

Physics 3B Week 8: Magnetic Forces and Magnetic Fields

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Name: Andrea Silvestri ID#: _____

TA: Andrea Silvestri

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1. Problem 1

A combination of electric $\vec{E}$ and magnetic fields $\vec{B} = B\hat{j}$, with $B = 20.0$ mT, forms a velocity selector. Find the direction and the magnitude of $\vec{E}$ such that an electron with kinetic energy $E_e = 2.0 \times 10^{-16}$ Joules moving along the x-axis remains undeflected. (mass of the electron $m_e = 9.11 \times 10^{-31}$ kg)

$$\text{magnetic force: } \vec{F}_B = q \vec{v} \times \vec{B} = -e (v\hat{i} \times B\hat{j}) \\ = -\hat{k} (evB).$$

for undeflection we impose:

$$\vec{F}_{\text{tot}} = \vec{F}_E + \vec{F}_B = 0$$

$$\vec{F}_E = -\vec{F}_B \Rightarrow \vec{F}_E = +\hat{k} F_E = \hat{k} (eE)$$

$$\text{therefore } eE = evB \Rightarrow E = vB$$

Since the kinetic energy is:

$$KE = \frac{1}{2} m v^2 \Rightarrow v = \sqrt{\frac{2KE}{m_e}}$$

the Electric field must be:

$$E = \sqrt{\frac{2KE}{m_e}} B \left(\frac{kV}{m} \right)$$

$$E = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 2.0 \times 10^{-16} \text{ J}}{9.11 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}}} \times (0.02 \text{ T}) = 420 \left(\frac{kV}{m} \right)$$

$$\boxed{\vec{E} = +\hat{k} (420) \left(\frac{kV}{m} \right)}$$

to the positive
z-direction.