

Answer on Question #44135, Physics, Electrodynamics

A charged particle of mass m is released from rest x along electric field $e \cdot \hat{j}$ (vector) find angular momentum of particle from origin

Solution :

Distinguish three axes x, y, z they correspond to the three vectors $x: \bar{i}, y: \bar{j}, z: \bar{k}$

Then particle has $\{x, 0, 0\}$ coordinates, and field $\bar{E} = \{0, e, 0\}$

Impulse (momentum) from Newton's second law :

$$\frac{d\bar{p}}{dt} = \bar{F} = q\bar{E} = q * \bar{j} * e$$

Obvious that $\bar{p} = qet * \bar{j}$

From angular momentum (L)definition:

$$\bar{L} = [\bar{r} * \bar{p}] = (x * \bar{i} + y * \bar{j} + z * \bar{k}) * (qet * \bar{j}) \text{ (cross vector product)}$$

But z always equal to zero, because there is no force in z direction.

$$\bar{L} = (x * \bar{i} + y * \bar{j}) * (qet * \bar{j}) = qet * (x * \bar{i} + y\bar{j}) * \bar{j} = qetx * \bar{k}$$

$$\bar{j} * \bar{j} = 0 \text{ (cross vector product)}$$