

## Investigation of water structure changes in carbamide and nitrates $[\text{NaNO}_3, \text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2, \text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3]$ solutions by ultraacoustic method

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Carbamide or urea is the final product of an albumen metabolism of a human being and majority of mammalia. It is produced in liver. It is found in blood, muscles and other tissues, in saliva, lymph and milk. Carbamide regulates water metabolism in an organism and hydration of tissues. Microorganisms of alimentary canal of ruminant animals use carbamide in biosynthesis of albumen. Carbamide is used in chemical industry for production of formaldehyde resins, medicine, hydrazine, hydrazoformamide, melanine, some sorts of paints and for synthesizing of other combinations, for oil deparaffination and stabilization of smokeless powder. Toothpastes and cosmetic creams contain carbamide too. Carbamide is one of the best concentrated nitrogen fertilizers. In industry carbamide is produced from ammonium hydrate and carbon dioxide. The most usual form of this material - granules. Carbamide is used in the main and supplementary fertilization of crops. Nitrates of sodium, calcium and ammonium are also used as nitrogen fertilizers. Complex fertilizers, e. i., mixtures of various fertilizers, are widely used nowadays. The aim of our work is to investigate the influence of carbamide and sodium, calcium and ammonium nitrates on water structure, while dissolving them separately and together at the temperature of 25, 30, 40° C, at the concentration of nitrates 0,5 m (0,5 substance of mole per 1 kg H<sub>2</sub>O), and changing concentration of carbamide at intervals from 0,5 to 15 mol/kg.

Water is compressive but uncompressive particles - ions - appear after dissolving of salts.

Ions influence water molecules and hydrogen connections between molecules, they can weaken or strengthen the connections, and that is the reason why compression of solution changes.

If volume of the solution is  $V$ , and uncompressive volume in it is  $v_1$ , the uncompressive part in the solution is equal to:

$$\alpha = \frac{v_1}{V}. \quad (1)$$

The uncompressive part of the solution volume can be calculated from the adiabatic compression coefficients of water and solution  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta$  [1 - 10]:

$$\alpha = \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta_0} = \frac{v_1}{V}, \quad (2)$$

here  $\Delta\beta = \beta_0 - \beta$ .

From the formula (2) the uncompressive volume in the solution is equal to:

$$v_1 = \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta_0} V. \quad (3)$$

If salts of mass  $m_0$  are dissolved in water, it has  $N$  molecules ( $N = m_0 N_A / \mu$ ,  $m_0$  is the mass of salt,  $\mu$  is the mole mass,  $N_A$  is the Avogadro's constant). The uncompressive volume for one molecule is

$$V_v = \frac{\Delta\beta V}{\beta_0 N} \quad (4)$$

Having denoted  $n = N/V$  what is the concentration of molecules, we have:

$$V_v = \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta_0 n}. \quad (5)$$

If two salts instead of one are dissolved in the solution, the average uncompressive volume in the solution for one molecule is equal to:

$$V_v = \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta_0 (n_1 + n_2)}. \quad (6)$$

Here  $\Delta\beta = \beta_0 - \beta$ ,  $\beta_0$  is the coefficient of the adiabatic compression of water,  $\beta$  is the coefficient of the adiabatic compression of carbamide and nitrate solution,  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  - concentrations of carbamide and nitrate molecules.

An average uncompressive volume per one molecule when carbamide and nitrate are dissolved separately, is equal to:

$$V_v = \frac{1}{2} (V_{v_1} + V_{v_2}), \quad (7)$$

where  $V_{v_1}$  is the uncompressive volume of one molecule of carbamide, when dissolved separately,  $V_{v_2}$  is an uncompressive volume of one molecule of nitrate, when dissolved in water separately.

The evaluation of changes of water structure is based on the difference of an average uncompressive volume of one molecule, when the substances are dissolved together and separately:

$$\Delta V = \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta_o(n_1+n_2)} - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\Delta\beta_1}{\beta_o n_1} + \frac{\Delta\beta_2}{\beta_o n_2} \right), \quad (8)$$

where  $\Delta\beta_1 = \beta_o - \beta_1$ ;  $\Delta\beta_2 = \beta_o - \beta_2$ ,  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are the adiabatic compression coefficients of carbamide and nitrate, dissolved separately.

