

# Thermodynamic Properties of Ternary Systems Containing (LiCl and LiBr) + Propylene Carbonate + Ionic Liquid (1-Alkyl-3-methylimidazolium Thiocyanate)

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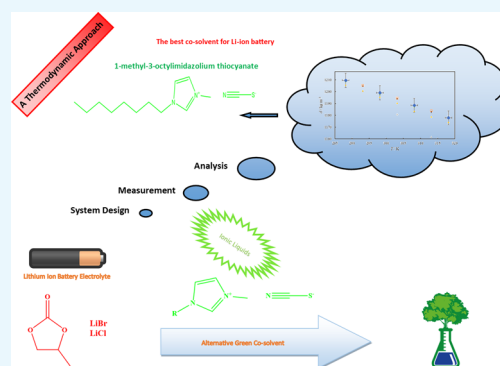
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**ABSTRACT:** The development of the Li-ion battery Industry in a green way is crucial for human beings' future. Ionic liquids (ILs) are green cosolvents that could be applied in Li-ion battery electrolytes. A thermodynamic study has been carried out for a Li-ion electrolyte (propylene carbonate (PC) + LiCl and LiBr) in the presence of IL 1-alkyl-3-methylimidazolium thiocyanate [RMIM][SCN] (R = butyl, hexyl, and octyl). The studied thermodynamic properties were density, speed of sound, apparent molar volume, and compressibility. The effect of ILs in propylene carbonate (PC) has been investigated under atmospheric pressure at  $T = (288.15\text{--}318.15)$  K. Also, a microscopic approach using scaled particle theory has been implemented. The solvation effect of lithium halides, LiX (X = Cl<sup>-</sup>, Br<sup>-</sup>), on the volumetric and compressibility properties of the ILs has been studied at 298.15 K. The results show that [OMIM][SCN] has the strongest interactions with PC in the studied ILs and these interactions are more weakened with the addition of LiBr than LiCl. According to the partial molar compressibility results, the systems containing [OMIM][SCN] could be used under pressure more beneficially than other systems from the thermodynamic aspect of view.



## INTRODUCTION

Rechargeable world is the aim of recent research studies to reduce excessive energy resource consumption. Lithium capacitors are one of the most important rechargeable energy-storage devices. The lithium capacitors' industry development led to an increased demand for lithium sources than ever.<sup>1</sup> The investigations about extraction, separation, and purification around the systems containing lithium species have been increased.<sup>2–5</sup> Also, there is some promising investigation that suggests optimization of the capacitors for a long life span instead of expensive separation methods that may cause environmental damages. Achieving environmentally friendly lithium power sources is the subject of the literature.<sup>6–10</sup>

Ionic liquids as environmentally friendly and biodegradable chemicals have advantages for industrial uses such as high thermal stability, etc.<sup>11,12</sup> Imidazole-based ionic liquids with fluorinated anions have been used effectively to enhance the properties of the lithium batteries.<sup>13</sup> However, it found that using fluorinated anion-based ILs may cause environmental damages in long term.<sup>14–16</sup> To overcome this problem, cyano-based anions have been suggested recently. One of the best options for replacing fluorinated anions is thiocyanate.<sup>17,18</sup> The imidazolium-based ILs with a thiocyanate anion are used effectively in various applications. Based on the literature, the use of these ILs, as well as fluorinated ILs, is promising.<sup>19,20</sup>

An electrolyte is an important part of a battery that affects ion mobility and consequently generated energy. Also, the electro-

lyte is the part that would be eliminated after cycles of usage. Accordingly, the electrolyte is related to the life span of the battery rather than other parts. One of the main and convenient species of a lithium capacitor electrolyte is propylene carbonate (PC) that has the best benefits for the developed technologies of Li capacitors.<sup>21–23</sup> However, there are limited thermodynamic investigations around these systems.

In the present work, in the continuation of our previous experiences, a modeled lithium capacitor electrolyte has been designed to be investigated with a thermodynamic approach.<sup>24,25</sup> The ILs with a thiocyanate anion, [RMIM][SCN] (R = butyl, hexyl, and octyl), have been studied. The density and speed of sound of binary and ternary systems containing (PC + ILs) and (PC + ILs + LiX (X = Cl, Br)), respectively, have been measured. Based on the measured properties, the apparent molar volume and apparent molar isentropic compressibility of the ILs have been evaluated and the standard partial molar volume and partial molar isentropic compressibility have been calculated. Scaled particle theory was used to obtain the different

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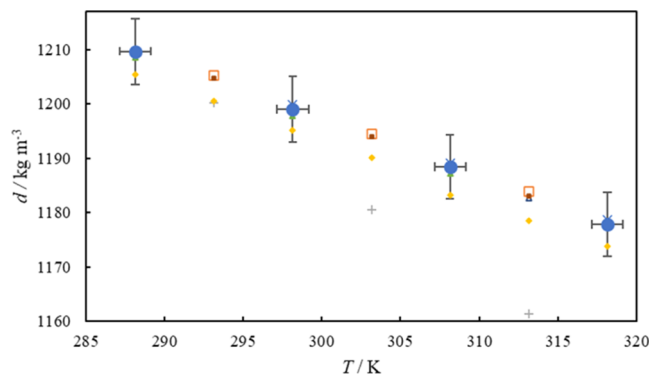
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contributions of the standard partial molar volume. The results are used to interpret the interactions between the species.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Volumetric Properties.** The density data of propylene carbonate are compared in Figure 1 with the literature and good



**Figure 1.** Experimental density of propylene carbonate (PC) versus temperature compared with literature data. Blue multiplication symbol: ref 34, red open square: ref 33, gray plus symbol: ref 32, yellow solid diamond: ref 31, blue solid square: ref 30, green solid triangle: ref 29, blue upward triangle: ref 28, red solid square: ref 27, and blue solid circle: this work.

agreement has been achieved.<sup>27–34</sup> The error bars have been used in a 0.5% range for our data to compare with literature data, which show less difference than this value. However, in the previous work, the density and speed of sound data for propylene carbonate were different due to different sources of the supplier.<sup>25</sup>

The density of solutions containing ([RMIM][SCN] + PC) is measured under atmospheric pressure ( $P = 0.086$  MPa) at temperature ranges  $T = (288.15–318.15)$  K. These data are given in Table 1, which shows the density data decrease with the addition of IL content. The apparent molar volumes,  $V_\varphi$ , of the ILs in the PC solutions were evaluated using the following equation<sup>24</sup>

$$V_\varphi = \frac{M}{d} - \left[ \frac{(d - d_0)}{mdd_0} \right] \quad (1)$$

where  $M$  is the molar mass of the IL,  $m$  is the molality of the IL, and  $d_0$  and  $d$  are the densities of the solvent (PC) and the solution, respectively. The  $V_\varphi$  values for the studied ILs in binary solutions are given in Table 1, and Figure 2 shows the plot of the  $V_\varphi$  values versus molality of ILs with different cation sizes where the  $V_\varphi$  values increased from butyl to octyl.

Also, the increasing  $V_\varphi$  values with temperature and molality are shown in Figure 3. The standard partial molar volumes,  $V_\varphi^0$ , have been calculated with the Redlich–Mayer equation<sup>24</sup>

$$V_\varphi = V_\varphi^0 + S_v m^{1/2} + B_v m \quad (2)$$

where  $V_\varphi^0$ ,  $S_v$ , and  $B_v$  are given in Table 2, for the binary solutions. The  $V_\varphi^0$  values are criteria of solute–solvent interaction, while the  $S_v$  values are criteria of solute–solute interactions, and  $B_v$  is an adjustable parameter. The  $V_\varphi^0$  values of the studied ILs are increased by the alkyl chain length and increasing temperature in the binary solutions.

