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Are solubility parameters relevant for the solubility of liquid organic solutes in room temperature ionic liquids?



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ABSTRACT

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Keywords: Liquid organic solutes Room temperature ionic liquids Solubility parameters Solubility prediction A database for the solubilities of (volatile) liquid organic solutes in (non-volatile) room temperature ionic liquids at 298 K (or thereabouts) was constructed in terms of the infinite dilution activity coefficients, $\ln \gamma_i^{\infty}$, from data in the literature. In most cases the fit of these data by the Hildebrand solubility parameter expression $(V_i/RT)(\delta_{\rm Hi} - \delta_{\rm Hs})^2$ alone is unsuccessful, and in particular this expression cannot account for negative values of $\ln \gamma_i^{\infty}$. An (negative) entropic correction term related to the relative sizes of the solute and solvent that was suggested is generally inadequate to cause a better fit. The prediction of the solubilities of organic solutes in RTILs remains a challenge.

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1. Introduction

The solubility of volatile solutes (subscript _i) in (the non-volatile) room temperature ionic liquids (RTILs, subscript _s) is commonly reported in terms of the Henry constant $H_{i(s)}$, the mole fraction of the solute at saturation, x_i , at a (partial) pressure of the solute p_i :

$$H_{i(s)} = p_i / x_{i(s)}. \tag{1}$$

It is related to the widely reported infinite dilution activity coefficient (obtained from gas chromatography):

$$\gamma_{i(s)}^{\infty} = H_{i(s)}/p_i$$

where p_i^* is the vapor pressure of the pure liquid solute. Another measure of the solubility is the partition constant:

$$\log K_{i(s)} = \log \left(RT / \gamma_{i(s)}^{\infty} p_i * V_s \right) = \log \left(RT / H_{i(s)} V_s \right)$$
(3)

where V_s is the molar volume of the solvent. Values of $\log K_{i(s)}$ are also widely reported, having been obtained from gas chromatography too. A database of $\ln \gamma_{i(s)}^{\infty}$ values has been assembled in Table 1 [1–13] for 28 volatile liquid organic solutes, including aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons and polar organic compounds, pertaining to the 22 RTILs listed in Table 2. The RTILs are identified in Table 1 by their ordinal numbers in Table 2. Where required, values of $x_{i(s)}$, $H_{i(s)}$, and $\log K_{i(s)}$ have been

converted to $\gamma_{i(s)}^{c}$ values according to the expressions (1), (2), and (3). The auxiliary data (including p_i^* and V_s , where employed, Table 3) pertain nominally to 298.15 K, and no corrections have been applied for solubility data reported at \approx 303 K. The solubilities in terms of the mole fraction of the solute in the saturated solution are accordingly inversely proportional to the $\gamma_{i(s)}^{c}$ values.

Several attempts of description of the solubilities of volatile solutes in RTILs in terms of the regular solution theory have been made [2,5, 14,15,16]. Lee [2] suggested that the solubilities of organic solutes in RTILs could be expressed as:

$$\ln \gamma_{i(s)}^{\ \infty} = (V_i/RT)(\delta_{Hi} - \delta_{Hs})^2 - correction \ terms \tag{4}$$

where the $\delta_{\rm H}$ are the total Hildebrand solubility parameters and the *correction terms* pertain to the solute–solvent dispersion-, polar-, and hydrogen-bonding-interaction partial solubility parameters. The $\delta_{\rm Hi}$ solubility parameters of the 28 solutes in the data base are well known [17] and those of the RTILs, $\delta_{\rm Hs}$, are discussed in the present paper. However, the required *correction terms* are generally not available.

A somewhat different approach was suggested recently by Wang et al. [16] and by Ge et al. [5] who set:

$$\ln \gamma_{i(s)}^{\infty} = (V_i/RT)(\delta_{Hi} - \delta_{Hs})^2 + \left[\ln (r_i/r_s)^{2/3} + 1 - (r_i/r_s)^{2/3} \right]$$
(5)

where the (negative) term in square brackets is due to Kilic et al. [18], describing the entropic effects of the discrepancies in the van der Waals volumes r_i and r_s of the solute and solvent.

It is noted (Table 1) that for aliphatic hydrocarbons ln $\gamma_{i(s)}^{\infty}$ is positive, of the order of a few units, for aromatic hydrocarbons it is generally still

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Table 1

 $ln\gamma_i^{\infty}$ of the listed solutes in RTILs identified by their numbers in Table 2.

