

Contribution to specific heat of a metal due to the electrons is

$$C_V^{\text{elec}} = \frac{\pi^2}{2} \left( \frac{T}{T_F} \right) n k_B \left( 1 + O\left(\frac{T}{T_F}\right)^2 \right)$$

Classical result would be  $C_V^{\text{elec}} = \frac{3}{2} n k_B$

So quantum result is smaller by a factor

$$\frac{\pi^2}{2} \left( \frac{T}{T_F} \right) \sim \frac{10^2}{10^4} \sim 10^{-2}$$

classical  $C_V^{\text{elec}}$  is independent of  $T$

quantum result is  $\propto T$

We also had that the contribution to the specific heat due to ionic vibrations (quantized sound modes = phonons) at low temperatures is

$$C_V^{\text{ion}} = \frac{12\pi^4}{5} \left( \frac{T}{\Theta_D} \right)^3 n k_B \sim T^3$$

at room temperature  $C_V^{\text{ion}} \gg C_V^{\text{elec}}$ . But at sufficiently low  $T$ , since  $C_V^{\text{ion}} \sim T^3$  while  $C_V^{\text{elec}} \sim T$ , eventually  $C_V^{\text{elec}}$  becomes the dominant contribution. This happens at a  $T^*$  such that

$$1 = \frac{C_V^{\text{elec}}}{C_V^{\text{ion}}} = \frac{\pi^2}{2} \left( \frac{T^*}{T_F} \right) \frac{5}{12\pi^4} \left( \frac{\Theta_D}{T^*} \right)^3 = \frac{5}{24\pi^2} \left( \frac{\Theta_D}{T_F} \right) \left( \frac{\Theta_D}{T^*} \right)^2$$

$$T^* = \sqrt{\frac{5}{24\pi^2} \left( \frac{\Theta_D}{T_F} \right)} \Theta_D \approx 0.15 \left( \frac{\Theta_D}{T_F} \right)^{1/2} \Theta_D$$

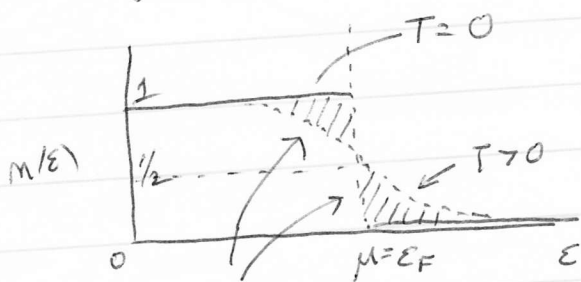
$$T_F \sim 10^4 \text{ K}, \Theta_D \sim 10^2 \text{ K}, \Rightarrow T^* \approx 0.05 \Theta_D \sim O(1) \text{ K}$$

At  $T=0$ ,  $\mu = \epsilon_F$ . As  $T$  increases, does  $\mu$  increase, decrease, or stay the same?

Note:  $\mu$  must vary with temperature so that the density

$$n = \int_0^{\infty} d\epsilon n(\epsilon) g(\epsilon) \quad n(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{e^{-\beta(\epsilon - \mu)} + 1}$$

stays constant.



Suppose  $\mu$  stayed constant,  $\mu = \epsilon_F$ , as  $T$  increased

because  $\frac{\partial n}{\partial \epsilon}$  is symmetric about  $\mu$ , these two areas are equal.

The number of electrons that get removed from below  $\epsilon_F$  is then  $\sim g(\mu - \frac{k_B T}{2}) k_B T$ , while the number of electrons added above  $\epsilon_F$  is  $g(\mu + \frac{k_B T}{2}) k_B T$ . These two should be equal.

But since  $g(\epsilon) \sim \sqrt{\epsilon}$  is an increasing function of  $\epsilon$  there are more energy states within  $k_B T$  above  $\epsilon_F$  than there are energy states within  $k_B T$  below  $\epsilon_F$ , i.e.  $g(\mu + \frac{k_B T}{2}) k_B T > g(\mu - \frac{k_B T}{2}) k_B T$

The only way we can keep  $n$  constant is for  $\mu$  to decrease as  $T$  increases. From Sommerfeld expansion:

$$\mu(T) = \epsilon_F - \frac{\pi^2}{6} (k_B T)^2 \frac{g'(\epsilon_F)}{g(\epsilon_F)} + \dots$$

## Pauli paramagnetism of electron gas

electron has intrinsic spin  $\vec{S} = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \vec{\sigma}$  with intrinsic magnetic moment  $\vec{\mu} = -\mu_B \vec{\sigma}$  where  $\mu_B = \frac{e \hbar}{2mc}$  is Bohr magneton

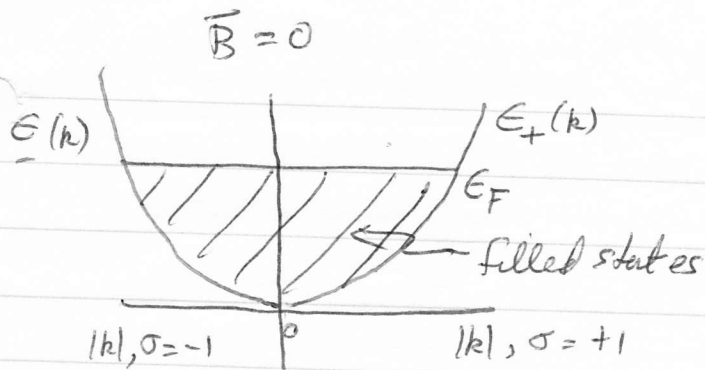
In an external magnetic field  $\vec{B}$ , there is an interaction energy  $-\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B} = \mu_B \sigma B$  where  $\sigma = \pm 1$  for spins parallel and antiparallel to  $\vec{B}$ . The energy spectra for up and down electron spins becomes

$$E_{\pm}(\vec{k}) = E(\vec{k}) \pm \mu_B B \quad \text{where } E(\vec{k}) \text{ is spectrum at } \vec{B} = 0$$

Since  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$  electrons now have different energy spectra, we should treat them as two different populations of particles  $\Rightarrow$  they will be in equilibrium when their chemical potentials are equal, i.e.  $\mu_+ = \mu_-$

This will induce a net magnetization in the system.

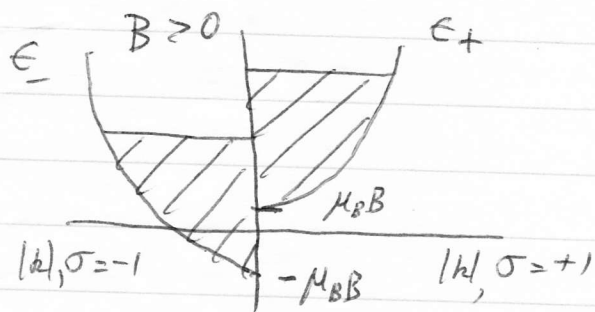
To see this, consider free electrons at  $T=0$



when  $\vec{B} = 0$ ,  $E_+(\vec{k}) = E_-(\vec{k})$

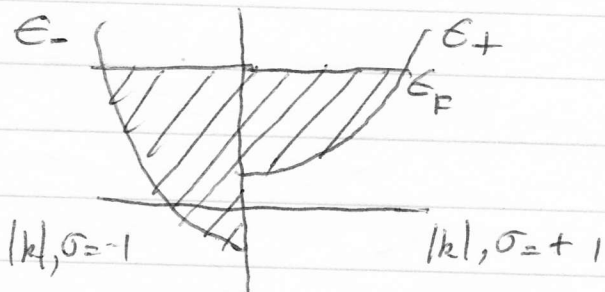
ground state occupations look as shown on the left. Equal numbers of  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$  electrons  
 $m_+ = m_-$

When  $\vec{B}$  is turned on, if there were no redistribution of electron spins, the situation would look like



Clearly the system can lower its energy by transferring  $\uparrow$  electrons to  $\downarrow$  electrons.

At equilibrium the system will look like



again the two populations have the same max energy  $E_F$ .

But there are now more  $\downarrow$  electrons than  $\uparrow$  electrons

magnetization  $\frac{M}{V} = -\mu_B (m_+ - m_-) > 0$

$\frac{\vec{M}}{V}$  is parallel to  $\vec{B} \Rightarrow$  paramagnetic effect

## The calculation

Let  $g(\epsilon)$  be the density of states when  $B=0$

When  $B > 0$ , the density of states for  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$  electrons are

$$\begin{aligned}g_+(\epsilon + \mu_B B) &= \frac{1}{2} g(\epsilon) &\Rightarrow g_+(\epsilon) &= \frac{1}{2} g(\epsilon - \mu_B B) \\g_-(\epsilon - \mu_B B) &= \frac{1}{2} g(\epsilon) &g_-(\epsilon) &= \frac{1}{2} g(\epsilon + \mu_B B)\end{aligned}$$

The density of  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$  electrons is then

$$n_{\pm} = \int_{\epsilon_{\pm \min}}^{\infty} d\epsilon g_{\pm}(\epsilon) f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) \quad \epsilon_{\pm \min} = \pm \mu_B B$$

where  $f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) = \frac{1}{e^{(\epsilon - \mu(B))/k_B T} + 1}$

$\mu(B)$  is the chemical potential - it might depend on  $B$   
- it is same for  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$

We will consider only the case that

$$\mu_B B \ll \mu(B) \approx \epsilon_F$$

i.e. spin interaction is small compared to  $\epsilon_F$

First we will show that

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \mu(B) \approx \mu(B=0) \left[ 1 + O\left(\frac{\mu_B B}{\epsilon_F}\right)^2 \right]$$

since we will work in the  $\mu_B B \ll \epsilon_F$  limit, we will then be able to ignore changes in  $\mu$  due to the finite  $B$  and just use  $\mu(B=0)$

Proof: Consider the total density of electrons

$$\begin{aligned} n &= n_+ + n_- = \int_{\mu_B B}^{\infty} d\epsilon f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) g_+(\epsilon) + \int_{-\mu_B B}^{\infty} d\epsilon f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) g_-(\epsilon) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mu_B B}^{\infty} d\epsilon f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) g(\epsilon - \mu_B B) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\mu_B B}^{\infty} d\epsilon f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) g(\epsilon + \mu_B B) \\ &\quad \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \text{shift integration} \\ \text{variable } \epsilon - \mu_B B \rightarrow \epsilon \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \text{shift integration} \\ \text{variable } \epsilon + \mu_B B \rightarrow \epsilon \end{array} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left[ f(\epsilon + \mu_B B, \mu(B)) + f(\epsilon - \mu_B B, \mu(B)) \right] \end{aligned}$$

use the fact that  $f(\epsilon, \mu)$  depends only on  $\epsilon - \mu$

$$n = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left[ f(\epsilon, \mu(B) - \mu_B B) + f(\epsilon, \mu(B) + \mu_B B) \right]$$

expand  $f$  about  $\mu(B)$  for small  $\mu_B B$

$$n \approx \frac{1}{2} \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left[ f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) - \frac{df}{d\mu} \mu_{BB} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 f}{d\mu^2} (\mu_{BB})^2 + \dots \right. \\ \left. + f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) + \frac{df}{d\mu} \mu_{BB} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 f}{d\mu^2} (\mu_{BB})^2 + \dots \right]$$

where derivatives above are evaluated at  $\mu = \mu(B)$ .  
The terms linear in  $B$  cancel!

$$n \approx \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left[ f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 f}{d\mu^2} (\mu_{BB})^2 + \dots \right]$$

If we ignored the  $(\mu_{BB})^2$  term the above would be

$$n = \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) f(\epsilon, \mu(B))$$

