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[Chapter 10. Thermodynamic Properties of Substances](#)

Practice Problems

[1.](#)

The molar enthalpy of 250°F (120°C) steam with a quality of 92% is most nearly

(A)

16,000 Btu/lbmol (37 MJ/kmol)

(B)

18,000 Btu/lbmol (41 MJ/kmol)

(C)

20,000 Btu/lbmol (46 MJ/kmol)

(D)

22,000 Btu/lbmol (51 MJ/kmol)

[2.](#)

The ratio of specific heats for air at 600°F (300°C) is most nearly

(A)

1.33

(B)

1.38

(C)

1.41

(D)

1.67

[3.](#)

The density of helium at 600°F (300°C) and one standard atmosphere is most nearly

(A)

0.0052 lbm/ft<sup>3</sup> (0.085 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

(B)

0.0061 lbm/ft<sup>3</sup> (0.098 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

(C)

0.0076 lbm/ft<sup>3</sup> (0.12 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

(D)

0.0095 lbm/ft<sup>3</sup> (0.15 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

[4.](#)

What is the thermodynamic state of water at 600°F and 300 psia?

(A)

subcooled liquid

(B)

saturated vapor

(C)

superheated vapor

(D)

real or ideal gas

[5.](#)

106°F water flows in a closed feedwater heater. At the pressure in the feedwater heater, water has a saturation temperature of 293°F and a saturation enthalpy of 262 Btu/lbm. What is most nearly the enthalpy of the water?

(A)

75 Btu/lbm

(B)

110 Btu/lbm

(C)

120 Btu/lbm

(D)

130 Btu/lbm

[6.](#)

A 25% mixture (by volume) of ethylene glycol and water is used in a solar heating application. The mixture is intended to operate at standard atmospheric pressure and an average temperature of 150°F. At 150°F, ethylene glycol has a specific gravity of 1.11 (based on 60°F water) and a specific heat of 0.63 Btu/lbm-°F. What is most nearly the specific heat of the mixture at 150°F?

(A)

0.892 Btu/lbm-°F

(B)

0.899 Btu/lbm-°F

(C)

0.908 Btu/lbm-°F

(D)

0.913 Btu/lbm-°F

Solutions

1.

*Customary U.S. Solution*

From appendix MERM24A (also *NCEES Handbook: Properties of Saturated Steam (U.S. Customary Units)*), for 250°F steam, the enthalpy of saturated liquid,  $h_f$ , is 218.6 Btu/lbm. The heat of vaporization,  $h_{fg}$ , is 945.4 Btu/lbm. The enthalpy is given by equation MERM24040 (also *NCEES Handbook: Properties for Two-Phase (Vapor-Liquid) Systems*).

$$\begin{aligned} h &= h_f + x h_{fg} = 218.6 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm}} + (0.92) \left( 945.4 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm}} \right) \\ &= 1088.4 \text{ Btu/lbm} \end{aligned}$$

As in *NCEES Handbook* table “Temperature-Independent Properties of Liquids and Gases (U.S. Units),” the molecular weight of water is 18 lbm/lbmol. The molar enthalpy is given by equation MERM24014.

$$\begin{aligned} H &= (\text{MW})h = \left( 18 \frac{\text{lbm}}{\text{lbmol}} \right) \left( 1088.4 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm}} \right) \\ &= 19,591 \text{ Btu/lbmol} \quad (20,000 \text{ Btu/lbmol}) \end{aligned}$$

*The answer is (C).*

*SI Solution*

From appendix MERM24N (also *NCEES Handbook: Saturated Steam (SI Units)*), for 120°C steam, the enthalpy of saturated liquid,  $h_f$ , is 503.81 kJ/kg. The heat of vaporization,  $h_{fg}$ , is 2202.1 kJ/kg. The enthalpy is given by equation MERM24040 (also *NCEES Handbook: Properties for Two-Phase (Vapor-Liquid) Systems*).

$$\begin{aligned} h &= h_f + x h_{fg} = 503.81 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}} + (0.92) \left( 2202.1 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}} \right) \\ &= 2529.7 \text{ kJ/kg} \end{aligned}$$

As in *NCEES Handbook* table “Temperature-Independent Properties of Liquids and Gases (SI Units),” the molecular weight of water is 18 kg/kmol. Molar enthalpy is given by equation MERM24014.

$$\begin{aligned} H &= \text{MW} \times h = \left( 18 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{kmol}} \right) \left( 2529.7 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}} \right) \\ &= 45,535 \text{ kJ/kmol} \quad (46 \text{ MJ/kmol}) \end{aligned}$$

*The answer is (C).*

2.