Scaled particle theory (SPT), as a microscopic viewpoint, was used to determine different contributions of the partial molar

volume, namely, the cavity volume ( $V_{\text{cav}}$ ), the interactional volume ( $V_{\text{int}}$ ), and the state transitional volume ( $\kappa_T RT$ ) changes due to components' isothermal transition from a vapor to liquid phase, and  $\kappa_T$  is isothermal compressibility of the solvent. The corresponding equation is<sup>24,26</sup>

$$V_\varphi^0 = V_{\text{cav}} + V_{\text{int}} + \kappa_T RT \quad (3)$$

where  $R$  is the universal gas constant and  $T$  is the absolute temperature. The cavity volume was calculated using equations

$$V_{\text{cav}} = \kappa_T RT \left( \frac{y}{1-y} + \frac{3yz(1+z)}{(1-y)^2} + \frac{9y^2z^2}{(1-y)^3} \right) + \frac{\pi\sigma_2^3 N_A}{6} \quad (4)$$

$$y = \frac{\pi N_A \sigma_1^3}{6V} \quad (5)$$

$$z = \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_1} \quad (6)$$

In eqs 4–6,  $N_A$  is the Avogadro constant,  $V$  is the molar volume of the solvent, and  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  are the diameters of the solvent (PC) and solute (IL), respectively, which are obtained by a procedure defined by Abraham<sup>35</sup> using the Bondi<sup>36</sup> method for atomic Van der Waals volumes. The symbol  $z$  is the ratio of the solute to solvent diameters. The  $\kappa_T$  values for PC were calculated by the following equation

$$\kappa_T = \kappa_s + \frac{\alpha^2 TV}{C_p} \quad (7)$$

where  $\kappa_s$  is isentropic compressibility,  $C_p$  is the isobaric heat capacity of the solvent (PC) that is taken from the literature,  $\alpha$  is thermal expansion, and  $V$  is the molar volume of the solvent. The calculated  $\kappa_T$  values are in good agreement with the literature.<sup>37,38</sup> The calculated values of  $V_{\text{cav}}$  and  $V_{\text{int}}$  are given in Table 3. As can be seen,  $V_{\text{cav}}$  increases and  $V_{\text{int}}$  decreases with an increase in the alkyl chain length. A more negative value of  $V_{\text{int}}$  demonstrates stronger solute–solvent interactions between PC and [OMIM][SCN]. However, increasing temperature led to decreased interactions.

The  $V_\varphi^0$  values of temperature dependency are fitted with a second-degree polynomial equation<sup>24,26</sup>

$$V_\varphi^0 = A + BT + CT^2 \quad (8)$$

where  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are the empirical parameters of the equation. The standard apparent molar expansibility at constant pressure  $E_\varphi^0$  was calculated using the following equation<sup>24</sup>

$$E_\varphi^0 = \left( \frac{\partial V_\varphi^0}{\partial T} \right)_p = B + 2CT \quad (9)$$

The  $E_\varphi^0$  values are given in Table 2. These values are positive and increased with increasing IL cation size. Also, this variable decreased with increasing temperature. The isobaric thermal expansion was evaluated as a function of  $V_\varphi^0$  and  $E_\varphi^0$  by the following equation<sup>24</sup>

$$\alpha = \frac{E_\varphi^0}{V_\varphi^0} \quad (10)$$

**Table 1. Density ( $d$ ), Speed of Sound ( $u$ ), Solvation Number ( $S_n$ ), Apparent Molar Volume ( $V_\phi$ ), and Apparent Molar Isentropic Compressibility ( $\kappa_\phi$ ) Data of ([RMIM][SCN] + PC) at  $T = (288.15 \text{ to } 318.15) \text{ K}$  under Pressure ( $P = 0.086 \text{ MPa}$ )<sup>a</sup>**

$m_{\text{IL}}$ (mol kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$d$ (kg m <sup>-3</sup> )	$u$ (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	$S_n$	$10^6 V_\phi$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^{14} \kappa_\phi$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> Pa <sup>-1</sup> )
[BMIM][SCN]					
$T = 288.15 \text{ K}$					
0.0000	1209.663	1478.33			
0.0129	1209.398	1479.24	76.49	177.13	4.25
0.0165	1209.324	1479.49	76.27	177.16	4.26
0.0192	1209.268	1479.68	76.24	177.19	4.26
0.0218	1209.214	1479.86	76.06	177.22	4.26
0.0235	1209.179	1479.97	75.59	177.23	4.28
0.0272	1209.103	1480.22	75.29	177.26	4.29
0.0289	1209.066	1480.34	75.24	177.30	4.29
0.0331	1208.978	1480.62	74.80	177.36	4.30
$T = 298.15 \text{ K}$					
0.0000	1199.037	1442.90			
0.0129	1198.772	1443.99	97.46	178.82	3.83
0.0165	1198.697	1444.29	97.19	178.90	3.84
0.0192	1198.641	1444.51	96.61	178.92	3.86
0.0218	1198.587	1444.72	96.12	178.95	3.87
0.0235	1198.551	1444.86	96.03	178.99	3.88
0.0272	1198.475	1445.16	95.74	179.01	3.89
0.0289	1198.437	1445.30	95.50	179.07	3.90
0.0331	1198.349	1445.64	95.20	179.12	3.91
$T = 308.15 \text{ K}$					
0.0000	1188.430	1407.38			
0.0129	1188.172	1408.61	115.65	180.16	3.42
0.0165	1188.100	1408.95	115.52	180.20	3.42
0.0192	1188.045	1409.20	114.93	180.24	3.45
0.0218	1187.992	1409.44	114.50	180.28	3.46
0.0235	1187.957	1409.59	113.91	180.32	3.48
0.0272	1187.883	1409.93	113.65	180.34	3.49
0.0289	1187.847	1410.08	113.03	180.38	3.51
0.0331	1187.761	1410.48	113.41	180.44	3.50
$T = 318.15 \text{ K}$					
0.0000	1177.840	1372.65			
0.0129	1177.595	1373.99	131.76	181.19	3.00
0.0165	1177.527	1374.36	131.60	181.20	3.01
0.0192	1177.475	1374.64	131.52	181.24	3.01
0.0218	1177.425	1374.90	130.90	181.27	3.03
0.0235	1177.392	1375.07	130.62	181.30	3.04
0.0272	1177.322	1375.44	130.20	181.32	3.06
0.0289	1177.288	1375.61	129.80	181.35	3.07
0.0331	1177.207	1376.02	129.02	181.40	3.10
[HMIM][SCN]					
$T = 288.15 \text{ K}$					
0.0000	1209.663	1478.33			
0.0119	1209.229	1479.24	71.55	211.23	5.70
0.0147	1209.128	1479.44	70.63	211.30	5.73
0.0174	1209.027	1479.64	69.91	211.32	5.75
0.0205	1208.915	1479.87	69.86	211.35	5.75
0.0215	1208.878	1479.94	69.56	211.38	5.76
0.0241	1208.781	1480.13	69.13	211.43	5.78
0.0265	1208.691	1480.30	68.56	211.49	5.80
0.0299	1208.567	1480.54	68.20	211.57	5.81
$T = 298.15 \text{ K}$					
0.0000	1199.037	1442.90			
0.0119	1198.608	1443.98	93.42	213.03	5.34
0.0147	1198.508	1444.22	92.55	213.11	5.37
0.0174	1198.407	1444.46	91.78	213.18	5.40
0.0205	1198.295	1444.74	92.07	213.24	5.39
0.0215	1198.256	1444.83	92.03	213.35	5.39
0.0241	1198.157	1445.04	90.42	213.47	5.45

