

Joint Universities Accelerator School

JUAS 2025

18. – 24. February 2025

Normal-conducting accelerator magnets

Lecture 2: Basic principles



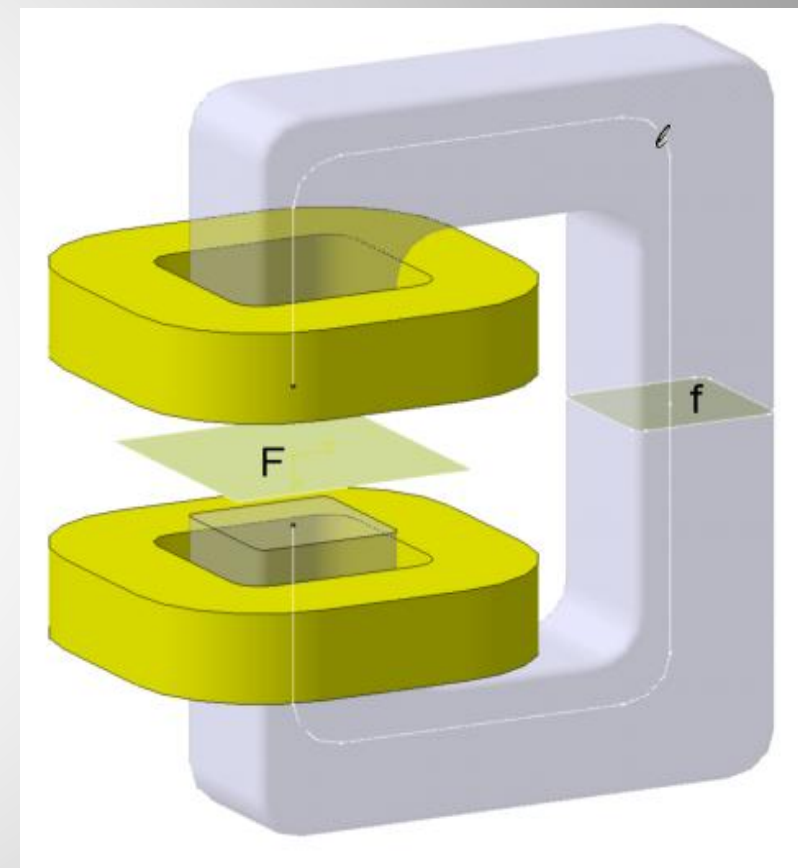
Thomas Zickler

CERN



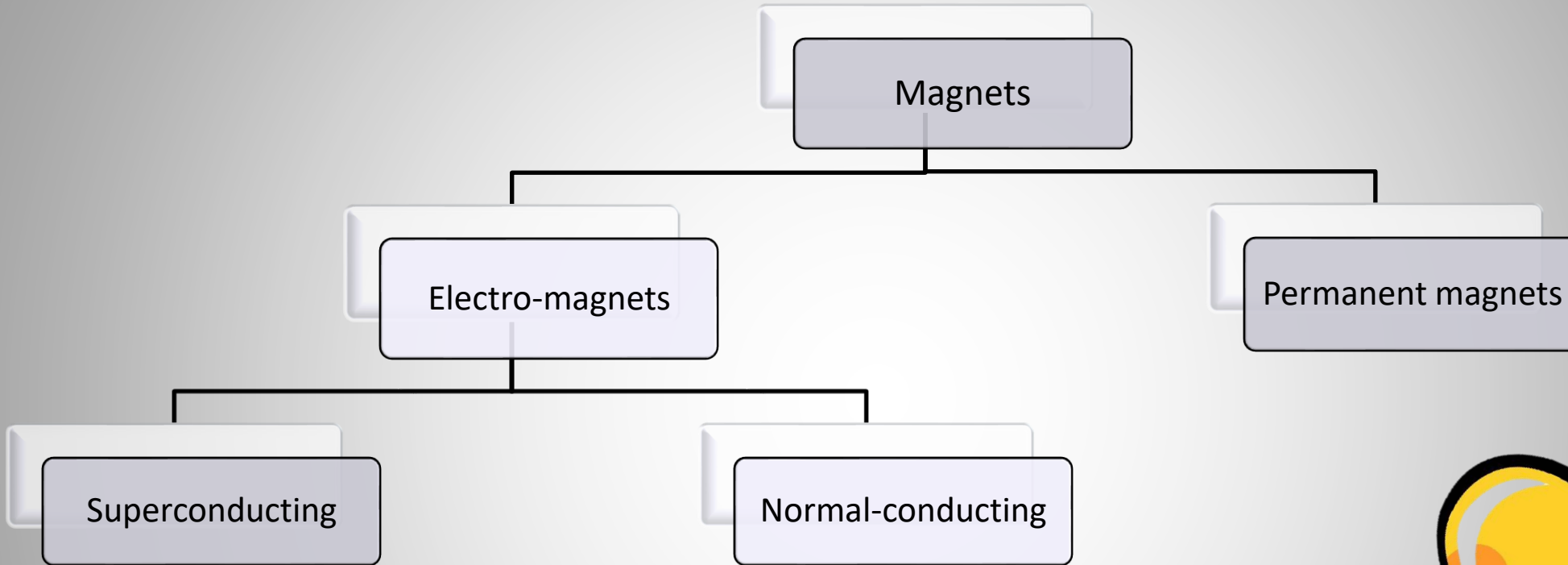
Basic principles

Coil dominated vs. Iron dominated
Purpose of (ideal) magnetic circuits
Real magnets and multipole errors
Iron properties





Magnet technologies



- zero electrical resistance
- no ohmic losses
- high current densities
- requires cryogenic cooling

- limited by the ohmic losses
- only moderate current densities
- dissipated power to be removed
- requires air or water cooling

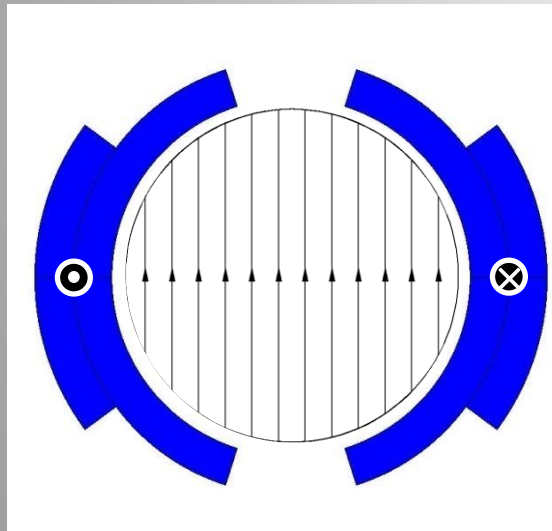




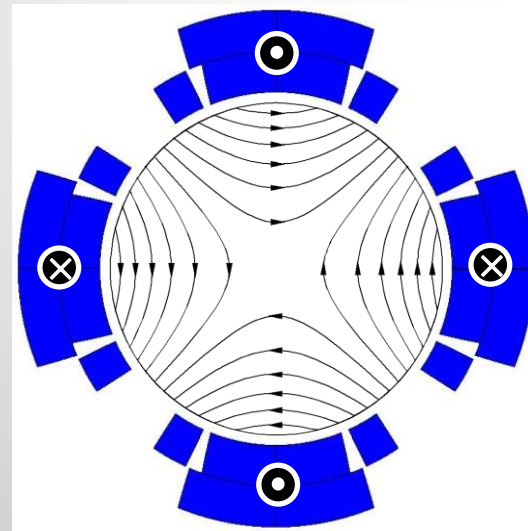
Coil dominated – Iron dominated

In coil-dominated magnets, the magnetic field in the aperture is shaped by the position of the conductors respectively the **current distribution** around the aperture

B_1 : normal dipole



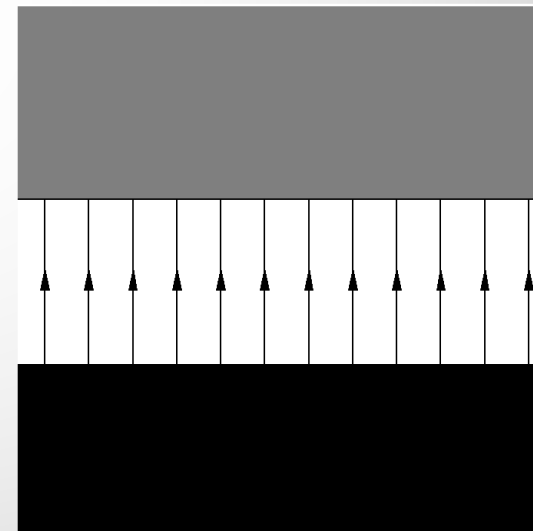
B_2 : normal quadrupole



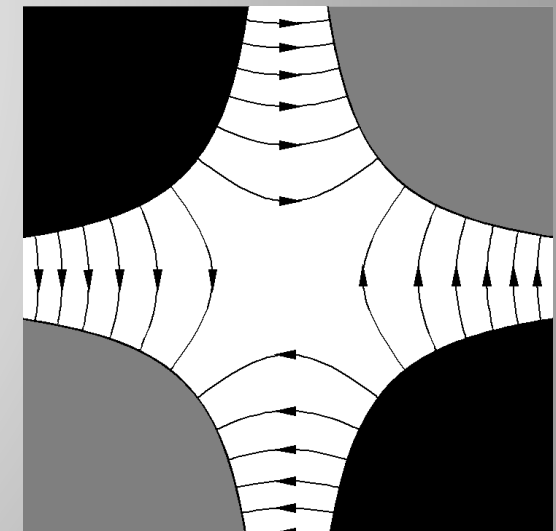
High currents -> often superconducting

In iron-dominated magnets, the magnetic field is shaped by the geometry of the poles, which are **surfaces of constant scalar potential**

