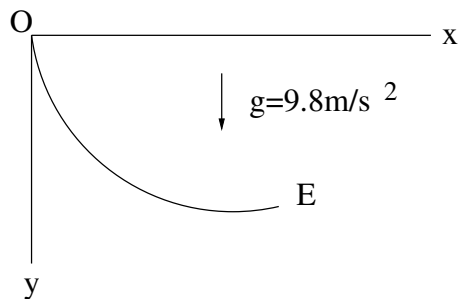


[mex31] Brachistochrone problem II

A particle of mass  $m$  slides from rest at the origin of the coordinate system down to the point  $E$  along a frictionless path. (a) Use the calculus of variation to determine the path along which the particle arrives at  $E$  in the shortest time. (b) Determine the time it takes the particle in [mex30] to travel from  $A$  to  $C$  along a path such as found in (a).



**Solution:**