

## **Solution of a System of Nonlinear Algebraic Equations (NLE) with POLYMATH and MATLAB, Parametric Studies with MATLAB**

A system of nonlinear algebraic equations is defined by:

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$$

where  $\mathbf{f}$  is an  $n$  vector of functions,  $\mathbf{x}$  is an  $n$  vector of unknowns. Note that the number of equations is equal to the number of the unknowns.

Typical examples belonging to this category include:

- ❖ Bubble Point, dew point and isothermal flash calculations for non-ideal multi-component mixtures
- ❖ Adiabatic flash calculations for multi-component mixtures
- ❖ Flow distribution in pipeline networks.
- ❖ Complex chemical equilibrium calculations.
- ❖ Material and energy balance for multi-stage, multi-component systems

## Complex Chemical Equilibrium – Problem Statement

The following reactions are taking place in a constant volume, gas-phase batch reactor:



A system of algebraic equations describes the equilibrium of the preceding reactions. The nonlinear equilibrium relationships utilize the thermodynamic equilibrium expressions, and the linear relationships have been obtained from the stoichiometry of the reactions.

$$K_{C1} = \frac{C_C C_D}{C_A C_B} \quad K_{C2} = \frac{C_X C_Y}{C_B C_C} \quad K_{C3} = \frac{C_Z}{C_A C_X}$$

$$C_A = C_{A0} - C_D - C_Z \quad C_B = C_{B0} - C_D - C_Y$$

$$C_C = C_D - C_Y \quad C_Y = C_X + C_Z$$

## Complex Chemical Equilibrium – Problem Statement

The equilibrium coefficients  $K_{C1}$ ,  $K_{C2}$  and  $K_{C3}$  can be expressed as function of the temperature ( $T$ ) as

$$\ln \frac{0.7}{K_{C1}} = -2396.301 \left( \frac{1}{330} - \frac{1}{T} \right)$$

$$\ln \frac{4.0}{K_{C2}} = 2421.518 \left( \frac{1}{330} - \frac{1}{T} \right)$$

$$\ln \frac{(T/330)}{K_{C3}} = -8954.7 \left( \frac{1}{330} - \frac{1}{T} \right)$$

where  $T$  is the temperature (K) the coefficients  $K_{C1}$  and  $K_{C2}$  are dimensionless,  $K_{C3}$  has units of L/g-mol.

## Complex Chemical Equilibrium – Assignments

- a. Calculate the equilibrium concentrations of all reaction components at  $T = 330 \text{ K}$ . The initial concentrations of the reactants are  $C_{A0} = C_{B0} = 1.5 \text{ g-mol/L}$ .
- b. Calculate and plot the equilibrium concentrations of all reaction components at 41 temperature values, starting from  $T = 330 \text{ K}$  up to  $T = 370 \text{ K}$ . The initial concentrations of the reactants are  $C_{A0} = C_{B0} = 1.5 \text{ g-mol/L}$ .

# Complex Chemical Equilibrium – POLYMATH Code

```
POLYMATH 6.10 Educational Release - [No...
File Program Edit Format Problem Exa...
f(x) x= ini- info x= safenewt
fml finl
Nonlinear Equations: 3 Auxiliary Equations: 10
f(CD)=CC*CD/(CA*CB)-KC1
f(CX)=CX*CY/(CB*CC)-KC2
f(CZ)=CZ/(CA*CX)-KC3
T=330
KC1=0.7/(exp(-2396.301*(1/330-1/T)))
KC2=4/(exp(2421.518*(1/330-1/T)))
KC3=(T/330)/(exp(-8954.7*(1/330-1/T)))
CY=CX+CZ
CA0=1.5
CB0=1.5
CC=CD-CY
CA=CA0-CD-CZ
CB=CB0-CD-CY
CD(0)=0.1
CX(0)=0.1
CZ(0)=0.1
```

Solution algorithm

Note the particular form of the implicit equations

Divisions by the unknowns are likely to cause difficulties in the solution process

Initial guesses must be physically feasible (no negative or zero values)

# Complex Chemical Equilibrium – POLYMATH Solution

POLYMATH 6.10 Educational Release - [N...]

