

Flipping Physics Lecture Notes: Magnetic Fields

Review for AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism http://www.flippingphysics.com/apcem-magnetic-fields.html

Magnetic fields (or "B" fields) are be created by magnetic dipoles:

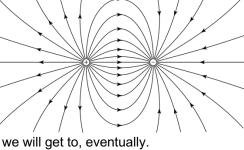
- Just like electric charges are described as positive and negative charges, magnetic poles are described as north and south poles.
 - A magnetic monopole has never been found.
 - This does not mean magnetic monopoles do not exist.
 - We cannot prove magnetic monopoles do not exist.
 - We can only say we have no evidence that they exist.
 - If a magnetic dipole is broken in half, it becomes two new magnetic dipoles.
- Like poles repel and unlike poles attract.
 - Just like the Law of Charges
- The magnetic field caused by a magnetic dipole looks remarkably like the electric field caused by an electric dipole.
 - o B field lines external to the magnet, point from north pole to south pole.
 - Just like E field points from positive charge to negative charge.
 - Magnetic field lines must be closed loops.
 - Due to Gauss' law for magnetism which we will get to, eventually.
 - This means B fields inside the magnet point from the south pole to the north pole, to complete the closed loop.
 - A magnetic dipole placed in a magnetic field will align itself with the magnetic field.
 - Think compass!
- For planet Earth:
 - The location of the geographic north pole is close to that of the magnetic south pole.
 - The location of the geographic south pole is close to that of the magnetic north pole.
 - The north pole of a compass points north because it is attracted to the magnetic south pole of the Earth.
 - (unlike poles attract)
 - o The magnetic field of the Earth can be approximated as a magnetic dipole.

Magnetic dipoles are the result of electric charges moving in circles.

- We will cover electric charges moving in circles creating magnetic fields extensively later. At this point, just know that electric charges moving in circles create magnetic fields.
- The magnetism of magnets is most often the motion of electrons moving in circles inside them.
- Permanent magnetic dipoles and induced (temporary) magnetic dipoles are a property of the object which results from the alignment of magnetic dipoles within the object.

The material composition of a magnet affects its magnetic behavior when it is placed in an external magnetic field:

- Ferromagnetic materials can be permanently magnetized by an external magnetic field.
 - The alignment of the magnetic domains or atomic magnetic dipoles is permanent.
 - Example materials: nickel, iron, cobalt
- Paramagnetic materials are only temporarily magnetized by an external magnetic field.
 - The alignment of the magnetic domains or atomic magnetic dipoles is *temporary*.
 - o Example materials: aluminum, magnesium, titanium



Just like materials have an electric permittivity, ε, materials also have a magnetic permeability, μ:

- Magnetic permeability: the measurement of the amount of magnetization a material has in response to an external magnetic field.
 - Ferromagnetic materials have high magnetic permeabilities that increase in the presence of an external magnetic field.
 - o Paramagnetic materials have low magnetic permeabilities.
 - The magnetic permeability of materials is not constant. It changes depending on various factors such as temperature, orientation, and the strength of the external magnetic field.

$$\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \frac{T \cdot m}{A}$$

• The magnetic permeability of free space has a constant value, μ_0 : A magnetic field is defined by the fact that a moving electric charge in a B field can experience a magnetic force, F_B .

$$\vec{F}_B = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} \Rightarrow ||F_B|| = qvB \sin \theta$$

 This equation is an experimentally determined equation. In other words, there is no way to mathematically derive it! We know it is true because we have repeatedly measured it.

Notice the similarities to the torque equations:
$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F} \Rightarrow ||\tau|| = rF \sin \theta$$

$$\Rightarrow B = \frac{F_B}{qv \sin \theta} \Rightarrow \frac{N}{C(\frac{m}{s})} = \frac{N}{(\frac{c}{s})m} = \frac{N}{A \cdot m} = \text{tesla}, T$$

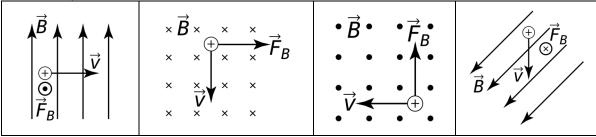
$$1 \text{ tesla}, T = 10,000 \text{ gauss}, G$$

Please recognize that the magnetic field is a vector. To that end, we need to know the direction of the magnetic force acting on an electric charge moving in a magnetic field. For that we use ...

