

**Chapter 29b:**  
**Force on an Electric Charge**  
**Moving in a Magnetic Field**

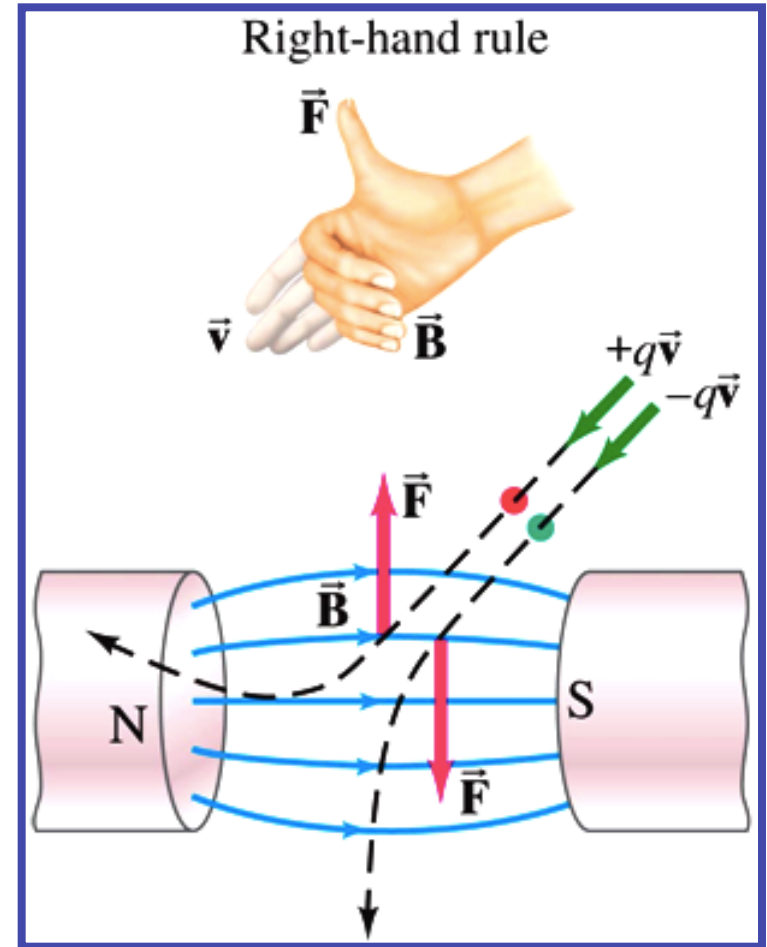
# Force on a Moving Charge in a Uniform Magnetic Field

- For this case, the **force  $\vec{F}$**  is obviously related to the force on a current & is given by:

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}.$$

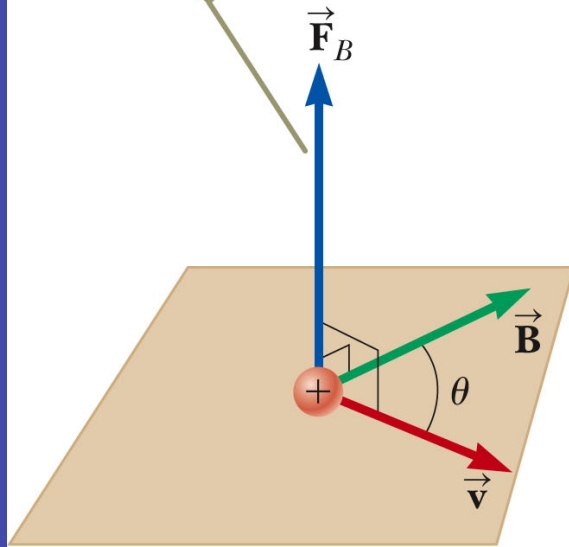
- Again, the direction of  **$\vec{F}$**  is given by a

*Right-Hand Rule.*

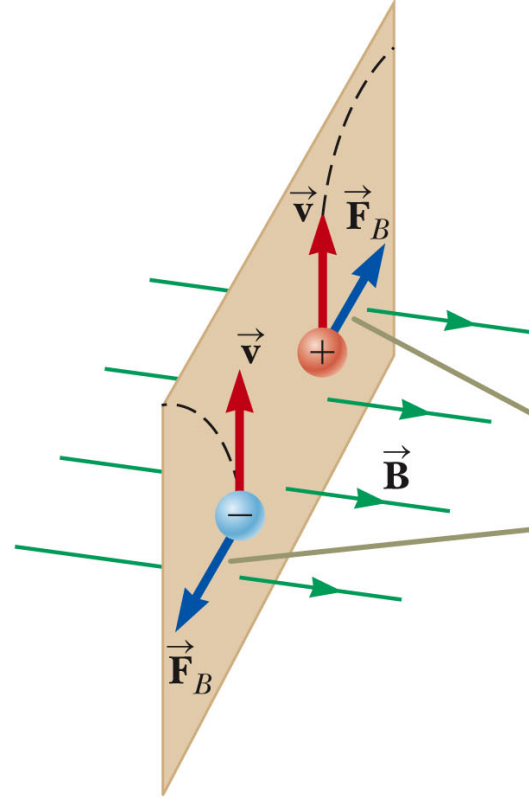


# More About Direction

The magnetic force is perpendicular to both  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{B}$ .