The coefficients of the adiabatic compression ( $\beta_o$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$ ) have been evaluated by the ultrasonic method according to the formula  $\beta = 1/(\rho v^2)$ . Here  $\rho$  is the density of the solution,  $v$  is the speed of ultrasound in the solution. The speed of ultrasound has been measured by the ultrasound interferometer to within 0.01% ( $v=2$  MHz). The density has been measured by a pycnometer to within 0.001% (volume of the pycnometer is 25 cm<sup>3</sup>). The volume of the solution has been calculated by the formula  $V=m/\rho$  where  $m$  is the mass of the solution,  $\rho$  is its density.

The uncompressive part of the solution  $v_1$  consists of ions (cations and anions). The volume of these ions can be calculated from their crystallographic radius. Cations of nitrates are surrounded with two layers of water molecules of different structures [11]. Anions have only one water molecules' layer of different structure, except  $\text{NO}_3^-$ , which does not destroy water structure at all [7, 12, 13, 14]. Water molecules, which are in the first layer around the cation, are only polarized and deformed [11,13]. The dispersive Van der Waals forces appear as a result of deformation. These forces destroy hydrogen connections of water molecules. This phenomenon is called hydration. Ions of some salts strengthen hydrogen connections between water molecules, what is a positive hydration, while other ions weaken hydrogen connections between water molecules and that is called a negative hydration. A water compressibility decreases when the hydration is positive, and increases when the hydration is negative [11]. The uncompressive volume of ions themselves must not be dependent neither from concentration of salts nor from a temperature. The polarization layer of cations has to increase when temperature increases, as the Debay

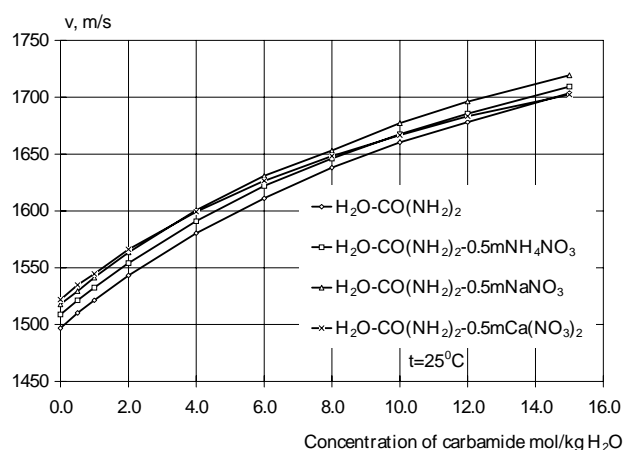


Fig.1. Dependence of ultrasound  $v$  on the concentration of carbamide at the temperature of 25°C

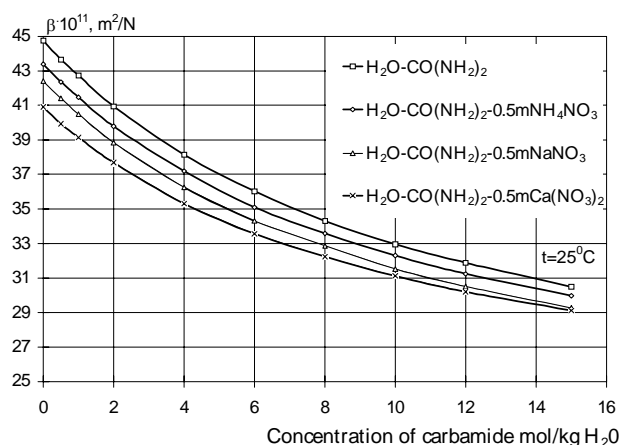


Fig. 2. Dependence of the coefficient of adiabatic compressibility of the solution on the concentration of carbamide at the temperature of 25°C.

screening radius is directly proportional to a square root from absolute temperature [15].

Carbamide destroys water structure [16-19] and forms more compact combinations with water molecules, therefore, the adiabatic compressibility of the solution decreases, and the speed of ultrasound increases. Carbamide, as an organic substance, can have different influence on hydrogen connections from that of nitrate ions can. Thus, the process of hydration is a complicated one. In our opinion, the different  $\Delta V$  when salts are dissolved together or separately occurs only because of changes in hydration process.

