THERMOPHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS

The Calculation of Liquid-Vapor Phase Equilibrium in H₂O–H₂O₂ Two-Component System

N. M. Kuznetsov and S. M. Frolov

Semenov Institute of Chemical Physics, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, 117977 Russia

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Abstract—The dependences of total pressure and equilibrium composition of vapors on temperature and mole fraction of hydroperoxide in solution are calculated for a water–hydroperoxide two-component two-phase system. It is assumed that the relaxation to concentration equilibrium in gas at the surface of solution is attained quite rapidly compared to the half-life of hydroperoxide. Three independent approximate methods are used to calculate the total pressure. The ideal gas approximation for the gas phase is not used in two of these methods. Approximation formulas are suggested, which explicitly express the dependence of pressure and composition of gas on relative concentration of hydroperoxide in solution and on temperature. The accuracy of the methods and the range of their validity are discussed.

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INTRODUCTION

The difficulties of calculation of liquid–vapor phase equilibrium at high temperatures and corresponding high pressures are associated with the theoretically unsolved problem on the equation of state for liquids and dense gases. The lack of exact solutions is compensated in part by the available approximate semiempirical methods and formulas with fitting parameters, which enable one to calculate the activity coefficients of components and other functions of equilibrium two-phase mixtures given adequate experimental data for the determination of fitting parameters [1–3]. Unfortunately, no general approximate method is available that would be optimal for all two-component systems and problems. The choice of one or another approximate method depends on concrete problem, on the physicochemical properties of components, and on the available experimental data.

Several methods are known of approximate calculation of the activity coefficients as functions of the composition of the liquid phase (mole fraction of one of the components of the liquid phase 𝑥) and of temperature 𝑇 using a limited set of experimental data. Among these data are, for example, the data on total pressure of saturated vapors 𝑃(𝑥, 𝑇), which is relatively easy to measure. Moreover, if the total pressure in the entire range of values of 𝑥 from zero to unity is determined on the isotherms experimentally or by some theoretical method, the composition of the gas phase and the activity coefficients on each such isotherm may be exactly calculated in the ideal gas approximation (relative to the preassigned distribution of total pressure) [2–4].

Given in Section 1 of this paper are analytical formulas obtained by us for lines of phase equilibrium of 𝑃(𝑇) of individual components, namely, water and hydroperoxide, which are required for the calculation of total pressure 𝑃(𝑥, 𝑇) in H₂O–H₂O₂ equilibrium two-component two-phase system.

Three approximate analytical relations for 𝑃(𝑥, 𝑇) in the entire range of values of 𝑥 from zero to unity are given in Section 2. The first relation was obtained using direct and indirect data on the boiling temperature of solution 𝑇(𝑥, 𝑃) on isobars at low and high pressures. Such data for aqueous solutions of hydroperoxide were published in [5, 6]. The second relation was obtained using the method of Redlich and Kister [7–10] and a limited set of low-temperature experimental data on the total pressure of a two-component system. The third relation was obtained proceeding from the closeness of the thermodynamic properties of water and hydroperoxide: the 𝑃(𝑥, 𝑇) function was determined using formulas for lines of phase equilibrium of 𝑃(𝑇) of individual components. Unlike the first and third relations, the use of the second relation in the field of high temperatures (and pressures) must be treated as extrapolation.

In Section 3, comparison is made of the results of calculations of 𝑃(𝑥, 𝑇) on isotherms for the H₂O–H₂O₂ system using three derived relations. In addition, approximation formulas are given for the calculation of the activity coefficients of the components.