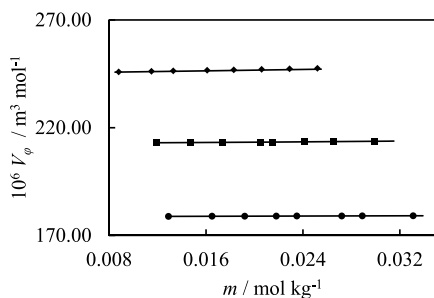
Table 1. continued

$m_{\text{IL}}$ (mol kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$d$ (kg m <sup>-3</sup> )	$u$ (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	$S_n$	$10^6 V_\varphi$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^{14} \kappa_\varphi$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> Pa <sup>-1</sup> )
			$T = 298.15$ K		
0.0265	1198.066	1445.25	90.11	213.56	5.46
0.0299	1197.941	1445.54	89.80	213.67	5.47
			$T = 308.15$ K		
0.0000	1188.430	1407.38			
0.0119	1187.999	1408.62	114.74	215.27	4.95
0.0147	1187.898	1408.90	114.12	215.38	4.97
0.0174	1187.796	1409.18	113.48	215.47	4.99
0.0205	1187.683	1409.49	112.93	215.54	5.01
0.0215	1187.644	1409.59	112.70	215.65	5.03
0.0241	1187.545	1409.85	111.97	215.75	5.05
0.0265	1187.453	1410.09	111.47	215.86	5.07
0.0299	1187.327	1410.43	111.37	215.97	5.08
			$T = 318.15$ K		
0.0000	1177.840	1372.65			
0.0119	1177.409	1374.00	131.25	217.44	4.66
0.0147	1177.308	1374.30	130.09	217.55	4.70
0.0174	1177.206	1374.61	129.88	217.64	4.71
0.0205	1177.092	1374.95	129.40	217.75	4.73
0.0215	1177.055	1375.06	129.29	217.79	4.74
0.0241	1176.956	1375.35	128.86	217.90	4.75
0.0265	1176.865	1375.61	128.21	217.99	4.78
0.0299	1176.740	1375.96	127.11	218.08	4.82
			[OMIM][SCN]		
			$T = 288.15$ K		
0.0000	1209.683	1478.39			
0.0088	1209.235	1479.26	89.61	244.32	6.37
0.0115	1209.094	1479.50	86.54	244.69	6.48
0.0133	1208.995	1479.66	84.42	244.92	6.56
0.0161	1208.844	1479.88	80.18	245.20	6.70
0.0183	1208.725	1480.04	76.88	245.42	6.81
0.0206	1208.600	1480.21	74.26	245.58	6.90
0.0229	1208.475	1480.35	70.67	245.84	7.03
0.0252	1208.342	1480.50	67.57	246.05	7.13
			$T = 298.15$ K		
0.0000	1199.037	1442.91			
0.0088	1198.601	1443.94	118.19	245.86	5.81
0.0115	1198.465	1444.23	115.34	246.14	5.91
0.0133	1198.370	1444.43	113.87	246.31	5.97
0.0161	1198.223	1444.70	109.26	246.62	6.13
0.0183	1198.108	1444.90	105.85	246.81	6.26
0.0206	1197.985	1445.11	102.91	247.03	6.36
0.0229	1197.864	1445.29	99.18	247.27	6.50
0.0252	1197.734	1445.49	96.31	247.50	6.61
			$T = 308.15$ K		
0.0000	1188.430	1407.45			
0.0088	1188.007	1408.60	141.96	247.31	5.31
0.0115	1187.875	1408.93	139.49	247.60	5.41
0.0133	1187.782	1409.15	137.33	247.81	5.50
0.0161	1187.641	1409.48	134.60	248.03	5.60
0.0183	1187.526	1409.71	130.75	248.36	5.75
0.0206	1187.406	1409.95	127.45	248.59	5.88
0.0229	1187.290	1410.18	124.76	248.77	5.98
0.0252	1187.161	1410.41	121.37	249.08	6.12
			$T = 318.15$ K		
0.0000	1177.840	1372.72			
0.0088	1177.427	1373.98	164.92	249.03	4.76
0.0115	1177.297	1374.34	161.89	249.38	4.89
0.0133	1177.208	1374.59	160.61	249.49	4.94
0.0161	1177.069	1374.95	157.21	249.77	5.09
0.0183	1176.961	1375.23	155.23	249.92	5.17

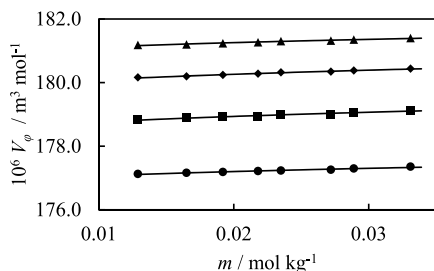
Table 1. continued

$m_{\text{IL}}$ (mol kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$d$ (kg m <sup>-3</sup> )	$u$ (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	$S_n$	$10^6 V_\varphi$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^{14} \kappa_\varphi$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> Pa <sup>-1</sup> )
$T = 318.15 \text{ K}$					
0.0206	1176.845	1375.49	151.09	250.13	5.33
0.0229	1176.732	1375.75	148.37	250.32	5.45
0.0252	1176.606	1376.02	145.36	250.63	5.57

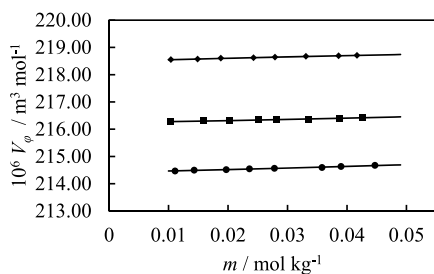
<sup>a</sup>Standard uncertainties for molality, temperature, and pressure were  $u(m) = 0.002 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ ,  $u(T) = 0.02 \text{ K}$ , and  $u(P) = 10 \text{ hPa}$ , respectively, with a 0.68 level of confidence, and the combined standard uncertainties for density and speed of sound were  $u_c(d) = 0.07 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  and  $u_c(u) = 1.3 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  with a 0.68 level of confidence. The standard uncertainties for the apparent molar volume and apparent molar isentropic compressibility were  $u_c(V_\varphi) = 5.10^{-5} \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  (level of confidence of 0.68) and  $u_c(\kappa_\varphi) = 3.10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ Pa}^{-1}$  (level of confidence of 0.68), respectively.



**Figure 2.** Apparent molar volumes  $V_\varphi$  of [RMIM][SCN] in PC solution versus its molality  $m$  at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ . (●) [BMIM][SCN], (■) [HMIM][SCN], and (◆) [OMIM][SCN], and solid lines represent the Redlich–Mayer model.

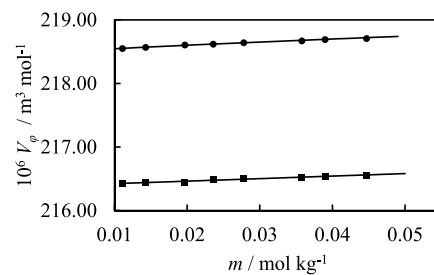


**Figure 3.** Apparent molar volumes  $V_\varphi$  of [BMIM][SCN] in PC versus its molality  $m$  at different temperatures. (●)  $T = 288.15 \text{ K}$ , (■)  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ , (◆)  $T = 308.15 \text{ K}$ , and (▲)  $T = 318.15 \text{ K}$ , and solid lines represent the corresponding Redlich–Mayer model.



**Figure 4.** Apparent molar volumes  $V_\varphi$  of [HMIM][SCN] against its molality  $m$  in a (PC + LiBr) solution at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$  at different concentrations of LiBr. (●)  $0.0036 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ , (■)  $0.0064 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ , and (◆)  $0.0099 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ , and solid lines represent the corresponding Redlich–Mayer model.

The calculated values of  $\alpha$  for ([RMIM][SCN] + PC) are given in Table 2. The  $\alpha$  value is increased with increasing cation size and decreases with increasing temperature. The value of  $\alpha$  is a criterion for the response of the volume of a system to increasing temperature. The large value of this factor gets more sensitive in the system volume with temperature change. The



**Figure 5.** Apparent molar volumes  $V_\varphi$  of [HMIM][SCN] in PC versus its molality  $m$  in the presence of about  $0.01 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$  of LiX salts at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ . (■) LiCl and (●) LiBr, and solid lines represent the calculated Redlich–Mayer values.

observed trend for  $\alpha$  and  $E_\varphi^0$  is similar to the cavity volume. The pressure would also break the solvent structure and the same reason suggests that the heat capacity decreases. Hepler et al.'s<sup>39</sup> determined relation for structure making or breaking behavior of a solute in a solution is given by the following equations

$$\left(\frac{\partial C_p}{\partial P}\right)_T = -T \left(\frac{\partial^2 V_\varphi^0}{\partial T^2}\right)_P \quad (11)$$

$$-T \left(\frac{\partial^2 V_\varphi^0}{\partial T^2}\right)_P = -2CT \quad (12)$$

where  $(\partial^2 V_\varphi^0 / \partial T^2)$  is the constant for the ILs, as given in Table 2. As can be seen, this parameter decreases with increasing cation size. Negative values of this parameter mean the ILs have structure-breaking behavior in PC, and this behavior intensity order is octyl > hexyl > butyl. The measured density data of ternary solutions containing solute [RMIM][SCN], in the solvent consisting of (PC + LiCl or LiBr), and the corresponding  $V_\varphi$  values that have been calculated with eq 1 are given in Table 4.

The effect of LiX ( $X = \text{Cl}, \text{Br}$ ) on the  $V_\varphi$  values of the [HMIM][SCN] is shown in Figure 4. This figure demonstrates that the addition of the LiBr content increases the  $V_\varphi$  values of [HMIM][SCN].

In Figure 5, the effect of anion size ( $\text{Cl}^-$  and  $\text{Br}^-$ ) on the  $V_\varphi$  values of [HMIM][SCN] has been shown. It is clear that a  $\text{Br}^-$  anion has a stronger effect rather than a  $\text{Cl}^-$  anion.

