## Volumetric Behavior of Nitrous Oxide

## Pressure-Volume Isotherms at High Pressures

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## Gas Compressibility Factors at Low Pressures

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N1 ITROUS OXIDE is used extensively as a low temperature refrigerant. In such applications, a knowledge of its physical and thermodynamic properties is especially desirable.

Although the $P-V-T$ properties of nitrous oxide have been studied for over a hundred years, the data reported by previous investigators are limited primarily to the saturation region and, in many cases, are not in agreement. For example, vapor pressure measurements (4, 10, 19, 24, 32) show differences as great as $20 \%$. Similar deviations are found in the orthobaric densities reported for nitrous oxide ( $5,10,12,14,20,24,27,33$ ). Previous gas compressibility data, other than the measurements at low pressures ( 3,8 , 22), are limited to the temperature range $20^{\circ}$ to $67^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. $(4,7,21)$. The more recent compressibility measurements of Hirth (18) cover the range from $-30^{\circ}$ to $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. for pressures up to 65 atm . Reliable $P-T-V$ data for liquid nitrous oxide have not been reported in the literature.

In this article, experimental pressure-volume isotherms from $-30^{\circ}$ to $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. for the pressure range 6 to 315 atm . are presented, as well as derived quantities, including smoothed vapor pressures, the critical constants, orthobaric densities, and calculated latent heats of vaporization.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Nitrous Oxide Purity. A cylinder of pharmaceutical grade nitrous oxide obtained from the Stuart Oxygen Co. was $99.7 \%$ pure, with nitrogen as the principal impurity. This gas was further purified by vacuum distillation at liquid nitrogen temperature. On the basis of change in vapor
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pressure upon isothermal condensation, the purity of the nitrous oxide used in this work was estimated to be $99.998 \%$.

Equipment and Method. The apparatus is of the same basic design as that described by Keyes (23) and Beattie (2).

Construction, calibration, and operation of the equipment have been described (11, 15). Briefly, temperatures were measured to $\pm 0.002^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. and controlled within $\pm 0.003^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. by means of a calibrated platinum resistance thermometer used in conjunction with a Type G-1 Müller bridge and a photoelectric relay circuit actuated by a sensitive optical galvanometer. Pressures were measured with a dead weight gage calibrated against the vapor pressure of carbon dioxide.

Volume was measured by means of a calibrated mercury injector pump with an estimated accuracy of $\pm 0.005 \mathrm{ml}$. The mass of the gas sample, introduced into the $P-V-T$ cell by the usual weighing bomb techniques $(2,9)$, was established within $\pm 0.2 \mathrm{mg}$.

Results. The experimental $P-V-T$ measurements on nitrous oxide include the gas phase compressibility factors (Figure 1), liquid phase volumes (Figure 2), pressurevolume isotherms near the critical point (Figure 3), and vapor pressure data (Figure 4). In obtaining these results, measurements were made on three samples of nitrous oxide:

| Sample No. | Mass, Grams | Specific Vol. <br> Range, Ml./G. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 0.5139 | 4.5 to 84 |
| 2 | 2.0362 | 0.9 to 21 |
| 3 | 6.0290 | 0.9 to 7 |

The agreement of the data in the overlapping volume ranges covered by these samples indicates a reproducibility of $\pm 0.002 \mathrm{ml}$. per gram in the measured specific volumes.

The estimated maximum error in the experimentally measured quantities is:
$\begin{array}{llll}\text { Temperature, }{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} . & \pm 0.02 & \begin{array}{l}\text { Sample mass, } \%\end{array} & \pm 0.04 \\ \text { Pressure, } \%\end{array} \quad \pm 0.04 \quad \begin{aligned} & \text { Volume, } \%\end{aligned}$

