

## Paramagnetism

VI-15'

- Apply magnetic field  $\rightarrow$  gives Magnetization
- $\chi \sim \frac{1}{T}$  ( $\chi$  = magnetic susceptibility)  
(a tiny effect)
- An application of two-level systems ( $J = \frac{1}{2}$  case)
- Magnetic moments with discrete  $\hat{z}$ -components  
 $J = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow m_J = \begin{cases} +\frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \end{cases} \Rightarrow$  two-level system
- General  $J \Rightarrow m_J = \underbrace{J, J-1, \dots, -J}_{2J+1 \text{ values}}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  "2J+1"-level system (bounded single-particle energy spectrum)
- Also gives  $\chi \sim \frac{1}{T}$  (Curie's law)
- Even ignoring discrete  $\hat{z}$ -component  
 $\Rightarrow$  classical magnetic moments  
 $\Rightarrow$  classical statistical mechanics
- Also gives  $\chi \sim \frac{1}{T}$

$\chi \sim \frac{1}{T}$  experimentally observed for paramagnetic materials

## B. Paramagnetism in Solids

VI-15

[Warning: The study of magnetic properties of solids is often complicated by (i) choice of units (SI or cgs) [cgs is often used in research], (ii)  $\vec{B}$  vs  $\vec{H}$  fields, and (iii) the proper form of magnetic energy term in various thermodynamic potentials]

- Here, our discussion will focus on getting the experimentally observed feature.

Solids<sup>+</sup>  $\rightarrow$  paramagnetic ( $H \neq 0 \Rightarrow M \neq 0$ )  
 $\rightarrow$  ferromagnetic ( $H = 0, M \neq 0$  under suitable conditions)  
 "spontaneous magnetization"

- Here, we consider paramagnetism.

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<sup>+</sup> In fact, every material has also a diamagnetic response, which is usually small compared with paramagnetic and ferromagnetic response.

## Magnetic Susceptibility, $\chi$

[Warning: There are different ways of defining  $\chi$  in different books, even all using SI units!]

The magnetic effects of a material is quantified by<sup>+</sup>:

$$\vec{M} = \chi \vec{H} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{"magnetic field intensity"} \\ (\text{units: } A \cdot m^{-1}) \end{matrix}$$

$\vec{M}$  = magnetization       $\chi$  = dimensionless (magnetic susceptibility)

↳ Meaning: Magnetic dipole moment per unit volume (Units:  $\frac{A \cdot m^2}{m^3} = Am^{-1}$ )

- Paramagnetic:  $\chi > 0$  but  $\chi \ll 1$

Typical values:  $\chi \sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-4}$   
for paramagnetic materials

$CuSO_4$ :  $\chi \sim 3.8 \times 10^{-4}$  at  $T = 300K$

AND

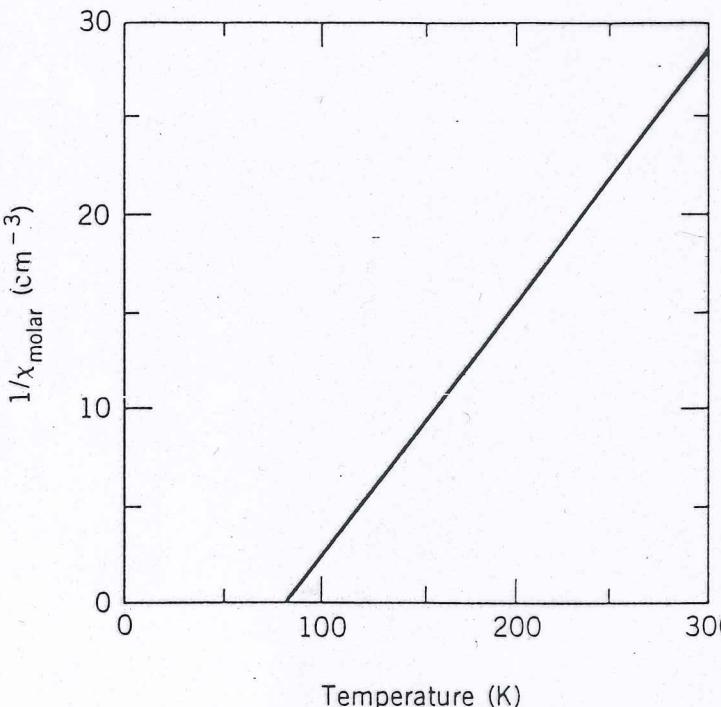
$$\chi \sim \frac{1}{T} \quad (\text{Curie's law})$$

<sup>+</sup>This is a popular definition. Another definition is  $\vec{M} = \chi \frac{\vec{B}}{\mu_0}$ . As long as  $\chi \ll 1$ , there is not much difference.

## Expt'l. fact

### Curie's Law

$$\chi \sim \frac{1}{T} \quad \text{high temperature}$$



$\chi$  = susceptibility

EuO

The reciprocal of the molar susceptibility (in Gaussian units) as a function of temperature for EuO. The line represents theoretical values for noninteracting ions in states with  $L' = 0$  and  $S' = \frac{1}{2}$ , while the dots represent experimental values. The linearity of the plot attests to the validity of the Curie law.

We want to explain this expt'l. fact using stat. mech.

