

Otto cycle

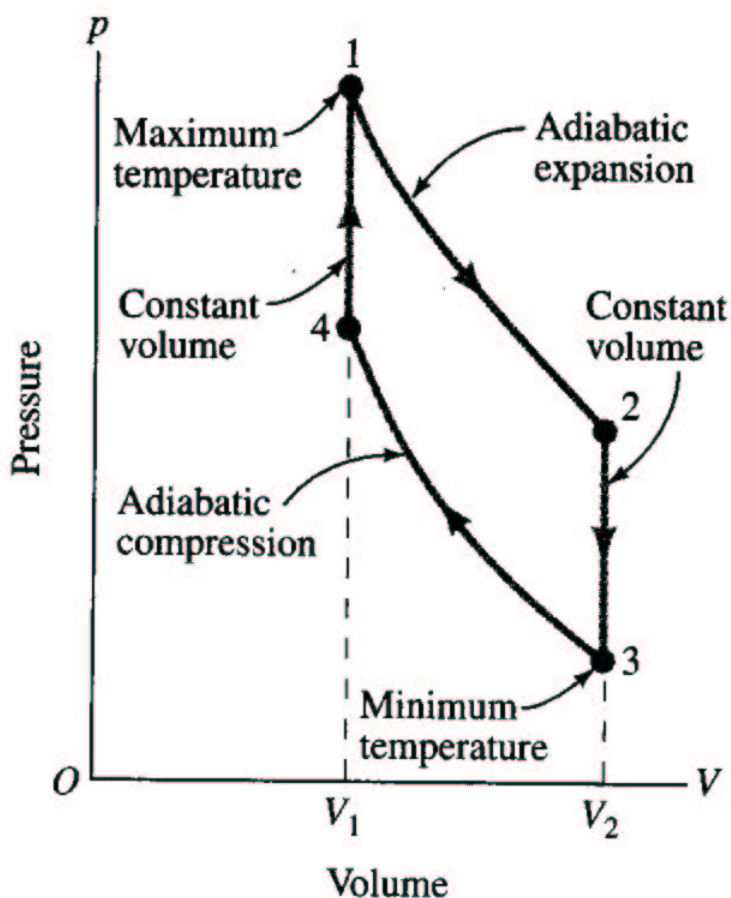


FIGURE 20AB-2 The Otto cycle, for the engine designed by Nikolaus Otto in 1876.

31. (II) The Otto cycle, represented in Figure 20AB-2, runs between minimum and maximum volumes V_1 and V_2 and minimum and maximum temperatures T_1 and T_2 , respectively. (a) Show that the efficiency is given by $\eta = 1 - (T_2 - T_3)/(T_1 - T_4)$. (b) Show that if the working fluid of the cycle is an ideal gas, the efficiency of this cycle can alternatively be written as $\eta = 1 - (V_1/V_2)^{\gamma-1}$, where $\gamma = C_p/C_v$. The efficiency of this cycle is thus *independent* of the temperatures between which it operates, depending instead only on γ and on geometry. The ratio V_2/V_1 is the compression ratio. A typical compression ratio is 8, and $\gamma = 1.4$, which gives a predicted efficiency of 56 percent.