



**National Conference on Recent Trends in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics (RTPCM-2020) Held on 4th February 2020Organised by: Department of Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics, SunderraoSolankeMahavidhyalaya, Majalgaon, MS**

# **Structural Study of a Binary Mixture of Multifunctional Group Molecules Using Time Domain Reflectometry**

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## *Abstract*

The dielectric relaxation study of diethanolamine with triethanolamine binary mixture have been determined over the frequency range of 10 MHz to 20 GHz, at 30<sup>o</sup>C using time domain reflectometry (TDR) method for 11 concentrations of the system. The present work reveals molecular interaction between same multi-functional groups [−OH and –NH<sup>2</sup> ] of the alkanolamines (diethanolamine and triethanolamine) using different models such as Debye model, Excess model and Kirkwood model. The dielectric parameters viz. static dielectric constant  $(q_0)$  and relaxation time  $(\tau)$  have been obtained with Debye equation characterized by a single relaxation time without relaxation time distribution by the least squares fit method.

Keywords: Structural Properties, Diethanolamine, and Triethanolamine.

1. Introduction

Dielectric study of binary polar liquids provides information regarding solute-solvent interaction. Considerable dielectric relaxation study has been done in aqueous solutions [1-3]. The diethanolamine (DEA) and triethanolamine (TEA) are solutions $[1-3]$ . The diethanolamine (DEA) multifunctional substances that are capable of hydrogen bonding by both donation and acceptance of hydrogen bonds. Their properties, in this respect, have not so far been determined, and it should be of interest to see how one functional group (the two hydroxy and primary secondary functional groups) affects to the behavior of the other (the two hydroxy and tertiary amine functional groups). Dithanolamine (DEA) and triethanolamine (TEA) both are highly polar liquids. Dielectric relaxation of liquid mixture gives information about molecular interactions. Objective of the present work is to report the dielectric relaxation study for DEA-TEA system at various concentrations at  $30^{\circ}$ C.

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**Article Info:**





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## 2. Experimental Details

DEA (AR grade, Merck Specialties, Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, India) and TEA (AR grade, Qualigens fine chemicals Pvt. Ltd., M umbai, India) were used without further purification. The solutions were prepared at 11 different volume percentage of DEA from 0 % to 100 %. Using these volume percent the mole fraction is calculated as

$$
x = (v_1 \rho_1/m_1) / [(v_1 \rho_1/m_1) + (v_2 \rho_2/m_2)] \tag{1}
$$

where  $m_i$ ,  $v_i$ , and  $\rho_i$  represent the molecular weight, volume percent, and density of the i<sup>th</sup>  $(i=1, 2)$  liquids, respectively.

The complex permittivity spectra were studied using the time domain reflectometry [4] method. The Hewlett Packard HP 54750 sampling oscilloscope with HP 54754A TDR plug in module has been used.

The relaxation behavior of DEA-TEA system agrees with the Debye model. Therefore the experimental values of  $\epsilon^*(\omega)$  were fitted with the Debye equation [5].

A nonlinear Least-Squares fit method [6] was used to determine the values of dielectric parameters**.**

## 3. Results and discussions

## 3.1 Dielectric Properties

The static dielectric constant  $(\epsilon_0)$ , dielectric constant at high frequency  $(\epsilon_{\infty})$  and relaxation time  $(\tau)$  obtained by fitting experimental data with the Debye equation are listed in table (1) for DEA-TEA system.

The values of static dielectric constant randomly increase with increasing the temperatures up to the melting points of DEA and TEA in the system, and then it becomes smoothly decreases with increase in temperatures. This behavior of static dielectric constants of DEA and TEA indicates that the change of phase from semi solid state to liquid state and increase in static dielectric constant may be correlated to disturbance in antiparallel arrangement of dipoles which leads to increase effective dipole moment. The melting point of DEA is  $28^{\circ}$ C and TEA is  $20.5^{\circ}$ C. The values of relaxation





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time decreases with increase of temperature, but these values suddenly decreases at the melting points.



## **Table 1 - Temperature dependent dielectric relaxation parameters for DEA-TEA mixture**





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## 3.2 Excess Dielectric Properties

The information related to liquids 1 and 2 interaction may be obtained by excess properties [7, 8] related to the permittivity and relaxation times in the mixture.

The excess permittivity may provide qualitative information about multimers formation in the mixture as follows:

 $\varepsilon^E = 0$  indicates that the unlike molecules of the mixture constituents do not interact at all.

 $\epsilon^E$  < 0 indicates that the unlike molecules of the mixture constituents interacts in such a way that the total effective dipoles get reduced. These liquids may form multimers leading to the less effective dipoles.





