

## Solid-supercritical fluid phase equilibria

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**Abstract** - Different types of phase behavior observed in binary mixtures containing a solid and a supercritical fluid (SCF) are discussed at the supercritical fluid extraction conditions. The pressure-temperature (P-T) projection of the solid-liquid-gas (S-L-G) three-phase coexistence curves together with the equilibrium liquid phase composition (x) values were determined by the first freezing point (FFP) method. The equilibrium cell was useful for the determination of liquid-gas critical loci for the binary system, leading to the location of the upper critical end point. The FFP technique was extended to ternary mixtures containing two solids. The PT projection of solid<sub>1</sub>-solid<sub>2</sub>-liquid-gas (S<sub>1</sub>-S<sub>2</sub>-L-G) four-phase coexistence curves together with the x values of the two solids were successfully determined. In addition, methods for calculation of solid solubilities in SCF by means of cubic equations of state are presented.

### INTRODUCTION

Supercritical fluid extraction (SFE) is being developed as a practical separation process for the food, flavor, pharmaceutical, chemical and energy industries. The application of supercritical fluids (SCF) as extraction solvents is based on the observation of enhanced solubility of solids and liquids in the solvents. The application of the SFE technology often depends on our understanding of the phase behavior of mixtures in the critical region. While phase diagrams for binary fluid mixtures are classified into six categories and have been investigated in more detail (e.g. ref. 1-4), phase equilibria involving solids at SFE conditions have not been so well studied. The concern here deals with phase equilibria involving a SCF and one or two solids.

### PHASE DIAGRAMS OF BINARY AND TERNARY MIXTURES

There are two types of solid-SCF phase diagrams for binary mixtures. The triple point temperature of the solid under consideration is greater than the critical temperature of the SCF. There is no common range of temperature in which both pure components are in the liquid state. The simplest pressure-temperature (P-T) projection curve (Type I) is that for a mixture with the critical mixture curve runs continuously between the critical points of the two components. A continuous three-phase solid-liquid-gas (S-L-G) curve is observed. The phase behavior of the systems sodium chloride-water (ref. 5) and carbon dioxide-methane (ref. 6) follows Type I. Binary mixtures of Type I are of little interest to SFE operations. In this discussion emphasis is placed on the second class (Type II) of mixtures, in which the critical-mixture and the S-L-G curves are not continuous. Type II usually occurs for mixtures whose components are not chemically similar and differ considerably in size, shape and polarity. The lower-temperature branch of the SLG curve intersects the critical mixture curve at the lower critical end point (LCEP). The solubility of the solid in the vapor (or gas) phase increases very rapidly at the LCEP. However, the amount of solid in the SCF phase is rather low. The higher-temperature branch of the S-L-G curve begins at the triple point temperature of the solid and ends at the upper critical end point (UCEP), the intersection of the critical mixture curve and the S-L-G curve. The solid solubility is an extremely strong function of temperature and pressure in the UCEP region, at temperatures slightly below the UCEP temperature and in the vicinity of the UCEP pressure. Phase diagrams for Type II mixtures may be further classified into three categories according to the shape of the higher-temperature branch of the S-L-G curve:

Type IIa: The S-L-G curve has a negative slope. The phase behavior of the mixtures containing ethylene such as naphthalene-ethylene (ref. 7) and biphenyl-ethylene (ref. 8) belongs to this group.

Type Iib: The S-L-G curve has a temperature minimum below the triple point temperature of the solid and the UCEP temperature. The phase behavior of the mixtures containing carbon dioxide such as naphthalene-carbon dioxide and biphenyl - carbon dioxide (ref. 9-11) belongs to this group.

Type Iic: The S-L-G curve has a positive slope. The phase behavior of hydrogen-carbon dioxide (ref. 12) and neon-argon (ref. 13) at cryogenic conditions belongs to this group.

The pressure-temperature-composition (P-T-x) diagram as well as the pressure-temperature and pressure-composition projections of the P-T-x diagram of Type I and the three sub-groups of Type II are represented schematically in Fig. 1.

Experimental investigation of phase equilibria for ternary mixtures consisting a SCF and two nonvolatile solids is rather limited in spite of their practical usefulness. Koningsveld and Diepen (ref. 14) suggested that three main types of such ternary mixtures can be distinguished according to the extent of the existence of binary and ternary critical end points:

Type I: Systems without ternary critical end points (TCEP), but with binary critical end points (BCEP) of the SCF and one of the solids.

Type II: Systems without TCEP but with BCEP formed from the SCF with both of the solids.

Type III: Systems with BCEP and TCEP.

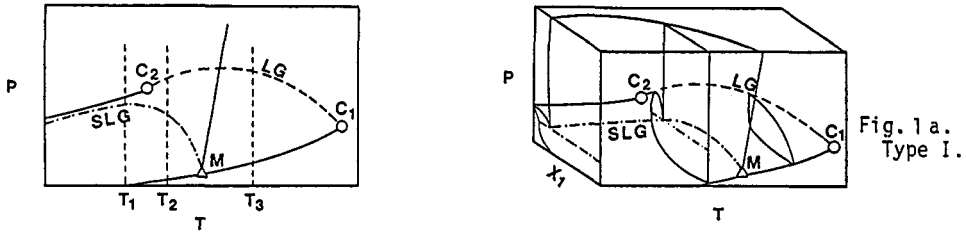
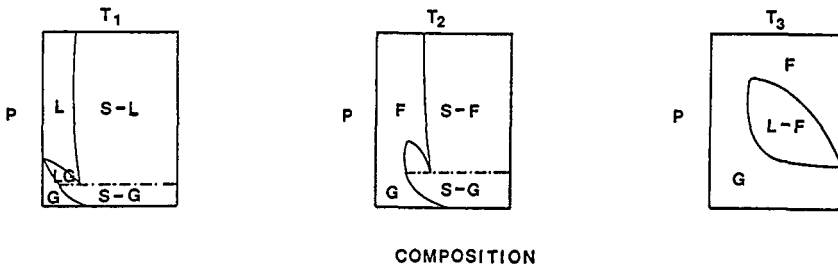


Fig. 1 a. Type I.



COMPOSITION

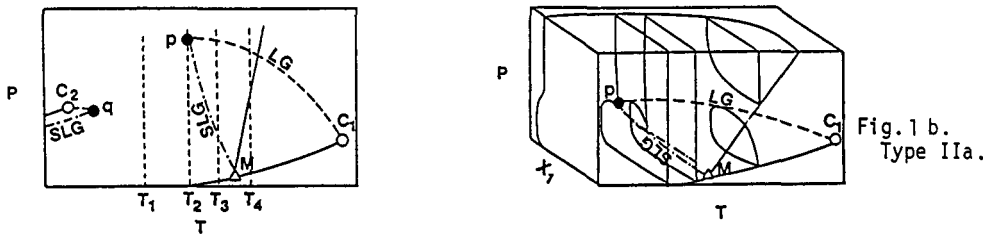
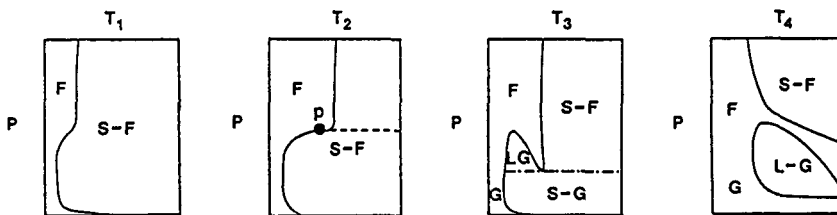


Fig. 1 b. Type IIa.