Note: The molar susceptibility  $\chi_{\text{molar}}$  is related to the magnetic dipole moment per mole of the substance and its SI unit is formally  $\text{m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  actually no dimension

Given in handbooks

$$\chi_{\text{molar}} = \chi \cdot V_m \quad \begin{matrix} \text{molar volume} \\ (\text{thus } \text{m}^3) \end{matrix}$$

Units:  $\text{m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  dimensionless

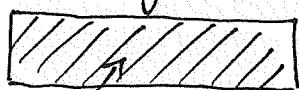
Paramagnetism  $\chi$  is +ve but  $\chi \ll 1$  (tiny effect)

VI-(17a)

Free space:  $\vec{B}$  and  $\vec{H}$  are related by

$$\vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{H} \quad \text{magnetic field intensity}$$

Magnetic induction  $\downarrow$  permeability of vacuum  
 (due to some source  
 (e.g. current) outside)

Matter:

$$\vec{B} = ? \quad \text{in presence of } \vec{H}$$



$$\vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{H} + \mu_0 \vec{M} \quad \text{material's response enters}$$

$\vec{B}$  is altered by presence of material

$$\vec{B} = \mu_0 (\vec{H} + \vec{M}) = \mu_0 (\vec{H} + \chi \vec{H}) = \mu_0 (1 + \chi) \vec{H}$$

$$= \mu_0 \mu_r \vec{H} = \mu \vec{H}$$

$$\mu_r = 1 + \chi$$

relative  
permeability

magnetic  
susceptibility

Paramagnetic Materials:  $\chi \ll 1$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_r \approx 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \mu \approx \mu_0$$

<sup>+</sup> This page is about EM theory.

## Essential Quantum Physics Background

Atom/ion  $\Leftrightarrow$  tiny magnet

$$\vec{\mu} = g \left( \frac{-e}{2m} \right) \vec{J} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \text{Magnetic moment} \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \text{electron mass} \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \nearrow \\ \text{total angular momentum} \end{matrix}$$

$$\vec{J} = \vec{L} + \vec{S}$$

Lande' g-factor

a number of 0(1) that depends on L, S, J

OR

$$\boxed{\vec{\mu} = -g \left( \frac{e\hbar}{2m} \right) \frac{1}{\hbar} \vec{J} = -g \frac{\mu_B}{\hbar} \vec{J}} \quad (1) \quad \text{or } A \cdot m^2$$

$$\text{with } \mu_B = \frac{e\hbar}{2m} = \text{Bohr magneton} = 9.27 \times 10^{-24} \text{ J/Tesla}$$

$$= 5.79 \times 10^{-5} \text{ eV/Tesla}$$

Given quantum number J,  
 set energy scale of problem

$$|\vec{J}| = \sqrt{J(J+1)} \hbar; \quad J_z = m_J \hbar \quad ("z\text{-component}")$$

$$\text{with } m_J = \underbrace{J, J-1, \dots, -J}_{(2J+1) \text{ values}}$$

Hints: The quantum story here follows the flow: Orbital angular momentum, Spin angular momentum, Multi-electron atoms/ions, Spin-orbit coupling, total angular momentum, magnetic moments and angular momentum, Hund's rules for getting S, L, J, g-factor, Zeeman effect.

What is the " $\hat{z}$ -direction"?

- No direction is special without an applied  $\vec{B}$ -field
- Presence of  $\vec{B}$ -field, there is a special direction!  
Call it  $\hat{z}$ , i.e.  $\vec{B} = B\hat{z}$

$\vec{\mu}$  (magnetic moment) interacts with  $\vec{B}$

$$\boxed{E = -\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B}}$$

(2) "—" sign

interaction energy

$\Rightarrow$  single moment/particle  
Hamiltonian  $h$

$\Rightarrow \vec{\mu}$  aligns with  $\vec{B}$  (lower energy)

$\vec{\mu}$  anti-aligns with  $\vec{B}$  (higher energy).

Eqs.(1) and (2)  $\Rightarrow$  Zeeman Effect

$$E = -\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B} = -\mu_z B = -\left(-g\frac{\mu_B}{\hbar}\right) B \underbrace{J_z}_{m_J}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{E = g\mu_B B m_J}$$

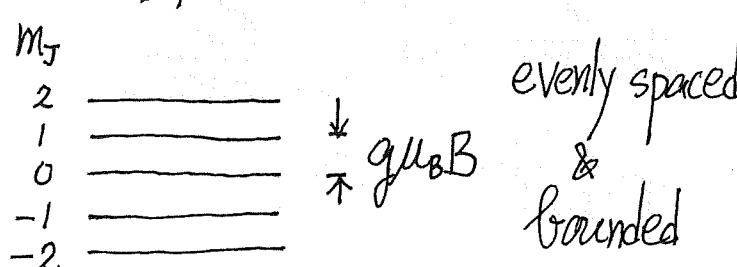
depends on  $m_J$

e.g.  $J=2$

$$B=0$$

5-fold degenerate  $\rightsquigarrow$   $\rule[1.2ex]{1cm}{0.4pt}$   
( $m_J = 2, 1, 0, -1, -2$ )

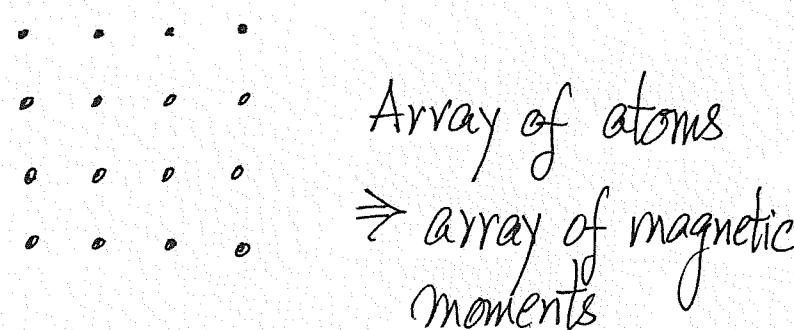
$(2J+1)$  states are degenerate



$B \neq 0$  lifts degeneracy

(a) Understanding the Curie's law:  $J=\frac{1}{2}$  case

Solids



### Paramagnetism

- $M \neq 0$  only when there is an applied field
- $M = \chi H$  and  $\chi \ll 1$  ( $\sim 10^{-5}$ ) (tiny response)

