

Section 3.6 – Optimization

Maximization

Example

Find two nonnegative numbers x and y for which $2x + y = 30$, such that xy^2 is maximized.

Solution

$$2x + y = 30$$

$$y = 30 - 2x$$

$$M = xy^2$$

$$= x(30 - 2x)^2$$

$$= x(900 - 120x + 4x^2)$$

$$= 900x - 120x^2 + 4x^3$$

$$M' = 900 - 240x + 12x^2$$

$$x = 5 \Rightarrow y = 30 - 2(5) = 20$$

$$x = 15 \Rightarrow y = 30 - 2(15) = 0$$

$$(0, 0) \quad M = xy^2 = 0(0^2) = 0$$

$$(5, 20) \quad M = xy^2 = 5(20^2) = 2000$$

$$(15, 0) \quad M = xy^2 = 15(0^2) = 0$$

The values that maximize xy^2 are $x = 5$ and $y = 20$

Reproduction

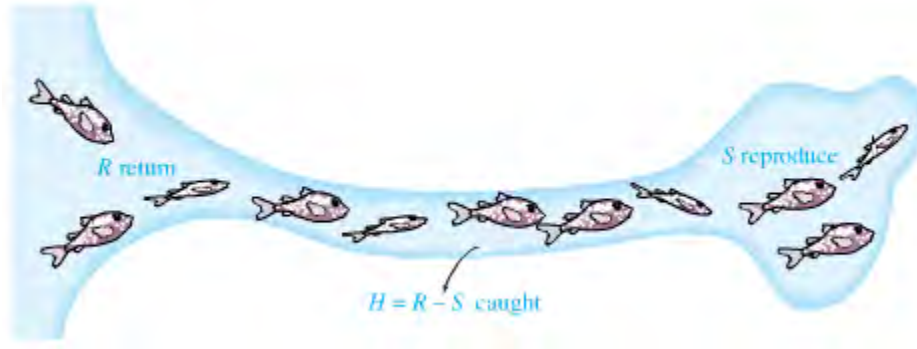
Let

S : Number of adults present during the reproductive period.

R : Number of adults that return the next season to reproduce.

If $R > S$, we can presumably harvest

$$H = R - S = f(S) - S$$



Example

Find the maximum sustainable harvest of the given function $f(S) = 12S^{0.25}$, where S is measured in thousands

Solution

$$H(S) = 12S^{0.25} - S$$

$$H'(S) = 3S^{-0.75} - 1 = 0$$

$$3S^{-0.75} = 1$$

$$S^{-0.75} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\frac{1}{S^{0.75}} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Cross-multiplication

$$S^{0.75} = 3$$

$$S = (3)^{1/0.75}$$

$$= 4.3267$$

$$H(S = 4.3267) = 12(4.3267)^{0.25} - 4.3267$$

$$= 12.980$$

The maximum sustainable harvest is 12.980 thousands

Optimization in Business and Economics

To solve problems:

1. Identify all given quantities and all quantities to be determined.
2. Write a primary equation for the quantity that is to be maximized or minimized.
3. Reduce the primary equation to one having a single independent variable.
4. Determine the domain that the values for which the stated problem makes sense.
5. Determine the maximum or minimum value

Average Cost Function

To Study the effects of production levels on cost, economist use the average cost function \bar{C} , which is defined as

$$\bar{C} = \frac{C}{x}$$

Where $C = f(x)$ is the total cost function and x the number of units produced.

Example

Find the production level that minimizes the average cost per unit for the cost function

$$C = 400 + 0.05x + 0.0025x^2.$$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{C} &= \frac{C}{x} = \frac{400 + 0.05x + 0.0025x^2}{x} \\ &= \frac{400}{x} + \frac{0.05x}{x} + \frac{0.0025x^2}{x}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{C} &= \frac{400}{x} + 0.05 + 0.0025x \\ &= 400x^{-1} + 0.05 + 0.0025x\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d\bar{C}}{dx} = -400x^{-2} + 0.0025 = 0$$

$$x^2(-400x^{-2} + 0.0025) = x^2 \cdot 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -400 + 0.0025x^2 = 0 \quad 0.0025x^2 = 400$$

$$x^2 = \frac{400}{0.0025} = 160000$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \pm\sqrt{160000} = \pm 400$$

$$= 400 \text{ units}$$

Revenue

Revenue primary equation is given by: $R = xp$, where x represent the number of units and p the price per unit.

