# Electrical conductance of the LiNO<sub>3</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O-DMSO system

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The conductance x as a function of temperature and composition was investigated in the LiNO<sub>3</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO system. The mole fraction of dimethyl sulfoxide in the solvent  $y = n(DMSO)/(n(DMSO) + n(H_2O))$  was 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, and 1.0. The mole fraction of LiNO<sub>3</sub> x in the system was in the interval  $\langle 0.05; 0.30 \rangle$ . The dependence of conductance on temperature was approximated in the form of the simple Vogel—Tammann—Fulcher equation for the temperature interval  $\langle 10 \, {}^{\circ}C; \, 60 \, {}^{\circ}C \rangle$  (x, y = const).

В системе LiNO<sub>3</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—ДМСО изучалась электропроводность x в зависимости от температуры и состава. Мольная доля диметилсульфоксида (ДМСО) в растворителе  $y = n(ДМСО)/(n(ДМСО) + n(H_2O))$  составляла 0,2; 0,4; 0,6; 0,8 и 1,0. Мольная доля LiNO<sub>3</sub> x в системе лежит в интервале  $\langle 0,05; 0,30 \rangle$ . Температурная зависимость электропроводности в интервале температур  $\langle 10 \, ^\circ C; \, 60 \, ^\circ C \rangle$  (при x, y = const) была аппроксимирована в виде простого уравнения Фогеля—Тамманна—Фульхера.

This study is a continuation of the series of papers [1, 2] where the influence of the partial replacement of H<sub>2</sub>O by dimethyl sulfoxide in concentrated salt systems was examined. The aim of this work was to find out how the replacement of H<sub>2</sub>O by dimethyl sulfoxide manifested itself in magnitude of  $\varkappa$  and character of the relationships  $\varkappa = \varkappa(x)$  and  $\varkappa = \varkappa(y)$  within the investigated concentration and temperature interval.

## Experimental

### Chemicals

LiNO<sub>3</sub> and DMSO were products of Merck. They were anal. grade chemicals. LiNO<sub>3</sub> was purified by crystallization and drying. The control showed that only traces of NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> were present in the final product as well as in the original crude substance. The samples of the LiNO<sub>3</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO system with required x and y were prepared by dissolving anhydrous LiNO<sub>3</sub> in the DMSO—H<sub>2</sub>O mixture of corresponding composition.

#### Measurement of electrical conductance

The procedure was analogous to that one described in our preceding papers [1, 2]. The measurements were performed with a half-automatic bridge BM 484 (Tesla) in three conductance cells the constants of which were :  $183.32 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $167.32 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $160.77 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

The pairs of the values of conductance  $\varkappa$  and temperature were approximated in the form of the Vogel—Tammann—Fulcher equation

$$\kappa = A \exp\left(-\frac{B}{(T-T_0)}\right) \tag{1}$$

where A, B, and  $T_0$  are constants characterizing the system and T is thermodynamic temperature. The values measured in the investigated temperature interval  $\langle 10 \, {}^{\circ}C; 60 \, {}^{\circ}C \rangle$  are in satisfactory agreement with eqn (1).

## **Results and discussion**

The parameters of eqn (1) and mean relative errors  $\delta$  in % are given in Table 1.

The dependence of conductance  $\varkappa$  on salt concentration at 25 °C is represented in Fig. 1. It is obvious that the change in solvent composition has influence on  $x(=x_m)$  at which  $\varkappa$  reaches its maximum value  $(=\varkappa_{max})$  on the curve  $\varkappa = \varkappa(x)$  as well as on the value of  $\varkappa_{max}$ . This influence shows itself at other temperatures, too.

The character of the relationship between  $\varkappa$  and y at 25 °C is to be seen in Fig. 2. We can observe an initial rapid decrease in conductance, but if the content of DMSO in the system increases and exceeds approximately y = 0.4, it appears that further exchange of water for dimethyl sulfoxide only very little affects the value of  $\varkappa$ . That is consistent with the earlier results obtained for the systems: Ca(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO [1]; CaCl<sub>2</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO; NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO.

