

# 14-Magnetic Circuits

ECEGR 3500

Electrical Energy Systems

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# ➤ Overview

- Introduction
- Ferromagnetic Materials
- Magnetic Circuit Assumptions
- Observations of Magnetic Circuits
- Magnetic Circuit Analysis

# → Introduction

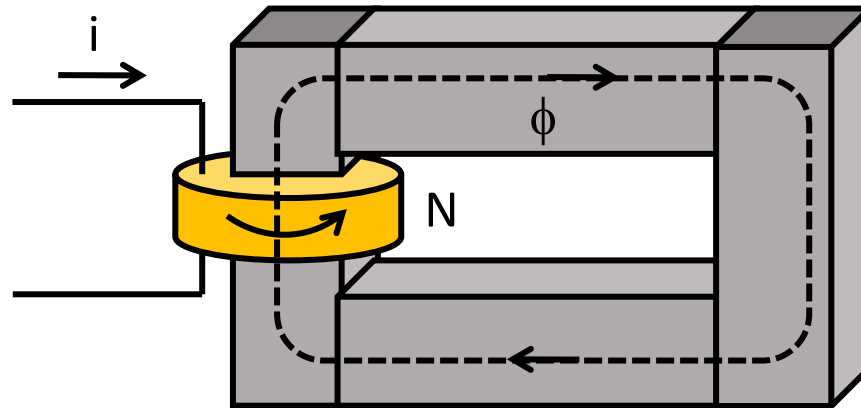
- Faraday's Law is the basis for transformer operation
- Application of Faraday's Law requires knowledge of flux density
- How can these quantities be computed for a given physical arrangement?

# » Ferromagnetic Materials

- Experience a strong attractive force to an applied magnetic field
  - Force can be several thousand times stronger than that in paramagnetic materials
  - Resulting magnetic field may be stronger than the applied field
- Ferromagnetic materials include
  - Iron, cobalt, nickel
- Relative permeability may be several thousand (compared with 1.0 for free space)

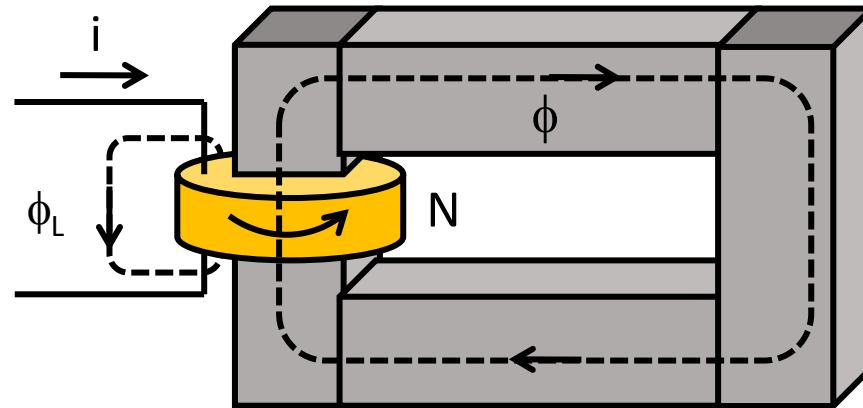
# ➤➤ Magnetic Circuit Assumptions

- Let magnetic flux be set up by a coil of wire with dc current,  $i$
- Current establishes flux  $\phi$  in the core
- Let there be  $N$  turns of wire on the coil



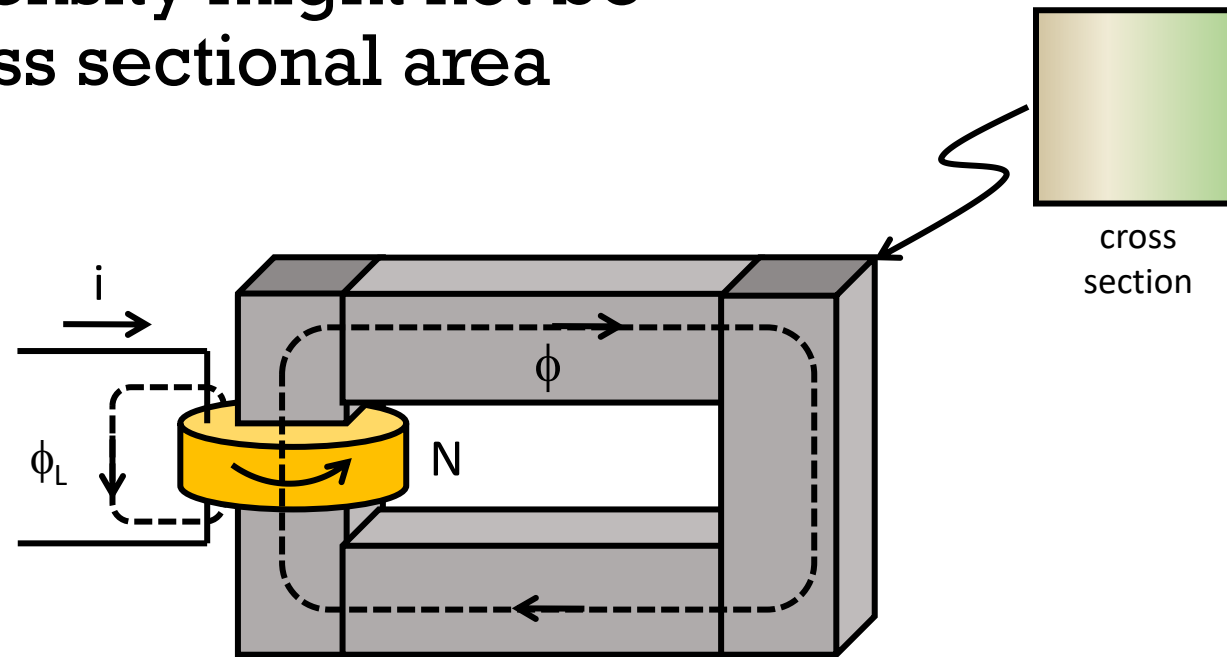
# ➤ Magnetic Circuit Elements

- Some flux does not pass through the core
  - leakage flux:  $\phi_L$
  - small compared to  $\phi$
- Leakage flux can be reasonably ignored



# ➤ Magnetic Circuit Elements

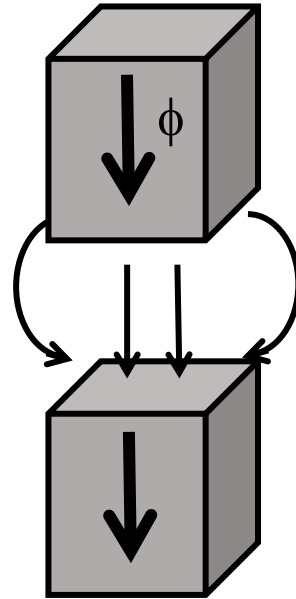
Magnetic flux density might not be uniform in a cross sectional area