Example

Find the price per unit that will maximize the monthly revenue for the business that sells 2000 units of a product per month at a price of \$10 each. It can sell only 200 more items per month for each \$0.25 reduction in price.

Solution

$$\text{Given: } p = 10 \rightarrow x = 2000 \Rightarrow (2000, 10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x + 200 &= 2000 + 200 \\ &= 2200 \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow p = 10 - 0.25 = 9.75$$

$$\Rightarrow (2200, 9.75)$$

From the 2 points (2000, 10) and (2200, 9.75), Find an equation of a line.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Slope} &= \frac{10 - 9.75}{2000 - 2200} \\ &= \frac{.25}{-200} \\ &= -0.00125 \end{aligned}$$

$$p - 10 = -0.00125(x - 2000)$$

$$p - 10 = -0.00125x + 2.5$$

$$p = -0.00125x + 2.5 + 10$$

$$p = -0.00125x + 12.5$$

$$R = xp$$

$$= x(-0.00125x + 12.5)$$

$$= -0.00125x^2 + 12.5x$$

$$\frac{dR}{dx} = -0.0025x + 12.5 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 12.5 = 0.0025x$$

$$\frac{12.5}{0.0025} = x$$

$$x = \frac{12.5}{0.0025} = 5000$$

$$p = -0.00125x + 12.5$$

$$= -0.00125(5000) + 12.5$$

$$= \$6.25 \text{ per unit}$$

Profit

$$\text{Profit} = \text{Revenue} - \text{Cost}$$

$$P = R - C$$

Example

Find the price that will maximize profit for the demand and cost functions $p = \frac{40}{\sqrt{x}}$ and $C = 2x + 50$.

Solution

$$P = R - C$$

$$= xp - C$$

$$P = x \frac{40}{\sqrt{x}} - (2x + 50)$$

$$= x \frac{40}{\sqrt{x}} \frac{\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}} - (2x + 50)$$

$$= x \frac{40\sqrt{x}}{x} - 2x - 50$$

$$= 40\sqrt{x} - 2x - 50$$

$$P' = 20x^{-1/2} - 2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^{1/2} (20x^{-1/2} - 2) = x^{1/2} \cdot 0$$

$$20 - 2x^{1/2} = 0$$

$$20 = 2x^{1/2}$$

$$10 = x^{1/2}$$

$$10^2 = (x^{1/2})^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 100$$

$$p = \frac{40}{\sqrt{x}}$$

$$= \frac{40}{\sqrt{100}}$$

$$= \$4.00$$

Economic Lot Size

Suppose that a company manufactures a constant number of units of a product per year and that the product can be manufactured in several batches of equal size throughout the year.

The number that should be manufactured in each batch in order to minimize the total cost is called the *economic lot size*.

Let consider the variables:

x = number of batches to be manufactured annually

q = number units to order each time

k = cost of storing one unit of the product for one year,

f = fixed setup cost to manufacture the product,

g = cost of manufacturing a single unit of the product,

M = total number of units produced annually.

The production per batch is $q = \frac{M}{x}$ units

Manufacturing cost per batch is: $f + g \frac{M}{x}$

Total manufacturing cost is: $\left(f + g \frac{M}{x}\right)x = fx + gM$

The average inventory is one-half the production per batch: $\frac{1}{2} \frac{M}{x}$ units/yr.

