# ISOTHERMAL VAPOUR-LIQUID EQUILIBRIA FOR BINARY AND TERNARY MIXTURES FORMED BY ACETONITRILE, 2-BUTANOL AND BENZENE

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# ABSTRACT

Isothermal vapour pressure data were measured over the whole composition range for the binary acetonitrile-2-butanol and ternary acetonitrile-2-butanol-benzene systems. The experimental data were obtained at  $60^{\circ}$ C using a Boublik vapour-recirculating equilibrium still. The present data and two sets of literature data for the binary systems constituting the ternary system were correlated with the extended UNIQUAC (universal quasi-chemical) and UNIQUAC associated-solution models. Predicted ternary vapour-liquid equilibrium values derived from the UNIQUAC associated-solution model agree well with the experimental results.

#### LIST OF SYMBOLS





### *Greek letters*



### **INTRODUCTION**

The isothermal vapour-liquid equilibria of the ternary systems lbutanol-acetonitrile-benzene and acetonitrile-isobutanol-benzene have been previously investigated [1,2]. As part of continuing studies of the thermodynamic properties of ternary mixtures containing acetonitrile and an isomer of butanol, this work reports vapour-liquid equilibrium data for the binary acetonitrile-butanol and ternary acetonitrile-2-butanol-benzene systems at  $60^{\circ}$ C and their correlation with the extended UNIQUAC (universal quasi-chemical) and UNIQUAC associated-solution models [3,4]. Isothermal vapour-liquid equilibrium (VLE) data for the two binary component systems of the present ternary system have been reported at 45°C for acetonitrile-benzene [5] and benzene-2-butanol [6].

# **EXPERIMENTAL**

Acetonitrile and 2-butanol (Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd., analytical reagent grade) were used without purification. Chemically pure benzene



Component	Density at $25^{\circ}$ C (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )		Vapour pressure at $60^{\circ}$ C (Torr)	
	Observed	Literature value [7]	Observed	Literature value [7]
Acetonitrile	0.7766	0.7766	368.1	368.00 [8]
<b>Benzene</b>	0.8737	0.8737	391.5	391.47
2-Butanol	0.8026	0.8626	139.3	139.31

Densities and vapour pressures of pure components

was purified by repeated recrystallization. The densities of the chemicals used for experimental work were measured using an Anton Paar DMA 40 densimeter at 25°C. Table 1 lists experimental densities and vapour pressures of the chemicals and literature values for these quantities [7,8]. Vapour pressures at constant temperature were measured using a Boublik vapor-recirculating equilibrium still [9]. Pressures were read off from a mercury manometer and a cathetometer. Observed pressures were corrected to give the corresponding height of a mercury column at  $0^{\circ}$ C and under standard gravity. Binary compositions of the liquid and condensed vapour samples were obtained from measurements of their refractive indices at 25°C. Ternary compositions of both samples were determined using a gas chromatograph (Shimadzu GC-8A) and an electronic integrator (Shimadzu Chromatopac E-1A). The measured variables were considered to have the following accuracy: pressure, 0.16 Torr; temperature  $0.05^{\circ}$ C; mole fraction for liquid and condensed vapour compositions, 0.002.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

TABLE 2

Tables 2 and 3 show the VLE at  $60^{\circ}$ C for the binary acetonitrile-2butanol and ternary acetonitrile-2-butanol-benzene systems, respectively.



Vapour-liquid equilibrium data for the system acetonitrile(1)-2-butanol(2) at 60 °C



 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Vapour-liquid equilibrium data for the system acetonitrile(1)-2-butanol(2)-benzene(3) at 60 °C  $^a$ Vapour-liquid equilibrium data for the system acetonitrile(1)-2-butanol(2)-benzene(3) at 60  $\degree$  C  $\degree$ 

TABLE 3

TABLE 3

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The activity coefficients  $\gamma$  and the fugacity coefficients  $\phi$  were calculated according to

$$
\gamma_I = P\phi_I y_I / \left\{ x_I P_I^s \phi_I^s \exp \left[ v_I^L (P - P_I^s) / RT \right] \right\} \tag{1}
$$

$$
\ln \phi_I = \left(2\sum_J y_I B_{IJ} - \sum_I \sum_J y_I y_J B_{IJ}\right) \frac{P}{RT}
$$
\n(2)

where *P* is the total pressure,  $y$  is the vapour-phase mole fraction,  $P^s$  is the pure-component vapour pressure,  $v^L$  is the pure liquid molar volume calculated using the Rackett equation as modified by Spencer and Danner [10] and  $B_{II}$  is the second virial coefficient calculated from the generalized correlation of Hayden and O'Connell [11].

The experimental data were correlated by the extended UNIQUAC [2] and the UNIQUAC associated-solution models [3]. For ternary systems both models give the activity coefficient of component I as follows.