But this is just the same formula we use to compute  $n$  at  $B=0$ ! The magnetic field  $B$  appears nowhere in the above, except via  $\mu(B)$ . Since the density is physically fixed by the sample and cannot change as one varies  $B$ , we would conclude that

$$\mu(B) = \mu(0) \text{ is independent of } B!$$

conclusion

This depends on our having ignored the  $(\mu_{BB})^2$  term, so we can expect

$$\mu(B) \approx \mu(0) + \frac{(\mu_{BB})^2}{\epsilon_F}$$

where  $\frac{1}{\epsilon_F}$  appears on dimensional grounds.

To see this is so more explicitly, let's include the  $(\mu_B B)^2$  term and continue to calculate...

$$n = \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left[ f(\epsilon, \mu(B)) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 f}{d\mu^2} (\mu_B B)^2 \right]$$

write  $\mu(B) = \mu(B=0) + \delta\mu$  and expand in first term

$$n = \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left[ f(\epsilon, \mu(B=0) + \delta\mu) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 f}{d\mu^2} (\mu_B B)^2 \right]$$

$$= \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) f(\epsilon, \mu(B=0))$$

$$+ \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left. \frac{df}{d\mu} \right|_{\mu=\mu(B=0)} \delta\mu$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left. \frac{d^2 f}{d\mu^2} \right|_{\mu=\mu(B)} (\mu_B B)^2$$

The first term is just the density when  $B=0$ , i.e.  $n$ . Hence we get

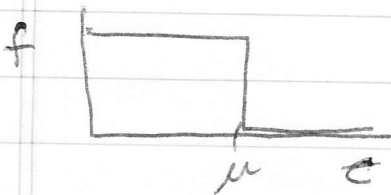
$$0 = \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left. \frac{df}{d\mu} \right|_{\mu=\mu(B=0)} \delta\mu + \frac{1}{2} \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left. \frac{d^2 f}{d\mu^2} \right|_{\mu=\mu(B)} (\mu_B B)^2$$

So the correction to  $\mu$  due to finite  $B$  is

$$\delta\mu = \frac{-\frac{1}{2} \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left. \frac{d^2 f}{d\mu^2} \right|_{\mu=\mu(B)} (\mu_B B)^2}{\int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left. \frac{df}{d\mu} \right|_{\mu=\mu(B=0)}} \approx -\frac{g'(\epsilon_F)}{2g(\epsilon_F)} (\mu_B B)^2$$



To see how big this is, consider the limit  $T \rightarrow 0$  where  $\mu(B=0) = \epsilon_F$ , and  $f$  is a step function



$$\frac{df}{d\mu} = -\frac{df}{d\epsilon} = \delta(\epsilon - \mu)$$

$$\frac{d^2f}{d\mu^2} = \frac{d^2f}{d\epsilon^2} = -\frac{d\delta(\epsilon - \mu)}{d\epsilon}$$

$$\text{so } \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left. \frac{df}{d\mu} \right|_{\mu = \mu(B=0)} = g(\mu(B=0)) = g(\epsilon_F)$$

$$\int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left. \frac{d^2f}{d\mu^2} \right|_{\mu = \mu(B)} (\mu_B B)^2 \approx g'(\mu(B)) (\mu_B B)^2$$

$$\delta\mu = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{g'(\mu(B)) (\mu_B B)^2}{g(\epsilon_F)}$$

to lowest order, evaluate  $g'(\mu(B))$  as  $g'(\epsilon_F)$   
The difference will only give higher order corrections of  $O(\mu_B B)^4$

$$\delta\mu = -\frac{g'(\epsilon_F) (\mu_B B)^2}{2g(\epsilon_F)}$$

for free electrons with  $g(\epsilon) = C\sqrt{\epsilon}$  so  
 $g'(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{C}{\sqrt{\epsilon}}$  we get

$$\boxed{\delta\mu = -\frac{(\mu_B B)^2}{4\epsilon_F}} \quad \text{so} \quad \boxed{\mu(B) = \epsilon_F \left( 1 - \left( \frac{\mu_B B}{2\epsilon_F} \right)^2 \right)}$$