The cost of storing 1 unit per year is given by k , therefore the total storage cost $k \frac{M}{2x}$

Total cost of producing x batches: $T(x) = fx + gM + \frac{kM}{2x}$

To find the value of x to minimize $T(x)$: $T'(x) = f - \frac{kM}{2x^2} = 0$

$$f = \frac{kM}{2x^2}$$

$$2x^2 f = kM$$

$$x^2 = \frac{kM}{2f} \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{\frac{kM}{2f}}$$

\therefore The annual number of batches that minimizes total production costs is given by the formula

$$x = \sqrt{\frac{kM}{2f}}$$

The number units to order each time are: $q = \frac{M}{x} = \frac{M}{\sqrt{\frac{kM}{2f}}} = M \sqrt{\frac{2f}{kM}} = \sqrt{\frac{2fM^2}{kM}} = \sqrt{\frac{2fM}{k}}$

$$q = \sqrt{\frac{2fM}{k}}$$

Example

A company has an annual demand of 24,500 cans of automobile primer. The comptroller for the company says that it costs \$2 to store one can of paint for 1 year and \$500 to set up the plant for the production of the primer. Find the number of cans of primer that should be produced in each batch, as well as the number of batches per year, in order to minimize total production costs.

Solution

Given: $k = 2$, $f = 500$, $M = 24,500$

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \sqrt{\frac{kM}{2f}} \\&= \sqrt{\frac{2(24,500)}{2(500)}} \\&= \underline{7} \quad \text{batches/yr.}\end{aligned}$$

Each batch will consist of $\frac{M}{x} = \frac{24,500}{7} = 3,500$ cans of primer.

Example

A pharmacy has an annual need for 480 units of a certain antibiotic. It costs \$3 to store one unit for one year. The fixed cost of placing an order amounts to \$31. Find the number of units to order each time, and how many times a year the antibiotic should be ordered.

Solution

Given: $k = 3$, $f = 31$, $M = 480$

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \sqrt{\frac{kM}{2f}} \\&= \sqrt{\frac{3(480)}{2(31)}} \\&= \underline{4.8} \quad \text{times/yr.}\end{aligned}$$

Definition of Price Elasticity of Demand

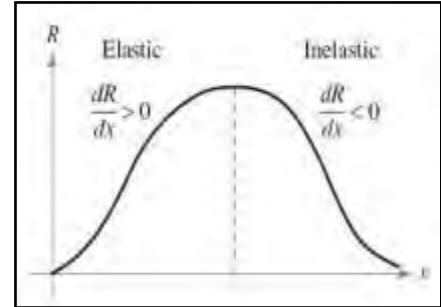
Drop in price might result in a much greater demand

If $p = f(x)$ is differentiable function, then the price elastic of demand is given by

$$\eta = \frac{p/x}{dp/dx}$$

Where η is the lowercase Greek letter *eta*. For a given price,

- if $|\eta| > 1 \Rightarrow$ demand is elastic
- if $|\eta| < 1 \Rightarrow$ demand is inelastic
- if $|\eta| = 1 \Rightarrow$ demand is unit elastic



Example

Find the intervals on which the demand function $p = 36 - 2\sqrt{x}$, $0 \leq x \leq 324$, is elastic, inelastic, and of unit elastic

Solution

$$p = 36 - 2x^{1/2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dp}{dx} &= -2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} x^{-1/2} \\ &= -x^{-1/2} \\ &= -\frac{1}{x^{1/2}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\eta &= \frac{p/x}{dp/dx} \\ &= \frac{\frac{36 - 2\sqrt{x}}{x}}{-\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}} \\ &= \frac{36 - 2\sqrt{x}}{x} \div \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\right) \\ &= -\frac{36 - 2\sqrt{x}}{x} (\sqrt{x}) \\ &= -\frac{36\sqrt{x} - 2(\sqrt{x})^2}{x} \\ &= \frac{-(36\sqrt{x} - 2x)}{x} \\ &= -\frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} + 2\frac{x}{x}\end{aligned}$$

$$\eta = -\frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} + 2$$

$$|\eta| = 1 \quad \eta = \left| -\frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} + 2 \right| = 1 \Rightarrow -\frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} + 2 = \pm 1$$

