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# Green corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys: a review†

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This review summarises the research work published in the last two decades on the use of natural compounds as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and aluminium alloys in different solutions. Herein, plant extracts, gums, drugs, and oils have been considered as green corrosion inhibitors. The advantages and disadvantages of the methods used to obtain green corrosion inhibitors are presented. Additionally, the inhibition effectiveness of these corrosion inhibitors, including the techniques used to evaluate them and the respective inhibition mechanisms, are discussed. Finally, a critical evaluation is presented together with the outlook as regards possible future improvements.

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## 1. Introduction

Corrosion-related costs represent up to a few percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) of the most developed countries in the world,<sup>1</sup> which can sometimes be close to what is spent on, for example, public education or healthcare. Due to this reason, corrosion and its related phenomena have always been of great interest to the scientific community.

Aluminium is found in its ionic form in most kinds of animal and plant tissues and in natural waters everywhere.<sup>2</sup> It is the third most prevalent element and the most abundant metal in the earth's crust, representing approximately 8% of total mineral components.<sup>3</sup> Dietary aluminium is ubiquitous but exists in such small quantities that it is not a significant source of concern in humans with normal elimination capacity.<sup>4</sup> The most important feature of aluminium is its high strength to weight ratio. Its high electrical and thermal conductivity, in addition to its relatively low price, make aluminium very attractive in various applications.<sup>5</sup> The mechanical properties of pure aluminium can be significantly improved by adding different elements forming alloys. Several alloy series have been developed. The type and amount of the elements added influence not only the mechanical properties, but also the corrosion resistance of aluminium alloys. The higher the purity of the alloy, the less susceptible it is to pitting corrosion. Therefore, it is of great importance to know the chemical composition of the aluminium alloy. The natural products summarised in this

review article have been tested as corrosion inhibitors for various types of aluminium alloys. However, in the majority of the cases the authors do not designate the alloy type. Moreover, in some cases the chemical composition of the same alloy type, obtained by different providers, it is not the same. Therefore, in Table S1 (in the ESI†) we present the chemical composition and respective designation (as reported by the authors) for the tested aluminium alloys.

In terms of corrosion, aluminium by itself is not resistant, however if an oxide layer is formed on the surface, it becomes highly resistant to corrosive attack in various media. However, when exposed to acidic, alkaline, and chloride-containing media, the oxide layer is damaged, exposing the aluminium materials to the attack of the corrosive environment.<sup>6,7</sup>

Different methods can be employed to protect aluminium and its alloys. For closed systems or sometimes even under flowing conditions, it is convenient to employ corrosion inhibitors. A corrosion inhibitor is a chemical compound that is added to the corrosive medium in very small amounts (usually up to 1 wt%). These compounds then adsorb on the metallic surface and mitigate corrosion. The performance of corrosion inhibitors is usually evaluated from the calculation of the inhibition effectiveness, *i.e.* a percentage calculation of the corrosion rate relative to the medium without a corrosion inhibitor. Herein, the corrosion rate is usually related to weight loss (how much mass of the sample is lost after the corrosion tests) and hydrogen evolution (the volume of released hydrogen is measured). These two techniques were the most frequently employed methods to evaluate corrosion inhibition effectiveness.

In order to increase the performance of a corrosion inhibitor, a mixture of surfactant(s), solvent(s), and intensifier(s) is usually blended. This mixture is then called a corrosion inhibitor formulation.<sup>8</sup> A corrosion inhibitor is usually effective for

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a certain metallic material in a particular environment and even minor change can cause it to become ineffective. Even though some models (especially quantum chemical calculations) are lately being developed to forecast corrosion inhibition effectiveness, for the moment, empirical tests are still the most reliable methods in corrosion inhibition effectiveness research. This is due to the fact that the inhibition mechanisms of these compounds on metallic surfaces are frequently not well known.

Organic compounds are frequently used as corrosion inhibitors. However, the toxicity of organic compounds combined with their low cost and availability, have made natural products an excellent alternative as possible corrosion inhibitors. Furthermore, the care for the environment by using sustainable resources abundant in nature is already of paramount importance and will have an increasing impact on society and the well-being of people. As a result, natural products will become even more important in the near future. As shown herein, natural compounds have already been extensively employed as useful substitutes for synthetic materials in different corrosion inhibition applications. The authors reported herein designate the employed inhibitors as green, eco-friendly or environmentally acceptable. Several groups of natural compounds have been investigated as possible corrosion inhibitors for aluminium materials. Fig. 1 shows the distribution of the research work published in the last two decades on these groups of products, which are presented in this review article. The majority of these studies have been focused on plant extracts. The main constituents of the plant extracts have been reported to be a wide variety of organic compounds, including polyphenols, terpenes, carboxylic acids and alkaloids. Therefore, most of these compounds contain P, N, S, O atoms and multiple bonds in their structure, which serve as bonding centres for their adsorption on the surface of the aluminium materials. Some of these compounds have the ability to inhibit microbial development as they can act as very

effective reactive oxygen scavengers. Polyphenol-based extracts seem to satisfy most of the demands of a composite anti-corrosion/anti-biodeterioration product, in addition to having the advantage of being less toxic than other plant extracts, *e.g.* alkaloid extracts. However, there is always the question of the stability of these extracts in the conditions tested as corrosion inhibitors.<sup>1</sup>

Gums and natural oils are two other groups of green corrosion inhibitors obtained from plants. In this review, drugs are considered to be green compounds as they are actually consumed by humans, however, as pointed out below, their consumed dosage is always questionable and therefore their use as green corrosion inhibitors might be questionable as well.

Several studies reported that the use of synergists, mainly KI and other halides (KBr and KCl) in combination with these green inhibitors, further enhances their corrosion inhibition efficiency.<sup>9–17</sup> The authors usually explain this phenomenon with the fact that the cation of the inhibitor adsorbs on the metal surface where the halide ions are strongly adsorbed. The adsorbed ions are stabilized through electrostatic interaction with the inhibitor molecules which leads to increase surface coverage, and therefore higher corrosion inhibition efficiency.<sup>18</sup>

Given the complexity of the field, there is still a “barrier” between research and application. Much more research should be done regarding the analytical and micro-biological characterisation assessments of natural products tested as new eco-friendly materials protecting products for both purposes, practical and scientific, in order to achieve quality control thereof and the effectiveness of certain phytochemicals.<sup>19,20</sup>

In the following text, we discuss the research work performed on different types of green corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys. Detailed information on the type of natural product and aluminium material tested, as well as the testing conditions (the corrosive environment and temperature), the inhibition effectiveness values (as reported by the authors), and the techniques used to evaluate them, are presented in Tables 1–8.

Recently, we presented two extensive reviews covering the use of organic compounds as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys in acidic<sup>6</sup> as well as in chloride and alkaline solutions.<sup>7</sup> Both mentioned review articles summarise the research work published on this topic after the review of Jayalakshmi and Muralidharan<sup>21</sup> in 1997 (covering organic and green corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys in various solutions). Several attempts have been made before to present the application of natural products as green corrosion inhibitors.<sup>22–29</sup> However, these reviews discussed either green inhibitors for different metals (including aluminium and its alloys)<sup>22–26,29</sup> or only certain types of green inhibitors (for example extracts) for aluminium materials.<sup>27,28</sup> To the best of our knowledge, such a comprehensive summary covering all types of green corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and aluminium alloys alone, as reported herein, has not been published in the last two decades.

This review first discusses the use of plant extracts, followed by gums, oils, and drugs employed as green corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys. Finally, the outlook as regards

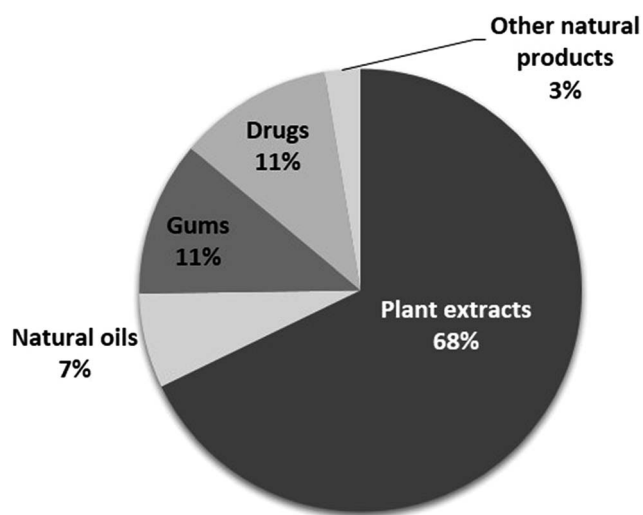


Fig. 1 Distribution of the research work performed in the last two decades on natural products as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys presented in this review.





**Table 1** The inhibition effectiveness of different extracts (extracted with organic solvents) tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and different aluminium alloys in various solutions. The inhibition effectiveness values are reported as given in the article. In instances where different techniques were used for the determination of the inhibition effectiveness, the range from the minimum to the maximum values reported in the article is reported below in this table

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
Al (composition NG)	<i>Capparis decidua</i> fruit extract in ethyl alcohol	0.08–0.40 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N HCl	32.27–98.48	WL at room temperature	46
Al (composition NG)	<i>Capparis decidua</i> stem bark extract in ethyl alcohol	0.08–0.40 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N HCl	25.42–95.52	WL at room temperature	46
Al (composition NG)	<i>Capparis decidua</i> root bark extract in ethyl alcohol	0.08–0.40 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N HCl	27.74–94.79	WL at room temperature	46
Al (composition NG)	<i>Capparis decidua</i> fruit extract in ethyl alcohol	0.08–0.40 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	23.10–81.76	WL at room temperature	46
Al (composition NG)	<i>Capparis decidua</i> stem bark extract in ethyl alcohol	0.08–0.40 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	15.86–82.37	WL at room temperature	46
Al (composition NG)	<i>Capparis decidua</i> root bark extract in ethyl alcohol	0.08–0.40 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	18.91–83.50	WL at room temperature	46
AA1060	<i>Jasminum nudiflorum</i> Lindl. leaf extract in ethanol	0.1–1.0 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	69.0–93.6	EIS at 20 °C	50
AA1060	<i>Jasminum nudiflorum</i> Lindl. leaf extract in ethanol	1.0 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	72.6–93.1	WL at 20–35 °C	50
AA5083	<i>Lawsonia inermis</i> extract in ethyl acetate	200 ppm	Sea water	45.50	WL, PDP, and EIS	39
AA5083	<i>Lawsonia inermis</i> extract in methanol	200 ppm	Sea water	43.74	WL, PDP, and EIS	39
99.9%	Rosemary leaf extract in ethanol	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	Biodiesel	62.7–97.3	WL and PDP at 25 °C	43
>99.9%	Coffee husk extract in methanol	100–500 ppm	0.5 M HCl	48.9–92.7	WL, PDP, EFM, and EIS at 25 °C	61
>99.9%	Coffee husk extract in methanol	100–500 ppm	0.5 M HCl	45.0–80.0	WL after 1.5 h immersion at 45 °C	61
AA1060	<i>Ananas sativum</i> leaf extract in ethanol	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	75.86–96.09	WL at 30–60 °C	51
AA1060	<i>Ananas sativum</i> leaf extract in ethanol	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	81.13–93.10	HE at 30 °C	51
99.8%	<i>Ficus carica</i> leaf extract in methanol	10–100 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M HCl	58.65–91.34	WL at 30–60 °C	52
AA1060	<i>Treculia africana</i> leaves macerated in ethanol	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	31.64–74.17	WL and thermometric at 30–60 °C	53
AA1060	Mango peel waste extract in ethanol	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	23.65–75.33	WL and HE at 30 °C	59
99.16%	<i>Dendrocalamus brandisii</i> leaf extract in ethanol	0.1–1.0 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	41.3–94.0	PDP and EIS at 20 °C	47
99.16%	<i>Dendrocalamus brandisii</i> leaf extract in ethanol	0.1–1.0 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	14.9–56.3	PDP and EIS at 20 °C	47
98.60%	Coconut coir dust extract in acetone	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	18.6–80.0	WL and HE at 30–60 °C	40
NG	<i>Citrullus colocynthis</i> leaf extract in methanol	0.12–0.60 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	54.35–79.45	WL after 24 h immersion at 25 °C and thermometric	48
NG	<i>Citrullus colocynthis</i> seed extract in methanol	0.12–0.60 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	53.49–80.77	WL after 24 h immersion at 25 °C and thermometric	48
NG	<i>Citrullus colocynthis</i> leaf extract in methanol	0.12–0.60 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N HCl	53.78–90.01	WL after 24 h immersion at 25 °C and thermometric	48
NG	<i>Citrullus colocynthis</i> seed extract in methanol	0.12–0.60 <sup>a</sup>	0.5–5.0 N HCl	53.56–89.11	WL after 24 h immersion at 25 °C and thermometric	48
AA1050/1070 (99.0% Al)	<i>Chrysophyllum albidum</i> fruit extract in ethanol	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	7.20–40.52	WL after 168 h immersion at 30–60 °C	58
AA1050/1070 (99.0% Al)	<i>Chrysophyllum albidum</i> fruit extract in ethanol	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	58.33–90.38	Thermometric	58
99.8%	<i>Sorghum bicolor</i> leaf extract in ethanol	5–25 mL L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	3.22–50.00	WL at 32–42 °C	55
99.2%	Black pepper seed extract in methanol	0.006–0.243 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	35.45–99.66	WL after 60 min immersion, GSP, and EIS at 35 °C	57
98.611%	<i>Cassia auriculata</i> flowers extract in ethanol	0.05–1.0 vol%	2 M HCl	15.73–97.27	PDP and EIS at 30 °C	60
99.55%	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> L. leaf extract in methanol followed by butanol	200–1000 ppm	0.5 M HCl	57.6–89.1	PDP, EIS, and EFM at 20 °C	41
NG	<i>Prosopis laevigata</i> leaf extract in methanol	50–200 ppm	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	2.7–93.6	WL, PDP, and EIS at 20–60 °C	56
2S (99.05% Al)	<i>Cola acuminata</i> leaf extract in ethanol	30 vol%	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	12.05–54.31	WL after 6–24 days immersion at room temperature	45
2S (99.05% Al)	<i>Cola acuminata</i> fruit extract in ethanol	30 vol%	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	7.84–45.78	WL after 12–21 days immersion at room temperature	45



Table 1 (Contd.)

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
2S (99.05% Al)	<i>Nicotiana</i> extract in ethanol	30 vol%	1 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	4.09–45.04	WL after 3–24 days immersion at room temperature	45
2S (99.05% Al)	<i>Cola acuminata</i> leaf extract in ethanol	60 vol%	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	11.10–41.65	WL after 3–24 days immersion at room temperature	45
2S (99.05% Al)	<i>Cola acuminata</i> fruit extract in ethanol	60 vol%	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	15.18–39.97	WL after 3–24 days immersion at room temperature	45
2S (99.05% Al)	<i>Nicotiana</i> leaf extract in ethanol	60 vol%	1 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	10.38–19.74	WL after 15–21 days immersion at room temperature	45
NG	<i>Ficus virens</i> bark extract in methanol	0.12–0.60%	0.1–4.0 N HCl	49.07–95.50	WL at 25 °C and thermometric	49
NG	<i>Ficus virens</i> seed extract in methanol	0.12–0.60%	0.1–4.0 N HCl	46.97–95.61	WL at 25 °C and thermometric	49
NG	<i>Ficus virens</i> leaf extract in methanol	0.12–0.60%	0.1–4.0 N HCl	46.73–93.32	WL at 25 °C and thermometric	49
NG	<i>Ficus virens</i> bark extract in methanol	0.12–0.60%	0.1–2 N H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	22.22–89.33	WL at 25 °C	49
NG	<i>Ficus virens</i> seed extract in methanol	0.12–0.60%	0.1–2 N H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	15.40–84.82	WL at 25 °C	49
NG	<i>Ficus virens</i> leaf extract in methanol	0.12–0.60%	0.1–2 N H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	20.68–81.15	WL at 25 °C	49

NG – not given. <sup>a</sup> No units given.

using such an approach and the evaluation of the future potential thereof is given.

## 2. Plant extracts as corrosion inhibitors

Phytocompounds and herbal-based extracts have garnered increasing interest in the field of sustainable material-protecting products. The evaluation of some plant extracts and the correlation between the extract profile and the corrosion inhibitive effect should be focused on the total phenolic content. Indeed, a good correlation was obtained between the corrosion inhibition effectiveness of the plant extracts and their total phenolic contents. The higher the total phenolic content, the higher it is the inhibition effectiveness of the extracts. It can be argued that the total phenolic content may act as a guide for screening plant extracts for their inhibitive properties.<sup>30</sup>

### 2.1 Extraction methods used to obtain plant extracts

Numerous publications on the isolation and fractionation of different compounds such as plant extracts, essential oils, and purified compounds have appeared over the past decades. The decision on selecting the extraction method to profile the target content of plant species is related to the chemical nature of the substance, sample particle size, and also by the presence of interfering substances.<sup>31</sup> The method used must be carefully chosen according to the aim of the research. The selection of the extraction technique has an impact on the rate, yield, and purity and is influenced by the niche of the compound of interest and the degree of purity required.

The type of extraction solvent as well as the isolation procedures may have a significant impact on the extraction yield of substances from plants material. Each extraction technique certainly has unique operating factors that affect the concentration and antioxidant activity of the extract, and need to be optimised. The extraction time, temperature, solvent-to-feed ratio, number of repeated extractions of the sample, as well as the choice of extraction solvents, are the main parameters controlling extraction kinetics. Solubility is highly affected by the extraction time and temperature. At a higher extraction temperature, the viscosity and surface tension of solvents decrease, which accelerates the mass transfer rate.<sup>32</sup> An additional parameter controlling the extraction kinetics is the material pretreatment, which affects the moisture content, sample matrix, particle size, and distribution.

Conventional liquid–liquid and solid–liquid extraction techniques are still commonplace due to their simplicity, efficiency, and wide-ranging applicability. However, these traditional methods have their own advantages and limitations. Solvent-based extraction results in a higher yield. The main drawbacks of this technique are related to the use of conventional solvents such as alcohols (methanol, ethanol, isopropanol), acetone, diethyl ether, and ethyl acetate, often mixed with different proportions of water for sample preparation, separation, and detection, and the identification are of both environmental and economic concern. Additional purification



steps either by membrane or ultrafiltration are required to meet regulation requirements. Exposure to a higher temperature for a prolonged period of time may lead to a rapid degradation of active compounds. Long extraction time is yet another problem facing the conventional extraction procedure.<sup>33</sup>

Modern extraction techniques are centred on reduced-solvent methods, sorption-based methods, environmental applications, and on both solid and liquid samples.<sup>34</sup>

Supercritical fluid extraction (SFE), pressurised-liquid extraction (PLE), microwave-assisted extraction (MAE), solid-phase extraction (SPE), and solid-phase microextraction (SPME) offer important advantages over organic solvent technology, such as ecological friendliness and ease of product fractionation. These methods became interesting due to their simplicity, shorter extraction times, and the lower release of toxic pollutants by reducing organic solvent consumption. The most important advantage of SFE is the selective extraction of components or the fractionation of the total extracts.<sup>35</sup> This is possible with the use of different gases for isolation/fractionation of the components and/or by changing the process parameters. Sub- and supercritical fluids are widely accepted as non-carcinogenic, non-toxic, non-mutagenic, non-flammable, and thermodynamically stable solvents. A supercritical fluid is any substance at a temperature and pressure above its critical point, where distinct liquid and gas phases do not exist. They represent a suitable substitute for organic solvents which close to the critical point show a unique feature, *i.e.* small changes in pressure or temperature result in large changes in density, allowing their many properties to be “fine-tuned”. In the pressure-temperature phase diagram (Fig. 2), the boiling curve separates the gas and liquid region and ends in the critical point, where the liquid and gas phases disappear and only a single supercritical phase is present.