# → Magnetic Circuit Elements

- Fringing occurs in air gaps
- Flux density decreases (cross sectional area increases)

Rest of magnetic  
circuit not shown



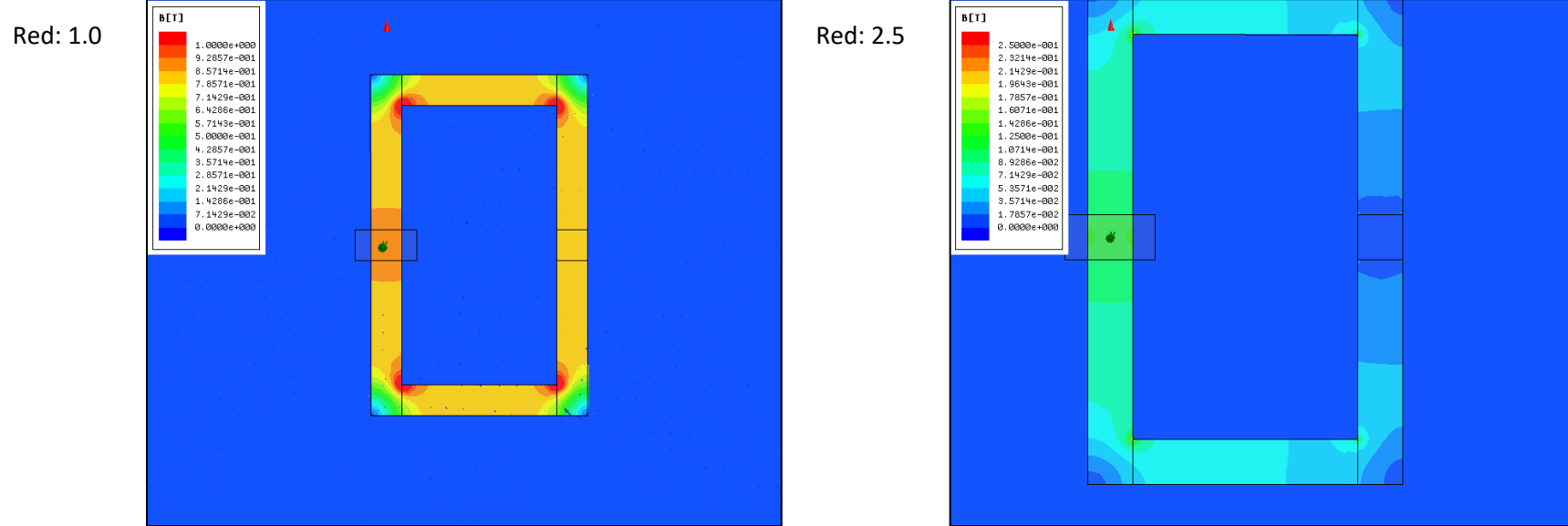


## → Summary: Magnetic Circuit Assumptions

- Magnetic flux flows entirely through the magnetic material (no leakage)
- Magnet flux density is uniform throughout the cross section the material
- Fringing across air-gaps is negligible

# → Magnetic Circuit Observations

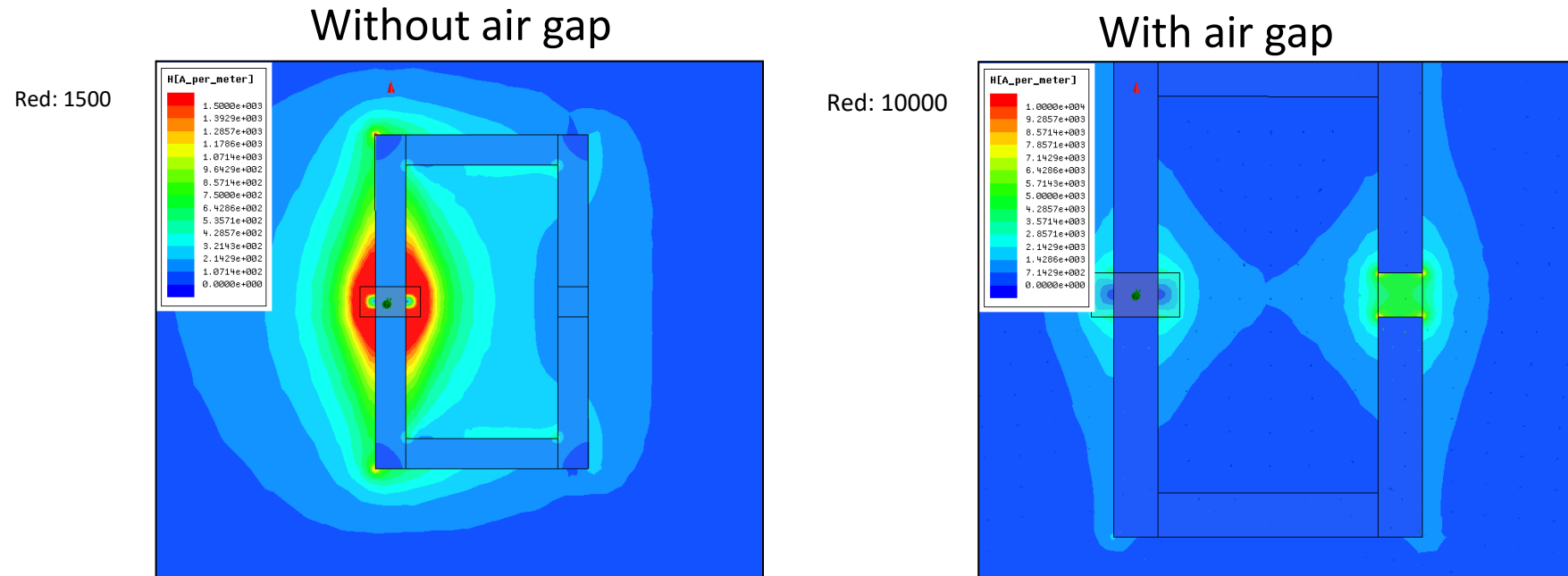
Flux density (flux) is less in a circuit with an air gap



