--------------------------------*Chemistry: Results and Prospects*-----------------------------

ELUCIDATION OF SPECIFIC ION-ASSOCIATION
IN NONAQUEOUS SOLUTION ENVIRONMENTS

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   In aqueous solution, alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts are regarded to be "indifferent salts" or supporting electrolytes, which should cause the change of the activity coefficients of ionic species. Although higher ion aggregates from 1:1 type electrolytes in low-permittivity media ($\varepsilon_r < 10$) are widely accepted, only few chemists have recognized the higher ion aggregation in the higher permittivity media. However, we have clarified that the chemical interaction, such as coordination, can operate between anions and cations in non-aqueous solvents ($20 < \varepsilon_r < 65$) of low solvation ability. Acids (HA) and their conjugate base anions (A^-) may react with each other to form homoconjugated species, such as $A^-(HA)_2$, in acetonitrile or benzonitrile, protophobic aprotic solvents with low hydrogen-bonding donor and acceptor abilities. After observing the direct reaction of some anions (e.g. Cl^-) and cations (e.g. Li^+) toward a certain species, we interpreted comprehensively the salt effects in chemical equilibria, based on distinct chemical interactions and not merely a vague term, "medium effect." A reaction manner similar to that in non-aqueous solution can take place even in some "aqueous" solution if the water structure of the aqueous solution is destroyed completely, because the properties of the bulk water should arise from a huge network of water molecules by hydrogen bonding; otherwise the properties of water must be reduced to just those of isolated H_2O molecules, termed, "dihydrogen ether." The chemical interaction between ions has been proved in "aqueous" solution of low water-structuredness with the addition of concentrated salts and non-aqueous solvents: a minor increase of the intermediate species which would never be observed in the chemical equilibrium sense could be multiplied into a measurable change in the chemical kinetics.

   Keywords: nonaqueous solvent; acetonitrile; ion pair formation in higher permittivity media; water structure by hydrogen bonding; property of bulk water; activity coefficient

1.   Introduction

In aqueous solution, alkali metal and alkaline earth metal ions of relatively low concentrations are often regarded as supporting electrolytes or "indifferent" salts. The effects of "indifferent" salts can be evaluated by the Debye-Hückel theory. However, at more than ca. 0.1 mol dm^{-1} of 1:1-type strong electrolytes, the assumption or approximation in the theory becomes no more valid; and at the same time, specific interaction between solutes can play a role on the reaction. With additional empirical terms, the theory can be extended to higher concentration systems. It may be natural that a theory which premises complete dissociation should not be useful because even strong electrolytes do associate at more than ca. 0.1 mol dm^{-1}.

So far, we have studied the interaction between ions in solution, discovering the fact that the chemical interaction could operate, such as hydrogen bonding or coordination, as well as Coulombic interaction between alkali metal or alkaline earth metal ions and anions (excluding ClO_4^- etc.) in poor solvating solvents, especially in a hydrophobic aprotic solvent. A hydrophobic aprotic solvent has week accepting and donating abilities in hydrogen bonding interaction with solutes. However, a huge number of studies have been performed without taking into account of the "minor" interaction between alkali metal ions and anionic or uncharged species. For instance, solvent effects have been examined extensively on the protolytic equilibria of many dye compounds following the orthodox or conventional procedure [1].

In the present paper, a number of specific chemical reactions mainly in protophobic aprotic solvents are examined from the viewpoint of the ion association between or among ions and molecules as well as the changes in activity coefficients of ions. Remarkable deviation from the theory based on the complete dissociation of electrolytes has been often observed in a nonaqueous solvent, organic solvent mixed aqueous solution, and even aqueous solution containing concentrated salts; abnormal deviation may appear also in chemical equilibria or reaction rates of two phase separation methods, such as solvent extraction and HPLC. The reason will be discussed why specific reactions often occur in such conditions.

2.   Assessment of Residual Water in Nonaqueous Solvents

Nonaqueous solvents, such as acetonitrile, contain essentially small amounts of water (several mM) even after drying of solvents. Therefore, many chemists may suspect that the property of a solvent for the common use differs much from that of the "absolutely dried solvent." Coetzee and Kolthoff [2] prepared an anhydrous perchloric acid in acetic acid by heating a solution of 71% aqueous perchloric acid in glacial acetic acid with the amount of acetic anhydride required to remove the water present; this stock solution was diluted by acetonitrile to give an anhydrous perchloric acid-acetonitrile solution for the base titration. However, the acetic acid in the solution may interfere with certain reactions. Kinugasa et al. [3] prepared anhydrous perchloric acid by the distillation method in order to examine the interaction between CH_3CN and $HClO_4$. The water contents in nonaqueous solvents are determined by means of the Karl-Fisher method or gas chromatography equipped with a column of "Porapak Q" [4]

It may be reasonable to regard that the water of small amounts (residual water) in nonaqueous solvents causes no remarkable effects on the chemical equilibria or reaction rates of the solutes in the solvents; the reason will be shown as follows. The bulk water is highly structured through the hydrogen-bonding network. The common water properties should come from the bulk water of a huge number. The bulk water plays as a rather "strong" acid and also "strong" base. However, isolated water molecules are expected to give some properties much different from the bulk water because the isolated water molecules have no interaction with other water molecules or no help by other water molecules. Considering the fact that higher aggregation of water molecule can take place even in vapor phase [5], an absolutely isolated water molecule could be achieved just in the vapor phase with a low density at a higher temperature.

As for the acidity or basicity, we cannot find out any large difference between "isolated" water (H_2O) and diethyl ether (Et_2O) or methanol (MeOH): for instance, the donor number of water [6], which is dispersed in dichloroethane, has been evaluated to be 18; this value is very close to that of diethyl ether or methanol. Gutmann [6] has mentioned as follows: "it is noteworthy that even water, which has unusual entropic effects as a bulk solvent, fits the linear relationship with other solvents when the water is present in a diluted solution of dichloroethane." The intrinsic acidity of single water

molecule without hydrogen bonding is extremely smaller than expected from the bulk water: the O-H bond of a water molecule cannot be broken easily because the enthalpy of the bond has been evaluated to be 463 kJ mol^{-1} for each bond; the value is larger than that (413 kJ mol^{-1}) of a C-H bond in methane [7].
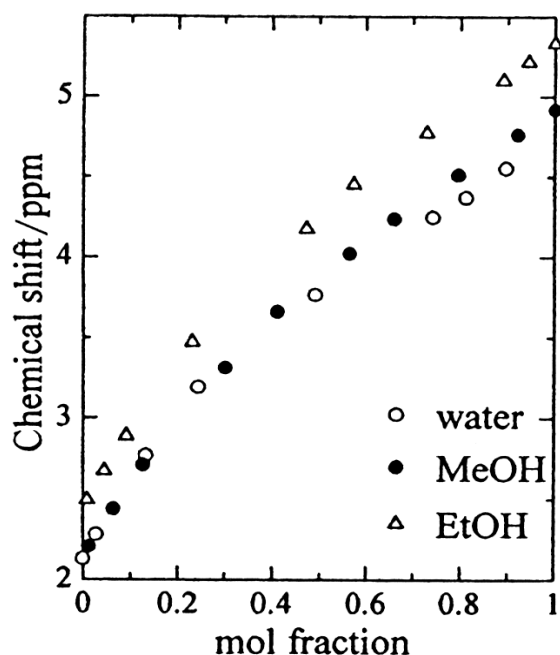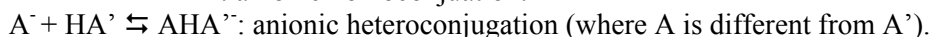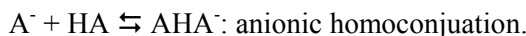

Fig. 1. The changes of OH-proton chemical shift values for water, methanol, and ethanol in CD$_3$CN.

Figure 1 shows the chemical-shift values (vs. TMS) of H$_2$O proton NMR with water contents in acetonitrile (MeCN) observe by ourselves. The "residual" water in dried acetonitrile gave a chemical-shift value of ca. 2.1, however, with increasing content of water, the value increased and approached to that (ca. 4.7) of bulk water. Alcohols, such as methanol, ethanol, and others, possessing hydrogen-bonding structure also gave similar behavior in their chemical shifts. Silverstein et al. [8] noted the difference between the bulk water and the isolated water as follows: the chemical shift of the bulk water, i.e., the film of water on the wall of the NMR-tube which contains CDCl$_3$ or suspended water in CDCl$_3$ appears at δ= ca. 4.7, while the "monomeric" dissolved water in CDCl$_3$ at δ= 1.5, which should disturb the important signals of organic compounds. The residual water or a small amount water in acetone and DMSO has been reported to give a smaller chemical shift value [9].