On the other hand, the main feature of the extraction procedures described above is their suitability for isolation of both, polar and non-polar compounds and selectivity is fine-

tuned by selection of proper solvent and/or operating conditions. Studies on the nature of corrosion inhibitors demonstrate that polar as well as non-polar compounds show corrosion inhibition effectiveness. In addition, the extraction procedures listed above are beneficial from the economic point of view. As reported in this review polyphenols are among the main components of the green corrosion inhibitors tested. The highest yields of polyphenols are usually achieved with ethanol and methanol and their mixtures with water, although other solvents have been widely used for extraction of polyphenols from plants, as ethyl acetate or acetone.

Given the complexity of the field, it may be concluded that, in practice, there is still a “barrier” between research and application. Much more research should be done regarding analytical and micro-biological characterisation assessments on vegetal extracts tested as new eco-friendly material-protecting products for both purposes, practical and scientific, in order to achieve the quality control of vegetal extracts and the effectiveness of certain phytochemicals.<sup>19,20</sup>

In the following text, we discuss in more details the research work published in the last two decades on plant extracts as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys in various corrosive environments. Information on the extraction technique as well as the main components of the extracts (as reported by the authors in the given corrosion inhibition research, or in other studies not strictly related to corrosion research), is also given. The extracts have been divided into four groups, based on the solvents used for the extraction. The main findings (as described above) regarding the use of plant extracts as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium materials are presented in Tables 1–4.

## 2.2 The corrosion inhibition of plant extracts obtained by means of organic solvents

Organic solvents are commonly used to extract phenolic compounds from agricultural tissue. Pretreatment of raw material with hexane to remove lipids is commonly the first step of conventional organic solvent extraction, as ground plant material may be extracted in a Soxhlet apparatus. Polyphenols contain multiple phenolic functionalities with diverse chemical structures and properties. Since it is generally known that the yield of chemical extraction depends on the type of solvent with varying polarities, extraction time, and temperature, the mass-to-solvent ratio, and the chemical composition and physical characteristics of the samples, much attention is devoted to the choice of the most suitable organic solvent. Methanol, ethanol, acetone, ethyl acetate, and their combinations are known for their high efficiency in the extraction of phenolics from plant materials, often with different proportions of water. In particular, methanol has been proved to be a selective solvent for the extraction of lower molecular weight polyphenols. High molecular weight flavanols are usually efficiently extracted with aqueous acetone.<sup>36–38</sup>

Ethanol is known to be safe for human consumption and is employed for the extraction of anthocyanin-rich phenolic species from plant tissues. Ethyl acetate or ethanol are usually

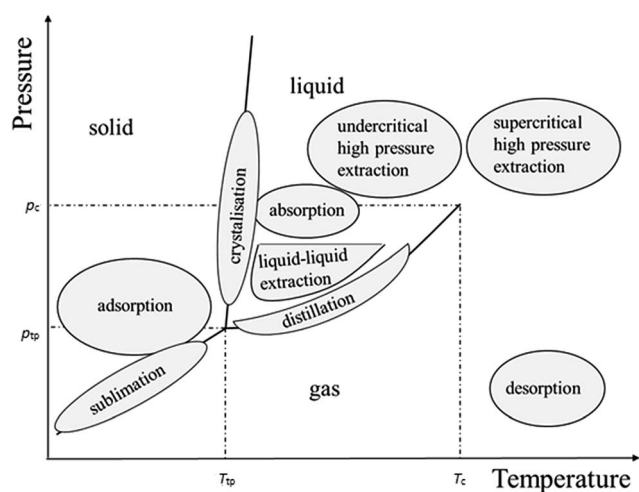


Fig. 2  $p$ - $T$  diagram of a pure substance and separation processes.  $T_c$  and  $p_c$  are the critical temperature and pressure, while  $T_{tp}$  and  $p_{tp}$  are the triple point temperature and pressure, respectively.





**Table 2** The inhibition effectiveness of different aqueous extracts tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and different aluminium alloys in various solutions. The inhibition effectiveness values are reported as given in the article. In instances where different techniques were used for the determination of the inhibition effectiveness, the range from the minimum to the maximum values reported in the article is reported below in this table

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
AA7075	<i>Ambrosia maritima</i> L. extract refluxed in distilled water	0.006–0.100 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M NaCl	30.4–62.5	PDP at 30 °C	77
AA7075	<i>Lupinus</i> sp. L extract refluxed in distilled water	0.0005–0.300 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M NaCl	5.4–82.1	PDP at 30 °C	77
AA7075	<i>Cymbopogon proximus</i> extract refluxed in distilled water	0.001–0.250 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M NaCl	16.1–61.1	PDP at 30 °C	77
AA7075	<i>Ambrosia maritima</i> L. extract refluxed in distilled water	0.005–0.070 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M NaCl	30.9–64.3	EIS at 30 °C	77
AA7075	<i>Lupinus</i> sp. L extract refluxed in distilled water	0.0005–0.260 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M NaCl	13.6–83.6	EIS at 30 °C	77
AA7075	<i>Cymbopogon proximus</i> extract refluxed in distilled water	0.005–0.250 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M NaCl	32.9–62.8	EIS at 30 °C	77
99.61%	<i>Garcinia indica</i> seed extract, using reflux in distilled water	100–500 ppm	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	41.34–85.59	PDP and EIS at 30–50 °C	76
32177 (97.025% Al)	Cantaloupe ( <i>Cucumis melo</i> ) pulp extract	2.0–50.0 vol%	1 M HCl	15.01–92.75	WL and HE at 27 °C	63
32177 (97.025% Al)	Cantaloupe ( <i>Cucumis melo</i> ) pulp extract	4.0–50.0 vol%	1 M NaOH	5.69–69.95	WL and HE at 27 °C	63
32177 (97.025% Al)	Cantaloupe ( <i>Cucumis melo</i> ) seed extract in double-distilled water	2.0–40.0 vol%	1 M HCl	10.97–71.60	WL and HE at 27 °C	63
32177 (97.025% Al)	Cantaloupe ( <i>Cucumis melo</i> ) seed extract in double-distilled water	2.0–30.0 vol%	1 M NaOH	2.82–33.68	WL and HE at 27 °C	63
98.06%	<i>Neolamarkia cadamba</i> bark extract	0.2–0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	64.6–87.1	WL after 3 h immersion at 30 °C	64
98.06%	<i>Neolamarkia cadamba</i> bark extract	0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	78.5–87.1	WL after 3 h immersion at 30–60 °C	64
98.06%	<i>Neolamarkia cadamba</i> bark extract	0.2–0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	68.0–90.62	Tafel extrapolation, $R_p$ , and EIS at 35 °C	64
>99.9%	<i>Senna auriculata</i> leaf extract in water	300–900 ppm	1 N NaOH	52.2–76.2	WL after 2 h immersion, HE, polarisation, and EIS at 30 °C	65
>99.9%	<i>Senna auriculata</i> leaf extract in water	900 ppm	1 N NaOH	72.0–76.2	WL after 2–10 h immersion at 30 °C	65
>99.9%	<i>Senna auriculata</i> leaf extract in water	900 ppm	1 N NaOH	69.6–76.2	WL after 2 h immersion at 30–60 °C	65
99.99%	Saffron leaf extract in triple-distilled water	600 ppm	2 M HCl	78.5–84.6	WL, Tafel extrapolation, and $R_p$ at 25 °C	74
AA1060	<i>Bacopa monnieri</i> stem extract in double-distilled water	30–400 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M NaOH	61–96	PDP and WL after 1 h immersion at 35 °C	66
AA7075	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> L. (date palm) fruit juice dissolved in double-distilled water	100–2000 ppm	3.5% NaCl	30–72	PDP and EIS	78
NG	<i>Solanum trilobatum</i> leaf extract in distilled water	0.3–1.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	77.82–93.90	WL, HE, Tafel extrapolation, and EIS at 30 °C	67
NG	<i>Solanum trilobatum</i> leaf extract in distilled water	0.3–1.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	63.2–89.6	WL at 40–60 °C	67
98.63%	Olive seed extract in water	1–10 vol%	1 M HCl	48.56–98.86	WL and HE at 30 °C	80
NG	<i>Vitex negunda</i> leaf extract in distilled water	0.3–1.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	38.6–79.7	WL, Tafel extrapolation, and EIS at 30–60 °C	68
AA1060 (98.5%)	<i>Vigna unguiculata</i> husk extract in distilled water	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M NaOH	38.65–79.63	WL at 30–60 °C	69
AA1060 (98.5%)	<i>Vigna unguiculata</i> husk extract in distilled water	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	20.42–66.24	WL at 30–60 °C	69
95.30%	Aloe leaf extract in water	4–60 vol%	0.5 M HCl	15.00–88.42	Polarisation and EIS at 30 °C	16



Table 2 (Contd.)

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
95.30%	Aloe leaf extract in water + 0.01 M NaI	4–60 vol%	0.5 M HCl	12.5–80.9	Polarisation and EIS at 30 °C	16
95.30%	Aloe leaf extract in water + $1 \times 10^{-4}$ to $5 \times 10^{-2}$ M NaI	48 vol%	0.5 M HCl	44.94–83.55	Polarisation and EIS at 30 °C	16
AA1060	<i>Trachyspermum coticum</i> seed extract in double-distilled water	300–500 ppm	0.5 M NaOH	68.54–94.00	WL, PDP, and EIS at 35 °C	70
99.687%	Damsissa extract in water	0.05–1.20 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	63.3–91.7	PDP at 30 °C	79
99.687%	<i>Corchorus thori</i> extract in water	0.05–1.50 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	53.2–90.7	PDP at 30 °C	79
99.687%	Damsissa extract in water	0.10–1.00 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	3.3–90.1	EIS at 30 °C	79
99.687%	<i>Corchorus thori</i> extract in water	0.10–1.50 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	10.9–89.1	EIS at 30 °C	79
99.68%	Lupine seed extract, using the reflux in distilled water	0.372–4.464 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M NaOH	32.55–87.10 <sup>b</sup>	PDP and EIS	17
95%	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> flowers extract in water	2–8 mL	NaOH (pH = 12)	24.0–40.0	WL after 1 day immersion	71
95%	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> flowers extract in water + 50 ppm Zn <sup>2+</sup>	2–8 mL	NaOH (pH = 12)	23.0–98.0	WL after 1 day immersion	71
95%	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> flowers extract in water + 50 ppm Zn <sup>2+</sup>	8 mL	NaOH (pH = 12)	29–98	WL after 1–11 days immersion	71
95%	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> flowers extract in water + 50 ppm Zn <sup>2+</sup> + 50–250 ppm sodium dodecyl sulphate	8 mL	NaOH (pH = 12)	44–98	WL after 1 day immersion	71
95%	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> flowers extract in water + 50 ppm Zn <sup>2+</sup> + 50–250 ppm N-cetyl-N,N-trimethylammonium bromide	8 mL	NaOH (pH = 12)	36–98	WL after 1 day immersion	71
95%	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> flowers extract in water + 50 ppm Zn <sup>2+</sup>	8 mL	NaOH (pH = 12)	9.31–29.51 <sup>a</sup>	R <sub>p</sub> , PDP, and EIS	71
98.8%	Date palm leaf extract in water	0.20–0.60 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	40.2–87.8	WL at 20–50 °C	75
97.4%	<i>Adathoda vasica</i> leaf extract in water	200–1000 ppm	1 M NaOH	65.8–81.5	WL after 2 h immersion at 30 °C	72
97.4%	<i>Adathoda vasica</i> leaf extract in water	800 ppm	1 M NaOH	66.2–81.7	WL after 2–24 h immersion, PDP and EIS at 30 °C	72
97.4%	<i>Adathoda vasica</i> leaf extract in water	800 ppm	1 M NaOH	71.4–81.5	WL at 30–70 °C	72

NG – not given. <sup>a</sup>  $\eta$  was calculated on the basis of the values of the corrosion rate, the corrosion current, the corrosion current density, or the resistance of the blank solution and inhibited samples.  
<sup>b</sup>  $\eta$  was calculated on the basis of the sum ( $R_{\text{oxide}} + R_p + R_{\text{inhibitor}}$ ) of the blank solution and of the inhibited samples.

applied to obtain flavonoids. Sequential solvent extraction is being used increasingly often; the material is first extracted with dichloromethane. This step comprises the isolation of flavonoid aglycones and other components of lower polarity. A serious drawback of dichloromethane is its toxicity. In the subsequent step, flavonoid glycosides and polar constituents are extracted using a suitable alcohol.<sup>37,38</sup>

As seen in Table 1, methanol and ethanol were widely used as solvents in the performed studies. However, other organic solvents, such as ethyl acetate,<sup>39</sup> acetone,<sup>40</sup> and methanol followed by butanol,<sup>41</sup> have also been employed. The extracts obtained were used to protect mostly pure aluminium and 1xxx series aluminium alloys in acidic solutions. Only a few studies reported the inhibition effectiveness of the extracts in chloride-containing solutions,<sup>39,42</sup> or even in biodiesel.<sup>43</sup> The inhibition effectiveness of all studied extracts increased with increasing concentration, independently of their type, corrosive environment, or material. However, Nnaji *et al.*<sup>44</sup> investigated the inhibition effectiveness of cashew nut (*Anacardium occidentale*) testa extract in acetone as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 0.1, 0.5, and 2.0 M HCl solutions at 30–50 °C. It was reported that the inhibition effectiveness increased with increasing extract concentration in 0.5 and 2.0 M HCl solutions, while in 0.1 M HCl solution a decrease in the inhibition effectiveness was observed with increasing extract concentration. Moreover, Loto and Popoola<sup>45</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of the ethanol extracts of cola acuminate leaves and fruit and *Nicotiana* leaves as corrosion inhibitors for 2S aluminium alloys in 0.5 and 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at room temperature. The authors reported no clear trend in the inhibition effectiveness at the different concentrations tested. In some cases certain concentrations even promoted corrosion.

Arora *et al.*,<sup>46</sup> Li and Deng,<sup>47</sup> Chauhan *et al.*,<sup>48</sup> and Jain *et al.*<sup>49</sup> investigated the inhibition effectiveness of extracts as a function of the corrosive environment. Arora *et al.*<sup>46</sup> tested the extracts of *Capparis decidua* fruits, stem bark, and root bark in ethyl alcohol as inhibitor in the corrosion of aluminium in 0.5–5.0 N HCl and 0.5–5.0 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solutions, at room temperature. The authors reported a higher inhibition effectiveness of all types of extract in HCl compared to H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution.

The same conclusion was reported also by Chauhan *et al.*,<sup>48</sup> who evaluated the inhibition effectiveness of *Citrullus colocynthis* leaf and seed extracts in methanol as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium in 0.5–5.0 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and 0.5–5.0 N HCl solutions at 25 °C. The inhibition effectiveness increased with increasing concentration of both acids.

Jain *et al.*<sup>49</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of *Ficus virens* seed, leaf, and bark extracts in methanol as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium in 0.1–4.0 N HCl and 0.1–4.0 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solutions at 25 °C. The authors showed that the extracts protected aluminium better in HCl than in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solutions. A methoxy derivative of alstonine (11-methoxy tetrahydroalstonine) named aricine is reported as the main component of *Ficus virens*.

The inhibition effectiveness of *Dendrocalamus brandisii* leaf extract in ethanol as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.16% aluminium alloy in 1 M HCl and 1 M H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> solutions at 20 °C was evaluated by Li and Deng.<sup>47</sup> The authors reported that

polyflavonols, thiols, anthocyanins, and tannins are the main components of the extract. Advantageously, the extraction procedure does not affect the content of the target compounds since it requires only moderate operating temperatures. A significant decrease in the inhibition effectiveness of the extract was reported in H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> compared to HCl solution. The inhibition effectiveness of the extract increased with increasing immersion time up to 2 h for both acids and then gradually decreased for longer immersion times. The concentration of the acids was found to influence the inhibition effectiveness of the extract. The later increased at low acid concentrations (0.5–1.0 M), but significantly decreased for higher concentrations (1.0–3.0 M).

The extracts tested as corrosion inhibitors were obtained from different parts of the plants, including leaves,<sup>41,43,45,47–57</sup> stem and root bark,<sup>42,46,49</sup> fruits<sup>45,46,54,58</sup> and fruit peel,<sup>59</sup> seeds,<sup>48,49,57</sup> flowers,<sup>60</sup> husks,<sup>61</sup> and nuts.<sup>44</sup> Wan Nik *et al.*<sup>39</sup> gave no clear indication as to which part of *Lawsonia inermis* was selected to prepare the extract. The distribution of active compounds in different parts of plants, such as leaves, stems, roots, and fruit, shows qualitative and quantitative variations. Often different parts of the same plant contain completely different compounds.<sup>62</sup> Several studies have been performed evaluating the inhibition effectiveness of different parts of the same plant extracted with the same solvent.<sup>45,46,48,49,54</sup> *Capparis decidua* fruit extract in ethyl alcohol showed higher inhibition effectiveness in both HCl and H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solutions compared to stem bark and root bark extracts from the same plant.<sup>46</sup> No significant change in the inhibition effectiveness was reported between the stem bark and root bark in HCl solution, while in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution the root bark extract protected aluminium better. *Ficus virens* extracts of seeds, leaves, and bark in methanol showed no significant difference in the  $\eta$  values in HCl solution, while in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution the inhibition effectiveness followed the order bark extract > leaf extract > seed extract.<sup>49</sup> Kumar and Mathur<sup>54</sup> investigated the ethanolic extracts of the leaves, latex, and fruit of *Calotropis procera* and *Calotropis gigantea* as corrosion inhibitors for 98.79% aluminium in 0.5–5.0 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solutions. However, the data showed only non-significant differences in the  $\eta$  values of the three types of extracts. The same behaviour was reported by Chauhan *et al.*<sup>48</sup> regarding *Citrullus colocynthis* leaf and seed extracts in methanol. Furthermore, no clear distinction as to the inhibition performance of ethanolic extracts of *Cola acuminate* leaves and fruits was reported by Loto and Popoola.<sup>45</sup>

The inhibition effectiveness of the tested extracts was investigated at a temperature range from 20 °C to 60 °C.<sup>40–42,44,47,50–53,55,56,58,59,61</sup> In the majority of the above-mentioned studies it was reported that the inhibition effectiveness of the respective extracts decreased with increasing temperature, apart from the works of Ating *et al.*<sup>51</sup> and Umoren *et al.*<sup>40</sup> Ating *et al.*<sup>51</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of the extract of *Ananas sativum* leaves in ethanol as an inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 0.1 M and 2.0 M HCl solutions at 30–60 °C. Umoren *et al.*<sup>40</sup> tested the inhibition effectiveness of coconut (*Cocos nucifera*) coir dust extract in acetone as a corrosion inhibitor for Al 3SR (98.60% aluminium) aluminium alloy





in 1 M HCl solution at 30 and 60 °C. According to the authors, coconut coir dust extract contains a mixture of alkaloids, flavonoids, and organic acids, without identifying any compound in particular.

The change in the inhibition effectiveness with temperature was found to be dependent on the corrosion environment in the case of *Dendrocalamus brandisii* leaf extract in ethanol.<sup>47</sup> The authors reported that the inhibition effectiveness of the extract decreased with increasing temperature in HCl solutions, while remained almost constant in H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> solutions.