The standard partial molar volumes  $V_\varphi^0$  of the ILs in (LiX + PC) solutions at different concentrations of LiX are given in Table 5. Results show that a  $\text{Br}^-$  anion has a stronger effect than a  $\text{Cl}^-$  anion on the  $V_\varphi^0$  values. The partial molar volumes of transfer  $\Delta_{\text{tr}} V_\varphi^0$  of the ionic liquids have been obtained for [RMIM][SCN] from PC to (LiX + PC) solutions.

**Table 2. Standard Partial Molar Volume  $V_{\phi}^0$ , Empirical Parameters of eq 2,  $S_V$  and  $B_V$ , the Standard Deviation of the Apparent Molar Volume  $\sigma(V_{\phi})$ , Standard Apparent Molar Expansibility  $E_{\phi}^0$ , Isobaric Thermal Expansion ( $\alpha$ ), and the Constant of eq 12 ( $\partial^2 V_{\phi}^0/\partial T^2$ )<sub>p</sub> for the Solutions of [RMIM][SCN] in PC at Different Temperatures under Pressure ( $P = 0.086$  MPa)<sup>a</sup>**

$T$ (K)	$10^6 V_{\phi}^0$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-1}$ )	$10^6 S_V$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{kg}^{-1/2}$ )	$10^6 B_V$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{kg}^{-1}$ )	[RMIM][SCN]	$10^6 \sigma(V_{\phi})$	$10^6 E_{\phi}^0$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$ )	$10^4 \alpha$ ( $\text{K}^{-1}$ )	$10^6 (\partial^2 V_{\phi}^0/\partial T^2)$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{K}^{-2}$ )
288.15	$176.70 \pm 0.28$	$3.81 \pm 0.04$	$-1.92 \pm 0.12$	0.013	0.1721	9.738	-0.0025	
298.15	$178.31 \pm 0.32$	$4.67 \pm 0.04$	$-1.71 \pm 0.14$	0.015	0.1472	8.253		
308.15	$179.64 \pm 0.25$	$4.63 \pm 0.03$	$-1.75 \pm 0.11$	0.012	0.1222	6.805		
318.15	$180.75 \pm 0.26$	$3.87 \pm 0.04$	$-1.99 \pm 0.12$	0.012	0.0973	5.384		
288.15	$211.57 \pm 0.32$	$-8.12 \pm 0.05$	$46.53 \pm 0.16$	[HMIM][SCN]	0.2313	10.9318	-0.0048	
298.15	$213.52 \pm 0.60$	$-13.97 \pm 0.09$	$86.42 \pm 0.31$	0.014	0.1837	8.6029		
308.15	$215.31 \pm 0.48$	$-7.54 \pm 0.07$	$66.22 \pm 0.24$	0.026	0.1361	6.3207		
318.15	$216.31 \pm 0.17$	$10.3 \pm 0.02$	$-0.55 \pm 0.09$	0.021	0.0885	4.0911		
288.15	$241.95 \pm 0.14$	$25.13 \pm 0.02$	$3.35 \pm 0.09$	[OMIM][SCN]	0.2918	12.06	-0.0059	
298.15	$244.84 \pm 0.24$	$2.44 \pm 0.04$	$90.02 \pm 0.15$	0.009	0.2327	9.503		
308.15	$246.47 \pm 0.22$	$-1.58 \pm 0.04$	$112.58 \pm 0.14$	0.030	0.1735	7.041		
318.15	$248.18 \pm 0.26$	$1.33 \pm 0.04$	$86.74 \pm 0.16$	0.040	0.1144	4.610		

<sup>a</sup>Standard uncertainties for temperature and pressure were  $u(T) = 0.02$  K and  $u(P) = 10$  hPa, respectively, with a 0.68 level of confidence.

**Table 3. Isothermal Compressibility ( $\kappa_T$ ), Isothermal Volume Transition Contribution ( $\kappa_T RT$ ), and Interactional and Cavity Volumes of the Standard Partial Molar Volume of [RMIM][SCN] in Propylene Carbonate with SPT at  $T = (288.15-318.15)$  K under Pressure ( $P = 0.086$  MPa)<sup>a</sup>**

$T$ (K)	$10^{10} \kappa_T$ ( $\text{Pa}^{-1}$ )	$10^6 \kappa_T RT$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-1}$ )	$10^6 V_{\text{cav}}$	$10^6 V_{\text{int}}$
[BMIM][SCN]				
288.15	5.22	1.25	1563.23	-1391.64
298.15	5.08	1.26	1465.88	-1292.68
308.15	5.00	1.28	1376.51	-1201.98
318.15	4.99	1.32	1294.33	-1118.69
[HMIM][SCN]				
288.15	5.60	1.34	1760.58	-1567.32
298.15	5.17	1.28	1651.17	-1456.08
308.15	4.90	1.26	1550.73	-1353.96
318.15	4.79	1.24	1458.38	-1260.68
[OMIM][SCN]				
288.15	5.99	1.44	2015.52	-1778.93
298.15	5.43	1.35	1890.17	-1650.69
308.15	5.05	1.30	1775.11	-1534.00
318.15	4.86	1.28	1669.32	-1426.50

<sup>a</sup>Standard uncertainties for temperature and pressure were  $u(T) = 0.02$  K and  $u(P) = 10$  hPa, respectively, with a 0.68 level of confidence.

$$\Delta_{\text{tr}} V_{\phi}^0 = V_{\phi}^0(\text{in PC} + \text{LiX}(X = \text{Cl}, \text{Br})) - V_{\phi}^0(\text{in PC}) \quad (13)$$

The  $\Delta_{\text{tr}} V_{\phi}^0$  values are reported in Table 5. These values are positive and increase with increasing LiX concentration. The  $\Delta_{\text{tr}} V_{\phi}^0$  value is a measure of interaction between solute1 (IL) and solute2 (LiX). The possible interactions for the studied solutions due to the different functional groups of the components are polar-ionic, polar-polar, polar-nonpolar, and nonpolar-nonpolar interactions.<sup>40,41</sup> According to the cosphere overlap model, the positive  $\Delta_{\text{tr}} V_{\phi}^0$  value indicates strong ion-ion and ion-polar interactions between [RMIM]-[SCN] and LiX.<sup>24,26</sup> On the other hand, LiBr has stronger interactions than LiCl with ionic liquids, as shown in Table 5.

**Compressibility Properties.** The measured speeds of sound ( $u$ ) data for the binary (IL + PC) and ternary (IL + PC + LiX) solutions are given in Tables 1 and 4, respectively. These data were used to calculate the isentropic compressibility,  $\kappa_s$ , with help of Laplace-Newton's relation.<sup>24</sup>

$$\kappa_s = \frac{1}{du^2} \quad (14)$$

This quantity can be considered as the bulk modulus behavior of the solution. The solvation numbers were calculated from the  $\kappa_s$  values by the Pasyński equation.<sup>42</sup>

$$S_n = \frac{n_1}{n_2} \left( 1 - \frac{\kappa_s}{\kappa_{s0}} \right) \quad (15)$$

where  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are numbers of moles of the solvent and the solute, respectively, and  $\kappa_s$  and  $\kappa_{s0}$  are isentropic compressibility of the solution and the solvent [PC or (PC + LiX)], respectively. The calculated values of  $S_n$  are given in Tables 1 and 4 for the investigated binary and ternary solutions. The  $S_n$  values were increased with increasing temperature. These values were decreased with the addition of the LiX salt. This may be related to the coordination of PC molecules to  $\text{Li}^+$ , as confirmed by the Raman spectroscopy study of the lithium salts in PC.<sup>40</sup>

**Table 4. Density ( $d$ ), Speed of Sound ( $u$ ), Solvation Number ( $S_n$ ), Apparent Molar Volume ( $V_\phi$ ), and Apparent Molar Compressibility ( $\kappa_\phi$ ) Data of [RMIM][SCN] in (PC + LiX (X = Cl<sup>-</sup> and Br<sup>-</sup>)) Solutions at  $T = 298.15$  K under Pressure ( $P = 0.086$  MPa)<sup>a</sup>**

