



## Green Spectrophotometric Method Development for the Estimation of Dapagliflozin and Glimepiride from the Pharmaceutical Dosage Form

Akash T. Kesare<sup>1</sup>, Shubham S. Ghogare<sup>1</sup>, Kshitij J. Salve<sup>1</sup>, Vilas B. Pawar<sup>1</sup>, Gurappa K. Dyade<sup>1</sup>,  
Rajendra S. Bandal<sup>1</sup>, Amit S. Lunkad<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dept of Post Graduate in Pharmaceutical Quality Assurance, SVPM'S College of Pharmacy, Malegaon (BKII)-413115 Baramati Dist Pune, Maharashtra, India

<sup>2</sup> Dept of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Sitabai Thite College of Pharmacy, Shirur (Ghodnadi)-412210 Dist Pune, Maharashtra, India

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### Abstract

The aim of the present research was to develop analytical method utilizing sustainable simple solvents which enhances solubility of analyte, sensitivity of the method etc. An absorption spectrophotometric method was developed for the estimation of dapagliflozin (DGZ) and Glimepiride (GMP) by using aqueous 0.1 N NaOH. Wavelengths 228 nm and 267 nm were selected for absorbance measurement of GMP and DGZ respectively. Effect of input variables on spectrum characteristics were studied for selection of critical parameters and developed method was validated as per ICH Q 2 R1 regulatory guidelines. Linearity of the drugs was ascertained over the conc range 20 to 200µg/ml and 1 to 24µg/ml for DGZ and GMP respectively. The accuracy was found within acceptable limit with standard deviation 2.6152 to 3.7114 for DGZ and 0.1155 to 1.6971 for GMP; and the assay study data was found 101.37 % for DGZ and 101.09 % for GMP. The stability of the method was studied by minor variation in the wavelength, scan speed. The developed method is rigid, robust and efficient for the estimation of DGZ and GMP from their combination. The effort was made to develop sustainable green analytical method utilising commonly available solvent for dapagliflozin and water insoluble drug glimepiride.

**Keywords** : Sustainable method, Dapagliflozin, Glimepiride, green solvent, absorption spectroscopy

### INTRODUCTION

Sustainable solvents are a topic of growing interest in both the research community and the chemical industry due to a growing awareness of the impact of solvents on pollution, environment. The prime objective of the present research was to use ecologically suitable solvent and to enhance the solubility of analyte. Aqueous solubility of a therapeutically active substance is a key property as it governs dissolution, absorption and thus the efficacy in vivo; and also restricts use of organic solvent in method development [1]. Articles [2, 3] are deliberately shows significance of agents like hydrotropes in solubilisation of very poor water soluble drug. The development of eco-friendly method by avoiding organic solvent could be termed as economical green method [4]. There is consistently pressure from environmental department to minimise hazardous and volatile solvent content in the waste which seriously affects environment. Use of hydrotropic solutions, supercritical fluids in the organic synthesis curbs use of organic solvent in view point of green chemistry [5]. Hydrotropes are capable of increasing the solubility of organic compounds up to 200 times in water [6]. In literature review it is revealed that green FT-IR method [7], eco-friendly method [8] is suitable for analytical purpose; and green analytical methods are preferred over analytical methods using harmful organic solvent for environment [9, 10]. Drugs dapagliflozin and glimepiride were selected for these research purpose studies due to wide difference in water solubility.

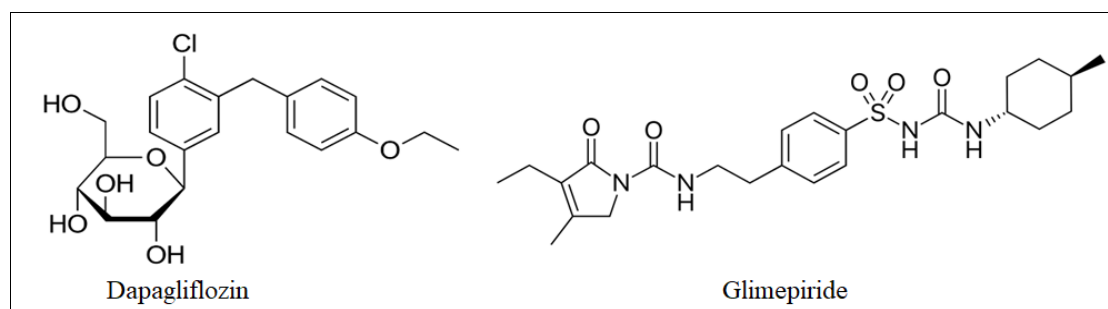
Dapagliflozin (DGZ) is a (1S)-1, 5-anhydro-1-C-[4-chloro-3-[(4-ethoxyphenyl) methyl] phenyl]-D-glucitol [11] antidiabetic and pharmacologically sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 inhibitor that enhances urinary excretion of glucose by suppressing renal glucose reabsorption. It is used as monotherapy or with other antidiabetic treatment, including insulin, in the management of type 2-diabetes [12].