PDP measurements revealed different behaviour of the extracts in terms of influencing the anodic, cathodic, or both corrosion reactions of the corrosion couple. Deng and Li<sup>50</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of the ethanol extract of *Jasminum nudiflorum* Lindl. leaf in the corrosion of AA1060 aluminium alloy in 1 M HCl solution at 20–35 °C and concluded that the extract acted as a cathodic-type inhibitor. The same behaviour was reported for *Prosopis laevigata* leaf extract in methanol<sup>56</sup> used as a corrosion inhibitor for aluminium in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 30 °C. Based on the PDP measurements, Li and Deng<sup>47</sup> concluded that *Dendrocalamus brandisii* leaf extract acted as a cathodic-type inhibitor in HCl solutions, but as a mixed-type inhibitor in H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> solutions. Prosopine and prosopinine were reported to be the main constituents of the extract.

Singh *et al.*<sup>42</sup> used Berberine (5,6-dihydro-9,10-dimethoxybenzo[g]-1,3-benzodioxolo[5,6-a]quinolizinium), a compound obtained from the extraction of dried *Coptis chinensis* roots in ethanol, as an inhibitor in the corrosion of AA7075 aluminium in 3.5% NaCl solution at 25–60 °C, and, based on the PDP measurements, concluded that the extract acted as a mixed-type inhibitor. Mixed-type inhibition was reported also for *Cassia auriculata* flower extract in alcohol<sup>60</sup> and coffee (*Coffea*) husk extract in methanol.<sup>61</sup> *Cassia auriculata* flower extract in alcohol<sup>60</sup> was tested as a corrosion inhibitor for 97.704% aluminium alloy in 2 M HCl solution at 30 °C. It was reported that luteolin-7-*o*-glucoside is the main component of the extract. The main drawback is the extraction procedure, which is rather complicated and involves isolation steps using different organic solvents. Coffee (*Coffea*) husk extract in methanol<sup>61</sup> was used as a corrosion inhibitor for aluminium with purity higher than 99.9% in 0.5 M HCl solution at 25 and 45 °C. The authors reported that the main components in coffee husk are cellulose, hemicellulose, pectin, lignin, caffeine, tannin, and polyphenol.

Several authors reported that the respective extracts acted as mixed-type inhibitors, but with a predominant action on either the cathodic or anodic corrosion reaction. In fact, Wan Nik *et al.*<sup>39</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of *Lawsonia inermis* extracts in ethyl acetate and in methanol as corrosion inhibitors for AA5083 aluminium alloy in sea water (no composition given) and concluded that the extracts acted as mixed-type inhibitors, with a predominant effect on the cathodic reaction. The same conclusion was reached by Divya *et al.*,<sup>57</sup> who evaluated the inhibition effectiveness of black pepper (*Piper nigrum*) seed extract in methanol as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.2% aluminium in 1 M HCl solution at 35 °C. Next, Shalabi *et al.*<sup>41</sup>

studied the inhibition effectiveness of *Phoenix dactylifera* L. leaf extract in methanol followed by butanol as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.55% aluminium and 92.482% Al–Si alloy at 20–60 °C and, based on the PDP measurements, reported that the extract acted as a mixed-type inhibitor, with predominant action on the cathodic corrosion reaction. The main components of the extract were reported to be gallic acid, protocatechuic acid, caffeic acid, β-carotene, and lutein. The extract protects Al–Si alloy better compared to aluminium.

Only Deyab<sup>43</sup> reported that rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) leaf extract in ethanol acted as a mixed-type inhibitor, with a predominant effect on the anodic corrosion reaction of 99.89% aluminium in biodiesel at 25 °C.

In general, when explaining the inhibition action of the extracts, the authors refer to their ability to adsorb on the aluminium material surface through the adsorption centres contained in the constituents of these extracts. In most of the cases they do not specify which compound or compounds are responsible for the adsorption. This is the case in the works of Yiase *et al.*<sup>55</sup> and Madufor *et al.*<sup>58</sup> and Ukpe *et al.*<sup>59</sup> Yiase *et al.*<sup>55</sup> reported on the inhibition effectiveness of *Sorghum bicolor* leaf extract in ethanol as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.8% aluminium in 2 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 32–42 °C. Madufor *et al.*<sup>58</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of *Chrysophyllum albidum* fruit extract in ethanol as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1050/1070 (99.0% Al) aluminium alloy in 1.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution, at 30–60 °C. Ukpe *et al.*<sup>59</sup> reported on the inhibition effectiveness of mango (*Mangifera*) fruit peel waste extract in ethanol as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy (98.5% purity) in 0.1 M HCl solution at 30–60 °C. Based on the thermodynamic calculations, as well as the change in the inhibition effectiveness with temperature, the authors discussed the possible adsorption mechanism for the extracts on the aluminium material surface. All three authors above<sup>55,58,59</sup> suggested that the extracts physisorbed on the aluminium materials.

Nnaji *et al.*<sup>44</sup> reported that quercetin, azaleatin, catechin, epicatechin, cyaniding, and dephinidin are among the main components of cashew nut (*Anacardium occidentale*) testa extract in acetone. Based on the quantum chemical parameters, the authors suggested that the extract adsorbed on the aluminium surface through the aromatic C=C, C=O, and O–H sites contained in the protonated forms of the extract components. Physisorption was the proposed mechanism for the adsorption of cashew nut testa extract on the alloy surface.

Physisorption seems to be the common mechanism suggested by authors in general. Onen *et al.*<sup>52</sup> suggested physisorption as the possible mechanism for the adsorption of *Ficus carica* leaf extract in methanol on the surface of 99.8% aluminium immersed in 0.5 M HCl solution at 30–60 °C. Ejikeme *et al.*<sup>53</sup> reported that the main components found in *Treulia africana* leaf extract in 96% ethanol are alkaloids, flavonoids, terpenes, and proteins. These components physisorbed on the alloy surface to inhibit the corrosion of AA1060 aluminium alloy in 1 M HCl solution at 30 and 60 °C. Physisorption was also suggested for rosemary leaf extract in ethanol,<sup>43</sup> *Dendrocalamus brandisii* leaf extract in ethanol,<sup>47</sup> and *Jasminum nudiflorum* Lindl. leaf extract in ethanol,<sup>50</sup> while



Fouda *et al.*<sup>61</sup> concluded that the inhibition is due to adsorption on the aluminium surface through electrostatic interactions for coffee husk extract in methanol. A few studies report a chemisorption mechanism for the tested extracts<sup>40,51,56</sup> and only Divya *et al.*<sup>57</sup> suggested that the main constituent of black pepper seed extract in methanol, piperine, followed by *E*-caryophyllene and 9-octadecynoic acid, adsorbed through a mixed-type mechanism (both physisorption and chemisorption) on the aluminium surface.

In addition, in a few studies the inhibition action of the extracts was attributed to the formation of a surface layer as a result of the adsorption of the extracts' components on the aluminium materials. This surface layer protected the materials from further attack from the corrosive environment.<sup>39,42,57</sup> Singh *et al.*<sup>42</sup> attributed the decrease in inhibition effectiveness with increasing temperature to the dissolution of this protective surface layer.

Lower extraction temperatures and the omission of large amounts of organic solvents will certainly contribute to a higher yield of phenolic compounds in the final product. Some authors<sup>43–47,50,52,56,61</sup> report easy, economically feasible extraction procedures carried out at low temperatures with a low consumption of chemicals. Modern extraction techniques certainly represent a green solution to obtain extracts of high quality. Despite the high extraction temperatures and use of organic solvents, Arora *et al.*<sup>46</sup> reported a high inhibitive effectiveness for the ethanolic extracts of *Capparis decidua*. The main drawback of the extraction procedure is probably its duration, which takes several days. Additionally, further purification steps are required to remove solvent residues from the obtained extracts.

### 2.3 The corrosion inhibition of aqueous plant extracts

A considerable number of studies have investigated the inhibition effectiveness of different parts of plants extracted with water (Table 2). Aluminium materials similar to what was reported for the extracts obtained with organic solvents were studied for these extracts, mainly for pure aluminium and 1xxx and 7xxx series aluminium alloys. However, there is a clear distinction in the corrosive environments tested. The aqueous extracts were tested in various corrosion environments, mainly alkaline,<sup>17,63–73</sup> but also acidic<sup>16,63,69,74–76</sup> and salts.<sup>77–79</sup> Two studies discussed the possible effect of the corrosive environment on the inhibition effectiveness of the extract. Umoren *et al.*<sup>69</sup> tested the aqueous extract of *Vigna unguiculata* husk as an inhibitor in the corrosion of AA1060 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and 0.5 M NaOH solutions at 30 and 60 °C. The extract showed higher inhibition effectiveness in NaOH than in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution. Emran *et al.*<sup>63</sup> tested the inhibition effectiveness of cantaloupe (*Cucumis melo*) pulp extract obtained with a blender and cantaloupe (*Cucumis melo*) seed extract in double-distilled water, as corrosion inhibitors for 32177 aluminium alloy (97.025% Al) in 1 M HCl and 1 M NaOH solutions at 27 °C. The extracts protected the aluminium alloy better in HCl than in NaOH solution. In the same study the authors extracted two different parts of the cantaloupe plant, *i.e.* pulp and seeds. They

reported that the pulp extract is more effective compared to the seed extracts in both alkaline and acidic solutions.

Leaves,<sup>16,67,68,72,74,75</sup> seeds,<sup>17,63,70,73,76,80</sup> pulp and fruit juice,<sup>63,78</sup> bark and stem,<sup>64,66</sup> and husk and flowers<sup>69,71</sup> were the plant parts used to prepare the extracts. No indication of what parts of the plants were used to prepare extracts was given in the works of Fetouh *et al.*<sup>77</sup> and Abd-El-Nabey *et al.*<sup>79</sup> Although the general trend in all the published works is that the inhibition effectiveness increased with increasing extract concentration, there are a few exceptions.<sup>72,74,77</sup> Fetouh *et al.*<sup>77</sup> evaluated the inhibition effectiveness of the aqueous extracts of *Ambrosia maritima* L. (damsissa), *Lupinus* sp. L. (lupine), and *Cymbopogon proximus* (halfa-bar) as corrosion inhibitors of AA7075-T6 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M NaCl solution at 30 °C. The main active compounds in Damsissa extract are ambrosin and damsin. Lupanine, multiflorine, and sparteine were the main components of the Lupine extract. The most abundant components in the halfa-bar extract are proximadiol, 5 $\alpha$ -hydroxy- $\beta$ -eudesmol, 5 $\alpha$ -hydroperoxy- $\beta$ -eudesmol, and 1 $\beta$ -hydroxy- $\beta$ -eudesmol. The inhibition effectiveness of all three extracts increased with increasing concentration, up to a certain concentration, and then decreased with a further increase in the extract concentration. The authors reported that the highest inhibition effectiveness was obtained for lupine extract, while the lowest inhibition effectiveness for halfa-bar extract. Next, Soror<sup>74</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of the aqueous extract of saffron (*Crocus sativus*) leaves as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.99% aluminium in 2 M HCl solution at 25 °C. It was reported that the main components of the saffron extract are safranal, crocin, zeaxanthin, picrocrocin, crocetin, and decyl glucoside. The inhibition effectiveness increased with increasing saffron leaf extract concentration up to 600 ppm and then decreased for higher concentrations. Finally, Prabha *et al.*<sup>72</sup> tested the aqueous extracts of *Adathoda vasica* leaves as corrosion inhibitors in the corrosion of 97.4% aluminium in 1 N NaOH solution at 30–70 °C. The inhibition effectiveness increased with an increase in the extract up to 800 ppm. No improvement in the inhibition effectiveness was observed for concentrations higher than 800 ppm. Apart from aqueous extracts of this plant, the presence of phenols, tannins, alkaloids, anthraquinones, saponins, flavanoids, aminoacids, and reducing sugars was found to be relatively high also for ethanol and petroleum ether extracts.<sup>62</sup>

The synergistic effect of some ions or molecules on the inhibition effectiveness of the extracts was also reported,<sup>16,17,71</sup> meaning that the corrosion inhibition performance is higher for the mixture than for the individual components alone. Al-Turkustani *et al.*<sup>16</sup> added NaI to the aqueous extract of *Aloe vera* leaves and then studied its inhibition effectiveness in the corrosion of 95.30% aluminium in 0.25–1.50 M HCl solution at 30 °C. The results showed a further increase in the inhibition effectiveness of the extract when 0.01 M NaI was added. However, when changing the iodide concentration from  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  to  $5 \times 10^{-2}$  M in the presence of 48 vol% aloe leaf extract, first an increase in the inhibition effectiveness was observed (up to  $2.5 \times 10^{-2}$  M) and then for higher iodide concentrations the inhibition effectiveness decreased. In addition to the well-



known iodide ions, it was reported that metals can also influence the performance of the tested extracts. In fact, Rajendran *et al.*<sup>71</sup> tested the aqueous extract of *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* flowers, with and without the addition of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ , as a corrosion inhibitor for 95% aluminium in NaOH solution of pH = 12. In the presence of 50 ppm of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ , the authors reported an improvement in the inhibition effectiveness. However, the data showed that this is not the case for low volumes of extract added (2 and 4 mL added). Moreover, the addition of 25 ppm of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  dramatically decreased the inhibition effectiveness (promoting corrosion). The authors explained this with the possible precipitation of the complex formed between  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and the active principle present in the extract. The performance of the system 8 mL of extract + 50 ppm of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  was also tested with the addition of sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS) and *N*-cetyl-*N,N,N*-trimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) after 1 day of immersion. It was reported that the inhibition effectiveness decreased and reached a minimum (for 150 ppm SDS added) and then increased again in the case of SDS. The authors reported that the inhibition effectiveness first increased with the increase in the CTAB concentration (up to 200 ppm) and then decreased. Abdel-Abdel-Gaber *et al.*<sup>17</sup> studied the synergistic effect of cetyl trimethyl ammonium bromide and the aqueous extract of lupine seed as an inhibitor in the corrosion of 99.68% aluminium in 2 M NaOH solution. The authors reported that there is no significant synergistic effect between the lupine seed extract and cetyl trimethyl ammonium bromide. The authors reported that CTAB was used to alter the wettability, acting as a foaming agent as well as reducing the surface tension to ensure the stability of the lupine seed extract.

The influence of temperature on the inhibition effectiveness of aqueous extracts was studied from 20 to 70 °C.<sup>64–69,73,75,76,80</sup> Singh *et al.*<sup>66</sup> prepared extracts of *Bacopa monnieri* stem and evaluated the inhibition effectiveness of the extract in the corrosion of AA1060 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M NaOH solution at 35–55 °C. The authors reported that the inhibition effectiveness of the extract decreased with increasing temperature. Geetha *et al.*<sup>67</sup> reached the same conclusion when studying the inhibition effectiveness of the aqueous extract of *Solanum trilobatum* leaves as a corrosion inhibitor in the corrosion of aluminium in 1 M NaOH solution at 30–60 °C. A decrease in the inhibition effectiveness with increasing temperature was reported in the case of aqueous extract of *Piper longum* seeds tested as an inhibitor in the corrosion of AA1060 aluminium alloy in 1 M NaOH solution,<sup>73</sup> as well for the aqueous extract of *Neolamarkia cadamba* bark as a corrosion inhibitor for 98.06% aluminium alloy in 1 M NaOH solution at 30–60 °C.<sup>64</sup> The same influence of temperature on the inhibition effectiveness of the extracts was also reported by Sirajunnisa *et al.*,<sup>65</sup> Geetha *et al.*,<sup>68</sup> and Al-Haj-Ali *et al.*<sup>75</sup> The opposite behaviour, *i.e.* an increase in inhibition effectiveness with increasing temperature, was reported for aqueous extracts of *Garcinia indica* seed,<sup>76</sup> *Vigna unguiculata* husk,<sup>69</sup> and olive seeds.<sup>80</sup>

Polarisation measurements were conducted in several studies and the authors reported on the inhibitor types of the respective extracts. In the vast majority, the extracts acted as mixed-type inhibitors. Singh and Quraishi<sup>70</sup> investigated the

inhibition effectiveness of *Trachyspermum copticum* seed extract in double-distilled water as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M NaOH solution at 35 °C. PDP measurements showed that the extract acted as a mixed-type inhibitor. The same was reported by Sirajunnisa *et al.*<sup>65</sup> regarding the aqueous extract of *Senna auriculata* leaves tested as a corrosion inhibitor for aluminium with purity higher than 99.9% in 1 N NaOH solution at 30–60 °C. Other extracts acted also as mixed-type inhibitors.<sup>16,17,64,66,67,72,73,76,79</sup> Geetha *et al.*<sup>68</sup> found that the aqueous extract of *Vitex negundo* leaves acted as a mixed-type inhibitor, but with a predominant effect on the anodic reaction in the corrosion of aluminium in 1 M NaOH solution at 30–60 °C. The aqueous extracts of saffron leaves were found to act as a cathodic-type inhibitor.<sup>74</sup> The same was reported by Fetouh *et al.*<sup>77</sup> for the aqueous extracts of *Ambrosia maritima* L., *Lupinus* sp. L, and *Cymbopogon proximus*. However, as mentioned above, Abd-El-Nabey *et al.*<sup>79</sup> reported that the aqueous extract of damsisa (*Ambrosia maritima* L.) acted as a mixed-type inhibitor. Moreover, Gerengi<sup>78</sup> reported that the aqueous extract of *Phoenix dactylifera* fruit juice acted as a weak cathodic-type inhibitor in the corrosion of AA7075 aluminium alloy in 3.5% NaCl solution.

Based on the change of inhibition effectiveness with the temperature described above, as well as on the thermodynamic calculations, several authors discussed the possible mechanism for their respective extracts. Geetha *et al.*<sup>68</sup> suggested that the aqueous extract of *Vitex negundo* leaves physisorbed on the aluminium surface immersed in 1 M NaOH solution at 30–60 °C. Next, Al-Haj-Ali *et al.*<sup>75</sup> suggested that phytochemical compounds contained in the aqueous extract of date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*) leaves are responsible for the physisorption of the extract on 98.8% aluminium surface immersed in 1 M HCl solution, at 20–50 °C. Physisorption was suggested as the mechanism responsible for the adsorption of other extracts on the surface of aluminium materials.<sup>16,65,67,75,78</sup>

The aqueous extract of olive (*Olea europaea*) seeds was reported to chemisorb on 98.63% aluminium alloy in 1 M HCl solution at 30 °C.<sup>80</sup> It was reported by Prabhu and Rao<sup>76</sup> that garcinol, isogarcinol, and curcumin are the main active components of the aqueous extract of *Garcinia indica* seeds.<sup>76</sup> The authors suggested that the extract physisorbed on the surface of 99.61% aluminium immersed in 0.5 M  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  solution at 30–50 °C. The same mechanism was also suggested for aqueous extracts of *Vigna unguiculata* husk.<sup>69</sup> A mixed-type (physisorption and chemisorption) adsorption mechanism was suggested by Fetouh *et al.*<sup>77</sup> The authors concluded that the extracts initially physisorbed on the aluminium surface and then chemisorption occurred through coordinate bond formation between the p-valence orbitals of the aluminium and the oxygen and nitrogen atoms or OH groups present in the structure of the main components of these extracts.

The inhibitive action of the studied aqueous extracts has been attributed in general to the formation of a protective monolayer on the aluminium/solution interface.<sup>64,66,71,73,74,76</sup> According to Prabhu and Rao,<sup>76</sup> this layer is formed on the aluminium surface as a result of chelate complex formation with aluminium ions, which then precipitates on the areas



where the oxide film is destroyed. Complex formation was also reported for the aqueous extract of *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* flowers.<sup>71</sup> Soror<sup>74</sup> suggested that the inhibition action of the aqueous extract of saffron leaves is due to the formation of a compact barrier film through adsorption on the metal surface, displacing the water molecules. Moreover, they suggested the formation of a coordinative covalent bond between the lone pair electrons present in the oxygen atoms of the inhibitor molecule and the metal.