Figure 1. Compressibility factors of nitrous oxide



Figure 2. Pressure-volume isotherms of liquid nitrous oxide


Figure 3. Isotherms near the critical point of nitrous oxide

Table I. Smoothed Pressure-Volume Isotherms of Liquid Nitrous Oxide

|  | Temperature, ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pressure <br> Atm. | -30 | -15 |  |  |  |  |  | 0 | 15 |
| 315 | 0.8976 | 0.9347 | 0.9738 | 1.0160 | 1.0644 |  |  |  |  |
| 300 | 0.8998 | 0.9377 | 0.9775 | 1.0206 | 1.0711 |  |  |  |  |
| 280 | 0.9030 | 0.9420 | 0.9827 | 1.0274 | 1.0808 |  |  |  |  |
| 260 | 0.9064 | 0.9465 | 0.9881 | 1.0346 | 1.0914 |  |  |  |  |
| 240 | 0.9099 | 0.9511 | 0.9939 | 1.0424 | 1.1031 |  |  |  |  |
| 220 | 0.9134 | 0.9558 | 1.0002 | 1.0513 | 1.1160 |  |  |  |  |
| 200 | 0.9171 | 0.9609 | 1.0069 | 1.0615 | 1.1307 |  |  |  |  |
| 180 | 0.9210 | 0.9663 | 1.0141 | 1.0726 | 1.1480 |  |  |  |  |
| 160 | 0.9252 | 0.9720 | 1.0221 | 1.0849 | 1.1685 |  |  |  |  |
| 140 | 0.9296 | 0.9780 | 1.0309 | 1.0987 | 1.1929 |  |  |  |  |
| 120 | 0.9342 | 0.9844 | 1.0406 | 1.1145 | 1.2234 |  |  |  |  |
| 100 | 0.9390 | 0.9912 | 1.0513 | 1.1333 | 1.2632 |  |  |  |  |
| 90 | 0.9414 | 0.9949 | 1.0571 | 1.1443 | 1.2912 |  |  |  |  |
| 80 | 0.9439 | 0.9987 | 1.0631 | 1.1565 | 1.3271 |  |  |  |  |
| 70 | 0.9464 | 1.0027 | 1.0694 | 1.1702 | 1.3827 |  |  |  |  |
| 60 | 0.9491 | 1.0070 | 1.0763 | 1.1868 | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |  |
| 50 | 0.9519 | 1.0115 | 1.0839 | 1.2077 | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |  |
| 40 | 0.9551 | 1.0163 | 1.0929 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |  |
| 30 | 0.9587 | 1.0216 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |  |
| 20 | 0.9630 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |  |

atm. at the lower temperatures. The average difference of 0.03 atm . corresponds to an average error of $0.2 \%$ in the vapor pressure data.

The experimental data shown in Figures 1 through 4 have been tabulated (11).


Figure 4. Vapor pressure data for nitrous oxide

## DERIVED QUANTITIES

Smoothed P-V-T Values. In smoothing the experimental liquid data shown in Figure 2, the method of graphical residuals was employed. Each isotherm was approximated by a straight line of the form $v=a+b P$, the constants being evaluated from two arbitrarily selected experimental points at the extremes of the pressure range. The residuals of the experimental data from the approximating line were smoothed graphically and the smoothed residuals then employed in calculating the values of Table I.

Smoothed compressibility data for the gas phase are presented in Table II. For pressures below 60 atm., these
values were obtained from a large scale plot of compressibility factor, $z=P V / R T$, us. pressure. At higher pressures, residual volume isotherms calculated from Equation 1

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha=R T / P-V \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

were smoothed graphically with respect to pressure. These smoothed residual volumes were then used in conjunction with Equation 1 in evaluating the specific volumes and compressibility factors of Table II. No systematic differences were incurred in this smoothing process.

Hirth (18), in comparing his measurements with the compressibility factors of Table II at selected pressures up

