

Force and torque on electric dipoles

localized charge distribution $\rho(\vec{r})$ with net charge $\int d^3r \rho = 0$

force on ρ in slowly varying electric field \vec{E} is

$$\vec{F} = \int d^3r \rho(\vec{r}) \vec{E}(\vec{r})$$

define $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_0 + \vec{r}'$ where \vec{r}_0 is some fixed reference point in center of charge dist ρ , and \vec{r}' is distance relative to \vec{r}_0

$$\vec{F} = \int d^3r' \rho(\vec{r}') \vec{E}(\vec{r}_0 + \vec{r}')$$

since \vec{E} is slowly varying on length scale where $\rho \neq 0$, we expand

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{F} &\approx \int d^3r' \rho(\vec{r}') \left[\vec{E}(\vec{r}_0) + (\vec{r}' \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{E}(\vec{r}_0) \right] + \dots \\ &= \vec{E}(\vec{r}_0) \int d^3r' \rho(\vec{r}') + \left(\int d^3r' \rho(\vec{r}') \vec{r}' \cdot \vec{\nabla} \right) \vec{E}(\vec{r}_0) \\ &= 0 + (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{E}(\vec{r}_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{F} = (\vec{p} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{E} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^3 p_{\alpha} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial r_{\alpha}}}$$

For $\vec{E} = \text{constant}$, $\vec{F} = 0$

Torque on p is ~~integrated over volume~~

$$\vec{N} = \int d^3r \rho(\vec{r}) \vec{r} \times \vec{E}(\vec{r}) \cong \int d^3r \rho(\vec{r}) \vec{r} \times [\vec{E}(\vec{r}_0) + \dots]$$

to lowest order

$$\boxed{\vec{N} = \vec{p} \times \vec{E}}$$

Force and torque on magnetic dipoles

localized magnetostatic current distribution $\vec{j}(\vec{r})$

$$\vec{F} = \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r \vec{j} \times \vec{B}$$

expand about center of current \vec{r}_0

$$\vec{B}(\vec{r}) \cong \vec{B}(\vec{r}_0) + (\vec{r}' \cdot \nabla) \vec{B}(\vec{r}_0) + \dots$$

$$\vec{F} = \frac{1}{c} \left[\int d^3r' \vec{j}(\vec{r}') \right] \times \vec{B}(\vec{r}_0) + \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r' \vec{j}(\vec{r}') \times (\vec{r}' \cdot \nabla) \vec{B}(\vec{r}_0)$$

from discussion of magnetic dipole approx we had $\int d^3r \vec{j} = 0$
for magnetostatics where $\nabla \cdot \vec{j} = 0$. So 1st term vanishes.

The 2nd term can be written as

$$\vec{F}_\alpha = \frac{\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma}}{c} \int d^3r' j_\beta r'_\gamma \partial_\delta B_\gamma$$

for magnetostatics
see magnetic dipole
derivation

$$\text{we need the tensor } \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r' j_\beta r'_\gamma = -\frac{1}{c} \int d^3r' r'_\beta j_\gamma$$

$$= \frac{1}{2c} \int d^3r' [j_\beta r'_\gamma - r'_\beta j_\gamma]$$

$$= -M_\sigma \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$$

↑ magnetic dipole $\vec{m} = \frac{1}{2c} \int d^3r \vec{r} \times \vec{j}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_\alpha &= \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \epsilon_{\sigma\beta\delta} (-m_\sigma) \partial_\delta B_\gamma \\
 &= -(\delta_{\alpha\sigma} \delta_{\gamma\delta} - \delta_{\alpha\delta} \delta_{\sigma\gamma}) m_\sigma \partial_\delta B_\gamma \\
 &= \text{MM. } \vec{\nabla}(\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B}) - \vec{m}_\alpha \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{F} = \vec{\nabla}(\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B})} \quad \text{as } \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

torque on \vec{j} is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \vec{N} &= \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r \vec{r} \times (\vec{j} \times \vec{B}) \quad \text{to lowest order, } \vec{B} = \vec{B}(\vec{r}_0) \\
 & \quad \text{is const over region where } \vec{j} \neq 0 \\
 &= \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r [\vec{j} (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{B}) - \vec{B} (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{j})]
 \end{aligned}$$