Abd-El-Nabey *et al.*<sup>79</sup> concluded that the anodic dissolution of aluminium is controlled by the diffusion of  $\text{AlO}_2^-$  from the surface of the metal to bulk solution. The authors studied the effect of the aqueous extracts of damissia and *Corchorus itorius* on the corrosion of 99.687% aluminium in 0.1 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  solution. They reported that the main components in the damissia extract are ambrosin, damsine, and coumarin, while for *Corchorus itorius* extract the main components are beta carotene, and vitamins A, B-1, B-2, C, and E.

Chaubey *et al.*,<sup>64</sup> Al-Turkustani and Emran<sup>80</sup> and Emran *et al.*<sup>63</sup> reported efficient extraction of inhibitive compounds under moderate conditions with water as the solvent of choice. This technique enables efficient extraction of inhibitive compounds under moderate conditions. Further purification is performed simply by filtering the obtained extract to obtain a homogenous solution. As mentioned above, high temperatures are a serious drawback of the conventional procedures, due to possible degradation of thermally unstable compounds. The loss of some components and the degradation of some unsaturated compounds by thermal effects or by hydrolysis can be generated by these conventional extraction techniques. Sirajunnisa *et al.*<sup>65</sup> reported high temperatures during sample preparation and subsequent heating of the filtrates in a water bath to fully evaporate the moisture content to obtain the dried compound, which may affect the inhibiting action of *Senna auriculata* leaf extract. Umoren *et al.*<sup>81</sup> discussed that compounds are subjected to degradation or undergo undesirable oxidation by exposure to high processing temperature.

#### 2.4 The corrosion inhibition of plant extracts obtained with solvents used as a corrosive environment

The plant extracts tested in the research works described below were prepared using the same solvents as the corrosive environment in which the aluminium materials were immersed. The work of Berković *et al.*<sup>82</sup> included an additional step in the extract preparation procedure. The authors first dissolved rutin and quercetin in NaOH solution, from which a solution of each in 3% NaCl was prepared. These solutions were then tested as inhibitors in the corrosion of 99.95% aluminium in 3% NaCl solution. Apart from this study,<sup>82</sup> all other research work was published on the inhibition of aluminium materials in alkaline (NaOH and KOH)<sup>83–96</sup> and acidic (HCl and  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ )<sup>9–11,85,93,97–107</sup> solutions (Table 3).

Two research groups investigated the influence of the corrosive environment on the inhibition effectiveness of the respective extracts.<sup>85,93</sup> Oguzie *et al.*<sup>85</sup> tested the extract of *Gongronema latifolium* leaves in HCl and KOH as a corrosion

inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 2 M HCl and 2 M KOH solutions at 30 and 60 °C. The authors reported that the inhibition effectiveness of *Gongronema latifolium* leaves in HCl was higher than *Gongronema latifolium* leaves in KOH. The extract of *Euphorbia hirta* leaves in HCl and NaOH was tested as an inhibitor in the corrosion of AA3003 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M HCl and 0.25 M NaOH solutions at 30 and 60 °C.<sup>93</sup> The alkaline extract was reported to be more effective. The alkaline extract of *Euphorbia hirta* leaves was also reported as a corrosion inhibitor for AA3003 aluminium alloy in 0.25 M NaOH solution at 30 and 60 °C, in addition to *Dialium guineense* leaf extract in NaOH.<sup>87</sup>

In two studies Loto *et al.*<sup>106,107</sup> tested the inhibition effectiveness of *Camellia sinensis* leaf extracts in HCl and  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  as a corrosion inhibitor for 99% aluminium alloy in 0.5 M HCl solution and 0.8 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  solution, respectively. The inhibition effectiveness increased with increasing extract concentration and with increasing exposure time in the HCl solution. The authors reported a decrease in the inhibition effectiveness with increasing extract concentration in  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  solution.

The inhibition effectiveness increased with increasing extract concentration, with the exception of *Euphorbia hirta* leaf extracts in HCl and NaOH<sup>93</sup> and *Camellia sinensis* leaf extract in  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ ,<sup>107</sup> mentioned above. Loto *et al.*<sup>107</sup> reported a decrease in inhibition effectiveness with increasing concentration of the extract, while no significant change was reported by Nnanna *et al.*<sup>93</sup>

The possible synergistic effect of potassium iodide and thiocyanate with the tested extracts was also explored. Obot and Obi-Egbedi<sup>9</sup> added 5 mM KI to the extract of ginseng (*Panax ginseng*) root in HCl used as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy at 30–60 °C. A further increase in the inhibition effectiveness was observed with the addition of KI and was more pronounced at higher temperatures. A synergistic increase in the inhibition effectiveness of *Thymus algeriensis* leaf and seed extracts in HCl extract was reported upon the addition of KI.<sup>11</sup> The mixture was tested as a corrosion inhibitor for AA2024 aluminium alloy in 1 M HCl solution at 25–65 °C. The inhibition effectiveness of *Ipomoea invulcrata* leaf extract in HCl, tested as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy (98.8% purity) in 1 M HCl solution at 30–60 °C was further increased with the addition of KI.<sup>10</sup> The authors reported that KSCN showed an antagonistic effect when added to the extract at high temperatures.

The corrosion inhibition of numerous aluminium materials was reported, including pure aluminium<sup>82,86,90–93,97,105</sup> and 1xxx,<sup>9,10,85,94,99,103</sup> 2xxx,<sup>11,102</sup> 3xxx,<sup>87,88</sup> and 8xxx<sup>98,100,104</sup> series aluminium alloys. The corrosion of 3SR aluminium alloy (98.60% Al) in 2 M NaOH solution was investigated in the presence of *Gossypium hirsutum* L. leaf and seed extracts in NaOH<sup>83</sup> and *Phyllanthus amarus* leaf extract.<sup>84</sup> Other aluminium alloys were also tested.<sup>106,107</sup> Leaves,<sup>10,11,83–85,87–89,91,93,97–104,106,107</sup> seeds,<sup>11,86,102</sup> peel,<sup>90</sup> root,<sup>9</sup> and petals<sup>105</sup> were the parts of the plants from which extracts were prepared. Extracts in HCl of *Mentha pulegium*<sup>102</sup> and *Thymus algeriensis*<sup>11</sup> were prepared from the aerial parts (leaves and seeds) of the respective plants.

Abiola *et al.*<sup>83</sup> investigated the influence of the plant part on the inhibition effectiveness of the extract. *Gossypium hirsutum* L.







**Table 3** The inhibition effectiveness of different extracts (extracted with the same solvent as the corrosive environment) tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and different aluminium alloys in various solutions. The inhibition effectiveness values are reported as given in the article. In instances where different techniques were used for the determination of the inhibition effectiveness, the range from the minimum to the maximum values reported in the article is reported below in this table

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
3SR (98.60% Al)	<i>Phyllanthus amarus</i> leaf extract in NaOH	5–20 vol%	2 M NaOH	66.0–76.0	WL after 6 h immersion at 30 °C	84
AA1060	<i>Ginseng</i> root digested in HCl	10–50 vol%	1 M HCl	41.0–93.1	WL after 4 h immersion at 30–60 °C	9
AA1060	<i>Ginseng</i> root digested in HCl + 5 mM KI	10–50 vol%	1 M HCl	46.6–96.0	WL after 4 h immersion at 30–60 °C	9
AA1060	<i>Gongronema latifolium</i> leaf extract in HCl	10 vol%	2 M HCl	56.28–96.45 <sup>a</sup>	HE at 30 °C	85
AA1060	<i>Gongronema latifolium</i> leaf extract in HCl	50 vol%	2 M HCl	94.95–97.51 <sup>a</sup>	HE at 60 °C	85
AA1060	<i>Gongronema latifolium</i> leaf extract in KOH	10 vol%	2 M KOH	74.45–90.85 <sup>a</sup>	HE at 30 °C	85
AA1060	<i>Gongronema latifolium</i> leaf extract in KOH	50 vol%	2 M KOH	56.30–89.14 <sup>a</sup>	HE at 60 °C	85
99.95%	Rutin in NaOH	10 <sup>−4</sup> M	3% NaCl	61–67	PSP and $R_p$	82
99.95%	Rutin in NaOH	10 <sup>−5</sup> M	3% NaCl	90–96	PSP and $R_p$	82
99.95%	Quercetin in NaOH	10 <sup>−4</sup> M	3% NaCl	50–65	PSP and $R_p$	82
99.95%	Quercetin in NaOH	10 <sup>−5</sup> M	3% NaCl	54–94	PSP and $R_p$	82
99.6%	<i>Solanum melongena</i> L. leaf extract in H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.6 g L <sup>−1</sup>	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	16.26–31.38	WL after 24–144 h immersion	97
99.6%	<i>Solanum melongena</i> L. leaf extract in H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.1–0.7 g L <sup>−1</sup>	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	17.66–31.76	WL after 24 h immersion	97
AA3003	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> leaf extract in NaOH	0.1–0.3 g L <sup>−1</sup>	0.25 M NaOH	69.4–87.5	WL after 4 h immersion at 30–60 °C	87
AA3003	<i>Dialium guineense</i> leaf extract in NaOH	0.1–0.3 g L <sup>−1</sup>	0.25 M NaOH	75.2–87.5	WL after 4 h immersion at 30–60 °C	87
AA8011	<i>Newbouldia leavis</i> leaf extract in H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	0.1–0.4 g L <sup>−1</sup>	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	50.20–92.47	WL at 30–60 °C	98
AA3003	<i>Palisota hirsuta</i> leaf extract in KOH	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>−1</sup>	0.25 M KOH	71.26–86.21	WL at 30 °C	88
NG	<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i> leaf extract in NaOH	300–900 ppm	1 N NaOH	53.2–76.4	WL after 2 h immersion, HE, Tafel extrapolation, and EIS at 30 °C	89
NG	<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i> leaf extract in NaOH	900 ppm	1 N NaOH	72.1–76.4	WL after 2–10 h immersion at 30 °C	89
NG	<i>Ziziphus jujuba</i> leaf extract in NaOH	900 ppm	1 N NaOH	69.8–76.4	WL after 2 h immersion at 30–60 °C	89
99.76%	<i>Pisum sativum</i> peel extract in NaOH	1.5 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M NaOH	91.40–94.15	EIS, PDP, and $R_p$ at 30 °C	90
99.76%	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i> peel extract in NaOH	1.5 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M NaOH	83.60–89.50	EIS, PDP, and $R_p$ at 30 °C	90
99.76%	<i>Citrus reticulata</i> peel extract in NaOH	1.5 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M NaOH	72.48–74.40	EIS, PDP, and $R_p$ at 30 °C	90
99.96%	<i>Plumbago europaea</i> leaf extract in NaOH	4.0–20.0 ppm	1 M NaOH	88.69–96.76	WL at 25–50 °C	91
99.96%	<i>Lupinus varius</i> L. extract in NaOH	20–100 vol%	1 M NaOH	26.69–93.73	WL after 1 h immersion at 25–50 °C	92
AA8011	<i>Moringa oleifera</i> leaf extract in HCl	0.5 g L <sup>−1</sup>	0.5 M HCl	94	WL at room temperature	100
AA2024	<i>Mentha pulegium</i> leaf and seed extract in HCl	0.5–2.5 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M HCl	30.09–59.22	WL at 25 °C	102
AA2024	<i>Mentha pulegium</i> leaf and seed extract in HCl	0.5–1.5 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M HCl	40.01–60.90	EIS at 25 °C	102
AA2024	<i>Mentha pulegium</i> leaf and seed extract in HCl	1.5 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M HCl	63–88	WL at 25–45 °C	102
AA1060	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i> L. leaf extract in HCl	10–50 vol%	2 M HCl	57.97–95.12	HE and thermometric at 30–60 °C	103
98.611%	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> leaf extract in HCl	0.10–0.30 g L <sup>−1</sup>	0.5 M HCl	80.10–88.20	WL at 30–60 °C	93
98.611%	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> leaf extract in NaOH	0.10–0.30 g L <sup>−1</sup>	0.25 M NaOH	78.77–85.91	WL at 30–60 °C	93
AA1060	<i>Ipomoea involucreta</i> leaf extract in HCl	10–50 vol%	1 M HCl	45.8–82.1	WL at 30–60 °C	10
AA1060	<i>Ipomoea involucreta</i> leaf extract in HCl + 0.005 M KI	10–50 vol%	1 M HCl	52.3–89.1	WL at 30–60 °C	10
AA1060	<i>Ipomoea involucreta</i> leaf extract in HCl + 0.005 M KSCN	10–50 vol%	1 M HCl	34.0–82.1	WL at 30–60 °C	10
AA3003	<i>Aspitia africana</i> leaf extract in HCl	700 mg L <sup>−1</sup>	0.4 M HCl	93.42 <sup>b</sup>	EIS after 1 h immersion at 30 °C	104
AA2024	<i>Thymus algeriensis</i> leaf and seed extract in HCl	0.25–1.00 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M HCl	36.7–78.7	WL after 2 h immersion at 25 °C	11
AA2024	<i>Thymus algeriensis</i> leaf and seed extract in HCl	0.75 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M HCl	77.3–80.9	WL after 2 h immersion at 25–65 °C	11
AA2024	<i>Thymus algeriensis</i> leaf and seed extract in HCl	0.25–0.75 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M HCl	61.0–83.0	EIS at 25 °C	11
AA2024	<i>Thymus algeriensis</i> leaf and seed extract in HCl + 0.5–3.0 mM KI	0.75 g L <sup>−1</sup>	1 M HCl	78.7–93.1	WL after 2 h immersion at 25 °C	11
Pure	<i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> petal extract in H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	200–2000 ppm	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	4–95	PDP and EIS at 25 °C	105



Table 3 (Contd.)

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
Pure	<i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i> petal extract in H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	2000 ppm	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	20–94	PDP and EIS at 25–60 °C	105
99.999%	<i>Sinapis alba</i> dry powder extract refluxed in NaOH	0.2–1.0 vol%	1 M NaOH	91.26–98.41	WL after 120 min and PSP at 25–50 °C	95
98.06%	<i>Moringa oleifera</i> stem bark extract in NaOH	0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	65.0–85.3	WL at 30–60 °C	96
98.06%	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> stem bark extract in NaOH	0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	60.5–77.5	WL at 30–60 °C	96
98.06%	<i>Mangifera indica</i> stem bark extract in NaOH	0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	59.4–75.2	WL at 30–60 °C	96
98.06%	<i>Moringa oleifera</i> stem bark extract in NaOH	0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	85.4–86.5	PDP and EIS at 27 °C	96
98.06%	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i> stem bark extract in NaOH	0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	79.1–81.2	PDP and EIS at 27 °C	96
98.06%	<i>Mangifera indica</i> stem bark extract in NaOH	0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	72.0–79.1	PDP and EIS at 27 °C	96

NG – not given. <sup>a</sup>  $\eta$  was calculated on the basis of the values of the corrosion rate, the corrosion current, the corrosion current density, or the resistance of the blank solution and inhibited samples. <sup>b</sup>  $\eta$  was calculated on the basis of the sum ( $R_{\text{oxide}} + R_p + R_{\text{inhibitor}}$ ) of the blank solution and of the inhibited samples.

leaf and seed extracts, prepared by using the reflux in NaOH solution, was tested in the corrosion of 3SR aluminium alloy (98.60% aluminium) in 2 M NaOH solution. The authors reported that the seed extract was slightly more effective than the leaf extract.

This group of extracts was tested at temperatures varying from 25 to 60 °C.<sup>9–11,87,89,91–93,95,96,98,100,102–105</sup> The inhibition effectiveness of the majority of the extracts decreased with increasing temperature. Nnanna *et al.*<sup>87</sup> investigated the extracts of *Euphorbia hirta* and *Dialium guineense* leaves in NaOH as corrosion inhibitors of AA3003 aluminium alloy in 0.25 M NaOH solution at 30 and 60 °C. The major constituents of *Euphorbia hirta* were reported to be triterpenoids, alkaloids, tannins, glycosides, sterols, essential oil, flavones, and phenols. *Dialium guineense* contains mainly saponins, tannins, alkaloids, flavonoids, and essential oil. The authors reported that the inhibition effectiveness decreased with increasing temperature for both extracts. The same conclusion was reported for *Euphorbia hirta* leaf extract in NaOH in another study by Nnanna *et al.*<sup>93</sup> It was found by Sirajunnisa *et al.*<sup>89</sup> that the inhibition effectiveness of *Ziziphus jujuba* leaf extract in NaOH, tested as an inhibitor in the corrosion of aluminium in 1 N NaOH solution, decreased with increasing temperature. Irshe-dat *et al.*<sup>92</sup> reported that the inhibition effectiveness of *Lupinus varius* L. extract in NaOH as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.96% aluminium in 1 M NaOH solution at 25–50 °C decreased with increasing temperature. A decrease in the inhibition effectiveness with increasing temperature was also reported by Nnanna *et al.*<sup>98</sup> for *Newbouldia leavis* leaf extract in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, tested as an inhibitor in the corrosion of AA8011 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 30 and 60 °C. The same behaviour was reported by Khadraoui *et al.*<sup>102</sup> regarding the inhibition effectiveness of *Mentha pulegium* leaf and seed extract in HCl used as a corrosion inhibitor for AA2024 aluminium alloy in 1 M HCl solution at 25–45 °C. Obot and Obi-Egbedi<sup>103</sup> reported a decrease in the inhibition effectiveness of *Chromolaena odorata* L. leaf extract in HCl, tested as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 2 M HCl solution, when increasing the temperature from 30 to 60 °C. Chaubey *et al.*<sup>96</sup> Obot and Obi-Egbedi,<sup>9</sup> Nnanna and Owate,<sup>100</sup> Obot *et al.*<sup>10</sup> and Molina-Ocampo *et al.*<sup>105</sup> reached the same conclusion regarding the influence of temperature on the inhibition effectiveness of the respective extracts. Different behaviour was reported by Bataineh *et al.*<sup>91</sup> who concluded that the inhibition effectiveness of *Plumbago europaea* leaf extract in NaOH used as an inhibitor in the corrosion of 99.96% aluminium in 1 M NaOH solution at 20–50 °C increased with increasing temperature. Similarly, Mejeha *et al.*<sup>104</sup> concluded that the inhibition effectiveness of *Aspilia africana* leaf extract in HCl tested as a corrosion inhibitor for AA3003 aluminium alloy in 0.4 M and 0.5 M HCl solutions at 30 and 60 °C, increased with increasing temperature. A slight increase in the inhibition effectiveness with increasing temperature was reported by Bataineh *et al.*<sup>95</sup> for *Sinapis alba* dry powder extract refluxed in NaOH tested as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.999% aluminium in 1 M NaOH solution at 25–50 °C. Only Khadraoui *et al.*<sup>11</sup> reported no significant change in



inhibition effectiveness with increasing temperature for *Thymus algeriensis* leaf and seed extract in HCl.