### Implications (or Approximations)

- Magnetic moments are independent

ignore  $\vec{\mu}_i$  influence on  $\vec{\mu}_j$   
( $-\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B}$  more important)

$\Rightarrow$  Array of independent magnetic moments,  
each interacting with an external  
applied field

### Physical Model of Paramagnetism

+ In EM theory,  $\vec{\mu}_i$  interacts with  $\vec{\mu}_j$ . This is weak based on EM equation of dipole-dipole interaction. However, Quantum Effect could lead to a stronger interaction giving rise to ferromagnetism.

J = 1/2 case

Meaning:  $L=0, S=1/2 \Rightarrow$  Entirely due to spin-half

$$g=2 \quad [\text{Recall: } \vec{\mu}_s = -\frac{e}{m} \vec{S} = 2\left(\frac{-e}{2m}\right) \vec{S}]$$

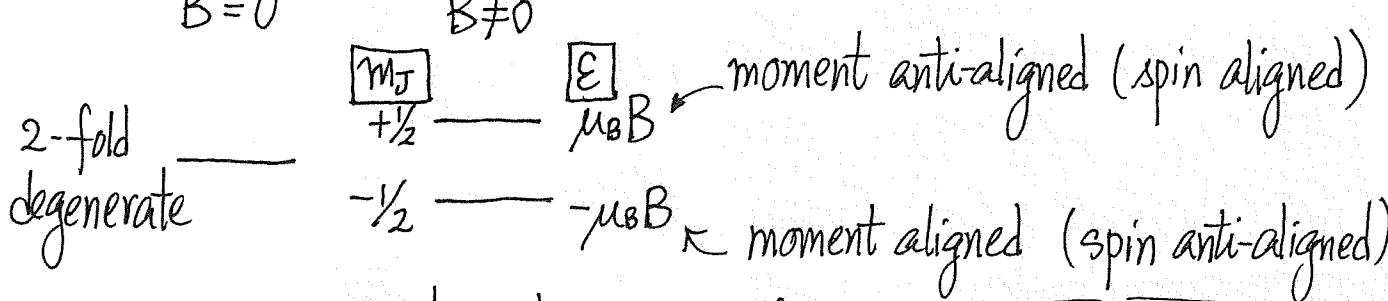
↑  
due to spin  
thus  $g=2$

$$\therefore E = g\mu_B B m_J = \begin{cases} \mu_B B & (m_J = 1/2) \\ -\mu_B B & (m_J = -1/2) \end{cases}$$

$\mu_B \sim 10^5 \text{ eV/Tesla}$   
 $B \sim \text{Tesla}$

Just a two-level system!

$$B=0$$



compared with  
(Sec. A)

$$\begin{array}{c} +\frac{E}{2} \\ -\frac{E}{2} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \boxed{\begin{array}{l} "E" \text{ in Sec. A} \\ = 2\mu_B B = g\mu_B B \end{array}}$$

$$\boxed{Z = Z^N \quad (\text{independent, distinguishable})}$$

$$Z = \sum_{\epsilon=E_L, E_U} e^{-\beta\epsilon} = e^{-\beta\mu_B B} + e^{\beta\mu_B B}$$

From here, either use physical reasoning or plug formulas.  
And the same physics emerges, of course.

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### Physical Reasoning

$M = \text{Magnetization} = \frac{\text{Magnetic Moment}}{\text{Volume}}$  (by definition)

$$= N \langle \mu_z \rangle$$

$$\frac{N}{V} \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \# \text{ ions/atoms} \\ \text{per unit volume} \end{array} \right.$$

$\langle \mu_z \rangle =$  Average value of  $\hat{z}$ -component of one ion/atom

For  $\vec{B} = B\hat{z}$ , in the presence of  $B$

$m_J$	$\mu_z$	$E$	Prob. of finding ion/atom
$+1/2$	$-\mu_B$ (anti-align)	$-+\mu_B B$	$\frac{1}{Z} e^{-\beta\mu_B B}$ (smaller)
$-1/2$	$+\mu_B$ (align)	$--\mu_B B$	$\frac{1}{Z} e^{\beta\mu_B B}$ (bigger)

$$\langle \mu_z \rangle = \underbrace{(+\mu_B) \cdot \frac{1}{Z} e^{\beta\mu_B B}}_{\text{align}} + \underbrace{(-\mu_B) \cdot \frac{1}{Z} e^{-\beta\mu_B B}}_{\text{anti-align}} \quad (*)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \mu_B \frac{e^{\beta\mu_B B} - e^{-\beta\mu_B B}}{e^{\beta\mu_B B} + e^{-\beta\mu_B B}} = \mu_B \tanh(\beta\mu_B B) \\ &= \mu_B \tanh\left(\frac{\mu_B B}{kT}\right) = \frac{g\mu_B}{2} \tanh\left(\frac{g\mu_B B}{2kT}\right) \quad (g=2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore M = N \mu_B \tanh\left(\frac{\mu_B B}{kT}\right) = N \frac{g\mu_B}{2} \tanh\left(\frac{g\mu_B B}{2kT}\right)$$

