Revolving Shapes May 11, 2021

1 | an example: semicircle revolved around the x-axis to create a sphere

We can make cuts perpendicular to the axis of rotation. In this case, you end up with a bunch of circular disks, where the height of each slice is your semicircle function.

Thus, the volume of the disk is

$$\pi f^2(x_i)\Delta x = (a^2 - x^2)\pi \Delta x$$

This is kinda like a Riemann Sum, but with more stuff added on. We can take the limit of the sum

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \pi(a^2 - x_i^2) \Delta x$$

Where $\Delta x = \frac{1}{n}$ and $x_i = -a + \frac{2ak}{n}$

Expressed as an integral:

$$\int_{-a}^{a} \pi(a^{2} - x^{2}) dx \to \int \pi a^{2} dx - \int \pi x^{2} dx$$

$$= \pi a^{2} x - \pi \frac{1}{3} x^{3}$$

$$\to \pi a^{3} - \pi \frac{1}{3} a^{3} + \pi a^{3} + \pi \frac{1}{3} (-a)^{3}$$

$$= 2\pi a^{3} - \pi \frac{2}{3} a^{3}$$

$$= \frac{4}{3} \pi a^{3}$$

2 | now lets try a cone

Rotate

$$y = -ax + b$$

Around the y-axis. Then, each circle (which is layed out flat) has thickness dy and radius x or $\frac{y-b}{-a}$. The volume of the disk is then

$$\pi \left(\frac{y-b}{-a}\right)^2 dy$$

Or using r, h as the radius and height of the cone,

$$\pi \left(r - \frac{r}{h}y\right)^2 dy$$

And we can take the integral of that from 0 to h

$$\int_0^h \pi \left(r - \frac{r}{h}y\right)^2 dy \to \pi \int \left(r - \frac{r}{h}y\right)^2 dx$$
 Let $u = r - \frac{r}{h}y$, $du = -\frac{r}{h}dx$
$$= \pi - \frac{h}{r}\int u^2 du$$

$$= -\pi \frac{h}{r}\frac{1}{3}u^3$$

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