Various analytical methods have been reported for the estimation of DGZ alone or in combination with other anti-diabetic agents in pharmaceutical dosage form includes lonely UV spectroscopic method [13], with other drug UV spectroscopic method [14-17], RP-HPLC methods [18, 19], stability indicating HPLC methods [20-23], bio analytical HPLC technique [24, 25], UHPLC bio analytical [26],

kinetic study UHPLC method [27], stability indicating UPLC method [28], UPLC DAD bio analytical [29], LC-MS/MS bio analytical method [30, 31] and critical review on bio analytical [32].

Glimepiride (GMP) is chemically 1-[[4-[2-(3-ethyl-4 methyl-2-oxo-3-pyrroline-1-carboxamido) ethyl] phenyl] sulphonyl]-3-*trans*-(4-methyl cyclo hexyl) urea [11, 33, 34] and is oral anti-diabetic II generation sulfonylurea class of drug promotes insulin release at ATP-sensitive potassium channels on pancreatic  $\beta$ -cells via binding to a 65 kDa subunits of the sulfonyl urea receptor [12]. It is used for the treatment of type 2 diabetes mellitus and has duration of action of up to 24 Hrs [12].

Various analytical methods have been reported for the estimation of GMP alone or in combination with other anti-diabetic agents in pharmaceutical dosage form includes lonely UV spectroscopic methods [35-38], Stability indicating RP-HPLC method [39], RP-HPLC methods [40-44], bio analytical HPLC chromatographic methods [45-46], LC-MS/MS analytical technique [47], Bio-analytical LC-MS/MS methods [48-54], clinical study of glimepiride [55], efficacy of drug [56], clinical study of drug [57, 58], efficacy of drug along with insulin [59]. The drug Glimepiride is official in both pharmacopoeia IP and BP [33, 34]. Chemical structure of both the drugs is shown in Fig No 1.



**Fig 1: Chemical structure of Drug molecule**

For analytical method validation ICH Q2 (R1) has given various method performance characteristics [60, 61].

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Instrumentation

Analysis was performed with a UV-1900i Shimadzu Double beam spectrophotometer (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan) with spectral bandwidth of 1 nm and wavelength accuracy of  $\pm 0.3$  nm with 10 mm matched Quartz cells was used. Drugs were weighed on electronic balance 'Afcoset' (The Bombay Burmah Trading corpo Ltd) with accuracy  $\pm 0.1$  mg Model No. ER 200A and Digital Ultrasonic cleaner 1.8 Ltr (Labman scientific Instruments Chennai) was used for degassing the solutions.

### Reagents and Chemicals

Pharmaceutically pure samples of Dapagliflozin from Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd Haridwar Uttarakhand and Glimepiride from Zim Laboratories, Kalmeshwar Dist. Nagpur were procured as a gift samples and the commercial pharmaceutical formulation containing DGZ and GMP was purchased from the local Pharmacy; and NaOH AR grade, laboratory distilled purified water were utilised for making the solvent.

### Solvent selection

Research article [62] was focused on techniques to be adopted while selection of suitable solvent. DGZ is freely soluble in alkaline, acidic solutions and soluble in water; also it is freely soluble in ethanol, DMSO and DMF. Similarly GMP is freely soluble in DMF, DMSO, dichloromethane, and chloroform; soluble in ethanol, slightly soluble in methanol, acetone, acetonitrile and dil alkali, dil acids, practically insoluble in water [12]. Although solubility of the procured drug was studied in 0.1 N HCL, water and 0.1 N NaOH; and to understand characteristic nature of spectra each solution of known conc of analyte was scanned in UV range. The recorded spectra in these solvents are shown in (Fig No 2 and 3). It was found that 0.1 N NaOH is suitable on the basis of common solubility and minimum/negligible interference at each other's wavelength.