Coefficients for calculation of x according to eqn (1) ( $\delta$ is mean relative error)											
			y = 0.20								
x	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25	0.30					
$T_{\rm o}/{\rm K}$	148.6	148.8	149.5	153.4	159.2	170.8					
$\ln (A/(S \text{ cm}^{-1}))$	0.3591	0.6131	0.7549	0.8281	0.8781	0.7512					
B/K	597.4	608.3	641.1	657.7	622.7	613.4					
$\delta/\%$	0.081	0.092	0.086	0.086	0.089	0.292					
			y = 0.40								
x	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25						
$T_{\rm o}/{\rm K}$	145.9	149.9	155.0	162.8	168.1						
$\ln (A/(S \text{ cm}^{-1}))$	0.0261	0.4734	0.6586	0.6631	0.7160						
B/K	692.2	741.6	777.6	767.9	774.8						
δ/%	0.113	0.111	0.126	0.109	0.160						

#### Table 1

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Table 1 (Continued)												
y = 0.60												
x	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25							
$T_{\rm o}/{\rm K}$	147.2	154.5	159.2	167.3	170.4							
$\ln (A/(S \text{ cm}^{-1}))$	-0.7147	-0.2469	0.1296	0.2243	0.4590							
B/K	608.2	667.9	754.9	777.6	834.0							
δ/%	0.092	0.133	0.154	0.142	0.178							
y = 0.80												
x	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.20	0.25							
$T_{\rm o}/{\rm K}$	156.5	161.7	162.6	165.6	159.8							
$\ln (A/(S \text{ cm}^{-1}))$	-1.5103	-1.0648	-0.5831	-0.2656	0.4936							
B/K	455.4	522.2	652.9	751.6	960.4							
δ/%	0.069	0.085	0.105	0.069	0.211							
y = 1.0												
x	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.10						
$T_{\rm o}/{\rm K}$	160.1	165.9	164.9	164.7	165.5	168.9						
$\ln (A/(S \text{ cm}^{-1}))$	-2.5593	-2.3699	-2.1766	-2.043	-1.9438	-1.7032						
B/K	355.9	333.7	343.1	350.5	357.4	391.5						
δ/%	0.126	0.170	0.113	0.079	0.056	0.061						



Fig. 1. Conductance x (S cm<sup>-1</sup>) of the LiNO<sub>3</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO system as a function of mole fraction x of the salt at 25 °C for different values of y:  $0.20, \triangle 0.4, \oplus 0.6, \oplus 0.8, \oplus 1.0$ .  $x_{max}(y=0.0)=0.168$  S cm<sup>-1</sup> [6]. A part of the values of x for y = 1.0 is taken from paper [7].



Fig. 2. Conductance x (S cm<sup>-1</sup>) of the LiNO<sub>3</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO system as a function of mole fraction of DMSO in solvent y at 25 °C for different values of  $x: \bigcirc 0.05$ ,  $\triangle 0.10$ ,  $\bigcirc 0.15$ ,  $\bigcirc 0.20$ ,  $\bigcirc 0.25$ .

The salt concentration  $x_m$  at which  $\varkappa_{max}$  is reached generally depends on temperature as well as on the kind of solvent and dissolved salt. As demonstrated by Fedotov [3], the decrease in number of the molecules of solvent which solvate the ions of dissolved salt shifts the position of  $x_m$  towards higher values of x. An increase in number of charges of the ions in which the dissolved salt dissociates results in a shift in  $x_m$  towards lower values of x. The shift in  $x_m$  as a function of composition of the mixed solvent is interesting (Fig. 3). The position of  $x_m$  almost does not change up to y = 0.2 in a relatively wide temperature interval  $\langle 10 \, {}^{\circ}C \rangle$ ;  $60 \, {}^{\circ}C \rangle$ . Then it starts to shift towards lower values. The value of the change in position of  $x_m$  varies already little with increasing y from x > 0.4. The curve  $x_m = f(y)$  exhibits a point of inflection at y = 0.33, *i.e.* for the composition of solvent corresponding to  $2H_2O \cdot DMSO$ .



Fig. 3. Variation of x<sub>m</sub> with y for the LiNO<sub>3</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO system at different temperatures: ● 10 °C, △ 20 °C, and ○ 50 °C. The values of x<sub>m</sub> at y = 0.0 are taken from papers [6, 8]

