

plus remain reasonably constant when the concentration of the heptanes-plus fraction is decreased by a factor of approximately 2. The effect of a decrease in the heptanes-plus fraction at the concentrations studied serves mainly to extend the pressure region over which these ratios are defined. This trend could be completely reversed with a continued decrease in the heptanes-plus concentration. Decreasing the amount of the heptanes-plus fraction in this system does have a slight effect on the equilibrium ratios of the intermediate components, ethane through hexanes; the net effect is a small increase at the higher pressures.

Figure 5 shows many interesting trends regarding the equilibrium ratios of different multicomponent systems. The data of other investigators have been cross plotted to yield values at 190° F. With the exception of the C and F mixture data of Standing and Katz (18), the procedure of cross plotting on semilog paper would introduce a relatively small amount of error.

The curves as numbered in Figure 5 generally show an increase in  $\frac{P_r}{P_c}$ , and a decrease in the rate at which they approach their respective "apparent convergence pressure". With the exception of Roland's distillate system, the moles of heptanes-plus per mole of remaining components decrease as the curve numbers increase. The low molecular weight of Roland's heptanes and heavier fraction could over-ride this factor. The molecular weight of the systems shows an increase with respect to curves 1, 2, 3, and 4. The molecular weight corresponding to curve 5 is slightly less than that corresponding to curve 4. Figure 4 compares the phase behavior of the mixtures represented by curves 2, 3, and 4, in Figure 5.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors wish to thank Dr. George H. Fancher, Director of the Texas Petroleum Research Committee,

for permission to publish this work. The supervision and constructive criticism of Dr. Harvey T. Kennedy and Dr. Paul B. Crawford are also gratefully acknowledged.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- (1) Arnold, J. H., Chem. Eng. Progr. Symposium Ser. **3** 1952.
- (2) Beattie, J. A., Proc. Am. Acad. Arts Sci. **62**, 389 (1934).
- (3) Eilerts, Kenneth, Smith, R. V., U. S. Bur. Mines Rep. Invest. **3642**, 1942.
- (4) Fitzsimons, Ogden, Thiele, E. W., Ind. Eng. Chem., Anal., Ed. **7**, 711 (1935).
- (5) Jacoby, R. H., Rzasa, M. J., J. Petroleum Technol. **5**, 225 (1953).
- (6) Jacoby, R. H., Rzasa, M. J., Trans. Am. Inst. Mining Met. Engrs. **195**, 99 (1952).
- (7) Jessen, F. W., Lightfoot, J. H., Ind. Eng. Chem. **30**, 312 (1938).
- (8) Katz, D. L., Brown, G. G., Ibid., **25**, 1373 (1933).
- (9) Katz, D. L., Hachmuth, K. H., Ibid., **29**, 1072 (1937).
- (10) Kirkbride, C. G., Bertetti, J. W., Ibid., **35**, 1242 (1943).
- (11) Mair, B. J., Glasgow, A. R., Rossini, F. D., J. Research Natl. Bur. Standards **26**, 591 (1941).
- (12) Poettman, F. H., Katz, D. L., Ind. Eng. Chem. **38**, 530 (1946).
- (13) Roland, C. H., Ind. Eng. Chem. **37**, 930 (1945).
- (14) Roland, C. H., Smith, D. E., Kaveler, H. H., Oil Gas J. **39**, 46, 128 (1941).
- (15) Sage, B. H., Lacey, W. N., Trans. Am. Inst. Mining Met. Engrs. **136**, 136 (1940).
- (16) Sage, B. H., Lacey, W. N., Schaafsma, J. G., Ibid., **26**, 214 (1934).
- (17) Souders, Mott, Selheimer, C. W., Brown, C. G., Ind. Eng. Chem. **24**, 517 (1932).
- (18) Standing, M. B., Katz, D. L., Trans. Am. Inst. Mining Met. Engrs. **155**, 232 (1944).
- (19) Vagtberg, Harold, J. Petroleum Technol. **6**, 31 (1954).
- (20) Webber, C. E., Trans. Am. Inst. Mining Met. Engrs. **141**, 192 (1941).

Received for review July 16, 1955

Accepted March 3, 1956

## Critical Properties and Vapor Pressures of Some Ethers and Heterocyclic Compounds

KENNETH A. KOBE, ARTHUR E. RAVICZ, AND SURINDER P. VOHRA  
The University of Texas, Austin, Tex.

This report, a continuation of previous work (11), supplies more data on critical properties of newer organic compounds, thus permitting the law of corresponding states to be used in estimating other properties of engineering importance.

Critical properties were determined for five ethers and eight heterocyclic compounds, using the apparatus and technique of the previous work.

Correlations and equations are given for the critical temperatures and pressures of the ethers, heterocyclic compounds, and ketones.

Many organic chemicals, heretofore of only academic interest, are now being produced in tonnage quantities. Frequently engineers need to estimate certain properties of these compounds that are basic to the design of research equipment, pilot plants, and commercial installations.

The law of corresponding states, first proposed by van der Waals, has been used by many investigators for the estimation and correlation of thermodynamic data; Nelson and Obert (14) gave a brief review of various forms that are in common use. One of the more important correlations based on this law are compressibility charts, the most recent of which was prepared by Nelson and Obert (15) from

30 gases. These charts show a maximum deviation of 1.0% in the region below the critical point. In pressure ranges where  $P_r = 1.0$  to 10.0, the maximum deviation is 2.5%, while in the high pressure ranges where  $P_r = 10.0$  to 40.0, the maximum deviation, based on 9 gases, is about 5%.

