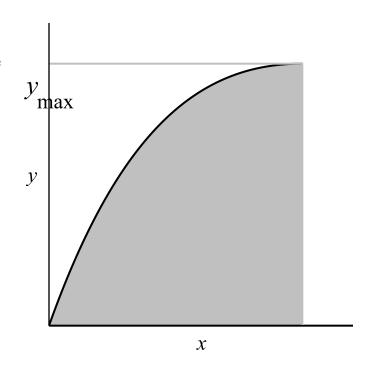
Consider the graph of y = x e $-\frac{x}{a}$ for a > 0 on the interval $0 \le x \le x_{\text{max}}$ where x_{max} is the location of the maximum value of this function.

- a) Determine exactly $(x_{\text{max}}, y_{\text{max}})$ and the area A_{rect} of the rectangle shown in the figure with this width and height.
- b) Set up a definite integral representing the shaded area *A* and then evaluate it exactly by hand using integration by parts. Does your result agree with techology?
- c) Evaluate and simplify the exact fractional area $\frac{A}{A_{rect}}$ and give its numerical value to 3 decimal places. Does your result seem consistent with the figure?



▶ solution