

6.641 Electromagnetic Fields, Forces, and Motion  
Spring 2009

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## Problem Set 1 - Solutions

**Problem 1.1****A**

$$\vec{F} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) \quad \text{Lorentz Force Law}$$

In the steady state  $\vec{F} = 0$ , so

$$q\vec{E} = -q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} \Rightarrow \vec{E} = -\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

$$\vec{v} = \begin{cases} v_y \hat{i}_y & \text{pos. charge carriers} \\ -v_y \hat{i}_y & \text{neg. charge carriers} \end{cases}$$

$$\vec{B} = B_0 \hat{i}_z$$

so

$$\vec{E} = \begin{cases} -v_y B_0 \hat{i}_x & \text{pos. charge carriers} \\ v_y B_0 \hat{i}_x & \text{neg. charge carriers} \end{cases}$$

**B**

$$v_H = \Phi(x=d) - \Phi(x=0) = -\int_0^d E_x dx = \int_d^0 E_x dx$$

$$v_H = \begin{cases} v_y B_0 d & \text{pos. charges} \\ -v_y B_0 d & \text{neg. charges} \end{cases}$$

**C**

As seen in part (b), positive and negative charge carriers give opposite polarity voltages, so answer is “yes.”

**Problem 1.2**

By problem

$$\rho = \begin{cases} \frac{\rho_b r}{b}; & r < b \\ \rho_a; & b < r < a \end{cases}$$

Also, no  $\sigma_s$  at  $r = b$ , but non zero  $\sigma_s$  such that  $\vec{E} = 0$  for  $r > a$ .

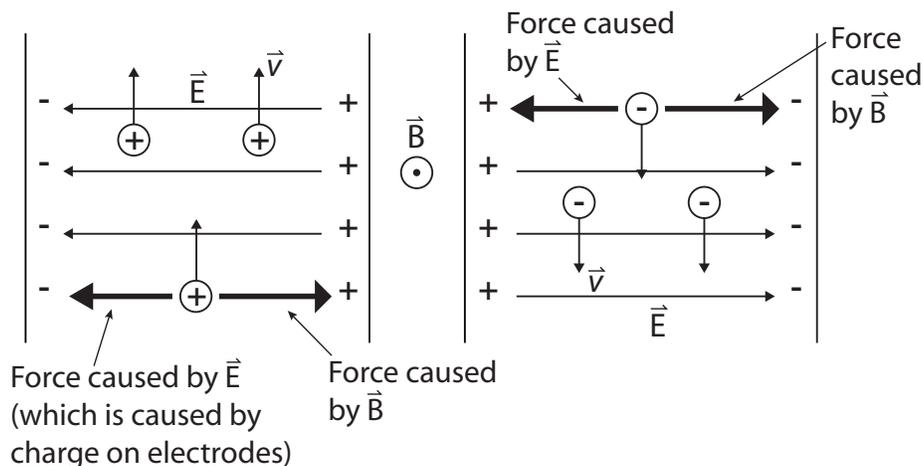


Figure 1: Figure for 1.1C. Opposite polarity voltages between holes and electrons (Image by MIT OpenCourseWare.)

**A**

By Gauss' Law:

$$\oint_{S_R} \epsilon_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_{V_R} \rho dV; \quad S_r = \text{sphere with radius } r$$

As shown in class, symmetry ensures  $\vec{E}$  has only radial component:  $\vec{E} = E_r \hat{i}_r$

LHS of Gauss' Law:

$$\oint_{S_R} \epsilon_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \epsilon_0 (E_r \hat{i}_r) \cdot \underbrace{(r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \hat{i}_r)}_{d\vec{a} \text{ in spherical coord.}}$$

$$= \underbrace{4\pi r^2}_{\substack{\text{surface} \\ \text{area of} \\ \text{sphere of} \\ \text{radius } r}} E_r \epsilon_0$$

RHS of Gauss' Law:

For  $r < b$ :

$$\int_{V_R} \rho dV = \int_0^r \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \underbrace{\frac{\rho r}{b} r^2 \sin \theta d\theta d\phi dr}_{\text{diff. vol. element}}$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{4\pi r^4}{4b}}_{\text{vol of sphere}} \rho_b = \frac{\pi r^4 \rho_b}{b}$$

For  $r > b$  &  $r < a$  ( $b < r < a$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{V_R} \rho dV &= \int_0^b \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{\rho_b r}{b} r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi dr + \int_b^r \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \rho_a r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi dr \\ &= \frac{4\pi \rho_b b^3}{4} + \frac{4\pi \rho_a (r^3 - b^3)}{3} \\ &= \pi \rho_b b^3 + \frac{4}{3} \pi \rho_a (r^3 - b^3) \quad b < r < a \end{aligned}$$

