

# New Method of NPOH Equation-Based to Estimate the Physicochemical Properties of Noncyclic Alkanes

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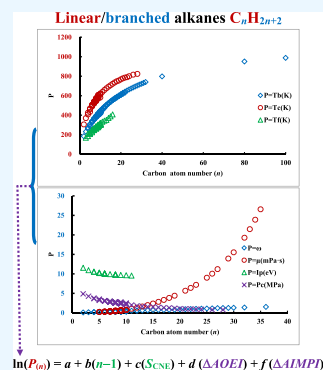


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**ABSTRACT:** Changes in various physicochemical properties ( $P_{(n)}$ ) of noncyclic alkanes can be roughly classified as linear and nonlinear changes. In our previous study, the NPOH equation was proposed to express nonlinear changes in the properties of organic homologues. Until now, there has been no general equation to express nonlinear changes in the properties of noncyclic alkanes involving linear and branched alkane isomers. This work, on the basis of NPOH equation, proposes a general equation to express nonlinear changes in the physicochemical properties of noncyclic alkanes, including a total of 12 properties, boiling point, critical temperature, critical pressure, acentric factor, heat capacity, liquid viscosity, and flash point, named as the “NPNA equation”, as follows:  $\ln(P_{(n)}) = a + b(n - 1) + c(S_{CNE}) + d(\Delta AOEI) + f(\Delta AIMPI)$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $f$  are coefficients, and  $P_{(n)}$  represents the property of the alkane with  $n$  carbon atom number.  $n$ ,  $S_{CNE}$ ,  $\Delta AOEI$ , and  $\Delta AIMPI$  are number of carbon atoms, sum of carbon number effects, average odd-even index difference, and average inner molecular polarizability index difference, respectively. The obtained results show that various nonlinear changes in the properties of noncyclic alkanes can be expressed by the NPNA equation. Nonlinear and linear change properties of noncyclic alkanes can be correlated with four parameters,  $n$ ,  $S_{CNE}$ ,  $\Delta AOEI$ , and  $\Delta AIMPI$ . The NPNA equation has the advantages of uniform expression, usage of fewer parameters, and high estimation accuracy. Furthermore, using the above four parameters, a quantitative correlation equation can be established between any two properties of noncyclic alkanes. Employing the obtained equations as model equations, the property data of noncyclic alkanes, involving 142 critical temperatures, 142 critical pressures, 115 acentric factors, 116 flash points, 174 heat capacities, 142 critical volumes, and 155 gas enthalpies of formation, a total of 986 values, were predicted, which have not been experimentally measured. NPNA equation not only can provide a simple and convenient estimation or prediction method for the properties of noncyclic alkanes but also can provide new perspectives for studying quantitative structure–property relationships of branched organic compounds.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Alkanes are important compounds and are widely used in various industrial processes, such as energy, fuel, and petrochemical industry. Their physicochemical property data are indispensable basic data in chemical production, scientific research, and practical application. Due to the huge number of isomers of alkanes, determining the physicochemical properties of all compounds experimentally is an impossible task, so it is very meaningful to establish an estimation method. Until now, people have gradually established many valuable estimation methods,<sup>1–95</sup> such as (i) group-contribution (GC) methods,<sup>4,9,18,37,54,55,70,86</sup> (ii) estimating one physicochemical property from that of other compounds,<sup>1,2,8,14,16,17,19,20,22,24,36,39,45,48,57,64–66,74,75,78,85,89</sup> (iii) liquid equations of states (EoS)-based methods,<sup>3,5,7,11,13,21,25,26,31,34,40,41,46,47,49–51,53,61,88,90–92</sup> and (iv) quantitative structure–property relationships (QSPRs).<sup>15,30,38,42,44,52,56,59,60,67–69,71–73,77,80–82,87,93,94</sup> Using the above methods, many estimation equations are obtained for estimating various physicochemical properties of alkanes (pure compounds or mixture systems).<sup>1–94</sup> These properties involve the boiling point ( $T_b$ ), critical temperature ( $T_c$ ), critical

pressure ( $P_c$ ), acentric factor ( $\omega$ ), heat capacity ( $C_p$ ), enthalpy of formation ( $\Delta_f H^\circ$ ), enthalpy of vaporization ( $H_v$ ), and vapor pressure ( $P_v$ ), and so on. Here are some examples.

GC methods (i) can be expressed by eq 1<sup>95</sup>

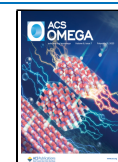
$$Y = \left( \sum_i A_i B_i \right)^a + \left( \sum_j C_j D_j \right)^b + \left( \sum_k E_k F_k \right)^c \quad (1)$$

GC methods are generally easy to use, in which one property  $Y$  of a compound can be estimated by a sum of terms or contributions (the  $A_i$  to  $F_k$  values) representing the different groups present in a molecule. The linear or nonlinear character of eq 1 is determined by the constants  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$ .

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He et al.<sup>4</sup> proposed eqs 2 and 3 to estimate  $T_c$  and  $P_c$ , respectively

$$T_c = T_b / (a_1 + a_2 T_g + a_3 T_g^2 + a_4 T_g^3) + w T_s \quad (2)$$

$$P_c = \ln T_b / (a_5 + a_6 P_g + a_7 P_g^2 + a_8 P_g^3 + w P_s) \quad (3)$$

In eqs 2 and 3, the  $a_1, a_2, \dots$ , and  $a_8$  are coefficients,  $T_g$  and  $P_g$  are the first-level group contributions, and  $T_s$  and  $P_s$  are the second-level group contributions. If only the contribution of the first-level group is used,  $w$  is 0; both the first- and second-level group contributions are included,  $w = 1$ .

Wang et al.<sup>55</sup> used eq 4 to predict the  $\omega$  of organic compounds and obtained good results

$$\omega = 7.86948 + \sum_i A_i N_i + \sum_j A_j \tanh(N_j / N) + \sum_k A_k P_k - 7.62035 \exp(1 / M) + 0.025051 \exp(1 / N) \quad (4)$$

In eq 4

$$N = \sum_i N_i + \sum_j N_j \quad (5)$$

Hukkerikar et al.<sup>37</sup> used group-contribution+ (GC+) to estimate properties of pure components of various classes (hydrocarbons, oxygenated components, nitrogenated components, etc.).

Method (ii) is by using the easy-to-measure properties to estimate the difficult-to-measure properties via employing some empirical equations.

Gamba et al.<sup>51</sup> used  $T_b$  of alkanes to estimate their  $T_c$ , as shown in eq 6

$$\ln(b_1 - T_c) = b_2 \ln(b_4 - T_b) - b_3 \quad (6)$$

where  $b_1, b_2, b_3$ , and  $b_4$  are coefficients.

Gamba et al.<sup>51</sup> proposed eqs 7 and 8 to estimate the acentric factors ( $\omega$ ) of paraffins

$$\ln(1187.9291 - \omega) = 8.9643355 \times 10^{-4} \ln(1004.8417 - T_b / K) + 7.0738919 \quad (7)$$

$$\ln(1185.0931 - \omega) = 1.0478687 \times 10^{-3} \ln(1047.5707 - T_b / K) + 7.0704986 \quad (8)$$

Equations 7 and 8 are used in different range of boiling points  $T_b$ , respectively.

The typical equation of method (iii) is the cubic state eq 9.<sup>95</sup> However, Wilhelmson et al.<sup>96</sup> pointed out: "EoS are essential in the modeling of a wide range of industrial and natural processes. Desired qualities of EoS are accuracy, consistency, computational speed, robustness, and predictive ability outside of the domain where they have been fitted"

$$P = \frac{RT}{V - b} - \frac{a(T)}{V^2 + uVb + wb^2} \quad (9)$$

In eq 9,  $u$  and  $w$  are characteristics of the equation, and the  $a$  and  $b$  are calculated by eqs 10 and 11, respectively

$$a = \Omega_a \frac{R^2 T_c^2}{P_c} \alpha(T) \quad (10)$$

$$b = \Omega_b \frac{RT_c}{P_c} \quad (11)$$

The QSPR method (iv) correlates an experimental property of compounds with a series of molecular descriptors. It can be expressed as the following general form<sup>95</sup>

$$\text{property} = f(\text{descriptors}) \quad (12)$$

In eq 12, different descriptors (involving constitutional, topological, geometric, and quantum chemical) are employed to characterize the molecular structures of the interested compounds.

Palatinus et al.<sup>97</sup> proposed eq 13 for calculating the  $Y_R$  parameter and then employed the obtained  $Y_R$  values and eq 14 to estimate the boiling points for linear and branched alkanes

$$Y_R = 1.726 + 2.779C + 1.716M_3 + 1.564M + 4.204E_3 + 3.905E + 5.007P - 0.329D + 0.241G + 0.479V + 0.967T + 0.574S \quad (13)$$

$$T_b \text{ (K)} = aY_{BP}^{2/3} + bY_{BP}^{1/3} + c \quad (14)$$

In eq 13,  $C$  is the number of carbon atoms in the longest carbon chain;  $M$  is the count of methyl groups ( $M_3$  for 3-methyl);  $E$  is the count of ethyl groups ( $E_3$  for 3-ethyl);  $G$  is all other geminal disubstitutions;  $P$  is the number of propyl groups.  $D$  is a specific parameter for 2,2-dimethyl substitution;  $V$  is the total count of vicinal alkyl relationships;  $T$  is the number of groupings with two methyl substituents on both carbons 1 and 3 of a three-carbon segment of the main chain;  $S$  is the square of the ratio of the total number of carbons to the number of carbons in the longest chain.

