

9.1 a) USE EQUATION (9.5)

$$g(v_x) dv_x = \sqrt{\frac{\beta m}{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\beta m v_x^2} dv_x \quad (9.5)$$

TO SHOW THE ONE-DIMENSIONAL RMS SPEED IS

$$v_{x,rms} = (\overline{v_x^2})^{1/2} = \left(\frac{kT}{m}\right)^{1/2}$$

b) SHOW THAT EQUATION (9.5) CAN BE RE-WRITTEN AS

$$g(v_x) dv_x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} v_{x,rms}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} v_x^2 / v_{x,rms}^2} dv_x$$

THE RMS SPEED IS THE AVERAGE WEIGHTED BY v^2

$$\overline{v_x^2} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} v_x^2 g(v_x) dv_x = \sqrt{\frac{\beta m}{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} v_x^2 e^{-\frac{1}{2}\beta m v_x^2} dv_x$$

SINCE THIS IS AN EVEN FUNCTION OVER SYMMETRIC LIMITS

$$\overline{v_x^2} = 2 \sqrt{\frac{\beta m}{2\pi}} \int_0^{\infty} v_x^2 e^{-\frac{1}{2}\beta m v_x^2} dx$$

p 683 in T&D II GIVES

$$\int_0^{\infty} x^2 e^{-\lambda x^2} dx = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{16\lambda^3}} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{16} \left(\frac{8}{\beta^3 m^3}\right)} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\beta^3 m^3}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{v_x^2} = 2 \sqrt{\frac{\beta m}{2\pi}} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2\beta^3 m^3}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\beta^2 m^2}} = \frac{1}{\beta m} = \frac{kT}{m}$$

THEREFORE

$$\boxed{v_{x,rms} = \sqrt{\overline{v_x^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{kT}{m}}} \quad \text{QED!}$$

b) REPLACING $\overline{v_x^2} = \frac{1}{\beta m}$ AND $v_{x,rms} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\beta m}}$

$$\boxed{g(v_x) dv_x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} v_{x,rms}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} (v_x / v_{x,rms})^2} dv_x} \quad \text{QED!}$$