

**1. (100 points)** You have a circular wire with radius  $R$ , which carries a constant current  $I$ . Now, a current loop is a classic dipole, and the magnetic field due to its dipole moment dominates at even moderate distances from the loop. But such a loop is not an ideal dipole, and so there are also contributions due to higher moments. Find the first non-zero contribution beyond the dipole to the magnetic field produced by the circular wire.

**Answer:** For the wire,  $d\mathbf{l} = R d\phi' \hat{\phi}'$ , and  $r' = R$ . We also need  $\cos \alpha = \hat{\mathbf{r}}' \cdot \hat{\mathbf{r}}$ , which requires

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}}' = \hat{\mathbf{s}}' \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\mathbf{r}} = \frac{s \hat{\mathbf{s}} + z \hat{\mathbf{z}}}{(s^2 + z^2)^{1/2}}$$

Now,  $\hat{\mathbf{s}}' \cdot \hat{\mathbf{z}} = 0$ , and

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}}' \cdot \hat{\mathbf{s}} = \cos \phi' \cos \phi + \sin \phi' \sin \phi = \cos(\phi' - \phi)$$

Therefore, the quadrupole vector potential for the circular wire is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_q &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \frac{1}{r^3} \oint_0^{2\pi} d\mathbf{l} (r')^2 P_2(\cos \alpha) \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \frac{1}{r^3} \oint_0^{2\pi} d\phi' (R \hat{\phi}') R^2 \left[ \frac{3}{2} \left( \frac{s}{(s^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} \right)^2 \cos^2(\phi' - \phi) - \frac{1}{2} \right] \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{8\pi} \frac{R^3}{(s^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \oint_0^{2\pi} d\phi' (-\sin \phi' \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi' \hat{\mathbf{y}}) \\ &\quad \left[ 3 \left( \frac{s^2}{s^2 + z^2} \right) \cos^2(\phi' - \phi) - 1 \right] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $\hat{\phi}' = -\sin \phi' \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi' \hat{\mathbf{y}}$  was useful in the integral because  $\hat{\phi}'$  is not a constant, and the resulting integrals are zero because they're integrals of odd functions over a full period.

In any case, the quadrupole contribution is zero, so we move onto the octopole. Since  $P_3(x)$  is an odd function, we now expect nonzero integrals.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_o &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \frac{1}{r^4} \oint_0^{2\pi} d\mathbf{l} (r')^3 P_3(\cos \alpha) \\ &= \frac{\mu_0 I}{8\pi} \frac{R^4}{(s^2 + z^2)^2} \oint_0^{2\pi} d\phi' (-\sin \phi' \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi' \hat{\mathbf{y}}) \\ &\quad \left[ 5 \left( \frac{s}{(s^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} \right)^3 \cos^3(\phi' - \phi) - 3 \left( \frac{s}{(s^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} \right) \cos(\phi' - \phi) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Now, use these integral results:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} d\phi' \sin \phi' \cos^3(\phi' - \phi) = \frac{3}{4}\pi \sin \phi \quad \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi' \sin \phi' \cos(\phi' - \phi) = \pi \sin \phi$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} d\phi' \cos \phi' \cos^3(\phi' - \phi) = \frac{3}{4}\pi \cos \phi \quad \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi' \cos \phi' \cos(\phi' - \phi) = \pi \cos \phi$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_o &= \frac{3\mu_0 I}{8} \frac{R^4}{(s^2 + z^2)^2} \left[ \frac{5}{4} \left( \frac{s^3}{(s^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right) - \left( \frac{s}{(s^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} \right) \right] \\ &\quad (-\sin \phi \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \cos \phi \hat{\mathbf{y}}) \\ &= \frac{3\mu_0 I}{8} \frac{R^4}{(s^2 + z^2)^2} \left[ \frac{5}{4} \left( \frac{s^3}{(s^2 + z^2)^{3/2}} \right) - \left( \frac{s}{(s^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} \right) \right] \hat{\phi} \end{aligned}$$

The magnetic field due to this vector potential is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{B}_o &= \nabla \times \mathbf{A}_o \\ &= \frac{3\mu_0 I}{8} \frac{R^4}{(s^2 + z^2)^{5/2}} \left[ \frac{zs}{s^2 + z^2} \left( \frac{35}{4} \frac{s^2}{s^2 + z^2} - 5 \right) \hat{\mathbf{s}} - \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left( \frac{35}{4} \frac{s^4}{(s^2 + z^2)^2} - 10 \frac{s^2}{s^2 + z^2} + 2 \right) \hat{\mathbf{z}} \right] \end{aligned}$$