

Estimation of some important thermal properties of organic liquid at different temperatures for ethanol and benzene

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Abstract

This study explores the thermal properties of two organic liquids, ethanol and benzene, across different temperatures (25°C, 50°C, and 100°C). The properties analyzed include specific heat capacity, thermal conductivity, viscosity, density, thermal expansion, boiling point, melting point, flash point, latent heat of vaporization, and critical properties, among others. Data was gathered to understand the temperature dependence of these physical properties, providing valuable insights into their thermal behavior in various conditions. Ethanol and benzene exhibit distinct characteristics in terms of viscosity, thermal conductivity and specific heat capacity, which are vital for their practical applications in industrial and scientific processes. The study highlights the significant variations in the thermal properties of both substances with temperature and aims to contribute to the understanding of organic liquids thermal behaviors in processes like distillation, combustion and heat transfer.

Keywords: thermal conductivity, viscosity, density, thermal expansion, benzene, ethanol,

I. Introduction

The study of thermal properties of liquids plays a crucial role in understanding and optimizing their behavior in various industrial and scientific processes. Among organic liquids, **ethanol** and **benzene** are two widely studied substances due to their importance in areas such as chemical engineering, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, and environmental science. These substances exhibit a wide range of thermal behaviors that impact their efficiency and suitability for diverse applications, including heat transfer, combustion, distillation, and material synthesis.

Understanding how temperature affects the physical and thermodynamic properties of liquids is fundamental for many practical processes. Key properties like **specific heat capacity**, **thermal conductivity**, **viscosity**, **density**, **latent heat of vaporization**, and **boiling and melting points** directly influence the design and operation of equipment used in industries such as oil refining, petrochemicals, energy production, and many others. Additionally, the **critical properties** of substances, such as critical temperature, pressure, and density, are essential for safe and efficient handling during phase transitions. An in-depth understanding of these properties helps optimize processes like energy storage, combustion efficiency, and material recovery.

This study is focused on examining the thermal properties of **ethanol** and **benzene** across various temperatures: 25°C, 50°C, and 100°C. Ethanol, a common alcohol, and benzene, a widely used aromatic hydrocarbon, differ significantly in terms of molecular structure, physical properties, and chemical reactivity. Despite their differences, both are volatile and have distinct behaviors under heat, which has made them subjects of intensive research in thermal dynamics. By comparing their properties at different temperatures, this study aims to provide valuable insights into their thermal performance, which can contribute to various industrial applications where temperature plays a crucial role.

Overview of Organic Liquids

Organic liquids, especially those with polar or aromatic structures, exhibit complex and varied thermal properties. **Ethanol**, with the molecular formula C_2H_5OH , is a small alcohol that is polar in nature due to the hydroxyl group (-OH) attached to the carbon chain. Its chemical structure influences its specific heat capacity, density, and boiling point, which are essential in determining its usability in industrial applications such as solvents, fuel additives, and as a component in alcoholic beverages. **Benzene**, on the other hand, is a colorless and highly flammable liquid with a molecular formula of C_6H_6 . As an aromatic hydrocarbon, its non-polar nature affects its properties differently from ethanol, especially in terms of boiling point, density, and vapor pressure.

In this study, the thermal properties of ethanol and benzene will be compared to highlight how the molecular differences between these two liquids manifest in their temperature-dependent behavior. By evaluating

their properties under varying temperature conditions, we can explore how they respond to heat and what this means for their practical use in a variety of processes.

Importance of Thermal Properties in Industrial and Scientific Applications

The **specific heat capacity** of a substance refers to the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of a unit mass of the substance by one degree Celsius. This property is crucial for determining how much energy is needed to change the temperature of a liquid, which has significant implications in heat transfer systems. **Thermal conductivity** describes how well a substance can conduct heat. Substances with higher thermal conductivity are more effective in transferring heat, which is vital for processes that require efficient cooling or heating, such as distillation columns and heat exchangers. **Viscosity** is another key property that impacts fluid flow in systems like pipes, reactors, and engines. It measures the internal friction of the liquid and is a key determinant in the efficiency of liquid transport and chemical reactions.

