

Prelims Solutions

Problem M15T3

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1

Since all the degrees of freedom are independent, the partition function of one particle will just be the product of the classical partition function $Z_1 = n_Q V$ and that of the magnetic interaction $Z_m = e^{\beta\mu H} + e^{-\beta\mu H} = 2\cosh(\beta\mu H)$ where we have absorbed any factors into μ . The total partition function for N particles is thus $Z_N = (Z_1 Z_m)^N / N!$ where we divide by $N!$ to account for the indistinguishability of the particles.

2

$$U = -\frac{\partial \ln(Z)}{\partial \beta} = \frac{3}{2} N k_B T - N \mu H \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right)$$

$$S = \beta(U - F) = \beta U + \ln(Z) = \frac{3}{2} N - N \frac{\mu H}{k_B T} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right) + N \ln(n_Q V) + N \ln(2 \cosh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right)) - N \ln(N)$$

3

Slow (reversible) adiabatic process means the entropy stays constant. $dS = 0 = \frac{\partial S}{\partial T} dT + \frac{\partial S}{\partial H} dH \rightarrow \frac{\partial T}{\partial H} = -\frac{\frac{\partial S}{\partial H}}{\frac{\partial S}{\partial T}} = (k_B T)^2 \frac{\frac{\partial S}{\partial H}}{\frac{\partial S}{\partial \beta}}$. Computing gives:

$$(k_B T)^2 \frac{\frac{\partial S}{\partial H}}{\frac{\partial S}{\partial \beta}} = (k_B T)^2 \frac{-N \frac{\mu}{k_B T} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right) - N \frac{\mu^2 H}{(k_B T)^2} \operatorname{sech}\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right)^2 + N \frac{\mu}{k_B T} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right)}{-N \frac{\mu}{k_B T} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right) - N \frac{\mu^2 H}{(k_B T)^2} \operatorname{sech}\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right)^2 - \frac{3}{2} N k_B T + N \frac{\mu}{k_B T} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right)}$$

$$= (k_B T)^2 \frac{N \frac{\mu^2 H}{(k_B T)^2} \operatorname{sech}\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right)^2}{N \frac{\mu^2 H}{(k_B T)^2} \operatorname{sech}\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{2} N k_B T} > 0$$

Clearly $\frac{\partial T}{\partial H}$ is continuous and positive for all T, H . So as H continuously decreases so does T .

4

$S(T_i) = S(T_f) \rightarrow \ln T_i^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i}\right) + \ln\left(\cosh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i}\right)\right) = \ln T_f^{\frac{3}{2}}$. We need to bound the terms that contain H . For H going to 0: $-\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i}\right) + \ln\left(\cosh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i}\right)\right) \rightarrow 0$. For H going to infinity: $-\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i}\right) + \ln\left(\cosh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i}\right)\right) \rightarrow -\ln(2)$. Hence,

$$-\ln(2) < -\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i} \tanh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i}\right) + \ln\left(\cosh\left(\frac{\mu H}{k_B T_i}\right)\right) < 0$$

which gives

$$S(T_f) = \ln T_f^{\frac{3}{2}} = S(T_i) < \ln T_i^{\frac{3}{2}} \rightarrow T_f < T_i$$

and

$$\ln T_i^{\frac{3}{2}} - \ln(2) < S(T_i) = S(T_f) = \ln T_f^{\frac{3}{2}} \rightarrow 2^{-\frac{2}{3}} T_i < T_f$$