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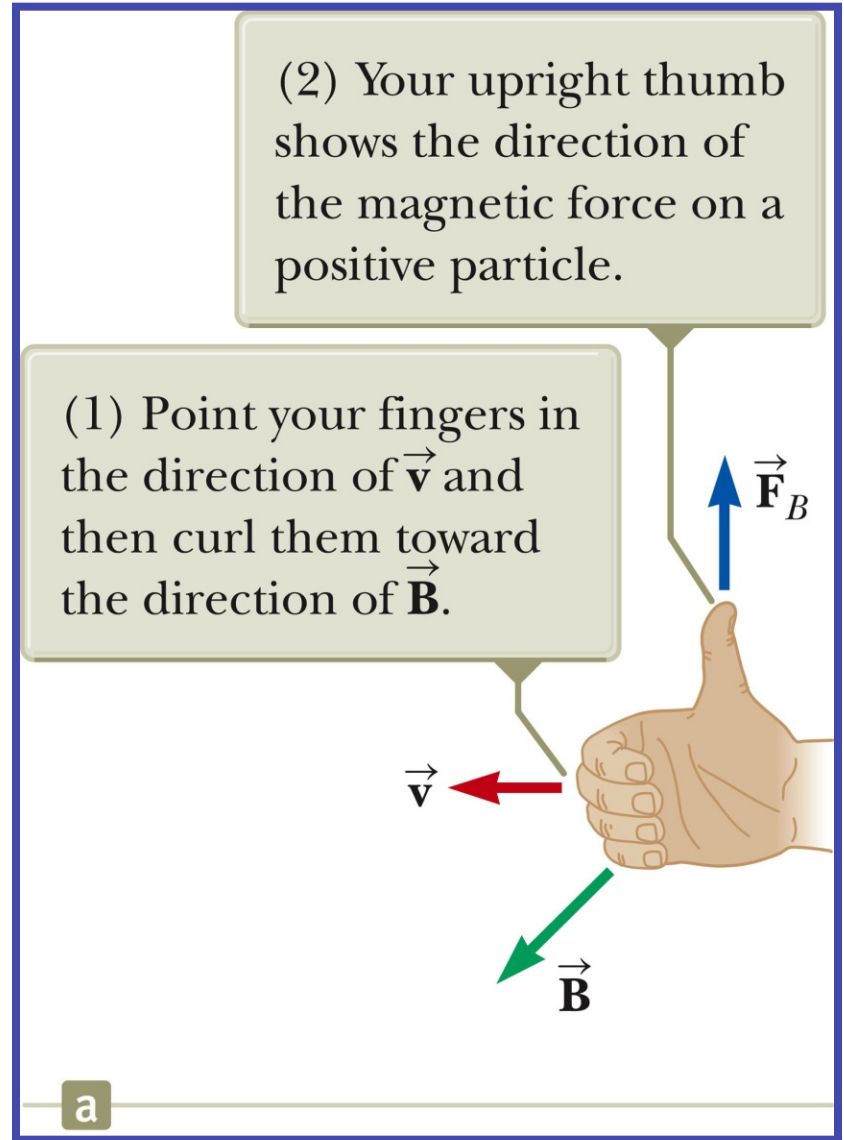


The magnetic forces on oppositely charged particles moving at the same velocity in a magnetic field are in opposite directions.

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# Direction: Right-Hand Rule #1

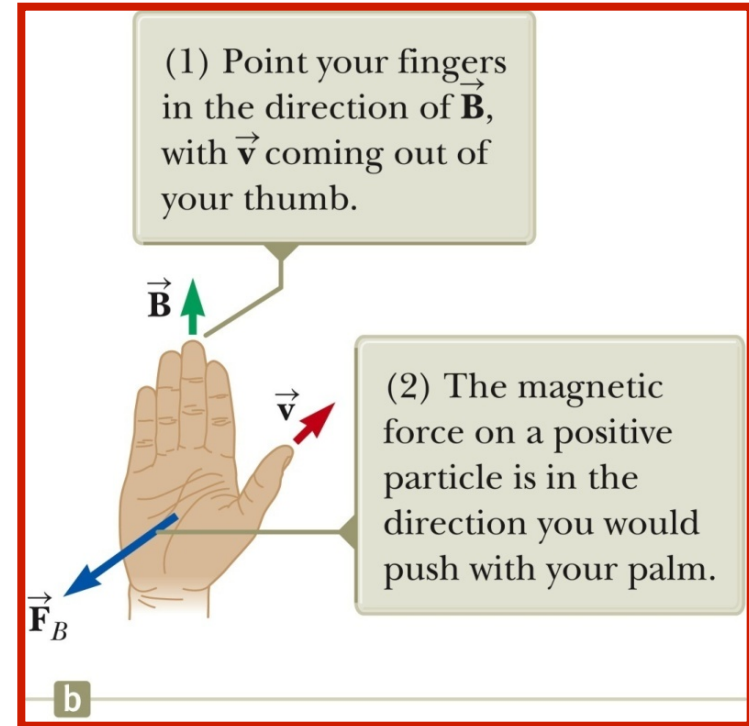
- This rule is based on the right-hand rule for the cross product.
- Your thumb is in the direction of the force if  $q$  is positive.
- The force is in the opposite direction of your thumb if  $q$  is negative.



# Direction: **Right-Hand Rule #2**

## Alternative to **Rule #1**

- The force on a positive charge extends outward from the palm.
- The advantage of this rule is that the force on the charge is in the direction you would push on something with your hand.
- The force on a negative charge is in the opposite direction.



