

# Vapor–Liquid Equilibria and Densities for Ethyl Esters (Ethanoate to Butanoate) and Alkan-2-ol ( $C_3$ – $C_4$ ) at 101.32 kPa

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Vapor–liquid equilibrium at 101.32 kPa has been measured for the binary systems formed by ethyl ethanoate, propanoate, and butanoate with propan-2-ol and butan-2-ol in an equilibrium still with circulation of both the vapor and liquid phases. The data were correlated by several available equations, and the parameters are reported for each of mixtures studied. Azeotropes were found in the mixtures ethyl ethanoate or propanoate + propan-2-ol and ethyl propanoate + butan-2-ol. Satisfactory results are obtained for the prediction of activity coefficients and the equilibrium compositions with the UNIFAC modified model. The densities for the same mixtures at 298.15 K are also reported.

## Introduction

As an extension of our earlier work concerning vapor–liquid equilibria (VLE) for mixtures of alkyl esters and alkanols underway at our laboratory, this paper presents VLE results for mixtures of ethyl ethanoate, propanoate, and butanoate with propan-2-ol and butan-2-ol at a pressure of 101.32 kPa. The literature contains isobaric and isothermal VLE measurements for the system ethyl ethanoate + propan-2-ol. However, a redetermination was necessary in view of the discrepancies in the isobaric VLE values reported in the literature. The results are compared with ASOG model of Tochigi et al. (1990) and the original version of UNIFAC published by Fredenslund et al. (1975) and the UNIFAC version as modified by Gmehling et al. (1993).

## Experimental Section

**Materials.** The chemicals used in the experiment were the highest commercial grade from Fluka. Before use they were degassed using ultrasound and dried on a molecular sieve (0.3 nm from Fluka). Table 1 gives the physical properties of the alkan-2-ols and the ethyl esters as determined experimentally at atmospheric pressure. Comparison with literature values yielded good agreement.

**Equipment and Procedure.** VLE measurements were made in a small-capacity (around 60 cm<sup>3</sup>) equilibrium still in which both phases were refluxed. The ebulliometer and auxiliary pressure and temperature systems have been described previously by Ortega and Susial (1991). Phase concentrations were obtained by densimetry, using an Anton Paar model DMA-55 densimeter with a precision of  $\pm 0.02$  k·gm<sup>-3</sup> controlled to (298.15 ± 0.01) K and calibrated with bidistilled and degassed water and nonane, according to Ortega et al. (1985). Densimetry was used to establish standard curves for each of the ethyl ester (1) + alkan-2-ol (2) binary systems after the density–composition curves for the ester had been plotted. Good correlations can be achieved using simple polynomial expressions of the type  $\rho = \sum a_i x_i^i$  and can in turn be used to determine the concentrations for each of the equilibrium states. Precision of the ester mole fraction values for the both the liquid and the vapor phases was better than ±0.002 units.

## Results and Discussion

**Densities and Excess Volumes.** The excess volume,  $V_m^E$ , values were also determined to validate the quality of

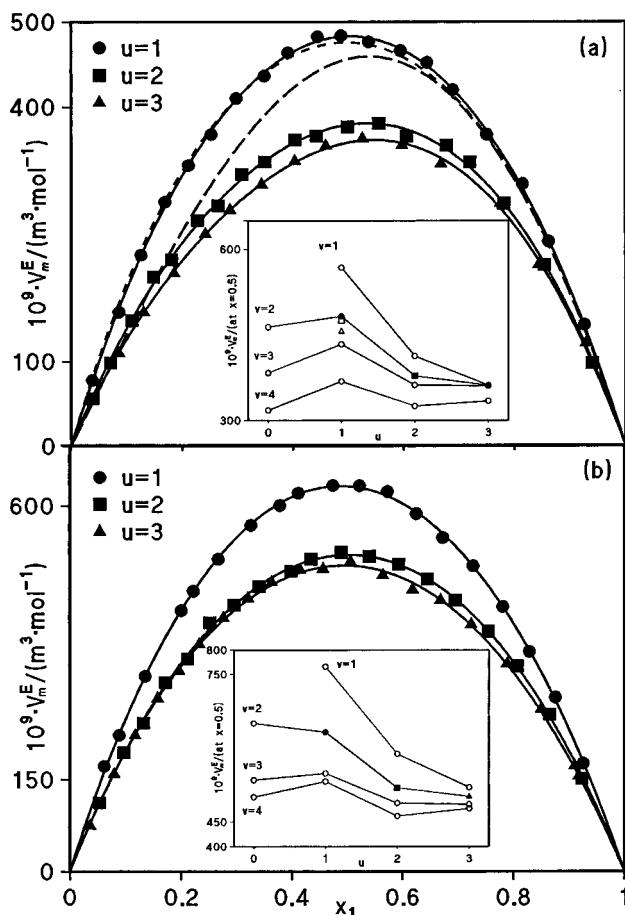
the density value measurements for each standard mixture. The  $V_m^E$  values were obtained using the density values for the pure components and for the ethyl ester (1) + alkan-2-ol (2) binary mixtures at (298.15 ± 0.01) K listed in Table 2. The value pairs ( $x_1$ ,  $V_m^E$ ) were fitted using the following polynomial equation:

$$10^9 V_m^E / (\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}) = z_1 z_2 \sum A_i z_1^i \quad \text{where} \\ z_1 = x_1 / (x_1 + k_v x_2) \quad \text{and} \quad z_2 = 1 - z_1 \quad (1)$$

