

# Friday warm-up: Kinematics, II

Prof. Jordan C. Hanson

September 5, 2025

## 1 Memory Bank

1.  $v = \frac{\Delta \vec{x}}{\Delta t}$  ... Average velocity.
2.  $v = \frac{d\vec{x}}{dt}$  ... Instantaneous velocity.
3.  $a = \frac{\Delta \vec{v}}{\Delta t}$  ... Average acceleration.
4.  $a = \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt}$  ... Instantaneous acceleration.
5.  $x(t) = \frac{1}{2}at^2 + v_i t + x_i$  ... Position versus time, given constant acceleration
6.  $v(t) = at + v_i$  ... Speed versus time, given constant acceleration
7.  $v_f^2 = v_i^2 + 2a\Delta x$  ... Velocity, displacement, acceleration

## 2 Chapter 2 - Kinematics, II

1. In a 100-m race, the winner is timed at 11.2 s. The second-place finisher's time is 11.6 s. How far is the second-place finisher behind the winner when she crosses the finish line? Assume the velocity of each runner is constant throughout the race.
2. Consider the motion of the system depicted in Fig. 1 (top). Which of the following is true?
  - A:  $v < 0$ , then  $v > 0$ , then  $v < 0$
  - B:  $v > 0$ , then  $v < 0$ , then  $v > 0$
  - C:  $v > 0$ , then  $v < 0$
  - D:  $v < 0$ , then  $v > 0$
3. Consider the motion depicted in Fig. 1 (top). Which of the following is true?
  - A:  $a > 0$ , then  $a < 0$
  - B:  $a < 0$ , then  $a > 0$
  - C:  $a > 0$
  - D:  $a < 0$

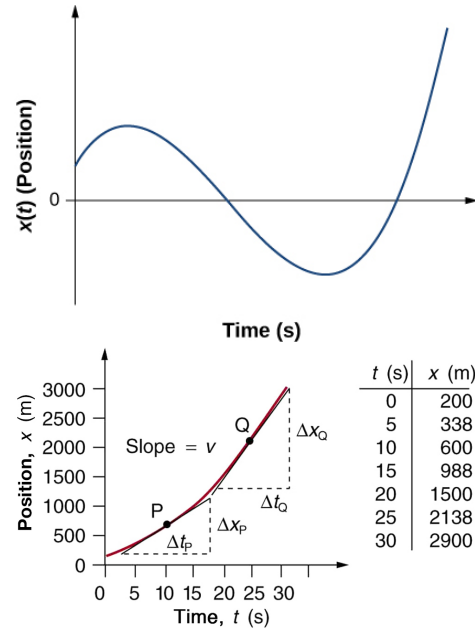


Figure 1: (Top) A system moves with constant velocity. Velocity is the slope on this plot. (Bottom) A system moves with non-constant velocity.

4. Suppose a cyclist has a velocity of  $15 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  at  $t = 0$ . If the acceleration is  $3 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ , (a) what is the velocity at  $t = 4$  seconds? (b) What is the displacement of the cyclist at  $t = 4$  seconds? (c) Is the average velocity different from the instantaneous velocity at  $t = 0$  or  $t = 4$  seconds?
5. Consider the motion of the system depicted in Fig. 1 (bottom). (a) From the given data, calculate the speed of the system at points P and Q. (b) Is the acceleration of the system positive or negative? Estimate the acceleration.