## B

Equating LHS and RHS

$$4\pi r^2 E_r \epsilon_0 = \begin{cases} \frac{\pi r^4}{b} \rho_b; & r < b \\ \pi \rho_b b^3 + \frac{4\pi \rho_a (a^3 - b^3)}{3}; & b < r < a \end{cases}$$

$$E_r = \begin{cases} \frac{r^2 \rho_b}{4\epsilon_0 b}; & r < b \\ \frac{b^3 \rho_b}{4\epsilon_0 r^2} + \frac{\rho_a (a^3 - b^3)}{3\epsilon_0 r^2}; & b < r < a \end{cases}$$

## C

Again:  $\hat{n} \cdot (\epsilon_0 E^a - \epsilon_0 E^b) = \sigma_s$

$$\vec{E}(r = a^+) = 0$$

$$E_r(r = a_-) = \frac{\rho_b b^3}{4\epsilon_0 a^2} + \frac{\rho_a (a^3 - b^3)}{3\epsilon_0 a^2} \leftarrow \text{by part (a)}$$

$$\sigma_s = \hat{i}_r \cdot (-\epsilon_0 \vec{E}(r = a^-)), \text{ so:}$$

$$\sigma_s = - \left[ \frac{\rho_b b^3}{4\epsilon_0 a^2} + \frac{\rho_a (a^3 - b^3)}{3\epsilon_0 a^2} \right]$$

## D

$$\begin{aligned} r < b & \quad Q_b = \pi b^3 \rho_b & \quad Q_\sigma(r = a) = \sigma_s 4\pi a^2 = -4\pi a^2 \left[ \frac{\rho_b b^3}{4\epsilon_0 a^2} + \frac{\rho_a (a^3 - b^3)}{3\epsilon_0 a^2} \right] \\ b < r < a & \quad Q_a = \frac{4}{3} \pi (a^3 - b^3) \rho_a & \quad Q_\sigma = Q_b + Q_a + Q_\sigma = 0 \end{aligned}$$

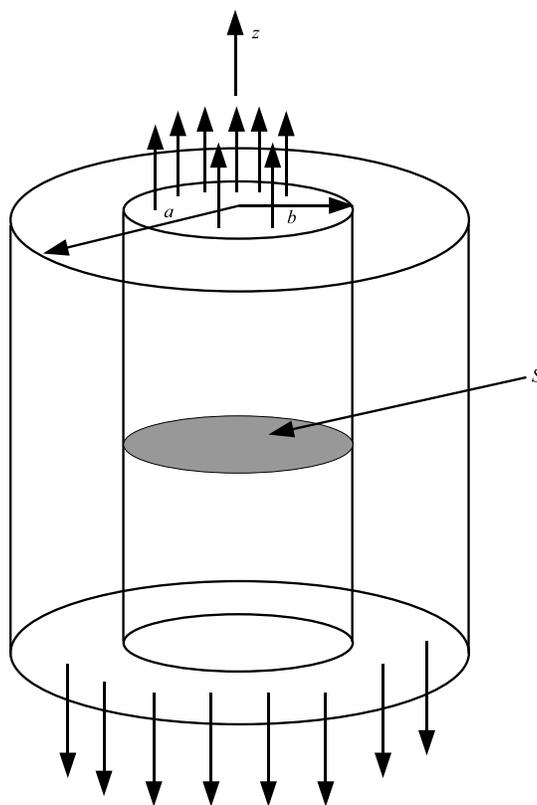


Figure 2: A diagram of a wire carrying a non-uniform current density and the return current at  $r = a$  (Image by MIT OpenCourseWare).

### Problem 1.3

**A**

We are told current in  $+z$  direction inside cylinder  $r < b$

Current going through cylinder:

$$= I_{total} = \int_S \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_0^b \int_0^{2\pi} \underbrace{\left( \frac{J_0 r}{b} \hat{i}_z \right)}_{\vec{J}} \cdot \underbrace{(rd\phi dr \hat{i}_z)}_{d\vec{a}} = \frac{J_0 2\pi b^2}{3}$$

$$|\vec{K}| = \frac{\text{Total current in sheet}}{\text{length of sheet (ie, circumference of circle of radius a)}}$$

Thus,  $\vec{K}$ 's units are  $\frac{\text{Amps}}{\text{m}}$ , whereas  $\vec{J}$ 's units are  $\frac{\text{Amps}}{\text{m}^2}$

$$|\vec{K}| = \frac{\frac{2}{3} J_0 \pi b^2}{2\pi a} = \frac{J_0 b^2}{3a}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{K} = -\frac{J_0 b^2}{3a} \hat{i}_z}$$

