

Re: finding minimum

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- *From:* shevek4@xxxxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* 22 Nov 2005 09:27:47 -0800
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mathforsweta@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

> Hello Everyone,
>
>
> I have $m = \min(a, 1/2a)$. I want to find the largest of m .
>

Of course you mean $m = \min(a, 1/(2a))$.

> I differentiated $1/2a$ with respect to a and set it equal to zero. That
> is what we do when we want to find maximum or minimum.
>

You found that the function $1/(2a)$ has no maximum, but the question was about this function m . Neither a nor $1/(2a)$ have maxima on their own but the function m does have a maximum.

> the true answer is $a = 1/\sqrt{2}$
>

Yes. That is where the two functions (a and $1/(2a)$) intersect

$a = 1/(2a)$ <-- solve that

Graph the two functions, then show what curve is " m ". it should be clear.

> May be I am doing something wrong?
>
> Can somebody please help me with this problem?
>
> Thank you

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Re: finding minimum

- **References:**

- ◆ **finding minimum**

- ◇ *From:* mathforsweta@xxxxxxxxxx

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