

10. 1. Find the length of the curve given by the parametric equations $x(t) = t^3 + 1$ and $y(t) = 3t^2/2$ for $\sqrt{3} \leq t \leq 3$.

Solution. We have $x'(t) = 3t^2$ and $y'(t) = 3t$, so the length of the curve is

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\sqrt{3}}^3 \sqrt{(3t^2)^2 + (3t)^2} dt &= \int_{\sqrt{3}}^3 \sqrt{9t^4 + 9t^2} dt \\ &= \int_{\sqrt{3}}^3 3t\sqrt{t^2 + 1} dt.\end{aligned}$$

Substituting $u = t^2 + 1$ we have $du = 2t dt$ and hence,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{\sqrt{3}}^3 3t\sqrt{t^2 + 1} dt &= \int_4^{10} \frac{3}{2}\sqrt{u} du \\ &= u^{3/2} \Big|_4^{10} \\ &= 10^{3/2} - 4^{3/2}.\end{aligned}$$