1. LINES OF PHASE EQUILIBRIUM FOR SYSTEM COMPONENTS

In solving practical problems, semiempirical thermodynamic relations are often employed, which are valid on some characteristic lines, for example, on phase equilibrium line, on the line of isobaric depen-
The error of formula (1) for water and hydroperoxide as individual substances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( T ), K</th>
<th>( P ), atm (1)</th>
<th>( P ), atm [13], [9]</th>
<th>( \Delta P/P(T) ), %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>373.15</td>
<td>1.0364</td>
<td>1.0332</td>
<td>0.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>423.15</td>
<td>4.8616</td>
<td>4.854</td>
<td>0.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>473.15</td>
<td>15.760</td>
<td>15.857</td>
<td>0.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>523.15</td>
<td>40.326</td>
<td>40.56</td>
<td>0.58</td>
</tr>
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<td>573.15</td>
<td>87.641</td>
<td>87.61</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>623.15</td>
<td>169.15</td>
<td>168.63</td>
<td>0.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>633.15</td>
<td>190.72</td>
<td>190.42</td>
<td>0.16</td>
</tr>
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<td>202.25</td>
<td>202.21</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>643.15</td>
<td>214.31</td>
<td>214.68</td>
<td>0.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>647.30</td>
<td>224.72</td>
<td>225.65</td>
<td>0.41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hydroperoxide

<table>
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<tr>
<th>( T ), K</th>
<th>( P ), atm (1)</th>
<th>( P ), atm [13], [9]</th>
<th>( \Delta P/P(T) ), %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>423.15</td>
<td>1.012</td>
<td>0.994</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>473.15</td>
<td>4.069</td>
<td>4.004</td>
<td>1.6</td>
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<td>523.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>573.15</td>
<td>29.19</td>
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<td>623.15</td>
<td>61.17</td>
<td>61.23</td>
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<td>673.15</td>
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<td>115.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>723.15</td>
<td>199.8</td>
<td>199.9</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>430.15</td>
<td>214.66</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Because approximation (1) will be used in what follows, we will give the values of parameters \( \alpha \) and \( A \) for both components of the \( \text{H}_2\text{O–H}_2\text{O}_2 \) system [12, 7],

\[
\alpha_w = 3.4679 \times 10^{-7} \text{K, } A = 12.4575
\]

for water (subscript \( w \)) and

\[
\alpha_h = 3.7642 \times 10^{-7} \text{K, } A_h = 12.5302
\]

for hydroperoxide (subscript \( h \)). The error \((\Delta P/P)\) of approximation (1) with parameters (3) and (4) relative to the reference data for water and hydroperoxide at pressures from \(-0.0028 P_c \) to critical pressure \( P_c \) is comparable with the error of reference data and amounts, as a rule, to hundredths or even tenths of a percent (see table).

2. APPROXIMATE METHODS OF CALCULATION OF TOTAL PRESSURE

Given in this section are three approximate analytical methods of calculating the total pressure \( P(x, T) \) in the \( \text{H}_2\text{O–H}_2\text{O}_2 \) system in the entire range of values of \( x \) from zero to unity.

Method 1

Relations (1) for water and hydroperoxide may be used for the calculation of isothermal dependence of the total pressure of a two-component two-phase mixture on its composition given the boiling temperature of the mixture \( T_b \) as a function of composition (mass fraction \( x_m \) or mole fraction \( x \) of hydroperoxide in solution) at constant pressure \( P \). For the \( \text{H}_2\text{O–H}_2\text{O}_2 \) system, the dependences \( T_b(x_m, P) \) and \( T_b(x, P) \) at pressures of \(-0.10–1 \text{ atm} \) are close to linear dependences [5] (Figs. 1a and 1b). Note that, at atmospheric pressure, the temperature on the saturation line for hydroperoxide is close to \( 150^\circ \text{C} \).

In [7], the results of processing of the data of [6] on the boiling of superheated aqueous solutions of hydroperoxide were used to obtain the dependence of temperature of equilibrium boiling \( T_b(x_m, P) \) on mass fraction of hydroperoxide in solution \( x_m \), i.e., \( T_b(x_m, P) \). Unlike [7], Fig. 2 gives the dependence of temperature of equilibrium boiling of aqueous solutions of hydroperoxide on mole fraction of hydroperoxide \( x \). In addition to high-temperature isobars [7], Fig. 2 gives two low-temperature isobars obtained in independent experiments [5] (see Fig. 1).

