29.4 Motion of a charged particle in a uniform magnetic field

The magnetic force acting on a charged particle moving in a magnetic field is perpendicular to the velocity of the particle, and consequently, the work done on the particle by the magnetic force is zero.

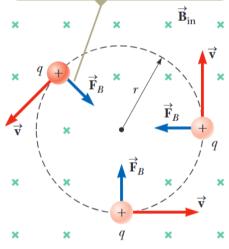
Because F_B always points toward the circle's center, it changes only the direction of v and not its magnitude.

The rotation is counterclockwise for a positive charge. If *q* were negative, the rotation would be clockwise.

$$F_{m} = F_{C}$$

$$qvB = m\frac{v^{2}}{r}$$
29.2

The magnetic force $\vec{\mathbf{F}}_B$ acting on the charge is always directed toward the center of the circle.



From this equation (29.2), one can calculate **the radius of the path** of a charged particle,

$$r = \frac{mv}{qB}$$

Also, we can calculate the angular speed,

$$\omega = \frac{\mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{r}} = \frac{qB}{m}$$

Cyclotron frequency f (number of revolutions per second):

$$f = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} = \frac{qB}{2\pi m}$$

Moreover, the time period,

$$T = \frac{2\pi r}{v} = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = \frac{2\pi m}{qB}$$

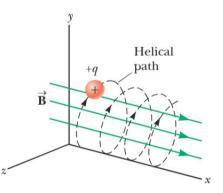
Please remember that the period of the motion T is the time that the particle takes to complete one revolution and is equal to the circumference of the circle divided by the linear speed of the particle.

General Case: Helical Motion

• If the particle's velocity has **both parallel and perpendicular components** to B:

 $v = v_\perp + v_\parallel$

- The particle moves in a **helix**:
 - $\circ \quad Circular \ motion \ due \ to \ v_{\perp}.$
 - \circ Uniform motion along the magnetic field direction due to v_{II}.



> Velocity Parallel to Magnetic Field

• If the particle moves **parallel** to B ($\theta=0^{\circ}$ or 180°):

F=qvBsin0=0

• No force, and the particle continues in a straight line with constant velocity.

Comments:

- Magnetic force does **no work** (because it's perpendicular to velocity).
- **Speed remains constant**, only the **direction** changes.
- Radius and frequency depend on the particle's mass, charge, velocity, and magnetic field strength.

Example-1: A proton is moving in a circular orbit of radius 14 cm in a uniform 0.35-T magnetic field perpendicular to the velocity of the proton. Find the speed of the proton.

Example-2: If an electron moves with linear velocity 5×10^3 m/s, under a perpendicular magnetic field of 8 T, what is the radius of its angular path.

A. 5 mm B. 3.6 nm C. 1.6 nm D. 1.4 μ m

Example-3: A 20 mC charge moves in a circular orbit making 20 turns/s. If the magnetic field, perpendicular to the motion, is 3 T, what is the mass of the particle?

A) 4.77×10⁻⁴ B) 9.54×10⁻⁴ C) 1.59×10⁻⁴ D) 0.24×10⁻⁴

Example-4: An electron ($q=1.6\times10^{-19}$ C, m=9.1×10⁻³¹ kg) moves perpendicular to a 0.5 T magnetic field with speed 2×10⁶ m/s.

- 1. Find the radius of the circular path.
- 2. Find the frequency of revolution.

Example-5: The time period for one complete revolution of a charged particle in a magnetic field depends on:

A) Speed of the particleB) Charge of the particleC) Mass of the particleD) Both B and C

Example-6: What happens to the radius of a charged particle's path if the magnetic field strength is doubled?

A) DoubledB) HalvedC) UnchangedD) Zero

Exampl-7: If a charged particle enters a magnetic field at some angle other than 90° or 0° , what will be its path?

A) Straight lineB) CircularC) HelicalD) Random motion

Example-8: A proton and an electron enter a magnetic field perpendicular to their velocities. How will their circular paths compare?

A) Same radius, same directionB) Different radii, same direction

C) Same radius, opposite directions

D) Different radii, opposite directions