

Section 9.4 **Area of a surface of revolution**

A surface of revolution is formed when a curve is rotated about a line.

Let's start with some simple surfaces.

The lateral surface area of a circular cylinder with base radius  $r$  and height  $h$  is

$$A = 2\pi r h$$

The lateral surface area of a circular cone with base radius  $r$  and slant height  $l$  is

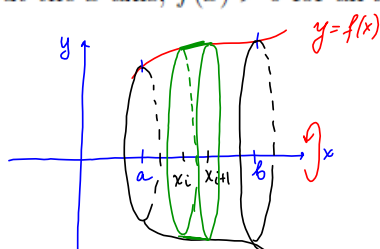
$$A = \pi r l$$

The lateral surface area of a band (frustum of a cone) with slant height  $l$ , upper radius  $r_1$  and lower radius  $r_2$  is

$$A = 2\pi r l, \text{ here } r = \frac{r_1 + r_2}{2}$$



Now we consider the surface which is obtained by rotating the curve  $y = f(x)$ ,  $a \leq x \leq b$  about the  $x$ -axis,  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x$  in  $[a, b]$  and  $f'(x)$  is continuous.



We take a partition  $P$  of  $[a, b]$  by points  $a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = b$ , and let  $y_i = f(x_i)$ , so that the point  $P_i(x_i, y_i)$  lies on the curve. The part of the surface between  $x_{i-1}$  and  $x_i$  is approximated by taking the line segment  $P_{i-1}P_i$  and rotating it about the  $x$ -axis. The result is a band with slant height  $|P_{i-1}P_i|$  and average radius  $r = \frac{1}{2}(y_{i-1} + y_i)$ , its surface area is

$$S_i = 2\pi \frac{y_{i-1} + y_i}{2} |P_{i-1}P_i|$$

We know that

$$|P_{i-1}P_i| = \sqrt{(\Delta x_i)^2 + (\Delta y_i)^2} = \sqrt{1 + [f'(x_i^*)]^2} \Delta x_i$$

where  $x_i^* \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]$ . Since  $\Delta x_i$  is small, we have  $y_i = f(x_i) \approx f(x_i^*)$  and also  $y_{i-1} = f(x_{i-1}) \approx f(x_i^*)$  since  $f$  is continuous.

$$S_i \approx 2\pi f(x_i^*) \sqrt{1 + [f'(x_i^*)]^2} \Delta x_i$$

Thus, the area of the complete surface is

$$S_X = 2\pi \lim_{\|P\| \rightarrow 0} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i^*) \sqrt{1 + [f'(x_i^*)]^2} \Delta x_i =$$

$$2\pi \int_a^b f(x) \sqrt{1 + [f'(x)]^2} dx = 2\pi \int_a^b f(x) \sqrt{1 + \left[\frac{dy}{dx}\right]^2} dx = S.A.$$

*c.  $y=f(x)$   
 $a \leq x \leq b$*

If the curve is described as  $x = g(y)$ ,  $c \leq y \leq d$ , then the formula for the surface area is

$$S_X = 2\pi \int_c^d y \sqrt{1 + [g'(y)]^2} dy = 2\pi \int_c^d y \sqrt{1 + \left[\frac{dx}{dy}\right]^2} dy = S.A.$$

Let's a curve  $C$  is defined by the equations

$$x = x(t), \quad y = y(t), \quad a \leq t \leq b$$

The area of the surface generated by rotating  $C$  about  $x$ -axis is

$$S_X = 2\pi \int_a^b y(t) \sqrt{\left[\frac{dx}{dt}\right]^2 + \left[\frac{dy}{dt}\right]^2} dt = S.A.$$

**Example 1.** Find the area of the surface obtained by rotating the curve about  $x$ -axis

(a)  $y = \sqrt{x}$ ,  $4 \leq x \leq 9$

$$S.A. = 2\pi \int_4^9 y(x) \sqrt{1 + [y'(x)]^2} dx = 2\pi \int_4^9 \sqrt{x} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}\right)^2} dx$$

$$= 2\pi \int_4^9 \sqrt{x} \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{4x}} dx = 2\pi \int_4^9 \sqrt{x \left(1 + \frac{1}{4x}\right)} dx = 2\pi \int_4^9 \sqrt{x + \frac{1}{4}} dx$$

$$= 2\pi \left. \frac{(x + 1/4)^{3/2}}{3/2} \right|_4^9 = \frac{4\pi}{3} \left( \left(\frac{37}{4}\right)^{3/2} - \left(\frac{17}{4}\right)^{3/2} \right)$$

