

# Spectrophotometric determination of furosemide drug in different formulations using schiff's bases

## Abstract

Simple, accurate and reproducible UV spectrophotometric method was established for the assay of Furosemide based on the formation of Schiff's bases coupling with aromatic aldehydes such as benzaldehyde, salicylaldehyde, 2-methoxy benzaldehyde, anisaldehyde, vanilline, 2,3,4-chlorobenzaldehyde, 4-nitro benzaldehyde and dimethylaminobenzaldehyde in presence of sulphuric acid. The optical characteristics such as Beer's law limits, molar absorptivity and Sandell's sensitivity for the methods are given. Regression analysis using the method of least squares was made to evaluate the slope (b), intercept (a) and correlation coefficient (r) and standard error of estimation (SE) for each aldehyde. Determination of furosemide in bulk form and in pharmaceutical formulations was also incorporated.

**Keywords:** schiff's bases; furosemide; benzaldehyde; salicylaldehyde; 2-methoxy benzaldehyde; anisaldehyde; vanilline; 2,3,4-chlorobenzaldehyde

Volume 1 Issue 6 - 2015

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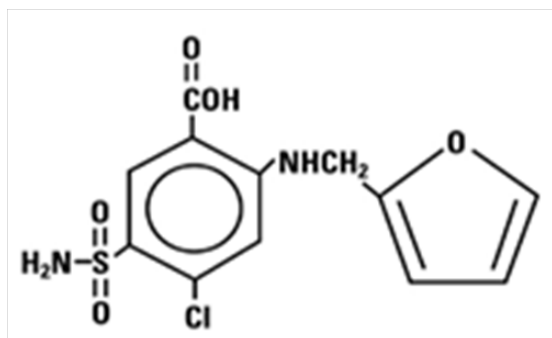
**Received:** October 30, 2015 | **Published:** December 21, 2015

## Abbreviations

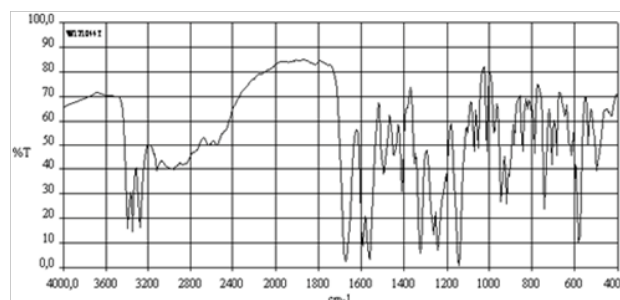
SE, Standard Error of Estimation; Fu, Furosemide; Bz, Benzaldehyde; Sa, Salicylaldehyde; Va, Vanillin; DMAbz, Dimethyl Amino Benzaldehyde

## Introduction

Furosemide (Fu) chemical name is 5-(aminosulfonyl)-4-chloro-2-[(2-furanyl methyl)amino]benzoic acid (Figure 1).<sup>1</sup> It has the following generic names: Frusemide, Fursemide, Aisemide, Beronald, Desdimin, Lasilix and others. The empirical formula is C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S corresponds to molecular weight of 330.77. Furosemide is a white to slightly yellow, odourless, almost tasteless crystalline powder, slightly soluble in water, chloroform and ether<sup>2</sup> soluble in acetone, methanol, dimethyl formamide<sup>1</sup> and in solutions of alkali hydroxides.<sup>2</sup> Its melting point is 206°C, the pH of the aqueous solution is in the range 8.9 to 9.3. The UV spectrum of furosemide (0.01mg/ml) in 0.1N NaOH was scanned from 190 to 400 nm using DMS 90 Varian spectrophotometer. It exhibited two maxima at 226 and 272nm. The infrared absorption spectrum for furosemide is shown in Figure 2. Several methods have been reported for the determination of the components of this important drug (furosemide). Titrimetric methods,<sup>3-7</sup> Potentiometric methods<sup>8,9</sup> Ultraviolet methods,<sup>10-16</sup> Colorimetric methods.<sup>17-35</sup>



**Figure 1** 5-(aminosulfonyl)-4-chloro-2-[(2-furanyl methyl) amino] benzoic acid.



**Figure 2** IR spectrum of furosemide.

## Aim of work

The aim of the present study is to develop a simple and accurate method for the selective determination Furosemide in pharmaceutical dosage forms using simple UV technique that can be applied for drug quality control or determination of this active ingredient in different samples.

