

New Short Aliphatic Chain Ionic Liquids: Synthesis, Physical Properties, and Catalytic Activity in Aldol Condensations

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This paper reports on the synthesis of new short aliphatic chain ionic liquids and the study of the temperature dependence of density, ultrasonic velocities, and ionic conductivity in the range of 278.15–338.15 K. Fourier transform infrared spectra establishes their simple ionic salt structure. Because of their polarity, the ionic liquids are able to dissolve polar solvents and inorganic salts, all of them showing high tolerance in hydroxylic media. The observed temperature trend of the studied properties points out the special packing of these ionic liquids, as well as the strong influence of the steric hindrance among linear aliphatic residues enclosed in anions and cations. One of them showed a very high melting temperature. A collection of slightly basic ionic liquids were used to test their catalytic activity in several aldol condensation reactions of some carbonyl compounds. The best conversions and selectivities were obtained using single ionic liquids, with no synergetic effects being observed when different concentrations of mixed ionic liquids were used as catalysts. In any case, the ionic liquid can also easily be recycled from reaction media, suggesting a promising method of process design for this kind of reaction.

Introduction

Ionic liquids are versatile new media for many chemical synthesis, enzymatic catalysis, and green engineering processes.¹ They can be of hydrophobic or hydrophilic nature depending on the structures of ions. In fact, the ionic liquids consist solely of a collection of positive and negative ions. However, unlike conventional molten salts, these materials often melt at low temperatures. This is achieved because of the incorporation of bulky functional structures such as anions and/or cations and the fact that the structure prevents the ions from packing easily into an ordered electrostatic net structure and then a solid phase at ambient conditions. Ionic liquids can be used as solvents because of their low melting point, and, because of their ionic structure, when ionic liquids are used as solvents, better selectivity is obtained when compared with that of other conventional organic solvents. In the past few years, room-temperature ionic liquids have been also used as clean solvents and catalysts for green chemistry, as electrolytes for batteries, in photochemistry, and in electrosynthesis. Their potential interest rises from the necessities of cleaner processes and stronger environmental policies that will be applied. They have no significant vapor pressure and thus create no volatile organic pollution during manipulation of industrial operation. They also allow an easy separation of organic molecules by direct distillation without loss of the ionic liquid. Their liquid range can be as large as 300 °C, allowing for large reaction kinetic control, which, coupled with their good solvent properties, allows minimization of reactor design. Salts based upon poor nucleophilic anions such as $[\text{BF}_4]^-$, $[\text{PF}_6]^-$, $[\text{CF}_3\text{CO}_2]^-$, $[\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3]^-$, and so forth, are insensitive to water and air and possess remarkably high thermal stability. Until now, many of these materials have been based on the imidazolium cation and,

in a lesser proportion, alkyl pyridiniums and trialkylamines. By changing the anion or the alkyl chain of the cation, a wide variation in properties such as hydrophobicity, viscosity, density and solvation power can be obtained and then a tailored-made ionic liquid may be designed for specific industrial applications. Although many studies have been performed concerning their thermodynamics, little is yet known about the possibilities of new structures (so-called ionic liquid chemical families), as well as mixing ionic liquids thermodynamics. In what is referred to as reaction media, in the past few years, ionic liquids have been the subject of considerable interest in the context of green synthesis because of their wide acceptability as alternative reaction media^{2,3} and have been found to act as selective catalysts for different reactions.

With this fact in mind, and as a continuation of a wider project to develop and study the applications of new ionic liquids,^{4,5} the first part of the present work deals with the synthesis, Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) identification, and thermodynamic characterization of different components of a new family of ionic liquids based on short organic chain acid and base (substituted amine) neutralization. This kind of compounds show interesting properties for the industrial use of ionic liquids: low cost of preparation and simple synthesis and purification methods. Additionally, in order to obtain information related to internal organization (and data of industrial interest), density, ultrasonic velocity, and ionic conductivity were measured in a wide range of temperature (278.15–338.15 K). In this paper, we have studied the synthesis and characterization of 2-hydroxy ethylammonium formate (2-HEAF), 2-hydroxy diethylammonium formate (2-HDEAF), and 2-hydroxy triethylammonium formate (2-HTEAF). As far as we know, the literature does not contain publications related to these new ionic liquids except for 2-HEAF, which was synthesized by Bicak,⁶ and, moreover, no information about their thermodynamic characterization, phase behavior, mixing trend, or temperature dependence has been

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available until now. The observed inverse dependence on temperature of the density and ultrasonic velocity for these ionic liquids points out the special trend of packing and the strong dependence on ion kinetics. The rising values of ionic conductivity versus temperature may also be ascribed to faster mobility of the ions. The observed values are surprisingly lower than expected because of the strong influence of the steric hindrance of aliphatic residues into ions during the mixing process. For 2-HDEAF, only the range 323.15–338.15 K was studied because of its high melting point.

On the other hand, it is a continuous challenge to find new catalysts able to perform with good activities and selectivity condensation reactions for the synthesis of pharmaceutical and fine chemicals.⁷ In the commercial production processes of the selected aldol condensations, NaOH and KOH are used as homogeneous catalysts;⁸ however, this kind of catalyst has numerous disadvantages such as loss of catalyst due to the separation difficulties, corrosion problems in the equipment, and generation of large amounts of residues. Recently, because of the industrial importance of the process, there has been an interest in substituting conventional bases in the homogeneous phase by heterogeneous catalysts such as alkali oxides, basic alumina, and calcined⁹ hydrotalcites. Ionic liquids have attracted growing interest in catalysis because of their physical and chemical properties. Recently, a new basic catalyst based on an ionic liquid (choline hydroxide) was described.⁷ In this study, we describe the catalytic activity of a new family of ionic liquids, which is characterized by a short aliphatic chain structure for the anion and different substitution for the cation. The studied ionic liquids in terms of catalytic effect were 2-HEAF, 2-HDEAF, 2-HTEAF, 2-hydroxy ethylammonium acetate (2-HEAA), 2-hydroxy diethylammonium acetate (2-HDEAA), 2-hydroxy triethylammonium acetate (2-HTEAA), 2-hydroxy ethylammonium propionate (2-HEAP), 2-hydroxy diethylammonium propionate (2-HDEAP), and 2-hydroxy triethylammonium propionate (2-HTEAP). Because of the high melting point of 2-HTEAF, it was not possible to develop an experimental study. Those ionic liquids not included in this paper have been studied earlier.⁵

In order to determine the catalytic activity of the ionic liquids, several condensation reactions of some carbonyl compounds were carried out. The products obtained from these reactions have been applied in the pharmacological, flavor, and fragrance industries.

Experimental Section

Materials and Equipment. During the course of the experiments, the purity of the ionic liquids was monitored by density and ultrasonic velocity measurements. The pure ionic liquids were stored in sunlight-protected form, in constant humidity, and at low temperature. The manipulation and purification techniques usually used in our experimental works were applied.¹⁰ The molar mass and experimental results at standard conditions for the ionic liquids are shown in Table 1.

The densities and ultrasonic velocities of pure components were measured with an Anton Paar DSA-5000 vibrational tube densimeter and sound analyzer, with a resolution of 10^{-5} g cm⁻³ and 1 m s⁻¹. Apparatus calibration was performed periodically in accordance with vendor instructions using a double reference (Millipore quality water and ambient air at each temperature). The accuracy in the measurement of temperature was better than $\pm 10^{-2}$ K by means of a temperature control device that applied the Peltier principle to maintain isothermal conditions during the measurements.

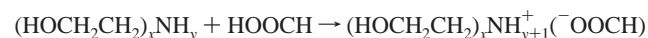
TABLE 1: Experimental Data for Pure Ionic Liquids at 298.15 K and Other Relevant Information^a

	molecular weight (g mol ⁻¹)	exp. density (g cm ⁻³)	exp. ultrasonic velocity (m s ⁻¹)	exp. conductivity (μ S cm ⁻¹)
2-HEAF	107.11	1.176489	1709.00	4197.6
2-HDEAF	157.17	1.194041	1798.54	973.17
2-HTEAF ^b	195.22	1.221864	1884.60	1843.38

^a Other experimental data for comparison are not available from the literature. ^b 323.15 K.

The ion conductivity was measured by a Jenway model 4150 conductivity/TDS meter with a resolution of 0.01 μ S to 1 mS and an accuracy of $\pm 0.5\%$ within the temperature range. The accuracy of the temperature of the measurement cell was ± 0.5 °C.