Table 3 presents the values for the parameters  $A_i$  and  $k_v$  calculated by correlating the excess volume data using a least-squares method. The degree of the polynomial was optimized in each case using an *F*-test at a constant value of the parameter  $k_v$ , the quotient of the molar volumes of the pure components,  $V_2/V_1$ , for each mixture at the same working temperature (Ortega and Alcalde, 1992). The experimental values are compared with the correlations in Figure 1a,b. There was good agreement between the experimental results for ethyl ethanoate (1) + propan-2-ol (2) and the values published by Grolier and Viallard (1971), with differences of less than 2%; on the other hand, the estimated discrepancy with respect to the values published by Nikam et al. (1996), which are skewed with respect to the two other curves, was 11%. All the binary systems exhibited volumetric expansion effects, with the  $V_m^E$  values increasing with alkan-2-ol chain length, which accounts for the steric hindrance of the molecules. The insets in Figure 1a,b graphically compare the equimolar values for this excess magnitude for the sec-alkanols and different alkyl esters. The easiest interpretation is to attribute the decrease in the  $V_m^E$  values for these mixtures with alkyl ester chain length to improve coupling between the alkanol and ester molecules as a result of greater flexibility of the ester chain around the –COO– group as the number of CH<sub>2</sub> groups increases. However, the insets in Figure 1a,b show that the decrease in the values with ester chain length was not uniform, in part because of ester–alkanol complexation. This feature is even more pronounced in the case of methanoates, although the explanation requires an analysis of additional mixing properties that falls outside the scope of the present paper.

**Pure Component Vapor Pressures.** Accordingly, Table 4 gives the vapor pressures for the three ethyl esters, determined using the same VLE equipment described





**Figure 1.** Representations of experimental values and curves of  $V_m^E$  for  $C_uH_{2u+1}CO_2C_2H_5$  (1) + alkan-2-ol (2): (a) + propan-2-ol (- - -), Grolier and Viallard (1971); (— — —) Nikam et al. (1996); (b) + butan-2-ol. Insets correspond to the comparison between equimolar  $V_m^E$  values of different alkyl esters,  $C_uH_{2u+1}CO_2C_vH_{2v+1}$ , with propan-2-ol in (a) [□, Grolier and Viallard (1971); △, Nikam et al. (1996)] and with butan-2-ol in (b).

above. The values were correlated by means of the Antoine equation using a nonlinear regression procedure, and the values of the constants  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are given in Table 5 together with the values published earlier for the alkan-2-ols. The largest discrepancies, deviations of around 2%, were observed for ethyl butanoate.

The value pairs ( $T$ ,  $p^\circ$ ) were correlated linearly using the reduced coordinate set, and the regression line is plotted in Figure 2 along with those of other compounds used in this work. The acentric factors,  $\omega$ , for the components for the same working temperature range were calculated and are listed in Table 1 for use in the computations for the VLE values. Once again, the largest discrepancies were recorded for ethyl butanoate.

**VLE Values and Correlations.** Table 6 presents the experimental isobaric VLE values for the binary mixtures consisting of ethyl ester (1) + alkan-2-ol (2) at  $(101.32 \pm 0.05)$  kPa. The activity coefficient,  $\gamma_i$  values were calculated on the assumption that the vapor phase was nonideal using the equation

$$\gamma_i = [\phi_i p y_i / (p^\circ x_i \phi_i^\circ)] \exp[(p^\circ - p) V_i^\circ / RT] \quad (2)$$

where the fugacity coefficients,  $\phi_i$  and  $\phi_i^\circ$ , were calculated using

$$\phi_i = \exp[2 \sum_k y_k B_{ik} - \sum_j \sum_k y_j y_k B_{jk}] p / RT \quad (3)$$

To calculate the molar volumes,  $V_b$ , as a function of

**Table 4. Experimental Values of Vapor Pressures,  $p^\circ$ , and Temperature,  $T$ , for Ethyl Ethanoate, Ethyl Propanoate, and Ethyl Butanoate**