*Extended UNIQ UAC model* 

$$
\ln \gamma_I = \ln \left( \frac{\Phi_I}{x_I} \right) + 1 - \frac{\Phi_I}{x_I} - \left( \frac{Z}{2} \right) q_I \left[ \ln \left( \frac{\Phi_I}{\theta_I} \right) + 1 - \frac{\Phi_I}{\theta_I} \right]
$$

$$
-q_I' \ln \left( \sum_J \theta_J \tau_{JI} \right) + q_I \sum_J \left( \frac{q_J'}{q_J} \right) \theta_J - q_I \sum_J \frac{\left( q_J'/q_J \right) \theta_J \tau_{IJ}}{\sum_K \theta_K \tau_{KJ}} \tag{3}
$$

where the coordination number  $Z$  is set equal to 10 and the segment fraction  $\Phi$ , the surface fraction  $\theta$  and the adjustable parameter  $\tau_{II}$  related to the binary energy parameter  $a_{IJ}$  for the  $I-J$  pair are given by

$$
\Phi_I = x_I r_I / \sum_J x_J r_J \tag{4}
$$

$$
\theta_I = x_I q_I / \sum_J x_J q_J \tag{5}
$$

$$
\tau_{IJ} = \exp(-a_{IJ}/T) \tag{6}
$$

The parameters  $r$ ,  $q$  and  $q'$  are pure-component molecular constants whose values are available from the literature [2,12]. When  $q' = q$ , eqn. (3) reduces to the original UNIQUAC model [13].

#### *UNIQUAC associated-solution model*

The model, based on the UNIQUAC model [13], assumes linear association of the alcohol  $(B_i + B_1 = B_{i+1})$  and linear solvation of the alcohol with acetonitrile and benzene  $(B_i + A = B_iA$  and  $B_i + C = B_iC$ .

The activity coefficients of acetonitrile (A) and 2-butanol (B) of the ternary system are given by

$$
\ln \gamma_{A} = \ln \left( \frac{\Phi_{A_{1}}}{x_{A}} \right) + 1 - \frac{r_{A}}{V} - \left( \frac{Z}{2} \right) q_{A} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{\Phi_{A}}{\theta_{A}} \right) + 1 - \frac{\Phi_{A}}{\theta_{A}} \right]
$$
  
+  $q_{A} \left[ 1 - \ln \left( \sum_{J} \theta_{J} \tau_{JA} \right) - \sum_{J} \frac{\theta_{J} \tau_{AJ}}{\sum_{K} \theta_{K} \tau_{KJ}} \right]$  (7)  

$$
\ln \gamma_{B} = \ln \left( \frac{\Phi_{B_{1}}}{\Phi_{B_{1}}^{\Theta_{B}}} \right) + \frac{r_{B}}{V_{B}^{\Theta}} - \frac{r_{B}}{V} - \left( \frac{Z}{2} \right) q_{B} \left[ \ln \left( \frac{\Phi_{B}}{\theta_{B}} \right) + 1 - \frac{\Phi_{B}}{\theta_{B}} \right]
$$
  
+  $q_{B} \left[ 1 - \ln \left( \sum_{J} \theta_{J} \tau_{JB} \right) - \sum_{J} \frac{\theta_{J} \tau_{BJ}}{\sum_{K} \theta_{K} \tau_{KJ}} \right]$  (8)

and  $\ln \gamma_C$  for benzene (C) is expressed by changing the subscript A to C in eqn. (7).

The monomer segment fractions  $\Phi_{A_1}$ ,  $\Phi_{B_1}$  and  $\Phi_{C_1}$  are obtained by simultaneous solution of the following mass balance equations in terms of the equilibrium constants

$$
\Phi_{\mathbf{A}} = \Phi_{\mathbf{A}_1} \left( 1 + \frac{r_{\mathbf{A}} K_{\mathbf{B} \mathbf{A}} \Phi_{\mathbf{B}_1}}{1 - K_{\mathbf{B}} \Phi_{\mathbf{B}_1}} \right)
$$
(9)

$$
\Phi_{\rm B} = \frac{\Phi_{\rm B_1}}{(1 - K_{\rm B}\Phi_{\rm B_1})^2} \Big[ 1 + r_{\rm B} (K_{\rm BA}\Phi_{\rm A_1} + K_{\rm BC}\Phi_{\rm C_1}) \Big] \tag{10}
$$

$$
\Phi_{\rm C} = \Phi_{\rm C_1} \left( 1 + \frac{r_{\rm B} K_{\rm BC} \Phi_{\rm B_1}}{1 - K_{\rm B} \Phi_{\rm B_1}} \right) \tag{11}
$$