Preparation of the Ionic Liquids. The amine compounds (monoethanolamine, diethanolamine, or triethanolamine, Merck Synthesis, better than 99%) were placed in a three-necked flask made entirely of glass equipped with a reflux condenser, a PT-100 temperature sensor for controlling temperature, and a dropping funnel. The flask was mounted in a thermal bath. A slight heating is necessary for increasing the miscibility between the reactants, and then the mixture is allowed to react. The formic acid (Merck Synthesis, better than 99%) was added dropwise to the flask under stirring with a magnetic bar. Stirring was continued for 24 h at the laboratory temperature, in order to obtain a final viscous liquid. Lower viscosity was observed in the final product by decreasing the molecular weight of the reactants. No solid crystals or precipitation was noticed when the liquid sample was purified or stored at freezing temperature for a few months after synthesis. The reaction is a simple acid–base neutralization creating an acetate or propionate salt of mono-, di- or triethanolamine, that, in a general form, should be expressed as follows:



where x is the number of ethanol substitutions into the amine compound, and y is the number of protons ($x + y = 3$). For example, when $x = 1$ and $y = 2$, this equation shows the chemical reaction for the reactants monoethanolamine + formic acid, with 2-HEAF as the neutralization product.

Because these chemical reactions are highly exothermic, an adequate control of temperature is essential throughout the chemical reaction; otherwise heat evolution may produce the dehydration of the salt to the corresponding amide, as in the case for nylon salts (salts of diamines with dicarboxy acids). As observed in our laboratory during ionic liquid synthesis, dehydration begins around 423.15 K for the lightest ionic liquids. The color varied in each case from transparent to dark yellow when the reaction process and purification (strong agitation and slight heating for the vaporization of residual nonreacted acid for at least for 24 h) were completed. 2-HTEAF shows a solid phase at room temperature, having a melting point of 321.15 K; for this reason, thermodynamical studies were carried out at 323.15–338.15 K for this ionic liquid.

Spectroscopy Test. An FT-IR spectrum was taken by a Jasco FT/IR 680 plus model IR spectrometer, using a NaCl disk. The broad band in the 3500–2400 cm⁻¹ range exhibits a characteristic ammonium structure for all the neutralization products. The OH stretching vibration is embedded in this band. The broad band centered at 1600 cm⁻¹ is a combined band of the carbonyl stretching and N–H plane bending vibrations. For example, Figure 1 shows the FT-IR spectrum corresponding to the

TABLE 2: Densities (ρ), Ultrasonic Velocity (u), Isentropic Compressibilities (κ_S), and Isobaric Expansibilities (α) at 278.15–338.15 K

T (K)	ρ (g cm ⁻³)	u (m s ⁻¹)	κ_S (T Pa ⁻¹)	$10^3 \cdot \alpha$ (K ⁻¹)	T (K)	ρ (g cm ⁻³)	u (m s ⁻¹)	κ_S (T Pa ⁻¹)	$10^3 \cdot \alpha$ (K ⁻¹)
2-Hydroxy Ethylammonium Formate (2-HEAF)									
338.15	1.148091	1613.59	334.53	0.6188	321.15	1.160154	1653.63	315.22	0.6124
337.90	1.148254	1614.14	334.26	0.6187	320.91	1.160330	1654.22	314.94	0.6124
337.66	1.148433	1614.71	333.97	0.6186	320.66	1.160509	1654.81	314.67	0.6123
337.40	1.148608	1615.30	333.67	0.6185	320.40	1.160688	1655.41	314.39	0.6122
337.15	1.148785	1615.87	333.39	0.6184	320.15	1.160863	1656.01	314.12	0.6121
336.91	1.148963	1616.46	333.09	0.6183	319.90	1.161042	1656.60	313.85	0.6120
336.66	1.149139	1617.04	332.80	0.6182	319.65	1.161218	1657.19	313.58	0.6119
336.41	1.149316	1617.63	332.51	0.6182	319.40	1.161398	1657.79	313.30	0.6118
336.16	1.149494	1618.22	332.21	0.6181	319.15	1.161574	1658.39	313.03	0.6117
335.90	1.149669	1618.81	331.92	0.6180	318.91	1.161750	1658.98	312.76	0.6116
335.65	1.149848	1619.38	331.64	0.6179	318.65	1.161930	1659.58	312.48	0.6115
335.40	1.150027	1619.96	331.35	0.6178	318.40	1.162110	1660.18	312.21	0.6114
335.16	1.150205	1620.55	331.05	0.6177	318.16	1.162286	1660.78	311.93	0.6113
334.90	1.150384	1621.13	330.77	0.6176	317.90	1.162462	1661.37	311.67	0.6112
334.66	1.150560	1621.71	330.48	0.6175	317.65	1.162643	1661.97	311.39	0.6111
334.40	1.150740	1622.30	330.19	0.6174	317.41	1.162820	1662.56	311.12	0.6110
334.16	1.150916	1622.89	329.90	0.6173	317.15	1.162998	1663.16	310.85	0.6109
333.90	1.151094	1623.48	329.61	0.6173	316.91	1.163174	1663.75	310.58	0.6108
333.65	1.151271	1624.06	329.32	0.6172	316.65	1.163352	1664.35	310.31	0.6107
333.41	1.151449	1624.64	329.03	0.6171	316.41	1.163529	1664.95	310.04	0.6106
333.16	1.151625	1625.23	328.75	0.6170	316.15	1.163706	1665.55	309.77	0.6105
332.90	1.151804	1625.82	328.46	0.6169	315.90	1.163885	1666.15	309.50	0.6104
332.65	1.151981	1626.41	328.17	0.6168	315.65	1.164062	1666.74	309.23	0.6103
332.41	1.152159	1626.99	327.88	0.6167	315.40	1.164240	1667.34	308.96	0.6102
332.15	1.152338	1627.58	327.59	0.6166	315.15	1.164417	1667.94	308.70	0.6101
331.90	1.152514	1628.16	327.31	0.6165	314.90	1.164597	1668.54	308.43	0.6100
331.65	1.152694	1628.75	327.02	0.6164	314.65	1.164774	1669.14	308.16	0.6099
331.40	1.152871	1629.34	326.74	0.6163	314.40	1.164951	1669.73	307.89	0.6098
331.16	1.153048	1629.93	326.45	0.6162	314.15	1.165128	1670.33	307.63	0.6097
330.90	1.153225	1630.52	326.16	0.6162	313.90	1.165305	1670.94	307.35	0.6096
330.65	1.153405	1631.11	325.88	0.6161	313.65	1.165485	1671.54	307.09	0.6095
330.41	1.153582	1631.69	325.59	0.6160	313.40	1.165661	1672.13	306.82	0.6094
330.15	1.153761	1632.29	325.30	0.6159	313.15	1.165839	1672.72	306.56	0.6093
329.90	1.153939	1632.88	325.02	0.6158	312.90	1.166018	1673.34	306.29	0.6092
329.65	1.154114	1633.47	324.73	0.6157	312.65	1.166194	1673.94	306.02	0.6091
329.41	1.154294	1634.06	324.45	0.6156	312.40	1.166372	1674.54	305.75	0.6090
329.15	1.154469	1634.65	324.17	0.6155	312.15	1.166549	1675.14	305.49	0.6089
328.91	1.154648	1635.24	323.88	0.6154	311.90	1.166726	1675.74	305.22	0.6088
328.65	1.154826	1635.84	323.59	0.6153	311.65	1.166903	1676.34	304.96	0.6086
328.40	1.155003	1636.43	323.31	0.6152	311.40	1.167085	1676.95	304.69	0.6085
328.15	1.155181	1637.02	323.03	0.6151	311.15	1.167260	1677.55	304.43	0.6084
327.90	1.155360	1637.61	322.75	0.6150	310.90	1.167437	1678.14	304.17	0.6083
327.66	1.155535	1638.20	322.47	0.6149	310.65	1.167617	1678.74	303.90	0.6082
327.40	1.155713	1638.79	322.18	0.6148	310.40	1.167794	1679.35	303.63	0.6081
327.16	1.155890	1639.38	321.90	0.6148	310.15	1.167970	1679.94	303.38	0.6080
326.91	1.156069	1639.97	321.62	0.6147	309.90	1.168149	1680.55	303.11	0.6079
326.66	1.156247	1640.57	321.34	0.6146	309.65	1.168325	1681.15	302.85	0.6078
326.41	1.156426	1641.16	321.06	0.6145	309.40	1.168502	1681.75	302.59	0.6077
326.16	1.156603	1641.75	320.78	0.6144	309.15	1.168680	1682.35	302.32	0.6076
325.91	1.156780	1642.34	320.50	0.6143	308.90	1.168859	1682.96	302.06	0.6075
325.65	1.156957	1642.94	320.21	0.6142	308.65	1.169036	1683.55	301.80	0.6074
325.40	1.157136	1643.53	319.93	0.6141	308.40	1.169213	1684.16	301.54	0.6073
325.16	1.157314	1644.12	319.66	0.6140	308.15	1.169391	1684.76	301.28	0.6072
324.90	1.157490	1644.72	319.37	0.6139	307.90	1.169567	1685.36	301.02	0.6071
324.65	1.157669	1645.32	319.09	0.6138	307.65	1.169742	1685.96	300.76	0.6070
324.40	1.157846	1645.91	318.81	0.6137	307.40	1.169922	1686.56	300.50	0.6069
324.15	1.158023	1646.50	318.54	0.6136	307.15	1.170102	1687.17	300.23	0.6068
323.90	1.158201	1647.09	318.26	0.6135	306.90	1.170276	1687.77	299.98	0.6067
323.65	1.158378	1647.68	317.98	0.6134	306.65	1.170454	1688.37	299.72	0.6066
323.40	1.158556	1648.28	317.70	0.6133	306.40	1.170632	1688.98	299.45	0.6065
323.15	1.158734	1648.90	317.42	0.6132	306.15	1.170810	1689.58	299.20	0.6064
322.90	1.158910	1649.47	317.15	0.6131	305.90	1.170986	1690.18	298.94	0.6063
322.66	1.159088	1650.06	316.87	0.6130	305.65	1.171165	1690.79	298.68	0.6062
322.41	1.159265	1650.66	316.59	0.6129	305.40	1.171343	1691.39	298.42	0.6060
322.16	1.159442	1651.25	316.32	0.6128	305.15	1.171518	1691.99	298.16	0.6059
321.91	1.159620	1651.85	316.04	0.6127	304.90	1.171699	1692.60	297.90	0.6058
321.65	1.159797	1652.43	315.77	0.6126	304.65	1.171876	1693.20	297.65	0.6057
321.40	1.159976	1653.03	315.49	0.6125	304.40	1.172053	1693.80	297.39	0.6056

