

TOPIC V - Gas Cycles

The Brayton (Joule) Cycle (Lecture 3/4)

Power from gas turbines.

Contents

7. The (Simple Reversible) Brayton Cycle

8. Variations to the Brayton Cycle

- entropy generation ☹️
- heat recovery 😊

Objectives

Identify specific processes in Brayton –
isentropic expansion, heat exchange.

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7) The Brayton (Joule) cycle

Power generation and marine propulsion.

Three stages

- air compressed
- fuel injection plus combustion
- exhaust gases drive turbine.

Turbine "bootstrapped" to compressor

Gas exits at atmospheric pressure

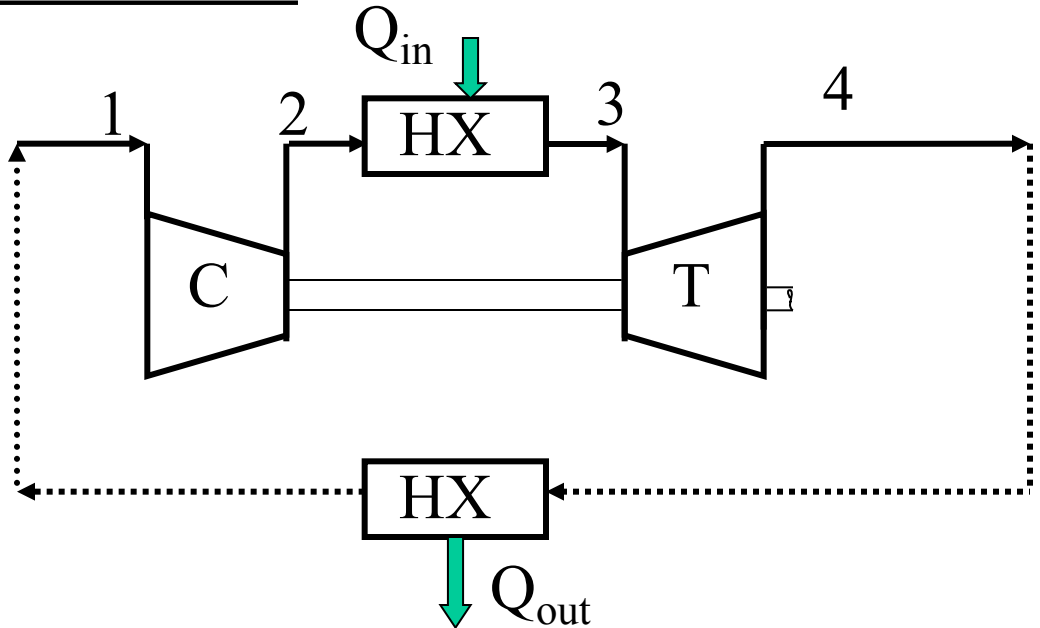
Air standard cycle - heat input replaces combustion

(Fictitious) heat output closes cycle

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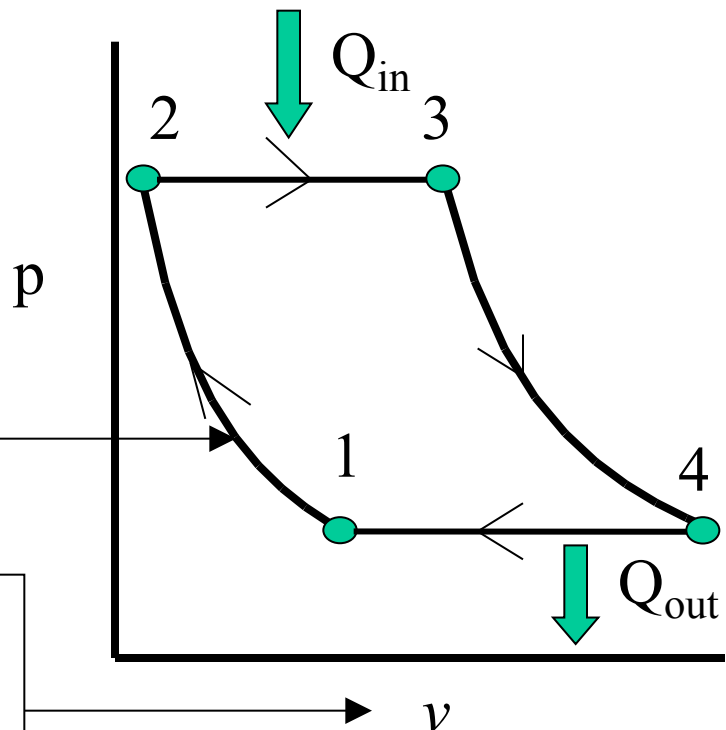
Reversible Version



