

Question 5: An electron (mass  $m$ ) with an initial velocity  $\mathbf{v} = v_0 \hat{i}$  is in an electric field

$\mathbf{E} = E_0 \hat{j}$ . If  $\lambda_0 = \frac{h}{mv_0}$ , its de-Broglie wavelength at time  $t$  is given by

(a)  $\lambda_0$

(b)  $\lambda_0 \sqrt{1 + \frac{e^2 E_0^2 t^2}{m^2 v_0^2}}$

(c)  $\frac{\lambda_0}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{e^2 E_0^2 t^2}{m^2 v_0^2}}}$

(d)  $\frac{\lambda_0}{\left(1 + \frac{e^2 E_0^2 t^2}{m^2 v_0^2}\right)}$

Solution:

Handwritten solution showing the derivation of the de-Broglie wavelength at time  $t$ :

$$v_x = v_0 \hat{i}$$

$$v_y = a_y t = \frac{-e E_0 t}{m}$$

$$|\vec{v}| = v = \sqrt{v_0^2 + \left(\frac{e E_0 t}{m}\right)^2}$$

$$h = \frac{h}{m_e v} = \frac{h}{m_e \sqrt{v_0^2 + \frac{e^2 E_0^2 t^2}{m_e^2}}} = \frac{h}{m_e v_0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{e^2 E_0^2 t^2}{m_e^2 v_0^2}}}$$

$$= \frac{h_0}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{e^2 E_0^2 t^2}{m_e^2 v_0^2}}}$$