The true molar volume of the ternary mixture is

$$
\frac{1}{V} = \frac{\Phi_{A_1}}{r_A} \left( 1 + \frac{K_{BA} r_A \Phi_{B_1}}{1 - K_B \Phi_{B_1}} \right) + \frac{\Phi_{B_1}}{r_B (1 - K_B \Phi_{B_1})} + \frac{\Phi_{C_1}}{r_C} \left( 1 + \frac{K_{BC} r_C \Phi_{B_1}}{1 - K_B \Phi_{B_1}} \right) \tag{12}
$$

with the pure alcohol state eqn.  $(12)$  reduces to

$$
\frac{1}{V_{\mathbf{B}}^{\Theta}} = \lim_{\substack{x_{\mathbf{A}} \to 0 \\ x_{\mathbf{C}} \to 0}} \frac{1}{V} = \frac{1 - K_{\mathbf{B}} \Phi_{\mathbf{B}_1}^{\Theta}}{r_{\mathbf{B}}} \tag{13}
$$

where  $\Phi_{B_1}^{\Theta}$  is calculated from eqn. (14).

$$
\Phi_{B_1}^{\Theta} = \left[2K_B + 1 - (1 + 4K_B)^{1/2}\right] / 2K_B^2
$$
 (14)

The molecular structure parameters *r* and q used in the model were calculated from the method of Vera et al. [14], and they are not the same as those for the extended UNIQUAC model. The structure parameters for both models are shown in Table 4.

### **TABLE 4**

**TABLE 5** 

Component	<b>Extended UNIQUAC</b>			UNIQUAC associated-solution	
Acetonitrile	1.87	1.72	$a^{0.2}$	1.50	1.40
2-Butanol	3.45	3.05	0.88	2.77	2.42
Benzene	3.19	2.40	$a^{0.2}$	2.56	2.05

**Pure component structural parameters for the two models** 

The correlation of the binary VLE data was carried out using a computer program similar to that described by Prausnitz et al. [12]. The adjustable binary energy parameters were obtained by minimizing the following objective function

$$
F = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ \frac{\left( P_i - \hat{P}_i \right)^2}{\sigma_p^2} + \frac{\left( T_i - \hat{T}_i \right)^2}{\sigma_r^2} + \frac{\left( x_{1i} - \hat{x}_{1i} \right)^2}{\sigma_x^2} + \frac{\left( y_{1i} - \hat{y}_{1i} \right)^2}{\sigma_y^2} \right]
$$
(15)

where a circumflex denotes the calculated value, and the estimated standard deviations for each of the measured variables are as follows: pressure,  $\sigma_p = 1$ Torr; temperature,  $\sigma_T = 0.05$  K; liquid-phase mole fraction,  $\sigma_x = 0.001$ ; vapour-phase mole fraction,  $\sigma_y = 0.003$ .

The association parameters for 2-butanol are  $K_B = 31.1$  [15] at 50 °C and  $h_B = -23.2$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> [16], and the solvation constant at 50°C and the enthalpy of complex formation are  $K_{BA} = 20$  and  $h_{BA} = -17$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> [1,2] for 2-butanol-acetonitrile and  $K_{BC} = 2.5$  and  $h_{BC} = -8.3$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> [1,2] for 2-butanol-benzene respectively. The temperature dependence of the equilibrium constants is determined by the van't Hoff relation. *h* values are assumed to be independent of temperature.

Table 5 gives the results of the estimated parameters and the root-meansquare deviations between the experimental results and the most probable



**Binary calculated results of vapour-liquid equilibrium data reduction** 

**a I = extended UNIQUAC, II = UNIQUAC associated-solution.** 



Fig. 1. Vapour-liquid equilibria for acetonitrile(1)-2-butanol(2) at 60 °C. —, Calculated from the UNIQUAC associated-solution model. Experimental:  $\bullet$ , liquid-phase mole fraction; A, vapour-phase mole fraction.

calculated values. Figures 1 and 2 present a comparison of the calculated values based on the UNIQUAC associated-solution model and the measured results for the acetonitrile-2-butanol and benzene-2-butanol systems.

Table 6 shows the predicted results for the ternary system. The UNIQUAC associated-solution model gives better results than the extended

TABLE 6

Ternary calculated results for the system acetonitrile(1)-2-butanol(2)-benzene(3) at 60 $^{\circ}$ C



 $I =$  extended UNIQUAC, II = UNIQUAC associated-solution.



Fig. 2. Vapour-liquid equilibria for benzene(1)-2-butanol(2) at  $45^{\circ}$ C. -----, Calculated from the UNIQUAC associated-solution model. Experimental:  $\bullet$ , liquid-phase mole fraction; A, vapour-phase mole fraction.



Fig. 3. Equilibrium tie lines; calculated values are obtained from the UNIQUAC associatedsolution model.

UNIQUAC model. This may stem partly from the fact that the UNIQUAC associated-solution model accurately expresses the temperature dependence of the activity coefficients of the 2-butanol-benzene system. Figure 3 illustrates the experimental and calculated tie lines, which were derived from the UNIQUAC associated-solution model, and suggests that the present ternary system may have no ternary azeotrope.

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