

Calculus Word Problems: Max and Min

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- Step 1: Determine quantity to be maximized or minimized. Express in terms of other variables. (Primary equation) Draw figure.
- Step 2: Find a relationship among the variables (secondary equation). Solve for one variable in terms of the other.
- Step 3: Use secondary equation to express primary equation in terms of one variable.
- Step 4: Take derivative of primary equation, set equal to zero, solve for variable, be sure answer is "reasonable", be sure whether max or min, answer the question.

3. Maximize $P = xy$, given $x + 2y = 24$
 $x = 24 - 2y$

$$P = (x)y$$

$$P = (24 - 2y)y$$

$$P = 24y - 2y^2$$

$$\frac{dP}{dy} = 24 - 4y = 0$$

$$y = 6$$

$$x + 2y = 24$$

$$x + 2(6) = 24$$

$$x = 12$$

$$\frac{d^2P}{dy^2} = -4 \therefore \text{Max, by 2nd deriv. test.}$$

Maximum Product = $12 \cdot 6 = 72$

4. Minimize $P = xy$ where $x - y = 5$
 $x = y + 5$

$$P = (y + 5)y$$

$$P = y^2 + 5y$$

$$\frac{dP}{dy} = 2y + 5 = 0$$

$$y = -25$$

$$x - y = 5$$

$$x - (-25) = 5$$

$$x = 25$$

$$\frac{d^2P}{dy^2} = +2 \therefore \text{Min. by 2nd deriv. test}$$

Minimum Prod = $25 \cdot (-25) = -625$

6. Maximize $P = xy$ where $x + 2y = 100$
 $x = 100 - 2y$

$$P = (100 - 2y)y$$

$$P = 100y - 2y^2$$

$$\frac{dP}{dy} = 100 - 4y = 0$$

$$y = 25$$

$$x + 2y = 100$$

$$x + 50 = 100$$

$$x = 50$$

8. Minimize $S = x + 3y$,
 where $xy = 192 \Rightarrow y = \frac{192}{x}$

$$S = x + 3y$$

$$S = x + 3\left(\frac{192}{x}\right)$$

$$S = x + 576x^{-1}$$

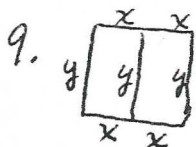
$$\frac{dS}{dx} = 1 - 576x^{-2} = 0$$

$$1 = \frac{576}{x^2}$$

$$x^2 = 576$$

$$y = \frac{192}{x} = \frac{192}{24} = 8$$

$$\frac{d^2S}{dx^2} = 576 \cdot 2x^{-3} > 0 \text{ Rel.}$$



(See #64 on page 47)

Maximize Area = $2xy$ where $4x + 3y = 200$
 $x = 50 - \frac{3}{4}y$

$$A = 2\left(50 - \frac{3}{4}y\right)y$$

$$A = 100y - \frac{3}{2}y^2$$

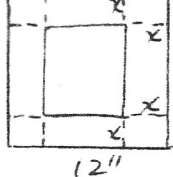
$$\frac{dA}{dy} = 100 - 3y = 0$$

$$y = \frac{100}{3}$$

$$x = 50 - \frac{3}{4}\left(\frac{100}{3}\right)$$

$$x = 50 - 25$$

$$x = 25$$



11. Let $x = \text{width cut from corner}$
 Base side = $12 - 2x$
 Height = x

Maximize Volume = lwh
 $= x(12-2x)^2$

(see # 65 page 47) $V = x(144 - 48x + 4x^2)$

$V = 144x - 48x^2 + 4x^3$

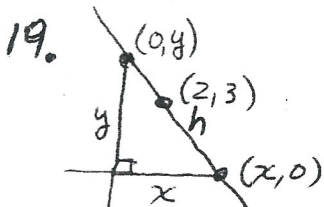
$\frac{dV}{dx} = 144 - 96x + 12x^2 = 0$

$12(x^2 - 8x + 12) = 0$

$12(x-6)(x-2) = 0$

$x = 6$ or $x = 2$
 Base = $12 - 2x = 0$ or $= 12 - 4$
 Reject $x = 6$ \Rightarrow Base = 8

