



As illustrated above, the wire on the left has 25.0 A of current flowing through it and the wire on the right has 10.0 A of current flowing through it. With regards to the point of interest, P, answer the following questions. (Notice the ‘·’ and the ‘x’ to indicate the direction of current flow.)

- A) What is the magnetic field at point P due only to the wire on the left?

From Ampere’s Law

$$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = \mu_0 I$$

The magnetic field at point P due to the wire on the left is upward and extends around a circle centered on the wire. If this circle is chosen as the path for integrating the left side of the equation for Ampere’s Law, the B field is parallel to the path and its magnitude is a constant. Therefore, the equation becomes

$$B \oint d\vec{s} = \mu_0 I$$

The distance around a circle is a circumference so

$$B 2\pi r = \mu_0 I$$

The distance between the wire and the point of interest is 8.0 mm. Therefore, the magnetic field is

$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r} = \frac{(4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ T}\cdot\text{m/A})(25.0\text{A})}{2\pi (8.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m})} = 6.25 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T}$$

*in the **downward** direction (by the right-hand rule).*

- B) What is the magnetic field at point P due only to the wire on the right?

The distance from this wire and the point of interest is 2.0 mm. The equation generated for part A is the same for this wire and, therefore, the magnetic field is

$$B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi r} = \frac{(4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ T} \cdot \text{m} / \text{A})(10.0 \text{ A})}{2\pi (2.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m})} = 1.00 \times 10^{-3} \text{ T}$$

in the **upward** direction (by the right-hand rule).

- C) What is the magnetic field at point P due to both wires?
 Since magnetic field is a vector and the magnetic fields are in opposite direction, they combine to give a field of

$$B = -6.25 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T} + 1.00 \times 10^{-3} \text{ T} = 3.75 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T}$$

in the **upward** direction.

- D) 1 tesla = 10,000 gauss. What is your answer in terms of gauss?

$$B = 3.75 \times 10^{-4} \text{ T} \left(\frac{10,000 \text{ G}}{1.00 \text{ T}} \right) = 3.75 \text{ G}$$

The earth's magnetic field is around 0.5 G, this field is 7.5x that of the earth's.