# A preliminary study of reverse-micelle dyeing of polyester/cotton blended fabric – medium energy disperse dye approach

Chi-wai Kan, Alan Yiu-lun Tang, Cheng-hao Lee and Yanming Wang School of Fashion and Textiles, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong Corresponding author: tccwk@polyu.edu.hk

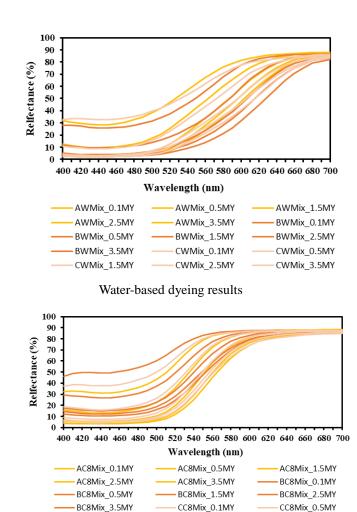
#### Abstract

In this work, reverse micelle dyeing system proposes a novel dyeing approach for dyeing polyester/cotton (T/C) blended fabric with different T/C ratios of 32/68, 40/60 and 65/35. Warm type reactive dyes and medium energy disperse dyes were used for dyeing cotton and polyester part respectively. The dyeing was conducted in a one-bath one-step dyeing process and the experimental results revealed that this dyeing approach can achieved a better colour yield than conventional two-step aqueous dyeing system ( $130^{\circ}$ C for disperse dyeing and  $70^{\circ}$ C for reactive dyeing).

## Keywords: One-bath dyeing, polyester/cotton blends, medium energy disperse dye, reactive dye, reverse micelle

### **Content:**

In this work, one-bath one-step dyeing of polyester/cotton blend carried was out using poly(ethylene glycol)-based reverse micelle as dye carrier in non-aqueous solvent using octane. Polyester/cotton blend fabrics with different T/C fibre content ratios (32/68, 40/60 and 65/35) were used in the dyeing system using a mixture of medium energy disperse dyes and warm type reactive dyes. Both disperse and reactive dyes were encapsulated in the core of the PEG-based reverse micelle under mild dyeing conditions. The colour reflectance findings revealed that one-bath one-step dyed polyester/cotton blend fabric in octane presents better colour shade property than that of conventional two-step water dyed fabric (130°C for disperse dyeing and 70°C for reactive dyeing). The results obtained from this study suggest that the reverse micellar dyeing of polyester/cotton blend can be achieved in one step without consumption of water.



Reverse micelle-based dyeing results

CC8Mix\_2.5MY

CC8Mix\_3.5MY

#### Acknowledgement

CC8Mix\_1.5MY

Authors would like to thank the financial support from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University for this work (Account code: R-ZDCC).