Accepted Manuscript

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PII:	S0167-7322(17)30928-5
DOI:	doi: 10.1016/j.molliq.2017.03.105
Reference:	MOLLIQ 7140
To appear in:	Journal of Molecular Liquids
Received date:	3 March 2017
Revised date:	28 March 2017
Accepted date:	28 March 2017



Please cite this article as: Dan Wang, Feng Zhao, Gangli Zhu, Zhen Li, Chungu Xia, Highcetane additives for diesel based on polyoxymethylene dimethyl ethers: Density behavior and prediction. The address for the corresponding author was captured as affiliation for all authors. Please check if appropriate. Molliq(2017), doi: 10.1016/j.molliq.2017.03.105

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High-cetane additives for diesel based on polyoxymethylene dimethyl ethers: density behavior and prediction

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Abstract

Polyoxymethylene dimethyl ethers (PODE_n) have aroused widespread industry interests due to the prospects for clean fuel additives or substitutes. The densities of liquid PODE_n were measured with an oscillation tube densimeter and fitted with the Racket equation. The self-expanding empirical density model has been developed to predict the densities of PODE_n whose pure and reliable monomer could not be readily available. The density behavior of PODE-PODE mixtures, PODE₃-*n*-hexadecane and PODE₃-tetralin blends was studied. Results showed the excess volumes of PODE-PODE are negative and approximately equal to zero, indicating PODE-PODE mixtures could be regarded as regular solution at temperatures from 273.15 to 363.15 K. While the excess molar volumes of PODE₃-hexadecane and PODE₃-tetralin blends are positive over the complete mole fraction range. The breaking of self-association of the PODE₃ molecules by dilution effect might make a positive contribution to excess volume besides physical interactions. The densities of practical PODE_n-diesel blends were estimated and results agreed well with experimental data. **Keywords**: polyoxymethylene dimethyl ethers; density; excess molar volume; diesel blends

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