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Activity 4.4: Contextual Situations. Applications of the Definite Integral

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Using your knowledge on Calculus solve the following

1. A particle moves along a path with a velocity given by $v(t) = t^3 - 8t^2 + 15t$ in meters/second.

- a) Find the displacement of the particle on the first 6 seconds 18 m
- b) Find the total distance traveled by the particle on the first six seconds 28.663 m

Handwritten work for problem 1:

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{4}t^4 - \frac{8}{3}t^3 + \frac{15}{2}t^2 + C$$

$$v(t) = t^3 - 8t^2 + 15t$$

$$a(t) = 3t^2 - 16t + 15$$

Graph of $v(t)$ showing roots at $t=0, 3, 5$. Calculations for displacement and distance are shown with integrals.

2. An object moves on a linear path with a velocity given by $v(t) = \cos(2t)$ in meters/second

- a) Find the displacement of the object from $t=0$ until $t=\pi$ seconds 0 m
- b) Find the total distance traveled by the object from $t=0$ until $t=\pi$ seconds 2 m

Handwritten work for problem 2:

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2} \sin(2t) + C$$

$$v(t) = \cos(2t)$$

$$a(t) = -2 \sin(2t)$$

Graph of $v(t)$ showing roots at $t=0, \pi/2, \pi$. Calculations for displacement and distance are shown with integrals.

3. The acceleration of a particle, traveling along a linear path, is given by $a(t) = \sin(t)$ in meters/second², the particle starts from rest.

- a) Find the equation that gives the velocity of the particle $v(t) = -\cos(t) + 1$
- b) Find the displacement of the particle on the first $3\pi/2$ seconds 5.712 m
- c) Find the total distance traveled by the particle on the first $3\pi/2$ seconds 5.712 m

Handwritten work for problem 3:

$$x(t) = -\sin(t) + t$$

$$v(t) = -\cos(t) + 1$$

$$a(t) = \sin(t)$$

Graph of $v(t)$ showing roots at $t=0, \pi$. Calculations for displacement and distance are shown with integrals.

4. An object is moving along a path in such a way that the acceleration of the object is given by $a(t) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{t+1}}$ in meters/second²

- a) Find the equation that gives the velocity of the object, the initial velocity of the object was 2 meters/second $v(t) = -2\sqrt{t+1} + 4$
- b) Find the displacement of the object from $t=0$ until $t=4$ seconds 2.42 m
- c) Find the total distance traveled by the object from $t=0$ until $t=4$ seconds 2.89 m

Handwritten work for problem 4:

$$x(t) = -\frac{4}{3}\sqrt{t+1} + 4t$$

$$v(t) = -2\sqrt{t+1} + 4$$

$$a(t) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{t+1}}$$

Graph of $v(t)$ showing roots at $t=3$. Calculations for displacement and distance are shown with integrals.

By: Teachers that Designed the Course
Translated by: Ana Mónica M. Domínguez

I think that it was useful to see how we can use integrals in a real world context.