

30.3 Ampere's Law

Because the compass needles point in the direction of $\mathbf{B}$, we conclude that the lines of $\mathbf{B}$ form circles around the wire.

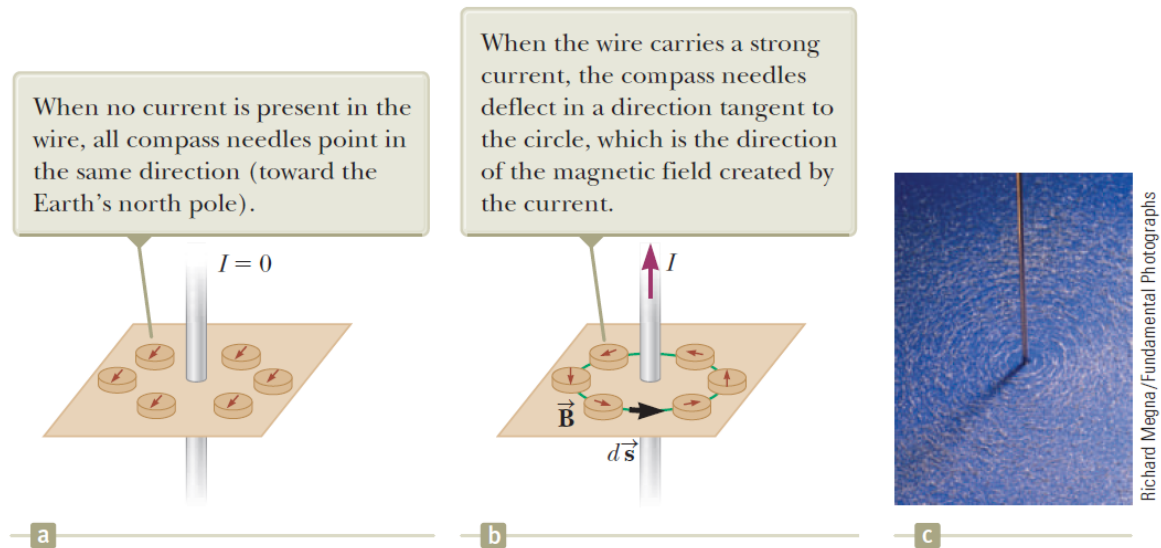


Figure 29.10 (a) and (b) Compasses show the effects of the current in a nearby wire. (c) Circular magnetic field lines surrounding a current-carrying conductor, displayed with iron filings.

- The magnitude of $\mathbf{B}$ is the same everywhere on a circular path centered on the wire and lying in a plane perpendicular to the wire.
- By varying the current and distance *a from the wire*, we find that *B is proportional to the current and inversely proportional to the distance from the wire*,

Note that the vectors $d\mathbf{s}$ and $\mathbf{B}$ are parallel at each point.

$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = \vec{B} \oint d\vec{s} = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r} (2\pi r) = \mu_0 I_{\text{enclosed}} \quad 30.7$$

Ampere's law states that "the line integral of $\vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s}$ around any closed path equals $\mu_0 I$, where I is the total steady current passing through any surface bounded by the closed path:

$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = \mu_0 I_{\text{enclosed}}$$

Concept: Only the net enclosed current affects the integral, regardless of the path's shape or size.

Ampère's Law is a fundamental equation in electromagnetism that relates the **magnetic field ($\mathbf{B}$)** around a closed loop to the total current passing through the loop. It is analogous to **Gauss's Law** in electrostatics but applies to magnetic fields.

Example-1: Rank the magnitudes of $\mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$ for the closed paths a through d in the Figure from the greatest to least.

Solution:

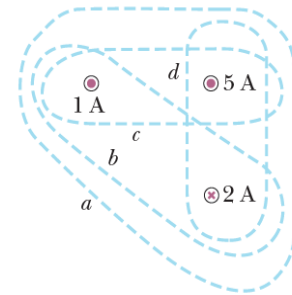
For loop (a): $|5 + 1 - 2| = 2 \text{ A}$

For loop (b): $|1 - 2| = 1 \text{ A}$

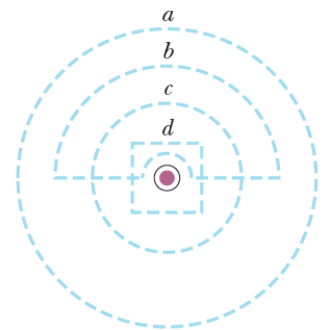
For loop (c): $|5 + 1| = 6 \text{ A}$

For loop (d): $|5 - 2| = 3 \text{ A}$

Then: c,a,d,b



Example-2: Rank the magnitudes of $\mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{s}$ for the closed paths a through d in the Figure from greatest to least.