COMPOSITION

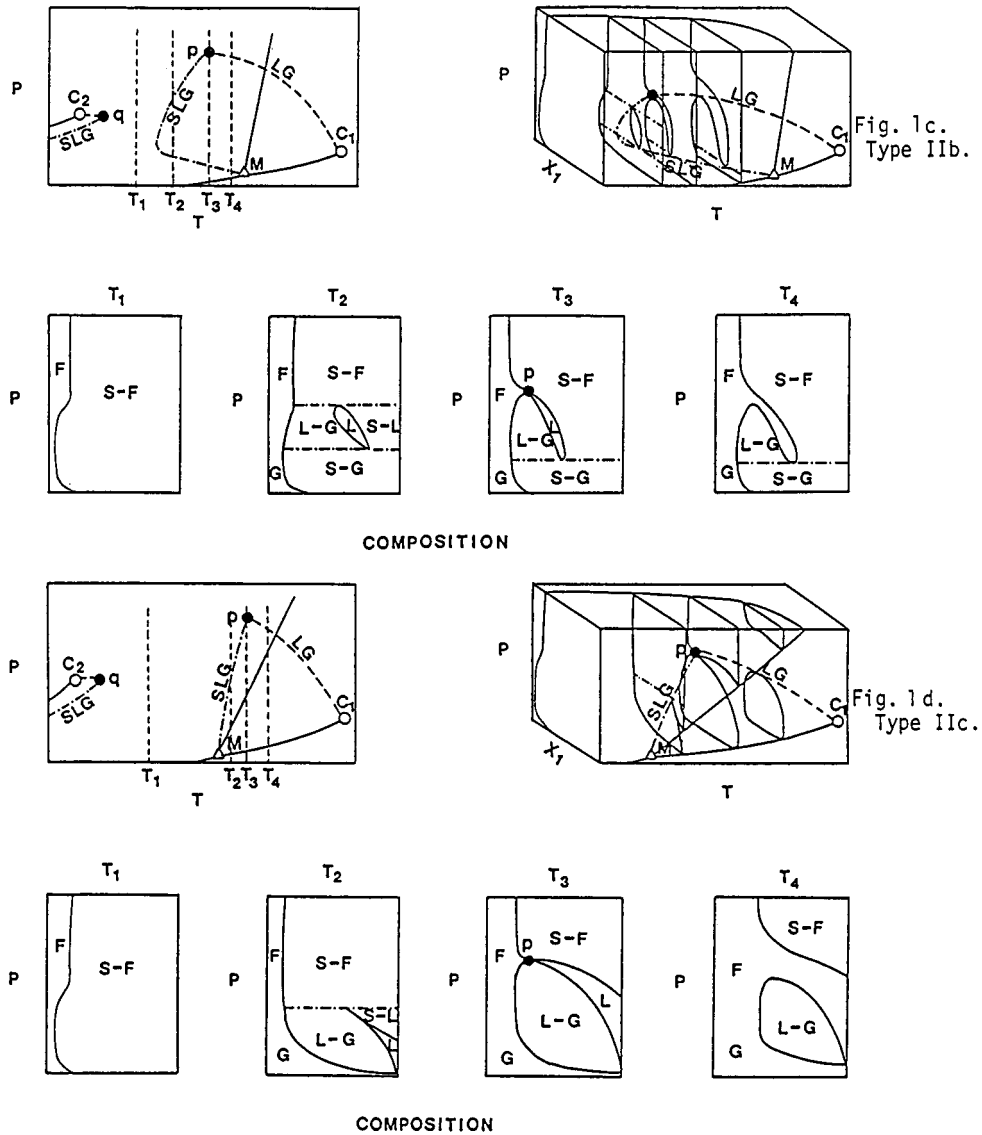


Fig. 1. Pressure-temperature-composition diagram and pressure-temperature and pressure-composition projections for binary mixtures with a supercritical fluid and a slightly volatile component. -----,  $L = G$  loci; - - - - - , three-phase  $S-L-G$  coexistence curve;  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ , critical points;  $M$ , triple point;  $p$ , upper critical end point;  $q$ , lower critical end point.

The phase behavior of Type III represents the most probable situation if the solubilities of both of the solids in the SCF are small (ref. 14, 15). For temperatures between the ternary LCEP and UCEP there are two solids in equilibrium with a fluid phase at any pressure. The two  $S_1-S_2-L-G$  four-phase coexistence curves, one ends with the ternary LCEP and the other with the ternary UCEP, form the boundaries for SFC operations. It should be mentioned that  $S_1-S_2-L-G$  curves reported in the literature are limited to very few systems (ref. 16, 17).

### FIRST FREEZING POINT METHOD FOR MULTIPHASE COEXISTENCE CURVE AND EQUILIBRIUM LIQUID COMPOSITION DETERMINATIONS

There is no lack of experimental effects in the determination of solubilities of solids in SCF with or without a co-solvent (entrainer). However, the experimental results on the multiphase coexistence curves ( $S-L-G$  for binary and  $S_1-S_2-L-G$  for ternary mixtures) are rather limited. Different techniques are described in the literature for determination of these multiphase coexistent curves. Van Welie and Diepen (ref. 18) made  $P-T$  measurements at various constant compositions. The intersections of the liquid-gas and the solid-gas

isopleths yield the P-T projection of the three-phase curve. In another approach (ref. 7, 9, 10), the P-T projection of the three-phase curve was determined by slowly increasing the temperature of an initial solid-gas condition at constant pressure until the solid begins to melt, and the temperature was taken to be the three-phase temperature. This is the so-called "first melting point" (FMP) method. In the approach of van Welie and Diepen (ref. 18), composition of both the liquid and the vapor phases along the three-phase curve were determined, but the procedure is tedious and time consuming. The FMP method is relatively straightforward. However, it would be difficult to determine the liquid phase composition. The uniformity of the liquid phase composition could not be ensured, because difficulties encountered in agitating the cell content at the first melting of the solid.

In an effort to improve the performance of the FMP method, a technique was developed in our laboratory for determination of the P-T projection of the S-L-G curve by observing the initial appearance of the solid phase. This technique was named as the "first freezing point" (FFP) method. The initial temperature of a liquid-gas condition was decreased slowly at constant pressure until the first appearance of the solid phase could be observed. It is preferred to start from the low pressure end for the determination of the coexistence curve. The results obtained for the systems naphthalene-carbon dioxide and biphenyl-carbon dioxide (ref. 11) were found to be more self consistent than the results obtained from the FMP method. Provisions were made with the apparatus for taking liquid samples at the three-phase condition. A schematic diagram is shown in Figure 2. Details of the operation procedure have been reported elsewhere (ref. 16). The P-T projection of S-L-G curves for four binary mixtures containing naphthalene, biphenyl, m-terphenyl and phenanthrene with the supercritical carbon dioxide is shown in Figure 3. The phase behavior of all of these four systems follows Type IIB of Fig. 1, as a temperature minimum occurs in the P-T projection. The FFP method has been extended to the determination of the four-phase ( $S_1$ - $S_2$ -L-G) coexistence curves for two ternary systems consisting of carbon dioxide and two solids (ref. 16).

