

Isothermal Vapor-Liquid Equilibria for Methanol + Ethanol + Water, Methanol + Water, and Ethanol + Water

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Isothermal vapor-liquid equilibria were measured for the ternary system methanol + ethanol + water and its constituent binary systems of methanol + water and ethanol + water at 323.15, 328.15, and 333.15 K. The apparatus that was used made it possible to control the measured temperature and total pressure by computer. The experimental binary data were correlated by the NRTL equation. The ternary system was predicted using the binary NRTL parameters with good accuracy.

Introduction

This paper discusses the vapor-liquid equilibria (VLE) that were measured for the ternary system of methanol + ethanol + water and its constituent binary systems of methanol + water and ethanol + water at 323.15, 328.15, and 333.15 K. For the ternary system, we previously reported the isobaric VLE at 101.3 kPa (Kurihara et al., 1993), and two data sets of isothermal VLE (298.15, 313.15 K) are available in the literature (Hall et al., 1979; Ratcliff and Chao, 1969).

Experimental Section

Apparatus and Procedure. A modified Rogalski-Malanoski equilibrium still (Hiaki et al., 1992) combined with an isothermal VLE measuring apparatus, which was similar to that described in the literature (Hiaki et al., 1994), was used. The apparatus consisted of an equilib-

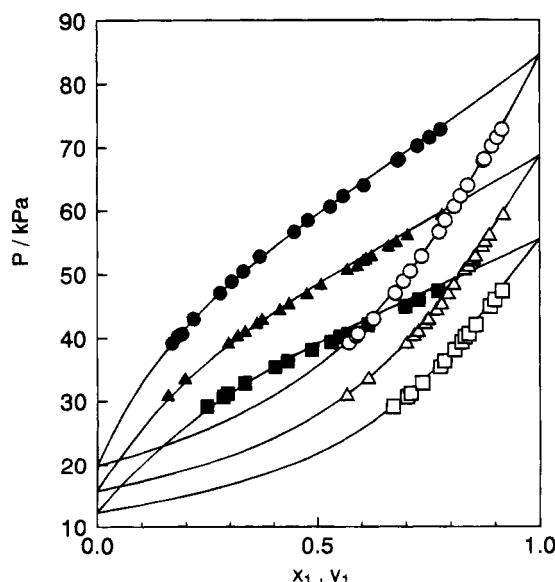


Figure 1. Pressure-composition diagram for methanol (1) + water (2): (■) x_1 and (□) y_1 at 323.15 K; (▲) x_1 and (△) y_1 at 328.15 K; (●) x_1 and (○) y_1 at 333.15 K; (—) NRTL equation.

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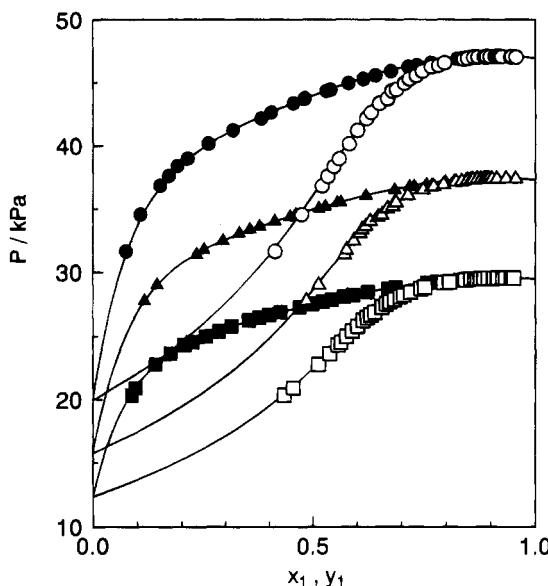


Figure 2. Pressure-composition diagram for ethanol (1) + water (2): (■) x_1 and (□) y_1 at 323.15 K; (▲) x_1 and (△) y_1 at 328.15 K; (●) x_1 and (○) y_1 at 333.15 K; (—) NRTL equation.

Table 1. Densities, ρ , and Normal Boiling Points, T_b , of the Components

component	$\rho(298.15\text{ K})/\text{g cm}^{-3}$		T_b/K	
	exptl	lit. ^a	exptl	lit. ^a
methanol	0.7867	0.786 37	337.69	337.696
ethanol	0.7851	0.784 93	351.48	351.443
water	0.9972	0.997 05	373.15	373.15

^a Riddick et al., 1986.

rium still for samples, an ebulliometer for a reference substance (water), a Hewlett-Packard Model 3421A acquisition data/control unit, an NEC personal computer, six solenoid valves, three pressure transducers, three surge tanks, cold traps, a refrigerator, and a vacuum pump. An attractive feature of this apparatus is that the temperature in the system can be kept constant accurately using a computer in conjunction with the six solenoid valves and three pressure transducers.

