

Engineering Electromagnetics

Lecture 25

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by

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Current and field due to line charge

Line charge λ travelling down a wire with velocity \mathbf{v} .

$$\mathbf{I} = \lambda \mathbf{v}$$

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{mag}} = \int (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) dq = \int (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) \lambda dl = \int (\mathbf{I} \times \mathbf{B}) dl$$

Inasmuch as \mathbf{I} and $d\mathbf{l}$ both point in the same direction, we can just as well write this as

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{mag}} = \int I (d\mathbf{l} \times \mathbf{B}).$$

Typically, the current is constant (in magnitude) along the wire, and in that case I comes outside the integral:

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{mag}} = I \int (d\mathbf{l} \times \mathbf{B}).$$

Due to volume charge density ρ

Current density $\mathbf{J} = \rho \mathbf{v}$

\mathbf{J} = current/area; Volume charge density = ρ and velocity is \mathbf{v}

The magnetic force on a volume current is therefore

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{mag}} = \int (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) \rho d\tau = \int (\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}) d\tau$$

Due to surface charge density σ

In words, K is the *current per unit width*. In particular, if the (mobile) surface charge density is σ and its velocity is \mathbf{v} , then

$$\mathbf{K} = \sigma \mathbf{v}. \quad (5.23)$$

In general, \mathbf{K} will vary from point to point over the surface, reflecting variations in σ and/or \mathbf{v} . The magnetic force on the surface current is

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{mag}} = \int (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) \sigma \, da = \int (\mathbf{K} \times \mathbf{B}) \, da. \quad (5.24)$$

Continuity Equation

$$I = \int_S J da_{\perp} = \int_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{a}. \quad (5.28)$$

the charge per unit time leaving a volume \mathcal{V} is

$$\oint_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \int_{\mathcal{V}} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}) d\tau.$$

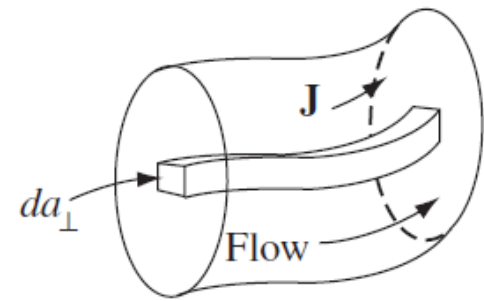
Because charge is conserved, whatever flows out through the surface must come at the expense of what remains inside:

$$\int_{\mathcal{V}} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}) d\tau = -\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathcal{V}} \rho d\tau = -\int_{\mathcal{V}} \left(\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \right) d\tau.$$

(The minus sign reflects the fact that an *outward* flow *decreases* the charge left in \mathcal{V} .) Since this applies to *any* volume, we conclude that

$$\boxed{\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}.} \quad (5.29)$$

This is the precise mathematical statement of local charge conservation; it is called the **continuity equation**.



$$\mathbf{J} \equiv \frac{d\mathbf{I}}{da_{\perp}}$$

Steady Currents

Stationary charges produce electric fields that are constant in time; hence the term **electrostatics**.⁸ *Steady currents* produce magnetic fields that are constant in time; the theory of steady currents is called **magnetostatics**.

Stationary charges	\Rightarrow	constant electric fields: electrostatics.
Steady currents	\Rightarrow	constant magnetic fields: magnetostatics.

By **steady current** I mean a continuous flow that has been going on forever, without change and without charge piling up anywhere. (Some people call them “stationary currents”; to my ear, that’s a contradiction in terms.) Formally, electro/magnetostatics is the régime

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{J}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{0},$$

at all places and all times.

