

## Rheological and Physical Properties of Ionic Liquids with Ammonium Cations as Synthetic Lubricants

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**I**ONIC liquids possess different properties which make them a high potential as lubricants. In our work series of five ammonium salts ionic liquids were synthesized by using different C-chain carboxylic acids with ethanol amines and evaluated. The physicochemical properties and rheological behavior investigated for their potential use as synthetic lubricants. The prepared IIs show high thermal stability, good fluidity characters and the viscosity increases with increasing C-number (become thicker) which converted from liquid phase to semisolid phase (grease). Ia-Ic shows Newtonian behavior for and pseudoplastic behavior for Id and Ie.

**Keywords:** Ionic liquid, Fatty acid, Physicochemical properties, Rheological behavior, Synthetic lubricants.

### Introduction

Lubrication technology is always facing new difficulties so; it must be developed and advanced. All industrial fields aim to increase durability and service intervals and reduce friction which results in energy usage [1, 2]. To overcome these difficulties and challenges new lubricants [3] and more specified additives must be used.

Lubricant's main usage is to control wear and friction and reduce the contact temperature. Formulation of lubricants is depending on the base oil either synthetic or mineral or grease with different additives [4].

Ionic liquids (ILs) are considered as one of the key of solution in the coming generation of lubricants. In 2001 was the first discovery of ILs as highly specified synthetic lubricants, and was the first testing it for tribology techniques [5, 6] and after that open new research fields such as corrosion protection, antioxidant and pour point depressant [7-9].

All these applications are due to its characterization [10], which can be briefed in low volatility, inflammability, thermal stability,

miscibility with organic solvents and chemical composition which consists of organic cation and inorganic anions [11, 12]. Most of published papers in ILs as lubricants have been interested with engine lubricating and micro-electrochemical machines (MEMS) [13, 14]

Rheological properties of materials play important role in describing heat transfer. For oil, rheological properties depend on several factors such as temperature, concentrations, shear rate, pressure, time, and chemical properties. The most important that the researches focused on it was the effect of temperature on fluid viscosity [15].

In our work we are interested to synthesize series of hydroxyl ammonium ionic liquids by using different C-chain of carboxylic acids with ethanol amine. The prepared ionic liquids elevated, characterized and the rheological behavior and fluidity investigated for their potential use as synthetic lubricants.

### Experimental

#### Materials and Method

Diethanol amine (99%), acetic acid (99%), butyric acid (99%), hexanoic acid (98%), octanoic

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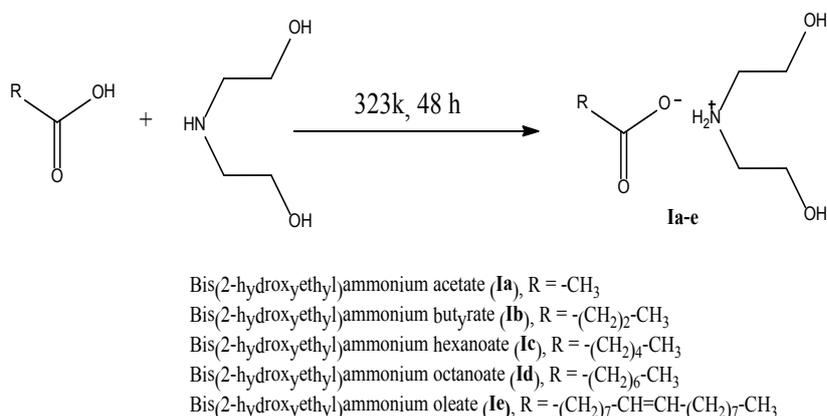
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acid (98%), oleic acid (98%), acetone (99%) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich chemical Co. and Merck.

Neutralization reaction of amines with different acids is the most common technique for the synthesis of hydroxyl ammonium salts ionic liquids [16]. (Scheme 1) Diethanol amine (0.5 Mole) placed into 300 mL flask in water bath,

the system was supplied with a condenser and stirring at constant rate. Acids (acetic acid, butyric acid, hexanoic acid, octanoic acid and oleic acid (0.5mole)) were added drop wise to the stirred diethanol amine in about 15 min and the reaction continued to about 30 min. The yield treated with acetone and get rid of it by evaporation under vacuum, dry the treated yield for 48h at 323k.



**Scheme 1. Neutralization reaction of amines with different acids [16-18].**

#### Characterization

The prepared hydroxyl ammonium ionic liquids are elevated via the traditional tools of analysis, Infra-Red (Spectrum-One Perkin- Elmer) spectroscopy, Thermal Gravimetric Analysis (TGA) and Elemental analysis (Elemental analyzer PerkinElmer 24<sup>0</sup>C).

#### Physical properties

Their physical properties were determined according to standard test methods fluid test and rheological behaviors were studied.

#### Test fluid

Four synthesized hydroxyl ammonium ionic liquid were investigated, and two reference lubricants were chosen with different composition reference oil 1 and 2. Ref 1 was synthetic oil (hydrocarbon and ester) and corrosion inhibitor was added, also Ref 2 was mineral oil based lubricants and antioxidant and corrosion inhibitor were added.

