

3.4 Notes

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 11:59 AM



3.4 Velocity and Other Rates of Change

3.1

Average Rate of Change

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

over the interval x to $x+h$

Instantaneous Rate of Change of f w.r.t. x at a is the derivative:

$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$$

provided the limit exists

(tangent slope)

Note: When we say "rate of change", we mean "instantaneous rate of change".

Example 1:

Find the rate of change of the volume of the sphere with respect to the length of its radius. Then, find the rate of change when the radius is 3 inches.

Start with the formula for volume of a sphere: $V = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$

Find the first derivative of the volume w.r.t. its radius: $\frac{dV}{dr} = \frac{4}{3} \pi (3r^2) = 4\pi r^2$

Evaluate at $r = 3$: $\frac{dV}{dr} \Big|_{r=3} = 4\pi(3)^2 = 36\pi$

Supply the correct units: $\frac{dV}{dr} = 36\pi \frac{\text{in}^3}{\text{in}}$

Example 2:

Find the rate of change of the area A of a circle with respect to its radius r . Find the rate of change of A at $r = 5$ and at $r = 10$ (use the appropriate units)

$A = \pi r^2$
 $\frac{dA}{dr} = 2\pi r$

$\frac{dA}{dr} \Big|_{r=5} = 2\pi(5) = 10\pi \frac{\text{in}^2}{\text{in}}$

$\frac{dA}{dr} \Big|_{r=10} = 2\pi(10) = 20\pi \frac{\text{in}^2}{\text{in}}$

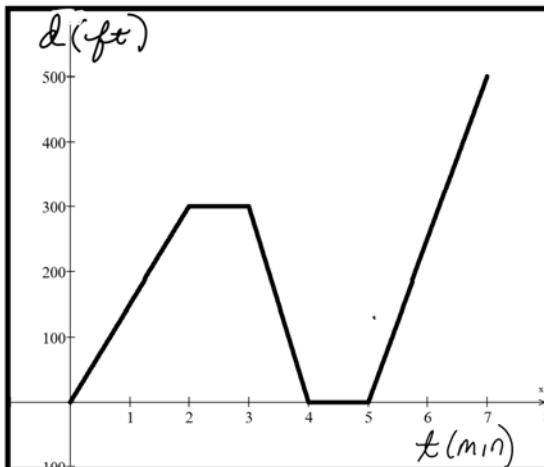
In the above problem, think of concentric circles where the radius is growing at a constant rate. Does this describe how trees grow?





Reading Position Graphs

Below is a graph of Janie's distance from home while walking to school.

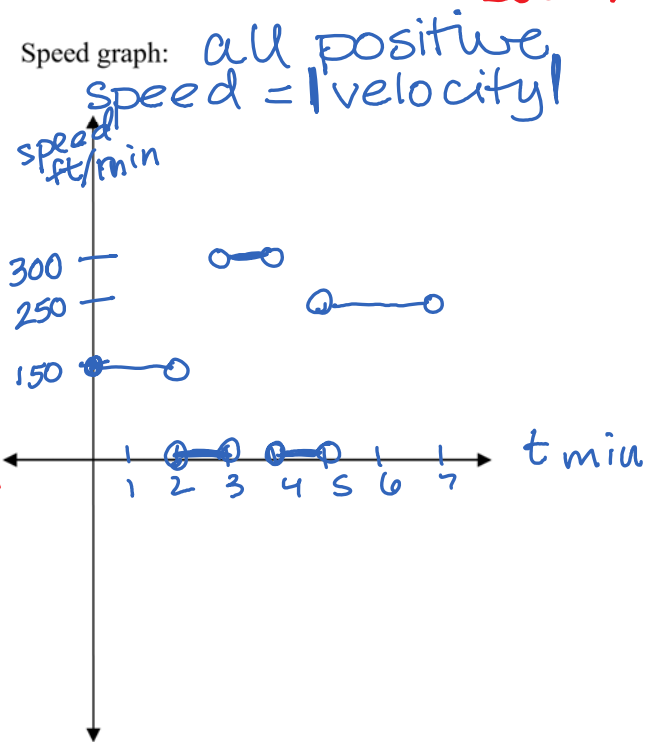
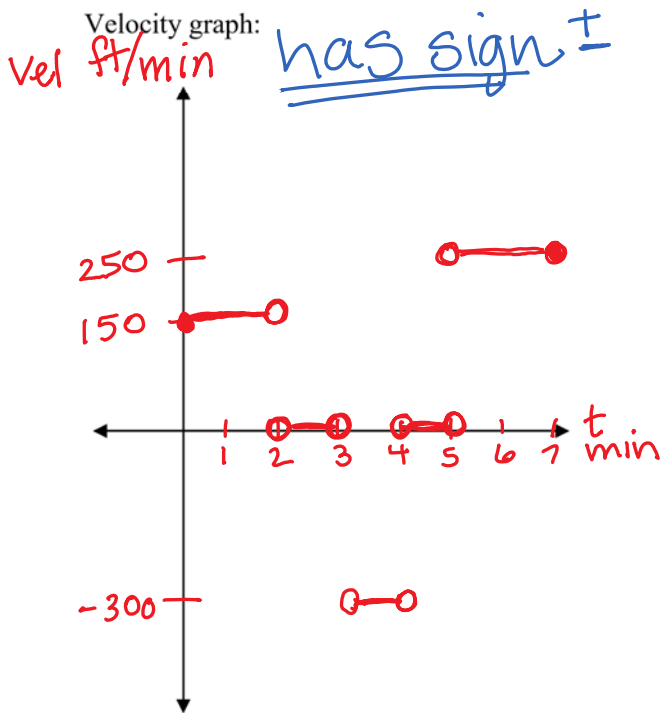


