

The tank has parabolic cross sections by design, since we obtain the tank by rotating the parabola  $y = 4x^2$  around the  $x$ -axis for  $x \in [0, 1]$ . Since  $4x^2$  is strictly increasing on this interval, the tank height occurs at the right-hand endpoint, so  $h = 4(1)^2 = 4$ . The water is being pumped from a full tank to the top of the tank, and we are stopping when there is one foot of water left. The standard equation for work is so far <sup>1</sup>

$$W = 62.5 \int_1^4 (4 - y)A(y)dy$$

We need to compute the area of a given  $y$ -cross section. Since  $y = 4x^2$ , we have  $x = \sqrt{y}/2$ . The cross sections are clearly circular, and the radius is  $x$ , so  $A(y) = \pi x^2 = \frac{\pi y}{4}$ . This gives the integral

$$W = 62.5 \int_1^4 (4 - y) \left( \frac{\pi y}{4} \right) dy = 62.5 \cdot \frac{9\pi}{4}$$

The integral itself is not hard to evaluate, so most of the points were in setting up the problem. The points were distributed as follows:

1. 5 points for having the correct formula for work.
2. 5 points for finding the tank height.
3. 5 points for having the correct limits of integration.
4. 5 points for computing the cross-sectional area correctly.
5. 5 points for evaluating the integral.

For each of these, I wrote  $+k$  near the relevant part of your work if you got  $k$  points for that part. But note that I interpret “having the correct formula for work” to mean that you understand the formula. Thus if you know the formula has an  $(\ell - x)$  factor, I expect you to know what  $\ell$  is. Also, if you did a volume integral to find the volume of the tank, that suggested you didn’t understand the formula, since the formula uses cross-sectional area and not total volume of the tank.

Common mistakes were to switch  $x$  and  $y$  for only some parts of the problem. For example, many students wrote down the correct formula for work with  $x$  and  $y$  switched, but had the cross-sectional area as  $\pi x^2$ , which should have really been  $\pi y^2$  if  $x$  and  $y$  were switched.

Another common mistake was to compute work for a hemispherical tank rather than a tank with parabolic cross-sections. If you wrote  $A(y) = \sqrt{r^2 - y^2}$  for some value of  $r$ , this is what you did.

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<sup>1</sup>Note that we are integrating with respect to  $y$  since the setup of the problem forced  $y$  to be the vertical axis. If you like to integrate with respect to  $x$ , we can change the  $x$ ’s and  $y$ ’s as long as we remember to rotate the function  $x = 4y^2$  around the  $x$ -axis.