#### Test Fluid Method

This test was performed in two steps [19], starting with heating of known quantities of the synthesized ionic liquids up to 100°C for six days. To accelerate thermal oxidation, copper strips were added, the yield was tested for viscosity, copper content and mass change.

In the second step, the oxidative aging was completed with the obtained samples from the first step for another six days but raise temperature to 150°C, the yield samples were analyzed as in the first step.

Densities were elevated using densimeter, Kinematic viscosity using viscometer, and mass changing using an analytical balance.

### Result and Discussion

#### Characterization of the prepared hydroxyl ammonium ionic liquids

The spectra of the studied samples were measured in the range of 400-4000 Cm<sup>-1</sup> with suitable scan resolution 4Cm and scan rate 32 Cm/min. The formation of hydroxyl ammonium salts was confirmed using FTIR as illustrated in Fig. 1-5 and Table 1. The broad band of stretching (N-H) group was noticed at 3327, 3309, 3304, 3303 and 3319 Cm<sup>-1</sup> for Ia, Ib, Ic, Id and Ie respectively. The spectra of carbonyl group which appear as sharp peak was noticed at 1566, 1457, 1454, 1454 and 1560 Cm<sup>-1</sup> and stretching CH<sub>2</sub> & CH<sub>3</sub> vibration was at 2851, 2926, 2962, 2865 and 2854 Cm<sup>-1</sup> for Ia, Ib, Ic, Id and Ie in order. Finally C-C bond was confirmed by the spectra which appear at 1071 Cm<sup>-1</sup> for all the prepared compounds.

H-NMR spectra for the prepared materials

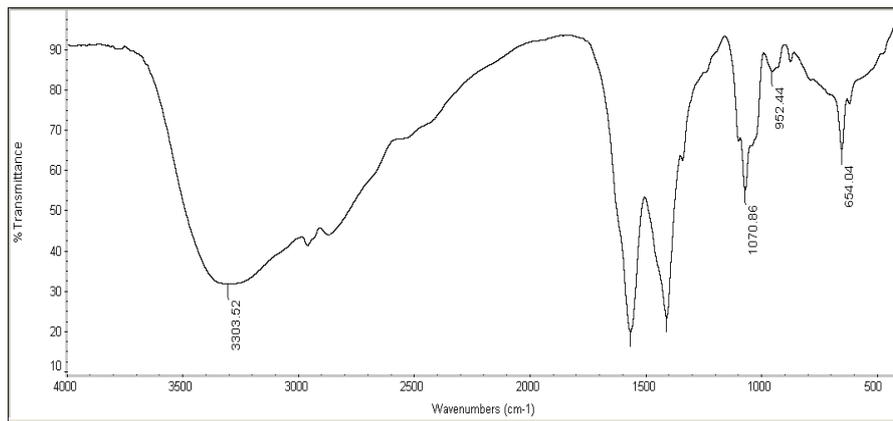


Fig. 1. FT-IR spectra of Ia.

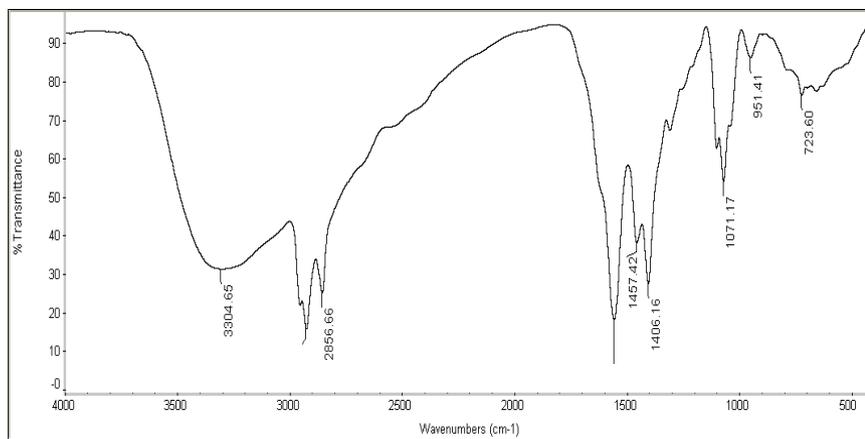


Fig. 2. FT-IR spectra of Ib.

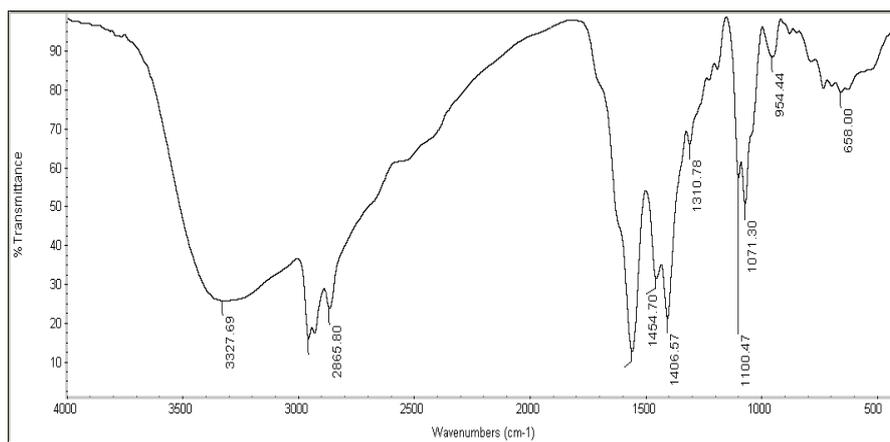


Fig. 3. FT-IR spectra of Ic.