Volume = $8 \cdot 8 \cdot 2 = 128 \text{ cu in}$



Minimize Area = $\frac{xy}{2}$, where slope = $\frac{y-3}{0-2} = \frac{3-0}{2-x}$

$A = \frac{x}{2} \cdot \frac{3x}{x-2} = \frac{3}{2} \left[\frac{x^2}{x-2} \right]$

$(y-3)(2-x) = -6$

$y-3 = \frac{-6}{2-x}$

$\frac{dA}{dx} = \frac{3}{2} \left[\frac{(x-2) \cdot 2x - x^2 \cdot 1}{(x-2)^2} \right]$

$y = \frac{6}{x-2} + 3$

$= \frac{3}{2} \left[\frac{2x^2 - 4x - x^2}{(x-2)^2} \right]$

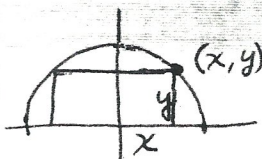
$y = \frac{6 + 3x - 6}{x-2}$

$= \frac{3}{2} \left[\frac{x^2 - 4x}{(x-2)^2} \right] = 0$

$y = \frac{3x}{x-2}$

$x = 0$ or $x = 4$
 Reject $x = 0$ \Rightarrow $y = \frac{3 \cdot 4}{4-2} = 6$

22.
 (see # 66 p. 47)



$x^2 + y^2 = r^2$, $r = \text{constant}$
 $y = \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$

Maximize $A = 2xy$

$A = 2x\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$

$\frac{dA}{dx} = 2 \left[x \cdot \frac{1}{2} (r^2 - x^2)^{-1/2} (-2x) + \sqrt{r^2 - x^2} \cdot 1 \right]$

$= 2(r^2 - x^2)^{-1/2} [-x^2 + r^2 - x^2] = 0$

$r^2 = 2x^2$

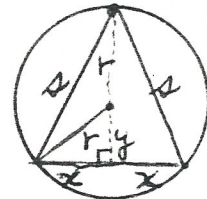
$x = \frac{r}{\sqrt{2}}$

10. $r = \text{constant}$

Triangle:

Base = $2x$

Height = $y + r$



Maximize Area = $\frac{1}{2} b \cdot h$; $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$
 $= \frac{1}{2} (2x)(y+r)$ $x = \sqrt{r^2 - y^2}$
 $= (\sqrt{r^2 - y^2})(y+r)$

$\frac{dA}{dy} = \sqrt{r^2 - y^2} \cdot 1 + (y+r) \cdot \frac{1}{2} (r^2 - y^2)^{-1/2} (-2y)$

$= (r^2 - y^2)^{-1/2} [(r^2 - y^2) - y(y+r)]$

$= (r^2 - y^2)^{-1/2} [r^2 - y^2 - y^2 - yr]$

$= (r^2 - y^2)^{-1/2} (r^2 - ry - 2y^2) = 0$

$(r-2y)(r+y) = 0$

$r = 2y$ or $r = -y$
 Reject $r = -y$

$y = \frac{r}{2}$

$x = \sqrt{r^2 - \frac{r^2}{4}} = \sqrt{\frac{3r^2}{4}}$

$= \frac{\sqrt{3}r}{2}$

Base = $\sqrt{3}r$ Height = $y + r$

$h = \frac{3r}{2}$

$A = \sqrt{x^2 + h^2}$ Equilateral

$= \sqrt{\frac{3r^2}{4} + \frac{9r^2}{4}} = \sqrt{3r^2} = \sqrt{3}r$

25. Minimize surface area of cylinder.

$$S.A. = 2\pi r^2 + 2\pi r h, \quad V = \pi r^2 h = V_0, \text{ where } V_0 = \text{constant.}$$

$$= 2\pi r^2 + 2\pi r \cdot \frac{V_0}{\pi r^2}$$

$$h = \frac{V_0}{\pi r^2}$$

$$= 2\pi r^2 + 2V_0 r^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d(S.A.)}{dr} = 4\pi r - 2V_0 r^{-2} = 0$$