TABLE 2 (Continued)

T (K)	ρ (g cm ⁻³)	u (m s ⁻¹)	κ_S (T Pa ⁻¹)	$10^3 \cdot \alpha$ (K ⁻¹)	T (K)	ρ (g cm ⁻³)	u (m s ⁻¹)	κ_S (T Pa ⁻¹)	$10^3 \cdot \alpha$ (K ⁻¹)
2-Hydroxy Ethylammonium Formate (2-HEAF)									
304.15	1.172230	1694.41	297.13	0.6055	291.15	1.181453	1726.18	284.06	0.5998
303.90	1.172408	1695.01	296.88	0.6054	290.90	1.181631	1726.80	283.81	0.5997
303.65	1.172587	1695.62	296.62	0.6053	290.65	1.181809	1727.43	283.56	0.5996
303.40	1.172764	1696.23	296.36	0.6052	290.40	1.181990	1728.05	283.32	0.5995
303.15	1.172937	1696.81	296.11	0.6051	290.15	1.182162	1728.67	283.07	0.5994
302.90	1.173120	1697.43	295.85	0.6050	289.90	1.182339	1729.29	282.83	0.5993
302.65	1.173295	1698.04	295.59	0.6049	289.65	1.182515	1729.91	282.58	0.5991
302.40	1.173473	1698.64	295.34	0.6048	289.39	1.182700	1730.84	282.24	0.5990
302.15	1.173648	1699.25	295.09	0.6047	289.15	1.182877	1731.59	281.95	0.5989
301.90	1.173826	1699.86	294.83	0.6046	288.89	1.183052	1732.13	281.73	0.5988
301.65	1.174003	1700.47	294.57	0.6045	288.64	1.183228	1732.78	281.48	0.5987
301.40	1.174180	1701.07	294.32	0.6043	288.39	1.183407	1733.34	281.25	0.5986
301.15	1.174361	1701.68	294.06	0.6042	288.15	1.183574	1733.91	281.03	0.5985
300.90	1.174535	1702.29	293.81	0.6041	287.90	1.183753	1734.51	280.79	0.5983
300.65	1.174714	1702.90	293.56	0.6040	287.64	1.183941	1735.04	280.58	0.5982
300.40	1.174891	1703.50	293.30	0.6039	287.40	1.184107	1735.67	280.33	0.5981
300.15	1.175070	1704.12	293.05	0.6038	287.15	1.184289	1736.27	280.10	0.5980
299.90	1.175247	1704.73	292.79	0.6037	286.90	1.184462	1736.82	279.88	0.5979
299.65	1.175425	1705.33	292.54	0.6036	286.65	1.184637	1737.45	279.63	0.5978
299.40	1.175602	1705.95	292.29	0.6035	286.40	1.184815	1738.07	279.39	0.5977
299.15	1.175780	1706.55	292.04	0.6034	286.15	1.184986	1738.68	279.16	0.5975
298.90	1.175955	1707.16	291.78	0.6033	285.90	1.185168	1739.24	278.93	0.5974
298.65	1.176133	1707.77	291.53	0.6032	285.65	1.185344	1739.86	278.69	0.5973
298.40	1.176311	1708.39	291.28	0.6030	285.40	1.185519	1740.47	278.46	0.5972
298.15	1.176489	1709.00	291.02	0.6029	285.15	1.185700	1741.08	278.22	0.5971
297.90	1.176666	1709.61	290.77	0.6028	284.90	1.185886	1741.82	277.94	0.5970
297.65	1.176842	1710.22	290.52	0.6027	284.64	1.186059	1742.42	277.71	0.5968
297.40	1.177019	1710.84	290.27	0.6026	284.40	1.186228	1742.99	277.49	0.5967
297.15	1.177201	1711.45	290.02	0.6025	284.15	1.186403	1743.61	277.25	0.5966
296.90	1.177373	1712.06	289.77	0.6024	283.90	1.186582	1744.21	277.02	0.5965
296.65	1.177553	1712.67	289.52	0.6023	283.65	1.186756	1744.84	276.78	0.5964
296.40	1.177729	1713.28	289.27	0.6022	283.40	1.186933	1745.46	276.54	0.5963
296.15	1.177905	1713.90	289.01	0.6021	283.15	1.187110	1746.08	276.30	0.5961
295.90	1.178085	1714.52	288.76	0.6019	282.90	1.187288	1746.70	276.06	0.5960
295.65	1.178265	1715.13	288.51	0.6018	282.65	1.187467	1747.32	275.82	0.5959
295.40	1.178438	1715.75	288.26	0.6017	282.40	1.187641	1747.95	275.59	0.5958
295.15	1.178617	1716.36	288.01	0.6016	282.15	1.187817	1748.57	275.35	0.5957
294.90	1.178798	1716.97	287.76	0.6015	281.90	1.187991	1749.20	275.11	0.5956
294.65	1.178971	1717.58	287.52	0.6014	281.65	1.188172	1749.83	274.87	0.5954
294.40	1.179148	1718.20	287.27	0.6013	281.40	1.188344	1750.39	274.66	0.5953
294.15	1.179325	1718.81	287.02	0.6012	280.90	1.188699	1751.60	274.19	0.5951
293.90	1.179505	1719.42	286.77	0.6011	280.65	1.188874	1752.24	273.95	0.5950
293.65	1.179682	1720.04	286.52	0.6009	280.40	1.189050	1752.86	273.72	0.5948
293.40	1.179858	1720.66	286.27	0.6008	280.15	1.189231	1753.49	273.48	0.5947
293.15	1.180037	1721.27	286.03	0.6007	279.90	1.189407	1754.12	273.24	0.5946
292.90	1.180210	1721.88	285.78	0.6006	279.65	1.189580	1754.75	273.01	0.5945
292.65	1.180390	1722.50	285.53	0.6005	279.40	1.189760	1755.38	272.77	0.5944
292.40	1.180568	1723.11	285.29	0.6004	279.15	1.189935	1756.03	272.53	0.5943
292.15	1.180744	1723.72	285.04	0.6003	278.90	1.190108	1756.62	272.31	0.5941
291.90	1.180923	1724.34	284.80	0.6002	278.65	1.190288	1757.23	272.08	0.5940
291.65	1.181104	1724.95	284.55	0.6000	278.40	1.190464	1757.88	271.83	0.5939
291.40	1.181278	1725.57	284.30	0.5999	278.15	1.190632	1758.50	271.60	0.5938
2-Hydroxy Diethylammonium Formate (2-HDEAF)									
338.148	1.167306	1697.99	297.13	0.6294	334.399	1.169947	1708.24	292.91	0.6139
337.898	1.167485	1698.67	296.85	0.6283	334.149	1.170124	1708.92	292.63	0.6129
337.649	1.167660	1699.35	296.56	0.6272	333.899	1.170294	1709.58	292.37	0.6119
337.400	1.167838	1700.05	296.27	0.6261	333.651	1.170470	1710.26	292.09	0.6110
337.149	1.168016	1700.75	295.99	0.6251	333.398	1.170646	1710.94	291.81	0.6100
336.899	1.168195	1701.43	295.70	0.6240	333.149	1.170816	1711.61	291.54	0.6091
336.650	1.168369	1702.12	295.42	0.6230	332.898	1.170991	1712.28	291.27	0.6081
336.398	1.168546	1702.81	295.14	0.6219	332.650	1.171163	1712.95	291.00	0.6072
336.147	1.168724	1703.51	294.85	0.6209	332.399	1.171336	1713.60	290.74	0.6063
335.898	1.168897	1704.18	294.57	0.6199	332.149	1.171510	1714.26	290.47	0.6053
335.649	1.169072	1704.86	294.29	0.6189	331.899	1.171683	1714.92	290.20	0.6044
335.399	1.169250	1705.54	294.01	0.6179	331.648	1.171853	1715.58	289.94	0.6035
335.149	1.169423	1706.22	293.74	0.6169	331.399	1.172025	1716.23	289.68	0.6026
334.899	1.169602	1706.90	293.46	0.6159	331.150	1.172199	1716.88	289.41	0.6017
334.650	1.169774	1707.57	293.18	0.6149	330.898	1.172371	1717.54	289.15	0.6008

