# ELECTRICAL CONDUCTANCE OF SOME SODIUM AND POTASSIUM SALTS IN METHANOL AT 25 °C

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## Abstract:

The electrical conductivities of solutions of some sodium and potassium salts (KI, KSCN, KCH<sub>3</sub>COO, NaI, NaBr and NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO) in methanol have been measured in concentration range (0.001-1 molar) at 25 °C. Values of molar conductivity at infinite dilution were obtained by extrapolation using the conductance equation of Onsager. The conductance data have been analyzed by the Fuoss conductance-concentration equation in terms of the limiting molar conductance ( $\Lambda^{\circ}$ ), the association constant ( $K_A$ ), and the distance of closest approach of ions (R). The results have been interpreted in terms of ion-ion and ion-solvent interactions.

## 1. Introduction:

Electrical conductivity is one of the transport properties more frequently requested by chemist and engineers dealing with electrolyte solutions. Electrochemist has often used the very accurate conductivity data, which can be obtained from dilute systems to gain insight in to the structure of electrolyte solutions. It has been applied to monitor the purity of solvents to develop high-energy batteries [1].

Extensive studies on electrical conductivities in organic solvents have been performed in recent years to examine the nature and magnitude of ion-ion and ion-solvent interactions. Such solvent properties as the viscosity and the relative permittivity have also been taken into consideration, which help determine the extent of ion association and the solute-solvent interactions. The present study deals with methanol, a dipolar aprotic solvent. Methanol is known to be extensively self-associated through hydrogen bonding in the pure state [2].

In this work, we reported the molar conductivities of KI, KSCN, KCH<sub>3</sub>COO, NaBr, NaI and NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO in concentration range (0.01-1 molar) in methanol solutions at 25 °C. The molar conductances at infinite dilution were obtained by extrapolation using the conductance equation of Onsager [3]. The conductance data have been analyzed by the Fuoss conductance-concentration equation [4] in terms of the limiting molar conductance ( $\Lambda^{\circ}$ ), the association constant ( $K_A$ ), and distance of closet approach of ions (R).

## 2. Experimental Section

**2.1. Materials.** The salts and methanol obtained from Merck. They were all suprapure reagents (KI, GR, min 99.5; KSCN, GR, min 99%; KCH<sub>3</sub>COO, GR, min 99.5%; NaI, GR, min 99.8%,NaBr, GR, min 99.5%, NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO, GR, min 99.5%; methanol, GR, min 99.8%;). The salts were used without further purification and were dried in an electrical oven at about 120°C for 24 h prior to use. The purity as checked by gas chromatography was found to be better than 99.8% for methanol.

**2.2.** Apparatus and procedure. Conductance measurements were carried out on a Jenway model 4320 conduct meter using a glass cell (cell constant =  $0.96 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) with an accuracy of

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0.01%. The cell was calibrated by the method of Lind and his co-workers [5] using aqueous potassium chloride solutions. Measurements were made in an water bath maintained at  $(25.0\pm0.005)$  °C. Several independent solutions were prepared, and conductance measurements were performed with each of these to ensure the reproducibility of the results.

### 3. Results

The Onsager limiting equation describing the concentration dependence of the molar conductivity is given by

$$\Lambda = \Lambda^{\circ} - (A\Lambda^{\circ} + B)c^{1/2}$$
(1)

A and B are the usual Onsager coefficients given, in SI units, by  $\sum_{i=1}^{N/2} a_i$ 

$$A = \frac{N_A^{1/2} e^3}{12(1+2^{1/2})\pi(\varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r k_B T)^{3/2}}$$
(2)  
$$P \left[ 2e^6 N_A^3 \right]^{1/2}$$
(2)

$$B = \left[\frac{2e^{\circ}N_{A}^{\circ}}{9\pi^{2}\varepsilon_{0}\varepsilon_{r}k_{B}T\eta^{2}}\right]$$
(3)

 $N_A$  is the Avogadro constant, e is the proton charge,  $\epsilon_0$  is the permittivity of vacuum,  $\epsilon_r$  is the relative permittivity of the solvent,  $k_B$  is the Boltzmann's constant, T is the absolute temperature, and  $\eta$  is the solvent viscosity. The relative permittivity  $\epsilon_r$  and the viscosity for methanol at 25 °C were 32.63 and 0.542 mPa·s, respectively [1]. When replacing A and B, in equation 1, by their numerical values, the Onsager expression becomes

$$\Lambda/S \text{ m}^2 \text{ mol}^{-1} = \Lambda^{\circ} - (0.02705\Lambda^{\circ} + 4.855 \times 10^{-7})(\text{c/mol m}^{-3})^{1/2}$$
(4)

Molar conductance ( $\Lambda$ ) of methanol electrolyte solutions as a function of molar concentration (*c*) are given in Table 1 at 25 °C. The values of  $\Lambda^{\circ}$  obtained through this method for KI, KSCN, KCH<sub>3</sub>COO, NaI, NaBr and NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO in methanol solutions, are included in Table 1.