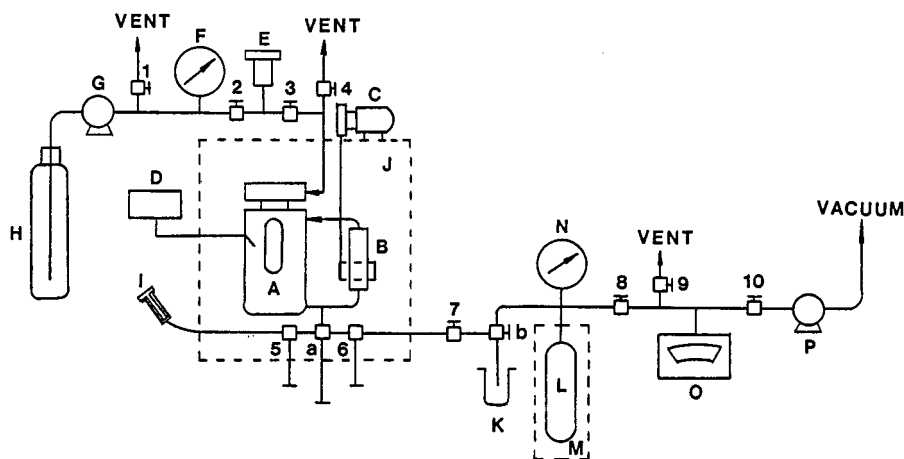


Fig. 2. Schematic diagram of apparatus. A- Dual window equilibrium cell; B- Magnetic pump; C- Variable-speed motor; D- Temperature indicator; E- Pressure transducer; F- Pressure gauge; G- Pressure intensifier; H- Liquid carbon dioxide cylinder; I- Syringe; J- Air bath; K- Solid sampler; L- Sample cylinder; M- Water bath; N- Pressure gauge; O- Thermocouple gauge; P- Vacuum pump; a, b - Three way valves; 1 to 10 - Valves.

For systems containing a SCF and a slightly volatile solid, very few systems have been investigated as far as the equilibrium liquid phase compositions along the three-phase coexistence curves are concerned. Other than the values reported by van Welie and Diepen (ref. 18, 19) for the systems naphthalene-ethylene and naphthalene-ethane, it appears that only data reported in the literature are those from our laboratory (ref. 11, 16) for the binary systems naphthalene-carbon dioxide, biphenyl-carbon dioxide and phenanthrene-carbon dioxide; and the ternary systems naphthalene-biphenyl-carbon dioxide and naphthalene-phenanthrene-carbon dioxide. The P-T-x values along the S-L-G curve for the binary system m-terphenyl-carbon dioxide are presented in Table 1 to serve as an example.

The liquid composition values along multiphase coexistence curves are useful for studying of phase diagrams and for testing and developing thermodynamic models for data representation, reduction and prediction. They are useful in the study of the relationship between the solubility of the SCF in the equilibrium liquid and the melting-point depression curve

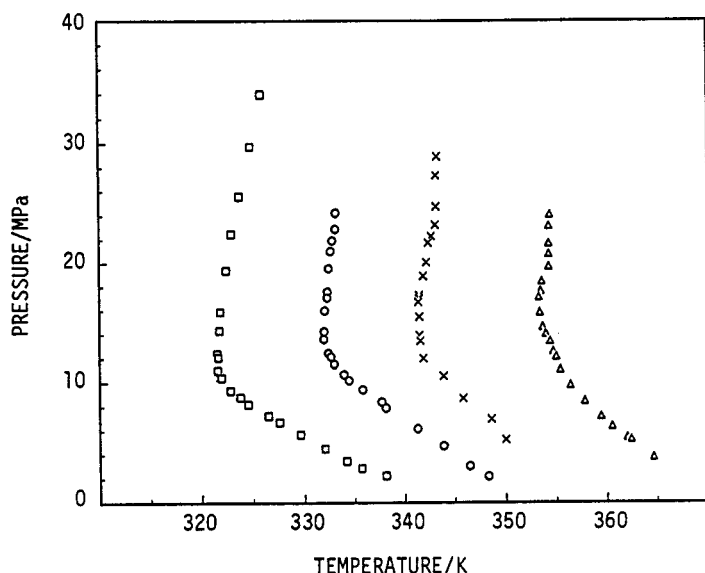


Fig. 3. Pressure-temperature projection of three-phase (S-L-G) coexistence curves for four binary mixtures

- Naphthalene-carbon dioxide
- Biphenyl - carbon dioxide
- × m-Terphenyl-carbon dioxide
- △ Phenanthrene-carbon dioxide

TABLE 1. P-T-x data of the three-phase coexistence curve for m-terphenyl(1)-CO<sub>2</sub>(2).

P/MPa	T/K	x <sub>1</sub>	P/MPa	T/K	x <sub>1</sub>
5.25	350.0	0.771	17.30	341.4	0.536
6.97	348.6	-	18.91	341.8	0.528
8.70	345.8	0.688	20.08	342.1	0.517
10.56	343.9	0.676	21.74	342.4	0.504
12.02	341.9	0.621	22.31	342.7	-
13.49	341.5	0.602	23.24	343.1	0.516
13.96	341.4	0.582	24.77	343.2	0.502
15.48	341.4	0.544	27.32	343.2	0.513
16.72	341.3	-	28.90	343.3	0.506
17.03	341.4	-			

(ref. 20). The P-T projection curves shown in Fig. 3 together with the liquid compositions of carbon dioxide  $x_2$  for these systems (Table 1 and ref. 11, 16) verify that the freezing-point depressions at the triple point of the solid are greater the higher the  $x_2$  values.

### DETERMINATION OF UCEP

The upper critical end point UCEP may be considered as a limit case in which the liquid-gas equilibrium (L = G) becomes identical with the S-L-G equilibrium. It is the intersection of the L = G loci and the S-L-G curves on the P-T projection. The location of UCEP plays an important role in the selection of operating conditions for SFE processes. The importance of knowing the UCEP location may be illustrated using the solubility of naphthalene in supercritical ethylene. The UCEP for this system was experimentally determined by van Gunst et al. (ref. 7) to be at 325.2 K and 17.64 MPa, using the intersection technique. The solubility data reported by Diepen and Scheffer (ref. 21) for the same system indicated that the isotherm of 323.2 K has a slight slope [i.e.  $(\partial P/\partial y)_T$  is small] in the vicinity of 17 to 18 MPa. In other words, the solubility enhancement of naphthalene in supercritical ethylene is very sensitive to a small change of pressure in the vicinity of the UCEP pressure. At the UCEP pressure,  $(\partial P/\partial y)_T = 0$ . Similar observation was obtained with the variation of temperature. Namely,  $(\partial T/\partial y)_P$  is small in the vicinity of the UCEP temperature and  $(\partial T/\partial y)_P = 0$  at the UCEP temperature. It is this sensitivity of the solubility with small changes in pressure or temperature in the vicinity of the UCEP that provides the opportunity for SFE processes.

In addition to the intersection method, McHugh and Paulaitis (ref. 22) estimated the UCEP for naphthalene and biphenyl in supercritical carbon dioxide based on the characteristics of the P-y curves, and McHugh and Yogan (ref. 10) determined the UCEP for several binary system by observing the pressure and temperature at which critical opalescence is observed along the S-L-G curve for a very slight change in either pressure or temperature.

The apparatus used in the FFP method as shown in Fig. 2 was used in our laboratory for

determination of the L = G critical loci for the naphthalene-carbon dioxide system. In the determination, bubble point pressure along the isotherms of 338.2, 343.2 and 348.2 K as well as the solubility of carbon dioxide in liquid naphthalene were measured. A brief description of the procedure is given here. The equilibrium cell A was purged with carbon dioxide before solid naphthalene was changed. The temperature of the air bath was raised until the solid in the cell was melted completely. Then the cell was purged again with carbon dioxide. The temperature of the air bath could be adjusted to the desired temperature  $\pm 0.05$  K. The temperature of the cell was monitored by two thermocouples. Liquid carbon dioxide was compressed by the pressure intensifier G, introduced to and vaporized in the cell until the pressure in the cell was brought to an appropriate level. The accuracy of the pressure measurement was estimated to be  $\pm 0.05$  MPa. The liquid mixture in the cell was recirculated by means of the magnetic pump B. The equilibrium condition was reached when there was no more change of the system pressure at the desired temperature. Sampling of the liquid phase was made 30 to 40 min. after the equilibrium pressure was reached. The accuracy of the liquid composition determination is estimated to be  $\pm 0.005$  mole fraction. For each isotherm, the experiments were carried out until the liquid-gas critical point was reached. At the critical point, the meniscus between the liquid and gas phases disappeared, the mixture in the cell turned scarlet and the critical opalescence reached its maximum intensity. When pressure of the system was further increased above the critical point, the scarlet color disappeared and only one phase existed in the cell.

TABLE 2. Solubility of carbon dioxide (2) in naphthalene (1).

T/K	$x_2$	P/MPa	$x_2$	P/MPa	$x_2$	P/MPa
348.2	0.09	2.23*	0.495	12.66	0.708	24.17
	0.185	4.12	0.535	14.08	0.711	24.25
	0.245	5.77	0.574	15.95	0.726	24.99
	0.299	7.39	0.576	16.00	0.741	25.46
	0.359	8.86	0.605	18.01	0.754	25.96
	0.424	10.41	0.635	20.05	0.787	26.26 (C.P.)
	0.425	10.46	0.667	22.11		
343.2	0.20	5.07*	0.571	13.51	0.708	22.55
	0.311	6.43	0.609	15.58	0.733	24.26
	0.312	6.46	0.638	17.62	0.773	25.74
	0.411	8.99	0.657	19.39	0.804	26.20 (C.P.)
	0.507	11.28	0.658	19.44		
338.2	0.32	7.90*	0.630	14.50	0.745	22.40
	0.483	10.12	0.666	16.18	0.763	24.01
	0.544	11.48	0.700	18.45	0.781	25.30
	0.590	12.94	0.711	20.06	0.822	26.10 (C.P.)