## Experimental

### I. Materials

All chemicals used in this investigation were of the highest purity available. They included Furosemide (Fu), sulphuric acid, and absolute ethanol. The aromatic aldehydes are: benzaldehyde (Bz), salicylaldehyde (Sa), 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (anisaldehyde) (4An), 2-methoxybenzaldehyde (2An), 3-methoxy-4-hydroxybenzaldehyde (vanillin) (Va), 2-chlorobenzaldehyde (2Cbz), 3-chlorobenzaldehyde (3Cbz), 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (4Cbz), 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (4Nbz), and dimethylaminobenzaldehyde (DMAbz). Potassium bromide (IR Spectroscopy grade). (Fu) was of analytical or pharmaceutical grades. Octosemide tablets 40mg/tab. (October Pharma for pharmaceutical products, 6<sup>th</sup> of October city, Egypt. Lasix ampoules 20mg/amp and Lasix tablets 40mg/tab. (Aventis Pharma Company for pharmaceutical products, Morocco). Spectrally chemically pure grade methanol, chloroform, benzene and dichloromethane are purchased from Scharlau, Spain and were used without further purification.

## II. Solutions

### i. Solutions of Fu

3,1.1 and  $2 \times 10^{-3}$ M Solutions of Fu, were prepared by dissolving the calculated weights 24.8, 9.1 and 16.53 mg respectively in 250mL of methanol.

### ii. Solutions of aromatic aldehydes

$1 \times 10^{-2}$ M solutions of Bz, Sa, 4An, Va, 2Cbz, 3Cbz and 4Cbz were prepared by dissolving accurately weighed 265.3, 305.3, 340.4, 380.0, 351.4mg respectively in 250mL volumetric flasks and completing to volume by the desired solvents (Methanol, Chloroform, Benzene and Dichloromethane).

### iii. Ethanolic sulphuric acid solution

0.5% Ethanolic sulphuric acid v/v solution was prepared by adding 1 mL of concentrated sulphuric acid to 140 mL of absolute ethanol in 200 mL volumetric flask, the solution was mixed well and completed to volume with absolute ethanol.

## iv. Spectral measurements

All spectral and absorbance measurements were carried out at 25°C by the aid of a SHIMADZUE 160 recording spectrophotometer, using 1cm matched quartz cells. Ftir Shimadzue Model (FTIR 8300) HYPER 1.5 Software version, using KBr Liquid cell.

## III. Spectrophotometric determination of furosemide

### General procedure

In 100mL beaker, an aliquot of standard Fu solution containing (Fu) as mentioned in Table 1 was transferred, 4mL of the recommended solvents were added, then 5mL of the aromatic aldehyde solution ( $1 \times 10^{-2}$ M) was added in the same solvent, the described volume of ethanolic  $H_2SO_4$  solution 0.5% (v/v) was added and completed to 15mL with the same solvent, heat in a boiling water bath for (13-35) min. for the formation of the corresponding Schiff bases. Cool, transfer quantitatively the residual volume to 5mL measuring flask, complete to the mark with the same solvent and measure the absorbance at the corresponding  $\lambda_{max}$  as mentioned in Table 1.

**Table 1** Optimum experimental conditions used for the formation of studied furosemide Schiff bases.

	Solvent	Bz	Sa	4An	2An	Va	2Cbz	3Cbz	4Cbz
[Fu]µg/ml	1	20-100	10-100	May-40	20-100	2.5-60	20-100*	20-100	20-100*
	2								
	3	20-100	10-100	May-40	20-100	2.5-60	20-100	20-100	20-100
	4								
Reagent volume ml	1	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4
	2	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4
	3	5	5	5	4	4	5	5	5
	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Acid medium 0.5%v/v (ml)	1	4	1	3	3	2	4	4	4
	2	4	1	3	3	2		2	
	3	5	1	3	3	3	2	2	2
	4	4	2	3	3	3	2	2	2
Boiling temp°C		100							
Heating Time(min.)	1	24	24	23	25	20	22	23	23
	2	15	15	14-Dec	14-Dec	13	20	13	20
	3	35	25	23	23	23	25	25	25
	4	10	9	10	10	10	10	9	9
λ <sub>mn</sub> .xam	1	620	620	620	620	620	705	625	705
	2	620	510	640	640	620	705	705	705
	3	625	530	640	640	620	705	705	705
	4	700	640	640	640	620	705	630	630

1, Methanol; 2, Chloroform; 3, Benzene; 4, Dichloromethane

\*In case of 2Cbz and 4Cbz no Formation of Color Occurred using Chloroform.

