

## Lessons 24-26: Optimization

**Optimization Problems:** Often this includes finding the maximum or minimum value of some function.

- e.g. The minimum time to make a certain journey,
- The minimum cost for constructing some object,
- The maximum profit to gain for a business, and so on.

### How do we solve an optimization problem?

- Determine a function (**known as objective function**) that we need to maximize or minimize.
- Determine if there are some constraints on the variables. (The equations that describe the constraints are called **the constraint equations**.)
  - If there are constraint equations, rewrite the **objective function** as a function of only one variable.
- Then we can solve for absolute maximum or minimum like we did before.

↳ via the 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Derivative Test

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## Recipe for Solving an Optimization Problem

**Step 1:** Identify what quantity you are trying to optimize.

**Step 2:** Draw a picture (if applicable), corresponding to the problem, and label it with your variables.

**Step 3:** Express the variable to be optimized as a function of the variables you used in Step 2.

**Step 4:** Find relations among the variables from Step 2 and express the variable to be optimized a function of just one of the variables from Step 2.

**Step 5:** Identify the domain for the function you found in Step 4.

**Step 6:** Find the absolute maximum of the variable to be optimized on this domain.

*m: n*

**Step 7:** Reread the question and be sure you have answered exactly what was asked.

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⑤ Be careful w/ ( ) or [ ]

e.g. No negatives for \$\$\$ or  
lengths

**Example 2:** Of all the numbers whose sum is 50, find the two that have the maximum product.

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be such #s.

① Product

② None

③  $P = xy$

④  $x + y = 50$

⑤ Domain  $x$  and  $y$ :  
 $(-\infty, \infty)$

⑥ Solve ④ for  $y$ .

$$y = 50 - x$$

Plug  $y$  into ③

$$\begin{aligned} P &= x(50 - x) \\ &= 50x - x^2 \end{aligned}$$

Take the derivative  
set  $= 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} P' &= 50 - 2x = 0 \\ x &= 25 \end{aligned}$$

Check that  $x = 25$   
gives abs max.

Since you have no  
endpts, use 2nd  
Derivatives.

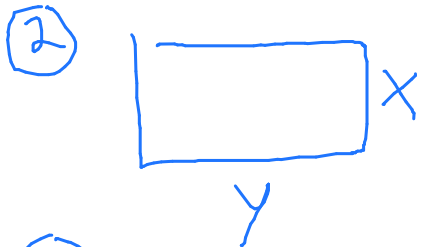
$$\begin{aligned} P'' &= -2 < 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \text{abs max} \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad x = 25$$

$$y = 50 - x = 25$$

**Example 3:** A carpenter is building a rectangular room with a fixed perimeter of 54 feet. What are the dimensions of the largest room that can be built? What is its area?

① Area  $A$



③  $A = xy$

④  $54 = P = 2x + 2y$   
 $27 = x + y$

⑤ Domain  $x$  and  $y$ :  $(0, 27)$

$x, y = 0 \Rightarrow$  no length

$$27 = 0 + y$$

$y = 27 \Rightarrow$  no width

⑥ Solve ④ for  $y$ .

$$y = 27 - x$$

Plug  $y$  into ③.

$$A = x(27 - x)$$
$$= 27x - x^2$$

Take derivative of

$A$  set  $= 0$ .

$$A' = 27 - 2x = 0$$

$$x = 27/2$$

$$A'' = -2 < 0 \Rightarrow \text{abs max}$$

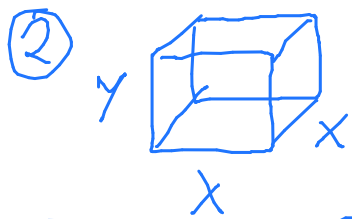
⑦  $x = 27/2$

$$y = 27/2$$

$$A = \frac{729}{4}$$

**Example 4:** An open-top box with a square base is to have a volume of 8 cubic feet. Find the dimensions of the box that can be made with the least amount of material.

