

Problem: Find the surface area of the shape generated by rotating the curve $y^2 = x^3$ around the y axis, where x takes on values between 0 and 1.

Solution: We know that the surface area of a rotation around the y axis is given by

$$\int_a^b 2\pi x ds$$

We have that $ds = \sqrt{1 + (f'(x))^2} dx$. Computing $f'(x) = \frac{3}{2}x^{1/2}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 2\pi x \sqrt{1 + (f'(x))^2} dx &= \int_a^b 2\pi x \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{3}{2}x^{1/2}\right)^2} dx \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^1 x \sqrt{1 + \frac{9}{4}x} dx \end{aligned}$$

Substituting $u = 1 + \frac{9}{4}x$, and $du = \frac{9}{4}dx$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 2\pi \int_{u(0)}^{u(1)} \frac{4}{9}(u-1)\sqrt{u} \frac{4}{9} du \\ &= 2\pi \int_{u(0)}^{u(1)} \frac{16}{81} (u^{3/2} - u^{1/2}) du \\ &= 2\pi \frac{16}{81} \left(\frac{2}{5}u^{5/2} - \frac{2}{3}u^{3/2} \right) \Big|_{u(0)}^{u(1)} \end{aligned}$$

If you got this far in the problem, you got full credit. Substituting back in $u(0) = 1$, and $u(1) = 1 + \frac{9}{4}$

$$= 2\pi \frac{64 + 247\sqrt{13}}{1215}$$