Polarisation measurements have been performed in a few studies and the inhibitor type for the respective extracts has been reported.<sup>89,90,95,104,105</sup> Chaubey *et al.*<sup>90</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of *Pisum sativum*, *Solanum tuberosum*, and *Citrus reticulata* peel extracts in NaOH in the corrosion of 99.76% aluminium alloy in 1 M NaOH solution at 30 °C. The inhibition effectiveness of the extracts decreased in the order *Pisum sativum* > *Solanum tuberosum* > *Citrus reticulata*. PDP measurements showed that all three extracts acted as mixed-type inhibitors. *Hibiscus sabdariffa* petal extract in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> was reported to act as a mixed-type inhibitor in the corrosion of pure aluminium in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 25–60 °C.<sup>105</sup> Moreover, it was reported that the extracts of *Ziziphus jujuba* leaves in NaOH,<sup>89</sup> *Sinapis alba* dry powder in NaOH,<sup>95</sup> as well as stem bark extracts in NaOH of *Moringa oleifera*, *Terminalia arjuna*, and *Mangifera indica*<sup>96</sup> also acted as mixed-type inhibitors. PDP measurements showed that *Aspilia africana* leaf extract in HCl acted as a cathodic-type inhibitor.<sup>104</sup>

Based on the thermodynamic calculations, authors have suggested the adsorption mechanism of the studied extracts.<sup>9,10,85–89,91–95,97–107</sup> Nwosu and Osarolube<sup>86</sup> studied the extract of *Xylopiya aethiopica* seeds in KOH as a corrosion inhibitor for 98.47% aluminium in 0.75 M KOH solution at room temperature. The authors reported that the optimal inhibition effectiveness was 84.53%, but this is not supported by the results presented. According to the authors, the extract protected aluminium by physisorption on its surface. Similarly, Mejeha *et al.*<sup>97</sup> suggested physisorption as the possible mechanism for the adsorption of *Solanum melongena* L. leaf extract in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, tested as an inhibitor in the corrosion of AA1060 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution. Physisorption was also suggested for other extracts as the possible mechanism for their adsorption on the surface of the aluminium materials.<sup>9,10,89,91–95,98,100,103,105–107</sup> Chemisorption was suggested by Oluseyi *et al.*<sup>99</sup> as the possible adsorption mechanism for *Vernonia amygdalina* leaf extract in HCl on the AA1100 aluminium alloy surface, immersed in 0.5 M HCl solution at 40 °C. Omotosho and Ajayi<sup>101</sup> investigated the inhibition effectiveness of *Vernonia amygdalina* leaf extract in HCl as a corrosion inhibitor for 99% aluminium alloy in 2 M HCl solution. Based on the thermodynamic calculations, the authors suggested chemisorption as the possible adsorption mechanism for *Vernonia amygdalina* extract on the aluminium alloy surface. The same adsorption mechanism was suggested for *Mentha pulegium* leaf and seed extract in HCl.<sup>102</sup> The studies of Oguzie *et al.*<sup>85</sup> and Mejeha *et al.*<sup>104</sup> reported an influence of either the corrosive environment or temperature on the adsorption mechanism of the tested extracts. Oguzie *et al.*,<sup>85</sup> based on the variation of the inhibition effectiveness with temperature, suggested chemisorption in the case of *Gongronema latifolium* leaf extract in HCl tested in 2 M HCl solution and physisorption in the case of 2 M KOH solution. However, they reported on the possibility of chemisorption in 2 M KOH at higher extract concentrations. Mejeha *et al.*<sup>104</sup> reported the presence of three B vitamins, *i.e.* thiamine, riboflavin, and niacin, in *Aspilia africana* leaf extract

in HCl, which are responsible for its inhibition action. The authors suggested physisorption at low temperatures and chemisorption at high temperatures. Finally, Nnanna *et al.*<sup>88</sup> tested the extract of *Palisota hirsute* leaves in KOH as an inhibitor in the corrosion of AA3003 aluminium alloy in 0.25 M KOH solution at 30 °C. Thermodynamic calculations suggested that the adsorption of the extract was of a mixed nature (physisorption and chemisorption). A mixed adsorption mechanism was also suggested for *Euphorbia hirta* leaf extract in NaOH.<sup>87</sup>

The authors attribute the inhibition action of these extracts to the ability of their components to adsorb on the surface of the aluminium materials. However, in the best of cases they mention only the class of compounds responsible for the adsorption and very rarely are the compounds identified. Irshedat *et al.*<sup>92</sup> attributed the inhibition action of *Lupinus varius* L. extract in NaOH to its phytochemical constituents (alkaloids, tannins, oligosaccharides, polysaccharides, glucoproteins, volatile monoterpenes, and related oxygenated sesquiterpenes) that contain oxygen and nitrogen atoms, serving as adsorption centres. *Ipomoea invulcrata* leaf extract in HCl<sup>10</sup> and in NaOH<sup>94</sup> adsorbed due to the presence of the heteroatoms and aromatic rings with  $\pi$ -bonds in the molecule of the main constituent, which serve as adsorption centres. The authors reported that the main constituent of this plant is *D*-lysergic acid amide and also it contains small amounts of other alkaloids, such as chanoclavine, elymoclavine, ergometrine, and *D*-isolysergic acid amide.

The presence of certain groups or a particular bonding of these components with the surface of aluminium materials was also reported. Nnanna and Owate<sup>100</sup> evaluated the inhibition effectiveness of the leaf extract of *Moringa oleifera* in HCl, as a corrosion inhibitor for AA8011 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M HCl solution at 30 and 60 °C. The authors attributed the inhibition action of the extract to the presence of the C=O functional group. Omotosho and Ajayi<sup>101</sup> attributed the inhibition action of *Vernonia amygdalina* leaf extract in HCl to the formation of a covalent bond between the phytochemical constituents of the extract and the aluminium alloy. Molina-Ocampo *et al.*<sup>105</sup> attributed the inhibition action of *Hibiscus sabdariffa* petal extract in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> to adsorption on the aluminium surface through the lone pairs and p-orbitals of the heteroatoms present in the structure of the flavonoid compounds present in the extract.

In addition, a few authors reported a protective layer (film) formation as the result of adsorption.<sup>82,95,96,100</sup> This protective layer in the case of stem bark extracts in NaOH of *Moringa oleifera*, *Terminalia arjuna*, and *Mangifera indica*<sup>96</sup> was formed through the adsorption of their main components, 4-( $\alpha$ -l-rhamnopyranosyloxy)-benzylglucosinolate, ellagic acid, and mangiferin, respectively. Berković *et al.*<sup>82</sup> reported that the protective layer (film) formed by the adsorption of rutin and quercetin was stable at lower concentrations (10<sup>−4</sup> and 10<sup>−5</sup> M), while at higher concentrations (higher pH) the film dissolved due to the amphoteric nature of aluminium, promoting corrosion.

The majority of the authors reported quick and simple extraction procedures to obtain extracts with a high inhibitive



effect. A simple extraction procedure was utilised in the work of Abiola *et al.*<sup>84</sup> to isolate these compounds from the plant of *Phyllanthus amarus*. The authors reported that *Phyllanthus amarus* extract contains several phytochemicals, in particular two lignans, *i.e.* phyllathin and hypophyllathin, which contain several adsorption centres. These kind of extraction procedures are uncomplicated and require a significantly lower amount of organic solvents compared to other methods, a relatively short time for crude sample preparation, and above all, a high yield of the target compounds is reported as having been attained. These procedures may be applied to prepare a relatively large amount of extract using either a plant's stem, leaf, or root, which are otherwise usually discarded. Each step in the extraction procedure requires specific attention regarding the operating parameters and furthermore this increases operating costs and influences the duration of the process. Compared to previous isolation methods, which included multiple steps using various organic solvents with a time intensive separation process,<sup>108</sup> the method reported by Obot and Obi-Egbedi<sup>9</sup> is simple and found to produce a much higher yield of active compounds as compared to the method of Pyo *et al.*<sup>108</sup> The development of "modern" sample-preparation techniques with significant advantages over conventional methods for the extraction and analysis of plants is likely to play an important role in the overall effort to ensure and provide high-quality plant extracts. Khadraoui *et al.*<sup>102</sup> reported that different methods were investigated for selectively preparing extracts of *Mentha pulegium* leaves and seeds and the extracts were subsequently evaluated to compare the efficiency of the SFE with the hydrodistillation process. In comparison to the hydrodistillation method, SFE yields a lower number of constituents of interest. The authors assume that all of these components are present in the SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extracts, but at lower concentration than those obtained by hydrodistillation.<sup>109</sup> Modern extraction techniques feature mild operating conditions, resulting in a higher concentration of active compounds present in the extract. Nnanna *et al.*<sup>93</sup> highlights that it may be safely assumed that lower extraction temperatures would yield a higher content of phytochemical components, which include tannins, alkaloids, and essential oil in the extract. The inhibitive properties of tannins have been attributed to the reaction of the polyphenolic fraction of tannin moieties by hindering both cathodic and anodic electrode processes due to the high number of bonds in the extracts.

## 2.5 Corrosion inhibition of plant extracts obtained with mixed solvents

Differences in the structure of phenolic compounds also determine their solubility in solvents of different polarity. Therefore, different solvent compositions may have a significant impact on their relative capacity to extract the total phenolic and total flavonoid components of a plant's leaves, trunk, and stems. There are some reports concerning the optimisation of the extraction conditions of the phenolic compound content and antioxidant activities of some plant

foods, nevertheless, the optimal procedure is usually unique to different plant matrices.<sup>110,111</sup>

In the following paragraphs we discuss studies published on the corrosion inhibition of aluminium and its alloys by plant extracts that are extracted by either several solvents of different types,<sup>112–114</sup> or by a mixture of two solvents.<sup>115–117</sup> As seen in Table 4, an acetone/water (1 : 1) mixture was used to prepare extracts of red onion (*Allium cepa* L.) skin,<sup>115</sup> breadfruit (*Artocarpus altilis*) peel,<sup>116</sup> and garlic (*Allium sativum*) skin,<sup>117</sup> which were then tested as corrosion inhibitors for 98.76% aluminium in 2 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 30–50 °C (ref. 115) for commercial aluminium in 0.5 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution<sup>116</sup> and for 97.58% aluminium alloy in 0.5 M HCl solution,<sup>117</sup> respectively. Ethanol, ethyl acetate, HCl, and water were employed to extract different parts of various plants. Several studies reported on the possible influence of the solvent used on the inhibition effectiveness of the respective extract. Alinnor and Ejikeme<sup>112</sup> used HCl, ethanol, and distilled water to prepare extracts of *Ocimum gratissimum* leaves and tested the extracts as corrosion inhibitors for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 1 M HCl solution at 30 and 60 °C. The authors showed that the inhibition effectiveness followed the order extract in distilled water > extract in ethanol > extract in HCl.

Abiola *et al.*<sup>113</sup> prepared extracts of *Delonix regia* leaves and seeds in hydrochloric acid and ethanol and tested the extracts as inhibitors in the corrosion of 99.16% aluminium in 2 M HCl solution at 30 °C. The authors concluded that the acid extracts were more effective than the ethanolic extracts.

Aqueous extract of *Juglans regia* L. leaves showed a higher inhibition effectiveness compared with ethyl acetate extract in protecting 99.8% aluminium immersed in 1 M HCl solution, at room temperature.<sup>114</sup> Several solvents (water, methanol, ethanol, and 50% aqueous solutions of methanol and ethanol) were utilised to prepare extracts from walnut green husk, placing a specific emphasis on the extraction yield and antioxidant properties of the compounds present in total extracts. The highest extraction yield was obtained with water, although aqueous extracts showed the lowest antioxidant properties. The highest total phenol content and antioxidant activities, measured by reducing power and diphenylpicrylhydrazyl assays, were obtained with 50% aqueous ethanol.

Leaves,<sup>112–114</sup> seeds,<sup>113</sup> skin, and peel<sup>115–117</sup> were used to prepare the extracts. Abiola *et al.*<sup>113</sup> found an influence of the plant part used to prepare the extract on the inhibition effectiveness of *Delonix regia*. The authors reported that the inhibition effectiveness followed the order acid seed extract > acid leaf extract > ethanol seed extract > ethanol leaf extract.

All the extracts were tested in an acidic environment, mainly in HCl solution. In all these studies it was reported that inhibition effectiveness increased with increasing extract concentration. Pure aluminium and 1xxx series aluminium alloy were the only tested materials.

The inhibition effectiveness of these extracts has been investigated from room temperature up to 60 °C.<sup>112,115,116</sup> In all three studies the authors reported that the inhibition effectiveness decreased with increasing temperature. However, Alinnor and Ejikeme<sup>112</sup> reported a significant decrease in



**Table 4** The inhibition effectiveness of different extracts (extracted either with solvents of different natures or with a mixture of two solvents) tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and different aluminium alloys in acidic solutions. The inhibition effectiveness values are reported as given in the article. In instances where different techniques were used for the determination of the inhibition effectiveness, the range from the minimum to the maximum values reported in the article is reported below in this table

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
AA1060	<i>Ocimum gratissimum</i> leaf extract in HCl	20–100 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	4.83–90.72	WL at 30–60 °C	112
AA1060	<i>Ocimum gratissimum</i> leaf extract in ethanol	20–100 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	7.81–93.74	WL at 30–60 °C	112
AA1060	<i>Ocimum gratissimum</i> leaf extract in distilled water	20–100 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	15.11–95.65	WL at 30–60 °C	112
99.16%	<i>Delonix regia</i> seed extract in HCl	0.1–0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	84.8–95.0	HE after 30 min immersion	113
99.16%	<i>Delonix regia</i> leaf extract in HCl	0.1–0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	62.3–90.3	HE after 30 min immersion	113
99.16%	<i>Delonix regia</i> seed extract in absolute ethanol	0.1–0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	50.1–68.4	HE after 30 min immersion	113
99.16%	<i>Delonix regia</i> leaf extract in absolute ethanol	0.1–0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	44.3–66.1	HE after 30 min immersion	113
99.16%	<i>Delonix regia</i> seed extract in HCl	0.1–0.6 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	0.00–85.8	HE after 60–120 min immersion	113
99.8%	<i>Juglans regia</i> L. leaf extract in water	0.02–0.14 mg mL <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	41–84	WL after 2–8 h immersion at room temperature	114
99.8%	<i>Juglans regia</i> L. leaf extract in ethyl acetate	0.02–0.14 mg mL <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	23–75	WL after 2–8 h immersion at room temperature	114
99.8%	<i>Juglans regia</i> L. leaf extract in water	0.02–0.14 mg mL <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	38.30–88.78	PDP and EIS at room temperature	114
99.8%	<i>Juglans regia</i> L. leaf extract in ethyl acetate	0.02–0.14 mg mL <sup>-1</sup>	1 M HCl	20.54–77.13	PDP and EIS at room temperature	114
98.76%	Red onion skin extract in acetone/water (1 : 1) mixture	0.05–0.25 g dm <sup>-3</sup>	2 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	55.65–95.02	WL at 30–50 °C	115
NG	Breadfruit peel extract in acetone/water (1 : 1) mixture	0.0025–0.0145 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	55.5–85.3	WL at 30–50 °C	116

NG – not given.

inhibition effectiveness with increasing temperature for *Ocimum gratissimum* leaf extracts in HCl, ethanol, and distilled water, while only a slight decrease was observed when increasing the temperature for breadfruit (*Artocarpus altalis*) peel extract.<sup>116</sup>

The vast majority of the studies evaluated the inhibition effectiveness of the extracts using chemical techniques (WL and HE). Only Akin *et al.*,<sup>114</sup> based on the PDP measurements, concluded that *Juglans regia* L. leaf extracts in water and ethyl acetate reduced the anodic and cathodic currents of the corrosion couple.

Based on the thermodynamic calculations, the authors suggested physisorption as the possible mechanism for the adsorption of the respective extracts on the surface of aluminium materials.<sup>112,113,116,117</sup> Red onion (*Allium cepa* L) skin extract in acetone/water (1 : 1 v/v) mixture<sup>115</sup> was reported to physisorb through its main component, quercetin.

### 3. Drugs as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys

As pointed out above, drugs were previously considered as corrosion inhibitors, especially in relation to the corrosion inhibition of steel.<sup>22</sup> However, studies describing drugs as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys are rather rare, although such research might become attractive in the near future. Fig. 3 summarises the structures of all the drugs reported as corrosion inhibitors herein. Until now, antibacterial and antifungal drugs were among the most studied compounds as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys in various solutions.<sup>12,13,118–123</sup> However, a few studies were also performed on the possible application of antihypertensive and antiemetic drugs as corrosion inhibitors.<sup>124,125</sup> All the studied drugs were tested as corrosion inhibitors in acidic solutions.

The WL technique has been widely used to evaluate the inhibition performance of these compounds. Polarisation techniques were also employed in several of the included studies<sup>12,118,123,124</sup> and in all cases the authors concluded that the respective drugs used acted as mixed-type inhibitors. In all the research work published on the use of drugs as corrosion inhibitors it was reported that inhibition effectiveness increased proportionally with drug concentration, but decreased with increasing temperature. Based on the thermodynamic calculations, the authors suggested mainly physisorption as the possible adsorption mechanism for all the studied drugs,<sup>12,13,119,120,122,123</sup> apart from the work of Bhat and Alva,<sup>124</sup> who suggested a mixed-type adsorption (physisorption and chemisorption) for meclizine hydrochloride. However, these authors also reported the predominance of physisorption in the total mechanism.