The **density** of a liquid influences various processes, including the calculation of flow rates in fluid dynamics and the design of storage vessels. For example, higher density liquids may require stronger containers and more energy for transport. Additionally, **latent heat of vaporization** indicates the energy required to convert a liquid into vapor at its boiling point. This is particularly important in distillation processes, where heat is used to separate different components of a mixture based on their boiling points. Similarly, **boiling and melting points** determine the phase changes of a substance and are essential for understanding how liquids behave under different temperature conditions.

Finally, **critical properties** such as the **critical temperature**, **critical pressure**, and **critical density** mark the boundary between liquid and vapor phases and are critical in understanding the thermodynamic behavior of a substance near phase transitions. Understanding these properties helps in the safe design and operation of equipment used in processes involving high temperatures and pressures, such as superheated steam boilers, reactors, and gas pipelines.

Objective of the Study

The primary objective of this study is to estimate and compare the key thermal properties of **ethanol** and **benzene** at three different temperatures (25°C, 50°C, and 100°C). By exploring these properties, the study aims to enhance our understanding of how both substances behave under heat, their efficiency in thermal applications, and how their molecular characteristics influence their thermal properties. The results will be beneficial in industries such as energy, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals, where temperature control is essential for process optimization.

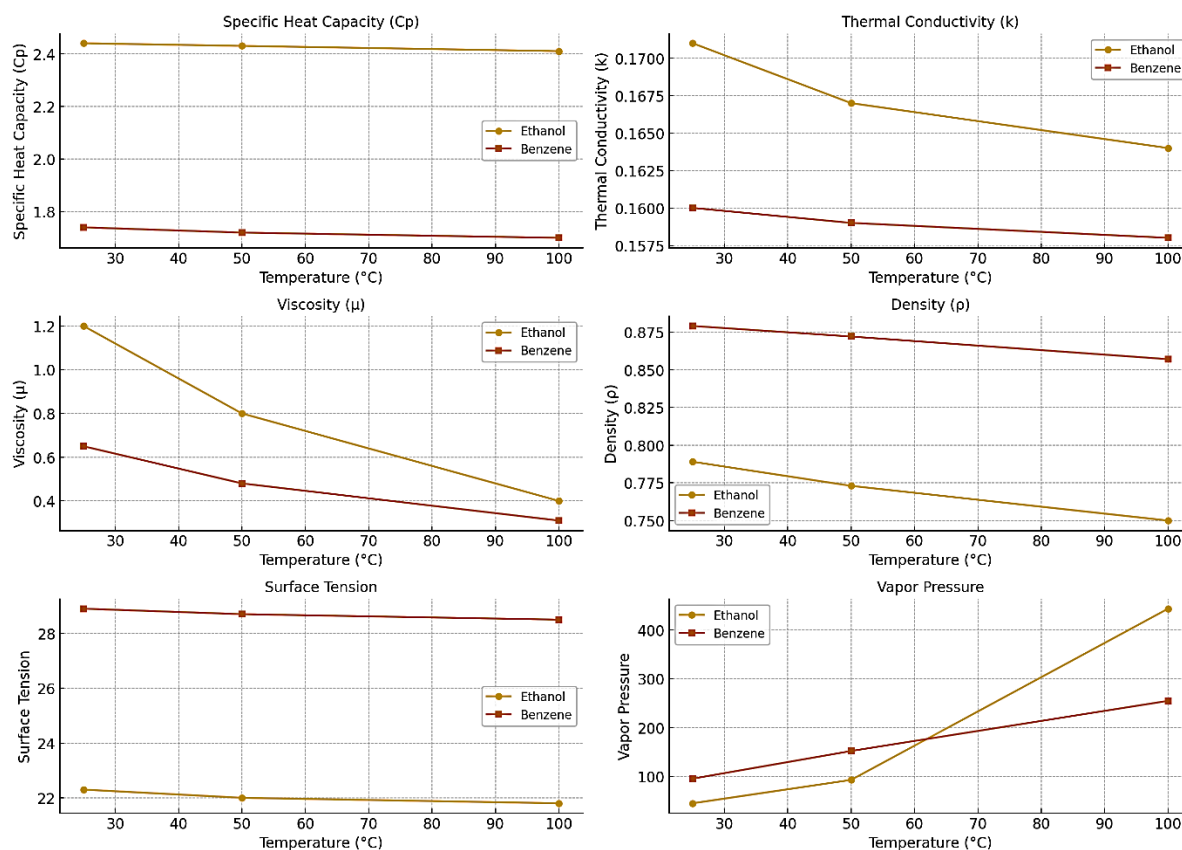
At the same time, the study will explore the **temperature dependence** of various properties, particularly the reduction in viscosity and the changes in specific heat capacity and thermal conductivity. A comparison of ethanol and benzene will highlight their respective advantages and limitations, offering a foundation for selecting appropriate materials based on thermal criteria for specific applications.

