

PHYS 351 #4

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1 Q1

Suppose that we have some idealized elastic substance that can stretch in one dimension. (We don't worry about the volume of the material.) Let it have the equation of state $F = bT[\frac{L}{L_0} - (\frac{L_0}{L})^2]$ here F is the force of tension, b is a positive constant, and the length L_0 at zero tension is a function only of the temperature T . Calculate the amount of work required to compress the substance isothermally and reversibly from $L = L_0$ to $L = \frac{1}{2}L_0$.

We are given that the process will occur under isothermal conditions thus T is a constant in all of our intermediate states. If L is taken to be the extension of the system dL is a small increase in that quantity, we can use this to see that F is in the opposite direction to dL , since F is tension. Now that we have some information on dL and force we simply note that, since we must pull against the tension, we put in FdL work to stretch the system, this gives us the sign of the work done on the system $dw = FdL$. As a sanity check we note that for large L ($L \gg L_0$), F is positive so FdL will also be positive, meaning that when the rod is stretched it takes work to stretch it further. Also consider L being small ($L \ll L_0$), in this case F is negative so FdL will be negative, in other words when the system is compressed it will do work on the environment if we allow it to expand.

Now we simply evaluate the integral of work:

$$w = \int_{path} dw = \int_{L_0}^{L_0/2} FdL = \int_{L_0}^{L_0/2} bT[\frac{L}{L_0} - (\frac{L_0}{L})^2]dL = bTL_0[\frac{L^2}{2L_0^2} + \frac{L_0}{L}] \Big|_{L_0}^{L_0/2} = \frac{5}{8}bTL_0$$

2 Q2

For temperatures above their Curie point, most paramagnetic salts obey Curie's law, with a magnetic susceptibility $\chi_m = b/T$, where b is a constant and T is the (absolute) temperature. The (dimensionless) magnetic susceptibility χ_m is the ratio of the magnetization M to the magnetic field H ; the magnetic induction is $B = \mu_0(H + M)$. We have a sample of volume $V = 10^{-5}m^3$ of a salt with $b = 0.19$. As we showed in class, the element of work for a magnetic system is $dW = \vec{B} \bullet d\vec{M}dV$. Calculate the amount of work needed to magnetize the sample at 4.2 K in a magnetic induction that increases uniformly from zero to $B = 1$ T; you may assume that the conditions are uniform across the sample.

This is relatively straightforward, we will assume the process is isothermal so T and therefore χ_m are constant. Now we see that $B = \mu_0 M(\frac{1}{\chi_0} + 1)$ and so $dM = \frac{dB}{\mu_0(\frac{1}{\chi_0} + 1)}$. Also we note that the system is expressed by a scalar magnetic susceptibility and so we will assume that $\vec{B} \parallel \vec{M}$ and so $d\vec{B} \parallel d\vec{M}$ since this field is increasing uniformly $\vec{B} \parallel d\vec{B} \parallel d\vec{M}$ thus $\vec{B} \bullet d\vec{M} = BdM$. We also know that conditions are uniform across the sample so everything may be pulled out of the dV integral when we integrate our work element. We are now ready to calculate work done on the system:

$$w = \iiint \frac{BdBdV}{\mu_0(\frac{1}{\chi_0} + 1)} = V \int_0^{B_f} \frac{BdB}{\mu_0(\frac{1}{\chi_0} + 1)} = \frac{(B_f)^2 V}{2\mu_0(\frac{1}{\chi_0} + 1)}$$

Now we need only plug in some values, $\mu_0 = 4\pi * 10^{-7} N/A^2$, $T = 4.2K$, $b = .19K$, $B_f = 1T$ careful unit inspection shows that these units will give us a energy in jules. Plugging in we get $w=.17j$.