TABLE 2 (Continued)

T (K)	ρ (g cm ⁻³)	u (m s ⁻¹)	κ_S (T Pa ⁻¹)	$10^3 \cdot \alpha$ (K ⁻¹)	T (K)	ρ (g cm ⁻³)	u (m s ⁻¹)	κ_S (T Pa ⁻¹)	$10^3 \cdot \alpha$ (K ⁻¹)
2-Hydroxy Diethylammonium Formate (2-HDEAF)									
330.648	1.172539	1718.21	288.88	0.6000	313.649	1.183936	1760.64	272.48	0.5564
330.400	1.172712	1718.85	288.62	0.5991	313.398	1.184098	1761.26	272.25	0.5560
330.149	1.172885	1719.50	288.36	0.5982	313.147	1.184263	1761.87	272.02	0.5556
329.899	1.173052	1720.15	288.10	0.5974	312.898	1.184428	1762.48	271.80	0.5552
329.648	1.173226	1720.80	287.84	0.5965	312.648	1.184593	1763.09	271.57	0.5548
329.399	1.173398	1721.46	287.58	0.5957	312.397	1.184759	1763.71	271.34	0.5544
329.149	1.173566	1722.08	287.33	0.5948	312.148	1.184922	1764.32	271.12	0.5541
328.899	1.173737	1722.72	287.08	0.5940	311.897	1.185086	1764.94	270.89	0.5537
328.649	1.173908	1723.35	286.83	0.5932	311.647	1.185251	1765.54	270.67	0.5533
328.399	1.174079	1723.99	286.57	0.5923	311.399	1.185413	1766.15	270.44	0.5530
328.149	1.174248	1724.62	286.32	0.5915	311.148	1.185575	1766.76	270.22	0.5527
327.897	1.174417	1725.26	286.07	0.5907	310.897	1.185743	1767.37	269.99	0.5523
327.647	1.174587	1725.89	285.82	0.5899	310.647	1.185907	1767.99	269.77	0.5520
327.399	1.174757	1726.52	285.57	0.5891	310.398	1.186071	1768.60	269.54	0.5517
327.148	1.174928	1727.15	285.32	0.5884	310.148	1.186236	1769.20	269.32	0.5514
326.898	1.175096	1727.78	285.07	0.5876	309.897	1.186398	1769.82	269.10	0.5511
326.649	1.175266	1728.41	284.82	0.5868	309.647	1.186561	1770.43	268.88	0.5508
326.398	1.175433	1729.05	284.57	0.5861	309.398	1.186725	1771.04	268.65	0.5505
326.148	1.175605	1729.68	284.32	0.5853	309.147	1.186891	1771.65	268.43	0.5502
325.898	1.175771	1730.32	284.07	0.5846	308.898	1.187053	1772.26	268.21	0.5499
325.649	1.175942	1730.95	283.82	0.5838	308.648	1.187216	1772.87	267.99	0.5496
325.398	1.176111	1731.58	283.57	0.5831	308.399	1.187384	1773.48	267.77	0.5494
325.148	1.176280	1732.21	283.33	0.5823	308.146	1.187545	1774.09	267.55	0.5491
324.898	1.176448	1732.85	283.08	0.5816	307.898	1.187709	1774.69	267.33	0.5489
324.648	1.176614	1733.47	282.84	0.5809	307.647	1.187875	1775.30	267.11	0.5486
324.398	1.176781	1734.11	282.59	0.5802	307.397	1.188037	1775.91	266.89	0.5484
324.147	1.176950	1734.74	282.34	0.5795	307.147	1.188200	1776.53	266.66	0.5482
323.898	1.177123	1735.37	282.09	0.5788	306.897	1.188361	1777.13	266.45	0.5479
323.649	1.177289	1736.00	281.85	0.5781	306.647	1.188527	1777.74	266.23	0.5477
323.398	1.177455	1736.63	281.61	0.5775	306.397	1.188692	1778.34	266.01	0.5475
323.148	1.177621	1737.25	281.36	0.5768	306.148	1.188850	1778.95	265.79	0.5473
322.899	1.177790	1737.87	281.12	0.5761	305.897	1.189012	1779.55	265.58	0.5471
322.649	1.177958	1738.50	280.88	0.5755	305.647	1.189178	1780.17	265.36	0.5469
322.398	1.178124	1739.12	280.64	0.5748	305.397	1.189346	1780.80	265.13	0.5468
322.147	1.178293	1739.73	280.40	0.5742	305.148	1.189506	1781.40	264.92	0.5466
321.897	1.178462	1740.36	280.16	0.5735	304.897	1.189665	1782.01	264.70	0.5464
321.648	1.178624	1740.97	279.93	0.5729	304.648	1.189827	1782.61	264.49	0.5463
321.399	1.178792	1741.59	279.69	0.5723	304.397	1.189991	1783.22	264.27	0.5461
321.148	1.178961	1742.21	279.45	0.5717	304.147	1.190159	1783.83	264.05	0.5460
320.898	1.179128	1742.83	279.21	0.5710	303.898	1.190318	1784.45	263.83	0.5458
320.649	1.179294	1743.44	278.97	0.5704	303.648	1.190481	1785.05	263.62	0.5457
320.397	1.179459	1744.06	278.74	0.5698	303.397	1.190645	1785.67	263.40	0.5456
320.149	1.179628	1744.67	278.50	0.5693	303.148	1.190807	1786.27	263.19	0.5454
319.898	1.179795	1745.29	278.26	0.5687	302.897	1.190966	1786.88	262.97	0.5453
319.648	1.179965	1745.90	278.03	0.5681	302.647	1.191134	1787.50	262.75	0.5452
319.398	1.180128	1746.51	277.80	0.5675	302.397	1.191295	1788.11	262.54	0.5451
319.148	1.180293	1747.14	277.56	0.5670	302.146	1.191456	1788.72	262.32	0.5450
318.897	1.180461	1747.75	277.33	0.5664	301.898	1.191616	1789.33	262.11	0.5450
318.648	1.180625	1748.37	277.09	0.5659	301.645	1.191779	1789.94	261.90	0.5449
318.398	1.180791	1748.99	276.85	0.5653	301.397	1.191946	1790.55	261.68	0.5448
318.148	1.180960	1749.60	276.62	0.5648	301.148	1.192106	1791.16	261.47	0.5447
317.898	1.181123	1750.21	276.39	0.5643	300.898	1.192269	1791.77	261.25	0.5447
317.648	1.181290	1750.83	276.16	0.5637	300.648	1.192428	1792.39	261.04	0.5446
317.397	1.181457	1751.44	275.93	0.5632	300.397	1.192595	1793.00	260.82	0.5446
317.147	1.181622	1752.06	275.69	0.5627	300.148	1.192754	1793.62	260.61	0.5446
316.898	1.181787	1752.68	275.46	0.5622	299.897	1.192914	1794.23	260.40	0.5445
316.646	1.181953	1753.29	275.23	0.5617	299.648	1.193072	1794.84	260.18	0.5445
316.398	1.182120	1753.91	274.99	0.5612	299.397	1.193240	1795.46	259.97	0.5445
316.148	1.182282	1754.52	274.77	0.5608	299.148	1.193403	1796.07	259.76	0.5445
315.897	1.182447	1755.13	274.54	0.5603	298.897	1.193563	1796.69	259.54	0.5445
315.648	1.182618	1755.75	274.30	0.5598	298.647	1.193724	1797.31	259.33	0.5445
315.397	1.182779	1756.36	274.07	0.5594	298.398	1.193889	1797.92	259.12	0.5445
315.148	1.182944	1756.97	273.85	0.5589	298.148	1.194041	1798.54	258.91	0.5445
314.898	1.183111	1757.58	273.62	0.5585	297.897	1.194211	1799.17	258.69	0.5446
314.648	1.183277	1758.20	273.39	0.5580	297.647	1.194365	1799.77	258.48	0.5446
314.398	1.183441	1758.81	273.16	0.5576	297.398	1.194529	1800.39	258.27	0.5446
314.148	1.183605	1759.42	272.93	0.5572	297.145	1.194689	1801.02	258.05	0.5447
313.897	1.183770	1760.03	272.70	0.5568	296.897	1.194853	1801.63	257.84	0.5447

