

1. Currents I and $-I$ flow along lines at $y = d/2$ and $y = -d/2$, respectively, on the yz plane, as shown in Figure. Determine the vector potential at point P sufficiently far from the z -axis.

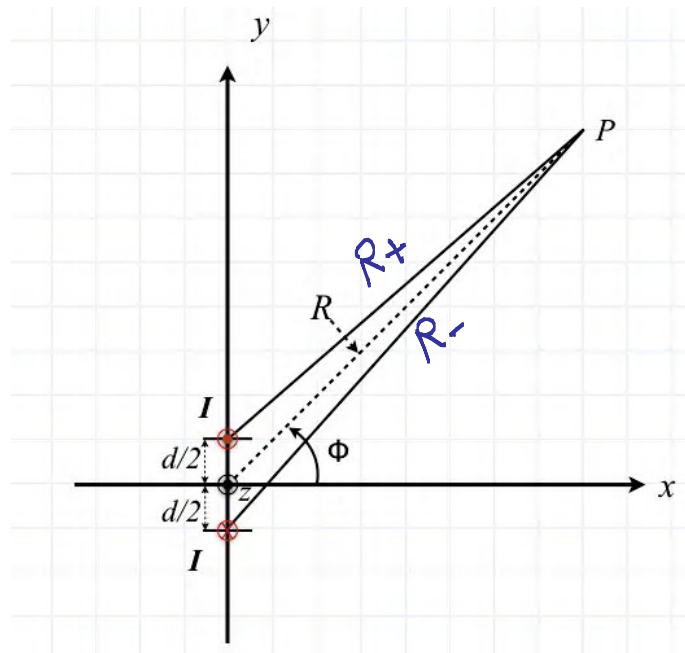


Figure 1: Problem 1

Solⁿ:

The vector potential due to current I flow along line at $y = d/2$ is given as

$$A_{z+} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \ln \frac{R_0}{R_+}$$

$R_0 \rightarrow$ the distance to the reference point at which A_{z+} is zero

$$\text{Ily, } A_{z-} = -\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \ln \frac{R_0}{R_-}$$

The vector potential

$$A_z = A_{z+} + A_{z-} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \ln \frac{R_-}{R_+}$$

$$R_{\pm} = \left(R^2 \pm \frac{d^2}{4} - R d \sin \varphi \right)^{1/2} \quad R \gg d$$

$$\approx R \left(1 - \frac{d}{2R} \sin \varphi \right)$$

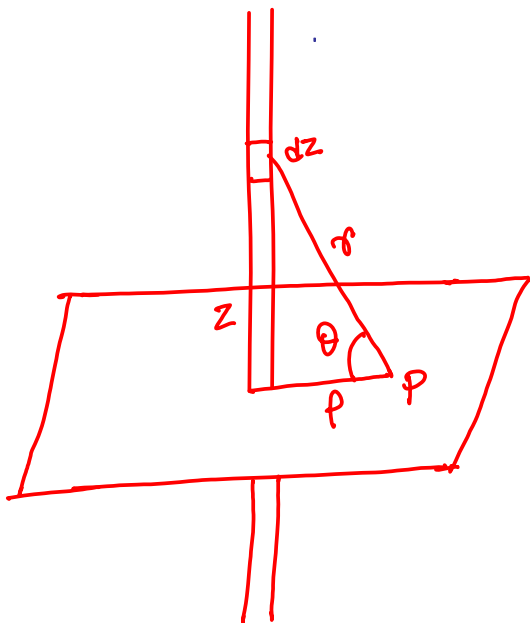
$$R_{-} \approx R \left(1 + \frac{d}{2R} \sin \varphi \right)$$

$$A_z(R, \varphi) \approx \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \ln \frac{1 + \frac{d}{2R} \sin \varphi}{1 - \frac{d}{2R} \sin \varphi}$$

$$\approx \frac{\mu_0 I d}{2\pi R} \sin \varphi.$$

$$|\vec{m}| = I d \quad A_z \approx \frac{\mu_0 |\vec{m}|}{2\pi R} \sin \varphi$$

at sufficient distance $R \gg d$ the equality holds. In this case the total vector sum of the current is zero, and hence $\vec{A} \rightarrow 0$ at infinity.



