## **Appendix F**

## Comment on the data for ZrO(g) and ZrO<sub>2</sub>(g)

There may be some problems with the data for ZrO(g) and  $ZrO_2(g)$  selected in the NEA-TDB review of zirconium by Brown *et al.* [2005BRO/CUR]. The values given by Brown *et al.* are based on the assessment in the third edition of the Janaf tables [1985CHA/DAV], modified for the slightly different values of  $\Delta_f H^o_m (ZrO_2, cr, 298.15 \text{ K})$  used in the two reviews. However, the assessments in [1985CHA/DAV] for these species were made in December 1965 and thus predate a number of detailed experimental studies made in 1970s. Indeed, their values of the Gibbs energies of formation of both ZrO(g) and ZrO<sub>2</sub>(g) are based solely on an early mass-spectrometric study by Chupka *et al.* [1957CHU/BER].

The later assessment of [1982GLU/GUR] quotes seven studies of the thermodynamics of ZrO(g) and six for ZrO<sub>2</sub>(g), in both cases dating from 1957 to 1979. There seem to be no more recent experimental data on the vaporisation of these species. The values of  $\Delta_{\rm f} H^{\circ}_{\rm m}$  (ZrO, g, 298.15 K) derived by [1982GLU/GUR] vary from 45.9 to 108.9 kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup> (selected value (83.89 ± 11.00) kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup>), and those for  $\Delta_{\rm f} H^{\circ}_{\rm m}$  (ZrO<sub>2</sub>, g, 298.15 K) vary from -298 to -349 kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup> (selected value -(318.31 ± 15.00) kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup>). These selected values, especially that for ZrO(g), are appreciably different from the values in [1985CHA/DAV] and [2005BRO/CUR], as shown in Table F-1, which summarises the data for ZrO(g), ZrO<sub>2</sub>(cr) and ZrO<sub>2</sub>(g) from the three assessments.

Because of the considerable uncertainty in the value of  $\Delta_{\rm f} H^{\circ}_{\rm m}$  (ZrO, g, 298.15 K), this review has not utilised the data for the gaseous reaction Th(g) + ZrO(g)  $\rightleftharpoons$  ThO(g) + Zr(g) given by Ackermann and Rauh [1974ACK/RAU], as noted in Section VII.1.1.2.

Property	[1982GLU/GUR]	[1985CHA/DAV]	[2005BRO/CUR]
ZrO(g)			
$\Delta_{\rm f} H_{\rm m}^{\rm o}$ (298.15 K) (kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$83.89 \pm 11.00$	$58.6\pm50.2$	$56.200 \pm 27.008$
$S_{\rm m}^{\rm o}$ (298.15 K) (J·K <sup>-1</sup> ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	228.184	$227.6\pm8.4$	$227.6\pm8.4$
$C_{p,m}^{o}$ (298.15 K) (J·K <sup>-1</sup> ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	34.374	30.845	$30.8\pm1.0$
ZrO <sub>2</sub> (cr)			
$\Delta_{\rm f} H_{\rm m}^{\rm o}$ (298.15 K) (kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$-1100.3 \pm 1.3$	$-1097.463 \pm 1.700$	$-1100.6\pm1.3$
$S_{\rm m}^{\rm o}$ (298.15 K) (J·K <sup>-1</sup> ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	50.39	$50.359\pm0.330$	$50.19\pm0.62$
$C_{p,m}^{o}$ (298.15 K) (J·K <sup>-1</sup> ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	55.92	56.191	$55.96 \pm 0.79$
$ZrO_2(g)$			
$\Delta_{\rm f} H_{\rm m}^{\rm o} (298.15 \text{ K}) (\text{kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1})$	$-318.31 \pm 15.00$	$-305.4\pm12.6$	$-289.600 \pm 47.018$
$S_{\rm m}^{\rm o}$ (298.15 K) (J·K <sup>-1</sup> ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	264.631	$260.48 \pm 4.2$	$273.7\pm5.0$
$C_{p,m}^{o}$ (298.15 K) (J·K <sup>-1</sup> ·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	42.487	46.061	$46.1 \pm 1.0$

Table F-1: Comparison of assessed data for ZrO(g),  $ZrO_2(cr)$  and  $ZrO_2(g)$ 



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