B_1 : normal dipole



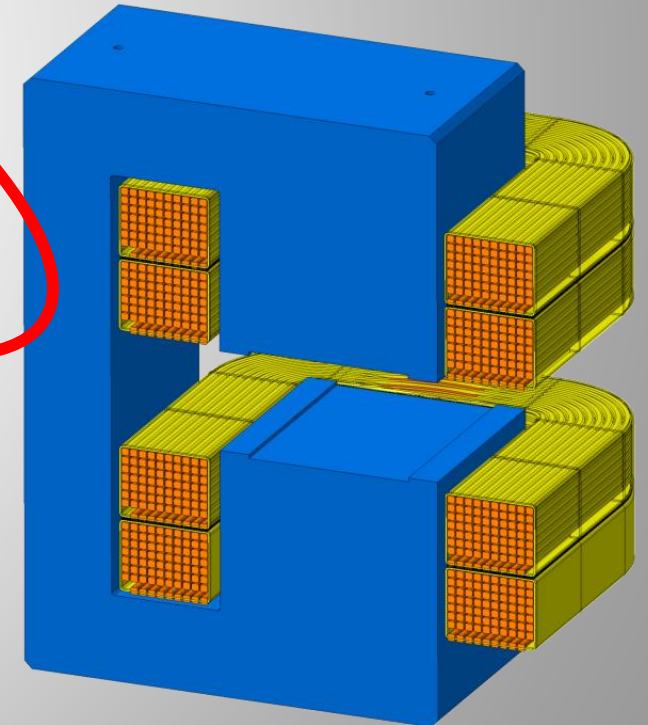
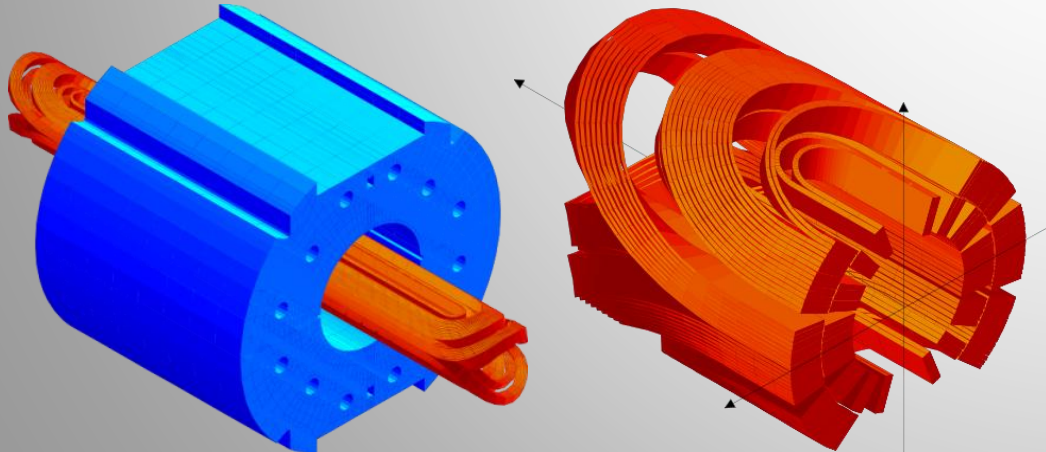
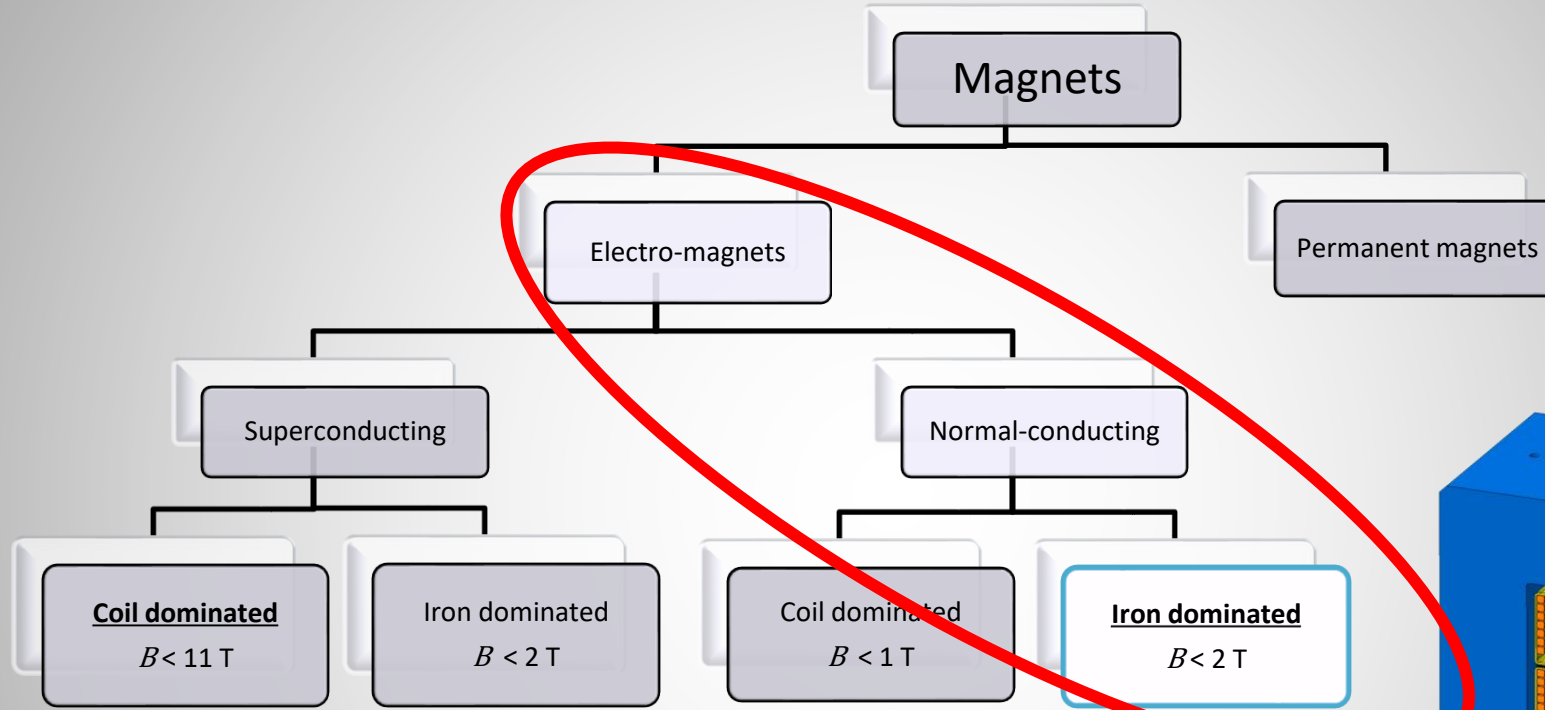
B_2 : normal quadrupole



Moderate currents -> often normal-conducting



Magnet technologies

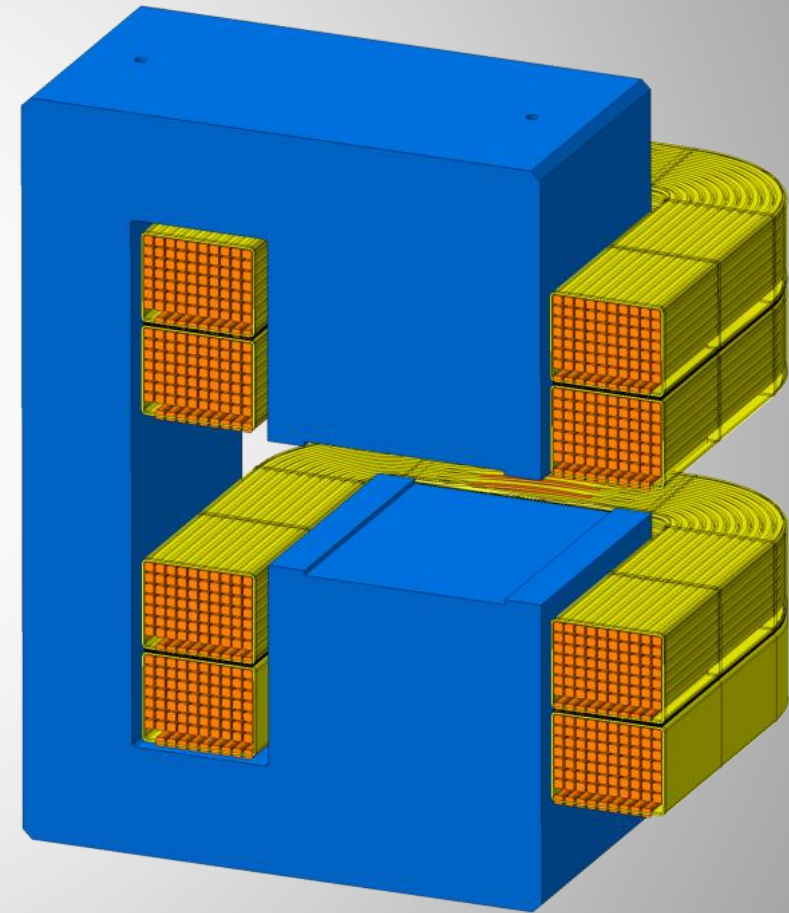




The magnetic (iron) circuit

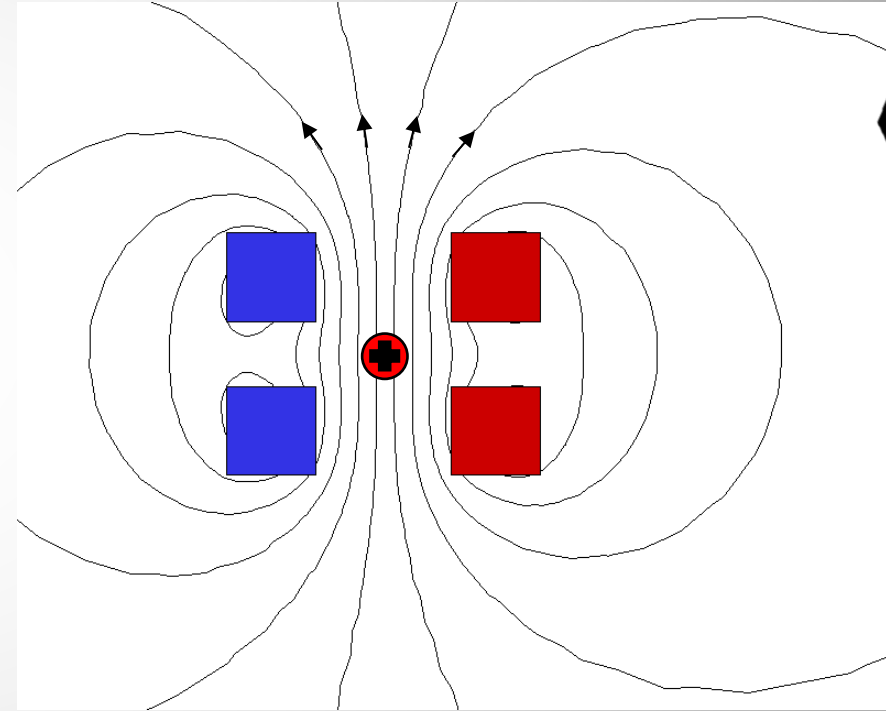
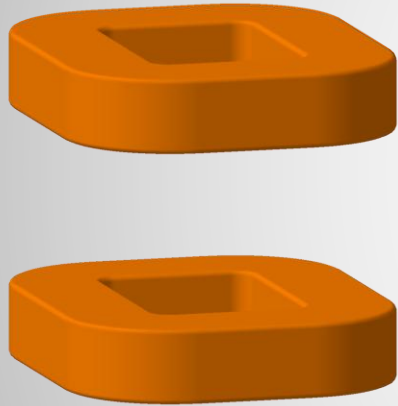
The magnetic (iron) circuit serves several purposes:

- **confine** the magnetic flux in the circuit to avoid stray flux
- **enhance** the magnetic effect induced by currents in the coils
- **shape** the magnetic field distribution in the region of interest