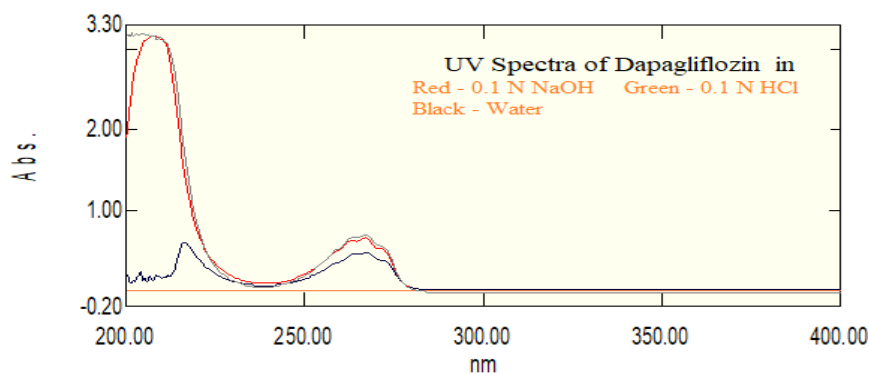


Fig 2: UV-VIS spectra of Dapagliflozin in selection of solvent study

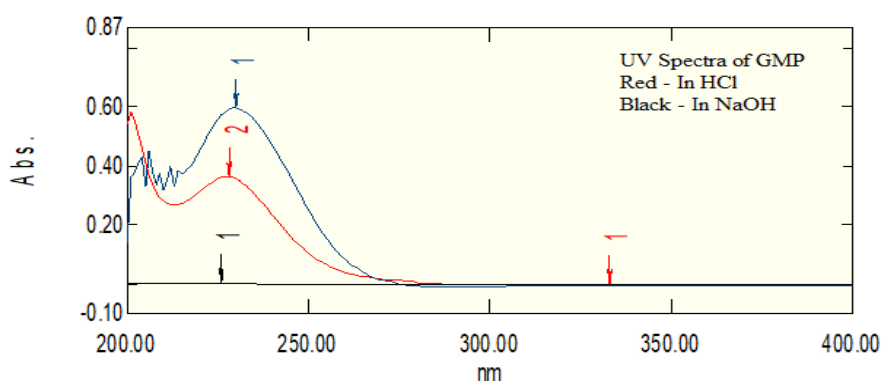


Fig 3: UV-VIS spectra of Glimepiride in selection of solvent study

### Selection of wavelength and conc range

From UV spectra it was found that DGZ and GMP have measurable absorbance at 267 and 228 nm respectively. From the nature of spectra working conc range 20 to 200 $\mu$ g/ml and 1 to 24 $\mu$ g/ml was selected in solvent for DGZ and GMP respectively.

Above discussed observations was guided to select critical parameters listed in Table No 1 and by using these; method was validated as per ICH guidelines and by analysing marketed preparations.

### Preparation of stock solutions and standard solutions

10 mg of pure drug DGZ and GMP were accurately and separately weighed; and transferred into separate 25 ml volumetric flask. Dissolved into 0.1 N NaOH solution and volume was made to 25 ml with solvent. Working standard solution of DGZ 100  $\mu$ g/ml and GMP 10  $\mu$ g/ml was obtained by diluting aliquot of stock solution.

Table No 1: Selected critical parameter for UV-VIS analytical method of DGZ and GMP

| Parameter         | Selected variables For DGZ | Selected variables For GMP |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Wavelength range  | 400-200 nm                 | 400-200 nm                 |
| Wavelength        | 267 nm                     | 228 nm                     |
| Solvent           | 0.1 N NaOH                 | 0.1 N NaOH                 |
| Scan speed        | Fast                       | Fast                       |
| Sampling interval | $\pm 0.2$ nm               | $\pm 0.2$ nm               |

### Experimental Method for estimation

From the overlain spectra it was found that many approaches of multicomponent analysis are applicable for simultaneous estimation of both these drugs. Among of this simultaneous equation method and absorption correction method was selected for estimation of DGZ and GMP from the combined dosage form.



