

CP2 ELECTROMAGNETISM

<https://users.physics.ox.ac.uk/~harnew/lectures/>

LECTURE 13:

MAGNETIC DIPOLES & THE DIVERGENCE OF \mathbf{B}



Neville Harnew¹

University of Oxford

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$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{1}{\mu_0} \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

OUTLINE : 13. MAGNETIC DIPOLES & THE DIVERGENCE OF B

13.1 Magnetic dipole components

13.2 Torque on a magnetic dipole in a B-field

13.3 Energy of a magnetic dipole in a B-field

13.4 Divergence of B

13.5 Divergence of B from the Biot-Savart Law

13.1 Magnetic dipole components

$$\text{Magnetic dipole moment } \underline{m} = I \underline{A}$$
$$= [\text{Current}] \times [\text{Area bounded by the loop}]$$

▶ Electric dipole field

$$\left. \begin{aligned} E_r &= \frac{2p \cos \theta}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} \\ E_\theta &= \frac{p \sin \theta}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} \\ E_\phi &= 0 \\ p &= qd \end{aligned} \right\}$$

▶ Magnetic dipole field

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} B_r &= \frac{2\mu_0 m \cos \theta}{4\pi r^3} \\ B_\theta &= \frac{\mu_0 m \sin \theta}{4\pi r^3} \\ B_\phi &= 0 \\ m &= IA \end{aligned} \right.$$

The magnetic and electric dipole components have exactly the same form. (The exact derivation of the magnetic field components are beyond the scope of this course.)

13.2 Torque on a magnetic dipole in a \underline{B} -field

Calculate the torque on a current loop placed in an external magnetic field:

- Net force on the whole loop :

$$\underline{F} = \oint_{loop} I \underline{dl} \times \underline{B}_{ext} = 0$$

(since equal and opposite forces from opposite elements \underline{dl} cancel pairwise)

- From before, there is a torque on the current loop : $|\underline{T}| = 2 \times \frac{a}{2} \times I B_{ext} b \sin \theta$

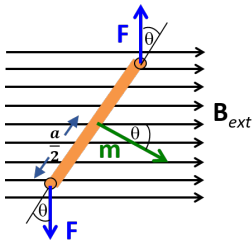
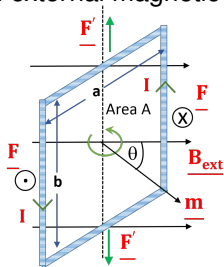
$$|\underline{T}| = I B_{ext} A \sin \theta \rightarrow \underline{T} = I \underline{A} \times \underline{B}_{ext}$$

- Torque on the magnetic dipole

$$\underline{T} = \underline{m} \times \underline{B}_{ext} \quad (*)$$

Compare with the torque on an electric

$$\text{dipole } \underline{T}_{elec} = \underline{p} \times \underline{E}_{ext}$$

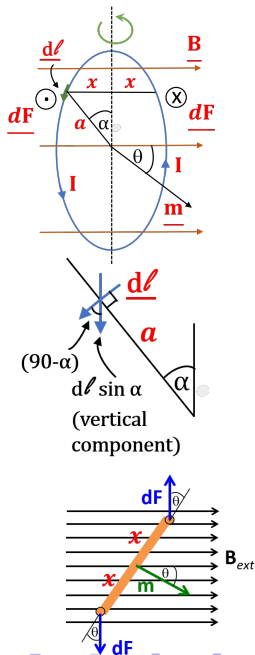


(*) This has been done for a rectangular shape. But note that this is a general result for any shape. Any current loop can be built from infinitesimal rectangular loops with all the internal currents cancelling, yet contributing to the overall moment.

Torque on a magnetic dipole, continued

- ▶ Do the explicit calculation for a circular current loop:
- ▶ Only the vertical component of $\underline{d\ell}$ results in a torque $\rightarrow d\ell \sin \alpha$
- ▶ Torque due to facing elements $\underline{d\ell}$:
 $|d\underline{\mathbf{T}}| = 2|\underline{\mathbf{x}} \times d\underline{\mathbf{F}}| = 2x(I d\ell B \sin \alpha) \sin \theta$
- ▶ $x = a \sin \alpha$; $l = a \alpha \rightarrow d\ell = a d\alpha$
 $|d\underline{\mathbf{T}}| = 2(I a^2 \sin^2 \alpha) B \sin \theta d\alpha$
- ▶ Hence
 $|\underline{\mathbf{T}}| = I a^2 B \sin \theta \int_0^\pi (1 - \cos 2\alpha) d\alpha$
 $= \pi a^2 I B \sin \theta = I A B \sin \theta = mB \sin \theta$
- ▶ Result : torque on the magnetic dipole

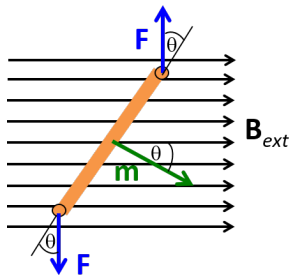
$$\underline{\mathbf{T}} = \underline{\mathbf{m}} \times \underline{\mathbf{B}}_{\text{ext}}$$



13.3 Energy of a magnetic dipole in a \underline{B} -field

The energy of a magnetic dipole placed in an magnetic field $\underline{B}_{\text{ext}}$ is equal to the work done in rotating dipole into its position:

