

Game Physics Tutorial 1

Movement Basics & Mass Spring Systems

Daniel Hook, Robert Brand
(daniel.hook@tum.de, robert.brand@tum.de)

Movement Basics

How does our position change over time?

> The **position** is influenced by the **velocity** (“speed and direction”).

The velocity is influenced by the **acceleration** (“= Beschleunigung”).

The acceleration is influenced by **forces**.

Let's start with an easy example: A moving car!

Movement Basics

Our car is at **position (1, 0)**. It's **velocity is (1, 0)** (aka the “speed and direction”).

Its weight is 2 tonnes (**mass = 2**).

Where is our car in the next second?



velocity = (1, 0)

position = (1, 0)

Movement Basics

Our car is at **position (1, 0)**. It's **velocity is (1, 0)** (aka the “speed and direction”).

Its weight is 2 tonnes (**mass = 2**).

Where is our car in the next second?



$$\begin{aligned} \text{velocity} &= (1, 0) \\ \text{position} &= \text{oldPosition} + \text{velocity} \times 1\text{s} = (2, 0) \end{aligned}$$

Good. But now we want to **accelerate**!

Movement Basics

How does our position change over time?

The **position** is influenced by the **velocity** (“speed and direction”).

> The **velocity** is influenced by the **acceleration** (“= Beschleunigung”).

The acceleration is influenced by **forces**.

Movement Basics

Now our car accelerates with **acceleration** (1, 0)!



acceleration = (1, 0)

velocity = oldVelocity + acceleration × 1s = ?

position = oldPosition + velocity × 1s = ?

Movement Basics

Now our car accelerates with **acceleration** (1, 0)!



acceleration = (1, 0)

velocity = oldVelocity + **acceleration** × 1s = (2, 0)

position = oldPosition + **velocity** × 1s = ?

Movement Basics

Now our car accelerates with **acceleration** (1, 0)!



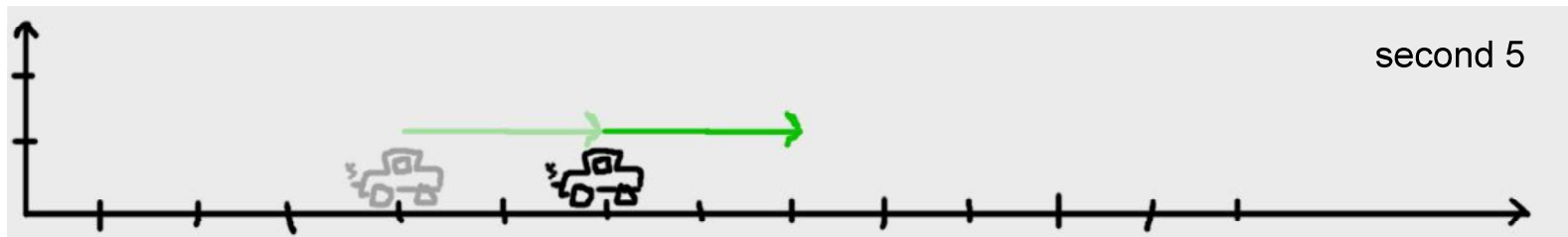
acceleration = (1, 0)

velocity = oldVelocity + **acceleration** × 1s = (2, 0)

position = oldPosition + **velocity** × 1s = (4, 0)

Movement Basics

We continue driving 1 second without accelerating more!



acceleration = (0, 0)

velocity = oldVelocity + acceleration × 1s = (2, 0)

position = oldPosition + velocity × 1s = (6, 0)

Now a bomb explodes behind us! It pushes us with its force!

Movement Basics

How does our position change over time?