The incompleteness of the data of [6] and possible systematic errors of these data prevent one from getting a single-valued notion of the true function \( T_b(x, P) \). However, within the error of measurement, the isobaric dependences of \( T_b(x_m, P) \) on \( x_m \) in Fig. 2 may be replaced by straight lines. Note that a similar assumption was made in [7] for isobaric dependences of \( T_b(x_m, P) \). Judging by the data of [5, 6], it does not appear possible to answer the question of which one of these approximations is...
more accurate without invoking additional reasoning and results of other independent studies. Nevertheless, as distinct from [7], we will proceed, in what follows, from the linear approximation of boiling temperature by the mole (rather than mass) fraction of hydroperoxide in solution. The mole concentration as thermodynamic variable appears to be physically more informative. One can expect that, at higher temperatures, where the differences between the thermodynamic properties of liquid and dense gas on the line of phase equilibrium become more complex and differs only slightly from linear dependence.

We take the function $T_b(x, P)$ to be linear with respect to $x$ and represent it in the form

$$T_b(x, P) = T_w(P)(1 - x) + T_h(P)x,$$  \hspace{1cm} (5)

where $T_w(P)$ and $T_h(P)$ are pressure-dependent (according to (2)) temperatures on the saturation lines for water and hydroperoxide, respectively. We substitute explicit expressions (2) for $T_w(P)$ and $T_h(P)$ into Eq. (5) and derive the equation which relates the boiling temperature $T_b$, the total pressure $P$, and the mole fraction of hydroperoxide $x$. Then we assume the boiling temperature $T_b = T$ and derive the transcendental equation which implicitly defines the dependence of total pressure on temperature and composition of solution,

$$T = \alpha_w[Z + A_w]^8(1 - x) + \alpha_h[Z + A_h]^8x,$$ \hspace{1cm} (6)

$$Z \equiv (P/P_o)^{1/8}, \quad P_o = 1 \text{ atm.}$$

It is significant that the assumption of ideality of the gas phase was not used in deriving Eq. (6). Solutions (6) on isotherms are approximated with high accuracy (tenths of a percent or better) by decreasing exponents. The results of such approximations for a number of isothersms are given below ($P(x)$ is in atm),

isotherm $T = 373 \text{ K:}$

$$P(x, T) = -0.02548 + 1.02916 \exp(-x/0.56804);$$  \hspace{1cm} (7)

isotherm $T = 423 \text{ K:}$

$$P(x, T) = -0.09725 + 4.80366 \exp(-x/0.68164);$$  \hspace{1cm} (8)

isotherm $T = 473 \text{ K:}$

$$P(x, T) = -0.223 + 15.4784 \exp(-x/0.77931);$$  \hspace{1cm} (9)

isotherm $T = 523 \text{ K:}$

$$P(x, T) = -0.33182 + 39.36297 \exp(-x/0.86531);$$  \hspace{1cm} (10)

isotherm $T = 573 \text{ K:}$

$$P(x, T) = -0.21453 + 85.03652 \exp(-x/0.94177);$$  \hspace{1cm} (11)

isotherm $T = 623 \text{ K:}$

$$P(x, T) = 0.5471 + 163.15992 \exp(-x/1.0102);$$  \hspace{1cm} (12)

isotherm $T = 643 \text{ K:}$

$$P(x, T) = 1.1658 + 206.23992 \exp(-x/1.03586).$$  \hspace{1cm} (13)

Graphs of functions $P(x, T)$ are given in Fig. 3.
The Redlich–Kister approximation exists in application to aqueous solutions of hydroperoxide [7–10]. The Redlich–Kister method is based on limited low-temperature experimental data on total pressure in the H₂O–H₂O₂ two-component two-phase system and on the relation between total pressure and activity coefficients of components in the system. In so doing, the gas phase, which is at equilibrium with solution, is taken to be ideal gas. Therefore, in the region of high pressures (and temperatures), the results of calculations by the Redlich–Kister method must be regarded as extrapolation. The Redlich–Kister formulas for the activity coefficients of water γ₆ and hydroperoxide γ₈ have the form

\[
\gamma_6 = \exp \left\{ x^2 (RT) \times [B_0 + B_1 (1 - 4x) + B_2 (1 - 2x) (1 - 6x)] \right\},
\]

\[
\gamma_8 = \exp \left\{ x^2 (RT) \times [B_0 + B_1 (3 - 4x) + B_2 (1 - 2x) (5 - 6x)] \right\},
\]

where \( T \) is the temperature in K, \( R \) is the gas constant, and \( X = 1 - x \) is the mole fraction of water in solution. For aqueous solutions of hydroperoxide, we have

\[
B_0 = -1017 + 0.97T; \quad B_1 = 85; \quad B_2 = 13.1.
\]

The total pressure is expressed by the sum

\[
P(x, T) = \gamma_6 P_6(T)x + \gamma_8 P_8(T)X,
\]

where \( P_6(T) \) and \( P_8(T) \) denote the saturated vapor pressure over pure components, namely, hydroperoxide and water, respectively (see Eqs. (1), (3), and (4)).

