

Ex3520: Hamiltonian of a particle in a non-uniform magnetic field

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The problem:

A particle of mass M , charge e , spin $1/2$ with gyromagnetic constant g is placed in a ring of radius R . A non-uniform magnetic field $B(r, \varphi, z) = br^\alpha$ is created in the z direction. In addition, there is a charge Q in the middle of the ring.

- (1) Write an expression for the potential vector that is presented in the Hamiltonian of the particle.
- (2) Write the Hamiltonian $H = h(L_z, S_z; M, e, g, R, b, \alpha, Q)$ with spin-orbit interaction.
- (3) Write the effective gyromagnetic constant g_L as implied from the orbital Zeeman term in the Hamiltonian that you wrote.
- (4) What should be the radius of the ring for the orbital Zeeman part will not affect the spectrum?

The solution:

- (1) From Stokes' theorem we know that:

$$\Phi = \iint (\text{rot} \bar{A}) d\bar{s} = \oint \bar{A} d\bar{l}$$

Applied for our problem, using symmetric gauge:

$$\Phi = \int \int br^\alpha r dr d\varphi = AR \oint d\varphi$$

$$\Phi = 2\pi b \cdot \frac{R^{\alpha+2}}{\alpha+2} = 2\pi AR$$

$$\bar{A} = b \cdot \frac{R^{\alpha+1}}{\alpha+2} \hat{\varphi}$$

- (2) The Hamiltonian of the particle is:

$$H = \frac{1}{2M} (\vec{p} - e\vec{A}(r))^2 + eV(r) - g \frac{e}{2M} \vec{B} \cdot \vec{S} - (g-1) \frac{e}{2M^2} (\varepsilon \times \vec{p}) \cdot \vec{S}$$

Substituting into the Hamiltonian: $V(r) = \frac{Q}{R}$, $\varepsilon = \frac{Q}{R^2} \hat{r}$, $\vec{r} \times \vec{p} = \vec{L}$, \vec{B} and \vec{A} , one gets:

$$H = \frac{1}{2MR^2} \hat{L}_z^2 - \frac{ebR^\alpha}{(2+\alpha)M} \hat{L}_z + \frac{e^2}{2M} \left(\frac{b}{\alpha+2}\right)^2 R^{2(\alpha+1)} + \frac{eQ}{R} - g \frac{e}{2M} bR^\alpha \hat{S}_z - (g-1) \frac{eQ}{2M^2 R^3} \hat{L}_z \hat{S}_z$$

- (3) The Zeeman orbital term in the Hamiltonian of a particle in a homogeneous magnetic field is:

$$H_{\text{Zeeman,orbital motion}} = -\frac{e}{2M} \vec{B} \cdot \vec{L}$$

Therefore we can find the effective gyromagnetic constant g_L :

$$-\frac{ebR^\alpha}{(2+\alpha)M}\hat{L}_z = -g_L\frac{e}{2M}B \cdot \vec{L}$$

$$g_L = \frac{2}{2+\alpha}$$

(4) From Aharonov-Bohm we know that the energies of a particle in a ring are:

$$E_n = \frac{1}{2MR^2}\left(n - \frac{e\Phi}{2\pi c}\right)^2$$

if we swallow c into e , we get:

$$E_n = \frac{1}{2MR^2}\left(n - \frac{e\Phi}{2\pi}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{2MR^2}\left(n - e \cdot b \cdot \frac{R^{\alpha+1}}{\alpha+2}\right)^2$$

Thus, the magnetic field will not be noticeable by demanding:

$$eb \cdot \frac{R^{\alpha+2}}{\alpha+2} = \text{integer}$$

We can also treat the first term in the Hamiltonian of our problem:

$$\frac{1}{2M}(\vec{p} - e\vec{A}(r))^2$$

The eigenstates of this term are the momentum states $|k_n\rangle$ where:

$$k_n = \frac{2\pi n}{2\pi R} = \frac{n}{R}, \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

So the eigenvalues are:

$$E_n = \frac{1}{2MR^2}\left(n - e \cdot b \cdot \frac{R^{\alpha+1}}{\alpha+2}\right)^2$$

Which is exactly the same expression we got from Aharonov-Bohm.