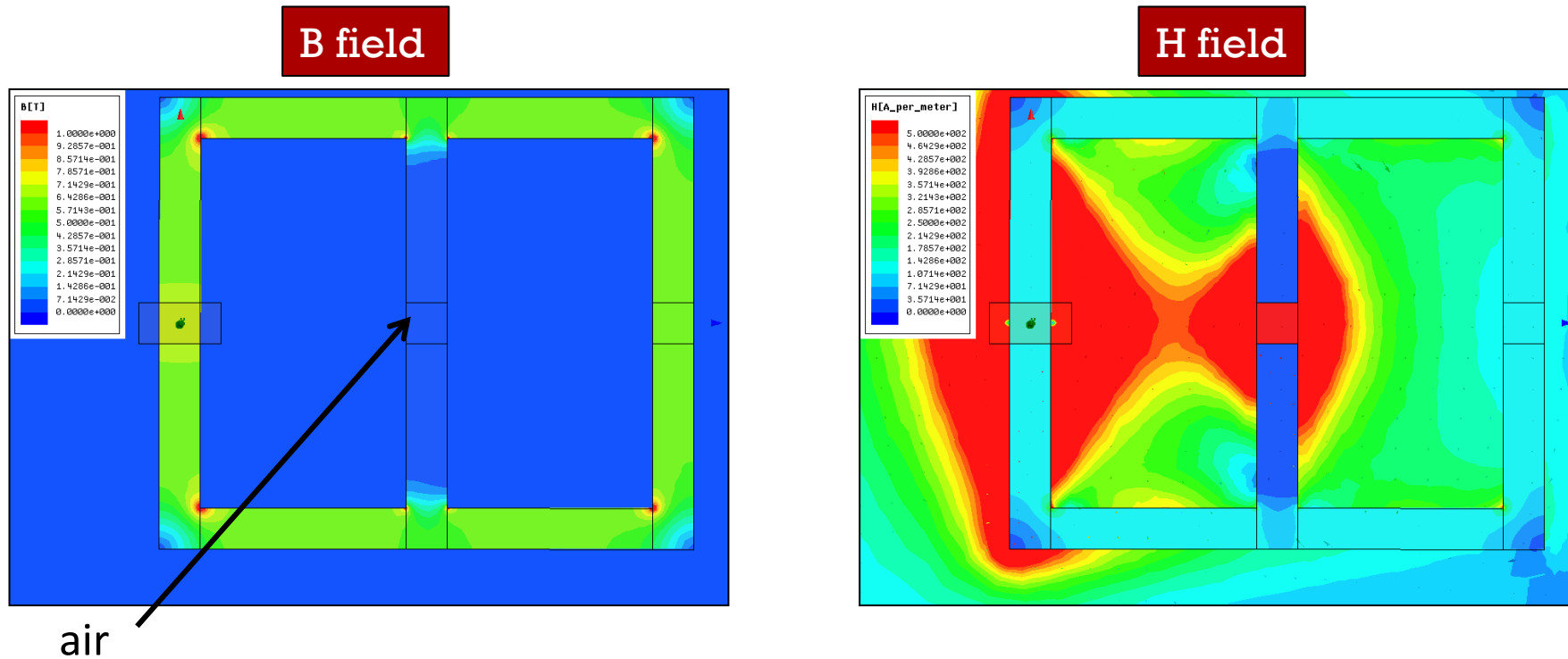
Note: circuits have same dimensions, but the zoom is different.

# → Magnetic Circuit Observations

Field intensity is low in iron (high permeability)  
and high in air gap (low permeability)

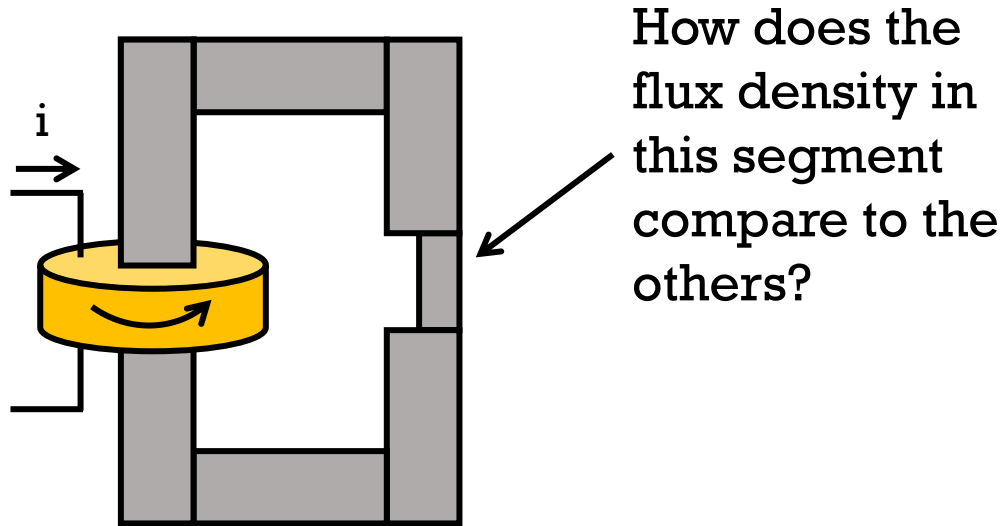


# → Magnetic Circuit Observations



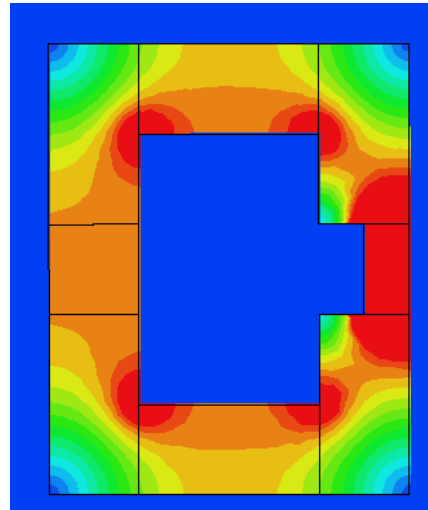
Also note: flux “prefers” path of high permeability.

# ➤ Magnetic Circuit Observations



Assume uniform depth

# ➤ Magnetic Circuit Observations



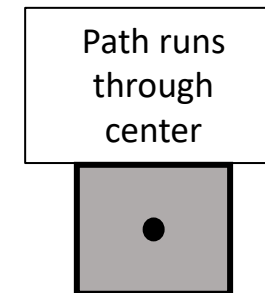
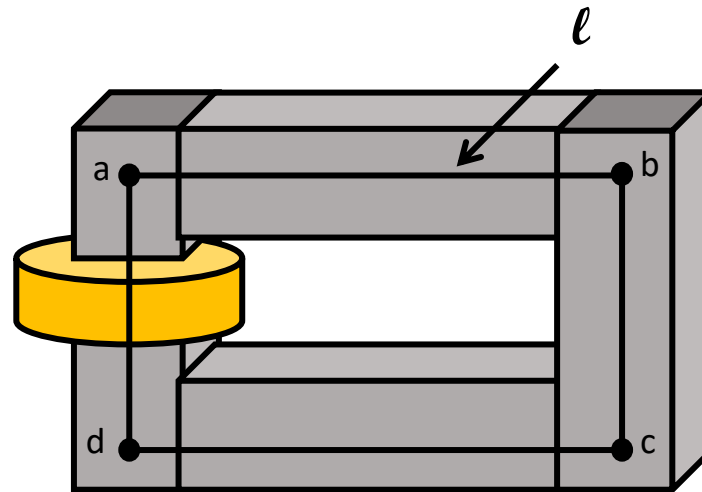
# » Magnetic Circuit Analysis

