

Module 6:
Lecture 19
Motors, Cams, and Motion
Control – Part 4



ME 370 - Mechanical Design 1

Lecture 19: Motors, Cams, Motion Control

Topics: 10/29/25 Module 6, Part 4: Motion Control 1 (Chapter 8).

Activities & Upcoming Deadlines

▪ HW:

- HW 9 (Gears): due Tuesday 11/4

▪ Lab 10: Motors & Gears

- Review Pre-lab, In-lab and Post-lab. Pre-lab and Post-lab due during usual timeline
- Meet in Innovation Studio

▪ Project 2:

- If applicable to your team, pickup remaining parts kit materials during Lab 10
- Gear ratio for Pololu motor: some motors have 1:47 gear ratio, others have 1:34 gear ratio.
 - See part number stamped on motor, or determine your No-Load Speed using your phone (follow procedure similar to in-lab activity, an instructional sheet will be available shortly)
 - URL for 1:47 motor (item 3229): <https://www.pololu.com/product/3229>
 - URL for 1:34 motor (item 3228): <https://www.pololu.com/product/3228>

*Check specs in Proj 2
Description for batteries
& motors*

Next lecture: Start Module 7, Dynamic force analysis (DFA) (Chaps 10.1-10.8,11)

New class policy

- No social media during class time

Module 6 topics: Motors, Cams and Motion Control

- **Motors**

- DC motor principle
- DC motor model
- Linear Motor Model
 - Constraints
 - Behavior in time
 - Gearboxes
- Motor Parameters
- Power and Efficiency

- **Cam and Follower**

- Types of Motion
- Types of Follower
- Practical Considerations

- **Motion control**

- Simple Motion Control Dwell-Rise-Dwell motions:
 - Fundamental Law of Cam (Motion) Design
 - Simple Harmonic Motion
 - Sinusoidal Acceleration (i.e., Cycloidal Displacement)
- Advanced Motion Control
 - Additional Dwell-Rise-Dwell motions:
 - Trapezoidal acceleration
 - Modified Trapezoidal acceleration
 - Modified Sine acceleration
 - 3-4-5 Polynomial Rise Displacement
 - 4-5-6-7 Polynomial Rise Displacement
 - Rise-Fall-Dwell motions:
 - Cycloidal Motion
 - Double Harmonic
 - 3-4-5-6 Polynomial

Recall: Fundamental Law of Cam (Motion) Design

The cam function (= follower motion) must be continuous through first and second derivatives of displacement across entire interval (360°).

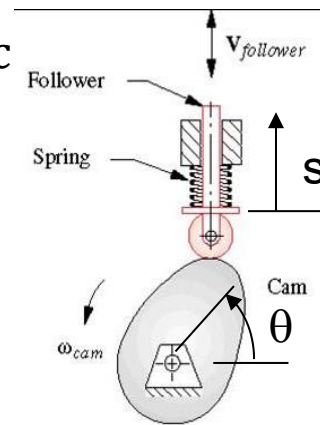
- ∴ requires 3rd order continuity
 - Displacement (C^0 continuity)
 - Velocity (C^1 continuity)
 - Acceleration (C^2 continuity)
- In other words, position, velocity and acceleration should be continuous across the entire interval (360°).
- **Corollary:** The jerk function must be finite across the entire interval (360°).

Recall: Linear Functions (for Rise or Fall portions)

Dwell-Rise-Dwell-Fall Example

Example:

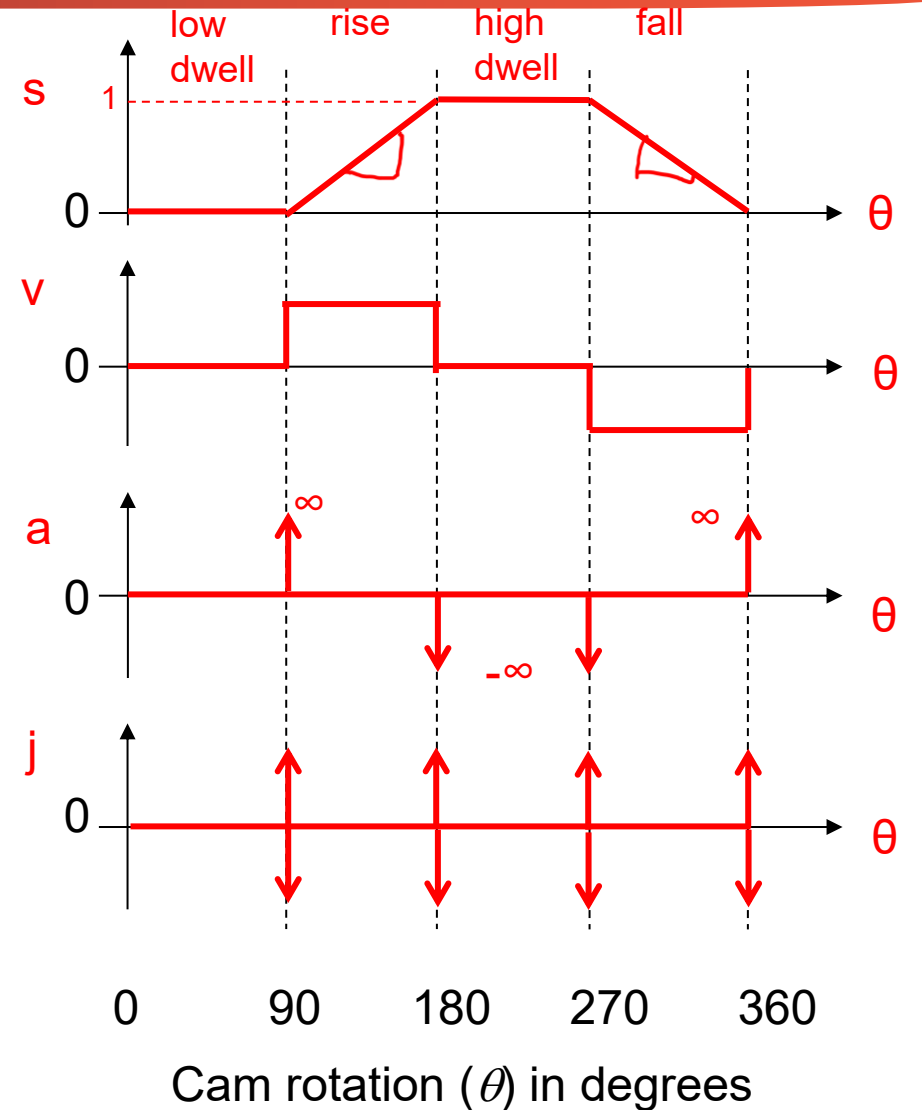
- **Dwell**
 - at zero displacement for 90 degrees (low dwell)
- **Rise**
 - 1 inch in 90 degrees
- **Dwell**
 - at 1 inch for 90 degrees (high dwell)
- **Fall**
 - 1 inch in 90 degrees
- Cam's ω
 - 2π radians/sec = 1 rev/sec



Linear functions do NOT satisfy the Fundamental Law of Motion Design:

Acceleration is NOT continuous across the entire interval (360°).

Spikes in acceleration due to step change in velocity.



Recall: Simple Harmonic Motion (For only Rise portion)

Dwell -Rise-Dwell Example

When used in a **Dwell-Rise-Dwell** Motion Program:

Simple harmonic function does **NOT** satisfy the Fundamental Law of Motion Design:

Acceleration is **NOT** continuous across the entire interval (360°).

Spikes in jerk due to discontinuity in acceleration at edges of rise (where meets dwell).

