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RESEARCH ARTICLE

THE THERMODYNAMICS OF K₂SO₄ IN MIXED BINARY SOLVENTS

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INTRODUCTION

Conductances of electrolyte solutions in aquo-organic solvents have been studied with a view to understand the nature of the ion-ion and ion-solvent interactions^{1,2}. In the present communication conductance of K₂SO₄ in Methanol, Ethanol, Isopropanol, Dioxane, Glycol and Glycerol + Water mixtures (10, 20 and 30% w/w) at 30-40°C have been studied and attempt has been made to deal with the ion-solvent interaction and hydrogen bonding.

EXPERIMENTAL:

The salts are of E. Merck Extra pure varieties. Purification of solvents, preparation of solutions and method of measurements is the same that of before.^{1,2} The temperature of investigation was 30-40°C. The conductance measurements were of an accuracy of ± 2 in 1000°.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

The Onsager equation for the completely dissociated electrolytes is

$$\Lambda = \Lambda_0 - (A + B \Lambda_0) C^{1/2} \text{----- (1)}$$

Where A and B are independent of concentration of the electrolytes. It satisfactorily accounts from the change in equivalent conductivities with concentration. Correct evaluation of Λ_0 can be made by extrapolating to zero concentration of the line obtained by plotting Λ and $C^{1/2}$. However the above method of extrapolation has been reported to be unreliable in case of a number of electrolytes involving incomplete dissociation or ion association. Devise the extended the Onsager's equation and has tabulated the dissociation constants of a variety of salts, especially higher valency type. Electrolytic conductivities have been used to study ion solvent interaction and solvents of various cations and anions in aqueous and non-aqueous solution.

The equivalent conductance of K₂SO₄ investigated by weight % of Methanol, Ethanol, Propan-2-ol, 1,4-Dioxane, Glycol and Glycerol + Water mixtures (10, 20, 30%) at 30-40°C and found to be almost linear with $C^{1/2}$. The

theoretical slope (S_t) calculated from the determined Λ_0 values for different electrolytes at different solvent composition have been obtained and compared with the experimental slope (S). Dielectric Constants were calculated from the data of Akenlof and Short, viscosities were determined experimentally^{1,2}. The S_t and S values are almost in fair agreement and differ by 2 to 3%, Λ_0 values are given in Table-1.

The Walden product $\Lambda_0\eta_0$ (Table-2) has been actually employed to study ion solvent interaction in solution from conductivity data. The plot of $\Lambda_0\eta_0$ and T are found to be linear and is almost independent of temperature. Further the mere constancy of the Walden product at different temperature is most presumably due to compensating conductivity by the negative temperature coefficient of the viscosity of the solvent. The lesser the value of $\Lambda_0\eta_0$ the greater is the ion solvent interaction. Also electrostatic charge densities of the ion play an important role in inducing ion solvent interaction and solvation. It also appears that during this migration of ions covered with a sheath of solvent molecules resulting in a larger size of the solvodynamic unit and a decrease in $\Lambda_0\eta_0$ (Table-2), so that the size of the solvated ion-solvent interaction is of the order: Ethanol + water > Methanol + water > propan-2-ol + water > 1,4-Dioxane + water > glycol + water > glycerol+ water is an agreement with the viscosity and apparent molar volume data.

Table-1: $\Lambda_0(\Omega^{-1}\text{cm}^2 \text{g eq.}^{-1})$

| | 10% | 20% | 30% |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Methanol+water | 185 | 170 | 150 |
| | 195 | 190 | 162 |
| | 201 | 194 | 174 |
| Ethanol+water | 140 | 135 | 115 |
| | 175 | 172 | 164 |
| | 198 | 192 | 190 |
| Isopropanol+water | 143 | 120 | 105 |
| | 160 | 148 | 154 |
| | 175 | 184 | 175 |
| Dioxane+water | 156 | 128 | 110 |
| | 157 | 132 | 114 |
| | 165 | 134 | 117 |
| Glycol+water | 100 | 92 | 85 |
| | 105 | 96 | 90 |
| | 107 | 99 | 90 |
| Glycerol+water | 101 | 88 | 81 |
| | 105 | 91 | 85 |
| | 109 | 88 | 90 |