Solute\RTIL	1	2	2a	3	3a	4	5	5a	6	7	8	9	10	10a	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Reference	1	2	3	1	4	1	1	4	5	6	1	7	1	4	8	9	4	7	10	11	12	12	11	13	12	13
n-Pentane																			2.14		2.13	3.93		2.37		2.69
n-Hexane		3.30	3.31		4.19			2.72	1.93	4.16				2.11			2.15		2.50	2.74	2.46	4.04	3.35	2.70		2.98
n-Heptane		3.74	3.74		4.42			3.11	2.79	4.66				2.42			2.40		2.73	3.10	2.84	4.26	3.53	3.04	5.19	3.32
n-Octane		4.18	4.21		4.76			3.51	3.48	5.13				2.79			2.78		2.88	3.51	3.23	4.35	3.77	3.40	5.60	3.72
n-Decane		5.16	5.18					4.17	4.20			4.53		3.46						4.28	3.98	5.28	4.38	4.10	6.42	4.47
c-Hexane		2.74	2.74		3.12			2.22	4.03	3.39		2.47		1.76			1.67		1.87	2.37	2.12	3.28	2.73	2.20	3.77	2.84
Benzene	0.74	0.16	0.16	0.52	0.41	0.47	-0.12	-0.16	1.83	0.62	0.43		-0.30	-0.27	0.72	0.60	-0.36		-0.06	0.34	-0.60	0.33	-0.13	-0.25	0.50	-0.18
Toluene		0.54	0.55		0.92			0.35	2.73	1.13				0.01	1.09	1.01	0.00		0.34	0.66	-0.21	0.79	0.24	-0.16	1.07	0.12
Ethylbenzene		1.06	1.03					0.79		1.71		1.48		0.45	1.41	1.45			0.72	1.01	0.09	1.20	0.58	0.44	1.60	0.47
o-Xylene		0.86	0.87						3.19	1.46		1.41			1.26	1.29		1.06	0.56	0.93	-0.03	1.06	0.42	0.33	1.39	0.33
m-Xylene		0.99	1.04						3.48	1.69		1.63		0.34	1.43	1.45		1.23	0.70	1.00	0.03	1.28	0.50	0.40	1.59	0.48
p-Xylene		1.00	0.96		-0.22				3.41	1.62		1.54		0.35	1.42	1.41		1.29	0.68	1.01	0.06	1.20	0.49	0.37	1.60	0.39
Methanol		0.23	0.21		0.10			0.25		-1.14				0.39	-2.30	-0.99	-1.20		-1.35	0.70	1.25	-0.35	0.55	0.50	-1.13	0.18
Ethanol		0.52	0.52					0.62		-0.58				0.74	-1.56	-0.51	-0.69		-0.97		1.24	0.05	0.79	0.71	-0.52	0.51
n-Propanol		0.84	0.87					1.02		-0.26		0.91		0.97	-1.08	-0.34		1.29	-0.87	1.28	1.60	0.32	1.02	0.95		0.74
i-Propanol		0.77	0.78					0.73						0.64		-0.20		0.64	-0.82	1.14	1.39	0.23	0.94		-0.04	0.67
n-Butanol		1.21	1.29					1.16						1.07		-0.04		0.44		2.07	1.93	0.67	1.46	1.29	0.24	1.07
Diethyl ether																				0.55	0.34		1.11	0.76	0.08	0.86
Tetrahydrofuran					0.34				1.68			0.98			0.67	0.65	-0.36	0.61	0.03	-0.22	-0.96	0.25	-0.30	-0.49	0.65	-0.53
1,4-Dioxane												0.81			0.65	0.30		1.18		-0.10	-0.93	0.07	-0.39	-0.53	0.38	-0.78
Acetone	0.19	-0.94	-0.94	-0.08		-0.92	-0.94	-1.00	1.46	0.10	-0.26		-0.99	-1.06	0.52	0.26		0.11	-0.17		-1.40		-0.72	-0.82	0.30	-0.81
2-Pentanone			0.72																		0.05					
Ethyl acetate		-0.14			0.59				2.54	1.08		1.37			0.97	1.05	-0.10	0.63	0.50							
Dichloromethane		-0.03	-0.03						0.85	-0.78		-0.25			-0.45	-0.69		-0.42	-1.14	0.18						
Chloroform		-0.06	-0.06						0.75	-1.27		-0.63		-0.42	-2.53	-1.24		-0.76	-1.77	0.17						
Tetrachloromethane		1.18	0.68						2.72	0.74		1.52			-0.48	0.77		0.85	0.15	0.77						
Acetonitrile		-0.82	-0.81					-0.74	0.67	-0.51		0.66		-0.76	0.01	-0.14		-0.27	-0.51	-0.35	-1.14					
Pyridine																					-0.90			-0.69	0.57	-0.71

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