



**Department of Mechanical Engineering**  
**Spring 2010 Ph.D. Qualifying Exam**  
**Thermodynamics**

**Instructions:**

- **A calculator is permitted for this exam**
- **A set of thermodynamic tables is provided for this exam**
- **No other books, notes, or equation sheets are allowed**
- **All problems are required and are weighted equally**

**Honors pledge: "I have neither given nor received aid on this examinations."**

**Sign here: \_\_\_\_\_ (use your assigned identifier number)**



### Problem 1.

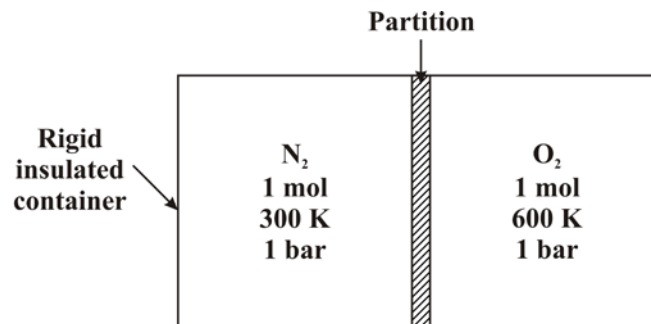
One mole of  $N_2$ , initially at 1 bar, 300 K, and 1 mole of  $O_2$ , initially at 1 bar, 600 K, are confined to opposite sides of a rigid, well-insulated container, as shown below. The gases are initially separated by a partition. Consider the following two cases:

- Heat transfer occurs through the partition so that the gases in the container reach a uniform temperature.
- The partition is removed and the gases mix to reach a uniform temperature and composition.

Determine:

- The uniform temperature for both cases.
- The entropy generation for both cases.

Model both gases as ideal gas with constant specific heats ( $c_p=3.5R$  and  $c_v=2.5R$ , where  $R$  ( $= 8.314 \text{ J}/(\text{mol}\cdot\text{K})$ ) is the universal gas constant), and model the mixture as an ideal gas mixture for case b.



**Problem 2.**

For the following three-parameter equation of states:

$$p = \frac{RT}{v-b} - \frac{a}{v^2 - c^2}$$

evaluate the parameters ( $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ ) in terms of the critical pressure  $p_c$ , critical temperature  $T_c$ , and critical compressibility  $Z_c$ .

**Problem 3.**

At a pressure of 1 atm, liquid water has a state of maximum density at 4°C. Determine the sign of  $(\partial s / \partial p)_T$  (i.e., zero, positive, or negative) for liquid water at 1 atm and the following temperatures:

- (a) 3.5 °C?
- (b) 4°C?
- (c) 4.5 °C?

**Problem 4.**

A closed vessel contains CO<sub>2</sub> initially at 360K, 740bar. The fluid is then cooled with 100kJ of heat removal and unspecified work to 240K, 75bar. Determine the change in entropy in units of kJ/kg.K.

**Problem 5.**

1 kmol of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  undergoes a dissociation reaction to form an equilibrium mixture of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{NO}_2$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ , 1.5atm. Assuming ideal gas behavior, determine the final equilibrium molar compositions of the  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{NO}_2$ . The change in the Gibbs function for the dissociation reaction at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  is  $\Delta G^0 = -5400\text{kJ/kmol}$ .