Compressor
increases air
pressure r_p
times

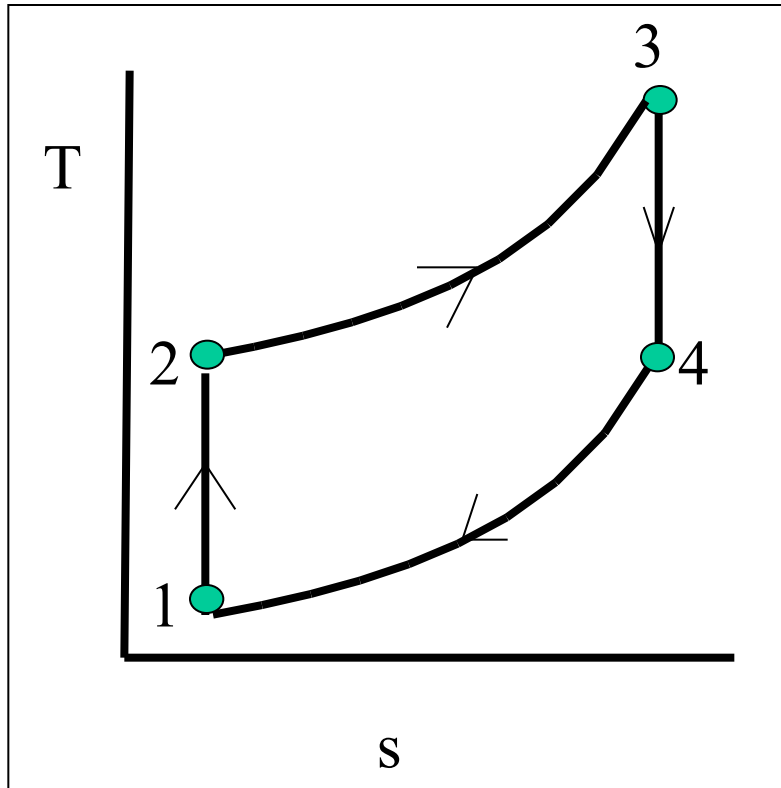
$$r_p = p_2/p_1$$

Easier to think
about specific vol.



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SFEE → heating/ cooling. No KE, PE change.

$$\dot{Q}_{in} = \dot{m} c_p (T_3 - T_2) \quad (16)$$

$$\dot{Q}_{out} = \dot{m} c_p (T_4 - T_1) \quad (17)$$

$$\eta = 1 - \frac{\dot{Q}_{out}}{\dot{Q}_{in}} = 1 - \frac{T_4 - T_1}{T_3 - T_2} \quad (18)$$

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Isentropic relationships (temp. & pres ratios),

$$T_1 = \frac{T_2}{r_p^{\gamma-1/\gamma}} \quad T_4 = \frac{T_3}{r_p^{\gamma-1/\gamma}} \quad (19, 20)$$

Eqns 18, 19, 20 give efficiency,

$$\eta = 1 - \frac{1}{r_p^{\frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma}}} \quad (21)$$

