

# Chapter 3 - First Law of Thermodynamics and Energy

## Lecture 9 Section 3.4

MEMS 0051 Introduction to Thermodynamics

Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science Department  
University of Pittsburgh



# Student Learning Objectives

Chapter 3 - First  
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Learning Objectives

3.4 Work - Moving  
Boundary

Summary

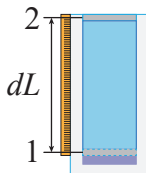
At the end of the lecture, students should be able to:

- ▶ Formulate an expression for work for moving boundary systems
- ▶ Calculate and apply the polytropic index to moving boundary systems



# Moving Boundary System

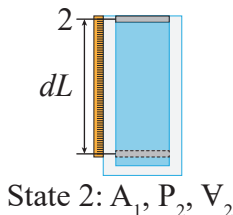
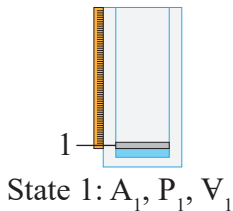
- ▶ Moving boundary systems include piston-cylinders, compressors, etc.
- ▶ Consider a piston-cylinder, in which the cylinder is raised a distance of  $dL$  from state 1 to 2:



- ▶ Considering this a quasi-equilibrium process, we can calculate the work done onto/by the system.



# Moving Boundary System



- By definition,

$$\delta W = Fdx$$

- Force is pressure times area, and the change in distance is  $dL$

$$\delta W = PAdL \rightarrow PdV$$

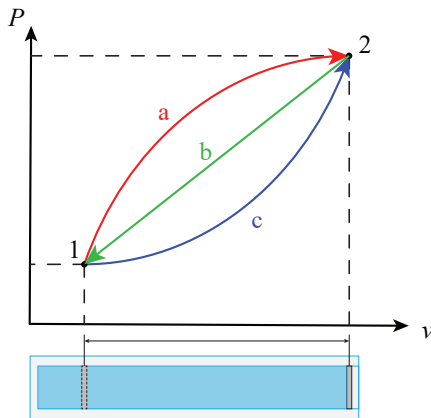
- Therefore

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \int_1^2 \delta W = \int_1^2 P(V) dV$$



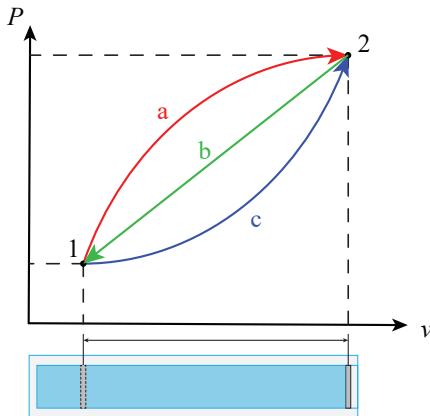
# Moving Boundary System

- Recall integration is calculating the area under a curve - as the piston moves between the two states,  $P$  can have varied dependence on  $V$ , i.e. path dependent



# Moving Boundary System

- ▶ We use the inexact differential  $\delta W$  because  $W$  is a path function (i.e. it is path dependent) - we use the exact differential  $dV$  because  $V$  only depends on the initial and final states



# Polytropic Process

- ▶ To quantify the path dependence of work, we must consider a **polytropic process**, a process pertaining to a function which has different values for one variable.
- ▶ A polytropic process is defined as:

$$P\forall^n = c$$

- ▶  $n$  is the polytropic index,  $n \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $-\infty \leq n \leq \infty$ .
  - ▶  $n=0 \implies$  Isobaric ( $P=c$ )
  - ▶  $n=1 \implies$  Isothermal ( $T=c$ )
  - ▶  $n=\gamma \implies$  Isentropic ( $S=c$ )
  - ▶  $n=\infty \implies$  Isochoric ( $\forall=c$ )



# Polytropic Index

- ▶ The polytropic index can be visualized on a  $P$ - $V$  diagram, and can take any real value between  $-\infty$  and  $\infty$ !

- ▶ When  $n=0$ :

$$P(V^n) = c \implies P(V^0) = c \implies P(1) = c$$

- ▶ When  $n \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$P(V^\infty) = c \implies V = c$$

- ▶ So why is this of use? Given any value for the polytropic index, we can now calculate the path-dependent work of a system.