Table II. Smoothed Compressibility Data for Gaseous Nitrous Oxide

| Pressure, Atm. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Vol., } \\ & \text { Ml. } / \mathrm{G} . \\ & -30^{\circ} \mathrm{C} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} z= \\ P V / R T \end{gathered}$ | Pressure, Atm. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Vol., } \\ & \text { Ml./G. } \\ & 15^{\circ} \mathrm{C} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} z= \\ P V / R T \end{gathered}$ | Pressure, Atm. | Vol., Ml./G. $36.45^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $\begin{gathered} z= \\ P V / R T \end{gathered}$ | Pressure, Atm. | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Vol., } \\ & \text { Ml./G. } \\ & 40^{\circ} \mathrm{C} . \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} z= \\ P V / R T \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 | 70.533 | 0.9336 | 6 | 86.201 | 0.9628 | 25 | 20.074 | 0.8695 | 68 | 4.610 | 0.5370 |
| 7 | 59.686 | 0.9217 | 8 | 63.811 | 0.9503 | 30 | 16.144 | 0.8391 | 70 | 4.234 | 0.5077 |
| 8 | 51.540 | 0.9096 | 10 | 50.351 | 0.9373 | 35 | 13.313 | 0.8073 | 72 | 3.838 | 0.4733 |
| 9 | 45.179 | 0.8970 | 12 | 41.350 | 0.9237 | 40 | 11.158 | 0.7733 | 74 | 3.377 | 0.4281 |
| 10 | 40.058 | 0.8837 | 15 | 32.331 | 0.9028 | 45 | 9.450 | 0.7368 | 76 | 2.758 | 0.3591 |
| 11 | 35.848 | 0.8699 | 20 | 23.266 | 0.8662 | 50 | 8.045 | 0.6969 | 78 | 1.955 | 0.2612 |
| 12 | 32.301 | 0.8551 | 25 | 17.774 | 0.8272 | 55 | 6.843 | 0.6521 | 80 | 1.737 | 0.2380 |
| -15 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  |  | 30 | 14.035 | 0.7838 | 60 | 5.776 | 0.6004 | 85 | 1.576 | 0.2294 |
|  |  |  | 35 | 11.281 | 0.7350 | 65 | 4.752 | 0.5352 | 90 | 1.506 | 0.2321 |
| 6 | 75.903 | 0.9463 | 40 | 9.131 | 0.6799 | 68 | 4.098 | 0.4828 |  |  |  |
| 8 | 55.796 | 0.9275 | 42 | 8.362 | 0.6538 | 70 | 3.555 | 0.4312 | $44^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  |  |
| 10 | 43.674 | 0.9075 | 44 | 7.628 | 0.6248 | 71 | 3.173 | 0.3903 |  |  |  |
| 12 | 35.557 | 0.8866 |  |  |  | 72 | 1.792 | 0.2235 | 68 | 5.039 | 0.5795 |
| 14 | 29.725 | 0.8647 |  | $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  | 74 | 1.636 | 0.2097 | 70 | 4.715 | 0.5582 |
| 15 | 27.377 | 0.8533 | 6 | 91.243 | 0.9687 | 76 | 1.567 | 0.2063 | 72 | 4.386 | 0.5341 |
