

Wire of infinite length: 
$$\theta_1 = -90^\circ$$
,  $\theta_2 = 90^\circ \Rightarrow B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi R}$ 



**Magnetic Field Generated by Current in Straight Wire (2)** 

Consider a current *I* in a straight wire of infinite length.

- The magnetic field lines are concentric circles in planes prependicular to the wire.
- The magnitude of the magnetic field at distance *R* from the center of the wire is  $B = \frac{\mu_0 I}{2\pi R}$ .
- The magnetic field strength is proportional to the current *I* and inversely proportional to the distance *R* from the center of the wire.
- The magnetic field vector is tangential to the circular field lines and directed according to the right-hand rule.







Consider the magnetic field  $\vec{B}$  in the limit  $R \rightarrow 0$ .

• 
$$B = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{I}{R} (\sin \theta_2 - \sin \theta_1)$$
  
•  $\sin \theta_1 = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + R^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{R^2}{a^2}}} \simeq 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{R^2}{a^2}$   
•  $\sin \theta_2 = \frac{2a}{\sqrt{4a^2 + R^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{R^2}{4a^2}}} \simeq 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{R^2}{4a^2}$   
•  $B \simeq \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \frac{I}{R} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{R^2}{4a^2} - 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{R^2}{a^2}\right)$   
 $= \frac{\mu_0 I}{4\pi} \frac{3R}{8a^2} \xrightarrow{R \to 0} 0$   
R

a

a

 $\theta_1$