

# Anomalous Magnetic Moments of Leptons - tests of QED

Fundamental quantities in elementary particle physics

- can be measured precisely
  - can calculate from first principles
- }  $g-2$  of  $\mu^\pm, e^\pm$  are exceptional and complementary

Recall  $\mu_e = \frac{e}{m_e} \vec{S} = g_e \frac{e}{2m_e} \vec{S}$  where  $g_e \approx 2.0023193...$

Current status:  $a_{e,\mu,\tau} = \frac{1}{2}(g_{e,\mu,\tau} - 2)$  "magnetic anomaly"

electron,  $a_e = 0.00115965218059(13) \Rightarrow 0.13$  ppt  
 single electron "quantum cyclotron": PRL 130, 071801 (2023)

muon,  $a_{\mu^+} = 0.00116592057(25) \Rightarrow 0.21$  ppm  
 $\mu^+$  storage ring at FNAL: PRL 131, 161802 (2023)

tau,  $-0.052 < a_\tau < 0.013$  (95% c.l.)  
 $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \tau\tau$  DELPHI at LEP: EPJE 35, 159-170 (2004)  
 using SM+EFT This year at LHC: ATL-PHYS-PROC-2024-024

It is common to write  $\frac{g_e}{2} = 1 + C_2 \frac{\alpha}{\pi} + C_4 \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^2 + \dots$   
 But note that only one parameter is needed for QED (we could take  $\alpha$  for example)

recall  $\alpha = \frac{e^2}{4\pi} = \frac{q^2 \sin^2 \theta_W}{4\pi}$  or  $\frac{e^2}{4\pi \epsilon_0}$  in SI units

Testing the Standard Model  
 $\Rightarrow$  need  $\alpha$  as input from other experiments (atom interferometers), compare experiment vs. theory for value of  $g_e$

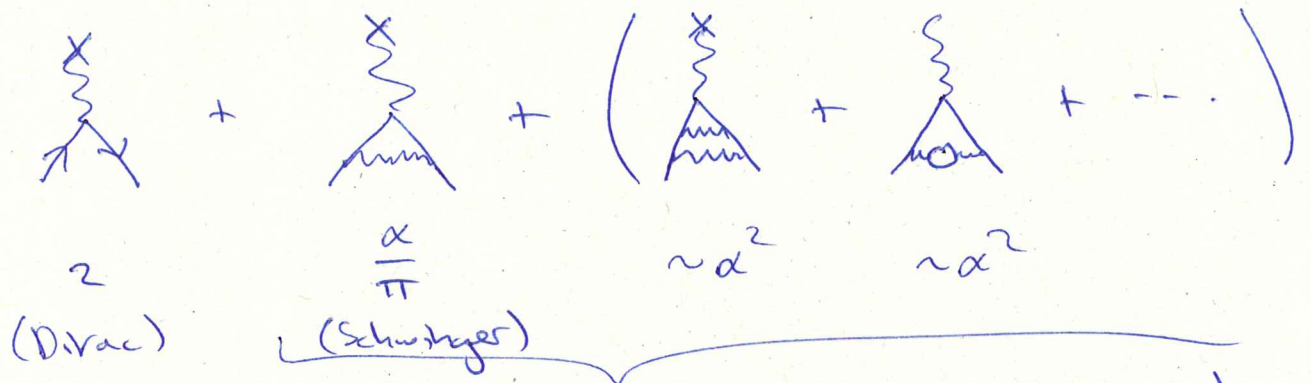
Note: only  $\epsilon_0$  is not exact in the 2019 SI redefinition

... unfortunately the atom interferometer experiments presently disagree on the value of  $\alpha$

# Precision measurement of $\alpha$

$\Rightarrow$  assume the SM is correct: invert the equation to solve for  $\alpha$  using the experimental  $g_e$

The leading interaction of a magnetic field + bare lepton is identical to QED:



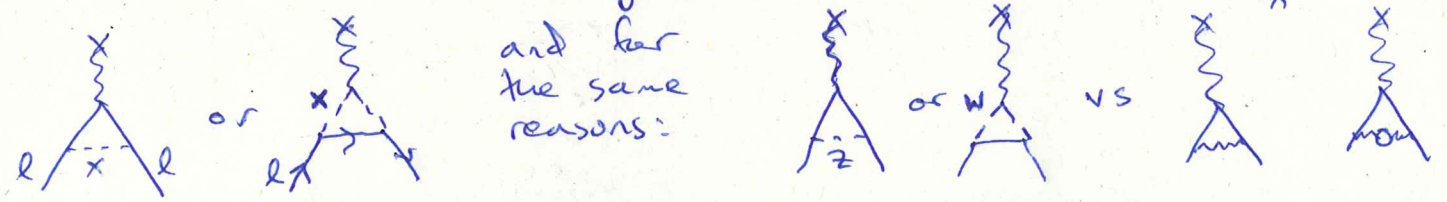
Radiative corrections: charge is carried on the lepton, but virtual particles account for part of the mass-energy  $\Rightarrow \frac{e}{m}$  coupling to external  $\vec{B}$  slightly increases

But electron is much less sensitive to short distance scales, including SM strong and weak interactions.

Even within QED, vacuum polarization looks very different for  $e^\pm$  and  $\mu^\pm$ : muons easily create virtual  $e^\pm$  pairs, but due to lower electron mass this situation is not symmetric.

$\Rightarrow e^\pm$  is better for testing "pure" QED  
 $\mu^\pm$  has greater sensitivity to high-mass particles  
 $\tau^\pm$  experimentally not yet possible to resolve  $\frac{\alpha}{\pi}$  ...

Corrections for a heavy particle  $X$  enter as  $\frac{m_l^2}{m_X^2}$   $l=e,\mu,\tau$



and for the same reasons:

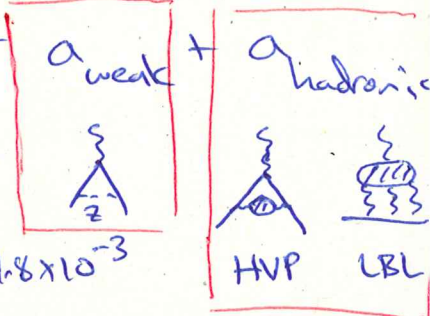
So keeping in mind that  $\frac{m_e^2}{m_e} \approx 40000$  ③

$$\frac{g_e}{2} = 1 + \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^n}_{\text{QED}} (2n + a_{\mu\tau}) + \boxed{a_{\text{weak}}} + \boxed{a_{\text{hadronic}}}$$

more complicated...

$$a_{\text{QED}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^n \left[ A_{2n}^{(1)} + A_{2n}^{(2)} \left(\frac{m_e}{m_\mu}\right) \sim 4.8 \times 10^{-3} \right. \\ \left. + A_{2n}^{(2)} \left(\frac{m_e}{m_\tau}\right) \sim 2.9 \times 10^{-4} \right. \\ \left. + A_{2n}^{(3)} \left(\frac{m_e}{m_\mu}, \frac{m_e}{m_\tau}\right) \sim 10^{-6} \right]$$

universal for  $e, \mu, \tau$  and known analytically for  $2n=2, 4, 6, 8$  (numerically for 10)



Experimentally Larmor precession (spin) and cyclotron motion are described by two closely related frequencies:

$$T\omega_s = |2\mu_e B| = \frac{g_e}{2} \frac{\hbar e B}{m_e} \quad \text{where } \mu_e = -\frac{g_e}{2} \frac{e\hbar}{2m_e} = -\frac{g_e}{2} \mu_B$$

↑ spin  $T\omega_c$  cyclotron frequency

$$\Rightarrow \frac{g_e}{2} = \frac{\omega_s}{\omega_c} = 1 + \frac{\omega_a}{\omega_c} \quad \text{where } \omega_a = \omega_s - \omega_c \text{ is the "anomaly frequency"}$$

