

3.7 Optimization Problems

- Finding the "best" solution to a problem
- Locate the max or min of an eqn.
- where $f'(x) = 0$, or $f'(x)$ DNE

Primary Equation

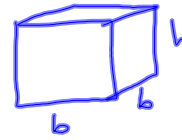
- the eqn to be optimized

Secondary Equation

- any eqn(s) needed for substitution into the primary eqn

Oct 30-4:49 PM

ex1) an open top box is to be made with a square base and a surface area of 108 in². What dimensions will give largest volume?



$$V = b^2 h$$

$$SA = b^2 + 4bh$$

$$108 = b^2 + 4bh$$

$$108 - b^2 = 4bh$$

$$\frac{108 - b^2}{4b} = h$$

$$V = b^2 \left(\frac{108 - b^2}{4b} \right)$$

$$V = \frac{108b - b^3}{4}$$

$$V = \frac{1}{4} (108b - b^3)$$

$$\frac{dV}{db} = \frac{1}{4} (108 - 3b^2)$$

$$0 = \frac{1}{4} (108 - 3b^2)$$

$$3b^2 = 108$$

$$b^2 = 36$$

$$b = \pm 6$$

$$V'' = \frac{1}{4} (-6b)$$

$$V''(6) = \text{Neg}$$

cc ↓, so max

b = 6 in

h = 3 in

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2) Find the points on the graph of $y = 4 - x^2$ that are closest to (0, 2)

$$D = \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2}$$

$$D = \sqrt{(x - 0)^2 + (y - 2)^2}$$

$$D = \sqrt{x^2 + (4 - x^2 - 2)^2}$$

$$D^2 = x^2 + (2 - x^2)^2$$

$$= x^2 + 4 - 4x^2 + x^4$$

$$f = x^4 - 3x^2 + 4$$

$$f' = 4x^3 - 6x = 0$$

$$2x(x^2 - 3) = 0$$

$$x = 0, \pm\sqrt{3}$$

$$f'' = 12x^2 - 6$$

$$f''(\pm\sqrt{3}) = + \text{cc} \uparrow \text{ min.}$$

$$f''(0) = - \text{cc} \downarrow \cap$$

$$y = 4 - x^2$$

$$\left(\pm\sqrt{3}, \frac{5}{2} \right)$$

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3) Two posts are 30 feet apart. One is 12 feet high, & the other is 28 feet high. They are connected to the ground with wires running from the top of each post to a stake located on the ground between them. Where should the stake be located to use the smallest amount of wire?

$$D = a + b$$

$$28^2 + x^2 = a^2$$

$$a = \sqrt{28^2 + x^2}$$

$$b = \sqrt{12^2 + (30 - x)^2}$$

$$D = \sqrt{28^2 + x^2} + \sqrt{12^2 + (30 - x)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{28^2 + x^2} + \sqrt{1044 - 60x + x^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (28^2 + x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot (2x) + \frac{1}{2} (1044 - 60x + x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot (-2x + 2)$$

$$\frac{x}{\sqrt{28^2 + x^2}} + \frac{-x + 30}{\sqrt{1044 - 60x + x^2}} = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{x}{28^2 + x^2} \right) = \left(\frac{-x + 30}{1044 - 60x + x^2} \right)$$

$$x^2 (1044 - 60x + x^2) = (30 - x)^2 (28^2 + x^2)$$

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p208 #1-6, 55, 57, 66
p 216 #7, 9, 11, 15-17, 23, 24, 27, 30, 34, 40

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