to the electrodeposition bath.

Keywords: Electrodeposition, Electrowinning, Lead Anode, Rotating Cylinder Electrode (RCE), 1,2-Dihydroxypropane (12-DHP), Copper Powder

1. Introduction

The recovery of metals from aqueous solutions by electrolytic means has been a major factor in extractive technology during the last decades. The source of metal can be an ore as well as waste residue (scrap metals, dusts, sludges collected from metallurgical operations, etc.). One of the aims in studying metal electrowinning is to gain better understanding of the metal electrodeposition process, with emphasis on the role of additives and transport on electro-crystallization. The increase in the

world's demand for high-purity copper has sparked an expansion in the production of copper. To produce high-purity copper, copper is sent as a solute in an aqueous solution to the electrowinning plant. In this plant, an electric current is used to remove the copper from solution into flat sheets of metal. These flat sheets are 99.97% copper, which is the purest form of copper "industrial wise" produced from any production process [1]. It is well known that the introduction of small amounts of certain substances in electrodeposition baths leads to marked changes in the nature of metallic deposits ob-

tained at the cathode. It is well known that small quantities of these substances may stop dendrites growing and improve significantly the smoothness of the cathodic surface [2]. Thiourea [3], gelatine [4], animal glue [5], polyacrylamides [6] and various mixtures of additives [7] are commonly used as levelling and brightening agents in copper electrodeposition and electrowinning. The development of suitable additives as substitutes for thiourea and gelatine remains an interesting research direction, since it has been established that thiourea decomposes, leading to contamination of the cathodic deposit with sulfur [5]. Within each electrolytic cell, electrical current is passed through the electrolyte from the anode to the cathode. In the copper electrowinning process, the electrolyte is an aqueous solution containing copper sulphate (CuSO₄) and sulphuric acid (H₂SO₄) at temperatures ranging from 25 to 45°C [1]. As current is passed, copper is removed from the electrolyte and deposited onto the cathode. The potential applied to the cell is terminated once the desired thickness of electrowon copper is reached at the cathode. This takes between 5 and 14 days depending on the applied current density (current per unit area of the electrode). The potential applied to produce the current creates both primary and secondary reactions within the electrolytic cell. At the cathode, a primary reaction deposits copper onto the cathode:

$$Cu^{2+} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow Cu \tag{1}$$

A secondary reaction, at low concentrations of copper, releases hydrogen bubbles at the cathode:

$$2H^{+} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow H_{2} \tag{2}$$

At the anode, a primary reaction occurs that produces oxygen bubbles. The overall reaction occurring at the anode can be seen below:

$$2H_2O \rightarrow O_2 + 4H^+ + 4e^-$$
 (3)

Finding the middle ground between mass production in the industry of metal powder extraction and purity as well as size of the produced crystallites is a compromising task, therefore, this work aims to investigate the effect of lead anode and RCE on the electrowinning of copper with respect to the quality and quantity of copper powder; respectively. A parallel goal of this investigation is to study the effect of 12-DHP and temperature as crystallite size, morphology, structure and purity modifiers, which supported by XRD, SEM and EDS.

2. Experimental

All chemicals were Analar grade and supplied by BDH chemicals Ltd. Solutions were prepared with water of resistivity 15-M Ω cm and copper sulphate concentration

and content were checked by the iodine-thiosulphate method [8]. The density and viscosity for all solutions were measured at 298, 303, 308 and 313 K [9] and the data are listed in **Table 1**.

A standard 1000 mL glass-type cell with a polypropylene lid was used in all electrochemical experiments [9]. The polypropylene lid contained four inlets, which were used for working electrode WE immersion, luggin probe (reference electrode RE: saturated calomel elec-

Table 1. Values of Viscosity, η , and density, ρ , for all solutions at different temperatures.

	T, K	η, poise	ρ, g·cm ⁻³
	298	0.0107	1.0828
DI 1 00/ (/) 12 DVD	303	0.0096	1.0800
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP	308	0.0087	1.0772
	313	0.0079	1.0745
	298	0.0112	1.0900
100/ (/-) 12 DUD	303	0.0100	1.0872
10% (v/v) 12-DHP	308	0.0091	1.0844
	313	0.0082	1.0816
	298	0.0129	1.0981
200/ (/) 12 DUD	303	0.0116	1.0953
20% (v/v) 12-DHP	308	0.0105	1.0925
	313	0.0095	1.0897
	298	0.0153	1.1112
200/ (/) 12 DUD	303	0.0137	1.1083
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	308	0.0124	1.1055
	313	0.0113	1.1027
	298	0.0186	1.1193
400/ (/) 12 DUD	303	0.0167	1.1165
40% (v/v) 12-DHP	308	0.0151	1.1136
	313	0.0137	1.1107
	298	0.0231	1.1314
500/ (/-) 12 DUD	303	0.0207	1.1285
50% (v/v) 12-DHP	308	0.0187	1.1256
	313	0.0170	1.1227
	298	0.0293	1.1406
60% (v/v) 12 DUP	303	0.0263	1.1376
60% (v/v) 12-DHP	308	0.0238	1.1347
	313	0.0216	1.1318

trode, SCE), counter electrode CE (lead sheet) and thermometer to measure the temperature. A 99.9% purity copper cylindrical sample was used as WE. This sample was rotated at controlled rates by an analytical rotator model A.S.R. made by PINE Instrument Company. The cylindrical samples of copper had dimensions of 8 mm height and 12 mm diameter. The specimens were lightly abraded with 1200 grade silicon carbide paper, washed with distilled water, acetone and deionized water and dried in a cool air stream prior to use. The anode CE, was machined from analytical highly pure lead sheet (99.99%) with exposed surface area of 5 cm \times 10 cm. the separation distance between WE and CE was kept constant at 5 cm for all experiments. In order to ensure a correct control of the specimen rotation rate and the correct recording of potentials, regular checking of the rotation rate was carried out.

