

A lumberjack cuts out a wedge-shaped piece W of a cylindrical tree of radius r obtained by making two saw cuts to the tree's center, one horizontally and one at an angle θ . Compute the volume of the wedge W using Cavalieri's principle. (See Figure 5.1.12.)

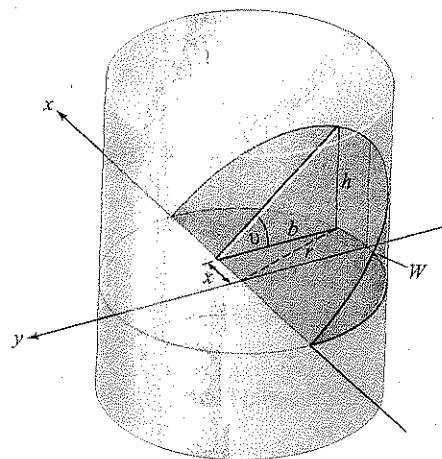
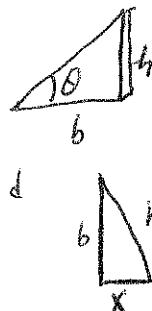


figure 5.1.12 Find the volume of W .

The volume of the slice that is drawn above is

$\frac{1}{2} bht$, where $t = \Delta x$, $h = b \tan \theta$, and



$$\text{so } b = \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$$

The volume of the slice is

$$\frac{1}{2} bht = \frac{1}{2} b b \tan \theta t = \frac{1}{2} b^2 \tan \theta \Delta x = \frac{1}{2} (r^2 - x^2) \tan \theta \Delta x$$

The volume of the wedge is obtained by adding up the volume of the slices and taking the limit

$$= 2 \left[\frac{1}{2} \tan \theta (r^2 x - \frac{x^3}{3}) \right]_0^r$$

$$= \tan \theta \left(r^3 - \frac{r^3}{3} \right) = \boxed{\frac{2(\tan \theta) r^3}{3}}$$