① Surface Area



③  $SA = x^2 + 4xy$

④  $8 = V = x^2y$

⑤ Domain x and y:  
 $(0, \infty)$

⑥ Solve ④ for y.  
 $y = \frac{8}{x^2}$

Plug y into ③.

$$SA = x^2 + 4x \left( \frac{8}{x^2} \right)$$

$$= x^2 + \frac{32}{x}$$

$$= x^2 + 32x^{-1}$$

Take derivative of SA set = 0.

$$(SA)' = 2x - 32x^{-2} = 0$$

$$2x - \frac{32}{x^2} = 0$$

$$\frac{2x}{1} = \frac{32}{x^2}$$

$$2x^3 = 32$$

$$x^3 = 16$$

$$x = 2 \cdot \sqrt[3]{2}$$

Check abs min

$$(SA)'' = 2 - 32(-2)x^{-3}$$

$$= 2 + \frac{64}{x^3}$$

$$(SA)''(2 \cdot \sqrt[3]{2}) = 2 + \frac{64}{16} > 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  abs min

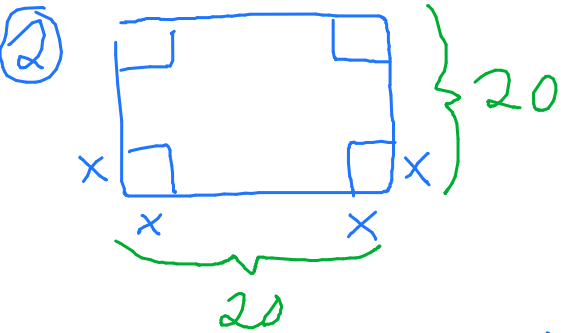
⑦  $x = 2 \cdot \sqrt[3]{2}$

$$y = \frac{8}{(2 \cdot \sqrt[3]{2})^2} = \sqrt[3]{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 2 \cdot \sqrt[3]{2} & \times & 2 \cdot \sqrt[3]{2} & \times & \sqrt[3]{2} \\ l & & w & & h \end{array}$$

**Example 1:** From a thin piece of cardboard 20 in by 20 in, square corners are cut out so that the sides can be folded up to make a box. What dimensions will yield a box of maximum volume? What is the maximum volume?

① Volume



③  $V = x(20-2x)^2$

④ No constraints

⑤ Domain of  $x$ :  $(0, 10)$

$x=0 \Rightarrow$  no height  
 $20-2x=0 \Rightarrow$  no width  
 $x=10$

⑥  $V = x(400 - 80x + 4x^2)$   
 $= 400x - 80x^2 + 4x^3$   
 $V' = 400 - 160x + 12x^2 = 0$   
 $4(100 - 40x + 3x^2) = 0$   
 $4(10 - 3x)(10 - x) = 0$   
 $x = \frac{10}{3}, 10$   
 by ⑤

$V'' = -160 + 24x$

$V''(\frac{10}{3}) = -80 < 0 \Rightarrow$  abs max

⑦  $x = 10/3$   
 $20 - 2x = 40/3$

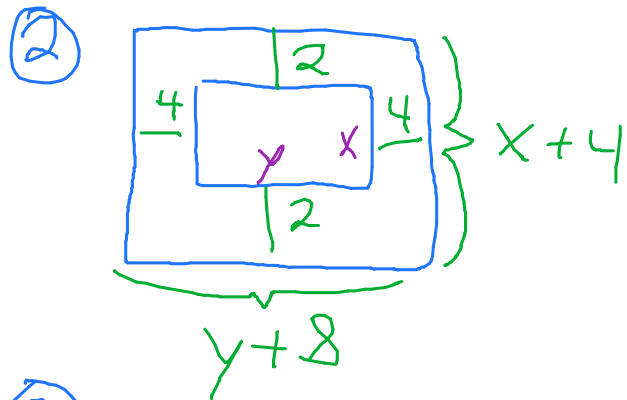
Dimensions

$\frac{10}{3} \times \frac{40}{3} \times \frac{40}{3}$

Volume =  $\frac{1600}{27}$

**HW 24.6:** You are designing a paper with an area of  $400 \text{ cm}^2$  to contain a printing area in the middle and have the margins of 2 cm at the top and bottom and 4 cm on each side. Find the largest possible printing area.