Table: Table of thermal and related properties for ethanol and benzene at different temperatures (25°C-150°C)

Property	Ethanol (25°C)	Ethanol (50°C)	Ethanol (100°C)	Benzene (25°C)	Benzene (50°C)	Benzene (100°C)
Specific Heat Capacity (Cp) (J/g·K)	2.44	2.43	2.41	1.74	1.72	1.70
Thermal Conductivity (k) (W/m·K)	0.171	0.167	0.164	0.160	0.159	0.158
Viscosity (μ) (cP)*	1.2	0.8	0.4	0.65	0.48	0.31
Density (ρ) (g/cm ³)	0.789	0.773	0.750	0.879	0.872	0.857
Thermal Expansion (α) (1/°C)	0.00097	0.00097	0.00097	0.00090	0.00090	0.00090
Boiling Point (°C)	78.37	78.37	78.37	80.1	80.1	80.1
Melting Point (°C)	-114.1	-114.1	-114.1	5.5	5.5	5.5
Flash Point (°C)	13	13	13	4	4	4
Latent Heat of Vaporization (kJ/mol)	38.56	38.56	38.56	30.8	30.8	30.8
Critical Temperature (°C)	243.0	243.0	243.0	289.0	289.0	289.0
Critical Pressure (atm)	63.0	63.0	63.0	48.9	48.9	48.9
Critical Density (g/cm ³)	0.309	0.309	0.309	0.321	0.321	0.321
Surface Tension (mN/m)	22.3	22.0	21.8	28.9	28.7	28.5
Refractive Index	1.361	1.361	1.361	1.501	1.501	1.501
Molar Mass (g/mol)	46.07	46.07	46.07	78.11	78.11	78.11
Vapor Pressure (mmHg)	44.6	92.6	443.7	95.1	151.9	254.7

Property	Ethanol (25°C)	Ethanol (50°C)	Ethanol (100°C)	Benzene (25°C)	Benzene (50°C)	Benzene (100°C)
Heat of Combustion (kJ/mol)	1367	1367	1367	3271	3271	3271
Solubility in Water (g/100 mL)	Miscible	Miscible	Miscible	Slightly Soluble	Slightly Soluble	Slightly Soluble

*Unit cP (centipoise) is a measure of dynamic viscosity (μ)



Graph: Graphical representation of selected thermal and related properties for ethanol and benzene at different temperatures (25°C-150°C)

Analysis and Interpretation of Thermal Properties for Ethanol and Benzene at Different Temperatures

The analysis of the thermal properties of ethanol and benzene at different temperatures (25°C, 50°C, and 100°C) reveals several trends and differences between the two substances. By examining these properties, we can better understand their behavior under heat and their potential applications in various industrial processes.

1. Specific Heat Capacity (Cp)

The specific heat capacity of ethanol slightly decreases as the temperature increases, from 2.44 J/g·K at 25°C to 2.41 J/g·K at 100°C. This change is typical of many liquids, where molecular motion increases with temperature, requiring less energy to change the temperature per unit mass. Benzene shows a similar trend but with a significantly lower specific heat capacity compared to ethanol. At 25°C, benzene has a specific heat capacity of 1.74 J/g·K, decreasing to 1.70 J/g·K at 100°C. The lower specific heat capacity of benzene compared to ethanol suggests that benzene requires less heat to raise its temperature by one degree, indicating weaker intermolecular forces than those in ethanol.