$$-\frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} + 2 = -1$$

$$-\frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} = -3$$

$$x \frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} = x(3)$$

$$36\sqrt{x} = 3x$$

$$(36\sqrt{x})^2 = (3x)^2$$

$$(36\sqrt{x})^2 = (3x)^2$$

$$36^2 x = 9x^2$$

$$9x^2 - 36^2 x = 0$$

$$x(9x - 36^2) = 0$$

$$x = 0, \frac{1296}{9} = 144$$

$$-\frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} + 2 = 1$$

$$-\frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} = -1$$

$$x \frac{36\sqrt{x}}{x} = x(1)$$

$$36\sqrt{x} = x$$

$$(36\sqrt{x})^2 = x^2$$

$$(36\sqrt{x})^2 = x^2$$

$$36^2 x = x^2$$

$$x^2 - 36^2 x = 0$$

$$x(x - 36^2) = 0$$

$$x = 0, 1296$$

Since $0 \leq x \leq 324$, $x = 144$. So the demand is of unit elastic

$|\eta| > 1 \Rightarrow 0 < x < 144$, the demand is elastic

$|\eta| < 1 \Rightarrow 144 < x < 324$, the demand is inelastic

<i>Summary of Business Terms and Formulas</i>	
x = number of units produced (or sold)	η = price elasticity of demand = $(p/x)/(dp/dx)$
p = price per unit	dR/dx = marginal revenue
R = total revenue from selling x units = xp	dC/dx = marginal cost
C = total cost of producing x units	dP/dx = marginal profit
P = total profit from selling x units = $R - C$	
\bar{C} = average cost per unit = $\frac{C}{x}$	

Exercises Section 3.6 – Optimization

1. The product of two numbers is 72. Minimize the sum of the second number and twice the first number
2. Verify the function $V = 27x - \frac{1}{4}x^3$ has an absolute maximum when $x = 6$. What is the maximum volume?
3. A net enclosure for golf practice is open at one end. The volume of the enclosure is $83\frac{1}{3}$ cubic meters.
4. Find the dimensions that require the least amount of netting.
5. Find two numbers x and y such that their sum is 480 and x^2y is maximized.
6. If the price charged for a candy bar is $p(x)$ cents, then x thousand candy bars will be sold in a certain city, where $p(x) = 82 - \frac{x}{20}$. How many candy bars must be sold to maximize revenue?
7. $S(x) = -x^3 + 6x^2 + 288x + 4000$; $4 \leq x \leq 20$ is an approximation to the number of salmon swimming upstream to spawn, where x represents the water temperature in degrees Celsius. Find the temperature that produces the maximum number of salmon.
8. A company wishes to manufacture a box with a volume of 52 cubic feet that is open on top and is twice as long as it is wide. Find the width of the box that can be produced using the minimum amount of material.
9. A rectangular field is to be enclosed on four sides with a fence. Fencing costs \$3 per foot for two opposite sides, and \$4 per foot for the other two sides. Find the dimensions of the field of area 730 square feet that would be the cheapest to enclose.
10. A page is to contain 30 square inches of print. The margins at the top and bottom of the page are 2 inches wide. The margins on the sides are 1 inch wide. What dimensions will minimize the amount of paper used?
11. Find the points of $y = 4 - x^2$ that are closet to $(0, 3)$
12. A manufacturer wants to design an open box that has a square base and a surface area of 108 in^2 . What dimensions will produce a box with a maximum volume?
13. Suppose the spawner-recruit function for Idaho rabbits is $f(S) = 2.17\sqrt{S} \ln(S+1)$, where S is measured in thousands of rabbits. Find S_0 and the maximum sustainable harvest, $H(S_0)$.

