















Gauss' law for magnetism: simple but useless

No isolated magnetic poles! The magnetic flux through any closed "Gaussian surface" will be ZERO. This is one of the four "Maxwell's equations".















Magnetic field of a magnetic dipole

A circular loop or a coil currying electrical current is a magnetic dipole, with magnetic dipole moment of magnitude μ =N*i*A. Since the coil curries a current, it produces a magnetic field, that can be calculated using Biot-Savart's law:

$$\vec{B}(z) = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{\vec{\mu}}{\left(R^2 + z^2\right)^{3/2}} \approx \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \frac{\vec{\mu}}{z^3}$$

All loops in the figure have radius r or 2r. Which of these arrangements produce the largest magnetic field at the point indicated?