As described above, the acidity and the basicity of the residual water in a nonaqueous solvent should be extremely small because the water cannot form huge networks of water molecules; in other words, the effects on solutes of water at a sufficiently low concentration in a nonaqueous solvent must be no more than those of diethyl ether. However, strong Lewis acids, such as Al^{3+} or In^{3+}, may react with "isolated" water molecules. Therefore, it goes without saying that, for the studies of nonaqueous solutions, a great care should be paid on the drying of solvents, glassware, and reagents and even the effects of moisture in the atmosphere. In laboratories operating nonaquous solvents, it is a daily procedure to removed the surface water on glassware in a drying-oven at 120°C.

3. Specific Reactions between Acids and Bases: Homoconjugation and Heteroconjugation Reactions

In amphiprotic solvents, such as water and ethanol, the interaction between solvents and solutes is strong enough to prevent the solutes from interacting together through the hydrogen bonding interaction. However, in aprotic solvents, the conjugate anions (A$^-$) from weak acids (HA) may interact with the mother acid or a related acid (HA') molecule to form anionic homoconjugated or heteroconjugated species as follows:

A$^-$ + HA ⇆ AHA$^-$: anionic homoconjuation.

A$^-$ + HA' ⇆ AHA'$^-$: anionic heteroconjugation (where A is different from A').

Similarly, cationic homoconjugated or heteroconjugated species are derived from the interaction between a weak base (B) and the conjugate acid (BH$^+$):
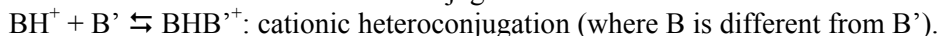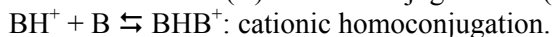
BH$^+$ + B ⇆ BHB$^+$: cationic homoconjugation.

BH$^+$ + B' ⇆ BHB'$^+$: cationic heteroconjugation (where B is different from B').

By means of conductometry, we [10] discovered that even sulfonic acids, such as methanesulfonic and p-toluenesulfonic acids, behave indeed as weak acids in benzonitrile (ε_r = 25.2) to form 1:2-type homoconjugated species, $A^-(HA)_2$ (cf. Fig. 2).

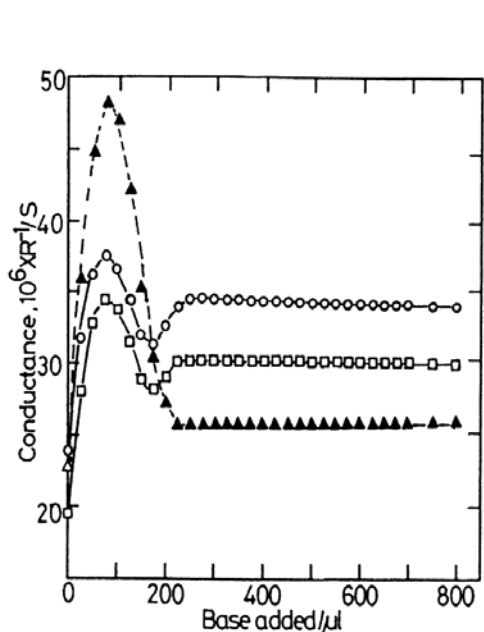Benzonitrile has rather small values of donor and acceptor numbers, DN = 11.9 and AN = 15.5. Coincidentally, Kolthoff and Chantooni [11] observed a distinct maximum at the 2/3 equivalent point in the conductometric titration of H_2SO_4 with butylamine; they attributed the appearance of the maximum to the formation of 1:1-type homoconjugated species ($HSO_4^- \cdot H_2SO_4$). However, we have argued that the appearance of the maximum at 2/3 equivalent point should be based on a 2:1-type homoconjugated species (Scheme 1) and not the 1:1-type one [10].

Fig. 2. Conductometric titration curves of 0.0050 M sulfonic acids (25 ml) with 0.50 M triethylamine in benzonitrile at 25^0C: (▲) methansulfonic, (□) p-toluenesulfonic, (○) benzenesulfonic acids.
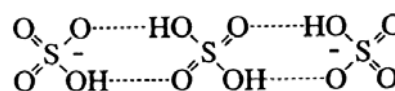
Scheme 1. The proposed homoconjugated species, $(HSO_4^-)_2 H_2SO_4$.

Phosphoric acids can cause aggregation including homoconjugation in even DMF with large donicity (DN = 26.6) [12]. It has been demonstrated that the stability of the 1:1-type species depends on the number of OH groups in a phosphoric acid molecule concerning the homoconjugation reaction (cf. Scheme 2).
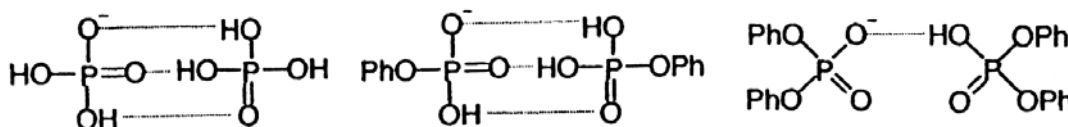
Scheme 2. Homoconjugation with single and multiple hands between HA and A^- in DMF.

4. Complex Formation Reactions with Alkali Metal Ions
4-1. Interaction between Aza-Crown Ethers and Alkali Metal Ions

The complex formation abilities of alkali metal ions are much smaller than those of transition metal ions. In aqueous solution, the weak complexes with alkali metal ions are often neglected and a strong dependence of protonation constants for ligands on the concentration of background is generally ascribed to activity factors. However, Daniele et al. [13] stressed that a rigorous treatment of acid-base equilibria must also take into account the weak interaction between the ligand under study and the cation background. The complex formations between alkali metal ions and the acetate ion has been examined in aqueous solutions at different temperatures and ionic strengths [14]. The complex formations of alkali metal ions with macrocyclic compounds, such as crown ethers, have been investigated widely by means of various technics [15].

In MeCN, aza-crown ethers give anodic (mercury-dissolution) waves of polarography; the half-wave potential ($E_{1/2}$) of the anodic waves are shifted by the addition of Lewis acids, such as alkali metal ions. The shifts in $E_{1/2}$ have been utilized to evaluate the complex formation constants between

aza-crown ethers and alkali metal ions in MeCN [16-18]. In a similar method, the interaction between acyclic polyamines and alkali metal ions have been also evaluated [19].

4-2. Coordination and "Reverse-Coordination"

By means of a usual polarographic method, we [20] have discovered the 1:2-type complexes of Li^+, Na^+, and K^+ with the benzoate ion in MeCN, evaluating the overall formation constants (K_f/M^{-2}) to be $10^{16.7}$, $10^{8.4}$, and $10^{4.2}$, respectively in the presence of a large excess of $PhCOO^-(Et_4N^+)$. The cathodic wave of $Li^+(ClO_4^-)$ shifts negatively with the addition of $Cl^-(Et_4N^+)$: the formation constants of $Li^+(Cl^-)_n$ ($n = 1 \sim 4$) have been obtained [21].

On the other hand, the formation of a "reverse-coordination" species, $RCOO^-(M^+)_2$, has been proposed on the base of the re-dissolution of $RCOO^-M^+$ ($M^+ = Li^+$ or Na^+) by the addition of a large excess of $LiClO_4$ or $NaClO_4$ in MeCN [20]; where "reverse-coordination" represents a reaction of two metal ions toward a single charged anion, which is completely different from "back donation" [cf., 22]. Murray [23] and Itabashi [24] have suggested the formation of "reverse-coodinated" species for acetylacetonate and acetate ions, respectively.
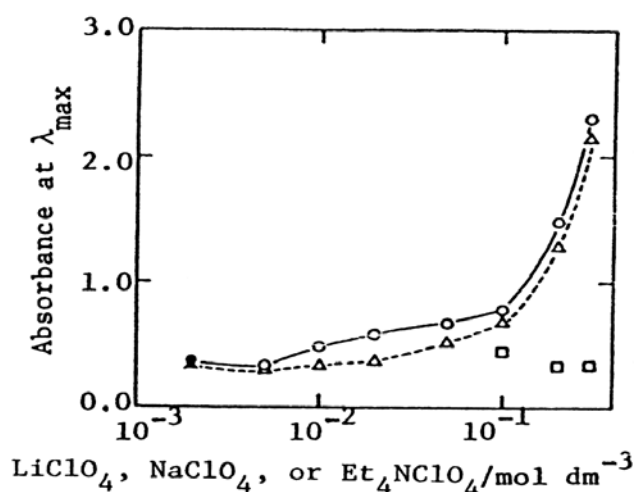

Fig. 3. The absorbance change of the benzoate ion (2.0×10^{-3} M $C_6H_5COOEt_4N$) by the addition of an excess of $LiClO_4$ (○), $NaClO_4$ (Δ), and Et_4NClO_4 (□, containing 2.0×10^{-3} $LiClO_4$). Solid marks show the equivalent amount.