The equilibrium temperature was measured with a calibrated platinum resistance thermometer with an ac-

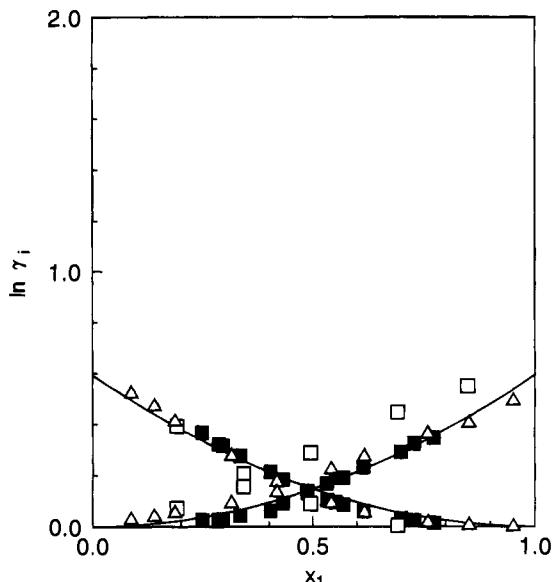


Figure 3. Activity coefficient–liquid composition diagram for methanol (1) + water (2) at 323.15 K: (■) this work; (□) Dulitskaya (1945); (△) McGlashan and Williamson (1976); (—) NRTL equation.

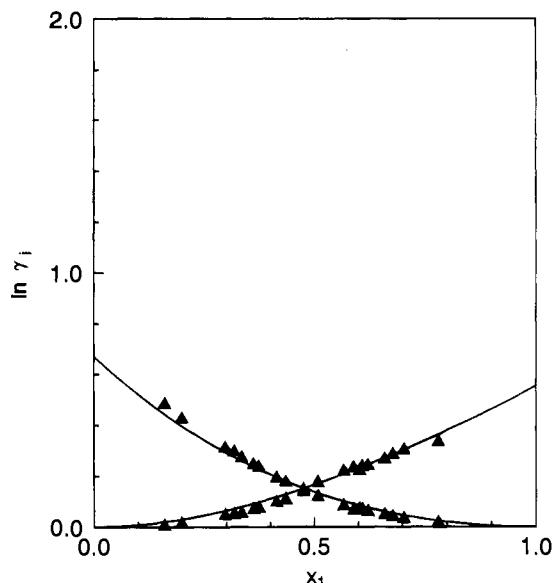


Figure 4. Activity coefficient–liquid composition diagram for methanol (1) + water (2) at 328.15 K: (▲) this work; (—) NRTL equation.

Table 4. Antoine Constants of the Components^a

component	A	B	C
methanol	7.253 25	1608.512	-31.143
ethanol	7.242 15	1596.044	-46.655
water	7.115 72	1684.123	-43.568

^a $\log(P/\text{kPa}) = A - B/(T/\text{K}) + C$.

sieves. The water was passed through an ion exchanger and distilled. The purity of the materials was checked by gas chromatography and found to be better than 99.9 mol %. In Table 1, some measured properties of the purified reagents are shown with the literature values.

Experimental Results

Binary Systems. The VLE data at 323.15, 328.15, and 333.15 K for the methanol + water and ethanol + water systems are showed in Tables 2 and 3 and Figures 1–8.

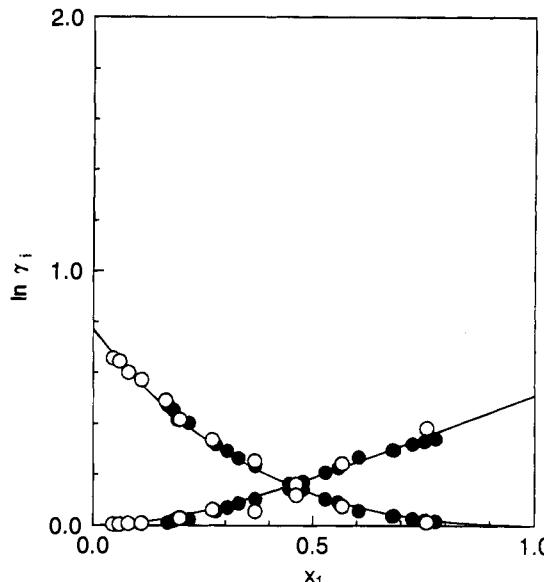


Figure 5. Activity coefficient–liquid composition diagram for methanol (1) + water (2) at 333.15 K: (●) this work; (○) Broul et al. (1969); (—) NRTL equation.

