



Figure 1: Problem diagram

Start with Eq. (1), the Biot-Savart Law:

$$d\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{id\vec{s} \times \hat{r}}{r^2} \quad (1)$$

From the diagram:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \\ x &= r \sin(\theta) \\ y &= r \cos(\theta) \\ d\vec{s} &= d\vec{y} \end{aligned}$$

Substitute into Eq. (1):

$$d\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{id\vec{y} \times \hat{r}}{x^2 + y^2} \quad (2)$$

Taking the cross product,  $id\vec{y} \times \hat{r} = dy \sin(\theta)(-\hat{k})$ . Substitute in:

$$d\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 i}{4\pi} \frac{dy \sin(\theta)}{x^2 + y^2} (-\hat{k}) \quad (3)$$

From above,  $\sin(\theta) = \frac{x}{r}$ :

$$d\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 i}{4\pi} \frac{xdy}{(x^2 + y^2)^{3/2}} (-\hat{k}) \quad (4)$$

Find  $\vec{B}$  by taking the integral over the infinite line:

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 i}{4\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{xdy}{(x^2 + y^2)^{3/2}} (-\hat{k}) \quad (5)$$

$$\vec{B} = 2 \frac{\mu_0 i}{4\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{x dy}{(x^2 + y^2)^{3/2}} (-\hat{k}) \quad (6)$$

Integrate (I used Wolfram|Alpha) to get:

$$\vec{B} = 2 \frac{\mu_0 i}{4\pi} \left[ \frac{y}{x \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} \right]_0^\infty (-\hat{k}) \quad (7)$$

The indefinite integral evaluates to:

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 i}{2\pi x} (-\hat{k}) \quad (8)$$

We can confirm this using Ampere's Law (left as an exercise to the reader...)