$$r^{-2}(4\pi r^3 - 2V_0) = 0$$

$$r^3 = \frac{V_0}{2\pi}$$

$$r = \sqrt[3]{\frac{V_0}{2\pi}}$$

If $V_0 = 12 \text{ cu. in.}$

$$V_0 = 12 \cdot (1.80469) \text{ cu. in.}$$

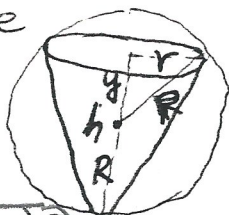
$$V_0 = 21.656 \text{ cu. in.}$$

$$\text{then } r = \sqrt[3]{\frac{21.656}{2\pi}} \approx 1.51 \text{ in.}$$

29. Maximize Volume of cone

$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 (y + R)$$



$$= \frac{1}{3}\pi [r^2 (\sqrt{R^2 - r^2} + R)]$$

$$y^2 + r^2 = R^2$$

$$y = \sqrt{R^2 - r^2}$$

$$r^2 = R^2 - y^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}\pi [r^2 \sqrt{R^2 - r^2} + r^2 R]$$

Easier to write $r^2 = R^2 - y^2$

$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi (R^2 - y^2)(y + R)$$

$$\frac{dV}{dy} = \frac{1}{3}\pi [(R^2 - y^2) \cdot 1 + (y + R)(-2y)]$$

$$[R^2 - y^2 - 2y^2 - 2RY]$$

$$(R^2 - 2RY - 3y^2) = 0$$

$$(R + y)(R - 3y) = 0$$

$$R = 3y \quad y = \frac{R}{3}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dr} = \frac{1}{3}\pi \left[r^2 \frac{1}{2}(R^2 - r^2)^{-1/2}(-2r) + \sqrt{R^2 - r^2} \cdot 2r + 2rR \right]$$

$$r^2 = \frac{8R^2}{9}$$

$$h = \frac{4R}{3}$$

$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$$

$$y = \sqrt{R^2 - r^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{R^2 - \frac{8R^2}{9}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{R^2}{9}}$$

$$= \frac{R}{3}; h = \frac{4R}{3}$$

$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}\pi \cdot \frac{8R^2}{9} \cdot \frac{4R}{3}$$

$$= \frac{\pi 32R^3}{27}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}\pi r \left[\frac{-r^2}{(R^2 - r^2)^{1/2}} + 2(R^2 - r^2)^{1/2} + 2R \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{3}\pi r \left[\frac{-r^2 + 2(R^2 - r^2) + 2R(R^2 - r^2)^{1/2}}{(R^2 - r^2)^{1/2}} \right] = 0$$

$$-r^2 + 2R^2 - 2r^2 + 2R\sqrt{R^2 - r^2} = 0$$

$$2R\sqrt{R^2 - r^2} = 3r^2 - 2R^2$$

$$4R^2(R^2 - r^2) = 9r^4 - 12r^2R^2 + 4R^4$$

$$4R^4 - 4R^2r^2 = 9r^4 - 12r^2R^2 + 4R^4$$

$$0 = 9r^4 - 8r^2R^2$$

$$r^2(9r^2 - 8R^2) = 0$$

$$r^2 = \frac{8R^2}{9}$$

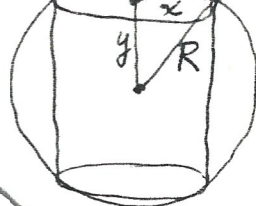
$$r = \frac{2R\sqrt{2}}{3}$$

Hard way!

30. Maximize $V = \pi r^2 h$

$$V = \pi x^2 \cdot 2y$$

$$= 2\pi x^2 \sqrt{R^2 - x^2}$$



$$x^2 + y^2 = R^2$$

$$\frac{dV}{dx} = 2\pi \left[x^2 \frac{1}{2} (R^2 - x^2)^{-1/2} (-2x) + \sqrt{R^2 - x^2} \cdot 2x \right] y = \sqrt{R^2 - x^2}$$

$$= 2\pi (R^2 - x^2)^{-1/2} x [-x^2 + 2(R^2 - x^2)] = 0$$

$$x=0 \quad \text{Reject.} \quad -x^2 + 2R^2 - 2x^2 = 0$$

$$2R^2 = 3x^2$$

HARD WAY!