When a steady current flows in a wire, its magnitude I must be the same all along the line; otherwise, charge would be piling up somewhere, and it wouldn’t be a steady current. More generally, since $\partial \rho / \partial t = 0$ in magnetostatics, the continuity equation (5.29) becomes

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}.$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = 0. \quad (5.33)$$

Bio-savart's law

The magnetic field of a steady line current is given by the **Biot-Savart law**:

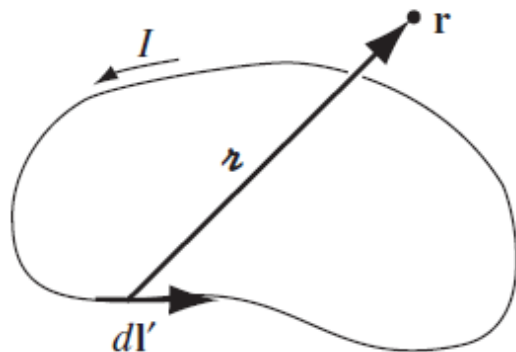
$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\mathbf{I} \times \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2} dl' = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} I \int \frac{d\mathbf{l}' \times \hat{\mathbf{r}}}{r^2}. \quad (5.34)$$

The integration is along the current path, in the direction of the flow; $d\mathbf{l}'$ is an element of length along the wire, and \mathbf{r} , as always, is the vector from the source to the point \mathbf{r} (Fig. 5.17). The constant μ_0 is called the **permeability of free space**:⁹

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N/A}^2. \quad (5.35)$$

These units are such that \mathbf{B} itself comes out in newtons per ampere-meter (as required by the Lorentz force law), or **teslas (T)**:¹⁰

$$1 \text{ T} = 1 \text{ N}/(\text{A} \cdot \text{m}). \quad (5.36)$$



Example 5.5. Find the magnetic field a distance s from a long straight wire carrying a steady current I (Fig. 5.18).

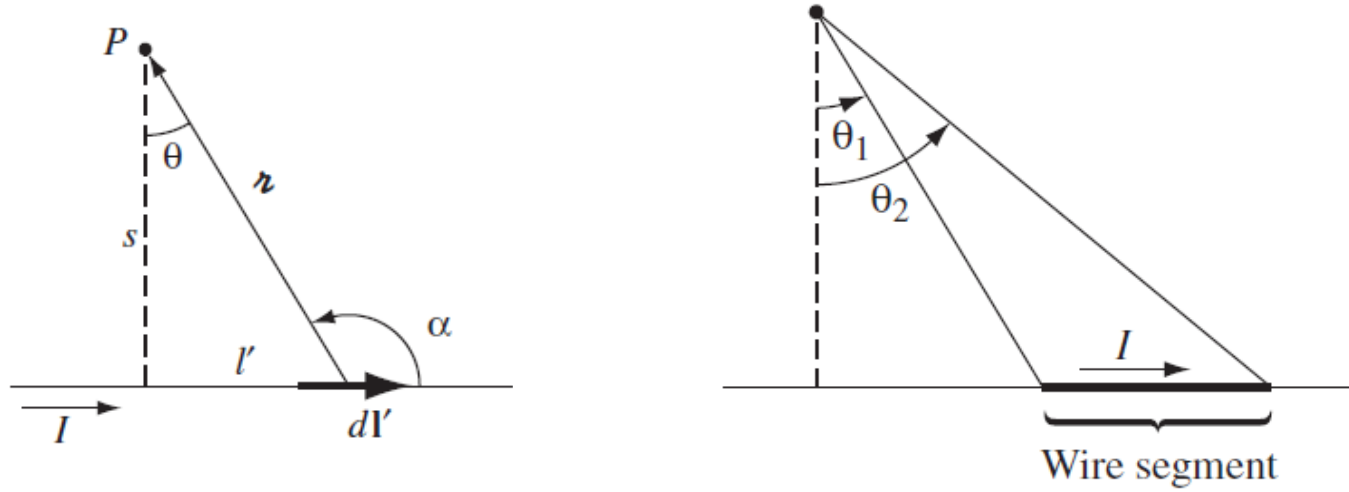


FIGURE 5.18

Example 5.5. Find the magnetic field a distance s from a long straight wire carrying a steady current I (Fig. 5.18).

