Topic 8: Particle Motion

Two particles move along the x-axis. For $0 \le t \le 6$, the position of particle P at time t is given by

$p(t) = 2\cos\left(\dfrac{\pi}{4}t\right)$, while the position of particle R at time t is given by $r(t) = t^3 - 6t^2 + 9t + 3$.

(a) For $0 \le t \le 6$, find all times t during which particle R is moving to the right.

(b) For $0 \le t \le 6$, find all times t during which the two particles travel in opposite directions.

(c) Find the acceleration of particle P at time $t = 3$. Is particle P speeding up, slowing down, or doing neither at time $t = 3$? Explain your reasoning.

(d) Write, but do not evaluate, an expression for the average distance between the two particles on the interval $1 \le t \le 3$.

For $0 \le t \le 6$, a particle is moving along the x-axis. The particle's position, $x(t)$, is not explicitly given. The velocity of the particle is given by $v(t) = 2\sin\left(e^{t/4}\right) + 1$. The acceleration of the particle is given by $a(t) = \frac{1}{2}e^{t/4}\cos\left(e^{t/4}\right)$ and $x(0) = 2$.

(a) Is the speed of the particle increasing or decreasing at time $t = 5.5$? Give a reason for your answer.

(b) Find the average velocity of the particle for the time period $0 \le t \le 6$.

(c) Find the total distance traveled by the particle from time $t = 0$ to $t = 6$.

(d) For $0 \le t \le 6$, the particle changes direction exactly once. Find the position of the particle at that time.

For $0 \leq t \leq 12$, a particle moves along the x-axis. The velocity of the particle at time t is given by $v(t) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{6}t\right)$. The particle is at position $x = -2$ at time $t = 0$.

(a) For $0 \leq t \leq 12$, when is the particle moving to the left?

(b) Write, but do not evaluate, an integral expression that gives the total distance traveled by the particle from time $t = 0$ to time $t = 6$.

(c) Find the acceleration of the particle at time t. Is the speed of the particle increasing, decreasing, or neither at time $t = 4$? Explain your reasoning.

(d) Find the position of the particle at time $t = 4$.

A particle moves along a straight line. For $0 \leq t \leq 5$, the velocity of the particle is given by $v(t) = -2 + \left(t^2 + 3t\right)^{6/5} - t^3$, and the position of the particle is given by $s(t)$. It is known that $s(0) = 10$.

(a) Find all values of t in the interval $2 \leq t \leq 4$ for which the speed of the particle is 2.

(b) Write an expression involving an integral that gives the position $s(t)$. Use this expression to find the position of the particle at time $t = 5$.

(c) Find all times t in the interval $0 \leq t \leq 5$ at which the particle changes direction. Justify your answer.

(d) Is the speed of the particle increasing or decreasing at time $t = 4$? Give a reason for your answer.

For $t \geq 0$, a particle moves along the x-axis. The velocity of the particle at time t is given by $v(t) = 1 + 2\sin\left(\dfrac{t^2}{2}\right)$. The particle is at position $x = 2$ at time $t = 4$.

(a) At time $t = 4$, is the particle speeding up or slowing down?

(b) Find all times t in the interval $0 < t < 3$ when the particle changes direction. Justify your answer.

(c) Find the position of the particle at time $t = 0$.

(d) Find the total distance the particle travels from time $t = 0$ to time $t = 3$.

A particle moves along the x-axis so that its velocity v at any time t, for $0 \le t \le 16$, is given by $v(t) = e^{2\sin t} - 1$. At time $t = 0$, the particle is at the origin.

(a) On the axes provided, sketch the graph of $v(t)$ for $0 \le t \le 16$.

(b) During what intervals of time is the particle moving to the left? Give a reason for your answer.

(c) Find the total distance traveled by the particle from $t = 0$ to $t = 4$.

(d) Is there any time t, $0 < t \le 16$, at which the particle returns to the origin? Justify your answer.

An object moves along the x-axis with initial position $x(0) = 2$. The velocity of the object at time $t \geq 0$ is given by $v(t) = \sin\left(\dfrac{\pi}{3}t\right)$.

(a) What is the acceleration of the object at time $t = 4$?

(b) Consider the following two statements.

      Statement I: For $3 < t < 4.5$, the velocity of the object is decreasing.

      Statement II: For $3 < t < 4.5$, the speed of the object is increasing.

    Are either or both of these statements correct? For each statement provide a reason why it is correct or not correct.

(c) What is the total distance traveled by the object over the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 4$?

(d) What is the position of the object at time $t = 4$?

A particle moves along the x-axis with velocity at time $t \geq 0$ given by $v(t) = -1 + e^{1-t}$.

(a) Find the acceleration of the particle at time $t = 3$.

(b) Is the speed of the particle increasing at time $t = 3$? Give a reason for your answer.

(c) Find all values of t at which the particle changes direction. Justify your answer.

(d) Find the total distance traveled by the particle over the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 3$.

