

Lesson 5.6: Optimization

Optimization problems involve a situation in which we will be looking for the _____

or _____ value of a function based on some kind of constraint.

Procedure:

Step 1:	
Step 2:	
Step 3:	
Step 4:	
Step 5:	
Step 6:	

Examples:

1. We need to enclose a rectangular field with a fence. We have 500 feet of fencing material and a building is on one side of the field and so won't need any fencing. Determine the dimensions of the field that will enclose the largest area.

2. We want to construct a box whose base length is 3 times the base width. The material used to build the top and bottom cost $\$10/\text{ft}^2$ and the material used to build the sides cost $\$6/\text{ft}^2$. If the box must have a volume of 50ft^3 determine the dimensions that will minimize the cost to build the box.
3. We want to construct a box with a square base and we only have 10 m^2 of material to use in construction of the box. Assuming that all the material is used in the construction process determine the maximum volume that the box can have.
4. A manufacturer needs to make a cylindrical can that will hold 1.5 liters of liquid. Determine the dimensions of the can that will minimize the amount of material used in its construction.