For the electron, any of these frequencies can be measured with  $\sim 10^{-10}$  precision. Why measure a difference of two large frequencies? Use standard error propagation for  $g_e/2$ :

$$\frac{\Delta(g_e/2)}{g_e/2} = \frac{2}{g_e} \sqrt{\left(\frac{\Delta\omega_a}{\omega_c}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\omega_a \Delta\omega_c}{\omega_c^2}\right)^2}$$

$$= \frac{2}{g_e} \frac{\omega_a}{\omega_c} \sqrt{\left(\frac{\Delta\omega_a}{\omega_a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta\omega_c}{\omega_c}\right)^2}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\approx 0.00115...}$ 
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\sim 10^{-10}}$ 
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\sim 10^{-10}}$

$\approx 10^{-13}$  i.e.

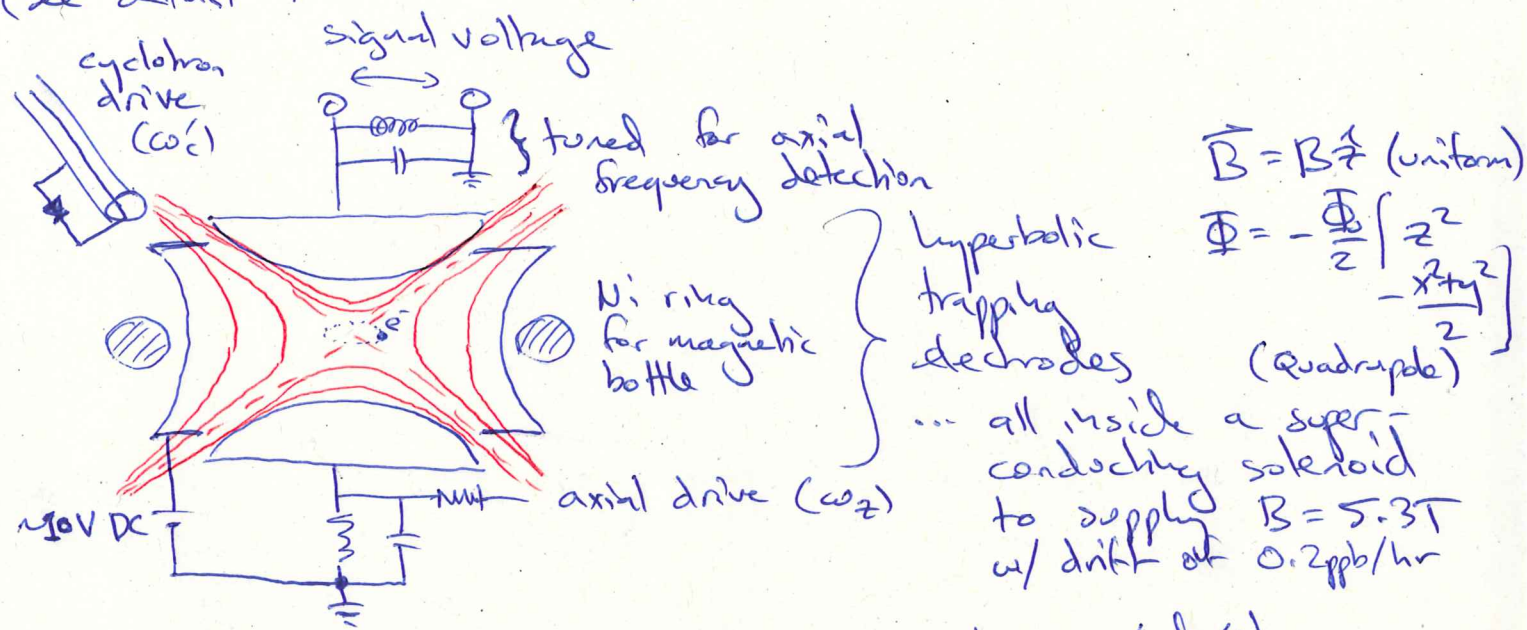
1000x better than for  $\omega_c$  and  $\omega_s$

... so it is advantageous to measure  $\frac{\omega_a}{\omega_c} = \frac{g\mu_B}{2} \left( \rightarrow \frac{\omega_a}{\gamma \mu_B} \right)$  rather than  $\frac{\omega_s}{\omega_c}$ . relativistic

But two separate measurements are still needed for the two frequencies (so very stable  $\vec{B}$ ) and the most important correction (cavity shift) is not affected by this choice.

