

A Model for Extending the Analysis of the Heptanes Plus Fraction for Trinidad Gas Condensates

Raffie Hosein ^{a,ψ}, and Rayadh Mayrhoo ^b

Petroleum Studies Unit, Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, The University of The West Indies,
St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies

^aE-mail: Raffie.Hosein@sta.uwi.edu

^bE-mail: rayzee_m@hotmail.com

^ψ - Corresponding Author

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Abstract: An accurate description of pseudo-component compositions is required for Equation of State predictions for gas condensate systems. These extended experimental data are often unavailable and must be generated using mathematical models, of which the exponential and the three-parameter gamma distribution functions are the two most widely used. The development of these two techniques was based on the assumption of a continuous molar relationship for pseudo-components. However, experimental compositional data for gas condensate systems show discontinuities in this relationship at Single Carbon Number (SCN) 8 and 13. The models when applied to extend the heptanes plus (C_{7+}) fraction for Trinidad gas condensates, under-predict the SCN8 mole percent and over-predict the SCN12 mole percent due to the aforementioned discontinuities. The Average Absolute Deviation between the predicted and experimental SCN8 and SCN12 data were both greater than 25 percent. The two-coefficient method described by Ahmed et al. (1985), when applied to extend the C_{7+} fraction, reduced the discontinuity at SCN8 to less than 12 percent. However the SCN12 group still had a deviation greater than 18 percent. These results show that existing models were not designed to take care of these discontinuities and should be used with caution when extending experimental data beyond SCN 7. The Model described in this study resolves these discontinuities in the molar relationships at both SCN8 and SCN12 with an Average Absolute Deviation between the predicted and experimental compositions of less than 10 percent. This model can quite easily be included in Equation of State packages for a more accurate description of compositions for Trinidad gas condensates for performing compositional simulation studies. A partial analysis beyond the C_{7+} fraction is not required with this new model.

Keywords: Trinidad, gas condensate, plus fraction, Single Carbon Number (SCN), extended analysis, coefficient model