$$\vec{A} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \hat{k} \int_{-L}^L \frac{dz}{(\rho^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$z = \rho \tan \theta$$

$$dz = \rho \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$\vec{A} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \hat{k} \ln(\sec \alpha + \tan \alpha)$$

$$\tan \alpha = L/\rho$$

$$\sec \alpha = \frac{L}{\rho} \left(1 + \frac{\rho^2}{L^2}\right)^{1/2} \approx \frac{L}{\rho} \left(1 - \frac{\rho^2}{2L^2}\right)$$

$$\vec{A} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \hat{k} [\ln(2L) - \ln(\rho)]$$

as expected $L \rightarrow \infty$, the above expression diverges. \vec{A} itself is not physical while $\nabla \times \vec{A}$ is constant term (which diverges in the limit of $L \rightarrow \infty$) is of no consequence and \vec{A} is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{A} &= - \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \hat{k} \ln \rho \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \hat{k} \ln \left(\frac{\rho_{\text{ref}}}{\rho} \right) \end{aligned}$$

2. If \mathbf{B} is uniform, show that $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{B})$. That is, check that $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$ and $\nabla \times \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B}$. Is this result unique or are there other functions with same divergence and curl?

Solⁿ:

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} &= -\frac{1}{2} \nabla \cdot (\bar{\mathbf{r}} \times \bar{\mathbf{B}}) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} [\bar{\mathbf{B}} \cdot (\nabla \times \bar{\mathbf{r}}) - \bar{\mathbf{r}} \cdot (\nabla \times \bar{\mathbf{B}})] \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} [\bar{\mathbf{B}} \cdot 0 - \bar{\mathbf{r}} \cdot 0] = 0\end{aligned}$$

Since \mathbf{B} is uniform

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times \mathbf{A} &= -\frac{1}{2} \nabla \times (\bar{\mathbf{r}} \times \bar{\mathbf{B}}) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} [(\bar{\mathbf{B}} \cdot \nabla) \bar{\mathbf{r}} - (\bar{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \nabla) \bar{\mathbf{B}} + \underbrace{\bar{\mathbf{r}}(\nabla \cdot \bar{\mathbf{B}})}_0 - \underbrace{\bar{\mathbf{B}}(\nabla \cdot \bar{\mathbf{r}})}_3] \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} [\bar{\mathbf{B}} - 3\bar{\mathbf{B}}] = \bar{\mathbf{B}}\end{aligned}$$

3. A current distribution produces the vector potential

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}, \theta, \phi) = \hat{\phi} \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{A_0 \sin \theta}{r} e^{-\lambda r}$$

What is the magnetic dipole moment associated with this current distribution?

Solⁿ:

$$\vec{B} = \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{A} = \frac{\mu_0 A_0}{4\pi} \left[\hat{r} \frac{2 \cos \theta}{r^2} + \hat{\theta} \frac{\lambda \sin \theta}{r} \right] e^{-\lambda r}$$

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

$$\vec{J} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \{ \nabla \times \vec{B} \}$$

$$= \frac{A_0}{4\pi} \sin \theta \left\{ \frac{2}{r^3} - \frac{\lambda^2}{r} \right\} e^{-\lambda r}$$

$$\vec{m} = \frac{1}{2} \int (\vec{r} \times \vec{J}) d^3 r$$

$$= - \frac{A_0}{8\pi} \int d^3 r \hat{\theta} r \sin \theta \left\{ \frac{2}{r^3} - \frac{\lambda^2}{r} \right\} e^{-\lambda r}$$

$$\hat{\theta} = \hat{r} \cos \theta \cos \phi + \hat{j} \cos \theta \sin \phi - \hat{k} \sin \theta$$

$$\vec{m} = + \frac{A_0}{8\pi} \hat{k} \int r^3 \sin^3 \theta \left(\frac{2}{r^3} - \frac{\lambda^2}{r} \right) e^{-\lambda r} dr d\theta$$

$$= \frac{A_0}{8\pi} \hat{k} \frac{4}{3} \left(\frac{2}{\lambda} - \frac{2}{\lambda} \right) = 0$$

