

Arc Length Practice

1. The length of the curve $y = \ln(\sec x)$ from $x = 0$ to $x = b$, where $0 < b < \frac{\pi}{2}$, may be expressed by which of the following integrals?

- (A) $\int_0^b \sec x \, dx$
 (B) $\int_0^b \sec^2 x \, dx$
 (C) $\int_0^b (\sec x \tan x) \, dx$
 (D) $\int_0^b \sqrt{1 + (\ln(\sec(x)))^2} \, dx$
 (E) $\int_0^b \sqrt{1 + (\sec^2 x \tan^2 x)} \, dx$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sec x} \cdot \sec x \tan x$$

$$= \tan x$$

$$L = \int_0^b \sqrt{1 + (\tan x)^2} \, dx \quad (\tan^2 x + 1 = \sec^2 x)$$

$$= \int_0^b \sqrt{\sec^2 x} \, dx$$

$$= \int_0^b \sec x \, dx$$

2. The length of the curve $y = x^3$ from $x = 0$ to $x = 2$ is given by:

- (A) $\int_0^2 \sqrt{1 + x^6} \, dx$
 (B) $\int_0^2 \sqrt{1 + 3x^2} \, dx$
 (C) $\pi \int_0^2 \sqrt{1 + 9x^4} \, dx$
 (D) $2\pi \int_0^2 \sqrt{1 + 9x^4} \, dx$
 (E) $\int_0^2 \sqrt{1 + 9x^4} \, dx$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2$$

$$L = \int_0^2 \sqrt{1 + (3x^2)^2} \, dx$$

$$= \int_0^2 \sqrt{1 + 9x^4} \, dx$$

3. What is the length of the arc of $y = \frac{2}{3}x^{3/2}$ from $x = 0$ to $x = 3$?

- (A) $\frac{8}{3}$
 (B) 4
 (C) $\frac{14}{3}$
 (D) $\frac{16}{3}$
 (E) 7

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x^{1/2}$$

$$L = \int_0^3 \sqrt{1 + (x^{1/2})^2} \, dx$$

$$= \int_0^3 \sqrt{1 + x} \, dx \quad u = 1 + x \quad u(0) = 1 \quad u(3) = 4$$

$$= \int_0^3 (1+x)^{1/2} \, dx \quad du = dx \quad u = 1 + x \\ = \int_1^4 u^{1/2} \, du = \frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} \Big|_1^4 = \frac{2}{3} (4^{3/2} - 1) = \frac{2}{3} (8) - \frac{2}{3} = \boxed{\frac{14}{3}}$$

4. The length of a curve from $x = 1$ to $x = 4$ is given by $\int_1^4 \sqrt{1 + 9x^4} \, dx$. If the curve contains the point (1, 6), which of the following could be an equation for this curve?

- (A) $y = 3 + 3x^2$
 (B) $y = 5 + x^3$
 (C) $y = 6 + x^3$
 (D) $y = 6 - x^3$
 (E) $y = \frac{16}{5} + x + \frac{9}{5}x^5$

$$L = \int_1^4 \sqrt{1 + (3x^2)^2} \, dx$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2$$

$$\int dy = \int 3x^2 \, dx$$

$$y = x^3 + C$$

$$6 = 1^3 + C$$

$$\boxed{y = x^3 + 5}$$

5. Find the exact length of the given curve $y = x^{3/2}$ from $x = 0$ to $x = 3$.

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \int_0^3 \sqrt{1 + (\frac{dy}{dx})^2} dx \\ &= \int_0^3 \sqrt{1 + (\frac{3}{2}x^{1/2})^2} dx \\ &= \int_0^3 \sqrt{1 + \frac{9}{4}x} dx \\ &= \frac{4}{9} \int_1^{31/4} u^{1/2} du \\ &= \frac{4}{9} \left(\frac{2}{3} u^{3/2} \right) \Big|_1^{31/4} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{8}{27} (31^{3/2} - 1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{3}{2}x^{1/2} \\ u &= 1 + \frac{9}{4}x & u(0) &= 1 \\ \frac{du}{dx} &= \frac{9}{4} & u(3) &= 1 + \frac{27}{4} = \frac{31}{4} \\ \frac{4}{9} du &= dx \end{aligned}$$

6. Find the exact length of the given curve $y = \frac{3}{4}x^{4/3} - \frac{3}{8}x^{2/3}$ from $x = 1$ to $x = 8$.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= x^{1/3} - \frac{1}{4}x^{-1/3} \\ L &= \int_1^8 \sqrt{1 + (x^{1/3} - \frac{1}{4}x^{-1/3})^2} dx \\ &= 12.375 \end{aligned}$$

7. Let R be the region bounded by the graphs of $y = \sin(\pi x)$ and $y = x^3 - 4x$ on $[0, 2]$. Find the perimeter of the region R.



$$\begin{aligned} L &= \int_0^2 \sqrt{1 + (\pi \cos(\pi x))^2} dx \\ &= 4.610 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \pi \cos(\pi x) & \frac{dy}{dx} &= 3x^2 - 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L &= \int_0^2 \sqrt{1 + (3x^2 - 4)^2} dx \\ &= 6.634 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{perimeter} &= 4.610 + 6.634 \\ &= 11.244 \end{aligned}$$