

Given:

Liquid methane is commonly used in various cryogenic applications. The critical temperature of methane is 191 K and must be maintained below this temperature to remain in the liquid phase. Methane enters a pump at 110 K and 1 MPa and leaves at 120 K and 5 MPa.

$$T_{cr} := 191 \text{ K} \quad T_{in} := 110 \text{ K} \quad P_{in} := 1 \text{ MPa} \quad T_{out} := 120 \text{ K} \quad P_{out} := 5 \text{ MPa}$$

Required:

Determine the entropy change during this process by

- using the table given and
- using the Tds relations.

Solution:

Referring to the table @ $T_{in} = 110.0 \text{ K}$ and

$$P_{in} = 1.000 \text{ MPa shows}$$

$$s_{in} := 4.875 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}} \quad c_{p,in} := 3.471 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}}$$

Referring to the table @ $T_{out} = 120.0 \text{ K}$ and

$$P_{out} = 5.000 \text{ MPa shows}$$

$$s_{out} := 5.145 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}} \quad c_{p,out} := 3.486 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}}$$

Thus the change in entropy when using the tables is

$$\Delta s_{table} := s_{out} - s_{in} = 0.2700 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}} \quad (a)$$

The average c_p value over the process is found by

$$c_{p,avg} := \frac{c_{p,in} + c_{p,out}}{2} = 3.478 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}}$$

For an incompressible substance the change in entropy is given by

$$\Delta s_{Tds} := c_{p,avg} \cdot \ln \left(\frac{T_{out}}{T_{in}} \right) = 0.3027 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}} \quad (b)$$

The percent difference is found by

$$\%diff := \frac{|\Delta s_{table} - \Delta s_{Tds}|}{\Delta s_{table}} = 12.10 \%$$

Properties of Liquid Methane

Temp T, K	Pressure P, MPa	Density ρ , kg/m ³	Enthalpy h, kJ/kg	Entropy s, kJ/kg K	Specific Heat c_p , kJ/kg K
110	0.5	425.3	208.3	4.878	3.476
	1	425.8	209.0	4.875	3.471
	2	426.6	210.5	4.867	3.460
	5	429.1	215.0	4.844	3.432
120	0.5	410.4	243.4	5.185	3.551
	1	411.0	244.1	5.180	3.543
	2	412.0	245.4	5.171	3.528
	5	415.2	249.6	5.145	3.486