

5. A single-stage air compressor has a clearance volume of $15 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3$ and a swept volume of $750 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3$. Air enters the compressor at a temperature of 20°C and a pressure of 1 bar. The delivery pressure is 25 bar and the compressor speed is 600 rev/min. Assume for the compression and expansion strokes that the polytropic indices are identical and equal to 1.45 respectively, and the gas constant for air is 0.287 kJ/kgK .

(a) Sketch the ideal indicator diagram.

(b) Determine

- (i) The delivery temperature.
- (ii) The mass flow rate.
- (iii) The indicated power.

(c) Show how an actual indicator diagram would differ from the ideal diagram and explain why.

The ideal cycle is as shown.

DELIVERY TEMPERATURE

$$T_2 = T_1 r_p^{\frac{n-1}{n}} = 293 \times 25^{\frac{1.45-1}{1.45}} = 293 \times 25^{0.310} = 795.6$$

VOLUMETRIC EFFICIENCY

Clearance ratio $c = 15/750$

$$\eta_{\text{vol}} = 1 - c \left(r_p^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1 \right) = 1 - \frac{15}{750} \left(25^{0.6896} - 1 \right) = 1 - \frac{15}{750} (8.2065) = 0.8359$$

$$\text{Induced volume} = 0.8359 \times 750 = 626.9 \text{ cm}^3$$

$$\text{Induced flow rate} = 626.9 \times 10^{-6} \times 600 \text{ rev/min} = 0.376 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$$

Mass flow rate

$$m = \frac{pV}{RT} = \frac{1 \times 10^5 \times 0.376}{287 \times 293} = 0.447 \text{ kg/min} = 0.007455 \text{ kg/s}$$

INDICATED POWER

There are various ways to find this. A derived formula for the standard cycle is as follows.

$$P = mRT_1 \left(\frac{n}{n-1} \right) \left\{ r_p^{\frac{n-1}{n}} - 1 \right\} = 0.007455 \times 287 \times 293 \left(\frac{1.45}{0.45} \right) \left\{ 25^{0.310} - 1 \right\} = 3465 \text{ W}$$

or

$$P = \frac{nmR}{n-1} (T_2 - T_1) = \frac{1.45 \times 0.007455 \times 287}{0.45} (795.6 - 293) = 3465 \text{ W}$$

In practice there is restriction when the air is being sucked in and pushed out and the valves move on their springs so actual cycle is more like this.