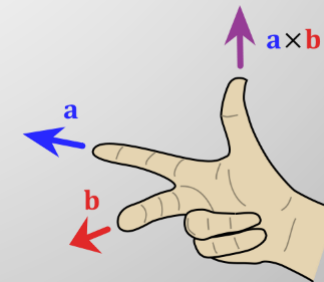




Creating the magnetic field

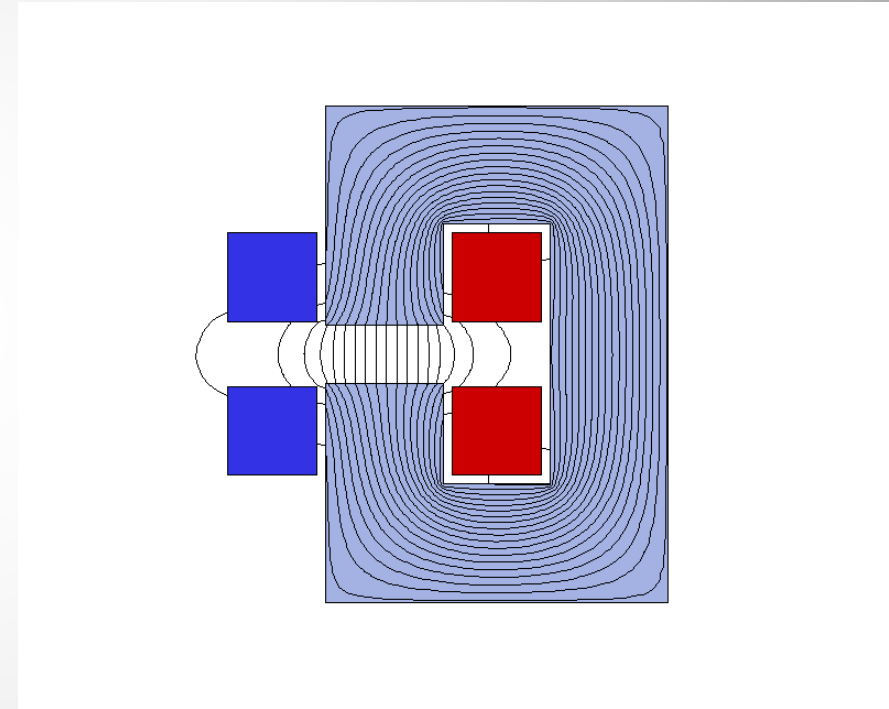
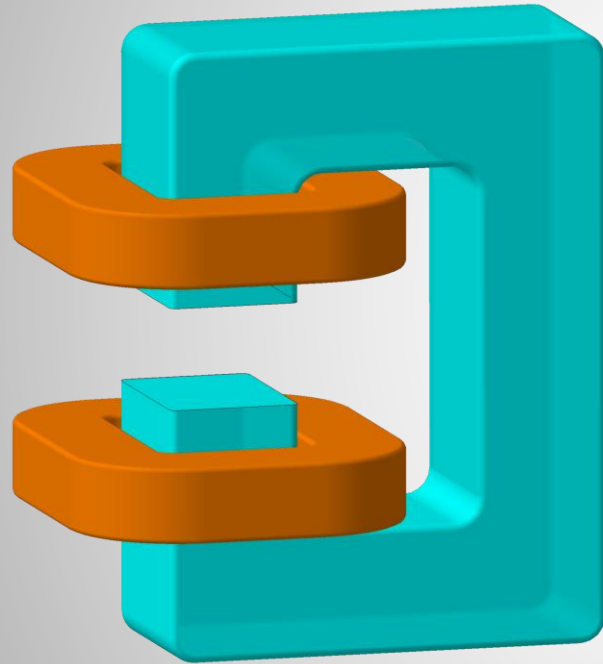


Flux lines represent the magnetic field
Coil colors indicate the current direction





Confining the magnetic field

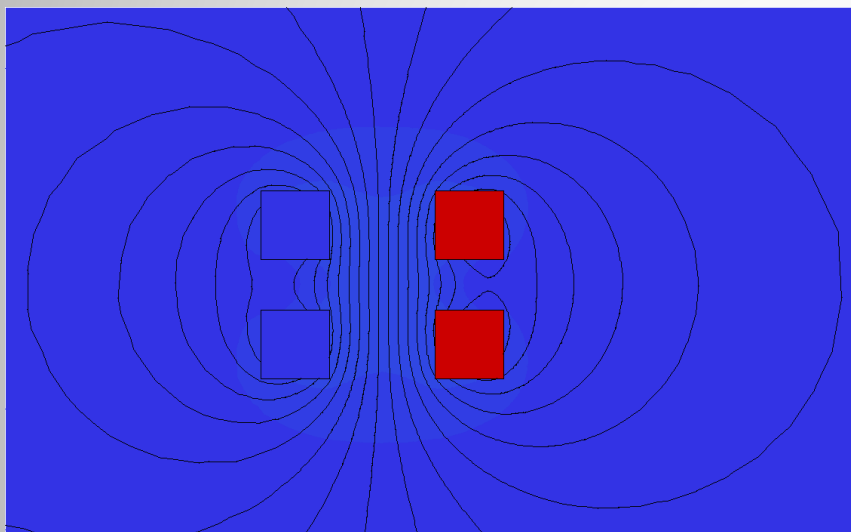


Coils hold the electrical current
Iron holds the magnetic flux

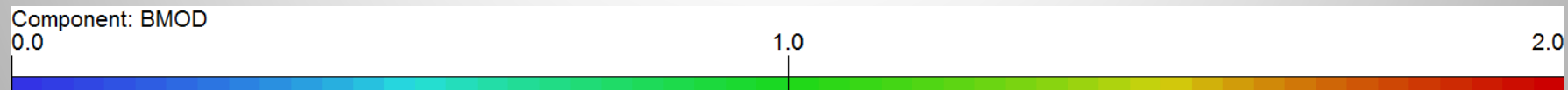
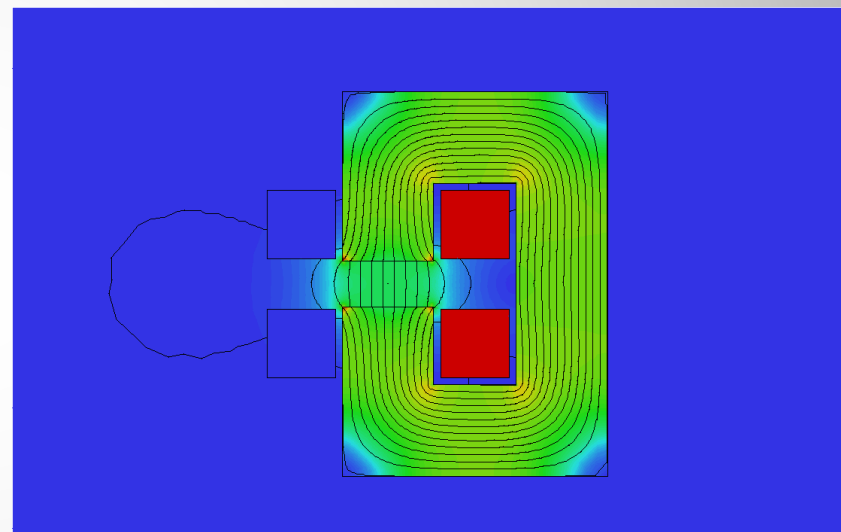


Enhancing the magnetic field

$I = 32 \text{ kA}$
 $B_0 = 0.09 \text{ T}$



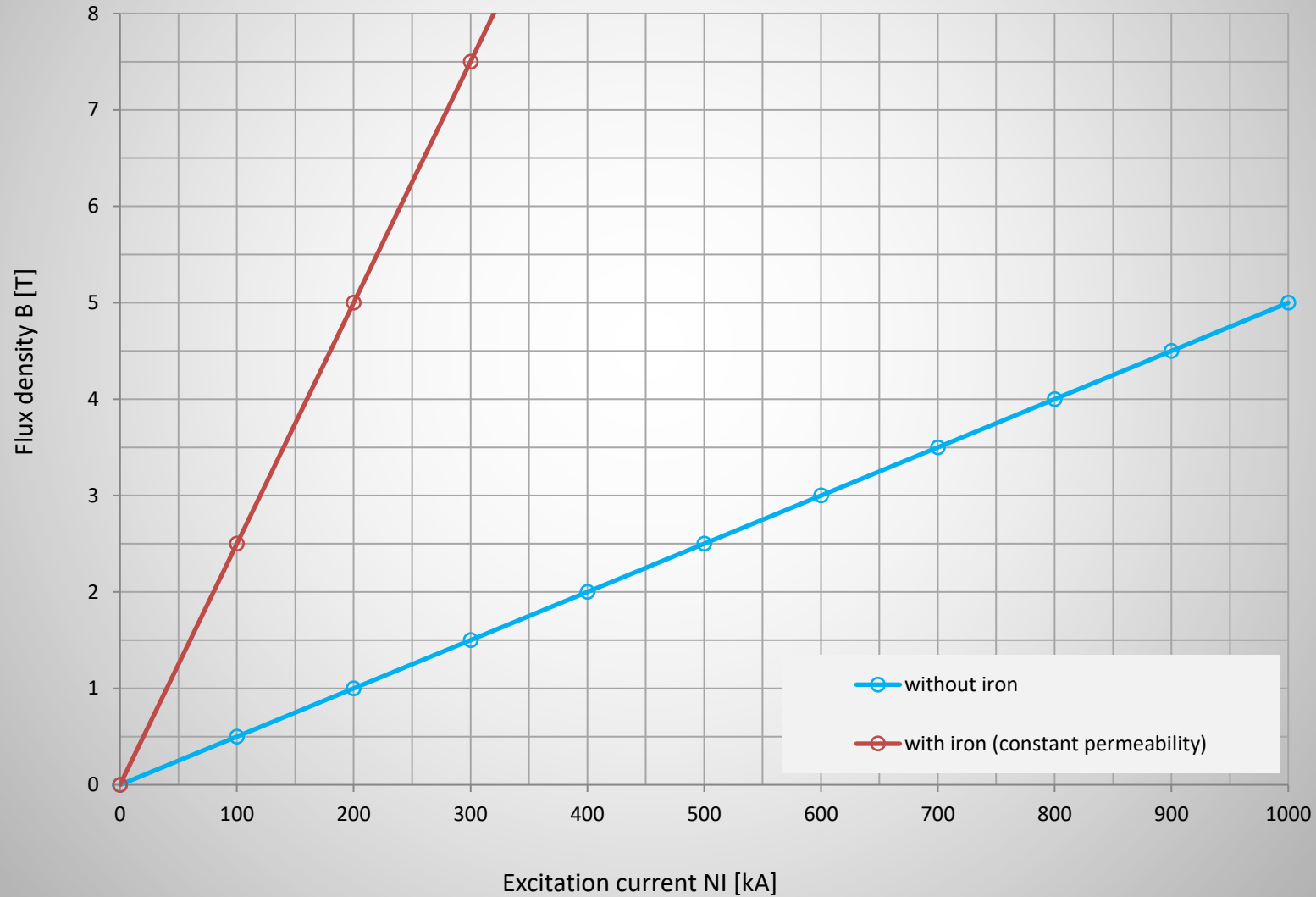
$I = 32 \text{ kA}$
 $B_0 = 0.80 \text{ T}$



The presence of a **magnetic circuit** can increase the flux density in the magnet aperture by **factors!**



Transfer function (ideal magnet)