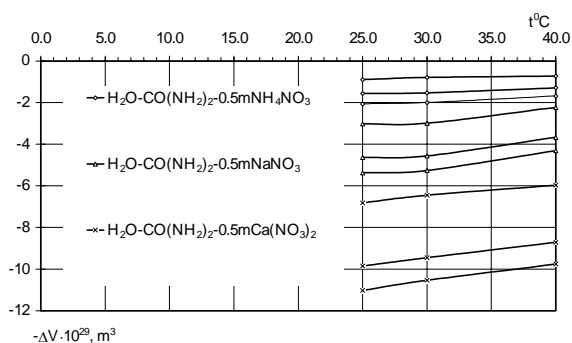


Fig. 4. Dependence of  $\Delta V$  on the temperature, when concentration of the solution is 2, 6 and 12 mol/kg

The dependence of  $v$  and  $\beta$  on the concentration of carbamide and the dependence of  $\Delta V$  on temperature and on the concentration of carbamide is depicted in Fig. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

In the Fig. 1 the dependence of ultrasound speed  $v$  on the concentration of carbamide is shown. We see, that at the increasing concentration of carbamide, the ultrasound velocity increases also. The ultrasound velocity is increased by nitrates in the solution, and sodium nitrate is of the strongest influence here.

The Fig.2 shows the dependence of the solutions' adiabatic compressibility coefficient  $\beta$  on the concentration of carbamide. We see that at the increasing concentration of carbamide, the adiabatic compressibility of solutions decreases. The adiabatic compressibility of solutions is decreased by nitrates, and calcium nitrate is of the strongest influence.

The dependence of  $\Delta V$  on the concentration of carbamide is shown in Fig. 3. The graph shows that if concentration of carbamide increases,  $\Delta V$  decreases. When the concentration of carbamide exceeds 10 mol/kg,  $\Delta V$  almost does not change. It means the change of hydration to be very small as the number of free water molecules is small.

Fig. 4 presents the dependence of  $\Delta V$  on a temperature at different carbamide concentrations. It is clear that when a temperature increases,  $\Delta V$  also increases. This dependency of  $\Delta V$  is not related to the concentration of carbamide. It is possible that the change of hydration process increases at the increasing temperature.

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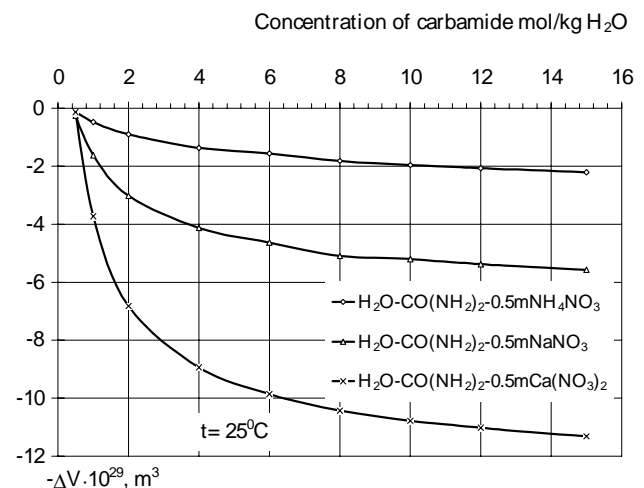


Fig. 3. Dependence of  $\Delta V$  on the concentration of carbamide at the temperature of 25° C.

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**Vandens struktūros pokyčių tyrimas karbamido ir nitratų [NaNO<sub>3</sub>, Ca(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>] tirpaluose ultraakustiniu metodu**

Reziumė

Ištirta, kaip vandens struktūroje veikia karbamido ir natrio, kalcio bei amonio nitratai, ištirpinti kartu ir atskirai, esant 25, 30 ir 40°C temperatūrai. Nitratų koncentracija buvo 0.5

mol/kg, o karbamido koncentracija buvo keičiama 0.5-15 mol/kg intervale. Vandens struktūros pokytis įvertintas remiantis vienos molekulės vidutinio nespūdaus tūrio skirtumu  $\Delta V$ , ištirpinus medžiagas kartu ir atskirai. Nustatyta, kad kai karbamido koncentracija didesnė nei 10 mol/kg,  $\Delta V$  beveik nekinta. Tai rodo, kad, esant didesnei karbamido koncentracijai, vandens struktūra jau nebekinta.