In the diagram, $(d\mathbf{l}' \times \hat{\mathbf{r}})$ points *out* of the page, and has the magnitude

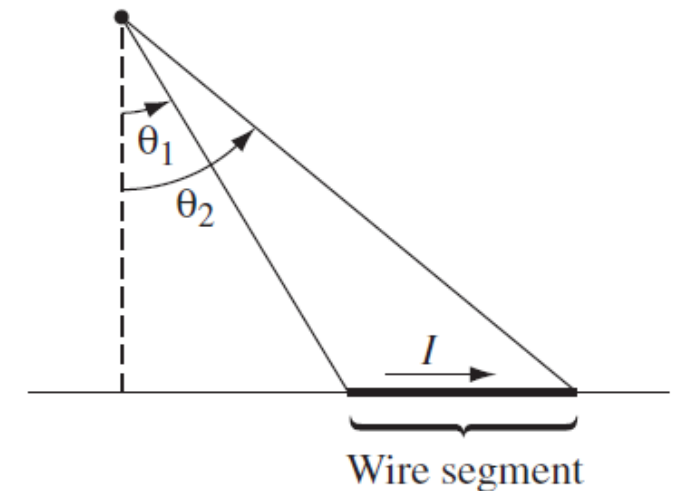
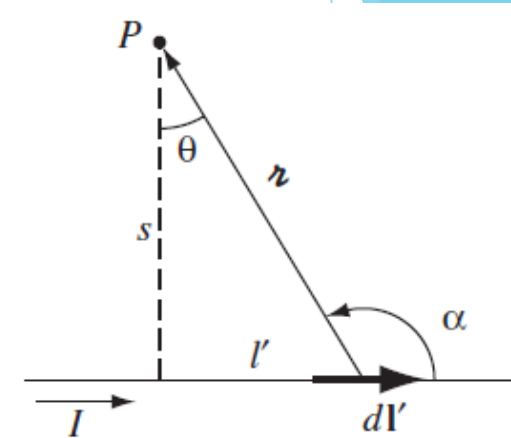
$$dl' \sin \alpha = dl' \cos \theta.$$

Also, $l' = s \tan \theta$, so
$$dl' = \frac{s}{\cos^2 \theta} d\theta,$$

and $s = r \cos \theta$, so
$$\frac{1}{r^2} = \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{s^2},$$

Thus
$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} \left(\frac{\cos^2 \theta}{s^2} \right) \left(\frac{s}{\cos^2 \theta} \right) \cos \theta d\theta$$
$$= \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi s} \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} \cos \theta d\theta = \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi s} (\sin \theta_2 - \sin \theta_1). \quad (5.37)$$

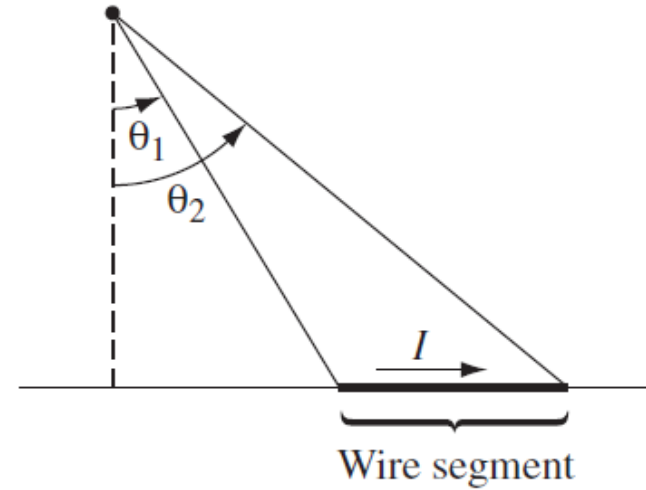
Equation 5.37 gives the field of any straight segment of wire, in terms of the initial and final angles θ_1 and θ_2 (Fig. 5.19).



Infinite wire

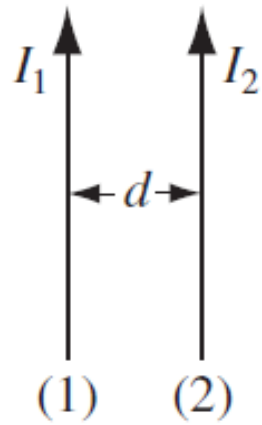
In the case of an *infinite* wire,
 $\theta_1 = -\pi/2$ and $\theta_2 = \pi/2$, so we obtain

$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s}.$$



Force between two parallel wires

Force per unit length?



Force between two parallel wires

As an application, let's find the force of attraction between two long, parallel wires a distance d apart, carrying currents I_1 and I_2 (Fig. 5.20). The field at (2) due to (1) is

$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I_1}{2\pi d},$$

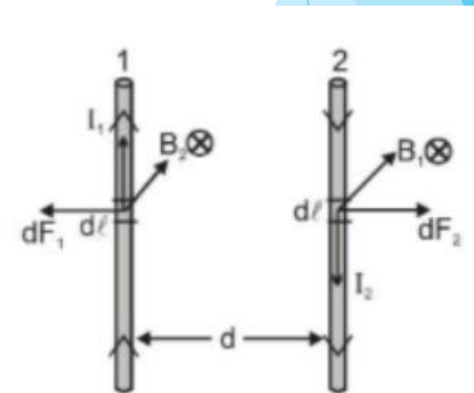
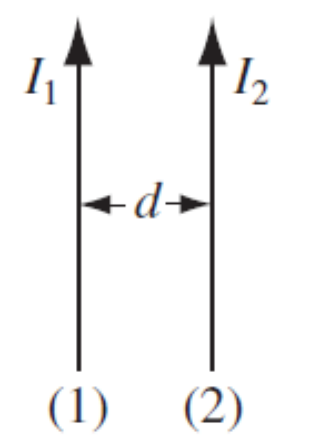
and it points into the page. The Lorentz force law (in the form appropriate to line currents, Eq. 5.17) predicts a force directed towards (1), of magnitude

$$F = I_2 \left(\frac{\mu_0 I_1}{2\pi d} \right) \int dl.$$

The *total* force, not surprisingly, is infinite, but the force per unit length is

$$f = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{I_1 I_2}{d}. \quad (5.40)$$

If the currents are antiparallel (one up, one down), the force is repulsive—consistent again with the qualitative observations in Sect. 5.1.1.



Example 5.6. Find the magnetic field a distance z above the center of a circular loop of radius R , which carries a steady current I (Fig. 5.21).

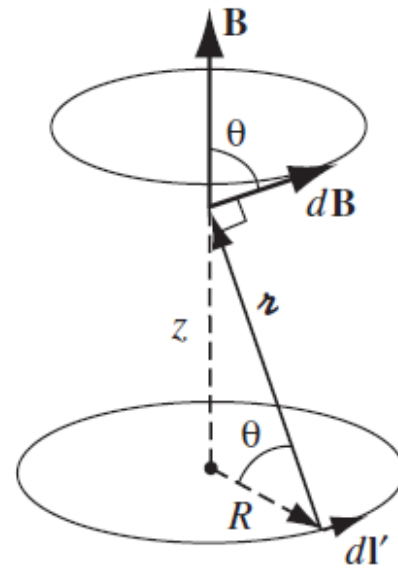


FIGURE 5.21

Solution

The field $d\mathbf{B}$ attributable to the segment $d\mathbf{l}'$ points as shown. As we integrate $d\mathbf{l}'$ around the loop, $d\mathbf{B}$ sweeps out a cone. The horizontal components cancel, and the vertical components combine, to give

$$B(z) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} I \int \frac{dl'}{r^2} \cos \theta.$$

(Notice that $d\mathbf{l}'$ and \mathbf{r} are perpendicular, in this case; the factor of $\cos \theta$ projects out the vertical component.) Now, $\cos \theta$ and r^2 are constants, and $\int dl'$ is simply the circumference, $2\pi R$, so

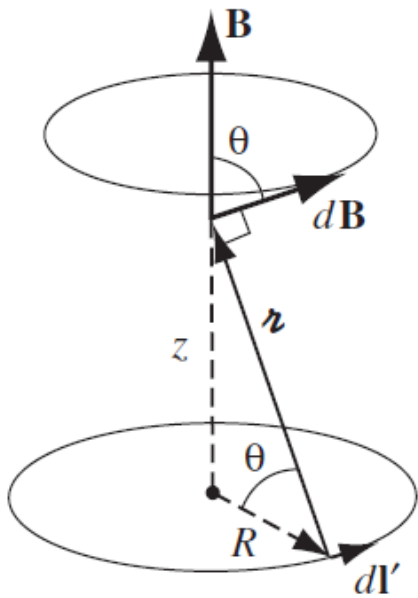
$$B(z) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \left(\frac{\cos \theta}{r^2} \right) 2\pi R = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2} \frac{R^2}{(R^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}. \quad (5.41)$$