A knowledge of critical constants permits a correction for the effect of pressure on various thermodynamic properties such as enthalpy, entropy, heat capacity, and fugacity coefficients. The concept of the law of corresponding states is now being advanced toward the calculation of transport properties such as thermal conductivity (3) and diffusion coefficients (1). Attempts are being made to generalize some physical properties on the same basis (23).

A brief review of various methods for the determination of critical properties was given by Kobe and Lynn (9), who also tabulated critical values for many compounds.

#### APPARATUS

The apparatus (Figure 1) differs in some respect from that described by Kobe, Crawford, and Stephenson (11). Briefly, it consists of a high pressure bomb incased in an

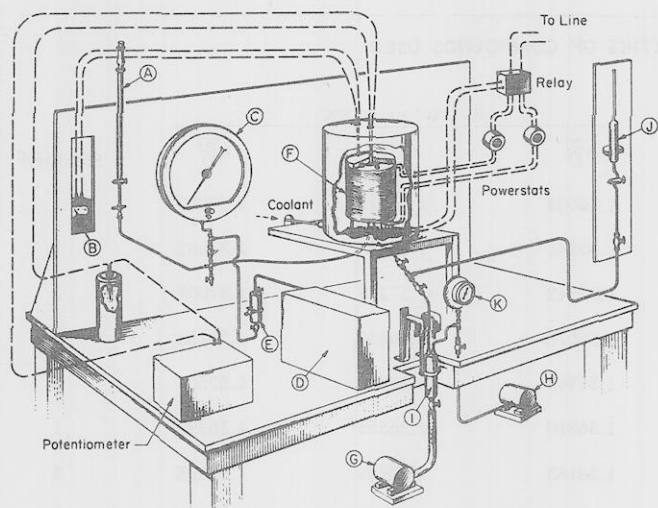


Figure 1. Apparatus for the determination of vapor pressures and critical properties

aluminum block for heating and cooling, a thermocouple for measuring temperature, a Bourdon tube for measuring pressure, a mercury reservoir for changing the free volume (available to the sample) of the bomb, and a sample buret with lines for introducing a weighed portion of a compound to the bomb. Modifications of the previous apparatus (11) are:

1. A Fenwal Thermoswitch, mounted in the heating block and set to close at 700° F., operated a relay that turned off current to the cartridge heaters in order to prevent overheating of the bomb.

2. The 9-inch gage was replaced with a 16-inch Heise Bourdon gage, having a range of 0 to 1000 pounds/square inch, in 1 pound/square inch scale divisions. It is felt that this gage, properly calibrated with the dead-weight gage tester, will give readings to 0.3 pound/square inch.

3. The mercury buret, A, was connected to the system through a graded glass-to-Kovar seal. The sample buret, J, was connected similarly but with a polyethylene section retained for flexibility.

### OPERATION

Filling the mercury system, determining the bomb volume, and introducing the sample were performed essentially as before (11). However, the testing of compounds was changed as follows:

After determining a point on the vapor pressure curve,

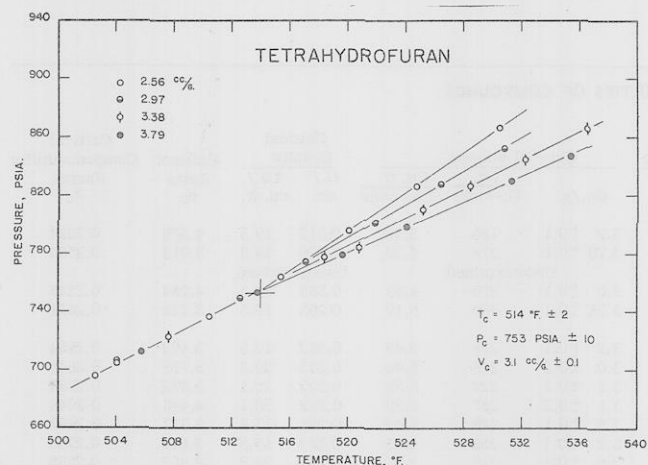


Figure 2. Critical point of tetrahydrofuran

the bomb was heated at a rate which raised its temperature 10° F. in 4 minutes; then the heat input was decreased so it was just less than the heat lost, and the system was allowed to come to equilibrium. The temperature and pressure, rising more and more slowly, finally reached constant values which persisted for a minute or two, then began to fall. Maximum temperatures and pressures were recorded, although they occurred as much as three minutes apart. In the initial region, the heat input was decreased so that the rise in temperature was 3° or 4° F. in two minutes; thus data points on the pressure-temperature diagram were closer together.

Temperatures were corrected by a calibration curve obtained by determining the vapor pressure curve of deaerated, triple-distilled water. Pressure measurements were corrected with a dead-weight gage tester calibration; further corrections were made for hydrostatic head, vapor pressure of mercury, and change of barometric pressure. Specific volume was corrected for thermal expansion of the steel bomb and the mercury it contained.

When behavior of the sample indicated that appreciable decomposition had taken place, fresh samples were introduced and heated directly to the critical region in order to check on previous data.

Data for tetrahydrofuran (Figure 2) were plotted by the method of Ipatieff and Monroe (8).