$$x = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} R \approx \frac{RV\sqrt{6}}{3}$$

$$y = \sqrt{R^2 - \frac{2R^2}{3}}$$

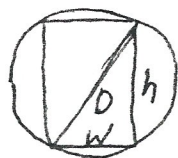
$$= \sqrt{\frac{R^2}{3}} = \frac{RV\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

$$V = 2\pi x^2 y$$

$$= 2\pi \frac{2R^2}{3} \cdot \frac{RV\sqrt{3}}{3} = \frac{4\pi R^3 \sqrt{3}}{9}$$

37. $S = kwh^2$

$$S = kh^2 \sqrt{D^2 - h^2}$$



$$w^2 + h^2 = D^2$$

$$w = \sqrt{D^2 - h^2}$$

Same as #30.

$$h = \frac{D\sqrt{6}}{3} \quad w = \frac{D\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

$$h = \frac{24\sqrt{6}}{3} \quad w = \frac{24\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

$$h = 8\sqrt{6} \quad w = 8\sqrt{3}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 1 & 1 & -6 & 9 & 8 & -12 \\ & & \downarrow & 1 & -5 & 4 & 12 \\ \hline & 1 & -5 & 4 & 12 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$x = 1$$



$$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi x^3 + \pi x^2 y = 12$$

Ends Center.

Minimize

$$S.A. = 4\pi x^2 + 2\pi x y$$

$$4\pi x^3 + 3\pi x y = 36$$

$$y = \frac{36 - 4\pi x^3}{3\pi x^2}$$

$$S.A. = 4\pi x^2 + 2\pi x \left(\frac{36 - 4\pi x^3}{3\pi x^2} \right)$$

$$= 4\pi x^2 + \frac{72\pi x}{3\pi x^2} - \frac{8\pi^2 x^4}{3\pi x^2}$$

$$= 4\pi x^2 + 24x^{-1} - \frac{8}{3}\pi x^2$$

$$\frac{d(S.A.)}{dx} = 8\pi x - 24x^{-2} - \frac{16}{3}\pi x = 0$$

$$8x^{-2} \left[\pi x^3 - 3 - \frac{2\pi}{3} x^3 \right] = 0$$

$$\frac{\pi x^3}{3} = 3$$

$$x^3 = \frac{9}{\pi}$$

$$x = \sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{\pi}}$$

(See #69 p.48)

39. Minimize time

$$t = t_{\text{rowing}} + t_{\text{walking}}$$

$$= \frac{D}{r} + \frac{D}{r}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 4}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{(3-x)^2 + 1^2}}{4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + 4)^{1/2} + \frac{1}{4} (x^2 - 6x + 10)^{1/2}$$

$$\frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{1}{4} (x^2 + 4)^{-1/2} \cdot 2x + \frac{1}{8} (x^2 - 6x + 10)^{-1/2} (2x - 6)$$

$$= \frac{x}{2\sqrt{x^2 + 4}} + \frac{x - 3}{4\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 10}} = 0$$

$$\frac{-x}{2\sqrt{x^2 + 4}} = \frac{x - 3}{4\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 10}}$$

$$4 \cdot \frac{x^2}{16} = \frac{x^2 - 6x + 9}{16(x^2 - 6x + 10)}$$

$$4x^2(x^2 - 6x + 10) = (x^2 + 4)(x^2 - 6x + 9)$$

$$4x^4 - 24x^3 + 40x^2 = x^4 - 6x^3 + 13x^2 - 24x + 36$$

$$3x^4 - 18x^3 + 27x^2 - 24x - 36 = 0$$

$$x^4 - 6x^3 + 9x^2 + 8x - 12 = 0$$

CALCULUS WORD PROBLEMS

p. 216. 4. Let $x = 1^{\text{st}}$ no.
 $y = 2^{\text{nd}}$ no.