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f(x) x= ini- i info x= safenewt

Nonlinear Equations: 3 Auxiliary Equations: 10

```
f(CD)=CC*CD/(CA*CB)-KC1
f(CX)=CX*CY/(CB*CC)-KC2
f(CZ)=CZ/(CA*CX)-KC3
T=330
KC1=0.7/(exp(-2396.301*(1/330-1/T)))
KC2=4/(exp(2421.518*(1/330-1/T)))
KC3=(T/330)/(exp(-8954.7*(1/330-1/T)))
CY=CX+CZ
CA0=1.5
CB0=
CC=
CA=
CB=
CD(0)
CX(0)
CZ(0)
```

POLYMATH Report  
Nonlinear Equations

Calculated values of NLE variables

Variable	Value	f(x)	Initial Guess
1 CD	-3.042863	1.315E-09	0.1
2 CX	-9.23908	1.164E-11	0.1
3 CZ	5.094243	1.873E-09	0.1

Variable	Value
1 CA	-0.5513799
2 CA0	1.5
3 CB	8.6877
4 CB0	1.5
5 CC	1.101974
6 CY	-4.144837
7 KC1	0.7
8 KC2	4.
9 KC3	1.
10 T	330.

Division by unknowns causes convergence to a solution with negative concentrations

Starting from other initial guesses may lead to “no convergence”

# Complex Chemical Equilibrium – POLYMATH Solution

POLYMATH 6.10 Educational Release - [M...]

File Program Edit Format Problem Exa...

f(x) ×= ini- finl i [X] → safenewt

Nonlinear Equations: 3 Auxiliary Equations: 10

```
f(CD)=CC*CD-KC1*CA*CB
f(CX)=CX*CY-KC2*CB*CC
f(CZ)=CZ-KC3*CA*CX
T=330
KC1=0.7/(exp(-2396.301*(1/330-1/T)))
KC2=4/(exp(2421.518*(1/330-1/T)))
KC3=(T/330)/(exp(-8954.7*(1/330-1/T)))
CY=CX+CZ
CA0=1.5
CB0=1.5
CC=CD-CY
CA=CA0-CD-CZ
CB=CB0-CD-CY
CD(0)=0.1
CX(0)=0.1
CZ(0)=0.1
```

## POLYMATH Report Nonlinear Equations

### Calculated values of NLE variables

	Variable	Value	f(x)	Initial Guess
1	CD	0.6966934	-2.117E-08	0.1
2	CX	0.3324635	-1.859E-08	0.1
3	CZ	0.2004334	1.481E-08	0.1

	Variable	Value
1	CA	0.6028733
2	CA0	1.5
3	CB	0.2704098
4	CB0	1.5
5	CC	0.1637965
6	CY	0.5328968
7	KC1	0.7
8	KC2	4.
9	KC3	1.
10	T	330.

An alternative formulation (without division by the unknowns) enables convergence to the correct solution

# Complex Chemical Equilibrium – A MATLAB function Generated by POLYMATH

```
Editor - Untitled*
File Edit Text Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window
[Icons]
1 xguess = [0.1 0.1 0.1]; % initial guess vec
2 function fx = MNLEfun(x);
3 CD = x(1);
4 CX = x(2);
5 CZ = x(3);
6 T = 330;
7 KC1 = .7 / exp(-2396.301 * (1 / 330 - (1 / T)));
8 KC2 = 4 / exp(2421.518 * (1 / 330 - (1 / T)));
9 KC3 = T / 330 / exp(-8954.7 * (1 / 330 - (1 / T)));
10 CY = CX + CZ;
11 CA0 = 1.5;
12 CB0 = 1.5;
13 CC = CD - CY;
14 CA = CA0 - CD - CZ;
15 CB = CB0 - CD - CY;
16 fx(1,1) = CC * CD - (KC1 * CA * CB);
17 fx(2,1) = CX * CY - (KC2 * CB * CC);
18 fx(3,1) = CZ - (KC3 * CA * CX);
```