Mukwembi et al.,<sup>98</sup> recently, proposed parameter  $c(G)$  for predicting the  $T_b$  of any given alkane and obtained good results. Yuan and Cao.<sup>99</sup> used eq 15 to correlate the vapor pressure of hydrocarbons

$$\log P_v = 8.0183 - 0.6040n^{2/3} + 0.2013VDI - 0.2377OEI - 0.1992EDI + 0.0763S_e \quad (15)$$

In eq 15, the  $n$  is carbon atom number, VDI, OEI, EDI, and  $S_e$  are topological indices.

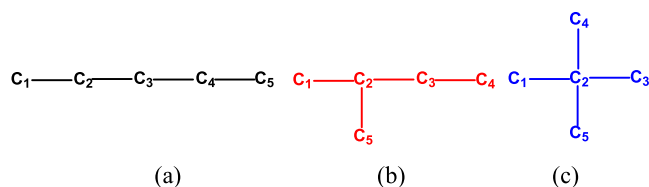
It can be seen from the abovementioned facts that there are various methods for estimating the physicochemical properties of alkanes, and the equation forms are different, that is, different estimation equations need to be used for different properties. Then, it is a very meaningful subject whether the changes of different physicochemical properties of a same kind of organic compounds (such as alkanes) can be expressed by a same type equation. The solution of this subject will provide great convenience for the estimation of the properties of organic compounds.

Kontogeorgis,<sup>100</sup> in 2021, pointed out that companies ideally wish for predictive models validated on extensive experimental databases and not only on just a few available experimental data points. To study this challenge, we recently proposed NPOH equation to express various nonlinear changes in the properties of homologues and observed that the linear and nonlinear changes in the properties of homologues can all be correlated with carbon atom number  $n$  and the "sum of carbon number effects,"  $S_{CNE}$ , and pointed out: "for nonstraight-chain isomers, using the NPOH equation, we can add structural parameters that characterize the molecular carbon atomic skeleton to establish an estimation model for their properties."<sup>101</sup> In this work, we try to establish a general equation expressing nonlinear

changes in the physicochemical properties of nonstraight-chain alkanes.

## 2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**2.1. Theoretical Analysis.** The result of our previous study<sup>101</sup> shows that the changes in physicochemical properties of *n*-paraffin homologues (H-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>*n*</sub>-H) can be expressed by only employing parameters *n* and *S*<sub>CNE</sub>. However, for the



**Figure 1.** Molecular carbon atomic skeleton diagram of (a) *n*-pentane, (b) 2-methylbutane, and (c) 2,2-dimethylpropane (numbers indicate carbon atom number).

isomers containing *n* carbon atoms, such as *n*-pentane H-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>5</sub>-H, 2-methylbutane (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> and 2,2-dimethylpropane CH<sub>3</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, they have the same number of carbon atoms, but they are constitutional isomers and have different molecular carbon atomic skeletons. Therefore, the changes in physicochemical properties of branched alkane isomers are not only related to the parameters *n* and *S*<sub>CNE</sub> but also related to the difference in the molecular carbon atomic skeleton of branched and linear alkanes. We noticed that many topological indices were proposed to express the molecular carbon atomic skeleton of alkane molecules. In this study, the odd–even index (OEI)<sup>102</sup> and the inner molecular polarization index (IMPI)<sup>103</sup> were selected to express the difference of carbon atomic skeleton between branched and linear alkanes.

**2.1.1. Calculation of OEI and IMPI of Alkanes.** Take pentane (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>12</sub>), for example, it has three isomers, as shown in Figure 1. The calculations of OEI and IMPI values of these isomers are restated briefly as follows:

① Odd–even Index (OEI)

$$\text{OEI} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j \neq i}^n [(-1)^{D_{ij}-1} S] \quad (16)$$

where *n* is the number of vertices (carbon atoms) in molecular graph. *S* is the derivative matrix from distance matrix *D*. The elements of *S* are the squares of the reciprocal distances (*D*<sub>*ij*</sub>)<sup>-2</sup>, i.e., *S*<sub>*ij*</sub> = 1/*D*<sub>*ij*</sub><sup>2</sup> (when *i* = *j*, let 1/*D*<sub>*ij*</sub><sup>2</sup> = 0).

The distance matrix *D*(a), *D*(b), and *D*(c) of (a), (b), and (c) in Figure 1, and their derivative matrix *S*(a), *S*(b), *S*(c) are as follows, respectively

$$D(a) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad D(b) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D(c) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Table 1. PEI and ΔPEI Values of Linear Alkyl H(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>*n*</sub>-**

<i>n</i>	PEI	<i>n</i> <sub><i>i</i></sub>	ΔPEI	<i>n</i>	PEI	<i>n</i> <sub><i>i</i></sub>	ΔPEI	<i>n</i>	PEI	<i>n</i> <sub><i>i</i></sub>	ΔPEI	<i>n</i>	PEI	<i>n</i> <sub><i>i</i></sub>	ΔPEI
1	1.0000	1	1.00000	26	1.2686	26	0.00039	51	1.2734	51	0.00010	76	1.2750	76	0.00004
2	1.1405	2	0.14053	27	1.2690	27	0.00036	52	1.2735	52	0.00009	77	1.2750	77	0.00004
3	1.1887	3	0.04813	28	1.2693	28	0.00034	53	1.2736	53	0.00009	78	1.2751	78	0.00004
4	1.2122	4	0.02350	29	1.2696	29	0.00031	54	1.2737	54	0.00009	79	1.2751	79	0.00004
5	1.2260	5	0.01380	30	1.2699	30	0.00029	55	1.2737	55	0.00008	80	1.2752	80	0.00004
6	1.2350	6	0.00905	31	1.2702	31	0.00027	56	1.2738	56	0.00008	81	1.2752	81	0.00004
7	1.2414	7	0.00639	32	1.2704	32	0.00026	57	1.2739	57	0.00008	82	1.2752	82	0.00004
8	1.2461	8	0.00475	33	1.2707	33	0.00024	58	1.2740	58	0.00008	83	1.2753	83	0.00004
9	1.2498	9	0.00367	34	1.2709	34	0.00023	59	1.2741	59	0.00007	84	1.2753	84	0.00004
10	1.2527	10	0.00292	35	1.2711	35	0.00021	60	1.2741	60	0.00007	85	1.2754	85	0.00004
11	1.2551	11	0.00238	36	1.2713	36	0.00020	61	1.2742	61	0.00007	86	1.2754	86	0.00003
12	1.2571	12	0.00197	37	1.2715	37	0.00019	62	1.2743	62	0.00007	87	1.2754	87	0.00003
13	1.2587	13	0.00166	38	1.2717	38	0.00018	63	1.2743	63	0.00006	88	1.2755	88	0.00003
14	1.2602	14	0.00142	39	1.2719	39	0.00017	64	1.2744	64	0.00006	89	1.2755	89	0.00003
15	1.2614	15	0.00123	40	1.2720	40	0.00016	65	1.2744	65	0.00006	90	1.2755	90	0.00003
16	1.2625	16	0.00107	41	1.2722	41	0.00015	66	1.2745	66	0.00006	91	1.2755	91	0.00003
17	1.2634	17	0.00094	42	1.2723	42	0.00015	67	1.2746	67	0.00006	92	1.2756	92	0.00003
18	1.2642	18	0.00084	43	1.2725	43	0.00014	68	1.2746	68	0.00006	93	1.2756	93	0.00003
19	1.2650	19	0.00075	44	1.2726	44	0.00013	69	1.2747	69	0.00005	94	1.2756	94	0.00003
20	1.2657	20	0.00067	45	1.2727	45	0.00013	70	1.2747	70	0.00005	95	1.2757	95	0.00003
21	1.2663	21	0.00061	46	1.2728	46	0.00012	71	1.2748	71	0.00005	96	1.2757	96	0.00003
22	1.2668	22	0.00055	47	1.2730	47	0.00012	72	1.2748	72	0.00005	97	1.2757	97	0.00003
23	1.2673	23	0.00050	48	1.2731	48	0.00011	73	1.2749	73	0.00005	98	1.2757	98	0.00003
24	1.2678	24	0.00046	49	1.2732	49	0.00011	74	1.2749	74	0.00005	99	1.2758	99	0.00003
25	1.2682	25	0.00042	50	1.2733	50	0.00010	75	1.2750	75	0.00005	100	1.2758	100	0.00003