- We are often interested in designing magnetic circuits that maximize the flux through a winding or across an air gap
- The flux through a portion of a magnetic circuit depends on:
  - The source magnetic material
  - The physical properties of the magnetic circuit
    - Size (length, cross-sectional area)
    - Material

# → Magnetic Circuit Analysis

Let  $\ell$  be the mean length of the magnetic path (m)

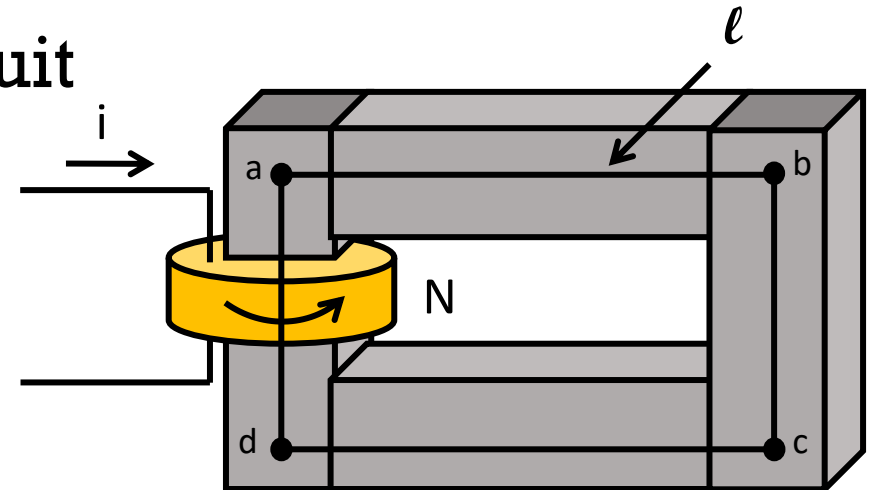
$$\ell = \ell_{ab} + \ell_{bc} + \ell_{cd} + \ell_{da}$$





# ➤ Magnetomotive Force (mmf)

- The current enclosed by the closed path through the core is (Ampere's Law)  $\oint_C \mathbf{H} \cdot d\ell = Ni = \mathcal{F}$
- where
  - $\mathcal{F}$ : magnetomotive force (A-t)
- mmf is analogous to voltage in a circuit



## » Flux in Magnetic Circuits

- Assuming that **H** is uniform in the material, then

$$H\ell = Ni$$

- The magnetic flux density in the material is also uniform and

$$B = \mu H = \frac{\mu Ni}{\ell}$$

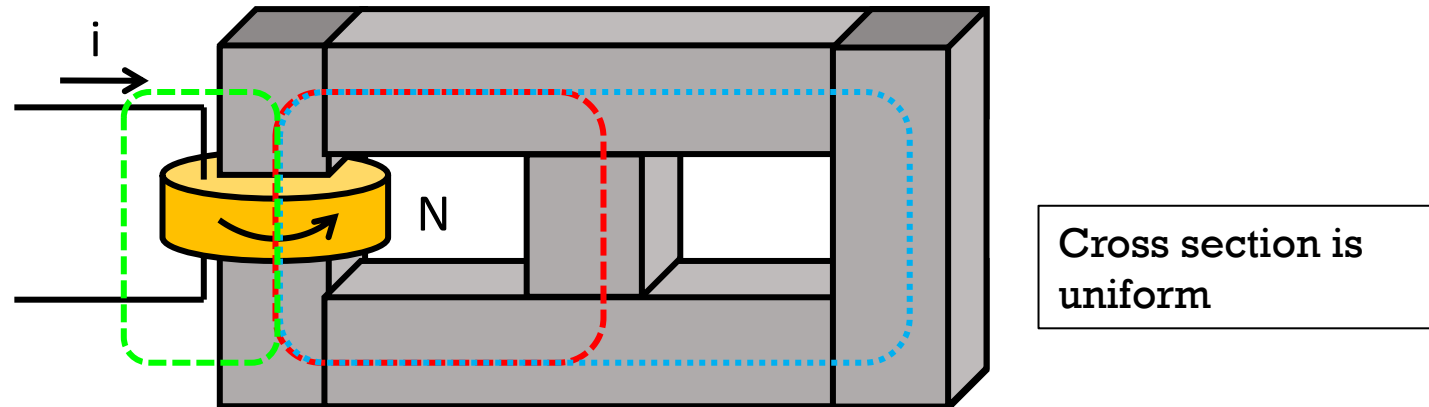
- The flux is:

$$\phi = BA = \frac{\mu NiA}{\ell}$$

- A: cross sectional area of the material (m<sup>2</sup>)

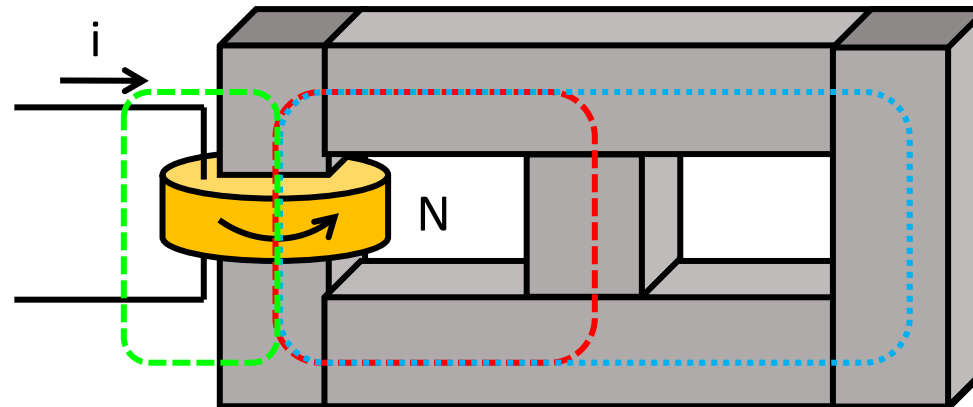
## Exercise

Which path (red, blue or green) results in the greatest mmf?