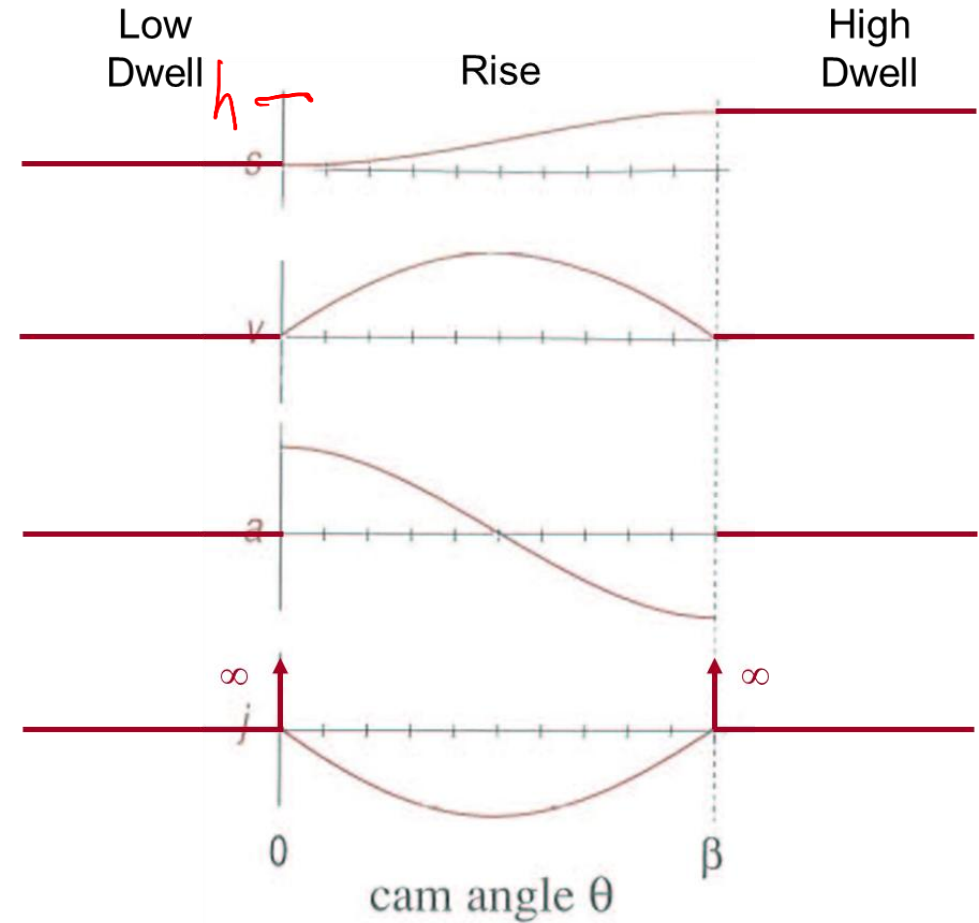
Use Simple Harmonic for Rise

$$s = \frac{h}{2} \left[1 - \cos \left(\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right) \right]$$

$$v = \frac{\pi h}{\beta} \sin \left(\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)$$

$$a = \frac{\pi^2 h}{\beta^2} \cos \left(\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)$$

$$j = \frac{\pi^3 h}{\beta^3} \sin \left(\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)$$



Note: this design does not represent full 360° motion

Recall: **Cycloidal displacement (Sinusoidal Acceleration)** (For only Rise portion) Dwell -Rise-Dwell Example

For a **Dwell-Rise-Dwell**
Motion Program:

Cycloidal displacement
function does satisfy the
Fundamental Law of Motion
Design:

Velocity and Acceleration are
continuous across the entire
interval (360°).

Jerk function must be finite
across entire interval (no
spikes at edges of rise where
meets dwell).

Problem: peak acceleration can be high.

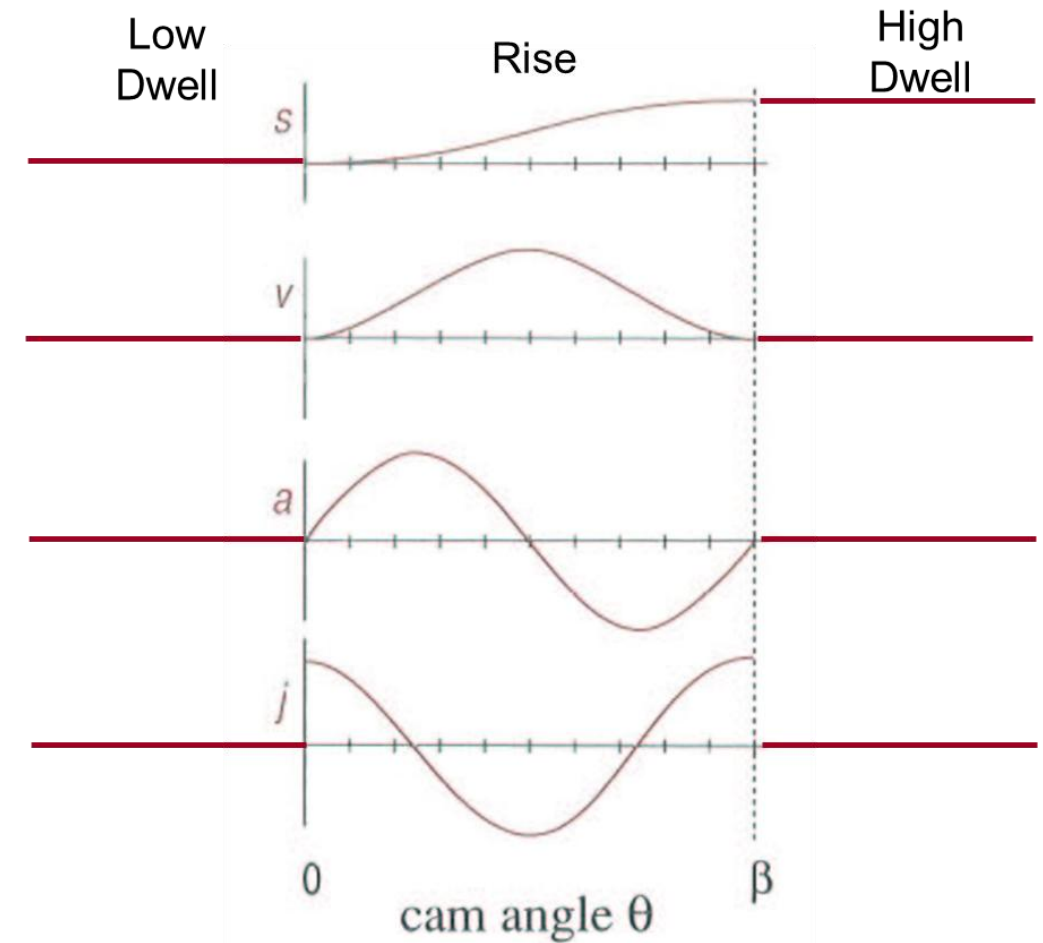
Use Cycloidal Displacement
for Rise

$$s = h \left[\frac{\theta}{\beta} - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sin \left(2\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right) \right]$$

$$v = \frac{h}{\beta} \left[1 - \cos \left(2\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right) \right]$$

$$a = 2\pi \frac{h}{\beta^2} \sin \left(2\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)$$

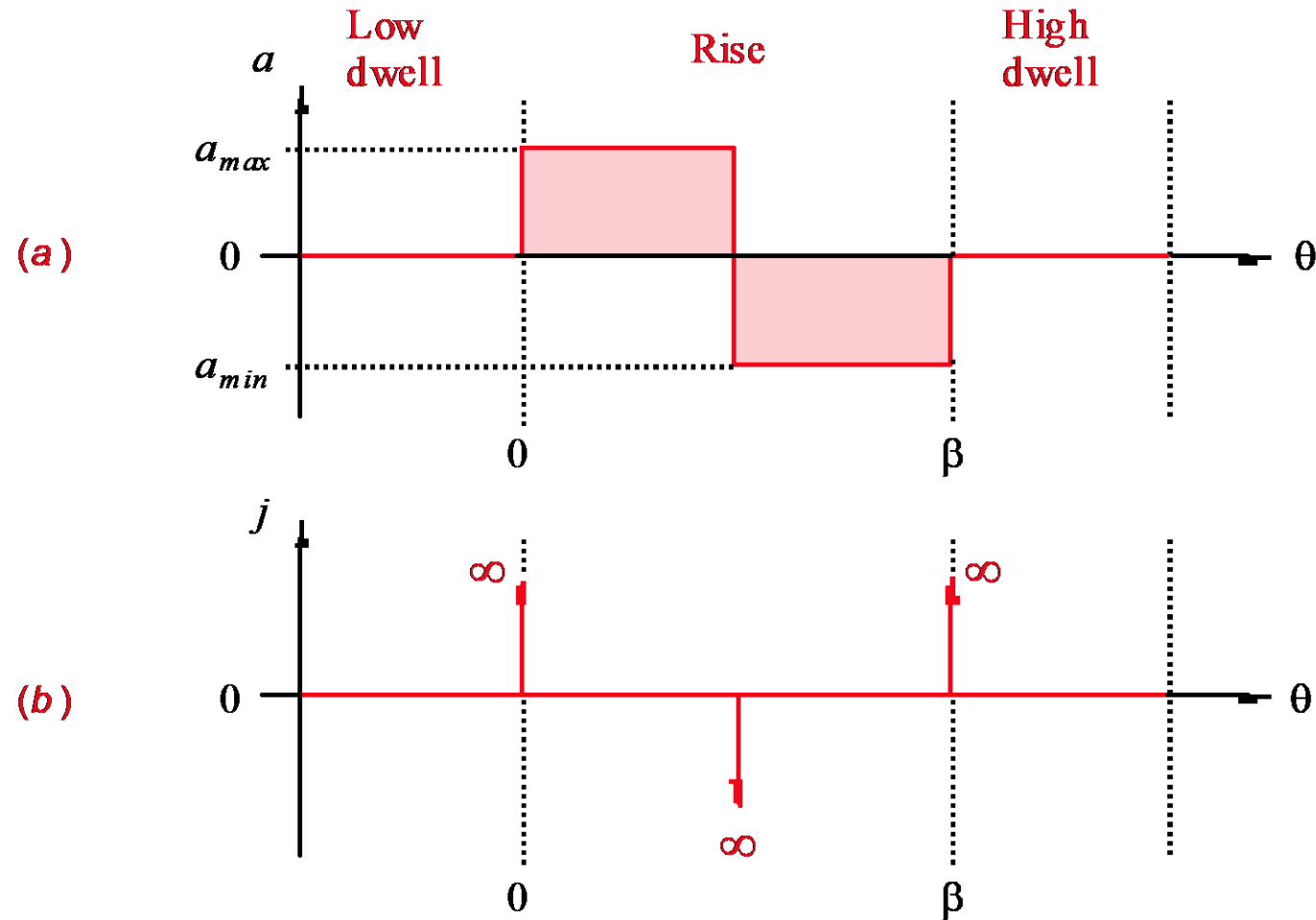
$$j = 4\pi^2 \frac{h}{\beta^3} \cos \left(2\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)$$