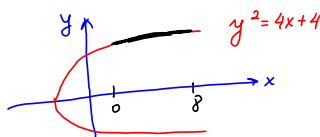
$$= \frac{4\pi}{3} \left( \frac{37\sqrt{37}}{8} - \frac{17\sqrt{17}}{8} \right) = \frac{\pi}{6} (37\sqrt{37} - 17\sqrt{17})$$

$$(b) \quad y^2 = 4x + 4, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 8$$

$$x = \frac{y^2 - 4}{4} = \frac{y^2}{4} - 1, \quad x'(y) = \frac{2y}{4} = \frac{y}{2}$$

$$x=0 \Rightarrow y^2=4 \Rightarrow y=2$$

$$x=8 \Rightarrow y^2=36 \Rightarrow y=6$$



$$2 \leq y \leq 6$$

$$S.A. = 2\pi \int_2^6 y \sqrt{1 + [x'(y)]^2} dy = 2\pi \int_2^6 y \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^2} dy = 2\pi \int_2^6 y \sqrt{1 + \frac{y^2}{4}} dy$$

$$= 2\pi \int_2^6 y \sqrt{\frac{4+y^2}{4}} dy = \frac{2\pi}{2} \int_2^6 y \sqrt{4+y^2} dy \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} u = 4+y^2 \\ du = 2y dy \Rightarrow y dy = \frac{du}{2} \\ 2 \rightarrow 4+2^2 = 8 \\ 6 \rightarrow 4+6^2 = 40 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{2} \int_8^{40} \sqrt{u} du = \frac{\pi}{2} \left[ \frac{u^{3/2}}{3/2} \right]_8^{40} = \frac{\pi}{3} (40^{3/2} - 8^{3/2})$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{3} (40 \sqrt{40} - 8 \sqrt{8}) = \frac{\pi}{3} (80\sqrt{10} - 16\sqrt{2})$$

$$x'(t) = 3a \cos^2(t) (-\sin t) \quad y'(t) = 3a \sin^2 t \cos t$$

$$(c) \quad x(t) = a \cos^3 t, \quad y(t) = a \sin^3 t, \quad 0 \leq t \leq \pi/2, \quad a \text{ is a constant.}$$

$$S.A. = 2\pi \int_0^{\pi/2} y(t) \sqrt{(x'(t))^2 + (y'(t))^2} dt$$

$$= 2\pi \int_0^{\pi/2} a \sin^3 t \sqrt{(3a \cos^2 t \sin t)^2 + (3a \sin^2 t \cos t)^2} dt$$

$$= 2\pi \int_0^{\pi/2} a \sin^3 t \sqrt{9a^2 \cos^4 t \sin^2 t + 9a^2 \sin^4 t \cos^2 t} dt$$

$$= 2\pi \int_0^{\pi/2} a \sin^3 t \sqrt{9a^2 \cos^2 t \sin^2 t (\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t)} dt$$

$$= 2\pi \int_0^{\pi/2} a \sin^3 t (3a \cos t \sin t) dt = 3a^2 (2\pi) \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^4 t \cos t dt \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} u = \sin t \\ du = \cos t dt \\ 0 \rightarrow \sin 0 = 0 \\ \frac{\pi}{2} \rightarrow \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$= 6\pi a^2 \int_0^1 u^4 du = 6\pi a^2 \left[ \frac{u^5}{5} \right]_0^1 = \frac{6\pi a^2}{5}$$

For rotation about the  $y$ -axis, the surface area formulas are:

if the curve is given as  $y = f(x)$ ,  $a \leq x \leq b$ , then the formula for the surface area is

$$S_Y = 2\pi \int_a^b x \sqrt{1 + \left[\frac{df}{dx}\right]^2} dx = S.A.$$

if the curve is described as  $x = g(y)$ ,  $c \leq y \leq d$ , then the formula for the surface area is

$$S_Y = 2\pi \int_c^d g(y) \sqrt{1 + \left[\frac{dg}{dy}\right]^2} dy = S.A.$$

if the is defined by the equations  $x = x(t)$ ,  $y = y(t)$ ,  $a \leq t \leq b$ , then the area of the surface is

$$S_Y = 2\pi \int_a^b x(t) \sqrt{\left[\frac{dx}{dt}\right]^2 + \left[\frac{dy}{dt}\right]^2} dt = S.A.$$

