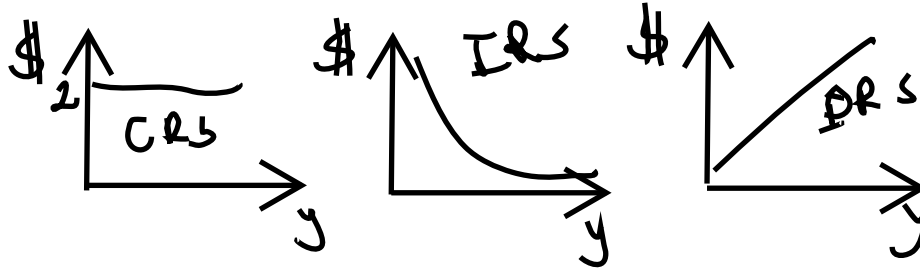


and marginal costs are

$$MC(y) = 2$$

$$MC(y) = 2\frac{1}{\sqrt{y}}$$

$$MC(y) = 4y$$



**Problem 3 (Perfect Substitutes)**

a) what are the returns to scale for each function?

$$F(\lambda K, \lambda L) = \lambda K + \lambda 0.5L = \lambda(K + 0.5L) \text{ (CRS)}$$

$$F(K, L) = (\lambda K + \lambda 0.5L)^2 = \lambda^2 (K + 0.5L)^2 \text{ (IRS)}$$

$$F(K, L) = \sqrt{(\lambda K + \lambda 0.5L)} = \sqrt{\lambda} \sqrt{(K + 0.5L)} \text{ (DRS)}$$

b) Given the first production function  $F(K, L) = (K + 0.5L)$  characterized by CRS, capital is more productive and costs the same  $L = 0$ ,

$$y = K$$

and hence the cost function

$$C(y) = w_K K + w_L L = 1y + 1 \times 0 = y$$

Also in the case of  $y = [K + 0.5L]^2$  (IRS) again in optimum  $L = 0$  and hence  $y = K^2$  and hence

$$K = \sqrt{y}$$

and hence the cost function

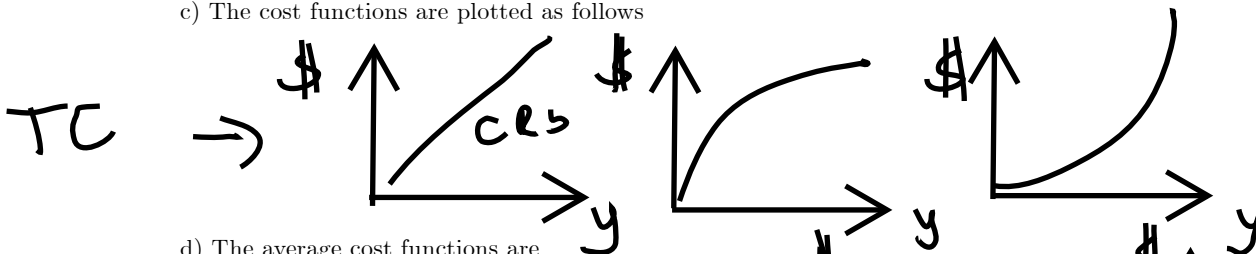
$$C(y) = w_K K + w_L L = 1 \times K = \sqrt{y} = \sqrt{y}$$

Finally for production function  $F(K, L) = \sqrt{(K + 0.5L)}$  characterized by DRS again  $L = 0$  and hence

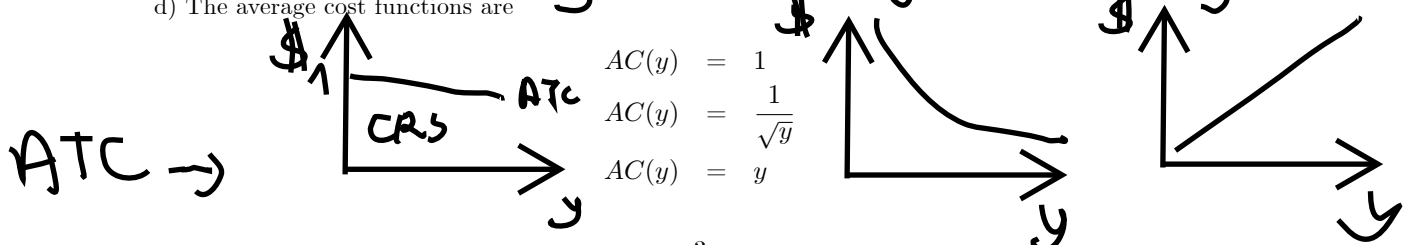
$$y = \sqrt{K} \Rightarrow K = y^2$$

$$C(y) = w_K K + w_L L = 1 \times K + 1 \times 0 = y^2$$

c) The cost functions are plotted as follows



d) The average cost functions are



$$AC(y) = 1$$

$$AC(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}}$$

$$AC(y) = y$$