

**E&M Problem Set 8**  
Due Friday, March 14 at 4pm

1. **Griffiths Problem 4.16 (tweaked):** Suppose the electric field inside a large piece of dielectric is  $\vec{E}_0$ , so that the electric displacement is  $\vec{D}_0 = \epsilon_0 \vec{E}_0 + \vec{P}$ . Imagine cavities are hollowed out of the material. Assume the cavities are small enough that  $\vec{P}$ ,  $\vec{E}_0$ , and  $\vec{D}_0$  are essentially uniform. For each of the following cavity shapes, find the electric field  $\vec{E}$  at the center of the cavity in terms of  $\vec{E}_0$  and  $\vec{P}$  and the displacement  $\vec{D}$  at the center of the cavity in terms of  $\vec{D}_0$  and  $\vec{P}$ . **HINT:** Carving out a cavity is the same as superimposing an object of the same shape but opposite polarization.

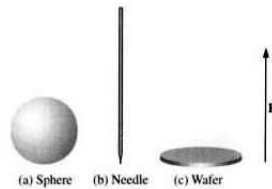


Figure 4.19

- (a) Find  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{D}$  at the center of a small spherical cavity (Figure 4.19a, above). **NOTE:** We derived the electric field of a uniformly polarized spherical dielectric in Example 4.2. This might come in handy.
- (b) Do the same for a long needle-shaped cavity (assume ‘needle’ here is the same as ‘thin, long cylinder’) running parallel to  $\vec{P}$  (Figure 4.19b, above). **HINT:** For this problem, consider the location of bound charges in the spherical cavity and remember the cavity is *long*. Very little math is involved if you make this assumption.
- (c) Do the same for a thin wafer-shaped cavity perpendicular to  $\vec{P}$  (Figure 4.19c, above). **HINT:** Consider where the bound charge accumulates. You must successfully determine the bound surface charge density at the upper/lower surface. Since this wafer is much thinner than it is wide, what you basically have here is a capacitor. The electric field within a capacitor was discussed in Example 2.5.

2. **Griffiths Problem 5.01 (tweaked):** A particle of charge  $q$  enters a region of uniform magnetic field  $\vec{B}$  (pointing *into* the page). The field deflects the particle a distance  $d$  above the original line of flight, as shown in Figure 5.8 (shown below).

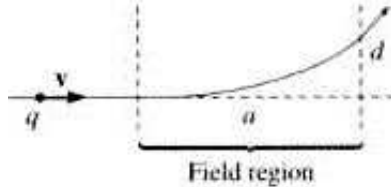


Figure 5.8

- (a) If  $\vec{B}$  is uniform, what is the shape of the path the charged particle follows while in the  $\vec{B}$  field assuming no electric fields are present? Relate  $a$  and  $d$  to a property of that shape.
- (b) Is the charge positive or negative? In terms of  $a$ ,  $d$ ,  $B$ , and  $q$ , find the momentum of the particle.
3. **Griffiths Problem 5.04:** Suppose the magnetic field in some region has the form

$$\vec{B} = kz\hat{x} \quad (1)$$

(where  $k$  is a constant). Find the force on a square loop (side  $a$ ), lying in the  $yz$  plane and centered at the origin, if it carries a current  $I$ , flowing counterclockwise, when you look down the  $x$  axis. **HINT:** Draw the situation described here, showing your view looking down the  $x$ -axis (that is, so the  $x$ -axis is pointing right at your eye).

4. **Griffiths Problem 5.08:**

- (a) Find the magnetic field at the center of a square loop, which carries a steady current  $I$ . Let  $R$  be the distance from center to side (Figure 5.22 [below]).

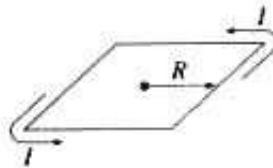


Figure 5.22

- (b) Find the field at the center of a regular  $n$ -sided polygon, carrying a steady current  $I$ . Again, let  $R$  be the distance from the center to any side.
- (c) Check that your formula reduces to the field at the center of a circular loop, in the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

**HINT:** Using the general results of Example 5.5 for the magnetic field due to a *segment* of straight uniform current will make this a very easily manageable problem.

5. **Griffiths Problem 5.09:** Find the magnetic field  $\vec{B}$  at point  $P$  for each of the steady current configurations shown in Fig. 5.23 (below).

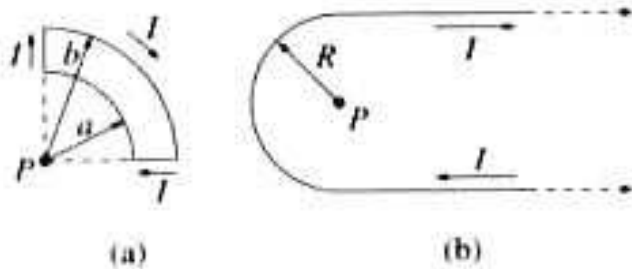


Figure 5.23

**HINT:** Since  $\vec{B}$  is a vector field, direction must be stated in the correct answer. Also, for part (b), start by using the same general solution for the magnetic field due to a *segment* of straight uniform current in Example 5.5 you used to solve the Griffiths 5.08.

6. **Griffiths Problem 5.15:** Two long coaxial solenoids each carry current  $I$ , but in opposite directions, as shown in Fig. 5.42 (below). The inner solenoid (radius  $a$ ) has  $n_1$  turns per unit length, and the outer one (radius  $b$ ) has  $n_2$ . Find  $\vec{B}$  in each of the three regions: (i) inside the inner solenoid, (ii) between them, and (iii) outside both.



Figure 5.42