$m_{\text{IL}}$ (mol kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$d$ (kg m <sup>-3</sup> )	$u$ (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	$S_n$	$10^6 V_\phi$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^{14} \kappa_\phi$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> Pa <sup>-1</sup> )
[BMIm]SCN + PC + LiBr					
$m_{\text{LiBr}} = 0.0035$ mol kg <sup>-1</sup>					
0.0000	1199.180	1442.83			
0.0141	1198.884	1443.78	74.26	179.16	4.64
0.0177	1198.808	1444.04	75.53	179.19	4.59
0.0206	1198.748	1444.25	76.50	179.20	4.56
0.0250	1198.656	1444.59	78.46	179.20	4.49
0.0281	1198.591	1444.83	79.53	179.22	4.45
0.0317	1198.515	1445.11	80.39	179.22	4.42
0.0340	1198.467	1445.29	81.02	179.23	4.40
0.0383	1198.375	1445.62	81.54	179.26	4.38
$m_{\text{LiBr}} = 0.0062$ mol kg <sup>-1</sup>					
0.0000	1199.383	1442.70			
0.0142	1199.040	1443.60	66.34	181.34	5.00
0.0167	1198.979	1443.77	67.27	181.38	4.97
0.0197	1198.905	1443.98	68.28	181.41	4.93
0.0235	1198.813	1444.24	69.18	181.46	4.90
0.0290	1198.679	1444.63	70.50	181.49	4.85
0.0326	1198.590	1444.90	71.66	181.53	4.81
0.0334	1198.571	1444.98	72.82	181.54	4.77
0.0385	1198.444	1445.35	73.40	181.59	4.75
$m_{\text{LiBr}} = 0.0097$ mol kg <sup>-1</sup>					
0.0000	1199.688	1442.63			
0.0131	1199.333	1443.40	57.91	183.40	5.37
0.0172	1199.220	1443.66	59.10	183.42	5.33
0.0189	1199.174	1443.77	59.83	183.46	5.30
0.0242	1199.028	1444.10	60.14	183.48	5.29
0.0282	1198.920	1444.36	61.04	183.49	5.26
0.0325	1198.802	1444.65	62.07	183.52	5.22
0.0358	1198.712	1444.89	63.43	183.55	5.18
0.0392	1198.618	1445.15	64.93	183.58	5.12
[BMIm]SCN + PC + LiCl					
$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0031$ mol kg <sup>-1</sup>					
0.0000	1199.109	1442.84			
0.0138	1198.829	1443.85	83.11	178.70	4.33
0.0171	1198.761	1444.10	83.46	178.71	4.31
0.0211	1198.681	1444.40	84.12	178.72	4.29
0.0241	1198.619	1444.63	84.39	178.74	4.28
0.0295	1198.510	1445.04	84.97	178.77	4.26
0.0332	1198.434	1445.32	85.00	178.78	4.25
0.0359	1198.377	1445.53	85.14	178.82	4.25
0.0395	1198.302	1445.80	85.13	178.86	4.25
$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0059$ mol kg <sup>-1</sup>					
0.0000	1199.241	1442.73			
0.0130	1198.960	1443.63	77.12	179.63	4.58
0.0174	1198.864	1443.94	77.31	179.65	4.57
0.0204	1198.798	1444.16	77.88	179.67	4.55
0.0240	1198.721	1444.41	77.96	179.68	4.55
0.0290	1198.611	1444.77	78.22	179.71	4.54
0.0331	1198.523	1445.07	78.75	179.71	4.52
0.0356	1198.467	1445.26	79.09	179.73	4.50
0.0400	1198.372	1445.58	79.41	179.75	4.49
$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0100$ mol kg <sup>-1</sup>					
0.0000	1199.447	1442.65			
0.0131	1199.142	1443.47	66.79	180.70	4.99
0.0174	1199.042	1443.74	66.94	180.74	4.98
0.0198	1198.987	1443.89	67.04	180.74	4.98
0.0234	1198.901	1444.13	67.56	180.77	4.96
0.0280	1198.796	1444.42	67.78	180.78	4.95

Table 4. continued

$m_{\text{Li}}$ (mol kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$d$ (kg m <sup>-3</sup> )	$u$ (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	$S_{\text{H}}$	$10^6 V_{\varphi}$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^{14} \kappa_{\varphi}$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> Pa <sup>-1</sup> )
$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0100 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$					
0.0318	1198.706	1444.66	67.68	180.82	4.95
0.0355	1198.620	1444.91	68.29	180.83	4.93
0.0388	1198.543	1445.12	68.27	180.84	4.93
[HMIm]SCN + PC + LiBr					
$m_{\text{LiBr}} = 0.0035 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$					
0.0000	1199.208	1442.87			
0.0111	1198.787	1443.58	56.07	214.47	6.67
0.0143	1198.662	1443.80	56.94	214.49	6.64
0.0197	1198.458	1444.15	57.06	214.51	6.64
0.0236	1198.311	1444.41	57.58	214.55	6.62
0.0278	1198.149	1444.70	58.11	214.56	6.60
0.0358	1197.847	1445.25	59.09	214.59	6.56
0.0390	1197.726	1445.46	59.05	214.63	6.56
0.0447	1197.508	1445.85	59.31	214.67	6.55
$m_{\text{LiBr}} = 0.0058 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$					
0.0000	1199.497	1442.76			
0.0103	1199.076	1443.38	48.23	216.27	7.02
0.0159	1198.848	1443.72	48.56	216.31	7.00
0.0203	1198.672	1443.99	49.16	216.32	6.98
0.0251	1198.477	1444.29	49.62	216.34	6.96
0.0282	1198.348	1444.49	49.89	216.35	6.95
0.0336	1198.130	1444.82	49.90	216.36	6.95
0.0387	1197.926	1445.13	49.97	216.40	6.95
0.0426	1197.767	1445.38	50.28	216.43	6.94
$m_{\text{LiBr}} = 0.0095 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$					
0.0000	1199.743	1442.58			
0.0104	1199.284	1443.17	41.01	218.55	7.35
0.0149	1199.085	1443.43	41.35	218.57	7.34
0.0188	1198.916	1443.65	41.47	218.61	7.34
0.0243	1198.673	1443.97	41.72	218.62	7.33
0.0279	1198.515	1444.18	41.94	218.64	7.32
0.0331	1198.287	1444.48	42.02	218.67	7.32
0.0386	1198.046	1444.80	42.17	218.69	7.31
0.0417	1197.911	1444.99	42.58	218.71	7.30
[HMIm]SCN + PC + LiCl					
$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0033 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$					
0.0000	1199.225	1442.85			
0.0114	1198.793	1443.63	62.35	214.41	6.47
0.0142	1198.686	1443.83	62.96	214.42	6.44
0.0191	1198.501	1444.17	63.16	214.43	6.44
0.0248	1198.285	1444.57	63.42	214.45	6.42
0.0299	1198.093	1444.92	63.32	214.48	6.43
0.0328	1197.980	1445.13	63.45	214.50	6.42
0.0381	1197.781	1445.51	63.93	214.52	6.40
0.0401	1197.705	1445.66	64.31	214.55	6.39
$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0061 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$					
0.0000	1199.368	1442.75			
0.0103	1198.958	1443.40	53.41	215.54	6.82
0.0146	1198.789	1443.68	54.52	215.57	6.78
0.0185	1198.636	1443.93	54.81	215.59	6.77
0.0229	1198.460	1444.22	55.14	215.61	6.76
0.0292	1198.209	1444.63	55.27	215.65	6.76
0.0331	1198.055	1444.89	55.67	215.67	6.74
0.0375	1197.881	1445.17	55.50	215.69	6.75
0.0426	1197.681	1445.51	55.93	215.72	6.73
$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0104 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$					
0.0000	1199.467	1442.62			
0.0111	1199.014	1443.23	42.04	216.43	7.25
0.0143	1198.880	1443.42	42.92	216.44	7.22
0.0197	1198.661	1443.73	43.66	216.45	7.20