① Area



③  $A = xy$

④  $400 = (x+4)(y+8)$

⑤ If  $x=0$ ,

$$400 = (0+4)(y+8)$$

$$400 = 4(y+8)$$

$$100 = y+8$$

$$y = 92$$

If  $y=0$

$$400 = (x+4)(0+8)$$

$$400 = 8(x+4)$$

$$50 = x+4$$

$$x = 46$$

Domain  $x: (0, 46)$

Domain  $y: (0, 92)$

⑥ Solve ④ for  $y$ .

$$\frac{400}{x+4} = y+8$$

$$\frac{400}{x+4} - 8 = y$$

Plug  $y$  into ③

$$A = x \left( \frac{400}{x+4} - 8 \right)$$

$$= \frac{400x}{x+4} - 8x$$

$$A' = \frac{1600}{(x+4)^2} - 8 = 0$$

$$\frac{1600}{(x+4)^2} = \frac{8}{1}$$

$$8(x+4)^2 = 1600$$

$$(x+4)^2 = 200$$

$$x+4 = \pm 10\sqrt{2}$$

$$x = -4 \pm 10\sqrt{2}$$

↪ b/c ⑤

$$A' = 1600(x+4)^{-2} - 8$$

$$A'' = -3200(x+4)^{-3}$$

**HW 24.6:** You are designing a paper with an area of  $400 \text{ cm}^2$  to contain a printing area in the middle and have the margins of 2 cm at the top and bottom and 4 cm on each side. Find the largest possible printing area.

$$A''(10\sqrt{2}-4) = \frac{-3200}{(10\sqrt{2})^3} < 0 \Rightarrow \text{Max}$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad x = 10\sqrt{2} - 4$$

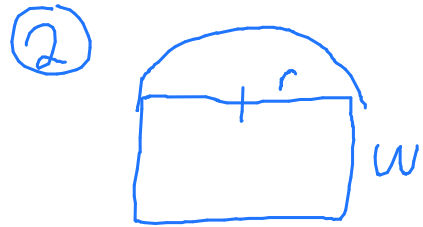
$$y = \frac{400}{x+4} - 8 = \frac{400}{10\sqrt{2}-4+4} - 8 = 20\sqrt{2} - 8$$

$$A = xy = (10\sqrt{2}-4)(20\sqrt{2}-8) \approx 206 \text{ cm}^2$$



**Example 5:** A Norman window is constructed by adjoining a semicircle to the top of an ordinary rectangular window. Find the dimensions of a Norman window of maximum area if the total perimeter is 10 feet.

① Area



③  $A = \frac{1}{2}\pi r^2 + 2rw$

④  $10 = P = \pi r + 2w + 2r$

⑤ If  $r=0$ ,  $10 = 2w$   
 $w = 5$

If  $w=0$ ,  $10 = \pi r + 2r$   
 $10 = r(\pi + 2)$   
 $r = \frac{10}{\pi + 2}$

Domain  $r$ :  $(0, \frac{10}{\pi+2})$

Domain  $w$ :  $(0, 5)$

⑥ Solve ④ for  $w$ .

$$10 - 2r - \pi r = 2w$$

$$\frac{10 - 2r - \pi r}{2} = w$$

Plug  $w$  into ③

$$A = \frac{1}{2}\pi r^2 + 2r \left( \frac{10 - 2r - \pi r}{2} \right)$$

$$A = \frac{1}{2}\pi r^2 + 10r - 2r^2 - \pi r^2$$

$$A' = \frac{2\pi r}{2} + 10 - 4r - 2\pi r$$

$$= \pi r + 10 - 4r - 2\pi r$$

$$= 10 - 4r - \pi r$$

$$= 10 - r(4 + \pi) = 0$$

$$10 = r(4 + \pi)$$

$$r = \frac{10}{4 + \pi}$$

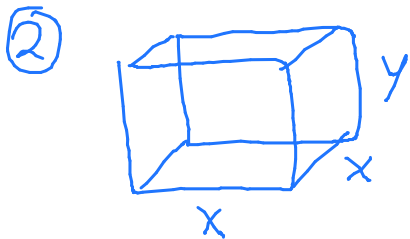
$$A'' = -(4 + \pi) < 0 \Rightarrow \text{max}$$

⑦  $r = \frac{10}{4 + \pi}$

$$w = \frac{10}{4 + \pi}$$

**Example 6:** A rectangular box is to have a square base and a volume of  $800 \text{ ft}^3$ . If the material for the base costs \$2 per square foot, the material for the sides costs \$4 per square foot, and the material for the top costs \$1 per square foot, determine the minimum cost for constructing such a box.

