

82. (Third problem in **Cluster**)

It is clear by symmetry that  $x_{\text{com}} = B/2$  for the system, but the value of  $y_{\text{com}}$  is not obvious. If the cross-section area of the wire is  $A$  and the density is  $\rho$ , then in one quadrant the relation between the mass element  $dm$  and height element  $dy$  is

$$dm = \rho A \frac{R}{\sqrt{R^2 - y^2}} dy = \frac{M}{\ell_{\cap}} \frac{R}{\sqrt{R^2 - y^2}} dy$$

where the length of the semicircle is  $\ell_{\cap} = \pi R$ . To include the contributions from both quadrants shown, we multiply by 2, and Eq. 9-9 becomes

$$\begin{aligned} y_{\text{com}} &= \frac{2}{M} \int_0^R y \frac{M}{\ell_{\cap}} \frac{R}{\sqrt{R^2 - y^2}} dy \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^R \frac{y}{\sqrt{R^2 - y^2}} dy \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \left[ -\sqrt{R^2 - y^2} \right]_0^R \\ &= \frac{2R}{\pi} . \end{aligned}$$