

Discussion 6.3

[4] Find length of the curve

$$x = \frac{y^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} - y^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{from } y=1 \text{ to } y=9$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} y^{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{2} y^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\sqrt{y} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} \right) \quad \text{cont. on } [1, 9]$$

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dy} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{4} \left(\sqrt{y} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{4} \left(y - 2 + \frac{1}{y} \right)$$

$$L = \int_c^d \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dx}{dy} \right)^2} dy = \int_1^9 \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{4} \left(y - 2 + \frac{1}{y} \right)} dy$$

$$= \int_1^9 \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \left(y + \frac{1}{y} \right)} dy = \int_1^9 \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \left(y + \frac{1}{y} \right)} dy$$

$$= \int_1^9 \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} \left(y + 2 + \frac{1}{y} \right)} dy = \frac{1}{2} \int_1^9 \sqrt{\left(\sqrt{y} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} \right)^2} dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_1^9 \left(y^{\frac{1}{2}} + y^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) dy = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2}{3} y^{\frac{3}{2}} + 2 y^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \Big|_1^9$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{y^3} + \sqrt{y} \Big|_1^9 = \left(\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{9 \times 9 \times 9} + \sqrt{9} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{1} + \sqrt{1} \right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{3} (9)(3) + 3 \right) - \left(\frac{1}{3} + 1 \right) = 9 + 3 - \frac{1}{3} - 1$$

$$= 11 - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{32}{3}$$

19. Find a curve through the point $(1,1)$ whose length integral is

$$L = \int_1^4 \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{4x}} dx$$

• How many such curves are there? Give reasons.

• Comparing with $L = \int_a^b \sqrt{1 + (f'(x))^2} dx \Rightarrow$

$$(f'(x))^2 = \frac{1}{4x} \Rightarrow f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} \quad \text{since } |x| = x \text{ in this case}$$

$$f(x) = \int \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} dx$$

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x} + c$$

Since the curve $f(x)$ passes through $(1,1) \Rightarrow$

$$f(1) = 1$$

$$\sqrt{1} + c = 1 \Rightarrow c = 0$$

• This is the only curve passing through $(1,1)$