

2.5- Modeling with Trigonometry

Practice Worksheet

1. A deer population oscillates 19 above and below average during the year, reaching the lowest value in January. The average population starts at 800 deer and increases by 160 each year. Find a function that models the population, P , in terms of months since January, t .

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 19 \\ D &= 800 \\ B &= \frac{2\pi}{12} = \frac{\pi}{6} \end{aligned}$$

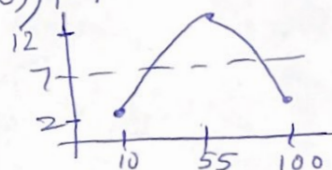
$$y = -19 \cos(\pi/6 t) + 800$$

2. During a 90-day monsoon season, daily rainfall can be modeled by sinusoidal functions. If the rainfall fluctuates between a low of 2 inches on day 10 and 12 inches on day 55, during what period is daily rainfall more than 10 inches?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min} &= 2 \text{ in} \\ \text{Max} &= 12 \text{ in} \\ D &= 7 \text{ in} \\ A &= 5 \text{ in} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P &= 90 \text{ days} \\ B &= \frac{2\pi}{90} = \frac{\pi}{45} \end{aligned}$$

$$y = -5 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{45}(x-10)\right) + 7$$



3. A Ferris wheel is 25 meters in diameter and boarded from a platform that is 1 meter above the ground. The six o'clock position on the Ferris wheel is level with the loading platform. The wheel completes 1 full revolution in 10 minutes. The function $h(t)$ gives a person's height in meters above the ground t minutes after the wheel begins to turn.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Min} &= 1 \text{ m} \\ \text{Max} &= 26 \text{ m} \\ P &= 10 \text{ min} \\ B &= \frac{\pi}{5} \\ D &= 13.5 \end{aligned}$$

- a. Find the amplitude, midline, and period of $h(t)$.

$$A = 12.5 \quad D = 13.5 \quad P = 10$$

- b. Find a formula for the height function $h(t)$.

$$h(t) = -12.5 \cos(\pi/5 t) + 13.5$$

- c. How high off the ground is a person after 5 minutes?

$$\begin{aligned} h(5) &= -12.5 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{5} \cdot 5\right) + 13.5 \\ &= -12.5 \cos \pi + 13.5 \\ &= 26 \text{ feet} \end{aligned}$$

4. Outside temperatures over the course of a day can be modeled as a sinusoidal function. Suppose the high temperature of 105°F occurs at 5PM and the average temperature for the day is 85°F . Find the temperature, to the nearest degree, at 9AM.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{High} &= 105^\circ\text{F} \\ \text{Average (D)} &= 85^\circ\text{F} \\ \text{Low} &= 65^\circ\text{F} \\ A &= 20 \\ P &= 24 \text{ hrs} \\ B &= \pi/12 \end{aligned}$$

$$y = 20 \cos\left(\pi/12(x-17)\right) + 85$$

$$y = 20 \cos\left(\pi/12(9-17)\right) + 85$$

$$y = 20 \cos\left(-\frac{8\pi}{12}\right) + 85$$

$$y = 20\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) + 85$$

$$y = 75^\circ\text{F}$$