The mole fractions of components in the vapor phase and solution are related by the relations \( y = \gamma_6 x \) and \( Y = \gamma_8 X \). Therefore, for better understanding of the meaning of formula (17), we rewrite this formula as

\[
P(x, T) = P_6(T)y + P_8(T)Y.
\]

Formula (18) expresses the Dalton law for ideal gas. However, it is often employed for mixtures of real gases as well, in spite of the fact that the saturated vapor pressures over pure components \( P_6(T) \) and \( P_8(T) \) may strongly differ from ideal gas pressures at high pressures (and temperatures), especially, in the vicinity of critical points. In the general case, approximation (18) is one of the forms of additivity of pressures. According to Dodge ([2], p. 248—Russ. transl.), this approximation may be referred to as the Barlett law of additivity of pressures, because the law was apparently first used by Barlett and associates. One can judge the degree (accuracy) with which this law and the Redlich–Kister approximation may be applied to aqueous solution of hydroperoxide in the region of high temperatures (above 373–423 K) and corresponding high pressures (from 1 atm to critical pressure of water) by comparing

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1 We found that, at temperatures \( T > 373 \) K, the total pressure defined by formulas (14)–(17) is independent of coefficient \( B_2 \) within 0.1% in the entire range of concentrations of solution, and the respective terms in the exponents of (14) and (15) may be omitted. This remark refers also to the accuracy of calculation of the activity coefficients proper, less the small neighborhood (Δ \( x \) = 0.1) of point \( x = 0 \) for \( \gamma_8 \) and of point \( x = 1 \) for \( \gamma_6 \), where the inclusion of terms with coefficient \( B_2 \) causes a variation of the values of \( \gamma_6 \) and \( \gamma_8 \) by approximately 1–1.5%. However, this results in a very minor variation (≈0.001) of mole fractions of the components of the gas phase, because the respective concentrations of solution components in the neighborhood of the foregoing end points are low (water at \( x \rightarrow 0 \) and hydroperoxide at \( x \rightarrow 0 \)). This is qualitatively explained by the relative smallness of coefficient \( B_2 \) and by the fact that the contribution by terms with \( B_2 \) in the exponents of (14) and (15) goes to zero in the middle of segment \( 0 < x < 1 \) and in the neighborhood of its edges.
the total pressure calculated by formulas (14)–(17) with that obtained independently of the latter formulas by formulas (7)–(13).

Such comparison is given in Figs. 4–9, where the calculations by formulas (7)–(13) and (14)–(17) correspond to curves 1 (method 1) and 2 (method 2). Curves 4 in Figs. 4–9 correspond to the ideal solution approximation expressed by formula (17) with the activity coefficients in this formula substituted by unity. Curves 3 in Figs. 4–9 correspond to yet another approximation (method 3) suggested by us (see below).

Method 3

The values of parameters \( \alpha \) and \( A \) in formula (1) turn out to be close for individual substances of similar thermodynamic properties, for example, for \( \text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n+2} \) \( n \)-alkanes with close values of number \( n \) or for water and hydroperoxide. Indeed, for \( n \)-heptane (\( n = 7 \)) and \( n \)-octane (\( n = 8 \)), the values of \( \alpha \) and \( A \) differ by approximately 10% and 2.5% [14] and for water and hydroperoxide—by 8.5 and 0.6%, respectively (see Eqs. (3) and (4)). Formula (1) may be assumed to be approximately valid for two-component mixtures of such substances as well if the parameters \( \alpha \) and \( A \) are treated as linear combinations,

\[
\alpha(x) = \alpha_1(1-x) + \alpha_2 x, \quad A(x) = A_1(1-x) + A_2 x \quad (19)
\]