2nd term = 0 as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int d^3r \vec{r} \cdot \vec{j} &= \int d^3r \vec{j} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \left(\frac{r^2}{2} \right) \quad \text{as } \vec{\nabla} \left(\frac{r^2}{2} \right) = \vec{r} \\
 &= - \int d^3r (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j}) \left(\frac{r^2}{2} \right) \quad \text{integrate by parts} \\
 & \quad \text{surface term } \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \vec{j} \text{ is localized} \\
 &= 0 \quad \text{as } \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{j} = 0 \text{ in magnetostatics}
 \end{aligned}$$

1st term involves

see derivation of magnetic dipole approx

$$\int d^3r \vec{j} \vec{r} = - \int d^3r \vec{r} \vec{j} = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3r [\vec{j} \vec{r} - \vec{r} \vec{j}]$$

So

$$\vec{N} = \frac{1}{2c} \int d^3r [\vec{j} (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{B}) - \vec{r} (\vec{j} \cdot \vec{B})]$$

$$\vec{N} = \frac{1}{2c} \int d^3r \left[\vec{j} (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{B}) - \vec{r} (\vec{j} \cdot \vec{B}) \right]$$

$$\sim \vec{r} \times \vec{B}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2c} \int d^3r (\vec{r} \times \vec{j}) \times \vec{B}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{N} = \vec{m} \times \vec{B}}$$

Electrostatic energy of interaction

$$E = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int d^3r E^2$$

Suppose the charge density ρ that produces \vec{E} can be broken into two pieces, $\rho = \rho_1 + \rho_2$ with $\vec{E} = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2$ where $\nabla \cdot \vec{E}_1 = 4\pi\rho_1$ and $\nabla \cdot \vec{E}_2 = 4\pi\rho_2$. Then

$$E = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int d^3r [E_1^2 + E_2^2 + 2\vec{E}_1 \cdot \vec{E}_2]$$

↑ ↑ ↑
"self-energy" "self-energy" "interaction" energy
of ρ_1 of ρ_2 of ρ_1 with ρ_2

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{int}} &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3r \vec{E}_1 \cdot \vec{E}_2 \\ &= \int d^3r \rho_1 \phi_2 = \int d^3r \rho_2 \phi_1 \end{aligned}$$

where $\vec{E}_1 = -\nabla\phi_1$, $\vec{E}_2 = -\nabla\phi_2$, by similar manipulations as earlier integrals are over all space.

Apply to the interaction energy of a dipole in an external \vec{E} field

$$E_{\text{int}} = \int d^3r \rho_1 \phi_2$$

↑ ↑
charge distribution of dipole potential of external \vec{E} field

Assuming ϕ_2 varies ^{slowly} on length scale of ρ_1 , then we can expand $\phi_2(\vec{r}) = \phi_2(\vec{r}_0) + (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) \cdot \vec{\nabla} \phi_2(\vec{r}_0)$ where \vec{r}_0 is the center of mass or any other convenient reference position within ρ_1 .

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{\text{int}} &= \int d^3r \rho_1(\vec{r}) \left[\phi_2(\vec{r}_0) + (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) \cdot \vec{\nabla} \phi_2(\vec{r}_0) \right] \\ &= q \phi_2(\vec{r}_0) + \left[\int d^3r \rho_1(\vec{r}) (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) \right] \cdot \vec{\nabla} \phi_2(\vec{r}_0) \\ &= q \phi_2(\vec{r}_0) - \vec{p} \cdot \vec{E} \end{aligned}$$

Where q is total charge in ρ_1 , and \vec{p} is dipole moment with respect to \vec{r}_0 . $\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla} \phi_2$ is external \vec{E} -field

For a neutral charge distribution $q=0$, and \vec{p} is independent of the origin about which it is computed, so

$$\boxed{\epsilon_{\text{int}} = -\vec{p} \cdot \vec{E}}$$

← does not include the energy needed to make the dipole or to make \vec{E} .

ϵ_{int} is lowest when $\vec{p} \parallel \vec{E}$

⇒ in thermal ensemble, dipoles tend to align parallel to an applied \vec{E} .