TABLE 2 (Continued)

T (K)	ρ (g cm ⁻³)	u (m s ⁻¹)	κ_S (T Pa ⁻¹)	$10^3 \cdot \alpha$ (K ⁻¹)	T (K)	ρ (g cm ⁻³)	u (m s ⁻¹)	κ_S (T Pa ⁻¹)	$10^3 \cdot \alpha$ (K ⁻¹)
2-Hydroxy Diethylammonium Formate (2-HDEAF)									
296.647	1.195012	1802.25	257.63	0.5448	287.145	1.201254	1826.68	249.48	0.5523
296.397	1.195176	1802.87	257.42	0.5449	286.895	1.201421	1827.35	249.27	0.5526
296.146	1.195335	1803.50	257.20	0.5449	286.647	1.201589	1827.98	249.06	0.5529
295.897	1.195495	1804.12	256.99	0.5450	286.395	1.201757	1828.65	248.84	0.5533
295.647	1.195653	1804.76	256.78	0.5451	286.146	1.201924	1829.30	248.63	0.5536
295.396	1.195819	1805.38	256.56	0.5452	285.897	1.202093	1829.97	248.41	0.5540
295.146	1.195977	1806.02	256.35	0.5453	285.647	1.202258	1830.61	248.21	0.5544
294.897	1.196138	1806.66	256.13	0.5454	285.396	1.202428	1831.29	247.99	0.5547
294.647	1.196296	1807.32	255.91	0.5455	285.146	1.202594	1831.96	247.77	0.5551
294.397	1.196455	1807.97	255.69	0.5457	284.897	1.202763	1832.62	247.56	0.5555
294.147	1.196617	1808.61	255.48	0.5458	284.646	1.202928	1833.29	247.34	0.5559
293.896	1.196776	1809.26	255.26	0.5459	284.395	1.203095	1833.93	247.14	0.5563
293.647	1.196937	1809.92	255.04	0.5461	284.144	1.203261	1834.65	246.91	0.5567
293.397	1.197094	1810.56	254.83	0.5462	283.894	1.203428	1835.36	246.68	0.5571
293.147	1.197254	1811.20	254.61	0.5464	283.645	1.203596	1836.04	246.46	0.5576
292.896	1.197415	1811.83	254.40	0.5466	283.395	1.203761	1836.72	246.25	0.5580
292.647	1.197569	1812.48	254.19	0.5467	283.143	1.203931	1837.43	246.02	0.5584
292.396	1.197728	1813.12	253.97	0.5469	282.895	1.204097	1838.10	245.81	0.5589
292.146	1.197893	1813.76	253.76	0.5471	282.646	1.204263	1838.77	245.60	0.5593
291.896	1.198060	1814.40	253.55	0.5473	282.395	1.204429	1839.48	245.37	0.5598
291.647	1.198230	1815.03	253.33	0.5475	282.145	1.204596	1840.18	245.15	0.5602
291.397	1.198397	1815.67	253.12	0.5477	281.896	1.204763	1840.87	244.94	0.5607
291.147	1.198567	1816.31	252.91	0.5479	281.645	1.204932	1841.56	244.72	0.5612
290.897	1.198735	1816.95	252.69	0.5481	281.395	1.205098	1842.24	244.50	0.5617
290.647	1.198902	1817.59	252.48	0.5484	281.145	1.205262	1842.96	244.28	0.5622
290.395	1.199069	1818.23	252.27	0.5486	280.896	1.205430	1843.66	244.06	0.5627
290.146	1.199239	1818.89	252.05	0.5488	280.645	1.205596	1844.35	243.84	0.5632
289.896	1.199407	1819.53	251.83	0.5491	280.397	1.205766	1845.06	243.62	0.5637
289.647	1.199575	1820.18	251.62	0.5493	280.146	1.205932	1845.77	243.40	0.5642
289.396	1.199742	1820.81	251.41	0.5496	279.896	1.206098	1846.49	243.18	0.5647
289.146	1.199912	1821.48	251.19	0.5499	279.647	1.206263	1847.20	242.96	0.5652
288.896	1.200079	1822.12	250.98	0.5501	279.398	1.206429	1847.90	242.74	0.5658
288.645	1.200248	1822.76	250.77	0.5504	279.143	1.206595	1848.72	242.49	0.5663
288.396	1.200415	1823.41	250.55	0.5507	278.894	1.206764	1849.50	242.25	0.5669
288.146	1.200583	1824.08	250.33	0.5510	278.645	1.206928	1850.24	242.03	0.5674
287.895	1.200751	1824.72	250.12	0.5513	278.398	1.207096	1850.97	241.80	0.5680
287.647	1.200919	1825.36	249.91	0.5516	278.153	1.207250	1851.77	241.56	0.5686
287.396	1.201085	1826.02	249.70	0.5520					
2-Hydroxy Triethylammonium Formate (2-HTEAF)									
338.145	1.212896	1841.05	243.25	0.5350944	330.646	1.217655	1863.53	236.48	0.50054876
337.895	1.213056	1841.81	243.01	0.53473476	330.396	1.217805	1864.27	236.27	0.49855042
337.645	1.213219	1842.58	242.78	0.53432049	330.145	1.217959	1864.99	236.06	0.49648913
337.395	1.213378	1843.35	242.54	0.53385159	329.895	1.218108	1865.71	235.84	0.4943813
337.146	1.213544	1844.12	242.31	0.53333026	329.645	1.218259	1866.43	235.63	0.49221885
336.896	1.213708	1844.88	242.07	0.53275232	329.397	1.218404	1867.15	235.42	0.49001972
336.645	1.213868	1845.63	241.85	0.53211711	329.145	1.218554	1867.87	235.21	0.48773006
336.396	1.214032	1846.42	241.61	0.53143254	328.896	1.218703	1868.59	235.00	0.48541312
336.146	1.214193	1847.15	241.38	0.53069071	328.646	1.218852	1869.31	234.79	0.48303237
335.895	1.214351	1847.91	241.15	0.52989095	328.397	1.219001	1870.02	234.59	0.48060683
335.646	1.214509	1848.66	240.93	0.52904314	328.146	1.219150	1870.74	234.38	0.47810696
335.394	1.214673	1849.43	240.69	0.52812995	327.896	1.219292	1871.45	234.17	0.47556231
335.146	1.214836	1850.18	240.47	0.52717706	327.644	1.219438	1872.13	233.97	0.47294202
334.895	1.214998	1850.94	240.24	0.5261579	327.394	1.219578	1872.86	233.77	0.47028767
334.646	1.215155	1851.69	240.01	0.52509245	327.144	1.219719	1873.58	233.56	0.4675787
334.396	1.215312	1852.43	239.79	0.5239682	326.894	1.219862	1874.29	233.35	0.46481509
334.146	1.215469	1853.19	239.56	0.52278932	326.645	1.220003	1874.99	233.15	0.46200823
333.896	1.215629	1853.93	239.34	0.52155581	326.144	1.220277	1876.42	232.75	0.45619648
333.646	1.215784	1854.69	239.11	0.52026767	325.896	1.220417	1877.12	232.55	0.45323842
333.395	1.215943	1855.43	238.89	0.51891941	325.646	1.220557	1877.82	232.35	0.45020209
333.146	1.216101	1856.17	238.67	0.51752749	325.395	1.220700	1878.52	232.15	0.44709866
332.895	1.216262	1856.90	238.45	0.51606954	325.145	1.220843	1879.22	231.94	0.44395286
332.644	1.216419	1857.67	238.22	0.51455651	324.896	1.220977	1879.93	231.74	0.44076533
332.395	1.216577	1858.41	238.00	0.51300114	324.647	1.221112	1880.63	231.55	0.43752361
332.145	1.216728	1859.14	237.78	0.51138499	324.396	1.221251	1881.31	231.35	0.43420101
331.895	1.216882	1859.88	237.56	0.50971422	324.148	1.221380	1881.98	231.16	0.43086403
331.645	1.217039	1860.62	237.35	0.50798881	323.894	1.221502	1882.65	230.98	0.42739059
331.396	1.217189	1861.35	237.13	0.506216	323.646	1.221627	1883.34	230.78	0.42394479
331.146	1.217344	1862.07	236.92	0.50438155	323.397	1.221756	1884.00	230.60	0.42043101
330.896	1.217498	1862.80	236.70	0.50249247	323.151	1.221864	1884.60	230.43	0.41690634

