

2. Find two numbers whose difference is 100 and whose product is a minimum.
Let call that two numbers x and y .

$$x + y = 100$$

$$y = 100 - x$$

Product is a minimum:

$$P = xy$$

$$P = x(100 - x)$$

$$P = 100x - x^2$$

$$P' = 100 - 2x = 0$$

$$x = 50$$

Since $x = 50$:

$$y = 50$$

Hence, these two numbers are both 50.

5. What is the maximum vertical distance between the line $y = x + 2$ and the parabola $y = x^2$ for $-1 \leq x \leq 2$?

Vertical Distance:

$$D = |y_{\text{parabola}} - y_{\text{line}}| = |x^2 - x - 2|$$

$$D = |x^2 - x - 2|$$

$$D' = |2x - 1| = 0$$

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

Hence, the maximum vertical distance is:

$$D = \left| \frac{1}{2}^2 - \frac{1}{2} - 2 \right| = \frac{9}{4}$$

9. A model used for the yield Y of an agricultural crop as a function of the nitrogen level N in the soil (measured in appropriate units) is

$$Y = \frac{kN}{1 + N^2}$$

where k is a positive constant. What nitrogen level gives the best yield?

$$Y' = \frac{(kN)'(1 + N^2) - (1 + N^2)'(kN)}{(1 + N^2)^2}$$

$$Y' = \frac{k(1 + N^2) - 2N(kN)}{(1 + N^2)^2}$$

$$Y' = \frac{k + kN^2 - 2kN^2}{(1 + N^2)^2}$$

$$Y' = \frac{k - kN^2}{(1 + N^2)^2} = 0$$

$$k - kN^2 = 0$$

$$kN^2 = k$$

$$N^2 = 1$$

$$N = \pm 1$$

Nitrogen level cannot go below 0.

Hence, $N = 1$ is the best nitrogen level for the best yield.

13. A farmer wants to fence in an area of 1.5 million square feet in a rectangular field and then divide it in half with a fence parallel to one of the sides of the rectangle. How can he do this so as to minimize the cost of the fence?