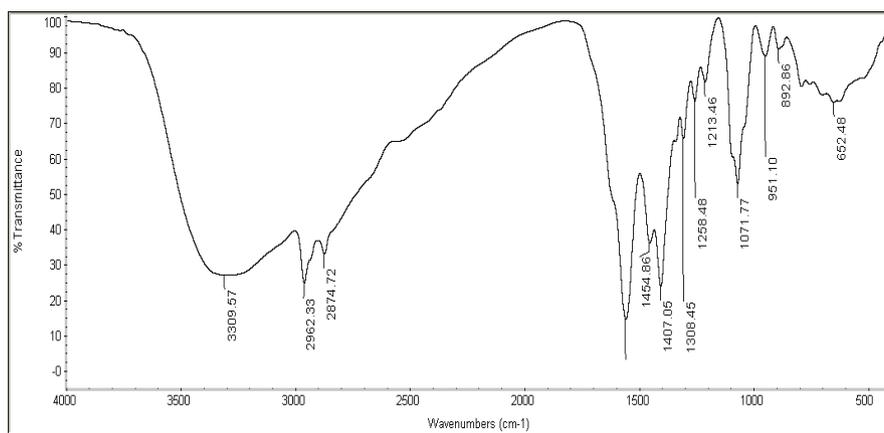


Fig. 4. FT-IR spectra of Id.

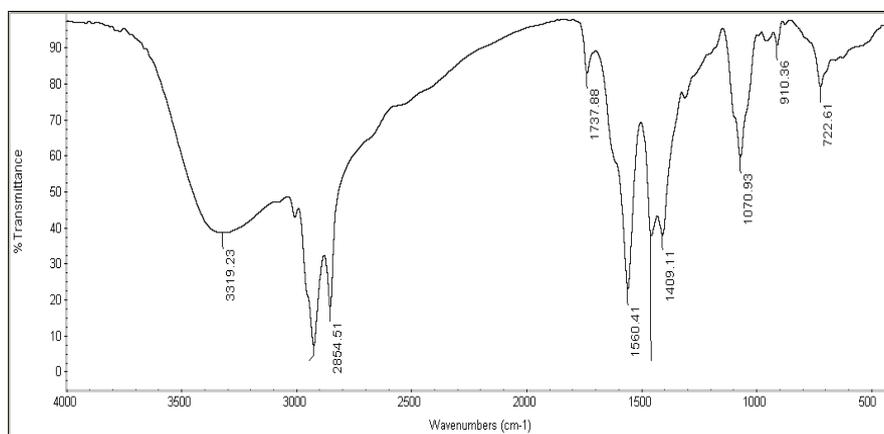
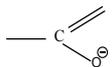


Fig. 5. FT-IR spectra of Ie.

TABLE 1. IR spectroscopy for prepared hydroxyl ammonium salts.

Cpd.	N-H	CH <sub>2</sub> & CH <sub>3</sub>		C-C
Ia	3327	2851	1566	1071
Ib	3309	2926	1457	1071
Ic	3304	2962	1454	1071
Id	3303	2865	1454	1071
Ie	3319	2854	1560	1071

were obtained using Jeol-EX 270 MHz H<sup>1</sup>-NMR spectroscopy. The spectrometer operating at 400.13 MHz and used 5-mm broad band inverse Z-gradient probe in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> solvent.

The data from Table 2 reveals that:

Proton (a) has high  $\delta$  value which was attributed to highly deshielded proton because of

