

Question 2

a) $H = \text{Energy} = \frac{1}{2} m v^2$

$p(\vec{v}_i) = \frac{e^{-E_i/kT}}{N}$ which means $\sum_i e^{-E_i/kT}/N = 1$
 \hookrightarrow normalization constant like Q

\therefore Because velocities are continuous, take integral

$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-m\vec{v}^2/2kT} d\vec{v} = N = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-mv_x^2/2kT} dv_x \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-mv_y^2/2kT} dv_y \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-mv_z^2/2kT} dv_z$

Use: $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ax^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi/a}$ $a = m/2kT$

$\therefore \left(\sqrt{\frac{\pi \cdot 2kT}{m}} \right)^3 = \left(\frac{2\pi kT}{m} \right)^{3/2} N$

$p(\vec{v}) = \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} e^{-m|\vec{v}|^2/2kT}$

if $p(v_x) = p(v_y) = p(v_z)$

$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-mv_x^2/2kT} dv_x = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-mv_y^2/2kT} dv_y = \dots$ which will make $v_x = v_y = v_z$

Thus $\langle \vec{v} \rangle = \langle v_x \rangle = \langle v_y \rangle = \langle v_z \rangle$

$\langle v_x \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(v_x) \cdot v_x dv_x = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} e^{-mv_x^2/2kT} \cdot v_x dv_x \Rightarrow a = \frac{m}{2kT}$

$= \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-v_x^2/a} \cdot v_x dv_x$

$u = v_x^2$
 $du = 2v_x dv_x$
 $du/2 = v_x dv_x$

$= \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-u/a} \cdot \frac{du}{2} = \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} [e^{-u/a}]_{-\infty}^{\infty} = ?$ goes to infinity?

b) $\langle v_x^2 \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(v_x) \cdot v_x^2 dv_x = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \cdot e^{-mv_x^2/2kT} v_x^2 dv_x$ $a = m/2kT$

$= \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \cdot \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ax^2} \cdot x^2 dv_x$ as $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 e^{-ax^2} dx = \frac{1}{2a} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}}$

$= \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT} \right)^{3/2} \cdot \frac{2kT}{2m} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\pi \cdot 2kT}{m}} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2\pi}}$