

ENGINEERING PHYSICS

2-4 Efficiency and thermodynamics

1. $T_H = 80^\circ\text{C} = 353\text{ K}$, $T_C = 20^\circ\text{C} = 293\text{ K}$, $P = 4\text{ W}$ to motor (rate of doing work, W) i.e. 4 Js^{-1}
 Q_{OUT} per second = 36 J i.e. 36 Js^{-1}

(a) (i) $Q_{\text{IN}} = W + Q_{\text{OUT}} = 4 + 36 = 40\text{ Js}^{-1}$

(ii) efficiency = $\frac{\text{useful output}}{\text{input}} = \frac{4}{40} = 0.10$ to 2 sf (or 10%)

(b) theoretical efficiency = $\frac{T_H - T_C}{T_H} = \frac{353 - 293}{353} = 0.16997\dots = 0.17$ to 2 sf (or 17%)

2. $T_H = 79^\circ\text{C} = 352\text{ K}$, $T_C = 9^\circ\text{C} = 282\text{ K}$, output power = $3.2\text{ MW} = 3.2 \times 10^6\text{ Js}^{-1}$

(a) theoretical efficiency = $\frac{T_H - T_C}{T_H} = \frac{352 - 282}{352} = 0.19886\dots = 0.20$ to 2 sf (or 20%)

(b) assuming the theoretical efficiency is reached then,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Rate of extraction from hot water} = \text{input} &= \frac{\text{output power}}{\text{efficiency}} = \frac{3.2 \times 10^6}{0.20} \\ &= 16 \times 10^6\text{ Js}^{-1} \\ &= 16\text{ MW}\end{aligned}$$

3. $T_H = 1200\text{ K}$, $T_C = 350\text{ K}$, gas calorific value = $32\text{ MJkg}^{-1} = 32 \times 10^6\text{ Jkg}^{-1}$,
rate of gas supply = $8.4\text{ kgh}^{-1} = 2.33 \times 10^{-3}\text{ kgs}^{-1}$, output power = $3.2\text{ MW} = 3.2 \times 10^6\text{ Js}^{-1}$
output power = $40\text{ kW} = 40 \times 10^3\text{ Js}^{-1}$

(a) theoretical efficiency = $\frac{T_H - T_C}{T_H} = \frac{1200 - 350}{1200} = 0.7083\dots = 0.71$ to 2 sf (or 71%)

(b) (i) power input = gas calorific value x rate of supply
 $= 32 \times 10^6\text{ Jkg}^{-1} \times 2.33 \times 10^{-3}\text{ kgs}^{-1}$
 $= 74.66\dots \times 10^3\text{ Js}^{-1}$
 $= 75\text{ kW}$ to 2 sf

(ii) heat transfer to cold sink assuming theoretical efficiency reached:

$$Q_{\text{IN}} = W + Q_{\text{OUT}} \text{ so } Q_{\text{OUT}} = Q_{\text{IN}} - W = 75\text{ kW} - 40\text{ kW} = 35\text{ kW}$$

4. (a) (i) Max thermal efficiency is not achieved because: (any two)

- the indicator loop does not have sharp corners like the theoretical one, so less work is done. This is because real valves do not open and close instantaneously.
- perfect combustion does not occur so the maximum temperature is not reached.
- the expansion and compression strokes do not occur perfectly adiabatically as is assumed.

(ii) Maximum mechanical efficiency is not achieved because:

- friction between moving parts cannot be eliminated
- lubricating oils are viscous and hence exert some resistance to the motion of the moving parts.

(b) In summer the cold sink would not be as cold so the difference $T_H - T_C$ would not be as great. Since the theoretical efficiency is $\frac{T_H - T_C}{T_H}$ then this will decrease.

However, an engine is not a thermodynamic heat engine. The mechanical efficiency may increase as the oil will not be as cold and as viscous to start with, but at the operating temperature this may be a negligible effect.

The theoretical percentage efficiency of a petrol engine is given by $\left(1 - \frac{T_D - T_A}{T_C - T_B}\right) \times 100\%$

$T_D - T_A$ = the PV curve gap in temperature for the cooling

$T_C - T_B$ = the PV curve gap in temperature for the ignition

As it is warmer in summer, the temperature gaps ($T_D - T_A$ and $T_C - T_B$) will be smaller and the curves will be closer together. Less will therefore be lost in the cooling cycle so the efficiency will increase.