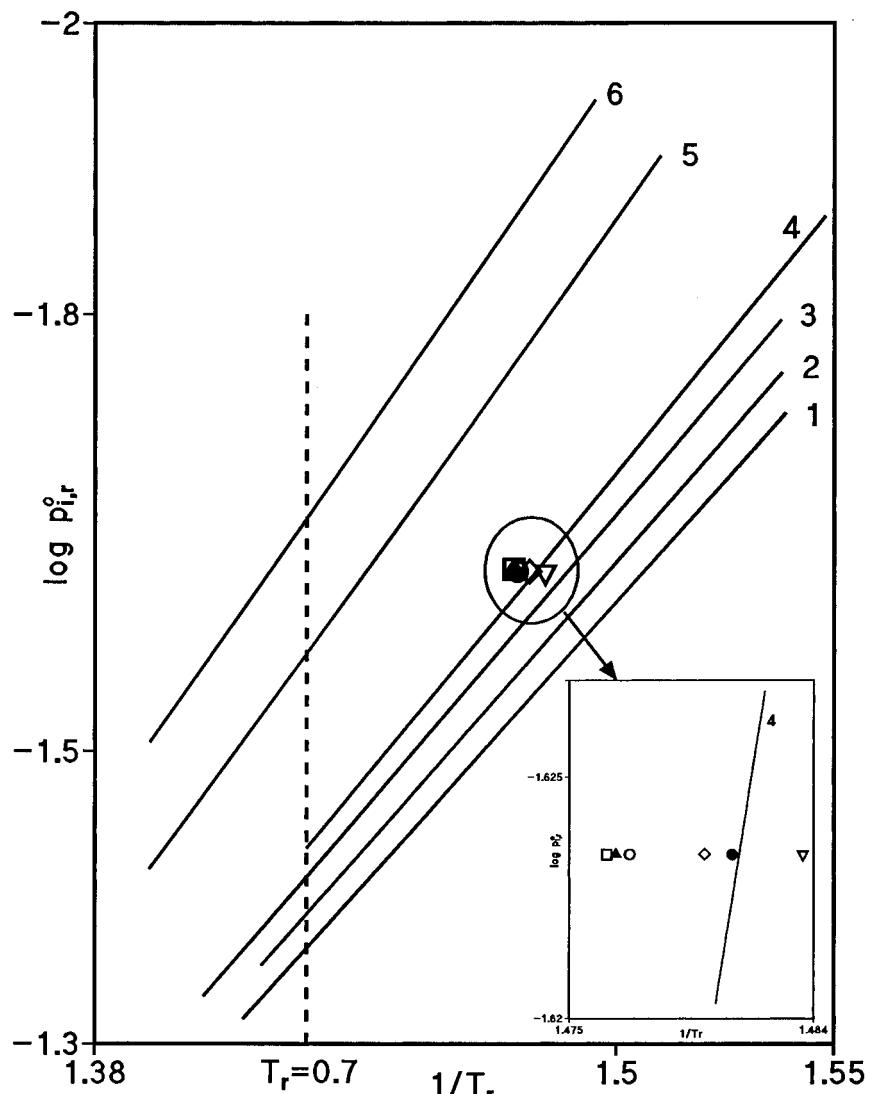
T/K	$p^\circ/\text{kPa}$	T/K	$p^\circ/\text{kPa}$	T/K	$p^\circ/\text{kPa}$
Ethyl Ethanoate					
364.88	160.97	350.25	101.32	342.49	78.40
364.36	158.40	350.09	101.15	341.97	77.00
364.27	157.93	349.68	99.81	341.48	75.75
363.78	155.59	349.30	98.59	340.98	74.43
363.21	152.87	348.76	96.86	340.41	72.97
362.48	149.53	348.47	95.93	340.10	72.18
361.77	146.28	347.99	94.39	339.43	70.48
361.09	143.28	347.59	93.17	338.82	69.02
360.63	141.31	347.15	91.87	338.32	67.80
359.48	136.27	346.74	90.55	337.77	66.49
358.83	133.54	346.31	89.29	337.09	64.89
357.03	126.28	345.81	87.80	336.06	62.52
356.34	123.56	345.39	86.53	334.52	59.15
355.64	120.84	344.92	85.17	333.37	56.68
354.46	116.48	344.46	83.90	331.79	53.31
352.93	110.85	343.91	82.33	330.13	50.28
351.05	104.36	343.49	81.15		
350.22	101.57	342.92	79.59		
Ethyl Propanoate					
388.29	163.42	375.89	114.04	368.29	90.29
387.57	160.18	375.45	112.62	367.81	89.04
386.84	156.78	375.14	111.47	367.36	87.77
385.99	152.99	374.70	110.09	366.86	86.35
385.33	150.16	374.31	108.73	366.38	85.01
384.50	146.66	373.86	107.30	365.87	83.72
383.69	143.28	373.44	106.01	365.37	82.34
382.68	139.18	373.09	104.87	364.86	81.02
382.02	136.48	372.74	103.81	364.33	79.66
381.09	132.90	372.18	102.00	363.86	78.46
380.26	129.71	372.10	101.69	363.37	77.20
379.42	126.59	371.92	101.32	362.34	74.66
378.92	124.85	371.94	101.15	361.70	73.11
378.57	123.48	371.51	99.78	360.32	69.87
378.18	122.09	371.02	98.39	358.90	66.65
377.82	120.74	370.60	97.03	357.36	63.28
377.47	119.51	370.13	95.65	355.84	60.08
377.08	118.21	369.70	94.39	354.08	56.54
376.75	116.99	369.21	93.01	352.23	53.00
376.30	115.50	368.79	91.79	350.57	50.01
Ethyl Butanoate					
407.37	146.79	398.50	114.65	389.30	87.74
406.68	144.01	398.17	113.66	388.37	85.14
405.93	141.19	396.92	109.54	387.41	82.81
405.28	138.77	395.78	106.05	386.23	79.85
404.53	135.96	395.22	104.32	385.21	77.36
403.76	133.05	394.18	101.32	384.06	74.74
403.20	130.94	394.18	101.28	382.79	71.84
402.62	128.97	394.16	101.22	381.71	69.43
401.73	125.76	393.53	99.37	380.48	66.77
400.95	122.98	392.73	97.13	379.14	63.96
400.17	120.35	392.05	95.16	377.86	61.31
399.41	117.80	391.37	93.27	376.40	58.54
399.22	116.98	390.40	90.70	374.94	55.78

temperature for the pure components using eq 2, a modified version of Rackett's equation was used to determine Rackett's parameters,  $Z_{RA}$ , not found in literature by an empirical expression [see Reid et al. (1977)], from the acentric factors presented in Table 1. The values of the virial coefficients for pure compounds and mixtures in eq 3 were calculated using the correlations published by Tsonopoulos (1974). The vapor pressures,  $p^\circ$ , were calculated at each equilibrium temperature using the Antoine equation and the constant values from Table 5. The influence of the different sets of constant values from Table 5 on the calculations of the activity coefficient values was reflected in the mean differences, less than 0.5% for the mixtures containing ethyl ethanoate and 4% for the mixtures containing ethyl butanoate. Application of the point-to-point test of Fredenslund et al. (1977) yielded a mean deviation for the set of points for each system,  $\delta y_i$ ,