UV-visible spectroscopy verified the formation of "reverse-coordination" for carboxylate ions [25]. Figure 3 shows the change in absorbance at ca. 225 nm of $PhCOO^-$ with increasing concentration of $LiClO_4$ or $NaClO_4$. The absorbance decreased in the presence of an equivalent-amount metal ion, forming white precipitates, however, increased in the presence of large amounts of the metal ion with re-dissolution of the precipitates. We note that the precipitates were never dissolved by the addition of a large excess of Et_4NClO_4. Apart from the change of solubility, the "reverse-coordination" was caught in the spectral changes of 2,4-dinitrobenzoate ion (cf. Figs. 4a and 4b); the addition of $LiClO_4$ up to the equivalent amount of the benzoate ion caused the decrease in the absorbance around 300 nm and, at the same time, the increase around 250 nm without precipitation; the appearance of an isosbestic point at 297 nm indicates the presence of A^- and Li^+A^-. The isosbestic point was shifted from 297 nm to 291 nm by the addition of an excess of Li^+, which may suggest the co-existence of Li^+A^- and $(Li^+)_2A^-$. In benzonitrile [26], a similar shift of the isosbestic point were observed for the picrate ion by the addition of Li^+; the "reverse-coordination" was verified in addition to the ion pair between Li^+ and the picrate ion.

As for the benzenesulofonate ion in MeCN, an excess amount of Li^+ caused the increase in the absorbance as the second Li^+ ion can attack the ion pair to form the "reverse-coordinated" species, whereas the addition of Na^+ caused a monotonous decrease of the absorbance (cf. Fig. 5) [22]. In ace-

tone, the "reverse-coordination" formation constant was evaluated for $(PhO)_2PO_2^-$ with Li^+ [22]. As described above, a variety of anions, carboxylate, sulfonate, phosphate, and chloride ions, can form certainly 1:2- and 2:1-type complexes in addition to the ion pair with Li^+ (or Na^+).

Now, we may consider the role of the perchlorate ion, ClO_4^-. The perchlorate ion can be regarded to have almost no complex formation ability because of its excellent three-dimensional symmetry. Similarly, BF_4^-, PF_6^-, and tetraalkylammonium ions (such as Et_4N^+) in solution may cause no chemical interactions through coordination or hydrogen bonding since the coordination numbers of the central elements in the species (ions) are fully satisfied, apart from their excellent three-dimensional symmetries. A possible coordination between transition metal ions and the perchlorate ion has been suspected [27], however, the interaction is not clearly demonstrated.
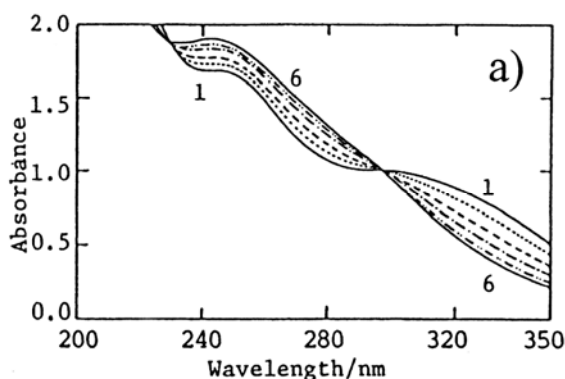

Fig. 4(a). UV spectral changes with the molar ratio (up to 1:1) of $LiClO_4$ to 2,4-dinitrobenzoate ion (2.0×10^{-4} M) in MeCN: (—1) 0; (---) 0.2; (— — —) 0.4;(— - —) 0.6; (— - - —) 0.8; (—6) 1.0.
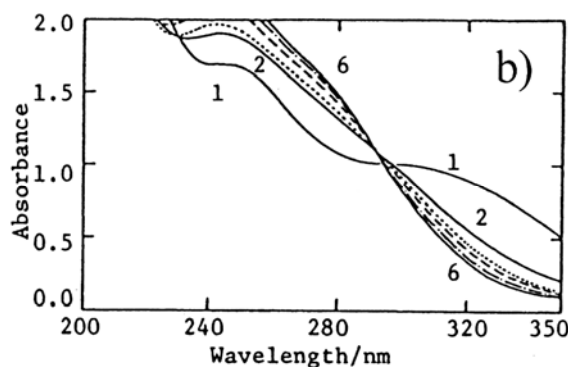
Fig. 4(b). UV spectral changes of 2,4-dinitorobenzoate (2.0×10^{-4} M) by the addition of excess amounts of $LiClO_4$: (—1) 0; (—2) $2.0 \times \times 10^{-4}$; (---) 1.0×10^{-3};(— — —) 1.0×10^{-2}; (— - —) 4.0×10^{-2}; (—6) 0.1 and 0.2 M $LiClO_4$.
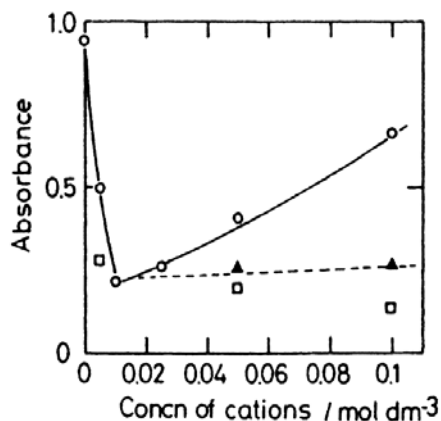
Fig. 5. Changes of absorbances of Et_4N $C_6H_5SO_3$ (5.3×10^{-3} M) with increasing concentration of alkali metal perchlorates in MeCN: (○) $LiClO_4$; (□) $NaClO_4$; (▲) Et_4NClO_4 in addition to 0.01 M $LiClO_4$.

Hickey et al. [28] reported a certain "leveling effect", that the polarographic reduction potentials of carboxylic acids in pyridine solution approached those of strong acids, such as perchloric and p-toluenesulfonic acids, with the addition of Li^+. We have succeeded in explaining the "leveling effect" quantitatively, on the base of the formation of the free pyridinium ion (PyH^+, cf. Scheme 3), formed through the $RCOO^-(Li^+)_2$ species [29], while Tuji and Elving [30] tried to explain the phenomena by the ion association and ion exchange reactions.
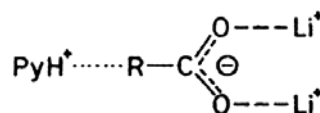
Scheme 3. The week or no interaction between the pyridinium ion and the acetate ion associated with lithium cations.

5.   Studies on Higher Ion Aggregation by Conductometry

5-1. Ion Pairs and Higher Ion-Aggregates

The conditions and concentrations of chemical species can be examined by conductometry, based on the transformation phenomena of ionic species. In usual theories or analyzing methods of conductometry, it is premised that electrolytes in solution dissociate completely or associate partly and no higher-association above the ion pair formation takes place. This premise must be valid in dilute aqueous solutions, however, higher ion aggregation in addition to the 1:1-type ion pair formation may occur in conditions of lower permittivities, lower solvation abilities, higher ion concentrations, and so on. Applying a conductometric theory to a system including the ion pair and the higher ion aggregate together should cause some distortion, even if the theory is much sophisticated; and the analysis may result in a complete failure.

5-2. Triple Ion Formation in Low-Permittivity Media

As early as 1933, Fouss and Kraus [31] proposed that the Coulombic interaction between the ion pair (M^+X^-) and the ion (M^+ or X^-) can operate to form "symmetrical" triple ions (M_2X^+ and MX_2^-) in low permittivity media ($\varepsilon_r < 23.2$). The minima observed in conductometric curves (Λ- $C^{1/2}$) in very low permittivity media ($\varepsilon_r < 10$) were interpreted by the formation of this kind of species. Although the cause of appearance of the minimum may sometimes be attributed to other factors [32,33] and not the triple ion formation, the higher ion aggregates in low permittivity media are widely accepted.