# More About the Magnitude of $F$

- The magnitude of the magnetic force on a charged particle is

$$\mathbf{F}_B = |q| v B \sin \theta$$

- $\theta$  is the smaller angle between  $\mathbf{v}$  &  $\mathbf{B}$
- $\mathbf{F}_B$  is zero when the field & velocity are parallel or antiparallel ( $\theta = 0$  or  $180^\circ$ )
- $\mathbf{F}_B$  is a maximum when the field & velocity are perpendicular  $\theta = 90^\circ$

# Differences Between Electric & Magnetic Fields

## Direction of the Force on a Point Charge

- The electric force acts along the direction of the electric field.
- The magnetic force acts perpendicular to the magnetic field.

## Motion

- The electric force acts on a charged particle regardless of whether the particle is moving.
- The magnetic force acts on a charged particle only when the particle is in motion.

# More Differences Between Electric & Magnetic Fields

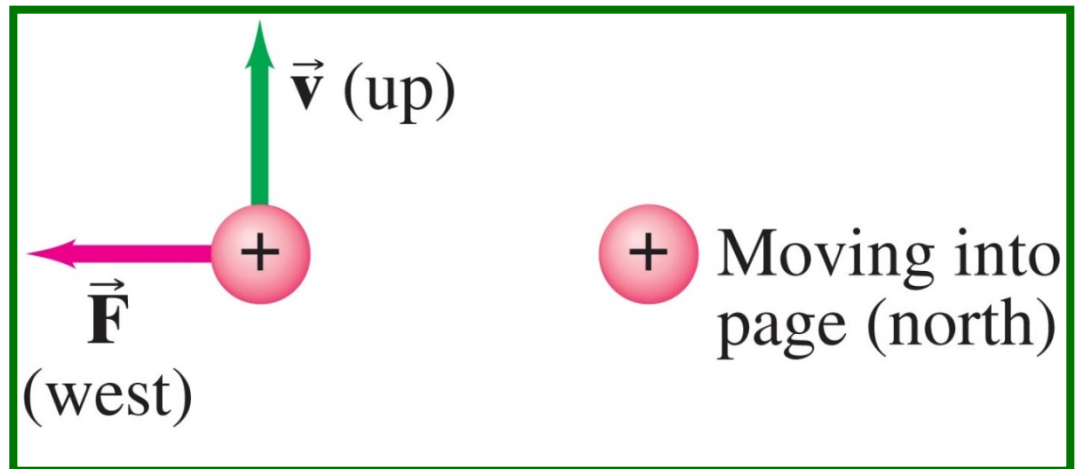
## Work

- The electric force does work in displacing a charged particle.
- The magnetic force associated with a steady magnetic field does no work when a particle is displaced.
- This is because the force is perpendicular to the displacement of its point of application.
- The kinetic energy of a charged particle moving through a magnetic field can't be altered by the magnetic field alone.
- When a charged particle moves with a given velocity through a magnetic field, the field can alter the direction of the velocity, but not the speed or the kinetic energy.



## Example: Magnetic Force on a Proton.

A magnetic field exerts a force  $\mathbf{F} = 8.0 \times 10^{-14} \text{ N}$  toward the **west** on a proton moving **vertically up** at a **speed  $v = 5.0 \times 10^6 \text{ m/s}$** . When moving horizontally in a northerly direction, the force on the proton is zero. Calculate the magnitude & direction of the magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}$  in this region. (Proton charge:  $q = +e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$ .)



## Example: Magnetic Force on a Proton.

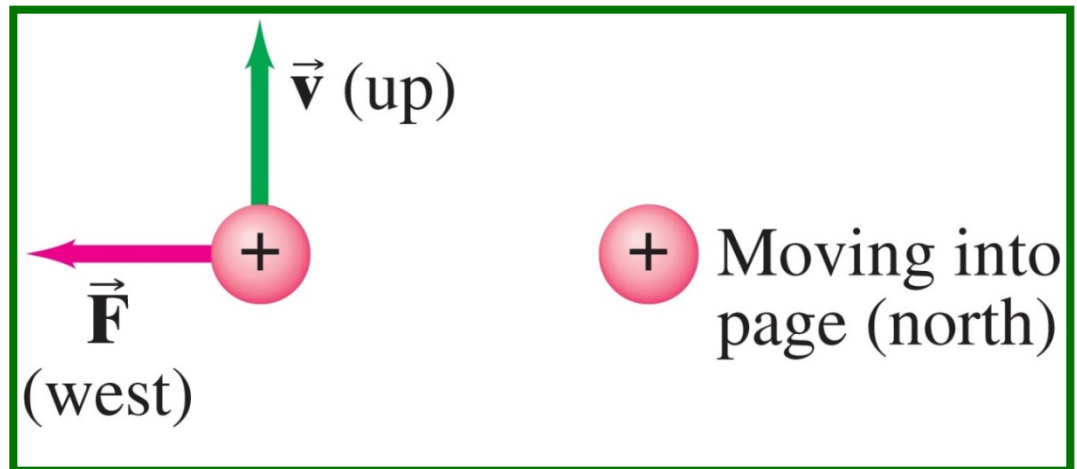
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**Solution:** Use

$$\vec{\mathbf{F}} = q\vec{\mathbf{v}} \times \vec{\mathbf{B}}.$$

**Solve & get:**

$$\mathbf{B} = 0.1 \text{ T}$$



## Example

### **Magnetic Force on Ions During a Nerve Pulse.**

Estimate the magnetic force  $\mathbf{F}$  due to the Earth's magnetic field ( $\mathbf{B} = 10^{-4} \text{ T}$ ) on ions crossing a cell membrane during an action potential. Assume that the speed of the ions is  $\mathbf{v} = 10^{-2} \text{ m/s}$  & that their charge is  $\mathbf{q} = 10^{-19} \text{ C}$ .

