

Nanomagnetism and Spintronics



POLITECNICO
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Lecture 2

Magnetization energy of a body, thermodynamics of magnetic materials

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Magnetic work

Problem: Calculate the total work needed in order to create a given distribution of magnetic field $\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{r})$ in a region occupied by a magnetic material

$$\delta L = \delta L' + \delta U_M + \delta L^*$$

note that $\bar{H}(\vec{r}) = \bar{H}_0 + \bar{H}_M$
field produced
by ext. currents
without magnetic
materials

demagnetizing
field produced
by the magnetization
itself (also \bar{H}_0 in
some texts)

$\delta L'$ Work done by the magnet power supply to set a given \mathbf{H}_0

δU_M Work corresponding to the energy stored in a given configuration $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r})$ and depending on the magnetostatic interaction between local magnetic moments (Magnetostatic energy)

δL^* Additional work to magnetize the body in order to obtain a given $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r})$. It depends on the nature of the material (FM, paramagnetic, diamagnetic)

Magnetostatic energy

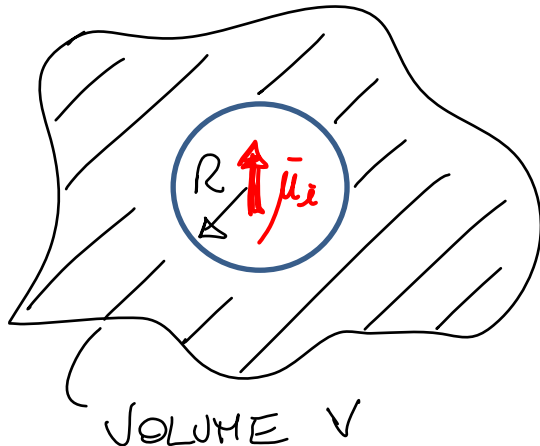
The idea is to calculate the dipole-dipole interaction energy in a solid where a given $\mathbf{M}(\mathbf{r})$ exists. We do not calculate the energy for creating this configuration.

Consider a lattice with mag. moments $\bar{\mu}_i$

\bar{H}_i : field intensity at the lattice point i given by all the other dipoles

$$(c) \quad U_M = -\frac{\mu_0}{2} \sum_i \bar{\mu}_i \cdot \bar{H}_i \quad (\text{without thermal fluctuations})$$

($i \neq j$ and $j \neq i$)



if $R \gg a$ (lattice parameter)
the dipoles outside can be treated as a continuum

$$\bar{H}_i = \bar{H}_M - \left(-\frac{1}{3}\bar{H}\right) + \bar{H}'_i$$

demagnetizing field contribution from the small sphere contribution from dipoles inside

REQUIREMENT

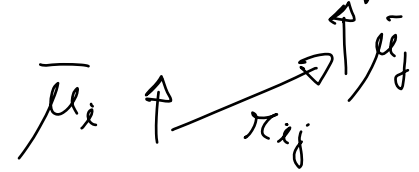
$$Q < R < l_{ex}$$

EXCHANGE LENGTH

typical length over which $\bar{\mu}$ changes

$\bar{\mu}$ must be constant or slowly variable within the sphere

$$\bar{h}_i = \sum_{|\vec{r}_{ij}| < R} \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[-\frac{\bar{\mu}_j}{|\vec{r}_{ij}|^3} + \frac{3(\bar{\mu}_j \cdot \vec{r}_{ij}) \vec{r}_{ij}}{|\vec{r}_{ij}|^5} \right]$$



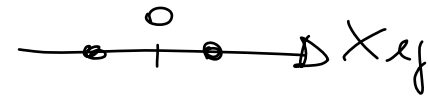
μ_j constant within R

Exercise: demonstrate that \bar{h}_i is zero for a cubic lattice

For instance

$$h'_{ix} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum \left[-\frac{\mu_x}{r_{ij}^3} + \frac{3x_{ij}(\mu_x x_{ij} + \mu_y y_{ij} + \mu_z z_{ij})}{r_{ij}^5} \right] \quad (1)$$

this term is zero for a cubic symmetry



Furthermore for a cubic lattice x, y, z are interchangeable:

$$\sum \frac{x_{ij}^2}{r_{ij}^5} = \sum \frac{y_{ij}^2}{r_{ij}^5} = \sum \frac{z_{ij}^2}{r_{ij}^5} = \frac{1}{3} \sum \frac{x_{ij}^2 + y_{ij}^2 + z_{ij}^2}{r_{ij}^5} = \frac{1}{3} \sum \frac{1}{r_{ij}^3}$$

