

Greek Letters

ϵ = low-frequency dielectric constant

ϵ_{∞} = high-frequency dielectric constant (approximated as $1.1 \times n_D^2$)

η = viscosity, cP

ρ = density, g/cm³

μ_0 = dipole moment, Debye units [which are (esu-cm)²]

$\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$ = constants in Equations 4 and 5

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Heats of Dilution of Lithium Perchlorate in Anhydrous Acetonitrile, Propionitrile, and Isobutyronitrile at 25 °C

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Heats of dilution of lithium perchlorate in anhydrous acetonitrile, propionitrile, and isobutyronitrile at 25 °C using solution and dilution calorimeters are reported. The results indicate that electrostatic treatments do not consistently predict the behavior of these systems even in the millimolar range, probably because of ion association.

Two recent surveys of thermochemical data for nonaqueous electrolytes (3, 6) indicate that determinations of heats of dilution have been confined largely to alcoholic solvents. It is of interest to examine the predictions of the Debye-Hückel model in a negligibly hydrogen-bonded solvent from the point of view of heats of dilution.

Heats of dilution data are reported for lithium perchlorate in acetonitrile, propionitrile, butyronitrile, and isobutyronitrile at 25 °C.

Experimental

Acetonitrile. Fisher ACS reagent grade acetonitrile was purified by a method reported previously (4, 13). Alternatively, a purer grade of acetonitrile was used as a starting material (MCB Spectroquality) and was of high purity as received (2). The only treatment required was a 6-h period standing over calcium hydride followed by a high vacuum room temperature distillation to remove residual water and dissolved air. After degassing, the void in the flask was refilled with dry nitrogen (Linde) to a pressure of 350-400 torr before warming to room temperature.

An analysis by the Karl Fischer method using the Photovolt "Aquatest II" titrator showed a water content of 30-40 ppm

immediately after distillation and 50-60 ppm after standing in a stoppered flask in the drybox for 24 h. A blank titration showed that 30 ppm was close to the lower limit of detection for this instrument. Therefore, nitriles treated with calcium hydride were considered to have a water content between 0 and 10 ppm if used very soon after distillation.

Propionitrile. Propionitrile was far more sensitive to acid-catalyzed polymerization than acetonitrile, and heating with phosphorus pentoxide was not an efficient method of drying. Instead, propionitrile [Eastman Organic Chemicals or MCB (99% purity)] was first dried in 1-l. batches by standing for 5 days over dried silica gel (Tel-Tale, Davison Chemical Co.), followed by standing over ~30 g phosphorus pentoxide for 2 days. A small amount of polymerization was noted at this point. Drying was completed by refluxing over calcium hydride, followed by fractionation and degassing as described for acetonitrile, except that a 2-ft column with glass packing was used for fractionation. This permitted distillation to be carried out in a fume hood, as the higher nitriles are noticeably toxic (11).

The butyronitriles (Eastman Organic Chemicals) were purified by the same procedure as propionitrile.

Lithium perchlorate. Lithium perchlorate (K & K Laboratories) contained approximately 70 ppm halide by potentiometric titration with aqueous silver nitrate and a small amount of unidentified tan-colored, water-insoluble matter. Both of these were removed to within the limits of detection (10 ppm for halide, visibility on sintered glass filter for other matter) by a single recrystallization from water.

Differential thermal analysis of dried lithium perchlorate indicated a melting point range (235-237 °C) above which temperature no salient features appeared on the thermogram

until decomposition commenced at 420–440 °C. These features are important in obtaining a suitably dry salt, since it should not be heated too long near its decomposition point, to avoid further accumulation of oxide and chloride. It is also preferable in this case to conduct most of the drying of the powder well below the melting point to avoid extensive manipulations of crushing and grinding the caked solid prior to filling ampules, when traces of water might be picked up from the drybox atmosphere.

The solid was therefore placed in a covered porcelain dish in a vacuum oven (Thelco Model 29), and the pressure reduced to ~1 torr. The oven temperature was maintained at 100 °C until no further water was collected from the cold trap. The temperature was then raised to 120 °C and held constant for a minimum of 48 h. Glass vessels were deeply etched by the salt at this stage. Pyrex cover glasses were used, but scraping spattered salt off the covers into the main sample is not recommended.

The oven was cooled under vacuum, and the salt removed and crushed as quickly as possible. It was transferred to a vacuum desiccator containing phosphorus pentoxide, evacuated to 0.01 torr, and kept for at least 10 days before unloading into the drybox. Phosphorus pentoxide for this purpose is considered best if slightly wet, though not so much as to be visibly gummy. This causes some coherence so that powder cannot fly up and contaminate the sample during evacuation.