Key result

VI-(22)

## Plug Formula

- What is the formula to plug?

$$z = e^{-\beta \mu_B B} + e^{\beta \mu_B B}$$

How to get  $\langle \mu_z \rangle$ ? (as in Eq. (\*))

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mu_z \rangle &= \frac{1}{z} \frac{1}{\beta} \left( \frac{\partial z}{\partial B} \right)_\beta \quad (\text{Check}) (\text{Ex.}) \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial B} kT \ln z \right)_T = \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial B} (-kT \ln z) \right)_T\end{aligned}$$

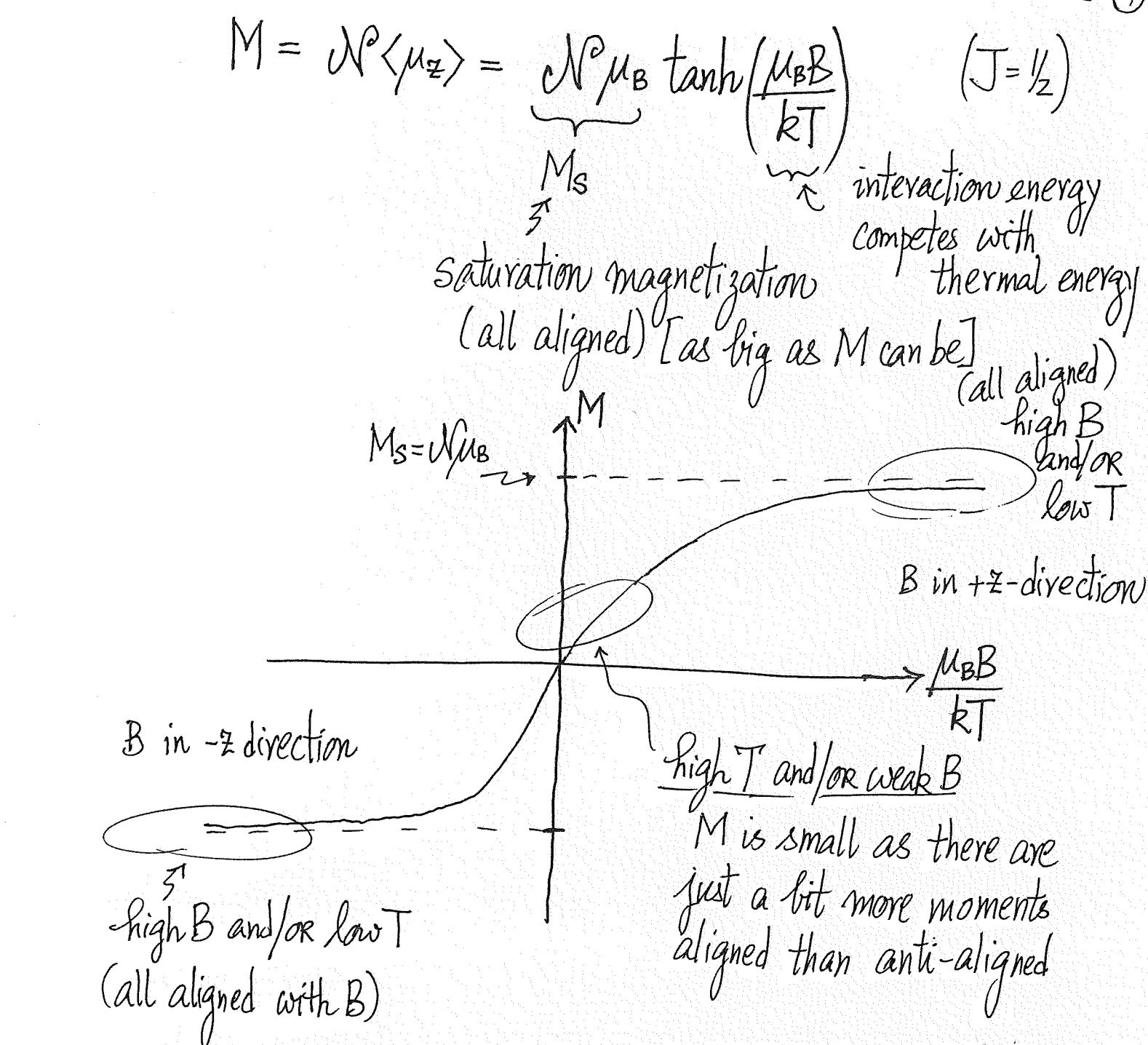
For  $N$  magnetic moments in a volume  $V$ ,

$$F = -kT \ln Z = -NkT \ln z \quad (\because Z = z^N)$$

$$\text{Total Magnetic Moment} = \left( -\frac{\partial F}{\partial B} \right)_T$$

$$\text{Magnetization } M = -\frac{1}{V} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial B} \right)_T = \frac{N}{V} \langle \mu_z \rangle = N \langle \mu_z \rangle$$

- Formula to get  $M$
- Work for other values of  $J$
- Physical argument led us to a formula



Similar behavior of  $M/M_s$  vs  $\frac{\mu_B B}{2kT}$   
is found/observed for other values of  $J$ .

Important: Understand physics at "high  $B$ -low  $T$ " limit  
and "weak  $B$ -high  $T$ " limit.

