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# Solid—Liquid Phase Equilibrium and Solubility of Dibenzo[*b*,*d*]furan and 9*H*-Fluoren-9-one in Organic Solvents

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**ABSTRACT:** The solubilities of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one and dibenzo[b,d]furan in ethanol, butan-1-ol, ethyl ethanoate, methylbenzene, 2-isopropoxypropane, and tetrachloromethane were measured using the isothermal method from (283.15 to 333.15) K. The experimental data were then correlated with the Apelblat equation, and the activity coefficients were correlated using the Scatchard—Hildebrand regular solution equation and nonrandom two-liquid (NRTL) equation. Besides, ternary phase diagrams of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + dibenzo[b,d]furan + ethanol, 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + 9*H*-fluorene + ethanol, and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + 1,2-dihydroacenaphthylene + ethanol were also presented. The results show that all systems were simple eutectic systems, and the significant change of solubility in 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + dibenzo[b,d]furan + ethanol 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + dibenzo[b,d]furan + ethanol



### ■ INTRODUCTION

As the major components of the fractionation cut obtained from coal tar, dibenzo [b,d] furan and 9H-fluorene have many industrial applications. Among them, dibenzo [b,d] furan is mainly used as raw materials for the production of dyestuffs, anticeptics, insecticides, *o*-phenylphenol, and polychlorodibenzofurans.<sup>1,2</sup> 9H-Fluorene is widely used in the applications of thermo and light sensitizers, liquid crystal chemistry, luminescence chemistry, spectrophotoetric analysis, molecular chemistry, and biochemorphology industry.<sup>3</sup>

The commercial process for the production of 9*H*-fluorene was achieved by the distillation, and further oxidation of which in the presence of oxidizing agents can be used to manufacture 9*H*-fluoren-9-one. Crystallization would take place to isolate 9*H*-fluoren-9-one and 9*H*-fluorene; however, as the boiling point of 9*H*-fluorene is close to that of several polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) such as dibenzo[b,d]furan and 1,2-dihydroacenaphthylene, the contamination of these components in the distilled 9*H*-fluorene was unavoidable, and further drawn into the final product of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one, which consequently increased the difficulty of the crystallization process of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one and further impurity content. Given this situation, to obtain dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one with high purities, their thermodynamic properties should be investigated.

The study of solid–liquid equilibrium (SLE) is an important tool in analyzing crystallization and extraction processes. There is much research concerning the SLE of 9*H*-fluorene or 1,2dihydroacenaphthylene.<sup>2,4-6</sup> The SLE for binary mixtures composed of 1,2-dihydroacenaphthylene, dibenzo[*b*,*d*]furan, 9*H*-fluorene, phenanthrene, and 1,1-methanediyldibenzene were determined by Lee et al. with a solid-disappearance method.<sup>5,6</sup> Eckert et al. have investigated the SLE of dibenzo[*b*,*d*]furan in water and supercritical fluid carbon dioxide.<sup>7,8</sup> Bouroukba et al. have reported the SLE of dibenzo[b,d]furan and normal long-chain alkanes such as octacosane, eicosane, and so forth.9 McLaughlin et al. have studied the solid-liquid phase equilibria of binary and ternary mixtures of benzene, dibenzo[b,d] furan, and 9H-fluorene.<sup>10,11</sup> The SLE of 9H-fluoren-9-one in undecane, tert-butyl, cyclohexane, diethyl ether, and supercritical fluid carbon dioxide has been studied by various researchers.<sup>8,12</sup> However, there are limited number of papers that address the solubilities of dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9H-fluoren-9-one in solvents such as ethanol and tetrachloromethane, and so forth, which do not match the significance of the problem. In this work, solubility data of dibenzo [b,d] furan and 9H-fluoren-9-one in ethanol, butan-1-ol, ethyl ethanoate, methylbenzene, 2-isopropoxypropane, and tetrachloromethane have been measured from (283.15 to 333.15) K. All measured data were reproduced quantitatively by several different empirical equations and thermodynamic models. Moreover, three ternary phase diagrams including 9H-fluoren-9-one + 9H-fluorene + ethanol, 9H-fluoren-9-one + dibenzo [b,d] furan + ethanol, and 9Hfluoren-9-one + 1,2-dihydroacenaphthylene + ethanol were presented.

#### EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**Materials.** The 1,2-dihydroacenaphthylene, dibenzo[b,d]-furan, 9H-fluorene, and 9H-fluoren-9-one were obtained from Tianjin Kewei Chemical Reagents Co. Ltd., China, and recrystallized twice. Its purity, determined by gas chromatog-raphy (FID, Agilent, GC6820) equipped with a phenyl methyl silicone capillary column, was better than 0.995 mole fraction. Ethanol, butan-1-ol, ethyl ethanoate, methylbenzene, 2-

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Tal	ole	1.	Phy	ysical	Pro	perties	of	Solutes	and	Sol	vents
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	$T_{\rm f}$	/K	$\Delta_{ ext{fus}} H$	$V_i^{a,b}$	$\delta^b$
compounds	lit.	this work	kJ·mol <sup>−1</sup>	cm <sup>3</sup> ·mol <sup>-1</sup>	$(J \cdot cm^{-3})^{1/2}$
dibenzo[ <i>b,d</i> ]furan	355.70 <sup>c</sup>	355.54	18.60 <sup>c</sup>	152.5 <sup>c</sup>	20.41 <sup>c</sup>
9H-fluoren-9-one	356.40 <sup>c</sup>	356.27	18.12 <sup>d</sup>	144.83 <sup>d</sup>	21.55 <sup><i>d</i>,e</sup>
ethanol <sup><i>f,g</i></sup>				63.95	24.81
butan-1-ol <sup>f,g</sup>				98.77	22.36
ethyl ethanoate <sup>f,g</sup>				106.99	17.46
methylbenzene <sup>f,g</sup>				113.76	17.55
2-isopropoxypropane <sup>f,g,h</sup>				84.21	18.61
tetrachloromethane <sup>f,g</sup>				104.08	16.82

<sup>*a*</sup>Taken from ref 21. <sup>*b*</sup>Taken from ref 22. <sup>*c*</sup>Taken from ref 23. <sup>*d*</sup>Taken from ref 24. <sup>*e*</sup>Taken from ref 25. <sup>*f*</sup>Taken from ref 26. <sup>*g*</sup>Taken from ref 27. <sup>*h*</sup>Taken from ref 28.

isopropoxypropane, and tetrachloromethane (purchased from Tianjin Damao Chemical Reagent Co., China) used for experiments were of analytical reagent grade and used without further purification. Their purities were better than 0.995 mole fraction. Distilled deionized water was used.

Apparatus and Procedure. The solubilities of 9H-fluoren-9-one and dibenzo [b,d] furan were measured by the isothermal method under the pressure of 101.32 kPa. The solubility was determined using an apparatus similar to that described in the literature and described only briefly here.<sup>13</sup> A 50 mL sealed jacked vessel was used to determine the solubility. The temperature was controlled to be constant (fluctuates within  $\pm$  0.05 K) by a thermostatted bath. A mercury-in-glass thermometer with an uncertainty of  $\pm$  0.05 K was inserted into the inner chambers of the vessels to measure the solution temperature. The dissolution of the solute was examined by the laser beam penetrating the vessel. To prevent the evaporation of the solvent, a condenser vessel was introduced. The masses of the solutes and solvents were weighed using an analytical balance (Metler Toledo AB204-N, Switzerland) with an accuracy of  $\pm$  0.0001 g.

The method is based on adding excess solute to a stirred solution kept at a fixed temperature for at least 24 h. After the stirring was stopped, the suspension was allowed to settle for 4 h to allow complete sedimentation of the fine crystals. Three samples of about 10 mL each were carefully withdrawn from the clear solution and then filtered by a 0.45  $\mu$ m PTFE filter. The weighed samples of saturated solutions were analyzed using a gas chromatograph with a flame ionization detector. All of the experiments were repeated three times at each temperature, and estimated uncertainties of the values were tested covering the entire temperature range. The experimental uncertainties of the ethanol and butan-1-ol systems and the ethyl ethanoate, methylbenzene, 2-isopropoxypropane, and tetrachloromethane systems are estimated to be  $\pm$  6 % and  $\pm$  3 % mass fraction, respectively.

Ternary phase diagrams of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one with 9*H*-fluorene, dibenzo[b,d]furan, and 1,2-dihydroacenaphthylene in ethanol at 303.15 K were measured using the same procedure mentioned above, respectively.<sup>14</sup>

#### DATA ANALYSIS

The temperature dependence of thermodynamic properties can be correlated by the following semiempirical equation and models deduced from the solid—liquid phase equilibrium. **Apelblat Solubility Model.** The solubility data of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one and dibenzo[b,d] furan in solution is expressed by Apelblat equation:<sup>4,13</sup>

$$\ln x_1 = A + \frac{B}{T/K} + C \ln(T/K)$$
(1)

where  $x_1$  is the mole fraction of that compound, *T* is the absolute temperature (K), and *A*, *B*, and *C* are the model parameters. The average absolute relative deviation (AAD) is calculated by eq 2,<sup>5,6</sup> which is defined as follows:

$$AAD_{1} = \frac{100}{n} \sum \left| \frac{x_{1}^{\exp,i} - x_{1}^{\operatorname{cal},i}}{x_{1}^{\exp,i}} \right|$$
(2)

where  $x_1^{\exp,i}$  and  $x_1^{\operatorname{cal},i}$  denote the experimental and calculated value of solubility, respectively. The superscript *i* represents the number of experiment, and *n* is the number of experimental points.

