

BINDURA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE EDUCATION
FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

AEH205

Department of Engineering and Physics
Bachelor of Science (Honours) Degree in Agricultural Engineering
Thermodynamics and Heat Transfer

3 HOURS (100 Marks)

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper contains 6 questions.

Answer any **FOUR** questions. Each carries **25** marks

OCT 2023

Question 1

Refrigerant 134a enters a compressor with a mass flow rate of 5 kg/s and a negligible velocity. The refrigerant enters the compressor as a saturated vapor at 10 °C and leaves the compressor at 1400 kPa at a velocity of 50 m/s . The rate of work done on the refrigerant is measured to be 132.4 kW. If the elevation change between the compressor inlet and exit is negligible.

- a) Determine the inlet and outlet properties of the compressor with the use of the refrigerant diagram 143a. [12 marks]
- b) Determine the rate of heat transfer associated with this process. [13 marks]

Question 2

An air-conditioning system operates at a total pressure of 1 atm and consists of a heating section and an evaporative cooler. Air enters the heating section at 15 °C and 55 percent relative humidity at a rate of 30 m³/min, and it leaves the evaporative cooler at 25 °C and 45 percent relative humidity.

- a) Sketch the psychrometric diagram for the process and determine the properties of the air in each state. [9 marks]
- b) Determine the rate of heat transfer in the heating section. [8 marks]
- c) Determine the rate of water added to air in the evaporative cooler. [8 marks]

Question 3

In the locality of Mt Hampden (Chinhoyi), it is desired to build a cold chamber of 25 tons of refrigeration to conserve potatoes at 10 °C. The proposed system will operate according to the real vapor compression refrigeration cycle, with an overheating of 15 °C and an environmental temperature equal to 35 °C.

- a) Represent the real vapor compression cycle in the pressure-enthalpy diagram. [5 marks]
- b) Calculate:
- i. Mass flow of refrigerant flowing through the system. [5 marks]
 - ii. Total heat given up in the condenser. [5 marks]
 - iii. Total power consumed in the compression. [5 marks]
 - iv. Efficiency of the second law of the cycle. [5 marks]

$$T_L = T_c - 10\text{ °C}$$

$$T_H = T_{air} + 10\text{ °C}$$

Question 4

In a combustion chamber, ethane (C_2H_6) is burned at a rate of 8 kg/h with air that enters the combustion chamber at a rate of 176 kg/h .

- a) Write the stoichiometric combustion equation. [5 marks]
- b) Write the balanced reaction equation for complete combustion. [5 marks]
- c) Determine the percentage of excess air used during this process. [5 marks]
- d) Determine the air-fuel ratio. [5 marks]
- e) Determine the percentage of theoretical air used during this process. [5 marks]

Question 5

An ideal Diesel cycle has a compression ratio of 17 and a cutoff ratio of 1.3. This cycle produces 140 kW of power and the state of the air at the beginning of the compression is 90 kPa and 57 °C . Use constant specific heats at room temperature. Determine:

- a) The maximum temperature of the air. [10 marks]
- b) The thermal efficiency [5 marks]
- c) The rate of heat addition [10 marks]

$$\eta_{th} = 1 - \frac{1}{r_c^{k-1}} \frac{r_c^k - 1}{k(r_c - 1)}$$

Question 6

Consider a steam power plant that operates on a reheat Rankine cycle and has a net power output of 80 MW . Steam enters the high-pressure turbine at 10 MPa and temperature of 500 °C and the low-pressure turbine at 1 MPa and 500 °C . Steam leaves the condenser as a saturated liquid at a pressure of 10 kPa . The isentropic efficiency of the turbine is 80 percent, and that of the pump is 95 percent. Show the cycle on a T-s diagram with respect to saturation lines, and determine:

- a) The quality (or temperature, if superheated) of the steam at the turbine exit. [8 marks]
- b) The thermal efficiency of the cycle. [9 marks]
- c) The mass flow rate of the steam. [8 marks]