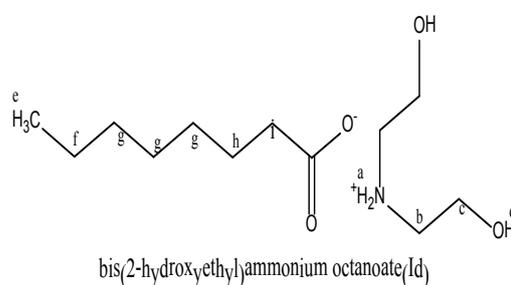
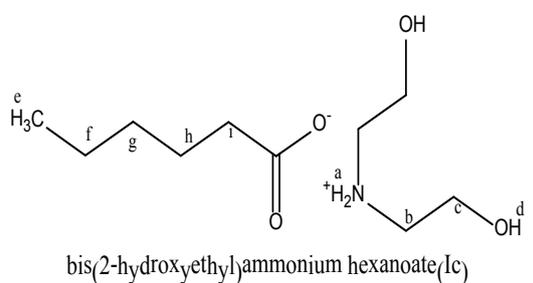
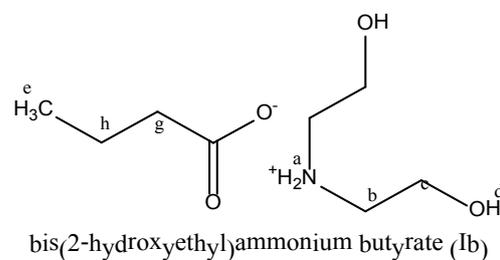
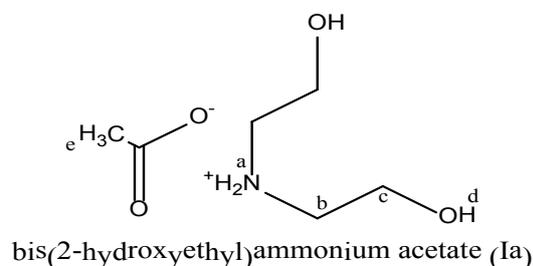
the positively charged nitrogen atom.  $\delta$  value of proton (c) is higher than that of proton (b) due to the highly electro negativity of oxygen atom more than nitrogen atom and the shielded proton (d) has low  $\delta$  value. The singlet shielded proton (e) differ in  $\delta$  values which record 2.2, 0.90, 0.90, 0.88 and 0.88 ppm for Ia, Ib, Ic, Id and Ie respectively and that were illustrated by the nearest of oxygen

atom. Protons (h), (f), (g) and (i) are shielded protons with low  $\delta$  values,  $\delta$  value of proton (h) is higher than those of (f) and (g) due to the nearest of oxygen atom and become far away from  $\text{CH}_3$

which act as electron donating. For proton (k), it has  $\delta$  value of 5.48ppm and that illustrated by neighboring of  $\text{C}=\text{C}$ .

TABLE 2.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectroscopy of (Ia, Ib, Ic, Id and Ie).

Compounds.	Chemical Shift ( $\delta$ ppm)										
	a singlet	b triplet	c triplet	d singlet	e singlet	f multiplet	g singlet	h multiplet	i triplet	j singlet	k multiplet
Ia	7.68	3.52	4.27	3.65	2.20	----	----	----	----	----	----
Ib	7.68	3.52	4.27	3.65	0.90	----	2.40	1.73	----	----	----
Ic	7.68	3.52	4.27	3.65	0.90	1.31	1.29	1.58	2.40	----	----
Id	7.68	3.52	4.27	3.65	0.88	1.31	1.29	1.58	2.40	----	----
Ie	7.68	3.52	4.27	3.65	0.88	1.31	1.29	1.58	2.40	2.18	5.48



bis(2-hydroxyethyl)ammonium (*E*)-octadec-9-enoate

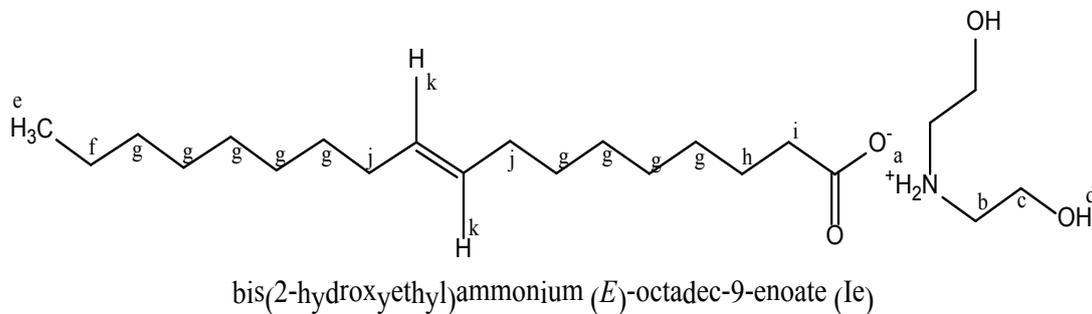


Fig. 6.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectroscopy of (Ia, Ib, Ic, Id and Ie).