A linearity was demonstrated, at the first time [34], between the salt concentrations at which the minima appear and the triple ion formation constants in low permittivity media, such as THF and 1,2-dimethoxyehane (Fig. 6).
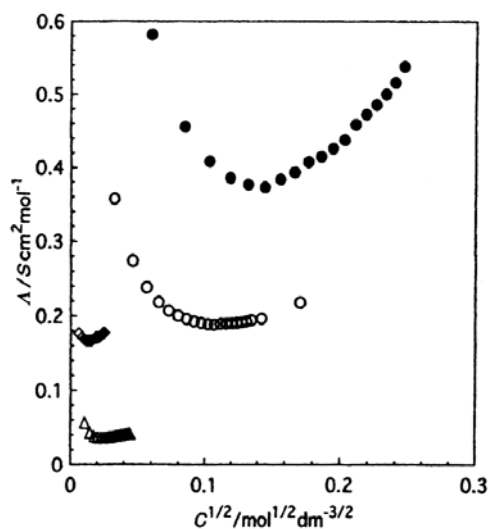

Fig. 6. Observed molar conductivities (Λ) in THF at 25^{0}C: ($\bullet$) LiClO$_4$; ($\circ$) LiPic; ($\lozenge$) 2,4-(NO$_2$)$_2$C$_{10}$H$_5$OLi; (Δ) LiNO$_3$.
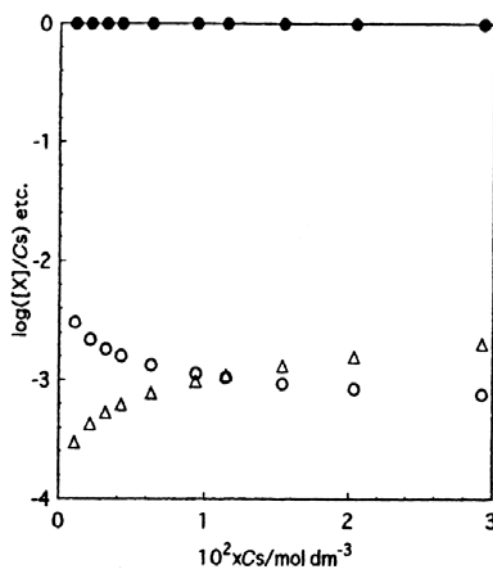
Fig. 7. Changes of equilibrium concentrations of each species with the LiPic concentration in THF: ($\circ$) simple ions; ($\bullet$) the ion pair; (Δ) triple ions.

This linearity has been predicted since long ago [35]. The reason why the prediction has not been demonstrated so long time may be in the fact as follows: in low permittivity media, some of very common electrolytes, such as lithium chloride, do not give minima in the conductometic curves because of remarkable dimerization of the ion pairs [34]. Figure 7 shows the changes in the equilibrium concentrations of the single ions, the ion pairs, and the triple ions from lithium picrate, which forms hardly the quadrupole (the dimer of ion pairs).

Lithium bromide, differing from LiCl, gave a minimum (C$_{min}$ = 4.9 x 10^{-3} mol dm^{-3}) in THF. The molar conductvities at different salt concentrations were explained by the formation of the ion pair and "symmetrical" triple ions, accompanying the quadrupole formation at a moderate level. Interestingly,

the C_{min} was increased by the addition of a small amount of 2-ethyl-1- hexanol to the THF solution, though the permittivities of the alcohol and THF are reported to be the same (ε_r = 7.58). Even at a constant permittivity, the triple ion should become more difficult to form because of the higher solvation of the added protic solvent [36].

5-3. Higher Ion-Aggregation in Higher-Permittivity Media with Low Solvating Abilities

Even with higher-permittivities (20 < ε_r < 65), in solvents of low solvating abilities, especially in hydrophobic aprotic solvents, the triple ion and quadrupole formation from trialkylammonium halides, $R_3NH^+X^-$ [37], and lithium trifluoroacetate [38], can occur through hydrogen bonding and coordination bond forces, respectively, between or among the cation and the anion. For such systems with higher ion aggregates, an analytical method, such as the Shedlovsky analysis [39], in which only 1:1 association is taken into account, should be no longer valid; a typical instance is shown as follows: Figure 8 illustrates the conductometric curve of lithium trifluoroacetate ($LiCF_3CO_2$) in propylene carbonate (PC). The molar conductivities (Λ_{calc}), calculated considering only the ion pair formation, fit the observed ones (Λ_{obsd}) at lower salt concentrations, e.g., 4 x 10^{-4} mol dm^{-3} and so on, however, they exceed the observed ones at higher concentrations. The formation of the dimer in addition to the ion pair at higher salt concentrations can be the cause of the distortion that Λ_{obsd} values deviated much lower than the expected Λ_{calc} ones. Wu and Friedman [40] failed in analyzing the conductivities of lithium trifluoroacetate in PC, and suggested the formation of the dimer, $Li_2(CF_3CO_2)_2$, based on calorimetric experiments. Later, Jansen and Yeager [41] reported precise conductivity data for the same system, analyzing with the Fuoss-Hisa equation to end in failure, and finally have concluded that the salt forms a variety of species in the solution.
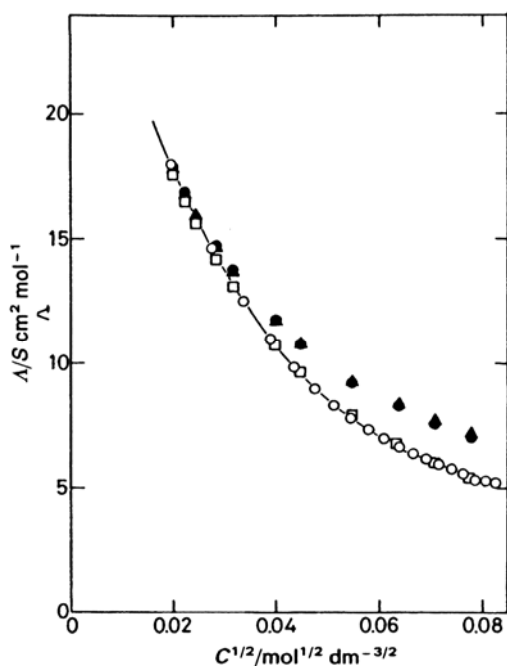

Fig. 8. Observed and calculated Λ values of lithium trifluoroacetate [(0.4-6.0)×10^{-3} M] in PC: (○) observed; (●) calculated with only ion-pair formation: (▲) calculated with ion-pair and (weak) triple-ion formation: (□) calculated with ion-pair, (weak) triple-ion, and (strong) quadrupole formation.
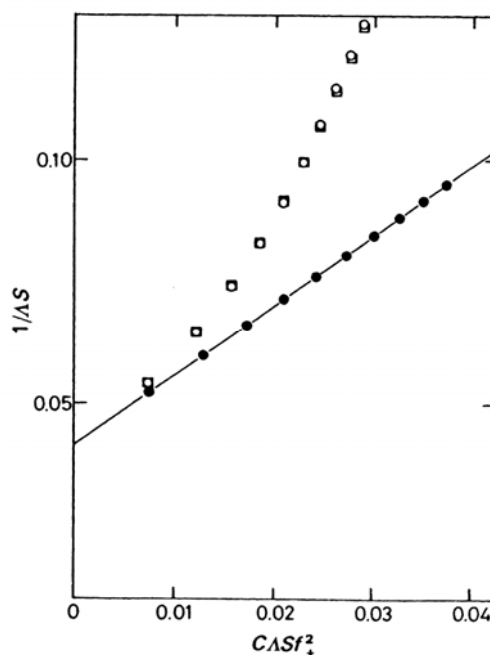
Fig. 9. Shedlovsky plots for $LiC_2F_5CO_2$ in PC: (○) experimentally observed points; (□) simulated points with ion-pair, triple-ion, and quadrupole formation; (●) simulated points with ion-pair formation.

Figure 9 shows the Shedlovsky plots of lithium pentafluoropropionate ($LiC_2H_5CO_2$) in PC: the relation between $1/\Lambda S$ and $C\Lambda Sf^2$ gave not a linear but a concave curve. This system contains remarkable formation of the quadrupole (the dimer of ion pairs) in addition to the ion pair formation at higher salt concentrations. The least squares method of the concave curve resulted a much larger limiting molar conductivity (an apparent Λ_0 of 44.86) value than the intrinsic Λ_0 value (24.03): the Kohlrausch additivity low with "strong" electrolytes gave the $\Lambda_0(LiC_2F_5CO_2)$ value; where $LiClO_4$, $Et_4NC_2F_5CO_2$, and Et_4NClO_4 for the Kohlrausch additivity low are all strong electrolytes, or they form the ion pairs weakly at most. We notice that the cation of Et_4N^+ and not a metal ion can make a strong electrolyte, regardless of the kind of anions; similarly, the anion of ClO_4^- makes a strong electrolyte even if the counter cation is a metal ion.

When a strong triple formation occurs in addition to the ion pair, to the contrary, the relation between $1/\Lambda S$ and $C\Lambda Sf^2$ gives a convex curve; the fact that the slope becomes smaller with increasing salt concentration results a smaller association constant (an apparent K_a). In an extreme case, the slope value is degenerated to be zero, that is, $K_a = 0$ (cf. Fig. 10) although occurs strong formation of the ion pair in the real system.

The most curious is that the strong electrolyte, $LiCF_3CO_2$ or $LiC_2F_5CO_2$, in aqueous solution ($\varepsilon_r \sim 80$) undergoes a drastic transfiguration into a very weak electrolyte in PC ($\varepsilon_r \sim 65$). Barthel et al. [42] have criticized this point. Now, a change in conception may be needed to understand the phenomena, as following: Li^+ and $CF_3CO_2^-$ (or $C_2F_5COO^-$) cannot fulfill the required conditions to be a component of strong electrolytes any more in PC, a protophobic aprotic solvent, and they may behave as if H^+ and CH_3COO^-, respectively, are in aqueous solution.
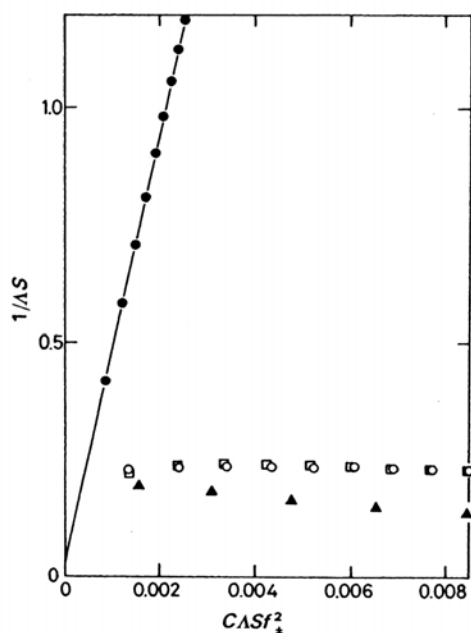
Fig. 10. Shedlovsky plots for $LiC_2F_5CO_2$ in PhCN: (○) experimentally observed points; (□) simulated points with ion-pair, triple-ion and quadrupole formation; (▲) simulated points with ion-pair and triple-ion formation; (●) simulated points with ion-pair formation.

Fig. 11. Λ-$C^{1/2}$ plots of lithium 1-phenyl-3-methyl- 4-benzoyle-5-pyrazolone (LiPMBP) in MeCN at 25°C: (○) observed; (♦) calculated with ion-pair, triple-ion, and quadrupole formation.

In acetonitrile, Li$^+$PMBP$^-$ (lithium 1-phenyl-3-methyl-4-benzoyl-5-pyrazolonate: a kind of β-diketonate) gave a minimum on the conductivity curve; the molar conductivi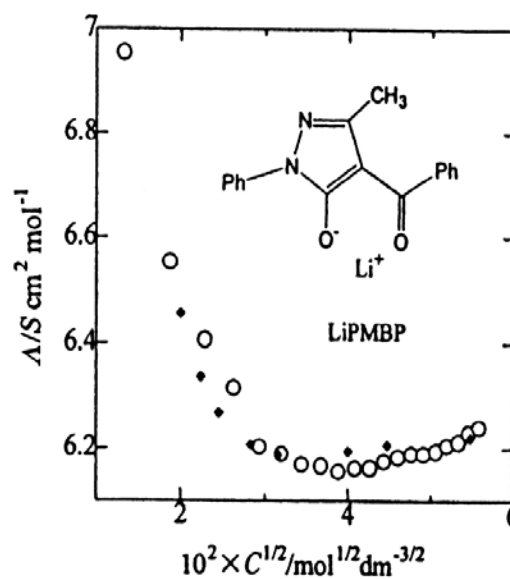ties were explained by higher ion association including the triple ion formation (Fig. 11) [43]. The triple ions consist of two types of ions, Li$^+$(L$^-$)$_2$ and (Li$^+$)$_2$L$^-$. A calculation has demonstrated that the minimum never appears without the both type triple ions of good amounts at the same time. The formations of the tetra-coordinated species, Li$^+$(L$^-$)$_2$, and the reverse-coordinated species, (Li$^+$)$_2$L$^-$, were confirmed by means of ^{7}Li NMR and UV-visible absorption spectroscopy, respectively.

5-4. Dimerization of Acetic Acid Molecules in Aqueous Solution

It is well known that carboxylic acids, such as acetic acid, dimerize through the hydrogen bonding force in nonpolar solvents, benzene and carbon tetrachloride. Whereas, in aqueous solution of extremely diluted acetic acid, the acid molecules should dissociate to be acetate ions, and strong interaction may operate between the solute and the solvent through hydrogen bonding; therefore, no dimerization of acetic acid takes place. However, it has been suggested that acetic acid of higher concentrations causes dimerization even in aqueous solution, based on experimental investigations, such as cryoscopic data, Raman spectra, vapor pressure measurements, and other various methods [44]. Suzuki et al. [45] reported the pressure effects on the dimerization of carboxylic acids in aqueous solution. In conductometric studies of slightly higher concentrations at which the Debye-Hückel theory should still hold, the calculated thermodynamic ionization constants have shown pronounced deviations from the extrapolated value; these deviation were attributed to the "medium effects" of the non-ionized acetic acid molecules on the ionization of the acid. Analyzing conductivity data strictly, however, Katchalsky et al. [46] has insisted that the deviation of the dissociation constant is based on the dimerization of acetic acid molecules.

In the present study, using our analytical method, we carried out the analysis of the data that Katchalsky et al. analyzed [47]. We would like to clarify the mechanism that distortion occurs on the analysis of conductivity data of the electrolytes with the progress of dimerization. Our analytical method is outlined as follows: where HX represents acetic acid and the electric charges are omitted.

$$H + X \leftrightarrows HX; \quad K_1 = [HX]/([H][X]) \tag{1}$$

$$2\,HX \leftrightarrows H_2X_2; \quad K_{41} = [H_2X_2]/[HX]^2 \tag{2}$$

The total concentration of acetic acid being expressed by C_s, mass balance for the proton is

$$C_s = [H] + [HX] + 2[H_2X_2]. \tag{3}$$

Equation (4) is derived by introducing Eqns. (1) and (2) into Eqn. (3).

$$2\,K_{41}\,K_1{}^2\,[X]^4 + K_1[X]^2 + [X] - C_s = 0 \tag{4}$$

The relation is expressed by Eqn. (5) between the molar conductivity (Λ) and C_s, the equilibrium concentration [X], and the corrected limiting molar conductivity Λ_0', as [H] = [X].

$$\Lambda = \Lambda_0'\,[X]/C_s \tag{5}$$

For the correction of the limiting molar conductivity, Onsager's limiting equation ($\Lambda_0' = \Lambda_0 - (\alpha\Lambda_0 + \beta)\sqrt{I}$) was utilized; where α, β and I are the terms concerning relaxation and electrophoretic effects and the ionic strength, respectively. The optimal values of K_1 and K_{41} in Eqn. (4) were searched out by the trial and error method for the every Λ value over the measured concentration range. The activity coefficients of ionic species were corrected by the Debye-Hückel equation.

Table 1 shows the molar conductivities (Λ/S cm^2 mol^{-1}) of acetic acid in water observed by MacInnes and Shedlovsky [47]; the relative error in the calculated Λ value by our analytical method is expressed as the % unit. Trying to explain the observed conductivities with only a 1:1 ion pair formation constant, the observed values became distinctly below the calculated ones at more than 0.02 M of the acetic acid concentration; where $K_1 = 5.7045 \times 10^4$, i.e., the inverse value of the dissociation constant adapted by Katchalsky et al. [46] of 1.753×10^{-5} and $\Lambda_0 = 390.59$ were used as they are. When the dimerization constant $K_{41} = 0.17$ was introduced in addition to the ion pair formation, every calculated value fits the observed one within ±0.1% of the relative error for whole concentration range of 2.8 x

$10^{-5} \sim 0.23$ M. By the way, Katchalsky gave 0.16 as the dimerization constant and not 0.17. Figure 12 shows the equilibrium concentrations of the species, the simple ion, the ion pair, and the dimer, calculated using the ion pair and the dimer formation constants.

Table 1. Molar conductivities (Λ/S cm^2 mol^{-1}) of acetic acid in water at 25°C observed by MacInnes and Shedlovsky[a] and the relative error in the calculated Λ values by our analytical method

Total concn.$10^3 \times$C/M	Λ/S cm^2 mol^{-1}	Rel. error %[b]	Rel. error %[c]
0.028014	210.32	+0.01	+0.01
0.1135	127.71	-0.02	-0.03
0.15321	112.02	+0.10	+0.10
0.21844	96.466	+0.05	+0.05
1.02831	48.133	+0.05	+0.03
1.36340	42.215	-0.01	-0.03
2.41400	32.208	+0.05	+0.01
3.44065	27.191	+0.06	+0.01
5.91153	20.956	+0.07	-0.02
9.8421	16.367	+0.10	-0.05
12.829	14.371	+0.23	+0.03
20.000	11.563	+0.33	+0.02
50.000	7.356	+0.076	-0.00
52.303	7.200	+0.70	-0.10
100.00	5.200	+1.49	-0.01
119.447	4.759	+1.65	-0.13
200.000	3.650	+2.94	+0.06
230.785	3.391	+3.30	+0.01

a) Ref. 46). b) Calculated with K_1 alone. c) Calculated with $K_1 = 5.0745 \times 10^4$ and $K_{41} = 0.17$
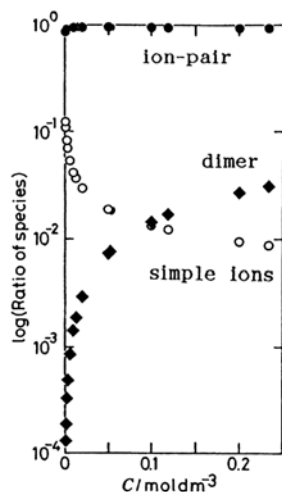

Fig. 12. Changes of equilibrium concentrations of each species with the CH$_3$COOH concentration in water calculated with $K_1 = 5.7045 \times 10^4$ and $K_{41} = 0.17$: (○) simple ions, [H$^+$] = [CH$_3$COO$^-$]; (●) the ion pair, [CH$_3$COOH]; (♦) the dimer, [(CH$_3$COOH)$_2$].

In the Figure, the very lower concentration range is not displayed; the ion pair (the acetic acid molecule) occupied the almost all part of the ratio for the wide concentration range (1×10^{-3} M $< C_s < 0.23$ M). With increasing acetic acid concentration, the concentration of the dimer ([H$_2$X$_2$]) increases at the expense of the ion pair ([H] = [X]), and finally the dimer exceeds the simple ion at around 0.1 M.

Now that acetic acid forms the dimer (quadrupole) in addition to the ion pair in aqueous solution, any theoretical equation expecting the formation of only 1:1-type ion pair should fail in the analysis, just as lithium trifluoroacetate in PC, even if the theory is highly developed. In principle, Shedlovsky method has the advantage that it can be applied in almost every case and is not dependent on data of high precision. Analyzing the conductivity data in Table 1 with the Shedlovsky method, the apparent Λ_0 and K_a were deviated as predicted above. Completely different Λ_0 values were given for the data of only very low concentration ranges and those including higher concentration ranges: the apparent Λ_0 values increased remarkably as 391.28, 402.51, 542.69, and 1046.2 for the sampling points of 1-18, 1-12, 1-16, and 1-18, respectively, while the apparent K_a value increased from 5.73 x 10^4 to 4.24 x 10^5.

The analyzing method by Katchalsky [46] is useful for a system including the 1:1-type ion pair and the dimer formations. On the

other hand, the Fuoss-Kraus method [31] can be applied to a system of triple ion formation in addition to the ion pair. However, both methods are not intended to apply to a system in which the tripe ion formation and the demerization of ion pairs proceed at the same time. Our analytical method [20,36,38,43], generalized by adding the term of the triple ion formation to Eqn. (4), is completely different from their methods, and can be utilized for any systems that the 1:1-type ion association, the triple ion formation, and the dimerization of the ion pair (the quadrupole formation) take place in a solution. The development of this analytical method has promoted our comprehension for the higher ion aggregation in solution.

6. The Chemical Interaction between M^+ or M^{2+} and Bases or Anions
6-1. The Salt Effects on Acid-Base or Metal Indicators

Excluding few anions, in which the electric charges are delocalized symmetrically as ClO_4^-, many anions may have extraordinarily large interactions with alkali metal (M^+) and alkaline earth metal ions (M^{2+}) in protophobic aprotic solvents, possessing poor solvation abilities towards both anions and cations.

By the addition of $MClO_4$ and $M(ClO_4)_2$ to Rhodamine B base (no HCl in this molecule), the intramolecule γ-lactone ring (C-O) was found to be cleaved within MeCN solution. Only Mg^{2+} was effective for Crystal Violet lactone; the magnesium ion has strong interaction with the carboxylate ion from the lactone [48]. It has been concluded that the changes or developments in colors of acid-base sulfonephthalein indicators, such as Phenol Red and Bromothymol Blue, are caused by the γ-sultone-ring opening through the chemical interaction between the metal cations of added salts and the sulfonate ions from the sulfonephthatein indicators [49]. A practical fluoran-based black color former reacts with alkali metal and alkaline earth metal ions to develop the black color in MeCN [50].
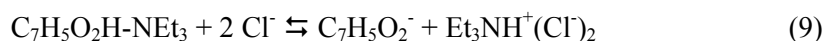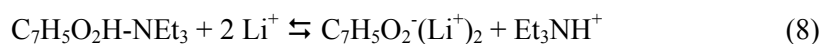
The Hammett acidity function, H_0 (corresponding to pH), with an acid-base indicator, "Methyl Yellow" [p-(dimethylamino)azobenzene], is changed by the addition of salts [51]; the salt effects have been explained by Eqn. (6), i.e., the ion exchange reaction between the ptotonated indicator (Ind-H$^+$) and a large excess of metal ions and also by Eqn. (7), i.e., deprotonation from Ind-H$^+$ through the homoconjugation reaction; where X^- represents halide ions, Cl^-, Br^-, or I^-.

$$\text{Ind-H}^+ + M^+ \leftrightarrows \text{Ind-M}^+ + H^+ \tag{6}$$

$$\text{Ind-H}^+ + 2X^- \leftrightarrows \text{Ind} + HX_2^- \tag{7}$$
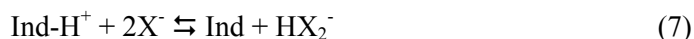
A metal indicator for the chelate titration, PAN [1-(2-pyridylazo)-2-naphthol], in aqueous solution, is regarded not to cause a distinct complex formation with alkaline earth metal ions. In MeCN, however, the distinct complex formation was observed between PAN and Mg^{2+}, accompanying the deprotonation form PAN. The interaction was also confirmed between Mg^{2+} and the diethylamino group in a derivative compound of PAN, 2-(5-bromo-2-pyridylazo)-5-diethylaminophenol [52].

6-2. Formation of Two Types of Ion Pairs: "Contact Ion Pair" and "Solvent Separated Ion Pair"

In MeCN [53], the proton transfer reaction between tropolone ($C_7H_5O_2H$), a seven-member ring compound, and triethylamine (Et_3N) was much promoted by the addition of alkali metal and alkaline earth metal ions. On the other hand, the free tropolonate ion was produced by the addition of Et_4NCl to the equivalent mixture of tropolone-triethylamine (cf., Eqns. (8) and (9)). The absorption band of the tropolonate, combined with Li^+, shifted toward shorter wavelengths than that of the free tropolonate ion.

$$C_7H_5O_2H\text{-}NEt_3 + 2\,Li^+ \leftrightarrows C_7H_5O_2^-(Li^+)_2 + Et_3NH^+ \tag{8}$$

$$C_7H_5O_2H\text{-}NEt_3 + 2\,Cl^- \leftrightarrows C_7H_5O_2^- + Et_3NH^+(Cl^-)_2 \tag{9}$$

In the same solvent, the salt effects were examined on the proton transfer from various nitrophenols to bases; the addition of $MClO_4$ or $M(ClO_4)_2$ caused the formation of "contact ion pair" [$(NO_2)_2C_6H_3O^-(M^+)_2$ or $(NO_2)_2C_6H_3O^-(M^{2+})$] (cf., Fig. 13) while Et_4NX (X = Cl, Br) produced the free phenolate ion [(Et_4N^+)---$(NO_2)_2C_6H_4O^-$] or "solvent separated ion pair" (Fig. 14) [54].