① Cost,  $C$



③ 
$$C = 2(x^2) + 4(4xy) + 1(x^2)$$

$$= 3x^2 + 16xy$$

④  $800 = V = x^2 y$

⑤ Domain  $x$  &  $y$ :

$(0, \infty)$

⑥ Solve ④ for  $y$ .

$$\frac{800}{x^2} = y$$

Plug  $y$  in ③.

$$C = 3x^2 + 16x \left( \frac{800}{x^2} \right)$$

$$= 3x^2 + \frac{16(800)}{x}$$

$$= 3x^2 + 12800x^{-1}$$

$$C' = 6x - 12800x^{-2} = 0$$

$$6x - \frac{12800}{x^2} = 0$$

$$\frac{6x}{1} = \frac{12800}{x^2}$$

$$6x^3 = 12800$$

$$x^3 = 6400/3$$

$$x = 4 \cdot \sqrt[3]{100/3}$$

$$C'' = 6 + 25600x^{-3}$$

$$= 6 + \frac{25600}{x^3}$$

$$C''(4 \cdot \sqrt[3]{100/3}) > 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  min

⑦  $x = 4 \cdot \sqrt[3]{100/3}$

$$y = \frac{800}{16(100/3)^{2/3}}$$

$$C = \$62.14$$

**Example 7:** A company's marketing department has determined that if their product is sold at the price of  $p$  dollars per unit, they can sell  $q = 2400 - 200p$  units. Each unit costs \$5 to make.

1. What price,  $p$ , should the company charge to maximize their revenue?

① Revenue

② N/A

③  $R = \text{unit price} \times \text{quantity}$   
 $= p q$

④  $q = 2400 - 200p$

⑤ Domain  $p$ :  $[0, \infty)$

Cause you can sell them as freebies

⑥ Plug ④ into ③

$$R = p(2400 - 200p)$$
$$= 2400p - 200p^2$$

Take derivative set = 0.

$$R' = 2400 - 400p = 0$$

$$p = 6$$

$$R'' = -400 < 0 \Rightarrow \text{max}$$

⑦  $p = \$6$

**Example 7:** A company's marketing department has determined that if their product is sold at the price of  $p$  dollars per unit, they can sell  $q = 2400 - 200p$  units. Each unit costs \$5 to make.

2. What price,  $p$ , should the company charge to maximize their profit?

① Profit

② N/A

③  $P = R - C$

$$\downarrow R = pq$$

$$\downarrow C = 5q$$

$$= pq - 5q$$

$$= q(p - 5)$$

④  $q = 2400 - 200p$

⑤ Domain  $p: [0, \infty)$

⑥ Plug ④ into ③.

$$P = (2400 - 200p)(p - 5)$$

$$= -200(p - 12)(p - 5)$$

$$= -200(p^2 - 17p + 60)$$

Take derivative set = 0.

$$P' = -200(2p - 17) = 0$$

$$p = 17/2 = \$8.50$$

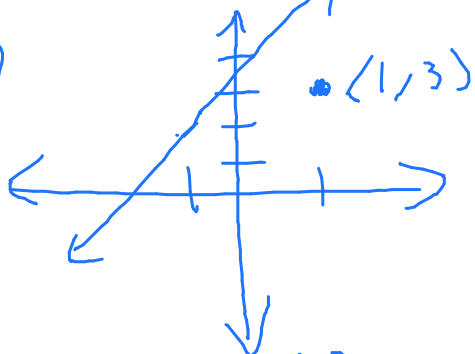
$$P'' = -200(2) < 0 \Rightarrow \text{Max}$$

⑦  $p = \$8.50$

**Example 8:** Find the point on the graph of  $f(x) = 2x + 4$  that is the closest to the point  $(1, 3)$ .

① Distance  $f(x)$

②



③  $D = (x-1)^2 + (y-3)^2$

(Maximizing  $\sqrt{?}$   
is equivalent to  
maximizing  $?$ )

④  $y = 2x + 4$

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

(Look @ the graph)

⑥ Plug ④ into ③.

$$\begin{aligned} D &= (x-1)^2 + (2x+4-3)^2 \\ &= (x-1)^2 + (2x+1)^2 \\ &= x^2 - 2x + 1 + 4x^2 + 4x + 1 \\ &= 5x^2 + 2x + 2 \end{aligned}$$