*Elemental analysis*

The data obtained from Table 3 show that the

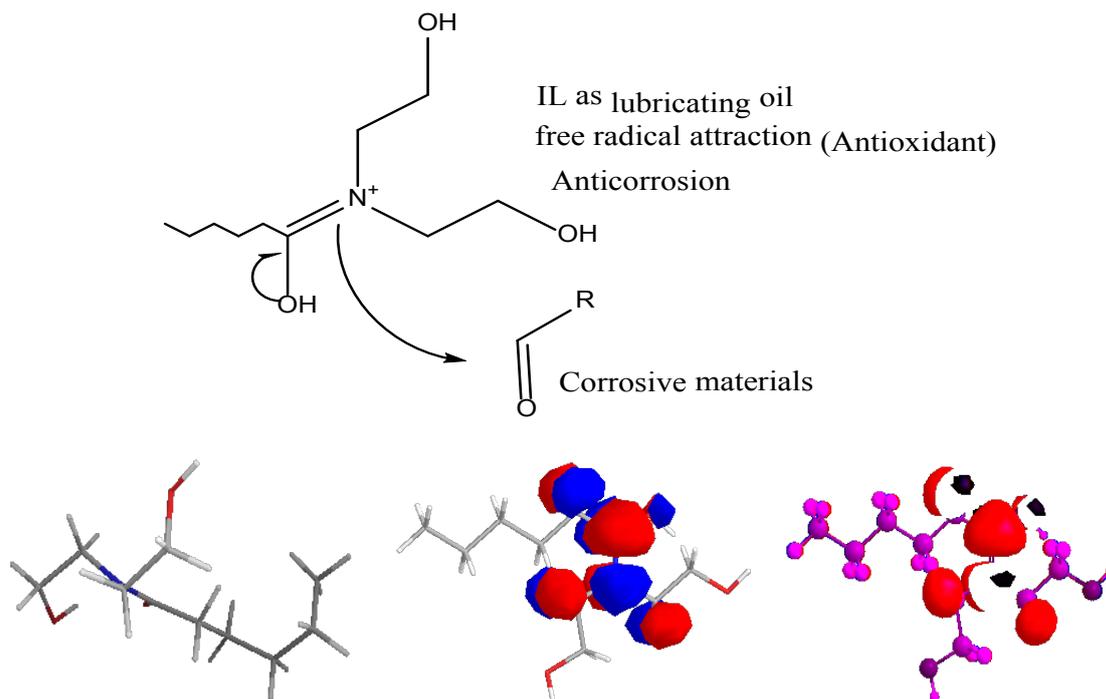
calculated values of the elements were in good compatibility with the found values.

**TABLE 3. Elemental analysis for the prepared hydroxyl ammonium salts.**

ILs	%C		%N		%H	
	Calc.	Found	Calc.	Found	Calc.	Found
Ia	43.63	43.42	8.48	8.19	9.15	9.65
Ib	49.72	49.64	7.25	7.60	9.91	9.64
Ic	54.28	54.44	6.33	6.27	10.48	10.38
Id	57.80	57.57	5.62	5.98	10.91	10.78
Ie	68.17	67.27	3.61	3.91	11.6	12.2

The synthetic ionic liquids have regioselective isomerization of the amide to amido-enaminol tautomeric group that was clear in IR and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, in situ that able to extract most of the corrosive materials and free radical tumor as outlined in Fig.7. So, they can be considered as anticorrosion, antioxidant lubricating oil. These powerful materials have considered becoming

a new approach to green chemistry (simplicity, mild conditions, and atomic economy), Green chemistry approach toward the synthesis of ionic liquids with novel characteristics through amide-enaminol group has several. In this study, authors believe the synthesized ionic liquids may provide a “green” alternative four derivatives to develop lubricating with novel characteristics.



**Fig. 7. outline the electronic distribution of the amide-enaminol isomers that responsible for scavenging the free radical and corrosive materials**

Thermal stability was measured by thermogravimetric analysis. The data were obtained by SDT Q600 V20.5 Build 15 thermal analyzer. Samples are heated from ambient temperature to 600°C at heating rate of 10°C min<sup>-1</sup>

and nitrogen flow. From Fig. 8, we found that, the all prepared ILs show good thermal stability and the final degradation temperature increased with increasing the carbon number of acid part.

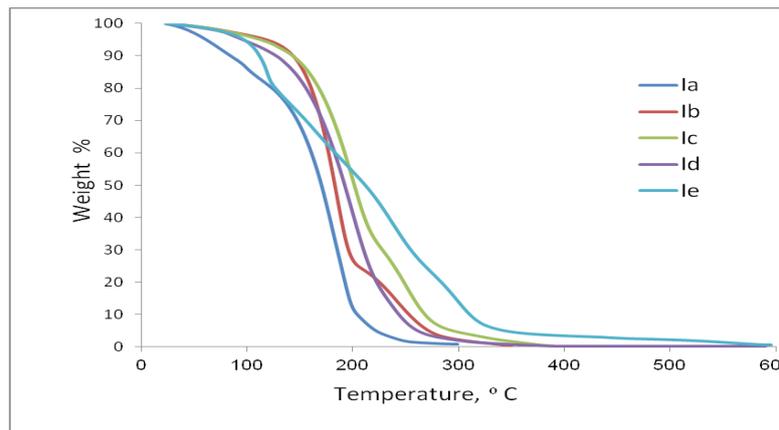


Fig. 8. Thermal gravimetric analysis for the prepared ILs (Ia-Ie).

*Physical properties of the prepared hydroxyl ammonium ionic liquids*

Viscosity is one of the most effective properties of lubricants because it is the first operating characteristics determined to any lubricating oil. Mainly viscosity measures the flow resistance and a good lubricant has enough fluidity to reduce friction at low temperatures.