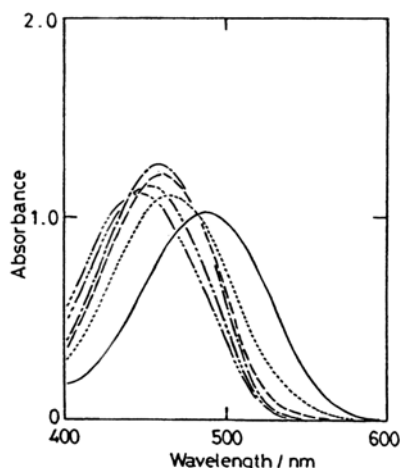**Fig. 13.** Changes of visible absorption spectra of 2,5-dinitrophenolate ($[Et_4N^+\ 2,5\text{-}(NO_2)_2C_6H_3O^-] = 2.0\times10^{-4}$ M) with increasing concentration of Li^+ in MeCN: (—) 0; (---) 1.0×10^{-4}; (— —) 2.0×10^{-4}; (— - —) 5.0×10^{-4} and 1.0×10^{-3}; (— - - —) 0.1; (— - - - —) 0.2 M $LiClO_4$.
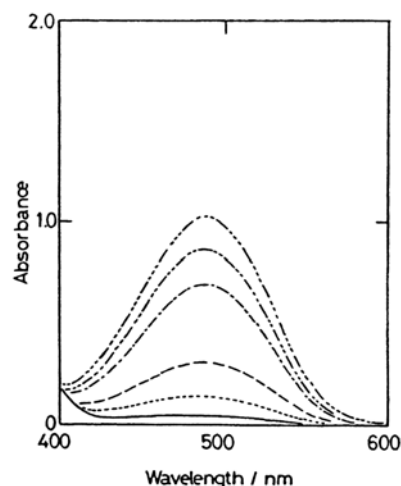
Fig. 14. Production of free 2,5-dinitrophenolate ions by the addition of various concentrations of Et_4NCl to 2.0×10^{-4} M 2,5-dinitrophenol + 2.0×10^{-3} M 2-chlorobenzylamine in MeCN: (—) 0; (---) 1.0×10^{-3}; (— —) 1.0×10^{-2}; (— - —) 0.1; (— - - —) 0.2; (— - - - —) 0.3 M Et_4NCl.

7. Elucidation of the Concentrated Salt Effects on the Solvolysis Reaction Rate

7-1. The Formation of Carbocations by Taking out of Halide Ions with M^+ or M^{2+}

The stabilization of carbocations in solution is a matter of great interest in considering the mechanisms of organic reactions, especially S_N1 and S_N2 reactions in solvolysis. In some solvents, such as 1,2-dichloroethane and sulfur dioxide, triphenylmethyl chloride (trityl chloride, Ph_3CCl) can be ionized by itself. However, the ionization constant is too low to be estimated in MeCN. By the addition of metal chlorides, such as $HgCl_2$, $AlCl_3$, and $SnCl_4$ to Ph_3CCl solutions (MeCN and $MeNO_2$ solvents), the trityl cation (Ph_3C^+) can be formed even quantatively through the following reaction [55]: $Ph_3CCl + MCl_m \leftrightarrows Ph_3C^+ + [MCl_{m+1}]^-$.
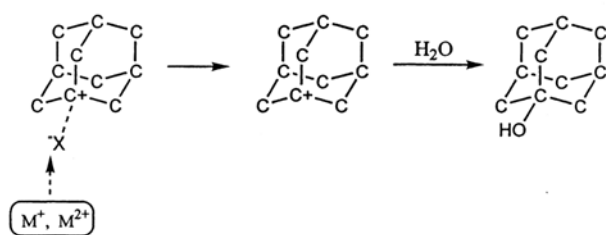
By means of UV-visible absorption spectroscopy, we have found that the Ph_3C^+ ion is produced from Ph_3CX (X = Cl, Br) by the addition of $MClO_4$ (M = Li, Na) or $M(ClO_4)_2$ (M = Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba) in MeCN. The addition of the metal perchlorates to 4-MeO- substituted trityl chloride, $(4\text{-}MeOC_6H_4)_nPh_{3-n}CCl$ (n = 1 ~ 3), caused the production of the corresponding trityl cations [48]; these reactions could be confirmed by ^1H and ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts [50,56], and were utilized for the preparation of trityl perchlorate compounds [56].

By the way, the addition of metal perchlorates, except for the Li^+ and Mg^{2+} salts, to trityl chlorides of relatively high concentrations caused the precipitation. We have confirmed that the precipitates by Ba^{2+} is not $BaCl_2$ but $BaCl^+ClO_4^-$ (the solubility of ca. 2.0×10^{-3} M in MeCN at 25°C), based on the data of the chemical analysis, IR, X-ray diffraction, and TG-DTA [57].

7-2. S_N1 and S_N2 Reaction Substrates

It must be possible that a very small but direct "chemical" interaction between M^+ or M^{2+} and simple anions, such as halide and carboxylate ions, occurs even in aqueous or organic-aqueous solutions if they are in the "dihydrogen ether" conditions, as will be discussed in Section 8. In kinetic studies, we have a merit to be able to amplify a minor increase in the concentration of an intermediate species, which can never be detected in the equilibrium sense, into an observable large increase in the reaction rate.

In MeOH-H_2O mixed solvent, the "pseudo" first-order reaction rates (k/s^{-1}) for typical S_N1 substrates, such as 1-adamantyl bromide and t-butyl chloride, were found to increase exponentially with increasing concentration of alkali metal or alkaline earth metal perchlorates, whereas with a nonmetallic salt (Et_4NBr), the reaction rates decreased [58]. The positive effects of Na^+ were smaller than those of Li^+ while the effects of Mg^{2+} or Ba^{2+} were much larger. We have concluded that the observed positive effects of the metal perchlorates are due to the formation of "stable" carbocations (R^+) through "chemical" interaction between the halides (X^-) and the metal cations (M^+, M^{2+}) in the "modified" solvent (cf. Scheme 4).

Scheme 4. The mechanism of the enhanced solvolysis (hydrolysis) reaction of the S_N1 substrate in the presence of alkali metal (M^+) or alkaline earth metal ions (M^{2+}).

With the addition of the metal ions, the increase in the solvolysis rates was not observed for S_N1-S_N2 intermediate substrates, isopropyl bromide and benzyl chloride. The addition of metal perchlorates to a S_N2 substrate, ethyl bromide, caused a decrease in the reaction rate. Similar results have been observed in acetone-H_2O [59], 1,2-dioxane-H_2O [60], MeCN-H_2O, DMF-H_2O, and sulfolane-H_2O solvent systems.

8. The Change of Water Structure and Formation of "Dihydrogen Ether"
8-1. Breakdown of Water Structure by Highly Concentrated Salts and Organic Solvents

According to Frank and Wen [61], the hydration of a salt causes the formation of three different regions around the ions as follows: A: region of immobilization of water molecules; B: region of structure breaking; and C: structurally "normal" water, i.e., the bulk water. The difference in the development of regions A and B determines whether an ion is of the structure-making or structure-breaking type. For instance, the Li^+ ion causes the development of A over B; therefore, Li^+ ion is classified as a structure-making ion. The development of region A by Cs^+ is small because of its weak hydration; Cs^+ is, therefore, a structure-breaking ion. This argument may be limted to low or moderate concentrations of a salt. However, we have proposed that the presence of highly concentrated salts in water or water-mixed solvents may cause the depression or disappearance of region C (of "ice-like-ness") [58]. In such extreme conditions, only B (the broken-structure part) in the above model may be effective in the solvent function; the property of the aqueous solvent may be modified to be that of, as we term it, a "dihydrogen ether," [R](H)-O-(H)[R] [60].