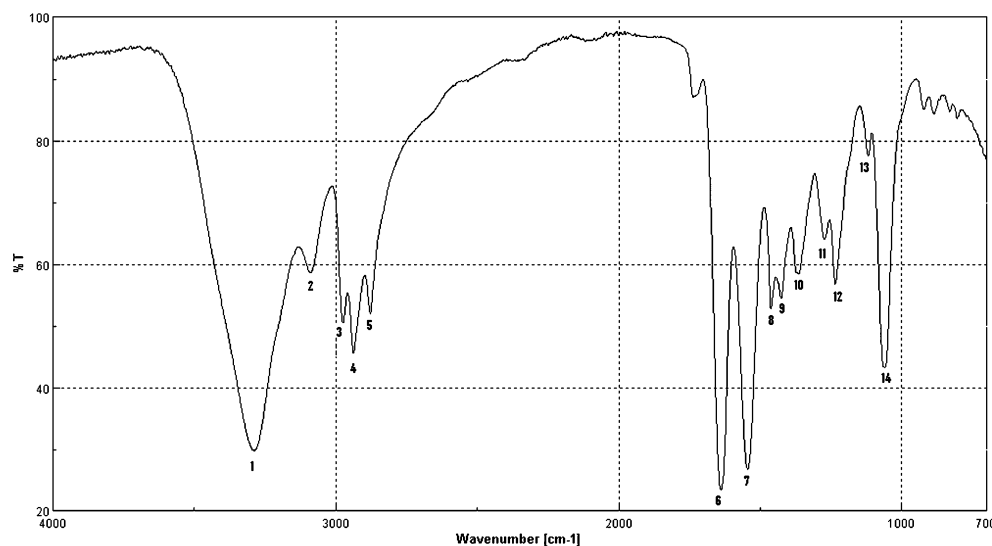


Figure 1. FT-IR spectra for 2HDEAF.

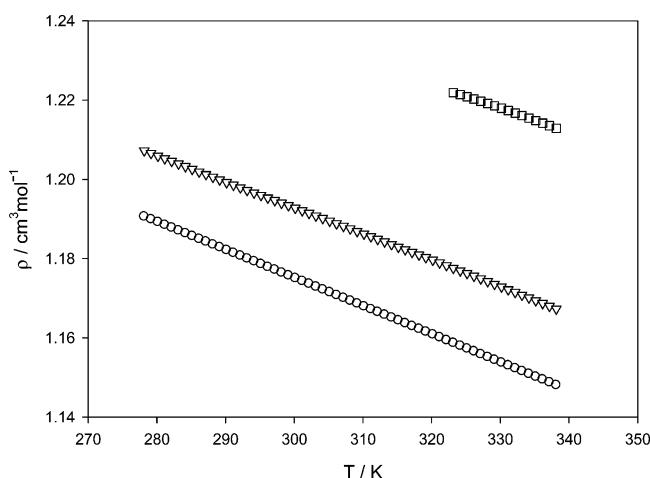


Figure 2. Curves of density (g cm^{-3}) of the studied ionic liquids (○) 2-HEAF, (▽) 2-HDEAF, and (□) 2-HTEAF in the range of temperature 278.15–338.15 K.

neutralization product of 2-HEAA, which shows two characteristic bands at $3500\text{--}2400\text{ cm}^{-1}$ for $\text{NH}_3^+ + \text{OH}^-$ and another wide band at 1600 cm^{-1} for $\text{COO}^- + \text{N-H}$ plane bend.

Catalytic Test. The reactions were performed in liquid phase using a 100 mL batch reactor equipped with a condenser system, under argon atmosphere, in order to avoid CO_2 . To a stirred solution of substrate and ketone (ratio ketone/substrate = 4.4) was added 1 g of ionic liquid, and the flask was maintained at 333.15 K using a water bath. Samples were taken at regular time periods and analyzed by gas chromatography using a flame ionization detector and an AG Ultra 2 column ($15\text{ m} \times 0.32\text{ mm} \times 0.25\text{ }\mu\text{m}$). Tetradecane was used as the internal standard. Reagents were purchased from Aldrich and used without further purification.

Thermodynamic Data Treatment

For compact and smooth representation, the measured magnitudes of the ionic liquids were correlated as a function of temperature in accordance to eq 1:

$$P = \sum_{i=0}^N A_i T^i \quad (1)$$

where P is density (g cm^{-3}), ultrasonic velocity (m s^{-1}), or ionic

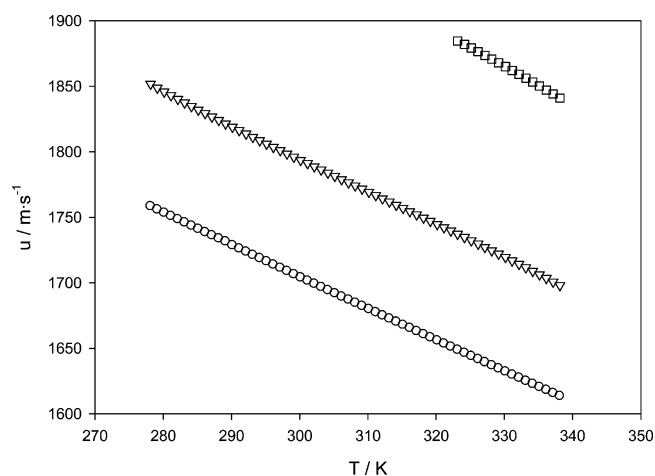


Figure 3. Curves of ultrasonic velocity (m s^{-1}) of the studied ionic liquids (○) 2-HEAF, (▽) 2-HDEAF, and (□) 2-HTEAF in the range of temperature 278.15–338.15 K.