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 $\epsilon^E > 0$  indicates that the unlike molecules of the mixture constituents interacts in such a way that the total effective dipole moment increases. There is a tendency to form multimers, dipole aligned in a parallel direction.



Fig. 1. (a) Excess permittivity ( $\epsilon^E$ ), (b) Excess inverse relaxation time (1/ $\tau$ )<sup>E</sup> versus mole fraction  $(x_2)$  of TEA in DEA at different temperatures.

The excess permittivity values are positive in the DEA rich region and negative in the TEA rich region, except 28°C. Excess inverse relaxation time value has reverse trend for all concentrations and at all temperatures. The positive peak values are different at all temperatures of excess permittivity in DEA rich region. The negative peak in the ETA rich region is at 0.8667 mole fraction of DEA in ETA in the system. The negative peak of excess inverse relaxation times is noted at 0.1530 and the positive peak at 0.8667 mole fraction of DEA in the ETA of the system. The excess permittivity values are positive up to the 80 % of TEA in DEA and then it becomes negative for 15, 25 and  $30^{\circ}$ C in the system. For  $20^{\circ}$ C, these values are positive up to the 90 % of TEA in DEA and then it becomes negative. At 28°C, all values are positive. The excess permittivity plots for the system studied show that, with addition of TEA, the values of excess permittivity become positive indicating formation of monomers in the mixture and it is negative in TEA rich region nearly 90 % TEA in the system.

Similarly, the excess inverse relaxation time  $(1/\tau)^E$  which represents the average broadening of dielectric spectra. The inverse relaxation time analogy is taken from spectral line broadening (Which is the inverse of the relaxation time) in the resonant spectroscopy [9, 10].

The information regarding the dynamic of liquid 1 and 2 interactions from the excess inverse relaxation time is as follows:

 $(1/\tau)^{E} = 0$ : There is no change in the dynamics of liquid 1 and 2 interaction.





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 $(1/\tau)^{E}$ <0: The liquid 1 and 2 interaction produces a field such that the effective dipoles rotate slowly.

 $(1/\tau)^{E} > 0$ : The liquid 1 and 2 interaction produces a field such that the effective dipoles rotate quickly i.e. the field will co-operate in rotation of dipoles.

The excess inverse relaxation time values are negative up to the 50 % TEA and then it becomes positive in the system. The negative value of excess inverse relaxation time indicates slower rotation of the dipoles of the system and positive values indicates faster rotation of the dipoles of the system.

## 3.3 Kirkwood Properties

The Kirkwood correlation factor g [11] is also a parameter for getting information regarding the orientation of electric dipoles in polar liquids. The dipole moments for DEA and TEA in the gas phase are taken as 2.80D and 3.57D [12] respectively.

The structural information about the liquid by dielectric parameters can be obtained using Kirkwood correlation factor. The values of  $g<sup>eff</sup>$  and  $g<sub>f</sub>$ are tabulated in table (2). The value of geff is linearly increases up to 50 % TEA in DEA, and then it becomes decreases at 15oC. After all the temperatures (after the melting points) these values are linearly decreases with increase in the % volume of TEA in the system. After  $28^{\circ}$ C, these values are linearly increases with temperatures in DEA and TEA rich region (i.e. both are in liquid state). These val-ues are greater than one indicating parallel orientation of the electric dipole and less than one indicating anti-parallel orien-tation of the electric dipole in the system.  $gf < 1$  for all con-centrations at 20 to  $30^{\circ}$ C. The gf values are close to unity for DEA-TEA system studied, indicating weaker intermolecular interactions between components of the system. The maxi-mum deviation from unity is observed at  $15^{\circ}$ C, around 20 % of TEA in DEA mixture.

**Table 2 - Temperature dependent Kirkwood parameters for DEA-TEA mixture.**







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## 3.4 Conclusion

The Dielectric relaxation properties have been reported for same multifunctional (-OH and –NH2) compounds binary mixture for various temperatures and concentrations.

- The values of static dielectric constant increase upto their melting points and then it becomes decreases with increasing the temperature in the system.
- The relaxation time of these molecules sudnly drops down at the melting poins.
- The excess permittivity may provide qualitative infor-mation about multimers formation in the mixture.
- The information regarding the dynamic of liquid 1 and 2 interactions from the excess inverse relaxation time.
- The Kirkwood correlation factor is also a parameter for getting information regarding the orientation of electric dipoles in polar liquids.
- In semi-solid state, the strong inter-molecular intraction is observed as compaired to liquid state of the system contains same functional groups.

## Acknowledgements

Authors are thankful to Rtd. Prof. S.C. Mehrotra, Department of Computer Science & IT, Dr. B. A. M. University, Aurangabad for his valuable guidance.

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