

E315: Magnetic monopoles

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The problem:

Assume that there are magnetic monopoles with a charge e_m . Let's suppose that the magnetic field of the monopole is similar to the field on the tip of a very long solenoid on $z > 0$.

- (1) What is the magnetic field of a single monopole?
- (2) Show that $\vec{A} = \frac{e_m(1-\cos(\theta))}{r \sin(\theta)} \vec{e}_\phi$ is the suitable potential for $\vec{B}$ field.
- (3) Does the potential well defined in the whole space?
- (4) In what condition the presence of a solenoid will not be physically felt?
- (5) Define the potential $\vec{A}'$ which is well defined where $\vec{A}$ was not defined well.
- (6) Where is the second potential not defined well?
- (7) What is the gauge transformation?
- (8) What is the connection between the wave function in the first gauge to the wave function in the second?
- (9) What is the connection between the magnetic charge to the electrical charge that derive from the restriction on the wave function which is a single valued?

The solution:

- (1) Magnetic field of a single monopole is:

$$\nabla(\vec{B}) = 4\pi\rho_m$$

Therefore:

$$\vec{B} = \frac{e_m}{r^2} \vec{e}_r$$

- (2) We can see that:

$$\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{e_m}{r \sin(\theta)} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\frac{-\cos(\theta)}{r} \right) \vec{e}_r = \frac{e_m}{r^2} \vec{e}_r$$

- (3) The potential is not defined well in the whole space. This potential $\vec{A}$ is not defined well for $\theta \rightarrow \pi$.

(4) Because the magnetic field spreads like the magnetic field of an edge of solenoid, we can argue that we have a magnetic charge - e_m located at the tip of the solenoid. From the Gauss law we get $\Phi = 4\pi e_m$, therefore $e_m = \frac{\Phi}{4\pi}$. We don't want the influence of the flux inside the solenoid, so by using Aharonov-Bohm we demand that the flux should be: $\Phi = \frac{2\pi\hbar cn}{e}$, where n is integer. Therefore we get $e_m = \frac{\hbar cn}{2e}$ (which is the same solution we got in (9))

- (5) Let's define the potential $\vec{A}'$ which is well defined where $\vec{A}$ was not defined.

The problem point is: $\theta \rightarrow \pi$, so, our new potential $\vec{A}'$ will be defined well in this point:

$$\vec{A}' = -\frac{e_m(1+\cos(\theta))}{r \sin(\theta)} \vec{e}_\phi$$

- (6) The second potential $\vec{A}'$ is not defined well for $\theta \rightarrow 0$.

- (7) In the range $0 < \theta < \pi$ the both potentials describe the same magnetic field so, we can write:

$$\vec{A}' = \vec{A} + \nabla\Lambda \rightarrow \vec{A}' - \vec{A} = \nabla\Lambda$$

$$\vec{A}' - \vec{A} = -\frac{2e_m}{r \sin(\theta)} \vec{e}_\phi$$

$$\nabla\Lambda = \frac{\partial\Lambda}{\partial r}\vec{e}_r + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial\Lambda}{\partial\theta}\vec{e}_\theta + \frac{1}{r\sin(\theta)}\frac{\partial\Lambda}{\partial\phi}\vec{e}_\phi \rightarrow \Lambda = -2e_m\phi$$

And the gauge is: $\vec{A}' = \vec{A} + \nabla\Lambda$ when $\Lambda = -2e_m\phi$

(8) The wave function which compatibles to $\vec{A}$ is Ψ and the wave function which compatibles to $\vec{A}'$ is $\tilde{\Psi}$. In order to satisfy the conditions: $H\Psi = ih\dot{\Psi}$ and $H'\tilde{\Psi} = ih\dot{\tilde{\Psi}}$ the connection between them has to be:

$$\tilde{\Psi} = \exp\left(-\frac{ie}{\hbar c}\Lambda\right)\Psi$$

In the section (6) we found that $\Lambda = -2e_m\phi$ then:

$$\tilde{\Psi} = \exp\left(\frac{2iee_m\phi}{\hbar c}\right)\Psi$$

(9) Now we will find the connection between the magnetic charge to the electrical one. We know that wave function Ψ is a single valued, so in order $\tilde{\Psi}$ will be a single valued, $\exp\left(\frac{2iee_m}{\hbar c}\phi\right)$ has to be a single valued function too. From this reason: $\exp\left(\frac{2iee_m}{\hbar c}\phi\right) = \exp\left(\frac{2iee_m}{\hbar c}(\phi + 2\pi)\right)$. Therefore:

$$\exp\left(\frac{2iee_m}{\hbar c}2\pi\right) = 1$$

And the answer is:

$$\frac{2ee_m}{\hbar c} = n \rightarrow e_m = \frac{\hbar cn}{2e}$$