

Calculus 4.3 Key Points

Relationship of Position-Velocity-Acceleration:

Position: The location of an object - Units include meters (m), feet (ft), miles (mi)

Velocity: The rate of change of position - Units include meters per second ($\frac{m}{s}$), feet per minute ($\frac{ft}{min}$), miles per hour ($\frac{mi}{h}$)

Acceleration: The rate of change of velocity - Units include meters per second per second ($\frac{m}{s^2}$ or $\frac{m}{s^2}$), feet per minute squared ($\frac{ft}{min^2}$), miles per hour squared ($\frac{mi}{h^2}$)

Finding the slope of a position function tells us the velocity of an object and finding the slope of a velocity function tells us the acceleration of an object:

Derivative of
Position \Rightarrow Velocity \Rightarrow Acceleration

Finding the area under the curve of an acceleration function tells us the change in velocity of an object and finding the area under the curve of a velocity functions tells us the distance traveled by an object:

Integral of
Acceleration \Rightarrow Velocity \Rightarrow Position

Note: There can be an infinite number of antiderivatives of a function, represent by the $+ C$ when integrating. Taking the integral of a velocity function over an interval will give you the distance traveled by an object, but to find the object's position, you need a given position at a time to solve for the $+ C$ and find the position function. The same applies when integrating acceleration functions to find an object's velocity.