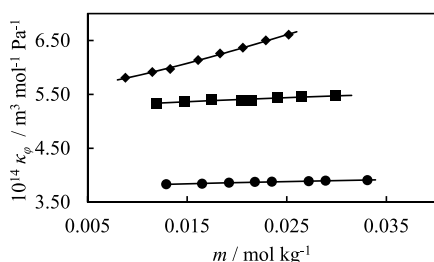
Table 4. continued

$m_{\text{IL}}$ (mol kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$d$ (kg m <sup>-3</sup> )	$u$ (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	$S_{\text{H}}$	$10^6 V_{\varphi}$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^{14} \kappa_{\varphi}$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> Pa <sup>-1</sup> )
			$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0104 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$		
0.0236	1198.503	1443.95	43.80	216.48	7.19
0.0278	1198.329	1444.19	43.76	216.50	7.19
0.0358	1198.005	1444.65	44.18	216.52	7.18
0.0390	1197.876	1444.84	44.55	216.54	7.16
0.0447	1197.644	1445.17	44.68	216.56	7.16
			[OMIm]SCN + PC + LiBr		
			$m_{\text{LiBr}} = 0.0038 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$		
0.0000	1199.227	1442.80			
0.0096	1198.733	1443.41	44.26	247.20	8.39
0.0133	1198.543	1443.66	45.84	247.26	8.34
0.0155	1198.428	1443.81	46.29	247.27	8.32
0.0184	1198.280	1444.01	47.22	247.30	8.29
0.0237	1198.010	1444.37	48.03	247.33	8.26
0.0266	1197.856	1444.58	48.60	247.37	8.24
0.0300	1197.686	1444.81	48.97	247.37	8.23
0.0322	1197.570	1444.98	49.74	247.39	8.20
			$m_{\text{LiBr}} = 0.0060 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$		
0.0000	1199.422	1442.68			
0.0099	1198.897	1443.28	39.14	248.38	8.61
0.0127	1198.743	1443.47	40.65	248.44	8.56
0.0162	1198.562	1443.69	41.38	248.43	8.54
0.0194	1198.389	1443.90	41.82	248.44	8.52
0.0227	1198.217	1444.11	42.20	248.47	8.51
0.0263	1198.027	1444.34	42.41	248.49	8.50
0.0299	1197.832	1444.58	42.76	248.53	8.49
0.0322	1197.709	1444.74	43.32	248.58	8.47
			$m_{\text{LiBr}} = 0.0098 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$		
0.0000	1199.584	1442.52			
0.0097	1199.043	1443.09	34.22	250.03	8.85
0.0132	1198.850	1443.31	35.92	250.07	8.79
0.0168	1198.648	1443.54	36.95	250.13	8.76
0.0194	1198.504	1443.70	37.13	250.14	8.75
0.0244	1198.230	1444.02	38.23	250.16	8.71
0.0267	1198.100	1444.18	39.03	250.19	8.68
0.0302	1197.904	1444.40	39.04	250.22	8.68
0.0330	1197.749	1444.59	39.71	250.25	8.66
			[OMIm]SCN + PC + LiCl		
			$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0032 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$		
0.0000	1199.177	1442.90			
0.0110	1198.620	1443.65	51.88	246.98	8.13
0.0140	1198.445	1443.89	52.32	247.04	8.11
0.0180	1198.237	1444.18	52.92	247.07	8.09
0.0200	1198.161	1444.29	53.41	247.12	8.07
0.0240	1197.926	1444.62	53.81	247.13	8.06
0.0290	1197.715	1444.91	53.77	247.17	8.06
0.0300	1197.646	1445.01	54.00	247.18	8.05
0.0340	1197.459	1445.29	54.86	247.21	8.02
			$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0064 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$		
0.0000	1199.276	1442.74			
0.0100	1198.724	1443.41	44.61	248.42	8.44
0.0150	1198.479	1443.72	45.77	248.49	8.40
0.0170	1198.394	1443.83	46.22	248.51	8.39
0.0200	1198.233	1444.04	46.99	248.55	8.36
0.0220	1198.124	1444.18	47.24	248.58	8.35
0.0260	1197.869	1444.51	47.76	248.60	8.33
0.0300	1197.669	1444.77	48.10	248.62	8.32
0.0320	1197.556	1444.92	48.38	248.63	8.31
			$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0100 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$		
0.0000	1199.413	1442.63			
0.0095	1198.887	1443.17	32.51	250.01	8.92

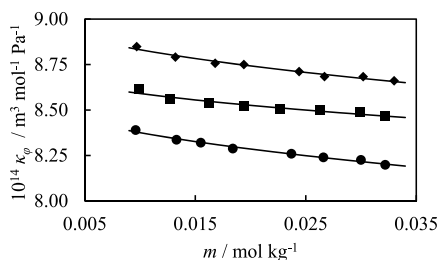
Table 4. continued

$m_{\text{IL}}$ (mol kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$d$ (kg m <sup>-3</sup> )	$u$ (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	$S_{\text{IL}}$	$10^6 V_{\varphi}$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^{14} \kappa_{\varphi}$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> Pa <sup>-1</sup> )
$m_{\text{LiCl}} = 0.0100 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$					
0.0133	1198.675	1443.40	33.78	250.05	8.88
0.0155	1198.551	1443.54	34.70	250.07	8.85
0.0184	1198.391	1443.72	35.53	250.11	8.82
0.0237	1198.100	1444.04	36.04	250.13	8.80
0.0266	1197.934	1444.23	36.63	250.16	8.78
0.0300	1197.750	1444.45	37.56	250.19	8.75
0.0322	1197.625	1444.60	38.11	250.21	8.73

<sup>a</sup>Standard uncertainties for molality, temperature, and pressure were  $u(m) = 0.002 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ ,  $u(T) = 0.02 \text{ K}$ , and  $u(P) = 10 \text{ hPa}$ , respectively, with a 0.68 level of confidence, and the combined standard uncertainties for density and speed of sound were  $u_c(d) = 0.07 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$  and  $u_c(u) = 1.3 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  with a 0.68 level of confidence. The standard uncertainties of the apparent molar volume and apparent molar isentropic compressibility were  $u_c(V_{\varphi}) = 5.10^{-5} \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  (level of confidence of 0.68) and  $u_c(\kappa_{\varphi}) = 3.10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ Pa}^{-1}$  (level of confidence of 0.68), respectively.



**Figure 6.** Apparent molar isentropic compressibility  $\kappa_{\varphi}$  values of [RMIM][SCN] versus its molality  $m$  at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ . (●) [BMIM][SCN], (■) [HMIM][SCN], and (◆) [OMIM][SCN], and solid lines show the corresponding Redlich–Mayer model.



**Figure 7.** Apparent molar isentropic compressibility values,  $\kappa_{\varphi}$ , of [OMIM][SCN] in PC + LiBr {(●)  $0.0038 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ , (■)  $0.0060 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ , and (◆)  $0.0092 \text{ mol kg}^{-1}$ }, and solid lines show the Redlich model at  $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$ .

Consequently, IL solvation numbers were decreased. It means that the coordination of PC to  $\text{Li}^+$  is more favorable rather than the IL solvation.

The apparent molar isentropic compressibility,  $\kappa_{\varphi}$ , of the ILs has been determined in the solution with the following relation<sup>24</sup>

$$\kappa_{\varphi} = \frac{\kappa_S d_0 - d \kappa_{S_0}}{m d d_0} + \frac{\kappa_S M}{d} \quad (16)$$

The  $\kappa_{\varphi}$  values of the ILs in the studied solutions are given in Tables 1 and 4 for the corresponding binary and ternary solutions, respectively. These values increase by the addition of the IL in the studied binary solutions (IL + PC). The  $\kappa_{\varphi}$  values are higher for a longer alkyl chain length of the ILs [OMIM][SCN], as shown in Figure 6.

The results indicate that the  $\kappa_{\varphi}$  values of the ILs, [OMIM][SCN], increase at a higher concentration of LiBr (Figure 7).

Also, it found that the LiBr solution  $\kappa_{\varphi}$  values are larger than LiCl solutions, as given in Table 4. The influence of temperature

on the  $\kappa_{\varphi}$  values of [BMIM][SCN] at (288.15–318.15) K is plotted in Figure 8, which represents a decreasing trend at a higher temperature.

The obtained  $\kappa_{\varphi}$  values of the studied ILs of binary (IL + PC) and ternary (IL + LiX + PC) solutions were fitted to the following equation<sup>24</sup>

$$\kappa_{\varphi} = \kappa_{\varphi}^0 + S_k m^{1/2} + B_k m \quad (17)$$

where  $\kappa_{\varphi}^0$  is the partial molar isentropic compressibility and  $S_k$  and  $B_k$  are the empirical parameters of the equation. The obtained parameters for the investigated solutions are listed in Tables 6 and 7 for the studied solutions. The  $\kappa_{\varphi}^0$  values increase with the alkyl chain length of the ILs.