14. A company wants to manufacture cylinder aluminum can with a volume 1000cm^3 . What should the radius and height of the can be to minimize the amount of aluminum used?
15. Find the maximum sustainable harvest of the given function $f(S) = 28 \cdot S^{0.25}$, where S is measured in thousands.
16. A rectangular page will contain 54 in^2 of print. The margins at the top and bottom of the page are 1.5 inches wide. The margins on each side are 1 inch wide. What should the dimensions of the page be to minimize the amount of paper used?
17. When a wholesaler sold a product at \$40 per unit, sales were 300 units per week. After a price increase of \$5, however, the average number of units sold dropped to 275 per week. Assuming that the demand function is linear, what price per unit will yield maximum total revenue?
18. Find the number of units that must be produced to maximize the revenue function $R = -x^3 + 150x^2 + 9375x$. What is the maximum revenue?
19. A manufacturer has a steady demand for 14,112 cases of sugar. It costs \$4 to store 1 case for 1 year, \$36 in set up cost to produce each batch, and \$25 to produce each case. Find the number of cases per batch that should be produced to minimize cost.
20. A restaurant has an annual for 920 bottles of California wine. It costs \$2 to store 1 bottle for 1 year and it costs \$4 to place a reorder. Find the optimum number of bottles per order.
21. Every year, Dan sells 213,696 cases of Cookie Mix. It costs \$1 per year in electricity to store a case, plus he must pay annual warehouse fees of \$4 per case for the maximum number of cases he will store. If it costs him \$742 to set up a production run, plus \$7 per case to manufacture a single case, how many production runs should he have each year to minimize his total costs.
22. A certain company produces potting soil and sells it in 50 lb. nags. Suppose that 100,000 bags are to be produced each year. It costs \$6 per year to store a bag of potting soil, and it costs \$3,000 to set up the facility to produce a batch of bags. Find the number of bags per batch that should be produced.
23. Find the approximate number of batches (to the nearest whole number) of an item that should be produced annually if 100,000 units are to be made. It costs \$3 to store a unit for one year, and it costs \$460 to setup the factory to produce each batch.
24. A bookstore has an annual demand for 67,000 copies of a best-selling book. It costs \$0.40 to store one copy for one year and it costs \$25 to place an order. Find the optimum number of copies per order
25. Find the approximate number of batches (to the nearest whole number) of an item that should be produced annually if 170,000 units are to be made. It costs \$3 to store a unit for one year, and it costs \$520 to set up the factory to produce each batch.

26. The homeowner judges that an area of 800 ft^2 for the garden is too small and decides to increase the area to $1,250 \text{ ft}^2$. What is the minimum cost of building a fence that will enclose a garden with an area of $1,250 \text{ ft}^2$? What are the dimensions of this garden? Assume that the cost of fencing remains unchanged.

$$\text{Minimize } C = 8x + 4y \quad \text{subject to } xy = 1,250$$

Since x and y represent distances, we know that $x > 0$ and $y > 0$.

27. An office supply company sells x permanent markers per year at $\$p$ per marker. The price-demand equation for these markers is $p = 10 - 0.001x$. The total annual cost of manufacturing x permanent markers for the office supply company is.
- What price should the company charge for the markers to maximize revenue?
 - What is the maximum revenue?
 - What is the company's maximum profit?
 - What should the company charge for each marker, and how many markers should be produced?
 - The government decides to tax the company $\$2$ for each marker produced. Taking into account this additional cost, how many markers should the company manufacture each week to maximize its weekly profit?
 - What is the maximum weekly profit?
 - How much should the company charge for the markers to realize the maximum weekly profit?
28. When a management training company prices its seminar on management techniques at $\$400$ per person, 1,000 people will attend the seminar. The company estimates that for each $\$5$ reduction in price, an additional 20 people will attend the seminar.
- How much should the company charge for the seminar in order to maximize its revenue?
 - What is the maximum revenue?
 - After additional analysis, the management decides that its estimate of attendance was too high. Its new estimate is that only 10 additional people will attend the seminar for each $\$5$ decrease in price. How much should the company charge for the seminar now in order to maximize revenue?
 - What is the new maximum revenue?
29. A multimedia company anticipates that there will be a demand for 20,000 copies of a certain DVD during the next year. It costs the company $\$0.50$ to store a DVD for one year. Each time it must make additional DVDs, it costs $\$200$ to set up the equipment. How many DVDs should the company make during each production run to minimize its total storage and setup costs?
30. A company manufactures and sells x digital cameras per week. The weekly price-demand and cost equations are, respectively:
- $$p = 400 - 0.4x \quad \text{and} \quad C(x) = 2,000 + 160x$$
- What price should the company charge for the cameras, and how many cameras should be produced to maximize the weekly revenue? What is the maximum revenue?

- b) What is the maximum weekly profit? How much should the company charge for the cameras, and how many cameras should be produced to realize the maximum weekly profit?