### PURIFICATION OF COMPOUNDS

Prior to purification, the compounds were treated with Drierite in order to remove any water which might be present, and those suspected of containing peroxides were treated with ferrous sulfate. The samples were distilled and 80% heart cuts were taken three times in columns

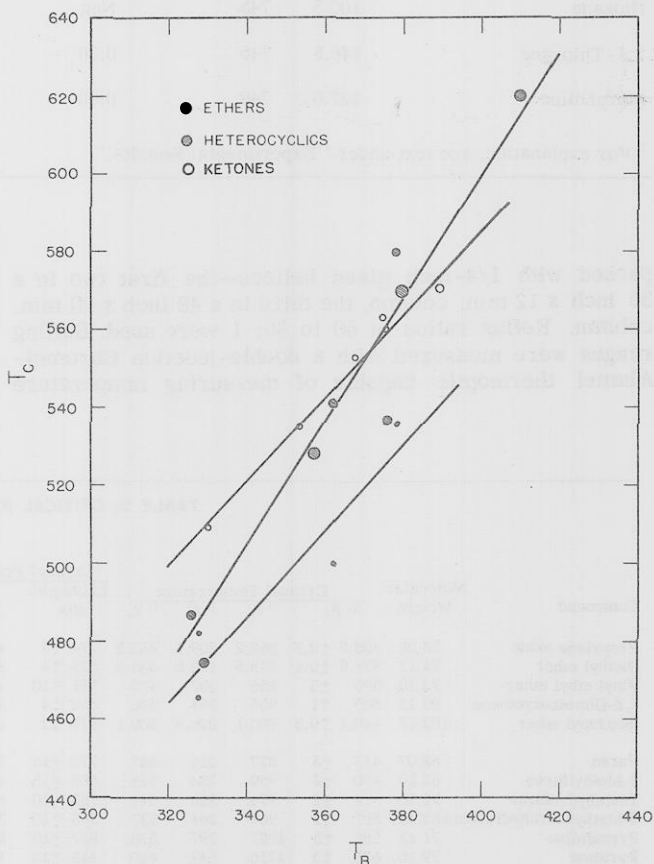


Figure 3. Correlation of critical temperature and normal boiling point

TABLE I. PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF COMPOUNDS USED

| Compound                | Boiling Point |        | Boiling Range,<br>° C. | Refractive Index             |                              |                              | Stability <sup>a</sup> |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
|                         | ° C.          | Mm. Hg |                        | n <sub>D</sub> <sup>20</sup> | n <sub>D</sub> <sup>25</sup> | n <sub>D</sub> <sup>30</sup> |                        |
| Propylene oxide         | 33.9          | 754    | 0.05                   | 1.36603                      | 1.36322                      | 1.36082                      | 1                      |
| Diethyl ether           | 34.2          | 753    | 0.02                   | 1.35243                      | 1.34955                      | 1.34682                      | 1                      |
| Vinyl ethyl ether       | 35.4          | 747    | 0.05                   | 1.37542                      | 1.37288                      | 1.37009                      | 2                      |
| Dimethyl acetal         | 63.8          | 751    | 0.03                   | 1.36678                      | 1.36435                      | 1.36183                      | 3                      |
| 1,2-Dimethoxy ethane    | 84.6          | 756    | Neg.                   | 1.37963                      | 1.37811                      | 1.37505                      | 2                      |
| Isopropyl ether         | 68.1          | 753    | 0.02                   | 1.36810                      | 1.36553                      | 1.36290                      | 1                      |
| Ethyl butyl ether       | 91.2          | 742    | 0.02                   | 1.38183                      | 1.37928                      | 1.37685                      | 3                      |
| Vinyl isobutyl ether    | 82.4          | 746    | 0.04                   | ....                         | 1.39385                      | 1.39129                      | 4                      |
| n-Butyl ether           | 139.7         | 752    | 0.09                   | 1.39921                      | 1.39683                      | 1.39467                      | 3                      |
| Furan                   | 30.7          | 754    | 0.02                   | 1.42161                      | 1.41871                      | 1.41562                      | 2                      |
| 2-Methylfuran           | 63.6          | 744    | 0.10                   | 1.43492                      | 1.43236                      | 1.42889                      | 2                      |
| Tetrahydrofuran         | 65.5          | 748    | 0.02                   | 1.40716                      | 1.40496                      | 1.40252                      | 1                      |
| 2-Methyltetrahydrofuran | 79.4          | 751    | 0.03                   | 1.40751                      | 1.40508                      | 1.40270                      | 2                      |
| Pyrrole                 | 127.3         | 750    | Neg.                   | 1.50859                      | 1.50641                      | 1.50422                      | 3                      |
| Pyrrolidine             | 85.8          | 748    | 0.12                   | 1.44276                      | 1.44025                      | 1.43801                      | 2                      |
| Pyridine                | 114.5         | 748    | 0.02                   | 1.50915                      | 1.50696                      | 1.50460                      | 2                      |
| Thiophene               | 83.2          | 744    | 0.01                   | 1.52766                      | 1.52038                      | 1.52218                      | 2                      |
| Dioxane                 | 100.5         | 745    | Neg.                   | 1.42120                      | 1.41923                      | 1.41720                      | 2                      |
| 1,4-Thioxane            | 146.5         | 746    | 0.30                   | 1.50706                      | ....                         | ....                         | 4                      |
| Morpholine              | 127.0         | 749    | 0.30                   | 1.45408                      | 1.45212                      | 1.45010                      | 4                      |

<sup>a</sup> For explanation, see text under "Experimental Results."

packed with 1/4-inch glass helices--the first two in a 36 inch x 12 mm. column, the third in a 48 inch x 20 mm. column. Reflux ratios of 60 to 80: 1 were used. Boiling ranges were measured with a double-junction Chromel-Alumel thermopile capable of measuring temperature

differences of the order 1/80° C. Boiling temperatures were measured with National Bureau of Standards calibrated thermometers.

Physical properties of the compounds used are given in Table I.

