Carefully and neatly document your answers. You may use a mathematical solver like Jupyter/iPython. Use plotting software for all plots.

1 Shale, shale everywhere

1.1 Your nation has stumbled upon an enormous reserve of ethane (that's really true!), which you propose to use as a feedstock to produce ethylene, acetylene, and hydrogen via thermal dehydrogenation:

$$\begin{array}{l} C_2H_6(g) \longrightarrow C_2H_4(g) + H_2(g) \\ C_2H_6(g) \longrightarrow C_2H_2(g) + 2H_2(g) \end{array}$$

The thermodynamic data here is from the CRC Handbook and is based on a 1 bar standard state. All the gases can be considered to be ideal over the range of interest here.

- 1. Plot the standard state enthalpy of ethane vs T from 600 to 1200 K. What does the slope of the plot correspond to?
- 2. Plot the standard state entropy of ethane vs T from 600 to 1200 K. What does the slope of the plot correspond to?
- 3. Consider the ethane to ethylene reaction. Plot the standard state reaction enthalpy, T times the standard state reaction entropy, and the standard state reaction Gibbs energy vs T from 600 to 1200 K.
- 4. What do the plots tell you about the conditions necessary to run these reactions thermally? About what contributes to the free energy change with T?
- 5. Plot the free energy of the ethane to ethylene reaction vs ethane conversion at 800, 1000, and 1200 K and 1 bar. Determine the equilibrium conversion of ethane at each temperature if this was the only reaction that occurs.
- 6. Imagine a semi-permeable membrane through which you could control the partial pressure (chemical potential) of hydrogen in a reaction vessel. Plot the mole fractions of ethane and ethylene as a function of $\ln P_{\rm H_2}$ at 1000 K. (Assume the $\rm H_2$ does not contribute to the total moles in the vessel.)
- 7. Now consider both reactions simultaneously. Determine the equilibrium ratio of ethylene to acetylene, starting from pure ethane, at 1000 K and 1, 10, and 100 bar total pressure (again, assume ideal behavior at all conditions). Can you explain the result?

2 Langmuir adsorption

2.1 The table below shows the mass of carbon monoxide taken up by a 10 wt% Ru on alumina sample (i.e., particles of Ru on an inert support) as a function of CO pressure at 100 °C. CO is known to only adsorb on Ru at these conditions.

$$P_{\text{CO}}$$
 (torr) 100 150 200 250 300 400 CO adsorbed (μ mol/g sample) 1.28 1.63 1.77 1.94 2.06 2.21

1. Plot the data and use non-linear regression to estimate the value of the uptake equilibrium constant.

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Homework 2

Due September 8, 2021

- 2. Plot the model error vs pressure. Do you have confidence in the model?
- 3. Use the data to estimate the fraction of exposed Ru atoms.