Excitation current in a dipole

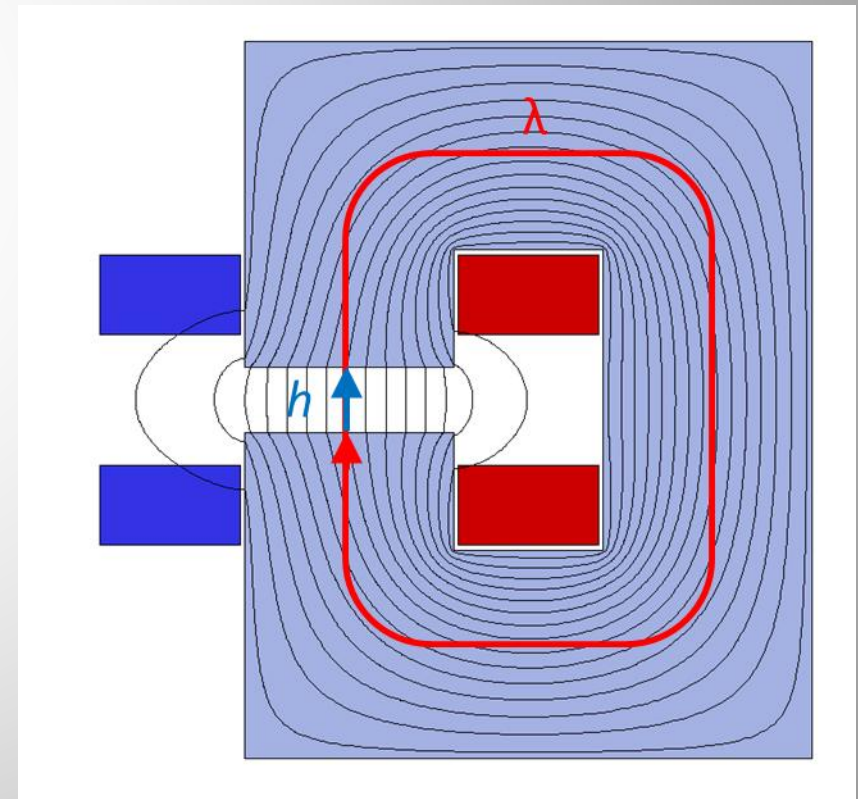
Ampere's law $\oint \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} = NI$ and $\vec{B} = \mu \vec{H}$ with $\mu = \mu_0 \mu_r$

leads to $NI = \oint \frac{\vec{B}}{\mu} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_{air} \frac{\vec{B}}{\mu_{air}} \cdot d\vec{s} + \int_{iron} \frac{\vec{B}}{\mu_{iron}} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{Bh}{\mu_{air}} + \frac{B\lambda}{\mu_{iron}}$

assuming, that B is constant along the path

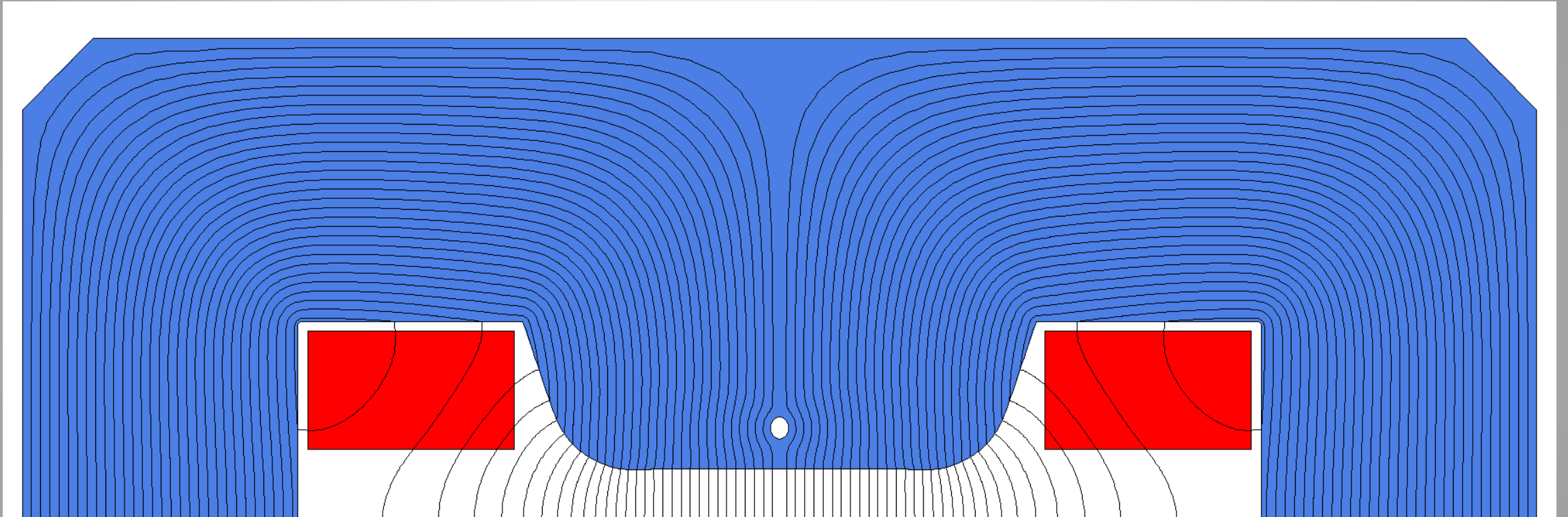
If $\mu_{iron} \rightarrow \infty$ then $\frac{\lambda}{\mu_{iron}} \rightarrow 0$

then: $NI = \frac{Bh}{\mu_0}$





Shaping the magnetic field



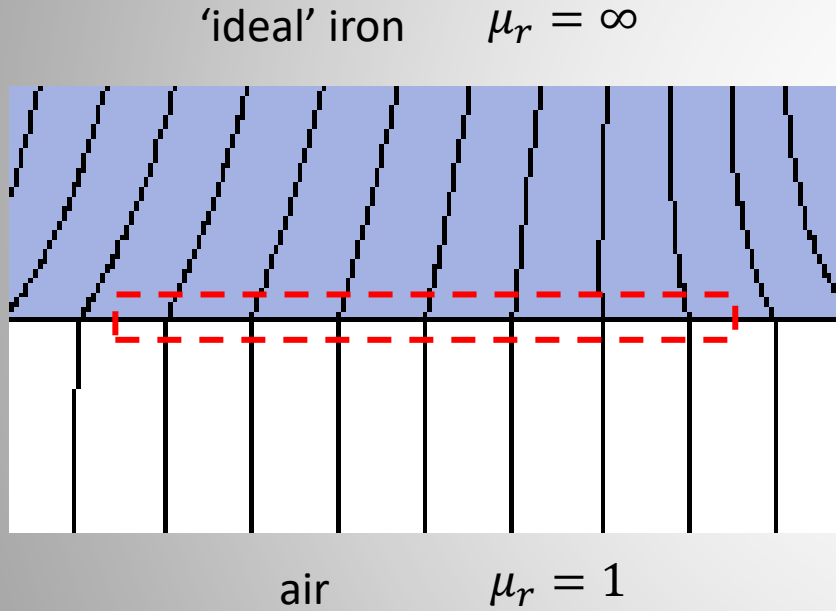
Ideal H-shape dipole with infinite permeability: $\mu_{iron} \rightarrow \infty$

Why flux lines do always enter a material with infinite permeability **perpendicular** to the surface?



Shaping the magnetic field

Because they obey to Maxwell's equations:



$$H_{\parallel} = \text{constant}$$

$$B_{\perp} = \text{constant}$$

$$B_{\parallel} = 0$$

$$\nabla_x \vec{H} = 0$$



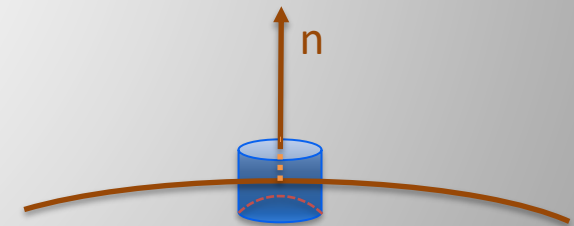
The integral of the field strength equals zero

$$H_{\parallel, \text{air}} = H_{\parallel, \text{iron}}$$

$$\vec{B} = \mu_0 \mu_r \vec{H}$$

$$B_{\parallel, \text{air}} = \frac{B_{\parallel, \text{iron}}}{\mu_{r, \text{iron}}} = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$



The flux which enters must be equal to the flux which exits

$$B_{\perp, \text{air}} = B_{\perp, \text{iron}}$$



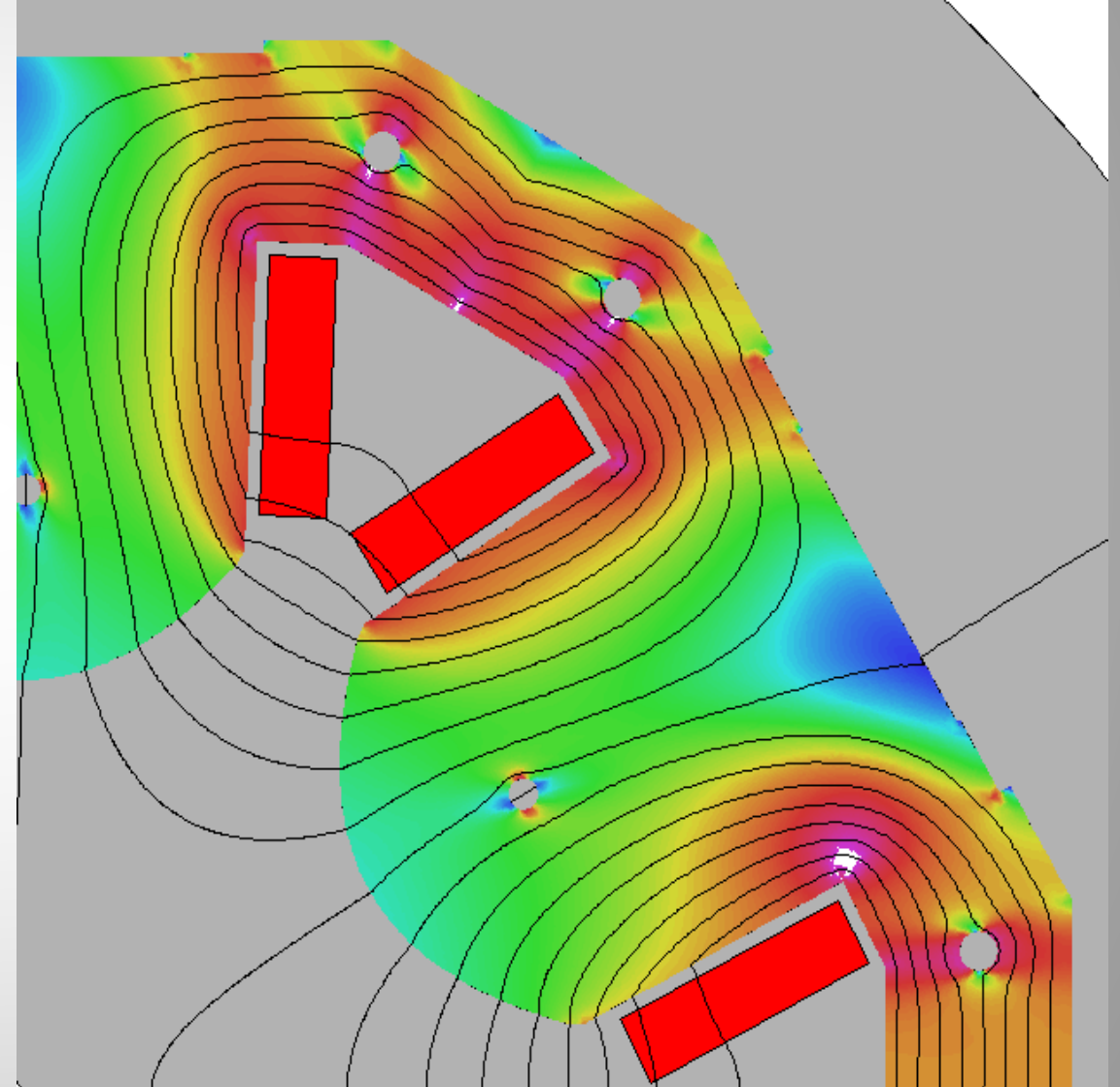
Shaping the magnetic field

Conclusion: flux lines in free space always meet a material with infinite permeability **perpendicular** to the surface.

Conversely: if we can shape a material with **infinite permeability** such that its surface is everywhere **perpendicular** to our desired field configuration, then the only field that can exist around the material will be this desired field!

These shapes perpendicular to our desired field configuration are called **surfaces of constant scalar potential**.