The conductance data have been analyzed by the Fuoss conductance-concentration equation [3] in terms of association constants (K<sub>A</sub>), limiting conductivities ( $\Lambda^{\circ}$ ), and distance of closet approach of ions (R).

In the Fuoss conductance-concentration equation [3] for a given set of conductivity values ( $c_j$ ,  $\Lambda_j$ ; j=1... n), three adjustable parameters, the limiting molar conductivity ( $\Lambda^\circ$ ), the association constant ( $K_A$ ), and the distance of closest approach of ions (R), are derived from the following set of equations:

| $\Lambda = p[\Lambda^{\circ}(1+R_x)+E_L$                    | (5)  |
|---|------|
| $p=1-\alpha(1-\gamma)$                                      | (6)  |
| $\gamma = 1 - K_A c \gamma^2 f^2$                           | (7)  |
| $-\ln f = \beta k/2(1+kR)$                                  | (8)  |
| $\beta = e^2 / Dk_B T$                                      | (9)  |
| $K_{\rm A} = K_{\rm R}/(1-\alpha) = K_{\rm R}(1+K_{\rm S})$ | (10) |

where  $R_x$  is the relaxation field effect,  $E_L$  is the electrophoretic countercurrent, k is the radius of the ion atmosphere, D is the relative permittivity of the solvent, e is the proton charge,  $k_B$  is the Boltzmann constant,  $\gamma$  is the fraction of solute present as unpaired ion, c is the molarity of the solution, f is the activity coefficient, T is the absolute temperature, and  $\beta$  is twice the Bjerrum distance. The computations were performed on a computer using the program suggested by Fuoss. The initial  $\Lambda^{\circ}$  values for the iteration procedure were obtained from Shedlovsky extrapolation of the data. Input for the program is the set (c<sub>j</sub>,  $\Lambda_j$ ; j = 1... n), n, D,  $\eta$ , T, initial value of  $\Lambda^{\circ}$ , and an instruction to cover a reselected range of R values.

| Salt                  | C /                    | $\Lambda/$                   | $\Lambda^{\circ}/$           |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                       | $(\text{mol dm}^{-3})$ | $(\mu S m^2 \cdot mol^{-1})$ | $(\mu S m^2 \cdot mol^{-1})$ |
| NaI                   | 0.0010                 | 108.432                      | 110.295                      |
|                       | 0.0100                 | 91.666                       |                              |
|                       | 0.0500                 | 73.572                       |                              |
|                       | 0.1000                 | 67.314                       |                              |
|                       | 0.2000                 | 58.857                       |                              |
|                       | 0.3000                 | 53.030                       |                              |
|                       | 0.4000                 | 50.140                       |                              |
|                       | 0.5000                 | 45.872                       |                              |
|                       | 0.7000                 | 40.857                       |                              |
|                       | 0.9000                 | 36.791                       |                              |
|                       | 1.0000                 | 35.992                       |                              |
| NaBr                  | 0.0010                 | 89.520                       | 90.679                       |
|                       | 0.0100                 | 79.090                       |                              |
|                       | 0.0500                 | 65.124                       |                              |
|                       | 0.1000                 | 57.138                       |                              |
|                       | 0.2000                 | 50.649                       |                              |
|                       | 0.3000                 | 45.382                       |                              |
|                       | 0.4000                 | 41.380                       |                              |
|                       | 0.5000<br>0.7000       | 38.384<br>34.275             |                              |
|                       | 0.7000                 | 34.275                       |                              |
| NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO | 0.0010                 | 81.456                       | 83.735                       |
| NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO | 0.0100                 | 60.946                       | 85.755                       |
|                       | 0.0500                 | 48.996                       |                              |
|                       | 0.1000                 | 37.074                       |                              |
|                       | 0.2000                 | 14.745                       |                              |
|                       | 0.4000                 | 9.004                        |                              |
|                       | 0.6000                 | 7.715                        |                              |
|                       | 0.8000                 | 11.126                       |                              |
| KI                    | 0.0012                 | 145.421                      | 156.810                      |
| 17.1                  | 0.0025                 | 144.71                       |                              |
|                       | 0.0050                 | 121.123                      |                              |
|                       | 0.0100                 | 109.234                      |                              |
|                       | 0.2500                 | 58.644                       |                              |
|                       | 0.5000                 | 49.52                        |                              |
|                       | 0.7500                 | 43.638                       |                              |
| KSCN                  | 0.0012                 | 122.458                      | 127.244                      |
|                       | 0.0025                 | 112.07                       |                              |
|                       | 0.0050                 | 102.499                      |                              |
|                       | 0.0100                 | 92.242                       |                              |
|                       | 0.0625                 | 76.368                       |                              |
|                       | 0.1250                 | 68.289                       |                              |
|                       | 0.2500                 | 57.646                       |                              |
|                       | 0.5000                 | 48.752                       |                              |
| VCU COO               | 0.7500 0.0012          | <u>43.638</u><br>91.738      | 99.438                       |
| KCH <sub>3</sub> COO  |                        |                              | 77.430                       |
|                       | 0.0025<br>0.0050       | 84.038<br>78.499             |                              |
|                       | 0.0050                 | 69.682                       |                              |
|                       | 0.0300                 | 58.971                       |                              |
|                       | 0.0500                 | 35.066                       |                              |
|                       | 0.2300                 | 27.978                       |                              |
|                       | 0.7500                 | 23.055                       |                              |
|                       | 1.0000                 | 19.672                       |                              |
|                       | 1.2500                 | 16.659                       |                              |
|                       | 1.500                  | 14.843                       |                              |
|                       | 1.7500                 | 13.271                       |                              |
|                       | 2.0000                 | 11.9                         |                              |

