

1. Jackson Prob. 5.1: Reformulate the Biot-Savart law in terms of the solid angle subtended at the point of observation by the current-carrying circuit.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \oint \frac{d\mathbf{l}' \times (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} \\ &= -\frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \oint d\mathbf{l}' \times \nabla \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \nabla \times \oint \frac{d\mathbf{l}'}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\mathbf{V} = \oint \frac{d\mathbf{l}'}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

then

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi} \nabla \times \mathbf{V}$$

The i th component of \mathbf{V} may be written

$$V_i = \oint \frac{d\mathbf{l}' \cdot \hat{\mathbf{i}}}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{i}}$ is the unit vector along the i th axis. By virtue of Stoke's theorem this can be converted into a surface integral

$$V_i = \int_S da \left[\nabla' \times \frac{\hat{\mathbf{i}}}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \right] \cdot \mathbf{n}' = \int_S da \left[\mathbf{n}' \times \nabla' \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \right] \cdot \hat{\mathbf{i}}$$

where S is a surface bounded by the circuit and where the direction of the surface normal \mathbf{n}' is related to the sense of the current (\mathbf{l}') by the right-hand rule. The above equation can be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{V} = \nabla \times \int_S da \frac{\mathbf{n}'}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

Therefore

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \nabla \times [\nabla \times \mathbf{W}]$$

with

$$\mathbf{W} = \int_S da \frac{\mathbf{n}'}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \times [\nabla \times \mathbf{W}] &= \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{W}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{W} \\ &= -\nabla \int_S da \frac{\mathbf{n}' \cdot (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|^3} + 4\pi \int_S da \mathbf{n}' \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') \\ &= -\nabla \Omega + 0. \end{aligned}$$

The second integral vanishes since \mathbf{r}' is on a surface bounding the circuit, which is away from the observation point \mathbf{r} . The first integral is, as shown on page 33 in Chap. 1 of the text, the solid angle Ω subtended at the observation point by the circuit that bounds S . Therefore,

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \nabla \Omega$$

Example: Consider a point of observation on the z axis above a circular loop of radius a in the xy plane that carries current I . The loop subtends a solid angle $\Omega = 2\pi(1 - \cos\theta)$, where θ is the angle between the z axis and a line from the point of observation to the loop. Thus

$$\Omega = 2\pi \left[1 - \frac{z}{\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} \right]$$

and

$$\nabla \Omega = 2\pi \left[-\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} + \frac{z^2}{(a^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right] \hat{\mathbf{z}} = -\frac{2\pi a^2}{(a^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \hat{\mathbf{z}}.$$

Therefore

$$\mathbf{B}(z) = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2} \frac{a^2}{(a^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \hat{\mathbf{z}},$$

confirming a result obtained in class directly from the Biot-Savart law.

2. Jackson Prob 5.3: Find B_z inside a uniformly wound solenoid. Use result from Prob. 5.1 to write the contribution from a segment of the solenoid of length dz as

$$dB_z = -\frac{\mu_0 N I dz}{4\pi} \frac{d\Omega}{dz} = -\frac{\mu_0 N I}{4\pi} d\Omega.$$

where $\Omega = 2\pi(1 - \cos\theta)$ where θ is the angle that the line from the observation point to the ring at z makes with the axis. Integrate from end 1 to end 2 to find

$$B_z = \frac{\mu_0 N I}{4\pi} [\Omega_1 - \Omega_2] = \frac{\mu_0 N I}{2} [\cos\theta_2 - \cos\theta_1].$$

In terms of the angles shown in the figure in the text this becomes

$$B_z = \frac{\mu_0 N I}{2} [\cos\theta_1 + \cos\theta_2]$$

3. Jackson Prob 5.7:

- (a) As shown in class and in example with Prob. 5.1, the field of a single loop in the xy plane at a distance z from its center on the axis is

$$B_z = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2} \frac{a^2}{[a^2 + z^2]^{3/2}}$$

(b) The field near the center of a Helmholtz pair is, therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
B_z &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{2} \left[\frac{a^2}{[a^2 + (z - b/2)^2]^{3/2}} + \frac{a^2}{[a^2 + (z - b/2)^2]^{3/2}} \right] \\
&= \frac{\mu_0 I a^2}{d^3} \left[1 + \frac{3(b^2 - a^2)z^2}{2d^4} + \frac{15(2a^4 - 6b^2a^2 + b^4)z^4}{16d^8} \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{7(5a^6 - 30b^2a^4 + 15b^4a^2 - b^6)z^6}{16d^{12}} + \dots \right],
\end{aligned}$$

where $d = \sqrt{b^2 + 4a^2}$.

(c) ρ dependence of field. On the axis, we may write $B_z = \sigma_0 + \sigma_2 z^2 + \dots$, where the coefficients σ_k can be inferred from the above equation. With the aid of $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$ we find that near the origin,

$$\frac{\partial(\rho B_\rho)}{\partial \rho} = -\rho \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial z} = -2\sigma_2 \rho z + \dots$$

Solving for B_ρ (taking into account that $B_\rho = 0$ on axis) we find that near the axis,

$$B_\rho(z, \rho) \approx -\sigma_2 \rho z$$

From $\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = 0$, we may write

$$\frac{\partial B_z}{\partial \rho} = \frac{\partial B_\rho}{\partial z} \approx -\sigma_2 \rho$$

Solving for B_z , we obtain

$$B_z(z, \rho) \approx B_z(z, 0) - \sigma_2 \frac{\rho^2}{2} = \sigma_0 + \sigma_2 \left(z^2 - \frac{\rho^2}{2} \right) + \dots$$

