

5.39 In terms of the dc current I , how much magnetic energy is stored in the insulating medium of a 3 m long, air-filled section of a coaxial transmission line, given that the radius of the inner conductor is 5 cm and the inner radius of the outer conductor is 10 cm?

Solution: From Eq. (5.99), the inductance per unit length of an air-filled coaxial cable is given by

$$L' = \frac{\mu_0}{2\pi} \ln \left(\frac{b}{a} \right) \quad (\text{H/m}).$$

Over a length of 3 m, the inductance is

$$L = 3L' = \frac{3 \times 4\pi \times 10^{-7}}{2\pi} \ln \left(\frac{10}{5} \right) = 416 \times 10^{-9} \quad (\text{H}).$$

From Eq. (5.104), $W_m = LI^2/2 = 208I^2$ (nJ), where W_m is in nanojoules when I is in amperes. Alternatively, we can use Eq. (5.106) to compute W_m :

$$W_m = \frac{1}{2} \int_V \mu_0 H^2 dV.$$

From Eq. (5.97), $H = B/\mu_0 = I/2\pi r$, and

$$W_m = \frac{1}{2} \int_{z=0}^{3m} \int_{\phi=0}^{2\pi} \int_{r=a}^b \mu_0 \left(\frac{I}{2\pi r} \right)^2 r dr d\phi dz = 208I^2 \quad (\text{nJ}).$$