**Table 5. Antoine Equation<sup>a</sup> Constants, A, B, and C, along with Values from Literature for Pure Substances Used in This Work**

compound	A	B	C	range of T/K	$s(p^\circ)$	% mean error	references
ethyl ethanoate	6.572 59	1465.78	-29.18	300–390		0.4	this work
	6.133 61	1195.13	-60.68	259–372		0.6	TRC (1990)
	6.187 99	1224.67	-57.44	271–372		0.6	Riddick et al. (1986)
	6.139 45	1211.90	-57.15	260–385		0.6	Reid et al. (1977)
	6.226 69	1244.95	-55.27	288–348		0.4	Boublk et al. (1973)
ethyl propanoate	6.334 31	1404.22	-47.58	315–420	0.07		this work
	6.144 00	1274.70	-64.15	278–398		0.8	TRC (1990)
	6.134 87	1268.94	-64.85			0.8	Riddick et al. (1986)
	6.143 97	1274.70	-64.16	276–396		0.8	Reid et al. (1977)
ethyl butanoate	6.119 82	1260.62	-65.75	306–371		0.8	Boublk et al. (1973)
	6.360 31	1493.89	-51.13	330–435	0.06		this work
	5.274 56	921.56	-112.77	298–423		2.1	TRC (1990)
propan-2-ol	6.073 05	1358.30	-60.15	288–432		1.3	Reid et al. (1977)
	7.111 50	1505.94	-60.15	300–400			Ortega and Susial (1991)
	6.312 86	1159.84	-102.90	310–420			Ortega and Hernández (1996)

<sup>a</sup>  $\log(p^\circ/\text{kPa}) = A - B/(T/\text{K} + C)$ .



**Figure 2.** Reduced vapor pressure lines using the Antoine equation and coefficients from Table 5 for the pure compounds: 1, ethyl ethanoate; 2, ethyl propanoate; 3, ethyl butanoate; 4, azeotropic line for ethyl ethanoate + propan-2-ol; 5, propan-2-ol; 6, butan-2-ol. Inset shows the comparison between the azeotropic points from the literature and ours for ethyl ethanoate (1) + propan-2-ol (2). ●, our experimental azeotrope; ▲, Murti and van Winkle (1958); □, Nishi (1972); ○, Rajendran et al. (1991) [◆, Lecat (1926) and ▽, Durrans (1920); see Gmehling et al. (1994)].

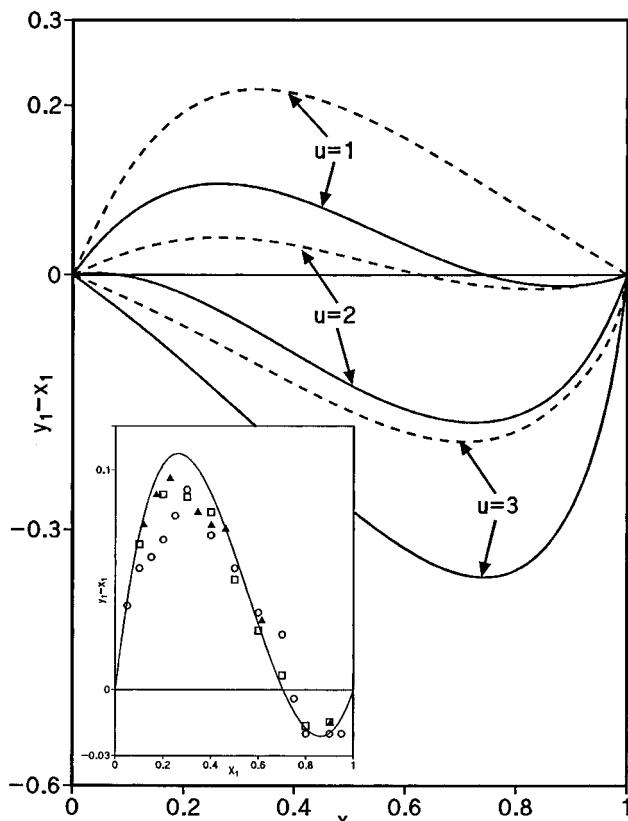
of less than 0.01 and a positive consistency according to that method.

The treatment of the VLE values presented in Table 6 was performed using the software put forward by Prausnitz et al. (1980) based on the principle of maximum likelihood applied to equations commonly used to process the VLE