| 16 | 25.317 | 0.8417 | 8 | 67.691 | 0.9582 | 78 | 1.527 | 0.2063 | 74 | 4.059 | 0.5080 |
| 18 | 21.876 | 0.8182 | 10 | 53.537 | 0.9473 | 80 | 1.498 | 0.2076 | 76 | 3.722 | 0.4784 |
| $20 \quad 19.019{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |  |  | 12 | 44.096 | 0.9363 | 90 | 1.409 | 0.2197 | 78 | 3.360 | 0.4432 |
|  |  |  | 15 | 34.629 | 0.9191 | 100 | 1.3547 | 0.2347 | 80 | 2.969 | 0.4017 |
|  |  |  | 20 | 25.132 | 0.8894 | 120 | 1.2913 | 0.2685 | 82 | 2.526 | 0.3503 |
| 6 | 81.102 | 0.9556 | 25 | 19.403 | 0.8583 | 140 | 1.2490 | 0.3030 | 85 | 2.000 | 0.2875 |
| 8 | 59.840 | 0.9401 | 30 | 15.532 | 0.8245 | 160 | 1.2160 | 0.3371 | 90 | 1.705 | 0.2595 |
| 10 | 47.062 | 0.9242 | 35 | 12.738 | 0.7889 | 180 | 1.1906 | 0.3713 | 95 | 1.592 | 0.2558 |
| 12 | 38.510 | 0.9075 | 40 | 10.614 | 0.7512 | 200 | 1.1695 | 0.4052 | 100 | 1.526 | 0.2581 |
| 15 | 29.922 | 0.8814 | 45 | 8.895 | 0.7083 | 220 | 1.1512 | 0.4388 | 105 | 1.479 | 0.2627 |
| 20 | 21.268 | 0.8353 | 50 | 7.467 | 0.6606 | 240 | 1.1354 | 0.4721 | 110 | 1.443 | 0.2685 |
| 25 | 15.959 | 0.7835 | 55 | 6.204 | 0.6038 | 260 | 1.1215 | 0.5052 |  |  |  |
| 28 | 13.633 | 0.7496 | 58 | 5.470 | 0.5614 | 280 | 1.1086 | 0.5378 |  |  |  |
| 29 | 12.934 | 0.7366 | 60 | 4.964 | 0.5270 | 300 | 1.0967 | 0.5700 |  |  |  |
| 30 | 12.266 | 0.7226 | 62 | 4.391 | 0.4817 | 315 | 1.0886 | 0.5941 |  |  |  |
|  | $50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  | $75^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  | $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  |  | $125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  | $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  |
| Pressure, | Vol., |  |  |  | Pressure, | Vol., |  |  |  |  |  |
| Atm. | $\mathrm{ml} . / \mathrm{g} .$ | $P V / R T$ | $\mathrm{ml} . / \mathrm{g} .$ | $P V / R T$ | Atm. | $\mathrm{ml} . / \mathrm{g} \text {. }$ | $P V / R T$ | $\mathrm{ml} . / \mathrm{g} .$ | $P V / R T$ | $\mathrm{ml} . / \mathrm{g}$ | $P V / R T$ |
| 8 | 72.797 | 0.9667 | 79.053 | 0.9744 | 8 | 85.225 | 0.9801 | 91.343 | 0.9845 | 97.423 | 0.9880 |
| 10 | 57.719 | 0.9581 | 62.808 | 0.9677 | 10 | 67.818 | 0.9749 | 72.785 | 0.9806 | 77.694 | 0.9849 |
| 15 | 37.580 | 0.9357 | 41.140 | 0.9508 | 15 | 44.609 | 0.9619 | 48.018 | 0.9704 | 51.381 | 0.9770 |
| 20 | 27.498 | 0.9129 | 30.287 | 0.9333 | 20 | 32.998 | 0.9487 | 35.617 | 0.9597 | 38.196 | 0.9684 |
