6.52:

A vapor stream that is 65.0 mole% styrene and 35.0 mole% toluene is in equilibrium with a liquid mixture of the same two species. The pressure in the system is 150 mmHg absolute. Use Raoult’s law to estimate the composition of the liquid and the system temperature.

**Answer:**

Let: ST Styrene TO Toluene

Assumptions:

Gas Phase

1. Ideal gas and mixtures.
2. Equilibrium is established between the liquid and gas phases.

Liquid Phase

Vapor pressures of styrene and toluene from Antoine equation:

1. Styrene:

7.06623 1507.434 214.985

1. Toluene:

6.95805 1346.773 219.693

The above constants have been collected from table B.4, page 640-641.

Now, Raoult’s law says that:

In this problem, the gas phase composition is given and this leads to “dew point calculation. Now, we need to get rid of the liquid composition by acting smart and using the following properties:

It says that the summation of all mole fractions in the liquid phase should add to unity. Raoult’s law can be re-written as:

Apply now on both sides of the above equation to obtain:

Let’s expand it now considering the two components of interest:

Re-arrange it to obtain:

So the dew point temperature is the temperature at which the above equation becomes zero. Let’s plot the above equation at some interval and check if it has a zero or not. Matlab is used and the function shows the following behavior:



So it clear that the above function has a zero at a temperature equal to ≈87oC. Let’s now apply Newton’s method, i.e. explained in the class, to find exactly what would be that temperature. The procedure followed is:

1. Start with a new guess.
2. Calculate the values of the function and the derivative.
3. If the value of the function is not small to be accepted update the temperature by:
4. Evaluate the values of the function and the derivative at the new temperature and go to step (3).

The above procedure stops only when the value of the function is very close to zero. A summary of the result is given in the following table:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| 50 | 0.024387321534317 | -0.00150924617977112 |
| 66.1586107430237 | 0.00815435113933363 | -0.000639015741522037 |
| 78.9194092797095 | 0.00209171716793117 | -0.000345192722278729 |
| 84.978972627752 | 0.000264756068262319 | -0.000262140430670271 |
| 85.9889506291818 | 5.85739727803486×10-6 | -0.000250639404439956 |
| 86.0123204472323 | 3.02964881394169×10-9 | -0.000250380176646247 |
| 86.0123325474267 | 8.02309607639273×10-16 | -0.000250380042505033 |



See in the above figure how the initial guess is improved till the final solution is reached. The system temperature is ≈86.01oC. The liquid composition is: