

Lect 2

Monopole harmonics

$$H = \frac{(P - \frac{e}{c} A)^2}{2m} \quad \text{where} \quad \vec{A} = \frac{g}{r} \frac{\vec{n} \times \vec{r}}{r + (\vec{r} \cdot \hat{n})} = \frac{g}{r} \frac{1 - \cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \hat{e}_\phi$$

check that $\nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{g}{r^2} \hat{e}_r$.

Use the formula $\nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{1}{r \sin\theta} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin\theta A_\phi) - \frac{\partial A_\theta}{\partial \phi} \right) \hat{e}_r$

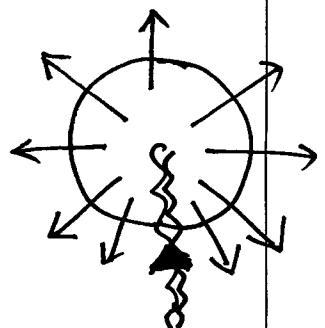
$$+ \left[\frac{1}{r \sin\theta} \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \phi} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r A_\phi) \right] \hat{e}_\theta + \left[\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r A_\theta) - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} A_r \right] \hat{e}_\phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{1}{r \sin\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\frac{g}{r} (1 - \cos\theta) \right) = \frac{g}{r^2} \hat{e}_r.$$

Dirac string: singularity at the south pole.

$$\oint \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{l} = -4\pi g$$

for infinite-simal loop around south pole.



Electron goes around the Dirac string and then

picks up a phase $\frac{eg}{hc} \cdot 4\pi$. If such a phase is $2n\pi$,

then this string is invisible $\Rightarrow \frac{eg}{hc} 4\pi = 2n\pi \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{eg}{c} = \frac{n}{2} \hbar}$

From classic. electron-monopole system,

charge quantization

we learned that $\frac{eg}{c}$ is the angular momentum of such a system, minimum

its minimum value is $\hbar/2$ according to quantum mechanics.

Define mechanical angular momentum $\vec{\Lambda} = \vec{r} \times (\vec{p} - \frac{e}{c} \vec{A})$.

$\vec{\Lambda}$ does not obey the commutation relation of angular momentum.

Please explicitly check that $H = \frac{(\vec{p} - \frac{e}{c} \vec{A})^2}{2m}$ can be expressed as

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2mr^2} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \dots \right) + \frac{\hbar^2 \vec{\Lambda}^2}{2mr^2} \right].$$

(I leave it as a homework problem.)

However, the spectra of the angular part are no-longer $l(l+1)\hbar^2$.

We define $\vec{L} = \vec{r} \times (\vec{p} - \frac{e}{c} \vec{A}) - \frac{eg}{c} \hat{r}$ \vec{L} satisfies the commutation

relation of angular momentum, i.e. (\hat{r} is the unit vector of \vec{r}/r)

$$[L_i, L_j] = i \epsilon_{ijk} L_k$$

(I leave it as another home work problem).

We also have the following identities

$$\vec{\Lambda} \cdot \hat{r} = \hat{r} \cdot \vec{\Lambda} = 0.$$

(please check as an exercise!)

Then we have

$$\Lambda^2 = \left[\vec{L} + \frac{eg}{c} \hat{r} \right]^2 = L^2 + \left(\frac{eg}{c} \right)^2 + \frac{eg}{c} (\vec{L} \cdot \hat{r} + \hat{r} \cdot \vec{L})$$

$$\vec{L} \cdot \hat{r} = \left[\vec{\Lambda} - \frac{eg}{c} \hat{r} \right] \cdot \hat{r} = -\frac{eg}{c}, \quad \hat{r} \cdot \vec{L} = -\frac{eg}{c}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{\Lambda}^2 = \vec{L}^2 - \left(\frac{eg}{c} \right)^2, \quad \text{set } \frac{eg}{c} = \hbar q \quad \begin{matrix} q \text{ can be half or} \\ \text{integers} \end{matrix}$$

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2mr^2} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \dots \right) \right] + \frac{\hbar^2}{2mr^2} [\vec{L}^2 - \hbar^2 q^2]$$

By a little algebra, and use the expression in the spherical coordinate.

$$\vec{p} = -i\hbar \left[\hat{e}_r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{\hat{e}_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \frac{\hat{e}_\phi}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{L} = \vec{r} \times (\vec{p} - \frac{e}{c} \vec{A}) - \hbar q \hat{r} = \frac{\hbar}{\sin \theta} \left[i \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + q(1 - \cos \theta) \right] \hat{e}_\theta \\ - i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \hat{e}_\phi - \hbar q \hat{e}_r$$

$$\hat{e}_r = \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{e}_x + \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{e}_y + \cos \theta \hat{e}_z$$

$$\text{Change to Cartesian coordinates, by using } \hat{e}_\theta = \cos \theta \cos \phi \hat{e}_x + \cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{e}_y \\ - \sin \theta \hat{e}_z$$

we have

$$\hat{e}_\phi = -\sin \phi \hat{e}_x + \cos \phi \hat{e}_y$$

$$L_x + i L_y = \hbar e^{i\phi} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + i \cot \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} - q \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \right]$$

$$L_x - i L_y = \hbar e^{-i\phi} \left[-\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + i \cot \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} - q \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \right]$$

$$L_z = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} - \hbar q$$

Hw problem: please derive these formulas in the boxes.

