



overhead product containing 97 mole percent methanol and a bottom product having 98 mole percent water. A mole reflux ratio of 3 is used. Calculate (i) moles of overhead product obtained per hour and (ii) number of ideal plates and location of the feed plate if the feed is at its bubble point.

Equilibrium data:

|   |       |       |       |       |      |       |       |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| x | 0.1   | 0.2   | 0.3   | 0.4   | 0.5  | 0.6   | 0.7   | 0.8   | 0.9   |
| y | 0.417 | 0.579 | 0.669 | 0.729 | 0.78 | 0.825 | 0.871 | 0.915 | 0.959 |

Where  $x$  = mole fraction of methanol in liquid

And  $y$  = mole fraction of methanol in vapor

What will be the effect on the overall economy of the process if the thermodynamic state of the feed is changed from bubble to dew point?