

8. Electricity and Magnetism (Fall 2004)

Consider a sphere of radius  $a$  with uniform magnetization  $\vec{M}$ , pointing in the  $z$ -direction. What are the magnetic induction  $\vec{B}$  and magnetic field  $\vec{H}$  inside the sphere?

See Jackson Page 198.

$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{H} = \vec{j}_f = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{H}$  is curl free  $\Rightarrow \vec{H} = -\vec{\nabla} \Phi_M$  for some scalar field  $\Phi_M$

$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{H} = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \Phi_M = -\nabla^2 \Phi_M$  and  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{H} = \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\mu_0 \vec{B} - \vec{M}) = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{M} \Rightarrow \nabla^2 \Phi_M = \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{M}$

We know the solution to Poisson's equation  $\nabla^2 \Phi = -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$  is  $\Phi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int_V \frac{\rho}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} d^3x'$  where  $V$  is any volume that encloses all  $\vec{x}$  such that  $\rho(\vec{x}) \neq 0$ .

Therefore  $\Phi_M = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_V \frac{\vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{M}(\vec{x}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} d^3x'$  and let's take  $V$  as all space.

Let  $V_0$  be the interior of the sphere and let  $V_0'$  be the complement of  $V_0$  ( $V_0'$  is a closed set containing the boundary of the sphere).

$$\Phi_M = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{V_0} \frac{\vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{M}(\vec{x}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} d^3x' - \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{V_0'} \frac{\vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{M}(\vec{x}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} d^3x'$$

The first term is zero because  $\vec{M}$  is constant in the interior.

$$\Phi_M = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{V_0'} \left[ \vec{\nabla}' \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{M}(\vec{x}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \right) - \vec{M}(\vec{x}') \cdot \vec{\nabla}' \left( \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \right) \right] d^3x'$$

using the product rule  $\vec{\nabla}' \cdot (f\vec{A}) = f(\vec{\nabla}' \cdot \vec{A}) + \vec{A} \cdot \vec{\nabla}' f$ . The second term has only an infinitesimal contribution to the result because  $\vec{M}$  is finite and is not nonzero over any finite subspace of  $V_0'$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_M &= -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{V_0'} \vec{\nabla}' \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{M}(\vec{x}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \right) d^3x' = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_S \frac{\vec{M}(\vec{x}') \cdot (-\hat{n}')}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} da' \\ &= -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{M \cos(\theta)}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} a^2 \sin(\theta) d\theta d\phi \\ &= -\frac{Ma^2}{4\pi} \int \frac{\cos(\theta)}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} d\Omega' \end{aligned}$$

Now we use the expansion  $\frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} = 4\pi \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \frac{1}{2\ell+1} \frac{r_c^{\ell}}{r_s^{2\ell+1}} Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \phi') Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi)$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_M &= -\frac{Ma^2}{4\pi} \int 4\pi \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \frac{1}{2\ell+1} \frac{r_c^{\ell}}{r_s^{2\ell+1}} Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \phi') Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) \cos(\theta) d\Omega' \\ &= -Ma^2 \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \frac{1}{2\ell+1} \frac{r_c^{\ell}}{r_s^{2\ell+1}} Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) \int Y_{\ell m}^*(\theta', \phi') \left( \frac{\sqrt{4\pi}}{3} Y_{10}(\theta', \phi') \right) d\Omega' \end{aligned}$$

since  $Y_{10}(\theta, \phi) = \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \cos(\theta)$ . Now  $\int Y_{\ell' m'}^*(\theta, \phi) Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) d\Omega = \delta_{\ell\ell'} \delta_{mm'}$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_M &= -Ma^2 \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{\ell} \frac{1}{2\ell+1} \frac{r_c^{\ell}}{r_s^{2\ell+1}} Y_{\ell m}(\theta, \phi) \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{3}} \delta_{\ell 1} \delta_{m 0} \\ &= -Ma^2 \left( \frac{1}{3} \frac{r_c}{r_s^2} \right) Y_{10}(\theta, \phi) \sqrt{\frac{4\pi}{3}} = -\frac{1}{3} Ma^2 \frac{r_c}{r_s^2} \cos(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

And  $r_s, r_c$  are the greater and lesser between  $r$  and  $a$ , so inside  $r < a$ :

$$\Phi_M = -\frac{1}{3} Ma^2 \frac{r}{a^2} \cos(\theta) = -\frac{1}{3} M r \cos(\theta) = -\frac{1}{3} M z$$

Therefore  $\vec{H} = -\vec{\nabla} \Phi_M = -\frac{1}{3} M \hat{z} = -\frac{1}{3} \vec{M}$

$$\text{and } \vec{H} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \vec{B} - \vec{M} \Rightarrow \vec{B} = \mu_0 (\vec{H} + \vec{M}) = \frac{2}{3} \mu_0 \vec{M}$$