The Right-Hand Rule: [Don't be too cool. Limber up. Find your right hand.]

- Fingers point in the direction of the electric charge velocity.
- Fingers curl in the direction of the magnetic field.
 - o It's a good rule of thumb¹ to start at 90°.
- Thumb points in the direction of the magnetic force on a positive charge.
 - o For a negative charge, the thumb points 180° from the direction of the magnetic force.
 - Make sure your thumb points normal to the plane created by the velocity of the electric charge and the magnetic field.
 - In other words, realize the direction of the magnetic force is always normal to the plane created by the velocity of the electric charge and the magnetic field.
- Realize, the cross-product version of the magnetic force equation also gives you the direction of the magnetic force in terms of unit vectors.
- Since examples of this concept require vectors in all three dimensions, we introduce two symbols to indicate direction perpendicular to the page. A dot for out of the page, and an X for into the page, like the pointed tip and fletching (feathers) of a flying arrow respectively.





¹ Ha ha ha!

What if we have a series of charges all moving in the same direction? Like a current carrying wire?

$$I = nAv_dq$$

- We already derived the equation for the current in a wire:
- And we know the magnetic force acting on each individual charge moving in the wire:

$$\vec{F}_B = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

• However, what we want to know is the net magnetic force acting on all the charges moving in the wire. So, we need to use charge carrier density, n:

$$n = \frac{\text{\# of charges}}{V} \Rightarrow \text{\# of charges} = nV = nAL$$

• Which we can use to get the magnetic force acting on all the charges moving in the wire:

$$\vec{F}_B = (q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}) \, nAL = nAvq\vec{L} \times \vec{B}$$

 And we have derived the general equations for the magnetic force on a current carrying wire both for a straight wire and, using an integral, a wire that does not follow a straight path.

$$\Rightarrow \vec{F}_B = I\vec{L} \times \vec{B} \Rightarrow \vec{F}_B = \int I(d\vec{L} \times \vec{B}) \& ||F_B|| = ILB \sin \theta$$

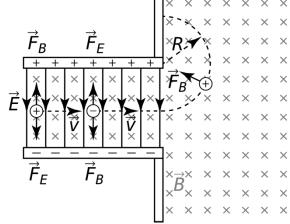
• You use the same wonderful right-hand rule to determine the direction of this force.

Because it involves many concepts that are likely to come up on the AP exam, let's take a moment to analyze a mass spectrometer:

The magnetic field is uniform into the page throughout, and in the velocity selector, the electric field uniform and down.

Velocity Selector:

- For a positive charge the magnetic force is up and the Coulomb force is down.
- For a negative charge the magnetic force is down and the Coulomb force is up.
- Regardless of whether the charge is positive or negative, the free body diagrams result in the same Newton's Second Law equation:



$$\sum F_{y} = F_{B} - F_{E} = ma_{y} = 0 \Rightarrow F_{B} = F_{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow qvB \sin \theta = qE \Rightarrow vB \sin (90^\circ) = E \Rightarrow v = \frac{E}{B}$$

 So, all charged objects with the same constant velocity will all move in a straight horizontal line in the velocity selector. Regardless of mass, charge sign, and charge magnitude.

Deflection Chamber:

- The uniform magnetic field is the only field present in the deflection chamber.
- The only force acting on the charged particle is the magnetic force which acts inward.
 - The charged particles will move along a circular path with radius. R.
 - Positive charges will be deflected upward.
 - Negative charges will be deflected downward.
- Again, we use Newton's Second Law:

$$\sum F_{\text{in}} = F_B = ma_C \Rightarrow qvB \sin \theta = qvB \sin (90^\circ) = qvB = m \left(\frac{v_t^2}{R}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow qB = \frac{mv_t}{R} \Rightarrow qB = \frac{m\left(\frac{E}{B}\right)}{R} \Rightarrow mE = qRB^2 \Rightarrow \frac{m}{q} = \frac{RB^2}{E}$$
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The mass spectrometer is a tool for determining velocities and mass-to-charge ratios of electric charges. Imagine how useful this could be for learning information about new particles!