*Customary U.S. Solution*

As in *NCEES Handbook: Temperature*, the absolute temperature is

$$600^\circ\text{F} + 460^\circ = 1060^\circ\text{R}$$

From table CERM24001 (also *NCEES Handbook: Temperature-Dependent Properties of Air (U.S. Customary Units)*), the specific heat at constant pressure for air at 1060°R is

$$c_p = 0.250 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm} \cdot ^\circ\text{R}}$$

From equation MERM24095(b) (also *NCEES Handbook: Ideal Gas Law*),

$$\begin{aligned} c_v &= c_p - \frac{R}{J} \\ &= 0.250 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm} \cdot ^\circ\text{R}} - \frac{1545.35 \frac{\text{ft} \cdot \text{lbf}}{\text{lbmol} \cdot ^\circ\text{R}}}{\left(778 \frac{\text{ft} \cdot \text{lbf}}{\text{Btu}}\right) \left(28.967 \frac{\text{lbm}}{\text{lbmol}}\right)} \\ &= 0.1814 \text{ Btu/lbm} \cdot ^\circ\text{R} \end{aligned}$$

The ratio of specific heats is given by equation MERM24028.

$$\begin{aligned} k &= \frac{c_p}{c_v} = \frac{0.250 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm} \cdot ^\circ\text{R}}}{0.1814 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm} \cdot ^\circ\text{R}}} \\ &= 1.378 \quad (1.38) \end{aligned}$$

The answer is (B).

### SI Solution

From table CERM24001 (also *NCEES Handbook: Temperature-Dependent Properties of Air (SI Units)*), the specific heat at constant pressure for air is

$$c_p = 1.047 \text{ kJ/kg} \cdot \text{K}$$

From equation MERM24095(a) (also *NCEES Handbook: Ideal Gas Law*),

$$\begin{aligned} c_v &= c_p - \frac{R}{J} \\ &= \left(1.047 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg} \cdot \text{K}}\right) \left(1000 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{kJ}}\right) - \frac{8.3145 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}}}{0.0289 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{mol}}} \\ &= 760 \text{ J/kg} \cdot \text{K} \end{aligned}$$

The ratio of specific heats is given by equation MERM24028.

$$\begin{aligned} k &= \frac{c_p}{c_v} = \frac{\left(1.047 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg} \cdot \text{K}}\right) \left(1000 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{kJ}}\right)}{760 \frac{\text{J}}{\text{kg} \cdot \text{K}}} \\ &= 1.377 \quad (1.38) \end{aligned}$$

The answer is (B).

[3.](#)

### Customary U.S. Solution

As in *NCEES Handbook: Temperature*, the absolute temperature is

$$600^\circ\text{F} + 460^\circ = 1060^\circ\text{R}$$

From equation MERM24050 (also *NCEES Handbook: Ideal Gas Law*), the density of helium is

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= \frac{p}{RT} = \frac{\left(14.7 \frac{\text{lbf}}{\text{in}^2}\right) \left(12 \frac{\text{in}}{\text{ft}}\right)^2 \left(4 \frac{\text{lbm}}{\text{lbmol}}\right)}{\left(1545.35 \frac{\text{ft} \cdot \text{lbf}}{\text{lbmol} \cdot ^\circ\text{R}}\right) (1060^\circ\text{R})} \\ &= 0.00517 \text{ lbm/ft}^3 \quad (0.0052 \text{ lbm/ft}^3) \end{aligned}$$

The answer is (A).

## SI Solution

As in *NCEES Handbook: Temperature*, the absolute temperature is

$$300^{\circ}\text{C} + 273^{\circ} = 573\text{K}$$

From equation MERM24050 (also *NCEES Handbook: Ideal Gas Law*), the density of helium is

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \frac{p}{RT} = \frac{(101\,300\text{ Pa})\left(4\frac{\text{g}}{\text{mol}}\right)}{\left(8314.5\frac{\text{J}}{\text{kmol}\cdot\text{K}}\right)(573\text{K})} \\ &= 0.085\text{ kg/m}^3\end{aligned}$$

The answer is (A).