Take derivative set = 0.

$$\begin{aligned} D' &= 10x + 2 = 0 \\ x &= -1/5 \end{aligned}$$

$$D'' = 10 > 0 \Rightarrow \text{min}$$

⑦  $x = -1/5$

$$y = 2x + 4 = \frac{18}{5}$$

$$\left(-\frac{1}{5}, \frac{18}{5}\right)$$

**HW 25.4:** For a cylinder with a surface area of 20, what is the maximum volume that it can have? Recall that the volume of a cylinder is  $\pi r^2 h$  and the surface area is  $2\pi r h + 2\pi r^2$  where  $r$  is the radius and  $h$  is the height.

① Volume



③  $V = \pi r^2 h$

④  $20 = SA = 2\pi r h + 2\pi r^2$   
 $10 = \pi r h + \pi r^2$

⑤ If  $r = 0$ ,  $10 = 0$  ✗

Domain  $h: (0, \infty)$

If  $h = 0$ ,  $10 = \pi r^2$   
 $r = \pm \sqrt{\frac{10}{\pi}}$

*b/c real world problem*

Domain  $r: (0, \sqrt{\frac{10}{\pi}})$

⑥ Solve ④ for  $h$ .

$$10 - \pi r^2 = \pi r h$$

$$h = \frac{10 - \pi r^2}{\pi r}$$

Plug  $h$  into 3.

$$V = \pi r^2 \left( \frac{10 - \pi r^2}{\pi r} \right)$$

$$V = r(10 - \pi r^2)$$

$$= 10r - \pi r^3$$

Take derivative set = 0

$$V' = 10 - 3\pi r^2 = 0$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{10}{3\pi}}$$

$$V'' = -6\pi r$$

$$V''\left(\sqrt{\frac{10}{3\pi}}\right) < 0 \Rightarrow \text{max}$$

⑦  $r = \sqrt{\frac{10}{3\pi}}$

$$h = 2\sqrt{\frac{10}{3\pi}}$$

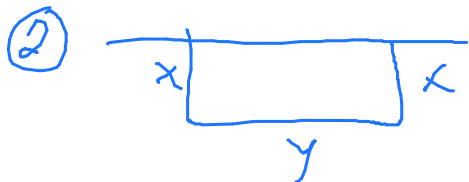
$$V = \pi r^2 h$$

$$= \cancel{\pi} \cdot \frac{10}{\cancel{3\pi}} \cdot 2\sqrt{\frac{10}{3\pi}}$$

$$= \frac{20}{3} \sqrt{\frac{10}{3\pi}}$$

**HW 26.1:** A rectangular recreational field needs to be built outside of a gymnasium. Three walls of fencing are needed and the fourth wall is to be a wall of the gymnasium itself. The ideal area for such a field is exactly  $490000 \text{ ft}^2$ . In order to minimize costs, it is necessary to construct the fencing using the least amount of material possible. Assuming that the material used in the fencing costs  $\$25/\text{ft}$ , what is the least amount of money needed to build this fence of ideal area?

① Cost



③  $C = 25 \times \text{perimeter}$

$$\downarrow P = 2x + y$$

$$= 25(2x + y)$$

④  $490000 = A = xy$

⑤ Domain  $x, y: (0, \infty)$

⑥ Solve ④ for  $y$ .

$$y = \frac{490000}{x}$$

Plug  $y$  into ③

$$C = 25(2x + 490000x^{-1})$$

Take derivative set  $= 0$ .

$$C' = 25(2 - 490000x^{-2}) = 0$$

$$2 - \frac{490000}{x^2} = 0$$

$$\frac{2}{1} = \frac{490000}{x^2}$$

$$2x^2 = 490000$$

$$x = 350\sqrt{2}$$

$$C'' = 25(-(-2)490000x^{-3})$$

$$= \frac{50(490000)}{x^3}$$

$$C''(350) > 0 \Rightarrow \text{min}$$

⑦  $x = 350\sqrt{2}$

$$y = \frac{490000}{350\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= 700\sqrt{2}$$

$$C = 25(2 \cdot 350\sqrt{2} + 700\sqrt{2})$$

$$\approx \$98994.95$$