

Larmor Equation:

A dipole $\vec{\mu}$ experiences a torque $\vec{\tau}$ due to a magnetic field B_0 .

$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{\mu} \times \vec{B}_0$$

Torque is the rate of change of angular momentum J .

$$\vec{\tau} = \frac{d\vec{J}}{dt} = \vec{\mu} \times \vec{B}_0$$

From definition of gyromagnetic ratio $\gamma = \frac{\mu}{J}$

the Larmor equation is obtained $\frac{d\vec{\mu}}{dt} = \gamma \vec{\mu} \times \vec{B}_0$

Since $d\vec{\mu}/dt$ is \perp to both $\vec{\mu}$ and \vec{B}_0 , then in the event that $\vec{\mu}$ and \vec{B}_0 are not aligned, $\vec{\mu}$ must move in a circular path \hookrightarrow precession.

From the geometry of the situation, the arc length,

$$|d\vec{\mu}| = \text{radius} \cdot |d\phi|$$

$$\text{i.e. } |d\vec{\mu}| = \mu \sin \theta |d\phi|$$

$$\text{from } \frac{d\vec{\mu}}{dt} = \gamma \vec{\mu} \times \vec{B}$$

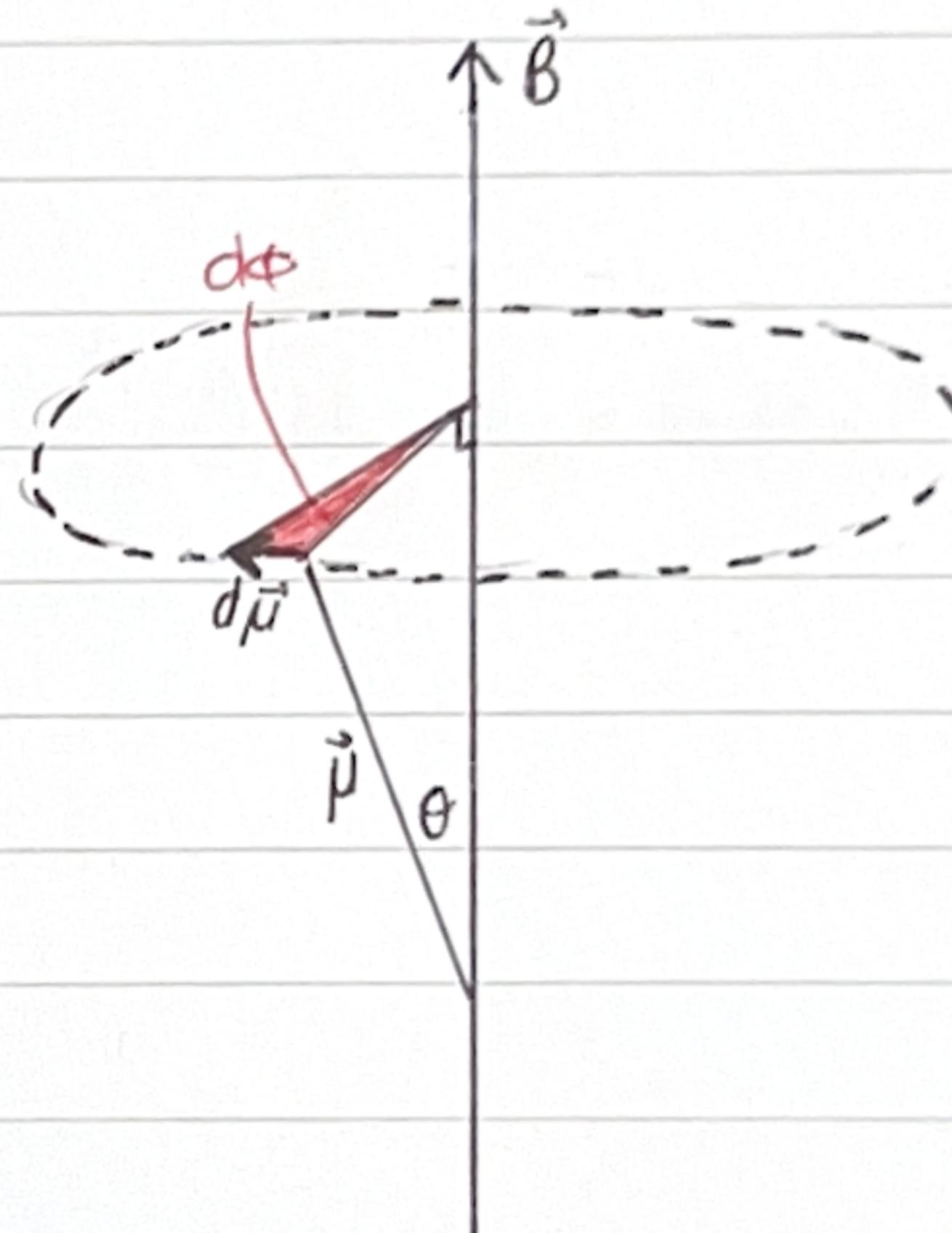
$$\Rightarrow |d\vec{\mu}| = \gamma |\vec{\mu} \times \vec{B}| dt = \gamma \mu B \sin \theta dt$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{\mu}| = \gamma \mu B \sin \theta dt = \mu \sin \theta |d\phi|$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma B dt = d\phi$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\phi}{dt} = \gamma B$$

Since the rate of change of ϕ is the angular precessional frequency ($\omega = -d\phi/dt$) (the rotation is left-handed in the



direction of \vec{B}).

$$\omega = -\gamma B$$

If the external magnetic field is constant (B_0) then $\varphi = -\omega_0 t + \varphi_0$

where φ_0 is the initial angle, and since $\omega = -\frac{d\varphi}{dt} = -(-\omega_0)$
we may write the Larmor equation:

$$\omega_0 = \gamma B_0$$