Note: this design
does not represent full
360° motion

Problem: peak acceleration can be high. How to reduce?

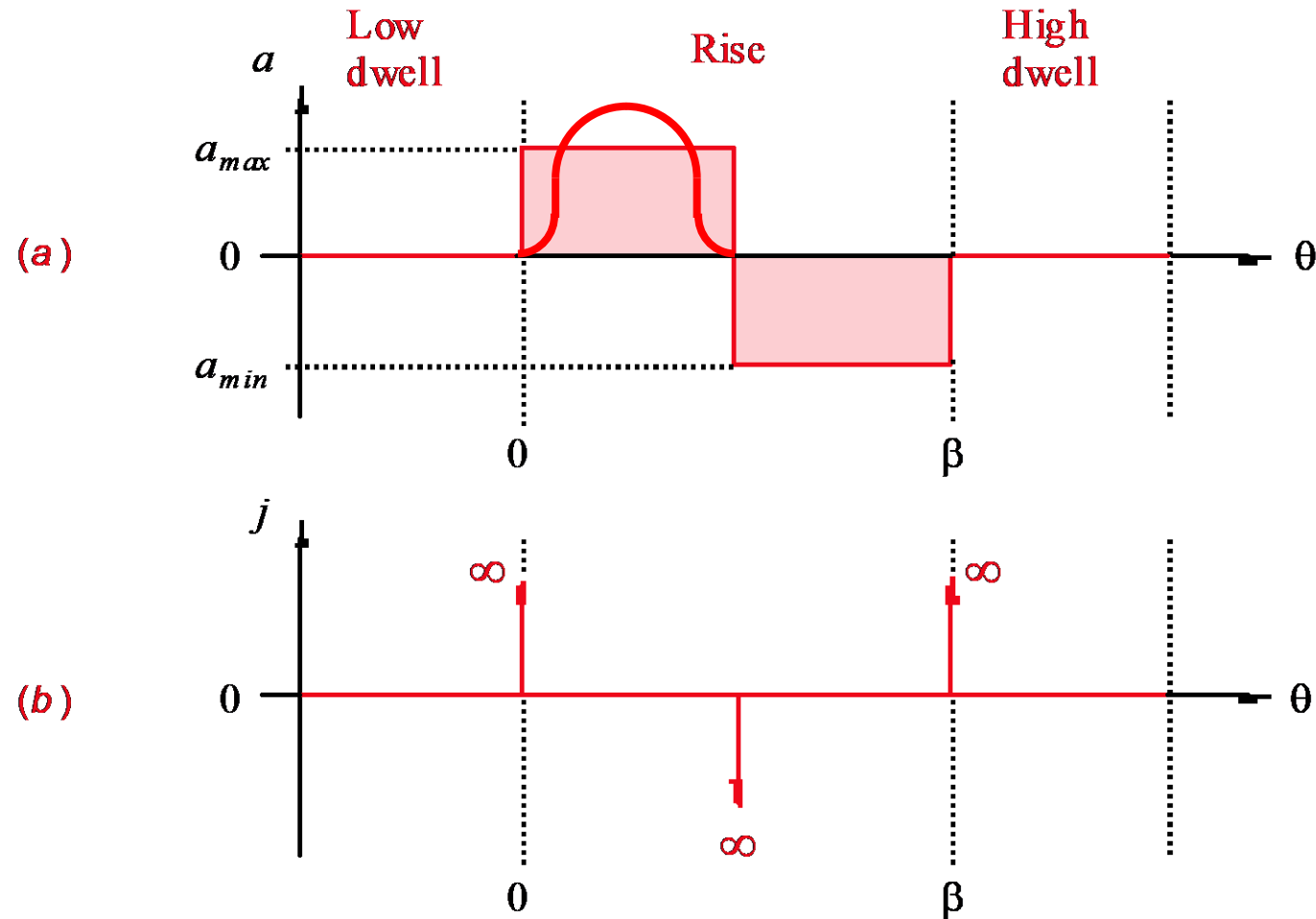
Let's consider constant acceleration with smaller value:



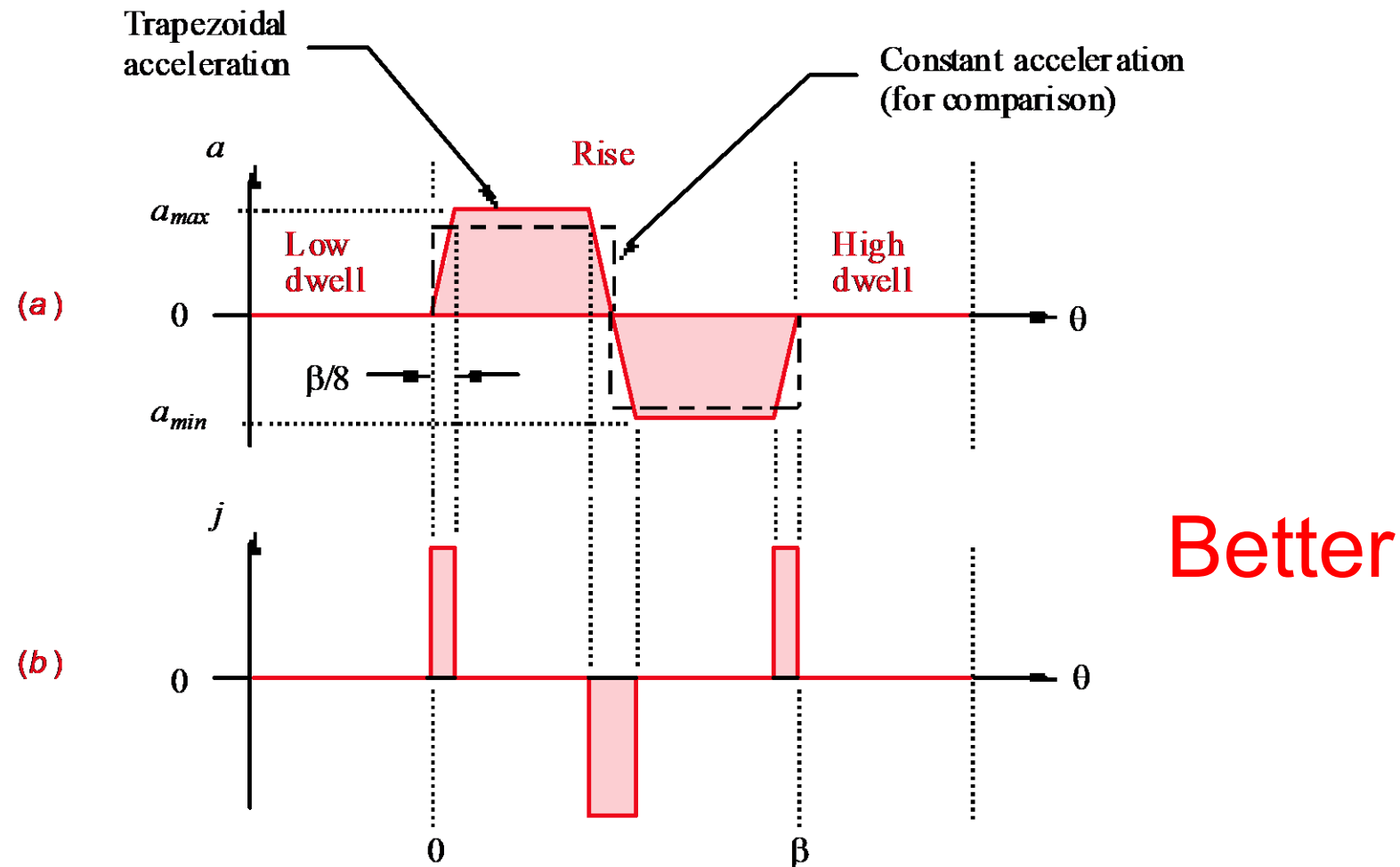
Bad

Problem: peak acceleration can be high. How to reduce?

