

Applications of Trigonometric Derivatives

Learning Objectives

Compute derivatives of trigonometric functions in application problems

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1. The number of daylight hours on a particular day of the year in Baltimore, MD is approximately given by the function $H(t) = 12 - 2.7 \cos \left[\frac{2\pi}{365} (t+11) \right]$, where t is days since the beginning of the year (Jan 1: t = 1). Use a derivative to determine when daylight is longest, and when is it shortest.

⇒ KNEWTON I alta

Days of the Year				
Jan 1 = 1	Feb 1 = 32	Mar 1 = 60	Apr 1 =91	
May 1 = 121	June 1 = 152	July 1 = 182	August 1 = 213	
September 1 = 244	October 1 = 274	November 1 = 305	December 1 = 335	

ANSWER KEY

1. June 20-21 is the maximum (171.5 days); December 20 is the minimum (354 days)				