**B**

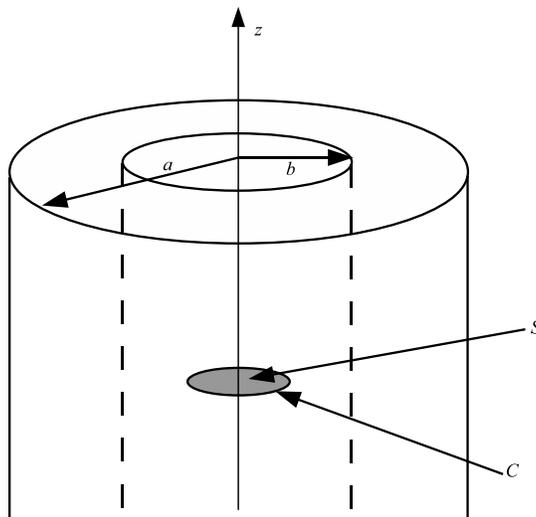


Figure 3: A diagram of the wire with a circle  $C$  centered on the  $z$ -axis with minimum surface  $S$  (Image by MIT OpenCourseWare).

Ampere's Law

$$\oint_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_S \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{a} + \underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} \int_r \epsilon_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a}}_{\text{no } \vec{E} \text{ field, term is 0}}$$

Choose  $C$  as a circle and  $S$  as the minimum surface that circle bounds.

Now solve LHS of Ampere's Law

$$\oint_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_0^{2\pi} \underbrace{(H_\phi \hat{i}_\phi)}_{\vec{H}} \cdot \underbrace{(rd\phi) \hat{i}_\phi}_{d\vec{s}} = 2\pi r H_\phi$$

We assumed  $H_z = H_r = 0$ . This follows from the symmetry of the problem.  $H_r = 0$  because  $\oint_S \mu_0 \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{a} = 0$ . In particular choose S as shown in Figure 4a.

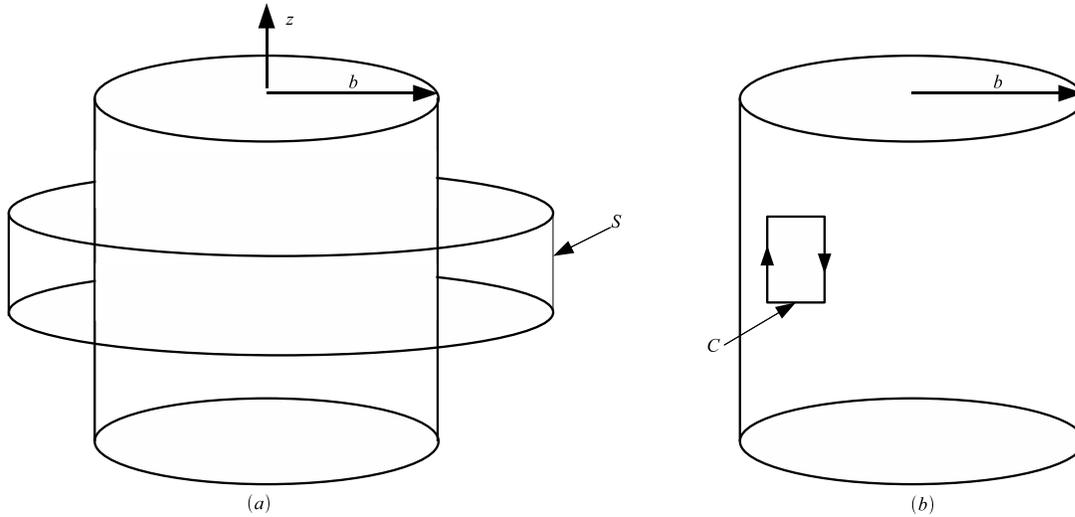


Figure 4: A diagram of the current carrying wire of radius  $b$  with the choice for S as well as a diagram of the wire with the choice of contour C (Image by MIT OpenCourseWare).

$H_z$  is more difficult to see. It is discussed in Haus & Melcher. The basic idea is to use the contour,  $C$  (depicted in Figure 4b), to show that if  $H_z \neq 0$  it would have to be nonzero even at  $\infty$ , which is not possible without sources at  $\infty$ .