Given $xy = 192$

$y = \frac{192}{x}$ or $192x^{-1}$

Minimize $f(x) = x + 3y$

$f(x) = x + 3(192x^{-1})$

$f'(x) = 1 - 576x^{-2} = 0$

$1 = 576x^{-2} = \frac{576}{x^2}$

$x^2 = 576$

$x = 24$ $y = \frac{192}{24} = 8$

$f''(x) = 1152x^{-3} = \frac{1152}{x^3}$

$f''(24) > 0$ Minimum

6. Let $x = 1^{\text{st}}$ $y = 2^{\text{nd}}$

Given: $x + 2y = 100$

$x = 100 - 2y$

Maximize $f(x,y) = xy$

$f(y) = (100 - 2y) \cdot y$

$= 100y - 2y^2$

$f'(y) = 100 - 4y = 0$

$y = 25$

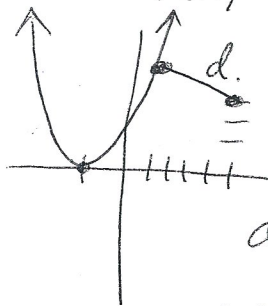
$x = 100 - 2(25)$

$y = 50$

$f''(y) = -4 < 0$

Maximum.

14. $f(x) = (x+1)^2$ (5, 3)



Minimize d^2 , where

$d = \text{dist from } (x, (x+1)^2) \text{ to } (5, 3)$

$d^2 = (x-5)^2 + [(x+1)^2 - 3]^2$

$(d^2)' = 2(x-5) \cdot 1 + 2[(x+1)^2 - 3] \cdot 2(x+1) \cdot 1$

$= 2x - 10 + 4(x+1)(x^2 + 2x + 1 - 3)$

$= 2x - 10 + (4x+4)(x^2 + 2x - 2)$

$= 2x - 10 + 4x^3 + 8x^2 - 8x + 4x^2 + 8x - 8 = 0$

$\leftarrow 4x^3 + 12x^2 + 2x - 18 = 0$

use calculator techniques to establish that $x=1$ is a root!

\downarrow $\begin{array}{r} 4 \quad 12 \quad 2 \quad -18 \\ \underline{ } \\ 4 \quad 16 \quad 18 \quad 0 \end{array}$

$4x^2 + 16x + 18 = 0$

$2(x^2 + 8x + 9) = 0$

$x = 1$

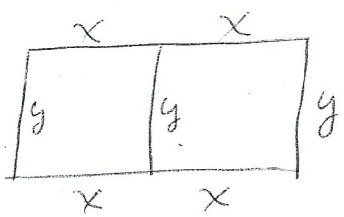
$y = (x+1)^2$

$y = (1+1)^2$

$y = 4$

$(1, 4)$

p216
18.



Given $4x + 3y = 200$
 $y = \frac{200 - 4x}{3}$

MAXIMIZE Area

$f(x, y) = 2xy$

$f(x) = 2x \left(\frac{200 - 4x}{3} \right)$

$= \frac{8}{3} x(50 - x)$

$= \frac{8}{3} (50x - x^2)$

$f'(x) = \frac{8}{3} (50 - 2x) = 0$

$x = 25 \text{ ft.}$

$y = \frac{200 - 4x}{3}$

$y = \frac{100}{3} \text{ ft.}$

$f''(x) = \frac{8}{3} (-2) < 0 \text{ MAX!}$

24. $y = \frac{6-x}{2}$

Maximum Area = xy

$f(x) = x \left(\frac{6-x}{2} \right)$

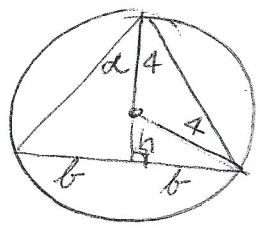
$= \frac{6x - x^2}{2} = 3x - \frac{1}{2}x^2$

$f'(x) = 3 - x = 0$

$x = 3 \quad y = \frac{6-3}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$

$f''(x) = -1 < 0 \text{ Max!}$

26.



