

Answer on Question #54826 – Math – Calculus

The International Silver Strings Submarine Band holds a bake sale each year to fund their trip to the National Sasquatch Convention. It has been determined that the cost in dollars of baking x cookies is

$$C(x) = 0.5x + 23$$

and that the demand function for their cookies is

$$p = 14 - 0.05x.$$

How many cookies should they bake in order to maximize their profit?

Solution

Profit is given by

$$\begin{aligned} P(x) &= px - C(x) = (14 - 0.05x)x - (0.5x + 23) = \\ &= -0.05x^2 + 13.5x - 23 \end{aligned}$$

Solve the following equation

$$\frac{dP(x)}{dx} = 0 \rightarrow -0.1x + 13.5 = 0 \rightarrow x = 135.$$

Calculate

$$\frac{d^2P(x)}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx}(-0.1x + 13.5) = -0.1, \text{ therefore at } x = 135 \text{ the function } P(x)$$

attains the maximum.

They should bake 135 cookies.

Answer: They should bake 135 cookies.