### Preparation of the samples for scanning their IR spectra

Furosemide (Fu) has been scanned as KBr disc as usual in the range  $4000\text{cm}^{-1}$  to  $200\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The obtained spectrum was correlated

with that reported in Anal Profiles.<sup>1</sup> Both Benzaldehyde (Bz) and the formed Schiff bases have been injected in the liquid cell of the IR spectrophotometer and scanned from  $4000\text{cm}^{-1}$  to  $200\text{cm}^{-1}$  respectively (Figures 3 & 4).

#### IV. Analytical Applications

##### i. Furosemide tables

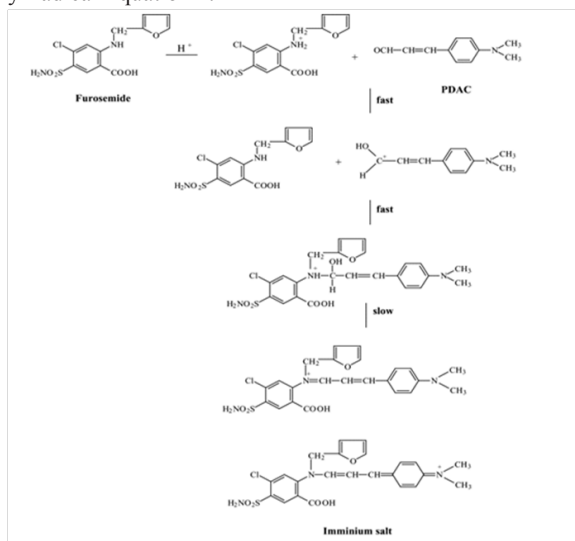
Ground tablets containing 40mg of furosemide (octosemide), (lasix) were ultrasonically dissolved in methanol. The solution was diluted to 200mL with methanol, then filtered; an aliquot of 5mL is diluted to 100mL, so that 1mL of this solution is equivalent to 10 $\mu$ g/mL of Fu. The previous procedure is applied exactly as mentioned in the general procedure.

##### ii. Furosemide ampoules

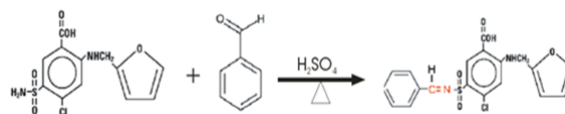
The available Furosemide ampoules, claimed to contain 20mg Fu, are in the sodium salts water soluble form. For this sake, about 1mL of 1M HCl drop-wisely was added till the complete precipitation of the free base, then the solution was filtered and the precipitate is washed with distilled water (3 times), then the precipitate was dried in a drying oven at 80°C for 15min. After being cooled, transfer the precipitate to 200mL volumetric flask with methanol and complete to the mark. An aliquot of 10mL was diluted to 100 with methanol. 1mL is equivalent to 10 $\mu$ g/mL Fu. Then proceed exactly as mentioned in the general procedure.

### Results and discussion

The determination of Fu is very important from the point of view of drug analysis. In spite of the availability of different methods for the determination of furosemide which are of higher accuracy and reproducibility, the method of its determination through the formation of Schiff's bases is very simple, accurate reproducible and needs no sophisticated instruments, only a simple spectrophotometer can perform the determination effectively. A single spectrophotometric method<sup>18</sup> for the determination of the drug involving Schiff's bases formation with single aromatic aldehyde viz. p-dimethyl amino cinnamaldehyde in 65% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> containing FeCl<sub>3</sub> to produce an intensely color measurable at 530nm has been published. Gotardo et al.,<sup>31</sup> determined furosemide in pharmaceutical formulations by diffuse reflectance spectroscopy through the formation of the intense violet color of the spot test obtained by the reaction of furosemide with p-dimethyl amino cinnamaldehyde in acid medium at 585nm in the range 7.56 x 10<sup>-3</sup> to 6.005 x 10<sup>-2</sup> molL<sup>-1</sup> of the Fu standard solution with a detection limit of 2.49 x 10<sup>-3</sup> molL<sup>-1</sup>. The formed colour was due to the quinonid structure of the imino nitrogen, attached to furanyl methyl radical Equation 1.



While in the present method, the formed color was attributed to the formation of the Schiff's bases formed from the condensation of the aldehydic groups of the studied aldehydes with the 5-Sulfanoyl anthranilic acid Equation 2.



The IR spectra for Furosemid (Figure 2), benzaldehyde (Figure 3) and the formed Schiff's base (Figure 4) reveal clearly the formation of Schiff's bases as proved by the appearance of the azomethine function -C=N at 1654cm<sup>-1</sup> reported to give intense absorption in the range from 1690 to 1640cm<sup>-1</sup>.

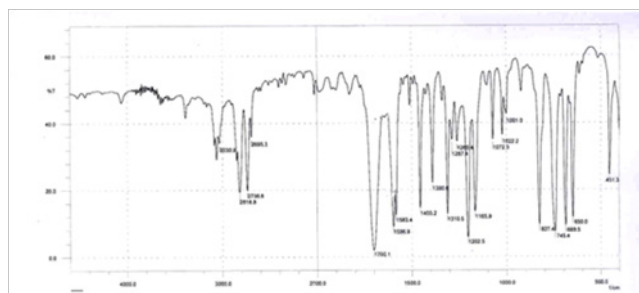


Figure 3 IR spectrum of benzaldehyde.

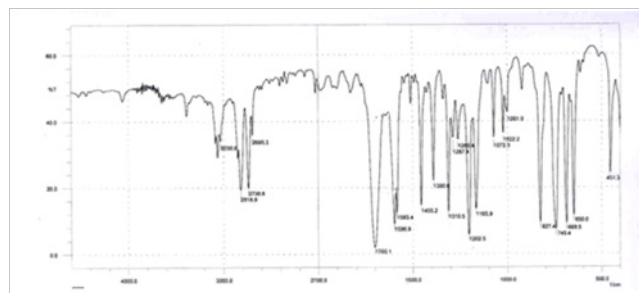


Figure 4 IR Spectrum of Furosemide Schiff's bases with Bz.

Proved also by the weakening or even the disappearance of the amino group -NH<sub>2</sub> reported to absorb in the range 3500-3200cm<sup>-1</sup>. In addition, the Narrow -SO<sub>2</sub> group band reported to absorb in the range 1200-1050cm<sup>-1</sup>, has been appeared as a broad band at 1220cm<sup>-1</sup> as a result of being neighboring to the bulky azomethine group with its attached aldehyde. The UV spectrum of the formed Schiff's bases in the visible range gives high intensity band of deep green color at different wavelengths according to the studied aldehydes (Figures 5 & 6).

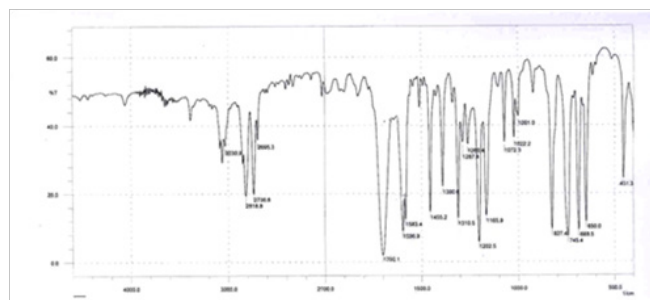
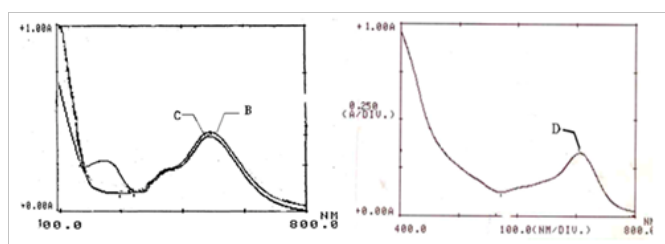


Figure 5 Absorption Spectrum of Fu (10 $\mu$ g/ml) in Methanol.