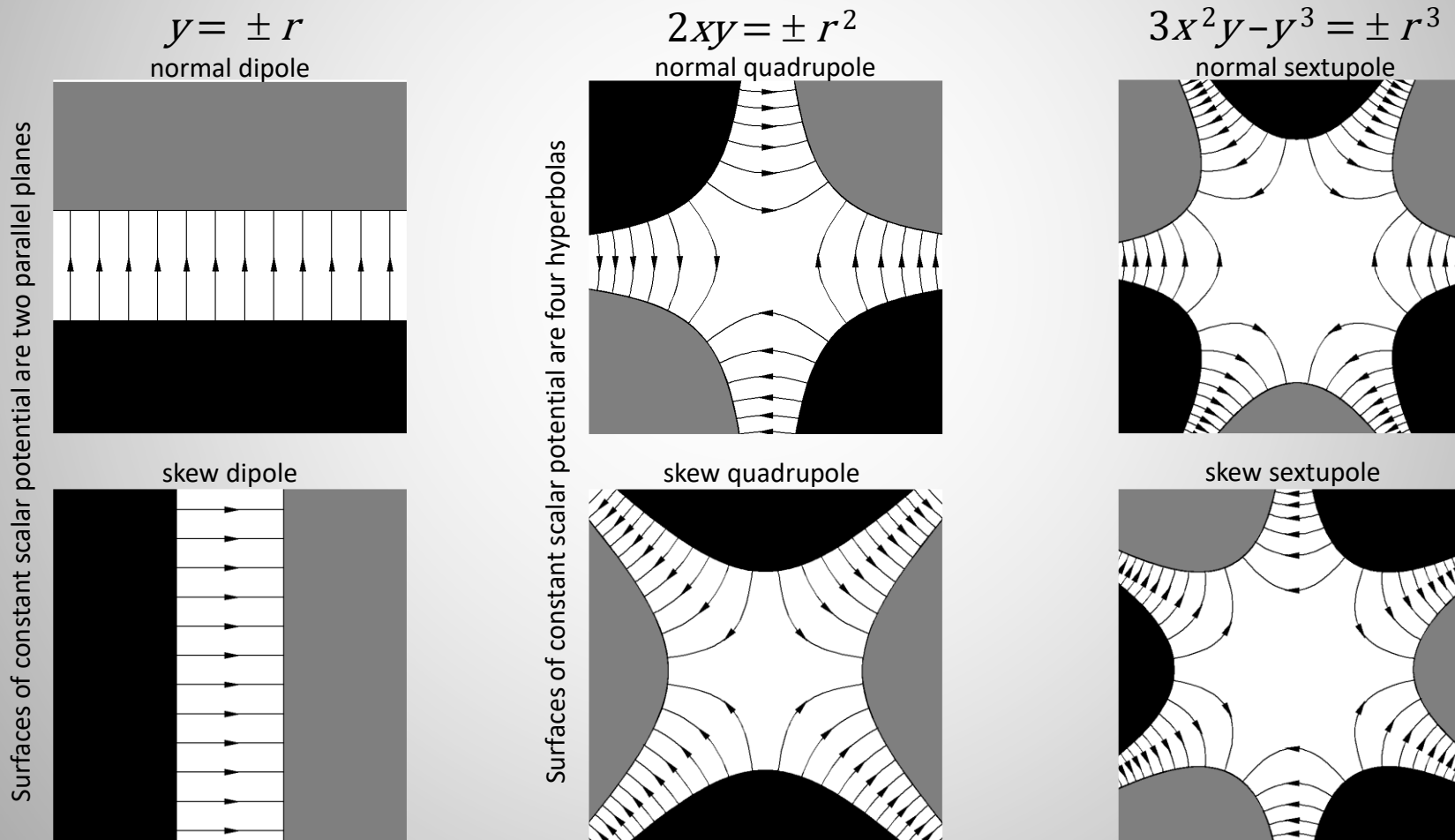
The field distribution in the aperture of a magnet can be controlled by such **surfaces of constant scalar potential**, also called “**poles faces**”.





Ideal pole faces

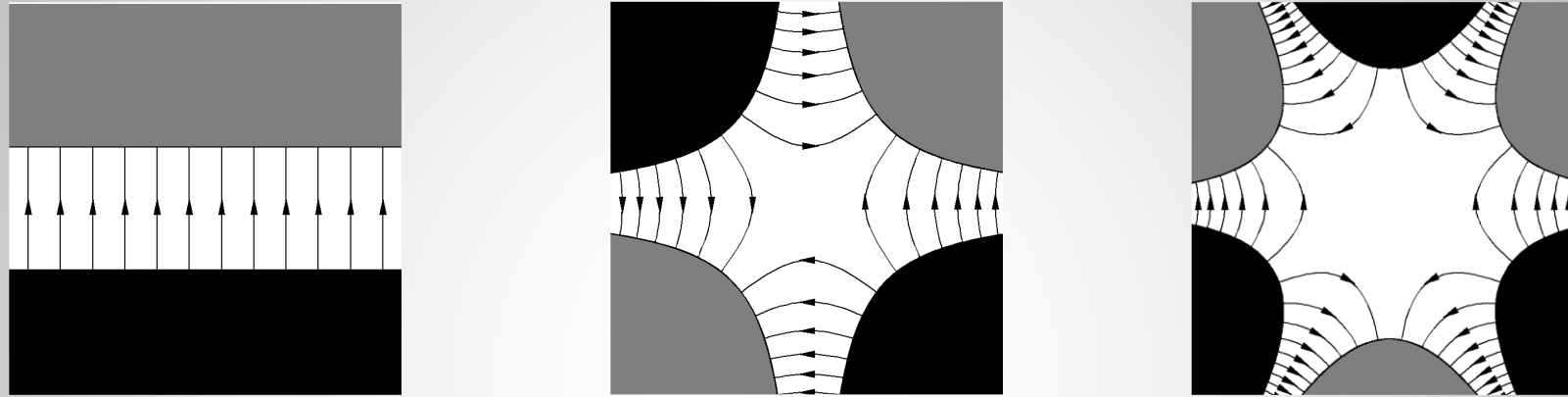
Each fundamental n-pole has its well-defined pole face (=surface of constant scalar potential)
Ideal pole faces are **extended to infinity** in all directions



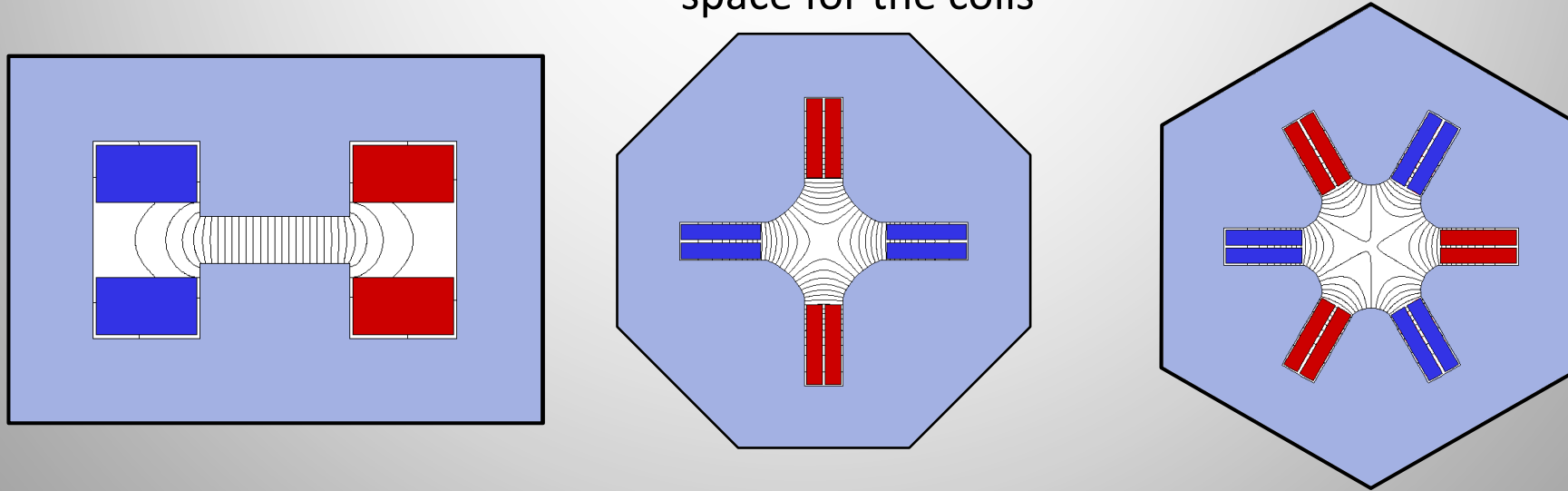


Ideal vs. real magnets

Ideal magnets have **infinite permeability**, and the poles are **extended to infinity** in all directions



Real magnets have **high, but finite and non-linear permeability**, and the poles are **truncated** to provide space for the coils





Multipole errors

If we take the multipole expansion from the previous lecture

$$B_y + iB_x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (B_n + iA_n) \left(\frac{x + iy}{R_{ref}} \right)^{n-1}$$

and introduce the **dimensionless normalized multipole coefficients (normal and skew)**:

$$b_n = \frac{B_n}{B_{ref}} 10^4 \quad \text{and} \quad a_n = \frac{A_n}{B_{ref}} 10^4$$

with B_{ref} being the fundamental field of a magnet: $B_{ref(\text{dipole})} = B_1$; $B_{ref(\text{quad})} = B_2$; ...

we can describe each magnet by its ideal fundamental field and higher order harmonic distortions:

$$B_y + iB_x = \underbrace{B_{ref}}_{\text{Fundamental field}} \underbrace{\frac{1}{10^4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (b_n + ia_n) \left(\frac{x + iy}{R_{ref}} \right)^{n-1}}_{\text{Harmonic distortions or Multipole errors}}$$



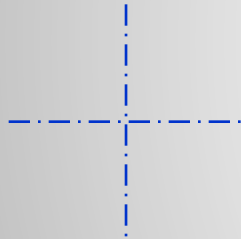
Multipole errors

Multipole errors can be divided into two families:

,Allowed' multipoles are design intrinsic and result from the finite size of the poles

$$n = N(2m + 1)$$

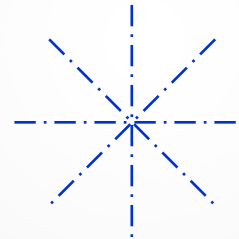
n: order of multipole component
N: order of the fundamental field
m: integer number (m≥1)



fully symmetric dipole

allowed: b_3, b_5, b_7, b_9 , etc.

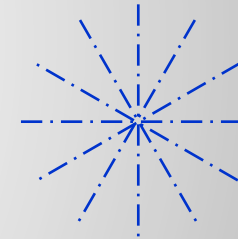
non-allowed: all others



fully symmetric quadrupole

allowed: $b_6, b_{10}, b_{14}, b_{18}$, etc.

non-allowed: all others



fully symmetric sextupole

allowed: b_9, b_{15}, b_{21} , etc.