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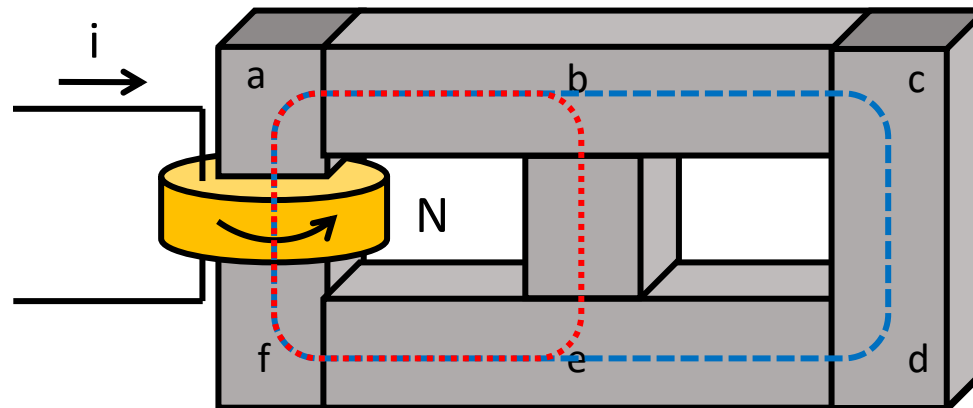
The mmf is the same. The same number of Ampere-turns is enclosed by each loop ( $Ni$ ).

$$\oint_C \mathbf{H} \cdot d\boldsymbol{\ell} = Ni = \mathcal{F}$$

# → Magnetic Circuit Analysis

mmf is the same, no matter which path is used

$$\begin{aligned} Ni &= H_{fa}l_{fa} + H_{ab}l_{ab} + H_{be}l_{be} + H_{ef}l_{ef} \\ &= H_{fa}l_{fa} + H_{ab}l_{ab} + H_{bc}l_{bc} + H_{cd}l_{cd} + H_{de}l_{de} + H_{ef}l_{ef} \end{aligned}$$



Cross section is uniform

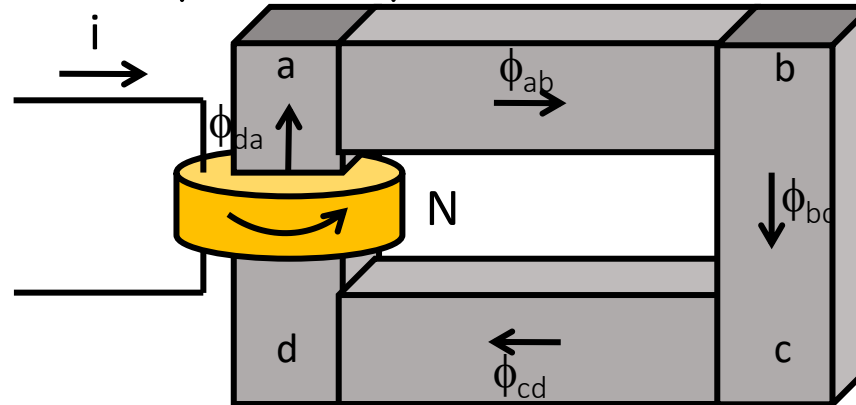
# → Magnetic Circuit Analysis

$$Ni = H_{da}l_{da} + H_{ab}l_{ab} + H_{bc}l_{bc} + H_{cd}l_{cd}$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \frac{B_{da}}{\mu} l_{da} + \frac{B_{ab}}{\mu} l_{ab} + \frac{B_{bc}}{\mu} l_{bc} + \frac{B_{cd}}{\mu} l_{cd} \quad \text{using: } H = B/\mu$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \left( \frac{B_{da}}{\mu} l_{da} + \frac{B_{ab}}{\mu} l_{ab} + \frac{B_{bc}}{\mu} l_{bc} + \frac{B_{cd}}{\mu} l_{cd} \right) \frac{A}{A}$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \phi_{da} \frac{l_{da}}{A\mu} + \phi_{ab} \frac{l_{ab}}{A\mu} + \phi_{bc} \frac{l_{bc}}{A\mu} + \phi_{cd} \frac{l_{cd}}{A\mu} \quad \text{using: } \phi = BA$$



Cross section is uniform

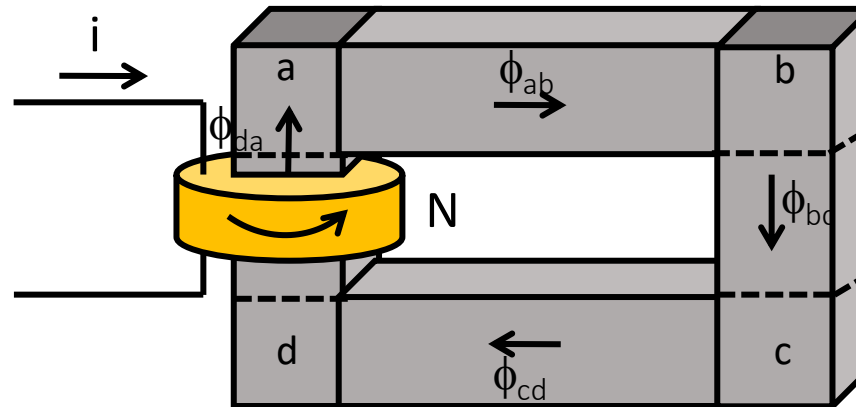
# → Magnetic Circuit Analysis

$$\mathcal{F} = \phi_{da} \frac{\ell_{da}}{A\mu} + \phi_{ab} \frac{\ell_{ab}}{A\mu} + \phi_{bc} \frac{\ell_{bc}}{A\mu} + \phi_{cd} \frac{\ell_{cd}}{A\mu}$$

$$\phi = \phi_{da} = \phi_{ab} = \phi_{bc} = \phi_{cd} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Since flux entering a boundary =} \\ \text{flux leaving the boundary} \\ \oint_s \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{s} = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \phi \left( \frac{\ell_{da}}{A\mu} + \frac{\ell_{ab}}{A\mu} + \frac{\ell_{bc}}{A\mu} + \frac{\ell_{cd}}{A\mu} \right)$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \phi (\mathcal{R}_{da} + \mathcal{R}_{ab} + \mathcal{R}_{bc} + \mathcal{R}_{cd}) \left\{ \mathcal{R} \triangleq \frac{\ell}{\mu A} \quad \mathcal{R}: \text{reluctance (A-t/Wb)} \right.$$



Cross section is uniform

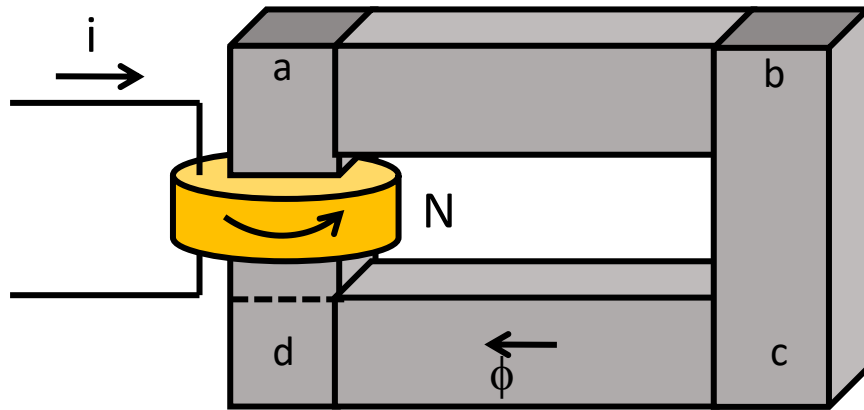
# → Magnetic Circuit Analysis

$$\mathcal{F} = \phi (\mathcal{R}_{da} + \mathcal{R}_{ab} + \mathcal{R}_{bc} + \mathcal{R}_{cd})$$

