

Thermochimica Acta 319 (1998)  $7-10$ 

# Excess molar enthalpies of eight binary mixtures containing 1,2-epoxybutane  $+$  ethyl alkanoates at 298.15 K

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Received 4 June 1997; accepted 29 May 1998

#### Abstract

Excess molar enthalpies,  $H_m^E$ , have been measured using a flow microcalorimeter at 298.15 K and at atmospheric pressure for the eight mixtures containing 1,2-epoxybutane with ethyl acetate, ethyl propanoate, ethyl butyrate, ethyl pentanoate, ethyl hexanoate, ethyl heptanoate, ethyl octanoate and ethyl decanoate. Excess heats of mixing,  $H_m^E$ , are positive for all the mixtures and increase with the chain length of the alkanoate, with the exception of ethyl acetate whose  $H_m^E$  values were between those of ethyl pentanoate and ethyl hexanoate. Results have been correlated in terms of the Redlich–Kister equation and qualitatively discussed in terms of molecular interactions.  $\odot$  1998 Elsevier Science B.V.

Keywords: Excess molar enthalpies; Calorimeter; Data correlation

#### 1. Introduction

The current paper is concerned with exploring the composition dependence of excess molar enthalpies,  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$ , of binary mixtures. In earlier papers [1,2], the measurements of the thermodynamic properties of mixtures containing esters of carbonic acid  $+$  a series of alkanoates were reported.

Continuing with this research programme, the excess molar enthalpies of binary mixtures containing 1,2-epoxybutane, a strong proton acceptor monoether used as a solubilizing agent, with eight ethyl alkanoates, namely ethyl acetate, ethyl propanoate, ethyl butyrate, ethyl pentanoate, ethyl hexanoate, ethyl heptanoate, ethyl octanoate and ethyl decanoate have been determined.

The aim of this paper is to characterize the molecular interactions from the excess molar enthalpies.

To our knowledge, no literature data can be found for these mixtures.

#### 2. Experimental

## 2.1. Chemicals

The chemicals were purchased from Aldrich with the exception of ethyl acetate, which was obtained from Fluka.

The purities of each compound varied from a minimum of 99.0 mol  $%$  for 1,2-epoxybutane to a maximum of 99.9 mol % for ethyl acetate. They were

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Table 1 A comparison of measured and literature densities,  $\rho$ , for each component at 298.15 K

Component	$\rho$ /(g·cm <sup>-3</sup> )	
	measured	literature (Ref.)
1,2-Epoxybutane	0.82463	0.8240 [3]
Ethyl acetate	0.89438	0.89455 [3]
Ethyl propanoate	0.88333	0.8831 [3]
Ethyl butyrate	0.87356	0.87394 [3]
Ethyl pentanoate	0.86938	$0.8690$ [4]
Ethyl hexanoate	0.87301	0.8730 [5]
Ethyl heptanoate	0.88151	$0.8815$ [5]
Ethyl octanoate	0.86232	$0.8624$ [4]
Ethyl decanoate	0.86501	$0.8650$ [5]

used without further purification, since GLC analysis did not detect any appreciable impurity peaks. The purities were also checked by comparing the densities of pure compounds, measured by an Anton Paar vibrating tube densimeter (DMA 60/602) at 293.15 or 298.15 K, with those found in literature  $[3-5]$ , as reported in Table 1.

Before measurements, all liquids were kept in dark bottles, dried over molecular sieves (Union Carbide, type 4A, 1/16in. pellets) and degassed by ultrasound using an ultrasonic bath, Hellma, type 460, Milan, Italy.

#### 2.2. Calorimetric measurements

An LKB flow microcalorimeter (LKB Produkter, model 2107, Bromma, Sweden) was used to determine the excess molar enthalpies  $H_{m}^{E}$ . Measurements were made at  $298.15\pm0.01$  K and the temperature controlled by calibrated transistors inside the apparatus.

The electrical calibration and operating procedure have been described elsewhere [6,7]. Two automatic burettes (ABU, Radiometer, Copenhagen, Denmark) were used to pump pure liquids into the mixing cell of the calorimeter. Mole fractions  $x_1$  of 1,2-epoxybutane (component 1) were calculated from the calibrated flow rates with a precision of  $1 \times 10^{-4}$ , which lead to an error in  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$  of 0.5–1 J mol<sup>-1</sup>.

Two duplicate measurements of  $H_m^{\text{E}}$  were made for each determination.

The performance of the apparatus was periodically checked by measuring  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$  of a test mixture of cyclohexane and n-hexane at 298.15 K. The agreement with the literature values of the heat of mixing [8] was  $\pm 0.5\%$ , over the central range of mole fraction of cyclohexane.

#### 3. Results

# 3.1. Correlation of the experimental values

The experimental results obtained from the excess molar enthalpies for the eight mixtures are listed in Table 2 and shown graphically in Fig. 1.

The heat of mixing were fitted by the method of least-squares analysis to the Redlich–Kister equation

$$
H_{\rm m}^{\rm E} = x_1 x_2 \sum_{k \ge 0} a_k (x_1 - x_2)^k \tag{1}
$$

where  $a_k$  were adjustable parameters and in each case the optimum number of coefficients was determined by examing the variation in the standard deviation  $\sigma(Q_{\rm m}^{\rm E})$  as given by:

$$
\sigma(H_{\rm m}^{\rm E}) = |\Phi/(N - n)|^{0.5}
$$
 (2)

where  $N$  is the number of experimental points,  $n$  the number of adjustable parameters, and  $\Phi$  is a function defined as:



Fig. 1. Excess molar enthalpies,  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$ , of 1,2-epoxybutane(1) + ethyl alkanoates(2): ( $\bullet$ ) ethyl acetate,  $\star$ ) ethyl propanoate,  $\bullet$ ) ethyl butyrate,  $(\triangle)$  ethyl pentanoate,  $(\blacktriangledown)$  ethyl hexanoate,  $(\triangle)$ ethyl heptanoate, (^) ethyl octanoate, (&) ethyl decanoate. Solid lines, Eq. (1).

Table 2

 $x_1$   $H_{\rm m}^{\rm E}/(\text{J}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1})$ 

Excess molar enthalpies,  $H_m^E$ , of 1,2-epoxybutane(1) + ethyl alkanoates(2) at 298.15 K

 $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}/(J \cdot \text{mol}^{-1})$ 



$$
\Phi = \sum_{k\geq 0}^{N} \eta_k^2 \tag{3}
$$

where  $\eta = H_{\text{m,calc}}^{\text{E}} - H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$ ,  $H_{\text{m,calc}}^{\text{E}}$  being determined from the right-hand side of Eq. (1). The values of adjustable parameters  $a_k$  and the standard deviation  $\sigma$ , are listed in Table 3. Fig. 2 shows  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}(x_1 = 0.5)$ , the equimolar excess enthalpy of  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$ , vs. the number *n* of the CH2 groups in the ethyl alkanoate molecule  $H(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>.$ 

## 4. Conclusions

Figs. 1 and 2 show a gradual increase of  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$  with the increase in the chain length of the ethyl alkanoate, with the exception of the first member of the alkanoate series, ethylacetate. This behaviour was also observed







Fig. 2. Values of equimolar excess enthalpy,  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}(x_1 = 0.5)$ , at 298.15 K as a function of the number  $n$  of the CH<sub>2</sub> groups in the molecule of ethyl alkanoates  $H(CH_2)_nCO_2C_2H_5$ , in mixtures with 1,2-epoxybutane.

for mixtures of the same alkanoates with diethyl carbonate [2] and was due, most probably, to a different type of packing of the ethyl acetate molecules during mixing with 1,2-epoxybutane.

In fact, strong interaction energies between molecules can be excluded, even if 1,2-epoxybutane is a good proton acceptor, owing to the availability of H atoms only from  $CH<sub>2</sub>$  groups. In this event, steric effects may play a dominant role in the packing of the molecules and the smallest molecule may show an anomalous behaviour.

We have tried to describe the experimental dependence of  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$  on  $x_1$  through the cell-model, proposed by Prigogine et al. [9,10] and discussed in a previous paper [11]. However, when the  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$  values are larger than 100 J mol<sup>-1</sup>, the plots of  $H<sub>m</sub><sup>E</sup>$  vs.  $x_1$  are increasingly skewed and the theory fails in the prediction of calculated  $H_{\text{m}}^{\text{E}}$  values.

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