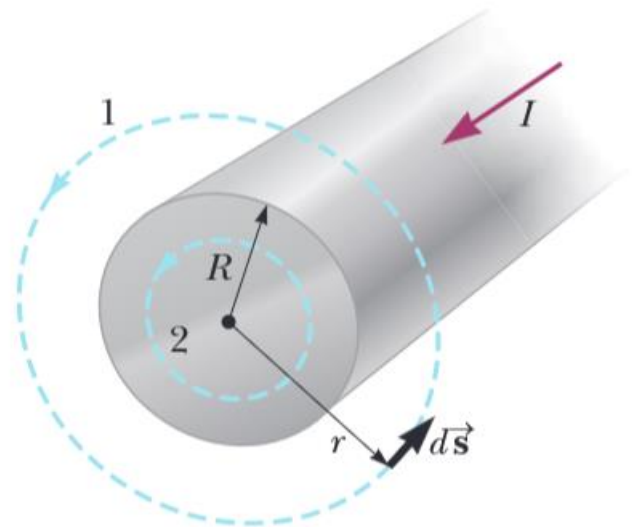
The Magnetic Field Created by a Long Current-Carrying Wire:

A long, straight wire of radius R carries a steady current I that is uniformly distributed through the cross section of the wire (see the figure). Calculate the magnetic field a distance r from the center of the wire in the regions $r \geq R$ and $r < R$.

Let us choose the path of integration circle 1 in the Figure in front, based on symmetry. B must be constant in magnitude and parallel to $d\vec{s}$ at every point on this circle. Because the total current passing through the plane of the circle is I_0 , Ampère's law gives :

$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = B \oint ds = B(2\pi r) = \mu_0 I_0$$

$$\implies \mathbf{B} = \frac{\mu_0 I_0}{2\pi r} \hat{\alpha} \quad \text{This is for } r \geq R$$



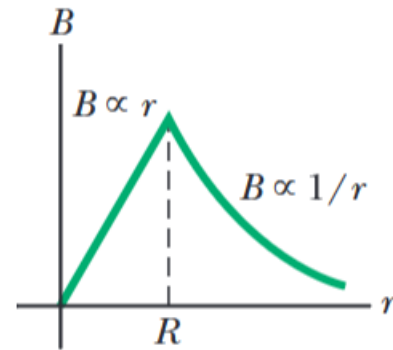
Now consider the interior of the wire, where $r < R$. Here the current I passing through the plane of circle 2 is less than the total current I_0 . Because the current is uniform over the cross-section of the wire, the fraction of the current enclosed by circle 2 must equal the ratio of the area r^2 enclosed by circle 2 to the cross-sectional area R^2 of the wire:

$$\frac{I}{I_0} = \frac{\pi r^2}{\pi R^2} \implies I = \frac{r^2}{R^2} I_0$$

$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = B \oint ds = B(2\pi r) = \mu_0 I = \mu_0 \left(\frac{r^2}{R^2} I_0 \right)$$

$$\implies \mathbf{B} = \left(\frac{\mu_0 I_0}{2\pi R^2} \right) r \hat{\alpha} \quad \text{This is for } r < R$$

Figure 29.14 (Example 29.5)
Magnitude of the magnetic field versus r for the wire shown in Figure 29.13. The field is proportional to r inside the wire and varies as $1/r$ outside the wire.



- The field is proportional to r inside the wire.
- The field varies as $1/r$ outside the wire.
- Both equations are equal at $r = R$.

Example 3: A long straight wire carries a 10 A current. Find the magnetic field at a point 5 cm away from the wire.

Example 4: Ampère's Law states that the line integral of the magnetic field around a closed path is proportional to:

- A) The electric flux passing through the surface
- B) The total current enclosed by the loop**
- C) The total charge enclosed by the loop
- D) The resistance of the wire

Example 5: If the current in a long straight wire is doubled, how does the magnetic field at a fixed distance change?

- A) It remains the same
- B) It doubles**
- C) It halves
- D) It becomes four times larger

Example 6: A long cylindrical conductor of radius R carries a steady current I uniformly distributed over its cross-section. Using Ampère's Law, determine the ratio of the magnetic field at $r = \frac{R}{2}$ to the magnetic field at $r=R$.

- A) 1/2**
- B) 1/4

C) $\frac{2}{3}$

D) $\frac{3}{4}$