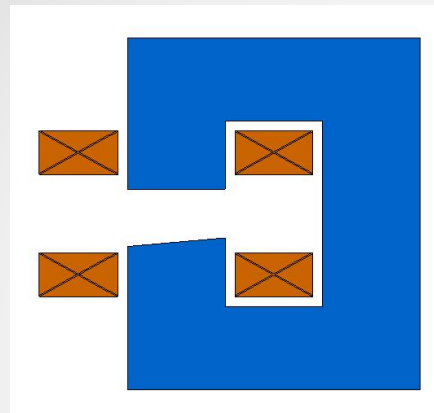
non-allowed: all others

,Non-allowed' multipoles result from a violation of symmetry and indicate a fabrication or assembly error

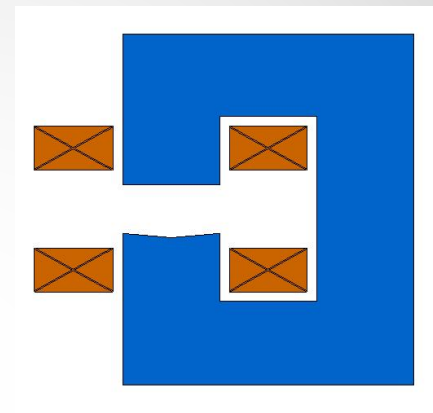


Asymmetries

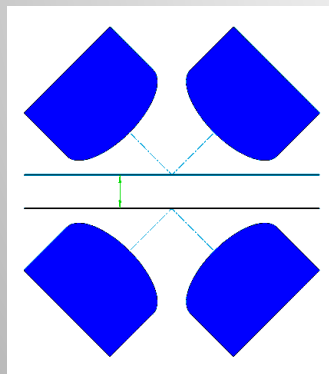
Asymmetries generating 'non-allowed' harmonics



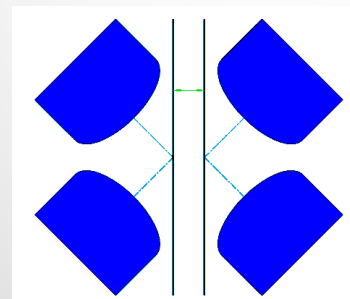
$n = 2, 4, 6, \dots$



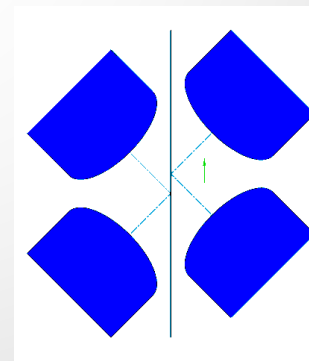
$n = 3, 6, 9, \dots$



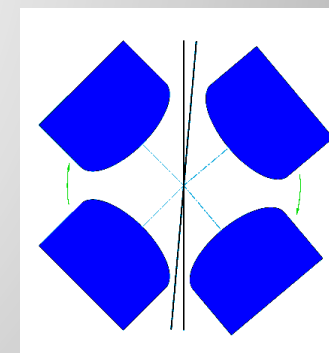
$n = 4$ (neg.)



$n = 4$ (pos.)



$n = 3$



$n = 2, 3$

These errors can seriously affect machine behaviour and must be controlled!



Finite permeability

Ferro-magnetic materials have a high ($\mu_r \gg 1$), but not infinite permeability!

This **finite permeability** in the iron has two effects:

$$NI = \oint \frac{\vec{B}}{\mu} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_{air} \frac{\vec{B}}{\mu_{air}} \cdot d\vec{s} + \int_{iron} \frac{\vec{B}}{\mu_{iron}} \cdot d\vec{s} = \frac{Bh}{\mu_{air}} + \frac{B\lambda}{\mu_{iron}}$$

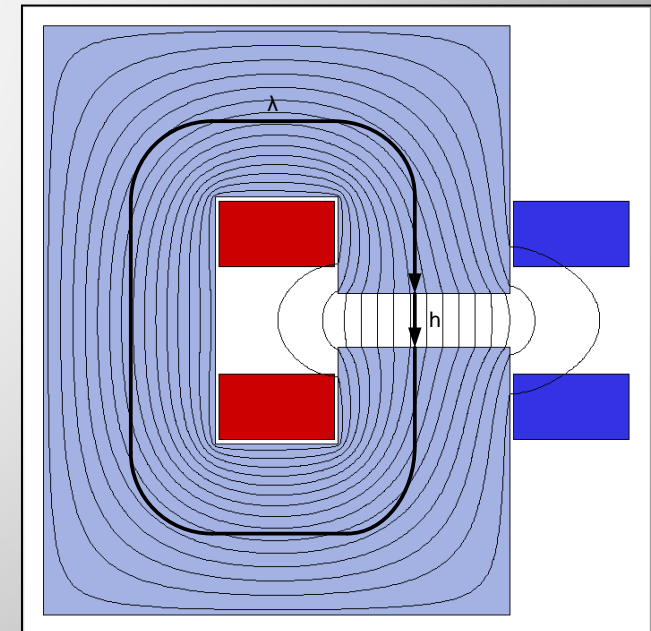
1) The path in the iron can no longer be fully neglected

However, if the iron is not saturated, then: $\frac{h}{\mu_{air}} \gg \frac{\lambda}{\mu_{iron}}$

and:

$$NI \approx \frac{Bh}{\mu_0}$$

2) The flux lines will no longer be perpendicular to a surface of constant scalar potential (poles) resulting in field errors





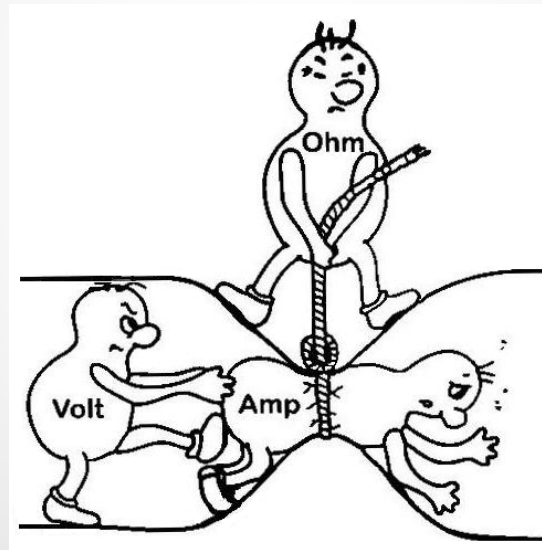
Reluctance

Similar to electrical circuits, one can define the ‘resistance’ of a magnetic circuit, which is called ‘reluctance’:

Ohm’s law:

$$R = \frac{U}{I} = \frac{l_E}{a_E \sigma}$$

- Resistance R [Ω]
- Electro-motive force U [V]
- Electric current I [A]
- Conductor length l_E [m]
- Conductor cross section a_E [m^2]
- El. conductivity σ [S m^{-1}]



Hopkinson’s law:

$$R_M = \frac{NI}{\Phi} = \frac{l_M}{a_M \mu_0 \mu_r}$$

- Reluctance R_M [$\text{A V}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$]
- Magneto-motive force NI [A]
- Magnetic flux Φ [Wb]
- Flux path length in iron l_M [m]
- Iron cross section a_M [m^2]
(perpendicular to flux)
- Permeability μ [$\text{V s A}^{-1} \text{m}^{-1}$]

...but: μ_{iron} is in general not constant!

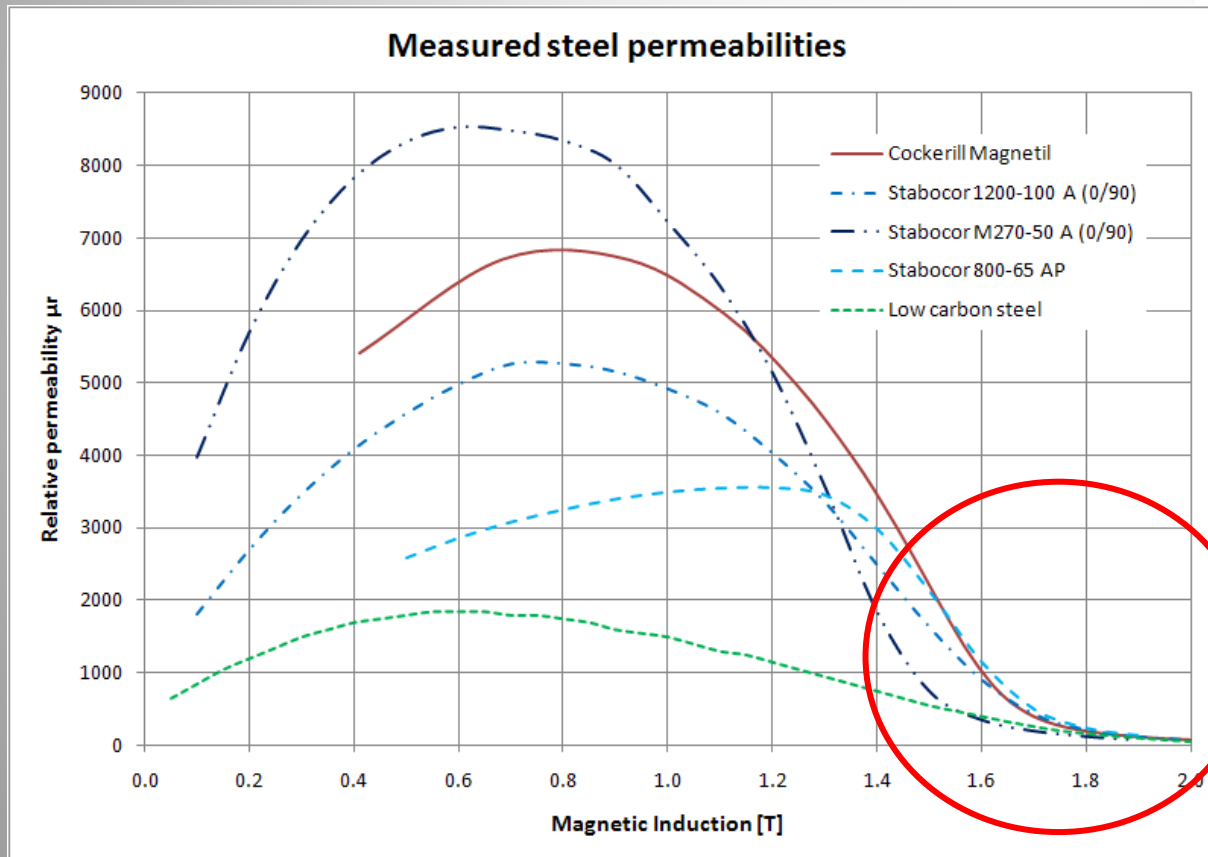
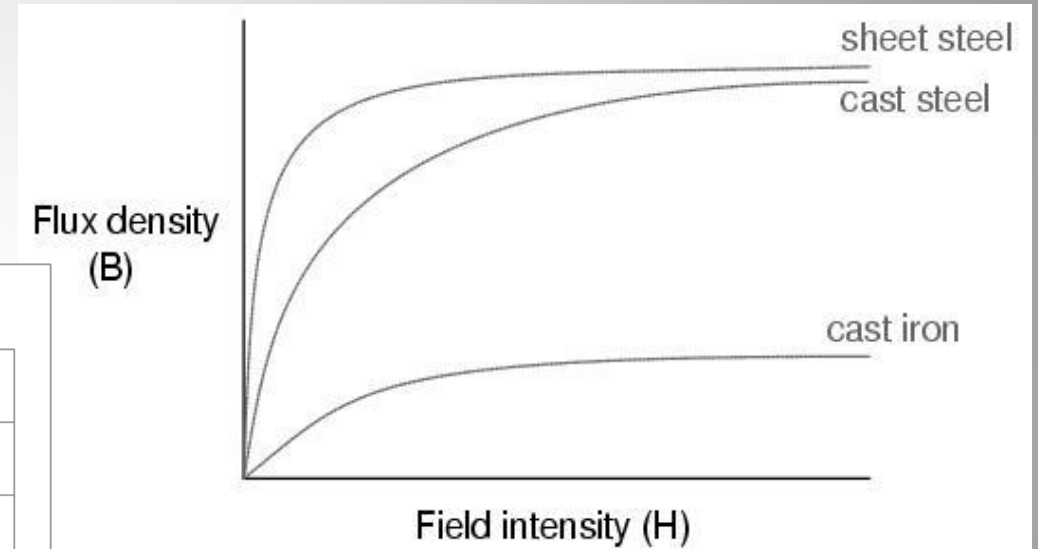


Non-linear permeability

Permeability: correlation between magnetic field strength H and magnetic flux density B

$$\vec{B} = \mu \vec{H}$$

$$\mu = \mu_0 \mu_r$$



Ferro-magnetic materials: high permeability ($\mu_r \gg 1$), but not constant

The permeability decreases at low and at high magnetic induction

→ Iron saturation!