The solubility data can also be used to evaluate the activity coefficient of dibenzo [b,d] furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one in the solution. In the case of no solid—solid transition occurring in the experimental temperature range, the solid—liquid equilibrium of binary systems can be calculated using a simplified thermodynamic relation reported by Cheon et al.<sup>15–17</sup>

$$\ln x_i = -\frac{\Delta_{\text{fus}} H_i}{RT} \left( 1 - \frac{T}{T_{\text{fus},i}} \right)$$
(3)

where  $\gamma_{i}$ ,  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H_{i}$  and  $T_{\text{fus},i}$  denote the activity coefficient, the molar enthalpy of fusion, and the melting temperature of pure component *i*, respectively.

Usually, the nonideality of the liquid phase should be taken into account when calculating the activity coefficient; thus some models were used for correlation of the activity coefficients.<sup>16</sup> In our study, two different models were proposed.

**Scatchard–Hildebrand Regular Solution Model.** The Scatchard–Hildebrand regular solution model was widely used to calculate the activity coefficient of PAHs in single solvent<sup>18,19</sup>

$$\ln \gamma_i = V_i (1 - \varphi_i) \frac{[(\delta_1 - \delta_2)^2 + 2l_{12}\delta_1\delta_2]}{R(T/K)}$$
(4)

where  $V_{ii} \varphi_{ij}$  and  $l_{12}$  denote the molar liquid volume, volume fraction, and adjustable binary parameter for the pure components, respectively. The solubility parameters  $\delta_i$  are the

# Table 2. Comparison of the Experimental and the Calculated Data of Dibenzo[b,d] furan in Different Solvents<sup>a</sup>

				regular	solution	NI	RTL
T/K	$x_1$	$x_1^{\text{AP}}$	$\gamma_1^{exp}$	$\gamma_1^{S-H}$	Δ%	$\gamma_1^{\text{NRTL}}$	$\Delta\%$
			Eth	nanol			
283.15	0.0211	0.0192	9.458	10.07	6.467	9.461	0.026
288.15	0.0271	0.0248	8.446	9.079	7.493	8.637	2.256
293.15	0.0322	0.0322	8.115	8.305	2.331	7.988	1.560
298.15	0.0414	0.0422	7.173	7.338	2.285	7.178	0.068
303.15	0.0489	0.0558	6.873	6.634	3.483	6.582	4.240
308.15	0.0707	0.0743	5.359	5.369	0.203	5.488	2.400
313.15	0.1023	0.0994	4.158	4.167	0.212	4.399	5.812
318.15	0.1341	0.1340	3.549	3.359	5.348	3.633	2.357
323.15	0.1971	0.1816	2.692	2.435	9.559	2.694	0.067
328.15	0.2831	0.2474	2.083	1.794	13.89	1.990	4.461
333.15	0.3341	0.3385	1.955	1.568	19.81	1.731	11.44
			Buta	ın-1-ol			
283.15	0.0281	0.0276	7.103	7.135	0.452	7.273	2.401
288.15	0.0326	0.0326	7.022	6.697	4.618	6.814	2.951
293.15	0.0421	0.0397	6.207	6.133	1.192	6.187	0.309
298.15	0.0531	0.0500	5.593	5.594	0.0181	5.599	0.122
303.15	0.0671	0.0649	5.010	5.047	0.755	5.011	0.029
308.15	0.0877	0.0865	4.320	4.435	2.665	4.361	0.960
313.15	0.1068	0.1184	3.984	3.962	0.536	3.875	2.734
318.15	0.1664	0.1659	2.861	3.032	5.992	2.920	2.076
323.15	0.2301	0.2379	2.306	2.395	3.847	2.296	0.400
328.15	0.3638	0.3482	1.621	1.676	3.386	1.613	0.472
333.15	0.5141	0.5197	1.271	1.296	1.971	1.265	0.469
			Ethyl E	thanoate			
283.15	0.1455	0.1359	1.371	1.383	0.827	1.429	4.294
288.15	0.1679	0.1657	1.363	1.346	1.304	1.388	1.885
293.15	0.1989	0.1998	1.313	1.302	0.901	1.340	2.094
298.15	0.2315	0.2383	1.289	1.262	1.622	1.296	0.578
303.15	0.2685	0.2813	1.251	1.223	2.275	1.253	0.206
308.15	0.3277	0.3289	1.156	1.174	1.519	1.198	3.637
313.15	0.3872	0.3806	1.098	1.134	3.163	1.152	5.006
318.15	0.4411	0.4371	1.069	1.104	2.281	1.119	4.726
323.15	0.5017	0.4977	1.057	1.077	1.793	1.089	3.033
328.15	0.5651	0.5622	1.044	1.055	1.046	1.063	1.889
333.15	0.6249	0.6304	1.045	1.038	0.704	1.044	0.016
			Methy	lbenzene			
283.15	0.1577	0.1553	1.265	1.228	2.992	1.300	2.781
288.15	0.1855	0.1868	1.234	1.203	2.479	1.266	2.656
293.15	0.2231	0.2221	1.171	1.175	0.354	1.228	4.905
298.15	0.2656	0.2613	1.118	1.148	2.691	1.191	6.588
303.15	0.3013	0.3043	1.115	1.128	1.109	1.164	4.458
308.15	0.3437	0.3510	1.102	1.107	0.438	1.137	3.207
313.15	0.3991	0.4012	1.066	1.085	1.744	1.107	3.911
318.15	0.4547	0.4548	1.046	1.066	1.807	1.083	3.564
323.15	0.5145	0.5114	1.031	1.049	1.712	1.061	3.003
328.15	0.5817	0.5707	1.013	1.034	2.021	1.043	2.967
333.15	0.6238	0.6323	1.047	1.027	1.973	1.033	1.297
			2-Isoprop	oxypropane			0.004
283.15	0.0838	0.0834	2.381	2.452	2.961	2.362	0.801
288.15	0.1042	0.1035	2.196	2.264	3.052	2.213	0.810
293.15	0.1302	0.1278	2.007	2.072	3.243	2.058	2.579
298.15	0.1548	0.1571	1.918	1.921	0.106	1.932	0.742
303.15	0.1832	0.1922	1.834	1.778	3.074	1.809	1.325
308.15	0.2366	0.2340	1.602	1.583	1.138	1.633	1.976
313.15	0.2845	0.2837	1.495	1.451	2.951	1.508	0.890
318.15	0.3411	0.3426	1.395	1.335	4.334	1.392	0.210
323.15	0.4119	0.4121	1.288	1.231	4.487	1.281	0.487
328.15	0.5081	0.4938	1.161	1.136	2.119	1.174	1.204

