

Exam Question

Topic: Surface of Revolution

Find the area of the curved surface obtained by rotating the graph of $y = \sqrt{x}$, between $x = 0$ and $x = 1$, about the line $y = 0$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= 2\pi \int_0^1 y \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx = 2\pi \int_0^1 \sqrt{x} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}\right)^2} dx \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^1 \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{4}} dx = \frac{4\pi}{3} \left[\left(x + \frac{1}{4}\right)^{3/2} \right]_0^1 \\ &= \frac{4\pi}{3} \left[\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)^{3/2} - \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{3/2} \right] = \frac{\pi}{6} (5\sqrt{5} - 1). \end{aligned}$$