4. A filamentary current loop traverses eight edges of a cube with side length $2b$ as shown in Figure 2. Find the magnetic dipole moment \mathbf{m} of this structure.

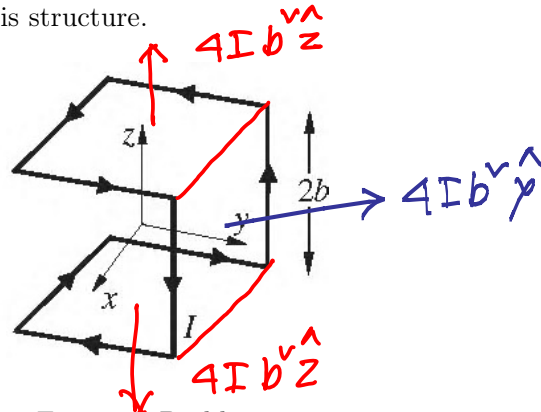


Figure 2: Problem3

$$\vec{m} = 4Ib^y\hat{y}$$

5. Another way to fill in the "missing link" in Figure 3 is to look for a magnetostatic analog to

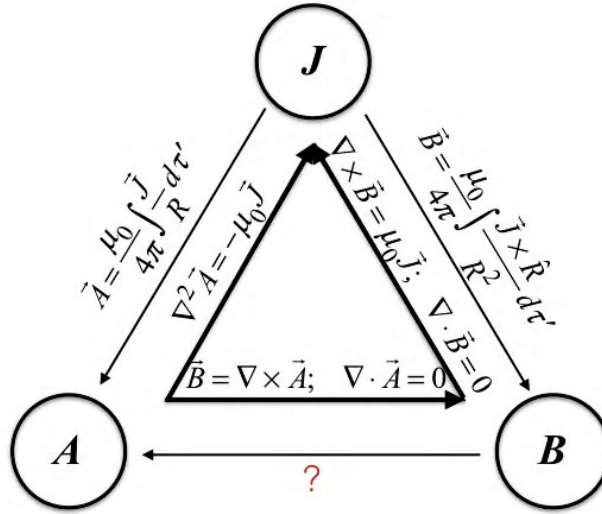


Figure 3: Problem 5

$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}) = - \int_O^{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{l}.$$

The obvious candidate would be

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = - \int_O^{\mathbf{r}} \mathbf{B} \times d\mathbf{l}.$$

- Test this formula for the simplest possible case-uniform \mathbf{B} (use the origin as your reference point). Is the result consistent with Prob. 2? You could cure this problem by throwing in a factor of 1/2, but the flaw in this equation runs deeper.
- Show that $\int \mathbf{B} \times d\mathbf{l}$ is not independent of path, by calculating $\oint (\mathbf{B} \times d\mathbf{l})$ around the rectangular loop shown in Figure.

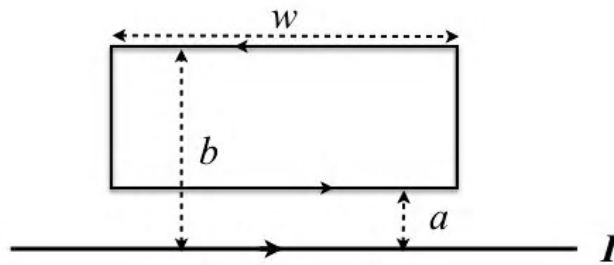


Figure 4: Problem 5(b)

- Use $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = -\mathbf{r} \times \int_0^1 \lambda \mathbf{B}(\lambda r) d\lambda$ to find the vector potential for uniform \mathbf{B} .
- Use $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = -\mathbf{r} \times \int_0^1 \lambda \mathbf{B}(\lambda r) d\lambda$ to find the vector potential of an infinite straight wire carrying a steady current I . Does $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = -\mathbf{r} \times \int_0^1 \lambda \mathbf{B}(\lambda r) d\lambda$ automatically satisfy $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{A} = 0$?

