Recall this problem from class:

Using the integral form of momentum conservation, we discovered that the tension in the rope was:

$$T=\frac{1}{2}rgpd^2y.$$

We could also apply the mass conservation equation to this problem:

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{CV} \mathbf{r} dV + \int \mathbf{r} \vec{V} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

Factoring out \boldsymbol{r} , and substituting for the known \vec{V} :

$$0 = \mathbf{r} \left(\frac{d}{dt} \int_{CV} dV + \sqrt{2gy} \frac{\mathbf{p}d^2}{4} \right)$$
$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{CV} \frac{\mathbf{p}D^2}{4} dy = \frac{\mathbf{p}D^2}{4} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{CV} dy = \frac{\mathbf{p}D^2}{4} \frac{dy}{dt} = -\sqrt{2gy} \frac{\mathbf{p}d^2}{4} \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dt} = -\sqrt{2gy} \frac{d^2}{D^2}.$$

This is a separable first order differential equation: $y^{-\frac{1}{2}}dy = -\sqrt{2g}\frac{d^2}{D^2}dt$.

Integrating both sides: $2y^{\frac{1}{2}}\Big|_{y=h}^{y} = -\sqrt{2g}\frac{d^{2}}{D^{2}}t\Big|_{0}^{t} \Rightarrow 2y^{\frac{1}{2}} - 2h^{\frac{1}{2}} = -\sqrt{2g}\frac{d^{2}}{D^{2}}t$

Solving for y:
$$y(t) = \left(h^{\frac{1}{2}} - \sqrt{\frac{g}{2}} \frac{d^2}{D^2}t\right)^2$$
.

This could be combined with the above expression for tension: $T(t) = \frac{1}{2} r_g p d^2 \left(h^{\frac{1}{2}} - \sqrt{\frac{g}{2}} \frac{d^2}{D^2} t \right)^2$

The depth as a function of time is plotted here:



