

Section 6.3: Method of Cylindrical Shells

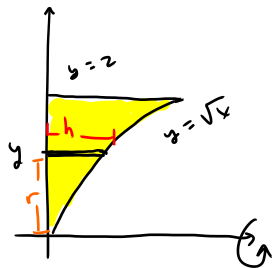
If the region bounded by the x -axis and the positive function $y = f(x)$ for $a \leq x \leq b$ is rotated about the y -axis, the volume V of the resulting solid is

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

This is the method of shells. It is derived by taking a partition of the x -axis and rotating strips that are parallel to the axis of rotation (i.e. vertical strips).

We can derive a similar formula for the method of shells if the axis of rotation is the x -axis. This requires *horizontal* strips—a partitioning of the y -axis.

The region bounded by $y = \sqrt{x}$, the y -axis and the line $y = 2$ is rotated about the x -axis. Use shells to find the volume of the resulting solid.



$$y = \sqrt{x} \Rightarrow x = y^2$$



Thickness Δy

$$h = y^2 \quad r = y$$

Volume of one shell

$$\begin{aligned} V_s &= 2\pi r h \Delta y \\ &= 2\pi y (y^2) \Delta y \end{aligned}$$

Volume

$$V = \int_0^2 2\pi y \cdot y^2 dy = 2\pi \int_0^2 y^3 dy$$

$$= 2\pi \left[\frac{y^4}{4} \right]_0^2$$

$$= 2\pi \left[\frac{2^4}{4} - 0 \right] = 8\pi$$

This is a hyper link .



Here is a link to an interactive
Shell method applet.

Overview Solid Formed by Revolution

Method of Disks or Washers: Take cross sections **perpendicular** to the axis of rotation. If the axis of rotation is the x -axis (or y -axis) then

Solid of Revolution: $V = \int_a^b \pi(f(x))^2 dx$ (or $V = \int_c^d \pi(f(y))^2 dy$).

This can be adjusted as needed for washers (disk with a disk removed) or for other horizontal or vertical axes of rotation.

Solid Formed by Revolution

Method of Cylindrical Shells: Take cross sections **parallel** to the axis of rotation. For shells of thickness Δr , radius r and height h , the volume is

Solid of Revolution:
$$V = \int_a^b 2\pi r h \, dr.$$

For a vertical axis of rotation, $dr = dx$ and for a horizontal one $dr = dy$. Both r and h must be expressed in terms of the variable of integration.

Solid Formed by Revolution



Figure: Performing Arts Center, Kansas City MO

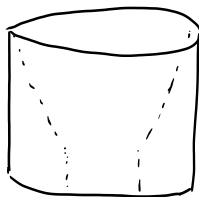
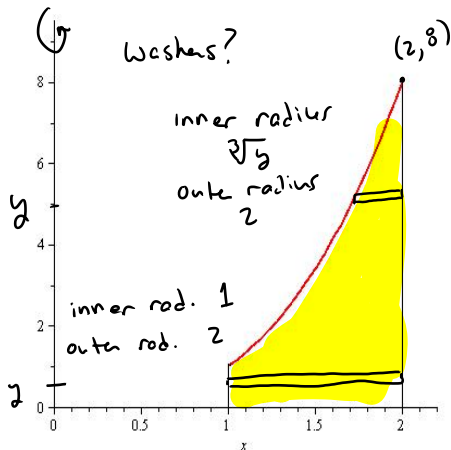
Solid Formed by Revolution



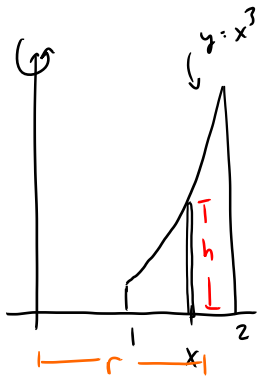
Figure: Performing Arts Center, Kansas City MO

Find the volume of the solid...

The region bound between $y = x^3$, $y = 0$, $x = 1$ and $x = 2$ is rotated about the y -axis.



$$V = \int_0^1 \pi(2^2 - 1^2) dy + \int_1^8 \pi(2^2 - (\sqrt[3]{y})^2) dy$$



For shells

$$h = x^3$$

$$r = x$$

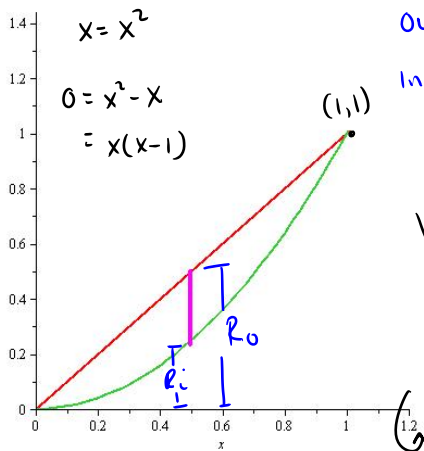
$$V = \int_1^2 2\pi x (x^3) dx$$

$$= 2\pi \int_1^2 x^4 dx = 2\pi \frac{x^5}{5} \Big|_1^2$$

$$= 2\pi \left(\frac{2^5}{5} - \frac{1^5}{5} \right) = 2\pi \left(\frac{32-1}{5} \right) = \frac{62\pi}{5}$$

Find the volume of the solid using disks (washers)

The region bound between $y = x$ and $y = x^2$ is rotated about the x -axis.



outer radius $R_o = x$

inner radius $R_i = x^2$

$$V = \int_0^1 \pi (x^2 - (x^2)^2) dx$$

Figure: Cross section perpendicular to axis for disks/washers.

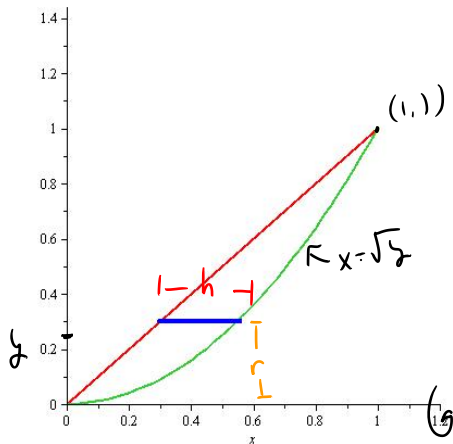
$$V = \pi \int_0^1 (x^2 - x^4) dx$$

$$= \pi \left[\frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^5}{5} \right]_0^1 = \pi \left[\frac{1^3}{3} - \frac{1^5}{5} - 0 \right]$$

$$= \pi \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{5} \right) = \pi \left(\frac{5-3}{15} \right) = \frac{2\pi}{15}$$

Find the volume of the solid using shells.

The region bound between $y = x$ and $y = x^2$ is rotated about the x -axis.



radius $r = y$
height $h = \sqrt{y} - y$

$$V = \int_0^1 2\pi y (\sqrt{y} - y) dy$$

Figure: Cross section parallel to axis for shells.

$$V = \int_0^1 2\pi (y^{3/2} - y^2) dy$$

$$= 2\pi \left[\frac{y^{5/2}}{5/2} - \frac{y^3}{3} \right]_0^1$$

$$= 2\pi \left[\frac{2}{5} (1^{5/2}) - \frac{1^3}{3} - 0 \right] = 2\pi \left(\frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{3} \right)$$

$$= 2\pi \left[\frac{6-5}{15} \right] = 2\pi \left(\frac{1}{15} \right) = \frac{2\pi}{15}$$