Energy of magnetic dipole in external field

We had that the force on the dipole was

$$\vec{F} = \vec{\nabla}(\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B})$$

If we regard this force as coming from the gradient of a potential energy U then $\vec{F} = -\vec{\nabla}U \Rightarrow$

$$U = -\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B}$$

or equivalently, energy = work done to move dipole into position from ∞

$$W = -\int_{\infty}^{\vec{r}} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{l} = -\int_{\infty}^{\vec{r}} \vec{\nabla}(\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B}) \cdot d\vec{l} = -\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B}(\vec{r})$$

This is the correct energy to use in cases where \vec{m} is due to intrinsic magnetic moments of atom or molecule - say from electron or nuclear spin. For a thermal ensemble magnetic moments tend to align \parallel to \vec{B} .

The answer comes out quite differently if we are talking about a magnetic moment produced by a classical current loop. To see this, consider what we would get if we tried to do the calculation in a similar way to how we did if the the energy of an electric dipole in an electric field....

Magnetostatic energy of interaction

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int d^3r B^2$$

Suppose current \vec{j} that produces \vec{B} can be divided

$$\vec{j} = \vec{j}_1 + \vec{j}_2 \quad \text{with} \quad \vec{B} = \vec{B}_1 + \vec{B}_2, \quad \text{where} \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}_1 = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j}_1$$

$$\text{and} \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}_2 = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j}_2 \quad \text{then}$$

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int d^3r [B_1^2 + B_2^2 + 2\vec{B}_1 \cdot \vec{B}_2]$$

↑ ↑ ↑
self energy self energy interaction energy
of \vec{j}_1 of \vec{j}_2 of \vec{j}_1 with \vec{j}_2

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{int}} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^3r \vec{B}_1 \cdot \vec{B}_2$$

$$= \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r \vec{j}_1 \cdot \vec{A}_2 = \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r \vec{j}_2 \cdot \vec{A}_1$$

where $\vec{B}_1 = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}_1$, $\vec{B}_2 = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}_2$, by similar manipulations
as earlier

integrals are over all space

Apply to the interaction energy of a magnetic
dipole in an external \vec{B} field.

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{int}} = \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r \vec{j}_1 \cdot \vec{A}_2$$

↑ ↖ vector potential of external \vec{B} field
current distribution of dipole

Assuming \vec{A} varies slowly on length scale of \vec{j} , then expand $A_i(\vec{r}) = A_i(\vec{r}_0) + (\vec{r} - \vec{r}_0) \cdot \vec{\nabla} A_i(\vec{r}_0)$

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{int} &= \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r \vec{j}_i \cdot \vec{A}(\vec{r}_0) \\ &+ \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r \sum_{i,j} j_{ij} (r-r_0)_j \partial_j A_i(\vec{r}_0) \end{aligned}$$

Shift origin so origin at \vec{r}_0 \vec{r} now measures distance

From magnetostatic computation of magnetic dipole moment we had $\int d^3r \vec{j} = 0$ for magnetostatics

\Rightarrow 1st term above vanishes. So does the piece of 2nd term $\left(\int d^3r j_{ij} \right) r_{0j} \partial_j A_i(\vec{r}_0)$

We are left with

$$\epsilon_{int} = \left[\frac{1}{c} \int d^3r j_{ij} r_j \right] \partial_j A_i(\vec{r}_0) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{summation over} \\ \text{repeated indices} \\ \text{is implied} \end{array}$$

From computation of magnetic dipole moment we had

$$\begin{aligned} \int d^3r j_{ij} r_j &= - \int d^3r j_{ij} r_i \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int d^3r [j_{ij} r_j - j_{ij} r_i] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{kij} \int d^3r (\vec{j} \times \vec{r})_k \end{aligned}$$

Recall:

$$\vec{m} = \frac{1}{2c} \int d^3r \vec{r} \times \vec{j}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r j_{ij} r_i = - \epsilon_{kij} m_k \leftarrow \text{mag dipole moment}$$

$$E_{int} = -m_k \epsilon_{kij} \partial_j A_i = m_k \epsilon_{kji} \partial_j A_i$$

$$= \vec{m} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A}) = \vec{m} \cdot \vec{B} = E_{int}$$

This is opposite in sign to what we found earlier!

Why the difference?

