

20. We denote the radius of the thin cylinder as $R = 0.015$ m. Using Eq. 24-12, the net electric field for $r > R$ is given by

$$E_{\text{net}} = E_{\text{wire}} + E_{\text{cylinder}} = \frac{-\lambda}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r} + \frac{\lambda'}{2\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

where $-\lambda = -3.6$ nC/m is the linear charge density of the wire and λ' is the linear charge density of the thin cylinder. We note that the surface and linear charge densities of the thin cylinder are related by

$$q_{\text{cylinder}} = \lambda' L = \sigma(2\pi R L) \implies \lambda' = \sigma(2\pi R) .$$

Now, E_{net} outside the cylinder will equal zero, provided that $2\pi R\sigma = \lambda$, or

$$\sigma = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi R} = \frac{3.6 \times 10^{-9} \text{ C/m}}{(2\pi)(0.015 \text{ m})} = 3.8 \times 10^{-8} \text{ C/m}^2 .$$