TABLE II. CRITICAL PROPERTIES OF COMPOUNDS

| Compound                | Molecular Weight | Critical Temperature |       |       |       | Critical Pressure |      | Critical Volume |             |                  | Critical Density |             | Critical Ratio $\rho_c$ | Critical Compressibility Factor $Z_c$ |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                         |                  | ° F.                 | ° R.  | ° C.  | ° K.  | Lb./sq. in. abs.  | Atm. | Cc./g.          | Cc. G.-mole | Cu. ft. Lb.-mole | G./cc.           | Lb./cu. ft. |                         |                                       |
| Propylene oxide         | 58.08            | 408.5 ±0.7           | 868.2 | 209.1 | 482.3 | 714 ±5            | 48.6 | 3.2 ±0.1        | 186         | 2.98             | 0.312            | 19.5        | 4.378                   | 0.2284                                |
| Diethyl ether           | 74.12            | 378.8 ±0.4           | 838.5 | 192.6 | 465.8 | 523 ±4            | 35.6 | 3.70 ±0.1       | 274         | 4.39             | 0.270            | 16.8        | 3.918                   | 0.2552                                |
| Vinyl ethyl ether       | 72.10            | 396 ±3               | 856   | 202   | 475   | 591 ±10           | 40.2 | Undetermined    | ....        | ....             | Undetermined     | ....        | ....                    | ....                                  |
| 1,2-Dimethoxyethane     | 90.12            | 505 ±1               | 965   | 263   | 536   | 562 ±4            | 38.2 | 3.0 ±0.1        | 270         | 4.33             | 0.333            | 20.8        | 4.264                   | 0.2345                                |
| Isopropyl ether         | 102.17           | 440.4 ±0.3           | 900.1 | 226.9 | 500.1 | 417 ±2            | 28.4 | 3.78 ±0.1       | 386         | 6.19             | 0.265            | 16.5        | 3.744                   | 0.2671                                |
| Furan                   | 68.07            | 417 ±3               | 877   | 214   | 487   | 772 ±15           | 52.5 | 3.2 ±0.1        | 218         | 3.49             | 0.312            | 19.5        | 3.492                   | 0.2864                                |
| 2-Methylfuran           | 82.10            | 490 ±3               | 950   | 254   | 528   | 685 ±15           | 46.6 | 3.0 ±0.2        | 246         | 3.94             | 0.333            | 20.8        | 3.779                   | 0.2646                                |
| Tetrahydrofuran         | 72.10            | 514 ±2               | 974   | 268   | 541   | 753 ±10           | 51.2 | 3.1 ±0.1        | 224         | 3.58             | 0.322            | 20.1        | 3.872                   | 0.2583                                |
| 2-Methyltetrahydrofuran | 86.13            | 507 ±2               | 967   | 264   | 537   | 545 ±10           | 37.1 | 3.1 ±0.2        | 267         | 4.28             | 0.322            | 20.1        | 4.448                   | 0.2248                                |
| Pyrrolidine             | 71.12            | 567 ±3               | 1027  | 297   | 570   | 827 ±15           | 56.3 | 3.5 ±0.1        | 249         | 3.99             | 0.286            | 17.8        | 3.337                   | 0.2997                                |
| Pyridine                | 79.10            | 656 ±3               | 1116  | 347   | 620   | 818 ±15           | 55.6 | 3.2 ±0.1        | 253         | 4.05             | 0.312            | 19.5        | 3.617                   | 0.2765                                |
| Thiophene               | 84.13            | 585 ±2               | 1045  | 307   | 580   | 826 ±10           | 56.2 | 2.6 ±0.1        | 219         | 3.51             | 0.385            | 24.0        | 3.867                   | 0.2586                                |
| Dioxane                 | 88.10            | 598 ±2               | 1058  | 315   | 588   | 755 ±10           | 51.4 | 2.7 ±0.1        | 238         | 3.81             | 0.370            | 23.1        | 3.943                   | 0.2536                                |

