

Strategies for Solving Optimization Problems:

- Read the problem carefully. Ask yourself: What is the unknown? What are the given quantities? What are the given conditions?
- Draw a diagram.
- Introduce variables. Write a primary equation for the quantity to be optimized.
- Reduce the primary equation to one having a single independent variable.
- Determine the feasible domain.
- Solve.

1) A rectangular garden is to be enclosed using the wall of a building as one side and 60 feet of fencing on the other three sides. Find the length and width that will give the maximum area.

$x: (0, 60)$
 $y: (0, 60)$

$$A = xy$$

$$A = (60 - 2y)y$$

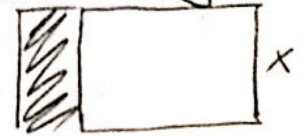
$$A = 60y - 2y^2$$

$$\frac{dA}{dy} = 60 - 4y = 0$$

$$y = 15$$

$$P = 2y + x = 60$$

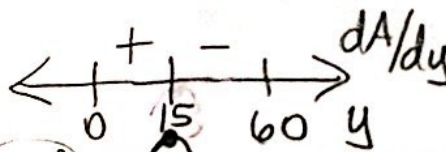
$$x = -2y + 60$$



$$x = -2(15) + 60$$

$$x = 30$$

$$y = 15$$



2) Which points on the graph of $y = 4 - x^2$ are closest to the point $(0, 2)$?

$$d = \sqrt{(x-0)^2 + (y-2)^2}$$

$$d = \sqrt{x^2 + (4 - x^2 - 2)^2}$$

$$d = \sqrt{x^2 + (2 - x^2)^2}$$

$$d = \sqrt{x^2 + 4 - 4x^2 + x^4}$$

$$d = \sqrt{x^4 - 3x^2 + 4}$$

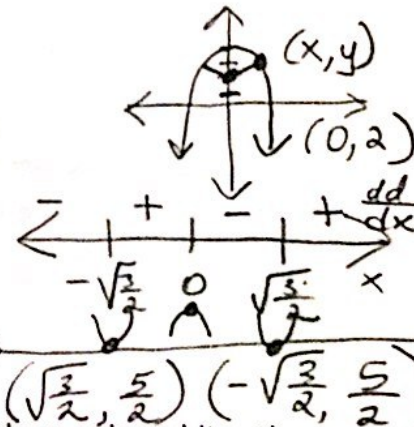
$$d = x^4 - 3x^2 + 4$$

$$\frac{dd}{dx} = 4x^3 - 6x = 0$$

$$2x(2x^2 - 3) = 0$$

$$2x = 0 \quad 2x^2 = 3$$

$$x = 0 \quad x = \pm\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$$



3) Find the dimensions of the rectangle of largest area that has its base on the x-axis and its other two vertices above the y-axis and lying on the parabola $y = 9 - x^2$.

$$A = 2x \cdot y$$

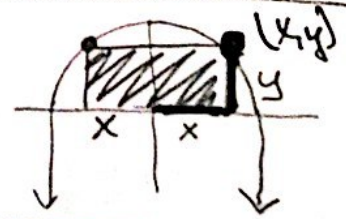
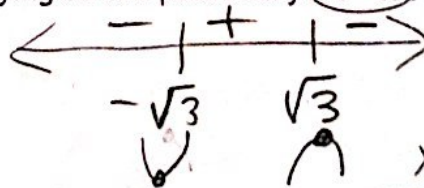
$$A = 2x(9 - x^2)$$

$$A = 18x - 2x^3$$

$$\frac{dA}{dx} = 18 - 6x^2 = 0$$

$$x^2 = 3$$

$$x = \pm\sqrt{3}$$



$$\text{length} = 2\sqrt{3}$$

$$\text{width} = 9 - (\sqrt{3})^2 = 6$$