## Example

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**Solution:** Use

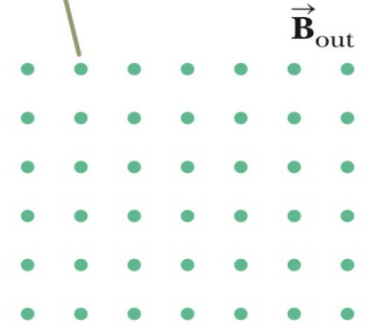
$$\vec{\mathbf{F}} = q\vec{\mathbf{v}} \times \vec{\mathbf{B}}.$$

**Solve & get:  $\mathbf{F} \sim 10^{-25} \text{ N}$**

# Notation Notes

- When vectors are perpendicular to the page, dots & crosses are used.
- The dots represent the arrows coming out of the page.
- The crosses represent the arrows going into the page.
- The same notation applies to other vectors.

Magnetic field lines coming out of the paper are indicated by dots, representing the tips of arrows coming outward.

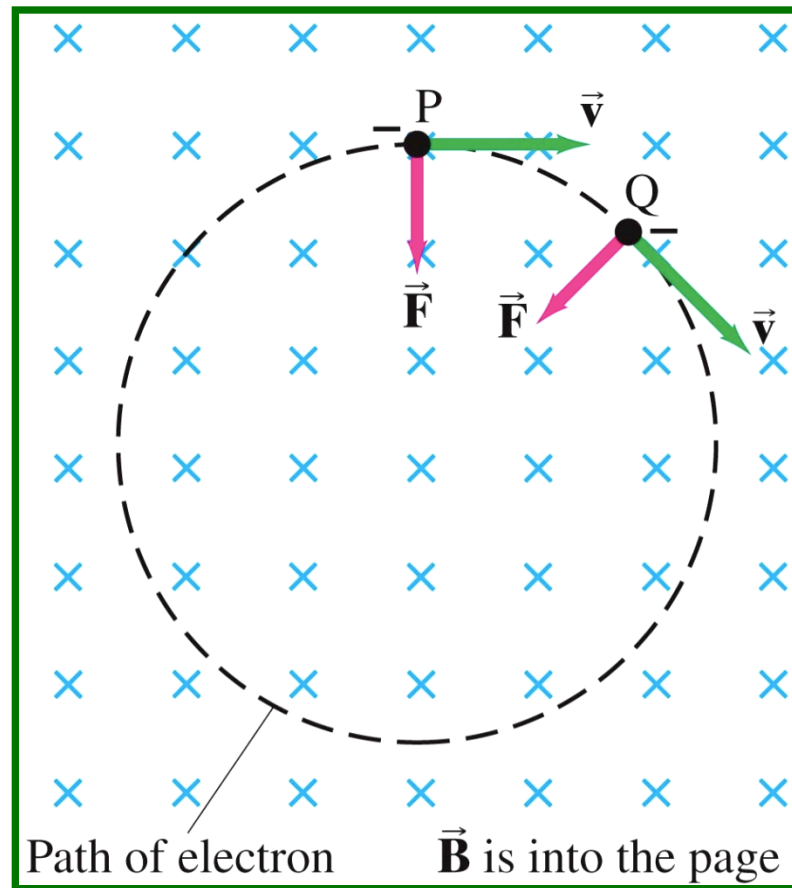


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Magnetic field lines going into the paper are indicated by crosses, representing the feathers of arrows going inward.



