

Physics 21900 General Physics II

Electricity, Magnetism and Optics Lecture 12 – Chapter 17.4 **Magnetic Forces on Currents**

Fall 2015 Semester

Prof. Matthew Jones

Summary of Magnetic Forces

Lorentz force law:

$$\vec{F} = q \ \vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$
 Angle between
$$|\vec{F}| = |q|v \ B \sin \theta \qquad \vec{v} \ \text{and} \ \vec{B}.$$

 Force on a wire of length L carrying current I in a magnetic field:

$$F = I B L \sin \theta \leftarrow \vec{I} \text{ and } \vec{B}.$$

Angle

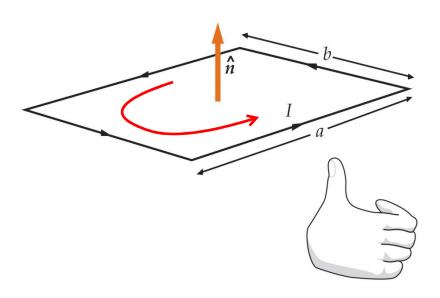
 Force on two parallel wires separated by a distance R:

$$F = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{I_1 I_2}{R} L$$

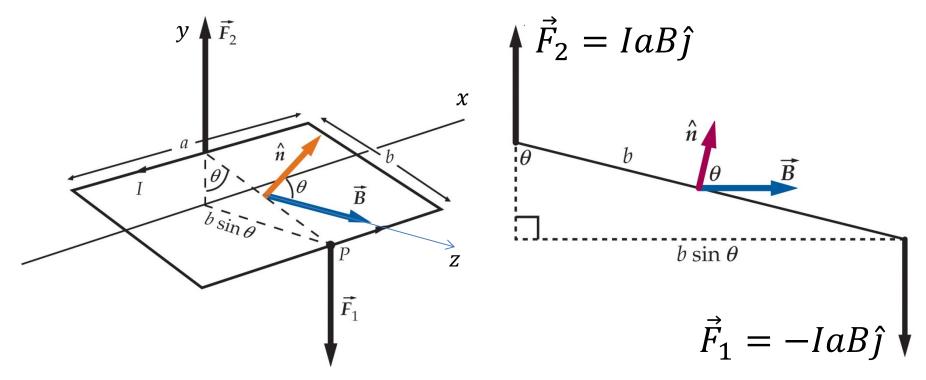
$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} N/A^2$$

Forces on a Loop of Current in a Magnetic Field

- Consider a rectangular loop of wire carrying current I
 in a magnetic field.
- The orientation of the loop is given by the unit vector \hat{n} perpendicular to the plane of the loop.



Torque on a Current Loop



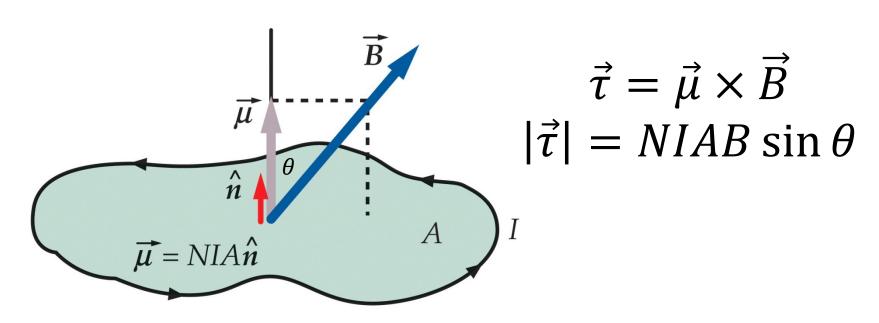
- Magnitude of torque is $\tau = IabB \sin \theta$
- Direction is perpendicular to \overrightarrow{B} and \widehat{n} :

$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{\mu} \times \vec{B}$$
$$\vec{\mu} = Iab\hat{n}$$

Torque on a Current Loop

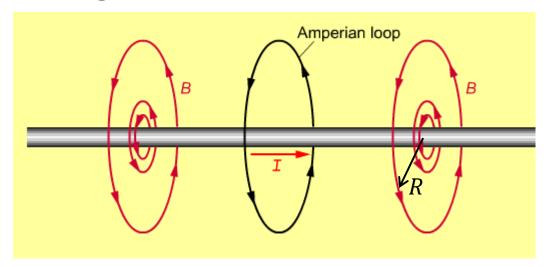
- In general, the torque does not depend on the shape, just the area.
- With N turns of wire in the loop, multiply by N.

$$\vec{\mu} = NIA \hat{n}$$



Magnetic Fields From Currents

Long, straight wire:



- Observation: $B \propto I/R$
- Magnetic field lines curl around the wire
 - use the right-hand rule to get the direction
- How can we work out the exact form of B?

