

Thermodynamic Properties of Compressed Gaseous Methane

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Real gas thermodynamic properties, $H - H^\circ$, $S - S^\circ$, and $G - G^\circ$, of methane were determined as functions of temperature (0–350°C) and molal density (0.75–12.5 mol dm⁻³) over a pressure range of 0–400 atm. These properties are recommended as standards for the development of equation of state relations, since the analytical and graphical correlating techniques produced results that reflect all the inherent accuracy of the basic data.

The common availability of high speed computing systems for generating thermodynamic quantities from equations of state has likewise generated a need for testing computational programs on definitive data systems (15). The previously published values of experimental P - V - T properties of methane (7), combined with the derived thermodynamic properties, represent a defined data system that is adequate for test purposes, since it includes an internally consistent, matched set of thermodynamic properties that reflect faithfully and consistently all of the trends that appear in a single source of experimental data of high quality and readily documented accuracy. The present work, which covers a temperature range of 0–350°C and a pressure range of 0–400 atm, complements previous results on pure tetrafluoromethane (8, 11). As in the case of tetrafluoromethane, the derived properties are based on unsmoothed experimental compressibility data (7) on a grid of temperatures and densities that forms a framework for the computational work as well as the tables. Thus, no inaccuracies that otherwise would have originated from cross plotting, interpolating, or smoothing of original data were introduced.

No literature data on methane were included in these calculations, because the variations in accuracy and precision that are found in any diverse collection of experimental results would have detracted from the meaning and objective for the present work.

Calculation Methods

Enthalpy, entropy, and Gibbs energy were evaluated from isometric and isothermal data by the following relations, in which T appears on the thermodynamic temperature scale:

$$H - H^\circ = \int_0^p \frac{[P - T(\partial P/\partial T)_\rho] d\rho}{\rho^2} + P/\rho - RT \quad (1)$$

$$S - S^\circ = \int_0^p \frac{[R\rho - (\partial P/\partial T)_\rho] d\rho}{\rho^2} - R \ln RT\rho \quad (2)$$

$$G - G^\circ = \int_0^p \frac{[P - RT]\rho d\rho}{\rho^2} + P/\rho - RT + RT \ln RT\rho \quad (3)$$

The superscript degree mark as in H° , S° , or G° indicates the ideal gas state at 1-atm pressure. Experimental values of P , T , and ρ were taken from Table I of ref. 7.

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The slopes, $(\partial P/\partial T)_\rho$, of the isometric lines were derived from the original data by combined analytical and graphical correlating techniques that reflect all of the inherent accuracy of the original measurements. Details of the method used and an analysis of the uncertainties involved in the calculation of the thermodynamic functions from P - V - T data have been fully described (11, 12). Briefly, the maximum uncertainty introduced from the correlational techniques is less than 0.2%, except above 300°C where the uncertainty increases and reaches 2.0% at 350°C.

Previously, gas density work on methane (7) conducted in this laboratory was based on the International Temperature Scale of 1948, 0°C = 273.16K. The temperatures in the original work were converted to the thermodynamic scale according to a relationship derived by Beattie (3) and then used to calculate the thermodynamic properties. These values were reported in 1966 (13). Recently, however, the temperature scale and the liter were redefined, and recalculation of the values of the thermodynamic properties was necessary.

The present P - V - T data and thermodynamic properties of methane were corrected to the International Practical Temperature Scale of 1968 (6) by using accurate values of $(\partial P/\partial T)_\rho$ and the table of differences between the 1968 and 1948 scales. The pressures were also adjusted to densities in mol dm⁻³ by using accurate values of $dP/d\rho$.

In the determination of the original P - V - T relations for methane, the pressures were measured with a dead-weight gage calibrated against the vapor pressure of pure carbon dioxide, 26,144.7 mm of Hg at 0°, as determined by Bridgeman (4). However, a more recent measurement of the vapor pressure, 26,137.6 mm of Hg by Greig and Dadson (10), is supported by the most recent value, 26,139.7 mm of Hg by Sengers and Chen (17). We did not correct the methane data for this change in pressure calibration, however, because the methane data were originally adjusted by a factor of 1.00023, as previously discussed (7, 9), to take care, collectively, of small systematic errors in the pressure scale, gas constant, atomic weights, variations in C₁₂/C₁₃ isotopic ratio, and sample weight.