Adding smoother (but slightly larger peak) acceleration function could be better



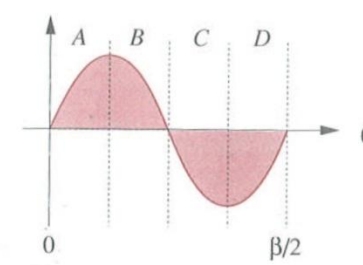
Possible Solution: Near constant acceleration profile -- Trapezoidal acceleration



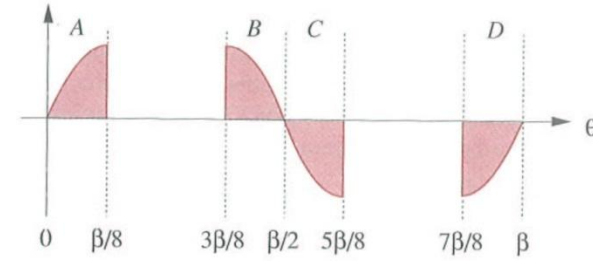
Modified Trapezoidal Acceleration

Much
Better

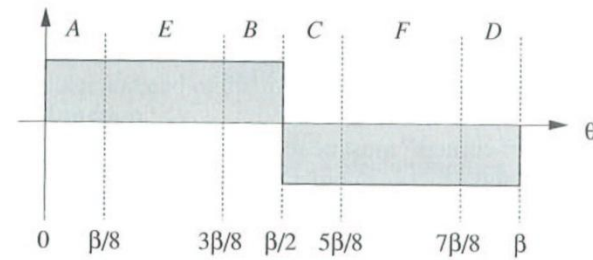
(a) Take a sine wave



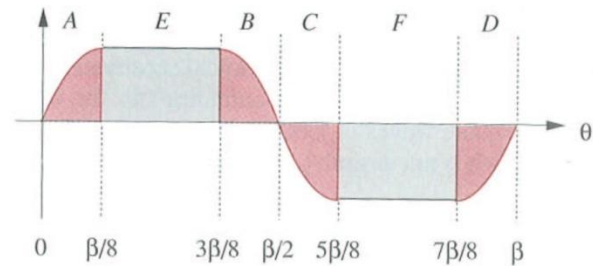
(b) Split the sine wave apart



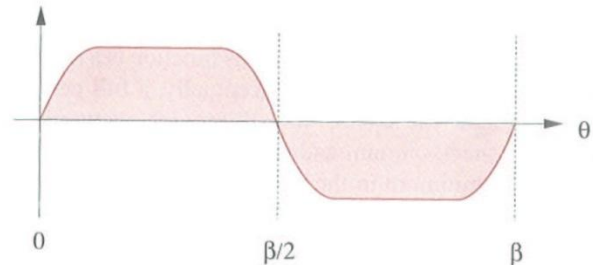
(c) Take a constant acceleration square wave



(d) Combine the two

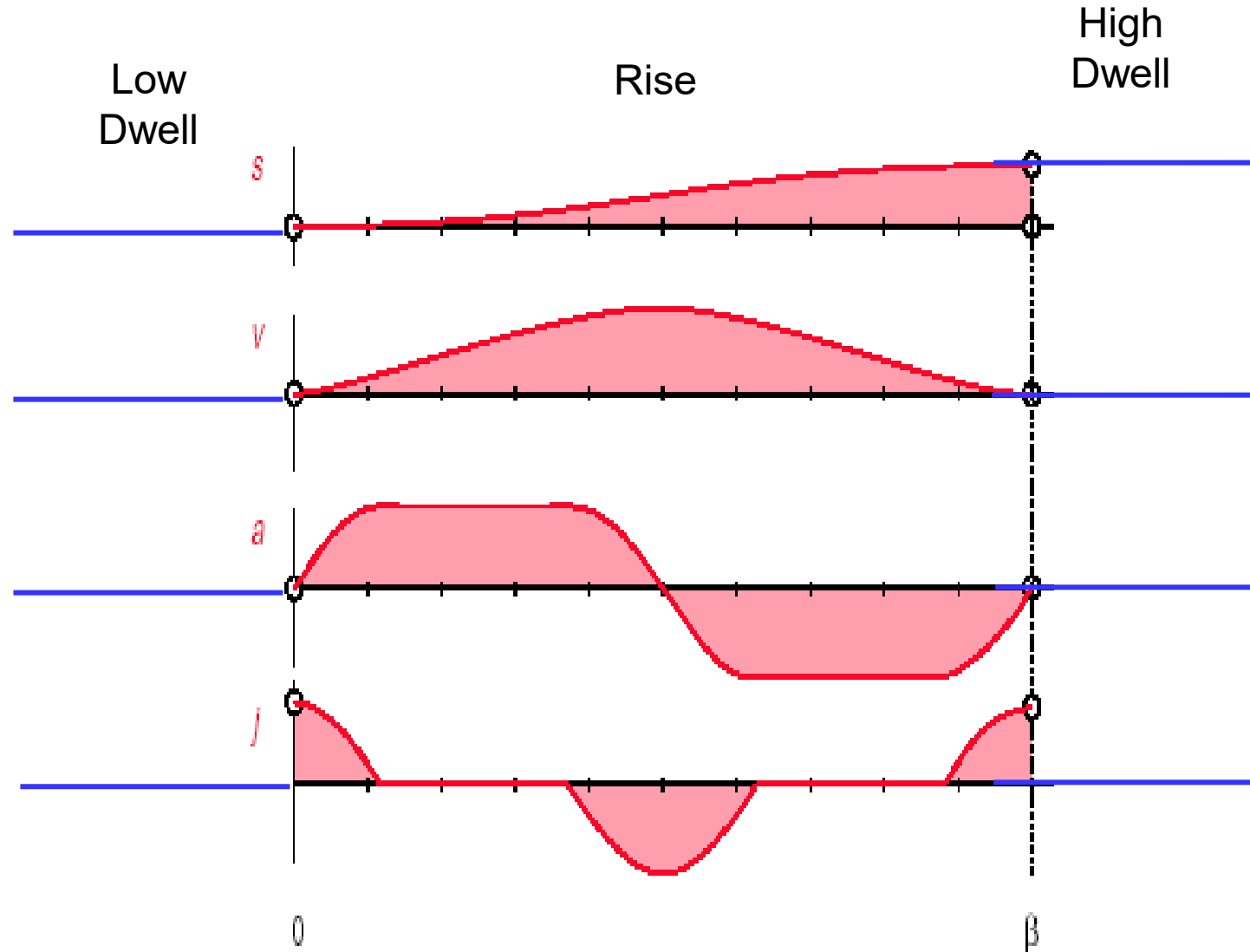


(e) Modified trapezoidal acceleration



SVAJ diagrams for Modified Trapezoidal Acceleration

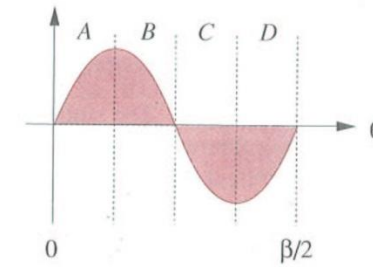
Modified Trapezoidal Acceleration function satisfies the Fundamental Law of Motion Design



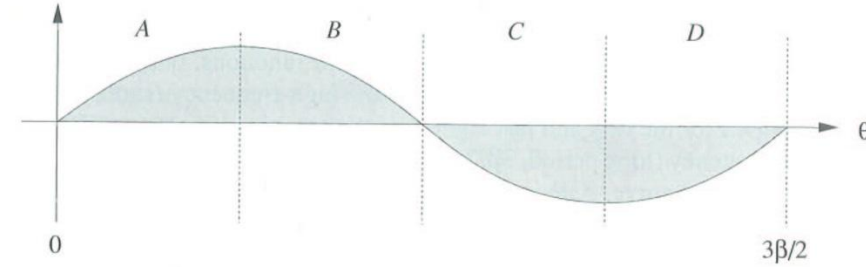
Another alternative: Modified Sine Acceleration

Modified Sine Acceleration
function also satisfies the
Fundamental Law of Motion
Design