Initial guess is put into a row vector

Input parameters are transferred to the function in an array

Output parameters are should be placed into a column vector



# Template for solving an NLE System\*

```
Editor - Untitled*
File Edit Text Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window Help
[Icons] Base [Layout Icons]
1  function % Insert here your file name after function (Use Alphanumeric names only)
2  clear, clc, format short g, format compact
3  xguess= % Replace this line with the xguess line(s) from Polymath report.
4  disp('Variable values at the initial estimate');
5  fguess=MNLEfun(xguess);
6  disp('Variable Value Function Value');
7  for i=1:size(xguess,2);
8  disp([' x' int2str(i) '      ' num2str(xguess(i)) '      ' num2str(fguess(i))]);
9  end
10 options = optimset('Diagnostics',[off'],'TolFun',[1e-9'],'TolX',[1e-9]);
11 xsolv=fsolve(@MNLEfun,xguess,options);
12 disp('Variable values at the solution');
13 fsolv=MNLEfun(xsolv);
14 disp('Variable Value Function Value');
15 for i=1:size(xguess,2);
16 disp([' x' int2str(i) '      ' num2str(xsolv(i))]);
17 end
18 %-----
19 % Replace this and the following line with the function copied from the Polymath report
20 % Do not include the xguess line(s)
21
```

HeatExchDer.m x Untitled\* x

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The MATLAB library function *fsolve* is used to solve the NLE system (in optimization toolbox)

\*Available in the HELP section of POLYMATH

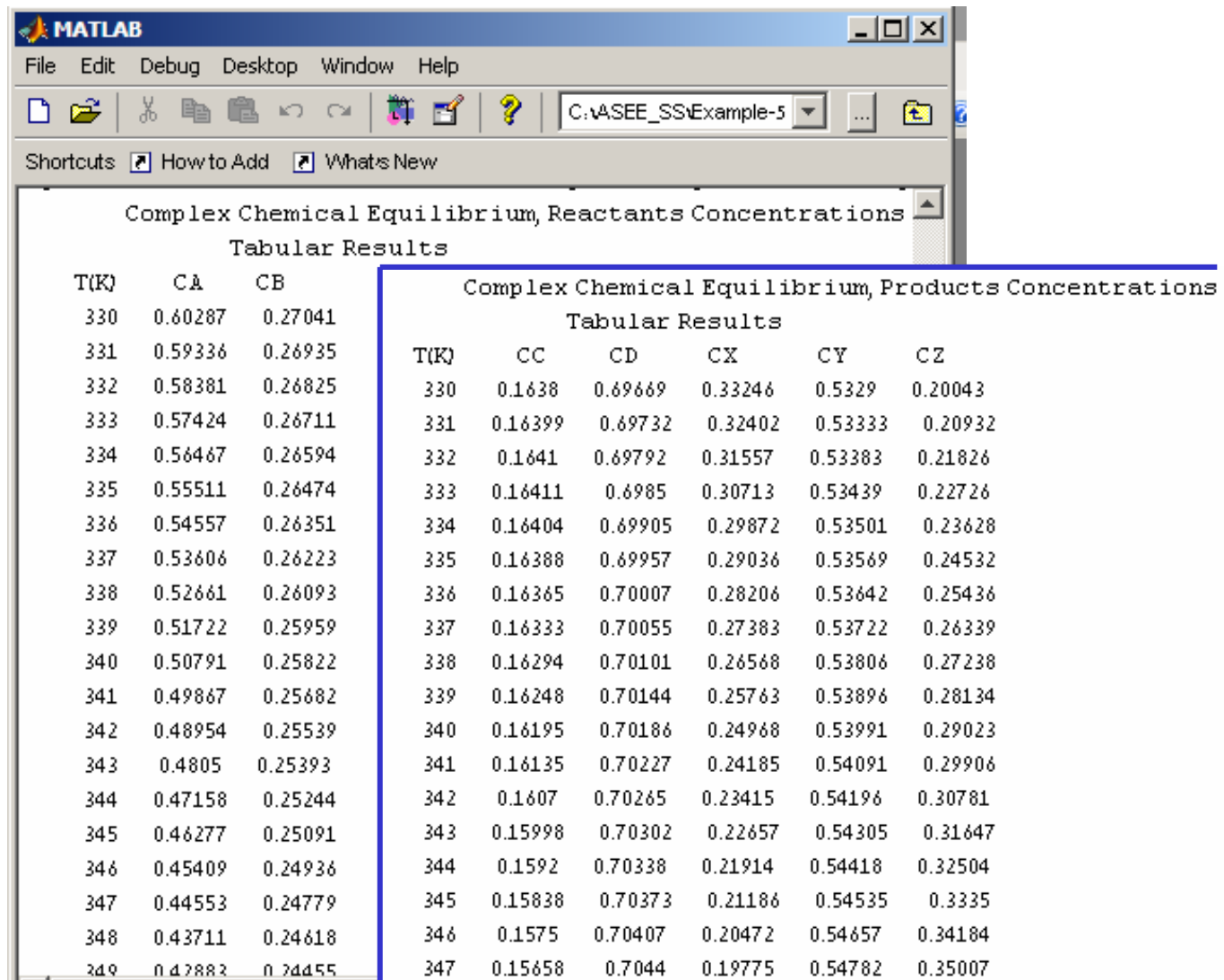
# Complex Chemical Equilibrium – Modifying the Template for Parametric Runs

```
Editor - C:\ASEE_SS\Example-5\Example5B.m*
File Edit Text Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window Help
[Icons] Base
1 function Example5B
2 - clear,clc,format short g,format compact
3 - xguess = [0.1 0.1 0.1]; % initial guess vector
4 - options = optimset('Diagnostics','off','TolFun',[1e-9],'TolX',[1e-9]);
5 - CA0 = 1.5;
6 - CB0 = 1.5;
7 - for i=1:41
8     T(i,1)=330+(i-1);
9     xsolv=fsolve(@MNLEfun,xguess,options,T(i));
10    xguess=xsolv;
11    CD(i,1)=xsolv(1);
12    CX(i,1)=xsolv(2);
13    CZ(i,1)=xsolv(3);
14    CY(i,1)= CX(i)+ CZ(i);
15    CC(i,1)= CD(i)- CY(i);
16    CA(i,1)= CA0 - CD(i)- CZ(i);
17    CB(i,1)= CB0 - CD(i)- CY(i);
18 - end
19 - disp('      Complex Chemical Equilibrium, Reactants Concentrations');
20 - disp('      Tabular Results');
```