The molecular weight of the sample was calculated using the values of H = 1.008 and C = 12.011 (7); the value of R used was 82.0560 cm³ atm deg⁻¹ mol⁻¹.

Results

Values for the thermodynamic properties, P , $H - H^\circ$, $S - S^\circ$, and $G - G^\circ$, are presented in Table I at 0.5-mol dm⁻³ intervals in density and 25°C intervals in temperature. Some values are given to an extra significant figure to minimize imprecisions in subsequent calculations rather than to indicate higher accuracy. Values of the properties, $(H - H^\circ)/T$, $(S_P - S_P, \text{ideal})$, $(S_V - S_V, \text{ideal})$, $(G_P - G_P, \text{ideal})$, $(G_V - G_V, \text{ideal})$, $(G - G^\circ)/T$, and activity coefficient, γ , were not included in Table I because they are derivable from those values by direct arithmetical computation. They will be sent to interested persons on request.

The effect of changes in the temperature scale and the

	175.00°C					200.00°C					225.00°C					250.00°C								
8.0	211.431	520.1	11.8440	3603.4	236.946	483.3	11.9564	3978.2	262.543	447.3	12.0639	4355.9	287.822	413.4	12.1676	4735.3								
8.5	226.211	543.2	12.0350	3646.8	254.069	503.9	12.1463	4028.5	282.020	465.4	12.2530	4413.1	309.522	429.4	12.3559	4799.0								
9.0	241.581	565.1	12.2201	3689.3	271.842	523.4	12.3304	4077.7	302.204	482.5	12.4363	4469.0	332.248	443.8	12.5385	4861.9								
9.5	257.629	585.8	12.4001	3731.3	290.637	541.0	12.5095	4126.9	323.577	497.6	12.6146	4524.9	356.014	456.7	12.7162	4924.1								
10.0	274.432	605.2	12.5759	3773.1	310.153	557.8	12.6843	4175.4	345.911	511.4	12.7888	4580.4	381.112	467.8	12.8897	4986.5								
10.5	292.165	623.2	12.7479	3815.0	330.731	573.0	12.8556	4224.0	369.406	523.9	12.9594	4635.9												
11.0	310.935	639.8	12.9169	3857.3	352.638	586.4	13.0238	4273.4	394.299	534.6	13.1271	4692.0												
11.5	330.748	655.0	13.0832	3899.9	375.901	598.2	13.1895	4323.5																
12.0	352.016	668.4	13.2475	3943.7	400.641	608.3	13.3532	4374.5																
12.5	375.056	679.5	13.4103	3989.3																				
0.75	27.4496	47.2	6.6773	2945.2	30.9899	47.1	6.9173	3225.8	32.7054	44.1	7.0180	3452.0	34.4191	41.1	7.1139	3680.5								
0.80	29.2741	50.2	6.8113	3002.2	38.7246	58.6	7.3833	3434.8	40.8922	54.8	7.4836	3673.1	43.0580	51.1	7.5790	3913.9								
1.0	36.5561	62.5	7.2776	3199.0	58.0819	86.4	8.2455	3814.9	61.4192	80.8	8.3449	4076.2	64.7539	75.2	8.4395	4339.9								
1.5	54.7406	92.2	8.1410	3556.1	77.5075	113.2	8.8741	4085.6	82.0793	105.6	8.9725	4364.0	86.6447	98.2	9.0663	4644.9								
2.0	72.9268	121.0	8.7706	3809.5	97.0515	138.9	9.3748	4296.8	102.907	129.6	9.4724	4589.1	108.762	120.3	9.5654	4883.8								
2.5	91.1652	148.8	9.2723	4006.6	116.766	163.7	9.7950	4470.8	123.988	152.4	9.8917	4775.2	131.189	141.2	9.9838	5081.8								
3.0	109.514	175.5	9.6934	4168.7	136.704	187.4	10.1597	4619.7	145.361	174.1	10.2556	4934.8	153.994	160.9	10.3469	5252.1								
3.5	128.032	201.1	10.0590	4306.9	156.942	210.0	10.4840	4750.5	167.103	194.7	10.5792	5075.3	177.233	179.6	10.6698	5402.3								