Table 2. CAS Registry Number, OEI and IMPI Values of 149 Alkane Molecules Bearing 2 to 10 Carbon Atoms

no	alkanes	<i>n</i> <sup>a</sup>	CAS <sup>b</sup>	OEI	IMPI	no	alkanes	<i>n</i> <sup>a</sup>	CAS <sup>b</sup>	OEI	IMPI
1	ethane	2	74-84-0	2.0000	2.0000	75	2,2,3,3,4-pentamethylpentane	10	16747-44-7	13.0833	23.9418
2	propane	3	74-98-6	3.5000	4.2811	76	2,2,3,3-tetramethylhexane	10	13475-81-5	13.3789	23.5510
3	2-methylpropane	4	75-28-5	4.5000	6.8432	77	3-ethyl-2,2,3-trimethylpentane	10	52897-17-3	13.4583	23.7077
4	butane	4	106-97-8	5.2222	6.6584	78	3,3,4,4-tetramethylhexane	10	5171-84-6	13.6633	23.6883
5	2,2-dimethylpropane	5	463-82-1	5.0000	9.6863	79	2,2,3,4,4-pentamethylpentane	10	16747-45-8	12.0417	23.6530
6	2-methylbutane	5	78-78-4	6.4444	9.3167	80	2,2,3,4-tetramethylhexane	10	52897-08-2	13.4067	23.2677
7	pentane	5	109-66-0	6.8194	9.0827	81	3-ethyl-2,2,4-trimethylpentane	10	52897-18-4	12.7917	23.3259
8	2,2-dimethylbutane	6	75-83-2	7.1667	12.2562	82	2,3,4,4-tetramethylhexane	10	52897-12-8	13.5489	23.3364
9	2,3-dimethylbutane	6	79-29-8	7.8889	12.0708	83	2,2,3,5-tetramethylhexane	10	52897-09-3	13.3272	22.8580
10	2-methylpentane	6	107-83-5	7.9167	11.7881	84	2,2,3-trimethylheptane	10	52896-92-1	13.7056	22.8096
11	3-methylpentane	6	96-14-0	8.2639	11.8373	85	2,2-dimethyl-3-ethylhexane	10	20291-91-2	13.6394	23.1094
12	hexane	6	110-54-3	8.4967	11.5345	86	3,3,4-trimethylheptane	10	20278-87-9	14.0561	22.9853
13	2,2,3-trimethylbutane	7	464-06-2	8.8333	15.1071	87	3,3-dimethyl-4-ethylhexane	10	52897-05-9	13.9239	23.1023
14	2,2-dimethylpentane	7	590-35-2	8.5139	14.7745	88	2,3,3,4-tetramethylhexane	10	52897-10-6	13.8961	23.3870
15	3,3-dimethylpentane	7	562-49-2	9.2083	14.8730	89	3,4,4-trimethylheptane	10	20278-88-0	13.8511	23.0047
16	2,3-dimethylpentane	7	565-59-3	9.5833	14.6390	90	3,4-dimethyl-3-ethylhexane	10	52897-06-0	14.2711	23.1516
17	2,4-dimethylpentane	7	108-08-7	8.8889	14.5404	91	3-ethyl-2,3,4-trimethylpentane	10	52897-19-5	13.8333	23.4757
18	2-methylhexane	7	591-76-4	9.6739	14.2676	92	2,3,3,5-tetramethylhexane	10	52897-11-7	13.2644	23.1990
19	3-methylhexane	7	589-34-4	9.8161	14.3360	93	2,3,3-trimethylheptane	10	16747-28-7	13.9833	22.8878
20	3-ethylpentane	7	617-78-7	9.9583	14.4049	94	2,3-dimethyl-3-ethylhexane	10	52897-00-4	15.0178	23.0829
21	heptane	7	142-82-5	10.1183	14.0046	95	3,3-diethyl-2-methylpentane	10	52897-16-2	14.2083	23.2396
22	2,2,3,3-tetramethylbutane	8	594-82-1	10.0000	18.2390	96	2,2,4,4-tetramethylhexane	10	51750-65-3	11.9900	23.2129
23	2,2,3-trimethylpentane	8	564-02-3	10.4028	17.7217	97	2,2,4,5-tetramethylhexane	10	16747-42-5	12.9800	23.0617
24	2,3,3-trimethylpentane	8	560-21-4	10.7500	17.8190	98	2,2,4-trimethylheptane	10	14720-74-2	12.8061	22.7305
25	2,2,4-trimethylpentane	8	540-84-1	9.3611	17.5739	99	2,2-dimethyl-4-ethylhexane	10	52896-99-8	13.3550	22.8277
26	2,2-dimethylhexane	8	590-73-8	10.3511	17.2816	100	3,3,5-trimethylheptane	10	7154-80-5	13.5667	22.8868
27	3,3-dimethylhexane	8	561-16-6	10.6356	17.4189	101	2,4,4-trimethylheptane	10	4032-92-2	12.8789	22.8281
28	3-ethyl-3-methylpentane	8	1067-08-9	11.1250	17.4369	102	2,4-dimethyl-4-ethylhexane	10	52897-03-7	13.6394	22.9650
29	2,3,4-trimethylpentane	8	565-75-3	10.7778	17.4865	103	2,2,5,5-tetramethylhexane	10	1071-81-4	12.5256	23.1391
30	2,3-dimethylhexane	8	584-94-1	11.2156	17.1655	104	2,2,5-trimethylheptane	10	20291-95-6	13.4211	22.6724
31	3-ethyl-2-methylpentane	8	609-26-7	11.1528	17.2536	105	2,5,5-trimethylheptane	10	1189-99-7	13.6989	22.7504
32	3,4-dimethylhexane	8	583-48-2	11.3578	17.2342	106	2,2,6-trimethylheptane	10	1190-83-6	12.8722	22.5752
33	2,4-dimethylhexane	8	589-43-5	10.8683	17.1162	107	2,2-dimethyloctane	10	15869-87-1	13.6058	22.2962
34	2,5-dimethylhexane	8	592-13-2	10.9311	17.0282	108	3,3-dimethyloctane	10	4110-44-5	13.9686	22.4632
35	2-methylheptane	8	592-27-8	11.2400	16.7557	109	4,4-dimethyloctane	10	15869-95-1	13.8297	22.5210
36	3-methylheptane	8	589-81-1	11.5178	16.8339	110	3-ethyl-3-methylheptane	10	17302-01-1	14.3583	22.6537
37	4-methylheptane	8	589-53-7	11.3128	16.8533	111	4-ethyl-4-methylheptane	10	17302-04-4	14.0839	22.7020
38	3-ethylhexane	8	619-99-8	11.5906	16.9314	112	3,3-diethylhexane	10	17302-02-2	14.5039	22.8489
39	octane	8	111-65-9	11.7808	16.4874	113	2,3,4,5-tetramethylhexane	10	52897-15-1	13.9867	22.9016
40	2,2,3,3-tetramethylpentane	9	7154-79-2	11.7917	20.9499	114	2,3,4-trimethylheptane	10	52896-95-4	14.1533	22.5605
41	2,2,3,4-tetramethylpentane	9	1186-53-4	11.4722	20.6173	115	2,3-dimethyl-4-ethylhexane	10	52897-01-5	14.3617	22.6675
42	2,2,3-trimethylhexane	9	16747-25-4	12.1150	20.2758	116	2,4-dimethyl-3-ethylhexane	10	7220-26-0	14.1567	22.6869
43	2,2-dimethyl-3-ethylpentane	9	16747-32-3	11.8472	20.5277	117	3,4,5-trimethylheptane	10	20278-89-1	14.4311	22.6386

Table 2. continued

no	alkanes	$n^a$	CASN <sup>b</sup>	OEI	IMPI	no	alkanes	$n^a$	CASN <sup>b</sup>	OEI	IMPI
44	3,3,4-trimethylhexane	9	16747-31-2	12.3994	20.4131	118	2,4-dimethyl-3-isopropylpentane	10	13475-79-1	13.1667	23.0920
45	2,3,3,4-tetramethylpentane	9	16747-38-9	12.1667	20.7172	119	3-isopropyl-2-methylhexane	10	62016-13-1	14.0144	22.7309
46	2,3,3-trimethylhexane	9	16747-28-7	12.2572	20.3444	120	2,3,5-trimethylheptane	10	20278-85-7	14.2161	22.5851
47	2,3-dimethyl-3-ethylpentane	9	16747-33-4	12.5417	20.4837	121	2,5-dimethyl-3-ethylhexane	10	52897-04-8	14.0772	22.6429
48	2,2,4,4-tetramethylpentane	9	1070-87-7	9.7083	20.5133	122	2,4,5-trimethylheptane	10	20278-84-6	14.0111	22.6045
49	2,2,4-trimethylhexane	9	16747-26-5	11.4206	20.1773	123	2,3,6-trimethylheptane	10	4032-93-3	14.0078	22.4780
50	2,4,4-trimethylhexane	9	16747-30-1	11.5628	20.2459	124	2,3-dimethyloctane	10	7146-60-3	14.5094	22.1949
51	2,2,5-trimethylhexane	9	3522-94-9	11.6883	20.0698	125	3-ethyl-2-methylheptane	10	14676-29-0	14.4556	22.3415
52	2,2-dimethylheptane	9	1071-26-7	11.8617	19.7848	126	3,4-dimethyloctane	10	15869-92-8	14.6214	22.3073
53	3,3-dimethylheptane	9	4032-86-4	12.4172	19.9442	127	4-isopropylheptane	10	52896-87-4	14.5217	22.3799
54	4,4-dimethylheptane	9	1068-19-5	12.0072	19.9830	128	4-ethyl-3-methylheptane	10	52896-89-6	14.6639	22.4005
55	3-ethyl-3-methylhexane	9	3074-76-8	12.6322	20.1104	129	4,5-dimethyloctane	10	15869-96-2	14.5519	22.3362
56	3,3-diethylpentane	9	1067-20-5	12.9167	20.2477	130	3-ethyl-4-methylheptane	10	52896-91-0	14.5283	22.4391
57	2,3,4-trimethylhexane	9	921-47-1	12.6322	19.9977	131	3,4-diethylhexane	10	19398-77-7	14.7367	22.4540
58	2,4-dimethyl-3-ethylpentane	9	1068-87-7	12.2222	20.1493	132	2,4,6-trimethylheptane	10	2613-61-8	13.2506	22.4676
59	2,3,5-trimethylhexane	9	1069-53-0	12.3478	19.9328	133	2,4-dimethyloctane	10	4032-94-4	14.0927	22.1745
60	2,3-dimethylheptane	9	3074-71-3	12.8617	19.6812	134	4-ethyl-2-methylheptane	10	52896-90-9	14.2439	22.3018
61	3-ethyl-2-methylhexane	9	16789-46-1	12.8650	19.8076	135	3,5-dimethyloctane	10	15869-93-9	14.2741	22.2580
62	3,4-dimethylheptane	9	922-28-1	12.9344	19.7307	136	3-ethyl-5-methylheptane	10	52896-88-5	14.5911	22.3510
63	3-ethyl-4-methylhexane	9	3074-77-9	13.0072	19.7842	137	2,5-dimethyloctane	10	15869-89-3	14.2977	22.1551
64	2,4-dimethylheptane	9	2213-23-2	12.3094	19.6514	138	5-ethyl-2-methylheptane	10	13475-78-0	14.3828	22.2440
65	4-ethyl-2-methylhexane	9	3074-75-7	12.7228	19.7390	139	3,6-dimethyloctane	10	15869-94-0	14.5486	22.2097
66	3,5-dimethylheptane	9	926-82-9	12.7922	19.7101	140	2,6-dimethyloctane	10	2051-30-1	14.2316	22.1168
67	2,5-dimethylheptane	9	2216-30-0	12.7194	19.6126	141	2,7-dimethyloctane	10	1072-16-8	14.1466	22.0279
68	2,6-dimethylheptane	9	1072-05-5	12.3061	19.5250	142	2-methylnonane	10	871-83-0	14.5433	21.7531
69	2-methyloctane	9	3221-61-2	12.9433	19.2513	143	3-methylnonane	10	5911-04-6	14.7968	21.8399
70	3-methyloctane	9	2216-33-3	13.1247	19.3348	144	4-methylnonane	10	17301-94-9	14.6309	21.8741
71	4-methyloctane	9	2216-34-4	13.0553	19.3637	145	3-ethyldecane	10	5881-17-4	14.8844	21.9609
72	3-ethylheptane	9	15869-80-4	13.2367	19.4472	146	5-methylnonane	10	15869-85-9	14.7665	21.8836
73	4-ethylheptane	9	2216-32-2	13.1672	19.4760	147	4-ethyldecane	10	15869-86-0	14.8541	22.0046
74	nonane	9	111-84-2	13.4120	18.9797	148	4-propylheptane	10	3178-29-8	14.6883	22.0388
						149	decane	10	124-18-5	15.0680	21.4794

