

Module 4: Multicomponent Transport

Lecture 34: Binary Systems

For Binary Systems: $D_{AB} = D_{BA}$

Using $(d\overline{G}_A)_{T,P} = RTd(\ln a_A)$ (where a_A is the activity of A) and

defining thermal diffusion ratio as $k_T = \frac{\rho}{C^2 M_A M_B} \frac{D_A^T}{D_{AB}}$,

equation (3.7.11)-(3.7.15) yields

$$\underline{j}_A = -\underline{j}_B = -\left(\frac{C^2}{\rho}\right) M_A M_B D_{AB} \left[\left(\frac{\partial \ln a_A}{\partial \ln x_A} \right)_{T,P} \nabla x_A - \frac{M_A \rho_B x_A}{\rho RT} (\underline{g}_A - \underline{g}_B) + \frac{M_A x_A}{RT} \left(\frac{\overline{V}_A}{M_A} - \frac{1}{\rho} \right) \nabla p + k_T \nabla \ln T \right]$$

(3.7.16)

Note: When k_T is positive, component A moves to the colder region; when k_T is negative, component A moves to the warmer region.

EXPERIMENTAL THERMAL DIFFUSION RATIOS FOR LIQUIDS AND LOW-DENSITY GASES

Liquids ^a				Gases ^b			
Component				Component			
A-B	T(°K)	x _A	k _T	A-B	T(°K)	x _A	k _T
C ₂ H ₂ Cl ₄ - n - C ₆ H ₁₄	298	0.5	1.08	N _e - H _e	330	0.20	0.0531
C ₂ H ₄ Br ₂ - C ₂ H ₄ Cl ₂	298	0.5	0.225			0.60	0.1004
C ₂ H ₂ Cl ₄ - CCl ₄	298	0.5	0.060	N ₂ - H ₂	264	0.294	0.0542

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$CBr_4 - CCl_4$	298	0.09	0.129			0.775	0.0663
$CCl_4 - CH_3OH$	313	0.5	1.23	$D_2 - H_2$	327	0.10	0.0145
$CH_3OH - H_2O$	313	0.5	-0.137			0.50	0.0432
Cyclo- $C_6H_{12} - C_6H_6$	313	0.5	0.100			0.90	0.0166

^a Abstracted from R. L. Saxton, E. L. Dougherty, and H. G. Drickamer, J. Chem. Phys, 22, 1166-1168 (1954); R. L. Saxton and H. G. Drickamer, *ibid.*, 1287-1288; L. J. Tichacek, W. S. Kmak, and H. G. Drickamer, J. Phys. Chem., 60,660-665 (1956).

^b Abstracted from, tables given by J. O. Hirschfelder, C. F. Curtiss, and R. B. Bird, Molecular Theory of Gases and Liquids, Wiley New York (1954), §.4.

Let's consider ordinary diffusion for a moment

$$\underline{j}_A^{(x)} = -\frac{C^2}{\rho} M_A M_B D_{AB} \left(\frac{\partial \ln a_A}{\partial \ln x_A} \right)_{T,P} \nabla x_A \quad (3.7.17)$$

Compare with the “usual” form

$$\underline{j}_A^{(x)} = -\frac{C^2}{\rho} M_A M_B \mathbf{D}_{AB} \nabla x_A \quad (3.7.18)$$

Thus,

$$\mathbf{D}_{AB} = D_{AB} \left(\frac{\partial \ln a_A}{\partial \ln x_A} \right)_{T,P}$$

For ideal systems (activity proportional to mole fraction), implying

$$\mathbf{D}_{AB} = D_{AB}$$

For liquid systems, \mathbf{D}_{AB} has a stronger dependence on concentration than D_{AB}

Ordinary Diffusion in Ideal Gas Mixtures

For an ideal gas mixture, eq., (3.7.12) becomes

$$\underline{j}_i = \frac{C^2}{\rho} \sum_{j=1}^n M_i M_j D_{ij} \nabla x_j, \text{ where } i=1,2,3,\dots,n \quad (3.7.20)$$

Note: In this subsection we are interested in ordinary (concentration) diffusion only. Items superscript (X) has been dropped in (3.7.20).

For ideal gas mixtures, the relation between D_{ij} (the diffusivity of pair i - j in the multi component mixture) and \mathbf{D}_{ij} (the diffusivity of the pair i - j in a binary mixture) is known.

Stefan – Maxwell equation

It can be shown that equation (3.7.20) can be turned around as

$$\nabla x_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{C_i C_j}{C^2 D_{ij}} (v_j - v_i) = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{C D_{ij}} (x_i \underline{N}_j - x_j \underline{N}_i) \quad (3.7.21)$$

These are known as the Stefan – Maxwell equation.

The advantages of using (3.7.21) over (3.7.20) is that D_{ij} is virtual independent of gas composition (which is not the case with \mathbf{D}_{ij})

Note: From kinetic theory of gases

$$D_{ij} = 0.0018583 \frac{\sqrt{T^3 \left(\frac{1}{M_i} + \frac{1}{M_j} \right)}}{p \sigma_{ij} \Omega_{D,ij}}, \quad (3.7.22)$$

where D_{ij} is in cm^2 / s , p is in atm and σ_{ij} is in \AA^0 .

For some calculation it is convenient to define an effective binary diffusivity D_{im} for diffusion of component i into mixture m .

$$\underline{N}_i = -CD_{im} \nabla x_i + x_i \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{N}_j \quad (3.7.23)$$

Solving (3.7.23) for ∇x_i and using (3.7.21) one obtains

$$\frac{1}{CD_{im}} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{CD_{ij}} (x_j \underline{N}_i - x_i \underline{N}_j)}{\underline{N}_i - x_i \sum_{j=1}^n \underline{N}_j} \quad (3.7.24)$$

Equation (3.7.24) is in general difficult to use because D_{im} depend on position. For certain simplified cases, however, D_{im} becomes particularly simple. For example,

- a) Trace components 2,3,.....n in nearly pure component 1.

$$D_{im} = D_{i1}$$

- b) D_{ij} are all the same $\Rightarrow D_{im} = D_{ij}$
 c) 2,3,...,n more with the same velocity \Rightarrow

$$\frac{1-x_1}{D_{1m}} = \sum_{j=2}^n \frac{x_j}{D_{1j}} \quad (3.7.25)$$

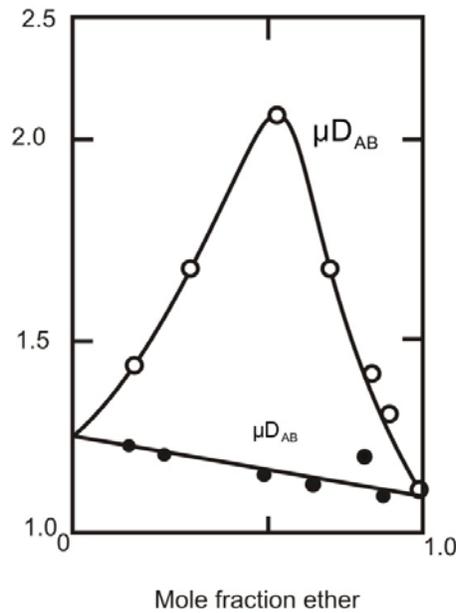


Figure showing the effect of activity on the product of viscosity and diffusivity for liquid mixtures chloroform and ether. [Adapted from R. E. Powell, W. L. Roseveare, and Henry Eyring. Ind. Eng. Chem. 33, 430-435 (1941)]