

# Reactive Dye Experiment

December 11th, 2016

Samantha Strandberg

## **Abstract:**

If one would soak textiles in a reactive dye then the natural textiles would have the greatest affinity to each of the dye bath. A fiber reactive dye is defined as dye molecules form a covalent bond with the fiber molecules. Washing cannot break dye-fabric molecule; it is permanent. It is expected that cellulose based fibers would have the greatest affinity for fiber reactive dyes due to the multitude of OH sites. Our variables used was with various assistants that were evaluate their effectiveness. One can conclude that there is a strong affinity to of reactive dye to natural textiles.

## **Introduction:**

The purpose of the experiment is to discover if one would soak textiles in a reactive dye then natural textiles would have the greatest affinity to each of the dye bath?

The component of salt acts as an electrolyte that decreases the solubility of the dye. This causes the dye molecules to move round and seek easier suitable dye-binding sites.

The second component used was Urea. Urea is used in two ways; to dissolve more dye in a given volume for the

strongest of colors and to serve as a water-attractor to help keep fabric damp long enough for the reaction to occur.

Hydroxyl part of the cellulose interacts with the dichlorotriazine part of the reactive dye molecule. The H bonds with the Cl, creating the rule of octet. The cellulose molecule, via oxygen, replaces the Cl on the dichlorotriazine of the dye molecule.

### **Apparatus:**

- Safety Glasses
- Rubber Gloves
- Plastic Apron
- Measuring Gloves
- Scales
- Glass Containers
- Glass Stirring Rods
- Beakers
- Hot Plates
- Permanent Black Ink Pens
- Needles and Threads
- 3 Full Swatch set of Fabric Samples
  1. Cotton
  2. Silk

3. Wool
4. Linen
5. Bamboo
6. Rayon
7. Jute
8. Nylon
9. Polyester
10. 64% Nylon, 32% Polyester, 4% Spandex

- Dyes, Soda Ash, Salt, and Urea
- pH Meters
- Wooden Clothespins
- Drying Racks
- Newspapers
- Thermometers

## **Procedures:**

### *Preparing The Liquid Dye Concentrate for Each Color:*

Created liquid dye concentrate in fume hood. Used warm water (30 degrees Celsius) that dissolved the urea. Added dye powder.

### *Preparing Soda Solution (Used for Pre-Soak):*

Dissolved soda ash in warm water (30 degrees Celsius).  
The recipe is as follows: Soda Ash – 18 grams & Water:  
800 mL

### *Sample Set 1:*

Pre-soaked swatch set with warm soda ash and water solution for 30 minutes at 30 degrees Celsius. The formula for this dye bath is as follows: water – 120 mL, urea – 7 grams, dye – 1 gram. Placed one swatch set in this beaker. Stirred occasionally for 30 minutes. Removed the swatches from the beaker. Rinsed swatches thoroughly with soap and water.

### *Sample Set 2:*

Pre-soaked the fabric with warm soda ash and water solution for 30 minutes at 30 degrees Celsius. The formula for this dye bath is as follows: water – 120 mL, non-iodized salt – 16 grams, dye – 1 gram. Placed one swatch set in this beaker. Stirred occasionally for 30 minutes. Removed

the swatches from the beaker. Rinsed them with soap and water.

### *Sample Set 3:*

Pre-soaked the fabric with warm soda ash and water solution for 30 minutes at 30 degrees Celsius. The formula for this dye bath is as follows: water – 120 mL, dye – 1 gram. Placed one swatch set in this beaker. Stirred occasionally for 30 minutes. Removed the swatches from the beaker. Rinsed them with soap and water.

### *Determining HSB and RGB:*

Took dyed swatches of both sets and compared it to the HSB/RGB chart at <http://www.colorpicker.com/>. Recorded the results to data chart.