**Method-I: Simultaneous equation method**

DGZ was shown absorbance at ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) 267 nm and GMP has maximum absorbance ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) at 228 nm. The wavelength 228 and 267 nm was considered as 1 ( $\lambda_1$ ) and 2 ( $\lambda_2$ ) respectively. The equation  $A = abc$  was applied for x (GMP) and y (DGZ) determination. On rearranging the 2 generated equations, the conc of x and y was calculated by following formula. Working standard solutions of GMP of conc 10  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  and DGZ of conc 100  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  were separately prepared and used for the method.

$$C_x = \frac{A_2 \cdot a_{y1} - A_1 \cdot a_{y2}}{a_{x2} \cdot a_{y1} - a_{x1} \cdot a_{y2}}$$

$$C_y = \frac{A_1 \cdot a_{x2} - A_2 \cdot a_{x1}}{a_{y1} \cdot a_{x2} - a_{y2} \cdot a_{x1}}$$

Where  $C_x$  and  $C_y$  = Conc of GMP and DGZ in sample solution

$A_1$  and  $A_2$  = absorbance of sample solution at 1 and 2 wavelength

$a_{y1}$  and  $a_{y2}$  = absorptivity of DGZ at 1 and 2 wavelength of standard solution

$a_{x1}$  and  $a_{x2}$  = absorptivity of GMP at 1 and 2 wavelength of standard solution

**Method-II Absorbance correction method**

DGZ was shown maximum absorbance at 267 nm; and GMP has maximum absorbance at 228. At 267 nm negligible absorbance of GMP was found hence this wavelength was suitable for exclusive measurement of DGZ; and 228 nm where DGZ shows moderate interference, which was corrected by absorbance correction. DGZ of different conc was made and absorbance measured, from 3 sets of measurement absorptivity of DGZ decided. The equation  $A = abc$  was applied for x (GMP) and y (DGZ) determination. Working standard solutions of GMP and DGZ having conc 10mcg/ml and 100mcg/ml respectively were separately prepared and used for the method.

At 267 nm  $A = a_{y2} \cdot b \cdot c_y$

Where  $A$  = absorbance of sample at 267 nm

$a_{y2}$  = absorptivity of drug at 267 nm

$b$  = Pathlength of solution 1 cm

$C_y$  = Conc of DGZ in sample

$$C_y = \frac{A_s - a_{x2} \cdot C_x}{a_{y2}}$$

At 228 nm  $A_s = A_1 + A_2$

$A_s = a_{x1} \cdot b \cdot C_x + a_{y1} \cdot b \cdot C_y$

On rearranging equation

$$C_X = \frac{A_s - a_{Y1} C_Y}{a_{X1}}$$

$A_s$  = absorbance of sample containing GMP and DGZ at 228 nm

$a_{X1}$  = absorptivity of GMP at 228 nm

$a_{Y1}$  = absorptivity of DGZ at 228 nm

$b$  = Pathlength of solution 1 cm

$C_x$  = Conc of GMP in sample

### Validation of the Method

Selected critical parameters should meet the performance characteristics of the analytical method so as to attain analytical target profile of the method. An ICH guideline Q2 R1 was applied to study methods performance with critical parameters in order to implement part of AQBd approach. The method was validated as per ICH guidelines.

### System suitability

System suitability is studied to demonstrate the suitability of the developed procedure under consideration for the analytical method. Six replicates of working standard solutions with conc 12 mcg/ml of GMP and 120 mcg/ml of DGZ were prepared separately and absorbance was recorded, and SD and % RSD of the response was calculated.

### Linearity

The linearity of an analytical method is its ability to obtain response i.e. absorbance which is directly proportional to the conc of analyte. Series of working standard solutions were prepared in conc. range of 1-24 $\mu$ g/ml for GMP and 20-200 $\mu$ g/ml for DGZ and scanned in 200 to 400 nm range in spectrum mode of the spectrophotometer, absorbance of the standard solutions were recorded at their respective wavelength; i.e. 228 for GMP and 267 nm for DGZ in spectrum order. Microsoft office excel software tool was used to obtain the standard regression curve and its analysis as slope, intercept, and correlation coefficient.

