Neat Operation for Separating Methanol-Water

Flowsheet Description:

Neat operation means the condenser duty required in the one column is exactly equal to the reboiler duty in the next column. Here the system used is Methanol-Water. Methanol is more volatile so it is obtained as Distillate in both the units with purity around 99%. The water is obtained from the bottoms in each column which is around 99% pure. The feed composition is 0.6 mole fraction Methanol and 0.4 mole fraction Water flowing at a rate of 1000 mol/s. The feed is split in the ratio of 508.66 and 491.4 mol/s so that the column operates "neat".

| Stream | Bottoms1 | Bottom2 | Distillate1 | Distillate2 | Feed | Unit |
|---|----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|--------|-------|
| Temperature | 359.408 | 425.544 | 325.427 | 385.477 | 298.15 | K |
| Pressure | 60795 | 506625 | 60795 | 506625 | 101325 | Ра |
| Molar Flow | 201.405 | 192.716 | 305.159 | 298.84 | 1000 | mol/s |
| Molar Fraction(Mixture)/ Methanol | 4.24856e- 6 | 2.03644e- 6 | 0.993376 | 0.987129 | 0.6 | |
| Molar Fraction(Mixture)/ Water | 0.9999996 | 0.999998 | 0.00662401 | 0.0128711 | 0.4 | |

The low pressure column-I operates at 60795 Pa and column-II operates at 506625 Pa.

References:

Distillation Design and Control using Aspen Simulation, second edition. William L. Lubeyn