<sup>a</sup>Carbon atom number. <sup>b</sup>CAS registry number.



**Table 3. Correlation Equations of Nonlinear Change Properties for Noncyclic Alkanes ( $C_nH_{2n+2}$ ) (Model Equation:  $\ln(P_{(n)}) = a + b(n - 1) + c(S_{CNE}) + d(\Delta AOEI) + f(\Delta AIMPI)$ )**

no	property <sup>a</sup>	range of $n^b$	refs	A	b	c	d	f	R <sup>c</sup>	S <sup>c</sup>	N <sup>c</sup>	F <sup>c</sup>
1	$T_b$	2–100	103	4.6711	−0.004557	0.51642	0.23933	0.07237	0.9991	0.0092	210	28909.97
2	$T_c$	2–28	104	5.2970	−0.008300	0.42350	0.27253	0.28032	0.9989	0.0090	66	7024.25
3	$P_c$	2–28	104	1.9947	−0.041536	−0.30826	0.38453	1.12759	0.9981	0.0257	66	4100.30
4	$\omega$	2–36	55	−3.2295	−0.001719	0.89336	0.06814	−1.78074	0.9988	0.0258	93	9534.25
5	$D$	5–17	102	−0.9705	−0.008948	0.25682	0.24878	0.55096	0.9315	0.0178	61	91.80
6	$C_p$	4–16	102	3.6320	0.025742	0.66599	0.06886	−0.17736	0.9993	0.0101	34	5516.54
7	$n_D$	4–20	102	0.1752	−0.002361	0.06646	0.05358	0.11829	0.9414	0.00422	150	282.38
8	$P_v$	2–16	102	7.3280	−0.455149	−0.32903	−1.04425	1.67722	0.9958	0.0121	63	1711.36
9	$I_p$	2–11	104	2.5643	0.004886	−0.12107	0.02298	0.01648	0.9980	0.0033	20	912.82
10	$S_w$	2–10	105	3.5869	0.867740	−1.73424	0.06906	−2.85871	0.9931	0.1209	24	341.51
11	$\mu$	5–35	106	−5.1254	0.066700	1.50894	−0.51913	−0.10828	0.9960	0.1174	78	2254.46
12	$T_F$	3–16	93	4.4741	0.003817	0.44150	0.14294	−0.13321	0.9923	0.0172	92	1398.31

<sup>a</sup> $T_b$ , normal boiling point (K);  $T_c$ , critical temperature (K);  $P_c$ , critical pressure (MPa);  $\omega$ , acentric factor;  $D$ , liquid density ( $g\cdot cm^{-3}$ , 293.15 K);  $C_p$ , heat capacity ( $J\cdot mol^{-1}\cdot K^{-1}$ );  $n_D$ , refractive index (293.15 K);  $P_v$ , vapor pressure (Pa, 298.15 K), regression in the form of  $\log P_v$ ;  $I_p$ , ionization potential (eV);  $S_w$ , water solubility ( $mol\cdot L^{-1}$ , 298.15 K), regression in the form of  $-\log S_w$ ;  $\mu$ , liquid viscosity [mPa·s (300 K)];  $T_F$ , flash point (K). These properties data are listed in the Supporting Information. <sup>b</sup>Carbon atom number range. <sup>c</sup>R, S, N, and F are correlation coefficient, standard error, number of data points, and Fisher test, respectively.

$$S(a) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/1 & 1/4 & 1/9 & 1/16 \\ 1/1 & 0 & 1/1 & 1/4 & 1/9 \\ 1/4 & 1/1 & 0 & 1/1 & 1/4 \\ 1/9 & 1/4 & 1/1 & 0 & 1/1 \\ 1/16 & 1/9 & 1/4 & 1/1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$S(b) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/1 & 1/4 & 1/9 & 1/4 \\ 1/1 & 0 & 1/1 & 1/4 & 1/1 \\ 1/4 & 1/1 & 0 & 1/1 & 1/4 \\ 1/9 & 1/4 & 1/1 & 0 & 1/9 \\ 1/4 & 1/1 & 1/4 & 1/9 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$S(c) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/1 & 0 & 1/1 & 1/1 & 1/1 \\ 1/4 & 1/1 & 0 & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/4 & 1/1 & 1/4 & 0 & 1/4 \\ 1/4 & 1/1 & 1/4 & 1/4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Using eq 16, the OEI values of (a), (b), and (c) in Figure 1 are calculated as follows

$$OEI(a) = 1 \times 8 + (-1/4) \times 6 + (1/9) \times 4 + (-1/16) \times 2 = 6.8194$$

$$OEI(b) = 1 \times 8 + (-1/4) \times 8 + (1/9) \times 4 = 6.4444$$

$$OEI(c) = 1 \times 8 + (-1/4) \times 12 = 5.0000$$

It shows that the OEI values of *n*-pentane, 2-methylbutane, and 2,2-dimethylpropane are 6.8194, 6.4444, and 5.0000, respectively.

② Inner molecular polarizability index (IMPI)

$$IMPI = \sum PEI(i) \quad (17)$$

In eq 17, the  $PEI(i)$  is the sum of the polarizability effect index of alkyl groups ( $R_i$ ) connected to the  $i$ th carbon atom, that is, the  $i$ th carbon atom in an alkane molecule was taken as the beginning atom, the other part was taken as the alkyl group. The

$PEI(i)$  value of alkyl group  $R_i$  can be calculated with the  $\Delta PEI$  values of carbon atoms in  $R_i$  (see Table 1), that is,  $PEI(i) = \sum \Delta PEI(i)$ . Take Figure 1a, for example, the  $C_1$  connects with a butyl, the  $C_2$  connects with a methyl and a propyl, and the  $C_3$  connects with two ethyl.

The calculations of IMPI of Figure 1a–c, for examples, are described as follows

IMPI(a)

$$C_1 : PEI(1) = 1.00000 + 0.14053 + 0.04813 + 0.02350 = 1.21216$$

$$C_2 : PEI(2) = 2 \times 1.00000 + 0.14053 + 0.04813 = 2.18866$$

$$C_3 : PEI(3) = 2 \times 1.00000 + 2 \times 0.14053 = 2.28106$$

$$C_4 : PEI(4) = 2 \times 1.00000 + 0.14053 + 0.04813 = 2.18866$$

$$C_5 : PEI(5) = 1.00000 + 0.14053 + 0.04813 + 0.02350 = 1.21216$$

$$IMPI(a) = \sum PEI(i) = 1.21216 + 2.18866 + 2.28106 + 2.18866 + 1.21216 = 9.0827$$

IMPI(b)

$$C_1 : PEI(1) = 1.00000 + 2 \times 0.14053 + 0.04813 = 1.32919$$

$$C_2 : PEI(2) = 3 \times 1.00000 + 0.14053 = 3.14053$$

$$C_3 : PEI(3) = 2 \times 1.00000 + 2 \times 0.14053 = 2.28106$$

$$C_4 : PEI(4) = 1.00000 + 0.14053 + 2 \times 0.04813 = 1.23679$$

**Table 4. Correlation Equations of Linear Change Properties for Alkanes ( $C_nH_{2n+2}$ ) (Model Equation:  $P_{LC(n)} = a + b(n - 1) + c(S_{CNE}) + d(\Delta AOEI) + f(\Delta AIMPI)$ )**