- ▶ Work to rotate dipole through angle $d\theta$
 $dW = T d\theta$
- ▶ Zero energy usually chosen at $\theta = \pi/2$
- ▶ $W = \int_{\pi/2}^{\theta} m B_{\text{ext}} \sin \theta' d\theta'$
 $= - [m B_{\text{ext}} \cos \theta]_{\pi/2}^{\theta}$
- ▶ Energy of the magnetic dipole



$$W = -m B_{\text{ext}} \cos \theta = -\underline{m} \cdot \underline{B}_{\text{ext}}$$

[minimum at $\theta = 0$, maximum at $\theta = \pi$]

Compare with the energy of an electric dipole

$$W_{\text{elec}} = -\underline{p} \cdot \underline{E}_{\text{ext}}$$

Magnetic dipole summary

Magnetic dipole moment m of a current loop = current \times area of the loop:

$$\mathbf{m} = I \mathbf{A}$$

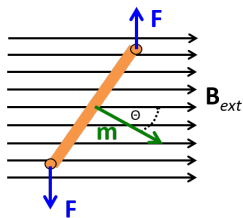


Magnetic flux density of a magnetic dipole:

$$B_r = \mu_0 \frac{2m \cos \theta}{4\pi r^3}$$

$$B_\theta = \mu_0 \frac{m \sin \theta}{4\pi r^3}$$

$$B_\phi = 0$$



Torque on a magnetic dipole in an external magnetic field \mathbf{B}_{ext} :

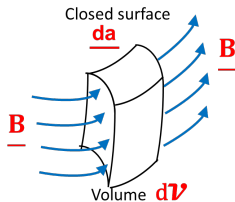
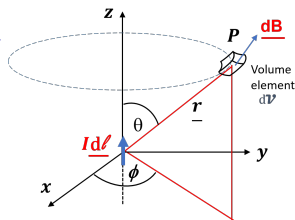
$$\mathbf{T} = I \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}_{ext} = \mathbf{m} \times \mathbf{B}_{ext}$$

Energy of a magnetic dipole in an external magnetic flux density \mathbf{B}_{ext} :

$$W = -m B_{ext} \cos \theta = -\mathbf{m} \cdot \mathbf{B}_{ext}$$

13.4 Divergence of $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$

- ▶ Place a current element $I \underline{d\ell}$ at the origin pointing along the z-axis
- ▶ The Biot-Savart Law gives the field at point $P \rightarrow \underline{d\mathbf{B}} = \mu_0 I \frac{\underline{d\ell} \times \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{4\pi r^2}$
- ▶ $\underline{d\mathbf{B}}$ is perpendicular to $\underline{\mathbf{r}}$ and $\hat{\mathbf{z}}$
- ▶ Rotate $\underline{\mathbf{r}}$ around ϕ , and it can be seen the lines of $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ are *circles* in planes perpendicular to $\underline{d\ell}$ and centred on it
 \rightarrow the net outward flux of $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ due to $\underline{d\ell}$ through the surface of the volume element dV is zero



- ▶ Any volume can be made up of volume elements as dV
- ▶ Hence $\oint_S \underline{\mathbf{B}} \cdot \underline{d\mathbf{a}} = 0 \rightarrow$ no magnetic monopoles.
- ▶ Divergence Theorem : $\oint_S \underline{\mathbf{B}} \cdot \underline{d\mathbf{a}} = \int_V (\nabla \cdot \underline{\mathbf{B}}) dV \rightarrow$

$$\nabla \cdot \underline{\mathbf{B}} = 0$$

13.5 Divergence of $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ from the Biot-Savart Law

Calculate $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ -field at point P due to a current density $\underline{\mathbf{J}}$.

$$\underline{\mathbf{B}} = \int_V \mu_0 \frac{\underline{\mathbf{J}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}') \times \hat{\underline{\mathbf{R}}}}{4\pi R^2} dV'$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{R}} = \underline{\mathbf{r}} - \underline{\mathbf{r}}' = (x - x', y - y', z - z')$$

where $dV' = dx' dy' dz'$. (Note carefully the primed and unprimed coordinates)

$$\underbrace{\underline{\nabla} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{B}}}_{\text{w.r.t. } \underline{\mathbf{r}}} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \underline{\nabla} \cdot \left(\underline{\mathbf{J}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}') \times \frac{\hat{\underline{\mathbf{R}}}}{R^2} \right) dV'$$

▶ Using the product rule :

$$\underline{\nabla} \cdot \left(\underline{\mathbf{J}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}') \times \frac{\hat{\underline{\mathbf{R}}}}{R^2} \right) = \frac{\hat{\underline{\mathbf{R}}}}{R^2} \cdot \underbrace{(\underline{\nabla} \times \underline{\mathbf{J}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}'))}_{=0 \text{ (because } \underline{\mathbf{J}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}') \text{ does not depend on } \underline{\mathbf{r}})} - \underline{\mathbf{J}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}') \cdot \left(\underline{\nabla} \times \frac{\hat{\underline{\mathbf{R}}}}{R^2} \right)$$

$$\underline{\nabla} \times \frac{\hat{\underline{\mathbf{R}}}}{R^2} = \underline{\nabla} \times \frac{\underline{\mathbf{R}}}{R^3} = \frac{1}{R^3} \underbrace{(\underline{\nabla} \times \underline{\mathbf{R}})}_{=0} + \underbrace{\underline{\nabla} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{R^3} \right)}_{\text{Vector along } \underline{\mathbf{R}}} \times \underline{\mathbf{R}} = 0$$

▶ Hence $\underline{\nabla} \cdot \underline{\mathbf{B}} = 0$ and $\oint_S \underline{\mathbf{B}} \cdot d\underline{\mathbf{a}} = 0$