### **Results/ Data:**

#### *Visual Assessment: Best Salt + Dye*

1. Silk

2. Jute
3. Rayon
4. Bamboo
5. Cotton
6. Linen
7. Wool
8. Nylon
9. 64% Nylon, 32% Polyester, 4% Spandex
10. Polyester

*Visual Assessment: Best Dye*

1. Silk
2. Rayon
3. Bamboo
4. Jute
5. Cotton
6. Linen
7. Wool
8. 64% Nylon, 32% Polyester, 4% Spandex
9. Polyester
10. Nylon

*Visual Assessment: Best Urea + Dye*

1. Silk
2. Rayon
3. Jute
4. Bamboo
5. Cotton
6. Linen
7. Wool
8. 64% Nylon, 32% Polyester, 4% Spandex
9. Polyester
10. Nylon





CHEMISTRY AND ART:  
TEXTILES AND DYES



LABORATORY EXERCISE 4: REACTIVE DYES

18g of Soda ash  $\rightarrow$  300 ml water, 30°C  
Soak all 3 sweaters

Beakers:

1. Sweater just dye + water
2. Sweater dye + salt + water
3. Sweater dye + Urea + water

120ml water H<sub>2</sub>O  $\rightarrow$  500ml H<sub>2</sub>O

4. 51pm put sweaters in beaker



DYE (DIE)

CHEMISTRY AND ART:  
TEXTILES AND DYES



TEXTILE	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5	T-6	T-7	T-8	T-9	T-10
DYE BATH TYPE:	100%in	50%in	100%in	100%in	50%in	100%in	100%in	100%in	100%in	100%in
TIME IN DYE BATH										
HUE (DEGREES) (1-359)	235	252	217	143	243	232	237	221	221	221
SATURATION(%) (1-99)	54	22	24	46	71	22	71	29	32	12
BRIGHTNESS (%) (1-99)	57	59	21	72	79	79	20	21	48	21
RED (1-254)	2	2								
GREEN (1-254)	202	150	212	64	144	144	204	247	250	202
BLUE (1-254)	35	12	111	10	55	2	5	20	15	209
	135	21	144	72	2	2	131	202	202	252



CHEMISTRY AND ART:  
TEXTILES AND DYES



TEXTILE	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5	T-6	T-7	T-8	T-9	T-10
DYE BATH TYPE:	Cotton	Silk	Wool	Viscose	Rayon	Acrylic	Nylon	Polyester	Spandex	Miscellaneous
TIME IN DYE BATH										
HUE (DEGREES) (1-359)	348	348	330	338	338	338	343	343	343	343
SATURATION(%) (1-99)	80	84	84	91	93	91	91	37	29	34
BRIGHTNESS (%) (1-99)	79	84	95	90	70	78	84	90	91	73
RED (1-254)	20	125	205	310	111	141	193	200	238	237
GREEN (1-254)	40	29	84	21	12	18	15	148	105	151
BLUE (1-254)	88	13	101	81	29	14	87	119	181	171













UREA  
(Luminescence)  
CHEMISTRY AND ART:  
TEXTILES AND DYES



TEXTILE	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5	T-6	T-7	T-8	T-9	T-10
DYE BATH TYPE:	Water	SW	Water	Water	Bath	Water	Water	Water	Water	Water
TIME IN DYE BATH										
HUE (DEGREES) (1-359)	352	352	352	305	344	345	345	345	345	340
SATURATION(%) (1-99)	54	40	62	73	90	91	88	78	78	53
BRIGHTNESS (%) (1-99)	91	98	100	94	92	53	88	99	94	90
RED (1-254)	232	173	255	240	235	209	209	244	250	230
GREEN (1-254)	140	24	146	65	11	19	77	15	109	154
BLUE (1-254)	173	44	142	108	94	72	71	77	182	111

SALT

Sam S

1. 100% COTTON 	2. 100% SILK 	3. 100% WOOL 
4. 100% LINEN 	5. 100% BAMBOO 	6. 100% RAYON 
7. 100% JUTE 	8. 100% NYLON 	9. 100% POLYESTER 
10. 64% NYLON/32% POLYESTER/4% SPANDEX 		

YE TYPE:

Dye

Sam's

1. 100% COTTON 	2. 100% SILK 	3. 100% WOOL 
4. 100% LINEN 	5. 100% BAMBOO 	6. 100% RAYON 
7. 100% JUTE 	8. 100% NYLON 	9. 100% POLYESTER 
10. 64% NYLON/32% POLYESTER/4% SPANDEX 		

DYE TYPE:

Uned

Sams

1. 100% COTTON



2. 100% SILK



3. 100% WOOL



4. 100% LINEN



5. 100% BAMBOO



6. 100% RAYON



7. 100% JUTE



8. 100% NYLON



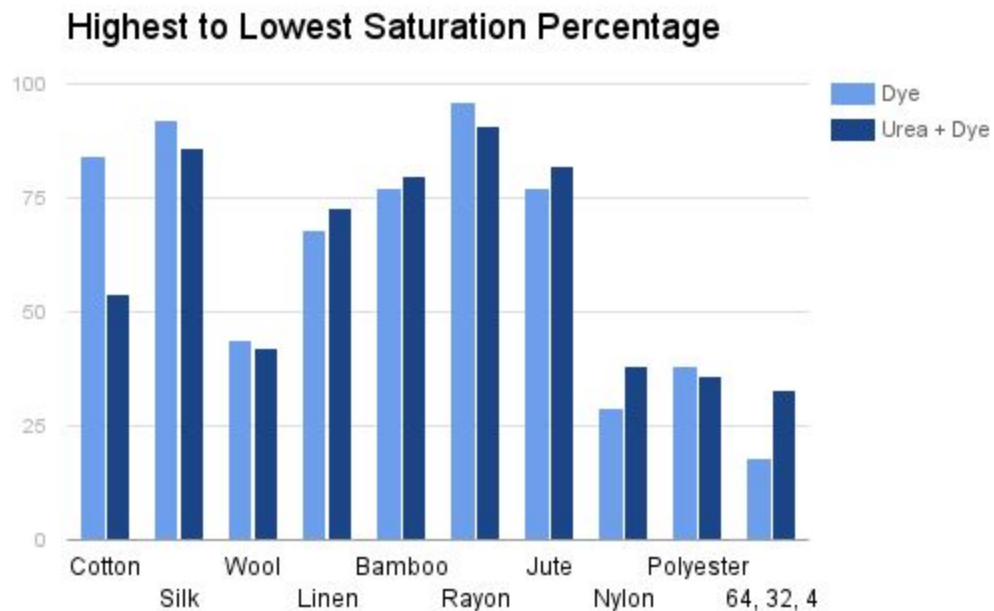
9. 100% POLYESTER



10. 64% NYLON/32%  
PANDEX



TYPE:



## Discussion/ Analysis:

*Interpret your data:*

From referencing the *Highest to Lowest Saturation Percentage*, column graph, that the natural textiles had the greatest affinity to the reactive dye. This is seen in especially Cotton, Silk, Linen, and Bamboo with the highest saturation.

From referencing the *Visual Assessment* portions of the data, Silk was ranked first with all three lab variables. As well, polyester was always in the bottom two.



### *Draw Conclusion:*

The reactive lab did validate my hypothesis that if one would soak textiles in a reactive dye then the natural textiles would have the greatest affinity to each of the dye bath. The experiment is validated because from the data taken, one can conclude that, natural textiles had the overall best averages, saturation, and most appealing to the eye which is scientifically backed by chemical process of dyeing. Chemical process that was demonstrated was when the hydroxyl part of the cellulose interacted with the dichlorotriazine part of the reactive dye molecule. The H bonds with the Cl, declaring that the rule of octet was fully established. The cellulose molecule, via the oxygen, replaces the Cl on the dichlorotriazine of the dye molecule.

### *Sources of Error:*

An error that happened was when comparing our textiles samples to a computer monitor while determining HSB and RGB. As well, in some areas, there were concentrated spots of dye on our swatches, especially on polyester.

### *Possible Improvements:*

If we did this lab again, I would turn my computer on the highest brightness setting to get a clear view of the screen while determining the data of the swatches. As well, conduct the data in a luminescent room. I would also be sure to sure the swatched evenly while in the dye bath and manipulate in such a way so even dispersement can take place with the reactive dye.

### **Conclusion: A Final Comment**

I concluded that there is a strong affinity to of reactive dye to natural textiles, especially with cellulose based fabric. Although there were minor set backs with the sources of error that occurred, I still draw the conclusion that salt and dye had overall the best affinity to the textiles compared to urea.