TABLE III. VAPOR PRESSURES OF SOME ETHERS AND HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS

| ETHERS                            |                    |         |                |                    |                           |           |                |         |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|---------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------|
| Vapor pressure, lb./sq. inch abs. |                    |         |                |                    |                           |           |                |         |
| Temp.,<br>° F.                    | Propylene<br>oxide | Diethyl | Vinyl<br>ethyl | Dimethyl<br>acetal | 1, 2-Dimeth-<br>oxyethane | Isopropyl | Ethyl<br>butyl | n-Butyl |
| 160                               |                    | 47      |                |                    |                           |           |                |         |
| 170                               |                    | 54      |                |                    |                           |           |                |         |
| 180                               |                    | 62      |                |                    |                           |           |                |         |
| 190                               | 77                 | 72      |                |                    |                           |           |                |         |
| 200                               | 87                 | 82      | 78             |                    |                           |           |                |         |
| 210                               | 98                 | 94      | 90             |                    |                           |           |                |         |
| 220                               | 112                | 106     | 102            |                    |                           |           |                |         |
| 230                               | 126                | 120     | 115            | 58                 |                           |           |                |         |
| 240                               | 142                | 134     | 129            | 64                 |                           |           |                |         |
| 250                               | 160                | 151     | 145            | 73                 |                           |           |                |         |
| 260                               | 178                | 168     | 163            | 82                 | 48                        |           | 44             |         |
| 270                               | 200                | 187     | 182            | 93                 | 56                        |           | 50             |         |
| 280                               | 223                | 207     | 201            | 105                | 64                        |           | 56             |         |
| 290                               | 247                | 230     | 223            | 118                | 73                        |           | 63             |         |
| 300                               | 273                | 253     | 246            | 132                | 82                        | 116       | 71             |         |
| 310                               | 301                | 280     | 271            | 146                | 92                        | 129       | 79             |         |
| 320                               | 330                | 308     | 300            | 163                | 103                       | 143       | 89             |         |
| 330                               | 364                | 332     | 329            | 181                | 115                       | 158       | 98             |         |
| 340                               | 401                | 369     | 361            | 199                | 128                       | 174       | 108            |         |
| 350                               | 438                | 406     | 395            | 219                | 143                       | 193       | 120            |         |
| 360                               | 479                | 444     | 433            | 242                | 158                       | 212       | 132            |         |
| 370                               | 521                | 485     | 471            | 265                | 175                       | 232       | 146            |         |
| 380                               | 567                |         | 513            | 290                | 193                       | 253       | 160            |         |
| 390                               | 617                |         | 562            | 318                | 212                       | 275       | 176            |         |
| 400                               | 668                |         |                | 347                | 233                       | 298       | 193            |         |
| 410                               |                    |         |                |                    | 254                       | 326       | 211            |         |
| 420                               |                    |         |                |                    | 278                       | 356       | 231            |         |
| 430                               |                    |         |                |                    | 305                       | 386       | 252            |         |
| 440                               |                    |         |                |                    | 333                       |           | 275            |         |
| 450                               |                    |         |                |                    | 362                       |           | 299            |         |
| 460                               |                    |         |                |                    | 394                       |           | 324            | 117     |
| 470                               |                    |         |                |                    | 429                       |           |                | 130     |
| 480                               |                    |         |                |                    | 462                       |           |                | 142     |
| 490                               |                    |         |                |                    | 506                       |           |                | 154     |
| 500                               |                    |         |                |                    | 548                       |           |                | 166     |
| 510                               |                    |         |                |                    |                           |           |                | 181     |
| 520                               |                    |         |                |                    |                           |           |                | 197     |
| 530                               |                    |         |                |                    |                           |           |                | 214     |
| 540                               |                    |         |                |                    |                           |           |                | 232     |
| 550                               |                    |         |                |                    |                           |           |                | 251     |
| 560                               |                    |         |                |                    |                           |           |                | 272     |

HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS

| Vapor pressure, lb./sq. inch abs. |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
|-----------------------------------|-------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Temp.,<br>° F.                    | Furan | 2-Methyl-<br>furan | Tetrahydro-<br>furan | 2-Methyl-<br>tetrahydro-<br>furan | Pyrrole | Pyrrolidine | Pyridine | Thiophene | Dioxane |
| 200                               | 91    |                    |                      |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 210                               | 103   |                    |                      |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 220                               | 117   |                    |                      |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 230                               | 132   | 52                 |                      |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 240                               | 148   | 60                 |                      |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 250                               | 167   | 68                 | 63                   |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 260                               | 188   | 78                 | 74                   |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 270                               | 209   | 88                 | 84                   |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 280                               | 233   | 100                | 96                   |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 290                               | 257   | 113                | 108                  |                                   |         |             |          |           |         |
| 300                               | 284   | 129                | 121                  |                                   |         | 77          |          | 70        |         |
| 310                               | 313   | 142                | 132                  | 92                                |         | 88          |          | 85        | 59      |
| 320                               | 344   | 158                | 146                  | 103                               |         | 99          |          | 90        | 67      |
| 330                               | 377   | 175                | 162                  | 116                               |         | 112         |          | 106       | 76      |
| 340                               | 412   | 193                | 179                  | 129                               |         | 124         |          | 118       | 85      |
| 350                               | 451   | 213                | 198                  | 143                               | 52      | 138         | 67       | 130       | 95      |

TABLE III. VAPOR PRESSURES OF SOME ETHERS AND HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS (Contd.)  
HETEROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS (Contd.)

Vapor pressure, lb./sq. inch abs.

| Temp.,<br>° F | Furan | 2-Methyl-<br>furan | Tetrahydro-<br>furan | 2-Methyl-<br>tetrahydro-<br>furan | Pyrrole | Pyrrolidine | Pyridine | Thiophene | Dioxane |
|---------------|-------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| 360           | 492   | 234                | 218                  | 158                               | 58      | 153         | 73       | 144       | 106     |
| 370           | 535   | 257                | 240                  | 176                               | 66      | 170         | 82       | 158       | 117     |
| 380           | 580   | 282                | 258                  | 195                               | 74      | 187         | 92       | 174       | 131     |
| 390           | 628   | 308                | 288                  | 213                               | 83      | 206         | 102      | 191       | 144     |
| 400           | 678   | 337                | 313                  | 233                               | 94      | 227         | 113      | 209       | 159     |
| 410           | 727   | 366                | 341                  | 255                               | 106     | 248         | 126      | 230       | 175     |
| 420           |       | 399                | 370                  | 277                               | 117     | 272         | 138      | 250       | 192     |
| 430           |       | 434                | 402                  | 301                               | 130     | 296         | 152      | 272       | 209     |
| 440           |       | 469                | 436                  | 326                               | 144     | 323         | 168      | 296       | 229     |
| 450           |       | 507                | 472                  | 353                               | 157     | 352         | 184      | 321       | 250     |
| 460           |       | 547                | 509                  | 372                               | 172     | 382         | 200      | 348       | 272     |
| 470           |       | 590                | 549                  | 413                               | 190     | 413         | 217      | 376       | 296     |
| 480           |       | 636                | 592                  | 444                               | 209     | 442         | 237      | 406       | 321     |
| 490           |       | 685                | 637                  | 469                               | 227     | 483         | 256      | 437       | 348     |
| 500           |       |                    | 683                  | 516                               | 249     | 520         | 277      | 470       | 377     |
| 510           |       |                    | 733                  |                                   | 271     | 559         | 300      | 504       | 406     |
| 520           |       |                    |                      |                                   | 295     | 601         | 324      | 541       | 443     |
| 530           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         | 646         | 348      | 580       | 473     |
| 540           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         | 693         | 376      | 617       | 509     |
| 550           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         | 742         | 405      | 659       | 545     |
| 560           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         | 792         | 435      | 702       | 586     |
| 570           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             | 462      | 747       | 629     |
| 580           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             | 499      | 793       | 667     |
| 590           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             | 533      |           | 716     |
| 600           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             | 572      |           |         |
| 610           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             | 612      |           |         |
| 620           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             | 650      |           |         |
| 630           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             | 693      |           |         |
| 640           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             | 738      |           |         |
| 650           |       |                    |                      |                                   |         |             | 788      |           |         |

## EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Although pressure existing in the bomb may be determined within 0.3 pound/square inch, some points on vapor pressure curves deviate by as much as 2 or 3 pounds/square inch. These deviations are probably caused by a nonuniform approach to equilibrium plus instability and impurity of the sample. Because the isometric curves, when plotted as in Figure 2, break away from the vapor pressure curve in the critical region at very small angles, a small error in an important point may be magnified many times in the values of critical properties. Therefore, conservative estimates of accuracy have been made.

For the compounds used in this investigation, no attempt was made to determine either the extent of decomposition or the identity of products resulting therefrom. However, with respect to stability, the compounds may be classified into four groups (Table I):

1. Those which were stable and needed no allowance for decomposition.
2. Those whose decomposition, though appreciable, did not prevent determination of the critical point.
3. Those unstable at higher temperatures, so that only vapor pressure data well below the critical region were obtained.
4. Those so unstable that no reliable pressure volume-temperature data were obtained.

Critical properties are given in Table II. Vapor pressures (Table III) are generally accurate to  $\pm 2$  pounds/square inch; for vinyl ethyl ether and the heterocyclics at higher temperatures, however, the accuracy is probably

$\pm 4$  pounds/square inch. Table IV compares results of this work with those of other investigators.

## CORRELATIONS OF CRITICAL PROPERTIES

Because many compounds decompose at temperatures and pressures below the critical point, it is important that methods of estimating the critical properties be available. A resume of various correlations has been given by Kobe and Lynn (10).

A popular correlation of critical temperature is that of Meissner and Redding (13)

$$T_c = 1.027 T_b + 159 \quad (1)$$

where, in degrees Kelvin,  $T_c$  is critical temperature and  $T_b$  is normal boiling point.

Riedel (18, 19) in 1949 proposed a method of obtaining the critical constants by adding the contributions assigned to different atoms and groups. Lydersen (7, 12) extended this procedure and proposed

$$\frac{T_b}{T_c} = 0.567 + \Sigma \Delta T - (\Sigma \Delta T)^2 \quad (2)$$

where  $\Sigma \Delta T$  is a summation of group contributions.

The form

$$\frac{T_b}{T_c} = a + b T_b' \quad (3)$$

**TABLE IV. COMPARISON OF EXPERIMENTAL WITH PUBLISHED VALUES**

| Compound      | $T_c$ , °C. | $P_c$ , atm. | $D_c$ , G./cc. | Reference |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|-----------|
| Diethyl ether | 193.4       | 34.98        | 0.265          | (22)      |
|               | 194.6       | 35.6         | 0.265          | (21)      |
|               | 192.3       | ..           | ..             | (2)       |
| Pyridine      | 192.7       | 35.6         | 0.270          | This work |
|               | 344.2       | ..           | ..             | (17)      |
|               | ..          | 60.0         | ..             | (5)       |
| Thiophene     | 347         | 55.6         | 0.312          | This work |
|               | 302.7       | 55.0         | ..             | (20)      |
|               | 317.3       | 47.7         | ..             | (16)      |
| Dioxane       | 307         | 56.2         | 0.385          | This work |
|               | 312         | 50.7         | 0.36           | (6)       |
|               | 314         | 51.4         | 0.37           | This work |

has been suggested by Varshni (24); it is equivalent in form to that of Meissner and Redding,

$$\frac{1}{T_c} = \left(a\right) \left(\frac{1}{T_b}\right) + b \quad (4)$$

which uses reciprocals and gave slightly better results than that of Varshni. The method of least squares applied to the experimental data produced for the two groups of compounds (Figure 3), the equations

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ethers} \quad T_c &= 1.111 T_b + 130.9 & (5) \\ \text{Heterocyclics} \quad T_c &= 1.570 T_b + 2.8 & (6) \end{aligned}$$

The equation previously determined (11) for ketones (Figure 3) is

$$T_c = 1.0788 T_b + 155.3 \quad (7)$$

and the probable error assigned to its experimental value is indicated by the relative size of the datum point. Table V compares experimental values with results obtained from the correlations of Meissner and Redding and of Lydersen.

Correlations of critical pressure appear to be mainly of two types: those containing other critical properties as parameters, and group contribution methods. Meissner and Redding's equation is

$$P_c = 20.8 T_c / (V_c - 8) \quad (8)$$

where  $P_c$  is critical pressure in atmospheres and  $V_c$  is critical volume in cubic centimeters per gram mole. Lydersen's correlation is

$$\sqrt{M/P_c} = 0.34 + \Sigma \Delta p \quad (9)$$

where  $M$  is molecular weight and  $\Sigma \Delta p$  is a summation of group contributions.