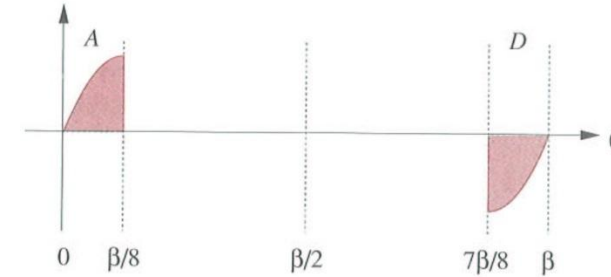
(a) Sine wave #1
of period $\beta/2$



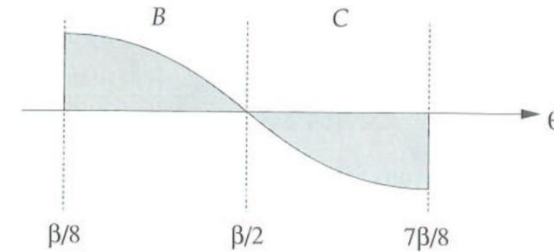
(b) Sine wave #2
of period $3\beta/2$



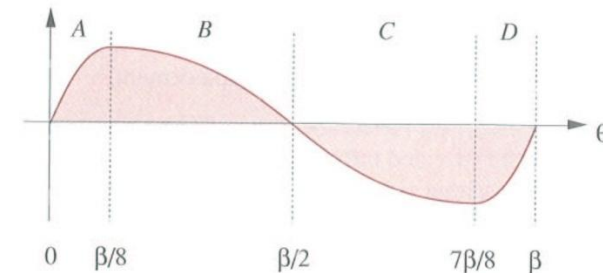
(c) Take 1st and 4th
quarters of #1



(d) Take 2nd and 3rd
quarters of #2



(e) Combine to get
modified sine



What other functions can we use?

Polynomial Functions

- Most versatile approach

$$s = C_0 + C_1x + C_2x^2 + C_3x^3 + \dots + C_nx^n$$

$$\text{where } x = \frac{\theta}{\beta} \text{ or } \frac{t}{t'} \quad (0 \leq x \leq 1)$$

θ = current camshaft angle

β = total angle of rise interval

t = current rise time

t' = total time of rise interval

- Degree of polynomial (n) depends on # boundary conditions (k) such that $n = k - 1$.
- Solve for C_i using BCs

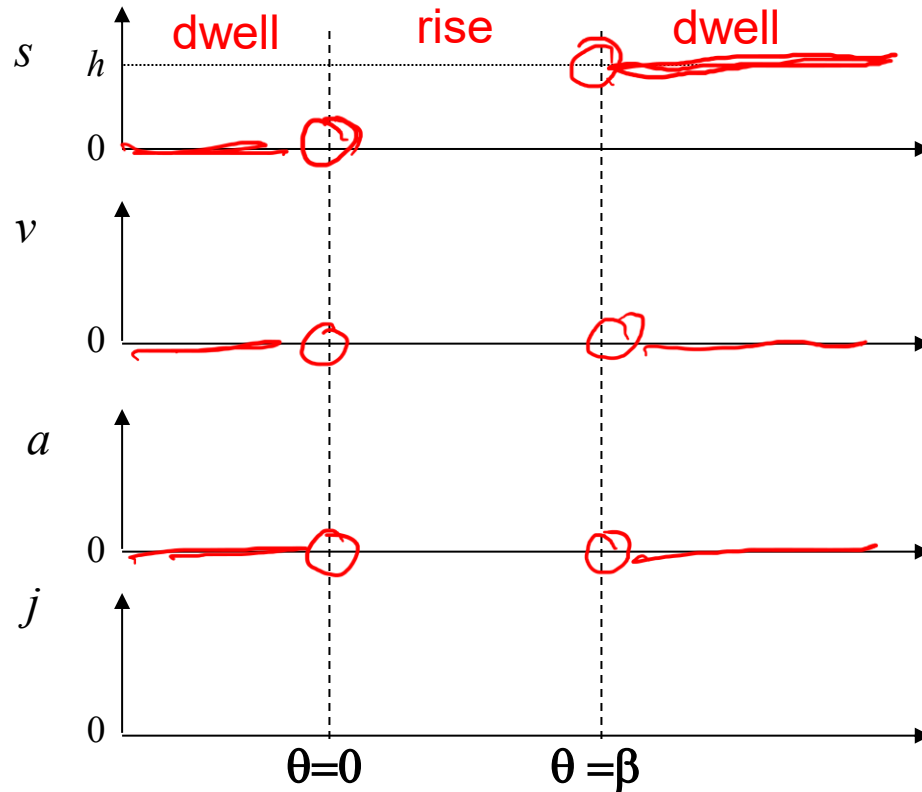
How to determine Boundary Conditions and k ?

- Sketch SVAJ diagram based on design requirements
- *To satisfy Fundamental Law of Motion Design, need at least 6 boundary conditions*

BC (for Rise):

if $\theta = 0$ (or $t = 0$), then $s = 0, v = 0, a = 0$

if $\theta = \beta$ (or $t = t'$), then $s = h, v = 0, a = 0$



For 6 BC $\rightarrow n = 5$

$$n = k - 1, \quad k = 6$$

$$s = C_0 + C_1x + C_2x^2 + C_3x^3 + C_4x^4 + C_5x^5 \quad \text{Eqn 1}$$

For DWELL-RISE-DWELL,
BC:

$$\text{where } x = \frac{\theta}{\beta} \text{ or } \frac{t}{t'} \quad (0 \leq x \leq 1)$$

if $\theta = 0$ (or $t = 0$), then $s = 0, v = 0, a = 0$

if $\theta = \beta$ (or $t = t'$), then $s = h, v = 0, a = 0$

Solve for C_i by inserting BC into Eqn 1 or taking derivatives of Eqn 1.

Will get

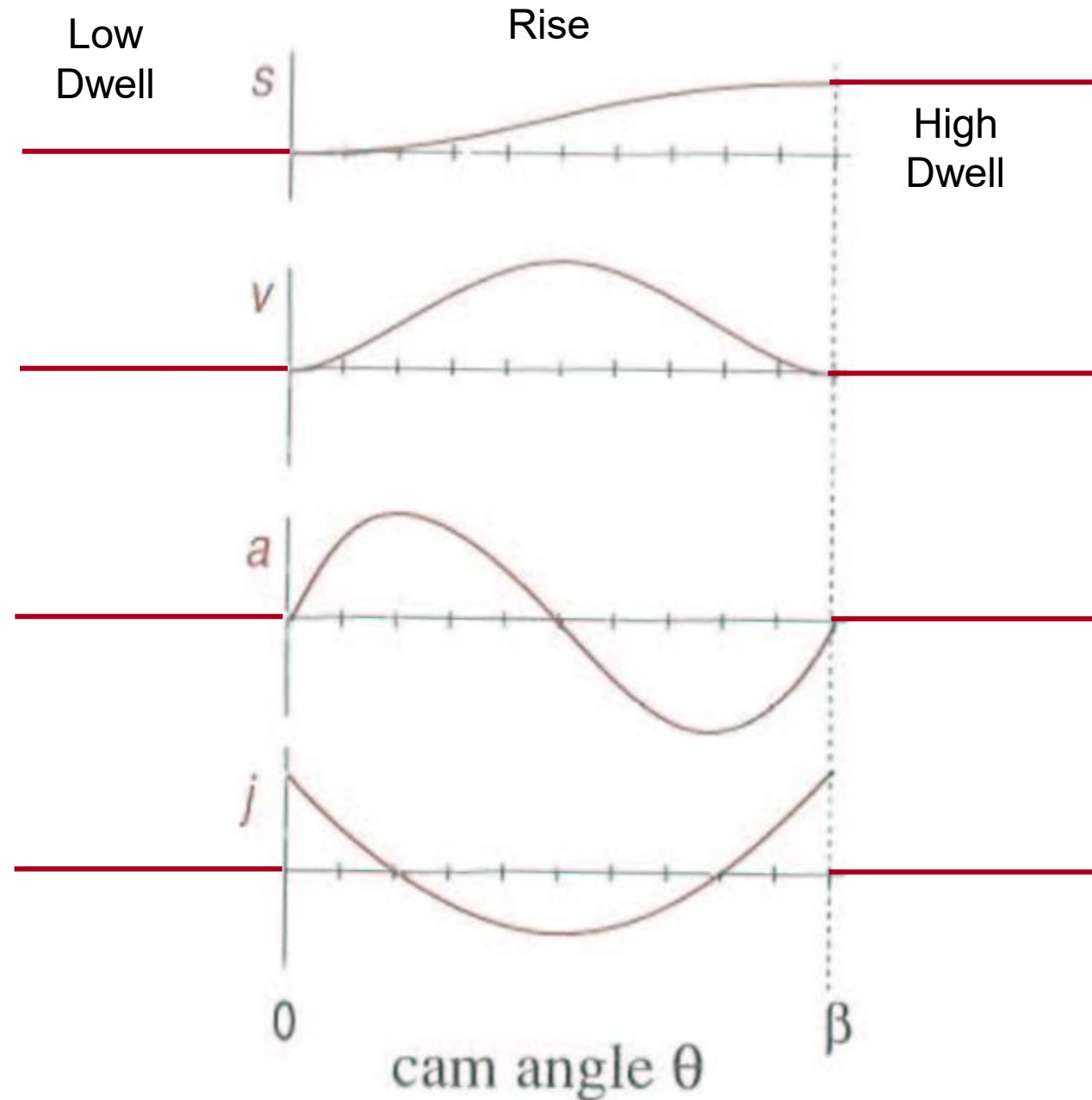
$$s = h(10x^3 - 15x^4 + 6x^5)$$

This motion program is called a 3-4-5 polynomial rise function

3-4-5 Polynomial Rise Displacement

$$s = h \left[10 \left(\frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)^3 - 15 \left(\frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)^4 + 6 \left(\frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)^5 \right]$$

Although this function and its derivatives satisfy the fundamental law, this function is not necessarily a great design because it causes a discontinuity in jerk.