\* Interpolated from the S-L-G curve of the system (ref. 11)

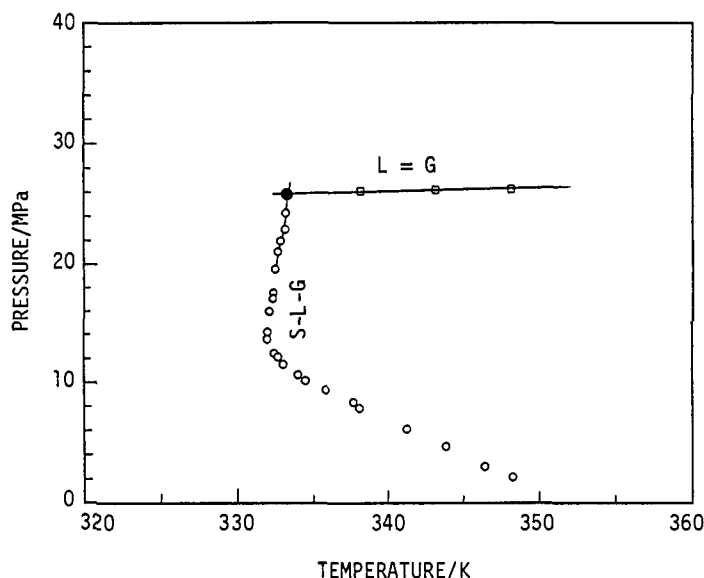


Fig. 4. Determination of the upper-critical-end-point for the naphthalene-carbon dioxide system by means of the intersection method.

The experimentally determined P-T-x values at the three temperatures for the naphthalene-carbon dioxide system are reported in Table 2. The P-T projections of the L = G critical loci and the S-L-G curve are presented in Fig. 4. The temperature and pressure of the UCEP for naphthalene-carbon dioxide were established to be 333.4 K and 25.9 MPa, respectively. The corresponding values reported in the literature are 336.2 K and 24.3 MPa (ref. 22), and 333.3 K and 25.6 MPa (ref. 10). Although the values obtained from the intersection method are more reliable, the estimated values obtained from the other two approaches appear to be close enough for engineering approximations.

### CALCULATION OF SOLID SOLUBILITIES IN SCF BY MEANS OF CUBIC EOS

The application of analytical expressions, such as an equation of state (EOS), to the representation of pressure-temperature-composition along the multiphase coexistence curves requires further studies. On the other hand, some improvements on the representation of solid solubilities have been achieved.

Solubility data at high pressures are needed to evaluate and design separation processes using supercritical fluids. Dynamic or flow methods, either single-pass or vapor-recirculation, and static methods have been used for determination of solubility of solids in SCF. It is desirable to minimize the experimental effort by methods of correlation and prediction. An expression directly relating the concentration of solute to the density of the extraction fluid or an EOS may be used to represent and estimate solubility data at SFE conditions. The relationship between the concentration of a solute in a compressed gas,  $c$ , and the gas density  $d$  proposed by Stahl *et al.* (ref. 23),

$$\ln c = m \ln d + \text{constant} \quad (1)$$

may serve as an example for the first approach. Recently, a five-parameter cubic EOS of the van der Waals type (ref. 24)

$$p = \frac{RT}{(V-b)} - \frac{a(V-c)}{(V-b)(V-d)(V+e)} \quad (2)$$

was developed specifically for representing pure-component volumetric properties. The parameters were generalized in terms of critical temperature  $T_c$  and the acentric factor  $\omega$ . In addition, individual parameters for carbon dioxide, ethylene, ethane and propane were presented for predicting volumetric behaviors in the critical region useful for calculating the quantity  $d$  of eqn. (1).

Many equations of state have been applied to the calculation of supercritical solubilities. Adachi and Lu (ref. 25) used the Redlich-Kwong (RK) equation as modified by Soave (SRK) (ref. 26), the Peng-Robinson (PR) equation (ref. 27) and the four-parameter equation proposed by Adachi *et al.* (ref. 28) for representing the binary solubility data for a number of solutes in supercritical carbon dioxide and ethylene. The solubilities of naphthalene and benzoic acid in these two gases were found to be satisfactorily represented by any one of these equations, but the solubilities of phenanthrene and anthracene in these two gases were not. Haselow *et al.* (ref. 29) evaluated eight cubic EOS and an eleven-parameter equation of the BWR type and concluded that these equations together with the classical one fluid mixing rules were not adequate for quantitative representation of supercritical solubility.

The solubility of a solid (1) in a compressed gas (2) may be expressed by

$$y_1 = p_1^S \exp [\tilde{V}_1^S (p - p_1^S) / RT] / p \phi_1 \quad (3)$$

with the assumptions that (i) the solubility of the gas in the solid is negligible and (ii) the solid volume remains practically constant. In eqn. (3),  $\tilde{V}_1^S$  is the molar volume of the solid,  $p_1^S$  is the vapor pressure of the solid and  $\phi_1$  is the fugacity coefficient of the solid in the gas phase. The quantity  $\phi_1$  is given by

$$RT \ln \phi_1 = \int_V^\infty [(\partial P / \partial n_1)_{T, V, n_2} - RT/V] dV - RT \ln Z \quad (4)$$

and can be calculated by means of an EOS.