The Potentiostat was Ministat Precision Potentiostat made by Thompson Electrochem Ltd. coupled to a Chemical Electronics (Birtley) Ltd. Sweep Generator and controlled by a PC via an Advantech PCL-718 Lab Card and a PCLD-780 wiring terminal board. In this system the Advantech Labtech Aquire software was used. All electrochemical experiments and polarization curves were carried out using a potentiodynamic method. The sweep rate in all experiments was 100 mV·min⁻¹, which considered being suitable for copper electrodeposition [10].

2.1. Cathodic Polarization

The variables used in this investigation were rotation speed (0 - 1000 rpm), temperature (298 - 313 K), and blank solution (0.1 mol·L $^{-1}$ CuSO₄ and 1.5 mol·L $^{-1}$ H₂SO₄) with and without 12-DHP 10 - 60 % (v/v) with a sweep range of 700 mV starting from the open circuit potential.

2.2. Cyclic Voltammetry

The main purpose of this part is to make sure that the solution under investigation does not change by changing the temperature or the applied potential. The polarization range in these experiments was +0.1 to -0.9 V vs. SCE. The polarization was potentiodynamic without rotation, *i.e.* free convection with employing lead as anode. The variables, were temperature (298 - 313 K) and blank solution (0.1 mol·L⁻¹ CuSO₄ and 1.5 mol·L⁻¹ H₂SO₄) with and without 12-DHP 10% - 60% (v/v). The polarization was cyclic polarization begins at +0.1 V and ends the half cycle at -0.9 V, then the second half cycle begins at -0.9 V and ends the whole cycle at +0.1 V where the experiment started.

2.3. Morphology and Composition Analyses

An AMRAY 1810 Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) was used to examine the surface topography of specimens after experiment, while Energy Dispersive X-Ray Analysis (EDS) was used for elemental analyses. The specimens were examined through an acceleration potential of 20 KeV; the specimens were coated with carbon to avoid electron charging of the surface. The specimens were made of copper rods that were cut into small pieces of dimensions 0.8 cm height and 1.2 cm diameter. The surfaces for SEM analyses were polished with series of silicon carbide paper grades 120 um - 1200 um, then with 3 µm diamond paste followed by 1 µm diamond paste on a polishing wheel. After washing with deionized water and degreasing in acetone, warm air was blown over the surface. These specimens were stored in a desiccator over silica gel prior to use. Temperature; 298 K -313 K, 12-DHP content; 0 - 60% (v/v), rotation rate; 0- 1000 rpm; and time; 10 - 30 minutes; were the different variables that have been employed to study the surface topography by SEM. X-ray diffraction (XRD) measurement for copper powder was carried out using a Shimazu XRD-7000 X-Ray Diffractometer with Cu-Kα₁ radiation operated at 40 kV and 30 mA, with a scan speed of 20 \min^{-1} .

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Cyclic Voltammetry

The stability of organic additives, whether they are solids or liquids, plays an essential role to maintain the bath reproducibility and in turn affects the deposit quality. In order to check the stability of the present bath, cyclic voltammetry experiments were carried out for all solutions at different temperatures in the natural convection regime. This cyclic voltammetry led to compare the values of the limiting current density in the first half cycle (i_{l-1st}) with those in the second (i_{l-2nd}) and an empirical parameter, S, was obtained using Equation (4), where S is called the departure percent:

$$S = \frac{i_{l_{1st}}}{i_{l_{2nd}}} \times 100 \tag{1}$$

Table 2 summarizes the values of S for all solutions at all experimental conditions, while **Figure 1** represents the variation of S with the mole fraction of 12-DHP at 298 K and 313 K in the natural convection regime. **Figure 1** shows that S decreases with increasing temperature in all proportions of 12-DHP; while within the same temperature range of 298 K it increases up to 30% 12-DHP (v/v) then fluctuates downwards between 40% and 50%

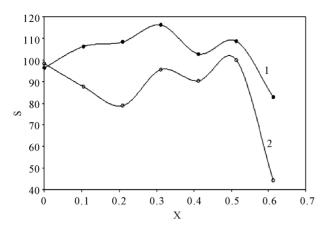


Figure 1. Variation of the departure percent, S, with the mole fraction, X, of 12-DHP at zero rotation and at (1) 298 K, (2) 313 K.

Table 2. Values of the average departure percent, S, for all solutions at different temperatures.

	S					
	At 298 K	At 303 K	At 308 K	At 313 K		
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP	96.4	97.4	96.3	98.4		
10% (v/v) 12-DHP	106.2	99.5	105.1	87.7		
20% (v/v) 12-DHP	108.3	97.6	91.5	78.9		
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	116.1	120.7	90.8	95.6		
40% (v/v) 12-DHP	102.7	102.7	102.6	90.4		
50% (v/v) 12-DHP	108.7	90.8	83.0	100.0		
60% (v/v) 12-DHP	82.9	48.4	44.3	44.3		

12-DHP (v/v) and finally reaches the minimum value at 60% 12-DHP (v/v). At 313 K it decreases up to 20% 12-DHP (v/v) then fluctuates upwards between 30 and 50% 12-DHP (v/v) and lasts with the minimum value at 60% 12-DHP (v/v). As an explanation of **Figure 1**, the departure percent, S, may represent the stability of the organic additive in the given medium and under the effect of the experimental conditions, more investigation is needed to generalize this definition. Nevertheless, if controlling the sweep rate could reduce this departure, then it will consider as a simple, cheap and precise method of estimating the right sweep rate that is valuable in industrial electrochemistry. In addition, it considered as an early warning test in case of using organic solvents, since organic solvents are easily evaporate and decompose.

3.2. Cathodic Polarisation

Values of the limiting current densities were measured from the polarization curves of all solutions at different rotations and different temperatures are given in **Table 3**. It is clear in **Table 3** that the limiting current density increases with increasing the speed of rotation, which proves that the electrodeposition (electrowinning) process of copper in presence of 12-DHP as well as in aqueous media is diffusion-controlled reaction [2]. The relation between the limiting current densities, i_l, and the mole fractions, X, for 12-DHP solutions at different temperatures and 500 rpm is revealed in **Figure 2** as an example. Noticeably, the limiting current density decreases with increasing 12-DHP mole fraction and increases by increasing temperature.