Iron Saturation

$I = 32 \text{ kA}$
 $B_0 = 0.09 \text{ T}$

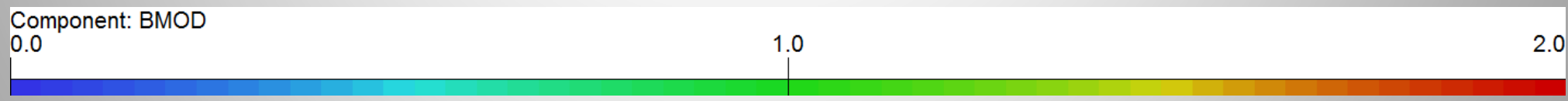
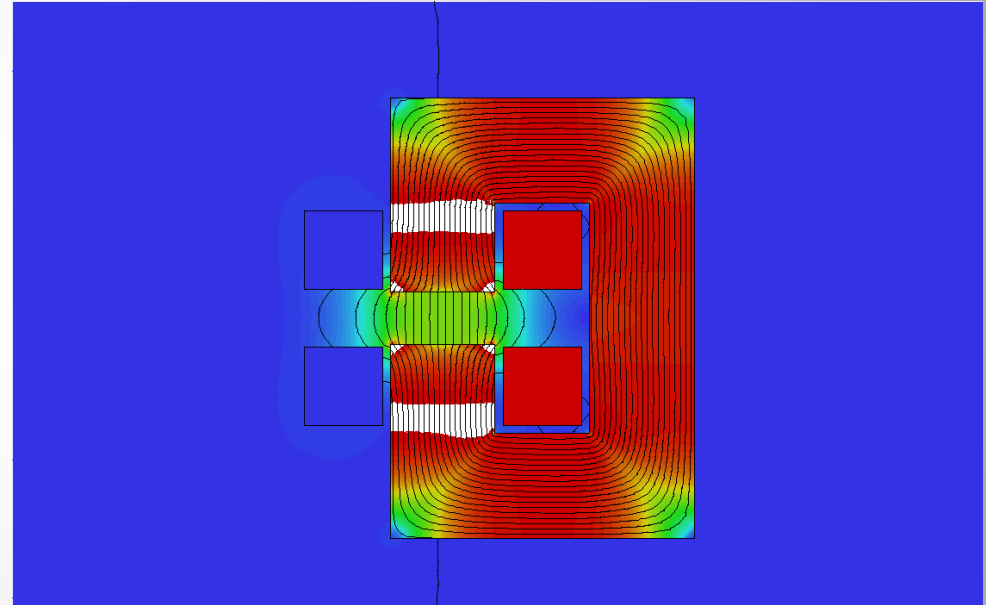
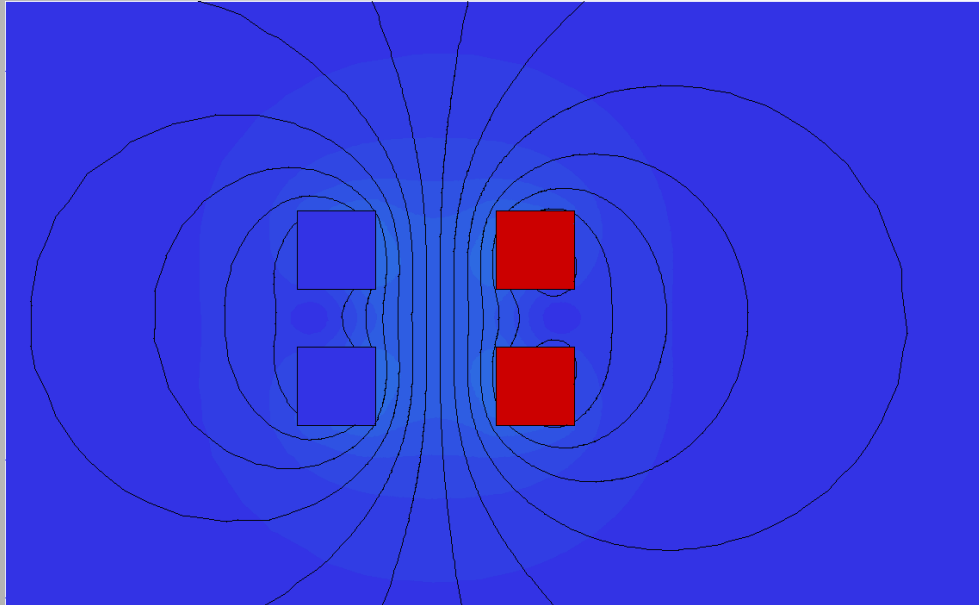


$I = 64 \text{ kA}$
 $B_0 = 0.18 \text{ T}$

$I = 32 \text{ kA}$
 $B_0 = 0.80 \text{ T}$



$I = 64 \text{ kA}$
 $B_0 = 1.30 \text{ T}$



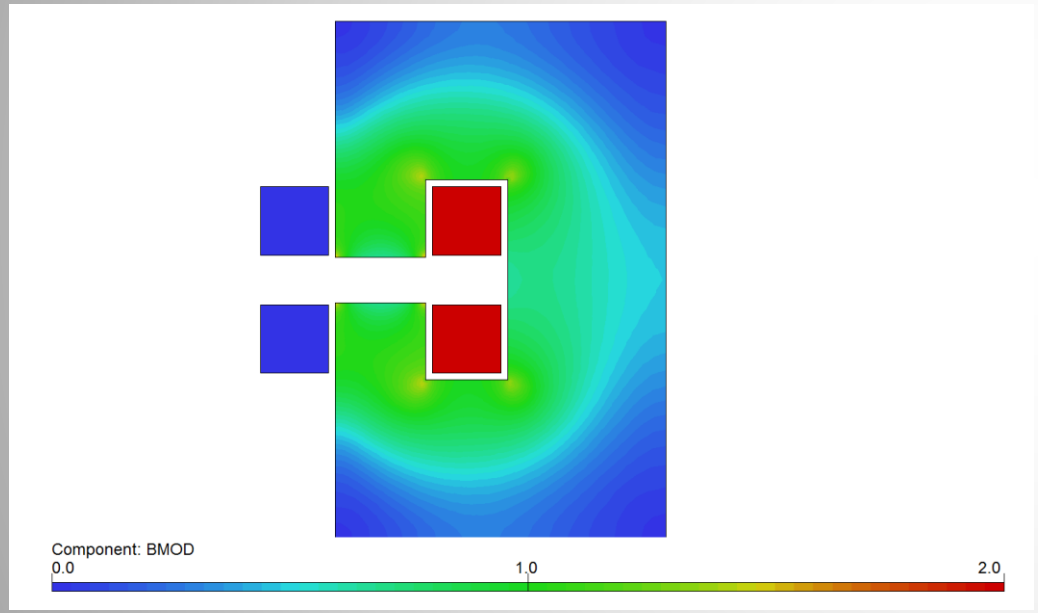
Iron saturation (small μ_{iron}) leads to non-linearities