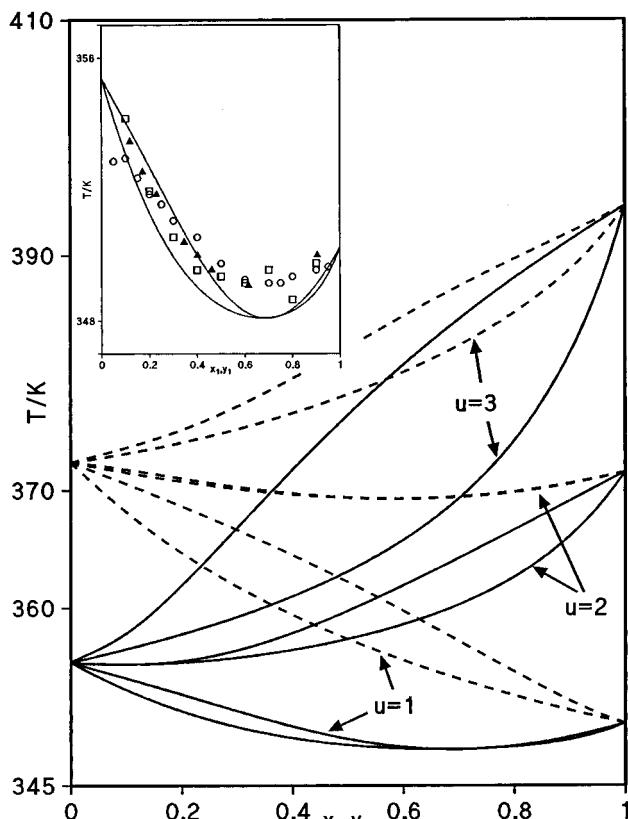
values. However, that same software was also used with other polynomial equations, such as the Redlich-Kister equation and another equation similar to eq 1 in which the values of  $k$  were optimized. Table 7 gives the results achieved by applying the different correlations to the values from Table 6, together with the mean deviations obtained



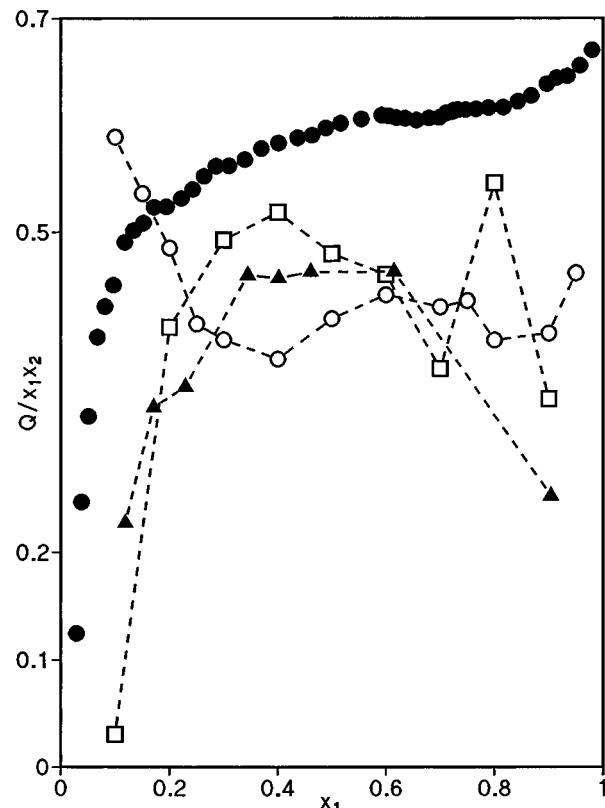




**Figure 3.** Fitting curves corresponding to  $(y_1 - x_1)$  vs  $x_1$  for the mixtures  $C_uH_{2u+1}CO_2C_2H_5$  (1) + alkan-2-ol (2): (—), propan-2-ol; (---), butan-2-ol. Inset corresponds to the comparison of our experimental curve with the values from literature for ethyl ethanoate (1) + propan-2-ol (2): ▲, Murti and van Winkle (1958); □, Nishi (1972); ○, Rajendran et al. (1991).



**Figure 4.** Fitting curves corresponding to  $T$  vs  $x_1$  or  $y_1$  for the mixtures  $C_uH_{2u+1}CO_2C_2H_5$  (1) + alkan-2-ol (2): (—), propan-2-ol; (---), butan-2-ol. Inset corresponds to the comparison of our experimental curve with the values from literature for the liquid phase of ethyl ethanoate (1) + propan-2-ol (2): ▲, Murti and van Winkle (1958); □, Nishi (1972); ○, Rajendran et al. (1991).



