

- 5 A mass spectrometer is a device used to analyse compounds and measure the charge-to-mass ratio of their constituent ions. In one such device shown in **Fig. 5.1**, a compound comprising two different elements is first vaporised and then ionised. The singly-charged ions of the two constituent elements are then accelerated, focused into a narrow beam, and then passed through a velocity selector, before they enter a magnetic field.

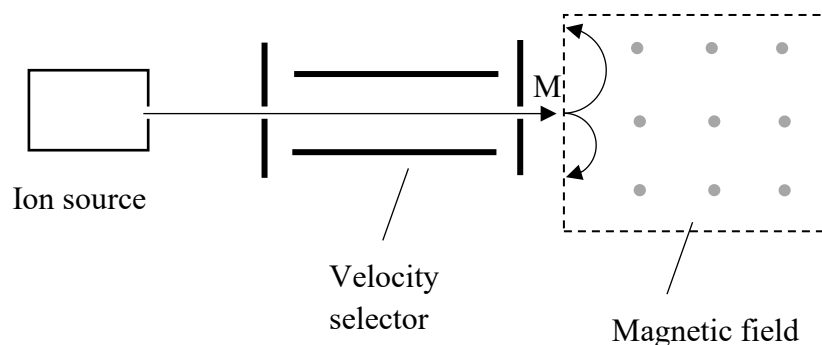


Fig. 5.1

- (a) The electric field applied vertically downwards in the velocity selector has a strength of $1.21 \times 10^3 \text{ V m}^{-1}$, while the magnetic field applied horizontally in the same space has a flux density of 0.015 T. This is shown in **Fig. 5.2**.

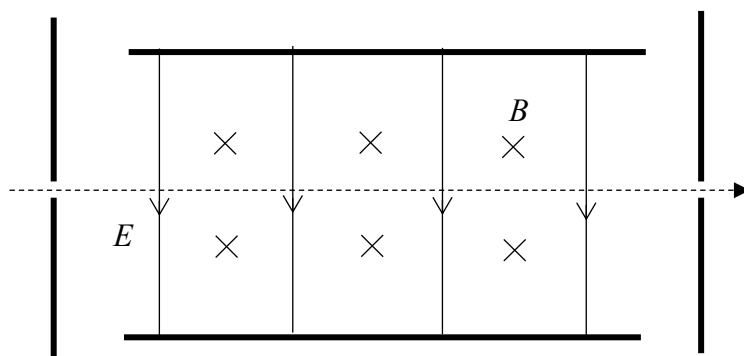


Fig. 5.2

- (i) Calculate the speed that the ions must have for them to travel through the velocity selector in a straight path.

Speed = m s⁻¹ [2]

(ii) On **Fig. 5.2**, sketch the paths followed by the positive and negative ions that have speeds greater than that obtained in **(a)(i)**. Label the two paths **P** and **N** respectively. [1]

(b) After passing through the velocity selector, the singly-ionised ions enter a uniform magnetic field of flux density 1.6 T directed vertically out of the page at point M. They then follow the circular trajectories shown in **Fig. 5.3**.

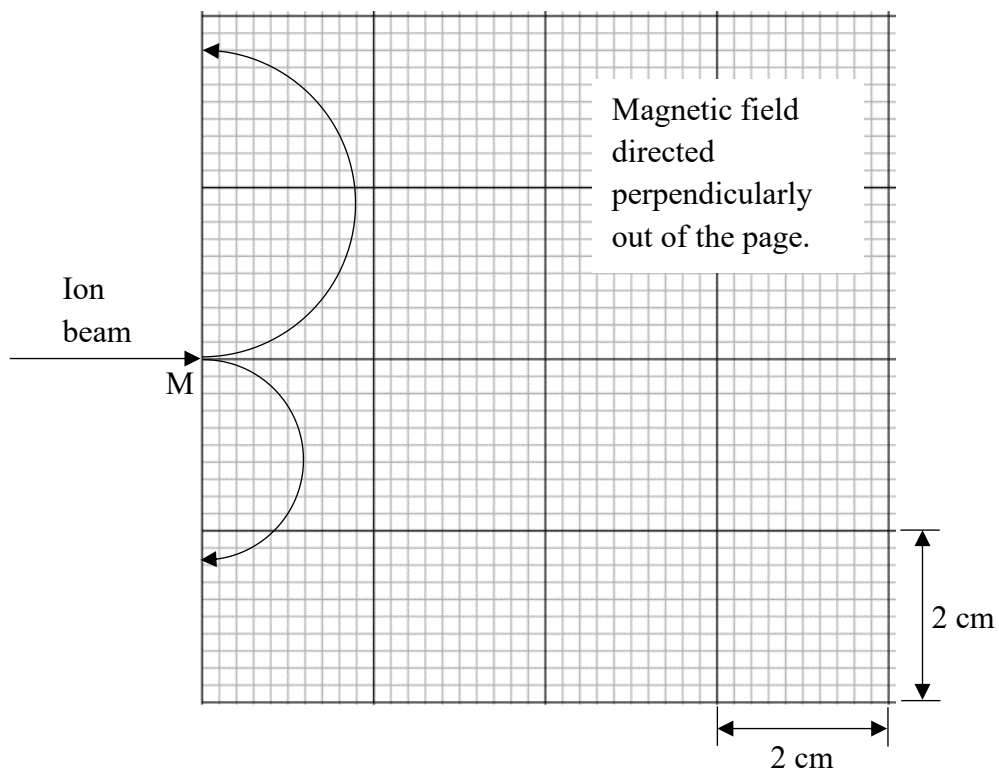


Fig. 5.3

- (i) Use **Fig. 5.3** to determine the charge-to-mass ratios of the positive and negative ions in the compound.

Charge-to-mass ratio of positive ion = C kg⁻¹

Charge-to-mass ratio of negative ion = C kg⁻¹ [4]

Fig. 5.4 shows the first three rows of the Periodic Table and provides information on the eighteen lightest elements.

1 H Hydrogen 1.008							2 He Helium 4.0026
3 Li Lithium 6.94	4 Be Beryllium 9.0122	5 B Boron 10.81	6 C Carbon 12.011	7 N Nitrogen 14.007	8 O Oxygen 15.999	9 F Fluorine 18.998	10 Ne Neon 20.180
11 Na Sodium 22.990	12 Mg Magnesium 24.305	13 Al Aluminium 26.982	14 Si Silicon 28.085	15 P Phosphorus 30.974	16 S Sulfur 32.06	17 Cl Chlorine 35.45	18 Ar Argon 39.948

Atomic number

Standard atomic weight

Fig. 5.4

(ii) Use your answer from (b)(i) to identify the compound used to produce the beam of positive and negative ions.

Identity of compound: [3]

