

5500-18 HW 2

1. **"Inverse brachistochrone"**: Assume that the fastest trajectory is a part of a circle

$$y(x) = \sqrt{A^2 - x^2}$$

Find the speed dependence $v(y)$.

2. The astronaut arrives at planet EasterEgg with a viscous atmosphere and find that the speed of travel depends on the distance r from the center as $v(r)$. They need to find out the brachistochrone trajectory to travel from point (r_1, θ_1) to point (r_2, θ_2) .

Derive the equation of brachistochrone in polar coordinates.

Find the trajectory, if $v(r) = r$.

3. Find the boundary conditions for the point in which the brachistochrone that started from the point $(0, 0)$ meets the circle $x^2 + y^2 = R^2$.

4. The thermal equilibrium in a bar $0 \leq x \leq 1$ is described by the boundary value problem for the temperature $T(x)$

$$T'' = \gamma(x) \in (0 \leq x \leq 1), \quad T' + \alpha(T - T_0)^4 = 0 \text{ at } x = 1, \quad T' = 0 \text{ at } x = 0.$$

where γ is the density of heat sources, α is the radiation constant, T_0 is a constant outside temperature.

Write the variational problem which minimizer describes the equilibrium.