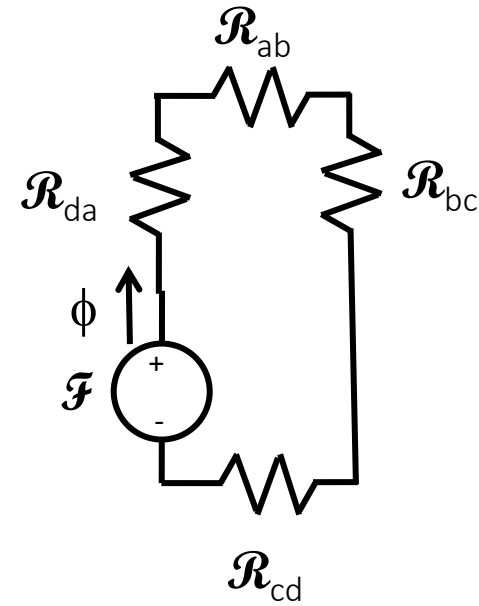
↑ voltage  
↑ current

resistance

Equation can be modeled and solved like a circuit. Important!



Circuit equivalent





# → Magnetic Circuits

- Note that

$$\phi = \frac{\mathcal{F}}{\mathcal{R}} = \frac{NiA\mu}{\ell}$$

- For electric circuits

$$i = \frac{V}{R} = \frac{V}{\frac{\ell}{\sigma A}}$$

- $\sigma$ : conductivity (S/m)

- Ohm's law for magnetic circuits  $\mathcal{F} = \phi\mathcal{R}$

- mmf = flux x reluctance

- Checking the units

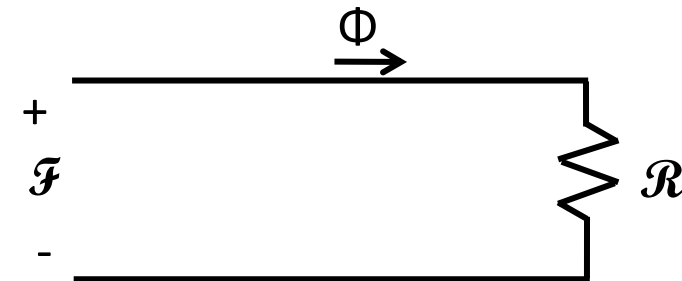
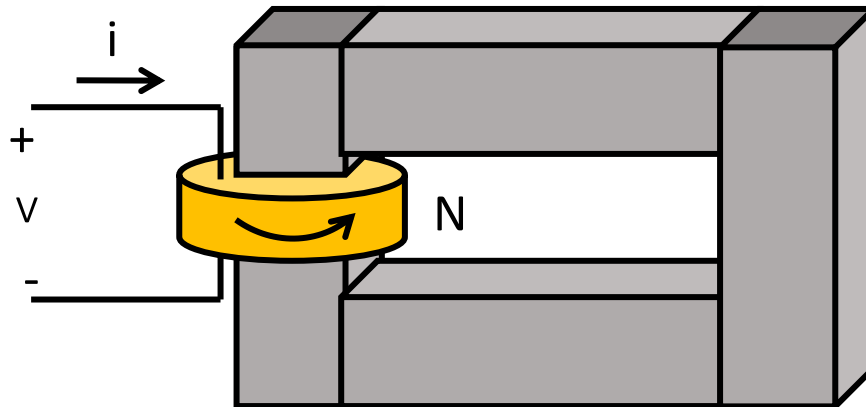
- A-t = Wb x (A-t/Wb) = A-t

Analogous equations



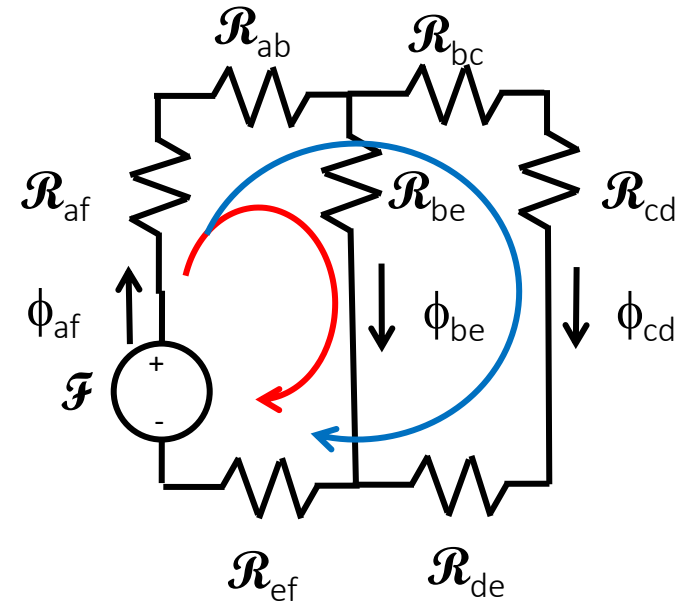
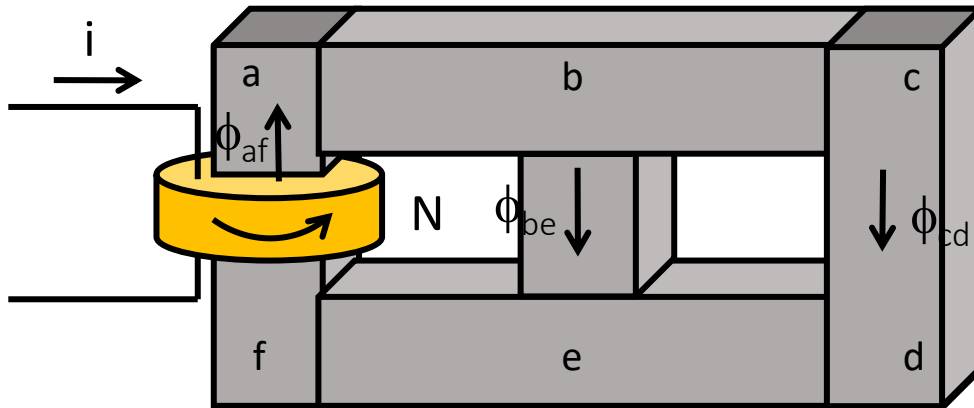
# → Magnetic Circuits

Circuit Quantity	Magnetic Quantity
Voltage, $v$ (volt)	mmf, $\mathcal{F}$ (A-turns)
Current, $i$ (Ampere)	magnetic flux, $\phi$ , (Wb)
Resistance, $R$ (Ohm)	Reluctance, $\mathcal{R}$ , (A-turns/Wb)
Conductivity, $\sigma$ (S/m)	Permeability, $\mu$ (H/m)



# ➤ Magnetic Circuit Analysis

KVL and KCL and all other circuit theorems apply to equivalent electric circuit.