# Work via Polytropic Index

- ▶ Taking the equation for work:

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \int_1^2 \delta W = \int_1^2 P dV$$

- ▶ If we define  $PV^n = c = P_1 V_1^n = P_2 V_2^n$  for States 1 and 2, and rearrange our expression for  $P$ :

$$P = \frac{P_1 V_1^n}{V^n} = \frac{P_2 V_2^n}{V^n} = \frac{c}{V^n}$$

- ▶ Reinserting this for  $P$  within our expression for work:

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \int_1^2 P dV = c \int_1^2 \frac{1}{V^n} dV$$



# Work via Polytropic Index

- ▶ The integrand can be expressed as:

$$\frac{1}{V^n} = V^{-n}$$

- ▶ Inserting this into the integral expression for work:

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = c \int_1^2 V^{-n} dV = \frac{c}{1-n} V^{1-n} \Big|_1^2$$

- ▶ Evaluating this:

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \frac{c}{1-n} (V_2^{1-n} - V_1^{1-n})$$

- ▶ Recalling  $PV^n = c = P_1 V_1^n = P_2 V_2^n$ , substitute in the respective values for the constant



# Work via Polytropic Index

► Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} W_{1 \rightarrow 2} &= \left( \frac{c}{1-n} \right) V_2^{1-n} - \left( \frac{c}{1-n} \right) V_1^{1-n} = \\ &= \frac{P_2 V_2^n V_2^{1-n} - P_1 V_1^n V_1^{1-n}}{1-n} \end{aligned}$$

► Recalling  $x^n x^{1-n} = x$ , we are left with an expression for work based upon the pressures and volumes of States 1 and 2, the polytropic index  $n$ :

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \frac{P_2 V_2 - P_1 V_1}{1-n}$$



# Work via Polytropic Index

- ▶ Taking the limiting case  $n=1$ :

$$P\forall^n = c = P_1\forall_1$$

- ▶ Rearranging for  $P$ :

$$P = \frac{P_1\forall_1}{\forall^n} = \frac{P_1\forall_1}{\forall}$$

- ▶ Substitute  $P$  in for the definition of work:

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \int_1^2 P d\forall = P_1\forall_1 \int_1^2 \frac{d\forall}{\forall}$$

- ▶ Notice how  $P_1$  and  $\forall_1$  are constants - we are not integrating w.r.t.  $\forall_1$ , rather  $\forall$ . Thus:

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = P_1\forall_1 \ln(\forall) \Big|_1^2 = P_1\forall_1 \ln\left(\frac{\forall_2}{\forall_1}\right)$$



# Example #1

- A piston-cylinder undergoes an expansion process from an initial pressure of 3 [bar] and volume of 0.1 [m<sup>3</sup>] to a final volume of 0.2 [m<sup>3</sup>]. Determine the final work for the process in [kJ] for:

1.  $n=1.5$
2.  $n=1.0$
3.  $n=0$

Solution:



# Example #1

Solution:

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# Example #1

Solution:

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## Example #2

- Construct an expression for the polytropic index  $n$  based upon pressure and volume between two states

Solution:





# Student Learning Objectives

At the end of the lecture, students should be able to:

- ▶ Formulate an expression for work for moving boundary systems
  - ▶ Work for a moving boundary system is formulated based upon pressure and volume:

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \int P(\forall) d\forall$$

- ▶ We can formulate this in terms of the polytropic index:

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = \frac{P_2 \forall_2 - P_1 \forall_1}{1 - n}$$

- ▶ When  $n = 1$ :

$$W_{1 \rightarrow 2} = P_1 \forall_1 \ln \left( \frac{\forall_2}{\forall_1} \right)$$



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- Calculate and apply the polytropic index to moving boundary systems

- $n$  is calculated as:

$$n = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{P_2}{P_1}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{V_1}{V_2}\right)} = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{P_1}{P_2}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{V_2}{V_1}\right)}$$



# Suggested Problems

► 3.37, 3.43, 3.45, 3.46, 3.49, 3.52, 3.56

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