

Name:

Sec. 4.7 – Optimization

Math 251

1. A farmer has 2400 ft of fencing and wants to fence off a rectangular field that borders a straight river. There is no need for fencing along the river. What are the dimensions of the field that has the largest area?
2. A company wants to design a cylindrical can to hold 1 L of oil. Find the dimensions that will minimize the cost of the metal to manufacture the can.
3. What is the minimum vertical distance between the parabolas $y = x^2 + 1$ and $y = x - x^2$?
4. A retailer sells tablets. Suppose the price/demand function is $p(x) = -\frac{1}{8}x + 500$ for $x \geq 1200$.
 - (a) What should the price be set at in order to maximize revenue?
 - (b) If the retailer's cost function is

$$C(x) = 35,000 + 120x$$

what price should it choose in order to maximize its profit?

5. Find the dimensions of the largest rectangle that can be inscribed in an ellipse $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$.