LECTURE NO 24

Magnetostatics

Topics

- Magnetostatics:
- Introduction
- Magneto-static fields,
- Biot-Savart's Law,
- Ampere's circuit law

1) Magnets and Magnetic Fields

a) Natural permanent magnets

- Like poles repel, unlike attract
- come in pairs (no monopoles)
- Interact with earth;

define N (or north-seeking) pole as pole attracted to North pole of earth





b) Magnetic field direction:

- direction of force on N pole



c) Field of dipole





d) Magnetostatics for poles

(identical to electrostatics for charges)

- 2 types: N, S vs +,-
- Unlike attract, like repel
- Inverse square law
- Force along joining line
- Magnetic Field:

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\vec{F}}{q_M}$$

e) Why study magnetism?

- No monopoles (yet)
- Poles (dipoles) produced by moving charges (no direct control of pole distribution)
- Charges affected by magnetic field
- i.e. fundamental unit is still *charge*; want magnetic field due to charge, and force on charge due to magnetic field

2) Magnetic field due to current (direction)

• Oersted (1820)





3) Magnetic force on current

a) Orthogonal case



Force per unit length



defines B

Direction from RHR1: B fingers, I thumb, F palm



$$B_{earth} \cong .5 \text{ gauss} = 5 \times 10^{-5} \text{ T}$$

 $B_{fridge magnet} \approx .01 \text{T}$
 $B_{super conducing} \approx 1 - 10 \text{ T}$

b) General case



Force per unit length

 $\frac{F}{-} = IB\sin\theta$ L

4) Force between parallel wires



13