a. Describe her trip to school.

0-2 min walking toward school rate 150 ft/min
 2-3 min stopped velocity = 0
 3-4 min walking home rate -300 ft/min
 4-5 min stopped rate = 0

b. Sketch a graph of her velocity and her speed.

5-7 min walking toward school. 250 ft/min



Position, Velocity, and Acceleration Moving along a Line

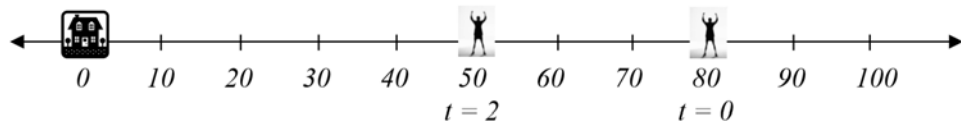
Suppose an object is moving along a linear path. We will use feet for distance and seconds for time throughout the examples that follow.

I. Let $s(t)$ be the **position** of the object at time t . Think of it as measuring your position compared to “home” at $s(t) = 0$. (Note: $t = 0$ is not necessarily when at “home” position.)

Ex: $s(2) = 50$ means that after 2 seconds you are 50 feet ahead of home.

- $s(b) - s(a)$ is the **displacement** during the time interval $[a, b]$.

Ex: $s(2) - s(0) = -30$ means that you traveled 30 ft backwards during the 0-2 second time period. (So $s(0)$ was 80ft).



- $\frac{s(b) - s(a)}{b - a}$ is **avg velocity** (avg rate of change in position) during the interval $[a, b]$

II. $s'(t) = v(t)$ is the **(instantaneous) velocity** of the object at time t .

Ex: $s'(5) = -20$ means that at $t = 5$ seconds, you are going backwards at 20 ft/sec

- $|v(t)|$ is the **speed** at time t . It's the same as velocity, except it ignores direction.

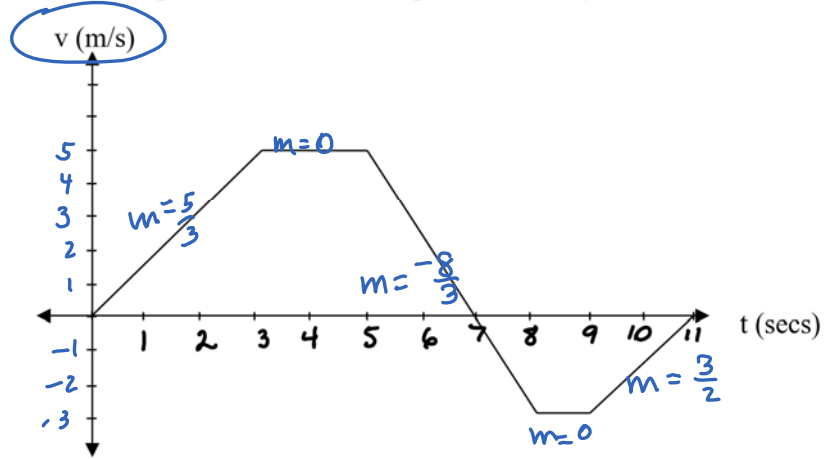
Ex: $|s'(5)| = |v(5)| = 20$ means you were moving 20 ft/sec at $t = 5$ seconds.

