AMA3020 Pairs Project Formula Derivations

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1 Initial Problem

From the equation for the area of a segment;

$$A = \frac{1}{2}r^2(\theta - \sin(\theta)) \tag{1}$$

where A is the area of the segment, r is the radius of the circle and θ is the central angle.

The central angle can be found using Pythagoras' Theorem to be

$$\theta = 2\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{h_2}{r}\right) \tag{2}$$

where h_2 is the distance between the center of the circle and the top of the segment.

Using the fact that $h_2 = r - h_1$, where h_1 is the height of the segment, we obtain.

$$\theta = 2\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{r - h_1}{r}\right) \tag{3}$$

We can then combine Eq. 1 and Eq. 3 to obtain a formula for the area,

$$A = r^{2} \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{r - h_{1}}{r} \right) - (r - h_{1}) \sqrt{2rh_{1} - h_{1}^{2}}$$
(4)

To obtain a formula for the volume we then multiply by the length,

$$V(h) = L\left(r^2\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{r-h}{r}\right) - (r-h)\sqrt{2rh-h^2}\right)$$
 (5)

where V is the volume, L is the length, r is the radius and h is the height of the oil in the tank.