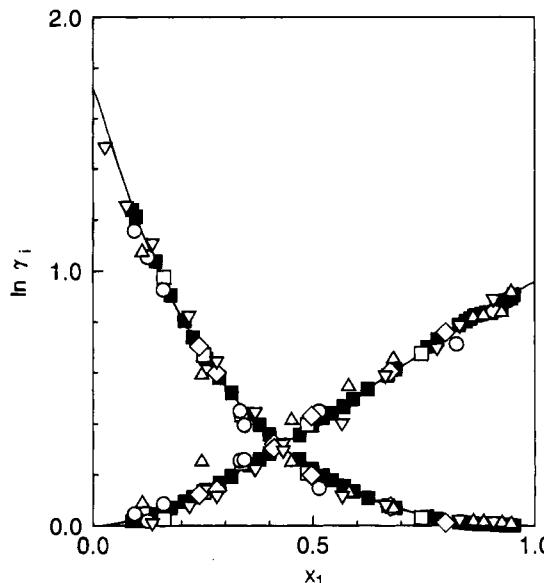


Figure 6. Activity coefficient–liquid composition diagram for ethanol (1) + water (2) at 323.15 K: (■) this work; (○) Jones et al. (1943); (□) Dulitskaya (1945); (◇) Nikol'skaya (1946); (△) Udovenko and Fatkulina (1952); (▽) Dutta Choudhury (1976); (—) NRTL equation.

Table 5. Azeotropic Composition $x_{1(\text{az})}$ in Mole Fraction and Pressure $P_{(\text{az})}$ for Ethanol (1) + Water (2) at Three Temperatures

T/K	$x_{1(\text{az})}$	$P_{(\text{az})}/\text{kPa}$
323.15	0.932	29.57
328.15	0.920	37.44
333.15	0.910	47.05

The activity coefficients, γ_i , in the tables and figures were evaluated by the following equation:

$$\phi_i P_i y_i = \gamma_i P_i^S \phi_i^S \exp[\nu_i^L (P - P_i^S)/RT] \quad (1)$$

where ϕ_i and ϕ_i^S are the fugacity coefficients of component i in the mixture and the pure vapor, respectively. They were calculated using the second virial coefficients obtained by the Tsonopoulos method (Tsonopoulos, 1974). The liquid molar volumes ν_i^L were calculated by the modified Rackett

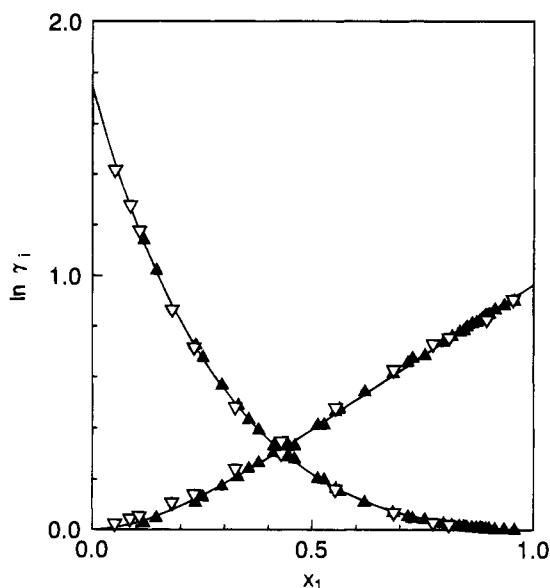


Figure 7. Activity coefficient–liquid composition diagram for ethanol (1) + water (2) at 328.15 K: (▲) this work; (▽) Mertl (1972); (—) NRTL equation.

Table 7. NRTL Parameters and Deviations between the Calculated and Experimental Vapor-Phase Mole Fractions, Δy_i , and Pressures, ΔP^a

NRTL parameter	methanol (1) + water (2)	ethanol (1) + water (2)	methanol (1) + ethanol (2) + water (3)
323.15 K			
$(g_{12} - g_{22})/K$	102.6158	36.1146	
$(g_{21} - g_{11})/K$	101.5526	529.9113	no ternary parameters
α_{12}	0.4	0.4	
328.15 K			
$(g_{12} - g_{22})/K$	31.2103	38.6321	
$(g_{21} - g_{11})/K$	189.8366	535.0587	no ternary parameters
α_{12}	0.4	0.4	
333.15 K			
$(g_{12} - g_{22})/K$	-36.3387	42.4320	
$(g_{21} - g_{11})/K$	294.9389	530.8664	no ternary parameters
α_{12}	0.4	0.4	
	Δy_1	$\Delta P/\%$	Δy_1
323.15 K			
average	0.005	1.49	0.002
maximum	0.009	2.35	0.004
328.15 K			
average	0.004	1.04	0.002
maximum	0.014	2.03	0.007
333.15 K			
average	0.003	0.38	0.004
maximum	0.009	0.95	0.013

^a $\Delta y_i = \sum_k |y_{i,\text{exptl}} - y_{i,\text{calcd}}|/N$, $\Delta P = 100 \sum_k ((P_{\text{exptl}} - P_{\text{calcd}})/P_{\text{exptl}})_k/N$, N = number of data points.

consistent with our proposed test. Figures 3–8 show the comparisons of the activity coefficients calculated from all literature VLE data and our results.

