## SM7a1196A

Ruby is a crystal of  $Al_2O_3$  doped with chromium  $Cr^{3+}$  ions. Due to interactions with  $Al_2O_3$ , the  $Cr^{3+}$  ion has a magnetic state of  ${}^4F_{3/2}$  in spectroscopic notation  ${}^{2S+1}L_J$ . The Hamiltonian in zero field is given by:

$$H = D[S_z^2 - (1/3) S(S+1)],$$

where the constant D > 0, and  $\vec{S}$  is the total spin operator of the  $Cr^{3+}$ . Consider a sample of ruby containing N chromium  $Cr^{3+}$  ions.

- (a) Find the energy levels and their degeneracies.
- (b) Calculate the probability of occupancy of the lower energy state at temperature T.
- (c) Calculate and sketch the entropy of the Cr³+ ions as a function of temperature. Find the limiting values at low T and high T.
- (d) Find and sketch the heat capacity from the Cr3+ ions as a function of temperature. Find the functional forms at low T and high T.