4.0	146.786	225.5	10.3842	4428.2	177.546	231.4	10.7777	4868.1	189.293	214.1	10.8722	5201.9	200.982	197.0	10.9620	5537.8								
4.5	165.812	249.0	10.6787	4536.7	198.558	251.8	11.0474	4975.3	211.999	232.2	11.1412	5317.8	225.336	213.2	11.2304	5662.0								
5.0	185.134	271.6	10.9492	4635.3	224.191	288.9	11.5327	5167.8	235.232	249.5	11.3911	5425.0	250.303	228.3	11.4797	5777.3								
5.5	204.991	292.5	11.2005	4726.9	242.124	270.8	11.2979	5074.8	259.163	265.3	11.6253	5525.8	276.064	242.0	11.7133	5885.8								
6.0	225.293	312.5	11.4360	4812.5	265.041	305.3	11.7545	5256.3	283.826	280.0	11.8466	5621.4	302.611	254.6	11.9340	5988.7								
6.5	246.179	331.3	11.6584	4893.4	288.536	320.8	11.9654	5340.7	309.404	293.0	12.0570	5713.2	330.154	265.5	12.1439	6087.6								
7.0	267.679	348.9	11.8699	4970.6	312.903	334.8	12.1671	5422.1	335.858	304.8	12.2582	5801.6	358.720	275.1	12.3446	6183.0								
7.5	289.972	365.1	12.0722	5045.1	338.357	347.0	12.3609	5501.6	363.407	315.1	12.4516	5887.7	388.438	283.1	12.5375	6275.9								
8.0	313.184	379.7	12.2666	5117.6	364.629	358.4	12.5481	5578.7	392.088	323.9	12.6383	5971.9												
8.5	337.273	393.1	12.4544	5188.3	392.351	367.5	12.7296	5655.5																
9.0	362.434	405.0	12.6364	5258.0																				
9.5	388.946	415.0	12.8135	5327.4																				
0.80	36.1328	38.0	7.2050	3911.4	37.8421	35.1	7.2922	4144.4	39.5509	33.0	7.3769	4379.5	41.2649	31.2	7.4589	4616.8								
1.0	45.2226	47.2	7.6697	4157.0	47.3836	43.6	7.7567	4402.2	49.5458	40.8	7.8414	4649.5	51.7083	38.6	7.9236	4899.0								
1.5	68.0836	69.4	8.5292	4605.8	71.4083	64.1	8.6154	4873.8	74.7320	60.2	8.7003	5143.9	78.0612	56.8	8.7828	5416.2								
2.0	91.2081	90.4	9.1551	4928.0	95.7473	83.4	9.2406	5212.9	100.298	78.2	9.3258	5500.0	104.848	73.7	9.4088	5789.4								
2.5	114.616	110.5	9.6532	5180.9	120.439	101.7	9.7381	5479.6	126.270	95.4	9.8237	5780.6	132.123	89.6	9.9071	6084.0								
3.0	138.398	129.5	10.0708	5390.8	145.561	118.9	10.1550	5701.4	152.762	111.3	10.2411	6014.5	159.930	104.5	10.3249	6329.5								
3.5	162.609	147.3	10.4330	5571.6	171.204	134.8	10.5166	5892.8	179.791	126.1	10.6033	6216.2	188.422	117.7	10.6875	6542.2								
4.0	187.946	163.8	10.7550	5731.5	197.410	149.5	10.8380	6062.3	207.482	139.6	10.9252	6395.2	217.582	130.1	11.0098	6730.7								
4.5	212.676	179.1	11.0464	5876.0	224.261	163.0	11.1287	6215.4	235.890	151.9	11.2165	6557.3	247.556	140.9	11.3016	6901.7								
5.0	238.638	193.3	11.3140	6008.4	251.899	175.0	11.3956	6356.4	265.126	162.7	11.4839	6706.4	278.440	150.2	11.5694	7059.3								
5.5	265.337	206.3	11.5625	6131.7	280.289	185.9	11.6433	6487.4	295.247	172.1	11.7321	6845.4	310.279	158.2	11.8180	7206.2								
6.0	292.934	217.7	11.7954	6247.9	309.698	195.1	11.8754	6611.4	326.397	179.9	11.9645	6976.7	343.182	164.6	12.0508	7344.8								
6.5	321.362	228.1	12.0153	6358.1	340.012	203.2	12.0947	6728.9	358.566	186.4	12.1838	7101.4	377.322	169.3	12.2707	7477.2								
7.0	350.882	236.8	12.2246	6464.1	371.421	210.0	12.3032	6841.6																
7.5	381.501	244.2	12.4247	6566.4																				