A particle moves along the x-axis so that its velocity at time t is given by

$$v(t) = -(t+1)\sin\left(\frac{t^2}{2}\right).$$

At time $t = 0$, the particle is at position $x = 1$.

(a) Find the acceleration of the particle at time $t = 2$. Is the speed of the particle increasing at $t = 2$? Why or why not?

(b) Find all times t in the open interval $0 < t < 3$ when the particle changes direction. Justify your answer.

(c) Find the total distance traveled by the particle from time $t = 0$ until time $t = 3$.

(d) During the time interval $0 \le t \le 3$, what is the greatest distance between the particle and the origin? Show the work that leads to your answer.

A particle moves along the y-axis so that its velocity v at time $t \geq 0$ is given by $v(t) = 1 - \tan^{-1}\left(e^t\right)$.

At time $t = 0$, the particle is at $y = -1$. (Note: $\tan^{-1} x = \arctan x$)

(a) Find the acceleration of the particle at time $t = 2$.

(b) Is the speed of the particle increasing or decreasing at time $t = 2$? Give a reason for your answer.

(c) Find the time $t \geq 0$ at which the particle reaches its highest point. Justify your answer.

(d) Find the position of the particle at time $t = 2$. Is the particle moving toward the origin or away from the origin at time $t = 2$? Justify your answer.
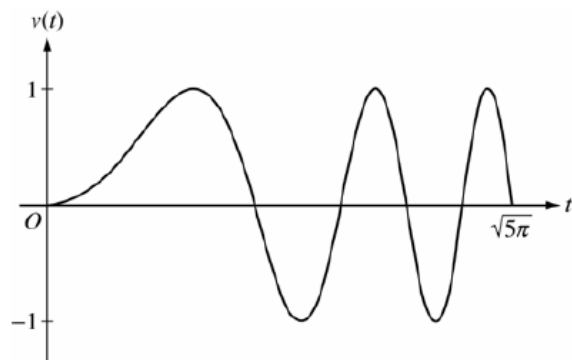
A particle moves along the x-axis so that its velocity v at time t, for $0 \leq t \leq 5$, is given by $v(t) = \ln\left(t^2 - 3t + 3\right)$. The particle is at position $x = 8$ at time $t = 0$.

(a) Find the acceleration of the particle at time $t = 4$.

(b) Find all times t in the open interval $0 < t < 5$ at which the particle changes direction. During which time intervals, for $0 \leq t \leq 5$, does the particle travel to the left?

(c) Find the position of the particle at time $t = 2$.

(d) Find the average speed of the particle over the interval $0 \leq t \leq 2$.

A particle moves along the x-axis so that its velocity v at time $t \geq 0$ is given by $v(t) = \sin(t^2)$. The graph of v is shown above for $0 \leq t \leq \sqrt{5\pi}$. The position of the particle at time t is $x(t)$ and its position at time $t = 0$ is $x(0) = 5$.

(a) Find the acceleration of the particle at time $t = 3$.

(b) Find the total distance traveled by the particle from time $t = 0$ to $t = 3$.

(c) Find the position of the particle at time $t = 3$.

(d) For $0 \leq t \leq \sqrt{5\pi}$, find the time t at which the particle is farthest to the right. Explain your answer.

A particle moves along the x-axis with position at time t given by $x(t) = e^{-t} \sin t$ for $0 \le t \le 2\pi$.

(a) Find the time t at which the particle is farthest to the left. Justify your answer.

(b) Find the value of the constant A for which $x(t)$ satisfies the equation $Ax''(t) + x'(t) + x(t) = 0$ for $0 < t < 2\pi$.

t (hours)	0	0.3	1.7	2.8	4
$v_P(t)$ (meters per hour)	0	55	-29	55	48

The velocity of a particle, P, moving along the x-axis is given by the differentiable function v_P, where $v_P(t)$ is measured in meters per hour and t is measured in hours. Selected values of $v_P(t)$ are shown in the table above. Particle P is at the origin at time $t = 0$.

(a) Justify why there must be at least one time t, for $0.3 \le t \le 2.8$, at which $v_P{}'(t)$, the acceleration of particle P, equals 0 meters per hour per hour.

(b) Use a trapezoidal sum with the three subintervals $[0, 0.3]$, $[0.3, 1.7]$, and $[1.7, 2.8]$ to approximate the value of $\int_0^{2.8} v_P(t)\, dt$.

(c) A second particle, Q, also moves along the x-axis so that its velocity for $0 \le t \le 4$ is given by $v_Q(t) = 45\sqrt{t}\cos\left(0.063t^2\right)$ meters per hour. Find the time interval during which the velocity of particle Q is at least 60 meters per hour. Find the distance traveled by particle Q during the interval when the velocity of particle Q is at least 60 meters per hour.

(d) At time $t = 0$, particle Q is at position $x = -90$. Using the result from part (b) and the function v_Q from part (c), approximate the distance between particles P and Q at time $t = 2.8$.