For any closed path the encircles a current,

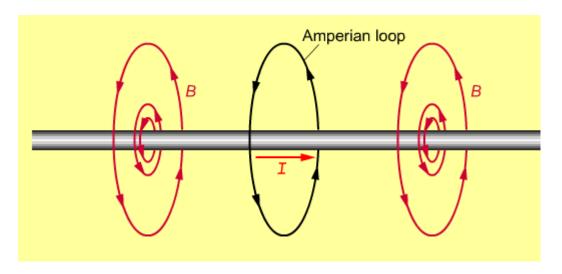
$$\sum B_{\parallel} \Delta s = \mu_0 I_{enclosed}$$

$$\Delta s_3$$

$$\Delta s_2$$

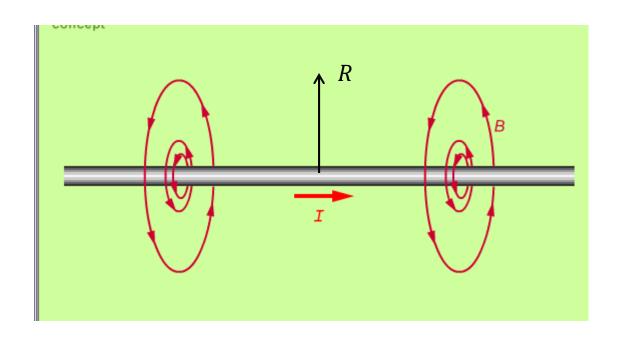
$$\Delta s_1$$

- This usually isn't useful unless we find a path that is parallel to \overrightarrow{B} everywhere.
- For example, a circular path around and perpendicular to a long, straight wire.



• From the symmetry of the wire when rotated around its axis, we expect $|\overrightarrow{B}|$ to be constant along circular paths of radius R.

$$\sum B_{\parallel} \Delta s = 2\pi R B = \mu_0 I$$
Circumference of a circle of radius R .



$$\sum B_{\parallel} \Delta s = 2\pi R B = \mu_0 I$$

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

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \, N/A^2$$

- Example: what is the magnetic field inside the wire?
- Assume the current is uniformly distributed throughout the wire...
 - Cross-sectional area of the wire: $A_{wire} = \pi R_{wire}^2$
 - Area inside a loop of radius $R: A = \pi R^2$
 - Current inside a loop of radius $R < R_{wire}$:

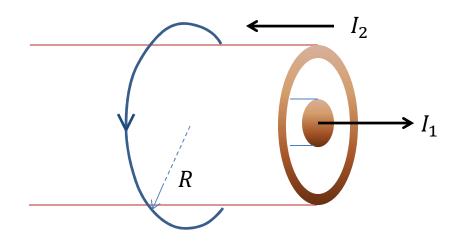
$$I_{enclosed} = I \frac{R^2}{R_{wire}^2}$$

Ampere's law:

$$2\pi R B = \mu_0 I_{enclosed} = \mu_0 I \frac{R^2}{R_{wire}^2}$$

$$B = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{IR}{R_{wire}^2}$$

Example: Coaxial Cable

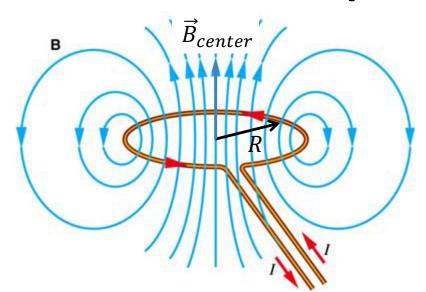


$$\sum B_{\parallel} \Delta s = 2\pi R B = \mu_0 I_{enclosed}$$

$$= \mu_0 (I_1 - I_2)$$

$$B = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{(I_1 - I_2)}{R}$$

Magnetic Field at the Center of a Current Loop of Radius R



In general, the magnetic field does not have a lot of symmetry.