Input  $T$  as a parameter into the function

Use the current solution as initial guess for the next  $T$  value

# Complex Chemical Equilibrium – Results of Parametric Runs



MATLAB window showing results for a complex chemical equilibrium. The window title is "Complex Chemical Equilibrium, Reactants Concentrations". The file path is "C:\VASEE\_SS\Example-5".

Shortcuts: [How to Add](#) [What's New](#)

Complex Chemical Equilibrium, Reactants Concentrations

Tabular Results

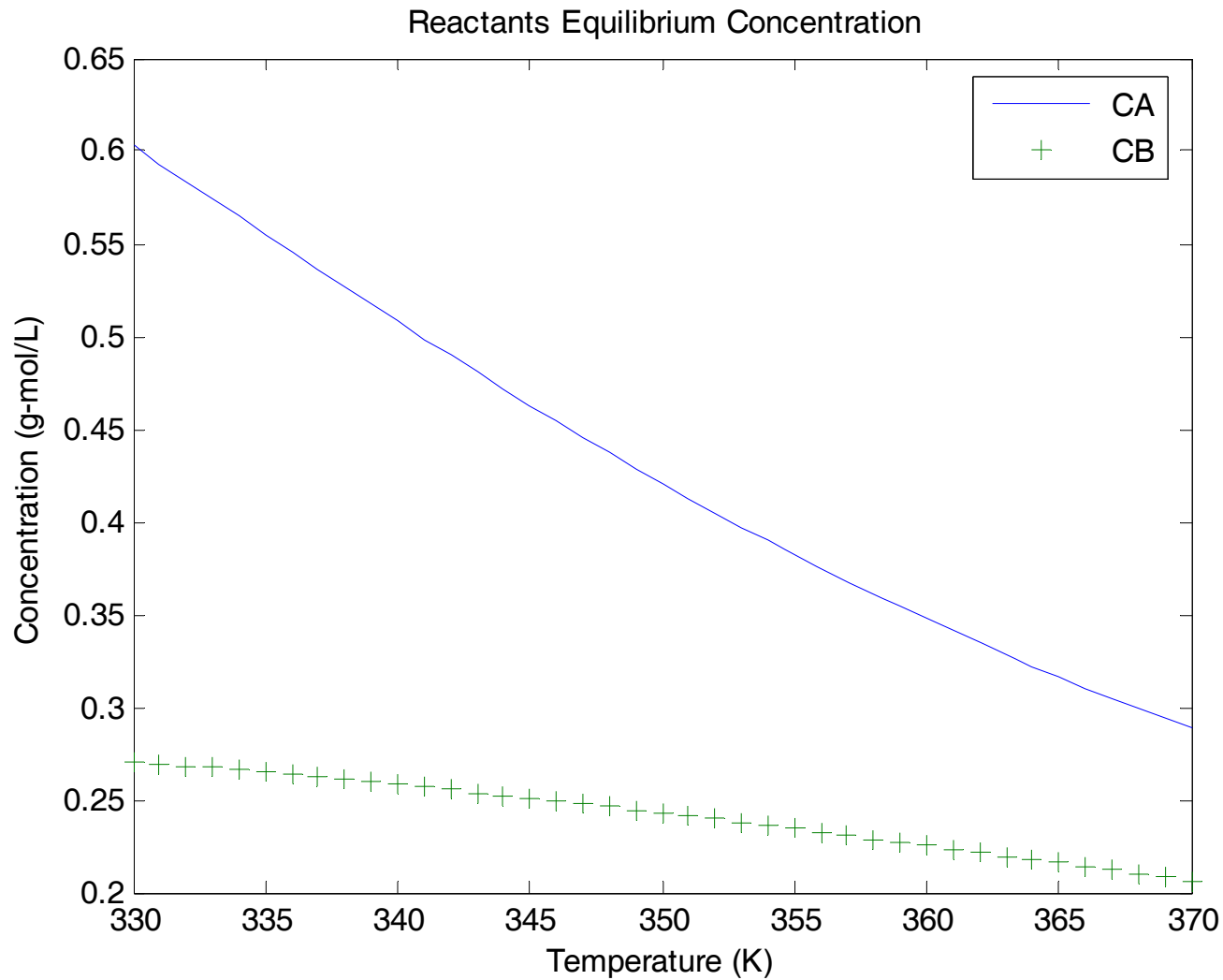
T(K)	CA	CB
330	0.60287	0.27041
331	0.59336	0.26935
332	0.58381	0.26825
333	0.57424	0.26711
334	0.56467	0.26594
335	0.55511	0.26474
336	0.54557	0.26351
337	0.53606	0.26223
338	0.52661	0.26093
339	0.51722	0.25959
340	0.50791	0.25822
341	0.49867	0.25682
342	0.48954	0.25539
343	0.4805	0.25393
344	0.47158	0.25244
345	0.46277	0.25091
346	0.45409	0.24936
347	0.44553	0.24779
348	0.43711	0.24618
349	0.42883	0.24455

Complex Chemical Equilibrium, Products Concentrations

Tabular Results

T(K)	CC	CD	CX	CY	CZ
330	0.1638	0.69669	0.33246	0.5329	0.20043
331	0.16399	0.69732	0.32402	0.53333	0.20932
332	0.1641	0.69792	0.31557	0.53383	0.21826
333	0.16411	0.6985	0.30713	0.53439	0.22726
334	0.16404	0.69905	0.29872	0.53501	0.23628
335	0.16388	0.69957	0.29036	0.53569	0.24532
336	0.16365	0.70007	0.28206	0.53642	0.25436
337	0.16333	0.70055	0.27383	0.53722	0.26339
338	0.16294	0.70101	0.26568	0.53806	0.27238
339	0.16248	0.70144	0.25763	0.53896	0.28134
340	0.16195	0.70186	0.24968	0.53991	0.29023
341	0.16135	0.70227	0.24185	0.54091	0.29906
342	0.1607	0.70265	0.23415	0.54196	0.30781
343	0.15998	0.70302	0.22657	0.54305	0.31647
344	0.1592	0.70338	0.21914	0.54418	0.32504
345	0.15838	0.70373	0.21186	0.54535	0.3335
346	0.1575	0.70407	0.20472	0.54657	0.34184
347	0.15658	0.7044	0.19775	0.54782	0.35007

# Complex Chemical Equilibrium – Results of Parametric Runs



# Complex Chemical Equilibrium – Results of Parametric Runs