**Figure 6** Formation for Schiff's bases using different Aldehydes with Fu Drug. B, C and D Schiff's bases with Bz, 4An and 4Cbz, respectively in methanol.

The determination of Fu by formation of the Schiff's bases method was optimized by investigation of the factors affecting the formation of the colored compounds. These factors were the effect of acidity, effect of the type of the aromatic aldehyde, optimization of the heating time in the water bath, effect of temperature, effect of time on the color development and stability of the formed Schiff's bases, determination of  $\lambda_{max}$  of the colored product, effect of Fu concentration and obedience to Beer's law and effect of interfering species. Thus a systematic study of determination of Fu through Schiff's bases reaction is investigated.

**Table 2** Effect of time on the formation of furosemide schiff bases.

Time (min.)	Absorbance							
	Bz 620nm	Sa 620nm	4An 620nm	2An 620nm	Va 620nm	2Cbz 705nm	3Cbz 625nm	4Cbz 705nm
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	0.154	0	0	0
19	0.118	0.172	0	0	0.264	0	0.124	0
20	0.337	0.253	0	0	0.397	0.098	0.255	0.111
21	0.409	0.344	0.422	0.112	0.502	0.212	0.389	0.201
22	0.489	0.42	0.52	0.269	0.502	0.346	0.419	0.356
23	0.546	0.438	0.529	0.283	0.502	0.345	0.419	0.356
24	0.546	0.437	0.529	0.283		0.346	0.397	0.356
25	0.545	0.438		0.283			0.387	

### Effect of time on the stability of the formed color

After complete colour development, the reaction mixture was left to stand for 5 minutes to allow cooling before the measurement, after

Ten aromatic aldehydes have been used in Schiff's bases formation viz., Bz, Sa, 4An, 2An, Va, 2Cbz, 3Cbz, 4Cbz, 4Nbz. and Dmabz. The effect of sulphuric acid concentration was checked using different volumes (0.1mL-7mL) of sulphuric acid (0.5%v/v) in ethanol, the procedure was conducted as mentioned in the experimental part. The results indicated that 4mL (0.5% v/v) ethanolic  $H_2SO_4$  was sufficient for achieving maximum absorbance values in the case of Bz, Sa, 4An, 2An, 2Cbz and 4Cbz, while 3mL is found sufficient in the case of Va and 3Cbz. Also the sequences of addition (drug-reagent-acid), (drug-acid-reagent) and (reagent-acid-drug) were tested and all lead to the formation of Schiff's bases. The best sequence of addition was (drugs-reagent-acid) which gives the highest absorbance.

### Effect of the residence time over the steam bath on the reaction

As previously mentioned, the best temperature for the formation Schiff's bases is boiling water bath (100°C). The optimum time required for the complete formation at this temperature was investigated, as shown in Table 2. The time required for formation of the Schiff's bases is 23min. for the majority with the used aldehydes except with 2Cbz, 3Cbz and 4Cbz which required 22min. while with Va 21min is sufficient for the formation of the Schiff bases.

which the colour remains stable for  $\approx 45$ min depending on the used aromatic aldehydes.

### Effect of solvents

The type of solvent employed affects both the wavelength and intensity of maximum absorption. Table 3 shows the effect of methanol, chloroform, benzene, and dichloromethane, on the intensity

of maximum absorption which was very high in the case of using Va as the aromatic aldehyde, and dichloromethane as the organic solvent while, on the contrary, the intensity was very low in the case of benzene and chloroform as solvents.

**Table 3** Effect of different solvents on absorption.

Solvent		Methanol	Chloroform	Benzene	Dichloromethane
Bz	l nm	620	620	625	700
	e x14	4.6	5.8	3.7	5.3
Sa	l nm	620	510	530	640
	e x14	4.3	4.5	1.71	8.2
4An	l nm	620	640	640	640
	e x14	14	1.9	3.3	3.6
2An	L nm	620	640	640	640
	e x14	3.3	1.01	3.3	3.6
Va	L nm	620	620	620	620
	e x14	12	25	8.9	18
3Cbz	l nm	620	640	705	705
	e x14	5.9	5.7	1.3	3.4
2Cbz	l nm	705	-	705	630
	e x14	3.5	-	1.5	3.3
4Cbz	l nm	705	-	705	630
	e x14	5.2	-	1.5	3.3

### Selectivity

To demonstrate the selectivity of the proposed methods, the interfering effects of various compounds were examined by the determination 10µg/mL of Fu in the presence of povidone K30 only as exceptient where it is soluble in methanol and passes through filtration step. So the interfering of povidone was studied. Its effect on the results does not exceed 0.5% in the case of bz.