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**Example 2.** Find the area of the surface obtained by rotating the curve about  $y$ -axis

(a)  $x = \sqrt{2y - y^2}$ ,  $0 \leq y \leq 1$ ,  $x'(y) = \frac{1}{2}(2y - y^2)^{-1/2}(2 - 2y) = \frac{1-y}{\sqrt{2y-y^2}}$

$$\begin{aligned} S.A. &= 2\pi \int_0^1 x(y) \sqrt{1 + (x'(y))^2} dy \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^1 \sqrt{2y-y^2} \sqrt{1 + \left[\frac{1-y}{\sqrt{2y-y^2}}\right]^2} dy = 2\pi \int_0^1 \sqrt{2y-y^2} \sqrt{1 + \frac{(1-y)^2}{2y-y^2}} dy \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^1 \sqrt{2y-y^2} \sqrt{\frac{2y-y^2 + (1-2y+y^2)}{2y-y^2}} dy = 2\pi \int_0^1 \sqrt{2y-y^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2y-y^2}} dy \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^1 dy = 2\pi y \Big|_0^1 = \boxed{2\pi} \end{aligned}$$

(b)  $y' = -2x$   
 $y = 1 - x^2$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} S.A. &= 2\pi \int_0^1 x \sqrt{1 + (y'(x))^2} dx = 2\pi \int_0^1 x \sqrt{1 + (-2x)^2} dx = 2\pi \int_0^1 x \sqrt{1+4x^2} dx \\ &= \frac{2\pi}{8} \int_1^5 u du = \frac{\pi}{4} \left[ \frac{u^{3/2}}{3/2} \right]_1^5 = \frac{\pi}{6} [5^{3/2} - 1^{3/2}] \\ &= \boxed{\frac{\pi}{6} [5\sqrt{5} - 1]} \end{aligned}$$

$u = 1+4x^2$
$du = 8x dx$
$x dx = \frac{du}{8}$
$0 \rightarrow 1+4(0)^2 = 1$
$1 \rightarrow 1+4(1)^2 = 5$

$$x'(t) = e^t - 1, \quad y'(t) = 4e^{t/2} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2e^{t/2}$$

$$(c) \quad x = e^t - t, \quad y = 4e^{t/2}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$S.A. = 2\pi \int_0^1 x(t) \sqrt{[x'(t)]^2 + [y'(t)]^2} dt$$

$$= 2\pi \int_0^1 (e^t - t) \sqrt{\underbrace{(e^t - 1)^2}_{e^{2t} - 2e^t + 1} + \underbrace{(2e^{t/2})^2}_{4e^t}} dt = 2\pi \int_0^1 (e^t - t) \sqrt{e^{2t} - 2e^t + 1 + 4e^t} dt$$

$$= 2\pi \int_0^1 (e^t - t) \sqrt{\underbrace{e^{2t} + 2e^t + 1}_{(e^t + 1)^2}} dt = 2\pi \int_0^1 (e^t - t) \sqrt{(e^t + 1)^2} dt$$

$$= 2\pi \int_0^1 (e^t - t)(e^t + 1) dt = 2\pi \int_0^1 (e^{2t} + e^t - te^t - t) dt$$

$$= 2\pi \left[ \int_0^1 e^{2t} dt + \int_0^1 e^t dt - \int_0^1 te^t dt - \int_0^1 t dt \right]$$

$$= 2\pi \left( \left[ \frac{1}{2} e^{2t} \right]_0^1 + \left[ e^t \right]_0^1 - \left[ \frac{t^2}{2} \right]_0^1 - \int_0^1 te^t dt \right) \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} u=t \\ v=e^t \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} u'=1 \\ v=e^t \end{array}$$

$$= 2\pi \left( \frac{1}{2} (e^2 - 1) + (e - 1) - \frac{1}{2} - \{te^t\}_0^1 - \int_0^1 e^t dt \right)$$

$$= 2\pi \left( \frac{1}{2} (e^2 - 1) + (e - 1) - \frac{1}{2} - \{e - e^t\}_0^1 \right)$$

$$= 2\pi \left( \frac{1}{2} e^2 + e - 2 - e + e - 1 \right)$$

$$= \boxed{2\pi \left( \frac{1}{2} e^2 + e - 3 \right)}$$

$$\boxed{\int u'v dx = uv - \int uv' dx}$$