How to remove discontinuity in jerk?

Add BC for jerk

8 BC $\rightarrow n = 7$

$$s = C_0 + C_1x + C_2x^2 + C_3x^3 + C_4x^4 + C_5x^5 + C_6x^6 + C_7x^7$$

For DWELL-RISE-DWELL,

BC:

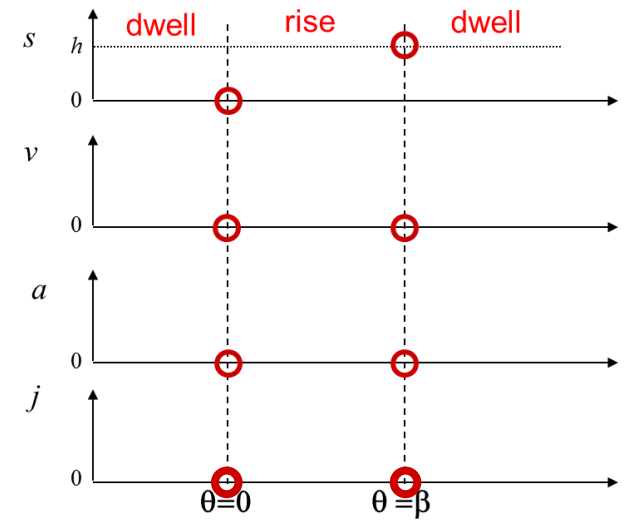
if $\theta = 0$ (or $t = 0$), then $s = 0$, $v = 0$, $a = 0$, $j = 0$

if $\theta = \beta$ (or $t = t'$), then $s = h$, $v = 0$, $a = 0$, $j = 0$

will get

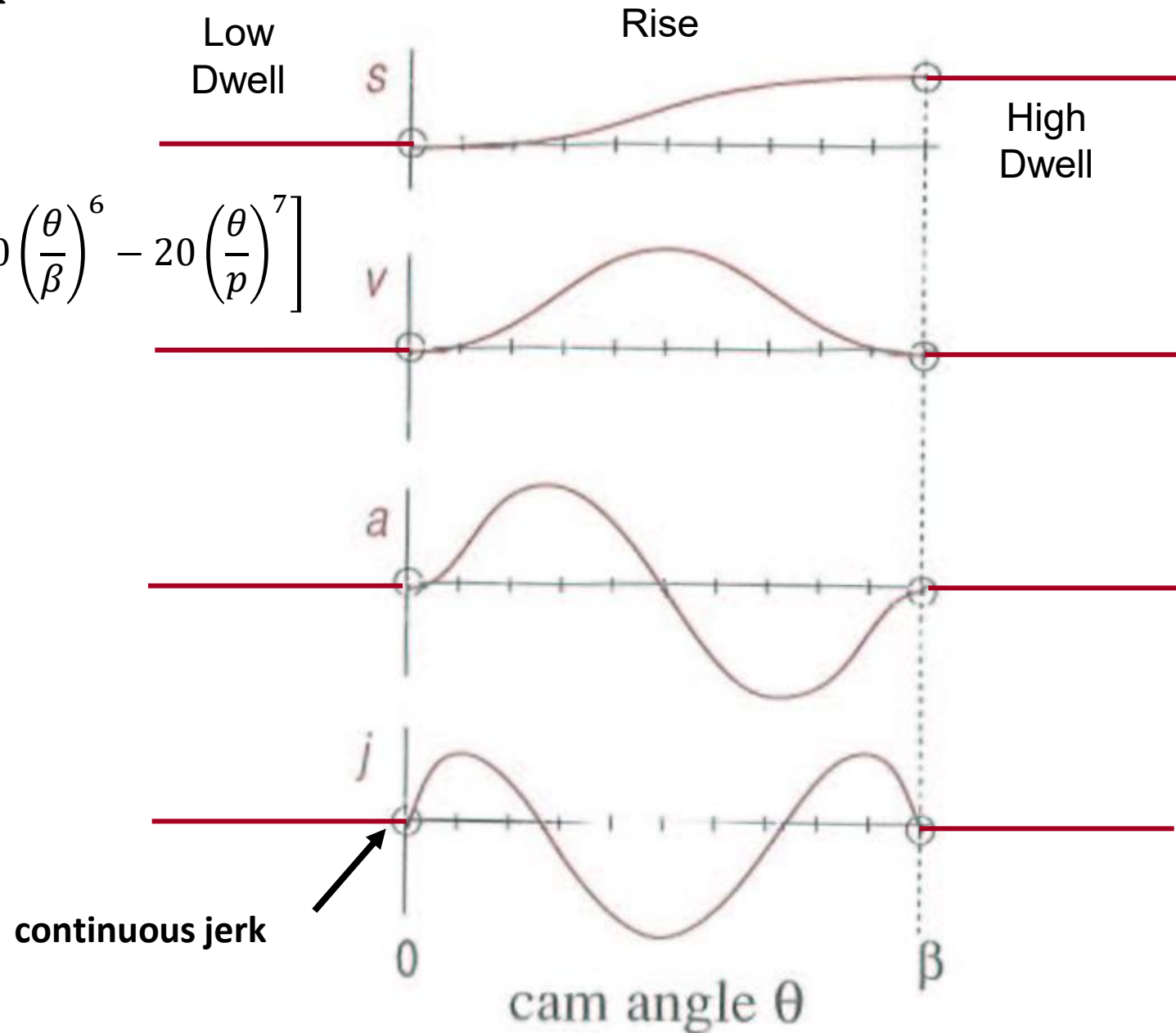
$$s = h(35x^4 - 84x^5 + 70x^6 - 20x^7)$$

This is called the 4-5-6-7 polynomial rise function.



4-5-6-7 Polynomial Displacement

$$s = h \left[35 \left(\frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)^4 - 84 \left(\frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)^5 + 70 \left(\frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)^6 - 20 \left(\frac{\theta}{\beta} \right)^7 \right]$$