#### Table 2. continued

				regular	solution	NR	TL
T/K	$x_1$	$x_1^{AP}$	$\gamma_1^{exp}$	$\gamma_1^{S-H}$	$\Delta\%$	$\gamma_1^{\rm NRTL}$	$\Delta\%$
			2-Isoprope	oxypropane			
333.15	0.5798	0.5896	1.128	1.088	3.414	1.117	0.903
			Tetrachlor	romethane			
283.15	0.1339	0.1335	1.491	1.505	0.984	1.499	0.545
288.15	0.1614	0.1591	1.418	1.444	1.854	1.444	1.876
293.15	0.1913	0.1888	1.366	1.387	1.590	1.392	1.965
298.15	0.2158	0.2228	1.376	1.345	2.240	1.353	1.609
303.15	0.2639	0.2619	1.273	1.280	0.507	1.292	1.526
308.15	0.3066	0.3065	1.235	1.231	0.351	1.245	0.857
313.15	0.3542	0.3573	1.201	1.186	1.222	1.201	0.038
318.15	0.4119	0.4148	1.155	1.142	1.123	1.157	0.198
323.15	0.4914	0.4798	1.080	1.096	1.552	1.109	2.730
328.15	0.5479	0.5530	1.076	1.071	0.471	1.082	0.581
333.15	0.6348	0.6352	1.029	1.042	1.292	1.050	2.065

 ${}^{a}x_{1}$  and  $x_{1}^{AP}$  are the experimental solubilities and calculated solubilities of the Apelblat equation, respectively.  $\gamma_{1}^{exp}$ ,  $\gamma_{1}^{S-H}$ , and  $\gamma_{1}^{NRTL}$  are the experimental activity coefficients and calculated activity coefficients based on the regular solution equation and the NRTL equation, respectively.

square root of the cohesive-energy densities and can be defined as

$$\delta_i = \left[\frac{E_V}{V_i}\right]^{1/2} \tag{5}$$

where  $E_V$  is the internal energy change for component *i* upon going from the liquid to the ideal gas state.

The solubility parameters of PAHs and solvent can be obtained from literature.<sup>20–27</sup> While the solubility parameters of PAHs can be used directly, those of solvent need to be calibrated using the "floating datum point method" reported by Choi and McLaughlin concerning the improved accuracy.<sup>27,28</sup> The calculated results are listed in Table 1.

**NRTL Model.** The NRTL equation with two parameters was also applied to represent the activity coefficients of the solutes.<sup>5</sup> According to the NRTL equation, the activity coefficient is given by

$$\ln \gamma_i = x_j^2 \left[ \frac{G_{ji}^2 \tau_{ji}}{(x_i + x_j G_{ji})^2} + \frac{G_{ij} \tau_{ij}}{(x_j + x_i G_{ij})^2} \right]$$
(6)

with

$$G_{ji} = \exp\left(\frac{-\alpha_{ji}(g_{ji} - g_{ij})}{R(T/K)}\right)$$
(7)

where parameter  $\alpha_{ji}$  is a measure of the nonrandomness of the mixture, which can be arbitrarily set from 0.20 to 0.47 and is generally taken as 0.3 for organic compounds.<sup>17</sup> The adjustable binary parameter  $l_{12}$  in the regular solution model and parameters of  $(g_{12} - g_{22})$  and  $(g_{21} - g_{11})$  in the NRTL model were obtained by minimizing the objective function  $F_{obj}$  over the entire composition range

$$F_{\rm obj} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} (\gamma_1^{\exp{,i}} - \gamma_1^{\operatorname{cal},i})^2$$
(8)

The percentage deviations ( $\Delta$  %) of the values from the experimental results is defined as

$$\Delta\% = 100 \cdot \left| \frac{\gamma_{l}^{\exp,i} - \gamma_{l}^{\operatorname{cal},i}}{\gamma_{l}^{\exp,i}} \right|$$
(9)

where  $\gamma_1^{\exp,i}$  is the experimental value and  $\gamma_1^{\operatorname{cal},i}$  is the calculated value.