Gece prepared a comprehensive review article relating drugs from different pharmacotherapeutic groups, that have completely different biologic mechanism of action, as corrosion inhibitors for various materials.<sup>22</sup> However, it has to be taken into account that the pharmacodynamic, and hence the pharmacologic action the drugs cause to the body, has in its essence





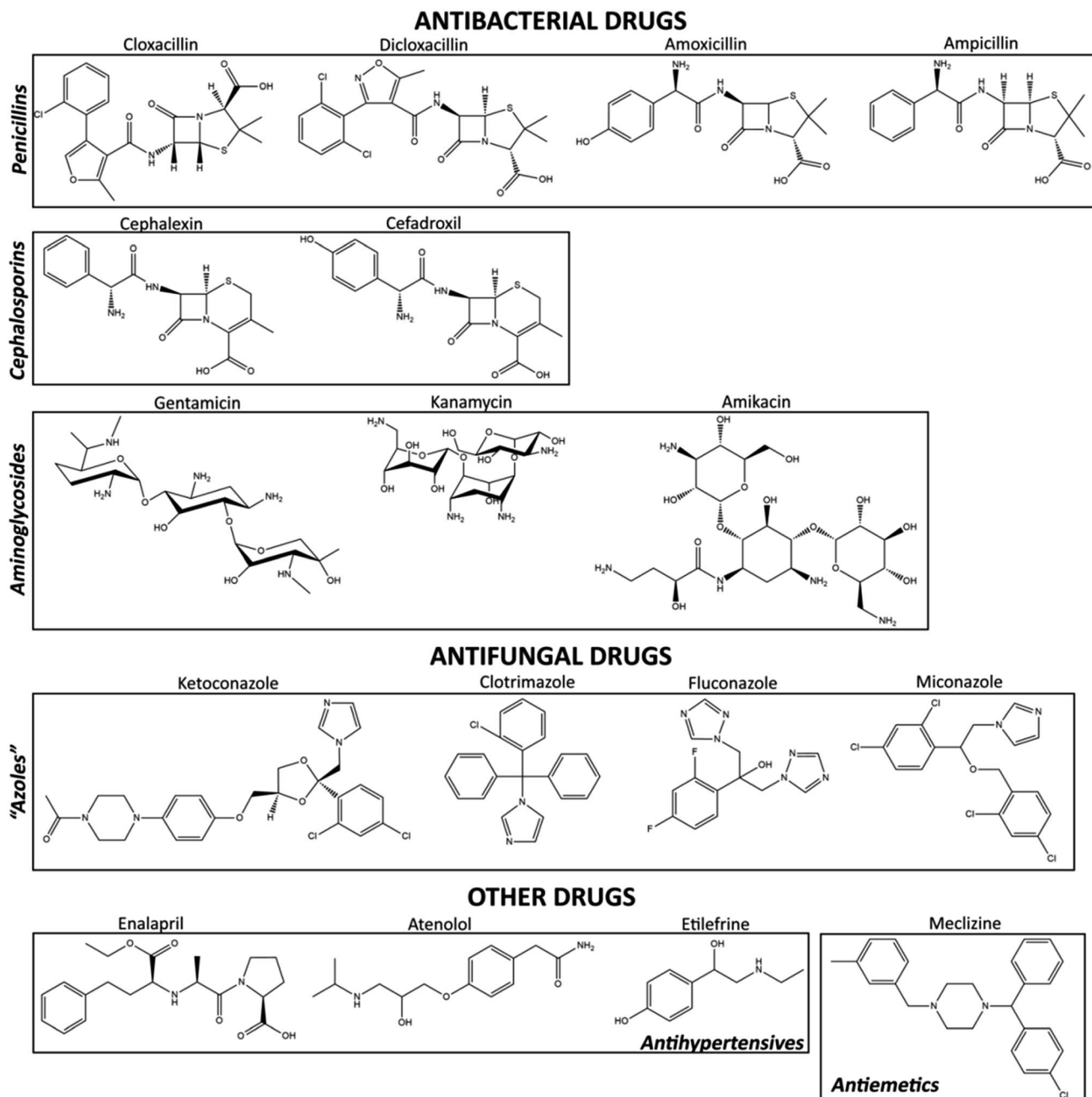


Fig. 3 Structures of the drugs tested.

nothing to do with the mechanism of their potential corrosion inhibition. Furthermore, these drug-based corrosion inhibition candidates can be better grouped together by general molecular features (like the presence of heterocycles in their structure, or reactive centres like O, N and/or S atoms containing lone pairs of electrons, which can aid their adsorption onto metal surfaces), rather than by their biologic activity. Here we can again build on the conclusions by Gece, who found essentially the same,<sup>22</sup> namely that the features related to the bare chemical structure (backbone) of these is far more important, than their features, giving them their potential to be used as drugs for various purposes. Nevertheless, reviewing (or grouping) drugs by their pharmacotherapeutic groups it is logical also in

their description, related to their corrosion inhibition potential. Namely, by doing these, a researcher with a background related to biological sciences, can then easily search for their potential dual use in practice. This is especially true in relation to medical implants (*e.g.* metal based hip prostheses), where either anti-microbial drugs (like antifungals and antibiotics) or anti-inflammatory drugs, can significantly contribute to both, the corrosion inhibition during their prolonged exposure to the harsh biologic environment of the body, while at the same time easing the uptake of the implant by the body, by either preventing infections or diminishing the possibility of an immune response that could even lead to the implants rejection.





In each of the following paragraphs, we briefly describe the general use of these drugs in medical applications. The main findings (as described above) regarding the use of drugs as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium materials are presented in Table 5, followed by a more detailed description of the work.

### 3.1 Antibacterial drugs

Antimicrobial agents are some of the most widely used therapeutic drugs worldwide. The terms antimicrobial, antibiotic, and anti-infective encompass a wide variety of pharmaceutical agents that include antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, and antiparasitic drugs. Of these, antibacterial agents are by far the most commonly used and thus are a focus of this article, although similar principles apply to the agents from the other groups as well.<sup>126</sup> The combination of antibacterial drugs and metals seems straightforward, since there are many applications of metals and alloys where antibacterial activity is desired.<sup>127–130</sup>

**3.1.1 Penicillins.** Penicillins are among the first effective antibacterial drugs used in modern medicine.<sup>131</sup> The lead compound was of natural origin (derived from *Penicillium* fungi), and was subsequently modified to yield several novel semisynthetic drugs with different spectra of activity and effectiveness against a variety of bacterial infections.<sup>131</sup> Penicillins act by inhibiting the formation of cross-links in the bacterial cell wall, which weakens it to such an extent that the osmotic pressure in the interior of the bacteria becomes increasingly uncompensated, causing cell death.<sup>132</sup> Since their biological target is an enzyme involved in the bacterial cell wall synthesis, their corrosion inhibition activity is more likely related only to their base chemical structure, probably due to the heteroatoms present in their so called  $\beta$ -lactam heterocycle lead structure.

To the best of our knowledge, there are only two studies that evaluated the corrosion inhibition potential of penicillins for the protection of aluminium,<sup>12,133</sup> namely two  $\beta$ -lactamase resistant penicillins, *i.e.* cloxacillin and dicloxacillin, and two compounds from the so-called aminopenicillins group, *i.e.* amoxicillin and ampicillin, which are two of the most commonly used antibiotics at the moment (Fig. 3).

Abdallah<sup>133</sup> reported on the use of four antibacterial drugs from the group of penicillins, *i.e.* ampicillin, cloxacillin, flucloxacillin, and amoxicillin as inhibitors in the corrosion of 99.99% aluminium in 2 M HCl solution. The authors attributed the increase in the inhibition effectiveness of these compounds to the increase in the electron donor characteristics of the substituted groups, following the order amoxicillin > ampicillin > cloxacillin > flucloxacillin.

**3.1.2 Cephalosporins.** Cephalosporins were discovered in the middle of the last century as extracts from the fungus *Cephalosporium acremonium*.<sup>134</sup> With a similar spectrum of activity against bacteria as penicillins, they are often the second line of treatment, when penicillins cannot be used or when their often low solubility in aqueous media is not a limitation. Since they possess a structure similar to penicillins, they are also prone to degradation by  $\beta$ -lactamase, a common bacterial strategy to gain resistance to antibacterial drugs.<sup>132</sup> Similar to

penicillins, their corrosion inhibition potential lies most likely in the possible delocalization of  $\pi$  electrons, which can enhance their adsorption to metal surfaces.<sup>22</sup>

Fouda *et al.*<sup>12</sup> investigated the use of five antibacterial compounds from the group of penicillins, *i.e.* flucloxacillin (also known by the name floxacillin), dicloxacillin, cloxacillin, and cephalosporins of the first-generation, *i.e.* cephalexin, and cefadroxil, as inhibitors in the corrosion of AA6063 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  solution at 30 °C. The authors reported that cloxacillin and cefadroxil performed better compared to the other compounds in the penicillin and first-generation cephalosporins groups. A further increase in inhibition effectiveness was reported upon the addition of KI.

**3.1.3 Aminoglycosides.** Aminoglycosides are antibacterial drugs that inhibit bacterial protein synthesis by binding specifically to the bacterial 30S ribosomal subunit, causing a misreading of mRNA and leaving the bacterium unable to synthesise proteins important for growth.<sup>135</sup> Their name originates from the amino-modified glycoside in their structure. The drugs used in ref. 118 include gentamicin and kanamycin (mostly referred to as kanamycin A), which belong to the deoxystreptamin-containing aminoglycosides, and amikacin, which is usually used as a last-resort medication against multidrug-resistant bacteria. Although the main structure of the aminoglycosides is not based on the  $\beta$ -lactam ring structure, some similarity with the above described antibiotics can be seen. Some aminoglycosides also include heterocycles in their structures. These are single saccharide O-containing monomers, which can work as binding centers in a similar manner as the above mentioned antibiotics.

Abdallah and Jahdaly<sup>118</sup> evaluated the inhibition effectiveness of three antibacterial drugs from the group of aminoglycosides, *i.e.* gentamicin, kanamycin, and amikacin as corrosion inhibitors for 99.99% aluminium in 1 M HCl solution at 30 °C. The inhibition effectiveness followed the order amikacin > kanamycin > gentamicin. The authors attributed this order to the change in molecular weight and the number of heteroatoms present in these compounds. According to the authors, these drugs adsorbed on the aluminium surface through the oxygen atoms in the heterocyclic rings as well as the amino groups. Coordination bonds might be formed between the unshared electron pairs of the oxygen and nitrogen atoms and the empty p-orbitals of aluminium.

### 3.2 Antifungals

Drugs for systemic antifungal treatment (some are also used for the treatment of topical infections) include amphotericin B (and its lipid formulations), various azole derivatives, echinocandins, and flucytosine.<sup>136</sup> In the following articles, antifungal drugs from the subgroup of “azoles” (a commonly used term in medicine for this type of antifungal, which all exhibit the same mechanism of action, regardless of the type of non-carbon atoms in the heterocycle), were the only ones applied. The respective drugs from this group of antifungals inhibit the fungal enzyme called lanosterol 14  $\alpha$ -demethylase, which converts lanosterol to ergosterol.<sup>137</sup> Ergosterol is an important





**Table 5** The inhibition effectiveness of different drugs tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and different aluminium alloys in acidic solutions. The inhibition effectiveness values are reported as given in the article. In instances where different techniques were used for the determination of the inhibition effectiveness, the range from the minimum to the maximum values reported in the article is reported below in this table

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
99.99%	Ampicillin	200–1000 ppm	2 M HCl	62.22–87.97	WL, HE, and Tafel extrapolation at 25 °C	133
99.99%	Cloxacillin	200–1000 ppm	2 M HCl	56.34–87.41	WL, HE, and Tafel extrapolation at 25 °C	133
99.99%	Flucloxacillin	200–1000 ppm	2 M HCl	52.13–86.82	WL, HE, and Tafel extrapolation at 25 °C	133
99.99%	Amoxycillin	200–1000 ppm	2 M HCl	63.96–90.00	WL, HE, and Tafel extrapolation at 25 °C	133
99.99%	Ampicillin	1000 ppm	2 M HCl	70.96–85.00	WL at 25–65 °C	133
99.99%	Cloxacillin	1000 ppm	2 M HCl	68.54–80.00	WL at 25–65 °C	133
99.99%	Flucloxacillin	1000 ppm	2 M HCl	59.67–77.50	WL at 25–65 °C	133
99.99%	Amoxycillin	1000 ppm	2 M HCl	73.38–90.00	WL at 25–65 °C	133
Pure	Enalapril maleate	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	57.70–80.33	PSP at 25 °C	125
Pure	Atenolol	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	46.34–67.69	PSP at 25 °C	125
Pure	Etilefrine hydrochloride	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	39.80–59.64	PSP at 25 °C	125
AA6063	Enalapril maleate	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	69.72–81.10	PSP at 25 °C	125
AA6063	Atenolol	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	55.43–74.36	PSP at 25 °C	125
AA6063	Etilefrine hydrochloride	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	47.61–66.97	PSP at 25 °C	125
AA20556	Enalapril maleate	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	82.96–91.11	PSP at 25 °C	125
AA20556	Atenolol	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	51.11–76.60	PSP at 25 °C	125
AA20556	Etilefrine hydrochloride	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	48.15–84.15	PSP at 25 °C	125
AlSi <sub>11</sub> MgSr	Enalapril maleate	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	89.40–93.70	PSP at 25 °C	125
AlSi <sub>11</sub> MgSr	Atenolol	50–1000 ppm	0.01 M HCl	73.50–82.00	PSP at 25 °C	125
AlSi <sub>11</sub> MgSr	Etilefrine hydrochloride	50–250 ppm	0.01 M HCl	64.00–80.16	PSP at 25 °C	125
AA6063	Floxacin	$1 \times 10^{-6}$ to $11 \times 10^{-6}$ M	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	28.0–49.5	WL and GSP at 30–35 °C	12
AA6063	Dicloxacillin	$1 \times 10^{-6}$ to $11 \times 10^{-6}$ M	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	31.7–53.8	WL at 30–35 °C	12
AA6063	Cloxacillin	$1 \times 10^{-6}$ to $11 \times 10^{-6}$ M	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	38.3–61.5	WL at 30–35 °C	12
AA6063	Cephalexin	1200–2200 ppm	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	28.8–48.9	WL at 30–35 °C	12
AA6063	Cefadroxil	1200–2200 ppm	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	48.6–72.5	WL at 30–35 °C	12
AA6063	Floxacin + $10^{-2}$ M KI	$1 \times 10^{-6}$ to $11 \times 10^{-6}$ M	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	53.3–67.6	WL at 30 °C	12
AA6063	Dicloxacillin + $10^{-2}$ M KI	$1 \times 10^{-6}$ to $11 \times 10^{-6}$ M	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	62.6–76.9	WL at 30 °C	12
AA6063	Cloxacillin + $10^{-2}$ M KI	$1 \times 10^{-6}$ to $11 \times 10^{-6}$ M	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	67.6–82.4	WL at 30 °C	12
AA6063	Cephalexin + $10^{-2}$ M KI	1200–2200 ppm	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	54.9–70.3	WL at 30 °C	12
AA6063	Cefadroxil + $10^{-2}$ M KI	1200–2200 ppm	0.5 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	80.2–91.2	WL at 30 °C	12
AA1060	Clotrimazole	$2 \times 10^{-5}$ to $1 \times 10^{-4}$ M	0.1 M HCl	36.0–88.0	WL at 30–50 °C	119
AA1060	Fluconazole	$2 \times 10^{-5}$ to $1 \times 10^{-4}$ M	0.1 M HCl	19.0–82.0	WL at 30 °C	119
AA1060	Fluconazole	$2 \times 10^{-5}$ to $1 \times 10^{-4}$ M	0.1 M HCl	19.6–82.4	WL at 30–50 °C	120
96.9–97.8%	Meclizine hydrochloride	5–500 ppm	1 M HCl	41.69–95.40	WL, PDP, and AC impedance at 30 °C	124
AA1060	Nizoral	$2 \times 10^{-5}$ M	2 M HCl	45.36–65.85	Thermometric	13
AA1060	Nizoral + 0.005 M KI	$2 \times 10^{-5}$ M	2 M HCl	49.35–69.40	Thermometric	13
99.99%	Gentamicin	200–1000 ppm	1 M HCl	76.55–91.09	WL, HE, GSP, and EIS at 30 °C	118
99.99%	Kanamycin	200–1000 ppm	1 M HCl	80.36–92.36	WL, HE, GSP, and EIS at 30 °C	118
99.99%	Anikacin	200–1000 ppm	1 M HCl	83.61–93.68	WL, HE, GSP, and EIS at 30 °C	118
96.9–97.8%	Miconazole nitrate	5–500 ppm	1 M HCl	43.3–98.1	WL, EIS, and PDP at 30 °C at 30 °C	123

component of the fungal membrane and its depletion leads to the disruption of the membrane structure (e.g. nutrient transport, fluidity, etc.), which results in the inhibition of fungal growth.<sup>138</sup> Studies investigating the use of antifungals as corrosion inhibitors report the use of two different type of azoles, namely the imidazoles (clotrimazole, ketoconazole, and miconazole) and the newer triazole (fluconazole). The azole type compounds, in a chemical sense, are well known as effective corrosion inhibitors for different metallic materials in various corrosive solutions.<sup>6,8,139–141</sup>

Since the main target of these drugs is again an enzyme involved in the synthesis of an essential microbe structural element, it seems that the biologic and corrosion inhibitions activities are not related. Nevertheless, it has to be stated, that the target enzyme in the case of the below mentioned antifungals, is an iron including protein. This could point to a potential relation between their biologic and corrosion inhibitions activities. Further studies are necessary to see if the actual drug target site (and hence the molecule orientation) has any correlation with its alignment and adsorption to the metal surface. Furthermore, the enzyme contains iron, which raises the question if a similar consideration can be also used in the case of aluminium.

Obot *et al.*<sup>119</sup> evaluated the performance of two antifungal drugs, *i.e.* clotrimazole and fluconazole, as corrosion inhibitors for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 0.1 M HCl at 30 and 50 °C. Clotrimazole was more effective than fluconazole in protecting the aluminium alloy in 0.1 M HCl solution. The authors attributed this behaviour to the fact that clotrimazole has the highest HOMO energy ( $E(\text{HOMO})$ ) and the lowest difference of  $E(\text{LUMO}) - E(\text{HOMO})$ . In a previous publication, Obot and Obi-Egbedi<sup>120</sup> reported that the adsorption of fluconazole was mainly due to an increase in the adsorption enthalpy rather than a reduction in the adsorption entropy. Fluconazole can adsorb not only as a cationic species on the aluminium alloy surface, but it can also adsorb as a molecular species using oxygen, nitrogen, and benzylic carbons as its active centres. The same conclusion is also presented by Obot *et al.*<sup>121</sup> Obot *et al.*<sup>122</sup> reported that the inhibition action of clotrimazole on the corrosion of 98.8% aluminium under the same conditions (0.1 M HCl solution at 30 and 50 °C) is due to physisorption through the active centres found mainly in the imidazole ring.

Bhat and Alva<sup>123</sup> evaluated the inhibition effectiveness of miconazole nitrate as a corrosion inhibitor for 96.9–97.8% aluminium in 1 M HCl solution at 30 °C. The authors reported that this drug is protonated in acid solutions, probably at the nitrogen atoms of the imidazole ring, forming in this way a cationic inhibitor species.

Obot and Obi-Egbedi<sup>13</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of the antifungal drug nizoral (ketoconazole) as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 2 M HCl solution. A further increase in inhibition effectiveness was reported upon the addition of KI.

### 3.3 Other drugs

There are two additional studies reporting the use of other drugs as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium.<sup>124,125</sup> In the first

study,<sup>125</sup> three drugs acting on the cardiovascular system were employed. They belong to the group of antihypertensive drugs, which are among the most prescribed group of drugs in the world. The antihypertensive drugs used in the work of Abdallah *et al.*<sup>125</sup> come from different pharmacodynamic groups (they act on different physiological processes in the body). Namely, enalapril inhibits the angiotensin converting enzyme, while atenolol is a selective  $\beta_1$  receptor antagonist (this subgroup of antihypertensive drugs is commonly referred to as  $\beta$ -blockers). The third drug used in<sup>125</sup> is an antihypotensive (working in the opposite manner as the first two drugs), and is clinically used in the treatment of orthostatic hypotension regardless of the origin thereof.

The main “heterocycle/heteroatom” theory can be partially used in the case of enalapril and meclizine, which both include N-containing heterocycles in their structures. In the case of atenolol and etilefrine this is not the case, nevertheless, also both of these drugs include functional groups, capable of  $\pi$  electron delocalization (aromatic ring in etilefrine; the aromatic ring and the amide group in atenolol), which may be responsible for the adsorption.

In terms of corrosion research, Abdallah *et al.*<sup>125</sup> concluded that three drugs acting on the cardiovascular system *i.e.* enalapril maleate, atenolol, and etilefrine hydrochloride, act as inhibitors of the general and pitting corrosion of pure aluminium and three aluminium alloys, *i.e.* AA6063, AA20556, and  $\text{AlSi}_{11}\text{MgBr}$  in 0.01 M HCl solution at 25 °C. The authors reported that pure aluminium was less susceptible to corrosion compared to the three alloys. The inhibition effectiveness of the drugs increased with their concentration up to 250 ppm. At higher concentration values the inhibition effectiveness decreased and the authors attributed that to a steric hindrance effect. However, in the case of AA20556 alloy, when higher than 250 ppm of etilefrine hydrochloride was added, the inhibition effectiveness first decreased and then increased again. The authors attributed the inhibitive action of these drugs to the formation of insoluble complex adsorbed on the metal surface.

In the second article, Ishwara Bhat and Alva<sup>124</sup> reported on the use of antiemetic drugs as corrosion inhibitors. The authors studied the inhibition effectiveness of meclizine hydrochloride as a corrosion inhibitor for 96.9–97.8% aluminium alloy in 1 M HCl solution at 30–60 °C.