Magnetic dipole moment

$$B(z) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \left(\frac{\cos \theta}{r^2} \right) 2\pi R = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2} \frac{R^2}{(R^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}.$$

magnetic flux density at the center of the loop as

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2R} \vec{a}_z$$



When the point of observation is far away from the loop, we can approximate the term in the denominator of (5.7) as

$$(R^2 + z^2)^{3/2} \approx z^3$$

and obtain the expression for the magnetic flux density as

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I R^2}{2z^3} \vec{a}_z$$

When the point of observation is far away from the loop, the size of the loop is very small in comparison with the distance z . In this case, we refer to the current-carrying loop as a *magnetic dipole*. If we define

the *magnetic dipole moment* as

$$\vec{m} = I \pi R^2 \vec{a}_z$$

Q: If there are N turns?

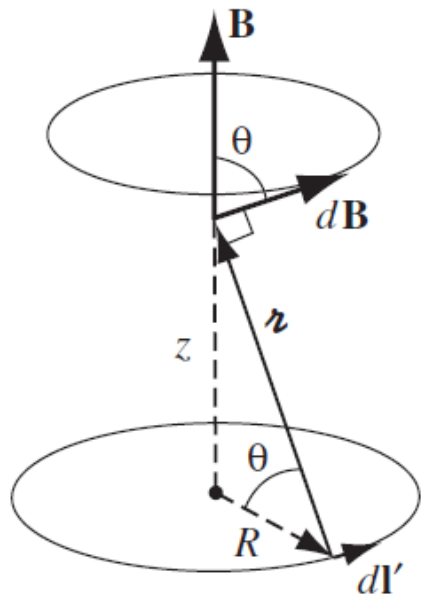
$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 \vec{m}}{2\pi z^3}$$

Magnetic dipole moment

$$B(z) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \left(\frac{\cos \theta}{r^2} \right) 2\pi R = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2} \frac{R^2}{(R^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}.$$

magnetic flux density at the center of the loop as

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2R} \vec{a}_z$$



When the point of observation is far away from the loop, the size of the loop is very small in comparison with the distance z . In this case, we refer to the current-carrying loop as a *magnetic dipole*. If we define the *magnetic dipole moment* as

$$\vec{m} = I\pi R^2 \vec{a}_z$$

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 \vec{m}}{2\pi z^3}$$

Q: If there are N turns?

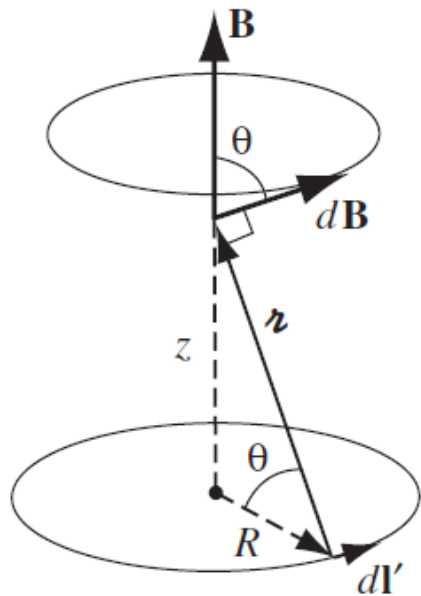
Torque = ??

Magnetic dipole moment

$$B(z) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \left(\frac{\cos \theta}{r^2} \right) 2\pi R = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2} \frac{R^2}{(R^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}.$$

magnetic flux density at the center of the loop as

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2R} \vec{a}_z$$



When the point of observation is far away from the loop, the size of the loop is very small in comparison with the distance z . In this case, we refer to the current-carrying loop as a *magnetic dipole*. If we define the *magnetic dipole moment* as

$$\vec{m} = I\pi R^2 \vec{a}_z$$

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 \vec{m}}{2\pi z^3}$$

Q: If there are N turns?

$$\text{Torque} = \vec{m} \times \vec{B}$$

Infinite wire and integral of \mathbf{B} along a path

The magnetic field of an infinite straight wire is shown in Fig. 5.27 (the current is coming *out* of the page).