What about Curie's law?

$$\frac{\mu_B B}{kT} \sim \frac{10^{-4} \text{ eV}}{\frac{1}{40} \text{ eV}} \ll 1$$

$$\tanh\left(\frac{\mu_B B}{kT}\right) \approx \frac{\mu_B B}{kT}$$

room temp.

$$M = N \mu_B \cdot \frac{\mu_B B}{kT} = N \frac{\mu_B^2}{kT} B \quad \left( \sim \frac{1}{T} \text{ behavior} \right)$$

$$\approx N \frac{\mu_B^2 \mu_0}{kT} \cdot H \quad (\because B = \mu_0 \text{f}_r H \approx \mu_0 H)$$

$$= \chi H \quad \text{with } \chi = \frac{N \mu_B^2 \mu_0}{kT} \quad (\text{for } J=\frac{1}{2})$$

shows up!

and Curie's law follows!

Remark: Rewrite in more general form

$$\chi = \frac{N \mu_B^2 \mu_0}{kT} \quad (J=\frac{1}{2})$$

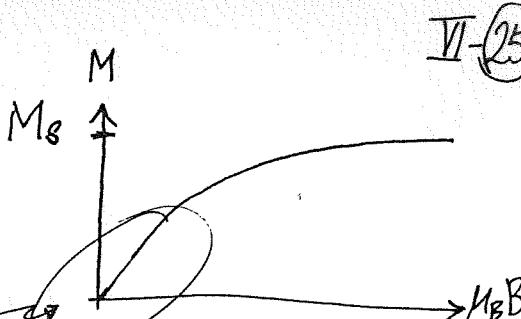
$$= \frac{N(g\mu_B)^2 \mu_0}{4kT} \quad (\because g=2 \text{ for } J=\frac{1}{2})$$

$$= \frac{N(g\mu_B)^2 \mu_0}{3kT} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} + 1 \right)$$

$$= \frac{N(g\mu_B)^2 \mu_0 J(J+1)}{3kT}$$

$\sim \frac{1}{T}$  behavior persists

[a form of  $\chi$  good for  
other values of  $J$ ]



VI-25

VI-25a

$\langle E \rangle$  and average energy per ion/atom

Physical reasoning

$$\langle E_{\text{per ion}} \rangle = \underbrace{(-\mu_B B) \cdot \frac{1}{Z} \int \beta \mu_B B}_{\text{lower energy}} + \underbrace{(+\mu_B B) \cdot \frac{1}{Z} \int \beta \mu_B B}_{\text{higher energy}}$$

prob. of alignment (bigger)

$$= -\mu_B B \tanh\left(\frac{\mu_B B}{kT}\right) = -\langle \mu_z \rangle B \quad \text{make sense!}$$

prob. of anti-alignment (smaller)

Same as plugging formula

$$\langle E_{\text{per ion}} \rangle = -\frac{1}{Z} \left( \frac{\partial Z}{\partial \beta} \right)_B = \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \ln Z \right)_B$$

OR  $\langle E \rangle_{\text{whole system}} = \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \ln Z \right)_B = N \langle E_{\text{per ion}} \rangle$

Refs: The coverage here is more than that in Simon's "The Oxford Solid State Basics" (Ch.19) on paramagnetism. See also the solid state physics textbooks by Kittel and by Christman.

$$\text{Summary: } \vec{\mu}_J = -g\frac{\mu_B}{\hbar} \vec{J}, \mu_z = -g\mu_B m_J, \vec{B} = B \hat{z}, \mathcal{H} = -\vec{\mu}_J \cdot \vec{B}$$

$J=1/2$  case ( $g=2$ ,  $\therefore$  spin contribution only)  $= g\mu_B m_J B$

Form a table:

$m_J$	$\mu_z$	$\mathcal{H} = -\mu_z B$	Prob. of finding atom
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$$+\frac{1}{2} -\mu_B \mu_B B - \text{"anti-aligned"} \frac{1}{Z} e^{-\beta \mu_B B}$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} +\mu_B -\mu_B B - \text{"aligned"} \frac{1}{Z} e^{\beta \mu_B B}$$

$$Z = e^{\beta \mu_B B} + e^{-\beta \mu_B B} = 2 \cosh(\beta \mu_B B); Z = Z^N$$

$$\langle \mu_z \rangle = -\mu_B \frac{e^{-\beta \mu_B B}}{Z} + \mu_B \frac{e^{\beta \mu_B B}}{Z} = \mu_B \tanh(\beta \mu_B B) \quad \text{magnetisation}$$

$$\text{Note: } \langle \mu_z \rangle = \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial B}, M = N \langle \mu_z \rangle = \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\ln Z}{\partial B}, M = \frac{1}{V} \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial B} = -\frac{1}{V} \frac{\partial F}{\partial B}$$

$\uparrow$   $N/V$   
 $\uparrow$  magnetic moment in whole system

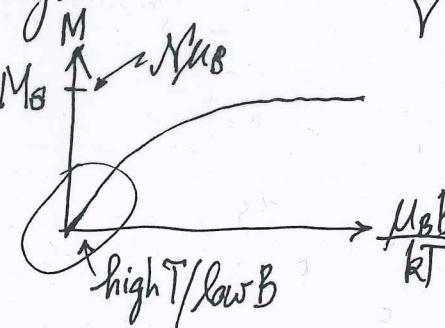
$$M = N \mu_B \tanh(\beta \mu_B B)$$

$$\text{But } \mu_B \sim 10^5 \text{ eV/Tesla}$$

$B \sim \text{a few Tesla or less}$

$\mu_B B \ll kT$  (room temp.)

$$M \propto N \mu_B \frac{\mu_B B}{kT} = N \underbrace{\frac{\mu_B^2 \mu_0}{kT}}_{H} H$$



$$\chi \sim \frac{1}{T} \quad (\text{Curie's law})$$

$$\langle E \rangle_{\text{one atom}} = \mu_B \frac{e^{\beta \mu_B B}}{Z} + (-\mu_B B) \frac{e^{\beta \mu_B B}}{Z} = -\mu_B B \tanh(\beta \mu_B B) = -\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \beta}$$

$$\langle E \rangle_{\text{whole system}} = -N \mu_B B \tanh(\beta \mu_B B) = -N \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \beta} = -\frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial \beta}$$

$$-M \cdot B$$

### General J

$$\vec{B} = B \hat{z}$$

$$\text{Form a table: } \vec{\mu}_J = -g\frac{\mu_B}{\hbar} \vec{J}, \mu_z = -g\mu_B m_J, E = -\mu_z B \\ = g\mu_B m_J B$$

$m_J$	$\mu_z$	energy	Prob. of finding moment
$+J$	$-g\mu_B J$ (least aligned)	$-g\mu_B J$	$\frac{1}{Z} e^{-\beta g\mu_B J}$ (smallest)
$\vdots$	$\vdots$ "anti-aligned"	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
"General" $m_J$	$-g\mu_B m_J$	$-g\mu_B m_J$	$\frac{1}{Z} e^{-\beta g\mu_B m_J}$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$-J$	$+g\mu_B J$ (best aligned)	$-g\mu_B J$	$\frac{1}{Z} e^{\beta g\mu_B J}$ (biggest)

$\uparrow$   
2J+1 states  
as 2J+1 degeneracy  
removed by B-field

$$Z = \sum_{m_J=-J}^{+J} e^{-\beta g\mu_B m_J}$$

and

$$M = -\frac{1}{V} \frac{\partial F}{\partial B}$$

$$\text{OR} \quad \langle \mu_z \rangle = \sum_{m_J=-J}^{+J} (-g\mu_B m_J) \frac{1}{Z} e^{-\beta g\mu_B m_J}$$

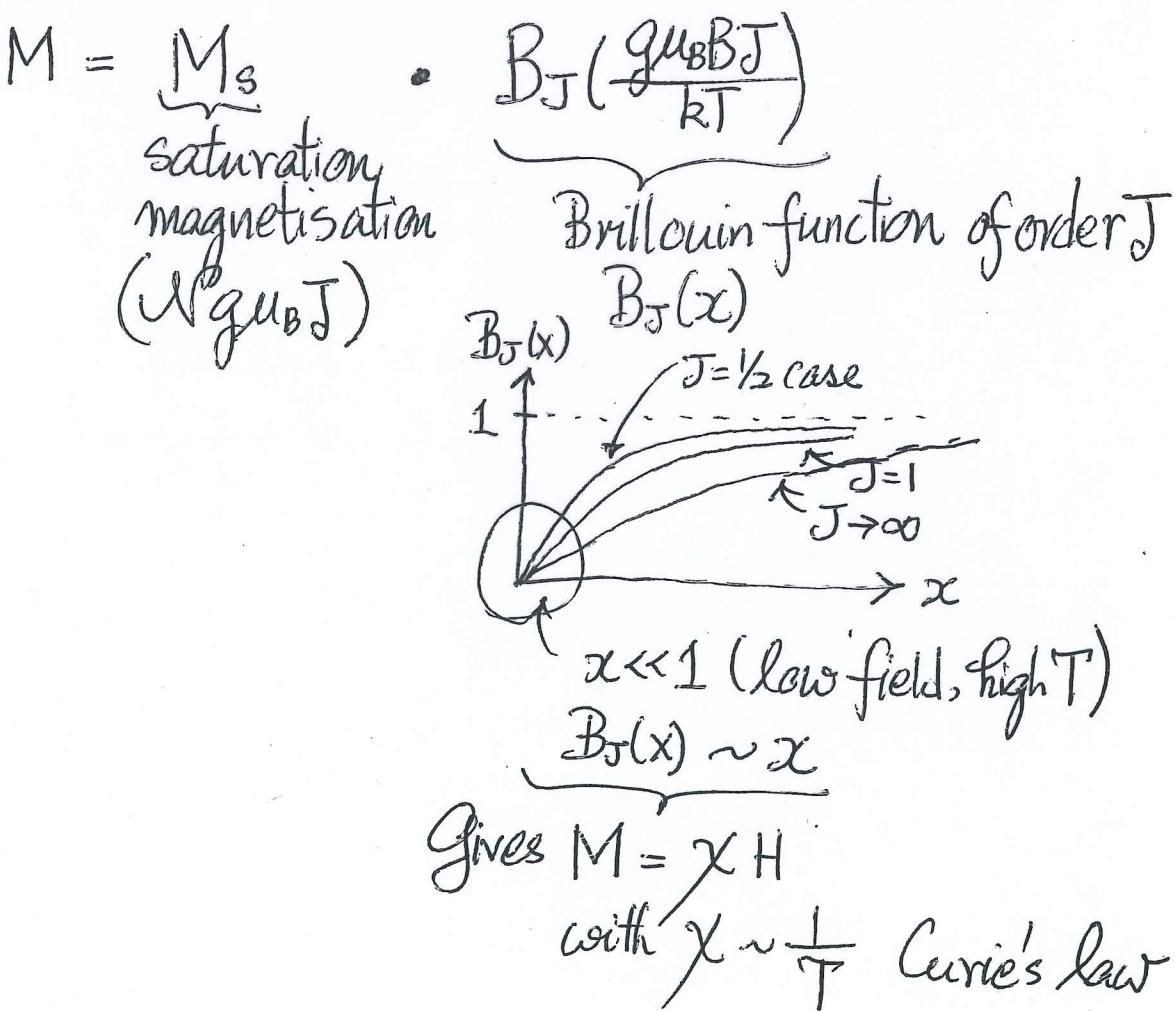
$$\text{and } M = \frac{N}{V} \langle \mu_z \rangle$$

