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Paramagnetism is the tendency of the atomic magnetic dipoles, due to quantum-mechanical spin angular momentum, in a material that is otherwise non-magnetic to align with an external magnetic field. This alignment of the atomic dipoles with the magnetic field tends to strengthen it, and is described by a relative magnetic permeability, μ_r greater than unity (or, equivalently, a small positive magnetic susceptibility greater than zero), i.e. ($\mu_r = \mu / \mu_0 = (1 + \chi_m) > 1$ and $\chi_m > 0$).