(d) From MATHEMATICA the asymptotic series for B_z is

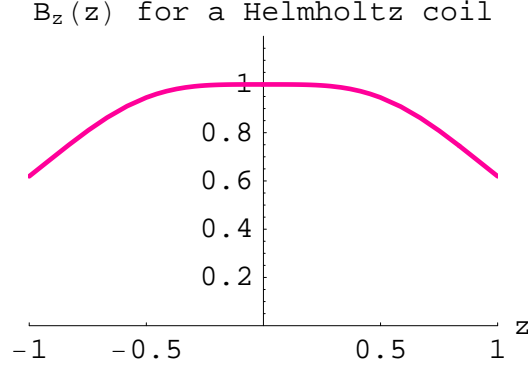
$$\begin{aligned}
B_z &= \frac{\mu_0 I a^2}{|z|^3} \left[1 + \frac{3(b^2 - a^2)}{2z^2} + \frac{15(2a^4 - 6b^2a^2 + b^4)}{16z^4} \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \frac{7(5a^6 - 30b^2a^4 + 15b^4a^2 - b^6)}{16z^6} + \dots \right],
\end{aligned}$$

which can be obtained from the power series by the replacement $d \rightarrow |z|$.

(e) For a Helmholtz coil one sets $b = a$. With this choice the terms in the bracket for the small z expansion become

$$[\dots] \approx 1 - \frac{144z^4}{125a^4}$$

Thus, to differ from uniformity by $\leq \epsilon$, the fractional distance must satisfy $z/a \leq [(125/144)\epsilon]^{1/4}$. For $\epsilon = 10^{-4}$ the limit is 0.097 and for $\epsilon = 10^{-2}$ the limit is 0.305. Below is a figure showing the variation of B_z on the axis between two coils located at $a = \pm 1$.



4. Jackson Prob 5.13: Find the vector potential and magnetic induction for a uniformly charged sphere of radius a rotating about an axis with angular momentum $\boldsymbol{\omega}$. We orient $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ along the z axis and let \mathbf{r} lie in the xz plane. The vector \mathbf{r}' is used to locate a point on the sphere. The surface current density at \mathbf{r}' is $\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{r}') = [\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}']\sigma$. The corresponding vector potential is

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{r}') d^3 r'}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} \rightarrow \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \int \frac{\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{r}') da'}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} = \frac{\mu_0 \sigma}{4\pi} \int \frac{[\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}'] da'}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

We write

$$[\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}'] = a\omega \sin \theta' (-\sin \phi' \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi' \hat{\mathbf{y}})$$

As in the example worked out in Sec. 5.5 of the text, only the y component can contribute to the integral. Therefore,

$$A_y(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0 \sigma a^3 \omega}{4\pi} \int \frac{\sin \theta' \cos \phi' d\Omega'}{\sqrt{r^2 + a^2 - 2ar \cos \gamma}},$$

where $\cos \gamma$ is the angle between \mathbf{r} and \mathbf{r}' . Expanding the denominator in a series of spherical harmonics we obtain

$$A_y(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0 \sigma a^3 \omega}{4\pi} \sum_{lm} \frac{r_{<}^l}{r_{>}^{l+1}} \frac{4\pi}{2l+1} Y_{lm}^*(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \int d\Omega' \sin \theta' \cos \phi' Y_{lm}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}')$$

We first carry out the ϕ' integral to find

$$\int_0^{2\pi} d\phi' \cos \phi' Y_{lm}(\theta', \phi') = \pi \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)(l-1)!}{4\pi(l+1)!}} P_l^1(\cos \theta') (\delta_{m1} - \delta_{m-1}).$$

Noting that $\sin \theta' = -P_1^1(\cos \theta')$, we find

$$\int_{-1}^1 \sin \theta' P_l^1(\mu') d\mu' = -\frac{4}{3} \delta_{l1}$$

Putting the previous two results together, we find

$$\int d\Omega' \sin \theta' \cos \phi' Y_{lm}(\hat{r}') = -\frac{4\pi}{3} \sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} (\delta_{m1} - \delta_{m-1}) \delta_{l1}$$

The sum over lm above becomes

$$\sum_{lm} \frac{r_{<}^l}{r_{>}^{l+1}} \dots = -\frac{16\pi^2}{9} \sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} (Y_{11}^*(\hat{r}) - Y_{1-1}^*(\hat{r})) \frac{r_{<}}{r_{>}^2} = \frac{4\pi}{3} \sin \theta \frac{r_{<}}{r_{>}^2}$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} A_\phi(\mathbf{r}) &= \frac{\mu_0 \sigma a^4 \omega}{3} \sin \theta \frac{1}{r^2} & r > a \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 \sigma a \omega}{3} r \sin \theta & r < a \end{aligned}$$

In vector form, this becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}) &= \frac{\mu_0 \sigma a^4}{3} \frac{[\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}]}{r^3} & r > a \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 \sigma a}{3} [\boldsymbol{\omega} \times \mathbf{r}] & r < a \end{aligned}$$

The corresponding formulas for the magnetic induction $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$ are

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) &= \frac{\mu_0 \sigma a^4}{3} \left(\frac{3(\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathbf{r}} - \boldsymbol{\omega}}{r^3} \right) & r > a \\ &= \frac{2\mu_0 \sigma a}{3} \boldsymbol{\omega} & r < a \end{aligned}$$

Note: A somewhat different (and simpler) solution to this problem is found in the text by Griffiths. He chooses coordinates with r be along the z axis and $\boldsymbol{\omega}$ in the xz plane at an angle θ with the z axis.