CE407 SEPARATIONS

Lecture 04

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Distillation

- Whereby a mixture of chemicals is separated by exploiting differences in boiling points
- This lecture deals with thermodynamic background material relevant to this topic
- Vapor Pressure, P^{sat}
 - P^{sat} is very non-linear
 - P^{sat} is very sensitive to temperature
- Component 1 is more volatile than component 2
 - At any given pressure component 1 boils at a lower temperature than component 2
 - At any given temperature component 1 has a higher vapor pressure than component 2



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Clausius Clapeyron Equation

$$\ln P^{sat} = \frac{-\Delta H^{vap}}{R} \frac{1}{T} + constant$$

- **P**^{sat} is vapor pressure
- $-\Delta H^{vap}$ is Heat of Vaporization
- **R** is the gas constant
- **T** is Absolute Temperature
- Vapor pressure is linearized versus **1/T**, but is not perfectly linear
 - $-\Delta H^{vap}$ is Heat of Vaporization is not a constant







Antoine Equation

$$log\left(\frac{P^{sat}}{1 a t m}\right) = A - \frac{B}{T+C}$$

- Antoine coefficients A, B, and C are available in many resources
 - For this course use the values from the course website, which can be found in the code in the CODE tab
- Make sure your use of the equation is in agreement with the source regarding the following:
 - Natural logarithm versus Base 10 logarithm
 - Pressure and Temperature Units (temperature MUST be in the same scale as the coefficients were determined with)
 - Applicable temperature range
- If interpolating values from a table of vapor pressure versus temperature: convert to In(P^{sat}) (or log₁₀p^{sat}) and 1/T to do an linear interpolation





Vapor Liquid Equilibrium (VLE)

- At equilibrium, the values of x_i and y_i for each component are set by temperature and pressure
- The overall composition will determine the relative amount of vapor versus liquid phases
- Distribution Coefficient (k factor) $k_i = \frac{y_i}{x_i}$
- Relative Volatility

$$\alpha_{ij} = \frac{\frac{y_i}{x_i}}{\frac{y_j}{x_j}} = \frac{k_i}{k_j}$$







Binary Systems VLE

- For a binary system **x** and **y** refer to the light (more volatile) component and do not require a subscript
- Light Component $k_1 = \frac{y_1}{x_1} = \frac{y}{x}$
- Heavy Component

$$k_2 = \frac{y_2}{x_2} = \frac{(1-y)}{(1-x)}$$

$$\alpha_{12} = \frac{\frac{y_1}{x_1}}{\frac{y_2}{x_2}} = \frac{\frac{y_1}{x}}{\frac{(1-y)}{(1-x)}}$$





Raoult's Law

$$y_i P = x_i P_i^{sat}(T)$$

- Requirements
 - Ideal Gas Behavior
 - Distillation takes place at high temperatures and moderate to low pressures so this is a VERY good assumption
 - Ideal Liquid Mixture
 - Components need to have similar structures so that they are not interacting
 - This is a good assumption in refining processes
 - When water is present this is NOT necessarily a good assumption





Raoult's Law, continued

• Now
$$\frac{y_i}{x_i} = k_i(T, P) = \frac{P_i^{sat}(T)}{P}$$

• When Raoult's Law applies $\alpha_{ij} \approx constant$ with respect to temperature

$$\alpha_{ij} = \frac{P_i^{sat}(T)}{P_j^{sat}(T)}$$
$$y = \frac{\alpha}{1 + (\alpha - 1)x}$$

• Which is a rearrangement of

$$\alpha_{12} = \frac{\frac{y_{1/x_{1}}}{\frac{y_{2}}{x_{2}}} = \frac{\frac{y_{/x}}{\frac{(1-y)}{(1-x)}}$$

• One can calculate α_{ij} at the boiling point of each component and then take average





Binary T_{xy} Diagram



- Below the two phase bubble: One phase, Liquid
- Above the two phase bubble: One phase, Vapor
- Within the two phase bubble: Both phases are present
- Below the bubble abscissa refers to **x**
- Above the bubble abscissa refers to **y**





Binary T_{xy} Diagram



- Within the bubble
 - Locate the point for the overall combined mixture
 - Abscissa is the overall mole fraction (both phases accounted for)
 - Ordinate is the temperature
 - Follow constant temperature to each curve of bubble (indicated above by dot)
 - Value of abscissa on lower curve is equilibrium mole fraction in liquid phase, **x**
 - Value of abscissa on upper curve is equilibrium mole fraction in vapor phase, y

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Binary T_{xy} Diagram



- **x** and **y** refer to the mole fractions of component 1
 - The more volatile, i.e. Lower Boiling Point Component
- Point marked with X on upper curve is the **DEW POINT** for vapor at that mole fraction **y**
 - Composition of first drop of liquid is found by value of x located on lower curve at the same temperature
- Point marked with X on lower curve is the **BUBBLE POINT** for liquid at that mole fraction \mathbf{x}_{q}
 - Composition of first bubble formed is found by value of y located on upper curve at the same temperature



Vapor Liquid Equilibria (VLE) Curve

• If one plots the value of y versus the value of x that it is in equilibrium with, the following graphs results



- Note that each x and y pair are the values on upper and lower curves at a given temperature on the T_{xv} diagram
- Actual data is always preferable to calculated data
- Having said that, let's look at a method to calculate the VLE equilibria curve!





VLE Curve, continued

• Add up the Raoult's Law expression for each component

$$y_1 P = x_1 P_1^{sat}(T)$$
 component 1

$$y_2 P = x_2 P_2^{sat}(T)$$
 component 2

$$(y_1 + y_2) P = x_1 P_1^{sat}(T) + x_2 P_2^{sat}(T)$$
 sum

- Rearrange the equation, noting that $(y_1+y_2) = 1$
 - Replace **x**₁ with **x** and **x**₂ with (1-**x**)

$$x = \frac{P - P_2^{sat}(T)}{P_1^{sat}(T) - P_2^{sat}(T)}$$

$$y = \frac{x P_1^{sat}(T)}{p}$$





VLE Curve, continued

- Use the Antoine Relationship to calculate values of P₁^{sat}(T) and P₂^{sat}(T) at various temperatures
- Use those values of P₁^{sat}(T) and P₂^{sat}(T) to calculate x and y equilibrium values for each temperature



- Plot
 - T versus x and T versus y on the same graph to generate T_{xy} diagram
 - y versus x to generate VLE curve