Ternary System. Table 6 gives the experimental VLE data for the system methanol + ethanol + water system at 323.15, 328.15, and 333.15 K.

Correlation and Prediction

The activity coefficients of the binary systems were correlated by the NRTL equation (Renon and Prausnitz, 1968) for each equilibrium temperature. The correlation procedure was based on the minimization of the following

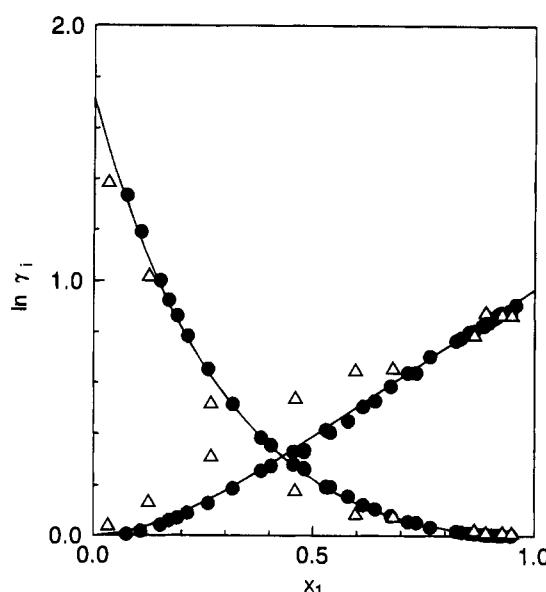


Figure 8. Activity coefficient–liquid composition diagram for ethanol (1) + water (2) at 333.15 K: (●) this work; (△) Udovenko and Fatkulina (1952); (—) NRTL equation.

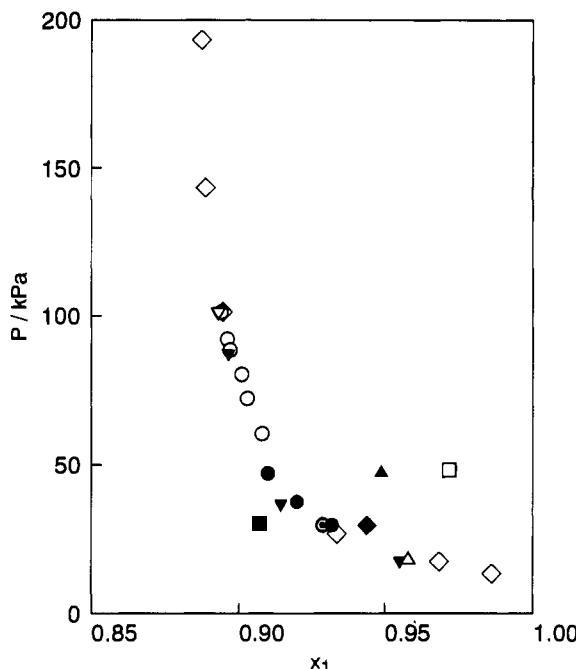


Figure 9. Azeotropic pressure–liquid composition diagram for ethanol (1) + water (2): (●) this work; (▼) Vrevskii (1910); (◇) Wade and Merriman (1911); (□) Jones et al. (1943); (▲) Udovenko and Fatkulna (1952); (◆) Wilson et al. (1979); (○) Baláczar-Ortiz (1979); (■) Dutta Choudhury (1976); (○) Tochigi et al. (1985); (△) Zielkiewicz and Konitz (1991); (▽) Kurihara et al. (1993).

objective function:

$$F = \sum_{k=1}^N \left[\left(\frac{\gamma_{1,\text{calcd}} - \gamma_{1,\text{exptl}}}{\gamma_{1,\text{exptl}}} \right)_k^2 + \left(\frac{\gamma_{2,\text{calcd}} - \gamma_{2,\text{exptl}}}{\gamma_{2,\text{exptl}}} \right)_k^2 \right] \quad (2)$$

where N is the number of data points. The mixture non-randomness parameter α_{12} was set as 0.4 as recommended by Walas (Walas, 1984). Table 7 lists the estimated parameters of the binary systems and the deviations between the calculated and experimental vapor-phase compositions and total pressures. The calculated results are shown by the solid lines in Figures 1–8.

The VLE for the ternary methanol + ethanol + water system was predicted with the binary NRTL parameters listed in Table 7. In the prediction, the parameters τ_{12} , τ_{21} , and α_{12} for the methanol + ethanol system were equated to 0 at the calculated pressure range, because the values γ_1 and γ_2 are close to 1 (Kurihara et al., 1993) which indicates that this system is nearly an ideal solution. The agreement between the predicted and experimental values was good.

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