From data obtained in Fig. 9 we found that the viscosity decreases with increasing temperature

so the lubricants become thinner as increasing the operating temperature. A good lubricating must have stable viscosity and the rate of changing of viscosity with temperature is measured via arbitrary scale known as viscosity index. If the viscosity falls rapidly due to temperature increasing, it has low viscosity index on the other hand if the viscosity is only slightly affected by temperature raising the viscosity index will be high.

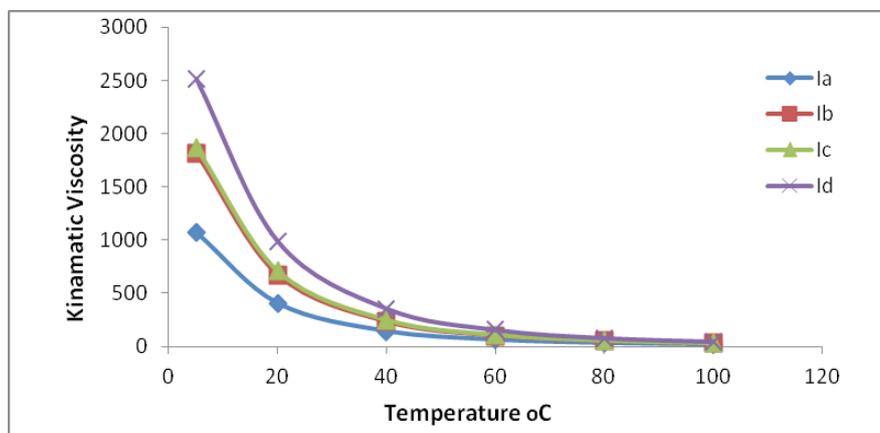


Fig. 9. Relation between kinematic viscosity and temperature.

Also, the viscosity increase with increasing C-number of acid parts from Ia-Id the lubricants become thicker and converted from liquid phase to semisolid (grease) phase Ie as shown in Table 4.

Cloud and pour points indicate the suitability of lubricants in cold conditions. Lubricants used in machines working at low temperatures should possess low pour point; otherwise solidification of

lubricant oil will cause jamming of machine.

Flash point is important factor in determining how oil well behaves and we found that all prepared IIs process slightly high flash point which is accepted value as potential lubricants.

TAN is indication of the formation quality. In Table 4, we found that all prepared IIs have no acidic number.

**TABLE 4. Physical properties of ILs (Ia-Id).**

Test	Method	Ia	Ib	Ic	Id
Pour point, °C	ASTMD-97	<-45	<-45	<-45	<-45
Flash point, °C		184	190	193	198
Fire point, °C	ASTMD-92	201	205	211	218
Density	ASTMD-4052	1.1800	1.1091	1.0624	1.0335
Viscosity@40°C, St		143.2	231.39	248.15	355.28
Viscosity @100°C, St	ASTMD-445	19.58	29.01	31.72	45.93
Viscosity Index		159.57	164.55	170.82	189.12
TAN	ASTMD-664	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

**TABLE 5. Physical properties of IL (Ie).**

Test	Method	Ie
Oil Separation		Zero
Flash point, °C		202
Fire point, °C	ASTMD-92	235
Density@15.56	ASTMD-4052	1.0109
Viscosity @120°C, St	ASTMD-445	18.004
TAN	ASTMD-664	Nil

*Fluids test*

Aging behavior of the four synthesized ionic liquids at 100°C are different from their behavior at 150°C as shown in Table 6. Mass change of ILa and ILbare around 0.1(wt %) and negligible for ILc and ILd at 100°C. At 150°C, negligible mass change for all synthesized ionic liquids are found and also for the reference oils.

Changing in viscosity of the synthesized ionic liquids at 40°C is due to long-term exposure at different temperature. As the viscosity increase the low thermal stability obtained, so ILa-ILd show high thermal stability and good fluidity characters.

**TABLE 6. Aging behavior of ILa-ILd and reference oils (Ref 1 & 2).**

Sample fluid	100°C for 6 days		150°C for further 6 days	
	Mass Change (Wt %)	Viscosity Change (%)	Mass Change (Wt %)	Viscosity Change (%)
ILa	-0.15	-9	Negligible	-7
ILb	-0.10	-5	Negligible	-3
ILc	Negligible	-1	Negligible	-1
ILd	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	-1
Ref 1	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	2
Ref 2	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	6

*Rheological behavior*

The rheological behaviors of the five prepared hydroxyl ammonium ionic liquids (Ia-Ie) were tested at temperatures 5, 20, 40, 60, 80, and 100°C (Fig.10-15), the relations between viscosity vs. shear rate at highest temperature and the lower

observed as shown in Fig. 11,13, the relations between shear stress vs. shear rate at highest temperature and the lower observed as shown in Fig. 12,14 and Viscosity vs. different c-chain of acids were evaluated and shown in Fig.15.

From date we found that the prepared ionic liquids showed non-Newtonian behavior at low and high temperatures, also showed increase in viscosity at low shear rate and vice versa. the high dynamic viscosity at low shear rate means higher torque is required to start the rotating motion. This behavior no time dependence and the shear applied break down the internal structure within

the fluid very rapidly therefore reduces the mechanical efficiency of the hydraulic system.