### Assay of formulation

Assay was carried out by proposed methods and assay was validated by statistical parameters.

### Estimation of combination by simultaneous equation method

Powder equivalent to 1 mg GMP and 10 mg DGZ was weighed and transferred into 25 ml volumetric flask. Dissolved into 0.1 N NaOH and volume was made to 25ml with solvent. Solution was filtered through what man filter paper and aliquots of solution were further diluted to obtain tablet solution. Solution was scanned in the range of 200 to 400 nm to obtain absorbance of tablet solution at 228 and 267 nm in spectrum order. Obtained absorbance were utilised to estimate unknown conc of formulation; and results were statistically validated to obtain % of nominal conc, standard deviation and % of RSD.

### Accuracy and Precision

The accuracy of an analytical method expresses the closeness of an agreement between test result and true result. Accuracy study was performed by recovery study i.e. standard addition method; diluted standard solutions of GMP and DGZ were prepared and standard solutions added in 80,100 and 120% proportionate to the tablet solution. Three replicates at each of these three levels were prepared and measured and % of conc, SD and RSD were calculated.

The precision study was carried out by performing assay of tablet six times; also the reproducibility in result was studied by inter day and intraday precision.

### Limit of Detection (LOD) and Limit of Quantitation (LOQ)

The LOD and LOQ of GMP and DGZ by the proposed method were determined using calibration graph method and calculated as  $3.3\sigma/s$  and  $10\sigma/s$  for LOD and LOQ respectively;  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation of calibration curve and  $s$  is the slope of regression line.

### Robustness and Ruggedness

It is measure of capacity of analytical procedure to remain unaffected by small but deliberate variations in method parameter.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

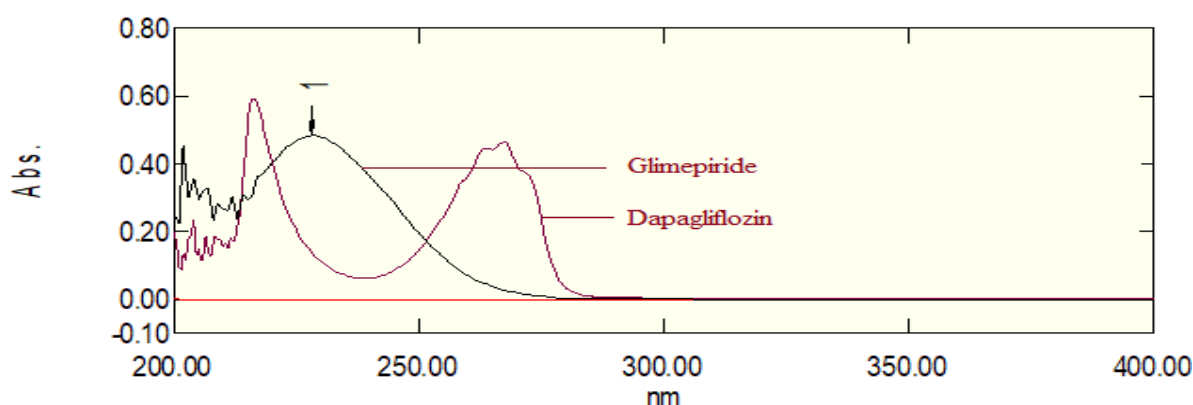
Method development comprises numerous steps; of which solvent selection, method for measurement selection are significant one. Uses of eco-friendly solvents have got remarkable weightage due to low cost, readily available and environmentally sound. Drugs underlying analysis must have appreciable solubility in the selected solvent. Chemical structure of the drug and physico-chemical properties available in the literature guides about use of appropriate solvent in the method. Solubility of GMP and DGZ was studied in each solvent; and in 0.1 N NaOH solvent both drugs were shown maximum and consistent absorbance as compare to other solvent.

### System Suitability

The absorbances of six replicates of standard solutions) are reported in Table No 2 and overlaid spectra of both drug is shown in Fig No 4 (120 and 12  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ . The SD was found for DGZ and GMP within acceptable limit and meets the system suitability requirements indicates method was suitable for analysis.

