

Derivatives as Rate of Change

$$y = f(x) \text{ (given)}$$

$$y' = f'(x) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$$

$\Delta y \rightarrow \text{change in } y$
 $\Delta x \rightarrow \text{change in } x$

Some notions associated to Motion:

$s(t)$ = position of an object at time t .

$v(t) = s'(t)$ = velocity (not average) of an object at time t .

$|v(t)|$ = speed of an object at time t .

$a(t) = v'(t) = s''(t)$ = acceleration of an object at time t .

Moving forward & backward:

Moving forward \Leftrightarrow with increasing time $s(t)$ increases.

\Downarrow
velocity is positive.

Moving backward \Leftrightarrow with increasing time $s(t)$ decreases.

\Downarrow
velocity is negative.

Increasing & Decreasing Velocity:

Increasing velocity \Leftrightarrow +ve acceleration

Decreasing velocity \Leftrightarrow -ve acceleration

Speeding Up & Speeding Down

Speeding Up \Leftrightarrow Velocity & Acceleration have the same sign.

Speeding Down \Leftrightarrow Velocity & Acceleration have the opposite sign.

Example : Position of an object is given by $s(t) = \frac{4t}{t^2+4}$, $(t \geq 0)$.

- When the object is moving forward/backward?
- When the object's velocity increasing/decreasing?
- When the object is speeding up or down?

$$- \quad s(t) = \frac{4t}{t^2 + 4}, \quad t \geq 0$$

$$s'(t) = \frac{(t^2+4)[4t]' - 4t[t^2+4]'}{(t^2+4)^2}$$

$$= \frac{(t^2+4)(4) - 4t(2t)}{(t^2+4)^2}$$

$$= \frac{4[(t^2+4) - 2t^2]}{(t^2+4)^2}$$

$$= \frac{4[-t^2+4]}{(t^2+4)^2}$$

$$= \frac{-4(t^2-4)}{(t^2+4)^2}$$

Now, $t^2 - 4 = (t+2)(t-2)$ $\begin{cases} > 0 & \text{if } t > 2 \\ < 0 & \text{if } t < 2 \end{cases}$

$$\text{So, } s'(t) > 0 \text{ if } t > 2 \text{ \& } s'(t) < 0 \text{ if } t < 2.$$

i.e, the object is moving forward when $0 \leq t < 2$ \& the object is moving backward when $t > 2$.

$$\begin{aligned} - \quad s''(t) &= \left[\frac{-4(t^2-4)}{(t^2+4)^2} \right]' \\ &= \frac{-4 \left[(t^2+4)^2 \cdot (t^2-4)' - (t^2-4) [(t^2+4)^2]' \right]}{[(t^2+4)^2]^2} \\ &= \frac{-4 \left[(t^2+4)^2 \cdot 2t - (t^2-4) \cdot 2(t^2+4) \cdot 2t \right]}{(t^2+4)^4} \\ &= \frac{-4 \cdot 2t(t^2+4) \left[(t^2+4) - 2(t^2-4) \right]}{(t^2+4)^4} \\ &= \frac{-8t \left[-t^2 + 12 \right]}{(t^2+4)^3} \\ &= \frac{+ve \quad 8t \quad [t^2 - 12]}{(t^2+4)^3} \\ &\quad \quad \quad +ve \end{aligned}$$

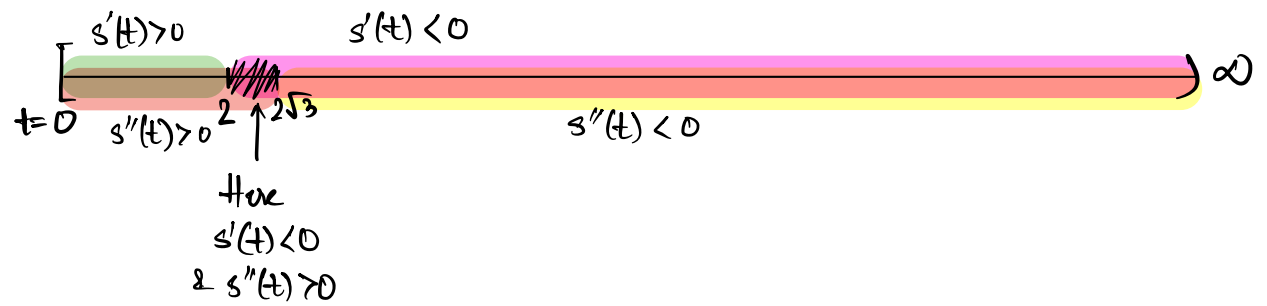
$$\text{as } t \geq 0 \Rightarrow t^2+4 > 0 \Rightarrow (t^2+4)^3 > 0$$

$$\text{Now, } t^2 - 12 = t^2 - (\sqrt{12})^2 = \underset{+ve}{(t + \sqrt{12})} (t - \sqrt{12}) \begin{cases} > 0, t > \sqrt{12} \\ < 0, t < \sqrt{12} \end{cases}$$

$\overset{2\sqrt{3}}{\parallel}$
 $\underset{2\sqrt{3}}{\parallel}$

So, $s''(t) > 0$ when $t > 2\sqrt{3} \Rightarrow$ increasing velocity for $t > 2\sqrt{3}$
 $s''(t) < 0$ when $t < 2\sqrt{3} \Rightarrow$ decreasing velocity for $t < 2\sqrt{3}$.

- Chart to decide speeding up & down.



So, the object is speeding up on $0 < t < 2$ & $2\sqrt{3} < t < \infty$
 & speeding down on $2 < t < 2\sqrt{3}$.