

19.2. Model: The heat engine follows a closed cycle, which consists of four individual processes.

Visualize: Please refer to Figure Ex19.2.

Solve: (a) The work done by the heat engine per cycle is the area enclosed by the p -versus- V graph. We get

$$W_{\text{out}} = (400 \text{ kPa} - 100 \text{ kPa})(100 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3) = 30 \text{ J}$$

The heat energy leaving the engine is $Q_{\text{C}} = 90 \text{ J} + 25 \text{ J} = 115 \text{ J}$. The heat input is calculated as follows:

$$W_{\text{out}} = Q_{\text{H}} - Q_{\text{C}} \Rightarrow Q_{\text{H}} = Q_{\text{C}} + W_{\text{out}} = 115 \text{ J} + 30 \text{ J} = 145 \text{ J}$$

(b) The thermal efficiency of the engine is

$$\eta = \frac{W_{\text{out}}}{Q_{\text{H}}} = \frac{30 \text{ J}}{145 \text{ J}} = 0.207$$

Assess: Practical engines have thermal efficiencies in the range $\eta \approx 0.1 - 0.4$.