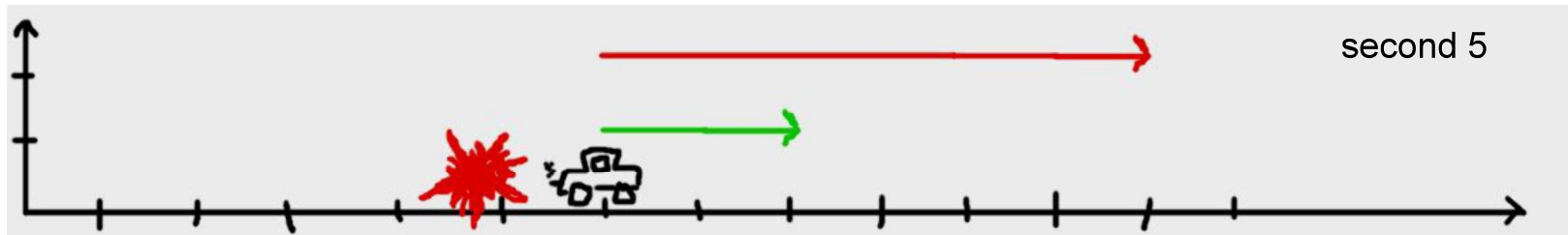
The **position** is influenced by the **velocity** (“speed and direction”).

The **velocity** is influenced by the **acceleration** (“= Beschleunigung”).

> The **acceleration** is influenced by **forces**.

Movement Basics

Explosion behind us, resulting in a **force** (6, 0) at our car!



force = (6, 0)

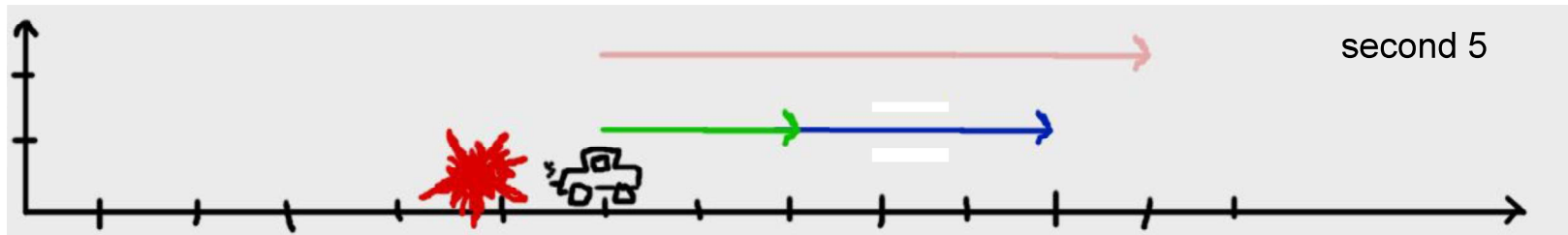
acceleration = **force** / mass = ?

velocity = **oldVelocity** + **acceleration** × 1s = ?

position = **oldPosition** + **velocity** × 1s = ?

Movement Basics

Explosion behind us, resulting in a **force** (6, 0) at our car!



force = (6, 0)

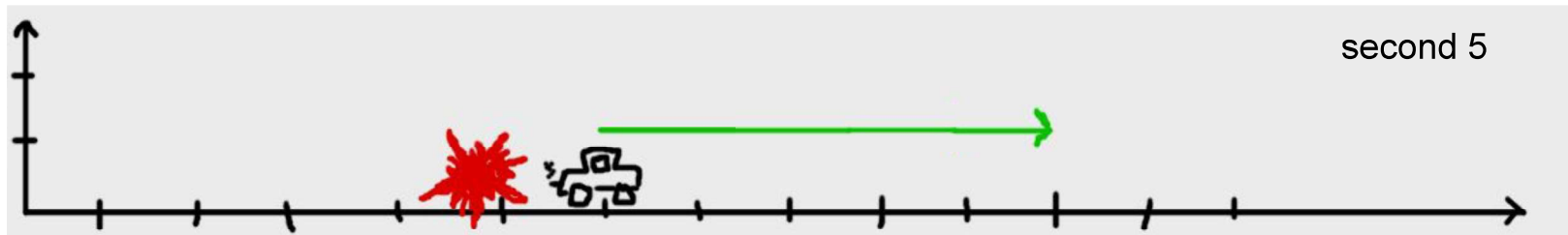
acceleration = **force** / mass = (3, 0)

velocity = oldVelocity + **acceleration** × 1s = ?

position = oldPosition + **velocity** × 1s = ?