Therefore (1) becomes

$$\mu_{ix} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum \left(-\frac{\mu_x}{r_{ij}^3} + \frac{\mu_x}{r_{ij}^3} \right) = 0 \quad \text{C.N.D.}$$

In general, for a non cubic symmetry

$$\bar{\mu}_i = -\Lambda \cdot \bar{\pi} \quad \text{as the summation will give in any case something proportional to } \bar{\pi}$$

TENSOR

The magnetostatic energy is then:

$$U_M = -\frac{\mu_0}{2} \sum_i \bar{\mu}_i \cdot \left(\bar{H}_M + \frac{1}{3} \bar{\pi} - \Lambda \cdot \bar{\pi} \right)$$

The summation can be replaced by an integral if $\bar{\mu}_i = \bar{\pi} d^3x$

$$U_M = -\frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_V \bar{\pi} \cdot \left(\bar{H}_M + \frac{\bar{\pi}}{3} - \Lambda \cdot \bar{\pi} \right) d^3x = \underbrace{-\frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_V \bar{\pi} \cdot \bar{H}_M d^3x}_{(\alpha)} - \underbrace{\frac{\mu_0}{6} \int_V \bar{\pi}^2 d^3x}_{(\beta)} + \underbrace{\int_V \bar{\pi} \cdot \Lambda \cdot \bar{\pi} d^3x}_{(\gamma)}$$

(β) does not depend on the spatial distribution of $\bar{\pi}(x)$ - the energy is minimized simply if $\bar{\pi}$ is bog, but this tendency to FM is much less important than exchange \Rightarrow CAN BE NEGLECTED

(γ) can be included in the magnetic anisotropy term

The MAGNETOSTATIC self ENERGY is then conventionally defined as:

$$E_H = -\frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_V \bar{H}_H \cdot \bar{H} d^3x$$

$$\bar{B} = \mu_0 (\bar{H}_H + \bar{H})$$

But

$$E_H = -\frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_{\text{ALL SPACE}} \bar{H}_H \cdot \bar{H} d^3x = -\frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_{\text{A.S.}} \bar{H}_H \cdot \left(\frac{\bar{B}}{\mu_0} - \bar{H}_H \right) d^3x =$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\text{A.S.}} \bar{H}_H \cdot \bar{B} d^3x + \frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_{\text{A.S.}} H_H^2 d^3x$$

PROOF: $\bar{B} = \nabla \times \bar{A}$ $\bar{H} \cdot (\nabla \times \bar{A}) = \nabla \cdot (\bar{A} \times \bar{H}) + \bar{A} \cdot (\nabla \times \bar{H})$ no conduction currents

$$\int_{\text{A.S.}} \bar{H}_H \cdot \bar{B} d^3x = \int_{\text{A.S.}} \nabla \cdot (\bar{A} \times \bar{H}) d^3x = \int (\bar{A} \times \bar{H}) \cdot \bar{n} d^3x \rightarrow 0$$

Surface at ∞ $\sim \frac{1}{r^2}$ $\sim \frac{1}{r^2}$

$$E_H = \begin{cases} -\frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_V \bar{H}_H \cdot \bar{H} d^3x \\ \frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_{\text{A.S.}} H_H^2 d^3x \end{cases}$$

The extra work for the presence of magnetic bodies is:

$$\delta L_M = \delta L - \delta L' = \int_{A.S.} (\bar{H} \cdot \delta \bar{B} - \mu_0 \bar{H}_2 \cdot \delta \bar{H}_2) d^3x =$$

$$= \int_{A.S.} [(\bar{H}_2 + \bar{H}_M) \cdot \mu_0 \delta(\bar{H}_2 + \bar{H}_M + \bar{H}) - \mu_0 \bar{H}_2 \cdot \delta \bar{H}_2] d^3x =$$

$$= \cancel{\mu_0 \int_{A.S.} \delta(\bar{H}_2 \cdot \bar{H}_M) d^3x} + \underbrace{\mu_0 \int_{A.S.} \bar{H}_M \cdot \delta \bar{H}_M d^3x}_{\delta E_M} + \mu_0 \int_{A.S.} \bar{H} \cdot \delta \bar{H} d^3x$$

$$\begin{cases} \bar{\nabla} \cdot \bar{H}_2 = 0 \\ \bar{\nabla} \times \bar{H}_M = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\delta E_M = \delta \left(\frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_{A.S.} H_M^2 d^3x \right)$$

$$\delta L_M = \delta E_M + \mu_0 \int_{\Omega} \bar{H} \cdot \delta \bar{H} d^3x \quad (H=0 \text{ out of } \Omega)$$

δL_M includes magnetostatic energy!

$$\delta E_M \text{ can also be written as } \delta \left\{ -\frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} \bar{H}_M \cdot \bar{H} d^3x \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta E_M = -\frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} \bar{H}_M \cdot \delta \bar{H} d^3x - \frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} \bar{H} \cdot \delta \bar{H}_M d^3x$$

\bar{H} gives \bar{H}_M } a reciprocity theorem states that

$$\delta \bar{H} \quad \parallel \quad \delta \bar{H}_M \quad \left\{ \int \bar{H}_M \cdot \delta \bar{H} d^3x = \int \bar{H} \cdot \delta \bar{H}_M d^3x \right.$$

$$\delta E_M = -2 \frac{\mu_0}{2} \int_{\Omega} \bar{H}_M \cdot \delta \bar{H} d^3x$$

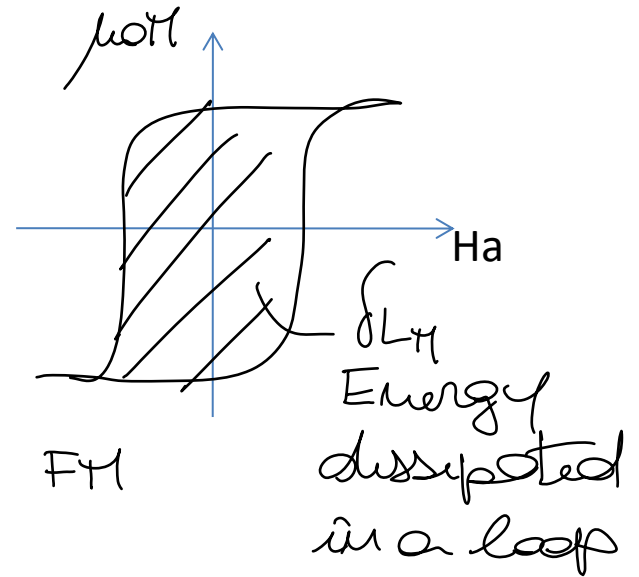
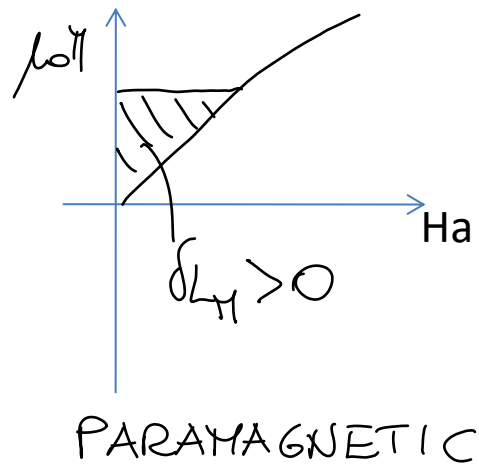
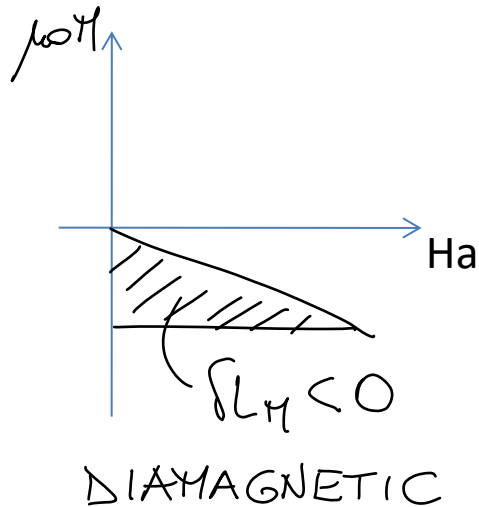
$$\delta L_M = \delta E_M + \mu_0 \int_{\Omega} \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{M} d^3x = -\mu_0 \int_{\Omega} \vec{H}_M \cdot \delta \vec{M} d^3x + \mu_0 \int_{\Omega} \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{M} d^3x =$$

$$\delta L_M = \mu_0 \int_{\Omega} \vec{H}_0 \cdot \delta \vec{M} d^3x = \delta U_M + \delta L^*$$

THIS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE \vec{H}_0 is the external variable!