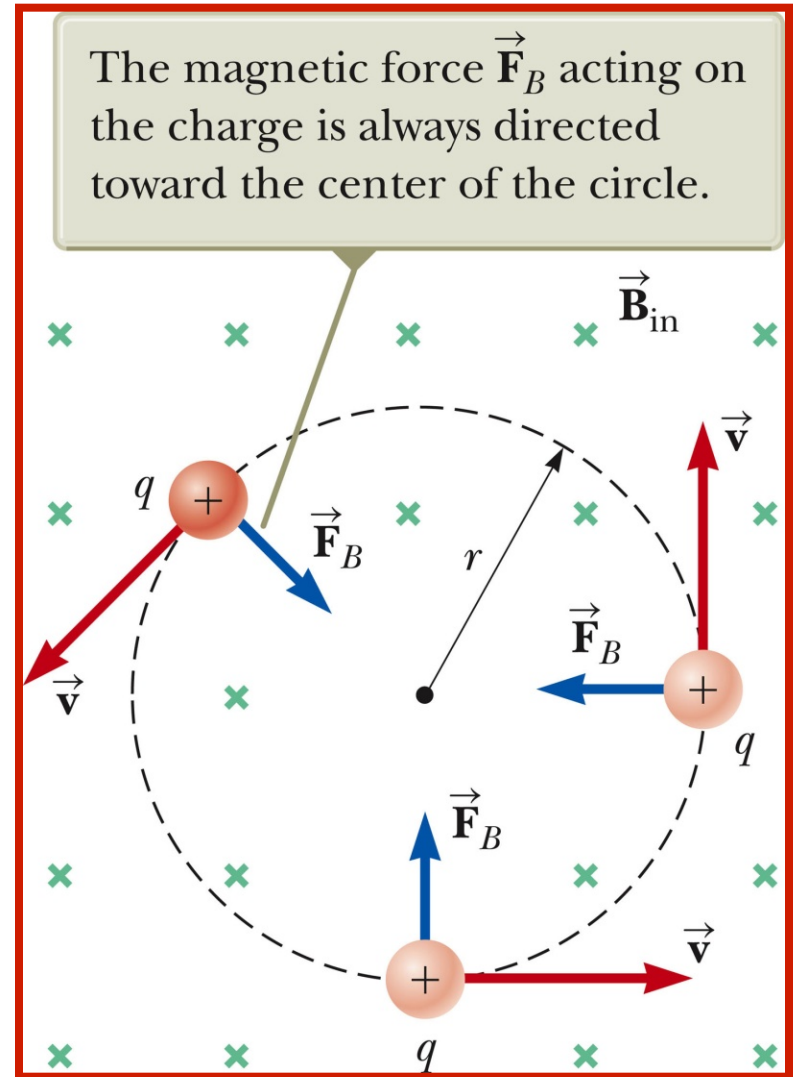
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If a particle of charge  $Q$  moves with velocity  $\vec{v}$  perpendicular to a uniform magnetic field  $\vec{B}$ , it's easy to show that its path will be a circle.

# Charged Particle in a Magnetic Field

- Consider a particle moving in an external magnetic field with its velocity perpendicular to the field.
- The force is always directed toward the center of the circular path.
- The magnetic force causes a centripetal acceleration, changing the direction of the velocity of the particle.



# Force on a Charged Particle

- Use Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law for a particle in uniform circular motion. Equate the magnetic & centripetal forces:

$$F_B = qvB = \frac{mv^2}{r}$$

- Solve for the circle radius **r**:

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

- **r** is proportional to the linear momentum of the particle & inversely proportional to the magnetic field.

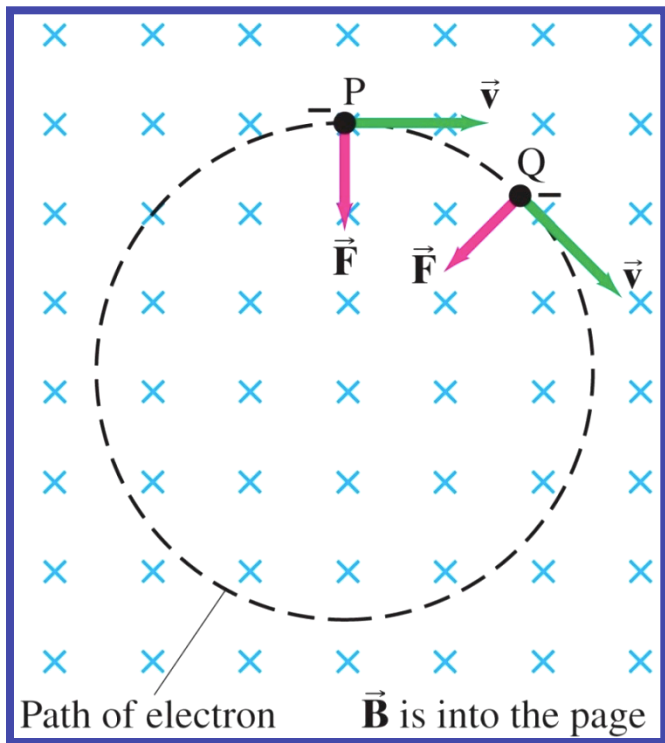


## Example

### Electron's Path in a Uniform Magnetic Field.

An electron travels at speed  $v = 2.0 \times 10^7 \text{ m/s}$  in a plane perpendicular to a uniform  $B = 0.010 \text{ T}$  magnetic field.

Describe its path quantitatively.



**Solution:** Use  $\vec{F} = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$ .

Combine this force with Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law & use the knowledge of the centripetal force on a particle moving in a circle of radius r:

$$F = (mv^2)/r = qvB$$

This gives

$$r = (mv/qB) = 1.1 \text{ cm}$$

## More About Motion of Charged Particle

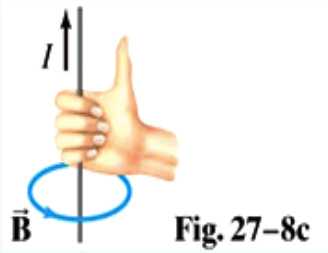
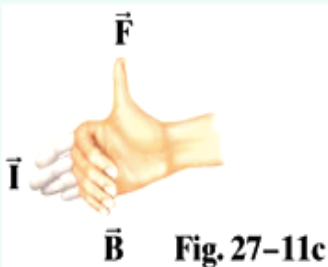
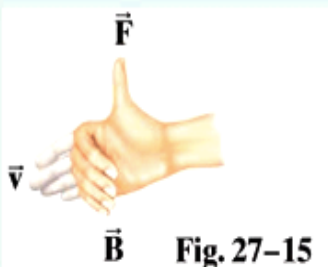
- The **angular speed** of the particle is