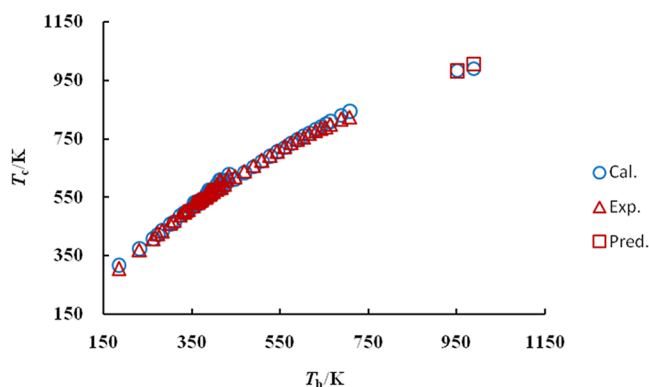
no	property <sup>a</sup>	range of $n^b$	refs	$a$	$b$	$c$	$d$	$f$	$R^c$	$S^c$	$N^c$	$F^c$
1	$V_c$	2–28	104	188.34	75.8288	-91.0463	-110.360	-274.627	0.9996	11.71	66	17834.40
2	$H_v$	2–20	102	0.0000	4.7314	3.04667	9.40258	-13.6059	0.9996	1.39	58	15937.88
3	$\Delta_f H^\circ(g)$	2–18	107	-57.764	-19.759	-5.7347	48.0354	-4.7239	0.9981	3.39	53	3223.22

<sup>a</sup> $V_c$ , critical volume ( $\text{cm}^3\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ );  $H_v$ , enthalpy of vaporization ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ , 29815 K);  $\Delta_f H^\circ(g)$ , gas enthalpy of formation ( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ , 29815 K). These properties data are listed in the Supporting Information. <sup>b</sup>Carbon atom number range. <sup>c</sup> $R$ ,  $S$ ,  $N$ , and  $F$  are correlation coefficient, standard error, number of data points, and Fisher test, respectively.

**Table 5. Regression Equations between the Boiling Point,  $T_b$ , and Other Nonlinear Change Properties of Noncyclic Alkanes (Model Eqs 26 and 27)**

no	property <sup>a</sup>	range of $n$	$a_r$ ( $a_s$ )	$b_r$ ( $b_s$ )	$c_r$ ( $c_s$ )	$d_r$ ( $d_s$ )	$f_r$ ( $f_s$ )	$R$	$S$	$N$	$F$
1	$T_c$	2–28	0.671645	-0.0002125	-0.12517	0.03554	0.30971	0.9954	0.0091	66	1699.06
2	$P_c$	2–28	-2.330866	-0.0130645	-1.04390	0.18082	1.50572	0.9982	0.0559	66	4245.89
3	$\omega^b$	2–36	(-1.332476)	(0.0128386)	(-1.47659)	(-0.28135)	(1.90454)	0.9994	0.0308	93	17927.71
4	$C_p$	4–16	-1.030352	0.0284990	0.14976	-0.13550	-0.19917	0.9952	0.0119	34	742.55
5	$n_D$	4–20	-4.561081	-0.0033275	-0.40728	-0.16300	0.02836	0.9963	0.0085	150	4849.88
6	$M$	5–32	-9.566848	0.0815303	0.87314	-0.70974	-0.06604	0.9922	0.1152	75	1114.16
7	$T_F^b$	3–16	(9.191281)	(0.0043236)	(0.92540)	(0.37126)	(-0.06981)	0.9972	0.0211	92	3903.76

<sup>a</sup>Symbols are defined in Table 3, obtained using model eq 26 except when noted otherwise. <sup>b</sup>Obtained using model eq 27.



**Figure 2.** Plot of calculated ( $\circ$ ), predicted ( $\square$ ), and experimental ( $\Delta$ ) critical temperature ( $T_c$ ) values versus experimental boiling points ( $T_b$ ) of noncyclic alkanes ( $n = 2–100$ ).

$$C_5 : PEI(5) = 1.00000 + 2 \times 0.14053 + 0.04813 \\ = 1.32919$$

$$IMPI(b) = \Sigma PEI(i) = 1.32919 + 3.14053 + 2.28106 \\ + 1.23679 + 1.32919 = 9.3167$$

$$IMPI(c)$$

$$C_1 : PEI(1) = 1.00000 + 3 \times 0.14053 = 1.42159$$

$$C_2 : PEI(2) = 4 \times 1.00000 = 4.00000$$

$$C_3 : PEI(3) = 1.00000 + 3 \times 0.14053 = 1.42159$$

$$C_4 : PEI(4) = 1.00000 + 3 \times 0.14053 = 1.42159$$

$$C_5 : PEI(5) = 1.00000 + 3 \times 0.14053 = 1.42159$$

$$IMPI(c) = \Sigma PEI(i) = 1.42159 + 4.00000 + 1.42159 \\ + 1.42159 + 1.42159 = 9.6863$$

It shows that the IMPI values of *n*-pentane, 2-methylbutane, and 2,2-dimethylpropane are 9.0827, 9.3167, and 9.6863, respectively.

Using abovementioned methods, we calculated the OEI and IMPI values of 149 alkanes bearing 2 to 10 carbon atoms, as shown in Table 2.

**2.1.2. Calculation of AOEI, AIMPI,  $\Delta AOEI$ , and  $\Delta AIMPI$  of Alkanes.** It can be observed from the calculation results in "Section 2.1.1" that the carbon atom numbers of *n*-pentane, 2-methylbutane, and 2,2-dimethylpropane are equal, while the OEI or IMPI values of them are different from each other. Their OEI value order is *n*-pentane (6.8194) > 2-methylbutane (6.4444) > 2,2-dimethylpropane (5.0000), while their IMPI value order is *n*-pentane (9.0827) < 2-methylbutane (9.3167) < 2,2-dimethylpropane (9.5863). Thus, we can employ the differences of OEI and IMPI values between linear and branched alkanes to express the molecular carbon atomic skeleton differences.

Because the OEI and IMPI values are all affected by carbon atoms of alkanes, here we calculate the average values AOEI and AIMPI and employ their differences,  $\Delta AOEI$  and  $\Delta AIMPI$ ,

**Table 6. Regression Equations between the Boiling Point,  $T_b$ , and Other Linear Change Properties,  $V_c$ ,  $H_v$ , and  $\Delta_f H^\circ(g)$  of Noncyclic Alkanes (Model eq 33)**

no	$P(n)$	$P_{LC(n)}^a$	range of $n$	$a'$	$b'$	$c'$	$d'$	$f'$	$g'$	$R$	$S$	$N$	$F$
1	$T_b$	$V_c$	2–28	4.737424	0.015400	0.48523	0.21540	-0.02404	-0.000251	0.9995	0.0082	66	12877.90
2	$T_b$	$H_v$	2–20	4.708414	-0.001745	0.49456	0.21901	0.00921	0.000049	0.9994	0.0079	58	8570.00
3	$T_b$	$\Delta_f H^\circ(g)$	2–18	4.808724	0.030819	0.49350	0.15290	0.06966	0.001546	0.9995	0.0060	53	10286.52

<sup>a</sup>Symbols are defined in Table 4.

Table 7. Regression Equations between the Linear Change Properties,  $V_c$ ,  $H_v$ , and  $\Delta_f H^\circ(g)$  Against the Boiling Point,  $T_b$ , of Noncyclic Alkanes (Model eq 34)

no	$P_{LC(n)}$	$a'$	$b'$	$c'$	$d'$	$f'$	$g'$	R	S	N	F
1	$V_c$	2323.19	74.1747	140.224	0.295647	-254.192	-455.176	0.9996	11.11	66	15845.42
2	$H_v$	0.00000	4.81737	2.15426	9.62160	-12.6000	0.271332	0.9996	1.39	58	12599.01
3	$\Delta_f H^\circ(g)$	-1387.84	-19.8372	-142.320	-15.9824	-22.2982	281.830	0.9990	2.57	53	4480.91

<sup>a</sup>Symbols are defined in Table 4.

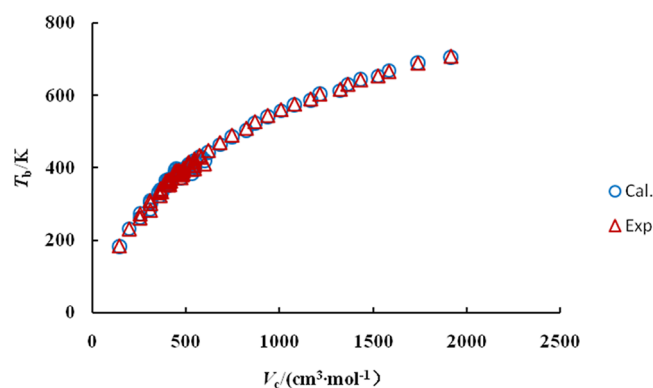


Figure 3. Plot of calculated (O) and experimental (Δ) boiling point ( $T_b$ ) values versus the critical volume ( $V_c$ ) of noncyclic alkanes ( $n = 2–28$ ).