In an effort to determine the controlling variable in the evaluation of the key quantity  $\phi_1$ , Adachi *et al.* (ref. 30) recently considered the VDW type cubic EOS of the form

$$P = RT/(V-b_1) - a/(V-b_2)(V-b_3) \quad (5)$$

with  $b_2 \neq b_3$ . Many simple cubic EOS can be represented by eqn. (5). The VDW equation is obtained by letting  $b_2 = b_3 = 0$ ; the Clausius equation,  $b_2 = b_3 = b_1 c$ ; the RK (or the SRK) equation,  $b_2 = 0$  and  $b_3 = b_1$ ; and the PR equation,  $b_2 = b_1(-1 + 2^{1/2})$  and  $b_3 = b_1(-1 - 2^{1/2})$ . In eqn. (5)

$$a = \Omega_a R^2 T_c^2 / P_c \quad (6)$$

$$b_k = \Omega_{bk} R T_c / P_c, \quad k = 1, 2, 3 \quad (7)$$

Using the conventional mixing rules for  $a$  and  $b_k$

$$a = \sum y_i y_j a_{ij}, \quad a_{ij} = (a_i a_j)^{1/2} (1 - k_{ij}) \quad (8)$$

$$b_k = \sum y_i b_{ki}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3 \quad (9)$$

The expression for  $\ln \phi_1$  is obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \phi_1 = & \ln[RT/P(V-b_1)] + b_{11}/(V-b_1) + [2\sum y_j a_{1j}/RT(b_2-b_3)] \ln[(V-b_2)/(V-b_3)] \\ & - [a/RT(b_2-b_3)] [b_{21}/(V-b_2) - b_{31}/(V-b_3)] \\ & - \{[a(b_{21}-b_{31})]/[RT(b_2-b_3)^2]\} \ln[(V-b_2)/(V-b_3)] \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

The characteristics of the quantities involved in eqn. (10) based on an earlier study (ref. 31) are:

1. The mixture terms  $(b_2-b_3)$ ,  $(V-b_1)$ ,  $(V-b_2)$  and  $(V-b_3)$  are functions of the parameters "a" of the mixture,  $a_{mix}$ .
2. The quantities  $b_{21}$  and  $b_{31}$  (the pure-component parameters  $b_2$  and  $b_3$  for the solid) are functions of  $\Omega_{a1}$  and  $b_{11}$ . Their values are fixed when  $\Omega_{a1}$  and  $b_{11}$  are specified.
3. The parameter  $b_k$  of the SCF ( $b_{12}$ ,  $b_{22}$  and  $b_{32}$ ) do not play a role in the calculation of  $\phi_1$ .

Consequently,  $\phi_1$  of eqn. (10) is controlled by  $a_{mix}$  and  $b_{11}$ . In other words, it is controlled by  $\Omega_a$  of both of the components,  $k_{ij}$  of eqn. (8) and the covolume of the solid  $b_{11}$  (or  $\Omega_{b11}$ ). The effect of  $\Omega_{b11}$  on the solubility of fluorene in carbon dioxide using the

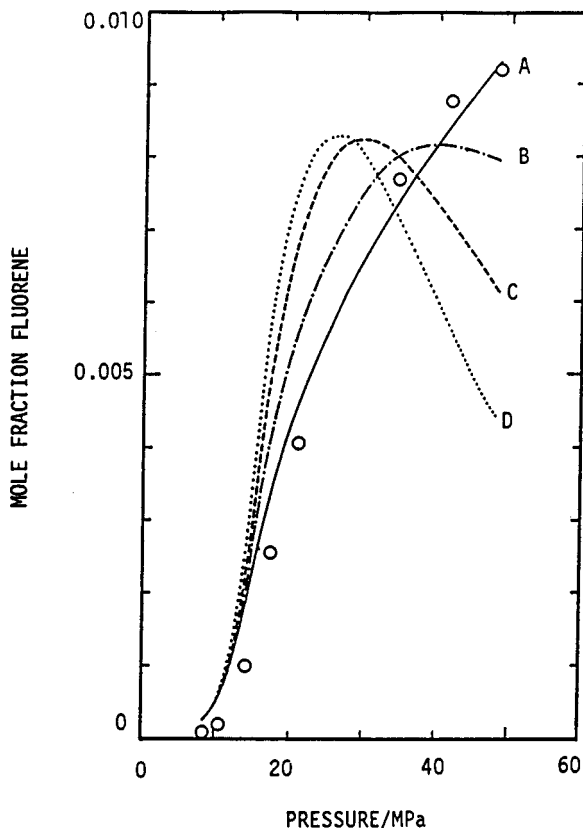


Fig. 5. Representation of solubility of fluorene in carbon dioxide at 343.15 K (ref. 32) using the Peng-Robinson equation. Curve A:  $\Omega_{b11} = 0.0405$ ,  $k_{12} = 0.222$ ; Curve B:  $\Omega_{b11} = 0.0574$ ,  $k_{12} = 0.193$ ; Curve C (original PR):  $\Omega_{b11} = 0.0778$ ,  $k_{12} = 0.162$ ; Curve D:  $\Omega_{b11} = 0.0984$ ,  $k_{12} = 0.136$ .