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

- The angular speed,  $\omega$ , is also referred to as the **cyclotron frequency**.
- The period of the motion is

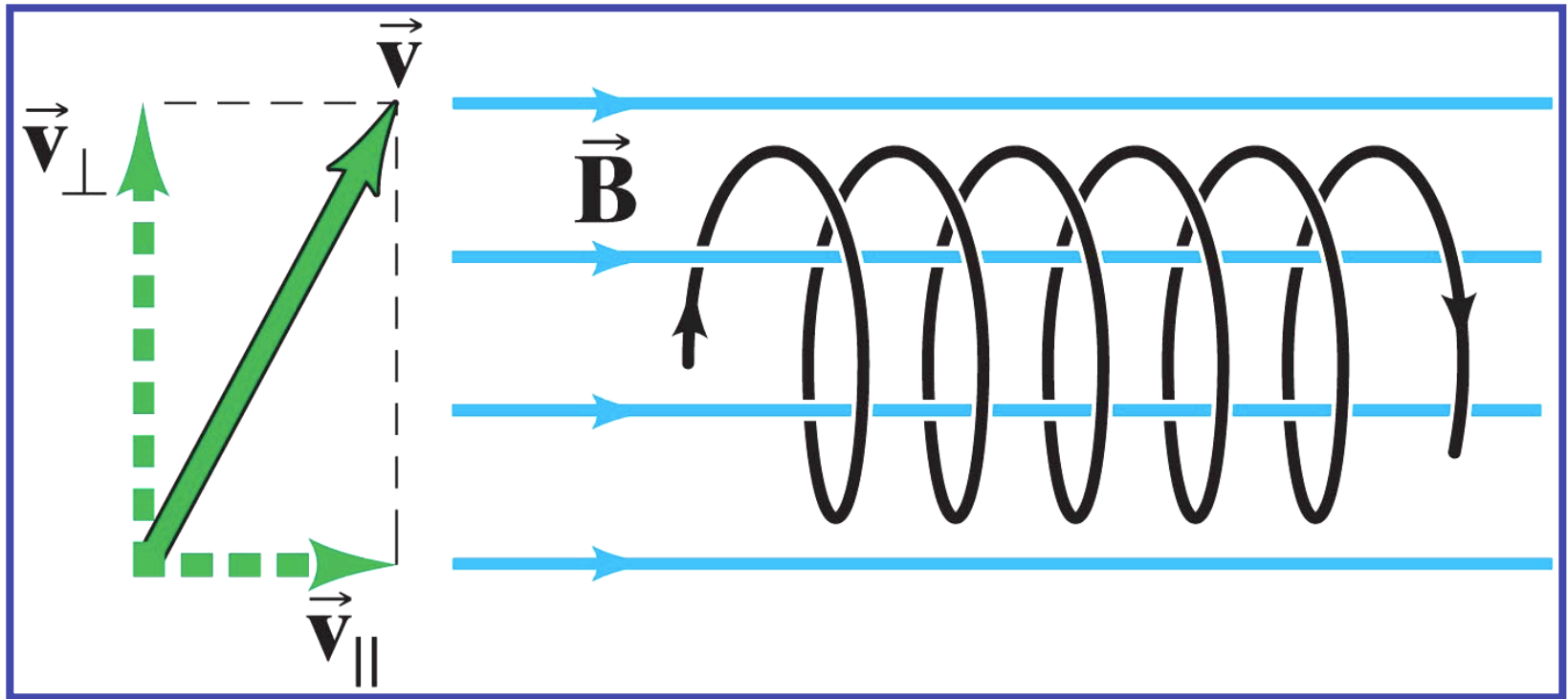
$$T = \frac{2\pi r}{v} = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = \frac{2\pi m}{qB}$$

**TABLE 27-1 Summary of Right-hand Rules (= RHR)**

Physical Situation	Example	How to Orient Right Hand	Result
1. Magnetic field produced by current (RHR-1)	 <p>Fig. 27-8c</p>	Wrap fingers around wire with thumb pointing in direction of current $I$	Fingers point in direction of $\vec{B}$
2. Force on electric current $I$ due to magnetic field (RHR-2)	 <p>Fig. 27-11c</p>	Fingers point straight along current $I$ , then bend along magnetic field $\vec{B}$	Thumb points in direction of the force $\vec{F}$
3. Force on electric charge $+q$ due to magnetic field (RHR-3)	 <p>Fig. 27-15</p>	Fingers point along particle's velocity $\vec{v}$ , then along $\vec{B}$	Thumb points in direction of the force $\vec{F}$

