How do we solve applied maximum and minimum problems?

Quick Check

Find two numbers whose sum is 23 and whose product is a maximum.

1. Use a table of values to estimate the answer to the problem.

1^{st} Number	2^{nd} Number	Product
1	22	22
2	21	42

. .

2. Think through the problem algebraically and using calculus techniques learned regarding extrema. A box with an open top is made by taking a 8cm by 10cm sheet and cutting out square corners whose sides have length x, and then bending up the sides. Which length x gives the maximum volume? What is that volume?





Solving Applied Optimization Problems

- Read the problem.
- **2** Draw a picture.
- 3 Introduce Variables. Think about constraints on lengths, values due to the scenario.
- 4 Write an equation for the unknown quantity.
- 5 Test the critical points and endpoints in the domain of the unknown.

A farmer has 2400 ft of fencing and wants to fence off a rectangular field that borders a straight river. He needs no fence along the river. What are the dimensions of the field that has the largest area?



Visualize with Geogebra Applet.

NOT a farmer \implies think about building a garden bed, fencing a property, same problem applies in different contexts.

Can of Soda, Soup, Goya Beans, Tomato Paste instead...

A cylindrical can is to be made to hold 1L of oil. Find the dimensions that will minimize the cost of the metal to manufacture the can. ($1L = 1000cm^3$)

Visualize using the Geogebra Applet



Four feet of wire is to be used to form a square and a circle. How much of wire should be used for the square and how much should be used for the circle to enclose the maximum total area?

★ Draw a diagram...

more practice on handout!