## 4. Gums as corrosion inhibitors

Plant-derived gums consist of a mixture of long-chain polysaccharide compounds, which are formed either naturally as a result of the disintegration of plant tissue (gummosis), injury to the bark or stem, or due to microbial attack (fungi and bacteria).<sup>142</sup> In general, they do not dissolve in oils and organic solvents. However, in contact with water, some of the gums are easily soluble, while others either adsorb water and swell up or disperse in water, giving a viscous solution or jelly. When hydrolysed, these gums give simple monosaccharides (galactose, mannose arabinose) and glucuronic acid.<sup>26,142</sup> The majority of gums are obtained from the stem, and only a few of



them from other parts (roots, leaves, seeds) of plants mainly from the Leguminosae and Sterculiaceae families.

Apart from their well-known applications in the pharmaceutical<sup>142–144</sup> and food industries,<sup>145,146</sup> gums are used as corrosion inhibitors for different metals in various corrosive environments.<sup>26</sup> These gums contain polysaccharide compounds rich in nitrogen and oxygen atoms, which serve as adsorption centres and therefore can act as corrosion inhibitors. Furthermore, gum-metal complexes are formed that act as a barrier layer and isolate the metal surface from the corrosive environment.<sup>26</sup> In addition, gums have low toxicity, are biodegradable, and environmentally friendly. Several gums have been tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys in various solutions.<sup>14,15,147–157</sup> Xanthan, *Commiphora pedunculata*, and arabic gums were used without further purification.<sup>15,147,149,155,156</sup> Two different methods<sup>158,159</sup> were used to purify the other gums in the above studies. Purification of the gums through dissolution in 95% ethanol<sup>158</sup> was employed for *Raphia hookeri*,<sup>14</sup> *Pachylobus edulis*,<sup>148</sup> and *Dacryodes edulis*.<sup>154</sup> Eddy *et al.*<sup>159</sup> purified the gum by first dissolving it in cold distilled water and then the solution was centrifuged, forming a dense gel. The supernatant was acidified to acidic pH with diluted hydrochloric acid. Then, 80% ethanol was slowly added and the precipitated gum was obtained by centrifugation. Finally, the gum was washed with alcohol, followed by ether, and then dried before use. The same procedure was employed by Eddy *et al.*<sup>150,152,153,157</sup> and Ameh<sup>151</sup> to purify the gums used in their respective studies.

The main findings (as described above) regarding the use of gums as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium materials are presented in Table 6. In all these studies only classical techniques (WL, HE, and thermometric) were employed to evaluate the inhibition effectiveness of the tested gums (no electrochemical analysis was reported). Pure aluminium<sup>147,150–153</sup> and 1xxx series aluminium alloy<sup>15,148,154–156</sup> are among the most tested materials. It was reported in all studies that the inhibition effectiveness of the studied gums increased with increasing concentration. An increase in temperature resulted in an increase in the inhibition effectiveness in the studies of Arukalam *et al.*,<sup>147</sup> Ameh,<sup>151</sup> Eddy *et al.*,<sup>150,157</sup> Umoren *et al.*,<sup>15</sup> and Umoren,<sup>155</sup> while the opposite was observed in other studies.<sup>14,148,149,153,154,156</sup> A more irregular trend in the change in inhibition effectiveness with increasing temperature was reported by Eddy *et al.*<sup>152</sup> for *Ficus tricapoda* gum. The authors reported a decrease in the inhibition effectiveness with an increase in temperature for concentrations up to 0.3 g L<sup>-1</sup> gum added, while for higher gum concentrations the inhibition effectiveness increased with increasing temperature.

Arukalam *et al.*<sup>147</sup> reported on the inhibition effectiveness of xanthan gum in the corrosion of 98.08% aluminium alloy in 0.5 M HCl solution at 28–60 °C. The authors concluded that the inhibition process is due to the ability of the protonated and molecular species to adsorb on the cathodic and anodic sites of the corroding metal surface.

Umoren and Ebenso<sup>14</sup> tested *Raphia hookeri* exudate gum as a corrosion inhibitor for aluminium (no composition given) in 0.1 M and 2 M HCl solutions at 30–60 °C and suggested that it is

effective. The authors described that *Raphia hookeri* exudate gum consists of D-mannopyranose and D-galactopyranose joined together. A further increase in the inhibition effectiveness was reported by the authors upon the addition of potassium halides (KI, KCl, and KBr). The synergistic effect of the halides was found to decrease in the order I<sup>-</sup> > Br<sup>-</sup> > Cl<sup>-</sup>. The authors attributed the order to the influence of the radii and electronegativity of the halide ions on the adsorption process. In another study, Umoren *et al.*<sup>148</sup> compared the inhibition effectiveness of *Raphia hookeri* and *Pachylobus edulis* exudate gums in the corrosion of AA1060 aluminium alloy (98.5% purity) in 0.1 M and 2 M HCl solutions at 30–60 °C. The results showed that *Raphia hookeri* is a better inhibitor than *Pachylobus edulis*.

Umoren *et al.*<sup>15</sup> reported on the inhibition effectiveness of gum arabic as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 1 M and 2 M NaOH solutions at 30 and 40 °C. The authors attributed the inhibition ability of this gum to the adsorption on the aluminium alloy surface of the main constituents, *i.e.* oligosaccharides, polysaccharides, glucoproteins, and arabino-galactan. Umoren<sup>155</sup> investigated the inhibition effectiveness of gum arabic as a corrosion inhibitor for the same aluminium alloy and temperatures in lower concentrations of NaOH (*i.e.* 0.1 M NaOH) solutions. The same trend in the change of inhibition effectiveness with gum concentration and temperature compared to the previous work<sup>15</sup> was reported by the author. The inhibition effectiveness of gum arabic increased further upon the addition of 0.5 M KI. Gum arabic was also tested by Umoren<sup>156</sup> as a corrosion inhibitor for the same aluminium alloy immersed in 0.1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 30–60 °C. The inhibition effectiveness decreased with increasing temperature, contrary to what was reported regarding alkaline solutions.<sup>15,155</sup>

Ameh and Eddy<sup>149</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of *Commiphora pedunculata* exudate gum as a corrosion inhibitor for AA3001 aluminium alloy in 0.1 M HCl solution at 30 and 60 °C. Next, Ameh<sup>151</sup> evaluated the inhibition effectiveness of *Commiphora kestingii* gum exudate as a corrosion inhibitor for 96.65% aluminium alloy in 0.1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 30 and 60 °C. The author reported that this gum contained a significant amount of sucrose, octadecanoic acid, alpha camphorenal, nerolidol isobutyrate, diisopropenyl-1-methyl-1-vinyl cyclohexane, and abetic acid. Based on the change in inhibition effectiveness with temperature, the authors suggested chemisorption as the possible adsorption mechanism for *Commiphora kestingii* gum exudate. The same mechanism was previously suggested by Umoren *et al.*<sup>15</sup> for the adsorption of gum arabic on AA1060 aluminium alloy surface in NaOH solution.

Eddy *et al.*<sup>152</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of *Ficus tricapoda* gum as a corrosion inhibitor for 96.65% aluminium alloy in 0.1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 30 and 60 °C. Camphene, sucrose, 2-methylene cholestan-3-ol, and 7-hexadecenal are among the constituents of this gum, as reported by the authors. The authors reported that the adsorption of the *Ficus tricapoda* gum was endothermic up to 0.3 g L<sup>-1</sup>, but exothermic for higher gum concentrations. Next, the same group<sup>153</sup> investigated the inhibition effectiveness of *Ficus thonningii* gum as a corrosion





**Table 6** The inhibition effectiveness of different gums tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and different aluminium alloys in acidic solutions. The inhibition effectiveness values are reported as given in the article. In instances where different techniques were used for the determination of the inhibition effectiveness, the range from the minimum to the maximum values reported in the article is reported below in this table

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
98.08%	Xanthan gum	1–5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M HCl	6.05–48.55 <sup>a</sup>	WL after 1–5 days immersion at 28 °C	147
98.08%	Xanthan gum	1–5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M HCl	15.91–72.30	WL at 40–60 °C	147
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	46.1–56.3	WL at 30–60 °C	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum + 0.06 M KCl	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	40.7–60.5	WL at 30–60 °C	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum + 0.06 M KBr	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	50.6–62.2	WL at 30–60 °C	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum + 0.06 M KI	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	53.2–70.5	WL at 30–60 °C	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	37.0–65.4	HE at 30 °C and thermometric	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	25–34	WL at 40–60 °C	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum + 0.06 M KCl	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	59.0–67.9	WL at 30 °C and thermometric	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum + 0.06 M KCl	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	33–51	WL at 40–60 °C	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum + 0.06 M KBr	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	65.0–74.6	WL at 30 °C and thermometric	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum + 0.06 M KBr	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	37–54	WL at 40–60 °C	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum + 0.06 M KI	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	68.0–89.5	WL at 30 °C and thermometric	14
NG	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum + 0.06 M KI	0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	41–58	WL at 40 °C	14
AA1060	<i>Pachylobus edulis</i> exudate gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	8.70–41.00	WL at 30–60 °C	148
AA1060	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	34.40–56.30	WL at 30–60 °C	148
AA1060	<i>Pachylobus edulis</i> exudate gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	19.36–64.24	Thermometric	148
AA1060	<i>Raphia hookeri</i> exudate gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	40.60–85.51	Thermometric	148
AA3001 (96.65% Al)	<i>Commiphora pedunculata</i> gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	41.80–64.22	WL at 30–60 °C	149
AA3001 (96.65% Al)	<i>Commiphora pedunculata</i> gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	59.24–73.03	Thermometric	149
96.65%	<i>Ficus benjamina</i> gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	64.00–87.50	WL at 30–60 °C	150
96.65%	<i>Commiphora kestingii</i> gum exudate	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	65.40–83.22	WL at 30–60 °C	151
96.65%	<i>Ficus trispoda</i> gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	67.51–85.80	WL at 30–60 °C	152
96.65%	<i>Ficus thoningii</i> gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	59.00–70.00	WL at 30–60 °C	153
AA1060	<i>Dacryodes edulis</i> exudate gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M HCl	8.7–42.0	WL at 30–60 °C	154
AA1060	Gum arabic	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	1 M NaOH	19.09–74.16	HE at 30–40 °C	15
AA1060	Gum arabic	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2 M NaOH	31.34–75.86	Thermometric	15
AA1060	Gum arabic	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	52.42–79.69	WL at 30–60 °C	156
AA1060	Gum arabic	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	2.0 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	22.33–70.00	Thermometric	156
AA1060	Gum arabic	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M NaOH	15.1–54.2	WL and HE at 30–40 °C	155
AA1060	Gum arabic + 0.05 M KI	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M NaOH	46.9–75.4	WL and HE at 30–40 °C	155
96.65%	<i>Gloriosa superba</i> exudate gum	0.1–0.5 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.1 M HCl	70.84–86.38	WL at 30–60 °C	157

NG – not given. <sup>a</sup>  $\eta$  values recalculated from the given corrosion rate values.



inhibitor for 96.65% aluminium alloy in 0.1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 30 and 60 °C. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) measurements showed that 16-methyl-octadecanoic acid, abietic acid, *n*-hexadecanoic acid, and andrographolide are among the main constituents of this gum. Finally, Eddy *et al.*<sup>150</sup> investigated the inhibition effectiveness of *Ficus benjamina* gum as a corrosion inhibitor for 96.65% aluminium alloy in 0.1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution at 30 and 60 °C. The authors reported that sucrose and D-glucose are the major constituents of the gum, while several carboxylic acids (including hexadecanoic acid, octadecanoic acid, and 6,13-pentacenequinone) are present in smaller amounts. According to the authors, the inhibition action of *Ficus benjamina* gum is due to multiple-layer adsorption through its various components. Multiple-layer adsorption of the gum components was also proposed as the mechanism responsible for their inhibitive properties in the case of *Commiphora kestingii* gum by Ameh<sup>151</sup> and for gum arabic by Umoren.<sup>155</sup>

Umoren *et al.*<sup>154</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of *Dacryodes edulis* exudate gum as a corrosion inhibitor for AA1060 aluminium alloy in 2 M HCl solution at 30–60 °C. Although based on the thermodynamic calculations the authors suggested physisorption as the possible mechanism for this gum, no specific indication of which of the gum components adsorbed on the aluminium surface was given. The same mechanism (physisorption) was also suggested for *Raphia hookeri* gum,<sup>14,148</sup> *Pachylobus edulis* gum,<sup>148</sup> *Commiphora pedunculata* gum,<sup>149</sup> *Ficus benjamina* gum,<sup>150</sup> *Ficus thonningii* gum,<sup>153</sup> and gum arabic in acidic solution.<sup>156</sup>

Eddy *et al.*<sup>157</sup> reported on the inhibition effectiveness of *Gloriosa superba* exudate gum (pH ≈ 2) as a corrosion inhibitor for 96.65% aluminium alloy in 0.1 M HCl solution at 30 and 60 °C. GC-MS revealed that the main constituents of the *Gloriosa superba* gum are 1-piperoylp, 1-penta-decarboxylic acid, 9-octadecenoic acid, and stigmasta-5,22-dien-3-ol. Quantum chemical studies showed that the adsorption of this gum is due to the presence of the amide group in stigmasta-5,22-dien-3-ol and of the hydroxyl group in 1-piperoylp. Based on the thermodynamic calculations, the authors suggested a mixed-type (physisorption and chemisorption) mechanism for the adsorption of *Gloriosa superba* gum on the aluminium surface. A mixed-type adsorption mechanism was also proposed for *Ficus tricopoda* gum<sup>152</sup> and for gum arabic on AA1060 aluminium alloy in NaOH solutions.<sup>155</sup>

## 5. Natural oils as corrosion inhibitors

Essential oils, commonly known as volatile or ethereal oils, are concentrated hydrophobic liquids containing monoterpene and sesquiterpene hydrocarbons and oxygenated compounds (alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, acids, phenols, oxides, lactones, ethers, and esters), which are responsible for the characteristic odours and flavours. Due to the fact that most flowers do not contain enough volatile oil to undergo expression and their chemical components are too delicate and easily denatured by the high heat used in steam distillation, a solvent such as hexane or SC-CO<sub>2</sub> is used to extract the oils from the crude plant

material. Since safer and less harmful solvents that are easy to remove or recover are gaining in popularity, the extraction of essential oil components using SFE has received much attention, particularly in the food, pharmaceutical, and cosmetic industries, as a sustainable alternative to conventional processes such as organic solvent extraction and steam distillation.<sup>62</sup>

The presence of the above-mentioned components combined with their low toxicity and high availability make essential oils suitable for use as corrosion inhibitors for different metals in various environments.<sup>160–163</sup> However, only a limited number of oils have been tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys.<sup>164–171</sup> The majority of the studies have been carried out in acidic solutions. Fayomi and Popoola<sup>166</sup> reported on the inhibition effectiveness of green roasted *Elaeis guineensis* oil in the corrosion of AA6063 aluminium alloy in 3.5% NaCl solution, while *Lavandula angustifolia* L. and *Laurus nobilis* L. oils inhibited the corrosion of aluminium and AA5754 aluminium alloy, respectively, in 3% NaCl solutions.<sup>169,170</sup> Pure aluminium and the 5xxx and 6xxx series aluminium alloys were the tested materials. The main findings (as described above) regarding the use of natural oils as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium materials are presented in Table 7. As for the other natural compounds, the inhibition effectiveness increased with increasing concentration of all the studied oils.

Halambek *et al.*,<sup>167</sup> Halambek and Berković,<sup>168</sup> and Halambek *et al.*<sup>170</sup> investigated the influence of temperature on the inhibition effectiveness of three oils dissolved in 30 vol% ethanol. Halambek *et al.*<sup>167</sup> reported on the inhibition effectiveness of *Ocimum basilicum* L. essential oil as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.85% aluminium in 0.5 M HCl solution at 30–85 °C. The upper temperature employed certainly contributes to the degradation of polyphenols, especially during exposure for a long time. Therefore, lower temperatures would be desired. However, degradation does not occur immediately, therefore a shorter exposure time may not be so harmful. The authors reported that linalool is the main component of the oil, followed by smaller amounts of eugenol, 1,8-cineole, and geraniol. Halambek and Berković<sup>168</sup> investigated the inhibition effectiveness of *Anethum graveolens* L. oil as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.85% aluminium in 1 M HCl solution at 25–75 °C (this upper temperature limit might also contribute to the degradation of these compounds, as discussed above). The authors reported that the main components of the oil are carvone and limonene. Halambek *et al.*<sup>170</sup> studied the inhibition effectiveness of *Lavandula angustifolia* L. oil as a corrosion inhibitor for Al–3Mg (95.5% Al) in 3% NaCl solution at 25–60 °C. The authors reported that linalool and linalyl acetate are the main components of *Lavandula angustifolia* L. oil. In all three studies the authors reported that the inhibition effectiveness of the respective oils decreased with increasing temperature, which might be connected with decomposition. Halambek *et al.*<sup>170</sup> attributed this behaviour to the desorption of the inhibitor molecules with increasing temperature.

The influence of the corrosive environment on the inhibition effectiveness of two oils was studied by Popoola *et al.*<sup>164</sup> and





**Table 7** The inhibition effectiveness of different oils tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and different aluminium alloys in various solutions. The inhibition effectiveness values are reported as given in the article. In instances where different techniques were used for the determination of the inhibition effectiveness, the range from the minimum to the maximum values reported in the article is reported below in this table

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
99.01%	<i>Arachis hypogaeae</i> natural oil	20–100 vol%	2 M HCl	3.01–45.97	WL after 12–24 h immersion at 25 °C	164
99.01%	<i>Arachis hypogaeae</i> natural oil	20–100 vol%	2 M HNO <sub>3</sub>	28.29–92.37	WL after 12–24 h immersion at 25 °C	164
99.01%	<i>Arachis hypogaeae</i> natural oil	20 vol%	2 M HNO <sub>3</sub>	78.28	WL after 36 h immersion at 25 °C	164
99.01%	<i>Arachis hypogaeae</i> natural oil	20–100 vol%	2 M HCl	83.48–95.57 <sup>a</sup>	PDP at 25 °C	164
99.01%	<i>Arachis hypogaeae</i> natural oil	20–100 vol%	2 M HNO <sub>3</sub>	88.55–99.94 <sup>a</sup>	PDP at 25 °C	164
99.85%	Ethanol solution of laurel oil	9–45 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	1% CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	20.7–76.8	PDP and $R_p$ at 25 °C	165
AA5754	Ethanol solution of laurel oil	9–45 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	1% CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	46.6–84.4	PDP and $R_p$ at 25 °C	165
AA6063	Green roasted <i>Elaeis guineensis</i> oil	5%	3.5% NaCl	64–77	WL after 48–216 h immersion	166
AA6063	Green roasted <i>Elaeis guineensis</i> oil	15%	3.5% NaCl	39–98	WL after 48–216 h immersion	166
AA6063	Green roasted <i>Elaeis guineensis</i> oil	5%	3.5% NaCl	65	PDP at 30 °C	166
AA6063	Green roasted <i>Elaeis guineensis</i> oil	15%	3.5% NaCl	72	PDP at 30 °C	166
99.85%	<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> L. oil in ethanol	0.2–5.7 g L <sup>-1</sup>	0.5 M HCl	41.9–90.1	WL, PDP, and EIS at 30 °C	167
99.01%	<i>Ricinus communis</i> oil	20–100 vol%	2 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	18.75–82.35	WL after 12–36 h immersion at 25 °C	171
99.01%	<i>Ricinus communis</i> oil	20–100 vol%	2 M H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	94.84–99.99 <sup>a</sup>	PDP and $R_p$ at 25 °C	171
99.01%	<i>Ricinus communis</i> oil	20–100 vol%	2 M HCl	95.81–99.59 <sup>a</sup>	PDP and $R_p$ at 25 °C	171
99.85%	<i>Anethum graveolens</i> L. oil in ethanol	20–300 ppm	1 M HCl	76.7–98.0	WL after 3 h immersion, PDP, and EIS at 25 °C	168
Al–3Mg (95.5% Al)	Ethanol solution of <i>Lavandula angustifolia</i> L. oil	1.0–20 ppm	3% NaCl	73.31–99.84 <sup>a</sup>	WL after 4 h immersion, PDP, and $R_p$ at 25 °C	170
99.86%	Ethanol solution of <i>Laurus nobilis</i> L. oil	10–50 ppm	3% NaCl	49.9–91.3	WL after 24 h immersion, PDP, and $R_p$ at 25 °C	169
AA5754	Ethanol solution of <i>Laurus nobilis</i> L. oil	10–50 ppm	3% NaCl	41.9–84.3	WL after 24 h immersion, PDP, and $R_p$ at 25 °C	169

<sup>a</sup>  $\eta$  was calculated on the basis of the values of the corrosion rate, the corrosion current, the corrosion current density, or the resistance of the blank solution and inhibited samples.