Table 1. Molar conductance,  $\Lambda$ , of NaI, NaBr and NaCH<sub>3</sub>COO in methanol as a function of molar concentration c at 25 °C.

In practice, calculations are performed by finding the values of  $\Lambda^\circ$  and  $\alpha$  which minimize the standard deviation

$$\sigma^{2} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} [\Lambda_{i}(calcd) - \Lambda_{i}(obsd)]^{2}}{n-2}$$

for a sequence of R values and then plotting  $\sigma$  against R; the best-fit R corresponds to the minimum of the  $\sigma$  versus R curve. First, approximate runs over a fairly wide range of *R* values are made to locate the minimum, and then, a fine scan around the minimum is made. Finally, with this minimizing value of *R*, the corresponding  $\Lambda^{\circ}$  and K<sub>A</sub> are calculated. The values of  $\Lambda^{\circ}$ , K<sub>A</sub>, and R obtained by this procedure for investigated systems are reported in Table 2.

| Table 2. Derived conductivity parameters | for NaI, NaBr and NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO in methanol at 25 |
|--|---|
|  | °C  |

|                       |                          | <u> </u>                            |       |                   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Salt                  | $\Lambda$ /              | $K_A$ /                             | R /   | 100σ /            |
|                       | $(S m^2 \cdot mol^{-1})$ | dm <sup>-3</sup> ·mol <sup>-1</sup> | Å     | $\Lambda^{\circ}$ |
| NaI                   | 107                      | 19.26                               | 10.68 | 0.009             |
| NaBr                  | 104                      | 67.95                               | 10.44 | 0.004             |
| NaCH <sub>3</sub> COO | 88                       | 23.00                               | 11.18 | 0.010             |
| KI                    | 115                      | 17.54                               | 8.23  | 0.006             |
| KSCN                  | 114                      | 16.29                               | 9.4   | 0.004             |
| KCH <sub>3</sub> COO  | 96                       | 18.63                               | 10.16 | 0.007             |

#### 4. Discussion

The conductance of solutions of KSCN in methanol have also been reported by Barthel et al.[6] The  $\Lambda^{\circ}$  and  $K_{A}$  of Barthel et al compared with this work. It has been observed that the values of Barthel et al is very near to this study.

The association constants ( $K_A$ ) indicate that KCH<sub>3</sub>COO and KSCN are slightly associated in methanol solutions. The ( $K_A$ ) values for KCH<sub>3</sub>COO and KSCN in methanol solutions decreases by increasing the size of anion.

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# NATRİUM VƏ KALİUMUN BƏZİ DUZLARININ METANOL MƏHLULLARININ 25 °C TEMPERATURDA ELEKTRİK KEÇİRİCİLİYİ

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Natrium və kalium duzlarının (0.001-1 molyar) konsentrasiyalı məhlullarının 25 <sup>o</sup>C temperaturda elektrik keçiriciliyi təyin edilmişdir. Onzaqerin keçiricilik üçün verilmiş tənliyindən istifadə edərək, məhlulun keçiriciliyi konsentrasiyasının sonsuz azalması halında ekstrapolyasiya üsulu ilə təyin edtlmişdir.

# ЭЛЕКТРОПРОВОДНОСТЬ НЕКОТОРЫХ СОЛЕЙ НАТРИЯ И КАЛИЯ В МЕТАНОЛЕ ПРИ 25 <sup>0</sup>С

## КАРАМАТ НАСИРЗАДЕ, РОГХАИ РАВАШ

Измерены электропроводности некоторых растворов солей натрия и калия концентрацией (0,001-1 моль) при 25 <sup>0</sup>C. Значения молярной проводимости при бесконечном разбавлении были получены путем экстраполяции с использованием уравнения проводимости Онзагера. Результаты работы интерпретированы в рамках ион-ионного и ион-растворитель взаимодействий.