Table-2: $\Lambda_0\eta_0(\Omega^{-1}\text{cm}^2 \text{g eq.}^{-1}\text{P})$

| | 10% | 20% | 30% |
|-------------------|------|------|------|
| Methanol+water | 1.30 | 1.29 | 1.29 |
| | 1.28 | 1.28 | 1.30 |
| | 1.29 | 1.31 | 1.31 |
| Ethanol+water | 1.24 | 1.23 | 1.24 |
| | 1.23 | 1.24 | 1.24 |
| | 1.23 | 1.24 | 1.25 |
| Isopropanol+water | 1.29 | 1.30 | 1.30 |
| | 1.30 | 1.28 | 1.30 |
| | 1.31 | 1.29 | 1.39 |
| Dioxane+water | 1.35 | 1.36 | 1.36 |
| | 1.34 | 1.35 | 1.35 |
| | 1.34 | 1.36 | 1.36 |
| Glycol+water | 1.38 | 1.37 | 1.36 |
| | 1.39 | 1.39 | 1.38 |
| | 1.38 | 1.39 | 1.39 |
| Glycerol+water | 1.47 | 1.40 | 1.41 |
| | 1.48 | 1.42 | 1.40 |
| | 1.48 | 1.41 | 1.41 |

Because of the use of aquo-organic solvents, the dielectric constant of the medium is lowered and there is more probability of ion pair formation. Hence the method of Fuoss and Krauss³ and that of Shedlovsky⁴ have been utilised to calculate the dissociation constant (K) and Λ simultaneously values calculated by both the methods are good in agreement and are recorded in Table-3. The K values decreases with the decrease in dielectric constant.

Table- 3: K X10²

| | 10% | 20% | 30% |
|-------------------|-------|-------|------|
| Methanol+water | 11.64 | 9.10 | 8.32 |
| | 11.92 | 9.06 | 8.05 |
| | 11.42 | 9.27 | 8.42 |
| Ethanol+water | 10.72 | 8.62 | 7.52 |
| | 10.91 | 8.98 | 7.38 |
| | 10.82 | 8.72 | 7.48 |
| Isopropanol+water | 11.61 | 9.63 | 9.80 |
| | 11.51 | 9.70 | 9.20 |
| | 11.40 | 9.80 | 9.30 |
| Dioxane+ water | 12.71 | 9.67 | 8.56 |
| | 12.68 | 9.56 | 8.66 |
| | 12.54 | 9.42 | 8.64 |
| Glycol+ water | 11.80 | 9.20 | 8.20 |
| | 11.20 | 9.40 | 8.50 |
| | 11.20 | 9.60 | 8.70 |
| Glycerol+ water | 10.20 | 9.90 | 8.42 |
| | 10.31 | 10.10 | 8.50 |
| | 10.50 | 10.20 | 8.60 |

The standard thermodynamic parameter ΔG° and ΔS° have been calculated in the usual manner. The plot of ΔG° and ΔS° vs. solvent composition are found to be linear. The extrapolated values give the thermodynamic parameter for water. The standard thermodynamic quantities (ΔG°_t and ΔS°_t) for transfer process from water to 10,20 and 30% of organic solvent + water have been calculated by using Feakin's and Tuner's method⁵. ΔG°_t values are tabulated in Table- 4 and 5. The ΔG°_t values are all negative, which indicates that the ion pairs are in a lower free energy state in aquo-organic solvent than in water and hence the ion pair formation is favoured by decreasing the dielectric constant of the medium.

Since single ion values of free energies are not available presently for the solvent mixtures studied the method adopted by Khoo⁶ is followed to study ion solvent interaction. The born equation may be expected to fit increasingly better as the organic solvent content is increased. It is possible to split the ΔG°_t values into two parts suggested by Roy et al,⁷ i.e, chemical contribution ($\Delta G^\circ_{t(ch)}$) and electrostatic contribution ($\Delta G^\circ_{t(el)}$) which

$$\Delta G^\circ_{t(el)} = \frac{Ne^2}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_s} - \frac{1}{\epsilon_w} \right) \left(\frac{1}{r_+} + \frac{1}{r_-} \right) \text{-----} (2)$$

Where r_+ and r_- are the crystallographic radii of the cation and anion and ϵ_s and ϵ_w are the dielectric constants of the mixed solvents and water respectively.

Where $\frac{d \ln \epsilon_s}{dT}$ and $\frac{d \ln \epsilon_w}{dT}$ can be evaluated from the simple empirical equation:

$$\frac{d \ln \epsilon_w}{dT} = -\frac{1}{\phi} \text{-----} (3)$$

In which ϕ is a constant characteristic of the medium, so the equation may be written as:

$$\Delta S^\circ_{t(el)} = \frac{Ne^2}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon_{\phi s}} - \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\phi w}} \right) \left(\frac{1}{r_+} + \frac{1}{r_-} \right) \text{-----} (4)$$

From the knowledge of $\Delta G^\circ_{t(el)}$ and $\Delta S^\circ_{t(el)}$, the chemical contribution⁸⁻¹² of the free energy transfer and entropy transfer could be calculated by subtracting the respective electrostatic contribution values from the molar quantities and are tabulated in Table- 5 & 6. It is evident that the chemical contribution of the free energy of transfer is negative in all cases and hence is thermodynamically favourable as far as the chemical interactions are concerned, and is of the order:

Ethanol + water > Methanol + water > Isopropanol + water > 1,4-Dioxane + water > Glycol + Water > Glycerol + water.