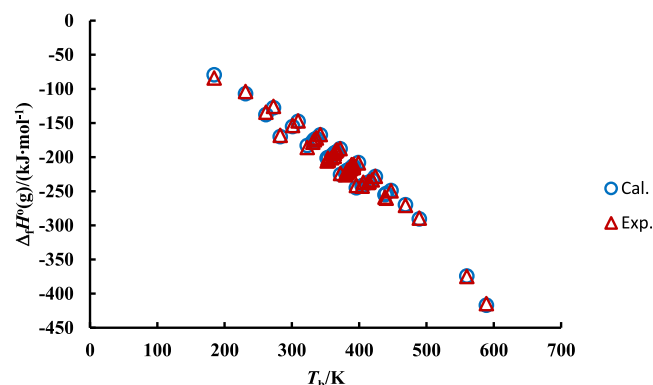


Figure 4. Plot of calculated (O) and experimental (Δ) values of gas enthalpies of formation [ $\Delta_f H^\circ(g)$ ] versus experimental boiling points ( $T_b$ ) of noncyclic alkanes ( $n = 2–18$ ).

between linear and branched alkanes to express the molecular carbon atomic skeleton differences, that is

$$\text{AOEI} = \text{OEI} / n \quad (18)$$

$$\text{AIMPI} = \text{IMPI} / n \quad (19)$$

$$\Delta \text{AOEI} = \text{AOEI}_{\text{br}} - \text{AOEI}_{\text{lin}} \quad (20)$$

$$\Delta \text{AIMPI} = \text{AIMPI}_{\text{br}} - \text{AIMPI}_{\text{lin}} \quad (21)$$

In eqs 18–21, the  $n$  is the carbon atom number in the alkane molecule, the subscript br and lin represent branched alkane and linear alkane, which have an equal carbon atom number, respectively. Equations 20 and 21 mean that the  $\Delta \text{AOEI}$  and  $\Delta \text{AIMPI}$  values of linear alkanes all are zero.

Take the calculations of AOEI and AIMPI of Figure 1a–c for examples. The three molecules all have five carbon atoms ( $n = 5$ ), thus, their AOEI and AIMPI are calculated as follows

Calculation of AOEI

$$\text{AOEI(a)} = \text{OEI(a)} / n = 6.8194 / 5 = 1.3639$$

$$\text{AOEI(b)} = \text{OEI(b)} / n = 6.4444 / 5 = 1.2889$$

$$\text{AOEI(c)} = \text{OEI(c)} / n = 5.0000 / 5 = 1.0000$$

Calculation of AIMPI

$$\text{AIMPI(a)} = \text{IMPI(a)} / n = 9.0827 / 5 = 1.8165$$

$$\text{AIMPI(b)} = \text{IMPI(b)} / n = 9.3167 / 5 = 1.8633$$



**Table 8. Estimation Accuracy for the Properties of Noncyclic Alkanes by Using the Obtained Model Equations in Tables 3 and 4, and Estimation Results of Other Works**

property <sup>a</sup>	range of <i>n</i> <sup>b</sup>	<i>N</i> <sup>c</sup>	this work			other works			refs
			RMSE <sup>d</sup>	AAE <sup>d</sup>	AAPE % <sup>d</sup>	RMSE <sup>d</sup>	AAE <sup>d</sup>	AAPE % <sup>d</sup>	
<i>T<sub>b</sub></i>	2–100	210	3.96	2.97	0.67	7.9	6.17	1.44	37
<i>T<sub>c</sub></i>	2–28	66	5.07	3.47	0.60	10.77	7.72	1.23	37
<i>P<sub>c</sub></i>	2–28	66	0.060	0.037	1.63	2.38	1.4	2.228, 3.90	18, 37
<i>ω</i>	2–36	93	0.012	0.0080	1.81	0.1002	0.0534, 0.0130	11.09, 4.08	37, 55
<i>D</i>	5–17	61	0.0132	0.0065	0.87	0.0185			102
<i>C<sub>p</sub></i>	4–16	34	2.30	1.70	0.71	3.5		3, 2.682	17, 18, 64
<i>n<sub>D</sub></i>	4–20	150	0.0060	0.0027	0.19	0.0136			102
<i>P<sub>v</sub></i> <sup>e</sup>	2–16	63	0.121	0.074	2.01			3.4, 9.8	53, 88
<i>I<sub>p</sub></i>	2–11	20	0.031	0.024	0.24	0.1193			105
<i>S<sub>w</sub></i> <sup>e</sup>	2–10	24	0.011	0.084	2.02	0.167			105
<i>μ</i>	5–35	78	0.264	0.1978	9.51		0.21		106
<i>T<sub>F</sub></i>	3–16	92	4.52	3.51	1.26	12.01, 5.58	8.97	2.8	37, 93
<i>V<sub>c</sub></i>	2–28	66	11.42	8.93	1.87	11.65	7.97	1.915, 2.05	18, 37
<i>H<sub>v</sub></i>	2–20	58	1.36	0.88	3.19	1.42, 1.9	0.95	2.66, 4.08	37, 46, 77
$\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$	2–18	53	3.29	2.59	1.24	7.04, 6.74	5.03		37, 68

<sup>a</sup>Symbols are defined in Tables 3 and 4. <sup>b</sup>Carbon atom number range. <sup>c</sup>Number of data points. <sup>d</sup>Symbols RMSE, AAE, and AAPE represent root mean square error, AAE, and AAPE, respectively. The AAE and AAPE of  $\omega$  in ref 55 include alkanes and cycloalkanes. In this work, the RMSE is obtained from the calculated and experimental values. <sup>e</sup>The regression of  $P_v$  is in the form of  $\log P_v$ ; the regression of  $S_w$  is in the form of  $-\log S_w$ .

$$\text{AIMPI}(c) = \text{IMPI}(c) / n = 9.6863 / 5 = 1.9372$$

Calculation of  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$ :

It is known that AOEI value of *n*-pentane is  $\text{AOEI}(a) = 1.3639$ ; therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\text{AOEI}(a) &= \text{AOEI}(a) - \text{AOEI}(a) = 1.3639 - 1.3639 \\ &= 0.0000 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\text{AOEI}(b) &= \text{AOEI}(b) - \text{AOEI}(a) = 1.2889 - 1.3639 \\ &= -0.0750 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\text{AOEI}(c) &= \text{AOEI}(c) - \text{AOEI}(a) = 1.0000 - 1.3639 \\ &= -0.3639 \end{aligned}$$

The calculation results show that the  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$  values of *n*-pentane, 2-methylbutane, and 2,2-dimethylpropane are 0.0000, -0.0750, and -0.3639, respectively.

Calculation of  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$ :

It is known that AIMPI value of *n*-pentane is  $\text{AIMPI}(a) = 1.8165$ ; therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\text{AIMPI}(a) &= \text{AIMPI}(a) - \text{AIMPI}(a) = 1.8165 - 1.8165 \\ &= 0.0000 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\text{AIMPI}(b) &= \text{AIMPI}(b) - \text{AIMPI}(a) = 1.8633 - 1.8165 \\ &= 0.0468 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\text{AIMPI}(c) &= \text{AIMPI}(c) - \text{AIMPI}(a) = 1.9372 - 1.8165 \\ &= 0.1207 \end{aligned}$$

The calculation results show that the  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$  values of *n*-pentane, 2-methylbutane, and 2,2-dimethylpropane are 0.0000, 0.0468, and 0.1207, respectively.

In this study, the parameters both  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$  and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$  are used to express molecular structure difference between linear and branched alkane isomers.

**2.1.3. General Equation Expressing the Properties of Noncyclic Alkanes.** In our previous paper,<sup>101</sup> the NPOH

equation was proposed to express changes in the physicochemical properties of organic homologues, as shown eq 22

$$\ln(P_{(n)}) = a + b(n - 1) + c(S_{\text{CNE}}) \quad (22)$$

where  $P_{(n)}$  represents property of linear alkane  $\text{H}-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{H}$ ,  $n$  is repeating structural unit ( $\text{CH}_2$ ) number, and  $S_{\text{CNE}}$  is “sum of carbon number effects,” the term  $\sum_{i=2}^n \left(\frac{1}{i-1}\right)$ .

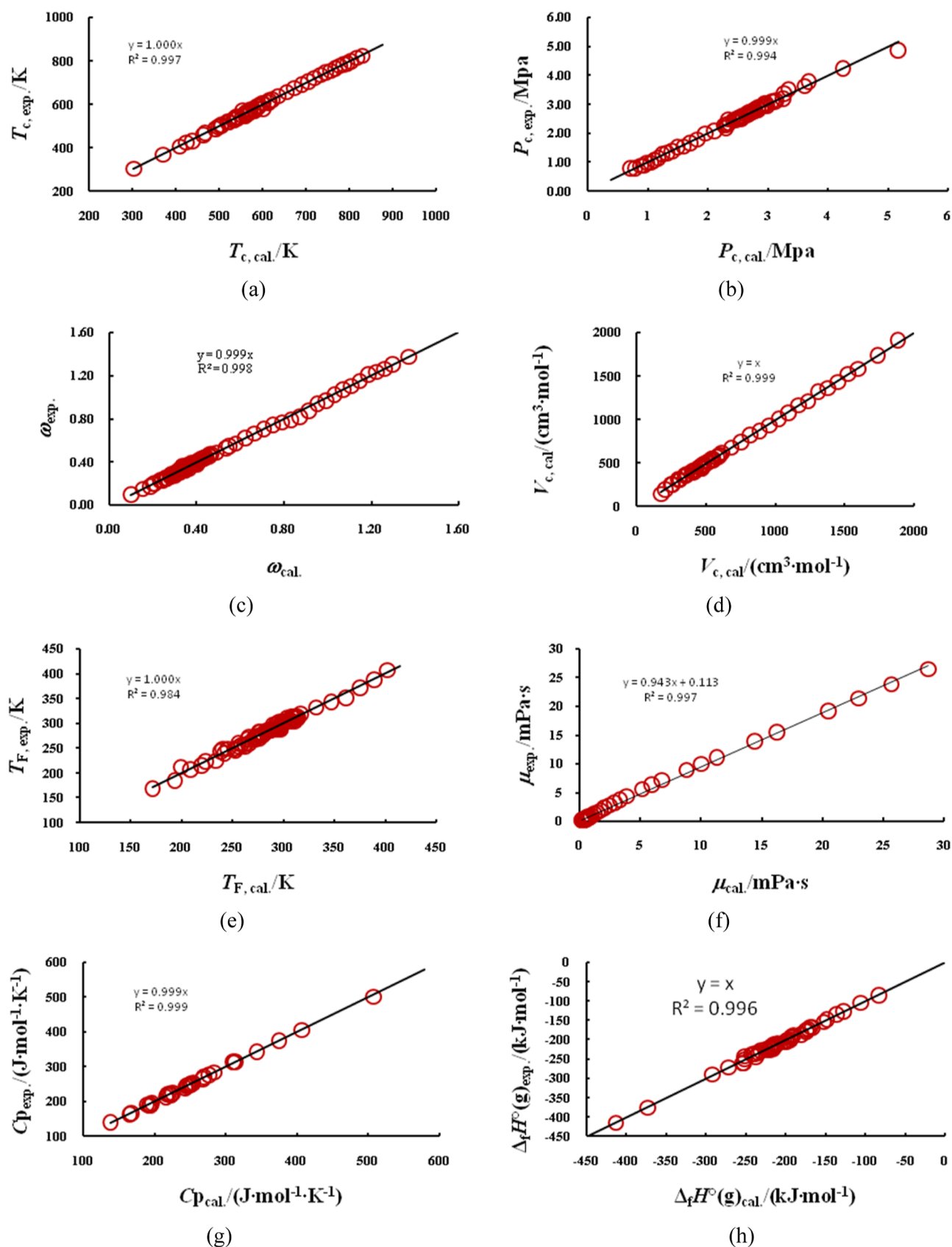
For the isomers of linear alkanes, they have an equal carbon atom number in the molecular structure. Their properties should be dominated by the carbon atom number  $n$  and the characteristic parameters of molecular structure. If the former is denoted by  $(n - 1)$  and  $S_{\text{CNE}}$ , the latter is denoted by  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$  and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$ , then we can establish a general equation, *via* taking the parent linear alkane molecule as reference and adding parameters  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$  and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$  into eq 22, to express the properties of noncyclic alkanes (involving linear and branched alkane isomers), as shown in eq 23

