Chapter#15

Electrical Measuring Instruments

Moving Coil Galvanometer

The Moving Coil Galvanometer is used for measurement of small currents

Construction:

The essential parts of a moving coil galvanometer are

- A U-shaped permanent magnet with cylindrical concave pole-pieces.
- A flat coil of thin enamel insulated wire (usually rectangular)
- A soft iron cylinder
- A scalar lamp and scale arrangement

Working:

When a current pass through the galvanometer coil, it

Under equilibrium condition:

$$\tau_D = \tau_S$$

$$BINA\ Cos\alpha = C\theta$$

Where

α = the angle between the plane of the coil and direction of the field

If the magnetic field were uniform (as with flat pole pieces) and cos α factor would not be constant. Then the current "I" would not be proportional to "θ" and the scale of the galvanometer not linear. However, due to the radial magnetic field the plane of the coil is always parallel to the field irrespective of the position of the coil rotates. So α the angle between the plane of the coil and direction of the field is always zero. Hence

$$Cos\,(0°) = 1$$

Since C, B, A and N are constant for