Quiz 16

Problem. Find the area bounded by the curves

$$y = x^2$$
$$y = 4x - x^2$$

Solution. Here is the graph of this boundary:



We need to know where they intersect. So, we set them equal, and solve.

$$x^{2} = 4x - x^{2}$$
$$\implies 2x^{2} - 4x = 0$$
$$\implies 2x(x - 2) = 0$$
$$\implies x = 0 \text{ or } x = 2$$

Thus, the points of intersection are (0,0) and (2,4). We make slices perpendicular to the x-axis (for no other reason other than to avoid having to find the inverse of $y = 4x - x^2$) and note that $y = 4x - x^2$ is the top function. Thus, to find the area we integrate

$$\int_{0}^{2} \left((4x - x^{2}) - (x^{2}) \right) dx = \int_{0}^{2} \left(4x - 2x^{2} \right) dx$$
$$= \left[2x^{2} - \frac{2}{3}x^{3} \right]_{0}^{2}$$
$$= 2(2)^{2} - \frac{2}{3}(8)$$
$$= 8(1 - \frac{2}{3})$$
$$= \frac{8}{3}$$