### Effect of furosemide concentration

Under the optimum conditions, the effect of variation of Fu concentration was investigated. Keeping the aromatic aldehyde concentration constant at  $1 \times 10^{-2} M$ , the absorbance increased as the Fu

concentration increased. These results indicate that, the variation of the absorbance with [Fu] is a straight line passing through the origin i.e., obeys Beer's law up to the concentration of 4.8µg/mL in case of Bz, Sa and 3Cbz at 620, 620 and 625nm, respectively and up to 4µg/mL in the case of 2An, 2Cbz and 4Cbz at 620, 705, and 705nm respectively. While in the case of 4An and Va, [Fu] can be determined only up to 1.6µg/mL and 2.4µg/ml at 620nm. The optical characteristics such as Beer's law limits, molar absorptivity and Sandell's sensitivity for the methods are given in Table 4. Regression analysis using the method of least squares was made to evaluate the slope (b), intercept (a) and correlation coefficient (r) and standard error of estimation (SE) for each aldehyde.

**Table 4** Analytical data of the determination of furosemide through formation of schiff's bases using methanol as solvent.

Parameters	Reagents							
	Bz	Sa	4An	2An	Va	2Cbz	3Cbz	4Cbz
lmax (nm)	620	620	620	620	620	705	625	705
B'L (µg/ml)	0.9-4.8	0.9-4.8	0.2-1.6	0.8-4.8	0.2-2.4	1.6-4.8	0.9-4.8	0.9-4.8
Slope (a)	0.161	0.134	0.417	0.094	0.381	0.108	0.176	0.153
(e) x106	0.487	0.403	1.26	0.285	1.152	0.326	0.532	0.463
Ss(µg cm-2)	0.0062	0.0075	0.0024	0.0106	0.0026	0.0093	0.0057	0.0065
Rb (µg/ml)	4.01-1.30	4.70-1.58	2.60-1.46	7.19-2.40	2.00-1.08	6.60-2.35	3.58-1.10	4.00-1.56
Intercept	0.0011	0.0057	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cc	0.99	0.998	0.995	0.989	0.998	0.998	0.999	0.995
RSD%	0.533	0.521	0.82	0.769	0.592	0.762	0.722	0.411
DL (µg/ml)	0.82	0.45	0.179	0.504	0.184	1.23	0.27	0.615

B'L, Beer's Law; (E), Molar Absorptivity; Ss, Sandell's Sensitivity; Rb, Ringbom; Cc, Correlation Coefficient, DL, Detection limit

**Precision and accuracy of the proposed methods**

Five replicates of standard solutions containing 4 different concentrations of Fu were prepared. The overall relative standard

deviations were 0.359, 1.016, 1.605, 1.187, 0.686, 1.235, 0.614 and 1.109 for the formed Schiff's bases with Bz, Sa, 4An, 2An, Va, 2Cbz, 3Cbz and 3Cbz reagents respectively. The results are given in Table 5.