can be summed up exactly

$$\sum_{n=0}^N x^n = \frac{1-x^{N+1}}{1-x}$$

### General value of $J$

- The following pages for any value of  $J$  ( $J = \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{2}, 2, \frac{5}{2}, \dots$ ) are an extension of the  $J = \frac{1}{2}$  discussion. This part is optional.
- The method is the same as the  $J = \frac{1}{2}$  case.
- The result is:



### (b) General value of $J$

Physical argument:

(thus  $\mu_z = -g\mu_B m_J$ )

prob. for occupying an energy level ( $g\mu_B B m_J$ )

is given by

$$\frac{e^{-g\mu_B m_J B / kT}}{\sum_{m_J=-J}^J e^{-g\mu_B m_J B / kT}}$$

one-particle partition func

$$\therefore M = N \sum_{m_J=-J}^J \mu_{z, m_J} e^{-g\mu_B m_J B / kT}$$

$$\sum_{m_J=-J}^J e^{-g\mu_B m_J B / kT}$$

$$= N \sum_{m_J=-J}^J (-\mu_0 g m_J) e^{-g\mu_B m_J B / kT}$$

$$N = \frac{\# \text{ atoms}}{\text{Volume}} = \frac{N}{V}$$

Check result against  $J = \frac{1}{2}$  case

More systematically:

- N independent, distinguishable particles in volume V

$$Z = (z)^N$$

$$z = \sum_{m_J=-J}^J e^{-\beta g \mu_B m_J B}$$

Recall (Geometric series)

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^N x^n &= 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^N \\ &= 1 + x + x^2 + \dots \xrightarrow{x \rightarrow \infty} -x^{N+1} - x^{N+2} - \dots \\ &= (1 + x + x^2 + \dots)(1 - x^{N+1}) \\ &= \frac{1 - x^{N+1}}{1 - x} \end{aligned}$$

□

Writing  $x \equiv \beta g \mu_B J B$ , we have  $z = e^x \sum_{n=0}^{2J} e^{-\frac{x}{J} n}$

$$z = e^x \frac{(1 - e^{-(2J+1)\frac{x}{J}})}{1 - e^{-\frac{x}{J}}}$$

(Ex.) [must try this!]

$$= \frac{\sinh\left[\left(\frac{2J+1}{2J}\right) \cdot x\right]}{\sinh\left(\frac{x}{2J}\right)}$$

(Ex.)

Recall,  $\langle \mu_z \rangle = \frac{1}{\beta} \left( \frac{\partial \ln z}{\partial B} \right)_\beta$  for one ion (see p. VI-23)

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore M &= \frac{N}{V} \frac{1}{\beta} \left( \frac{\partial \ln z}{\partial B} \right)_\beta = \frac{1}{V} \frac{1}{\beta} \left( \frac{\partial \ln Z}{\partial B} \right)_\beta \\ &\text{magnetic moment} \\ &\text{in } z\text{-direction} \\ &\text{per volume} \\ &= N^0 \frac{1}{\beta} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial B} \ln \left( \frac{\sinh\left[\frac{2J+1}{2J} \cdot x\right]}{\sinh \frac{x}{2J}} \right) \right] \\ &= N^0 g \mu_B J \left( \frac{2J+1}{2J} \coth \left[ \frac{2J+1}{2J} x \right] - \frac{1}{2J} \coth \frac{x}{2J} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Note:  
 $x = \beta g \mu_B J B$

$$\Rightarrow M = \underbrace{N^0 g \mu_B J}_{M_s} \underbrace{B_J(x)}_{\text{Brillouin function of order } J} \quad (\text{General value of } J)$$

$M_s = \text{saturation magnetization}$   
 $(\text{as } B_J(x) \rightarrow 1 \text{ as } x \gg 1)$

- In terms of  $F = -kT \ln Z = -NkT \ln z = -\frac{N}{\beta} \ln z$ ,

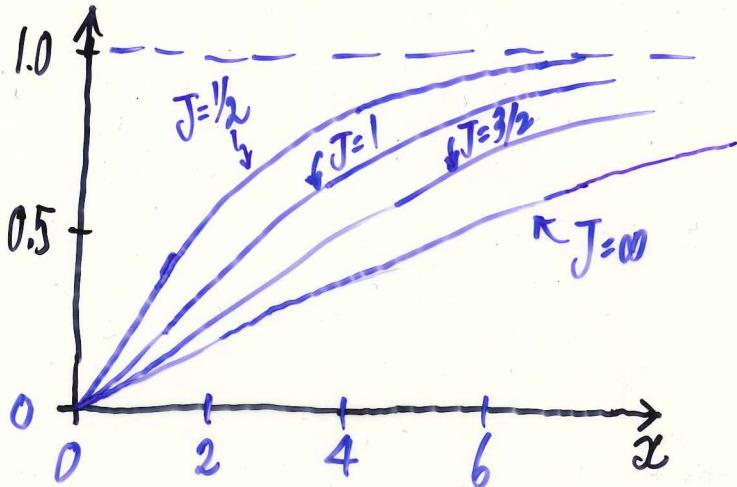
$$M = -\frac{1}{V} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial B} \right)_T$$

In dealing with magnetic systems in statistical mechanics,  
the free energy is taken to be  $dF = -SdT - \vec{M}_0 \cdot d\vec{B}$ .