The  $\kappa_{\varphi}^0$  values for the ILs in PC and in the presence of LiX salts are positive, which increase with increasing LiX content, and also, it is found that the value  $\kappa_{\varphi}^0$  in the presence of LiBr is higher than LiCl. This trend shows that bulk propylene carbonate is more compressible rather than electrostrictive PC molecules (solvated PC molecules); upon addition of LiX, electrostriction interactions between IL and PC become weaker due to PC molecules' coordination on  $\text{Li}^+$ , as previously mentioned. On the other hand, according to the SPT results, it is seen that interactional and cavity volumes are increased for a longer alkyl chain length of the ILs. The highly available cavity volume is the main reason for the high compressibility value of [OMIM][SCN] in the PC solution. The intermolecular interaction between the cation of the IL and PC is the dominant factor of this phenomenon but there is intramolecular negative ion interaction, which is another factor that is negligible in the dilute region.

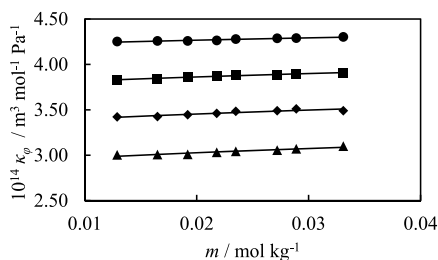
## CONCLUSIONS

This study is a thermodynamic approach to a model of Li-ion battery electrolytes. The volumetric and compressibility properties of the ILs, [RMIM][SCN], in PC in the presence of LiCl and LiBr have been investigated to understand the existing interactions in these systems. The ILs' interaction with PC increased with the alkyl chain length of the imidazolium cation from butyl to octyl. However, these interactions were weakened at a higher temperature. The studied ILs, [RMIM][SCN], show structure-breaking behavior in propylene carbonate with the following trend: [OMIM][SCN] > [HMIM][SCN] > [BMIM][SCN]. Although ILs with larger cations are more compressible, this feature decreases with increasing temperature. The ion–polar interactions are dominant rather than other interactions in the ternary systems. Also, interactions between LiX and ILs increase with the lithium halide content, and LiBr has a stronger

**Table 5. Standard Partial Molar Volume ( $V_{\varphi}^0$ ), Empirical Parameters of eq 2,  $S_V$  and  $B_V$ , the Partial Molar Volume of Transfer ( $\Delta_{tr} V_{\varphi}^0$ ), and the Standard Deviation of the Apparent Molar Volume ( $\sigma(V_{\varphi})$ ) for the Ternary Solutions Containing (IL + LiX + PC) at Different Concentrations of LiX at  $T = 298.15$  K under Pressure ( $P = 0.086$  MPa)<sup>a</sup>**

$m_{\text{LiX}}$ (mol kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^6 V_{\varphi}^0$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^6 S_V$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> kg <sup>-1/2</sup> )	$10^6 B_V$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^6 \Delta_{tr} V_{\varphi}^0$ (m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$10^6 \sigma(V_{\varphi})$
[BMIM][SCN] + PC + LiBr					
0.0000	178.31 ± 0.32	4.67 ± 0.04	-1.71 ± 0.15		0.015
0.0035	178.96 ± 0.13	2.02 ± 0.02	-2.96 ± 0.05	0.65	0.008
0.0056	180.93 ± 0.16	3.81 ± 0.02	-2.44 ± 0.06	2.62	0.008
0.0095	183.10 ± 0.17	2.89 ± 0.02	-2.74 ± 0.07	4.79	0.011
[BMIM][SCN] + PC + LiCl					
0.0000	178.31 ± 0.32	4.67 ± 0.04	-1.71 ± 0.15		0.015
0.0028	178.98 ± 0.12	-4.92 ± 0.02	21.37 ± 0.05	0.67	0.007
0.0057	179.40 ± 0.08	2.3 ± 0.01	-2.88 ± 0.03	1.09	0.006
0.0100	180.45 ± 0.12	2.55 ± 0.02	-2.79 ± 0.05	2.13	0.008
[HMIM][SCN] + PC + LiBr					
0.0000	213.52 ± 0.60	-13.97 ± 0.09	86.42 ± 0.31		0.026
0.0036	214.46 ± 0.08	-0.66 ± 0.01	7.79 ± 0.3	0.94	0.007
0.0064	216.29 ± 0.07	-0.84 ± 0.01	7.08 ± 0.03	2.77	0.007
0.0099	218.46 ± 0.08	0.57 ± 0.01	3.20 ± 0.02	4.94	0.005
[HMIM][SCN] + PC + LiCl					
0.0000	213.52 ± 0.60	-13.97 ± 0.09	86.42 ± 0.31		0.026
0.0036	214.53 ± 0.07	-2.46 ± 0.01	12.52 ± 0.03	1.01	0.005
0.0065	215.47 ± 0.02	0.20 ± 0.00	4.97 ± 0.01	1.95	0.002
0.0104	216.39 ± 0.07	-0.07 ± 0.01	4.18 ± 0.03	2.87	0.006
[OMIM][SCN] + PC + LiBr					
0.0000	244.84 ± 0.24	2.44 ± 0.04	90.02 ± 0.15		0.009
0.0038	246.94 ± 0.07	3.09 ± 0.01	-3.07 ± 0.04	2.10	0.005
0.0060	248.58 ± 0.22	-3.86 ± 0.03	21.02 ± 0.12	3.74	0.016
0.0092	249.73 ± 0.14	3.37 ± 0.02	-3.09 ± 0.07	4.89	0.010
[OMIM][SCN] + PC + LiCl					
0.0000	244.84 ± 0.24	2.44 ± 0.04	90.02 ± 0.15		0.009
0.0032	246.64 ± 0.16	3.67 ± 0.02	-3.20 ± 0.08	1.80	0.010
0.0060	248.10 ± 0.16	3.60 ± 0.02	-3.16 ± 0.08	3.26	0.010
0.0100	249.73 ± 0.08	3.18 ± 0.01	-3.07 ± 0.04	4.89	0.006

<sup>a</sup>Standard uncertainties for molality, temperature, and pressure were ( $m$ ) = 0.002 mol kg<sup>-1</sup>,  $u(T)$  = 0.02K, and  $u(P)$  = 10 hPa, respectively, with a 0.68 level of confidence.



**Figure 8.** Apparent molar isentropic compressibility  $\kappa_{\varphi}$  values of [BMIM][SCN] in PC versus its molality  $m$  at different temperatures. (●)  $T = 288.15$  K, (■)  $T = 298.15$  K, (◆)  $T = 308.15$  K, and (▲)  $T = 318.15$  K, and solid lines represent the Redlich–Mayer model.

effect rather than LiCl. Although the addition of the lithium halide salts leads to an increase in the compressibility of the ILs, LiBr has a stronger effect rather than LiCl. To summarize, [OMIM][SCN] is an appropriate cosolvent for Li-ion battery electrolytes that can enhance the mechanical and thermal stability of the batteries.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**Chemicals.** All of the reagents used in this work are listed in Table 8. Also, the purification methods, supplier company names, and CAS numbers are given. The water content of all

components was determined with Karl-Fisher titration (Titrimo GPD 751, electrode: Metrohm Pt-6.0338.100).

**Ionic Liquids [RMIM][SCN] and their Properties.** The ionic liquid synthesis procedure is given in our previous publications with the corresponding density and speed of sound data at different temperatures.<sup>24,26</sup> Also, brief information about the synthesized ionic liquids is given in Table 8.

**Apparatus and Procedure.** The solutions were prepared using an analytical balance (Shimadzu AW-220) with a precision of  $\pm 1 \times 10^{-4}$  g in a molal-based concentration. The density and speed of sound were measured with a digital densitometer (Anton Paar DSA5000). The instrument was calibrated with air pressure and distilled water. The frequency for the speed of sound measurement was 3 MHz.

## ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsomega.1c03517>.

HNMR spectra of [BMIM][SCN], FT-IR spectra of [BMIM][SCN], HNMR spectra of [HMIM][SCN], FT-IR spectra of [HMIM][SCN], HNMR spectra of [OMIM][SCN], and FT-IR spectra of [OMIM][SCN] (PDF)

**Table 6. Partial Molar Isentropic Compressibility  $\kappa_{\phi}^0$ , Empirical Parameters of eq 17,  $S_{\kappa}$  and  $B_{\kappa}$ , and Standard Deviation of Apparent Molar Isentropic Compressibility  $\sigma(\kappa_{\phi})$  of [RMIM][SCN] in PC  $T = (288.15\text{--}318.15)$  K under Pressure ( $P = 0.086$  MPa)<sup>a</sup>**

$T$ (K)	$10^{14} \kappa_{\phi}^0$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{Pa}^{-1}$ )	$10^{14} S_{\kappa}$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-3/2} \text{kg}^{1/2} \text{Pa}^{-1}$ )	$10^{14} B_{\kappa}$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-2} \text{kg Pa}^{-1}$ )	$10^{14} \sigma(\kappa_{\phi}^0)$
		[BMIM][SCN]		
288.15	$4.17 \pm 0.07$	$0.56 \pm 0.01$	$0.81 \pm 0.03$	0.004
298.15	$3.72 \pm 0.07$	$0.89 \pm 0.01$	$0.91 \pm 0.03$	0.004
308.15	$3.27 \pm 0.22$	$1.14 \pm 0.03$	$0.99 \pm 0.10$	0.01
318.15	$2.84 \pm 0.09$	$1.15 \pm 0.01$	$1.02 \pm 0.04$	0.009
		[HMIM][SCN]		
288.15	$5.55 \pm 0.13$	$1.35 \pm 0.02$	$1.01 \pm 0.06$	0.046
298.15	$5.13 \pm 0.31$	$1.81 \pm 0.04$	$1.15 \pm 0.16$	0.014
308.15	$4.72 \pm 0.13$	$1.93 \pm 0.02$	$1.19 \pm 0.06$	0.006
318.15	$4.43 \pm 0.20$	$1.99 \pm 0.03$	$1.22 \pm 0.10$	0.010
		[OMIM][SCN]		
288.15	$6.12 \pm 0.14$	$-2.83 \pm 0.02$	$57.96 \pm 0.09$	0.008
298.15	$5.83 \pm 0.24$	$-7.97 \pm 0.04$	$81.41 \pm 0.15$	0.013
308.15	$5.51 \pm 0.22$	$-10.83 \pm 0.04$	$92.51 \pm 0.14$	0.013
318.15	$5.02 \pm 0.26$	$-11.47 \pm 0.04$	$94.37 \pm 0.16$	0.014


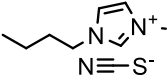
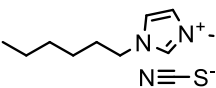
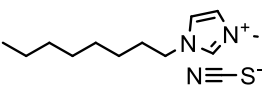
<sup>a</sup>Standard uncertainties for temperature and pressure were  $u(T) = 0.02$  K and  $u(P) = 10$  hPa, respectively, with a 0.68 level of confidence.

**Table 7. Partial Molar Isentropic Compressibility  $\kappa_{\phi}^0$ , Empirical Parameters of eq 17,  $S_{\kappa}$  and  $B_{\kappa}$ , and Standard Deviation of Apparent Molar Isentropic Compressibility  $\sigma(\kappa_{\phi})$  of [RMIM][SCN] in (PC + LiX) at Different Concentrations of LiX at  $T = 298.15$  K under Pressure ( $P = 0.086$  MPa)<sup>a</sup>**

$m_{\text{LiX}}$ ( $\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ )	$10^{14} \kappa_{\phi}^0$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{Pa}^{-1}$ )	$10^{14} S_{\kappa}$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-3/2} \text{kg}^{1/2} \text{Pa}^{-1}$ )	$10^{14} B_{\kappa}$ ( $\text{m}^3 \text{mol}^{-2} \text{kg Pa}^{-1}$ )	$10^{14} \sigma(\kappa_{\phi}^0)$
		[BMIM][SCN] + PC + LiBr		
0.0000	$3.72 \pm 0.07$	$0.89 \pm 0.01$	$0.91 \pm 0.03$	0.004
0.0035	$5.05 \pm 0.15$	$-3.44 \pm 0.02$	$-0.49 \pm 0.06$	0.009
0.0056	$5.37 \pm 0.22$	$-3.09 \pm 0.03$	$-0.40 \pm 0.09$	0.011
0.0095	$5.76 \pm 0.39$	$-3.03 \pm 0.05$	$-0.38 \pm 0.16$	0.023
		[BMIM][SCN] + PC + LiCl		
0.0000	$3.72 \pm 0.07$	$0.89 \pm 0.01$	$0.91 \pm 0.04$	0.004
0.0028	$4.45 \pm 0.05$	$-1.11 \pm 0.01$	$0.26 \pm 0.02$	0.006
0.0057	$4.71 \pm 0.06$	$-1.11 \pm 0.01$	$0.24 \pm 0.02$	0.005
0.0100	$5.08 \pm 0.08$	$-0.85 \pm 0.01$	$0.32 \pm 0.03$	0.005
		[HMIM][SCN] + PC + LiBr		
0.0000	$5.13 \pm 0.31$	$1.81 \pm 0.04$	$1.15 \pm 0.16$	0.014
0.0036	$6.80 \pm 0.07$	$-1.20 \pm 0.01$	$0.16 \pm 0.03$	0.007
0.0064	$7.10 \pm 0.05$	$-0.85 \pm 0.01$	$0.29 \pm 0.02$	0.006
0.0099	$7.42 \pm 0.03$	$-0.63 \pm 0.00$	$0.35 \pm 0.01$	0.003
		[HMIM][SCN] + PC + LiCl		
0.0000	$5.13 \pm 0.31$	$1.81 \pm 0.04$	$1.15 \pm 0.16$	0.014
0.0036	$6.54 \pm 0.09$	$-0.76 \pm 0.01$	$0.33 \pm 0.04$	0.007
0.0065	$6.89 \pm 0.06$	$-0.87 \pm 0.01$	$0.30 \pm 0.02$	0.008
0.0104	$7.33 \pm 0.06$	$-0.90 \pm 0.01$	$0.26 \pm 0.03$	0.008
		[OMIM][SCN] + PC + LiBr		
0.0000	$5.83 \pm 0.24$	$-7.97 \pm 0.04$	$81.41 \pm 0.15$	0.013
0.0038	$8.59 \pm 0.07$	$-2.17 \pm 0.01$	$-0.03 \pm 0.04$	0.006
0.0060	$8.75 \pm 0.09$	$-1.6 \pm 0.01$	$0.14 \pm 0.05$	0.011
0.0092	$9.05 \pm 0.09$	$-2.14 \pm 0.01$	$-0.03 \pm 0.05$	0.009
		[OMIM][SCN] + PC + LiCl		
0.0000	$5.83 \pm 0.24$	$-7.97 \pm 0.04$	$81.41 \pm 0.15$	0.013
0.0032	$8.26 \pm 0.11$	$-1.27 \pm 0.02$	$0.20 \pm 0.05$	0.007
0.0060	$8.60 \pm 0.04$	$-1.66 \pm 0.01$	$0.10 \pm 0.02$	0.006
0.0100	$9.12 \pm 0.10$	$-2.16 \pm 0.02$	$-0.04 \pm 0.05$	0.008

<sup>a</sup>Standard uncertainties for molality, temperature, and pressure were  $u(m) = 0.002$  mol kg<sup>-1</sup>,  $u(T) = 0.02$  K, and  $u(P) = 10$  hPa, respectively, with a 0.68 level of confidence.

Table 8. Summary of the Chemicals and their Characteristics That Were Used in This Work

Chemical name	CAS number	abbreviation	structure	Supplier	Initial mass fraction purity	Purification method	Water content (ppm)	Final mass fraction purity	Analysis method
Lithium bromide	7550-35-8		$\text{Li}^+ \text{Br}^-$	Merck	>0.99	Dried at 398.15 K	16		KF
Lithium chloride	7447-41-8		$\text{Li}^+ \text{Cl}^-$	Merck	>0.99	Dried at 393.15 K	12		KF
Propylene carbonate	108-32-7	PC		Samchun	>0.995	None	anhydrous		KF
1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium thiocyanate	344790-87-0	[BMIM][SCN]		Synthesized		Extraction / filtration / rotary evaporator / vacuum	120	>0.93	$^1\text{H}$ NMR / FT-IR / KF
1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium thiocyanate	847499-74-5	[HMIM][SCN]		Synthesized		Extraction / filtration / rotary evaporator / vacuum	95	>0.97	$^1\text{H}$ NMR / FT-IR / KF
1-octyl-3-methylimidazolium thiocyanate	847499-72-3	[OMIM][SCN]		Synthesized		Extraction / filtration / rotary evaporator / vacuum	115	>0.97	$^1\text{H}$ NMR / FT-IR / KF

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### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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