

Activity Pre-Quiz Answer Key

The problem: A 25-m diameter semispherical segmented dome is going to be constructed (see *Figure 1*). Six equal-length segments will be used to create the revolving line (see *Figure 2*). *Table 1* shows the relative positions of the revolving line vertices. Assuming the dome is a solid of revolution, **find the dome's volume**. Show your work and give the result with three decimal places.

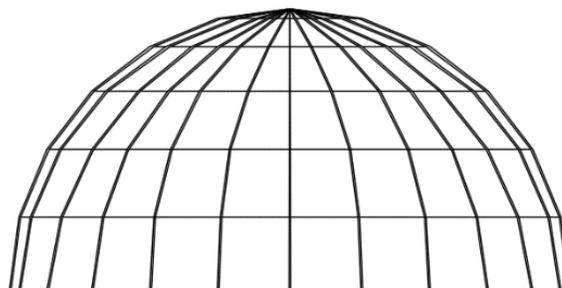


Figure 1

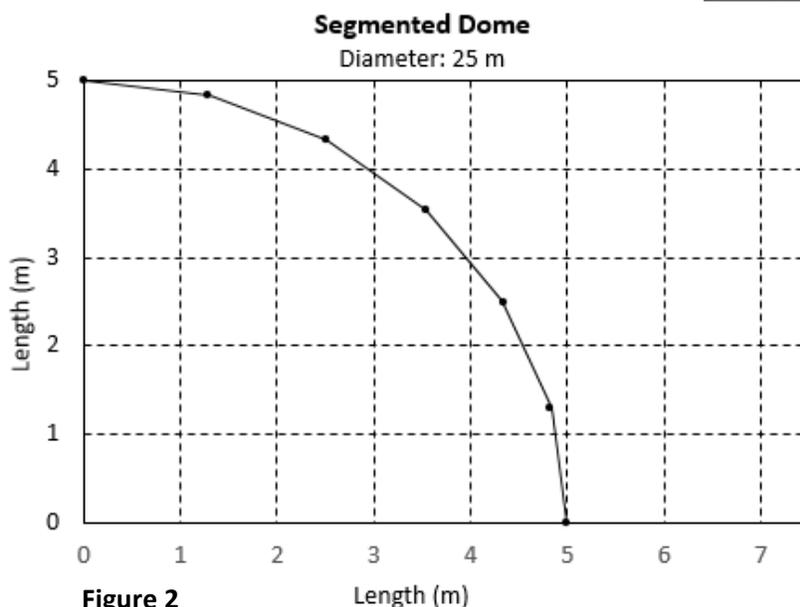


Figure 2

x (m)	y (m)
0.00000	5.00000
1.29410	4.82963
2.50000	4.33013
3.53553	3.53553
4.33013	2.50000
4.82963	1.29410

Table 1

Answer:

The same solid is obtained revolving around the x-axis or y-axis. The volume obtained revolving the segmented line around the y-axis can be computed the using the following formula:

$$V = \pi \cdot \int_a^b [R(y)]^2 dy$$

Because no algebraic expression exists for the segmented line, a numerical integration must be performed. The trapezoidal rule for non-uniform partitions is appropriate for this problem:

$$\int_a^b f(y) dy \cong \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (f(y_{i-1}) + f(y_i)) \cdot (y_i - y_{i-1})$$

Then, the volume can be computed using the following expression:

$$V = \pi \int_0^5 R^2(y) dy \cong \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_{i=1}^6 (R^2(y_{i-1}) + R^2(y_i)) \cdot (y_i - y_{i-1})$$

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Taking $R(y_i) = x_i$, the x -values in Table 1:

$$V \cong \frac{1}{2} \pi [(5^2 + 4.82963^2)(1.2941 - 0) + (4.82963^2 + 4.33013^2)(2.5 - 1.2941) + \\ (4.33013^2 + 3.53553^2)(3.53553 - 2.5) + (3.53553^2 + 2.5^2)(4.33013 - 3.53553) + \\ (2.5^2 + 1.2941^2)(4.82963 - 4.33013)]$$

$$V \cong 258.843 \text{ m}^3$$

Note: Volume of half-sphere of radius 5 m: $V = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{4}{3} \pi \cdot r^3 \right) \approx 261.799 \text{ m}^3$