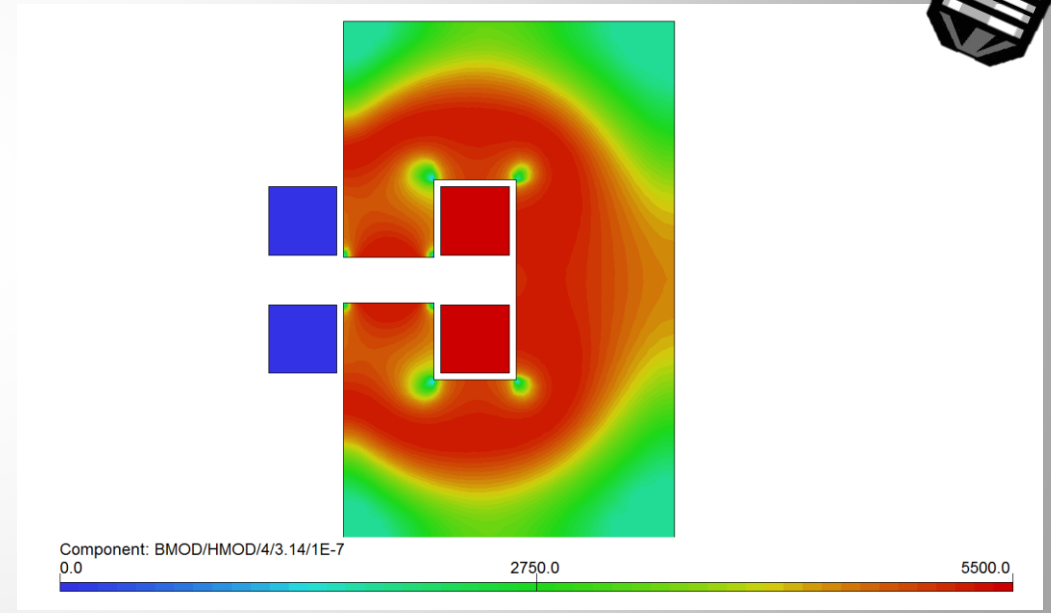
Iron Saturation



Flux density plot



Relative permeability plot

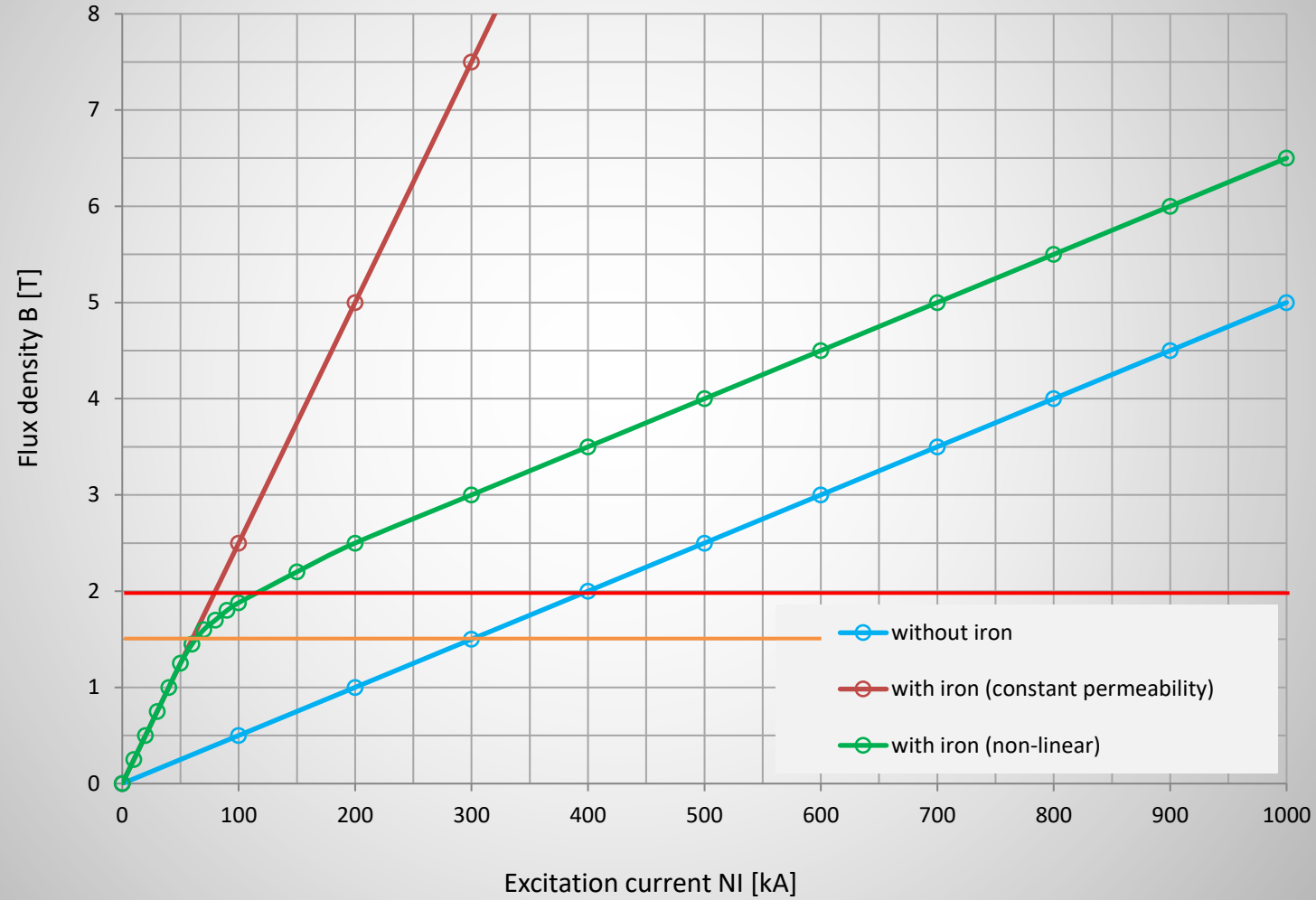


Iron saturation (small μ_{iron}) leads to inefficiencies



Iron Saturation

$$\vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{H} + \vec{J} = \mu_0 \mu_r \vec{H}$$

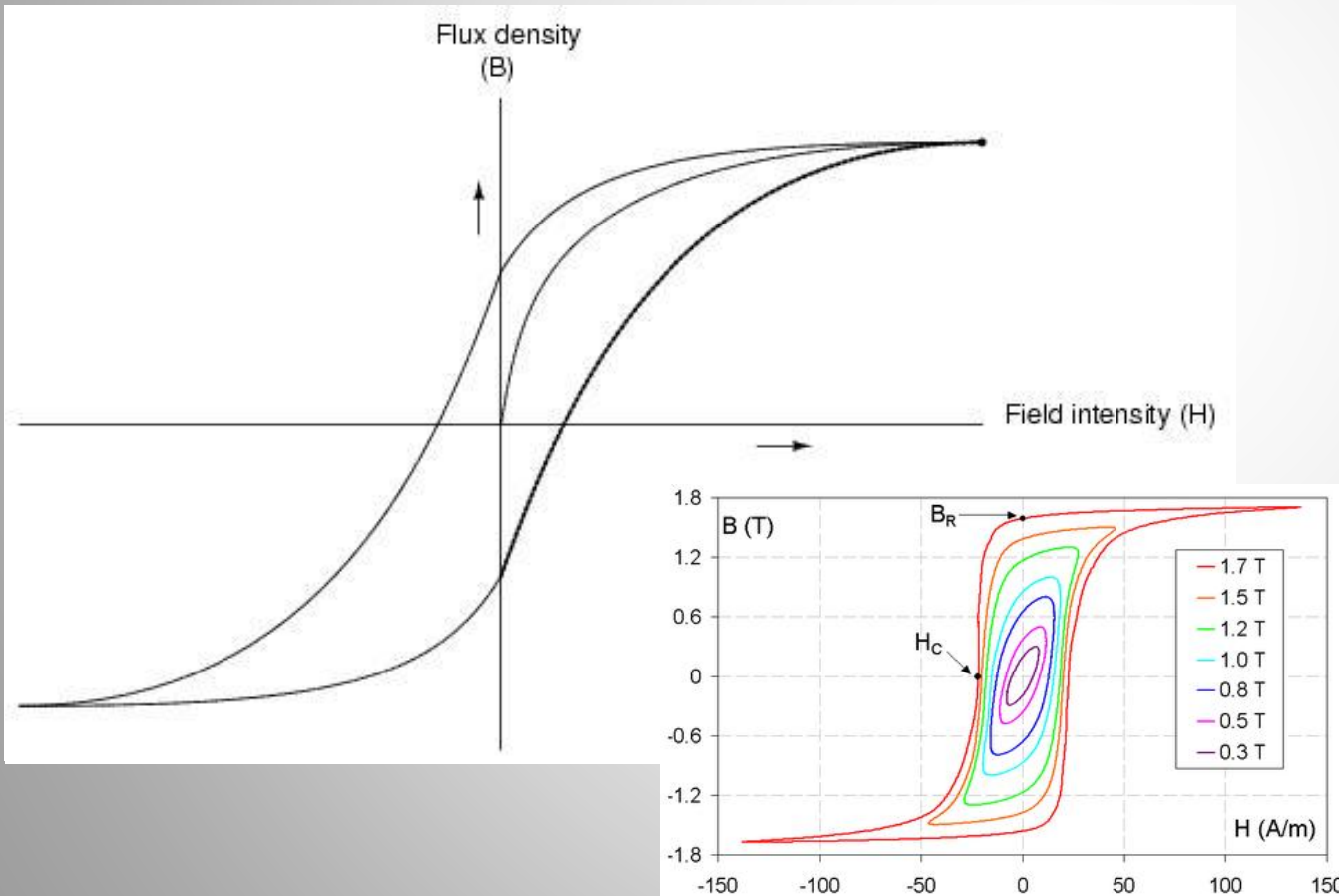


Increase of B above 1.5 T in iron requires non-proportional increase of H



Steel hysteresis

The flux density $B(H)$ as a function of the field strength is different, when **increasing** and **decreasing** excitation

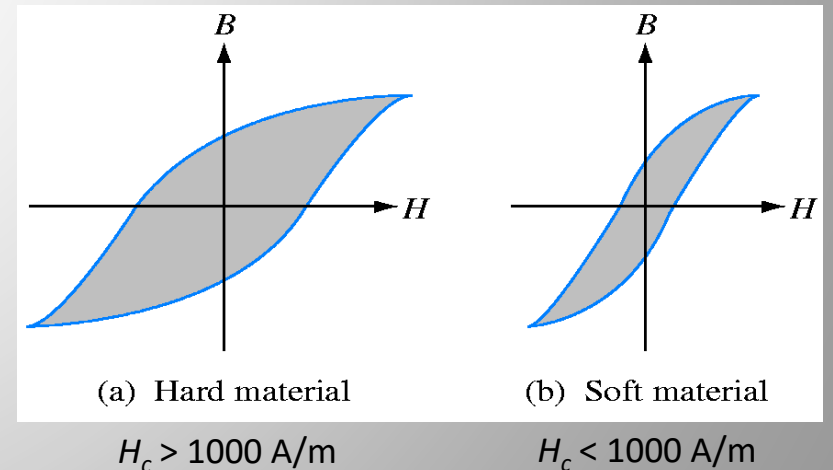


Remanent field (Retentivity):

$$H = 0 \rightarrow B = B_r > 0$$

Coercivity or coercive force:

$$B = 0 \rightarrow H = H_c < 0$$



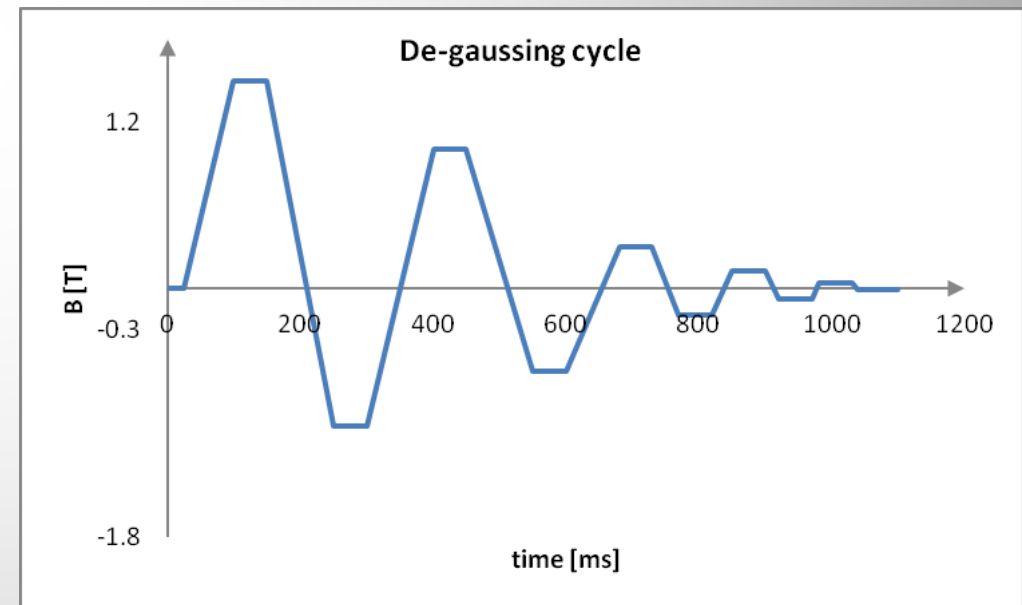
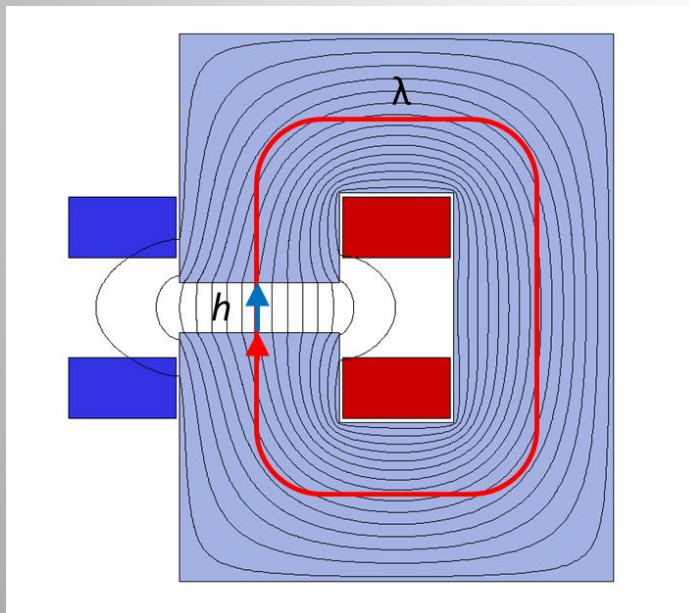
Residual field in a magnet

In a **continuous ferro-magnetic core** the residual field is determined by the remanent field B_r

In a **magnet core (gap)**, the residual field B_{res} is determined by the coercivity H_c

Assuming the coil current $I=0$:
$$\oint \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} = \int_{air} \vec{H}_{air} \cdot d\vec{s} + \int_{iron} \vec{H}_c \cdot d\vec{s} = 0$$

$$B_{res} = -\mu_0 H_c \frac{\lambda}{h}$$



The previous cycle history can have an influence on residual field in a magnet



Summary

- Coils carry the electrical current, the iron yoke carries and enhances the magnetic flux
- In **iron-dominated magnets**, the magnetic field is shaped by the geometry of the poles
- Magnetic steel is characterized by its relative (non-linear) **permeability** μ_r and its **coercivity** H_c
- Iron **saturation** influences the **efficiency** and **linearity** of the magnetic circuit and has to be taken into account in the design



Thanks for your attention...