work ratio = net work / turbine work

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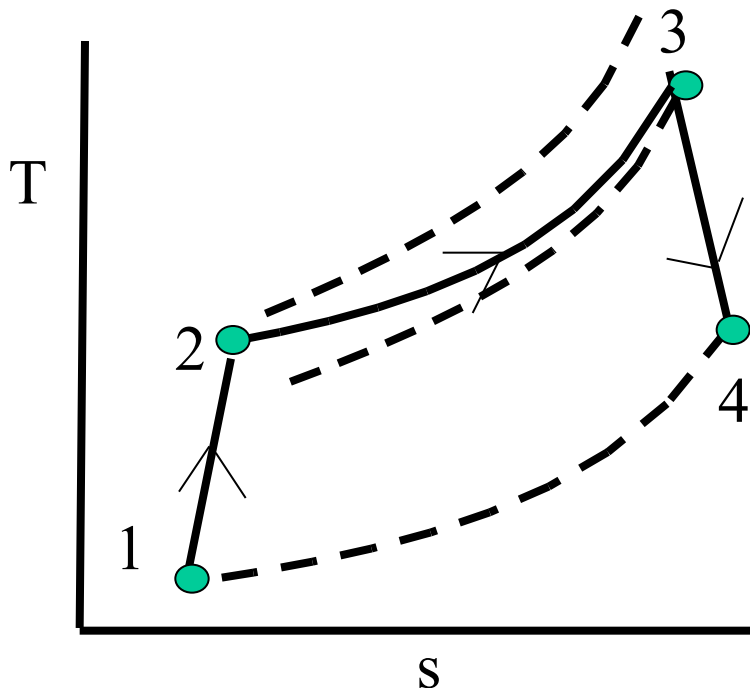
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8. Variations to the Brayton Cycle

Irreversible processes ☹️

Entropy generation in comp/ turbine.

Pressure drop in combustor

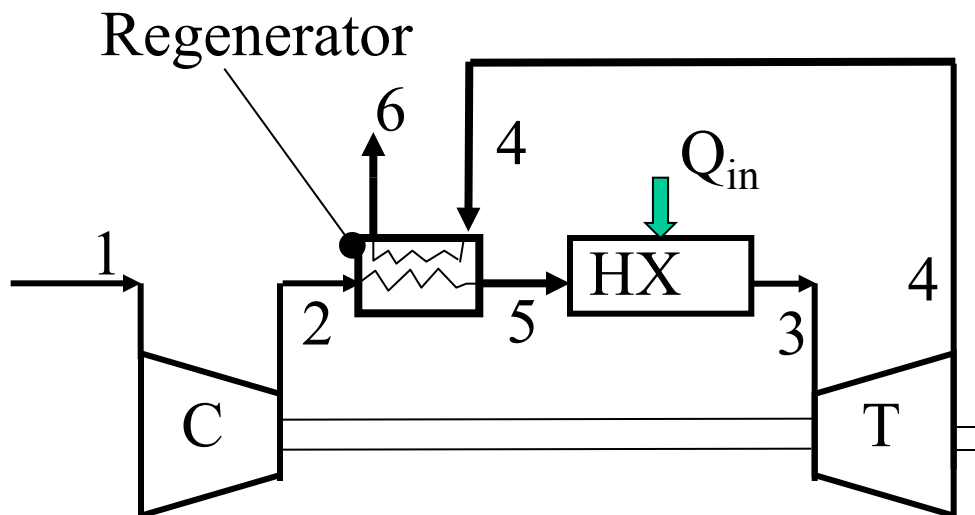


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Towards Ericsson (Remove Irreversibility) ☺

- Recover enthalpy from turbine exhaust.
Must have $T_4 > T_2$



- Concept of regenerator effectiveness,

$$T_5 \leq T_4 \quad (T_5 = T_4 \text{ at best}) \quad (22)$$

$$e = \frac{\text{Heat transfer}}{\text{Max heat transfer}} = \frac{m c_p (T_5 - T_2)}{m c_p (T_4 - T_2)} = \frac{T_5 - T_2}{T_4 - T_2}$$

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Other options

Compressors with intercooling

- Closer to isothermal operation at TL
- Demands less work input (topic 4)
- Approaches Ericcson cycle

Turbines with reheating

- Closer to isothermal operation at TH
- Gives more work output
- Approaches Ericcson cycle

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Conclusions

Simplest Brayton = Comp + HX + Turbine

Calculate process by process, Eq 21 as check

Compressors/ turbines need isentropic efficiency

Heat recovery - effectiveness applies. Must have $T(\text{turbine exit}) > T(\text{compressor exit})$