Experimental environment for  $g_e$  measurement: Penniny Trap

(see detail also on slides)



Equation of motion: (electron,  $-e$ )  $m_e \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = e \frac{\Phi_0}{2} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ -2z \end{pmatrix} + eB \begin{pmatrix} -dy/dt \\ dx/dt \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

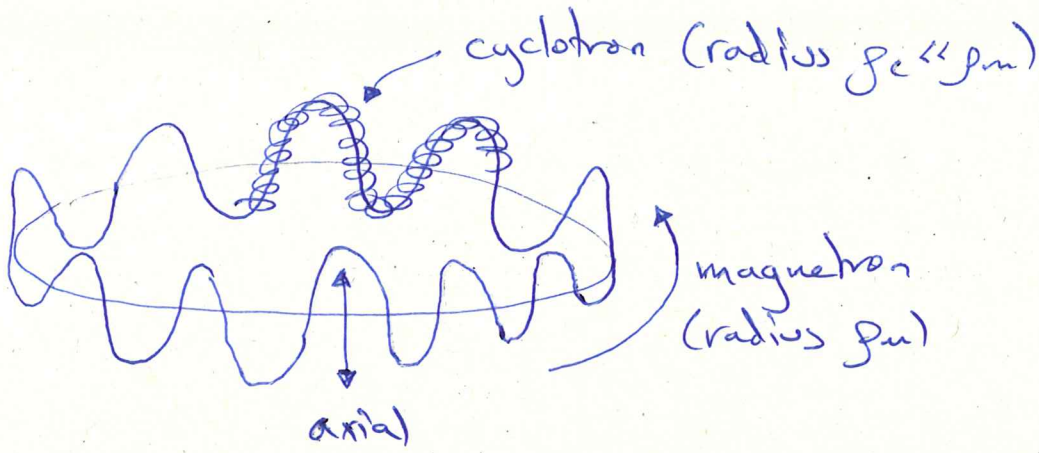
3 independent/orthogonal simple harmonic oscillators

Axial frequency:  $\omega_z = \sqrt{\frac{e\Phi_0}{m_e}}$   $E_z = \frac{1}{2} m_e \omega_z^2 z^2$

Transverse motion: two circular motions with eigenfrequencies

$\omega_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} (\omega_c \pm \sqrt{\omega_c^2 - 2\omega_z^2})$   $\omega_+$  ~ modified cyclotron,  $\omega_-$  ~ magnetron (slower)

approximate expansions:  $\omega_+ \approx \omega_c - \frac{\omega_z^2}{2\omega_c} = \omega_c - \omega_m \equiv \omega_c'$  } ok up to the  $10^{-12}$  level  
 $\omega_- \approx \frac{\omega_z^2}{2\omega_c} \equiv \omega_m$



For transverse motion, energy is the sum of kinetic and electrostatic:

$$E_c = \frac{1}{2} m_e (\omega_c'^2 - \frac{1}{2} \omega_z^2) \rho_c^2 \approx \frac{1}{2} m_e \omega_c'^2 \rho_c^2$$

$$E_m = \frac{1}{2} m_e (\omega_m^2 - \frac{1}{2} \omega_z^2) \rho_m^2 \approx -\frac{1}{4} m_e \omega_z^2 \rho_m^2$$

↑ orbit size grows in time

Numerically, for the most recent experiments there is a clear hierarchy:

$$\omega_c' \approx 2\pi \times 149 \text{ GHz} \gg \omega_z \approx 2\pi \times 114 \text{ MHz} \gg \omega_m \approx 2\pi \times 43 \text{ kHz}$$

where the experimental anomaly frequency is  $\omega_a' \approx 2\pi \times 173 \text{ MHz}$

Each motion has a different timescale for reaching thermal equilibrium: synchrotron radiation is important

Cyclotron  $\tau_c = \frac{1}{\gamma_c} = 4\pi\epsilon_0 \frac{3m_e c^3}{4e^2 \omega_c'^2} \approx 90 \text{ ns at } 5.3 \text{ T}$

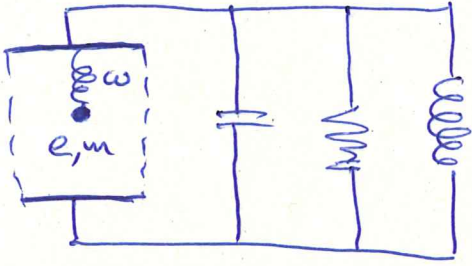
PRL 55, 1 (1985) p. 67-70 } this is too fast  $\Rightarrow$  trick is used to extend  $\tau_c \approx 5-10 \text{ s}$   
 the cavity suppresses spontaneous radiation over certain frequency bands by factor of 50-70

$\Rightarrow \tau_c$  now becomes long enough to detect single-quantum transitions! (uses "self-excitation feedback"), one jump  $\Rightarrow 1.3 \text{ Hz shift}$

Magnetron  $\tau_m = 4\pi\epsilon_0 \frac{3m_e c^3}{4e^2 \omega_m^2} \frac{\omega_c' - \omega_m}{\omega_m} \approx 10^{10} \text{ years}$  ... so just cool initially to a reasonable  $\rho_m$

Axial:  $\tau_z = \frac{1}{\gamma_z} \approx 30 \text{ms}$

strongly and intentionally damped by the detection resonator  $\Rightarrow$  QND measurement (quantum non-demolition) i.e., no change of state as a result of the measurement

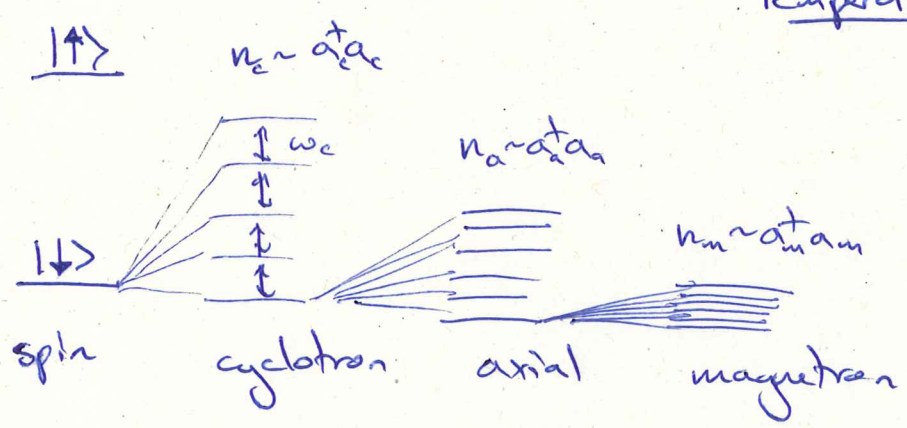


$\rightarrow$  see slides for 1-minute Fourier transform of Johnson noise

There could also be radiative decay of the excited spin state, but this is also slow!

$$\tau_s = 4\pi\epsilon_0 \frac{6m_e^2 c^5}{g^2 \mu_B^2 \omega_s^3} \approx 5 \text{ years at } 5.3 \text{ T}$$

Temperatures: Cyclotron  $\sim 100 \text{mK}$  (physical trap T)



Axial  $\sim 0.5 \text{K}$  (SQUID amplified)  
Magnetron (metastable)  
 $T_m = -\frac{\omega_m}{\omega_z} T_z \approx -10^{-3} T_z$

Quantum numbers:

- $m_s = \pm \frac{1}{2}$
- $\bar{n}_c \approx 10^{-32} \approx 0$  (cooled to ground state)
- $\bar{n}_z \approx 100$
- $\bar{n}_m \approx 100$

Practical challenges: microwave cavity resonances near cyclotron frequency

- inhibits spontaneous emission
- alters measured cyclotron frequency from free-space value

Measured (cavity-shifted) cyclotron frequency:

$$\bar{\omega}_c^{cav} = \bar{\omega}_c \left( 1 + \frac{\Delta\bar{\omega}_c^{cav}}{\bar{\omega}_c} \right)$$

↑  
shift

also changes  $\omega_a$  but  
not  $\omega_s$ :  $\bar{\omega}_a \rightarrow \bar{\omega}_a - \Delta\bar{\omega}_c^{cav}$

So the following correction must be applied to the measured  $g_e$  (few  $10^{-12}$  depending on frequency)

$$\frac{\Delta g_e}{2U} \Big|_{cav} \approx \left( 1 + \frac{\bar{\omega}_a}{\bar{\omega}_c} \right) \frac{\Delta\bar{\omega}_c^{cav}}{\bar{\omega}_c}$$

this approximation is ok to  $\sim 10^{-15}$  and can be derived from the invariance theorem (below)

Relations among measured frequencies are simplified by the Brown-Gabrielse invariance theorem:

$$\omega_c = \sqrt{\bar{\omega}_c^2 + \bar{\omega}_z^2 + \bar{\omega}_n^2} \approx \bar{\omega}_c + \frac{\bar{\omega}_z^2}{2\bar{\omega}_c}$$

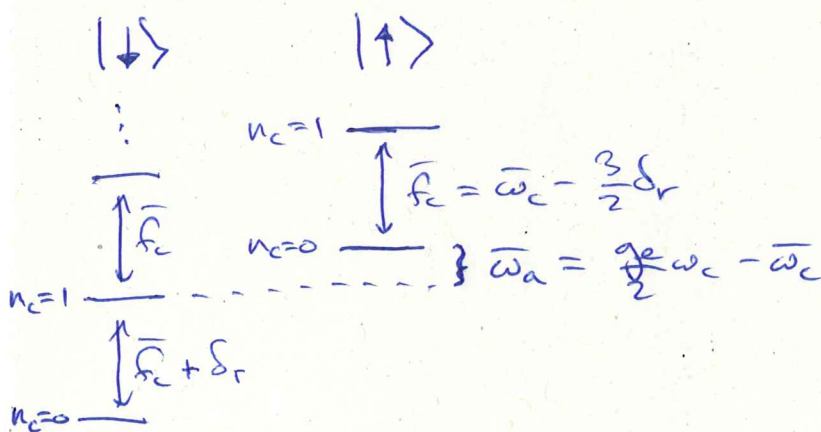
e.g. for small field distortions or electrode misalignments

there is also a relativistic mass shift that alters the cyclotron frequency:

$$\Delta\omega_c = -\delta_r (n_c + 1 + m_s) \quad \text{where} \quad \frac{\delta_r}{2\pi} = \frac{h \left( \frac{\omega_c}{2\pi} \right)^2}{m_e c^2} \approx 180 \text{ Hz} \times \left( \frac{B}{5.3 \text{ T}} \right)^2$$

$\Rightarrow \sim 10^{-9}$  correction to  $\omega_c$

define  $f_c = \bar{\omega}_c - \frac{3}{2}\delta_r$



Measurement is then:

$$-\frac{\mu_e}{\mu_B} = \frac{g_e}{2} = 1 + \frac{\bar{\omega}_a - \frac{\bar{\omega}_z^2}{2\bar{\omega}_c}}{f_c + \frac{3}{2}\delta_r + \frac{\bar{\omega}_z^2}{2\bar{\omega}_c}} + \frac{\Delta g_e}{2U} \Big|_{cav}$$

by expanding the invariance theorem using  $\bar{\omega}_c \rightarrow \bar{\omega}_z \rightarrow \bar{\omega}_n \rightarrow \delta_r$