PR equation is illustrated in Fig. 5. A better representation was achieved with a judiciously selected value of  $b_{11}$ .

Yamamoto *et al.* (ref. 33) pointed out that mixing rules are more important than the selection of EOS. Adachi *et al.* (ref. 30) replaced the mole fraction terms of eqns. (6) and (7) by means of a "characteristic fraction"  $\theta$ ,

$$\theta_i = x_i \gamma_i / \sum x_i \gamma_i \quad (11)$$

where  $\gamma$  is the characteristic parameter of component  $i$ . Hence,

$$a = \sum \sum \theta_i \theta_j a_{ij}, \quad a_{ij} = (a_i a_j)^{\frac{1}{2}} (1 - k_{ij}) \quad (12)$$

$$b_k = \sum \theta_i b_{ki}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3 \quad (13)$$

and  $\ln \phi_1$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \phi_1 = & \ln[RT/P(V-b_1)] + [b_1 + (b_{11} - b_1) \gamma_1 / \sum x_i \gamma_i] / (V-b_1) \\ & + \{ [a(1 + \gamma_1 / \sum x_i \gamma_i) + n(\partial a / \partial n_1)] / [RT(b_2 - b_3)] - \\ & [a(b_{21} - b_{31}) \gamma_1 / \sum x_i \gamma_i] / [RT(b_2 - b_3)^2] \} \cdot \ln[(V-b_2)/(V-b_3)] \\ & - a / [RT(b_2 - b_3)] \{ [b_2 + (b_{21} - b_2) \gamma_1 / \sum x_i \gamma_i] / (V-b_2) \\ & - [b_3 + (b_{31} - b_3) \gamma_1 / \sum x_i \gamma_i] / (V-b_3) \} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

In which  $n = \sum n_i$  and  $x_i = n_i/n$ . The difference between the calculated values obtained from the "characteristic fraction" approach and those obtained from the "mole fraction" approach on the solubility of phenanthrene in carbon dioxide using the PR equation is shown in Fig. 6. The new approach reduces the deviations and yields a correct trend for the variation of  $y_1$  with pressure.

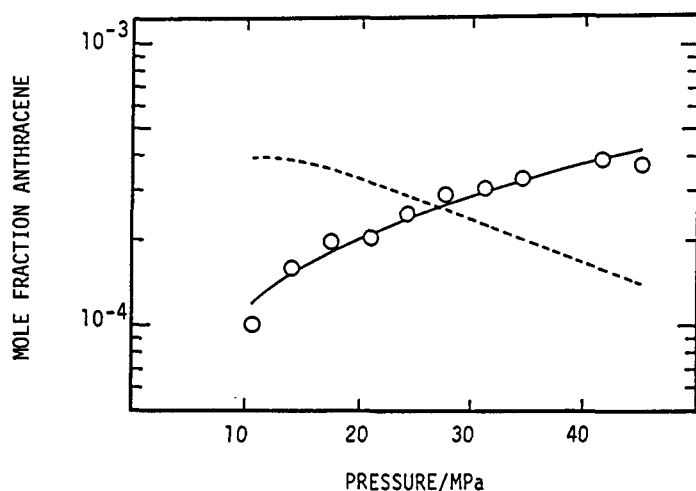


Fig. 6. Comparison of calculated solubility of anthracene in ethane at 323.15 K (ref. 32) using the Peng-Robinson equation. — characteristic fraction, ---- mole fraction.

The calculated results (ref. 30) indicate that by treating  $\omega_{b11}$  as a variable or by replacing mole fractions with characteristic fractions improve the ability of simple cubic EOS to describe solid solubilities in SCF, but the selection of EOS is not crucial.

### CONCLUDING REMARKS

The available data indicate that there is a temperature minimum on the multiphase coexistence curve for the binary and ternary systems with carbon dioxide as the supercritical fluid and naphthalene, biphenyl, *m*-terphenyl, phenanthrene and octacosane as the slightly volatile component(s); and that there is no temperature minimum on the multiphase coexistence curve for the binary and ternary systems with ethylene as the supercritical fluid and naphthalene, biphenyl, hexachloroethane and octacosane as the slightly volatile component(s).

The first freezing point appears to be suitable for the determination of multiphase coexistence curves for binary and ternary system leading to the upper critical end point.

The representation of solubility data by adjusting the parameter  $b_1$  for the solid or by applying an empirical "characteristic fraction" seems to be promising.

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