where the subscripts 1 and 2 indicate components with concentrations \( 1-x \) and \( x \), respectively. In approximation (19), formulas (1)–(4) define the isothermal dependence of pressure and isobaric dependence of temperature of the mixture on mole fractions of components in the mixture. We apply formulas (1)–(4) and (19) to aqueous solution of hydroperoxide to derive the following expression for total pressure:

\[
P(x, T) = \left( T/\alpha(x) \right)^{1/8} - A(x)^{1/8}, \text{ atm}, \quad (20)
\]

\[
\alpha(x) = \alpha_w(1-x) + \alpha_h x, \quad A(x) = A_w(1-x) + A_h x. \quad (21)
\]
3. DISCUSSION OF THE RESULTS

One can see in Figs. 4–9 that curves 1–3, which correspond to calculations by methods 1–3, significantly deviate from straight line 4 for ideal solution (the solution is nonideal), but little differ from one another. A more detailed consideration of the calculation results reveals that the maximal differences between the values of total pressure obtained by formulas (7)–(13) and (14)–(17) are observed at \( x \approx 0.3–0.4 \) on each isotherm and decrease with increasing temperature. In so doing, the maximal differences between predicted values of total pressure on the isotherms \( T = 373, 423, 473, 523, 673, \) and \( 723 \) K amounted to 18%, 16%, 3%, 0.9%, 0.7%, and 0.6%, respectively. Therefore, one can assume that the results of calculations of the activity coefficients by formulas (14) and (15) likewise exhibit a small error. Yet another consideration counts in favor of this assumption. As the temperature increases, the differences between the properties of liquid and gas on saturation lines decrease, and the values of the activity coefficients approach unity. As a result, the possible error of their calculation decreases as well.

Small deviations of curves 1–3 from one another in Figs. 4–9 imply that any of three approximations (methods 1–3) may be used for the calculation of total pressure \( P(x, T) \) in the \( \text{H}_2\text{O–H}_2\text{O}_2 \) system. Possible maximal errors of calculations are given above. The simplest method for the calculation of total pressure is method 3. However, in view of the fact that the activity coefficients need to be known in case of applications, the Redlich–Kister method is to be regarded as the most preferred one: this method enables one to calculate both the activity coefficients and the total pressure (formulas (14)–(17)). Without the coefficient \( B_2 \) (see Footnote 1), formulas (14)–(16) may be written in a simplified form,

\[
\gamma_w = \exp\left\{\frac{x^2}{RT}\left[B_0 + B_1(1 - 4X)\right]\right\},
\]

\[
\gamma_h = \exp\left\{\frac{X^2}{RT}\left[B_0 + B_1(3 - 4X)\right]\right\},
\]

\[
B_0 = -1017 + 0.97T; \quad B_1 = 85.
\]
In view of the foregoing results of calculations of total pressure, we estimate the error of calculation of coefficients $\gamma_w$ and $\gamma_h$ by formulas (22) and (23) to be approximately 7% on the average over the entire range of concentrations of solution and to be one-and-a-half or two times higher for compositions of low concentration of hydroperoxide or water, i.e., at $x \ll 1$ for $\gamma_h$ and at $X \ll 1$ for $\gamma_w$.

**CONCLUSIONS**

Three approximate methods are suggested for the calculation of total pressure for a water-hydroperoxide equilibrium two-component two-phase system at high pressures and temperatures up to the critical point. The first method is based on the use of direct and indirect literature data on the boiling temperature of aqueous solutions of hydroperoxide on isobars at low and high pressures. The second method is the extrapolation of the Redlich–Kister relations describing a limited set of low-temperature experimental data on total pressure to the high-temperature region. The third method is based on the closeness of the thermodynamic properties of water and hydroperoxide; this made it possible to determine the total pressure using formulas for lines of phase equilibrium of individual components. It was assumed in all cases that the relaxation to concentration equilibrium in gas at the surface of solution was attained quite rapidly compared to the half-life of hydroperoxide. The results of calculation of total pressure by all suggested independent methods agree quite well with one another; this may be regarded as the indication of validity of the assumptions made. Approximation formulas were suggested, which explicitly express the dependence of pressure and composition of gas on relative concentration of hydroperoxide in solution and on temperature. The accuracy of the methods and the range of their validity were discussed.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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