

- 5 (a) Define *electric potential* at a point.

.....

[2]

- (b) An α -particle is emitted from a radioactive source with kinetic energy of 4.8 MeV.

The α -particle travels in a vacuum directly towards a gold ($^{197}_{79}\text{Au}$) nucleus, as illustrated in Fig. 5.1.

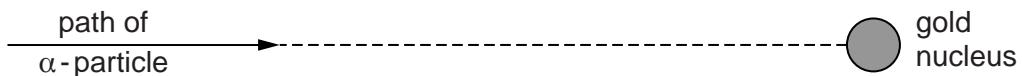


Fig. 5.1

The α -particle and the gold nucleus may be considered to be point charges in an isolated system.

- (i) Explain why, as the α -particle approaches the gold nucleus, it comes to rest.

.....

[2]

- (ii) For the closest approach of the α -particle to the gold nucleus determine

1. their separation,

separation = m [3]

2. the magnitude of the force on the α -particle.

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force = N [2]

- 6 The current in a long, straight vertical wire is in the direction XY, as shown in Fig. 6.1.

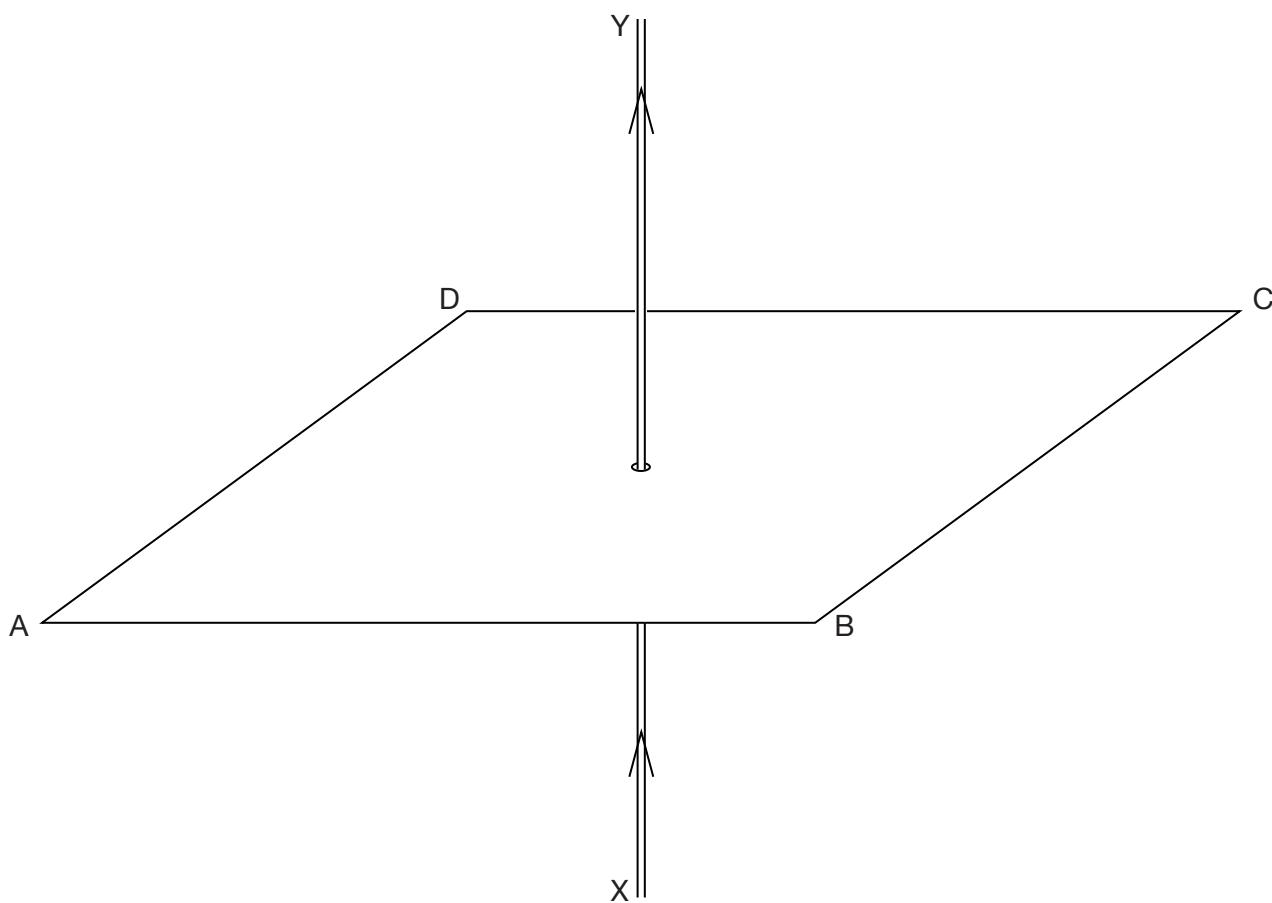


Fig. 6.1

- (a) On Fig. 6.1, sketch the pattern of the magnetic flux in the horizontal plane ABCD due to the current-carrying wire. Draw at least four flux lines. [3]
- (b) The current-carrying wire is within the Earth's magnetic field. As a result, the pattern drawn in Fig. 6.1 is superposed with the horizontal component of the Earth's magnetic field.

Fig. 6.2 shows a plan view of the plane ABCD with the current in the wire coming out of the plane.

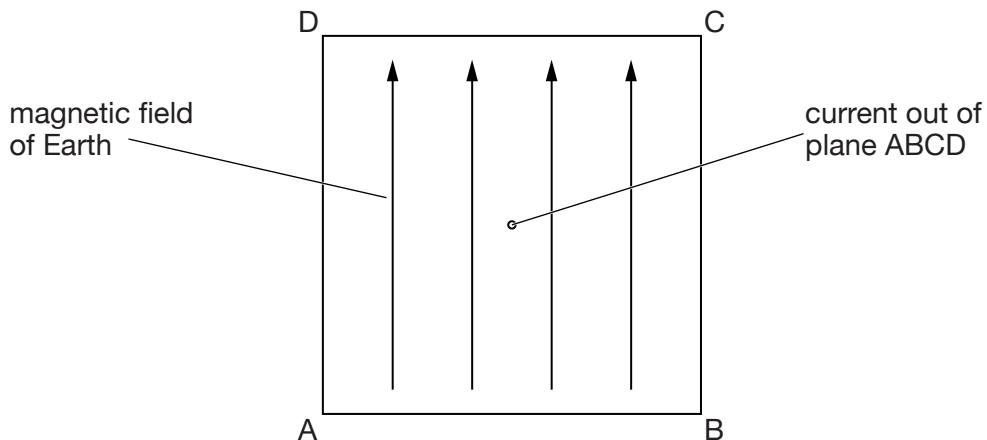


Fig. 6.2

The horizontal component of the Earth's magnetic field is also shown.

- (i) On Fig. 6.2, mark with the letter P a point where the magnetic field due to the current-carrying wire could be equal and opposite to that of the Earth. [1]
- (ii) For a long, straight wire carrying current I , the magnetic flux density B at distance r from the centre of the wire is given by the expression

$$B = \mu_0 \frac{I}{2\pi r}$$

where μ_0 is the permeability of free space.

The point P in (i) is found to be 1.9 cm from the centre of the wire for a current of 1.7 A.

Calculate a value for the horizontal component of the Earth's magnetic flux density.

flux density = T [2]

- (c) The current in the wire in (b)(ii) is increased. The point P is now found to be 2.8 cm from the wire.

Determine the new current in the wire.

current = A [2]