Introduction to Thermodynamics and Heat Transfer (ECE 309)

Suggested Problems for Chapter 5

1. Consider a Carnot heat engine cycle executed in a steady-flow system using steam as the working fluid. The cycle has a thermal efficiency of 30 percent, and steam changes from saturated liquid to saturated vapor at 300°C during the heat addition process. If the mass flow rate of the steam is 5 kg/s, determine the net power output of this engine, in kW.

2. Consider a Carnot heat engine cycle executed in a closed system using 0.0103 kg of steam as the working fluid. It is known that the maximum absolute temperature in the cycle is twice the minimum absolute temperature, and the net work output of the cycle is 25 kJ. If the steam changes from saturated vapor to saturated liquid during the heat rejection process, determine the temperature of the steam during the heat rejection process, in $^{\circ}$ C.

3. A Carnot heat engine receives heat at 750 K and rejects the waste heat to the environment at 300 K. The entire work output of the heat engine is used to drive a Carnot refrigerator that removes heat from the cooled space at -15° C at a rate of 400 kJ /min and rejects it to the same environment at 300 K. Determine (a) the rate of heat supplied to the heat engine and (b) the total rate of heat rejection to the environment.

4. A heat engine operates between two reservoirs at 800 and 20°C. One-half of the work output of the heat engine is used to drive a Carnot heat pump that removes heat from the cold surroundings at 2°C and transfers it to a house maintained at 22°C. If the house is losing heat at a rate of 95,000 kJ/h, determine the minimum rate of heat supply to the heat engine required to keep the house at 22°C.