Abdulwahab *et al.*<sup>171</sup> The first group of authors investigated the inhibition effectiveness of *Arachis hypogaea* natural oil as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.01% aluminium in 2 M HCl and 2 M HNO<sub>3</sub> solutions at 25 °C.<sup>164</sup> A method for SFE and the identification of volatile flavor components in roasted peanuts (*Arachis hypogaea*) was described in the review article of Capuzzo *et al.*<sup>62</sup> It was reported that the obtained extracts contained compounds such as hexanol, hexanal, methylpyrrole, benzene acetaldehyde, methylpyrazine, 2,6-dimethylpyrazine, ethylpyrazine, 2,3-dimethylpyrazine, 2,3,5-trimethylpyrazine, 2-furancarboxaldehyde, 2-ethyl-5-methyl- and 2-ethyl-6-methylpyrazine, and 3-ethyl-2,5-dimethylpyrazine. Popoola *et al.*<sup>164</sup> reported that *Arachis hypogaea* natural oil was a better inhibitor in HNO<sub>3</sub> than in HCl solution.

Abdulwahab *et al.*<sup>171</sup> tested *Ricinus communis* oil as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.01% aluminium alloy in 2 M HCl and 2 M H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> at 25 °C. Danlami *et al.*<sup>172</sup> reported on Soxhlet extraction of this oil using hexane as a solvent. They reported that the oil contained mainly unsaturated fatty acids (ricinoleic acid) followed by a moderate content of saturated fatty acids (palmitic, stearic, linoleic, linoleic, and dihydroxylstearic acids). In their study, Abdulwahab *et al.*<sup>171</sup> reported that there is no significant difference in the performance of the oil (no significant change in the  $\eta$  values) in the two acid solutions.

As seen in Table 7, electrochemical techniques, including PDP,  $R_p$ , and EIS, have been used alongside the classic WL technique to evaluate not only the performance of the oils as corrosion inhibitors, but also to determine their influence on the corrosion reactions. Based on the PDP measurements, the authors concluded that *Arachis hypogaea* oil<sup>164</sup> and green roasted *Elaeis guineensis* oil<sup>166</sup> acted as mixed-type corrosion inhibitors for the respective aluminium materials. Next, Halambek *et al.*,<sup>167</sup> Halambek and Berković,<sup>168</sup> Halambek *et al.*,<sup>169</sup> and Halambek *et al.*<sup>170</sup> reported that *Ocimum basilicum* L. oil, *Anethum graveolens* L. oil, *Laurus nobilis* L. oil, and *Lavandula angustifolia* L. oil acted as cathodic-type corrosion inhibitors. Finally, Halambek *et al.*<sup>165</sup> tested the ethanol solution of laurel oil as a corrosion inhibitor for 99.85% aluminium and AA5754 aluminium alloy in 1% acetic acid solution at 25 °C. Capuzzo<sup>62</sup> reported SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction as a suitable method for the isolation of volatile and fixed oils from dried berries of *L. nobilis*. The extracts were rich in volatile fraction, which was mainly composed of (*E*)- $\beta$ -ocimene, 1,8-cineole,  $\alpha$ -pinene,  $\beta$ -pinene,  $\beta$ -longipinene, linalyl acetate,  $\delta$ -cadinene,  $\alpha$ -terpinyl acetate, and  $\alpha$ -bulnesene. The authors reported that the ethanol solution of the laurel oil protects (higher inhibition effectiveness) AA5754 aluminium alloy better than 99.85% aluminium. PDP measurements showed that the ethanol solution of laurel oil acted as an anodic-type inhibitor in the corrosion of 99.85% aluminium and as a cathodic-type inhibitor in the corrosion of AA5754 aluminium alloy.

Several possible mechanisms were suggested by the authors to explain the inhibition action of the oils tested. Based on the thermodynamic calculations, Halambek *et al.*<sup>165</sup> concluded that the ethanol solution of laurel oil adsorbed on the surface through a mixed-type mechanism (both physisorption and chemisorption), which leads to the formation of a protective

layer on the aluminium and alloy surface. In addition to this protective layer (film), Halembek *et al.*<sup>169</sup> suggested that the main component of *Laurus nobilis* L. oil (1,8-cineole) can adsorb *via* the lone pair electrons in the oxygen atoms.

The inhibition action of *Ocimum basilicum* L. oil<sup>167</sup> was attributed to its main component, linalool. The latter, apart from protonating in acid solution, contains –OH groups and double bonds in its structure, which are probable adsorption centres. The authors proposed a two-stage mechanism for the inhibition action of the oil. In the first stage, the chloride ions adsorb electrostatically on the positively charged metal surface, giving a negative net charge to the surface. In the second stage, the protonated linalool electrostatically interacted with the negatively charged surface, forming a protective layer on the aluminium surface. Based on the thermodynamic data, the authors suggested that the active components of the oil physisorbed on the aluminium surface. A similar mixed-type mechanism was suggested by Halambek and Berković<sup>168</sup> for the adsorption of *Anethum graveolens* L. oil on aluminium surface. According to the authors, chemisorption can occur either by displacing the water molecules from the aluminium surface and electron sharing between the oxygen atoms and aluminium or through donor–acceptor bonds between the  $\pi$  electrons of the aromatic ring and the p-orbitals of Al. Physisorption can occur between the protonated species and the negatively charged aluminium surface from the chloride ions.

Fayomi and Popoola<sup>166</sup> investigated green roasted *Elaeis guineensis* oil as a corrosion inhibitor for AA6063 aluminium alloy in 3.5% NaCl solution at 30 °C. As shown previously, *Elaeis guineensis* oil was extracted by SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction and it was shown that the main constituents were carotene, vitamin E, sterols, and squalene.<sup>173</sup> The oil showed good protection ( $\eta$  = 68–78%) even after 216 h of immersion. The authors attributed the inhibition action of this oil to the adsorption of the surface-active compounds and oxide on the aluminium surface, which modify the wettability and the interface.

## 6. Other natural products as corrosion inhibitors

Apart from the main groups of green inhibitors described above, a few other natural products have been tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium materials in alkaline and chloride-containing solutions. The inhibition effectiveness of all the natural products tested was found to increase with increasing concentration of the product. The main findings (as described above) are presented in Table 8.

Rosliza *et al.*<sup>174</sup> reported on the inhibition effectiveness of natural honey as a corrosion inhibitor for Al–Mg–Si alloy (97.36% aluminium) in seawater at 25 °C. Gudić *et al.*<sup>175</sup> investigated the inhibition effectiveness of five types of honey dissolved in NaCl, *i.e.* oak honey (H1), coniferous honeydew honey (H2), winter savory honey (H3), alder buckthorn honey (H4), and carob tree honey (H5), as corrosion inhibitors for AA5052 aluminium alloy in 0.5 M NaCl solution at 20 °C. The inhibition effectiveness followed the order H3 < H5 < H4 < H2 < H1.



**Table 8** The inhibition effectiveness of some natural products tested as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and different aluminium alloys in various solutions. The inhibition effectiveness values are reported as given in the article. In instances where different techniques were used for the determination of the inhibition effectiveness, the range from the minimum to the maximum values reported in the article is reported below in this table

Material	Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentration	Medium	$\eta$ (%)	Test methods and conditions	Reference
97.36%	Natural honey	200–1000 ppm	Seawater	63.43–91.85	PDP, $R_p$ , and EIS	174
AA5052	Oak honey dissolved in NaCl	1000 ppm	0.5 M NaCl	81.52–82.67 <sup>a</sup>	PDP, $R_p$ , and EIS at 20 °C	175
AA5052	Coniferous honeydew honey dissolved in NaCl	1000 ppm	0.5 M NaCl	77.28–80.59 <sup>a</sup>	PDP, $R_p$ , and EIS at 20 °C	175
AA5052	Winter savory honey dissolved in NaCl	1000 ppm	0.5 M NaCl	58.88–64.82 <sup>a</sup>	PDP, $R_p$ , and EIS at 20 °C	175
AA5052	Alder buckthorn honey dissolved in NaCl	1000 ppm	0.5 M NaCl	70.09–72.88 <sup>a</sup>	PDP, $R_p$ , and EIS at 20 °C	175
AA5052	Carob tree honey dissolved in NaCl	1000 ppm	0.5 M NaCl	65.16–69.93 <sup>a</sup>	PDP, $R_p$ , and EIS at 20 °C	175
AA5052	Oak honey dissolved in NaCl	400–1200 ppm	0.5 M NaCl	61.87–85.65	PDP and $R_p$ at 20 °C	175
AA5052	Coniferous honeydew honey dissolved in NaCl	400–1200 ppm	0.5 M NaCl	56.72–82.65	PDP and $R_p$ at 20 °C	175
Pure	Animal glue	2000 ppm	0.1 M NaOH	43.49–59.05	PDP at 30–60 °C	176
AA6063	Animal glue	2000 ppm	0.1 M NaOH	41.62–54.80	PDP at 30–60 °C	176
20556 alloy	Animal glue	2000 ppm	0.1 M NaOH	30.89–40.29	PDP at 30–60 °C	176
Pure	Animal glue	100–2000 ppm	0.1 M NaOH	10.86–59.05	PDP, EIS, and CV at 30 °C	176
AA6063	Animal glue	100–2000 ppm	0.1 M NaOH	8.75–54.80	PDP, EIS, and CV at 30 °C	176
20556 alloy	Animal glue	100–2000 ppm	0.1 M NaOH	4.12–41.52	PDP, EIS, and CV at 30 °C	176

<sup>a</sup>  $\eta$  was calculated on the basis of the values of the corrosion rate, the corrosion current, the corrosion current density, or the resistance of the blank solution and inhibited samples.

PDP measurements performed in both studies showed that all types of honeys acted as mixed-type inhibitors.<sup>174,175</sup> However, for all the tested honey types Gudić *et al.*<sup>175</sup> reported a predominant action on the anodic reaction. The inhibition action of the different honey types was attributed to the formation of a surface layer (a thin film) on the surface of the aluminium materials, which blocked the further attack on aluminium.<sup>174,175</sup> Based on the thermodynamic calculations, both research groups suggested physisorption as the possible adsorption mechanism for the respective honey types studied.<sup>174,175</sup>

Abdallah *et al.*<sup>176</sup> boiled animal connective tissue for a long time and tested the obtained glue as a corrosion inhibitor for aluminium as well as AA6063 and 20556 (92.47% aluminium) aluminium alloys in 0.1 M NaOH solution at 30 °C. The inhibition effectiveness decreased with increasing Si content following the order aluminium > AA6063 alloy > 20556 alloy. An increase in temperature resulted in a decrease in inhibition effectiveness. The PDP measurements showed that the animal glue acted as a mixed-type inhibitor. The authors suggested that the adsorption of the animal glue is carried out through the substitution of the water molecules on the surface of the aluminium materials.

## 7. Outlook

Green compounds are by far the most attractive area of research on corrosion inhibitors. However, several aspects need to be taken into account before these inhibitors can be used in real industrial applications. The “green” aspect of the studied natural products needs to be evaluated. In order to actually understand what is green and what is not, toxicity,

biodegradability, and bioaccumulation tests would need to be performed.<sup>1</sup> In most of the reported articles summarised herein, these kinds of tests were not performed and this remains an open subject for future studies. However, there is a high potential that the extracts are non-hazardous as they are extracted from the natural environment. Some of them were also already applied in other different applications, where their non-toxic nature was at least indirectly confirmed. This also applies to the mentioned drugs, as they have all been proven safe clinically and are actually even today used in pharmacotherapy in humans. Of course, the actual dose of exposure/intake has to be considered; nevertheless, the latter facts cannot be denied. Moreover, as seen herein, the literature concerning drugs as corrosion inhibitors for aluminium and its alloys is scarce yet interesting, and as such could represent an open subject for future studies.

One way of quickly assessing environmental acceptability is to employ the German WGK classification as the data on this classification are readily available by most chemical providers. WGK (German: *Wassergefährdungsklassen*) stands for the German Water Hazard Class. In accordance with the national German VwVwS regulation (German: *Verwaltungsvorschrift wassergefährdende Stoffe*), all substances are classified as either non-hazardous to water or assigned to one of three classes, WGK 1, WGK 2, and WGK 3, with increasing water hazard. The lowest class, WGK 1, is relatively harmless and close to non-hazardous.<sup>8</sup>

Another way to evaluate toxicity is according to the LC50 or EC50 categories (lethal or effective concentrations in 50% of the tested subjects, respectively), which rank chemicals from supertoxic to practically non-toxic. Moreover, biodegradability is usually evaluated by the 60% persistence of the components





in the environment after 28 days. Furthermore, bioaccumulation is evaluated by the partition coefficient Po/w (partition between 1-octanol and water).<sup>1</sup> The higher this partition coefficient is the higher the possibility for the compound to be bioaccumulated.

Usually, authors do not report the specific components present in the extracts. It would be beneficial if, before testing an extract's corrosion inhibition performance, the separation and analysis of individual components were carried out, *e.g.* HPLC-MS or GC-MS analysis, to reveal which compounds are responsible for the corrosion inhibition effectiveness of the extract used. The choice of the extraction method is of great importance. Taking into account the variety of problems associated with the high processing temperatures and long processing times in conventional extraction procedures, there is an essential need to promote the development and application of alternative extraction techniques that do not require severe operating conditions including high processing temperatures and harmful organic solvents. Supercritical fluid extraction represents an alternative to the extraction methods summarised in this review, which allows selective isolation of natural compounds from natural materials at moderate temperatures.

Considering the available studies reporting the use of drugs from various pharmacotherapeutic groups as corrosion inhibitors of aluminium, several aspects need to be clarified more thoroughly for this field to be fully acknowledged. From the range of drugs tested as potential corrosion inhibitors for aluminium, antimicrobial drugs (antibacterial and antifungal drugs) have the highest potential. Since there are still many open questions related to the corrosion inhibition mechanism of these compounds, their interaction with aluminium on the molecular level should be studied in more detail. There is also the need to systematically evaluate the influence of other physico-chemical parameters (*e.g.* temperature, pH, ionic strength, *etc.*) on the corrosion inhibition effectiveness of these drugs before their application becomes more realistic. In particular, we need to consider the amount used (usually it is high, considering that large metallic surfaces need to be protected against corrosion) and the potential impact on the environment. Additionally, as already pointed out by Gece,<sup>22</sup> not all drugs are readily biodegradable and their transformation products may be equally or even more hazardous to the environment. Therefore, more studies need to be performed before such corrosion inhibitors can be considered green. However, we are confident that this type of review can significantly aid in finding potential candidates for further (very expensive) tests (*e.g.* biodegradability, toxicity, and bioaccumulation).<sup>1</sup> On the other hand, considering the possible application of aluminium and its alloys in medicine (*e.g.* orthopaedic implants), drugs as corrosion inhibitors seem even more attractive. Therefore, the additional testing necessary to tackle the remaining open questions will be likely performed rather sooner than later.

In the majority of the studies the authors do not report how the natural oils were obtained. One of the most convenient and efficient methods to extract these oils from plant materials at low temperatures is to apply high-pressure extraction with supercritical fluids, hence limiting thermal degradation, and

the omission of the use of toxic solvents. SC-CO<sub>2</sub> is overwhelmingly the solvent of choice due to its ability to easily penetrate inside plant material and high solvent power. Nevertheless, SC-CO<sub>2</sub> also has important disadvantages, such as it being limited to the processing of dry raw materials and compounds of low polarity and low molecular weight. These limitations could be overcome through the use of co-solvents and alternative supercritical fluids such as propane, argon, and SF<sub>6</sub>. Water, as the cheapest solvent, represents another alternative solvent or co-solvent with the aim of modifying the polarity of the solvent. Subcritical water extraction has become an increasingly popular alternative technology in the extraction of phenolic compounds. When water is heated well above 100 °C its dielectric constant decreases and its ionic product increases. That means that the same solvent can be used to extract inorganic and organic components. The main limitation is the extremely high energy required to heat the media. Furthermore, water above its critical point (374 °C, 221 bar) demonstrates a highly corrosive nature, which might be a problem for the high-pressure equipment used to obtain these products.

There is still some room to improve the performance of these green corrosion inhibitors. As described above, the authors only reported the use of corrosion inhibitors, in a few cases with the addition of intensifiers (mainly potassium halides). However, these corrosion inhibitors would be even more effective if actual corrosion inhibition formulations were employed.<sup>8</sup> Moreover, a more detailed evaluation of the inhibition mechanisms through the use of electrochemical and surface analysis techniques should be considered.

## 8. Conclusions

The research work published over the past two decades on the corrosion inhibition of aluminium and its alloys in different solutions, using a variety of natural compounds (including plant extracts, gums, drugs, and natural oils) was presented in this review article. Plant extracts were by far the most studied natural products. A wide variety of solvents (organic solvents, water, acids, and bases) were used to prepare extracts of mainly the leaves, seeds, and stem of the respective plants. Pure aluminium, 1xxx, 3xxx, 6xxx, and 7xxx series aluminium alloys were among the most tested aluminium materials.

The inhibition effectiveness of the green corrosion inhibitors tested increased with increasing concentration. A synergistic effect upon the addition of halides (especially iodide) was reported. The corrosion tests were carried out in a temperature range of 20 to 75 °C. An increase in temperature was usually reflected in the lower inhibition effectiveness of the tested natural products.

Weight loss and hydrogen evolution were the most frequently used techniques to evaluate the corrosion inhibition effectiveness of the studied green inhibitors. A few studies were performed using electrochemical techniques. Based on the polarisation measurements, the majority of the studies reported that these products were found to act as mixed-type inhibitors. Moreover, physisorption was reported as the most probable





mechanism for the adsorption of these products on the surface of the aluminium materials. Alternatively, the inhibition action of these products was attributed to the formation of a protective layer (film) on the surface of the aluminium materials. According to the authors, adsorption occurred through the adsorption centres present in their active components. However, particular compounds were rarely identified and reported for the natural products tested.

Although a considerable number of studies have been performed, this is still a relatively unexplored field of research with great potential for improvement, especially as regards the methods used to obtain the green corrosion inhibitors and corrosion inhibitor formulation designs.

## Abbreviations

EIS	Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy
GSP	Galvanostatic polarisation
HE	Hydrogen evolution
PDP	Potentiodynamic polarisation
PSP	Potentiostatic polarisation
$R_p$	Polarisation of resistance
SC-CO <sub>2</sub>	Supercritical carbon dioxide
SFE	Supercritical fluid extraction
WL	Weight loss
$\eta$	Inhibition effectiveness

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