| 30 | 17.344 | 0.8637 | 19.408 | 0.8971 | 30 | 21.352 | 0.9208 | 23.215 | 0.9383 | 25.020 | 0.9515 |
| 40 | 12.208 | 0.8106 | 13.945 | 0.8594 | 40 | 15.522 | 0.8925 | 17.001 | 0.9162 | 18.424 | 0.9342 |
| 50 | 9.070 | 0.7528 | 10.644 | 0.8200 | 50 | 12.012 | 0.8634 | 13.273 | 0.8941 | 14.468 | 0.9170 |
| 60 | 6.905 | 0.6877 | 8.421 | 0.7785 | 60 | 9.668 | 0.8339 | 10.789 | 0.8721 | 11.834 | 0.9001 |
| 70 | 5.254 | 0.6105 | 6.815 | 0.7350 | 70 | 7.990 | 0.8040 | 9.017 | 0.8503 | 9.955 | 0.8834 |
| 80 | 3.862 | 0.5129 | 5.592 | 0.6893 | 80 | 6.728 | 0.7737 | 7.688 | 0.8286 | 8.551 | 0.8672 |
| 90 | 2.559 | 0.3823 | 4.622 | 0.6409 | 90 | 5.745 | 0.7433 | 6.656 | 0.8071 | 7.460 | 0.8511 |
| 100 | 1.824 | 0.3028 | 3.835 | 0.5909 | 100 | 4.961 | 0.7131 | 5.833 | 0.7858 | 6.591 | 0.8355 |
| 110 | 1.613 | 0.2945 | 3.197 | 0.5419 | 110 | 4.321 | 0.6833 | 5.163 | 0.7651 | 5.883 | 0.8204 |
| 120 | 1.513 | 0.3014 | 2.692 | 0.4977 | 120 | 3.793 | 0.6543 | 4.611 | 0.7454 | 5.297 | 0.8058 |
| 130 | 1.449 | 0.3127 | 2.320 | 0.4648 | 130 | 3.359 | 0.6278 | 4.149 | 0.7266 | 4.805 | 0.7919 |
| 140 | 1.404 | 0.3263 | 2.064 | 0.4452 | 140 | 3.002 | 0.6041 | 3.760 | 0.7092 | 4.390 | 0.7791 |
| 150 | 1.368 | 0.3407 | 1.886 | 0.4359 | 150 | 2.709 | 0.5841 | 3.430 | 0.6932 | 4.033 | 0.7669 |
| 160 | 1.339 | 0.3557 | 1.763 | 0.4346 | 160 | 2.472 | 0.5685 | 3.152 | 0.6795 | 3.729 | 0.7563 |
| 170 | 1.315 | 0.3710 | 1.674 | 0.4384 | 170 | 2.281 | 0.5574 | 2.914 | 0.6675 | 3.465 | 0.7468 |
| 180 | 1.293 | 0.3863 | 1.607 | 0.4456 | 180 | 2.129 | 0.5508 | 2.714 | 0.6581 | 3.235 | 0.7381 |
| 190 | 1.274 | 0.4018 | 1.552 | 0.4543 | 190 | 2.008 | 0.5484 | 2.543 | 0.6509 | 3.035 | 0.7310 |
| 200 | 1.258 | 0.4176 | 1.508 | 0.4647 | 200 | 1.908 | 0.5486 | 2.396 | 0.6457 | 2.861 | 0.7254 |
| 220 | 1.230 | 0.4492 | 1.440 | 0.4882 | 220 | 1.757 | 0.5557 | 2.164 | 0.6414 | 2.576 | 0.7183 |
| 240 | 1.207 | 0.4808 | 1.388 | 0.5132 | 240 | 1.652 | 0.5698 | 1.992 | 0.6440 | 2.353 | 0.7159 |
| 260 | 1.188 | 0.5106 | 1.349 | 0.5404 | 260 | 1.573 | 0.5878 | 1.862 | 0.6522 | 2.178 | 0.7179 |
| 280 | 1.170 | 0.5438 | 1.317 | 0.5682 | 280 | 1.510 | 0.6080 | 1.761 | 0.6643 | 2.038 | 0.7235 |
| 300 | 1.154 | 0.5746 | 1.287 | 0.5949 | 300 | 1.462 | 0.6304 | 1.681 | 0.6795 | 1.928 | 0.7334 |
| 315 | 1.145 | 0.5987 | 1.266 | 0.6144 | 315 | 1.428 | 0.6468 | 1.632 | 0.6928 | 1.860 | 0.7429 |

