

68. 3(b). (30).

proof: Let  $x, y, z$  be the three sides of a triangle with fixed perimeter  $P$ , then we have:

$$x + y + z = P$$

Since  $A = \sqrt{s \cdot (s-x) \cdot (s-y) \cdot (s-z)}$ , where  $s = \frac{x+y+z}{2} = \frac{P}{2}$

$\Rightarrow$  maximizing  $A$  is equivalent to maximizing

$$f(x, y, z) = (s-x) \cdot (s-y) \cdot (s-z)$$

subject to the constraint:  $g(x, y, z) = x + y + z - P = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla g = (1, 1, 1)$$

solve  $\nabla f = \lambda \nabla g$ , we have

$$-(s-y) \cdot (s-z) = \lambda$$

$$-(s-x) \cdot (s-z) = \lambda$$

$$-(s-x) \cdot (s-y) = \lambda$$

Hence,  $(s-y) \cdot (s-z) = (s-x) \cdot (s-z)$

since  $s-z > 0$  for a nondegenerate triangle, we obtain

$$s-y = s-x \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = y$$

Similarly, since  $(s-x) \cdot (s-z) = (s-x) \cdot (s-y)$

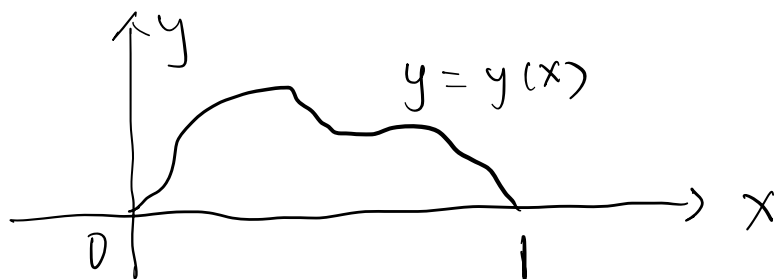
$$s-x > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad s-z = s-y \quad \Rightarrow \quad z = y$$

Therefore,  $x = y = z$ .

Using the constraint  $x + y + z = P$ , we get

$$x = y = z = \frac{P}{3}$$

4. (35).



Solve. Minimize  $L := \int_0^1 \sqrt{1+(y')^2} dx$  with

Condition  $A = \int_0^1 y dx$  and  $y(0) = 0 = y(1)$ .

Letting  $F = \sqrt{1+(y')^2} + \lambda y$ , by the Euler formula,

we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial y'} \right) - \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \\ &= \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{y'}{\sqrt{1+(y')^2}} \right) - \lambda. \end{aligned}$$

Integrating both sides, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{y'}{\sqrt{1+(y')^2}} &= \lambda x + C_1 \\ \Rightarrow (y')^2 &= \frac{(\lambda x + C_1)^2}{1 - (\lambda x + C_1)^2} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} &= \pm \frac{\lambda x + C_1}{\sqrt{1 - (\lambda x + C_1)^2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \pm \int \frac{\lambda x + c_1}{\sqrt{1 - (\lambda x + c_1)^2}} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \mp \frac{1}{\lambda} \sqrt{1 - (\lambda x + c_1)^2} + c_2$$

$$\Rightarrow (y - c_2)^2 \lambda^2 + (\lambda x + c_1)^2 = 1.$$

$$\Rightarrow (y - c_2)^2 + (x + c_3)^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}.$$

This is a circle with radius  $\frac{1}{\lambda}$ .

Thus, the minimized curve is an arc of the above circle. □

7. (35) Show the geodesics on any cylinder of the form  $g(x, z) = 0$  make a constant angle with the  $y$ -axis.

Solve. The general formula of a cylinder is

$$g(x, z) = x^2 + z^2 - r^2, \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Letting  $x = r \cos \theta$ ,  $z = r \sin \theta$ , we have

$$g(x, z) = r^2 - r^2 = 0.$$

Our starting integral comes from

$$\begin{aligned} ds &= \sqrt{dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dz}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta \\ &= \sqrt{r^2 \sin^2 \theta + r^2 \cos^2 \theta + \left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2} d\theta \\ &= \sqrt{r^2 + (y')^2} d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

To find the geodesic, it suffices to minimize the following arc length integral:

$$I = \int_{\theta_1}^{\theta_2} \sqrt{r^2 + (y')^2} d\theta.$$

By Euler's equation w.r.t.  $\theta$ , we have

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial y'} \right) - \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 0.$$

Since  $f = \sqrt{r^2 + (y')^2}$  only depends on  $y'$ ,

We can use case A:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{d\theta^2} = 0 \quad \text{since } f_{y'y'} = 0.$$

$\Rightarrow y = c_1 \theta + c_2$  are the geodesics for our problem. Since  $\theta$  is the given angle of the cylinder, the geodesics can be classified as helices.

By definition, helices have a constant angle with the helical axis, the  $y$ -axis. Thus, the geodesics on any cylinder of the form  $g(x, z) = 0$  make a constant angle with  $y$ -axis. □