# The search for magnetic monopoles

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- What is a magnetic monopole ?
- Why magnetic monopoles ?
- How to look for magnetic monopoles.
- Outlook

# What is a magnetic monopole ?

• Analagous to electric monopole



- B-field source
- Moving magnetic monopole produces E-field



#### Electromagnetism with and without magnetic monopoles

Without With  $\nabla \cdot E = \frac{\rho_e}{2}$  $\nabla \cdot E = \frac{\rho_e}{2}$  $\nabla \cdot B = 0$  $\nabla \cdot B = \mu_0 \rho_m$  $\nabla \times E = -\frac{\partial B}{\partial t} - \mu_0 j_m$  $\nabla \times E = -\frac{\partial B}{\partial t}$  $\nabla \times B = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \mu_0 j_e$  $\nabla \times B = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \mu_0 j_e$  $F = q(E + \nu \times B) + g\left(B - \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\nu \times E\right)$  $F = qE + q(v \times B)$ 

#### Magnetic monoples symmetrise the Maxwell equations ?

# Do monopoles really symmetrise the Mawell equations ?

Charges and currents	Fields
$egin{pmatrix}  ho_{ m e} \  ho_{ m m} \end{pmatrix} = egin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} egin{pmatrix}  ho_{ m e} \  ho_{ m m} \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{E} \\ \mathbf{H} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \\ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{E}' \\ \mathbf{H}' \end{pmatrix}$
$egin{pmatrix} \mathbf{J}_{\mathrm{e}} \ \mathbf{J}_{\mathrm{m}} \end{pmatrix} = egin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} egin{pmatrix} \mathbf{J}_{\mathrm{e}}' \ \mathbf{J}_{\mathrm{m}}' \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{D} \\ \mathbf{B} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \xi & -\sin \xi \\ \sin \xi & \cos \xi \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{D}' \\ \mathbf{B}' \end{pmatrix}$

- Duality transformation
- Pure convention that we write the Maxwell equations with no magnetic monopoles
- By convention :  $\frac{\rho_m}{\rho_e} = 0$
- A magnetic monopole is a particle with a different magnetic to electric charge ratio than those particles already observed.

• 
$$\left(\frac{\rho_m}{\rho_e}\right)_{monopole} \neq \left(\frac{\rho_m}{\rho_e}\right)_{electron}$$

# Why monopoles ?

Whenever a new collision energy is reached or previously unchecked material becomes available, monopoles are sought.

Why?

# Why monopoles ? Dirac's argument

- Angular momentum in field from monopole g and electric charge q
- $|\overline{L}| = \left|\int \overline{r} \times (\overline{E} \times \overline{B})\right| = kqg$
- But angular momentum is quantised

• 
$$L = kqg = n\pi$$
  
 $\rightarrow q = \frac{n\pi}{kg}$ 



- One type of monopole implies that electric charge is quantised !
- Electric charge quantisation understood within quantum mechanics.

• 
$$q = e \rightarrow g_D = \frac{n\pi}{ke}$$

• Dirac charge – elementary magnetic charge.

# Why monopoles ? Unification theories

- Magnetic monopoles naturally emerge in non-Abelian gauge theories
- Grand unified theory of strong and electroweak forces
- Monopoles expected
- String theory
- High mass 10<sup>15</sup> GeV

 $\begin{array}{cccc}
10^{15} & GeV \\
SU(5) & \longrightarrow & SU(3)_C \times [SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y] \\
& 10^{-35}s
\end{array}$ 

• Lower masses for specific theories



# Monopoles in the early universe

- Primordial monopoles
- Production from early universe
- Expect large flux (up to 1 monopole/m<sup>3</sup>)
- Monopoles dominate mass density
- Slow down cosmic expansion

Big Bang understand understa

- Resolution
  - Cosmic inflation
  - Exponential expansion to dilute monopole density

# Consequences and signatures of monopole monopoles

- Ionisation
- Induction
- Proton decay
- Acceleration in a B-field

## Ionisation

- Adapted Bethe-Bloch formula
- $\frac{dE}{dx}(DM) \sim \left(\frac{137}{2}\right)^2 \frac{dE}{dx}(e)$ 
  - Non-perturbative calculations
- Large ionisation
- No rise at low  $\beta$



Induction properties



# GUT monopoles – proton decay

- Rubakov and Callan: GUT monopoles catalyse proton decay
- Baryon number violating condensate near to massive monopole



# Looking for monopoles : Cosmic rays

# Parker limit.

- Galactic field  $B \sim 3 \ \mu G$  sustained by dynamo mechanism
- Monopoles would accelerate in a galactic B-field, dissipating the field.
- Parker limit
  - Flux  $F \le 10^{-15} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1}$
- Baseline constraint

## Cabrera event - 1982

#### Induction method



# Flux limits



### Macro



Gran Sasso 1988-2000 Liquid scintillators, streamer tubes, plastic track detectors over 76 x 12 x 9 m 3

# Nuclear track detectors

- CR-39
- Latent track
- Chemical etching



# Flux limits



# IceCube

Km<sup>3</sup> array at the South Pole

DOMs in 86 strings up to 2.5km below the surface

Cerenkov effect for the ultra-relativistic monopoles



# IceCube – proton decay

- Rubakov-Callan
- $\sigma \sim 10^{-27} 10^{-21} \text{ cm}^2$
- Non-relativistic



# Monopoles trapped in matter ?

# Monopoles trapped in matter

- Lunar searches
- 500 Myears of sampling
- Apollo 11, 12, and 14
- Induction method





# Monopoles in polar volcanic rock

- Expected enhancement of monopole abundance in the mantle below the poles.
- 25kg of mantle-derived rocks from Arctic/Antarctic.
- Induction method





# Monopoles at colliders

- 13 TeV pp c.o.m. energy
- General purpose experiments (ATLAS, CMS)
- Dedicated monopole search experiment (Moedal)



# High ionizing signature - ATLAS

- Transition radiation tracker hits
- Align with narrow cluster in EM calo





# Parabolic trajectory

- Electric charge
  - $z = z_0 + s \tan \theta$
- Magnetic charge
  - $z = z_0 + s \tan \theta + s^2 C$



# Moedal

- MoEDAL (the Monopole and Exotics Detector at the LHC)
- At LHC-B experiment
- Makrofol NTDs (10.7 m2)
- Monopole stoppers





# Monopoles at HERA

- e(27 GeV) p (820 GeV) collisions
- Examine beampipe for trapped monopoles



- BBC documentary
- http://www.vega.org.uk/video/ programme/56



# Where to next ?

- Keep going to higher energies (e.g. FCC)
- Improved flux sensitivities (e.g. IceCube upgrade)
- Inventive choice of materials in which to look for monopoles.

# Summary

- Magnetic monopoles are among the oldest exotic particle sought in particle physics
- Dirac showed that they explain electric charge quantisation
- They appear in unification theories beyond the Standard Model
- They turn up everywhere except in experiment.
- A personal note:
  - The community has invested heavily in searches for supersymmetry, extra dimensions.
  - Monopoles have as great if not greater motivation.
  - Important to follow the science more than the fashion.