



# The entransy degeneration and entransy loss equations for the generalized irreversible Carnot engine system



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## ABSTRACT

Basis of the generalized irreversible Carnot engine model and the generalized heat transfer law  $Q \propto (\Delta T^m)^n$ , the exergy loss methodology and the entransy loss methodology are employed to investigate the irreversibility of the generalized irreversible Carnot engine system (GICES). The mathematical expression of entransy loss and the exergy loss for different types of the GICES are derived. Additionally, two novel physical variables defined as potential entransy loss and entransy degeneration are proposed. Then, the entransy loss equilibrium and the entransy loss equation are derived. Moreover, with the Newton's heat transfer law and the generalized heat transfer law, the characteristics of entransy loss, exergy loss and entransy degeneration for the GICES are investigated. Finally, with the entransy degeneration, the entransy loss coefficient ( $\varphi$ ) is defined, which can synthesize the entransy loss for the GICES and the entransy dissipation for the heat transfer system.

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## 1. Introduction

Engineering technology has been developed at a high speed, which brings out the first and the second laws of thermodynamics [1]. The First Law provides the basic definition of thermodynamic energy, which states the rule of energy conservation in nature; while the Second Law indicates that a natural process runs only in one sense and is not reversible [1]. Based on the Second Law (or the entropy theory), the non-equilibrium thermodynamics was developed. Finite time thermodynamics is an important progress of the non-equilibrium thermodynamics [2–5]. The researches into identifying the performance limits of thermodynamic processes and optimization of thermodynamic cycles has made tremendous progress by using finite time thermodynamics [6–9].

Real heat engines are usually devices with internal and external irreversibilities. Therefore, based on the finite time thermodynamics, the generalized irreversible Carnot engine model [10–16] was established to describe all the irreversibilities of real heat engines, which accounted for the effect of heat resistance, bypass heat

leakage and other irreversibilities, that is, the generalized irreversible Carnot engine combined the finite heat transfer and the heat-work conversion processes.

Heat transfer process is one of the most important parts of the real heat engine, which mainly determines the energy utilization of the heat engines. Thus, to explore the effect of the heat transfer process to the heat engine, Chen et al. [17–23] proposed a generalized heat transfer law  $Q \propto (\Delta T^m)^n$  to synthesize all kinds of the heat transfer laws: when  $m = n = 1$ , it is the Newton's heat transfer law; when  $m = 4, n = 1$ , it is the radiative heat transfer law.

In addition, heat transfer process is a typical non-equilibrium process. The application of the entropy theory in heat transfer and thermal design was firstly described in detail by Bejan [24–29]. With the increasing utilization of entropy generation in heat transfer engineering, the “entropy generation paradox” [30] exists when the entropy generation minimization is used as the optimization objective for counter-flow heat exchangers. As an attempt to resolve this paradox, Guo et al. [31] defined two new physical concepts, entransy and entransy dissipation, that is the entransy theory, which are analogous to the capacitance and the electric energy dissipation rate in an electric resistor [31,32]. For a system whose stored heat is  $Q$  and temperature is  $T$ , its entransy is defined as [31,32]:

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