Other considerations

$$F = m A$$

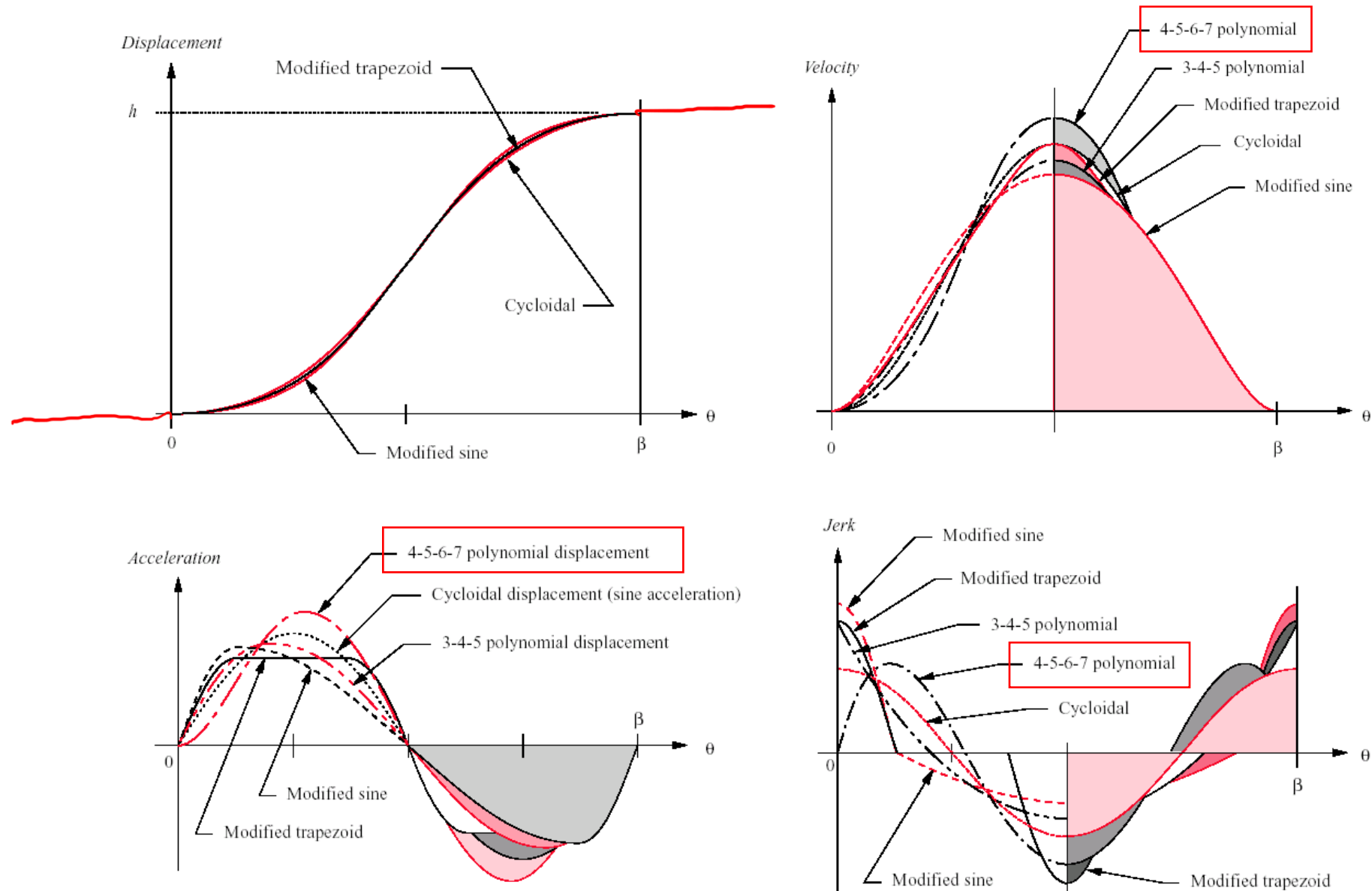
- Want to minimize dynamic forces
- Keep A small

$$K = \frac{1}{2} m V^2$$

- Keep V small
- Want to minimize stored kinetic energy, especially if m of follower train is large

While we will be emphasizing cams, these concepts apply to motion programs in general

Comparison of Five Double-Dwell Functions



Summary of motion programs for rise displacement

Dwell *Rise* *Dwell*

$$x = \frac{\theta}{\beta} \text{ or } \frac{t}{t'}$$

modify Acc profile

A. Simple Harmonic Motion: $s = \frac{h}{2} [1 - \cos(\pi x)]$

B. Cycloidal $s = h \left[x - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sin(2\pi x) \right]$

C. Modified Trapezoid

D. Modified Sinusoid

E. 3-4-5 Polynomial $s = h[10x^3 - 15x^4 + 6x^5]$

F. 4-5-6-7 Polynomial $s = h[35x^4 - 84x^5 + 70x^6 - 20x^7]$

Note: $v(t) = \frac{\partial s}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t} = v(\theta)\omega$, $a(t) = \frac{\partial v}{\partial \theta} \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt} \right)^2 = a(\theta)\omega^2$,

$$j(t) = \frac{\partial a}{\partial \theta} \left(\frac{d\theta}{dt} \right)^3 = j(\theta)\omega^3$$

- What are general motion behaviors of s , v , a , j for each motion program?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of each motion program?

- To create FALL function from RISE function:

- $s_{Fall} = h - s_{Rise}$
- $v_{Fall} = -v_{Rise}$
- $a_{Fall} = -a_{Rise}$
- $j_{Fall} = -j_{Rise}$

Single Dwell Motions

- Previous functions were for Dwell-Rise-Dwell-Fall motions (“double dwell” motions)
- What happens if only have **Rise-Fall-Dwell**?

For example:

- **Rise** 1 inch in 90 degrees
- **Fall** 1 inch in 90 degrees
- **Dwell** at zero displacement for 180 degrees (low dwell)
- **Cam's ω** 2π radians/sec = 1 rev/sec

Cycloidal Motion

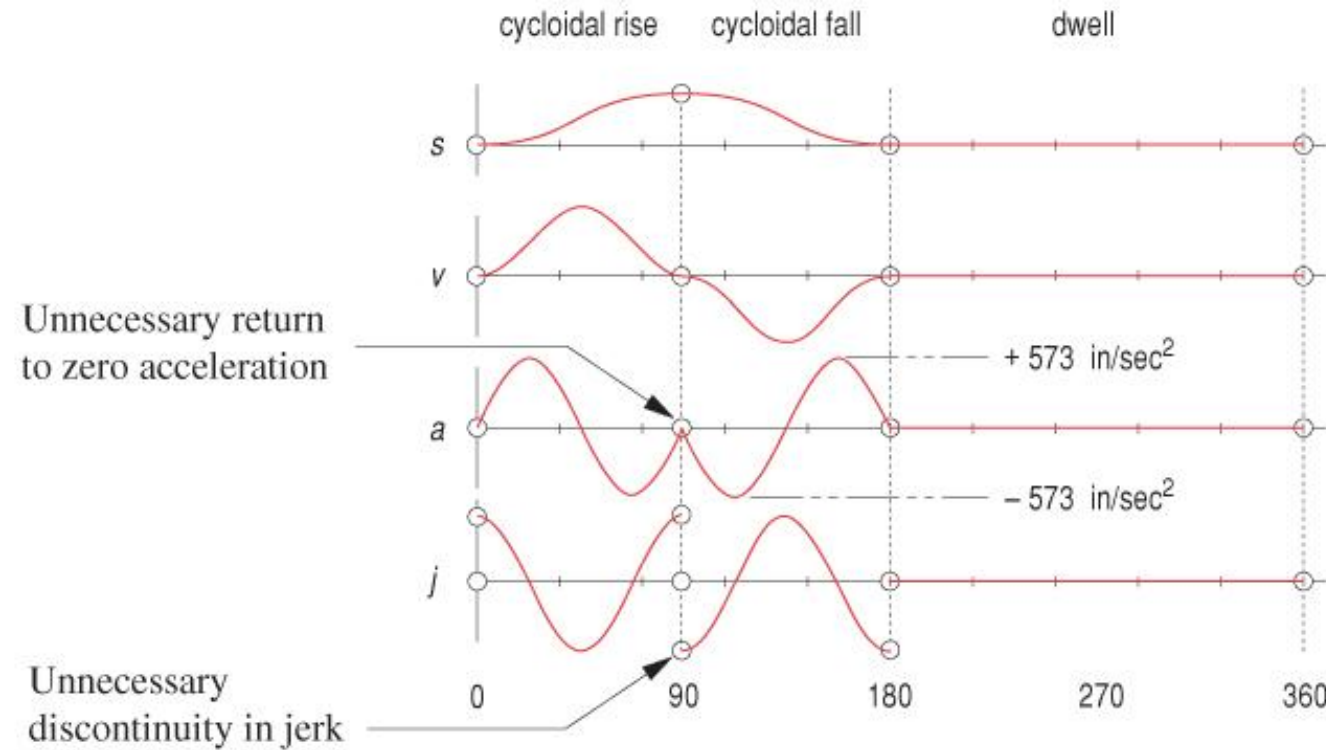


FIGURE 8-27

Cycloidal motion (or any double-dwell program) is a poor choice for the single-dwell case

- Good for doing both rise and fall portions
- Bad acceleration and jerk behaviors