A simple equation was desired which would not contain  $V_c$ ; it is the critical constant least accurately measured and also has not been correlated accurately. The form

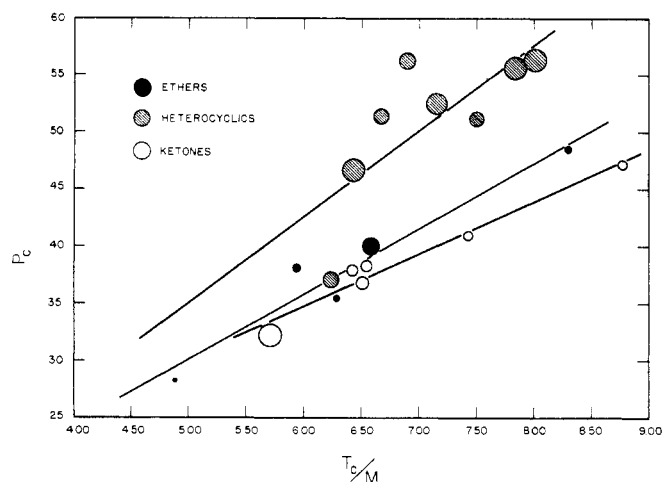
$$\frac{T_c}{MP_c} = C \quad (10)$$

where  $C$  is a constant was suggested by Grunberg (4). The best results were obtained by adding another constant, and equations for three groups of compounds using the method of least squares (Figure 4) were determined:

$$\text{Ethers} \quad P_c = 5.732 \frac{T_c}{M} + 1.492 \quad (11)$$

$$\text{Heterocyclics} \quad P_c = 7.459 \frac{T_c}{M} - 2.044 \quad (12)$$

$$\text{Ketones} \quad P_c = 4.538 \frac{T_c}{M} + 7.666 \quad (13)$$



**Figure 4. Correlation for critical pressure**

**TABLE V. CORRELATIONS OF CRITICAL TEMPERATURE**

| Compound                | Experimental, $T_c$ , °K. | Authors' Correlation |         | Meissner and Redding |         | Lydersen    |         |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------|---------|-------------|---------|
|                         |                           | $T_c$ , °K.          | Dev., % | $T_c$ , °K.          | Dev., % | $T_c$ , °K. | Dev., % |
| Propylene oxide         | 482.3                     | 472.3                | -2.07   | 474.8                | -1.55   | 494.7       | 2.67    |
| Diethyl ether           | 465.8                     | 472.7                | 1.48    | 474.9                | 1.95    | 467.8       | 0.43    |
| Vinyl ethyl ether       | 475                       | 474.3                | -0.15   | 476.4                | 0.29    | 471.2       | -0.80   |
| 1,2-Dimethoxyethane     | 536                       | 528.7                | -1.36   | 526.7                | -1.73   | 530.7       | -0.99   |
| Isopropyl ether         | 500.1                     | 510.6                | 2.10    | 510.0                | 1.98    | 505.9       | 1.16    |
|                         |                           | Av. Deviation        | 1.43%   |                      | 1.50%   |             | 1.21%   |
| Furan                   | 487                       | 482.3                | -0.96   | 472.7                | -2.94   | 490.7       | 0.76    |
| 2-Methylfuran           | 528                       | 531.9                | 0.74    | 505.2                | -4.14   | 527.2       | -0.15   |
| Tetrahydrofuran         | 541                       | 539.0                | -0.36   | 507.1                | -6.26   | 539.3       | -0.32   |
| 2-Methyltetrahydrofuran | 537                       | 560.8                | 4.43    | 519.1                | -3.33   | 539.2       | 0.41    |
| Pyrrolidine             | 570                       | 567.2                | -0.49   | 528.3                | -7.32   | 559.4       | -1.86   |
| Pyridine                | 620                       | 614.6                | -0.87   | 559.3                | -9.89   | 621.9       | 0.31    |
| Thiophene               | 580                       | 564.5                | -2.67   | 526.6                | -9.20   | 579.9       | -0.02   |
| Dioxane                 | 588                       | 590.3                | 0.39    | 543.4                | -7.58   | 584.4       | -0.61   |
|                         |                           | Av. Deviation        | 1.36%   |                      | 6.33%   |             | 0.56%   |

TABLE VI. CORRELATIONS OF CRITICAL PRESSURE

| Compound                | Experimental, Authors' Correlation |              | Lydersen |              |         |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|---------|
|                         | $P_c$ , atm.                       | $P_c$ , atm. | Dev., %  | $P_c$ , atm. | Dev., % |
| Propylene oxide         | 48.6                               | 49.10        | 1.03     | 51.40        | 5.76    |
| Diethyl ether           | 35.6                               | 37.52        | 5.39     | 37.39        | 5.03    |
| Vinyl ethyl ether       | 40.2                               | 39.26        | -2.34    | 39.56        | -1.59   |
| 1,2-Dimethoxyethane     | 38.2                               | 35.59        | -6.83    | 36.66        | -4.03   |
| Isopropyl ether         | 28.4                               | 29.54        | 4.01     | 30.58        | 7.68    |
|                         | Av. Deviation                      |              | 3.92%    |              | 4.82%   |
| Furan                   | 52.5                               | 51.32        | -2.25    | 58.79        | 11.98   |
| 2-Methylfuran           | 46.6                               | 45.93        | -1.44    | 48.35        | 3.76    |
| Tetrahydrofuran         | 51.2                               | 53.92        | 5.31     | 50.41        | -1.54   |
| 2-Methyltetrahydrofuran | 37.1                               | 44.46        | 19.84    | 42.06        | 13.37   |
| Pyrrolidine             | 56.3                               | 57.74        | 2.56     | 48.48        | -13.89  |
| Pyridine                | 55.6                               | 56.42        | 1.47     | 51.43        | -7.50   |
| Thiophene               | 56.2                               | 49.38        | -12.14   | 58.83        | 4.68    |
| Dioxane                 | 51.4                               | 47.74        | -7.12    | 50.87        | -1.03   |
|                         | Av. Deviation                      |              | 6.52%    |              | 7.22%   |

Equation 13 gives average and maximum deviations only slightly greater than those given by the equation

$$P_c = a/M + b \quad (14)$$

used by Kobe and coworkers (11) for ketones. Equation 14 gave poor correlations for the critical pressures of ethers and heterocyclics.

