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# **Study of molecular interactions in the mixtures of secondary alcohols with equimolar mixture of ethanol + formamide from acoustic and thermodynamic parameters**

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# **ABSTRACT**

*Density (ρ) and ultrasonic speed (u) in the mixtures of isopropanol(IPA), isobutanol(IBA) and isoamyl alcohol(IAA) with equimolar mixture of ethanol and formamide (EMM), including those of pure liquids have been measured over the entire range of composition at temperature 308.15 K. From these experimental values, the deviations in ultrasonic speed (∆u) and isentropic compressibility* ( $\Delta k_s$ ), excess acoustic impedance ( $Z^E$ ) and excess free length ( $L_f^E$ ) have been *calculated and reported. The variations of these properties with composition of solution are discussed in terms of molecular interactions between unlike molecules of the mixtures. Further more, the experimental values of u for afore mentioned mixtures have been compared with theoretically estimated ultrasonic speeds using different empirical relations and the relative merits of these theories and relations have been discussed in terms of percentage deviations.* 

**Key words:** Ultrasonic speed, Thermo acoustic properties, molecular interactions, Redlich – Kister polynomial, empirical velocity relations.

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Knowledge of thermo–acoustic properties is of great significance in understanding the physico chemical behaviour and molecular arrangement in various liquid mixtures and solutions. Ultrasonic study of liquids and liquid mixtures has gained much importance during the last two decades [1-4] in assessing the nature of molecular interactions and investigating the physico chemical behaviour of such systems. Speed of sound itself is highly sensitive to the structure and interactions present in the liquid mixtures as it is fundamentally related to the binding forces between the constituents of the medium [5]. For the qualitative estimation of the molecular interactions in solutions, the ultrasonic velocity approach was first studied by Lageman [6].

Measurements of ultrasonic speed and density have been used to calculate acoustic and thermodynamic parameters that are found to be very sensitive to molecular interactions [7,8]. The excess properties of the acoustic and thermodynamic parameters will give the information about the nature and strength of molecular interactions and are sensitive to the intermolecular forces as well as to size of the molecules [9,10]. Hence, such measurements are useful to study the strength of molecular interactions in liquid mixtures.

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The present work is the continuation of our earlier studies [11,12] on thermodynamic properties of mixed solvents, which have relevant chemical, industrial and biological process applications [13]. The studies of physicochemical properties of amide and alkanol mixed solvents are interesting because amide is convenient model system for investigating peptide and protein solvent interactions. Formamide is primarily used for manufacturing sulfa drugs and synthesizing vitamins and as a softner for paper and fiber [14]. Alkonols are of interest in their own right and serve as simple examples of biologically and industrially important amphiphilic materials [11,15].

Here we report the results of our studies on acoustic and thermodynamic properties of the mixtures of isopropanol or isobutanol or isoamylalcohol with equimolar mixture of ethanol and formamide (EMM) over the entire composition range expressed by the mole fraction/volume fraction of secondary alkanols at a temperature of 308.15 K. Formamide molecules are highly polar ( $\mu$  = 3.77 D at 298.15 K) [16] and are strongly self associated through extensive three dimensional net work of hydrogen bonds, through its three hydrogen bond donors (3H – atoms) and three acceptors (two lone pairs of electrons at oxygen and one on nitrogen atom) [17,18]. Secondary alkanol molecules are polar and self - associated through hydrogen bonding of their hydroxyl groups [18]. Since the components of these mixtures have both protondonating/accepting abilities, significant interaction through hydrogen bonding between unlike molecules may be expected. To the best of our knowledge, there has been no work reported on the above three systems related to the acoustic and thermodynamic investigations.

The experimental values of ultrasonic speed (u) and density (ρ) have been used to calculate various acoustic and thermodynamic properties such as the deviation in ultrasonic velocity (∆u) and deviation in isentropic compressibility  $(\Delta k_s)$ , excess acoustic impedance  $(Z^E)$ , and excess free length ( $L_f^E$ ). The results of the present systems were co-related with the data obtained from Redlich –Kister type polynomial [19] equation and the corresponding standard deviations have been evaluated. The deviation and excess parameters are used to discuss the molecular interactions exist between unlike molecules through  $-C = O$  ----  $H - O$ - hydrogen bonding in the mixtures. Besides, the experimental values of ultrasonic speed for the three systems studied have been compared with that of theoretically estimated values using different empirical relations such as, Nomoto's [20], Van Dael and Vangeel's ideal mixing relation [21], Impedance [22], Junjie's [23], Rao's specific sound velocity [24] and Jacobson's [25] equation.

