Block 16 - Ampère's Law and Magnetomotive Force (MMF)

Student Group

First Name	Surname	Matrikel Nr.

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Learning objectives

After this 90-minute block, you can

- …

Preparation at Home

Well, again

- read through the present chapter and write down anything you did not understand.
- Also here, there are some clips for more clarification under 'Embedded resources' (check the text above/below, sometimes only part of the clip is interesting).

For checking your understanding please do the following exercises:

- …

90-minute plan

1. Warm-up (x min):
    1. ….
2. Core concepts & derivations (x min):
    1. …
3. Practice (x min): …
4. Wrap-up (x min): Summary box; common pitfalls checklist.

Conceptual overview

1. …

Core content

Generalization of the Magnetic Field Strength

So far, only the rotational symmetric problem on a single wire was considered in formula, when the current I ant the length s of a magnetic field line around it is given:

\begin{align*} \quad H_\varphi ={I\over{s}} = {{I}\over{2 \cdot \pi \cdot r}} \quad \Leftrightarrow

\quad I = H_\varphi \cdot {s} \quad \quad \quad | \quad \text{applies only to the long, straight conductor} \end{align*}

Now, this shall be generalized. For this purpose, we will look back at the electric field.
For the electric field strength E of a capacitor with two plates at a distance of s and the potential difference U holds:

\begin{align*} U = E \cdot s \quad \quad | \quad \text{applies to capacitor only} \end{align*}

In words: The potential difference is given by adding up the field strength along the path of a probe from one plate to the other.
This was extended to the vltage between to points 1 and 2. Additionally, we know by Kirchhoff's voltage law that the voltage on a closed path is “0”.

\begin{align*} U_{12} &= \int_1^2 \vec{E} \; {\rm d}\vec{s} \\ U &= \oint \vec{E} \; {\rm d}\vec{s} =0 \\ \end{align*}

We can now try to look for similarities. Also for the magnetic field, the magnitude of the field strength is summed up along a path to arrive at another field-describing quantity.
Because of the similarity the so-called **magnetic potential difference V_m** between point 1 and 2 is introduced:

\begin{align*} V_m &= H \cdot s \quad \quad | \quad \text{applies to rotational symmetric problems only} \\ \end{align*}

\begin{align*} \boxed{ V_m = V_{m, 12} = \int_1^2 \vec{H} \; {\rm d}\vec{s} \\ V_m = \oint \vec{H} {\rm d}\vec{s} = \theta } \end{align*}

We need to take a loser look here. Any closed path in the static electric field leads to a potential difference of $U = \oint \vec{E} \; {\rm d}\vec{s} =0$.
BUT: closed paths in the static magnetic field leads to a magnetic potential difference which is **not mandatorily** 0! $ V_m = \oint \vec{H} {\rm d}\vec{s} = \theta$

Another new quantity is introduced: the **magnetic voltage θ**:

1. The magnetic voltage θ is the magnetic potential difference on a closed path.
2. Since the magnetic voltage θ is valid for exactly <u>one turn</u> along our single wire, θ is also equal to the current through the wire:
   \begin{align*} \theta = H \cdot s = I \quad \quad | \quad \text{applies only to the long, straight conductor} \end{align*}
3. The magnetic potential difference can take a fraction or a multiple of one turn and is therefore **not mandatorily** equal to I.
4. The magnetic voltage is generalized in the following box.

Notice:

The path integral of the magnetic field strength along an arbitrary closed path is equal to the free currents (= current density) through the surface enclosed by the path.

The magnetic voltage θ (and therefore the current) is the cause of the magnetic field strength.

This leads to the **Ampere's Circuital Law**

\begin{align*} \boxed{\oint_{s} \vec{H} {\rm d} \vec{s} = \theta } \end{align*}	The magnetic voltage θ can be given as • $\theta = I \quad \quad \quad \ $ for a single conductor • $\theta = N \cdot I \quad \:\; \, $ for a coil • $\theta = \sum_n \cdot I_n \quad$ for multiple conductors • $\theta = \iint_A \; \vec{S} {\rm d}\vec{A}$ for any spatial distribution (see block15)

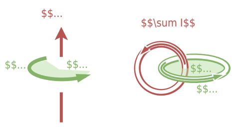
The unit of the magnetic voltage θ is **Ampere** (or **Ampere-turns**).

Notice:

${\rm d}\vec{s}$ and ${\rm d}\vec{A}$ in $\oint_{s} \vec{H} {\rm d} \vec{s} = \theta = \iint_A \; \vec{S} {\rm d}\vec{A}$ build a right-hand system.

1. Once the thumb of the right hand is pointing along ${\rm d}\vec{A}$, the fingers of the right hand show the correct direction for ${\rm d}\vec{s}$ for positive $\vec{H}$ and $\vec{S}$
2. Currents into the direction of the right hand's thumb count positive. Currents antiparallel to it count negative.

Fig. 1: Right hand rule



Common pitfalls

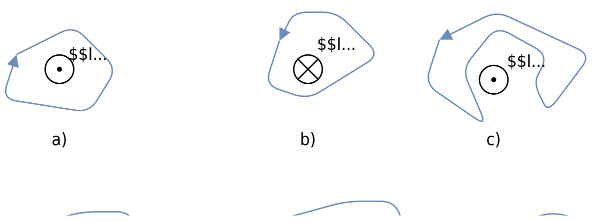
- ...

Exercises

Task 3.2.3 Magnetic Potential Difference

Fig. 3: different trajectories around current-carrying conductors
Result a)

c) $V_{\rm m,c} = I_1 - I_2 = 2~\rm A - 4.5~\rm A = - 2.5~\rm A$



Given are the adjacent closed trajectories in the magnetic field of current-carrying conductors (see figure 3). Let $I_1 = 2~\rm A$ and $I_2 = 4.5~\rm A$ be valid.

In each case, the magnetic potential difference $V_{\rm m}$ along the drawn path is sought.

Path

- The magnetic potential difference is given as the **sum of the current through the area within a closed path**.
- The direction of the current and the path have to be considered with the righthand rule.

Embedded resources

Explanation (video): …