

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.
- Solve and consider domain.

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.

$$2x + y = 60$$

$$A = xy$$

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

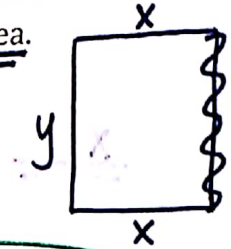
$$A = 60x - 2x^2$$

$$\frac{dA}{dx} = 60 - 4x = 0$$

$$x = 15$$

$$y = 30$$

15 ft by 30 ft



2) Find the point on the parabola $y^2 = 2x$ that is closest to the point (1, 4).

$$y^2 = 2x$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}y^2$$

$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

$$d = \sqrt{(x - 1)^2 + (y - 4)^2}$$

$$d = \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2}y^2 - 1\right)^2 + (y - 4)^2}$$

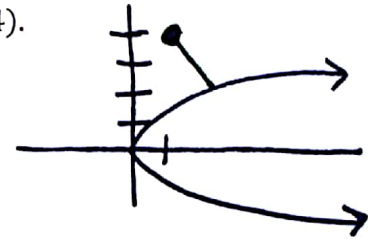
$$d = \left(\frac{1}{2}y^2 - 1\right)^2 + (y - 4)^2$$

$$\frac{dd}{dy} = 2\left(\frac{1}{2}y^2 - 1\right)' \cdot y + 2(y - 4)' \cdot 1 = 0$$

$$y^3 - 8 = 0$$

$$y^3 = 8 \quad y = 2$$

(2, 2)



3) A box in the shape of a rectangular prism has one square base and the other square base is open. It is made with 48 square feet of material. What dimensions will result in a box with the largest volume?

$$48 = x^2 + 4xy$$

$$\frac{48 - x^2}{4x} = \frac{4xy}{4x}$$

$$y = \frac{48 - x^2}{4x}$$

$$V = x^2y$$

$$V = x^2 \left(\frac{48 - x^2}{4x} \right) = \frac{1}{4}x(48 - x^2)$$

$$V = \frac{48x^2 - x^4}{4x} = 12x - \frac{1}{4}x^3$$

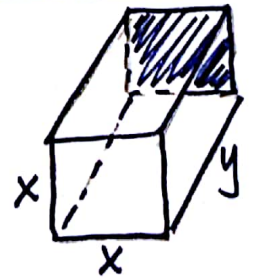
$$\frac{dV}{dx} = 12 - \frac{3}{4}x^2 = 0$$

$$x^2 = 16$$

$$x = \pm 4$$

$$x = 4 \text{ ft}$$

$$y = 2 \text{ ft}$$



Try:

- 4) Find two non-negative numbers whose sum is 9 and so that the product of one number and the square of the second number is a maximum.

$$x + y = 9$$

$$x = 9 - y$$

$$x \cdot y^2 = M$$

$$(9 - y)y^2 = M$$

$$9y^2 - y^3 = M$$

$$\frac{dM}{dy} = 18y - 3y^2 = 0$$

$$3y(6 - y) = 0$$

$$\boxed{y = 6, x = 3}$$

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

$$y = 9 - x^2$$

$$A = 2x \cdot y$$

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

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

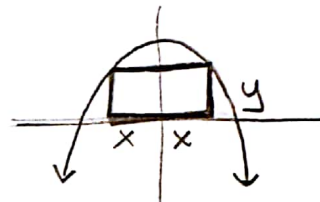
$$\frac{dA}{dx} = 18 - 6x^2 = 0$$

$$x^2 = 3$$

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

$$y = 9 - (\sqrt{3})^2$$

$$y = 9 - 3 = 6$$



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

$$y = \text{width} = 6$$

- 6) You want to build a rectangular pen with three parallel partitions using 500 feet of fencing. What dimensions will maximize the total area of the pen?

$$8x + 5y = 500$$

$$8x = 500 - 5y$$

$$x = \frac{500 - 5y}{8}$$

$$A = 4x \cdot y$$

$$A = 4\left(\frac{500 - 5y}{8}\right) \cdot y$$

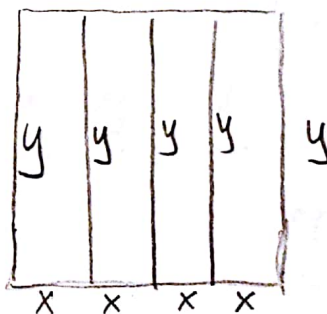
$$A = \left(\frac{2000 - 20y}{8}\right) y$$

$$A = \frac{2000y - 20y^2}{8}$$

$$A = \frac{1}{8}(2000y - 20y^2)$$

$$\frac{dA}{dy} = \frac{1}{8}(2000 - 40y) = 0$$

$$\boxed{125 \text{ ft by } 50 \text{ ft}}$$



$$2000 = 40y$$

$$y = 50$$

$$x = \frac{500 - 5(50)}{8}$$

$$x = \frac{250}{8} = 31.25$$

$$= \frac{125}{4}$$

$$2x + 5y = 500$$

$$2x = 500 - 5y$$

$$x = \frac{500 - 5y}{2}$$

$$x = 250 - \frac{5}{2}y$$

$$A = x \cdot y$$

$$A = y(250 - \frac{5}{2}y)$$

$$A = 250y - \frac{5}{2}y^2$$

$$\frac{dA}{dy} = 250 - 5y = 0$$

$$-5y = -250$$

$$y = 50$$

$$x = \frac{500 - 5(50)}{2}$$

$$x = 125$$