**Table No 2: System suitability study of DGZ and GMP**

| S N | Conc in $\mu\text{g/ml}$ | Absorbance of DGZ | Conc in $\mu\text{g/ml}$ | Absorbance of GMP |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1   | 120 $\mu\text{g/ml}$     | 0.464             | 12 $\mu\text{g/ml}$      | 0.582             |
| 2   | 120 $\mu\text{g/ml}$     | 0.488             | 12 $\mu\text{g/ml}$      | 0.572             |
| 3   | 120 $\mu\text{g/ml}$     | 0.453             | 12 $\mu\text{g/ml}$      | 0.571             |
| 4   | 120 $\mu\text{g/ml}$     | 0.454             | 12 $\mu\text{g/ml}$      | 0.590             |
| 5   | 120 $\mu\text{g/ml}$     | 0.484             | 12 $\mu\text{g/ml}$      | 0.577             |
| 6   | 120 $\mu\text{g/ml}$     | 0.467             | 12 $\mu\text{g/ml}$      | 0.592             |
|     | SD                       | 0.01478           | SD                       | 0.008936          |



**Fig No 4: Overlain spectra of GMP and DGZ in spectrum mode**

### Linearity

The overlay spectra obtained in linearity study was shown in Fig No 5 and 6 and the obtained calibration curve of both analytes was found to be linear in the selected conc range as shown in Fig No 7. The regression equation of line and its parameters slope,  $r^2$  value and intercept are tabulated in Table No 3, which proved the linear relationship between conc and obtained response.