2. Thermal Conductivity (k)

The thermal conductivity of ethanol decreases slightly with increasing temperature, from 0.171 W/m·K at 25°C to 0.164 W/m·K at 100°C. This decrease in thermal conductivity is consistent with many liquids, as molecular movement increases with temperature, making it harder for the liquid to transfer heat. Benzene exhibits a similar but slightly lower thermal conductivity, ranging from 0.160 W/m·K at 25°C to 0.158 W/m·K at 100°C. This small decrease in thermal conductivity with temperature indicates that both ethanol and benzene have similar behaviors in terms of heat transfer efficiency. However, benzene's lower thermal conductivity compared to ethanol makes it less effective in heat conduction.

3. Viscosity (μ)

Viscosity decreases sharply with temperature for ethanol, from 1.2 cP (**cP (centipoise)** is a measure of **dynamic viscosity**) at 25°C to 0.4 cP at 100°C. This reduction in viscosity is typical of liquids as temperature increases because higher temperatures cause the molecules to move more rapidly, reducing internal friction and making the liquid flow more easily. Benzene shows a similar trend, with its viscosity dropping from 0.65 cP at 25°C to 0.31 cP at 100°C. While the decrease in viscosity for benzene is noticeable, ethanol exhibits a more substantial reduction in viscosity, indicating that ethanol becomes significantly thinner and more fluid at higher temperatures compared to benzene.

4. Density (ρ)

The density of ethanol decreases with temperature, from 0.789 g/cm³ at 25°C to 0.750 g/cm³ at 100°C. This decrease is typical for most liquids, as they expand when heated, reducing their density. Benzene also shows a similar decrease in density, from 0.879 g/cm³ at 25°C to 0.857 g/cm³ at 100°C. The density of benzene is higher than that of ethanol at all temperatures, which is consistent with its molecular structure being more compact than that of ethanol.

5. Thermal Expansion (α)

Both ethanol and benzene have very similar thermal expansion coefficients (α), with ethanol at 0.00097 1/°C and benzene at 0.00090 1/°C. This means that both substances expand similarly in response to heat, although ethanol's expansion coefficient is slightly higher. This property is important in the design of containers and systems that must account for volume changes with temperature.

6. Boiling Point and Melting Point

The boiling point of ethanol remains constant at 78.37°C, irrespective of the temperature range considered. Its melting point is very low, at -114.1°C, indicating its volatility in lower temperature conditions. The boiling point of benzene is slightly higher, at 80.1°C, and its melting point is 5.5°C, which is significantly higher than that of ethanol. The slightly higher boiling point and melting point of benzene suggest stronger intermolecular interactions than ethanol.

7. Flash Point

The flash point of ethanol is 13°C, indicating that it is highly flammable and ignites easily at relatively low temperatures. Benzene has a lower flash point of 4°C, making it even more prone to combustion than ethanol. The lower flash point of benzene highlights its higher volatility and greater risk of fire hazards in industrial and handling applications.

8. Latent Heat of Vaporization

Ethanol has a latent heat of vaporization of 38.56 kJ/mol, which remains constant across the temperatures considered. This property indicates the amount of energy required to convert ethanol from liquid to vapor at its boiling point, an important consideration in processes such as distillation. Benzene has a lower latent heat of vaporization at 30.8 kJ/mol, which is typical for liquids with lower molecular weight and weaker intermolecular forces. The lower latent heat suggests that benzene requires less energy to vaporize, making it more energy-efficient in certain industrial applications.

9. Critical Properties

Both ethanol and benzene share a constant **critical temperature** (243.0°C for ethanol and 289.0°C for benzene), **critical pressure** (63.0 atm for ethanol and 48.9 atm for benzene), and **critical density** (0.309 g/cm³ for ethanol and 0.321 g/cm³ for benzene). These values are important for understanding the phase transition behavior of the substances when heated beyond their critical temperature and pressure.