The increase of mass transport under forced or turbulent conditions may refer to [11] solution temperature elevation, roughness of the deposit and/or the increase of agitation. Equation (5) was used to calculate the mass transfer coefficients, k, for 12-DHP solutions.

$$k = \frac{i_l}{nFC_{\circ}} \tag{5}$$

where: n = number of electrons involved in the reaction, F = Faraday constant = 96500 (coulomb mol⁻¹, coulomb = A.s.), C_o bulk concentration of copper sulphate (mol cm⁻³).

The percentage of inhibition efficiency, P, was calculated from Equation (6) and its values are listed in **Table 4**. The percentage of inhibition caused by 12-DHP was in the range of 0.00 - 89.91% depending on the concentration of 12-DHP and the temperature. The relation between the percentage of inhibition, P, and the mole fraction of 12-DHP, X, at 308 K and different rotations is represented in **Figure 3** as an example. It is observed from **Figure 3** and **Table 4** that P increased as X increased and as temperature decreased, but it was not affected by rotation. This indicates that the rotation factor

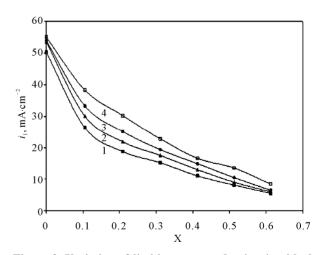


Figure 2. Variation of limiting current density, i_1 , with the mole fraction, X, of 12-DHP at 500 rpm and at (1) 298 K, (2) 303 K, (3) 308 K, (4) 313 K.

Table 3. Values of the limiting current density, \mathbf{i}_l , for all solutions at different temperatures and different speeds of rotation.

			$i_{\rm l},{ m m}A$	·cm ⁻²	
	rpm	298 K	303 K	308 K	313 K
	0	8.44	8.96	9.39	9.45
	100	20.24	21.59	22.27	22.95
	200	29.82	32.36	33.11	33.88
	300	37.32	40.90	41.05	42.43
	400	46.49	47.84	48.20	48.55
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	50.37	53.56	53.98	55.06
	600	55.03	57.67	58.83	59.97
	700	62.23	63.45	308 K 9.39 22.27 33.11 41.05 48.20 53.98 58.83 63.90 67.43 73.55 78.11 6.92 12.13 19.88 24.90 29.14 33.28 37.27 41.40 44.40 47.50 50.19 5.28 10.20 15.45 19.16 22.00 25.14 28.45 31.46 33.30 36.14 40.22 3.93 8.17	64.33
	800	66.65	67.36		67.51
	900	72.07	72.82	73.55	74.27
	1000	77.71	77.97	78.11	78.25
	0	6.48	6.75	6.92	8.23
	100	10.09	11.57	12.13	15.64
	200	15.47	16.81	19.88	22.05
	300	19.26	22.32	24.90	27.73
	400	23.15	26.52	29.14	33.34
10% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	26.35	30.04	33.28	38.30
	600	29.93	33.48	37.27	43.13
	700	32.86	36.82	41.40	48.05
	800	35.14	39.72	44.40	54.36
	900	37.55	41.09	47.50	59.66
	1000	40.23	45.06	50.19	59.87
	0	4.71	5.08	5.28	5.95
	100	6.49	9.63	10.20	11.57
	200	11.40	12.74	15.45	17.22
	300	14.34	16.12	19.16	21.97
	400	16.35	19.06	22.00	26.62
20% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	18.76	21.87	25.14	30.26
	600	21.53	24.51	28.45	32.63
	700	23.24	26.21	31.46	39.49
	800	25.14	28.59	33.30	40.86
	900	26.68	30.73	36.14	49.52
	1000	28.59	33.07	40.22	53.06
	0	3.68	3.75	3.93	4.49
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	100	6.69	7.60	8.17	9.18
э0/0 (v/v) 12 - DПľ	200	9.01	10.30	11.11	13.56
	300	11.49	12.90	15.38	16.89

	400	13.07	15.14	17.14	19.62
	500	15.21	17.52	19.34	22.78
	600	16.75	19.55	21.62	25.51
	700	18.68	21.38	23.58	27.89
	800	19.87	22.60	24.29	29.54
	900	20.96	23.72	27.51	32.03
	1000	22.53	25.72	29.30	33.29
	0	2.52	2.70	2.84	3.15
	100	4.66	6.13	6.27	6.69
	200	7.39	8.66	9.95	10.13
	300	8.69	9.60	10.93	12.27
	400	10.44	11.21	12.62	14.51
40% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	11.04	13.00	14.89	16.61
	600	12.93	14.09	16.51	19.27
	700	13.70	15.24	17.63	19.52
	800	14.33	17.49	20.26	21.13
	900	15.35	17.73	21.06	24.29
	1000	16.16	18.78	22.92	24.85
	0	1.58	1.75	1.81	1.99
	100	3.75	4.24	4.69	5.02
	200	5.40	5.99	7.33	8.19
	300	6.97	7.60	8.99	9.75
	400	7.71	8.97	9.78	10.83
50% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	8.17	9.08	10.50	13.53
	600	8.38	9.88	11.77	14.98
	700	9.46	11.35	13.07	16.31
	800	10.37	11.42	14.11	17.47
	900	10.65	13.39	15.48	18.30
	1000	11.60	14.58	16.42	18.95
	0	1.13	1.23	1.26	1.37
	100	2.35	2.53	2.56	2.63
	200	3.28	3.34	3.72	4.61
	300	4.03	4.73	5.12	5.43
	400	5.05	5.05	6.48	7.44
60% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	5.56	6.03	6.55	8.50
	600	6.21	6.31	8.19	9.59
	700	6.28	7.75	9.49	10.99
	800	7.44	9.08	11.26	12.28
	900	7.44	9.76	12.39	12.28
	200	, . T T	2.70	12.57	12.77