From Fig. 15, we notice that the viscosities of the prepared ionic liquids increased with increasing C-number of acid part and the prepared samples converted from liquid phase in Ia, Ib, Ic and Id to semisolid grease in Ie ionic liquids.

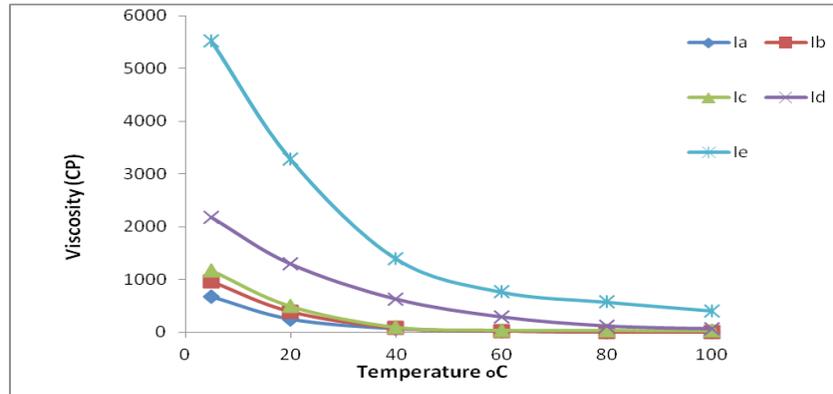


Fig. 10. Relation between viscosity (CP) and temperature (oC) for ILs (Ia-Ie).

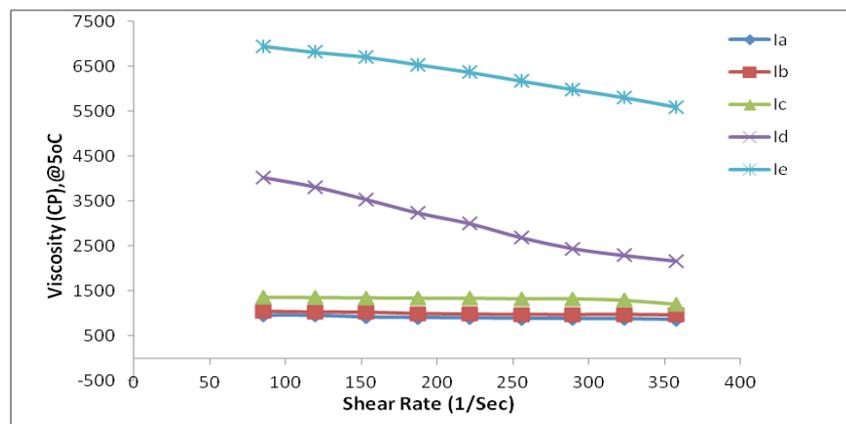


Fig. 11. Relation between viscosity (CP) and shear rate at low temperature for ILs (Ia-Ie).

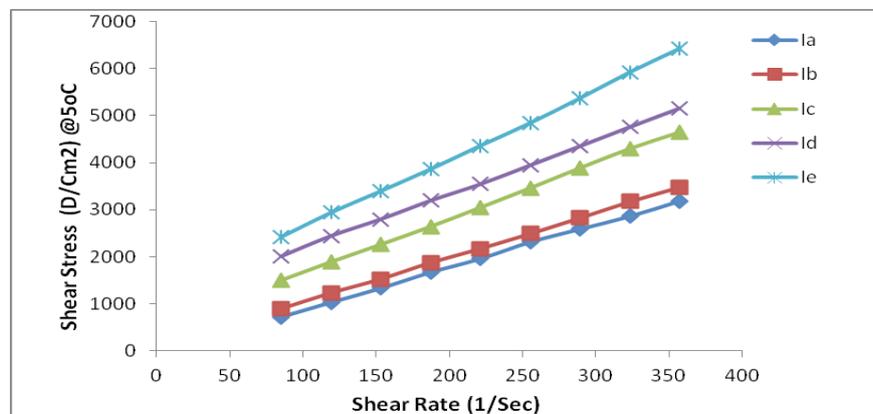


Fig.12. Relation between shear stress and shear rate at low temperature for ILs (Ia-Ie).

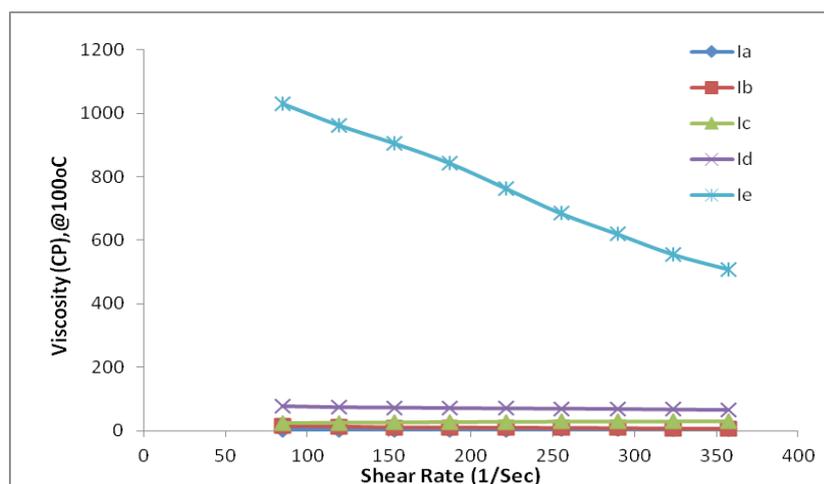


Fig. 13. Relation between viscosity (CP) and shear rate at high temperature for ILs (Ia-Ie).

