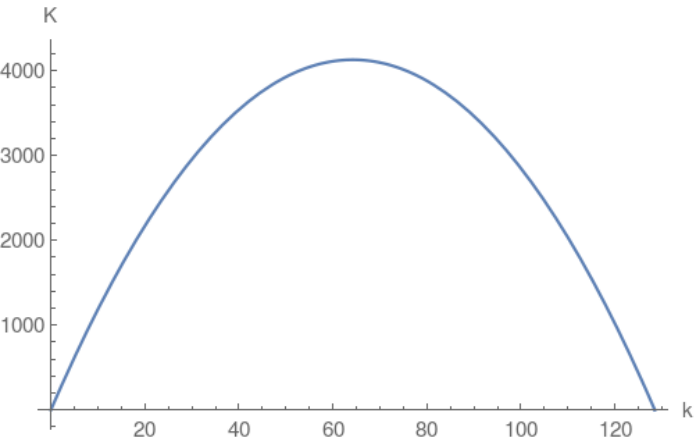
2.

2. Perimeter of rectangle $= 2(k+a) = 257$ where a is the length of the other edge of rectangle. Area of the rectangle is $= k \times a$.
Use perimeter equation
and solve for $a = \frac{257-2k}{2}$

Then reformulate the area $K = k \times a = \frac{257\,k}{2} - k^2$ which turns out to be a quadratic Parabola:



Compute the vertex $\frac{257}{4}$ and then plug the vertex into the area which will compute the maximum area.