Table 4. Values of inhibition percent, P, for 12-DHP solutions at different temperatures with different speeds of rotation.

	mm		P				
	rpm	298 K	303 K	308 K	313 K		
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		23.27	24.68	26.26	12.89		
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		44.15	43.30	43.74	37.02		
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	0	56.40	58.16	58.20	52.53		
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		70.11	69.90	69.78	66.63		
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		81.32	80.45	80.78	79.00		
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		86.66	86.31	86.56	85.56		
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		50.14	46.39	45.55	31.86		
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		67.96	55.40	54.21	49.59		
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	100	66.94	64.78	63.34	60.00		
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		76.98	71.59	71.83	70.84		
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		81.48	80.36	78.93	78.14		
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		88.37	88.30	88.51	88.55		
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		48.13	48.05	39.97	34.93		
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		61.76	60.63	53.35	49.18		
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	200	69.80	68.16	66.45	59.97		
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		75.20	73.25	69.94	70.11		
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		81.90	81.48	77.87	75.82		
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		89.02	89.67	88.77	86.40		
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		48.40	45.43	39.33	34.65		
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		61.56	60.60	53.33	48.23		
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	300	69.20	68.47	62.52	60.19		
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		76.71	76.52	73.37	71.09		
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		81.31	81.41	78.11	77.03		
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		89.21	88.44	87.53	87.21		
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		50.21	44.56	39.54	31.32		
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		64.83	60.16	54.35	45.18		
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	400	71.89	68.35	64.45	59.58		
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		77.54	76.56	73.83	70.12		
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		83.42	81.25	79.71	77.70		
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		89.14	89.44	86.55	84.68		
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
10% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	47.68	43.92	38.36	30.43		

20% (v/v) 12-DHP		62.76	59.17	53.42	45.04
30% (v/v) 12-DHP		69.80	67.29	64.16	58.63
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		78.08	75.73	72.41	69.83
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		83.79	83.05	80.54	75.42
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		88.96	88.75	87.86	84.57
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		45.60	41.94	36.65	28.09
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		60.87	57.50	51.63	45.58
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	600	69.56	66.09	63.25	57.46
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		76.50	75.57	71.94	67.86
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		84.78	82.86	80.00	75.02
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		88.72	89.05	86.08	84.01
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		47.19	41.97	35.21	25.30
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		62.66	58.69	50.76	38.62
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	700	69.98	66.31	63.09	56.64
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		77.98	75.97	72.41	69.66
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		84.79	82.11	79.55	74.64
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		89.91	87.79	85.16	82.92
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		47.28	41.04	34.15	19.48
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		62.27	57.56	50.61	39.48
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	800	70.19	66.44	63.98	56.24
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		78.49	74.04	69.96	68.70
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		84.44	83.04	79.07	74.13
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		88.84	86.53	83.30	81.81
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		47.91	43.57	35.42	19.67
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		62.98	57.80	50.86	33.32
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	900	70.92	67.42	62.60	56.87
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		78.70	75.65	71.37	67.30
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		85.22	81.62	78.95	75.36
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		89.68	86.60	83.16	83.19
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		48.23	42.21	35.75	23.49
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		63.21	57.59	48.50	32.19
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	1000	71.00	67.01	62.49	57.46
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		79.21	75.91	70.66	68.25
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		85.07	81.30	78.98	75.79

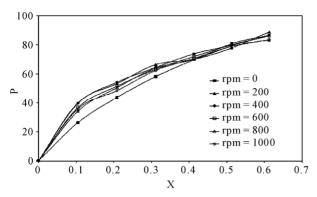


Figure 3. Variation of the inhibition percentage, P, with the mole fraction, X, of 12-DHP at 308 K with different speeds of rotation.

has little effect on the adsorption process and the decrease in mass transfer coefficient in this case is attributable to the increase in the interfacial viscosity [12], which caused by the adsorption of alcohol molecules at the cylinder surface with their non-polar ends, while the polar ones are directed towards solution.

$$P = \frac{i_{l_{blank}} - i_{l_{alc.}}}{i_{l_{blank}}} \times 100 \tag{6}$$

To investigate the mechanism of electrodeposition process, the activation energies, E_a , of the process were calculated from the values of the limiting current densities in presence and in absence of 12-DHP at different temperatures according to Arrhenius equation:

$$\ln\left(i_{t}\right) = \ln\left(A\right) - \frac{E_{a}}{R} \frac{1}{T} \tag{7}$$

where A is a pre-exponential factor related to concentration, steric effects, metal surface characteristics...etc; R is the molar gas constant and T is the absolute temperature.

Figure 4 shows the relation between ln (i_l) against 1/T for the 12-DHP solutions at 500 rpm as an example. Straight lines were obtained and E_a values were calculated using Equation (7) and their values are given in **Table 5**. Thermodynamic parameters, the enthalpy of activation, ΔH^* , entropy of activation, ΔS^* , and free energy of activation, ΔG^* , were calculated and their values are also listed in **Table 5**.

The activation energy of the process, E_a , is an important parameter for determining the rate-controlling step. If the rate-controlling step [13] is the diffusion of aqueous species in the boundary layer then E_a is generally $\ddot{O} \le$ 28 kJ mol⁻¹, while E_a values usually > 43 kJ mol⁻¹ if adsorption of species on the reaction surface and subsequent chemical reaction takes place. Table 5 shows that in case of blank solution, values of E_a are smaller than those obtained on adding 12-DHP indicating that 12-DHP affecting, in somehow, the mechanism of solvation. For instance, the acidity (proton availability) is decreased with the addition of an alcohol to a pure acidified aqueous solution. This decrease may be attributed to [8] the gradual breakdown of a quasi-crystalline tetrahedral structure of water caused by interposition of alcohol molecules. Thus, the acidity of the medium decreased due to

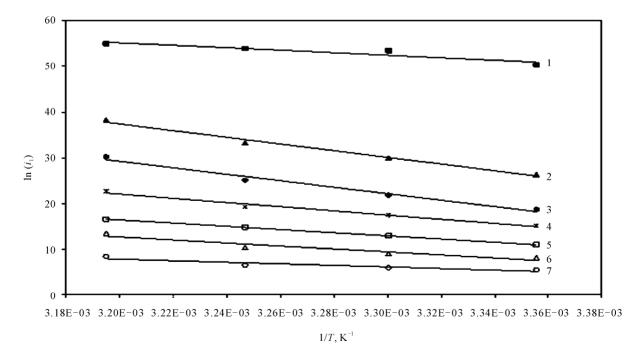


Figure 4. Arrhenius plot at 500 rpm.

