

Goal: In certain experiments it is desirable to have a region of constant magnetic flux density. This can be created in an off-center cylindrical cavity that is cut in a very long cylindrical conductor carrying a uniform current density. Refer to the cross section in figure below.

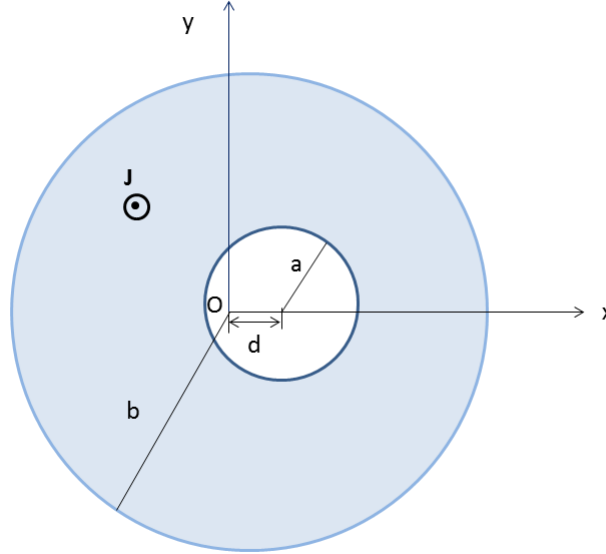


Figure 1 Region with an off-centered cylindrical cavity

The uniform axial current density is $\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{a}_z J$. Find the magnitude and direction of \mathbf{B} in the cylindrical cavity whose axis is displaced from that of the conducting part by a distance d .

Steps:

1. This problem can be solved by superposition. Using Ampere's law, determine the magnetic flux density \mathbf{B}_1 that we would have inside the cylinder if the cavity was *not* present.

Solution: Using a circular Amperean loop with radius $r < b$:

$$\begin{aligned} \oint \mathbf{B}_1 \cdot d\mathbf{l} &= \mu_0 \int_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{S} \\ 2\pi r B_{1,\phi} &= \mu_0 (\pi r^2) J_z \\ B_{1,\phi} &= \frac{\mu_0}{2} r J_z \\ \mathbf{B}_1 &= \mathbf{a}_\phi \frac{\mu_0}{2} r J_z \end{aligned}$$

2. Write \mathbf{B}_1 using the unit vectors \mathbf{a}_x , \mathbf{a}_y and \mathbf{a}_z .

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{B}_1 &= B_{1,\phi} \mathbf{a}_\phi \\ &= \frac{\mu_0}{2} J_z r \mathbf{a}_\phi \\ &= \frac{\mu_0}{2} J_z (-y \mathbf{a}_x + x \mathbf{a}_y)\end{aligned}$$

3. Using Ampere's law, determine the magnetic flux density \mathbf{B}_2 inside a cylindrical conductor of radius a carrying a uniform current with density $-\mathbf{J}$.

Solution: Assume that this conductor is centered at the origin O' of a new coordinate system. The location of O' with respect to the origin O of the original coordinate system is $(d, 0, 0)$. Primed variables will be used to indicate coordinates with respect to O' .

$$\begin{aligned}\oint \mathbf{B}_2 \cdot d\mathbf{l}' &= -\mu_0 \int_S \mathbf{J} \cdot d\mathbf{S}' \\ B_{2,\phi} &= -\frac{\mu_0}{2} r' J_z \\ \mathbf{B}_2 &= -\mathbf{a}'_\phi \frac{\mu_0}{2} r' J_z\end{aligned}$$

4. Write \mathbf{B}_2 using the unit vectors \mathbf{a}_x , \mathbf{a}_y and \mathbf{a}_z .

Solution: We will first write \mathbf{B}_2 using the unit vectors \mathbf{a}'_x , \mathbf{a}'_y and \mathbf{a}'_z of the new coordinate system, O' . Then we can use the fact that the unit vectors \mathbf{a}'_x , \mathbf{a}'_y and \mathbf{a}'_z are equal, respectively, to the original unit vectors \mathbf{a}_x , \mathbf{a}_y and \mathbf{a}_z , because O' was simply translated from O .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{B}_2 &= B_{2,\phi} \mathbf{a}'_\phi \\ &= \frac{\mu_0}{2} J_z r' \mathbf{a}_\phi \\ &= \frac{\mu_0}{2} J_z (+y' \mathbf{a}_x - x' \mathbf{a}_y)\end{aligned}$$

5. Using the results of parts (2) and part (4), determine the total magnetic flux density \mathbf{B} inside the cavity.

Solution: In order to use superposition, we need to use the same coordinate system. So, we must convert x' and y' to the original coordinate system. Firstly, $y' = y$ because O' is only shifted from O along the x axis. Secondly, notice that $x' = x - d$. Therefore, we can write

$$\mathbf{B}_2 = \frac{\mu_0}{2} J_z (+y \mathbf{a}_x - (x - d) \mathbf{a}_y)$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{B} &= \mathbf{B}_1 + \mathbf{B}_2 \\ &= \frac{\mu_0}{2} J_z (d \mathbf{a}_y)\end{aligned}$$

Answer:

$$\mathbf{B} = a_y \frac{\mu_0}{2} J_z d$$