Movement Basics

Explosion behind us, resulting in a **force** (6, 0) at our car!



force = (6, 0)

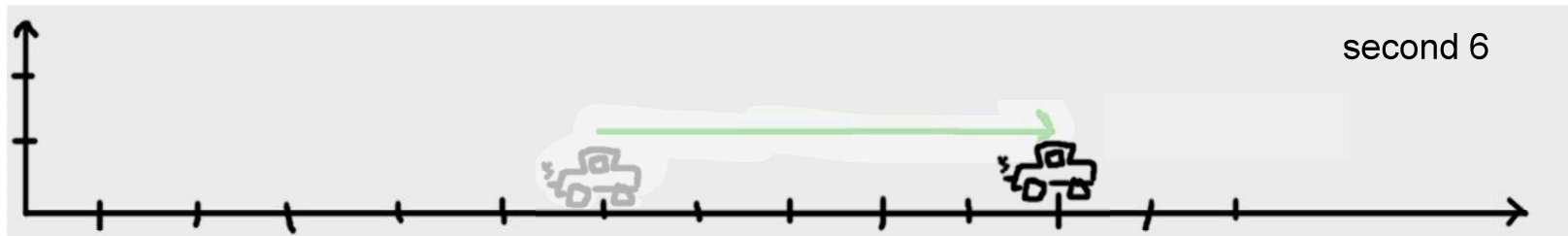
acceleration = **force** / mass = (3, 0)

velocity = oldVelocity + **acceleration** × 1s = (5, 0)

position = oldPosition + **velocity** × 1s = ?

Movement Basics

Explosion behind us, resulting in a **force** (6, 0) at our car!



force = (6, 0)

acceleration = **force** / mass = (3, 0)

velocity = oldVelocity + **acceleration** × 1s = (5, 0)

position = oldPosition + **velocity** × 1s = (11, 0)

Movement Basics

How does our position change over time?

The **position** is influenced by the **velocity** (“speed and direction”).

The **velocity** is influenced by the **acceleration** (“= Beschleunigung”).

The **acceleration** is influenced by **forces**.

Forces come in various forms: counter-force (when crashing), explosions, ...

Small note: We cheated on the acceleration part: We cannot “just accelerate”. Actually, our motor was using a force on our car, which accelerated it.

Movement Basics

- Position p

E.g. (1.5 m, -0.5 m, 2.0 m)

- Velocity v

E.g. (1.0 m/s, -1.0 m/s, 0 m/s)

→ change of **position** over time

(= derivative of position with respect to time)

- Acceleration a

E.g. (2.0 m/s², -0.5 m/s², 0 m/s²)

→ change of **velocity** over time

(= derivative of velocity with respect to time)

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t}$$

An ODE (“Ordinary Differential Equation”) is an equation which contains a function and its derivative(s).

Therefore, any equation involving e.g. position and **velocity** is an ODE!