Table 5. Electrodeposition average thermodynamic parameters within the temperature range 298 K - 313 K for 12-DHP solutions at different speeds of rotation.

	rpm	E_a , kJ · mol ⁻¹	H^* , kJ^*mol^{-1}	S^* , $J \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K^{-1}$	G^* , kJ^*mol^{-1}
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		6.0	3.5	-215.4	69.3
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		11.5	9.1	-199.5	69.9
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		11.4	10.3	-202.2	70.7
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	0	9.9	6.5	-209.7	71.4
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		11.1	7.8	-208.4	72.3
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		11.2	10.4	-212.1	73.4
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		9.4	4.4	-220.9	74.3
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		6.3	3.8	-207.1	67.1
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		21.0	19.7	-163.8	68.5
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		27.9	13.7	-143.4	69.2
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	100	15.8	11.2	-184.5	69.6
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		17.3	24.3	-182.1	70.4
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		15.1	20.6	-191.5	71.1
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		5.3	7.0	-228.3	72.5
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		8.7	6.1	-196.1	66.0
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		19.1	14.8	-166.8	67.5
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		22.2	7.3	-158.9	68.2
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	200	20.2	20.9	-167.5	68.8
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		16.9	18.4	-180.0	69.3
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		22.5	21.9	-163.9	70.1
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		17.4	2.6	-185.5	71.6
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		6.6	4.1	-201.1	65.5
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		18.7	18.2	-166.1	66.9
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		22.5	14.3	-155.9	67.6
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	300	20.7	19.4	-163.8	68.2
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		18.0	17.3	-175.0	69.0
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		18.2	20.7	-176.4	69.5
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		15.2	15.6	-190.8	70.9
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		8.2	5.6	-194.2	65.0
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		18.4	18.6	-165.4	66.4
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		24.9	13.2	-146.8	67.2
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	400	20.8	17.9	-162.1	67.8
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		17.1	11.7	-176.7	68.5
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		17.2	22.9	-178.7	69.2
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		21.8	11.9	-167.2	70.4
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		10.2	7.7	-186.6	64.7
10% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	19.0	19.3	-162.5	66.1
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		24.4	14.1	-147.2	66.8

30% (v/v) 12-DHP		20.3	20.7	-162.6	67.5
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		21.1	16.9	-162.4	68.2
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		25.7	17.5	-150.0	69.0
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		20.9	16.5	-169.3	70.1
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		8.4	5.9	-191.9	64.5
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		18.6	18.5	-162.7	65.8
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		21.7	13.3	-155.3	66.6
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	600	21.1	21.8	-159.1	67.2
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		21.0	18.9	-161.9	67.9
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		29.7	26.6	-136.2	68.8
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		24.2	28.0	-157.6	69.8
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		3.9	1.3	-206.1	64.3
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		19.5	18.4	-159.1	65.5
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		27.4	16.4	-135.4	66.3
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	700	20.2	18.5	-161.5	67.0
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		18.7	17.6	-168.9	67.8
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		27.5	31.8	-142.5	68.5
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		29.2	30.3	-140.1	69.5
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		14.4	11.8	-170.7	64.0
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		22.0	20.3	-150.2	65.3
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		24.9	17.3	-143.2	66.1
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	800	19.5	20.7	-163.1	66.8
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		20.4	23.1	-162.5	67.5
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		27.5	33.3	-142.1	68.3
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		26.8	26.4	-146.8	69.1
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		18.3	15.7	-157.0	63.7
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		23.7	19.5	-144.0	65.2
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		31.2	23.1	-121.8	65.9
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	900	22.0	20.6	-154.3	66.6
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		24.0	22.5	-150.2	67.4
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		27.5	33.4	-141.5	68.1
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		28.0	33.3	-142.5	69.0
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP		17.6	15.0	-158.7	63.5
10% (v/v) 12-DHP		20.1	20.2	-155.3	65.0
20% (v/v) 12-DHP		31.7	20.6	-119.3	65.7
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	1000	20.2	20.1	-159.8	66.5
40% (v/v) 12-DHP		23.1	25.3	-152.6	67.2
50% (v/v) 12-DHP		24.7	35.1	-149.9	68.0
60% (v/v) 12-DHP		26.6	30.3	-146.3	68.8
00/0 (V/V) 12-DHF		20.0	30.3	140.3	00.0

the change in the state of solvation. **Table 5** shows also that all E_a values are lower than 43 kJ mol⁻¹; characterizing diffusion processes are controlling the electrodeposition reaction. **Figure 5** is another presentation of controlling the crystallite size as a parameter of two variables, the composition of 12-DHP and the speed of rotation. As it is shown in **Figure 5**, the highest composition of 12-DHP does not mean the lowest E_a value and vice versa as well as does the same meaning on the speed of rotation. From **Table 5**, it is also noticed that the weak dependence of ΔG^* on the composition of the organic solvent can be attributed largely to the general linear compensation between ΔH^* and ΔS^* for the given temperature.

The angular velocity, ω , is given by Equation (8). **Figure 6** gives the relation between the limiting current density and the angular velocity, ω , to the power 0.7 at different compositions of 12-DHP and at 298 K as a representative graph. In **Figure 6**, straight lines were obtained and the limiting current density increases by increasing rotation, which indicates that the electrodeposition reaction is diffusion-controlled reaction [11].