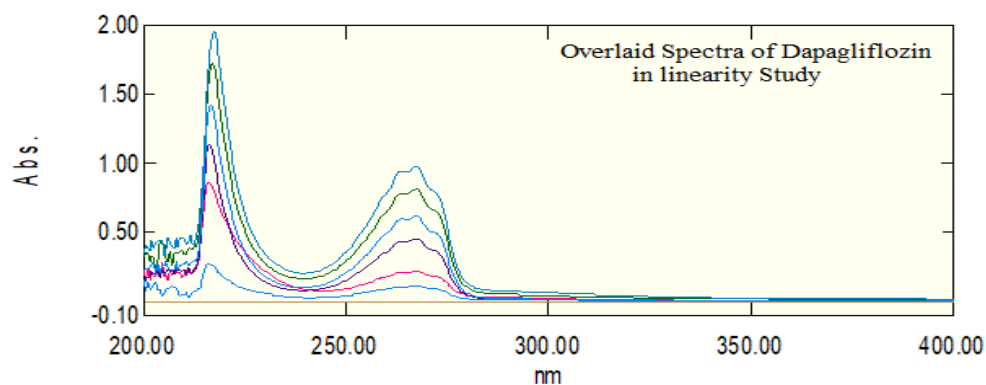


Fig 5: UV-VIS overlain spectra of DGZ in linearity study

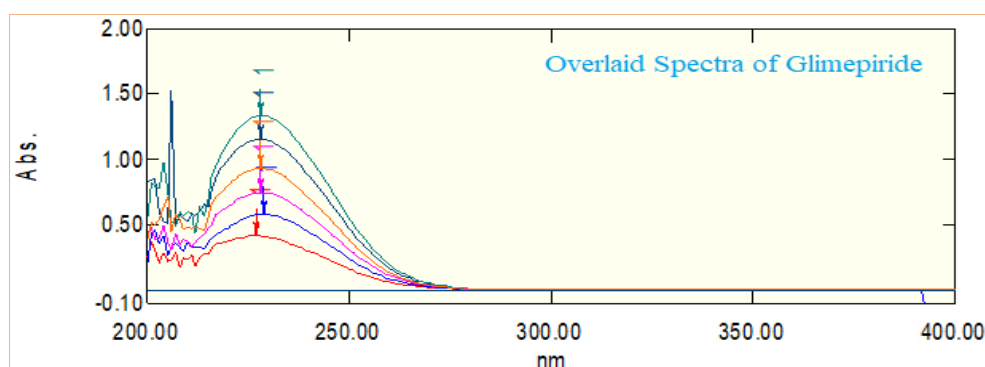


Fig 6: UV-VIS overlain spectra of GMP in linearity study

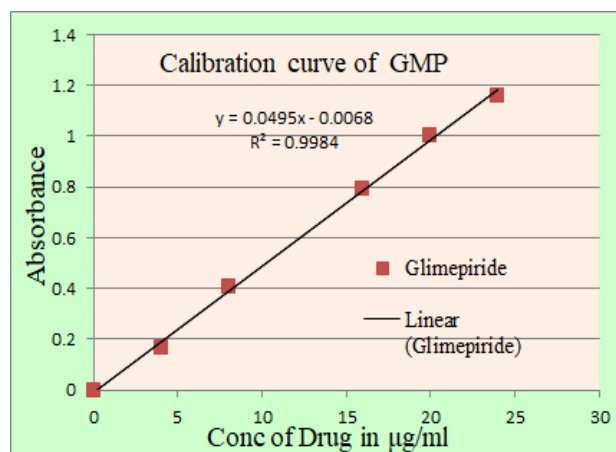
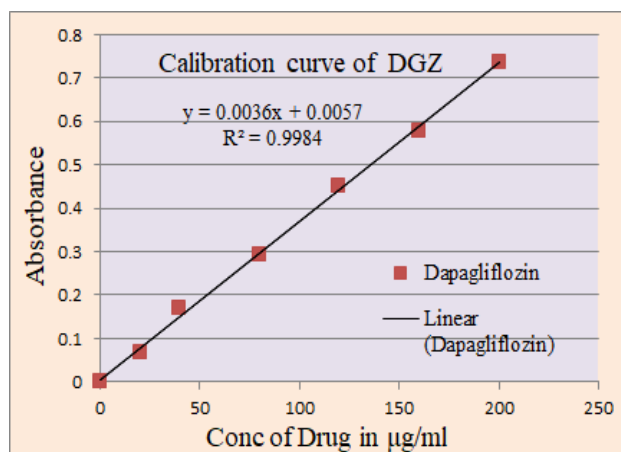


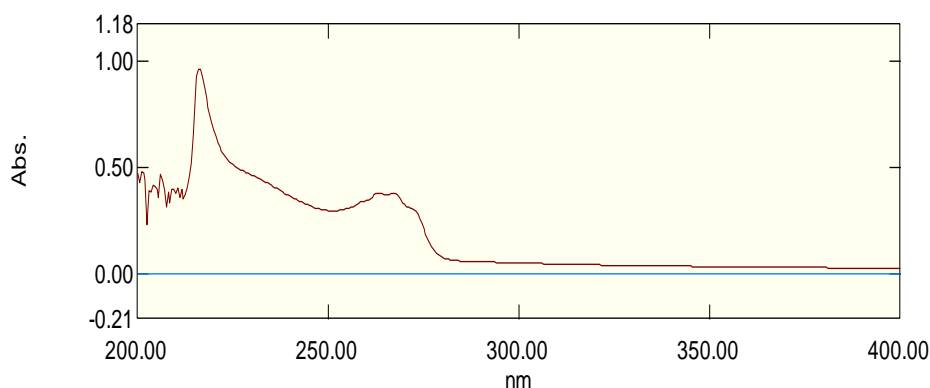
Fig 7: Calibration curve of Dapagliflozin and Glimepiride

Table No 3: Parameters of regression equation obtained in Microsoft excel office

| Parameters                                | DGZ              | GMP              |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Detection wavelength                      | 267 nm           | 228 nm           |
| Beer's law limit (µg/ml)                  | 20-200 µg/ml     | 1-24 µg/ml       |
| Correlation coefficient (r <sup>2</sup> ) | 0.9934           | 0.9984           |
| Regression equation (y = mx + c)          | y=0.0036x+0.0057 | y=0.0495x-0.0068 |

#### Assay

The assay was carried out by both the methods. The spectra of formulation was obtained (Shown in Fig No 8) and calculated % of nominal conc and SD, data was found within acceptable limits are summarized in Table No 4. The results indicated applicability of the method for estimation of formulation.



