

§7.4: Volumes: The Method of cylindrical shells

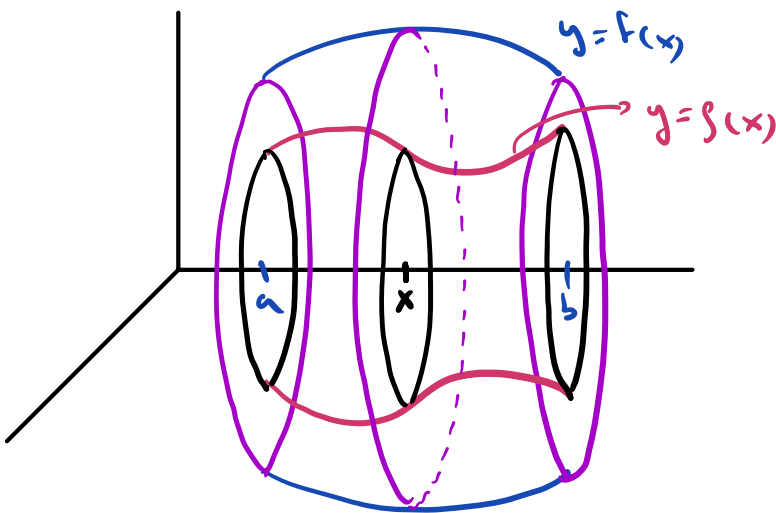
Last time: We described solids of revolution & computed their volumes via the disk method

$$V = \int_a^b \pi (f(x))^2 dx$$

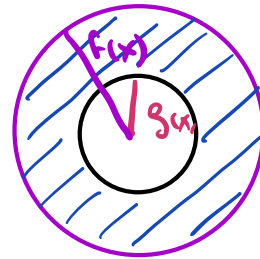
§1 Washer Method:

• INPUT: 2 positive & continuous functions  $f, g$  on  $[a, b]$   
with  $g(x) \leq f(x)$

• Rotate both graphs & get a surface of revolution  $R$



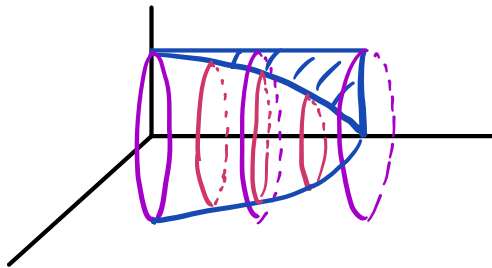
• Cross section = washer = difference of 2 disks of radii  $f(x)$  &  $g(x)$



$$dV = \text{Area(Washer)} dx = \pi (f(x)^2 - g(x)^2) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Vol}(R) = \int_a^b \pi (f(x)^2 - g(x)^2) dx$$

Example



$$f(x) = 1 \quad g(x) = \sqrt{\cos x}$$

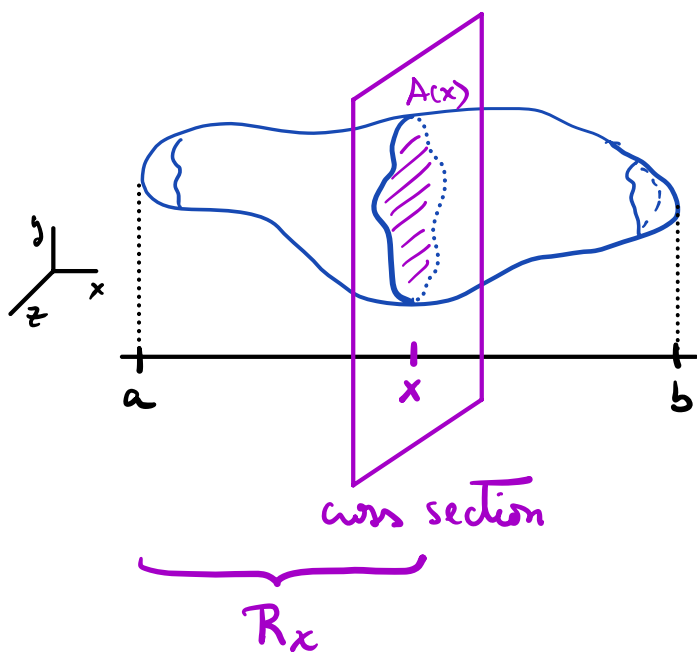
with  $0 \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$

$$dV = \pi (1 - \cos x) dx$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Vol} &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \pi (1 - \cos x) dx = \pi (x - \sin x) \Big|_0^{\pi/2} \\ &= \pi \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - 1 \right) - \pi (0 - 0) = \frac{\pi(\pi - 2)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