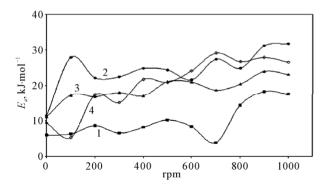


Figure 5. Variation of activation energy, E_a , with the speed of rotation, rpm, for (1) Blank, (2) 20% (v/v) 12-DHP, (3) 40% (v/v) 12-DHP, (4) 60% (v/v) 12-DHP.

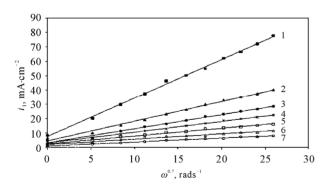


Figure 6. Variation of the limiting current density, i_1 , with the angular velocity to a power 0.7, $\omega^{0.7}$, at 298 K for (1) Blank, (2) 10% (v/v) 12-DHP, (3) 20% (v/v) 12-DHP, (4) 30% (v/v) 12-DHP, (5) 40% (v/v) 12-DHP, (6) 50% (v/v) 12-DHP, (7) 60% (v/v) 12-DHP.

$$\omega = \frac{2\pi rpm}{60} \tag{8}$$

The diffusion coefficient of Cu²⁺ ions, D, in different solutions was determined from the values of limiting current densities using Eisenberg equation [14]:

$$i_l = 0.0791 nF C_b U^{0.7} d_i^{-0.3} v^{-0.344} D^{0.644}$$
(9)

where C_b is the bulk concentration (mol·cm⁻³), U is the peripheral velocity = ωr in cm·rad·s⁻¹ (r is the radial distance in cm) or $U = 2\pi\omega r$ in cm·s⁻¹, d is the characteristic length for the rotating cylinder in cm, and v is the kinematic viscosity in stoke ($v = \eta/\rho$, η is the viscosity in g·cm⁻¹·s⁻¹ and ρ is the density in g·cm⁻³).

The diffusion coefficient; D, of Cu^{2+} ions in solutions containing alcohols decreases due to the increase in the interfacial viscosity [15], η , in accordance with the Stokes-Einstein equation:

$$\frac{\eta D}{T} = const. \tag{10}$$

To obtain an overall mass transfer correlation under the present conditions by using the method of dimensional analysis we suppose:

$$Sh = aRe^b \cdot Sc^c \tag{11}$$

where: Sh, Re and Sc are the Sherwood (Sh = kl/D), Reynolds (Re = lU/v) and Schmidt (Sc = v/D) numbers; respectively and a and b are empirical constants, c = 0.33 (indicating forced convection).

Table 6 summarizes the values of dimensionless groups (Sh, Sc and Re) at 298 K as an example of the data. By plotting $\log(Sh/Sc^{0.33})$ against $\log(Re)$, a straight line was obtained its slope gave the constant b while the intercept gives the other constant a. **Figure 7** shows the overall correlation at all experimental variables. Constants a and b were extracted by applying **Figure 7** on the data and the values are given in **Table 7**. The present results agree with the polarographic studies [16,17] conducted in solutions containing surfactants where it was found that the diffusion current decreases in

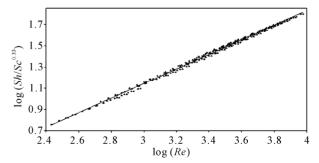


Figure 7. Overall mass transfer correlation under the present experimental variables.

Table 6. Dimensionless groups used in dimensional analysis for all solutions at 298 K.

	rpm	Sh = kl/D	Sc = v/D	Re = lU/v
	100	90	737	705
	200	155	858	1409
	300	212	941	2114
	400	257	914	2818
DI 1 00/ (/) 12 DVD	500	314	1029	3523
Blank, 0% (v/v) 12-DHP	600	364	1093	4228
	700	402	1068	4932
	800	448	1110	5637
	900	487	1117	6342
	1000	524	1115	7046
	100	130	2206	681
	200	218	2415	1362
	300	301	2671	2042
	400	371	2743	2723
	500	441	2859	3404
10% (v/v) 12-DHP	600	501	2859	4085
	700	562	2925	4765
	800	626	3048	5446
	900	686	3125	6127
	1000	741	3148	6808
	100	155	4669	594
	200	240	4131	1189
	300	329	4494	1783
	400	419	5014	2377
	500	494	5163	2971
20% (v/v) 12-DHP	600	558	5081	3566
	700	633	5337	4160
	800	701	5460	4754
	900	771	5659	5348
	1000	832	5701	5943
	100	140	4784	508
	200	252	6410	1016
	300	342	6820	1524
	400	436	7636	2032
30% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	511	7692	2540
	600	590	8072	3048
	700	657	8060	3556
	800	734	8466	4064
	900	810	8858	4572

	1000	873	8875	5080
	100	154	9167	420
	200	254	9512	840
	300	361	11499	1261
	400	446	11821	1681
	500	551	13821	2101
40% (v/v) 12-DHP	600	615	13180	2521
	700	705	14244	2941
	800	795	15357	3362
	900	870	15694	3782
	1000	948	16254	4202
	100	156	14145	342
	200	271	17071	684
	300	365	17816	1026
	400	472	20842	1368
500/ (/) 12 DUD	500	583	24300	1710
50% (v/v) 12-DHP	600	701	28481	2052
	700	774	27863	2394
	800	851	27930	2736
	900	953	30459	3078
	1000	1020	29928	3419
	100	171	29090	271
	200	315	41288	543
	300	437	46559	814
	400	527	44784	1086
60% (v/v) 12-DHP	500	637	49127	1357
00% (V/V) 12-DHF	600	731	50485	1629
	700	859	58635	1900
	800	904	52160	2172
	900	1028	59284	2443
	1000	1098	57975	2715
-				

Table 7. Dimensionless correlation constants a and b under experimental conditions.