# **EXPERIMENTAL SECTION**

The chemicals ethanol-absolute (of purity 99.9%) (Changshu Yangyuan Chemicals-China make) and formamide (purity 99%), isopropanol (purity 99%), isobutanol (purity 99%), isoamyl alcohol (purity 99%) used in the present investigation are of G.R Grade obtained from LOBA Chemicals, INDIA. These were further purified by standard methods [26,27]. The purities of the liquids were checked by measuring their ultrasonic speeds and densities at 308.15 K and were in good agreement with literature values [3,28-37] and are shown in Table 1.



**Table 1 Comparison of experimental values of ultrasonic velocity (u) and density (ρ) of pure liquids with the corresponding literature values at 308.15 K** 

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Equimolar mixture of ethanol and formamide (EMM) is first prepared and this solution has been used to prepare the liquid mixtures with isopropanol/isobutanol/isoamylalcohol so that the entire composition range is covered (i.e. 0-100% of the secondary alcohol). All the mixtures have been prepared by weight and kept in airtight bottles. The samples have been weighed using METLER TOLEDO (Switzerland make) AB135-S/FACT Digital balance with an accuracy of  $\pm 10^{-5}$ g.

The ultrasonic speed of the pure liquids and the solutions has been measured using a multifrequency ultrasonic interferometer (M-82 Model) supplied by Mittal enterprise, New Delhi. In the present work, a steel cell fitted with a quartz crystal of 2MHz has been used to measure the ultrasonic speed with an estimated accuracy of  $\pm 0.2\%$  In this method, the wavelength of ultrasonic wave was determined accurately at the working frequency. In the present study the constant temperature water bath (digital electronic) supplied by Concord Instruments Co. Ltd., Chennai (RAAGA type) has been used. The instrument can maintain temperature to  $\pm 0.01$ K as per its specifications.

The measurement of density of pure liquids and liquid mixtures presented already in our previous paper [12]. The estimated accuracy of this method is  $3$  in  $10^5$  parts.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The experimentally measured values of ultrasonic speed, density and evaluated values of deviation in ultrasonic speed and isentropic compressibility, excess free length and excess acoustic impedance for all the systems studied have been presented in Table 2. The ultrasonic speed and density decreased non-linearly with increasing concentration of isopropanol or isobutanol or isoamylalcohol. This non-linear variation is attributed to the deviation from ideal behaviour that suggests interactions between molecules of component liquids of the mixtures.

The deviations and excess functions, which are a measure of deviation from ideal behavior, are found to be highly sensitive to intermolecular interactions amongst the component molecules of the liquid mixture. The presence of dispersion forces, specific interactions such as dipole – dipole and hydrogen bonding interaction has been under stood from the sign and magnitude of the values of the mixtures.



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Using measured data of ultrasonic speed and density acoustic parameters [38-40] such as the isentropic compressibility  $(k_s)$ , acoustic impedance  $(Z)$ , the intermolecular free length  $(L_f)$  have been determined.

$$
k_s = 1/u^2 \rho \tag{1}
$$
\n
$$
z = u \rho \tag{2}
$$

$$
Z = \mathbf{u}\rho \tag{2}
$$
  
\n
$$
L_f = K k_s^{1/2} \tag{3}
$$

where *K* is Jacobson temperature dependent constant and is equal to  $K=(93.875+0.375T)x10^{-1}$  $\frac{8}{3}$ , where *T* is absolute temperature

The deviation in ultrasonic speed [41] in the mixtures has been calculated using the relation.

$$
\Delta u = u - x_1 u_1 - x_2 u_2 \tag{4}
$$

here 'x' is the mole fraction of the liquid mixture and the subscripts 1 and 2 stands for equimolar mixture and secondary alcohol.

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Pertinent to the calculation of deviation and excess parameters, equimolar mixture is considered as one component of the binary liquid mixture [11].