Now for RHS of Ampere's Law:

$$r < b$$

$$\int_S \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^r \underbrace{\left( \frac{J_0 r'}{b} \hat{i}_z \right)}_{\vec{J}} \cdot \underbrace{\left( r' dr' d\phi \hat{i}_z \right)}_{d\vec{a}}$$

$$= \frac{2J_0 r^3 \pi}{3b}$$

$$a > r > b$$

$$\int_S \vec{J} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^b \left( \frac{J_0 r'}{b} \hat{i}_z \right) \cdot \left( r' dr' d\phi \hat{i}_z \right) + \underbrace{\int_0^{2\pi} \int_b^r \left( 0 \cdot \hat{i}_z \right) \cdot \left( r' dr' d\phi \hat{i}_z \right)}_0$$

$$= \frac{2}{3} J_0 b^2 \pi$$

Equating LHS & RHS:

$$2\pi r H_\phi = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{3b} J_0 r^3 \pi; & r < b \\ \frac{2}{3} J_0 b^2 \pi; & a > r > b \\ 0; & r > a \end{cases}$$

$$\vec{H} = \begin{cases} \frac{J_0 r^2}{3b} \hat{i}_\phi; & r < b \\ \frac{J_0 b^2}{3r} \hat{i}_\phi; & a > r > b \\ 0; & r > a \end{cases}$$

### Problem 1.4

A

We can simply add the fields of the two point charges. Start with the field of a point charge  $q$  at the origin and let  $S_R$  be the sphere of radius  $R$  centered at the origin. By Gauss:

$$\oint_{S_R} \epsilon_0 \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{a} = \int_V \rho dV$$

In this case  $\rho = \delta(\vec{r}')q$ , so RHS is

$$\int \rho dV = \int \int \int \delta(\vec{r}') q dx dy dz = q$$

LHS is

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_{S_R} \epsilon_0 \vec{E}_r \cdot d\vec{a} &= (\epsilon_0 \underbrace{E_r}_{\text{symmetry}}) (\text{surface area of } S_r) \\ &= 4\pi r^2 \epsilon_0 E_r \end{aligned}$$

Equate LHS and RHS

$$\begin{aligned} 4\pi r^2 \epsilon_0 E_r &= q \\ \vec{E} &= \frac{q}{4\pi r^2 \epsilon_0} \hat{i}_r \end{aligned}$$

Convert to cartesian: Any point is given by

$$\vec{r} = x(r, \theta, \phi) \hat{i}_x + y(r, \theta, \phi) \hat{i}_y + z(r, \theta, \phi) \hat{i}_z$$

By spherical coordinates

$$\begin{aligned} x &= r \sin \theta \cos \phi \\ y &= r \sin \theta \sin \phi \\ z &= r \cos \theta \\ \vec{r} &= r \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{i}_x + r \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{i}_y + r \cos \theta \hat{i}_z \\ \hat{i}_r &\parallel \text{line formed by varying } r \text{ and fixing } \phi \text{ and } \theta \\ \vec{r} &= r \hat{i}_r \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{i}_r &= \sin \theta \cos \phi \hat{i}_x + \sin \theta \sin \phi \hat{i}_y + \cos \theta \hat{i}_z \\ &= \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \hat{i}_x + \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \hat{i}_y + \frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}} \hat{i}_z \end{aligned}$$

so,

$$\vec{E} = \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)} \hat{i}_r$$

$$\vec{E}_{\text{total}} = \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2$$

$\vec{E}_1$  is just  $\vec{E}$  with  $y \rightarrow y - \frac{d}{2}$ .  $\vec{E}_2$  is just  $\vec{E}$  with  $y \rightarrow y + \frac{d}{2}$ . Problem has  $y = 0$

(i)

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}_{\text{total}} = \vec{E}_1 &= \left[ \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} + z^2}} \hat{i}_x + \frac{z}{\sqrt{x^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} + z^2}} \hat{i}_z - \frac{\frac{d}{2}}{\sqrt{x^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} + z^2}} \hat{i}_y \right] \cdot \left[ \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} + z^2)} \right] \\ &= \frac{q}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} + z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \left[ x\hat{i}_x - \frac{d}{2}\hat{i}_y + z\hat{i}_z \right] \end{aligned}$$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}_{\text{total}} &= \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2 \\ &= q \frac{x\hat{i}_x + z\hat{i}_z}{2\pi\epsilon_0(x^2 + (\frac{d}{2})^2 + z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \end{aligned}$$

(iii)

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{E}_{\text{total}} &= \vec{E}_1 + \vec{E}_2 \\ &= \frac{-dq\hat{i}_y}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2 + \frac{d^2}{4} + z^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \end{aligned}$$

## B

$$\vec{F} = q_1 \vec{E} \quad \vec{E} \text{ doesn't include field of } q$$

(i)

$\vec{F} = 0$ , by Newton's third law a body cannot exert a net force on itself.

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{F} &= q_1 \vec{E} = q \vec{E}_2(x=0, y=\frac{d}{2}, z=0) \\ &= \frac{q^2 \bar{i}_y}{4\pi\epsilon_0(d^2)} = \frac{q^2 \bar{i}_y}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d^2} \end{aligned}$$

(iii)

$$\vec{F} = -\frac{q^2 \bar{i}_y}{4\pi\epsilon_0 d^2}$$