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(P_{(n)}) &= a + b(n - 1) + c(S_{\text{CNE}}) + d(\Delta\text{AOEI}) \\ &+ f(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

It should be noted that, in eq 23, the  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$  and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$  values all are zero for the linear alkane molecules; in such cases, eq 23 will return to eq 22. For convenience, eq 23 is named the “NPNA equation” (i.e., the abbreviation of “nonlinear properties of noncyclic alkanes equation”).

**2.2. Applicability of NPNA Equation.** **2.2.1. Correlation with the Properties of Alkanes.** In order to test the applicability of NPNA eq 23, quantitative correlation analysis was conducted using various physicochemical properties (nonlinear changes) of noncyclic alkanes. First, the  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$  and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$  values were calculated with the methods described in “Sections 2.1.1 and 2.1.2,” and the  $S_{\text{CNE}}$  values were directly taken from our earlier paper.<sup>101</sup> Then, using eq 23 as a model equation, we performed regression analysis of properties  $P_{(n)}$  of noncyclic alkanes. The results are shown in Table 3.

It can be observed, from the results of Table 3, that most of the correlation coefficients ( $R$ ) (except for  $D$  and  $n_D$  properties)



**Figure 5.** Plot of calculated versus experimental (a)  $T_c$ , (b)  $P_c$ , (c)  $\omega$ , (d)  $V_c$ , (e)  $T_f$ , (f)  $\mu$ , (g)  $C_p$ , and (h)  $\Delta_f H^\circ(g)$  values of noncyclic alkanes.

were above 0.99 for the various properties of noncyclic alkanes, indicating that eq 23 can be used to express the regularity of property changes of noncyclic alkanes. In Table 3, the

correlation coefficients  $R$  are 0.9315 and 0.9414 for  $D$  (no. 5) and  $n_D$  (no. 7), respectively. Since the data distribution ranges of  $D$  (liquid density,  $\text{g}\cdot\text{cm}^{-3}$ ) and  $n_D$  (refractive index) are narrow,

in 0.6201–0.8242 and 1.3326–1.4695, respectively, the correlation coefficients of the equations are less than 0.99. Indeed, in Yuan's report,<sup>99</sup> the correlation coefficients of correlation equations involving properties  $D$  and  $n_D$  are also less than those of other properties. However, the calculation accuracy of eqs 5 and 7 are satisfactory, in which, the average absolute percentage error (AAPE) of density ( $D$ ) is only 0.87% for 61 compounds used in the equation and that of refractive index ( $n_D$ ) is only 0.19% for 150 compounds used in the equation. Properties with different change regularities for noncyclic alkanes which can have the same expression is surprising and have not been reported previously.

In our previous paper,<sup>101</sup> eq 24 was suggested to express the linear change property,  $P_{LC(n)}$ , of homologues. Thus, in this work, we try to add parameters  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$  and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$  into eq 24 for expressing the linear change property of noncyclic alkanes, as shown in eq 25:

$$P_{LC(n)} = a + b(n - 1) + c(S_{\text{CNE}}) \quad (24)$$

$$P_{LC(n)} = a + b(n - 1) + c(S_{\text{CNE}}) + d(\Delta\text{AOEI}) + f(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) \quad (25)$$

Take the critical volume ( $V_c$ ), enthalpies of vaporization ( $H_v$ ), and gas enthalpies of formation [ $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$ ], for example, we employed eq 25 as a model equation to perform regression analysis of properties,  $V_c$ ,  $H_v$ , and  $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$ , of noncyclic alkanes. The obtained regression equations are listed in Table 4.

The correlation coefficients ( $R$ ) of correlation equations in Table 4 are all above 0.99, indicating that eq 25 is suitable for expressing the linear change properties of noncyclic alkanes. Of course, for some linear change properties of noncyclic alkanes, such as molar mass ( $M_{\text{mol}}$ ), coefficients  $c$ ,  $d$ , and  $f$  in eq 25 all are equal to zero, meaning that terms  $S_{\text{CNE}}$ ,  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$ , and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$  do not need to be employed in such cases.

**2.2.2. Relationship between Properties of Alkanes.** Equations 23 and 25 show that both linear and nonlinear change properties of noncyclic alkanes can be correlated with the parameters  $n$ ,  $S_{\text{CNE}}$ ,  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$ , and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$ , which implies that we can link the change regularities of different properties of noncyclic alkanes *via* using the parameters  $n$ ,  $S_{\text{CNE}}$ ,  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$ , and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$ .

**2.2.2.1. Relationship between Nonlinear Change Properties.** If one property of noncyclic alkanes is  $P_{(n)}$  (such as boiling point) and the other property is  $P'_{(n)}$  (such as critical temperature), from eq 23, we can theoretically obtain eqs 26 and 27:

$$\begin{aligned} [\ln(P_{(n)}) - \ln(P'_{(n)})] &= (a - a') + (b - b')(n - 1) \\ &+ (c - c')(S_{\text{CNE}}) + (d - d')(\Delta\text{AOEI}) \\ &+ (f - f')(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) \\ &= a_r + b_r(n - 1) + c_r(S_{\text{CNE}}) + d_r(\Delta\text{AOEI}) \\ &+ f_r(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\ln(P_{(n)}) + \ln(P'_{(n)})] &= (a + a') + (b + b')(n - 1) \\ &+ (c + c')(S_{\text{CNE}}) + (d + d')(\Delta\text{AOEI}) \\ &+ (f + f')(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) \\ &= a_s + b_s(n - 1) + c_s(S_{\text{CNE}}) + d_s(\Delta\text{AOEI}) \\ &+ f_s(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

In eq 26,  $a_r = a - a'$ ,  $b_r = b - b'$ ,  $c_r = c - c'$ ,  $d_r = d - d'$  and  $f_r = f - f'$ , while in eq 27,  $a_s = a + a'$ ,  $b_s = b + b'$ ,  $c_s = c + c'$ ,  $d_s = d + d'$ , and  $f_s = f + f'$ . For the two specific physicochemical properties,  $P_{(n)}$  and  $P'_{(n)}$ , of noncyclic alkanes, parameters  $a_r$ ,  $b_r$ ,  $c_r$ ,  $d_r$ ,  $f_r$ ,  $a_s$ ,  $b_s$ ,  $c_s$ ,  $d_s$ , and  $f_s$  can be obtained using the regression method.

When the logarithms of eqs 26 and 27 are removed, they can be expressed as eqs 28 and 29:

$$P_{(n)} = P'_{(n)} e^{a_r} (e^{b_r})^{(n-1)} e^{c_r S_{\text{CNE}}} e^{d_r(\Delta\text{AOEI})} e^{f_r(\Delta\text{AIMPI})} \quad (28)$$

$$P_{(n)} = [P'_{(n)}]^{-1} e^{a_s} (e^{b_s})^{(n-1)} e^{c_s S_{\text{CNE}}} e^{d_s(\Delta\text{AOEI})} e^{f_s(\Delta\text{AIMPI})} \quad (29)$$

Equations 26 and 27 (or eqs 28 and 29) are the relationship between two properties of noncyclic alkanes. By using eqs 26 and 27 (or eqs 28 and 29), one property of noncyclic alkanes can be correlated with another property, providing simple and convenient correlation of the noncyclic alkane properties.