to 60 atm ., found agreement generally within $0.2 \%$. The maximum difference of $0.5 \%$ occurring at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. and 62 atm., is well within the estimated error for the two experimental methods.
The isotherms near the critical point presented in Table III were obtained by graphically smoothing the experimental data shown in Figure 3.
Vapor Pressures. The observed pressure at each temperature in Table IV represents the average of the vapor pressure measurements performed on the three samples of nitrous oxide at various specific volumes in the two-phase region. These observed pressures were smoothed by the method of graphical residuals. Based on the equation of Hoge (19),

$$
\begin{equation*}
\log P=A-1 / T\left[B+C y\left(10^{D y^{2}}-1\right)\right]+r_{p} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
y & =69,500-T^{2} \\
A & =4.52620 \\
C & =1.157 \times 10^{-4} \\
B & =829.148 \\
D & =3.4 \times 10^{-10}
\end{aligned}
$$

Table III. Smoothed Isotherms in Critical Region of Nitrous Oxide

| Specific | Temperature, ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 36.1 | 36.2 | 36.3 | 36.4 | 36.45 | 36.5 |
| Ml./G. | Pressure, Atm. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3.00 | 70.854 | 70.971 |  |  |  |  |
| 2.90 | 70.961 | 71.084 | 71.197 | 71.317 | 71.380 | 71.448 |
| 2.80 | 71.034 | 71.161 | 71.286 |  | 71.491 |  |
| 2.70 | 71.078 | 71.212 | 71.340 | 71.473 | 71.545 | 71.633 |
| 2.60 | 71.082 | 71.236 | 71.374 |  | 71.581 | 71.661 |
| 2.50 | ... | 71.236 | 71.389 | 71.528 | 71.606 | 71.680 |
| 2.45 |  |  |  | 71.536 | 71.612 |  |
| 2.40 | 71.082 |  | 71.389 | 71.541 | 71.615 | 71.691 |
| 2.35 |  | . | ... | 71.543 | 71.617 | 71.694 |
| 2.30 |  |  |  |  | 71.619 | 71.697 |
| 2.25 |  |  |  | 71.543 | 71.620 | 71.699 |
| 2.20 |  |  |  |  | 71.621 | 71.700 |
| 2.15 |  |  |  | 71.543 | 71.622 | 71.702 |
| 2.10 | 71.082 | 71,236 | 71.389 | 71.543 | 71.623 | 71.705 |
| 2.05 |  |  |  | 71.544 |  |  |
| 2.00 |  | 71.236 | 71.389 | 71.550 | 71.634 | 71.718 |
| 1.95 |  |  | 71.393 | 71.566 | 71.649 |  |
| 1.90 | 71.082 | 71.251 | 71.427 | 71.615 | 71.697 | 71.788 |
| 1.85 |  | 71.320 | 71.502 |  |  |  |
| 1.80 | 71.258 | 71.446 |  | 71.860 | 71.947 | 72.040 |
| 1.75 |  |  | 71.935 |  |  |  |
| 1.70 | 71.940 | 72.142 |  | $\cdots$ | . $\cdot$ |  |

the residual, $r_{p}$, was calculated for each observed vapor pressure. These residuals were smoothed graphically and used in conjunction with Equation 2 in evaluating the smoothed vapor pressures of Table IV.

Figure 4 compares the vapor pressure data of the present work with the values reported by Cook (10), Hirth (18), Hoge (19), Keunen (24), and Villard (32). The ordinate of this plot is the difference between the logarithm of the observed vapor pressure, $\log P_{\text {obsd. }}$, and that calculated from

$$
\begin{equation*}
\log P_{\text {calcd. }}=4.1375-\frac{626.60}{T-26} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

This relation (Antoine equation), derived by Hoge (19) in representing his low temperature measurements, shows the characteristic deviations at higher temperatures but serves as a convenient datum for comparing the several sets of data. The vapor pressure data reported by Cook (10) and Hirth (18) are in particularly good agreement with those of the present work.

Orthobaric Densities. The observed orthobaric densities (Table IV) were obtained by extrapolating the experimental pressure-volume isotherms to the corresponding smoothed vapor pressure and were fitted to the Equations 4 and 5 by the least squares method.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\mathrm{d}_{L}+\mathrm{d}_{g}\right) / 2=0.495800-0.00124027 t+r_{d} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\mathrm{d}_{L}-\mathrm{d}_{\mathrm{g}}\right) / 2=0.12595\left(t_{c}-t\right)^{1 / 3}-0.008966+r_{\mathrm{e}} \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $t_{c}=36.434^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.
The residuals $r_{d}$ and $r_{e}$, defined by Equations 4 and 5, respectively, were smoothed graphically with respect to temperature. These smoothed residuals were then used with Equations 4 and 5 in evaluating the smoothed orthobaric densities of Table IV.

In Figure 5, the smoothed orthobaric densities are shown in comparison with those reported by other investigators. The curve through the values here reported passes well within the scatter of the literature data and joins smoothly with the low temperature data (20). The orthobaric densities of the present work are in good agreement with those reported by Cook (10), Hirth (18), and Villard (33).

Critical Point. The critical temperature, corresponding to that isotherm having a horizontal point of inflection on a pressure us. volume plot, was determined by visual inspection of Figure 3 to be approximately $36.45^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. This value was adjusted to obtain the characteristic behavior of