# Conceptual Example: A helical path

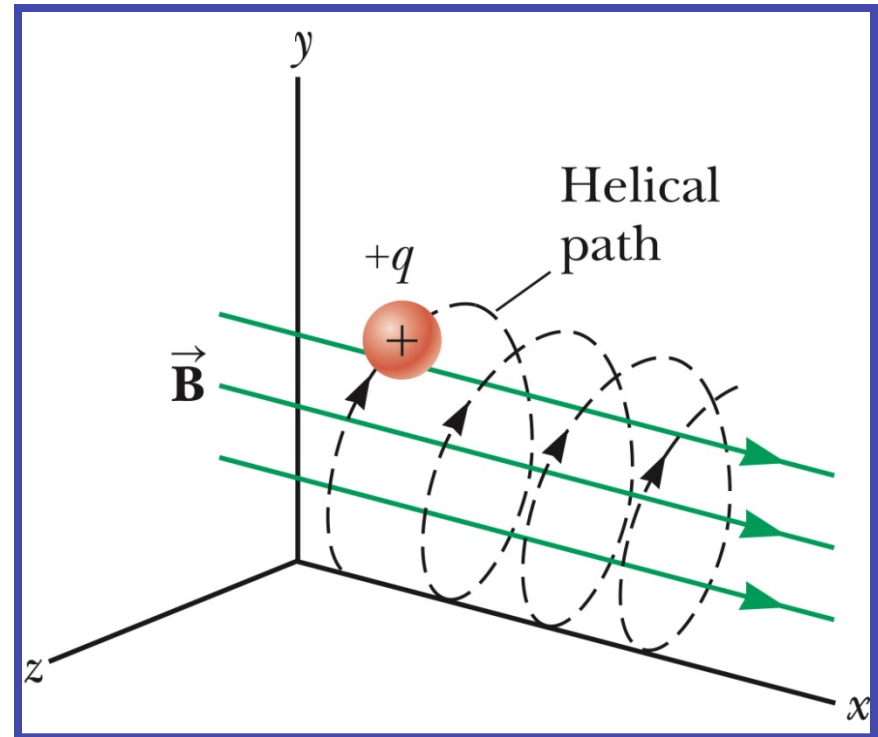
What is the path of a charged particle in a uniform magnetic field if its velocity is not perpendicular to the magnetic field?



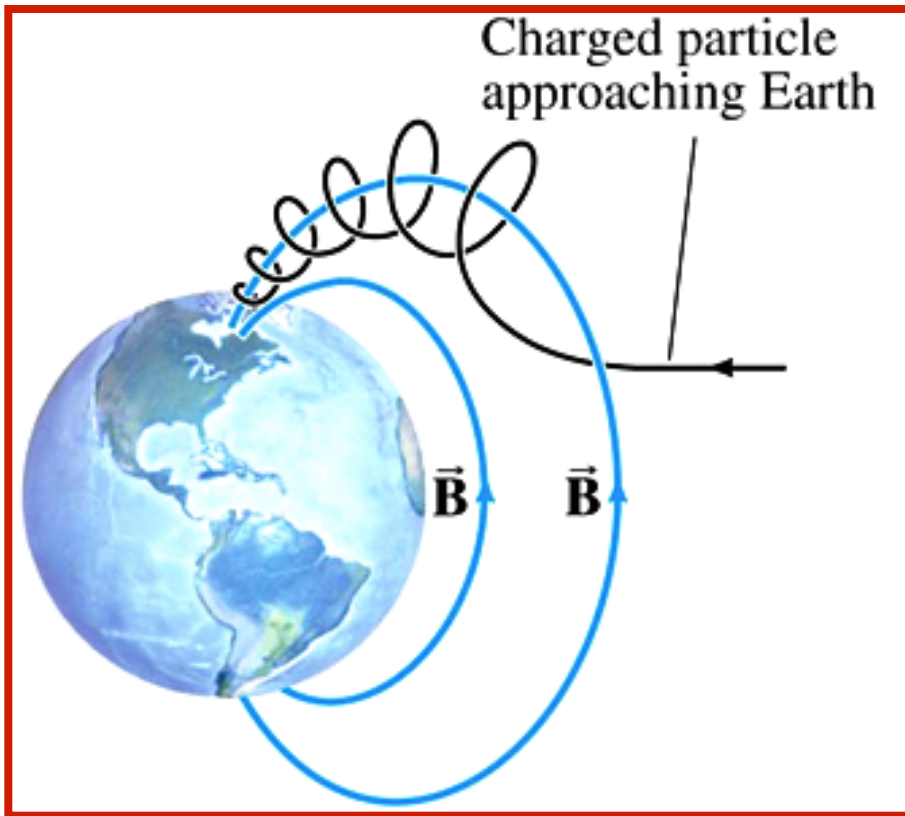
# Motion of a Particle, General

If a charged particle moves in a magnetic field at some arbitrary angle with respect to the field, its path is a helix. The same equations apply, with  $\mathbf{v}$  replaced by

$$v_{\perp} = \sqrt{v_y^2 + v_z^2}$$



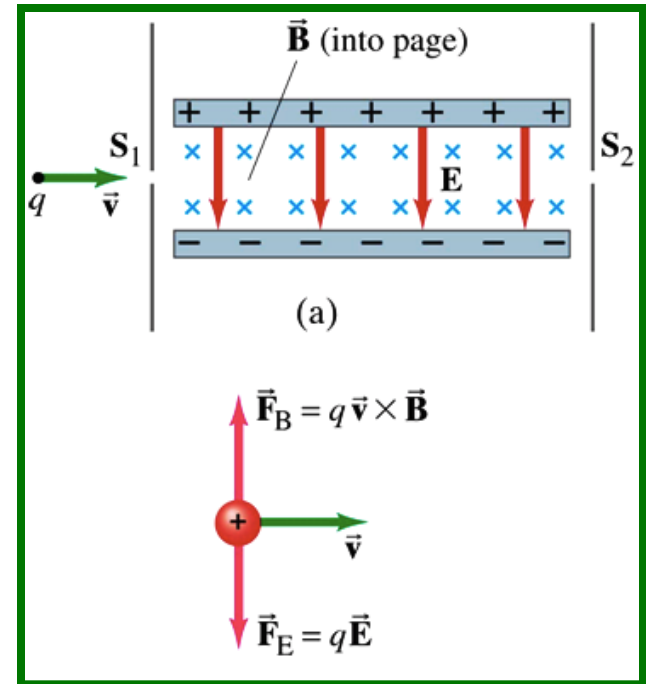
The **aurora borealis** (Northern lights) is caused by charged particles from the solar wind spiraling along the Earth's magnetic field, and colliding with air molecules.