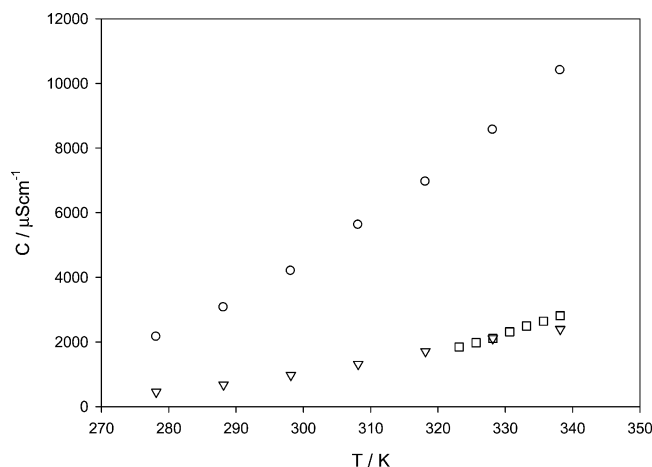
conductivity ($\mu\text{S cm}^{-1}$), A_i represents fitting parameters, and T is the absolute temperature. N stands for the extension of the mathematical series. The fitting parameters were obtained by the unweighted least-squared method applying a fitting Marquardt algorithm. The root-mean-square deviations were computed using eq 2, where z is the value of the property, and n_{DAT} is the number of experimental data:

$$\sigma = \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{DAT}}} (z_{\text{exp}} - z_{\text{pred}})^2}{n_{\text{DAT}}} \right)^{1/2} \quad (2)$$

Densities and ultrasonic velocities are given in Table 2, and ionic conductivity is given in Table 3. The fitting parameters and the corresponding deviations are gathered in Table 4, which were computed as explained above. In Figures 2–4, the temperature trends of these magnitudes are gathered. These figures show a decreasing trend in the packing efficiency of the ionic liquids as the molecular weight rises. This tendency results in a continuous diminution of density and ultrasonic velocity versus temperature in each case. In Figure 4, the ionic conductivity of the ionic liquids is enclosed, where a rising trend

TABLE 3: Values of Ionic Conductivity ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) of the Ionic Liquids in the Range 278.15–338.15 K

	2-HEAF	2-HDEAF		2-HTEAF
278.15 K	2158.20	452.76	323.15 K	1843.38
288.15 K	3069.00	676.17	325.65 K	1975.05
298.15 K	4197.60	973.17	328.15 K	2108.7
308.15 K	5623.20	1314.72	330.65 K	2316.6
318.15 K	6959.70	1707.75	333.15 K	2494.8
328.15 K	8563.50	2108.70	335.65 K	2643.3
338.15 K	10404.90	2395.80	338.15 K	2811.6

**Figure 4.** Curves of ionic conductivity ($\mu\text{S cm}^{-1}$) of the studied ionic liquids (○) 2-HEAF, (▽) 2-HDEAF, and (□) 2-HTEAF in the range of temperature 278.15–338.15 K.

for higher temperatures could be observed. This fact may be ascribed to the increasing mobility of ions for rising temperatures.

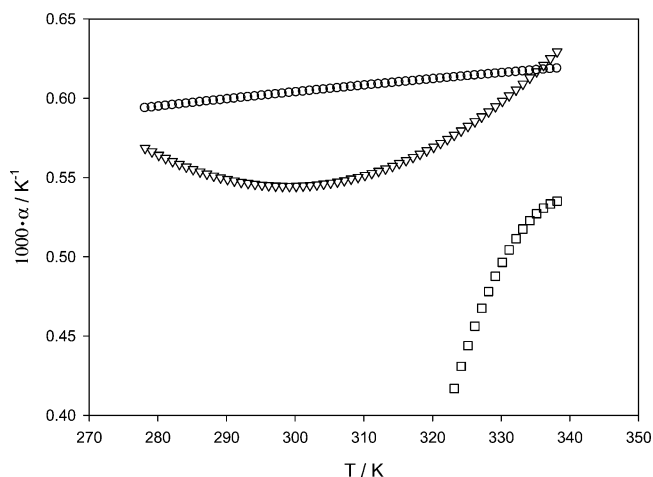
A frequently applied derived magnitude for industrial mixtures is the temperature dependence of volumetry, which is expressed as isobaric expansibility or a thermal expansion coefficient (α). The data reported in literature normally give only values of thermal expansion coefficients both of pure compounds and their mixtures, showing the relative changes in density, calculated by means of $(-\Delta\rho/\rho)$ as a function of temperature and assuming that α remains constant in any thermal range. As in the case of pure chemicals, it can be computed by way of the expression

$$\alpha = -\left(\frac{\partial \ln \rho}{\partial T}\right)_{P,x} \quad (3)$$

taking into account the temperature dependence of density. These values are included in Table 2 and show a rising trend for each case (Figure 5). 2-HDEAF shows a minimum at 298.90 K. The other ionic liquids show a rising tendency with temperature.

Catalytic Studies

In order to determine the catalytic activity of these ionic liquids, three model reactions were employed: citral–acetone condensation, condensation between benzaldehyde and acetone, and benzaldehyde and heptanal condensation. The ionic liquids studied were those included in this work (2-HEAF and 2-HDEAF; no experiments were realized with 2-HTEAF), as commented above, and others of the same family (2-HEAA, 2-HDEAA, 2-HTEAA, 2-HEAP, 2-HDEAP, and 2-HTEAP). Experimental data related to these compounds could be obtained from an earlier work.

**Figure 5.** Curves of isobaric expansibility (K^{-1}) of the studied ionic liquids (○) 2-HEAF, (▽) 2-HDEAF, and (□) 2-HTEAF in the range of temperature 278.15–338.15 K.

The condensation reaction between citral and acetone (Scheme 1) leads to the formation of pseudoionone, which is an intermediate in the commercial production of vitamin A.

Citral consists of two isomers, neral and geranial, caused by the *cis*–*trans* isomerism at the $\text{C}=\text{C}$ bond near the aldehyde group.⁸

The two isomers of citral can be converted into the corresponding pseudoionone with good selectivity (between 63 and 82%; Figure 6); the most active ionic liquid for this reaction is 2-HEAA, which gives a conversion of 52.3%, and the less active liquid is 2-HEAF, which gives a conversion of 34.8%. 2-HEAP gives an intermediate conversion of 40.2%.

Other compounds observed were those from the condensation of two citral molecules or of pseudoionone isomers and one acetone molecule.¹¹

The catalytic activity of the ionic liquids was also tested in the production of benzylidenacetone (Scheme 2) from the condensation between benzaldehyde and acetone.

After 3 h, a conversion of 100% and a selectivity of 86% were obtained using 2-HEAP as the catalyst. Good conversions were also obtained with 2-HEAF (94.1%) and 2-HEAA (99.4%), with selectivities of 82% and 85%, respectively, after 4 h of reaction time (Figure 7). In these reactions, good conversions were obtained with all the ionic liquids in a relatively short time.

The third reaction for which the catalytic activity was studied was the synthesis of jasminaldehyde from the condensation between benzaldehyde and heptanal (Scheme 3).

In this reaction, good conversion was obtained with 2-HEAF (77.8%) and 2-HEAA (63.3%), while, with 2-HEAP, a lower conversion (18.5%) was obtained (Figure 8).

The selectivity was low (between 13.7% and 30.7%) because of the formation of a secondary product. The undesired product comes from the self-condensation of heptanal to 2-*n*-pentyl-2-nonenal, and this secondary reaction can be inhibited to some extent by the slow addition of heptanal.

We can conclude that, with this new synthesized ionic liquids family, good results were obtained in terms of conversion and selectivity for aldol condensation reactions. The ionic liquids are not soluble in the reaction mixture, so, at the end of the reaction, these catalysts are easy to separate from the reaction mixture. For future work, we intend to study the optimized recovery process of the catalysts and their reuse in repeated

TABLE 4: Fitting Parameters for Density, Ultrasonic Velocity, and Conductivity of Eq 1 in the Range 278.15–338.15 K and Root-Mean-Square Deviations (σ) in Accordance with Eq 2 for Pure Ionic Liquids

