Magnetic Fields (II)

Text sections 29.4, 29.5

Force on a current-carrying wire

Torque on a current loop

For practice: Chapter 29, Objective Questions 7, 11 Conceptual Questions 2, 6 Problems 13, 15, 16, 27, 73

Magnetic Forces

Charged Particle:
$$\vec{F} = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

Straight wire, Uniform B:
$$\vec{F} = I\vec{L} \times \vec{B}$$

B not uniform, and/or wire not straight: the force dF on a short segment of vector length ds is

 $\mathbf{dF} = I\mathbf{ds} \times \mathbf{B}$

The total force on the wire is

$$\mathbf{F} = \int_{\substack{along \\ wire}} I \mathbf{ds} \times \mathbf{B}$$



Example



Find the force on:

- a) The straight wire
- b) The semicircular wire
- c) The whole circuit

For (b): start with force **dF** due to an infinitesimal piece, and do the integral.

Quiz

The magnetic force on the straight wire is:

- A) Into the page
- B) Out of the page
- C) Left \leftarrow
- D) Right \rightarrow
- E) Zero





Exercise: set up the integrals and find F_x , F_y .

Theorem: For a closed current loop, in a uniform magnetic field,

Total magnetic force = 0

Proof:
$$\vec{F} = \int I d\vec{s} \times \vec{B}$$

= $I\{\int d\vec{s}\} \times \vec{B}$ (if **B** is a constant vector)

BUT: $\int d\vec{s} = 0$ for a closed loop!



Although there is no net force on a circuit in a uniform field, there may be a net torque. The torques due to equal and opposite forces applied at different locations do not necessarily cancel.

We can calculate the torque directly for a rectangular loop. There is also a simple rule, which applies to a loop of any shape. First we need to define the "magnetic dipole moment" (a vector) for a current loop. **Torque on a Current Loop (Uniform B)** *Example: a rectangular loop*



Exercise: Find the 4 forces on the 4 sides of the rectangle, and show that they produce a net torque equal to $(Iwh)Bcos\theta$.

rectangular loop







Magnetic Moment $\vec{\mu}$

(or "magnetic dipole moment")

<u>Define</u> the magnetic moment of a current loop by

$$\vec{\mu} \equiv \vec{IA}$$

$$(\vec{A} = "vector area" of loop)$$



Then the **torque** on a circuit in a <u>uniform</u> field \vec{B} is

$$\vec{\tau} = \vec{\mu} \times \vec{B}$$

The magnetic dipole moment is a measure of the "magnetic strength" of a current loop or magnet.



Example

Find the torque on a flat, horizontal, circular coil due to the magnetic field of the Earth.



<u>Find</u>: Torque (magnitude and direction)



First step: What is the direction of the magnetic moment of the circuit?

- A) NorthB) SouthC) EastD) West
- E) Up



What is the direction of the *torque vector*?

A) North
B) South
C) East
D) West
E) Up