Take  $T_c$  and  $T_b$  of noncyclic alkanes, for example, we used eq 26 as a model equation and obtained the relationship between  $T_c$  and  $T_b$ , as shown in eq 30 (also no. 1 of Table 5), in which the alkanes used is same as the no. 2 in Table 3.

$$\begin{aligned} T_{c(n)} &= T_{b(n)} \times 1.957455 \times 0.999788^{(n-1)} \times e^{-0.12517 S_{\text{CNE}}} \\ &e^{0.035541(\Delta\text{AOEI})} e^{0.309706(\Delta\text{AIMPI})} \\ &= T_{b(n)} \times 1.957455 \times 0.999788^{(n-1)} \\ &\times e^{(-0.12517 S_{\text{CNE}} + 0.035541(\Delta\text{AOEI}) + 0.309706(\Delta\text{AIMPI}))} \\ R &= 0.9954, S = 0.0091, N = 66, F = 1699.06 \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Equation 30 is the quantitative relationship between  $T_b$  and  $T_c$  for noncyclic alkanes. Using eq 30,  $T_c$  of noncyclic alkanes can be calculated from their  $T_b$ . The calculated results show that the average absolute error (AAE) between the experimental value ( $T_{c \text{ exp.}}$ ) and calculated value ( $T_{c \text{ cal.}}$ ) was 3.40 K, and the AAPE was 0.58% for the 66 alkanes ( $n = 2-28$ ). The plot of the calculated, predicted by Bychinsky<sup>38</sup> ( $n\text{-C}_{80}$  and  $n\text{-C}_{100}$ ), and experimental values of critical temperature versus the boiling point of noncyclic alkanes is as shown in Figure 2.

As further examples, eqs 26 and 27 were used as model equations to quantitatively correlate the boiling points of noncyclic alkanes with other properties,  $P_c$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $C_p$ ,  $n_D$ ,  $\mu$ , and  $T_F$ . The results are listed in Table 5, which shows that any nonlinear change property of noncyclic alkanes can be correlated with the boiling point.

**2.2.2.2. Relationship between Nonlinear and Linear Change Properties of Noncyclic Alkanes.** Equations 23 and 25 express the change regularities of the nonlinear and linear change properties of noncyclic alkanes, respectively, notably they have the same variables,  $(n - 1)$ ,  $S_{\text{CNE}}$ ,  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$ , and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$ . Therefore, we can establish a correlation between the nonlinear and linear change properties of noncyclic alkanes by combining eqs 23 and 25, as shown in eqs 31 and 32

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(P_{(n)}) - P_{LC(n)} &= a' + b'(n - 1) + c'(S_{\text{CNE}}) + d'(\Delta\text{AOEI}) \\ &+ f'(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} P_{LC(n)} - \ln(P_{(n)}) &= a' + b'(n - 1) + c'(S_{\text{CNE}}) + d'(\Delta\text{AOEI}) \\ &+ f'(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

Equations 31 and 32 can also be written as eqs 33 and 34

$$\ln(P_{(n)}) = a' + b'(n-1) + c'(S_{\text{CNE}}) + d'(\Delta\text{AOEI}) + f'(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) + g'P_{\text{LC}(n)} \quad (33)$$

$$P_{\text{LC}(n)} = a' + b'(n-1) + c'(S_{\text{CNE}}) + d'(\Delta\text{AOEI}) + f'(\Delta\text{AIMPI}) + g'\ln(P_{(n)}) \quad (34)$$

where for the two specific physicochemical properties,  $P_{(n)}$  and  $P_{\text{LC}(n)}$ , of noncyclic alkanes, parameters  $a'$ ,  $b'$ ,  $c'$ ,  $d'$ ,  $f'$ , and  $g'$  can be obtained by using the regression method.

Using the critical volume ( $V_c$ ), enthalpies of vaporization ( $H_v$ ), and gas enthalpies of formation ( $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$ ) of noncyclic alkanes as examples, the correlation equations between the boiling point ( $T_b$ ) and  $V_c$ ,  $H_v$  and  $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$  were obtained, *via* employing eq 33 as a model equation and using the regression method, as shown in Table 6. When we used eq 34 as a model equation to carry out regression, we got the regression equations listed in Table 7.

The results in Tables 5 and 7 show that the correlation between the nonlinear and linear change properties of noncyclic alkanes can be established well by employing model eqs 33 or 34, that is, one nonlinear change property could be estimated by using another linear change property of noncyclic alkanes, and vice versa. The following are two calculation examples.

#### Example 1

Using equation 1 in Table 6, the boiling point ( $T_b$ ) of noncyclic alkanes can be calculated from their critical volume ( $V_c$ ). The AAE between the experimental value ( $T_{b,\text{exp}}$ ) and calculated value ( $T_{b,\text{cal}}$ ) was 2.48 K, and the AAPE was 0.61% for the 66 compounds ( $n = 2-28$ ) used in the equation. Figure 3 shows the plot of the calculated and experimental values of boiling point versus the critical volume of noncyclic alkanes.

#### Example 2:

Using equation 3 in Table 7, the gas enthalpies of formation,  $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$ , of noncyclic alkanes can be calculated from their boiling point ( $T_b$ ). The AAE between the experimental value [ $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})_{\text{exp}}$ ] and calculated value [ $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})_{\text{cal}}$ ] was 1.91 kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup> (exhibiting chemical accuracy, i.e., a maximum 4.2 kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup> difference<sup>70</sup>), and the AAPE was 1.01% for the 53 compounds ( $n = 2-18$ ) used in equation. Figure 4 shows a plot of the calculated and experimental values of gas enthalpy of formation versus the boiling points of noncyclic alkanes.

The above results show that any two properties of noncyclic alkanes can be correlated with four parameters,  $n$ ,  $S_{\text{CNE}}$ ,  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$ , and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$ , without complex equations.

**2.2.3. Prediction of Properties of Alkanes.** Using the model equations in Tables 3 and 4, we can predict the properties of alkanes. First, we check up the estimation accuracy of these model equations *via* employing the model equations in Tables 3 and 4 to calculate the properties of alkanes and comparing the calculated values against the experimental values. The obtained results are listed in Table 8, showing good estimation accuracy, and the AAPE % of all properties (except for  $\mu$  property) of alkanes are less than 3.5%. Some examples of calculated versus experimental values are as shown in Figure 5, indicating the calculated values are in good agreement with the experimental values.

Here, we also compared the estimation results of this work with those of other works. It should be noted that it is difficult to compare the results reported in different works because the data sets and number of variables employed in the various works were different. Particularly, many of the other works only involve

alkanes with less than 11 carbon atoms. Nevertheless, some comparisons as follows are instructive. Allison et al.,<sup>108</sup> in 2022, obtained AAE 6 K (corresponding to AAPE 1.32%) by using a graph convolutional neural network to predict of normal boiling point. In this work, some estimation results reported in other works were also collected in Table 8.

It can be observed, from Table 8, that the RMSE, AAE, or AAPE % values of this work are less than those of other works for each property of noncyclic alkanes, indicating that the equations in Tables 3 and 4 are reliable. In addition, the methods of this work also has the advantages of uniform expression and usage of fewer parameters. Thus, we can use the equations in Tables 3 and 4 to predict the corresponding properties of noncyclic alkanes. In this work, we predicted some properties of noncyclic alkanes involving carbon atom numbers 2–40 and all isomers with carbon atoms 2–10 and listed them in Table S2 of the Supporting Information. These predicted property data are 142 critical temperatures, 142 critical pressures, 115 acentric factors, 116 flash points, 174 heat capacities, 142 critical volumes, and 155 gas enthalpies of formation, total of 986 values, which has not be experimentally measured.

The predicted properties of this work can also be applied in other fields. For example, the predicted  $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$  values can be used for optimizing combustion processes of fuels. It is known that the relationship between enthalpy of combustion  $\Delta_c H^\circ(\text{g})$  (kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup>) at 298.15 K and  $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$  of alkanes ( $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n+2}$ ) can be expressed by eq 35<sup>104</sup>

$$\Delta_c H^\circ(\text{g}) / (\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}) = 393.51n + 142.915(2n + 2) + \Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g}) / (\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}) \quad (35)$$

Thus, using eq 35 and the  $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$  of alkanes, we can calculate their  $\Delta_c H^\circ(\text{g})$ . Take  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{20}$  as an example, the predicted  $\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{g})$  values of *n*-nonane and 2,2,4-trimethylhexane are  $-231.4$  and  $-242.7$  kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. Their calculated  $\Delta_c H^\circ(\text{g})$  values are 6168.47 (experimental value 6170.98)<sup>80</sup> and 6157.21 (no experimental value). The calculated results show that the linear isomer has more enthalpy of combustion than branched isomers.

## 3. CONCLUSIONS

The research result of this work shows that based on the NPOH equation,<sup>101</sup> a general NPNA equation (equation 23) can be obtained *via* adding structural parameters  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$  and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$  that characterize the molecular carbon atomic skeleton difference between linear and branched alkane isomers. The various nonlinear change properties of noncyclic alkanes can be expressed by using NPNA equation, while for the various linear change properties of noncyclic alkanes, they can be expressed by using general eq 25. Therefore, both nonlinear and linear change properties of noncyclic alkanes can be correlated with four parameters, the number of carbon atoms ( $n$ ), the “sum of carbon number effects” ( $S_{\text{CNE}}$ ), average odd-even index difference ( $\Delta\text{AOEI}$ ), and average inner molecular polarizability index difference ( $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$ ). Furthermore, using the four parameters  $n$ ,  $S_{\text{CNE}}$ ,  $\Delta\text{AOEI}$ , and  $\Delta\text{AIMPI}$ , a quantitative correlation equation can be established between any two properties of noncyclic alkanes.

This work extended the NPOH equation and provided a simple and convenient estimation or prediction method for the properties of noncyclic alkanes. It can be widely used in studying QSPRs of noncyclic alkanes.



## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### SI Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsomega.2c06856>.

Physicochemical properties of alkanes and the predicted values of some properties of noncyclic alkanes (PDF)

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### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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