

39. The applied field has two components: $B_x > 0$ and $B_z > 0$. Considering each straight-segment of the rectangular coil, we note that Eq. 29-26 produces a non-zero force only for the component of \vec{B} which is perpendicular to that segment; we also note that the equation is effectively multiplied by $N = 20$ due to the fact that this is a 20-turn coil. Since we wish to compute the torque about the hinge line, we can ignore the force acting on the straight-segment of the coil which lies along the y axis (forces acting at the axis of rotation produce no torque about that axis). The top and bottom straight-segments experience forces due to Eq. 29-26 (caused by the B_z component), but these forces are (by the right-hand rule) in the $\pm y$ directions and are thus unable to produce a torque about the y axis. Consequently, the torque derives completely from the force exerted on the straight-segment located at $x = 0.050$ m, which has length $L = 0.10$ m and is shown in Figure 29-36 carrying current in the $-y$ direction. Now, the B_z component will produce a force on this straight-segment which points in the $-x$ direction (back towards the hinge) and thus will exert no torque about the hinge. However, the B_x component (which is equal to $B \cos \theta$ where $B = 0.50$ T and $\theta = 30^\circ$) produces a force equal to $NiLB_x$ which points (by the right-hand rule) in the $+z$ direction. Since the action of this force is perpendicular to the plane of the coil, and is located a distance x away from the hinge, then the torque has magnitude

$$\tau = (NiLB_x)(x) = NiLxB \cos \theta = (20)(0.10)(0.10)(0.050)(0.50) \cos 30^\circ = 0.0043$$

in SI units (N·m). Since $\vec{\tau} = \vec{r} \times \vec{F}$, the direction of the torque is $-y$. An alternative way to do this problem is through the use of Eq. 29-37. We do not show those details here, but note that the magnetic moment vector (a necessary part of Eq. 29-37) has magnitude

$$|\vec{\mu}| = NiA = (20)(0.10 \text{ A})(0.0050 \text{ m}^2)$$

and points in the $-z$ direction. At this point, Eq. 3-30 may be used to obtain the result for the torque vector.