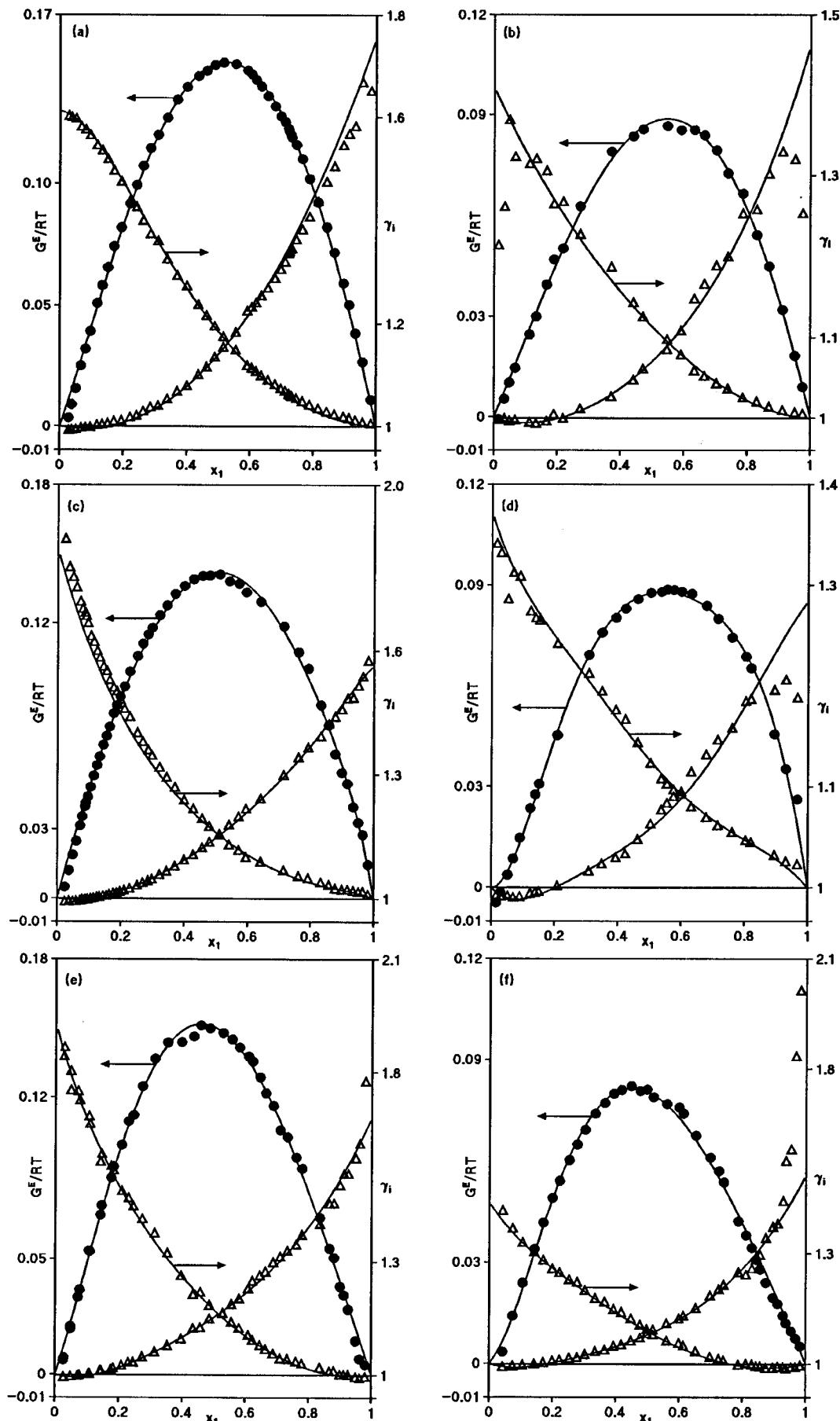
**Figure 5.** Comparison between the curves of the function  $Q = G^E/RT$ , in the form  $Q/x_1x_2$  vs  $x_1$ , obtained by us, ●, and the values from literature: ▲, Murti and van Winkle (1958); □, Nishi (1972); ○, Rajendran et al. (1991).

**Table 8. Coefficients of Eq 7 and Mean Deviation of  $\gamma_i$  and Standard Deviation for  $G^E/RT$**

system	$k_g$	$a_0$	$a_1$	$b_0$	$\delta\gamma_i$	$s(G^E/RT)$
Ethyl Ethanoate (1)						
+ propan-2-ol (2)	0.735	0.351	0.416	0.112	0.009	0.002
+ butan-2-ol (2)	1.053	0.361		0.123	0.017	0.002
Ethyl Propanoate (1)						
+ propan-2-ol (2)	0.855	0.523		0.211	0.013	0.003
+ butan-2-ol (2)	0.889	0.281		0.321	0.009	0.002
Ethyl Butanoate (1)						
+ propan-2-ol (2)	0.890	0.584		0.209	0.009	0.003
+ butan-2-ol (2)	1.068	0.387		-0.015	0.020	0.002

the literature for the same mixture by Murti and van Winkle (1958), Nishi (1972), and Rajendran et al. (1991) were treated like ours, and all of them were consistent using the point-to-point method recommended by Fredenslund et al. (1977). An alternative was to represent the nondimensional function of Gibbs energy,  $Q = G^E/RT$ , of the form  $Q/x_1x_2$  vs  $x_1$  for the mixtures from literature. Figure 5 shows the differences among the various authors.

Figure 6a-f graphically represent the values from the columns in Table 6 for  $\gamma_i$  and  $G^E/RT$  vs  $x_1$  using the correlation described in the following section. The mixtures containing ethanoates displayed a small maximum in the  $\gamma_i$  values at low concentrations of the alkan-2-ol. This finding has been reported in previous papers and has not yet been satisfactorily explained but may be attributable to difficulties involving pseudoreaction between the components: on the one hand, the rupture of the hydrogen bonds in the alkanol molecules and the formation of associated polymers, and on the other hand, the opposite, exothermic effect, caused by the formation of ester + alkanol esterification complexes. Therefore, the virial coefficients were also calculated using the method proposed by Hayden and O'Connell (1975) considering a term includ-



**Figure 6.** Experimental results of  $G^E/RT$  (●) and  $\gamma_i$  (Δ) vs  $x_1$  and the corresponding fitting curves for the binary mixtures ethyl ester (1) + alkan-2-ol (2): (a, c, e) ethyl ethanoate, propanoate, butanoate + propan-2-ol; (b, d, f) ethyl ethanoate, propanoate, butanoate + butan-2-ol.