If we disentangle the contribution of magnetostatic energy

$$\delta L^* = \delta L_M - \delta E_M = \mu_0 \int_{\Omega} \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{M} d^3x$$



Experimental: for a long cylinder $\vec{H} = \vec{H}_0$!

$$\delta L^* = \delta L_M$$

Thermodynamics of magnetic materials

The first law is written in terms of pairs of conjugate variables

H_x : external action on the system ($-P$)

X : state variable (V)

$$dU = \underbrace{H_x dx}_{\delta L} + \delta Q \quad \left(\text{e.g. } dU = -p dV + dQ \right)$$

$$\delta Q \leq T dS$$

Four thermodynamic potentials are defined if we fix two variables leaving the other free

1. INTERNAL ENERGY: $U(X, S)$
2. ENTHALPY: $E(H_x, S)$
3. HELMHOLTZ FREE ENERGY: $F(X, T)$
4. GIBBS FREE ENERGY: $G(H_x, T)$

For T fixed the more relevant are:

$$F = U - TS$$

$$dF \leq H_x dx - S dT$$

$$G = F - H_x X$$

$$dG \leq -X dH_x - S dT$$

The magnetic work done on a magnetic body, including that of power supplies is

$$\delta L_H = \mu_0 \int_V \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{H} d\tau \quad (\text{no dissipation!})$$

If we consider now a small body where \vec{H} is uniform

$$\delta L_H = \mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot \delta \int_V \vec{H} d\tau = \mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{m}$$

$$\delta L_H = \mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{m} = H_x \delta x$$

$$dU \leq \mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{m} + T dS$$

$$dF \leq \mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{m} - S dT \quad \text{but } \vec{H} \text{ is not the ext. variable!}$$

$$G = F - H_x X \Rightarrow dG \leq (\cancel{\mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{m}} - S dT) - \cancel{\mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{m}} - \cancel{\mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot \delta \vec{m}}$$

$$dG \leq -S dT - \mu_0 \vec{m} \cdot \delta \vec{H}$$

For fixed \vec{H} and T

$dG \leq 0$ The equilibrium corresponds to a minimum for G

For (\bar{H}_2, T) fixed we should have only one \bar{m} . But this is not exactly the case (hysteresis!).

\bar{m} is an INTERNAL DEGREE OF FREEDOM

LANDAU FREE ENERGY $G_L(\bar{H}_2, T, \bar{m})$

This is the functional to be minimized for finding the equilibrium

$$G_L(\bar{H}_2, T, \bar{m}) = F(\bar{m}, T) - \mu_0 \bar{H}_2 \cdot \bar{m}$$

NOTE: They differ for the energy of \bar{m} in \bar{H}_2

We are assuming that out of eq. the equation of state $\bar{m} = f(\bar{H}_2, T)$ is not valid

EQUILIBRIUM: $\left. \frac{\partial G_L}{\partial \bar{m}} \right|_{\bar{H}_2, T} = 0$

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 G_L}{\partial \bar{m}^2} \right|_{\bar{H}_2, T} > 0$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial F}{\partial \bar{m}} \right|_{\bar{H}_2, T} = \mu_0 \bar{H}_2$$

For an extended body we will consider

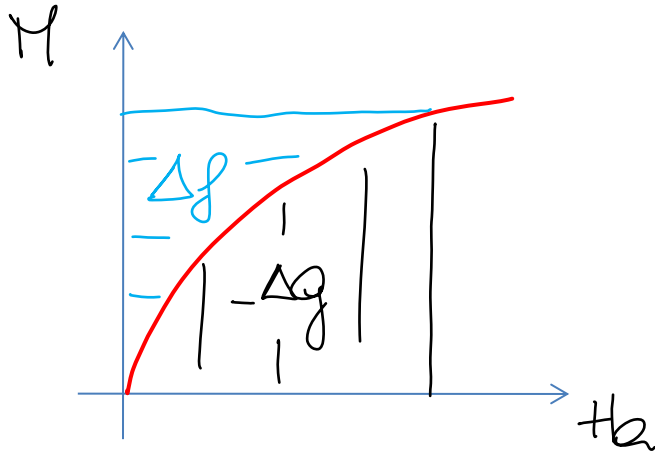
$$G_L = F - \int_{\Omega} \mu_0 \bar{H}_2 \cdot \bar{H} d\tau$$

**For reversible
transformations**

@ $T = \text{const}$

$$df = \frac{dF}{d\bar{r}} = \mu_0 \bar{H}_a \cdot d\bar{H}$$

$$dg = \frac{dG}{d\bar{r}} = -\mu_0 \bar{H} \cdot d\bar{H}_a$$



Next step

Write a reasonable form for $F = U - TS$

The contributions to F are:

1. Exchange energy
2. Anisotropy } Magnetocrystalline
Shape
3. Other terms arising from "interfacial" interactions