

Example 1: Solve an Applied Minimization Problem

A manufacturer of animal food makes two grain mixtures, G_1 and G_2 . Each kilogram of G_1 contains 300 grams of vitamins, 400 grams of protein, and 100 grams of carbohydrate. Each kilogram of G_2 contains 100 grams of vitamins, 300 grams of protein, and 200 grams of carbohydrate. Minimum nutritional guidelines require that a feed mixture made from these grains contain at least 900 grams of vitamins, 2200 grams of protein, and 800 grams of carbohydrate. G_1 costs \$2.00 per kilogram to produce, and G_2 costs \$1.25 per kilogram to produce. Find the number of kilograms of each grain mixture that should be produced to minimize cost.

Step 1: Define the variables.

$x = \#$ of Kg of G_1 mixture
 $y = \#$ of Kg of G_2 mixture

Objective Function:

$$C = 2.00x + 1.25y$$

Step 2: Write a system of inequalities.

$$\begin{cases} 300x + 100y \geq 900 \rightarrow 3x + y \geq 9 \rightarrow y \geq -3x + 9 \\ 400x + 300y \geq 2200 \rightarrow 4x + 3y \geq 22 \rightarrow y \geq -\frac{4}{3}x + \frac{22}{3} \\ 100x + 200y \geq 800 \rightarrow x + 2y \geq 8 \rightarrow y \geq -\frac{1}{2}x + 4 \\ x \geq 0; y \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

