Optimization is a branch of mathematics that studies many types of situations that appear in real life.

In an optimization problem there is a target to achieve and requirements to satisfy. The aim is to use the available resources in a way that provides the best result while meeting all requirements.

Such problems can be expressed mathematically with a large number of equations and variables, and then solved with some specific software that uses optimization algorithms.

When formulated, these problems can be seen as a mountain-like space. Any point in the mountain represents a possible solution, but only the top is the best.

Open questions:
- Who decides what is better?
- Whose interests are taken into account?
- Who can access the optimization tools?
- What’s the best route for seeing a number of places?
- What’s the best way of delivering radiation therapy?
- How to best invest money in the stock market?