**Table 9.** Average Mean Deviations,  $\delta$ , and Errors,  $e$ , Obtained Applying Different Models to the Mixtures Ethyl Ester (1) + Alkan-2-ol (2)

	ASOG	Mod-UNIFAC	UNIFAC			
	OH/COO <sup>a</sup>	OH/COOC <sup>b</sup>	CCOH/COOC <sup>c</sup>	COH/COO <sup>d</sup>	OH/COOC <sup>e</sup>	OH/COO <sup>f</sup>
Ethyl Ethanoate (1) + Propan-2-ol (2)						
$\delta y_1$	0.016	0.006	0.011	0.007	0.024	0.010
$\delta T/K$	0.67	0.48	0.47	0.26	1.46	0.28
$e(\gamma)$	5.96	2.46	4.36	1.89	10.90	3.44
( $x_{az}$ , $T_{az}$ )	(0.635, 347.51)	(0.709, 348.71)	(0.652, 347.69)	(0.678, 348.41)	(0.638, 346.44)	(0.658, 347.93)
Ethyl Ethanoate (1) + Butan-2-ol (2)						
$\delta y_1$	0.021	0.004	0.018	0.013	0.028	0.013
$\delta T/K$	1.42	0.27	1.24	0.86	1.91	0.82
$e(\gamma)$	12.22	3.40	10.61	7.82	16.33	7.48
Ethyl Propanoate (1) + Propan-2-ol (2)						
$\delta y_1$	0.011	0.005	0.015	0.006	0.028	0.010
$\delta T/K$	0.74	0.35	0.98	0.15	1.73	0.70
$e(\gamma)$	5.40	2.26	7.32	2.25	13.86	5.02
( $x_{az}$ , $T_{az}$ )	(0.144, 354.56)	(0.093, 354.94)	(0.157, 354.62)	(0.040, 355.06)	(0.221, 354.02)	(0.134, 354.70)
Ethyl Propanoate (1) + Butan-2-ol (2)						
$\delta y_1$	0.024	0.017	0.025	0.018	0.031	0.021
$\delta T/K$	1.29	0.89	1.60	0.81	2.14	1.15
$e(\gamma)$	11.28	8.01	13.05	7.72	17.32	9.97
( $x_{az}$ , $T_{az}$ )	(0.505, 367.66)	(0.539, 368.17)	(0.536, 367.19)	(0.518, 368.32)	(0.546, 366.45)	(0.525, 367.85)
Ethyl Butanoate (1) + Propan-2-ol (2)						
$\delta y_1$	0.009	0.004	0.018	0.006	0.028	0.012
$\delta T/K$	0.85	0.31	1.63	0.30	2.67	1.20
$e(\gamma)$	4.64	1.77	8.42	3.12	15.85	5.82
Ethyl Butanoate (1) + Butan-2-ol (2)						
$\delta y_1$	0.013	0.007	0.022	0.007	0.028	0.015
$\delta T/K$	1.46	0.94	2.30	0.91	3.03	1.70
$e(\gamma)$	7.22	4.83	11.69	4.50	16.39	8.38

<sup>a</sup> Tochigi et al. (1990). <sup>b</sup> Gmehling et al. (1993). <sup>c</sup> Fredenslund et al. (1977). <sup>d</sup> Fredenslund et al. (1975). <sup>e</sup> Hansen et al. (1991). <sup>f</sup> Macedo et al. (1983).

$$e(\gamma) = (1/2) \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^N |(\gamma_{ij}^{\text{exp}} - \gamma_{ij}^{\text{cal}})/\gamma_{ij}^{\text{exp}}| / 100/N; \delta(y_1) = \sum_{j=1}^N |(y_{1j}^{\text{exp}} - y_{1j}^{\text{cal}})| / N; \delta(T) = \sum_{i=1}^N |(T_{i,\text{exp}} - T_{i,\text{cal}})| / N$$

ing the chemical interaction; however, the differences with respect to the values in Table 6 were not significant.

The excess enthalpies were calculated from  $H^E = -RT^2 \cdot [\partial(G^E/RT)/\partial T]_p$ . The literature has yielded  $H_m^E$  values for the mixture formed by ethyl ethanoate + propan-2-ol at three temperatures, 298.15 K, 303.15 K, and 308.15 K (Nagata et al., 1975; Grolier and Viallard, 1971; Ortega, 1996; Rajendran et al., 1991), and for the mixture consisting of ethyl ethanoate + butan-2-ol at one temperature, 298.15 K (Ortega, 1996). The NRTL and Wilson equation gives values that differ by 80% for the two mixtures; the errors with UNIQUAC model were higher. Therefore, another option was to fit the parameters to the temperature using the experimental enthalpy values. In Soto et al. (1997), an attempt was made to establish the suitability of using the proposed polynomial equation, similar to eq 1, in correlating the values. The activity coefficients and  $Q$  are related by

$$\ln \gamma_1 = Q + x_2 \ln(\gamma_1/\gamma_2) \quad \text{and} \quad \ln \gamma_2 = Q - x_1 \ln(\gamma_1/\gamma_2) \quad (4)$$

where

$$\ln(\gamma_1/\gamma_2) = [\partial(G^E/RT)/\partial x_1] + (H^E/RT^2)(\partial T/\partial x_1) \quad (5)$$

with  $Q = G^E/RT$  being represented by a function similar to eq 1.