	Constant a				Constant b			
_	298 K	303 K	308 K	313 K	298 K	303 K	308 K	313 K
Blank	0.1005	0.0990	0.0998	0.1017	0.7048	0.7062	0.7049	0.7018
10% 12-DHP	0.1039	0.1030	0.1029	0.1021	0.7040	0.7043	0.7037	0.7037
20% 12-DHP	0.1064	0.1030	0.1032	0.1047	0.7031	0.7062	0.7049	0.7019
30% 12-DHP	0.1047	0.1040	0.1038	0.1034	0.7065	0.7064	0.7059	0.7054
40% 12-DHP	0.1060	0.1040	0.1050	0.1051	0.7070	0.7084	0.7062	0.7053
50% 12-DHP	0.1058	0.1063	0.1057	0.1069	0.7094	0.7077	0.7074	0.7049
60% 12-DHP	0.1098	0.1134	0.1147	0.1139	0.7072	0.7018	0.6991	0.6994

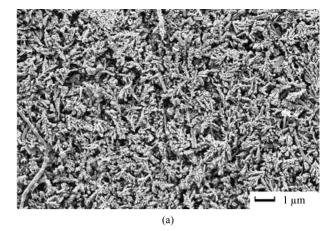
the presence of surfactants.

Overall, the data in this investigation were valid for 90 < Sh < 1098, 737 < Sc < 59284 and 271 < Re < 7046. In addition, the results fit the theme of a forced convection mechanism, which agrees very well with our previous study on the electrorefining of copper [2].

3.3. Morphology and Composition Analyses

The morphology of electrodeposited copper from acidic baths on poly or single crystal copper electrodes with and/or without additives has been widely studied [2,18, 19] and the results in this work were essentially similar. Since the concern was mainly the extraction and production of pure copper, all experiments were proceeded at the limiting current density that was determined for each solution and with time range 10 - 30 minutes, so it is expected that the morphologies of electrodeposited copper must be characterized by 3-D nucleation [20]. Concerning the type of solution with and/or without 12-DHP at different deposition time-periods, no unusual behaviour has occurred and the rate of copper electrodeposition increases by increasing time and reflects the same trend of the limiting current density. As for the influence of different amounts of 12-DHP, copper was deposited in very smooth and compact form up to 30% (v/v) 12-DHP as shown in Figure 8(a). The deposited copper from solutions of 40% - 60% (v/v) 12-DHP was rough and discontinuous as shown in Figure 8(b), which gives an idea about the behaviour of 12-DHP with its composition. Also, this compositional effect of 12-DHP confines with and proves the hypothesis of the departure percent, S. Regarding the temperature effect, and as stated that temperature is an important factor in the electrodeposition of metals [20]. The main features of the surface do not change with changing the temperature, only the deposit roughness as well as the crystallite size increases with increasing temperature.

High current densities or high cathodic overpotentials, accompanied by fast stirring rates can adversely affect electrodeposition process resulting in brittle deposits, which can comprise occlusions of additives and foreign materials [21]. Although, it was stated [22] that an increase of copper ion concentration or agitation increases the size of the particles and obscured their dendritic character, it was found dramatic changes occurred when rotation started, dendrite nodules were formed with high degree of discontinuity as well as very rough deposits as in case of 10% (v/v) 12-DHP solution at 200 rpm, Figure 9(a). The phenomenon of dendritic growth [23] may occur if the rate of the electrodeposition process is partially diffusion controlled, so, on a microrough surface,



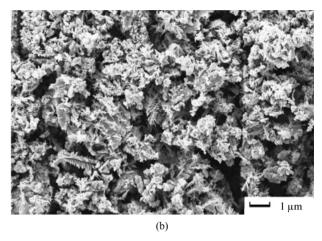
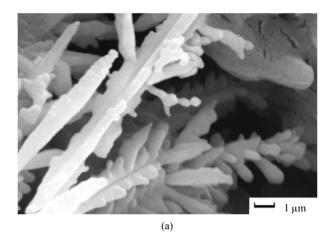


Figure 8. SEM micrographs of electrodeposited copper powder after 20 minutes at 298 K and zero rpm from (a) 30% (v/v) 12-DHP, (b) 40 - 60% (v/v) 12-DHP.

the rate of deposition at surface peaks will be greater than that at troughs. These surface non-uniformities therefore become more pronounced resulting, eventually, in the formation of macrorough deposits. The phenomenon of dendritic growth may also be related to differences in the rate of diffusion at different points on a surface. In the case of macrospiral growth, for instance, spherical diffusion to the tip of the spiral results in a higher rate of mass transport to this point and this may lead to dendritic growth. Contrarily to **Figure 9(a)** at 200 rpm, grape-like aggregates were formed with low degree of discontinuity at 1000 rpm in case of 10% (v/v) 12-DHP solution, **Figure 9(b)**.

Figure 10 gives the EDS analysis for some chosen specimens that represent most of the experimental conditions, which have been studied. The analysis indicated that the composition of the electrodeposited copper powder under different conditions for all blank solutions was mainly pure copper (94.56 at. %) and oxygen (5.44 at. %), while it was around 99 at. % copper and less than 1 at. % oxygen for all 12-DHP solutions. Tiny percent



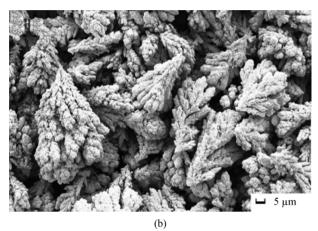


Figure 9. SEM micrographs of electrodeposited copper powder after 20 minutes from 10% (v/v) 12-DHP at 298 K and at (a) 200 rpm, (b) 1000 rpm.

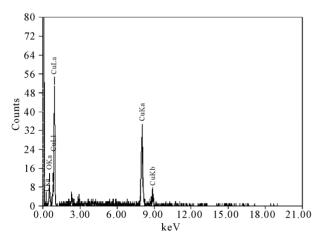


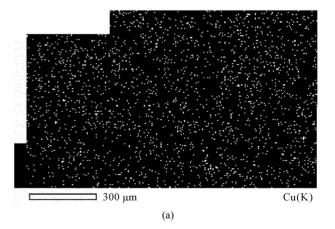
Figure 10. Deposit average EDS analysis.

age of silicon and carbon were present, which may be due to the occlusion of foreign materials [21], on one hand. On the other hand, the presence of silicon could be attributable to the attendance of some glass leftover from another specimen, while carbon is referable to the coat-

ing of specimen with carbon before the analysis. In addition, oxygen peak in **Figure 10** might caused by the oxidation of a negligible part of the deposit due to the high voltage used in the analysis. **Figure 11** represents the distribution of both copper and oxygen in the produced powder under different conditions, showing the mutual homogeneous distribution of both copper and oxygen.