Double Harmonic

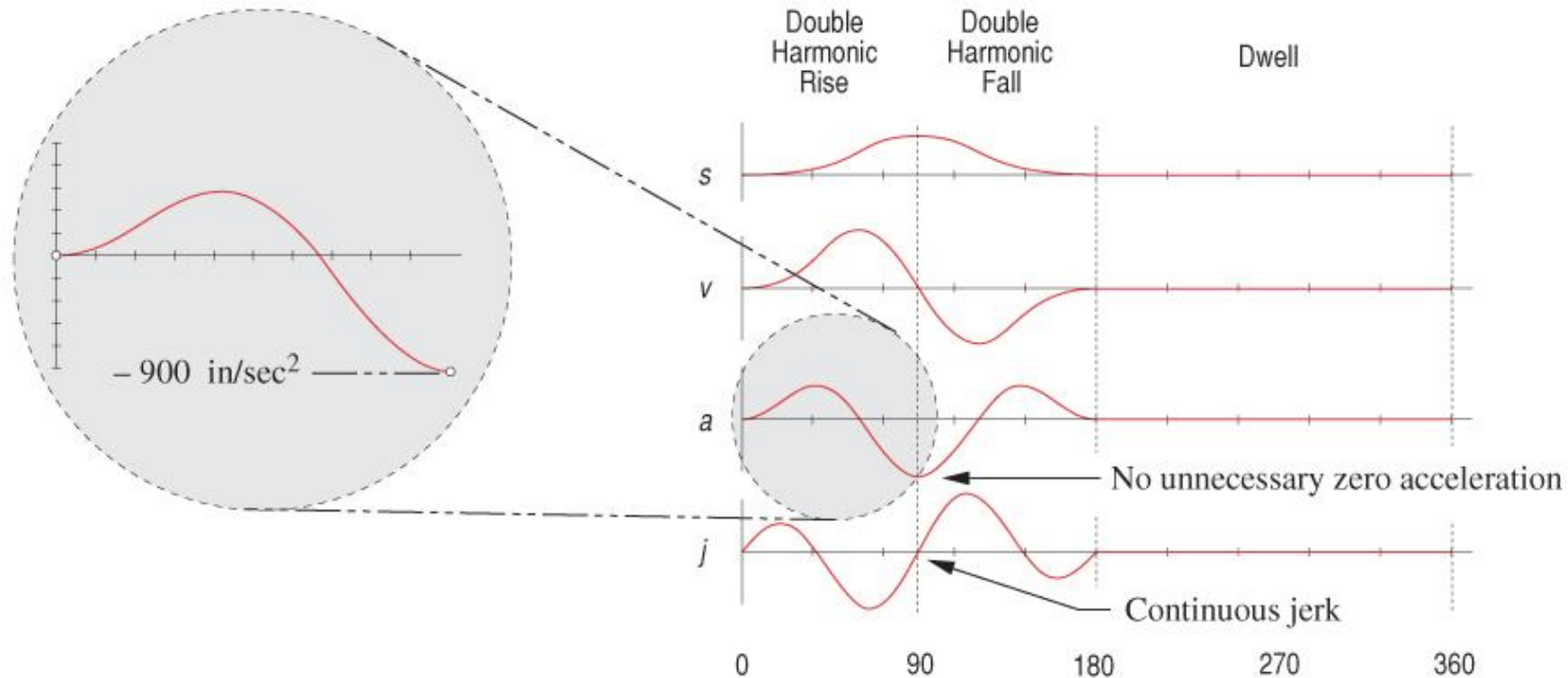


FIGURE 8-28

Double harmonic motion can be used for the single-dwell case if rise and fall durations are equal

- Good for doing both rise and fall portions
- Good acceleration and jerk behaviors

3-4-5-6 Polynomial

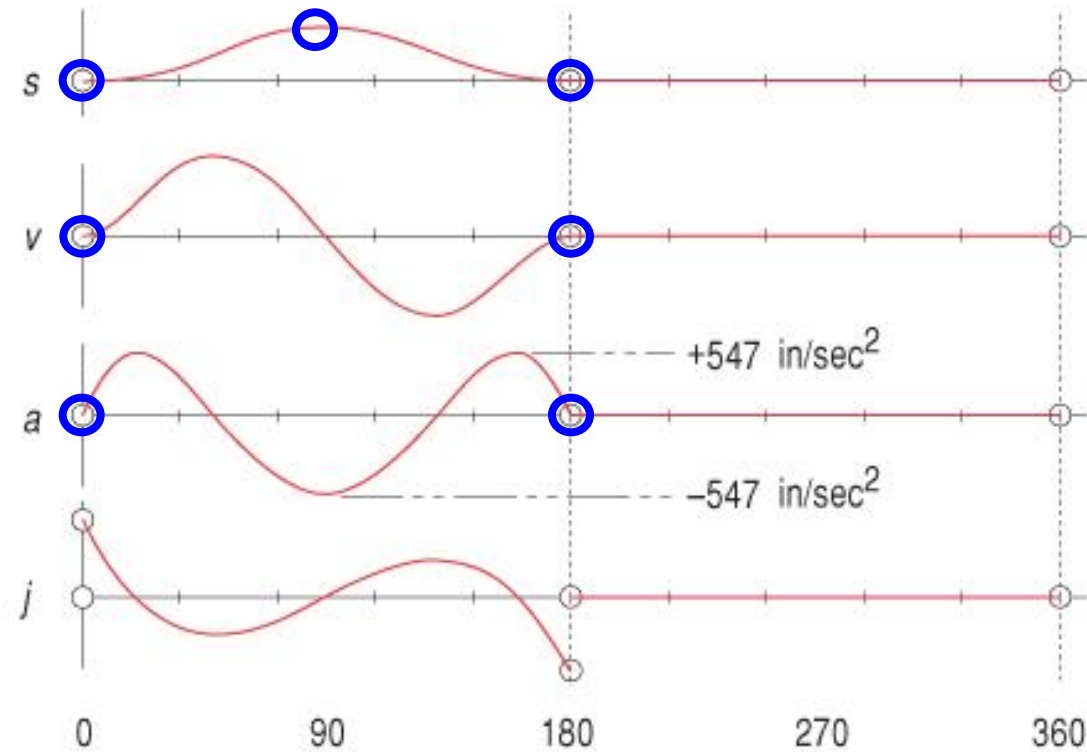


FIGURE 8-30

3-4-5-6 polynomial function for two-segment symmetrical rise-fall, single-dwell cam

- Combine both rise and fall into one segment
- Better (smaller) acceleration than double harmonic
- Need 7 BC, therefore $n = 6$

Class Exercise

- **Design Task**
Design a cam (specify boundary conditions and piecewise functions) that moves the follower as follows:
 - **Rise:** $0 \rightarrow 65$ mm over 90°
 - **Dwell:** 30°
 - **Fall:** 65 mm $\rightarrow 0$ over 70°
 - **Dwell:** for the remainder of the 360° cycle
- **Requirements**
 - Plot the **cam displacement function** over the full cycle.
 - Write the **piecewise equations** for each segment (Rise, Dwell, Fall).
 - For the Rise and Fall segments, use the **Cycloidal displacement function**.
- **Recall:**
To create a Fall function,
 - $s_{Fall} = h - s_{Rise}$, $(v, a, j)_{Fall} = - (v, a, j)_{Rise}$

$$s = h \left[\frac{\theta}{\beta} - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sin \left(2\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right) \right]$$

Class Exercise - solution

- **Design Task**

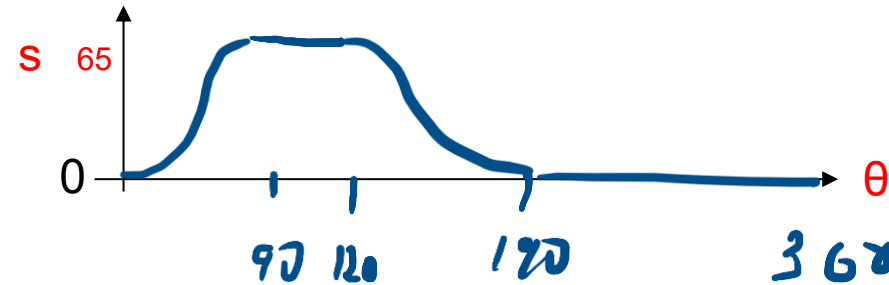
Design a cam (specify boundary conditions and piecewise functions) that moves the follower as follows:

- **Rise:** $0 \rightarrow 65$ mm over 90°
- **Dwell:** 30°
- **Fall:** 65 mm $\rightarrow 0$ over 70°
- **Dwell:** for the remainder of the 360° cycle

- **Requirements**

- Plot the **cam displacement function** over the full cycle.
- Write the **piecewise equations** for each segment (Rise, Dwell, Fall).
- For the Rise and Fall segments, use the **Cycloidal displacement function**.
- **Recall:**
To create a Fall function,
- $s_{Fall} = h - s_{Rise}$, $(v, a, j)_{Fall} = -(v, a, j)_{Rise}$

$$s = h \left[\frac{\theta}{\beta} - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sin \left(2\pi \frac{\theta}{\beta} \right) \right]$$



$$s = \begin{cases} 1: 65\text{mm} \left[\frac{\theta}{90^\circ} - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sin \left(2\pi \frac{\theta}{90^\circ} \right) \right], & 0 \leq \theta < 90^\circ & \beta = 90^\circ \\ 2: 65, & 90^\circ \leq \theta < 120^\circ \\ 3: 65 - 65 \left[\frac{\theta - 120^\circ}{70^\circ} - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sin \left(2\pi \frac{\theta - 120^\circ}{70^\circ} \right) \right], & 120^\circ \leq \theta < 190^\circ & \beta = 70^\circ \\ 4: 0, & 190^\circ \leq \theta < 360^\circ \end{cases}$$