31. A company manufactures and sells x television sets per month. The monthly cost and price-demand equations are:

$$C(x) = 60,000 + 60x, \quad p = 200 - \frac{x}{50} \quad 0 \leq x \leq 10,000$$

- a) Find the maximum revenue.
- b) Find the maximum profit, the production level that will realize the maximum profit, and the price the company should charge for each television set.
- c) If the government decides to tax the company \$5 for each set it produces, how many sets should the company manufacture each month to maximize the profit? What should the company charge for each set?
32. A university student center sells 1,600 cups of coffee per day at a price of \$2.40.
- a) A market survey shows that for every \$0.05 reduction in price, 50 more cups of coffee will be sold. How much should be the student center charge for a cup of coffee in order to maximize revenue?
- b) A different market survey shows that for every \$0.10 reduction in the original \$2.40 price, 60 more cups of coffee will be sold. Now how much should the student center charge for a cup of coffee in order to maximize revenue?
33. A 300-room hotel in Las Vegas is filled to capacity every night at \$80 a room. For each \$1 increase in rent, 3 fewer rooms are rented. If each rented room costs \$10 to service per day, how much should be the management charge for each room to maximize gross profit? What is the maximum gross profit?
34. A commercial pear grower must decide on the optimum time to have fruit picked and sold. If the pears are picked now, they will bring 30¢ per pound, with each tree yielding an average of 60 pounds of salable pears. If the average yield per tree increases 6 pounds per tree per week for the next 4 weeks, but the price drops 2 ¢ per pound per week, when should the pears be picked to realize the maximum return per tree? What is the maximum return?
35. A pharmacy has a uniform annual demand for 200 bottles of a certain antibiotic. It costs \$10 to store one bottle for one year and \$40 to place an order. How many times during the year should the pharmacy order the antibiotic in order to minimize the total storage and reorder costs?
36. The cost per hour for fuel to run a train is $\frac{v^2}{4}$ dollars, where v is the speed of the train in miles per hour. (Note that the cost goes up as the square of the speed.) Other costs, including labor are \$300 per hour. How fast should the train travel on a 360-mile trip to minimize the total cost for the trip?

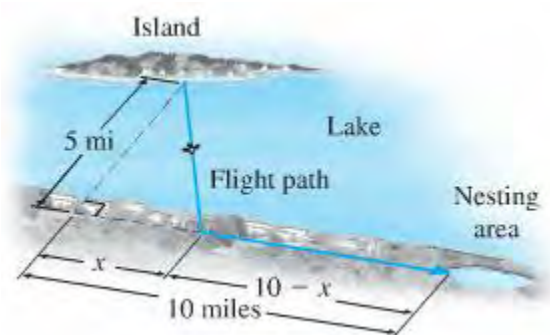
37. A parcel delivery service will deliver a package only if the length plus girth (distance around) does not exceed 108 inches.
- Find the dimensions of a rectangular box with square ends that satisfies the delivery service's restriction and has maximum volume. What is the maximum volume?
 - Find the dimensions (radius and height) of a cylinder container that meets the delivery service's requirement and has maximum volume. What is the maximum volume?



38. The owner of a retail lumber store wants to construct a fence an outdoor storage area adjacent to the store, using all of the store as part of one side of the area. Find the dimensions that will enclose the largest area if
- 240 feet fencing material are used.
 - 400 feet fencing material are used.



39. Some birds tend to avoid flights over large bodies of water during daylight hours. Suppose that an adult bird with this tendency is taken from its nesting area on the edge of a large lake to an island 5 miles offshore and is then release.
- If it takes only 1.4 times as much energy to fly over water as land, how far up the shore (x , in miles) should the bird head to minimize the total energy expended in returning to the nesting area?
 - If it takes only 1.1 times as much energy to fly over water as land, how far up the shore should the bird head to minimize the total energy expended in returning to the nesting area?



40. A large grocery chain found that, on average, a checker can recall $P\%$ of a given price list x hours after starting work, as given approximately by

$$P(x) = 96x - 24x^2 \quad 0 \leq x \leq 3$$

At what time x does the checker recall a maximum percentage? What is the maximum?