Sol: (a) For a uniform field \vec{B}

$$\int_0^r (\vec{B} \times d\vec{l}) = \vec{B} \times \int_0^r d\vec{l} = \vec{B} \times \vec{r}$$

$$A = \frac{1}{2} (\vec{r} \times \vec{B}) = -\frac{1}{2} (\vec{B} \times \vec{r})$$

$$(b) \quad \vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} \hat{\phi}$$

$$\oint \vec{B} \times d\vec{l} = \oint \left\{ \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} \hat{\phi} \right\} \times d\vec{l}$$

$$= \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi a} \hat{s} - \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi b} \hat{s} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \left(\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{b} \right) \hat{s}$$

$$(c) \quad \vec{A} = -\vec{r} \times \vec{B} \int_0^1 \lambda d\lambda = -\frac{\vec{r} \times \vec{B}}{2}$$

$$(d) \quad \vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} \hat{\phi} \quad \vec{B}(\lambda s) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi \lambda s} \hat{\phi}$$

$$\vec{A} = -\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} (\vec{r} \times \hat{\phi}) \int_0^1 \lambda \frac{1}{\lambda} d\lambda$$

$$= -\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} (\vec{r} \times \hat{\phi})$$

But \vec{r} here is the vector from origin in cylindrical co-ordinates $\vec{r} = s\hat{s} + z\hat{z}$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{A} &= -\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} [s(\hat{s} \times \hat{\phi}) + z(\hat{z} \times \hat{\phi})] \\ &= -\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi s} (z\hat{s} - s\hat{z})\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let } \vec{L} \equiv \int_0^l \lambda \vec{B}(\lambda r) d\lambda$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{A} = -\nabla \cdot (\vec{r} \times \vec{L})$$

$$= -[\vec{L} \cdot \nabla \times \vec{r} - \vec{r} \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{L})]$$

$$= r \cdot \nabla \times \vec{L}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{L} = \int_0^l \lambda (\nabla \times \vec{B}) d\lambda = \mu_0 \int_0^l \lambda^2 \mathcal{J}(\lambda r) d\lambda$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \mathcal{J}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times \vec{B}(\lambda r) = \mu_0 \lambda \mathcal{J}(\lambda r)$$

$$\vec{r} \cdot \vec{A} = \mu_0 \vec{r} \cdot \int_0^l \lambda^2 \mathcal{J}(\lambda r) d\lambda = 0$$

in the region where $\mathcal{J} = 0$

To construct an explicit counter example, we need the field at a point where $\vec{J} \neq 0$ - say inside a wire with current

$$\oint \vec{A} \cdot d\vec{r} = \mu_0 I_{enc} \quad B = \frac{\mu_0 J}{2} s \hat{\phi}$$

$$\vec{A} = -\vec{r} \times \int_0^1 \lambda \left(\frac{\mu_0 J}{2} \right) \lambda s \hat{\phi} d\lambda$$

$$= -\frac{\mu_0 J}{6} s (\vec{r} \times \hat{\phi})$$

$$= \frac{\mu_0 J s}{6} (z \hat{s} - s \hat{z})$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = \frac{\mu_0 J}{6} \left[\frac{1}{s} \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (s^2 z) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (-s^2) \right]$$

$$= \frac{\mu_0 J z}{3} \neq 0$$

Conclusion $\vec{A}(\vec{r}) = -\vec{r} \times \int_0^1 \lambda \vec{B}(\lambda \vec{r}) d\lambda$
 does not automatically yield $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{A} = 0$