$r = 4$

$b^2 + h^2 = 16$

$b^2 = 16 - h^2$

$b = \pm \sqrt{16 - h^2}$

a) $A = \frac{1}{2} (\text{Base}) \cdot (\text{Height})$
 $A = \frac{1}{2} (2b) \cdot (h+4)$

$= \frac{1}{2} (2\sqrt{16-h^2}) (h+4)$

$= (h+4) \sqrt{16-h^2}$

$A' = (h+4) \frac{1}{2} (16-h^2)^{-1/2} \cdot (-2h) + \sqrt{16-h^2} \cdot 1$

$= (16-h^2)^{-1/2} [-h(h+4) + 16-h^2]$

$= (16-h^2)^{-1/2} [-h^2 - 4h + 16 - h^2]$

$= (16-h^2)^{-1/2} (-2)(h^2 + 2h - 8)$

$\rightarrow (h+4)(h-2) = 0$

$h = 2 \quad b = \sqrt{16-4}$

$A = \frac{1}{2} \text{Base} \cdot \text{Height} = \frac{1}{2} (2 \cdot 3\sqrt{2}) \cdot 6$

$= \frac{1}{2} (2 \cdot 3\sqrt{2}) \cdot 6 = 18\sqrt{2}$

1218.

35. $V = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$ (sphere)

Maximize

$$V = \frac{1}{3} \pi x^2 h$$

$$V = \frac{1}{3} \pi h [r^2 - (h-r)^2]$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \pi h (2rh - h^2)$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \pi (2rh^2 - h^3)$$

$$\frac{dV}{dh} = \frac{1}{3} \pi (4rh - 3h^2) = 0$$

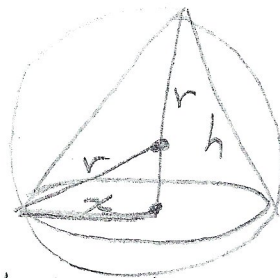
$$\frac{1}{3} \pi h (4r - 3h) = 0$$

$$h = 0 \quad h = \frac{4r}{3}$$

$$V_{\text{cone}} = \frac{1}{3} \pi x^2 h$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \pi \cdot \frac{8r^2}{9} \cdot \frac{4r}{3}$$

$$= \frac{32\pi r^3}{81}$$



Relationship between x & h :

$$x^2 + (h-r)^2 = r^2$$

$$x^2 = r^2 - (h-r)^2$$

$$= r^2 - (h^2 - 2rh + r^2)$$

$$= \cancel{r^2} - h^2 + 2rh - \cancel{r^2}$$

$$x^2 = -\frac{16}{9}r^2 + 2 \cdot r \cdot \frac{4r}{3}$$

$$= -\frac{16r^2}{9} + \frac{8r^2}{3} = \frac{8r^2}{9}$$

35. $V = \frac{1}{3} \pi x^2 h = \frac{1}{3} \pi x^2 (r + \sqrt{r^2 - x^2})$ (see figure)

$$\frac{dV}{dx} = \frac{1}{3} \pi \left[\frac{-x^3}{\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}} + 2x(r + \sqrt{r^2 - x^2}) \right] = \frac{\pi x}{3\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}} (2r^2 + 2r\sqrt{r^2 - x^2} - 3x^2) = 0$$

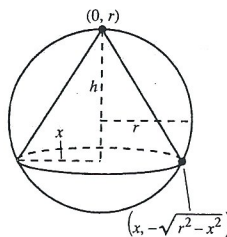
$$2r^2 + 2r\sqrt{r^2 - x^2} - 3x^2 = 0$$

$$2r\sqrt{r^2 - x^2} = 3x^2 - 2r^2$$

$$4r^2(r^2 - x^2) = 9x^4 - 12x^2r^2 + 4r^4$$

$$0 = 9x^4 - 8x^2r^2 = x^2(9x^2 - 8r^2)$$

$$x = 0, \frac{2\sqrt{2}r}{3}$$



By the First Derivative Test, the volume is a maximum when

$$x = \frac{2\sqrt{2}r}{3} \text{ and } h = r + \sqrt{r^2 - x^2} = \frac{4r}{3}$$

Thus, the maximum volume is

$$V = \frac{1}{3} \pi \left(\frac{8r^2}{9} \right) \left(\frac{4r}{3} \right) = \frac{32\pi r^3}{81} \text{ cubic units.}$$