

WJEC England Physics GCSE

Specified Practical Magnetic Fields









SP8.2 Investigation of the force due to the magnetic field of coils

Equipment

- Iron C core
- Flexible insulated wire
- Paper clips
- 4V D.C. power supply

Diagram

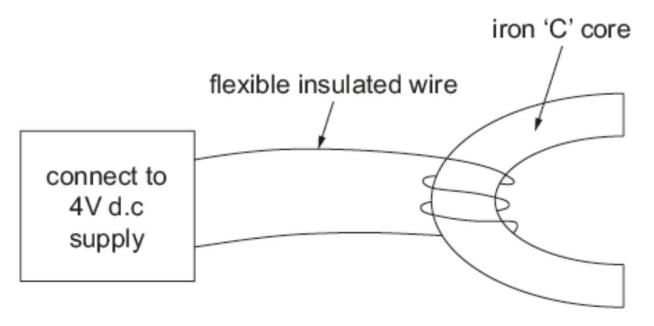


Image: Eduqas

Method

- 1. Set up the circuit as shown in the diagram.
- 2. Wrap the wire around the core 10 times (forming a coil with 10 turns).
- 3. Turn on the power supply and place the now-electromagnet into a pile of paper clips and record the number it picks up.
- 4. Turn off the power supply and add 10 turns to the coil.
- 5. Place the electromagnet onto the paper clips again and record the number it picks up.
- 6. Repeat this process, increasing the number of turns by ten each time up to 70 turns.
- 7. Plot a graph of number of paperclips against number of turns.

Safety Precautions

- Ensure the power is switched off before making any changes to the circuit.
- The wires on the electromagnet can heat up so avoid touching them after disconnecting the power supply, allowing them to cool.