## §2. Volumes via moving slices

Next: we want to mimic the volume computation techniques for solids of revolution for more general solids. We will compute volumes by analyzing the areas of convenient slices (either vertical or horizontal)



x-slices = x-cross sections have an area, called  $A(x)$

$$\bullet dV = A(x) dx$$

(think of a cylinder with width  $dx$  and base the cross section)

$$\bullet \text{Vol} = \int_a^b dV = \int_a^b A(x) dx.$$

Q Why is this formula valid?

The idea is the same as for solids of revolution.

We define  $R_x$  = solid between  $a$  &  $x$

$$\text{So } \frac{d}{dx} \text{Vol}(R_x) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\text{Vol}(R_{x+\Delta x}) - \text{Vol}(R_x)}{\Delta x}$$

We use continuity of  $A(x)$  to show this limit is  $A(x)$

(the region between  $R_{x+\Delta x}$  &  $R_x$  can be under or overestimated

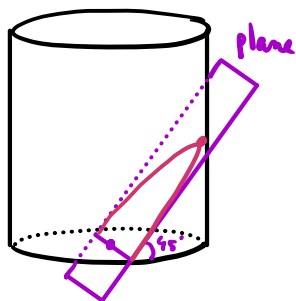
with cylinders of width  $\Delta x$  & Volume =  $(\max_{x < t < x+\Delta x} A(t)) \cdot \Delta x$

$$\text{or } = (\min_{x < t < x+\Delta x} A(t)) \Delta x. )$$



Hardest part is the determine if x- or y-slices are better for computing.

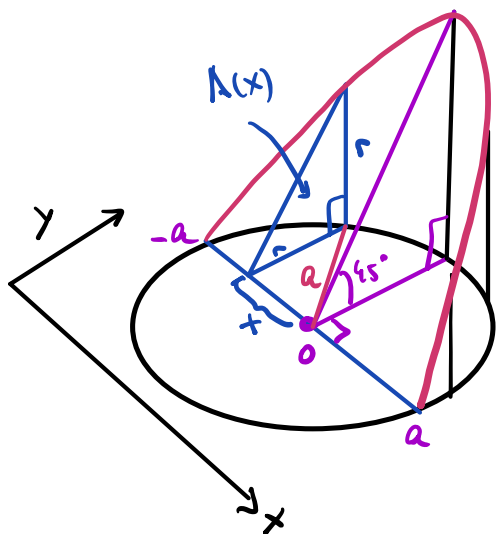
# PROBLEM:



Take a cylinder with base a circle of radius  $a$  & slice it with a plane through the center of the base at a  $45^\circ$  angle. Compute the volume between the plane & the base

(27) [3]

Solution: We look at the cross-sections in the  $x$ -direction

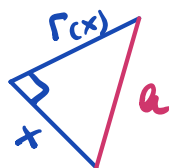


Cross-sections = right-isosceles  $\triangle$

Side length  $r(x)$ , & we use

To compute  $r(x)$

$$r(x)^2 + x^2 = a^2$$

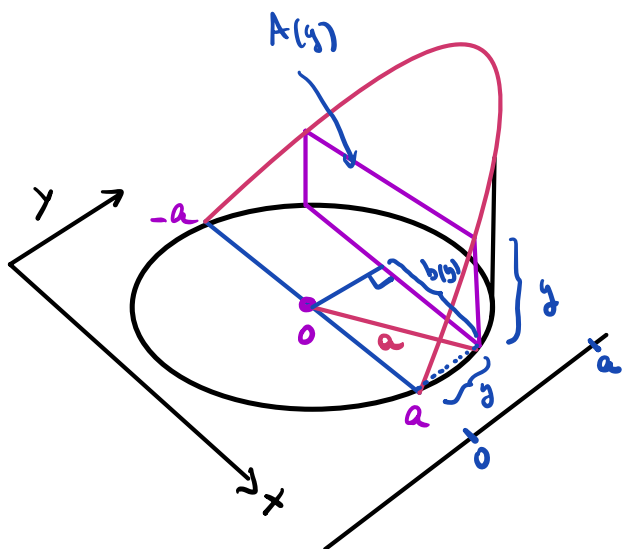


$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } A(x) &= \frac{r(x) \cdot r(x)}{2} = \frac{r(x)^2}{2} \\ &= \frac{a^2 - x^2}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Volume} = \int_{-a}^a A(x) dx = \int_{-a}^a \frac{(a^2 - x^2)}{2} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left( a^2 x - \frac{x^3}{3} \Big|_{-a}^a \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \left( a^3 - \frac{a^3}{3} \right) - \left( -a^3 + \frac{a^3}{3} \right) \right) = \frac{2}{3} a^3$$

Q What if we use  $y$ -slices?



$y$ -slices = rectangles

$\begin{cases} \text{height} = y & (\text{plane is inclined } 45^\circ) \\ \text{base} = b(y) \end{cases}$

We use  to determine  $b(y)$

So  $a^2 = y^2 + \left(\frac{b(y)}{2}\right)^2$  gives

$$b(y) = \sqrt{4(a^2 - y^2)} = 2\sqrt{a^2 - y^2}$$

Next 
$$\text{Vol} = \int_0^a A(y) dy = \int_0^a 2\sqrt{a^2 - y^2} \cdot y dy$$

$$= \int_{a^2}^0 2\sqrt{u} \left(-\frac{du}{2}\right) = \int_0^{a^2} \sqrt{u} du = \frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} \Big|_0^{a^2} = \frac{2}{3} a^3$$

$u = a^2 - y^2$   
 $du = -2y dy$   
 $y=0 \Rightarrow u=a^2$   
 $y=a \Rightarrow u=0$

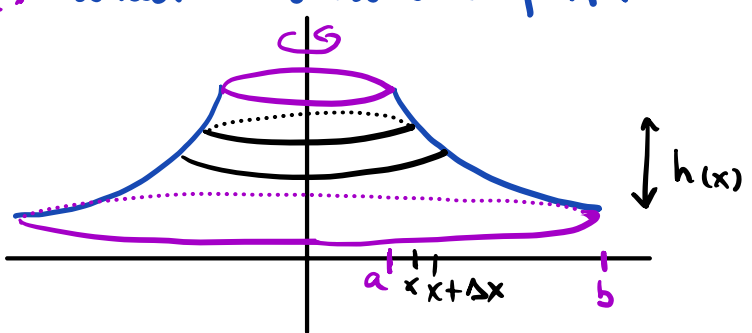
$\downarrow$   
 flip the limits of integration

As expected, we get the same value!

§ 3. Cylindrical Shells:

- INPUT: A decreasing & continuous function  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with  $a > 0$
- Next, we rotate the graph about the y-axis to get a solid of revolution  $R$

Q: What is the volume of  $R$ ?



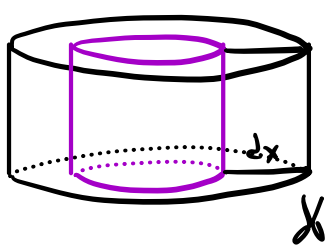
$f(b) = m = \min_{a \leq c \leq b} f(c)$   
 $f(a) = M = \max_{a \leq c \leq b} f(c)$

Method: Overestimate  $\text{Vol}(R)$  by covering  $R$  with cylindrical shells

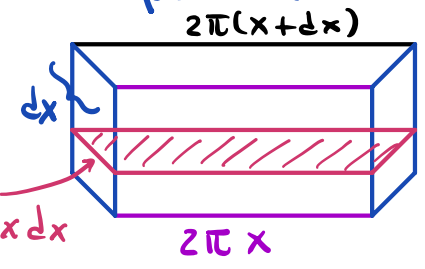
Cylindrical shell = Cylinder 1 - Cylinder 2

Cylinder 1 = cylinder of height  $h(x)$  & radius  $x + \Delta x = x + dx$

Cylinder 2 = \_\_\_\_\_  $x$



We unfold the shell & get

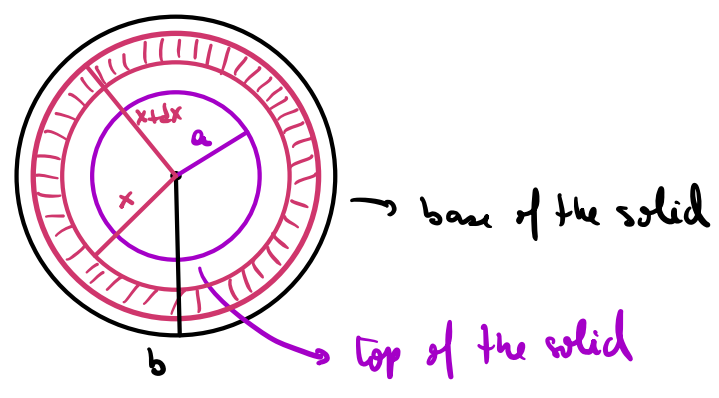


$h(x) = f(x) - f(b)$

$A_{\text{area}} \approx 2\pi x dx$

So  $dV = 2\pi x h(x) dx \Rightarrow \text{Vol}(R) = \int_a^b dV = \int_a^b 2\pi x (f(x) - m) dx$

Q What do the cross-sections of these shells look like?

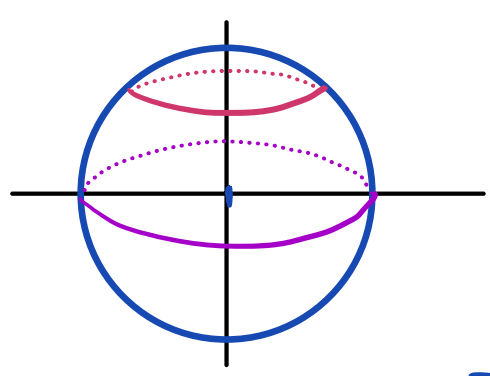


They look like concentric circles of radii  $x$  &  $x+dx$   
 Outer circumference =  $2\pi(x+dx)$   
 Inner \_\_\_\_\_ =  $2\pi x$

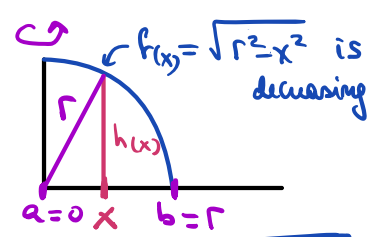
§4 Examples:

① Sphere of radius  $r$

To use cylindrical shells, we compute the volume of the northern hemisphere



The top half comes from



Use  $h(x)^2 + x^2 = r^2$  to get  $h(x) = \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$

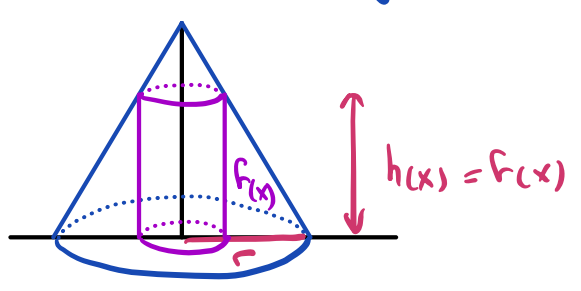
$dV = 2\pi x h(x) dx = 2\pi x \sqrt{r^2 - x^2} dx$

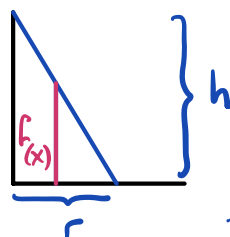
So  $Vol(R) = 2 \int_0^r 2\pi x \sqrt{r^2 - x^2} dx = 4\pi \int_0^r x \sqrt{r^2 - x^2} dx$   
 $= 4\pi \int_{r^2}^0 \sqrt{u} \frac{du}{-2} = 2\pi \int_0^{r^2} u^{1/2} du$   
 $= 2\pi \frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} \Big|_0^{r^2} = \frac{4\pi r^3}{3}$

$\begin{cases} u = r^2 - x^2 & x=0 \Rightarrow u=r^2 \\ du = -2x dx & x=r \Rightarrow u=0 \end{cases}$

(as expected!)

② Cone of height  $h$  & radius  $r$



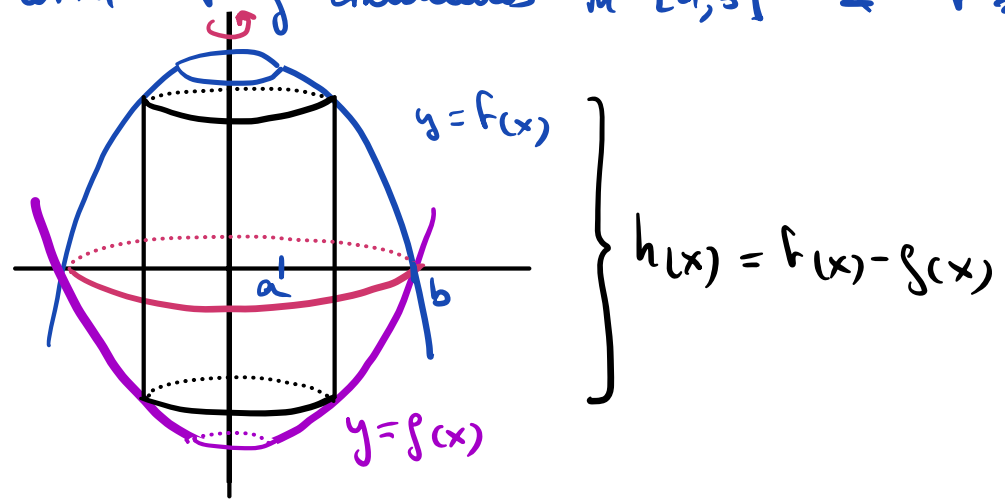
Function:   $f: [0, r] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$   
 linear with  $f(0) = h$   
 &  $f(r) = 0 \Rightarrow f(x) = \frac{h}{r}(r-x) = -\frac{h}{r}x + h$

We confirm that  $f$  is decreasing ✓

$$dV = 2\pi x \cdot f(x) dx = 2\pi x \left(-\frac{h}{r}x + h\right) dx$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So Vol} &= \int_0^r 2\pi x \left(-\frac{h}{r}x + h\right) dx = \int_0^r \left(-2\pi\frac{h}{r}x^2 + 2\pi hx\right) dx \\ &= -2\pi\frac{h}{r} \int_0^r x^2 dx + 2\pi h \int_0^r x dx \\ &= -2\pi\frac{h}{r} \frac{x^3}{3} \Big|_0^r + 2\pi h \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_0^r = -\frac{2}{3}\pi\frac{h}{r}r^3 + \pi hr^2 \\ &= -\frac{2}{3}\pi hr^2 + \pi hr^2 = \boxed{\frac{\pi hr^2}{3}} \end{aligned}$$

Q: What if we have 2 bounding curves  $y=f(x)$  &  $y=g(x)$  with  $f, g$  continuous in  $[a, b]$  &  $f \geq g$



So  $dV = 2\pi x h(x) dx$  by cylinder shells

$$\text{Vol}(R) = \int_a^b 2\pi x (f(x) - g(x)) dx$$

[Typically,  $a=0$ ]

Alternative: Use disk method in top part & bottom part separately in the  $y$ -direction (⚠ we need to express  $x$  in terms of  $y$ , which may not be possible, it depends on way  $f(x)$  &  $g(x)$  are)