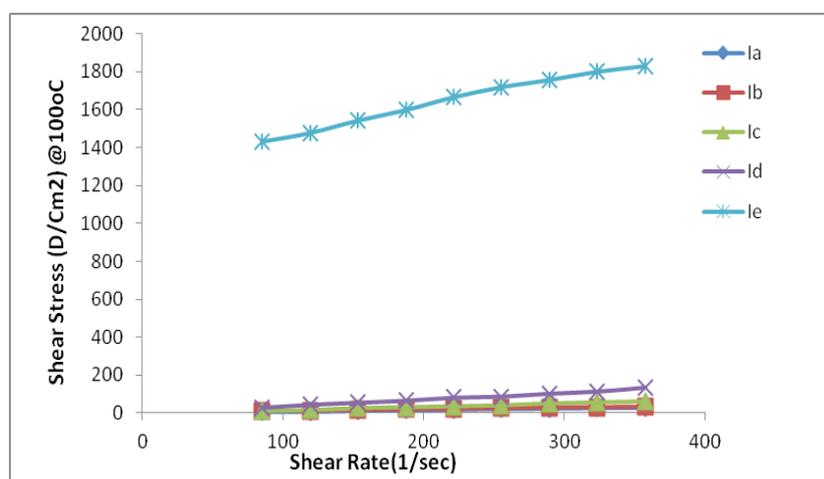


Fig. 14. Relation between shear stress and shear rate at low temperature for ILs (Ia-Ie).

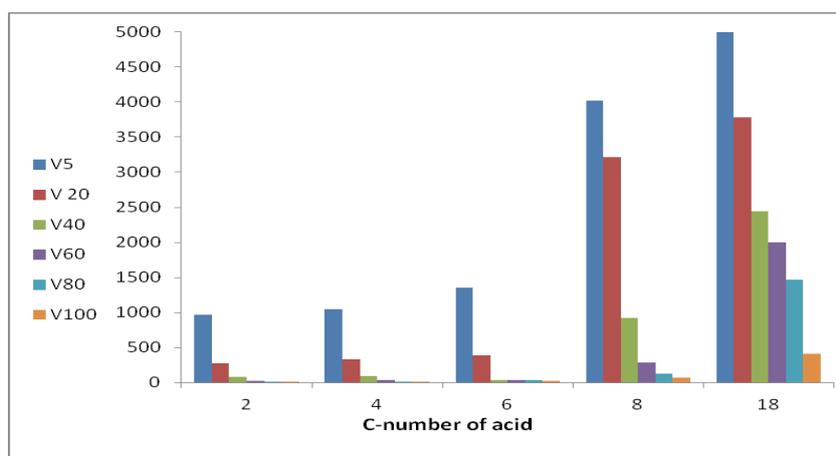


Fig. 15. Relation between viscosity (CP) and C-number of acid at temperature for ILs (Ia-Ie).

## Conclusion

Series of five ammonium salts ionic liquids were prepared and studies from physicochemical, rheological and fluidity point of view and the conclusion can be noted in:

- All prepared IIs have physicochemical properties which accepted to behave as potential lubricants and having no acidity characters indicate high quality formulation.
- The prepared IIs show high thermal stability and good fluidity characters.
- The viscosity increase with increasing C-number of acid parts (become thicker) and converted from liquid phase to semisolid phase (grease).
- Rheological study showed Newtonian behavior for Ia-Ic and pseudoplastic behavior for Id and Ie.

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## الخصائص الريولوجية والفيزيائية للسوائل الايونية المقترنه بكاتيونات الامونيوم المستخدمه كزيوت تشحيم مصنعه

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تمتلك السوائل الايونيه عده خصائص مما يسمح امكانيه استخدامها كمواد تشحيم. في هذا البحث تم تحضير مجموعه من هذه السوائل باستخدام بعض الاحماض الكربوكسيليه مع الايثانول امين وتقييمها وتوصيفها . ايضا تم دراسه الخواص الفيزيوكيميائيه والسلوك الريولوجي لها لاستخدامها كزيوت تشحيم صناعيه. من هذه الدراسه تبين ان هذه السوائل لها ثبات حراري وانسيبيه جيده. كما انه من الملاحظ ان مع زياده عدد الذرات الكربونيه للحمض الكربوكسيلى تصبح السوائل اكثر لزوجه مما يجعلها تتحول من الحاله السائله الى الحاله الشبه صلبه (الشحوم).