- ① When we integrate the work done against the magnetostatic force to move \vec{m} into position from infinity we found the energy

$$U = -\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B}$$

- ② When we compute the interaction energy from

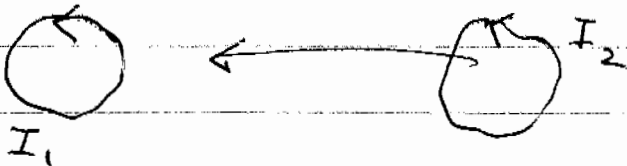
$$E_{int} = \frac{1}{c} \int d^3r \vec{j}_1 \cdot \vec{A}_2 = \frac{1}{c^2} \int d^3r \int d^3r' \frac{\vec{j}_1(\vec{r}) \cdot \vec{j}_2(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|}$$

we find the energy $E_{int} = +\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B}$

To see which is correct, let us consider computing the interaction energy ② directly via method ①.

Consider two loops with currents I_1 and I_2

What is the work done to move loop 2 in from infinity to its final position with respect to loop 1?



Magnetostatic force on loop 2 due to loop 1 is

$$\vec{F} = \frac{I_2}{c} \oint_2 d\vec{l}_2 \times \vec{B}_1 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Lorentz force} \\ \vec{B}_1 \text{ is magnetic field from loop 1} \end{array}$$

$$\vec{B}_1(\vec{r}) = \frac{I_1}{c} \oint_1 d\vec{l}_1 \times \frac{(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_1)}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}_1|^3} \quad \text{Biot-Savart law}$$

$$F = \frac{I_1 I_2}{c^2} \oint_2 \oint_1 d\vec{l}_2 \times \frac{(d\vec{l}_1 \times (\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1))}{|\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|^3}$$

Use triple product rule

$$\begin{aligned} d\vec{l}_2 \times [d\vec{l}_1 \times (\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1)] \\ = d\vec{l}_1 [d\vec{l}_2 \cdot (\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1)] - (\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1) (d\vec{l}_1 \cdot d\vec{l}_2) \end{aligned}$$

from the 1st term

$$\oint_2 d\vec{l}_2 \cdot \frac{(\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1)}{|\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|^3} = - \oint_2 d\vec{l}_2 \cdot \vec{\nabla}_2 \left(\frac{1}{|\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|} \right) = 0$$

as integral of gradient around closed loop always vanishes!

So

$$\vec{F} = -\frac{I_1 I_2}{c^2} \oint_1 \oint_2 d\vec{l}_1 \cdot d\vec{l}_2 \frac{(\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1)}{|\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|^3}$$

write $\vec{r}_2 = \vec{R} + \delta\vec{r}_2$ where \vec{R} is center of loop 2

$$\text{use } \frac{\vec{R} + \delta\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1}{|\vec{R} + \delta\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|^3} = -\vec{\nabla}_R \left(\frac{1}{|\vec{R} + \delta\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|} \right)$$

$$\vec{F} = \frac{I_1 I_2}{c^2} \oint_1 \oint_2 d\vec{l}_1 \cdot d\vec{l}_2 \vec{\nabla}_R \left(\frac{1}{|\vec{R} + \delta\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|} \right)$$

to move loop 2 we need to apply a ^{mechanical} force equal and opposite to the above magnetostatic force.

Therefore the work we do in moving loop 2 from infinity to its final position at \vec{R}_0 is

$$W_{\text{mech}} = - \int_{\infty}^{\vec{R}_0} \vec{F} \cdot d\vec{R} = - \frac{I_1 I_2}{c^2} \oint_1 \oint_2 d\vec{l}_1 \cdot d\vec{l}_2 \int_{\infty}^{\vec{R}_0} d\vec{R} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_R \left(\frac{1}{|\vec{R} + \delta\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|} \right)$$

$$= - \frac{I_1 I_2}{c^2} \oint_1 \oint_2 \frac{d\vec{l}_1 \cdot d\vec{l}_2}{|\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|} \quad \text{where } \vec{r}_2 = \vec{R}_0 + \delta\vec{r}_2$$

$$= - \frac{1}{c^2} \int d^3 r_1 \int d^3 r_2 \frac{\vec{j}_1(\vec{r}_1) \cdot \vec{j}_2(\vec{r}_2)}{|\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|}$$

Note the minus sign!

$$= -M_{12} I_1 I_2$$

↑ mutual inductance

why the minus sign!

this is just the negative of the interaction energy!!

The minus sign we have here is the same minus sign we got when we found $U = -\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B}$ by integrating the force on the magnetic dipole.

Why don't we get $+\frac{1}{c^2} \int d^3r_1 d^3r_2 \frac{\vec{J}_1(\vec{r}_1) \cdot \vec{J}_2(\vec{r}_2)}{|\vec{r}_2 - \vec{r}_1|}$

with the plus sign we expect from $E = \frac{1}{8\pi} \int d^3r B^2$?

Answer: we have left something out!

Faraday's Law - when we move loop 2, the magnetic flux through loop 2 changes. This $\frac{d\Phi}{dt}$ creates an emf $= \oint d\vec{l} \cdot \vec{E}$ around the loop that would tend to change the current in the loop. If we are to keep the current fixed at constant I_2 then there must be a battery in the loop that does work to counter this induced emf ("electromotive force"). Similarly, the flux through loop 1 is changing and a battery does work to keep I_1 constant. We need to add this work done by the batteries to the mechanical work computed above.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{emf induced in loop 1} \\ \text{emf induced in loop 2} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{E}_1 = \oint_1 d\vec{l}_1 \cdot \vec{E}_2 \\ \mathcal{E}_2 = \oint_2 d\vec{l}_2 \cdot \vec{E}_1 \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{integrations} \\ \text{in direction} \\ \text{of current} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\text{Faraday} \quad \mathcal{E}_1 = -\frac{d\Phi_1}{cdt} \quad \Phi_1 = \text{flux through loop 1}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_2 = -\frac{d\Phi_2}{cdt} \quad \Phi_2 = \text{flux through loop 2}$$

To keep the current constant, the batteries need to provide an emf that counters these Faraday induced emf's. The work done by the batteries per unit time is therefore

$$\frac{dW_{\text{battery}}}{dt} = -\mathcal{E}_1 I_1 - \mathcal{E}_2 I_2$$

(check units: $\mathcal{E}I$ is $[\text{length}] \cdot [E] \cdot [I/s]$
 $= [\text{length}] \cdot [\text{force}/s]$
 $= \text{energy}/s$)

$$\frac{dW_{\text{battery}}}{dt} = \frac{d\Phi_1}{cdt} I_1 + \frac{d\Phi_2}{cdt} I_2$$

$$W_{\text{battery}} = \int_0^T dt \left(\frac{d\Phi_1}{cdt} I_1 + \frac{d\Phi_2}{cdt} I_2 \right)$$

where $t=0$ loop 2 is at infinity
 $t=T$ loop 2 is at final position
 I_1, I_2 kept constant as loop moves

$$W_{\text{battery}} = \frac{1}{c} \Phi_1 I_1 + \frac{1}{c} \Phi_2 I_2 \quad \text{where } \Phi_1 \text{ and } \Phi_2 \text{ are fluxes in final position, and we assumed that fluxes } = 0 \text{ at infinity}$$

$$\Phi_1 = c M_{12} I_2$$

$$\Phi_2 = c M_{21} I_1 = c M_{12} I_1 \quad \text{as } M_{12} = M_{21}$$

$$\Rightarrow W_{\text{battery}} = 2 M_{12} I_1 I_2$$

add this to the mechanical work

$$W_{\text{total}} = W_{\text{mech}} + W_{\text{battery}} = -M_{12} I_1 I_2 + 2 M_{12} I_1 I_2 \\ = M_{12} I_1 I_2 = + \frac{1}{c^2} \int d^3 r_1 d^3 r_2 \frac{\vec{j}_1(\vec{r}_1) \cdot \vec{j}_2(\vec{r}_2)}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|}$$

we get back the correct interaction energy!

Conclusion : The magnetostatic interaction energy $\frac{1}{c^2} \int d^3 r_1 d^3 r_2 \frac{\vec{j}_1(\vec{r}_1) \cdot \vec{j}_2(\vec{r}_2)}{|\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2|}$

includes the work done to maintain the currents stationary as the current distributions move.

When we computed the interaction energy of a current loop dipole \vec{m} and find

$$E_{\text{int}} = +\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B}$$

this includes the energy needed to maintain the constant current producing the constant \vec{m}

When we integrated the force on the dipole to find the potential energy

$$U = -\vec{m} \cdot \vec{B}$$

this did not include the energy needed to maintain the constant current that creates \vec{m} . This is the correct energy expression to use when \vec{m} comes from intrinsic magnetic moments due to particles intrinsic spin, which cannot be viewed as arising from a current loop!