

Thermodynamic Properties of Calcium-Containing DPPA and DPPC Liposomes

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Abstract : The work is about the preparation of calcium-containing 1,2-Dipalmitoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine (DPPC) and 1,2-Dipalmitoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphatidic acid (DPPA) and their calorimetric study. We determined the possible structure of calcium-containing liposomes made by our new technology and determined their thermostability. The paper provides calculations showing how many phospholipid molecules are required to make a 200 nm diameter liposome. Calculations showed that 33×10^3 lipid molecules are needed to prepare one DPPA and DPPC liposome. Based on the calorimetric experiments, we determined that the structure of uncomplexed DPPA liposomes is unilaminar (one double layer), while DPPC liposome is a nanoparticle with a multilaminar (multilayer) structure. This was determined by the cooperativity of the heat absorption peak. Calorimetric studies of calcium liposomes made by our technology showed that calcium ions are placed in the multilaminar structure of the DPPC liposome. Calcium ions also formed a complex in the DPPA liposome structure; moreover, calcium made the DPPA liposome multilaminar since the cooperative narrow heat absorption peak was transformed into a three-peak heat absorption peak. Since both types of liposomes in complex with calcium ions present a multilaminar structure, where the number of lipid heads in one particle is large, the number of calcium ions in one particle will also be increased. That makes it possible to use these nanoparticles as transporters of a large amount of calcium ions in a living organism.

Keywords : calcium, liposomes, thermodynamic parameters, calorimetry

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