

Solution for problem 13.3b

In part a) we have obtained:

$$\mu_0 = \frac{1}{2m} \left(\frac{3h^3 N}{8\pi V} \right)^{2/3} \quad (1)$$

Now we calculate the total energy of the fermions which are orientated oppositely to the magnetic field:

$$E_+ = \frac{V}{h^3} \int_0^{p_+} \epsilon_+ dp^3 = \frac{4\pi V}{h^3} \int_0^{p_+} \left(\frac{p^2}{2m} + \mu_B H \right) p^2 dp = \frac{4\pi V}{h^3} \left(\frac{p_+^5}{10m} + \mu_B H \frac{p_+^3}{3} \right) \quad (2)$$

Analogously we find:

$$E_- = \frac{V}{h^3} \int_0^{p_-} \epsilon_- dp^3 = \frac{4\pi V}{h^3} \left(\frac{p_-^5}{10m} - \mu_B H \frac{p_-^3}{3} \right) \quad (3)$$

The average energy is the sum of both terms:

$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{E_+ + E_-}{N} = \frac{4\pi V}{h^3} \left(\frac{p_+^5 + p_-^5}{10m} + \mu_B H \frac{p_+^3 - p_-^3}{3} \right), \quad (4)$$

where $p_{\pm} = \sqrt{2m\mu_0}(1 \mp \mu_B H/\mu_0)^{1/2}$.

In order to insert the momenta we have to approximate them by a Taylor expansion in $x = \mu_B H/\mu_0$:

$$p_+^5: (1-x)^{5/2} \approx 1 - \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{15}{8}x^2$$

$$p_-^5: (1+x)^{5/2} \approx 1 + \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{15}{8}x^2$$

$$p_+^3: (1-x)^{3/2} \approx 1 - \frac{3}{2}x$$

$$p_-^3: (1+x)^{3/2} \approx 1 + \frac{3}{2}x$$

Note that we expand the third order terms in p one order lower than the fifth order terms, since the third order terms have a prefactor in linear in x in equation (4):

$$\frac{p_+^5 + p_-^5}{10m} = \frac{(2m\mu_0)^{3/2}}{5} \mu_0 \left[2 + \frac{15}{4} \left(\frac{\mu_B H}{\mu_0} \right)^2 \right] = (2m\mu_0)^{3/2} \mu_0 \left[\frac{2}{5} + \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{\mu_B H}{\mu_0} \right)^2 \right] \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{p_+^3 - p_-^3}{3} \mu_B H = -3 \frac{\mu_B H}{\mu_0} (2m\mu_0)^{3/2} \frac{\mu_B H}{3} = -(2m\mu_0)^{3/2} \mu_0 \left(\frac{\mu_B H}{\mu_0} \right)^2 \quad (6)$$

By inserting equations (5) and (6) in equation (4) we determine the final result:

$$\frac{E}{N} = \frac{4\pi V}{h^3} (2m\mu_0)^{3/2} \mu_0 \left[\frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{\mu_B H}{\mu_0} \right)^2 \right] \stackrel{(1)}{=} \frac{4\pi V}{h^3} \frac{3h^3 N}{8\pi V} \mu_0 \left[\frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{\mu_B H}{\mu_0} \right)^2 \right] \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{3}{5} \mu_0 \left[1 - \frac{5}{8} \left(\frac{\mu_B H}{\mu_0} \right)^2 \right] \quad (8)$$

The first correction term reduces the average particle energy in second order of the strength of the applied magnetic field H .

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