EE24BTECH11018 - Durgi Swaraj Sharma

Exercise 8.1.7 Find the area of the smaller part of the circle $x^2 + y^2 = a^2$ cut off by the line $x = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}$.

Theroretical solution

$$x^2 + y^2 = a^2 (0.1)$$

$$y^2 = a^2 - x^2 \tag{0.2}$$

Taking square root on both sides,

$$y = \pm \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \tag{0.3}$$

(0.4)

Exploiting symmetry of our problem along the x-axis,

$$y = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \tag{0.5}$$

The smaller part of the circle cut by $x = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}$ is the region between $x = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}} and x = a$. So we find the area of this region as follows.

New area =
$$\int_{\frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}}^{a} \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$$
 (0.6)

Changing to polar coordinates,

$$x = a\cos\theta \tag{0.7}$$

$$dx = -a\sin\theta d\theta \tag{0.8}$$

Plugging into our integral,
$$\int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{0} \sqrt{a^2 - a^2 \cos^2 \theta} \left(-a \sin \theta \right) d\theta \tag{0.9}$$

$$= \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{0} \sqrt{a^2 \sin^2 \theta} \left(-a \sin \theta\right) d\theta \tag{0.10}$$

$$= \int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{0} a \sin \theta \left(-a \sin \theta\right) d\theta \tag{0.11}$$

(0.12)

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$$=-\int_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^{0}a^2\sin^2\theta d\theta\tag{0.13}$$

$$= -a^2 \left[\frac{x}{2} - \frac{\sin 2x}{4} \right]_{\frac{\pi}{4}}^0 \tag{0.14}$$

$$= -a^2 \left[0 - \frac{\pi}{8} - 0 + \frac{1}{4} \right] \tag{0.15}$$

Required area =
$$2 \cdot \text{New area} = 2 \cdot a^2 \cdot \frac{\pi - 2}{8} = a^2 \cdot \frac{\pi - 2}{4}$$
 (0.16)

We have theoretically found the area of the smaller part of the circle cut by the line to be $a^2 \frac{\pi - 2}{4}$.

Computational Solution

To find the desired area computationally, we'll be utilising the Trapezoidal Rule. Following from 0.5

$$y = \sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$$

$$\int_{x_n}^{x_{n+1}} y \, dx = \int_{x_n}^{x_{n+1}} \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx$$
(0.17)

We can solve the integral on the R.H.S. using the Trapezoidal Rule as follows.

$$\int_{x_{n}}^{x_{n+1}} y \, dx = h \left[\frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x_{n+1}^2} + \sqrt{a^2 - x_n^2}}{2} \right] \tag{0.18}$$

Our area will be calculated as

$$\sum_{x_n = \frac{a}{\sqrt{2}}}^{a} h \left[\frac{\sqrt{a^2 - x_{n+1}^2} + \sqrt{a^2 - x_n^2}}{2} \right]$$
 (0.19)

The smaller our step-size, h, is, the more accurate our area calculation will be.

And the required area is twice of the calculated area, as the calculated region reflects about the *x*-axis in the total region.

Area calulcated when a = 13 from:

Theoretical Solution is 48.232289

Computational Solution is 48.232288