

Prelims Solutions

Problem M09T1

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We first need the partition function for a single particle:

$$Z_1 = \frac{1}{h^5 4\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx dy dz \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dp_x dp_y dp_z e^{-\frac{p_x^2 + p_y^2 + p_z^2}{2Mk_b T}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dp_\theta e^{-\frac{p_\theta^2}{2Ik_b T}} * \\ * \int_0^\pi d\theta \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dp_\phi e^{-\frac{p_\phi^2}{2I \sin(\theta)^2 k_b T}} \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi e^{-\frac{\mu E \cos(\theta)}{k_b T}} = \frac{V(2\pi m k_b T)^{\frac{3}{2}} (2\pi I k_b T)^{\frac{1}{2}} (2\pi I)^{\frac{1}{2}} 2k_b T \sinh\left(\frac{\mu E}{T}\right)}{2h^5 \mu E}$$

For N identical particles $Z_N = Z_1^N / N!$. Thus, $F = -k_b T \ln(Z_N)$.

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The polarization is the average direction of $\vec{\mu}/V$, but $\vec{\mu}$ is going to be symmetric around the z axis since E is. Thus, we only need to find its average in the z direction. Notice

$$\langle \mu \cos(\theta) \rangle = -k_b T \frac{\partial \ln(Z_N)}{\partial E}$$

$$\text{So } P_N(T, V, E) = \langle \mu \cos(\theta) \rangle \frac{N}{V} = k_b T \frac{N \frac{\mu E}{k_b T}}{V \sinh\left(\frac{\mu E}{k_b T}\right)} \left(\frac{\frac{\mu}{k_b T} \cosh\left(\frac{\mu E}{k_b T}\right)}{\frac{\mu E}{k_b T}} - \frac{\sinh\left(\frac{\mu E}{k_b T}\right)}{\frac{\mu E^2}{k_b T}} \right) = \mu \frac{N}{V} \left(\coth\left(\frac{\mu E}{k_b T}\right) - \frac{k_b T}{\mu E} \right).$$

Expanding $\coth(x) \approx 1/x + \frac{1}{3}x$ gives $P \approx \frac{N\mu}{3V} \frac{\mu E}{k_b T}$. Hence,

$$\epsilon = 1 + \frac{4\pi}{3} \frac{N\mu^2}{V k_b T}$$