

Short user guide for Matlab class thermo

Class thermo

Objects of the thermo class are suited for efficient and accurate calculation of thermodynamic variables and calculations. It requires a model of the molar Helmholtz free energy as a function of temperature and molar volume. At present such models are available for H₂, H₂O, and CO₂.

The user starts by creating a thermo object:

```
>> th = thermo('H2');  
>> th = thermo('H2O');  
or  
>> th = thermo('CO2');
```

thermo reads in parameters for the given species from the relevant parameter file (e.g. H2parameters.m). Next the thermodynamic state of object must be initialised by specifying the temperature and either molar volume or pressure. Examples:

```
>> th.Tvcalc(300,0.5)  
  
>> th.Tpcalc(300,250e5)
```

th.Tvcalc uses the model in `helmholtz.m` to calculate the molar Helmholtz free energy and its partial derivatives with respect to temperature T and molar volume v . It then populates the object with those derivatives as well as a set of thermodynamic properties such as molar enthalpy (`th.h`) and speed of sound (`th.c`). For a full list of properties, type

```
>> th.properties
```

Since the model is explicit in T and v , `th.Tvcalc` is fast and robust.

`th.Tpcalc` uses Newton's method to iterate on v to solve $p(T, v) = p$. Example for H₂:

```
>> th.Tpcalc(300,250e5)  
>> fprintf('Speed of sound : %4.0f m/s\n',th.c)  
Speed of sound : 1537 m/s
```

`th.Tpcalc` is quite fast and is robust except near the two-phase region. Here one should specify a relevant initial value for the molar volume.

A full list of methods available from the thermodynamic object is shown by typing:

```
>> th.methods
```

Type `help thermo.<method>` for method help text. Example:

```
>> help thermo.Tpcalc
Tpcalc(T,p,v0) : Solves of  $p(T,v) = p$  by Newton's method
v0: optional starting point for iteration. Default: Ideal gas value
```

Derivative order

By default, thermo calculates derivatives up to order two. Setting the property `max_order` to 3 forces the calculation of third order derivatives, at the cost of a longer calculation time.

Example:

```
>> th = thermo('H2O');
>> th.Tpcalc(400,1e5);th.f_TTT
ans =
     []
>> th.max_order=3;th.Tpcalc(400,1e5);th.f_TTT
ans =
    0.2000
>> T = linspace(400,500);v = linspace(10,40);
>> tic;for i = 1:100;th.Tvcalc(T(i),v(i));end;toc
Elapsed time is 0.025994 seconds.
>> th.max_order=2;
>> tic;for i = 1:100;th.Tvcalc(T(i),v(i));end;toc
Elapsed time is 0.013975 seconds.
```

Third order derivatives are sometimes needed to calculate jacobians for solving problems involving second order derivatives.

Saturation properties

The parameter files for include model parameters for the saturation pressure as a function of temperature. These models are compatible with the Helmholtz model. Syntax:

```
>> [ps,dpdT,vl,vv] = th.saturation(T);
```

To find other saturated properties, use `Tvcalc`.

Example: Find the liquid speed of sound for H₂O at 400K:

```
>> T = 400;
>> [ps,dpdT,vl,vv] = th.saturation(T);
>> th.Tvcalc(T,vl)
>> th.c
ans =
    1.5095e+03
```

(Note that this is the speed of sound assuming that no phase change takes place. The two-phase speed of sound is lower.)

For convenience, we also include the file `psat.m`, which can handle an array of T values, unlike `thermo.saturation`. Convenient for plotting the saturation curve.

Units

SI units are used throughout; with the exception that kmol is used instead of mol. Intrinsic variables are on a per kmol basis. Properties per kg are found by dividing by th.Mw.

Matlab applications

A small number of application cases are shipped together with the thermodynamic model:

`demo_fill_gas_tank.m`:

Pressure and temperature histories when filling of a H₂ gas tank at a constant rate.

`demo_gas_tank_system.m`:

Pressure and temperature histories when filling gas from one tank into another.

`demo_tank_leak.m`:

Leak from the vapour phase of a liquid H₂ tank. Demonstrates vapour/liquid equilibrium and both sonic (choked) and subsonic flow.

`twophase_region.m`:

Plots the two-phase envelope and selected isotherms in a v-p diagram.