According to Eq. 5.38, the integral of \mathbf{B} around a circular path of radius s , centered at the wire, is

$$\oint \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \oint \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} dl = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} \oint dl = \mu_0 I.$$

What do you think? \mathbf{B} is rotational or irrotational?

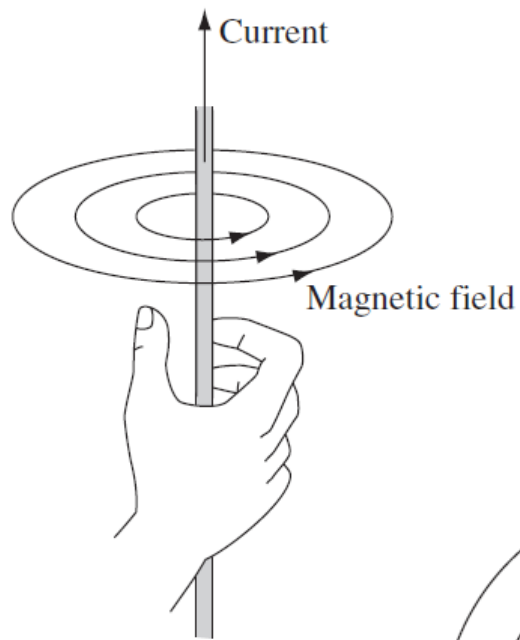
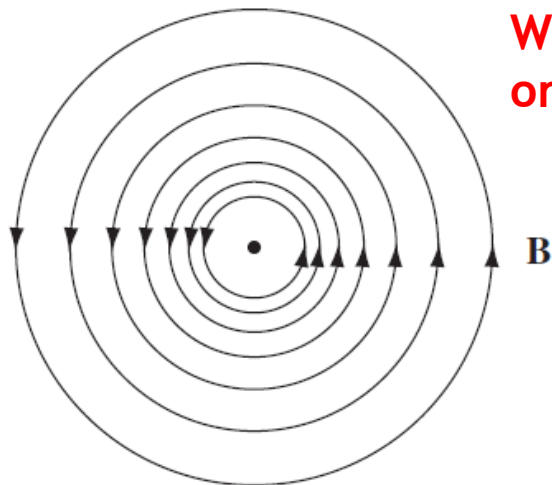


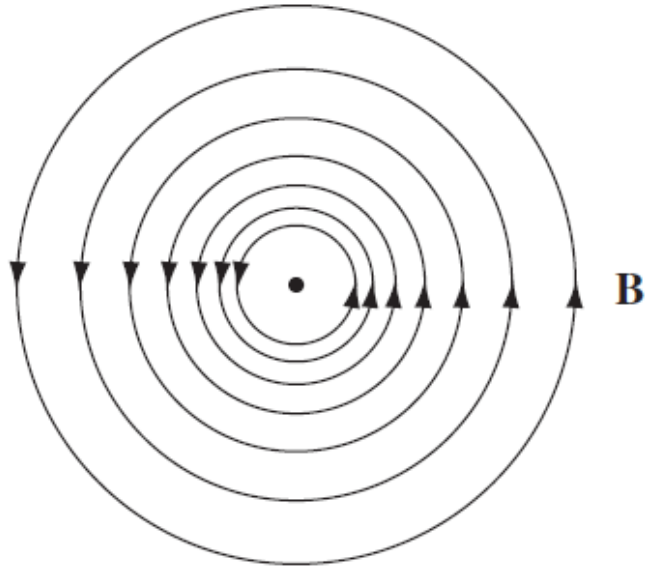
FIGURE 5.3



$$\int (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \cdot d\mathbf{a} = \mu_0 \int \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{a},$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{J}$$

THE DIVERGENCE OF \mathbf{B}



\mathbf{B} is solenoidal or non-solenoidal?

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = ?$$

Thank You