4.

As in *NCEES Handbook* table “Superheated Steam (U.S. Units)” the saturation temperature for 300 psia steam is 417°F, so since the water’s temperature is higher than this, the water is either a superheated vapor or a gas. The critical temperature for water is 705°F, so the water can’t be considered a gas. Therefore, it is a superheated vapor.

The answer is (C).

5.

Since the pressure of the water in the feedwater heater is not given, a subcooled liquid table can’t be used directly. (The saturation temperature could be used to find the pressure, however, if this approach was taken.) As in *NCEES Handbook* table “Physical Properties of Liquid Water (U.S. Units)” the specific heat of liquid water is approximately 1 Btu/lbm-°F, which is the reason that saturated liquid enthalpy and saturation temperature have essentially the same numerical values. Calculate the subcooled enthalpy by subtracting the sensible heat from 106°F to 293°F.

$$\begin{aligned}h_{106^{\circ}\text{F}} &= h_{\text{saturation}} - c_p (T_{\text{saturation}} - T) \\ &= 262\frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm}} - \left(1\frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm}\cdot^{\circ}\text{F}}\right)(293^{\circ}\text{F} - 106^{\circ}\text{F}) \\ &= 75\text{ Btu/lbm}\end{aligned}$$

The answer is (A).

6.

Use a saturated steam table, such as appendix MERM24A (also *NCEES Handbook* table “Properties of Saturated Steam (U.S. Units)—Temperature Table”) to get the properties of 150°F water. The specific volume is the reciprocal of the density. Since  $\Delta h = c_p \Delta T$ , the specific heat can be found from the change in enthalpy over a known temperature range. Use the saturation enthalpies at 140°F and 160°F.

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= \frac{1}{v_f} \\ &= \frac{1}{0.01634\frac{\text{ft}^3}{\text{lbm}}} \\ &= 61.20\text{ lbm/ft}^3 \\ c_{p,\text{water}} &= \frac{h_{\text{sat},T_2} - h_{\text{sat},T_1}}{T_2 - T_1} \\ &= \frac{128.00\frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm}} - 107.99\frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm}}}{160^{\circ}\text{F} - 140^{\circ}\text{F}} \\ &= 1.00\text{ Btu/lbm}\cdot^{\circ}\text{F}\end{aligned}$$

Specific heats of liquid mixtures are gravimetrically weighted.

Consider 1 ft<sup>3</sup> of mixture, containing 0.25 ft<sup>3</sup> of ethylene glycol and 1 – 0.25 ft<sup>3</sup> = 0.75 ft<sup>3</sup> water. The gravimetric fraction of ethylene glycol,  $G_{\text{glycol}}$ , in the mixture is

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_{\text{glycol}} &= \frac{m_{\text{glycol}}}{m_{\text{glycol}} + m_{\text{water}}} \\
 &= \frac{SG_{\text{glycol}} \rho_{\text{water}, 60^\circ \text{F}} V_{\text{glycol}}}{SG_{\text{glycol}} \rho_{\text{water}, 60^\circ \text{F}} V_{\text{glycol}} + \rho_{\text{water}, 150^\circ \text{F}} V_{\text{water}}} \\
 &= \frac{(1.11) \left( 62.4 \frac{\text{lbm}}{\text{ft}^3} \right) (0.25 \text{ ft}^3)}{(1.11) \left( 62.4 \frac{\text{lbm}}{\text{ft}^3} \right) (0.25 \text{ ft}^3) + \left( 61.2 \frac{\text{lbm}}{\text{ft}^3} \right) (0.75 \text{ ft}^3)} \\
 &= 0.274
 \end{aligned}$$

The gravimetric fraction of water in the mixture is

$$G_{\text{water}} = 1 - G_{\text{glycol}} = 1 - 0.274 = 0.726$$

The specific heat of the mixture is

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_{p, \text{mixture}} &= G_{\text{glycol}} c_{p, \text{glycol}} + G_{\text{water}} c_{p, \text{water}} \\
 &= (0.274) \left( 0.63 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm} \cdot ^\circ \text{F}} \right) \\
 &\quad + (0.726) \left( 1.00 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lbm} \cdot ^\circ \text{F}} \right) \\
 &= 0.899 \text{ Btu/lbm} \cdot ^\circ \text{F}
 \end{aligned}$$

The answer is (B).