Calorimeters. An LKB 8700 solution calorimeter (LKB Produkter AB, Stockholm-Bromma 1, Sweden) was used for measurements in the four nitriles. Additional measurements in acetonitrile and propionitrile were performed using an LKB 10700 batch microcalorimeter.

The detection system for the LKB 10700 consists of a Keithley Model 150B microvolt amplifier coupled to a Sargent constant-speed integrating chart recorder. A chart speed of 1 in./min gave legibility better than 0.1% for a 50% full scale deflection.

Procedure

LKB 10700. A description of the LKB 10700 batch microcalorimeter has been given recently by Wood and Falcone (14).

The reaction vessel was filled by weight difference using disposable polyethylene syringes as weighing vessels. Each syringe was fitted with a short length (3–6 in.) of 0.3 mm i.d. Teflon tubing which facilitated injection of sample through the filler ports in the reaction vessel. Stock solutions were stored in glass vials and withdrawn through rubber serum caps using the syringes. Losses due to evaporation and wetting of the stock solutions by laboratory air were minimized by drawing the solution up into the syringe needle before disconnecting from the vial.

Successive dilutions were accomplished by removing the solution from one side of the vessel, again using a weighed syringe, and calculating the mass remaining in the other side of the vessel from the total mass removed. Fresh solvent was then added in the same manner, and the sequence continued.

Dilution runs were commenced about 1–2 h after filling the reaction vessel or when a stationary temperature was obtained.

LKB 8700. Ampules were filled under nitrogen. The ampules are machine-blown with thin walls and quite narrow necks, and the following procedure was used in filling them. Dried salt, solvent, and ampules were transferred into the drybox in small desiccators, and the drybox was flushed with dry nitrogen for 30 min. Concentrated stock solutions were prepared by weight. The ampules were weighed and filled using a Pasteur pipet. The filled ampules were weighed, re-

turned to the desiccator, and removed from the drybox for sealing with the dual torch provided with the calorimeter. Sealing was done as quickly as possible to minimize exposure to the atmosphere.

The equilibrium temperature of the calorimeter with the stirrer running was noted in terms of the resistance of the thermistor and the temperature change expected calculated from an earlier rough run. The reaction vessel temperature was then adjusted so that the temperature after the reaction would be as close as possible to the equilibrium temperature. For exothermic reactions the vessel was cooled by placing a drop of pure acetone on the outside wall and passing nitrogen through the bomb until the acetone had all evaporated. Impure acetone and incomplete evaporation before the experiment will lead to significant errors. The calculated interval was always overshot so that cooling curves could be recorded before the experiment, and a brief interval (about 5 min) was allowed before commencement of the cooling curve so that a uniform temperature gradient could be established between the sample and the thermostat.

Temperatures were recorded at intervals of about 30 s for 5–10 min before reaction, which was initiated by breaking the ampule, and for at least 10 min after the reaction appeared to have stopped. Points during reaction were measured as close as possible to the mean temperature. It was most convenient to preset the bridge to the expected mean temperature before breaking the ampule because this temperature was reached in only 5–10 s.

Table I. Coefficients Obtained from Least-Squares Fit

Equation	A_0	A_1	A_2	Δ
Acetonitrile				
2	Set 1: LKB 10700, $m_1 = 1.1718$, 9 dilutions 2438 ± 70	-3896 ± 430	1595 ± 500	50
1	Set 2: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 0.8068$, 3 dilutions 1184 ± 5	-1513 ± 44	...	2
1	Set 3: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 0.1626$, 6 dilutions 759 ± 32	-3890 ± 492	...	20
4	Final equation: 21 points -53 ± 41	3959 ± 262	-1560 ± 253	100
Propionitrile				
2	Set 1: LKB 10700, $m_1 = 2.167$, 6 dilutions 2219 ± 21	-3017 ± 112	1452 ± 108	10
1	Set 2: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 1.6715$, 8 dilutions 1850 ± 72	-2578 ± 486	...	50
1	Set 3: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 0.6040$, 7 dilutions 1425 ± 44	-1867 ± 579	...	30
1	Set 4: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 0.2224$, 9 dilutions 1472 ± 218	-6554 ± 4101	...	190
4	Final equation: 28 points 3 ± 24	2451 ± 140	-708 ± 103	70
Butyronitrile				
1	Set 1: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 0.8633$, 8 dilutions 1607 ± 518	-3821 ± 4229	...	370
1	Set 2: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 0.1884$, 5 dilutions 1195 ± 287	-2987 ± 5493	...	190
1	Set 3: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 0.1342$, 3 dilutions 1224 ± 55	-3118 ± 1236	...	20
4	Final equation: 18 points 89 ± 77	2094 ± 462	5 ± 276	220
Isobutyronitrile				
1	Set 1: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 1.2804$, 7 dilutions 2188 ± 267	-4928 ± 1989	...	160
1	Set 2: LKB 8700, $m_1 = 0.1924$, 10 dilutions 1370 ± 204	-6219 ± 3229	...	160
4	Final equation: 14 points 156 ± 66	3631 ± 570	-1628 ± 485	130

