5-25 A piston-cylinder device contains air gas at a specified state. The air undergoes a cycle with three processes. The boundary work for each process and the net work of the cycle are to be determined.

Properties The properties of air are R = 0.287 kJ/kg.K, k = 1.4 (Table A-2a).

Analysis For the isothermal expansion process:

$$V_1 = \frac{mRT}{P_1} = \frac{(0.15 \text{ kg})(0.287 \text{ kJ/kg.K})(350 + 273 \text{ K})}{(2000 \text{ kPa})} = 0.01341 \text{ m}^3$$

$$V_2 = \frac{mRT}{P_2} = \frac{(0.15 \text{ kg})(0.287 \text{ kJ/kg.K})(350 + 273 \text{ K})}{(500 \text{ kPa})} = 0.05364 \text{ m}^3$$

$$W_{b,1-2} = P_1 \mathbf{V}_1 \ln \left(\frac{\mathbf{V}_2}{\mathbf{V}_1} \right) = (2000 \text{ kPa})(0.01341 \text{ m}^3) \ln \left(\frac{0.05364 \text{ m}^3}{0.01341 \text{ m}^3} \right) = \mathbf{37.18 \text{ kJ}}$$

For the polytropic compression process:

$$P_2 V_2^n = P_3 V_3^n \longrightarrow (500 \text{ kPa})(0.05364 \text{ m}^3)^{1.2} = (2000 \text{ kPa}) V_3^{1.2} \longrightarrow V_3 = 0.01690 \text{ m}^3$$

$$W_{b,2-3} = \frac{P_3 \mathbf{V}_3 - P_2 \mathbf{V}_2}{1-n} = \frac{(2000 \text{ kPa})(0.01690 \text{ m}^3) - (500 \text{ kPa})(0.05364 \text{ m}^3)}{1-1.2} = -34.86 \text{ kJ}$$

For the constant pressure compression process:

$$W_{b,3-1} = P_3(V_1 - V_3) = (2000 \text{ kPa})(0.01341 - 0.01690)\text{m}^3 = -6.97 \text{ kJ}$$

The net work for the cycle is the sum of the works for each process

$$W_{\text{net}} = W_{h,1-2} + W_{h,2-3} + W_{h,3-1} = 37.18 + (-34.86) + (-6.97) = -4.65 \text{ kJ}$$