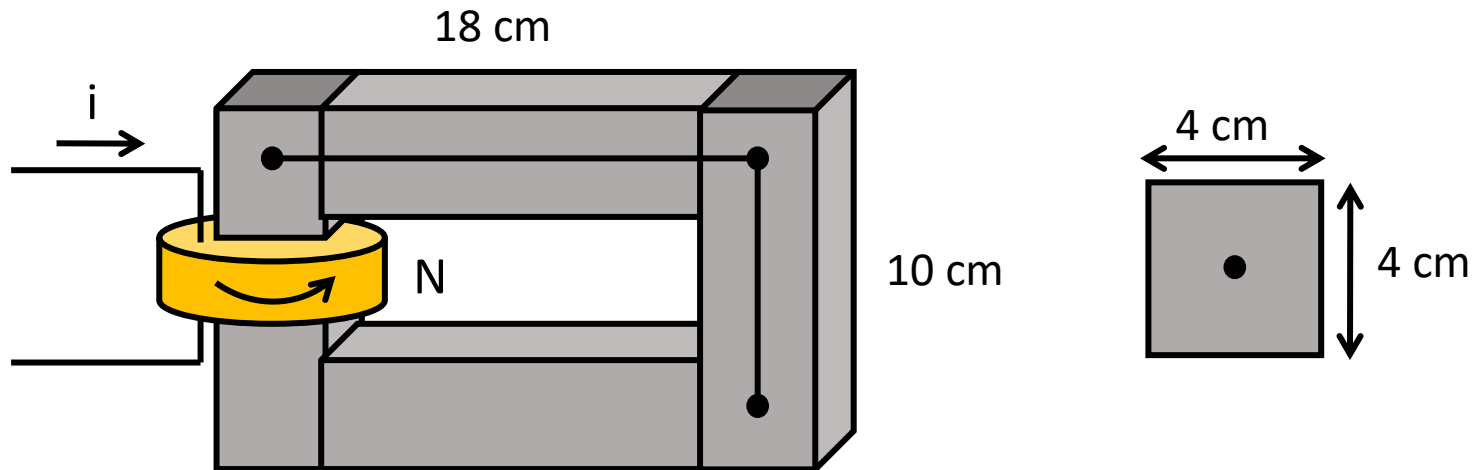


# » Magnetic Circuit Analysis

- Note: linear circuits assumed in analogy, therefore the magnetic circuit must be linear
  - Linear magnetic circuit = constant permeability
  - Ferromagnetic materials do not have constant permeability (see BH curve)
- Non-linear magnetic circuits can be solved iteratively

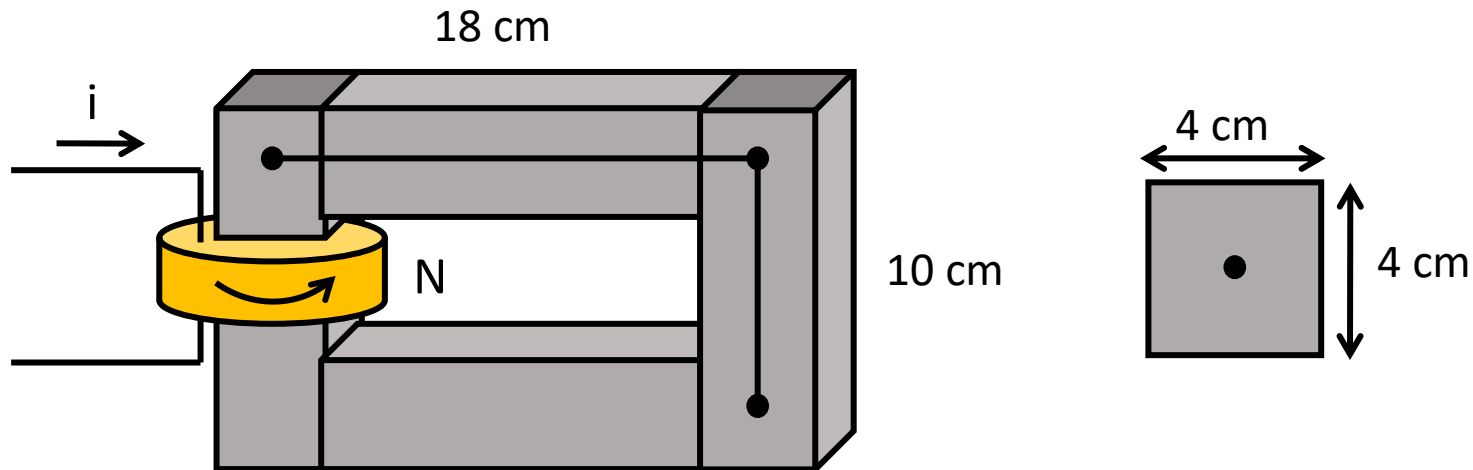
## Example

- Compute the flux flowing through the material given:
  - $i = 1 \text{ A}$
  - $N = 700$
  - $\mu_r = 1000$  (assumed to be constant)



