Answer on Question #75000, Physics / Electromagnetism

Question. A charged particle enters a uniform magnetic field with velocity vector at an angle of 45° with the magnetic field. The pitch of the helical path followed by the particle is p. The radius of the helix will be (1) $p/\sqrt{2}\pi$; (2) $\sqrt{2}\pi$; (3) $p/2\pi$; (4) $\sqrt{2p}/\pi$.

Solution.

According to the second Newton's law

$$F = ma$$

So,

$$qvB \sin \alpha = m \frac{(v \sin \alpha)^2}{R} \rightarrow R = \frac{mv \sin 45^\circ}{qB} = \frac{mv}{\sqrt{2}qB}$$

The pitch of the helical path

$$p = v \cos \alpha \cdot T = v \cos \alpha \cdot \frac{2\pi R}{v \sin \alpha} = \cos 45^{\circ} \cdot \frac{2\pi R}{\sin 45^{\circ}} = 2\pi R \rightarrow$$

$$R = \frac{p}{2\pi}$$

Answer. (3) $R = p/2\pi$

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