Table IV. Properties of Saturated Nitrous Oxide

|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Temp., | Vapor Pressure, Atm. |  |
| C. | Observed | Smoothed |
| -30 | 13.044 | 13.041 |
| -25 | 15.267 | 15.274 |
| -20 | 17.772 | 17.778 |
| -15 | 20.582 | 20.571 |
| -10 | 23.665 | 23.670 |
| -5 | 27.090 | 27.096 |
| 0 | 30.878 | 30.869 |
| 5 | 35.007 | 35.013 |
| 10 | 39.546 | 39.552 |
| 15 | 44.511 | 44.514 |
| 20 | 49.937 | 49.934 |
| 25 | 55.856 | 55.850 |
| 30 | 62.322 | 62.318 |
| 33 | 66.484 | 66.497 |
| 35.5 | 70.154 | 70.173 |
| 36.1 | 71.082 | 71.082 |
| 36.2 | 71.235 | 71.236 |
| 36.3 | 71.386 | 71.389 |
| 36.4 | 71.540 | 71.543 |
| 36.434 | ... | 71.596 |

Orthobaric Densities, G./Ml.

| Observed |  | Smoothed |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Vapor | Liquid | Vapor | Liquid |
| 0.03430 | 1.0341 | 0.03429 | 1.0344 |
|  |  | 0.04040 | 1.0149 |
|  |  | 0.04732 | 0.9947 |
| 0.05462 | 0.9735 | 0.05509 | 0.9738 |
|  |  | 0.06397 | 0.9516 |
|  |  | 0.07409 | 0.9285 |
| 0.08541 | 0.9039 | 0.08569 | 0.9039 |
|  |  | 0.09920 | 0.8777 |
|  |  | 0.11515 | 0.8491 |
| 0.13436 | 0.8173 | 0.13436 | 0.8176 |
| 0.15895 | 0.7841 | 0.15827 | 0.7817 |
| 0.18987 | 0.7401 | 0.18939 | 0.7389 |
| 0.23381 | 0.6824 | 0.23382 | 0.6830 |
| 0.27451 | 0.6352 | 0.27440 | 0.6359 |
| 0.3375 | 0.5674 | 0.3381 | 0.5676 |
| 0.3711 | 0.5302 | 0.3728 | 0.5320 |
| 0.3836 | 0.5230 | 0.3828 | 0.5220 |
| 0.3978 | 0.5097 | 0.3965 | 0.5083 |
| 0.4188 | 0.4854 | 0.4191 | 0.4857 |
|  | ... | 0.4525 | 0.4525 |


| Latent Heat of <br> Vaporization, Cal./G. |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Observed | Smoothed |
| 69.817 | 69.788 |
| 67.590 | 67.575 |
| 65.280 | 65.318 |
| 63.007 | 62.995 |
| 60.575 | 60.573 |
| 58.013 | 58.014 |
| 55.274 | 55.272 |
| 52.247 | 52.249 |
| 48.853 | 48.861 |
| 45.001 | 44.997 |
| 40.494 | 40.499 |
| 35.056 | 35.054 |
| 27.956 | 27.960 |
| 22.018 | 22.017 |
| 13.481 | 13.485 |
| 9.180 | 9.152 |
| 7.989 | 7.974 |
| 6.379 | 6.379 |
| 3.776 | 3.776 |
| 0.000 | 0.000 |

the saturation curve near the critical point (29). By successive trials, the value of $t_{c}$ for which ( $\mathrm{d}_{i}-\mathrm{d}_{g}$ ) showed the proper dependence on $\left(t_{c}-t\right)^{1 / 3}$ was determined to be $36.434^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. With this value of the critical temperature, the critical pressure was calculated from Equation 2 and the critical density was calculated from the rectilinear diameter given by Equation 4. The resulting critical properties of nitrous oxide are:

$$
\begin{aligned}
t_{c} & =36.434^{\circ} \pm 0.005^{\circ} \mathrm{C} . \\
P_{c} & =71.5960 .07 \mathrm{~atm} . \\
\mathrm{d}_{\mathrm{c}} & =0.4525 \pm 0.001 \mathrm{gram} \text { per ml. } .
\end{aligned}
$$

These values are shown in comparison with the critical constants reported by other investigators in Table V.

Latent Heat of Vaporization. The observed latent heat values presented in Table IV were evaluated by use of the Clapeyron equation,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Delta H_{v}=J T\left(v_{\mathrm{g}}-v_{L}\right)(d P / d T) \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

in conjunction with the smoothed orthobaric densities of Table IV and the vapor pressure relation given by Equation 2. In evaluating the slope of the vapor pressure curve, the residual term, $r_{p}$, was differentiated and smoothed graphically. This residual derivative, $d r_{p} / d T$, contributed a maximum of $1 \%$ to the slope of the vapor pressure curve calculated from Equation 2.

