#### Lecture 12

- In this lecture we will look at:
  - Magnetic fields.
  - Force on a charged particle in a magnetic field.
  - Magnetic field lines.
  - Circulating charged particles.
  - Magnets in particle physics.
  - The Aurora Australis and the Aurora Borealis.

- After this lecture, you should be able to answer the following questions:
- How does a magnetic field influence
  a) a stationary charged particle and b)
  a moving charged particle?
- Use field lines to illustrate the field due to a bar magnet.
- Explain how the mechanism that gives rise to the Aurora Borealis.

# Magnetic Fields

- As soon as we start considering moving electric charges, we are faced with a new phenomenon: magnetism.
- Two comments:
  - Not really new phenomenon! (See "Relativity and Magnetism" in Lecture 14.)
  - Fields due to magnets i.e. magnetic materials – are result of electric currents in the materials, e.g. electrons orbiting nuclei.
- The strength and direction of an electric field was defined in terms of the force it caused on a test charge:  $\vec{F}_E = q\vec{E}.$

- No magnetic monopoles, so cannot quite do same for magnetic field.
- Magnetic fields have no effect on stationary electric charges, but do cause force on moving charges.
- Magnitude and direction of magnetic force found to depend on velocity of charge (speed and direction!).



# Force on a Charged Particle in a Magnetic Field

- This defines strength and direction of the magnetic ("B") field.
- More descriptively, the direction of the B field is that in which the charged particle experiences no force.
- The strength of the B field is

$$\left| \vec{\mathbf{B}} \right| = \frac{F_{\text{B}}}{\left| q \right| v}$$
, when  $\vec{\mathbf{v}} \perp \vec{\mathbf{B}}$ .

- Sense (which way along direction vector) from right hand rule:
  - ♦ 1<sup>st</sup> finger: velocity (+ive charge).
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> finger: B field.
  - Thumb: motion (i.e. force).

Work out the direction of the B field in this bubble chamber photograph, assuming that the spiralling track is that of an electron:



# Force on a Charged Particle in a Magnetic Field



- Another way of thinking of the RH rule:
  - Hold your right hand so your extended fingers point along the +ive particle's velocity.
  - Turn your hand so that when you curl your fingers they move towards the direction of the B field.
  - Your thumb is then pointing in the direction of the force.
- And another...
  - Rotate a RH screw from the direction of the velocity towards that of the B field.
  - The screw moves in the direction of the force.

# Force on a Charged Particle: Typical Magnetic Fields

#### Some comments:

- Force is proportional to charge, force on –ive particle opposite to that on +ive particle.
- Force always perpendicular to both particle's velocity and direction of the B field.
- The force doesn't change the speed (and hence kinetic energy) of the particle.
- The unit of magnetic field strength is the Tesla:

 $1T = 1\frac{N}{Cms^{-1}} = 1\frac{N}{Cs^{-1}m} = 1\frac{N}{Am}.$ 

Older unit, the gauss, 1 T = 10 kG.

Some typical magnetic field values:

Surface of neutron star	10 <sup>8</sup> T
Superconducting magnet	10 T
Small bar magnet	10 <sup>-2</sup> T
At earth's surface	$10^{-4} \text{ T} = 1 \text{ G}$
Interstellar space	10 <sup>-10</sup> T
Magnetically shielded room	10 <sup>-14</sup> T

# Magnetic Field Lines

- Represent magnetic field using field lines.
- Direction of the field line gives the direction of the B field.
- Density of the lines represents the magnitude of the field: the closer the lines the stronger the field.



- Video of simulation of one of periodic flips of earth's B field direction (flip takes ~ 1000 years!).
- Earth's magnetic field represented using field lines, blue = inward, yellow = outward lines.



### **Circulating Charged Particle**

- If project beam of particles, into magnetic field with v ⊥ B, magnetic force causes particles to follow circular path, radius r.
- Magnetic force  $F_B = qvB$ .
- Centripetal force:  $F = mr\omega^2 = m\frac{v^2}{r}$ .
- Equating these:  $qvB = m\frac{v^2}{r}$  $\Rightarrow r = \frac{mv}{qB} = \frac{p}{qB}$  [12.2]

B field directed into transparency.



## **Circulating Charged Particle**

 The period (time for one revolution) is given by speed/distance, i.e.

$$T = \frac{2\pi r}{v} = \frac{2\pi}{v} \frac{mv}{qB} = \frac{2\pi m}{qB}.$$
  
Frequency given by:  
 $f = \frac{1}{v} = \frac{qB}{v}$ 

T 
$$2\pi m$$

Angular frequency:

$$\omega = 2\pi f = \frac{qB}{m} \qquad [12.3]$$

- If there is a component of particle's velocity, v<sub>L</sub>, along direction of B field, particles follow helical path.
- Radius of helix given by v<sub>T</sub>, transverse component of velocity, pitch by v<sub>L</sub>.



#### Magnets in Particle Physics Detectors



#### Magnets in Particle Accelerators

 Dipole magnets steer particles around accelerators and quadrupole magnets provide focussing.



# Magnetic Bottle

Charged particle can become trapped in non-uniform B field:



 This happens in the magnetic field of the earth, gives rise to Van Allen Radiation Belts (right), Aurora Australis and Aurora Borealis (next slides).



#### Aurora Australis, Photo from Discovery



## Aurora Borealis





Photo: Pekka Parviainen

#### Aurora Borealis





Photo: Pekka Parviainen

## Aurora Borealis





Photo: Pekka Parviainen

Photo: Pekka Parviainen