Table -4: ΔG_t^0 (J mol⁻¹)

| | Temp. | 10% | 20% | 30% |
|-------------------|-------|------|------|------|
| Methanol+water | 30 | 950 | 1620 | 2470 |
| | 35 | 915 | 1515 | 2440 |
| | 40 | 948 | 1598 | 2480 |
| Ethanol+water | 30 | 1040 | 1719 | 2568 |
| | 35 | 1000 | 1615 | 2508 |
| | 40 | 1050 | 1715 | 2520 |
| Propan-2-ol+water | 30 | 851 | 1800 | 2470 |
| | 35 | 862 | 1850 | 2390 |
| | 40 | 885 | 1780 | 2450 |
| Dioxane+ water | 30 | 714 | 1418 | 2203 |
| | 35 | 815 | 1415 | 2340 |
| | 40 | 815 | 1414 | 2345 |
| Glycol+ water | 30 | 664 | 1114 | 1825 |
| | 35 | 715 | 1214 | 2050 |
| | 40 | 744 | 1312 | 2092 |
| Glycerol+ water | 30 | 694 | 1280 | 1845 |
| | 35 | 700 | 1215 | 1850 |
| | 40 | 710 | 1275 | 1820 |

The $\Delta S_{t(el)}^0$ is also negative in all cases including chemical interaction and is of the order: Ethanol + water > Methanol + water > Isopropanol + water > Dioxane + water > Glycol + Water > Glycerol + water.

The reasons for the behaviour is as follows :

Ethanol, methanol and iso-propanol have got one –OH and water is both an electron donor and acceptor. Hence, the former could accept a proton from water and hence the three-dimensional¹³⁻¹⁸ water structure is easily broken down. The addition of a small amount of organic solvent to water may give rise to two effects: if the organic solvent is accommodated in the solvent structure, it may strengthen the water structure because organic solvent is a proton-acceptor. It cannot be accommodated because of its bulky size then it may cause a breakdown in the three dimensional water structures. Several authors have also observed that organic solvent + water is less ordered than pure water. It is observed that ΔE and ΔG increase with increase in dioxane content and hence, the three-dimensional water structure is broken down though the quanta is less that of ethanol and methanol + water mixtures.

Table- 5: $\Delta G_{t(ch)}^0$ (J mol⁻¹)

| | 10% | 20% | 30% |
|-------------------|-----|-----|------|
| Methanol + water | 620 | 780 | 1407 |
| | 670 | 840 | 1515 |
| | 602 | 770 | 1404 |
| Ethanol + water | 640 | 960 | 1204 |
| | 560 | 940 | 1508 |
| | 610 | 950 | 1300 |
| Propan-2-ol+water | 518 | 815 | 1500 |
| | 500 | 805 | 1510 |
| | 516 | 820 | 1530 |
| Dioxane+ water | 416 | 713 | 1682 |
| | 360 | 740 | 1452 |
| | 387 | 708 | 1443 |
| Glycol+ water | 372 | 658 | 1220 |
| | 300 | 600 | 1214 |

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|------|
| | 250 | 575 | 1109 |
| Glycerol+ water | 304 | 595 | 1380 |
| | 300 | 555 | 1370 |
| | 315 | 540 | 1365 |

Table -6: $\Delta S_{t(ch)}^0$ ($J K^{-1} mol^{-1}$)

| | 10% | 20% | 30% |
|-------------------|------|------|-------|
| Methanol + water | 3.61 | 7.10 | 9.45 |
| | 3.21 | 6.42 | 9.72 |
| | 3.51 | 7.02 | 9.42 |
| Ethanol +water | 4.28 | 7.22 | 10.55 |
| | 3.82 | 6.91 | 9.91 |
| | 4.25 | 7.10 | 9.98 |
| Propan-2-ol+water | 2.71 | 6.20 | 9.30 |
| | 2.73 | 6.30 | 9.10 |
| | 2.76 | 6.40 | 9.40 |
| Dioxane+ water | 2.52 | 5.12 | 8.20 |
| | 2.62 | 5.42 | 8.32 |
| | 2.81 | 4.62 | 7.41 |
| Glycol+ water | 2.40 | 4.80 | 7.40 |
| | 2.62 | 4.90 | 7.60 |
| | 2.81 | 5.30 | 8.10 |
| Glycerol+ water | 2.40 | 4.90 | 7.60 |
| | 3.40 | 4.80 | 7.50 |
| | 3.50 | 4.90 | 7.30 |

Glycol has got two –OH groups and glycerol has got three –OH groups. So it should have more tendencies to break hydrogen bonds more readily than ethanol and methanol. But the reverse is seen to be true. This is probably due to low ion-solvent dipole-interaction energy which is unable to break the strong inter-molecular hydrogen bond.

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