

PROPERTIES OF CARRIER GASES FOR GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY

The following is a list of carrier gases sometimes used in gas chromatography, with properties relevant to the design of chromatographic systems. All data refer to normal atmospheric pressure (101.325 kPa).

M_r : Molecular weight (relative molar mass)
 ρ_{25} : Density at 25 °C in g/L
 λ : Thermal conductivity in mW/m °C
 η : Viscosity in $\mu\text{Pa s}$ (equal to 10^{-3} cP)
 c_p : Specific heat at 25 °C in J/g °C

References

1. Lide, D. R., and Kehiaian, H. V., *CRC Handbook of Thermophysical and Thermochemical Data*, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 1994.
2. Bruno, T. J., and Svoronos, P. D. N., *CRC Handbook of Basic Tables for Chemical Analysis*, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 1989.

Gas	M_r	ρ_{25} g L ⁻¹	At 25 °C		At 250 °C		c_p (25 °C) J/g °C
			λ mW/m °C	η $\mu\text{Pa s}$	λ mW/m °C	η $\mu\text{Pa s}$	
Hydrogen	2.016	0.0824	185.9	8.9	280	13.1	14.3
Helium	4.003	0.1636	154.6	19.9	230	29.5	5.20
Argon	39.95	1.6329	17.8	22.7	27.7	35.3	0.521
Nitrogen	28.01	1.1449	25.9	17.9	39.6	26.8	1.039
Oxygen	32.00	1.3080	26.2	20.7	42.6	31.8	0.919
Carbon monoxide	28.01	1.1449	24.8	17.8	40.7	26.5	1.039
Carbon dioxide	44.01	1.7989	16.7	14.9	35.5	24.9	0.843
Sulfur hexafluoride	146.05	5.9696	13.1	28.1	15.3	24.8	0.664
Methane	16.04	0.6556	34.5	11.1	75.0	17.6	2.23
Ethane	30.07	1.2291	20.9	9.4	57.7	15.5	1.75
Ethylene	28.05	1.1465	20.5	10.3	53.8	17.2	1.53
Propane	44.10	1.8025	17.9	8.3	49.2	14.0	1.67