

56. The unit vector associated with the current element (of magnitude $d\ell$) is $-\hat{\mathbf{j}}$. The (infinitesimal) force on this element is

$$d\vec{F} = i d\ell(-\hat{\mathbf{j}}) \times (0.3y\hat{\mathbf{i}} + 0.4y\hat{\mathbf{j}})$$

with SI units (and 3 significant figures) understood.

- (a) Since $\hat{\mathbf{j}} \times \hat{\mathbf{i}} = -\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ and $\hat{\mathbf{j}} \times \hat{\mathbf{j}} = 0$, we obtain

$$d\vec{F} = 0.3iy d\ell \hat{\mathbf{k}} = (6.00 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N/m}^2) y d\ell \hat{\mathbf{k}} .$$

- (b) We integrate the force element found in part (a), using the symbol ξ to stand for the coefficient $6.00 \times 10^{-4} \text{ N/m}^2$, and obtain

$$\vec{F} = \int d\vec{F} = \xi \hat{\mathbf{k}} \int_0^{0.25} y dy = \xi \hat{\mathbf{k}} \left(\frac{0.25^2}{2} \right) = 1.88 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N } \hat{\mathbf{k}} .$$