Now we compute

(2) Magnetization  $\frac{M}{V} = -\mu_B (m_+ - m_-) = \mu_B (m_- - m_+)$

$$\frac{M}{V} = \mu_B \int d\epsilon f(\epsilon, \mu) [g_-(\epsilon) - g_+(\epsilon)]$$

$$= \mu_B \int d\epsilon f(\epsilon, \mu) \left[ \frac{1}{2} g(\epsilon + \mu_B B) - \frac{1}{2} g(\epsilon - \mu_B B) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \mu_B \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) [f(\epsilon, \mu + \mu_B B) - f(\epsilon, \mu - \mu_B B)] \quad \text{as before}$$

expand  $f(\epsilon, \mu \pm \mu_B B) = f(\epsilon, \mu) \pm \frac{df}{d\mu} \mu_B B$

$$\frac{M}{V} = \frac{1}{2} \mu_B \int d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left[ 2 \frac{df}{d\mu} \mu_B B \right]$$

$$= \mu_B^2 B \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\epsilon g(\epsilon) \left( -\frac{\partial f}{\partial \epsilon} \right) \quad \text{since } \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu} = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial \epsilon}$$

To lowest order in temperature  $-\frac{\partial f}{\partial \epsilon} \approx \delta(\epsilon - \mu)$  with  $\mu = \epsilon_F$

$$\boxed{\frac{M}{V} = \mu_B^2 B g(\epsilon_F)}$$

could use Sommerfeld expansion to get corrections of order  $\left(\frac{k_B T}{\epsilon_F}\right)^2$

magnetic susceptibility  $\chi = \frac{\partial(M/V)}{\partial B}$

Pauli susceptibility  $\boxed{\chi_p = \mu_B^2 g(\epsilon_F)}$   $\sim$  density of states at  $\epsilon_F$

$$\epsilon_F = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m}$$

For free electron gas we earlier had  $g(\epsilon_F) = \frac{3}{2} \frac{m}{\epsilon_F}$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\chi_p = \mu_B^2 \frac{3}{2} \frac{m}{\epsilon_F}} \quad \chi_p > 0 \Rightarrow \text{paramagnetic}$$

Compare this to classical result. Average magnetization of a single spin is

$$\langle m \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \mu_B \left[ \frac{e^{-\beta \mu_B B} (+1) + e^{+\beta \mu_B B} (-1)}{e^{\beta \mu_B B} + e^{-\beta \mu_B B}} \right]$$

$$\langle m \rangle = \mu_B \tanh(\beta \mu_B B)$$

$$\frac{M}{V} = \langle m \rangle \frac{N}{V} = \mu_B n \tanh(\beta \mu_B B)$$

$$\chi = \frac{d(M/V)}{dB}$$

at low  $T \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\tanh(\beta \mu_B B) \rightarrow 1$ ,  $\frac{M}{V} \rightarrow \mu_B n$   
all spins aligned!

Compare to quantum case:

$$\frac{M}{V} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{n}{\epsilon_F} \mu_B^2 B$$

smaller than classical result by factor  $\frac{3}{2} \frac{\mu_B B}{\epsilon_F} \ll 1$

at high  $T$  ( $\beta \rightarrow 0$ )  $\tanh(\beta \mu_B B) \rightarrow \beta \mu_B B$

$$\frac{M}{V} = \frac{\mu_B^2 n}{k_B T}, \quad \chi = \frac{\mu_B^2 n}{k_B T} \sim \frac{1}{T}$$

Compare to quantum case - at room temp finite  $T$  corrections remain negligible and still

$$\chi_p = \mu_B^2 \frac{3}{2} \frac{n}{\epsilon_F} \quad \text{indep of } T$$

smaller than classical by factor  $\frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{k_B T}{\epsilon_F} \right) \ll 1$