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> restart;
> assume(alpha > 1); # shape of container, defining r=alpha^z
> assume(Z::real); # height of container, defining z=-infinity..Z
> the_volume := 473.17647; # desired total volume; 2 cups in cm^3
      the_volume:=473.17647 (1)
> ### the_volume := 29.57353; # desired total volume; 2 tablespoons
    in cm^3
> area := simplify(int(2*Pi*alpha^z*sqrt(1+diff(alpha^z,z)^2), z=-
infinity..Z));
area:= 
$$\frac{\pi \left( \alpha^Z \sqrt{1 + \ln(\alpha)^2 \alpha^{2Z}} \ln(\alpha) + \ln \left( \alpha^Z \ln(\alpha) + \sqrt{1 + \ln(\alpha)^2 \alpha^{2Z}} \right) \right)}{\ln(\alpha)^2}$$
 (2)
> volume := simplify(int(Pi*(alpha^z)^2, z=-infinity..Z));
      volume:= 
$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\pi \alpha^{2Z}}{\ln(\alpha)}$$
 (3)
> the_Z := simplify(solve(volume = the_volume, Z));
Warning, solve may be ignoring assumptions on the input
variables.
      the_Z:= 
$$\frac{2.85394285 + 0.5 \ln(\ln(\alpha))}{\ln(\alpha)}$$
 (4)
> the_area := simplify(eval(area, Z = the_Z));
the_area:= 
$$\frac{1}{\ln(\alpha)^2} \left( 54.52573195 \ln(\alpha)^{3/2} \sqrt{1. + 301.2334965 \ln(\alpha)^3} \right. \\ \left. + 3.141592654 \ln \left( 17.35607953 \ln(\alpha)^{3/2} + \sqrt{1. + 301.2334965 \ln(\alpha)^3} \right) \right)$$
 (5)
> opt := Optimization:-Minimize(the_area, alpha=1..10);
      opt:= [319.448406338918, [alpha=1.19628130817947]] (6)
> opt_area := op(1,opt);
      opt_area:=319.448406338918 (7)
> opt_alpha := eval(alpha, op(2,opt));
      opt_alpha:=1.19628130817947 (8)
> opt_Z := eval(the_Z, alpha=opt_alpha);
      opt_Z:=11.1281682315513 (9)
> plot3d([opt_alpha^z*cos(theta), opt_alpha^z*sin(theta), z],
theta=-Pi..Pi, z=opt_Z-log[opt_alpha](4)..opt_Z, scaling=
constrained); # 15/16 of the_volume

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