

Position from Velocity!?

At this point, you have definitions for Δx , Δt , and v . You've done LAO-1-1-WS1. Let's take one row out of the table you computed.

$$v_{5 \rightarrow 6} \equiv \frac{x_6 - x_5}{t_6 - t_5} = \frac{63\text{m} - 54\text{m}}{3744\text{s} - 3743\text{s}} = 9 \frac{\text{m}}{\text{s}}$$

Let's rearrange the algebra

$$(t_6 - t_5) v_{5 \rightarrow 6} = x_6 - x_5$$

$$x_6 = x_5 + (t_6 - t_5) v_{5 \rightarrow 6}$$

That says we can get x_6 from x_5 and $v_{5 \rightarrow 6}$!

It of course didn't matter that it was positions 5 and 6 we were considering. We also have

$$x_5 = x_4 + (t_5 - t_4) v_{4 \rightarrow 5}$$

By substituting the circled stuff in for x_5 you can see that we can actually get x_6 from x_4 !

This just keeps going. You can get x_6 from x_0 if you also know $V_{0 \rightarrow 1}, V_{1 \rightarrow 2}, V_{2 \rightarrow 3}, V_{3 \rightarrow 4}, V_{4 \rightarrow 5}$, and $V_{5 \rightarrow 6}$

It's going to get tiring for me to write out all these examples. So we need some notation. We write

$$x_{i+1} = x_i + (t_{i+1} - t_i) V_{i \rightarrow i+1}$$

Put $i=5$ into this equation. Do you see that you get the equation for x_6 ? Put $i=4$ into the equation. Do you see that you get the equation for x_5 ?

\Rightarrow Do LAO-1-1-WS2

Maybe it is not a surprise that the addition and multiplication that gets us x_6 from x_5 "undoes" the subtraction and division that got us $V_{5 \rightarrow 6}$ from x_6 and x_5 .