

Applications of derivatives  
Problems involving position, velocity and acceleration

90  $\frac{39}{43}$  Late

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Consider each of the following situations and answer clearly. Remember to use the appropriate mathematical notation and to frame your final answer.

1. An object is moving along a straight line, and its position (in meters) is given by the function  $s(t) = 80t - t^2$ . Determine

- a) The velocity of the object when  $t = 2$  sec  $v = 76 \text{ m/s}$   
 b) The acceleration when  $t = 3$  sec  $a = 2 \text{ m/s}^2$   
 c) The time when the velocity is zero and the position of the object at that time  $t = 40 \text{ s}$ ,  $s(40) = 1000 \text{ m}$

2. An object is moving along a straight line, and its position (in meters) is given by the function  $s(t) = 3t + \frac{48}{t+1}$ . Determine

- a) The velocity of the object when  $t = 2$  sec  $v(t) = -2.33 \text{ m/s}$   
 b) The acceleration when  $t = 2$  sec  $a = 3.50 \text{ m/s}^2$   
 c) The time when the velocity is zero and the position of the object at that time  $t = 3 \text{ s}$ ,  $s(3) = 21 \text{ m}$

3. A dynamite charge blows a rock up with a velocity of 160 feet/sec. The height of the rock is given by  $h(t) = 160t - 16t^2 - 250$  (quadr. form) where "h" is measured in feet and "t" in seconds. Find

- a) The equation that gives the velocity of the rock at any time  $h'(t) = 160 - 32t$   
 b) The time when the velocity is zero  $t = 5 \text{ s}$   
 c) The height of the rock when the velocity is zero (maximum height)  $h(5) = 400 \text{ ft}$   
 d) The times (on the way up and on the way down) when the height is 256 feet  $t_1 = 2 \text{ s}$ ,  $t_2 = 8 \text{ s}$   
 e) The velocities of the rock when the height is 256 feet  $v_1 = 96 \text{ ft/s}$ ,  $v_2 = -96 \text{ ft/s}$   
 f) The equation that gives the acceleration of the rock at any time  $h''(t) = -32 \text{ m/s}^2$   
 g) How long does it take the rock to fall back down?  $t = 5 \text{ s}$ ,  $t_{\text{total}} = 10 \text{ s}$

4. A baseball is thrown upward while being in the moon (hypothetically), with an initial velocity of 24 meters/second. The height of the ball is given by  $s = 24t - 0.8t^2$ .  $v(t) = 24 - 1.6t$ ,  $a(t) = -1.6 \text{ m/s}^2$

- a) Find the equations of velocity and acceleration at any time  
 b) How long does it take the ball to reach its maximum height?  $t = 15 \text{ s}$   
 c) Find the maximum height of the ball  $180 \text{ m}$   
 d) How long was the ball in the air?  $t = 30 \text{ s}$

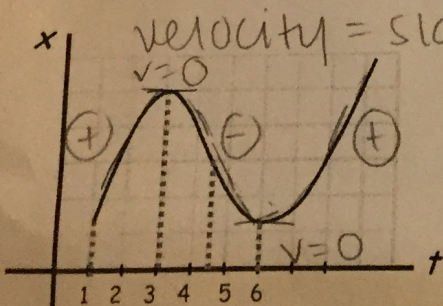
5. The position of an object is given by  $S(t) = t^3 - 6t^2 + 9t$  where "t" is measured in seconds and "s" in meters.  $v(t) = 3t^2 - 12t + 9$ ,  $a(t) = 6t - 12$

- a) Find the equations of velocity and acceleration as a function of time  
 b) Find the time when the velocity is zero  $t = 2 \text{ s}$   
 c) Find the acceleration when the velocity is zero.  $a = 0 \text{ m/s}^2$   
 d) Find the time when the acceleration is zero and then give the velocity at that time.  $t = 2 \text{ s}$ ,  $v(t) = -3 \text{ m/s}$

6. The height of a certain tree (starting from being 1 year old) is modeled by  $H(t) = 5\sqrt{t^3} + 2t^2 + 10$ , where height is measured in cm and time in years.  $\text{cm/yr}$

- Find:  
 a) The height of the tree in its 5th year (hint  $t=4$ )  $h(t) = 82 \text{ cm}$   
 b) The function that models the rate of change of its height  $h'(t) = \frac{15t^2}{2\sqrt{t}} + 4t$   
 c) The rate of change when  $t=4$   $h'(4) = 31$   
 d) The rate of change when  $t=9$   $h'(9) = 58.5$   
 e) When is the tree growing faster? at  $t=4$  or  $t=9$  years? Why?  $t=4$ ; because given the relation, it should be more than the double at  $t=9$

**CHALLENGE:** The following graph shows the position of a particle that moves along a straight line (author: Lic. Norma Patricia Salinas Martinez).



- a) In which interval or intervals is the velocity of the particle positive?  $(1,3) \cup (6,\infty)$   
 b) In which interval or intervals is the velocity of the particle negative?  $(3,6)$   
 c) In which interval or intervals of time is the position increasing faster?  $(0,3)$   
 d) In which interval or intervals of time is the position increasing slower?  $(1,3)$   
 e) In which interval or intervals of time is the position decreasing faster?  $(3,4)$   
 f) In which interval or intervals of time is the position decreasing slower?  $(4,5)$   
 g) In which interval or intervals of time is the velocity increasing?  $(1,3) \cup (6,\infty)$   
 h) In which interval or intervals of time is the velocity decreasing?  $(3,6)$