# Conceptual Example

## Velocity Selector or Filter: Crossed E & B fields

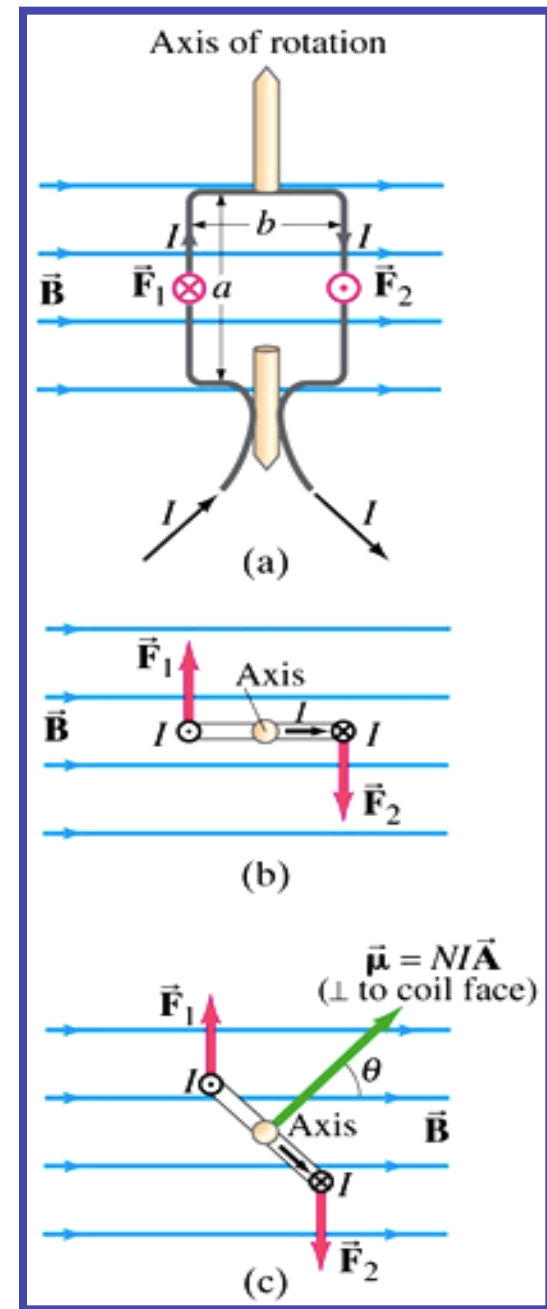
Some electronic devices & experiments need a beam of charged particles all moving at nearly the same velocity. This is achieved using both a **uniform electric field  $E$**  & a **uniform magnetic field  $B$**  arranged so *they are at right angles to each other*. In the figure, particles of charge  $q$  pass through slit  $S_1$  & enter the region where  $B$  points into the page &  $E$  points down from the positive plate toward the negative plate. If the particles enter with different velocities, show how this device “selects” a particular velocity  $v$ , & determine what this velocity is



# Torque on a Current Loop; Magnetic Dipole Moment

The forces on the opposite sides of a current loop will be **Equal & Opposite** (if the field is uniform & the loop is symmetric), but there may be **a torque  $\tau$** . For **N** current loops, the magnitude of the torque  $\tau$  is given by

$$\tau = NIAB \sin \theta.$$





- Consider  $N$  circular loops of wire of loop area  $A$  & carrying a current  $I$ , the quantity  $NI A$  is called the *Magnetic Dipole Moment*,  $\mu$ :

$$\vec{\mu} = NI\vec{A}.$$

- Also, the potential energy  $U$  of a loop of dipole moment  $\mu$  depends on its orientation in the field:

$$U = -\mu B \cos \theta = -\vec{\mu} \cdot \vec{B}.$$

## Example: Torque on a Coil

- A circular coil of wire has diameter  $d = 20 \text{ cm}$  & contains  $N = 10$  loops. The current in each loop is  $I = 3 \text{ A}$ , & the coil is placed in a external magnetic field  $B = 2 \text{ T}$ . Calculate the maximum & minimum torque exerted on the coil by the field.

**Solution:** Use

$$\tau = NIAB \sin \theta.$$

**Solve & get:**  $\tau_{\max} = 1.99 \text{ N m}$

and  $\tau_{\min} = 0$

# Example:

## Magnetic Moment of a Hydrogen Atom.

**Calculate** the magnetic dipole moment  $\mu$  of the electron orbiting the proton of a hydrogen atom at a given instant, assuming (in the Bohr model) it is in its ground state with a **circular orbit** of **radius**

$$r = 0.529 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m.}$$

**NOTE:** This is a **very** rough, **very** approximate **picture** of atomic structure, but nonetheless gives an accurate result. A correct treatment of this problem requires the use of

**Quantum Mechanics**