The deviation in isentropic compressibility has been calculated from the equation [3,42,43].

$$
\Delta k_s = K_s - \Phi_1 K_{s1} - \Phi_2 K_{s2}
$$
 (5)

Since  $K_s$  is not additive on mole fraction but these are additive on volume fraction. Hence, such values are calculated using volume fraction  $\Phi_i = \frac{x_i v_i}{\sum_i \mathbf{I}}$ *i i*  $x_iV$  $x_i V$  $\Phi_i =$ Σ .

The excess functions such as  $Z^E$  and  $L_f^E$  have been calculated [42] using,

$$
z^{E} = z - x_1 z_1 - x_2 z_2 \tag{6}
$$

$$
\underline{L}_f^E = L_f - x_1 L_{f1} - x_2 L_{f2} \tag{7}
$$

The values of deviation in ultrasonic velocity and isentropic compressibility, excess acoustic impedance, excess free length have been fitted to a Redlich-Kister [19] type polynomial equation.

$$
Y^{E} = x(1-x) \Sigma A_{i} (1-2x)^{i-1}
$$
 (8)

Where  $Y^E$  is  $\Delta u$  or  $Z^E$  or  $\int_{-f}^{E}$  $\int_{f}$ . The subscript 'i' in the summation of the above equation takes values from 1 to 5.

The values of  $\Delta k_s$  have been fitted to Redlich – Kister type polynomial with volume fraction [42] instead of mole fraction in the polynomial.

$$
\Delta k_{s} = (1-\Phi)\Sigma A_{i} (1-2\Phi)^{i-1}
$$
\n(9)

The values of coefficients  $A_i$  in the above equations have been determined using the least square method and are compiled in Table 3 along with the standard deviations  $\sigma(Y^E)$  calculated using the expression.

$$
\sigma(Y^{E}) = \left[\sum (Y^{E}_{exp} - Y^{E}_{cal})^{2} / (m-n)\right]^{1/2}
$$
 (10)

where 'm' is the total number of experimental points and 'n' is the number of coefficients in the Eq. (8).The value of n in the present study is 5.



Table 3 Coefficients A<sub>i</sub> of Redlich-Kister type polynomial equation Eqs. [(8)-(9)] and the corresponding **Standard deviations of all the systems under investigation** 

*\_*



 **mole fraction**



The variation of deviation in ultrasonic speed with mole fraction of secondary alcohols as shown in Figure 1. The deviation in ultrasonic speed is negative in all the systems studied. The negative values of deviation in ultrasonic speed, generally, indicate dispersion forces due to weak interactions [44-46]. The addition of secondary alcohol to the mixture is disrupting the existing hydrogen bonding between ethanol and formamide. The addition of secondary alcohol molecules to the equimolar mixture of ethanol and formamide increases monomers in the structures and dispersion forces in the system. This might be the possible reason for the observed negative values of deviation in ultrasonic speed over the entire composition range.

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 **volume fraction**

**Figure 2. Variation of deviation in isentropic compressibility with volume fraction (●) isopropanol, volume**  $\lambda$  **(▲)isoamylalcohol with EMM**



 **mole fraction** 



Figure 2 represents the variation of deviation in isentropic compressibility with the mole fraction of the secondary alcohols in the mixture investigated over the entire composition range. In general, the negative values of deviation in isentropic compressibility indicate strong and specific interactions such as H-O, -dipole interactions etc., on the other hand, the positive values of deviation in isentropic compressibility indicate weak interactions and dispersion forces operating between the molecules of the components of the mixtures [47,48]. The greater excess isentropic compressibility values for (ethanol+formamide)+isoamylalcohol than the other systems are in accordance with the fact that the strength of hydrogen bonds formed by secondary alcohols decreases with the increase in the carbon chain length [49]. From Figure 2 it is observed that the deviation in isentropic compressibility is positive over the entire composition range in all the mixtures investigated. This supports the inferences made from the variation of deviation in all ultrasonic speeds.

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The variations of excess acoustic impedance and excess free length with mole fraction of secondary alcohols in the mixtures have been presented in the Figures 3 and 4 respectively. The observed negative values of excess acoustic impedance and positive excess free length values over the entire composition range of the liquid mixtures supporting the variation of deviation in ultrasonic velocity as well as deviation in isentropic compressibility [4,50].