But we can ask about the magnitude of the magnetic field on the z-axis at the center of the loop.

The calculation is a bit more involved but the answer is...

$$B_{center} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2R}$$

Example

$$B_{center} = N \left(\frac{\mu_o I}{2R} \right)$$

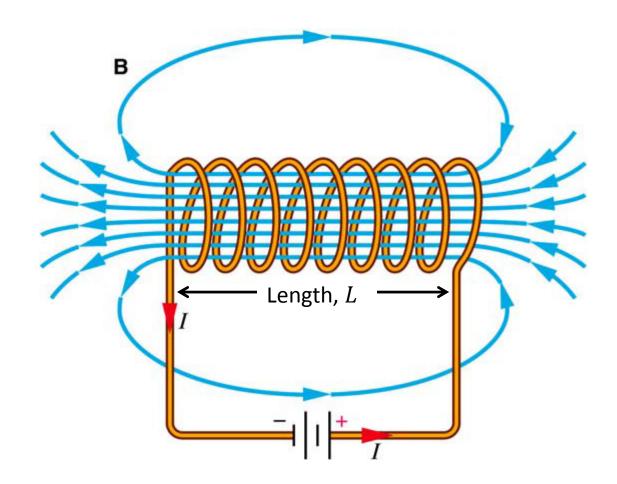
$$= 8 \left(\frac{\left(4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N/A}^2 \right) (5A)}{2(0.05\text{m})} \right)$$

$$= 8 \left(\frac{\left(20\pi \times 10^{-7} \right)}{(0.10)} \right) T$$

$$= 8 \left(200\pi \times 10^{-7} \right) T$$

$$= 5.03 \times 10^{-4} T$$

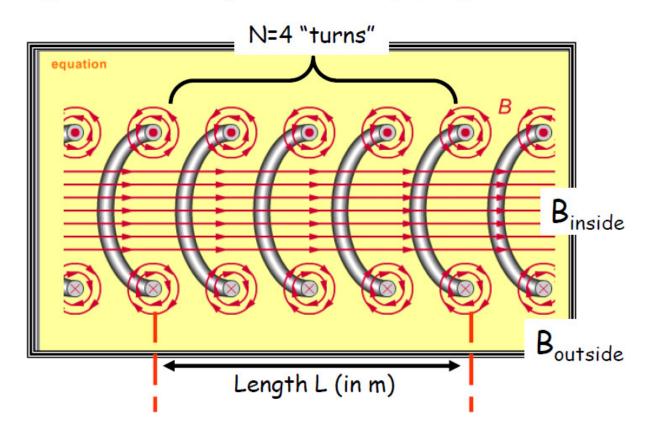
Magnetic Field Inside a Solenoid



Inside a long solenoid, the magnetic field is parallel to the axis.

Magnetic field produced by *long* solenoid

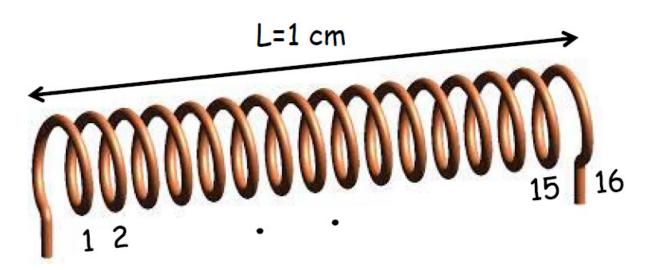
Current I flows through each turn



$$B_{inside} = \mu_o nI;$$
 $n = turns/length (m^{-1}) = \frac{N}{L}$

$$B_{outside} = 0$$

Example



$$B_{inside} = \mu_{o}nI; \quad n = turns/length (m^{-1}) = \frac{N}{L}$$

$$= \left(4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{N}{A^{2}}\right) \frac{16}{0.01 \text{ m}} (2.5A)$$

$$= 5 \times 10^{-3} \frac{N}{A \cdot m} = 5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ T}$$