Table VI compares experimental values, correlations by equations 10 and 11, and Lydersen's correlation.

The correlations developed here are of the form usually applied to homologous series. The ethers and heterocyclics tested cannot be regarded as members of such series; therefore, these correlations are less accurate than those which might be developed if critical properties of several members of an homologous series were known. Group contribution methods seem most promising. Lydersen states that many of his group contributions are based on insufficient data for accuracy. More experimental data, as given here, should improve this method.

## Benedict Equation of State Methane-n-Pentane System

C. J. PINGS, JR.<sup>1</sup>, AND B. H. SAGE  
California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, Calif.

Equations of state find industrial application in predicting the thermodynamic properties of fluids.

Coefficients for the Benedict equation of state were determined by least squares methods from experimental data for mixtures of the methane-n-pentane system. Values were obtained for the interaction constants for groupings of the Benedict coefficients corresponding to the second and third virial coefficients.

In the liquid and gas phases at pressures up to 5000 pounds per square inch between 100° and 460° F. the accuracy of description of the volumetric behavior was improved severalfold by use of interaction constants evaluated by least squares methods over constants calculated by the method suggested by Benedict. Such methods may prove useful in evaluating interaction constants for mixtures as a function of the characteristics of the system involved.

<sup>1</sup> - Present address, Stanford University, Stanford, Calif.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The work on critical properties was initiated as National Science Foundation Project G-61. Mr. Ravicz was holder of the Standard Oil Company of California Fellowship for 1954-55.

## REFERENCES

- (1) Fair, J. R., Lerner, B. J., *AIChE J.* **2**, 13-17 (1956).
- (2) Fischer, R., Reichel, T., *Mikrochemie* **31**, 102 (1943).
- (3) Gamson, B. W., *Chem. Eng. Progr.* **45**, 154 (1949).
- (4) Grunberg, L., *J. Chem. Phys.* **22**, 157 (1954).
- (5) Herz, W. Von, Neukirch, E., *Z. Physik. Chem.* **104**, 433 (1923).
- (6) Hojendahl, K., *Kg. Danske Vindenskab Selskab, Mat-fys.* **24**, No. 2, 1 (1946).
- (7) Hougen, O. A., Watson, K. M., Ragatz, R. A., "Chemical Process Principles," Pt. I, pp. 87-97, Wiley, New York, 1954.
- (8) Ipatieff, V. N., Monroe, G. S., *Ind. Eng. Chem., Anal. Ed.* **14**, 171 (1942).
- (9) Kobe, K. A., Lynn, R. E., Jr., *Chem. Revs.* **52**, 123 (1953).
- (10) *Ibid.*, p. 113.
- (11) Kobe, K. A., Crawford, H. R., Stephenson, R. W., *Ind. Eng. Chem.* **47**, 1767 (1955).
- (12) Lydersen, A. L., Rep. **3**, Engineering Experiment Station, Univ. of Wisconsin, April 1955.
- (13) Meissner, H. P., Redding, E. M., *Ind. Eng. Chem.* **34**, 521 (1942).
- (14) Nelson, L. G., Obert, E. F., *AIChE J.* **1**, 74 (1955).
- (15) Nelson, L. G., Obert, E. F., *Chem. Eng.* **61**, No. 7, 203-8 (1954).
- (16) Pawlewski, B., *Ber.* **21**, 2141 (1888).
- (17) Radice, doctoral thesis, Geneve, 1899; Bornstein Landolt, *Tabellen*, vol. **1**, p. 256, Springer, Berlin, 1923.
- (18) Riedel, L., *Z. Elektrochem.* **53**, 222 (1949).
- (19) Riedel, L., *Chem. Ing. Tech.* **24**, 353 (1952).
- (20) Schiff, R., *Ber.* **18**, 1601 (1885).
- (21) Schroer, E., *Z. Physik. Chem.* **140**, 240 (1929).
- (22) *Ibid.*, p. 379.
- (23) Uyehara, O. A., Watson, K. M., *Natl. Petroleum News, Tech. Sec.* **36**, R764 (1944).
- (24) Varshni, Y. P., *J. Chem. Phys.* **21**, 2235 (1953).

Received for review September 2, 1955 Accepted March 29, 1956

Benedict, Webb, and Rubin (3-7) developed an empirical equation of state which describes the volumetric behavior of gaseous hydrocarbons with satisfactory accuracy at pressures up to 4000 pounds per square inch and gives a good prediction of the phase behavior of many hydrocarbon mixtures. Brough, Schlinger, and Sage (8) proposed an analytical method based on least squares techniques for evaluating the coefficients, which extended earlier proposals of Benedict (2). Selleck, Opfell, and Sage (15) extended the application of this equation for propane to pressures up to 10,000 pounds per square inch in the temperature interval between 40° and 460° F. and included a description of the behavior of the liquid phase. Similarly Opfell (12, 13) evaluated coefficients of the Benedict equation for nine of the lighter hydrocarbons from methane through n-decane for describing the volumetric behavior in both the liquid and gas phases for the range of pressures and temperatures covered by Selleck (15). The coefficients suggested by