In smoothing the latent heat data, the observed values were fitted to the equation:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Delta H_{v}=a\left(t_{c}-t\right)^{b}+c\left(t_{c}-t\right)+r_{u} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Table V. Comparison of Critical Properties

| Date | $t_{c},{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. | $P_{c}$, Atm. | $\mathrm{d}_{\mathrm{c}}, \mathrm{G} . / \mathrm{Ml}$. | Investigator |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1956 | 36.434 | 71.596 | 0.4525 | This work |
| 1953 | 36.39 | 71.4 | 0.452 | Cook (10) |
| 1929 |  |  | 0.459 | Quinn and Wernimont (27) |
| 1912 | 36.50 | 71.65 |  | Cardoso and Arni (6) |
| 1895 | 36.0 | 71.9 |  | Kuenen (24) |
| 1894 | 38.8 | 77.5 | 0.454 | Villard (33) |
| 1886 |  |  | 0.41 | Cailletet and Mathias (5) |
| 1884 | 35.4 | 75.0 |  | Dewar (13) |
| 1878 | 36.4 | 73.07 | . . | Janssen (21) |



Figure 5. Orthobaric densities of nitrous oxide
where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& a=12.9922 \\
& c=-0.082167 \\
& b=0.417796 \\
& t_{c}=36.434^{\circ} \mathrm{C}
\end{aligned}
$$

The residuals, $r_{v}$, were smoothed graphically and the smoothed latent heats calculated from Equation 7 are shown in Table IV. These latent heat data are considered to be reliable to $1 \%$ for temperatures below $35^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

## CONCLUSIONS

While the accuracy of the experimental $P-V-T$ measurements is discussed above, a realistic estimation of the reliability of the derived quantities is difficult. In some cases, notably the orthobaric densities and latent heat values, the above tabulations contain more significant figures than the probable accuracy warrants. These additional figures have been retained not only as an indication of the internal consistency of the smoothed tabulations, but also with a view to the possible use of these data in subsequent thermodynamic calculations wherein differences and differential coefficients must be evaluated. In using the data as such, the limitations on their reliability should be borne in mind.

## Gas Compressibility Factors at Low Pressures

The pressure range of the gas compressibility factor isotherms is extended to pressures as low as 1 atm . over the temperature range $-30^{\circ}$ to $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Also given are smoothed values of the second virial coefficient for nitrous oxide, parameters for use with the Lennard-Jones potential function which predicts values of the second virial coeffcient, and fugacity coefficients for gaseous nitrous oxide for pressures up to 315 atm . over the temperature range from $-30^{\circ}$ to $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Nitrous Oxide Purity. The nitrous oxide used is described above. It was further purified by cooling to $-70^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. and then discharging gas from the vapor phase until the original weight was reduced by $10 \%$.

Apparatus. The design, construction, and calibration of the Burnett apparatus used in this investigation are described by Silberberg, Kobe, and McKetta (30). The equipment was modified to extend the lower temperature limit to $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

## RESULTS

Compressibility. The compressibility factor is defined as

$$
\begin{equation*}
z=P V / R T \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

The experimental data were treated graphically (30). Large scale plots of $P_{r} N^{r}$ vs. $P_{r}$ were made to determine $P_{o} / z_{o}$, the ordinate at zero pressure. On these plots ordinates could be read to 0.01 to $0.02 \%$ with commensurate precision for the abscissas. The compressibility factor, $z_{r}$, at each pressure, $P_{r}$, was calculated by dividing each $P_{r} N^{r}$ by $P_{0} / z_{0}$.

Compressibility factor isotherms were measured at $15^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. intervals from $-30^{\circ}$ to $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. for pressures ranging from atmospheric to slightly below the vapor pressure. Between $50^{\circ}$ and $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. the isotherm increment was $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. and pressures up to 65 atm . were measured. However, since the gas compressibility factors at the higher pressures agree so well with Couch's results (11), only the experimental data below 10 atm . are shown in Table VI.

The maximum error, including that from pressure and temperature, in the compressibility factor values of Table