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t}$$

Movement Basics - Explicit Euler

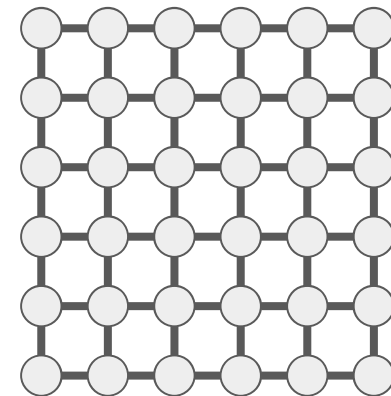
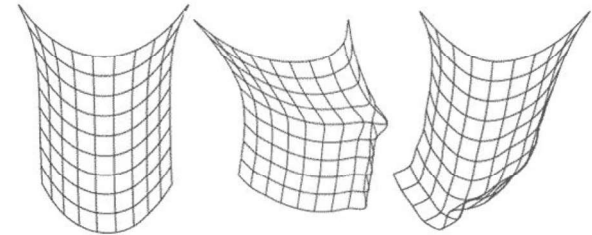
- Usually: **Acceleration** / **Velocity** known, new Position wanted
- In Theory:
 - since $v = \frac{\partial p}{\partial t}$ and $a = \frac{\partial v}{\partial t}$ we would need to integrate...
 - Can be approximated!
- One way of approximating: Explicit Euler
 - $\text{newPos} = \text{oldPos} + \text{velocity} \times \text{timestep}$
 - $\text{newVelocity} = \text{oldVelocity} + \text{acceleration} \times \text{timestep}$
 - *“New Attribute” = “Old Attribute” + “How does Attribute change over time” × timestep*
- More on this next Tutorial

Forces

- **Force** = mass × **acceleration** → “same force & heavier object → less acceleration”
→ **forces** and **acceleration** are essentially the same
(difference just a constant linear factor)
- **Forces** = Influence of Physics on object’s motion
(e.g. Collision, attached Spring)

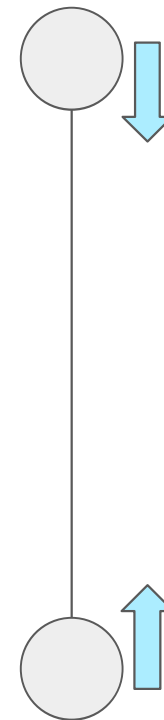
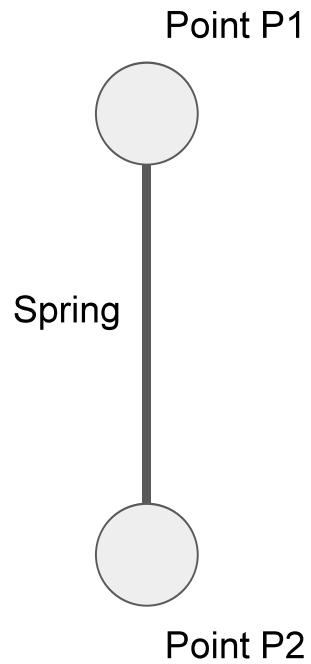
Mass Spring Systems

- Imagine we want to simulate a piece of cloth
- Model it as a grid of mass points
 - Each mass point has a position p and mass m
 - Points do not have a volume / size !
- To simulate the forces holding the cloth together, we connect the points with “springs”