Also by a little algebra, we have

$$\frac{L^2}{\hbar^2} = \frac{-1}{\sin \theta} \left[\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) \right] + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \left[i \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} + q(1 - \cos \theta) \right]^2 + q^2$$

Seek eigenstates $\chi_{q,jm}(\theta, \varphi)$ satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} L^2 \chi_{q,jm}(\theta, \varphi) &= j(j+1) \hbar^2 \chi_{q,jm}(\theta, \varphi) \\ L_z \chi_{q,jm}(\theta, \varphi) &= m\hbar \chi_{q,jm}(\theta, \varphi), \quad \text{where } j = |q|, |q|+1, |q|+2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

monopole harmonics

Now we need to use our knowledge of D-matrix, which is also the wavefunctions of rotating tops. We will build up the connection between monopole harmonics and D-matrices.

For lecture 1, we know that the top wavefunction $\psi_{J;mk}^{\text{top}}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \sqrt{\frac{2j+1}{8\pi^2}} D_{mk}^{*j}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ which is the eigenstates for the angular momentum operators $L_{\text{top}}^2(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ and $L_{z,\text{top}}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$. We will see how to identify L_{top}^2 , $L_{z,\text{top}}$ and ψ^{top} with the monopole harmonics $\chi_{q,jm}(\theta, \varphi)$. Apparently, a major difference is that top has three Eulerian angles, while monopole has two angular variables.

Let us start with $[D_{m-q}^j(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)]^* = e^{im\alpha - iq\gamma} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)$

and we know that it satisfies

$$L_{z,\text{top}} [D_{m-q}^j(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)]^* = m\hbar [D_{m-q}^j(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)]^*$$

$$\text{or } -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} [e^{im\alpha - iq\gamma} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)] = m\hbar [e^{im\alpha - iq\gamma} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)]$$

but if we at the beginning set $\gamma = -\alpha$ before taking $\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha}$, we have

$$-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} [e^{i(m+q)\alpha} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)] = (m+q)\hbar [e^{i(m+q)\alpha} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)]$$

$$\Rightarrow (-i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} - q\hbar) [e^{i(m+q)\alpha} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)] = m\hbar [e^{i(m+q)\alpha} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)]$$

Again for top's $L_{top,+} = L_{top,x} + iL_{top,y}$

$$= i\hbar \left[+ e^{i\alpha} \cot \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} - i e^{i\alpha} \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} - \frac{e^{i\alpha}}{\sin \beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} \right]$$

$$L_{top,+} [D_{m-q}^j(\omega \beta, \gamma)]^* = \sqrt{(j-m)(j+m+1)} [D_{m+1,-q}^j(\omega \beta, \gamma)]^*$$

$$i\hbar \left\{ e^{i\alpha} \left[\cot \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} - i \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} - \frac{1}{\sin \beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} \right] \left[e^{i(m\alpha - q\gamma)} d_{m-q}^j(\beta) \right] \right.$$

$$= \sqrt{(j-m)(j+m+1)} [e^{i(m+1)\alpha - q\gamma} d_{m+1,-q}^j(\beta)]$$

$$\Rightarrow \hbar \left[-\cot \beta m + \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} - \frac{q}{\sin \beta} \right] d_{m-q}^j(\beta) = \sqrt{(j-m)(j+m+1)} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)$$

$$\hbar \left[-\cot \beta (m+q) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} - \frac{q}{\sin \beta} (1 - \cos \beta) \right] d_{m-q}^j(\beta) = \sqrt{(j-m)(j+m+1)} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hbar e^{i\alpha} \left[i \cot \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} - q \frac{1 - \cos \beta}{\sin \beta} \right] [e^{i(m+q)\alpha} d_{m-q}^j(\beta)]$$

$$= \sqrt{(j-m)(j+m+1)} \left[d_{m+1,-q}^j(\beta) e^{i(m+q)\alpha} \right]$$

thus by setting $\gamma = -\alpha$, the D -matrix $[D_{m,-q}^j(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)]^*$

and identify $\theta = \beta$
 $\varphi = \alpha$

$$\rightarrow [D_{m,-q}^j(\varphi, \theta, -\varphi)]^*$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow h e^{i\varphi} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + i c \varphi \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} - q \frac{1 - \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \right] [D_{m,-q}^j(\varphi, \theta, -\varphi)]^* \\ = \sqrt{(j-m)(j+m+1)} [D_{m+1,-q}^j(\varphi, \theta, -\varphi)]^* \\ \left[-i h \frac{\partial}{\partial \varphi} + q \right] [D_{m,-q}^j(\varphi, \theta, -\varphi)]^* = m h \bar{D}_{m,-q}^j(\varphi, \theta, -\varphi) \end{aligned}$$

We conclude

$$Y_{q,jm} = \sqrt{\frac{2j+1}{4\pi}} [D_{m,-q}^j(\varphi, \theta, -\varphi)]^*$$

Please pay attention to the normalization factor, prove it!