III. $s''(t) = v'(t) = a(t)$ is the **acceleration** at time t . It measures how quickly your velocity changes.

Ex: $a(5) = -3$ means that at $t = 5$ seconds your velocity is decreasing by 3 ft/sec². Since your velocity is -20 ft/sec at that time, decreasing the velocity makes it more negative, and actually makes your speed increase. You're going backwards, and you are speeding up in that direction.

Reading Velocity Graphs

The graph below is a graph of the velocity of a particle moving along the x-axis:

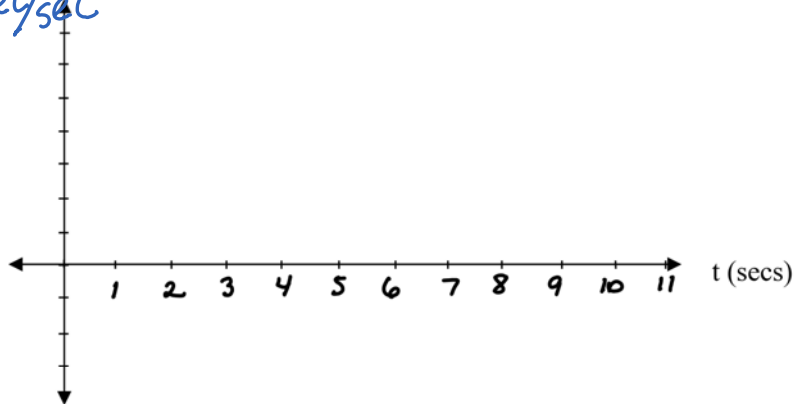


a. State the intervals that the velocity is positive? Negative?

pos $(0, 7)$ neg $(7, 11)$
 velocity = 0 at $t = 0, 7, 11$

b. Draw a sketch of $v'(x)$ and state the intervals when it is positive? Negative?

$m/\text{sec}^2 = m/\text{sec}/\text{sec}$ $v'(x) (a(t))$



c. What is $v'(x)$ called?

d. How can we determine when the particle is speeding up and slowing down?

Modeling Vertical Motion

Distance a body released from rest falls freely is proportional to the square of the amount of time it has fallen. This is expressed as:

$$s = \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

where s is the distance, g is the acceleration due to Earth's gravity, and t is time.

$$g = 32 \text{ ft/sec}^2 \text{ if } s \text{ is measured in feet}$$

$$g = 9.8 \text{ m/sec}^2 \text{ if } s \text{ is measured in meters}$$

Example:

On the moon, a rock is thrown vertically upward from the surface at a velocity of 10 m/sec and reaches a height of $s = 10t - 0.8t^2$. (Equation used is: $s(t) = \frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0t + s_0$, $g = 1.60 \text{ m/sec}^2$ on moon)

- a. What is the velocity of the rock at 3 seconds?

- b. What is the velocity after the rock has risen 25 meters?

- c. What is the maximum height of the rock? (Do not use max/min programs ☹)

- d. When did the rock hit the ground?

- e. How fast is the rock going when it hit the ground?

Modeling Horizontal Motion

A particle moves along a line so that its position at any time, $t \geq 0$, is given by the function $s(t) = t^3 - 12t^2 + 36t$, where s is measured in meters and t is measured in seconds.

To see this movement: MODE: parametric

$$x_{IT} = t^3 - 12t^2 + 36t$$

$$y_{IT} = 3$$

$$T : [0, 10] \quad X : [-10, 50] \quad Y : [0, 5]$$

Use the ball style

- a. What is the displacement of the particle during the first 2 seconds?

- b. What is the average velocity of the particle during the first 2 seconds?

- c. What is the (instantaneous) velocity of the particle at time t ?

- d. What is the instantaneous velocity of the particle at $t = 4$?

- e. When is the particle at rest?

- f. When is the particle moving in the position direction?