

**Given:**

Steam at 7 MPa and 450°C is throttled in a valve to a pressure of 3 MPa during a steady-flow process.

$$P_1 := 7 \text{ MPa} \quad T_1 := 450 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \quad P_2 := 3 \text{ MPa}$$

**Required:**

Determine the entropy generated during this process and whether it satisfies the Second Law of Thermodynamics.

**Solution:**

Starting with an entropy balance for a steady flow device shows

$$\frac{d}{dt} S_{sys} = \sum S'_{in} - \sum S'_{out} + S'_{gen}$$

$$0 = \sum S'_{in} - \sum S'_{out} + S'_{gen}$$

$$S'_{gen} = \sum S'_{out} - \sum S'_{in} = m' \cdot (s_2 - s_1)$$

The entropy generation on a specific basis is found by

$$s_{gen} = \frac{S'_{gen}}{m'} = \frac{m' \cdot (s_2 - s_1)}{m'} = s_2 - s_1$$

Going to Table A-5 @  $P_1 = 7000 \text{ kPa}$  shows

$$T_{sat} := 285.83 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$$

Since  $T_1 > T_{sat}$  the state is superheated. Going to Table A-6 @  $P_1 = 7.000 \text{ MPa}$  and  $T_1 = 450.0 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  shows

$$s_1 := 6.6353 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}} \quad h_1 := 3288.3 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}}$$

It's known for a throttling valve the enthalpy remains constant so

$$h_2 := h_1 = 3288 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}}$$

Going to Table A-5 @  $P_2 = 3000 \text{ kPa}$  shows

$$h_g := 2803.2 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}}$$

Since  $h_2 > h_g$  the state is superheated. Going to Table A-6 @  $P_2 = 3.000 \text{ MPa}$  and  $h_2 = 3288 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}}$  shows that interpolation is needed.

$$\begin{aligned} h_a &:= 3231.7 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}} & h_b &:= 3344.9 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}} \\ s_a &:= 6.9235 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}} & s_b &:= 7.0856 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}} \\ s_2 &:= \frac{h_2 - h_a}{h_b - h_a} \cdot (s_b - s_a) + s_a = 7.005 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}} \end{aligned}$$

The specific entropy generation is then

$$s_{gen} := s_2 - s_1 = 0.3693 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg K}}$$

The Second Law of Thermodynamics is satisfied because  $s_{gen}$  is not negative.

It should be noted that the increase in entropy is a result of unrestrained expansion.