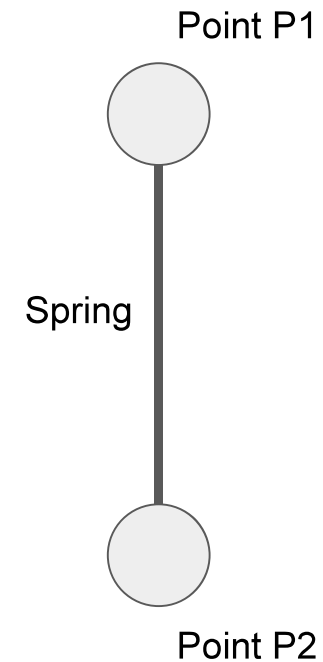
simplified piece of cloth

Mass Spring Systems - Springs

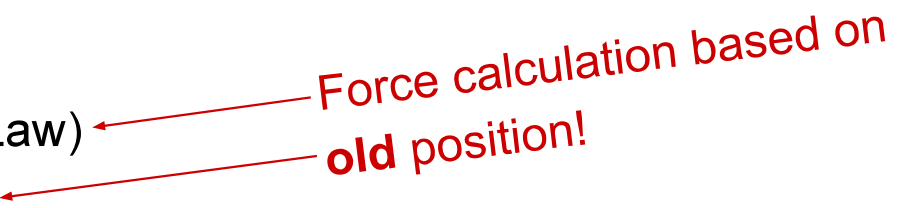


Mass Spring Systems - Hooke's Law

- Spring connecting two mass points has:
 - rest length (“normal” length of the spring)
 - stiffness
- Hooke's law:
 - Spring Force proportional to displacement
 - i.e. the closer the points are together the stronger the force pushing them apart
 - $\mathbf{F} = - \text{stiffness} \times (||\mathbf{P1} - \mathbf{P2}|| - \text{rest_length}) \times \text{direction}$
 - $\text{direction}(\mathbf{P1}) = \text{norm}(\mathbf{P1} - \mathbf{P2})$, $\text{direction}(\mathbf{P2}) = \text{norm}(\mathbf{P2} - \mathbf{P1})$
- Spring applies force to both points
(in opposite directions)



Mass Spring Systems - Calculate one timestep

- **Update position** with velocity
 - Calculate spring forces (Hooke's Law)
 - Sum up all forces acting on point
 - Update acceleration with accumulated forces (Newton's second law)
 - (Add gravity to acceleration)
 - **Update velocity** with acceleration
 - Clear forces
- Profit.
- (This is Explicit Euler!)
- 
- Force calculation based on
old position!

Mass Spring Systems - Exercise 1

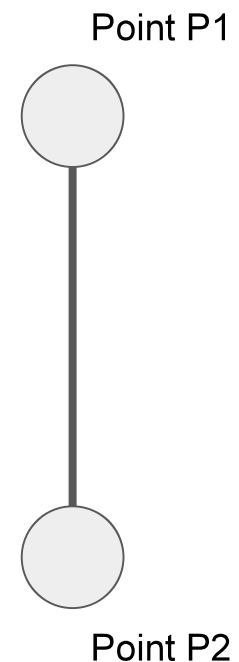
- Calculate the positions of P1 & P2 after two time steps!

The initial positions are

P1.x0 = (2, 4) and **P2.x0 = (1, -3)**.

Their initial velocities and accelerations are zero,
their **masses** are **1**.

P1 and P2 are connected by a spring with **rest length 4**
and **stiffness 2**. The **timestep is 0.5**.



Mass Spring Systems - Exercise 1

initial positions:

$$P_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad P_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

masses:

$$m_1 = 1 \quad m_2 = 1$$

No initial velocities or accelerations!

Spring: $s = 2$ $d_r = 4$ Timestep: $h = 0.5$

Mass Spring Systems - Exercise 1

initial positions:

$$P_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad P_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

masses:

$$m_1 = 1 \quad m_2 = 1$$

No initial velocities or accelerations!

Spring: $s = 2$ $d_r = 4$ Timestep: $h = 0.5$

$t=0$:

$$P_1(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad P_2(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d(t=0) = \sqrt{(2-1)^2 + (4+3)^2} = 5\sqrt{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(t=0) &= -s \cdot (d - d_r) \cdot \vec{d} \cdot \text{normalized} \\ &= -2 \cdot (5\sqrt{2} - 4) \cdot \vec{d} \cdot \text{normalized} \\ &= (8 - 10\sqrt{2}) \cdot \vec{d} \cdot \text{normalized} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \leadsto P_1: f(t=0) &= -6.14 \cdot \left(\frac{2-1}{4+3} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{5\sqrt{2}} = -6.14 \cdot \left(\frac{\frac{1}{7\sqrt{2}}}{\frac{10}{10}} \right) \\ \leadsto P_2: f(t=0) &= -6.14 \cdot \left(\frac{1-2}{-3-4} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{5\sqrt{2}} = 6.14 \cdot \left(\frac{\frac{12}{7\sqrt{2}}}{\frac{10}{10}} \right) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{aligned} \leadsto P_1: f(t=0) \\ \leadsto P_2: f(t=0) \end{aligned}} \right\} a(t=0) = f(t=0) \cdot \frac{1}{1}$$

$$V_1(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot (-6.14) \cdot \left(\frac{12/10}{7\sqrt{2}/10} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.434 \\ -3.04 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V_2(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot 6.14 \cdot \left(\frac{12/10}{7\sqrt{2}/10} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.434 \\ 3.04 \end{pmatrix}$$

Mass Spring Systems - Exercise 1

initial positions:

$$P_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad P_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

masses:

$$m_1 = 1 \quad m_2 = 1$$

No initial velocities or accelerations!

Spring: $s = 2$ $d_r = 4$ Timestep: $h = 0.5$

$t=0$:

$$P_1(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad P_2(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d(t=0) = \sqrt{(2-1)^2 + (4+3)^2} = 5\sqrt{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(t=0) &= -s \cdot (d - d_r) \cdot \vec{d} \cdot \text{normalized} \\ &= -2 \cdot (5\sqrt{2} - 4) \cdot \vec{d} \cdot \text{normalized} \\ &= (8 - 10\sqrt{2}) \cdot \vec{d} \cdot \text{normalized} \end{aligned}$$

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$$V_1(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot (-6.14) \cdot \left(\frac{\frac{1}{7\sqrt{2}}}{\frac{10}{10}} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.434 \\ -3.04 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V_2(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot 6.14 \cdot \left(\frac{\frac{12}{7\sqrt{2}}}{\frac{10}{10}} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.434 \\ 3.04 \end{pmatrix}$$

$t=0.5$:

$$P_1(t=1) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -0.434 \\ -3.04 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.783 \\ 2.48 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P_2(t=1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0.434 \\ 3.04 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.217 \\ -1.48 \end{pmatrix}$$

Mass Spring Systems - Exercise 2

- Calculate the positions of P1 & P2 after two time steps!

Initial positions **P1.x0 = (-2, 2)**

P2.x0 = (3, 2).

Initial velocities **P1.v0 = (-1, -1.5)**

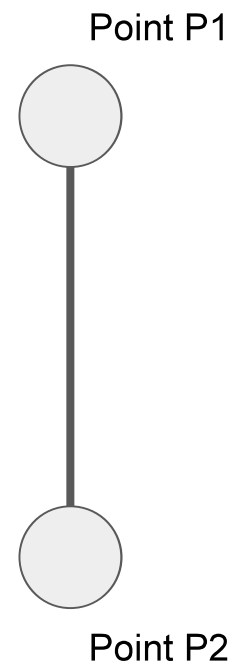
P2.v0 = (1, -1.5)

Masses **P1.m = 2**

P2.m = 3

The points are affected by **gravity (0, -10)**.

P1 and P2 are connected by a spring with **rest length 6** and **stiffness 4**. The **timestep is 0.5**.



Mass Spring Systems - Exercise 2

t=0:

$$P_1(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1.5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2.5 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P_2(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1.5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3.5 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d = 5$$

$$f(t=0) = -4 \cdot (5-6) \cdot \vec{d} \text{ normalized}$$

$$P_1: f(t=0) = 4 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P_2: f(t=0) = 4 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P_1: a(t=0) = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P_2: a(t=0) = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4/3 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V_1(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1.5 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -6.5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V_2(t=0.5) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1.5 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 4/3 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5/3 \\ -6.5 \end{pmatrix}$$

t=0.5:

$$P_1(t=1) = \begin{pmatrix} -2.5 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -6.5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3.5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$P_2(t=1) = \begin{pmatrix} 3.5 \\ 1.25 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 5/3 \\ -6.5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 13/3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$