^a Tabulated pressures were adjusted to 1968 IPTS and to even values of density in mol dm⁻³ from values previously published (7). (S - S⁰) was determined by difference. 1 atm = 101 325 Pa.

Table II. Deviation^a of Published from Present Values of $(H - H^\circ)$, Cal Mol⁻¹

t, °C		Density, mol dm ⁻³						
		0.75	2.00	4.00	6.00	8.00	10.00	12.00
0	M&N (14)	-0.6	-0.1	-0.1	-2.9	-3.9	-3.8	
50	M&N	-0.7	0.8	0.2	-0.6	-0.3	1.1	
	S&L (16)	0.8	0.9	-0.4	-0.7	-0.5	1.9	2.8
100	M&N	0.8	1.9	1.0	1.6	2.2	2.2	
	S&L	2.5	5.3	8.7	10.5	11.8	12.6	12.7
150	M&N	2.5	5.8	8.3	9.4	9.0	11.0	
	S&L	1.2	3.0	5.0	6.9	9.5	9.9	

^a Deviation = $(H - H^\circ)_{\text{present}} - (H - H^\circ)_{\text{other}}$.

redefinition of the liter on the magnitude of the thermodynamic properties was minimal. The average and maximum percentage changes applied to the values of the functions were 0.05 and 0.22 for $(H - H^\circ)$; 0.003 and 0.01 for $(S - S^\circ)$; and 0.008 and 0.024 for $(G - G^\circ)$. These percentage variations are typical of all of the functions except $(G_P - G_P, \text{ideal})$ and $(G_V - G_V, \text{ideal})$ which change sign within the ranges of the variables.

The present values of the enthalpy, $(H - H^\circ)$, are compared with the values of Michels and Nederbragt (14) and of Sage and Lacey (16) in Table II, which are the only other extensive sets that were derived from individual sources of P - V - T data. In general, the best agreement is with the results of Michels and Nederbragt. Although Table II is brief, it shows good agreement in the thermodynamic properties derived from primary sources of P - V - T data. In contrast, the use of averaged or correlated P - V - T values from several sources, according to the practice found in several literature correlations (1, 2, 5, 18, 19), generally produced significantly larger differences.

Nomenclature

G = molal Gibbs energy, cal mol⁻¹
 H = molal enthalpy, cal mol⁻¹
 P = pressure, atm
 R = gas constant = 82.0560 cc atm mol⁻¹ K
 S = molal entropy, cal K⁻¹ mol⁻¹
 T = thermodynamic temperature, K = $t + 273.15$
 t = International Practical Celsius temperature, 1968
 V = molal volume, dm³ mol⁻¹
 ρ = molal density, mol dm⁻³
 γ = activity coefficient = $\exp. [(G - G^\circ)/RT]/P$
 atm = 101,325 Pa
 cal = 4.184 J

Subscripts

ideal = ideal gas state
 $_P$ = constant pressure along isotherms
 $_V$ = constant volume along isotherms
 ρ = constant density
 T = constant temperature

Superscripts

° = standard state

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