

Given: $\text{kJ} := 1000\text{J}$

A Carnot refrigeration cycle is executed in a closed system in the saturated liquid-vapor mixture region using 0.8 kg of R-134a as the working fluid. The maximum and minimum temperatures in the cycle are 20°C and -8°C , respectively. It is known that R-134a is a saturated liquid at the end of the heat rejection process, and the net work input to the cycle is 15 kJ.

Required:

Determine the mass that vaporizes during the heat addition process and the pressure at the end of the heat rejection process.

Solution:

The maximum and minimum temperatures in the cycle are defined as

$$T_H := 20^\circ\text{C} = 293.15\text{ K} \quad T_L := (-8)^\circ\text{C} = 265.15\text{ K}$$

The net work input to the cycle is defined as

$$W_{\text{net,in}} := 15\text{ kJ}$$

The COP of the cycle is found by

$$\text{COP}_{\text{R,rev}} := \frac{1}{\frac{T_H}{T_L} - 1} = 9.47$$

The heat accepted by the cycle is found by

$$Q_{\text{L,rev}} := \text{COP}_{\text{R,rev}} \cdot W_{\text{net,in}} = 142.045 \cdot \text{kJ}$$

Going to Table A-11 @ $T_L = -8^\circ\text{C}$ shows that the amount of energy to vaporize R-134a is

$$h_{\text{fg}} := 204.52 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{kg}}$$

Thus the mass that vaporizes in the cycle is given by

$$m_{\text{vap}} := \frac{Q_{\text{L,rev}}}{h_{\text{fg}}} = 0.695\text{ kg}$$

The pressure at the end of the heat rejection process is then just the saturation pressure at the minimum temperature so going to Table A-11 @ $T_H = 20^\circ\text{C}$ shows

$$P_{\text{sat}} := 572.07\text{ kPa} \quad \text{so} \quad P_4 := P_{\text{sat}} = 572.1\text{ kPa}$$