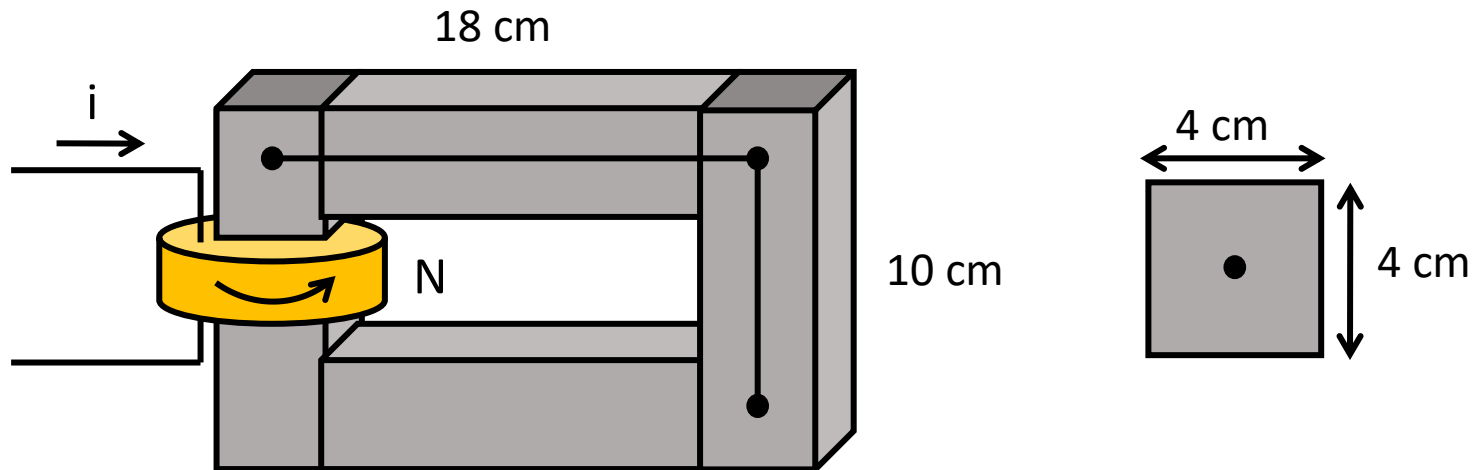
## Example

- Want to use:  $\mathcal{F} = Ni = \Phi \mathcal{R}$  ,  $\mathcal{R} = \frac{\ell}{\mu A}$
- First compute  $\ell$



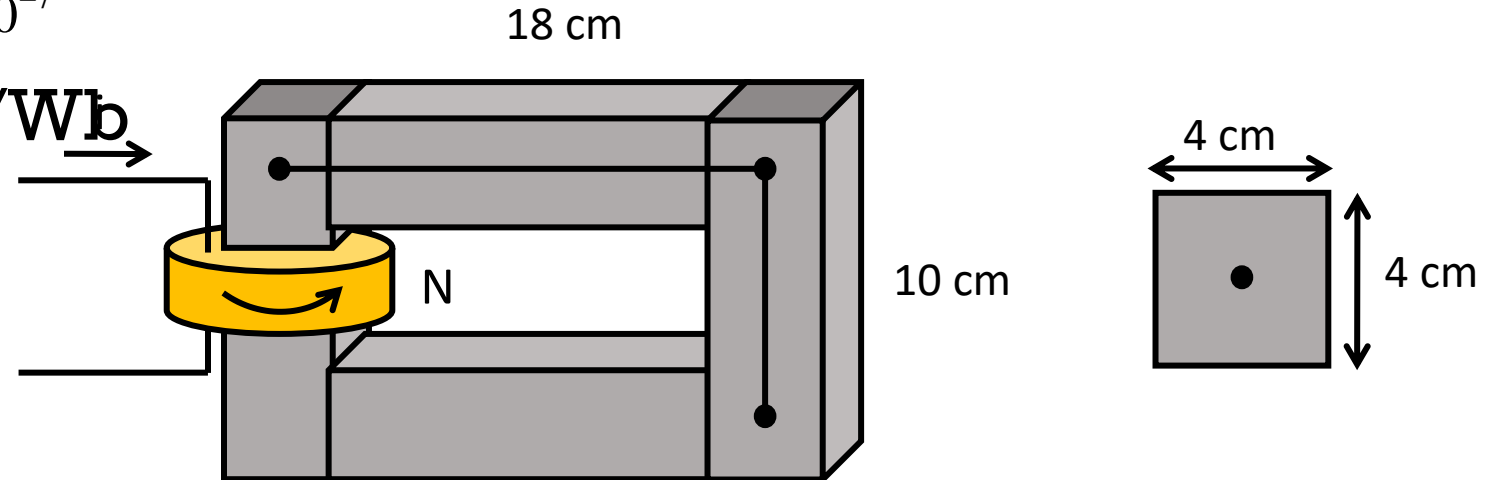
## Example

- First compute  $\ell$ 
  - $\ell = 18 + 10 + 18 + 10 = 0.56 \text{ m}$



## Example

- Want to use:  $\mathcal{F} = Ni = \Phi \mathcal{R}$ ,  $\mathcal{R} = \frac{0.56}{\mu A}$
- Computing  $A$ :  
 $A = 0.04 \times 0.04 = 0.0016 \text{ m}^2$
- Computing  $\mu$ :  $1000 \times 4\pi \times 10^{-7}$
- Gives:  $\mathcal{R} = 278,520 \text{ A-t/Wb}$



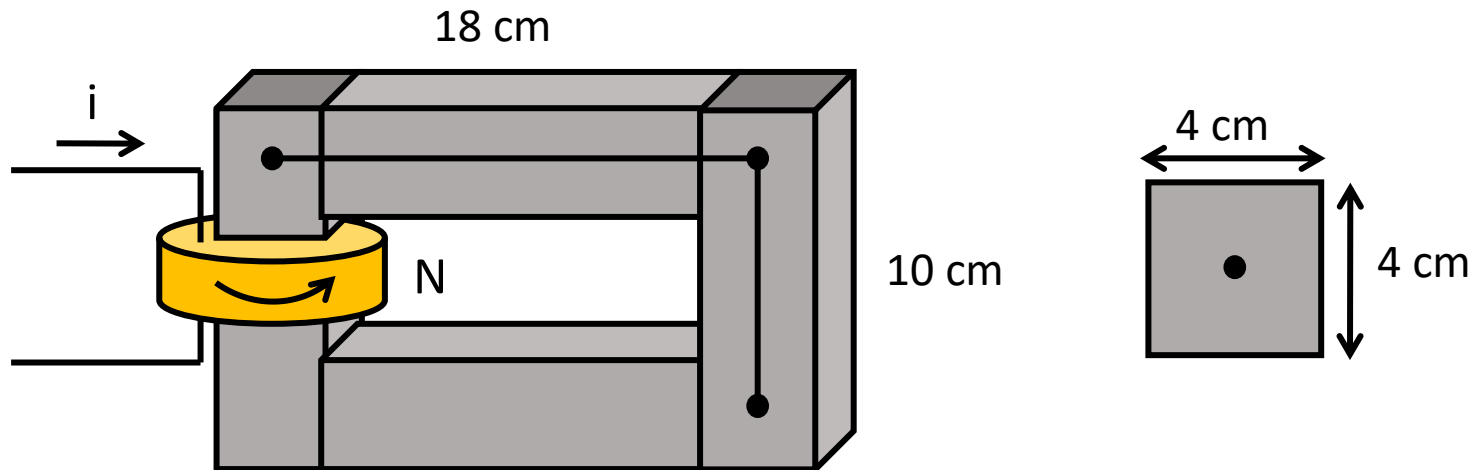


# Example

## ■ Solving

$$\mathcal{F} = Ni = \Phi \mathcal{R}$$

$$\Phi = \frac{Ni}{\mathcal{R}} = \frac{700 \times 1}{278520} = 0.0025 \text{ Wb}$$



# Summary

- Basic assumptions for magnetic circuit analysis:
  - No leakage
  - Uniform flux density
  - No fringing across air-gaps
- Assumptions are reasonable for most magnetic circuits