

The sum of two positive numbers is 20. Find the two numbers such that the product of one and the square of the other is a maximum.

$$0 \leq x \leq 20 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 20 \quad \text{extreme values}$$

$$xy^2 \text{ maximum}$$

$$x + y = 20$$

$$xy^2 = z$$

$$\frac{dz}{dy} = (20 - y)y^2$$

$$\frac{dz}{dy} = 20y^2 - y^3$$

$$\frac{dz}{dy} = 40y - 3y^2$$

$$y(40 - 3y)$$

$$y = 0, y = \frac{40}{3}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} + \quad - \\ \hline 0 \quad \frac{40}{3} \quad 20 \\ \text{max} \end{array}$$

$$x = 20 - \frac{40}{3} = \frac{20}{3}$$

$$z = x(20 - x)^2 \\ z = x(400 - 40x + x^2) \\ z = x^3 - 40x^2 + 400x$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = 3x^2 - 80x + 400$$

$$0 = 3x^2 - 80x + 400 \\ \begin{array}{cc} -1 & 20 \\ 3 & 20 \end{array}$$

$$0 = (-x + 20)(-3x + 20)$$

$$x = 20, x = \frac{20}{3}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} + \quad - \\ \hline 0 \quad \frac{20}{3} \quad 20 \\ \text{max} \end{array}$$

$$\therefore \frac{20}{3} \text{ and } \frac{40}{3}$$

# Maximum/Minimum (Optimization) Word Problems

## Optimization Steps

- 1) Introduce variables
- 2) Find a relationship between the variables
- 3) Find an expression to maximize or minimize
- 4) Simplify max/min to have only 1 variable
- 5) Find the derivative.
- 6) Set the derivative equal to 0 to find stationary points.
- 7) Use a sign diagram to determine if stationary points are max or min
- 8) Check extreme values for global max/mins.
- 9) Answer the question.

## Example #1

A rectangle is inscribed in a circle  $x^2 + y^2 = 9$ . Find the dimensions of the rectangle with maximum area.

$$x^2 + y^2 = 9$$

$$y^2 = 9 - x^2$$

$$y = \sqrt{9 - x^2}$$

$$2x(2y) = z$$

$$4xy = z$$

$$4x\sqrt{9 - x^2} = z$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = 4\sqrt{9 - x^2} + 2x(9 - x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}(-2x)$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = 4\sqrt{9 - x^2} - \frac{4x^2}{\sqrt{9 - x^2}}$$

$$= \frac{4}{\sqrt{9 - x^2}}(9 - x^2 - x^2)$$

$$= \frac{-4}{\sqrt{9 - x^2}}(9 - 2x^2)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} - \quad + \quad - \\ -3 \quad -\frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2} \quad \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2} \quad 3 \\ \text{max} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -3 &\leq x \leq 3 \\ -3 &\leq y \leq 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$0 = 9 - 2x^2$$

$$2x^2 = 9$$

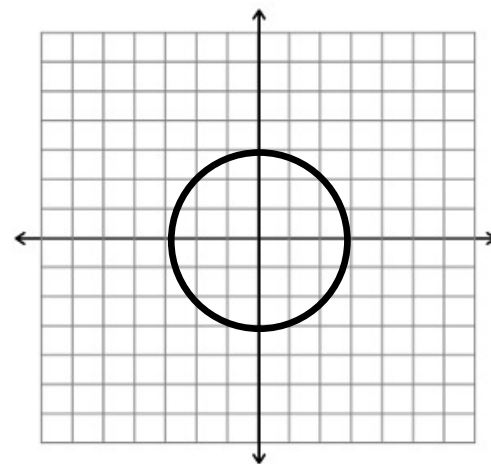
$$x^2 = \frac{9}{2}$$

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

$$\therefore x = \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$y = \sqrt{9 - \frac{18}{4}}$$

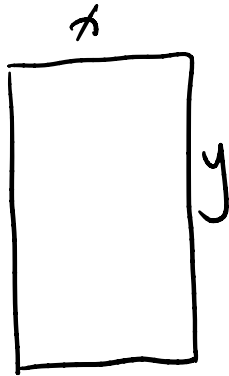
$$y = \sqrt{\frac{18}{4}} = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2}$$



$\therefore$  dimensions are  $3\sqrt{2} \times 3\sqrt{2}$

## Example #2

A rectangular sheet of metal with a perimeter of 2 m will be rolled into the curved surface of a cylindrical tank. Find the greatest possible volume of this tank.



$$x + y = 1$$

$$y = 1 - x$$

$$\pi d = x$$

$$d = \frac{x}{\pi} \quad r = \frac{x}{2\pi}$$



$$Z = \pi \left( \frac{x}{2\pi} \right)^2 y$$

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

$$Z = \frac{x^2}{4\pi} - \frac{x^3}{4\pi}$$

$$Z = \frac{1}{4\pi} (x^2 - x^3)$$

$$\frac{dZ}{dx} = \frac{1}{4\pi} (2x - 3x^2)$$

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

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

$$x = 0, \quad x = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} + \quad - \\ \hline 0 \quad \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) \quad 2 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{2}{3}, \quad y = 1 - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{3} \quad \therefore \text{Volume is } \frac{1}{27\pi} \text{ m}^3$$

$$V = \pi r^2 h$$

$$V = \pi \left( \frac{1}{3\pi} \right)^2 \times \frac{1}{3} = \pi \left( \frac{1}{9\pi^2} \right) \times \frac{1}{3} = \boxed{\frac{1}{27\pi}}$$