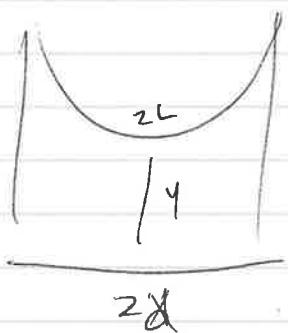


margin 2

a.



$$\int y \sqrt{1+y'^2} dx \quad \text{s.t. } z \int_0^L \sqrt{1+y'^2} dx = zL$$

$$x - \text{independent}, \text{ so "Hamilton" is constant} \Rightarrow \\ y \sqrt{1+y'^2} - \frac{y'^2}{\sqrt{1+y'^2}} = c$$

$$\frac{y}{\sqrt{1+y'^2}} = c$$

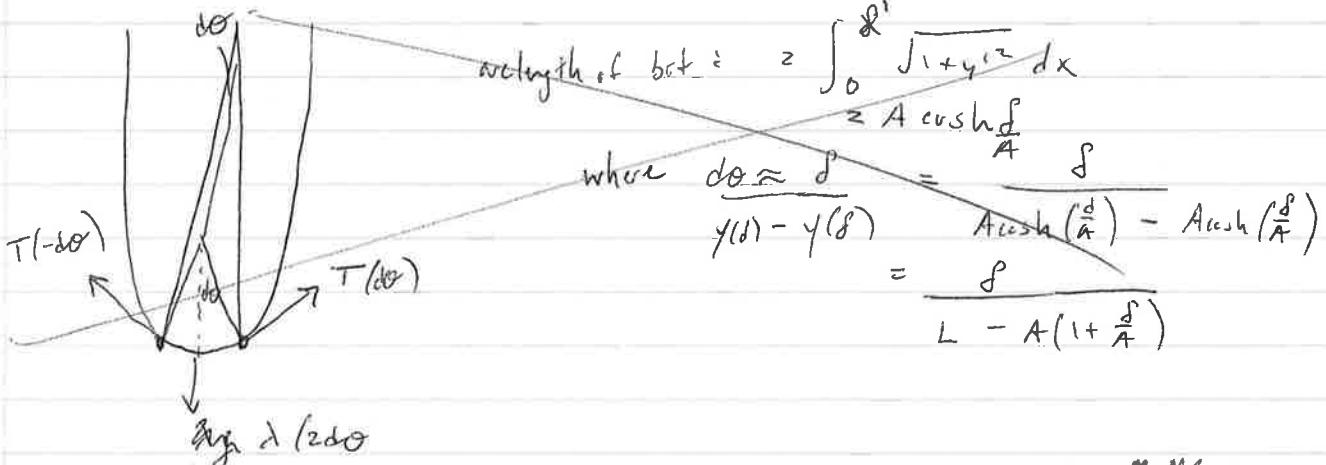
$$y = A \cosh \left(\frac{x}{A} \right) \quad y' = \sinh \left(\frac{x}{A} \right) \rightarrow \text{phys.}$$

to determine A,

$$\int_0^L \sinh \left(\frac{x}{A} \right) dx = L$$

$$A \cosh \left(\frac{L}{A} \right) = L$$

b. Tension, let $d \ll L$.



horizontal tension is constant through catenary. at each end $T_y = \frac{Mg}{2}$

$$\theta = \frac{dy}{dx} = \sinh \left(\frac{d}{A} \right) \quad \text{this gives tension at top}$$

which then gives horz. tension,

which is only tension at bottom.

$$T_y = T \sin \theta \approx T \theta = T \sinh \left(\frac{d}{A} \right) = \frac{Mg}{2}$$

$$T = \frac{Mg}{2 \sinh \left(\frac{d}{A} \right)}$$

$$\text{so } T_x = T \cos \theta = T \left(1 + \frac{\theta^2}{2} \right)$$

$$T_x = \frac{Mg}{2} \left(\frac{Mg}{2 \sinh \left(\frac{d}{A} \right)} / \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} \sinh^2 \left(\frac{d}{A} \right) \right) \right) -$$

some thoughts: