1.11.2 vdW equation and Leiden form

According to Eq. (1.10) the Leiden form of the virial coefficients is

$$p = \frac{RT}{V_m} \left(1 + \frac{B}{V_m} + \frac{C}{V_m^2} + \cdots \right)$$
(1.22)

According to Eq. (1.12) the pressure can be written as

$$p = \frac{RT}{V_m - b} - \frac{a}{V_m^2} \approx \frac{RT}{V_m} \left(1 + \frac{1}{V_m} \left(b - \frac{a}{RT} \right) + \frac{b^2}{V_m^2} \right)$$
(1.23)

Here we have used the property of the geometrical series

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots \tag{1.24}$$

Comparing the coefficients of Eq. (1.22) and Eq. (1.23) we get

$$B = b - \frac{a}{RT} \quad \text{and} \quad C = b^2 \tag{1.25}$$

Since B contains two terms with opposite sign we find the expected behavior:

- At high T the repulsive forces are dominant, i.e. B > 0.
- At low T the attractive forces are dominant, i.e. B < 0.
- B increases with T (consistent with experimental data), i.e.

$$\frac{dB}{dT} = \frac{a}{RT^2} > 0 \tag{1.26}$$

• The Boyle temperature T_B is found for B = 0, i.e.

$$T_B = \frac{a}{b\,R} \tag{1.27}$$