The following equation of average absolute relative deviation (AAD) is also used to compare the deviations calculated by the regular solution model and NRTL model.

$$AAD_{2} = \frac{100}{n} \sum \left| \frac{\gamma_{1}^{\exp,i} - \gamma_{1}^{\operatorname{cal},i}}{\gamma_{1}^{\exp,i}} \right|$$
(10)

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Binary Phase Equilibrium of Dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9H-Fluoren-9-one. The solubilities of 9H-fluoren-9-one and dibenzo[b,d]furan in solvents were measured using the isothermal method from (283.15 to 333.15) K, and the results are listed in Tables 2 and 3.

As indicated in Tables 2 and 3, solubilities of 9*H*-fluoren-9one and dibenzo[b,d]furan in all solvents increase with increasing temperature. Among which, methylbenzene and ethyl ethanoate have more capacity to dissolve the dibenzo-[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one. As to methylbenzene, the higher solubility can be attributed to the similar molecular structure, while ethyl ethanoate is due to the intermolecular hydrogen bond interaction. Referring to the molecular packing mode of dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one,<sup>29,30</sup> the ethyl ethanoate can form intermolecular hydrogen bonds between the oxygen atom of solute molecules and hydrogen atom of solvent in solution,<sup>31</sup> and thus the solubilities of dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one in ethyl ethanoate are quite high.

Table 4 shows the model parameters and  $AAD_1$  regressed from Apelblat model. As shown in Table 4, the  $AAD_1$  values verify that Apelblat model provide an accurate mathematical representation for the solubilities of dibenzo [b,d] furan and 9*H*fluoren-9-one in different solvents.

The experimental and the calculated activity coefficients using the regular solution model and NRTL model are also

# Table 3. Comparison of the Experimental and the Calculated Thermodynamic Data of 9H-Fluoren-9-one in Different Solvents<sup>a</sup>

				regular	solution	NF	RTL
T/K	$x_1$	$x_1^{ m AP}$	$\gamma_1^{exp}$	$\gamma_1^{S-H}$	Δ%	$\gamma_1^{\text{NRTL}}$	$\Delta\%$
			Etl	nanol			
283.15	0.0209	0.0163	9.835	9.746	0.902	10.31	4.911
288.15	0.0241	0.0237	9.748	9.074	6.919	9.583	1.691
293.15	0.0301	0.0344	8.880	8.248	7.112	8.659	2.483
298.15	0.0430	0.0495	7.041	7.083	0.601	7.338	4.228
303.15	0.0562	0.0710	6.088	6.146	0.924	6.311	3.671
308.15	0.0976	0.1014	3.932	4.408	12.10	4.407	12.09
313.15	0.1445	0.1444	2.973	3.266	9.845	3.216	8.184
318.15	0.2074	0.2046	2.311	2.406	4.098	2.346	1.534
323.15	0.2923	0.2889	1.823	1.795	1.527	1.745	4.290
328.15	0.4087	0.4064	1.445	1.388	3.942	1.352	6.393
333.15	0.5479	0.5694	1.191	1.163	2.294	1.143	4.027
			Buta	an-1-ol			
283.15	0.0267	0.0253	7.421	7.257	2.206	7.810	5.244
288.15	0.0321	0.0320	7.319	6.836	6.595	7.234	1.155
293.15	0.0402	0.0411	6.649	6.323	4.901	6.593	0.835
298.15	0.0498	0.0532	6.080	5.822	4.239	5.981	1.628
303.15	0.0685	0.0695	4.986	5.140	3.079	5.146	3.200
308.15	0.0848	0.0916	4.635	4.671	0.768	4.556	1.707
313.15	0.1261	0.1217	3.411	3.764	10.35	3.577	4.860
318.15	0.1622	0.1626	2.955	3.194	8.081	2.985	1.029
323.15	0.2362	0.2188	2.256	2.449	8.150	2.238	0.796
328.15	0.3108	0.2961	1.901	1.959	3.087	1.797	5.471
333.15	0.3998	0.4028	1.632	1.596	2.190	1.482	9.220
			Ethyl E	Ethanoate			
283.15	0.1235	0.1239	1.664	1.670	0.343	1.696	1.902
288.15	0.1418	0.1474	1.656	1.611	2.725	1.636	1.219
293.15	0.1731	0.1749	1.544	1.533	0.793	1.554	0.628
298.15	0.2214	0.2070	1.369	1.434	4.713	1.452	6.070
303.15	0.2436	0.2445	1.402	1.390	0.857	1.408	0.443
308.15	0.2843	0.2880	1.350	1.326	1.743	1.343	0.528
313.15	0.3351	0.3385	1.278	1.261	1.412	1.275	0.173
318.15	0.3951	0.3971	1.213	1.200	1.102	1.212	0.090
323.15	0.4652	0.4647	1.145	1.144	0.167	1.153	0.7260
328.15	0.5479	0.5427	1.0781	1.094	1.490	1.101	2.130
333.15	0.6301	0.6325	1.035	1.058	2.168	1.063	2.697
			Methy	lbenzene			
283.15	0.1202	0.1183	1.710	1.787	4.527	1.775	3.828
288.15	0.1422	0.1407	1.652	1.710	3.489	1.721	4.162
293.15	0.1636	0.1666	1.633	1.642	0.478	1.670	2.294
298.15	0.19/4	0.1962	1.555	1.555	1.211	1.603	4.392
303.15	0.2281	0.2302	1.497	1.484	0.892	1.546	3.285
308.15	0.2039	0.2089	1.454	1.415	2.745	1.480	2.217
313.15	0.3153	0.312/	1.362	1.333	2.109	1.412	3.057
310.15	0.3707	0.3024	1.295	1.202	2.410	1.541	0.240
323.13	0.4101	0.4185	1.239	1.218	5 214	1.294	0.349
323.15	0.4833	0.5515	1.210	1.133	6.495	1.221	1.711
555.15	0.5498	0.5515	2-Isoprop		0.493	1.107	1.711
283.15	0.0297	0.0298	6.921	7.444	7.552	6.989	0.985
288.15	0.0356	0.0356	6.599	6.907	4.664	6.538	0.917
293.15	0.0426	0.0431	6.274	6.384	1.754	6.098	2.802
298.15	0.0541	0.0530	5.596	5.760	2.925	5.571	0.452
303.15	0.0642	0.0660	5.321	5.271	0.933	5.153	3.159
308.15	0.0815	0.0831	4.709	4.658	1.108	4.624	1.807
313.15	0.1081	0.1059	3.975	3.964	0.286	4.013	0.962
318.15	0.1374	0.1364	3.489	3.386	2.942	3.491	0.0540
323.15	0.1801	0.1773	2.959	2.792	5.664	2.934	0.841
328.15	0.2277	0.2326	2.594	2.328	10.25	2.482	4.305

#### Table 3. continued

				regular	solution	NF	TL
T/K	$x_1$	$x_1^{\mathrm{AP}}$	$\gamma_1^{exp}$	$\gamma_1^{S-H}$	Δ%	$\gamma_1^{\text{NRTL}}$	$\Delta\%$
			2-Isoprop	oxypropane			
333.15	0.3091	0.3075	2.111	1.829	13.36	1.970	6.663
			Tetrachlo	oromethane			
283.15	0.1141	0.1066	1.801	1.791	0.617	1.823	1.191
288.15	0.1418	0.1342	1.656	1.692	2.148	1.720	3.830
293.15	0.1583	0.1664	1.688	1.635	3.185	1.661	1.624
298.15	0.1924	0.2033	1.573	1.543	1.936	1.565	0.498
303.15	0.2411	0.2450	1.416	1.438	1.555	1.457	2.846
308.15	0.2912	0.2915	1.318	1.352	2.539	1.367	3.684
313.15	0.3472	0.3426	1.237	1.274	2.903	1.286	3.897
318.15	0.4030	0.3950	1.189	1.211	1.823	1.221	2.677
323.15	0.4624	0.4573	1.152	1.158	0.496	1.167	1.211
328.15	0.5191	0.5201	1.137	1.118	1.741	1.125	1.150
333.15	0.5821	0.5858	1.121	1.083	3.401	1.088	2.938

 ${}^{a}x_{1}$  and  $x_{1}^{AP}$  are the experimental solubilities and calculated solubilities of the Apelblat equation, respectively.  $\gamma_{1}^{exp}$ ,  $\gamma_{1}^{S-H}$ , and  $\gamma_{1}^{NRTL}$  are the experimental activity coefficients and calculated activity coefficients based on the regular solution equation and NRTL equation, respectively.

