

5. We assume the current flows in the  $+x$  direction and the particle is at some distance  $d$  in the  $+y$  direction (away from the wire). Then, the magnetic field at the location of the charge  $q$  is

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 i}{2\pi d} \hat{k}.$$

Thus,

$$\vec{F} = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 i q}{2\pi d} (\vec{v} \times \hat{k}).$$

- (a) In this situation,  $\vec{v} = v(-\hat{j})$  (where  $v$  is the speed and is a positive value). Also, the problem specifies  $q > 0$ . Thus,

$$\vec{F} = \frac{\mu_0 i q v}{2\pi d} ((-\hat{j}) \times \hat{k}) = -\frac{\mu_0 i q v}{2\pi d} (\hat{i}),$$

which tells us that  $\vec{F}_q$  has a magnitude of  $\mu_0 i q v / 2\pi d$  and is in the direction opposite to that of the current flow.

- (b) Now the direction  $\vec{v}$  is reversed, and we obtain  $\vec{F} = +\mu_0 i q v \hat{i} / 2\pi d$ . The magnitude is identical to that found in part (a), but the direction of the force is now in the same direction as that of the current flow.