See Adkins, "Equilibrium Thermodynamics"  
and Mandl, "Statistical Physics" for discussions  
on magnetic systems.

total magnetic moment  
in system.

## Brillouin function $B_J(x)$ :



VI-(30)

$J=1/2$  case:  $B_J(x) = \tanh x$

$B_J(x) \rightarrow 1$  for large  $x$

(i) When  $x = \frac{g\mu_B J B}{kT} \gg 1$  (high field, low  $T$ )

$$B_J(x) \approx \left(1 + \frac{1}{2J}\right) - \frac{1}{2J} = 1 \quad \text{coth } x \rightarrow 1, x \rightarrow \infty$$

$$M \approx N^2 g \mu_B J = M_S$$

⇒ Each atom takes on the maximum  $z$ -component of  $\vec{\mu}$

(ii) When  $x = \frac{g\mu_B J B}{kT} \ll 1$  (low field, high  $T$ )

$$(\coth x \approx \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{3}x + O(x^3); x \ll 1)$$

$$B_J(x) \approx \frac{J+1}{3J} x \propto x \propto B \quad (\text{Ex.})$$

$$M \approx \frac{N^2 (g\mu_B)^2 J (J+1)}{3kT} B$$

$$= \frac{N^2 (g\mu_B)^2 \mu_0 J (J+1)}{3kT} H$$

$$= X H$$

VI-(31)

$$X = \underbrace{\frac{N^2 (g\mu_B)^2 \mu_0 J (J+1)}{3k}}_{\text{Curie's constant}} \cdot \frac{1}{T}$$

Curie's law

Curie's constant

(can be extracted optically and calculated theoretically)

∴ stat. mech. (plus QM) gives a microscopic theory of paramagnetism.

(c) How about  $J \rightarrow \infty$ ?

$M_J$ : infinitely many possible values

⇒ quantization of  $\mu_z$  becomes unimportant

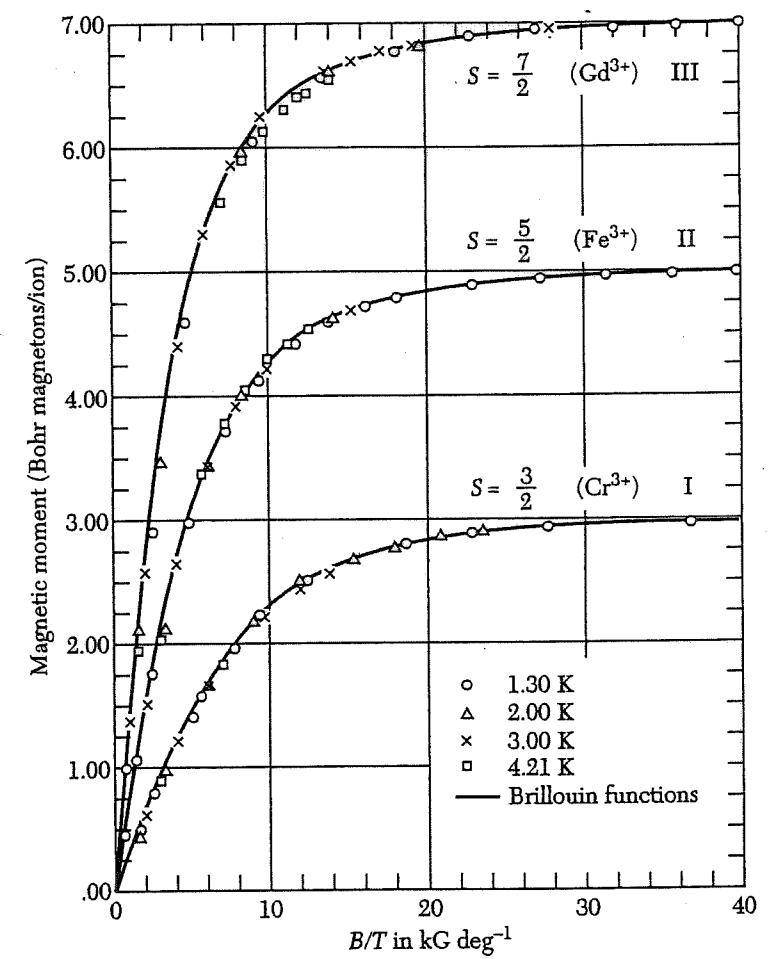
In the limit  $J \rightarrow \infty$  in such a way that  $Jg\mu_B \rightarrow$  finite, we have the classical limit

$$B_J(x) \approx \coth x - \frac{1}{x} \equiv \underbrace{L(x)}_{\text{Langevin function}}$$

At high  $T$ , we can still obtain

$$M = \frac{C}{T} H \quad \text{Curie's law}$$

And the theory works!



Plot of magnetic moment versus  $B/T$  for spherical samples of (I) potassium chromium alum, (II) ferric ammonium alum, and (III) gadolinium sulfate octahydrate. Over 99.5% magnetic saturation is achieved at 1.3 K and about 50,000 gauss (5T).

(From Kittel's "Introduction to Solid State Physics")