**Figure 4. Variation of excess freelength with molefraction of**   $\bullet$  isopropanol,  $\bullet$  isobutanol,  $\bullet$  isoamylalcohol with EMM

The experimental values of ultrasonic speed in the liquid mixtures investigated and the speeds calculated using various theories [20-25] along with percentage of deviation between theoretical and experimental values have been presented in Tables 4 and 5 respectively. Various theoretical formulae used for evaluating sound velocity are hereafter given. Such an evaluation offers a simple method to investigate molecular interactions besides verifying the applicability of various theories to liquid mixtures. In the present study, theoretical speeds have been also evaluated by considering equimolar mixture of ethanol and formamide as one component and secondary alcohol as the other component in the binary mixture.

On assuming additivity of molar sound velocity, Nomoto [20] established the following equation for sound velocity:

$$
U_N = \left\{ \left( \sum x_i R_i \right) / \left( \sum x_i V_i \right) \right\}^3 \tag{11}
$$

where  $x_i$  is the mole fraction,  $R_i = u_i^{1/3} V_i$  the molar sound velocity,  $V_i$  the molar volume and  $u_i$  is the sound velocity of the  $i<sup>th</sup>$  component.

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Van Dael and Vangeel [21] obtained the relation

$$
\Sigma(x_i M_i / u_i^2) = \{1 / \Sigma x_i M_i\} \{1 / U_V\}^2
$$
\n(12)

where  $M_i$  is the molecular weight of i<sup>th</sup> component in the liquid mixture Impedance relation [22] is given by

$$
U_{imp} = \sum x_i Z_i / \sum x_i \rho_i \tag{13}
$$

Junjie's equation [23] is given by

$$
U_{\mathit{Jun}} = {\sum x_i V_i / (\sum x_i M_i)^{1/2}} {\sum (x_i V_i / \rho_i u_i^2)}^{-1/2}
$$
 (14)

where  $Z_i$  is the acoustic impedance and  $\rho_i$  is the density of the i<sup>th</sup> component of the mixture. Rao's (specific sound velocity) relation [24] is given by

$$
U_R = (\Sigma x_i r_i \rho)^3 \tag{15}
$$

where  $r_i = u_i^{1/3} / \rho_i$  is the Rao's specific sound velocity of the i<sup>th</sup> component of the mixture Jacobson's equation [25] is given by

$$
U_J = K \rho^{-1/2} L_f^{-1}
$$
 (16)

where  $L_f$  is the ideal free length of the mixtures.

The authors tried to fit experimental data to two types of polynomial equations described below, so that these empirical fittings described qualitatively and quantitatively use experimental speed data even in the specific interaction predominant region where non-ideal behavior of the system is observed.

The polynomial equations used are [51,52]

$$
f(x) = U(x) = \sum a_k x^k \quad \text{and} \tag{17}
$$

$$
g(x) = \ln U(x) = \Sigma (\ln U_k) x^k
$$
 (18)

where k in the summation assumes values from 1 to 5, x is the mole fraction of the secondary alcohol and  $a_k$  lnU<sub>k</sub> are constant co-efficients to be determined using numerical methods. The values of sound velocities and percentage deviation, (after determining the co-efficients in the above polynomial equations by applying least squares method) have been compiled in Table 4 and Table 5 respectively.



# **Table 4 Experimental and theoretical values of ultrasonic velocity from Eq.s [(11)-(18)]**

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The standard deviations corresponding to ultrasonic speed values calculated using the polynomial equations from that of experimental values of speeds have been evaluated using the relation:

$$
\sigma = {\sum (U_{E} - U_{P})^{2}} / n
$$
<sup>1/2</sup>

(19)

where  $U_E$  is the experimental value of ultrasonic speed.  $U_P$  the value of sound velocity calculated using the polynomial equations  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  and n is the number of mole fractions at which experimental and theoretical velocities have been determined.

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The percentage errors shown in Table 5 are extremely small. The standard deviations presented in Table 6 are very low obtained from the polynomial Eqs. (17) and {18). From the above tables, the agreement between theoretical and experimental values is better in the case of EMM+isopropanol system. On comparison, the Jacobson's velocity equation gives better estimate of experimental values in the present study.

# **CONCLUSION**

1. Dispersion forces are operative in the systems studied.

2. The strength of hydrogen bond follows the order EMM+IPA>EMM+IBA>EMM+IAA in the systems investigated.

3. The Jacobson's velocity equation gives good agreement between the experimental and theoretical ultrasonic speed values for all the systems employed.

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