Higher Maths SQA 2015 Paper 2 **Question 9**



The blades of a wind turbine are turning at a steady rate.

The height, h metres, of the tip of one of the blades above the ground at time, t seconds, is given by the formula

$$h = 36\sin(1.5t) - 15\cos(1.5t) + 65.$$

Express $36\sin(1.5t) - 15\cos(1.5t)$ in the form

$$k\sin(1.5t-a)$$
, where $k > 0$ and $0 < a < \frac{\pi}{2}$,

and hence find the two values of t for which the tip of this blade is at a height of 100 metres above the ground during the first turn.

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Answer:

$$t = 1.006, t = 1.615$$