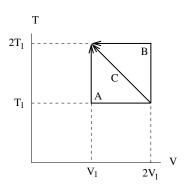
[tex155] Work performance and heat transfer

Consider 1mol of a classical ideal gas $[pV=RT,\,U=\frac{3}{2}RT]$ confined to a cylinder with a piston and in thermal contact with a heat bath of adjustable temperature. Examine the three quasistatic processes A, B, C, from point $(2V_1,T_1)$ to point $(V_1,2T_1)$ as shown. Calculate the work $\Delta W_A, \Delta W_B, \Delta W_C$ done by the piston on the gas and the heat $\Delta Q_A, \Delta Q_B, \Delta Q_C$ transferred between the gas and the environment in each process. Choose the signs for work and heat such that $\Delta U = \Delta W + \Delta Q$. Independently of your calculation, formulate a verbal argument for the ranking of ΔW and ΔQ of the three processes.



Solution: