A "ribbon" (width a) with uniform surface current density Kpasses through a uniform magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}_{ext}$ . Only the length b along the ribbon is in the field. What is the magnitude of the force on the ribbon?



To find the magnetic field **B** at P due to a current-carrying wire we use the Biot-Savart law,

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} I \int \frac{d\mathbf{l} \times \hat{\mathbf{\Re}}}{\mathbf{\Re}^2}$$

In the figure, with  $d\mathbf{l}$  shown, which purple vector best represents  $\Re$ ?



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P

What is the direction of the

infinitesimal contribution  $\mathbf{B}(P)$  created by current in  $d\mathbf{l}$ ?

## A. Up the page

B. Directly away from  $d\mathbf{l}$  (in the plane of the page)

C. Into the page

- D. Out of the page
- E. Some other direction





A. 
$$\frac{I \ y \ dx'}{[(x')^2 + y^2]^{3/2}} \hat{z}$$
  
B. 
$$\frac{I \ x' \ dx'}{[(x')^2 + y^2]^{3/2}} \hat{y}$$
  
C. 
$$\frac{-I \ x' \ dx'}{[(x')^2 + y^2]^{3/2}} \hat{y}$$
  
D. 
$$\frac{-I \ y \ dx'}{[(x')^2 + y^2]^{3/2}} \hat{z}$$
  
E. Other!



What do you expect for direction of  $\mathbf{B}(P)$ ? How about direction of  $d\mathbf{B}(P)$  generated JUST by the segment of current  $d\mathbf{l}$  in red?



A.  $\mathbf{B}(P)$  in plane of page, ditto for  $d\mathbf{B}(P, by red)$ B.  $\mathbf{B}(P)$  into page,  $d\mathbf{B}(P, by red)$  into page C.  $\mathbf{B}(P)$  into page,  $d\mathbf{B}(P, by red)$  out of page D.  $\mathbf{B}(P)$  complicated, ditto for  $d\mathbf{B}(P, by red)$ E. Something else!!