The initial rapid decrease in electrical conductance due to increasing y (Fig. 2) points out a preferential solvation of the Li<sup>+</sup> ions by the molecules of DMSO. It follows from [4] that the hydration or solvation of the NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ion is negligible. Therefore we are going to pay main attention to Li<sup>+</sup>. Let us assume the affinity of Li<sup>+</sup> with respect to DMSO to be so great that DMSO expels H<sub>2</sub>O out of the proximity of Li<sup>+</sup> till H<sub>2</sub>O in the first coordination sphere of Li<sup>+</sup> is completely replaced by the molecules of DMSO and, moreover, that the amount of DMSO entering into interaction with H<sub>2</sub>O is negligible. If the concentration of salt was x = 0.05, the replacement of the H<sub>2</sub>O molecules by DMSO was finished at y > 0.21 ( $n(DMSO):n(Li^+)=4:1$ ) or at y > 0.31 ( $n(DMSO):n(Li^+)=6:1$ ). Up to these concentrations the system should contain Li(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, Li(DMSO)<sup>+</sup>, ion pairs consisting of these ions, and H<sub>2</sub>O functioning as a solvent. As obvious, the number of particles with larger ionic radius or electroneutral particles present in the system increases. On the other hand, the kind of solvent and overall salt concentration

does not change under these conditions. For this reason, a partial replacement of  $H_2O$  by DMSO ought to bring about a decrease in  $\varkappa$  of the system. Now let us consider what may take place in the system after all water in the first coordination sphere of Li<sup>+</sup> has been replaced by DMSO. Then DMSO could further interact with  $H_2O$ . Provided  $2H_2O \cdot DMSO$  [5] arises and practically all water is bound in this compound, the conductance of the system should continue to decrease as far as to

$$y_m = \frac{x(2m-1)+1}{3(1-x)}$$
(2)

where  $y_m$  is the value of y at which  $\varkappa = \varkappa(y)$  reaches the minimum and m is the number of DMSO molecules in the first coordination sphere of Li<sup>+</sup>. On the basis of the above assumptions, further addition of DMSO into the system  $(x, \theta = \text{const})$  should result in a "dilution" of larger particles of solvent, *i.e.*  $2H_2O \cdot DMSO$  by smaller particles, *i.e.* DMSO. If the resulting conductance depended solely on the size of solvent particles  $(x, \theta = \text{const})$ , further increase in y would result in a slight increase in conductance.

The character of the function  $\varkappa = \varkappa(y)$  would not change too much even if the affinities of Li<sup>+</sup> or H<sub>2</sub>O with respect to DMSO were smaller. However, the minimum of the curve  $\varkappa = \varkappa(y)$  would not occur at a higher value of y than the above-mentioned values.

The position of  $y_m$  of the hitherto investigated systems depends not only on their composition, but also on temperature. It rises with the temperature of  $y_m$ . For calculating m from eqn (2),  $y_m = y_m(\theta)$  would be bound to converge to some value  $y_{m0}$ . Thus the calculation of *m* necessitates to insert the value of  $y_{m0}$  for  $y_m$  in eqn (2). The LiNO<sub>3</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO system is not so stable for x = 0.05 and 0.1 at temperatures under 10 °C that we could measure its  $\varkappa$ . The relationship  $y_m = y_m(\theta)$ does not converge in the interval (10 °C; 60 °C). Provided we use the values of  $y_m$ found at the lowest temperature for calculating m, m < 7 or m < 4. The relationship  $y_m = y_m(\theta)$  converges in the investigated temperature interval only for x > x0.10. Thus we obtain m = 3.6 or 2.75 for x = 0.15 or 0.20, respectively. The values  $\leq 4$  are given in paper [9] for m in the LiNO<sub>3</sub>—DMSO system. Provided the assumptions used for deriving eqn (2) are valid, it should be m = const for each value of x. However, this is not the case. Though water is bound to  $Li^+$  less firmly than DMSO, it is the first to be displaced up to  $y \rightarrow 1.0$ . Thus we may explain a relatively small increase in  $\varkappa$  in the interval from y = 0.7 to y = 1.0. On the other hand, the observed increase in x at  $y \rightarrow 1.0$  for x < 0.2 suggests the existence of a compound consisting of H<sub>2</sub>O and DMSO in the system. If the compound consisting of H<sub>2</sub>O and DMSO did not arise in the system, the character of the relationship  $\varkappa = \varkappa(y)$  should be different (see later).

An increasing concentration of salt in the system finally produces the state where

the number of solvent molecules is just sufficient for filling the first coordination sphere of Li<sup>+</sup> or is eventually less. Then the change in  $\varkappa$  due to increasing y is dependent (in the first approximation) on two factors, *i.e.* rise in ionic radii of the charged particles in the system (Li(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sup>+</sup> is transformed into Li(DMSO)<sup>+</sup>) and change in environs where the charged particles occur. Then there is not reason for the conductance of the system to increase at  $y \rightarrow 1.0$ . We can really see in Fig. 2 that the conductance at x = 0.25 continues to decrease as far as to y = 1.0. Analogous phenomena were found out by earlier investigations of the Ca(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>—H<sub>2</sub>O—DMSO system [1].

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