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QUIZ 18

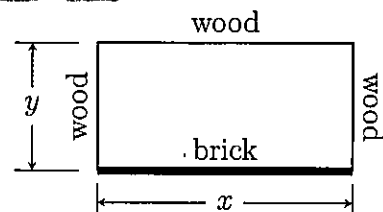


MATH 200

October 28, 2025

1. Imagine that you have a budget of \$300 for materials to enclose a rectangular region with a fence. The south side of the rectangle will be bounded by a brick wall, and the fencing on the remaining three sides will be made of wood. The brick wall is \$10 per foot, and the wood wall is \$5 per foot. Given the above, find the dimensions  $x$  and  $y$  that enclose the greatest possible area.

We are asked to maximize  
area =  $xy$ .



To turn this into a function of  $x$ , use this constraint:

$$\text{COST} = \left( \begin{smallmatrix} \text{cost of} \\ \text{south} \\ \text{side} \end{smallmatrix} \right) + \left( \begin{smallmatrix} \text{cost of} \\ \text{east} \\ \text{side} \end{smallmatrix} \right) + \left( \begin{smallmatrix} \text{cost of} \\ \text{north} \\ \text{side} \end{smallmatrix} \right) + \left( \begin{smallmatrix} \text{cost of} \\ \text{west} \\ \text{side} \end{smallmatrix} \right)$$

$$300 = 10x + 5y + 5x + 5y$$

$$300 = 15x + 10y$$

$$10y = 300 - 15x$$

$$y = \frac{1}{10}(300 - 15x) \Rightarrow y = 30 - \frac{3}{2}x$$

Now we have  $\text{AREA} = xy = x(30 - \frac{3}{2}x) = 30x - \frac{3}{2}x^2$ ,  
that is, area =  $A(x) = 30x - \frac{3}{2}x^2$

The problem becomes the following

Find the global maximum of  $A(x) = 30x - \frac{3}{2}x^2$   
on  $(0, \infty)$ .

$$A'(x) = 30 - 3x = 0$$

$$30 = 3x$$

$$x = 10$$

only one  
critical  
point

$A''(x) = -3 < 0$  so this  
is a global maximum at  
 $x = 10$ .

$$\text{When } x = 10, y = 30 - \frac{3}{2} \cdot 10 = 30 - 15 = 15$$

Answer

Greatest area if  
 $x = 10$   
 $y = 15$



1. Imagine you need to design a tank with a square base that holds 10,000 cubic feet of water. The metal top costs \$6 per square foot, and the concrete sides and bottom cost \$4 per square foot. What dimensions  $x$  and  $y$  yield the lowest cost of materials?

$$\text{Cost} = (\text{cost of top}) + (\text{cost of bottom}) + 4(\text{cost of one side})$$

$$= 6x^2 + 4x^2 + 4 \cdot 4xy$$

$$= 10x^2 + 16xy$$

$$= 10x^2 + 16x \frac{10000}{x^2}$$

$$C(x) = 10x^2 + \frac{160000}{x}$$

Minimize this on  $(0, \infty)$

$$C'(x) = 20x - \frac{160000}{x^2} = 0$$

$$20x^3 = 160000$$

$$x^3 = 8000$$

$$x = \sqrt[3]{8000} = 20$$

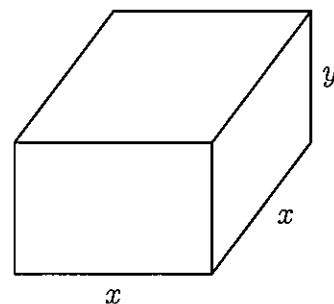
only one critical point

$$C''(x) = 20 + \frac{32000}{x^3} \Rightarrow C''(20) > 0 \text{ so there}$$

is a local (hence global) minimum of cost  $C(x)$  when  $x = 20$ . Then the constraint yields

$$y = \frac{10000}{20^2} = \frac{10000}{400} = \frac{100}{4} = 25.$$

ANSWER Cost is minimized when  $\begin{cases} x = 20 \\ y = 25 \end{cases}$



Constraint:

$$10000 = x \cdot x \cdot y$$

$$y = \frac{10000}{x^2}$$