

3.13: Enthalpy is a State Function

Our expression for internal energy at constant pressure:

$$\Delta U = q_P + w = q_P - P\Delta V$$

Rearrange:

$$q_P = \Delta U + P\Delta V = U_2 - U_1 + P(V_2 - V_1)$$

$$q_P = (U_2 + PV_2) - (U_1 + PV_1)$$

We can define this term as enthalpy:

$$H \equiv U + PV$$

This is a new state function.

3.13: Enthalpy is a State Function is shared under a [not declared](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by LibreTexts.

- [19.14: Enthalpy is a State Function](#) has no license indicated.