XRD patterns of the deposited copper powder are presented in **Figure 12**, which summarizes all the three possible orientations in this study. This exhibits polycrystalline copper as deposited state with (111) as prominent plane parallel to the substrate. According to the standard PDF card (No. 04-0836) [2], all of the detected peaks are indexed as those from the cubic crystal [space group Fm3m (225)] with small two peaks that patterned for Cu₂O. Almost single orientation (111) was detected in case of 10 - 30% (v/v) 12-DHP, while three different orientations (111, 200 and 220) are obviously present when 40% - 60% (v/v) 12-DHP was added to the deposition mixture. The average crystallite size was calculated using Scherrer's equation:

$$CS = \frac{0.9\lambda}{B\cos\theta_{\scriptscriptstyle R}} \tag{2}$$



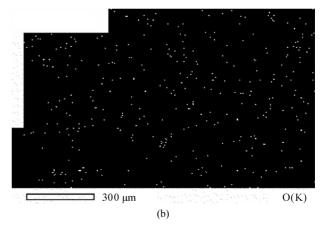


Figure 11. Atomic distribution of a) Cu(K) and b) O(K).

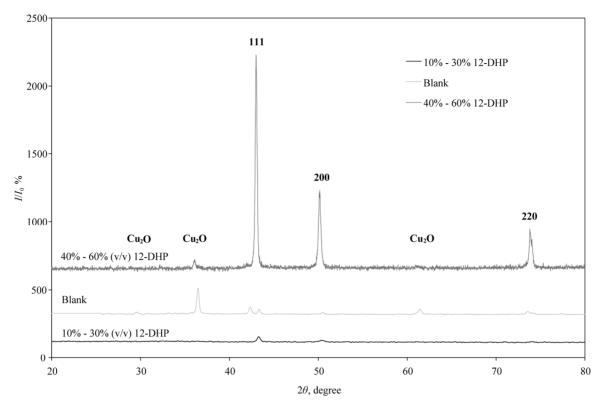


Figure 12. XRD patterns of all possible orientations for as deposited Cu powder at different experimental conditions.

where CS is the crystallite size in nm, λ is the wave length of X-ray radiation source (Cu K α_1 , $\lambda = 1.54056$), B is the full-width at half maximum and θ is the angle.

The average crystallite size of copper powder electrodeposited in absence of 12-DHP was ranged between 177.80 nm (at 298 K and 1000 rpm) and 10.04 nm (at 298 K and 0 rpm). In presence of 10% - 30% (v/v) 12-DHP the average crystallite size range was 250.6 nm (at 298 K and 1000 rpm) – 12.43 nm (at 298 K and 0 rpm), whereas it was 140.95 nm (at 298 K and 1000 rpm) – 7.14 nm (at 298 K and 0 rpm) on using 40% - 60% (v/v) 12-DHP. **Figure 13** shows the change of crystallite size; CS; with variation in the angular velocity; ω. A linear relationship was deduced in case of blank solution (equation 13), while exponential equations 14 and 15 govern the same relationship in case of 10% - 30% (v/v) 12-DHP and 40% - 60% (v/v) 12-DHP; respectively.

$$CS = 10.617 + 1.5507 \varpi$$
 (13)

$$CS = 10.957 e^{0.029 \, \overline{\omega}}$$
 (14)

$$CS = 8.3583 e^{0.0283 \varpi}$$
 (15)

4. Conclusions

From the present study concerning the electrowinning process of copper from acidified copper sulphate solu-

tions and in the presence of 12-DHP using the rotating cylinder electrode (RCE) the data were valid for 90 < Sh < 1098, 737 < Sc < 59284 and 271 < Re < 7046 and the results agreed with the previous studies of mass transfer to rotating cylinders in turbulent flow systems. Addition of 12-DHP to the sulphate electrodeposition bath increases the cathodic polarisation and decreases the value of the limiting current density, while it increases with increasing temperature and the speed of rotation. An empirical parameter called the departure percent, S, was obtained which may represent the stability of the organic additive in the given medium and under the experimental conditions. The percentage of inhibition, P, was in the range 0.00 - 89.91% depending on the concentration of 12-DHP as well as the temperature. Values of activation energy of electrodeposition process, Ea, were found to be less than 28 kJ mol⁻¹ indicating diffusion controlled process. Various crystallite sizes ranged 7.1 nm - 250.6 nm were obtained with three size categories of blank, 10% - 30 % (v/v) 12-DHP and 40% - 60% (v/v) 12-DHP solutions. The EDS elemental analysis and XRD diffraction patterns proved that the formed powders were pure copper with tiny percent of oxygen, silicon and carbon.

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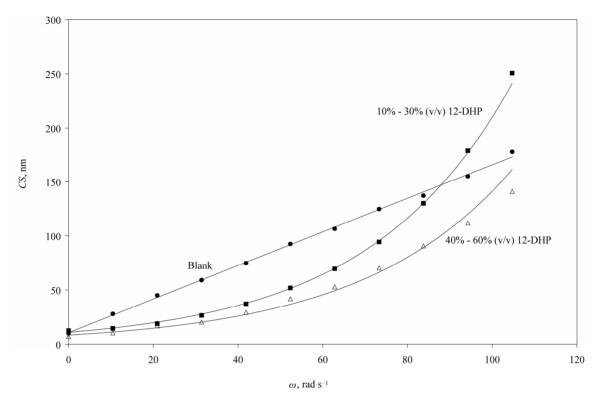


Figure 13. Variation of the crystallite size, CS, with the angular velocity, ω , at 298 K showing the three possible correlations in this study.

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