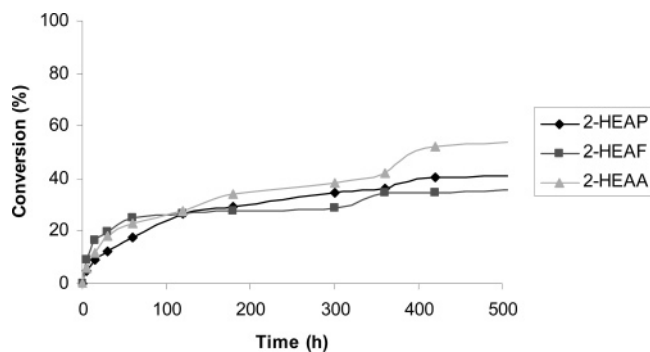
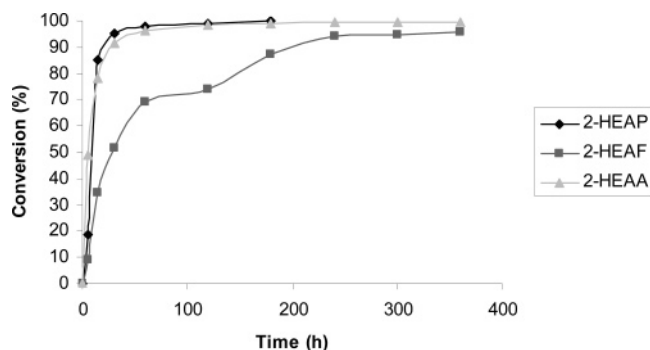
2-HEAF		
	$\rho/(\text{g cm}^{-3})$	σ
A ₀	1.3553	2.551×10^{-6}
A ₁	−4.0096e-4	
A ₂	−9.6623e-7	
A ₃	1.0048e-9	
	$u/(\text{m s}^{-1})$	σ
A ₀	2654.5515	0.065
A ₁	−4.1691	
A ₂	4.2548e-3	
A ₃	−3.0446e-6	
	$C/(\mu\text{S cm}^{-1})$	σ
A ₀	48576.9035	45.817
A ₁	−443.1112	
A ₂	1.0691	
A ₃	−2.7428e-4	
2-HDEAF		
	$\rho/(\text{g cm}^{-3})$	σ
A ₀	1.8296	1.795×10^{-5}
A ₁	−5.0300e-3	
A ₂	1.4476e-5	
A ₃	−1.5950e-8	
	$u/(\text{m s}^{-1})$	σ
A ₀	6693.4496	0.058
A ₁	−42.7907	
A ₂	0.1302	
A ₃	−1.3999e-4	
	$C/(\mu\text{S cm}^{-1})$	σ
A ₀	182372.1191	12.493
A ₁	−1804.0674	
A ₂	5.8659	
A ₃	−6.2241e-3	
2-HTEAF ^a		
	$\rho/(\text{g cm}^{-3})$	σ
A ₀	−5.5873	4.959×10^{-3}
A ₁	0.0614	
A ₂	−1.8296e-4	
A ₃	1.7976e-7	
	$u/(\text{m s}^{-1})$	σ
A ₀	−2426.8628	0.018
A ₁	40.8934	
A ₂	−0.1208	
A ₃	1.1000e-4	
	$C/(\mu\text{S cm}^{-1})$	σ
A ₀	5610627.3132	11.158
A ₁	−50905.4365	
A ₂	153.7971	
A ₃	−0.1547	

^a Within a temperature range of 338.15–323.15 K.

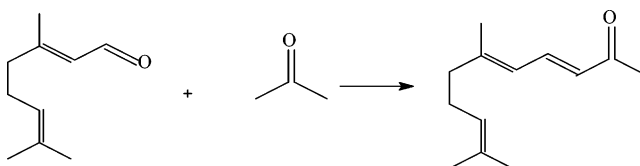
runs of experiments, which makes accurate experimental data on liquid–liquid-phase equilibrium among all related chemicals necessary.

Results and Discussion

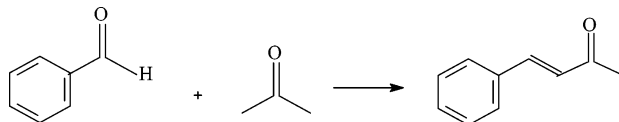
The basic physicochemical data of ionic liquids are important for the design of cleaner technological processes and a better

**Figure 6.** Conversion of citral in the citral–acetone condensation.**Figure 7.** Conversion of benzaldehyde in the benzaldehyde–acetone condensation.

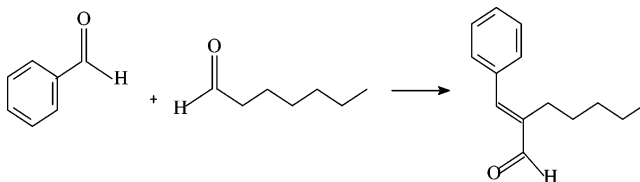
SCHEME 1: Condensation Reaction between Citral and Acetone



SCHEME 2: Condensation Reaction between Benzaldehyde and Acetone



SCHEME 3: Condensation Reaction between Benzaldehyde and Heptanal



understanding of the interactions in this kind of compound. In the present paper, we have presented a new synthesis and experimental data of the densities, ultrasonic velocities, and ionic conductivities of 2-HEAF, 2-HDEAF, and 2-HTEAF, which show liquid ionic characteristics according to the FT-IR results. No information on all these compounds is gathered in the literature as far as we know. From these results, the following was found:

1. An increase in temperature diminishes the interaction among ions, with lower values of density and ultrasonic velocity being gathered for rising temperatures in each case. At the same

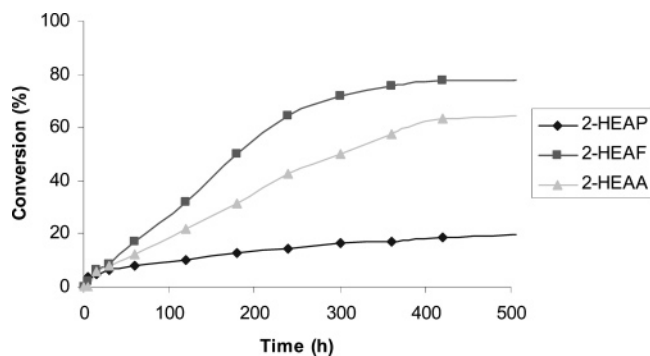


Figure 8. Conversion of benzaldehyde in the benzaldehyde–heptanal condensation.

temperature, higher viscosity was observed when the salt was of higher molecular weight. The effect of the temperature is similar for the whole salts.

2. The organic residual chain in the cation forming the ionic liquid has strong effects on the physicochemical properties, with the steric hindrance being a key factor for accommodation into a liquid structure. The ions enclosed are of two types: linear (the anion) and globular (the cation), and the factors studied were the substitution and then the bulk power character. The degree of their influence depends on the nature of cation, but the influence of anion residue is higher^{4,5} because of its linear and longer structure. This factor produces a higher disturbance in terms of the accommodation of ions. For these ions, the bulk cation develops lower steric hindrance influence than the linear anion. This fact may be observed in terms of higher values of densities and ultrasonic velocities for those salts of the lighter anion (in each case) and the heavier cation (for the same anion).⁵

3. The influence of molecular structure in terms of conductivity produces the lowest values for 2-HDEAF and 2-HTEAF and the largest for 2-HEAF. The effect of temperature in this magnitude produces a considerable increment toward high values by ion mobility.

4. As observed in Figure 5, the longer the size of the cation (triethylamine cation), the lower the value of isobaric expansibility obtained.

5. On the basis of these experimental observations and as explained above, because of the low cost and simplicity of synthesis, the potential interest of these liquid salts is great due to the possibility of a tailored-designed ionic liquid or ionic liquid mixture, which shows those physicochemical properties more adequate for industrial applications, such as unit operations or cosolvents for catalysis reactions, which are being studied in our laboratories.

6. As observed from the experimental data, the studied solvents used in homogeneous catalysis play a unique role in dissolving and stabilizing the reactants of the studied aldol

condensations, but must not react or compete with the reactants. An important feature of homogeneous systems enclosing ionic liquids is that they are highly efficient, and highly specific chemo-, stereo-, regio-, and enantioselectivities can be attained. The disadvantage, however, is the need to separate the solvent and catalyst from the product and unused reactants at the end of the reaction. Ionic liquids offer the opportunity of combining the advantages of both homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysis in one system, because some of them show sharp immiscibility in polar reaction media. The development of applications of three-dimensional heterogeneous catalysis using ionic liquids as supports should present challenges for the next decades. At the present time, several urgent questions regarding basic aspects of ionic liquids need to be addressed. Among them, the physicochemical principles of the liquid properties and solubility of ionic liquids remains a research subject of ionic liquid study today.

Conclusions

A new protocol for the synthesis of short aliphatic chain ionic liquids has been developed. For this new family of ionic liquids, a series of characterization has been carried out: the temperature dependence of density and the study of ultrasonic velocities and conductivity. Good results were obtained in terms of conversion and selectivity when these ionic liquids were used as catalysts for a series of aldol condensation reactions with interest for the fine chemistry industry.

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