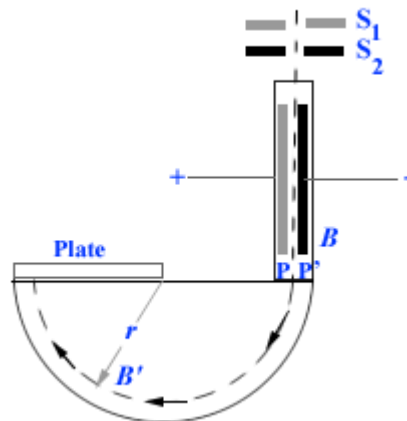


433.

Problem 34.17 (RHK)

Bainbridge's mass spectrometer, shown in the figure, separates ions having the same velocity. The ions, after entering through slits S_1 and S_2 , pass through a velocity selector composed of an electric field produced by the charged plates P and P' , and a magnetic field \vec{B} perpendicular to the electric field and the ion path. Those ions that pass undeviated through the crossed \vec{E} and \vec{B} fields enter into a region where a second magnetic field \vec{B}' exists, and are bent into circular paths. A photographic plate registers their arrival. We have to show that $q/m = E/rBB'$, where r is the radius of the circular orbit.



Solution:

Condition for velocity selection of charge ions using crossed electric and magnetic fields is that the Lorentz force be zero, i.e.

$$q\vec{E} + q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} = 0,$$

or

$$|q\vec{E}| = |q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}|.$$

As \vec{v} and \vec{B} are \perp ,

$$|\vec{v} \times \vec{B}| = vB.$$

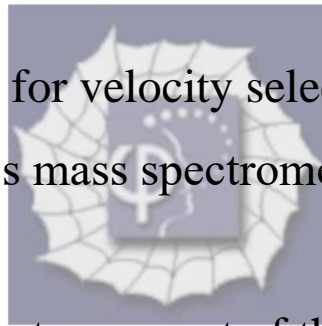
Therefore, criteria for velocity selection in the first part of the Bainbridge's mass spectrometer is that

$$E = vB.$$

Ions of charge q that come out of the velocity selector with the electric and magnetic fields being E and B , respectively, will have speed

$$v = E/B.$$

These ions after emerging out from the velocity-selector move in a uniform magnetic field \vec{B}' , which is perpendicular to \vec{v} . The radius r of the circular orbit is determined by the centripetal force provided by the magnetic field on the moving charges,



$$\frac{mv^2}{r} = qvB',$$

or

$$\frac{m}{r} \times \frac{E}{B} = qB',$$

$$\therefore \frac{q}{m} = \frac{E}{rBB'}.$$