**Table 5** Tests of recovery of the method on samples of pure drug.

Reagents	[Fu] ( $\mu\text{g}/5\text{ml}$ )		% Recovery	
	Taken	Mean Found $\pm$ SD	RSD%	
Benzaldehyde	8	8.0025 $\pm$ 0.041	0.512	100.03
	12	12.035 $\pm$ 0.059	0.49	100.3
	16	16.095 $\pm$ 0.052	0.323	100.5
	20	20.137 $\pm$ 0.023	0.114	100.6
Mean			0.359	
Salicylaldehyde	8	7.975 $\pm$ 0.037	0.464	99.68
	12	12.035 $\pm$ 0.057	0.474	100.3
	16	15.88 $\pm$ 0.312	1.965	99.2
	20	20.04 $\pm$ 0.233	1.162	99.84
Mean			1.016	
4-Methoxy Benzaldehyde	2	2.005 $\pm$ 0.033	1.64	100.25
	4	3.982 $\pm$ 0.063	1.58	99.5
	6	6.007 $\pm$ 0.114	1.89	100.12
	8	8.0725 $\pm$ 0.106	1.31	100.9
Mean			1.605	
2-Methoxy Benzaldehyde	4	3.977 $\pm$ 0.052	1.31	99.43
	8	7.92 $\pm$ 0.155	1.95	98.96
	12	12.077 $\pm$ 0.066	0.546	100.46
	16	15.88 $\pm$ 0.150	0.944	99.26
Mean			1.187	
Vanilline	2	2.007 $\pm$ 0.025	1.245	100.3
	4	4.000 $\pm$ 0.016	0.4	100
	6	6.02 $\pm$ 0.046	0.764	100.33
	8	8.0225 $\pm$ 0.027	0.336	100.28
Mean			0.686	
2-Chlorobenzaldehyde	8	8.041 $\pm$ 0.135	1.67	98.96
	12	12.087 $\pm$ 0.065	0.537	100.64
	16	16.26 $\pm$ 0.307	1.888	99.26
	20	19.977 $\pm$ 0.169	0.845	99.88
Mean			1.235	
3-Chlorobenzaldehyde	8	7.972 $\pm$ 0.082	1.028	99.62
	12	12.04 $\pm$ 0.100	0.83	100.33
	16	15.94 $\pm$ 0.019	0.119	99.26
	20	20.025 $\pm$ 0.096	0.479	100.12
Mean			0.614	
4-Chlorobenzaldehyde	8	7.95 $\pm$ 0.063	0.792	99.37
	12	11.98 $\pm$ 0.068	0.567	99.83
	16	16.16 $\pm$ 0.235	1.454	100.81
	20	20.005 $\pm$ 0.325	1.624	100.02
Mean			1.109	



## Analytical applications

Octosemide tables and lasix ampoules: The absorbance of the formed Schiff's bases was measured at  $\lambda_{\max}$  corresponding to the used aromatic aldehydes as illustrated in Table 1. The concentration was calculated from the previously constructed calibration curves. Average recovery was 98.2% and RSD % range (0.6-1.3). The absorbance of the formed Schiff's bases was measured at  $\lambda_{\max}$  620nm and was referred to pre constructed calibration curves. Average recoveries were 100.9 and RSD% range (1.54-1.98). Table 6 represents the obtained data using benzaldehyde reagent.

**Table 6** Tests of precision of the method on pharmaceutical preparations.

Dosage form	[Fu]mg/5ml		RSD %	Recovery %
	Taken	Mean found $\pm$ SD		
Octosemide tab.	10	9.28 $\pm$ 0.124	1.325	92.8
	15	14.53 $\pm$ 0.153	1.053	96.87
	20	20.99 $\pm$ 0.126	0.6	104.95
Mean			0.993	98.206
Lasix tab.	10	10.21 $\pm$ 0.219	2.145	102.1
	15	16.06 $\pm$ 0.033	0.205	107.07
	20	19.99 $\pm$ 0.232	1.161	99.95
Mean			1.17	103.039
Lasix amp.	10	9.17 $\pm$ 0.182	1.985	91.7
	15	16.28 $\pm$ 0.287	1.763	108.53
	20	21.12 $\pm$ 0.326	1.544	105.6
Mean			1.779	100.944

## Conclusion

In spite of the availability of variety of methods for the determination of furosemide which are of higher accuracy and reproducibility, however this work has been devoted to determine the Fu drug in different pharmaceuticals formulation, using a bench apparatus compared to the previously reported methods.<sup>18,31</sup> No need for sophisticated instruments, only a simple spectrophotometer can perform the determination effectively, using different commercially available reagents, based on the formation of different Schiff's bases produced from the reaction of Furosemide with a number of aromatic aldehydes. This procedure can be easily adopted for routine quality control analysis of tablet dosage forms without interference from the excipients or others.

## Acknowledgments

None.

## Conflicts of interest

The author declares that there are no conflicts of interest.

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