PHY2610 – Thermal Physics

Spring 2024

## Quiz 5

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(a) Argue that for an adiabatic process

$$dU = -PdV. (1)$$

Now, suppose you are given that for a specific system U = (5/2)PV. Show that the adiabats satisfy

$$PV^{\gamma} = \text{constant},$$
 (2)

where  $\gamma$  is a constant you have to find for this system.

[4]

(b) If the earlier the system were an ideal gas following  $PV = Nk_BT$ , starting at some  $(P_A, V_A)$ , compute the work done in doubling the volume by performing (i) an isothermal expansion, and (ii) an adiabatic expansion.

Explain *graphically* using a PV diagram which of these two must always be greater.

[6]