

Please show **all** your work! Answers without supporting work will not be given credit.  
Write answers in spaces provided.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Find the point(s) on the curve  $y^3 = x^2$  closest to the point  $(0, 4)$ .

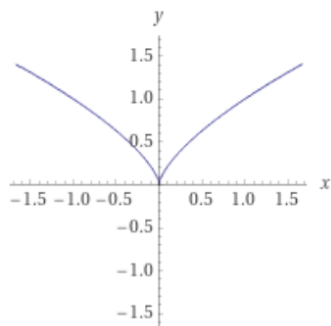
To receive full credit for this problem, you must show all 7 steps, as discussed in Lesson 24-26.

Hints:

- (a) Step 2: Copy the graph from wolfram alpha  
 (b) Step 5: Determine the domain with the graph in Step 2.  
 (c) Step 6: When determining the absolute extrema, remember to check your endpoint(s) too.

**Solution: Steps:**

- (1) Distance  
 (2) Graph



(3)  $D = (x - 0)^2 + (y - 4)^2 = x^2 + (y - 4)^2$

(4)  $y^3 = x^2$

(5) Domain of  $x$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Domain of  $y$ :  $[0, \infty)$

- (6) Plug (4) into (3).

$$\begin{aligned} D &= x^2 + (y - 4)^2 \\ &= y^3 + y^2 - 8y + 16 \end{aligned}$$

Take the derivative and set = 0.

$$D' = 3y^2 + 2y - 8 = 0$$

$$3y^2 + 6y - 4y - 8 = 0$$

$$3y(y + 2) - 4(y + 2) = 0$$

$$(3y - 4)(y + 2) = 0$$

$$y = 4/3, -2$$

Now we need to check for absolute minimum, via the Second Derivative Test. So,

$$D'' = 6y + 2$$

Note that  $y = -2$  is not in domain of  $y$ . So we will use  $x = 0$  (because it is an endpoint) and  $x = 4/3$  for the Test.

$$D''(0) = 6(0) + 2 = 2$$

$$D''(4/3) = 6(4/3) + 2 = 10$$

Since 2 is the smallest of the two values, the absolute min happens there. i.e. The closest point on the graph to  $(0,4)$  occurs at  $y = 0$ .

- (7) Recall what the problem is asking you "the point on the curve closest to the point  $(0,4)$ ." If  $y = 0$ , then

$$0^3 = x^2$$

$$x = 0$$

So the point is  $(0,0)$ .