Electrical calibrations were treated in the same way as exothermic heat measurements. Results (for the LKB 8700 calorimeter) were analyzed graphically, using the method of Dickinson (12), by finding the vertical distance between initial and final cooling curves extrapolated to times when 63% (for dilutions) or 50% (for calibrations) of the heat evolution had occurred. Thermistor resistances were plotted directly against time and not converted to temperatures, because electrical calibrations were always arranged to cover the same temperature range as the heat measurements which they accompanied. The error due to nonlinearity of the thermistor resistance with temperature is thus insignificant.

Results

The data were analyzed by the method described by Harned and Owen (5) using a PL/1 least-squares curve fitting program. This program generated values of the coefficients of the equations, their standard deviations, and the overall standard deviation of the estimate. The heats of dilution from the LKB 8700 calorimeter were fitted to the linear equation

$$-\Delta H_{\text{DIL}} = A_0 + A_1 m_2^{1/2} \quad (1)$$

where $-\Delta H_{\text{DIL}}$ is the molar heat of dilution from m_1 to m_2 ; data were grouped by their m_1 values, and groups were fitted separately. Similar fits were made for the LKB 10700 data, except that the larger range of final concentrations covered required an equation of the form:

$$-\Delta H_{\text{DIL}} = A_0 + A_1 m_2^{1/2} + A_2 m_2 \quad (2)$$

From the relation:

$$\phi_L(m_2) = \phi_L(m_1) - \Delta H_{\text{DIL}} \quad (3)$$

it follows that the A_0 in Equations 1 and 2 are the ϕ_L values for the concentration m_1 . Thus, provisional or "observed" ϕ_L values were found by difference using Equation 3 for each experimental concentration. These values were smoothed by combining all the observed ϕ_L values in a fit to the equations:

Table II. Heats of Dilution in Acetonitrile

m_1	m_2	$-\Delta H_{\text{DIL}}$, cal/mol	$\phi_L(m_2)^a$, cal/mol			
			Obsd	Calcd		
0.9478	0.9478	588	2280	2380		
	0.3165		1710	1730		
	Set 1					
	1.1718		1.1718	2440	2460	
	0.5607		0.5607	1990	2090	
	1.1718		0.4378	515	1920	
	0.5607		0.1830	602	1380	
	0.4378		0.1559	604	1320	
	0.1559		0.0534	605	710	
	0.1830		0.0362	693	690	
0.8068	0.8068	980	(1180)			
	0.01814		200	510		
	0.01138		1025	160		
	0.00622		1065	120		
	Set 2					
	0.1626		0.1626	(760)		
	0.1626		0.00709	434	330	320
			0.00594	453	310	300
			0.00479	484	280	270
			0.00364	517	240	230
0.00270		589	170	200		
0.00139		598	160	150		
Set 3						
0.6040		0.6040	1267	160		

^a From Equations 1, 2, and 4.

$$\phi_L = A_0 + A_1 m^{1/2} + A_2 m \quad (4)$$

$$\phi_L = A_0 + A_1 m^{1/2} + A_2 m + A_3 m^{3/2} \quad (5)$$

$$\phi_L = A_0 + A_1 m^{1/2} + A_2 m + A_3 m^{3/2} + A_4 m^2 \quad (6)$$

Values which were consistently very high or low were rejected, and a final fit was made to Equation 4 to obtain smoothed ("calculated") values. Coefficients of Equations 1, 2, and 4 are given in Table I. The A_0 values of Equation 4 should be zero, but on combining data a finite value may appear which is expected to be similar in magnitude to the experimental uncertainty as measured by the standard deviation of fit. A_0 was set equal to zero when calculating the smoothed values. Heats of dilution and the observed and smoothed ϕ_L values are given in Tables II-V for the various solvents. The estimated accuracy of these values is about 100 cal mol⁻¹.

Discussion

The water content of the solvents investigated in this study is of the order of 10⁻³ m. In weakly basic solvents like the nitriles, it is to be expected that the salt-water interactions will control the value of ϕ_L when the salt and water concentrations become comparable. The lower concentration limit is quite high and will not allow examination of the linearity of ϕ_L with $m^{1/2}$ at limiting concentrations. However, it seems rea-

Table III. Heats of Dilution in Propionitrile

m_1	m_2	$-\Delta H_{\text{DIL}}$, cal/mol	$\phi_L(m_2)^a$, cal/mol			
			Obsd	Calcd		
Set 1						
2.167	2.167	696	2220	2070		
	0.7796		1520	1610		
	0.6573		714	1510		
	0.2033		452	1050		
	0.2033		310	740		
	0.0782		249	490		
	0.0320		172	320		
Set 2						
1.6715	1.6715	1390	1850	1980		
	0.03776		460	450		
	0.03165		1335	520		
	0.03049		1440	410		
	0.02391		1393	460		
	0.02359		1486	360		
	0.01601		1468	380		
	0.01544		1564	290		
	0.00790		1590	260		
	0.00786		1676	170		
Set 3						
0.6040	0.6040	1267	1430	1480		
	0.00895		160	230		
	0.00888		1248	180		
	0.00674		1229	200		
	0.00604		1304	120		
	0.00432		1291	130		
	0.00311		1341	80		
	0.00231		1329	100		
	Set 4					
	0.2224		0.2224	910	(1470)	
0.00569		(560)				
0.00494		936	(540)			
0.00402		985	(490)			
0.00307		1354	120			
0.00224		1051	(420)			
0.00200		1420	50			
0.00146		1068	(400)			
0.00123		1453	20			
0.00069		1081	(390)			

^a From Equations 1, 2, and 4.

Table IV. Heats of Dilution in Butyronitrile

m_1	m_2	$-\Delta H_{DIL}$, cal/mol	$\phi_L(m_2)^a$ cal/mol					
			Obsd	Calcd				
3.0110	3.0110	3526	3830 (10)	3650				
	0.00633							
0.8633	0.8633	932	1610 680 320 690 250 894 110 960 220	1950 340 310 290 270				
	0.02667							
	0.02148							
	0.01911							
	0.01679							
	0.01439							
	0.01047							
	0.00747							
	0.00420							
	0.1884				0.1884	936	1200 260 200 80 10 420 70	910 150 130 120 90 80 70
0.00522								
0.00400								
0.00303								
0.00178								
0.00127								
0.00109								
0.1342		0.1342	1046	1220 180 120 90 70	770 210 90 70			
		0.00292						
		0.00200						
	0.00096							
	0.00096							

^a From Equations 1, 2, and 4.

sonable to regard the coefficient A_1 of Equation 4 as a good approximation to the limiting slope.

Calculated and observed limiting slopes are summarized in Table VI. The data for methanol and ethanol also terminate at fairly high concentrations, and the extrapolation is therefore uncertain. The apparently good agreement of observed and calculated values for acetonitrile may be a coincidence since there is some disagreement over the dielectric constant of acetonitrile (ϵ). Propionitrile is much better characterized in this respect. The calculated values for the butyronitriles must be regarded as rough estimates only, since the temperature dependences of the dielectric constants are not available and were estimated by comparison with data for related compounds (ϵ). Young and Seligmann (15) found a limiting slope of 480 ± 88 cal l.^{1/2} mol^{-3/2} for 11 alkali salts in water, an agreement of 10–15% with the calculated value of 537 cal l.^{1/2} mol^{-3/2}. The poorer agreement found for the nitriles (where it is not caused by the need to estimate physical properties of the solvent) could be caused by any of several factors, chiefly the influence of traces of water and ion association.

NaClO₄, which has a larger association constant (7) than does LiClO₄ (7), seems to have a smaller limiting slope of about 1900 cal kg^{1/2} mol^{-3/2} (8). It is likely that both ion association and solvent ordering make significant contributions to ϕ_L down to the lowest accessible concentrations. This would account for the similar values obtained for the four nitriles and possibly for the low values obtained in methanol and ethanol.

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Table V. Heats of Dilution in Isobutyronitrile

m_1	m_2	$-\Delta H_{DIL}$, cal/mol	$\phi_L(m_2)^a$ cal/mol	
			Obsd	Calcd
Set 1				
1.2804	1.2804	1471	2190 720 (940) 620 840 470 650 (280)	2020 570
	0.02912			
	0.02697			
	0.02141			
	0.01882			
	0.01396			
0.1924	0.1924	1009	1370 360 (700) 350 580 320 450 (170) 310 (470) 90	1280 290
	0.00677			
	0.00639			
	0.00529			
	0.00510			
	0.00409			
0.1924	0.1924	1009	1370 360 (700) 350 580 320 450 (170) 310 (470) 90	1280 290
	0.00677			
	0.00639			
	0.00529			
	0.00510			
	0.00409			

^a From Equations 1, 2, and 4.

Table VI. Calculated and Observed Limiting Slopes for Heats of Dilution of 1:1 Salts at 25 °C

Solvent	Limiting slope, cal kg ^{1/2} mol ^{-3/2}	
	Calcd	Obsd
Water ^a	517	420
Methanol ^b	4283	2726
Ethanol ^b	7220	4590
Acetonitrile	2789	3960 ± 260
Propionitrile	75	2450 ± 140
Butyronitrile	6937	2090 ± 460
Isobutyronitrile	6289	3630 ± 570

^a Ref. 9. ^b Ref. 10.

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