Logically, the direct correlations for this excess function vs concentration, with no restrictions other than to minimize the deviation values for  $Q$ , will give better results than when the correlation is conditioned on other variables, as in the software used herein. The literature does not report sufficient values at different temperatures to obtain an adequate plot for the enthalpic term, which was

therefore replaced by a simple form of eq 1 truncated at the first term. Chao (1959) made a similar modification using the Redlich-Kister equation, so introducing this consideration into eq 5 and regrouping yields

$$\ln(\gamma_1/\gamma_2) = k_g(z_1/x_1)^2 [(1 - 2z_1) \sum_i a_i z_1^i + z_1 z_2 \sum_i (i + 1) a_{i+1} z_1^i] + z_1 z_2 \sum_i b_i z_1^i \quad (6)$$

where  $z_1 = x_1/(x_1 + k_g x_2)$  and  $a_i$ ,  $k_g$ , and  $b_i$  are parameters appearing in Table 8 determined under the same conditions and requirements as the parameters given in Table 7. Tailoring eq 5 to a specific binary mixture, taking only two coefficients for  $a_i$  and one for  $b_i$ , allows it to be rewritten as

$$\ln(\gamma_1/\gamma_2)_p = k_g(z_1/x_1)^2 [(1 - 2z_1)(a_0 + a_1 z_1) + z_1 z_2 a_1] + b_0 z_1 z_2 \quad (7)$$

The parameters  $a_i$  shown in Table 8 are not the same as the ones in Table 7 because of the added polynomial term. On the other hand, use of the summation term yields a better fit, in some cases with a smaller number of parameters. The standard deviation values for the  $\gamma_i$  values in Table 8 support this. In this case the goodness of fit,  $s(G^E/RT)$ , is the same as the one that would have been obtained from directly fitting the adimensional Gibbs free energy function on the basis of composition. It can therefore be concluded that the function shown in eq 7 should be

suitable for correlating the adimensional Gibbs free energy function and the activity coefficients concurrently.

**Azeotropes.** Azeotropes were located at the following coordinates in the binary systems: for ethyl ethanoate (1) + propan-2-ol (2) at  $x_1 = 0.707$ ,  $T = 348.1$  K; for ethyl propanoate (1) + propan-2-ol (2) at  $x_1 = 0.092$ ,  $T = 355.2$  K; for ethyl propanoate (1) + butan-2-ol (2) at  $x_1 = 0.628$ ,  $T = 369.3$  K. The literature contains no references to any azeotropes in the system consisting of ethyl propanoate + propan-2-ol, but Gmehling et al. (1994) reported values estimated by Lecat, namely,  $x_{\text{az,ester}} = 0.450$ ,  $T_{\text{az}} = 368.9$  K, for ethyl propanoate + butan-2-ol. Those values differ considerably from the values reported here.

Using reduced coordinate sets, the numerous literature values for the azeotropes of the ethyl ethanoate + propan-2-ol mixture at different pressures were represented, with their regression line being used as the corresponding geometric means of the individual values, i.e.,  $p_{cij} = (p_{ci}p_{cj})^{1/2}$  and  $T_{cij} = (T_{ci}T_{cj})^{1/2}$ , as the mixing rules for the critical temperature and pressure. The inset to Figure 4 shows the differences in temperature for that mixture between the literature values at 101.32 kPa and the value calculated in this study. The inset to Figure 2 shows the convergence between the regression lines for the vapor pressures for the pure components. Theoretically, at least, the lines must go through the point (1, 0). The azeotropic line, obtained by regression for the mixture of ethyl ethanoate + propan-2-ol plotted on the reduced coordinate set, was

$$\log p_r = (-3.594/T_r) + 3.700 \quad (8)$$

and also showed a moderate convergence with the others. Assuming that the azeotropes reported by literature [Murti and van Winkle (1958) at 25.7 and 57.8 kPa; Nagata et al. (1975) at 48.4 kPa] are correct, if instead of the experimental value presented here, the closest literature value, the one calculated by Lecat [see Gmehling et al. (1994)] is used, then the azeotropic line and that of vapor pressure for ethyl butanoate would be almost parallel. The acentric pseudofactor for the azeotropic line, calculated from eq 8, gave a different result in comparison with that corresponding to a mean value of the individuals acentric factors.

**Prediction of VLE.** The experimental values shown in Table 6 were substituted in several known theoretical models, namely, the ASOG model (Tochigi et al., 1990) and the original version of the UNIFAC model (Fredenslund et al. 1975), as well as the version subsequently developed by Gmehling et al. (1993). Table 9 gives the results obtained using the different models along with the deviations in the mole fraction of the vapor phase,  $\delta y_1$ , and temperature,  $\delta T$ , recalculated using the bubble method put forward by Prausnitz et al. (1980).

On the whole, Gmehling et al.'s version of the UNIFAC model (1993) yielded the best prediction for all the mixtures considered here, with a mean overall percentage error of less than 4% for the activity coefficients, although the error in the prediction for the mixture consisting of ethyl propanoate + butan-2-ol was 7%. As in the other cases previously considered by our laboratory, the worst estimates of the original version of the UNIFAC model published by Hansen et al. (1991) yielded a mean error on the order of 14% for the six mixtures considered here.

The coordinates for the azeotrope estimated for the system formed by ethyl ethanoate + propan-2-ol using the various models tested were not very good, although the best results were achieved using Gmehling et al.'s version of the UNIFAC model (1993). For the system composed of ethyl propanoate + propan-2-ol, the best estimates were

obtained using Fredenslund et al.'s (1975) and Gmehling et al.'s (1993) versions of the UNIFAC model. Finally, for the system consisting of ethyl propanoate + butan-2-ol, the three models estimated considerably different coordinates for the singular point than the experimental value obtained, with differences in temperature of up to 2 K. On the whole, the best/worst approximations to the experimentally determined azeotropes were achieved by the models with the lowest/highest mean in the errors in their predictions of  $\gamma_i$ .

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