

compensation effect

In a considerable number of cases plots of $T \Delta^\ddagger S$ vs. $\Delta^\ddagger H$, for a series of reactions, e.g. for a reaction in a range of different solvents, are straight lines of approximately unit slope. Therefore, the terms $\Delta^\ddagger H$ and $T \Delta^\ddagger S$ in the expression partially compensate, and

$$\Delta^\ddagger G = \Delta^\ddagger H - T \Delta^\ddagger S$$

often is a much simpler function of solvent (or other) variation than $\Delta^\ddagger H$ or $T \Delta^\ddagger S$ separately.

See also: isokinetic relationship

Source:

PAC, 1994, 66, 1077 (*Glossary of terms used in physical organic chemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1994)*) on page 1098