# Table 4. Curve-Fitting Parameters of Dibenzo[b,d] furan and 9H-Fluoren-9-one in Solution from (283.15 to 333.15) K Regressed by the Apelblat Model

solvent	Α	В	С	$AAD_1$
		Dibenzo[b,d]	furan	
ethanol	-403.9998	13713.5065	62.2785	5.703
butan-1-ol	-893.2039	35912.8812	135.1018	3.447
ethyl ethanoate	118.9662	-7943.9380	-16.4554	1.927
methylbenzene	122.5675	-7894.9178	-17.1002	1.072
2-isopropoxypropane	-42.0351	-1291.9995	7.8134	1.421
tetrachloromethane	-16.0800	-1827.6751	3.6346	1.091
		9H-Fluoren-9	-one	
ethanol	-169.4695	1913.6055	28.0898	8.176
butan-1-ol	-418.4545	14531.6475	64.3746	3.664
ethyl ethanoate	-68.0206	424.7422	11.4120	1.486
methylbenzene	-14.4264	-1876.8445	3.3511	1.282
2-isopropoxypropane	-469.6882	17558.7857	71.5842	1.399
tetrachloromethane	182.5350	-11121.2581	-25.7700	2.633

Table 5. Regressed Parameters of Dibenzo[b,d] furan and 9H-Fluoren-9-one in Solution from (283.15 to 333.15) K Correlated by the Regular Solution Equation and NRTL Equation

	regular solution		NRTL		
solvent	l <sub>12</sub>	AAD <sub>2</sub>	$g_{12} - g_{22}$	$g_{21} - g_{11}$	AAD <sub>2</sub>
			Dibenzo[ <i>b,d</i> ]furan		
ethanol	0.0198	6.463	-54.2940	5837.9824	3.154
butan-1-ol	0.0321	2.312	72.0683	5129.6926	1.175
ethyl ethanoate	-0.00128	1.574	-683.8106	2046.0248	2.488
methylbenzene	-0.0045	1.757	-895.8959	2011.3019	3.576
2-isopropoxypropane	0.0205	2.807	-165.7635	2764.8616	1.085
tetrachloromethane	-0.00494	1.199	-333.4505	1722.4367	1.272
			9H-Fluoren-9-one		
ethanol	0.0281	4.257	-856.1664	7098.7418	4.864
butan-1-ol	0.0356	4.877	-108.6088	5505.0410	3.195
ethyl ethanoate	-0.00652	1.592	-334.7575	2116.8005	1.510
methylbenzene	-0.00395	3.264	1944.5286	145.4440	2.744
2-isopropoxypropane	0.0343	4.678	959.1489	4176.1191	2.086
tetrachloromethane	-0.0127	2.032	-423.4125	2432.4941	2.322

listed in Tables 2 and 3. It can be noticed that the activity coefficients of dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9H-fluoren-9-one in ethanol and butan-1-ol are rather high, which are similar with the results presented in literature.<sup>19</sup> As to the higher deviations

obtained in the systems with ethanol and butan-1-ol shown in Tables 2 and 3, it is because of the different molecular structure, dibenzo [b,d] furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one are nonpolar materials, while ethanol and butan-1-ol exhibit a polar specialty.

Table 5 shows the adjustable binary parameter  $l_3$  in the regular solution model, parameters of  $(g_{12} - g_{22})$  and  $(g_{21} - g_{11})$  in the NRTL model and AAD<sub>2</sub>. As shown, both the regular solution theory and the NRTL model can be used to calculate the activity coefficients of dibenzo [b,d] furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one in different solvents with AAD<sub>2</sub> lower than 7 %. Comparing the percentage deviations and AAD<sub>2</sub> obtained by two different models, it can be clearly noticed that the regular solution model is more suitable for the correlation of dibenzo [b,d] furan in ethyl ethanoate, methylbenzene, tetrachloromethane, and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one in ethanol and tetrachloromethane and the NRTL model for the other systems.

Ternary Phase Equilibrium of 9H-Fluoren-9-one + PHAs + Ethanol. The experimental data of three ternary phase

Table 6. Mass Fraction Solubilities of the Ternary System of 9H-Fluoren-9-one (1) + Dibenzo[b,d]furan (2) + Ethanol (3) at 303.15 K

9H-fluoren-9- one	dibenzo[ <i>b,d</i> ] furan	9H-fluoren-9- one	dibenzo[ <i>b,d</i> ] furan
	9H-Fluoren-9-on	e Saturation Curve	
0.1889	0.0000	0.2231	0.2261
0.1703	0.0373	0.2314	0.2413
0.1610	0.0736	0.2429	0.2593
0.1701	0.0981	0.2567	0.2779
0.1815	0.1347	0.2751	0.2953
0.1955	0.1584	0.2914	0.3140
0.2032	0.1842	0.3028	0.3358
0.2131	0.2095	0.3065	0.3597
	Dibenzo[ <i>b,d</i> ]furat	n Saturation Curve	
0.000	0.1580	0.1938	0.3001
0.0340	0.1664	0.2080	0.3070
0.0573	0.1829	0.2271	0.3249
0.0878	0.2134	0.2511	0.3365
0.1213	0.2418	0.2691	0.3473
0.1555	0.2706	0.2896	0.3564
0.1792	0.2861	0.3065	0.3597

systems including dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + ethanol, 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + 9*H*-fluorene + ethanol, and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + 1,2-dihydroacenaphthylene + ethanol are

Table 7. Mass Fraction Solubilities of the Ternary System of 9H-Fluoren-9-one (1) + 9H-Fluorene (2) + Ethanol (3) at 303.15 K