Figure 15 shows the Raman spectra of D_2O containing various concentrations of Et_4NBr at room temperature. The band at around 2510 cm^{-1} developed as the amount of water decreased ($R = [D_2O]/[salt]$) at the expense of the band at 2390 cm^{-1}.
It has been reported that the Raman OD stretching spetrum of liquid D_2O spans from ca. 2000 to 2800 cm^{-1} with a peak wavenumber of ca. 2510 cm^{-1} [62]. Scherer et al. [63] have reported Raman spectra of liquid D_2O form –10 to 90°C; the (isotropic) spectra show the development of a band around 2500 cm^{-1} at the expense of the bond around 2400 cm^{-1} with increasing temperature. These bands have been attributed to the OD stretching vibration of the symmetrically hydrogen-bonded complexes (2400 cm^{-1}) and of the single-handed complex (2500 cm^{-1}). At any rate, the (partial) breaking or cleavage of hydrogen bond of liquid D_2O with increasing temperature caused the development of the band around 2500 cm^{-1}. Therefore, the spectrum changes caused by increasing concentration of Et_4NBr can be attributed to the cleavage of hydrogen bonding; that is, the large clusters of D_2O are destroyed and turned into smaller clusters by the addition of the highly concentrated salt.

Brink and Falk [64] have reported the OD stretching band (in IR spectra) of HDO in aqueous solutions of $NaClO_4$ and $Mg(ClO_4)_2$ of varying concentrations at 28°C. A band at 2500 cm^{-1} (OD stretching of hydrogen-bonded HDO) in the absence of the salts was overtaken by a high-frequency band (ca. 2620 - 2630 cm^{-1}) with increasing concentration of the salts. Regarding their observations, Varrall [65] has commented that the high-frequency component is due to the extensive breakdown of hydrogen-bonded water structure by ClO_4^-, an effect similar to that of increasing temperature.
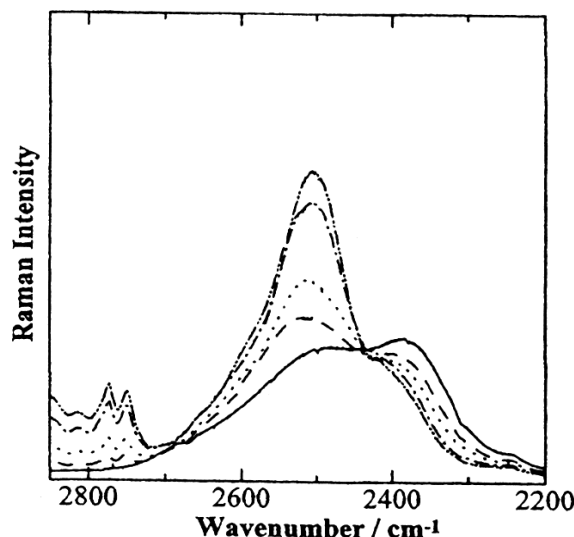
Fig. 15 The Raman spectra of D_2O containing various amounts of Et_4NBr at room temperature: (—) no salt; (— —) R = 20; (- - -) R = 10; (— - —) R = 5; (— - - —)R = 3.75 where R = [D_2O]/[Et_4NBr].

Tetraalkylammnonium (R_4N^+) salts are usually regarded as having structure-making properties, based on their "hydrophobic effect," larger than expected from their cationic sizes. However, in 20 vol% EtOH-H_2O, proton NMR chemical shift suggested that the R_4N^+ ions have the tendency to destroy the water structure; the longer the alkyl chain, the highly being destroyed [66]. At any rate, Et_4NBr appears to be one of the most suitable salts for observing the vibration spectra of the solvent part (regions B and C) and not the hydration part (region A), since neither the Et_4N^+ nor Br^- is strongly hydrates in aqueous solutions and also its solubility in water is very high at room temperature. Verrall [65] also has mentioned that the R_4NBr series appears to offer a better basis for rationalizing purely structural effects. While admitting that D_2O is a more structured liquid than H_2O [67], we feel that the whole argument for D_2O could basically be applied to H_2O and H_2O-mixed solvents. In addition, the Raman spectra of D_2O with concentrated LiBr showed great increases in the intensity around 2530 cm^{-1} at the expense of the band at ca. 2390 cm^{-1} [68].

The water structure is found to be distorted in D_2O containing organic solvents, such as DMF and sulfolane; the addition of Et_4NBr or $LiClO_4$ to the D_2O-organic solvent mixture caused further distortion of water structure [69,70]. Thus, it seems that the authentic properties of bulk water may be modified to be those of "dihydrogen ether" or approach to the properties of a "nonaqueous solvent" with increasing content of organic solvents or salts.

8-2. In Nano-Size Small Water-Droplets, at High Temperature or Surface

It has been clearly demonstrated that the small water droplets (nm-size) in organic solvents, i.e., in reverse micellar systems, should lose further their properties as water with the addition of salts [68]. By the addition of $LiClO_4$, the color of $CoCl_2$ or $CoBr_2$ was altered from pale red (or almost no color) to deep blue in the water droplets in chloroform reverse micellar systems with cethyltrimethylammonium chloride or bromide as the surfactant, [CHCl$_3$/CTAC (or CTAB)/H_2O (1.0 vol%)]. The increase of blue color indicated the formation of the [CoX_4]$^{2-}$ complexes, which suggested that the complexes exist in a dry condition and not wet one.

Bjerrum et al. [71] reported the overall formation constant, β_4 = [$CoCl_4^{2-}$]/[Co^{2+}][Cl^-]^4 in aqueous solution to be $10^{-6.6}$ and 10^4 at the ionic strength of zero and 9 M $HClO_4$ media, respectively. The great increase in the formation constant with the addition of 9 M $HClO_4$, as high as 1.5 x 10^{10}-fold, has been attributed to the "increase" in activity coefficients of ions up to $\gamma_\pm \sim 350$.

Postorino et al. reported that no hydrogen bonding structure of water existed in supercritical water conditions [72]. However, it must be natural that the hydrogen bonding structure remains, to some extent, in the condensed phase of the supercritical water, as water molecule aggregation can be formed even in the vapor phase [5]. Anyway, it may be true that the hydrogen bonding structure in supercriti-

cal water is remarkably destroyed and the properties of water are almost lost. The higher ion aggregates from NaCl in supercritical water conditions have been suggested [73].

We would like to note that the properties of bulk water should disappear in the conditions that a huge network of water can not be constructed, since water may gain the bulk water properties upon the formation of the huge network of water molecules. In the following cases, water may lose the authentic properties, more or less, as the bulk water: (a) the residual water (~ mM) in organic solvents; (b) aqueous solutions or organic solvent-water mixtures containing highly concentrated salts; (c) nano-size water droplets in nano-tube or reverse micellar systems (the number of water, $n_w < \sim 10^7$); (d) waters on metal electrodes, ion-exchange resins, proteins, organic solvents as the solvent extraction, and glass vessels; (e) the water in supercritical conditions. Such waters may be "reduced" into the authentic H_2O molecules (as the "dihydrogen ether," [R](H)-O-(H)[R]).

9. Conclusion Remarks

The studies mentioned above have been performed based on the idea that alkali metal or alkaline earth metal ions have potentially "coordination" abilities, as strongly as to involve directly in chemical reactions, although such metal ions have been regarded to possess almost no chemical reactivity in solution. Thus, a comprehensive framework may be given for the extraordinary deviations in equilibra and chemical kinetics in solutions containing concentrated salts, which cannot be dealt with by the conventional idea without some contradiction.

Even if it is admitted that such "chemical" interactions may be observed without difficulty in poor solvating media, the interactions never be observed directly in aqueous solution since the reactive moieties in anions or cations are already shielded by the strong acidity or basicity of water. As the practical science, now, we are able to supply the interaction between alkali metal ions and many anions through adopting an alternative procedure that minor changes in chemical equilibria are accumulated for every second, i.e., the translation of unobservable concentration changes in equilibria into observable changes in reaction rates.

We dare to describe that the role of a transition metal ion (e.g. Cd^{2+}) in aqueous solution can be played by an alkaline earth metal ion (e.g. Ca^{2+}) in nonaqueous solution. Similar relationship may stand between H^+ in aqueous solution and Li^+ in nonaqueous (protphobic aprotic) solvents. However, one may guess still that some chemists cannot accept the idea that alkali metal ions are directly involved in chemical reactions in solution, reflecting the "common" recognition for the metal ions in solution.

It has been shown, in the present paper, that comprehensive interpretations without contradiction are turned to be possible in many systems by taking account of the chemical bonding force of alkali metal ions in solution.

The contents of an account article in Japanese (M. Hojo, *BUNSEKI KAGAKU*, **53**(11), 1279 (2004)) are partly rearranged in the present paper.

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