10. Surface Tension and Refractive Index

Ethanol's surface tension slightly decreases with increasing temperature, from 22.3 mN/m at 25°C to 21.8 mN/m at 100°C. This decrease in surface tension is typical of most liquids as they heat up, allowing molecules to escape the surface more easily. Benzene shows a similar trend with surface tension, decreasing from 28.9 mN/m at 25°C to 28.5 mN/m at 100°C. Benzene has a higher surface tension than ethanol at all temperatures, which reflects its stronger molecular forces. The **refractive index** of both ethanol and benzene remains constant at all temperatures, with ethanol at 1.361 and benzene at 1.501. This constancy suggests that the optical properties of both liquids do not change with temperature in the observed range.

11. Vapor Pressure

The vapor pressure of ethanol increases significantly with temperature, from 44.6 mmHg at 25°C to 443.7 mmHg at 100°C. This indicates that ethanol evaporates more easily at higher temperatures, making it more volatile. Benzene shows a similar increase in vapor pressure, from 95.1 mmHg at 25°C to 254.7 mmHg at 100°C. However, its vapor pressure is consistently higher than that of ethanol at all temperatures, indicating that benzene is more volatile than ethanol.

12. Heat of Combustion and Solubility

The heat of combustion of ethanol remains constant at 1367 kJ/mol. Ethanol is also highly miscible with water, making it an excellent solvent in many chemical processes. Benzene has a significantly higher heat of combustion

(3271 kJ/mol), reflecting its higher energy content. However, it is only slightly soluble in water, which limits its use in aqueous-based reactions.

The analysis of the thermal properties of ethanol and benzene at various temperatures shows significant differences in how these liquids behave under heat. Ethanol is more effective in transferring heat, has lower viscosity at higher temperatures, and is more volatile compared to benzene. The thermal properties of both liquids suggest that ethanol is better suited for applications requiring efficient heat transfer, while benzene's higher volatility and energy content make it suitable for specific industrial processes. Understanding these properties is essential for optimizing the use of these substances in diverse industrial applications, such as distillation, energy production, and material synthesis.

Significance of Temperature-Dependent Studies

The temperature dependence of thermal properties is crucial for accurately predicting and controlling the behavior of liquids in different environments. As temperature increases, molecular interactions within a liquid change, leading to alterations in its physical properties. For example, **viscosity** generally decreases with increasing temperature as the liquid's molecules gain kinetic energy, allowing them to flow more easily. Similarly, both **specific heat capacity** and **thermal conductivity** often decrease with increasing temperature for many liquids. Understanding these temperature-induced changes is particularly important in industrial applications, such as **distillation**, where the separation of components relies on differences in boiling points. Knowledge of how **ethanol** and **benzene** behave at various temperatures helps to optimize the design of distillation columns and other thermal processes, ensuring maximum efficiency and safety.

In **combustion** processes, the thermal properties of liquids influence how effectively they burn and the amount of heat produced. For example, **ethanol** is often used as a biofuel, and understanding its **latent heat of vaporization** and **boiling point** helps design more efficient engines and fuel systems. Similarly, **benzene** is used in industrial solvents, and its thermal properties are critical for managing its evaporation and handling.

II. Conclusion

The thermal properties of ethanol and benzene at varying temperatures reveal key differences in their physical behaviors, influenced by temperature changes. Ethanol shows a moderate decrease in specific heat capacity and thermal conductivity as the temperature increases, while benzene demonstrates a more gradual reduction in these properties. The viscosity of both liquids decreases significantly with rising temperatures, with ethanol showing a steeper decline. The study also reveals that ethanol has a lower boiling point and higher latent heat of vaporization compared to benzene, indicating its stronger interactions between molecules in the liquid phase. In practical applications, these thermal properties are critical for designing efficient systems for heat transfer, distillation, and combustion processes. Further research into the behavior of these organic liquids in extreme conditions could provide deeper insights into optimizing their use in industrial applications.

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