**Fig 8: UV-VIS spectra of Formulation**

**Table No 4: Results of assay of formulation by proposed method**

| Name        | Drug | Label Claim (mg/Tablet) | Amount found/mg; n=6 | Drug Content % | Std Deviation | % RSD  |
|-------------|------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|--------|
| Formulation | DGZ  | 10 mg                   | 10.13 mg             | 101.37         | 2.3624        | 1.9418 |
|             | GMP  | 1 mg                    | 1.012 mg             | 101.09         | 4.6703        | 4.5792 |

**Accuracy and Precision**

The results of accuracy are summarised in Table No 5a of method I and 5b of method II, the obtained results were within acceptable limit; and methods accuracy was justified by calculating % drug content. The precision study was carried out by performing assay of solutions; further the reproducibility in result was studied by interday and intraday precision. The values obtained SD and % RSD was shown methods precision and are summarised in Table No 5a and 5b.

**Table No 5a: Results of accuracy and precision for method -I**

| Sr No            | Parameter              | Level of study     | Data Title       | Obtd. Data | S.D.   | RSD    |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------|--------|--------|
| 1<br>(Method -I) | Precision study of DGZ | Intraday Precision | Mean of Abs n= 6 | 106.89     | 3.5101 | 3.2901 |
|                  |                        | Interday precision |                  | 98.37      | 2.0615 | 2.0956 |
|                  | Precision study of GPE | Intraday Precision | Mean of Abs n= 6 | 98.87      | 1.5003 | 1.5173 |
|                  |                        | Interday precision |                  | 98.02      | 1.3715 | 1.3991 |
| 2<br>(Method -I) | Accuracy study of GPE  | 80%                | % Purity found   | 99.96      | 0.1155 | 0.1556 |
|                  |                        | 100%               |                  | 106.33     | 0.7560 | 0.7115 |
|                  |                        | 120%               |                  | 106.61     | 1.6971 | 1.5919 |
|                  | Accuracy study of DGZ  | 80 %               | % Purity         | 99.34      | 3.1961 | 3.2172 |
|                  |                        | 100 %              |                  | 102.66     | 3.7141 | 3.6176 |
|                  |                        | 120 %              |                  | 102.81     | 2.6152 | 2.5441 |

**Table No 5b: Results of accuracy and precision for method-II**

| Sr No            | Parameter              | Level of study     | Data Title       | Obtd. Data | S.D.   | RSD    |
|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------|--------|--------|
| 1<br>(Method-II) | Precision study of DGZ | Intraday Precision | Mean of Abs n= 6 | 102.174    | 1.6959 | 1.6598 |
|                  |                        | Interday precision |                  | 101.391    | 2.4661 | 2.4322 |
|                  | Precision study of GPE | Intraday Precision | Mean of Abs n= 6 | 102.527    | 1.8334 | 1.7931 |
|                  |                        | Interday precision |                  | 98.388     | 0.8273 | 0.8409 |
| 2<br>(Method-II) | Accuracy study of GPE  | 80%                | % Purity found   | 97.04      | 1.7607 | 1.8143 |
|                  |                        | 100%               |                  | 99.16      | 2.1709 | 2.1892 |
|                  |                        | 120%               |                  | 96.93      | 6.0677 | 6.2595 |
|                  | Accuracy study of DGZ  | 80 %               | % Purity         | 99.68      | 3.1475 | 3.1575 |
|                  |                        | 100 %              |                  | 102.18     | 2.1808 | 2.1343 |
|                  |                        | 120 %              |                  | 100.04     | 4.2002 | 4.1985 |





### Limit of Detection (LOD) and Limit of Quantitation (LOQ)

The LOD and LOQ of DGZ and GMP by the proposed method were found within acceptable limit.

### Robustness and Ruggedness

Robustness was studied and capacity of analytical procedure to measure analyte was remain unaffected by small but deliberate variations in method parameter like variation in the wavelength  $\pm 1$  nm, variation in the solvent strength by  $\pm 0.1$  %. The analytical method was found rugged during development; similarity the result was produced by performing the analysis by different analyst.

### CONCLUSION

Both the methods were developed with eco-friendly, readily available and economical aqueous 0.1 N NaOH solvent for the estimation of Dapagliflozin and Glimepiride from the combination and obtained results were found satisfactory. The simultaneous equation method was given reproducible results as compare to absorption correction method; however obtained results of both the methods were within acceptable limits given in the pharmacopoeia. The validated method is economical, precise, accurate, robust and reproducible hence can be routinely used for estimation of both the drugs concurrently.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All Authors declared that there is no conflict of interest.

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**Conflict of Interest Statement:**

The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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