9H-fluoren-9-one	9H-fluorene	9H-fluoren-9-one	9H-fluorene					
	9H-Fluoren-9-one Saturation Curve							
0.1889	0.0000	0.1966	0.0601					
0.1812	0.0145	0.2051	0.0644					
0.1817	0.0256	0.2124	0.0651					
0.1855	0.0335	0.2213	0.0702					
0.1853	0.0472	0.2248	0.0763					
0.1879	0.0556	0.2261	0.0886					
	9H-Fluorene Sa	aturation Curve						
0.0000	0.1123	0.1473	0.0918					
0.0217	0.1054	0.1629	0.0944					
0.0399	0.0910	0.1766	0.0917					
0.0612	0.0838	0.1868	0.0914					
0.0853	0.0834	0.2027	0.0915					
0.1121	0.0848	0.2155	0.0897					
0.1317	0.0894	0.2261	0.0886					

Table 8. Mass Fraction Solubilities of the Ternary System of
OH-Fluoren-9-one (1) + 1,2-Dihydroacenaphthylene (2) +
Ethanol (3) at 303.15 K

9H-fluoren- 9-one	1,2- dihydroacenaphthylene	9H-fluoren- 9-one	1,2- dihydroacenaphthylene
	9H-Fluoren-9-one	Saturation Cu	irve
0.1889	0.0000	0.2141	0.1007
0.1831	0.0176	0.2201	0.1145
0.1825	0.0286	0.2325	0.1255
0.1798	0.0414	0.2399	0.1350
0.1855	0.0545	0.2466	0.1464
0.1996	0.0803		
	1,2-Dihydroacenaphth	ylene Saturatio	n Curve
0.0000	0.0609	0.1726	0.1313
0.0455	0.0807	0.1912	0.1366
0.0834	0.0954	0.2052	0.1421
0.1109	0.1073	0.2213	0.1438
0.1284	0.1164	0.2466	0.1464
0.1505	0.1266		

shown in Tables 6, 7, and 8 and plotted in Figures 1, 2, and 3, respectively.

As shown in Figures 1, 2, and 3, these three ternary phase diagrams are all simple eutectic systems and similar to diagrams



**Figure 1.** Ternary phase diagram of the 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + dibenzo[b,d]furan + ethanol at 303.15 K.

given by McLaughlin et al.<sup>32</sup> Furthermore, the phase diagram can be divided into three distinct crystallization fields (9*H*-fluoren-9-one, PAHs, and a mixture of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + PAHs), and then, these impurities can be easily isolated from 9*H*-fluoren-9-one.<sup>3,32</sup>

In the 9H-fluoren-9-one (1) + dibenzo[b,d]furan (2) + ethanol (3) system, the invariant points of dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9H-fluoren-9-one are much larger than its solubility in ethanol. The mole fraction at the invariant point of dibenzo-[b,d]furan is 0.1931, and the solubility is 0.0489 at 303.15 K. The mole fraction at the invariant point of 9H-fluoren-9-one is 0.1535, and the solubility is 0.0562 at 303.15 K. Further, when using the mole ratios of 9H-fluoren-9-one/ethanol to explain this phenomenon, it can be found that the dibenzo[b,d]furan in the system can improve the mole ratios of 9H-fluoren-9-one/ethanol. Figure 4 showed the tendency of the increasing mole ratios of 9H-fluoren-9-one/ethanol with increasing the mole fraction of dibenzo[b,d]furan. This phenomenon also can be



**Figure 2.** Ternary phase diagram of the 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + 9*H*-fluorene + ethanol at 303.15 K.



**Figure 3.** Ternary phase diagram of the 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + 1,2dihydroacenaphthylene + ethanol at 303.15 K.



**Figure 4.** Mole ratio of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one/ethanol depends on the mole fraction of dibenzo[b,d]furan in the 9*H*-fluoren-9-one (1) + dibenzo[b,d]furan (2) + ethanol (3) system; the solid line is the trend line.

found for some PAHs in supercritical fluids.<sup>33</sup> It can be explained by the interaction of dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one.<sup>31,34</sup> Referring to the space packing of unit cell of dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one,<sup>29,30</sup> intermolecular

hydrogen bonds can be formed between dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one molecules, which changes the electron density of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one molecules, and consequently enhances its solubility in ethanol.

#### CONCLUSIONS

Solubilities of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one and dibenzo[b,d]furan in ethanol, butan-1-ol, ethyl ethanoate, methylbenzene, 2-isopropoxypropane, and tetrachloromethane were measured from (283.15 to 333.15) K. Three models including Apelblat, regular-solution, and NRTL were used to correlate the phase equilibrium of these binary systems. All experimental data are in good agreement with models. In addition, three ternary phase diagrams of 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + PAHs + ethanol were also measured. The results show that all systems are simple eutectic systems and the invariant points of dibenzo[b,d]furan and 9*H*-fluoren-9-one in the 9*H*-fluoren-9-one + dibenzo[b,d]furan + ethanol system were mainly affected by the intermolecular forces.

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#### Notes

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